

# Biology 427 Biomechanics

## Lecture 15. Basic fluid dynamics: defining properties of fluids.

- Where we have been and where we are going
- The formal definition of a fluid (revisited)
- Viscosity: depends temperature, concentration of dissolved or suspended solutes, even shear stress (non Newtonian characteristics)
- Viscosity: feeding on fluids and pumping fluids
- Surface tension

Solid and structural mechanics: stress and strain distributions, movements of bodies and their parts in response to muscle forces and gravity.

Fluid dynamic issues underlie:

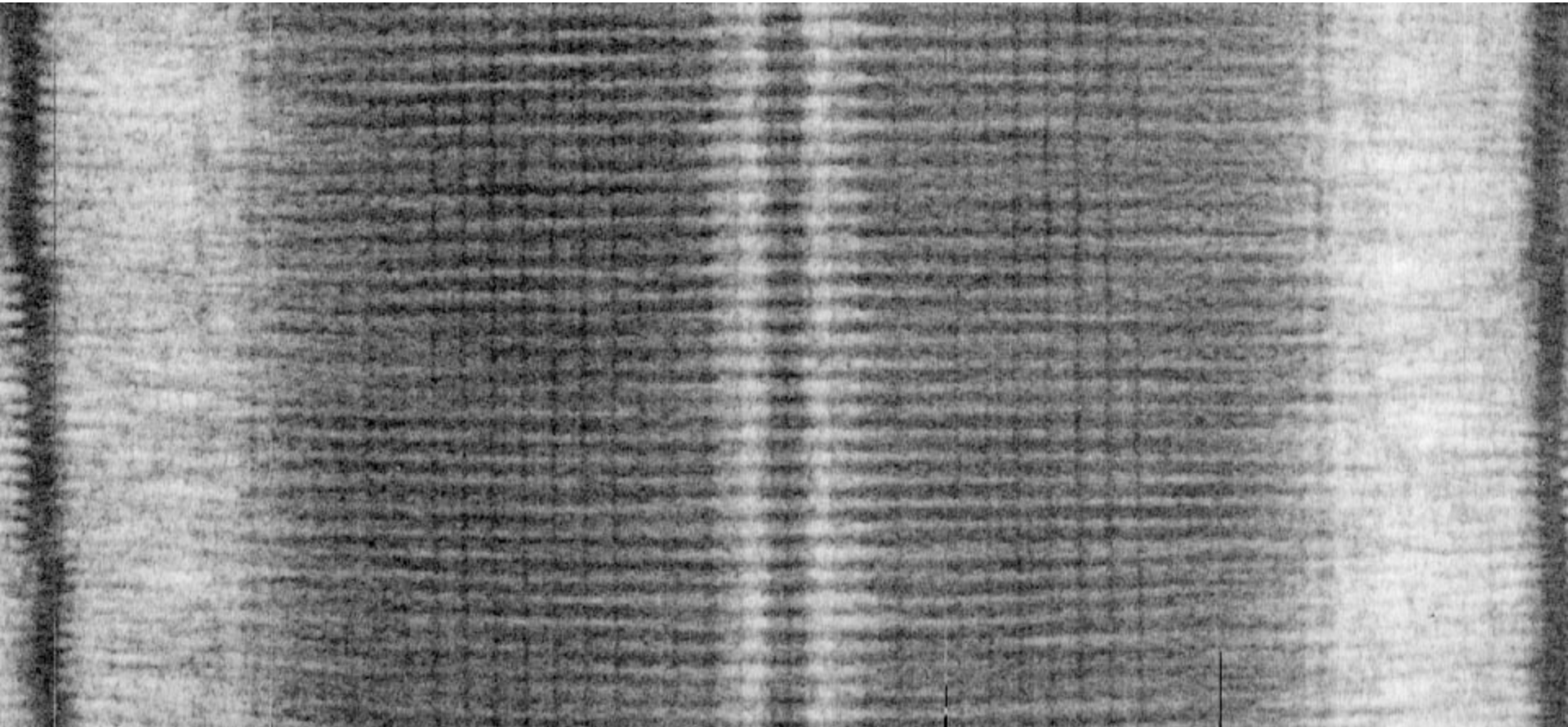
- Internal flows (blood, respiratory flow, intracellular flows liquid food...)
- External flows (swimming, flying, running in air and water)
- Wind and water forces on sessile creatures
- Dispersal (fungal spores, larvae in the ocean...)
- Transport of nutrients and heat to and from biological surfaces ( $\text{CO}_2$ ,  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ,  $\text{O}_2$  ...)

Definition: A fluid (gas or liquid) deforms continuously under an applied stress.

The continuum hypothesis will dominate our studies: density, temperature, momentum, energy ... all vary continuously. We can calculate their spatial derivatives if we need to do so.

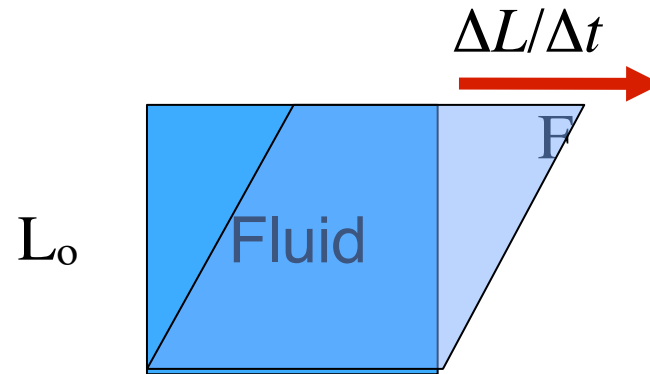
But, when the spatial scale of the problem ( $L$ ) is of the order of the mean free path of the fluid molecules ( $\lambda$ ), we have a problem. Knudsen number  $= \lambda/L$ . This underlies many subcellular problems and remains rather unresolved!

5-10 nm gap filled with cross bridges  
water has a mean free path  $\sim 0.3 - 1$  nm



AB  $\infty$

Definition: A fluid (gas or liquid) deforms continuously under an applied stress.



$$\tau = \mu d\epsilon/dt$$

$$du/dy = d\epsilon/dt$$

$$\tau = \mu du/dy$$

**dynamic viscosity of a fluid**  
**Newton's Law of Viscosity**

$$F \sim \Delta L / \Delta t \sim dL/dt$$

$$\tau \sim d\epsilon/dt$$

$$\tau = \mu d\epsilon/dt$$



dashpot

Definition: A fluid (gas or liquid) deforms continuously under an applied stress.

$$\tau = \mu du/dy$$

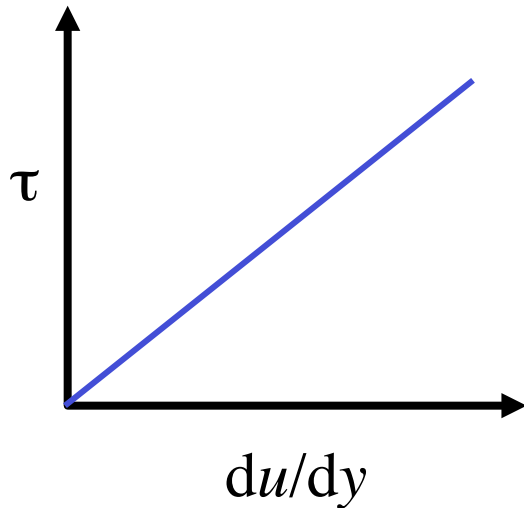
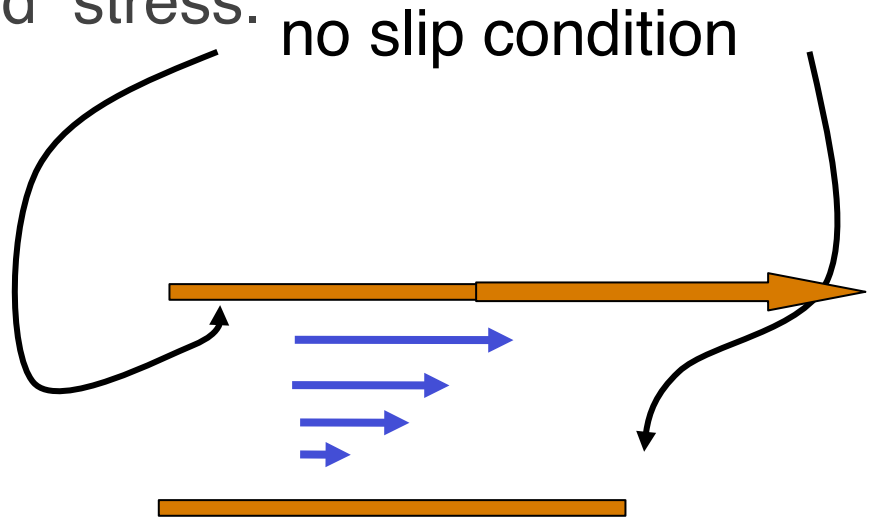
dynamic viscosity of a fluid

### Newton's Law of Viscosity

$\nu$  = kinematic viscosity

$$= \mu/\rho$$

$$\tau = \nu d(\rho u)/dy$$



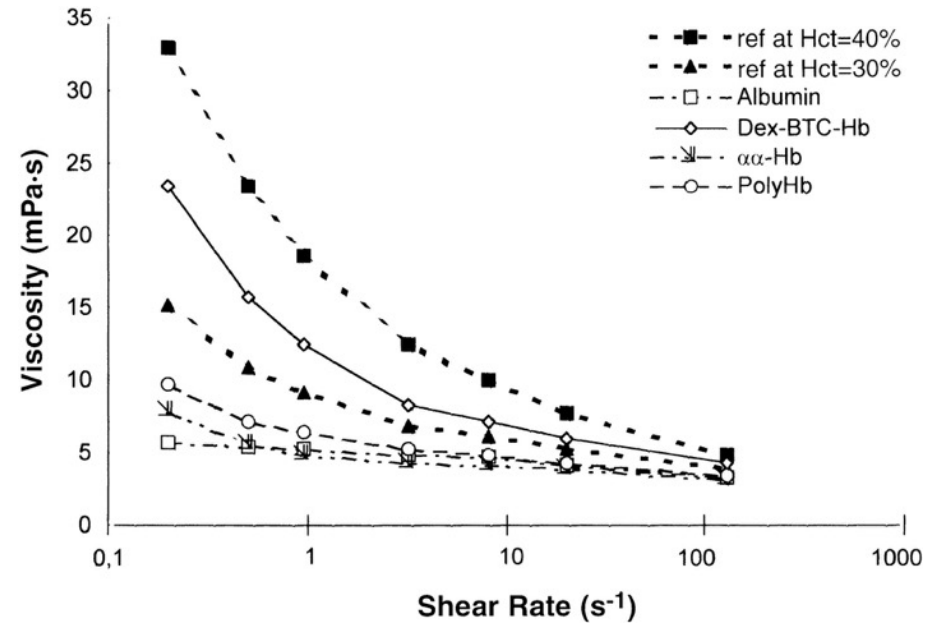
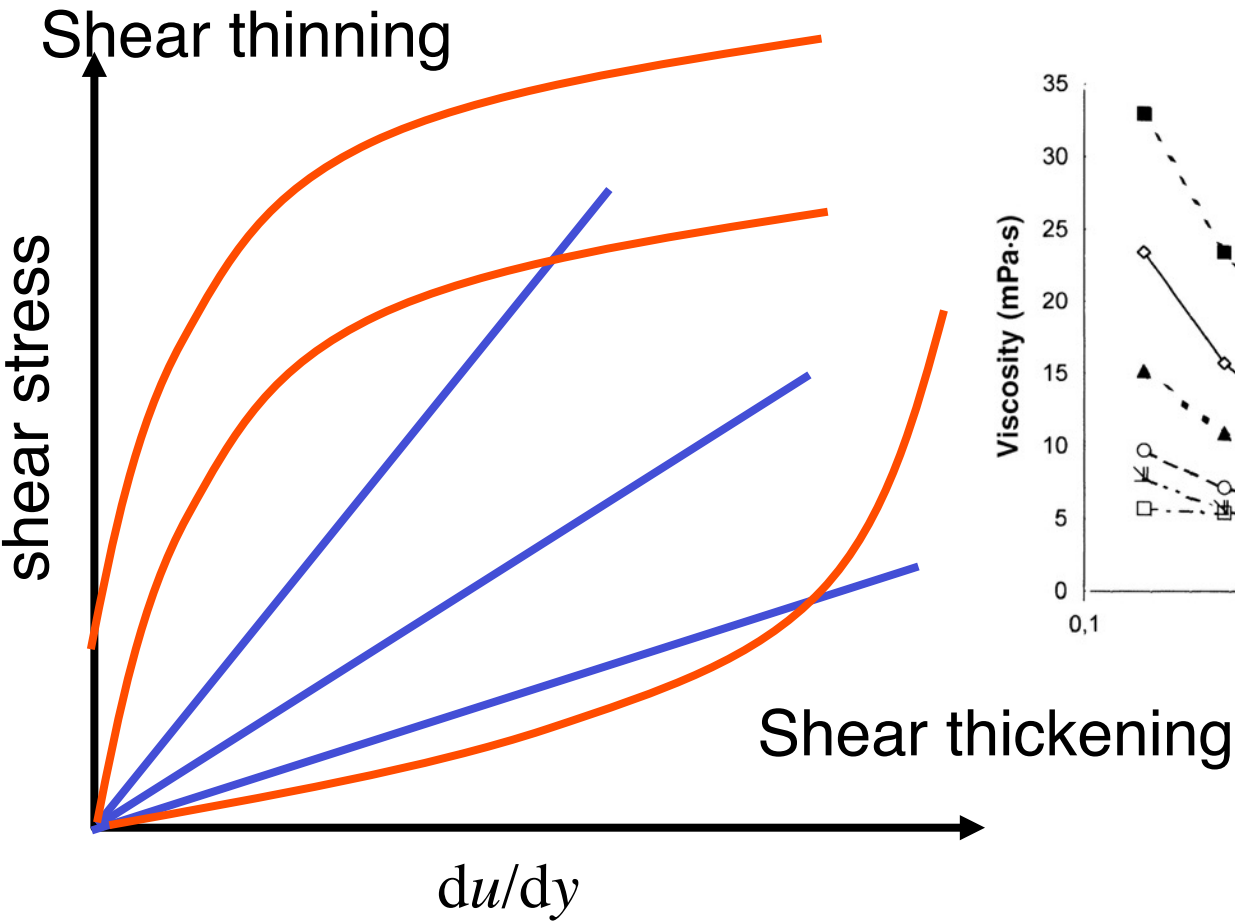
viscosity depends on

- temperature
- concentration of dissolved solutes
- shear rate (rate of strain)

# Determinants of viscosity: shear rate

Newtonian fluids

non-Newtonian fluids Blood



Cardiovascular and hemorheological effects of three modified human hemoglobin solutions in hemodiluted rabbits

Alexis Caron, Patrick Menu, Beatrice Faivre-Fiorina, Pierre Labrude, Abdu I. Alayash, Claude Vigneron  
Journal of Applied Physiology Published 1 February 1999 Vol. 86 no. 2, 541-548 DOI:

# Determinants of viscosity: temperature

Temperature: a huge latitudinal gradient

Oceanic West coast 6 - 26

Oceanic East coast 2 - 32

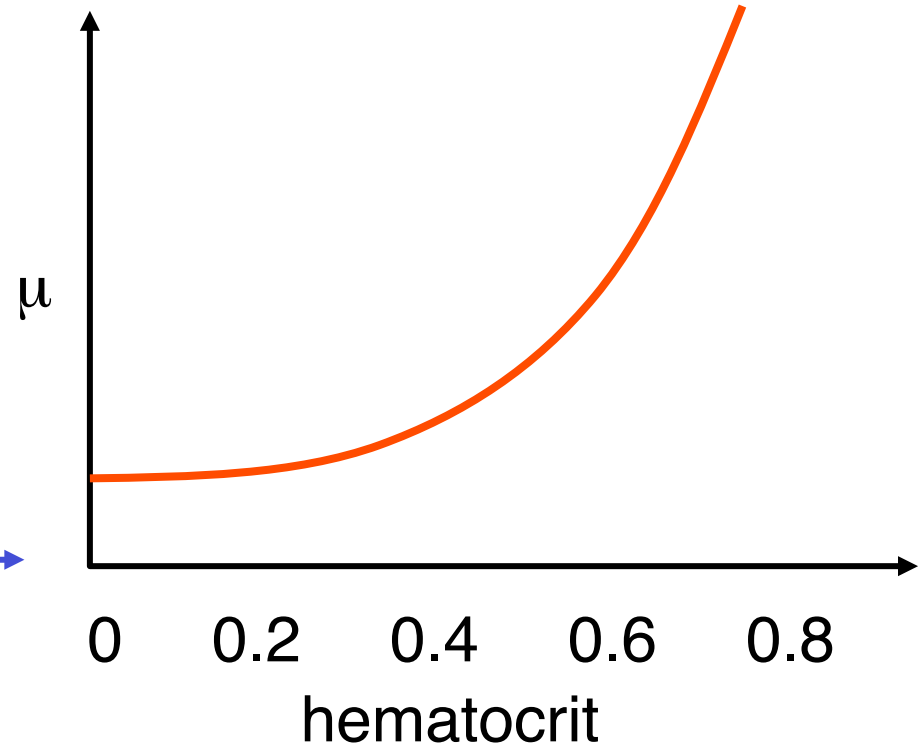
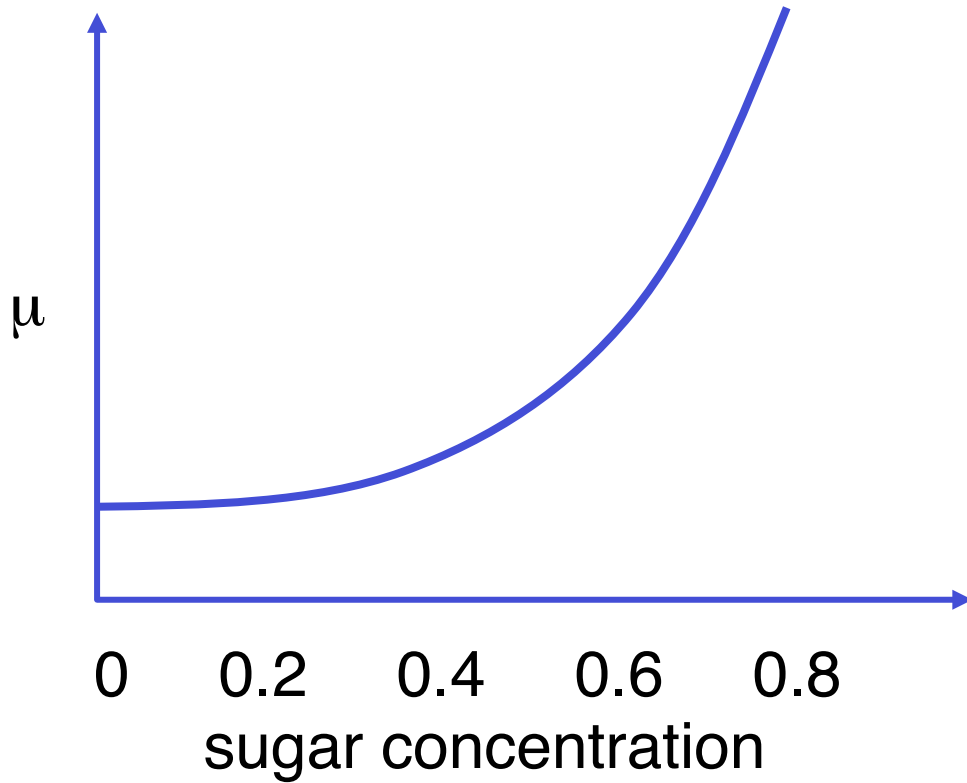
Freshwater - 0 - 80 (Atlantic waters)

|                  | 0             | 20     | 40     |
|------------------|---------------|--------|--------|
| Water<br>kg/ m s | 0.0018        | 0.001  | 0.0006 |
| Air<br>g/ m s    | 0.0017 g/ m s | 0.0018 | 0.0019 |

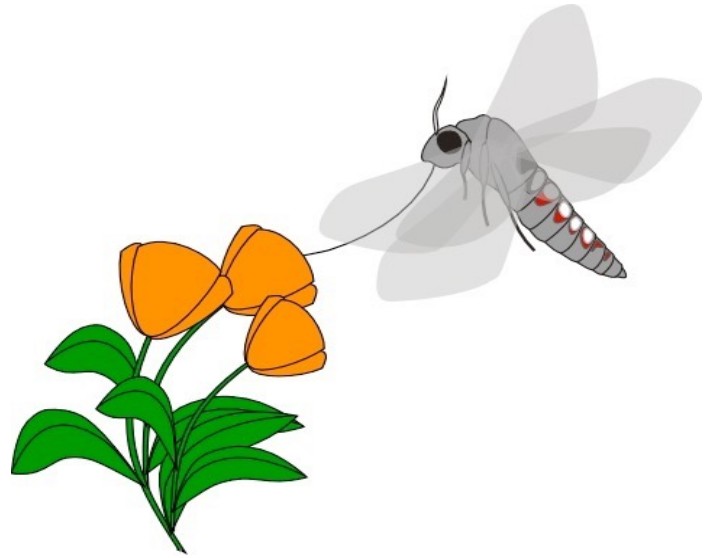
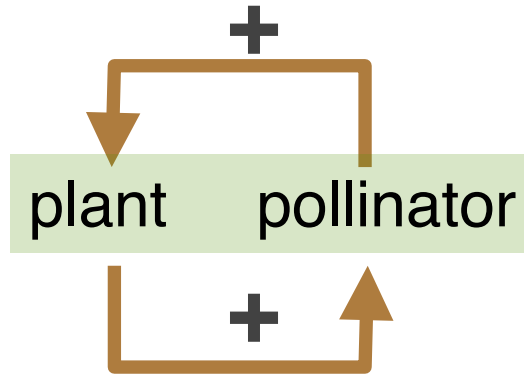


# Determinants of viscosity: concentration

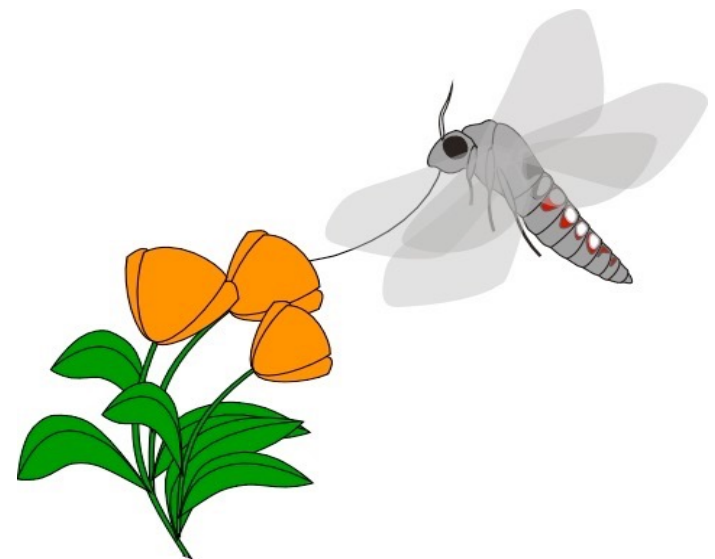
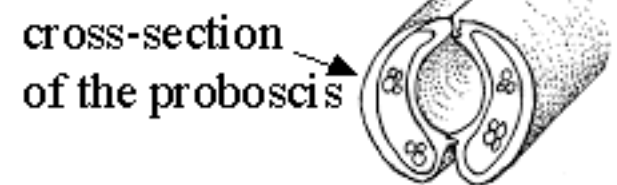
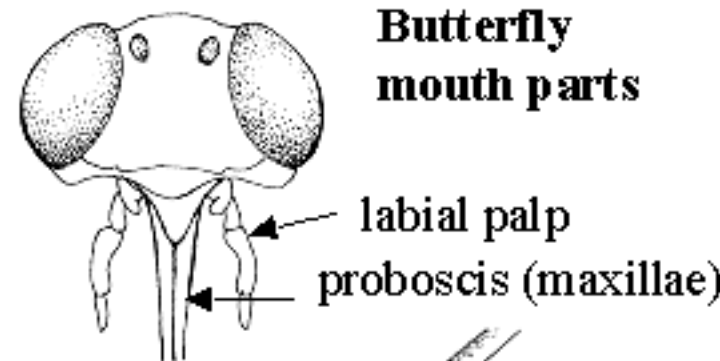
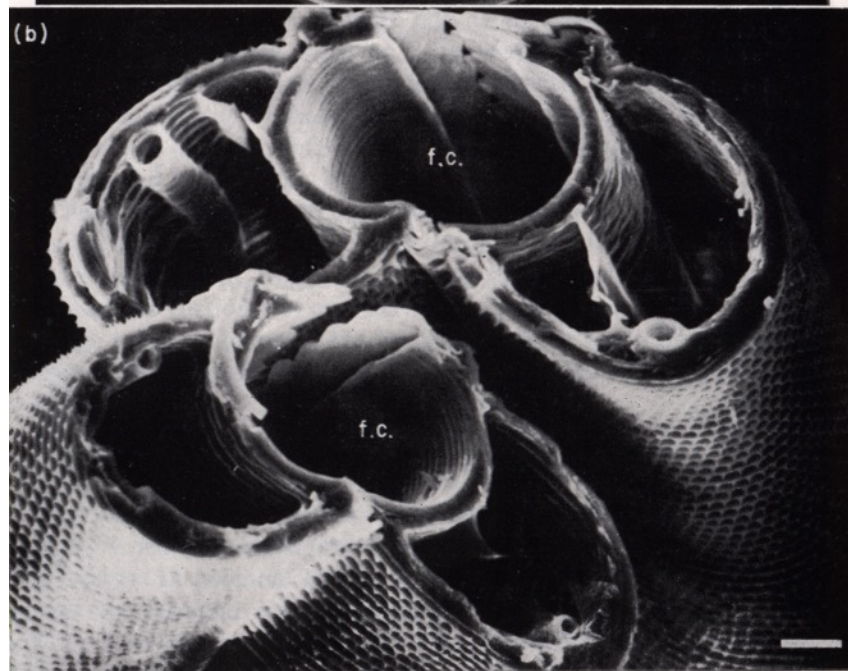
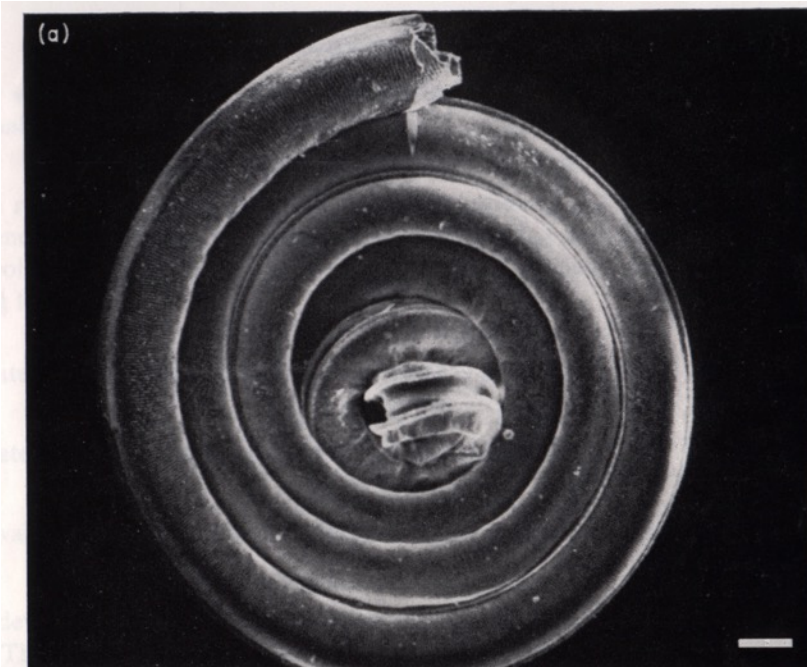
Increases exponentially with concentration of dissolved or suspended solutes.



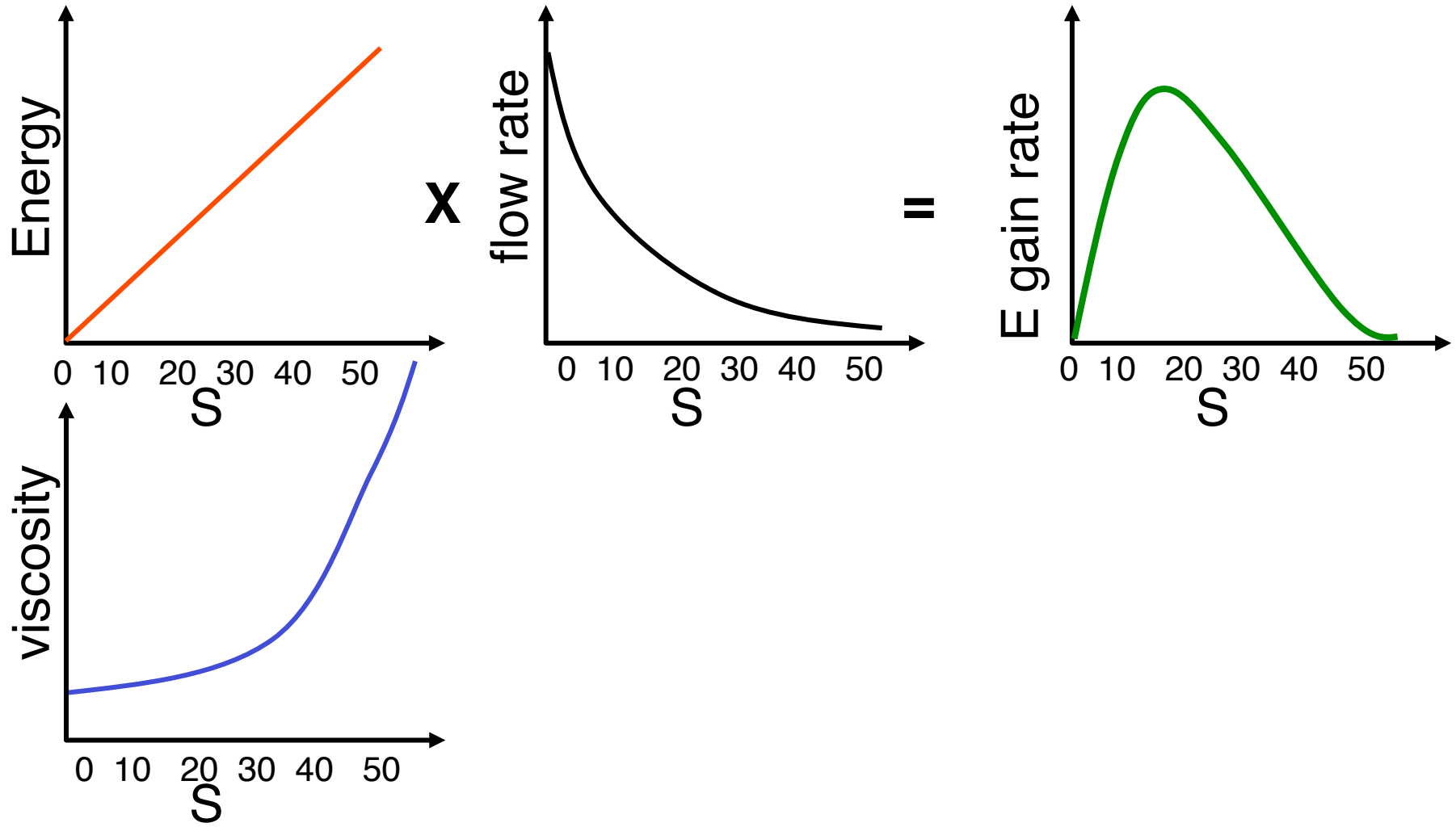
# A coevolutionary process: Why do plants produce dilute nectars?



Butterfly and moth pollinated flowers typically produce dilute nectars: ~20% sugar concentration.



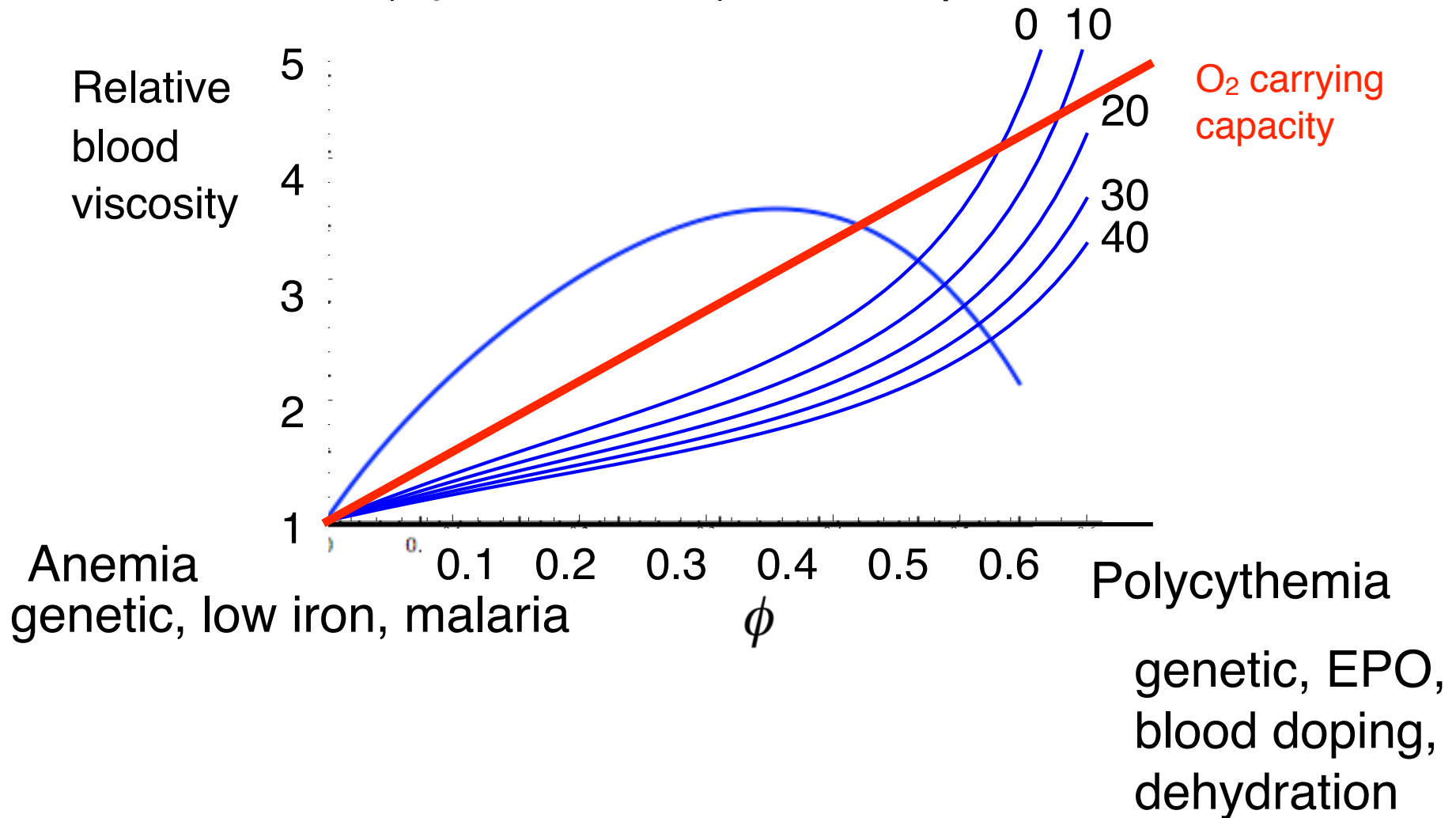
Low sucrose concentration [S] in butterfly pollinated flowers (20%)



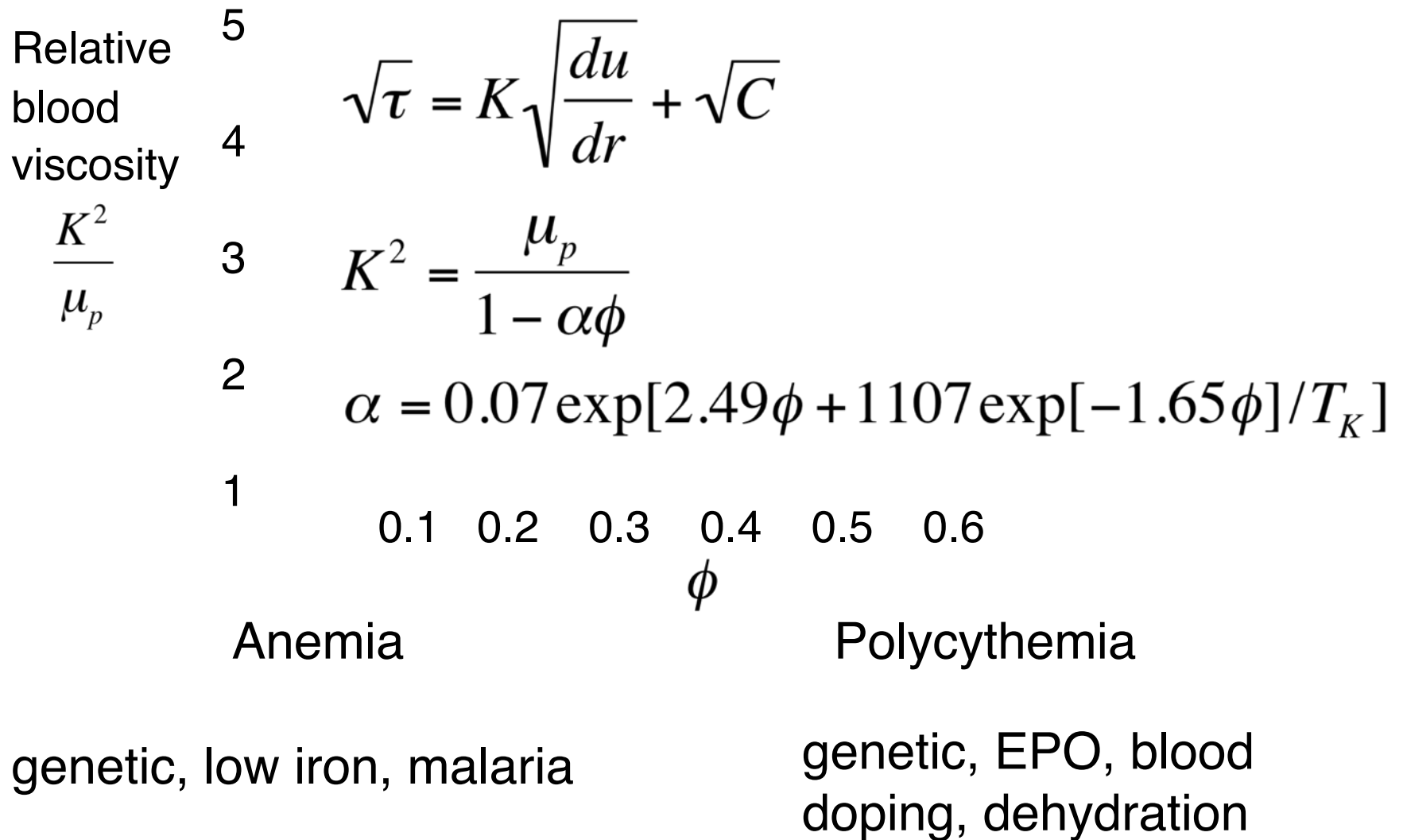
Determinants of viscosity: blood is a suspension of elastic red blood cells (each about 7  $\mu\text{m}$  in diameter) in plasma. The normal concentration of red blood cells is 0.4 (40% by volume)

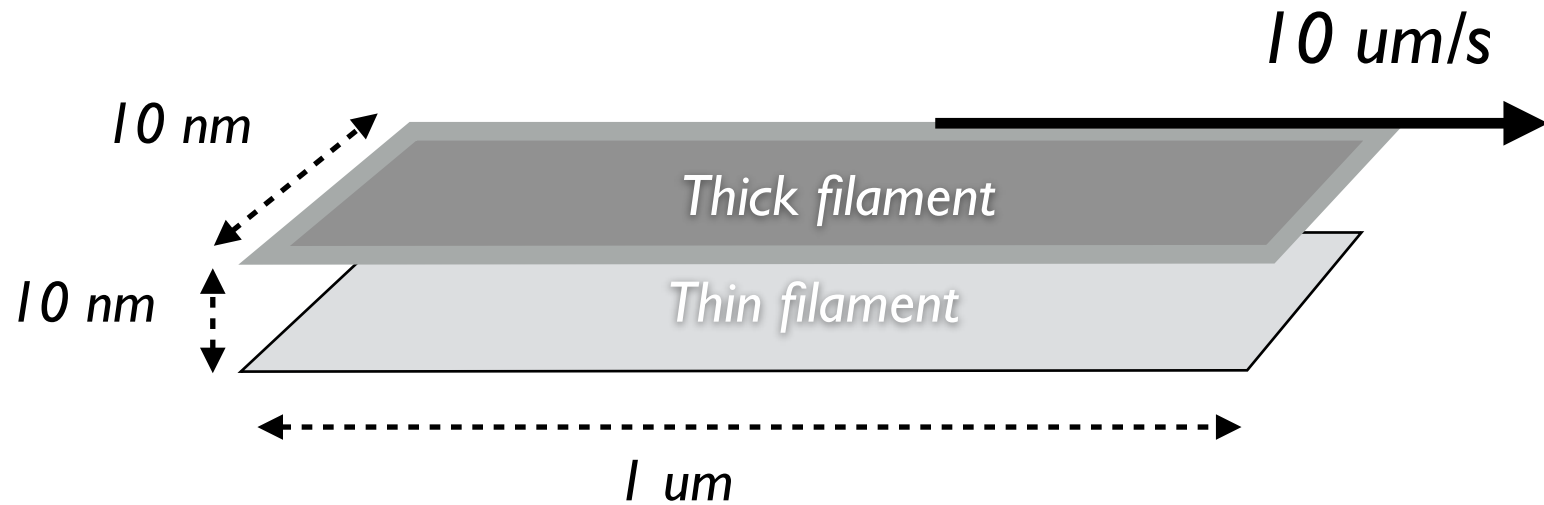
- (1) why is our blood hematocrit at 0.4?
- (2) is blood doping advantageous or detrimental?

Blood viscosity depends non-linearly on red blood cell concentration (  $\phi$  hematocrit) and Temperature



Blood viscosity depends non-linearly on red blood cell concentration ( $\phi$  hematocrit) and Temperature





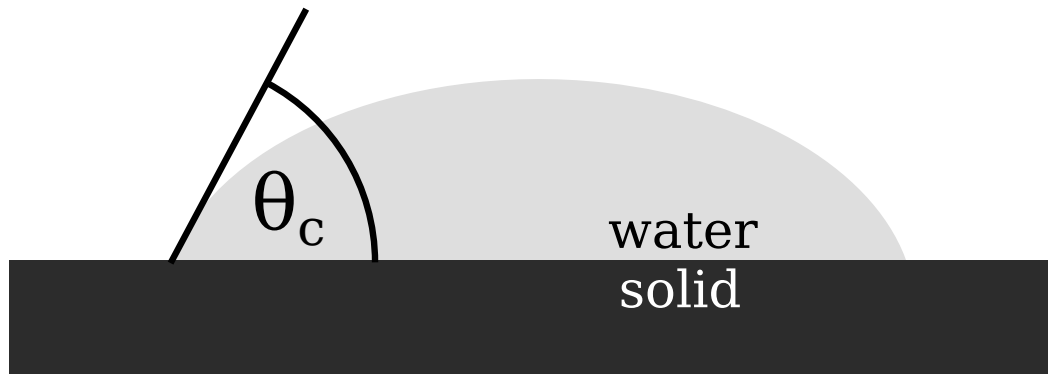
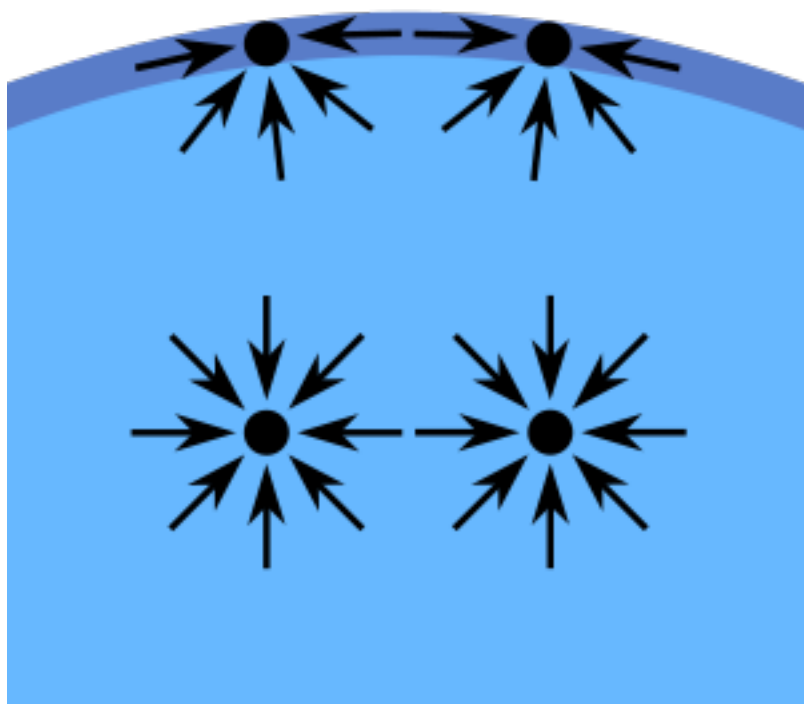
What is the velocity gradient?

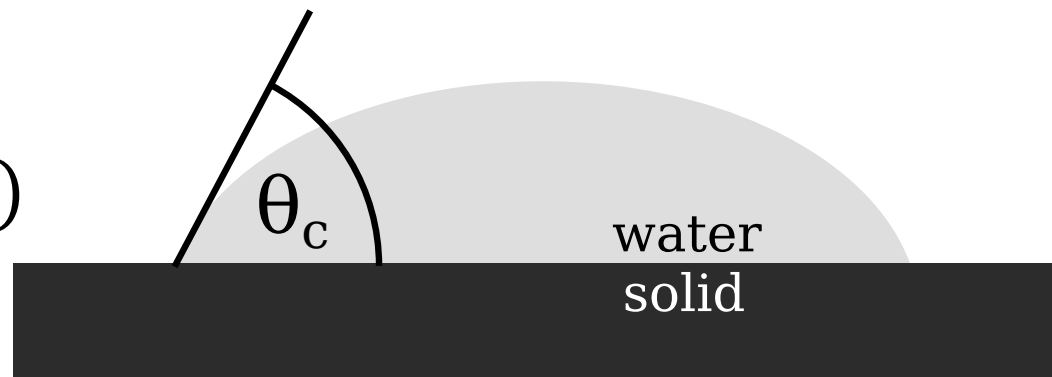
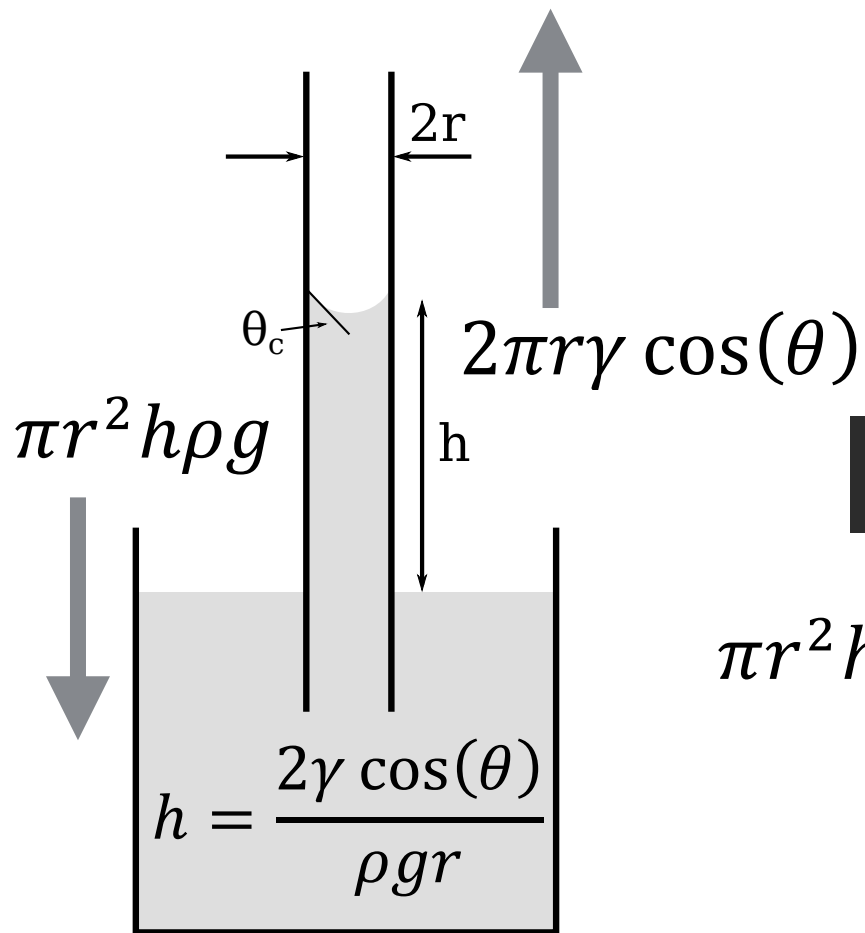
What is the shear rate (strain rate)?



Definition: A fluid (gas or liquid) deforms continuously under an applied stress.







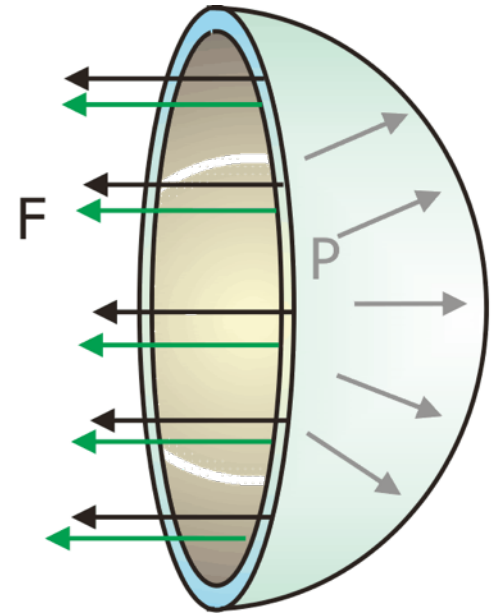
$$\pi r^2 h \rho g = 2\pi r \gamma \cos(\theta)$$

water  
0.0728 N/m

For one surface (like a balloon)

$$F_{pressure} = \Delta P \pi r^2 = T 2\pi r$$

**Exercise:** For a bubble with an inner and outer surface, what is the correct relationship between above?



**Exercise 2** What will happen  
when a hole appears between:

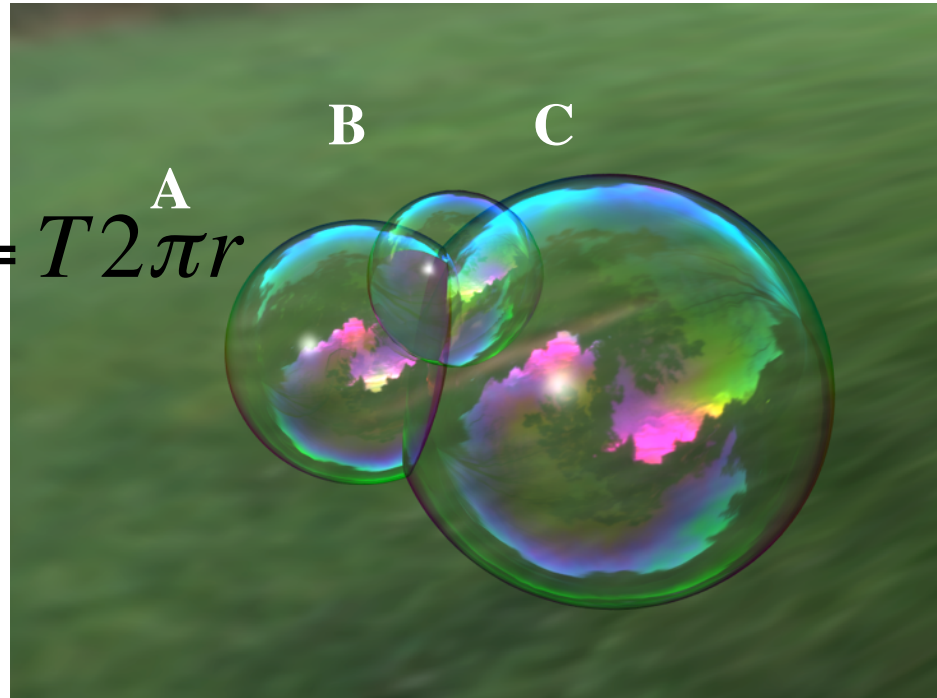
A and B

B and C

A and C

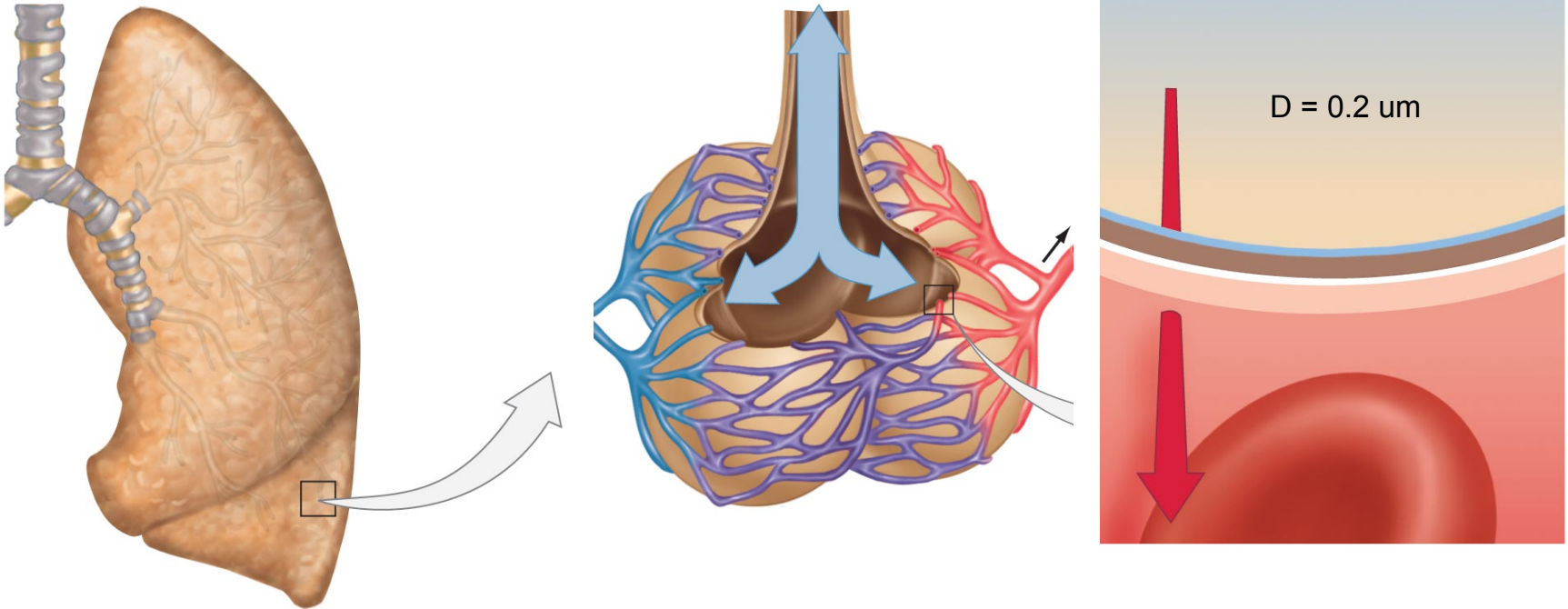
and .. why?

$$F_{pressure} = \Delta P \pi r^2 = T 2\pi r$$



About 0.5 billion alveoli in lungs  
each lined with fluid  
each with a radius of 100  $\mu\text{m}$

Exercise: Is the correct relationship  
 $Pr = 2T$  or  $Pr = 4T$ ? Why?

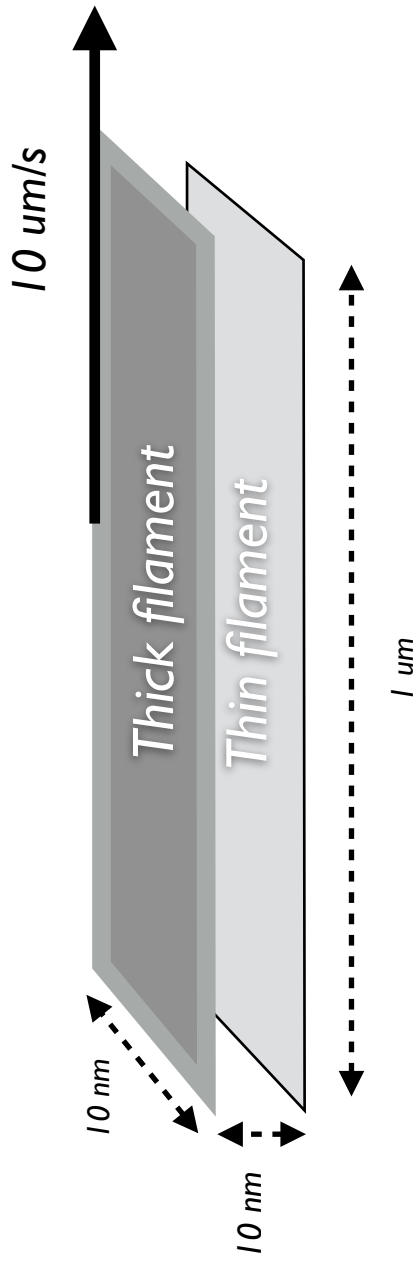


With a surface tension coefficient of  $0.0728 \text{ N/m}$  ( $\text{J/m}^2$ )  
what is the total pressure in each alveolus maintaining  
that thin liquid film?

Ans 1456 Pa.

and half a billion of those too!

What is the velocity gradient?  
 What is the shear rate (strain rate)?



$$F_{pressure} = \Delta P \pi r^2 = T 2 \pi r$$

**Exercise:** For a bubble with an inner and outer surface, what is the correct relationship between above?

