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An Investigation into the Factors involved  
in Heat Death and Thermal Sensitivity  
in Calliphora vicina R-D.

(A Biochemical Study)

by

Amin M.S. Kashmeery, B.Sc.

Being a thesis submitted for examination for  
the degree of Doctor of Philosophy of the  
University of Durham, December, 1977.

Graduate Society,  
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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of death at high temperatures in the blowfly Calliphora vicina has been studied, with particular emphasis on the respiratory activity of isolated flight muscle mitochondria (sarcosomes). These sarcosomes showed differential sensitivity towards several factors when different substrates are being respired. In the presence of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as substrate lower values for  $QO_2$ , RCl and ADP : O are obtained when the sarcosomes were isolated using the proteolytic enzyme 'nagarse' as compared with values obtained when the sarcosomes were prepared in the absence of 'nagarse'. It was also found that isolated sarcosomes respiring different substrates require different reaction conditions in order to show maximal respiratory performance.

Sarcosomes isolated from lethally heat treated flies showed impaired oxidative phosphorylation and loss of respiratory control when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is respired. However, in the presence of pyruvate and proline as substrates coupling is impaired but is still demonstrable.

Experiments were carried out to determine the effect of heat treatments when the heat dose is

split by an interval of recovery. It was found that the dose is accumulative unless the recovery period extends to 6 hours or more. Recovering of flies from a heat shock (L.D.<sub>0</sub>), is temperature dependent with a high value for  $Q_{10}$ .

The effect of temperature on isolated sarcosomes indicated that the loss of respiratory control observed at the higher reaction temperatures might not be due to a general deterioration of the sarcosomal membranes, unless temperatures about 40°C or higher are used. Sarcosomes are more sensitive to heat in vitro than in vivo.

Sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase has been studied following in vivo and in vitro heat treatment, and it was found to be relatively thermostable. Its specific activity and allosteric behaviour were not abolished by temperatures that are lethal to the whole animal.

Ultrastructural studies show that isolated sarcosomes exhibited changes in their morphology in different respiratory states. Work with sarcosomes from heat dead flies support the biochemical data, showing a differential thermosensitivity of sarcosomal respiration

with  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as compared with pyruvate and proline respiration. Loss of the energized conformation seems to occur only in sarcosomes isolated from heat treated animals respiring on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate.

No difference was seen in the appearance of the brain neurosecretory cells of control, lethally heated, or recovering flies.

It is concluded that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase may not be the temperature-sensitive site, and that thermal injury is a membrane-phenomenon.

The significance of the results is discussed, and suggestions are made for future work.

GLOSSARY

ADP	Adenosine - 5' - diphosphate.
ATP	Adenosine - 5' - triphosphate.
ATPase	Adenosine - 5' - triphosphatase (EC 3.6.1.3.).
BSA	Bovine Serum Albumin.
DNP	2:4 dinitrophenol.
EDTA	Ethylene diamine tetraacetic acid (sodium salt).
EGTA	Ethylene glycol-bis ( $\beta$ -amino-ethyl (ether) N N'-tetraacetic acid.
K <sub>m</sub>	Michaelis constant.
L.D. <sub>50</sub>	Experimental heat treatment causing 50% mortality in a sample of animals.
NAD <sup>+</sup>	Nicotinamide-adenine-dinucleotide (oxidized form).
QO <sub>2</sub>	Oxygen consumption expressed as ug atoms. Oxygen per hour per mg protein.
Tris	Tris (hydroxymethyl) aminomethane.
V <sub>max</sub>	Maximal reaction velocity.



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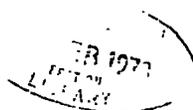
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**CHAPTER ONE**

---

## GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The underlying causes of heat death have been studied for a long time and have been followed in a wide variety of organisms, not only animals but also in microorganisms and plants. The literature has recently been reviewed, see Precht, Christophersen, Hensel & Larcher (1973). Much attention has been placed on ectothermal (poikilothermal) animals, particularly regarding the study of the phenomenon of resistance acclimation (Resistenzadoption, Precht, Christophersen & Hensel, 1955). It has for example been described in protozoans (Slater, 1954; Vogel, 1966), coelentrates (Mayer, 1914; Ushakov, Amosova, Chernokozheva, Dregolskaya, Pashkova & Skholl, 1977), flatworms (Ushakov & Bugayeva, 1975), annelids (Grant, 1955; Miles, 1963), nematodes (Wieser & Schiemer, 1977), Molluscs (Orr, 1955, Newell, Pye & Ahsanullah, 1971; Grainger, 1975), echinoderms (Orr, 1955; Ushakov et al, 1977). The work quoted is not meant to be exhaustive but simply to illustrate the variety of organisms studied. It is even more difficult to refer adequately to the literature on crustaceans, insects and fishes for the literature on these animal groups is quite vast; but those of particular interest to this study are mentioned. In crustaceans the detailed studies of Bowler, (1963, a, b),



Gladwell, Bowler & Duncan (1976), McLeese (1956) are valuable. Similar studies on insects have been carried out by Davison (1969), Davison & Bowler, (1971), but the work of Dingley & Maynard Smith, (1968) as well as the earlier studies by Mellanby, (1954), Baldwin & House, (1954), on heat death in insects must be mentioned. Fewer studies have been carried out on arachnids, (Almquist, 1970). Studies on ectothermal vertebrates have been carried out by Brett (1944) and Cocking (1959) on fishes, by Volpe (1957), and Hutchison (1961), on amphibians.

As a consequence of the wide variety of these and other studies on heat death, much confusion occurs in the literature as to the causes of heat death, and the mechanisms of acquiring resistance acclimation, see Precht et al (1973) for the most recent review. The essence of the problem being that, as these phenomena are apparently universal throughout the animal (and plant) kingdom, fundamental mechanisms assumed to exist, which account not only for heat injury, but which are also modifiable by thermal acclimation. However, the literature has thrown up a number of theories, some mutually exclusive, as to the causes of heat death. Furthermore the state of literature concerning the mechanisms involved in resistance acclimation clearly shows how little is known of this phenomenon. Of the

many theories proposed to account for heat injury and heat death, it is possible to find contradictory or conflicting evidence for each of them and as a consequence the existence of a common cause(s) is in question. Winterstein (1905) proposed that heat death in many species was caused by tissue hypoxia, whilst this is supported by Weatherley's (1970) work in goldfish, Brett (1944), Fraenkel & Herford (1940) and Bowler (1963 a) showed heat death in the animals they worked with to be independent of the partial pressure of oxygen.

The increase in resistance to high temperature that occurs following a reduction in water content in resting stages of animals, as well of course in seeds and microorganisms, has led to the proposal that heat resistance of animals is caused by a change in the ratio of free to bound cell water, Hinton (1960), Fry (1958), Hutchison (1961). However, Mellanby (1958) clearly showed heat death points in meal worm larvae (Tenebrio molitor) to be unaffected by their degree of hydration. Suhrmann (1955) has also shown heat resistance of cellular activity in crucian carp (Carassius vulgaris) to be independent of the ratio of free to bound water.

A number of studies have also shown a breakdown of cellular permeability occurs during heat death,

resulting in "downhill" movements of  $\text{Na}^+$  and  $\text{K}^+$  between blood and tissue (Gladwell, Bowler & Duncan (1976), Grainger (1969), Ahearn (1970). However, Davison (1970) has shown this not to be the case during heat death in Calliphora erythrocephala.

In this search for a universal factor to account for heat death in such a variety of organisms, two theories are repeatedly returned to.

These are 1) that enzymes are "denatured" at high temperatures, and 2) that cellular lipids "melt" at high temperatures destroying cell structure.

The most prominent advocate of the enzyme "denaturation" theory is Ushakov (1964, 1966). He reports on the similarity in Arrhenius values ( $E_a$ ) for cellular heat death and protein denaturation, and concluded that heat injury resulted from the latter effect.

It is, however, difficult to see how denaturation of enzymes, as originally meant, could account for the heat death of Aurelia at  $14^\circ\text{C}$  (Mayer, 1914) or for three species of Trematomus lower than  $10^\circ\text{C}$  (Somero & De Vries, 1967).

Indeed even Ushakov (1964) has remarked that most enzymes tested to that date have a greater thermostability than the cells or organisms from which they were extracted.

This led him to suggest that heat sensitivity of cells is determined by their least resistant proteins (Ushakov, 1964), however, the identity of these was obscure.

Read (1967) gave a clear lead in this field when he urged considerable caution in relating heat resistance of an organism to the thermostability of its proteins, unless it could be demonstrated that the temperatures at which protein function fails, closely coincides with those at which metabolism fails. In very few cases has this criterion been met. The best documented work has been in myosin ATP ase in lizards (Licht, 1964), on an amylase from a thermophilic bacterium (Manning & Campbell, 1961) and on the  $Mg^{2+}$  dependent ATP ase from crayfish muscle sarcolemma (Bowler & Duncan, 1967; Gladwell et al. 1976). More recently too the  $Ca^{2+} Mg^{2+}$  ATP ase from crayfish muscle sarcoplasmic membranes has been shown to be heat sensitive at the same temperatures causing heat death (Cossins & Bowler, 1976).

More recent interpretations of the involvement of protein denaturation in thermal injury have turned to thermodynamic evidence, Rosenberg, Kemeny, Switzer & Hamilton (1971). They recalculated much data and found that the activation  $\hat{e}$ thalpy ( $\Delta H^*$ ) and activation entropy ( $\Delta S^*$ ) for protein denaturation were related by the 'compensation' law:

$$\Delta S^* = a\Delta H^* + b$$

They described the values for the constants a & b as being very similar for a virus, yeasts, bacteria and Drosophila to the values obtained for protein denaturation. Banks, Demjanovic & Vernon (1972) have questioned the validity of the so-called "compensation" law, and furthermore when the data from a number of studies on multicellular organisms are so calculated, somewhat different values for a and b are obtained (Evans & Bowler, 1973). It is concluded that this thermodynamic approach is no more helpful in pinpointing proteins as the heat-sensitive cellular structures, than the more empirical approach.

Hochachka & Somero (1973) remark that proteins (enzymes) may become inactive at temperatures well below their denaturation temperature, as a result of temperature dependent changes in enzyme-substrate affinity. In allosteric enzymes this may also apply to a temperature dependent change in the sensitivity of the enzyme to its allosteric effector. In this way a loss of enzyme function could occur at temperatures well below those causing 'denaturation' in the protein coagulation sense. Thus heat death may result from temperature induced reversible inhibition of activity, which causes a cascade effect becoming more and more severe culminating in an enzyme or enzymes, metabolic chaos.

Alternatively, an irreversible change occurs in

tertiary or quaternary protein structure that is characteristic of coagulation.

For these reasons a detailed study of the effect of temperature on a mitochondrial enzyme,  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase will be followed.

Attention was first drawn to the relationship between thermal sensitivity of an organism and the 'melting' profile of its lipids by Heilbrunn (1924). This theory of heat injury was extended by Belehrádek (1935, 1957) by the formalisation of the "lipoid liberation theory". This theory suggests that cellular heat injury is caused by the 'melting' of cellular lipids and that this has a deleterious effect on cell structure and as a consequence on cell function. In support of this, Belehrádek (1967), in a review, reported that fats and phospholipids are the only cell constituents whose molecular structure is dependent upon the temperature of formation.

The early work in this field did not distinguish between depot fat and membrane lipids, indeed it was conducted in ignorance of the function properties and cellular location of the lipid in question. The early work of Fraenkel & Hopf (1940) is a case in point, they reared two species Calliphora erythrocephala and Phormia terra-novae of blowfly at high and low temperatures. The lipids extracted from flies acclimated to lower temperatures were

more unsaturated than those isolated from flies reared at the higher temperature. The flies of both species when reared at the higher temperature were more heat resistant than flies of the same species reared at a lower temperature. However, the relationship between lipid saturation and heat death was not simple. Fraenkel & Hopf (1940) described that flies of the different species, when bred at the same temperature, although they had lipids of identical saturation, they had different resistances to high temperature exposure. House, Riordan & Barlow (1958) have, however, demonstrated a good correlation between the heat sensitivity of Pseudosarcophaga affinis larvae and the degree of saturation of their dietary lipids.

More recent work, specifically on membrane phospholipids, has shown a similar correlation between acclimation temperature and the degree of saturation of membrane lipids, Johnston & Roots (1964). These and other workers report that acclimation to low temperature leads to an increased incorporation of unsaturated fatty acids into membranes (Roots, 1968; Brańska & Wlodawer, 1969; Caldwell & Vernberg, 1970; Kemp & Smith 1970; Driedzic & Roots, 1975; Cossins, 1976).

The current interpretation of this phenomenon is that acclimation involves the ability to control the degree of membrane lipid unsaturation in order to maintain a specific degree of membrane 'fluidity'. Once again,

however, positive evidence relating cellular heat injury with the degree of saturation of cellular (membrane) lipids is missing; see Ushakov (1964; 1966).

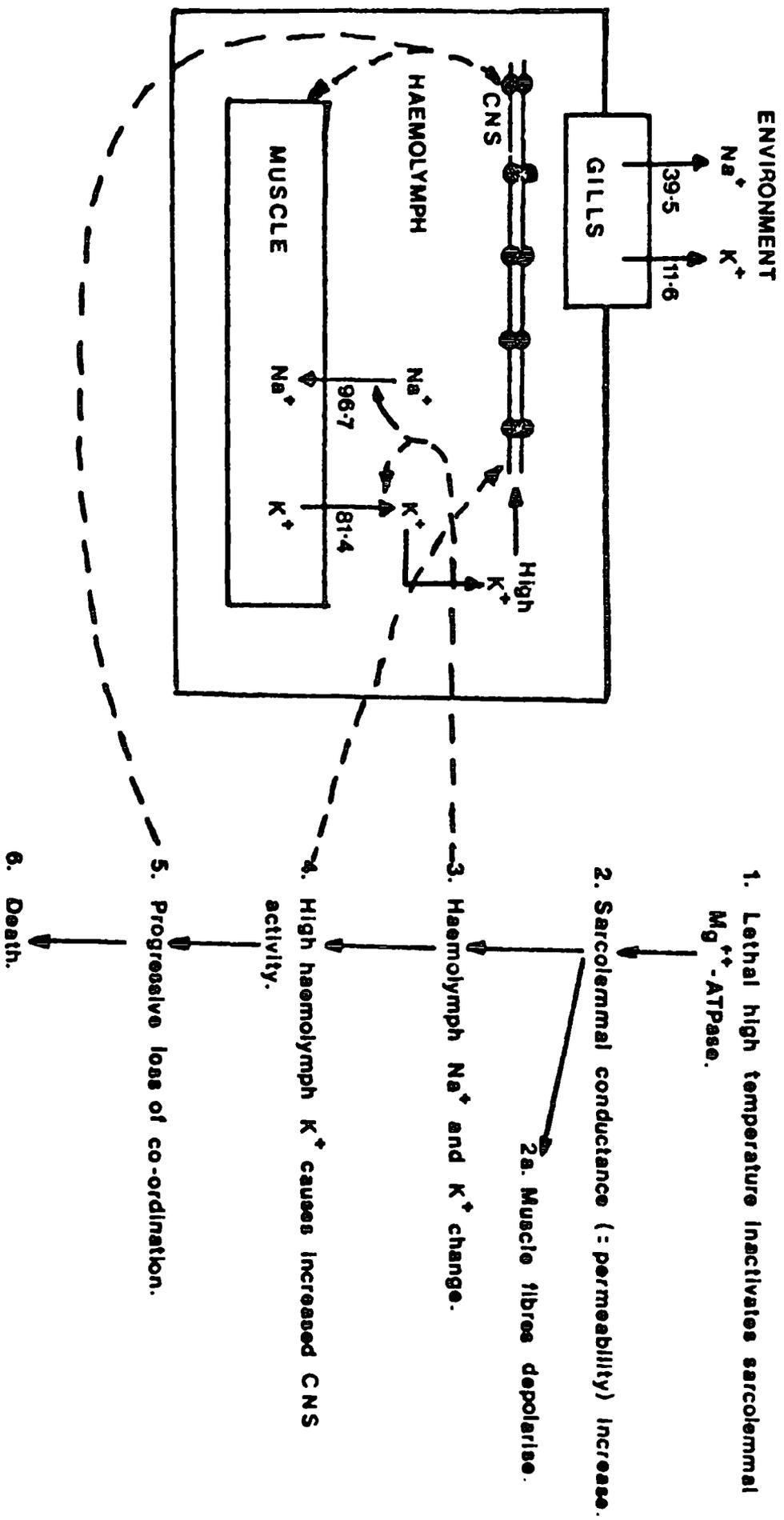
What is quite evident, however, is that a number of distinct studies show that membrane function is impaired at temperatures that would be lethal to the intact organism. Early work by Bowler (1963 b) demonstrated a breakdown in cellular permeability to cations occurred during heat death in the crayfish, a study that was taken further by Bowler & Duncan (1967), who related this to the inhibition of a muscle membrane  $Mg^{2+}$  ATPase.

Gladwell et al (1976) made a more detailed study. They describe changes in the bioelectric properties of the muscle membrane at high temperatures, and showed too that the activity of the CNS of crayfish to be seriously affected by the increase in haemolymph  $[K^+]$  that occurred during death, Bowler, Gladwell & Duncan (1973). The following scheme, Fig. 1.1 was suggested by these workers to account for heat death following impairment of membrane function.

Similar, but less detailed studies in Arianta (Grainger, 1969) in Centrioptera (Ahearn, 1970) in Helix (Grainger, 1973 a) have all shown heat death in these species to be accompanied by changes in the blood ionic

Fig. 1.1

Schematic representation of  
the steps that lead to heat  
death in the crayfish, as  
proposed by Bowler et al. (1973)



concentration.

Iandola & Ordal (1966) have earlier shown in the bacterium (Staphylococcus aureus) that heat damage caused a leakage of cellular contents across the cytoplasmic membrane. Later, Bluhm & Ordal (1969) showed heat treatment also caused a reduction in the activity of S. aureus respiratory enzymes. Levy, Gollon & Elliot (1969) noted, in an ultrastructural study of heat treated Tetrahymena that structural changes occurred which they interpreted as resulting from membrane damage. Ling (1967) reported an increase in sarcolemma permeability to sucrose in frog muscle at 35° - 40°C, temperatures that are lethal to the frog. This would agree with Grainger's work (1973 b) that resting potential of frog muscle membrane fell during exposure to temperatures that are lethal.

Such work as this, together with studies on Calliphora erythrocephala flight muscle sarcosomes by Davison & Bowler (1971) to be mentioned below, led to the suggestion that cellular heat injury, and by extrapolation heat death, is a membrane-event, Bowler, Duncan, Gladwell & Davison (1973). These workers proposed that heat lesion was not necessarily related to either the phospholipid or protein moiety but rather to the stability of lipoprotein complexes, or of enzymes whose activity is dependent upon the maintenance of membrane integrity.

In general it is shown that 'soluble' enzymes are thermally inactivated at temperatures well above those characteristic of heat death, see Brandt (1967), Read (1967), Ushakov (1967) and Cossins & Bowler (1976). Whereas a number of intrinsic membrane enzymes are heat inactivated at temperatures characteristic of heat death, see Cossins & Bowler (1976).

The work of Davison & Bowler (1971) deserves particular emphasis for it forms the particular basis for the proposed study. Davison & Bowler (1971) showed that sarcosomes have an equivalent thermal sensitivity to that of the whole animal.

Using  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as a substrate, they found that sarcosomes, isolated immediately following sublethal or lethal heat treatment, were dramatically affected as compared with sarcosomes isolated from control untreated animals. Particularly after lethal heat treatments (L.D.<sub>50</sub> and L.D.<sub>100</sub>) respiratory control was lost; phosphorylation was not measurable and oxidation was reduced to approximately two thirds of the value obtained from control untreated sarcosomes. Perhaps the most striking finding of this work was the fact, that after such treatments, respiration with pyruvate + malate and succinate were not so drastically affected, and partially coupled respiration with those substrates was observed

even after L.D.<sub>100</sub> treatment. Since  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is known to be one of the major substrates of flight muscle sarcosomal respiration (Sacktor, 1958; Van den Bergh, 1962), a breakdown of the phosphorylation process coupled with the oxidation of this substrate, which is itself already reduced, could result in serious effects on the animal as a whole.

Furthermore, Davison (1971b) demonstrated that there is a correlation between the physiological lesions observed with sarcosomes isolated from animals exposed to lethal heat treatments and morphological impairment of the sarcosomes, as revealed by electron microscopy. This damage, consisted of the disruption of the lamellate cristae and the appearance of a considerable amount of electron dense granules which he attributed to the precipitation of inorganic ions. These results led him to suggest that sarcosomal sensitivity may be one of the primary causes of heat death in the adult insect.

However, many questions arose again, if this is really the case, which component of sarcosomal structure and function is most sensitive to thermal stress. At the level of the sarcosomal membranes, Davison (1970) concluded that 'melting of phospholipids' is questionable for a release of long chain fatty acids might then be expected which would uncouple oxidative phosphorylation and also stimulate

oxygen consumption, this has not been conclusively demonstrated. Alternatively denaturation of enzyme molecules may account for the structural changes in sarcosomes. This point can be tested by following the recovery repair mechanism taking place after sublethal heat treatment. It is assumed that such treatment would cause either a reversible or an irreversible damage to the mitochondrial enzymes. In the first case recovery would gradually take place after the removal of the heat stress; in the second case, recovery can only occur when protein synthesis has replaced the damaged enzymes. Reports by other workers, however, suggest that recovery from sublethal heat treatment did take place in the absence of protein synthesis (In Staphylococcus aureus see Bluhm & Ordal (1969) or in Drosophila subobscura see Dingley & Smith (1968) ).

Despite the reasons, given by Davison (1970), that led him to choose blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes as a model for cellular heat injury, which included the point that they can easily be isolated in an intact form, whose functional efficiency can be readily measured, one must be aware of a series of factors, on which the demonstration of function relies, involved in dealing with isolated sarcosomes.

Many studies have been carried out on mitochondria

derived from different species and cell types (see Van den Bergh & Slater, 1962; Lardy & Ferguson, 1969; Lehninger, 1959; Chance & Hagihara, 1961; Hansford & Johnson, 1975). The diverse nature of the sources of mitochondria have led to some conflict in the interpretation of the optimal conditions necessary to demonstrate respiratory performance. In particular the isolation technique appears to be a point of some dispute.

A wide range of techniques is suggested regarding for instance breaking a tissue to free the mitochondria, homogenisation methods and periods, centrifugation times and speeds, resuspending the mitochondrial pellets after sedimentation and finally and most recently the storage of the preparation during the course of the experiment (Slack & Bursell, 1976a). There is also a lack of agreement on optimal assay conditions such as the reaction temperature, pH, the presence or absence of certain ions, the sequence of addition of reactants and the need for a primer for certain substrates.

The present study was begun with the intention of extending the work started by Davison (1970). It is the primary purpose of this thesis to examine the reported heat sensitivity of the flight muscle sarcosomes in more detail to determine if possible the primary lesion(s) in heat injury.

In the first instance, studies on recovery from

lethal and sublethal heat treatments were carried out. Secondly, biochemical and ultrastructural work, on the thermal sensitivity of isolated sarcosomes is presented. Thirdly, the membrane - bound  $\alpha$ -glycero-phosphate dehydrogenase has been investigated as the temperature-sensitive step in oxidative phosphorylation, and therefore particular attention was focussed on it.

CHAPTER TWO

---

## GENERAL MATERIALS AND METHODS

The insects used in this study were male and female Calliphora vicina R-D. This stock was originally obtained from a mass-mated culture bred at the Pest Infestation Laboratory, Slough. It has been maintained in our laboratory for some eleven years.

### 1. Culture of stocks

The stock cultures used for breeding were kept in muslin covered cages, approximately 50cm x 35cm x 70 cm, with corrugated cardboard placed in the bottom to allow the flies to right themselves. These cages were kept at room temperature (24°C) and the stock cultures regularly replaced at two monthly intervals. The flies were fed sugar and water ad libitum<sup>τ</sup> and ox liver was provided regularly as a source of protein and to allow oviposition to occur.

Liver covered with eggs was removed from the stock cages and placed in a crystallizing dish (15cm diameter) for incubation. The liver was covered with a wet filter paper to provide a high relative humidity (R.H.), Davies (1949). The crystallizing dish was covered with muslin and transferred to an incubator maintained at 24<sup>±</sup> 0.5°C to ensure larval emergence during the next 12 hours. Newly hatched larvae were placed on fresh liver in a crystallizing dish

filled with sawdust and the previous incubation process was repeated. Larvae were fed for 4 - 5 days on liver, which was replenished as required. Pupation took place in the sawdust 8 - 9 days after oviposition. After 24 hours the puparia were collected and placed on fresh dry sawdust in a 750 cm<sup>3</sup> conical flask, plugged with cotton wool, and incubated at 24 ± 0.5°C. The puparium stage was 9 days long.

#### Method of exposure of flies to high temperatures

The animals were placed in a series of 7.5 cm x 2.5 cm glass vials, which were completely immersed in a water bath at the required temperature. Racks were constructed to hold 50 vials. Each vial was fitted to a rubber bung, connected by glass and rubber tubing. Air was circulated through the vials at 600 cm<sup>3</sup> per minute and brought to a R.H. of 47.5 - 50.5 per cent by bubbling through a saturated solution of Mg (NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> · 6H<sub>2</sub>O (Winston & Bates, 1960). The temperature of the water bath was maintained at ± 0.05°C using a 500 watt immersion heater controlled by a Jumo thermoregulator and sunvic relay (Type F103/4). The water was continuously stirred. Air temperature in the vials was also determined. In the temperature range studied, 15 minutes was required for equilibration of the air and water bath temperatures. This 15 minute period was included in the 40 minute exposure. During

the remainder of the exposure the air temperature was maintained at the temperature of the water bath  $\pm 0.05^{\circ}\text{C}$ . (Davison 1970).

#### Isolation of Sarcosomes from flight muscle

Flight muscle sarcosomes were isolated after the procedure used by Lewis & Slater (1954), Lewis & Fowler (1960), Tribe (1967) and Davison (1970). 30 adults were immobilised with either cardice or by placing them in the deep-freeze for approximately 4 minutes, heads and abdomens were quickly removed and the thoraces transferred to a small glass cylinder, similar to the one used by Greville, Munn & Smith (1965) and Davison (1970). The cylinder was pre-cooled by placing it on crushed ice. The thoraces were gently crushed in  $2\text{ cm}^3$  of ice-cold sucrose medium I for 2 minutes with a cold, loosely fitting, flat-bottomed glass rod. Care was taken not to rotate the rod or grind the pulp and so damage the sarcosomes. The resulting pulp was transferred with a further  $1\text{ cm}^3$  of sucrose medium I to a cooled glass funnel lined with 4 layers of fairly coarse muslin, previously boiled in distilled water and soaked in ice cold sucrose medium I. The pulp was forcibly squeezed through the muslin by hand and the filtrate collected in a glass-centrifuge tube, also surrounded with crushed ice. The filtrate was centrifuged at  $100\times g$  for 4 minutes at  $4^{\circ}\text{C}$  in a Mistral 2 L

centrifuge (M.S.E.) to remove chitin and any flight muscle fibres, which had passed through the muslin. The supernatant was collected and centrifuged at 2,200xg for 10 minutes at 4°C in the same centrifuge and the resulting pellet suspended in 2 cm<sup>3</sup> of ice cold sucrose medium II. This suspension was recentrifuged at 2,200xg for 10 minutes and the final pellet of washed sarcosomes suspended in 0.75 cm<sup>3</sup> of ice cold KCl medium III. The average time for the preparation period was approximately 50 minutes.

3. Isolation media used

Sucrose Medium I

0.32 M Sucrose

10 mM EDTA

2% BSA

10 mM tris/HCl Buffer at pH 7.3

Sucrose Medium II

As for Sucrose Medium I without  
2% BSA

Medium III

0.15 M KCl

1 mM EDTA

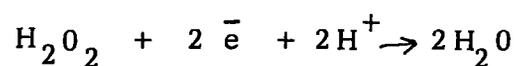
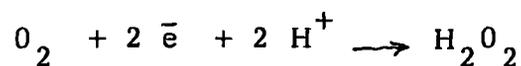
10 MM tris/HCl Buffer at pH 7.3

#### 4. Description of the oxygen electrode

Measurements of oxidative phosphorylation reported throughout this study were carried out using a Rank oxygen electrode (Rank Bros., Cambridge), which is of a similar design to the Clark oxygen electrode (Clark, 1956).

The electrode has a perspex reaction vessel surrounded by a water jacket and this unit screws onto a perspex base where a platinum cathode and silver anode are situated. When in use both are covered with a few drops of M KCl and this electrolyte is separated from the reaction vessel by a teflon membrane. The perspex screw cap fitted to the top of the reaction vessel has a small hole bored through the centre to allow additions to be made to the reaction media. The medium in the reaction vessel is continuously stirred using a small magnetic stirrer and "flea" (Rank Bros., Cambridge).

The principle of the oxygen electrode has been described by Davies & Brink (1942). When a polarising voltage of -0.6 volts is imposed across the two electrodes, the platinum negative to the silver, oxygen undergoes an electrolytic reduction



and the current flowing is directly proportional to the oxygen content of the electrolyte. Chappell (1964) has pointed out that the Clark electrode measures activity and not the concentration of the oxygen present in the reaction medium. Therefore in this study the oxygen electrode has been calibrated by determining the oxygen content of the reaction medium.

The current flowing through the electrode system was passed through a helical potentiometer in series with the platinum electrode and the voltage developed across this resistance was fed into a Servoscribe recorder (Goerz Electro) set at 2 mv sensitivity. The recorder baseline was set by reducing the medium in the reaction vessel of the oxygen electrode with sodium dithionite. This effectively reduced the current across the electrodes to zero. Reaction medium saturated with oxygen was pipetted into the reaction vessel and the potential adjusted with the helical potentiometer to give a full scale deflection on the recorder.

##### 5. Measurement of oxidative phosphorylation

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C (unless stated otherwise) using the oxygen electrode described below. The reaction medium was similar to that used by Davison (1970) unless otherwise stated.

Reaction medium:

50 mM KCl  
30 mM phosphate buffer (Sørensen)  
at pH 7.3  
5 mM  $MgCl_2 \cdot 6H_2O$   
1 mM EDTA  
20 mM Tris/HCl at pH 7.3

The medium was thoroughly equilibrated to 24°C for several hours to saturate it with atmospheric oxygen.

5 A. Polarographic measurement of oxygen consumption

3 cm<sup>3</sup> of the reaction medium were pipetted into the reaction chamber, the perspex screw cap was replaced such that all air bubbles were expelled. The surface of the reaction medium was allowed to rise about 5 mm up the central hole of the stopper to minimize the contact between the reaction medium and atmospheric oxygen. After about two minutes the recorder was adjusted using the helical potentiometer to give full scale deflection. Oxygen uptake from these 3 cm<sup>3</sup> of reaction medium was followed by determining the rate of change of deflection of the pen recorder after the following

additions :

50 ul of sarcosomal suspension.

50 ul of 2M DL -  $\alpha$  Glycerophosphate  
solution made up in distilled  
water.

10 ul of 50 mM ADP solution made up in  
30 mM phosphate buffer pH at  
6.8 at 24°C.

These additions were made with microsyringes<sup>i</sup>  
(Terumo Shandon, type MSG )

Care was taken not to allow the needle of the micro-  
syringe<sup>i</sup> to reach the bottom of the reaction chamber and  
so damage the teflon membrane.

Endogenous rates were neglected throughout this  
study because they had low values which were insignificant.  
The rate which followed the addition of substrate is  
called 'substrate-rate' unless otherwise stated. The  
rate which follows the addition of ADP is called 'ADP-  
stimulated rate' or state III (Chance & Williams, 1955b)  
throughout this study.

5 B. Q<sub>02</sub> :

This is the sarcosomal oxygen consumption in  
terms of  $\mu\text{g AO}$  per hour per mg protein. It can be  
calculated from the following equation:

$$Q_{0_2} = \frac{P \times C \times 60}{R - r \times \text{protein concentration}}$$

Where:

- P = rate of change of deflection (divisions/  
minute)
- C = initial oxygen content in reaction  
medium saturated at a given temperature  
(ug Atoms).
- R = full scale deflection for the oxygen  
saturated medium.
- r = deflection obtained at anaerobiosis.

5 C. Respiratory Control Index : (RCI)

This is defined as the ratio of the respiratory rate in the presence of added ADP to the rate following its expenditure (Chance & Williams, 1956) i.e.

$$RCI = \frac{\text{state III}}{\text{state IV}} .$$
 However, in some experimental

conditions (e.g. following heat treatment to the whole animal) no respiratory "cut-off" occurred after ADP addition, consequently it was not possible to measure RCI according to the Chance & Williams definition.

RCI was therefore estimated throughout using the ratio of the respiratory rate in the presence of added ADP to the rate before its addition, that is the 'substrate-rate'. (unless otherwise stated).

5 D. ADP :O ratio :

This is defined as the number of moles of ADP esterified to ATP for each gram atom of oxygen consumed.

ADP : O ratios have been calculated throughout this study using the method described by Chance & Williams (1955a). When a known amount of ADP is added to a mitochondrial suspension in the presence of substrate, the respiration rate increases and a quantity of oxygen is consumed. The uptake of oxygen can be measured from the trace by extrapolating the ADP-stimulated rate and the rate after its expenditure. The scale divisions between the point of the addition of ADP and the extrapolated point of its extinction, represent the amount of oxygen required to convert the added 0.5  $\mu$ mole of ADP to ATP.

6. Determination of Sarcosomal protein concentration :

For this purpose the Folin-phenol method of Lowry, Rosebrough, Farr & Randall (1951) was used with a slight modification. Bovine serum albumin fraction V was used as standard for constructing a calibration curve.

Reagents:-

- A) 20% W/v Sodium carbonate  
0.2% W/v Sodium potassium tartrate
- B) 2% W/v copper sulphate
- C) This was made up as follows:  
5 volumes of (A) + 0.5 volumes of (B) +  
20 volumes distilled  
water.

D) This was made up by diluting 1 volume of Folin-Ciocalteu phenol reagent with 10 volumes of distilled water.

Procedure :-

The sarcosomal suspension was diluted with distilled water to give a protein concentration of less than  $400 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ , which is the highest concentration of the standards. These were prepared by making a serial dilution from  $400 \mu\text{g BSA}/\text{cm}^3$  to give 300, 200, 150, 100, 50 and  $0 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ . In some experiments, where, due to dilution, the sarcosomal protein concentration is expected to be less than  $100 \mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ , a further series of standard solutions were made by serial dilution from  $100 \mu\text{g BSA}/\text{cm}^3$  to give 75, 50, 25 and  $0 \mu\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ .  $1 \text{ cm}^3$  of mixture C was added to  $1 \text{ cm}^3$  of the protein solution and allowed to stand for 15 minutes at room temperature, then  $1 \text{ cm}^3$  of reagent (D) was added and allowed to stand for another 30 minutes. The solutions were poured into a glass cuvette (1.0 cm light path) and optical density was measured against water at 700nm in a Beckmann SP 1800 Ultraviolet Spectrophotometer.

Chemicals :

The chemical reagents used in the present study were AnalaR grade wherever possible, otherwise laboratory reagent grade was used.

Adenosine -5' - diphosphate (disodium salt), sodium pyruvate, proline, EGTA, bovine serum albumin (Fraction V) were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co., Ltd.

DL  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate (sodium salt) was purchased from Koch-Light Laboratories Ltd., Colindale, Bucks, England.

ADP was stored in a frozen solution buffered at pH 6.8 at 24°C, for a maximal period of six weeks.

CHAPTER THREE

EFFECT OF ISOLATION PROCEDURE AND REACTION  
CONDITIONS ON THE RESPIRATORY ACTIVITIES OF  
ISOLATED SARCOSOMES

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Introduction

The respiratory metabolism of insect flight muscle has been much studied. Watanabe & Williams (1951) clearly demonstrated that the respiratory organelles (Sarcosomes), isolated from flight muscle were homologous to mitochondria from other tissues. However, many of the earlier works on mitochondria from different sources gave rise to diverse results and interpretations. Chefurka (1965) suggested that the discrepancies in the results between the different researchers lay in differences in methodology between the various laboratories, not only in assay of the respiratory activity but in the method of preparation of the mitochondria. As a consequence, Chefurka (1965) enumerated some of the parameters that may alter the stability of mitochondria and consequently their respiratory activity:

- i) Composition of the isolation and reaction media.
- ii) Extent of homogenization.
- iii) Ageing of mitochondria.

- iv) Other parameters such as age of insect, the order of addition of reactants, the concentration of mitochondrial suspension and perhaps even diurnal rhythm, may be important.

The most conventional technique for isolating sarcosomes is that originally reported by Watanabe & Williams (1951). It was developed on the grounds that mitochondria can be relatively easily released by rupturing the muscle fibres, and subsequently collected by filtration and centrifugation in an appropriate medium. This method has been used subsequently, with minor modifications, by many other workers, for example Lewis & Slater (1954), Sacktor & Cochran (1958), Estabrook & Sacktor (1958), Van den Bergh (1962), Tribe (1967), Davison & Bowler (1971), Bulos, Shukla & Sacktor (1972,1975).

Isolation methods employing the proteolytic enzyme nagarse have been widely used over the last ten years or so. It was first introduced by Chance & Hagihara (1961) in preparation of mitochondria from heart muscle tissue. Such methods are fully described by Chappell & Hansford (1972). The essence of this technique is the total digestion of the myofibrils, in an attempt to minimize the mechanical damage that might take place during isolation. This method has been shown to give a good yield of intact, non-

contaminated mitochondria (Chappell & Hansford, 1972).

Most recently, Slack & Bursell (1976 a) reported a new isolation method involving no proteolytic enzyme digestion, but a different isolation medium and milder resuspending methods than homogenization. They attributed the inconsistent results, reported by other workers, to the use of mitochondria which have been altered to an intermediate degree in structural integrity and functional ability, through inadequacy of the method of preparation.

Not only has there been a variety of isolation methods used to prepare sarcosomes, but different isolation media have also been used, for example, Sacktor & Childress (1967), Tribe & Ashhurst (1972), and Slack & Bursell (1976b), in the preparation of sarcosomes from blowfly flight muscle, have reported isolation media which differ in their tonicity osmolarity and the presence and absence of other constituents.

A variety of reaction media have also been used in assaying isolated insect flight muscle sarcosomes, e.g. the periodical cicada, Magicalcica septendicem, (Hansford, 1971), the honey bee (Balboni, 1967),

Lucilia cuprina and Musca domestica (Birt, 1961), the blowfly, Calliphora erythrocephala (Tribe & Ashhurst, 1972; Davison & Bowler, 1971), and many others.

The principal purpose of this study, as stated earlier, is to determine possible lesions to sarcosomal function caused by heat exposure, and consequently to throw light on the mechanisms involved in cellular heat injury. It has been reported earlier by several workers that mitochondrial function is heat-sensitive, particularly oxidative phosphorylation, (e.g. Christiansen & Kvamme, 1969; Davison & Bowler, 1971; Rochman, Lathe & Levell, 1967). The major part of this thesis concerns therefore an investigation of the effect of lethal heat doses to adults on sarcosomal function. It was as a consequence considered necessary to assess the effect of different isolation procedures and assay conditions on sarcosomal function in control sarcosomes.

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate has been suggested as the principal physiological substrate in dipteran flight muscle mitochondria (Sacktor, 1964, 1970). On the other hand, other workers (Gregg, Heisler & Remmert, 1960- Van den Bergh, 1962) have suggested that pyruvate plays a major role in supplying energy

for flight. No attempt was made in the present study to use substrates of the citric acid-cycle intermediates for they are usually partly oxidized by sarcosomes because the sarcosomal membrane is relatively impermeable to them (Van den Bergh & Slater 1962); this may be due to lack of carrier molecules (Hansford & Chappell, 1967).

In a preliminary work, Davison (1970) observed that sarcosomes, isolated from the flight muscle of lethally heat-treated blowflies, showed uncoupled, markedly reduced respiration when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is used as substrate. Whereas pyruvate showed some measure of coupling, succinate showed tighter coupling and higher oxidation rates than in control sarcosomes.

This differential thermal effect on the sarcosomal respiratory systems leads to several speculations. Amongst those is the possibility that in vivo heat treatment might have rendered the sarcosomes susceptible to isolation procedure thereafter. Thus it seems reasonable to approach the problem from this angle in the first instance.

The Chapter, therefore, will include some detailed investigations into the effect of isolation procedure and assay conditions on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate,

as well as pyruvate-linked, respiration in sarcosomes isolated from control and heat treated blowflies.

### Materials and Methods

The flies used in these experiments were control untreated, or L.D<sub>50</sub> treated 10-day old adults reared and maintained at 24°C. Heat doses were given as described in Chapter 2.

#### 1. Isolation procedures

##### A. Standard Method

This method has been fully described earlier in Chapter (2). It has been widely used by many other laboratories e.g. Lewis & Slater (1954), Sacktor & Cochran (1958), Van den Bergh (1962), Tribe (1967), Davison & Bowler (1971), Bulos, Shukla & Sacktor (1972, 1975). The basic method can be summarised as follows: the flight muscle fibres are ruptured, and subsequently the sarcosomes are collected, by filtration and subsequently isolated by centrifugation in an appropriate medium (Sucrose medium I).

##### B. Nagarse Isolation

The method used was similar to that described by Chance & Hagihara, (1961) and Chappell & Hansford

(1972), and was used as follows -

Isolation Medium

0.32 M sucrose

1 mM EGTA

5 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.7  
at 0°C

Isolation procedure:

Heads and abdomens were removed on a petri-dish. The dish was kept cold by placing it on crushed ice, whilst dissecting the flies. Thoraces were collected in a small glass beaker placed also on crushed ice. The flight muscle was expelled either by squeezing the thorax, or by pressing all thoraces through one layer of muslin, using a flat-footed pestle, on a glass dish containing about 10 cm<sup>3</sup> of isolation medium. In the first case, squeezing the thorax between fingers, would yield an almost chitin-free preparation. The second case, however, would yield a pure preparation, if a low speed spin (100g) is carried out for 4 minutes to remove the chitin, before the next preparation step.

The expelled flight muscles were transferred to an ice-cold 50 cm<sup>3</sup> glass beaker containing 20 cm<sup>3</sup> of cold isolation medium. Homogenization was performed briefly and manually on ice, by passing the pestle of a

Dounce homogenizer twice through the medium. A fresh solution of nagarse was prepared by dissolving 3.5 mg in 5 cm<sup>3</sup> of the isolation medium. The ice-cold nagarse solution was added into the homogenizer tube and two further passes of the pestle were given. The preparation must stand on ice during the 5 minutes incubation and in this time, one further homogenization was given. The homogenate was then filtered through four layers of muslin, which had been previously boiled in distilled water for a few minutes, then soaked in ice-cold isolation medium. Filtration was carried out via a cold glass-funnel. The filtrate was divided into two equal volumes in 50 cm<sup>3</sup> polyethylene centrifuge tubes and centrifuged in an MSE high-speed 18 refrigerated centrifuge for 2 minutes at 9000 x g . The supernatant was discarded from both tubes and the pellets were resuspended in 5 cm<sup>3</sup> each of fresh isolation medium. Resuspending the pellets was carried out carefully using the 'cold finger' technique, this being a glass test tube filled with crushed ice. The cold bottom of this tube was gently rubbed against the edge of the pellet moving, in a circular manner, towards its centre. The contents of the two tubes were added together, diluted to 40 cm<sup>3</sup> and recentrifuged for 5 minutes at 9000 x g

in the same centrifuge. The supernatant was discarded and the pellet resuspended in 2 cm<sup>3</sup> of the isolation medium using the 'cold finger' method described above. Such a preparation yielded approximately 1 mg sarcosomal protein per 50  $\mu$ l. During the experiment the sarcosomal preparation, as well as the substrates were placed on ice.

## 2. Reaction Conditions

The respiratory activity of sarcosomes isolated by the "standard" isolation method listed above was followed in four different reaction media -

### Medium I

50 mM KCl  
5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> · 6H<sub>2</sub>O  
1 mM EDTA  
20 mM tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

### Medium II

50 mM KCl  
5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub> · 6H<sub>2</sub>O  
1 mM EDTA  
20 mM tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>

Medium III

154 mM KCl  
10 mM tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>

Medium IV

154 mM KCl  
1 mM EDTA  
10 mM tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>

Measurement of oxidative phosphorylation

This was carried out as described in the General Materials and Methods, and the respiratory performance was expressed as RCl, ADP : O and QO<sub>2</sub>.  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration was measured in 3 cm<sup>3</sup> of reaction medium I at 24°C. Pyruvate and proline-dependent respiration was measured in 2cm<sup>3</sup> of reaction medium III at 24°C. The RCl in the latter case was calculated as the ratio of respiration rate in the presence of ADP to that after the expenditure of added ADP (state III/state IV).

The substrate final concentrations were

33 mM, 2.5 mM and 2.5 mM for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, pyruvate and proline respectively.

## Results

### I. Effect of Isolation procedure on respiration of control sarcosomes

#### A $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dependent respiration

As can be seen from Table (3.1) the isolation procedure had a profound effect on the sarcosomal respiratory behaviour when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is the substrate. The 'standard' method produced sarcosomes which gave  $QO_2$  values in agreement with those of other workers in the literature (Tribe, 1967, Davison & Bowler, 1971; Childress & Sacktor 1967) who have worked on this or other blowfly species. The substrate rate oxidation was  $34.42 \mu\text{g A } 0.\text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg protein}^{-1}$ , whilst this was stimulated to  $84.57 \mu\text{g A } 0.\text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg protein}^{-1}$  by the addition of ADP. This resulted in obtaining good values for RCl, (mean = 2.48) and mean ADP : O of 1.79.

Nagarse prepared sarcosomes on the other hand had a significantly poorer respiratory performance throughout. Most dramatic was the low value for state III respiration, of only  $37.87 \mu\text{g A } 0.\text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg protein}^{-1}$ . The resulting mean value for RCl was only 1.5 and the

calculated mean value for ADP : O was also significantly lower at 1.37.

B Pyruvate and proline dependent respiration

As can be seen from Table (3.1), the use of nagarse has very little effect, if any, on the pyruvate-linked sarcosomal respiratory activity. The substrate rate (state IV) in both bases was in agreement with that reported by Tribe & Ashhurst (1972). The ADP-stimulated rate (state III), also, was not affected by the isolation technique and the results obtained were in agreement with those obtained from housefly sarcosomes, Musca domestica (Van den Bergh & Slater 1962) Phormia regina (Childress & Sacktor, 1966) and Calliphora erythrocephala (Hansford 1972), see Table (3.1a).

Consequently the respiratory control index was very little affected by the isolation procedures employed, giving values of  $8.27 \pm 0.44$  and  $8.85 \pm 1.81$  for the nagarse and standard isolation technique respectively. These values are identical to those reported by other workers (See Van den Bergh & Slater, 1962 and Hansford & Chappell 1967).

Phosphorylation was not affected by either of the isolation conditions applied as revealed by the high ADP : O ratios obtained.

Table 3.1a

Comparative state III respiration rates  
and respiratory control indexes as  
reported by different workers, using  
Pyruvate + a primer as substrates.

	Van den Bergh and Slater (1962)	Childress and Sacktor (1966)	Tribe and Ashurst (1972)	Hansford (1972)	Present results (1977)
Sp.	<u>Musca</u> <u>domestica</u>	<u>Phormia</u> <u>regina</u>	<u>Calliphora</u>	<u>enythrocephala</u>	<u>Calliphora</u> <u>vicina</u>
State III	57.77	59.28	27.14	39.30	43.81
RCI	8.9	6.4	4.4	-	8.27

II. Effect of isolation conditions on respiratory performance of sarcosomes isolated from Heat-treated blowflies

A)  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration:

The results of the effect of isolation technique on sarcosomal respiratory performance following heat treatment are also recorded in Table (3.1). As can be seen from the Table, heat treatment impaired  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-supported respiration, which showed a decline of 30% and 46% in the substrate rates, 54% and 78% in state III for sarcosomes isolated with and without nagarse, respectively. In such sarcosomes ADP stimulation was not demonstrable, hence an RCI value of one was obtained, and ADP : O ratio was not measurable.

B) Pyruvate-dependent respiration

Sarcosomes isolated from L.D.50 treated blowflies showed a decline in state III respiration of more than 60%, when pyruvate is used as substrate, whereas state IV (substrate rate) respiration increased by about 12 and 27 per cent in sarcosomes isolated with nagarse or with the standard method, respectively. Nevertheless, some coupling was still demonstrable, and ADP : O ratios were measurable. This is in agreement with the prelim-

Table 3.1

Effect of isolation procedure and heat treatment on the sarcosomal respiratory performance in the presence of 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, or 2.5 mM pyruvate and 2.5 mM proline as substrates.

Reaction conditions:

Where  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is the substrate, the reaction medium was as follows:

50 mM KCl  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
5 mM Mg CL<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>O  
1 mM EDTA  
20 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

Where pyruvate and proline are the substrates, the reaction medium was as follows:

154 mM KCL  
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
10 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C  
0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>

Respiration ( $QO_2$ ) is shown as the mean values of  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  ( $\pm$  s.e.)

n.m. = not measurable

Respiratory performance of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of control and

LD<sub>50</sub>-treated 10 day old blowflies using different isolation techniques

Substrate	Isolation Method	Treatment	QO <sub>2</sub>		RCI	ADP : O ratio	n	
			Substrate rate	ADP-rate				
α - GP	nagarse	Control	24.91±0.20	37.87±2.20	1.50±0.05	1.37±0.06	5	
		LD <sub>50</sub>	17.58±2.06	17.58±2.06	1	n.m.	3	
	Standard	Control	34.42±0.87	84.57±2.60	2.48±0.1	1.79±0.03	12	
		LD <sub>50</sub>	18.43±0.4	18.43±0.4	1	n.m.	6	
	Pyr. + Prol.	nagarse	Control	5.30±0.18	43.81±2.11	8.27±0.44	2.87±0.04	6
			LD <sub>50</sub>	5.97±0.14	15.33±0.60	2.57±0.10	2.49±0.08	6
Standard		Control	5.53±0.12	48.95±3.00	8.85±1.81	2.89±0.06	8	
		LD <sub>50</sub>	7.02±0.15	17.43±0.26	2.48±0.05	2.23±0.08	6	

inary results reported by Davison (1970).

### III. Effect of the composition of the reaction medium on sarcosomal respiration

The data presented in Table (3.1) clearly shows that equally good results are obtained, for both  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate + proline supported respiration, in sarcosomes isolated following the "standard" method. This is not the case however for nagarse treated sarcosomes. Consequently, this study of reaction conditions on sarcosomal respiration has been followed using "standard" method produced sarcosomes only.

#### A. $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration

As can be seen in Table (3.2), medium I supports sarcosomal respiration in a good functional state, with high  $QO_2$  values, and with a mean RCl of 2.43. The ADP :O of 1.8 also implies a high level of coupling of oxidation and phosphorylation. The results obtained are entirely consistent with data produced by other workers in flight muscle sarcosomes, using similar reaction conditions.

As can be seen the inclusion of  $0.4 \text{ mg/cm}^3$

Table 3.2

Effect of composition of the reaction medium on the respiratory activities of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Final concentration of the substrates used:

33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, or 2.5 mM pyruvate +  
2.5 mM proline

Reaction media:

I	II
50 mM KCl	Same as I but
5 mM $MgCl_2 \cdot 6 H_2O$	contains 0.4 mg
1 mM EDTA	BSA per $cm^3$ .
20 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C	
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C	
III	IV
154 mM KCl	Same as III but
10 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C	contains 1 mM EDTA
30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C	
0.4 mg BSA/ $cm^3$	

Sarcosomes in all cases were isolated using the "standard" method described in Chapter (2). Respiration ( $QO_2$ ) is expressed as mean values of  $\mu g AO \cdot hr^{-1} \cdot mg prot^{-1}$ . ( $\pm$  s.e.)

Table 3.2

Various reaction media

Substrate	Med. I		Med. II		Med. III		Med. IV	
	$\alpha$ -GP	Pyr. + Prol.						
Substrate rate	36.01 $\pm$ 1.23	18.16 $\pm$ 1.29	37.10 $\pm$ 1.74	17.72 $\pm$ 3.16	38.91 $\pm$ 1.98	5.14 $\pm$ 0.60	12.55 $\pm$ 1.73	3.95 $\pm$ 0.57
	88.02 $\pm$ 5.60	53.70 $\pm$ 3.80	82.70 $\pm$ 3.67	67.29 $\pm$ 5.98	58.48 $\pm$ 3.76	48.69 $\pm$ 5.86	21.60 $\pm$ 4.20	23.45 $\pm$ 2.25
ADP rate	2.43 $\pm$ 0.09	3.03 $\pm$ 0.16	2.27 $\pm$ 0.34	3.79 $\pm$ 0.13	1.50 $\pm$ 0.05	9.47 $\pm$ 0.52	1.71 $\pm$ 0.10	7.05 $\pm$ 1.00
RCI	1.80 $\pm$ 0.03	2.82 $\pm$ 0.04	1.81 $\pm$ 0.04	2.66 $\pm$ 0.23	1.33 $\pm$ 0.04	2.90 $\pm$ 0.05	1.27 $\pm$ 0.09	2.88 $\pm$ 0.04
ADP = O ratio	7	6	5	5	7	6	3	5

of BSA in reaction medium I to give medium II, had no significant effect on any of the parameters measured, as compared to the values obtained in medium I ( $p > 0.05$ ).

Medium III however, which contained no  $Mg^{2+}$  nor EDTA, and had a raised  $K^+$  concentration of 154 mM, was less good a medium for sarcosomal respiration with  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate. Whilst substrate rate oxidation was  $38.91 \mu g A 0.hr^{-1}.mg prot.^{-1}$ , in contrast to  $36.01$  and  $37.10 \mu g A 0.hr^{-1}.mg prot.^{-1}$  for media I and II, respectively. The state III respiration was however reduced to  $58.48 \mu g A 0.hr^{-1}.mg prot.^{-1}$  from about  $80 \mu g A 0.hr^{-1}.mg prot.^{-1}$  in media I and II. This of course resulted in a significantly poorer value for RCl of only 1.5 ( $p < 0.01$ ). The weaker coupling was also obvious from the mean values obtained for ADP :O of only 1.33, which was substantially lower than the values found when media I and II were used ( $p < 0.01$ ).

Reaction medium IV is the same as medium III, except that it contains 1mM EDTA. This medium has even greater deleterious effect on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate respiration. All the parameters measured, substrate rate ( $p < 0.01$ ), state III ( $p < 0.01$ ), RCl ( $p < 0.01$ ) and

ADP :O ( $p < 0.01$ ) were significantly lower than in either medium I or II. Mean oxidation rates, 12.55 (for substrate rate) and 21.6 (for state III) were also dramatically lower than when the sarcosomes were respiring in medium III.

B. Pyruvate and proline dependent respiration

It must be pointed out that for pyruvate and proline state IV respiration is also referred to as 'substrate rate'.

As can be seen from Table (3.2), pyruvate and proline linked respiration was supported by medium I. However, the mean value obtained for RCl was only  $3.03 \pm 0.16$ . This was mainly owing to high state IV respiration, where a mean value of  $18.16 \mu\text{g A.O. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  was obtained. Nevertheless phosphorylation, as determined from ADP :O, was still relatively good, for a mean value of  $2.82 \pm 0.04$  was obtained.

The inclusion of BSA in medium I, to give medium II, produced a significant improvement in the mean RCl to 3.79 ( $p < 0.01$ ). This occurred because higher values for state III respiration were obtained, 67.29 as compared with  $53.70 \mu\text{g A.O. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ .

In this medium the mean ADP : 0 obtained was  $2.66 \pm 0.23$  however but was not significantly different from the value calculated for medium I ( $p > 0.05$  ).

Medium III appears to provide the best conditions of the four media for sarcosomes respiring pyruvate and proline. Whilst the  $QO_2$  values for states III and IV are reduced as compared with media I and II, it is state IV respiration that is most affected. This results in significantly higher values for the RCI of  $9.47 \pm 0.52$ , ( $P = 0.001$ ). Good values were also obtained for ADP : 0, and gave a mean of  $2.9 \pm 0.05$ .

The inclusion of EDTA in medium IV, further reduces sarcosomal  $QO_2$ , with state III being the more dramatically affected, mean values of  $23.45 \pm 2.25$  and  $48.69 \pm 5.86 \mu\text{g A0.hr}^{-1}.\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  were obtained in media IV and III, respectively.

Consequently the mean RCI value obtained in medium IV was also lower,  $7.05 \pm 1$  as compared with the highest value obtained in medium III of  $9.47 \pm 0.52$ , these were statistically different, ( $p < 0.05$  but  $> 0.01$ ).

Once again however, ADP : 0 were less affected and a mean of  $2.88 \pm 0.04$  was obtained, which was not different from the value determined in medium III ( $p > 0.05$ ).

## Discussion

### I. Effect of isolation conditions on sarcosomal respiration

The results of measurements of respiratory activity of flight muscle sarcosomes show that the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-linked respiration is lower when the sarcosomes were isolated using nagarse. Two factors must, therefore, be taken into account. First, the composition of the isolation medium, which is different from that used in the standard method, in that it contains Sucrose and EGTA instead of KCl and EDTA. Van den Bergh & Slater (1962) found that housefly sarcosomes isolated in KCl medium had higher respiratory activities than those isolated in sucrose medium.

This has been recently confirmed by Slack (1975), who criticized, however, the ability of KCl medium to maintain high sarcosomal activity and to prevent loss of endogenous material during storage. Stevenson (1968) pointed out, that swelling was observed in E.M. in mitochondria isolated in a KCl-medium, as compared with a sucrose medium, if EDTA (1mM) was included. This is in accord with the observation made by Azzone & Azzi (1966), that the removal of  $Mg^{2+}$  ions from an ionic  $K^+$  medium promotes  $K^+$  uptake into the mitochondria. Nevertheless, many workers have reported results in

favour of ionic rather than a sucrose isolation medium. Gamble & Gartid (1970) showed that the entrance of sucrose into the matrix is balanced by loss of  $K^+$  and inorganic phosphate. Van Dam & Tsou (1968) proposed that a discharge of the  $K^+$  gradient would lead to inhibition of substrate translocation - the same was suggested by Atsmon & Davis (1967) and Klein & Neff (1960). Furthermore the results reported by Packer, Pollak, Munn & Greville (1971) reveal the possibility that high osmolarity of sucrose may have a directly injurious effect on membrane sites through an initial dehydration, resulting in swelling caused by alteration in membrane configuration. The involvement of  $H^+$  in the interaction between potassium and sucrose was proposed by Gear & Lehninger (1968) that salt-free mitochondria transferred to an ionic medium, will exhibit a potassium in - hydrogen - out exchange, whereas the exchange would occur in the opposite direction if salt-containing mitochondria are transferred to a sucrose medium and, consequently, the mitochondria would experience both an anion efflux through loss of binding sites, and uncoupling through proton uptake. The role of  $Ca^{2+}$  in these processes will be dealt with separately (see Chapter 6).

Secondly nagarse itself might alter some of the

properties of the sarcosomal membrane(s), since some evidence already exists that nagarse may cause a leakage of endogenous tricarboxylic acid cycle intermediates and may even inactivate the inner membrane carrier (Chappell & Hansford, 1972). In addition, the possibility that mechanical damage occurs during homogenization cannot be ruled out. Homogenization is necessary, for without it nagarse action was found to be unsatisfactorily slow, and oxidative levels of nagarse prepared sarcosomes were slightly inhibited (Slack, 1975).

Pyruvate-linked respiration, on the other hand, was affected much less by the isolation technique. It is possible that the composition of the reaction medium, which was different from that used for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-supported respiration (see later), may have restored any loss of respiratory activity caused by the nagarse isolation procedure. On the other hand, the possibility that nagarse itself or, in combination with homogenization, deleteriously alters sarcosomal membranes, does not appear to have affected the pyruvate + proline respiration.

Recently, Bursell (1975) reported a new method for isolating flight muscle sarcosomes with high respiratory activity. This method involved the use of the potassium salt of D-aspartate in the isolation medium to replace KCl or sucrose as an osmoeffector. The reasoning behind the use of aspartate was to provide an isolation

medium of a more physiological nature. However, 20 mM sucrose was included in a second medium, used for washing the sarcosomes. Shortly afterwards, Slack & Bursell (1976a), reported an isolation medium that contained  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  in addition to  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , the sarcosomes were washed in a 40 mM sucrose medium, and finally resuspended (stored) in a 0.32 M sucrose solution, containing, amongst other constituents, low concentration of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ . More recently, Slack & Bursell (1977) reported work on blowfly flight muscle mitochondria, which have been isolated, stored and assayed in media containing 0.25 M sucrose, or 0.16 M potassium aspartate. Why the authors used the reagents they did, in different concentrations from time to time is not always made clear by them.

One feature of their procedures is the large fall in RCl values, during repeated assays, from the very high initial values they obtained. This appears to be caused by marked increases in state IV respiration with each successive addition of ADP (Bursell & Slack 1976).

From the results presented in Table (3.1), it is clear that pyruvate-linked oxidative phosphorylation is only partially affected by thermally induced changes in flight muscle sarcosomes.

It is well established that exposing an animal to lethal heat treatments causes a decline in oxygen consumption of the intact animal as well as its isolated tissues. This has been demonstrated in blowfly larvae (Fraenkel & Herford, 1940), Arianta arbustorum (Grainger, 1969).

Davison (1970) considered the decline in oxidative phosphorylation of sarcosomes isolated from heat treated blowflies to be too massive to be due to isolation procedure alone.

Moreover, it is of particular interest that some measure of coupling is still demonstrable in sarcosomes isolated from heat treated adults, when using substrates other than  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate. This phenomenon has been also observed by Davison (1970), who proposed some factors to be taken into account, such as altered permeability of sarcosomal membranes, disturbed divalent cations distribution, release of endogenous uncouplers, and/or thermal inactivation of respiratory enzyme(s).

Analysing these factors, it appears that some measure of altered membrane permeability has occurred. This has been shown electron microscopically as grossly swollen sarcosomes in the presence of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate,

but not pyruvate (see Chapter 8). Perhaps the difference in concentration between the two substrates may account in part at least for the differences in the degree of swelling (for detail see Chapter 8). Davison (1970) interpreted increased succinate oxidation rates in sarcosomes isolated from heat treated flies on the grounds of altered membrane permeability, resulting in more succinate penetrating the membrane, allowing its oxidation by the citric acid cycle. The increased pyruvate oxidation rate (state IV) observed in the present study might also be accounted for in this way, although Davison (1970) found that pyruvate oxidation prior to the addition of ADP was slightly depressed. The difference in pyruvate concentration (24 mM) and the nature of the primer (8 mM malate), as compared with 2.5 mM pyruvate and 2.5 mM proline used in the present study, may account for the discrepancy recorded. However, a similar decline in pyruvate oxidation in total absence of ADP has also been observed in this study, which will be discussed later (see Chapter 7).

On the other hand, altered membrane permeability cannot explain depressed  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation by sarcosomes isolated from heat treated flies, since this substrate does not have to be translocated across the

inner membrane to be oxidised (Klingenberg & Buchholz, 1970). This has been fully discussed elsewhere in this study (see Chapter 6).

A similar differential sensitivity of these two systems ( $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate) has been demonstrated by other workers. Van den Bergh & Slater (1962) have shown that pyruvate oxidation was not as drastically reduced by sonication as  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation in Musca domestica flight muscle sarcosomes. Furthermore, Tribe & Ashhurst (1972) reported uncoupling of sarcosomes associated with age, when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was used as substrate; this was less marked when pyruvate was the substrate.

The second possible factor in heat injury, suggested by Davison (1970), is the disturbance of divalent cations distribution. In this context Wehrle, Jurkowitz, Scott & Brierly, (1976) have recently reported that swollen beef heart mitochondria permit EDTA to enter the matrix, resulting in a 90 per cent reduction in mitochondrial  $Mg^{2+}$ , this, in turn, alters the membrane permeability to monovalent cations. Although  $Mg^{2+}$  is presently included in the reaction medium, it is not certain that it can gain access to the matrix to replace the loss in intramitochondrial  $Mg^{2+}$ . In this regard,  $Ca^{2+}$  should not interfere since its allosteric effect is not applicable at  $\alpha$ -glycero-

phosphate concentrations as high as 33 mM, used in the present study, unless some thermally induced changes in the mitochondrion have altered this characteristic (see Chapter 6).

The third possible factor is the release of endogenous uncouplers. These are long chain fatty acids (Lewis & Fowler, 1960; Wojtczak & Wojtczak, 1960), which can be effectively removed by BSA (Sacktor et al. 1958, Wojtczak & Wojtczak, 1960). Davison (1970) tested the effect of BSA on sarcosomes isolated from heat treated flies in presence and absence of BSA, but there was no difference. However, throughout this study BSA was included either in the isolation or in the reaction medium (see Chapters 2 and 3). Nevertheless, it is quite possible that heat treatment may cause the release of an endogenous uncoupler of a different nature that is not removable by BSA, and specifically uncouples  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-linked oxidative phosphorylation. Rogers & Higgins (1976), have recently reported that, in rat liver mitochondria, the action of an inhibitor depends upon the nature of the receptor site for inhibition, whether lipophilic or hydrophilic. Interestingly enough, they found not only that the differently linked dehydrogenases of the oxidative phosphorylation system respond differently to inhibition, but also that dehydrogenases

like succinate dehydrogenase and  $\alpha$ -GP dehydrogenase, which are both flavin-linked, are differently inhibited, using the same inhibitor in both cases. It was, thus, concluded that depression of respiratory control depends upon the susceptible site, which may be different for different respiratory substrates. The possibility that respiratory enzyme(s) might have been thermally inactivated, will be dealt with separately at the level of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase (see Chapter 7).

## II. Effect of the reaction conditions

It must be pointed out that flight muscle sarcosomes, employed in this part, have been isolated using the standard method described in Chapter (2).

As mentioned earlier one of the parameters that may alter the respiratory activity of the mitochondria is the composition of the reaction medium (Chefurka, 1965). The reaction media chosen have two constituents in common. First, the presence of a phosphate buffer, whose concentration is 30 mM, since there is some evidence (Tulp, Stam & Van Dam, 1971) that low  $P_i$  concentration (5 mM) would strongly inhibit a probable dicarboxylic acid translocating system in the flight muscle sarcosomes. Furthermore, it has been suggested that mitochondria in

the presence of divalent cations, but absence of phosphate, were fragile (Brierley, 1963). On the other hand, Sacktor & Hurlbut, (1966) reported that the optimal Pi requirement appeared to be between 5 - 10 mM, more or less at the physiological level of Pi in insect muscle. The second common constituent in the four reaction media used in this study is the tris/HCl buffer system at a concentration of 20 mM. In spite of the wide controversy about the side effects of tris, there is a general agreement that its inhibitory effects are observed only when high concentrations are applied (Sacktor & Childress ?(1967) pointed out that at concentrations above 20 mM NAD-linked systems showed signs of inhibition.

There is an extensive literature on the requirement for BSA in media to obtain high levels of respiratory performance. In some cases the requirement for BSA appears to be absolute (Sacktor, 1954; Sacktor, O'Neill & Cochran, 1958, in Musca domestica; Wojtczak & Wojtczak, 1960, in wax-moth larvae). On the other hand, Gregg et al. (1960) in house fly, Newburgh, Potter & Cheldelin, blowfly larvae (1960) and Van den Bergh & Slater, housefly (1962) report high P : O ratios without added serum albumin. The apparent protective effect of serum albumin was attributed by Van den Bergh & Slater (1962) to "its capacity to bind the fatty acids that form

the active component . . . . of the endogenous uncoupling agent, enzymically . . . . ." , The damaging effect of free fatty acids on mitochondrial structure has been recognised by many workers (Lehninger, 1962b; Pressman & Lardy, 1956; and Borst, Loos, Christ & Slater, 1962). This has been confirmed by other workers (Kates, 1960 and Waite, Scherphof, Boshouwer & Van Deenen, 1969), who postulated the inhibitory effect of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to be due to its catalytic action upon the fatty acids releasing enzyme (phospholipase). Chefurka (1966) suggested that the protective effect of serum albumin lies in its capacity to trap the fatty acids but not to inhibit the phospholipase activity.

With the above discussion in mind it was thought necessary to include BSA in medium II so that its effect could be determined in comparison with sarcosomal respiration in medium I. As can be seen from Table 3.2 sarcosomes used in this study did not apparently undergo any release of fatty acids, since the addition of serum albumin did not have any pronounced effect. This is particularly the case for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate supported oxidation, however a significantly higher RCl was obtained for pyruvate and proline supported oxidation, although the mean ADP : O was lower in medium II as compared to medium I. More significantly the respiratory

performance of sarcosomes with pyruvate + proline as substrates, is very significantly poorer in media I & II as compared to medium III. This argues that it is a reaction medium constituent, other than BSA which is either missing or when present has a deleterious effect.

One significant different between media III and I & II is the omission of  $Mg^{2+}$ , and a raised  $K^+$  concentration. Recently, Slack & Bursell (1976 b) report that  $Mg^{2+}$  at concentrations above  $10^{-5}$  M increase state IV pyruvate respiration in blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes, which, they consider, is in part due to a stimulation of the sarcosomal ATPase. Thus it may be that the relatively high state IV observed with pyruvate-linked respiration in media I and II, is attributable to the presence of  $Mg^{2+}$ . This is reflected on partial uncoupling, resulting in a fairly low RCl.

Earlier workers have also reported intact muscle mitochondria possess a  $Mg^{2+}$  sensitive ATPase (Azzone & Carafoli, 1960), however it is generally believed it is latent unless the mitochondria are damaged, Sugano & Nagai (1971), Waino (1970). Indeed, uncoupling agents, such as DNP, are known to stimulate

this ATPase activity.

The removal of  $Mg^{2+}$  from media I and II has little effect on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate supported substrate rate oxidation, but causes a significant fall in state III respiration with this substrate. It is unlikely that this is owing to any requirement for  $Mg^{2+}$  from the adenine nucleotide translocation system, for pyruvate respiration is apparently optimal in this medium III.

One must conclude, therefore, that whilst  $Mg^{2+}$  is a requirement for maximal sarcosomal respiration performance with  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, this divalent cation is best excluded from reaction media when pyruvate and proline are being respired.

It is possible, that this differential effect results from an interaction of effects between the absence of divalent, and increased levels of monovalent cations.

Azzone & Azzi (1966) suggested that  $Mg^{2+}$  stabilizes the permeability of mitochondrial membranes to  $K^+$ , such that at low  $Mg^{2+}$ , potassium penetration would be increased. It is however difficult to see why any differential effect on the phosphorylating systems should occur, if  $K^+$  entry is acting by interference with the proton gradient, and so affecting coupling (Mitchell & Moyle, 1969).

CHAPTER FOUR

RECOVERY OF THE BLOWFLY, CALLIPHORA  
VICINA, FROM HEAT INJURY

Introduction :

The rationale behind the work dealt with in this Chapter concerns the reasonable assumption that the study of recovery from a sublethal (L.D.<sub>0</sub>) or L.D.<sub>50</sub> exposure might give an insight to the nature of the damage caused by the heat treatment, and thus the cellular repair mechanisms. To this end two types of experiments were planned. 1. 'Split-dose' experiments and 2. the temperature dependency of recovery process.

Split-dose experiments have been widely used in the study of irradiation damage, in insects, as well as in representatives of other phyla, for a recent review of this work on insects see Rockstein & Miquel (1973). The essence of such experiments was to compare the damaging effect of a particular dose of X-irradiation given as a single dose or as two applications separated by a short time interval. Such work has provided valuable information on the permanent and temporary nature of irradiation damage, see Baxter & Blair (1969) and Webb, Hollingsworth, Mill & Davies (1976). Few

similar studies are reported in the field of heat injury.

The work of Kallman (1963) and Kvuur, Nelson, Frey & McGann (1972) on cells in culture is pertinent. These workers clearly showed that exposure of cell lines to sub-optimal temperatures causes sub-lethal injury that can accumulate with dose. Their data also revealed however such damage can be repaired.

On the other hand, Gerner & Schneider (1975), working with Hela cells interpreted their data as showing sub-lethal heat damage did not accumulate, this interpretation contrasts with that of Palzer & Heidelberger (1973) who concluded Hela cells were capable of repair of sublethal heat damage.

The second approach has been to study the effect of temperature on the rate of repair of a standard application of heat. Davison & Bowler (1971) in an earlier study on this stock of animals showed that repair of heat damage resulting from an L.D.<sub>0</sub> exposure required 48 hours at 24°C. It was not clear whether this process was temperature sensitive, and consequently whether the repair of heat damage required active cellular metabolism. Few similar studies have been carried out on organisms, and perhaps only the work on microorganisms is really pertinent to this problem. Christophersen (1973)

summarises this work in an extensive review. Sub-lethal damage most commonly is seen as a delay in multiplication (Postgate & Hunter, 1963) and recovery is reported to require nutrient supplementation of the growth medium (Clark & Ordal, 1969). Heinments (1960) and Iandola & Ordal (1966) amongst others suggest repair of sub lethal damage requires enzymatic activity.

Similar work on multicellular organisms has been hindered by the lack of suitable criteria for establishing that cellular structures have been damaged as a result of heat treatment. Davison & Bowler (1971) have clearly demonstrated a good correlation exists in Calliphora erythrocephala between organism heat death and damage to flight muscle sarcosomes. Indeed it is the return of sarcosomal efficiency to the levels obtaining in control flies that is used as the index of repair in this study.

## Materials and Methods

### A. General methods

The flies used were reared and maintained (24°C throughout) according to the method stated in Chapter 2 of this thesis. The heating apparatus, and application of heat treatment have also been described

in Chapter 2. During recovery the flies were housed in small cages 22 cm x 22 cm x 22 cm constructed from commercial biscuit tins with three sides removed. Two sides were covered with polyglaze, and the third had a muslin sleeve attached.

#### B. Split-dose experiments

960 adult male, 10 day old, blowflies were used in this study. The heat dose given was 41°C for 40 min., this being slightly greater than the L.D.50 point for this aged fly reared and maintained at 24°C, Davison (1969). The flies were used in groups of 80 individuals, ten of which received the heat treatment as a single dose. The remainder were exposed for 20 min. at 41°C, followed by a period at 24°C, after which they received a further 20 min exposure at 41°C. The time intervals between the split-doses were 10, 20, 40, 80 min. and 4, 6 and 12 hours. The remaining flies were randomly selected for these split-dose periods. Following the completion of the heatings the flies were returned to 24°C to recover.

Previous work by Davison & Bowler (1971) have shown that those flies that will recover do so within 2 days at 24°C. Life table work on the same stock of

flies has shown few deaths occur naturally up to 20 days old, Tribe (1966). Thus the complication of natural death occurring during the experimental period can be ignored. The experiment was repeated on 12 separate occasions and the numbers dying at each trial were scored and pooled. The data were subjected to an analysis of variance and the results are shown in Table (4.1) and Figure (4.1).

#### C. Temperature - dependence of recovery

In these experiments some 270 10 day old flies were heated to an approximate L.D.<sub>50</sub> (40°C for 40 mins., Davison (1969). Thirty of these flies were taken immediately following heat treatment, and their flight muscle sarcosomes isolated as described in Chapter 2. The respiratory performance ( $QO_2$ , ADP : O ratio and RCl) was measured also as described fully in Chapter 2. This group was designated as the flies allowed no recovery in Table (4.2).

The remaining flies were placed at either 15° ± 0.5°C, 24° ± 0.5°C or 34° ± 0.5°C and allowed to recover from the heat treatment. The time dependency of recovery was followed at each temperature of

recovery by periodically taking batches of 30 flies, isolating the flight muscle sarcosomes and subsequently determining their respiratory performance. The recovery periods allowed were as follows:

At 15° C, 2 days, 4 days and 6 days

At 24° C, 1 day, 2 days.

At 34° C, 8 hours, 16 hours and 24 hours.

Because the different maintenance temperatures might also cause acclimation changes in respiratory performance, control flies were placed at 15°, 24° or 34° C at the same time as the experimental flies. They were taken in batches of 30 animals at the same time intervals as the experimental group for determinations of sarcosomal respiratory performance.

This experiment was repeated on six separate occasions, the data were combined and the mean values of  $QO_2$ , RCl and ADP : O ratios are presented in Table (4.2). These values are plotted as a function of recovery periods at each temperature in Figs (4.2), (4.3) and (4.4).

## Results

### A) Split - dose experiments

Analysis of variance showed significant variation existed between the various treatments ( $P = 0.02$  for 7 and 86 degrees of freedom). The means of numbers dying, at each treatment, can therefore be compared; these are shown in Fig. (4.1) in the form of a histogram. As can be clearly seen, the mean number dying as a result of a single application (control group) was  $6.0 \pm 0.62$  ( $n = 12$ ), and only when the interval between the split-doses was either 6 or 12 hours, was survival significantly greater than in the control group. For the 6 hour interval the mean number dying was  $3.45 \pm 0.72$  ( $p = 0.02$ ;  $n = 11$ ) and for the 12 hour interval the mean number dying was  $3.0 \pm 0.63$  ( $p = 0.01$ ;  $n = 12$ ). At the shorter time intervals then the injurious effect of heat is merely additive.

### B) Effect of temperature on recovery

The results of the effect of temperature on recovery from heat treatment are shown in Table (4.2), and will be dealt with in two parts. The experimental group will be considered first. It must be mentioned that in all cases sarcosomal respiratory performance was measured at  $24^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

Table 4.1

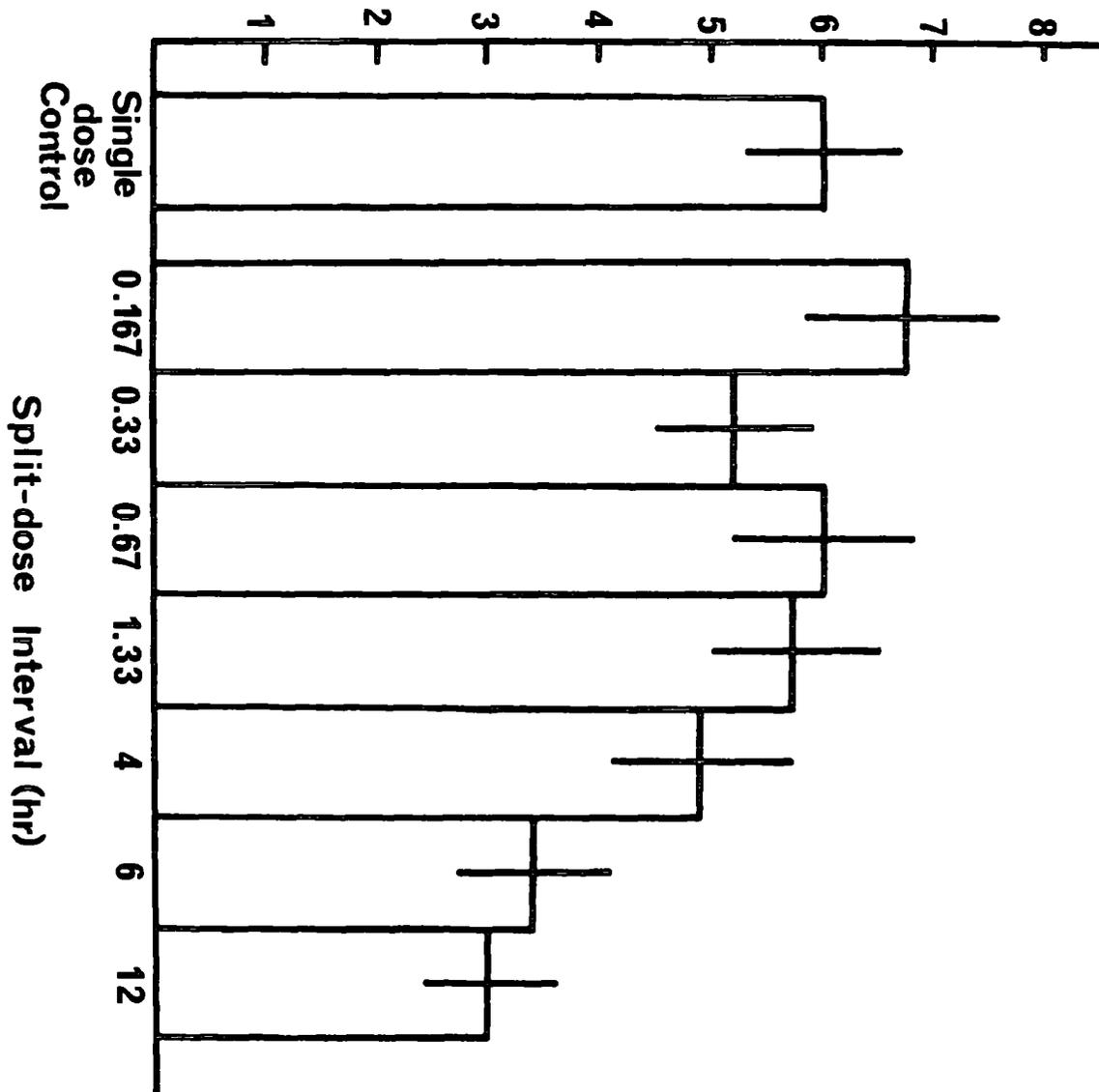
Effect of giving an approximate  
L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment either as  
a single dose (40 min at 41°C) or  
as a split-dose of two separate  
20 min exposures on survival  
of 10 day old adult male blowflies.



Fig. 4.1

Mean number of blowflies dying as a result of the state heat exposure. Single-dose blowflies received a 40 min. exposure at 41°C; the split-dose blowflies received a 20 min exposure at 41°C, followed by the stated period at 24°C before receiving the final 20 min at 41°C. Flies were heated in groups of ten for each treatment, and the means were constructed from 11 or in some cases 12 repeat experiments. The vertical bars represent one standard error of the mean.

Mean N<sup>o</sup> dead after 2 days



An L.D.<sub>0</sub> treatment to <sup>the</sup> whole organism has a marked effect on sarcosomal respiratory performance. This can be seen most clearly immediately after the heating, and it is the ADP-stimulated oxygen consumption (state III) of sarcosomes that is most dramatically reduced (by about 40%) as compared with sarcosomes from control unheated flies. On the other hand substrate rates are not significantly different. This results in a significant reduction ( $p = 0.001$ ) in RCl and ADP : O ratio.

#### 15°C maintained flies

In the experimental group sarcosomes from flies taken 2 days after recovery at 15°C showed no recovery had occurred at all when compared with those taken immediately after heating. Only after a further 2 day recovery period was there any restoration of normal respiratory function in isolated sarcosomes. Indeed both state III, and substrate rate respiration in the sarcosomes from the experimental flies were the same as in the control flies, maintained at 15°C for 4 days. RCl and ADP : O ratios however were still significantly lower than in control flies (initial levels), although they were not different from those of control flies kept for 4 days at 15°C ( $p = 0.05$ ). It was therefore decided

Table 4.2

Effect of temperature on the ability to recover  
from 40°C : 40 min sublethal heat treatment

L.D.<sub>0</sub>

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Measurements of respiratory performance were made of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10 day old adults, but allowed to recover for the time shown at either 15°, 24° or 34°C.

Control flies were also placed at 15°, 24° or 34°C and were sampled after the same time intervals as were the experimental flies.

The mean values shown were obtained from 6 separate preparations

Reaction conditions:-

50 mM KCL

30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>.6H<sub>2</sub>)

1 mM EDTA

20 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

Sarcosomes in all cases were isolated using the 'standard' method described in Chapter (2).

QO<sub>2</sub> = µg Atoms of oxygen consumed per hour per  
mg protein. (µg AO.hr<sup>-1</sup>.mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>)



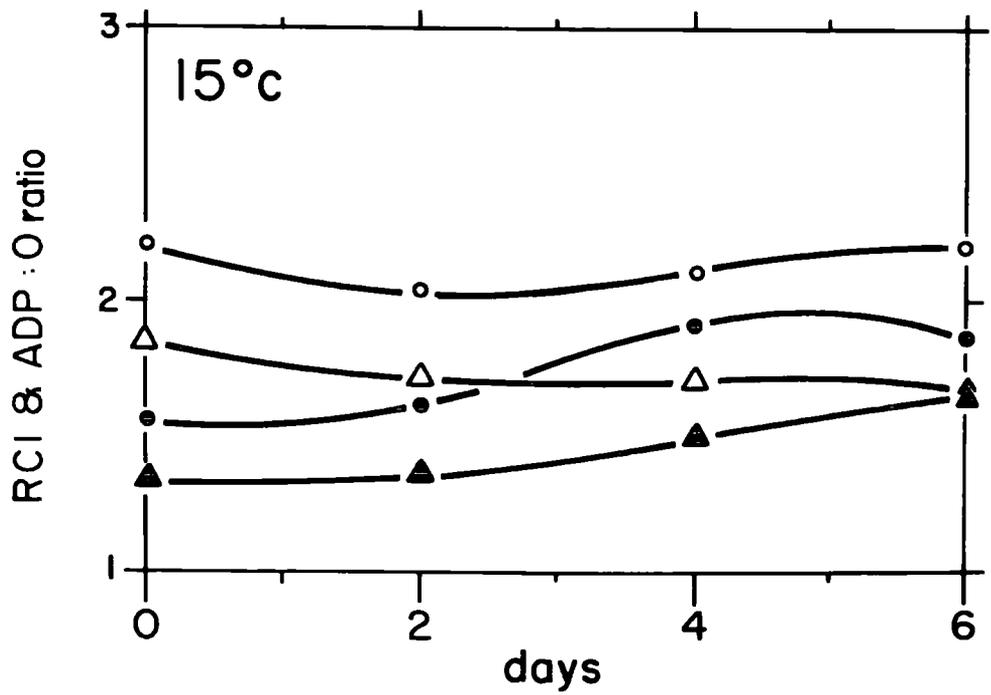
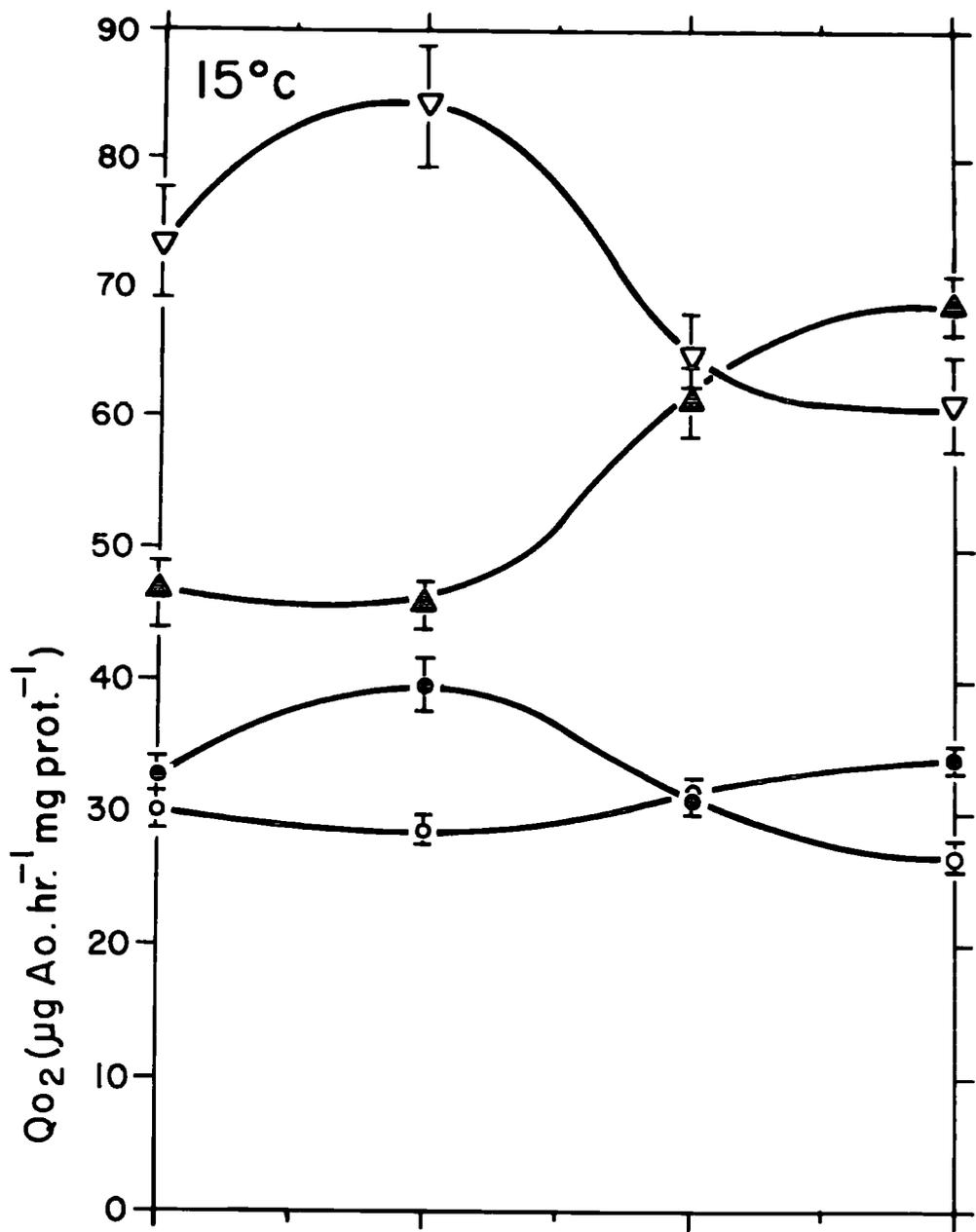
Fig. 4.2

Recovery of the blowfly, at 15°C, from sublethal heat treatment (L.D.<sub>0</sub>), as measured by the respiratory performance of its isolated flight muscle sarcosomes.

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	●	○
ADP-stimulated rate	▽	▲
RCI	○	●
ADP : 0	△	▲

The standard error RCI and ADP : 0 falls within the points.

Reaction and isolation conditions see Table (4.2).



to leave the experimental flies for a further two days at 15°C to see if any further relative change of respiratory function took place. As can be seen, small, but statistically significant increases occurred in both substrate rate and state III respiration after 6 days recovery at 15°C. Furthermore, no differences occurred in either RCl or ADP : O, these were still significantly below the initial value obtained for the control flies. Only in the case of RCl was the value lower in the sarcosomes from the experimental animals as compared with sarcosomes from control animals after 6 days at 15°C ( $p < 0.05$ ).

#### 24°C maintained flies

In this group of flies, significant repair from the heat damage has occurred after 1 day recovery. This can be clearly seen in comparison with ADP stimulated oxygen consumption in the experimental groups, immediately after the heating. State III respiration has risen from  $46.85 \pm 1.81$  to  $62.77 \pm 2.43 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$  mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>. However, this is still significantly less than that of the control group kept at 24°C for 1 day ( $p < 0.01$ ). RCl ( $p < 0.01$ ), and more significantly ADP : O ( $p < 0.001$ ) are also less than in the control flies

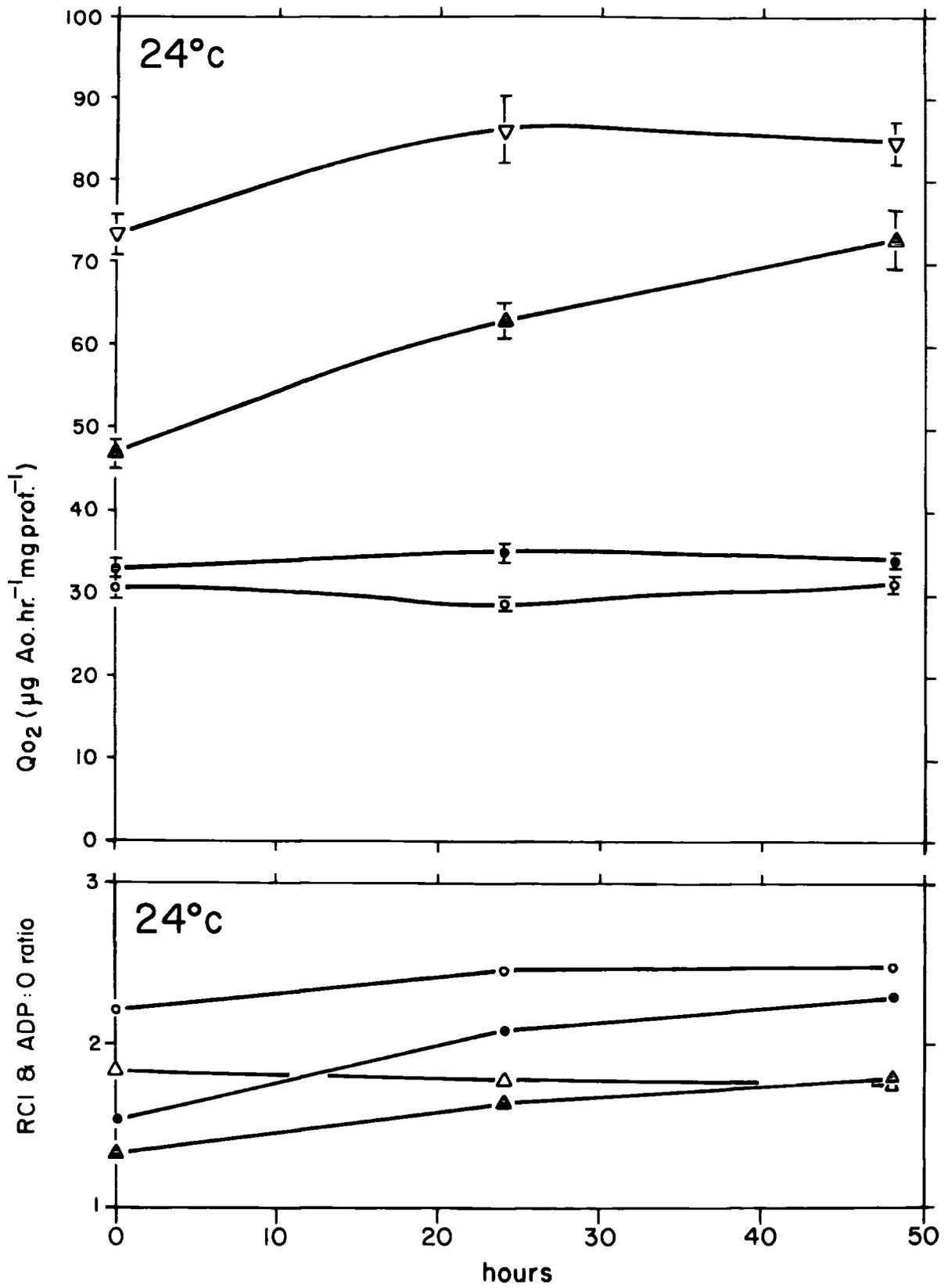
Fig. 4.3

Recovery of the blowfly, at 24°C, from sublethal heat treatment (L.D.<sub>0</sub>), as measured by the respiratory performance of its isolated flight muscle sarcosomes

	Control	experimental
Substrate rate	●	○
ADP-stimulated rate	▽	▲
RCI	○	●
ADP : 0	△	▲

The standard error of RCI and ADP : 0 falls within the points.

Reaction and isolation conditions see Table (4.2)



maintained for 1 day at 24°C.

However, after one further day recovery at 24°C sarcosomal RCl and ADP : O ratios have improved in the experimental group. In both cases the values of  $2.31 \pm 0.06$  and  $1.80 \pm 0.02$  respectively are not significantly different from the controls maintained at 24°C, which were  $2.48 \pm 0.096$  and  $1.79 \pm 0.03$ . State III respiration of the sarcosomes from the experimental group,  $72.88 \pm 3.5 \mu\text{g AO.hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , is however significantly lower than that of the controls,  $84.57 \pm 2.6 \mu\text{g AO.hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  ( $p < 0.01$ ).

#### 34°C maintained flies

In the experimental group at this temperature, an 8 hour recovery period allows significant recovery to occur. It is marked however by a large rise in substrate rate respiration to  $41.98 \pm 2.0 \mu\text{g AO hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , this is just significantly higher than in the sarcosomes from control flies after 8 hours at 34°C ( $p < 0.05$ ). Although sarcosomal state III respiration from the experimental flies is less than that from the control group,  $66.90 \pm 6$  as compared with  $76.30 \pm 5.42 \mu\text{g AO.hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , this is not statistically

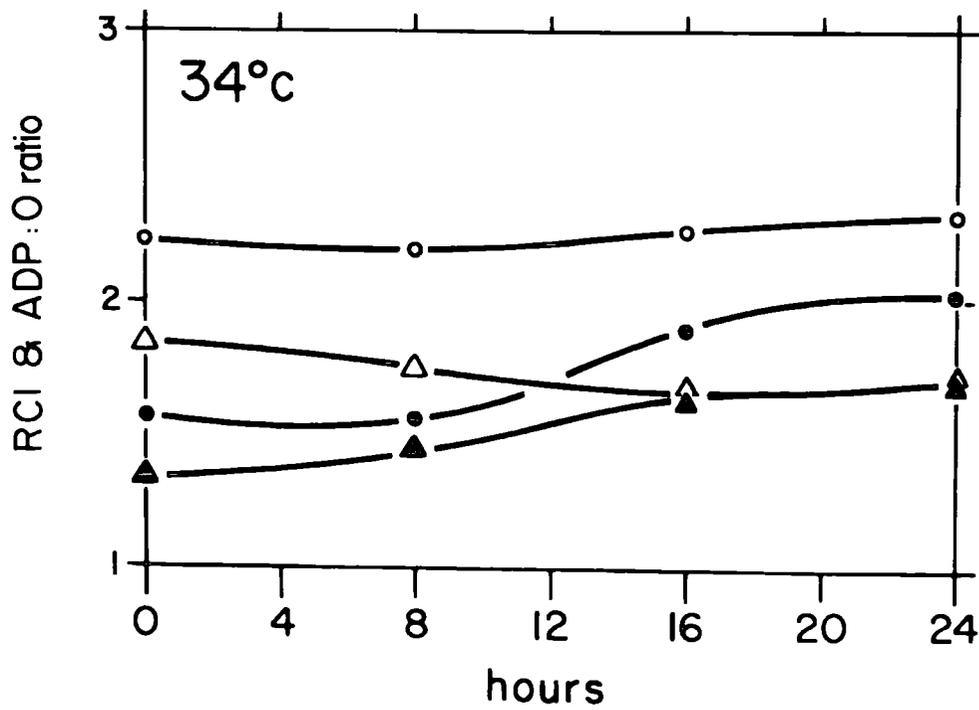
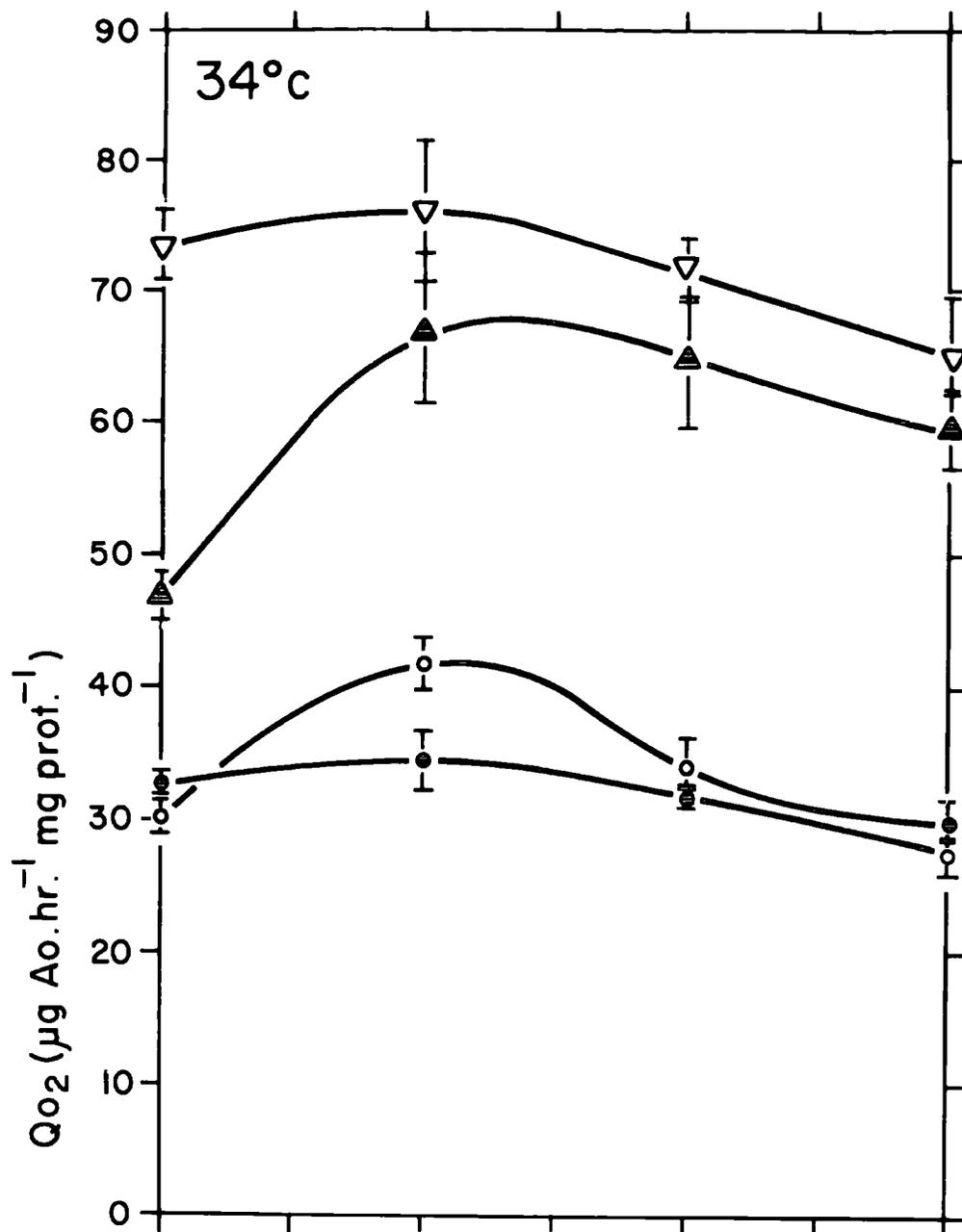
Fig. 4.4

Recovery of the blowfly, at 34°C, from sublethal heat treatment (L.D.<sub>0</sub>) as measured by the respiratory performance of its isolated flight muscle sarcosomes.

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	●	○
ADP-stimulated rate	▽	▲
RCI	○	●
ADP : 0	△	▲

The standard error of RCI and ADP : 0 falls within the point.

Reaction and isolation conditions see Table (4.2)



significant. RCl and ADP : O of the experiment group sarcosomes are highly significantly different from the control sarcosomes ( $p = 0.001$  in both cases).

A further 8 hours recovery at  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  brings a further marked improvement in the measured sarcosomal parameters. Substrate rate respiration falls to the same level as in the control group, whilst state III respiration shows only an insignificant fall over the value for the 8 hour recovery group. In this case also it is not significantly different from state III respiration of the control group sarcosomes, the values being  $64.82 \pm 5.2$  and  $71.78 \pm 2.26 \mu\text{g A0.hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  for experimental and control group sarcosomes, respectively. The consequence is an improvement in this 8 hour period in the RCl from  $1.57 \pm 0.05$  to  $1.89 \pm 0.07$ , this latter value is still significantly less than that of the control flies after 16 hours at  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  where the value is  $2.26 \pm 0.11$  ( $p = 0.01$ ). The ADP : O of the two groups are identical at 1.67. In experimental flies maintained for 1 day at  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$  only RCl is significantly different from the control group ( $p = 0.01$ ), at  $2.04 \pm 0.08$  it is less than that for control sarcosomes where a value of  $2.52 \pm 0.05$  was found.

Effect of maintenance temperature on  
sarcosomal performance in control flies

The initial values of respiratory function in sarcosomes from control flies are of course obtained at 24°C from flies maintained at 24°C. These values are  $32.83 \pm 1.09$  and  $83.24 \pm 2.56 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , for substrate rate and state III respiration respectively. Values of  $2.54 \pm 0.04$  for RCl and  $1.85 \pm 0.04$  for ADP : O were obtained for these sarcosomes.

In flies kept on at 24°C no change was seen in substrate rate or state III respiration, consequently RCl remained fairly constant. ADP : O values at  $1.79 \pm 0.03$  were not different from the initial values.

Transfer of control group flies to 15°C brought a small rise in both substrate rate and state III respiration of isolated sarcosomes measured at 24°C, however only the substrate rates were different ( $p = 0.05$ ). ADP : O ( $1.72 \pm 0.07$ ) was not significantly different from the initial value. During the 6 day period at 15°C both substrate rate and state III respiration fell significantly to become  $26.85 \pm 1.37$  and  $60.86 \pm 3.58 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  respectively. In both cases these values are significantly less than the initial values ( $p = 0.001$ ) RCl also showed a

significant fall during the first 4 days at 15°C, but was not significantly different from the initial value on the sixth day at 15°C.

Substrate-rate respiration of sarcosomes, isolated from control flies kept at 34°C for 24 hours, showed a trend towards a significant decline from  $34.56 \pm 2.34$  to  $27.55 \pm 1.53 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  ( $p < 0.01$ ). Such decline was less marked in state III respiration of the same sarcosomes. Consequently, a slight improvement was recorded for RCl values, from  $2.19 \pm 0.07$  to  $2.32 \pm 0.05$ . ADP : O ratio was not affected during the 24 hour period at 34°C.

### Discussion

As has been earlier pointed out by Bowler (1963 a) a casual relationship obviously exists between resistance acclimation and lethal death points of ectothermal animals. Thus identifying the cause of death at high lethal temperatures (finding the primary lesion), could lead to an understanding of thermal acclimation, for instance acclimation must modify the factors associated with heat damage. With this point in mind the work described on recovery from sublethal heat treatments was carried out.

The split-dose experiments were attempted following the rationale of radiation work, much of which has been carried out on insects, see Rockstein & Miquel (1973). The radiation work has shown that two types of damage occur in insects. Acute damage, caused by an L.D.<sub>50</sub> exposure is clearly repairable, for Baxter & Blair (1969) show even over-recovery may occur, such that higher doses are required to produce an L.D.<sub>50</sub> in Drosophila recovered from an earlier exposure, as compared with untreated controls. However, irradiation exposure, even at sublethal doses, is life shortening in insects. This point, together with the fact that repeated insults are additive in their effect, suggests this damage cannot be fully repaired. Acute radiation injury is thought to be cytoplasmic whereas the life-shortening injury is chromosomal (Baxter & Blair, 1969).

It has earlier been shown, in this stock of flies, that flies recovering from an acute heat stress (L.D.<sub>50</sub>) have a life expectancy just as long as unheated control flies of the same age, Davison (1970). In this respect then acute heat injury differs from irradiation injury, for heat damage once repaired, is not accumulative. This point has also been made for comparison of cold-injury and irradiation damage in cultured cell lines,

Kvuur et al. , (1972).

These points support the hypothesis that heat damage is cytoplasmic rather than chromosomal, Bowler et al. , (1973).

The clearest point emerging from the split-dose experiments is that the effects of the separate heat treatments are merely additive, unless separated by 6 hours or more. In the latter case sufficient repair occurs during the period at 24°C for the second dose to cause less mortality than the control dose applied at a single treatment.

No evidence is obtained which suggests that the first heat dose induces thermal resistance making the flies more thermo tolerant when exposed to the second dose. For in such a case one would expect the shorter period split-doses to be less effective than the longer period split-doses. Such induced thermotolerance was observed by Gerner & Schneider (1975) in Hela cells. Prior exposure to 44°C for 1 hour followed by a 2 hour period 37°C resulted in increased thermal tolerance when subsequently exposed to 44°C again. This increase in tolerance was time dependent at 37°C, reaching a plateau after about 2 hours. Gerner & Schneider however found the cells did not develop this thermotolerance if placed

at 0°C, a temperature which inhibits Hela cell metabolism.

It might also be concluded that the cellular repair mechanisms, whatever they are, are part of normal cellular processes, for if they were not, the split-dose heated flies might be expected to show a higher mortality than the control single treatment flies. The reasoning being that if the repair mechanism is only invoked after the damage caused by the first heating,

it would have been operant at the time of the second heat exposure in the split-dose flies. This being so it is reasonable to suppose it would then be liable to be damaged, thus further impairing repair and recovery. Such damage to any special repair mechanism might be supposed to increase mortality. It was clearly not so.

The work of Gerner & Schneider (1975) discussed above, as well as that by Webb, et al. (1976) showing that recovery from irradiation damage in Drosophila is also temperature dependent, suggests that the study of temperature dependence of repair of heat damage might be informative.

Some initial work on this problem was carried out by Davison (1970) and reported by Davison & Bowler (1971). These workers reported that the flight muscle sarcosome makes a good model for studying heat death, for they

showed that the functional efficiency of sarcosomes has the same thermal sensitivity to in vivo heatings as does the whole organism. That is, this system fulfills the criterion laid down by Read (1967), this being that the recorded deleterious change in sarcosomal activity occurred under the same conditions which caused organism heat death. Furthermore they report that recovery from sublethal (L.D<sub>0</sub>) and lethal (L.D.<sub>50</sub>) exposure of blowflies requires between 2 and 3 days at 24°C. At the end of this time the flies had a normal capacity for flight and isolated flight muscle sarcosomes had the same QO<sub>2</sub> values and RCl and ADP : O ratios as did sarcosomes from control unheated flies.

The results shown in Table (4.2) agree closely with those of Davison & Bowler (1971), in that exposure of the whole organism to an L.D.<sub>0</sub> treatment seriously impairs sarcosomal efficiency. The substrate rate oxygen consumption was little affected but the state III respiration of sarcosomes from the experimental group was only about 60% of the control values. RCl was consequently reduced from a value above 2 to less than 1.5; in both reports ADP : O ratios were also substantially lowered, but they were measurable.

During recovery at 24°C, see Table (4.2), the data presented here are very similar to that described

by Davison & Bowler (1971). The extent of recovery of normal sarcosomal function is a little more rapid in that in the present work, normal sarcosomal respiratory efficiency is restored after 2 days, as compared with data from control flies, except for state III respiration which is below the control sarcosomal level. Davison & Bowler (1971), on the other hand report rather less repair occurring after 1 day at 24°C, and the various parameters of sarcosomal efficiency (RCI and ADP:O) were still just below the control group values after 2 days.

In the present experiments it is necessary to erect a set of control flies, transferred to 15°, 24° or 34°C at the same time as the experimental heated flies. These controls are essential because it is not certain whether changes in sarcosomal efficiency would occur as a result of transfer to a new temperature regime, or even as a result of age.

As can be seen from Table (4.2) recovery is markedly temperature sensitive, with a  $Q_{10}$  of about 3 over the 15° to 34°C temperature range, if the assumption is accepted that recovery is complete after 6 days at 15°C and 1 day at 34°C. This marked temperature sensitivity infers that active cellular mechanisms are

involved in the repair process. Whether damaged cellular components are degraded and replaced by newly synthesized ones is not established by this work but is clearly an important next step to take.

The effect of maintenance temperature on sarcosomal efficiency in control flies is also quite interesting, for this may reveal some acclimation effect on sarcosomal performance.

As can be seen from Table (4.2), transfer to 15°C does cause a substantial rise in substrate rate  $QO_2$  from  $32.83 \pm 1.09$  to  $39.74 \pm 2.12 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  after 2 days. This rate declines until after 6 days at 15°C it becomes  $26.85 \pm 1.37$ .

A similar story holds for sarcosomal state III respiration too, which from the 15°C flies shows an insignificant rise after 2 days, but then progressively falls to be only  $60.86 \pm 3.58 \mu\text{g A O}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  after 6 days at 15°C. This value is significantly less than that obtained for 24°C maintained flies ( $p = 0.001$ ). In the flies placed at 35°C sarcosomal state III respiration declines from the initial (after 8 hours) high value  $76.30 \pm 5.42$  to be  $65.25 \pm 4.60 \mu\text{g A O}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}$ .  $\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , however this decline is not significant, but the value is significantly lower than that obtained

from sarcosomes of flies maintained at 24°C.

This situation is the converse of what is normally expected from a compensation standpoint. That is it is usual for low temperature acclimation to result in a higher activity than warm acclimation. This is seen in the partially acclimated animals at 34°C where substrate rate declines after 1 day to be  $27.55 \pm 1.53 \mu\text{g A O} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1}$ .  
mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>.

Values for RCl decline slightly on transfer to a new temperature. It is perhaps significant that these values gradually improve at 15°C to reach  $2.21 \pm 0.07$  after 6 days, this may reflect compensatory changes occurring in sarcosomal respiration. Small but largely insignificant changes in ADP : O also occur on transfer and maintenance at 15° and 34°C as compared with 24°C

However these data must be considered in relation to the in vitro effects of temperature on sarcosomal performance as reported by Davison (1971 a). He described the  $QO_2$  temperature curve as having 3 phases. The first phase over a low temperature had relatively little effect on  $QO_2$ . In this phase RCl and ADP :O ratios were maximal and oxidative phosphorylation was tightly coupled. Above the plateau sarcosomal respiration was uncoupled and  $QO_2$  again increased with temperature. This result

was found with 15°, 24° and 34° acclimated flies. The  $QO_2$  temperature curves differed in the position of the plateau phase, which moved to a higher temperature range with higher temperature acclimation. Furthermore the 34°C acclimated flies showed the highest and the 15°C acclimated flies the lowest  $QO_2$  in the plateau phase.

However, if this data and the present data are compared, the state III  $QO_2$  of 34°C acclimated flies, measured at 24°C, is not at the plateau level, but is in the first phase (see Davison, 1971a) it is for this reason the respiration rate of the 34°C acclimated flies is lower than those at 24°C, see Table (4.2). As can also be seen from Davison's work, sarcosomes from 15°C acclimated flies have a lower potential for respiration as compared with sarcosomes from 24°C and more particularly from 34°C acclimated animals.

He concluded, this reflected an acclimation induced effect either on respiratory chain or coupling enzyme in oxidative phosphorylation.

CHAPTER FIVE

THE EFFECT OF INCUBATION TEMPERATURE, AND  
REACTION TEMPERATURE ON BLOWFLY FLIGHT  
MUSCLE SARCOsomeAL RESPIRATION

Introduction

A large literature exists demonstrating temperature-dependence of respiration in many insect species, indeed Keister & Buch, in their 1964 review, reflect that this is perhaps the most overdemonstrated phenomenon in insect physiology.

Work by Newell and his co-workers cast some doubts on the universality of the Krogh 'normal' curve (Krogh, 1914) interpretation for all ectothermal animals, Newell (1966; 1967). From work largely on intertidal animals, these workers proposed that whole organism respiration could be separated into 'active' and 'resting' phases, and only in the former phase was respiration temperature-dependent, Newell & Northcroft (1967). They described the 'resting' phase respiration as being temperature-independent over a wide temperature range.

Tribe & Bowler (1968) criticized Newell's interpretation of his data on the following grounds. First it ignored the vast literature which clearly demonstrated temperature dependent respiration, for

example, in insects (Keister & Buck; 1964), crustaceans (Vernberg, 1959), annelids (Magnum & Sassaman, 1969), Amphibians (Bishop & Gordon, 1967), reptiles (Aleksiuk, 1971). Newell & Walkey, (1966) and later Newell & Pye, (1971) supported their whole organism work by work on mitochondria from a variety of sources. Again Newell showed wide temperature-independent plateaus of mitochondrial respiration. This work has also been criticised by Tribe & Bowler, (1968) and Davies & Tribe, (1969) for not only the choice of inappropriate substrates but also the use of atypical isolation procedures and in no case was the functional state of the isolated mitochondria determined.

Nevertheless, the ideas proposed in this and subsequent papers, have greatly stimulated research into the thermal respiratory physiology of ectothermal animals. This point has been aptly stated by Wieser (1973) in a recent review article.

"Ectothermic animals (sometimes at least) are neither at the mercy of environmental temperature nor are they simple homeostatic systems. They may, in fact, be considered as "multistable" systems ... in which in answer to a change in environmental temperature that state of the system is called into action which is best suited to the prevailing or anticipated temperature regime".

The dominant role of mitochondria in cellular respiration had led Newell and his co-workers to seek an explanation, at the biochemical level, of the temperature-independent metabolism recorded in the intact organism (Newell & Walkey, 1966, Newell & Pye, 1971). Such an explanation is necessary for a priori reasoning would suggest metabolic rate should follow the Arrhenius law.

However, work on mitochondria, from a variety of tissue and organism sources, shows respiration (Kemp, Groot, & Reitsma, 1969; Smith, 1973c and Lee & Grear, 1974) and adenine nucleotide translocation (Heldt & Klingenberg, 1968), to be very sensitive to temperature. This early work provided a basis for subsequent studies of the effect of temperature on mitochondria. Most notable is the work by Raison and his co-workers on the influence of temperature on respiratory enzyme systems (Raison, 1973). These investigations were carried out on mitochondria isolated from homeothermic and poikilothermic animals (Lyons & Raison, 1970a; Kumamoto, Raison & Lyons, 1971), as well as chilling resistant and chilling sensitive plants (Lyons & Raison, 1970 b); measuring state III and state IV of succinate oxidation. The Arrhenius plots of his results showed a discontinuity in both

respiratory rates at about 25° and 12° in homeothermic animals and chilling sensitive plants respectively. This relationship was linear for poikilothermic animals and chilling resistant plants in both respiratory states (see Raison, Lyons, Mehlhorn & Keith, 1971, McMurchie, Raison & Cairncross, 1973). From spin-label studies Raison and his colleagues came to the conclusion that change in  $E_a$ , i.e. breaks in Arrhenius plots, can be considered a direct indication of a temperature-induced phase change in the membrane lipids (Raison, et al 1971).

Similar studies have been carried out by Smith on mitochondria isolated from fish tissues. He reports that both state III & IV respiration show a linear Arrhenius plot from mitochondria from a variety of fish. He too describes non-linear plots for mammalian mitochondria respiration (Smith, 1973 c).

Less attention has been paid to insect mitochondria, but the earlier work of Davison (1971 a), using the same stock of blowflies also shows a marked temperature sensitivity of sarcosomal respiration. Davison (1971 a) reported the existence of a plateau, where temperature has little effect on respiration, this was followed by a sharp increase with increasing temperature. Davies

& Tribe (1969), on the other hand, found that oxygen consumption of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes was temperature dependent and that there was no evidence of a plateau of temperature-independent respiration.

Much less attention has been focused on the effects of preincubation, at different temperatures, on subsequently determined respiratory performance.

The earlier work by Davison & Bowler, (1971) and similar data presented here (Chapter 3), shows that sarcosomal function is impaired following exposure of the fly to high lethal and sub-lethal temperatures. This begs the question of whether such temperature exposures act directly on the sarcosome or indirectly by a change in the cellular environment.

Little work on thermal preincubation of mitochondria has been carried out with the purpose of attempting to identify the lesions caused by heat damage. The fact that isolated mitochondria are susceptible to moderate temperatures is evident from the stress placed by many workers on maintaining mitochondria on ice during long assay periods, see remarks made by Slack, (1975). On the other hand, the preincubation of aliquots of mitochondria in the oxygen electrode reaction chamber, before the introduction of

substrates, has been used to obtain a better respiratory performance, Sacktor & Childress (1967), Hansford, (1975).

The following experiments are designed to compare the extent of heat damage caused following thermal preincubation in vitro with heat damage in vivo caused by lethal heat treatments. With this in mind flies acclimated at 15°, 24° and 34°C were used to determine whether changes occurred on sarcosomal thermal resistance, in parallel with changes in whole organism resistance occurring after such periods of acclimation.

### Materials and Methods

#### Preparation of sarcosomes

Sarcosomes were isolated from 10 day old adult blowflies using the 'standard' procedure given in detail in Chapter (2).

#### Measurement of sarcosomal respiratory performance at different temperatures

Five oxygen electrodes were set up simultaneously at 5 temperatures in the range 5° to 37°C. The temperature of the water baths was maintained at the appropriate temperature to within  $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$ , using

a 'Sunvic' relay and Jumo thermoregulator. Each sarcosomal preparation was stored on ice prior to use, and respiration was followed at a different temperature in each oxygen electrode. Where possible the waterbath temperatures were raised, and after a period of stabilization, sarcosomal respiration was again followed at the new temperature. In no case however were sarcosomes used later than 60 mins. after extraction.

The data collected from work at thirteen different temperatures is given in Table (5.1) and Fig. (5.1), and were derived from five separate sarcosomal preparations.

Oxygen consumption ( $QO_2$ ), ADP : O and RCI were determined using the "standard" reaction medium, and following the same procedure as given in Chapter (2). 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was used as substrate and oxidation followed in the presence and absence of 0.5  $\mu$  mole ADP.

The oxygen tension of the reaction medium was obtained from data presented by Davison, (1970).

#### Preincubation of sarcosomes:

The blowflies used in this series of experiments were reared at 24°C and at eclosion were placed at 15°, 24° or 34°C to acclimate for 10 days. Sarcosomal

preparations were then made using the standard procedure as described in Chapter (2).

Preparations were divided into equal volumes, and one aliquot placed on ice and the other pipetted into a glass test tube (diameter 1.5 cm, length 10 cm), previously equilibrated at one of the following temperatures : 30°, 31°, 33°, 35°, 36° or 41°C. These water bath temperatures were maintained to within  $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$  using a 'Sunvic' control and a Jumo thermo-regulator.

Sarcosomes from flies acclimated to 24°C were preincubated at 30°, 31°, 33°, 35°, 36° and 41° for varying periods of time, and in all cases but the last temperature the data shown in Tables (5.3 - 5.6) is from two separate preparations made for each temperature, except for preincubations at 31° and 33°, where each preparation was divided into 3 equal parts. Two of these parts were placed at the experimental temperature, and the third at 0°C to serve as a control for both experimental temperatures.

Sarcosomes from flies acclimated at 15° and 34°C were exposed to 36°C only. Four experimental and two control preparations were used for each acclimated group.

In all cases the effect of the preincubation was determined by following respiratory rates at 24°C, using 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as substrate in the presence and absence of 0.5  $\mu$  mole ADP. 50  $\mu$ l samples of the preparation were withdrawn (after shaking) for use in the oxygen electrode. Usually the sampling alternated between the sarcosomes at the experimental temperature and control sarcosomes held on ice, in any event both the aliquots were sampled over the same time period as is indicated in the results in Tables (5.3 - 5.7).

Results:

A. Effect of reaction temperature on respiratory performance

It must first be emphasized that the data presented in this section are obtained from flies reared and maintained throughout at 24°C. They are thus acclimated at 24°C. Furthermore  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was the only substrate used in this series of experiments.

The complete data, showing the effect of reaction temperature on  $QO_2$  in state III and substrate rate oxidation, RCl, and ADP : 0, are given in Table (5.1). The effect of reaction temperature on  $QO_2$  is also shown in the form of an Arrhenius plot in Fig. (5.1). For

Table 5.1

Effect of the reaction temperature on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Sarcosomes were isolated using the "standard" method described in Chapter (2). Reaction conditions, see Table 4.2. The mean values shown were obtained from 5 separate preparations.

n. m = not measurable

Table 5.1

Effect of reaction temperature on isolated flight muscle sarcosomes

Temp. °C	QO <sub>2</sub> (ug AO. hr <sup>-1</sup> . mg prot. <sup>-1</sup> )			RCI	ADP : O
	Substrate-rate	ADP-stimulated rate (State III)			
5	11.36 ± 1.30	11.36 ± 1.30	1.00	n.m.	
8	15.18 ± 0.94	19.85 ± 1.30	1.31 ± 0.05	1.03 ± 0.04	
10.5	22.86 ± 2.81	30.38 ± 2.93	1.33 ± 0.19	1.08 ± 0.12	
13	23.61 ± 1.44	35.12 ± 2.69	1.49 ± 0.12	1.23 ± 0.08	
15	23.62 ± 1.34	35.94 ± 1.25	1.54 ± 0.02	1.28 ± 0.04	
18	23.73 ± 0.90	42.69 ± 2.78	1.82 ± 0.17	1.45 ± 0.10	

21	$26.49 \pm 1.96$	$52.10 \pm 2.45$	$1.97 \pm 0.20$	$1.65 \pm 0.06$
24	$27.84 \pm 1.73$	$64.02 \pm 5.07$	$2.30 \pm 0.12$	$1.76 \pm 0.03$
27	$36.13 \pm 3.13$	$85.87 \pm 4.58$	$2.46 \pm 0.26$	$1.78 \pm 0.05$
29	$45.51 \pm 2.64$	$91.80 \pm 7.50$	$2.07 \pm 0.22$	$1.60 \pm 0.12$
31	$48.19 \pm 4.57$	$86.40 \pm 7.79$	$1.89 \pm 0.34$	$1.24 \pm 0.04$
34	$63.63 \pm 4.24$	$102.81 \pm 13.27$	$1.61 \pm 0.17$	n.m.
37	$77.30 \pm 2.78$	$121.29 \pm 7.81$	$1.56 \pm 0.07$	n.m.

Table 5.2

Changes in the  $Q_{10}$  values and  
activation energy of isolated  
blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes  
respiring on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate.  
Values are calculated from the  
data presented in Table (5.1).

Table 5.2.

Temperature range °C	Respiration state	Q <sub>10</sub>	Activation energy (kcal. mole <sup>-1</sup> )
5 - 10.5	- ADP	3.58	19.92
	+ ADP	5.93	27.76
10.5 - 24	- ADP	1.15	2.28
10.5 - 18	+ ADP	1.58	7.52
24 - 37	- ADP	2.22	14.00
18 - 27	+ ADP	2.16	13.27
27 - 37	+ ADP	1.41	4.67

convenience the effect of temperature on these various parameters will be discussed separately.

i) Substrate rate oxidation

It can be seen from Fig. (5.1), that the Arrhenius plot is non-linear and can be divided into three distinct phases, with 'breaks' at about 10° and 24°C.

Phase 1 (5° - 10°C) The effect of temperature in this phase was characterised by a high value for  $E_a$  (19.92 Kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>), oxidation rates more than doubled between 5° and 10°C from 11.36 to 22.86  $\mu\text{g AO.hr}^{-1}$ . mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>. As can be seen from Table (5.2) this gave a high  $Q_{10}$  value in this temperature range of 3.58.

Phase 2 (10° - 24°C) This phase is characterised by the lowest  $E_a$  of only 2.28 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>. Indeed very little rise in  $Q_{O_2}$  is seen over this temperature range, it increased only by 5  $\mu\text{g AO}$  from 22.86 to 27.84  $\mu\text{g AO.hr}^{-1}$ . mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>, a rise that is insignificant ( $p > 0.05$ ) of 1.15. Thus in this temperature range substrate respiration is effectively temperature-independent.

Phase 3 This phase extended from 24°C to the upper

temperature studied, 37°C. The  $E_a$  for this temperature range is 14.00 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>, and oxidation rate rises sharply from 27.84 to 77.3 µg AO.hr<sup>-1</sup>. mg prot.<sup>-1</sup>. Table (5.2) shows the calculated value for  $Q_{10}$  of 2.22, close to the predicted value from the 'Krogh' normal curve.

ii) State III oxidation (ADP-stimulated respiration)

The Arrhenius plot, in this case, can be divided into four distinct phases, with 'breaks' at about 10°, 18° and 27°C. (see Fig. 5.1).

Phase 1: (5° - 10°C) This phase, also, was characterised by a high value for  $E_a$  (27.76 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>), oxidation rates nearly tripled between 5° and 10°C from 11.36 to 30.38 µg AO.hr<sup>-1</sup>. mg prot.<sup>-1</sup> giving a very high  $Q_{10}$  value of 5.93.

Phase 2: (10° - 18°C) In this phase a low value for  $E_a$  (7.52 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>) was observed. The increase in  $QO_2$  over this temperature range was only by about 12 µg AO, from 30.38 to 42.69 µg AO.hr<sup>-1</sup>. mg prot.<sup>-1</sup> The  $Q_{10}$  value calculated was 1.58.

Phase 3: (18° - 27°C) Over this temperature range oxidation

Fig. 5.1

An Arrhenius plot of the data presented  
in Table (5.1).

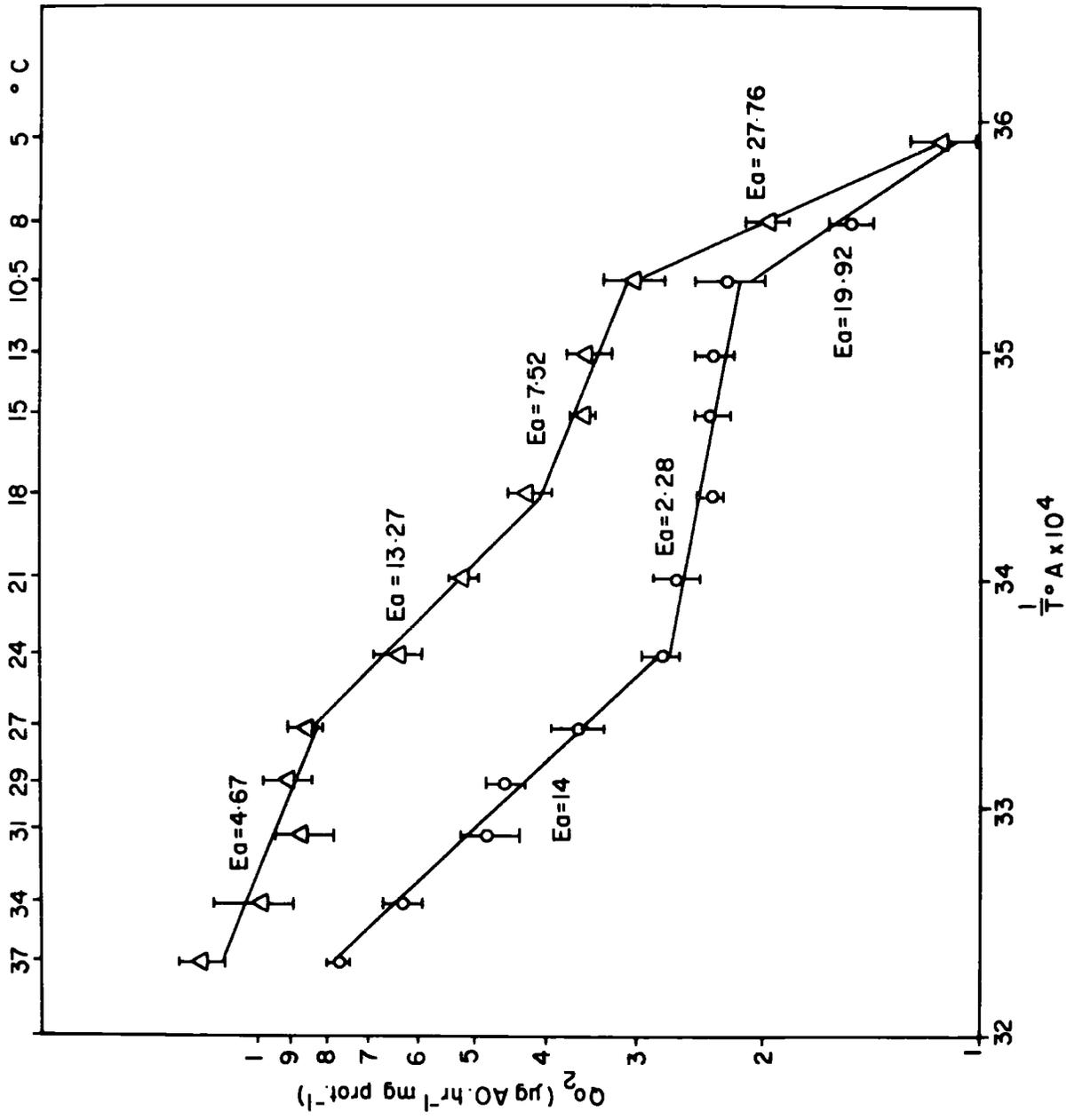
Ordinate : log scale representing oxidation  
rates of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate  
expressed as  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$

Abscissa : Reciprocal of the absolute  
temperature.

Values for Activation energy of the individual  
phases, are given. (See also Table 5.2)

Substrate rate respiration      O

State III respiration             $\Delta$



rates doubled from 42.69 to 85.87  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , and a relatively high  $E_a$  value was obtained (13.27 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>),  $Q_{10}$  was 2.16.

Phase 4 (27° - 37°C) This phase was characterised by a low value for  $E_a$  (4.67 kcal.mole<sup>-1</sup>). The increase in the oxidation rates was from 85.87 to 121.29  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ,  $Q_{10}$  value of 1.41 was recorded.

#### Temperature dependence of RCl

Respiratory control is widely used as an index of the tightness of coupling of oxidative phosphorylation. As can be seen from Table (5.1) the highest values for RCl were obtained in the range 24 to 29°C and only here were values greater than 2 obtained. As can also be seen from Table (5.1), at 5°C the addition of ADP to the reaction medium failed to stimulate oxidation rates, and consequently an RCl of 1 was obtained. As reaction temperature was raised RCl increased up to 27°C where the highest value of 2.46 was obtained. Low values of RCl were obtained particularly at temperatures below 15°C, and the value of 1.82 for RCl obtained at 18°C is still significantly less than that obtained at 27°C ( $p < 0.01$ ).

As the temperature was raised above 27°C, RCl progressively fell, and was significantly less than 2.46 at 34°C and 37°C when values of 1.61 and 1.56 were obtained respectively ( $p < 0.01$ ) (see Fig. 5.1a)

ADP : 0

The theoretical maximum value for ADP : 0, when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is the substrate, is 2. As can be seen the highest values were obtained in the range 21° - 29°C when ADP : 0 were found greater than 1.6. These compare with the highest values given earlier in Chapter (3) (1.80), where the effect of reaction conditions on oxidative phosphorylation was reported. see Table (3.2).

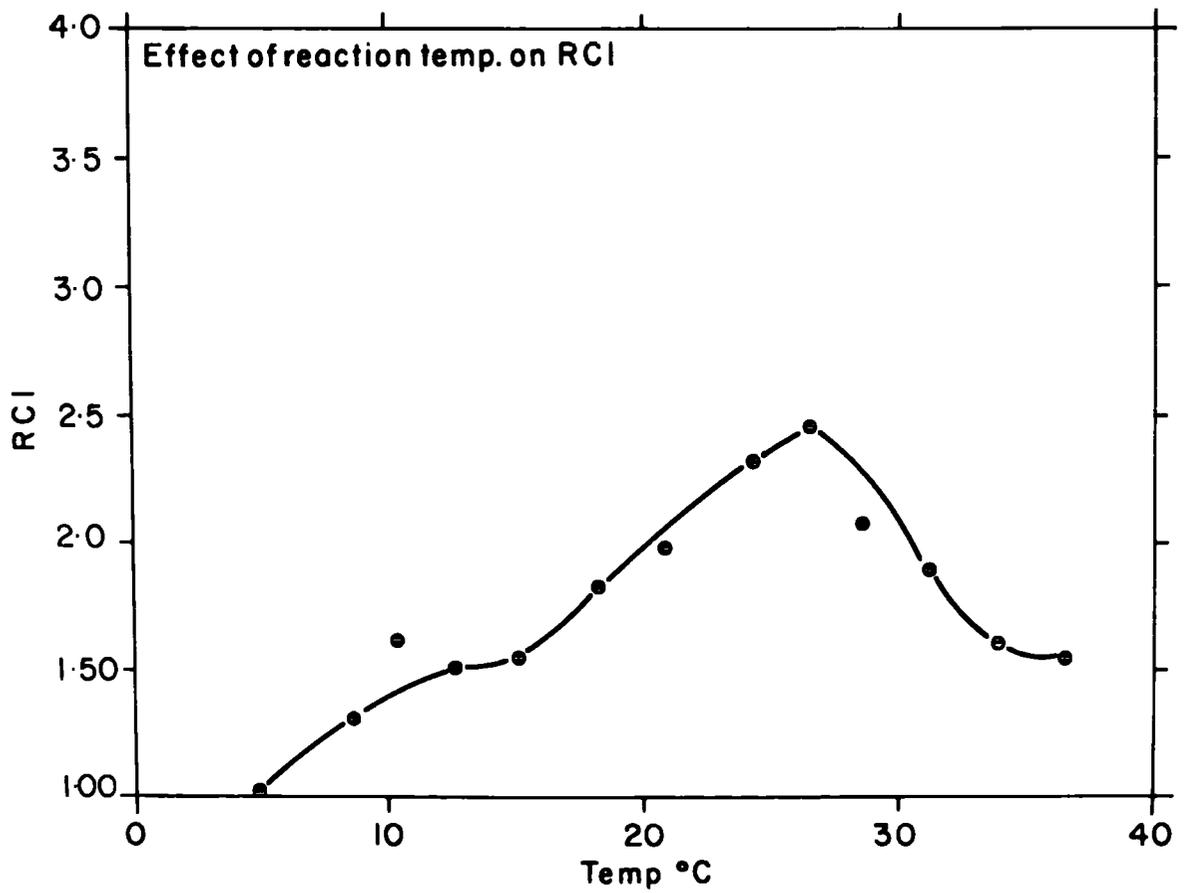
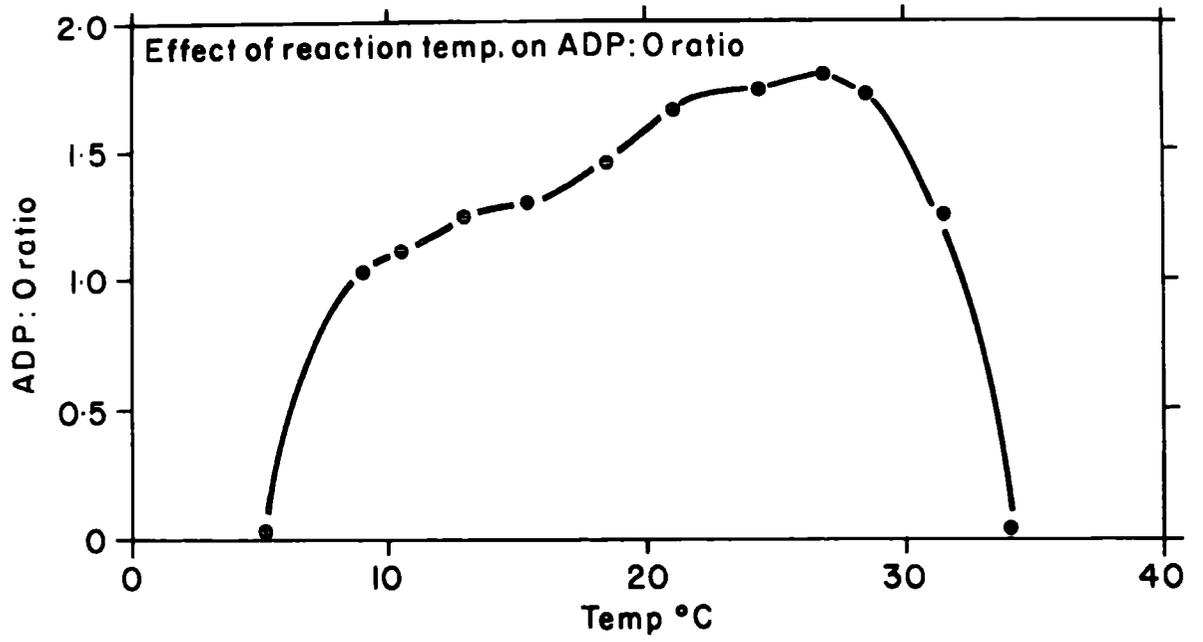
It is not possible, using polarographic techniques to determine ADP : 0 when very low values for RCl are obtained. Consequently ADP : 0 were not measurable at 5°C or at 34° or 37°C. Indeed below 21°C the values calculated for ADP : 0 fell dramatically to be apparently about 1 at 10.5°C. (see Fig. 5.1a).

Fig. 5.1 a

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Effect of the reaction temperature on  
the respiratory performance of  
isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

(From data presented in Table 5.1)



B) The effect of thermal preincubation on sarcosomal respiratory performance

i. Preincubation of Sarcosomes at 30°C

As can be seen from Table (5.3) and Fig.(5.2), substrate rate oxidation was little affected by preincubation of sarcosomes at 30°C, as compared with sarcosomes maintained at about 0°C on ice. Only the value obtained after 40 mins preincubation appeared to be significantly less at 18.82 as compared with 22.46  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  in controls.

Considering next ADP-stimulated respiration (state III) there is no obvious trend in the effect of preincubation at 0°C with the lowest value for  $\text{QO}_2$  being obtained after 10 mins (42.4  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ), and the highest after 40 mins (47.98  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ), however the value after 120 mins was still 45.96  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , and it must be concluded that ADP-stimulated rate oxidation is well maintained during storage (preincubation) at 0°C. In the experimental sarcosomes, preincubated at 30°C, however state III rates were consistently, if not significantly, higher than those obtained in the controls, for up to 80 mins preincubation. A very significant 2 hrs. preincubation at 30°C, however, the value being reduced to only 21.69  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ,

Table 5.3

Effect of preincubation at 30°C on the subsequent respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes. (oxidative phosphorylation measured at 24°C).

Substrate : 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate

Isolation : 'Standard' method (see Chapter 2)

Reaction conditions : See Table (4.2)

The mean values shown were obtained from 2 separate preparations. Range of values is given in brackets.

QO<sub>2</sub> values are expressed as  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ .

Table 5.3

Incubation time (mins)	QO <sub>2</sub>						ADP : O ratio	
	Substrate-rate		ADP-stimulated rate (State III)		RCI		Exp.	Control
	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control		
5	18.38 (16.37-20.39)	18.74 (16.10-21.38)	46.94 (40.33-53.55)	46.35 (40.88-51.82)	2.55 (2.31-2.79)	2.47 (2.28-2.66)	1.87 (1.81-1.93)	1.97 (1.96-1.98)
10	19.51 (18.01-21.01)	19.72 (17.11-22.33)	49.59 (46.08-53.10)	42.40 (40.30-44.50)	2.53 (2.33-2.73)	2.15 (2.00-2.30)	1.91 (1.89-1.93)	1.83 (1.79-1.87)
20	19.86 (18.10-21.62)	20.95 (19.10-22.80)	48.09 (46.10-50.08)	44.89 (42.11-47.67)	2.42 (2.26-2.58)	2.14 (2.00-2.28)	1.95 (1.94-1.96)	1.86 (1.81-1.91)
40	18.82 (17.30-20.34)	22.46 (20.13-24.79)	48.09 (46.10-50.08)	47.98 (45.22-50.74)	2.56 (2.50-2.62)	2.14 (2.00-2.28)	1.89 (1.83-1.95)	1.77 (1.73-1.81)
60	23.00 (20.08-25.92)	22.46 (20.13-24.79)	51.23 (48.03-54.43)	46.96 (45.00-48.92)	2.23 (2.12-2.34)	2.10 (2.00-2.20)	1.73 (1.70-1.76)	1.67 (1.60-1.74)
80	23.00 (20.08-25.92)	21.35 (20.18-22.52)	48.09 (45.33-50.85)	45.99 (43.11-48.87)	2.09 (1.89-2.29)	2.15 (2.10-2.20)	1.63 (1.61-1.65)	1.67 (1.59-1.75)
120	19.72 (18.80-20.64)	21.35 (20.18-22.52)	21.69 (19.66-23.72)	45.96 (43.31-48.61)	1.10 (1.02-1.18)	2.15 (2.10-2.20)	n.m.	1.67 (1.60-1.74)

Fig. 5.2

Effect of preincubation at 30°C on the  
respiratory performance of isolated  
blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Oxidative phosphorylation was  
measured at 24°C.

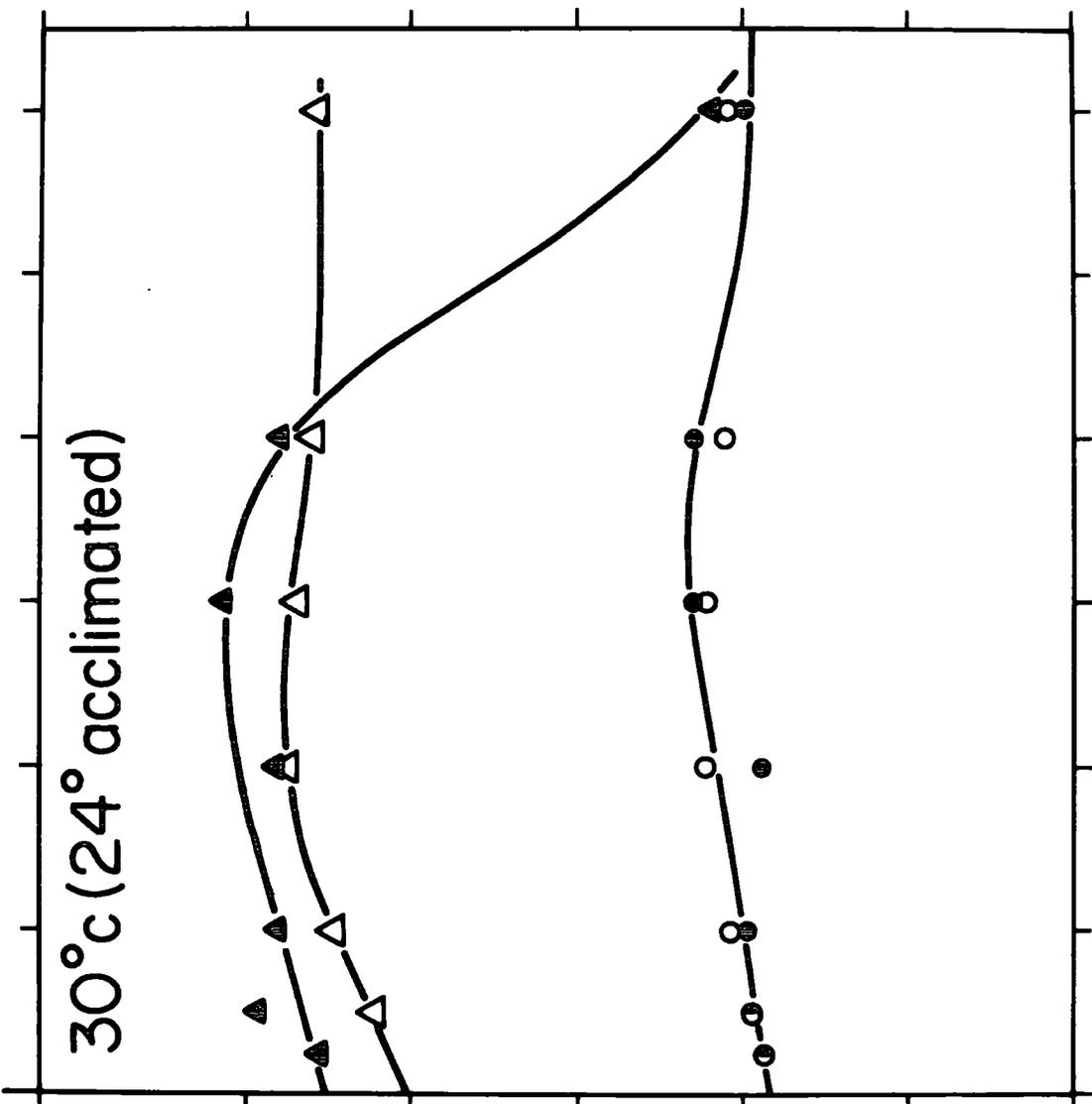
(From data presented in Table 5.3)

	Control	experimental
Substrate - rate	○	●
ADP-stimulated rate	△	▲

30°C (24° acclimated)

QO<sub>2</sub> (µg Ao. hr<sup>-1</sup>. mg prot<sup>-1</sup>)

Time (mins)



a reduction of more than 50% as compared with control values.

In consequence, RCl showed differences between control and experimental sarcosomes. Higher values for RCl were obtained between 10 and 40 mins preincubation for experimental as compared to control sarcosomes, as can be seen from comparison of the range of values obtained. Longer preincubation times however, resulted in a fall in values of RCl, so that after 2 hours preincubation the value was 1.10 for experimental and 2.15 for control sarcosomal, respectively.

ADP : O ratio obtained for control sarcosom<sup>e</sup>s decreased over the first 60 mins from 1.97 to 1.67, however this value was found to be consistent over the following 60 mins. In experimental sarcosomes ADP : O ratio did not show a major difference as compared with the control values. Nevertheless the highest value of 1.95 was obtained after 20 mins preincubation at this temperature, and the low<sup>w</sup>est value of 1.63 after 80 mins. After 120 mins. however ADP : O ratio was not measurable.

ii. Preincubation of Sarcosomes at 31°C

As can be seen preincubation at 31°C gave rise to an increase in substrate rate oxidation. This is particularly noticable for preincubations of 10 mins and longer, where the differences are clearly significant as the range of values obtained, at each sample point, do not overlap. During the 80 min duration of the experiment the oxidation rates rose in control sarcosomes from 33.55 to 38.68  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , a rise that is probably not significant. The rise in substrate rate in the experimental sarcosomes during the preincubation at 31°C is greater than in controls. However, this rise is not a progressive one for oxidation rates, after 60 or 80 mins, are no greater than after say 20 mins preincubation, see Table (5.4).

State III respiration in the control sample of sarcosomes shows a trend towards increased rates with longer times spent at 0°C. The highest rate was found after 45 mins and was 98.76 (95.51 - 102.01)  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , subsequently the measured rate was about 89.5  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ . In the sarcosomes held at 31°C however the highest state III respiration was found up to about 20 mins when values of about 110  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  were obtained. Subsequently

Table 5.4.

Effect of preincubation at 31°C on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C, under the same conditions described in Table (5.3).

Means are derived from 2 separate experiments.

Table 5.4

Incubation time (mins)	QO <sub>2</sub>						RCI		ADP : O ratio	
	Substrate-rate		ADP-stimulated rate (State III)		Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.
	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control						
5	39.76 (33.99-45.53)	33.55 (30.21-36.89)	112.92 (99.38-126.46)	76.25 (73.50-79.00)	Control	Exp.	2.84 (2.72-2.96)	2.27 (2.19-2.35)	1.98 (1.97-1.99)	1.93 (1.90-1.96)
10	42.94 (38.11-47.77)	33.55 (30.21-36.89)	114.51 (101.02-128.00)	79.30 (78.61-79.99)	Control	Exp.	2.67 (2.55-2.79)	2.36 (2.28-2.44)	1.80 (1.76-1.84)	1.77 (1.73-1.81)
15	42.94 (38.11-47.77)	31.23 (30.81-31.65)	104.97 (98.11-111.83)	71.84 (70.62-73.06)	Control	Exp.	2.44 (2.34-2.57)	2.30 (2.28-2.32)	1.65 (1.60-1.70)	1.83 (1.78-1.88)
20	47.71 (40.81-54.61)	35.92 (32.32-39.52)	111.33 (105.31-117.35)	76.52 (74.03-79.01)	Control	Exp.	2.33 (2.15-2.58)	2.13 (2.10-2.16)	1.98 (1.97-1.99)	1.73 (1.70-1.76)
25	44.26 (40.11-48.41)	35.92 (32.32-39.52)	101.17 (97.33-105.01)	79.65 (78.11-81.19)	Control	Exp.	2.29 (2.16-2.42)	2.22 (2.12-2.32)	1.71 (1.68-1.74)	1.95 (1.93-1.97)
30	47.42 (43.22-51.62)	35.92 (32.32-39.52)	102.75 (99.50-106.00)	79.65 (78.11-81.19)	Control	Exp.	2.17 (2.00-2.34)	2.22 (2.12-2.32)	1.93 (1.89-1.97)	1.68 (1.66-1.70)

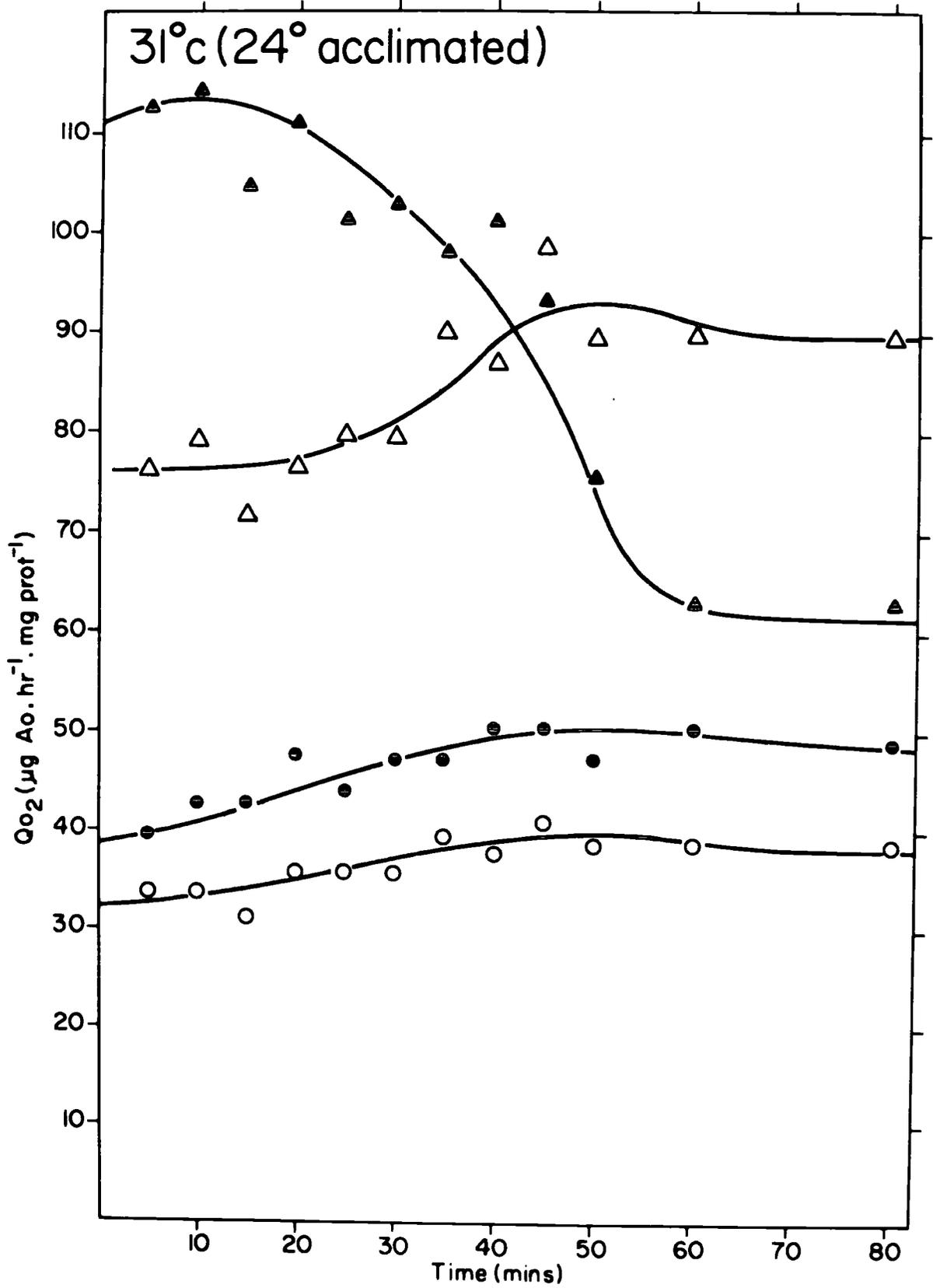
35	47.42 (43.22-51.62)	39.52 (38.12-40.92)	98.01 (96.01-100.01)	90.10 (86.10-94.10)	2.07 (1.89-2.25)	2.28 (2.22-2.34)	1.61 (1.58-1.64)	1.93 (1.91-1.95)
40	50.58 (47.99-53.17)	37.94 (37.00-38.88)	101.17 (97.33-105.01)	86.94 (82.81-91.01)	2.00 (1.81-2.19)	2.29 (2.26-2.32)	1.81 (1.77-1.85)	1.81 (1.78-1.84)
45	50.58 (47.99-53.17)	40.12 (38.06-42.18)	93.27 (90.81-95.73)	98.76 (95.51-102.01)	1.84 (1.62-2.06)	2.46 (2.38-2.54)	1.76 (1.74-1.78)	1.91 (1.89-1.93)
50	47.44 (44.23-50.65)	38.58 (36.73-40.43)	75.88 (73.34-78.42)	89.50 (86.78-92.22)	1.60 (1.43-1.77)	2.32 (2.28-2.36)	1.42 (1.37-1.47)	1.80 (1.78-1.82)
60	50.88 (47.50-54.26)	38.68 (36.12-41.24)	63.23 (60.12-66.34)	89.66 (86.30-93.02)	1.25 (1.14-1.36)	2.32 (2.28-2.36)	1.66 (1.46-1.86)	1.78 (1.71-1.85)
80	49.00 (46.31-51.69)	38.68 (36.12-41.24)	63.23 (60.12-66.34)	89.66 (86.30-93.02)	1.29 (1.11-1.47)	2.32 (2.28-2.36)	1.22 (1.01-1.43)	1.78 (1.71-1.85)

Fig. 5.3

Effect of preincubation at 31°C on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C, (From data presented in Table 5.4).

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	O	⊖
ADP-stimulated rate	Δ	▲



there was a decline in state III respiration and values of only  $63 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  were found after 60 and 80 mins at  $31^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The measured values of RCl in the control group are very similar throughout the 80 minute sampling period, indeed the extreme values obtained are 2.1 and 2.54, the mean values vary only between 2.13 and 2.46. No obvious trend exists.

In the experimental sarcosomes, held at  $31^{\circ}\text{C}$ , however the highest mean value for RCl, 2.48, is obtained after 5 mins. Thereafter, RCl values fall progressively to be only about 1.3 at the longest preincubation times. It is clear however that the mean RCl obtained for the experimental sarcosomes is significantly higher up to 10 mins preincubation, than in the control sarcosomes.

No trend is apparent in the values obtained for ADP : 0 in the control sarcosomes, and the mean values obtained ranged between 1.68 (after 30 mins on ice) to 1.95 (after 25 mins on ice).

In comparing the values obtained for ADP : 0 for the experimental sarcosomes, no trend is apparent, and only after the longer exposure times, particularly 80 mins, did the value fall significantly to 1.22.

iii. Preincubation of sarcosomes at 33°C

As can be seen from Table (5.5) and Fig. (5.4) preincubation at 33° caused an increase in substrate rate oxidation as compared with sarcosomes maintained on ice. This increase was seen already after 5 min preincubation, where a value of  $41.10 \mu\text{gAO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  was obtained. This value is probably significantly higher than that obtained from control sarcosomes, which was  $33.55 \mu\text{gAO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , as the two ranges of values obtained are non-overlapping. The rise in substrate rate oxidation of sarcosomes preincubated at 33°C is greater than in control sarcosomes, and is a progressive one reaching  $51.21 \mu\text{gAO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , with the exception of the value obtained after 40 min. preincubation, see Table (5.5).

ADP-stimulated respiration behaved very similar to that described for 31° preincubation.  $QO_2$  values were higher for the experimental as compared with the control sarcosomes up to about 35 mins preincubation. With the values for the experimental sarcosomes being about  $100 \mu\text{g AO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , in contrast to values of 70 - 80  $\mu\text{g AO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , for control sarcosomes. Thereafter the  $QO_2$  of experimental sarcosomes fell to be less than that of controls, which increased, during the next 45 mins at 33°C.

Table 5.5

Effect of preincubation at 33°C on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes.

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C, under the same conditions described in Table (5.3).

The mean values shown were derived from 2 separate experiments.

Table 5.5

Incubation time (mins)	60 <sup>2</sup>															
	Substrate-rate				ADP-stimulated rate (State III)				RCI				ADP : O ratio			
	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control		
5	41.10 (38.11-44.09)	33.55 (32.00-35.10)	105.91 (100.31-111.51)	76.25 (74.40-78.10)	2.58 (2.44-2.72)	2.27 (2.21-2.33)	1.93 (1.91-1.95)	1.93 (1.90-1.96)	44.26 (41.31-47.21)	31.23 (30.89-31.57)	107.49 (105.91-109.07)	71.84 (70.38-73.30)	2.43 (2.35-2.51)	2.30 (2.28-2.32)	1.86 (1.78-1.94)	1.83 (1.79-1.87)
10	42.68 (40.77-44.59)	33.55 (32.00-35.10)	104.33 (101.34-107.32)	79.30 (76.33-82.27)	2.44 (2.38-2.50)	2.36 (2.30-2.42)	1.66 (1.60-1.72)	1.77 (1.73-1.81)	44.26 (41.31-47.21)	31.23 (30.89-31.57)	107.49 (105.91-109.07)	71.84 (70.38-73.30)	2.43 (2.35-2.51)	2.30 (2.28-2.32)	1.86 (1.78-1.94)	1.83 (1.79-1.87)
15	44.26 (41.31-47.21)	35.92 (34.01-38.83)	104.33 (100.32-108.34)	76.52 (72.81-80.23)	2.36 (2.30-2.42)	2.13 (2.11-2.15)	1.66 (1.60-1.72)	1.73 (1.68-1.78)	48.01 (46.08-49.94)	35.92 (33.81-38.03)	104.02 (100.11-107.93)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.17 (2.00-2.34)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.73 (1.68-1.78)	1.95 (1.93-1.97)
20	44.26 (41.31-47.21)	35.92 (34.01-38.83)	104.33 (100.32-108.34)	76.52 (72.81-80.23)	2.36 (2.30-2.42)	2.13 (2.11-2.15)	1.66 (1.60-1.72)	1.73 (1.68-1.78)	48.01 (46.08-49.94)	35.92 (33.81-38.03)	104.02 (100.11-107.93)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.17 (2.00-2.34)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.73 (1.68-1.78)	1.95 (1.93-1.97)
25	46.41 (45.00-47.82)	35.92 (32.31-39.53)	104.02 (99.22-108.82)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.24 (2.11-2.37)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.55 (1.53-1.57)	1.68 (1.66-1.70)	46.41 (45.00-47.82)	35.92 (32.31-39.53)	104.02 (99.22-108.82)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.24 (2.11-2.37)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.55 (1.53-1.57)	1.68 (1.66-1.70)
30	46.41 (45.00-47.82)	35.92 (32.31-39.53)	104.02 (99.22-108.82)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.24 (2.11-2.37)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.55 (1.53-1.57)	1.68 (1.66-1.70)	46.41 (45.00-47.82)	35.92 (32.31-39.53)	104.02 (99.22-108.82)	79.65 (78.13-81.17)	2.24 (2.11-2.37)	2.22 (2.20-2.24)	1.55 (1.53-1.57)	1.68 (1.66-1.70)

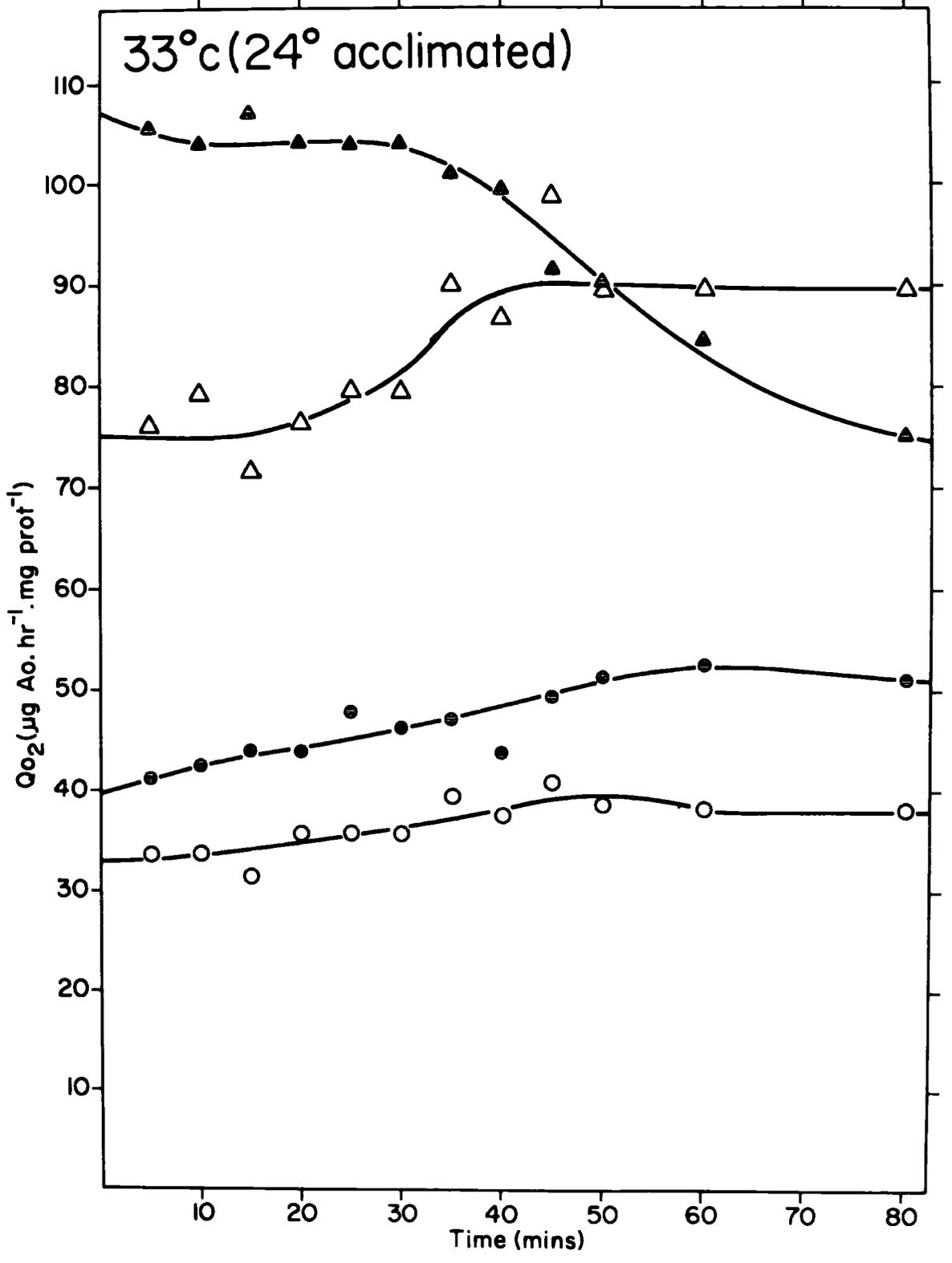
35	47.42 (46.11-48.73)	39.52 (35.99-43.05)	101.17 (97.38-104.96)	90.10 (86.88-93.32)	2.13 (2.00-2.26)	2.28 (2.24-2.32)	1.81 (1.79-1.83)	1.93 (1.91-1.95)
40	44.26 (42.01-46.51)	37.94 (35.88-40.00)	99.59 (95.18-104.00)	86.94 (82.33-91.55)	2.25 (2.00-2.50)	2.29 (2.26-2.32)	1.49 (1.41-1.57)	1.81 (1.78-1.84)
45	49.92 (47.88-51.96)	40.12 (38.12-42.12)	91.78 (88.08-95.48)	98.76 (97.52-100.00)	1.84 (1.80-1.88)	2.46 (2.41-2.51)	1.72 (1.66-1.78)	1.91 (1.89-1.93)
50	51.53 (49.33-53.73)	38.58 (35.79-41.37)	90.17 (86.18-94.16)	89.50 (87.81-91.19)	1.75 (1.70-1.80)	2.32 (2.30-2.34)	1.58 (1.55-1.61)	1.80 (1.78-1.82)
60	52.81 (50.18-55.44)	38.68 (36.10-41.26)	84.81 (80.11-89.51)	89.66 (87.88-91.44)	1.66 (1.60-1.72)	2.32 (2.30-2.34)	1.59 (1.55-1.63)	1.78 (1.71-1.85)
80	51.21 (50.11-52.31)	38.68 (36.10-41.26)	75.21 (71.44-78.98)	89.66 (87.88-91.44)	1.47 (1.35-1.59)	2.32 (2.30-2.34)	1.34 (1.30-1.38)	1.78 (1.71-1.85)

Fig. 5.4

Effect of preincubation at 33°C on the  
respiratory performance of isolated  
blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes .

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured  
at 24°C, (From data presented in  
Table 5.5)

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	○	●
ADP-stimulated rate	△	▲



The measured values of RCl in the experimental sarcosomes, held at 33°C, were higher than those of the control sarcosomes up to 20 mins, and the highest value (2.58) was found after 5 mins preincubation. Subsequently there was a progressive fall in RCl values, which reached 1.47 after 80 mins.

The effect of preincubation of sarcosomes at 33°C on ADP : O ratio is similar to that observed at 31°C. No trend is apparent; and only after 80 mins a significant fall to 1.34 was observed.

iv. Preincubation of sarcosomes at 35°C

As can be seen from Table (5.6), preincubation at 35°C had no consistent nor dramatic effect on substrate rate oxidation. Indeed the values obtained for the experimental sarcosomes are probably not different from the control sarcosomes held on ice.

State III respiration in sarcosomes held at 35°C did not show a trend towards increased rates as seen with previously described temperatures (31° & 33°C). Instead a progressive fall in state III respiration was observed, the values obtained of preincubation times of 30 mins and later, are probably significantly lower than the control values for the ranges of values obtained are non overlapping. After 60 mins state III respiration was

Table 5.6

Effect of preincubation at 35°, 36° & 41°C, on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes. Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C, under the same conditions described in Table (5.3). The mean values were obtained from two separate preparations, except for 41°C, where a single preparation has been used.

Table 5.6

Incubation temp °C	Incubation time (mins)	QO <sub>2</sub>						RCI			ADP : O ratio		
		Substrate-rate		ADP-stimulated rate (State III)		Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control
		Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control								
35°	5	29.01 (26.33-31.69)	26.77 (25.58-27.96)	62.53 (55.82-69.40)	62.53 (59.35-65.71)	2.16 (2.12-2.19)	2.34 (2.32-2.35)	1.88 (1.83-1.93)	1.76 (1.69-1.83)				
	15	31.13 (28.90-33.36)	26.60 (25.58-27.62)	58.40 (49.42-68.39)	64.06 (59.09-69.33)	1.88 (1.71-2.05)	2.41 (2.31-2.51)	1.89 (1.83-1.95)	1.83 (1.76-1.90)				
	20	28.77 (27.66-29.88)	31.00 (29.25-32.75)	57.05 (54.21-59.76)	64.53 (58.50-70.09)	1.98 (1.96-2.00)	2.08 (2.02-2.14)	1.88 (1.79-1.97)	1.71 (1.59-1.83)				
	30	29.01 (27.23-30.78)	31.25 (28.68-33.82)	53.60 (48.74-58.79)	67.01 (60.23-73.73)	1.85 (1.79-1.91)	2.14 (2.10-2.18)	1.81 (1.79-1.83)	1.88 (1.86-1.90)				
	35	29.18 (26.96-31.40)	26.60 (25.34-27.86)	44.71 (40.44-48.98)	66.04 (61.58-70.49)	1.53 (1.50-1.56)	2.48 (2.43-2.53)	1.78 (1.74-1.82)	1.83 (1.78-1.88)				
	45	29.65 (29.09-30.21)	31.00 (28.82-33.18)	43.05 (41.02-45.01)	71.60 (57.93-85.27)	1.45 (1.41-1.49)	2.29 (2.01-2.57)	1.66 (1.60-1.72)	1.70 (1.58-1.82)				

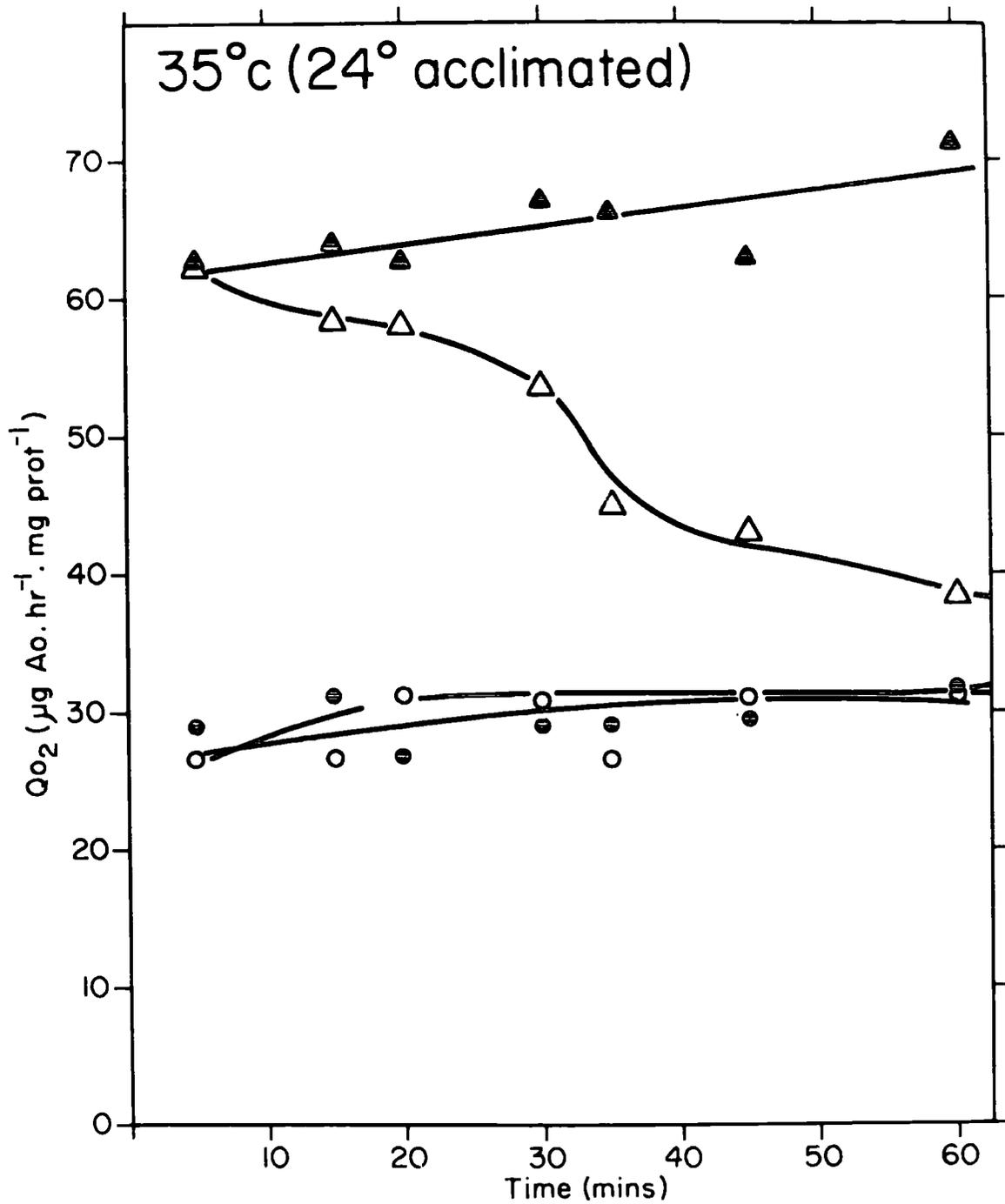


Fig. 5.5

Effect of preincubation at 35° C on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes . Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24° C.

(From data presented in Table 5.6)

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	○	⊖
ADP-stimulated rate	▲	△



only  $38.43 \mu\text{g. AO. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  in sarcosomes held at  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , which is approximately half the corresponding control value.

In sarcosomes kept on ice during the 60 mins duration of the experiment state III respiration showed a small increase from  $62.53$  to  $71.47 \mu\text{g AO. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  see Table (5.6) and Fig. (5.5).

The measured mean values of RCl throughout the experiment were less in experimental sarcosomes than those obtained in control sarcosomes. The highest value (2.16) was obtained after 5 mins. preincubation but, with longer times at  $35^{\circ}$ , RCl showed a progressive decrease, and was only 1.21 after 60 mins. The mean RCl values of control sarcosomes ranged between 2.14 and 2.48 during the 60 min period on ice.

No trend is apparent in the ADP : O ratios in experimental sarcosomes up to 45 mins preincubation at  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$ , where values ranging between 1.66 and 1.89 were obtained. These values are almost identical to those obtained in control sarcosomes. After 60 mins preincubation at  $35^{\circ}\text{C}$  ADP : O ratio declined to 1.47.

v. Preincubation of Sarcosomes at  $36^{\circ}\text{C}$

As can be seen from Table (5.6) preincubation at  $36^{\circ}\text{C}$  has little effect on substrate rate  $\text{QO}_2$  values,

indeed these data for the experimental sarcosomes are probably not significantly different from those of control sarcosomes on ice.

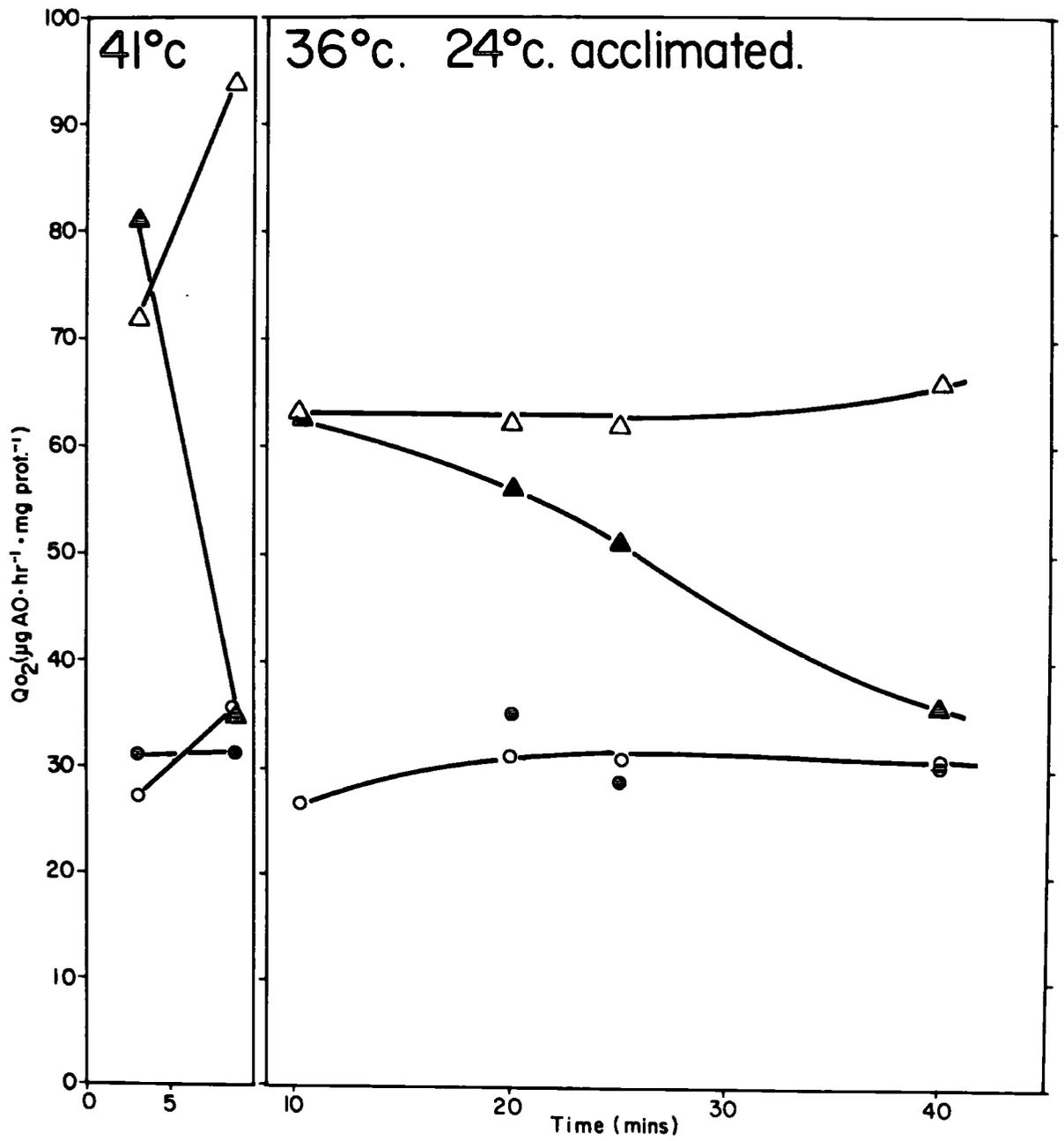
State III respiration in control sarcosomes was not significantly affected by 40 mins exposure at 0°C. In the sarcosomes held at 36°C however the highest value ( $69.77 \mu\text{gAO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ) was obtained after 10 mins preincubation. Subsequently, there was a decline in state III respiration, and a value of only  $35.79 \mu\text{g AO} \cdot \text{hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  was found after 40 mins. (see Fig. 5.6).

The mean values of RCl in the control group are ranging between 2.13 and 2.37. In the experimental sarcosomes, held at 36°C however mean RCl values were throughout the experiment lower than the corresponding control values. The highest value (2.21) was obtained after 10 mins preincubation at 36°C, which showed a progressive decline and reached 1.18 after 40 mins. The mean values for ADP : O were not significantly affected by 40 mins exposure at 0°C. In contrast, the mean values for ADP : O for experimental sarcosomes at 36°C showed a significant decline, falling from 1.84 (1.75 - 1.98) after 10 mins to 1.41 (1.35 - 1.47) after 40 mins.

Fig. 5.6

Effect of preincubation at 36° and 41° C on the respiratory performance of isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes. Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24° C. (From data presented in Table 5.6)

	Control	experimental
Substrate-rate	○	△
ADP-stimulated rate	●	△



vi. Preincubation of sarcosomes at 41°C

Preincubation times at this temperature were short, only 2.5 or 7 mins, and had no significant effect on substrate rate oxidation. Although the duration of the experiment was relatively short, a dramatic fall in state III respiration was observed from 81.00 to 34.69  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  within 7 mins. As a result RCl fell from 2.61 to 1.11 and ADP : O ratio was not measurable after this time (see Table 5.6 and Fig. 5.6)

C) Effect of acclimation of animals to 15° or 34°C on response of sarcosomes to preincubation at 36°C

i. 15°C acclimated flies

Sarcosomes from 15° acclimated flies had a substrate rate oxidation unaffected by a 30 min exposure at 0°C. Exposure at 36°C did cause a fall in mean  $QO_2$  from 38.54 to 32.9  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , but it is unlikely this is a significant decline in  $QO_2$ .

ADP-stimulated respiration was also unaffected in the control sarcosomes during a 30 min period at 0°C. In contrast, the experimental sarcosomes were markedly affected by exposure at 36°C. This is particularly evident after 20 mins exposure where the

mean  $QO_2$  had fallen to be only 50% of the value for control sarcosomes. This decline continued and became only one third of that for control sarcosomes. (see Table 5.7 and Fig. 5.7).

This is reflected in the differences in RCl obtained for control and experimental sarcosomes. For the former mean values of about 2.4 were obtained throughout the period of the experiment; whereas for the experimental sarcosomes RCl values declined with time at 36°C, being 2.03, 1.24 and 1 after 10, 20 and 30 mins exposure, respectively.

In the values obtained for ADP : 0 in control sarcosomes no trend is apparent; the values obtained were 1.84, 1.79 and 1.81 after 10, 20, and 30 mins on ice, respectively.

In the experimental sarcosomes ADP : 0 showed a fall with exposure time. The mean value obtained after 10 mins exposure (1.82) is not different from that obtained from control sarcosomes on ice. However, after 20 mins exposure the mean value obtained was only 1.58 and a further 10 min exposure resulted in a complete loss of demonstrable coupling.

ii. 34°C acclimated flies

As can be seen from Table (5.7) preincubation at 36°C gave rise to a small decrease in the  $QO_2$  values of substrate rate oxidation, from 27.28 after 10 mins to 21.90  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  after 30 mins. However, these differences are not significant as the range of the values obtained at each sample point is overlapping.

Substrate rate oxidation in control sarcosomes increased from 26.91 to 30.10  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  during the 30 mins duration of the experiment, but again these values are not significantly different from each other.

State III respiration declined from 52.30 to only 21.90  $\mu\text{gAO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$  in sarcosomes preincubated at 36°C. As can be clearly seen the latter value is identical to that obtained for substrate rate oxidation after the same period of time (30 mins), resulting, consequently in an RCl of only 1.

No trend is apparent in the values obtained for state III respiration in control sarcosomes. These values were similar throughout the experiment (see Fig. 5.7).

Table 5.7.

Effect of preincubation at 36°C on the respiratory performance of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of blowflies acclimated to 15° & 34°C. Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C, under the same conditions described in Table (5.3).

The mean values are obtained from 4 and 2 separate preparations for experimentals and controls, respectively.

Table 5.7

Acclim. temp. °C	Incub time (mins)	QO <sub>2</sub>						RCI		ADP : O ratio	
		Substrate-rate		ADP-stimulated rate (State III)		Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control
		Exp.	Control	Exp.	Control						
15	10	38.54 (25.87-51.22)	38.81 (36.33-41.29)	78.09 (56.05-100.12)	94.11 (89.88-98.34)	2.03 (1.95-2.47)	2.42 (2.38-2.47)	1.82 (1.73-1.91)	1.84 (1.82-1.86)	n.m.	1.81 (1.77-1.85)
	20	36.21 (31.04-47.09)	38.88 (37.00-40.76)	44.94 (37.62-58.86)	95.31 (94.33-96.29)	1.24 (1.16-1.30)	2.45 (2.36-2.55)	1.58 (1.51-1.79)	1.79 (1.75-1.83)		
	30	32.90 (26.19-40.03)	40.12 (38.13-42.11)	32.90 (26.19-40.03)	96.00 (94.89-98.11)	1.00	2.39 (2.33-2.49)	n.m.	1.81 (1.77-1.85)		
34	10	27.28 (23.57-30.61)	26.91 (22.88-30.94)	52.30 (42.13-63.57)	75.16 (63.38-86.94)	1.91 (1.58-2.08)	2.79 (2.77-2.81)	1.70 (1.59-1.87)	1.77 (1.75-1.79)	n.m.	1.79 (1.75-1.83)
	20	26.07 (19.96-28.90)	27.32 (25.13-29.51)	40.32 (33.26-45.76)	75.45 (68.86-82.04)	1.57 (1.20-1.89)	2.76 (2.74-2.78)	1.54 (1.37-1.73)	1.83 (1.79-1.87)		
	30	21.90 (20.71-24.02)	30.10 (28.15-32.15)	21.90 (20.71-24.02)	76.00 (70.66-81.34)	1.00	2.52 (2.51-2.53)	n.m.	1.79 (1.75-1.83)		

Fig. 5.7

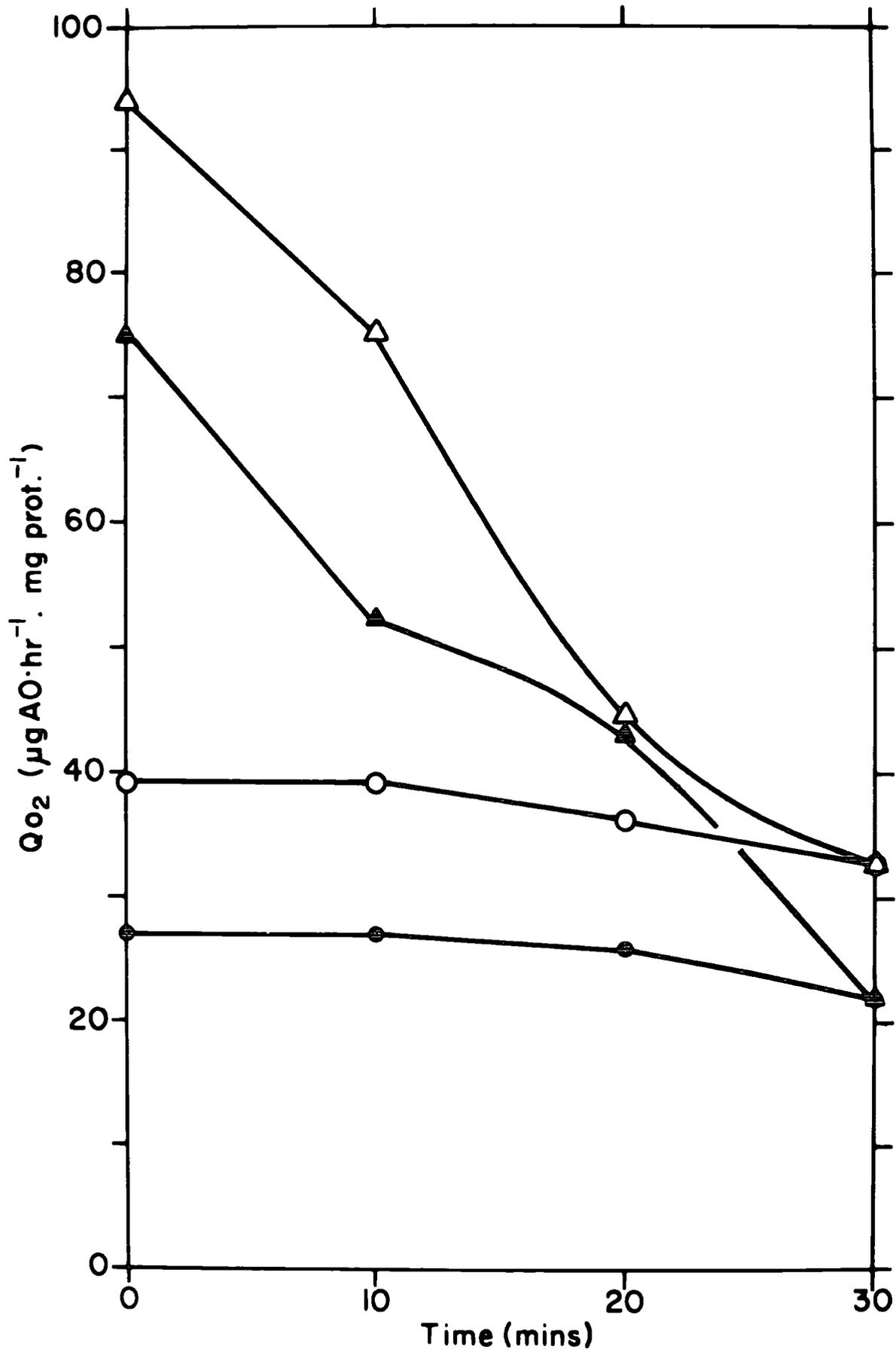
Effect of preincubation at 36°C on the respiratory performance of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of blowflies acclimated previously at 15° or 34°C for 10 days.

(From data presented in Table 5.7)

Oxidative phosphorylation was measured at 24°C under the conditions described in Table (4.2) and was expressed as  $\mu\text{gAO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ . Points represent mean values of 4 separate preparations.

Data at 0time is the initial control values

	15°C-acclimated	34°C-acclimated
Substrate rate	○	●
ADP-stimulated rate	△	▲



RCI values for control sarcosomes were found ranging between 2.52 and 2.79. The highest value was obtained after 10 mins period on ice, and the lowest after 30 mins. In the experimental sarcosomes, however, a 10 minute preincubation period resulted in RCI value of 1.91, which is significantly lower than the corresponding control value. After 20 mins the mean RCI was found to be only 1.57; however the range of the values is overlapping with that obtained after 10 mins preincubation, but after 30 mins RCI value of 1 was obtained.

No trend was obvious in ADP : 0 values for control sarcosomes. Throughout the experiment these values were similar, ranging between 1.77 and 1.83. In experimental sarcosomes, a fall in mean ADP : 0 values was observed from 1.70 to 1.54 after 20 minute preincubation at 36°C. However, this difference is probably not a significant one. After 30 mins however, ADP : 0 was not measurable owing to the loss of respiratory control.

## Discussion

The effect of reaction temperature on mitochondrial performance has been followed by many workers. Frequently, such studies have concerned determination of oxidation rates, presented as Arrhenius curves, e.g. Lyons & Raison (1970 a & b) Smith, (1973 c). However, attention has been drawn by Heldt & Klingenberg (1968) to low temperature sensitivity of mitochondrial adenine nucleotide translocase. Kemp, et al., (1969) concluded that it was indeed this translocation process that was rate limiting in oxidative phosphorylation in rat liver mitochondria in the temperature range 0 - 23°C.

The most interesting feature of Arrhenius plots of oxidation rates of mitochondria is that, in most cases, breaks, or discontinuities (as they are usually called) occur. These breaks yield distinct phases over different temperature ranges and consequently distinct activation energies, since these are calculated from the slopes of the different phases.

However, some differences of opinion are held concerning the causes of, and therefore interpretation of, "breaks" in Arrhenius curves. Raison (1973), and Kumamoto et al., (1971) clearly stated the currently

held views on the nature of "breaks" for membrane-bound enzymes.

In an authoritative text, Dixon and Webb (1958) objected to the interpretation made by Sizer and Josephson (1942), that Arrhenius plots for the activity of crystalline enzymes, such as invertase, lipase, Trypsin and pepsin, show a discontinuity at 0°C owing to a phase change in the water which forms one of the reactants. The objection was on the grounds that a change in activation energy at 0°C was also observed with pancreatic lipase in a reaction mixture containing 36.5% glycerol. Drost-Hansen, (1972), on the other hand, attributed many of the thermal anomalies in enzyme kinetics to the alteration in the physical properties of vicinal water. It was the similarity between the temperature at which changes in activation energy are observed and the temperature at which changes are observed in the structure of water adjacent to an interface, that led him to this postulation. He stressed that these thermal anomalies occur at or near the same temperature for all systems regardless of the chemical nature of the substrates involved. The temperatures mentioned are 17°, 28°, 43° and 60°C. He emphasized that changes in vicinal water must be superimposed upon the changes in the biological macro-

molecules, and these will undoubtedly be influenced by environmental changes. Raison and his co-workers believe that there is no doubt that "breaks" or true discontinuities in Arrhenius plots do exist. This conclusion is supported by the observation of large gaps between two non-intersecting straight lines at the transition temperature. Therefore, Kumamoto; et al., (1971) adopted, for the interpretation of these breaks, a theory which employs a phase change. They stated that this theory "can adequately accommodate all the data for temperature "breaks" in Arrhenius plots". Furthermore, they took it that this concept should cover a large number of systems, such as whole organisms, subcellular organelles and membranes, and others.

The two plateaus, observed in the substrate rate and state III respiration, at temperatures above the break at 10.5° (see Fig. 5.1) in part confirm the results reported by Davison (1971 a). In his  $R/T$  curves, Davison observed a plateau at the level of substrate respiration, which started at 24° and extended to 34°. He did not observe the first sharp break, for his experimental temperature only ranged between 14° and 39°C.

For  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation (substrate rate) the plateau extends to about 24°C before a second discontinuity occurs.

State III respiration gives a plot of a different nature; here the plateau extends only to about 18°C, above which the slope of the curve increases (to 13.27 k cal. mole<sup>-1</sup> from 7.52 k cal. mole<sup>-1</sup>) to 27°C where a third discontinuity occurs. The divergence of the curves for substrate rate and state III oxidation over this temperature range results in increasing values being obtained for RCl as reaction temperature increases.

The increase in slope following a "break" in an Arrhenius plot is an interesting feature of these curves and requires an explanation; for it is more usual for the  $E_a$  of the slopes of the lines to be smaller as the progression occurs from lower to higher temperatures. Davison (1971 a), who also found this phenomenon, attributed it to high temperature uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation. This may also be the case in the present study, for RCl values are seen to fall progressively as the temperature rises above 27°C. At 34° and 37°C it was no longer possible to determine ADP : O.

The data of Newell & Walkey, (1966) and Newell & Northcroft, (1967), which show mitochondria from a variety of sources, having a low, and essentially temperature-independent respiration, but which suddenly show a dramatic increase at a high temperature, can probably be best explained in the same way. For in certain cases at least, substrates were provided which the mitochondria were not normally permeable to. At high reaction temperatures, membrane damage presumably occurred which allowed the substrate to penetrate.

Few other reports exist showing this phenomenon and it is most likely to be because the studies have not continued to the higher reaction temperatures, where mitochondrial membranes might be damaged. Lee & Gear, (1974) in a comprehensive study, carried out their studies on rat liver mitochondria only to 36°C, whereas Smith, (1973 c) and Kemp et.al., (1969) confined themselves to an even lower temperature range.

The cause or causes of the breaks in the Arrhenius plots can only be a matter of speculation. In simpler systems, non-linear plots have been obtained for a wide variety of membrane-bound enzymes. Most notable are the  $\text{Na}^+ - \text{K}^+ \text{--ATPase}$

(Gruener & Avi-Dor, 1966 ; Bowler & Duncan, 1968; Taniguchi & Iida, 1972; Tanaka & Teruya, 1973) and  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  -  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ - ATPase (Charnock & Frankel, 1971; Deamer, 1973).

A great deal of evidence is now available for the dependence of membrane-bound enzymes on the lipid component of the membrane for activity.

Fleischer, Brierley, Klouwen & Slautterback (1962) have demonstrated such requirement in enzymes of the electron transport system. Furthermore, many such enzymes were found to show a partial or obligate requirement for unsaturated fatty acids (Rothfield & Finkelstein, 1968; Sekuzu, Jurtschuk & Green, 1963; Cunningham & Hager, 1971). Proudlock<sup>et al.</sup> in their experiments on diet regulated yeasts, showed similar results on their mitochondria (Proudlock, Haslam & Linnane, 1969).

Since such lipids are expected to change their state with changing temperatures, one would expect this to be reflected on the activity of membrane-bound enzymes. Indeed, there is growing evidence for this phenomenon. Several workers have established a close correlation between the transition temperature of enzyme activity and the transition temperature of the

molecular mobility parameter of a hydrophobic probe (Raison, et al., 1971; Grisham & Barnett, 1973; Rottem, Cirillo, DeKruyff, Shinitzky & Razin, 1973).

The effect of temperature on respiration of mammalian and avian mitochondria usually gives rise to non-linear Arrhenius plots, with one or more discontinuities. Smith (1973 c) Lyons & Raison, (1970a), Lenaz, Sechi, Parenti-Castelli, Landi & Bertoli (1972), Roberts, Arine, Rochelle & Chaffee (1972), Kemp et al., (1969), Lee & Grear, (1974). However, similar systems from ectothermal animals have been reported to yield linear Arrhenius plots, Smith, (1973 c) and Lyons & Raison, (1970 a) for fish; but Pye (1973) and Davison, (1971 a) report non-linear plots for frog and insect mitochondria, respectively.

The interpretation offered by other workers of the effect of temperature on their mitochondrial systems are of interest. Smith, (1973 c), points out clearly that Arrhenius plots of respiration using succinate and glutamate are similar, and also that switching from state III (adenine nucleotide translocase limited) to DNP uncoupled respiration does not affect the plot. He considers this may indicate that the effect of temperature on the enzymes is not crucial. Raison et al., (1971)

reached much the same conclusion. Lee & Gear, (1974) also concluded that the discontinuities are caused by some process common to the entire respiratory chain, for they are common to both oxidation and phosphorylation, indeed the intact energy-transducing membrane is necessary. They describe some enzymes, malate dehydrogenase (matrix) and rotenone-insensitive NADH cyt. c reductase (outer membrane) gave linear Arrhenius plots.

Whether 'breaks are caused as a result of phase changes occurring in mitochondrial lipids, or a moiety of lipids, is problematical. Intrinsic membrane enzymes do usually give non-linear plots, but Lenaz et al., (1972) suggests caution be applied in interpretation, as they found the 'break' temperature was different for different enzymes' systems from beef heart mitochondria, and cytochrome oxidase showed no 'break' at all.

If 'breaks' are simply related to the fatty acid composition of phospholipids then one might expect more uniformity of response to temperature by these several enzyme systems. This is also true for blowfly sarcosomes as reported here, for the curves for state III and substrate rate oxidation are different. Lee &

G ear, (1974) also found divers effects of temperature on a variety of mitochondrial functions.

Another interesting feature of studies on the effect of temperature on membrane-bound enzymes is the fact that the intactness of the membrane is required for 'breaks' in the Arrhenius plots to be shown at any temperature. This has been demonstrated in sonicated rat liver mitochondria by Lee & G ear (1974). A similar effect was found in the presence of detergents or phospholipases (Taniguchi & Iida, 1972; Raison, Lyons & Thomson, 1971; Charnock, Cook & Casey, 1971).

As can be seen, the results reported in the literature on this subject are rather contradictory; and the discrepancies render an interpretation of the observations made in this study, as well as others, to be not an easy one. Many questions remain to be answered, whether it is the adenine nucleotides translocation, despite the almost similar effect observed on the substrate respiration in the absence of exogenous ADP; or a temperature-induced phase transition in the lipids of the mitochondrial membrane(s); although the very recent work reported by Feo, Canuto, Garcear, Avogadro, Villa & Celasco (1976) showed that a transition started at  $-17^{\circ}$  and centred around  $-6^{\circ}$  for total lipid extracted from rat liver mitochondria;

another transition started at about +55°C and centred around + 70°C for whole liver mitochondria, whereas breaks in Arrhenius plots were recorded at about 27°, 20° and 24° for succinate-cyt.c reductase, NADH-cyt.c reductase and ATPase for the same mitochondria, respectively.

However, it can be safely concluded, that temperature dependent changes are taking place in the mitochondrial membrane(s), since sonication (Lee & Gear, 1974) or the application of a detergent (Raison, 1973) abolish the discontinuity in Arrhenius plots. However, no attempt was made in the present study to investigate such effect on insect flight muscle sarcosomes. Furthermore, blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes appear to be able to illustrate a considerable amount of adaptability to thermal stress over a relatively wide range of temperature in both substrate, as well as state III respiration, in order to maintain the best possible respiratory control, which is a sensitive parameter in measuring sarcosomal respiratory performance. Phosphorylation, however, has proved to be more sensitive to extreme temperatures.

Nevertheless, drawing a distinction between temperature-induced changes in insect flight muscle

sarcosomes and mitochondria from other sources is a subject of a considerable interest and therefore demands further investigations.

The elevated substrate rate oxidation which occurred at reaction temperatures above about 27°C (see Fig. 5.1), may simply be the normal  $Q_{10}$  response to temperature rise. However, it could also occur through a raised temperature 'deterioration' of the sarcosomes resulting in a partial uncoupling of oxidative phosphorylation. It is of course likely that the phenomenon is caused by an interaction of the two temperature induced events. The preincubation experiments were carried out in part to elucidate this phenomenon.

With the point in mind that high experimental temperatures might cause mitochondrial membranes to deteriorate, it is interesting that even for mammalian mitochondria 25°C is frequently chosen as the reaction temperature rather than 37°C; for example Bellamy, (1962); Gear & Lehninger, (1968); Butler & Judah, (1970).

In blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes, if this is true then high reaction temperatures in vitro more seriously affect the coupling process than the respiratory

chain enzymes. The very high rates of oxidation may reflect temperature induced increase in permeability to substrates.

Preincubating isolated mitochondria at a given temperature prior to initiating respiration at the same temperature has been reported on several occasions. Sacktor & Childress (1967) pointed out that rate of pyruvate oxidation decreased as elapsed time between the addition of mitochondria and of substrate increased; this loss, however, could be prevented by including BSA and ATP in the reaction medium. Hansford, (1972), investigating the effect of phosphate concentration on the rate of oxygen uptake by blowfly mitochondria as function of temperature, preincubated sarcosomes at temperatures as high as 30.5° for up to 8 minutes, more recently still, Hansford (1975), in a study of the interaction between uncoupler and ATP hydrolysis, preincubated blowfly sarcosomes at 22°C for up to 10 minutes. Whether such treatment would not cause membrane deterioration, is not made clear.

With this in mind the effect of preincubation at temperatures sub-lethal to the intact organism was determined on isolated sarcosomal performance.

The data presented in Tables (5.3) to (5.7) require some detailed discussion. First, when considering  $QO_2$  values, it can be seen that  $QO_2$  of control sarcosomes varies between experiments, it is for this reason that each preincubation at  $30^\circ$  or higher must be accompanied by preincubation of an aliquot of the same preparation on ice.

One interesting feature is that substrate rate oxidation  $QO_2$  values are little affected by preincubation at  $0^\circ C$  (controls) even for long periods. Preincubation at  $30^\circ C$  even for 120 mins also has no uncoupling or inhibiting effect on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation. At higher preincubation temperatures however substrate rate  $QO_2$  were found to be slightly stimulated by preincubation, this was found after some 30 mins at  $31^\circ C$ , but in as soon as 5 mins at  $33^\circ C$ . At  $35^\circ C$ , preincubation for 60 mins had neither stimulatory nor inhibitory effect on  $QO_2$ . Shorter preincubation times were used at both  $36^\circ C$  and  $41^\circ C$  and in both cases preincubation was without an effect on  $QO_2$  for substrate rate oxidation.

The situation regarding state III respiration is somewhat different. Preincubation at  $30^\circ C$  caused a slight but probably insignificant stimulation of state III respiration, but after 2 hrs. ADP addition failed to stimulate respiration. In consequence the

highest RCl values were found in the experimental sarcosomes (except at 80 and 120 mins). Much the same pattern was found for state III  $QO_2$  values of sarcosomes preincubated at 31°C and 33°C, with preincubation causing a marked stimulation for periods of time up to 45 mins. Once again much longer exposure times were deleterious and a marked reduction in  $QO_2$  was found. Once again this results in the experimental preincubated sarcosomes giving higher values for RCl than the cold kept controls.

At 35°C however, preincubation failed to stimulate state III respiration, indeed it was inhibitory at all exposure times longer than 5 mins. In no case was a higher RCl obtained for preincubated as compared with control sarcosomes. This was distinctly the pattern for 36° and 41°C preincubated sarcosomes also where in the latter little respiratory control could be demonstrated after 7 mins preincubation.

It would seem that the changes occurring in RCl values may be the most sensitive indicator of thermal damage. It is also quite clear that sarcosomes are much more temperature sensitive to in vitro than in vivo heating. Davison & Bowler (1971) report, from the same stock of flies that temperatures as high as

40°C for 40 mins are necessary in vivo to cause damage to sarcosomal function. Furthermore, as has been shown in this thesis, it is possible to maintain adult flies at 34°C for long periods without any obvious damage to their flight apparatus. Sarcosomes subsequently isolated also have a normal respiratory function, see Table 5.7 and Chapter (4).

It seems reasonable to suggest that the enzymes of the oxidation pathway are relatively unaffected by exposure to temperatures between 30° and 41°C, one can say this for even after 40 mins preincubation at 36° substrate rate oxidation showed no inhibition, this is also true following 7 mins preincubation at 41°C. In both cases however, these preincubation times seriously inhibit state III respiration. As substrate rate oxidation was not seen to increase markedly, following preincubation, even at longer exposure times at 30°, 31° and 33°, it would suggest that oxidative phosphorylation is not uncoupled under these conditions. Rather it would seem that phosphorylation is inhibited, and so results in bringing state III respiration to substrate rate levels. With this in mind, it would have been useful to determine, whether this inhibited state III respiration in preincubated sarcosomes could be stimulated by uncouplers such as DNP. It seems that the very long

times required at 30° and 31°C to bring about damage, may be more 'ageing' rather than a thermal phenomenon.

A similar work, on spinach chloroplasts, has been recently published by Santarius, (1975). It was found that heat treatment caused inactivation of photophosphorylation, the coupling factor (CF1) more heat stable than photophosphorylation, and that heat causes irreversible changes in the permeability of chloroplast membranes.

One feature of thermal sensitivity is that in ectothermal animals it should be modifiable by changes in the thermal history of the animal, Read, (1967), Bowler et al (1973). With this in mind, some blowflies were placed at 15°C and 34°C to acclimate prior to the isolation of their sarcosomes, which were then preincubated at 36°, after which their respiratory performance determined at 24°C. These can also be compared with sarcosomes so treated from flies maintained at 24°C, data previously discussed and given in Table (5.6).

In sarcosomes from all three groups of acclimated flies, preincubation either at 0°(controls) or at 36°C caused no marked effects on substrate rate

oxidation. Once again state III respiration is more dramatically affected, being progressively inhibited as preincubation time increases. No obvious acclimation effect can be seen. In the extreme acclimation states ( $15^{\circ}$  and  $34^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) respiratory control is lost after 30 mins exposure. The  $15^{\circ}\text{C}$  acclimated group may be the more sensitive, for RCl shows the most rapid decline and is but 1.24 after 20 mins preincubation compared with 1.57 for sarcosomes from  $34^{\circ}$  acclimated flies. The  $24^{\circ}\text{C}$  acclimated flies, however, have sarcosomes which appear the more resistant and have an RCl that is still 1.84 after 20 mins.

The apparent thermostability of the substrate rate respiration, observed throughout the preincubation experiments described above, suggests that the enzymes participating in this pathway are not likely to be susceptible to in vitro heat application. Indeed,  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase has been shown elsewhere in this thesis (see Chapter 7), to be resistant to temperatures as high as  $50^{\circ}\text{C}$ , when assayed under conditions excluding the respiratory chain from the process of electron transfer. This finding, together with those reported in this Chapter, strongly suggest that the oxidative enzyme system as a whole, in blowfly flight

muscle sarcosomes, is not sensitive to heat exposure under the conditions described above.

CHAPTER SIX

EFFECT OF CALCIUM ON SARCOSOMAL  
 $\alpha$ -GLYCEROPHOSPHATE OXIDATION

Introduction:

Davison, (1970) described a differential thermal sensitivity of blowfly flight muscle sarcosomal oxidative phosphorylation when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was used as a substrate as compared with pyruvate and malate. In Chapter (3) this preliminary finding by Davison, (1970) has been studied further. The data presented there clearly point to the possibility that the initial enzyme in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation as being the thermal sensitive focus.

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is thought to be located on the outer surface of the inner membrane (Donnellan, Barker, Wood & Beechey, 1970; Klingenberg & Buchholz, 1970) although recently Slack & Bursell (1977) have questioned this interpretation. It has been shown by Hansford & Chappell (1967) that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is an allosteric enzyme, maximally stimulated by  $10^{-5}$  gm-ion.<sup>-1</sup>Ca.<sup>2+</sup>. This finding clearly explaining the inhibitory effect of EDTA (Estabrook & Sacktor, 1958) and EGTA (Hansford & Chappell, 1967) on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation by flight muscle sarcosomes.

Klingenberg & Buchholz (1970) and Hansford (1971) have also shown a similar  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  activation for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation in sarcosomes from locust and the periodical cicada, Magicalcica septendicem flight muscle, respectively. It is significant that the enzyme is activated maximally by concentrations of free calcium that are close to those estimated to activate myofibrillar ATPase (Sacktor, 1970). The level of extra mitochondrial free calcium in resting muscle is apparently so low that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase would not be allosterically activated (Hansford & Chappell, 1967) and would be relatively inactive at the estimated cellular concentration of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, 2 mM (Sacktor & Wormser-Shavit, 1966). Thus the allosteric activation by raised calcium facilitates the rapid increase in sarcosomal function that follows the demand for ATP by muscle fibres in contraction (for a recent review article see Sacktor, 1974).

With this regard it is also pertinent that Smith, (1966) reports insect flight muscle possesses a scant sarcoplasmic reticulum. This raised a question as to the identity of the organelles undertaking the function of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  sequestration. However, Carafoli, Hansford, Sacktor & Lehninger, (1971) have studied the interaction

of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  with blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes, and found that  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is accumulated by re<sup>s</sup>piring blowfly sarcosomes with a low efficiency. The authors concluded that such accumulation occurs through slow, concentration-dependent, physical diffusion through the membrane, and is not mediated by the action of a specific carrier.

Dawson, Dunnett & Selwyn (1971), and Hansford (1971; 1972) have worked on the mechanism of the stimulation of respiration by exogenous  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Slack & Bursell (1977) have also suggested  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  might be involved in the stimulation of substrate transport into the sarcosomes of blowflies.

To return to the particular stimulation of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, it would seem possible that if in vivo heating does affect this enzyme then its allosteric behaviour might reveal this thermal sensitivity as suggested by Hochachka & Somero (1973). This is because allosterism requires a high level of structural order in the enzyme molecule, and heat is a well documented perturbator of protein tertiary structure (Brandt 1967). If such thermally induced perturbations occur to the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, at heat death temperatures the property of allosteric stimulation by calcium may be lost before

catalytic function (Stadtman 1966). In this way it may explain why substrate oxidation of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is reduced in sarcosomes from L.D<sub>50</sub> treated flies whilst pyruvate oxidation (state IV) by the same sarcosomes is, if anything, increased.

Materials and methods:

Sarcosomes were isolated from either control or L.D<sub>50</sub> heat treated blowflies (10 day old) as described in Chapter 3.  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity was determined as the rate of oxygen consumption by sarcosomes in presence of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, by conventional polarographic methods as described earlier in Chapter 2.

Enzyme activity was followed in the conditions below:

1. Calcium free medium:

100 mM KCl  
10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 7.1 at 24°C.  
1 mM EGTA

2. Calcium containing medium:

100 mM KCl  
10 mM Tris HCl buffer pH 7.1 at 24°C  
 $10^{-5}$  gm-ion.l<sup>-1</sup> ca<sup>2+</sup>

This low level of calcium was maintained by using a  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  - EGTA buffer system. Equal volumes of 1 mM EGTA and 1 mM  $\text{CaCl}_2$  were mixed. The method used to calculate the level of free calcium is that suggested by Portzehl, Caldwell & Ruegg (1964).

Both reaction media were fully equilibrated with air at 24°C for several hours. 2cm<sup>3</sup> of medium was pipetted into the reaction chamber of the oxygen electrode. This was followed by 3 µl of an alcoholic solution of carbonyl-cyanide-p-trifluoro methoxy phenylhydrazone (FCCP) to give a final concentration of 0.5 µM.

50 µl of sarcosomal suspension was then added and this was followed by 50 µl of α-glycerophosphate solution which started the reaction.

The substrate concentrations (final) used were as follows:

1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40 and 50 mM. All additions to the reaction chamber were made using terumo microsyringes.

Any one set of substrate concentrations were followed on the same sample of sarcosomes, working from the higher to the lower substrate concentrations.

The experiment was repeated five times for control and three times for sarcosomes from L.D<sub>50</sub> treated flies. The data shown in Table (6.1) shows the mean values obtained for QO<sub>2</sub> as well as the range of values at different concentrations of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate. The mean values are also plotted versus substrate concentration in Fig. (6.1).

Protein assay was carried out as described in Chapter (2). All chemicals were purchased from Sigma Chemical Co., Ltd., except FCCP which was purchased from Boehringer Chemicals.

### Results

The allosteric effect of including  $10^{-5}$  gm-ion.l<sup>-1</sup> Ca<sup>2+</sup> in the reaction medium is clearly shown in Fig. (6.1) and in more detail in Table (6.1) In Fig. (6.1) these data from sarcosomes from both control and L.D<sub>50</sub> treated flies are shown as a plot of V against S .

#### Sarcosomes from control flies

Taking the reaction in the absence of Ca<sup>2+</sup> first, it can be seen that the rate-substrate concentration curve has a sigmoidal shape. At substrate concentrations below 10 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate low rates of oxygen consumption were recorded. Whilst the highest rates,

(about  $40 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ ) were found only when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate concentrations were higher than 30 mM. The estimated value for app.  $K_m(S_{0.5})$  is 14 mM.

In contrast, in the presence of free calcium rapid oxidation rates were observed even at 1mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate,  $QO_2 = 13.45 \mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1} \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ . Values as high as this were observed in the absence of free calcium only at much higher substrate concentrations. Values for  $QO_2$  approximating to  $V_{\text{max}}$  for the enzyme were obtained at substrate concentrations of 10 mM. The form of the curve is a classical rectangular hyperbola of Michaelis-Menten kinetics. The app.  $K_m$  for the enzyme in the presence of  $10^{-5} \text{mg-ion}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$  free calcium falls to about 2 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate.

#### Sarcosomes from heat treated flies

As can be seen from Fig. (6.1) the most dramatic effect of the in vivo heating on the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity is to simply depress the activity without destroying the ability to respond to the allosteric effector,  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

The substrate concentration - velocity curve

in the absence of free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is still sigmoidal in shape. As in the control flies  $\text{QO}_2$  values are very low below 5 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, the values obtained are only about 30% of those obtained for control sarcosomal enzyme activity in this concentration range, similar to the effect earlier reported in Table (3.1).  $\text{QO}_2$  values approaching  $V_{\text{max}}$  did not appear to have been reached even at 50 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, this is in contrast with control sarcosomal enzyme kinetics. The value for the  $\text{QO}_2$  was only  $18.68 \mu\text{g AO. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , whereas the value for  $\text{QO}_2$  was only  $18.68 \mu\text{g AO. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , whereas the value for  $\text{QO}_2$  at  $V_{\text{max}}$  in presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was  $21.37 \mu\text{g AO. hr}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ . These values are only about half the rates for  $V_{\text{max}}$  obtained for the enzyme from control sarcosomes.

It is significant however that in the sarcosomes from the heated flies the addition of  $10^{-5} \text{ gm-ion.l}^{-1}$   $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  converts the substrate concentration - velocity curve from a sigmoidal to a rectangular hyperbolic form. However the app.  $K_m$  in presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  is 7 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, this being much lower than the value calculated in absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ , which was 20 mM.

Table 6.1

Saturation kinetics of blowfly flight  
muscle sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate  
dehydrogenase from control untreated,  
and L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated adults, in the  
presence and absence of  $10^{-5}$  g-ion.l<sup>-1</sup>  
free Ca<sup>2+</sup>.

0.5  $\mu$ M FCCP was present in all cases

Isolation : Nagarse method (see Chapter 3)

Reaction conditions : 100 mM KCl  
10 mM Tris/HCl buffer  
at pH 7.1 at 24°C.

Reaction temperature : 24°C.

Table 6.1

Substrate Concentration (mM)		QO <sub>2</sub> (mg AO. hr <sup>-1</sup> . mg prot. <sup>-1</sup> )											
		CONTROL						LD <sub>50</sub>					
		- Calcium			+ Calcium			- Calcium			+ Calcium		
		$\bar{x}$	Range	n	$\bar{x}$	Range	n	$\bar{x}$	Range	n	$\bar{x}$	Range	n
1		-	-		13.45	(5.13-21.01)	4	-	-		-	-	
2		-	-		23.79	(7.58-33.23)	4	-	-		4.18	(4.14-4.22)	3
4		-	-		29.30	(14.49-38.07)	4	-	-		6.80	(5.93-7.66)	3
5	(2.08-10.18)	5.59		5	-	-		1.68	(1.38-1.98)	3	-	-	
6		-	-		32.91	(20.10-45.71)	2	-	-		8.79	(7.93-9.65)	3
8		-	-		36.38	(28.16-44.59)	2	-	-		11.17	(9.88-12.46)	2

10	11.77	(6.25-16.66)	5	40.96	(25.00-60.13)	4	4.70	(4.13-5.60)	3	11.69	(9.93-13.44)	3
15	21.19	(10.83-31.59)	5	-	-		8.04	(7.75-8.32)	3	15.25	(13.81-16.69)	2
20	28.90	(16.19-44.76)	5	41.07	(26.11-60.00)	4	10.14	(9.28-10.99)	3	16.68	(13.82-19.53)	3
25	31.85	(21.55-46.30)	4		-		-	-		17.91	(15.00-21.62)	3
30	38.90	(24.14-53.90)	3	-	-		13.86	(12.10-15.83)	3	19.20	(15.79-22.06)	3
35	39.24	(26.73-48.76)	4	-	-		-	-		-	-	
40	39.62	(29.31-44.83)	3	-	-		16.86	(16.35-17.37)	3	21.37	(20.37-22.21)	3
50	41.98	(32.76-49.01)	3	43.87	(26.50-60.00)	3	18.68	(18.40-18.96)	3			

Fig 6.1

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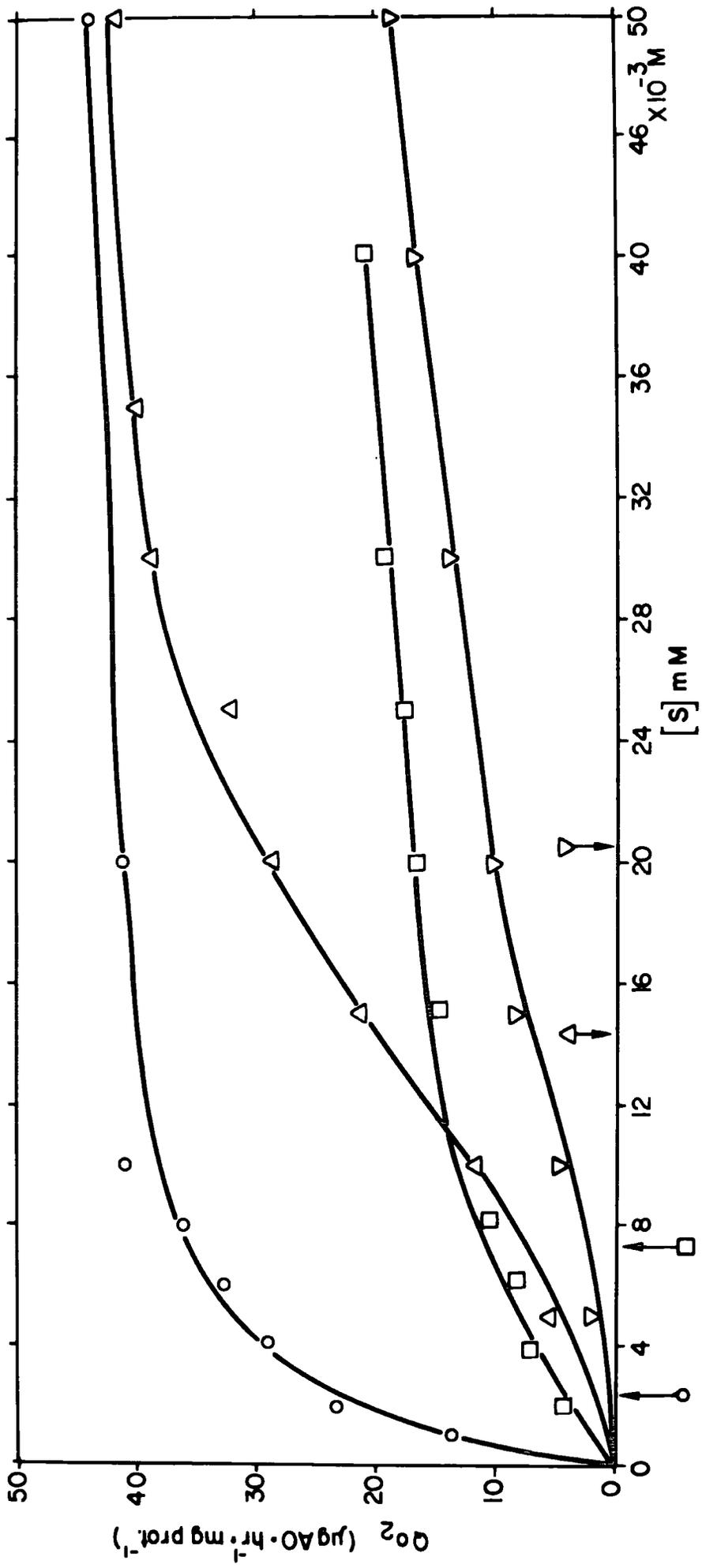
Saturation kinetics of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. (See Table 6.1).

Ordinate : Oxidation rate ( $QO_2$ ) expressed as  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1} \text{ mg prot.}^{-1}$

Abscissa :  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate concentration in mM.

- $\Delta$  Control, in the absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .
- $\circ$  Control, in the presence of  $10^{-5} \text{ g-ion}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$  free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .
- $\nabla$  L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated, in the absence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .
- $\square$  L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated in presence of  $10^{-5} \text{ g-ion}\cdot\text{l}^{-1}$  free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

Arrows on the abscissa represent the app.  $K_m$  value for each graph with the corresponding symbol.



## Discussion

The data presented in Table (6.1) and Fig.(6.1) are consistent with those obtained by Hansford & Chappell, (1967) on flight muscle sarcosomes from Calliphora vomitora. They described  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  ( $10^{-5}$  gm-ion.l<sup>-1</sup>) reduced the app. Km for substrate from about 10 to 2 mM. In the present work this reduction is from 14 to 2 mM.

Hansford & Chappell, (1967) excluded the possibility that this  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  activation of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation was merely on the respiratory chain and energy conserving systems because  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  was without effect on any aspect of pyruvate oxidation. They also demonstrated, by comparing results with sonicated and intact sarcosomes, that this effect was not mediated through a stimulation of penetration of the sarcosomal membrane of either substrate or product. This strongly suggests that the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is directly allosterically stimulated by calcium.

However, this leads to the question of the localization of the dehydrogenase. A variety of workers (Klingenberg & Buchholz, 1970; Balboni, 1972) have studied this problem, and the generally held view

is that this enzyme is located on the outer surface of the inner mitochondrial membrane, which means that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is oxidized without having to be translocated across the inner membrane.

This also argues against the  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stimulation of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation being mediated by an effect on permeation of the sarcosomal membrane. Recently, however, a contrary view has been proposed by Slack & Bursell (1977) from work on the blowfly, Sarcophaga modosa. They claimed that  $\alpha$ -GP dehydrogenase is located on the inner, rather than the outer surface of the inner membrane. This conclusion has been based on the observation that NADH oxidation, which is mediated by an intramitochondrially situated enzyme, is parallel to  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation, when the mitochondria are subjected to increasing intensities of sonication. They questioned the previously reported view that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is located on the outer surface of the inner membrane, which has been supported by experiments involving the reduction of the non-penetrant ferricyanide to ferrocyanide on addition of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate in antimycin A treated mitochondria. Their criticism was based on the argument that high concentrations of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate

might alter the permeability of the inner membrane, thereby enabling the normally non-penetrant ferricyanide to penetrate the membrane and so reversing the inhibition, being capable of denaturing antimycin A (Walter & Lardy, 1964). Slack & Bursell (1977) concluded, therefore, that the membrane transport of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is dependent on membrane translocation.

$\text{Ca}^{2+}$  also acts as an allosteric inhibitor of flight muscle sarcosomal isocitrate dehydrogenase (Vaughan & Newsholme, 1970), an enzyme located intramitochondrially, according to Carafoli, et al. (1971). In insects the modulation of those two enzymes must occur simultaneously on the initiation of flight (Carafoli et al., 1971).

Furthermore, the possibility that the high concentrations of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate used, might affect the structure of the mitochondrial membrane, has been suggested by Wojtczak, Vloder & Zborowski, (1963). This may well have been the case in the rat liver mitochondria used by these workers for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is not the normal substrate for these mitochondria. Still the concentration of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate used in the present study, and by other workers, on flight muscle sarcosomes are frequently much higher than those experienced

physiologically (Sacktor & Wormser-Shavit 1966). However, Klingenberg & Buchholz (1970) reported that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate concentrations as high as 50 mM, hardly induced swelling in flight mitochondria, this they took to be indicative of an unaltered membrane permeability. Thus there seems to be some uncertainty of the exact mechanism of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  stimulation of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation. The thorough work by Hansford & Chappell (1967) is compelling, particularly as the allosteric behaviour of the enzyme was observed in both intact and sonicated sarcosomes.  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  interaction only being lost when sarcosomal membranes were treated with triton.

A variety of enzymes have been shown to be desensitized to their allosteric effectors, before loss of catalytic activity, when exposed to such agents as mercuric salts, freezing digestion with proteases etc.

Aspartate transcarbomylase lost sensitivity to cytidine triphosphate inhibition following exposure to mercuric salts, or urea (Gerhart & Pardee, 1962). In case of trehalose synthetase also the loss of susceptibility to allosteric control following treatment with mercuric salts or exposure to high ionic strength, is accompanied by a conversion from sigmoidal to

Michaelis-Menten type kinetics (Murphy & Wyatt, 1965).

In a number of cases the exposure of the enzyme to heat also destroys its allosteric properties. This has been shown in phosphoribosyl-ATP pyrophosphatase extracted from Salmonella typhimurium (Martin, 1963), aspartate transcarbamylase from Escherichia coli (Gerhart & Pardee, 1962), and acetohydroxy acid synthetase in Salmonella typhimurium (Bauerle, Freundlich, Stormer & Umbarger, 1964). However in these cases the heat exposure used has been very unphysiological, that is temperatures of about 50°C or more.

In this respect, very few, if any, reports occur in which the sensitivity of the allosteric properties of an enzyme have been studied following the exposure to in vivo temperatures that are just lethal to the organism.

In the present study, both in the presence and absence of calcium, lethal heat treatment causes an increase in the calculated app. Km for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. But unlike some instances discussed earlier there is no change in the saturation kinetics of the enzyme. In sarcosomes from both heated and control flies, sigmoidal kinetics are obtained in absence, and Michaelis-Menten kinetics in the presence of calcium.

However in the absence of calcium the app.  $K_m$  for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate rises by 6 mM for the enzyme from heated flies. A similar rise occurs in the app.  $K_m$  in the presence of calcium, when the value rises from 2 to 7 mM when the flies are heated.

It is not possible to estimate whether the effectiveness of calcium as a stimulator of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is altered following the in vivo heat exposure. However, it is noticeable that the amount the app.  $K_m$  is reduced in control and heat exposed enzyme by the presence of calcium is about 12 mM in both cases.

It is clear however that catalytic efficiency is seriously affected for, under conditions that give  $V_{max}$ , enzyme activity is reduced by about 50% following in vivo heatings.

As Lardy, Lee & Takemori (1960) report that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is the rate limiting enzyme in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation, it is tempting to assume the inactivation in oxidation described above results from heat damage to  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. This assumption is supported by the data presented in Table (3.1) Chapter(3). Here an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment causes loss of respiratory

control and inhibition of substrate rate (and state III) respiration by up to 50% when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is the substrate. However, when pyruvate and proline are being respired state IV respiration is increased in sarcosomes from heated flies as compared with control flies. This implies that the part of the respiratory chain, common to both substrates, (i.e. past coenzyme Q-cytochrome b) is not damaged by the heating.

At this point, therefore, it seems reasonable to suggest the mitochondrial  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is one thermal sensitive structure, in that its catalytic efficiency is restricted following heat applied in vivo. With this in mind further work using dye reduction to assay  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase will be carried out. Using this technique the need to use the whole respiratory chain in the assay is avoided. This work is presented in Chapter (7), and further explores the possibility of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase being inactivated by heating in vivo and in vitro.

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE ACTIVITY OF AND THERMOSENSITIVITY  
OF SARCOsomeAL  $\alpha$ -GLYCEROPHOSPHATE  
DEHYDROGENASE

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Introduction:

The results presented in Chapter (3) together with those reported by Davison (1970) strongly indicate that the failure of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-supported oxidative phosphorylation mechanism, exhibited by sarcosomes isolated from heat-treated animals, cannot be at the level of the respiratory chain. This comment is justified by the observation that sarcosomes from heat treated animals carry out oxidative phosphorylation when pyruvate and proline are used as substrates, see Chapter (3). This is particularly puzzling because the conventional view is that electrons, irrespective of the substrate source, are fed into a common electron transfer pathway (Lehninger, 1964; Pullman & Schatz, 1967; Lardy & Ferguson, 1969).

However the results mentioned above, and presented in detail in Chapter (3), confirm the preliminary observations made by Davison (1970).

Implicit in Davison's (1970) interpretation of his results is that oxidative phosphorylation

associated with  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate may be carried out by a respiratory assembly, different to those associated with other substrates. This is perhaps supported by the recent report by Rogers & Higgins (1976) that, in rat liver mitochondria, the degree of inhibition of respiration by tetraalkylammonium bromides, depends upon the respiratory substrates used.

Davison (1970) has also mentioned the possibility of thermal inactivation of the respiratory enzymes associated with  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration. In this regard, it is noteworthy to remember that the results presented in Chapter (4) on recovery from sublethal heat treatment, suggest that biosynthetic processes may be involved in the repair mechanism following heat damage.

Similar thermal inactivation has been reported for several respiratory enzymes of Staphylococcus aureus (Bluhm & Ordal, 1969), and for some liver mitochondrial enzymes from a representative series of vertebrate animals (Smith, 1973 a, b).

At this stage it seems quite reasonable to expect that heat injury might be at the level of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase (EC.1.1.99.5); the first enzyme in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate respiratory pathway. Therefore, this Chapter will

represent a detailed investigation into the nature of this enzyme, its activity and thermostability. The results will be discussed in the light of other relevant parts of this study, together with the results reported by Davison (1970) and Davison & Bowler (1971).

Materials and Methods:

A) Measurement of sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity

Sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity was measured using the method described by Lee & Lardy (1965).

The essence of the technique is based on the reduction of the tetrazolium salt (INT) by electrons transferred directly from the dehydrogenase via phenazine methosulphate (PMS), resulting in the formation of insoluble formazan. The optical density of a solution of this formazan in toluene is proportional to the enzyme activity.

Sarcosomes were isolated from the flight muscle of 10 blowflies, aged 1, 10 or 20 days, using the standard isolation technique (see Chapter 2). However, the final pellet was resuspended in 8 cm<sup>3</sup> of the resuspension medium, Chapter 2 giving a

preparation with sarcosomal protein concentration of less than 0.05 mg/50ul Preparations with protein concentrations higher than that, were found to give non-linear activity with time, under the present assay conditions.

Reaction medium:

66 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate

2 mM Potassium cyanide

33 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C.

Artificial electron acceptor:

0.044% INT (2-p-iodophenyl-3-p-nitrophenyl-5-phenylmonotetrazolium chloride)

0.09% PMS (phenazine methosulphate)

made up separately in 33 mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C.

Assay Procedure:

- 1) Five glass test tubes were wrapped in aluminium foil and held in a water bath maintained at 24°C.
- 2) Into each tube 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup> of the reaction medium was introduced and allowed to equilibrate for 5 minutes.
- 3) This was followed by an addition of 50  $\mu$ l of the mitochondrial preparation and allowed to stand

for a further 5 minutes.

- 4) The reaction was initiated by the addition of  $0.5 \text{ cm}^3$  of a mixture of equal volumes of the artificial electron acceptors,
- 5) The reaction was terminated by the addition of  $0.5 \text{ cm}^3$  of 10% trichloroacetic acid (TCA) after 0, 2, 4, 6 or 8 minutes.
- 6) The tubes were then taken out of the water bath and  $4 \text{ cm}^3$  of toluene were added into each to solubilize the formazan formed after the reduction of the INT.
- 7) Complete solubilization was achieved by mixing thoroughly on a whirli-mixer for a few seconds.
- 8) The tubes were then centrifuged in a Gallenkamp Junior centrifuge for 2 minutes at 1000 xg.
- 9) The upper layer, which consisted of toluene and solubilized formazan, was carefully decanted and the intensity of the colour was read at 500 mu in a Baush & Lomb spectronic 20.
- 10) The same steps were repeated using sarcosomes isolated from L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated 10-day old flies.

Extra care was taken to avoid exposing the tubes to direct sunlight, or any bright light, at all stages of the experiment since the PMS-INT solution was extremely sensitive to light.

The heat treatments given to the experimental flies of different ages were as follows:

1 day old adults 97 minutes at 41°C.

10 day old adults 37.22 minutes at 41°C.

20 day old adults 39.75 minutes at 41°C.

These heat doses were used as they correspond to the L.D.<sub>50</sub> treatment for each age (Davison, 1969).

B) Effect of thermal preincubation in vitro of sarcosomes on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity

Sarcosomes were isolated from the flight muscle of ten 10-day old blowflies, using the "standard" isolation procedure (see Chapter 2).

Glass test tubes were equilibrated for 20 minutes in a water bath at one of the following temperatures:

40°, 42°, 43°, 50° and 55°C.

The temperature of each bath was maintained at  $\pm 0.1^\circ\text{C}$  with a thermoregulator and 'Sunvic' control. A 50  $\mu\text{l}$  aliquot of the sarcosomal preparation, containing

approximately 0.05 mg protein, was introduced into each tube and then preincubated for the following period of time:

5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 80, 100 and 120 mins.

After the preincubation period, the tubes were then transferred to a 24°C water bath and allowed to equilibrate for 5 mins. Thermal inactivation of the enzyme was followed, using the method of dye reduction described above (see Section A).

C) Effect of freezing and thawing

As for experiments investigating this effect on isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes, oxidation rates of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate or pyruvate + proline were measured polarographically in a reaction medium that contained:

154 mM KCl

10 mM tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C.

33 mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C.

0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>

The assay was carried out at 24°C, and sarcosomes were isolated in all cases using the nagarse isolation technique (see Chapter 3).

### Freezing

This treatment was given to the isolated sarcosomes by placing the preparation for 12 hours in a deep freeze at  $-20^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The preparation was allowed to stand at room temperature for about 15 mins. to thaw. Sarcosomes from both control and L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated flies were subjected to this procedure.

### Results

#### A) $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity:

The data given in Table (7.1), represent values for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of control and heat-treated adult blowflies of different ages. It can be clearly seen that low enzyme activity is a characteristic of one day old flies. This activity however, increased over twofold by the age of 10 days, and remained at that higher level in sarcosomes isolated from 20 day old flies.

However, in sarcosomes isolated from adult flies, which have been given the L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment corresponding to their age, a decline of 19.2, 17.8 and 16.5 per cent was recorded in sarcosomal enzyme activity of 1, 10

Table 7.1

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 1, 10 or 20 day old blowflies, of either control (unheated) flies or flies given a heat treatment equivalent to an L.D.<sub>50</sub> dose.  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity was determined under the following conditions:

Reaction medium

66 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate  
2 mM Potassium cyanide  
33 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

Artificial electron acceptor:

0.044% INT  
0.09% PMS

made up separately in 33 mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C.

Enzyme activity is expressed as  $\Delta OD_{500} \text{ min}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ .

Mean values from 10 separate extractions  $\pm 1$  standard error are given.

Table 7.1  
Age and  $\alpha$ -GP dehydrogenase thermostability

Age (days)	Treatment	Activity ( $\Delta$ OD/min/mg prot.)		% Inactivation	n
		Experiment	Control		
1	41°/97 mins	1.05 $\pm$ 0.19	1.3 $\pm$ 0.166	19.2	10
10	41°/37.22 mins	2.35 $\pm$ 0.17	2.86 $\pm$ 0.23	17.8	10
20	41°/39.75 mins	2.48 $\pm$ 0.28	2.97 $\pm$ 0.27	16.5	10

and 20 day old flies, respectively. However, the enzyme activity levels were not statistically significantly different from those obtained from control sarcosomes ( $p > 0.05$ ).

B) Table (7.2) and Fig. (7.1) present  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase thermal inactivation, when isolated sarcosomes have been preincubated at the given temperatures for the indicated periods of time, before being assayed at 24°C. Two control values are given for each temperature, representing enzyme activity at the beginning and the end of the experiment. Values for enzyme activity after the various treatments, are expressed in terms of percentage of enzyme activity in control sarcosomes recorded at the beginning of the experiment. As can be seen, temperatures as high as 40°C required up to 60 minutes preincubation period to bring about 50% inactivation to  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. Indeed after 2 hours preincubation at this temperature, enzyme activity was still measurable. A similar effect was recorded when the temperature was raised to 42°C. At 43°C, however, a 10% inactivation was observed after only 10 minutes of preincubation; this percentage increased gradually with time, and reached 15, 25 and about 30 per cent after 20, 30 and 40 minutes

Table 7.2.

---

Effect of thermal preincubation in vitro  
on the activity of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate  
dehydrogenase of sarcosomes isolated from  
the flight muscle of 10-day old adult  
blowflies.

Measurements of the enzyme activity was  
carried out under the same conditions  
described in Table (7.1).

Enzyme activity is expressed as

$$\triangle OD_{500} \cdot \text{min}^{-1} \cdot \text{mg prot.}^{-1}$$

Table 7.2

Effect of thermal preincubation in vitro on sarcosomal

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity

Treat- ment °C	Control		INCUBATION TIME (Mins)											
			5		10		15		20		30			
	Initial	Final	Activity	% of Cont.	Activity	% of Cont.	Activity	% of Cont.	Activity	% of Cont.	Activity	% of Cont.		
40	3.09	2.48			3.09	100	3.09	100	3.09	100	2.88	84.79	2.78	89.97
42	3.09	2.74					3.08	99.98						
43	3.30	2.94			2.97	90.02			2.82	85.41	1.73	76.60	2.47	74.81
50	2.26	2.22							0.98	37.55				
55 no Ca <sup>2+</sup>	2.61	2.51												
55 + Ca <sup>2+</sup>	2.47	2.45	2.07	83.83	1.44	58.31	1.28	51.71	1.06	42.91	0.71	28.60		

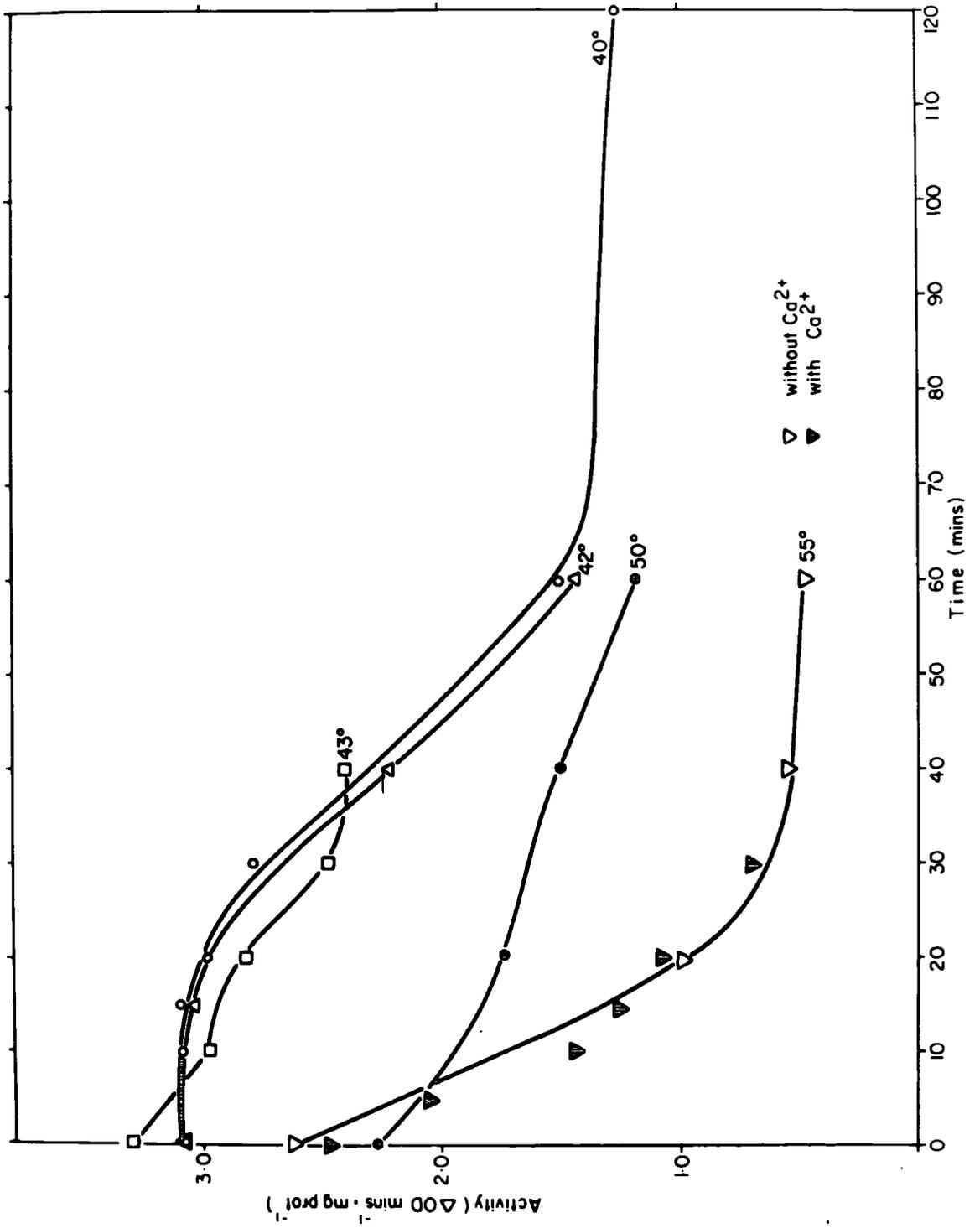


Fig. 7.1

Effect of preincubation in vitro on the activity of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase of sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies.

Residual activity of sarcosomal glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity ( $\Delta O.D._{500} \text{ min}^{-1} \text{ mg prot.}^{-1}$ ) after preincubation of sarcosomes for varying periods of time at 40°, 42°, 43°, 50° and 55°C. At the latter temperature preincubation was carried out in presence and absence of  $10^{-5} \text{ g-ion l}^{-1}$  of free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ . Activity was determined at 24°C under the conditions described in Table (7.1).

The points on the ordinate represent the activity level prior to preincubation.



preincubation respectively. When the temperature was raised to 50°C, about 50% inactivation required, also, a long period of preincubation, approximating 60 minutes, to occur. Nevertheless, 55°C was adequately high to cause 50% inactivation within 20 minutes of preincubation, and after 40 and 60 minutes, enzyme activity of 0.55 and 0.47 units was recorded, which was only 21 and 18 per cent of the control initial value, respectively. The same effect of this temperature was observed on enzyme activity, when the reaction medium included  $10^{-5}$  g-ion/l of free  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (see Chapter 6).

C) Effect of freezing and thawing on sarcosomes

The data recorded in Table (7.3) show that the oxidation rates of pyruvate + proline and  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate by untreated nagarse-isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes, were  $4.34 \pm 0.33$  and  $28.05 \pm 1.70$   $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ , respectively. When such a preparation was frozen overnight at -20°C and thawed the following morning these rates of oxidation declined considerably, giving a value of only  $1.15 \pm 0.14$  for pyruvate and proline, a decline of about 73 per cent.  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate gave, after such treatment, respiratory rates of  $18.74 \pm 2.83$ , showing a fall of

Table 7.3

The effect of freezing and thawing of sarcosomes, isolated by 'nagarse' method, from control and L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated flies (41° for 40 mins) on oxidation rates in presence of 33mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate or 2.5 mM pyruvate + 2.5 mM proline.

Oxidation rates are shown as mean values  $\pm$  s.e. as  $\mu\text{g AO}\cdot\text{hr}^{-1}\cdot\text{mg prot.}^{-1}$ . The figure in brackets is the number of preparations used. Activity was determined at 24°C under the following conditions:

154 mM KCl, 10 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C, 30 mM phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C, 0.4 mg BSA/cm<sup>3</sup>.

Oxidation rates of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate or pyruvate + proline by nagarse  
isolated sarcosomes after various treatments

	Untreated		Frozen and thawed ( <u>in vitro</u> )		L.D.50 ( <u>in vivo</u> )		L.D.50 ( <u>in vivo</u> ), frozen and thawed ( <u>in vitro</u> )	
	$\alpha$ -GP	Pyr. + Prol.	$\alpha$ -GP	Pyr. + Prol.	$\alpha$ -GP	Pyr. + Prol.	$\alpha$ -GP	Pyr. + Prol.
Oxidation rate + S.E.	28.05 + 1.70 (5)	4.34 + 0.33 (6)	18.74 + 2.83 (6)	1.15 + 0.14 (5)	16.81 + 1.77 (4)	3.24 + 0.16 (6)	11.83 + 1.46 (6)	1.73 + 0.13 (6)
% Of Control			66.81	26.50	59.93	74.65	42.18	39.86

approximately 33 per cent. On the other hand, sarcosomes isolated from L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated, 10 day old adult flies, using the nagarse isolation procedure described, showed a decline of only 25 per cent when using pyruvate and proline as substrate, whereas  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation rate declined by about 40 per cent. When a preparation, isolated from L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated flies, was frozen and thawed in the same manner described earlier, a fall of approximately 60 per cent and 58 per cent was recorded for pyruvate + proline and  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as substrates respectively.

Discussion:

Investigations, involving a possible thermal inactivation at the level of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, have been carried out. It was found, that the insignificant reduction in the enzyme activity is not compatible with the depression of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation observed with sarcosomes isolated from heat treated flies. Furthermore,  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase proved to be relatively thermostable, for temperatures as high as 50°C produced only 25 per cent inactivation after a preincubation period of 20 minutes. At 55°C about 15 minutes were required to

produce 50 per cent inactivation (see Fig. 7.1) This is not surprising, for enzymes are generally known to be thermostable, and many are inactivated at temperatures only above about 55 to 60°C (Lehninger, 1975). Moreover, the temperature tolerable limits are, in general, narrowest for intact animals, somewhat wider at the level of tissues and cells, and even much wider when inactivation is measured on isolated enzymes (Prosser, 1973).

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase manifests a variety of responses to temperature in different animals. It has been found sensitive to temperature changes in the screwworm fly (Bush & Neck, 1976), but thermostable in microorganisms, Bacillus stearothermophilus (Amelunxen, Sauvan & Mira, 1974). In the crayfish Cambarus bartoni, cold acclimation increased the enzyme activity in the abdominal muscle, but decreased it in the hepatopancreas of the same animal (Popham & Dandy 1976).

$\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, is known to contain iron as a metal component, which is essential for its catalytic activity (Lehninger, 1975). The possibility that in vivo heat treatment might have liberated this metal component, is ruled out by the fact that the

enzyme has tolerated in vitro preincubation temperature as high as 50°C. However, Yakovleva & Grubnitskii, (1970) have described the evaluation of enzyme thermostability by determining its catalytic activity as being not always sufficient. This view was based on the observation that bull-liver glutamate dehydrogenase manifests different thermostability in its catalytic and allosteric properties when forward and reverse reactions occur; the enzyme is less thermostable in the direction of the faster reaction. Furthermore, it has been demonstrated by Tung (1961) that in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase of brain mitochondria the degree of inhibition by cholate depends upon the nature of the electron acceptor; it is drastic when the acceptor is atmospheric oxygen, whereas low concentrations of cholate accelerate the reaction when estimated by methyleneblue. When phenazine methosulfate is used as electron acceptor, increasing the amount of cholate decreases the oxidation rate to a level less than that observed with methyleneblue.

It is possible that in vivo heat treatment may well interrupt the action of the glycerol 1-phosphate cycle (Bücher cycle). This is because the cytoplasmic  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase has been reported

to be relatively thermolabile (Young & Pace, 1958). Furthermore, the nonprotein component of this enzyme has been found removable by several ways including heat treatment (Van Eys, Nuenke & Patterson, 1959). However, this should not interfere with the function of isolated sarcosomes where "Bücher cycle" is already interrupted, and the action is one-sided, incomplete.

There is now accumulating evidence that the activity of membrane-bound enzymes is dependent on the structure of the membrane. Fleischer et al., (1962) investigating the role of phospholipids in electron transfer, found that the lipid component of the membrane is required by the enzymes of the electron transfer system to show their activity. In addition, Cunningham & Hager (1971), reported an allosteric effect of phospholipid on crystalline pyruvate oxidase from Escherichia coli. In beef heart mitochondria, hydroxybutyric apodeh<sup>yd</sup>/rogenase was found to require lipid for activity (Sekuzu et al., 1963). Yeast mitochondria clearly demonstrated the effect of membrane fatty acid composition on their function, by showing high P/O ratios and respiratory control in yeasts given a diet, which contained high levels of unsaturated fatty acids, and vice versa (Proudlock et al., 1969).

In the present study in vivo heat treatment might have partially delipidated the sarcosomes, and in doing so altering specific activities of membrane-bound enzymes, including  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. This, however, would raise the question as to why this inactivation was not observed when the enzyme was assayed with dye reduction. The stimulatory effect of KCN on glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, reported by Emmelot & Bos (1962), may account in part for this discrepancy.

The results presented in Table (7.3) provide some information about the nature of two different mitochondrial systems under study serving oxidative phosphorylation. The objective of these experiments was a comparative study on these two systems as a function of in vivo heat treatment, and in vitro freezing and thawing of isolated sarcosomes in total absence of ADP. Neither  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate nor pyruvate oxidation showed signs of uncoupling following freezing and thawing of isolated sarcosomes, suggesting that freezing directly inactivates the enzymes associated with both systems. Similar reduction in activity has been reported by Fishbein & Griffin (1976), measuring succinate state IV respiration by isolated frozen and thawed mouse

liver mitochondria, when liquid nitrogen was used as freezing agent. They attributed this to damage to the electron transfer chain.

Whatever the damage is, there appears to be a quantitative correlation between  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation rate in L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated, and frozen-thawed sarcosomes. The reduction is approximately of the same magnitude, suggesting that the damage, caused by heat treatment, might be structural. Furthermore, the drastic fall in pyruvate oxidation, caused by freezing and thawing, indicates that the damage is not likely to be merely at the level of the respiratory chain, since the latter is common for both systems (Lehninger, 1964). This conclusion can, also, be valid for L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment, to which the two systems responded differently, showing a reduction of about 40 and 25 per cent for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate respectively.

However; when both treatments are applied on the same preparation the effect is different,  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation appears to have suffered an additive effect of both treatments, resulting in a further reduction of up to about 60 per cent, whereas heat treatment prior to freezing and thawing appears to be beneficial for pyruvate oxidation. This protecting effect of in vivo heat treatment against in vitro freezing may be due to the release of a

constituent, which acted as a specific cryoprotectant for pyruvate oxidation. Fishbein & Griffin (1976) reported that sucrose is a very powerful cryoprotectant for succinate cytochrome C reductase, however, it protected the mitochondrial structure only moderately, and oxidative phosphorylation inefficiently.

CHAPTER EIGHT

ELECTRON MICROSCOPIC APPEARANCE OF  
SARCOSOMES, ISOLATED FROM CONTROL  
AND HEAT-TREATED BLOWFLIES, DURING  
RESPIRATION IN DIFFERENT RESPIRATORY  
STATES

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Introduction:

Insect flight muscle sarcosomes are large relative to mitochondria from other sources. Smith for example, who was one of the early workers in this field, described sarcosomal appearance in the dragon fly Aeshna sp. Smith (1961 b) and the blowfly Calliphora erythrocephala Smith (1963) flight muscle. Davison, (1971 b) and Tribe & Ashhurst, (1972) have also used sarcosomes from this species in their work. Flight muscle sarcosomes from the honey bee, Apis mellifera (Herold, 1965) and tettigoniid, Homorocoryphus nitidulus vicinus (Anstee, 1971) have also been similarly described. In most of these reports, sarcosomes are reported to have a dimension of about 3 um long. The most striking feature, in the ultrastructure of blowfly sarcosomes, is the cristae. These were described by Smith, (1963) as being "unusually highly oriented, forming sub parallel arrays of about 30 cristae per micron, whose successive fenestrations are precisely aligned one behind the next."

Such sarcosomes are, therefore, expected to be very vulnerable and fragile to isolation procedures. Thus, an ultrastructural study of isolated sarcosomes will be helpful in interpreting their functional state, following heating in vivo. It is pertinent that sarcosomal function is known to be dependent upon their structural integrity (Lehninger, 1964).

The reversible ultrastructural changes, which occur as a result of changes in the energy state of sarcosomes is another aspect, which is difficult to follow in situ. These conformational changes have been studied by fixation of isolated mitochondria, respiring in a known energy state. Following fixation the mitochondria are prepared using routine techniques for electron microscopy. The original observations of this kind were made by Hackenbrock, (1966), using mouse liver mitochondria, confirming earlier suggestions made by Lehninger (1959, 1962 b). Similar observations have been reported from Green's laboratory (see Penniston, Harris, Asai & Green, 1968) and Goyer & Krall (1969) in other mammalian mitochondria.

In mouse liver mitochondria, the main forms described by Hackenbrock, (1966) are :

i) Orthodox conformation which is characterized by a

large matrix volume resulting in decreased intracristal space and outer compartement volume. This form was exhibited by mitochondria incubated for 15 minutes in respiratory states I and IV respiration.

ii) Condensed conformation, which is characterized by a decreased matrival volume resulting in a large outer compart ment and intracristal space. This conformation is displayed, with various degrees of intensity, in states II, III and after short(1.5 mins) incubation in states I and IV respiration.

On the other hand, in beef heart mitochondria the main conformational changes described by Green and his co-workers (see Green, Asai, Harris & Penniston, 1968) are:

i) Non-energized configuation, which is characterized by thin, electron-dense pairs of membranes tightly compressed together. Such configuration is displayed in the presence of respiratory inhibitors (antimycin, or rutamycin).

ii) Energized configuration, which is hallmarked by pairs of darkly stained parallel membranes separated by a less electron-dense region. This configuration took place in the presence of oxidizable substrate.

iii) Energized-twisted configuration, whose diagnostic

Fig. 8.1

Schematic representation, showing the main configurational changes at different energy states as described by other workers

A) Mouse liver mitochondria

OR = orthodox, CON = Condensed

(Hackenbrock, 1966)

B) Beef heart mitochondria

1) Non-energized

2) Energized

3) Energized-twisted

(Green et al., 1968)

A

STATE I  
1.5 mins 15 mins



STATE II  
1.5 mins 15 mins



STATE III



STATE IV  
1.5 mins 15 mins

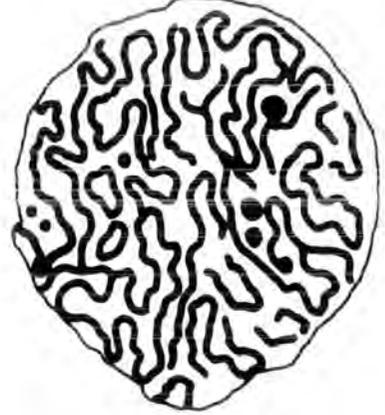
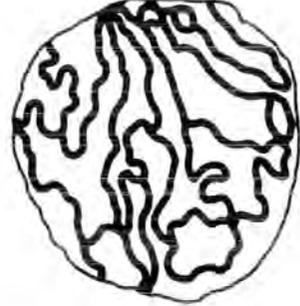


OR



CON

B



features are, the highly twisted character of the cristal membranes, and the absence of an electron-transparent region between them. This configuration is displayed by mitochondria incubated in the presence of oxidizable substrate and inorganic phosphate. The energized-twisted configuration can be discharged, and transformed into non energized, by using uncouplers, ADP or  $Ca^{2+}$ . (see Fig. 8.1)

Such conformational changes have, also been reported for Calliphora erythrocephala (Tribe & Ashhurst, 1972), Phormia regina, and Musca domestica (Smith, Smith & Yunis, 1970).

On the other hand, Butler & Judah, (1970) have urged caution concerning such work and suggested that the differences in conformation reported might be artifacts of fixation procedures.

To help interpret the biochemical work reported elsewhere in this study, which shows that in vivo heating disrupts sarcosomal function, it has been deemed important to confirm whether sarcosomes from heated flies undergo the conformational changes in structure, reported by Hackenbrock, (1966).

In fact there is little published work in this field. However, Davison (1971<sup>b</sup>/<sub>h</sub>) has shown dramatic changes in the morphology of the flight muscle sarcosomes

occur in situ, after severe heat treatments, given to the intact animal.

In the present study ultrastructural changes of isolated sarcosomes will be investigated, as well as, the effect of heat treatment on their morphology, together with the response of configurational changes, mentioned above, in presence of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, and pyruvate as substrates. It must be re-emphasized that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-supported system failed to show state III respiration, when sarcosomes were isolated from lethally heat treated flies, whereas state III respiration was observable in the same sarcosomes, but with pyruvate as substrate. (see Chapter 3).

The observations will be discussed in the light of those previously reported, with particular emphasis on Davison's (1971 b) observations on the one hand, and the results presented in Chapter (3) on the other.

#### Materials and methods:

Sarcosomes were extracted from 10-day old flies using the 'standard' isolation procedure described in Chapter 2.

Oxygen consumption was measured polarographically at 24°C.

However, for reasons given later, the reaction medium contained :

154 mM KCL

1 mM EGTA

30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

10 mM Tris/HCl buffer at pH 7.3 at 24°C

0.4 mg BSA/ml

Fixative and embedding medium:

A) Glutaraldehyde fixative:

2% Glutaraldehyde

2% Acrolein

0.32 M Sucrose

50 mM Cacodylate buffer at pH 7.4 at 24°C

B) Osmium fixative

2% Osmium tetroxide

0.32 M Sucrose

50 mM cacodylate buffer at pH 7.4 on ice

Embedding medium : (Epoxy resin)

Epon 812      47 g

DDSA          21 g

MNA           32 g

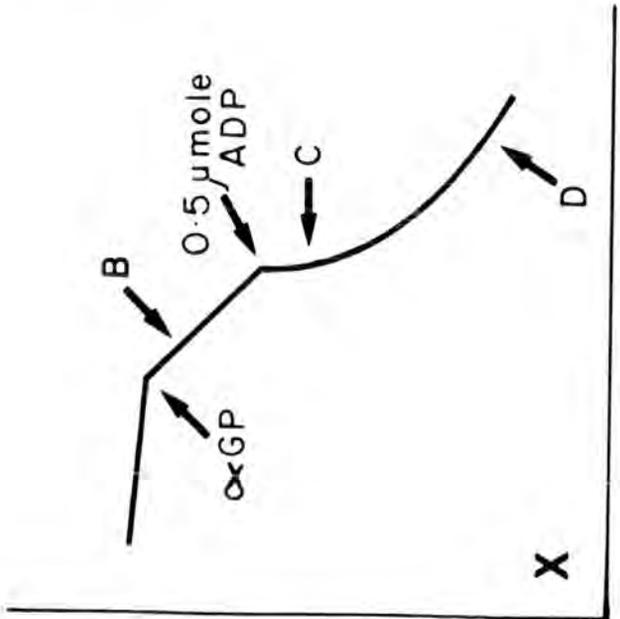
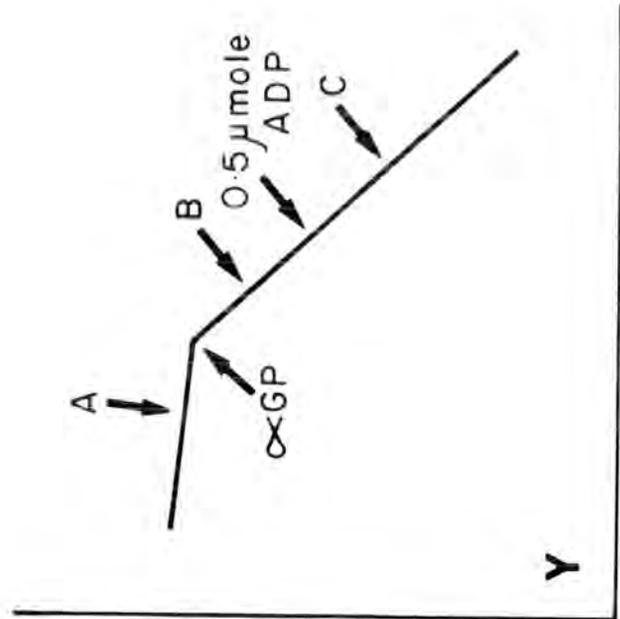
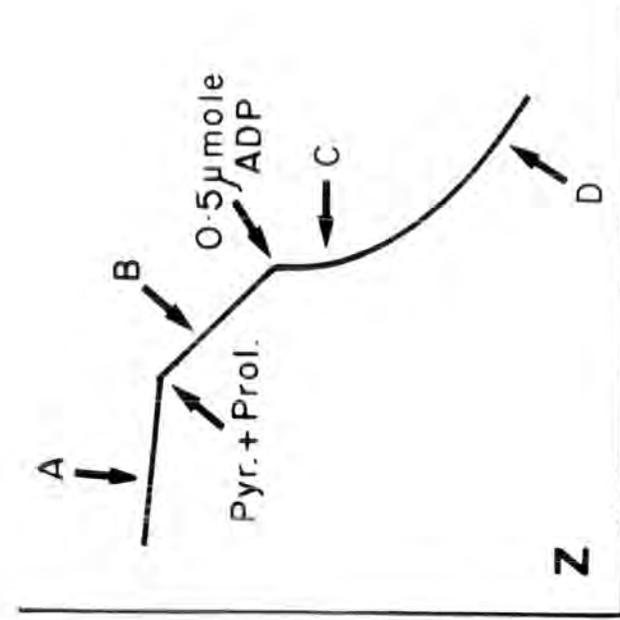
DMP-30       1.4 cm<sup>3</sup>

Fixation and embedding procedure:

- 1) Two cm<sup>3</sup> reaction medium, containing sarcosomes at the desired energy state (see Fig. 8.2), were taken rapidly out of the reaction chamber of the oxygen electrode with a 5 cm<sup>3</sup> pipette, mixed with an equal volume of the glutaraldehyde fixative A in 15 cm<sup>3</sup> polythene centrifuge tubes and allowed to stand at room temperature for 15 minutes.
- 2) The tubes were centrifuged at 3600 r.p.m (2200xg) for 10 minutes in a refrigerated 2L MSE centrifuge.
- 3) Pellets were resuspended in 2 cm<sup>3</sup> of the osmium fixative B and allowed to stand for 60 minutes on ice.
- 4) The tubes were recentrifuged at 3600 r.p.m. (2200xg) in the same centrifuge for a further 10 minutes.
- 5) Pellets were dehydrated in a series of ethanol concentrations (50% - 70% - 95% and absolute ethanol) for 10 minutes each. This was followed by 2 x 15 minutes of propylene oxide, left overnight in a 50/50 mixture of propylene oxide and epon embedding medium (see above).

Fig. 8.2

Schematic representation of an oxygen electrode trace, showing the points at which fixation of the respiring sarcosomes was achieved.



- 6) Pellets were infiltrated for 6 hours in absolute epon, then transferred to foil dishes containing absolute epon, which was polymerized at 60° for 48 hours.
  
- 7) Ultra-thin sections were cut with glass knives using either a Reichert Omv3 or LKB ultramicrotome.
  
- 8) The sections were mounted on uncoated grids, stained with uranylacetate (Mercer & Birbeck 1966), followed by lead citrate and examined with an AEI EM 801 electron microscope operated at 80 KV.
  
- 9) The entire experiment was repeated twice using control sarcosomes, and sarcosomes isolated from L.D. 50 treated 10-day old flies.

### Observations

#### A) Control unheated sarcosomes

33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was the only substrate used. Sarcosomes were removed from the reaction chamber at the points shown in Fig. 8.2 (X) B, C & D.

#### Substrate rate respiration

Fig. 8.3A shows the appearance of the sarcosomes

in "substrate rate" respiration. The vast majority of the sarcosomes appeared intact, but a few are fractured. Some sarcosomes also appear vacuolated in that the cristae do not entirely fill the intramitochondrial space.

In these, and all the other electron micrographs of sarcosomes it is difficult to determine the extent of the matrix and intracristal spaces. This is because of the very close packing of the cristal membranes in these sarcosomes. This makes the identification of the various conformational states, described by Hackenbrock (1966) and reported earlier in the Introduction, very difficult to interpret in sarcosomes.

However, no sarcosomes in what could be described as a "discharged" or "non-energized" form were seen in substrate respiration.

### State III Respiration

Sarcosomes removed from the reaction chamber in state III respiration (Fig. 8.3B) were of mixed appearance. Again very few seemed damaged or fractured in any way. However, many sarcosomes were in the "discharged" form, as described by Tribe & Ashhurst (1972), that is having a condensed matrix leading to spaces developing intracristally, see Fig. 8.3 B. Although the

Fig. 8.3

Three electron micrographs showing sarcosomes respiring at different energy states, isolated from the flight muscle of control (unheated) 10-day old adult blowflies.

Substrate : 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate  
Isolation : "Standard" method (see Chapter 2)  
Reaction : 154 mM KCl, 1 mM EGTA,  
medium 30 mM Phosphate buffer at pH 7.3  
at 24°,  
10 mM Tris/ HCl buffer at pH 7.3  
at 24°.

Fixative :1) 2% Glutaraldehyde  
2% Acrolein  
2) 2% Osmium tetroxide.

- A) Sarcosomes fixed at the point B shown in Fig. 8.2 (X), in "substrate rate" respiration. The majority are intact, some are fractured or vacuolated. No "discharged form is apparent, all seem to be "energized".
- B) Sarcosomes fixed at the point C shown in Fig. 8.2(X) in state III respiration. A mixed population of "energized" and "discharged" sarcosomes can be seen.
- C) Sarcosomes fixed at the point D shown in Fig. 8.2(X) in state IV respiration. A mixed population can be

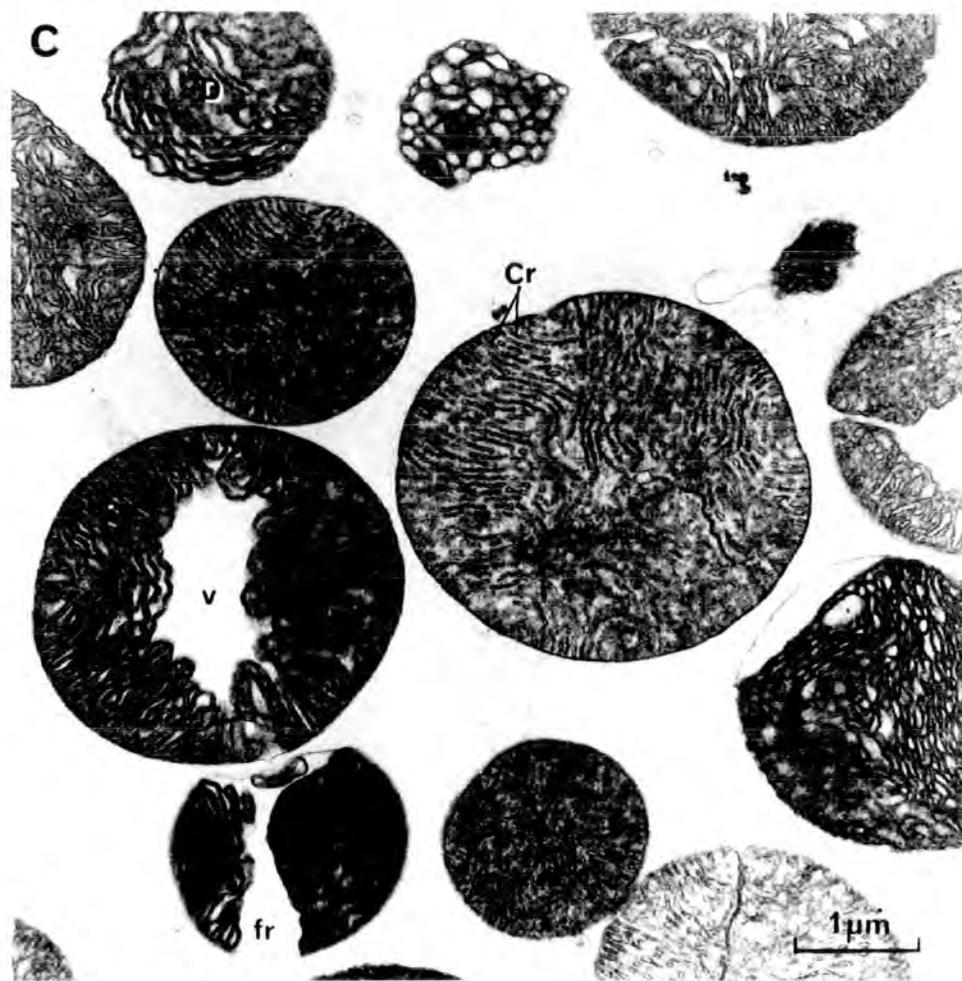
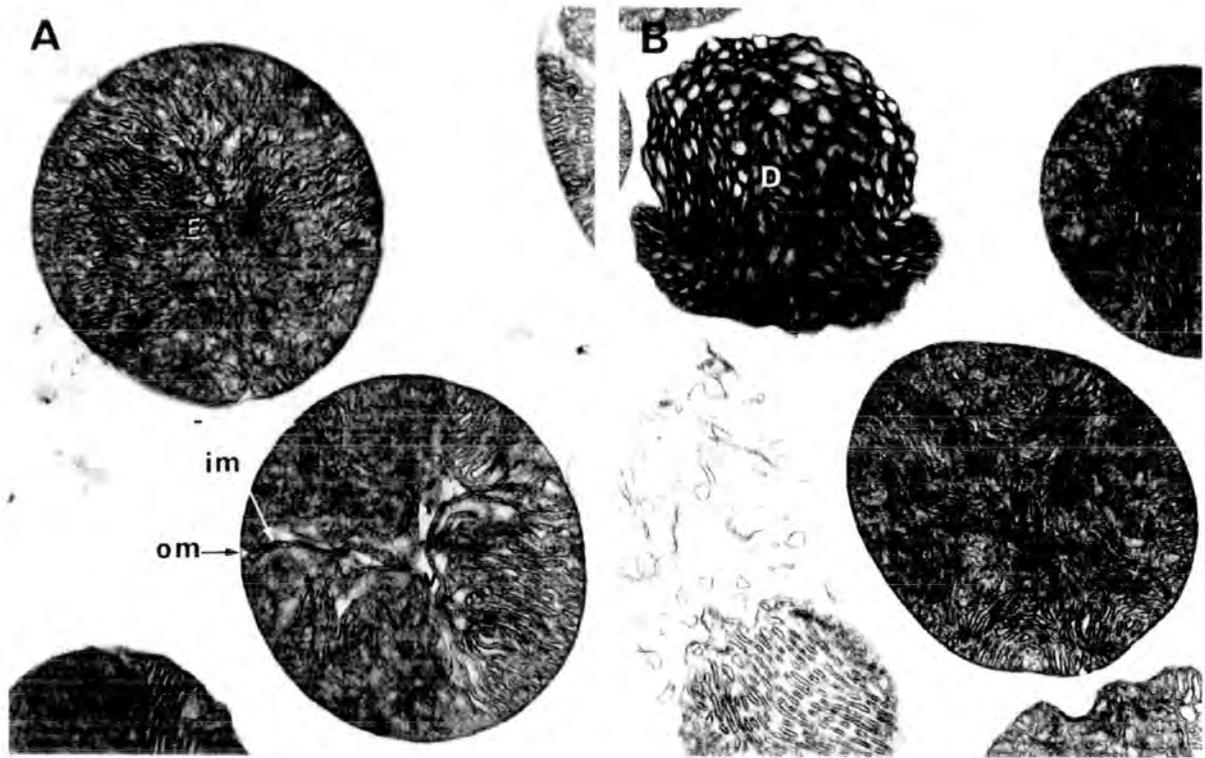


Fig. 8.3 (cont.)

seen. Most of the sarcosomes are "energized", some are "discharged". Fractured and vacuolated sarcosomes are also evident.

E = Energized

D = Discharged

fr = fractured

V = vacuolated

Om = Outer membrane

im = Inner membrane

C = Cristae

All plates are the same magnification as indicated in C.

sarcosomes showing this "discharged" form do so to greater or lesser extents. Some sarcosomes however remain in the "energized" form.

#### State IV Respiration

Fig. 8.3c shows the appearance of sarcosomes taken in state IV respiration. Once more the vast majority are intact. As can be seen, mixed populations exist with both "energized" and "discharged" forms evident. It is not possible to distinguish with certainty the appearance of the sarcosomes in states III and IV on this evidence.

#### B) Sarcosomes from flies given L.D.50 heat treatment

##### i) $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-supported respiration

The sarcosomes were taken from the reaction chamber at the points shown in Fig. 8.2 (Y) A - C.

Fig. 8.4A shows, in low magnification, the appearance of the sarcosomes immediately after addition to the reaction medium, but before the addition of substrate. As can be seen, several are ruptured, in some they are C-shaped. There is also little evidence of swelling of sarcosomes. As can be seen at higher

Fig. 8.4

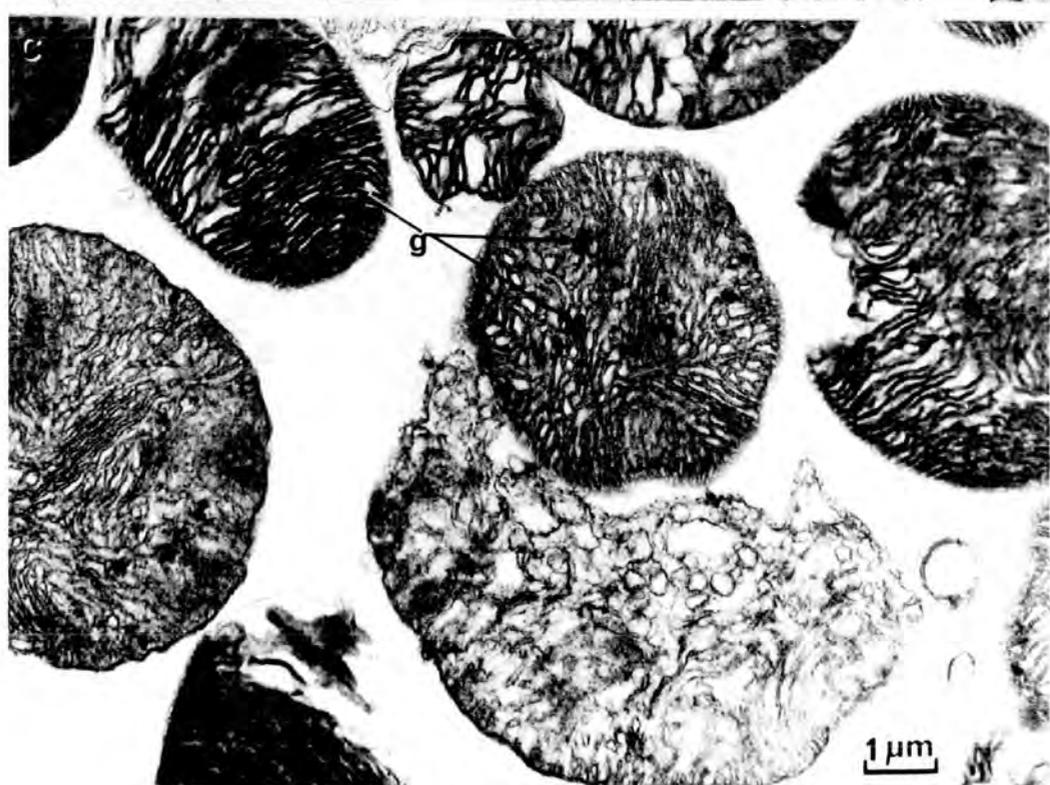
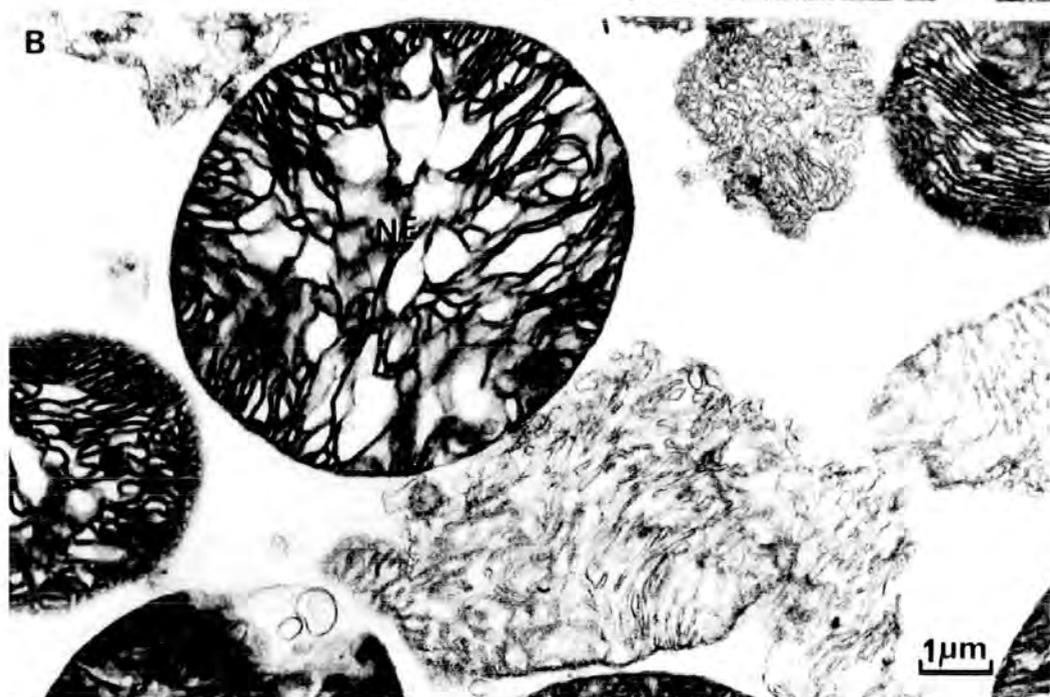
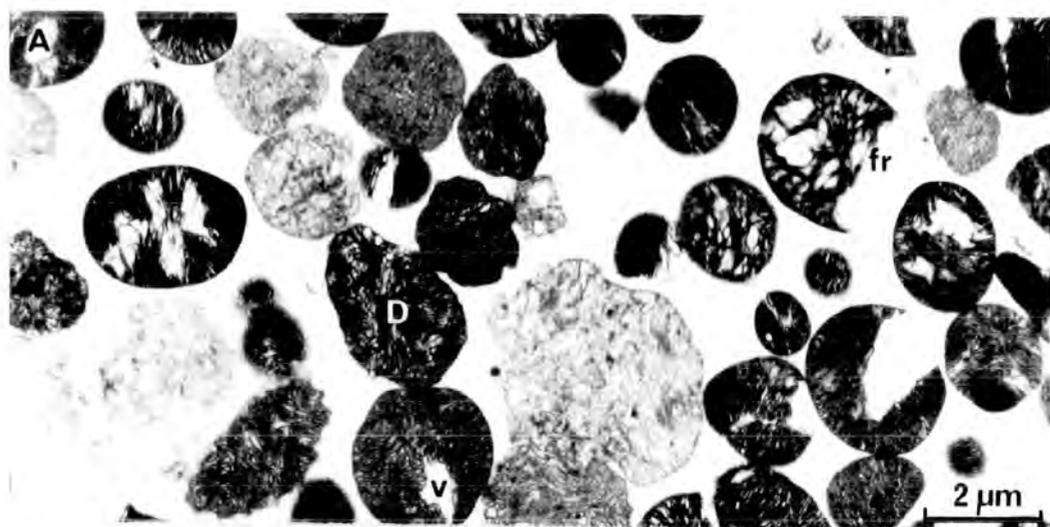
Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies given an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment. Fixation was achieved after addition of sarcosomes to the reaction medium, at the point A shown in Fig. 8.2 (Y).

For isolation, and reaction and fixation conditions see Fig. (8.3).

- A) low magnification showing intact, ruptured and C-shaped sarcosomes.
- B) higher magnification showing many sarcosomes &
- C) in the "non-energized" form. Note the dense granules formed in the sarcosomes.

NE = Non-energized.

g = granules.



magnification (Fig. 8.4 B & C) many of the sarcosomes are not in the "energized" form rather they are closer in appearance to the "non-energized" configuration described for beef heart mitochondria respiring in the presence of antimycin or rutamycin, Green et al., (1968). In some sarcosomes there are also dense granules formed, these were not evident in any control sarcosomes.

#### Substrate-rate respiration

The appearance of the sarcosomes is shown in Fig. 8.5A. Many now appear grossly swollen, some even to the point of rupture. Those sarcosomes that are not yet swollen are apparently in the "discharged" configuration. Fig. 8.5B also shows, at higher magnification, grossly swollen sarcosomes. Note that dense granules occur in both swollen and unswollen sarcosomes.

#### State III respiration

The most significant difference in the appearance of the micrographs of the pellets of sarcosomes, after the addition of ADP, is the high background of sarcosomal fragments, see Fig. 8.6A. Grossly swollen sarcosomes are evident, and the normal sarcosomes appear to be in the "discharged" configuration.

Fig. 8.6B shows at higher magnification a sarcosome in the final stages of swelling, as well as many cristal

Fig. 8.5

Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies, given an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment.

Fixation was achieved in presence of 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, at the point B shown in Fig. 8.2 (Y).

For isolation, reaction and fixation conditions see Fig. (8.3)

A) Low magnification, showing intact, swollen and ruptured sarcosomes. Many of the intact sarcosomes are apparently in the "discharged" form. Dense granules are also evident.

B) Higher magnification showing grossly swollen sarcosomes.

S = swollen.

sf = sarcosomal fragments.

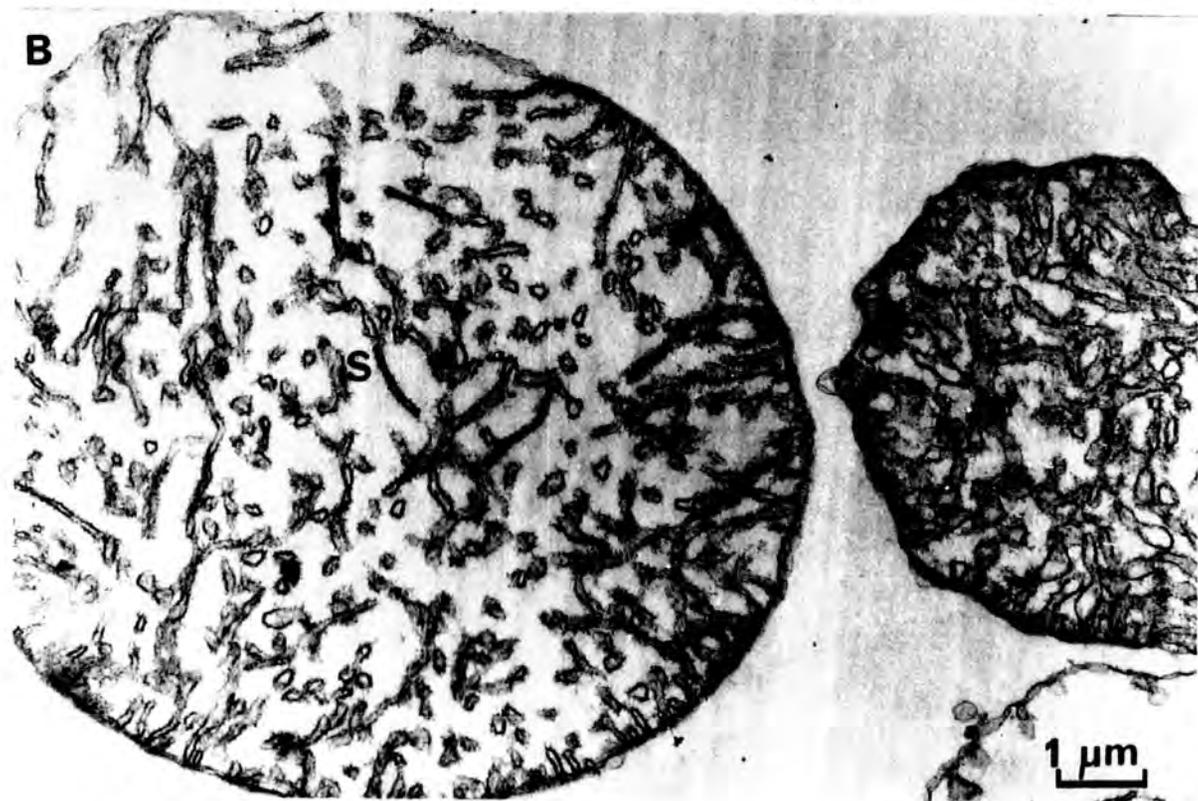
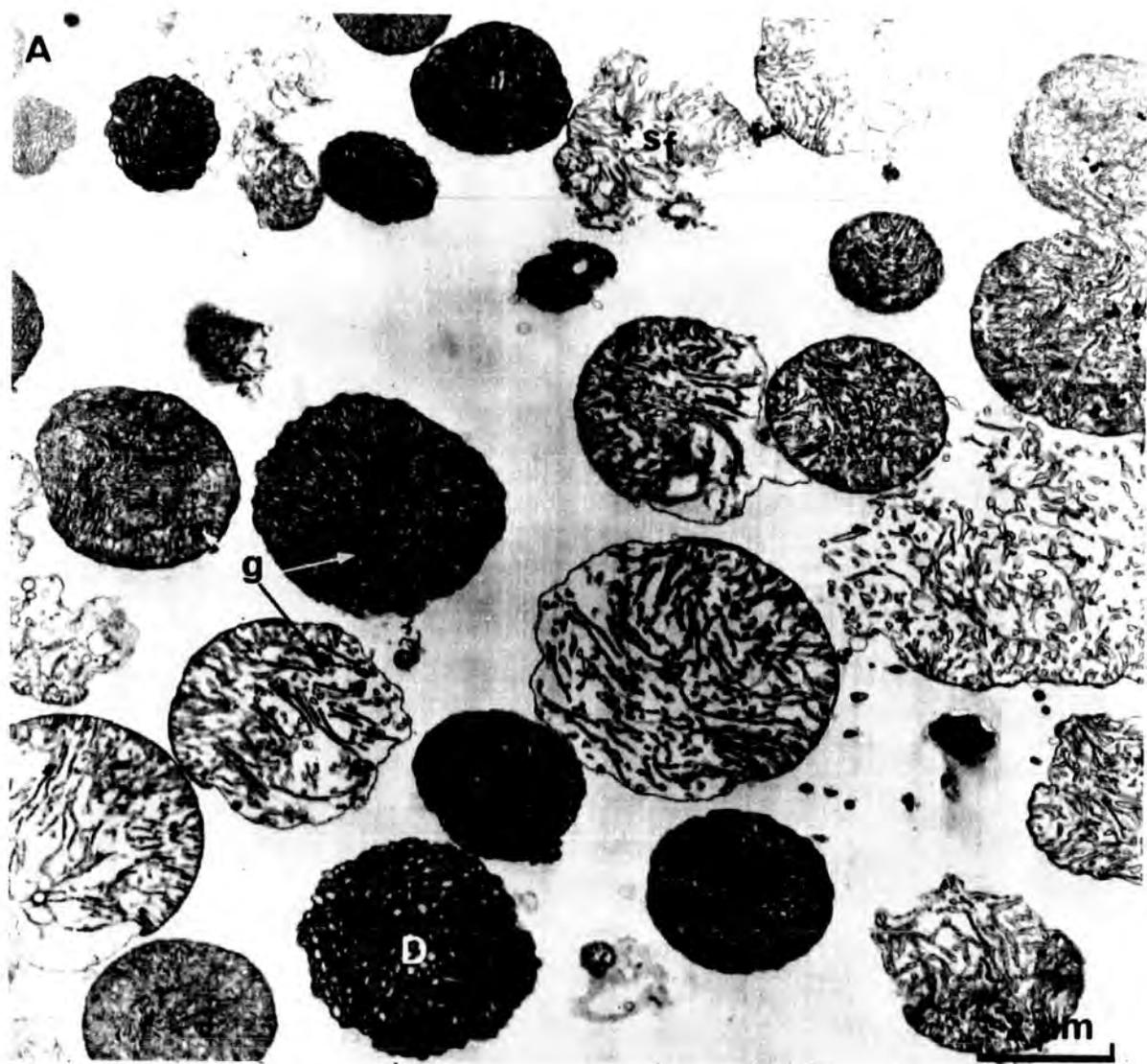


Fig. 8.6

Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies, given an L.D<sub>50</sub> heat treatment.

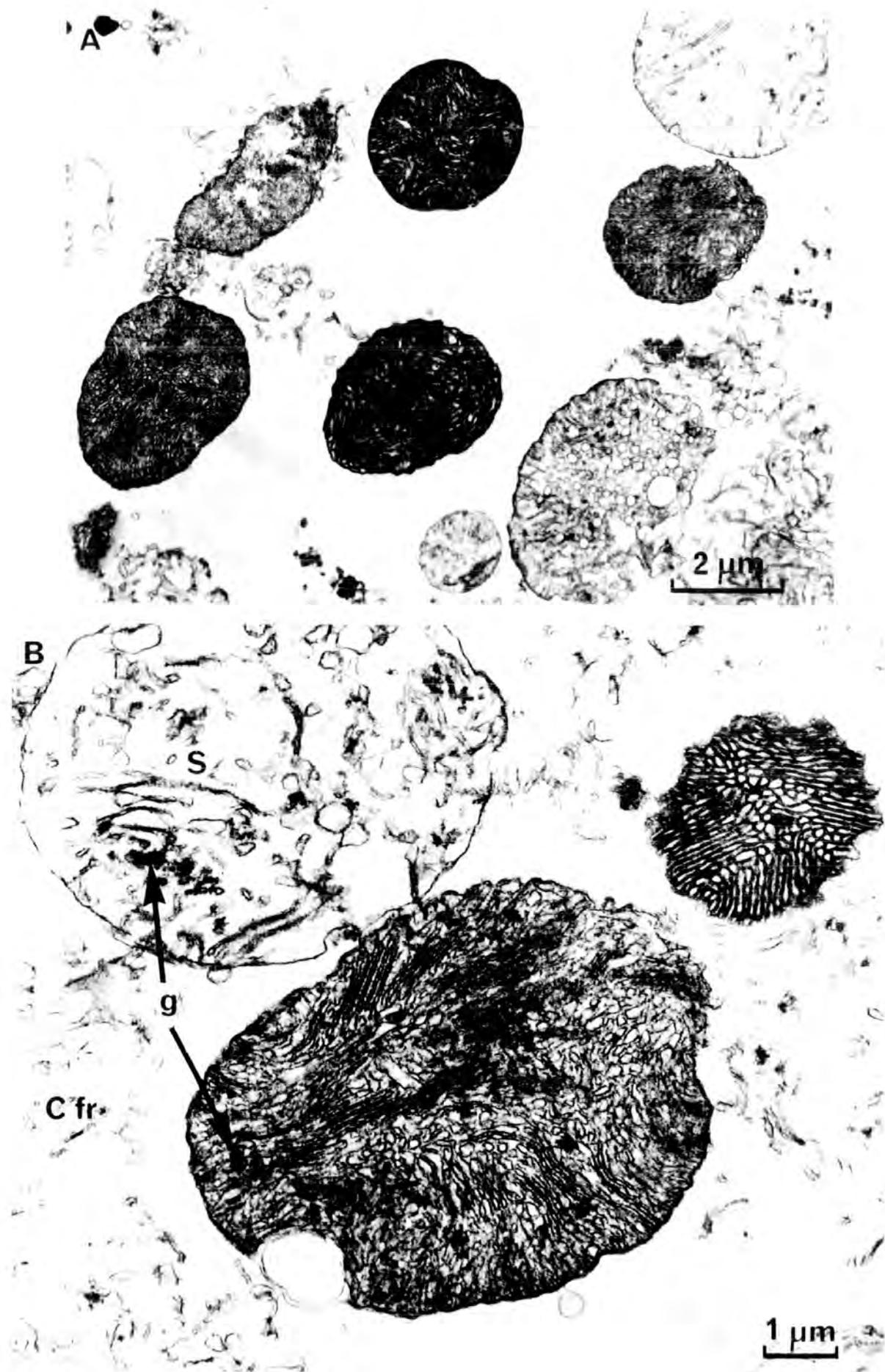
Fixation was achieved in presence of 33 mM  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and 1  $\mu$ mole ADP, at the point C shown in Fig. 8.2 (Y).

For isolation, reaction and fixation conditions, see Fig. (8.3).

A) Low magnification showing "discharged", swollen and fragmented sarcosomes.

B) Higher magnification, showing many cristal fragments, grossly swollen sarcosomes and intact sarcosomes apparently displaying the "discharged" form. The dense granules are also evident.

C. fr = Cristal fragments.



fragments from broken sarcosome. Note also the normal sarcosomes, again which seem to display the "discharged" configuration. Swollen, unswollen and cristal fragments all possess dense granular accretions.

Note that as respiratory control is lost in sarcosomes from heated flies, when respiring on  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, no attempt has been made to determine the appearance of the pellets from sarcosomes in state IV respiration.

ii) Pyruvate + proline-dependent respiration

The sarcosomes were removed from the reaction chamber at the points shown in Fig. (Z) A-D.

Substrate rate respiration

Fig. 8.7A shows the appearance of the sarcosomal pellet taken from the reaction chamber when respiring pyruvate + proline. There is a mixed population. A proportion show signs of swelling, but many others are normal, of the latter group, sarcosomes displaying the "discharged" and the energized configuration can be seen. Note also the incidence of dense granules in the cristae. Fig. (8.7 B & C) show in detail both swollen and normal sarcosomes from the same pellets.

Fig. 8.7

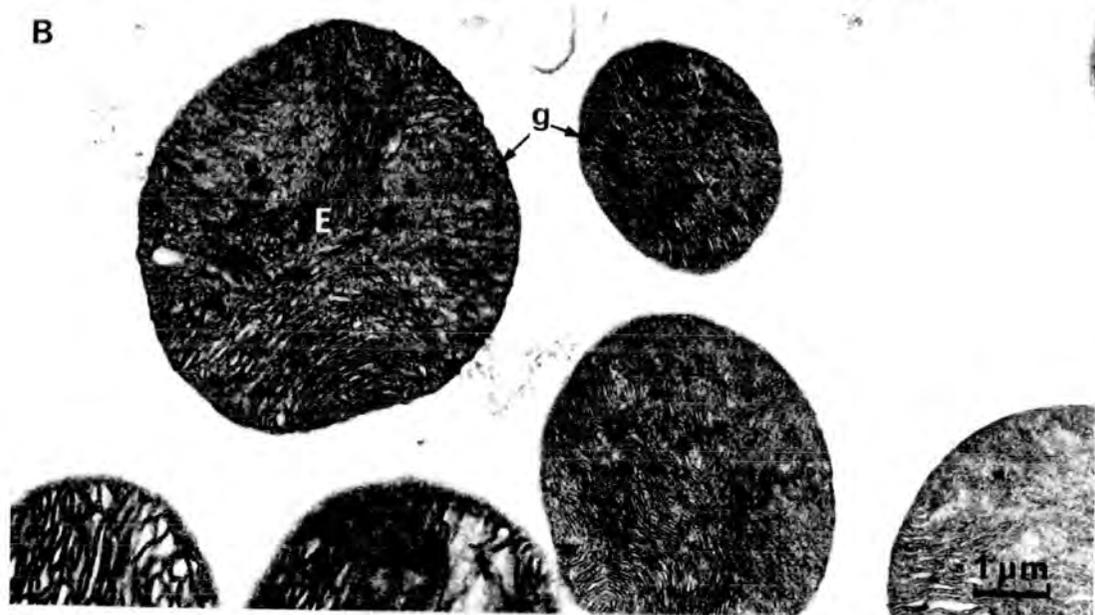
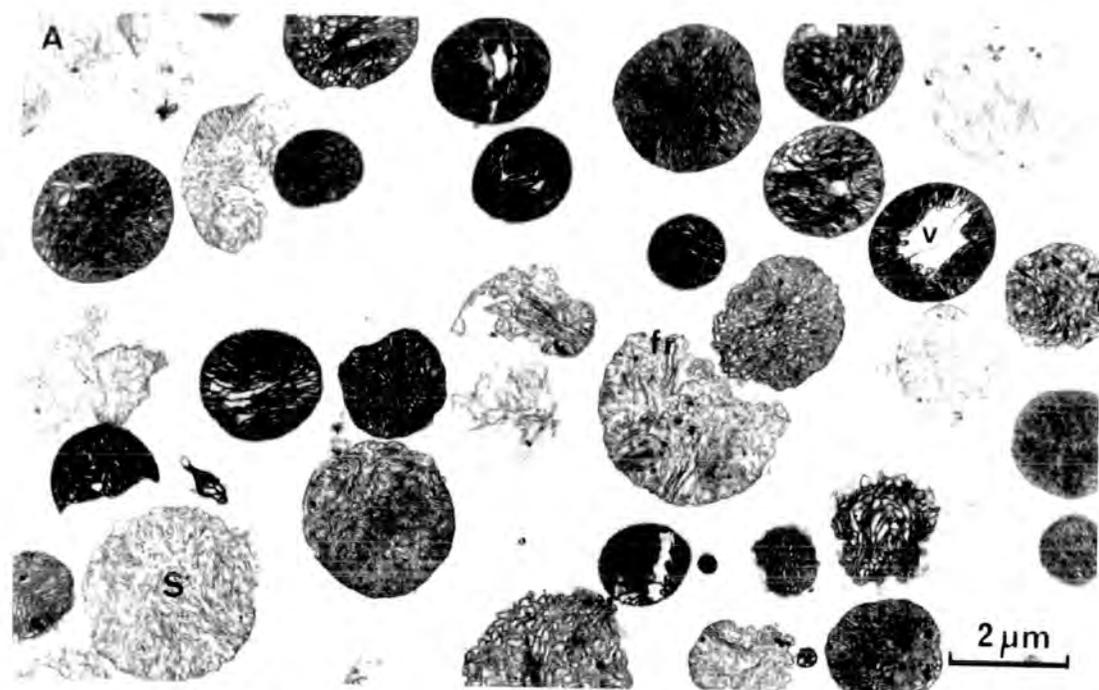
Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies, given an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment.

Fixation was achieved in presence of 2.5 mM pyruvate plus 2.5 mM proline, at point B shown in Fig. 8.2 (Z).

For isolation, reaction and fixation conditions see Fig. (8.3).

- A) Low magnification showing a proportion of the sarcosomes with signs of swelling, the others are normal and appear to be displaying the "discharged" and "energized" forms.
- B) Higher magnification of the same pellet &
- C) described above.

The dense granules are also observable.



### State III respiration

Again the general appearance of the electron micrograph seen at low magnification, is of a mixed population of sarcosomes, see Fig. 8.8A. There is perhaps more cristal debris than is evident in Fig. 8.7 but there does not seem to be a greater proportion of sarcosomes that are swollen.

The normal looking sarcosomes almost all seem to be in the "discharged" configuration. Dense granular accretions are again in evidence, see Figs. 8.8 B & C.

### State IV respiration

Fig. 8.9A shows at low power the appearance of the sarcosomes in state IV respiration. More sarcosomes appear to be at an advanced state of swelling, and this probably accounts for the large amount of sarcosomal debris in the background. Sarcosomes in both "energized" and "discharged" forms are present, however, higher magnification views can be seen in Figs. 8.9 B & C.

### Discussion:

Although some configurational changes have been observed in the present study, they are in no way identical with those reported for mouse liver (Hackenbrock, 1966) or

Fig. 8.8

Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies, given an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment.

Fixation was achieved in presence of 2.5 mM pyruvate plus 2.5 mM proline, and 1 uMole ADP, at the point C shown in Fig. 8.2 (Z).

For isolation, reaction and fixation conditions see Fig. (8.3).

A) Low magnification showing a mixed population of sarcosomes. The majority are intact, few are swollen or fragmented.

B) Higher magnification showing almost all the &

C) sarcosomes seen to be in the "discharged" form.

Dense granular accretions are in evidence.

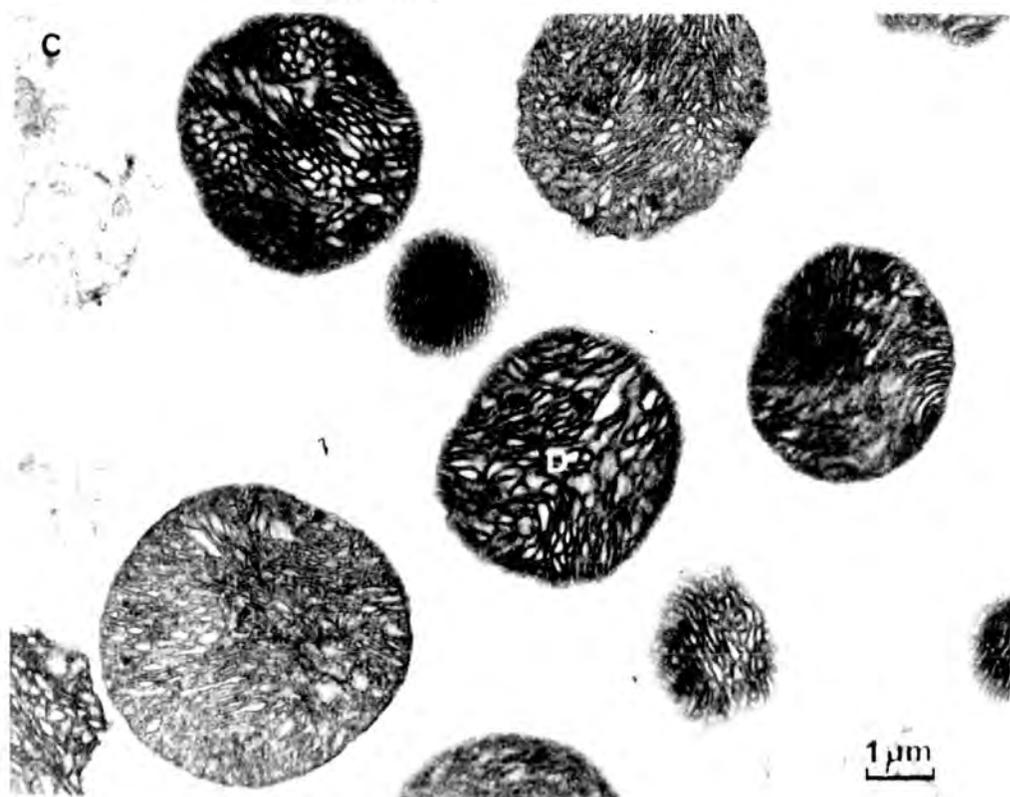
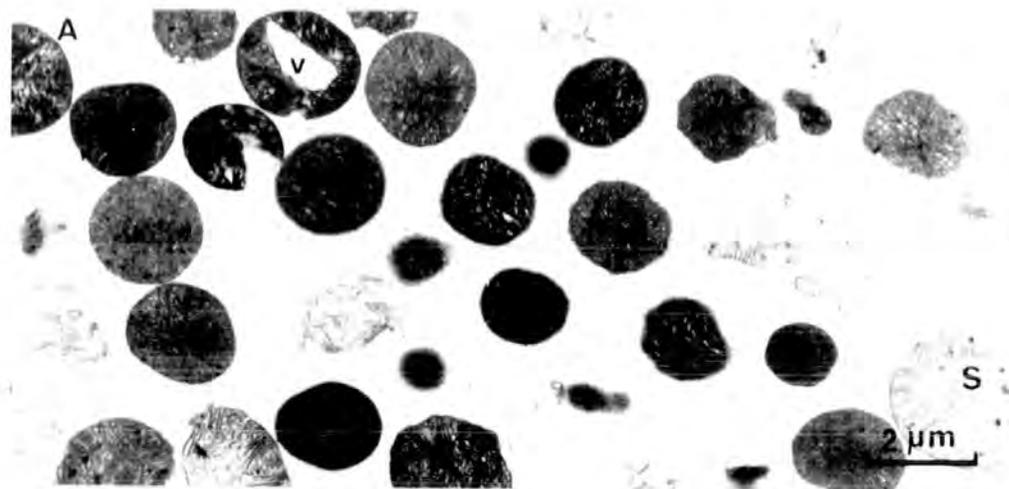


Fig. 8.9

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Electron micrographs showing sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies, given an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment.

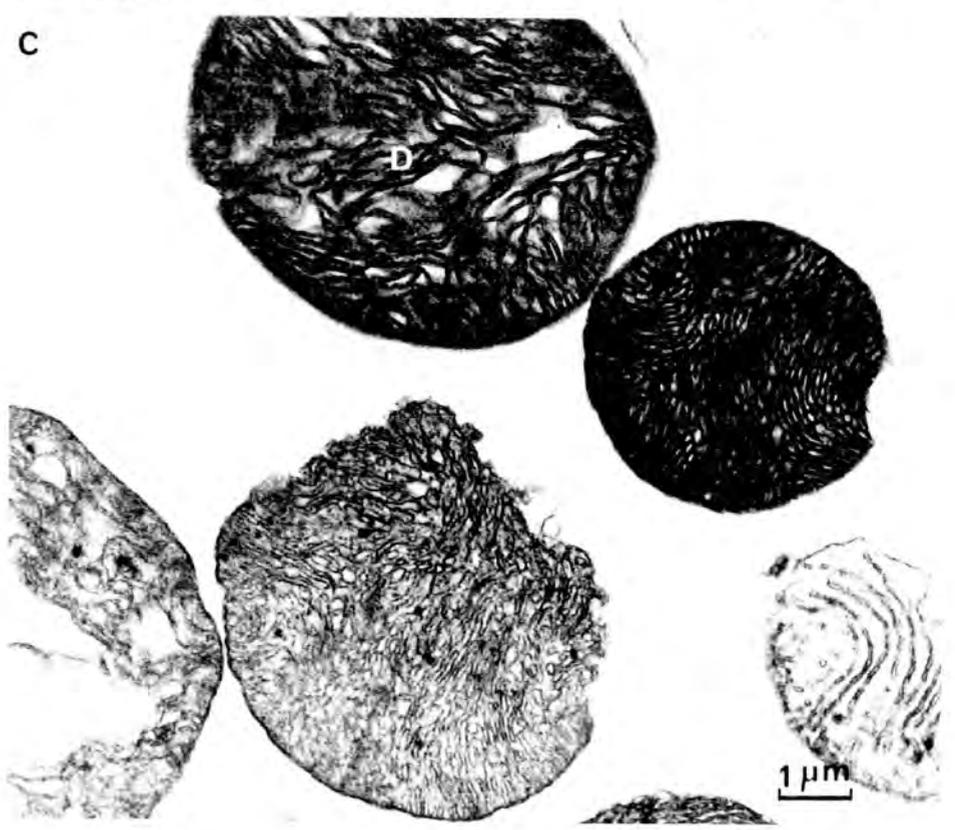
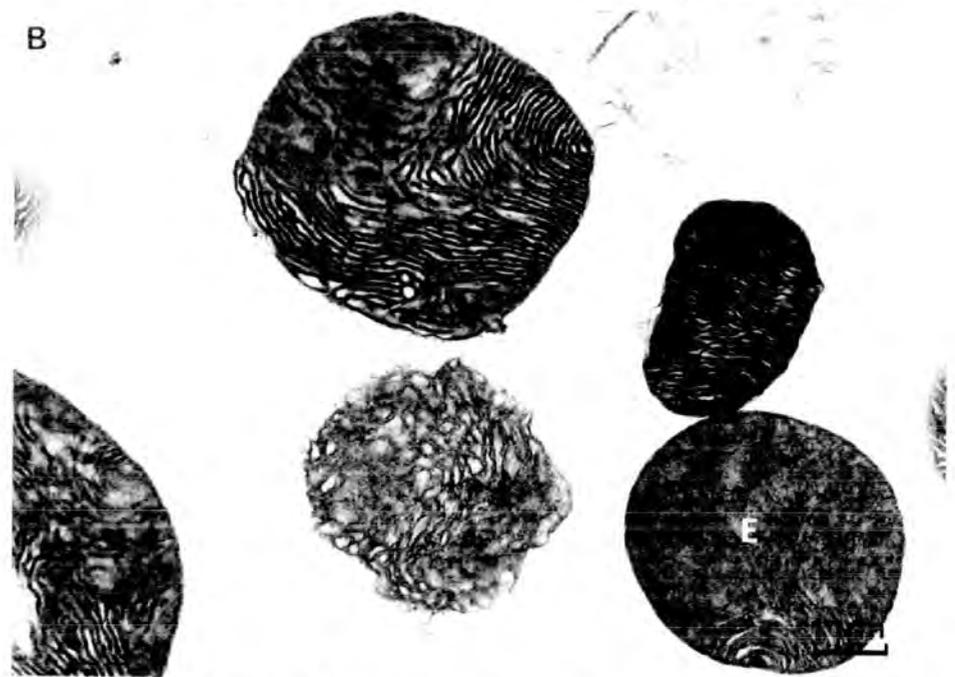
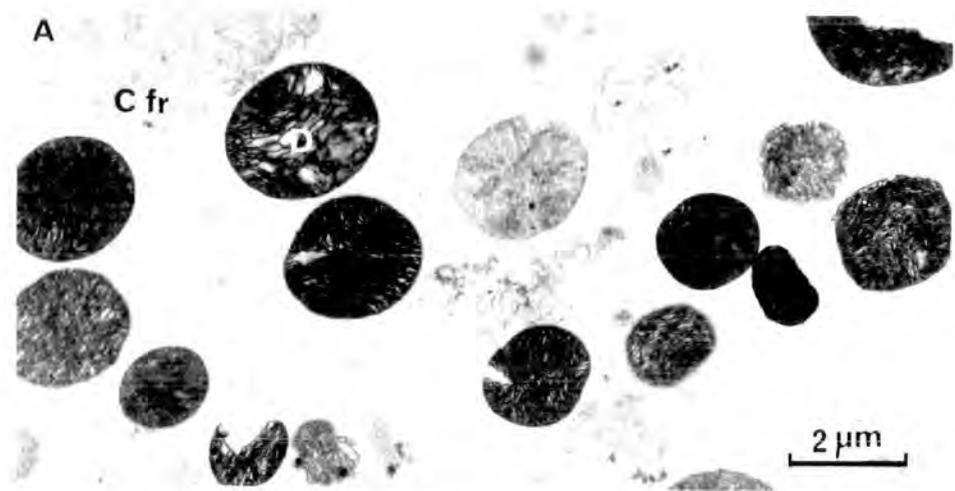
Fixation was achieved in presence of 2.5 mM pyruvate plus 2.5 mM proline, and 1  $\mu$  mole ADP (state IV), at the point D shown in Fig. 8.2 (Z).

For isolation, reaction and fixation conditions see Fig. (8.3).

A) Low magnification showing sarcosomal debris in the background, some sarcosomes are at an advanced state of swelling. The majority of the sarcosomes are intact and seen to display both "energized" and "discharged" forms.

B) Higher magnification of the sarcosomes described above.

Dense granules can also be seen.



beef heart mitochondria (Green et al., 1968). There are major differences in many respects; for example a highly condensed form of mouse liver mitochondrial inner components and an expanded outer compartment are not clearly recognizable in insect sarcosomes. The characteristic features of the cristae of beef heart mitochondria displayed in the energized-twisted configuration were not as diagnostically observed in the present study. The interpretation of these differences may be based on the dis-similarity between mammalian and insect mitochondrial structure. In the latter case sarcosomes manifest an extreme close-packing of cristae, *Calliphora* (present study; Smith, 1963; Davison 1971b), (for a variety of insects see Smith, 1961a, 1961b, 1962), which may be up to 30 cristae per micron. For this reason it is often difficult to identify the matrix from the intracristal spaces. Green & Hatefi, (1961) concluded that the greater the number of cristae per unit area, the greater the oxidative function of the mitochondria. Furthermore, they attributed the relatively low density of cristae contained in liver mitochondria not only to their low rate of activity, but also to their involvement in auxiliary functions other than the primary mitochondrial function.

Isolated blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes with more or less similar morphology to those described above have been previously reported (Tribe & Ashhurst, 1972).

The criticisms of Butler & Judah (1970) must be mentioned. They have questioned such functionally induced morphological changes in isolated mitochondria and presented evidence after detailed investigations that these changes might be artifacts. Their argument was based on the observations that various fixatives produce various morphological patterns; the same effect was seen to be brought about when various osmoeffectors were used. Furthermore, the depth of sectioning was also recorded to be a significant factor; although this has, already, been admitted by Hackenbrock, (1966), who pointed out that such a risk has been avoided by using quick-sampling and micropellet procedures. Bronk & Jasper, (1970) have also questioned that mitochondrial condensation is obligatory for oxidative phosphorylation.

Sjöstrand's view was also cautious in this context. On several occasions, he and his co-workers pointed out that conventionally used fixatives and dehydrants are responsible for modifications observed in the structure of mitochondrial membranes by protein

denaturation (Sjöstrand & Barajas, 1968; Sjöstrand & Kretzer, 1975). Furthermore, Sjöstrand & Bernhard, (1976) have shown that there is a correlation between the appearance of intracrystal space and protein denaturation; that is when no such space was observed in preparations where care was taken to reduce the risks for denaturation of mitochondrial membrane proteins. It was obvious from their results that osmium tetroxide can produce artifactual intracrystal spaces.

Most recently, Sjöstrand (1977) questioned measurements of mitochondrial membrane thickness in that, alterations might have taken place caused by nonreversible plastic flow of the embedding material and the membrane material during sectioning.

Muscatello, Guarriera-Bobyleva & Buffa, (1972), carried out detailed investigations on configurational changes caused by changes in respiratory states in unfixed, negatively stained rat liver mitochondria. They were able to demonstrate many relevant features of configurational changes, which were in accord with observations made on similar material using different techniques reported by other workers; for example, Hackenbrock, (1966), Harris, Penniston, Asai & Green, (1968), Packer & Tappel, (1960) and Penniston et al., (1968).

However, some discrepancies have been recorded as to the length of the time elapsing during transition from one respiratory state to the other. Moreover, statistically significant variations were found in the extent of metabolically linked structural changes when different substrates were used. In their conclusion Muscatello et al., (1972) did not support the hypothesis proposed by Hackenbrock (1966) and Green & Harris, (1969), that reversible changes in configuration may form a basis for the mechanism of energy transformations in mitochondria and that a high-energy form of the electron transport membrane may serve to produce ATP-synthesis.

In the present study, the reaction medium that incubated sarcosomes to be processed for electron microscopical studies did not include  $Mg^{2+}$ . That was done to avoid the possibility of a  $Mg^{2+}$  induced discharge of a probable energized-twisted configuration, and to ensure a low state IV pyruvate-supported respiration.  $Ca^{2+}$  has been shown to discharge energized-twisted configuration in beef heart mitochondria (Green et al., 1968).

The contradictory state of the literature on the interpretation of such data, and particularly on the

relationship between the structural appearance and functional state of isolated sarcosomes, makes this present work difficult to interpret. The problem is exacerbated by the dissimilarity in appearance of blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes and those used by Hackenbrock, (1966) and Green et al., (1968) to describe the different energized states of mitochondria.

As has been pointed out in the Results section, no clear structural changes were seen in sarcosomes in states III and IV, as might be predicted from the work of Green et al., (1968). It is clear, however, that in 'substrate rate' respiration, prior to the addition of ADP, there was no visual evidence for sarcosomes in the "discharged" form. This was not true of sarcosomes in state III respiration where sarcosomes of various forms could be identified. It was particularly evident that relative changes had occurred involving the matrix and intracrystal spaces. It was not possible to distinguish between sarcosomes in state III and IV respiration, the same type of mixed populations existed.

What is very clear however is that sarcosomes from flies receiving an L.D.<sub>50</sub> treatment display a different appearance from those from control flies. Sarcosomes taken after suspension in the reaction medium,

but before substrate addition, appear to be in the "non-energized" configuration as described by Green et al., (1968) for beef heart mitochondria in the presence of inhibitors such as antimycin.

Also in contrast to sarcosomes from control flies, obvious signs of swelling can be seen in some sarcosomes. This swelling seems to be either progressive with time, or is induced by the addition of substrate to the reaction medium. This is because many sarcosomes from heated flies, taken when respiring  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate, show gross swelling, some are even at the point of rupture. The swelling clearly continues after the addition of ADP and from the high levels of sarcosomal fragments, seen in the background, many sarcosomes have clearly burst by this time.

The only "normal" looking sarcosomes present, seem to be in the "discharged" form. This is in marked contrast to control sarcosomes in state III respiration where both the "discharged" and "energized" forms exist in the same pellet, see Fig. 8.3.

Thus quite marked differences exist between the control and experimental sarcosomes, the latter from heat-treated flies, are characterized by the high degree of swelling and rupture, and the apparent absence of the

energized state. One further point, also noted by Davison (1971b) using sarcosomes in situ, is the appearance of many dense granules associated with cristal membrane in the experimental sarcosomes.

As has been shown in Chapter (3), respiratory control in sarcosomes from L.D.<sub>50</sub> heated flies cannot be demonstrated when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as the substrate, but is present when pyruvate and proline are being respired. This point makes it necessary to determine whether the same morphological effect can be seen in sarcosomes, from L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated animals, respiring pyruvate and proline, as has just been discussed for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration.

From comparisons of the appearance of sarcosomes in Figs. 8.7 - 8.9 with the corresponding figures obtained during  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dependent respiration, the following observations can be made.

First swelling occurs in a proportion of sarcosomes, and in state III and IV respiration, the obvious quantities of sarcosomal debris, reflect the breaking up of swollen sarcosomes. However the swelling process does not seem to procede as rapidly in pyruvate and proline respiration, or not to such a great extent.

The 'normal' unswollen sarcosomes in 'substrate

rate" respiration are in a mixed population, with both 'energized' and 'discharged' configurations being displayed. This is again in contrast to the appearance in substrate rate respiration by  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate where all appear to be in the discharged form. After the addition of ADP (state III respiration) all sarcosomes appear to take up the "discharged" configuration, whereas in state IV respiration mixed populations are seen again. Thus, it does seem that even in sarcosomes from L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated flies, if pyruvate and proline are the substrates, then the sarcosomes can display conformational changes. This is in marked contrast to the situation in the same sarcosomes respiring  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate.

A point of similarity throughout is the appearance of the dense granules in sarcosomes from heated flies. These seem to be accretions on cristal membranes, and even can be seen in the fragments of ruptured sarcosomes.

Similar work, investigating ultrastructural changes in heat damaged sarcosomes, but in situ has been carried out by Davison, (1971b), who predicted that his observations may be quite different to those in heat damaged isolated sarcosomes. His prediction was

based on a report set forth by Weinbach, Garbus & Sheffield, (1967) that the injection of pentachlorophenol into rats caused no morphological changes in their liver mitochondria in situ, but when isolated they displayed distorted morphology and reduced respiratory performance. Such changes were identical to those observed when the drug was applied in vitro. However, a comparison between in situ and in vitro studies of sarcosomes of heat treated blowflies may reveal some information about the nature of the damage. Most obvious is the susceptibility of the sarcosomes to isolation, although this might not be the primary lesion in the failure of oxidative phosphorylation, since submitochondrial fractions are capable of carrying out this function. (Lehninger, 1975).

As has been emphasized, swelling is a dominant feature of sarcosomes from heated flies. A series of articles concerned with the mechanism of swelling in beef heart mitochondria has been published by Green's laboratory. Green and his co-workers concluded that there are two types of swelling (Asai, Blondin, Vail & Green, 1969); (i) an energized swelling, which takes place by electron transfer or ATP-hydrolysis, and (ii) a pseudoenergized swelling, which takes place not under energized conditions, but in the presence of appropriate

salts. In this context, it is noteworthy that pseudo-energized swelling manifested configurational changes in beef heart mitochondrial inner membrane, similar to those observed at different energy states. This raises questions as to whether the salts directly induce that effect or do they effectively energize the membrane? It was found that the entire swelling process is a concerted phenomenon (Blondin, Vail & Green, 1969; Blondin & Green, 1969).

In this regard, the work carried out in Lehninger's laboratory is of great interest. A series of articles has been published investigating the swelling process in isolated rat liver mitochondria (Lehninger & Schneider, 1959; Lehninger, Ray & Schneider, 1959; Lehninger & Gotterer, 1960; Lehninger, 1962a; Neubert & Lehninger, 1962). It was found that certain physiologically occurring substances (e.g. inorganic phosphate, thyroxine) drive such mitochondria to undergo swelling. Such swelling can be reversed by ATP in the presence of  $Mg^{2+}$  and BSA (Lehninger, 1959). However, ATP failed to reverse mitochondrial swelling induced by glutathione if the mitochondria employed are present in relatively dilute suspensions. This observation led Lehninger and his co-workers to the finding that glutathione causes leakage into the medium and dilution of a critical factor, which was designated as "contraction factor", whose presence

at a certain effective concentration is required in extrusion of water from mitochondria. Interestingly enough this factor was found to be heat-labile. The subject has been reviewed by Lehninger (see Lehninger, 1962 b).

However, these observations would not have been possible to make on sarcosomes fixed in situ. Nevertheless, there is one major common feature of heat effect, that is the existence of electron dense granules. Davison (1971 b) suggested two alternative answers to the nature of these granules, i) they were a precipitation of inorganic ions, and ii) they may be parts of the inner mitochondrial membrane which have become rolled in ball-shaped masses.

Ashhurst, (1967), observing similar dense deposits on electron micrographs of osmium fixed flight muscle sarcosomes of giant water-bugs in situ, suggested that their preferential occurrence over the matrix may be indicative of some substance in discrete areas readily stainable with lead. In the blowfly, however, such phenomenon was not clearly observable in untreated sarcosomes, and the occurrence of such substance in experimental sarcosomes suggests that there are certain thermally induced alterations in the

stainability of some mitochondrial components. This may present a basis for further investigations. Furthermore, the fact that such opaque granules were not observable when L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated sarcosomes fixed, stained and sectioned in situ (Davison 1970) suggests that isolation of sarcosomes, following L.D.<sub>50</sub> treatment given to the intact animal, might enhance precipitation of such deposits. Alternatively, the swelling that isolated, heat treated sarcosomes undergo makes these granules more easily observable. In spite of all the uncertainties over interpretation of such work, morphological differences exist between control and heat-treated sarcosomes. Most interesting is the different appearance of heat-treated sarcosomes respiring  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate, for this correlates closely with other biochemical differences reported in Chapter 3.

CHAPTER NINE

TEMPERATURE STRESS AND BRAIN  
NEUROSECRETORY CELLS IN THE  
BLOWFLY CALLIPHORA VICINA

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Introduction

It is long understood that hormones play an important integrative role in many aspects of organism function, this is true not only in vertebrates but also in invertebrates. The literature on arthropods is particularly well documented.

What is less well appreciated is the cellular action of many hormones, and whilst the cyclic AMP mediated action of many mammalian hormones has been recently demonstrated, the site of action of insect hormones, for example, remains to be demonstrated conclusively.

Hormones have also been shown to have metabolic effects in insects. Clarke and his co-workers claim that brain neurosecretions stimulate protein synthesis, Clarke & Langley (1963), Clarke & Gillott(1967).

Novak (1966) has suggested brain neurosecretions are the source of "activation" hormone, a hormone with a variety of direct and indirect effects on insect metabolism. Thomsen, (1952) describes various roles for this hormone, including its involvement as a

trophic factor in corpora allata function, in Calliphora erythrocephala. Thomsen & Möller (1952) also believe it stimulates intestinal proteinase activity in the blowfly.

Both diuretic and antidiuretic hormones have also been claimed exist in a variety of insects. The most convincing demonstration is of course in Rhodnius by Maddrell (1966), but Highnam, Hill & Gingell (1965) made claims that such hormones exist in Schistocerca.

The 'stress' response in mammals, results in a release of pituitary gland adrenocorticotrophic hormone which activates the adrenal cortex to release glucocorticoid hormones. The existence of an analogous stress response has not been demonstrated in insects, but it is well documented that quite dramatic changes in the neurosecretory material in some brain cells take place, and temperature change is one factor that can apparently induce these changes, Clarke (1966); Peacock, Anstee & Bowler (1976); Ivanovic, Jankovic-Hiadni & Milanovic (1975).

The early work of Thomsen (1949) showing that respiration in the blowfly (Calliphora erythrocephala) is impaired following allatectomy, points towards insect

hormone(s) having an analogous effect on mitochondria as has been shown for thyroid hormones in mammals (Hulbert, Augee & Raison, 1976; Tata, Ernster, Lindberg, Arrhenius, Pederson & Hedman, 1963; Bronk, 1966; Lee & Lardy, 1965).

Indeed Keeley, (1970) working on Blaberus discoidalis fat body mitochondria, and Slama, (1964) working on Pyrrhocoris apterus, both report that cardiatectomized-allatectomized insects have mitochondria with lower respiratory performance as compared to controls. Thus evidence is accumulating for endocrine control of mitochondrial respiration, see also Clarke & Baldin, (1960) and Ralph & Matta, (1965). The subject has been recently reviewed by Steele, (1976).

Taking these various points into account, together with the heat-induced injury to sarcosomes, it seemed necessary to determine whether the heat damage was secondarily caused via heat-induced alterations in neurosecretions in the insect.

Consequently the histological appearance of the brain neurosecretory cells was studied in control and heat-treated flies.

Materials and Methods:

Control and heat-treated 10-day old adult male flies were fixed in Bouin's fluid after removing abdomens, wings and legs. Embedding was carried out in paraffin wax. Serial horizontal sections (8  $\mu$ m) were cut through head and thorax using a Cambridge Rocking Microtome, then mounted on glass slides, to which they were attached with egg albumen.

For staining the neuroendocrine system the aldehyde fuchsin technique, described by Ewen (1962), was employed. Aldehyde fuchsin was supplied by High Wycombe, Bucks., England. A stock solution of 0.75 g of aldehyde fuchsin in 100 cm<sup>3</sup> of 70 per cent ethanol was made up.

Staining procedure:

1) Paraffin wax was removed from the sections with xylene and the sections were then hydrated via graded dilutions of ethanol.

2) The sections were oxidized for one minute in acid permanganate, which was made up as follows:

1 volume 2.5%  $\text{KMnO}_4$   
1 volume 5%  $\text{H}_2\text{SO}_4$   
6 volumes Dist. water

3) The sections were rinsed in distilled water.

4) Decolorization was performed in 2.5% sodium bisulphite.

5) The sections were passed through rinses of distilled water, 30% and 70% ethanol to aldehyde fuchsin and stained for two minutes.

6) The sections were washed in 95 per cent ethanol and differentiated for half a minute in acid-alcohol

Absolute alcohol 100 cm<sup>3</sup>  
Concentrated HCl 0.5 cm<sup>3</sup>

7) Rinses of 70 per cent and 30 per cent ethanol and distilled water were carried out.

8) The following composition of phosphotungstic-phosphomolybdic acid was used to mordant the sections for 10 minutes:

Phosphotungstic acid 4.0 g  
Phosphomolybdic acid 1.0 g  
Distilled water 100 cm<sup>3</sup>

9) After rinsing in distilled water, the sections

were counterstained for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours in the following dye:

Distilled water	100 cm <sup>3</sup>
Light green SF yellowish	0.4 g
Orange G	1.0 g
Chromotrope 2R	0.5 g
Glacial acetic acid	1.0 cm <sup>3</sup>

10) The slides were then well rinsed in 0.2% acetic acid in 95% ethanol, dehydrated rapidly through absolute ethanol, cleared in xylol and finally mounted in canada balsam.

The heat treatments given to the animals were either L.D.<sub>0</sub> or L.D.<sub>50</sub> (see Chapter 2). Flies allowed to recover, were fed on water and sugar ad libidum, and recovery temperature was maintained at  $24^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.5$ . Housing the flies for recovery was as described in Chapter 4.

Observations:

Figure (9.1A) shows a representative example of the 4 flies fixed and sectioned as untreated controls. Figure (9.1B) represents an example of the 3 flies subjected to L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatments prior to fixation and sectioning. An example of the 2 flies subjected to an L.D.<sub>0</sub> heat treatment is shown in Fig. (9.1C).

Fig. 9.1

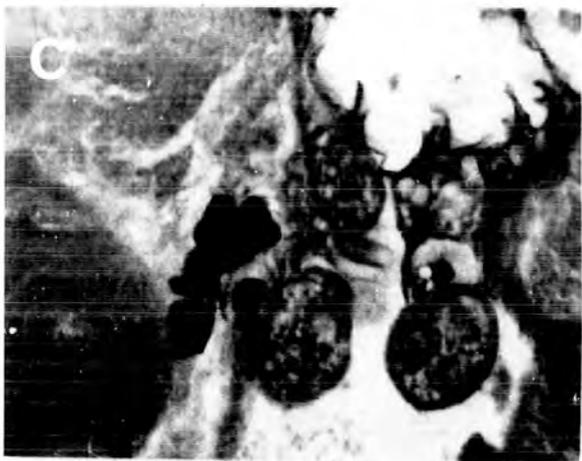
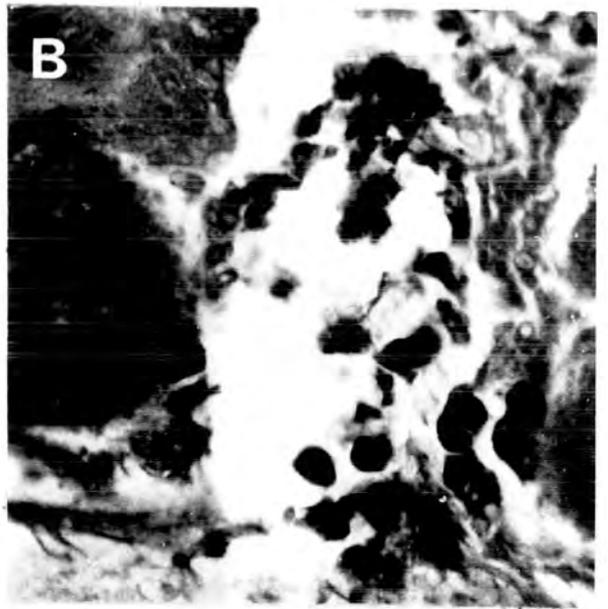
Horizontal sections through the brain of 10-day old adult male blowflies after the following treatments:

- A) Control untreated, representative of 4 samples.
- B) L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated, representative of 3 samples.
- C) L.D.<sub>0</sub> treated, representative of 2 samples.
- D) 18 hr recovery from L.D.<sub>0</sub> treatment, representative of 3 samples.
- E) 48 hr recovery from L.D.<sub>0</sub> treatment, representative of 2 samples.

Neurosecretory cells (NC) are shown having the same appearance in all groups. They are large and filled with neurosecretory material; in some cases transport nuclei can also be seen (white arrow). The location of the neurosecretory cells is in all cases near the median furrow of the pars intercerebralis (PI).

Methods : see text.

All plates are the same magnification as indicated in E.



Figures (9.1D & E) show representative examples of the 3 and 2 flies allowed to recover at 24°C from an L.D.<sub>0</sub> heat treatment, for 18 and 48 hours, respectively.

Examination showed in all cases the neurosecretory cells had the same appearance.

As can be seen from Fig. (9.1A - E), the neurosecretory cells are conspicuous, and neurosecretory material is shown as a dark stain filling their cytoplasm. The cells are in all cases located near the median furrow of the pars intercerebralis. In some of the cells large, transparent nuclei are also observable.

### Discussion

Under the conditions described in the present study no major difference in neurosecretory activity has been observed between differently heat treated, recovering or control flies. This suggests that neurosecretory cells in the brain of the blowfly are not sensitive to heat treatment given to the intact animals in the way described.

The aim of the present histological investigations was to study the effects of heat damage, and the nature of repair mechanism during recovery from sublethal heat treatment. The suggestion made by Davison (1970)

that protein synthesis might be involved in the repair mechanism of heat damage, could be studied further on the basis of one of the following approaches. First, heat treated flies are allowed to recover following the application of one of the drugs which are known to inhibit protein synthesis such as ethidium bromide (Zylber, Vesco, & Penman, 1969). If such flies show recovery judged by their appearance and their flying ability, or measured by respiratory performance of sarcosomes isolated from their flight muscle, then heat injury is not likely to have been caused by an irreversible denaturation of proteins, for this would require new proteins to be resynthesized, in the blowfly Calliphora erythrocephala. The process of protein synthesis has been suggested to be affected by the hormonal control of the intestinal proteinase activity (Thomsen and Moller, 1959).

This technique, however, has not been employed in the present study, since there exists considerable uncertainty about what effects such drugs might have on living organisms, other than inhibition of protein synthesis. Indeed, there is evidence that ethidium bromide inhibits oxidative phosphorylation in rat liver mitochondria respiring on either glutamate or succinate (Higgins et al, 1975). The nature of this inhibition is

not fully understood; nor is it well known yet whether mitochondria obtained from other sources would exhibit similar symptoms in response to the action of ethidium bromide. It is, also, not known whether other protein synthesis inhibitors are capable of producing a similar diminishing effect on state III respiration.

Furthermore, such agents have been reported to alter the rate of degradation of some enzymes. This subject has been reviewed by Schimke & Doyle (1970).

Dingley & Smith (1968) used cycloheximide to inhibit protein synthesis in Drosophila, recovering from sublethal heat treatments. The observation that damaged Drosophila did recover, led the authors to conclude that protein denaturation is not involved in thermal injury. However, it has been recently claimed by Milner, (1976) that cycloheximide selectively inhibits cytoplasmic protein synthesis.

In the present study it is reasoned that if heat damage causes irreversible inactivation of proteins then in recovering flies these proteins will need to be replaced. As has been mentioned earlier many aspects of insect physiology are under hormonal control, for example the production of intestinal proteinases (Thomsen & Moller, 1959). Those authors suggest cellular protein synthesis

might also be indirectly affected by the dependence of the supply of aminoacids by the action of the proteinase. The source of this hormone (and others) is the brain neurosecretory cells, Novak (1966). It is also of interest that several workers have shown that temperature changes are one of the factors which do cause changes in the appearance (and by extrapolation function too) of these neurosecretory cells (Clarke, 1966; Peacock et al. 1976).

As no difference was found, in the appearance of the brain neurosecretory cells, between control, heat treated and recovering flies, it is difficult to make any statements whether protein synthesis is involved in the repair mechanism of heat damage, and therefore impairment of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-dependent respiration in sarcosomes isolated from heat-treated blowflies may or may not be a result of damaged respiratory enzymes.

However, the work is not complete, and further investigations are required, to find out how lethal heat treatments, given to the intact insect, affect other parts of the endocrine system, particularly corpora cardiaca and corpus allatum.

CHAPTER TEN

## GENERAL DISCUSSION

The principal aims of this thesis are to understand better the mechanisms involved in thermal injury at the cellular level. The work owes much to an earlier study on the same stock of insects (Calliphora erythrocephala) by Davison (1970). In the latter work, Davison clearly showed that giving flies heat treatments equivalent to L.D.<sub>50</sub> impaired flight muscle sarcosomal function. The sensitivity of these sarcosomes, to in vivo heat treatment, so closely mirrored the sensitivity of the whole animal that subsequently Davison & Bowler (1971) were able to propose that these sarcosomes would make a good model system for studying heat death. The authors recognized that the damage they reported to have occurred in sarcosomes from heat treated flies, may have been, at least in part, because those sarcosomes were made more sensitive than control sarcosomes to the isolation procedures.

With this point in mind the early part of this thesis concerned the use of two different isolation procedures, the 'standard' procedure and one using the proteolytic enzyme 'nagarse'.

One other problem that arose was the choice of the appropriate reaction medium to determine sarcosomal respiratory performance. A variety of recommended

media are published for sarcosomes from several insect species, but only infrequently are the reasons for the choice of a particular set of conditions given, Birt, (1961); Balboni, (1967); Hansford, (1971); Tribe & Ashhurst, (1972); Bursell & Slack, (1976). It was necessary therefore to make a preliminary study to assess the composition of reaction media that were suitable for use with both isolation techniques and different substrates.

The essence of the 'nagarse' technique is to minimize the mechanical damage that might occur to the sarcosomes during homogenization, and so, sarcosomes are released following enzymatic digestion of the muscle fibres. This technique however was found to affect  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate supported respiration in such a way that a dramatic fall in the  $QO_2$  values and RCI were recorded as compared with values obtained when sarcosomes are isolated using the conventional method described in Chapter 2. Pyruvate-supported respiration, on the other hand, was not so affected when different isolation methods are applied.

It was therefore decided that, during the course of the present study, in those experiments where  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate was the substrate, flight muscle sarcosomes would be isolated without the use of nagarse, except in experiments where only substrate-rate oxidations were measured, e.g. the allosteric effect

of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  (Chapter 6), and effect of freezing and thawing (Chapter 7).

On the other hand, no difference was observed in respiratory activities of flight muscle sarcosomes isolated in presence or absence of the proteolytic enzyme nagarse, when pyruvate and proline are used as substrate. It was concluded that these results strongly suggest that the proteolytic enzyme might have altered the structure of the sarcosomal membrane, and in doing so affecting the activity of membrane-bound enzymes, such as  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase (EC 1.1.99.5).

The principal point about the composition of the reaction media seemed to rest on whether  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  was present or not. When pyruvate and proline were the respiratory substrates (Table 3.2, media I and II) the presence of  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  depressed RCl, this seems to be largely owing to an increase in state IV respiration. The reason for this is in some dispute and it has been proposed to be because of an increased  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ -stimulated ATPase activity.

In fact there is a dispute about  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and whether it stimulates ATP-ase activity in intact (Azzone and Carafoli, 1960) or only in aged and damaged mitochondria

(Sugano and Nagai 1971; Waino 1970).

Consequently, it was decided to omit  $Mg^{2+}$  from reaction medium, where pyruvate and proline are substrates.

Magnesium ions are however a requirement in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate driven respiration by the same sarcosomes, see Table 3.2, and so it is necessary to include them in the reaction medium when  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate is the substrate for oxidative phosphorylation.

Throughout this study, substrates were injected into the reaction chamber immediately following the injection of the sarcosomes, this avoided the problems of preincubation of sarcosomes prior to the initiation of respiration.

Having established these points, the other parts of the work were concerned with thermal sensitivity and heat death in the blowfly, Calliphora vicina. This problem has been dealt with, on the same insect, by Davison (1970), who suggested that a breakdown of oxidative phosphorylation might be a main factor in heat death in this species. The consequence would be a loss of ATP synthesizing capacity and may lead to the inactivation of ATP dependent pathways. Heat-shocked ( $L.D._0$ ) animals cannot fly nor right themselves and so

co-ordinated movement is definitely impaired in heat-damaged flies, they do gradually regain their flight ability, and Davison & Bowler (1971) have shown this closely parallels the recovery of normal sarcosomal function as witnessed by high values for RCl and normal values of ADP:O. Earlier Naguib & Christophersen (1965) reported in yeast that cellular ATP levels fall at high temperature. Bluhm & Ordal (1969) also report reversible inactivation of several respiratory enzymes directly after sublethal heat treatment of Staphylococcus aureus. This, together with the work by Santarius (1975) on heat damage to photophosphorylation in chloroplasts, leads to the suggestion that ATP generating systems may well be very temperature sensitive structures.

Davison's work (Davison & Bowler, 1971) did not give any indication of which part of the complex functions of the sarcosome might be most seriously affected. Several different approaches have been made to shed light on this aspect of the problem.

Chapter 4 represents an approach to this question based on the grounds of recovery from sublethal heat treatment. It is argued that if the repair process can be followed and studied, this may shed light on the type of damage caused. It was found that recovery from L.D.<sub>0</sub> treatment is very dependent on the temperature at which

the animals are allowed to recover.

Recovery of 'normal' sarcosomal function had a high  $Q_{10}$  (about 3), this implies the involvement of active metabolic processes in repair of sarcosomal heat-damage. The nature of the damage being repaired, and the repair-mechanism is not evident, but probably involves re-synthesis. This is in contradiction to the work of Dingley & Smith (1968) - they report :

i) Cycloheximide effectively reduces protein synthesis in Drosophila, ii) sublethally heat treated Drosophila recovered in spite of an application of cycloheximide, and iii) the rate of protein synthesis was not compatible with the recovery state. The authors concluded that undoubtedly protein synthesis is not involved in recovery from thermal injury. However, cycloheximide is claimed to selectively inhibit cytoplasmic protein synthesis (Milner, 1976), therefore mitochondria driven protein synthesis may have aided recovery without being affected by cycloheximide. It would be interesting to find out how recovery is affected, in Dingley & Smith's (1968) work, following the application of chloramphenicol, since this is claimed to specifically inhibit mitochondria driven protein synthesis (for review see Milner, 1976).

The use of inhibitors of protein synthesis was

not applied in the present study because these agents when injected in intact animals to inhibit protein synthesis of a specifically suspected enzyme, may have side effects on other parts of the organism. Indeed there is evidence that these agents not only inhibit protein synthesis but also, amongst other effects, alter the rate of degradation of some enzymes (for review see Schimke and Doyle (1970). Furthermore, Higgins and his co-workers reported that ethidium bromide (an inhibitor of protein synthesis) inhibits oxidative phosphorylation of rat liver mitochondria (Higgins et al., 1975).

The split-dose experiments, also reported in Chapter 4, show clearly that the effect of two doses is merely additive, unless they are separated by periods of 6 hours or more. In the latter case significant recovery has taken place and the effect of the split-dose heat treatment is less than when given as a single dose. This is in accord with Dingley & Smith's (1968) work on Drosophila, they described recovery from a 25 mins exposure to 35°C to be almost complete after 2 hours at 20°C. The rate of recovery, in their work, is measured by the survival time of Drosophila exposed to a second treatment at 35°.

It would appear that the repair processes are part of normal on-going cellular metabolism, for it is reasoned, if they were only invoked following injury, the repair mechanism(s) itself would have become susceptible to damage during the second heat application in the split-dose. This would have resulted in increased mortality, which did not occur. It is also of interest to compare heat injury with radiation injury caused in split-doses. In a review article, Rockstein & Miquel (1973) report that irradiation in insects is life shortening, and that some proportionality occurs between dose and life shortening effects. This implies that this type of injury is non-repairable and is suggested to be chromosomal in nature, Baxter & Blair (1969). Davison (1970) has shown however that flies recovered from an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat-treatment has the same life-expectancy as control unheated flies of the same age. Acute heat-injury is therefore different from life-shortening irradiation damage in insects, and may well be more similar to repairable acute radiation damage which is thought to be principally cytoplasmic in nature, Baxter & Blair, (1969).

One Chapter in the present study has been concerned with the effect of in vivo heat treatment on the neuro-secretion in the blowfly, Calliphora vicina. The idea was

stimulated by numerous reports presenting strong evidence that there exists controlling effect of hormones on respiratory enzymes. (Thomsen, 1949, 1952; Keeley, 1970; Lee & Lardy, 1965). Also, the fact that neurosecretion exerts a controlling factor on protein synthesis (Thomsen & Moller, 1959) made such investigations seem useful in providing some information leading to a better understanding of the nature of heat injury and repair mechanism. However, the observations made on neurosecretory cells of the brain showed no significant difference between control and lethally heat treated flies. No difference was observable either in brain neurosecretory cells of control flies or sublethally heat treated flies, nor in the latter after 18 hr. or 48 hr. recovery at 24°C.

The effect of temperature on sarcosomal function has been considered under several approaches, but basically concerns in vivo and in vitro effects and the comparison of the effects of moderately high temperature with those of more 'normal' temperature in vitro.

The effect of reaction temperature on state III and substrate rate oxidation using  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate as a substrate will be discussed first. As can be seen in Fig. 5.1 when oxidation rates are plotted, as a function of  $1/\theta_A$ , a non-linear plot is obtained which can be

divided into four phases with breaks at about 10°, 18° and 27°C.  $AQ_{10}$  value of 5.93 was obtained at the lower temperature range (5° - 10°C), 1.58 for the second phase (10°C - 18°C), 2.16 for the third (18° - 27°C) and 1.41 at the highest temperature range (27° - 37°C). The substrate rate oxidation, on the other hand, yielded a non-linear plot with only three phases, showing breaks at about 10° and 24°C. The  $Q_{10}$  values obtained were 3.58, 1.15 and 2.22 for the first, second and third phase, respectively.

In the search for an explanation for these breaks, several suggestions have been made by different workers. In the early work by Heldt & Klingenberg, (1968) attention has been drawn to low temperature sensitivity of mitochondrial adenine nucleotide translocase. Kemp et al., (1969) have shown that this translocation process is rate limiting in oxidative phosphorylation in rat liver mitochondria. Drost-Hansen, (1972) suggested that changes in the physical properties of vicinal water must be superimposed upon the changes in the biological macromolecules. Raison and his co-workers are the most prominent advocates for 'lipid phase change' theory (Kumamoto et al., 1971). The Arrhenius plot for substrate rate oxidation is in close agreement with that reported

by Pye (1973) for potato mitochondria using different substrates. The author drew attention to the observation that temperature-independent plateaus may occur in the presence of high concentrations of substrates.

The effect of temperature on mitochondria has received much stimulus in recent times because many workers have attempted to explain the temperature-independent plateaus observed in organism respiration, (Newell, 1967; Newell & Walker, 1966; Pye, 1973; Wieser, 1973) in terms of effect of temperature on mitochondrial function. The conflict in many of these studies has been bedevilled by a lack of rigour in demonstrating mitochondria isolated from an organism, in good functional states, a point made by Tribe & Bowler (1968) in criticism of work by Newell & Walkey (1966).

A further point that future work of this kind ought to consider is that the pH of the reaction medium will change with reaction temperature. Often no account has been taken of this in constructing media for mitochondria temperature-studies, and some of the phenomena described may be, at least in part, pH effects. In the present work no attempt was made to correct media

pH for temperature changes, the reaction media were always made up at 24°C, the temperature of acclimation of the flies. It was considered that this situation might more closely reflect events intracellularly. Howell, Rahn, Goodfellow & Herreid (1977) have reported that haemolymph pH decreases as body temperature increases in a variety of ectotherms, and further Malan, Wilson & Reeves (1977) report a good correlation between the temperature-dependence of blood pH and intracellular pH in ectothermal vertebrates. Thus it seems likely that intracellular pH, in vivo, will be expected to change with temperature, at least in the same direction as predicted from the various studies of Reeves and his co-workers (Reeves, Howell & Rahn, 1977). A point more notice should be taken of in such studies.

In the present work, the 'breaks' seen in the Arrhenius plot (Fig. 5.1) confirm earlier reports by many other workers mentioned above, particularly the temperature-independent plateaus observed for both substrate-rate and state III respiration after the first sharp break at about 10°C. Similar plateaus have been described by Davison (1971 a) for blowfly flight muscle sarcosomes. What is evident is that the efficiency of sarcosomal function is maximised over a wide temperature range, irrespective of 'breaks' and 'plateaus'.

As was described by Davison (1971a) it seems that in vitro heat is more damaging to sarcosomes than in vivo heat, for as can be seen from Table 5.1, RCl values fall rapidly at temperatures higher than 27°C, and Davison found in his experiments that respiration was uncoupled at 34°C (Davison, 1971 a). A temperature he reports, (and has been shown in this study), <sup>that</sup> insects can be reared at. Davison also described an acclimation effect in that at 34°C, RCl and ADP :O values for sarcosomes from 34°C acclimated flies indicated that these sarcosomes were more tightly coupled than those from either 24° or 15°C acclimatized flies.

In taking this problem of in vitro sensitivity to heat a little further, a series of preincubation experiments were conducted in which sarcosomes were preincubated at temperatures between 30° and 41°C for varying periods, and their functional efficiency was subsequently determined at 24°C. Few similar studies exist in the literature to give comparison, those in which mitochondria have been preincubated, the preincubation was to serve a purpose other than to study their thermal sensitivity (Sacktor & Childress, 1967; Hansford, 1975).

The results of these experiments confirm the greater thermal sensitivity in vitro, for temperature as 36°C was adequately high to bring about a rapid decline in state III respiration, resulting in low RCl values.

Substrate rate respiration, on the other hand, was not affected by preincubation, and slight but insignificant fluctuations of  $QO_2$  values were obtained. In groups previously acclimated to  $15^\circ$  and  $34^\circ\text{C}$ , preincubation of isolated sarcosomes resulted in similar effects as described above, and here again  $36^\circ$  caused loss of respiratory control, where values approximating one were recorded within 30 mins. ADP : O values were not measurable after such treatments. Previous acclimation to high ( $34^\circ\text{C}$ ) or low ( $15^\circ\text{C}$ ) temperatures did not result in major differences in the tolerance of the sarcosomes to exposure to  $36^\circ\text{C}$ .

A comparison of the effect of preincubation at moderate temperatures (Tables 5.5 and 5.6) effect of those temperatures as a reaction condition on sarcosomal function leads to the following conclusion. The high oxidation rates seen at say  $34^\circ\text{C}$  (reaction temperature) can not be owing to an uncoupling effect of heat, nor from release of endogenous uncouplers, because prior exposure during preincubation (up to 60 mins) causes no major changes in oxidation rates as compared with control preincubated sarcosomes. The thermal preincubation therefore seemed to cause no deleterious effects on sarcosomes unless it was for a long period or at

temperatures over about 40°C.

Perhaps the most interesting and significant part of this work has been concerned with a comparative study between  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate + proline-supported respiration in sarcosomes isolated from the flight muscle of 10-day old adult blowflies which have been exposed to an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment (40 mins at 41°C). The results revealed that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate-linked respiration is more sensitive to this heat treatment than pyruvate-linked respiration. In the first case substrate rate respiration was reduced by about 30 per cent, and furthermore no stimulation was observed upon addition of ADP. This was not the case when pyruvate was used as substrate. Indeed some measure of coupling was still demonstrable, and state IV respiration was higher than in control experiments. These results are in accord with preliminary work reported by Davison (1970) on the same stock of flies. An attempt was, therefore, made to investigate this phenomenon, considering the possibility that heat treatment given to the intact animal may have rendered the sarcosomes susceptible to isolation procedure thereafter, and perhaps differentially affected.

It is reasonable to assume that this sarcosomal damage is not occurring at the level of the respiratory

chain. This is because the commonly held view is that electrons from all substrates share a common fate once they enter the respiratory chain. Thus if an enzyme in the chain was damaged this ought to be reflected in inhibition of both  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate oxidation, this is clearly not the case. Davison (1970) who first reported this phenomenon suggested that the coupling factors (enzymes) might be the temperature sensitive structures, but this would imply that different substrates have different respiratory pathways, a point not usually held; but recently some indirect evidence has been produced that this might be the case in rat liver mitochondria (Rogers & Higgins, 1976).

It is however necessary to consider other reactions in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation not common to pyruvate oxidation. The most obvious is that by  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. This enzyme is known to be allosterically modulated by low concentrations of free calcium ( $10^{-5}$  gm-ion/l) (Hansford & Chappell, 1967). The allosteric property of some enzymes has been previously shown to be very sensitive to heat treatment and other insults; for example aspartate transcarbamylase from Escherichia coli (Gerhart & Pardee, 1962) and acetohydroxy acid synthetase in Salmonella typhimurium (Bauerle et al., 1964). Consequently it is pertinent to enquire

whether sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase has its allosteric function destroyed during in vivo lethal heat treatments. The data, given in Table 6.1 and Fig. 6.1 clearly shows that the sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is still allosterically stimulated by low levels of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  even after the flies received an L.D.<sub>50</sub> heat treatment. As can be seen the presence of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  reduces the app Km for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate from about 14 to 2 mM in controls as compared with 20 mM to 7 mM in heat treated sarcosomes. The app Km is slightly higher in the latter group, but what is also evident is the point that Vmax is again much lower in the experimental heat treated sarcosomes, this supports the data presented in Table 3.2. Thus the inhibition of  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation in sarcosomes from heated flies cannot be attributed to a loss of responsiveness to the allosteric stimulator  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ .

The data in the above experiments was collected polarographically, and so the entire respiratory chain is needed, however in the next series of experiments  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity was directly measured. In these experiments electrons were transferred directly from the dehydrogenase via phenazine methosulphate to INT, the artificial electron acceptor.

which is reduced, and an insoluble product, formazan is produced. The amount of formazan formed is proportional to the activity of the enzyme.

This technique, with slight modifications, has been widely used to assay enzyme activity. For example Lee and Lardy (1965) used PMS and INT to estimate the activity of mitochondrial as well as cytoplasmic  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase from various tissues of rat. A similar method has been used by Vaughan & Newsholme (1969), Walker & Birt (1969) for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase, Kun & Abood (1949), Glock & Jensen (1953) and Nachlas Margulies & Seligman (1960) for succinic dehydrogenase. However, Walker & Birt (1969) suggested that a high concentration of INT might damage the mitochondrial membranes. This suggestion was based on the impression of very low tonicity of the assay system they used, and on the incorrect interpretation of the failure of  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  to relieve the inhibition caused by EGTA to  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase (high  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  concentration).

In the present experiments no significant difference in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase activity levels was demonstrable between sarcosomes from control and L.D.<sub>50</sub> treated flies, see Table 7.1. At first sight this result was not expected, particularly as the activity of the same

enzyme when measured by the consumption of oxygen was significantly less in sarcosomes isolated from heat treated flies. In making that observation it is of course assumed that it is the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase that is rate limiting in  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation as has been shown by Lardy et al., (1960).

These results prompted the study of the effects of in vitro heating on sarcosomal  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase. The sarcosomes were preincubated for various times at temperatures between 40° and 55°C, and their residual enzyme activity was monitored at 24°C after this thermal preincubation. As can be seen (Table 7.2) the enzyme tolerated preincubation temperatures higher than 40°C for long periods of time, and it was not until the temperature was raised to 55°C that 50% inactivation was observed within 20 mins. This is in accord with the results described earlier (see Table 5.6) where the activity of this enzyme was measured by oxygen consumption (substrate-rate oxidation), and it has been shown that temperatures as high as 41°C could not produce a pronounced effect of the enzyme activity after 7 mins preincubation. One must conclude, therefore, that  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is a thermostable structure, and that the reduction in its activity in sarcosomes isolated from lethally heat treated flies, as

measured by oxygen consumption, might not be due to thermal inactivation occurring to this enzyme.

A point that deserves to be raised, is whether the enzyme ( $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase) inactivated by in vivo heatings, and if so why is it not as sensitive to heat when the sarcosomes are preincubated in vitro?

It could possibly be that the experiments in which the artificial electron acceptors are used, do not accurately reflect the true level of enzyme activity owing to the very high affinity of PMS for electrons. Nachlas et al., (1960) showed that PMS effectively competes with molecular oxygen to bind electrons and the competition is so successful that there was no need for anaerobiosis to be induced. Such a high electron affinity might mask the reduced enzyme activity following in vivo heating.

If  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase is unaffected by in vivo heating, as it seems to be to in vitro heating, then is the heat lesion elsewhere in the respiratory chain?

If this is the case, why then is the respiratory chain still functioning normally when pyruvate and proline are used? This presents a paradoxical situation for as has been mentioned earlier it is commonly held that electrons, irrespective of substrate source, all follow the common pathway of respiratory chain enzymes to the final

acceptor, oxygen. It may be this is not the case and different substrates use separate assemblies of respiratory enzymes, this is however not proven by this data. An alternative explanation would involve thermal inactivation of one or more of the reactions between  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate dehydrogenase and the first enzyme, in the common respiratory chain, Coenzyme Q. This is most definitely a worthwhile possibility to explore in any further studies. It may well be possible to dissect respiratory chain function with the use of specific inhibitors, such as antimycin A and rotenone, in sarcosomes from heated and non-heated flies.

The problem first mentioned by Davison & Bowler (1971) of the nature of the primary lesion in heat injury remains. The foregoing discussion does not take account of the fact that state III respiration is more dramatically impaired in sarcosomes from heat treated flies than is substrate rate oxidation, see Table 3.2. This point is also true in sarcosomes preincubated at temperatures above 35°C, see Table 5.6, as well as in the experiments carried out to construct the Arrhenius plots, see Fig. 5.1. There too state III oxidation was more seriously affected by raising temperatures above 27°C than was substrate rate, as witnessed by the falling RCl values shown in Table 5.1.

The point Davison & Bowler (1971) make is that the coupling factors may be the most temperature sensitive component of oxidative phosphorylation. This conclusion was reached because in vivo heat did not appear to uncouple oxidative phosphorylation, for state IV (substrate rate) oxidation rates were reduced rather than elevated; at the same time state III respiration could not be demonstrated with RCl of about 1 being found.

Once again the fact that pyruvate and proline driven respiration is differentially affected by in vivo heating causes a problem of interpretation. This is because it is believed, as has been said earlier, that electrons from substrates are processed in a common oxidative phosphorylation pathway. So if coupling factors are heat-damaged for  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation, pyruvate and proline oxidation ought to be similarly damaged. Whilst the ADP : O and RCl in sarcosomes from heated flies are lower than in control flies, when pyruvate and proline are respired, coupling can still be demonstrated. It may be that one should think in terms of different substrates being processed through separate respiratory assemblies, but direct evidence is lacking.

It is interesting, however, that Santarius (1975) has shown clearly that photophosphorylation in chloroplasts

is temperature sensitive, and he describes non-cyclic photophosphorylation as being more sensitive than cyclic photophosphorylation. The light requiring thiol-activated membrane ATPase was heat sensitive in a manner parallel to cyclic photophosphorylation.

The data presented in Table 7.3 is informative, for it allows a comparison to be made between  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate and pyruvate + proline oxidation systems as a function of in vivo heat treatment, and in vitro freezing and thawing of isolated sarcosomes. Both systems were inactivated following freezing and thawing, a treatment which destroys the structure of the sarcosome. It is also interesting that there is a quantitative correlation in the degree of reduction between  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate oxidation in in vivo heated, and in vitro frozen and thawed sarcosomes, suggesting that the damage caused by heat treatment might be structural. This was not the case for pyruvate and proline system, the fall in oxidation rate following freezing and thawing was drastic, (about 70%), whereas heat treatment resulted in only 25% inactivation of this system.

The results presented in Chapter (8) are also very pertinent to this discussion. The EM appearance of the mitochondria was difficult to interpret in the manner used for liver mitochondria by Hackenbrock (1966) or heart mitochondria by Green et al., (1968) see Fig. 8.2,

and as a consequence a tentative interpretation is made. It is clear that the appearance of the sarcosomes does change somewhat with respiratory state. What is most pertinent to this discussion is the appearance of the sarcosomes from heat treated animals, which show gross morphological abnormalities, particularly when respiring  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate. In that case swelling became progressive, see Figs. 8.5, 8.6 and many sarcosomes were broken.

In marked contrast when pyruvate and proline were used as substrates much less swelling was evident and sarcosomes in different morphological forms were also evident in the different energy states, see Figs. 8.7 - 9. This does again provide concrete evidence that the pyruvate and proline driven oxidative phosphorylation is less damaged by the in vivo heating as compared with the  $\alpha$ -glycerophosphate system.

Could in vivo inactivation of sarcosomal function kill the organism? This would seem unlikely unless the thermal injury seen in flight muscle sarcosomes reflects a similar state in other cells. Indeed, this would seem to be an important next step to take. In vitro work on isolated malpighian tubules might be used to provide a clue to the generality of heat damage.

The results, presented in this study, support Davison's (1970) work, and amply show that sarcosomal function is thermosensitive over the same temperatures that kill the organism, and so fulfills one of Read's (1967) conditions. Further this work supports the general hypothesis laid down by Bowler et al., (1973) that all heat injury is a membrane phenomenon.

With this theory of heat injury in mind the possible mechanisms of thermal perturbation of membrane function must now be considered. The facility with which ectothermal animals and microorganisms change the fatty acid composition of their membrane phospholipids may well provide a guide. In general, acclimation to a low temperature results in an increased incorporation of longer chain more unsaturated fatty acids, this has been demonstrated in Crayfish (Cossins, 1976), goldfish (Driedzic & Roots, 1975; Kemp & Smith, 1970; Anderson, 1970). The adaptive properties of such changes have been described in terms of 'capacity' adaptation, the maintenance of an acceptable state of fluidity of the 'liquid-crystalline' membrane as proposed by Singer & Nicolson, (1972).

Compensatory effects have not been conclusively demonstrated in ectothermal animals, but good evidence does exist that adaptation of membrane properties and

composition (fluidity) do coincide in prokaryotes (Haest, De Gier & Van Deenen, 1969; Esser & Souza, 1974) and in protozoans (Cullen, Phillips & Shipley, 1971; Nazaira, Iida, Fukushima, Ohki & Ohnishi, 1974), grown at different temperatures. This points to the importance of a control mechanism which regulates the degree of membrane fluidity and which is sensitive to environmental temperature. Less importance has been placed on changes in membrane unsaturation influencing the thermal stability of membranes and so being involved in 'resistance' adaptation. Membranes from cold acclimated animals may show a more rapid breakdown of functional integrity at high temperatures as compared to the more saturated membranes from warm acclimated animals.

However, the correlation between lipid saturation and lethal temperatures has not been conclusively demonstrated. House et al., (1958) did find a correlation in Pseudosarcophaga affinis larvae, Fraenkel & Hopf (1940) and Ushakov (1964; 1966) in Calliphora have shown altered lipid composition does not necessarily affect thermostability. Once again the data from bacteria is less equivocal. Esser & Souza (1974) have provided

evidence that maximal growth in B. stearothermophilus is determined by the physical properties of the cell membrane, which is grossly influenced by its lipid composition. This is supported by evidence that a thermosensitive strain of this bacterium has a decreased ability to alter its membrane lipids in response to a temperature change. In a detailed study of crayfish muscle, Cossins (1976) showed that acclimation to lowered temperatures caused an increase in the proportion of mono and polyunsaturated fatty acids, mainly in the acidic phospholipids. However, the same worker was unable to show that this affected the thermostability of the sarcosomal  $Mg^{2+} + Ca^{2+} + ATPase$  (Cossins & Bowler, 1976). At the same time however the sarcosomal enzyme was sensitive to temperature in the same temperature range as heat death occurred, whereas the glycolytic soluble enzyme pyruvate kinase was considerably more heat stable (Cossins & Bowler, 1976). It may well be that changes in the phospholipid composition of bulk-lipid bilayer are not the most significant in controlling membrane integrity at different temperatures for the protein content of membranes must also be considered. The presence of a distinct lipid halo, forming a micro-environment, for the protein (see Stier & Sackmann, 1973) may be more significant in determining the thermostability of a protein, rather than any bulk changes to membrane

phospholipids. This might only be true ofcourse should the halo lipids be chemically different from the bulk lipid. However, Raison and his co-workers claim that the 'breaks' seen in Arrhenius plots of mitochondrial oxidation reflect phase changes in membrane (bulk) lipids, (Kumamoto et al., 1971). This suggests that enzyme function (if not thermostability) is conditioned by the characteristics of the bulk phospholipids.

If the essential thermostability of sarcosomal function is determined, at least in part, by the nature of the mitochondrial phospholipids, then three patterns ought to be demonstrable. These are: 1) Changes in phospholipid composition of sarcosomes with adult age, for Davison (1970) showed that both organismal and sarcosomal thermosensitivity changed dramatically during the first 10 days of age. 2) The time course of those changes in thermosensitivity are dependent upon maintenance temperature and so must be any changes in phospholipid composition. 3) Davison (1970) also showed organism heat death to be modified by acclimation; it ought therefore to be possible to establish temperature induced changes in sarcosomal phospholipid composition as the sarcosome provides a good model for organism heat death (Davison & Bowler, 1971).

Whilst this study has gone further than that of Davison (1970) in attempting to pinpoint a primary lesion in heat injury in the blowfly, much work still remains. In this discussion possible future avenues of approach have been mentioned which might provide more central answers to the questions of what factors are involved in heat death, cellular heat injury and resistance acclimation. It can be concluded that the work presented here in no way contradicts the general hypothesis set out by Bowler et al., (1973) that cellular heat injury (and therefore heat death) may well be related to the stability of lipoprotein complexes.

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