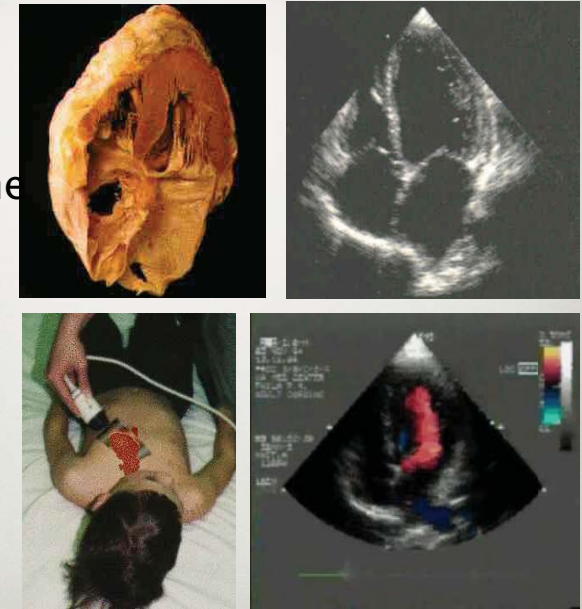


# BIOPHYSICS OF FLUIDS, BLOOD FLOW AND HEART FUNCTION

## Importance of the physics of fluids

### I. Hemodynamics

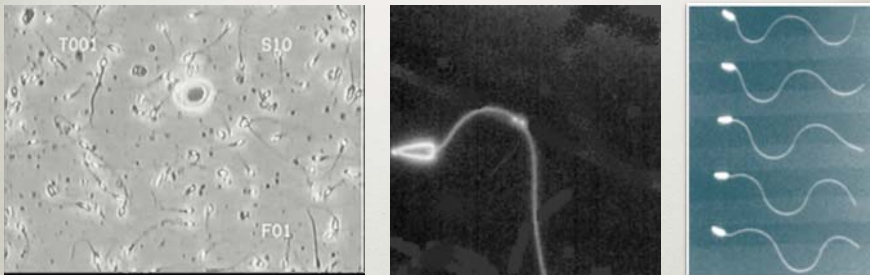
Characteristics of blood flow  
along the circulatory system.



## Significance of the physics of fluids

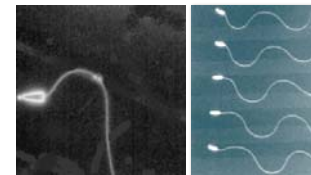
### II. Motion in fluids

Force exerted by a single spermatozoa during its motion.



## Drag coefficient of the spermatozoa

### Stokes' Law:



$$\gamma = 6r\pi\eta = 6 \cdot 1.6 \times 10^{-6}(m) \cdot \pi \cdot 10^{-3}(Pas) = 3 \times 10^{-8} Ns/m$$

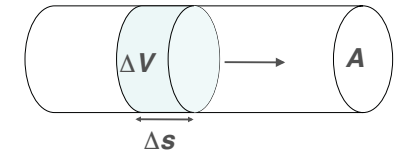
$$F = \gamma v = 3 \times 10^{-8} Ns/m \cdot 5 \times 10^{-5} m/s = 1.5 \times 10^{-12} N = 1.5 pN$$

# Biophysics of fluids

- Basic principles
- Types of fluids
- Types of fluid flow
- Laws of fluid flow
- Biomedical importance

# Basic principles I.

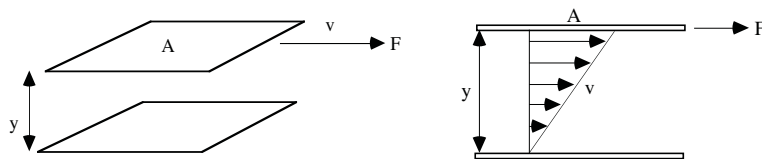
Volumetric flow rate ( $Q$ ):



$$Q = \frac{\Delta V}{\Delta t} = A \frac{\Delta s}{\Delta t} = A \bar{v}$$

Average velocity:  $\bar{v} = \frac{Q}{A}$

# Basic principles II. Viscosity (internal friction)



$F$  = shear force  
 $A$  = area of fluid layer  
 $\eta$  = viscosity  
 $v$  = flow velocity  
 $y$  = distance between fluid layers

$F/A$  = shear stress ( $\tau$ )  
 $\Delta v / \Delta y$  = velocity gradient ( $D$ )

$$\frac{F}{A} = \eta \frac{\Delta v}{\Delta y}$$

$$\eta = \frac{\tau}{D}$$

Units of viscosity:  $1 \text{ Pas} = 1 \frac{\text{Ns}}{\text{m}^2} = 10 \text{ P (poise)}$

# Types of fluids I.

## 1. Ideal

frictionless, incompressible  
 $\rho = \text{constant}, \eta = 0$

## 2. Non-ideal (real)

a. Newtonian (viscous)

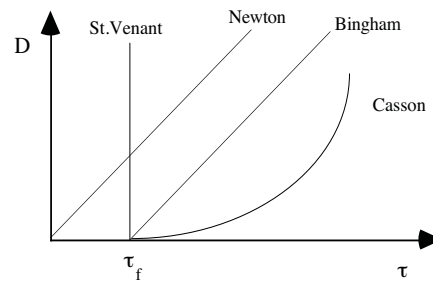
$\eta$  independent of shear stress

b. Non-newtonian (anomalous)

$\eta$  varies with shear stress

## Types of fluids II.

Relationship between velocity gradient and shear stress in real fluids



$\tau_f$ =flow threshold

Viscoelastic materials: combination of elastic and viscous properties (e.g., polymer solutions)

Stress-relaxation: decay of shear stress in viscoelastic material following sudden stretch.

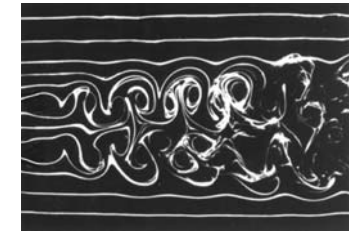
**NB:** Blood is non-newtonian fluid!

## Types of fluid flow

### 1. Stationary

Flow intensity stays constant.

- **Laminar**  
Fluid layers do not mix.
- **Turbulent**  
Fluid layers mix.

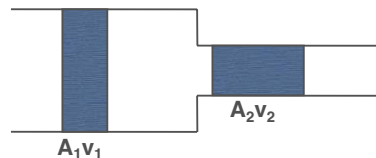


**Reynolds number:**  $R = \frac{vr\rho}{\eta}$

$v$ =flow rate (m/s)  
 $r$ =tube radius (m)  
 $\rho$ =density of fluid (kg/m<sup>3</sup>)  
 $\eta$ =viscosity (Ns/m<sup>2</sup>)

## Laws of flow in ideal fluids I.

### Continuity equation



$$A_1v_1 = A_2v_2 = \text{konst}$$

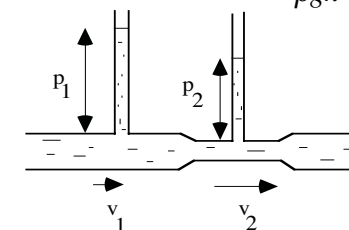
A=cross-sectional area  
v=flow rate

## Laws of flow in ideal fluids II.

### Bernoulli's law

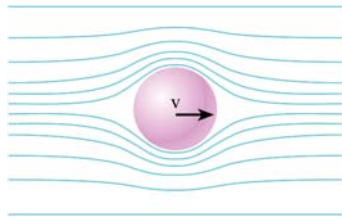
$$p + \frac{1}{2}\rho v^2 + \rho gh = \text{konst}$$

$p$ =static pressure  
 $\frac{1}{2}\rho v^2$ =dynamic pressure  
 $\rho gh$ =hydrostatic pressure



## Laws of flow in viscous fluids I.

### Stokes' law

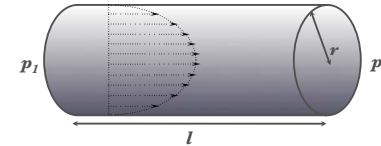


$$F = \gamma = 6r\pi\eta v$$

$F$  = force  
 $\gamma$  = drag coefficient (shape factor)  
 $v$  = flow rate  
 $r$  = radius of sphere  
 $\eta$  = viscosity

## Laws of flow in viscous fluids II.

### Hagen-Poiseuille's law

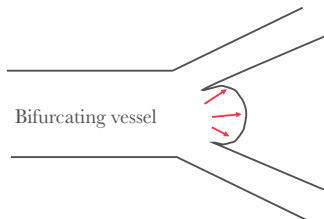


$$\frac{V}{t} = \frac{\pi r^4}{8\eta} \frac{dp}{dl}$$

$V$ =volume  
 $t$ =time  
 $(V/t=Q = \text{flow intensity})$   
 $r$ =tube radius  
 $\eta$ =viscosity  
 $p$ =pressure  
 $l$ =length of tube  
 $(dp/dl=\text{pressure gradient, maintained by } p_1-p_2)$

## Biomedical significance

### Bernoulli's law:



#### aneurysm:

- ➡ flow rate decreases (according to continuity equation)
- ➡ pressure increases
- ➡ aneurysm increases

### Hagen-Poiseuille's law:

$$\frac{V}{t} = \frac{\pi r^4}{8\eta} \frac{dp}{dl}$$

Flow intensity may be **drastically reduced** in certain pathological conditions:

- constriction of blood vessels  
(e.g., diabetes, Bürger's disease)
- change in blood viscosity  
(e.g., fever, anaemia)

## Biophysics of blood flow

1. Blood as fluid
2. Determinants of blood viscosity
3. The vascular system
4. Blood vessels as elastic tubes
5. Auxiliary forces of circulation



# BLOOD AS FLUID

<b>55-60% of body mass is water</b> 42 kg (70 kg body mass)		
2/3 intracellular 28 kg	1/3 extracellular 14 kg	
	1/3 plasma 4-5 kg	2/3 intersticium 9-10 kg

## Blood

Average volume: 5 l  
 Average viscosity: 5 mPas  
 Average density: 1.05 g/cm<sup>3</sup>  
 Composition: 40-45 % corpuscular, 55-60 % plasma

## Determinants of blood viscosity I.

### 1. Hematocrit (*htc*, $\phi$ ):

$$htc = \frac{V_{cells}}{V_{total}}$$

Normal range: 0.4-0.5.

Viscosity of blood as suspension  
(in the physiologically relevant *htc* range):

$$\lg \eta_s = A + B\phi$$

$\eta_s$  = suspension viscosity  
 A, B = empirical constants

## Determinants of blood viscosity II.

### 2. Plasma viscosity

Depends on plasma proteins.

In paraproteinaemias (e.g. myeloma multiplex or plasmocytoma)  
 the concentration of immunoglobulins is high,  
 leading to increased viscosity.

### 3. Plasticity of red blood cells

65% suspension of blood-cell-size particles is rock hard.

In contrast, a 95% blood suspension is fluid,  
 with viscosity of ~20 mPas!

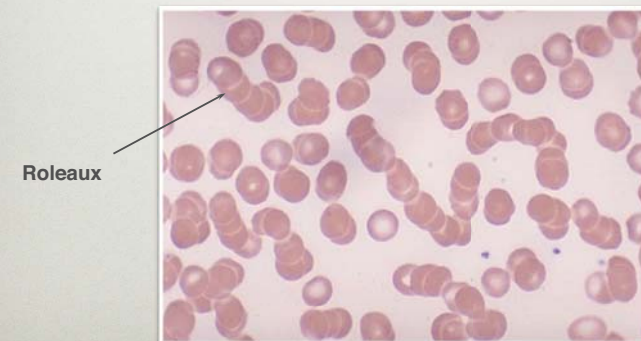
Deformation of red blood cells: droplet, parachute,  
 arrowhead shapes.

## Determinants of blood viscosity III.

### 4. Aggregation of red blood cells

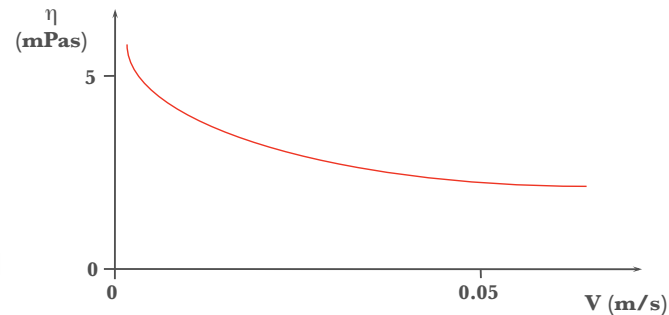
Stack or rouleaux formation.

More pronounced at low flow rates.



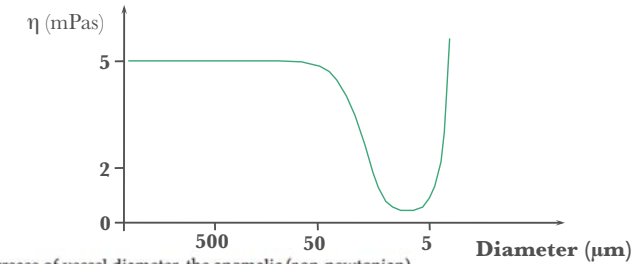
## Determinants of blood viscosity IV.

### 5. Flow rate, velocity gradient



## Determinants of blood viscosity V.

### 6. Blood vessel diameter



#### N.B.:

-With a decrease of vessel diameter, the anomalous (non-newtonian) behavior of blood becomes more pronounced.

-*Axial migration:*

the red blood cells line up in the axis of the vessel.

In the axis the velocity gradient decreases,

and near the vessel wall it increases.

Increase in velocity gradient decreases apparent viscosity (Fåhræus-Lindquist effect).

## CIRCULATORY SYSTEM

### •A. Function:

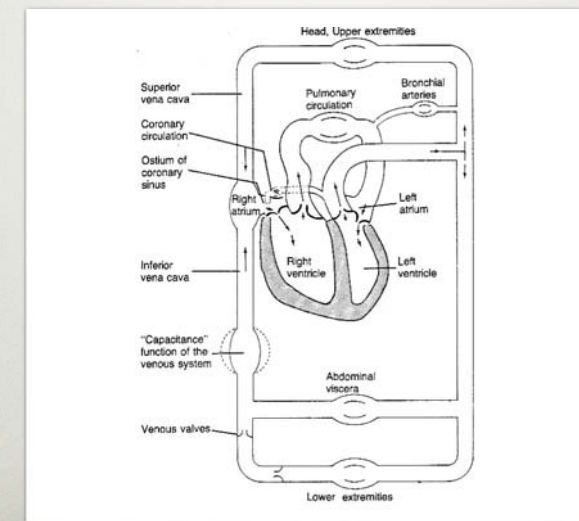
- Maintenance of environmental parameters of cells
- "Steady state"
- Transport:
  - Gases
  - Metabolites
  - Hormones, signal transmitters
  - Immunoglobulins
  - Heat

### •B. Hemodynamic requirements:

- Slow (low flow rate)
- Steady (no fluctuations)
- Unidirectional

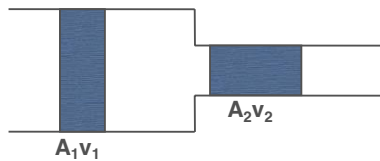
### •C. The vascular system is a closed vessel system returning into itself

The vascular system is a closed vessel system returning into itself



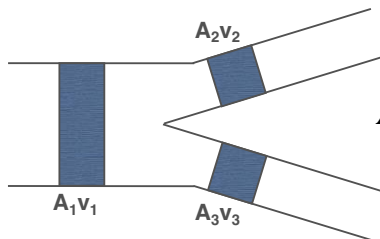
## Fluid flow in vessel

### Continuity equation – reminder



$$A_1 v_1 = A_2 v_2 = \text{const}$$

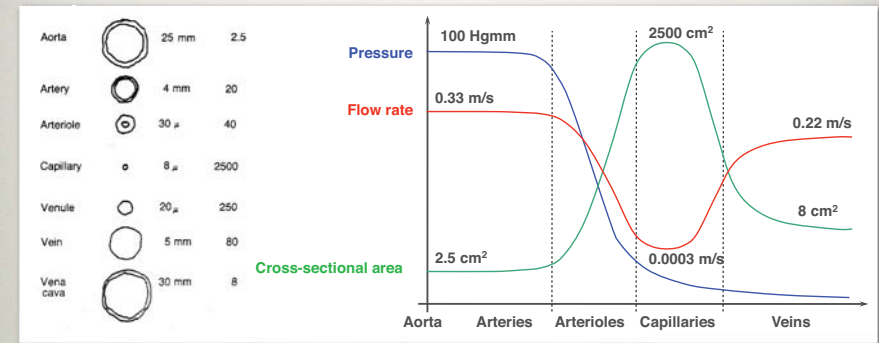
$A$  = cross-sectional area  
 $v$  = flow rate



$$A_1 v_1 = A_{\Sigma}(v)_{\text{average}} = \text{const}$$

$A_{\Sigma}$  = total cross-sectional area

## Structure and physical properties of the vascular system



Pressure > pressure that sustains flow, "blood pressure".

Reason of pressure drop: flow resistance; most of energy is converted to heat.

Flow rate and total cross-sectional area change inversely (based on equation of continuity,  $Av = \text{constant}$ ).

Flow rate typically does not exceed the critical (see Reynolds number), and flow remains laminar. (But: behind aortic valve, constricted vessels, low-viscosity conditions, Korotkoff sound).

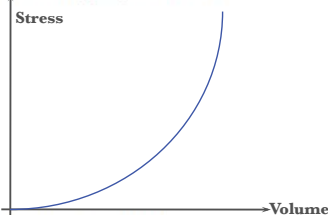
Arterioles (vessels containing smooth muscle, under vegetative innervation) are pressure-regulators: "resistance vessels."

Most of blood volume in veins: "capacitance vessels."

## Blood vessels as elastic tubes

### Non-linear elasticity

Strain is not linearly proportional to stress.



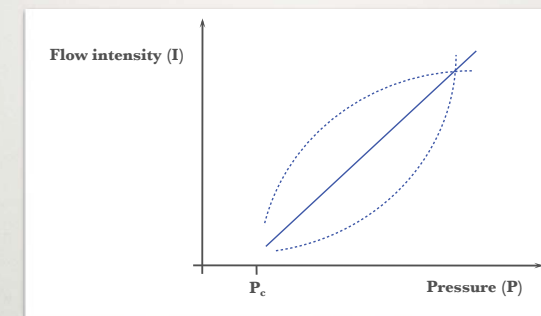
### Determinants of vascular elasticity:

Elastin  
 Collagen  
 Smooth muscle

### Implications of vascular elasticity:

Storage of potential (elastic) energy  
 Dampening of pressure pulses  
 Constant flow rate

## Relationship between flow intensity and pressure



### N.B.:

-The curves intersect the pressure axis at values greater than 0 (critical closing pressure,  $P_c$ ).



# Auxiliary factors of circulation

## 1.Arterial elasticity

(storage of potential energy)

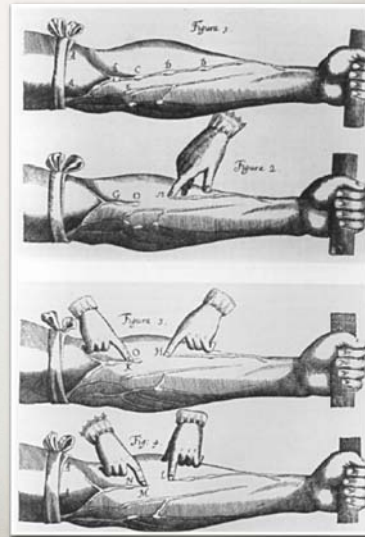
## 2.Venous valves (Harvey's experiment)

"On the Circulation of the Blood" (1628).

## 3.Muscle action

## 4.Negative intrathoracic pressure

5."Up-and-down" movement  
of **atrioventricular plane**

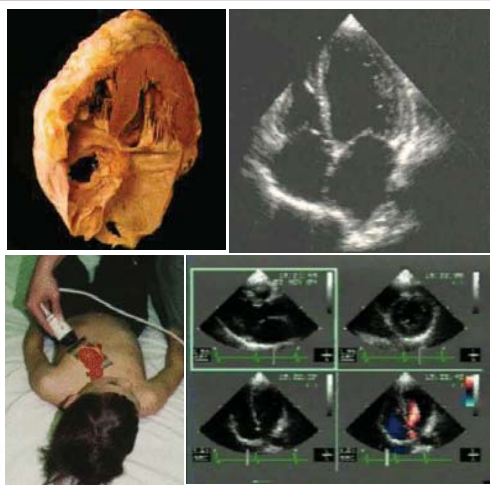


Harvey's experiment

# CARDIAC BIOPHYSICS

## Heart:

### Pump of the circulatory system



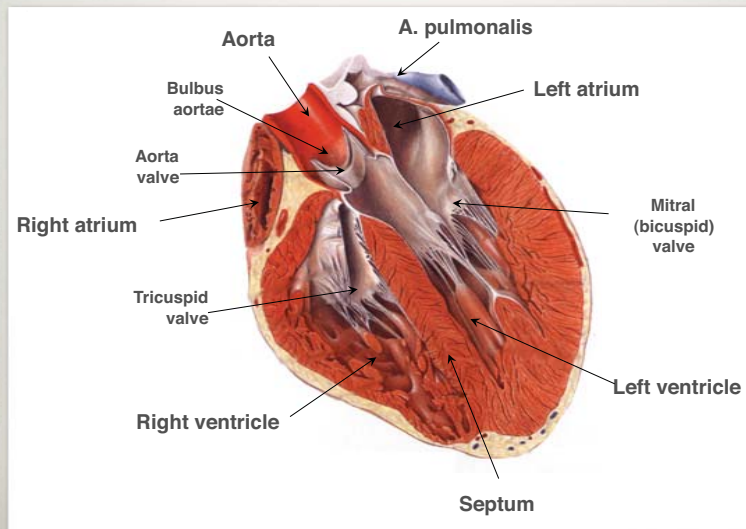
	Number of contractions	Expelled blood volume
1 min	~70	~6 l
1 day	~100,000	~8600 l
Life (70 yrs)	$\sim 2.5 \times 10^9$	$\sim 220 \times 10^6 \text{ l}$

## Cardiac biophysics

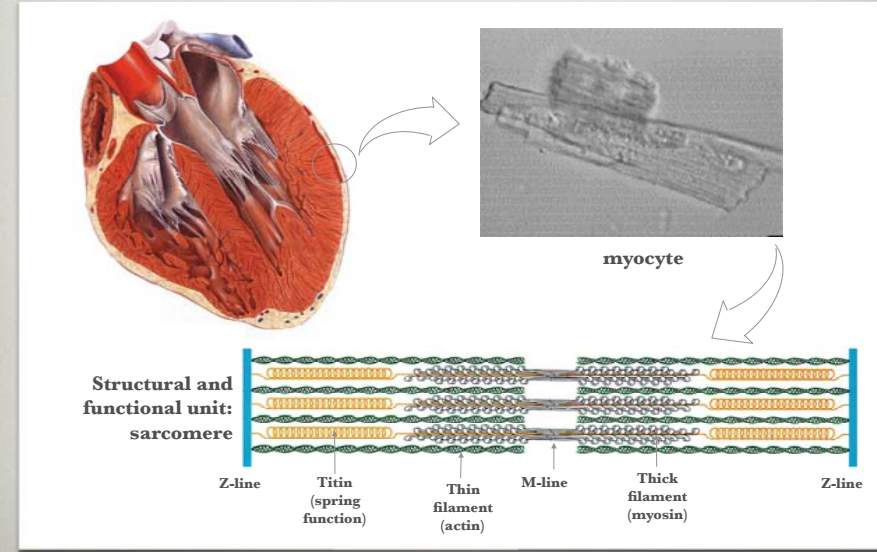
- 1.Structure of the heart
- 2.Coordinated contraction
- 3.The cardiac cycle
- 4.Work of the heart



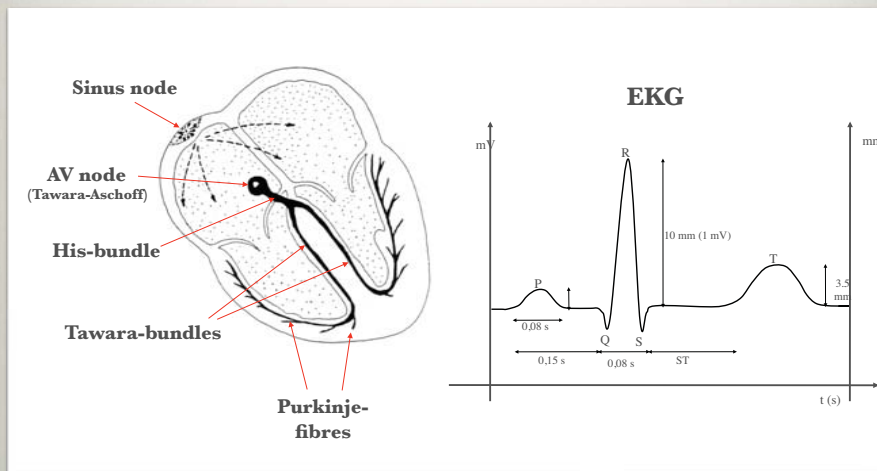
## Structure of the human heart



## Functional structure of the heart



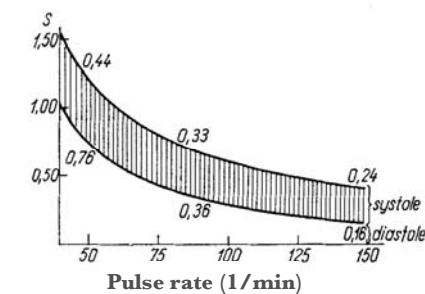
## Activation of coordinated contractions



## The cardiac cycle

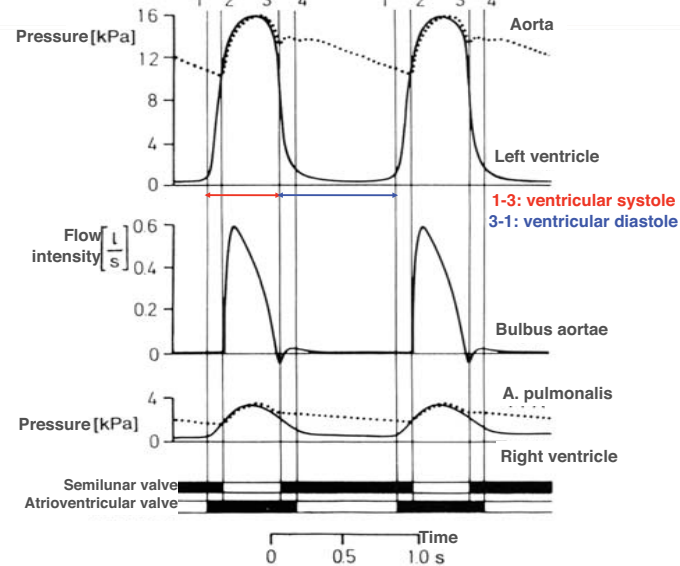
Contraction (systole) - relaxation (diastole) cycle of the heart

	systole	diastole
atrium	0,1 s	0,7 s
ventricle	0,3 s	0,5 s

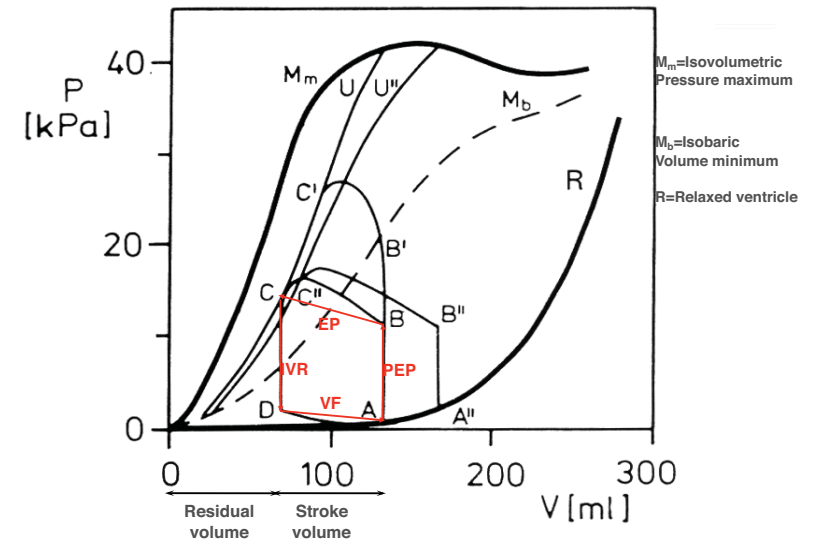


# Events of the cardiac cycle

1-2: pre-ejection period (PEP) 2-3: ejection period (EP) 3-4: isovolumetric relaxation (IVR) 4-1: ventricular filling (VF)

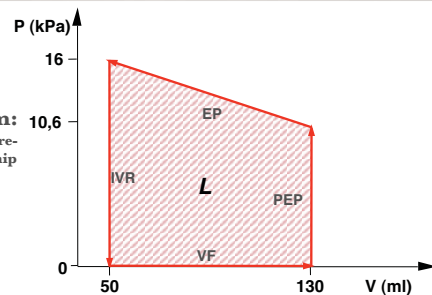


# Pressure-volume diagram of left ventricle



# Work of the heart (work of the left ventricle)

Indicator diagram:  
Simplified pressure-  
volume relationship



$$L = p\Delta V + \frac{1}{2}mv^2$$

$p\Delta V$ =static (volumetric) component  
 $\frac{1}{2}mv^2$ =dynamic component  
 $p$ =pressure  
 $\Delta V$ =stroke volume

$$13,3 \cdot 10^3 \text{ N/m}^2 \times 0,08 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ m}^3 + \frac{1}{2} 0,08 \text{ kg} \times (1 \text{ m/s})^2 = 1,06 \text{ Nm} + 0,04 \text{ Nm} = 1,1 \text{ J}$$