

Lecture 42  
30 April 2008

Vertebrate Physiology  
ECOL 437 (MCB/VetSci 437)  
Univ. of Arizona, spring 2008

Kevin Bonine & Kevin Oh



Housekeeping, 30 April 2008

Upcoming Readings

Wed 30 Apr: Ch 8, Thermal Physiology  
LAB 30 Apr, 07 May: [Funding Panel Prep](#)  
Fri 02 May: Ch 8  
Mon 05 May: Ch 8  
Wed 07 May: [Review for FINAL EXAM](#)  
LAB 07 May: [Funding Panel Presentations/Decisions](#)

1. Thermal Physiology (Ch 8)

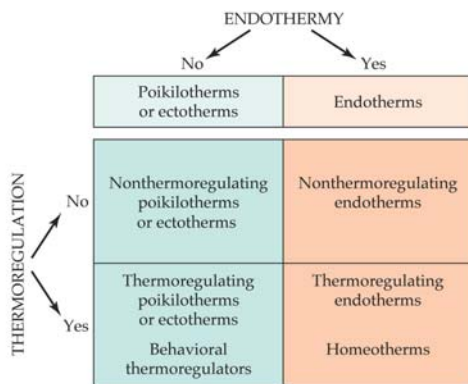
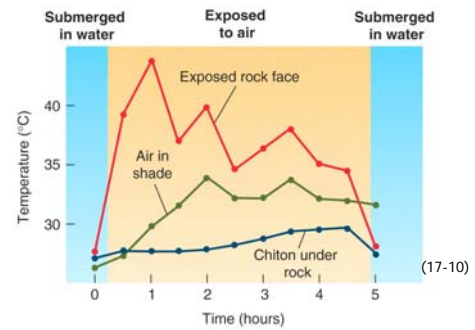
[http://eebweb.arizona.edu/eeb\\_course\\_websites.htm](http://eebweb.arizona.edu/eeb_course_websites.htm)



# Thermal Physiology

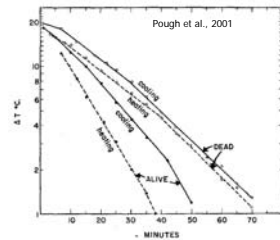


Microhabitat



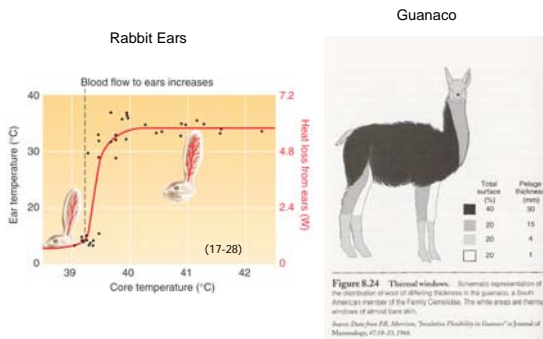
Thermoregulation

Cardiovascular control of heating and cooling



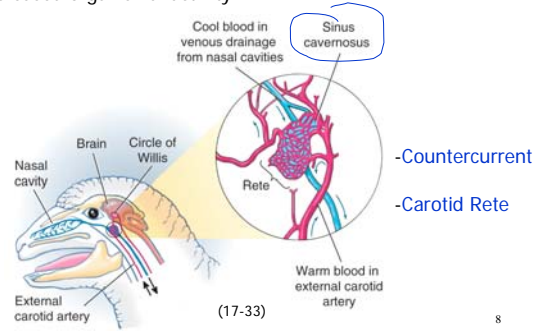
- Cardiac Shunts
- Peripheral Vasodilation

## Heat Windows



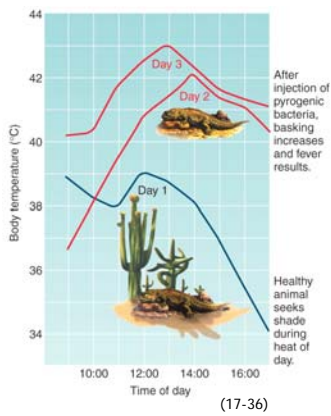
## Hot Body, Cool Brain

Keep **brain cool** during prolonged increased organismal activity:



## Pyrogens

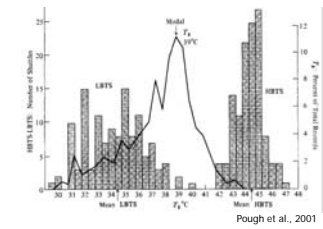
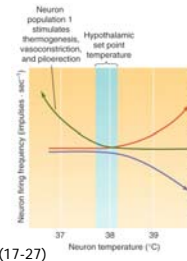
## Fever



## Neuronal Control of Thermoregulation

Temperature **Set Point**  
(season, reproductive state, infection)

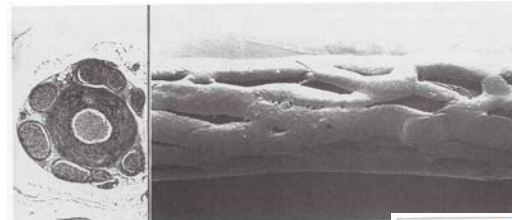
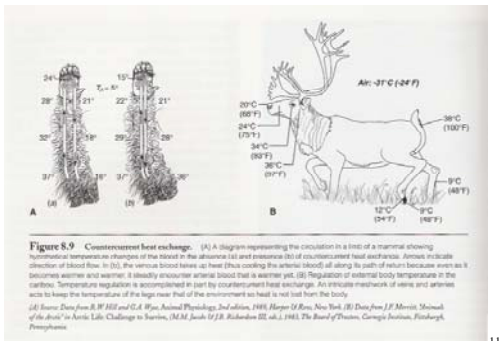
## Hypothalamus functions as thermostat



## Physiology and Behavior

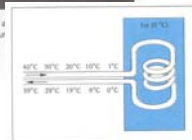
## Endotherms in the COLD...

## Countercurrent Heat Exchange



**BLOOD VESSELS IN A BIRD LEG** Cross section (left) and surface view of the blood vessels in the leg of a European rook (*Corvus frugilegus*), a crow-like bird. The thick-walled artery runs in the center and is surrounded by several thin-walled veins that branch and anastomose so that they virtually cover the surface of the artery. [Cour University of Copenhagen]

Knut Schmidt, Nielsen 1997



Thermogenesis

Endotherms in the COLD...

**Shivering** (or locomotion)  
antagonistic muscle contractions  
heat byproduct

**Non-shivering**  
fats metabolized,  
but produce heat instead of ATP  
**brown fat** specialized

sympathetic stimulation:

1. ATP hydrolysis used to pump ions needlessly
2. Proton leakage in mitochondria, rather than production of ATP in presence of **thermogenin**

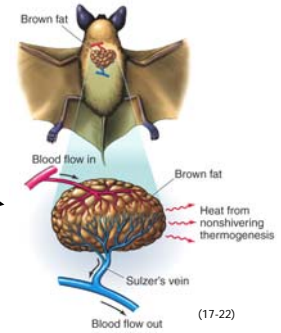
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Endotherms in the COLD...

Thermogenesis

**Shivering** (or locomotion)  
-antagonistic muscle contractions  
heat byproduct

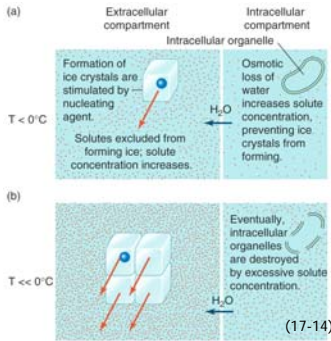
**Non-shivering**  
fats metabolized, but produce heat instead of ATP  
- **brown fat** specialized



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Ectotherms in the COLD

Freeze Tolerance vs. Supercooling/Antifreeze



-Extracellular Nucleation

-[Solute]

-Rate

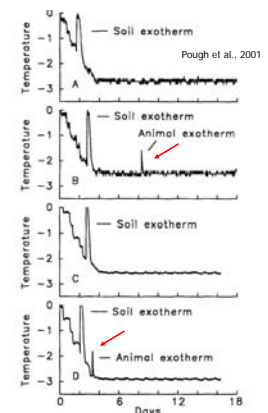
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Thermoregulation

**Freezing** - ice crystal formation  
-alter osmolality  
-physical destruction

Freeze Resistance

supercool  
prevent ice crystals  
*(Sceloporus jarrovi)*  
*(Chrysemys picta)*



Thermal Neutral Zone

**Within TNZ:**  
-Vasomotor  
-Posture  
-Insulation  
fluff fur/feathers

**Below TNZ:**  
-Increase metabolism  
above basal

**Above TNZ:**  
-Cool via evaporation

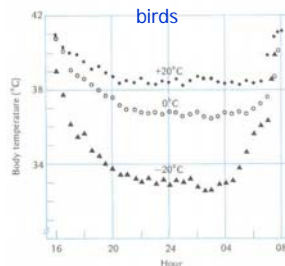
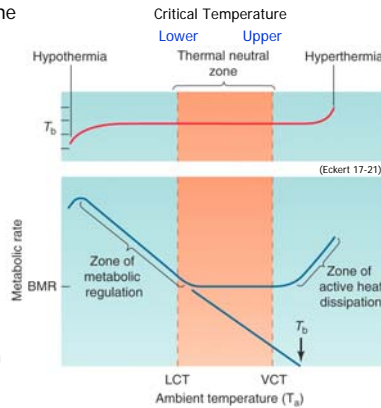


Figure 7.11 Body temperature of a willow tit (*Parus montanus*) during the night hours at three different ambient temperatures. The records are from midafternoon one day to the following morning. [Reinertsen and Hålbom 1986]

Knut Schmidt\_Nielsen 1997



Knut Schmidt\_Nielsen 1997

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## COST/BENEFIT ANALYSIS

Would you rather be an ectotherm or an endotherm?



## Ectothermy vs. Endothermy

### 1. Ectotherms

- lower metabolic rate
- require less water
- require less food (foraging time)
- greater proportion energy into growth and repro

-small body size works (different shapes)

- reliant on environmental heat sources
- seasonal and daily limits on activity
- low aerobic capacities

### 2. Endotherms with 'opposite' costs and benefits

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