

Phase 1:

- As workload increases, the body's energy (ATP) requirements are met through aerobic glycolysis
 - Glucose is turned into pyruvate producing 2 ATP and pyruvate
 - Pyruvate is oxidized in the cell mitochondria
 - Produces ~30 ATP and CO₂
- CO₂ production and O₂ consumption steadily increase

Aerobic Threshold :

- The body's energy needs grow faster than the body's ability to deliver oxygen to the muscles
 - Aerobic glycolysis alone no longer meets the body's ATP needs
- Glycolysis sharply increases,
 - Each reaction generating 2 ATP and pyruvate
 - Pyruvate can't oxidize (anaerobic), is turned into lactic acid
 - Acid is buffered by bicarbonate (HCO₃⁻), creating excess CO₂
- This start of this extra CO₂ production can be seen in the inflection point in the CO₂ vs O₂ plot

Phase 2:

- The body is producing ATP both aerobically and anaerobically
- O₂ deliver in the body is still ramping up, but CO₂ levels are rising faster than they are in phase 1
 - Results in the two-line plot on CO₂ vs O₂

Anaerobic Threshold:

- The body's ability to buffer lactic acid is maximized
- Blood pH drops as the blood fills with H⁺ ions
- Hyperventilation is triggered to blow off CO₂ and maintain blood pH
- Identified in the inflection point of VE (L/min) vs CO₂ production

Phase 3:

- VE rises faster relative to CO₂ than previously
- Low blood pH, buildup of metabolites interfere with muscle efficiency and ATP production
- Exhaustion reached

Ventilatory Thresholds for Test 275_1

