

# NIRS applications and the role of tissue-like phantoms

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# OUTLINE

## **Absolute NIRS measurements**

- Phantom calibration
- Quantitative tests on phantoms

## **Baseline cerebral concentration and saturation of hemoglobin**

- Young vs elderly subjects

## **Absolute NIRS in two-layered media**

- Phantom tests
- *In vivo* brain measurements in human subjects

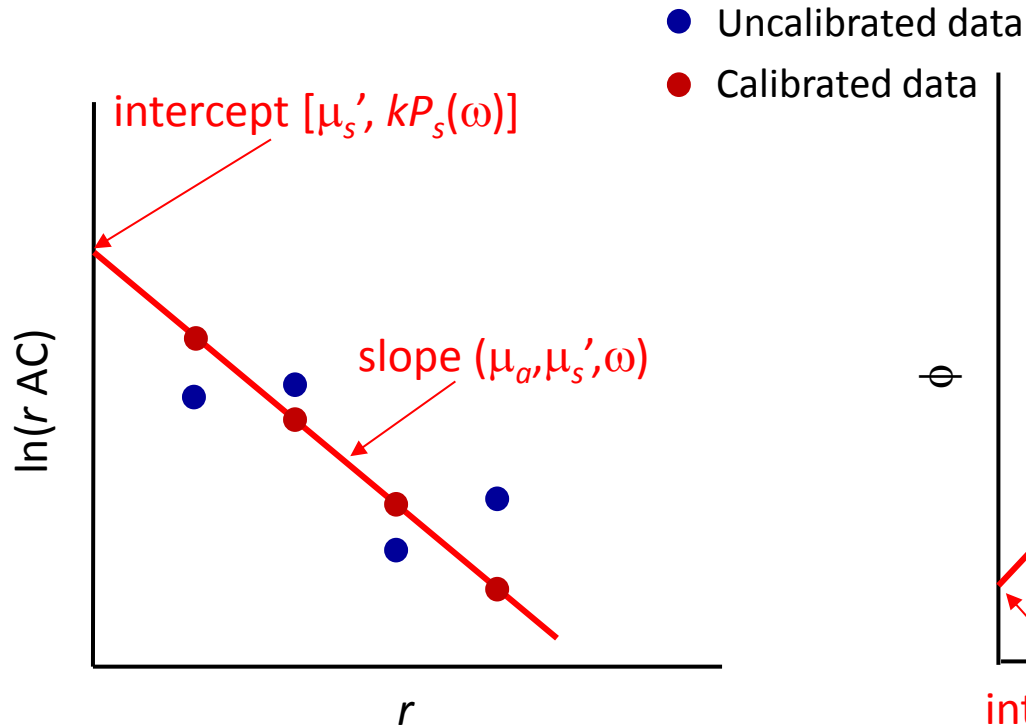
## **Functional brain studies**

- Translating hemoglobin concentration changes into functional quantities

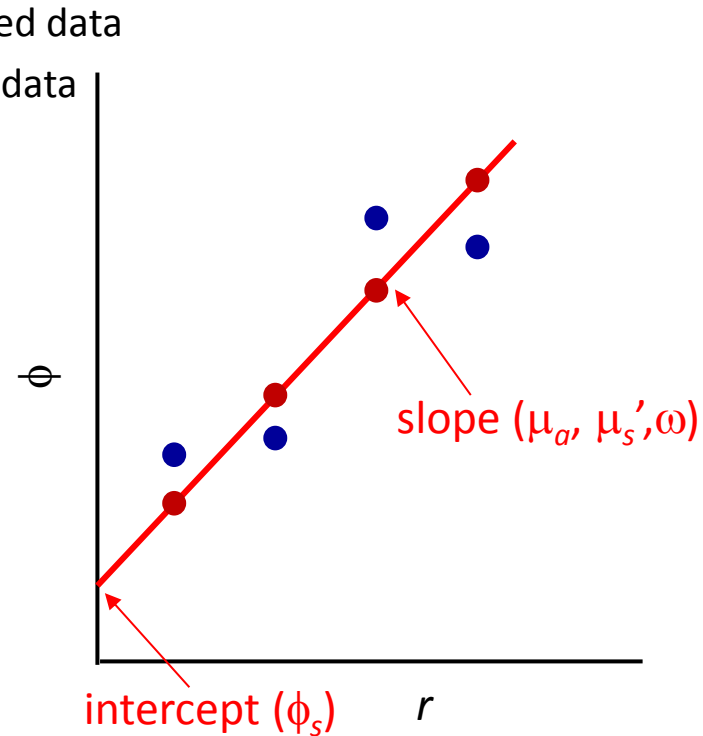
# Absolute NIRS measurements with multi-distance, frequency-domain data

Diffusion theory: Straight lines for amplitude (AC) and phase ( $\phi$ )

## AC amplitude

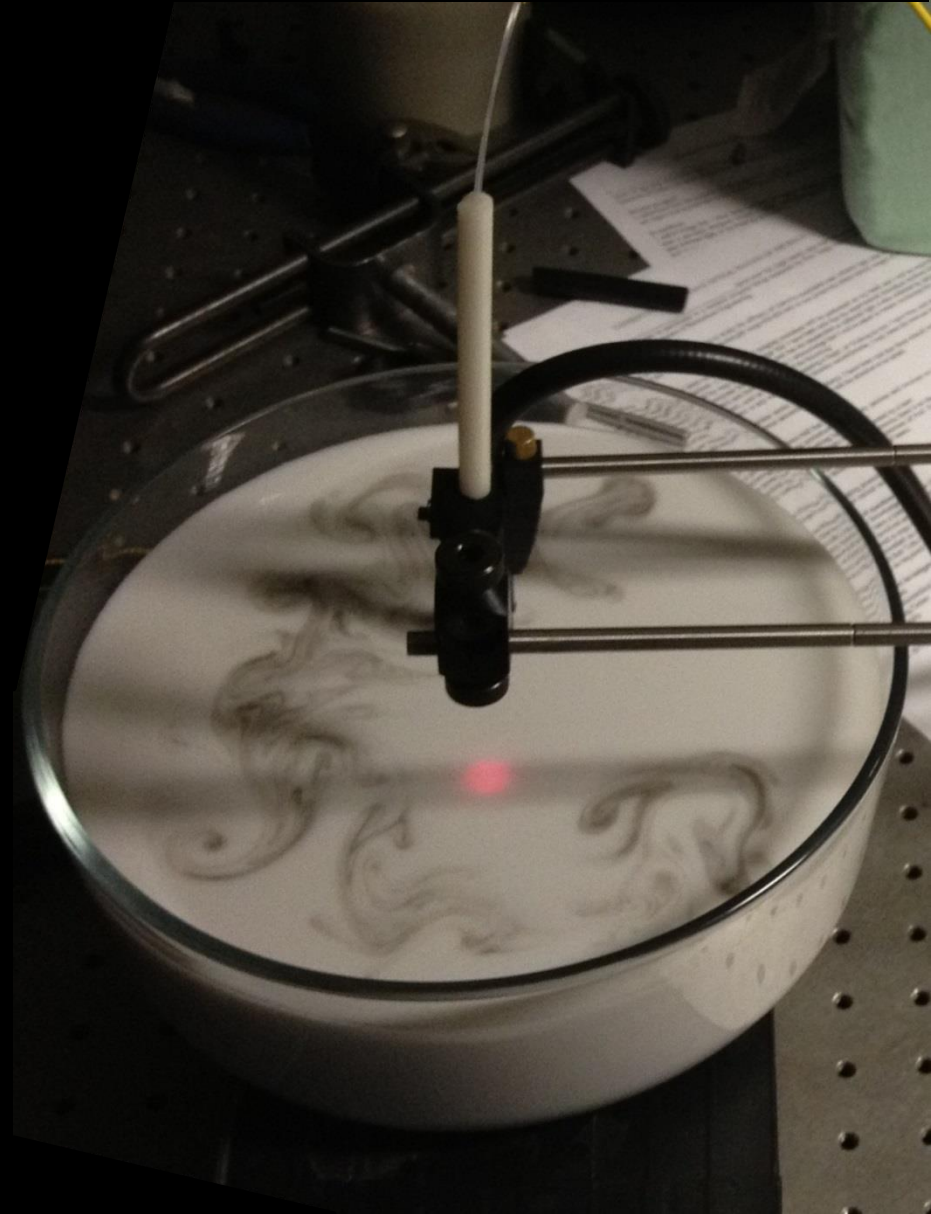


## Phase



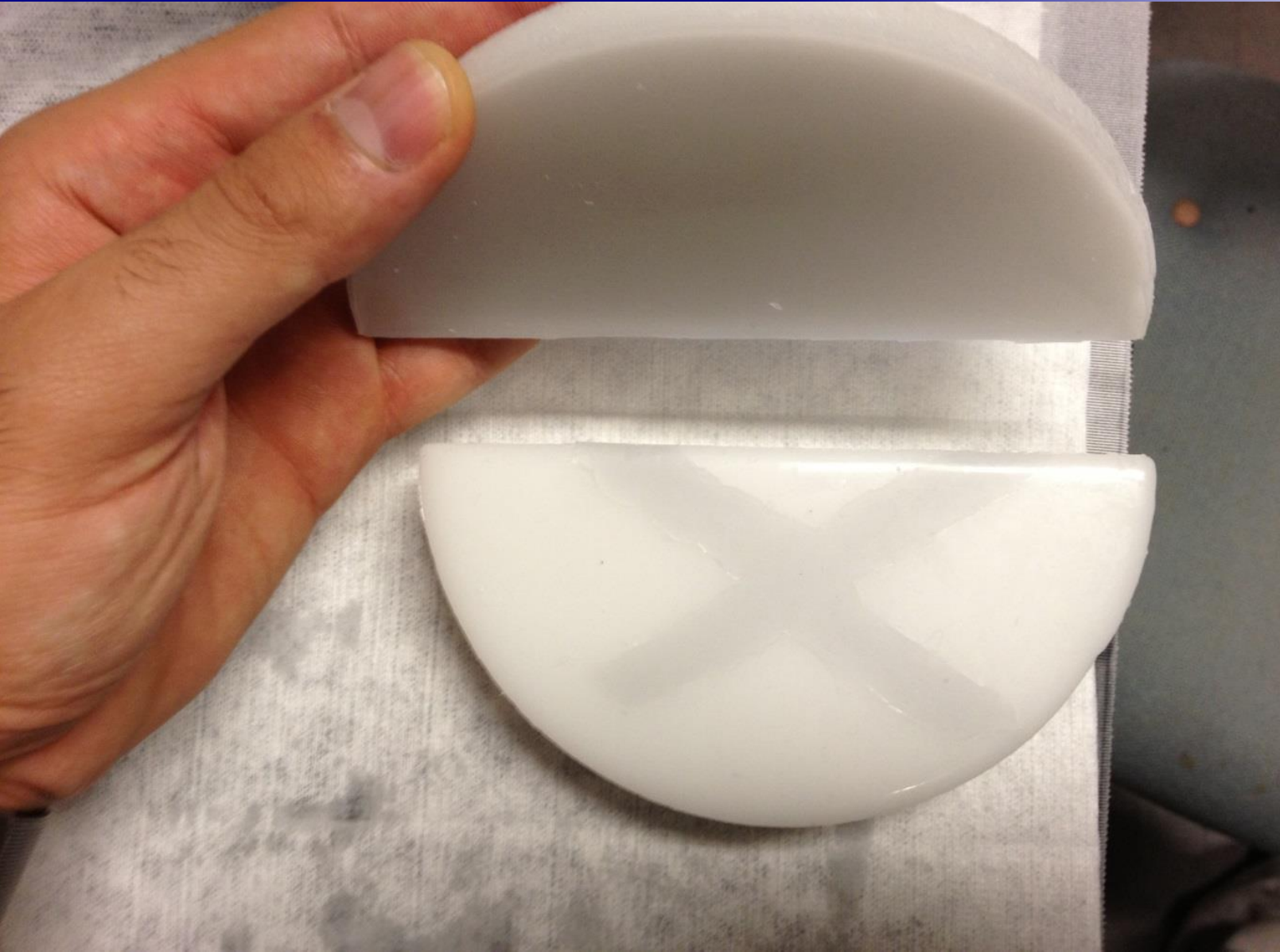
# Liquid phantoms:

Scattering: Intralipid - Absorption: black India ink



# Solid silicone phantoms:

Scattering:  $\text{TiO}_2$  - Absorption: black India ink



# Absolute brain measurements in younger and older subjects

## Homogenous Assumption Human Head NIRS Measurements

### Brain Tissue

Scalp, Skull, Dura, subarachnoid space,  
Brain tissue

Coefficients:

$\mu_a$  – absorption

$\mu'_s$  – reduced scattering



**Diffuse Reflectance  
Measurements**

# Elderly and Young Subjects

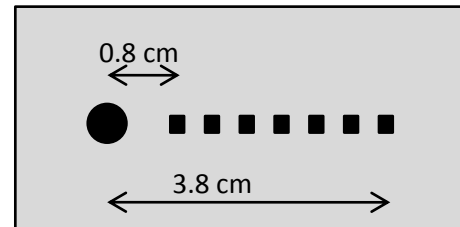
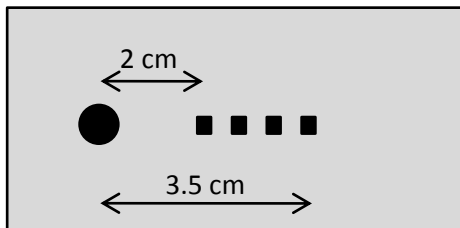
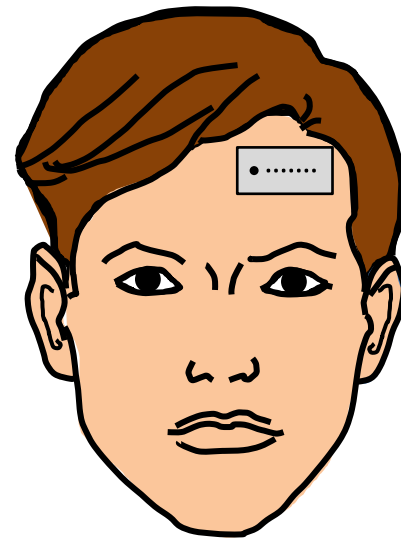
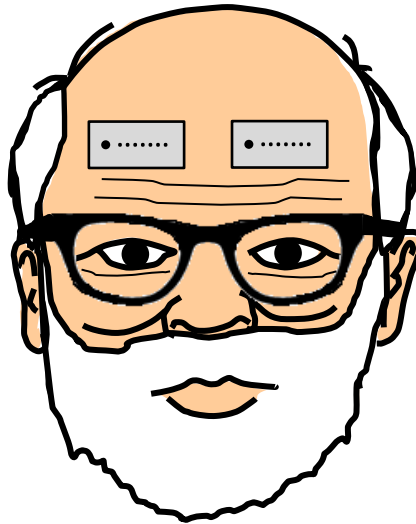
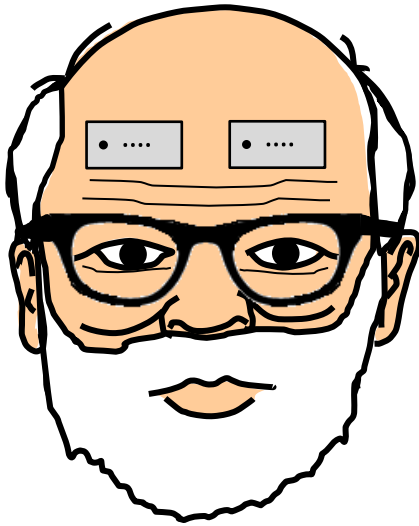
Elderly subjects (age: 70-96)

Young subjects (age: 21-34)

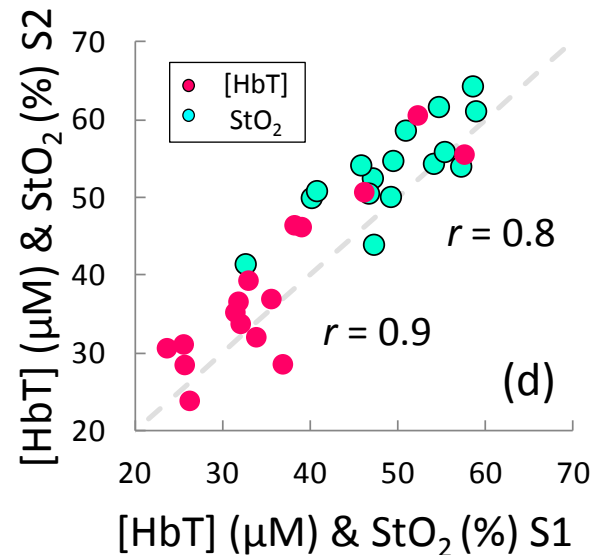
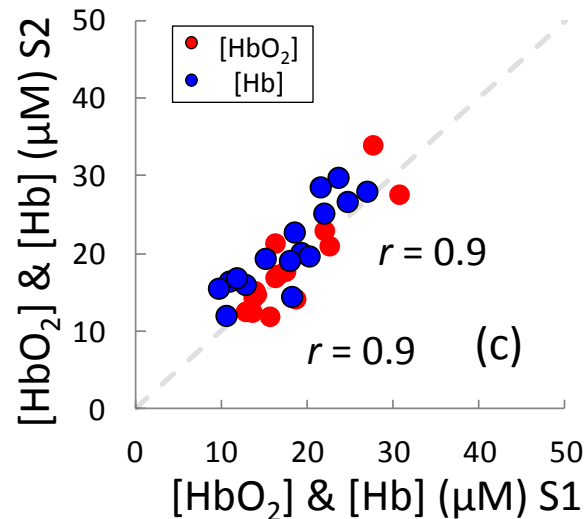
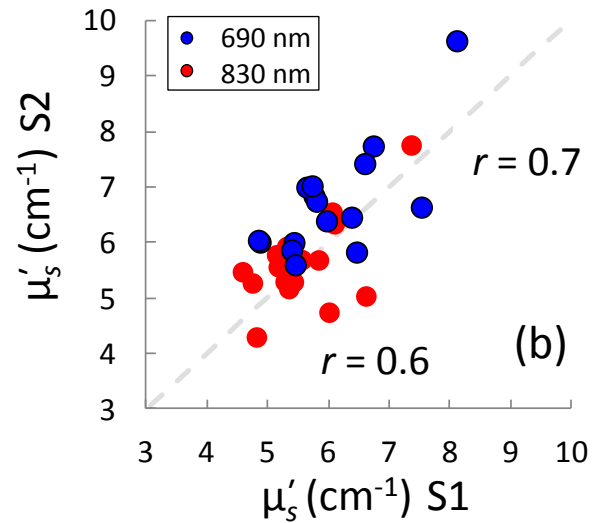
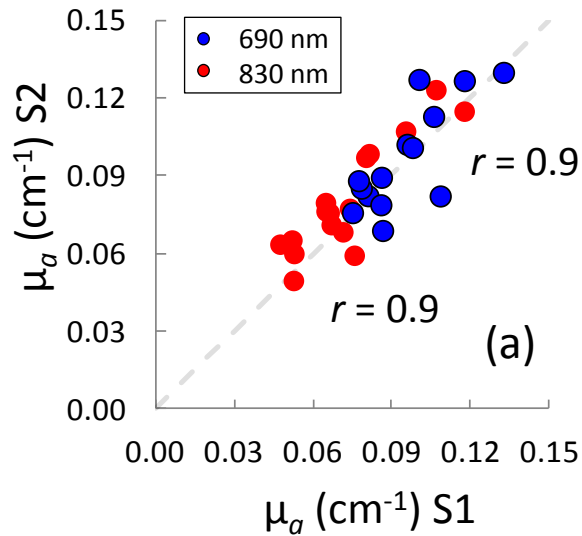
Session 1, May  
( $n=23$ )

Session 2, October  
( $n=29$ )

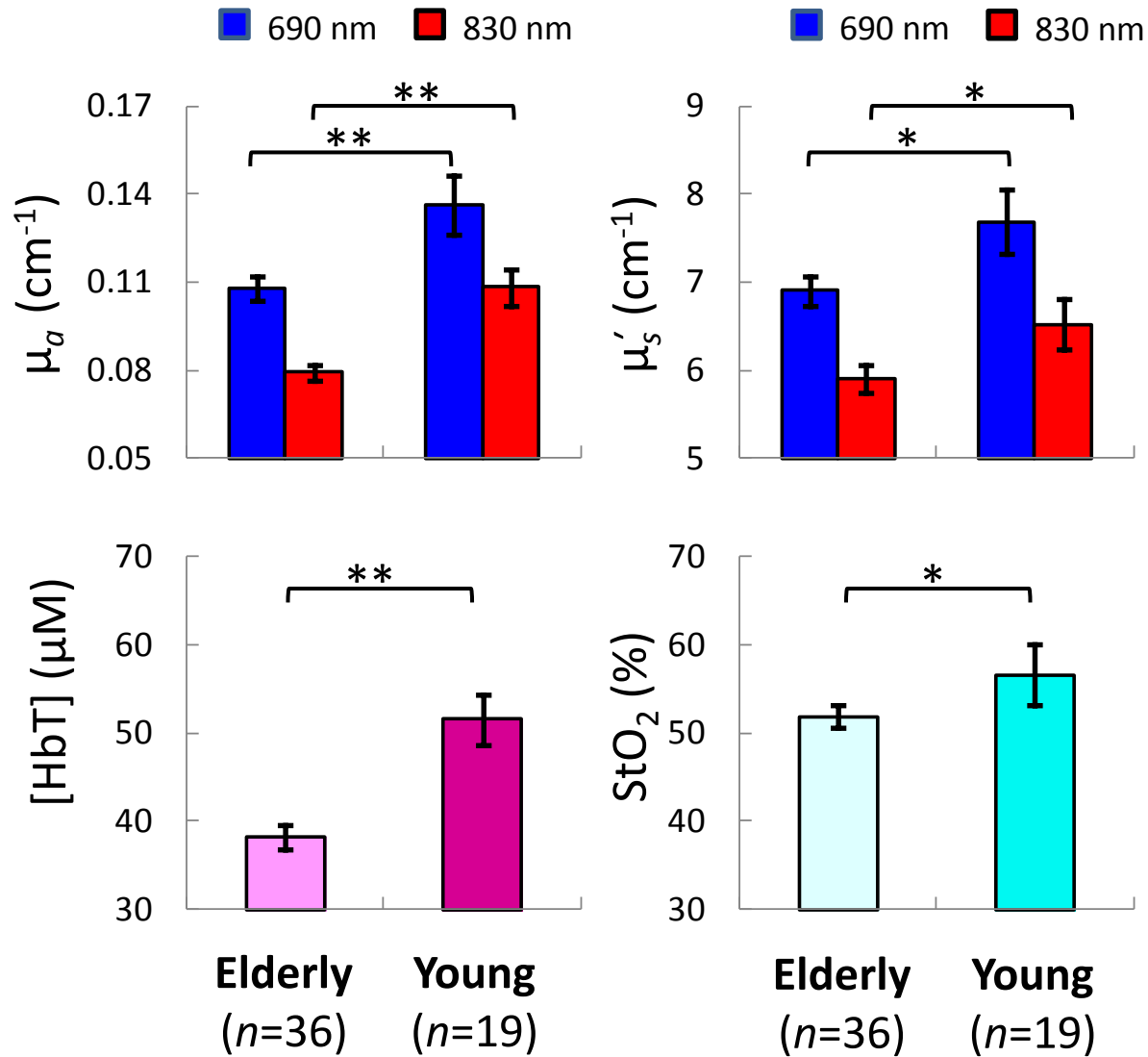
Session 3  
( $n=19$ )



# Reproducibility (Elderly Subjects)



# Significant age-related differences



# Absolute brain measurements with a two-layer tissue model

## Two-layered Analysis Human Head NIRS Measurements

### Extracerebral Layer

Skull, Scalp, Dura, subarachnoid space

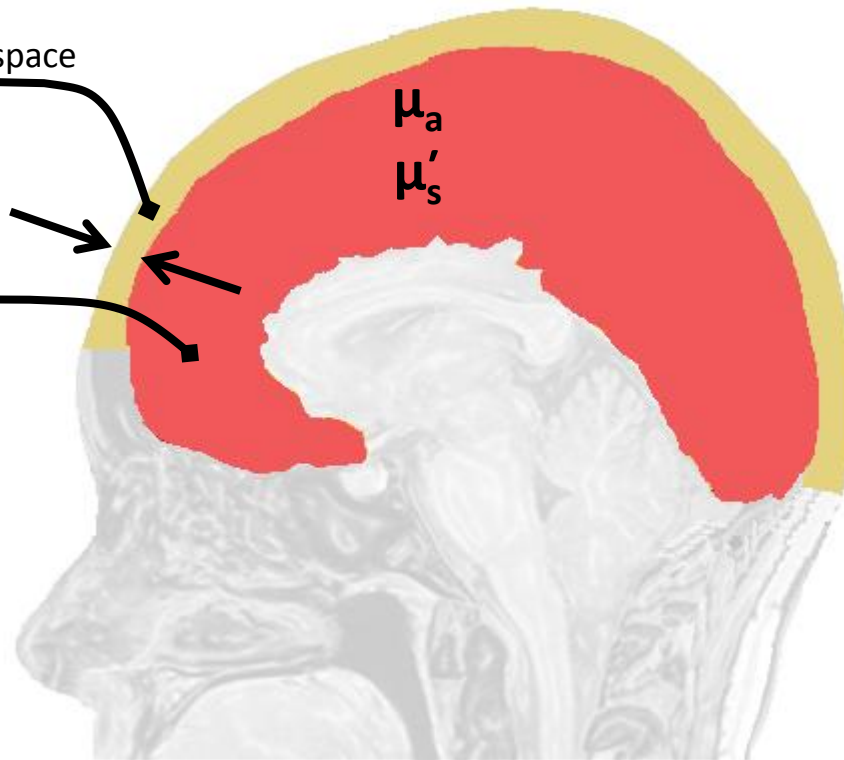
$\mu_{a1}$  and  $\mu'_{s1}$

Thickness

### Cerebral Layer

Cortex

$\mu_{a2}$  and  $\mu'_{s2}$



**Diffuse Reflectance  
Measurements**

# Two-layer diffusion model

Frequency-domain solution of DE for a **two-layered cylinder**

Diffusely reflected intensity,  $I_R$ ; top layer fluence rate,  $\Phi_1$

$$I_R(r) = D_1 \frac{\partial}{\partial z} \Phi_1(r, z) \Big|_{z=0}, \text{ where } D_1 = 1/(3\mu'_{s1})$$

$\Phi_1$  from: Liemert and Kienle, J Biomed Opt. **15**, 025002 (2010)

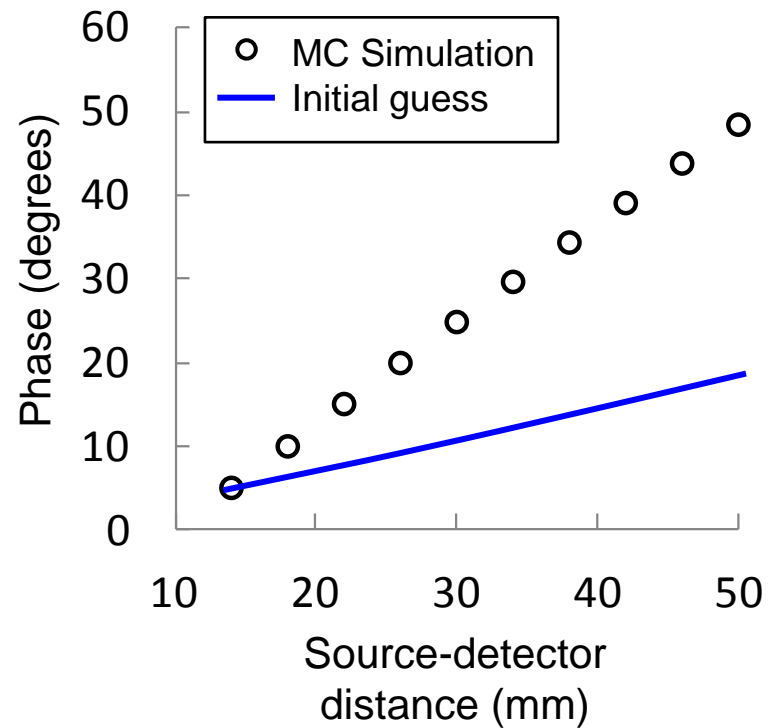
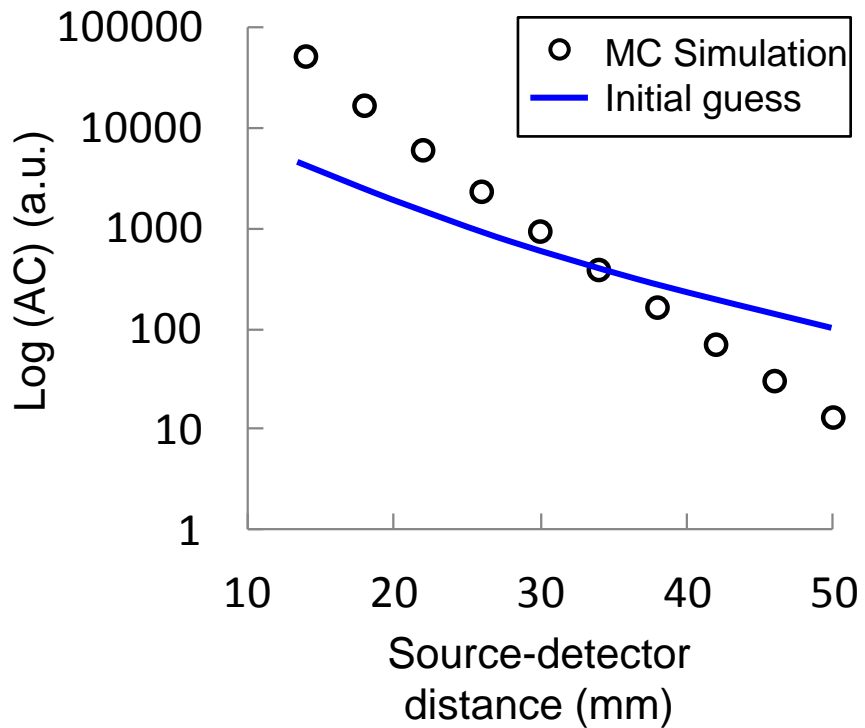
$$\text{AC} = |I_R(r)| \quad \text{PH} = \arg[I_R(r)]$$

$r$  = source-detector separation

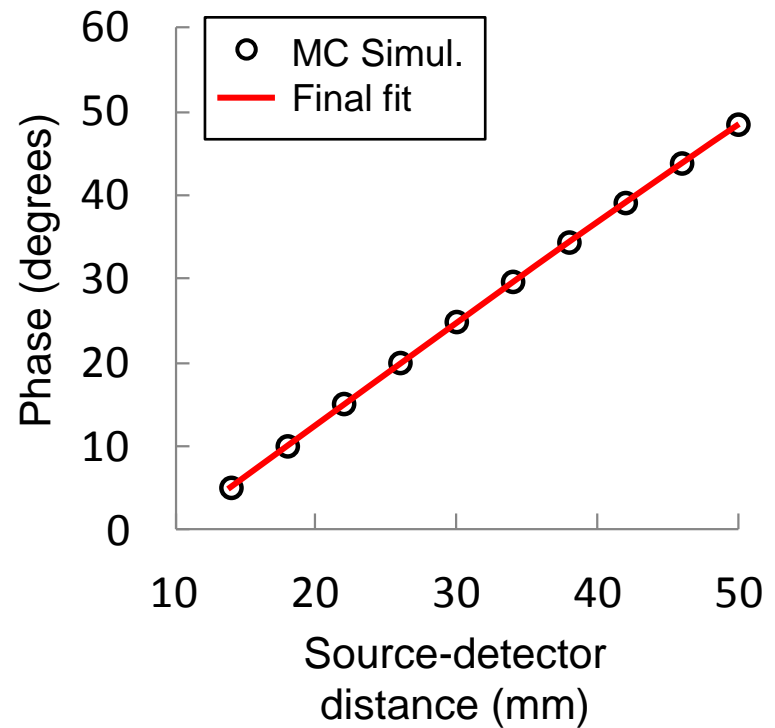
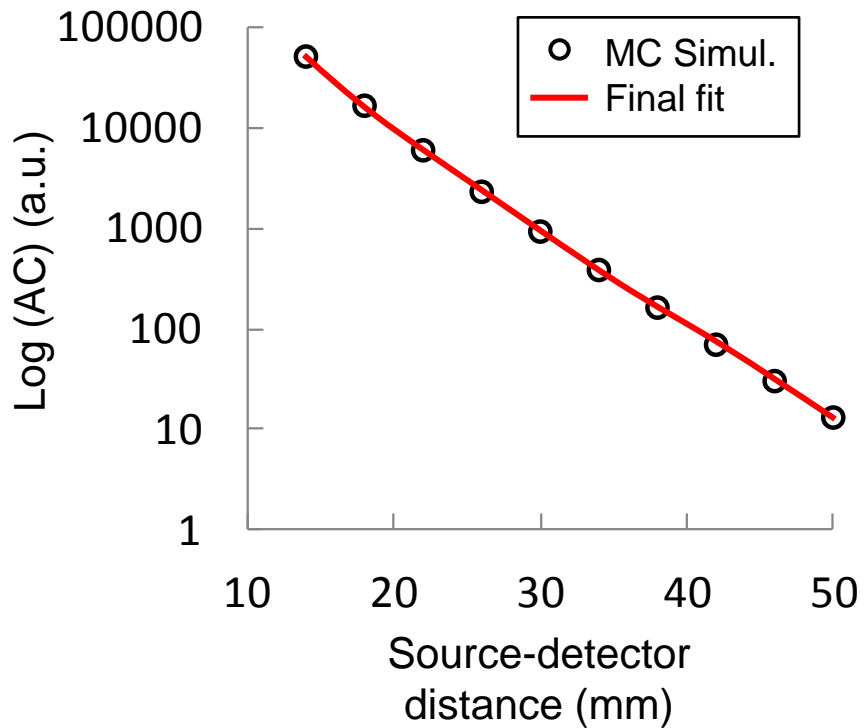
Data collected at multiple source-detector separations: ~1-5 cm

Six fitting parameters:  $\mathbf{x} = [\mu_{a1} \quad \mu'_{s1} \quad L \quad \mu_{a2} \quad \mu'_{s2} \quad \text{AF}]^T$

# Inversion Procedure



# Inversion Procedure



# Phantom Experiments

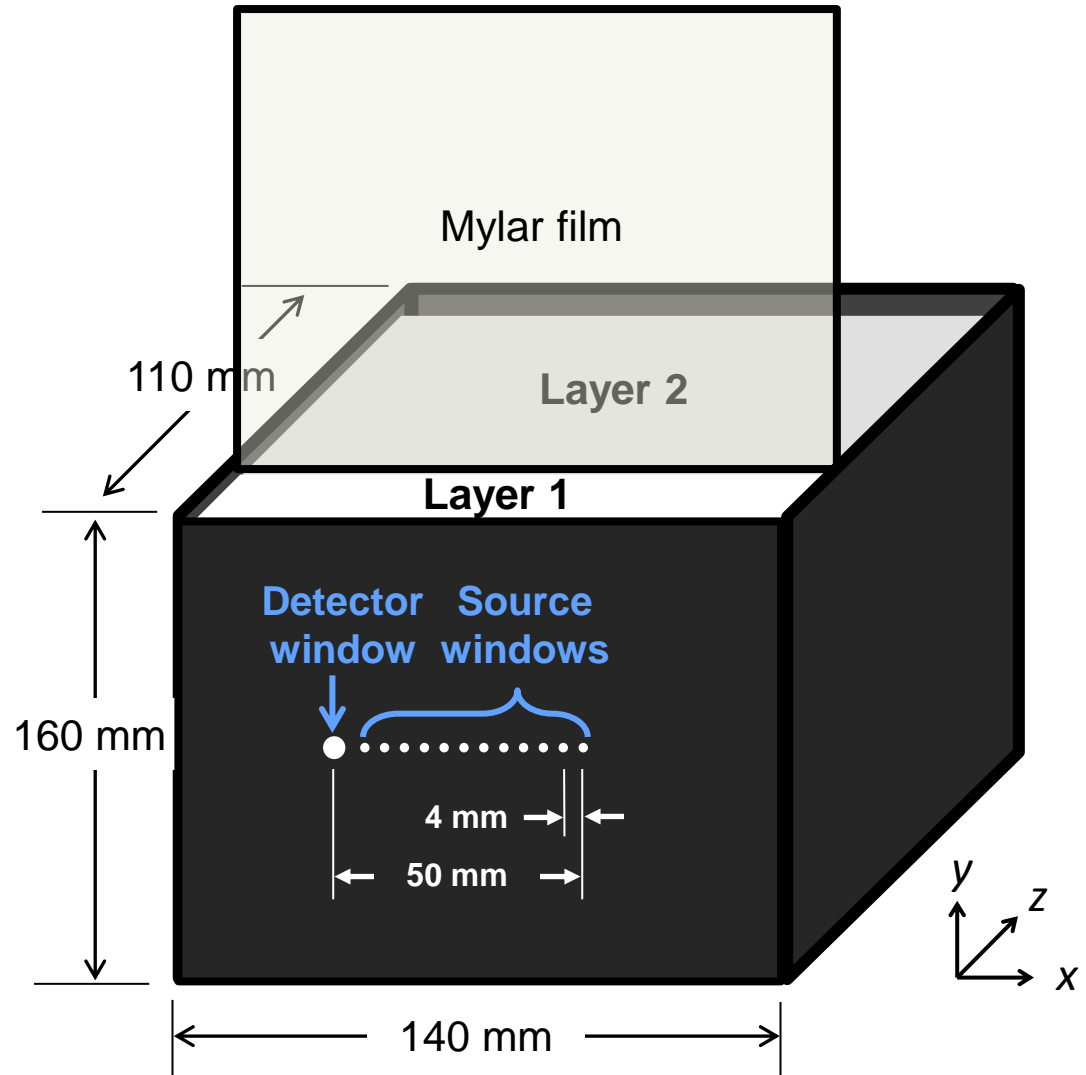
- Two-layered Phantoms
  - 12 Phantoms, Reflectance
- Homogenous Phantoms
  - 8 Phantoms, Infinite Geometry

# Two-layered Phantom Experiments

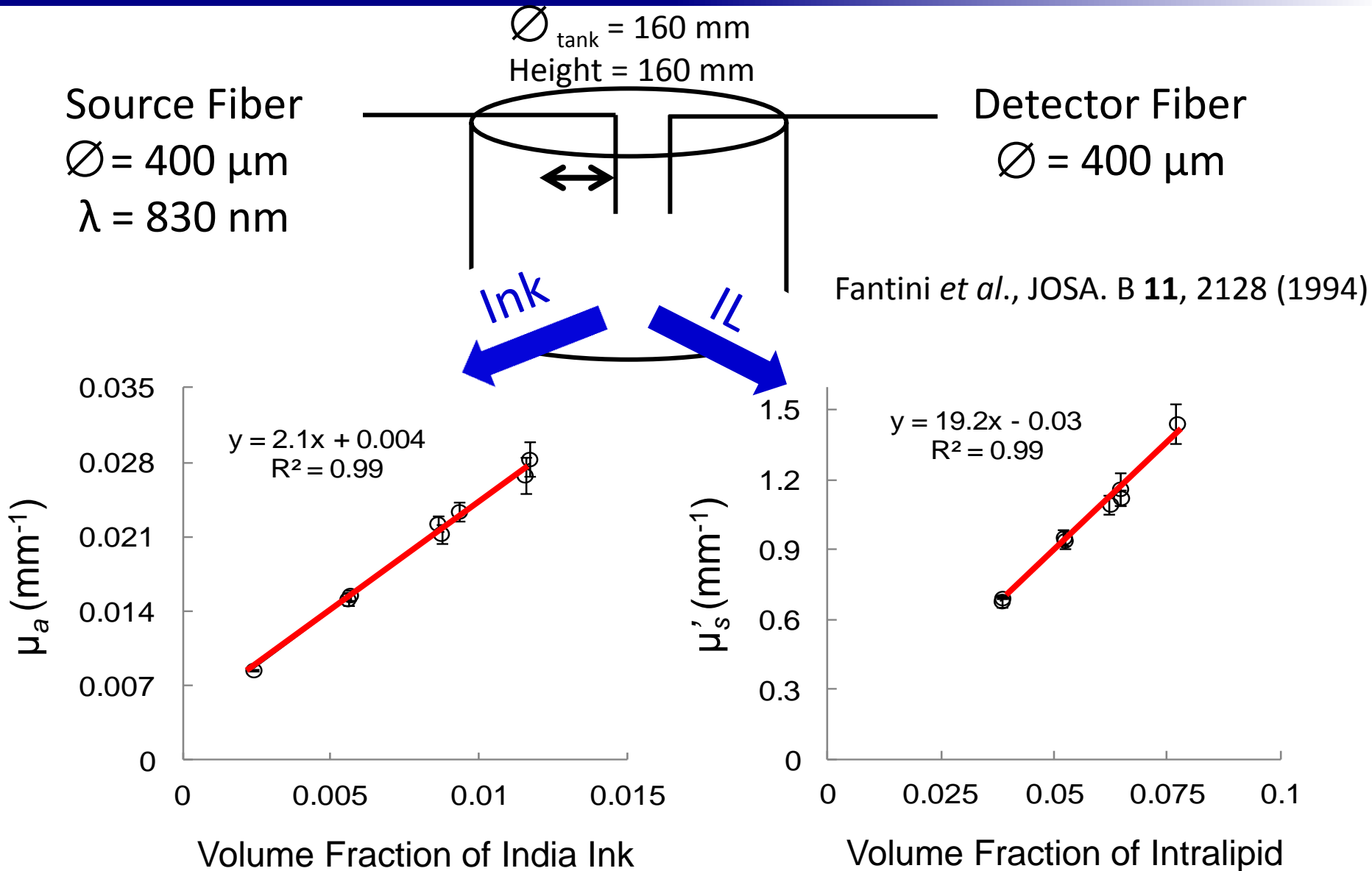
Del Bianco et al, Opt Express **12**, 2101 (2004)

- Black PVC walls ( $n = 1.56$ )
  - Totally absorbing boundaries
- Optical windows
  - Detector (x1)
  - Illumination (x12)
  - Range (6–50 mm)
- Mylar Film
  - Small  $n$  mismatch
- Suspensions:
  - Intralipid 20% ( $n = 1.33$ )
  - India Ink
  - Water

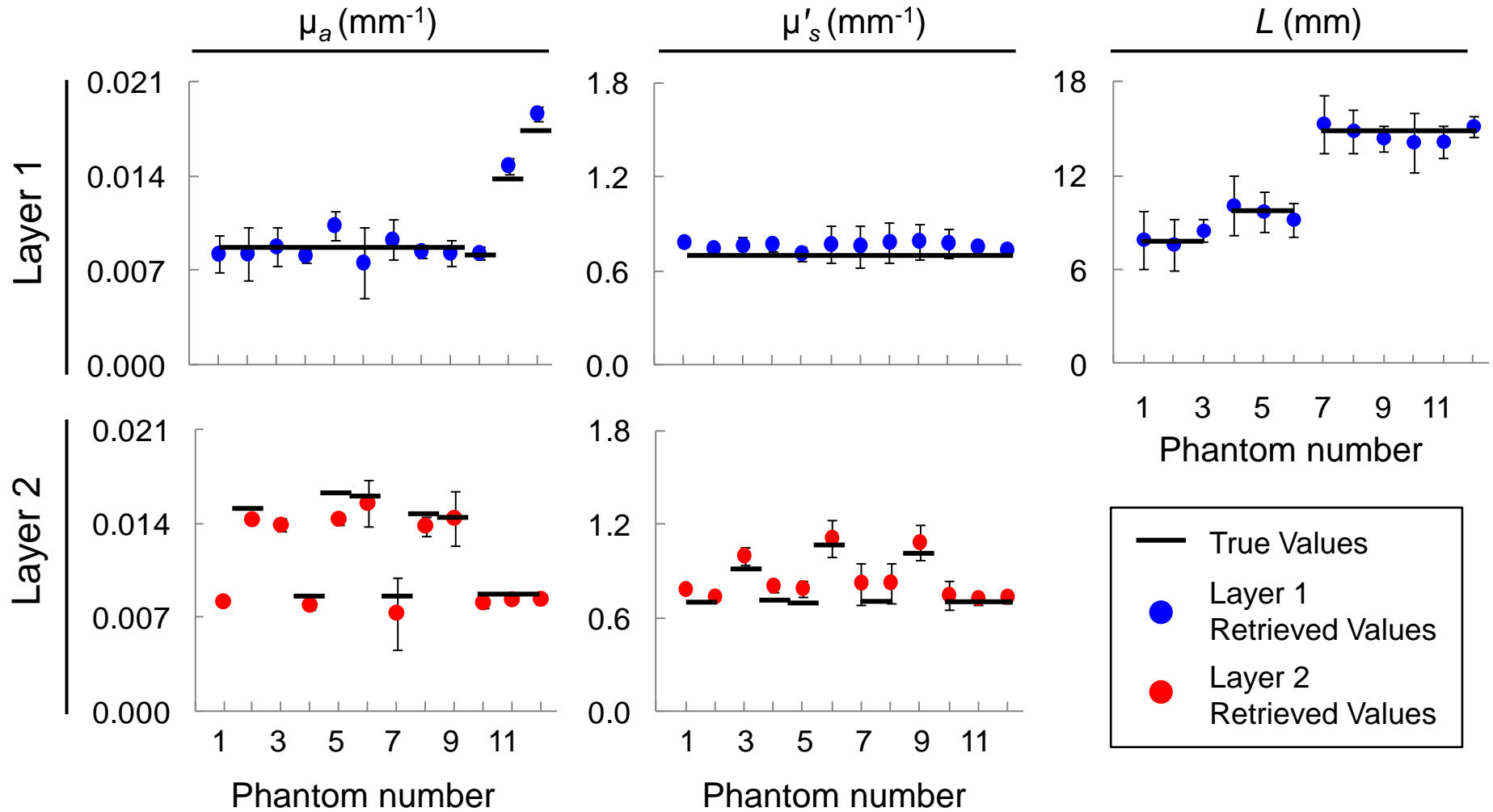
$n$  = Refractive index



# Homogenous Phantom Experiments

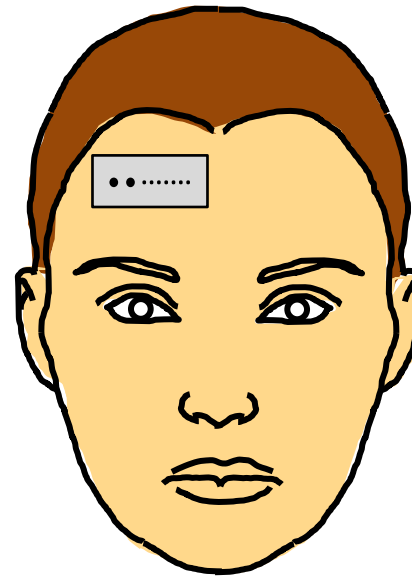
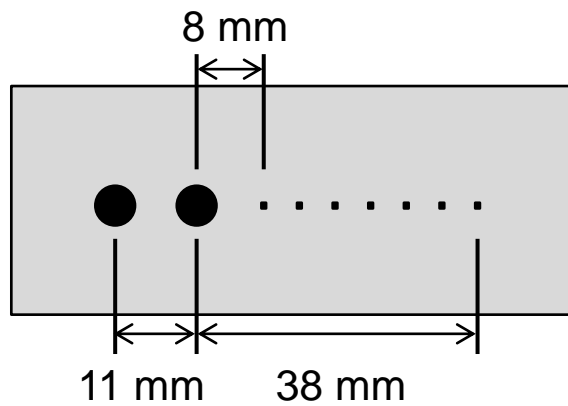


# Two-layered Phantom Results



# *In vivo* Experiments

- Optical Detector fibers
- Optical Source fibers

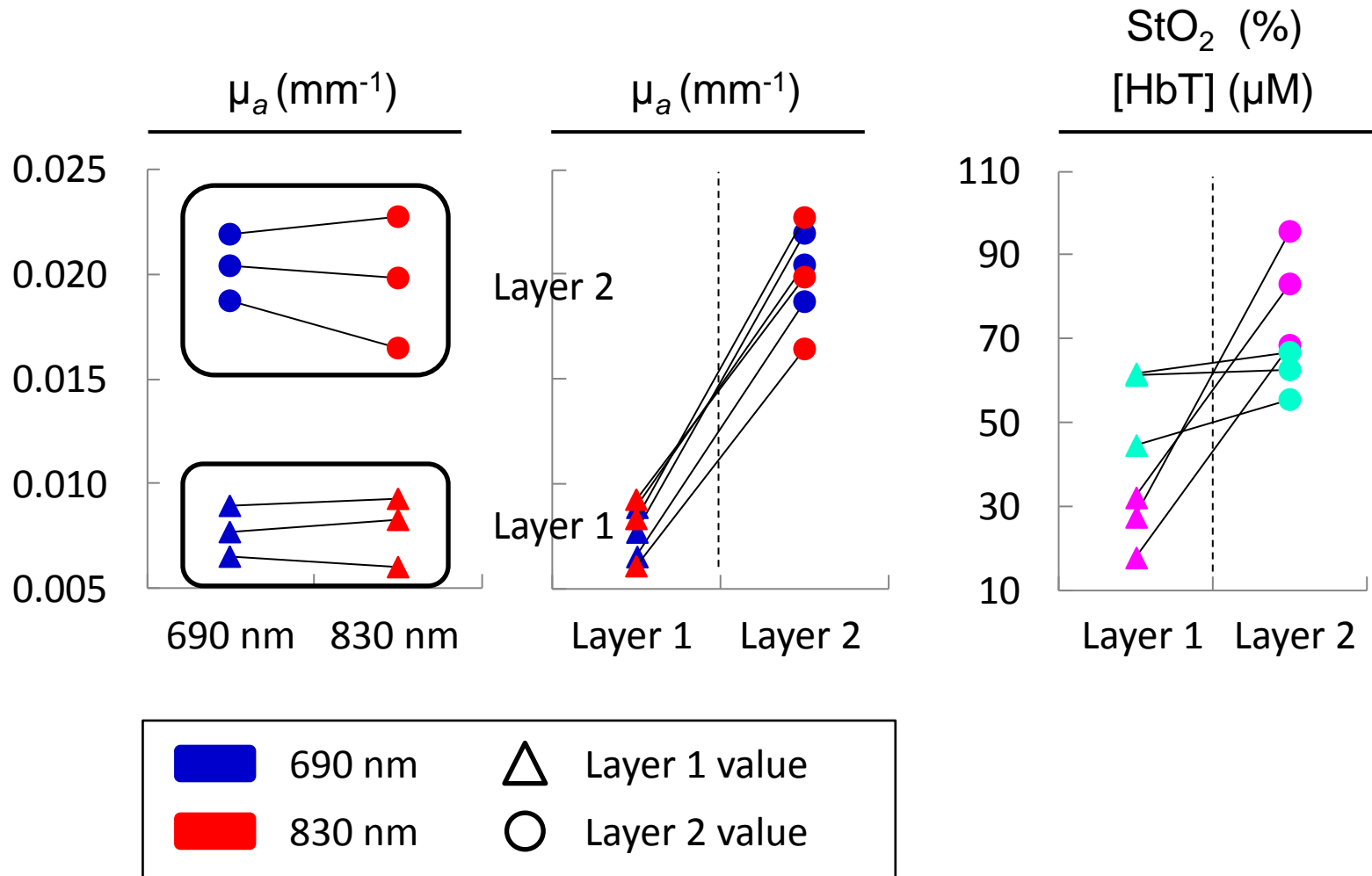


$\lambda_1$ : 690 nm

$\lambda_2$ : 830 nm

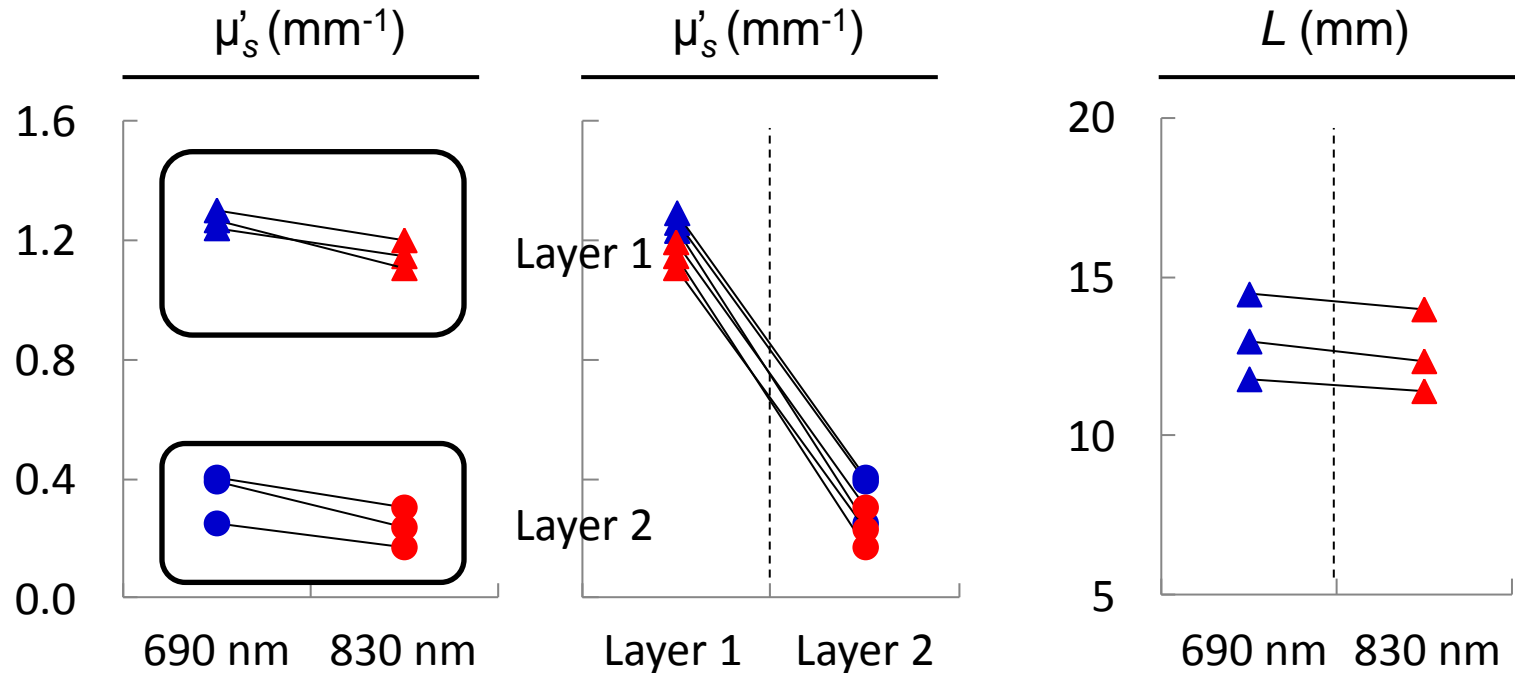
# In vivo Results

## Absorption Coefficient

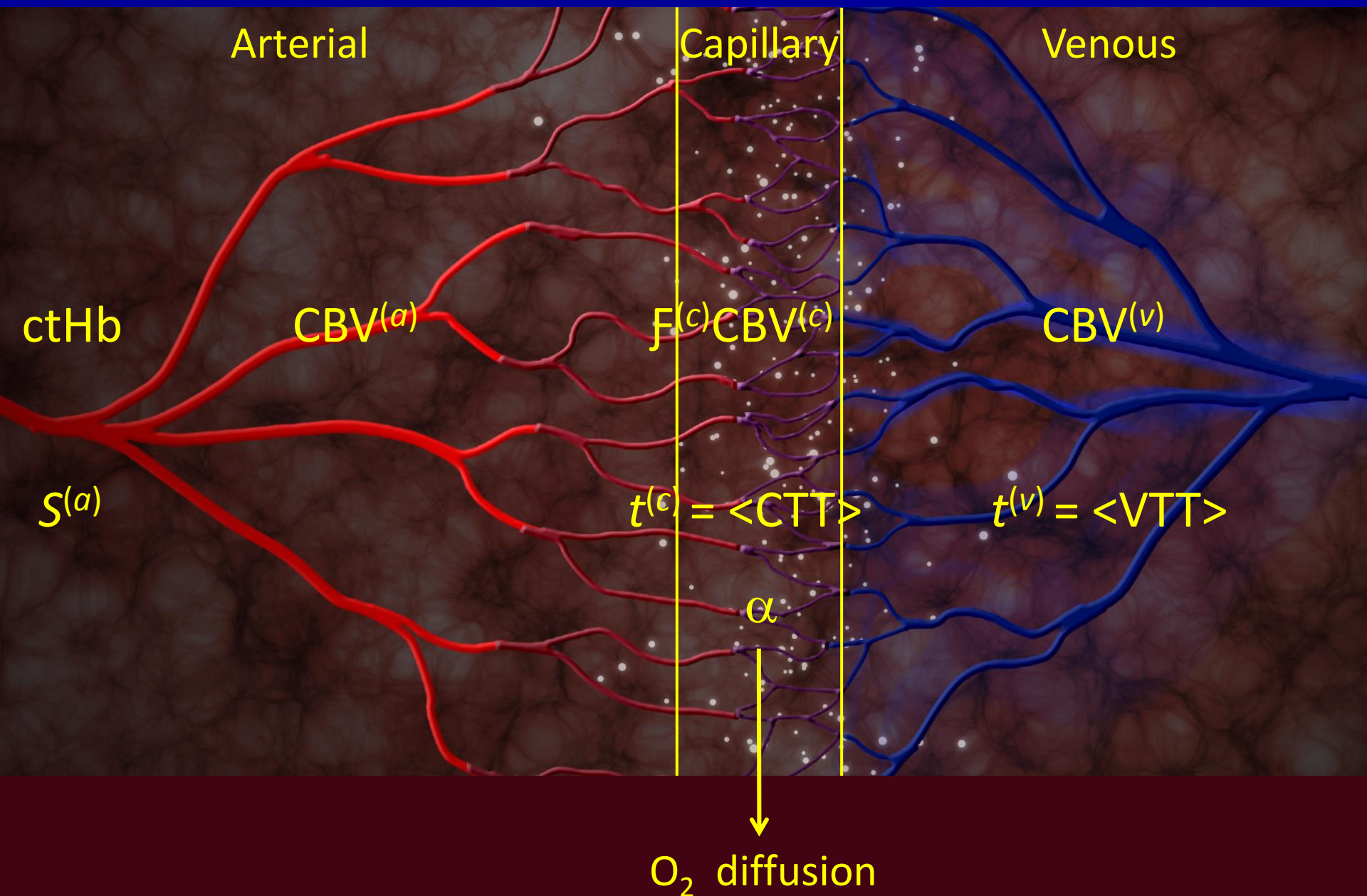


# In vivo Results

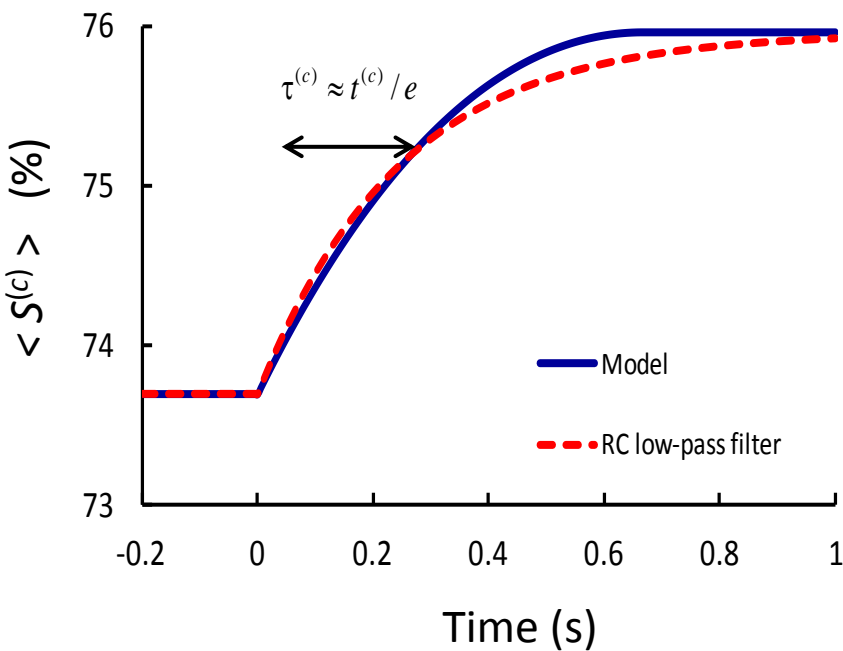
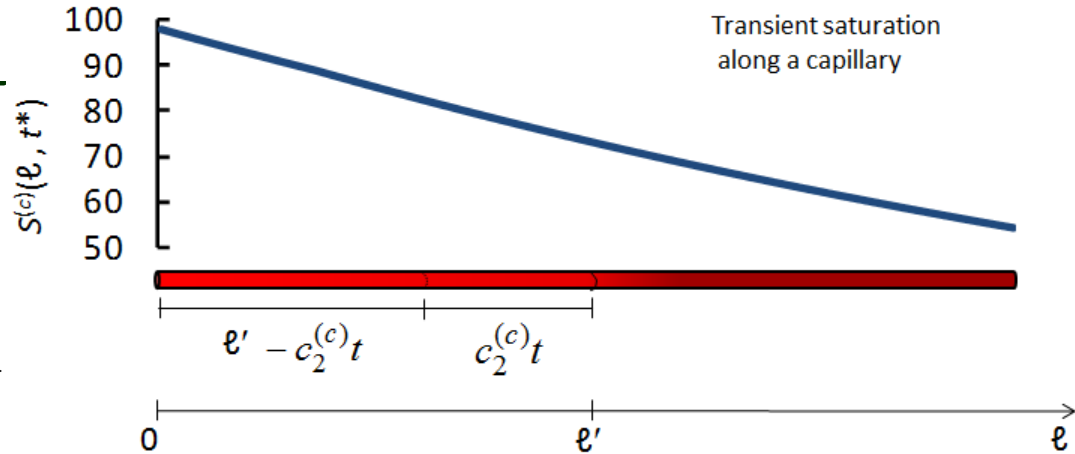
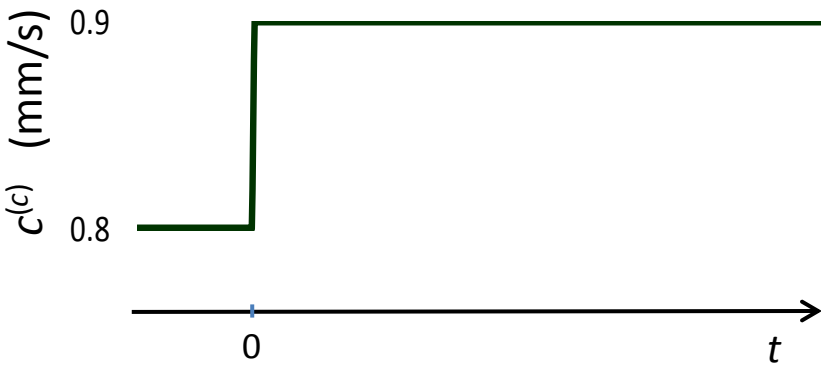
## Scattering coefficient and Layer 1 thickness



# Basic principles of a new hemodynamic model



# Step change in capillary flow velocity: Capillary saturation transient



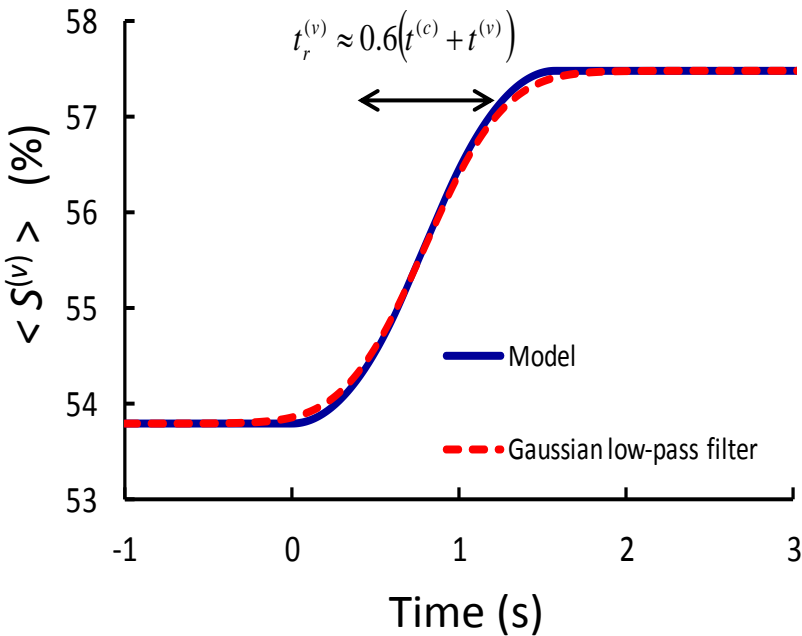
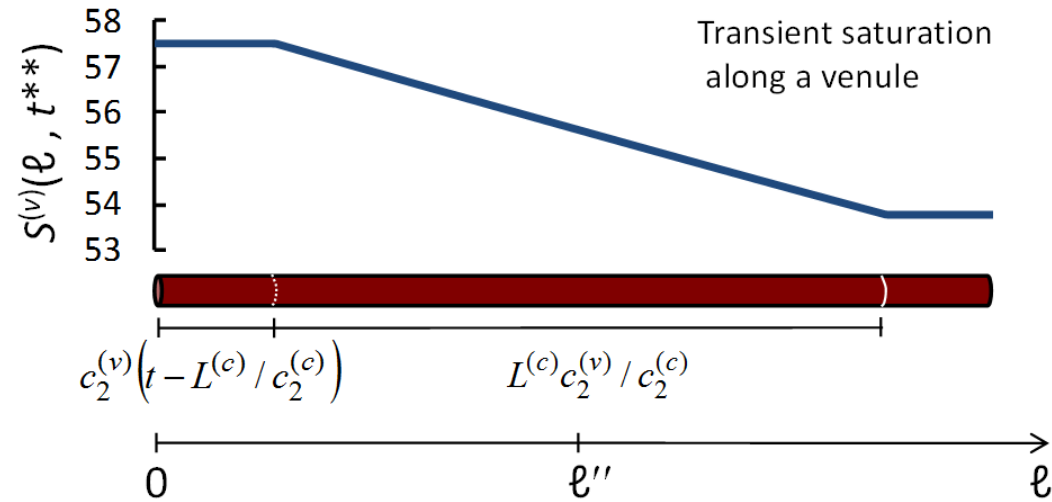
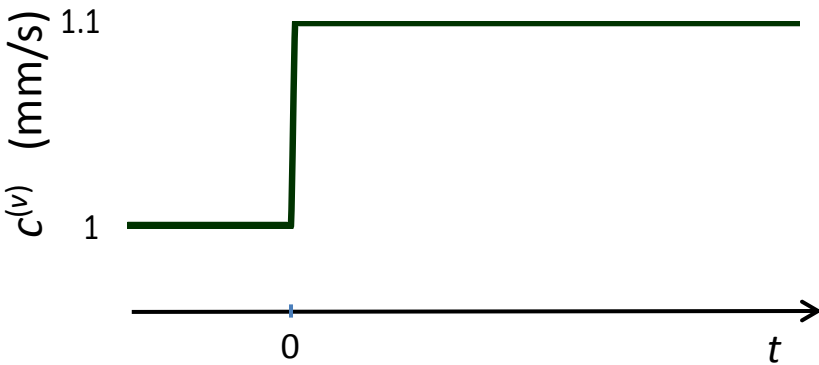
Effect of capillary transit time on the capillary saturation: RC low-pass filter with time

constant  $\tau^{(c)} = \frac{t^{(c)}}{e}$

Impulse response:  $h_{RC-LP}^{(c)}(t) = \frac{1}{\tau^{(c)}} e^{-t/\tau^{(c)}}$

Transfer function:  $\mathcal{H}_{RC-LP}^{(c)}(\omega) = \frac{1}{1+i\omega\tau^{(c)}}$

# Step change in flow velocity: Venous saturation transient



Effect of blood transit times on venous saturation:  
Time-shifted Gaussian low-pass filter with shift time  $t_{0.5}^{(v)} = 0.5(t^{(c)} + t^{(v)})$  and rise time  $t_r^{(v)} \sim 0.6(t^{(c)} + t^{(v)})$

Impulse response:

$$h_{G-LP}^{(v)}(t) = \frac{1}{t_r^{(v)}} e^{-\pi(t-t_{0.5}^{(v)})^2 / (t_r^{(v)})^2}$$

Transfer function:

$$\mathcal{H}_{G-LP}^{(v)}(\omega) = e^{-\frac{\ln 2}{2} \left( \frac{\omega t_r^{(v)}}{2\pi \cdot 0.34} \right)^2} e^{-i\omega t_{0.5}^{(v)}}$$

# Hemodynamic model equations

[S. Fantini, NeuroImage **85**, 202-221 (2014)]

[S. Fantini, Physiol. Meas. **35**, N1-N9 (2014)]

Deoxy-hemoglobin concentration:

$$[\text{Hb}](t) = \text{ctHb} \left[ (1 - S^{(a)}) \text{CBV}_0^{(a)} (1 + \text{cbv}^{(a)}(t)) + (1 - \langle S^{(c)} \rangle) F^{(c)} \text{CBV}_0^{(c)} + (1 - S^{(v)}) \text{CBV}_0^{(v)} (1 + \text{cbv}^{(v)}(t)) \right] + \text{ctHb} \left[ \frac{\langle S^{(c)} \rangle}{S^{(v)}} (\langle S^{(c)} \rangle - S^{(v)}) F^{(c)} \text{CBV}_0^{(c)} h_{RC-LP}^{(c)}(t) + (S^{(a)} - S^{(v)}) \text{CBV}_0^{(v)} h_{G-LP}^{(v)}(t) \right] * [\text{cbf}(t) - \text{cmro}_2(t)]$$

Oxy-hemoglobin concentration:

$$[\text{HbO}](t) = \text{ctHb} \left[ S^{(a)} \text{CBV}_0^{(a)} (1 + \text{cbv}^{(a)}(t)) + \langle S^{(c)} \rangle F^{(c)} \text{CBV}_0^{(c)} + S^{(v)} \text{CBV}_0^{(v)} (1 + \text{cbv}^{(v)}(t)) \right] + \text{ctHb} \left[ \frac{\langle S^{(c)} \rangle}{S^{(v)}} (\langle S^{(c)} \rangle - S^{(v)}) F^{(c)} \text{CBV}_0^{(c)} h_{RC-LP}^{(c)}(t) + (S^{(a)} - S^{(v)}) \text{CBV}_0^{(v)} h_{G-LP}^{(v)}(t) \right] * [\text{cbf}(t) - \text{cmro}_2(t)]$$

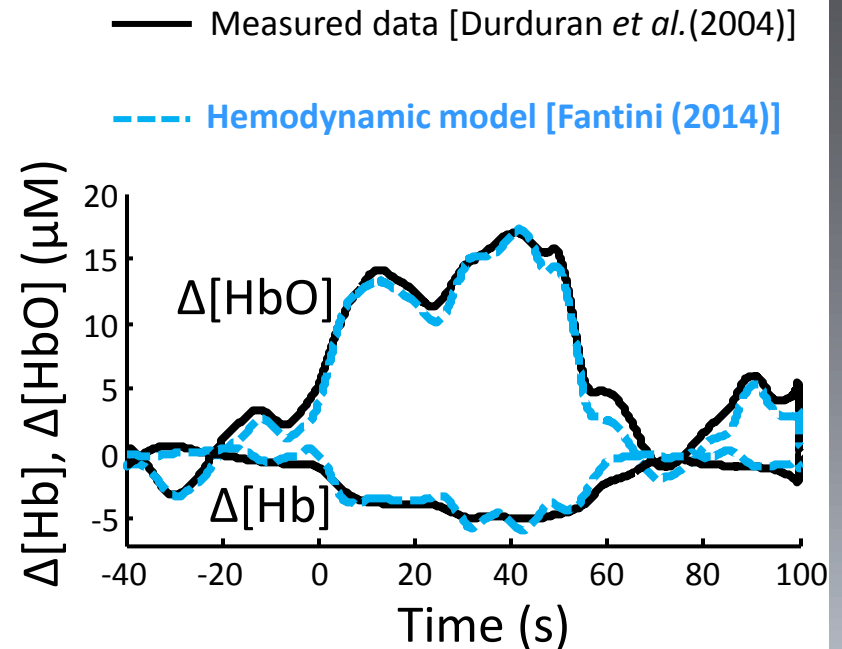
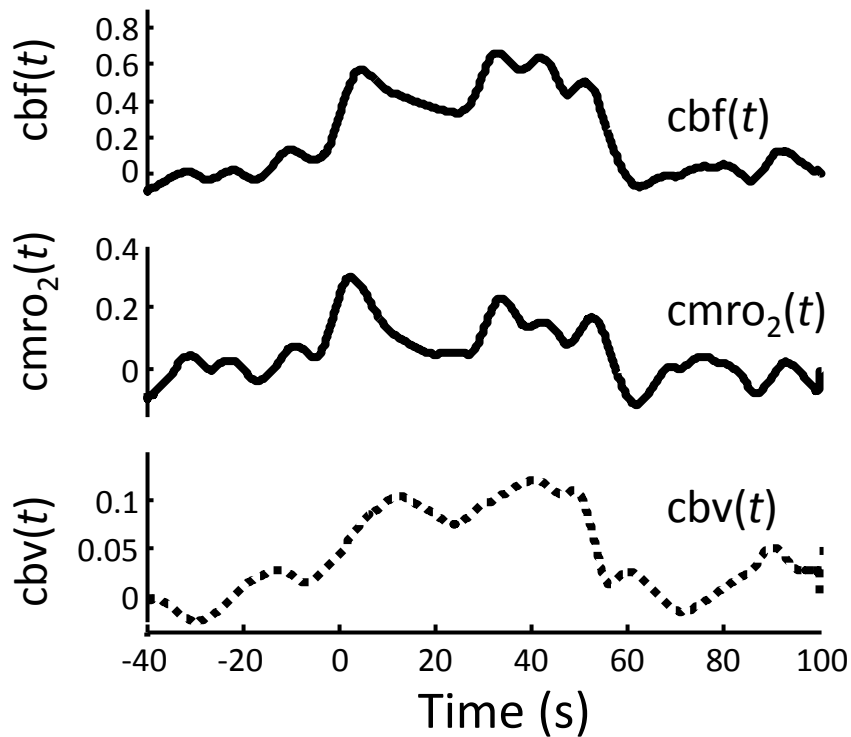
Total hemoglobin concentration:

$$[\text{HbT}](t) = [\text{HbT}]_0 [1 + \text{cbv}(t)]$$

# Model validation from published fNIRS data: Human brain - finger tapping

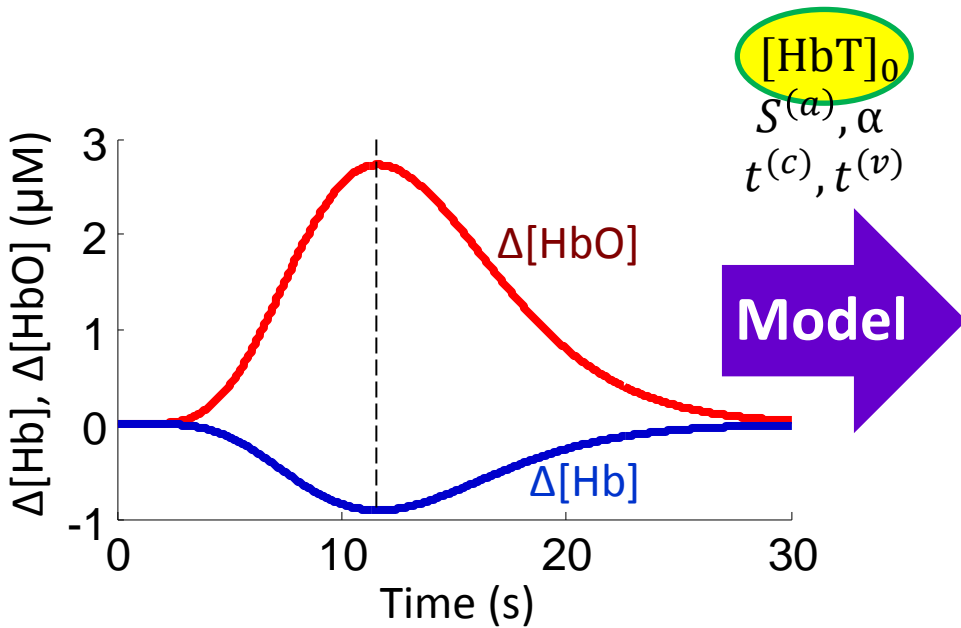
$cbf(t)$ ,  $cbv(t)$ , and  $cmro_2(t)$  are inputs to the model

From Durduran *et al.*, Opt. Lett. **29**, 1766 (2004)

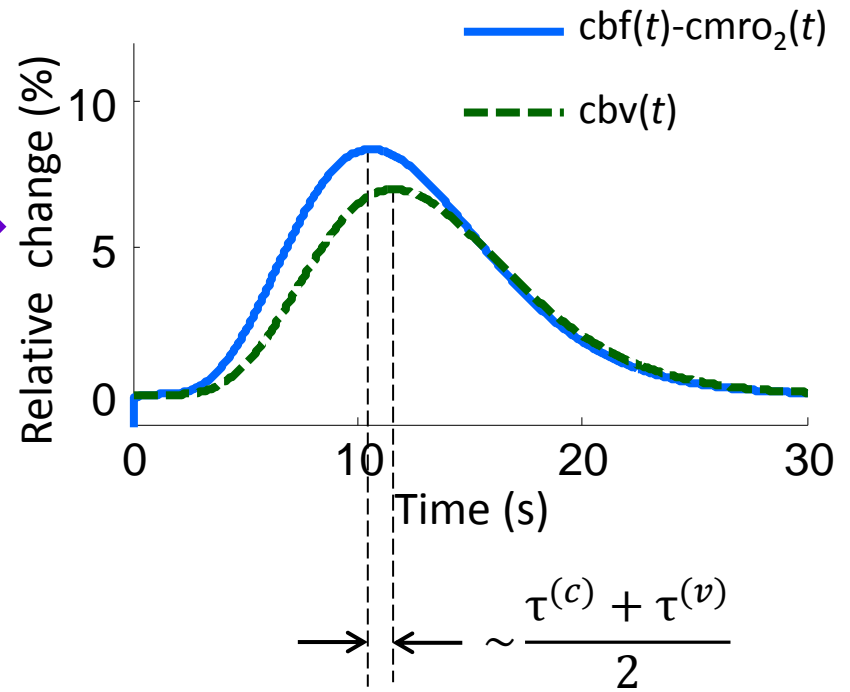


# Application of the new hemodynamic model to fNIRS

Measured concentration changes of [HbO] and [Hb]



Relative changes in CBV, CBF, and  $\text{CMRO}_2$  ( $\text{cbv}(t)$  and  $[\text{cbf}(t) - \text{cmro}_2(t)]$ )



# CONCLUSIONS

- The key role of tissue phantoms for calibration and validation of absolute NIRS measurements
- Absolute cerebral concentration and saturation of hemoglobin
- Determination of CBV, CBF, and  $CMRO_2$  for functional brain studies

# MANY THANKS TO MY RESEARCH GROUP



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