

**Table A.1** Some useful numbers concerning vertebrate skeletal muscle (frog sartorius at 0°C)

Sarcomere length	2.0–3.0 $\mu\text{m}$ (2.5 $\mu\text{m}$ rest length)
Thick filament length	1.6 $\mu\text{m}$ (about 300 myosin molecules)
Thick filament shaft diameter	15 nm
Thin filament length	1.0 $\mu\text{m}$ (about 380 actin molecules)
Thin filament diameter	9 nm
Bare zone length	0.15 $\mu\text{m}$
Thick filament spacing (centre–centre)	42 nm (at rest length)
Thick–thin filament spacing (")	22–30 nm (26 nm at rest length)
Thick–thin filament ratio	1:2 (in cross-section) 1:4 (in total sarcomere)
Total actin content	600 nmol $\text{g}^{-1}$ muscle (about 600 $\mu\text{M}$ )
Total myosin content	120 nmol $\text{g}^{-1}$ muscle (about 240 $\mu\text{M}$ heads)
ATPase rate (isometric contraction)	0.5 $\mu\text{mol ATP/g muscle/s} = 2.1 \text{ ATP/myosin head/s}$
(isotonic contraction)	1.5 $\mu\text{mol ATP/g muscle/s} = 6.3 \text{ ATP/myosin head/s}$
(relaxed)	< 0.5 nmol ATP/g muscle/s < $2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ ATP/myosin head/s}$
$\Delta G$ for ATP hydrolysis	60 $\text{kJ mol}^{-1} = 10^{-19} \text{ J per molecule}$
Isometric tension, $P_0$	20 $\text{N cm}^{-2}$ ( $\approx 1.6 \text{ pN per myosin head}$ )
Elastic modulus (stiffness)	4 $\text{kN cm}^{-2}$ (isometric) 0.025 $\text{kN cm}^{-2}$ (relaxed)
Maximum shortening velocity, $V_0$	2 muscle lengths/s = 2.5 $\mu\text{m/s/half-sarcomere}$
Maximum power	44 $\text{mW g}^{-1}$ muscle (at $V_0/3$ )
Maximum thermodynamic efficiency	50% (at $V_0/3$ )
Heat production (isometric)	13 $\text{mW g}^{-1}$ muscle
Half-time to peak tension	50 ms
Half-time for relaxation	400 ms
Myosin subfragment 1 ATPase	0.01 $\text{s}^{-1}$ (in solution)
Actin-activated subfragment 1 ATPase	4.5 $\text{s}^{-1}$ (in solution)

Based on references 2, 3, 29, 47 (rates and velocities are about 5 to 10 times higher for rabbit psoas muscle at 20°C)