Muscle Fatigue Curve

Experiment 17 - Practical Notes

Name: _____ Roll no.: _____ Date: _____

Aim

To describe changes in a supplied repeated-contraction trace

Principle

Repeated activation can reduce the mechanical response. The preparation, stimulation pattern, recovery and recording conditions affect the trace.

Requirements

- Instructor-provided labelled diagrams, traces or data for this activity.
- Calculator, graph paper or spreadsheet, and the activity record.

Procedure

1. Review the record

Use the instructor-provided gastrocnemius-sciatic teaching trace or a simulated recording. Record the axes, gain and input markers.

2. Measure

Compare initial and later heights, mark pauses and note any recovery after the pause.

3. Conclude

Explain the curve using the stated conditions and identify one limitation of the comparison.

Observations and Record

Record item	Entry
Activity / material identifier	_____
Measurement or visible feature	_____
Comparison / calculated outcome	_____
Interpretation and limitation	_____

Worked Example

The numbers below are illustrative; enter your own observations in the record.

- Remaining response = later height ÷ initial height × 100. Example: 4 mm ÷ 10 mm × 100 = 40%.

Result

The recorded finding is ____; the supporting observation or calculation is ____. The main limitation is ____.

Precautions

- Use the supplied teaching material; distinguish a measured observation from an assumed value.
- Keep units, axes, labels and measurement conditions consistent.
- Record limitations and seek instructor review before applying a conclusion to a live case.

Viva Questions and Answers

1. What is the main endpoint?

Describe changes in a supplied repeated-contraction trace

2. Does one observed result prove a general conclusion?

No. Controls, repeatability and the limitations of the method must be considered.

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