



Discerning the Mauve Factor

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Irene (Vicky)
Colquhoun

1920-2000



David Horrobin

1939-2003



Mauve History

Discovered in urine in 1958

Named for lilac-colored appearance on paper chromatograms developed with Ehrlich's reagent

Labile and elusive

Abram Hoffer is the father of Mauve

Hoffer *J Neuropsych* 1961

Qualitative Mauve assay

All normals Mauve-negative

27/39 early schizophrenics positive

All 7 who recovered on niacinamide converted to
negative



Hoffer 1961

Mauve associates with relapses

Apparent role in other behaviors: ETOH,
depression

A "mentally retarded" mauve-positive child
responded dramatically to niacinamide

Hoffer and Mauve

Relatives should be tested

Preventive potential

10/14 criminal / deviant positives

740 patients: all recovered schizophrenics
negative, unrecovered 50% positive

Mauve in Schizophrenia

Hoffer 1961, 1963, 1966

Yutwiller 1962

O'Reilly 1965

Sohler 1967 x 2



High-Mauve and Behavior

Down syndrome
70%

Schizophrenia
40-70%

Autism 50%

ADHD 30%

ETOH 20-80%



Donald Irvine and Mauve

Dubbed it “Mauve Factor”

First to extract Mauve from urine

First to suggest pyrrole structure



Mis-identified Mauve twice

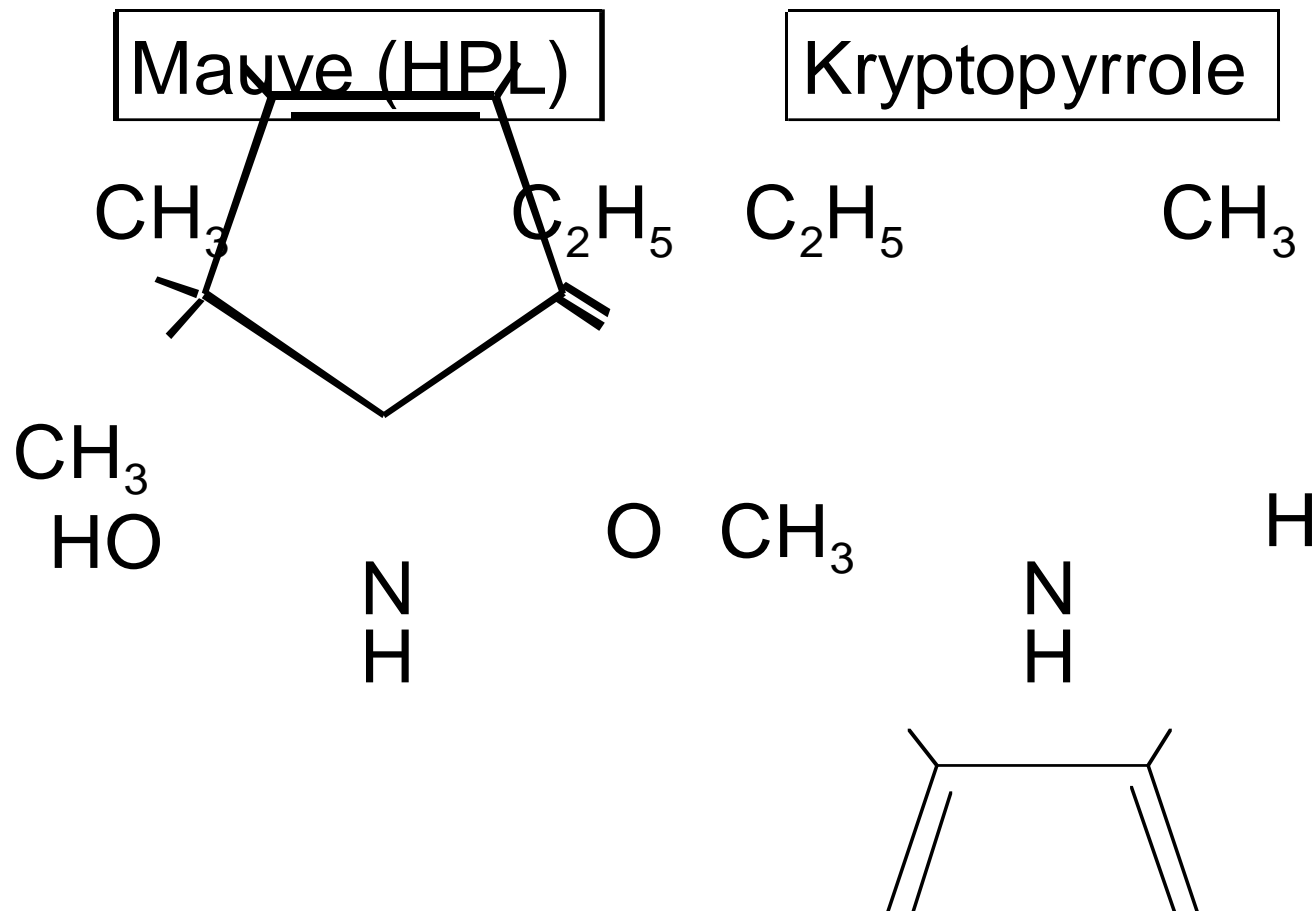
Animal experiments

Pfeiffer and Mauve

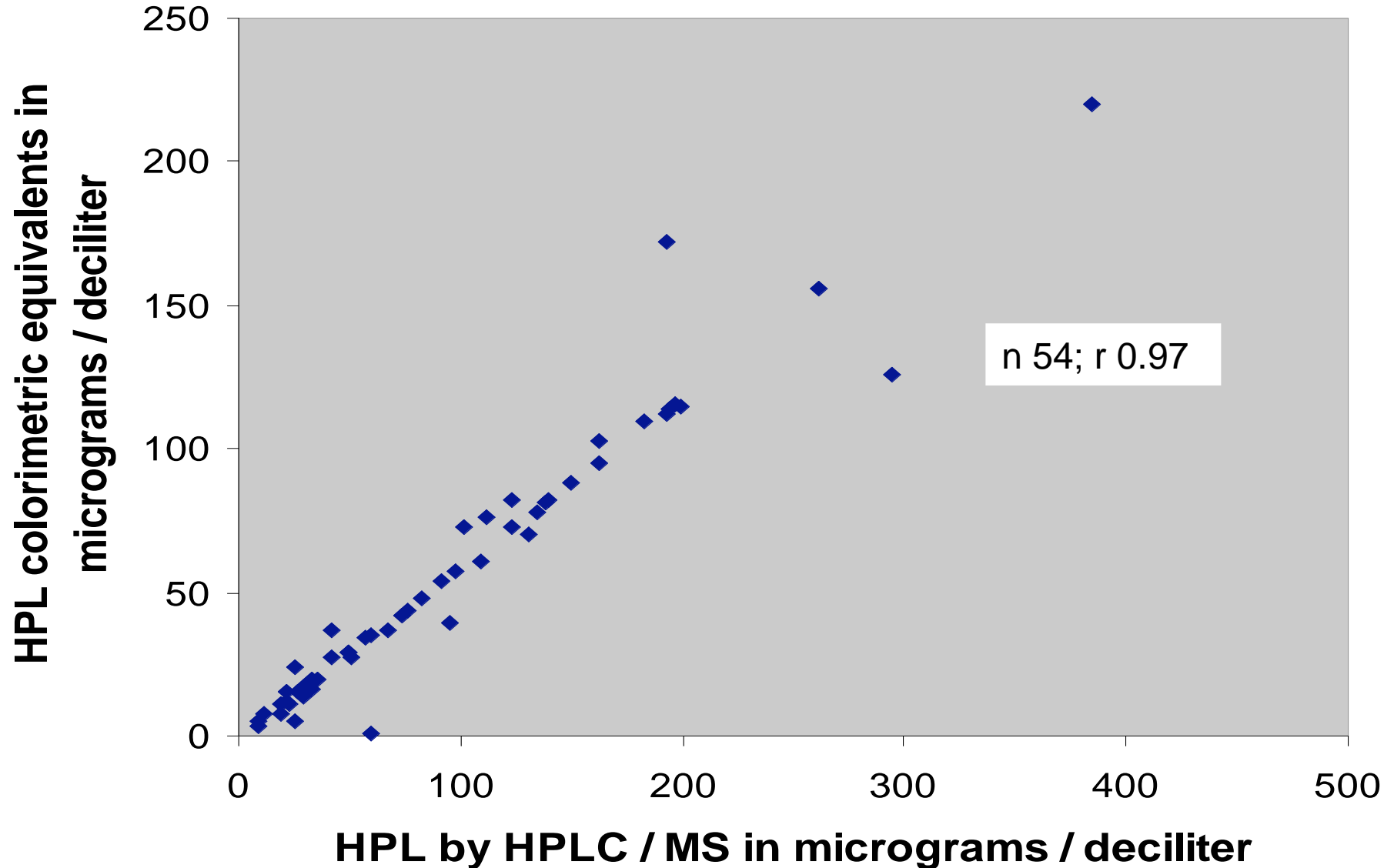
Introduced the colorimetric assay for Mauve using kryptopyrrole as surrogate standard

Vitamin B6 and zinc to suppress Mauve and improve clinical outcome, irrespective of behavioral diagnosis

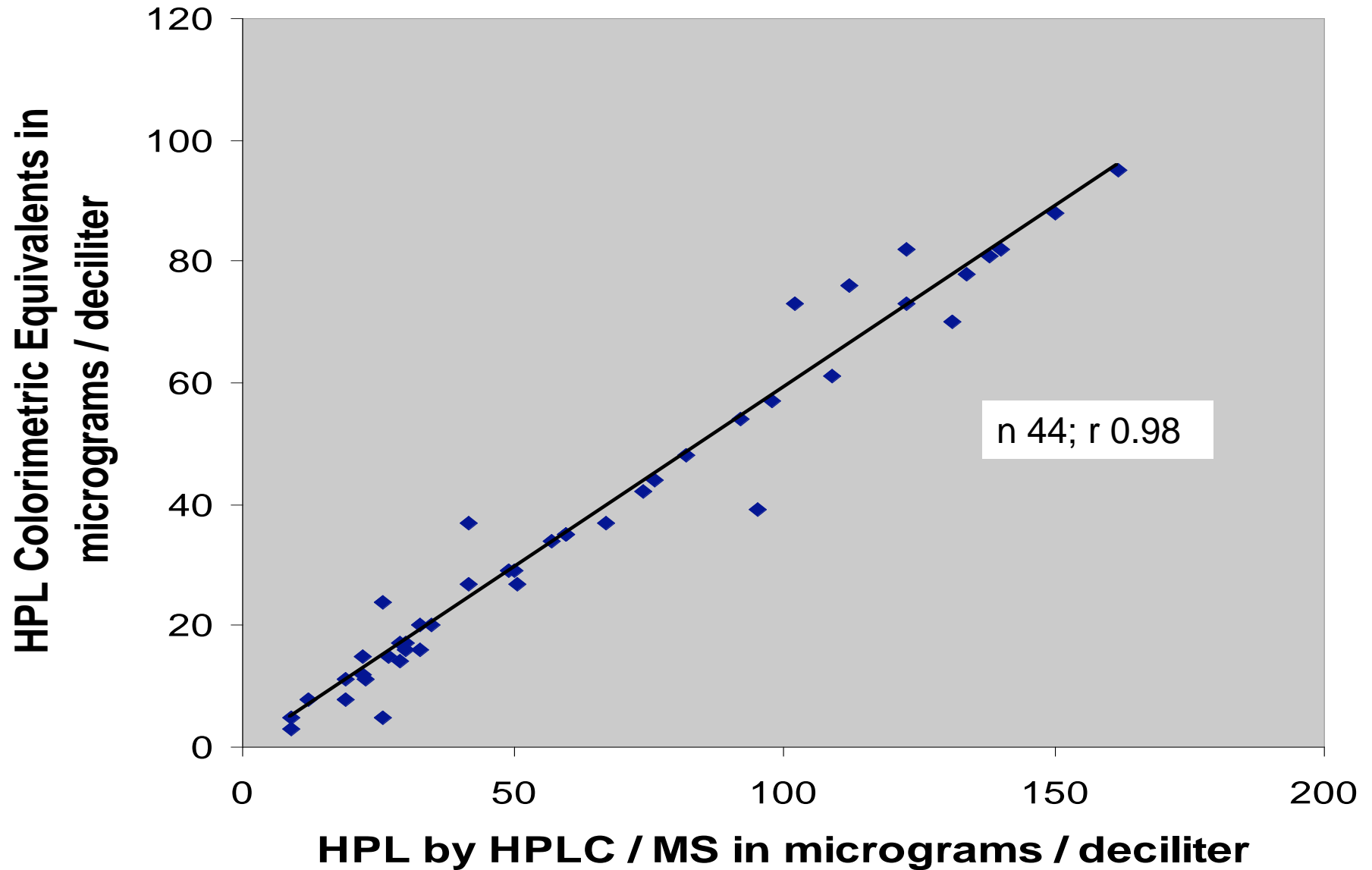
Mauve is hydroxyhemopyrrolin-2-one (HPL), not kryptopyrrole



Validation of Colorimetric Assay

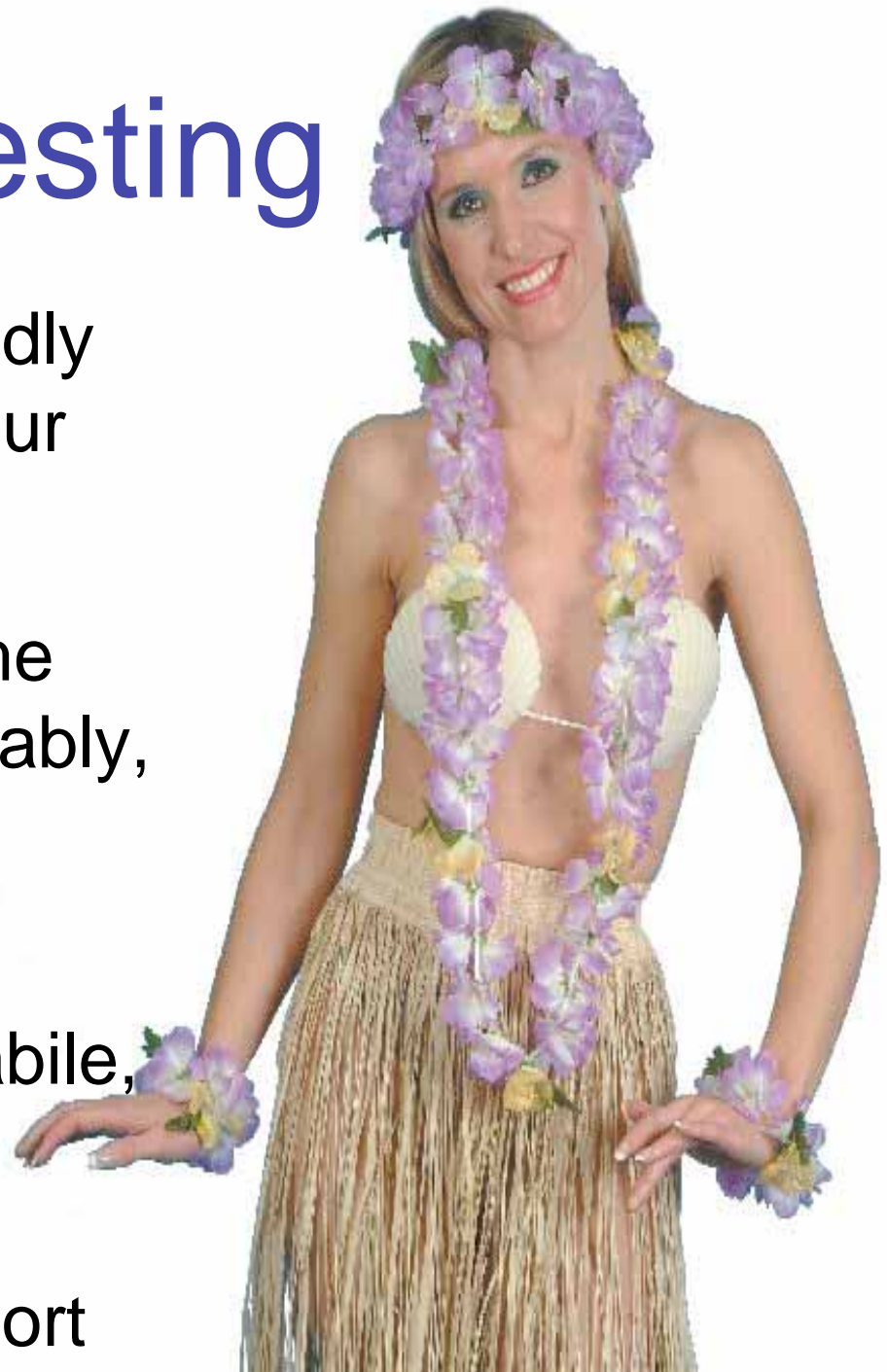


Validation of Colorimetric Assay

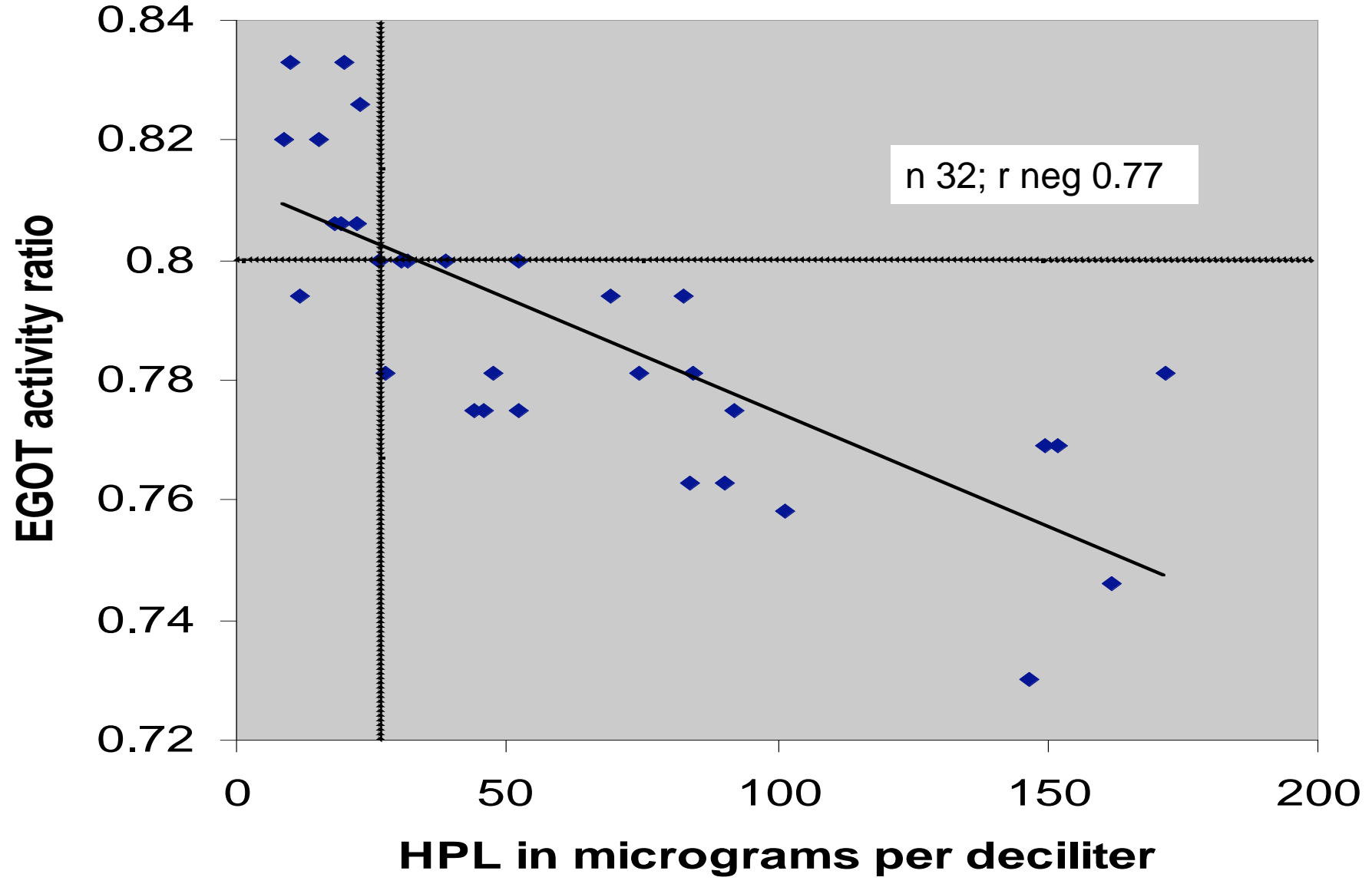


Mauve Testing

- Levels can fluctuate rapidly during the day, so 24-hour collection
- Variations in urine volume can affect levels appreciably, so normalize to SG or creatinine
- Light and temperature labile, so dark techniques, ascorbate preservative, freeze / overnight transport



HPL and B6 Activity



Mauve Associations

Poor dream recall

Poor breakfast appetite

Nail spots (leukodynia)

Stretch marks (striae)

Pale skin / poor tanning

Acne, allergy, obesity



Mauve Associations

Course eyebrows

Knee and joint pain

Cold hands or feet

Abdominal tenderness

Constipation

Eosinophilia



Mauve Associations

Light / sound / odor intolerance

Tremor / shaking / spasms

Hypoglycemia / glucose intolerance

Delayed Puberty / Impotence

Amenorrhea / irregular periods

B6-responsive anemia



Mauve Associations

Stress intolerance

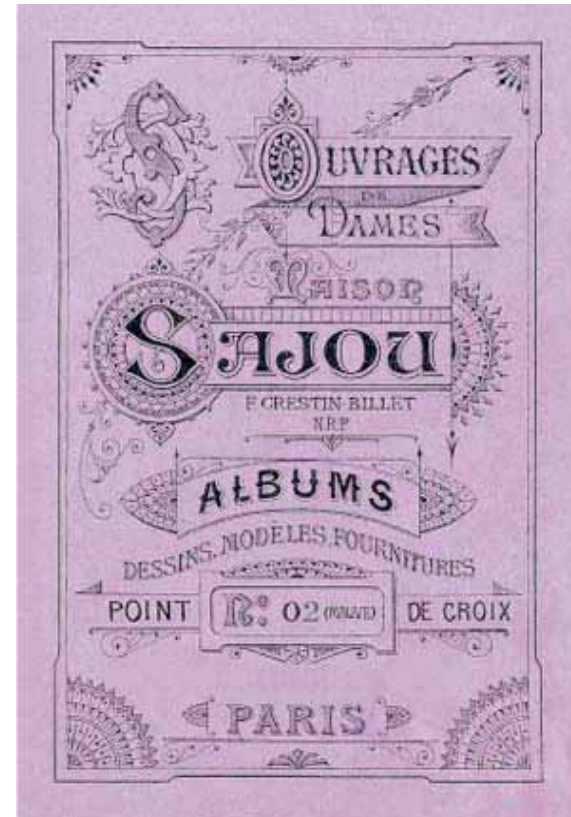
Emotional lability

Explosive anger

Anxiety / Withdrawal

Pessimism

Depression



Mauve Associations

Familial

Paranoia / Hallucinations

Perceptual
disorganization

Crime and delinquency

Substance abuse

Attention deficit / ADHD

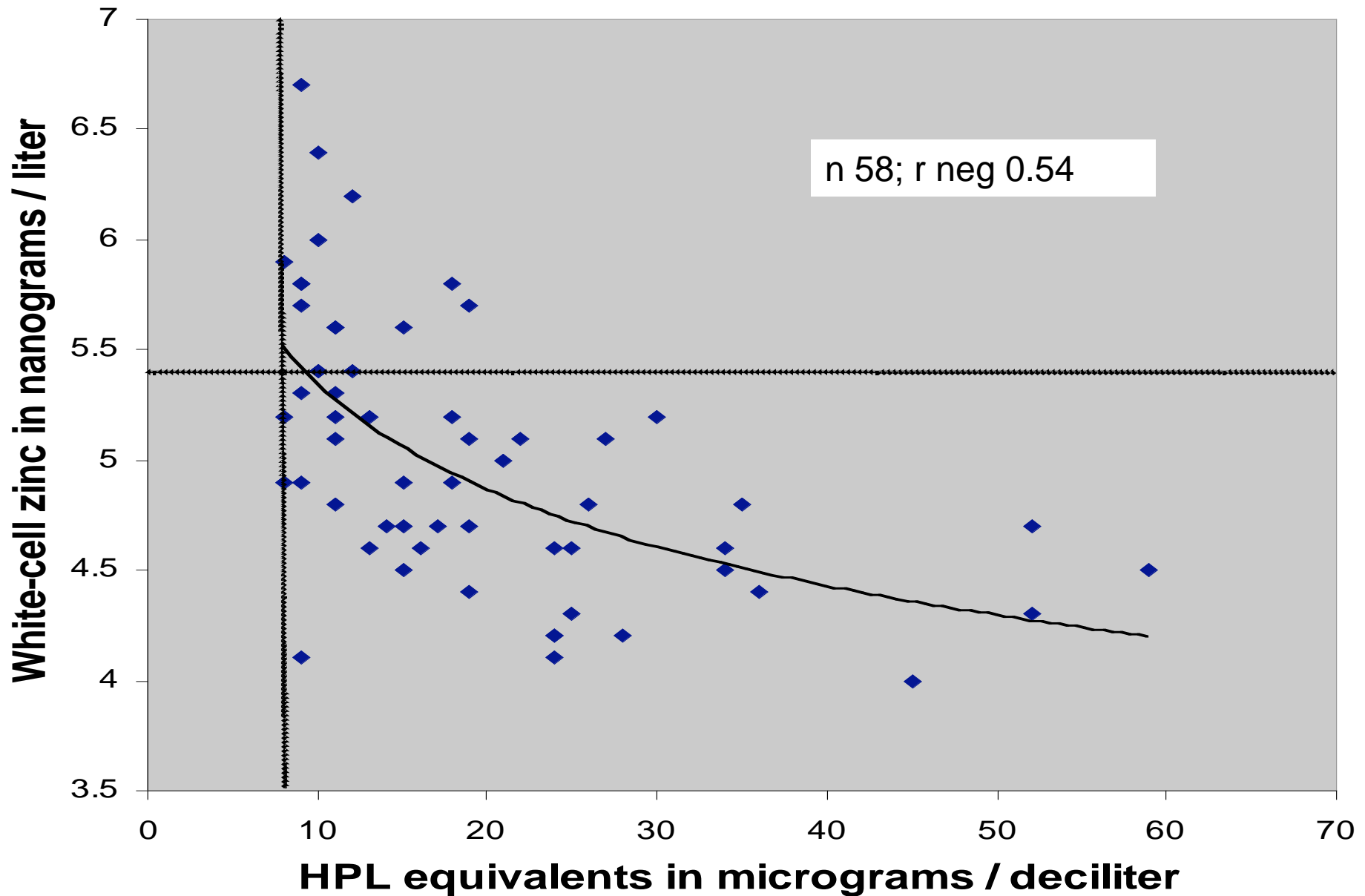
Autism



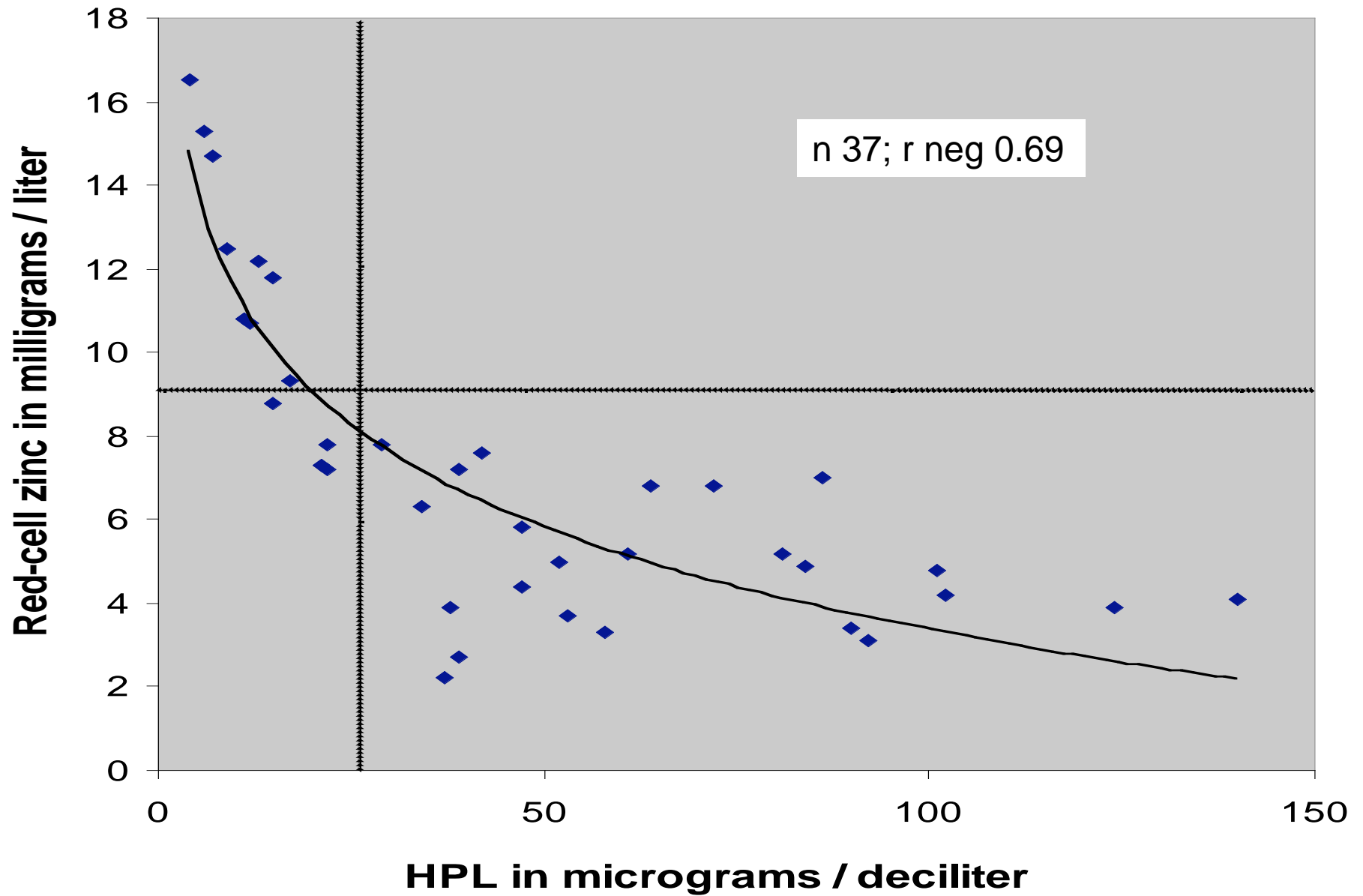
Leukodynia in Zinc Deficiency



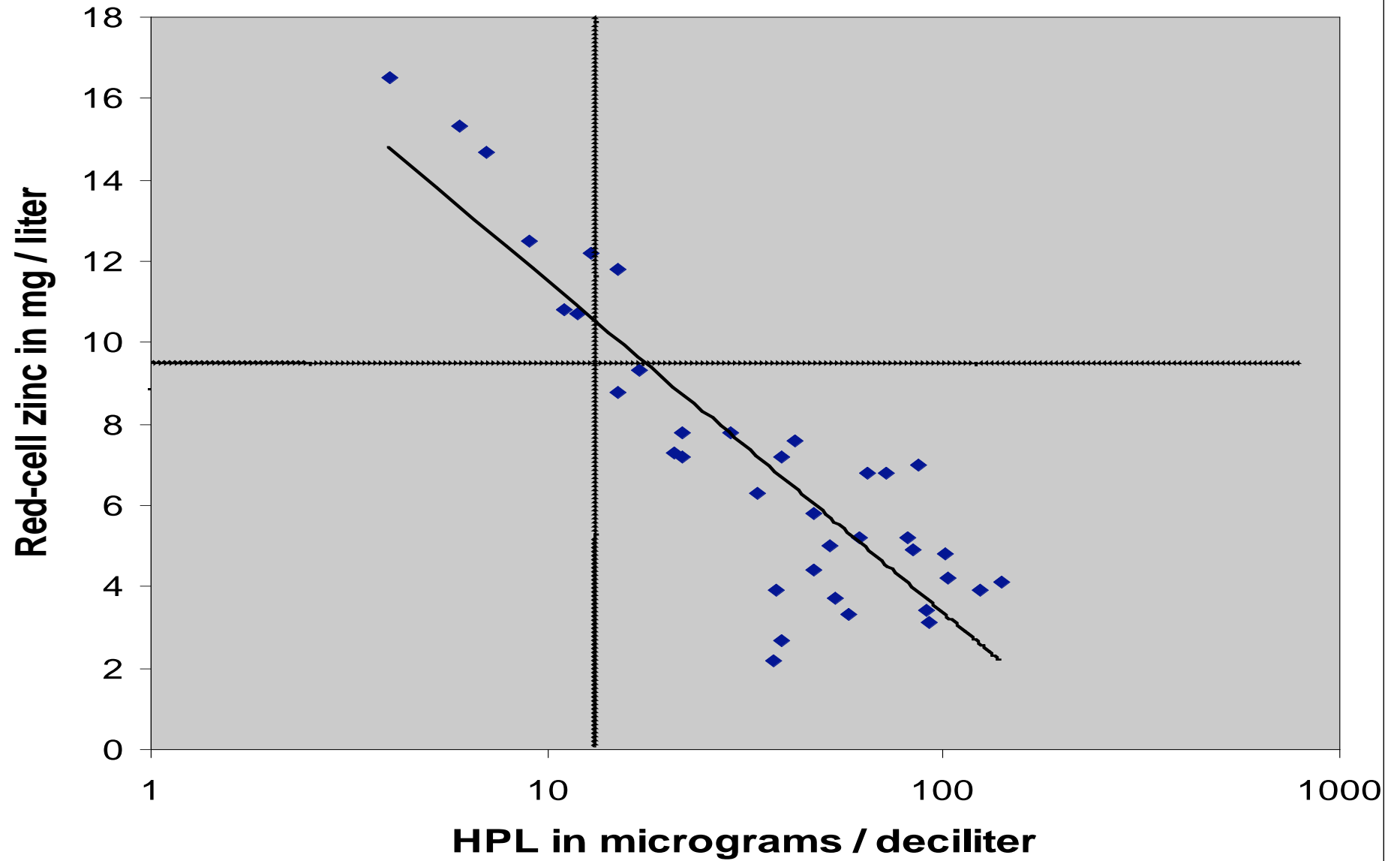
Colorimetric Mauve and WBC Zinc



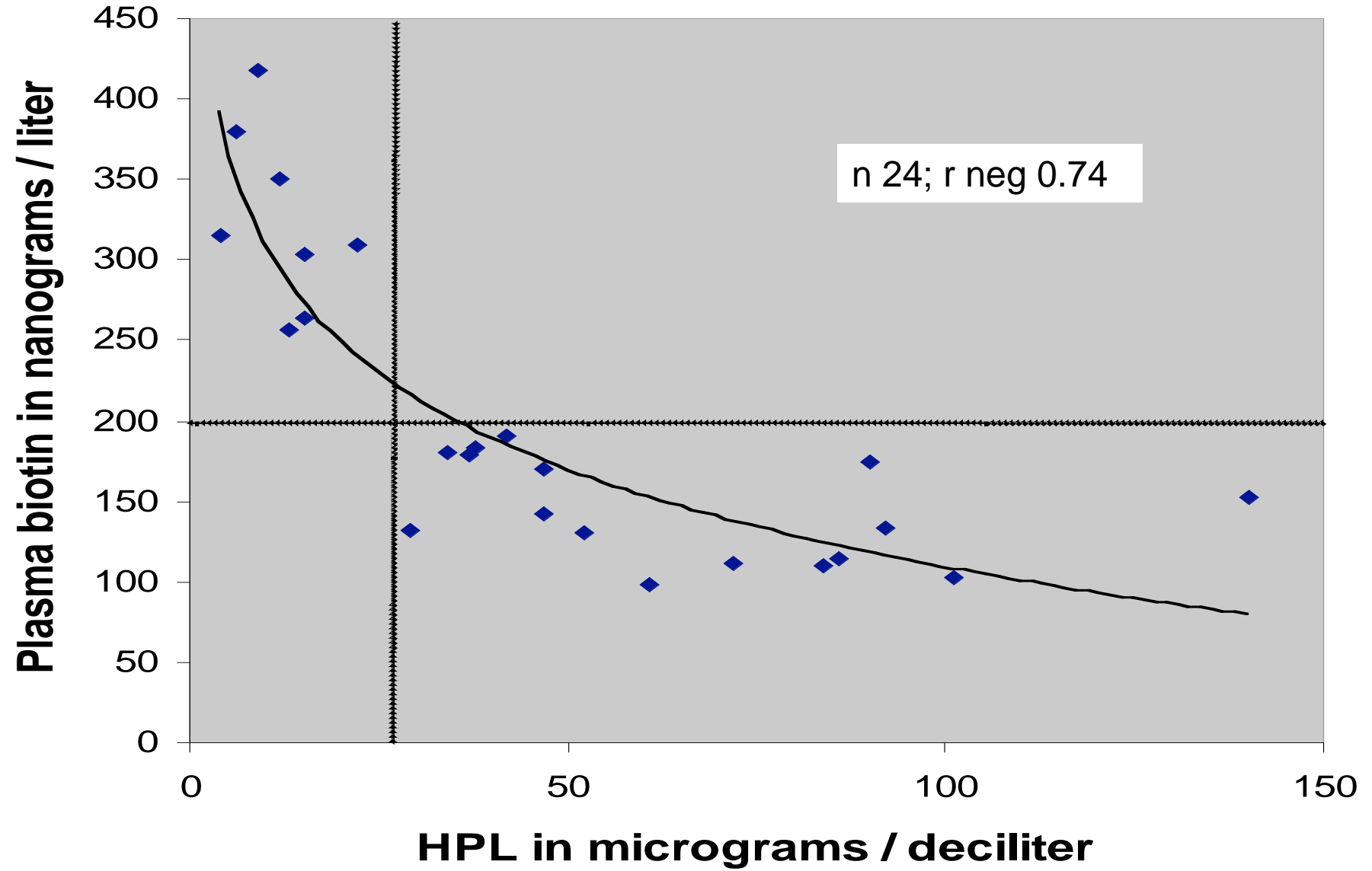
HPL and RBC Zinc



HPL and RBC Zinc



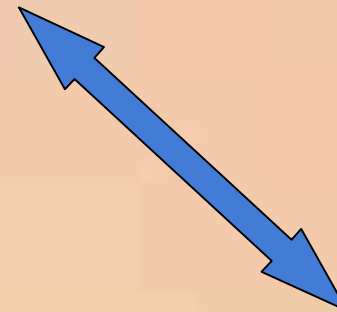
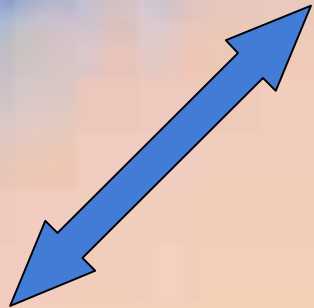
HPL and Plasma Biotin



Oxidative stress

Poor energetics

Excitotoxicity





**Emotional Stress →
Oxidative Stress**

Emotional stress → Oxidative stress

Tension-anxiety scores correlate
with oxidized DNA in blood

Meditation lowers blood lipid
peroxides



Immobilization-stress



Increases free radicals and oxidized lipid, protein and DNA

Brain peroxidation prevented by antioxidants

Mauve and Stress

O'Reilly 1965: Hypothesized relationship

Ward 1973: Mauve proportionate to stress

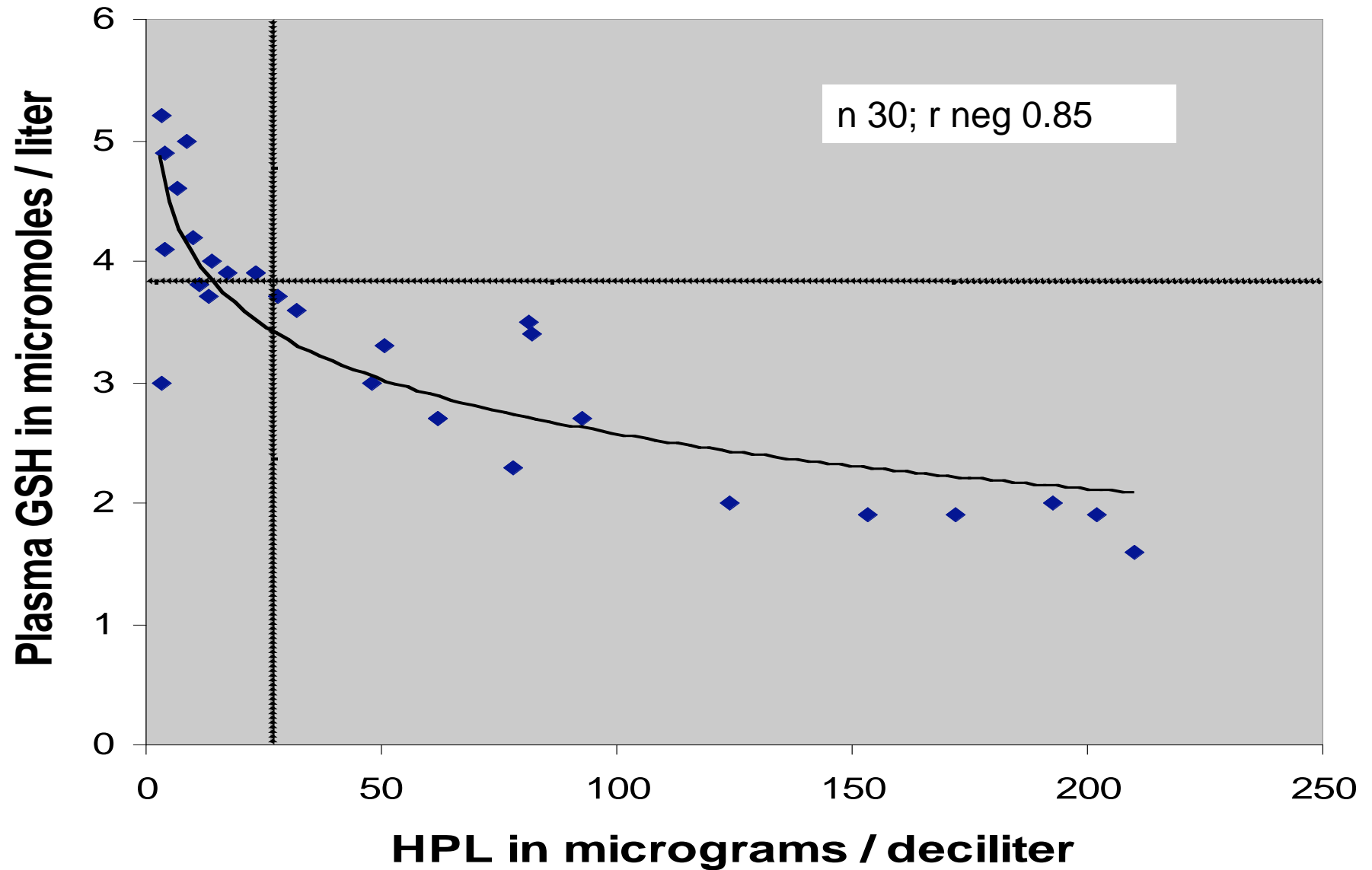
Pfeiffer 1976: Mauve "is induced by stress"

Sohler unpublished animals studies

McCabe 1983: B6 and zinc "stress doses"

Audya 1992: US Navy cold water stress

HPL and Plasma Reduced Glutathione



HPL and Heme



Graham 1979: HPL injection acutely depresses hepatic microsomal heme and p450 levels

Ames 2002: Experimental heme depression lowers intracellular zinc, induces NOS and increases oxidative stress

Require Heme

Cystathionine
synthase

Catalase

Heme-hemopexin for
MT translation

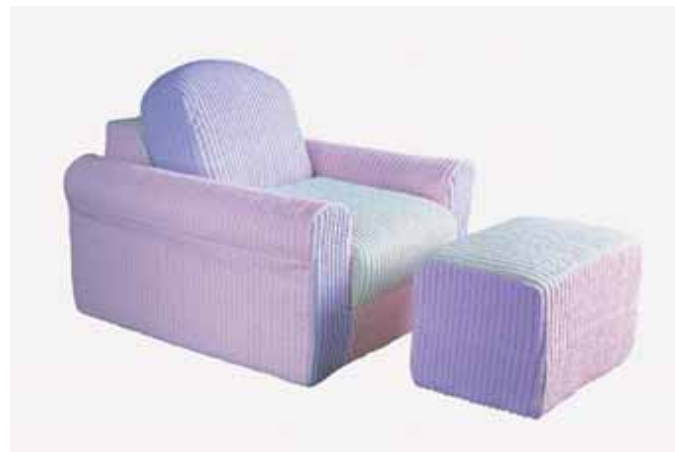
Guanylate cyclase

Cytochromes

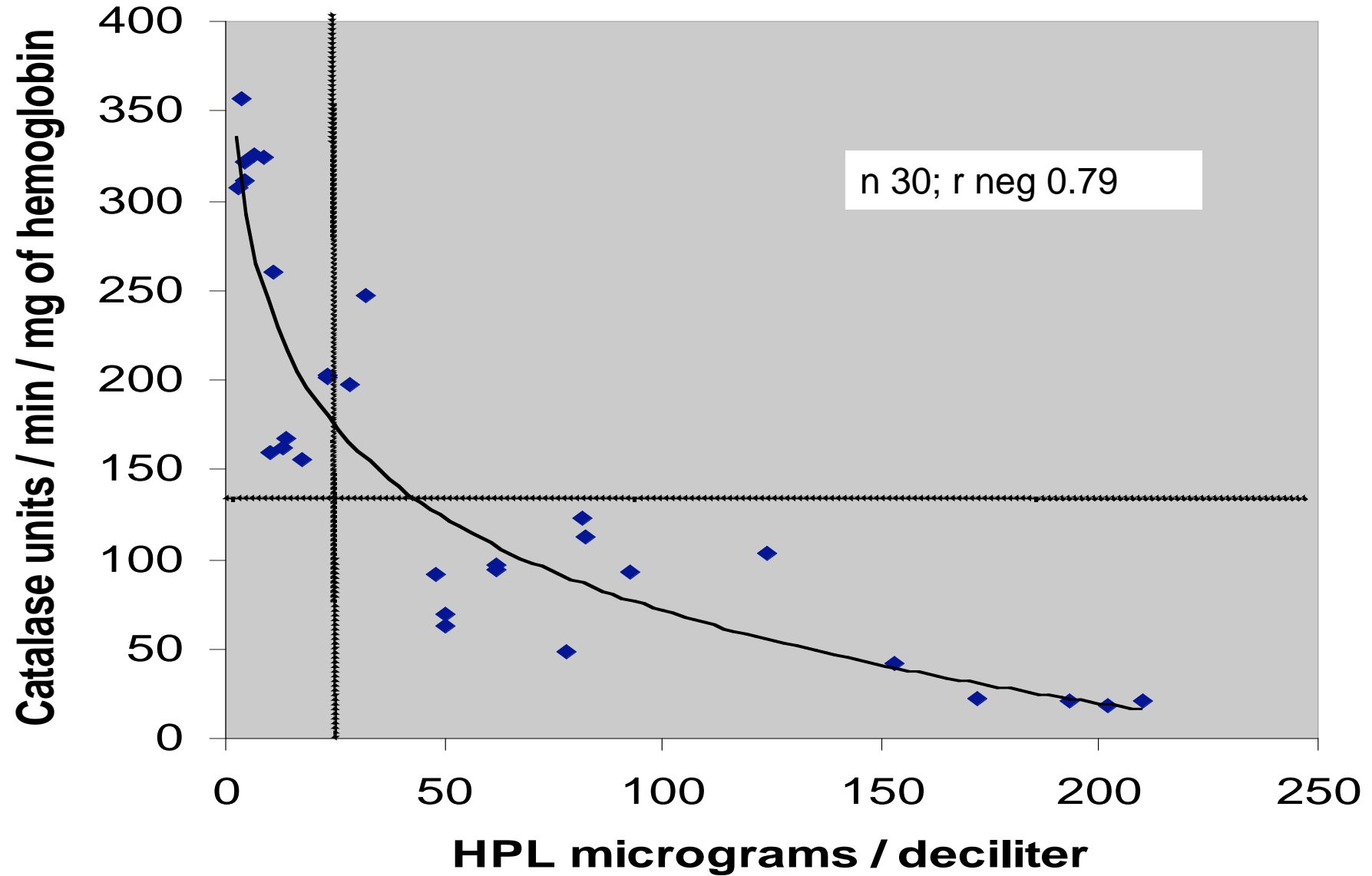
Sulfite reductase

NOS

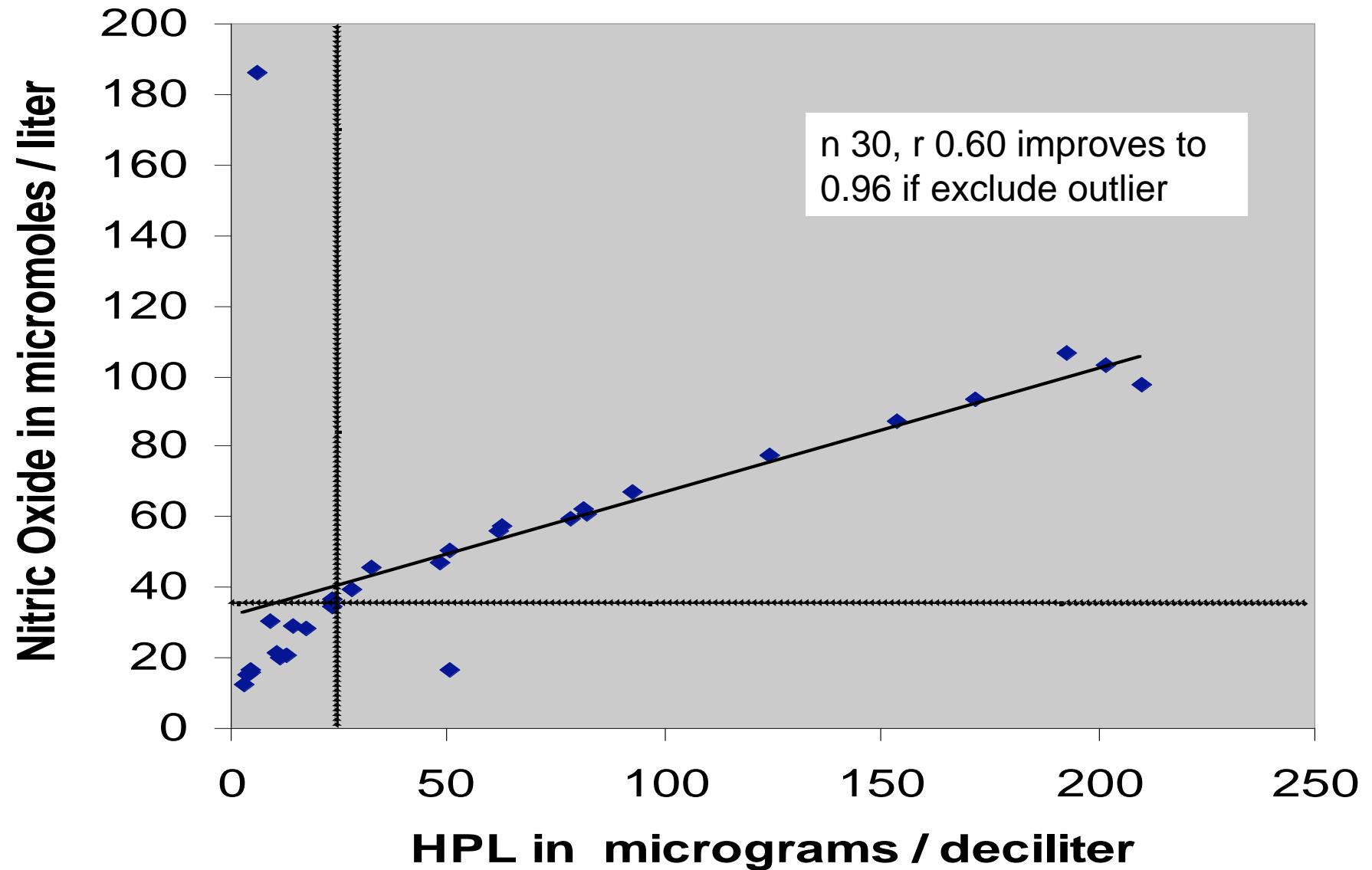
Pyrrolase



HPL and RBC Catalase



HPL and Plasma Nitric Oxide



Mauve and Cortisol

- Irvine 1972: corticosteroid administration to rats produced significant Mauve excretion.
- Increased intestinal permeability from psychological stress is mediated via endogenous glucocorticoids
- Administration of corticosteroids experimentally increases intestinal permeability



Mauve from Microbes?

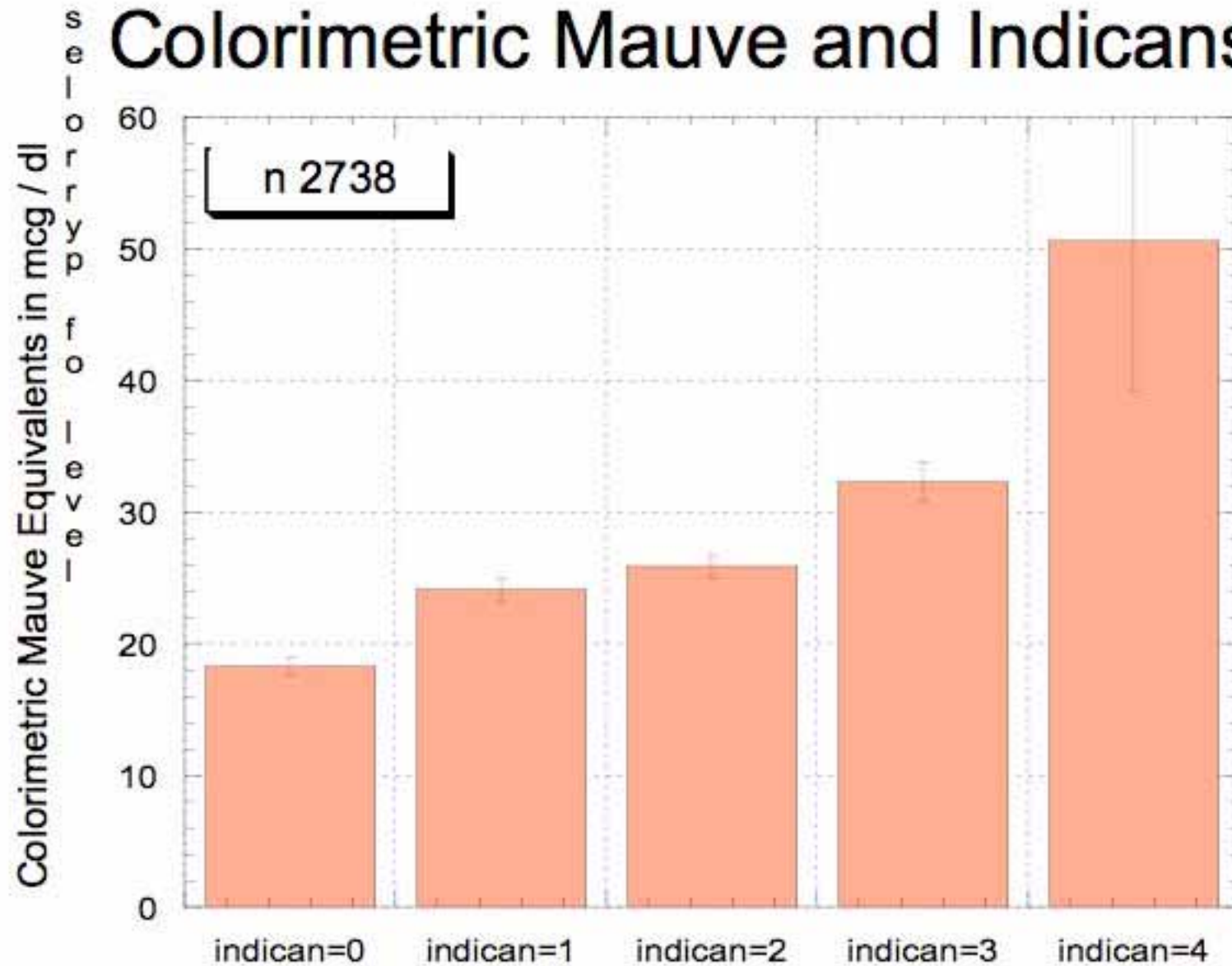
- Irvine 1973: Tetracycline reversibly abolished Mauve excretion in 4 subjects.

Kanamycin abolished or significantly decreased Mauve in 9 subjects.

- Monopyrroles are generated by various bacteria, including *pseudomonas* spp.

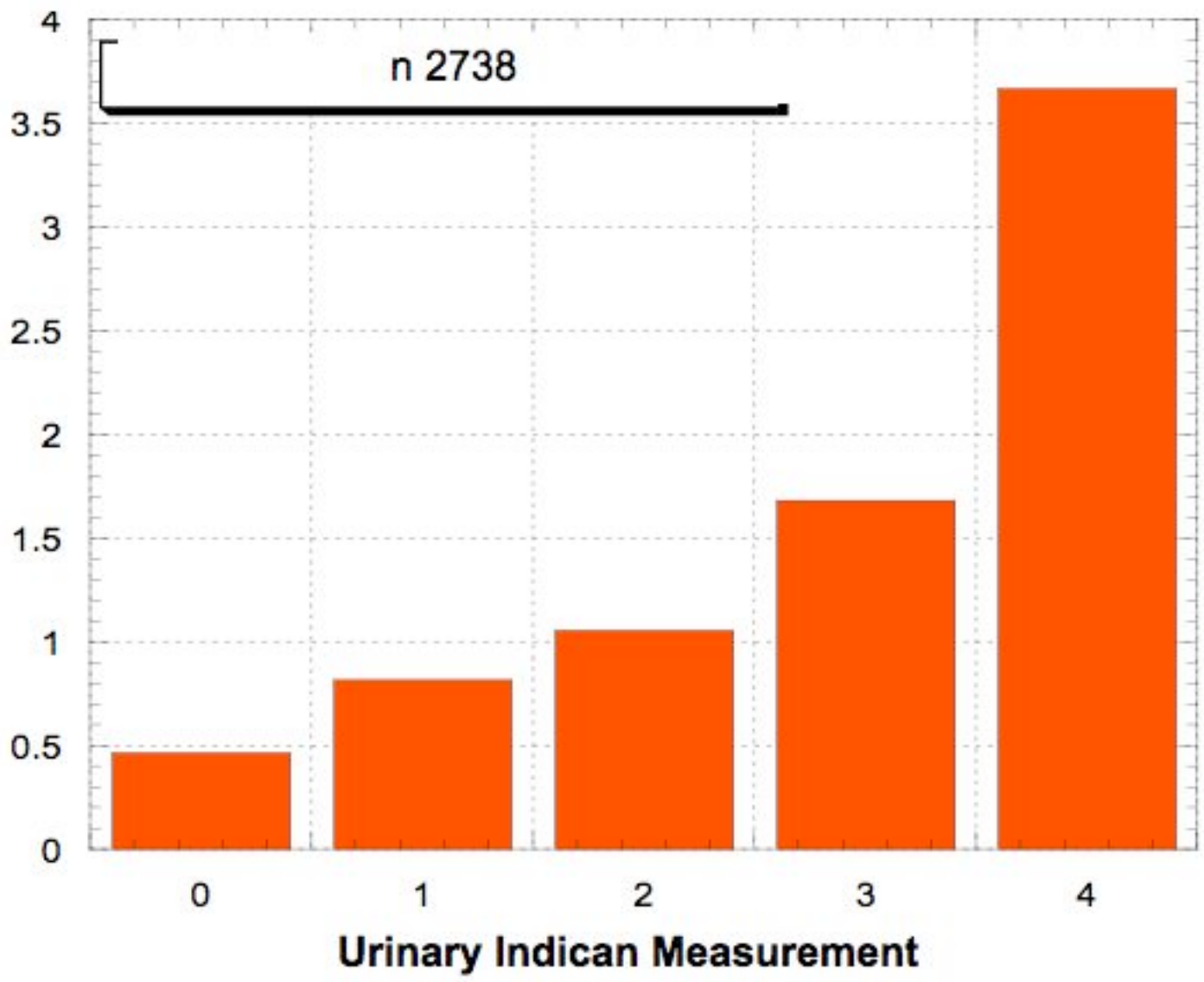


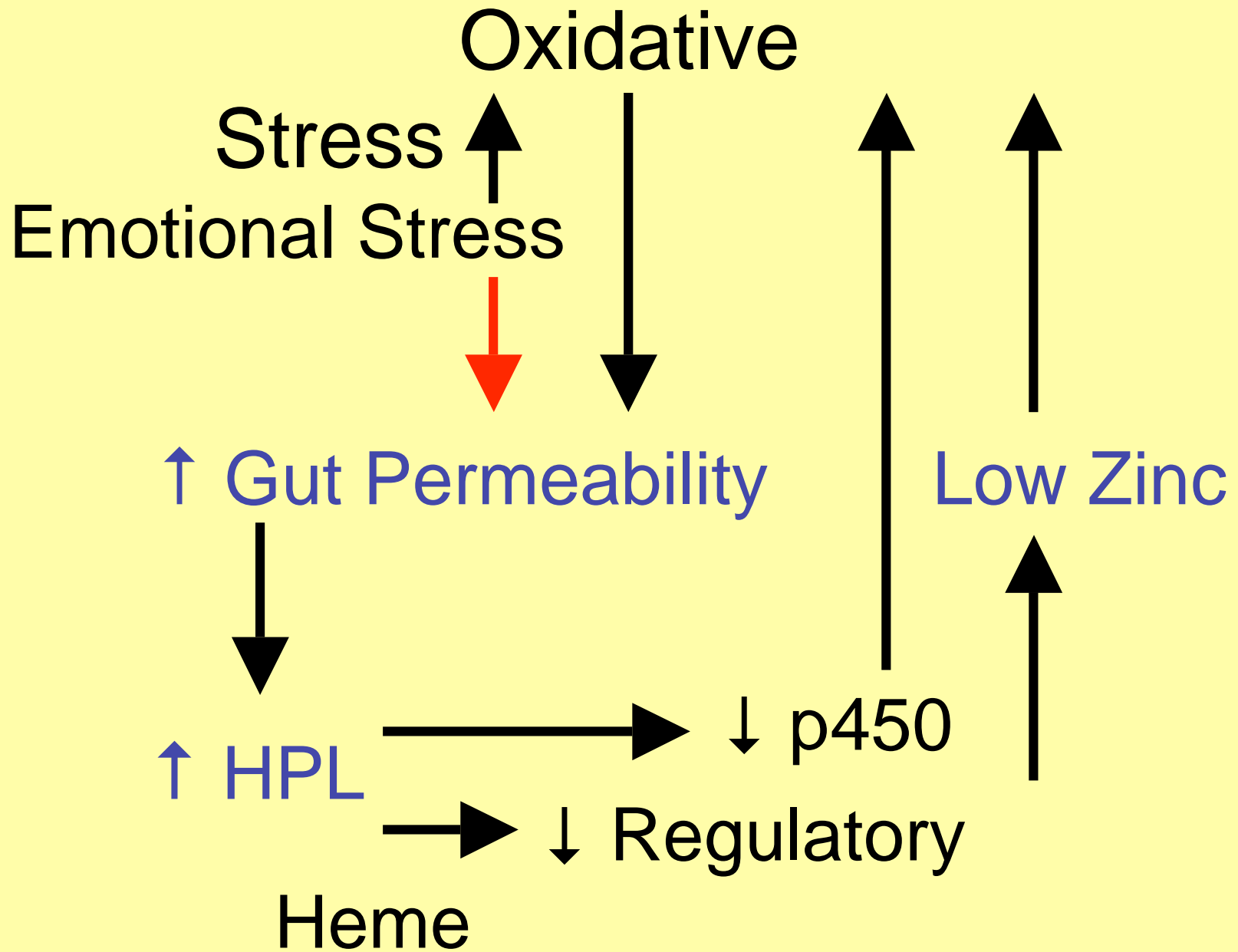
Colorimetric Mauve and Indicans



Ratio of Elevated / Normal Mauve Values

Colorimetric Mauve and Indicans





Summary

- Mauve levels predict proportionately lower functional B6 and zinc blood levels.
 - Strong relationship to stress.
- Emerging evidence that Mauve is a biomarker for oxidative stress.
 - Possible enteric origin of Mauve.
- Need for prospective laboratory studies and randomized clinical trials