

# 1. air, gases...

$$p_B = 760 \text{ mmHg} \approx 100 \text{ kPa}$$

$$21\% \text{ O}_2, \quad 79\% \text{ N}_2$$

in air wags together with  
water vapour

$$\text{at } 37^\circ\text{C} \quad p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 47 \text{ mmHg}$$

$$\rightarrow 760 = 47 + \underbrace{p_{\text{O}_2} + p_{\text{N}_2}}$$

$$21 : 79$$

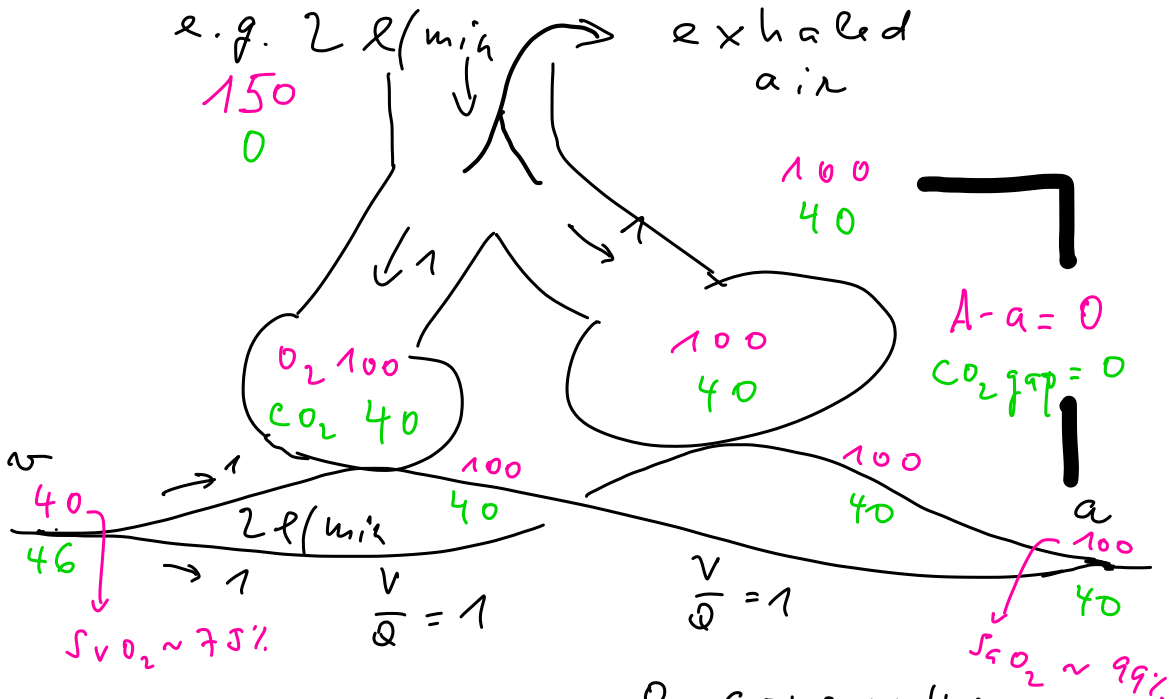
↪ in inhaled  
air :

$$p_{\text{O}_2} = 150 \text{ mmHg}$$

$$p_{\text{N}_2} = 563 \text{ mmHg}$$

$$p_{\text{H}_2\text{O}} = 47 \text{ mmHg}$$

## 2. ideal lungs



ventilation -  
perfusion  
ratio

- homogeneous
- $V/Q = 1$

$O_2$  consumption

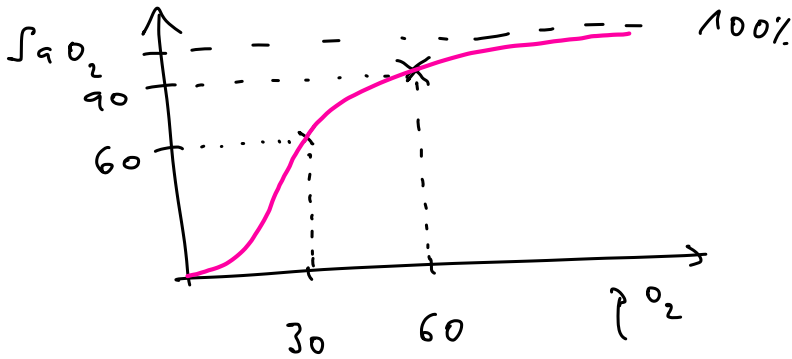
$$2 \cdot (150 - 100) = 100 \text{ l/min}$$

$CO_2$  production

$$2 \cdot 40 = 80 \text{ l/min}$$

$$R = \frac{80}{100} = 0.8 \dots \text{ respiratory quotient}$$

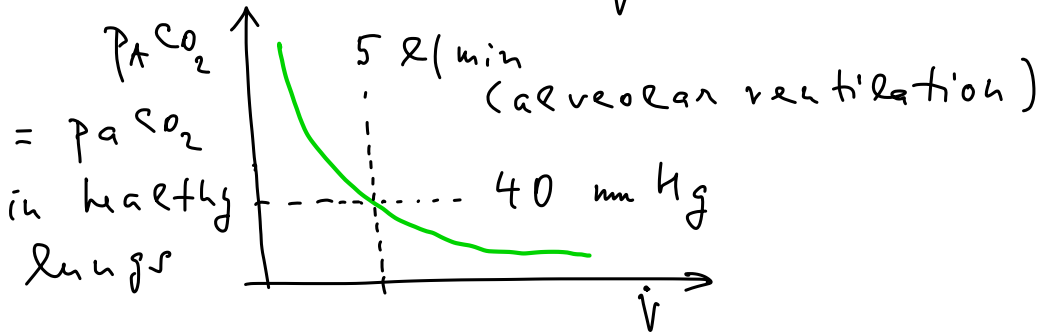
rule 30 - 60 - 90



hyperventilation

elimination of  $CO_2 = P_A CO_2 \cdot \dot{V} =$  production of  $CO_2$

$\hookrightarrow P_A CO_2 = \frac{\text{const}}{\dot{V}} = \text{const}$



### 3. $P_A N_2$ ... partial pressure of $N_2$

Since nitrogen is not metabolised, its alveolar pressure  $P_A N_2$  should be the same as in the inhaled air,

i. e. 563 mmHg.

Since less  $CO_2$  is produced than  $O_2$  consumed ( $R < 1$ ), the expiratory volume is lower than inspiratory and  $N_2$  is more concentrated  $\Rightarrow P_A N_2 > 563$ .

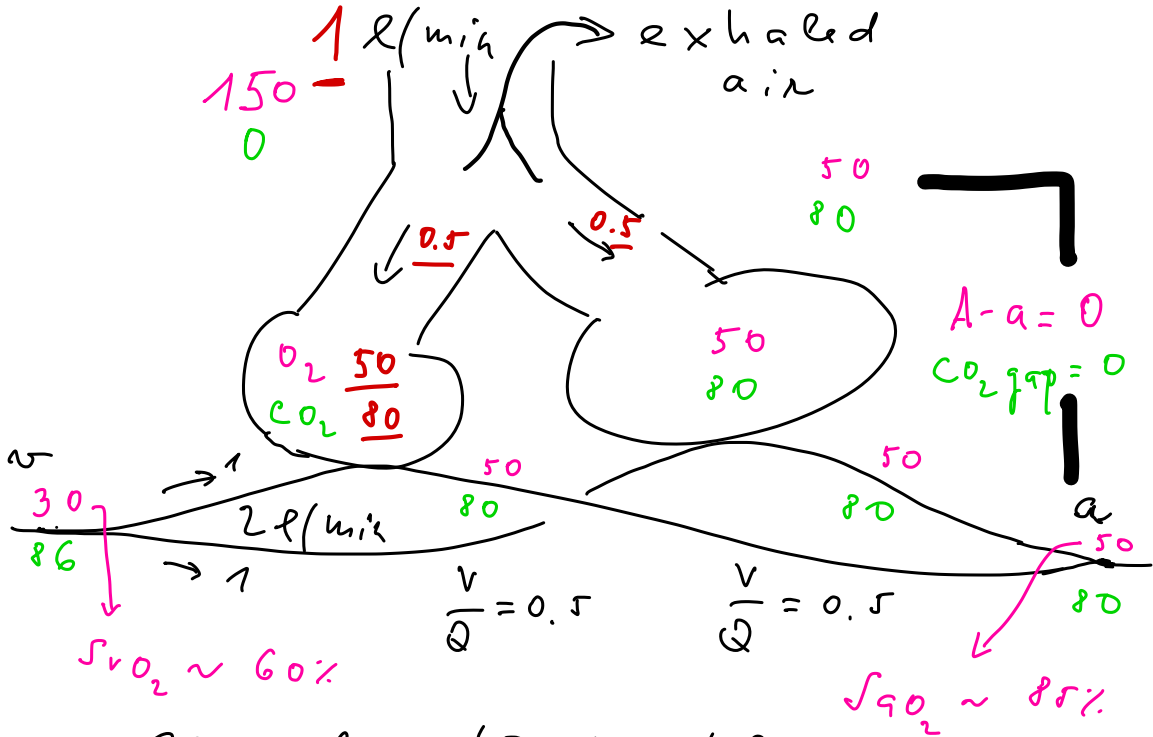
Moreover, this depends on  $V/Q$  ratio of individual alveoli  $\rightarrow$  different alveoli have little different  $P_A N_2$ .

**Agreement:** These differences will be mostly ignored in the following text.

## Mechanisms of respiratory insufficiency

- global hypoventilation
- impaired diffusion
- right to left shunt
- alveolar dead space
- ventilation - perfusion inequality

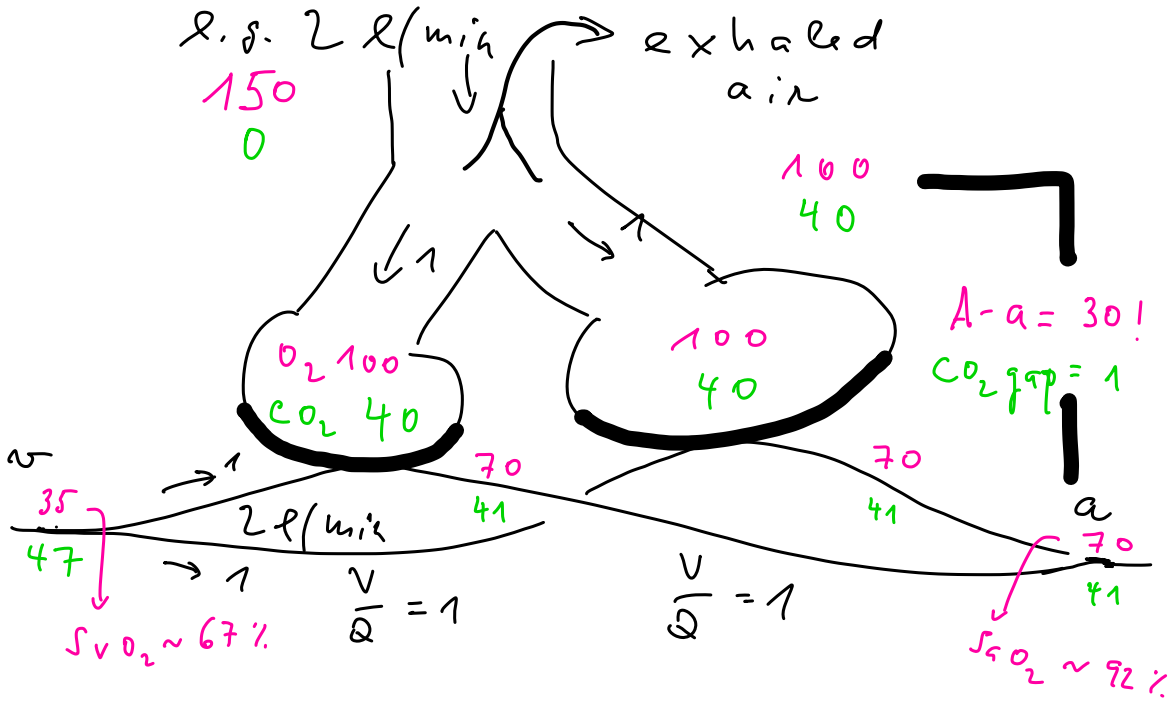
# 4. global hypoventilation



⇒ global hypoventilation leads to:

- 1) hypercapnia
- 2) hypoxemia
- 3) no increase in  $A - a$  gradient nor  $CO_2$ -gap
- 4) total O<sub>2</sub> consumption and production of CO<sub>2</sub> is unchanged (given by metabolic rate)

# 5. impaired diffusion



principle: decreased venous  $p_{vO_2}$

leads to increased gradient on  
 a.r.v. - cap. membrane, which  
 compensate for impaired diffusion

?

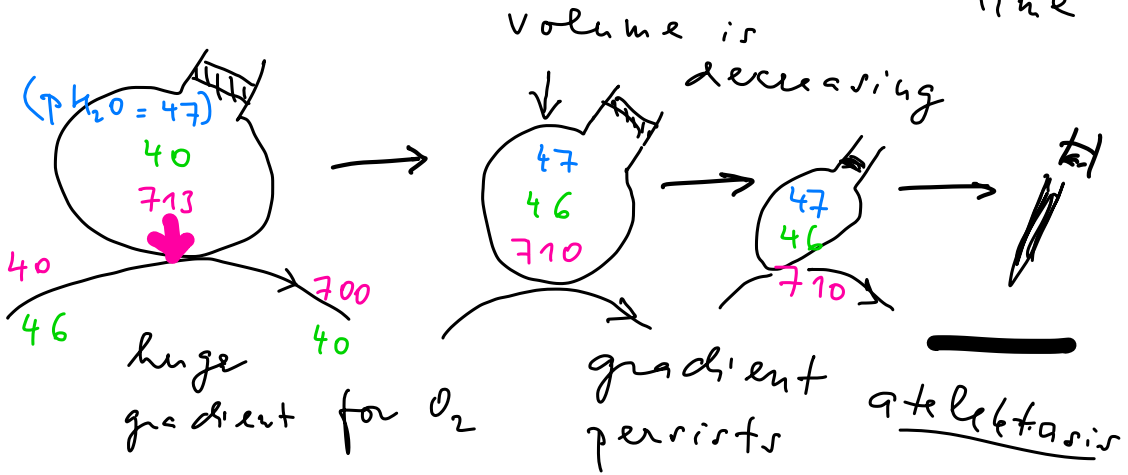
Can it be corrected by hyperventilation?  
 Can it be corrected by administration of  $O_2$ ?  
 What will change on exertion?

# 6. Oxygen therapy and resorption atelectases

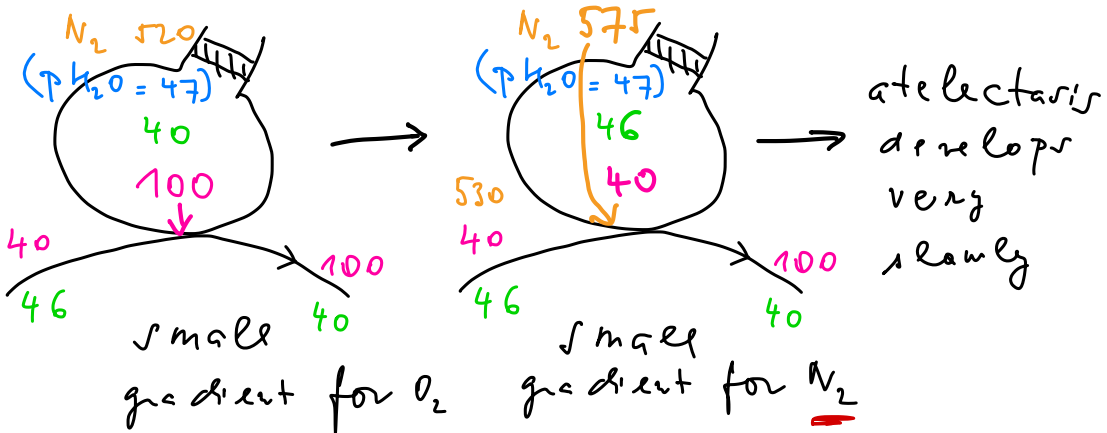
a) administration of "pure"  $O_2$  ( $F_i O_2$  100%)

$$\rightarrow pO_2 = 713 \text{ mmHg}$$

let's imagine now an obstruction of airways to a alveoli for a short time



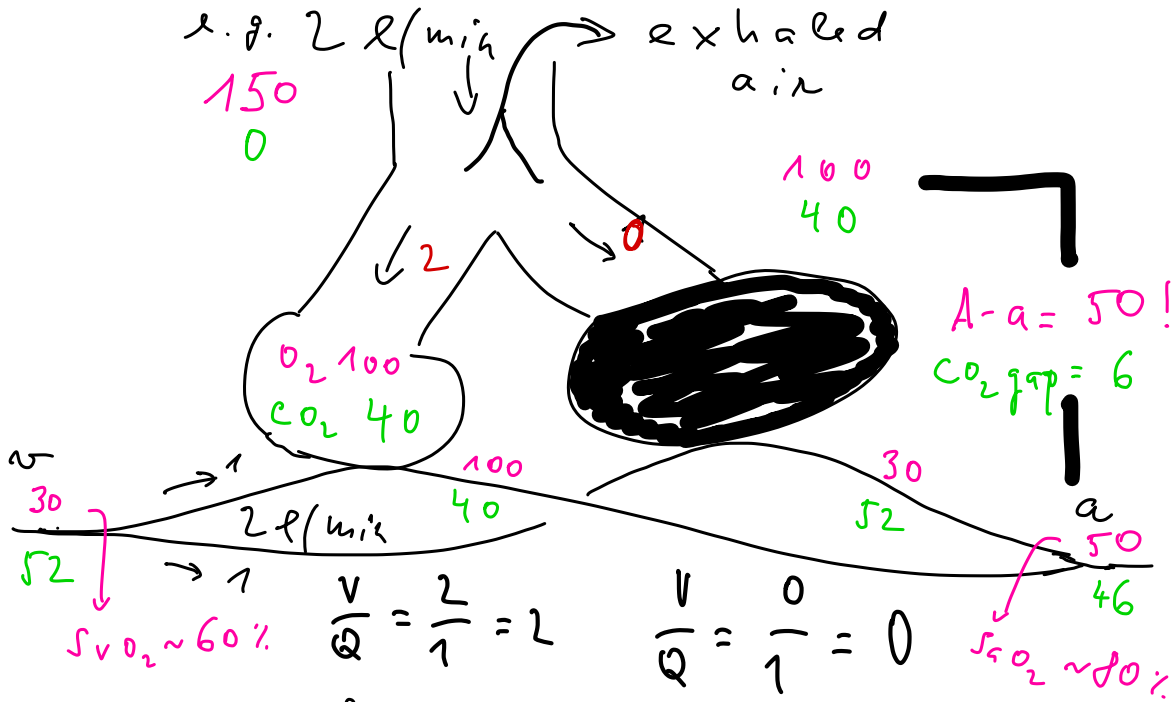
b)  $F_i O_2$  21%





# 7) right to left shunt

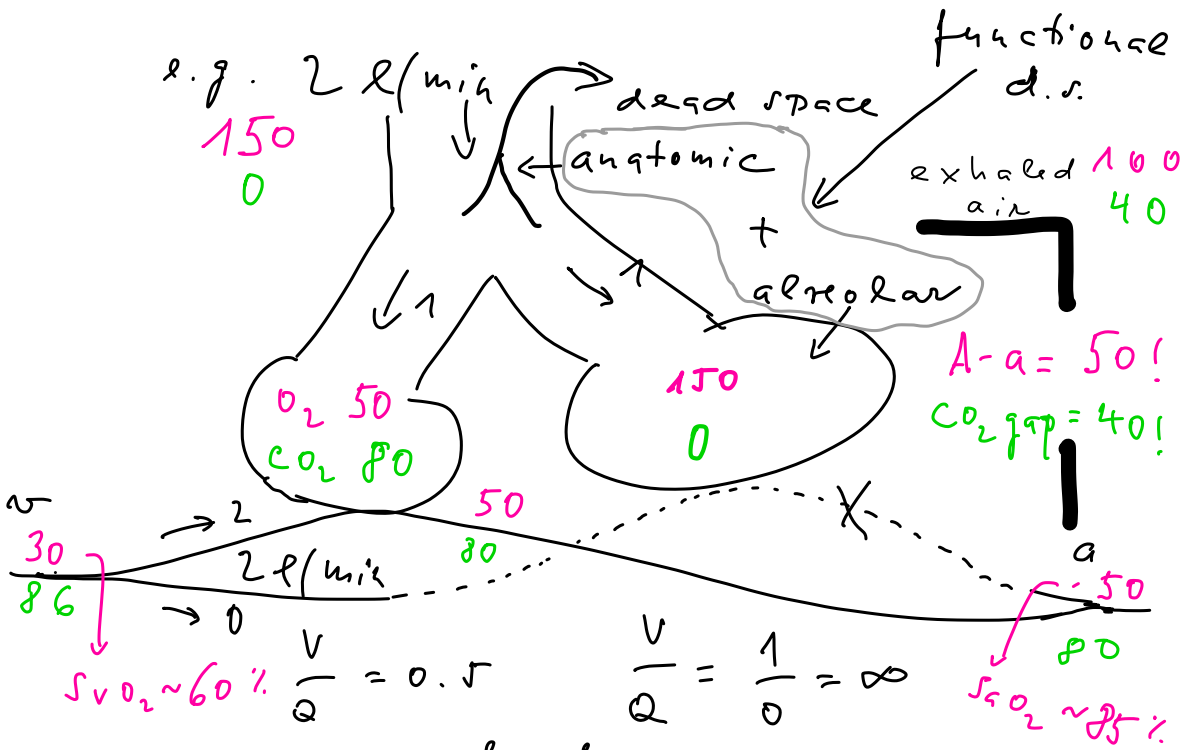
- etiology: atelectasis, infiltration, pulm. edema, ARDS...



shunt leads to:

- 1) hypoxemia, high  $A - a$  gradient
  - impossible to correct with hyperventilation  
nor with administration of  $O_2$
- 2) mild hypercapnia, little  $CO_2$  gap
  - possible to correct with hyperventilation

# 8. alveolar dead space



⇒ alveolar dead space leads to:

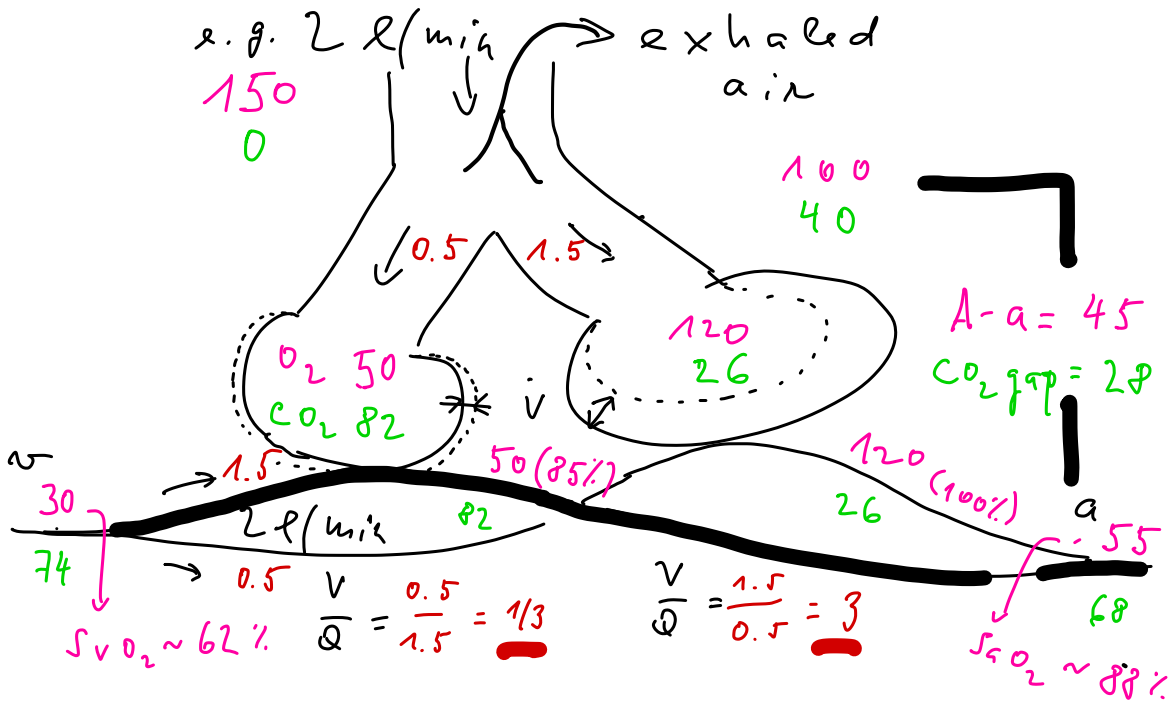
- 1) hypercapnia
  - 2) hypoxemia
  - 3) increased A-a gradient and CO<sub>2</sub> gap
- } possible to correct  
 } with hyperventilation

|| calculated A-a gradient is related  
 to so called ideal alveolar and does  
 not increase with dead space

$$P_{O_2, id} = 150 - \frac{P_a CO_2}{R} = 150 - \frac{80}{0.8} = 50$$

$$A-a \text{ gr.} = P_{O_2, id} - P_a O_2 = 50 - 50 = 0$$

# 9. Ventilation - perfusion inequality



⇒ ventilation - perfusion inequality leads to:

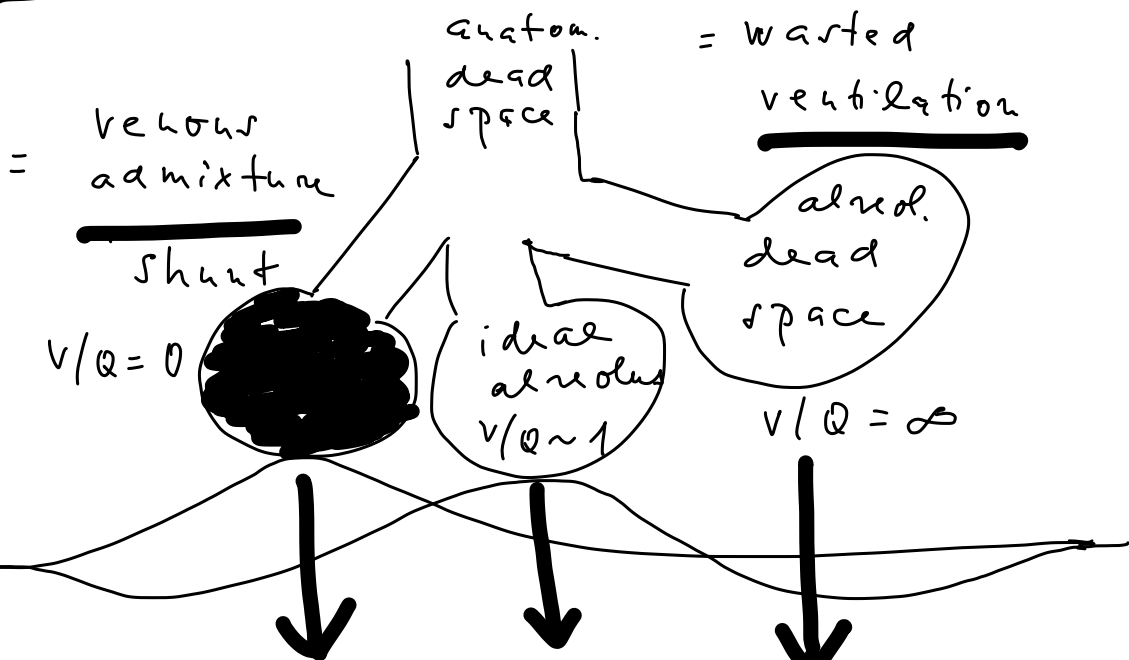
- 1) hypercapnia - possible to correct with
- 2) hypoxemia - impossible by hyperventilation  
 ↳ ! possible to correct with external O<sub>2</sub>
- 3) increased A-a gradient and CO<sub>2</sub> - gap

!! calculated A-a gradient increases as will

$$\underline{P_{O_{2}id}} = 150 - \frac{P_a CO_2}{R} = 150 - \frac{68}{0.8} = 65$$

$$A-a \text{ gr.} = P_{O_{2}id} - P_a O_2 = 65 - 55 = \underline{10}$$

# 10. 3 - compartment model



leads mainly to hypoxemia

$A - a \text{ grad.} = 0$   
 $CO_2 \text{ gap} = 0$

leads mainly to hypercapnia

$A - a \text{ grad.} > 0$

$CO_2 \text{ gap} \approx 0$

- pneumonia, pulm. edema, ARDS

$A - a \approx 0$

$CO_2 \text{ gap} > 0$

- pulm. embolism
- COPD

!! 3-comp. model is a simplification, does not explain ventil.-perfusion inequality exactly e.g. does not explain effect of  $O_2$  administration completely