

Mitochondrial Network Configuration Influences Sarcomere and Myosin Filament Structure in Striated Muscles

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25 **Abstract**

26 Sustained muscle contraction occurs through interactions between actin and myosin
27 filaments within sarcomeres and requires a constant supply of adenosine triphosphate
28 (ATP) from nearby mitochondria. However, it remains unclear how different physical
29 configurations between sarcomeres and mitochondria alter the energetic support for
30 contractile function. Here, we show that sarcomere cross-sectional area (CSA) varies
31 along its length in a cell type-dependent manner where the reduction in Z-disk CSA
32 relative to the sarcomere center is closely coordinated with mitochondrial network
33 configuration in flies, mice, and humans. Further, we find myosin filaments near the
34 sarcomere periphery are curved relative to interior filaments with greater curvature for
35 filaments near mitochondria compared to sarcoplasmic reticulum. Finally, we
36 demonstrate smaller myosin filament lattice spacing at filament ends than filament
37 centers in a cell type-dependent manner. These data suggest both sarcomere structure
38 and myofilament interactions are influenced by the location and orientation of
39 mitochondria within muscle cells.

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48 **Keywords**

49 Skeletal muscle, myofibril, muscle contraction, organelle interactions

50

51 **Introduction**

52 Force generation within striated muscle cells occurs through the formation and
53 release of bonds between actin and myosin filaments within the sarcomere with
54 networks of highly connected sarcomeres¹⁻⁴ occupying up to 85% of cellular volume⁴⁻⁶.
55 Sustained muscle contractions also necessitate continued provision of calcium from the
56 sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR) and adenosine triphosphate (ATP) from mitochondria
57 and/or glycolytic enzymes, thereby requiring significant cellular volume in proximity to
58 the sarcomeres to be invested in these systems as well⁷. The chronic force production
59 demand (i.e., magnitude and frequency) on a given muscle cell type is well known to
60 influence the amount of cellular volume allocated to, and thus the functional capacity of,
61 each component⁷⁻¹⁶. However, it is less well understood how variations in contractile
62 demand affect the spatial organization among the tightly packed sarcomeres and the
63 organelles that must fit in between them or how different cellular architectures alter the
64 functional support for muscle contraction. In particular, while mitochondria are known to
65 form cell-type dependent networks aligned perpendicular and/or in parallel to the
66 contractile axis of the muscle cell^{11,17-20}, the functional implications of placing a
67 mitochondrion in parallel between sarcomeres versus wrapping a mitochondrion
68 perpendicularly between sarcomeres near the Z-disks remains unclear.

69 Here, we investigate the detailed physical interactions among sarcomeres and
70 their adjacent organelles in eleven muscle types across three species (human, mouse,
71 fly) using high resolution, 3D volume electron microscopy. We demonstrate that
72 sarcomere cross-sectional area (CSA) is smaller at the Z-disk ends than in the
73 sarcomere centers where myosin resides. Further, we find that the magnitude of
74 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity is cell type-dependent and closely coordinated with
75 the location of mitochondria between the sarcomeres rather than the total volume or
76 size of mitochondria within the muscle cell. By performing a massively parallel myosin
77 filament analysis, we show that intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity is achieved, at least
78 in part, by curvature of the contractile filaments near the periphery, but not the center, of
79 each sarcomere. Across muscle cell types, the magnitude of myosin curvature is
80 highest in cells with large proportions of mitochondria running perpendicularly near the

81 Z-disk, while within cells, myosin curvature is greater for filaments near mitochondria
82 and lipid droplets compared to the sarcoplasmic reticulum. Moreover, intrasarcomere
83 heterogeneity in myosin shape results in variable filament-to-filament lattice spacing
84 along the length of the sarcomere where myosin filaments are closer together near the
85 filament ends than in the middle. Together, these data indicate that sarcomere and
86 myosin filament structure are influenced by where mitochondria are placed within a
87 muscle cell.

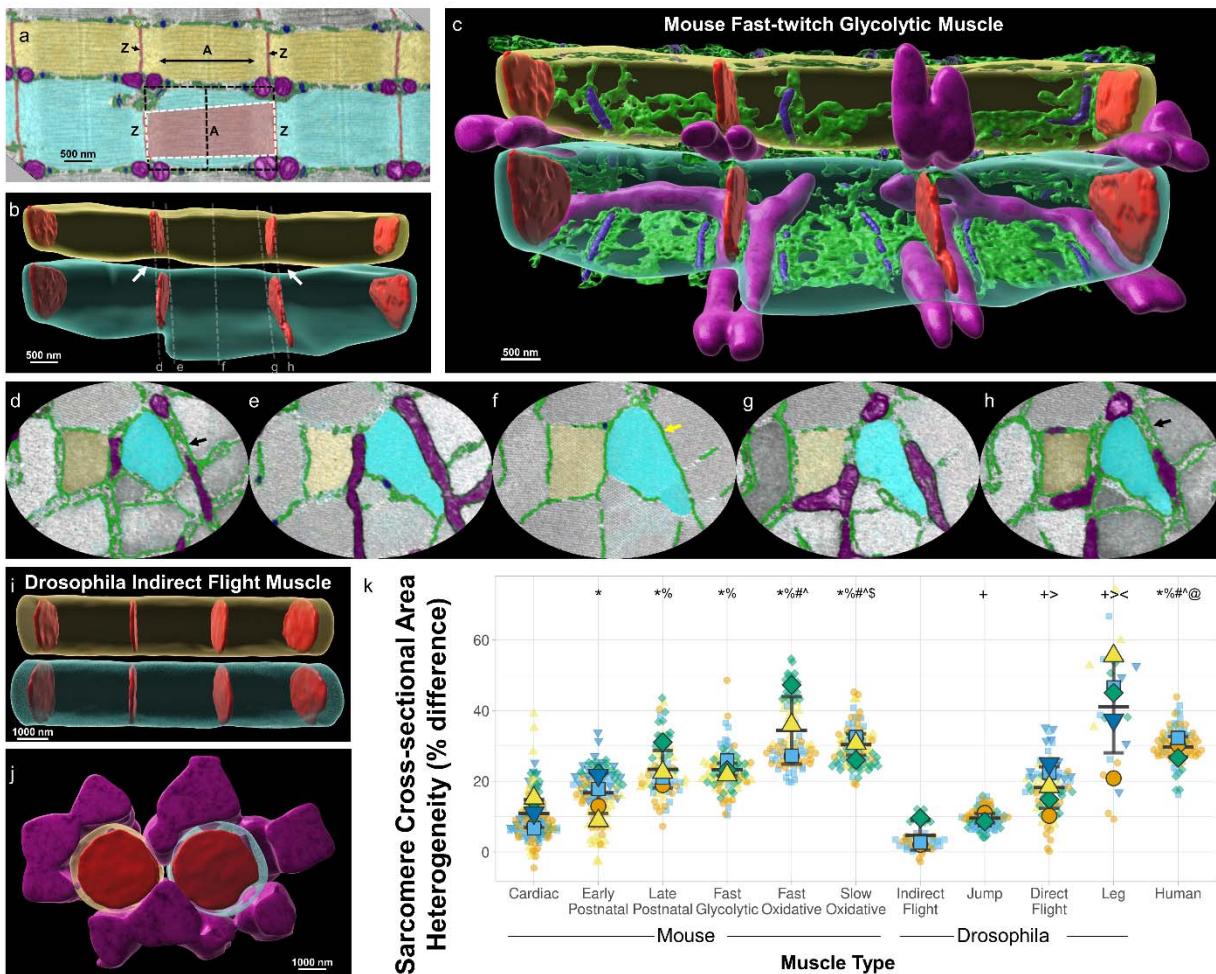
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89 **Results**

90 **Sarcomere Cross-Sectional Area Varies Along its Length in a Cell Type- 91 Dependent Manner**

92 To better understand how muscle cell architecture relates to muscle cell function,
93 we performed a 3D survey of sarcomere and adjacent organelle structures across
94 eleven muscle types whose contractile functions have generally been well defined^{1,21-25}.
95 We performed focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy (FIB-SEM) with 5-15 nm
96 pixel sizes on cardiac and skeletal muscle tissues fixed *in vivo* in mice and on skeletal
97 muscle tissues from *Drosophila melanogaster* (18 FIB-SEM datasets available at
98 doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5796264). Close inspection of a mouse fast-twitch glycolytic
99 muscle raw FIB-SEM volume (**Figure 1a, Supplementary Video 1**) suggested that
100 sarcomere cross-sectional area (CSA) was variable at different regions along its length
101 with the CSA becoming smaller near the Z-disk ends compared to the center of the
102 sarcomere within the A-band (myosin containing region). Indeed, 3D rendering of the
103 fast-twitch glycolytic muscle sarcomeres revealed large gaps between the parallel
104 sarcomeres near the Z-disks (**Figure 1b, Supplementary Video 2**) and these gaps
105 corresponded to where perpendicularly aligned mitochondria (**Figure 1c-e,g-h**) and SR
106 doublets (**Figure 1d,h**) were located adjacent to the sarcomere. Conversely, *Drosophila*
107 indirect flight muscles (IFM) appear to maintain a constant CSA across the entire
108 sarcomere with no large gaps apparent between parallel sarcomeres (**Figure 1i,**
109 **Supplementary Video 3**) despite a large volume of adjacent mitochondria (**Figure 1j**).
110 Thus, we hypothesized that intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity was cell type-

111 dependent. To test this hypothesis, we compared the maximal CSA at the Z-disk and
112 corresponding A-band for each half sarcomere sheet (**Supplementary Video 4**) within
113 muscle volumes from six mouse muscle types and four *Drosophila* muscle types, as
114 well as in human muscles previously published as part of the Baltimore Longitudinal
115 Study of Aging¹⁹. The magnitude of intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity was highly
116 variable across cell types (**Figure 1k**) with the lowest values observed in *Drosophila*
117 IFM and jump muscles ($4.7 \pm 2.4\%$ CSA difference between A-band and Z-disk, n=3
118 cells, 56 half sarcomere sheets and $9.5 \pm 0.8\%$ difference, n=3 cells, 84 half sarcomere
119 sheets for IFM and jump muscles, respectively) and mouse cardiac muscles ($10.9 \pm 1.8\%$
120 difference, n=5 cells, 122 half sarcomere sheets). The greatest degree of
121 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity was found in the *Drosophila* leg muscles ($40.3 \pm 6.5\%$
122 difference, n=5 cells, 21 half sarcomere sheets), mouse oxidative muscles ($34.4 \pm 4.8\%$
123 difference, n=4 cells, 86 half sarcomere sheets, and $31.1 \pm 1.7\%$ difference, n=4 cells, 84
124 half sarcomere sheets for fast- and slow-twitch muscles, respectively) and human
125 muscles ($29.3 \pm 1.6\%$ difference, n=3 cells, 80 half sarcomere sheets). The wide range of
126 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity values across cell types in both fly and mouse
127 muscles, as well as the high values observed in humans, suggest that cell type specific
128 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity is conserved from invertebrate to human muscles.



129
130 **Figure 1: Intrasarcomere Cross-sectional Area Heterogeneity is Dependent on Muscle Cell Type.**
131 a) Longitudinal raw focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy (FIB-SEM) image of a mouse fast-
132 twitch glycolytic gastrocnemius muscle showing two parallel myofibrillar segments comprised of three
133 sarcomeres each (cyan and yellow). Diameter of the A-band (A) is larger than the diameter of the Z-disk
134 (Z, red). Mitochondria (magenta), sarcoplasmic reticulum (SR, green), and t-tubules (T, blue) are also
135 shown. b) 3D rendering of the sarcomere boundaries from a (translucent cyan and yellow) and their Z-
136 disk structures (red). White arrows highlight gaps between in parallel sarcomeres. c) Same 3D rendering
137 as b but also showing sarcomere adjacent mitochondria (magenta), and partial sarcoplasmic reticulum
138 (green) and t-tubule (blue) structures. d-h) Raw FIB-SEM cross-sectional views at the Z-disk, I-band, and
139 A-band regions indicated by dotted lines in b highlighting the varying diameters of the mitochondrial and
140 SR/T structures located between in parallel sarcomeres (cyan and yellow). Black arrows highlight SR
141 doublets. Yellow arrow highlights longitudinal SR. i) 3D rendering of the sarcomere boundaries
142 (translucent cyan and yellow) for six sarcomeres from *Drosophila* indirect flight muscle and their Z-disk
143 structures (red). j) 90° rotation of the indirect flight muscle sarcomeres from i also showing adjacent
144 mitochondria which do not run perpendicular to the contractile axis. k) Percent difference in sarcomere
145 cross-sectional area at the A-band relative to the Z-disk per half sarcomere sheet across eleven muscle
146 cell types. Large shapes represent individual cell values, smaller shapes represent values per individual
147 half sarcomere sheet. Black lines represent cell Mean±SD. *significantly different from Cardiac.
148 %significantly different from Early Postnatal (postnatal day 1). #significantly different from Late Postnatal
149 (postnatal day 14). ^significantly different from Fast Glycolytic. \$significantly different from Fast Oxidative.
150 @significantly different from Slow Oxidative. +significantly different from Indirect Flight. >significantly
151 different from Jump. <significantly different from Direct Flight. N values: Cardiac-5 cells, 122 half
152 sarcomere sheets; Early Postnatal-5 cells, 106 half sarcomere sheets; Late Postnatal-4 cells, 70 half

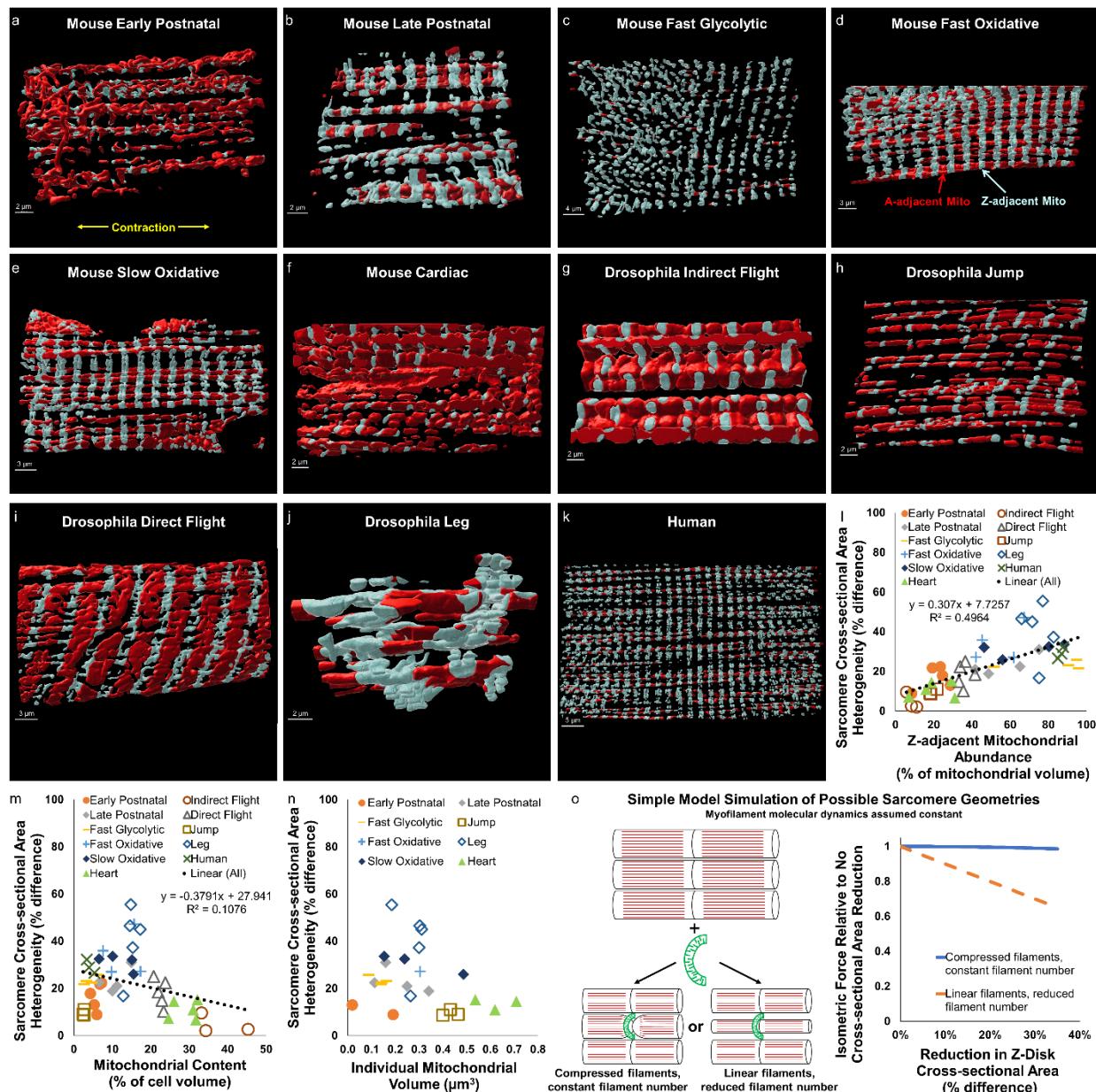
153 sarcomere sheets; Fast Glycolytic-4 cells, 86 half sarcomere sheets; Fast Oxidative-4 cells, 86 half
154 sarcomere sheets; Slow Oxidative-4 cells, 84 half sarcomere sheets; Indirect Flight-3 cells, 56 half
155 sarcomere sheets; Jump-3 cells, 84 half sarcomere sheets; Direct Flight-5 cells, 80 half sarcomere
156 sheets; Leg-5 cells, 21 half sarcomere sheets; Human-3 cells, 80 half sarcomere sheets.

157

158 **Sarcomere Shape is Coordinated with Mitochondrial Location**

159 The six muscle types with greater than 20% intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity
160 in Figure 1 are all known to have large proportions of their mitochondrial networks which
161 wrap perpendicularly around the sarcomere adjacent to the Z-disks, whereas the five
162 muscle types with less than 20% heterogeneity all have mitochondrial networks
163 primarily oriented in parallel to the contractile apparatus^{11,18,19,26-29}. Thus, we
164 hypothesized that sarcomere structure is linked to mitochondrial network configuration.
165 To test this hypothesis, we first used machine learning³⁰ to segment out mitochondrial
166 network structures within each FIB-SEM dataset¹¹ (**Supplementary Video 5**). To
167 assess mitochondrial network configuration, we further separated the mitochondrial
168 network structures into regions adjacent to the Z-disk (light blue in **Supplementary**
169 **Videos 6-7**) and regions not adjacent to the Z-disk (red in **Supplementary Videos 6-7**).
170 Using a distance from Z-disk threshold of 200 nm longer than the width of the
171 sarcomeric I-band (actin only region) in each dataset resulted in all perpendicularly
172 oriented mitochondria to be included in the Z-adjacent mitochondrial pool (**Figure 2a-k**,
173 **Supplementary Video 6**). We then compared the percentage of the total mitochondrial
174 network that is adjacent to the Z-disk versus the magnitude of intrasarcomere CSA
175 heterogeneity for each dataset which revealed a significant linear relationship (**Figure**
176 **2l**, $R^2=0.4964$, $p<0.001$) indicating that greater intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity is
177 associated with more of the mitochondrial pool being localized to the Z-disk. Comparing
178 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity to total mitochondrial content also revealed a
179 statistically significant linear relationship (**Figure 2m**, $R^2=0.1076$, $p=0.024$), albeit
180 negative and much weaker than with Z-adjacent mitochondrial abundance. Indeed, in a
181 two component multiple regression model evaluating the impact of both Z-adjacent
182 mitochondrial abundance and mitochondrial content on intrasarcomere CSA
183 heterogeneity, Z-adjacent mitochondrial abundance contributes significantly
184 (standardized beta coefficient 0.709, $p<0.001$) whereas mitochondrial content does not

185 (standardized beta coefficient -0.005, $p=0.968$). Additionally, there was no significant
 186 correlation between intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity and individual mitochondrial
 187 volume (**Figure 2n**, $R^2=0.059$, $p=0.126$). These data suggest that sarcomere shape
 188 appears to be closely coordinated with where mitochondria are located within a muscle
 189 cell, and less so with how many or how big the mitochondria are.



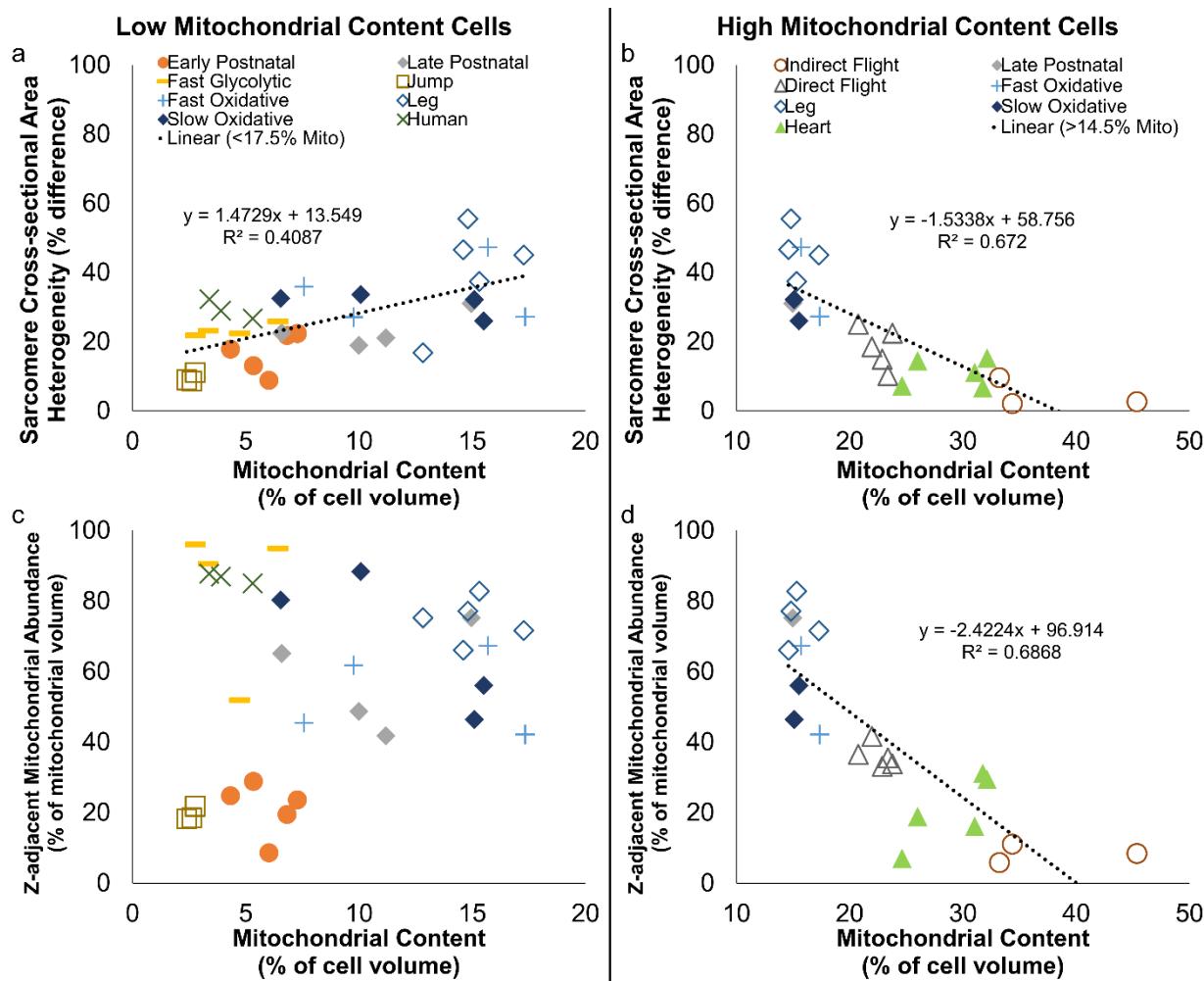
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 191 **Figure 2: Magnitude of Intrasarcomere Cross-sectional Area Heterogeneity is Related to**
 192 **Mitochondrial Location.** a-k) 3D rendering of representative mitochondrial network structures from
 193 eleven muscle types from mouse, *Drosophila*, and human tissues showing Z-adjacent regions (light blue)
 194 and A-adjacent regions (red). l) Linear correlation (black dotted line, $p<0.001$) between Z-adjacent
 195 mitochondrial abundance and sarcomere cross-sectional area (CSA) heterogeneity. Individual points

196 represent individual muscle cell values. m) Linear correlation (black dotted line, $p=0.024$) between
197 mitochondrial content and sarcomere CSA heterogeneity. n) Lack of correlation between individual
198 mitochondrial volume and sarcomere CSA heterogeneity. o) Simulations of simple sarcomere geometry
199 models showing proportional reduction in isometric force when entire sarcomere CSA is reduced and
200 negligible reduction in force when only the Z-disk CSA is reduced.

201 However, closer inspection of **Figure 2m** suggests that the intrasarcomere CSA
202 heterogeneity/mitochondrial content relationship may actually be biphasic in nature with
203 a transition occurring between 14.5-17.5% mitochondrial content. Indeed, separating
204 the data into high ($>14.5\%$) and low ($<17.5\%$) mitochondrial content groups where both
205 contain the apparent transition region results in a strong positive correlation ($R^2 = 0.409$,
206 $p<0.001$) with intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity in low mitochondrial content cells
207 (**Supplementary Figure 1a**) and a strong negative correlation ($R^2 = 0.672$, $p<0.001$)
208 with intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity in high mitochondrial content cells
209 (**Supplementary Figure 1b**). Moreover, both mitochondrial content (standardized beta
210 coefficient 0.521, $p<0.001$) and mitochondrial location (standardized beta coefficient
211 0.484, $p<0.001$) contribute significantly to the prediction of intrasarcomere CSA
212 heterogeneity in a multiple regression model of low mitochondrial content muscle cells,
213 though the contribution of mitochondrial content (standardized beta coefficient -0.238,
214 $p=0.185$) does not reach significance compared to mitochondrial location (standardized
215 beta coefficient 0.699, $p<0.001$) in high mitochondrial content cells. These data suggest
216 there is a transition in striated muscle cellular design principles which occurs when
217 mitochondrial content within the intrafibrillar space reaches 14.5-17.5% where additional
218 mitochondria no longer result in intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity. Indeed, below this
219 threshold, mitochondrial content and mitochondrial location remain independent of one
220 another (**Supplementary Figure 1c**, $R^2=0.034$, $p=0.314$) as mitochondrial networks of
221 similar total content can be primarily parallel (**Figure 2a,h**), grid-like (**Figure 2b,d,e,j**), or
222 perpendicular (**Figure 2c,k**) in nature, as also recently reported in shrew muscle³¹.
223 However, above this threshold, mitochondrial content and location are closely related
224 (**Supplementary Figure 1d**, $R^2=0.687$, $p<0.001$) as additional mitochondria are placed
225 in parallel to the contractile axis and therefore result in a uniform reduction of the entire
226 sarcomere CSA. Thus, while mitochondrial location maintains a consistent relationship
227 with intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity across all striated muscle cells (**Figure 2l**),
228 mitochondrial content appears to play a secondary role by mediating mitochondrial

229 location once mitochondrial content reaches the 14.5-17.5% cellular design transition
 230 point.

231



232
 233 **Supplementary Figure 1: Relationships between Mitochondrial Content, Location, and Sarcomere**
 234 **Shape.** a) Correlation (black dotted line, $p < 0.001$) between mitochondrial content and sarcomere cross-
 235 sectional area (CSA) heterogeneity for low mitochondrial content (<17.5% volume) cells. Individual points
 236 represent individual muscle cell values. b) Correlation (black dotted line, $p < 0.001$) between mitochondrial
 237 content and sarcomere cross-sectional area (CSA) heterogeneity for high mitochondrial content (>14.5%
 238 volume) cells. c) Lack of correlation between mitochondrial content and Z-adjacent mitochondrial
 239 abundance for low mitochondrial content (<17.5% volume) cells. d) Correlation (black dotted line,
 240 $p < 0.001$) between mitochondrial content and Z-adjacent mitochondrial abundance for high mitochondrial
 241 content (>14.5% volume) cells.

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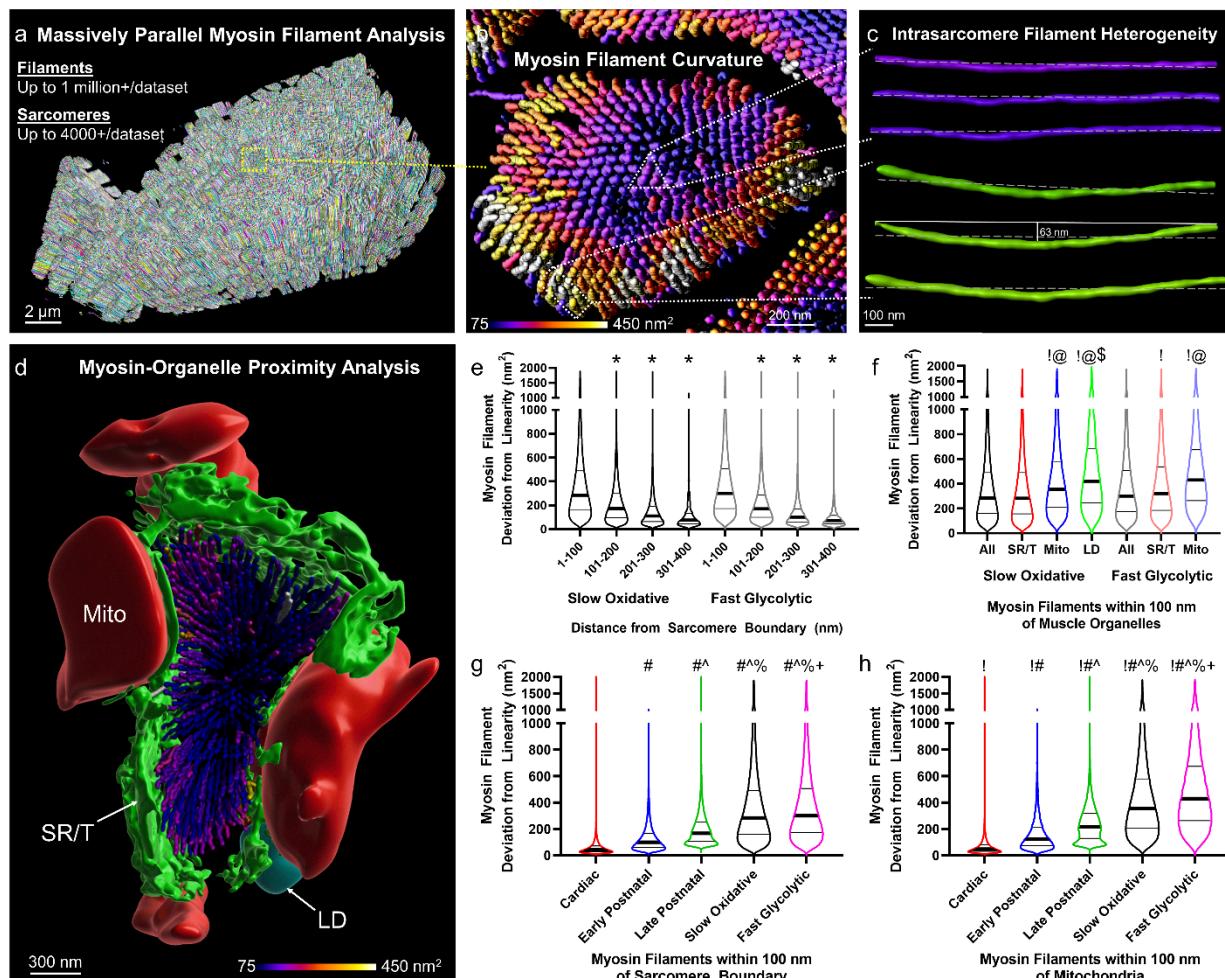
243 Since there are currently no methods to directly assess forces at the sarcomere
 244 scale within intact muscle cells, as a first step toward assessing the functional impact of
 245 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity, we developed a simple geometrical model to
 246 simulate the relative change in force production due to the addition of a new

247 mitochondrion wrapping perpendicularly around the sarcomere near the Z-disk (**Figure**
248 **2o**). Simulations of two types of sarcomeric adaptations to mitochondrial addition were
249 performed. First, sarcomere CSA was maintained constant along its length, as is
250 commonly assumed³²⁻³⁶, and, thus, reduction of the Z-disk CSA to make space for the
251 mitochondrion results in a proportional loss in the number of linear myofilaments
252 throughout the sarcomere. As expected, simulations of this uniform sarcomere CSA
253 model showed that isometric force production decreased linearly with the magnitude of
254 reduction of the Z-disk CSA (orange dotted line in **Figure 2o**). The second model tested
255 was based on the intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity structures described above where
256 the Z-disk, but not the middle, of the sarcomere is compressed to make room for the
257 new mitochondrion. It was assumed in the heterogeneous CSA model that
258 myofilaments curved slightly in proportion to the reduction in Z-disk CSA but that
259 filament number remained constant. These simulations revealed negligible loss of force
260 in response to up to 35% reduction of the Z-disk CSA (blue line in **Figure 2o**). Thus, the
261 data from these simulations suggest that by limiting the loss of sarcomere CSA to near
262 the Z-disk, there is little contractile cost to adding a mitochondrion wrapped
263 perpendicularly around a sarcomere. However, it is important to note that this simple
264 geometrical model does not account for any potential changes in myofilament molecular
265 dynamics that may occur within the sarcomere as a result of intrasarcomere CSA
266 heterogeneity. More detailed models accounting for the true 3D myofilament structures
267 and their dynamic molecular interactions within the sarcomere will be needed to more
268 fully understand the functional impact of intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity.

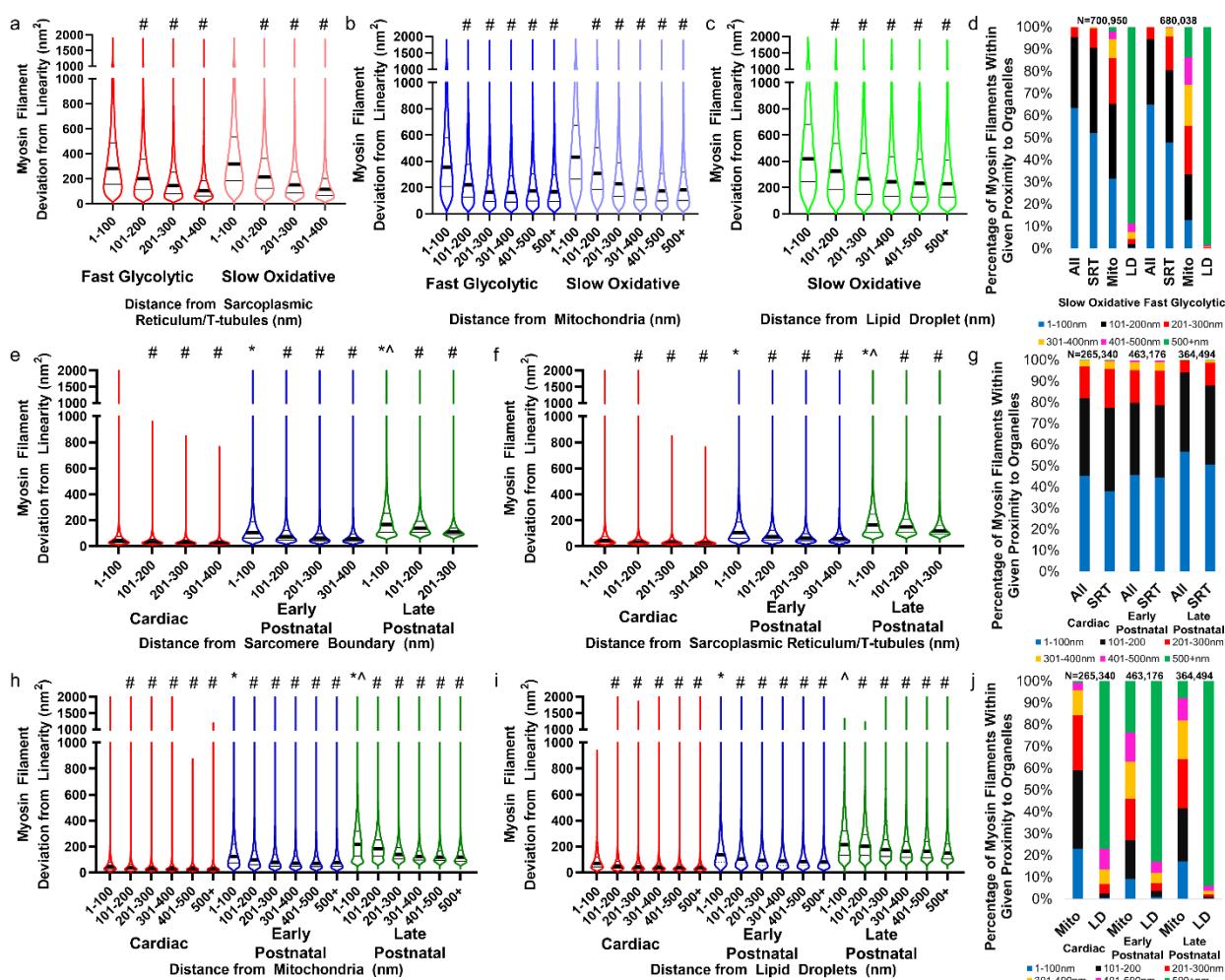
269 ***Proximity to Mitochondria Influences Curvature of Myosin Filaments***

270 To better understand the influence of intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity on the
271 myofilaments within the sarcomere, we performed a massively parallel segmentation of
272 all the myosin filaments within a FIB-SEM dataset (**Figure 3a, Supplementary Video 8**)
273 which allowed for assessment of hundreds of thousands to millions of individual
274 filaments per cell. Based on electron microscopy images such as **Figure 1a** here as
275 well as in the literature (e.g. Figure 1a in Wang et al.³⁷), we hypothesized that
276 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity also leads to variability in filament structures within a

277 single sarcomere where filaments near organelles at the sarcomere periphery are
278 slightly curved while those in the center remain linear. To test this hypothesis, we fit
279 each segmented myosin filament to a straight line and then measured the deviation of
280 each filament from linearity as a proxy for filament curvature (**Supplementary Video 9**).
281 Indeed, a large variation in myosin filament curvature can be observed within a single
282 sarcomere (**Figure 3b,c**). To quantify myosin filament curvature relative to
283 intrasarcomere positioning, we performed machine learning segmentation of the major
284 organelles which surround and provide the boundaries for the sarcomeres
285 (sarcoplasmic reticulum + t-tubules, SR/T; mitochondria, Mito; and lipid droplets, LD)
286 (**Figure 3d, Supplementary Video 10**) and then measured the shortest distance
287 between every myosin filament and each organelle. In both slow oxidative and fast
288 glycolytic muscles from the mature mouse, myosin filaments within 100 nm of the
289 overall sarcomere boundary are significantly less linear than those more toward the
290 center (**Figure 3e**). Proximity to each individual organelle (SR/T, Mito, LD) also
291 corresponds to greater myosin filament curvature than more distal filaments in slow
292 oxidative and fast glycolytic muscles (**Supplementary Figure 2a-d**). However, proximity
293 to mitochondria and lipid droplets results in greater myosin filament curvature than
294 proximity to SR/T or the overall sarcomere boundary (**Figure 3f**). These data
295 demonstrate that myosin filament structure is heterogeneous within sarcomeres with
296 slightly curved filaments near the periphery and more linear filaments within the core of
297 the sarcomere. Additionally, proximity to larger organelles such as mitochondria and
298 lipid droplets is associated with greater myosin filament curvature than smaller diameter
299 organelles such as the SR/T.



300
301 **Figure 3: Intrasarcomere Myosin Filament Heterogeneity and Organelle Proximity.** a) 3D rendering
302 of 364,000+ myosin filaments (various colors) from a mouse late postnatal muscle. b) 3D rendering of the
303 myosin filaments from the highlighted sarcomere in a. Filament color represents filament deviation from
304 linearity. c) 3D rendering of three myosin filaments from the sarcomere core in b (purple, upper) and three
305 filaments from the periphery (green, lower) showing the variability in filament linearity. d) 3D rendering of
306 the myosin filaments from a single mouse cardiac sarcomere and the organelles which comprise the
307 sarcomere boundary. Mitochondria (Mito, red), sarcotubular network (SR/T, green), and lipid droplets (LD,
308 cyan) are shown. e) Myosin filament deviation from linearity as a function of distance from the sarcomere
309 boundary for Slow Oxidative and Fast Glycolytic fibers. f) Myosin filament deviation from linearity for
310 filaments within 100 nm of different muscle organelles. g) Myosin filament deviation from linearity for
311 filaments within 100 nm of the sarcomere boundary across cell types. h) Myosin filament deviation from
312 linearity for filaments within 100 nm of mitochondria across cell types. Thick black lines represent median
313 values, thin black lines represent upper and lower quartile values. Width of the violin plot represents the
314 relative number of filaments at a given value. *significantly different from 1-100 nm. †significantly different
315 from All. ‡significantly different from SR/T. §significantly different from mitochondria. #significantly different
316 from Cardiac. ^significantly different from Early Postnatal. %significantly different from Late Postnatal.
317 +significantly different from Slow Oxidative. N values: Slow Oxidative-700,950 filaments; Fast Glycolytic-
318 680,038; Cardiac-265,340; Early Postnatal-463,176; Late Postnatal-364,494.



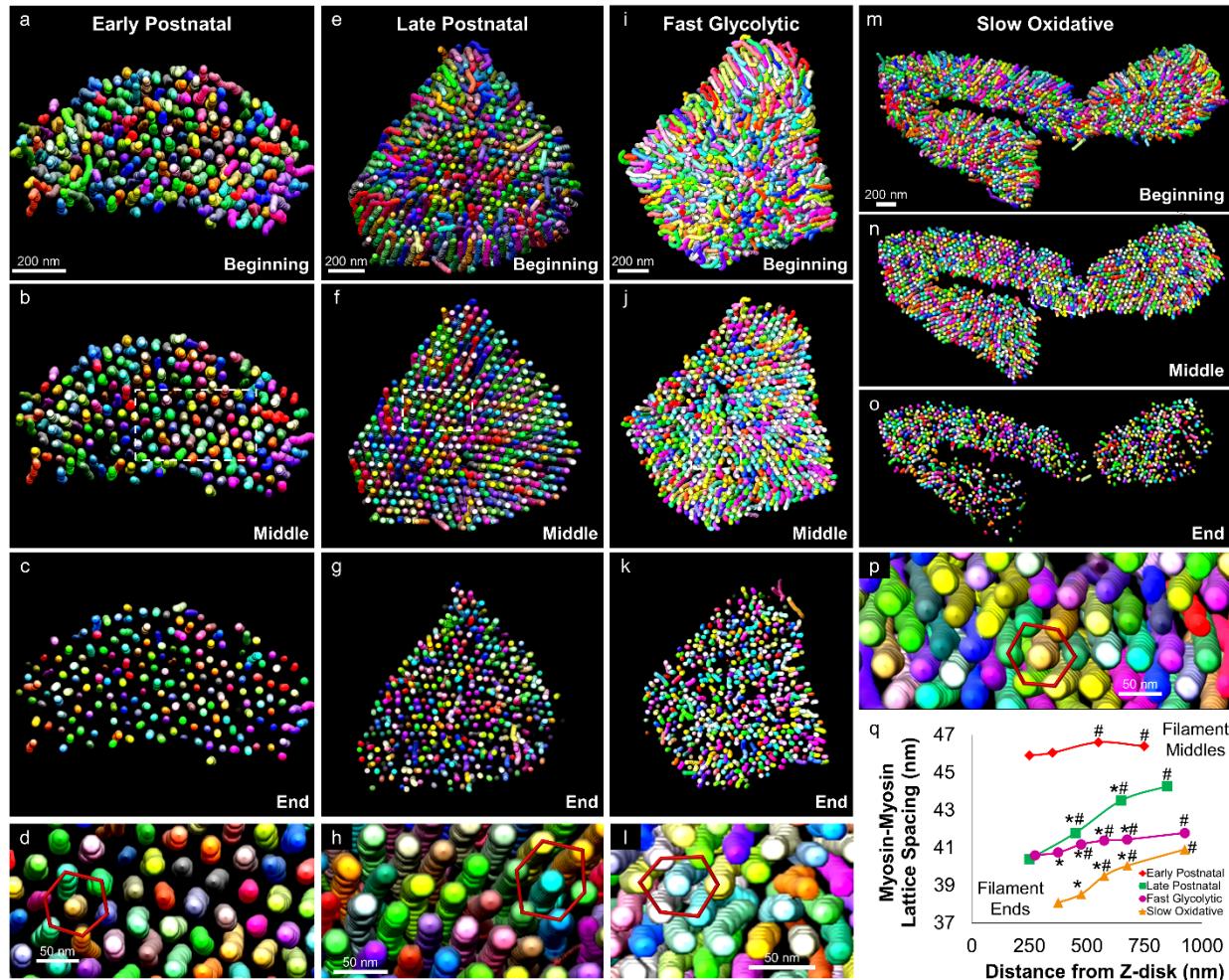
336 greater in the fast glycolytic, slow oxidative, and late postnatal muscles compared to the
337 cardiac or early postnatal muscles (**Figure 3g**). Similarly, while proximity to
338 mitochondria and lipid droplets was associated with greater myosin filament curvature
339 than proximity to the SR/T or overall sarcomere boundary for all cell types (**Figure 3h**,
340 **Supplementary Figure 2e-j**), the magnitude of myosin curvature for filaments nearby
341 the larger organelles was also largely dependent on cell type (**Figure 3h**,
342 **Supplementary Figure 2h-i**). Together, these data show that myosin curvature is
343 highest in cell types with perpendicularly oriented mitochondrial networks, while within a
344 given cell, myosin curvature is greater for filaments near mitochondria and lipid droplets
345 compared to the SR/T. Thus, the presence of mitochondria adjacent to a sarcomere,
346 particularly when oriented perpendicular to the contractile axis, influences the shape of
347 the internal myofilaments within that sarcomere.

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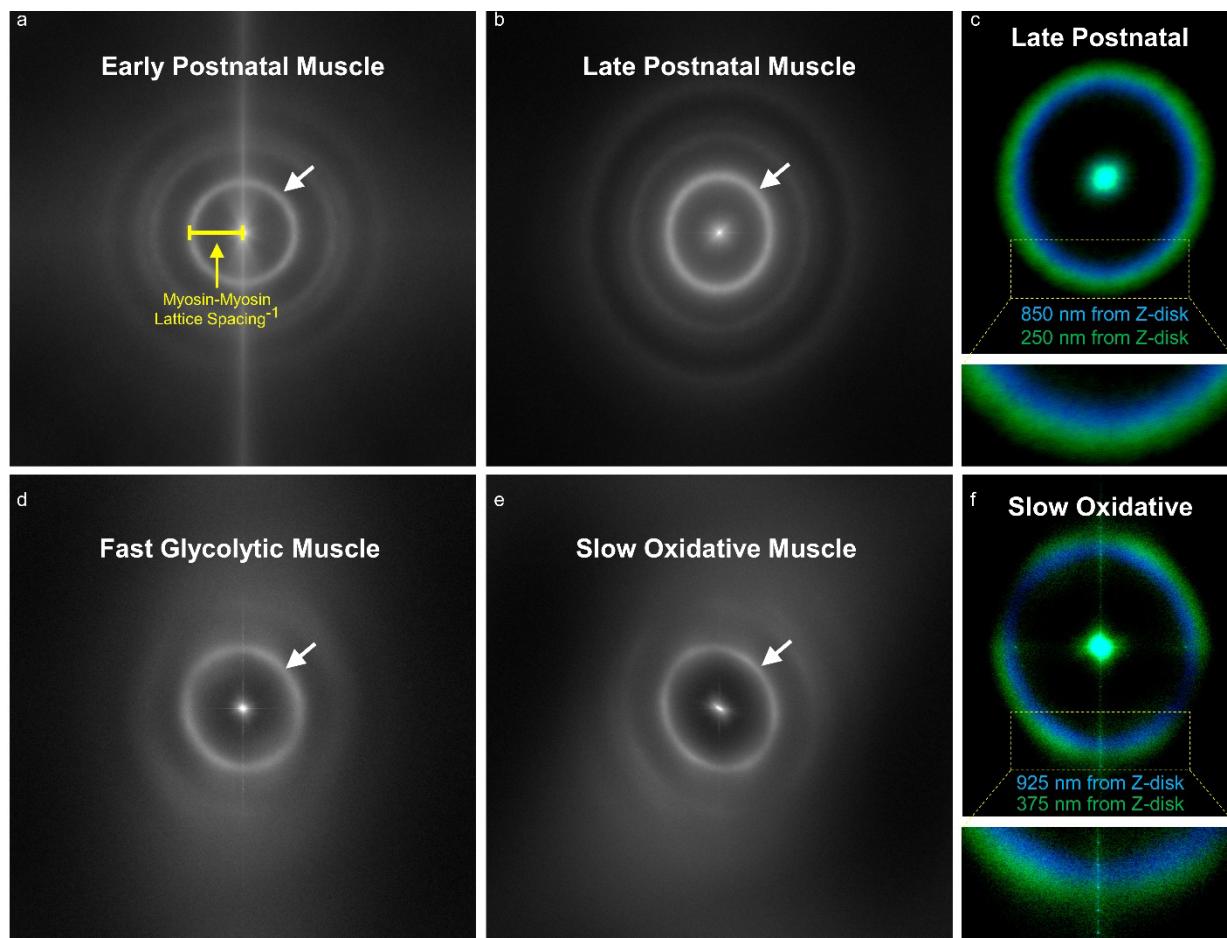
349 ***Myosin-to-Myosin Lattice Spacing is Variable Along the Sarcomere Length***

350 Force production within a sarcomere is based on physical interactions between
351 actin and myosin, and, thus, is determined in part by the distances between
352 myofilaments^{38,39}. Within the A-band of the sarcomere, both actin and myosin are
353 arranged in hexagonal lattice arrays where each myosin filament is surrounded by six
354 other myosin filaments and also by six actin filaments which are closer to each myosin
355 filament and form a smaller lattice^{40,41}. Spacing within the myofilament lattices regulates
356 sarcomere shortening velocity⁴², length-tension relationships³³, cross-bridge
357 kinetics^{43,44}, and advective-diffusive metabolite transport⁴⁵ with as small as a 1 nm
358 lattice spacing change correlating with force production⁴⁶. Thus, to better understand
359 the potential functional implications of heterogeneous myofilament structures within a
360 given sarcomere, we determined whether the lattice spacing between myosin filaments
361 was variable among different regions of the sarcomere. Initial observations of single
362 sarcomeres revealed the classic hexagonal myosin lattice within our FIB-SEM datasets
363 although the spacing appeared to vary along the sarcomere length (**Figure 4a-p**,
364 **Supplementary Video 11**). To quantify myosin center-to-center lattice spacing, we
365 performed a 2D fast fourier transform (FFT) analysis of the myosin filament cross-

366 sections at different regions along the length of the sarcomere. Whereas 2D FFT
367 images of single sarcomeres show six bright spots surrounding the image center
368 representing the hexagonal lattice (**Supplementary Video 12**), performing a 2D FFT on
369 the entire cross-section of a muscle dataset results in a circular profile around the
370 center due to the different orientations of the many sarcomeres within the field of view
371 (**Supplementary Figure 3**). To assess lattice spacing in different regions of the
372 sarcomere, we performed whole dataset FFT analyses after segmenting each myosin
373 filament into separate 50 nm regions representing the filament centers, filament ends,
374 and 2-4 intermediate points in between based on their distances from the Z-disk
375 (**Supplementary Figure 3c,f**). In early postnatal muscle, myosin lattice spacing varied
376 by less than 1 nm along the sarcomere length with a 45.91 ± 0.11 nm lattice near the
377 filament ends ($n=89$ muscle cross-sections) and slightly larger 46.41 ± 0.09 nm spacing
378 near the filament centers ($n=88$) (**Figure 4q**). Conversely, myosin lattice spacing in late
379 postnatal, fast glycolytic, and slow oxidative muscles all varied by greater than 1 nm
380 along the sarcomere length with larger spacing among the filament centers than for the
381 filament ends (**Figure 4q**). The late postnatal muscle myosin lattice was the most
382 variable of the muscles assessed here and changed by almost 4 nm from 44.28 ± 0.03
383 nm ($n=342$) in the sarcomere center to 40.40 ± 0.09 nm ($n=333$) near the filaments ends.
384 Myosin lattice spacing in the slow oxidative muscles varied by nearly 3 nm from
385 40.92 ± 0.09 nm ($n=138$) in the center of the sarcomere to 38.09 ± 0.10 nm ($n=93$) near
386 the filament ends. Finally, in the fast glycolytic muscles, myosin lattice spacing varied
387 from 41.79 ± 0.07 nm ($n=139$) near the sarcomere center down to 40.60 ± 0.09 nm
388 ($n=137$) near the filament ends. These data demonstrate intrasarcomere heterogeneity
389 of myosin-myosin lattice spacing and suggest that the actin-myosin molecular
390 interactions which govern muscle contraction may also vary along the length of a single
391 sarcomere.



392
393 **Figure 4: Myosin Lattice Spacing Intrasarcomere Heterogeneity.** a-p) 3D renderings of myosin
394 filaments (various colors) within representative single sarcomeres from Early Postnatal (a-d), Late
395 Postnatal (e-h), Fast Glycolytic (i-l), and Slow Oxidative (m-p) muscles showing the entire sarcomere
396 (a,e,i,m), half the sarcomere (b,f,j,n), the ends of the sarcomere (c,g,k,o), and the hexagonal filament
397 lattice from the middle of the sarcomere (d,h,l,p). q) Myosin-myosin lattice spacing as a function of
398 distance from the Z-disk for Early Postnatal (means shown as diamonds), Late Postnatal (squares), Fast
399 Glycolytic (circles), and Slow Oxidative (triangles) muscles. N values: Early Postnatal-88 to 89 muscle
400 cross-sections; Late Postnatal-333 to 342 muscle cross-sections; Fast Glycolytic-137 to 139 muscle
401 cross-sections; Slow Oxidative-93 to 138 muscle cross-sections. Standard error bars are smaller than
402 mean symbols, thus not visible. *significantly different from filament middles. #significantly different from
403 filament ends.



404
405 **Supplementary Figure 3: 2D FFT Analyses Reveal Intrasarcomere Lattice Spacing Heterogeneity.**
406 a,b,d,e) Average of all 2D fast fourier transform (FFT) power spectra of myosin filament center cross-
407 section images for Early Postnatal (a), Late Postnatal (b), Fast Glycolytic (d) and Slow Oxidative (e)
408 muscles. c,f) Average 2D FFT power spectrum of Late Postnatal myosin filament centers (blue) and ends
409 (green).

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412 **Discussion**

413 The functional benefits of increasing mitochondrial content within a cell are
414 generally well understood to increase the capacity for energy conversion, calcium
415 buffering, ROS/metabolite signaling, and/or other processes in which mitochondria
416 support cellular function^{16,47-55}. However, in highly packed cells with limited cytosolic
417 space, such as striated muscle cells, increasing the amount of mitochondria also
418 requires a proportional loss of volume of other cellular structures. As such, there is a
419 functional cost to adding a mitochondrion to a cell that is particularly important to

420 consider when designing therapeutics which may increase mitochondrial content⁵⁶⁻⁵⁹.
421 Here, we begin to investigate how striated muscle cells deal with this cost by evaluating
422 how the structure of the sarcomere is affected by proximity to mitochondria across
423 eleven total cell types from three species with a more than 18-fold range in
424 mitochondrial content. We find that the CSA of the sarcomere can be variable along its
425 length with the Z-disk being smaller than the middle of the A-band (**Figure 1**), and that
426 the magnitude of this intrasarcomere heterogeneity across cell types strongly correlates
427 with the proportion of mitochondria located adjacent to the Z-disk (**Figure 2**). These
428 data suggest that placement of a mitochondrion oriented perpendicular to the contractile
429 apparatus comes at the expense of sarcomere CSA, but that the functional cost may be
430 minimized by limiting the reduction in CSA to near the Z-disk rather than the entire
431 sarcomere (**Figure 2o**).

432 By performing a massively parallel segmentation and analysis of over 2 million
433 myosin filaments (**Figure 3**), we show that intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity is
434 achieved, at least in part, by the curvature of myosin filaments near the periphery, but
435 not the core, of the sarcomere. Additionally, we find that myosin filaments in close
436 proximity to large intrafibrillar organelles, such as mitochondria, have relatively greater
437 curvature than filaments near smaller diameter organelles such as the sarcoplasmic
438 reticulum. In turn, this variability among myosin filament structures within individual
439 sarcomeres results in reduced lattice spacing near the filament ends compared to the
440 filament centers (**Figure 4**). Alterations in myofilament lattice spacing throughout the
441 entire sarcomere are known to directly affect several measures related to force
442 production (shortening velocity, length-tension relationships, cross-bridge kinetics,
443 etc.)⁴¹⁻⁴⁶. However, it remains unclear how variable lattice spacing within different
444 regions of a single sarcomere influences force production. Moreover, while sarcomeric
445 molecular dynamics simulations of linear actin and myosin filaments have suggested
446 there is an optimal lattice spacing for force production³³, it is unknown how the different
447 regions within the variable myosin lattices reported here compare to the theoretical
448 optimal spacing. As such, whether smaller lattice spacing closer to the filament ends
449 results in increased force production relative to near the filament centers, perhaps due
450 to increased probability of actin-myosin interactions^{60,61} or potential stress induced

451 activation of myosin in the compressed regions^{62,63}, or whether smaller lattice spacing
452 leads to reduced force production, possibly by altering cross-bridge kinetics^{43,44,64}, is yet
453 to be determined. With the current absence of methods to directly assess contractile
454 forces with subsarcomeric precision, development of molecular dynamics models
455 accounting for the variability in myofilament spatial relationships along the length of the
456 sarcomere may provide key insights regarding the functional implications of the
457 intrasarcomere structural heterogeneities described here.

458 Variable lattice spacing within a sarcomere has been suggested to be a
459 consequence of the transformation between the rhombic lattice at the Z-disk and the
460 hexagonal lattice at the M-line¹. This lattice mismatch would thereby result in oblique
461 angles of the actin filaments and outward radial forces on the Z-disk during contraction
462 which was proposed to be the cause of myofibril splitting during muscle growth^{1,22}.
463 However, comparing the intrasarcomere lattice spacing measurements from the four
464 muscle types in **Figure 4** here with our previous assessment of myofibril splitting in the
465 same muscle types³ does not support this hypothesis as there is no direct positive or
466 negative relationship between the two measurements (early postnatal muscle: 0.5nm
467 intrasarcomere lattice spacing variability, 27.6% of sarcomeres branch; late postnatal
468 muscle: 3.8nm, 12.8%; fast glycolytic muscle: 1.2nm, 17.5%; slow oxidative muscle:
469 2.8nm, 43.1%). Thus, while the heterogeneity in intrasarcomere myosin lattice spacing
470 may well be the result of a mismatch between the M-line and Z-disk lattices,
471 intrasarcomere variability in lattice spacing does not appear to be a cause of myofibril
472 splitting.

473 In summary, by evaluating the 3D relationships among sarcomeres and their
474 adjacent organelles across eleven muscle types from invertebrates to humans, we
475 propose that where a mitochondrion is placed within the intramyofibrillar space
476 influences the structure of the adjacent sarcomeres and can lead to heterogeneity of the
477 cross-sectional area across individual sarcomeres in a cell-type specific manner. In turn,
478 intrasarcomere CSA heterogeneity occurs together with curvature of the internal myosin
479 filaments located at the periphery of the sarcomere with greater curvature of
480 myofilaments located near mitochondria. This intrasarcomere heterogeneity in myosin

481 filament shape thus results in variable lattice spacing among myosin filaments in
482 different regions of the sarcomere. While we are unable to clearly resolve actin
483 filaments in our FIB-SEM datasets, it is likely that the intrasarcomere variability in
484 myosin-myosin lattice spacing occurs concurrently with altered actin-myosin spacing,
485 and thus, the force generating molecular interactions among actin and myosin are also
486 likely variable at different regions within a sarcomere. While it is possible that the
487 chemical fixation procedures used here alter the lattice spacings observed *in vivo*⁶⁵⁻⁶⁷, it
488 does not seem likely that fixation would alter the lattice spacing variably in different
489 regions of the sarcomere and in a cell type-dependent manner. Indeed, the *in vivo*
490 immersion fixation procedures used here maintain the circular profiles of muscle
491 capillaries⁶⁸ as well as the mitochondrial diameters observed in live cells⁶⁹ suggesting
492 that the structures reported here are similar to the *in vivo* physiological state. Moreover,
493 curved peripheral myofilaments, including actin, are also observed in cryo-preserved,
494 non-chemically fixed sarcomeres³⁷ indicating that the structural heterogeneities within
495 sarcomeres reported here are not simply artifacts of fixation. Thus, overall, these data
496 indicate that the placement of a mitochondrion adjacent to the sarcomere not only alters
497 the energetic support for muscle contraction but also influences the structure of the
498 sarcomere down to the molecular interactions among myofilaments.

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508 **Methods**

509 *Mice*

510 All procedures were approved by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Animal
511 Care and Use Committee and performed in accordance with the guidelines described in
512 the Animal Care and Welfare Act (7 USC 2142 § 13). 6-8 week old C57BL6/N mice
513 were purchased from Taconic Biosciences (Rensselaer, NY) and fed ad libitum on a 12-
514 hour light, 12-hour dark cycle at 20-26° C. Breeding pairs were setup, and progeny were
515 randomly selected for each experimental group. Early Postnatal mice were from
516 postnatal day 1 (P1) and Late Postnatal mice were from P14. Adult mice were 2-4
517 months of age. Animals were given free access to food and water and pups were
518 weaned at P21. Due to difficulty using anogenital distance to reliably determine gender
519 in P1 pups, we did not group mice depending on sex, but randomly used both male and
520 female mice.

521 *Mouse Muscle Preparation*

522 Mouse hindlimb and cardiac muscles were fixed and prepared for imaging as described
523 previously¹¹. Mice were placed on a water circulating heated bed and anesthetized via
524 continuous inhalation of 2% isoflurane through a nose cone. Hair and skin were
525 removed from the hindlimbs, and the legs were immersed in fixative containing 2%
526 glutaraldehyde in 100 mM phosphate buffer, pH 7.2 *in vivo* for 30 minutes. For heart
527 fixation, the chest cavity was opened, and cardiac tissue was perfused through the apex
528 of the left ventricle by slowly injecting 2 ml of relaxation buffer (80 mM potassium
529 acetate, 10 mM potassium phosphate, 5 mM EGTA, pH 7.2) followed by 2 ml of fixative
530 solution (2.5% glutaraldehyde, 1% formaldehyde, 120 mM sodium cacodylate, pH 7.2-
531 7.4) through a syringe attached to a 30G needle. After initial fixation, the gastrocnemius,
532 soleus, and/or left ventricles were then removed, cut into 1 mm³ cubes, and placed into
533 fixative solution for one hour. After washing with 100 mM cacodylate buffer five times for
534 three minutes at room temperature, the samples were placed in 4% aqueous osmium
535 (3% potassium ferrocyanide, and 200 mM cacodylate) on ice for one hour. The samples
536 were then washed in bi-distilled H₂O five times for three minutes, and incubated for 20
537 minutes in fresh thiocarbohydrazide solution at room temperature. Afterwards, the

538 samples were incubated for 30 minutes on ice in 2% osmium solution and then washed
539 in bi-distilled H₂O five times for three minutes. Next, after incubating in 1% uranyl
540 acetate solution overnight at 4 °C, the samples were washed in bi-distilled H₂O five
541 times for three minutes and then incubated in lead aspartate solution (20 mM lead
542 nitrate 30 mM aspartic acid, pH 5.5) at 60°C for 20 minutes. After washing in bi-distilled
543 H₂O at room temperature five times for three minutes, the samples were incubated
544 sequentially in 20%, 50%, 70%, 90%, 95%, 100%, and 100% ethanol for five minutes
545 each, and then incubated in 50% Epon solution and in 75% Epon solution for 3-4 hours
546 and overnight at room temperature, respectively. Epon solution was prepared as a
547 mixture of four components: 11.1 ml Embed812 resin, 6.19 ml DDSA, 6.25 ml NMA, and
548 0.325 ml DMP-30. Next, the samples were incubated in fresh 100% Epon for one, one,
549 and four hours, sequentially. After removing excess resin using filter paper, the samples
550 were placed on aluminum ZEISS SEM Mounts in 60°C for 2-3 days. Then, using a Leica
551 UCT Ultramicrotome (Leica Microsystems Inc., USA) that is equipped with Trimtool 45
552 diamond knife, the samples were trimmed, and then gold-coated using a sputter.

553 *Drosophila Stocks and Muscle Preparation*

554 W¹¹¹⁸ flies from the Bloomington Drosophila Stock Center were crossed on yeast corn
555 medium (Bloomington Recipe) at 22° C. Muscles from 2-3 days old flies were dissected
556 on standard fixative solution (2.5% glutaraldehyde, 1% formaldehyde, and 0.1 M sodium
557 cacodylate buffer, pH 7.2) and processed for FIB-SEM imaging as described above.

558 *Focused Ion Beam Scanning Electron Microscopy*

559 Focus ion beam scanning electron microscopy (FIB-SEM) images were acquired using
560 a ZEISS Crossbeam 540 with ZEISS Atlas 5 software (Carl Zeiss Microscopy GmbH,
561 Jena, Germany) and collected using an in-column energy selective backscatter with
562 filtering grid to reject unwanted secondary electrons and backscatter electrons up to a
563 voltage of 1.5 keV at the working distance of 5.01 mm with a pixel size of 10 nm. FIB
564 milling was performed at 30 keV, 2-2.5 nA beam current, and 10 nm thickness. Image
565 stacks within a volume were aligned using Atlas 5 software (Fibics Incorporated) and
566 exported as TIFF files for analysis. Some raw FIB-SEM datasets were previously used

567 to assess mitochondria-organelle interactions^{11,26}, myofibril network connectivity^{3,4},
568 and/or endothelial cell/myocyte interactions⁶⁸.

569 *Image Segmentation*

570 Raw FIB-SEM image volumes were rotated in 3D so that the XY images within the
571 volume were of the muscle cell cross-section. For segmentation of muscle
572 mitochondria, lipid droplets, sarcotubular networks (SRT, sarcoplasmic reticulum + t-
573 tubules), Z-disks, and A-bands, datasets were binned to 20 nm isotropic voxels, and
574 semi-automated machine learning segmentation was performed using the Pixel
575 Classification module in Ilastik³⁰ as described previously¹¹. Segmentation probability
576 files were exported as 8-bit HDF5 files for import into ImageJ for subsequent analyses.
577 Segmentation of individual mitochondria was performed by using Pixel Classification in
578 Ilastik to generate outer mitochondrial membrane probabilities which were then loaded
579 into the Multicut module in Ilastik for individual organelle separation as described
580 previously¹¹.

581 For segmentation of individual myosin filaments, raw FIB-SEM data were
582 upscaled to 5 nm isotropic voxels using bicubic interpolation within the Scale feature in
583 ImageJ⁷⁰ resulting in 8-bit datasets of up to 160 Gb. A series of raw data images were
584 loaded into complete volume memory in Thermo Scientific Avizo Software 2020.3 with
585 the XFiber extension (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA) making sure to specify
586 voxels were 5 nm. The XFiber extension permits segmentation of tightly packed
587 cylindrical objects by first computing normalized cross correlation of the images against
588 a hollow cylindrical template and by then tracing centerlines along filaments⁷¹.

589 Cylinder correlation was performed using a template cylinder length of 100 nm,
590 angular sampling of 5, mask cylinder radius of 20, outer cylinder radius of 19, and an
591 inner cylinder radius of 0. Using a Windows 10 desktop PC with 64 logical processors
592 (Intel Xeon Gold 6142M), 2.0 TB of RAM, and an NVIDIA Quadro RTX8000 48 Gb
593 GPU, cylinder correlation took 3-12 days depending on the size of the dataset and
594 parameters chosen. Myosin filaments were then segmented from the resulting
595 correlation and orientation fields using the Trace Correlation Lines module in Avizo.
596 Minimum Seed Correlation (range 105-125) and Minimum Continuation (range 60-95)

597 values within the Trace Correlation Lines module were varied per dataset using
598 inspection of the correlation field images as guide for correlation values which best
599 corresponded to myosin filaments in the raw data. Direction coefficient was set to 0.3,
600 Minimum Distance was 20, Minimum Length was 500 nm, Search Cone Length, Angle,
601 and Minimum Step Size were 100 nm, 30, and 10%, respectively. Trace Correlation
602 Lines typically took 0.5 – 3 days depending on dataset size and parameters chosen.
603 The resultant correlation lines were then converted with the Convert Geometry to Label
604 module using the input raw dataset size parameters and saved as a 3D .raw file for
605 import into ImageJ for subsequent analyses.

606 *Image Analysis*

607 Ilastik 8-bit HDF5 probability files for organelle and contractile structures were imported
608 into ImageJ using the Ilastik plugin and made into binary files by using an intensity
609 threshold of 128. Small segmentation errors were filtered out of the binary image
610 volumes using the Remove Outliers plugin with block radius values from 3-10 and
611 standard deviation values from 1.5 to 2.0. Z-disk CSA was assessed per half sarcomere
612 sheet (**Supplementary Movie 4**) by first performing a Grouped Z maximum projection
613 (Image-Stacks-Tools) at the predetermined sarcomere length. Because each Z-disk is
614 part of two adjacent half sarcomeres, the maximum projection image was duplicated
615 and the two images interleaved (Image-Stacks-Tools) together. Then the intensity of
616 each image assessed using Plot Z-axis profile (Image-Stacks) and the data copied and
617 pasted into Excel (2016, Microsoft) for comparison to the corresponding A-band CSA
618 values. A-band half sarcomere sheet CSA was assessed by first performing a Grouped
619 Z average projection at half sarcomere length. Binary images were created from the
620 average projection by normalizing local contrast (Plugins-Integral Image Filters) with a
621 quarter sarcomere radius, 10 standard deviations, and marking the stretch and center
622 boxes. The resultant image was masked by the A-band Grouped Z maximum projection
623 at half sarcomere length and then intensity thresholded using the auto default value.
624 Plot Z-axis profile was then used to assess the A-band intensity for each image, and the
625 data copied and pasted to Excel where it was divided by the corresponding Z-disk
626 intensity value yielding a relative CSA difference per half sarcomere sheet.

627 Z-disk adjacent mitochondrial abundance was determined by first separating the
628 mitochondrial networks into two regions based on the proximity to the Z-disk. A
629 Distance Transform 3D (Plugins-Process) was performed on the binary Z-disk image
630 volumes and thresholded at a value 200 nm larger than the width of the I-band visible in
631 the raw FIB-SEM datasets. This value was determined to encompass all perpendicularly
632 oriented mitochondria based on analyses of the late postnatal and mature muscles in
633 the mouse, leg muscles in *Drosophila*, and human muscles. A mask of the Z-adjacent
634 regions was then created by subtracting (Process-Math) 254 from the thresholded Z-
635 disk distance transform image, and the mask was multiplied by the binary mitochondrial
636 segmentation image to create a Z-adjacent mitochondrial image volume. The total
637 number of Z-adjacent mitochondrial pixels was determined from a Histogram (Analyze)
638 of the entire stack and divided by the total number of mitochondrial pixels from the
639 original binary mitochondrial image. Total mitochondrial content was determined by
640 dividing the total number of mitochondrial pixels by the total number of cellular pixels.

641 For myosin filament analyses, the .raw file from Avizo was imported into ImageJ
642 (File-Import) making sure to enter the corresponding Width and Height pixel values and
643 Number of images. Myosin filament deviation from linearity was assessed using the
644 Particle Analyser within the BoneJ^{72,73} plugin for ImageJ (Plugins-BoneJ-Analyze) and
645 selecting only the Moments of Inertia and Show Particle Stack options. The resultant
646 data table and labeled filament image volume were saved for further analyses. The
647 moment of inertia along the longest principal axis (I3) was then divided by the volume
648 for each myosin filament to determine its deviation from linearity⁷⁴ by using a custom
649 ImageJ macro to perform math operations within results tables. Visualization of filament
650 deviation from linearity values was performed by using the Assign Measure to Label
651 function within the MorphoLibJ⁷⁵ plugin (Plugins-MorphoLibJ-Label Images) using the
652 labeled filament image and the I3/volume values from the results table.

653 For comparisons of filament deviation from linearity based on organelle proximity,
654 image volumes of binary organelles segmented with 20 nm voxels were first upscaled
655 (Image-Scale) to 5 nm voxels without interpolation. A Distance Transform 3D (Plugins-
656 Process) was then performed on the mitochondria, lipid droplet, SRT, and total

657 sarcomere boundary (mitochondria+lipid droplet+SRT) binary image volumes. The
658 minimum distance between each myosin filament and the muscle organelles was then
659 determined using the Intensity Measurements 2D/3D module within the MorphoLibJ
660 plugin selecting the respective organelle distance transform image as Input, the myosin
661 filament label image as Labels, and selecting only the Min Measurements box. The
662 resultant tables were then saved and appended to the corresponding labels in the
663 I3/volume table from above in Excel (for up to 1,048,576 labels) or SPSS (for more than
664 1,048,576 labels). Filaments that were greater than 1 μm in length and did not overlap
665 with any organelle were used for all proximity analyses.

666 Myosin filament center-to-center distances were assessed by 2D FFT analyses
667 (Process-FFT) at different regions along the filament length. The myosin filament .raw
668 file was imported into ImageJ as above and then multiplied (Process-Image Calculator)
669 by the Z-disk distance transform image. The resultant filament distance from Z-disk
670 image was then thresholded (Image-Adjust-Manual Threshold) to select a 50 nm region
671 of the filament centers, near the filament ends, or at intermediate points in between and
672 made into a binary image (Process-Binary-Make Binary). A maximum Z-projection
673 (Image-Stacks-Tools-Grouped Z Project) was then performed for every 50 nm of the
674 resultant binary image, and a 2D FFT was run for each projection image using a custom
675 ImageJ macro to assess the periodicity of the myosin to myosin distances. The intensity
676 of each resultant 2D FFT image was assessed using a custom ImageJ macro to
677 iteratively select all pixels of a given distance from the FFT center using a distance map
678 from the FFT center (Plugins-Process-Exact Euclidean Distance Transform) and
679 measuring their intensity (Plugins-MorphoLibJ-Analyze-Intensity Measurements 2D/3D).
680 The resultant intensity profiles for each 2D FFT were then loaded into Excel, and the
681 maximum intensity value for all distances between 30 and 60 nm was selected as the
682 myosin to myosin filament distance for each respective image.

683 *Geometric Model of Sarcomere Isometric Force Production*

684 Of the two simulated scenarios, the first scenario is a uniform CSA reduction with a
685 proportional reduction of the number of myofilaments, keeping the lattice spacing
686 unchanged. Assuming that the isometric force production of each filament also remains

687 unchanged, then the total force is proportional to the total number of filaments. A
688 reduction in the CSA directly results in an identical reduction in the isometric force. The
689 second scenario simulates a myofibril of a circular cross-section, where the CSA tapers
690 down gradually from the sarcomere center to the Z-disk in a smooth arc shape. It was
691 assumed that the lattice spacing tapers down uniformly, and the tensile force of
692 individual myofilaments was not altered by the compression. Each filament “pulled” on
693 the Z-disk at a slightly off-perpendicular angle due to the variable curvature of the
694 filament. This lead to a reduction of the axial force according to the sine factor of the
695 filament insertion angle at the Z-disk. The overall effect on the force production was
696 analytically derived by the integral of the axial force from each filament within the
697 sarcomere bundle.

698 *Image Rendering*

699 Movies of 3D renderings of organelle and contractile structures were generated in
700 Imaris 9.5 (Bitplane). Pictures of 3D renderings were created either using Imaris or the
701 Volume Viewer plugin in ImageJ.

702 *Statistical Analysis*

703 Quantitative data was assessed using Excel 2016 (Microsoft), Prism 9.0.0 (Graphpad),
704 or SPSS 28.0.0.0 (IBM) for all statistical analyses. All comparisons of means were
705 performed using a one-way ANOVA with a Tukey's HSD post hoc test. Linear
706 regression analyses were performed in SPSS (Analyze-Regression-Linear) using
707 default settings. A p-value < 0.05 was used to determine statistical significance.

708 *Data Availability*

709 The raw FIB-SEM datasets generated and/or analysed during the current study are
710 available at (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5796264>).

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725

726 **Author Contributions**

727 PK, BG and YK prepped tissues for imaging. PK, BG, YK, and CKEB designed and
728 CKEB performed imaging experiments. ASH, PTA, TBW, and BG designed and
729 performed image analysis and BG created figures and videos. HW designed and
730 performed computational modeling experiments. BG wrote and PK, ASH, PTA, YK,
731 TBW, HW, CKEB, and BG edited and approved the manuscript.

732

733 **Materials and Correspondence**

734 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to Brian
735 Glancy (brian.glancy@nih.gov).

736

737 **Competing Interests**

738 The authors declare no competing interests.

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952 **Supplementary Video Legends**

953 **Supplementary Video 1:** Cross-sectional view of three serial sarcomeres from two parallel myofibrillar
954 segments from a fast twitch glycolytic adult mouse gastrocnemius muscle visualized by focused ion beam
955 scanning electron microscopy with 6 nm isotropic pixel size.

956 **Supplementary Video 2:** 3D rendering and rotation of the adult gastrocnemius muscle sarcomeres
957 (translucent yellow and cyan), Z-disks (red), mitochondria (magenta), sarcoplasmic reticulum (green), and
958 t-tubules (blue) from the raw data shown in Supplementary Video 1.

959 **Supplementary Video 3:** 3D rendering and rotation of sarcomeres (translucent yellow and cyan), Z-disks
960 (red), and mitochondria (magenta) from *Drosophila* indirect flight muscle.

961 **Supplementary Video 4:** 3D rendering and rotation of the Z-disk (light green and various colors) and
962 sarcomere (magenta) sheets that comprise the *Drosophila* jump muscle.

963 **Supplementary Video 5:** 3D rendering and fly through of the mitochondrial networks in *Drosophila*
964 indirect flight (green), direct flight (blue), jump (yellow), and leg (magenta) muscles.

965 **Supplementary Video 6:** 3D rendering and fly through of the grid-like mitochondrial network of a slow-
966 twitch oxidative mouse gastrocnemius muscle. Raw FIB-SEM data (greyscale) is pulled back to reveal the
967 mitochondrial network segmented into Z-disk adjacent (light blue) and non-Z-disk adjacent (red)
968 mitochondria.

969 **Supplementary Video 7:** 3D rendering and fly through of the parallel mitochondrial network of a mouse
970 cardiac muscle. The mitochondrial network is segmented into Z-disk adjacent (light blue) and non-Z-disk
971 adjacent (red) mitochondria.

972 **Supplementary Video 8:** 3D rendering and fly through of all the myosin filaments (various colors) from a
973 mouse late postnatal soleus muscle FIB-SEM dataset.

974 **Supplementary Video 9:** 3D rendering and fly through of all the myosin filaments from a mouse late
975 postnatal soleus muscle FIB-SEM dataset. Filaments are colored according to their deviation from
976 linearity where more linear filaments are dark blue and more curved filaments are yellow/white.

977 **Supplementary Video 10:** 3D rendering and rotation of the myosin filaments within a single mouse
978 cardiac sarcomere. Adjacent mitochondria (red), sarcotubular network (green), and a lipid droplet (cyan)
979 are also shown.

980 **Supplementary Video 11:** 3D rendering and fly through of the myosin filaments (various colors) within a
981 single mouse slow-twitch oxidative muscle sarcomere.

982 **Supplementary Video 12:** Cross-sectional view of the segmented myosin filaments (white) along the
983 length of a single sarcomere and the corresponding 2D fast fourier transform power spectrum from early
984 postnatal, late postnatal, slow-twitch oxidative, and fast-twitch glycolytic muscles.