

# In Vivo Performance of Highly Cross-linked UHMWPE

**Shannon L. Rowell**

Brad R. Micheli

Keith K. Wannomae

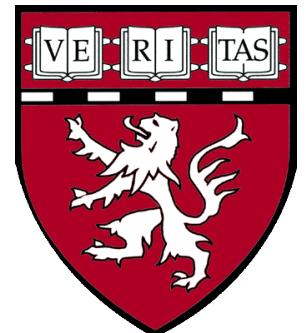
Henrik Malchau, M.D.

Orhun K. Muratoglu, Ph.D.



**Harris Orthopaedic Laboratory  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA**

[srowell@partners.org](mailto:srowell@partners.org)  
[omuratolgu@partners.org](mailto:omuratolgu@partners.org)



# Disclosures

These studies were funded through laboratory funds as well as through institutional support from:

Zimmer Inc.

Biomet Inc.

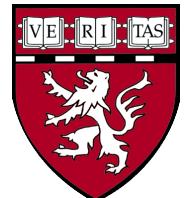
DePuy Inc.

One of the co-authors has received royalties from Biomet, Inc., Zimmer, Inc., Aston Medical, Iconacy, Corin, Renovis, ConforMIS; and is an unpaid consultant for Biomet, Inc.

Institutional funding has also been received for unrelated research from the following companies: Corin, Mako Surgical



**Harris Orthopaedic Laboratory  
Massachusetts General Hospital  
Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA**



# Retrievals

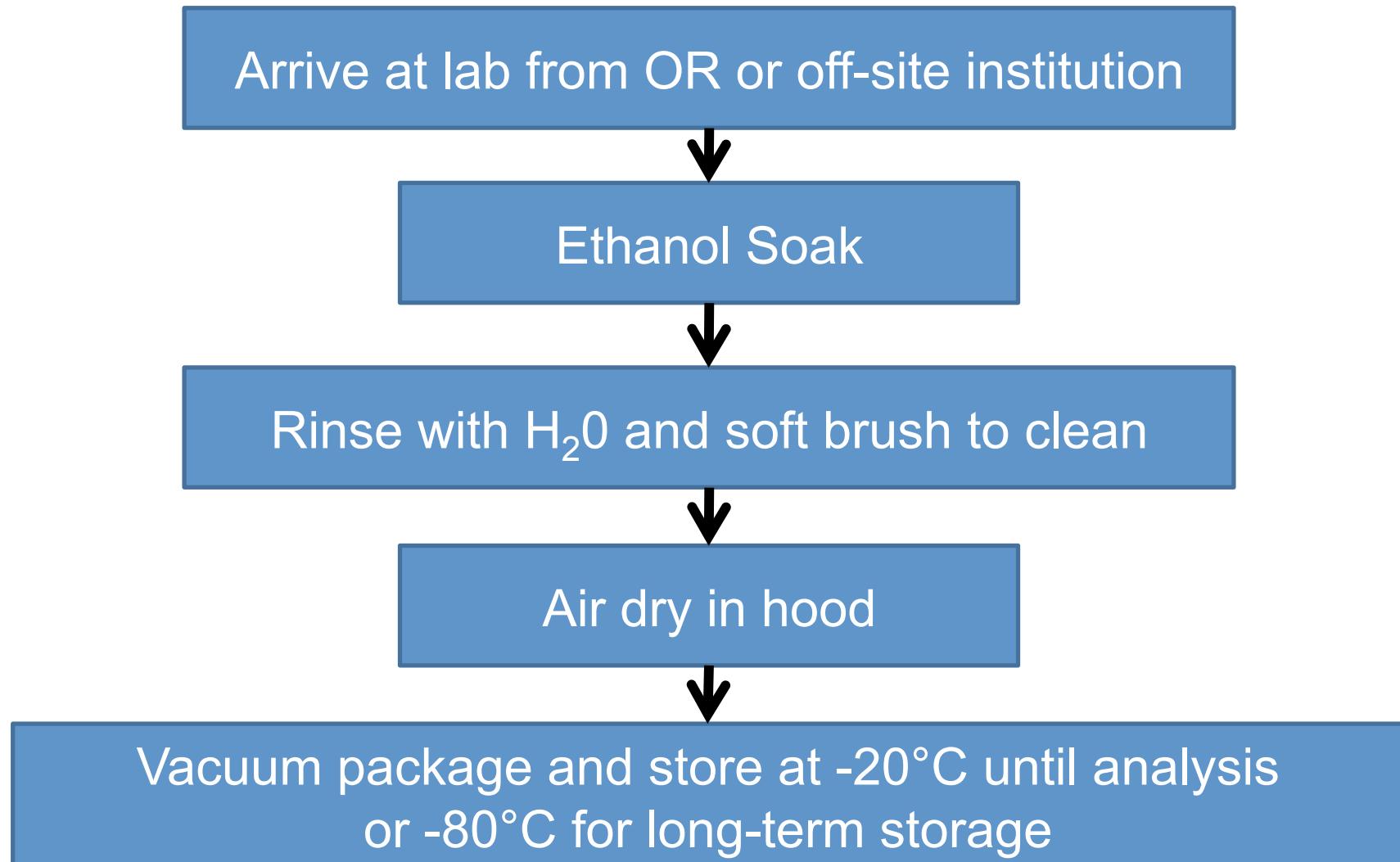
Type	Number of Retrievals	In Vivo Durations (months)
Marathon™	12 hips	0.9-84
Longevity™	28 hips	2.5-120
Prolong™	5 knees	4-47
Crossfire™	1 hips	120
X3™	27 (16 hips, 11 knees)	0.5-48
E1™	10 (9 hips, 1 knee)	0.1-19.5

**Patient Ages:**  $67 \pm 12.5$  years

**Patient Gender:** 28 males, 42 females (13 unknown gender)

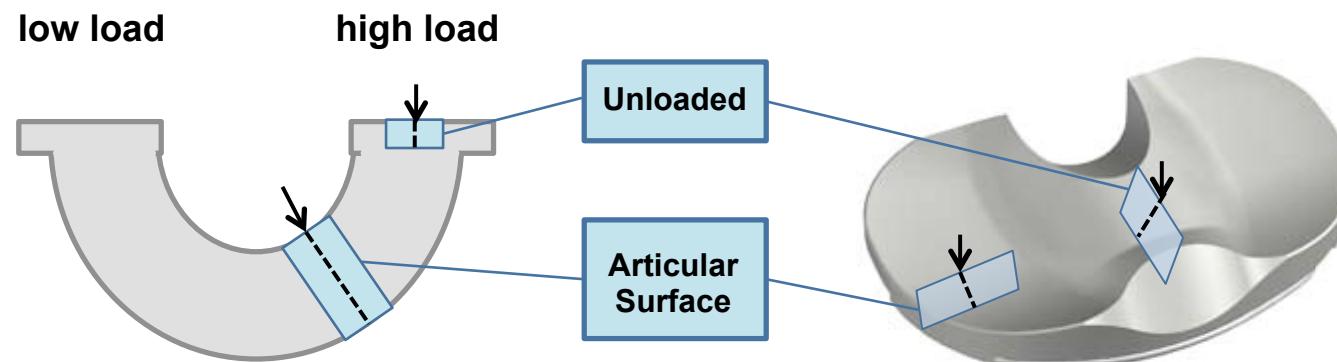
**Reasons for Revision:** Infection (33), dislocation (14), loosening (13), instability (12), femoral fracture (1), rim fracture (2), poly wear (1), osteolysis (1) unknown (5)

# Cleaning and Storage of Retrievals



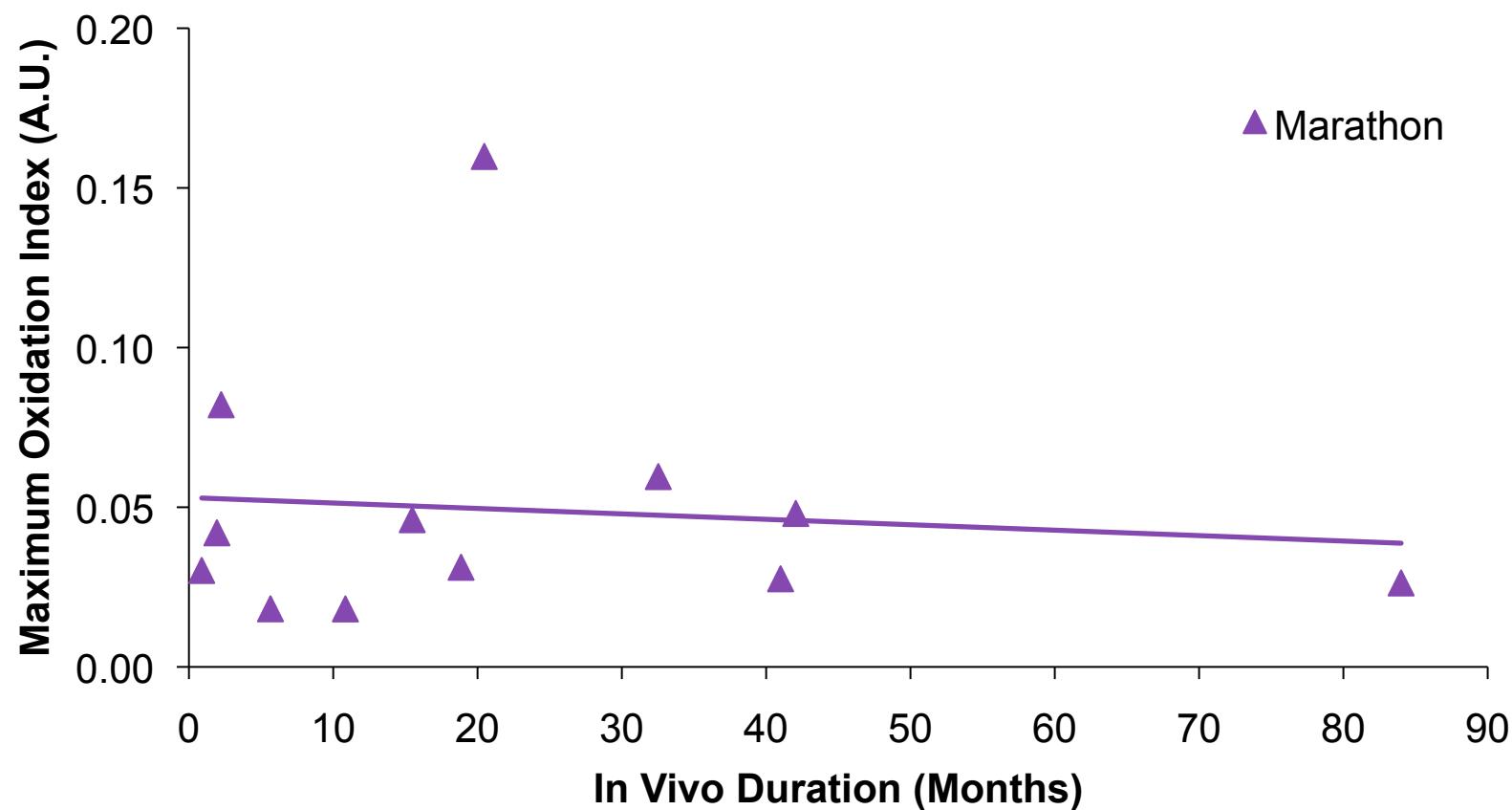
# Retrieval Analysis Methods

- FTIR: Lipid absorption, oxidation
- Nitric Oxide Staining: Oxidation potential
- Crosslink Density
- DSC: Crystallinity, melt temperature
- ESR: **Free radical content** (only E1 retrievals)

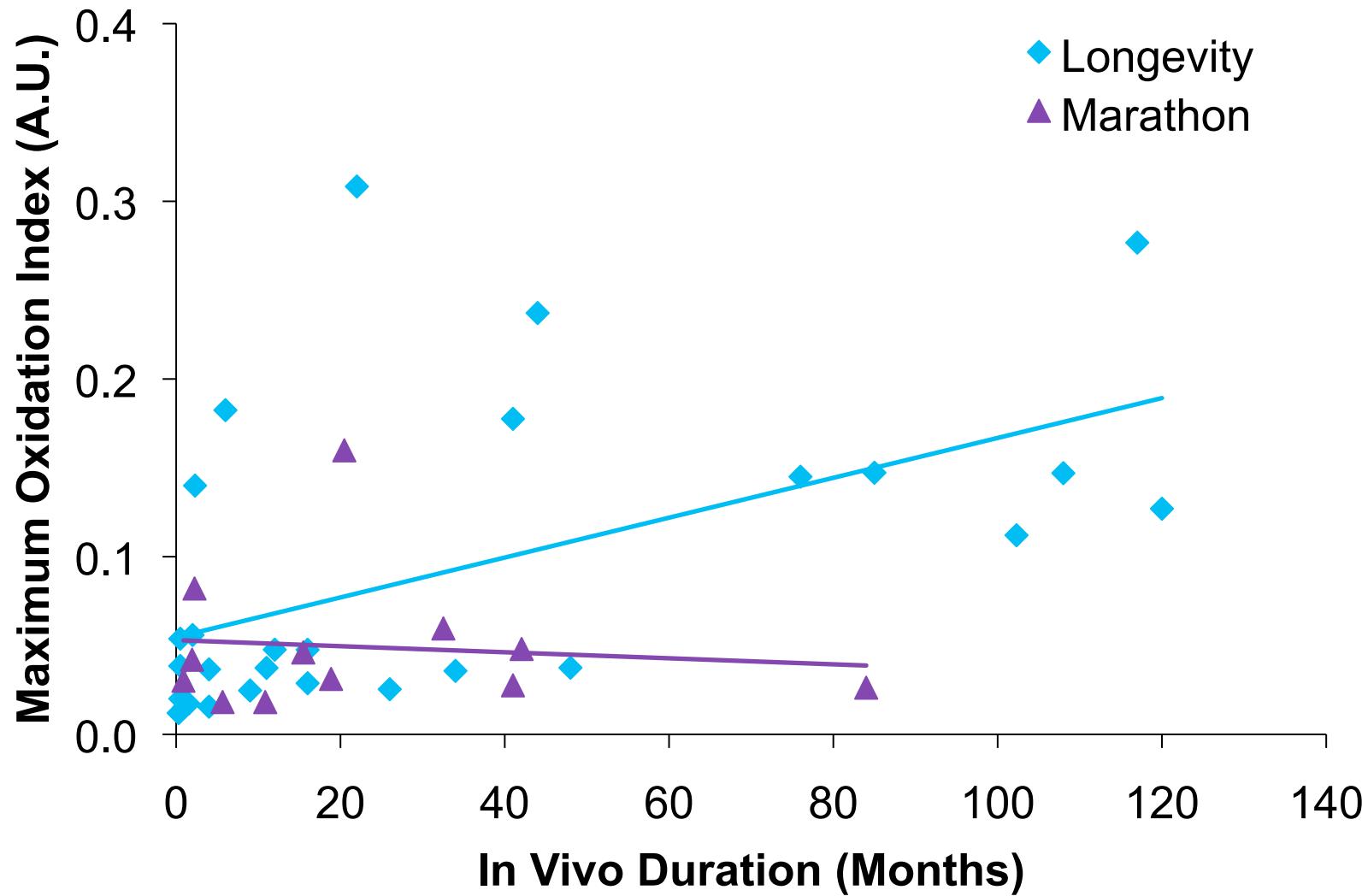


# Marathon Retrievals

	Retrievals
Maximum Oxidation	0.004 - 0.160
Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	0.237 ± 0.017
Crystallinity (%)	53.0 ± 1.4

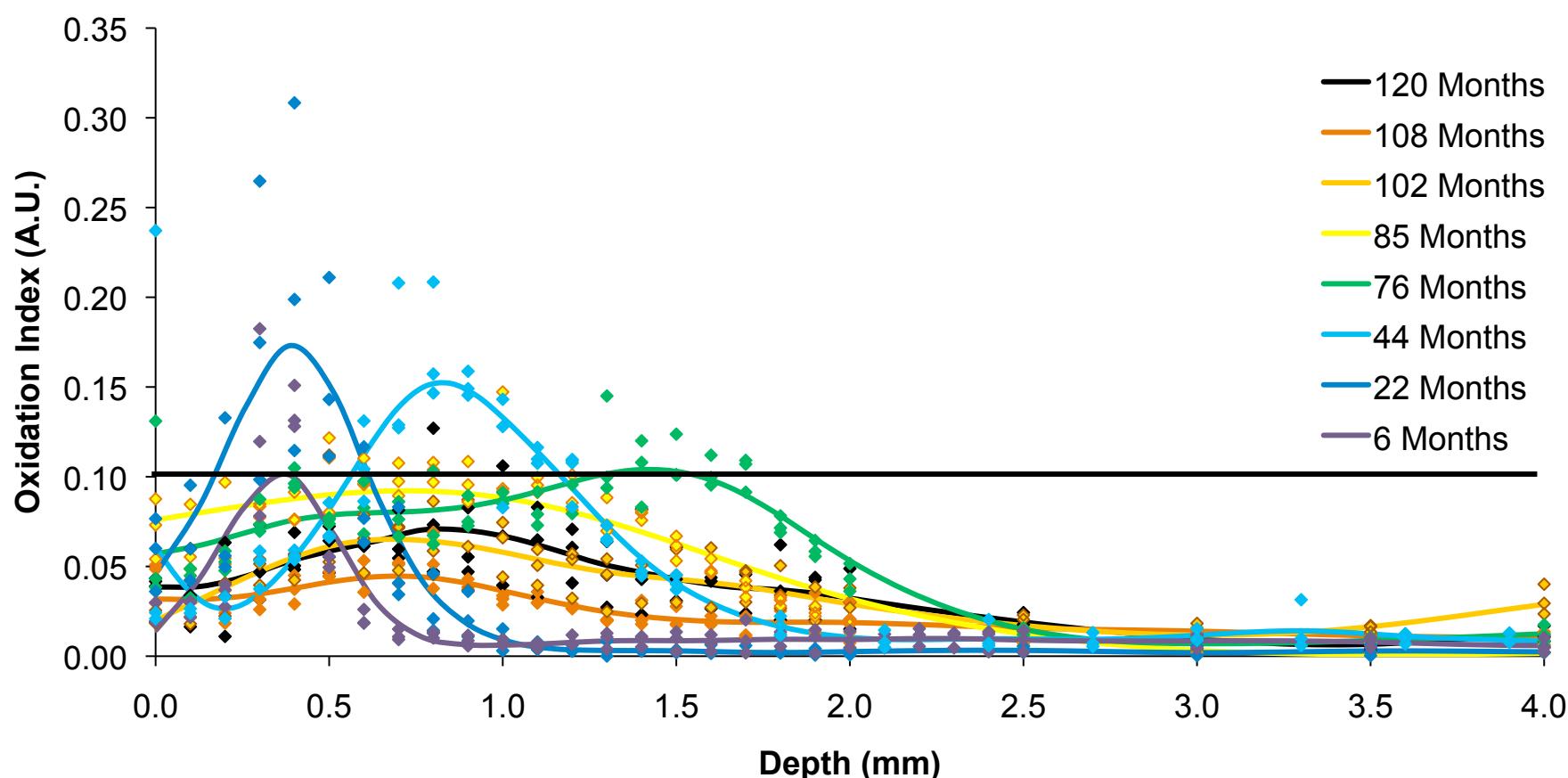


# Maximum Oxidation

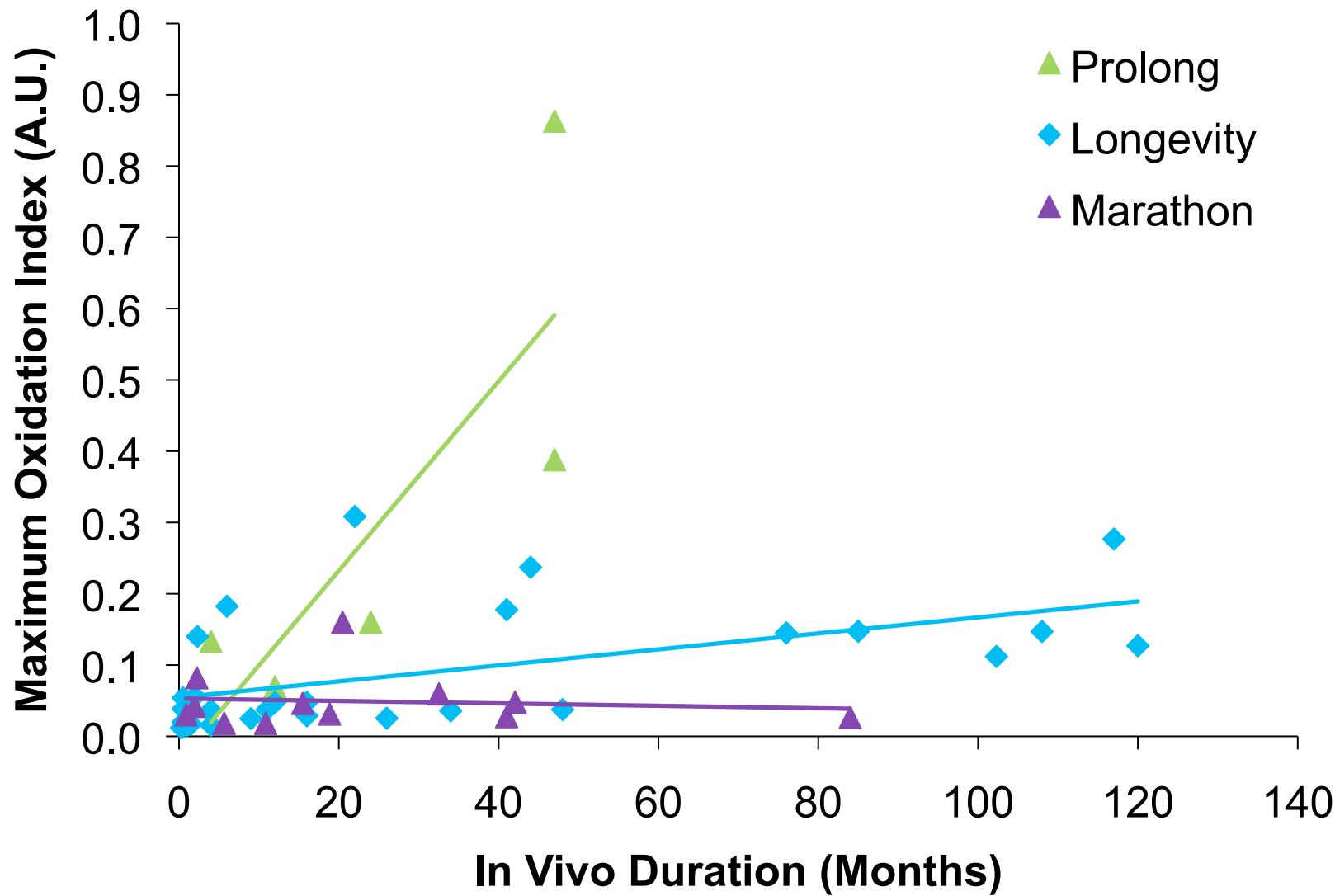


# Longevity Retrievals

	Retrievals
Maximum Oxidation	0.012 - 0.366
Average Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	0.293 ± 0.020
Average Crystallinity (%)	52.7 ± 1.7

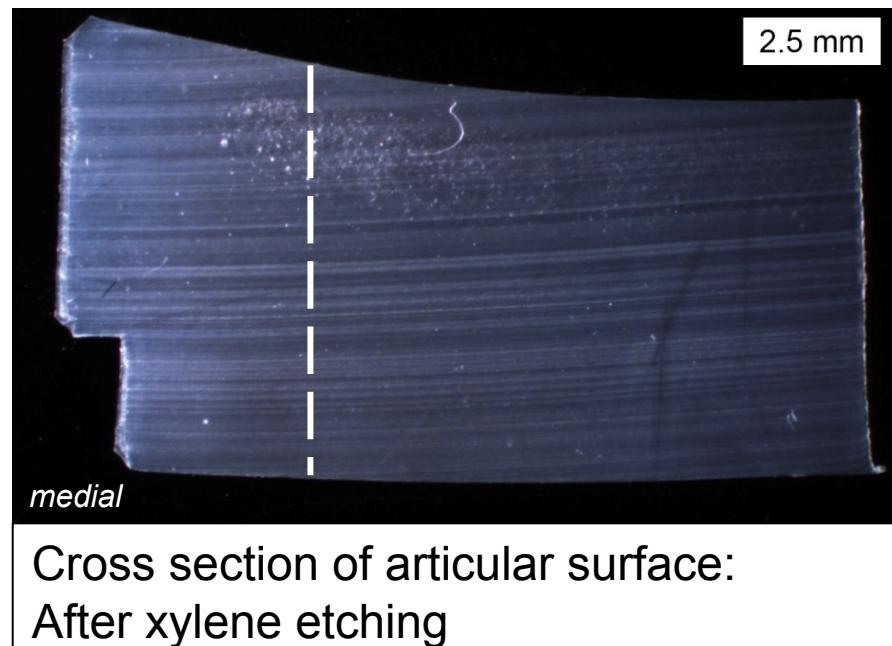
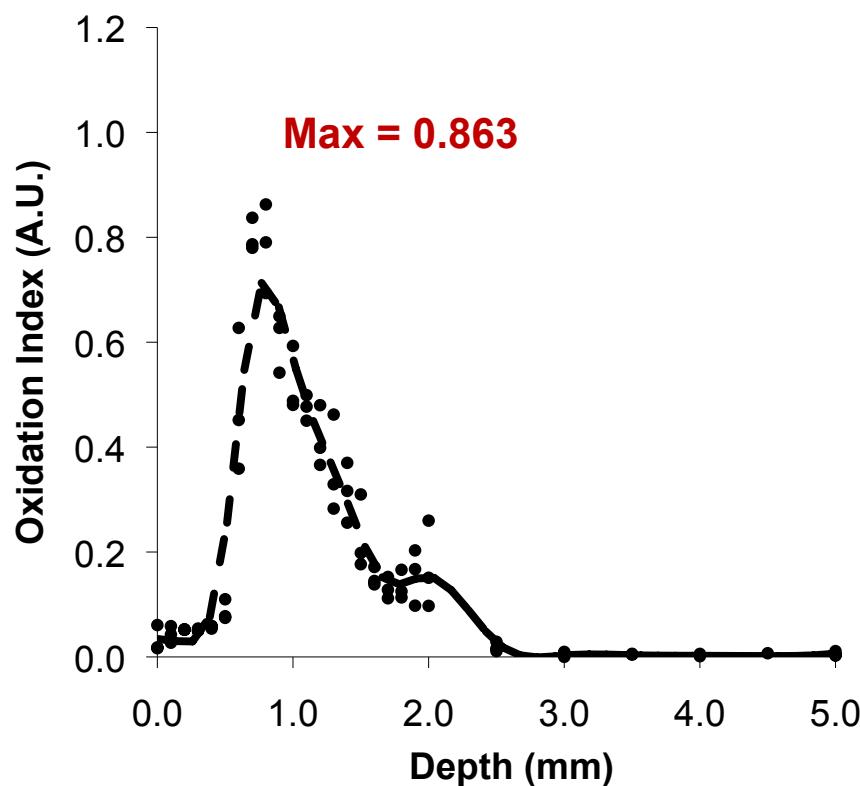


# Maximum Oxidation

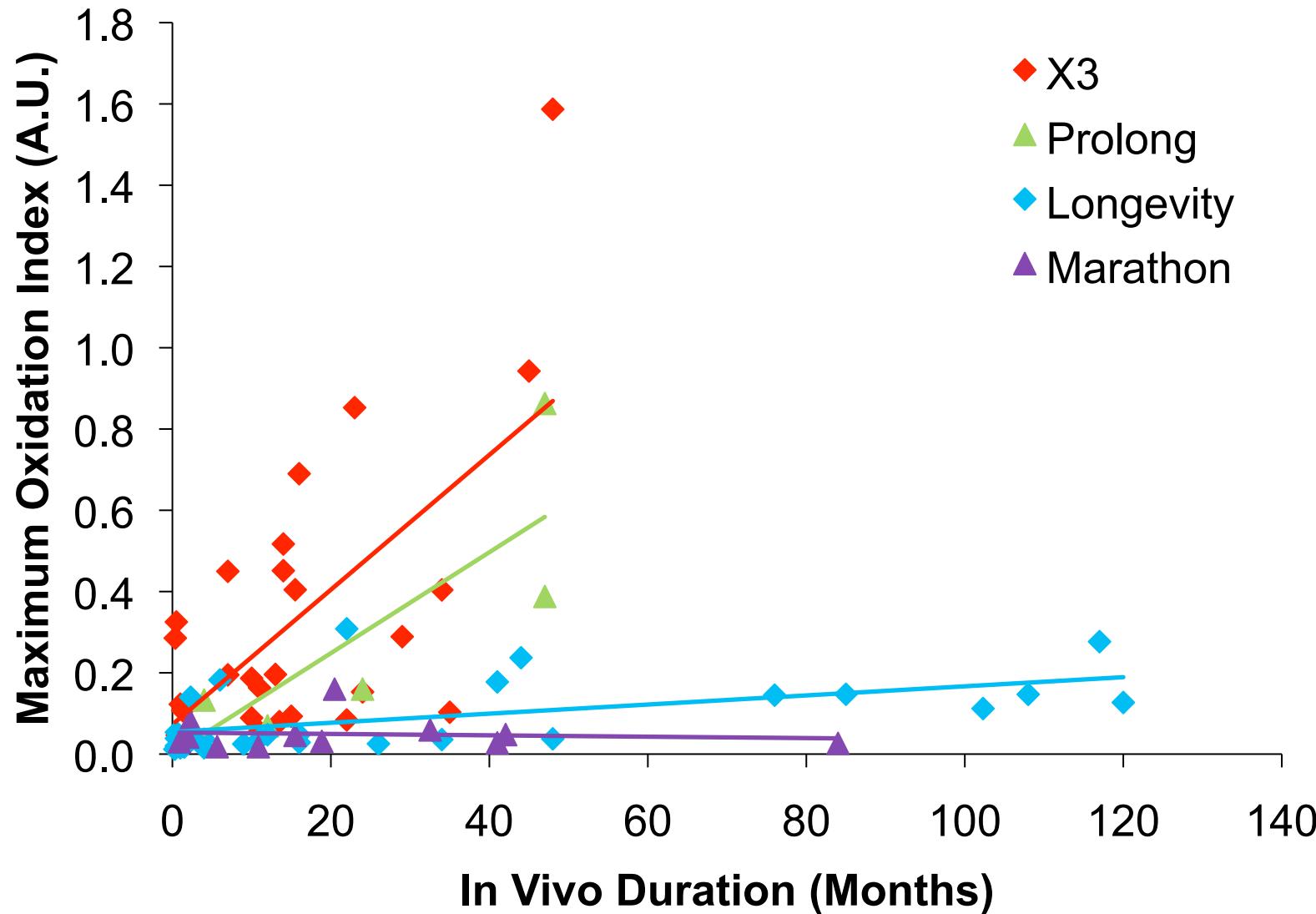


# 4 Year Prolong Tibial Insert

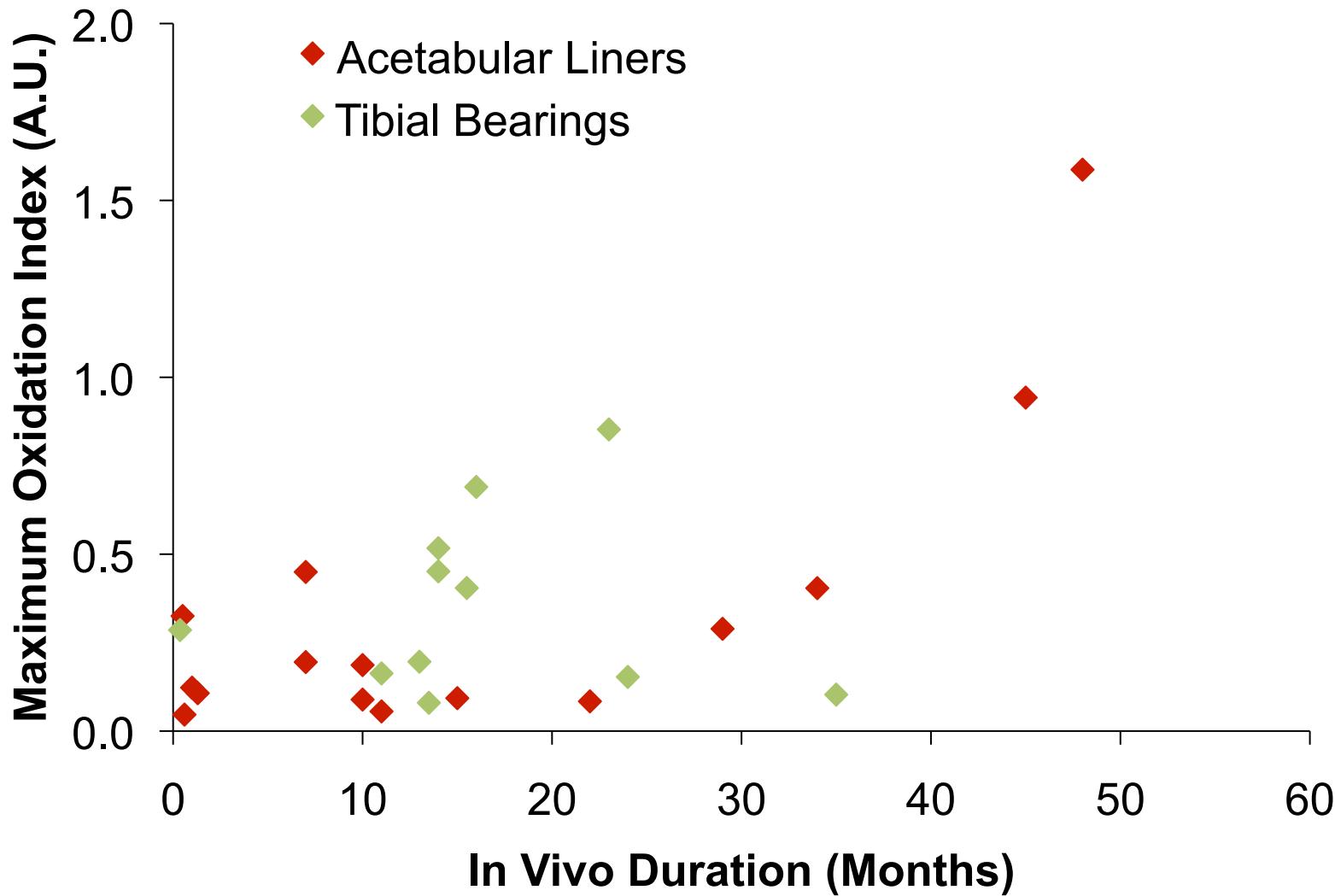
	Articular Surface	Unloaded Eminence
Maximum Oxidation	0.863	0.049
Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	$0.215 \pm 0.020$	$0.213 \pm 0.006$
Crystallinity (%)	$51.2 \pm 1.1$	$50.9 \pm 0.9$



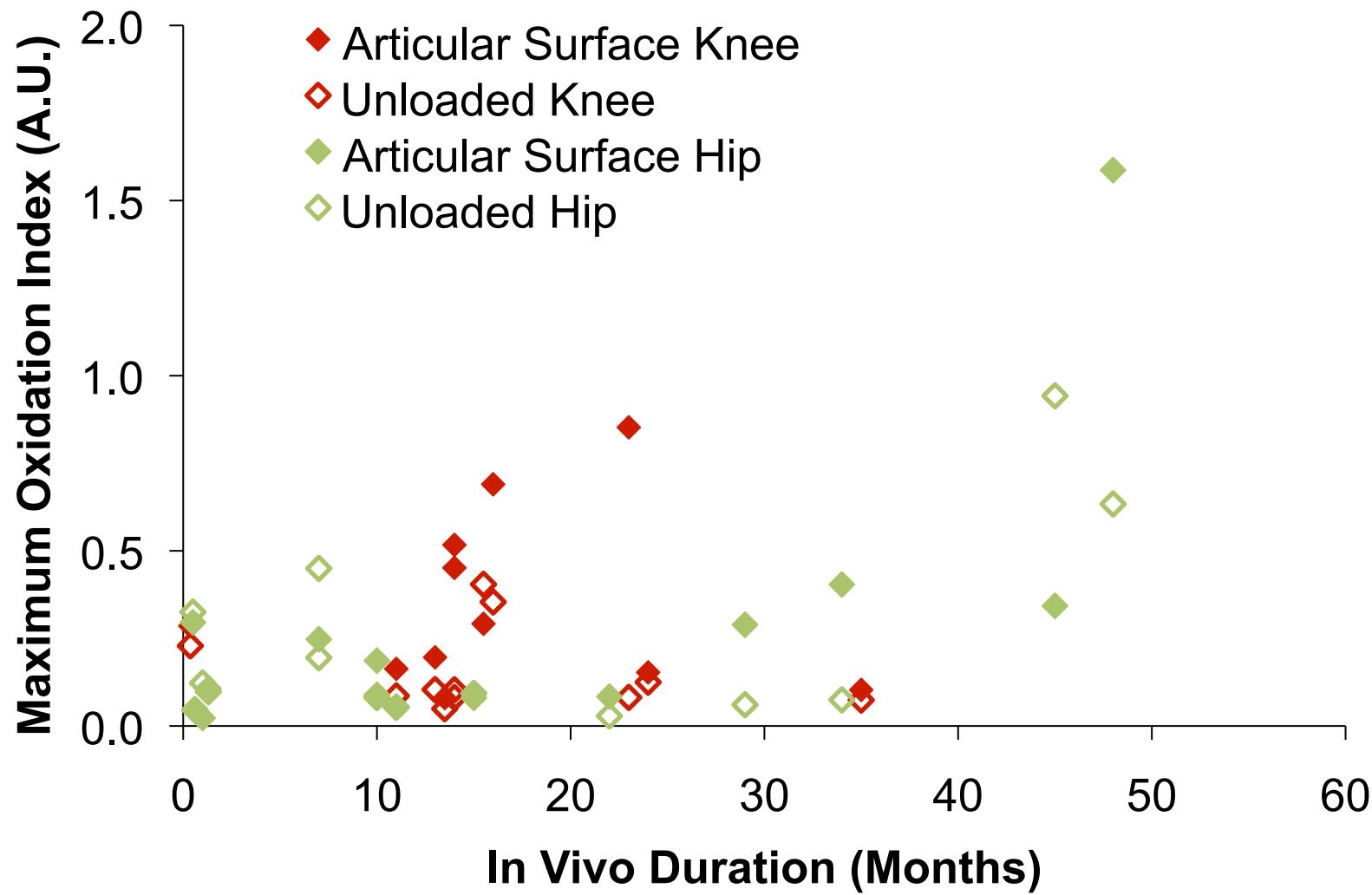
# Maximum Oxidation



# Acetabular Liners vs. Tibial Bearings

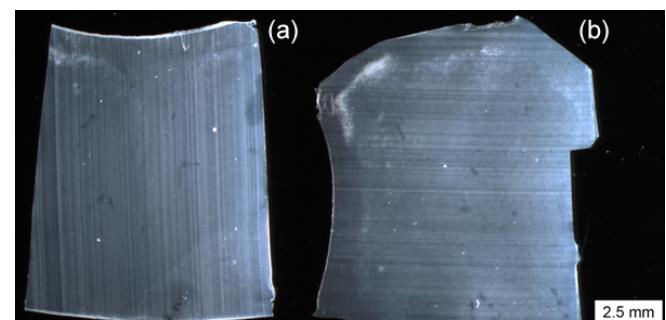
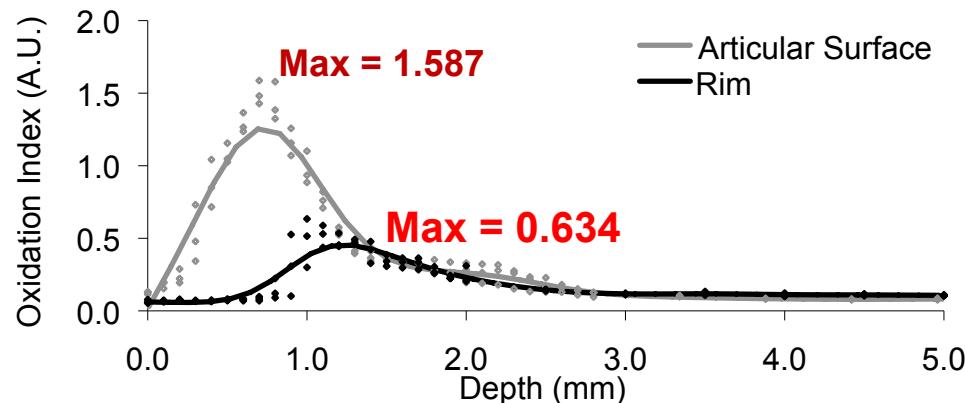
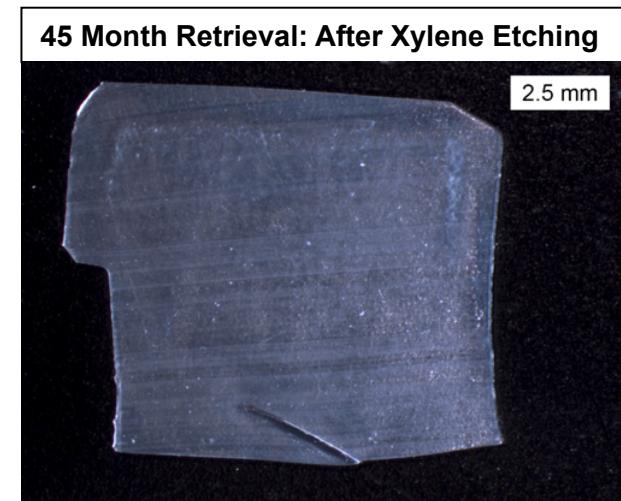
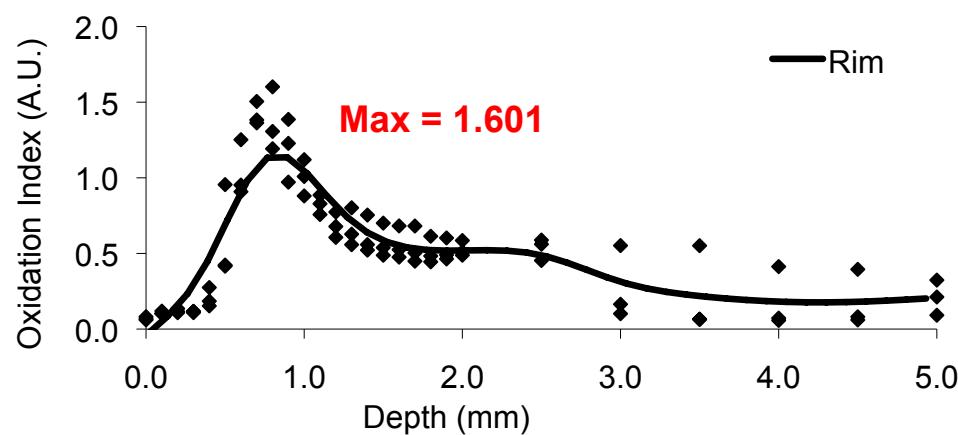


# Loaded vs. Unloaded Regions of Oxidation



# Two 4 Year X3™ Acetabular Liners

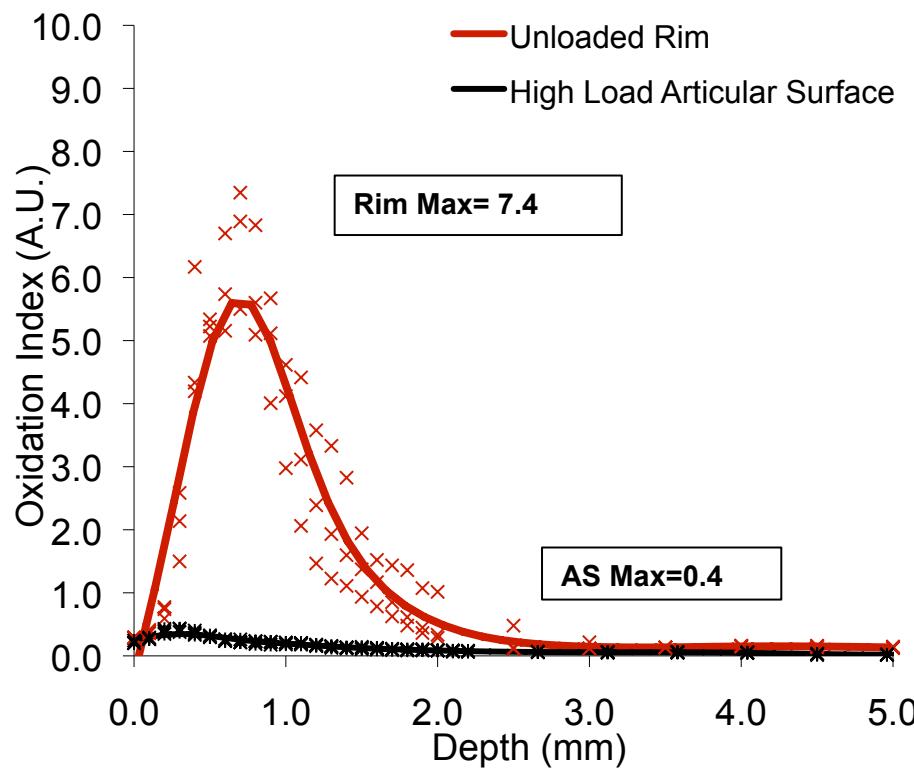
	All Retrievals	45 Month Retrieval	48 Month Retrieval
Maximum Oxidation	0.023 – 1.601	1.601	1.587
Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	0.213 ± 0.036 (0.120 - 0.331)	0.192 ± 0.041	0.167 ± 0.039
Crystallinity (%)	62.2 ± 2.3 (58.3 – 69.3)	60.6 ± 1.3	65.1 ± 2.9



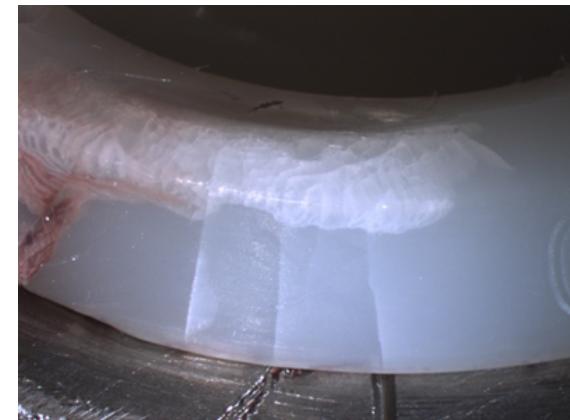
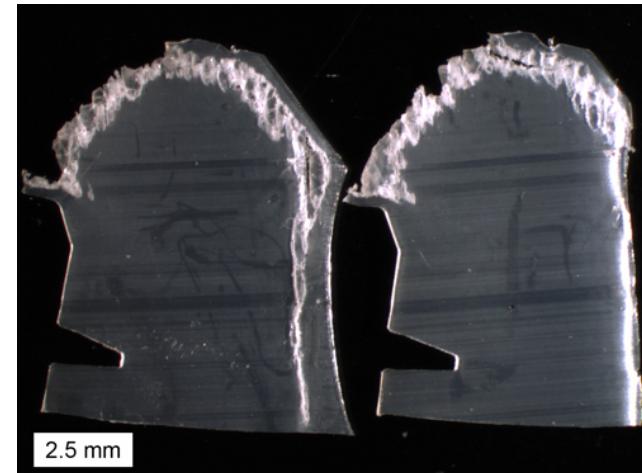
48 Month Retrieval: After Xylene Etching  
(a) Articular surface and (b) Rim

# Case Study: 10 Year Crossfire

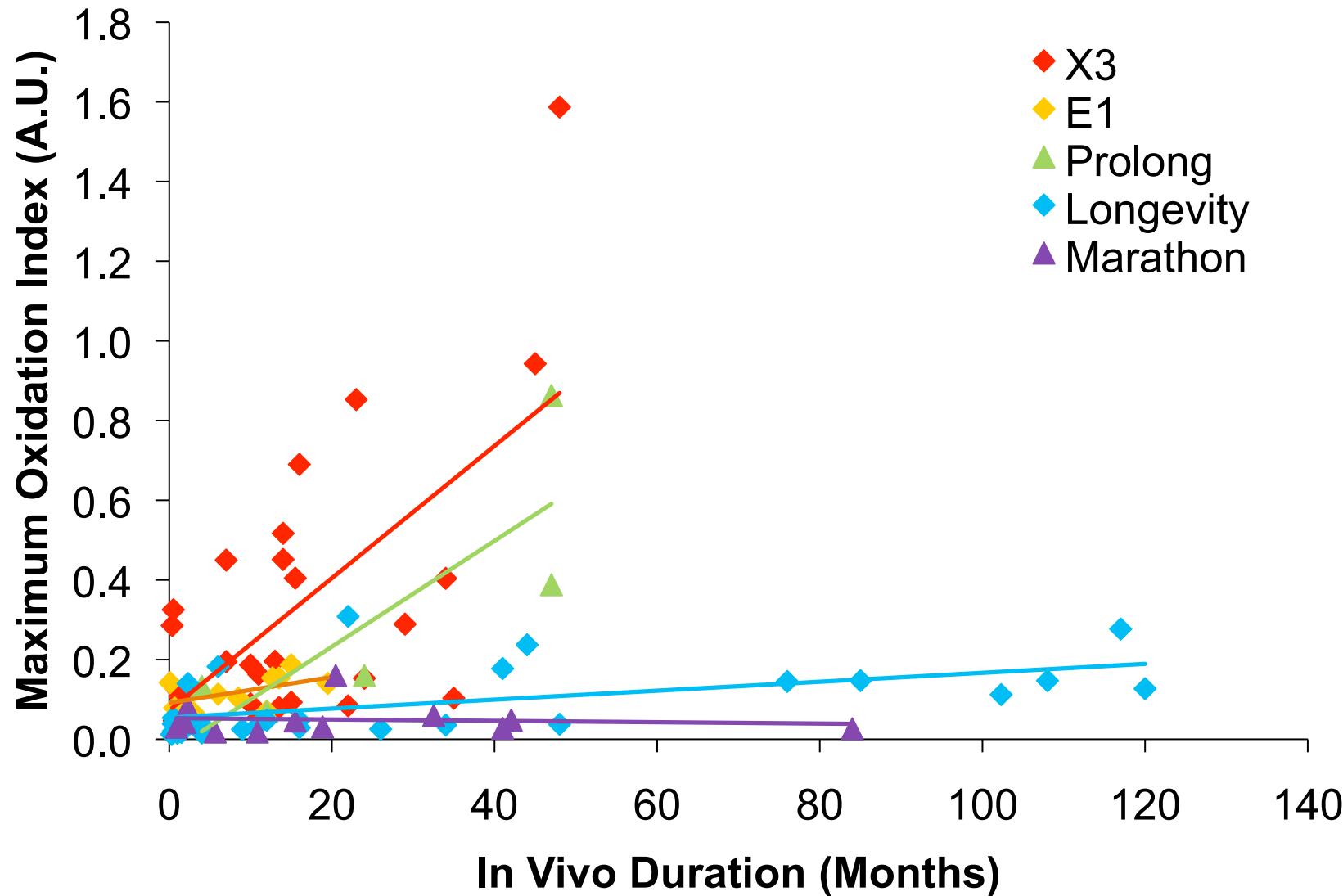
	Never Implanted Control*	<3 Year Retrievals*	10 Year Retrieval
Maximum Oxidation	$0.16 \pm 0.02$	0.22 - 5.81	7.35
Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	N/A	N/A	$0.079 \pm 0.29$
Crystallinity (%)	$64.9 \pm 0.51$	64.4 - 79.2	$78.2 \pm 1.7$



\* Wannomae, et al.

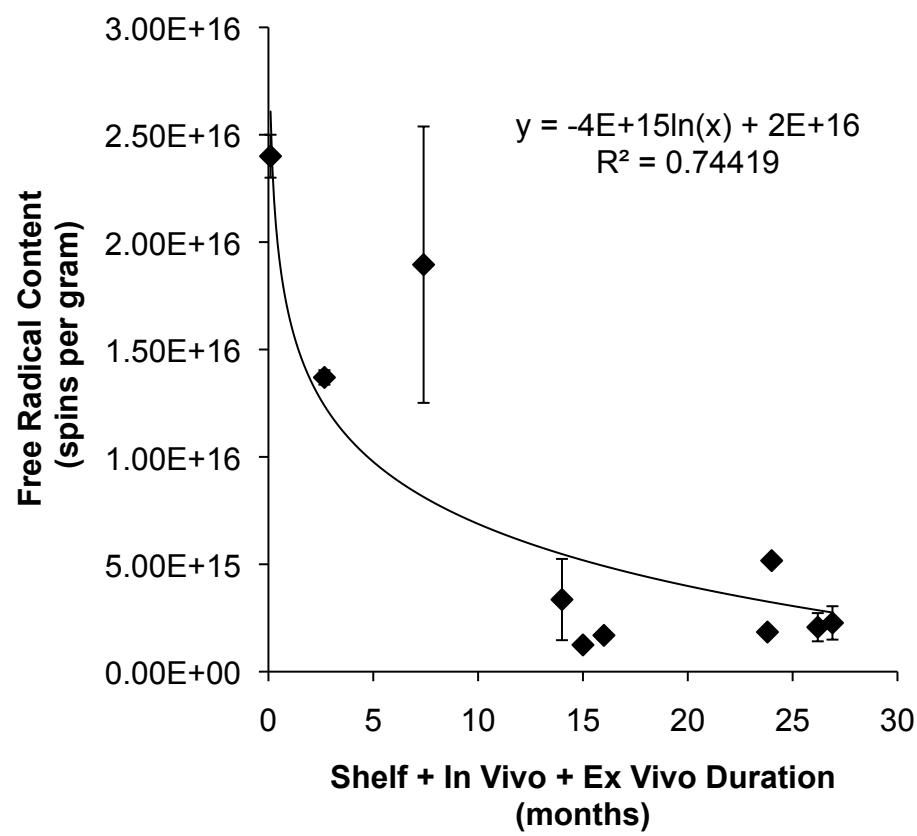
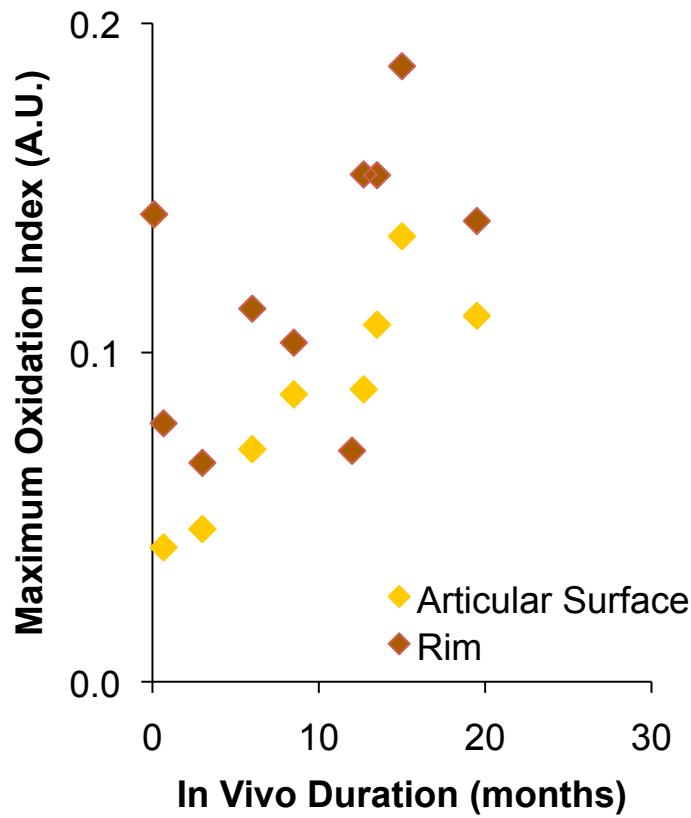


# Maximum Oxidation



# E1 Retrievals

	Never Implanted Control	Retrievals
Maximum Oxidation	0.029 - 0.060	0.041 – 0.187
Average Cross-link Density (mol/dm <sup>3</sup> )	0.275 ± 0.015	0.289 ± 0.023
Average Crystallinity (%)	58.8 ± 2.2	58.6 ± 1.9



# Observations

- Both first and second generation highly cross-linked retrievals show signs of oxidation otherwise not predict by the current standard of in vitro testing
  - Lipid absorption
  - Cyclic loading
- In vivo oxidation is consistently in the form of subsurface peaks regardless of loaded or unloaded regions
  - Ex vivo studies (Muratoglu, JBJS, 2010)

# Limitations and Questions

Larger sample sizes and/or comparable retrievals

- Matched physical variables
  - Hips vs. Knees
  - Liner design
  - In vivo durations
- Patient variables
  - Matched lipid profiles
  - Activity levels and weight

Establish baseline controls for all materials

- Pre-implantation material variations

# Acknowledgements

## Surgeons

- Henrik Malchau M.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
- Andrew Freiberg, M.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
- Harry Rubash, M.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
- Min Kwon, M.D., Massachusetts General Hospital, Boston, MA
- Dan Estok, M.D., Brigham and Women's Hospital, Boston, MA
- Stefan Kreuzer, M.D., Houston, TX

## Collaborators

- Robert Hopper, PhD, Anderson Orthopaedic Research Institute, VA
- CA Engh Sr., M.D., Anderson Orthopaedic Research Institute, VA
- CA Engh Jr., M.D., Anderson Orthopaedic Research Institute, VA