

# Bio-Inspired Design

## Mechanical Stiffness and Motion

Just Herder



Faculty of Mechanical, Maritime, and Materials Engineering  
Department of BioMechanical Engineering

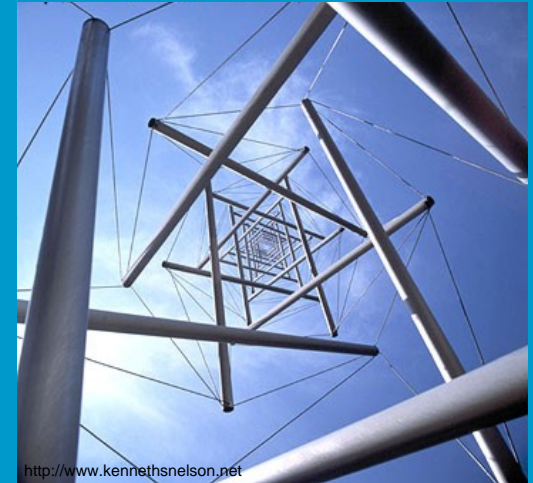


Delft University of Technology

# Lecture 2: Bioconstruction

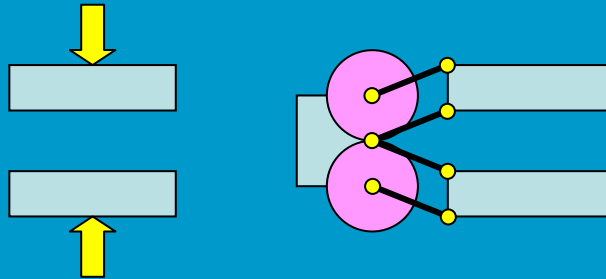
## Biostructure & bioenergy (muscle configurations)

- Contents 1st hour (Just):  
mechanical stiffness & motion:  
strength at low weight, redundant  
structures, etc.
- Contents 2nd hour (Paul):  
hydrostatic stiffness & motion:  
energetically efficient muscle  
configurations, stiffness with soft  
structures.



# Bioconstruction

- Engineering: System, Shape, Material



Raptor by Kraft Telerobotics

- Are there any differences between human engineering and nature, in terms of:
  - System
  - Construction elements
  - Material



# Biomaterials

- **Tensile materials** (Crystalline Polymers, Silk, Collagen, Cellulose, Chitin)
- **Flexible materials** (Protein Rubbers, Mucopolysaccharides, Pliant Composites, Mesoglea, Uterine Cervix, Skin, Arterial Wall, Cartilage)
- **Rigid materials** (Bone, Keratin, Cell wall, Wood, Stony Materials)

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- **Rigid materials** (Bone, Keratin, Cell wall, Wood, Stony Materials)
  
- **No metal!**

# Biocomponents

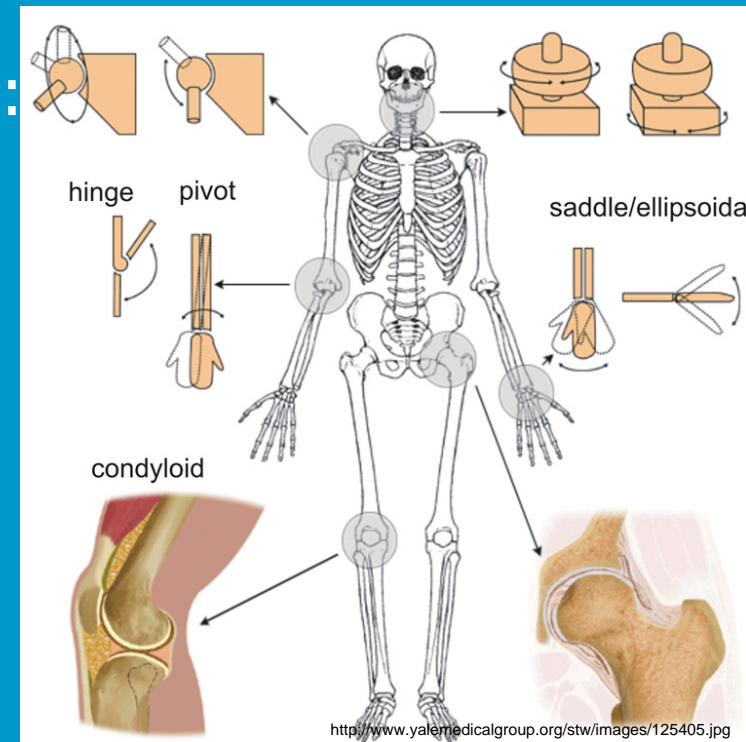
- Tensile components (Skin, Tendon, Fibre)
- Compressive/bending components (Skeleton)
- Relative motion components (Joints, Compliance)
- Active components (Muscle)

# Biocomponents

- Tensile components (Skin, Tendon, Fibre)
  - Compressive/bending components (Skeleton)
  - Relative motion components (Joints, Compliance)
  - Active components (Muscle)
- 
- No multirev bearings, no wheels, no fasteners!

# Vertebrates: joints

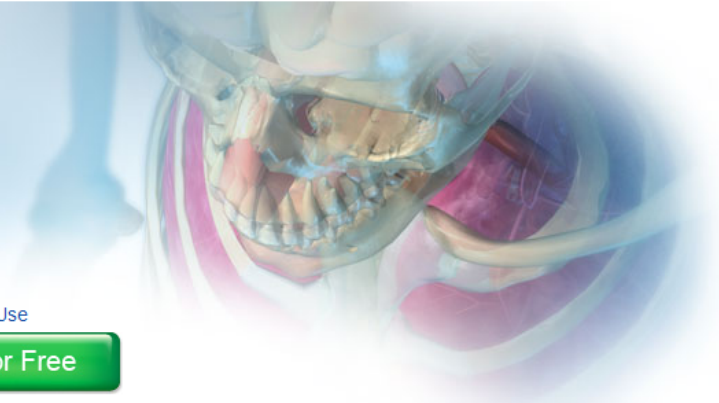
- **Synarthroses**: hardly movable (sutures in human skull)
- **Amphiarthroses**: slightly movable (cartilage attachments in ribs and vertebrae disks)
- **Diarthroses**: Larger motion range:
  - Ball-and socket (e.g. hip, GH-joint)
  - Ellipsoidal (e.g. fingers)
  - Condyloid (e.g. knee joint)
  - Saddle (e.g. part of the wrist joint)
  - Pivot (e.g. radius/ulna joint)
  - Hinge (e.g. elbow joint)
  - Plane/gliding (e.g. scapula joint)





# VISIBLE BODY™

Discover Human Anatomy Like Never Before!



What is the Visible Body? [Free to Use](#)  
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**VISIBLE BODY** beta

Explore Learn Help

Enter keywords to search

- Zygomatic arch, R
- Zygomatic arch, L
- Temporal, R
- Pharynx, R
- Pharynx, L
- Otitis media, R
- Nasal, nasopharynx, R
- Nasal, oropharynx, R
- Mandible, R
- Larynx, epiglottic, R
- Larynx, false epiglottic, R
- Larynx, true epiglottic, R
- Frontal, superior, R
- Diaphragm, superior, R
- Diaphragm, inferior, R
- Diaphragm, lateral, R
- Conjugate superior, R
- Sacrotuberous, R
- Auricular, superior, R

[Learn more!](#)

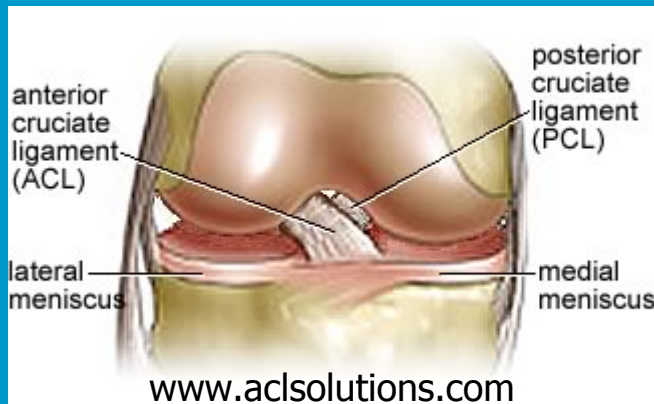
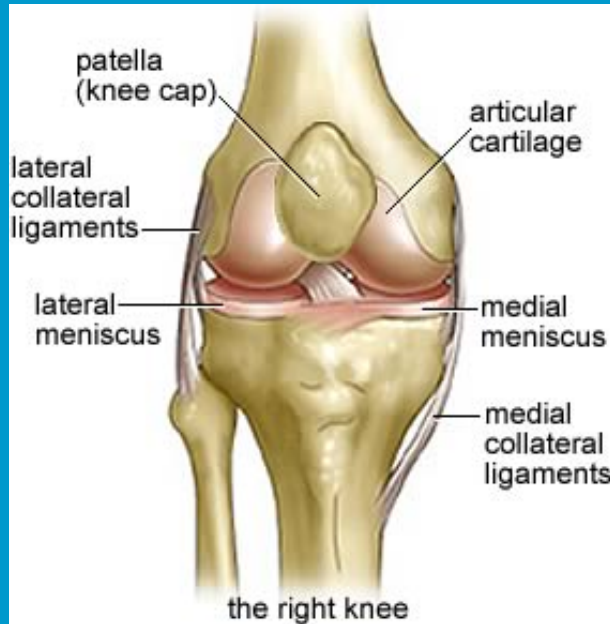
## The Visible Body

### Features:

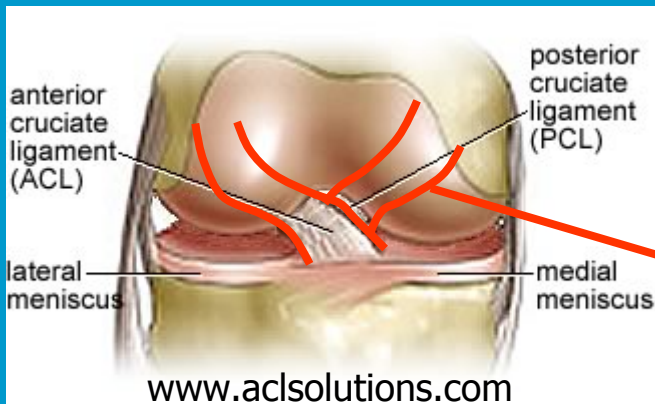
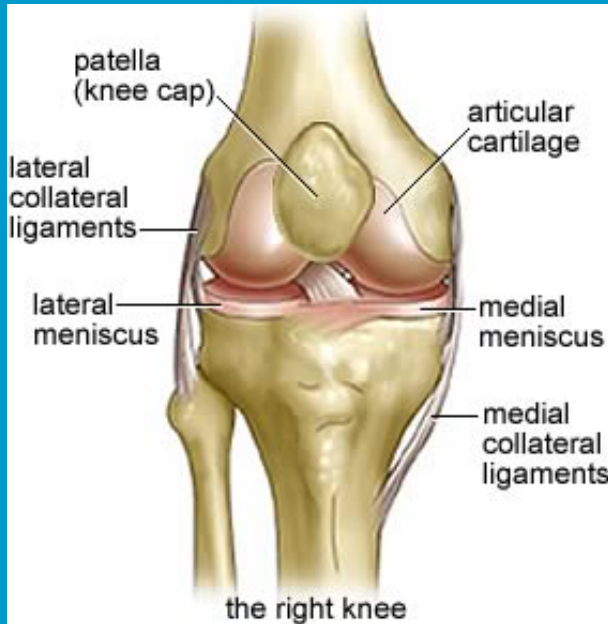
- Complete, fully interactive, 3D human anatomy model
- Detailed models of all body systems
- Dynamic search capability
- Easy-to-use, 3D controls
- Seamless compatibility with Internet Explorer

*Argosy's Visible Body is the most comprehensive human anatomy visualization tool available today. This entirely Web-delivered application offers an unparalleled understanding of human anatomy. The Visible Body includes 3D models of over 1,700 anatomical structures, including all major organs and systems of the human body.*

# Bio-inspired joints



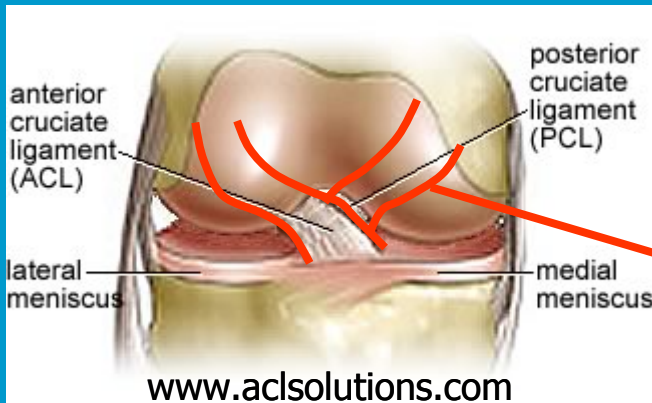
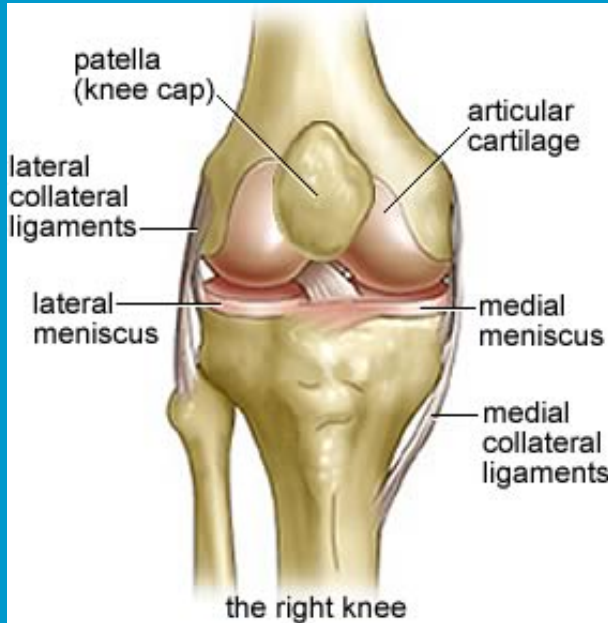
# Bio-inspired joints



Rolling/sliding contact

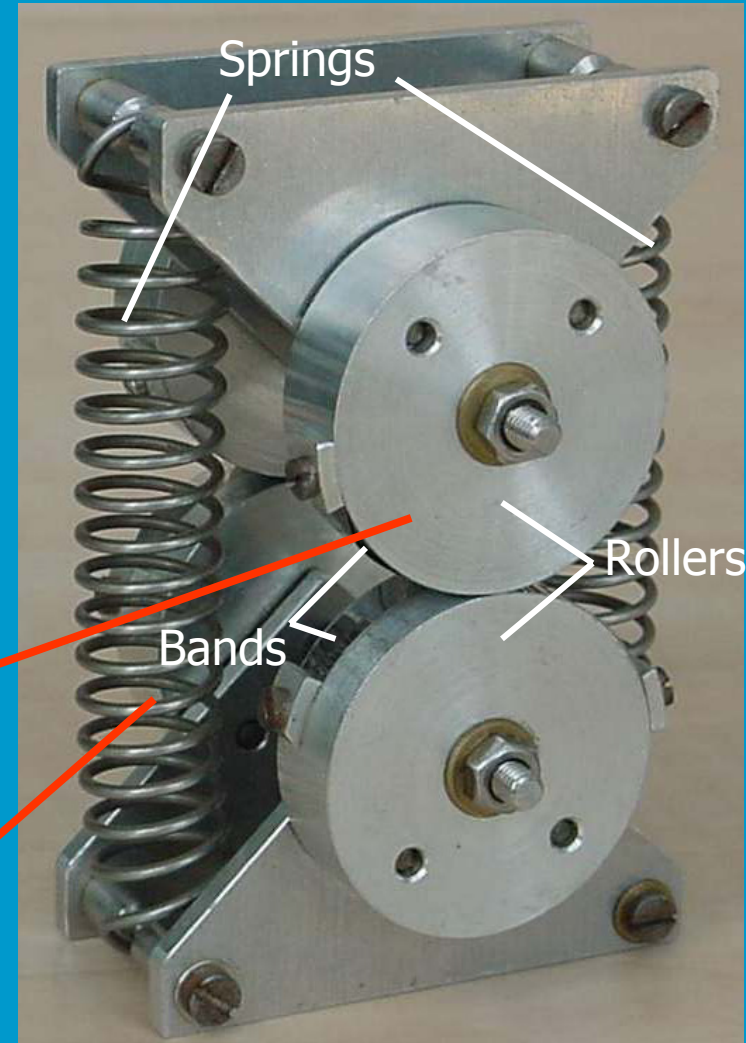
Cross-wise arranged bands

# Bio-inspired joints



Rolling/sliding contact

Cross-wise arranged bands



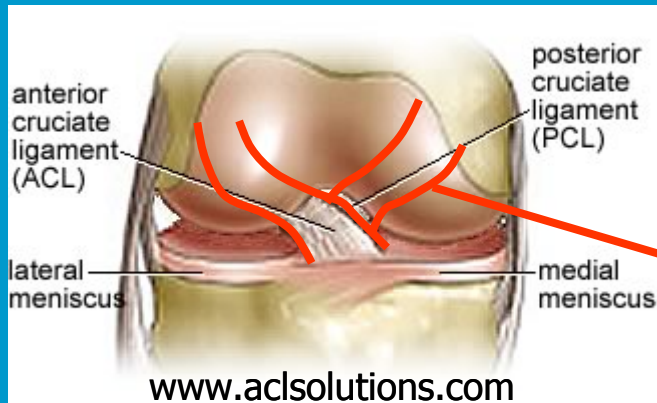


# Bio-inspired joints

Nature does not label...

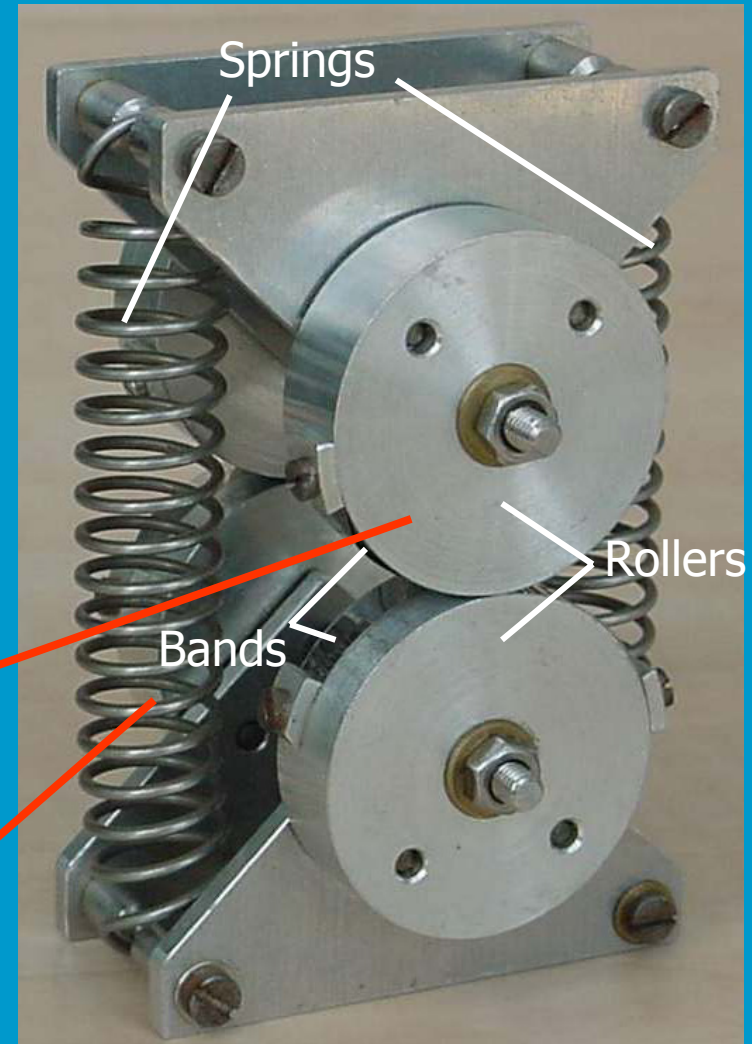
You hypothesize, investigate,  
and design.

Physical principles.



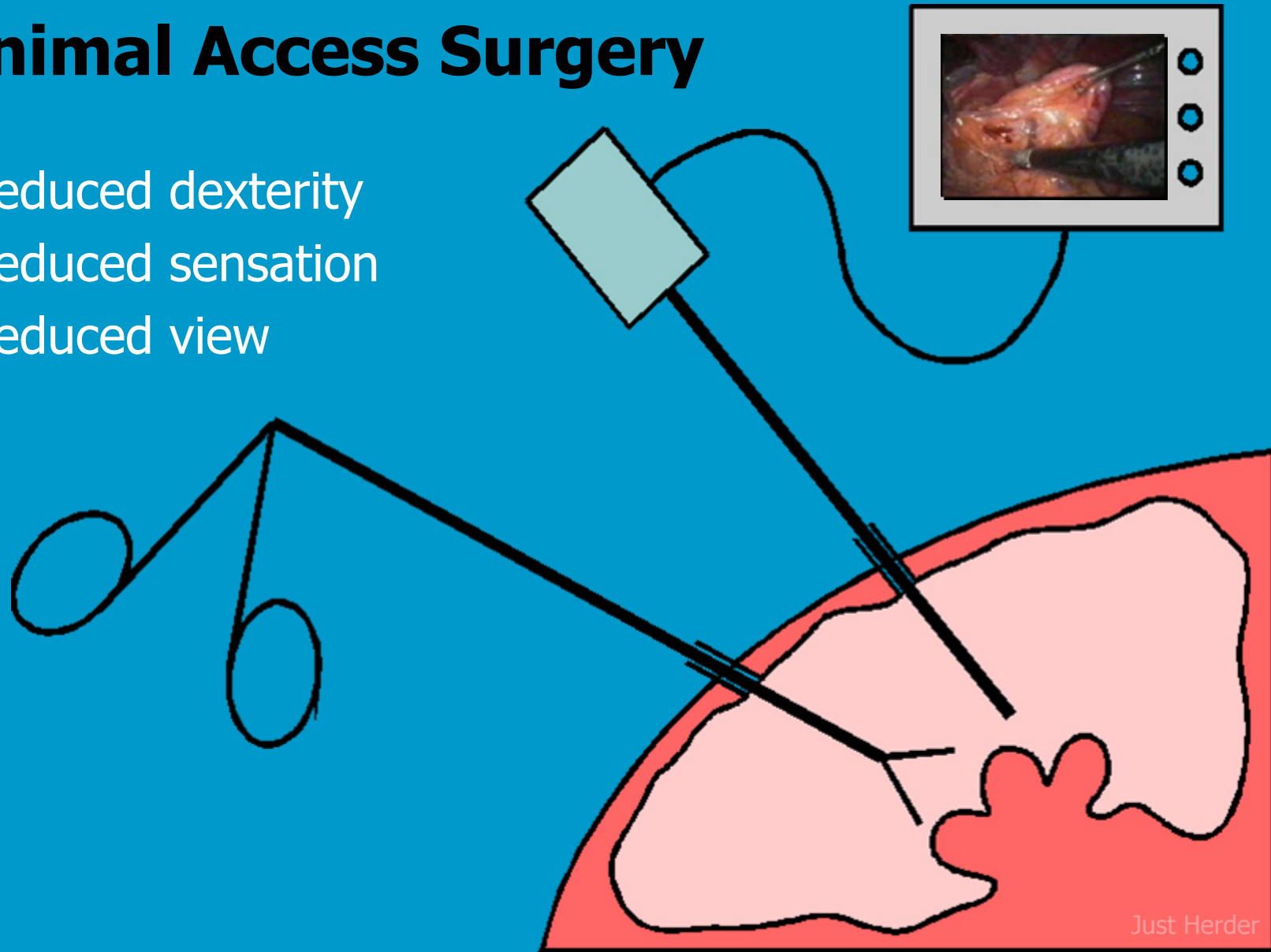
Rolling/sliding  
contact

Cross-wise  
arranged bands



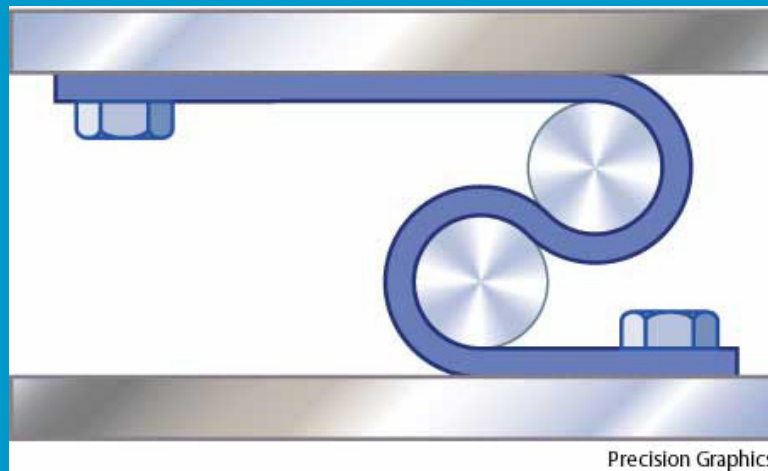
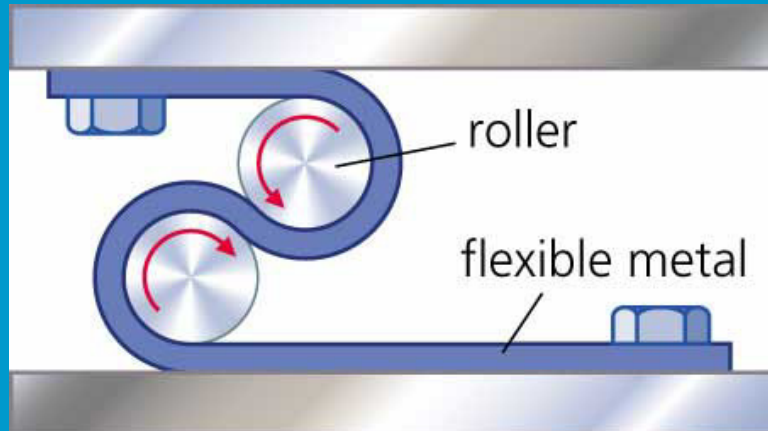
# Minimal Access Surgery

- Reduced dexterity
- Reduced sensation
- Reduced view

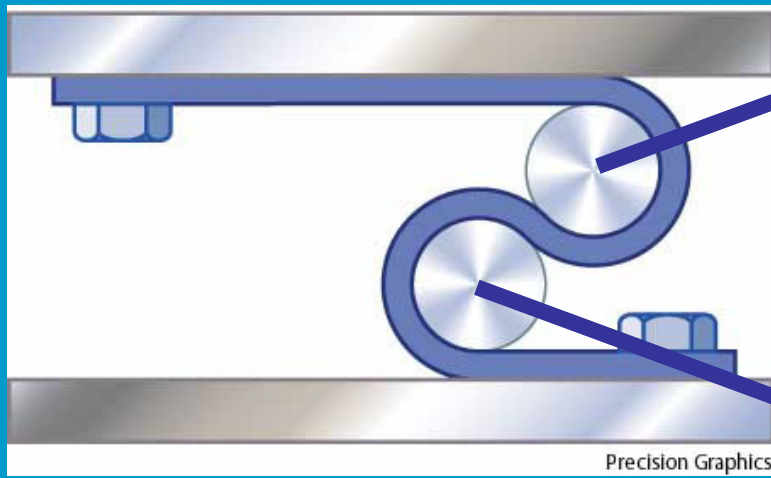
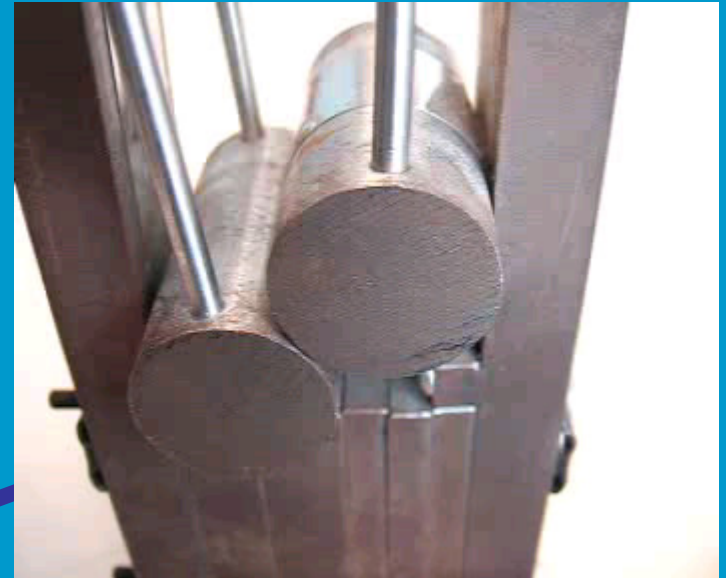


Just Herder

# Bio-Inspired rolling joints



# Bio-Inspired rolling joints

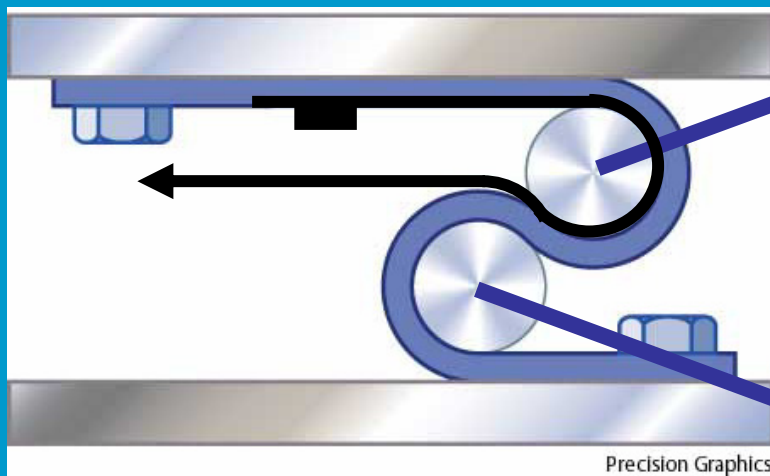




# Bio-Inspired rolling joints

Band is compromise between bending and tension

Most vulnerable parts take highest forces!

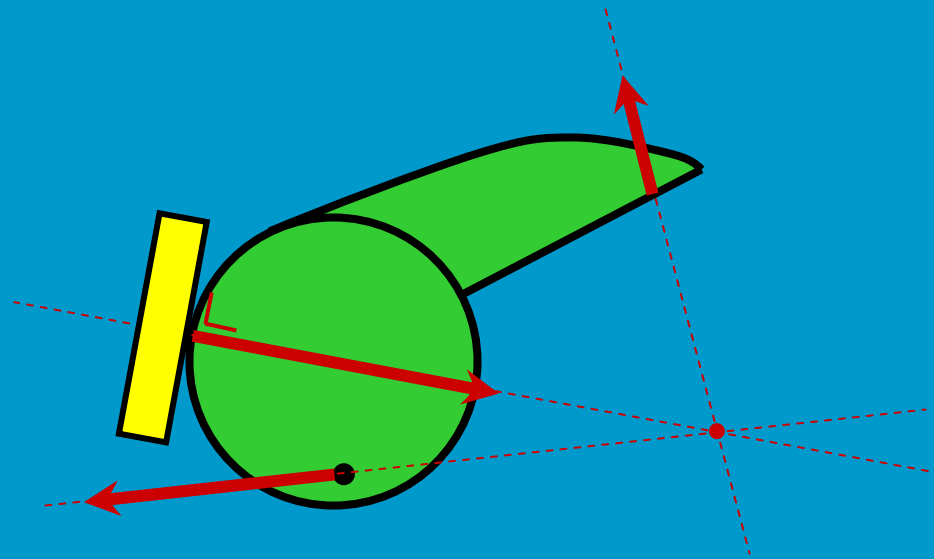


$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A} + \frac{My}{I}$$

$$\text{Bernoulli - Euler: } \kappa = \frac{1}{R} = \frac{d\theta}{ds} = \frac{M}{EI}$$

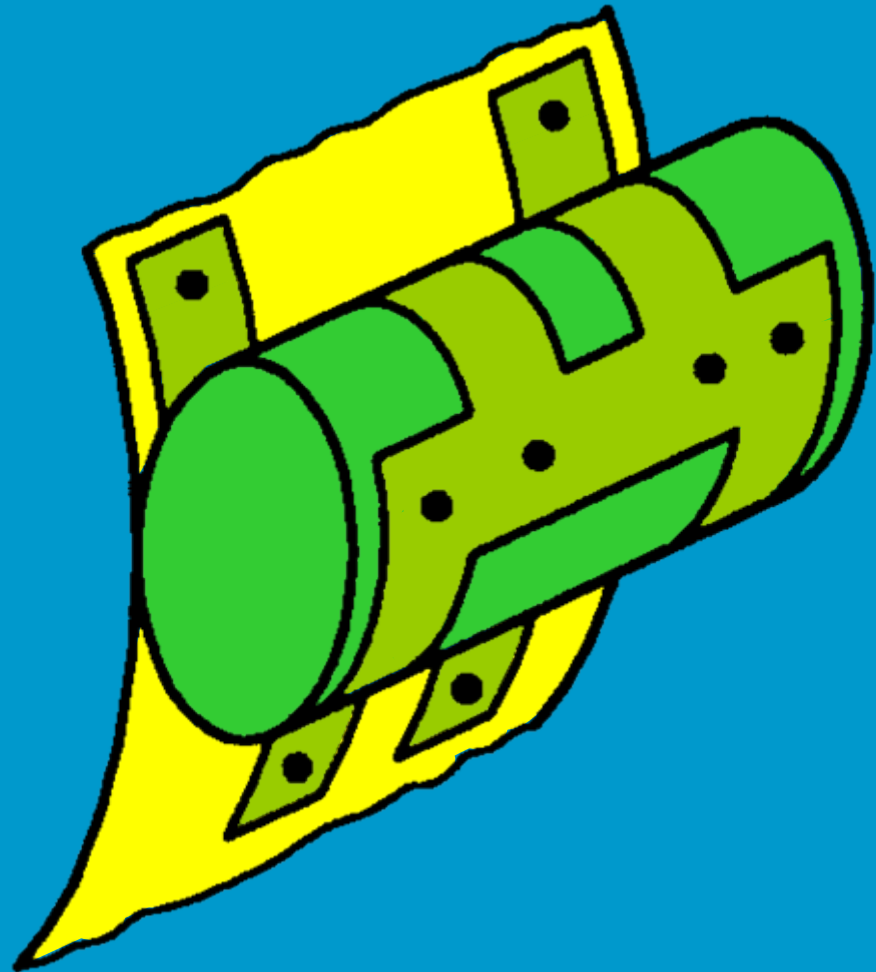
$$\sigma = \frac{F}{A} + \frac{Ey}{R} = \frac{F}{bd} + \frac{Ed}{2R}$$

# Force directed design

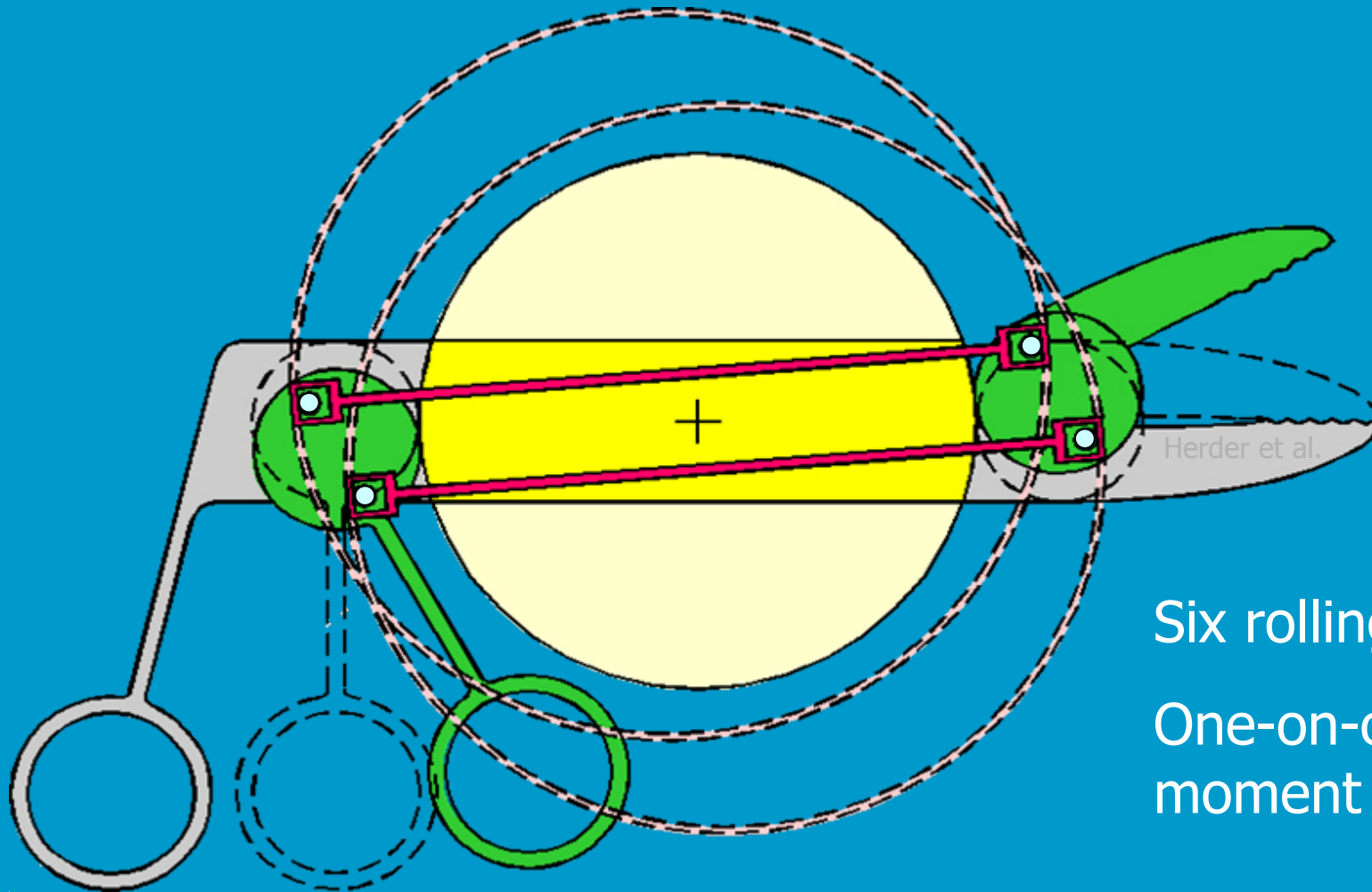


# Low friction forceps

- Rolling joint
- Flexible band
- Negligible friction
- No backlash
- No need for lubrication



# Low friction forceps



Six rolling joints

One-on-one  
moment transfer

# Low friction forceps



10 mm shaft



Mechanical efficiency 96%

. Ambroise

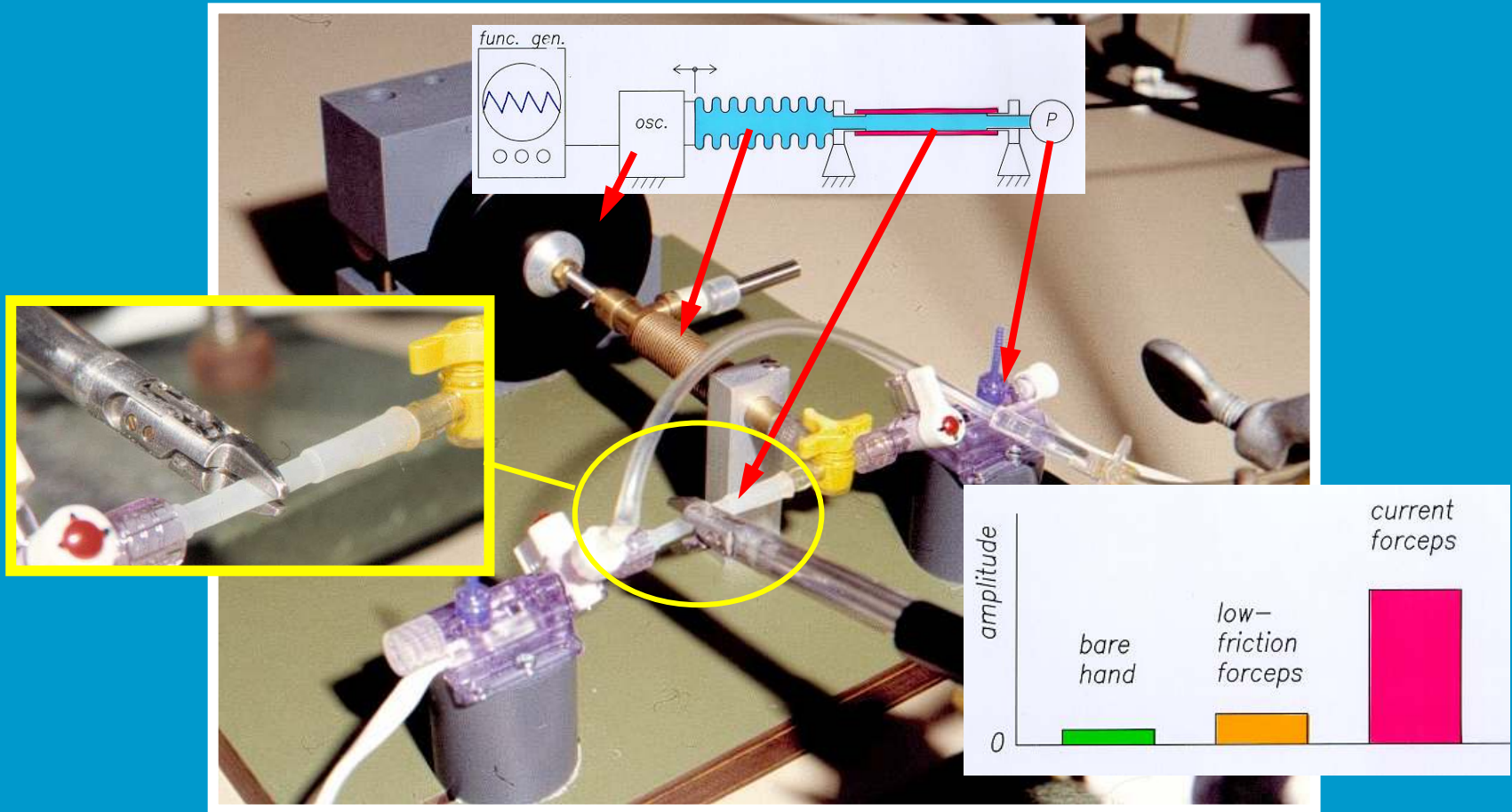
Patent pending: US 6447532 Herder and Horward, 1997

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TU Delft

# Low friction forceps



Pulse in artificial artery can be perceived clearly

K den Boer et al. (1999)

# BioDesign

- Unknown loads
  - Long or short period
  - Suddenly or slowly
  - Once or repeatedly
  - Move while transmitting considerable forces
  - Accidental overload
  - Energy-efficient
- Design Principles
- Real Organisms

# BioDesign

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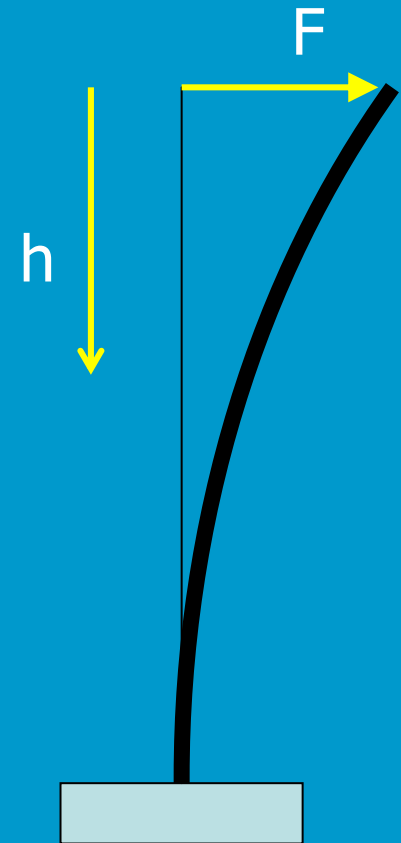
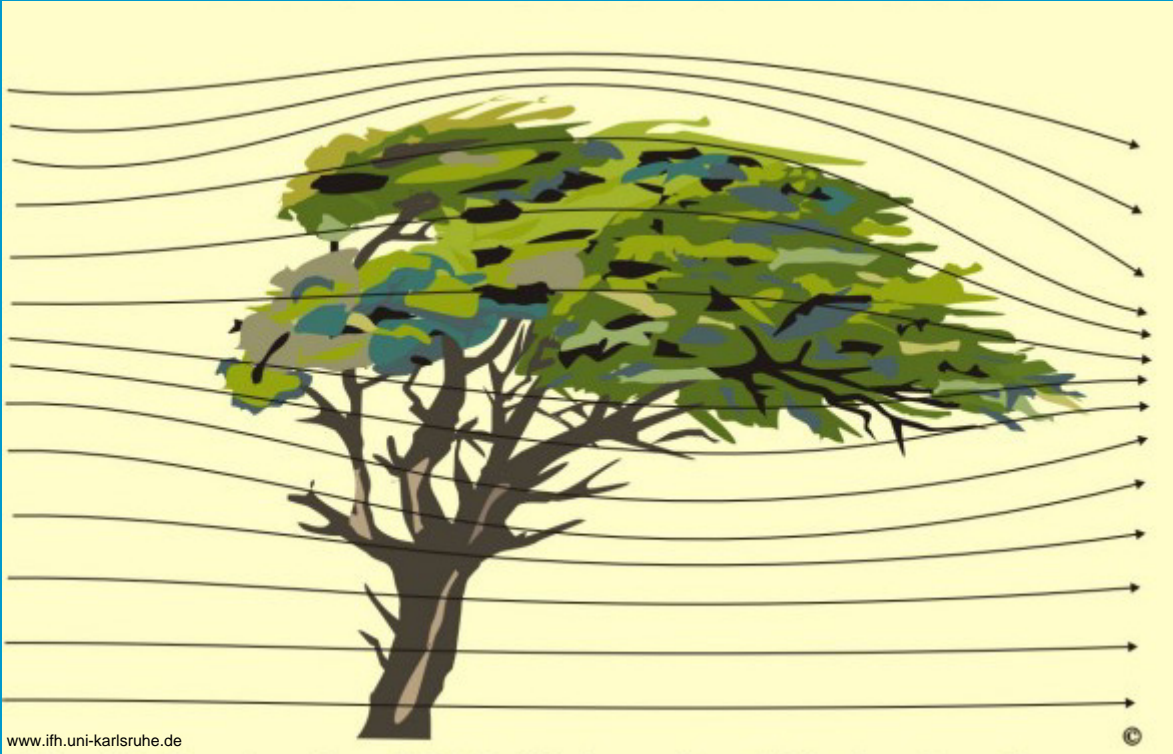
We cannot see physical principles, we have to hypothesize. From real organisms we can at best find that it might be right



# BioDesign Principles

- Lightweight: **only** tension or compression
- Reduce tension members to **wires**, maximize I in other members
- Minimize use of compression members and **maximize use of tensile members**, isolate compressive members
- In **composite** material, the stiffer element used to control strain and maximize resistance to stress
- Thin-walled cylinders effectively reinforce against explosion and buckling by cross-helical **fibres**
- Either **resist or permit** great forces/deflections

# BioDesign

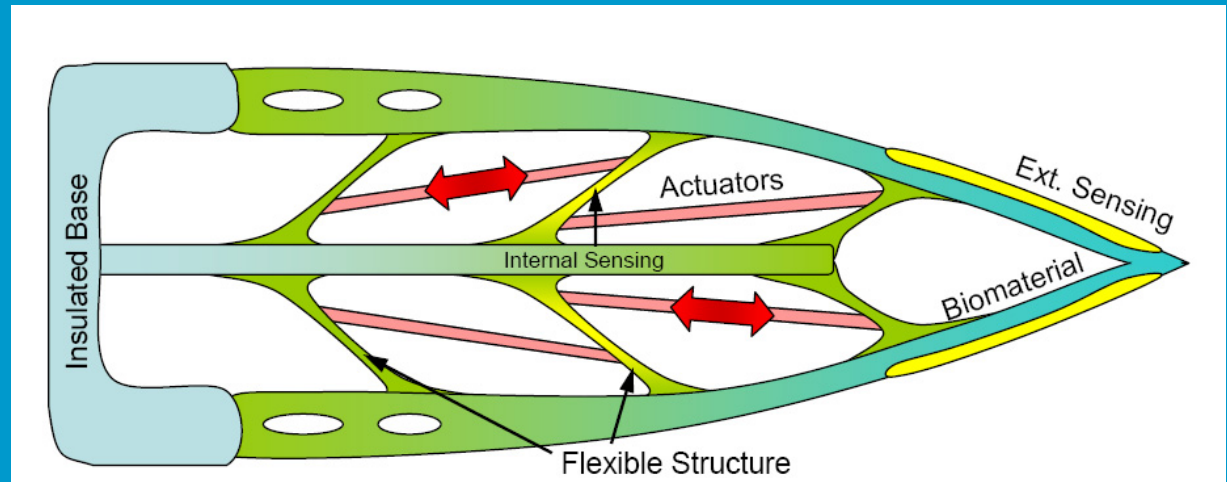


Linear beam theory:  $M=Fh$ , with  $\sigma=My/I$  and  $I=\pi r^4/4$ :

$\sigma=4Fh/\pi r^3$  hence  $r_{min}=(4Fh/\pi\sigma)^{1/3} \rightarrow$  **non-prismatic trunk**

Note: in reality many more factors than aerodynamic drag

# Compliance in design



B Trease, S Kota, Univ of Michigan at Ann Arbor

# Compliance in design

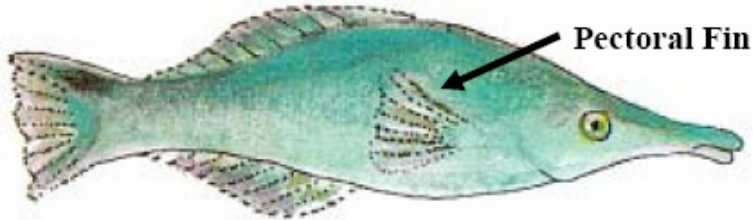
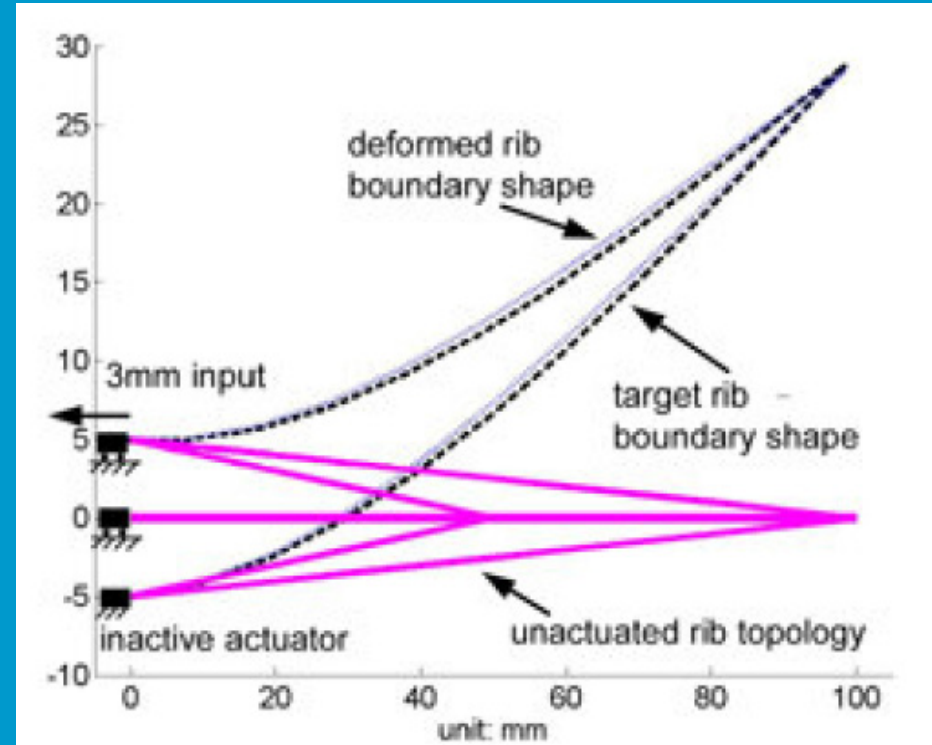
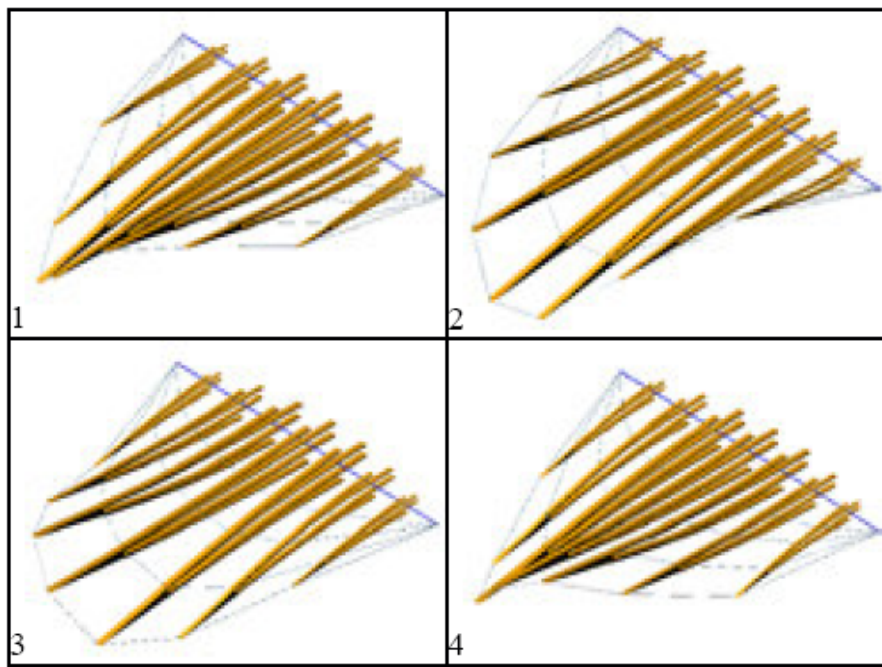


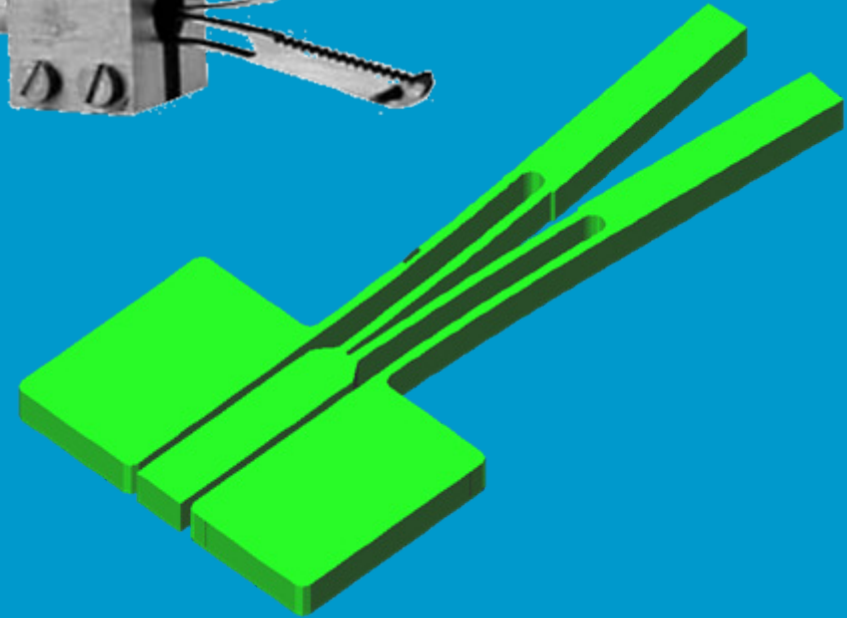
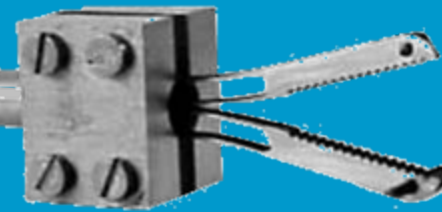
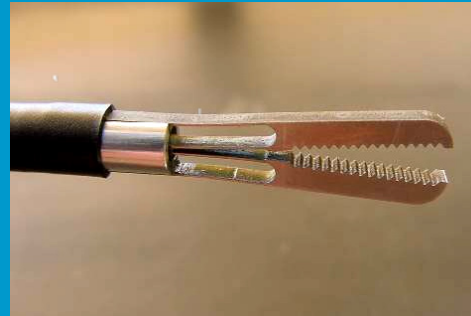
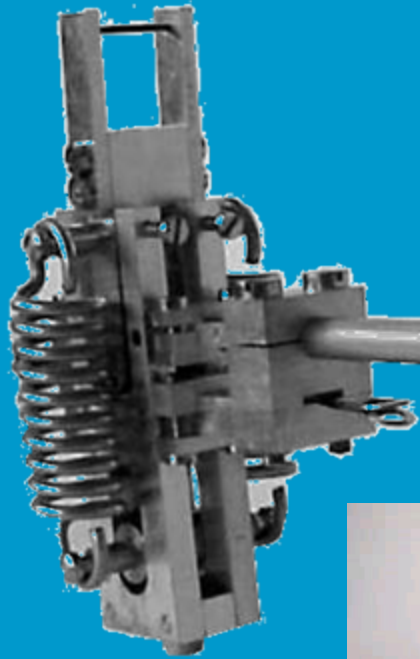
Figure 1: Bird Wrasse (*Gomphosus caeruleus*)  
Image Copyright © 1996-2003 by Paolo Vecchi



B Trease, S Kota, Univ of Michigan at Ann Arbor

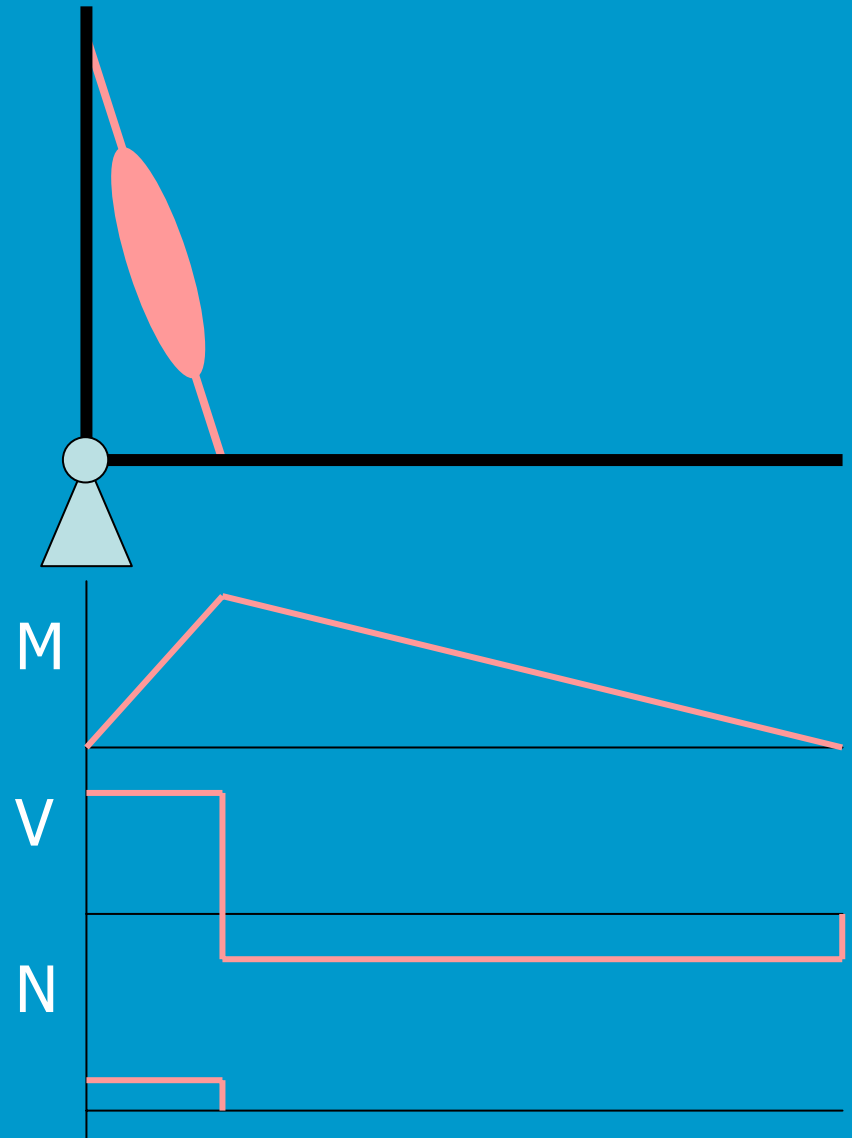
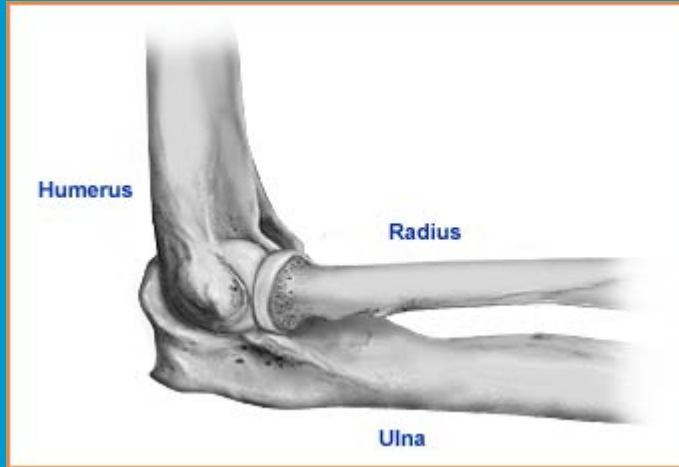


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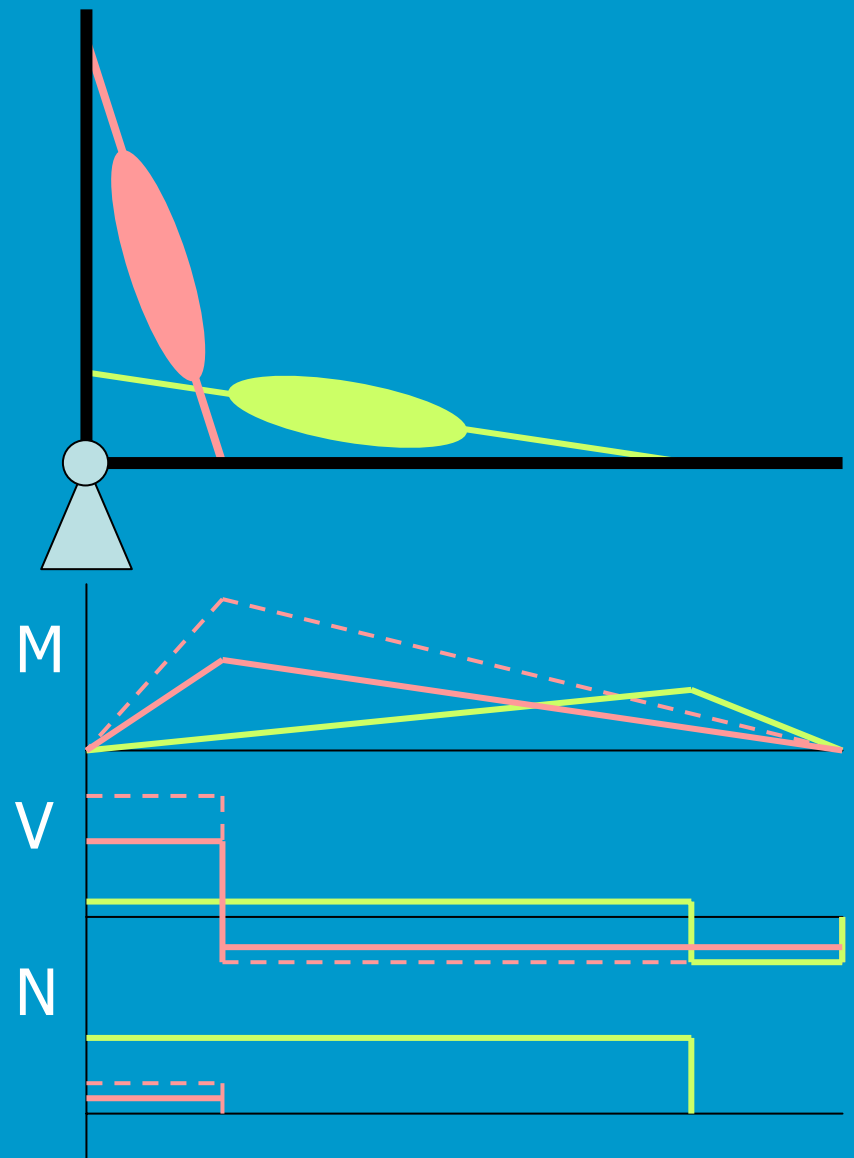
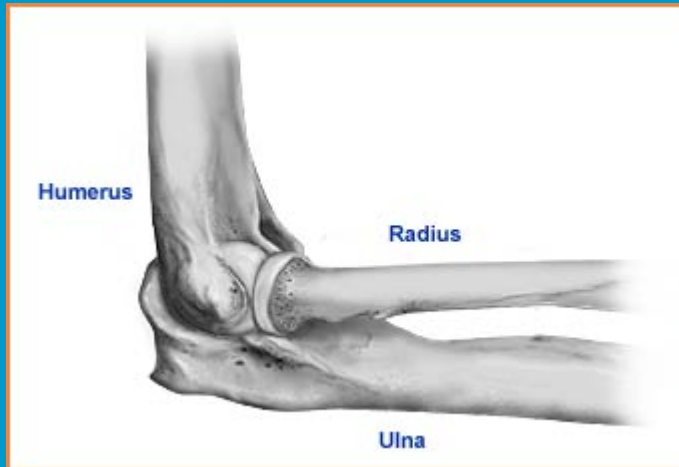


F vd Berg, JL Herder

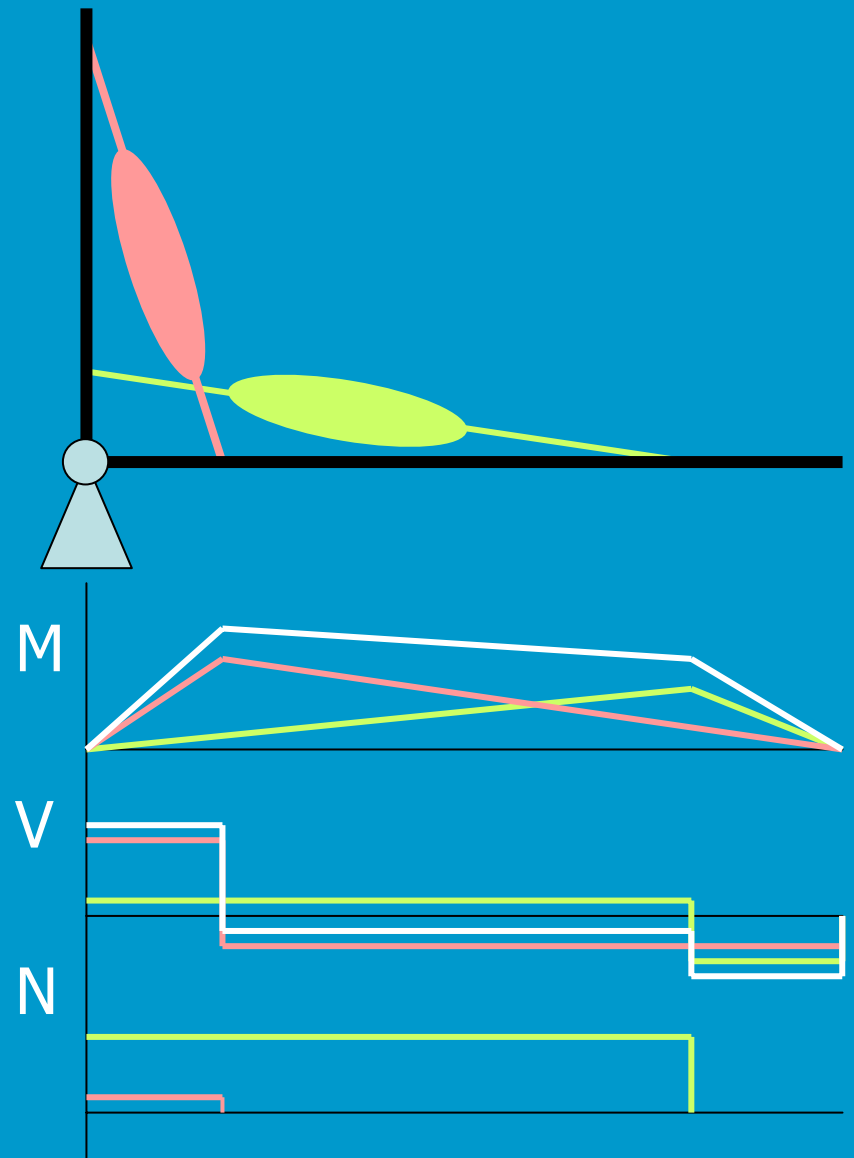
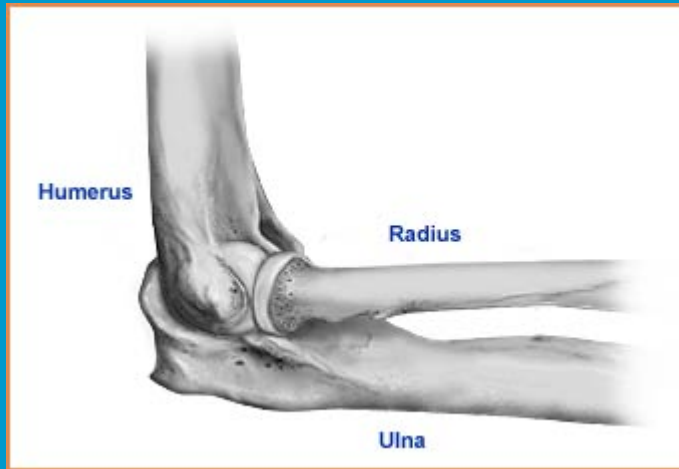
# BioDesign



# BioDesign

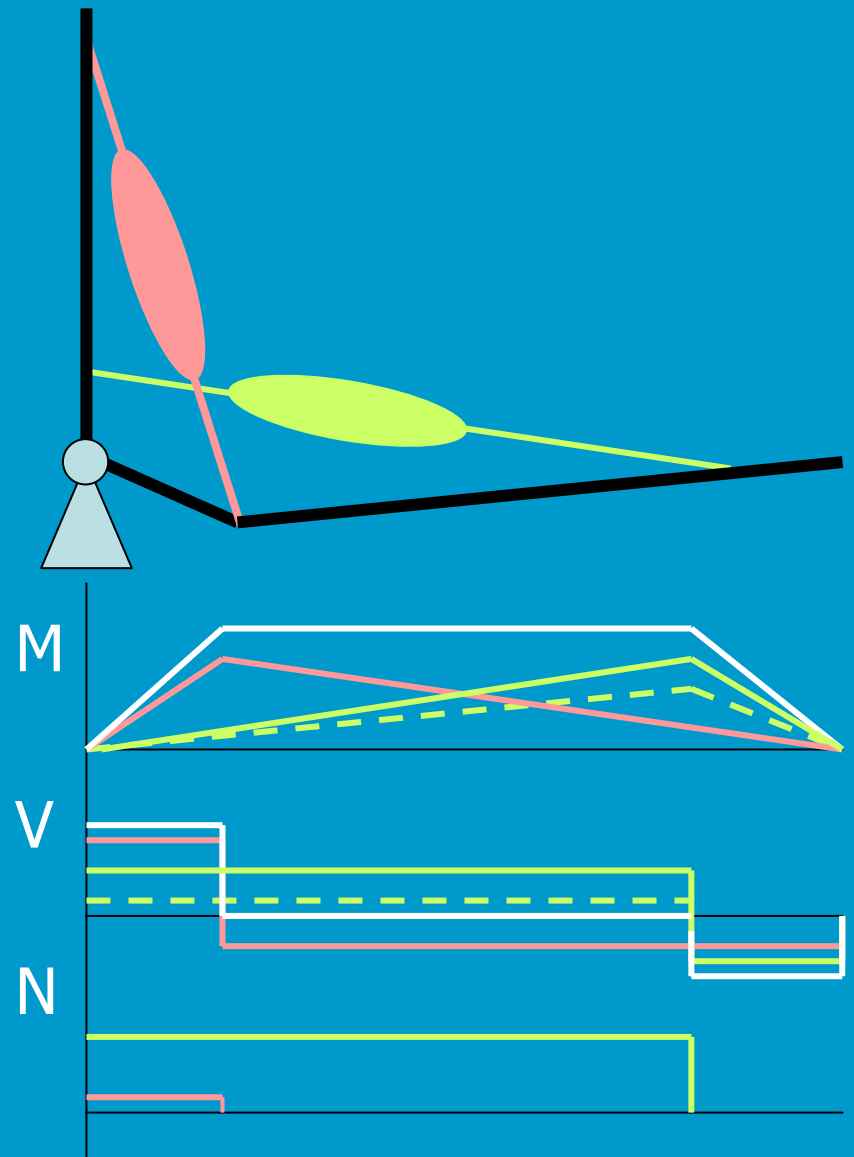
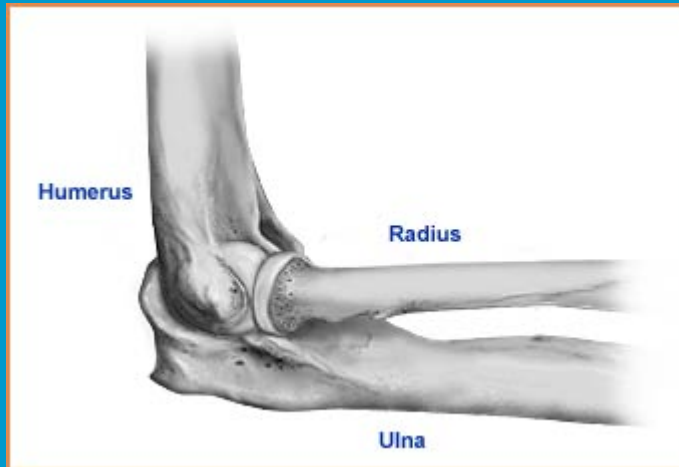


# BioDesign





# BioDesign

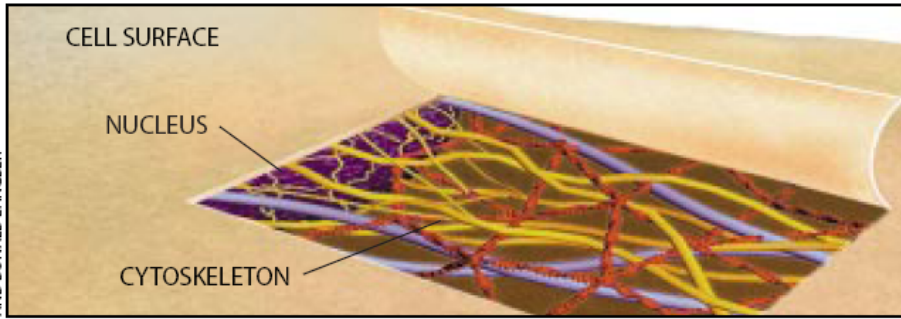


# BioDesign: Structural Optimization

- Other static loading: cross-sectional shape and material properties, deflection by  $EI$
- Careful with maximizing  $I$ , e.g. wall thickness in tubes
- Minimum weight/strength ratio: minimize **density** (since modulus generally fixed), especially wrt buckling
- Energy **absorption** dominant: uniform cross-section, no local stress raisers, preferably solid round rod
- Pure tension: governed by specific strength and maximum allowable deformation, any shape → **rods**

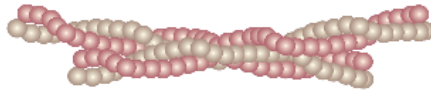
# Tensegrity on cell level

RYOTA MATSUURA, ROBERT EZZELL AND DONALD E. INGBER

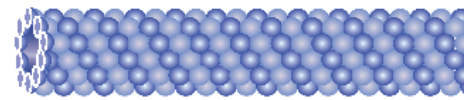


CYTOSKELETON of a cell consists of microfilaments (*bottom left*), microtubules (*bottom center*) and intermediate filaments (*bottom right*), all of which are nanometers wide. The rounded shape near the center in each of these photographs is the cell nucleus. The three components interconnect to create the cytoskeletal lattice, which stretches from the cell surface to the nucleus (*top left*). The molecular structure of each component is shown above the corresponding photograph and is color coded to the top left illustration.

MICROFILAMENTS



MICROTUBULES

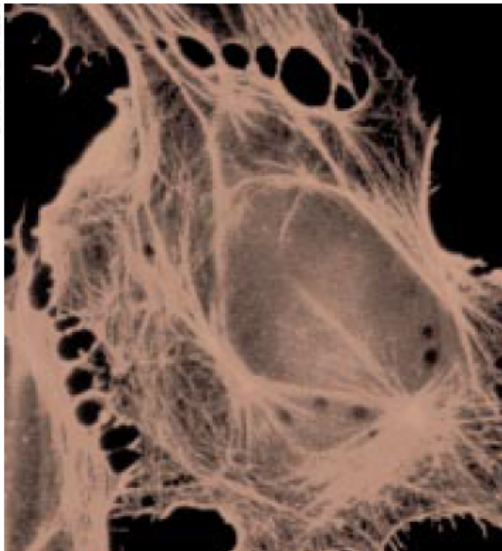


INTERMEDIATE FILAMENTS

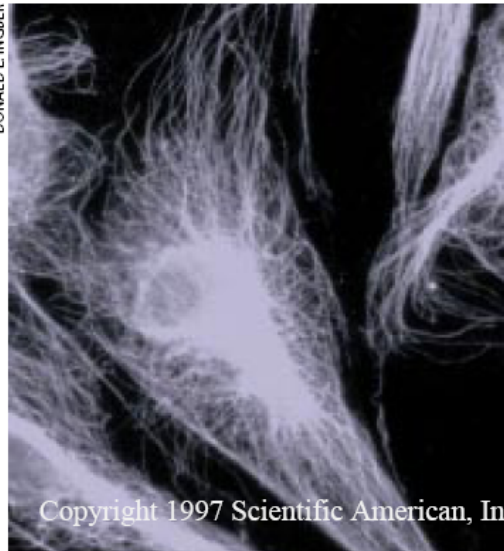


LAURIE GRACE

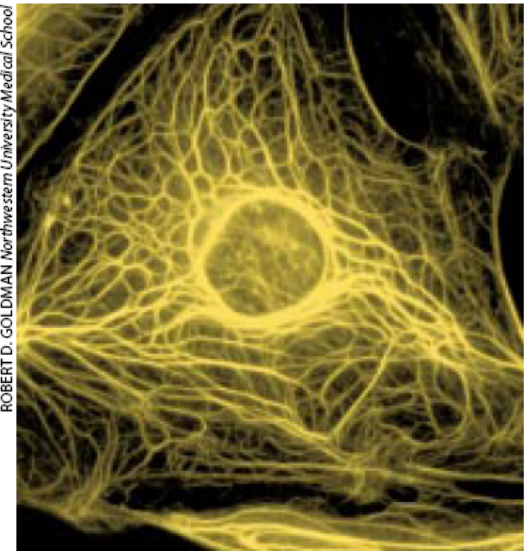
DONALD E. INGBER



DONALD E. INGBER



ROBERT D. GOLDMAN, Northwestern University Medical School



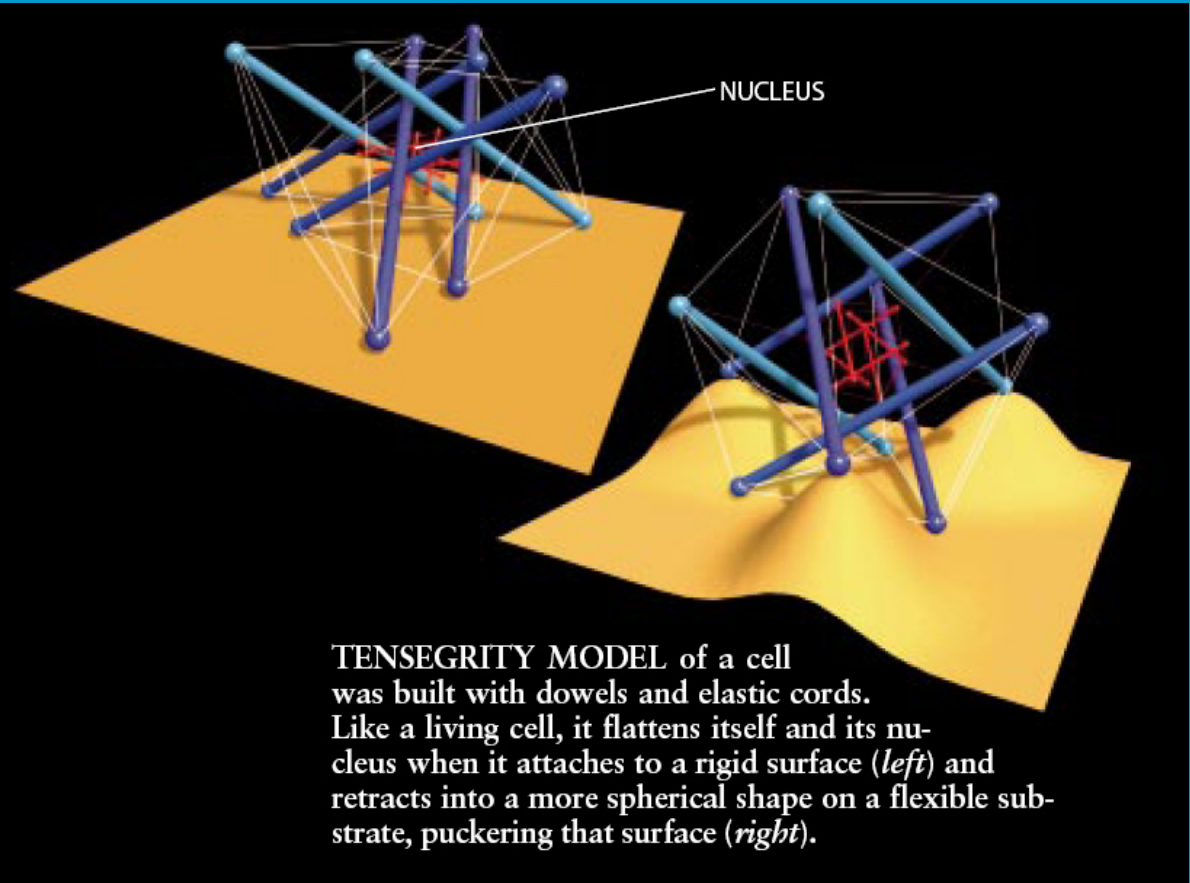
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D.E. Ingber

# Tensegrity on cell level

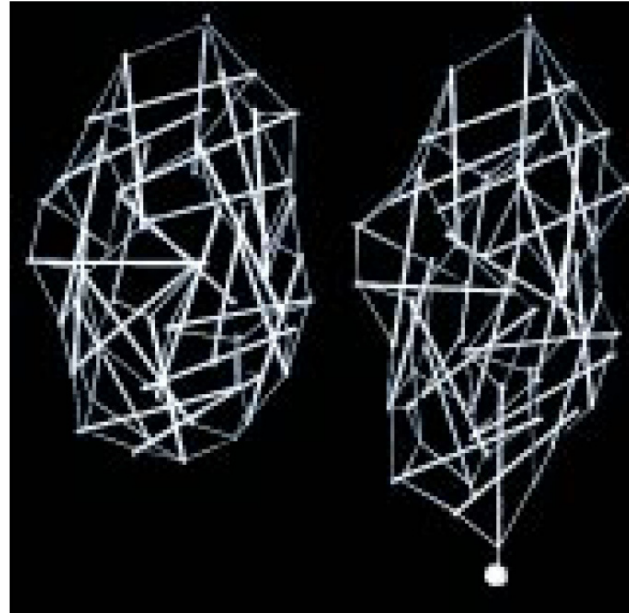


SLIM FILMS SOURCE: DONALD E. INGBER



# Tensegrity on tissue level

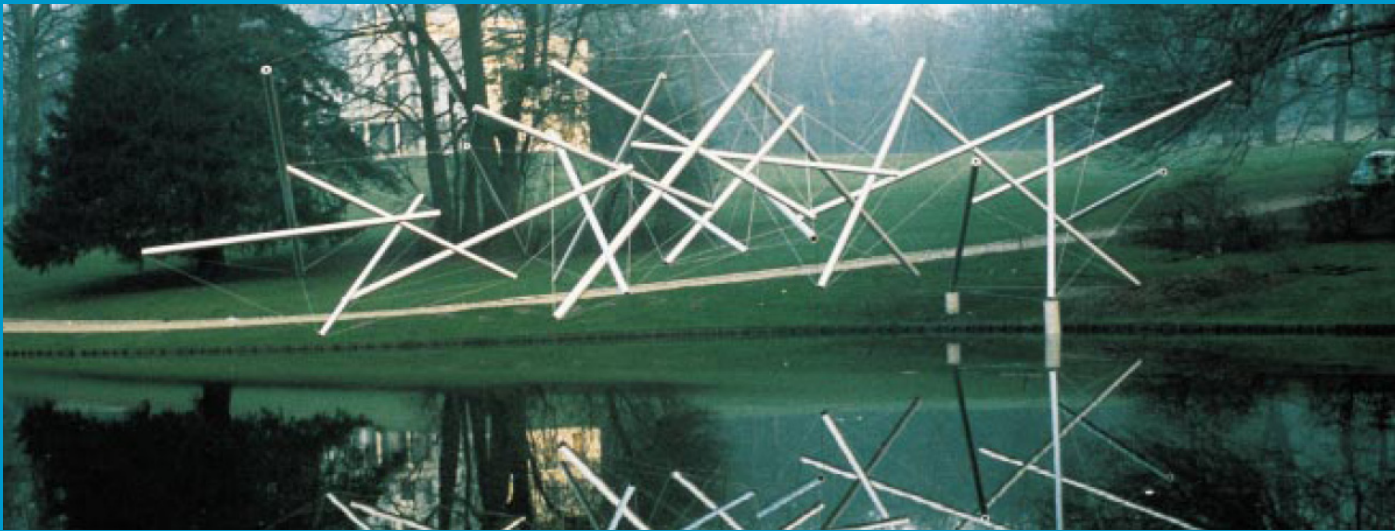
**LINEAR STIFFENING** occurs in a tensegrity structure because structural members reorient themselves to lie more in the direction of applied stress (downward in the right-hand view).



- Linear stiffening: stiffness increases with elongation (non-linear stiffness)
- Similar to biological tissue (pull your skin!)
- Stress in all members varies



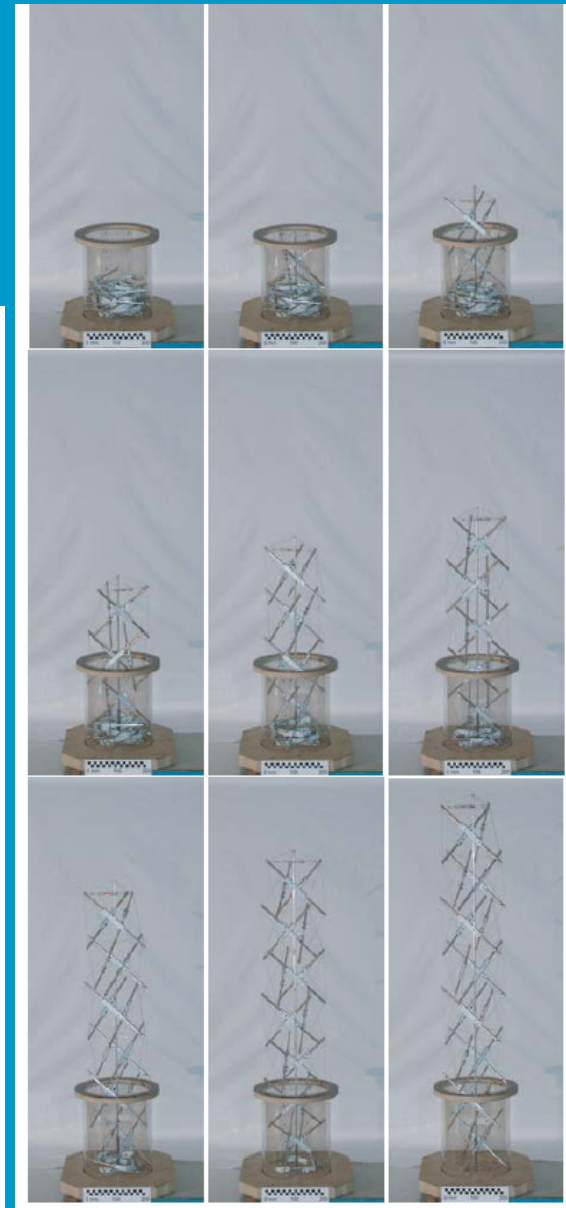
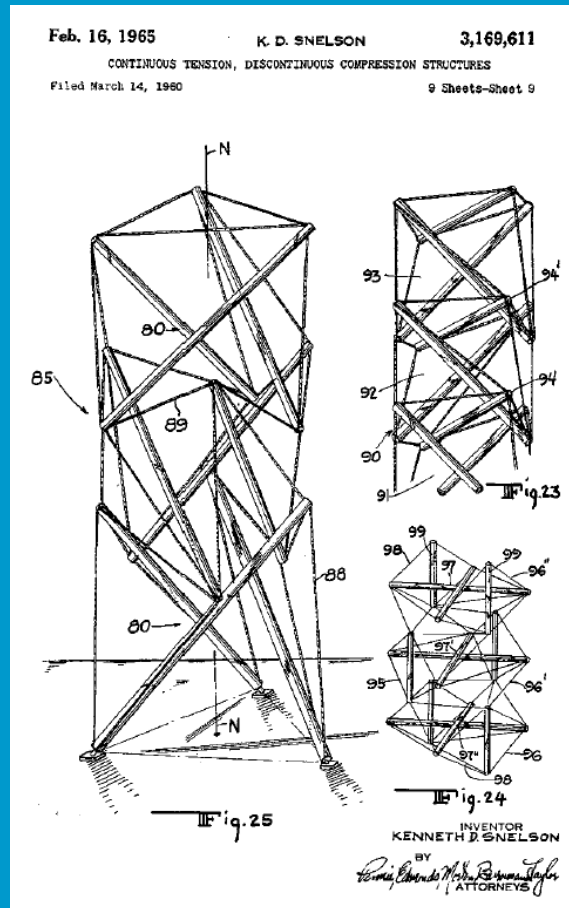
# Tensegrity on organ level



D.E. Ingber, K. Snelson

# Tensegrity in growth...

- Deployable
- Disjointed struts
- Axially stiff
- Axial stiffening
- Weak in bending
- Bending softening

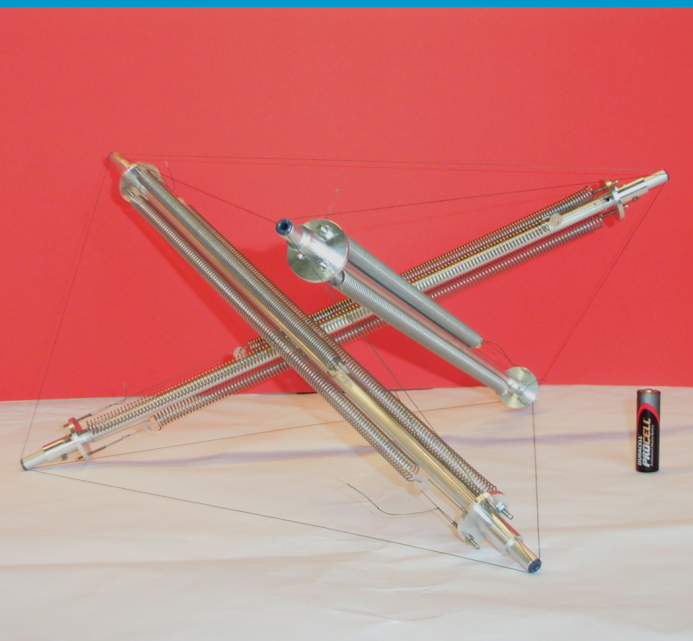




# Tensegrity in Delft

9 cables  $\rightarrow$  9 springs

Tensegrity *Mechanism*



Mark Schenk, Simon Guest, Just Herder



# Conclusion

- Different materials
- Different components
- Different concepts
- Different perspective
- Big gap
- Lots to do