

# Bio-Inspired Design

## BioEnergy: Biological Springs

Just Herder



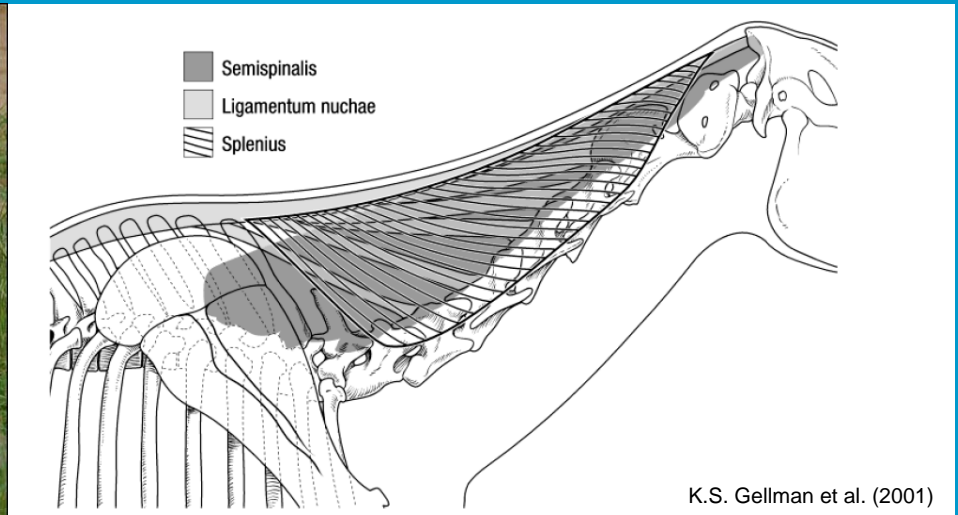
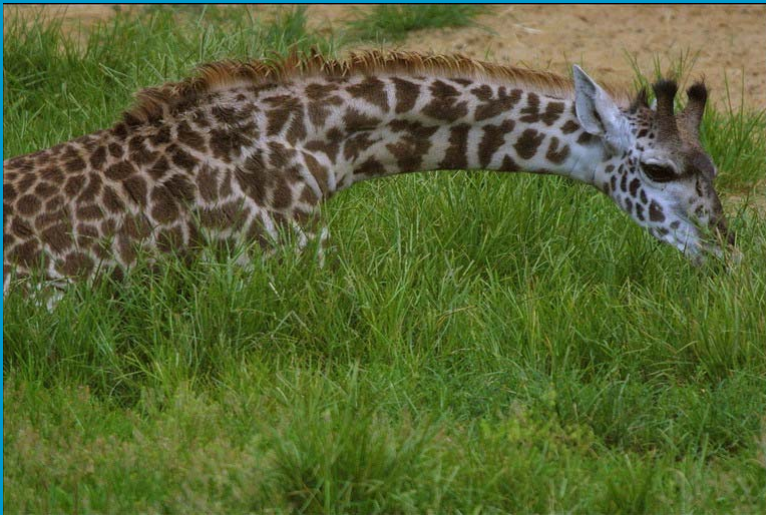
Faculty of Mechanical, Maritime, and Materials Engineering  
Department of BioMechanical Engineering



Delft University of Technology

# Lecture 3: Bioconstruction Bioenergy (biological springs)

- Feb 17, 8:45-10:30, room F, Just
- Contents: bioenergy: storing energy in springs (neck of giraffe, chameleon, grasshopper, tendons in human ankles), vibration (birds, flying insects), etc.



# Lecture 3: Bioconstruction Bioenergy (biological springs)



- Springs: muscles and tendons
- Vibration examples: insect wings, legged locomotion
- Storage examples: chameleon tongue, neck ligaments
- Engineering example: human-friendly robotic arm



<http://www.photolib.noaa.gov/htmls/expl0367.htm>



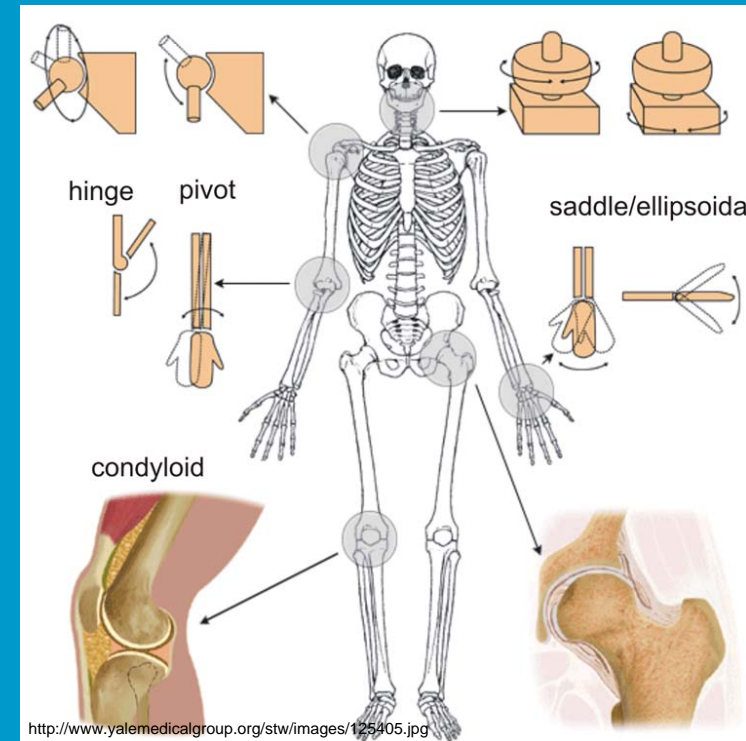
<http://frozenmotion.typepad.com/photos/uncategorized/chameleon.jpg>



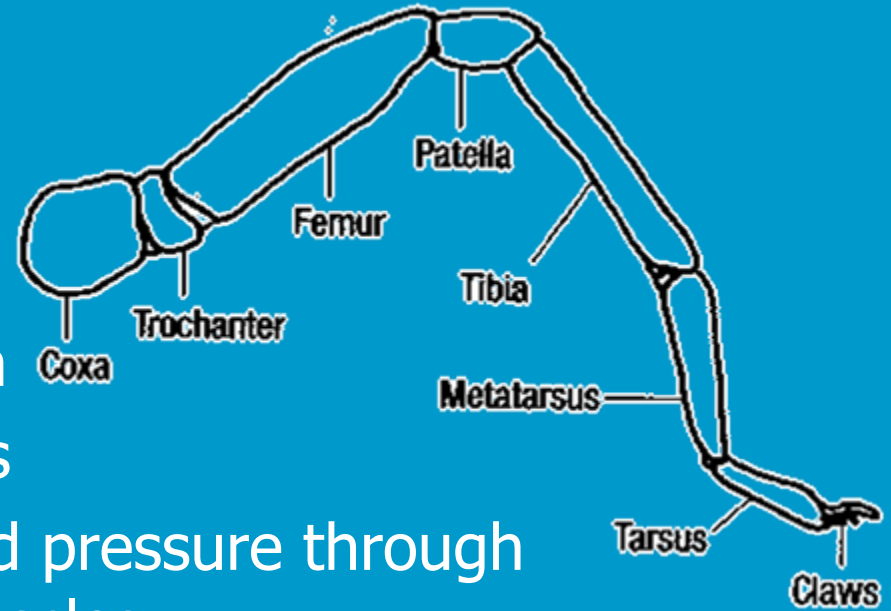
[http://www.drstandley.com/nativeamerican\\_animal\\_medicine.shtml](http://www.drstandley.com/nativeamerican_animal_medicine.shtml)

# Vertebrates: joints

- Synarthroses: hardly movable (sutures in human skull)
- Amphiarthroses: slightly movable (cartilage attachments in ribs and vertebrae disks)
- Larger range of motion:
  - 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)



# Muscles: Arthropods (e.g. spiders)



- External cuticular skeleton
- Harder and softer sections
- Motion by regulating blood pressure through contraction of thoracic muscles
- Per leg 7 segments and 30 muscles for extension, none for flexion (dead spiders curl up)
- Regular molting required (growth)
- Also during 'soft period' motion possible



# Muscles: Crabs

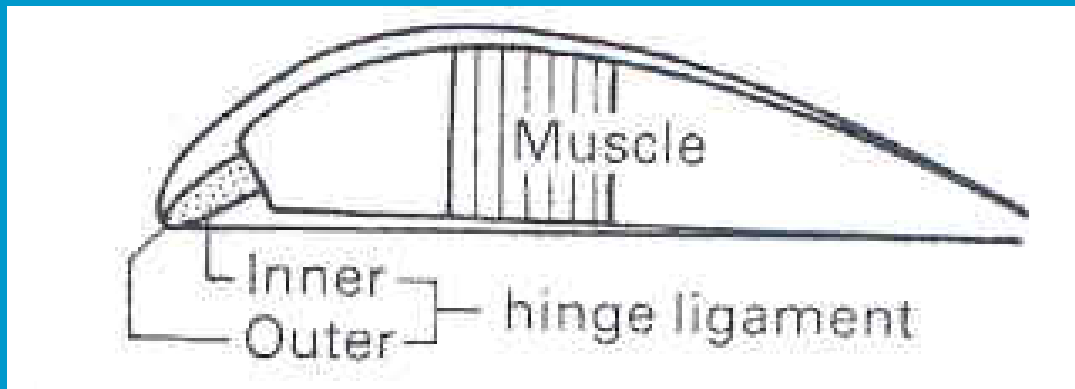
- Also hard enclosure
- Danger of tendon passing through joint axis
- Limited range of motion



# Muscles: return spring

E.g.: Scallops (*Pecten*, *Cyprina*, *Mytilus*)

- Compliant joint tends to open
- Open scallop from the inside!
- Eliminates need for agonist-antagonist pair
- Without muscle force → open



<http://www.photolib.noaa.gov/htmls/expl0367.htm>

Trueman (1953) in Alexander (1988)

# Muscles: Energy Storage

## Energy Storage

- Tendon material (e.g. Achilles tendon, foot arch)
- Muscle fibres (for small length changes).
- Ligamentum nuchae (spinal ligaments of hoofed animals)
- Mesogloea (collagen fibres in anemones and jellyfish)
- ...



# Ligaments: Energy Storage

## Hoofed animals

- Cow, giraffe, deer, camel, sheep
- Head statically balanced by ligament
- Potential energy exchange
- Easy conversion from feeding to alert
- Sleep with neck in vertical plane

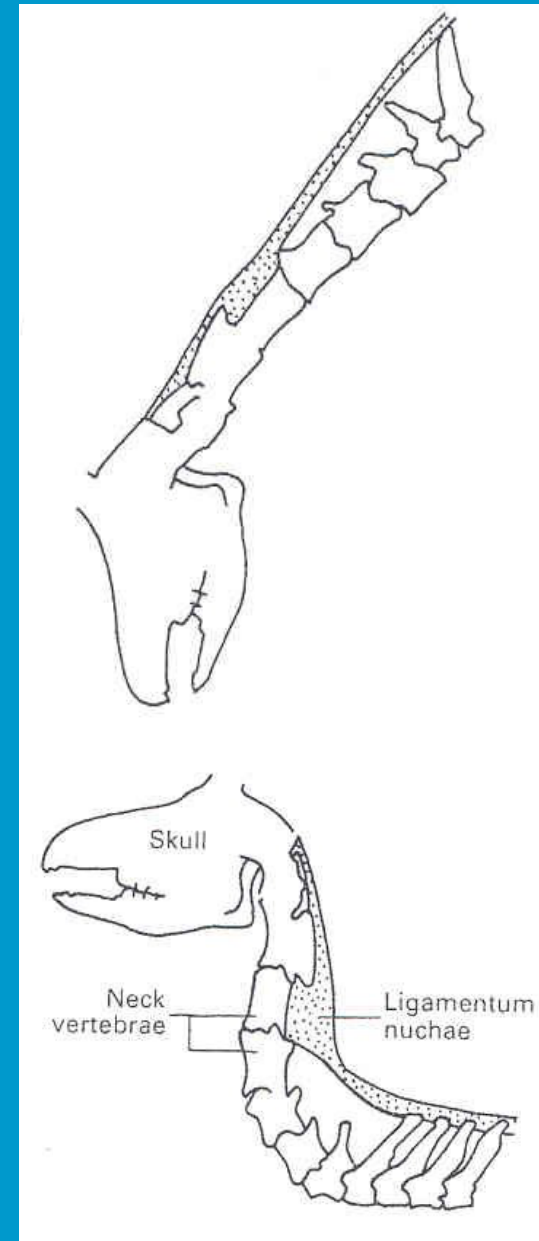
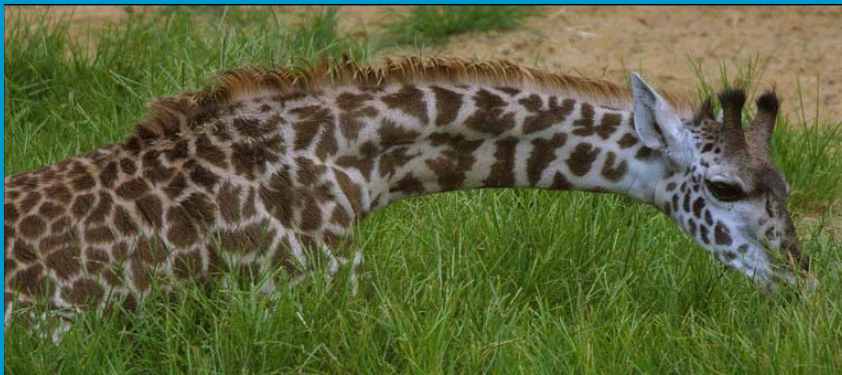
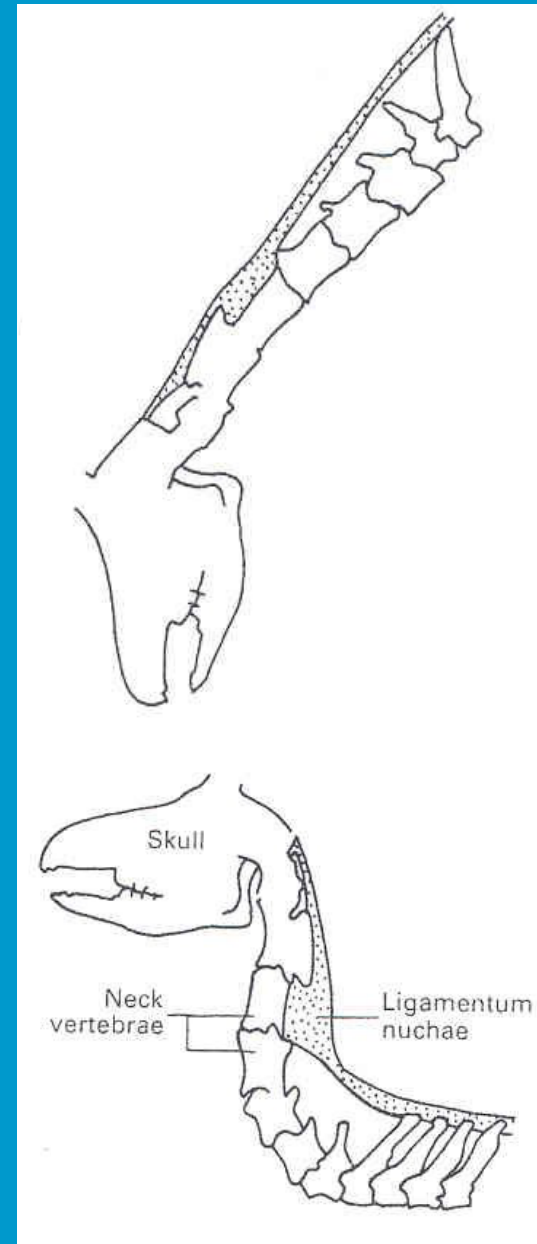
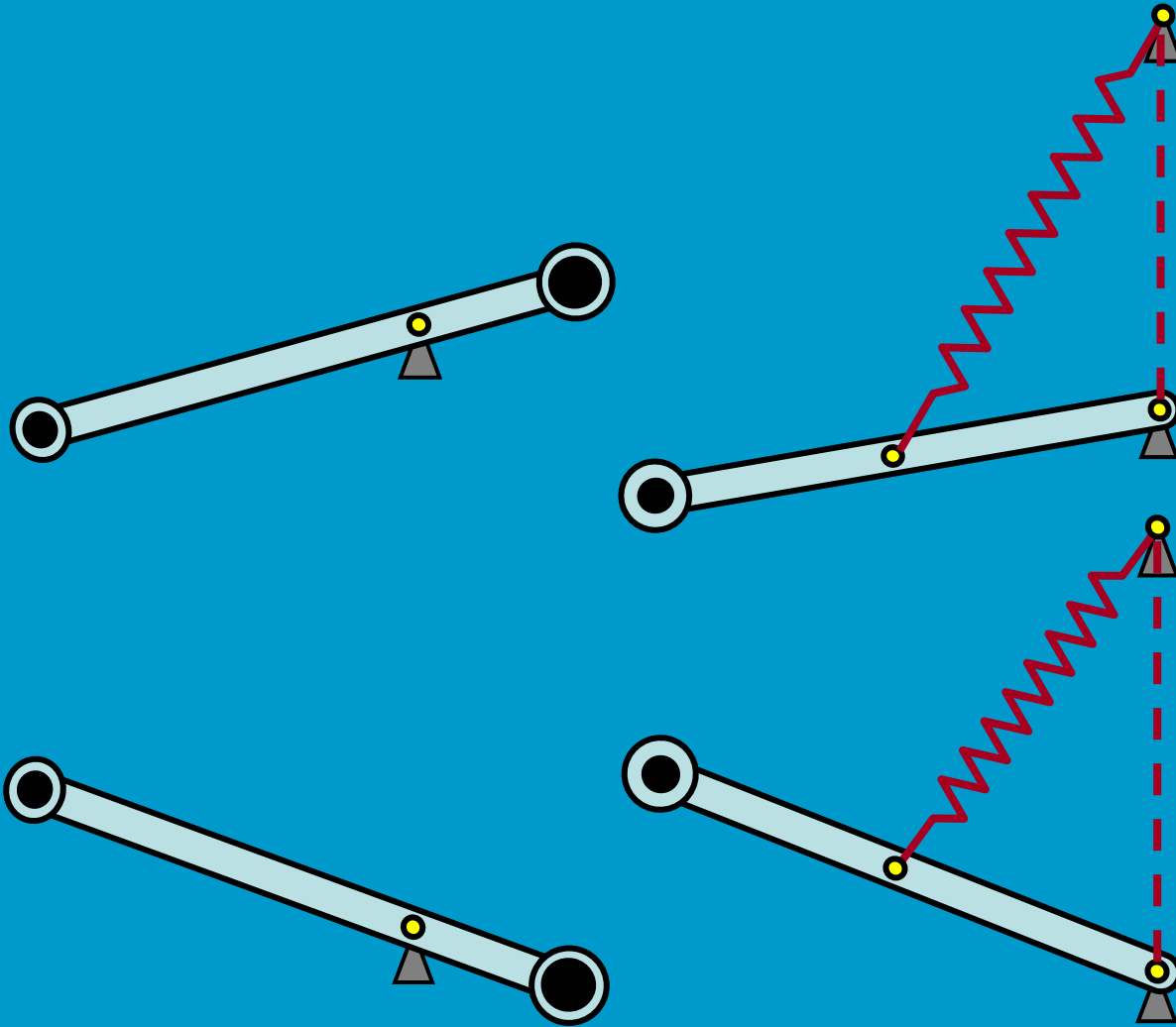


Figure from Dimery, Alexander and Deyst (1985)

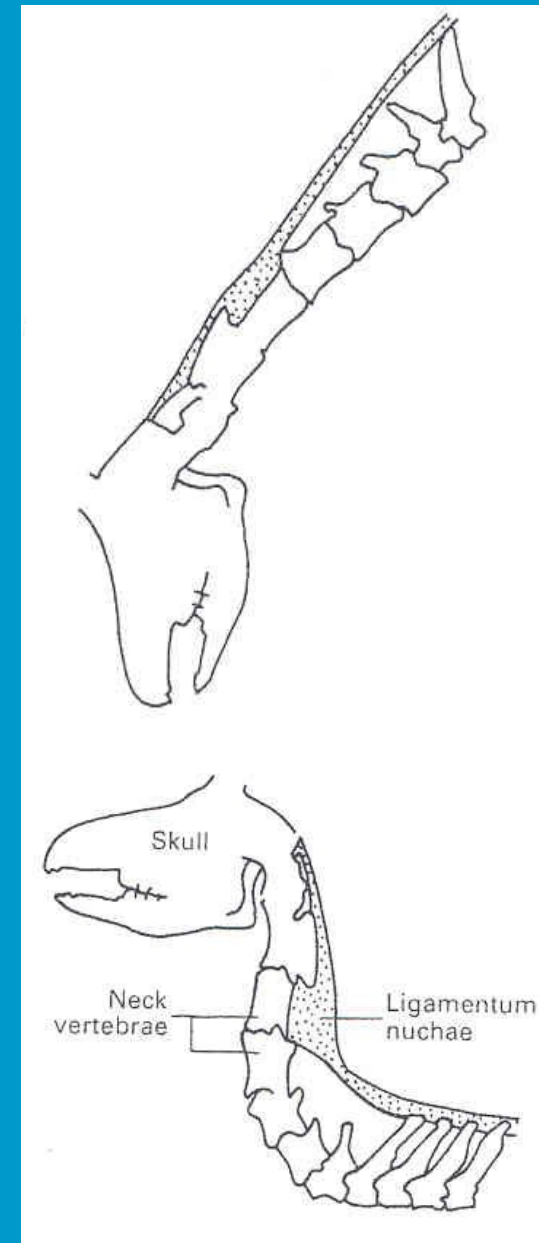
# Ligaments: Energy Storage



# Ligaments: Energy Storage

## Sheep:

- Force in ligament in alert position around 10 N
- Force in ligament in feeding position around 80 N
- Sufficient for equilibrating head
- Strain up to 0.8 (close to breaking)
- Experiments with deer and camel yield similar results



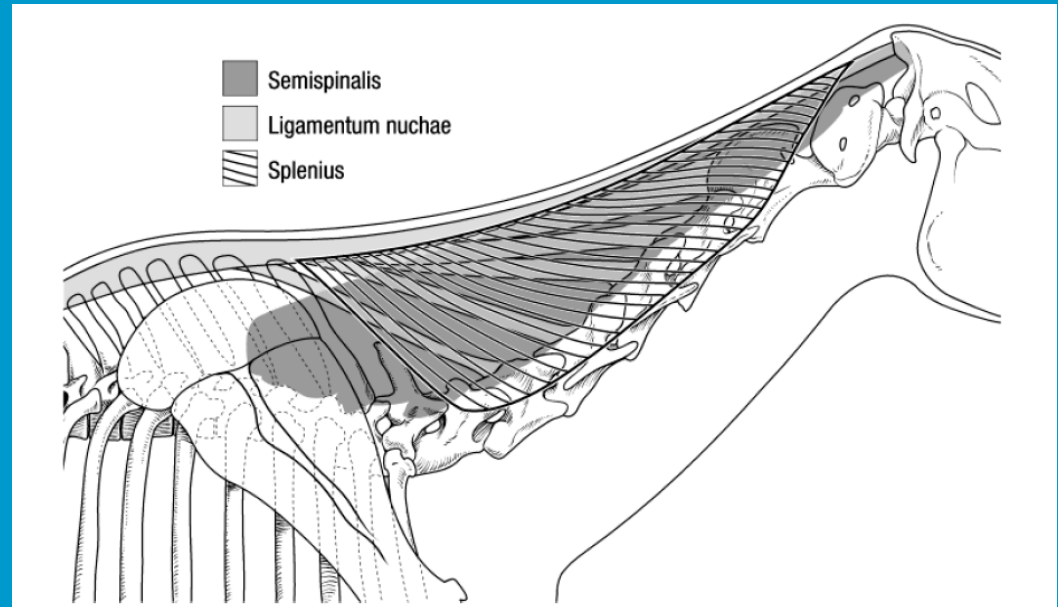
Dimery, Alexander and Deyst (1985)

# Ligaments: Energy Storage

## Ligamentum Nuchae

$$W = \int F dx = \int \frac{F}{k} dF =$$

$$\frac{F^2}{2k} = \frac{F^2 L}{2EA} = \frac{\sigma^2 V}{2 E}$$



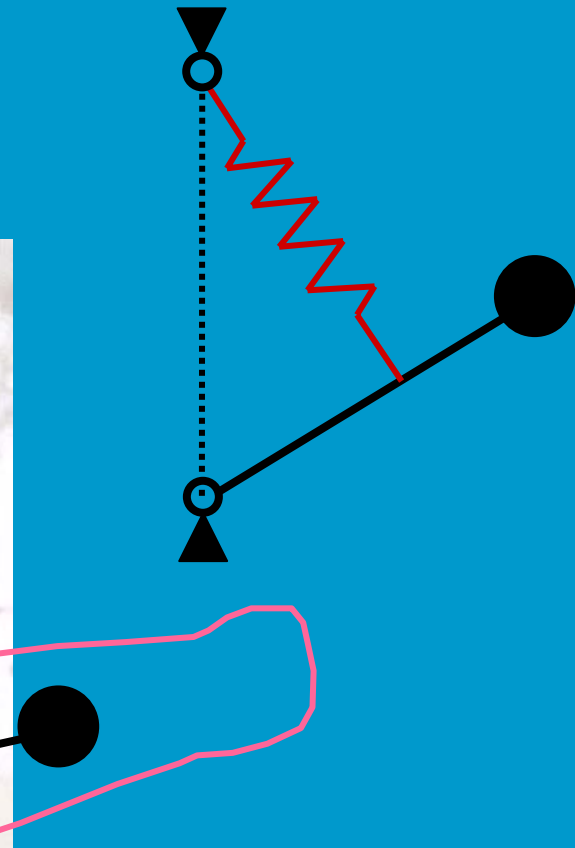
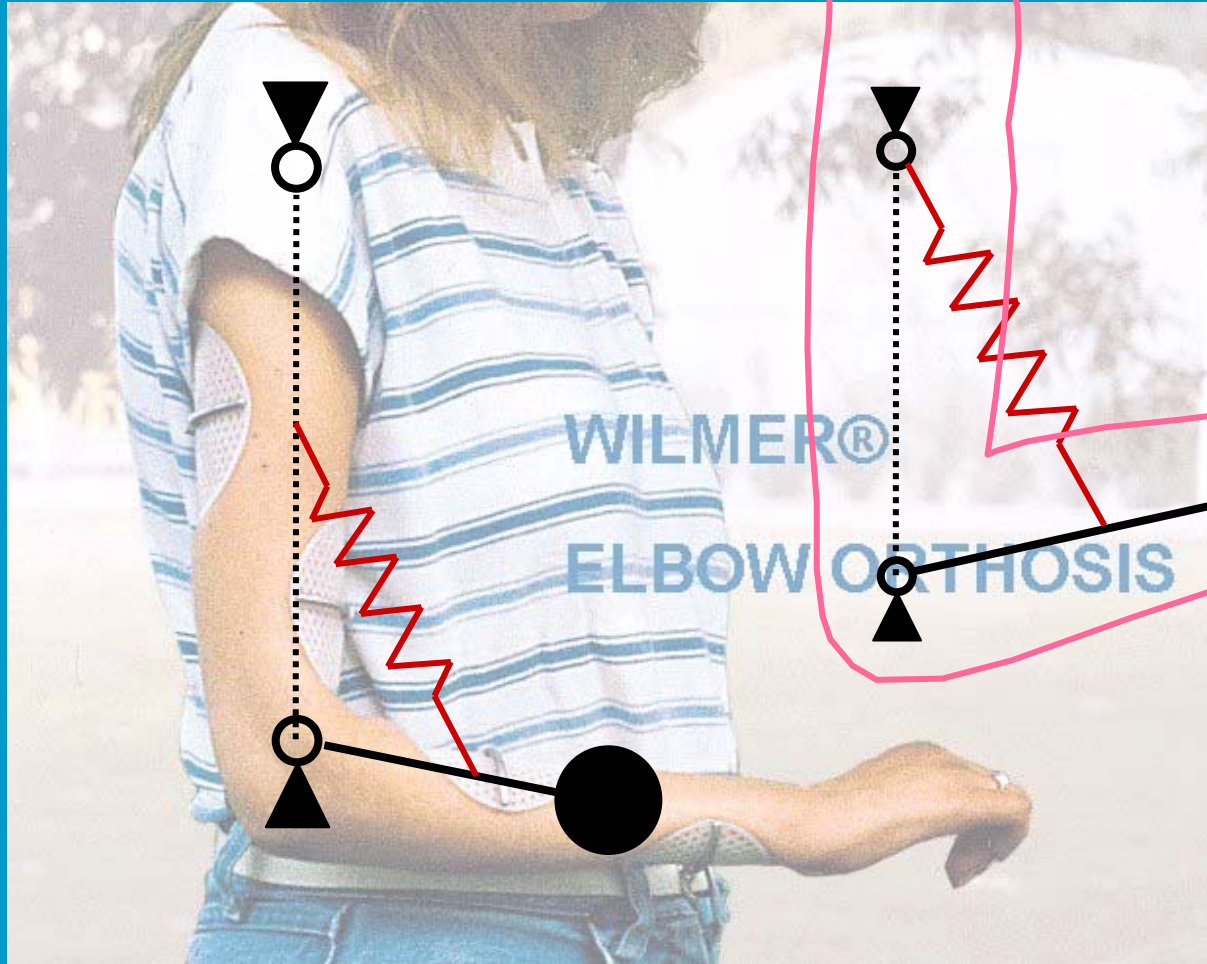
With<sup>1)</sup>  $\sigma \approx 6E5 \text{ N/m}^2$ ,  $V \approx 5E-4 \text{ m}^3$  (500cc),  $E \approx 8E5 \text{ N/m}^2$ :

$W \approx 100 \text{ J}$

(equiv. 5 kg over 2 m)

1) Data and figure from K.S. Gellman et al. (2001)

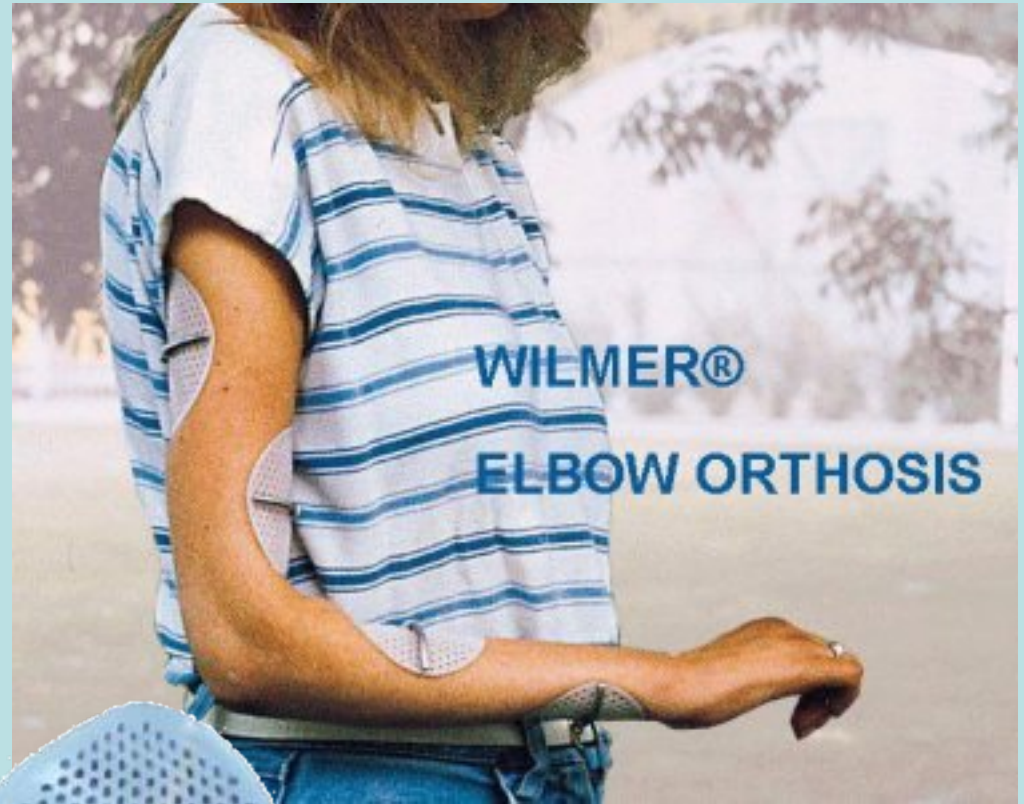
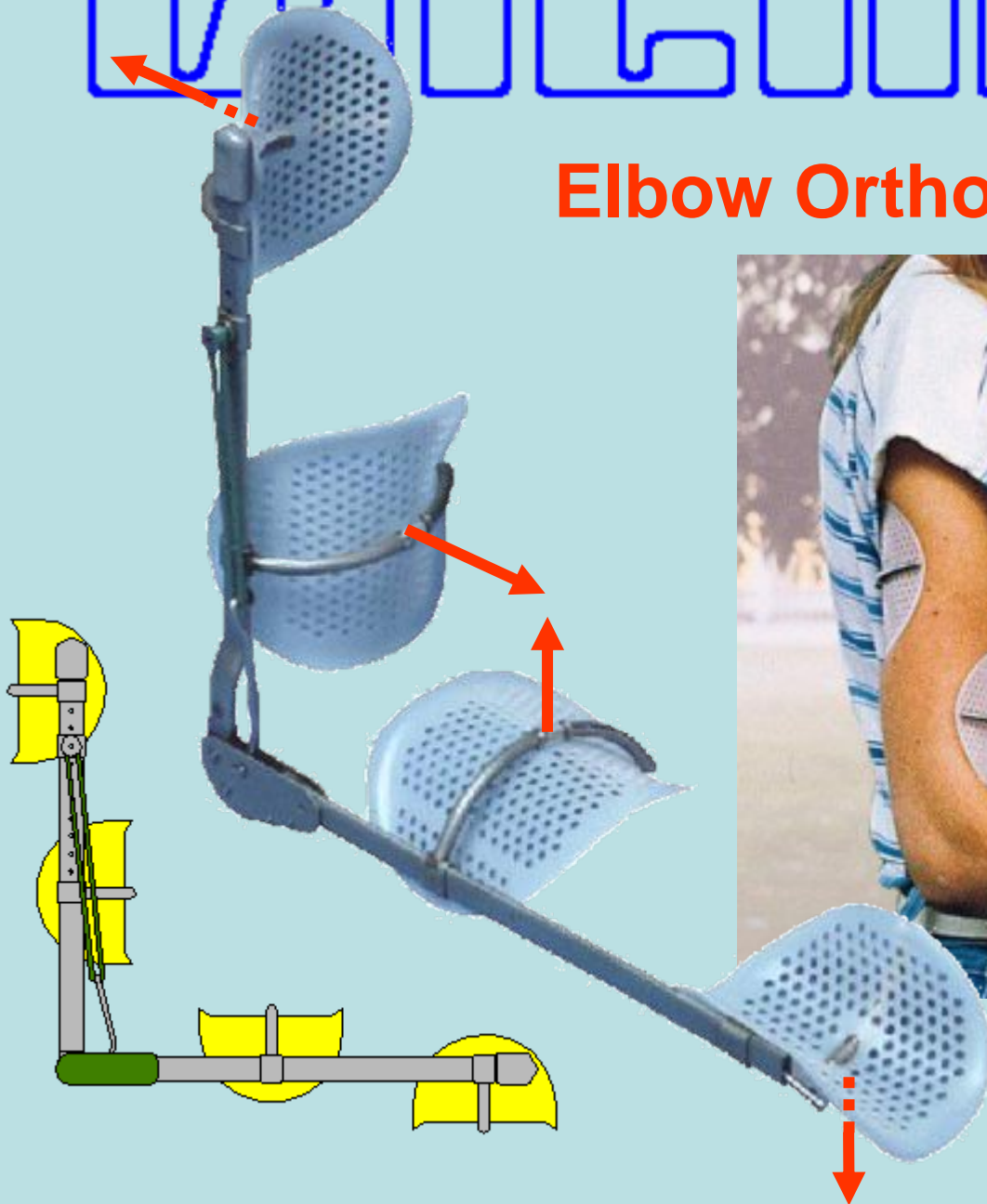
# Elbow Orthosis



J.C. Cool et al. (1976)

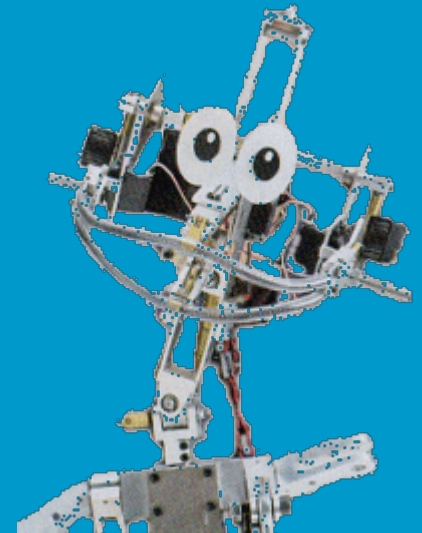
# WILMER

## Elbow Orthosis

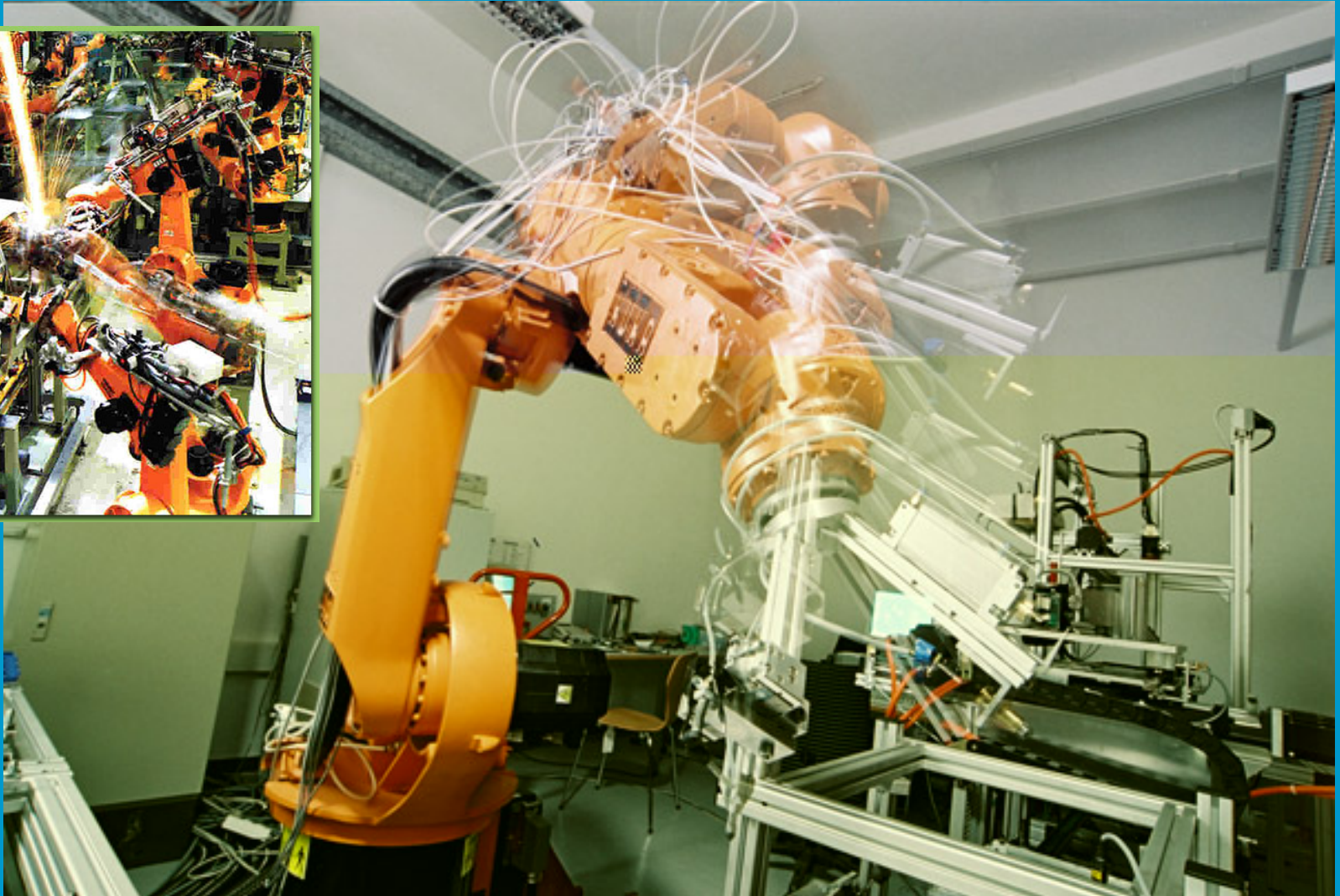
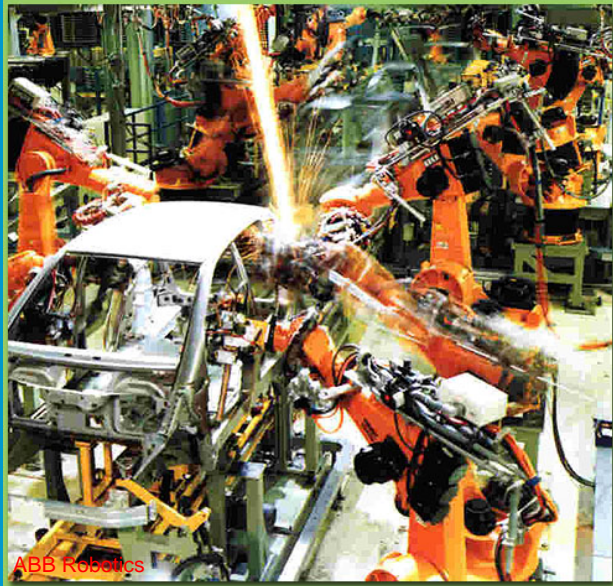


# Safe Robotic Arm

- Harmless, small actuators
  - Elimination of gravity forces
  - Adjustable springs: artificial muscles
- Harmless, soft control
  - No trajectory control
  - Equilibrium point hypothesis control
- Construction

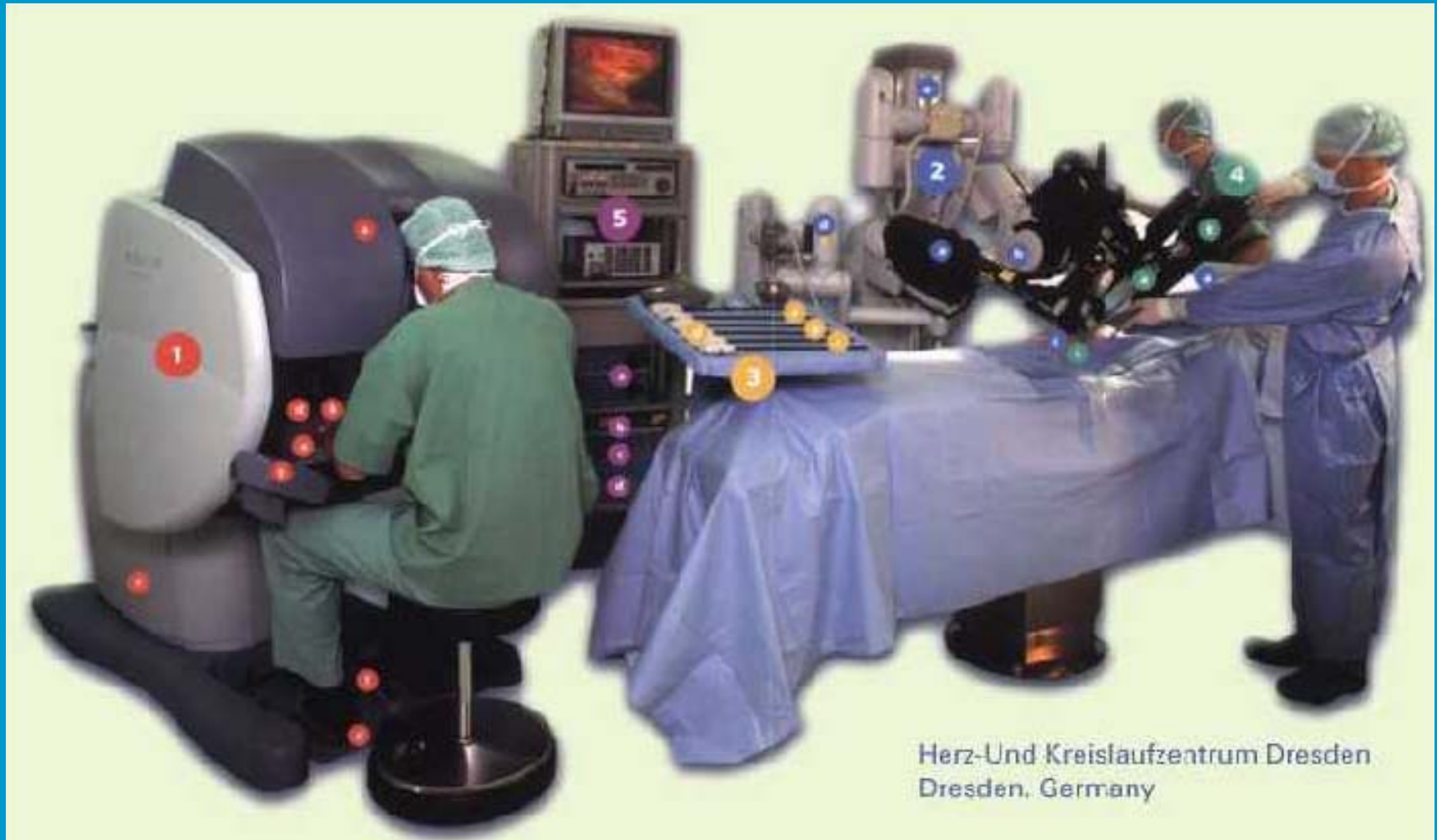


# Current robots are unsafe



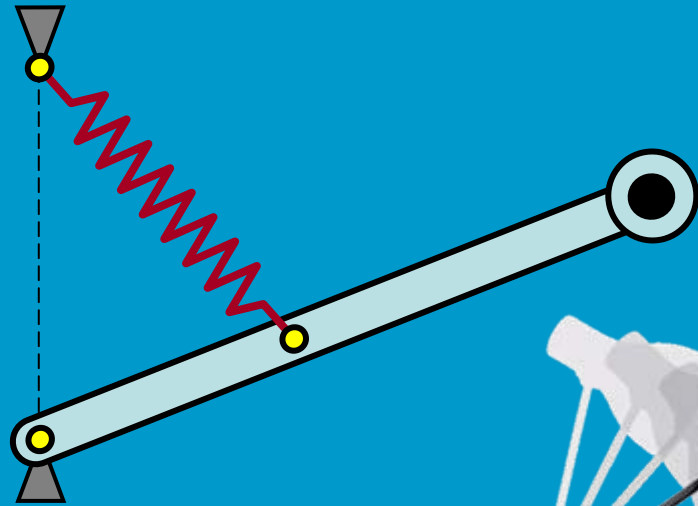
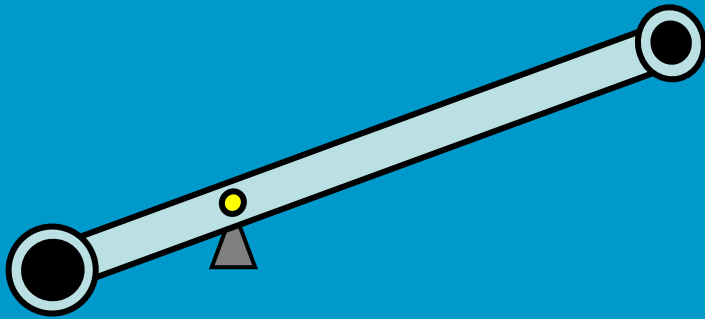


...which can be undesirable



# Static Balancing

Any conservative force can be canceled out!



Meager Bridge (Amsterdam)

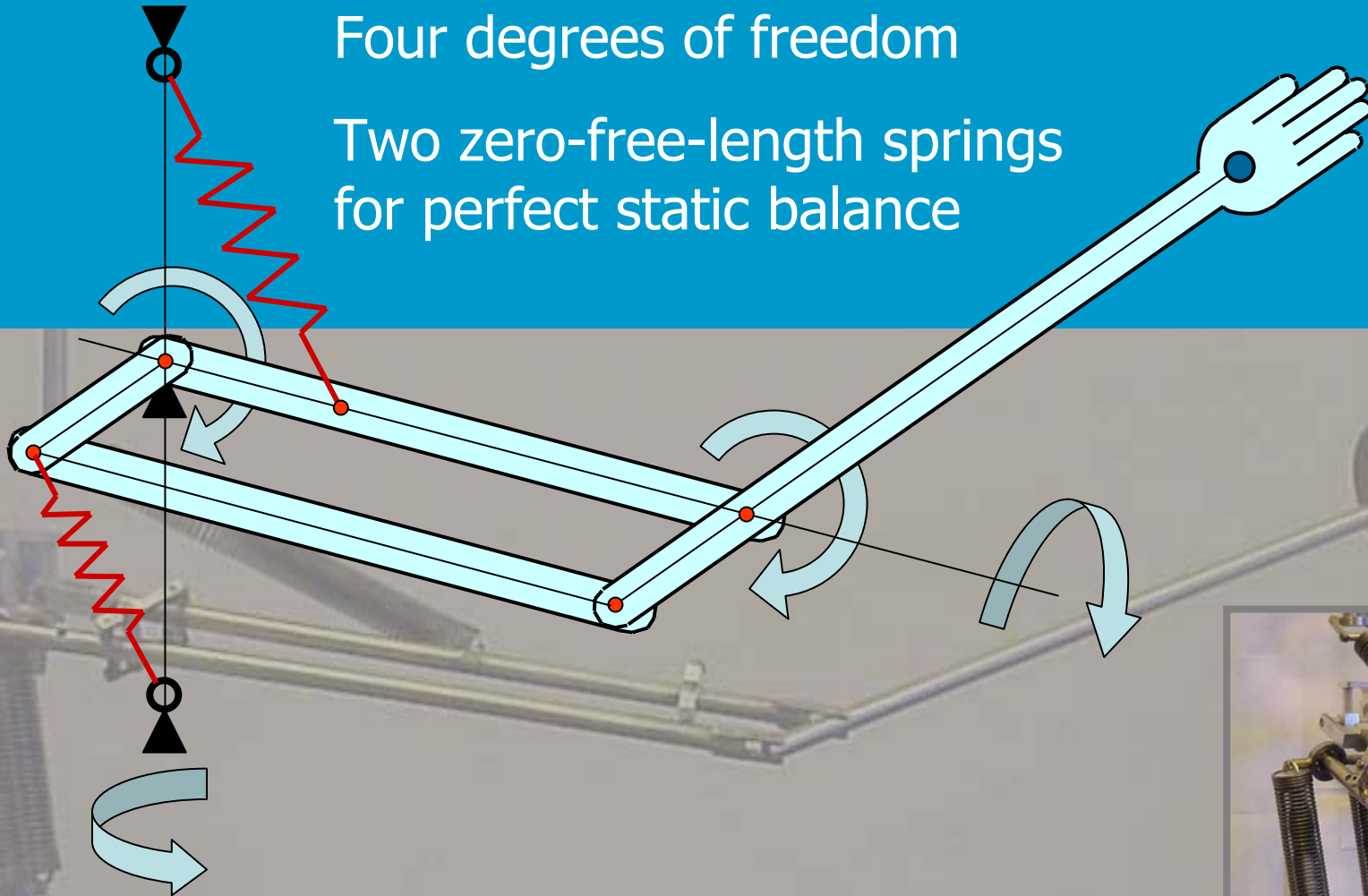


Anglepoise™

# Anthropomobile balanced arm

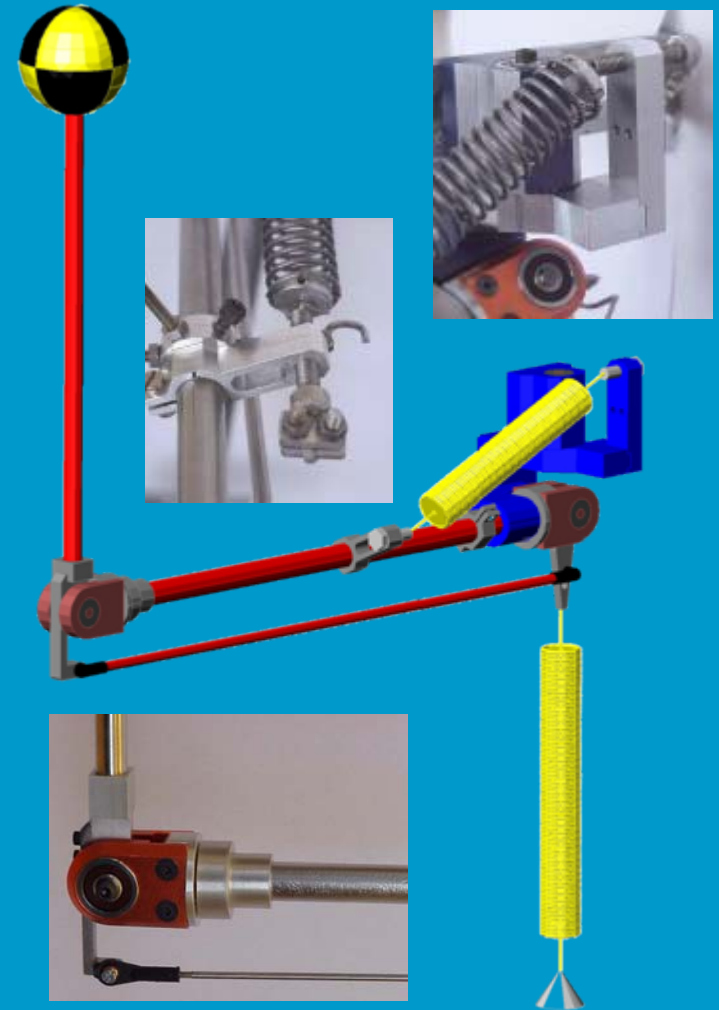
Four degrees of freedom

Two zero-free-length springs  
for perfect static balance



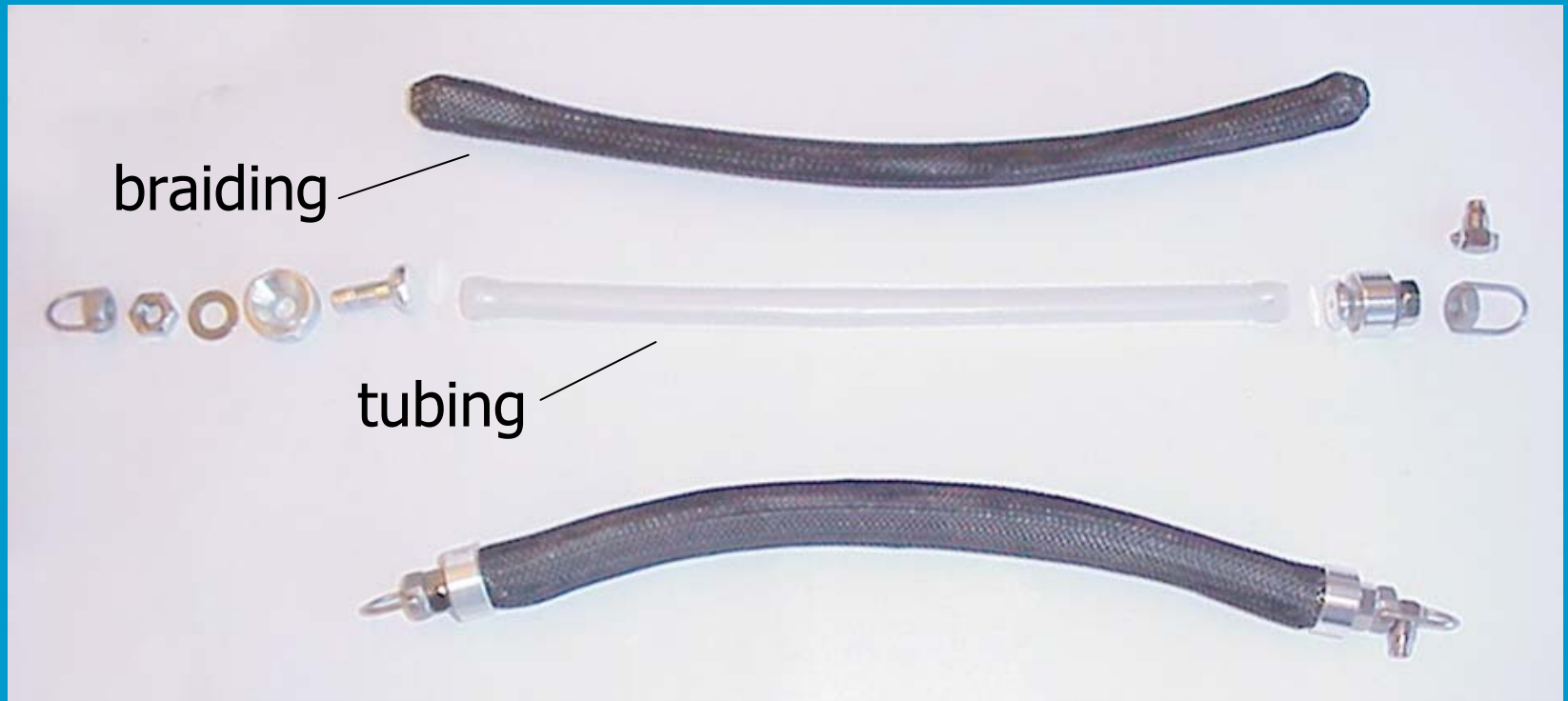
Herder and Tuijthof (1998)

# Anthropomobile balanced arm



# Artificial Muscles

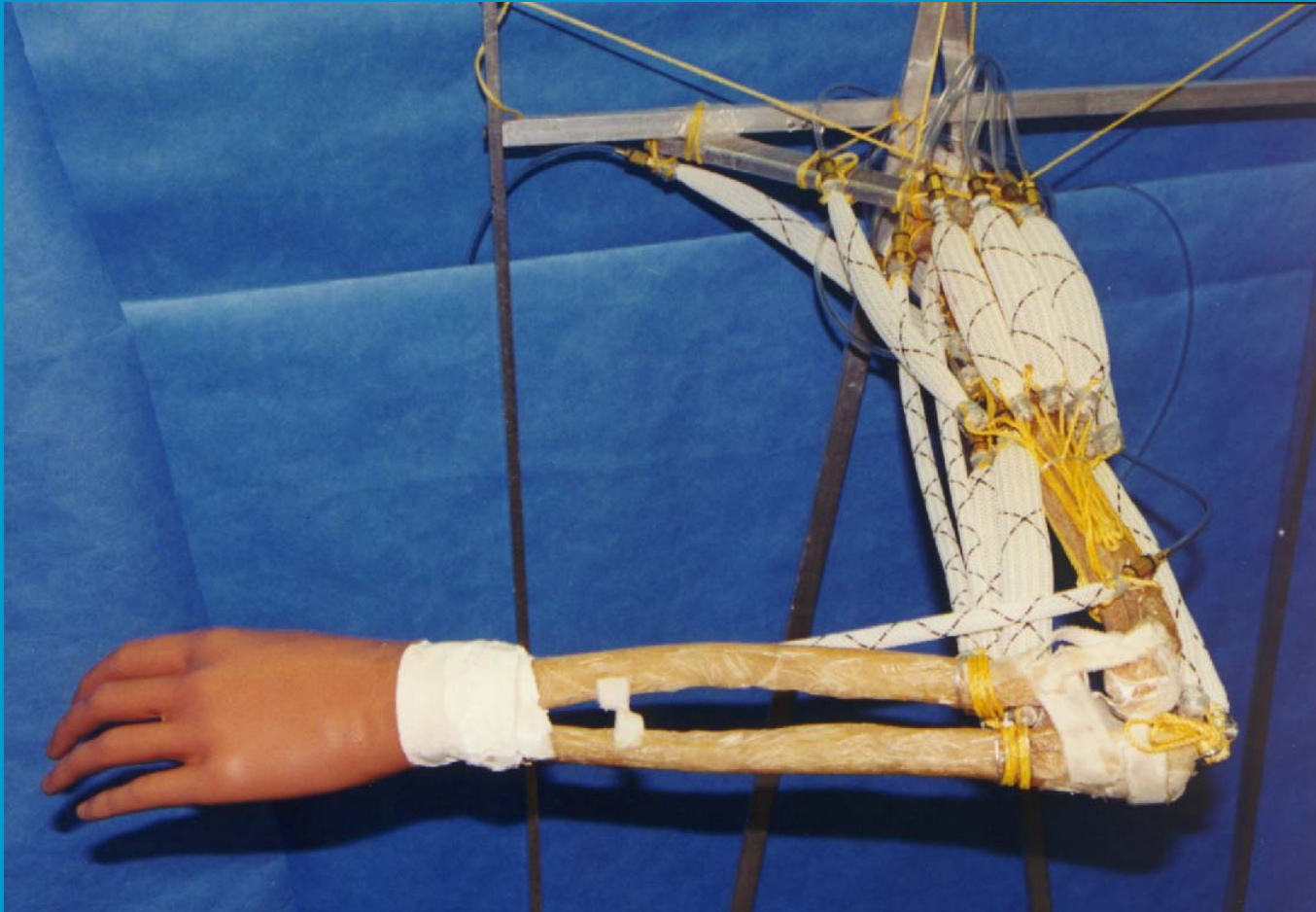
## McKibben actuator



JE Surentu (1999)

# Artificial Muscles

## McKibben actuator

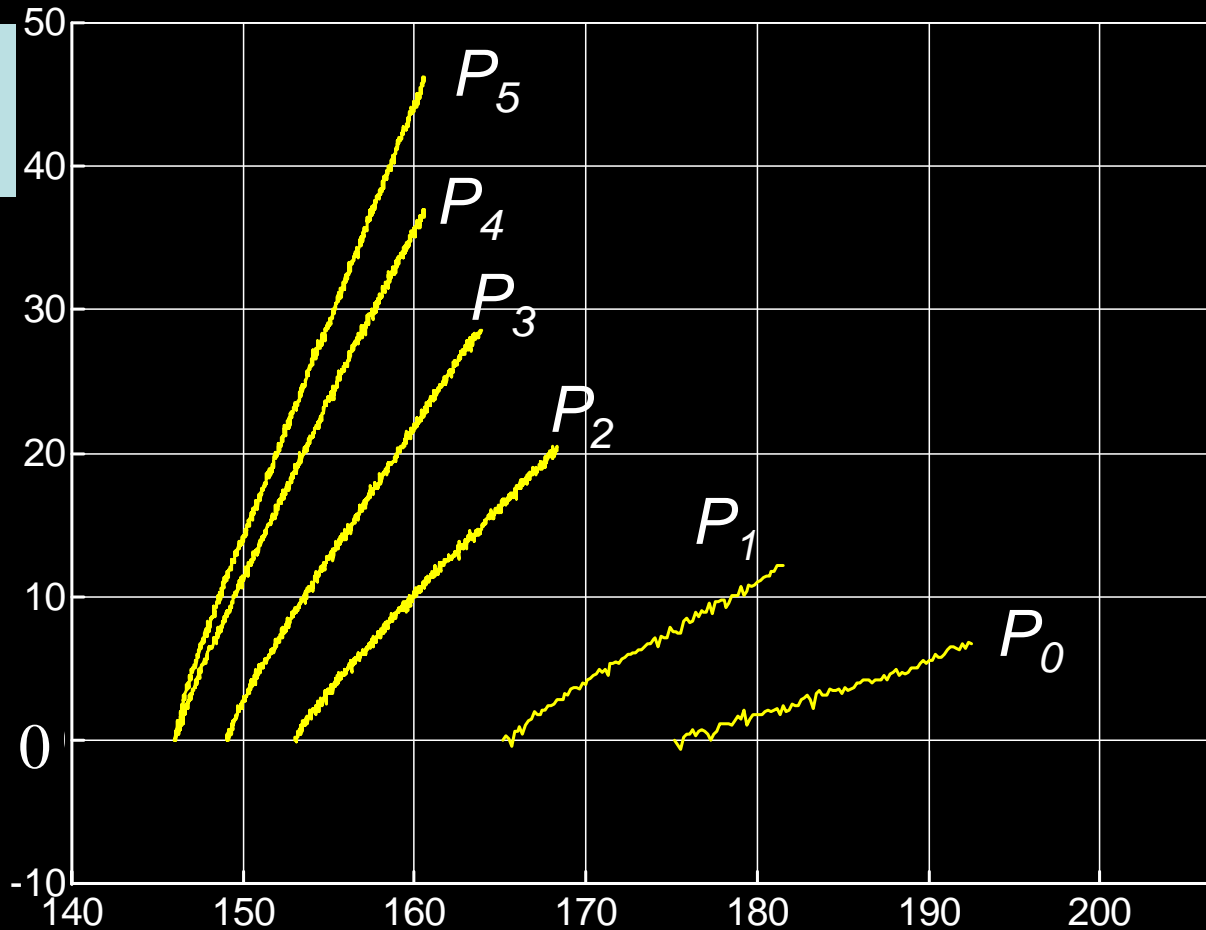


B. Hannaford, J.M. Winters, C.P. Chou (1994)

# Artificial Muscles

Force-length characteristic of a silicon McKibben muscle

Force  
[N]



Length [mm]

JE Surentu (1999)

# Extension of the model

$$F \cdot dL = -P \cdot dV + dU_{tub}$$

$$F = F_1 + F_2$$

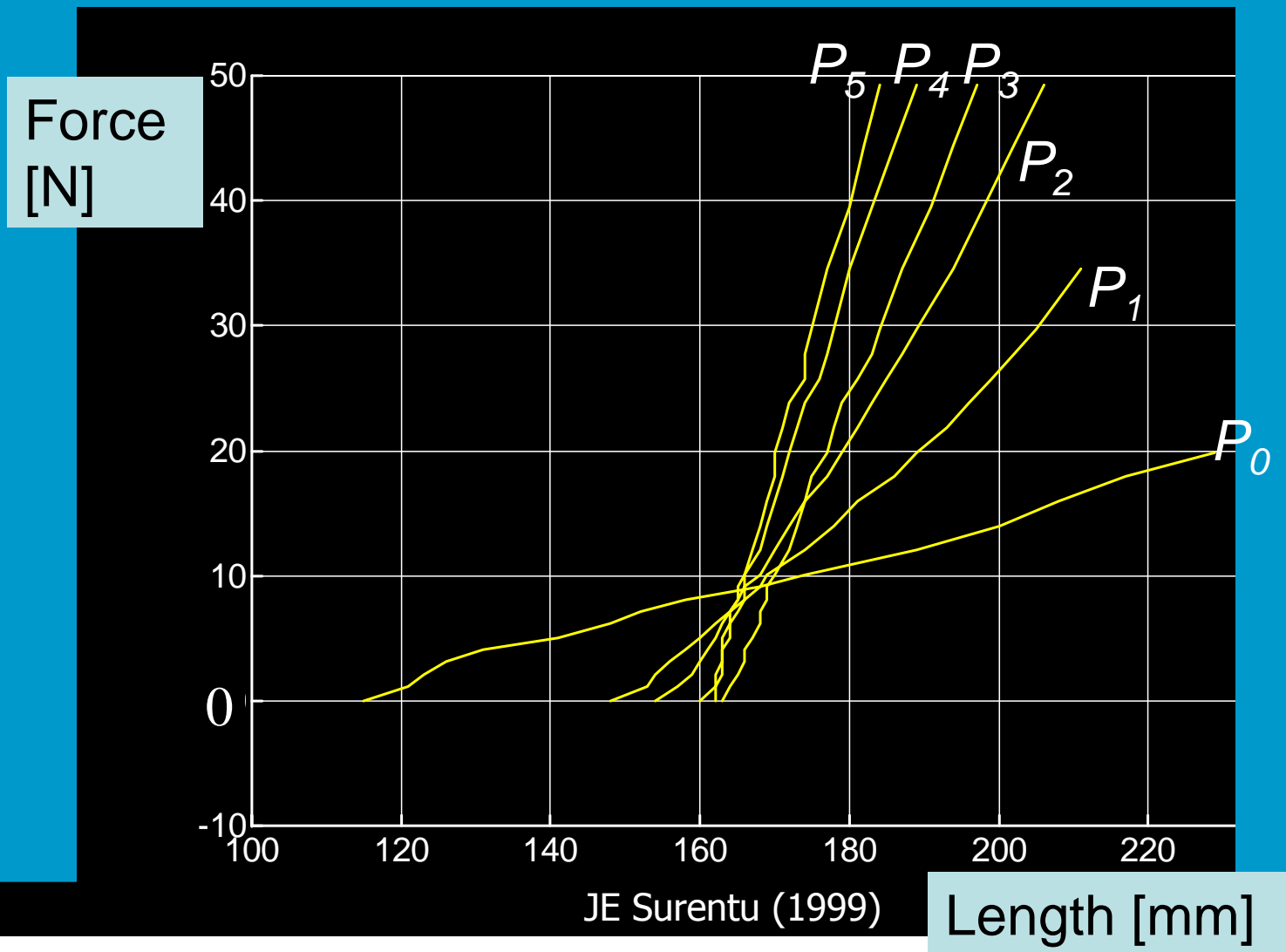
$$F_1 = P \cdot \frac{3\pi}{8} \cdot \frac{D_0^2}{L_0^2} \cdot (L^2 - L_0^2)$$

$$F_2 = \frac{dU_{tub}}{dL} = V_r \left( \sigma_x \frac{d\varepsilon_x}{dL} + \sigma_y \frac{d\varepsilon_y}{dL} \right)$$



# Artificial Muscles

Measured characteristics of corrected McKibben muscle



JE Surentu (1999)

Length [mm]

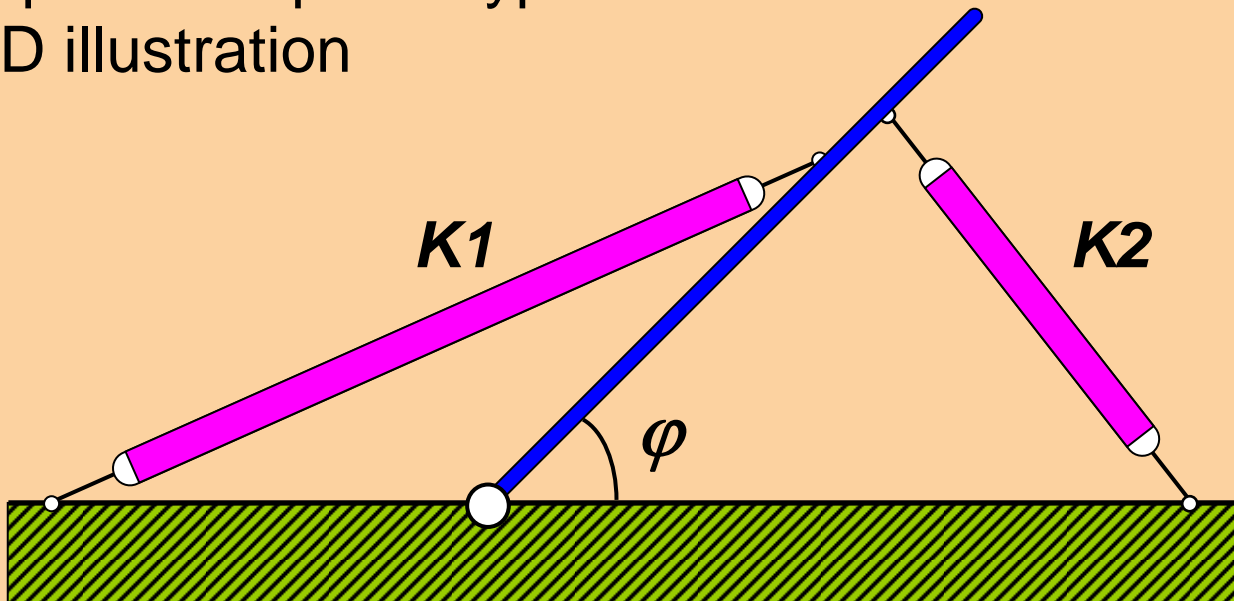
# Compliant control

- Safe
- Natural
- Biomechanics
  - equilibrium point hypothesis (Feldman, Bizzi *et al.*)
- Robotics
  - impedance control (Hogan)

# Equilibrium point hypothesis

Feldman, Bizzi *et al.*

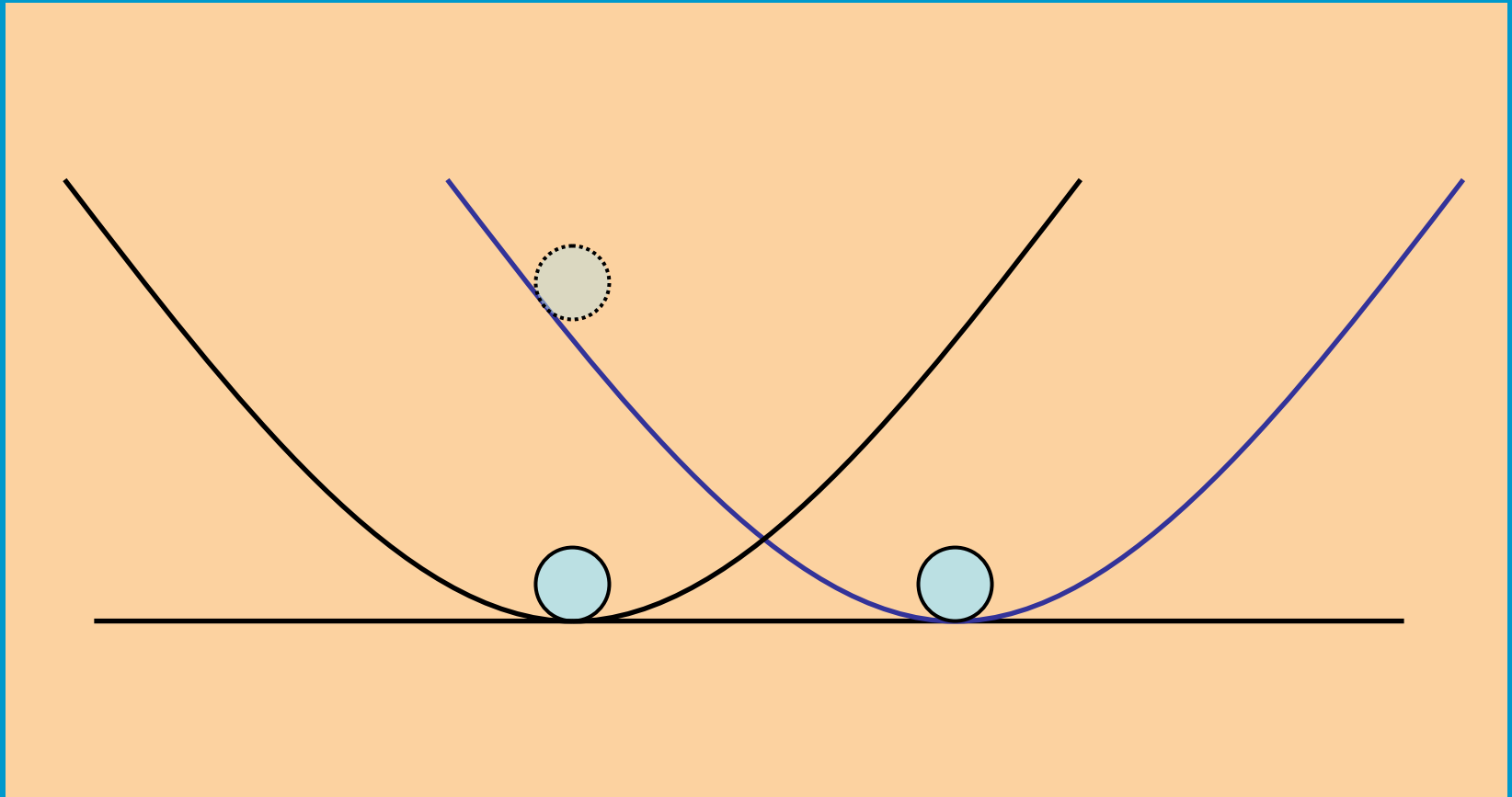
equilibrium point hypothesis  
2D illustration



JE Surrentu (1999)

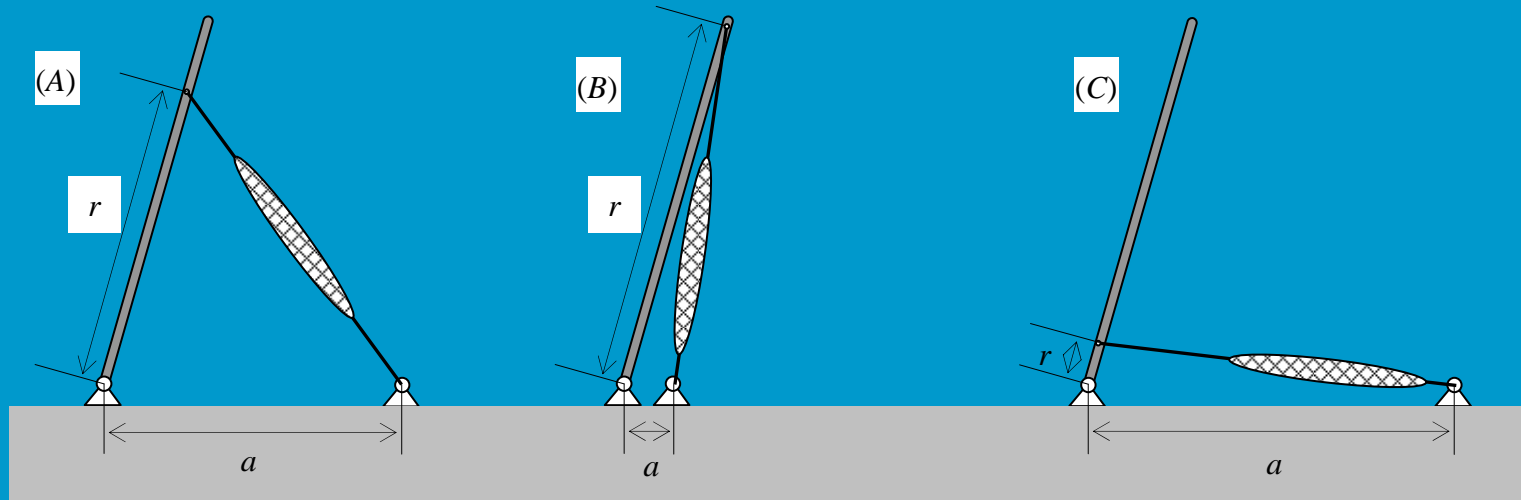
# Equilibrium point hypothesis

Feldman, Bizzi *et al.*

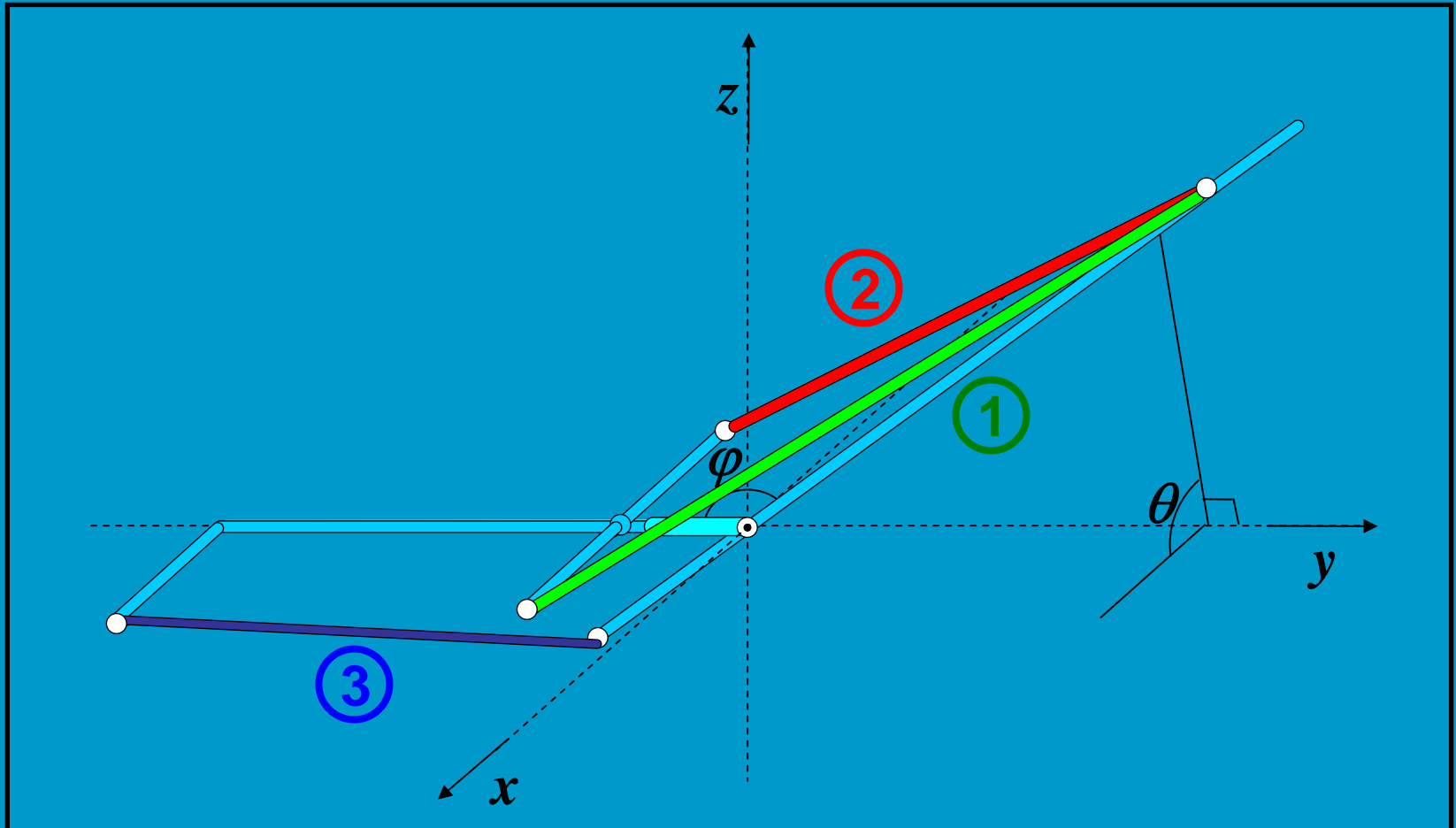


# Range of motion

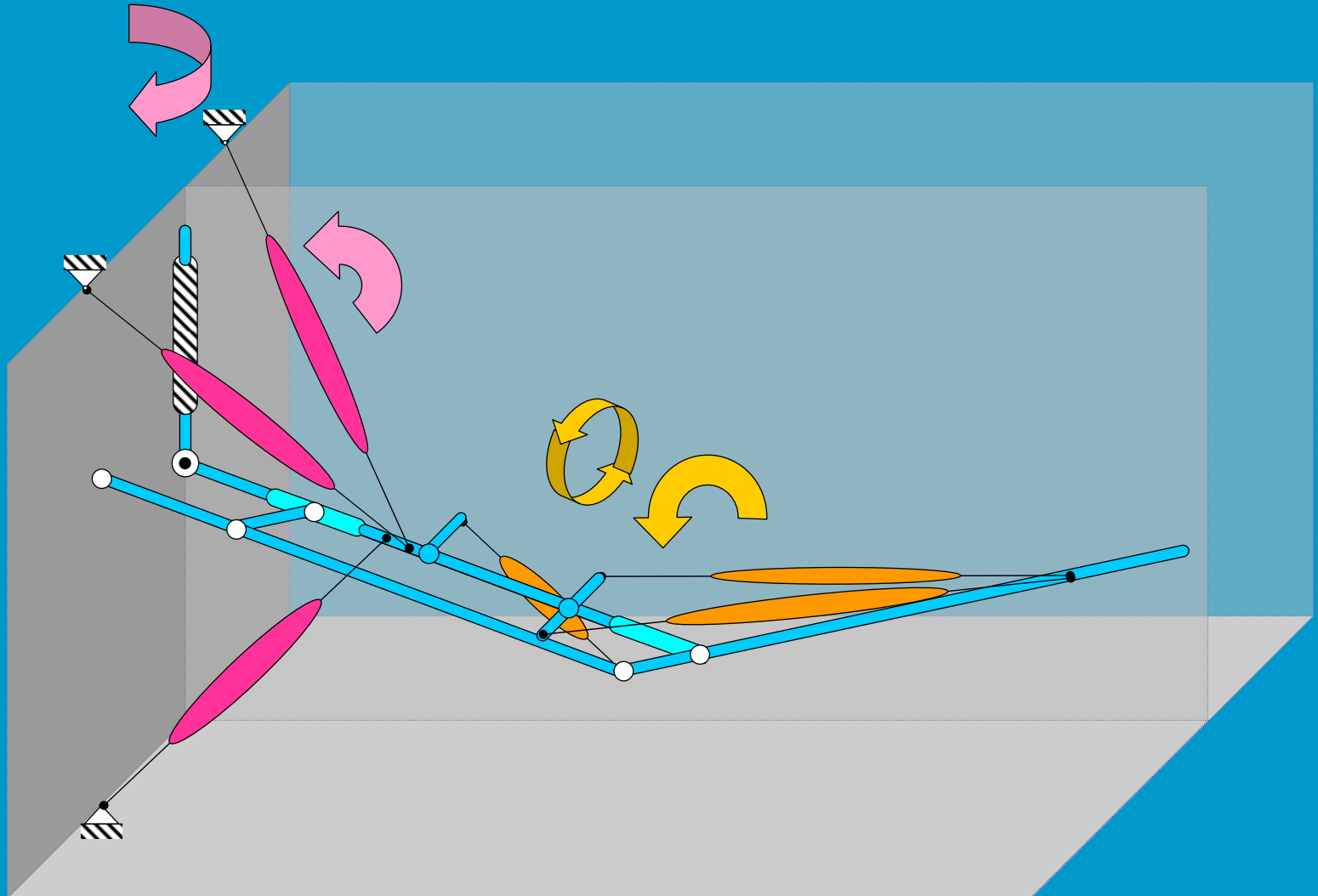
Muscle attachment points



# Muscle-lever System

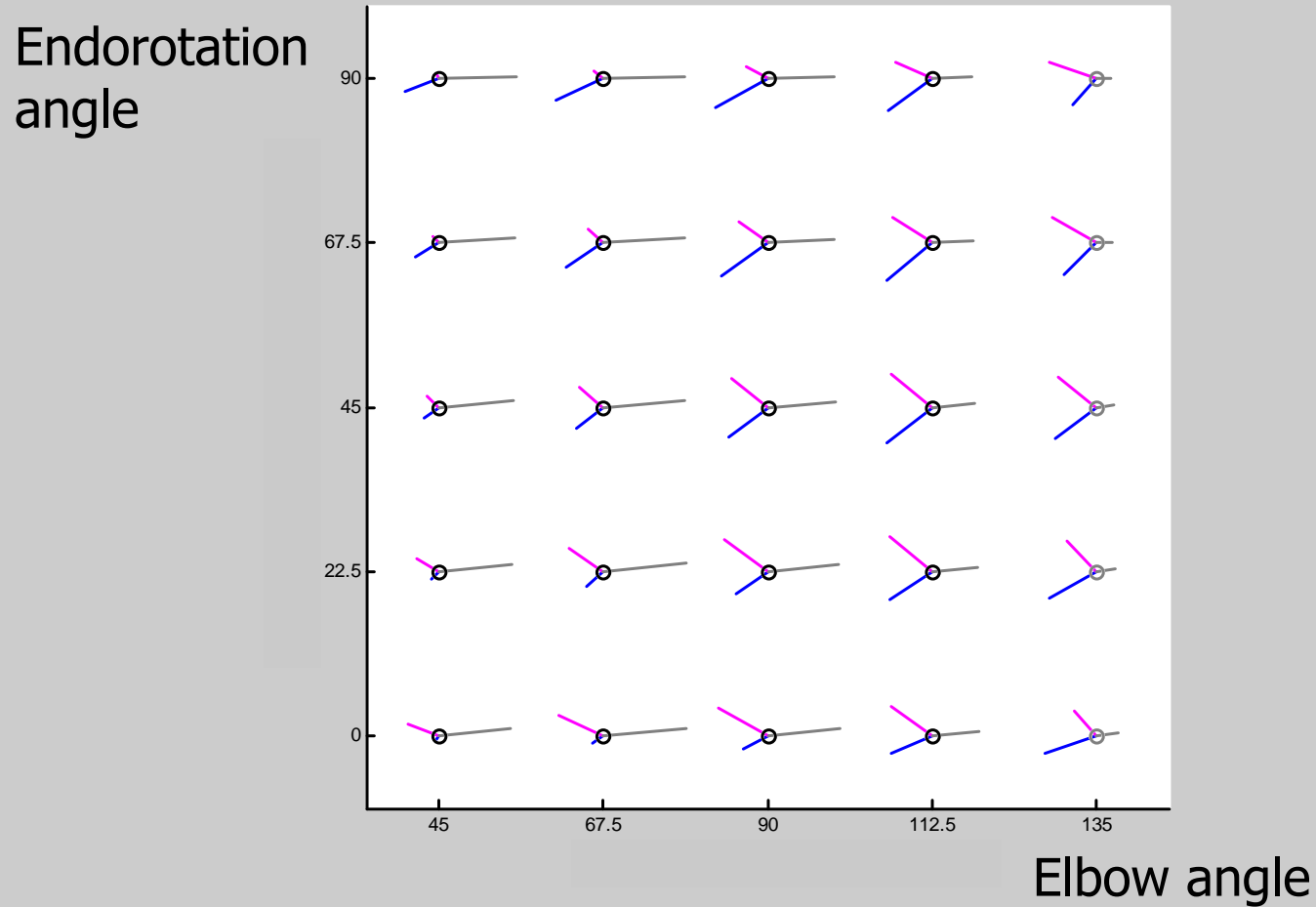


# Actuator locations



# Natural behavior

# Muscle moments elbow

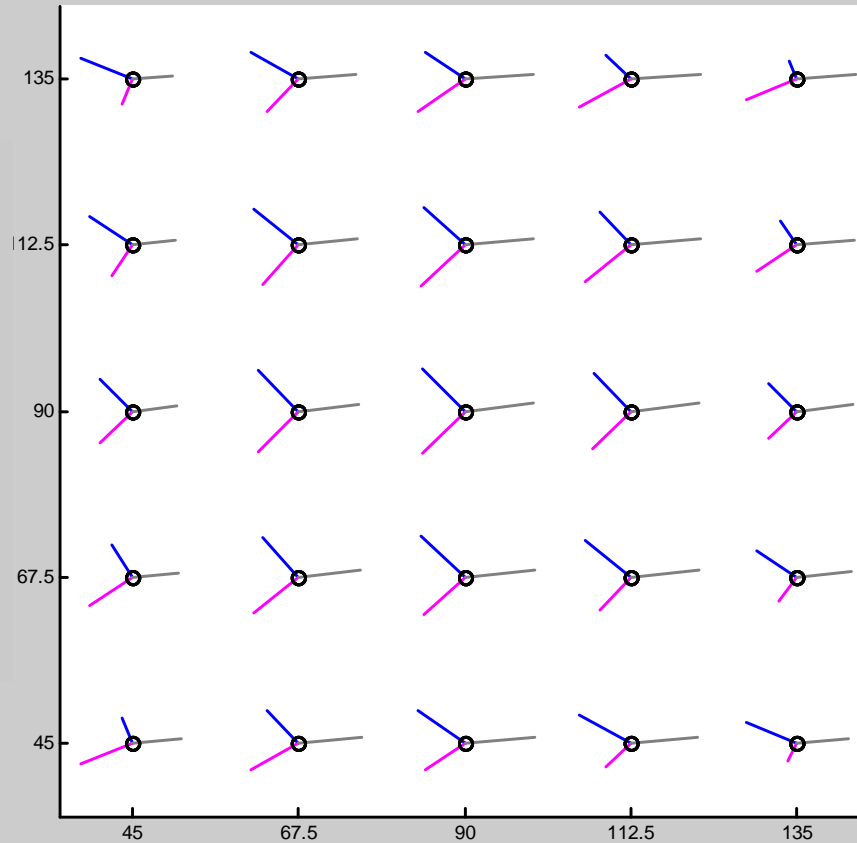




# Natural behavior

## Muscle moments shoulder

Shoulder  
angle left-  
right

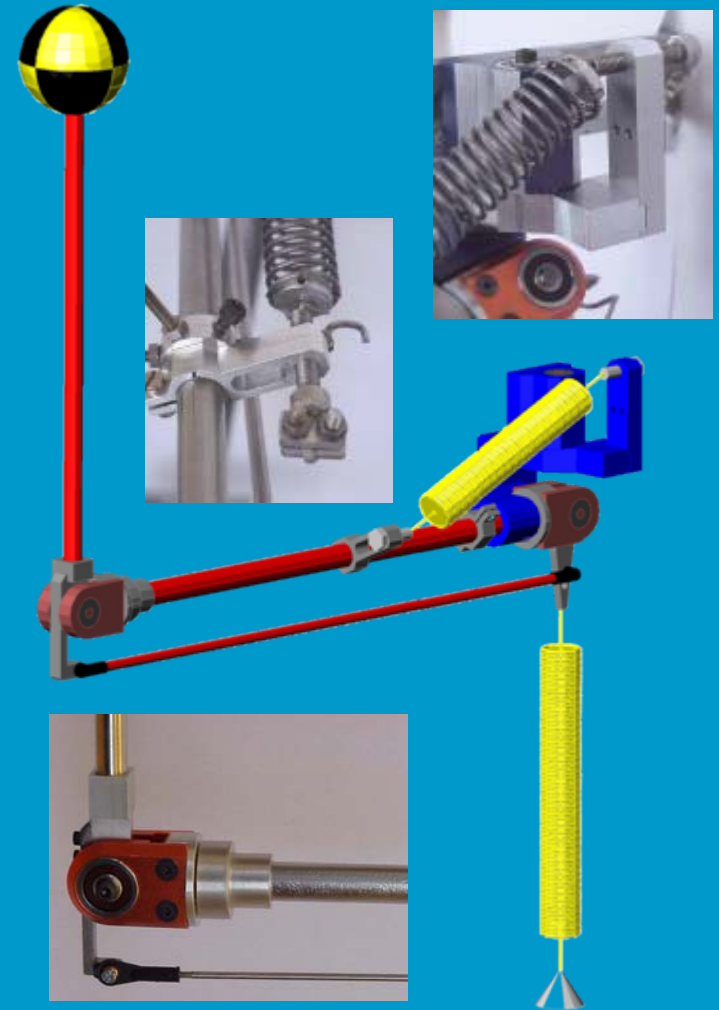


Shoulder angle up-down

# Anthropomobile balanced arm



Variable stiffness control  
McKibben actuators  
Statically balanced  
Inherently safe



# ARMON (Mark I)

Sergio Tomazio and Luis Cardoso receiving the Premio Engenheiro Jaime Philipe award



Patient performing important ADL with device



Herder, Tomazio, Cardoso, Gil and Koopman, 2002

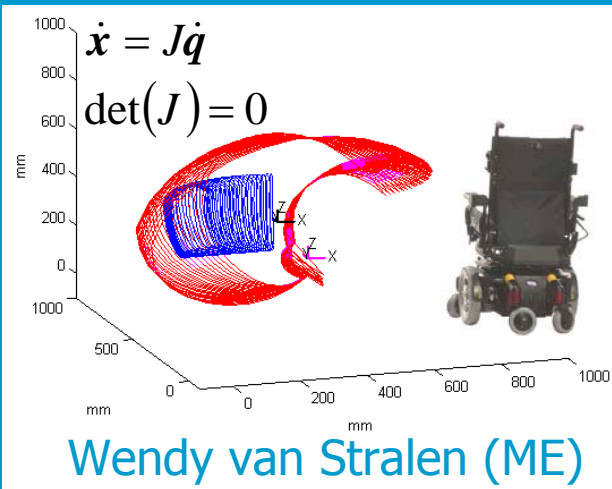
# ARMON (Mark II)

Team: 2 ME and 2 IDE students

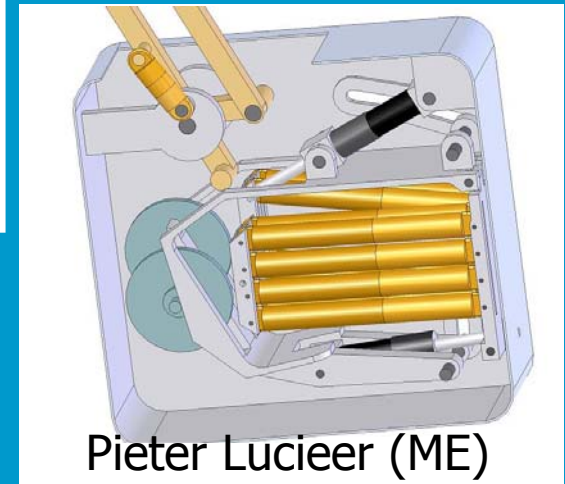


Tonko Antonides (IDE)

Sabine Gal (IDE)



Wendy van Stralen (ME)



Pieter Lucieer (ME)

Herder, Stralen, Lucieer, Gal and Antonides, 2004

# ARMON (Mark II) Patients with the device



Herder, Stralen, Lucieer, Gal and Antonides, 2004

# ARMON (Mark III)

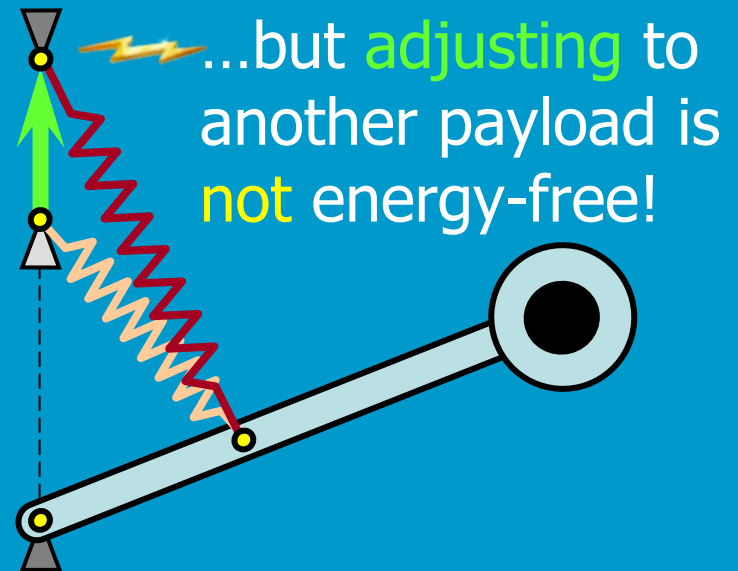
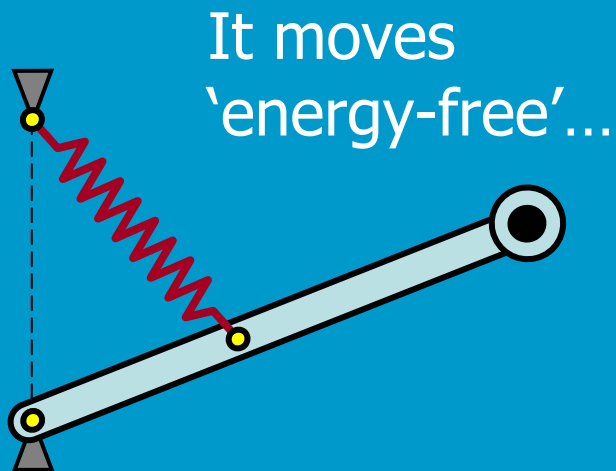
## Patients with the product



Herder, Vrijlandt, Antonides, Cloosterman, Mastenbroek, 2006

# Research

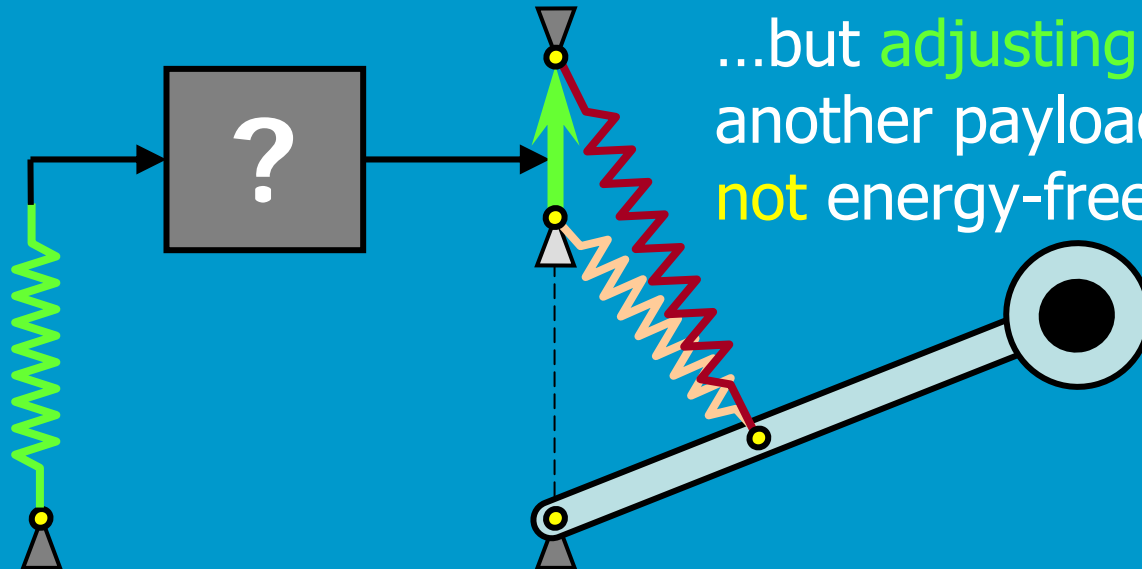
## Balancing of balancers



# Research

## Balancing of balancers

...unless the energy comes from another spring!

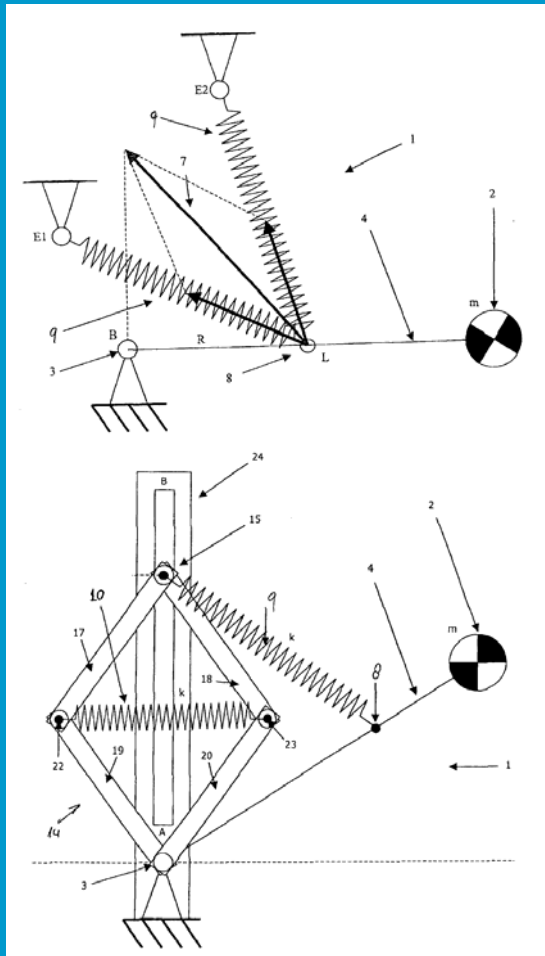


...but **adjusting** to another payload is **not** energy-free...



# Research

## Balancing of balancers



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International Bureau



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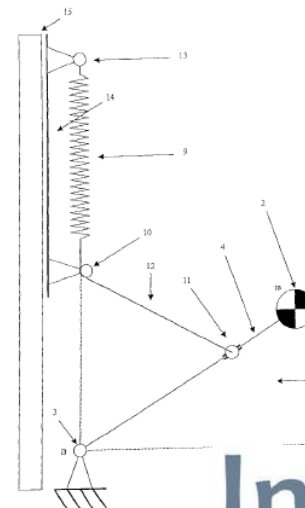
(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM),

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **BALANCING DEVICE**



WO 2007/035096 A3



(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a balancing device (1) for a mass (2), comprising an arm (4) that is adjustable about a pivoting point (3) and with (9) which the mass is coupled, and an adjustable spring system that is coupled with the arm, which spring system comprises at least one spring, wherein the spring system comprises an adjusting mechanism (14) that is connected with the at least one spring, which adjusting mechanism is designed for adjusting the at least one spring so as to aid balancing the mass that is coupled with the arm, wherein a predetermined energy content of the spring system remains substantially the same.

**InteSpring**

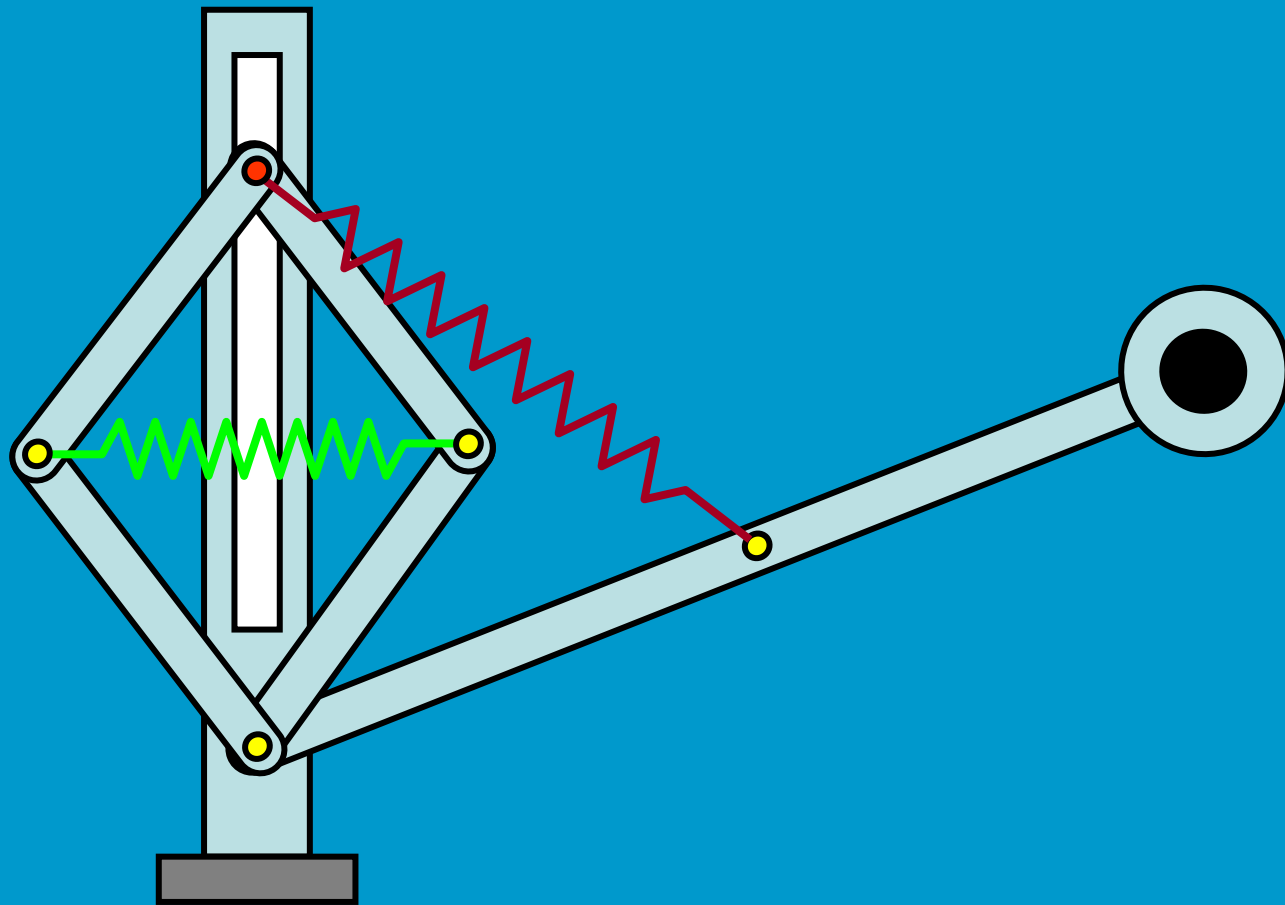
R Barents, WD van Dorsser, BM Wisse, JL Herder (2006)



**TU Delft**

# Energy-free adjustment

## Balancing of balancers



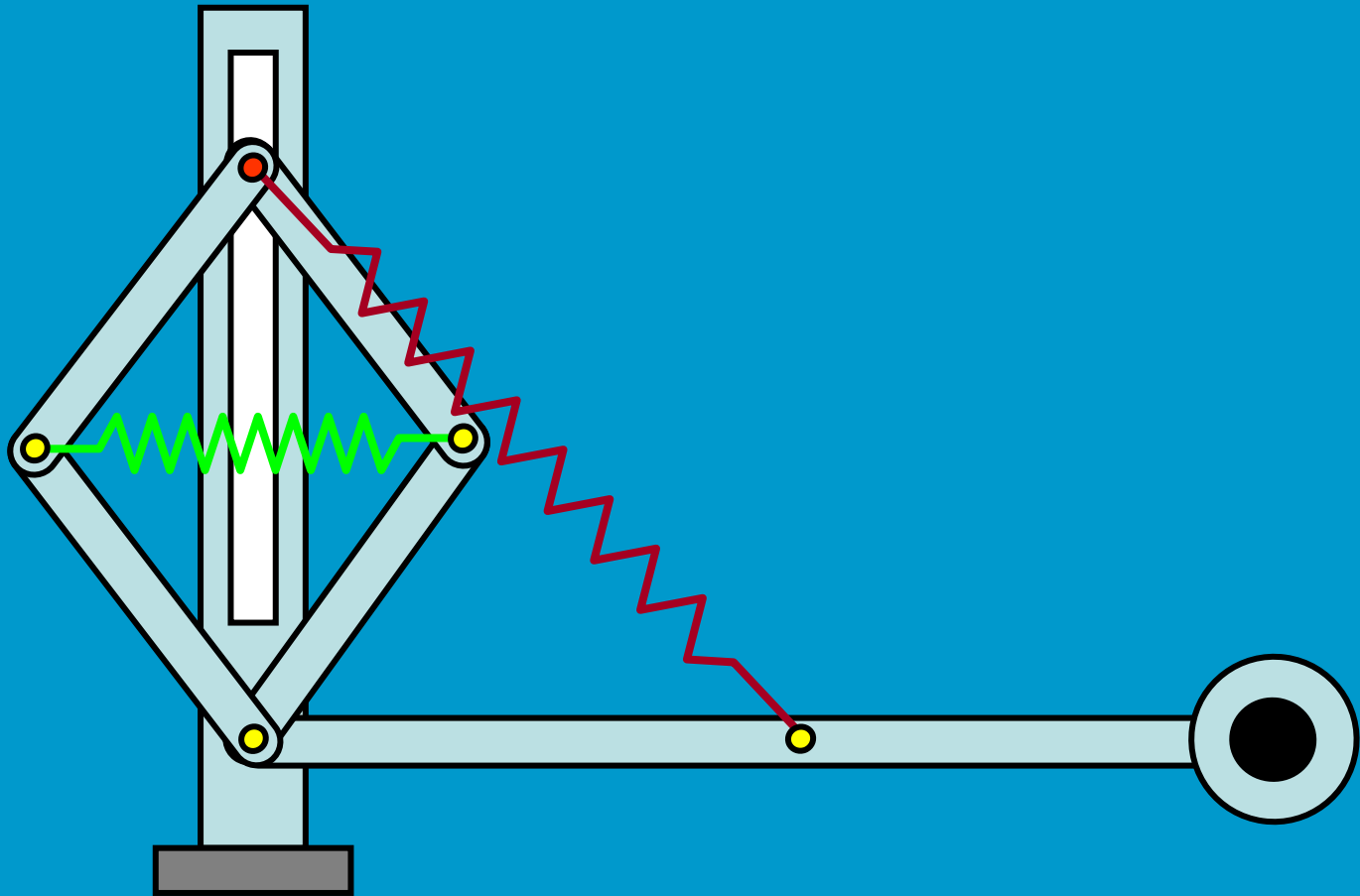
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# Energy-free adjustment

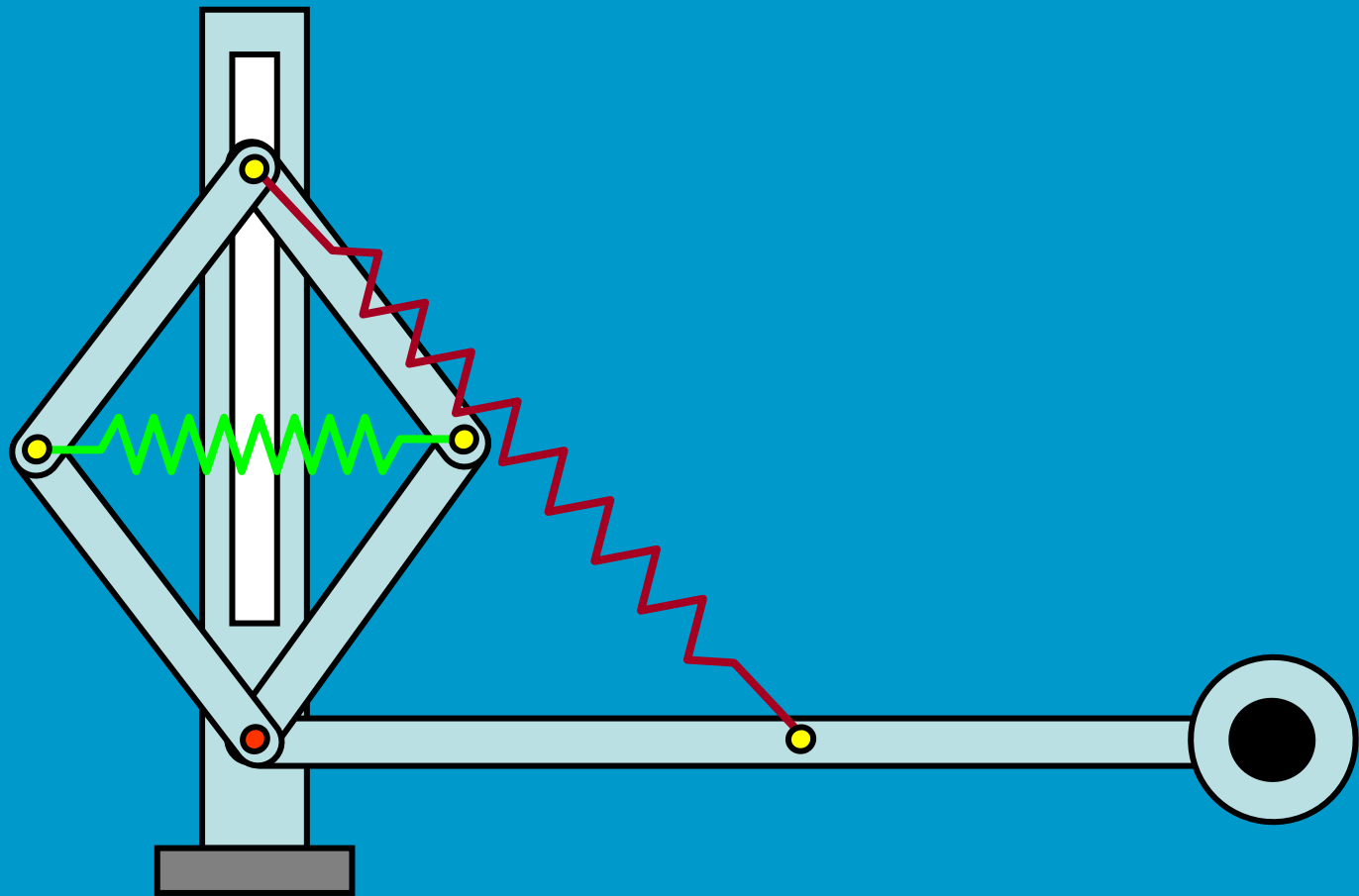
## Balancing of balancers



R Barents, WD van Dorsser, BM Wisse, JL Herder (2006)

# Energy-free adjustment

## Balancing of balancers



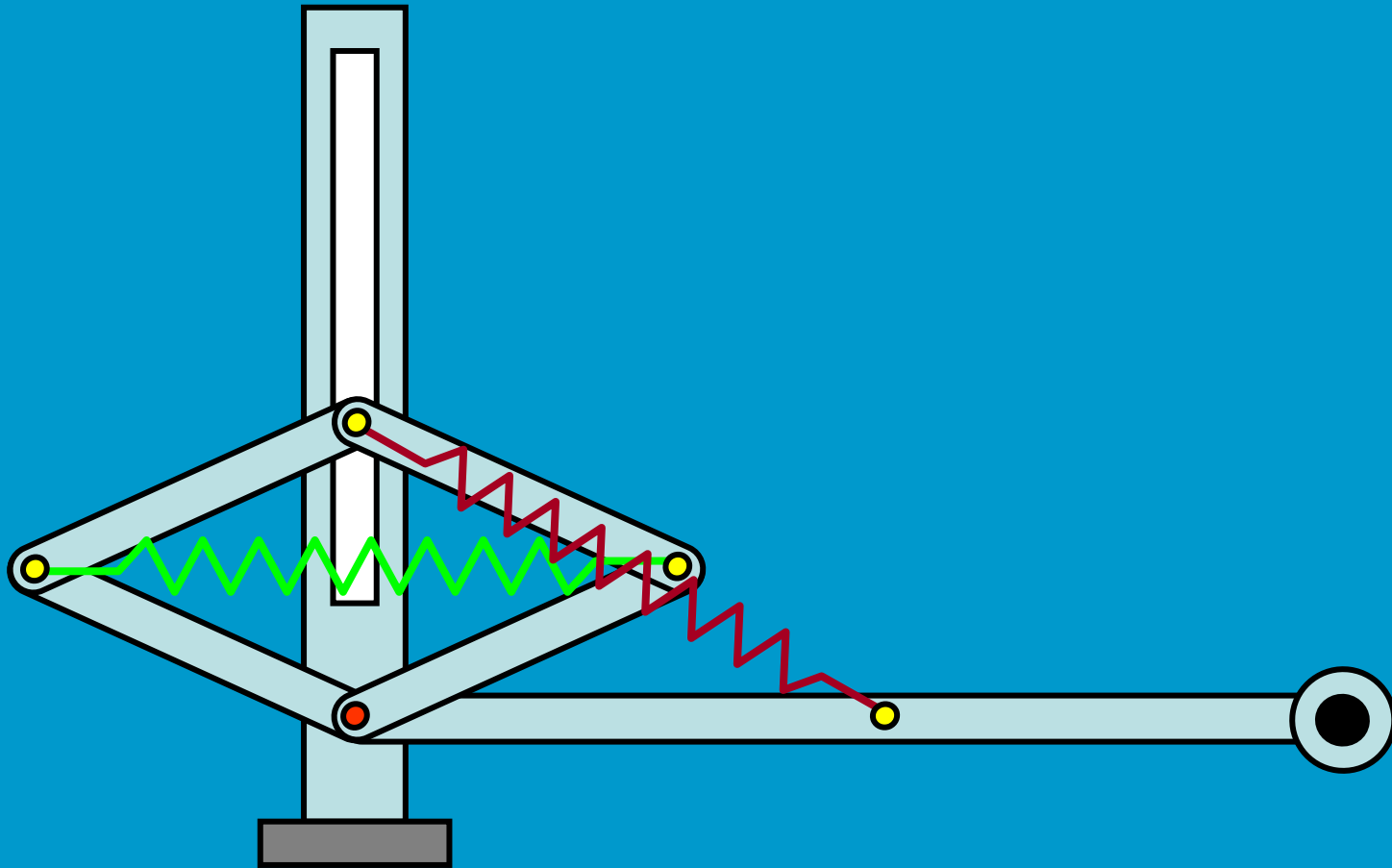
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# Energy-free adjustment

## Balancing of balancers



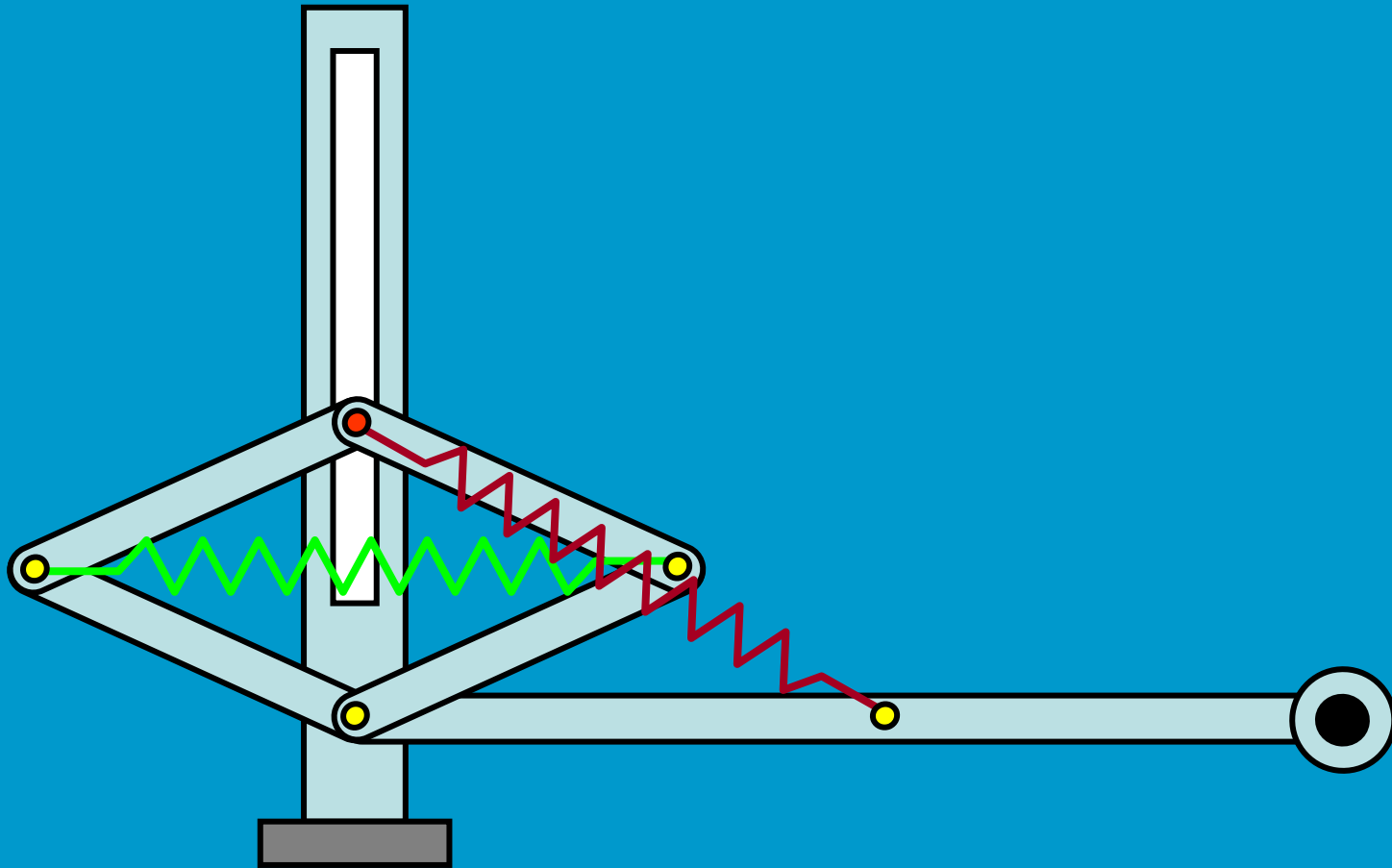
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# Energy-free adjustment

## Balancing of balancers



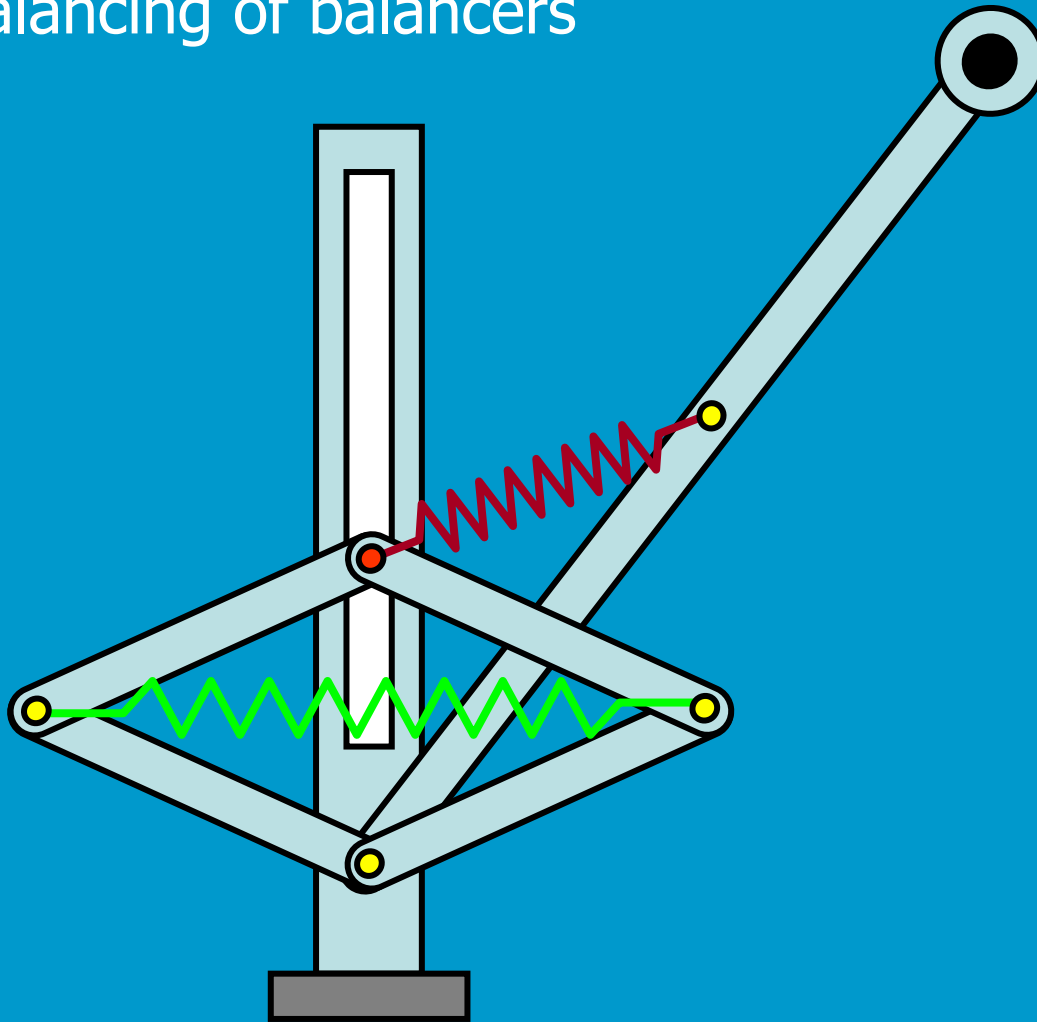
R Barents, WD van Dorsser, BM Wisse, JL Herder (2006)



**TU**Delft

# Energy-free adjustment

Balancing of balancers



R Barents, WD van Dorsser, BM Wisse, JL Herder (2006)

# Energy-free adjustment

## Balancing of balancers



ASME IDETC  
Best Paper Award  
2008

**InteSpring**

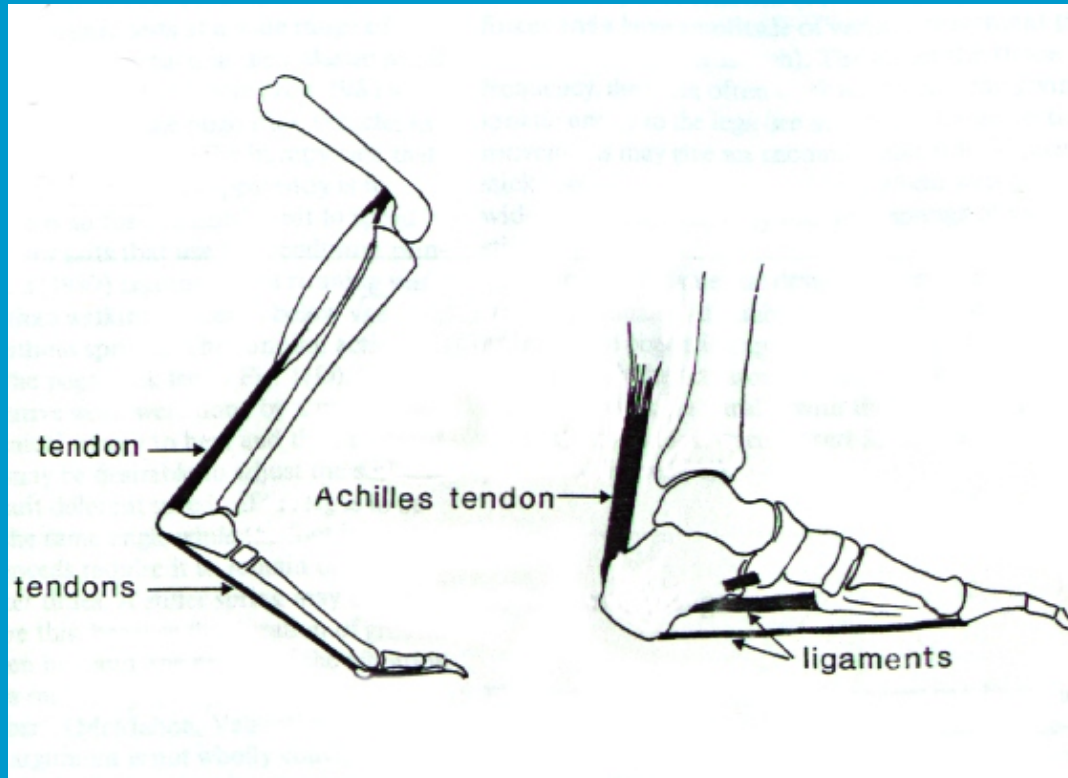
R Barents, WD van Dorsser, BM Wisse, JL Herder (2006)



# Muscles: Energy Storage

- Oscillations: human legs, Walibi (kangaroos), and hoofed animals
- Proof by measuring metabolic energy uptake during walking, and by stretch measurements of tendons
- Main advantage: reduces the amount of work that needs to be done by the muscles (or actuators)

# Tendons: Energy Storage



- Human foot: main storage in Achilles tendon and foot arch

# Tendons: Energy Storage

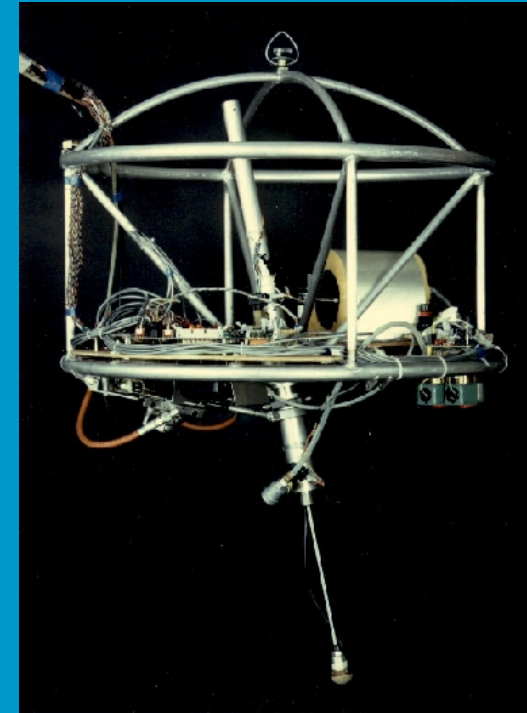
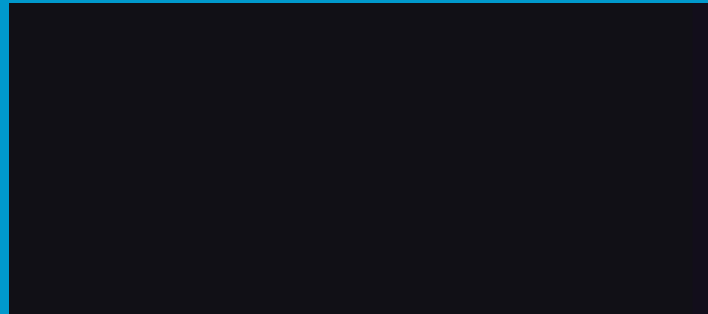
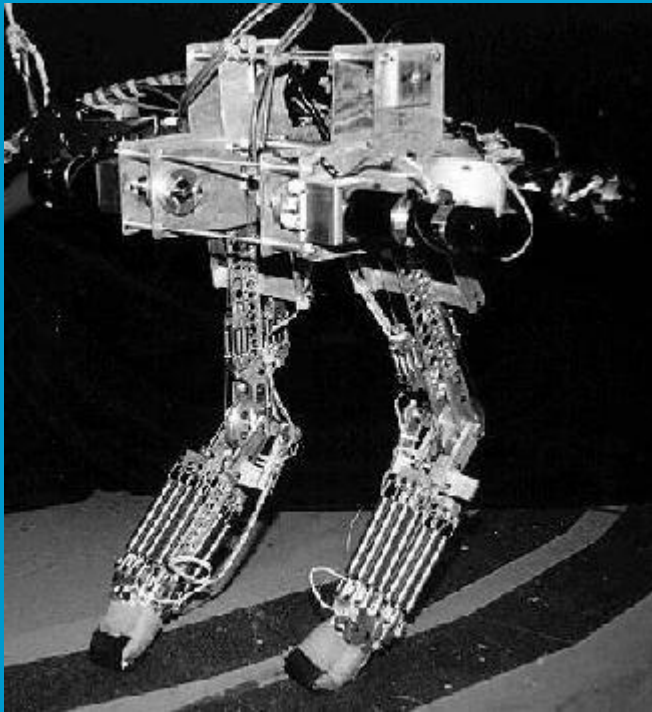
High efficiency:

- Energy dissipation collagen around 7% (Ker et al., 1986)
- Energy dissipation resilin around 3% (Weis-Fogh, 1960, in Vogel, 1998)
- Not a big difference in efficiency (93% vs 97%) but heat generation about a factor of 2 (!)

# Muscles: Energy Storage

- Oscillations: human legs, Walibi (kangaroos), and hoofed animals
- Proof by measuring metabolic energy uptake during walking, and by stretch measurements of tendons
- Main advantage: reduces the amount of work that needs to be done by the muscles (or actuators)
- This principle has been applied in running robots (perhaps less complicated than walking robots!)

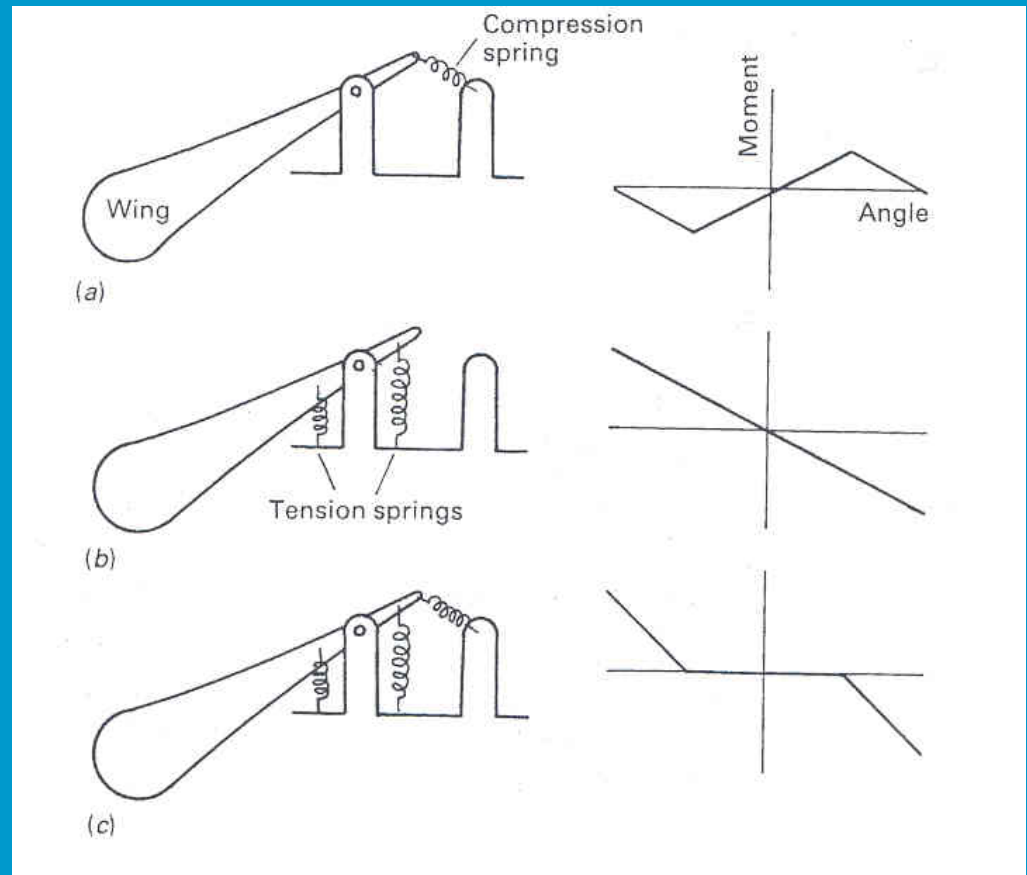
# Muscles: Energy Storage



Marc Raibert

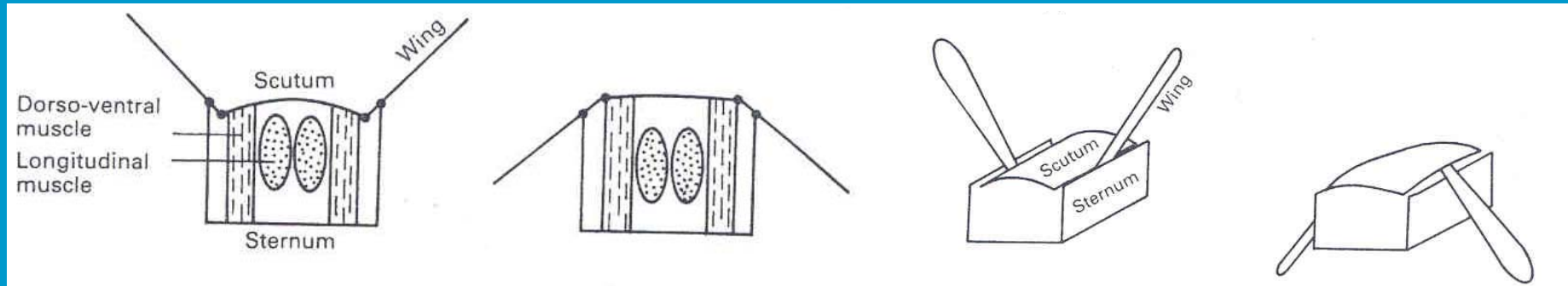
# Muscles: Energy Storage

- Sarcophaga (flesh flies)
- Bistable spring mechanism



Alexander (1988)

# Muscles: Energy Storage



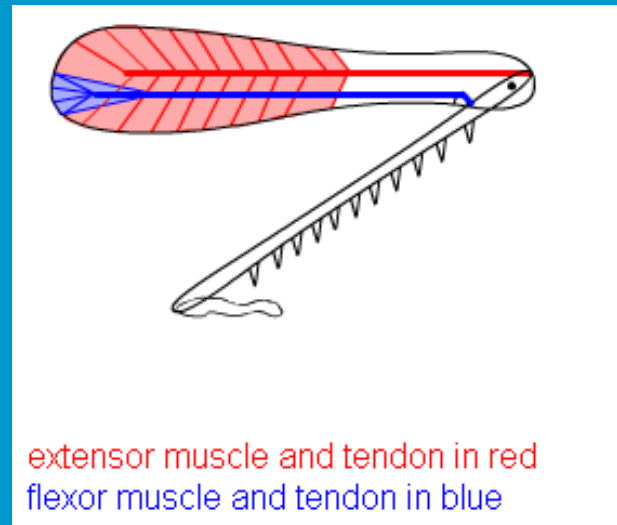
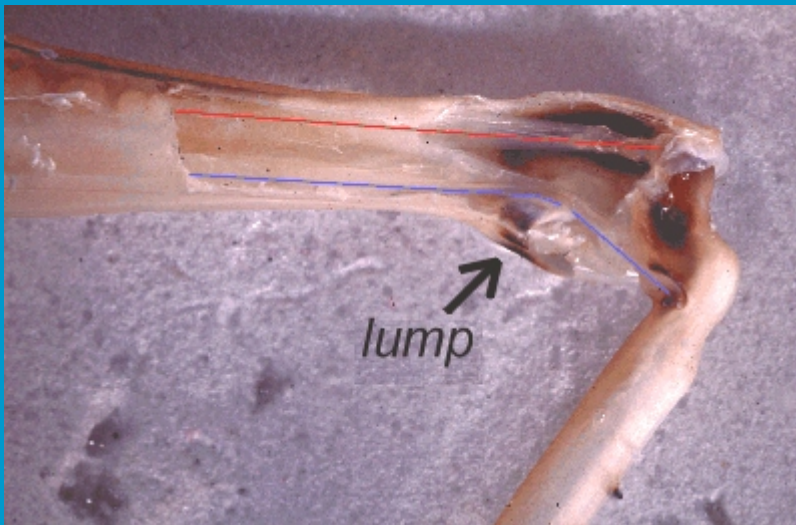
- Longitudinal muscles: tend to shorten the thorax and make Scutum buckle upward, so drive wings down
- Dorso-ventral muscles: restore shape Scutum, raise wings.
- Note that also Scutum stores energy (buckling)
- Wings run faster than fly's brain (1 action potential for 40 wing cycles!)

Ennos (1987) in Alexander (1988)

# Storing gradually, releasing instantly

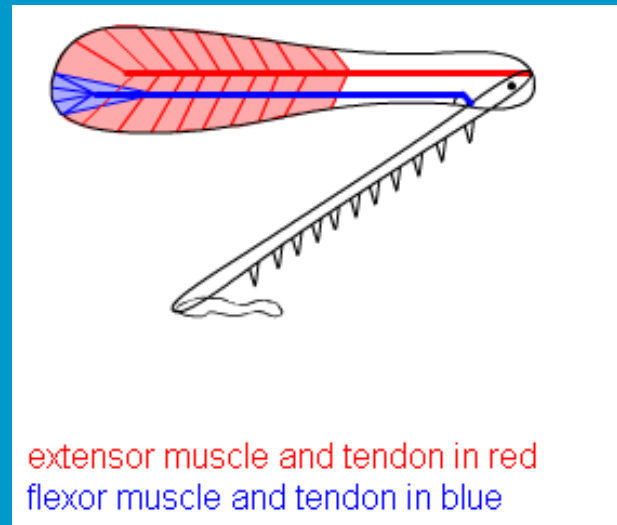
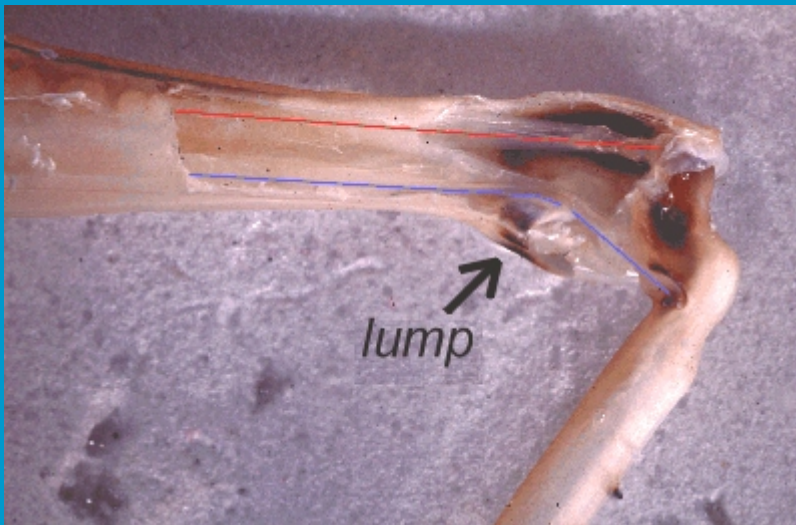
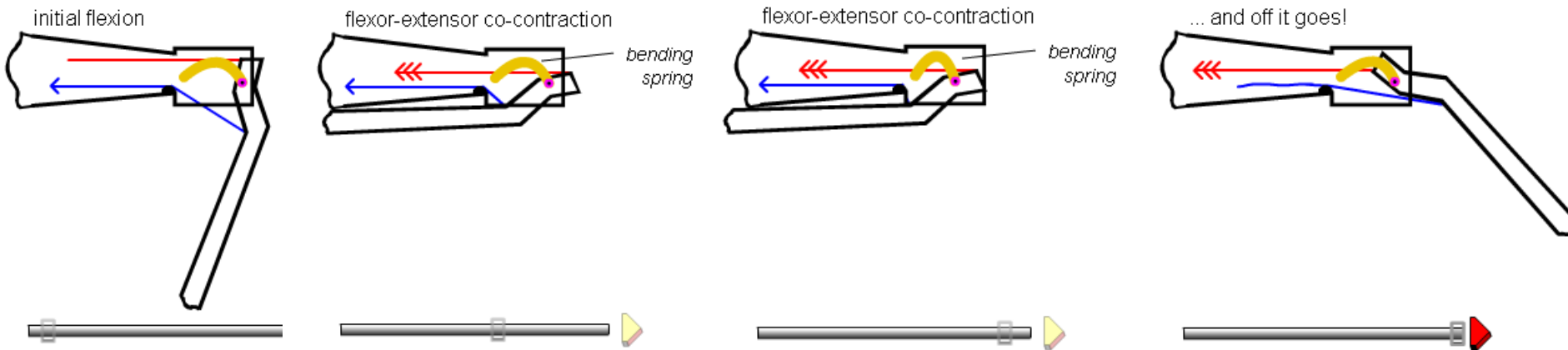
## Grasshopper leg:

- Overall length 40 mm
- Extensor lever ratio on tibia around 1:35, so for 15 grams of thrust, 500 grams muscle force
- This is average, peak up to 1500 grams
- Big force through 'herring' arrangement of muscle





# Storing gradually, releasing instantly

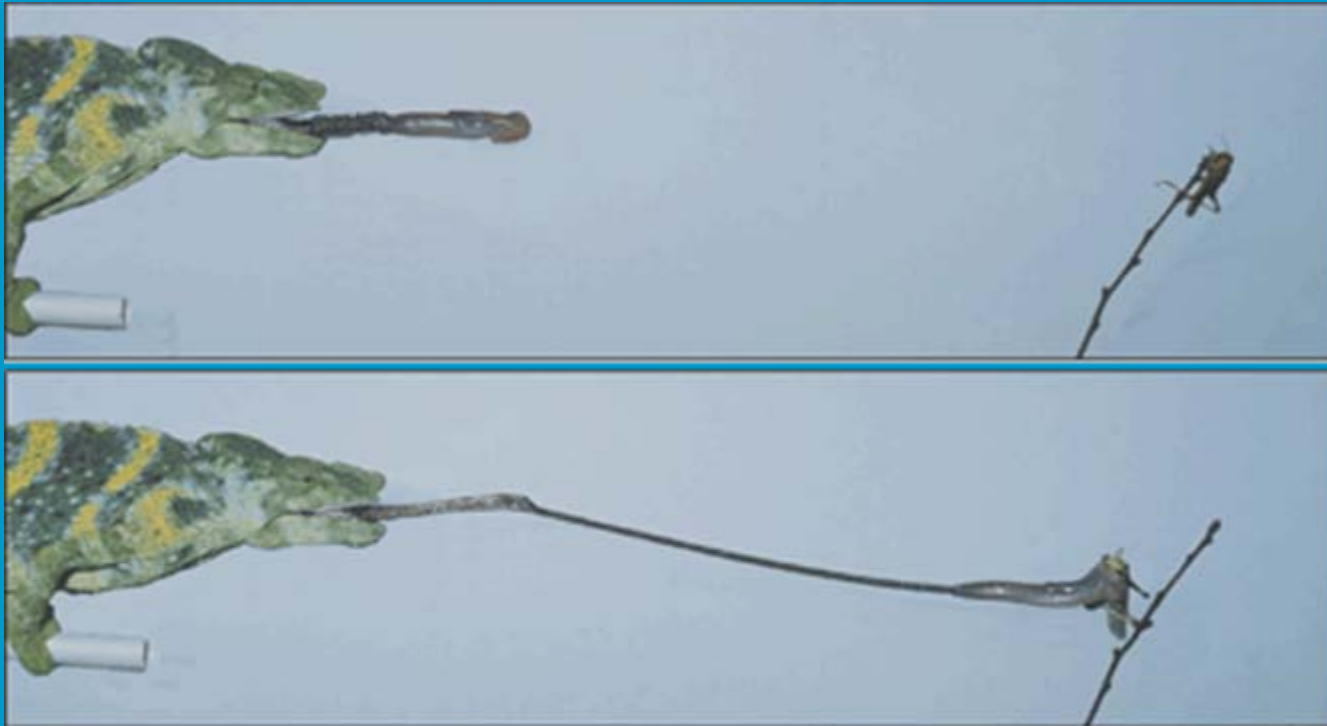


WJ Heitler, <http://www.st-andrews.ac.uk/~wjh/jumping/>

# Storing gradually, releasing instantly

## Tongue of chameleon

- $< 0.1$  sec to prey,  $500 \text{ m/s}^2$ ,  $6 \text{ m/s}$
- More powerful ( $3\text{kW}$ ) than any known muscle...



Video available at <http://noorderlicht.vpro.nl/artikelen/17184463/>

JH de Groot, JL van Leeuwen, 2004

# Storing gradually, releasing instantly

- A Tongue at rest
- B Force builds up, axial elongation
- C Tip slides of skeleton, acts as inversion of soap sliding out of hands

Extraordinary degree of function integration

