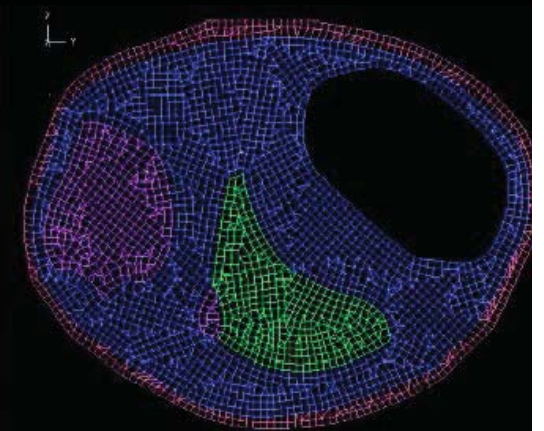
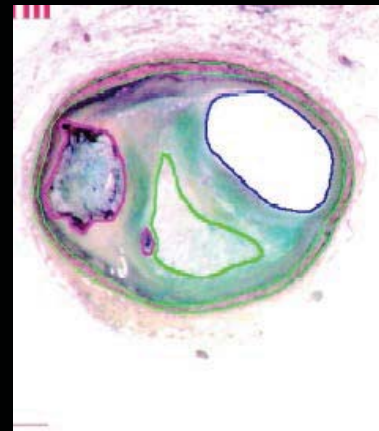




**Musculoskeletal Tissues**

Courtesy of Ernst B. Hunziker. Used with permission.

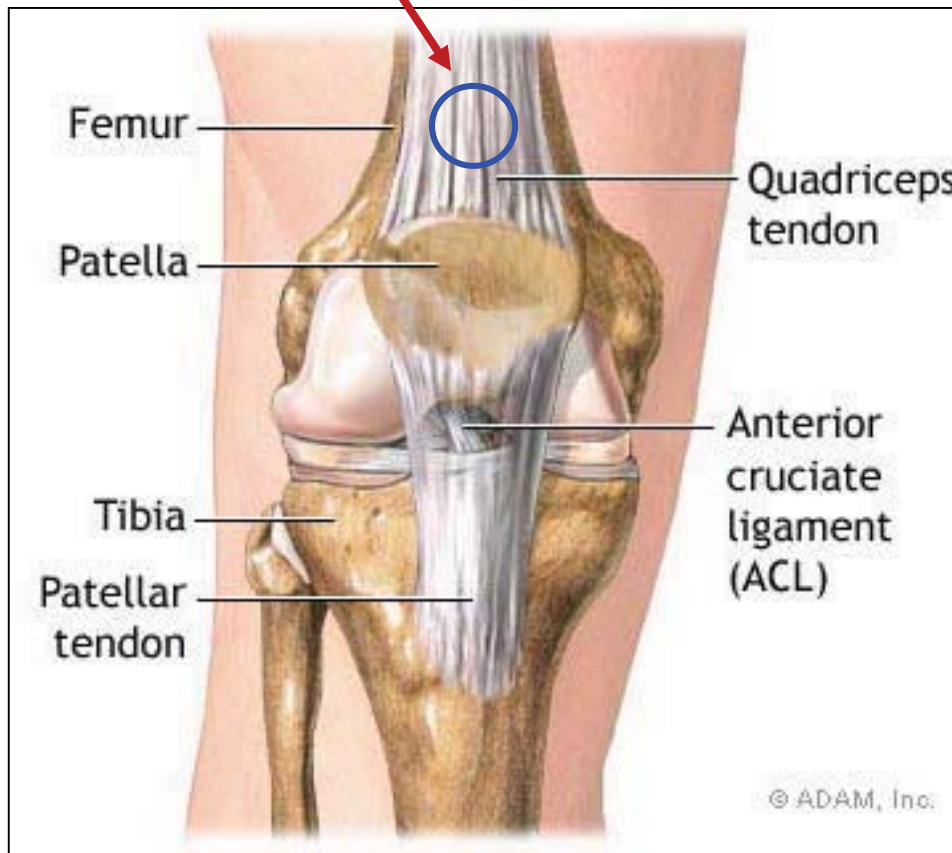


**Cardiovascular Tissues**

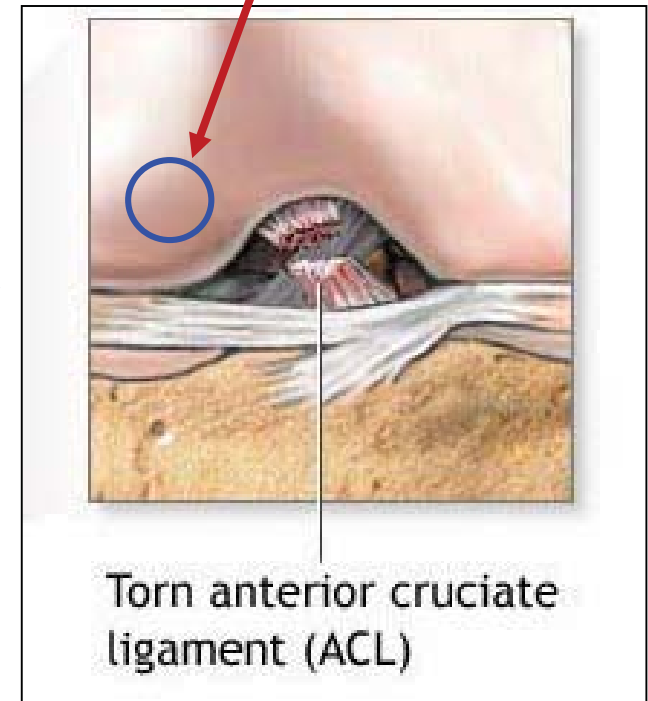
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# Musculoskeletal Tissues

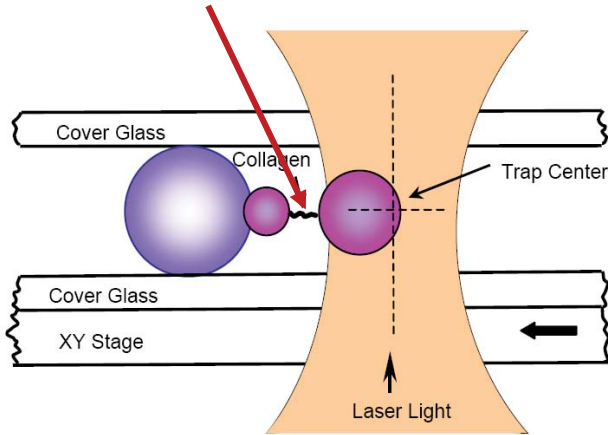
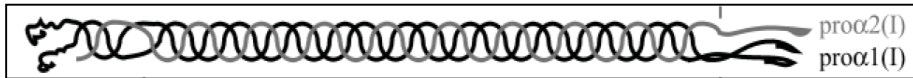
## Tension



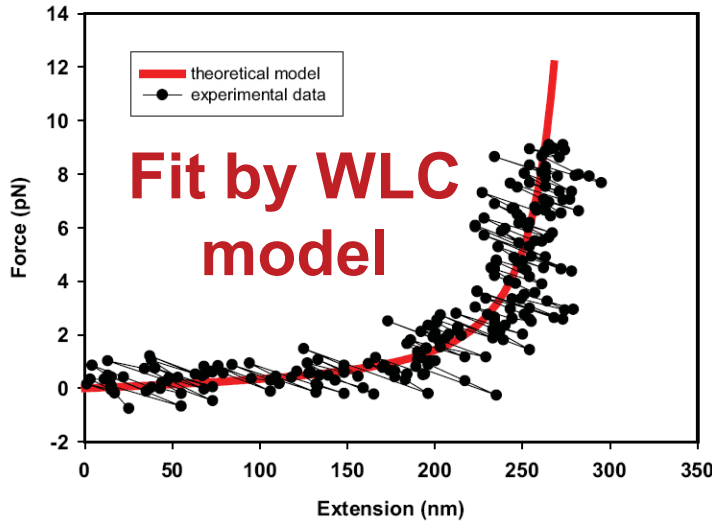
## Compression & Shear



# Pro-collagen molecule



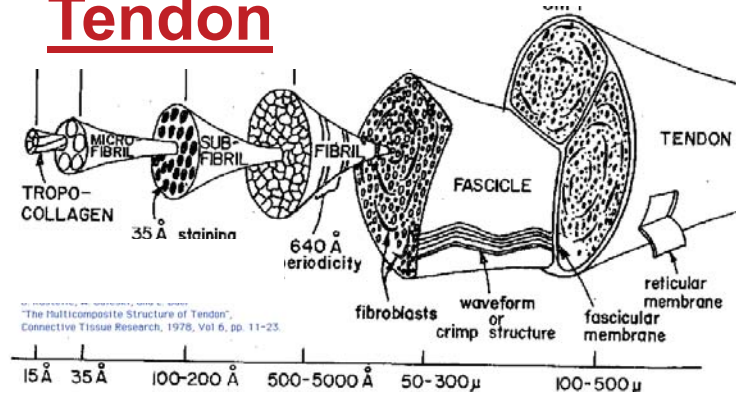
## Force - extension



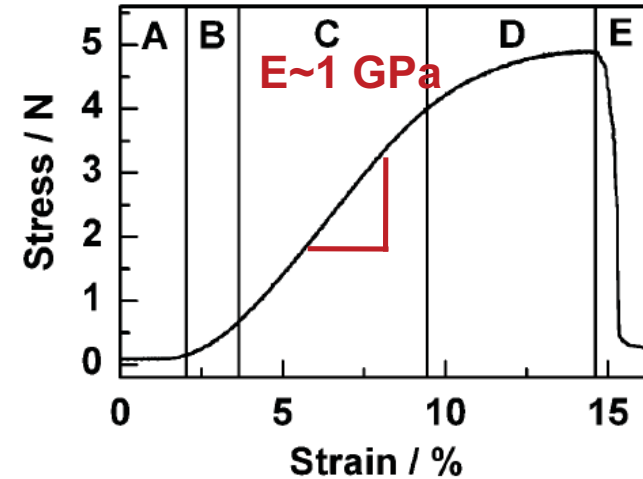
(Sun+, J Biomechanics, 2004)

Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission. Source: Sun, Yu-Long, et al. "Stretching Type II Collagen with Optical Tweezers." *Journal of Biomechanics* 37, no. 11 (2004): 1665-9.

# Tendon



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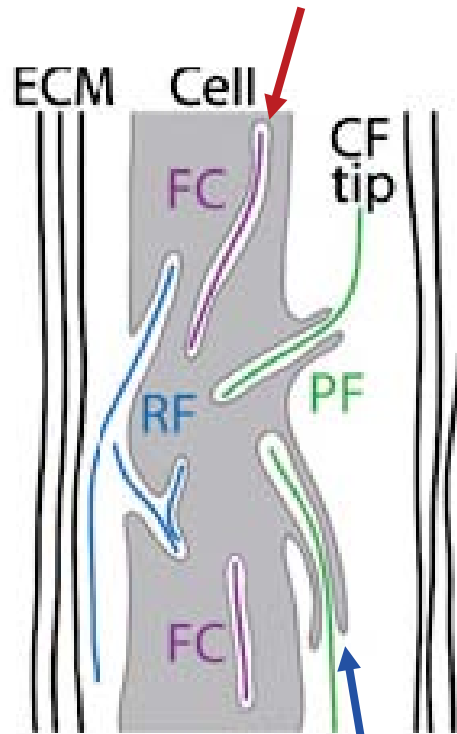
Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission. Source: Gutschmann, Thomas. "Force Spectroscopy of Collagen Fibers to Investigate their Mechanical Properties and Structural Organization." *Biophysical Journal* 86, no. 5 (2004): 3186-93.

Stress vs strain curve of a rat tail tendon: (A-B) Toe - heel region, (C) linear region, (D) plateau, (E) rupture of the tendon.

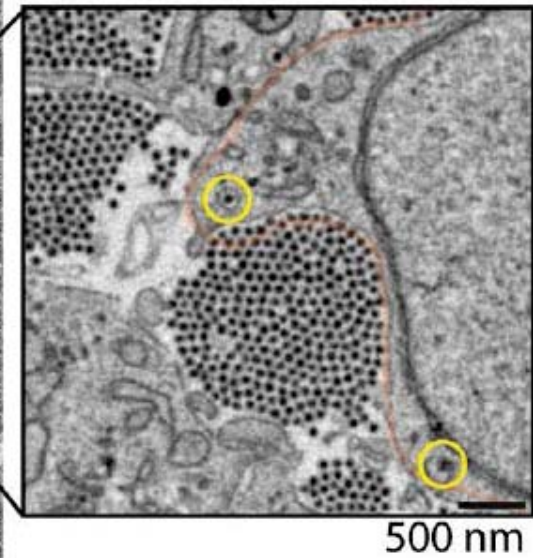
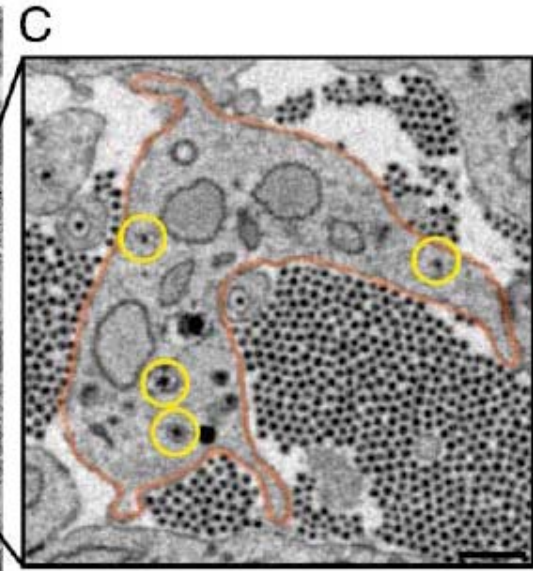
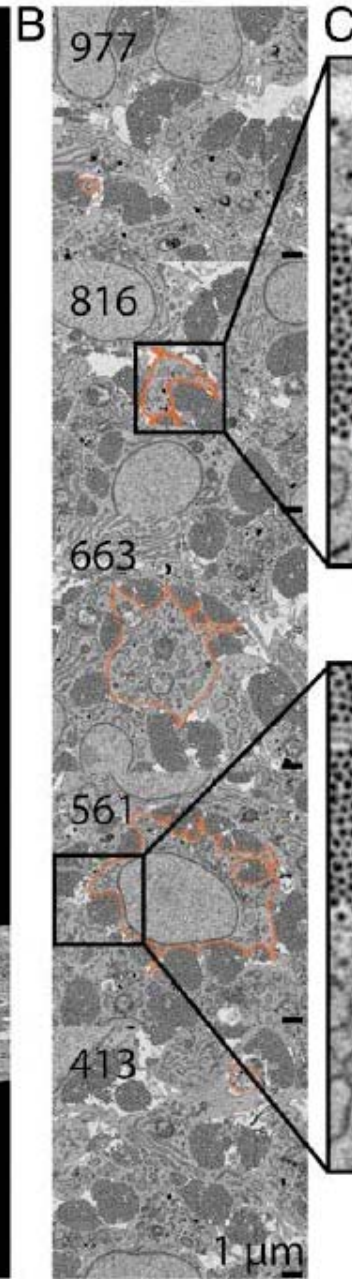
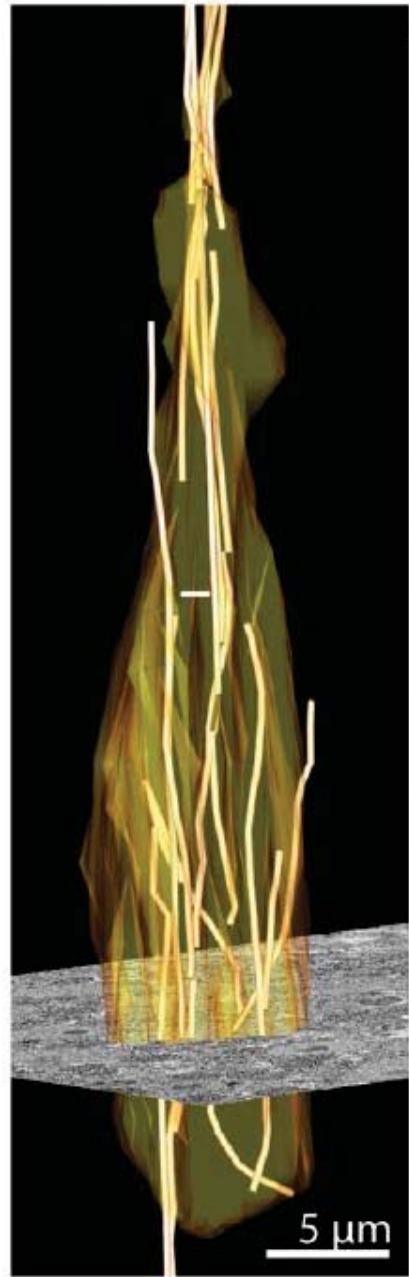
(Gutschmann+, Biophys J, 2004)

Cell ~ 60 $\mu$ m long

Intracellular  
Fibrillar carrier

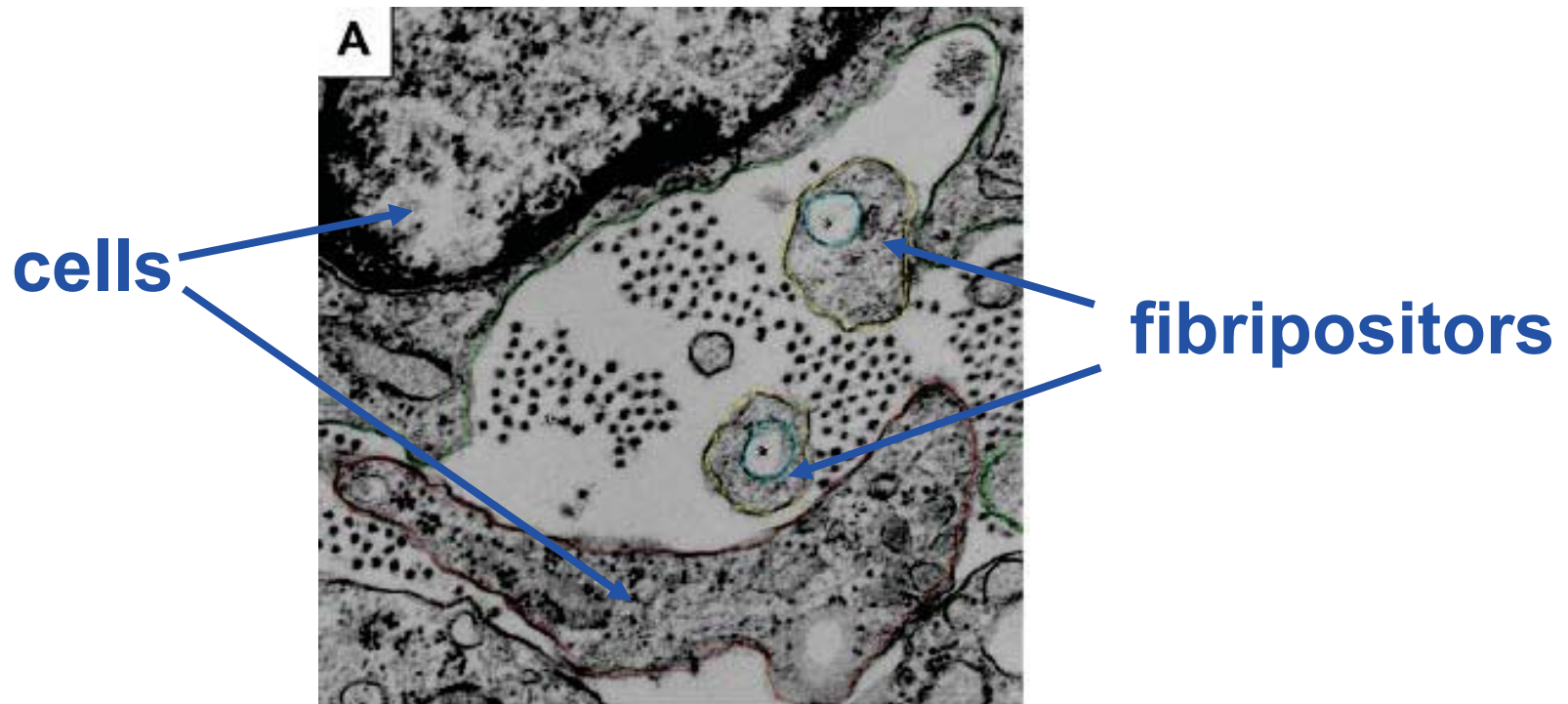
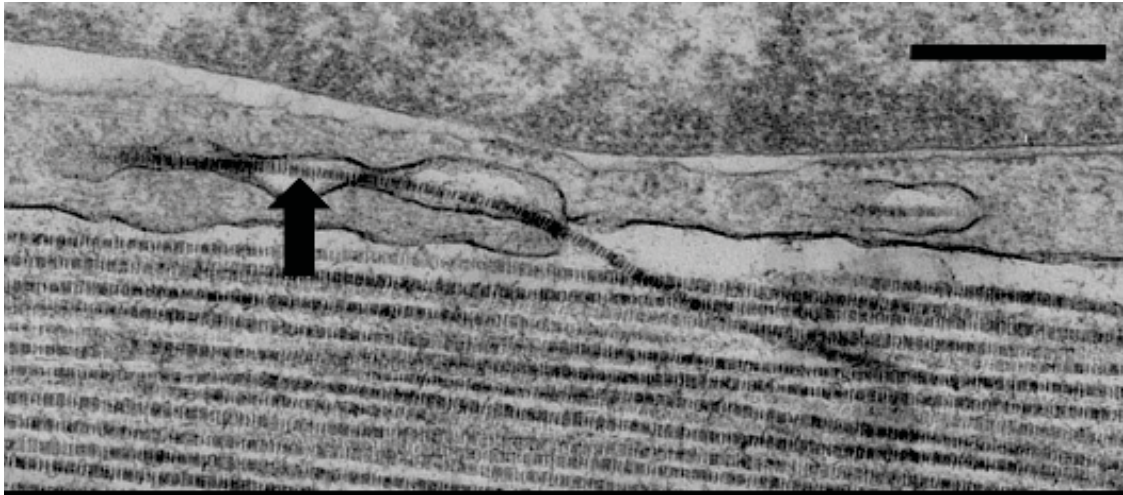


Protruding  
Fibrilpositor



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see <http://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>.

Courtesy of Karl E. Kadler. Used with permission.  
Source: Kalson, Nicholas S. et al. "Nonmuscle Myosin II Powered Transport of Newly Formed Collagen Fibrils  
at the Plasma Membrane." *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 110, no. 49 (2013): E4743-52.



Courtesy of Rockefeller University Press. License: CC BY-NC-SA.  
Source: Canty, Elizabeth G. "Coalignment of Plasma Membrane Channels and Protrusions (fibripositors) specifies the Parallelism of Tendon." *The Journal of Cell Biology* 165, no. 4 (2004): 553-63.

Video Article

Preparation of Rat Tail Tendons for Biomechanical and Mechanobiological Studies

Amélie Bruneau, Nadia Champagne, Paule Cousineau-Pelletier, Gabriel Parent, Eve Langelier  
Groupe PERSEUS, Faculté de Génie Département de génie mécanique, Université de Sherbrooke

Correspondence to: Eve Langelier at [Eve.Langelier@Usherbrooke.ca](mailto:Eve.Langelier@Usherbrooke.ca)

Part 1: Extraction

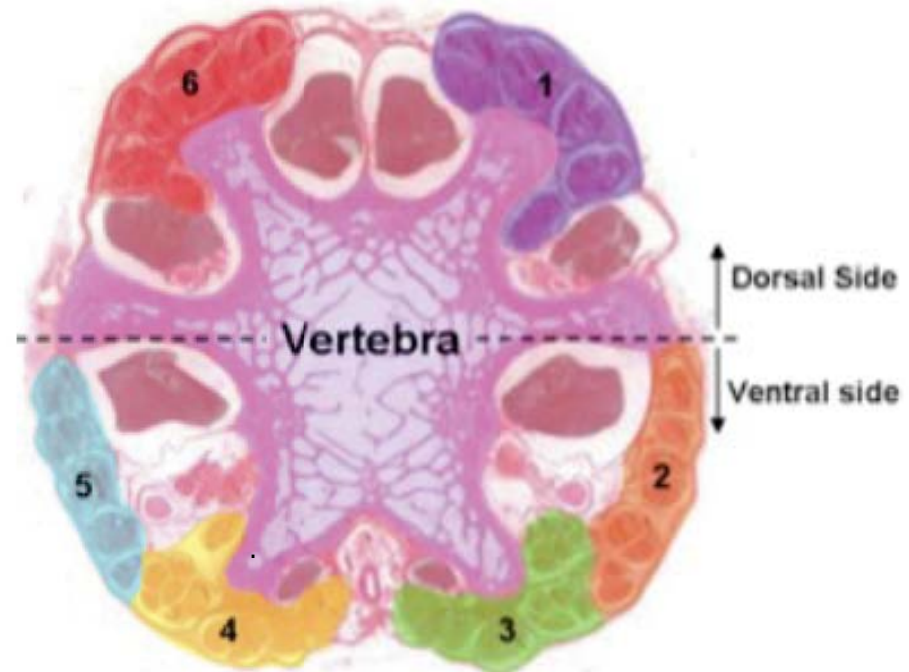
After resection, the tail is carefully manipulated by its extremities to avoid damaging the tissues. are carried out in cold saline solution.

1A) Materials:

- Cold saline solution (D-PBS)
- Crushed ice
- Surface protector
- Cutting board
- Individual manipulation plates
- 2 500 ml dishes
- 2 2L glass dishes
- Adhesive tape
- 1 Tweezers
- 1 Forceps
- 1 Tweezers stand
- 1 Pair of surgical shears
- 1 Scalpel
- 1 Pair of surgical scissors



Figure 1. Individual manipulation with orientation identification ("P" for "proximal")



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Source: Bruneau, Amélie, et al. "Preparation of Rat Tail Tendons for Biomechanical and Mechanobiological Studies." *Journal of Visualized Experiments* 41 (2010).

# THE INTERACTION OF MUCOPROTEIN WITH SOLUBLE COLLAGEN; AN ELECTRON MICROSCOPE STUDY\*

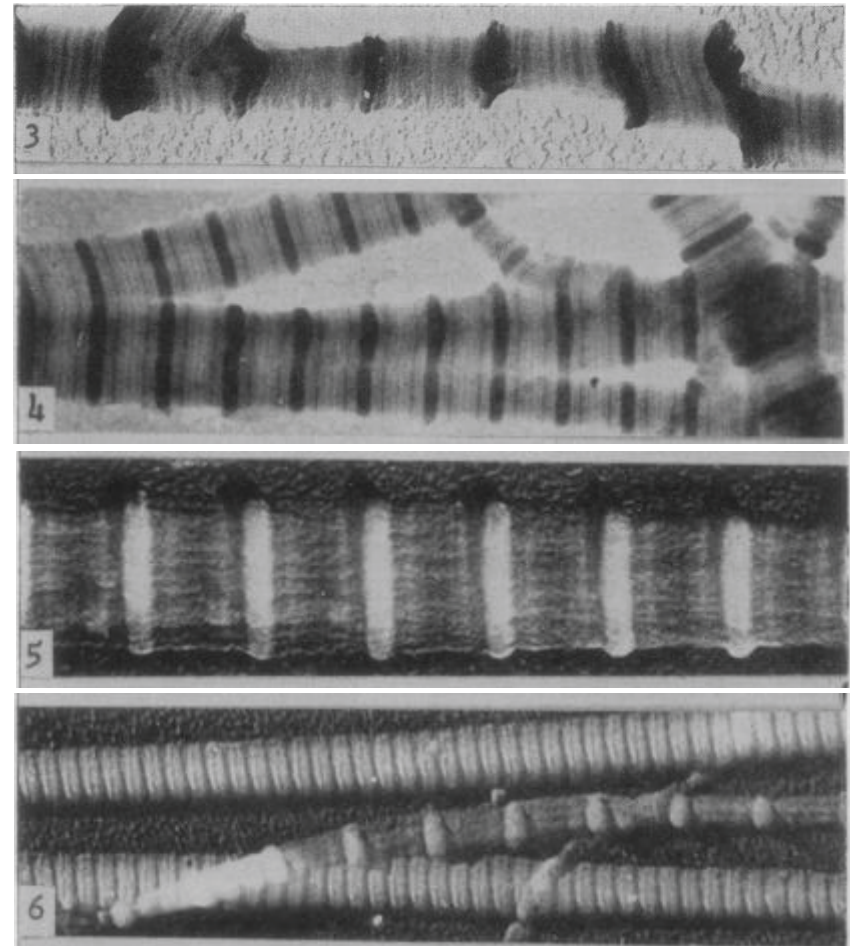
BY JOHN H. HIGHBERGER, JEROME GROSS AND FRANCIS O. SCHMITT

RESEARCH DIVISION, UNITED SHOE MACHINERY CORPORATION, BEVERLY, MASSACHUSETTS; MEDICAL CLINIC OF THE MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL;† AND BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT, MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

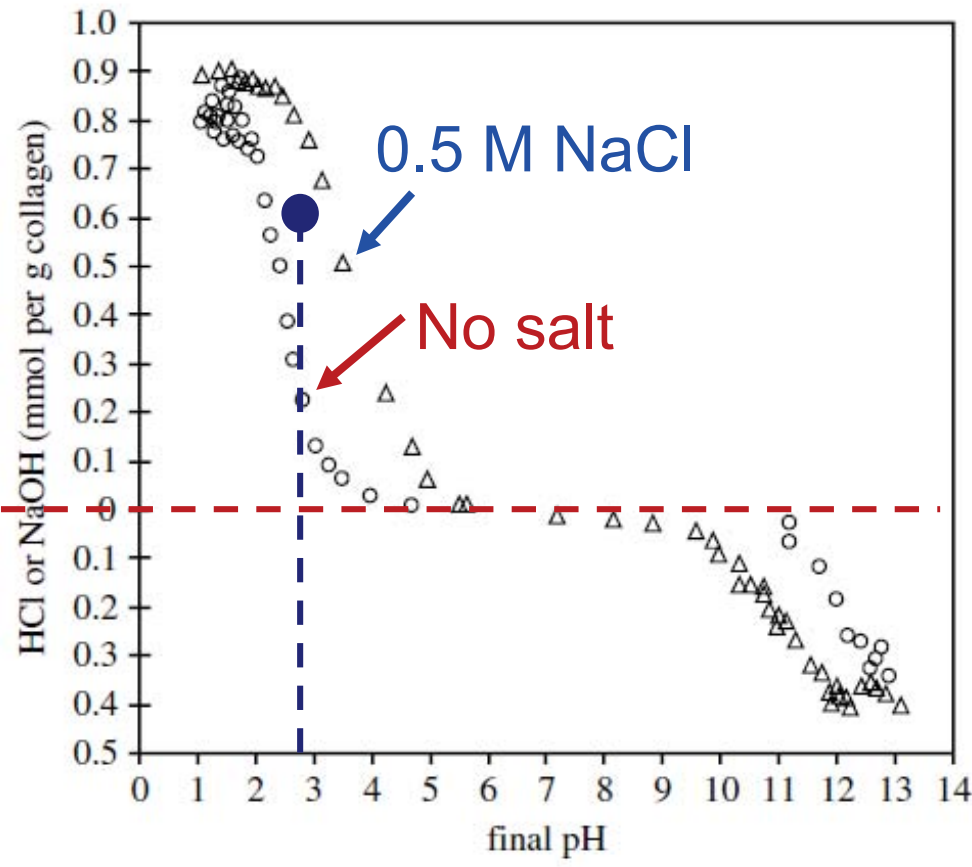
## PNAS 1951

The collagen of certain forms of connective tissue, such as rat tail tendon and the fish swim bladder (ichthyocol), dissolve in dilute acid to yield a clear, relatively viscous solution. When NaCl is added to such a solution to a concentration of 0.2–1.0%, or if the solution be neutralized, a fibrous precipitate of collagen is produced.<sup>1–3</sup> Electron microscope studies have demonstrated that the reconstituted fibrils show the axial period and intra-period fine structure typical of native collagen fibrils although the acid filtrate contains only very thin filaments.<sup>4, 5</sup> The process by which the thin filaments in the acid filtrate aggregate laterally to produce the typical collagen structure is of interest not only from the physical chemical point of view but also because a better understanding of the phenomenon may provide clues as to the mechanism of fibrogenesis *in vivo*. Investigations of the process of fibril reconstitution from acid filtrates of collagen by the addition of salt have been made in these laboratories<sup>6</sup> and will be reported in detail elsewhere. For the present it may be noted that the type of fibril structure observed in the electron microscope (axial repeating patterns of about 650 Å, 220 Å, or no apparent pattern) depends upon the concentrations of salt and collagen. The experiments described in this paper suggest that other factors may also be of importance in the process of reconstitution.

## Rat Tail Tendon Collagen

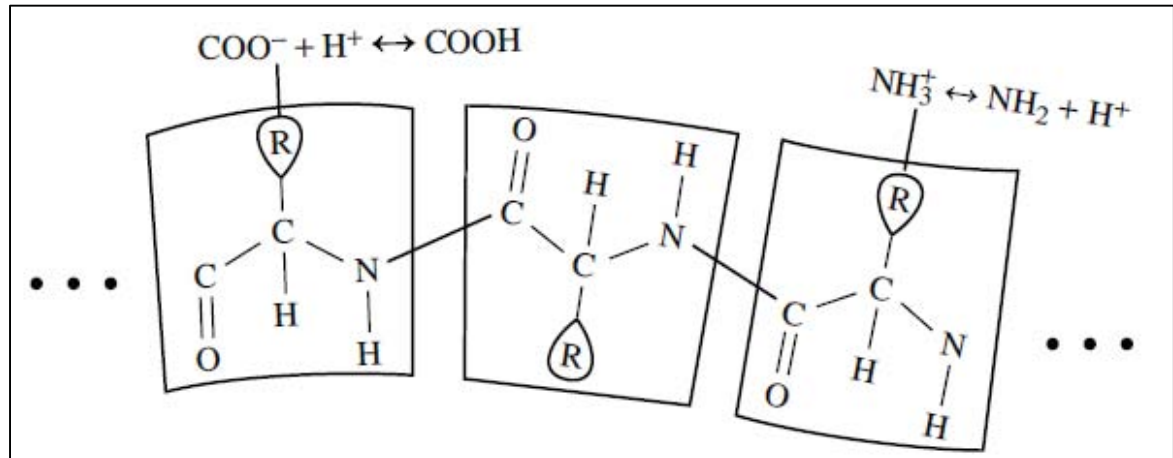


Net +  
Charge



pH  
titration of  
Collagen  
(type I)

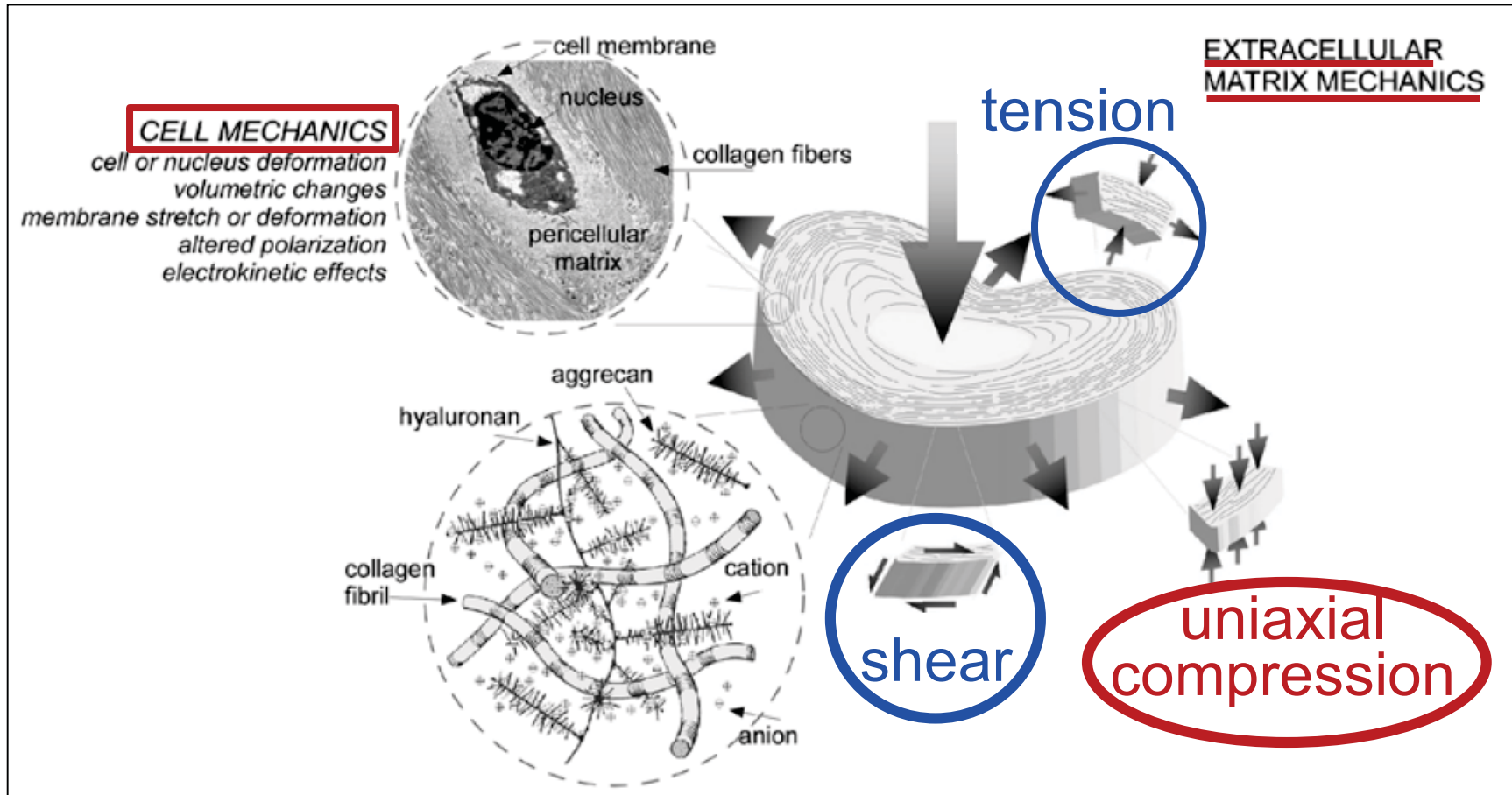
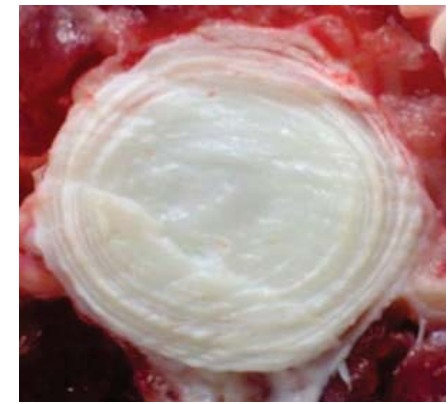
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# MECHANOBIOLOGY OF THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISC AND RELEVANCE TO DISC DEGENERATION

BY LORI A. SETTON, PHD, AND JUN CHEN, PHD

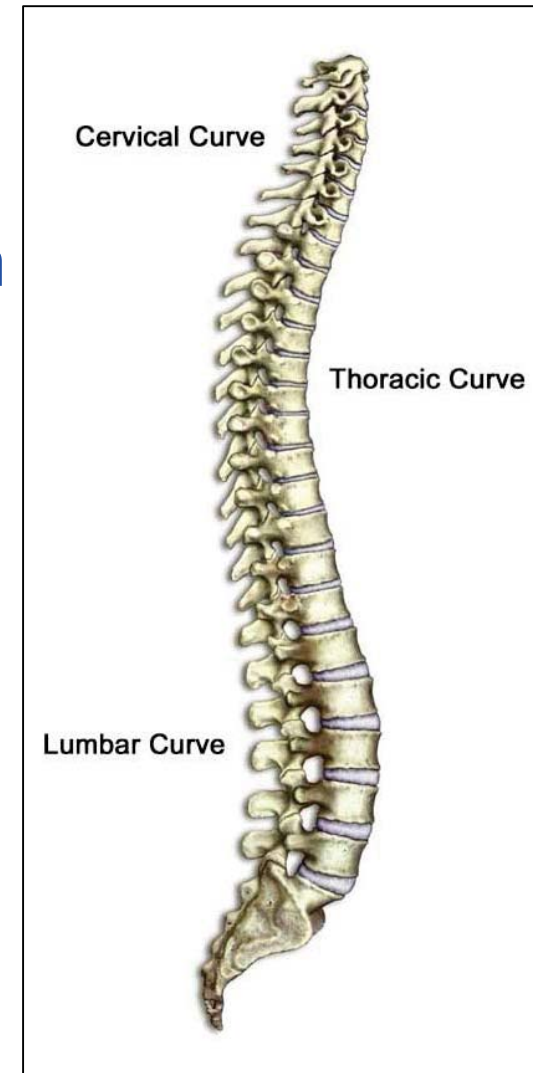


© The Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery, Incorporated. All rights reserved. This content is excluded from our Creative Commons license. For more information, see <http://ocw.mit.edu/help/faq-fair-use/>. Source: Setton, Lori A., and Jun Chen. "Mechanobiology of the Intervertebral Disc and Relevance to Disc Degeneration." *The Journal of Bone & Joint Surgery* 88, no. suppl 2 (2006): 52-7.

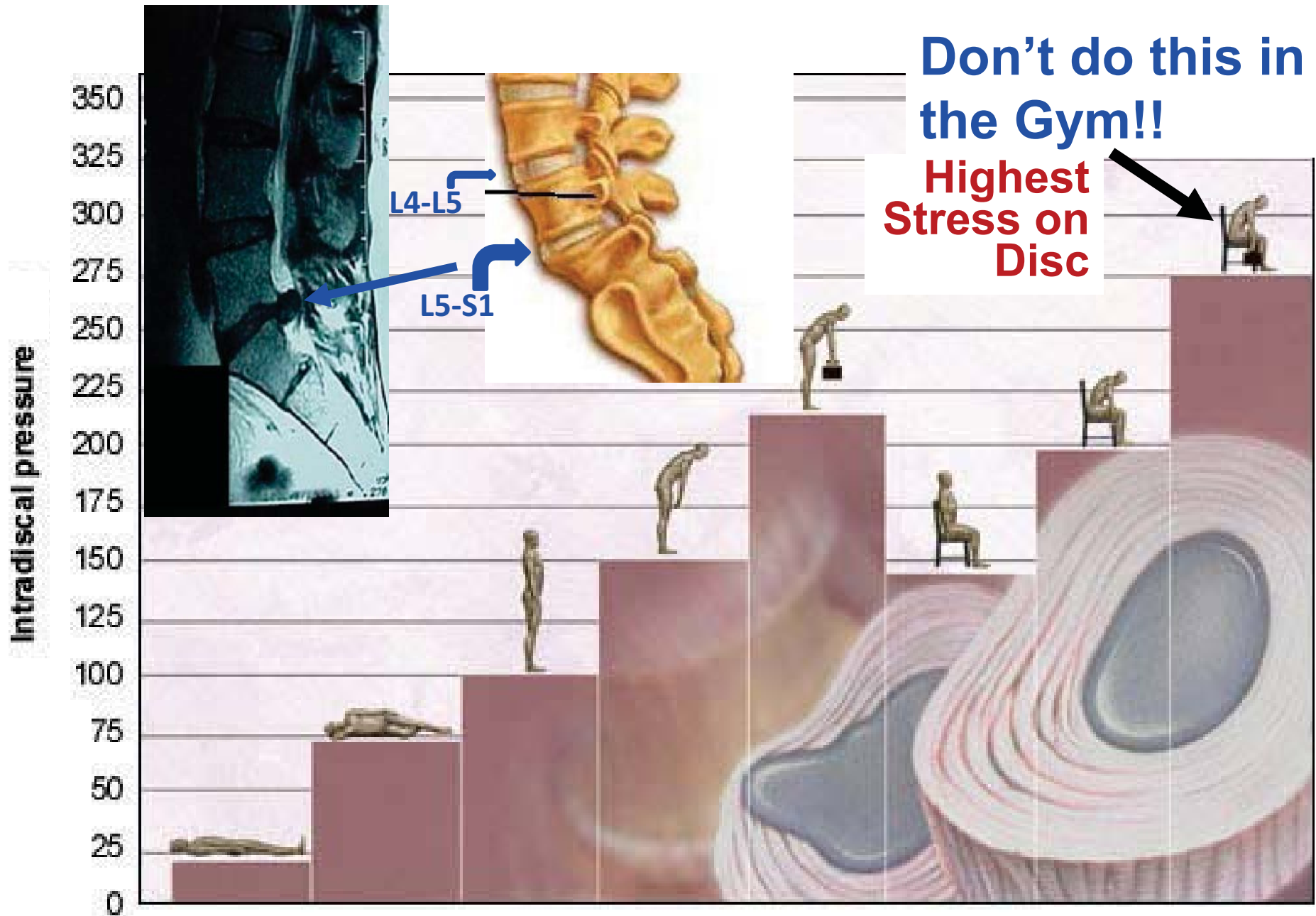
(J Bone & Joint Surg, 2006)

# Intervertebral Disc

- Intervertebral disk make up 20-30% of the height of the spine; disc thickness varies from 3mm in cervical region, 5mm in thoracic region to 9 mm in the lumbar region.
- Ratio between the vertebral body height and the disk height will dictate the mobility between the vertebra –
  - Highest ratio in cervical region allows for motion
  - Lowest ratio in thoracic region limits motion



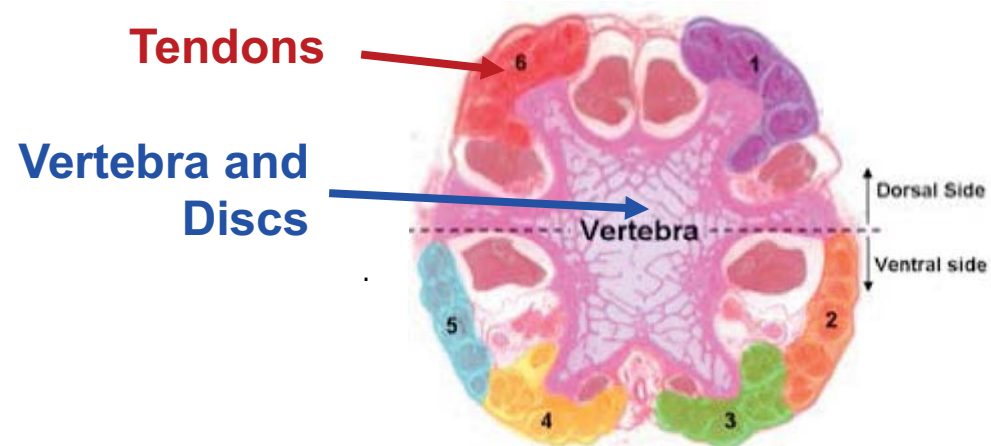
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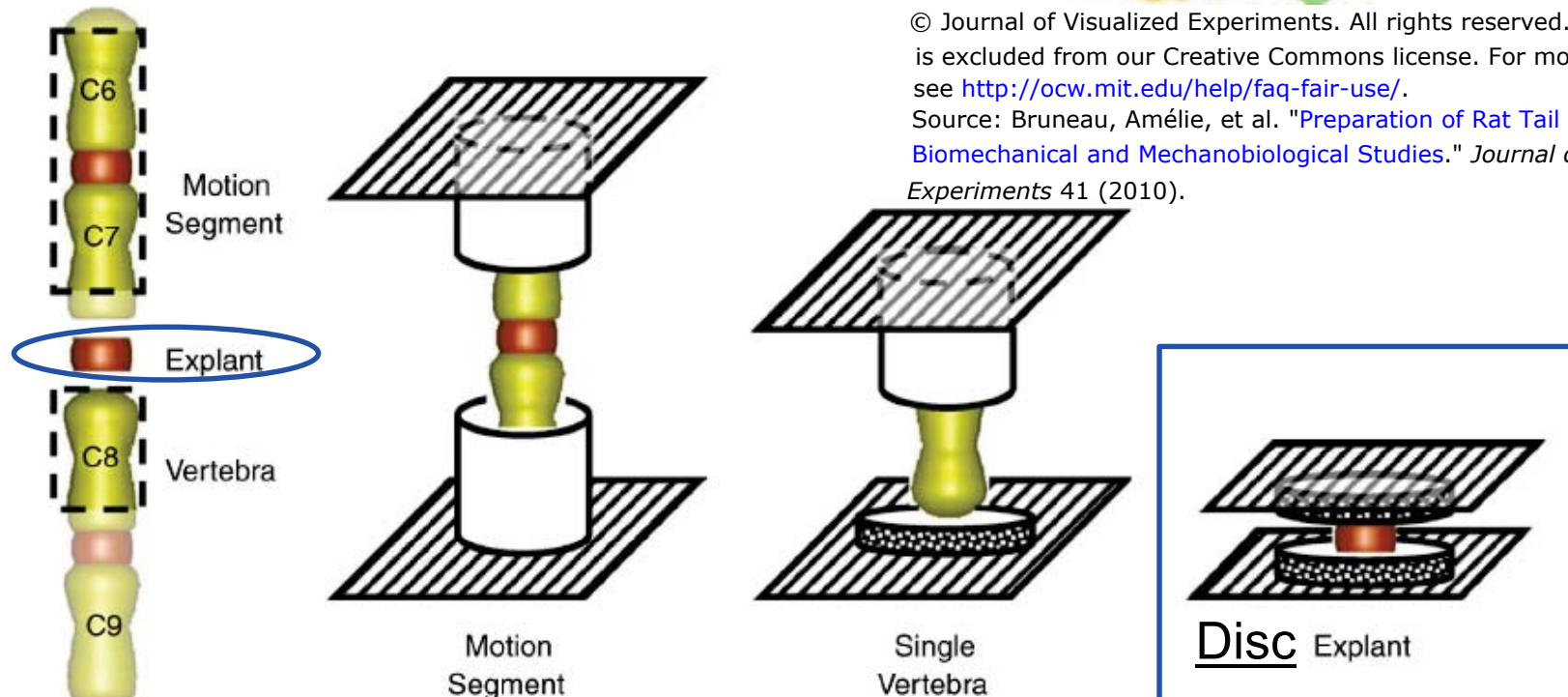
# “Unconfined Compression” of intervertebral disc

(Animal Model: rat tail)



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Source: Bruneau, Amélie, et al. "Preparation of Rat Tail Tendons for Biomechanical and Mechanobiological Studies." *Journal of Visualized Experiments* 41 (2010).

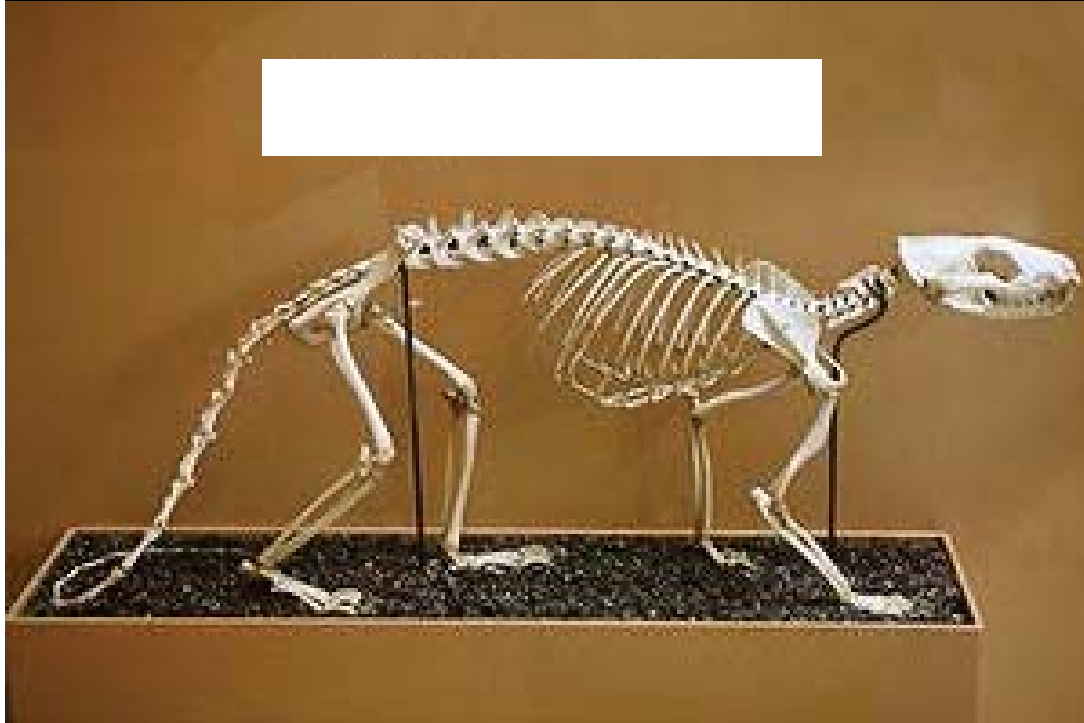
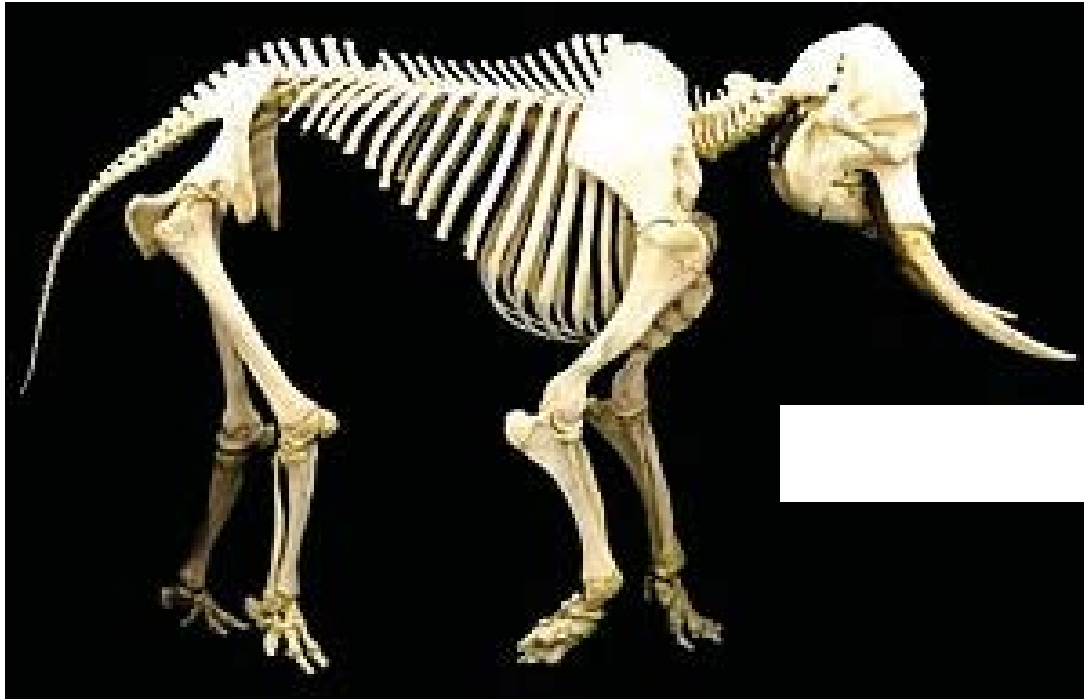


Courtesy of Elsevier, Inc., <http://www.sciencedirect.com>. Used with permission.

Source: MacLean, Jeffrey J., et al. "Role of Endplates in Contributing to Compression Behaviors of Motion Segments and Intervertebral Discs." *Journal of Biomechanics* 40, no. 1 (2007): 55-63.

(MacLean+, J Biomechanics, 2007)

## Scaling of body size

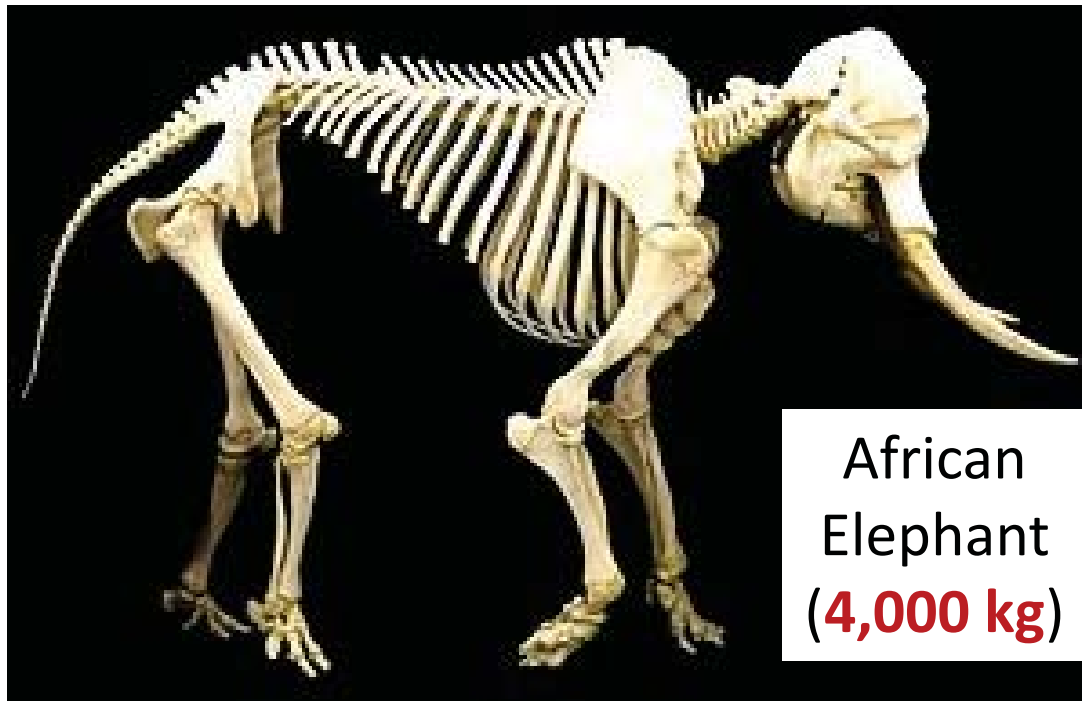


Courtesy of [Cliff](#) on flickr. License: CC BY.

## Scaling of body size

### Perfect Isometric scaling of organisms:

- **Volume-based** properties change proportionally to the body mass
- Surface area-based properties change with mass to the power  $2/3$
- Length-based properties change with mass to the  $1/3$  power

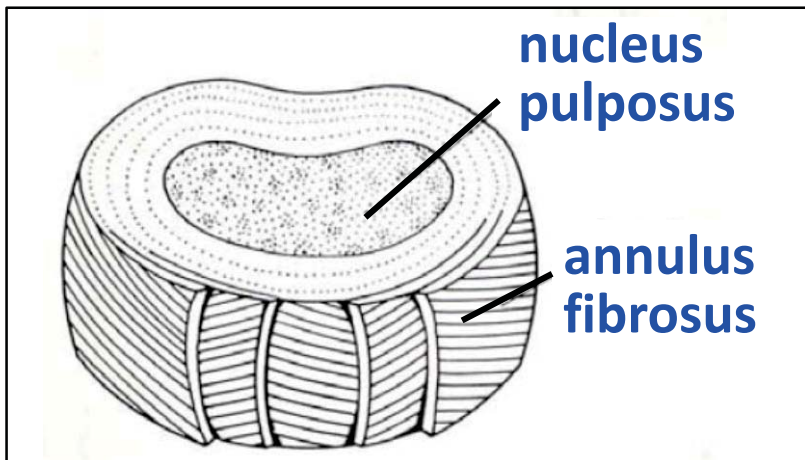


Australian Cat (2kg)



# Disc Extracellular Matrix Composition

23 intervertebral discs



<u>Collagens</u>	<u>Proteoglycans</u>
<u>Fibrillar</u>	<u>Aggregating</u>
Type I AF	NP Aggrecan
Type II NP	AF Versican
Type III	NP Hyaluronan
Type V AF	NP Link protein
Type XI NP	<u>Fibril-associated</u>
<u>Fibril-associated</u>	AF Decorin
Type IX NP	AF Biglycan
Type XII	Fibromodulin
Type XIV	Lumican
<u>Pericellular</u>	<u>Pericellular</u>
Type VI	Perlecan
Type X	

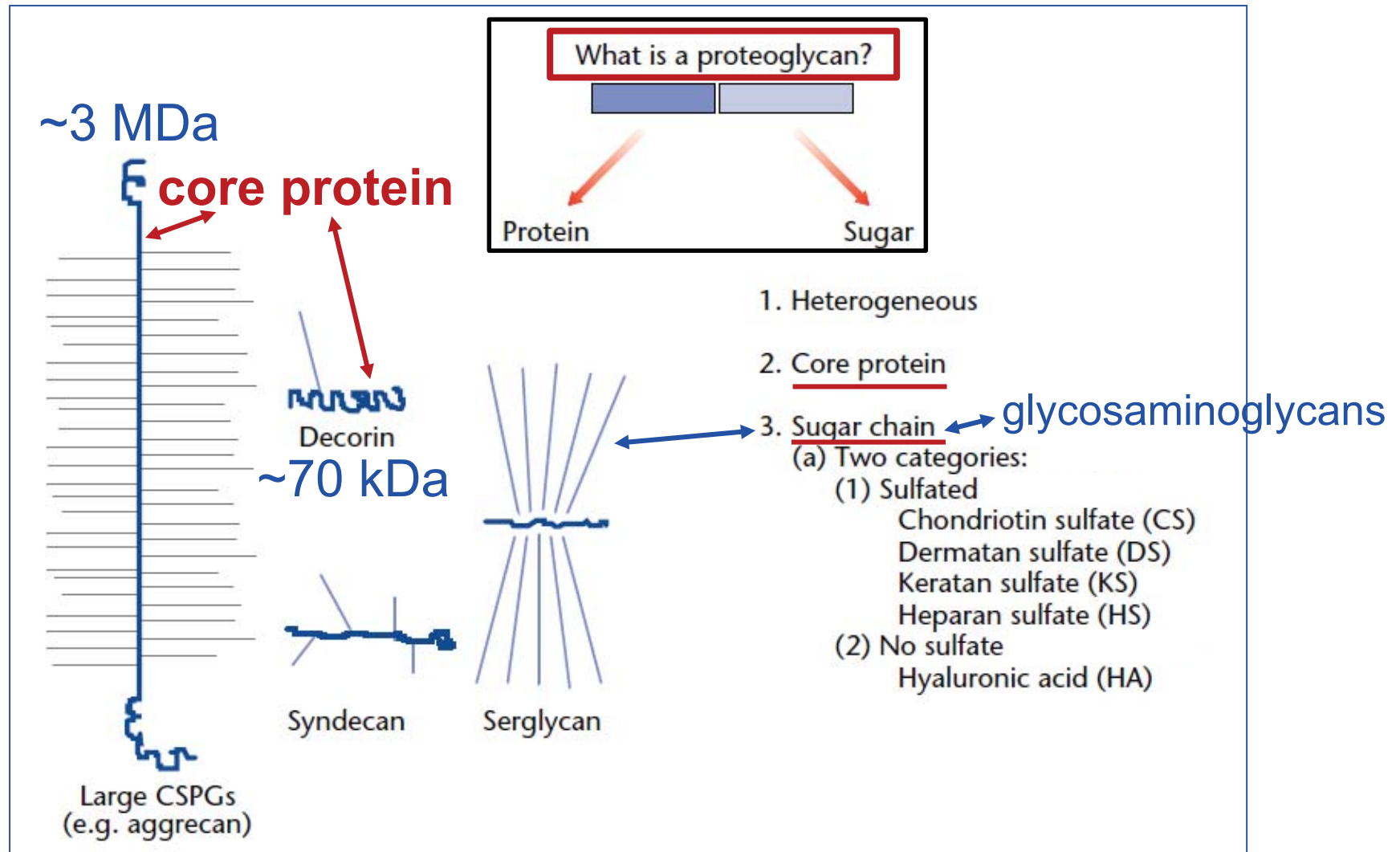
(Peter Roughley, Spine, 2004)

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 Source: Roughley, Peter J. "Biology of Intervertebral Disc Aging and Degeneration: Involvement of the Extracellular Matrix." *Spine* 29, no. 23 (2004): 2691-9.

# Proteoglycans: Resist Compressive Stress

Nancy B Schwartz, *University of Chicago, Illinois, USA*

Encyclop Life Sci, 2009



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# PROTEOGLYCAN SUPERFAMILY

- **ECM molecules with (a) Core protein & (b) Glycosaminoglycan (GAG) chains**
- **“Sub-families” include**
  - Extracellular • **Large Aggregating (Aggrecan)**
    - **Small Leucine-Rich PG (SLRPs)**
  - Cell Surface (e.g., glycocalyx HSPGs)

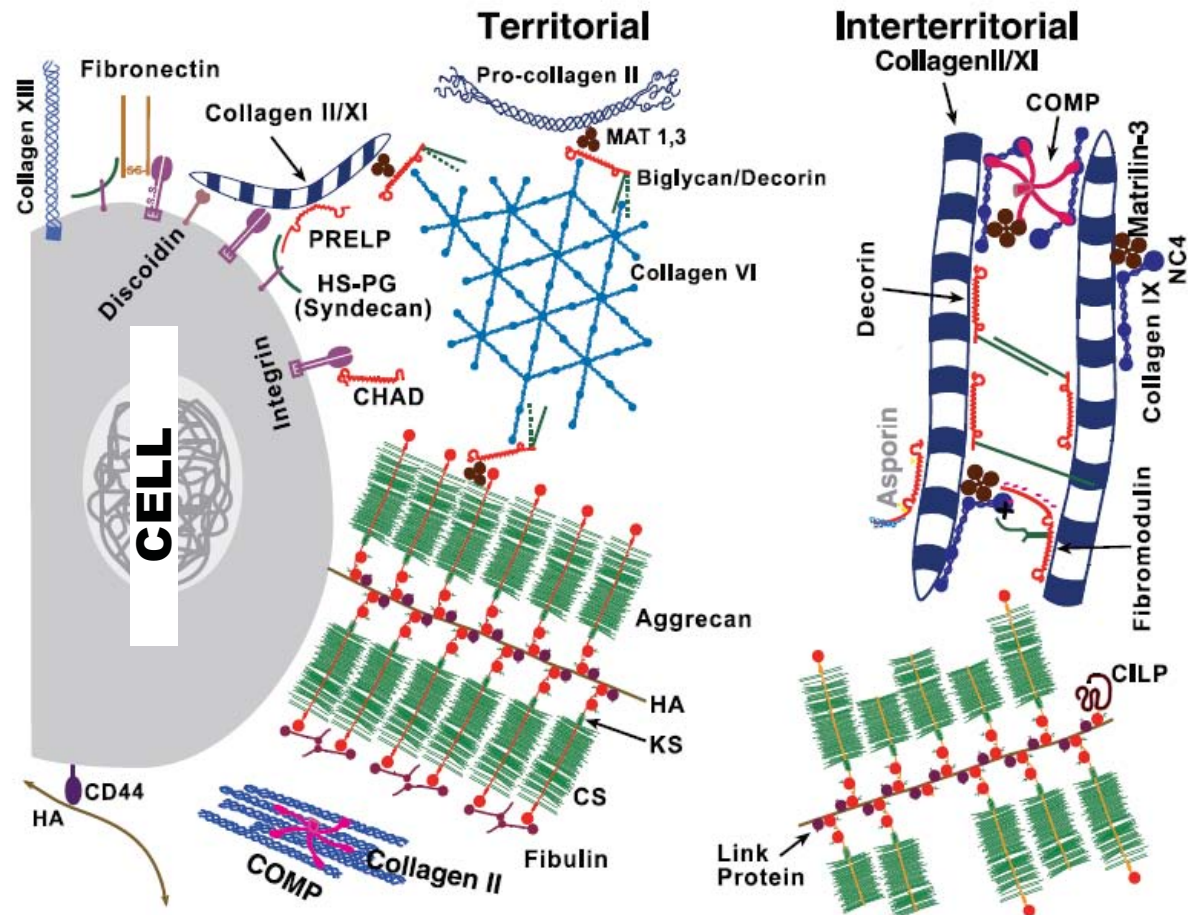
Lander, J Cell Biol, 2000: “....PGs have been credited with controlling: cell division, adhesion, spreading, migration, chemoattraction, axon guidance, matrix assembly, lipoprotein uptake, extracellular proteolysis, and viral entry....”

# Proteoglycans and more – from molecules to biology

Dick Heinegård

Int. J. Exp Pathol, 2009

Department of Clinical Sciences, Section for Rheumatology, Molecular Skeletal Biology, Lund University, Lund, Sweden

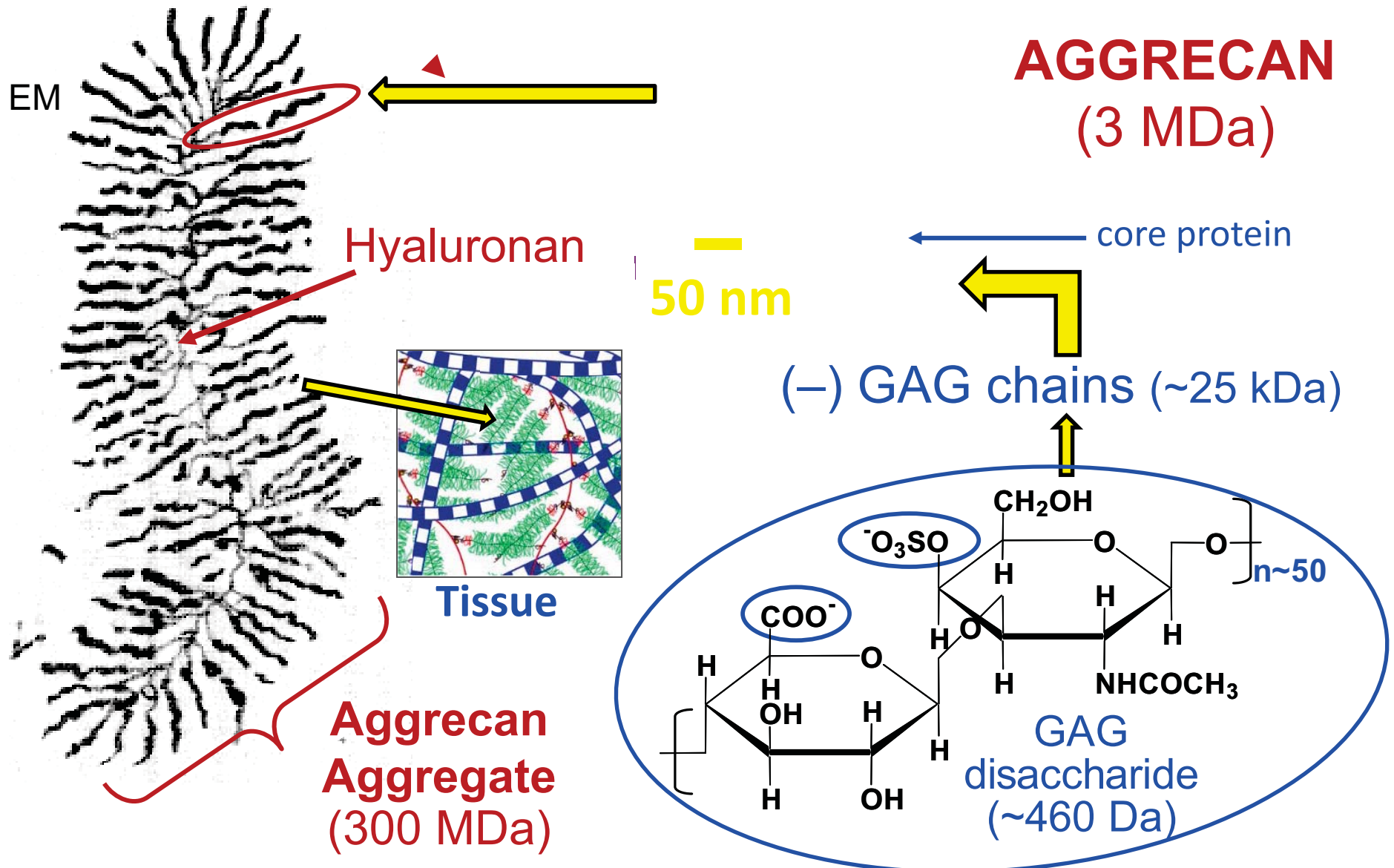


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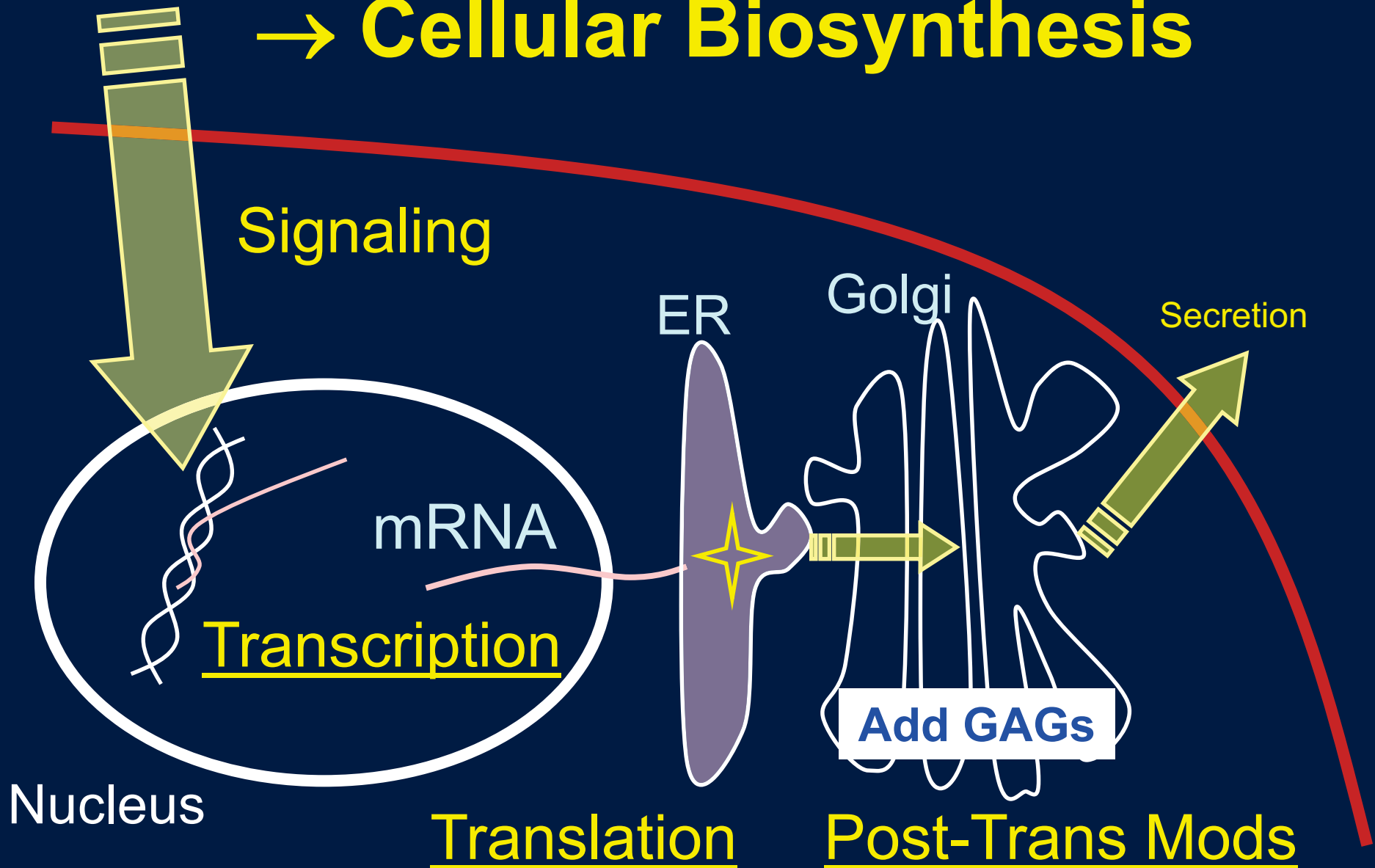
Source: Heinegård, Dick, and Tore Saxne. "The Role of the Cartilage Matrix in Osteoarthritis." *Nature Reviews Rheumatology* 7, no. 1 (2011): 50-56.

“In this article the organization and functional details of the extracellular matrix, with particular focus on cartilage, are described.”

# AGGREGAN: Resists “Static” Compression & Fluid Flow (“Dynamic” Compression)



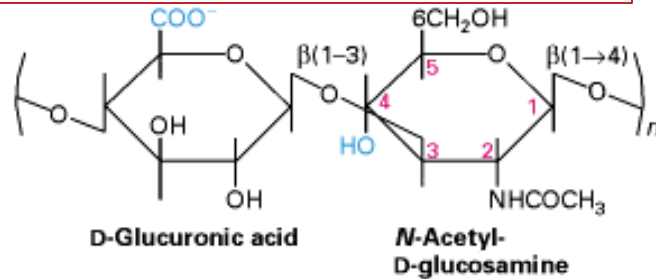
# Mechanical & Biological Factors → Cellular Biosynthesis



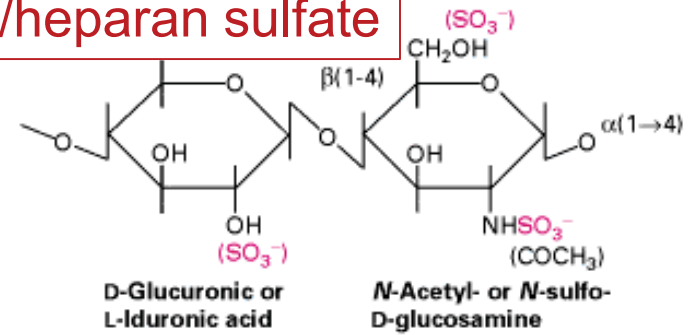
# Family of Glycosaminoglycans (GAG Chains):

→ Glycosylation of 'Core Protein' (addition of sugar moieties)

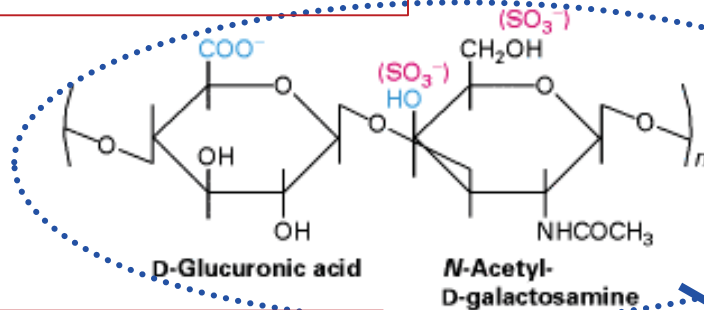
## Hyaluronan (hyaluronic acid)



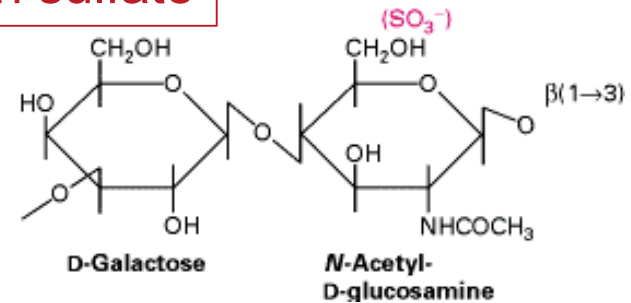
## Heparin/heparan sulfate



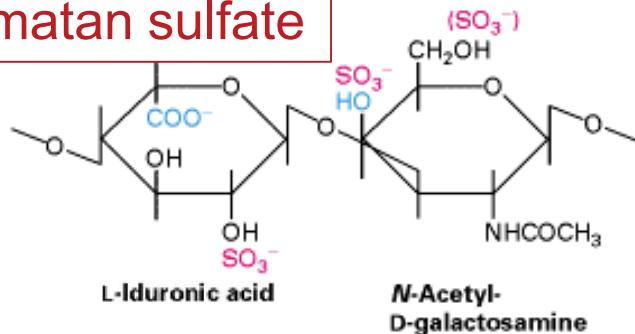
## Chondroitin sulfate



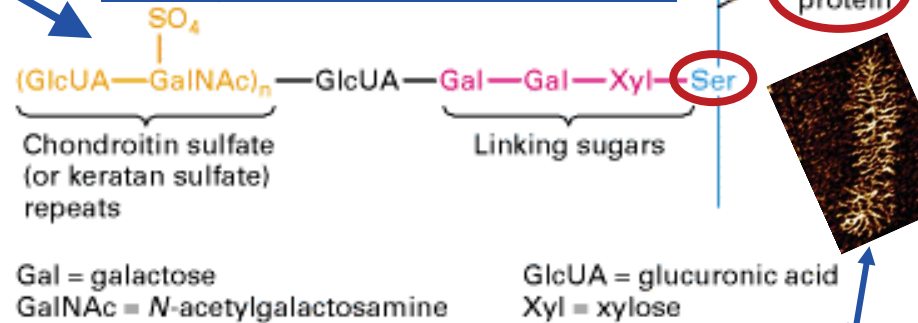
## Keratan sulfate



## Dermatan sulfate



## Elongation of GAG Chain



Gal = galactose  
GalNAc = N-acetylgalactosamine

GlcUA = glucuronic acid  
Xyl = xylose

aggrecan

decorin

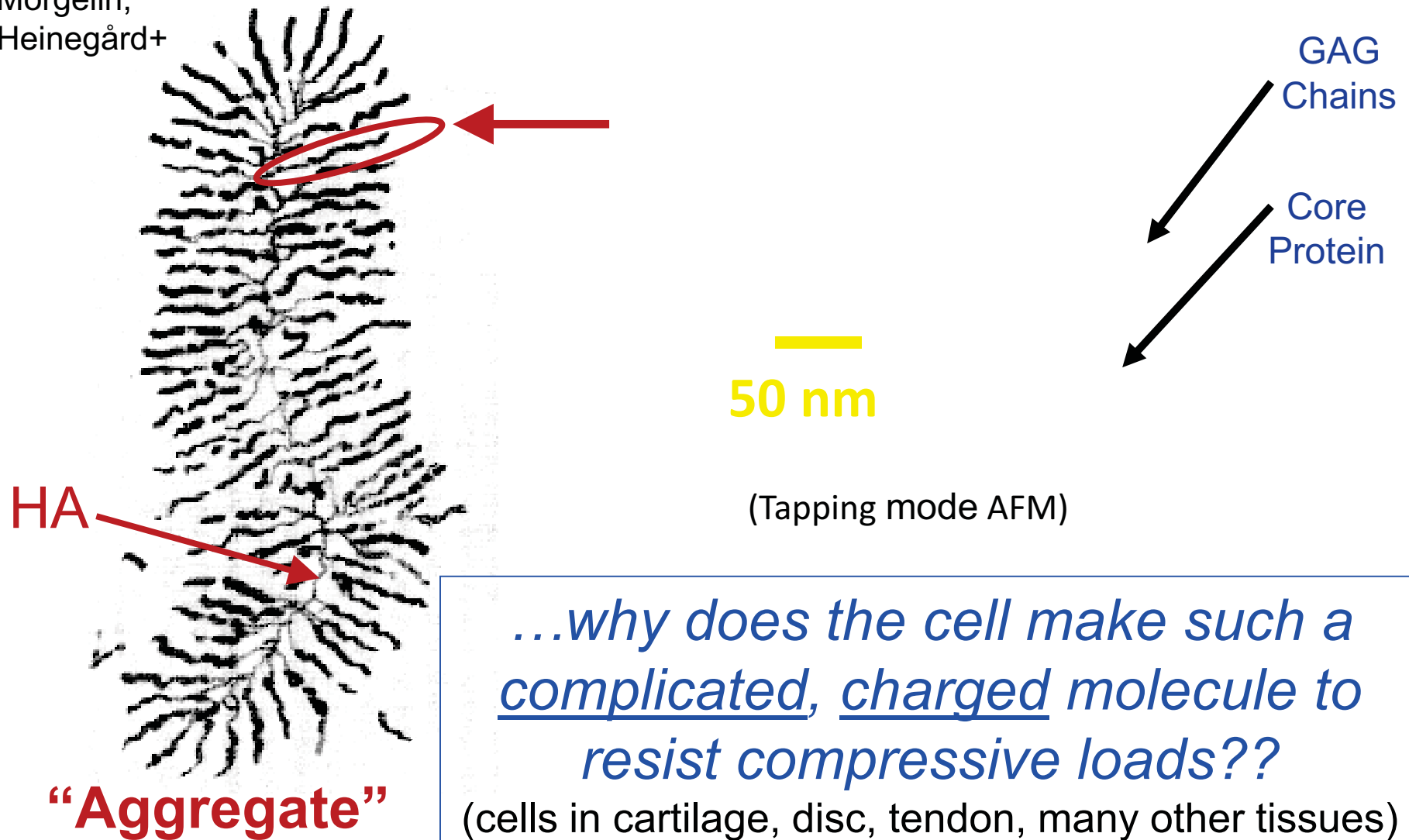
EM:

Buckwalter,  
Rosenberg+

Mörgelin,  
Heinegård+

# Aggrecan Monomer (Bovine Fetal Epiphyseal)

(Ng+, J. Struc Biol, 2003)



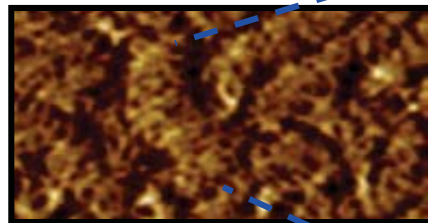
*...why does the cell make such a  
complicated, charged molecule to  
resist compressive loads??*

(cells in cartilage, disc, tendon, many other tissues)



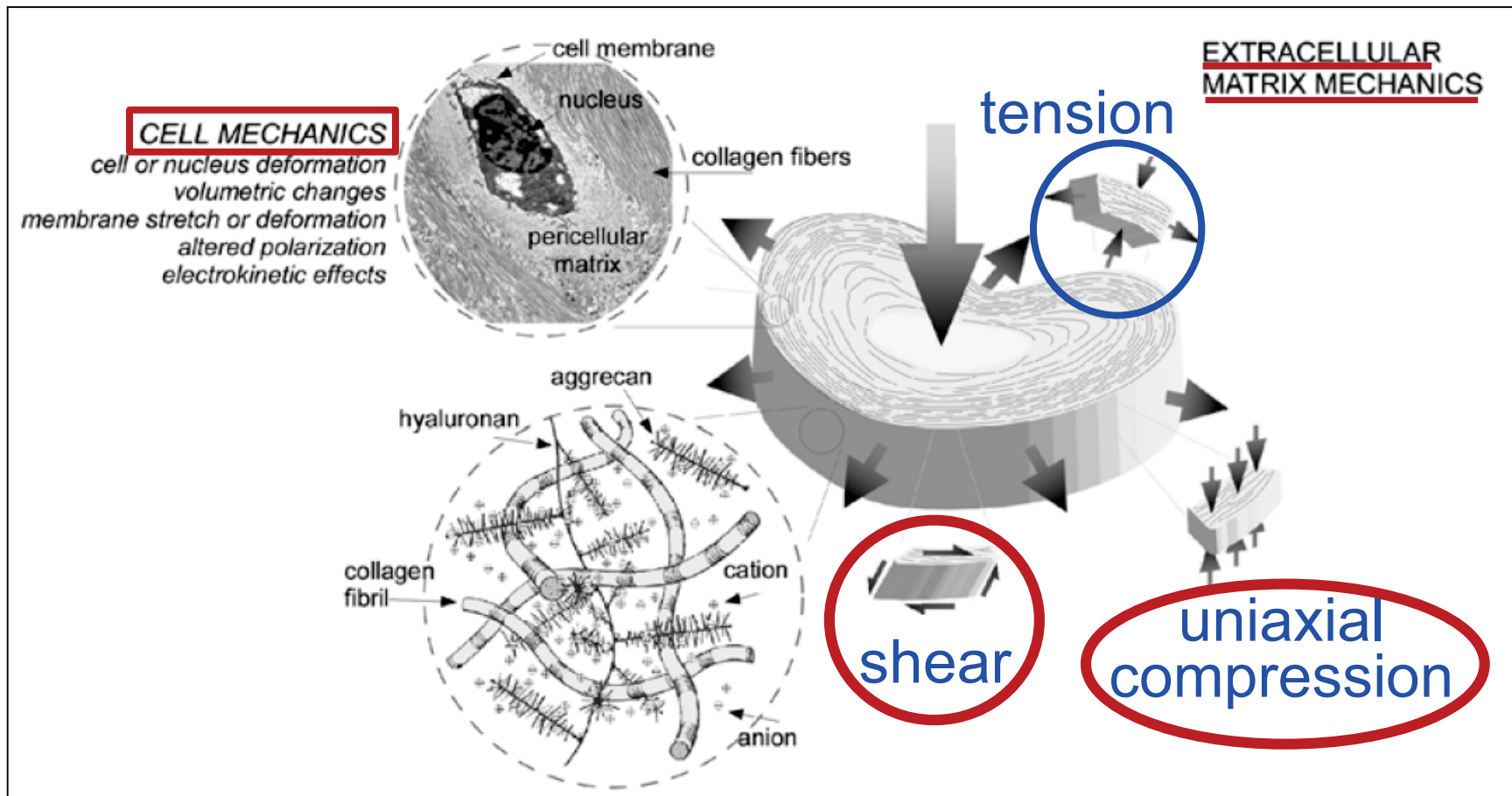
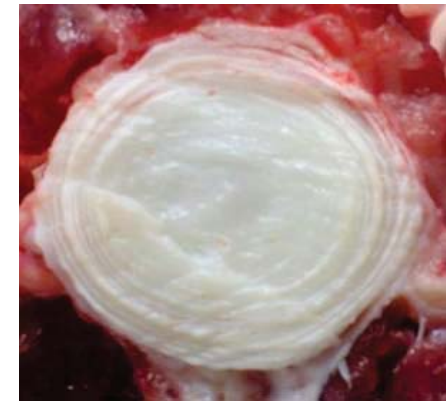
Astronauts gain  $\approx 2$  inches in height during space flight: swelling of the intervertebral discs under 0-gravity:

"swelling pressure" of highly charged aggrecan !!



# MECHANOBIOLOGY OF THE INTERVERTEBRAL DISC AND RELEVANCE TO DISC DEGENERATION

BY LORI A. SETTON, PHD, AND JUN CHEN, PHD



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(J Bone & Joint Surg, 2006)



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Lander, J Cell Biol, 2000: “....PGs have been credited with controlling: cell division, adhesion, spreading, migration, chemoattraction, axon guidance, matrix assembly, lipoprotein uptake, extracellular proteolysis, and viral entry....”

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Spring 2015

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