Robert Hooke, Self-Assembly, and Force Laws

> J. M. McBride Yale University

ICMR Stereochemistry Summer SchoolUC Santa BarbaraAugust 22, 2005

Preambles:

Force Laws & Snowflakes

1 the ONION®

a.v. club | greater | subscriptions | books | personals

ONION PREMIUM: LOGIN HELP

NEWSLETTERS CONTESTS

Search

VOLUME 41 ISSUE 33

News

AMERICA'S FINEST NEWS SOURCE

17 AUGUST 2005

Recent Issues

RELIGION

Front Page

Evangelical Scientists Refute Gravity With New 'Intelligent Falling' Theory

KANSAS CITY, KS—As the debate over the teaching of evolution in public schools continues, a new controversy over the science curriculum arose Monday in this embattled Midwestern state. Scientists from the Evangelical Center For Faith-Based Reasoning are now asserting that the long-held "theory of gravity" is flawed, and they have responded to it with a new theory of Intelligent Falling.



Above: Rev. Gabriel Burdett (left) explains Intelligent Falling.

"Things fall not because they are acted upon by some gravitational force, but because a higher intelligence, 'God' if you will, is pushing them down," said Gabriel Burdett, who holds degrees in education, applied Scripture, and physics from Oral Roberts University.

Burdett added: "Gravity—which is taught to our children as a law—

is founded on great gaps in understanding. The laws predict the mutual force between all bodies of mass, but they cannot explain that force. Isaac Newton himself said, 'I suspect that my theories may all depend upon a force for which philosophers have searched all of nature in vain.' Of course, he is alluding to a higher power."

Founded in 1987, the ECFR is the world's leading institution of evangelical physics, a branch of physics based on literal interpretation of the Bible.

"Things fall not because they are acted upon by some gravitational force, but because a higher intelligence, 'God' if you will, is pushing them down," said Gabriel Burdett, who holds degrees in education, applied Scripture, and physics from Oral Roberts University.

When does a Chain of Atoms Snap?



Force Laws & Molecular Structure

 $F = -k \Delta x$ Spring $F = -k / (\Delta r)^2$ Gravity / Electrical Charge



Single Minimum

Double Minimum



Force Laws are pretty Fundamental.

When / How / Why by Whom were they Discovered?





Olaus Magnus (Rome, 1555)

Chapt. 22: On the various shapes of snow



Olaus Magnus (Rome, 1555)



René Descartes Les Météores (1637)

Erasmus Bartolinus (1661)

...Hook

look mo

These ir

but fror

Medico

THO



"Snatched Snowflakes"

"Careful study of the images which Hooke published reveal that he himself was not above plagiarism."

> Brian J. Ford (1996) Microscopist & Columnist for *Mensa*

akes that eal thing. iture *Usu*





Primary

Bartholinus (1661)



Herringbone



Hooke (1665)

> Wilson "Snowflake" Bentley (1865-1931)





Descartes (1637)

> Bartholinus (1661)



Fleur de Lys



Hooke (1665)

> Nature via "Snowflake" Bentley (1931)



Hooke was copying Nature, not Bartholinus, nor Descartes.

B. J. Ford to J.M.M. (6/15/05)

"The flakes you chose to analyze aren't the definitive examples, I fear. The clincher is the flake labelled K."



Hooke (1665)

"How we careful not to reproduce images directly but - as was the habit - toppake small changes so that he can be accused of Repairs here to the top the state the K flate couldn't possibly ge coincidence.

And it was not, assuredly not, observed in nature! B.J.F. to J.M.M. (6/16/05)

"elegant argument...though, having looked at a great many snowflakes under the microscope, I am not persuaded." "Hooke was a particularly pushy and strident character, a man for whom I have unlimited admiration. But I don't doubt that he took Bartholin's pictures as his source."

Who was Robert Hooke, and what did he do to deserve this reputation?

Background: Bacon, the Royal Society & the "Scientific Method"





Who was Robert Hooke?

> Micrographia Mushrooms & Self Assembly (1665)

ceiiinosssttuu.





Hooke's Coded Top Ten List (1676)

Hooke's Law & Its Utility (1678)



Gravity, Geometry & Newton (1679-1687)







Jebel Musa (Morocco) ULTRA

Jebel al Tarik (Gibraltar)

Pillars of Hercules

www.confluence.org



"Many will pass through and knowledge will be increased." Daniel 12:4

Instauratio Magna (1620)

"...that wisdom which we have derived principally from the Greeks is but like the boyhood of knowledge, and has the characteristic property of boys: it can talk, but it cannot generate;"

"...it is but a device for exempting ignorance from ignominy."

"...the end which this science of mine proposes is the invention not of arguments but of arts."

"...not so much by instruments as by experiments ...skilfully and artificially devised for the express purpose of determining the point in question."

"restoration of learning and knowledge"



Ac ne forte roges, quo me duce, quo lare tuter, Nullius addictus jurare in verba magistri Quo me cumque rapit tempestas, deferor hospes.

Horace (15 B.C.)

Lost values of who leads
Institute what household
Looger
National and the storm
bound to take an oath,
Wherever the storm
forces me, there I put in as a guest.

"The Royal Society for the Improving of Natural Knowledge by Experiments"



Focus on Mechanics and Mechanism

...I had call'd to mind what my Curiosity for Dissections has shown me, and remembred how many Bones, and Muscles, and Veins, and Arteries, and Grisles, and Ligaments, and Nerves, and Membranes, and Juices, a humane Body is made up of...

Upon the Accidents of an Ague Robert Boyle (1665) ...it being no more strange that a Man's Body should be subject to Pain, or Sickness, than that an Instrument with above a thousand Strings (if there were any such) should frequently be out of Tune...

the inimitable Structure of humane Bodies is scarce more admirable, than that such curious and elaborate Engines can be so contriv'd, as not to be oftner out of order than they are...

Robert Boyle (1665)



Our Life contains a thousand Springs, And dies if one be gone; Strange! that a Harp of thousand strings Should keep in Tune so long.

Isaac Watts (1707)

Mechanical Understanding is a Venerable Tradition in British Science

I am never content until I have constructed a mechanical model of what I am studying. If I succeed in making one, I understand; otherwise I do not.

Lord Kelvin, *Baltimore Lectures (1884)*



Robert Hooke

- 1635 Born youngest son of Isle of Wight curate
- 1648 Father dies

To London, apprenticed to Peter Lely

Westminster School horal" Schol 1653 1655 ab A tant to Rob Curator of Experimen 1662 - (unsalaried) Louise Frestversattein Btay ~1637

Some Hooke Inventions







Double-Hung Sash Window



"I have, by the help of a distended wire, propagated the sound to a very considerable distance in an instant, or with as seemingly quick a motion as that of light"

Some Hooke Instruments



Index Barometer

Oat Beard Hygrometer, Weather 'Clock' & Many Other Meterological Instruments Reflecting Quadrant Micrometer Screw, Telescopic Sight (clockwork drive & spirit level)



Compound Microscope

"By the addition of such artificial Instruments and methods, ther Davis det on Measure from a pay and from a discrete to many and from the second terms of the second terms and imperfection, mankind has drawn upon it self." Micrographia Preface (1665)

Some Hooke Discoveries

Spots and Rotation of Jupiter & Mars



"Chladni" Figures

Fossil record of mutability of Earth and species



Role of the lungs in aerating blood Consumption of "nitrous air" by combustion

Three Weeks for Hooke (October, 1663)

Prepare a paper on what should be observed and recorded for a history of weather Make and demonstrate a hygroscope from the beard of a wild oat, with an index Prepare two thermometers (tin and glass, invented by Wren) Make an artificial eye. Prepare a suitable concave glass for projecting a picture in a lighted room Remove and restitch a piece of a dog's skin to see if it will regrow Move in at Gresham College Supervise making a new air pump and a machine for measuring the force of gunpowder Prepare micrographs of common fly and moss growing on brick Care for Society Repository - labeling objects (with provenance) Prepare demo of lineless depth sounder to show King Charles Graft feathers onto a cock's comb



MICROGRAPHIA:

Physiological Descriptions

OF

MINUTE BODIES

MAGNIFYING GLASSES.

WITH

OBSERVATIONS and INQUIRIES thereupon.

By R. HOOKE, Fellow of the ROYAL SOCIETY.

Non possion of the second and the se



LONDON, Printed by Jo. Martyn, and Ja. Alleftry, Printers to the ROYAL SOCIETY, and are to be fold at their Shop at the Bell in S. Panl's Church-yard. M DC LX V.


TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY

...I have added some *Conjectures*...And therefore ... I must also beg YOUR *pardon*. The Rules YOU have prescrib'd YOURselves in YOUR Philosophical Progress do seem the best that have ever yet been practis'd. And particularly that of avoiding *Dogmatizing*, and the espousal of any Hypothesis not sufficiently grounded and confirm'd by *Experiments*.

...I desire them to be understood only as *Conjectures* and *Quaeries.*





Observ. XI. Of Figures observ'd in small Sand



0.3 mm



http://www.fathom.com

First Protozoan Picture

Foraminifer from Dover Cliffs

Observ. XII. Of Gravel in Urine



"How great an advantage it would be to such as are troubled with the Stone, to find some *menstruum* that might dissolve them without hurting the bladder."



"there was not any regular Figure, which I have hitherto met withal, that I could not with bullets...imitate, even almost by shaking them together."

"...the Philosophers hitherto... conclude nature in these things to play the Geometrician, according to that saying of *Plato*God does geometry

"impossible to imitate exactly the curious and Geometrical *Mechanism* of Nature in any [snowflake]"

"Nor have I hitherto found indeed an opportunity of prosecuting the inquiry "... I designed... to get as exact and full a collection as I could, of all the differing kinds of Geometrical figur'd OED's 1st use of "crystallization" bodies... in the English Language Having such a multitude of instances to compare...as in the Solution and Crystallization of Salts, we cannot but learn plentifull information...of the Principle which Nature has made use of almost in all inanimate bodies."

Hooke's Mechanism of Growth

Imagination Sensation Amination Plantamination Vegetation Germination or Ebullition Angulization or Crystallization **Fixation** Orbiculation Fluidity



"The several kinds of hairy mouldy spots... are all of them nothing else but several kinds of small and variously figur'd Mashcomof' the

of Wege tation appear (that I know of) that Class to may be generated from a seed,

but they rather seem to depend merely upon a convenient constitution of the matter out of which they are made, and a concurrence of either natural or artificial heat."

"concreeted by mechanical principles"







Petrifying Water "I have seen some knobb'd a little at the lower end, though, for the most part, indeed, they are otherwise."

celosvetovy.webz.cz/velkekras2

Growth by Self-Assembly

"...as far as I have been able to look into the nature of this Primary kind of life and vegetation, I cannot find the least probable argument to perswade me there is any other concurrent cause then such as is purely Mechanical..."

Observ. 17:

Of Petrify'd wood, and other Petrify'd bodies

Observ. 18:

Of the Schematisme *or* Texture *of* Cork, *and of the Cells and Pores of some other such frothy Bodies* "This is a Creature so officious that 'twill be known to every one at one time or other,

so busie, and so impudent, that it will be intruding itself in every ones company,

and so proud and aspiring withall, that it fears not to trample on the best, and affects nothing so much as a Crown..."

So, naturalists observe, a flea Has smaller fleas that on him prey; And these have smaller still to bite 'em; And so proceed *ad infinitum*.

1. 210

Jonathan Swift (1667-1745)



Schem 2007IV

To conclude therefore, it being very probable, that the Moon has a principle of gravitation, it affords an excellent diffinguishing instance in the fearch after the cause of gravitation, or attraction, to hint, that it does not depend upon the diurnal or turbinated motion of the Earth



Obs. 58. Of the Inflection of the Rays of Light in the Air

But it being more likely, that there is a continual increase of rarity in the parts of the Air, the further they are removed from the furface of the Earth: It will hence necessarily follow, that (as in the Experiment of the falt and fresh Water) the ray of Light passing obliquely through the Air also, which is of very different density, will be continually, and infinitely inflected, or bended, from a streight, or direct motion.

cancelled by

 $F \propto 1/r^2$

we will suppose a Cylinder in-

definitely extended upwards,

American mathematicians visit Newton's apple tree

Oct. 1665 - April 1667

Lisa Kolbe www.maa.org/england/

Confus'd Pulses of Light





Newton to Hooke Feb. 5, 1676

"What Des-Cartes did was a good step. You have added much several ways, & especially in taking y^e colours of thin plates into philosophical consideration.

If I have seen further it is by standing on y^e shoulders of giants."

From Laosko il Waa So 2 A. U. NGR BA BKtor (1924)

Gresham London 1666 College Moorfields dent of fire fpace figni & where th prest those at Fire

Want of ochies by Hooken, Gity. S. (Every burofies and Buildings)



Hooke's Bethlehem Hospital (1675) (Bedlam)



A DESCRIPTION OF HELIOSCOPES, And fome other

INSTRUMENTS

MADE BY

ROBERT HOOKE, Fellow of the Royal Society.

> Hos ego, &c. Sic vos non vobis——.

> > LONDON,

Printed by T. R. for John Martyn Printer to the Royal Society; at the Bell in St. Pauls Church-yard, 1676. Hos ego versiculos feci, tulit alter honores: Sic vos non vobis nidificatis aves; Sic vos non vobis vellera fertis oves; Sic vos non vobis mellificatis apes; Sic vos non vobis fertis aratra boves.

Of these short verses I composed, another person had the honour: So you not for yourself build a nest,o birds; So you not for yourself bear the wool,o sheep; So you not for yourself make honey,o bees; So you not for yourself pull the plough,o oxen

> ALTRUISM PLAGIARISM

1676

To fill the vacancy of the enfuing page, I have here added a decimate of the cente [me of the Inventions I intend to publifh, $0.1\% = 10 \implies 10,000$ Inventions, but as I can get opportunity and leafure; molt of which, I hope, will be as useful to Mankind, as they are yet unknown and new.

I. A way of Regulating all forts of Watches or Timekeepers, so as to make any way to equalize, if not exceed the Pendulum-Clocks now used.



Hooke (1660)



Henry Oldenburg



Christiaan Huygens



\$3,000,000 Longitude Prize (1714)



"Association" Disaster (1707)

"...for determining the longitude at sea, there have been several projects, true in theory but difficult to execute... one is by a watch...but by reason of the motion of the ship...variation of heat and cold...such a watch hath not yet been made..." Issac Newton (1714)

> ±25 miles to West Indies required ±2 sec/day at sea!

\$3,000,000 Longitude Prize (1714)



"Association" Disaster (1707)



Won 45 years later by John Harrison (1759)

Maritime Maritime Museum Pendulum-Clocks now used.

2. The true Mathematical and Mechanichal form of all manner of Arches for Building, with the true butment necessary to each of them. A Problem which no Archite Etonick Writer hath ever yet attempted, much lefs performed. abccc ddeeeee f gg iiiiiiii llmmmmnnnnooprr sssttuttuuuuuuux.

Coded as an Anagram

Solution revealed 29 years later by Hooke's executor

"Ut pendet continuum flexile, sic stabit contiguum rigidum inversum"

"As a flexible cable hangs, thus, inverted, stand touching pieces of a rigid arch.



Pendulum-Clocks now used.

2. The true Mathematical and Mechanichal form of all manner of Arches for Building, with the true butment necessary to each of them. A Problem which no Archite Etonick Writer hath ever yet attempted, much lefs performed. abccc ddeeeee fgg iiiiiiii llmmmmnnnn00prr ssstttittuuduuuux.

3. The true Theory of Elasticity or Springiness, and a particular Explication thereof in several Subjects in which it is to be found: And the way of computing the velocity of Bodies moved by them. ceiiinosssttuu.

4. A very plain and practical way of counterpoifing Liquors, of great use in Hydraulicks. Discovered. 5. A new sort of Object-Glasses for Telescopes and Microscopes, much outdoing any yet used. Discovered. 6. A new Selenoscope, case enough to be made and nsed, whereby the smallest inequality of the Moons surface and limb may be most plainly distinguished. Discovered.

7. A new fort of Horizontal Sayls for a Mill, performing the most that any Horizontal Sayls of that bigness are capable of; and the various use of that principle on divers other occasions. Discovered.

8. A new way of Post-Charriot for travelling far, without musch mearying Horse or Rider. Discovered.

9. A new fort of Philosophical-Scales, of great use in Experimental Philosophy. cdeiinnoopsssttuu.

10. A new Invention in Mechanicks of prodigious use, exceeding the chimera's of perpetual motions for several uses. a 2 a 2 b c c d d e e e e e g i i i l m m n n 0 0 p p q r r r r s t t t u u u u u. "Pondere praemit aer vacuum quod ab igne relictum est" 2 a e f f h i i i i l l n r r s s t u u.?

"By its weight air presses on the vacuum left by fire"



n

LECTURES De Potentia Restitutiva,

OR OF SPRING

Explaining the Power of Springing Bodies.

.To which are added fome

COLLECTIONS Viz.

A Defcription of Dr. Pappins Wind-Fountain and Force-Pump. Mr. Young's Semanation concerning natural Fountains. Some other Confide and the ming that Subject. Captain Sturmy's remarks of a Subterraneous Cave and Ciftern. Mr. G. T. Obfervations made on the Pike of Teneriff, 1674. Some Reflection and Conjectures occasioned thereupon. A Relation of a late Eruption in the Ife of Palma.

BY ROBERT HOOKE. S.R.S.

LONDON,

Brinted for John Martyn Printer to the Royal Society, at the Bell in St. Pauls Church-Yard, 1678.

1678

[1]

Potentia Reflitutiva, or SPRING.



He Theory of Springs, though attempted by divers eminent Mathematicians of this Age has hitherto not been Published by any. It it now about eighteen years fince I first found it out, but designing to apply it to some particular use, I omitted the

publishing thereof.
About three years fince His Majesty was pleased to fee the Experiment that made out this Theory tried at White-Hall, as also my Spring Watch.

From this it will be eafie to make a Philosophical Scale to examine the weight of any body without putting in weights, which was that which I mentioned at the end of my defcription of Heliofcopes, the ground of which was veiled under this Anagram, cediinnoopsssttun, namely, Ut pondus sictenfio. The fabrick of which fee in the three first figures. This Scale I contrived in order to examine the gravitation of bodies towards the Center of the Earth, viz. to examine whether bodies at a further distance from the Center of the Earth did not lofe fomewhat of their power or tendency towards it. And prounded it as one of the Experiments to be tried at the top of the Pike of Teneriff, and attempted the fame at the top of the Tower of St. Pauls before the burning of it in the late great Fire 3 as also at the top and bottom of the Abby of St. Peters in Westminster though these being by but small distances removed from the Surface, I was not able certainly to perceive any manifest difference. I propounded the fame also to

2 z

Pag: 1.

OI OK OL

OM

Fig



It now remains, that I fhew how the conftitutions of fpringy bodies being fuch, the Vibrations of a Spring, or a Body moved by a Spring, equally and uniformly fhall be of equal duration whether they be greater or lefs.

[17]

I have here already fhewed then that the power of all Springs is proportionate to the degree of flexure, *viz.* one degree of flexure, or one fpace bended hath one power, two hath two, and three hath three, and fo forward. And every point of the fpace of flexure hath a peculiar power, and confequently there being infinite points of the fpace, there must be infinite degrees of power.

 $E \propto d^2$

Now the comparative Velocities of any bodymoved are infubduplicate proportion to the aggregates or fums of the powers by which it is moved

> $V \propto \sqrt{E}$ ($E \propto V^2$)







Hooke to Newton Nov. 24,1679

I hope...that you will please to continue your former favours to the Society by communicating

...you may be assured that whatever shall be soe communicated shall be noe otherwise further imparted or disposed of than you yourself shall praescribe.

I am not ignorant that both heretofore, and not long since also, there have been some who have indeavoured to misrepresent me to you...but difference of opinion, if such there be (especially in philosophical matters where interest hath little concerne) methinks should not be the occasion of enmity...

I shall take it as a great favour if you shall please to communicate by letter your objections against any hypothesis or opinion of mine; and particularly...that of compounding the celestiall motions of the planetts of a direct motion...and an attractive motion towards the centrall body

I should be glad if by perpendicular observations, we could determine the difference of latitude between London and Cambridge...



Nov. 28,1679

I cannot but acknowledge my self every way by the kindness of your letter tempted to concur with your desires...heartily sorry I am that...I had for some years last been endeavouring to bend myself from philosophy to other studies ...unless it be perhaps at idle hours sometimes for a diversion.

...I did not, before the receipt of your last letter, so much as heare (that I remember) of your hypothesis of compounding the celestial motions of the planets, of a direct motion by the tangent to the curve and of the laws and causes of springyness, though these no doubt are well known to the philosophical world.

...my own short sightedness and tenderness of health makes me something unfit [for perpendicular observations]

In requital of this advertisement I shall communicate to you a fancy of my own about discovering the earth's diurnal motion.



Newton Falling Body "Fancy" (11/28/79)

Plumb Bob



J. Lohne (1960)



Hooke to Newton January 1680

Jan 6: Your calculation of the curve described by a body attracted by an aequal power at all distances from the center

but my supposition is that the attraction always is in duplicate proportion to the



December 3, 1680Michael NauenbergNewton: "I am indebted to you than(ks03)

L. Bendavio.

Halley to Newton May 20, ewton dropped Mre Hook has some pretensions upon the invention of y^e rule of the decrease of being reciprocally as the squares of the distances from the Center. He sais you had the notion fi him, though he owns the Demonstration of the whereas he should rather have excused himself by reason of his inability. For tis plain by his words be knew not how to go about it.

Now is not this very fine? Mathematicians that find out, settle & do all the business must content themselves with being nothing but dry calculators & drudges & another that does nothing but pretend & grasp at all things must carry away all the invention



almost Hooke^vDid It Geometrically!

and with a "*physicall reason*" for 1/r²

Hooke latrochemistry

- Aug.1 (also 2,3,4) "Drank U [iron] and S [mercury]" ... "was ill"
- Aug. 31 "Slept ill by reason of tart at noon. Gott up a little and rectifyd my stomack with white aniseed N [distillate]."
- Sept. 1 "Drank steel. benummd my head..."

1672

- Sept. 2 "At Dr. Godderds tastd tinture of wormwood..."
- Sept. 3 "took ,ii [2 oz.] of infusion of Crocus metall [Na₃SbS₃?], vomited."
- Sept. 22 "took syrup of popys, slept little with sweat and wild frightfull dreames."
- Oct. 1 "took spirit of urine and laudanum with milk for the three preceeding nights. Slept pretty well."
- Oct. 25 "took conserves and flowers of Q [sulfur] after which I slept well, but had a bloody dysentry the next day soe that I swooned and was violently griped, but I judge it did me good for my Rhume."
- Dec. 27 "made oyle of bitter almonds, put some in right ear...slept ill.

Lived another 31 years!

Died 1703 aged 67 with £10,000 estate and no will

An illiterate distant cousin soon went through his estate.







Hooke's Mass Grave? (1892)

Photo M. Cooper



NatWest Tower 42 ↑ Gresham College

Hooke's List of his Works

Theory of Mohim .

= of Gradpa - of migneticky. - of Gunbewer. - of the Heavens.

Improving shipping - watches - Opticas

- Engines for made - Engines for larrise

Inquiry into the figures of Brigs. - Qualitys of Bodys -

Ron Rosier www.maa.org/england/



Westminster Abbey March 3, 2005

roberthooke.org.uk



Thanks

Stephen Inwood, The Forgotten Genius (2002)

Bennett, Cooper, Hunter, Jardine, London's Leonardo (2003)

Michael Cooper, *A More Beautiful City* (2003) Lisa Jardine, *The Curious Life of Robert Hooke* (2004)

John Heilbron, Ted Davis

Michael Cooper, Patri Pugliese

Michael Nauenberg

Beinecke Library



John F. Fulton (1899-1960)

Yale Medical Historical Library

Preface to Micrographia (1665)

The good success of all these great Men, and many others, and the now feemingly great obviousness of most of their and divers other Inventions, which from the beginning of the world have been, as 'twere, trodon, and yet not minded till these last inquisitive Ages (an Argument that there may be yet behind multitudes of the like) puts me in mind to recommend fuch Studies, and the profecution of them by fuch methods, to the Gentlemen of our Nation, whose leifure makes them fit to undertake, and the plenty of their fortunes to accomplish, extraordinary things in this way. And I do not only propose this kind of Experimental Philosophy as a matter of high rapture and delight of the mind, but even as a material and fenfi-So vaft is the variety of Objects which will come under ble Pleafure. their Infrections, fo many different wayes there are of handling them, fo great is the fatisfaction of finding out new things, that I dare compare the contentment which they will injoy, not only to that of contemplation, but even to that which most men prefer of the very Senses themselves.