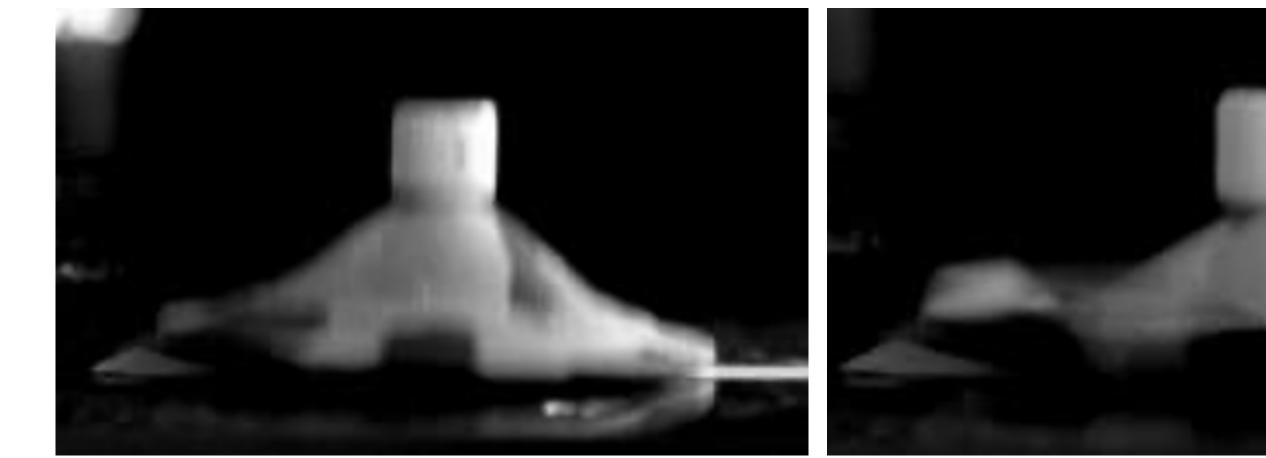


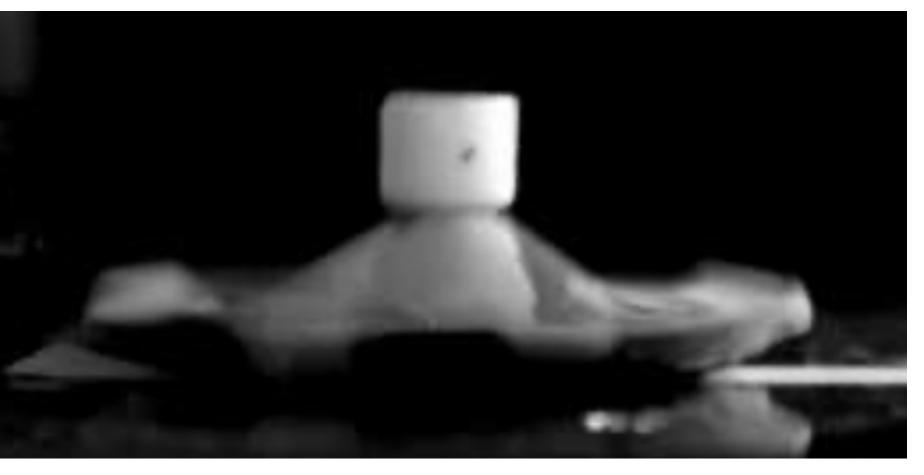
THE DYNAMICS OF JUMPING POPPERS

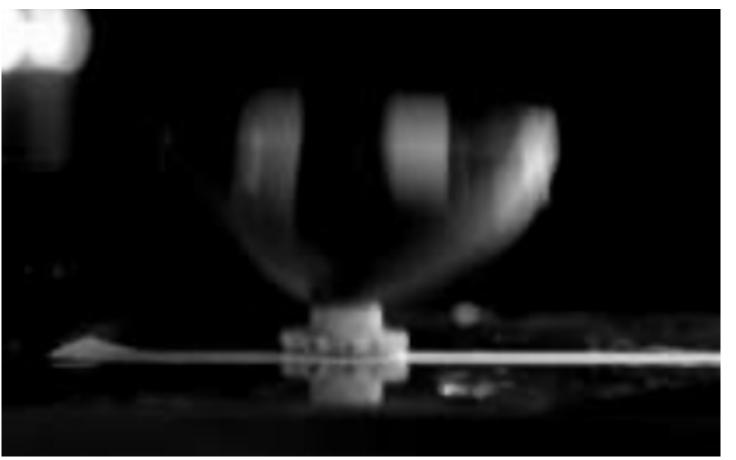
—MMSC CASE STUDY PROJECT—

Proposed by Marc Suñé

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Mathematical Institute, HT 2025



Static bistability of spherical

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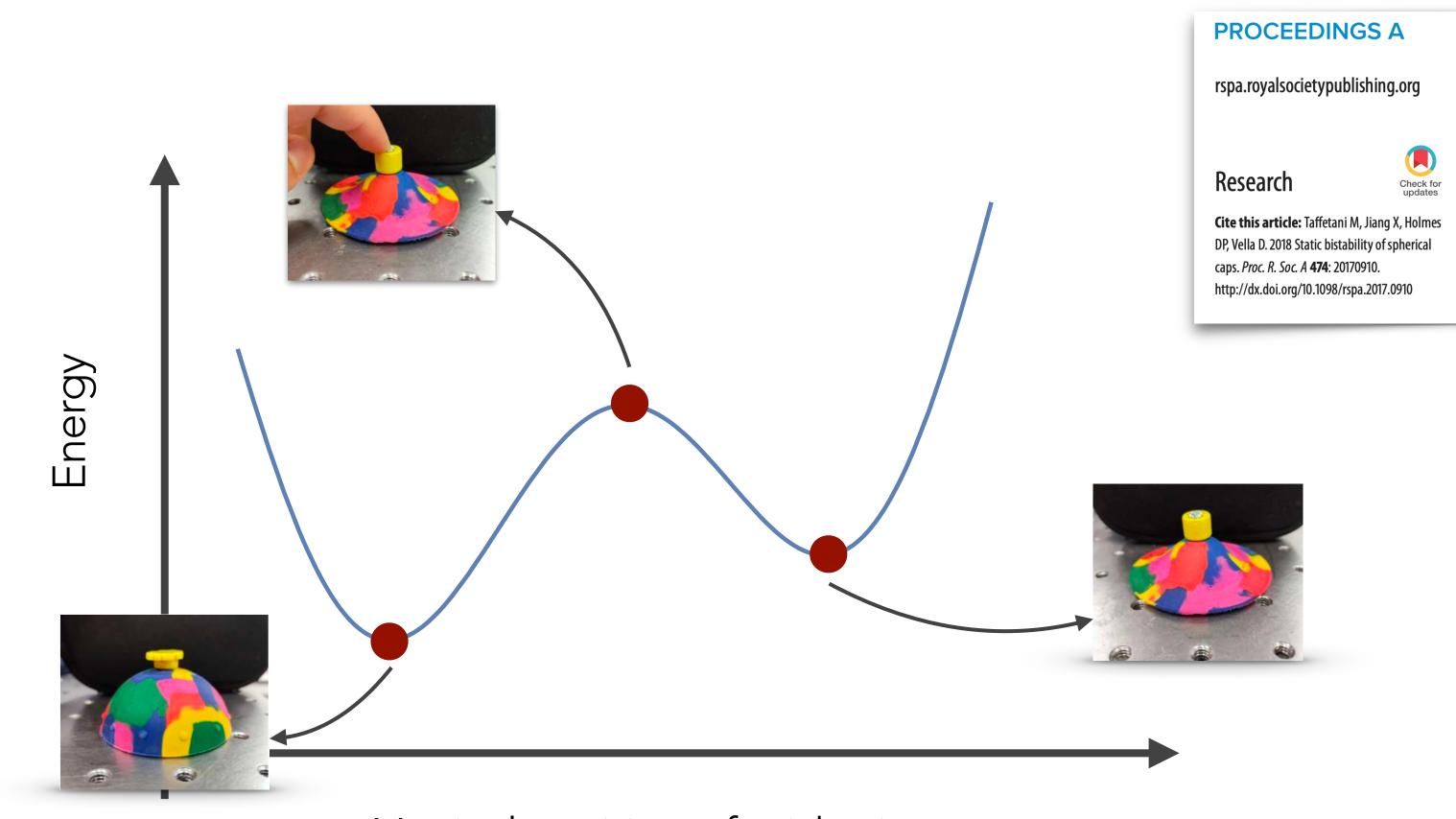
caps

and Dominic Vella¹

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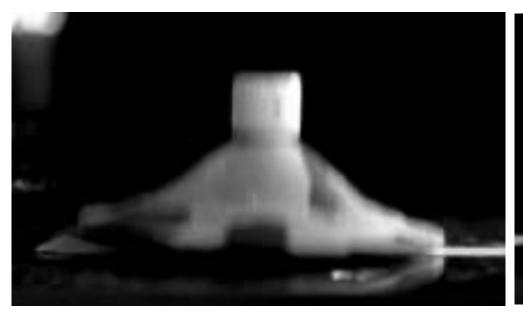
HEURISTICS—STATICS



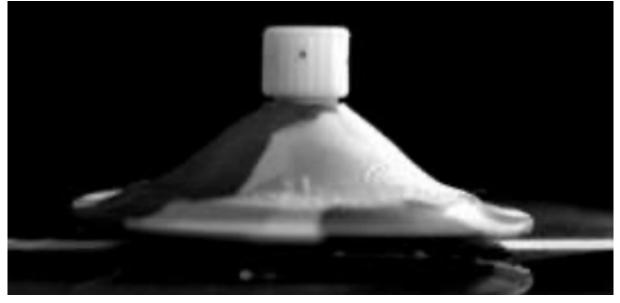
Vertical position of midpoint

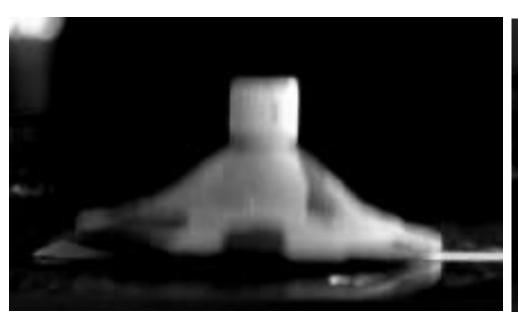


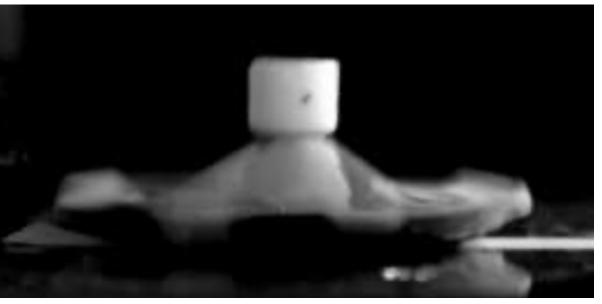
HEURISTICS—DYNAMICS

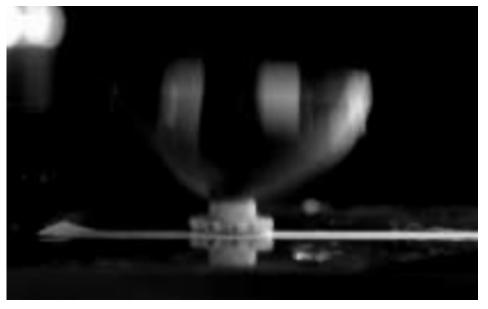




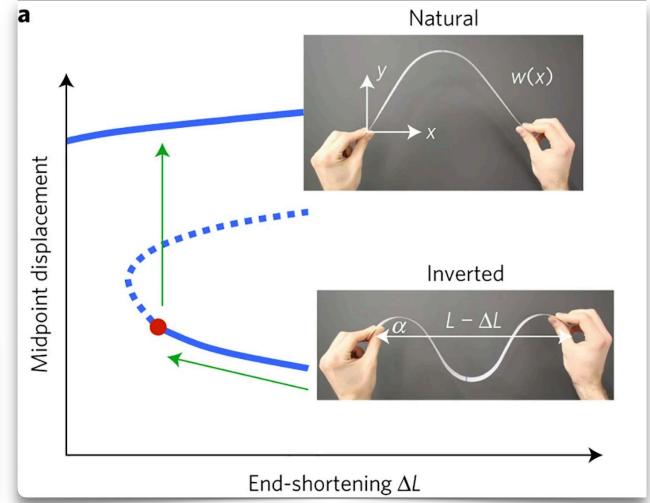












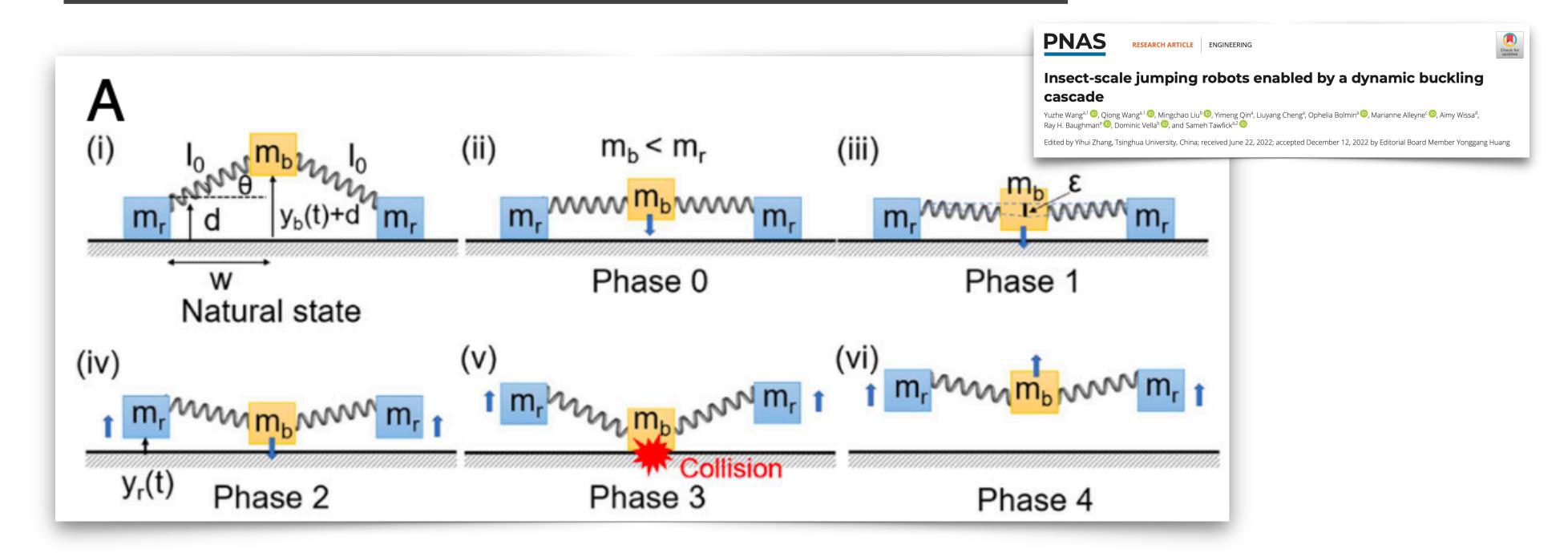


MODEL

Truss model (2D&3D):

- MASSES
- SPRINGS
- TORSION SPRINGS (TO BREAK UP-DOWN SYMMETRY)







PROPOSAL

STATICS:

- WRITE DOWN THE CONTINUUM MECHANICS MODELS FOR THE MECHANICAL EQUILIBRIUM OF SHALLOW SHELLS AND ELASTIC BEAMS.
- IDENTIFY THE RELEVANT DIMENSIONLESS PARAMETERS AND THE CORRESPONDING BIFURCATION BEHAVIOUR.
- TUNE THE TRUSS MODEL SO THAT IT HAS THE SAME BIFURCATION BEHAVIOUR AS THESE.

DYNAMICS:

- Write down the ODEs of the truss model.
- DENTIFY THE DIFFERENT PHASES OF THE MOTION...
- INTEGRATE THE TRUSS MODEL
 - ANALYTICALLY—WITH APPROXIMATIONS
 - Numerically—matlab



SCIENTIFIC QUESTIONS

- CAN WE FIND A LAW FOR THE MINIMUM HEIGHT REQUIRED FOR JUMPING?
- CAN WE TUNE THE GEOMETRIC PARAMETERS TO OPTIMISE THE JUMPING?
- ... EXPERIMENTS? WHY NOT?!

REFERENCES





LETTERS

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nature physics

Critical slowing down in purely elastic 'snap-through' instabilities

Michael Gomez, Derek E. Moulton and Dominic Vella*

Transient Amplification of Broken Symmetry in Elastic Snap-Through

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS 132, 267201 (2024)

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Research



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Static bistability of spherical caps

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Dynamics of snapping beams and jumping poppers

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