



# Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles

*Vladimir Zatsiorsky, Boris Prilutsky*

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Richly illustrated and presented in clear, concise language, *Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles* is an essential resource for those seeking advanced knowledge of muscle biomechanics. Written by leading experts Vladimir Zatsiorsky and Boris Prilutsky, the text is one of the few to look at muscle biomechanics in its entirety—from muscle fibers to muscle coordination—making it a unique contribution to the field.

Using a blend of experimental evidence and mechanical models, *Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles* provides an explanation of whole muscle biomechanics at work in the body in motion. The book first addresses the mechanical behavior of single muscles—from the sarcomere level up to the entire muscle. The architecture of human muscle, the mechanical properties of tendons and passive muscles, the biomechanics of active muscles, and the force transmission and shock absorption aspects of muscle are explored in detail. Next, the various issues of muscle functioning during human motion are addressed. The transformation from muscle force to joint movements, two-joint muscle function, eccentric muscle action, and muscle coordination are analyzed.

This advanced text assumes some knowledge of algebra and calculus; however, the emphasis is on understanding physical concepts. Higher-level computational descriptions are placed in special sections in the later chapters of the book, allowing those with a strong mathematical background to explore this material in more detail. Readers who choose to skip over these sections will find that the book still provides a strong conceptual understanding of advanced topics.

*Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles* also contains numerous special features that facilitate readers' comprehension of the topics presented. More than 300 illustrations and accompanying explanations provide an extensive visual representation of muscle biomechanics. Refresher sidebars offer brief reminders of mathematical and biomechanical concepts, and From the Literature sidebars present practical examples that illustrate the concepts under discussion. Chapter summaries and review questions provide an opportunity for reflection and self-testing, and reference lists at the end of each chapter provide a starting point for further study.

*Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles* offers a thorough explanation of whole muscle biomechanics, bridging the gap between foundational biomechanics texts and scientific literature. With the information found in this text, readers can prepare themselves to better understand the latest in cutting-edge research.

*Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles* is the third volume in the Biomechanics of Human Motion series. Advanced readers in human movement science gain a comprehensive understanding of the biomechanics of human motion as presented by one of the world's foremost researchers on the subject, Dr. Vladimir Zatsiorsky. The series begins with *Kinematics of Human Motion*, which details human body positioning and movement in three dimensions; continues with *Kinetics of Human Motion*, which examines the forces that create body motion and their effects; and concludes with *Biomechanics of Skeletal Muscles*, which explains the action of the biological motors that exert force and produce mechanical work during human movement.

**Important Notice:** The digital edition of this book is missing some of the images found in the physical edition.

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