

**Biomechanics**

**Third Stage/ Biomaterials Engineering and prosthesis  
Branch**

**Presented By**

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# Lecture Four Movement Analysis Levers

## Levers- The basics

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### ➤ The Law of the Lever

The cross product of force and distance is **torque**. The cross product is the mathematical process between two vectors that results in a vector perpendicular to both of the initial vectors. The **law of the lever** is also known as the law of moments and equates clockwise torques and counterclockwise torques. The equation here shows the law of levers:

$$F_1d_1 = F_2d_2$$

Where:

F1: is force1 (load).

d1 : is the distance from the fulcrum to **force 1 is applied**.

F2 : is force 2 (effort).

d2 : is the distance from the fulcrum to **force 2 is produced**.

## Mechanical Advantage (M.A)

- ❖ Mechanical advantage measures the **efficiency** of a lever (how easy it is to lift the load).
- ❖ The mechanical advantage of levers may be determined using the following equations:

$$\text{Mechanical advantage} = \frac{\text{Load (resistance)}}{\text{Effort (force)}}$$

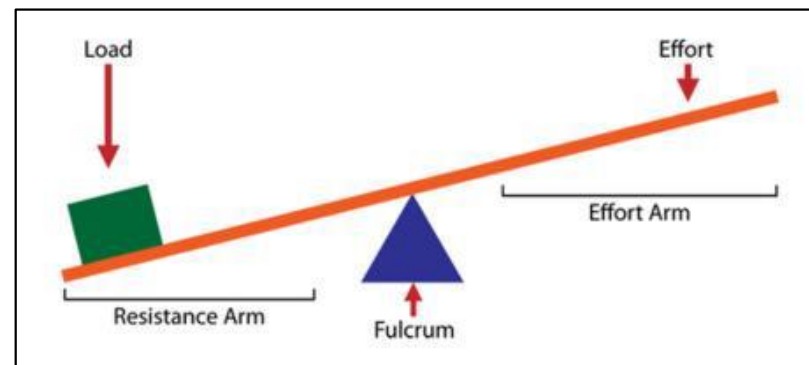
*Or*

$$\text{Mechanical advantage} = \frac{\text{Length of force (arm)}}{\text{Length of resistance (arm)}}$$

It has **no unit**

## Mechanical Advantage (M.A)

- ❖ The advantage depends on the distance between the **effort** and the **fulcrum** (**effort arm**) compared with the distance between the **load** (resistance) and the **fulcrum** (**resistance arm**).

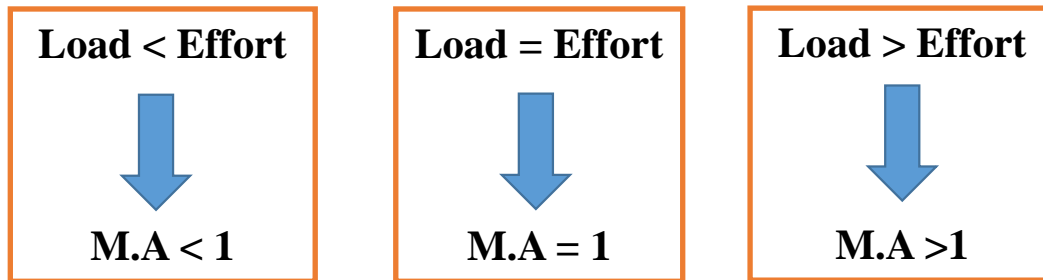


**Resistance arm** =  
Distance between the  
**Load** and the **fulcrum**.

**Effort arm** = Distance  
between the **effort** and  
the **fulcrum**.

## Mechanical Advantage (M.A)

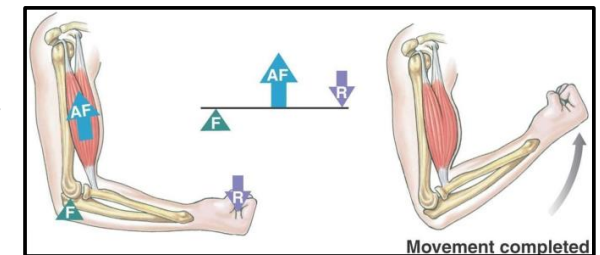
❖ **Mechanical Advantage has three value :**



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❖ Mechanical advantage –Rule 1

- When the **effort** arm is **shorter** than it's **load** arm it has a **low** mechanical advantage.
- A **short effort** arm allows **fast movement** of the load over a **large range of movement**.
- **Third class levers always have a low mechanical advantage** E.g. Bicep curl, rowing



➤ Examples from sport

- Third and most 1<sup>st</sup> class lever have a **shorter effort arm** and longer resistance arm. This means a wide **range of movement** is produced and movements are done at higher **speed**.



## Mechanical Advantage (M.A)

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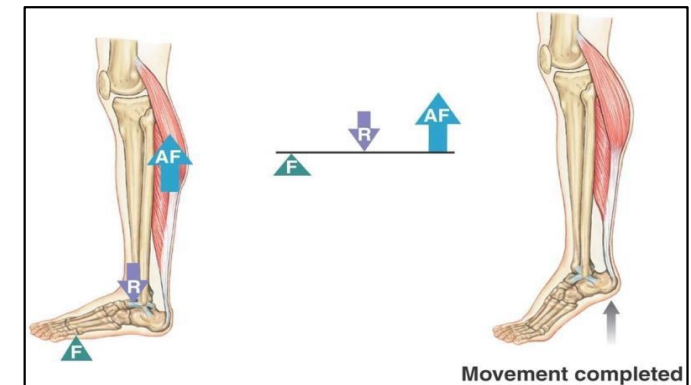
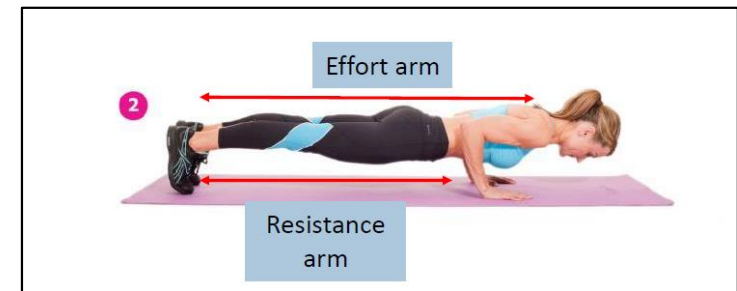
### ❖ Mechanical advantage –Rule 2

- When the **effort** arm is **longer** than it's **load** arm it has a **high** mechanical advantage.
- This means **heavy loads** can be lifted with **little effort**.
- **Second class levers always have a high mechanical advantage**

### ➤ Examples from sport

E.g. Standing on tip toes, or performing a press up.

- The gastrocnemius can easily create enough force to move the whole weight of the body upwards.

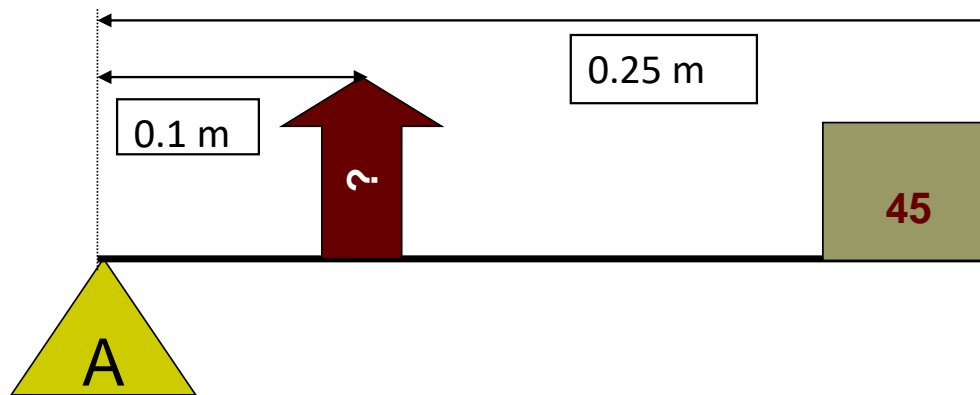


## Exercises

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**Ex.1:** For the following figure how much force needs to be produced to move 45 kg when the length of resistance arm is 0.25 m and the length of effort arm is 0.1 m? With explain the class of this lever?

**Solution:** Third class lever



$$F_1 d_1 = F_2 d_2$$

$$45 * 0.25 = F_2 * 0.1$$

$$F_2 = 112.5 \text{ Kg}$$

**Ex.2:** for the following figure find the following:

1. Fulcrum, Effort, Load.
2. The class of lever.
3. if the force produced was 100 N calculated the force applied with take the distance as following =1m and =2m ?
4. calculated the mechanical advantage?

**Solution:**

1. Fulcrum= Ankle joint  
Effort= Gastrocnemius  
Load= Body

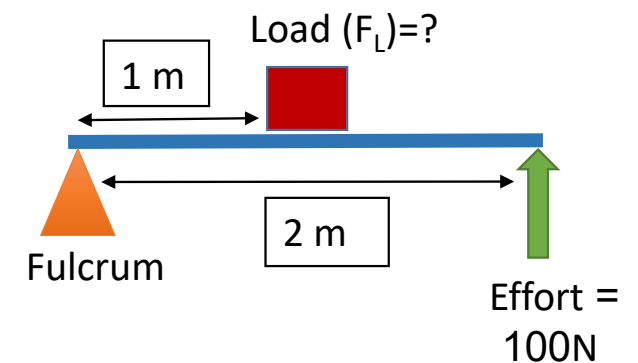
2. Second class lever

3.  $F_L * d_L = F_e * d_e$

$F_L * 1 = 100 * 2 \implies F_L = 200 \text{ N}$

4.  $M.A = \frac{\text{Length of Force}}{\text{Length of Resistance}}$

$M.A = \frac{2 \text{ m}}{1 \text{ m}} = 2$





**Ex.3:** for the following figure find  $F_e$  and explain the class of lever?

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**Solution:**

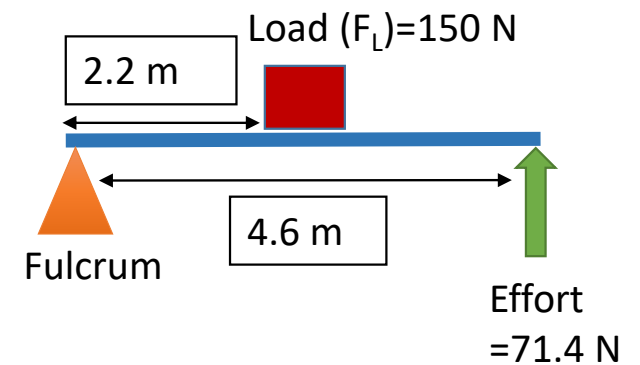
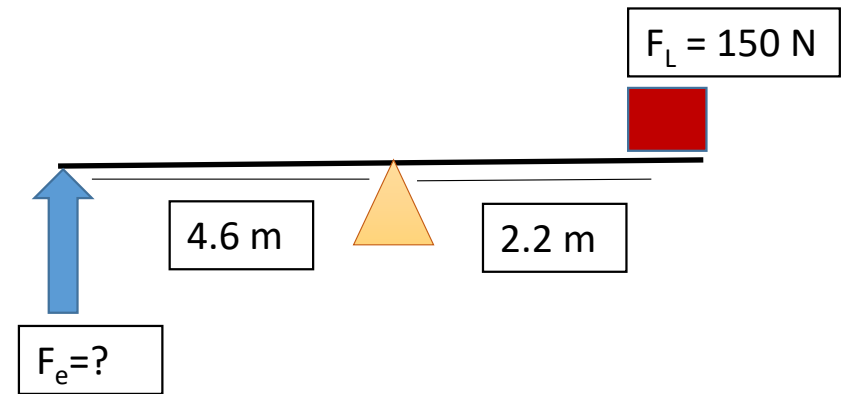
$$M. A. = \frac{\text{length of force (effort)}}{\text{length of resistance (load)}}$$

$$M. A. = \frac{4.6 \text{ m}}{2.2 \text{ m}} = 2.1 \text{ (Second class lever)}$$

$$[F_L * d_L = F_e * d_e] \div d_L$$

$$[F_L = M.A. * F_e] \div M. A.$$

$$F_e = \frac{F_L}{M.A.} = 71.4 \text{ N}$$



**Ex.4:** for the following figure find  $F_L$  and explain the class of lever?

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**Solution:**

$$M.A. = \frac{\text{length of force (effort)}}{\text{length of resistance (load)}}$$

$$M.A. = \frac{1.5}{4} = 0.375$$

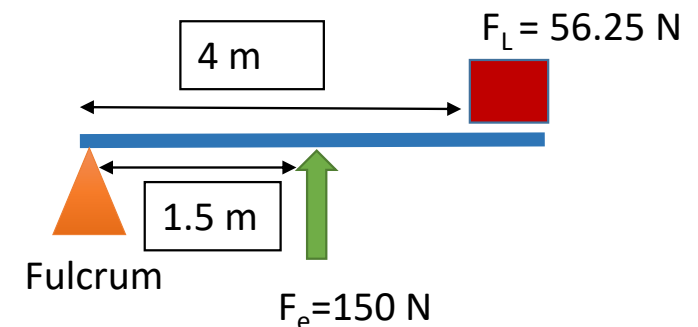
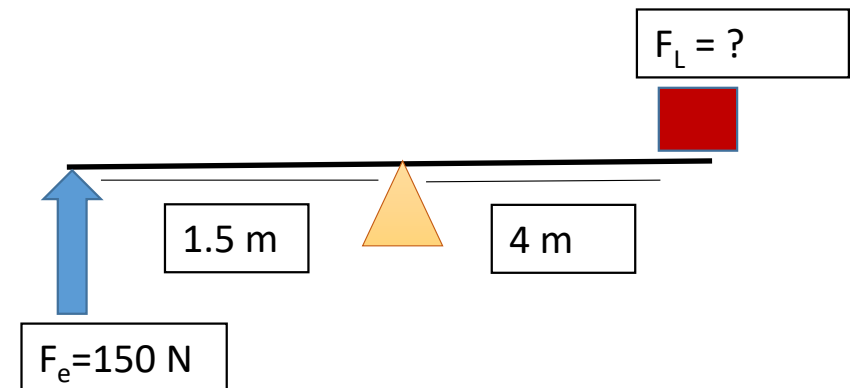
$M.A. < 1$  third class lever

$$[F_L * d_L = F_e * d_e] \div d_L$$

$$F_L = M.A. * F_e$$

$$F_L = 0.375 * 150$$

$$F_L = 56.25 \text{ N}$$



# The End of Lecture