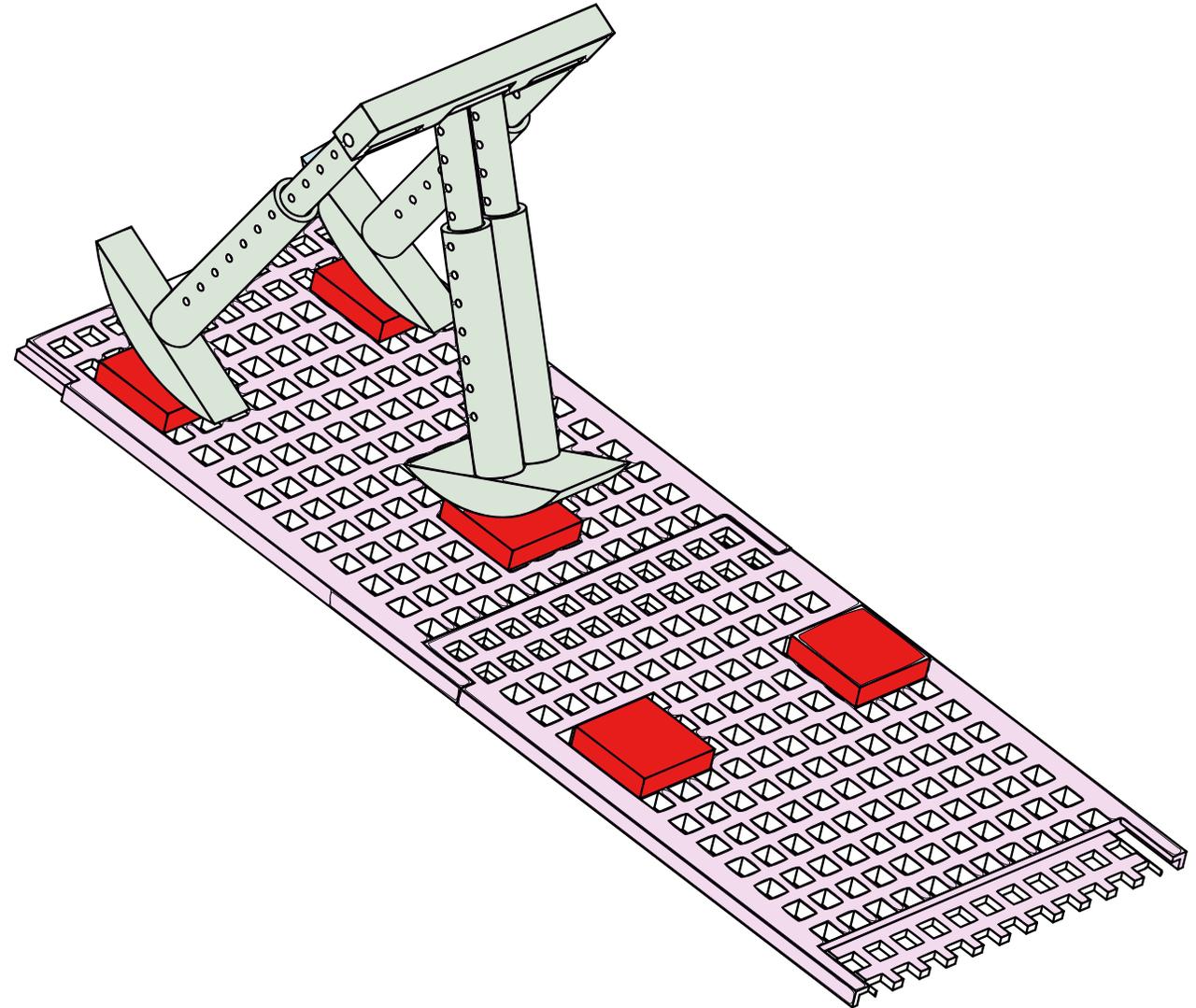


# Locomotion: Passive Dynamic Walker



National Biomechanics Day

CMU

Ravesh Sukhnandan

# Session Overview

**Introduction:** 5 mins

**Building Your Own Walker(!):** 10-15 mins

**Testing Walkers:** 10-15 mins

**Wrap-up:** 2 mins

# What is locomotion?

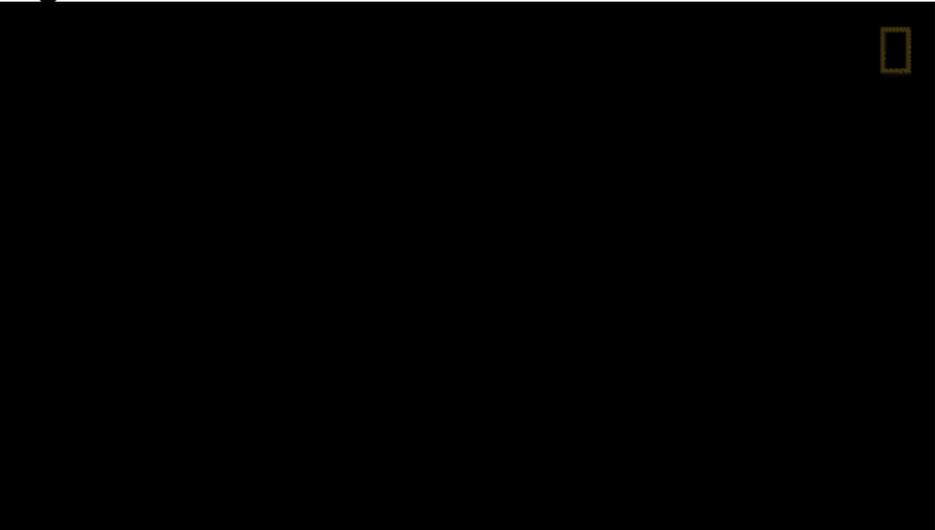
Swimming



Crawling



Flight



Quadruped Walking/Running



# What is locomotion?

*“...any of a variety of movements among animals that results in progression from one place to another” [5]*

## Humans: Bipedal Walking



(Credit: Owen Pearl and Human Biomechanics Lab)

# Why should we study locomotion?

Sports and Rehabilitation



Exoskeletons



Better Robots



You must (passively dynamically) walk before you can run

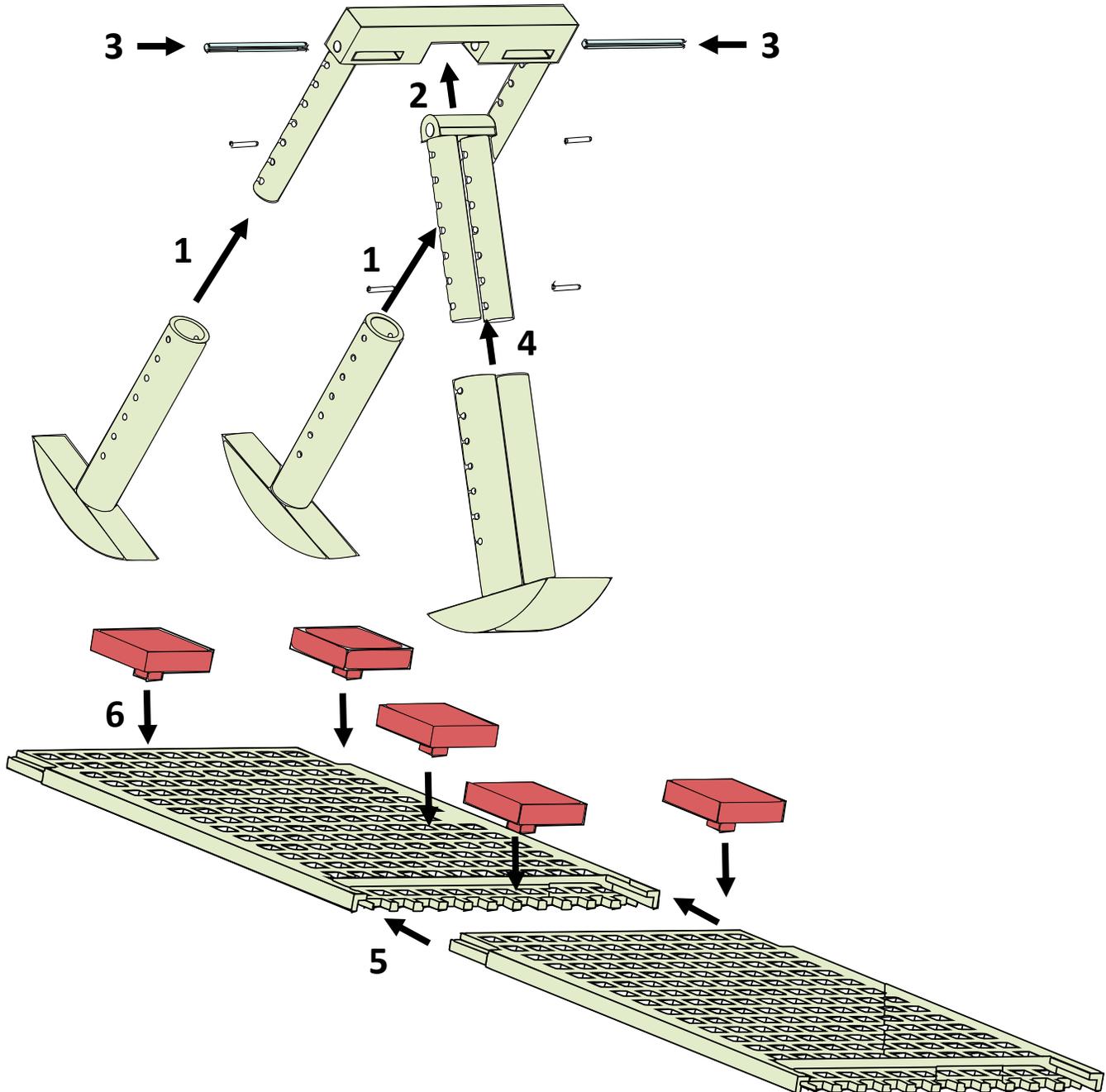


# What we will build today:

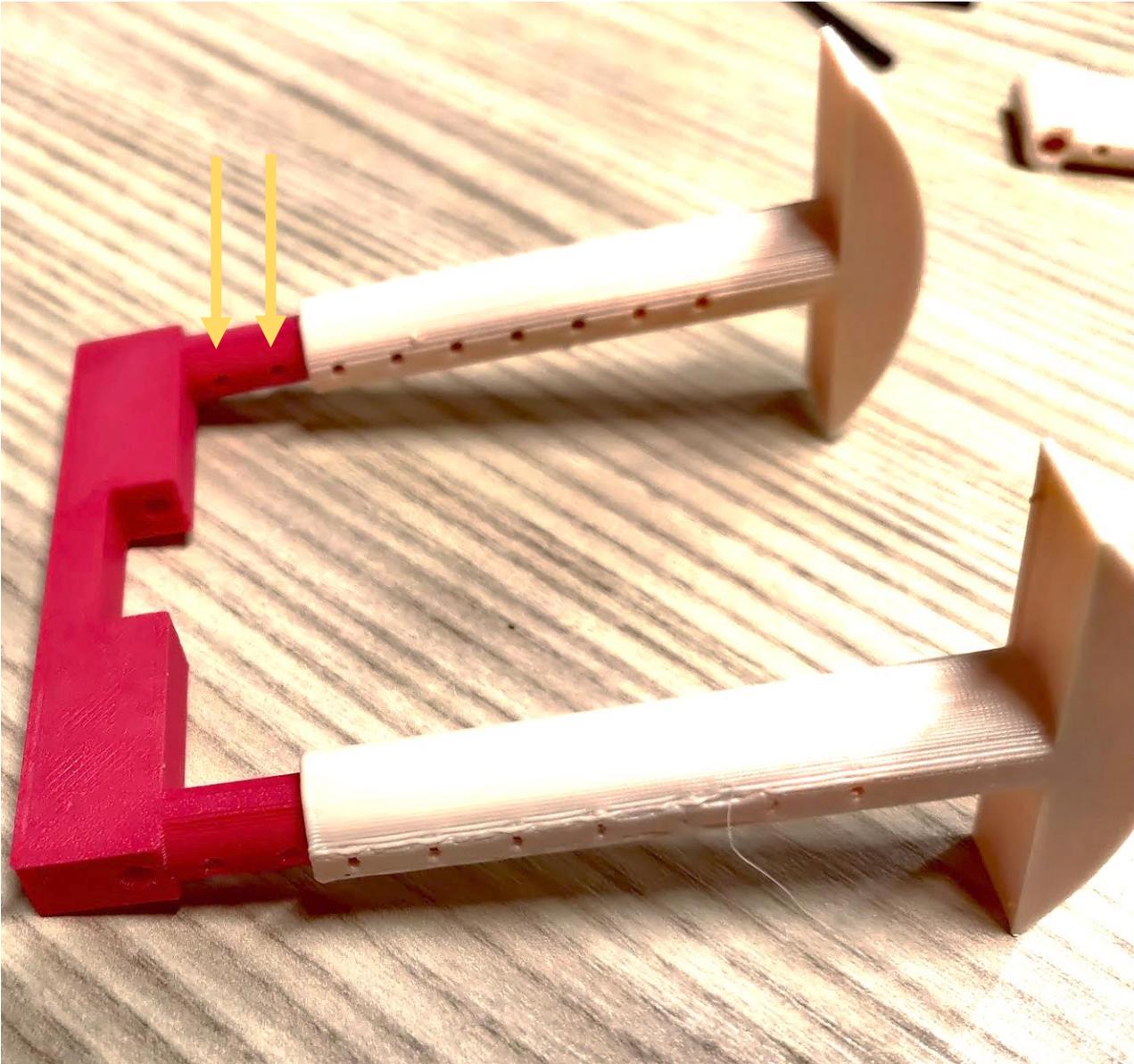


Building your walker!

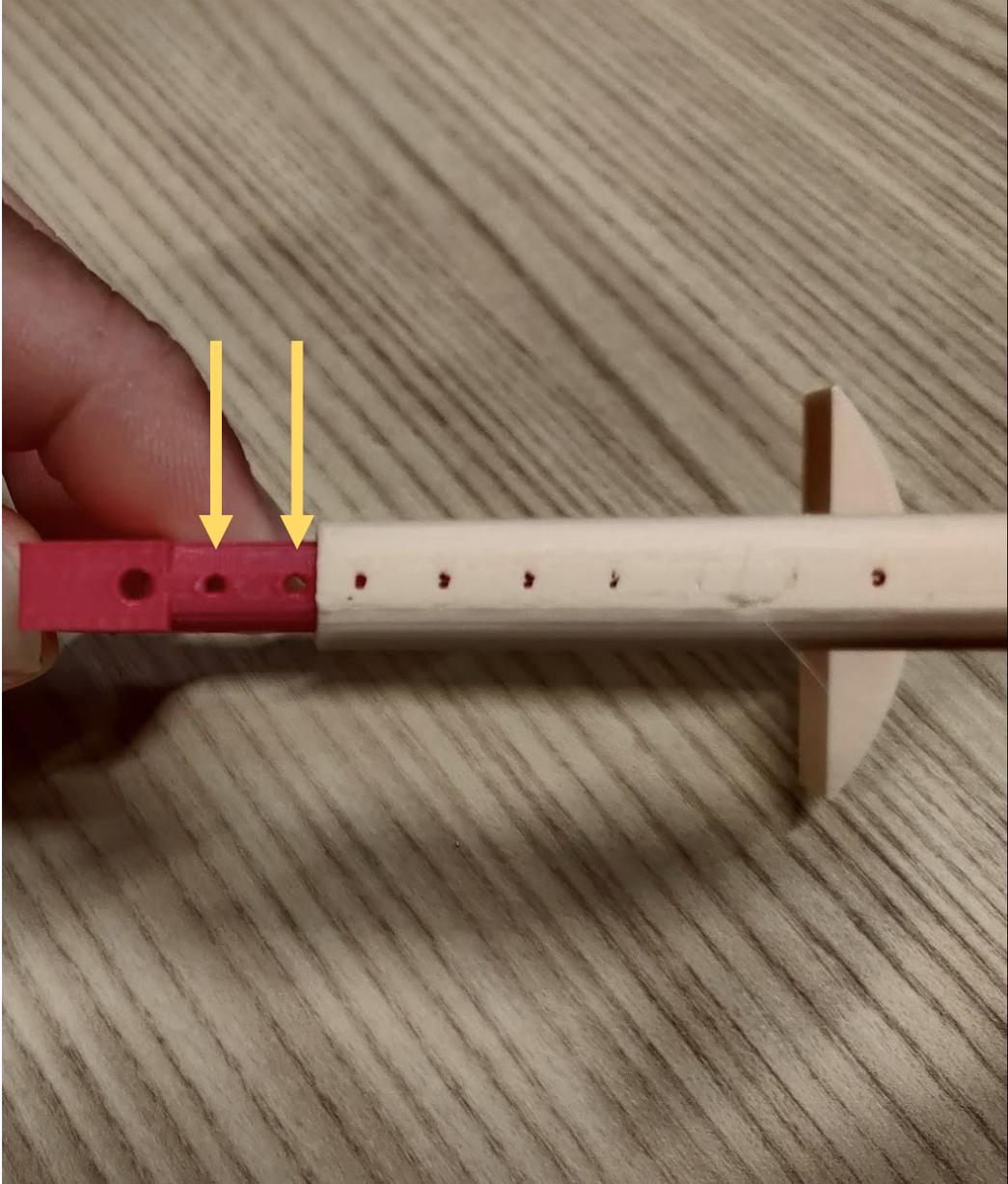
# Kit Review



**Slide the outer legs over the inner ones until there are two holes left**



**Slide the outer legs over the inner ones until there are two holes left**

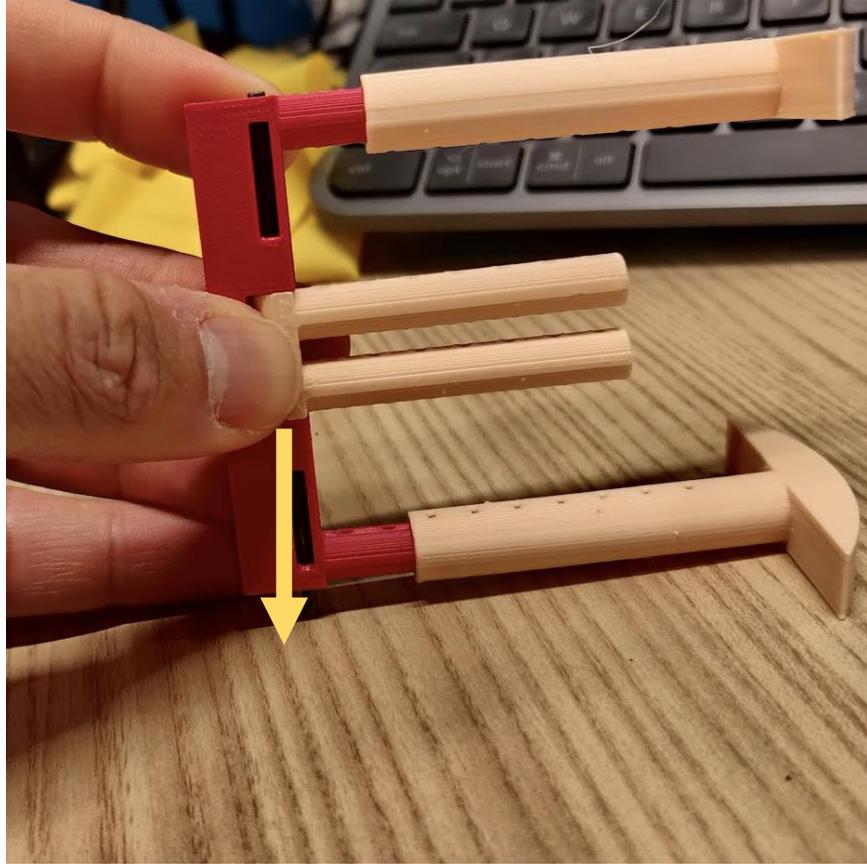


**We will now do the inner leg**



**Position the inner leg as shown**

**Then press down on the table to push the pins in place**



You should have something that looks like this now



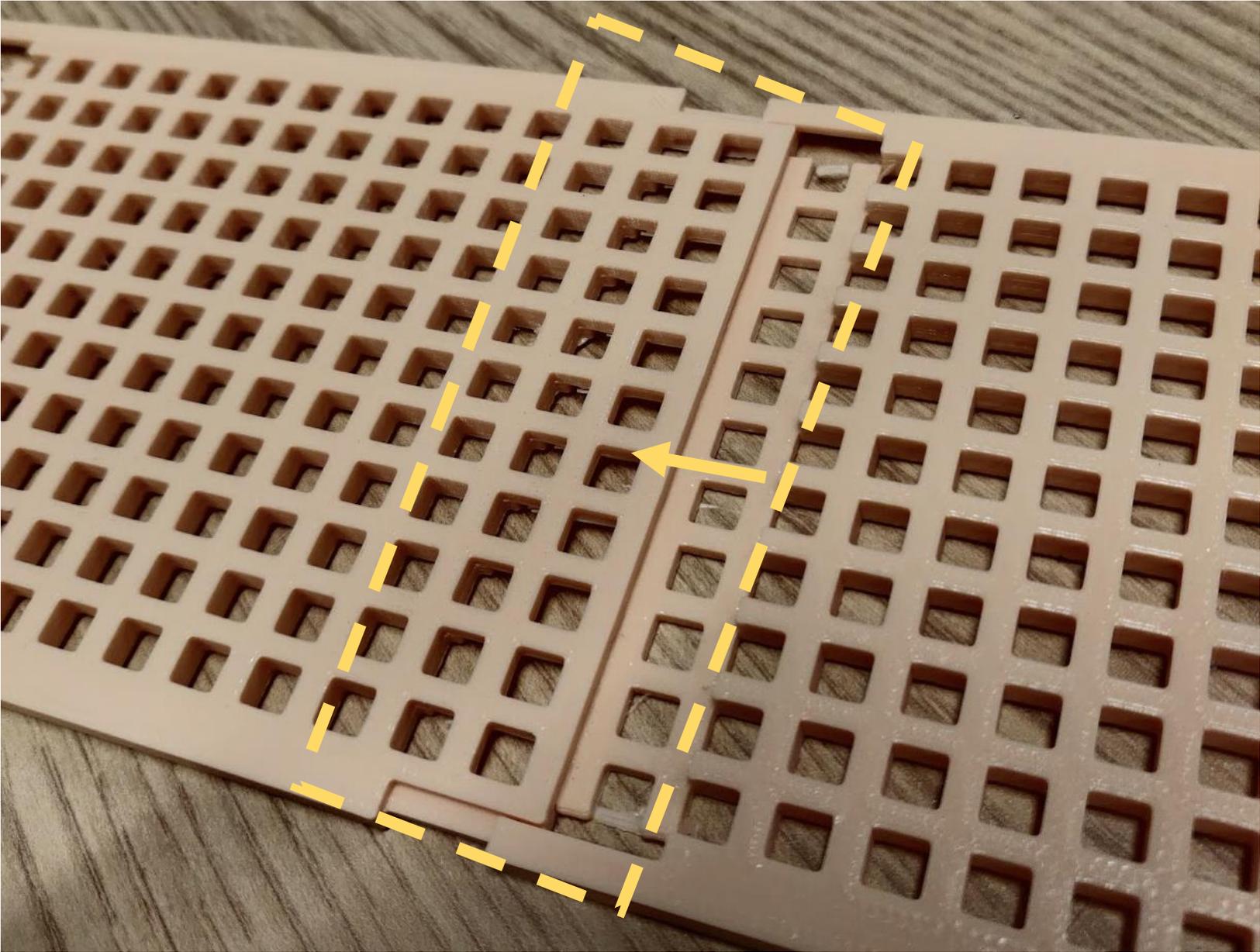
**Slide the double leg unto the inner leg until you see two holes**



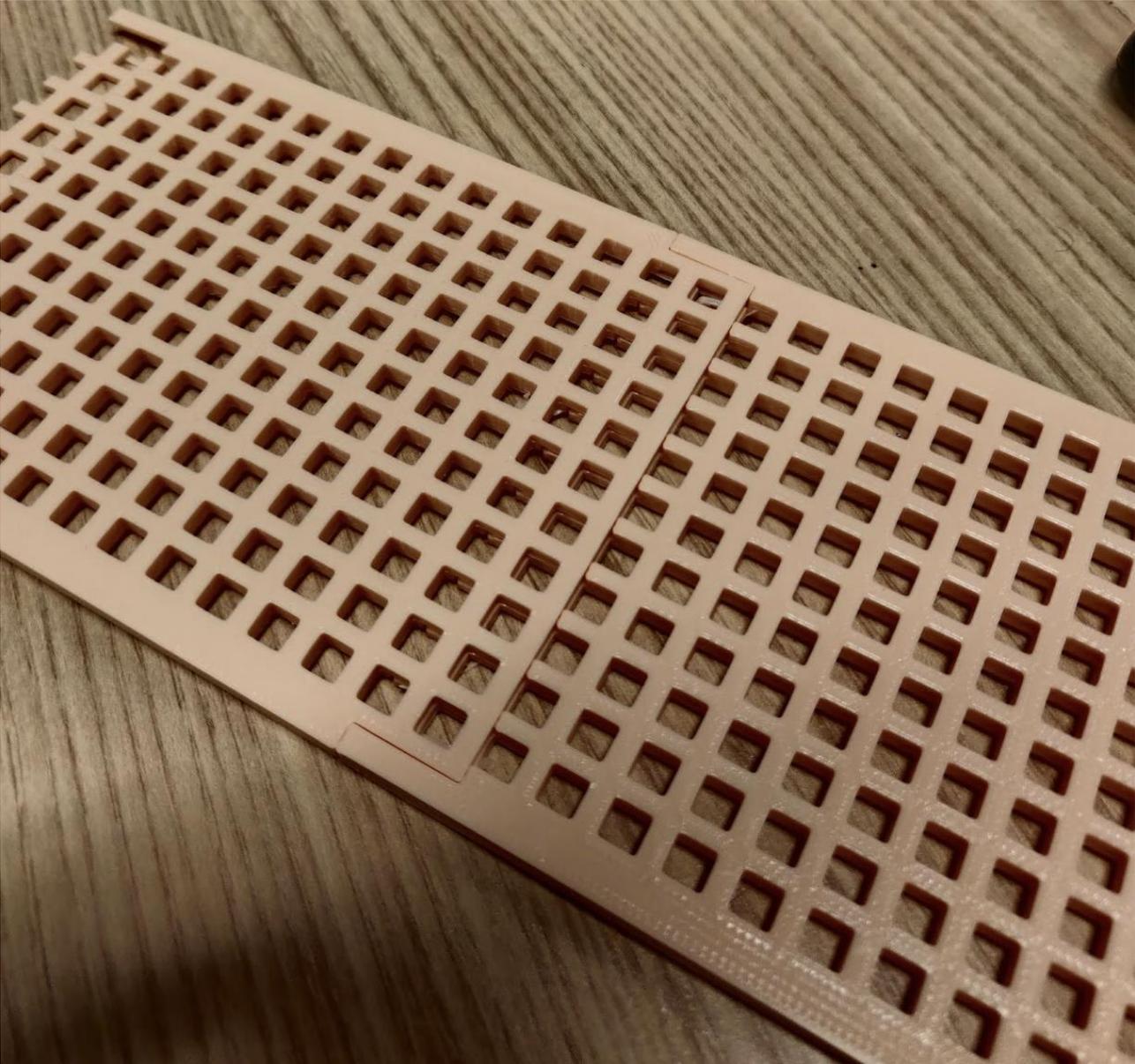
**Slide the double leg unto the inner leg until you see two holes**



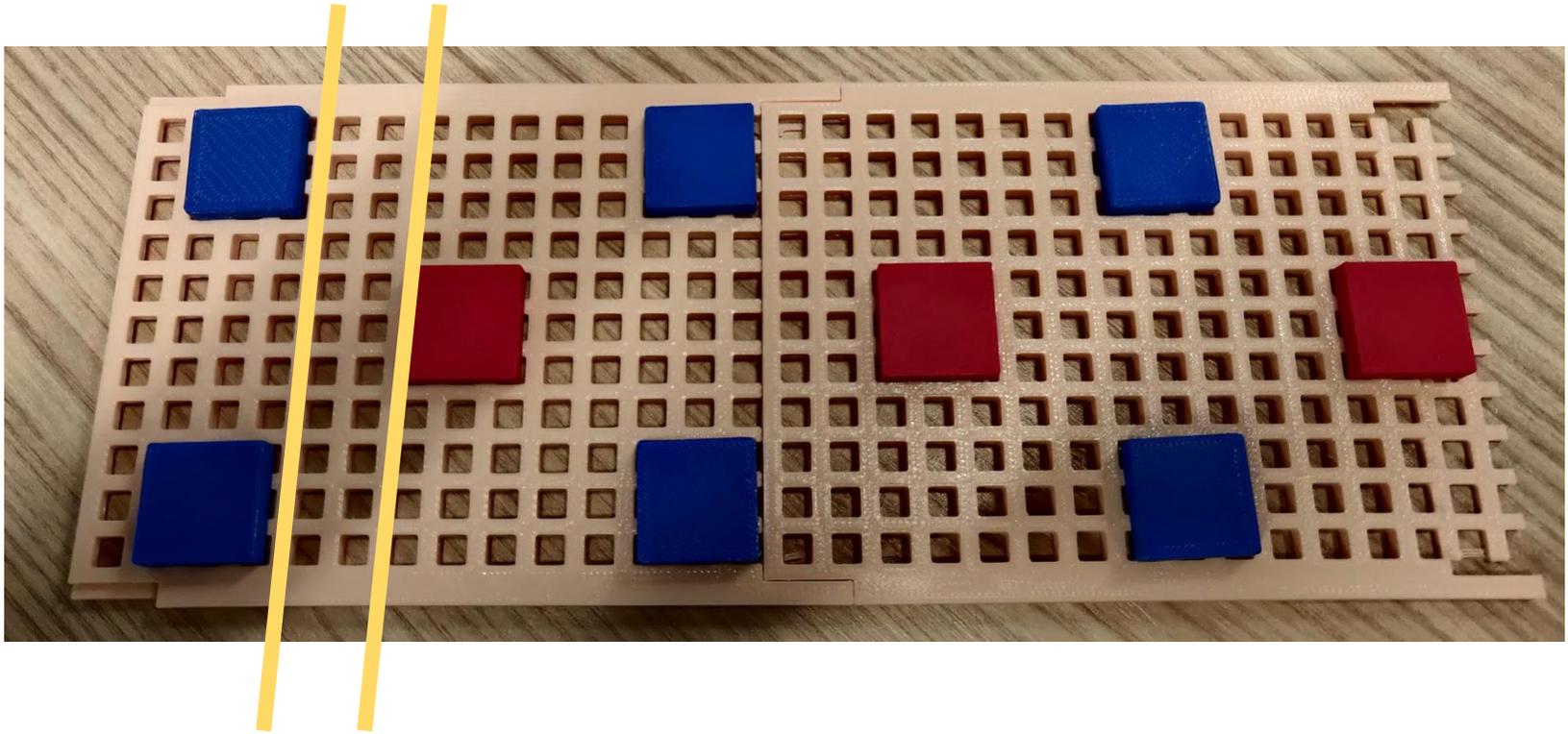
Now we'll assemble the ramp. Watch carefully



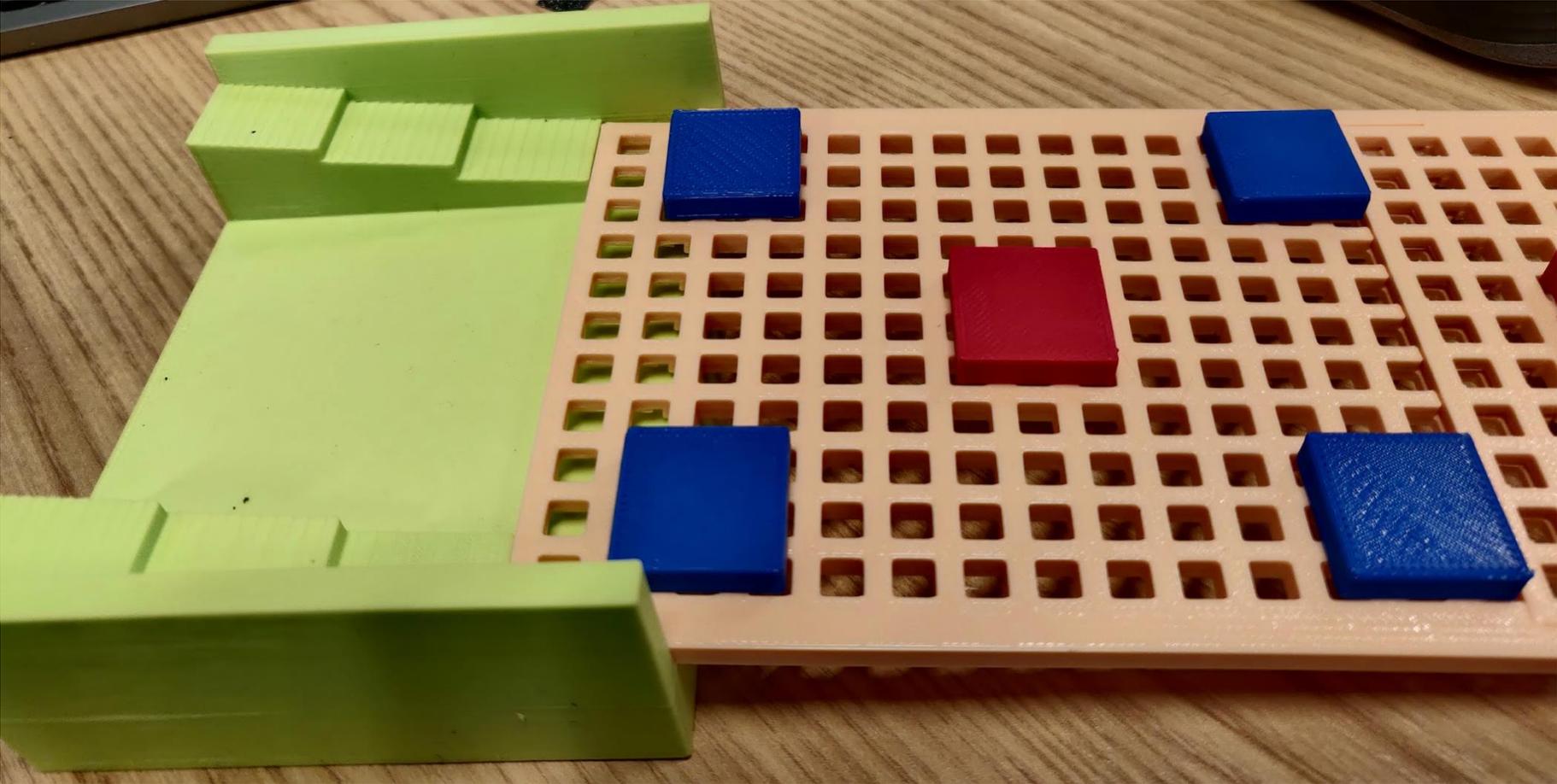
**Your ramp should look like this:**



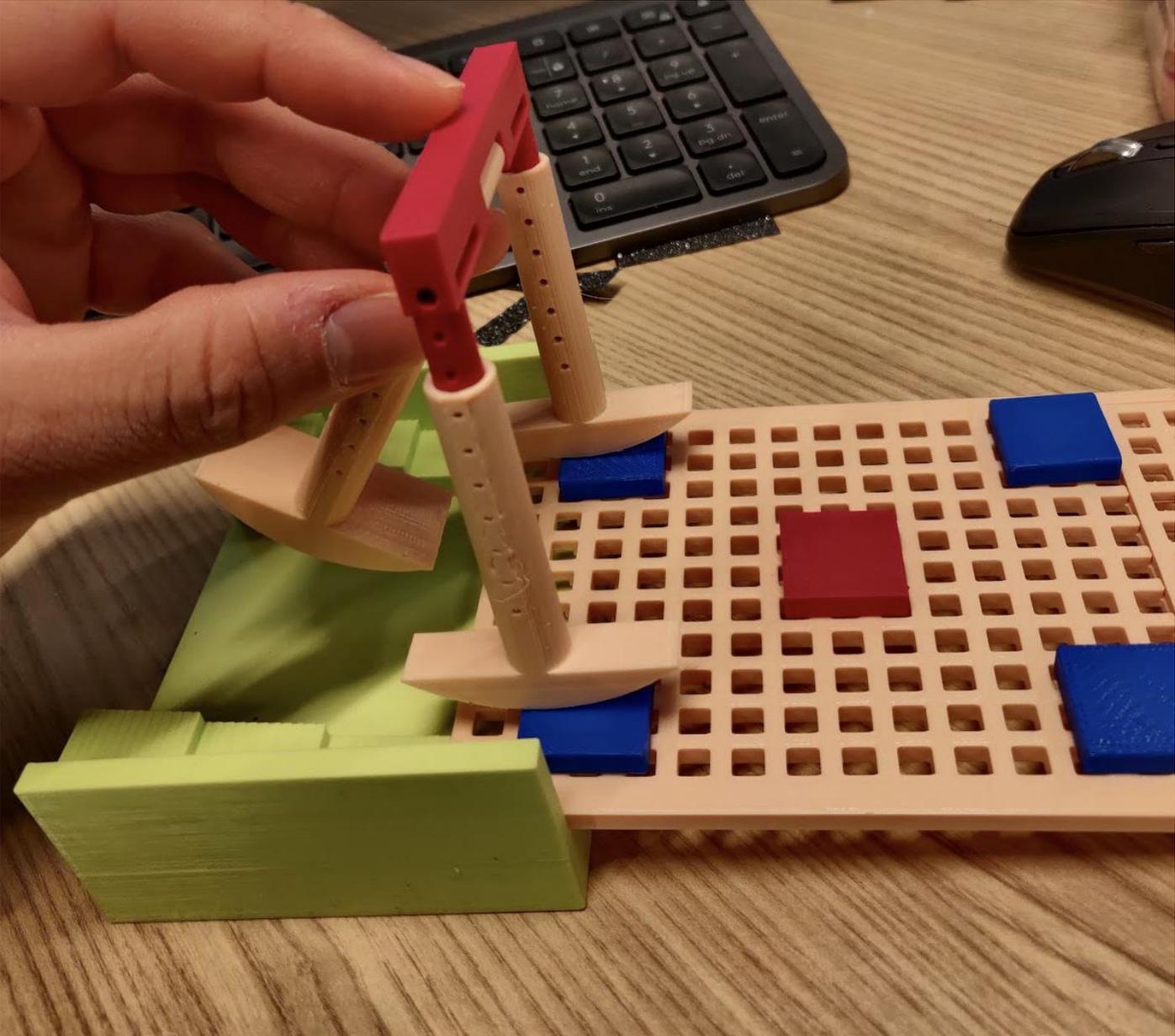
**Place the pads as shown in the picture below.  
Notice there are two empty rows between each pad!**



**Now let's place the ramp on the lowest level of the incline**

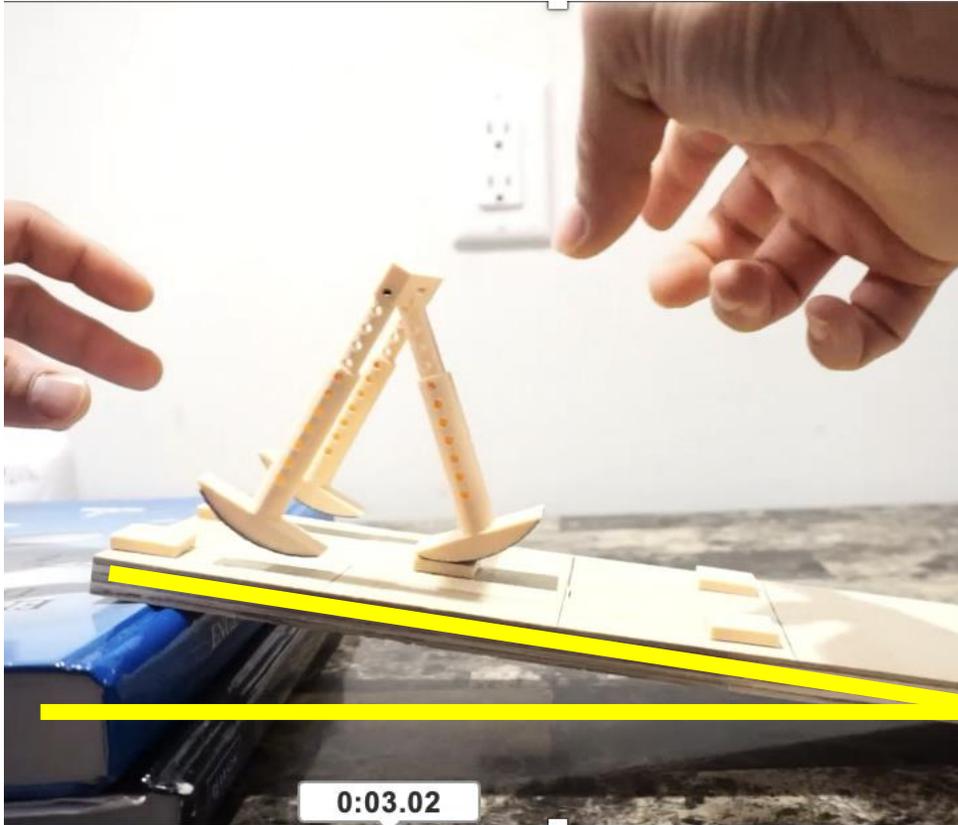


**Now you are ready to see if your walker can walk!**



A few questions

# What force is driving the walker down the ramp?



**Hint: Is it easier to go down a hill, or up a hill?**

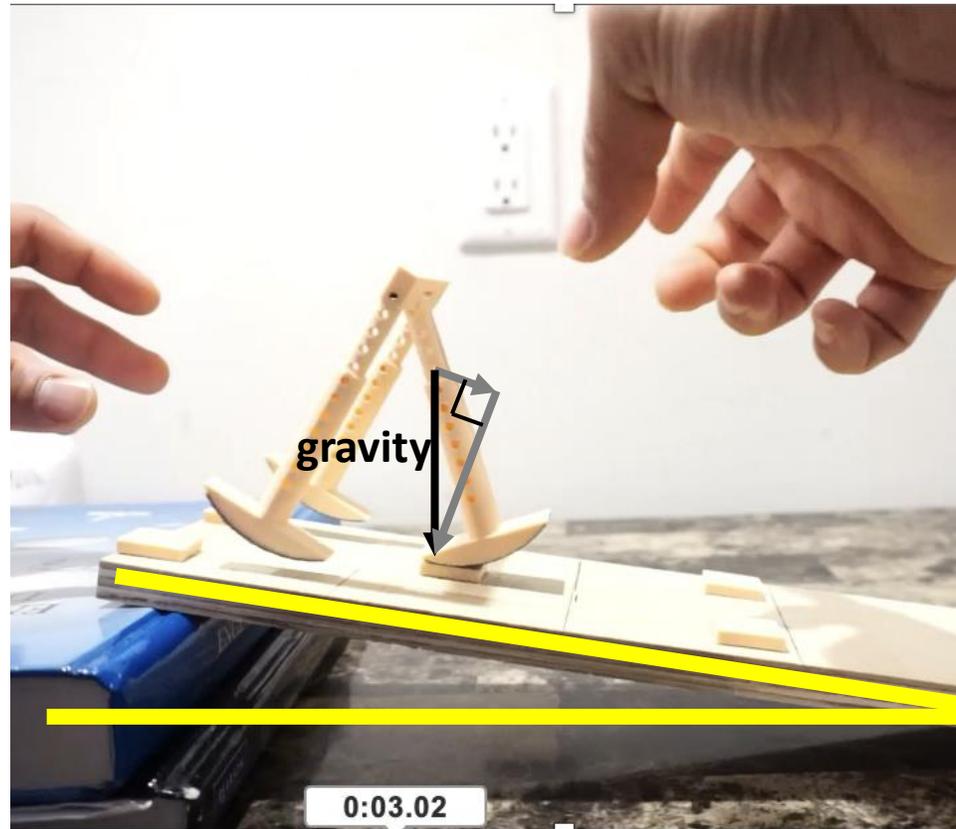
**What force is driving the walker down the ramp?**

**ANS: Gravity!**



**Isaac Newton and his  
famous apple  
(AI generated)**

# What force is driving the walker down the ramp?



# Exercise 1

**Is your walker sliding? Let's take a closer look at the contact**



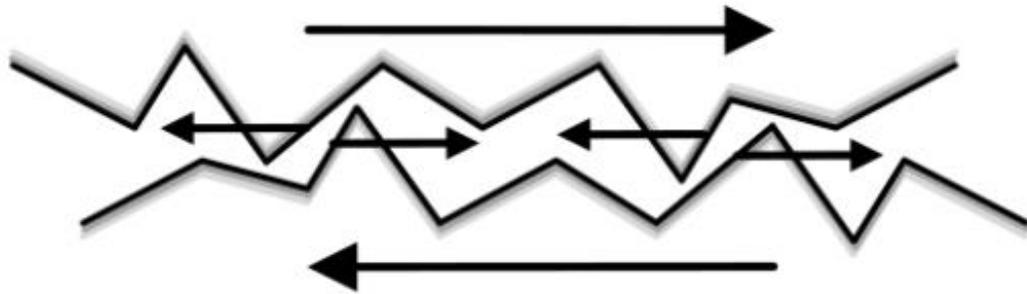
Have you ever slipped on ice?



**Q: What is the name of the force that allows us to roll over our foot without slipping?**



# ANS: Friction!

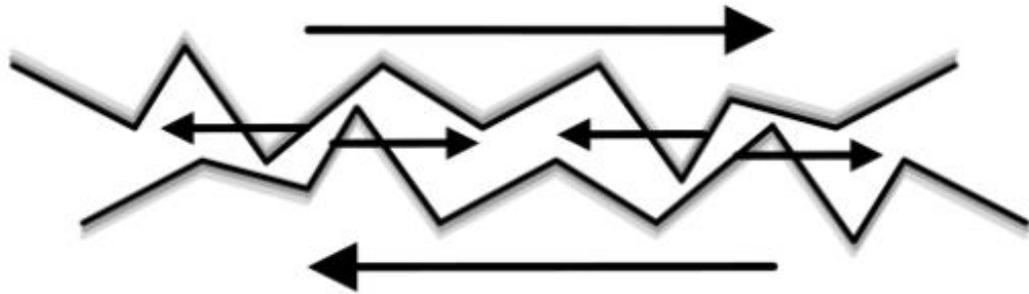


**Microstructure of two surfaces in contact.**



**Shoe sole of a hiking boot**

# ANS: Friction!



**Microstructure of two surfaces in contact.**



**Car wheel tire**

**How can we increase friction on our walkers?**

**HINT: You need something rough to the touch**

# Exercise 2

**Attach the sandpaper strips to the feet of the walker**



**Your walker should now look like this**

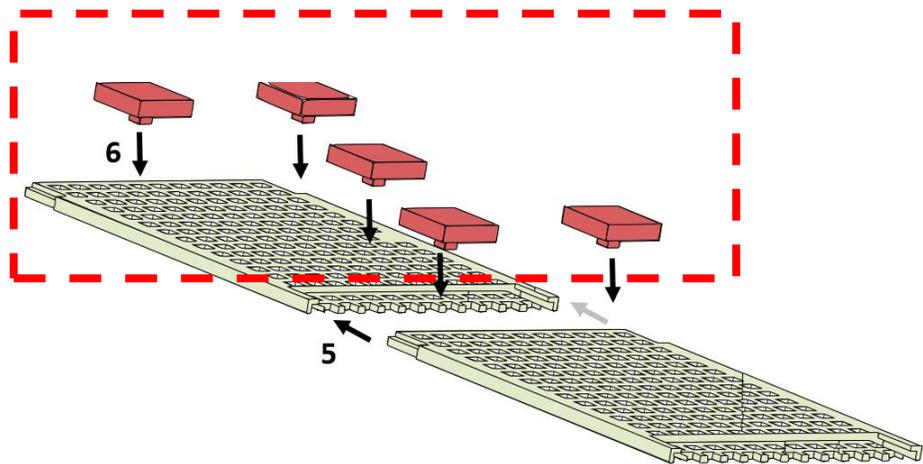


**Now try your walker again!**

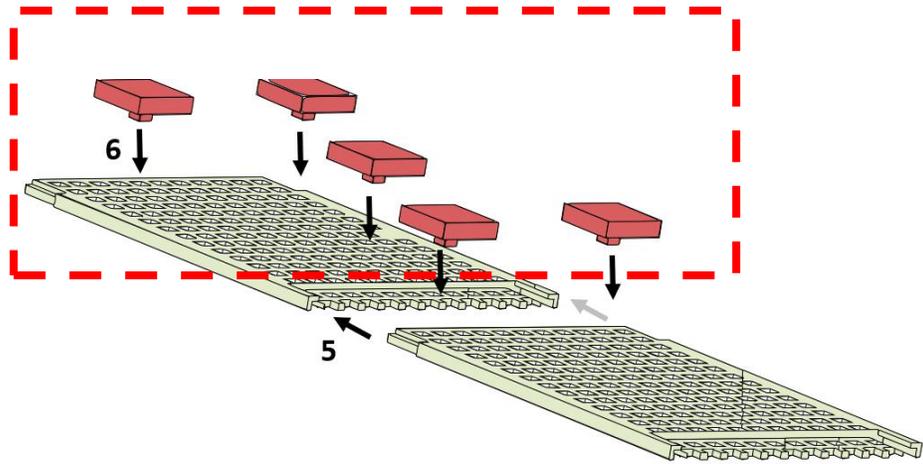
**Is it still slipping, or can you get it to walk?**

# Exercise 3

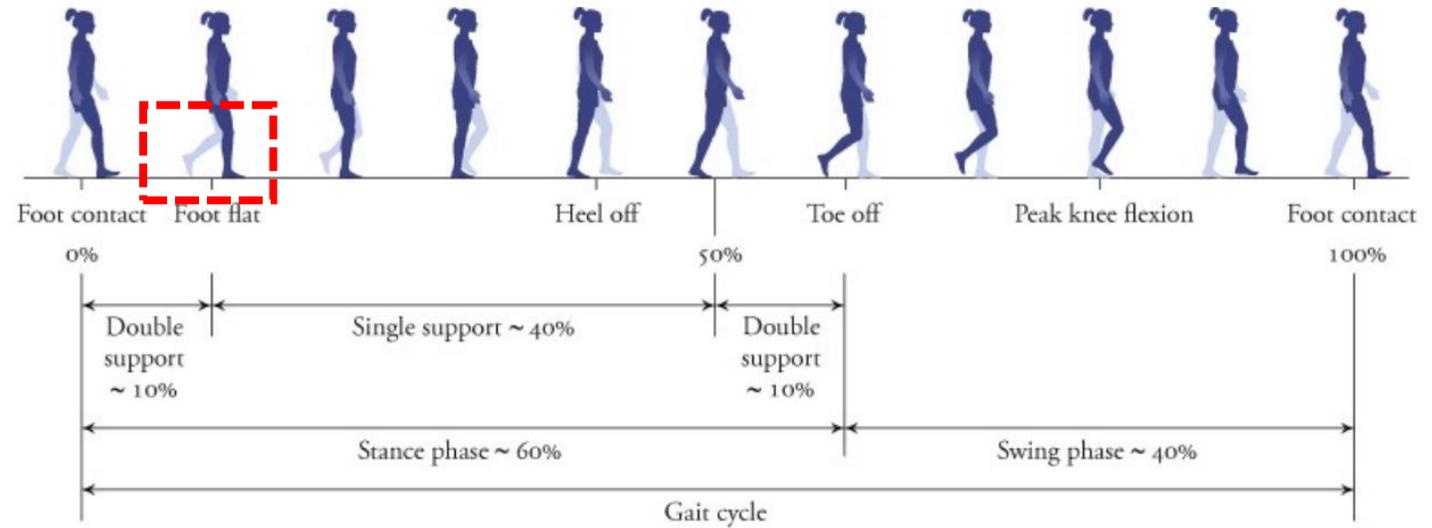
# Why do we need these pads?



# Why do we need these pads?



# Because our walkers don't have knees!

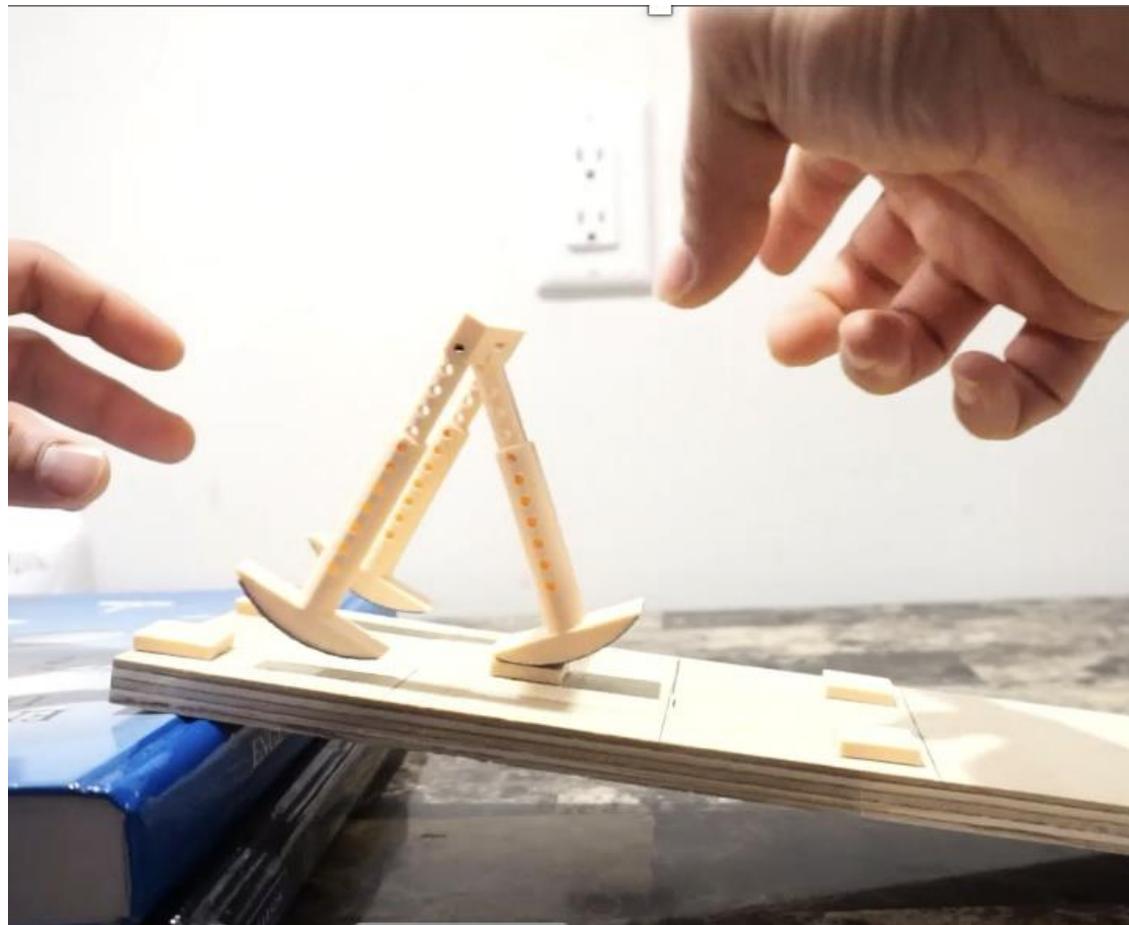


# Exercise 4

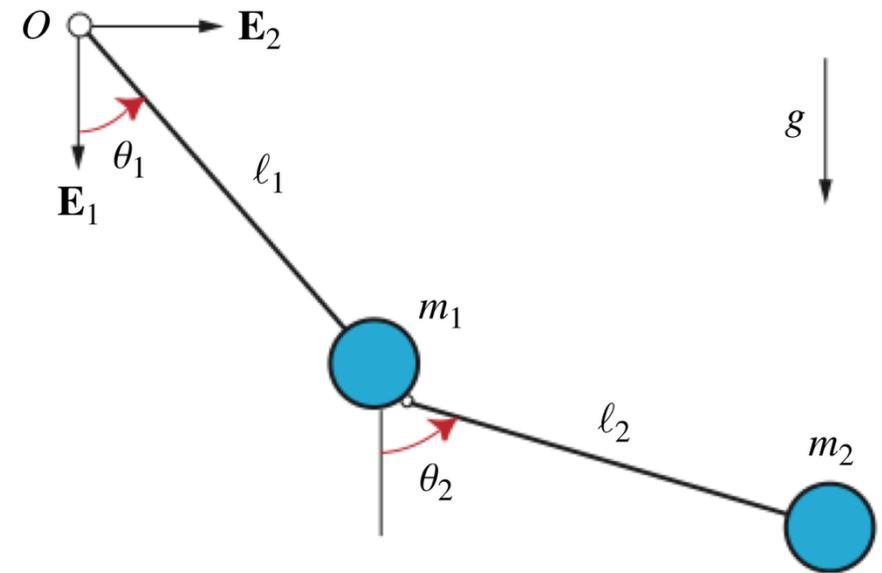
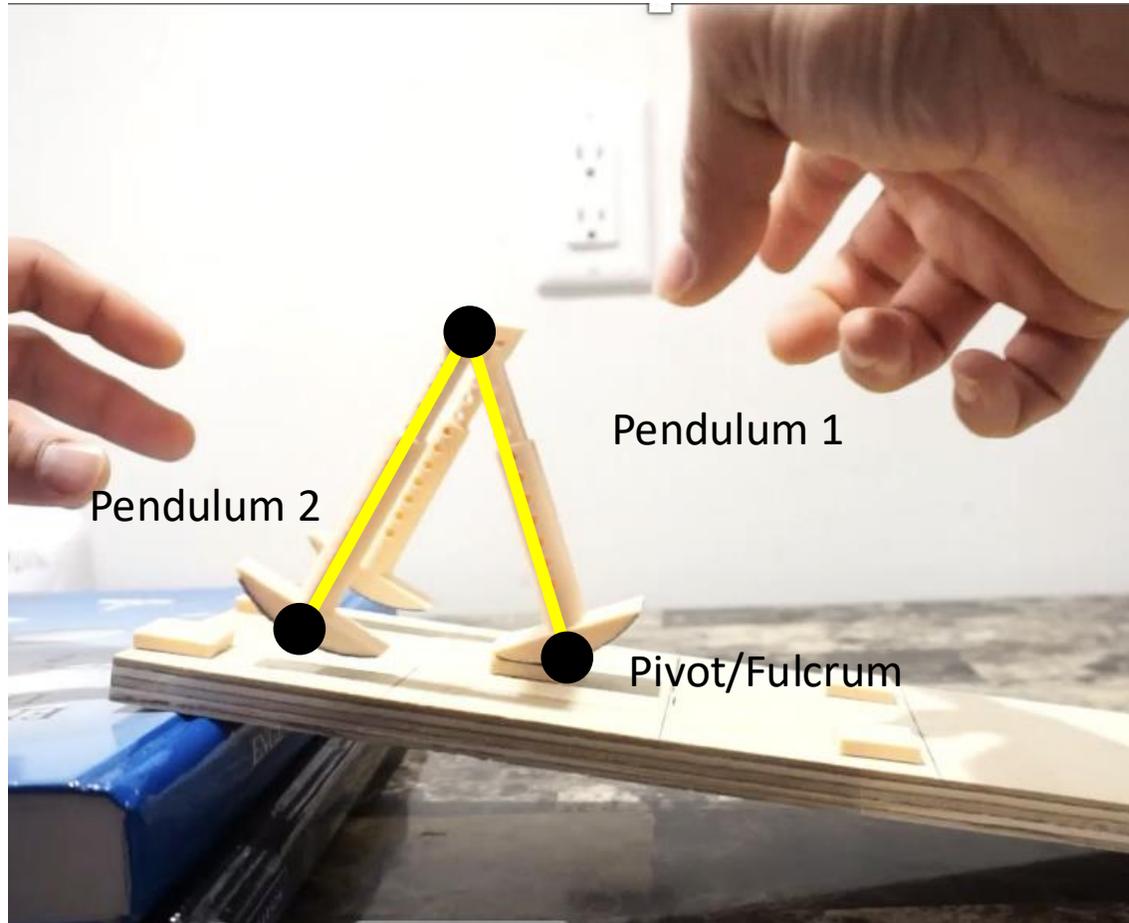
The robot is quite finicky to get it to walk right?



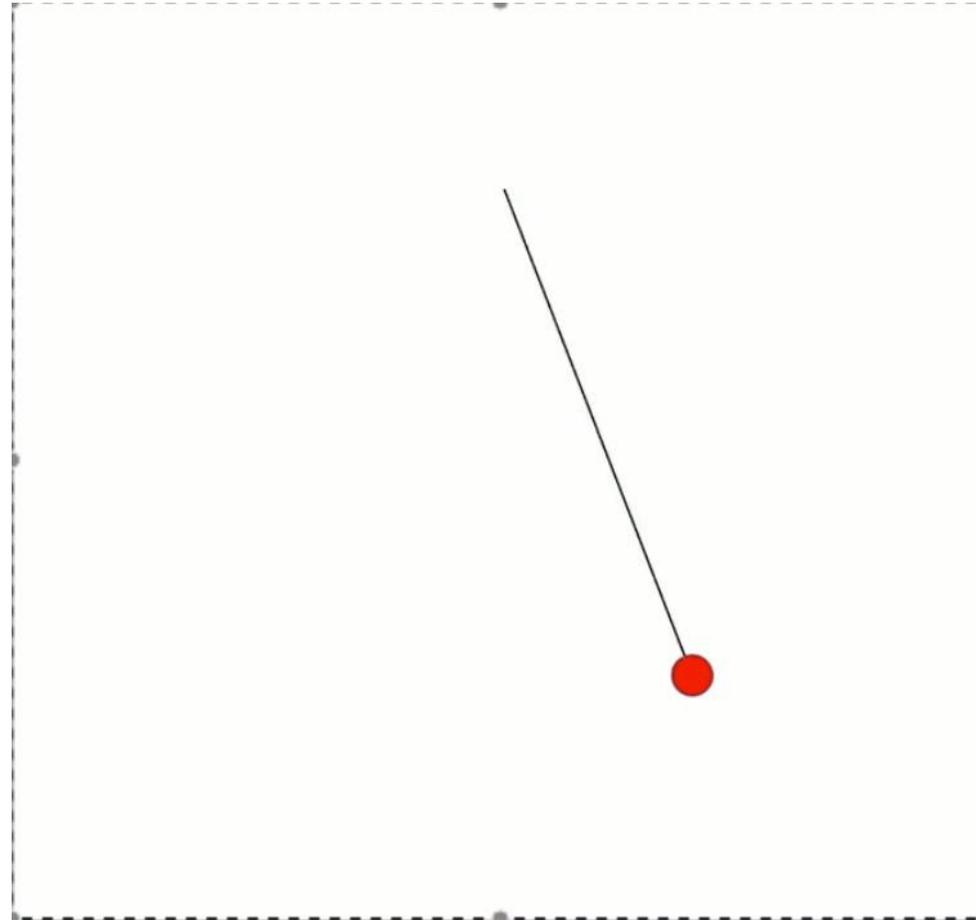
What does our walker look like?



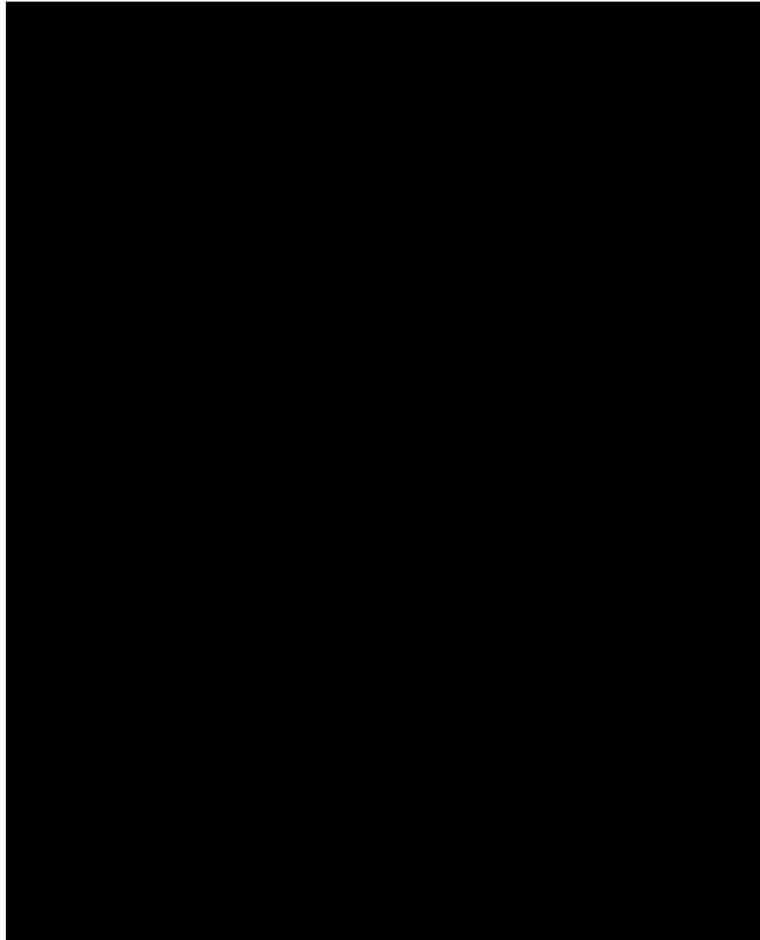
# A double-pendulum!



A single pendulum is very repeatable ...



# A double pendulum exhibits CHAOS



Chaos: A small change in the start, leads to big changes in how the system evolves with time



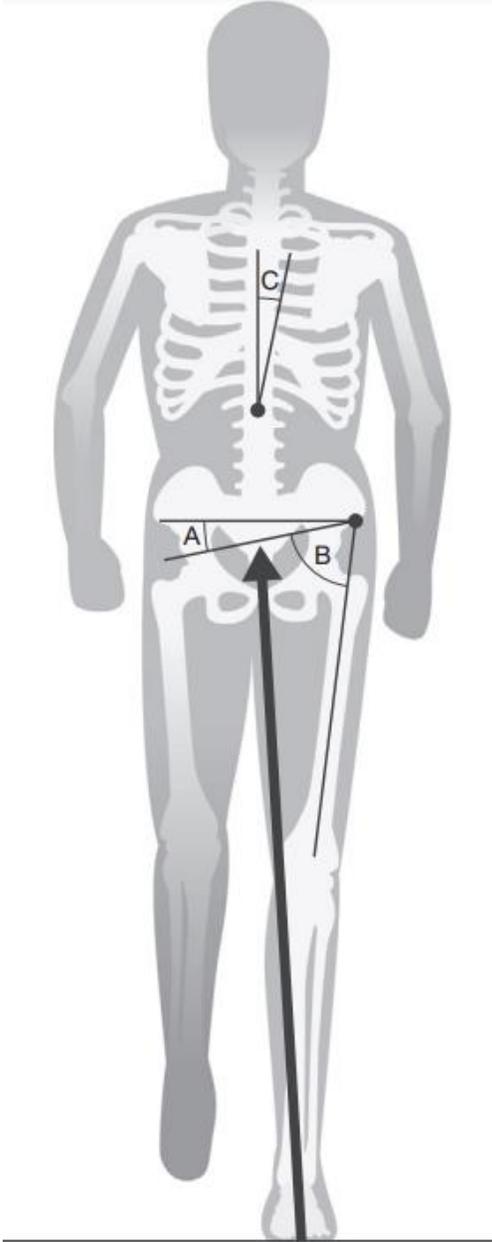
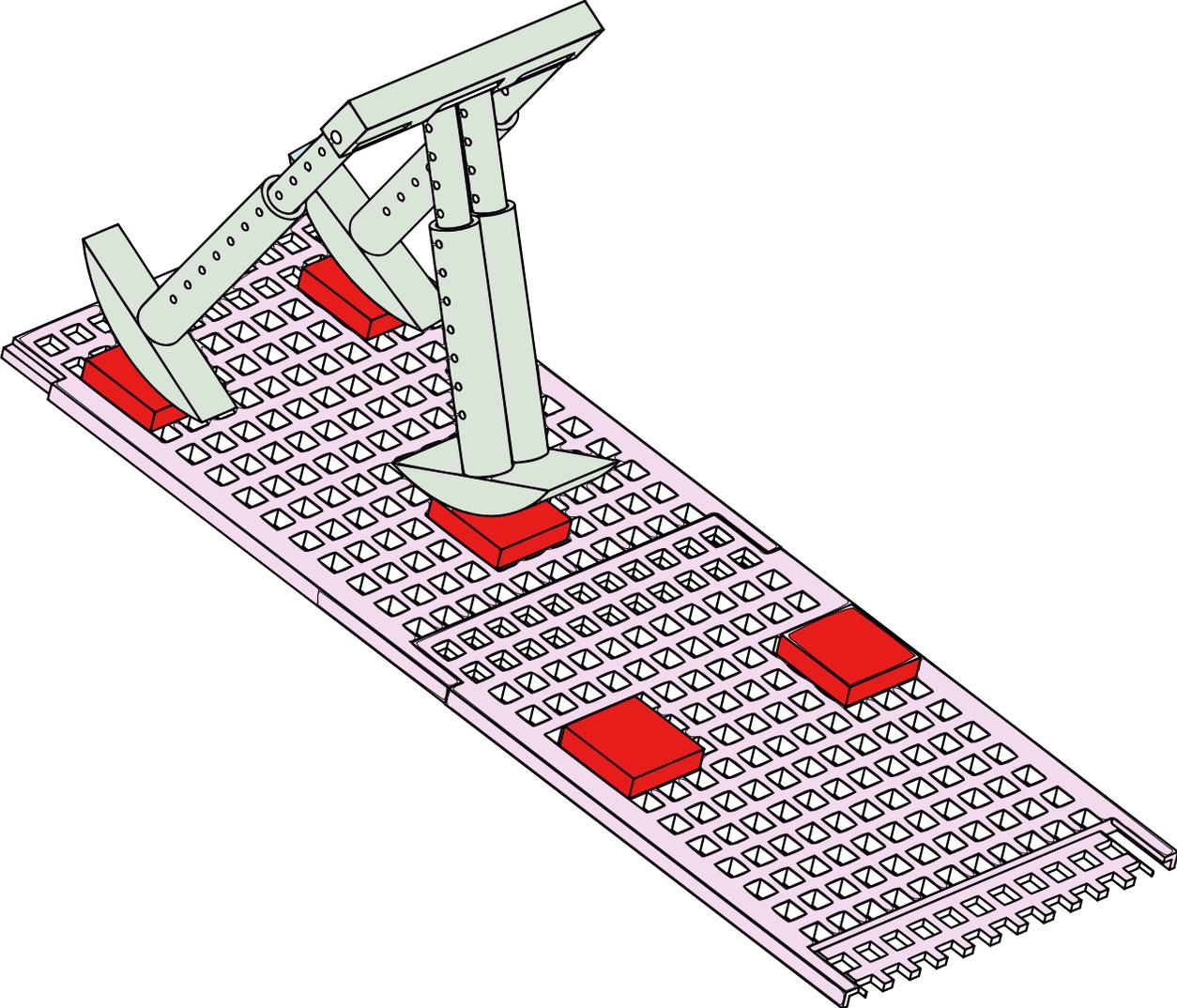
Weather is hard to predict

Final Thoughts



**Q: Why do you think the dog never tripped over, unlike the humans?  
Hint: Think about a chair. How many legs does it have?**

# 4 legs vs 2?



# Impact of passive dynamic walking?



## Wrap-up

Q: Which force helps to push the walker down the ramp?    **Ans: Gravity!**

Q: Which force prevents the walker from sliding?                      **Ans: Friction!**

# National Biomechanics Day 2024 @ CMU!

**When: April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Who: Age 14-18**

**Cost: FREE!!**

**Website:**

<https://bit.ly/3PpsliM>

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**SEE WHAT WE  
HAD LAST YEAR!**





# References

[1] S.-J. Park *et al.*, "Phototactic guidance of a tissue-engineered soft-robotic ray," *Science*, vol. 353, no. 6295, pp. 158–162, Jul. 2016, doi: [10.1126/science.aaf4292](https://doi.org/10.1126/science.aaf4292).

Jellyfish: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9z8ujpPgUjl>

Fish and seahorse: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prfZFyp4XZk>

[2] [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtUQ\\_pz5wlo](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RtUQ_pz5wlo)

[3] *Aplysia*: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwumPoQf6uc>

[4] <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uj0EVT-Ekog>

[5] Zug, George R.. "locomotion". *Encyclopedia Britannica*, 13 Feb. 2020, <https://www.britannica.com/topic/locomotion>. Accessed 23 March 2022.

Exoskeleton: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTBoYt8Pz\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tTBoYt8Pz_w)

Atlas: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tF4DML7FIWk>

Failures: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=goTaYhjpOfo>

Leonardo Fly + Walk: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1\\_OpWiyijU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H1_OpWiyijU)

McGeer Passive Dynamic Walker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-YYVH36wDGE>

Japanese Passive Dynamic Walker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rhu2xNlpgDE&t=12s>

Running: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQD6\\_5XoBII](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YQD6_5XoBII)

Gait cycle:

T. K. Uchida, S. L. Delp, and D. Delp, *Biomechanics of Movement: The Science of Sports, Robotics, and Rehabilitation*.

Cambridge, UNITED STATES: MIT Press, 2021. Accessed: Apr. 01, 2022. [Online]. Available:

<http://ebookcentral.proquest.com/lib/cm/detail.action?docID=6434343>

# References

[1]

M. Tjur, A. R. Pedersen, W. Sloth, K. Søballe, N. D. Lorenzen, and M. Stilling, “Posterior or anterolateral approach in hip joint arthroplasty - Impact on frontal plane moment,” *Clinical Biomechanics*, vol. 54, pp. 143–150, May 2018, doi: [10.1016/j.clinbiomech.2018.03.017](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.clinbiomech.2018.03.017).

Bing AI generator

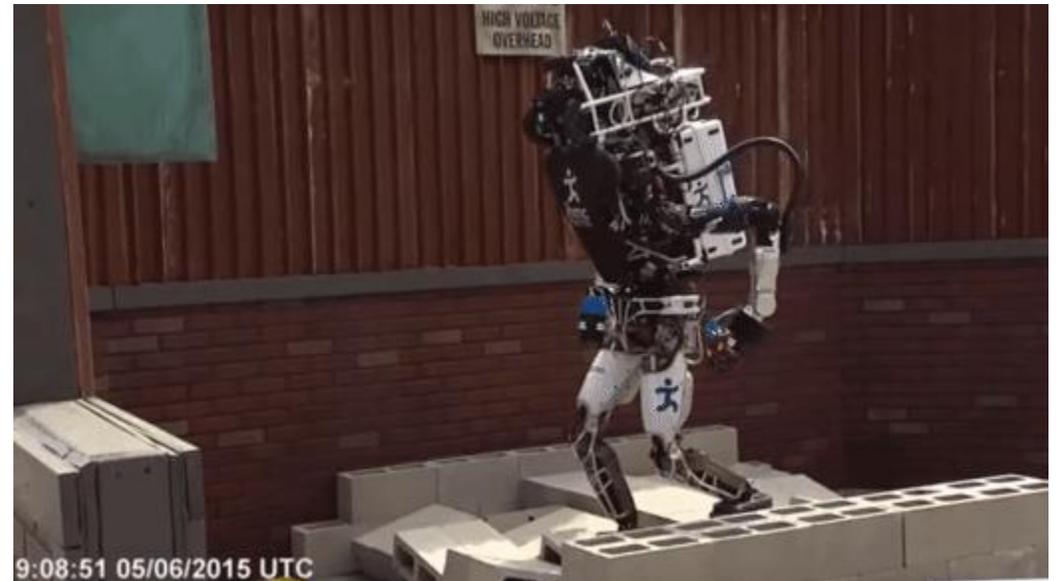
Ice slipping video: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aylO\\_1DSdts](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aylO_1DSdts)

Backup Slides

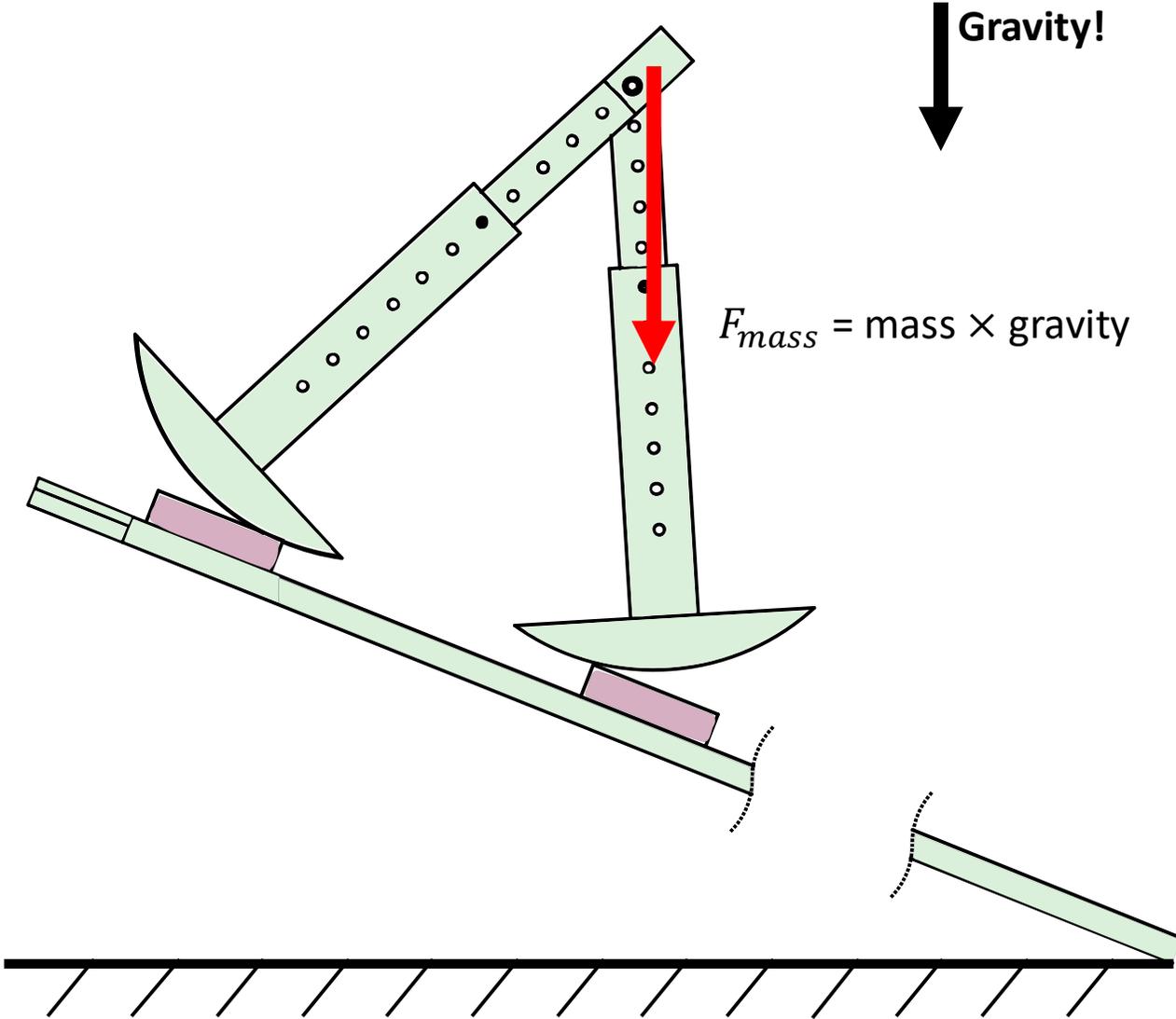
# Robotic walkers

Robots have become better at locomotion ...

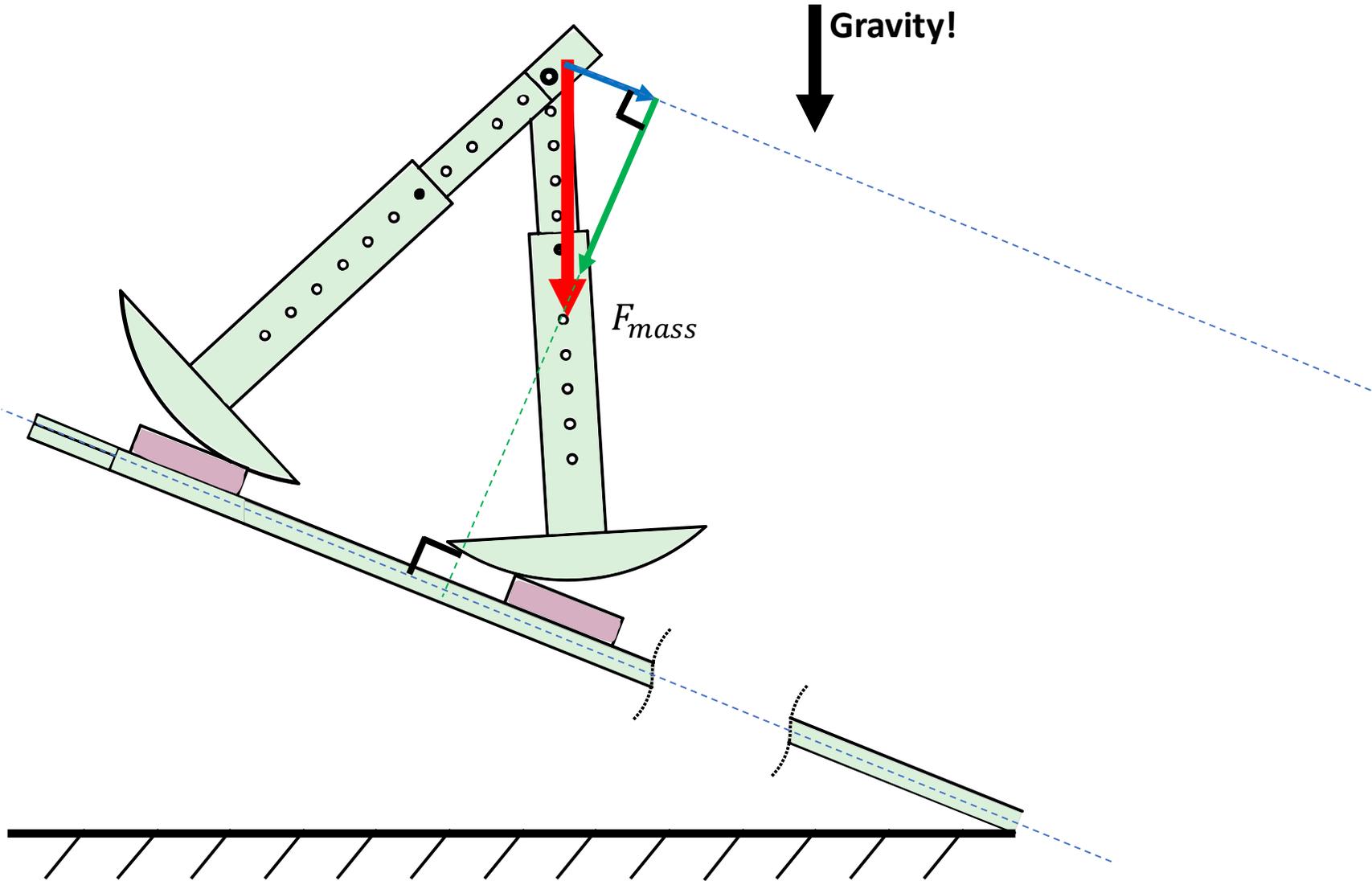
...but they are still not perfect



# What forces are acting on the walker?



# What forces are acting on the walker?



# What forces are acting on the walker?

