

An Open Challenge to the SPS

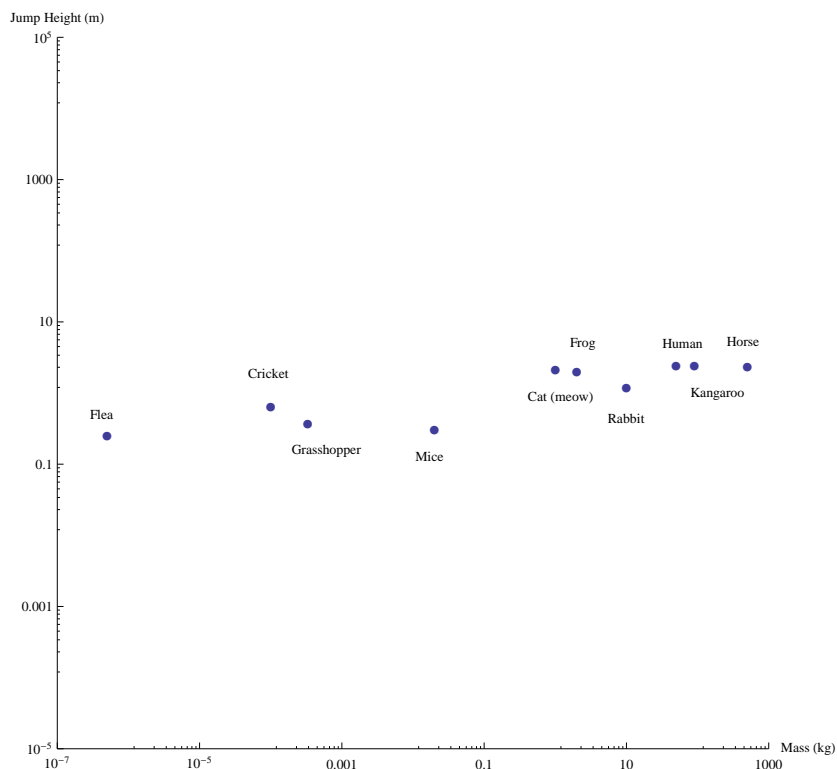


Figure 1: Heights Animals Jump

We, the first year graduate students at our beloved Cornell University, do you, the undergraduate physics major members of the Society for Physics Students, challenge.

As you will see in Figure 1 above (courtesy Alemi, Wharton 2009 [unpublished]) that animals on the planet Earth (our planet) jump to approximately the same height irrespective of their mass. Your challenge, if you choose to except it (which you must), is to explain why this might be so, to adequate precision (not very), why this must be so using your knowledge of physical principles. There will be a test.

We will show up this Friday November 20th, 2009 at approximately 3 p.m., at which point, a representative of your choosing must explain the above phenomenon. In addition, we challenge you to come up with a question that you believe we cannot answer. (Note: It may not be "Why are cows?", as this problem remains unsolved after much deliberation). If you come up with your question before Friday, please Email it to aaa244@cornell.edu.