

Lecture 4: Planar Mechanisms 3



ME 370 - Mechanical Design 1

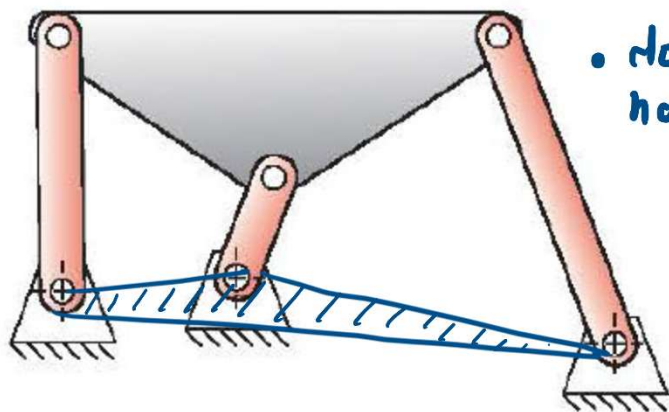
"Colibri" by Derek Hugger

** www.youtube.com/watch?v=Iscj5sotD-E*

Gruebler's paradox

- How many DOF of these 5-link mechanisms?

✓ there are no 5-link-closed-loop mech with full joints of 1 DOF



• does not have mobility

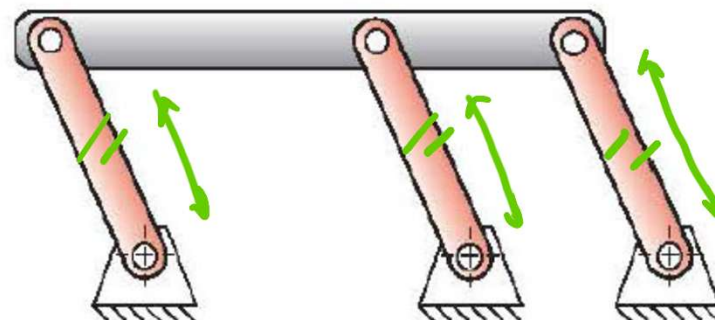
$$n = 5$$

$$J = 6$$

$$\# \text{DOF} = 3(5 - 1) - 2(6)$$

$$= 12 - 12$$

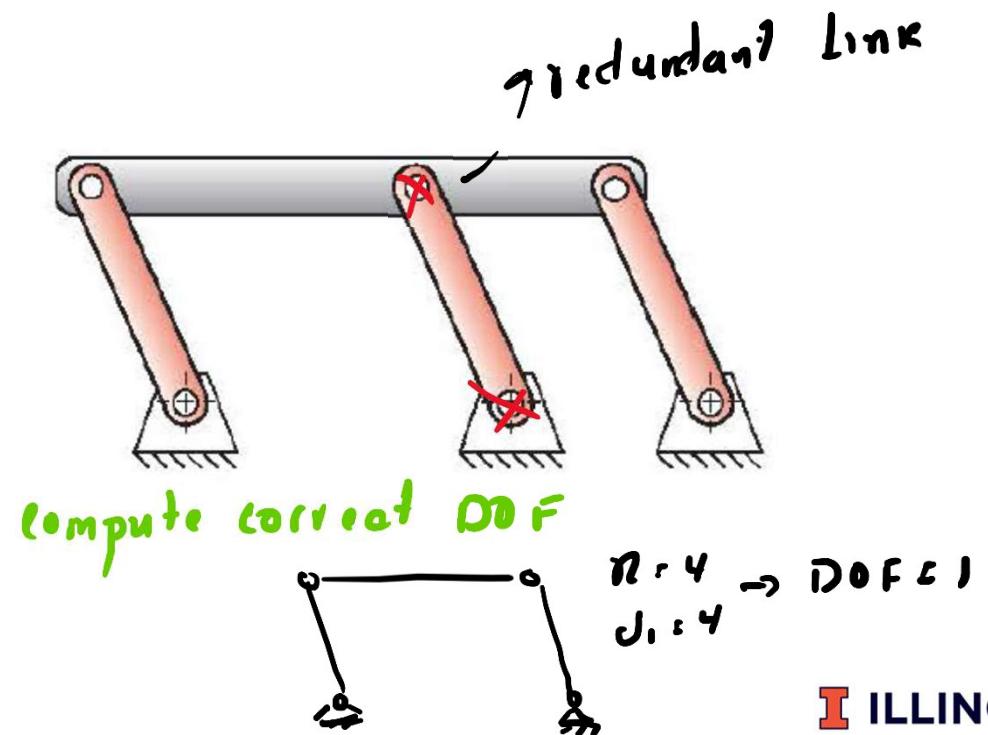
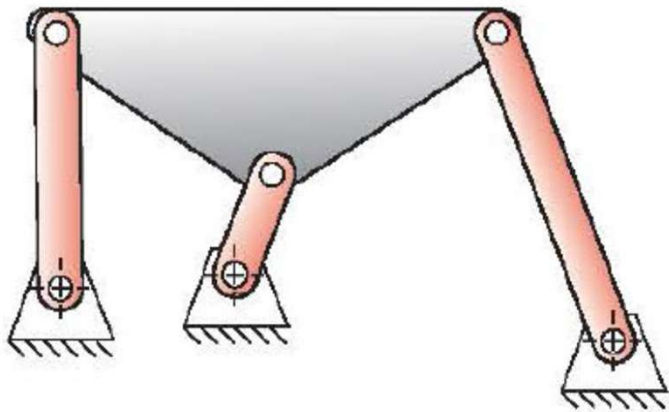
$$= 0$$



• has mobility.

Gruebler's paradox

- Gruebler's equation does not account for shape, symmetry, length, redundancy
- For example: shape \rightarrow parallel links



Practice: Gruebler's paradox of shape

How many DOF from inspection?



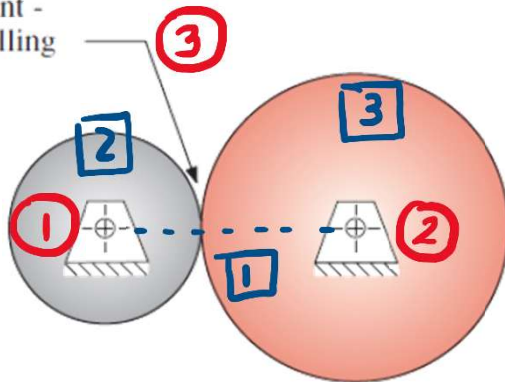
inspection: 1 DOF

Ground length = sum of two radii

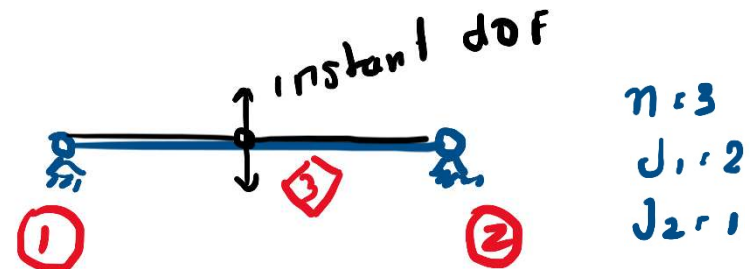
Gruebler's equation does not account for link size or shape.
Moral: Watch out for higher symmetry (e.g., parallel links, summed length)

How many DOF from Gruebler's Eq?

Full joint -
pure rolling
no slip



4 DOF



$$\text{DOF} = 3(3-1) - 2(2) - 1(1)$$

$$= 6 - 4 - 1 = 1$$

Grashof condition: Mechanism length and allowed motion

Define:

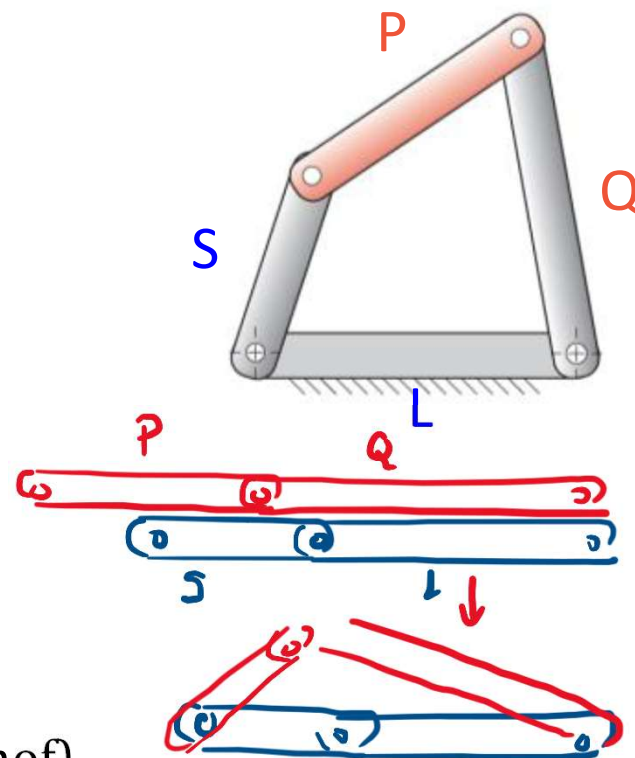
- S – shortest link
- L – longest link
- P, Q – remaining links

$S + L \leq P + Q$: Grashof condition

$S + L < P + Q$: Class 1 (Grashof) ✓

$S + L > P + Q$: Class 2 (non-Grashof) ✓

$S + L = P + Q$: Class 3 (special-case Grashof)



*always
room to build
in extended
config.*

Class 1:

$$S + L < P + Q$$

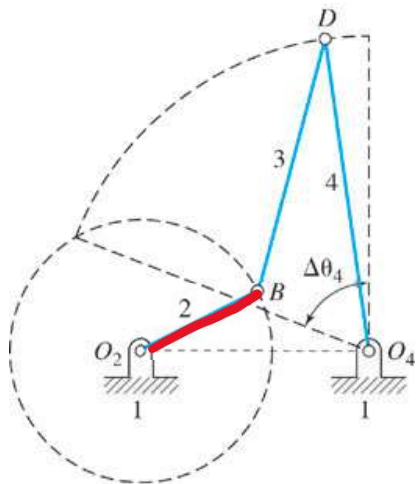
“Satisfies the
Grashof condition”

- At least one link *will* be able to make a *full rotation*

Crank-Rocker

S is always the crank

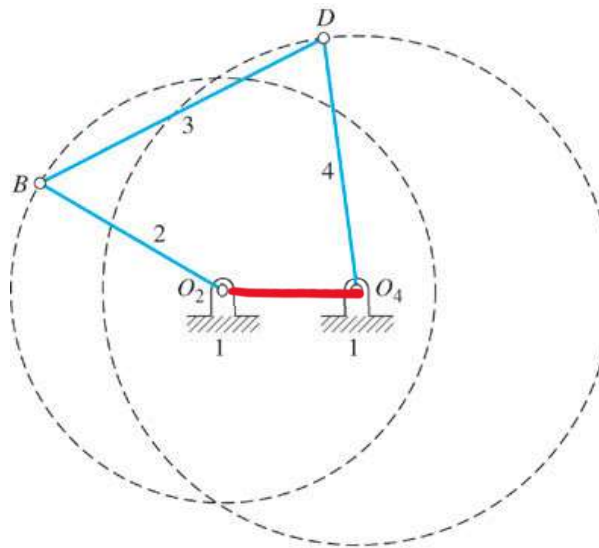
Only Link 2 rotates



Double Crank

S is always ground

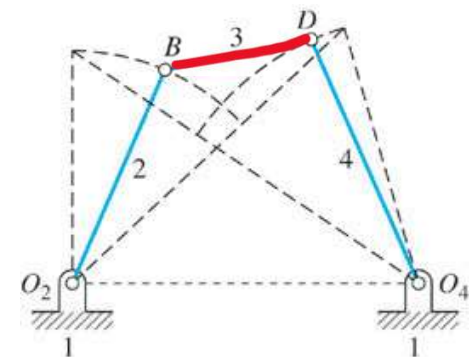
Link 2, 3, and 4 rotate



Double Rocker

S is always the coupler

Only Link 3 rotates

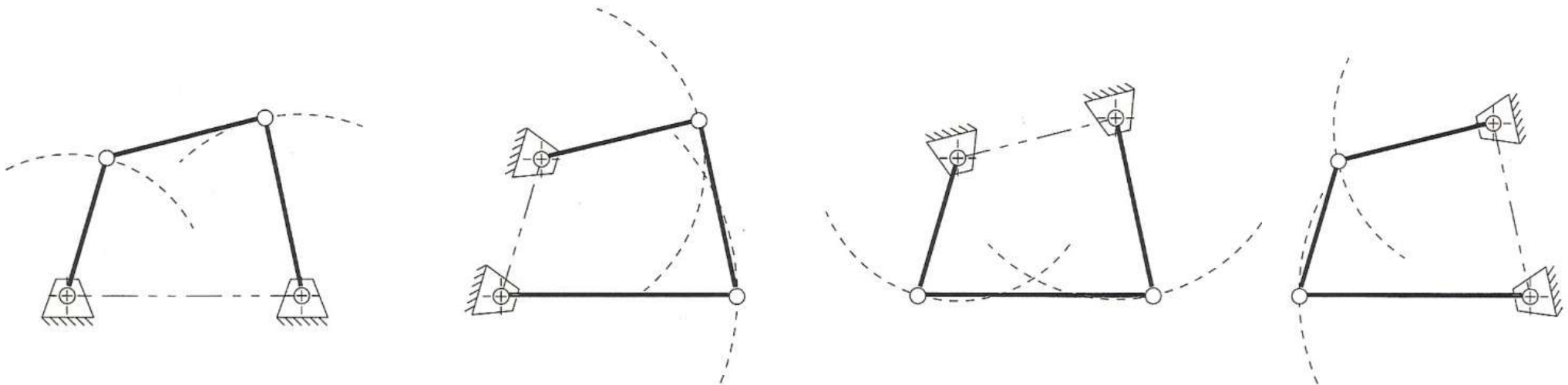


Class 2:

$$S + L > P + Q$$

“DOES NOT Satisfy the Grashof condition”

- *No link* will be able to make a full rotation.
- All four inversions are triple rockers:



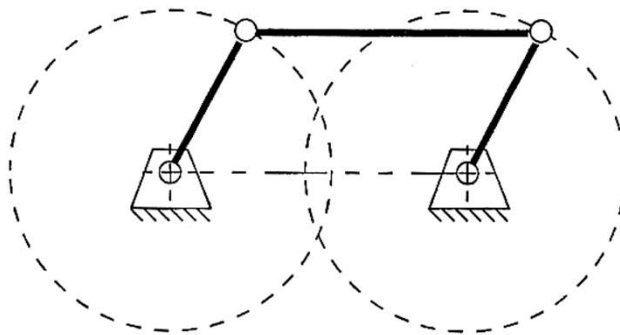
Class 3:

$$S + L = P + Q$$

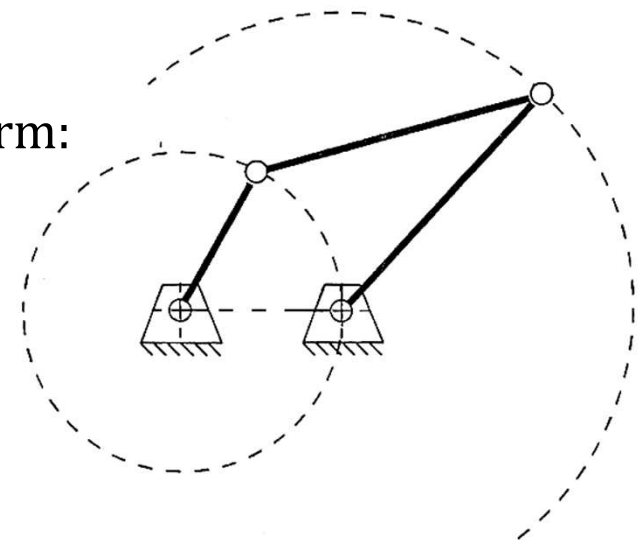
“Special Case Grashof”

- *At least one link* will make a full rotation (like Class 1). Two Forms:
 - *Parallelogram* – shortest links are opposite each other
 - *Delta* – shortest links are adjacent to each other
- *Problem*: output has a “*change point*” where links are in a line and output direction is indeterminant

Parallelogram:



Delta Form:

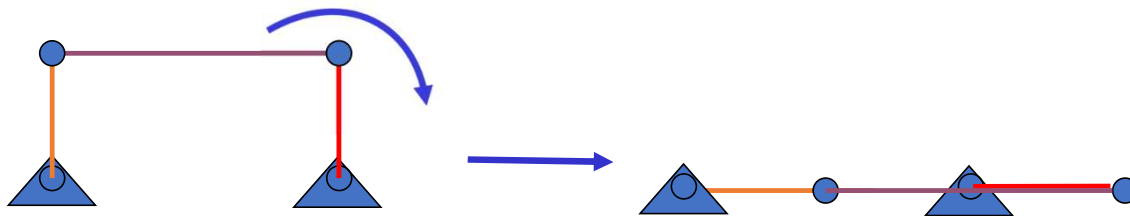


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8bz4ni6mdY>

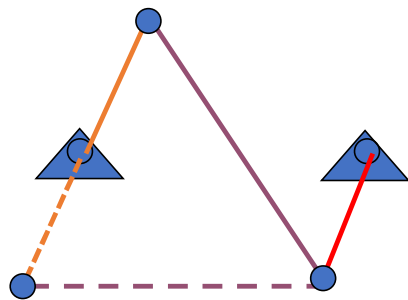
Grashof Class 3:

$$S + L = P + Q$$

Will have **change points** twice per revolution, where all links become co-linear.

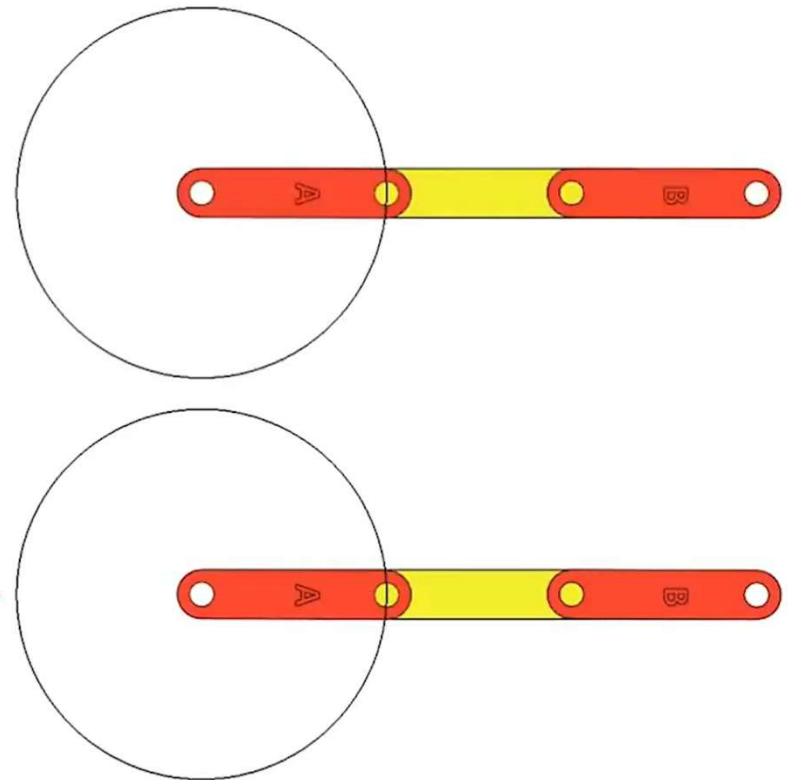


⇒ Output is indeterminate



Parallelogram or Anti-Parallelogram form

change point
cannot be
predicted

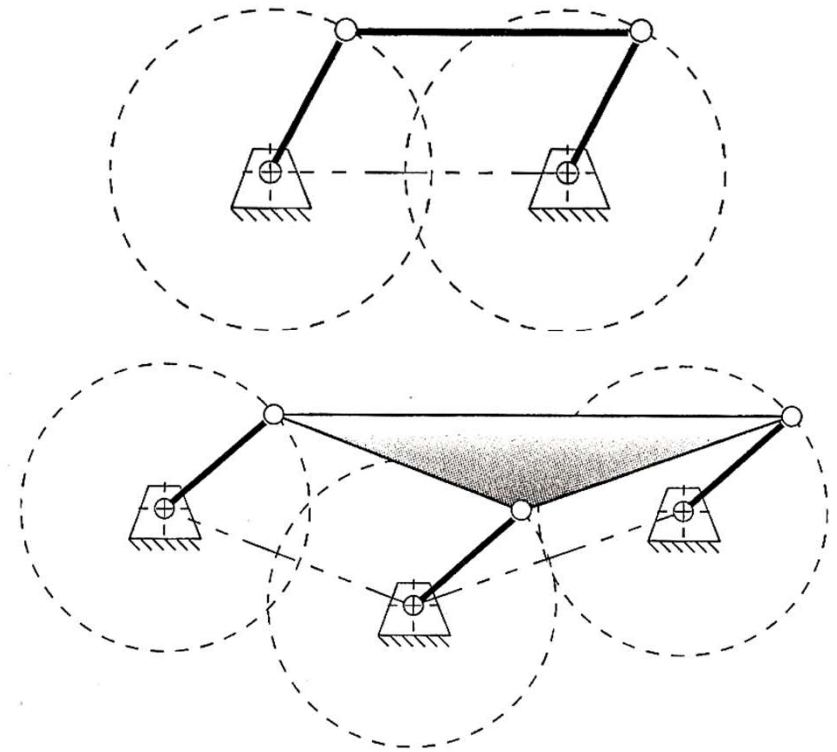


<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h8bz4ni6mdY>

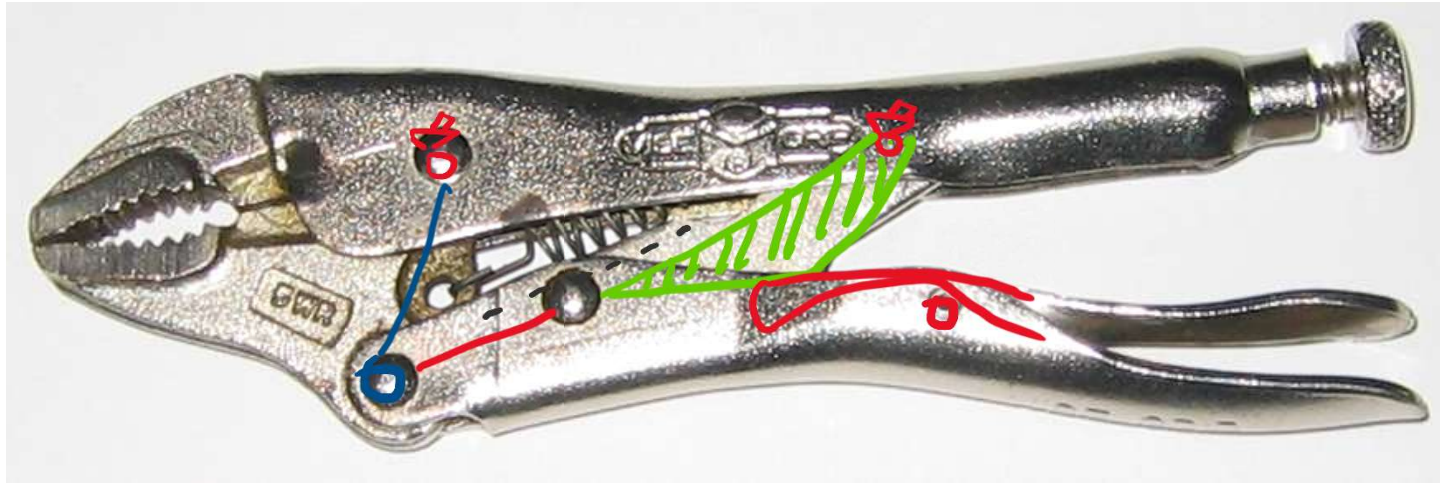
Class 3: $S + L = P + Q$

- *Problem*: output has a “*change point*” where links are in a line and output direction is indeterminant

Solution to change point uncertainty is to add a link to the coupler:



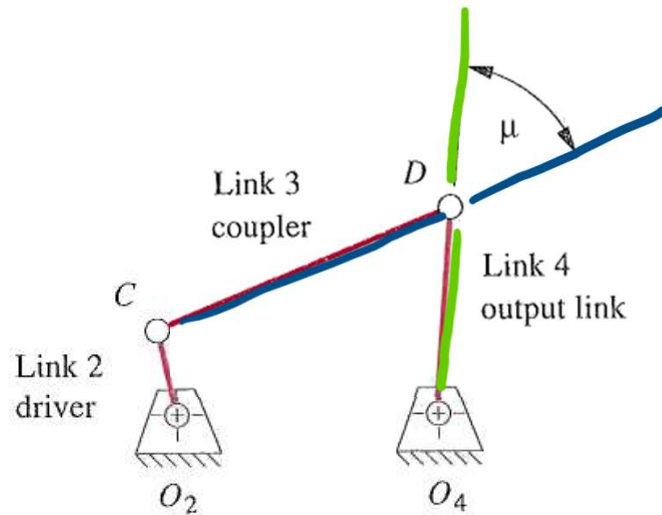
Toggle Position



- Two links are co-linear
- No further motion possible in given direction
 - Toggle position holds jaws closed
- Must drive different links to open and close
- Check designs for possible toggle positions!

Transmission angle, μ

(Norton, Section 3.3)



(a) Linkage transmission angle μ

- **Acute** angle between coupler and output links
- Measure of quality of force transmission at joint

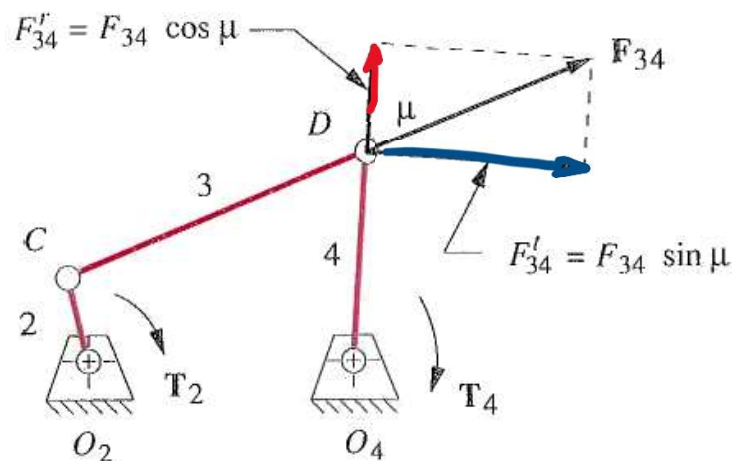
Transmission angle, μ

- Coupler only transmits force along its axis (F_{34}).

- F^t determines torque on output (rocker)
- F^r determines tension/compression on rocker and joints D and $O_4 \rightarrow$ friction

- Design rule:

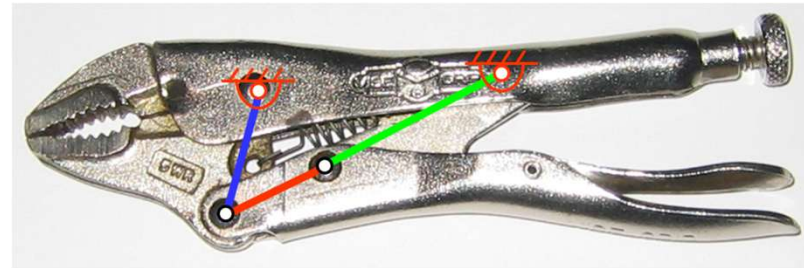
Try to keep $90^\circ > \mu > 40^\circ$



(b) Static forces at a linkage joint

Limiting Conditions in Mechanism Motion

- Toggle positions
- Change points



- Transmission angles (more on forces later in semester)
 - Typically $90^\circ > \mu_{min} > 40^\circ$

Class Exercise

Exercise: Grashof Condition and Mechanism

Classification

A four-bar mechanism is formed by four links with the following lengths:

- Link 1 (fixed frame): $L_1 = 12 \text{ cm}$
- Link 2 (input crank): $L_2 = 4 \text{ cm}$
- Link 3 (coupler): $L_3 = 10 \text{ cm}$
- Link 4 (output rocker): $L_4 = 8 \text{ cm}$

Tasks:

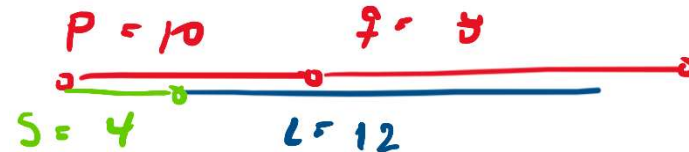
1. Check if the mechanism satisfies **Grashof's criterion**.
2. If Grashof's condition is satisfied, classify the mechanism as one of:

1. Crank-rocker *S is shortest —*

2. Double-crank

3. Double-rocker

3. Draw a simple sketch of the mechanism labeling the links as crank, rocker, coupler and ground.



Grashof ✓

