

SLIJPER (61), MUYBRIDGE (44), ELFTMAN (14), HOWELL (25), HATT (21), LULL (36)]. These animals mainly jump by simultaneous propulsive strokes of both hindlegs. Their

**Anatomy.** — *Biologic-anatomical Investigations on the Bipedal Gait and Upright Posture in Mammals, with Special Reference to a Little Goat, born without Forelegs.* I. By E. J. SLIJPER (Utrecht). (From the Institute of Veterinary Anatomy of the State University, Utrecht, Holland; Director Prof. Dr. G. KREDIET).

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### I. Introduction.

In June 1939 our institute received a little he-goat, three months old, born without forelegs. On the left side it had only a scapula, just as GRAU (18) described of a new-born horse. This bone terminated in a little knob, which can be explained as the synostosis of the scapula with a vestigial humerus [see MURRAY (43) and GRAU (18) in opposition to JENNY (27)]. On the right side the animal possessed a very small and highly deformed little leg with a hoof, in the same way as has been described by GRAU (18) of a goat. Malformations of this kind are not uncommon at all; in our institute there are skeletons of new-born and young calves, goats and dogs without forelegs. They have for example been described by FULD (17; dog), REGNAULT (50; dog), GRAU (18; horse, goat), JENNY (27; sheep) and LESBRE (33) of man and all the domestic animals. Most of these animals were very well capable of living; REGNAULT (50) possessed a bipedal dog that was twelve years old. Unfortunately our little goat died at the age of one year owing to an accident. The first seven months of its life it passed its days on the grass-field, moving forward by jumps on its hindlegs in a semi-upright posture. The body made an angle of nearly  $45^\circ$  with the ground and the hoofs of the hindlegs were placed much farther forward under the body than in a normal goat, in order to bring the supporting surface under the centre of gravity. The manner of locomotion was quite similar to that of a jumping-hare or a kangaroo, both hindlegs leaving the ground at the same time. During the winter the animal lived in the stable.

Almost every author who has described animals born without forelegs, or animals whose forelegs had been amputated [see for example FULD (17; dog), COLTON (10; rat), KOWESCHNIKOWA und KOTIKOWA (32; cat), JACKSON (26; dog)] has restricted himself to an investigation of the vestigial foreleg or a few characteristics of the hindleg. In order to make a more intensive use of the material, the researches on my bipedal goat were connected with a biologic-anatomical investigation on the changes that have taken place in the locomotor-apparatus of mammals with a bipedal gait or an upright posture. So on the one side it was possible to give a better explanation of some characteristics of the bipedal goat, on the other side the changes in the structure of this animal served as a kind of proof of the explanation of the phenomena common to several or all bipedal and upright mammals.

On the whole these animals belong to three orders of mammals: the *Marsupialia*, *Rodentia* and *Primates*. If possible in each of this three orders I examined a skeleton of a representative of one of the following five types of locomotion (fig. 1): 1st. A walking or running animal [*Thylacinus cynocephalus* (Harris), *Lepus europaeus* Pall.]. 2d. An animal that walks on the branches of trees or that climbs with all four extremities [*Trichosurus vulpecula* (Kerr), *Phascolarctos cinereus* (Goldf.), *Sciurus vulgaris* L., *Cebus apella* L., *Trachypithecus pyrrhus* (Horsf.); for the kind of locomotion see MUYBRIDGE (44), BÖKER (5), SLIJPER (61)]. When climbing these animals now and then show an upright posture. 3d. A bipedal jumping animal [*Dendrolagus inustus* Müller u. Schlegel, *Bettongia lesueuri grayi* (Gould), *Macropus giganteus* (Zimm.), *Pedetes caffer* (Pall.), *Jaculus jaculus* (L.); for the kind of locomotion see BÖKER (5),

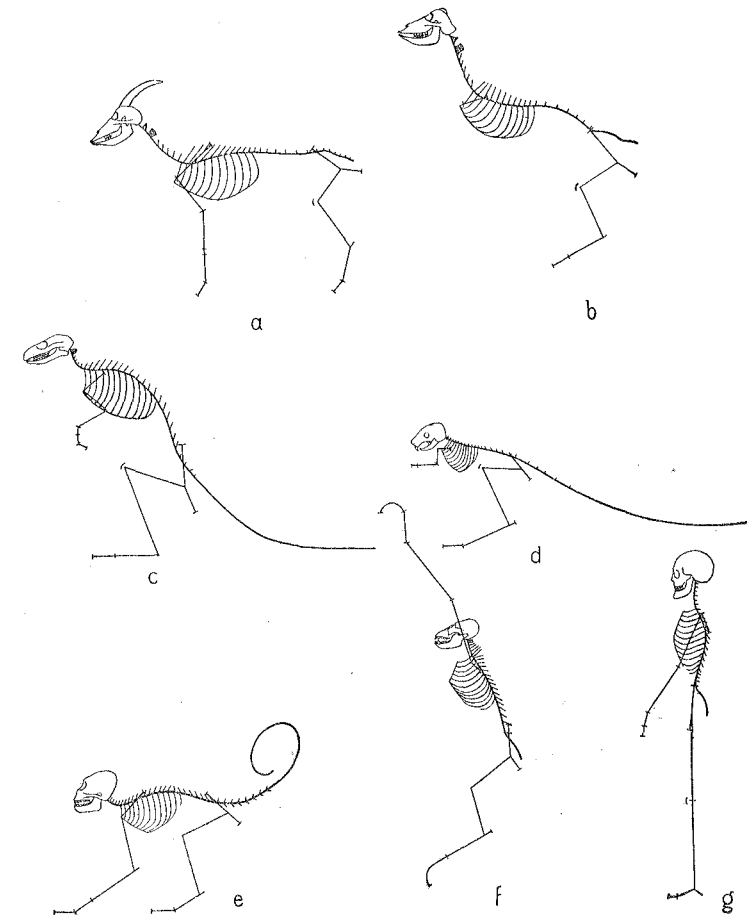


Fig. 1.

Schematic figures of the skeletons of the different types of mammals, described in this paper. a. Normal goat. b. Bipedal goat. c. Kangaroo (*Macropus giganteus* (Zimm.); bipedal jumping mammal). d. Jumping-mouse (*Jaculus orientalis* Erxl.; bipedal jumping mammal). e. Monkey (*Cebus apella* (L.); climbing mammal). f. Orang utan (*Pongo pygmaeus* (Hoppius); hanging-climbing mammal). g. Man (*Homo sapiens* L.; bipedal walking mammal).

body makes an angle of nearly  $45^\circ$  with the horizontal plane, but is kept in balance on the hindlegs by the very long and heavy tail. At rest the tail serves as an adventitious support for the body-weight. 4th. A hanging-climbing animal. This type is only known of the Primates [I examined *Ateles paniscus* (L.), *Hylobates lar leuciscus* Geoffr., *Pongo pygmaeus* (Hoppius); for the kind of locomotion see BÖKER (5), SLIJPER (61), PRIEMEL (49)]. These animals chiefly climb with their extremely elongated forelegs. When climbing their posture is nearly upright, they have no tail, but the body is kept in balance by the support of the forelegs. 5th. Man, the only real bipedal walker among the mammals. His posture is perfectly upright, there is no tail, but the body is kept in



the femur in the dogs differed from that in the rats. Unfortunately the publications of FULD and COLTON do not give exact information on this point.

The elongation of the first phalanx in the bipedal goat (table 1) may be connected with the fact that the feet had to be placed much more forward, in order to bring the supporting surface under the centre of gravity. As is shown in fig. 2 the more horizontal position of the metatarsus and the toes, required by the above-mentioned forward motion of the supporting surface, caused a change in the direction of the calcaneus and especially of the tuber calcanei. For in digitigrade and unguligrade mammals the direction of the tuber calcanei is always nearly parallel to that of the femur. This position guarantees the most favourable effect for the contraction of the m. gastrocnemius and flexor digitalis sublimis. In the normal goat there is an angle between the tuber calcanei and the metatarsus (fig. 2a). In the bipedal goat the position of the tuber calcanei with regard to that of the

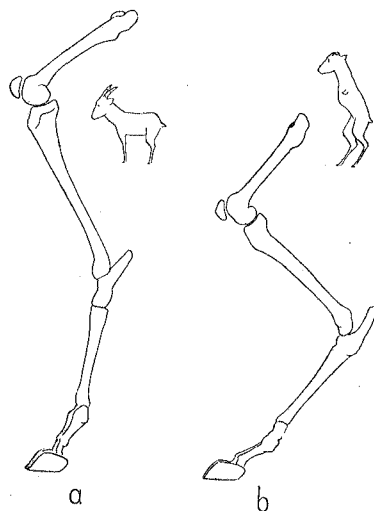


Fig. 2.  
Left hindleg of the normal (a) and the bipedal (b) goat.

femur was nearly the same as in the control-animal. In connection with the altered position of the metatarsus, however, the tuber calcanei showed the same direction as this bone (fig. 2b). In consequence the angle between tuber calcanei and tibia was so much smaller than in the control-animal that the tarsal joint could not be completely stretched. The elongation of the tuber calcanei lengthened the lever of the tarsal joint.

Neither an enlargement of the trochanter maior [RUDOLF (52)] or a limitation of the movements in the joints to one single plane, nor a reduction of the fibula [SCHAPIRO (55), SCHUMANN (59), LYON (37), HOWELL (25)] or of the number of toes could be expected in our goat, since these characters are already common to running and bipedal jumping mammals [SLIJPER (61)].

The very marked increase in thickness of all the bones of the hindleg and especially the increase of their proximal and distal ends and their joint-surfaces, without doubt have been caused by the increase of the weight supported by this leg. This is in perfect accordance with the considerations of WEIDENREICH (66) and the experiments of WERMEL (68) and STIEVE (62), but it does not quite agree with the data given by FULD (17) and COLTON (10). In the dogs of FULD the bones of the hindleg were not thickened, but only the quantity of bone had been augmented. The joint-surface of the distal epiphysis of the tibia of the dog of FULD was diminished, but in the rats of COLTON it had been increased. In the dogs the acetabular joint-surface too was diminished, while in the goat it has been increased, just as RUDOLF (52) has shown for the kangaroo. The elongation of the collum femoris is an adaptation to the narrowing of the pelvis at the acetabulum (see chapter III, sub 7).

The preservation of the muscles did not permit me to compare their weight with that of the control-animal. In general, however, it can be said that the greater part of the muscles in the bipedal goat were better developed than in the quadrupedal one, with the exception of the psoas-musculature, which showed a minor development. On the whole this observation agrees with the data given by FULD (17) for a bipedal dog, KOWESCHNIKOWA und KOTIKOWA (32) for a bipedal cat and by ALEZAIS (2), SCHAPIRO (55), ELFTMAN (14) and HOWELL (25) for bipedal jumping mammals. The psoas-musculature will be dealt with in chapter III.

### III. Pelvis.

1. **General remarks.** On the whole we may consider the structure of the pelvis as a compromise between the demands made by statical and mechanical forces, by the organs of the pelvic cavity, which have to take up a certain space and by the insertions of the muscles. An investigation into the differences in the structure of the pelvis thus must take into account these four demands and may not be restricted to one or two of them as ELFTMAN (14), BYKOV and KOTIKOWA (9) and many investigators of human anatomy have done [for a detailed discussion of the literature see ARIENS KAPPERS (3)].

As the pelvis is not a simple perpendicular pillar of the body-axis, the statical force (that is the gravitation) may be resolved into several different components [see for example MIJSBERG (45)]. The most important of these components are: 1st. A force going from the ilio-sacral joint through the ilium to the acetabular joint, where it is compensated by the counter-pressure of the supporting leg. Direction, length and thickness of the ilium, as well as the thickness of the acetabulum and the surface of the acetabular joint may be influenced by this force. 2d. A force that tries to rotate the right and left halves of the pelvis in an upward and outward direction. In future this force will be called the exorotation. In the first place, this exorotation is caused by the fact, that the point where the femoral head supports the acetabulum lies laterally to the ilio-sacral joint. In the second place it is caused by the rotation of the vertebral column round the transverse axis of the ilio-sacral joint. This rotation is caused by the weight of the body: the lumbar vertebral column tries to move downward, the sacrum tries to move upward. This bone transfers the upward force to the ischium by the broad ligaments and the lig. sacro-(caudo-) tuberosum. So it causes the exorotation of the ischium. The exorotation is compensated by the pubis and the symphysis pelvis. If the symphysis has been sawn through, the halves of the pelvis turn aside [FENEIS (15)]. The size of the exorotation-force depends on the position of the acetabulum, the divergence of the ischia and the size of the body-weight that rests upon the hindlegs.

In man these factors would be augmented by an outward directed component of the body-weight in the ilio-sacral joint. The existence of this component would depend on the fact, that at the ilio-sacral joint the caudal border of the ala sacralis is narrower than the cranial one. In consequence of this fact the sacrum would act as a kind of coping-stone in an arched roof [MEYER (39), BRAUS (6)]. Recently LÜHKEN (35), however, has shown, that this component does not cause an outward directed force at the symphysis pelvis but on the contrary an inward directed one. But his conclusion, that the symphysis in man has to resist pressure in stead of tension cannot be right, as FENEIS (15) has shown, that tension is prevalent in the symphysis of man. Moreover LÜHKEN has neglected the other exorotating forces. It is possible, however, that the symphysis of man has to resist less tension-force, than that of other mammals especially of other Primates. The fact, that man has a fibro-cartilagineous symphysis instead of a bony one, as well as the comparatively low symphyseal index (see table 3), might be an indication of this opinion. The theory of the coping-stone does not hold with regard to other mammals, because their sacrum does not rest upon the pelvis but is hung from the ala ilii [BRUHNKE (8)].

The mechanical forces, caused by the locomotion of the animal are the same as the above-described statical ones. Additional forces are the reciprocal shifting of the two halves of the pelvis in mammals that walk by alternating strokes of their hindlegs, as



well as the rotation of the pelvis in a dorsal direction caused by the shock when the foot is planted on the ground. The first force is compensated by the symphysis, the second by the ligaments of the ilio-sacral joint, the tension of the m. rectus abdominis [STRASSER (63)] and the tension of the m. psoas minor. The capacity of the pelvis is influenced by the bulk of the different organs, the size of the faeces, but especially by the dimensions of the foetus at birth [ELFTMAN (14)]. This is illustrated by the different dimensions of male and female pelvis [SCHMALTZ (56), BRAUS (6)] and by the fact that some sexual hormones are able to alter the structure of the pelvis [RUTH (54), HISAW (24), HAWRE, MEYER and MARTIN (23)]. Under the insertions of muscles that influence the structure of the pelvis, special attention must be paid to the m. gluteus medius (length and width of ala ilii), the hamstring-muscles (length of ischium) and the adductor muscles (length of symphysis).

2. **Thickness of bones.** As already has been shown for the hindleg, it is not surprising at all that the increase of the weight supported by the pelvis has caused a considerable thickening of all bones, but especially of the acetabulum and pubis. The acetabular joint-surface too is enlarged to a very marked degree (fig. 3, table 1).

3. **Position of the pelvis.** Since the sacral vertebra principally transmits the power from the lumbar vertebral column to the pelvis and reciprocally, the angulus ilio-lumbalis has proved to be a safer indication of the different forces acting on the pelvis than the angulus ilio-sacralis, which has been determined by MIJSBERG (45), NAUCK (46) and others. The angulus ilio-lumbalis is the angle between the ilium and the axis of the lumbar vertebral column that is produced in a caudal direction. The angulus sacro-lumbalis is the angle between this caudally produced axis and the axis of the sacrum. In quadrupedal

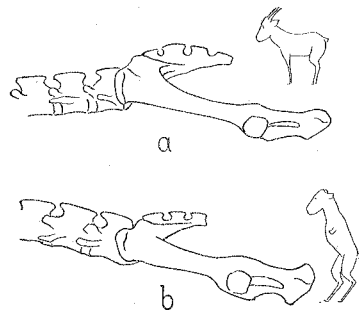


Fig. 3.  
Lateral view on the pelvis of the normal (a)  
and the bipedal (b) goat.

mammals a more or less vertical position of the ilium is the most favourable to support the body-weight, while a more or less horizontal position is the most favourable for the transmission of the locomotor-power from the hindleg to the vertebral column. In consequence the heavy quadrupedal mammals show a comparatively wide ilio-lumbar angle, while it is comparatively narrow in smaller or lighter mammals, especially in those species that have a more or less jumping locomotion (*Leporidae*, *Felidae*; see table 3).

The direction of the vertebral column in upright going and bipedal mammals makes it possible to combine a nearly vertical ilium with a very narrow ilio-lumbar angle [see table 3, especially the Primates; see also NAUCK (46), PRIEMEL (49)]. In the normal goat there is an ilio-lumbar angle of 23°. In the bipedal one this angle had been reduced to 0° (fig. 3). The angle between the ilium and the horizontal plane amounted from 25° to about 65° to 75°.

4. **Position of the sacrum.** In literature one can find several different explanations for the position of the sacrum and especially for its position in man, which is characterized by the possession of the remarkable promunturium. Several authors try to explain the nearly right angle between the lumbar and sacral vertebrae in man by the tension of the dorsal back-musculature or its demands for insertion [LE DAMANY (12)]. Other investigators on the contrary believe, that it is the demand of space in the pelvic cavity

that determines the position of the sacrum. Recently BLUME (4) has shown, that the development of the promunturium is in no way connected with statical or mechanical forces. From the data given in table 3 it is evident now, that the width of the angulus lumbo-sacralis (see sub 3) completely depends on the other factors determining the capacity of the pelvic cavity. So it can be seen that a wide lumbo-sacral angle occurs in those mammals that have a long sacrum and a narrow ilio-lumbar angle [compare for example *Ursus arctos* L. (6 sacral vertebrae) with *Panthera leo* (L.) (2 sacral vertebrae, same ilio-lumbar angle) or *Bos taurus* L. (ilio-lumbar angle of 30°) with *Rhinoceros sondaicus* Desm. (70°)]. The possession of a promunturium is not limited to man, but it occurs in several different quadrupedal mammals (*Sus*, *Dicotyles*, *Haplomys*, *Ursus*). Among the bipedal mammals a widening of the lumbo-sacral angle only occurs in the *Macropodidae*. For in the other species there was no marked change of the ilio-lumbar angle or the number of sacral vertebrae. The increase of the number of these vertebrae in Primates certainly has been the chief factor that caused the widening of the lumbo-sacral angle.

The above-mentioned opinion is fully borne out by the fact, that in the bipedal goat the ilio-lumbar angle decreased by 23° while the lumbo-sacral angle increased by 16° (see also table 1 and fig. 3).

TABLE 3. POSITION AND PROPORTIONAL DIMENSIONS OF THE PELVIS IN MAMMALS.

Species	Dimensions in % of the distance between occipital crest and cranial border of sacrum								Height of pelvis	Situation of pelvic inlet with regard to the sacral vertebrae <sup>1)</sup>	Number of sacral vert.	Angle between (in degrees)		
	Length of bone			Breadth at			Ilium and lumbar vertebrae 2)	Sacrum and lumbar vertebrae				Ilium and pubis		
	Presacral	Postsacral	Total	Ischium	Symphysis	Pelvic inlet							Acetabulum	Tuber ischii
<i>Thylacinus cynocephalus</i> (Harris)	6	6	12	10	12	7	6	7	5	c. 2S.	2	28	0	117
<i>Lepus europaeus</i> Pall.	8	8	16	12	8	6	6	6	7	c. 2S.	2	20	0	105
<i>Panthera leo</i> (L.)	7	15	11	12	12	6	6	6	6	c. 2S.	2	15	15	130
<i>Canis familiaris</i> L.	7	7	14	9	7	7	6	11	9	c. 3S.	3	18	35	135
<i>Ursus arctos</i> L.	6	6	12	10	12	7	6	6	6	5S.	5	12	56	140
<i>Sus scrofa</i> L. (dom.)	6	9	17	11	9	9	8	8	7	c. 3S.	3	15	50	105
Average of walking mammals	7	8	15	11	10	7	6	6	7			15	29	122
<i>CAPRA HIRCUS</i> L. CONTROL	4	14	18	11	8	9	9	9	9	c. 4S.	4	23	36	140
<i>CAPRA HIRCUS</i> L. BIPEDAL	4	13	17	14	10	10	4	9	7	c. 4S.	4	0	52	130
<i>Lama glama</i> (L.)	3	8	11	7	7	7	6	5	8	2S.	4	53	10	135
<i>Equus caballus</i> L. (dom.)	2	11	13	10	10	8	9	7	10	3S.	5	33	20	90
<i>Bos taurus</i> L. (dom.)	3	11	14	12	12	10	9	10	11	3S.	5	30	36	100
<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i> (L.)	2	9	11	6	8	8	8	7	13	2S.	4	70	0	85
Average of running mammals	3	11	14	9	9	8	8	7	10			42	18	110
<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i> L.	4	14	18	16	12	10	9	8	11	2S.	3	75	0	90
<i>Rhinoceros sondaicus</i> Desm.										2S.	4	70	0	90
<i>Elephas maximus</i> L.										2S.	3	75	0	90
Average of heavy mammals	4	14	18	16	12	10	9	8	11	2S.	3	73	0	90
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i> (Kerr)	10	12	22	12	12	9	10	15	10	c. 2S.	2	22	0	135
<i>Phascogalea cinereus</i> (Goldf.)	13	7	20	8	7	8	7	7	7	c. 3S.	3	30	0	112
<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i> L.	10	13	23	14	12	7	7	10	10	c. 2S.	2	0	20	150
<i>Trachypithecus pyrrhus</i> (Horsf.)	12	10	22	9	12	9	9	8	11	c. 2S.	2	10	20	130
Average of climbing mammals	11	11	22	11	11	8	8	10	10			15	10	124
<i>Dendrolagus inustus</i> Mill. u. Schl.	14	9	23	15	9	13	13	18	12	c. 2S.	2	36	0	130
<i>Bettongia lesueurii grayi</i> Gould	14	10	24	21	14	13	13	20	7	c. 2S.	2	22	0	130
<i>Macropus giganteus</i> (Zimm.)	14	8	22	16	16	11	10	15	9	c. 2S.	2	22	18	130
<i>Pedetes caffer</i> (Pall.)	17	13	30	19	8	15	15	23	16	c. 3S.	3	0	20	115
<i>Jaculus jaculus</i> (L.)	15	11	26	20	17	15	11	20	20	c. 3S.	3	0	20	150
Av. of bipedal jumping mammals	15	10	25	18	13	13	12	19	13			16	12	131
<i>Atelopus paniscus</i> (L.)	11	24	35	14	13	12	12	16	24	c. 3S.	3	5	23	112
<i>Hylobates lar leuciscus</i> Geoffr.	11	22	33	9	12	13	20	15	26	c. 4S.	4	22	16	90
<i>Pongo pygmaeus</i> (Hoppius)	15	23	38	19	15	15	16	19	23	3S.	3	5	35	120
Av. hanging-climbing mammals	12	23	35	14	13	13	16	17	24			11	25	107
<i>Homo sapiens</i> L.	9	12	21	16	8	20	21	19	15	1S.	5	5	85	80

1) c. 2 S. = caudal of the 2d sacral vertebra.

2) See sub 3.