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## **Hysterons and pathways in mechanical metamaterials**

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# Propositions

accompanying the thesis

## *Hysterons and Pathways in Mechanical Metamaterials*

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1. The best strategy to study the deformations of a disordered, multistable system is modeling it as a collection of hysterons.  
*(Chapter 4)*
2. Controlled frustration in mechanical metamaterials is an effective method to create hysterons.  
*(Chapters 2, 3 and 4)*
3. Defects in periodic metamaterials are ideal for designing deformable structures with many different target shapes.  
*(Chapter 5)*
4. Hysterons embedded in a mechanical metamaterial can form the basic components of a computing material or a mechanical computer.  
*(Chapters 2 and 3)*
5. 3D printing is the crucial tool for future advances in mechanical metamaterials.  
*Sparavigna A C. "Metamaterials on demand: The use of 3D printing to create new metamaterials." Available at SSRN 3031417 (2017).*
6. Mechanical metamaterials with a large number of internal degrees of freedom will open up new possibilities for adapting to and supporting the movements of different disabled or injured persons.  
*Kulkarni S R, et al. "Modelling and optimisation of a mechanism-based metamaterial for a wrist flexion-extension assistive device." 2021 IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation (ICRA). IEEE, 2021.*
7. To obtain metamaterials that learn as in the brain, the central challenge is to make

better use of physically plausible learning rules to allow adaptation to external influences.

*Stern M, et al. "Supervised learning in physical networks: From machine learning to learning machines." Physical Review X, 2021, 11(2): 021045.*

8. Many designs of metamaterials are inspired by natural examples, so that metamaterials should be named as nature-materials instead.

*Pishvar M, et al. Foundations for soft, smart matter by active mechanical metamaterials[J]. Advanced Science, 2020, 7(18): 2001384.*

9. Basking in the sun is helpful to human health, so daytime should be set as non-working hours to ensure that people can freely enjoy in the sun.

Jiangnan Ding  
Leiden, 31 May, 2023