



3. In the book *Gulliver's Travels*, by Jonathan Swift, the main character, Gulliver, encounters a number of different races of people, including the tiny Lilliputians and the giant Brobdingnagians. In Part II, He describes the people of Brobdingnag as "a comely Race of People" and "very well proportioned", which we can presume means identical in shape to Gulliver, except much taller. Gulliver estimates the farmer to be "as tall as an ordinary Spire-steeple". Assume this is about 60 feet – about 10 times Gulliver's height of 6 feet.
- (a) If Gulliver is 160 lbs, how heavy do you expect the farmer to be?
- (b) Suppose that Gulliver's thighs are roughly circular with a diameter of about 6 inches. What do you expect the diameter of the farmer's thighs to be?
- (c) Human legs are built with a certain safety factor so that together they can support up to 4 times the weight of the human body. How much weight can Gulliver's legs support?
- (d) Assuming the strength of the leg (ie the weight it can support) scales in proportion to the cross sectional area of the leg, how much weight would the Brobdingnag farmer's legs be able to support? What would happen to the Brobdingnag farmer.
- (e) What would the diameter of the farmer's leg have to be in order to support his weight with the same safety factor as for the human body?