

# BIOMIMICRY & PARAMETRIC DESIGN

## CHRISTINE'S PORTFOLIO

ARCH 4/510 - PROFESSOR NANCY YEN-WEN CHENG SPRING 2017

# PROBLEM OF CLIMATE CHANGE: DROUGHT IN CALIFORNIA

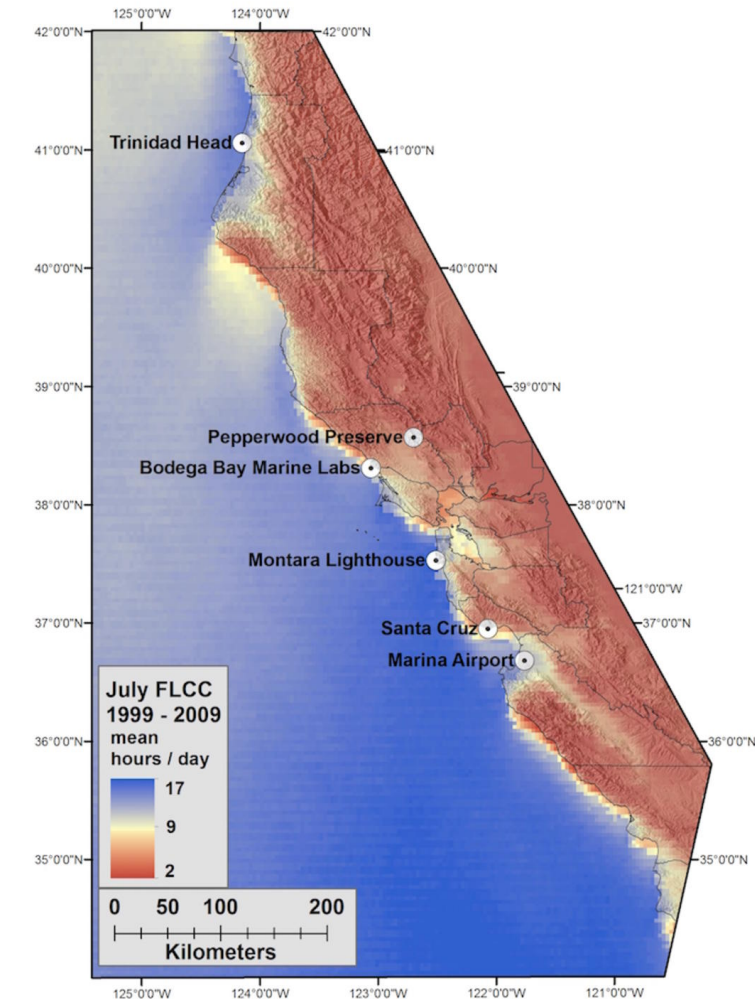
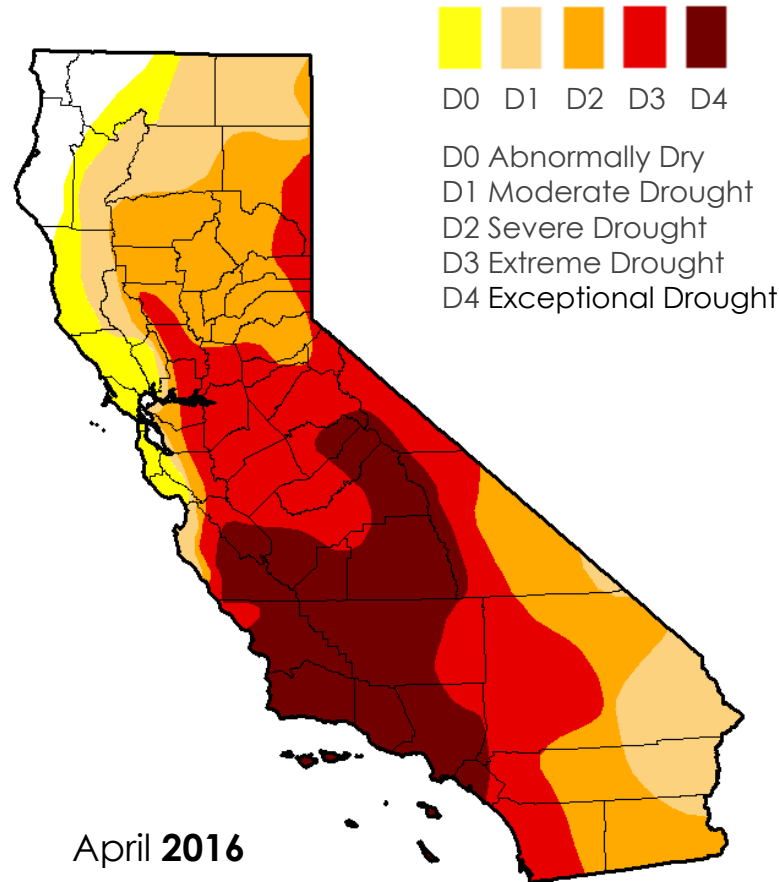
- ▶ Even if this year the state of California has no problem of drought the recent years have been dangours dry (see drought map at the left)
- ▶ The trend for the future predicts unseen changes of the climate and we should be prepared for different scenarios

## Approach: Fog Collection

- ▶ Map of central California coast (at the right) showing the average amount of fog and low clouds present during the month of July over a period of 10 years

>> Drought-Map: Eric Luebehusen, U.S. Department of Agriculture; The National Drought Mitigation Center, University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2017

>> Fog-Map: Torregrosa, A., C. Combs, and J. Peters (2016), GOES-derived fog and low cloud indices for coastal north and central California ecological analyses, Earth and Space Science, 3





## SOLUTION APPROACH: FOG COLLECTION

- ▶ See natural systems in 1C
- ▶ 0.05 to 0.5 grams of liquid water in a cubic meter of fog
- ▶ 40 m<sup>2</sup> collecting surface produce an average of 200 L per day throughout the year
- ▶ fog collectors are also efficient rainfall collectors: a 40 m<sup>2</sup> fog collector will collect much more rain or drizzle than falls on a 40 m<sup>2</sup> area on the ground.
- ▶ Reforestation is an example of how fog collection can benefit an ecosystem

>> Information provided by: Fogquest, not-for-profit organization; Mailing address: 448 Monarch Place, Kamloops BC, V2E 2B2 Canada; website: <http://www.fogquest.org>

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CHRISTINE VON RAVEN

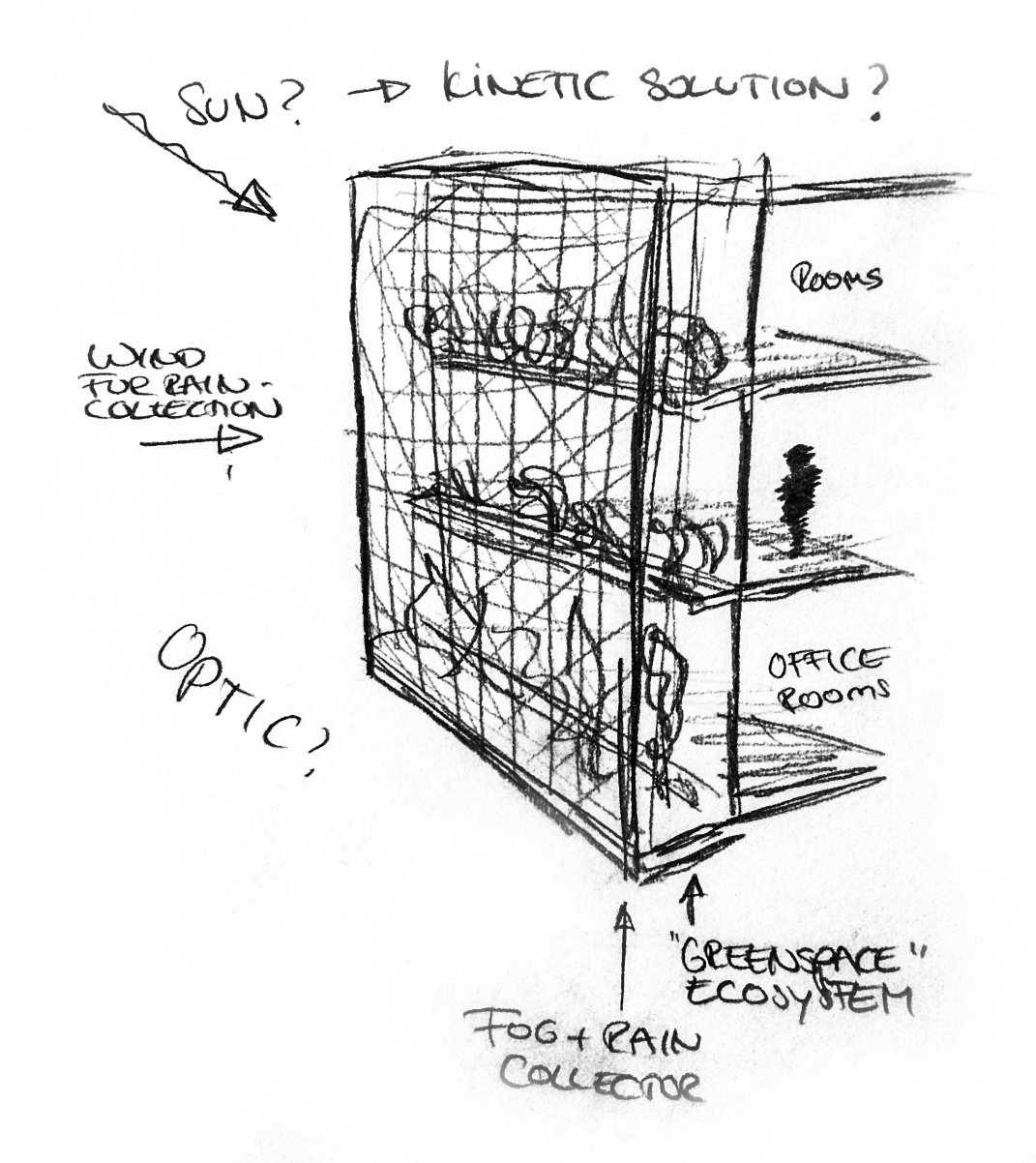


Warka Water 3.2 :  
Daily water collection: 13 to 26  
gallons (50 to 100 L), annual average

>> Warka Water, Inc. 185 Oakridge  
Avenue; <http://www.warkawater.org/>

# FOG HARVESTING IN THE CITY

- ▶ Using fog collecting nets as tool against the drought-problems in the city of San Francisco
- ▶ Integrate the nets into facades, to
  - ▶ Collect water used to maintain an ecosystem
  - ▶ That regulates the climate within the building
- ▶ Factors:
  - ▶ Foggy/rainy time-periodes?
  - ▶ Wind for Rainwater collection
  - ▶ Integration of sunshading?
- ▶ Observed natural role model to create an adoptable/kinetic facade net: **Dragline silk**



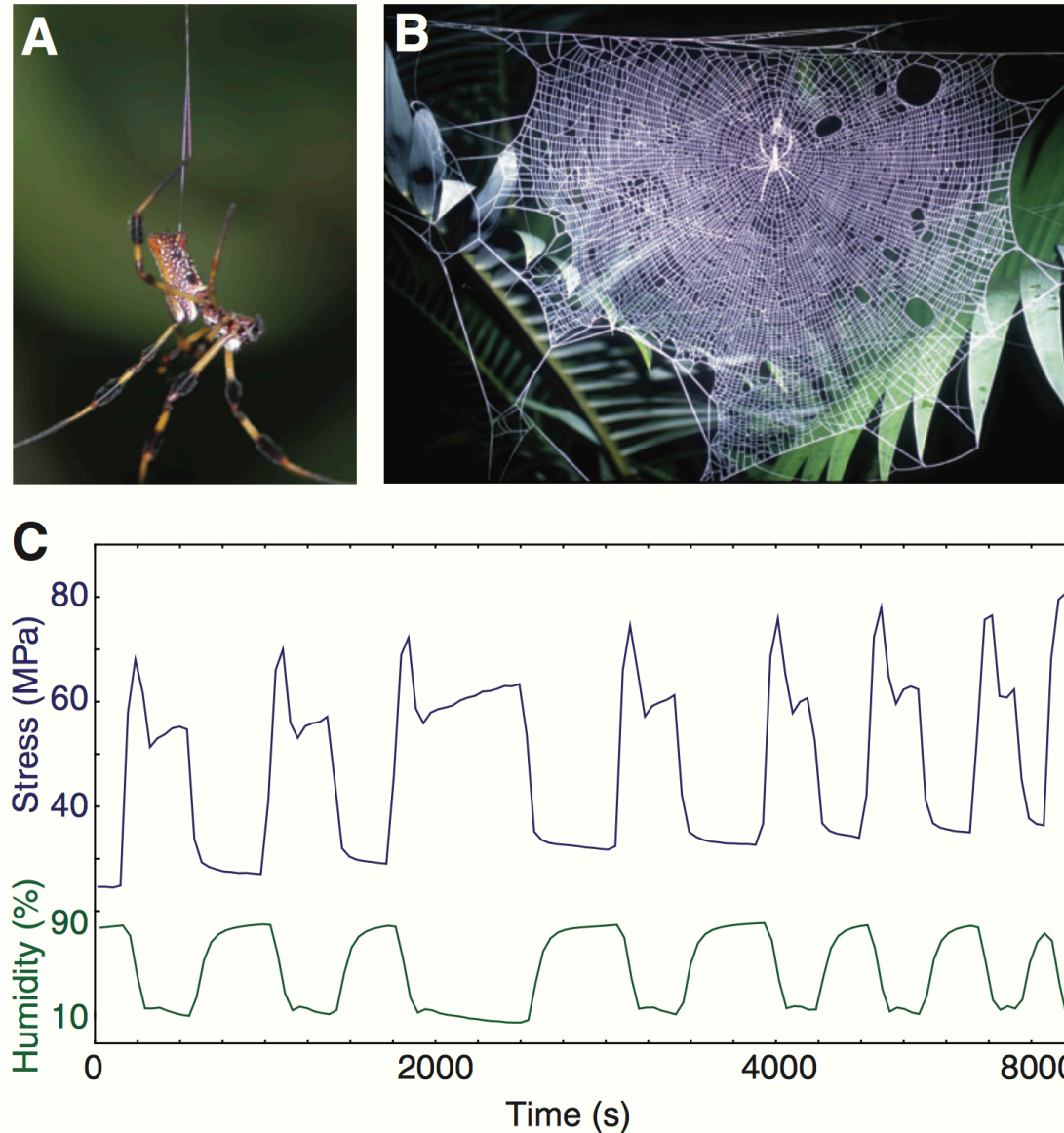


# SPIDER DRAGLINE SILK MUSCLES

Mimic of high performance biological muscles by using wet or dry air to drive silk muscle fibers:

- ▶ Cyclic stress response of spider dragline silk to humidity
- ▶ Contracts up to 50% of its original length
- ▶ Already operates at the level of single silk fibers
- ▶ Silkworm fibers are already available in commercial quantities

>> Ingi Agnarsson, Ali Dhinojwala, Vasav Sahni, Todd A. Blackledge; Spider silk as a novel high performance biomimetic muscle driven by humidity; Company of Biologists 2009



Spiders use dragline silk as  
(A) lifelines  
(B) the supporting framework of their webs

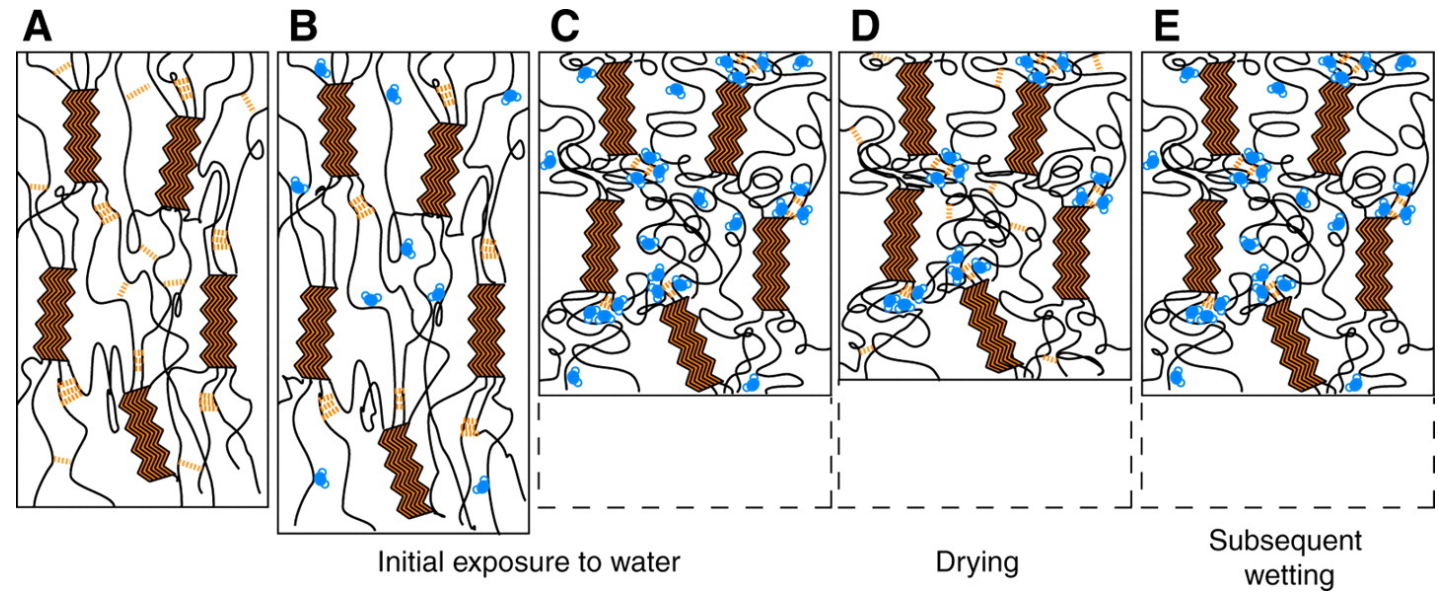
- (C)
- Silk repeatedly **contracts upon drying** and then **relaxes upon subsequent wetting**
  - nearly instantaneous and produces large stresses
  - The spikes in stress at the beginning of each drying cycle are caused by brief puffs of dry N<sub>2</sub> in the environmental chamber before the introduction of small amounts of moisture to control humidity (i.e. the chamber is briefly much drier than can be maintained long term)

# KINETIC NET STRUCTURE

- ▶ With the possibility to create fibres with the structural behaviour of the silk the possibility of extrem humidity-adaptable facades becomes possible

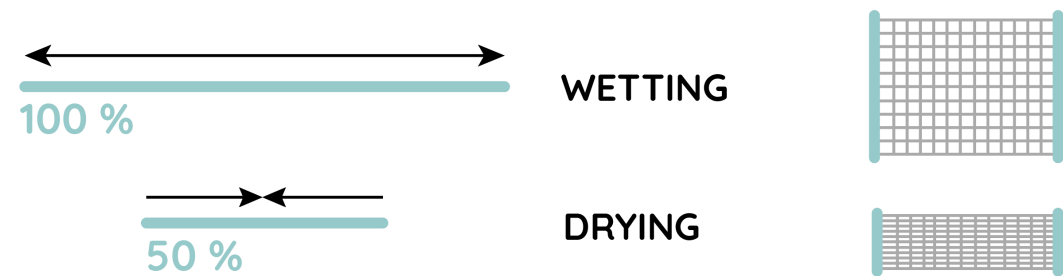
## Plan

- ▶ Investigation of net structures implementing such a fibre that behave according to the needs for the facade-approach mentioned before:
  - ▶ Max surface at high humidity
  - ▶ Max transparency for view
  - ▶ Integrated sunshading to the extend possible
  - ▶ Stunning optic



## Hypothesized model of interaction of water molecules with spider silk proteins

>> Model-image: Todd A. Blackledge, Cecilia Boutry, Shing-Chung Wong, Avinash Baji, Ali Dhinojwala, Vasav Sahni, Ingi Agnarsson; How super is supercontraction? Persistent versus cyclic responses to humidity in spider dragline silk; Journal of Experimental Biology 2009





# TENSILE STRUCTURES

*Searching for adoptable net-structures*

## HYBRID TOWER RESEARCH-PROJECT

- ▶ an integrated hybrid structure
- ▶ design for and with material performance
- ▶ combination of compression and tension elements
- ▶ relationship between skin and structure is a central question
- ▶ Further Research CITA-Projects (bottom right): Slow Furl, 2008
- ▶ <https://kadm.dk/en/CITA-research-projects>

>> Mette Ramsgaard Thomsen, Martin Tamke, Yuliya Sinke Baranovskaya, Anders Holden Deleuran; Hybrid Tower Researchproject, CITA, The Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts Schools of Architecture, Design and Conservation, 2016

