



# Physiologic Anatomy of Skeletal Muscles

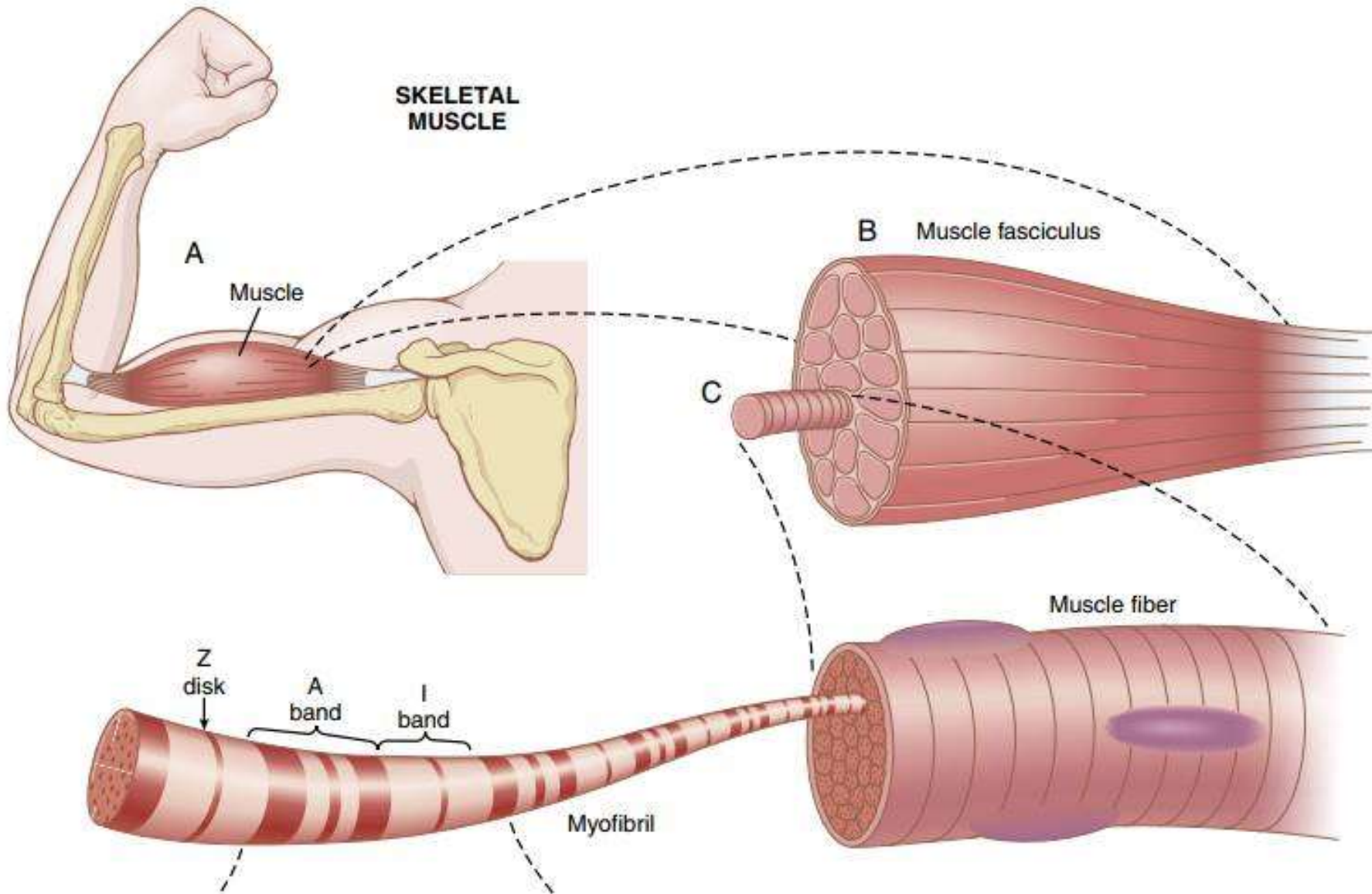
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# Structural organization of skeletal muscles

- ◇ Composed of multiple **muscle fibers** extending across the length of muscle
- ◇ Each **fiber** is composed of smaller **subunits** called **myofibrils**
- ◇ Each myofibril is composed of **actin and myosin filaments**

# SKELETAL MUSCLE

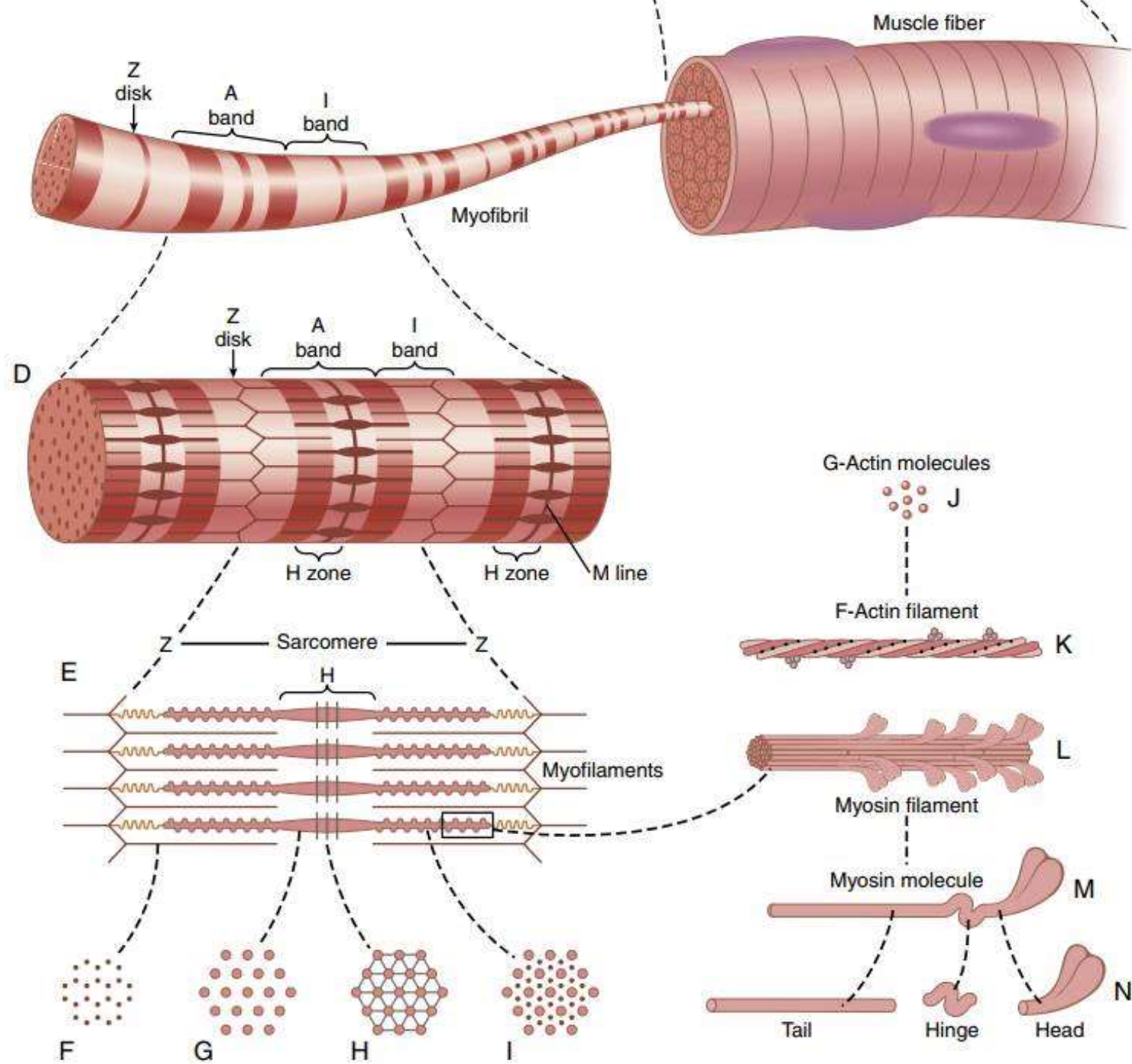


# Sarcolemma

- ◆ Analogous to plasma membrane of a cell
- ◆ Thin membrane enclosing each skeletal muscle fiber
- ◆ Has two main parts:
  1. True cell membrane aka plasma membrane; inner part
  2. an outer coat of polysaccharide and numerous thin collagen fibrils; continued with the tendon fibers at the end of each muscle fiber

# Myofibrils

- ◊ Composed of about 1500 adjacent Myosin filaments and 3000 Actin filaments
- ◊ These are polymerized proteins
- ◊ Responsible for the muscle contraction.
- ◊ **Myosin are thick filaments**
- ◊ **Actin are thin filaments**
- ◊ Myosin and actin filaments **partially interdigitate** and thus cause the **myofibrils** to have **alternate light and dark bands**

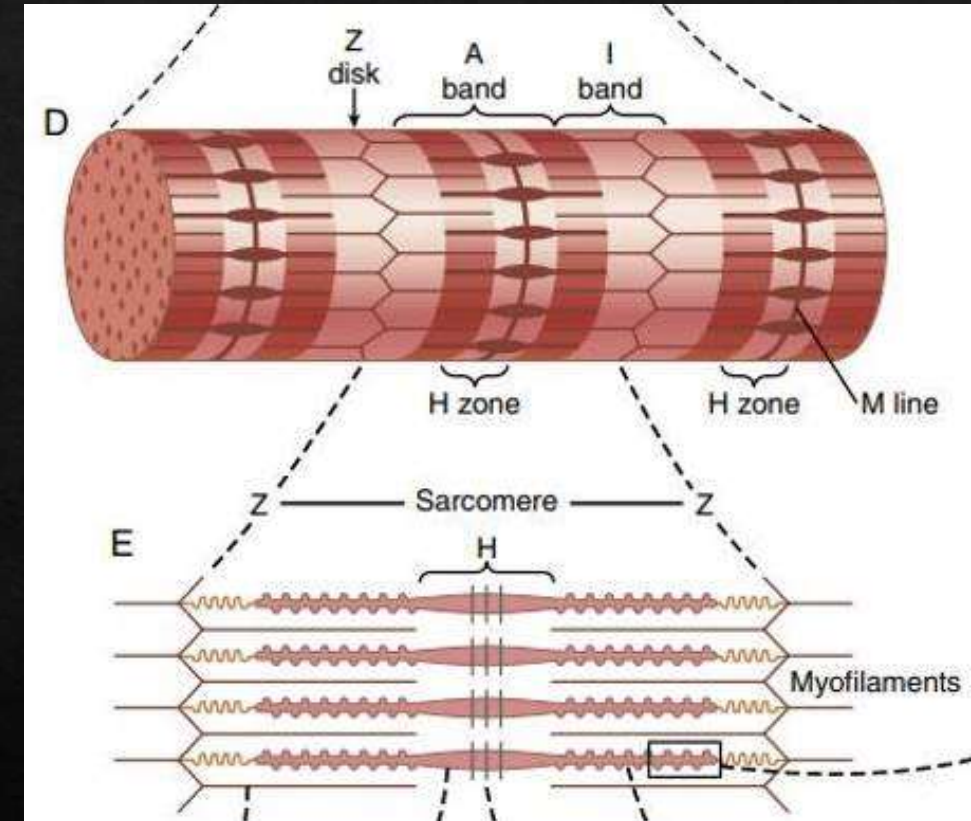
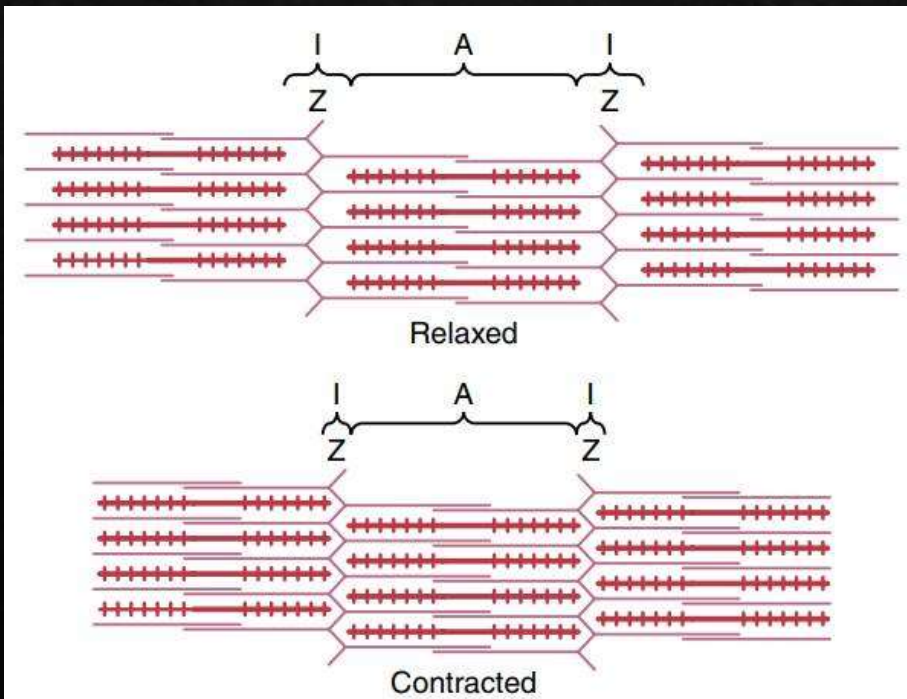


# Myofibrils

- ◆ The light bands contain only Actin filaments and are called I bands. Isotropic to light
- ◆ The dark bands contain Myosin filaments, as well as the ends of the Actin filaments, where they overlap the myosin, and are called A bands; Anisotropic to light
- ◆ Ends of the actin filaments are attached to a Z disk.
- ◆ From this disk, these filaments extend in both directions to interdigitate with the myosin filaments.
- ◆ Z disk: composed of filamentous proteins different from the actin and myosin filaments
- ◆ These bands give skeletal and cardiac muscle their striated appearance.

# Sarcomere

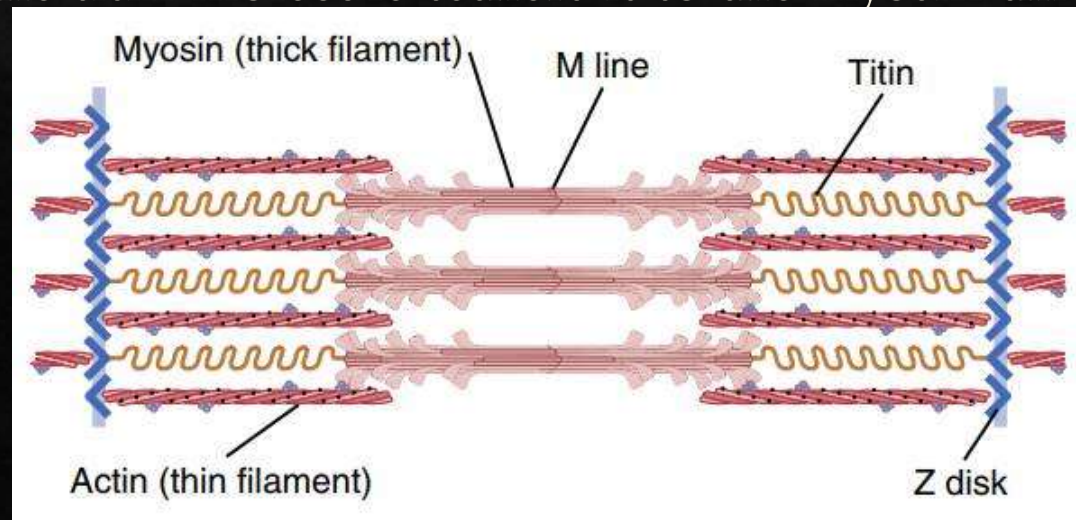
- ◆ The portion of the myofibril (or of the whole muscle fiber) that lies between two successive Z disks is called a sarcomere
- ◆ When the muscle fiber is contracted, the actin filaments completely overlap the myosin filaments, and the tips of the actin filaments are just beginning to overlap one another





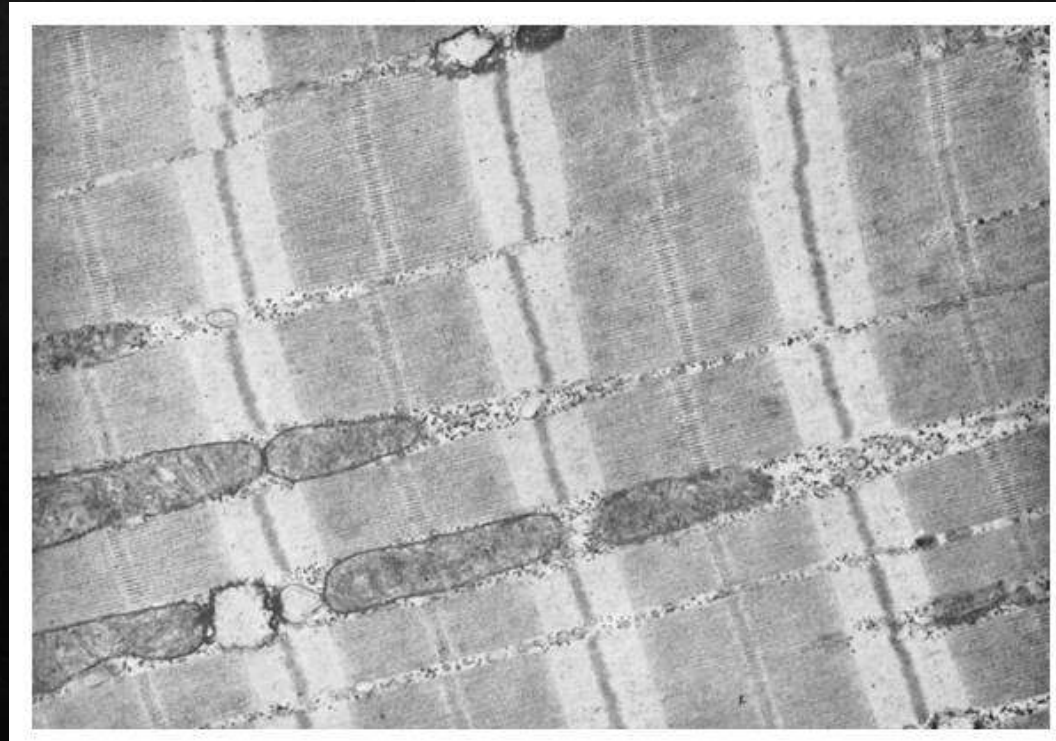
# Titin Filamentous Molecules

- ◇ Titin Filamentous Molecules Keep the Myosin and Actin Filaments in Place
- ◇ The side-by-side relationship between the myosin and actin filaments is maintained by a large number of filamentous molecules of a protein called titin
- ◇ Titin is filamentous hence it is very springy → act as a framework that holds the myosin and actin filaments in place.
- ◇ One end of the titin molecule is elastic; attached to the Z disk; acts as a spring and changing length as the sarcomere contracts and relaxes.
- ◇ The other part of the titin molecule tethers it to the myosin thick filament.



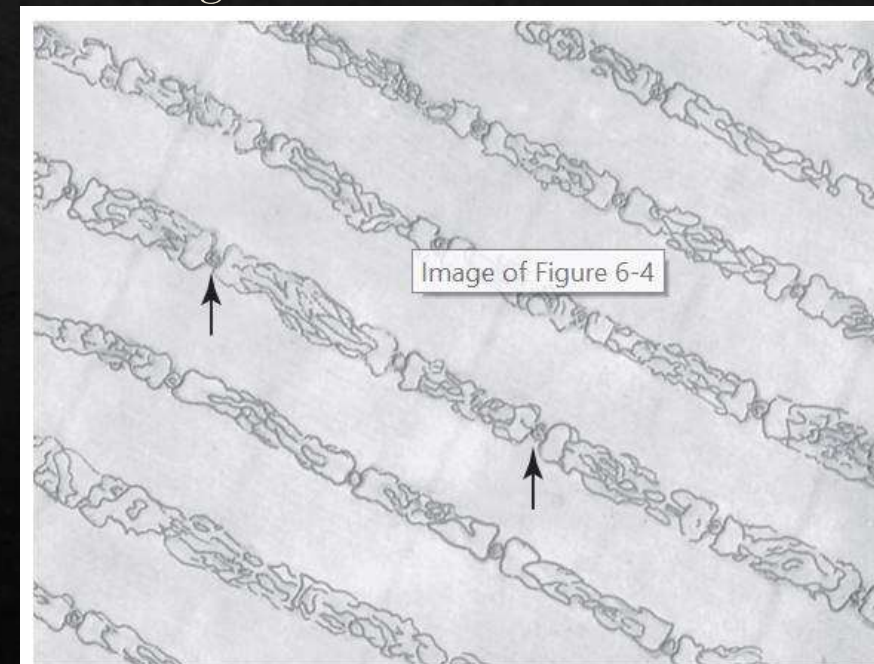
# Sarcoplasm

- ◇ Intracellular Fluid Between Myofibrils
- ◇ Many myofibrils are suspended side by side in each muscle fiber. The spaces between the myofibrils are filled with intracellular fluid called sarcoplasm
- ◇ Contains large quantities of potassium, magnesium, and phosphate, and enzymes.
- ◇ Large numbers of mitochondria in sarcoplasm; lie parallel to the myofibrils; ATP

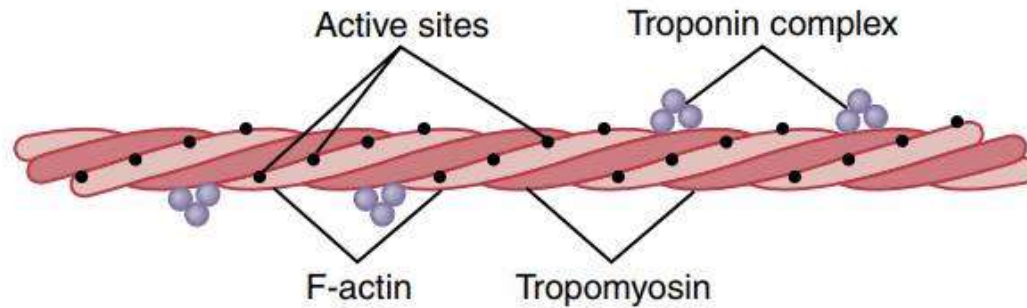
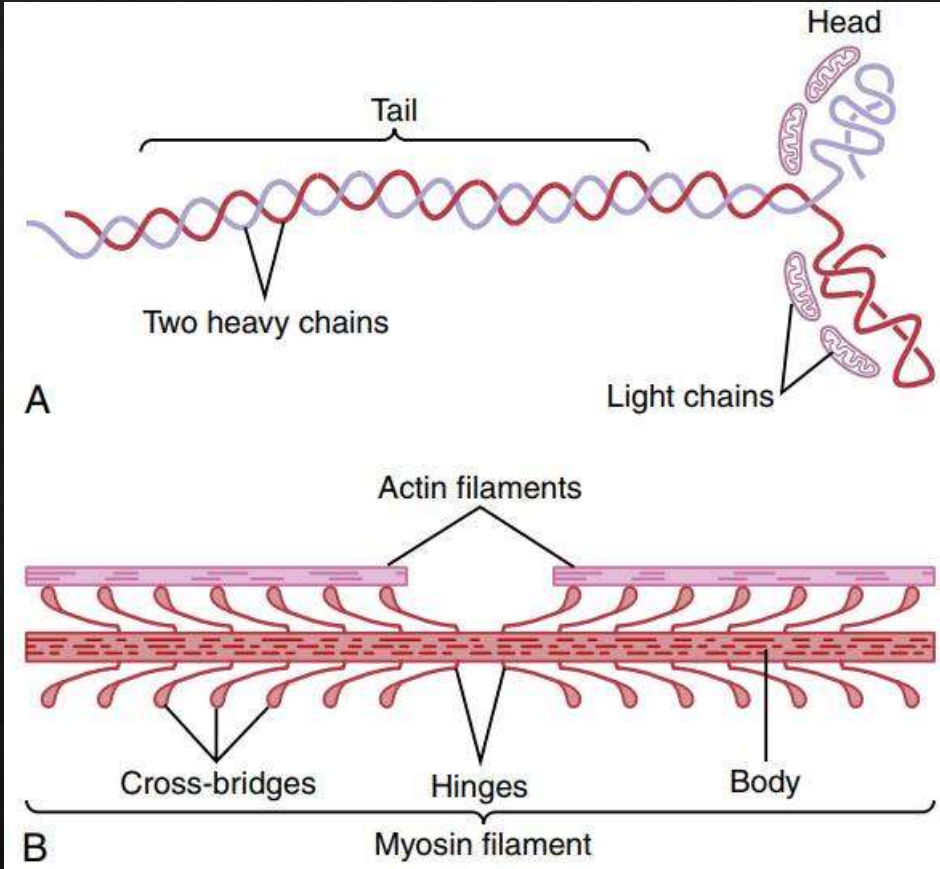
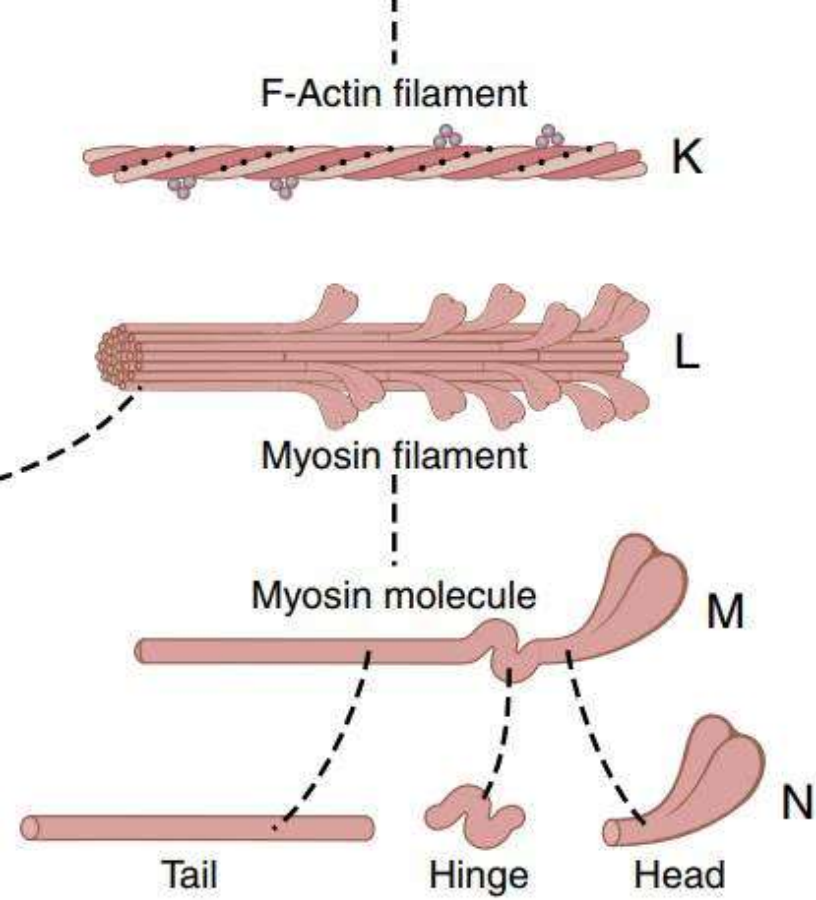


# Sarcoplasmic Reticulum

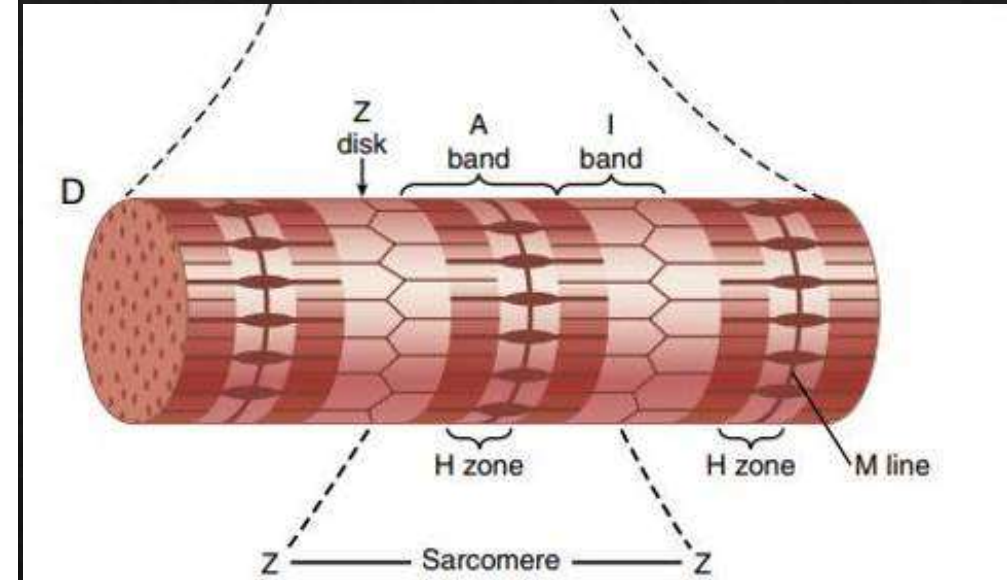
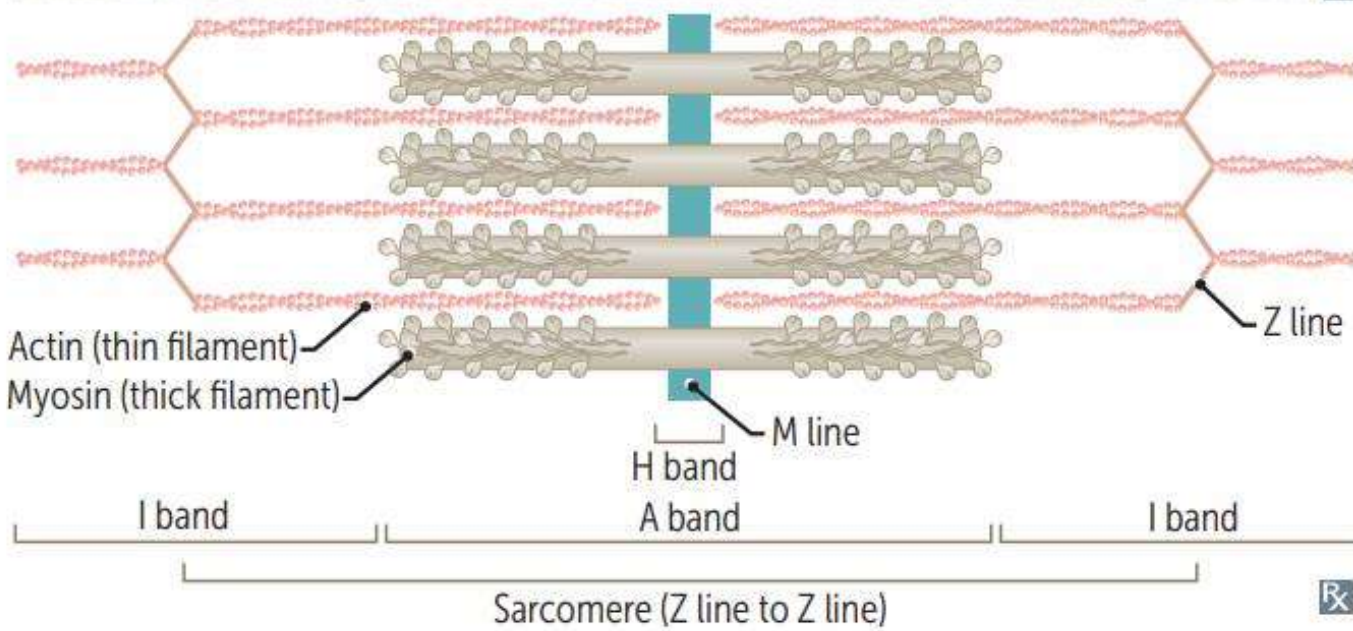
- ◇ Sarcoplasmic Reticulum Is a Specialized Endoplasmic Reticulum of Skeletal Muscle
- ◇ Located in the sarcoplasm surrounding the myofibrils
- ◇ Very extensive; surrounds the myofibrils
- ◇ Important in regulating calcium storage and release and reuptake during muscle contraction



**Figure 6-4** Sarcoplasmic reticulum in the spaces between the myofibrils, showing a longitudinal system paralleling the myofibrils. Also shown in cross section are T tubules (*arrows*) that lead to the exterior of the fiber membrane and are important for conducting the electrical signal into the center of the muscle fiber. (From Fawcett DW: *The*



**Figure 6-7** Actin filament composed of two helical strands of *F-actin* molecules and two strands of *tropomyosin* molecules that fit in the grooves between the actin strands. Attached to one end of each tropomyosin molecule is a *troponin* complex that initiates contraction.



# ICEBERG MOTIVATION

Iceberg Illusion of Success

