

## Note on actomyosin.

by

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Since the preceding papers have been closed down a new method has been worked out for the study of contraction. This method shows that actomyosin contracts also under the sole influence of alkali salts. This contraction is much weaker than the contraction caused by the joint action of salt and ATP. Its maximum lies at the same salt concentration as the maximum of the contraction caused by salt plus ATP.

It has also been found that, during contraction, active actomyosin goes over into inactive actomyosin. The change: inactive actin  $\rightleftharpoons$  active actin seems thus to be involved in contraction. The breaking up of the fibrous active actin micels into the globular inactive actin can be explained by the model described in my second paper. If the actin forms the outer circle it will be stretched. If it could not break up it would resist bending.