

## Re: beanstalks (was Re: Metallic hydrogen ...)

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"Perplexed in Peoria" <[jimmenegay@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jimmenegay@sbcglobal.net)> wrote in message news:TdPxc.21889\$eH1.9938006@newssvr28.news.prodigy.com...

>

> *You are forgetting that empty elevators going down for another  
> load can help to lift the full elevators going up.*

Actually I was interpreting payload in the strict sense, so no. Also, I do not think this is even practically possible in the short term, too heavy.

I should make the point that beanstalk mass is highly dependent on specific strength, which is still very uncertain, so for the sake of argument, within an order of magnitude is fine. :-)

> *Too bad you can't pull off that trick with rockets.*

That is what rotovators are for, much cheaper and easier.

> *Your calculation needs to count the elevators as part of the fixed  
> mass of the beanstalk – a capital cost, not as an operating cost,  
> unlike the cost of lifting and then lowering rocket shells.*

Pete.