



50 years of ISB – a lifelong connection with sports



Sports injury biomechanics

Helen Bayne



www.helenbayne.com



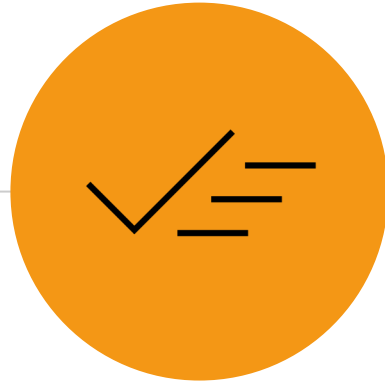
[@HelenBayneZA](https://twitter.com/HelenBayneZA)



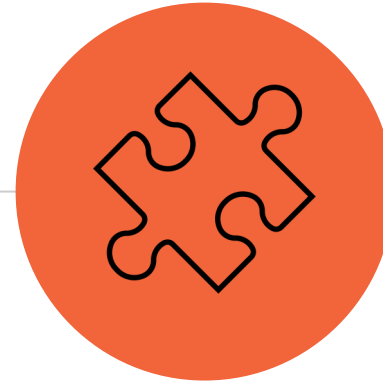
Sports injury biomechanics: presentation outline



Model of injury
causation



Success stories



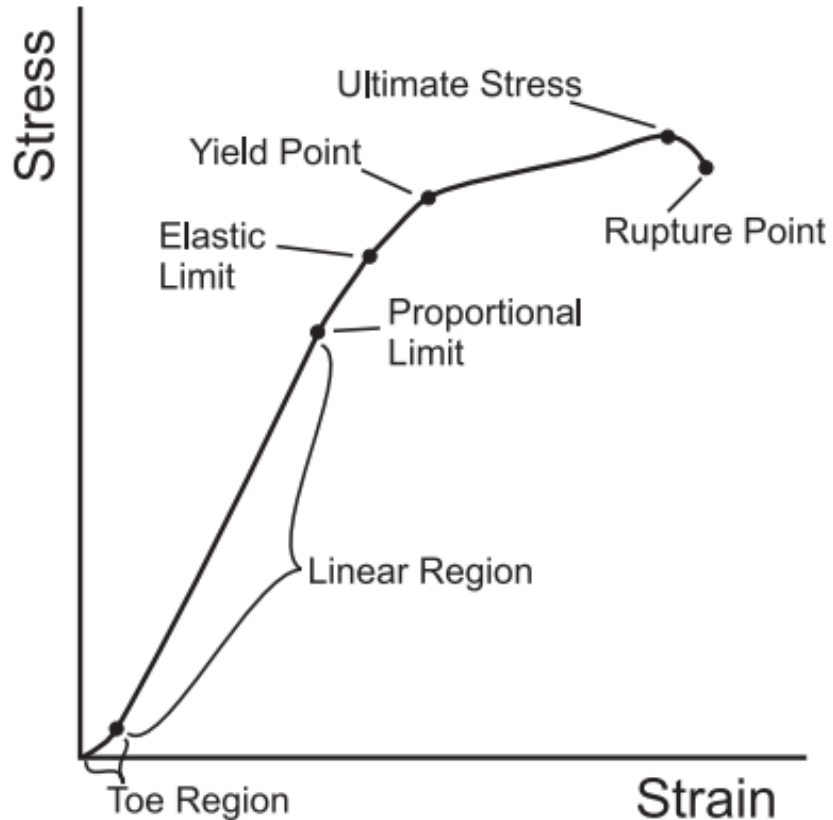
Challenges



Opportunities



Model of injury causation



Load (L): external force applied to the structure

Stress: internal resistance to an applied load, expressed relative to cross-sectional area

Strain: change in length relative to the normal length

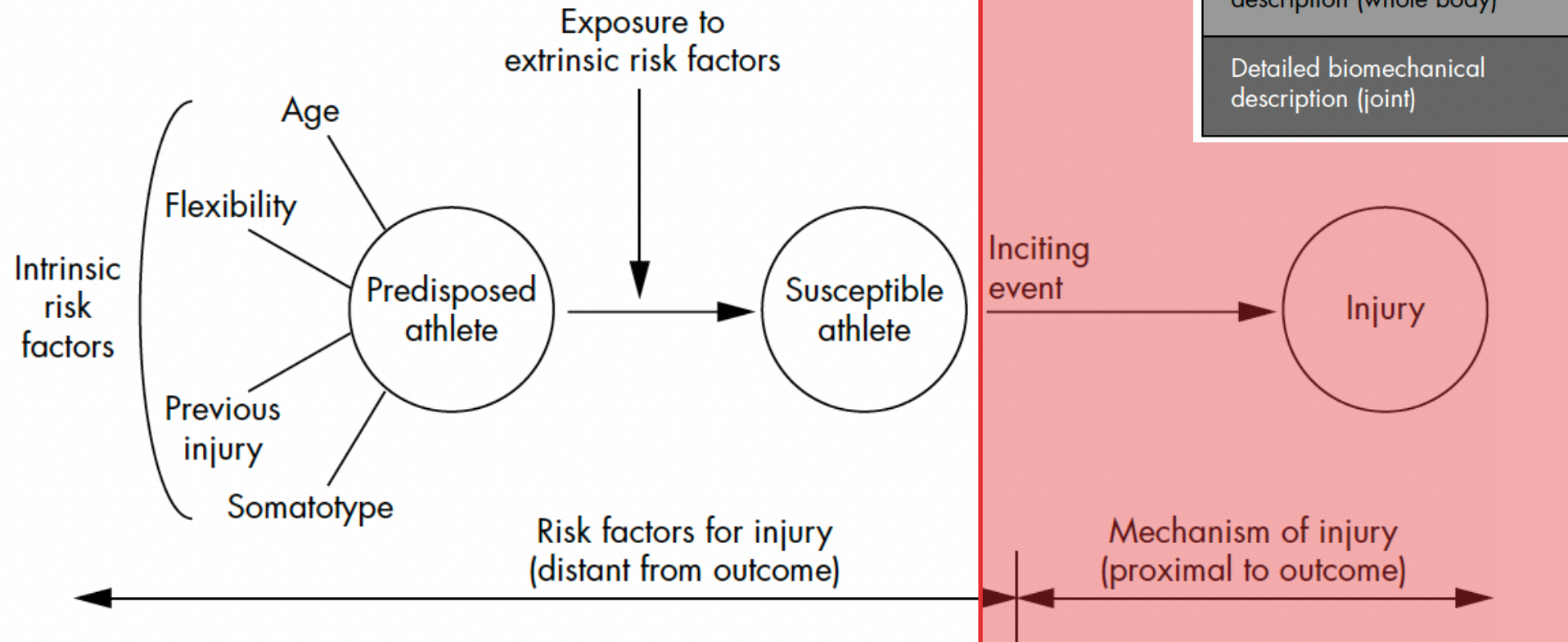
$\text{Strain (\%)} = (\text{dimension change} / \text{unloaded dimension}) \times 100$

Injury = Load > Tissue capacity

A generalized stress-strain curve for biological tissues



Model of injury causation



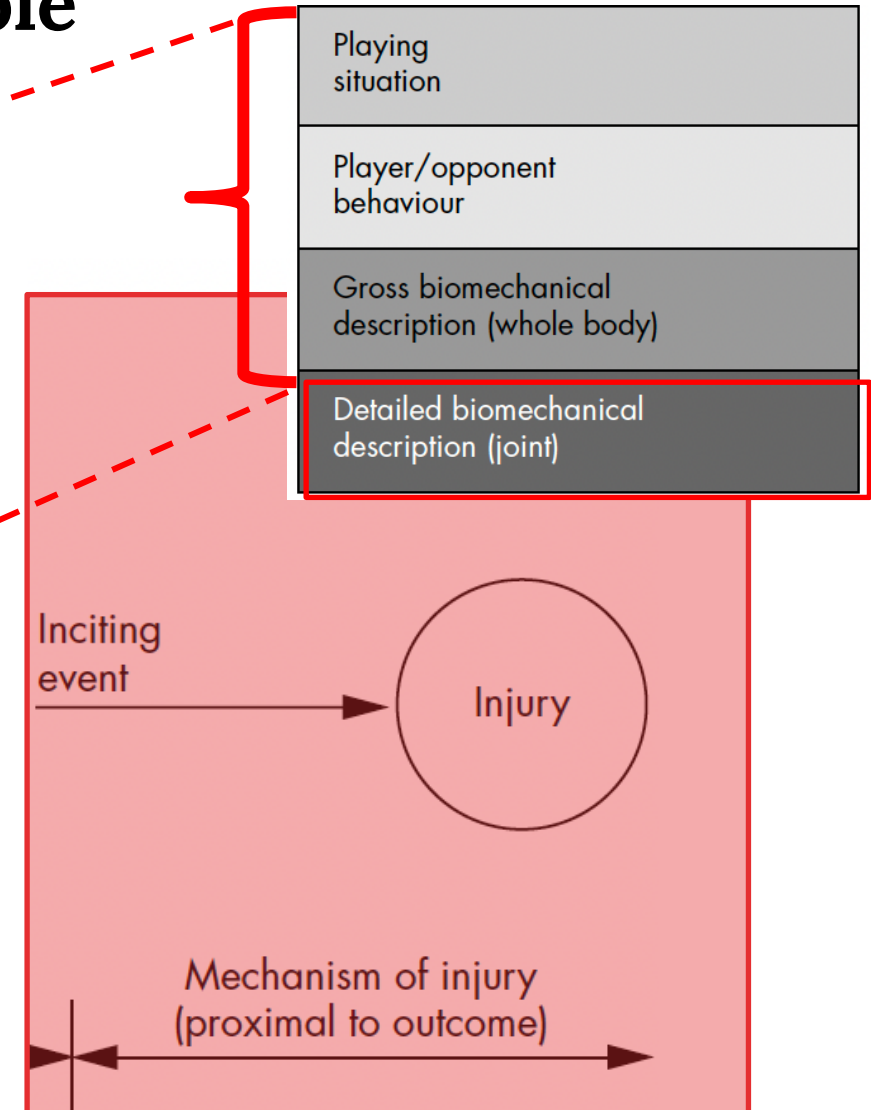


Success stories: An ACL example

Side step cut

Changing direction to avoid an opponent

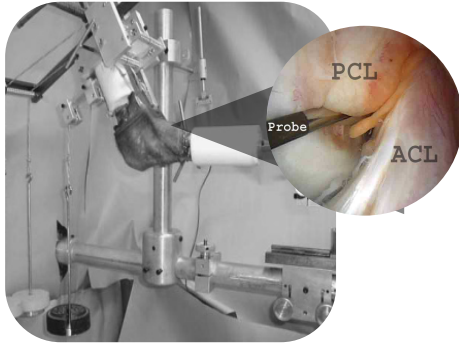
Plant leg during direction change





Success stories: An ACL example

Cadaveric



Laboratory

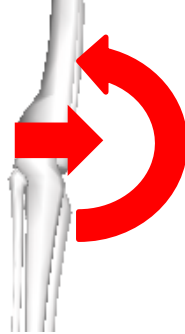


Simulation



Playing situation
Player/opponent behaviour
Gross biomechanical description (whole body)
Detailed biomechanical description (joint)

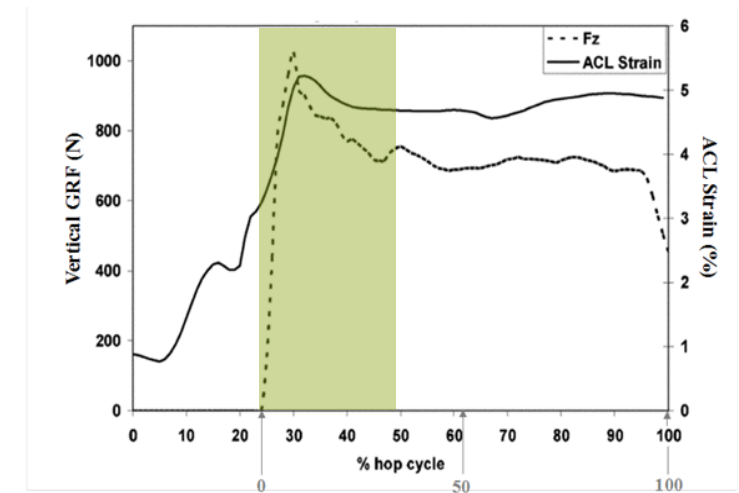
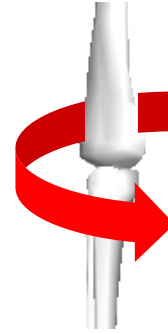
Flexion Moment



Valgus Moment



Int. Rot. Moment

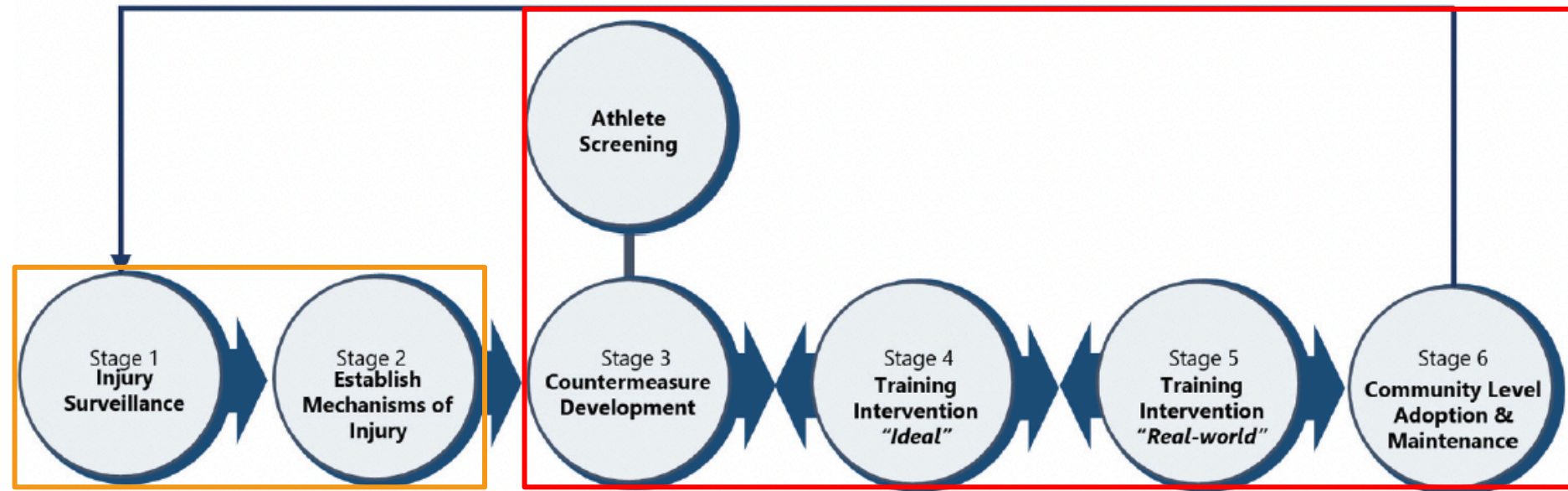


Besier et al., (2001); Cerulli et al., (2003); Donnelly et al. (2012; 2014); Markolf, et al., (1995); Mclean et al., (2004; 2006; 2008); Woo et al., (1987).

Graphic courtesy of Gillian Weir



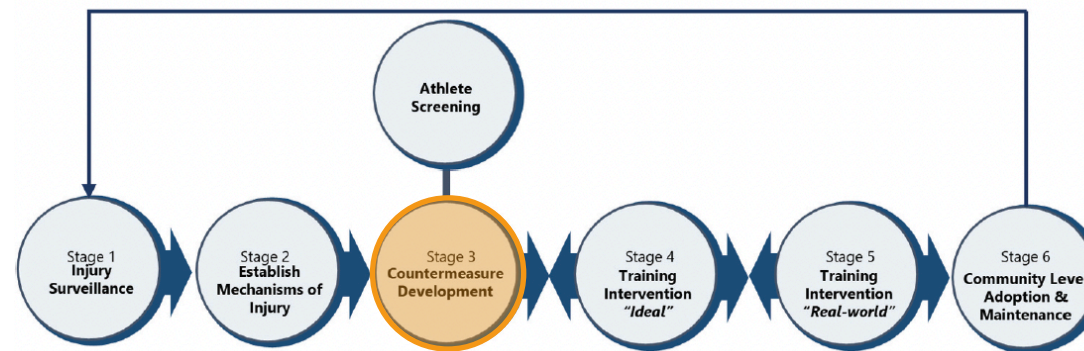
Success stories: An ACL example



Anterior cruciate ligament injury prevention in sport: biomechanically informed approaches

Gillian Weir

Biomechanics Laboratory, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA, USA; School of Human Sciences, University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia



↓ external load

Upper body kinematics (trunk lateral flexion and rotation)

(McLean et al., 2005; Dempsey et al., 2007; Chaudhari et al., 2005; Donnelly et al., 2012; Zazulak et al., 2012)

Graphic courtesy of Gillian Weir

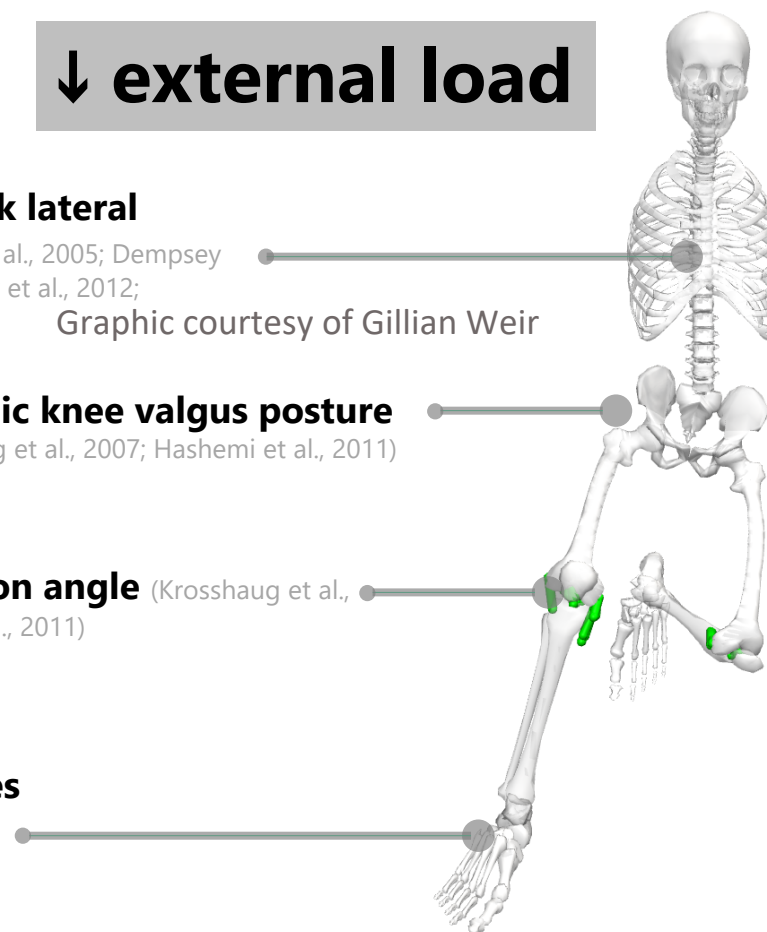
Dynamic knee valgus posture

(Krosshaug et al., 2007; Hashemi et al., 2011)

↓ Knee flexion angle (Krosshaug et al., 2007; Hashemi et al., 2011)

Rear foot foot strike postures

(David et al., 2018; Donnelly et al., 2017)

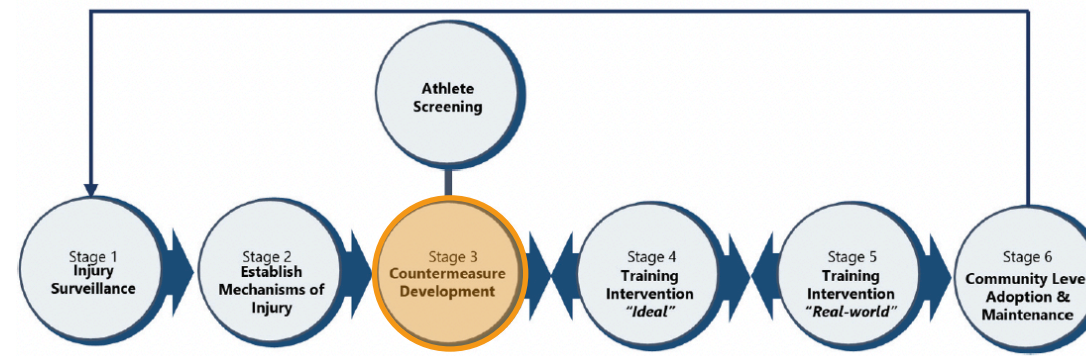


Graphic courtesy of Gillian Weir

Anterior cruciate ligament injury prevention in sport: biomechanically informed approaches

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↓ external load

↑ muscle support

Upper body kinematics (trunk lateral flexion and rotation)

(McLean et al., 2005; Dempsey et al., 2007; Chaudhari et al., 2005; Donnelly et al., 2012; Zazulak et al., 2012)

Dynamic knee valgus posture

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↓ Knee flexion angle (Krosshaug et al., 2007; Hashemi et al., 2011)

Rear foot strike postures

(David et al., 2018; Donnelly et al., 2017)

Hip external rotator muscle forces

(Maniar et al., 2018)

Hamstring muscle forces and strength

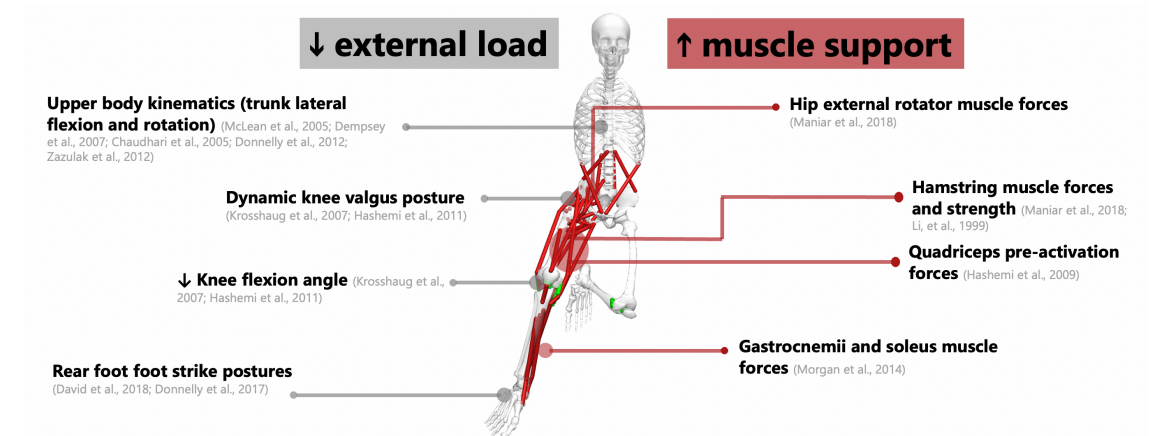
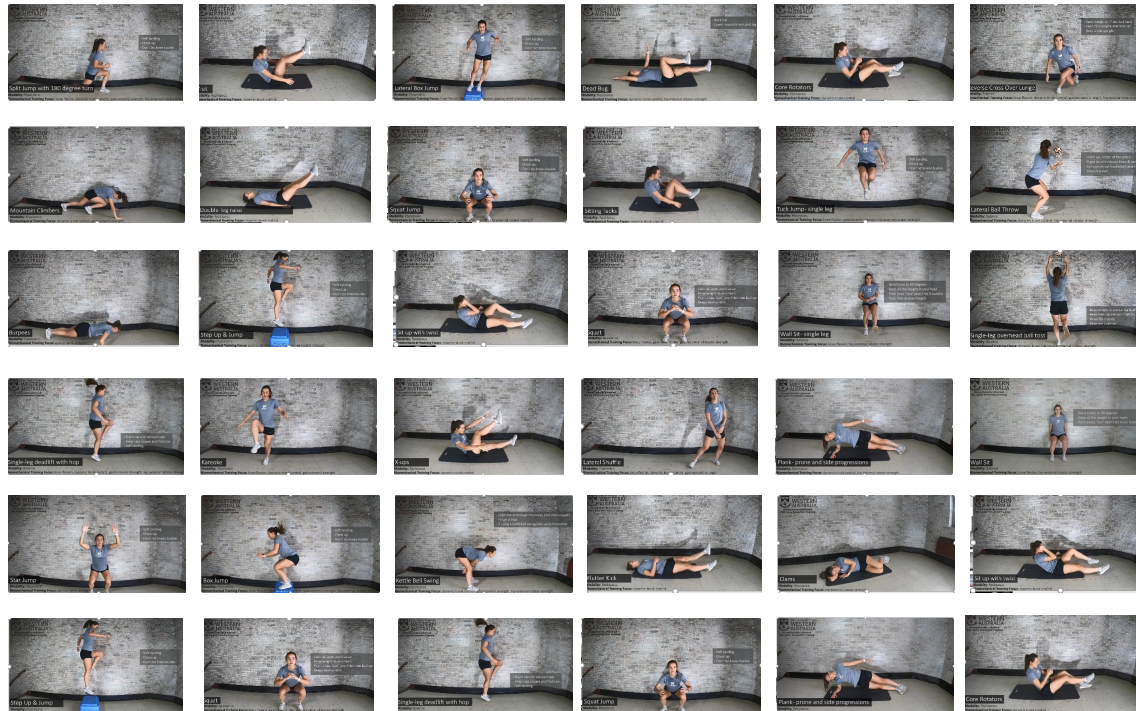
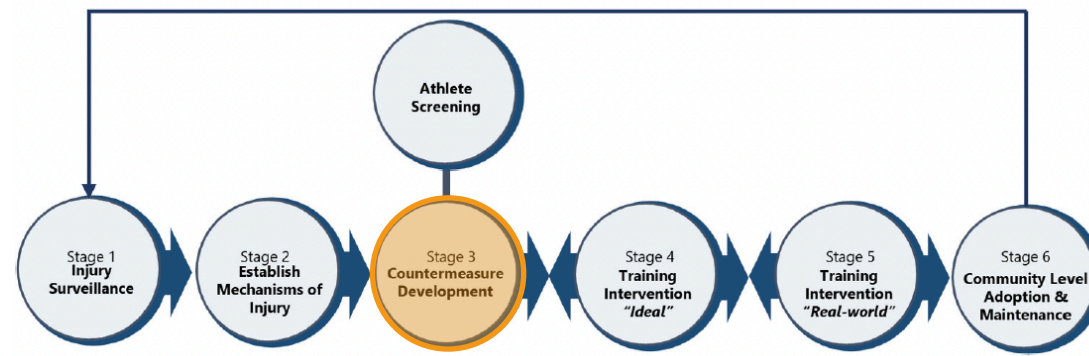
(Maniar et al., 2018; Li, et al., 1999)

Quadriceps pre-activation forces

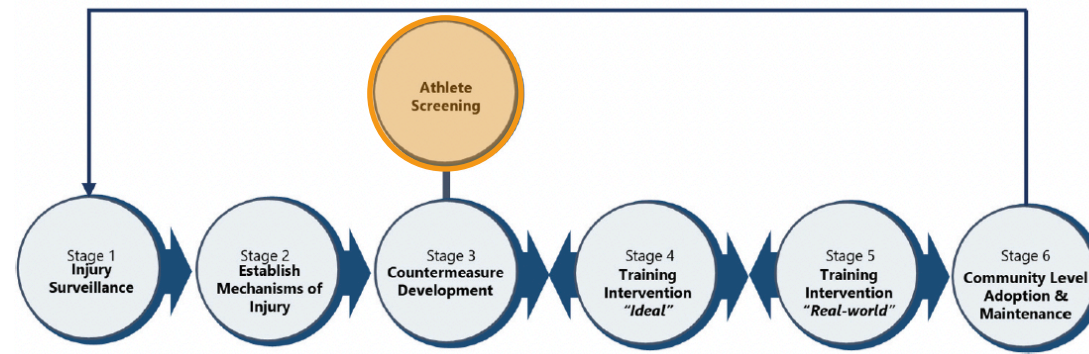
(Hashemi et al., 2009)

Gastrocnemii and soleus muscle forces

(Morgan et al., 2014)



Weir, G. (2022) Sports Biomech
 Weir, G., et al. (2019) Transl J Am Coll Sports Med



- Athlete screening
 - Based on strong relationship between the measured modifiable biomechanical factor within the screening test and ACL injury risk



Knee Flexion
Angle ($^{\circ}$)



Knee Flexion
RoM ($^{\circ}$)



Trunk Flexion
RoM ($^{\circ}$)



Foot Placement
(cm)



Thigh Abduction
Angle ($^{\circ}$)



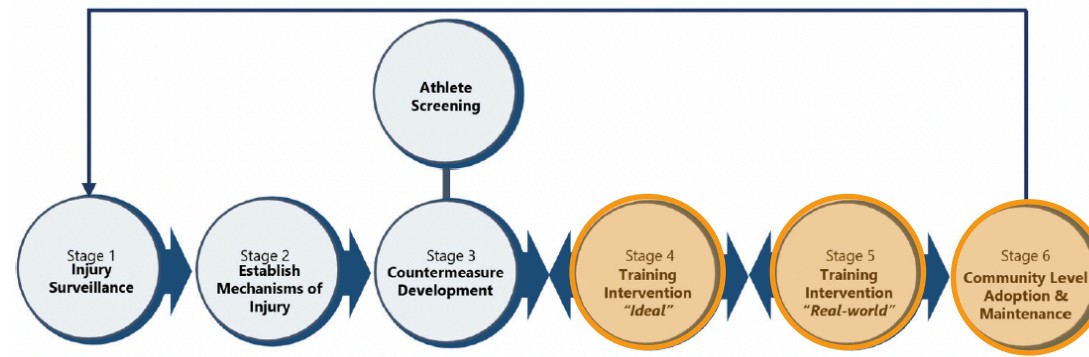
Trunk Lateral
Flexion Angle ($^{\circ}$)



Knee Valgus Angle
($^{\circ}$)



Frontal plane knee
distance (cm)



Intervention stages:

- Understanding of the sporting and individual athlete behaviours context in which the interventions are to be implemented
- Potential modification of interventions to take this intervention context into account



↓ knee valgus moments
↑ desirable muscle activation strategies
63% ↓ in lower limb injuries overall
Zero ACL ruptures



Challenges

Measurement of load

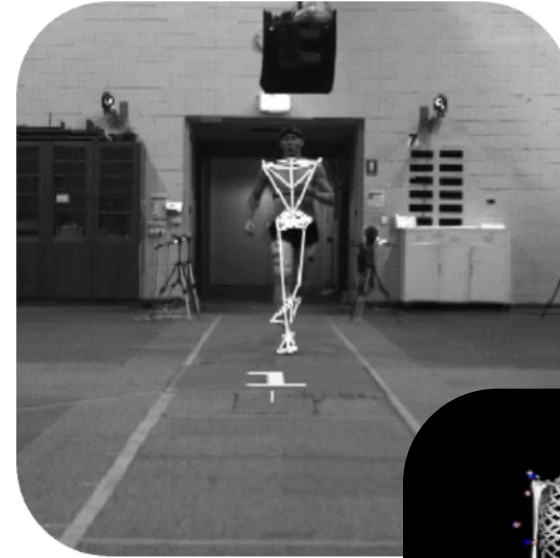
- Inverse dynamics
- Musculoskeletal modelling

Limitations:

Ecological validity of laboratory scenarios

Cost, time, complexity prohibits use in the field

Individualised, real-time feedback



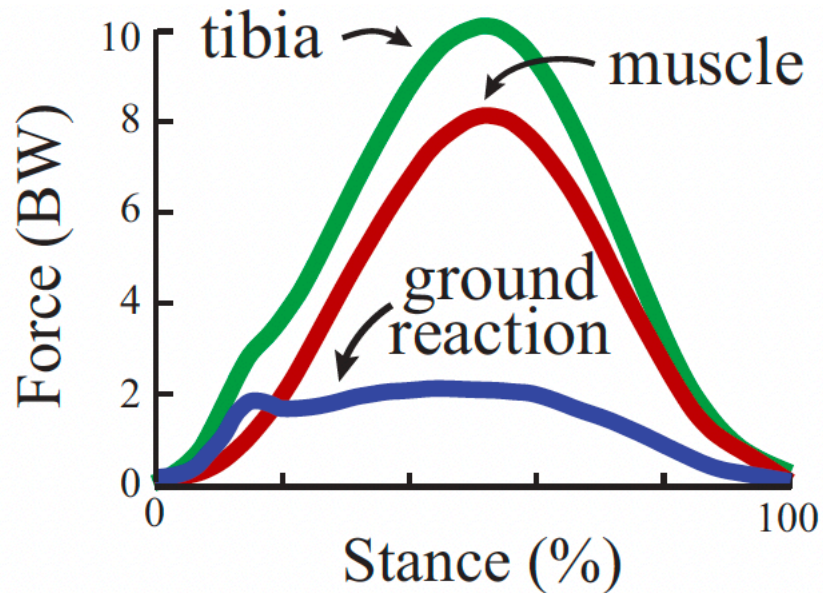


Challenges

Measurement of load

Example: Proxy measures of tibial force

- **GRF** assumed to represent tibial bone load during running, however:



RESEARCH ARTICLE

Ground reaction force metrics are not strongly correlated with tibial bone load when running across speeds and slopes: Implications for science, sport and wearable tech

Emily S. Matijevich^{1*}, Lauren M. Branscombe¹, Leon R. Scott², Karl E. Zelik^{1,3,4}

¹ Department of Mechanical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, United States of America, ² Department of Orthopaedics, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, United States of America, ³ Department of Biomedical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, United States of America, ⁴ Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, United States of America

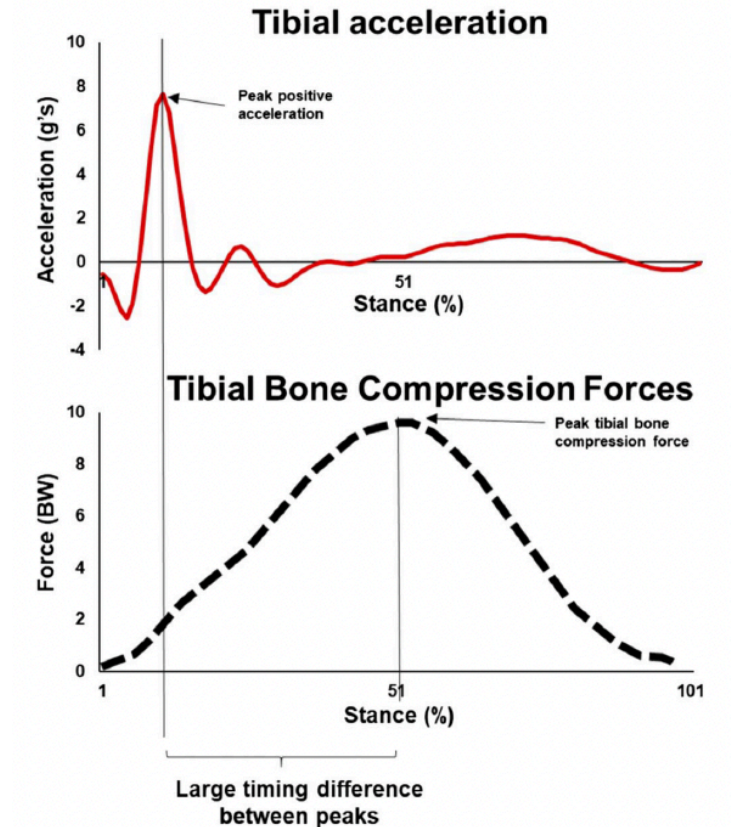


Challenges

Measurement of load

Example: Proxy measures of tibial force

- **Wearable sensors** are appealing as accessible tools to measure correlates of load
- Tibial acceleration measured using an inertial measurement unit (IMU) worn on the lower tibia



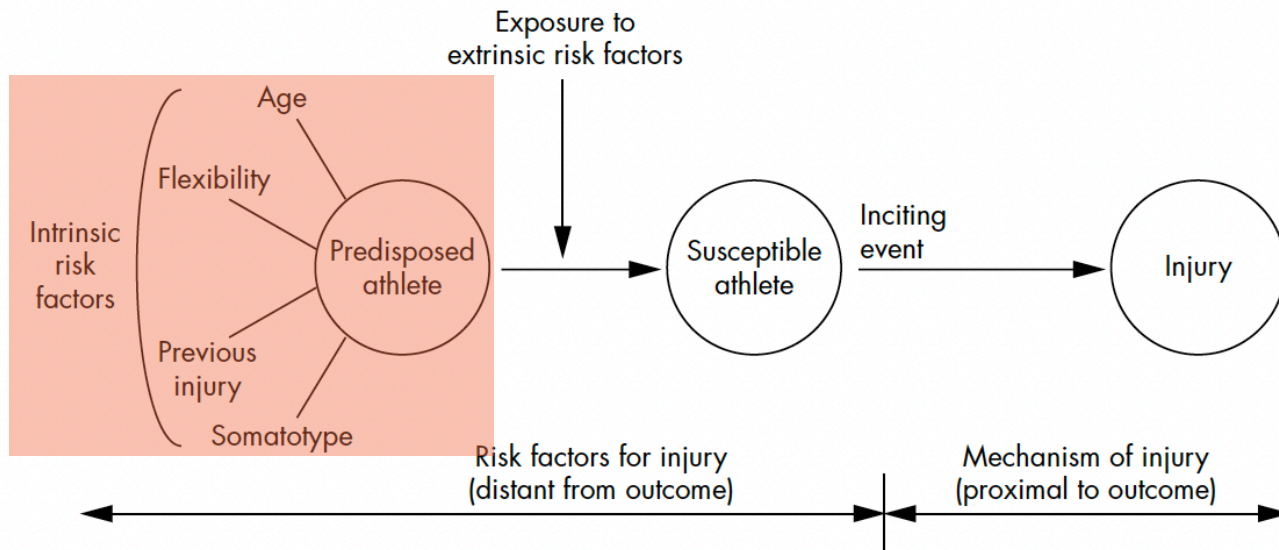


Challenges

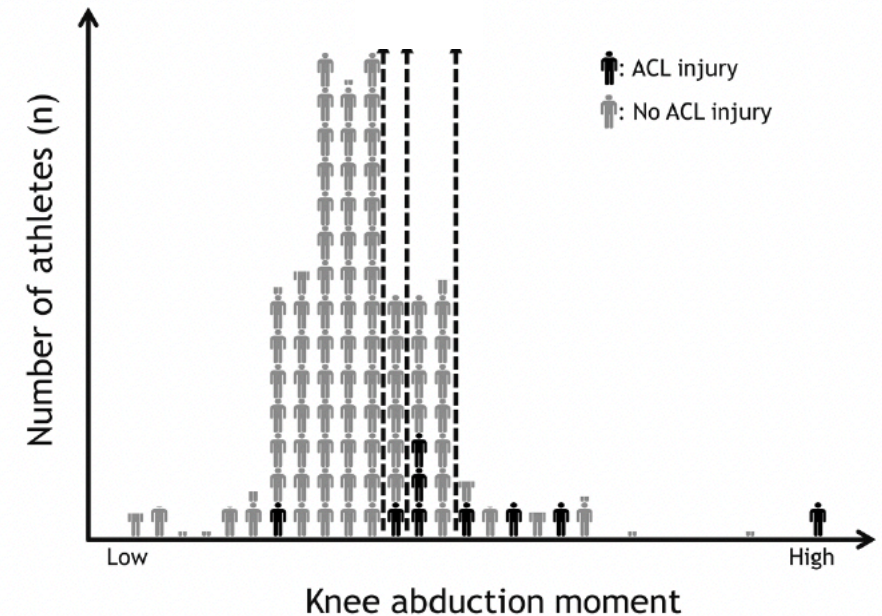
$$\text{Injury} = \text{Load} > \text{Tissue capacity}$$

Understanding tissue capacity

Intrinsic risk factors



Prospective cohort studies:
Injured vs uninjured



Bahr, R. and Krosshaug, T. (2005) Br J Sports Med

Bahr, R. (2016) Br J Sports Med



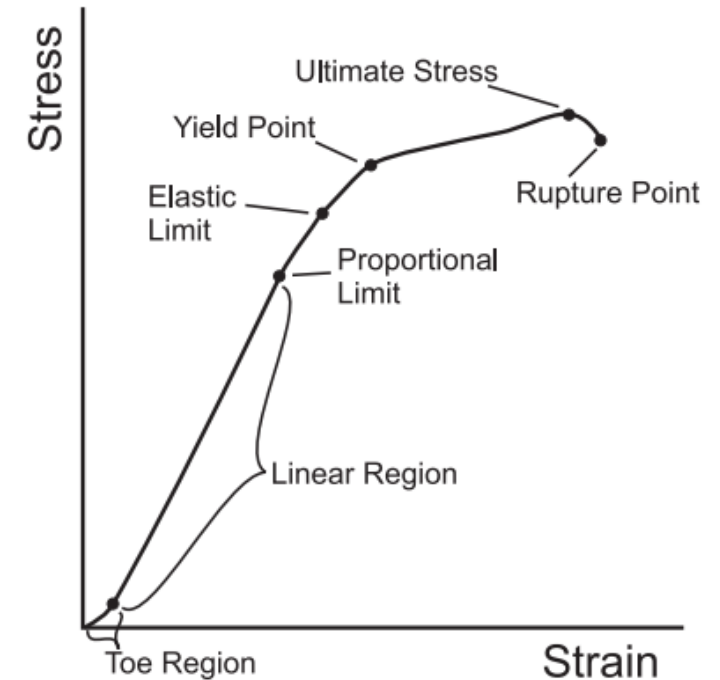
Challenges

Injury = Load > Tissue capacity

Understanding tissue capacity

Individualised responses to load

- Stress and strain affected by tissue geometry and material properties
- For example, in bone:
 - Microarchitecture affects the stress concentrations when load is applied
 - Lower bone mineral density increases bone stress injury risk





Opportunities

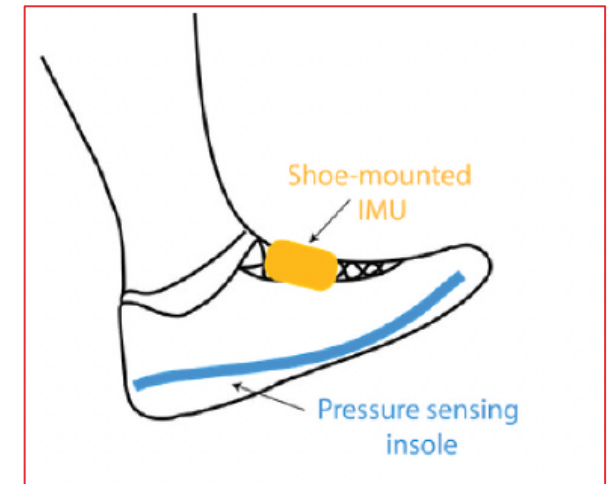
Wearable sensors

- Machine learning algorithms to determine critical signals needed to predict tibial bone force
- GRF estimates from pressure sensing insole + foot orientation angle from shoe-mounted IMU
- Tibial bone force prediction with <6% error compared to lab-based inverse dynamics and musculoskeletal modelling procedures

Tibial bone forces can be monitored using shoe-worn wearable sensors during running

L.J. Elstüb^{a,*}, C.A. Nurse^{a,*}, L.M. Grohowski^a, P. Volgyesi^b, D.N. Wolf^a and K.E. Zelik^{a,c,d}

^aDepartment of Mechanical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^bInstitute for Software Integrated Systems, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^cDepartment of Biomedical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^dDepartment of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States





Opportunities

Wearable sensor

- Machine learning needed to predict
- GRF estimates for orientation and
- Tibial bone force based inverse dynamics procedures



Karl Zelik
@KarlZelik

5 years ago I was confused & concerned about how forces/impacts were being (mis)used in running [#biomechanics](#) & wearable tech to assess risks.

Now we've validated a new wearable capability that overcomes these issues.

8 things I learned along the way...



Journal of Sports Sciences @JSportsSci · Aug 22



First empirical evidence that shoe-worn wearable sensors combined with a trained ML algorithm can monitor tibial bone forces during running.

Applications may include sports [#biomechanics](#), athlete management, or prevention of bone stress injuries.

tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/02640414.2022.2107816

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JOURNAL OF SPORTS SCIENCES
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02640414.2022.2107816>

SPORTS MEDICINE AND BIOMECHANICS

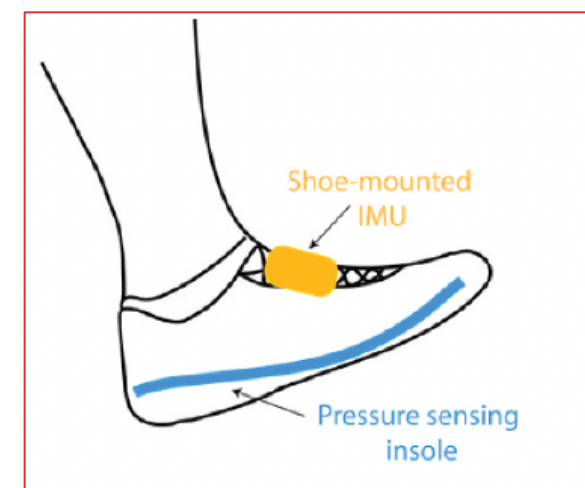
Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group

Check for updates

Tibial bone forces can be monitored using shoe-worn wearable sensors during running

... Volgyesi^b, D.N Wolf^a and K.E. Zelik^{a,c,d}

^aVanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^bInstitute for Software Integrated Systems, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^cDepartment of Biomedical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States; ^dDepartment of Biomedical Engineering, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, United States





Opportunities

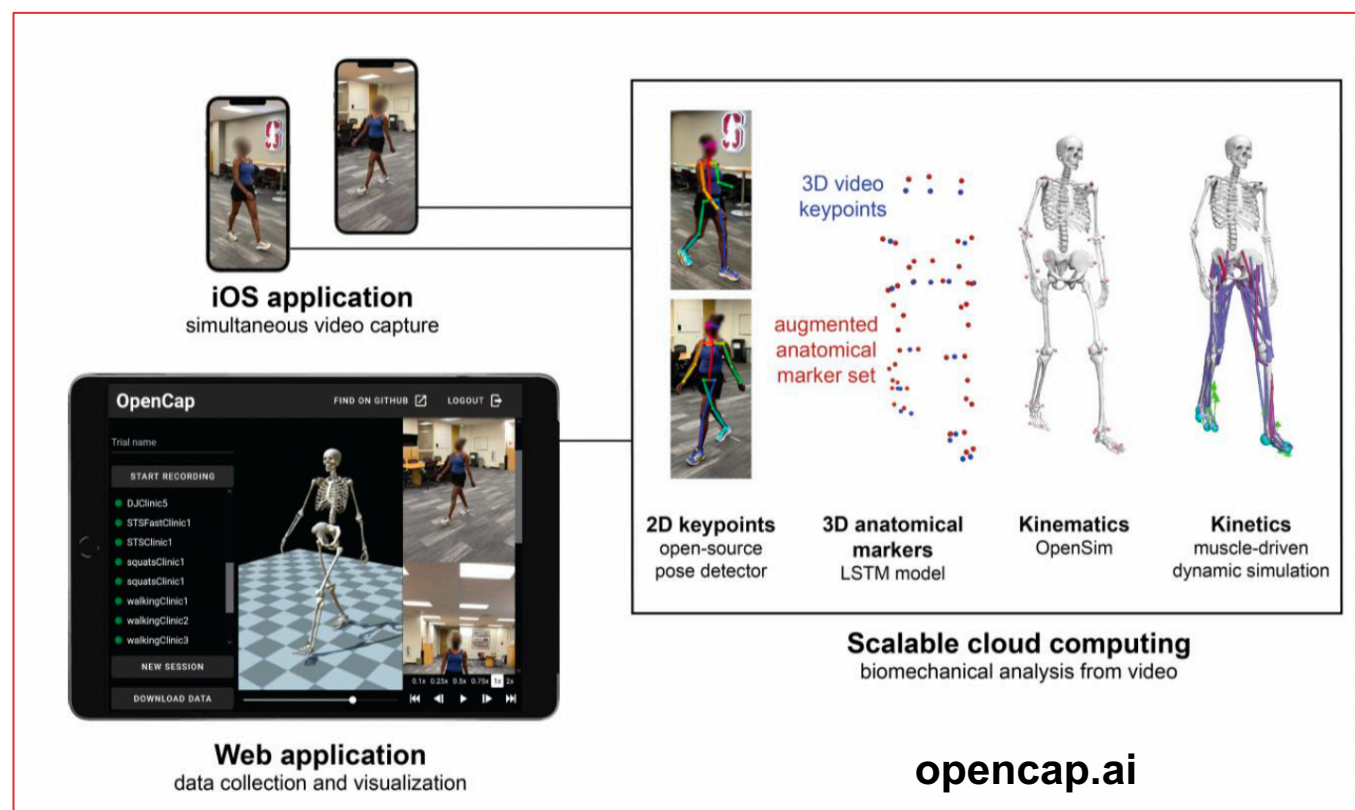
bioRxiv

Video-based analyses

OpenCap: 3D human movement dynamics from smartphone videos

Scott D. Ulrich, Antoine Falisse, Łukasz Kidziński, Julie Muccini, Michael Ko, Akshay S. Chaudhari, Jennifer L. Hicks, Scott L. Delp

doi: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2022.07.07.499061>





Conclusion

Injury occurs when applied load exceeds the tissue capacity to withstand the load



Biomechanical knowledge is fundamental in understanding injury mechanisms, which underpins the development of countermeasures



Framework for injury risk reduction should also consider targeting most at-risk athletes and steps to improve programme adoption and compliance



Current challenges:

- Accessible measures of joint/tissue load
- Incorporating individual intrinsic factors in injury causation models



Opportunities:

- Technology and advances in data science enabling translation from the lab to the field and handling of multiple data sources



Thank you



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