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## Biomechanics

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# Handbook of Research on Biomedical Engineering Education and Advanced Bioengineering Learning: Interdisciplinary Concepts

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# Chapter 7

## Biomechanics

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### ABSTRACT

*Biomechanics is a vast discipline within the field of Biomedical Engineering. It explores the underlying mechanics of how biological and physiological systems move. It encompasses important clinical applications to address questions related to medicine using engineering mechanics principles. Biomechanics includes interdisciplinary concepts from engineers, physicians, therapists, biologists, physicists, and mathematicians. Through their collaborative efforts, biomechanics research is ever changing and expanding, explaining new mechanisms and principles for dynamic human systems. Biomechanics is used to describe how the human body moves, walks, and breathes, in addition to how it responds to injury and rehabilitation. Advanced biomechanical modeling methods, such as inverse dynamics, finite element analysis, and musculoskeletal modeling are used to simulate and investigate human situations in regard to movement and injury. Biomechanical technologies are progressing to answer contemporary medical questions. The future of biomechanics is dependent on interdisciplinary research efforts and the education of tomorrow's scientists.*

### 7.1. CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

This chapter on biomechanics aims to introduce the reader to the specialty area of biomechanics, the study of human and biological movement mechanics. The topic of biomechanics is broad by nature due to the complex and variety of biological

organisms and systems; thus, this chapter presents a subset of biomechanics topics and principles, including motion analysis, postural stability, rehabilitation, trauma, and biomechanical modeling. It further identifies the biomechanics professional societies and organizations.

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## **7.2. INTRODUCTION**

Biomechanics is a vast discipline within the field of Biomedical Engineering. It dates back to the fifteenth century, when Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), during his biological studies, noted the importance of mechanics. The field encompasses biology, basic sciences, engineering, and important clinical applications to address questions related to medicine, using principles of engineering mechanics. Biomechanics has improved our understanding and knowledge within numerous areas, such as clinical pathologies, neuromuscular control, the cardiovascular system, tissue mechanics, and imaging. It encompasses expanding interdisciplinary concepts from various fields of specialization, namely engineering, medicine, therapy, biology, physics, and mathematics.

Biomechanics is used to describe how the human body walks, stands still, and breathes; in addition to studying the body's response to injury. Advanced biomechanical modeling methods, such as inverse dynamics, finite element analysis, and musculoskeletal modeling are used to simulate and investigate human situations when in movement and/or in injury. New technologies brought on by the field of Biomechanics are endless; they are ever progressing to answer new medical questions. The future of biomechanics is dependent on interdisciplinary research efforts and the education of tomorrow's scientists.

## **7.3. A COMPREHENSIVE DEFINITION OF BIOMECHANICS**

Biomechanics is the application of the principles of engineering and life science mechanics on living systems. It is an interdisciplinary field based on knowledge of physics, chemistry, mathematics, physiology and anatomy. Therefore, this branch of science is very broad, covering a range of topics from the cellular level to the whole organ; it includes disciplines such as biomaterials, bioflu-

ids, cardiovascular biomechanics, bioelectronics, respiratory biomechanics, motion analysis, rehabilitation, posturography, trauma, occupational biomechanics, and sports biomechanics.

The study of Biomechanics requires a thorough understanding of basic terminology and concepts, which are delineated herein.

Anatomical locations and motions are often described in terms of planes. The *midsagittal plane* divides the body into two symmetric halves along the midline. *Sagittal planes* are parallel to the midsagittal plane, but do not divide the body into symmetric halves. The *frontal* or *coronal plane* is perpendicular to the midsagittal plane and divides the body into anterior and posterior sections. Planes that are perpendicular to the midsagittal and frontal planes are *transverse planes* (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005).

*Stress* is a force divided by the cross-sectional area. *Strain* is defined as the amount of elongation divided by the original length of the specimen in the direction of elongation (Özkaya & Nordin, 1999).

Springs and dashpots are often used to model viscoelastic system: springs account for the elastic solid behavior, while dashpots define the viscous fluid behavior. In a spring, a constantly applied force, or stress, produces a constant deformation or strain, which is recoverable. Whereas, in a dashpot, the force produces a constant rate of deformation or strain rate which is permanent. The *Maxwell model* is a system formed by connecting a spring and a dashpot in series. The *Kelvin-Voigt model* is a system comprising of a spring and a dashpot connected in a parallel arrangement (Özkaya & Nordin, 1999).

*Kinematics* is defined by time-dependent aspects of motion in terms of displacement, velocity, and acceleration. Linear kinematics describes translational motion from a net force applied to an object. Angular kinematics is the rotational motion resulting from a net torque. Articular kinematics describes motions that pertain to the joints of the body (Özkaya & Nordin, 1999).

The orientation of a body is given by attaching a coordinate system to the body and then describing this coordinate system with respect to a reference system. A body-attached coordinate system is described by unit vectors of its three principal axes relative to the reference system. The three unit vectors, X, Y, and Z, can be stacked together as columns of a 3 x 3 matrix. This is a rotation matrix. Subsequently, the set of three vectors specifying the orientation of a body make up the rotation matrix. All columns of a rotation matrix are mutually orthogonal and have unit magnitudes (Craig, 2005).

*Euler angles* are the angles that define the orientation of one reference frame with respect to another in three-dimensional space (Zatsiorsky, 1998). Each rotation is performed about an axis of the moving system, as opposed to a fixed reference. Rotations are about X, Y, and Z of the moving system and each rotation takes place about an axis whose location depends upon the preceding rotations. Such a set of three rotations are called Euler angles. There are 12 Euler angle-set conventions describing the possible rotation sequences – e.g., ZXY, YZX, XYZ, etc. (Craig, 2005).

Newtonian, Lagrangian, and Hamiltonian dynamics are the bases of classical mechanics, which is based on continuity principles from calculus. Most biomechanics mathematics is based on Newtonian and Lagrangian mechanics (Bronzino, 2006).

Newton's three laws of motion form the basis of classical mechanics; they are stated herein in a slightly reworded form:

1. A particle originally at rest, or moving in a straight line with a constant velocity, will remain in this state provided the particle is not subjected to an unbalanced force.
2. A particle acted upon by an unbalanced force experiences an acceleration that has the same direction as the force and a magnitude that is directly proportional to the force.

3. The mutual forces of action and reaction between two particles are equal, opposite, and collinear.

Biomechanics based on Newtonian mechanics, includes concepts such as length, time and mass. Each concept is absolute and independent of the others. *Length* describes size; *time* describes the order of events; and *mass* is a property of matter which is a quantitative measurement of inertia. *Inertia* is resistance of matter to changes in motion.

Other basic concepts of biomechanics include *static* and *dynamic* principles. Metrics such as force, moment, velocity, acceleration, work power, impulse, stress, and strain are important concepts for quantitative biomechanics.

*Force* is a mechanical load applied to a body. *Moment* is the force causing a body to rotate, acting at a distance from the point of rotation. *Velocity* is the measurement of rate of change of position. *Acceleration* is the rate of change of velocity (Özkaya & Nordin, 1999).

Lagrangian formulation is a systematic process, whereby equations of motion can be derived independently of the reference coordinate frame (Sciavicco & Siciliano, 2000). However, this process is often less efficient than Newtonian methods. Lagrangian dynamic formulation allows derivation of the equations of motion from a scalar function called the *Lagrangian* (Craig, 2005). This function is the difference between the kinetic and potential energy of a mechanical system.

Hamiltonian mechanics express the system as a sum of kinetic and potential energy with time-invariant constraints (Sciavicco & Siciliano, 2000).

## 7.4. HISTORICAL BACKGROUND AND LITERATURE REVIEW

Biomechanics can be traced back to the early first century. The following is an overview of significant historical events pertaining to biomechanics

(Bronzino, 2006; Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005). For deeper and more comprehensive outlook on the history of biomechanics, the reader is referred to the work of Fung, Nigg, or Singer and Underwood (Fung, 1993; Nigg, 1994; Singer & Underwood, 1962).

### 7.4.1. Founding Scientists, Early Work, and Historical Events

- Galen of Pergamon (129-199), anatomist, published *De Motu Muscularum (On the Movements of Muscles)*. His medical text severed as the world's standard for the next 1,400 years.
- Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), studied anatomy in the context of mechanics. He had an understanding of components of force vectors, friction coefficients, and the acceleration of falling objects. He set the first accurate descriptions of ball-and-socket joints. He analyzed mechanical force acting along the line of muscle filaments.
- Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564), physician, wrote *De Humani Corporis Fabrica (The Fabric of the Human Body)*. His work, which was based on human cadaver dissections, led to a more accurate anatomical description of human musculature than that given by Galen. He showed that motion results from the contraction of muscles, which shorten and thicken.
- Galileo Galilei (1564-1642) studied medicine and physics and concluded that mathematics is an essential tool of science. His analyses included the biomechanics of jumping, gait analysis of horses and insects, and dimensional analysis of animal bones.
- William Harvey (1578-1657) is known to be the father of biofluid mechanics.
- Santorio Santorio (1561-1636) used Galileo's method of measurement and analysis and found that the weight of the human body changes with time; this finding has led to the study of metabolism.
- Giovanni Borelli (1608-1679), mathematician, investigated body dynamics, muscle contraction, animal movement, and motion of the heart and intestines. He also determined the position of the human center of gravity. He measured and calculated inspired and expired air volumes, proving that inspiration is muscle-driven and expiration is due to tissue elasticity. In 1680, he published *De Motu Animalium (On the Motion of Animals)*.
- Jan Swammerdam (1637-1680) introduced the nerve-muscle preparation. He was able to stimulate muscle contraction by pinching the attached nerve in the frog leg. He also showed that muscles contract with little change in volume.
- Robert Hooke (1635-1703) derived Hooke's law, relating stress and elongation of elastic materials, and used the term "cell" in biology.
- Isaac Newton (1642-1727) invented calculus, the classical laws of motion, and the constitutive equation for viscous fluid. Newton's three laws of motion serve as the basis for classical mechanics principles used in biomechanics.
- Nicholas Andre (1658-1742) coined the term "orthopaedics". He believed that muscular imbalances cause skeletal deformities.
- Leonard Euler (1707-1783) generalized Newton's laws of motion to continuum representations for rigid body motion description; he also studied pulse waves in arteries.
- Thomas Young (1773-1829) studied voice and wave theory of light and vision, vibrations, and formulated Young's modulus of elasticity.

- Ernst Weber (1795-1878) and Eduard Weber (1806-1871) published *Die Mechanik der menschlichen Gerwerkzeuge (On the Mechanics of the Human Gait Tools)* in 1836 and pioneered the scientific study of human gait.
- Hermann von Helmholtz (1821-1894) studied a variety of subjects including acoustics, electrodynamics, thermodynamics, optics, physiology, and fluid mechanics.
- Etienne Jules Marey (1830-1904) analyzed the motion of horses, birds, insects, fish, and humans. He invented force plates to measure ground-reaction-forces, and the motion picture camera.
- Eadweard Muybridge (1830-1904) used multiple cameras triggered sequentially to record motion during gait.
- Wilhelm Braune and Otto Fischer conducted research from 1895-1904 and published *Der Gang des Menschen (The Human Gait)*, which details the mathematical analysis of human gait. They also invented cyclography, pioneered the use of multiple cameras to reconstruct 3-D motion data, and applied Newtonian mechanics to estimate joint forces and limb accelerations.

These early founding fathers, physicians and physiologists, developed the basic principles of physics and engineering. More recently, biomedical engineers have been at the forefront of advancing medical and physiologic sciences.

#### 7.4.2. Current State-of-the-art in Biomechanics

Cutting edge technologies allow biomechanical science to continuously move forward. Advancement in the field of Biomechanics depends on research utilizing state-of-the-art laboratories with high-tech equipment and resources. This involves being up to date with high-level research in all

areas of biomechanics, including orthopaedics, tissue biomechanics, muscle dynamics, prosthetics and orthotics, cardiovascular biomechanics, among many others. Interdisciplinary work is becoming a key role in advancing biomechanics.

### 7.5. BIOMECHANICS OF TISSUES OF THE MUSCULOSKELETAL SYSTEM

#### 7.5.1. Bone

The human skeletal system consists of 206 bones connected by soft tissue including cartilage, ligaments, tendons, and muscles to provide mechanical support. Bone is a strong and hard tissue composed of a mineral phase (60%), an organic collagen matrix (30%), and water (10%).

As a composite material composed of a soft protein matrix and hard mineral phase, it is elastic and strong. Bones are subjected to different types of loading such as bending, compression, and shear. *Structural stiffness* is the resistance to deformation under an applied load. *Structural strength* is the maximum load that a bone can withstand without fracturing. Generally speaking, bones that have larger cross-sections are structurally stiffer and stronger than those with smaller cross-sections. *Structural stiffness* and *strength* are furthermore dependent on the cross-sectional area, moment of inertia in bending, and on the polar moment of inertia in torsion. These moments of inertia are properties of the cross-section that describe how the area is distributed about the axis of loading. For example, for a given cross-sectional area, stiffness and strength in bending would be lower in a narrow bone than in a wider one, the latter having more bone material situated further from the neutral bending axis.

Structural stiffness and structural strength are sometimes referred to as structural properties. However, they are not really properties as they are dependent on the type of loading, bone geometry, and bone material properties. In a structural analy-

sis, local (tensile, compressive, and shear) stresses and strains can be calculated from known loads and/or deformation. The stresses and strains can be compared to the material properties to assess the fracture risk.

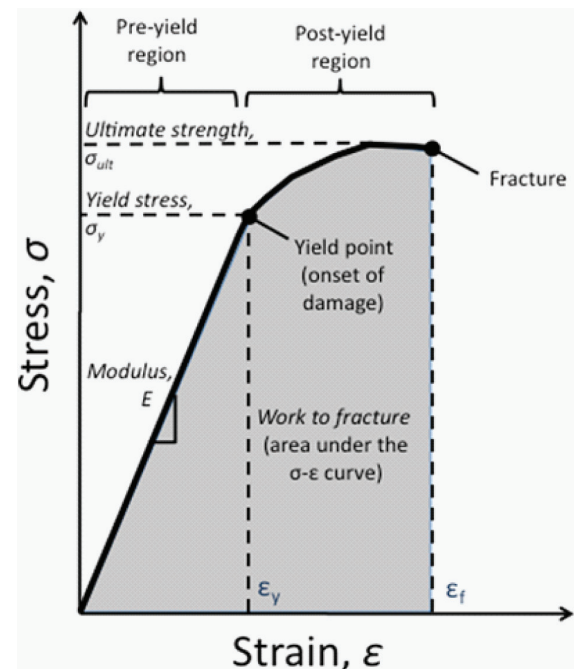
Material properties, unlike structural properties, are intrinsic to and independent of the geometry of the structure. However, as bone is a heterogeneous material, its material properties are dependent on its constituents and its microstructure. Bone is made up of microscopic components (nanometers to micrometers) including collagen molecules, fibrils and fibers, hydroxyapatite microcrystals, osteocyte lacuna, canaliculi, lamella, haversian canals and osteons (Saltzman, 2009). Because bone is highly directional in arrangement, its material properties are anisotropic, or dependent on the direction of loading (Saltzman, 2009).

Measures of bone material properties are illustrated in Figure 1. When a bone or bone specimen is loaded to fracture, two regions of deformation are observed: a pre-yield and a post-yield region. In the pre-yield region, strain is fully reversible if the stress is removed. In this region, strain and stress are proportional to each other and the slope of the stress-strain curve is a constant called the *Young's modulus*. The *yield stress*,  $\sigma_y$ , and the *yield strain*,  $\epsilon_y$ , are the stress and strain values at the yield point, i.e., the point where the stress-strain curve ceases to be linear. If the bone is loaded beyond the yield point and into the post-yield region, an onset of irreversible damage in the form of micro-cracking will take place. Propagation of these micro-cracks is hindered, to a certain degree, by the heterogeneities in the bone material. Final fracture occurs when a larger crack propagates across the whole bone or specimen. The *ultimate strength*,  $\sigma_{ult}$  is the maximum stress that the bone material can sustain before it fractures, and the *strain to fracture*,  $\epsilon_f$  is the final strain at the time of fracture. *Work to fracture*, the area under the stress-strain curve, is the amount of energy required to fracture the bone.

Bone has two formations, compact (cortical) bone, and spongy (trabecular or cancellous) bone. These architectures differ in their microscopic structure and mechanical properties. Cortical bone often surrounds the underlying trabecular bone. Cortical bone can be found in long bones such as the humerus and femur, while trabecular bone can be found in the spine, rib cage, and at the proximal and distal ends of long bones.

Cortical bone is *anisotropic*. More specifically, it is *transversely isotropic* because its modulus is more or less isotropic in the transverse plane. The *modulus* of cortical bone is between 17 and 20 GPa along the longitudinal axis, and between 11 and 13 GPa in the radial and circumferential directions (Ashman *et al.*, 1984; Reilly & Burstein, 1975). Tensile *yield strain* is in the order of 0.7% (Currey, 2004). *Yield* and *ultimate strengths* in tension are approximately 115 and 130 MPa, while *ultimate strength* in compression is approximately 200 MPa (Reilly & Burstein, 1975). A more in depth

Figure 1. Stress-strain behavior and material properties of bone



review of the material properties of bone can be found in the book by Currey (Currey, 2002).

Because individual trabeculae are so small, few studies have attempted to measure their intrinsic material properties. A wide range of intrinsic modulus values have been reported; some studies measured roughly the same intrinsic modulus as that of cortical bone – e.g., (Choi, 1990), while others found much lower values – e.g., (Rho, Ashman, & Turner, 1993). For structural analyses, however, the *effective* tissue-level properties of trabecular bone, which account for porosity, are more relevant than the intrinsic material properties of individual trabeculae. The *effective strength* and *modulus* of trabecular bone are approximately proportional to the square and to the cube of the apparent density, respectively (Carter & Hayes, 1977).

As stated before, bone is a viscoelastic material and its properties are somewhat dependent on loading rate. For example, *modulus* tends to increase with increasing strain rate, while *yield stress* tends to decrease – e.g., (Hansen *et al.*, 2008). For this reason, the strain rate should be considered in structural analyses dealing with bones.

Bone properties can vary as a person ages. For example, children's bones tend to have lower cortical *modulus* and *strength*, but higher *strain to failure* and *work to fracture* than adult bones (Currey & Butler, 1975). The process of aging also adversely affects the material properties of adult cortical bone. *Modulus*, *strength* and *work to fracture* tend to decrease with age (Zioupos & Currey, 1998).

Several medical conditions can affect bone strength. Two such conditions are osteoporosis and osteogenesis imperfecta. Osteoporosis is a condition characterized by an abnormally low trabecular density, resulting in an increase in local stresses in the bone, and which can cause fracture to occur under loads that would not cause fracture in individuals with healthy bones. Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI), also known as brittle bone disease, is a genetic condition that affects the production

of type I collagen. In the moderate and severe forms of OI, individuals can experience multiple fractures over their lifetimes, and these fractures can also result in considerable bone deformity. In OI, both the bone material and the bone structure are affected. In addition to the abnormal collagen, increased bone mineralization has been observed in individuals with OI (Boyde *et al.*, 1999). Although the material strength of bone in OI has not yet been characterized in humans; however, mouse models with this condition have demonstrated that the material properties are affected – e.g., (Miller *et al.*, 2007). At the structural level, individuals with OI also tend to have thinner cortical bone, as well as fewer and thinner trabeculae (Rauch *et al.*, 2000). Therefore, the increased risk of fracture in OI is likely to be the result of both higher stresses and compromised material properties.

Treatments for these two conditions often include the use of bisphosphonates. These drugs affect the structural strength of bones by increasing the amount of bone through deactivation of bone-resorbing cells (osteoclasts), rather than increasing the quality of the bone material itself.

## Micro-FEM Bone Modeling

Methods combining technologies of High-Resolution peripheral Quantitative Computed Tomography (HR-pQCT) and Finite Element Analysis (FEA) are currently underway. Mueller *et al.* employed these techniques to investigate the feasibility for assessing the effectiveness of a tissue-engineered bone implant (Mueller *et al.*, 2011). The forearm bones were scanned using HR-pQCT and then biomechanically tested. FEA-derived stiffness was validated against the experimental data (Mueller *et al.*, 2011). This study was the first account of microstructural finite element analyses being performed on bone-implant constructs in a clinical setting. HR-pQCT derived morphometric and mechanical parameters were proven to be highly reproducible such that differences in bone structure and strength can

be detected with a reproducibility error smaller than 3% (Mueller *et al.*, 2009). HR-pQCT-based micro-finite element analyses may have potential to quantify bone quality and healing in patients. Other recent advances have been made which utilize imaging and microstructural FEA to determine bone stiffness and strength (Bekas *et al.*, 2010). This application may be useful for bone fracture risk prediction.

Additional novel methods using state of the art technology are now underway to examine bone modeling. Schulte *et al.* recently quantified *in vivo* bone formation and bone resorption parameters three-dimensionally using micro-computed tomography ( $\mu$ CT) (Schulte *et al.*, 2011). Time-lapsed imaging was used to directly acquire bone formation and resorption parameters of bone. The parameters obtained included Mineralizing Surface (MS), Mineral Apposition Rate (MAR), Bone Formation Rate (BFR), Eroded Surface (ES), Mineral Resorption Rate (MRR,) and Bone Resorption Rate (BRR). These new parameters were applied to a murine *in vivo* loading model for comparison during normal remodeling of bone tissue. This study concluded that the noninvasive direct technique is well suited to extract dynamic bone morphometric parameters; and eventually gain more insight into the processes of bone adaptation, not only for formation but also for resorption (Schulte *et al.*, 2011).

### **7.5.2. Tendon**

Tendons connect muscles to bones. Their function is to transmit forces generated by the contracted muscles to move the limbs. Since tendons transmit tension, they are composed of parallel collagen fiber bundles, similar to ligaments. Human tendons have an ultimate stress of 50-100 MPa. They also are characterized by nonlinear behavior. They demonstrate nonlinear properties such as hysteresis, viscoelasticity, creep, and stress relaxation (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005).

### **7.5.3. Ligament**

Ligaments join bones together and serve as part of the skeletal system. They function to transmit tension from loading (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005). Ligaments exhibit three phases of behavior when mechanically loaded. Phase I is the toe or primary region, when deformation occurs easily with small amounts of stress and behaves elastically. Collagen fibers within the tissue deform without stretching. Phase II is the linear or secondary region, where ligament stiffness can be measured. During this phase, as strain increases, collagen fibers become deformed and straighten in the direction of the strain, increasing the ligament stiffness. Phase III occurs when the applied load approaches the load to failure. When the increased loads are approaching the ultimate tensile strength, the collagen fibers are stretched and aligned in the direction of the applied load. This can be represented as a saw-tooth appearance in the stress-strain curve, indicating breaking of individual fibers (Saltzman, 2009).

### **7.5.4. Articular Cartilage**

Articular cartilage is a highly collagen material that covers articulating surfaces of bones and serves as the joint bearing surface. Cartilage is a porous and strong viscoelastic material. Fluids move in and out of the tissue when joint loading occurs. Cartilage is also anisotropic, and demonstrates hysteresis during cyclic loading. The ultimate compressive stress of cartilage is approximately 5 MPa (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005).

Cells in soft tissue such as articular cartilage, tendons, ligaments, skin, and blood vessels are sparsely distributed in the extracellular matrix, which provides the tissue's mechanical properties. These tissues are usually flexible and deformable. Viscoelasticity often defines the mechanical properties of soft tissues, due to their heterogeneity of structure of the extracellular matrix protein fibers

embedded in a fluid phase. The bulk mechanical behavior is dictated by the structure and orientation of the collagen and elastin fibers, making up the fiber phase (Saltzman, 2009).

### 7.5.5. Muscle

Skeletal muscle, smooth muscle, and cardiac muscle comprise the muscle types in the human body. Movement is a result of skeletal muscle. The muscular system consists of 700 skeletal muscles and makes up 40% of the mass of the human body (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005). Skeletal muscle is made of muscle fibers, which are composed of myofibrils. Myofibrils are further subdivided into sarcomeres, the contractile units of a muscle. Sarcomeres are composed of actin and myosin molecules, which constitute respectively the thin and thick myofilaments that are made up of contractile proteins. These components enable muscle contraction, which allows movement to occur. Contraction may occur due to muscle shortening, lengthening, or with no change in length, resulting in tension (Özkaya & Nordin, 1999). When muscles shorten it is a concentric contraction and the muscle is called an agonist. Eccentric contraction occurs when the muscle lengthens, and the muscle is described as an antagonist. An isometric contraction is when the muscle length remains the same.

Muscle is a force generating tissue, exhibiting active force generation. It exhibits viscoelastic behavior. Several models have been developed to describe muscle tissue. They include descriptions based on A.V. Hill's contractile element and crossbridge models based on A.F. Huxley's single sarcomere description. The *sliding filament theory* is the most widely accepted contraction mechanism theory. In this theory, muscle force generation is described as the product of crossbridge bonds formed between thick and thin filaments. Additional models include complex attachment and detachment dynamics. Newer distributed muscle model include the idea of sarcomeres consisting of

thick and thin filaments overlapped and connected by crossbridge bonds formed during activation (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005).

## 7.6. BIOMECHANICS OF JOINTS

Joint-articulating surface motion is an important concept for the assessment of joint wear, stability, and degeneration, as well as the determination of proper diagnosis and treatment of joint disease. Kinematics of human movement are described by the gross movement of limb segments connected by joints or the detailed analysis of joint articulating surface motion (Bronzino, 2006). Three-dimensional joint rotation is expressed using Euler rotations to describe gross movement. The concept of the screw displacement axis is used to describe the three-dimensional unconstrained rotation and translation of an articulating joint. The screw displacement axis is the most commonly used method for describing the six-degree-of-freedom displacement of a rigid body (Bronzino, 2006). The ankle, knee, hip, hand, wrist, elbow, and shoulder can be described with this method. The specific characteristics of the joint will determine its musculoskeletal function. The articulating surface motion is determined by the unique joint surface geometry and the capsule ligaments constraints. These characteristics dictate the joint range of motion, joint stability, and the ultimate functional joint strength (Bronzino, 2006). A congruent joint typically has a limited range of motion but a high degree of stability, while a less congruent joint will have a relatively larger range of motion but less degree of stability (Bronzino, 2006). The joint-articulating surface characteristics will determine the joint contact pattern and axes of rotation. The stresses on the joint surface will then influence the degree of articular cartilage degeneration in an anatomic joint and the amount of wear of an artificial joint.

A description of the joint biomechanics, anatomy, and kinesiology is provided herein. A

full understanding of the joints allows increased accuracy when developing kinematic and kinetic inverse dynamics and musculoskeletal models.

### **7.6.1. Shoulder**

The study of the upper limb begins with the shoulder complex. The shoulder complex is a set of four articulations involving the sternum, clavicle, ribs, scapula, and humerus. The series of joints allow extensive range of motion of the upper extremity, thus increasing the ability to manipulate objects. Disease or trauma frequently limits shoulder motion, causing a significant reduction in the effectiveness of the entire limb.

The most proximal articulation within the shoulder complex is the sternoclavicular joint. The clavicle holds the scapula at a relatively fixed distance from the trunk through its attachment to the sternum. The acromioclavicular joint is located at the lateral end of the clavicle. This joint, along with ligaments, firmly attach the scapula to the clavicle. In the anatomic position, the clavicle is deviated approximately 20 degrees posterior to the frontal plane (Neumann, 2002). The scapula is deviated 35 degrees anterior to the frontal plane. This is known as the scapular plane. Retroversion of the humeral head is roughly 30 degrees posterior to the medial-lateral axis at the elbow (Neumann, 2002). The scapulothoracic joint is the interface between the anterior surface of the scapula and the posterior-lateral surface of the thorax. Movements occurring at the scapulothoracic joint are a result of combined sternoclavicular and acromioclavicular movements. The most distal link in the shoulder complex is the glenohumeral joint. It is formed by the head of the humerus articulating with the glenoid fossa of the scapula. It is a synovial, ball-and-socket joint with three degrees of freedom providing flexion/extension, adduction/abduction, and internal/external rotation. Shoulder movement is a combination of glenohumeral and scapulothoracic motions.

Typical healthy glenohumeral range of motion is 120 degrees of abduction, 120-180 degrees of flexion, 45-55 degrees of extension, 75-85 degrees of internal rotation, and 60-70 degrees of external rotation (Neumann, 2002).

The glenohumeral joint is protected by an arch formed by the acromion and coracoid process of the scapula and the clavicle. Two ligaments and one retinaculum surround and support the shoulder joint. The coracohumeral ligament extends from the coracoid process of the scapula to the greater tubercle of the humerus. The joint capsule is reinforced with three ligamentous bands called the glenohumeral ligaments. The transverse humeral retinaculum is a thin band that extends from the greater tubercle to the lesser tubercles of the humerus providing additional support to the joint.

Muscles that elevate the scapulothoracic joint include the upper trapezius, levator scapulae, and, to a lesser extent, the rhomboids. Depression of the scapulothoracic joint is performed by the lower trapezius, latissimus dorsi, pectoralis minor, and the subclavius. Protraction is primarily completed by the serratus anterior muscle, while retraction is completed by the middle trapezius, and synergistically by the rhomboids and the lower trapezius muscles.

Glenohumeral joint abduction occurs simultaneously with scapular upward rotation. Sixty degrees of scapulothoracic joint upward rotation along with 120 degrees of glenohumeral joint abduction total 180 degrees of abduction of the arm (Neumann, 2002).

Several muscles are responsible for elevation of the arm. The glenohumeral muscles involved are the deltoid, supraspinatus, coracobrachialis, and the long head of the biceps. The scapular muscles that control upward rotation and protraction of the scapulothoracic joint are the serratus anterior and trapezius muscles. The rotator cuff muscles – supraspinatus, infraspinatus, teres minor, and subscapularis – control the dynamic stability and arthrokinematics at the glenohumeral joint.

The latissimus dorsi and the sternocostal head of the pectoralis major are the largest adductor and extensor muscles of the shoulder. The teres major, long head of the triceps, posterior deltoid, infraspinatus, and teres minor are also primary muscles for shoulder adduction and extension.

The primary muscles that internally rotate the glenohumeral joint are the subscapularis, anterior deltoid, pectoralis major, latissimus dorsi, and teres major. External rotators of the glenohumeral joint are the infraspinatus, teres minor, and posterior deltoid.

### 7.6.2. Elbow and Forearm

The elbow and forearm complex consists of the humerus, radius, and ulna. Four articulations occur within the elbow and forearm complex: i) humeroulnar joint, ii) humeroradial joint, iii) proximal radioulnar joint, and iv) distal radioulnar joint. The elbow joint is a modified hinge joint composed of two articulations, the humeroulnar joint, and the humeroradial joint. The trochlea of the humerus and the trochlear notch of the ulna form the humeroulnar joint. The humeroradial joint is formed by the capitulum of the humerus and the head of the radius. Both of these articulations are enclosed in a single joint capsule. A radial collateral ligament reinforces the elbow joint on the lateral side, and an ulnar collateral ligament strengthens the medial side. A third joint, the proximal radioulnar joint, not part of the hinge joint, occurs in the elbow region. At this joint, the head of the radius fits into the radial notch of the ulna and is held in place by the annular ligament. These joints allow two degrees of freedom of movement, flexion/extension, and internal/external rotation. The typical healthy range of motion of the forearm is 75 degrees of pronation and 85 degrees of supination (Neumann, 2002).

The elbow causes a natural frontal plane angle of 15 degrees called cubitus valgus (Neumann, 2002). From medial to lateral, the flexion/extension axis of rotation courses slightly superiorly

owing in part to the distal prolongation of the medial lip of the trochlea. This asymmetry in the trochlea causes the ulna to deviate laterally relative to the humerus.

The maximal range of passive motion in the elbow is from 5 degrees of hyperextension through 145 degrees of flexion. Several common activities of daily living use only a limited range of motion between 30 and 130 degrees of flexion (Neumann, 2002).

The primary elbow flexors include the biceps brachii, brachialis, brachioradialis, and pronator teres. The triceps brachii and anconeus muscles are the elbow extensors. The forearm supinators are the biceps brachii and supinator muscles. The forearm pronators include the pronator quadratus and pronator teres.

### 7.6.3. Wrist

The wrist consists of eight carpal bones located between the forearm and the hand. The proximal row of carpal bones contains the scaphoid, lunate, triquetrum, and pisiform. The distal row of carpal bones is comprised of the trapezium, trapezoid, capitate, and hamate. The wrist functions as two major articulations as well as several small intercarpal joints. The radiocarpal joint is found between the distal end of the radius and the proximal row of carpal bones. It is a diarthrodial ellipsoid joint providing movement of flexion, extension, radial, and ulnar deviation. The midcarpal joint is located between the proximal and distal row of carpal bones.

Ligaments of the wrist are essential to maintaining intercarpal alignment and transferring forces through and across the carpus. There are numerous ligaments of the wrist, which can be classified as extrinsic or intrinsic ligaments. The major extrinsic ligaments include the dorsal radiocarpal ligaments, the radial collateral ligament, the palmar radiocarpal ligament, and the ulnocarpal complex. The intrinsic ligaments are grouped as short, intermediate, or long.

Radial and ulnar deviation is measured as the angle between the radius and the shaft of the third metacarpal. In the sagittal plane, the wrist can move approximately 130-140 degrees. The wrist has a flexion range of motion of 65-80 degrees and an extension range of motion of 55-70 degrees. Total flexion usually exceeds extension by 10-15 degrees. In the frontal plane, the wrist can deviate about 45-55 degrees. A total range of 15 degrees of radial deviation occurs, while there is an average of 30 degrees of ulnar deviation (Neumann, 2002).

The muscles of the wrist supply the forces needed for movement. The wrist extensors can be divided into primary and secondary groups. The primary extensors are the extensor carpi radialis longus, extensor carpi radialis brevis, and the extensor carpi ulnaris. The extensor digitorum communis, extensor indicis, extensor minimi, and extensor pollicis function as the secondary wrist extensors. The wrist flexors are also grouped as primary and secondary. The primary flexor muscles include the flexor carpi radialis, flexor carpi ulnaris, and the palmaris longus. The secondary flexors are the flexor digitorum profundus, flexor digitorum superficialis, and the flexor pollicis longus. Radial deviators of the wrist are the extensor carpi radialis longus, extensor carpi radialis brevis, extensor pollicis longus, extensor pollicis brevis, flexor carpi radialis, abductor pollicis longus, and flexor pollicis longus. The two main ulnar deviators of the wrist are the extensor carpi ulnaris and flexor carpi ulnaris (Neumann, 2002).

#### **7.6.4. Hip**

In regard to the lower extremity, typical healthy ranges of motion are necessary for activities such as gait. The average hip flexion is 12 degrees and extension is 20 degrees. Hip abduction is typically 40 degrees while adduction is 25 degrees. Hip internal rotation is approximately 35 degrees and external rotation is 45 degrees (Neumann, 2002).

#### **7.6.5. Knee**

The knee joint exhibits biplanar motion often in conjunction with the movement of other lower extremity joints, such as the hip. The motion of a healthy knee ranges from 140 degrees of flexion to 10 degrees of hyperextension. Knee rotation typically increases with knee flexion. For example, a knee at 90 degrees of flexion permits 40-50 degrees of total rotation (Neumann, 2002).

#### **7.6.6. Ankle**

Active range of motion for the ankle joint complex has been shown to be an average inversion of 23 degrees, 13 degrees of eversion, 38 degrees of abduction, and 34 degrees of adduction. At the talocrural joint, an average of 26 degrees of dorsiflexion and 48 degrees of plantar flexion occur (Neumann, 2002).

### **7.7. APPLIED BIOMECHANICS**

#### **7.7.1. Postural Stability**

Postural control has been described as a complex skill based on the interaction of dynamic sensorimotor processes (Horak, 2006). Sensory information collected from the environment by the visual, somatosensory, and vestibular systems provide the individual with an internal representation of the body's position in space. The reaction forces between the feet and the support surface can be summed over the contact areas and described as the *center of pressure* (COP) (Harris, Smith, & Marks, 2008). This point is where the ground-reaction-forces are balanced. The COP is a point within the *base of support* (BOS) described by the contact perimeter around the feet and support surface. The *center of mass* (COM) is the average location of the mass of the body where the total mass is concentrated. For the body to be in equilibrium, the COM should fall within the

boundary of the BOS and onto the COP when projected downward onto the support surface. A combination of reflexive and pre-programmed strategies organized by the motor system allow the body to orient the *center of gravity* (COG) within the BOS, initiate movement, and complete movement tasks. The human body is inherently unstable due to the COM being carried above the support surface, at the height of the pelvis and anterior to the ankle joints when standing upright (Harris, Smith, & Marks, 2008). The body must integrate sensory information, modulate reflexes, and coordinate multi-segment synergistic movements for postural control.

Measurement of posture can be completed using various hardware systems. The most common include force plates and EMG systems. More advanced systems, such as the NeroCom SMART EquiTest System (Clackamas, OR, USA), are gaining popularity. These provide objective assessment of balance control and postural stability under various dynamic conditions simulating real life. The SMART EquiTest System uses a dynamic dual force plate that can rotate and translate, and record 3-D forces exerted by the feet. In a study by Graf *et al.* the NeuroCom SMART EquiTest System was applied to measure balance and posture in normal children (Harris, Smith, & Marks, 2008). The Motor Control Test (MCT) was administered to assess the ability of the automatic motor system to recover following an unexpected external disturbance. The Adaptation Test (ADT) was also performed to measure the subject's ability to minimize sway when exposed to surface irregularities and unexpected changes in support surface inclination. Metrics including weight symmetry (98.09), latency (144.70 msec), amplitude scaling (2.27), strength symmetry (102.91), and sway energy – toes up (73.33) and toes down (56.40) – were quantified (Harris, Smith, & Marks, 2008). This study was used to gain insight to the characteristics of balance and postural control.

Cerebral Palsy (CP) is a disorder that exhibits impairment of postural control. Motor disorders of CP are often accompanied by disturbances of sensation, cognition, communication, perception, behavior, and/or a seizure disorder (Rosenbaum *et al.*, 2007). The impact of these sensory and motor impairments may produce an inability to efficiently and effectively control the COG over the BOS in the following: i) an environment where necessary sensory feedback may be absent or conflicting, ii) when experiencing a sudden slip or trip, and iii) when stability is necessary to self-initiate a destabilizing movement, such as during reaching. These impairments typically lead to functional deficits, reduction in participation and activity restriction.

As a result of the complex sequelae associated with CP, understanding postural instability in the pediatric population requires objective analysis, describing how sensory information is processed and how the resulting motor patterns are generated. Computerized testing offers a wide variety of static/dynamic systems that track ground-reaction-forces from single/double force plate(s), and measures neuromuscular activity from electromyographic (EMG) signals. These systems provide quantitative methods to characterize unique aspects of postural control in able-bodied population as well as in the CP population. Computerized testing supplements clinical evaluations where no functional test exists, such as automatic/reactive balance responses. It can quantitatively compare the impact of various interventions designed to address postural instability.

The presence of sensory and motor deficits associated with postural instability in children with CP has been long recognized in the literature (Burtner, Qualls, & Woollacott, 1998; Chen & Woollacott, 2007; Cherng *et al.*, 1999; Liu, Zaino, & McCoy, 2007; Nashner, Shumway-Cook, & Marin, 1983; Woollacott & Burtner, 1996; Woollacott *et al.*, 1998). The objective data used to characterize unique impairments that impact posture has significantly evolved in

this population with technological advances in system components and analytical techniques. As a result, there is a multitude of metrics extrapolated from force plates and EMG systems that provide insight into body segment location and neuromuscular recruitment strategies within the context of postural control. The following sections describe some of the predominant metrics used to characterize postural control in children with CP.

#### 7.7.1.1. Essential Clinical Metrics

Postural stability is often characterized by the location of the subject's COP and its anterior/posterior or lateral displacement within the BOS. The COP is defined as the point location of the vertical ground-reaction-force vector; and it represents a weighted average of pressure over the surface area in contact with the ground (Winter, 1995). It is important to note that COP and COG are distinct metrics, yet complex coupling characteristics exist between the two within the construct of postural control. Typically, COP trajectories are represented in a stabilogram, which is a graphical representation of the location of the COP over a given time series (Prieto *et al.*, 1996).

Distance measures of the COP quantify the path traveled over a specific interval in the anterior/posterior and/or medial/lateral directions. Maximum distance, mean distance, and root-mean-square values provide data regarding the position of the COP in relation to a central starting point (Prieto *et al.*, 1996). Path length per unit time in seconds (sway velocity) can also be calculated by averaging the COP distance traveled per second during the time period of one sample (Rose *et al.*, 2002). Clinically, these metrics are used to quantify the child's ability to control the COG within the BOS through reflex modulation and multi-segment movement strategies.

The frequency spectra of the ground-reaction-forces are also an intuitive metric used to characterize postural control. Frequency quantifies the repetition of postural sway over a given time

series. It is believed that in situations where distance measures are not sensitive enough to detect changes in postural control, frequency metrics can provide further detailed information about system characteristics and changes in system function in the presence of pathology (Newell & Corcos, 1993).

In the event of an unexpected perturbation to balance (sudden slip or trip) the period of time until initial torque generation required to counteract the displacement of the COG, or latency, is considered as important as the magnitude of the torque generated (McCollum & Leen, 1989; Nashner, 1976). As latency increases, the horizontal path of the COG becomes greater until the torque necessary to stabilize sway eventually exceeds the capacity of the system. Thus, a quicker response time can facilitate the generation of appropriate torques and the minimization of the sway path. Timing of muscle activation is also important when the perturbation is self-initiated, such as during reaching. Certain muscle groups are predictably recruited prior to the initiation of a reaching task to anticipate and control an anterior displacement of the COG (Riach & Hayes, 1990). Therefore, knowing when neuromuscular synergies are utilized in relation to a specific event quantifies system efficiency within the context of postural control.

#### 7.7.1.2. Multivariate Metrics

Standing postural sway has been described as stochastic in nature by several authors (Harris *et al.*, 1992; Newell *et al.*, 1993; Newell *et al.*, 1997). Details on signal stationarity have been further eluded to by Harris and colleagues (Harris *et al.*, 1992). In the presence of pathology, however, ineffective postural control strategies become less complex and more predictable (Donker *et al.*, 2008). Analytical techniques combining different metrics have been used to describe the regularity of COP data in children with CP. The randomness of COP position over a given time series can be expressed using the Brownian short term diffusion

coefficient (Rose *et al.*, 2002). The likelihood that the COP position will continue to change along the same direction can be quantified through the use of a long term scaling exponent (Collins & De Luca, 1993; Rose *et al.*, 2002). Other measures of regularity or complexity of postural sway include sample entropy (SEn). SEn is the negative natural logarithm of the conditional probability that two subseries (epochs) containing similar amounts of data points remains similar at the next subsequent point. Therefore, as the value of SEn decreases, the self-similarity of COP data increases for that specific time series (Donker *et al.*, 2008; Richman & Moorman, 2000).

### 7.7.2. Motion Analysis

Kinematics, the study of motion, is used to relate displacement, velocity, acceleration, and time without reference to the cause of motion. Kinematic techniques, in the analysis of human locomotion, have been used to study body movements in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional space. While there are many kinds of kinematic measurements that can be used, relative segmental angular motions have been used most frequently (Hallgren *et al.*, 1988; Harris & Smith, 1996). Relative segmental angular measurements have been extensively applied in measurement of activities of daily living. To describe the rigid body orientation, it is convenient to consider an orthonormal frame attached to the body and express its unit vectors with respect to a reference frame. In many cases, the orientation of a body segment is described with respect to the reference frame attached to the proximal adjacent segment. A minimal representation of orientation can be obtained by using a set of three angles. Classically, Euler angles are used to provide the 3-D representation (Chao, 1980; Grood & Suntay, 1983; Ramakrishnan & Kadaba, 1991). When determining the rotational sequence, the axis with the most motion should be rotated first, and the one with the least amount of motion is to be rotated last. Other methods for describing 3-D motion include direction cosines (Shames,

1967), helical axes (Shiavi *et al.*, 1987; Woltring *et al.*, 1985), and the method of Grood and Suntay (Grood & Suntay, 1983). The anatomical definitions of angular joint movements are potentially ambiguous (Harris & Smith, 1996) – (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

An accurate definition of complex joint motion is essential for understanding normal and pathological bone and joint kinematics. According to Harris *et al.*, a detailed and thorough method to study joint motion should have the following characteristics: i) it should consider all six degrees of freedom (three translations and three rotations) to define 3-D motion completely; ii) it should be noninvasive in nature to preserve all intact structures and to have potential clinical applications; and iii) it should provide an accurate mathematical definition of the joint motion (Harris & Smith, 1996). Many previous studies of joint kinematics have not adequately satisfied these characteristics. Particularly, most six degrees-of-freedom kinematic studies have used invasive methods (Engsberg, 1987; Harris & Smith, 1996; Siegler, Chen, & Schneck, 1988; Siegler *et al.*, 1994; van Langelaan, 1983) – (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

The design of a model begins with a need to describe the human body and its motion for a certain purpose: the aim of a model may be the study of an abnormality by comparison with normal individuals; the study of physical stresses and the avoidance of injury; the study of mechanical efficiency and its improvement; or the study of a sporting skill.

The body must first be divided into segments, which are assumed to behave as rigid elements, connected at joints. The concept of modeling the body as a number of linked rigid segments is based on the anatomical fact that the skeleton is composed of rigid bones, which are linked by various kinds of joints. For the upper extremity (UE) body, segments often include the torso, upper arm, forearm, and hand. A minimum of three, non-collinear markers are used to define each segment.

Modeling the body as rigid segments linked by joints and the use of surface markers is subject to inherent errors and approximations.

To begin with, there is an error associated with the movement of skin relative to bone when measuring the motion of the skeletal components. This error can be reduced but not eliminated by careful choice of marker location. It is desirable to use easy locatable bony landmarks in order to minimize the effects of skin movement (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

Secondly, there is some uncertainty involved in the relationship of the marker positions to the underlying skeletal structure and joints (Anglin & Wyss, 2000; Hingtgen *et al.*, 2006). This source of error may also be reduced by choosing easily located anatomical points at which the bony structure can be found close to the skin, or by correcting for the uncertainty after the measurement by using adjustable parameters. However, it is not possible to eliminate such error.

Thirdly, the rigid-body concept is an approximation (Anglin & Wyss, 2000; Hingtgen *et al.*, 2006). Bone is not perfectly rigid. Joints contain elastic components such as cartilage and ligaments. These are assumed to be insignificant sources of error compared to the movement of soft tissue.

Finally, the measurements of marker trajectories are themselves subject to error. Position-measurement error, although small in absolute terms, are amplified when calculating quantities such as moments.

#### 7.7.2.1. Measurement Methods

Several technologies exist for studying kinematics and kinetics. Dynamic gait variables, such as stride and temporal parameters may be measured using simple or advanced techniques. Simple measures can be taken using a stopwatch and a tape measure. More complex systems may include foot switches, and/or video camera system. Camera-based motion analysis systems, with or without force plate

technology, may also be employed. Body segment spatial position and orientation can be captured using electrogoniometry, accelerometry, high-speed photography, and video-based digitizers. Video-based camera systems are commonly used for clinical motion assessment. This involves the placement of external passive (retroreflective) or active (light-emitting diodes - LEDs) markers on bony landmarks to identify joint centers. Passive systems use strobe light sources or electronically shuttered cameras. Active systems record the light from the LED markers. These camera systems track the position of the markers during movements such as gait. Stereophotogrammetric techniques are used to produce the instantaneous 3-D coordinates of each marker relative to a fixed laboratory coordinate system from the two-dimensional (2-D) camera images (Bronzino, 2006; Harris & Smith, 1996). Velocity and acceleration can then be derived from the 3-D position coordinates.

Passive marker systems such as Vicon (Vicon, Oxford, England) and Raptor (Motion Analysis Corporation, Santa Rosa, CA) use light sources placed near each camera to generate light, which is then reflected from the highly reflective markers. Active marker systems such as Selcon (Selspot Systems, Ltd., Southfield, MI) and Optotrack (Northern Digital, Inc., Waterloo, Canada) use small LEDs placed directly on the subject to generate the light that is recorded by the motion cameras (Harris & Smith, 1996).

To measure kinetics, force platforms or force transducers are often used. Force platforms provide the three components of the ground reaction force vector, the vertical ground reaction torque, and the point of application of the ground reaction force vector (Bronzino, 2006). Foot pressure distributions may also be measured using a sensor array, which is often integrated as a shoe insole.

Muscle activity is often measured using dynamic electromyography. Surface or fine wire electrodes can be utilized to measure the voltage potentials of the muscles (Bronzino, 2006).

### 7.7.2.2. Lower Extremity Gait

Gait is the study of the manner or style of walking (Whittle, 2003). It is often used for clinical applications for normal and pathologic gait characterization. Reciprocal contact patterns by each lower limb occur to advance one forward. Body weight is transferred from one limb to the other while contact with the floor is made by both feet. A single sequence of these limb movements is a gait cycle (Perry & Burnfield, 2010). Several terms are often used when describing gait. *Stride length* is the distance between two sequential points of initial contact by the same foot (Perry & Burnfield, 2010; Whittle, 2003). *Step length* is used to describe the distance between sequential points of initial contact by the two feet. Two steps make one stride, or gait cycle. *Cadence* is the number of steps per unit of time, typically minutes. *Speed* is the distance traveled divided by the duration of the travel time (Whittle, 2003). *Velocity* is the speed of walking in a specific direction.

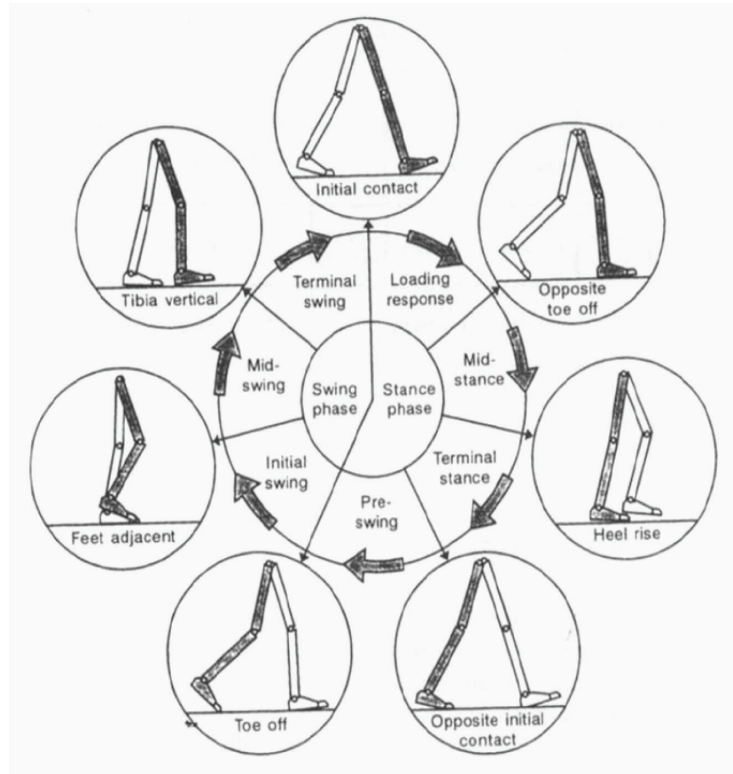
The *gait cycle* is typically defined as the time from initial contact to initial contact, with the same foot. Major events of the gait cycle include initial contact, opposite toe-off, heel rise, opposite initial contact, toe-off, feet adjacent, and tibia vertical (Figure 2). This cycle is repeated and is divided into two periods, stance and swing. *Stance* is the period when the foot is on the ground, and is typically 60% of the gait cycle in normal gait. It includes events of initial contact through toe-off. It is further divided into loading response, mid-stance, terminal stance, and pre-swing. *Swing* is the period that occurs when the foot is off the ground, advancing forward, and is usually 40% of the gait cycle in normal gait. The events of swing phase include toe off until initial contact. It is subdivided into initial swing, mid-swing, and terminal swing.

Gait is measured and analyzed three-dimensionally. The largest movements typically occur in the sagittal plane. Force plates can be used in conjunction with camera systems to obtain joint

reaction forces and moments in addition to joint motions. Electromyography can also be used concurrently to obtain muscle activity data during gait. The 3-D analysis of gait provides metrics such as temporal-stride parameters, joint angles, joint range of motion, joint reaction forces, joint reaction moments, and joint powers. This data is then often used for clinical assessment of normal or pathologic gait.

The use of quantitative motion analysis methods for the modeling of ambulatory and functional phenomena is a recognized treatment planning tool (Cook *et al.*, 2003; DeLuca *et al.*, 1997; Gage *et al.*, 1984; Gage & Novacheck, 2001; Schwartz *et al.*, 2004). The models most frequently employed for lower extremity gait analysis have noted deficiencies in their means of estimating joint centers and intertarsal motion (Camomilla *et al.*, 2006; Harris, 1991; Perry, 1992; Piazza, Okita, & Cavanagh, 2001; Piazza *et al.*, 2004). Functional means for determining subject-specific axes and centers of rotation provide a better method for calculating joint dynamics (Camomilla *et al.*, 2006), and multi-segmental foot models address the limitations of a single-segment model (Kidder *et al.*, 1996; Kitaoka *et al.*, 2006; Leardini *et al.*, 2007; MacWilliams, Cowley, & Nicholson, 2003). The bone-based referencing methods used by the Milwaukee Foot Model use measures from weightbearing radiographs to index the orientation of skin-mounted markers to the underlying bony anatomy (Long, Eastwood, & Harris, 2009; Long *et al.*, 2008). This model has been used in a series of studies quantifying the gait of patients with foot and ankle pathology (Canseco *et al.*, 2008; Canseco *et al.*, 2009; Khazzam *et al.*, 2007; Khazzam *et al.*, 2006; Marks *et al.*, 2009; Ness *et al.*, 2008). An extension of the model's ability to measure the motion of bone-based axes has been realized in the use of high-speed fluoroscopy to radiographically analyze motion at the bony level. Applications of this technology have been reported for the knee (Li *et al.*, 2008; Varadarajan *et al.*, 2008) and non-weight-bearing ankle (Komistek

Figure 2. Positions of the legs during a single gait cycle by the right leg. Source: Whittle, 2003. © 2003, Elsevier - Used with permission.



*et al.*, 2000). Application of these methods to the weight-bearing foot and ankle during gait are underway.

The Milwaukee Foot Model (MFM) has been previously employed to characterize the ambulatory biomechanics of patients with a variety of foot pathologies (Canseco *et al.*, 2008; Canseco *et al.*, 2010; Khazzam *et al.*, 2007; Khazzam *et al.*, 2006; Ness *et al.*, 2008). The model has also been used in long-term follow-up of these patients following surgery (Canseco *et al.*, 2009; Marks *et al.*, 2009). Most recently, the MFM has been validated for multicenter testing (Long *et al.*, 2010), and has been used in conjunction with a lower extremity model to establish the long-term outcomes of operatively treated clubfoot (Graf *et al.*, 2010).

### 7.7.2.3. Upper Extremity Dynamics

Three-dimensional analysis of upper extremity (UE) motion is a rather new and exciting area of research. Quantifying UE motion is necessary for a better understanding of human movement. Incorporating the upper extremity as well as the lower extremity gives a full picture of the kinematics of the body. Kinematic analysis of the UE has been conducted using a wide variety of techniques, philosophies, and analytic methods. Upper extremity models do not follow a standard protocol, as does the lower extremity. Many areas of UE modeling are not well established. There are many views on how to model the degrees of freedom of each joint, the orientation of the local coordinate systems, the number of markers to use,

and the appropriate Euler rotation sequence. This makes it very difficult to compare and contrast results between studies. Therefore, it is necessary to develop validated UE models that consist of standardized parameters, so as to make it sufficient for clinical application.

The measurement of 3-D kinematics of the UE has generally not received as much scientific attention as that of the lower limb. Upper limb motion may be rapid and is spatially complex, particularly at the shoulder. The elbow and wrist are relatively simple to model geometrically. They are often described as having the center of rotation located at the geometric center of the joint. Movement of the elbow and wrist is frequently simplified with two degrees of freedom. Modeling of the shoulder could be agreed upon to be the most complicated joint in the upper extremity. The shoulder joint complex is an articulation that challenges simple kinematic description.

The UE consists of four segments: the thorax, the upper arm, the forearm, and the hand. These segments are connected via the shoulder joint, elbow joint, and wrist joint. It is important to understand the anatomy and kinesiology for accurate and precise modeling.

#### 7.7.2.4. Modeling of the Upper Extremity

##### 7.7.2.4.1. *International Society of Biomechanics (ISB) Standards*

The International Society of Biomechanics has proposed a definition of a joint coordinate system for the shoulder, elbow, wrist, and hand (Wu *et al.*, 2005). For each joint, the standard includes the body segment coordinate system and the joint coordinate system, as well as the motion for the constituent joints (Figure 3 and Table 1). The joint coordinate systems are based on that of Grood and Suntay's knee joint (Grood & Suntay, 1983). These recommendations were set by the Standardization and Terminology Committee to lead to stronger

communication among researchers and clinicians. The proposals are based on the ISB standard for reporting kinematic data, first published by Wu and Cavanagh in 1995 (Wu & Cavanagh, 1995).

##### *Thorax*

The model for the thorax uses four bony landmarks: spinous process of the 7<sup>th</sup> cervical vertebra (C7), spinous process of the 8<sup>th</sup> thoracic vertebra (T8), suprasternal notch (IJ), and xiphoid process (PX) (Wu *et al.*, 2005). The order of rotation follows the conventional Cardan sequence of flexion, lateral bending, and rotation (Z-X-Y).

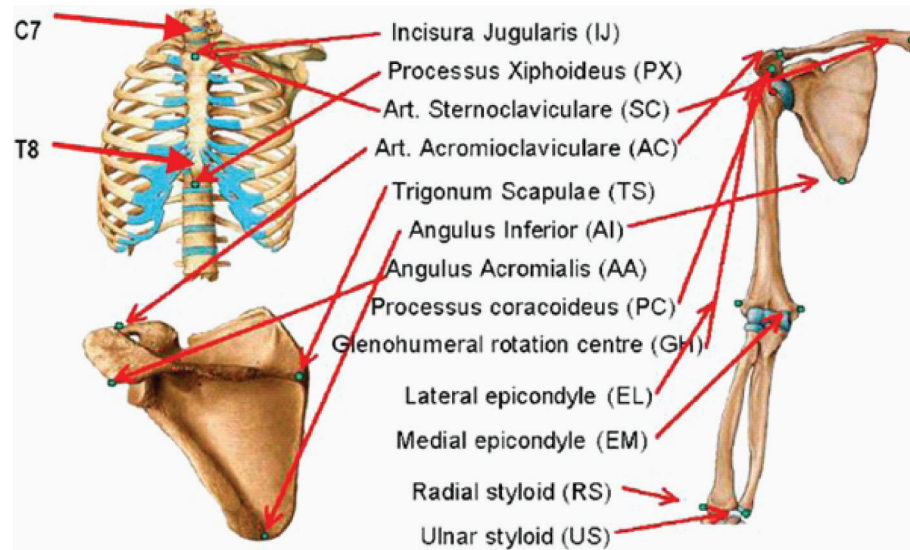
##### *Shoulder*

The model for the shoulder stems from the work done by van der Helm and Pronk (van der Helm & Pronk, 1995). Bony landmarks of the humerus include the glenohumeral rotation center (GH), the lateral epicondyle (EL), and the medial epicondyle (EM) (Wu *et al.*, 2005). Rotations are described using Euler angles, Y-X-Y. Convention suggests anatomical orientation of the coordinate systems for initial alignment. The distal coordinate system is then described with respect to the proximal coordinate system. For most shoulder motions, the rotation center would be a rough estimate, since only the glenohumeral joint resembles a ball-and-socket joint. When modeling the sternoclavicular joint and acromioclavicular joint, the definition of the rotation centers is left to the researcher's discretion.

##### *Elbow*

Bony landmarks of the forearm include the medial epicondyle, lateral epicondyle, radial styloid, and ulnar styloid. The following approximations were made at the elbow joint: i) the glenohumeral joint is a ball joint; ii) the humeroulnar joint is a hinge joint; and iii) the radioulnar joint (proximal and distal) is a hinge joint (Wu *et al.*, 2005). The joint coordinate system of the forearm utilizes the radial and ulnar styloid bony landmarks. The center of the

Figure 3. Bony anatomical landmarks and local coordinate systems of the thorax, clavicle, scapula, and humerus. Source: Wu *et al.*, 2005. © 2005, Elsevier - Used with permission.



capitulum on the humerus and the axes of the two radioulnar joints are on the joint axis. Although, coordinate systems for the ulna and radius are given; the focus is on the given forearm coordinate system to determine the elbow joint motion, with motion of the humeroulnar and radioulnar joints neglected. The Euler angle rotation sequence of Z-X-Y is recommended.

### Hand and Wrist

Global wrist motion is typically considered as the motion of the second and/or third metacarpal with respect to the radius. This motion is achieved by the movement of the carpal bones with respect to the radius as well as the numerous articulations of the eight carpal bones with respect to each other. It is suggested to use the definitions given for the radius and the metacarpal bones to describe global wrist motion if carpal motion is not of interest (Wu *et al.*, 2005). However, the bony landmarks of the radius involve the carpals,

Table 1. The recommended joint coordinate systems by ISB. Source: Wu *et al.*, 2005. © 2005, Elsevier - Adapted and reprinted with permission.

Thorax	Humerus	Forearm
Ot: The origin coincident with IJ.	Oh2: The origin coincident with GH.	Of: The origin coincident with US.
Yt: The line connecting the midpoint between PX and T8 and the midpoint between IJ and C7, pointing upward.	Yh2: The line connecting GH and the midpoint of EL and EM, pointing to GH.	Yf: The line connecting US and the midpoint between EL and EM, pointing proximally.
Zt: The line perpendicular to the plane formed by IJ, C7, and the midpoint between PX and T8, pointing to the right.	Zh2: The line perpendicular to the plane formed by Yh2 and Yf, pointing to the right.	Xf: The line perpendicular to the plane through US, RS, and the midpoint between EL and EM, pointing forward.
Xt: The common line perpendicular to the Zt- and Yt-axis, pointing forwards.	Xh2: The common line perpendicular to the Zh2- and Yh2-axis, pointing forward.	Zf: The common line perpendicular to the Xf and Yf -axis, pointing to the right.

which are difficult to palpate. The distal head and center of base are suggested landmarks for the metacarpals and phalanges.

The coordinate system for the hand is given with the forearm initially in the standard anatomical position, with the palm anterior and the thumb lateral. For the right arm, the positive Yi axis is directed proximally, the positive Xi axis is directed volarly, and the positive Zi axis is directed to the right in the anatomical position (radially) (Wu *et al.*, 2005). It is recommended to have the same sign convention for clinical motion of left and right arms. Thus, for the left arm, Yi is directed distally, Xi is directed dorsally, and Zi is directed to the right in the anatomical position (ulnarly) (Wu *et al.*, 2005).

#### 7.7.2.4.2. Single Joint Models

A common method for describing three-dimensional joint motion is with the use of Euler angles. Euler angles represent three sequential rotations about anatomical axes. Karduna *et al.* showed that for a given motion, different rotational sequences theoretically result in different angle calculations with differences up to 50 degrees for some angles (Karduna, McClure, & Michener, 2000). In order to compare results across different laboratories it is desired that a standard sequence be proposed and adopted.

Qualitative descriptions of the location of the axes or center of rotation of UE joints have been given in several studies. Poppen and Walker described the center of rotation of the glenohumeral joint (Poppen & Walker, 1976). Morrey and Chao, Youm *et al.*, and Deland *et al.* described the axes of rotation for the elbow joint (Morrey & Chao, 1976; Youm *et al.*, 1979; Deland, Garg, & Walker, 1987). No report was found on quantitative descriptions of the locations of these axes and centers of rotation of the UE. Veeger *et al.* took on this challenge when they proposed parameters for the development of a musculoskeletal model of the upper extremity (Veeger *et al.*, 1997). These

parameters included the 3-D locations of muscle attachment sites, muscle volumes, muscle lengths, pennation angles, the center of rotation for the glenohumeral joint, and axes of rotation for the humeroulnar and radioulnar joints. This was accomplished using five cadaver specimens with four magnetic tracking sensors. Three-dimensional kinematics of the humerus, ulna, and radius in different movements of the glenohumeral, humeroulnar, and radioulnar joints were measured for each specimen. The instantaneous rotation center of the glenohumeral joint and the instantaneous rotation axes of elbow flexion and forearm pronation were determined for each specimen from the kinematic data.

The results showed that the rotation center of the glenohumeral joint was very close to the geometric center of the joint with a mean distance of 4 mm. The results indicated that it is reasonable to model the glenohumeral joint as a ball-and-socket joint with three degrees of freedom and center of rotation in the geometric center of the joint. These findings were consistent with those reported by Högfors *et al.* (Högfors, Sigholm, & Herberts, 1987). The location of the glenohumeral joint obtained in this study agreed with that described by Poppen and Walker, who reported that the center of rotation of the glenohumeral joint was 6 mm from its geometric center (Poppen & Walker, 1976).

The mean angle between the flexion-extension and pronation-supination axes of the elbow joint was 94°, essentially perpendicular. The minimum distance between these two axes was about 4 mm. The estimated elbow axis and elbow cylinder confirmed previous qualitative observations of a flexion-extension axis passing through the center of the trochlea and the capitulum humeri (Deland *et al.*, 1987; Morrey & Chao, 1976; Youm *et al.*, 1979). Thus, it is reasonable to model the humeroulnar joint as a uniaxial joint. This research made a major contribution to upper extremity research by quantitatively showing that the glenohumeral joint can be modeled as a ball-and-socket joint

with three degrees of freedom and that the elbow joint can be modeled as a double hinge joint with two degrees of freedom.

The position of the kinematic rotation center has scarcely been measured. Poppen and Walker, and Jackson *et al.* reported on the position of the rotation center relative to the humeral head during walking (Poppen & Walker, 1976; Jackson, Joseph, & Wyard, 1977). Their method was based on a two-dimensional estimation. However, it was still to be determined whether the assumption that the geometric rotation center was also the kinematic rotation center. Veeger recently furthered his work by validating this assumption, and that the geometric center of rotation in the glenohumeral joint can be described based on the center of a sphere fitted through the glenoid surface (Veeger, 2000).

Engin *et al.* were the first to give a three-dimensional mathematical modeling of the human shoulder complex, based on a statistical *in vivo* database (Engin & Tumer, 1989). The motion range of the axial rotation of the upper arm was not reported. Thus, Wang *et al.* extended this work to quantify the motion range of the upper arm rotation along the longitudinal axis of the humerus throughout its workspace. Their model consisted of eight markers placed on bony landmarks with data collected via a sonic digitizer. Rotations were calculated using an Euler sequence of ZY'X'' (Wang *et al.*, 1998). The joint center of the shoulder was determined through the optimization of a sphere, while the elbow and wrist joint centers were determined from the geometric midpoint of specific markers. An original surface regression fitting method using an orthogonal homogeneous polynomial basis was presented. The method was used to establish a statistical database of motion range of the upper arm. It was shown that the axial range of motion of the upper arm depends strongly on the position of the upper arm in the shoulder sinus cone, and varies on average from 94° to 157° (Wang *et al.*, 1998). This model seemed to have a high value of residual error of the fit.

#### 7.7.2.4.3. Full Upper Extremity Models

Few models have incorporated the shoulder, elbow, and wrist joints. Biryukova *et al.* used spatial tracking system recording to obtain the kinematics of the human arm in terms of angles of rotation in the joints (Biryukova *et al.*, 2000). The arm was modeled as three rigid bodies with seven degrees of freedom. Euler angles were applied in the ZYX sequence. Four spatial tracking system markers were used, operating at an update rate of 30 Hz. The joint centers were determined with an optimization method. Validation of the model proved it was reliable (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

Rab *et al.* developed a model of the upper extremity using a standard 3-D video-based technique and 18 retroreflective skin markers (Rab, Petuskey, & Bagley, 2002). The model consists of 10 segments (head, neck, shoulder girdle, right/left upper arms, right/left forearms, right/left hands, and pelvis) whose local coordinate systems are used to calculate upper extremity motion. All joints were assumed to have fixed centers of rotation. The shoulder joint was modeled as a ball-and-socket joint with three degrees of freedom, located in the center of the humeral head. Movement was calculated between the humerus and the trunk, and scapular contribution to shoulder motion is ignored, similar to conventions adopted by Veeger and colleagues (Veeger *et al.*, 1997). The elbow was modeled as a rotating hinge joint with two degrees of freedom, with a single joint center in the distal humerus. Forearm pronation and supination were modeled as rotation about an axis connecting the elbow center and distal ulna. The wrist joint was modeled as a universal joint with two degrees of freedom, where movement occurred in flexion/extension and radial/ulnar deviation. Movement between the hand and forearm segments, determined by a vector connecting the geometric wrist center and the calculated elbow center, represented wrist movement (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

The rotational sequence for the model followed the clinical convention used in lower extremity studies. The right-hand coordinate system aligned the X-axis laterally to the right, Y-axis directed forward (anteriorly), and the Z-axis directed upward (superiorly). The Euler rotation sequence X-Y-Z corresponded to forward flexion, abduction, and axial rotation (Rab *et al.*, 2002).

The model was one of few that were verified using a mechanical model. Calculated and observed model angular displacements were consistent, with maximum standard deviations of calculated angles during one second (60 frames), always less than 1 degree (Rab *et al.*, 2002). During eight 60-frame trials, the maximum standard deviation in elbow position was 1.8 degrees, which reflects the inherent resolution limit of the optical system as one-inch diameter markers were rotated through space (Rab *et al.*, 2002).

The joint positions were calculated as offsets from selected surface markers. Magnitudes of offsets were determined by direct measurement of both limbs of one adult and one pediatric skeleton, and by anatomic data available in the literature, based on seven cadavers (van der Helm *et al.*, 1992). There was no statistical data to support the displacements between markers and joint centers that were used in this study. Errors could be due to marker misplacement, relative movement between markers and bony landmarks as the skin moves, and to inaccuracies in the displacement algorithm for calculation of joint centers. Thus, Rab *et al.* investigated the effect of location of the shoulder joint center by perturbing it by  $\pm 1.0$  cm. The resulting shoulder angles were always within five degrees (Rab *et al.*, 2002). One goal of this study was to recommend that investigators adopt a standardized approach to kinematic analysis of the upper extremity so that uniformity and sharing of data becomes more effective.

#### 7.7.2.4.4. Skin Movement Correction Methods

Some attempts have been made to reduce the error of skin movement. The first attempt was conducted by Schmidt *et al.* in which they proposed to obtain the joint angles of the wrist and elbow from tracked triads of surface markers on each limb segment. The model consisted of the upper arm, forearm, and hand segments, connected by two ball and socket joints, the elbow and wrist. This was one of the few models representing the elbow and wrist as three degree of freedom joints. The elbow and wrist joint centers were defined from the midpoint of markers on the medial and lateral epicondyles and radial and ulnar styloids, respectively. The shoulder joint center was approximated to be 7 cm inferior to the acromion marker, the average of visually determined distances using a ruler. This method is not patient specific. It would also have low repeatability since the distance is determined through visual estimation. Schmidt *et al.* introduced a method for correction of skin and soft tissue movement. This correction is most important at the distal end of the upper arm segment when the elbow approaches a straight position, flexion angle  $\leq 15$  degrees (Schmidt *et al.*, 1999). The correction method was also applied to the wrist joint. All the motions were recorded using five cameras with a sample rate of 50 Hz. Angles were calculated using Euler angles. The correction method proved to be useful. Skin movements at the forearm seemed to be surprisingly high. The pronation/supination would be underestimated by 17-43% without correction (Schmidt *et al.*, 1999). Therefore, the correction method proved to be effective (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

Roux *et al.* recently assessed the performances of the global optimization (GO) method with upper limb kinematic analysis. The GO method estimates bone position from skin marker coordinates. This method is used to reduce skin movement artifacts

that imply relative movement between markers and bones. Results showed a significant reduction of the error and of the variability due to skin movement. As was discussed previously, Schmidt *et al.* compensated skin movement artifacts by controlling relative position and orientation of the segments during voluntary movements (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

The model by Roux *et al.* consists of the trunk, arm, forearm and hand segments with marker locations very similar to the protocol proposed by Schmidt *et al.* (Roux *et al.*, 2002). However, as opposed to Schmidt's model, a sphere-fitting method was used for determination of the shoulder and wrist joint centers, which is more accurate. The elbow center was defined as the midpoint between the medial and lateral elbow markers. Angles were computed using Euler rotations. The GO method was applied to the upper limb to minimize relative movement between markers and bones. The relative movement between the hand and forearm during internal/external rotation of the shoulder presented greater error with the application of the GO method than without it. Errors were compensated with pronation/supination of the elbow (Roux *et al.*, 2002). The GO method significantly reduced skin movement errors (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

#### 7.7.2.5. Sports Biomechanics

Three-dimensional analyses in sports have proved to be useful in assessing movement patterns and relating the movements to potential injury mechanisms. Whiting *et al.* conducted a kinematic analysis of human upper extremity movements in boxing (Whiting, Gregor, & Finerman, 1988). Four subjects were assessed using only two high-speed 16 mm motor-driven cameras. The model was composed of markers to delineate the shoulder elbow and wrist joint centers along with joints on the hand and glove. Markers were placed directly on

the approximated location of the joint centers, not on bony landmarks. High-speed cinematography was used to provide 3-D locations of the points. Elbow angle measurements were calculated using standard spatial geometry formula, with angular velocity and acceleration data being calculated using finite difference formulations. Euler rotations were not employed. Instead, the direct linear transformation (DLT) method was used. Due to these differential methods, and the small number of cameras, error was introduced as indicated by the high standard deviation (Whiting, Gregor, & Finerman, 1988).

The effectiveness of arm segment rotations in producing racquet head speed during tennis was also investigated. Ten bony landmarks were used in the model and were captured by three cine cameras (Sprigings *et al.*, 1994). The joint centers were approximated using the midpoint of markers placed at the upper arm, elbow, wrist, hand, and racquet. A DLT algorithm was developed to analyze the angular velocity and racquet-head position. The algorithm depends on the following assumption: a) the constructed orthogonal axes for the upper limb segments closely approximate their anatomical axes; b) the varus-valgus rotation at the elbow joint is zero; c) the longitudinal rotation of the hand about the wrist joint is zero; and, d) the hand and the racquet are a single rigid body (Sprigings *et al.*, 1994).

Dillman *et al.* investigated the biomechanics of pitching with emphasis upon shoulder kinematics (Dillman, Fleisig, & Andrews, 1993). Each subject was marked with retro-reflective, 1-in. diameter balls, which were tracked by four cameras at 200 Hz. The body markers were used to mathematically construct a system of local segmental three-dimensional coordinate system for calculating the motion of the arm in anatomical reference planes. This modeling technique required estimation of two coordinate axes and a translation from surface markers to joint centers.

More recently, Aguinaldo and colleagues, investigated baseball pitching kinematics and kinetics. Out of concern for high rotational torques during pitching leading to overuse injuries, research was conducted to quantify the effects of trunk rotation on shoulder rotational torques (Anderson, Ellis, & Weiss, 2007). The study suggested specific kinematic patterns be identified to increase efficiency and decrease risk of injury. To follow up, the correlation of throwing mechanics with elbow valgus load in 69 adult baseball pitchers was studied (Aguinaldo & Chambers, 2009). Whole body dynamics were acquired. Valgus torque at the elbow was associated with six biomechanical variables of sequential body motion. Late trunk rotation, reduced shoulder external rotation, and increased elbow flexion movements appeared to be most closely related to valgus torque.

### 7.7.3. Hand Biomechanics

The hand is a vastly mobile organ of high complexity. The intricacy of the bony arrangement, articulations, and musculature enable the hand to perform an array of movements. Several new endeavors are underway to investigate the biomechanics of the pathological hand.

Pathological movement of the hand in persons with stroke has been examined by Seo *et al.* Due to altered force production following stroke, misdirected digit force may lead to finger-object slip and failure to grasp (Seo, Rymer, & Kamper, 2010). Therapies to redirect the force direction of the digits may improve stroke survivors' ability to stably grip an object. Seo and colleagues further investigated visual feedback for the index fingertip and thumb to determine if this force production can be corrected (Seo *et al.*, 2011). It was shown that with repeated practice of pinch along with visual feedback of force direction, improvement of grip force control in persons with stroke may be achieved.

### 7.7.4. Musculoskeletal Modeling

#### 7.7.4.1. Finite Element Modeling

The finite element method (FEM) is a powerful computational technique, with numerous applications in the field of Rehabilitation Engineering. The major benefit of FEM lies in being able to non-invasively evaluate biological structures. Mathematical numerical approximation methods form the basis of FEM. These numerical methods are used to obtain an output, the *field variables*, from a system of equations, and the *field*, in response to inputs, the boundary conditions. Finite elements represent regular straight-side geometric 2-D or 3-D shapes that enclose a finite area or volume. Field variables are explicitly calculated at each vertex of the element, the "*node*" (Hutton, 2004).

In musculoskeletal modeling, the *field* is generally a geometrically complex biological structure such as bone, muscle, ligament or joint; a physical structure such as a trauma fixation device, an implant or an endoprosthesis; or a system of interaction between the two. Computerized tomography (CT) scans can be utilized to derive fairly accurate physical domains of these complex entities. These volumes are converted by FEM to a set of finite elements, known as a mesh. *Boundary conditions* comprise loads and constraints that act on the system. Other inputs include material properties. An appropriately constrained field has a unique solution that is specific to that particular set of boundary conditions and inputs. The type of analysis depends upon the physical behavior of the system. Most studies, involving whole bone FE models, utilize the assumption of geometric and material linearity and static equilibrium to perform linear, static analyses.

FEM solutions are approximate in nature. To obtain an exact solution, the mesh is sequentially refined. This involves increasing the number or order of the finite elements in the mesh. Greater area from the curved-boundary physical domain is incorporated into the solution, thus increasing

field representation accuracy. The approximate FE solution asymptotically approaches the exact solution with sufficient mesh refinement. Since FEM is a computationally intensive tool, mesh refinement has to be balanced with computational resources available.

Biomechanical FE models require verification, validation, and optimization to be considered utilizable. Verification involves establishing the mathematical and implementation accuracy. Notable are code verification using benchmark problems, and calculation verification using mesh convergence. Validation reflects predictive capability, and is carried out by statistical comparison of experimental data and FE simulation data. Finally, the model is optimized based upon sensitivity studies, to material properties, geometry and boundary conditions (Anderson *et al.*, 2007). Three levels of FE model development have been reported (Viceconti *et al.*, 2005). The first and second levels are targeted at a research FE model, and address verification and sensitivity analysis, and validation, respectively. The third level targets clinical applicability, and requires risk-benefit analyses as well as application in prospective and retrospective studies.

Several medical and surgical fields employ human FE models. These include orthopaedic surgery, maxillofacial surgery, neurosurgery, and cardiovascular surgery, to name a few. While fluid mechanics plays an important role in valve design in cardiovascular surgery, most other fields utilize solid mechanics for FE model design. Hence, strength, stress, strain, and displacement are the most commonly evaluated field variables.

The FE modeling of bone is performed at many levels. Tissue level modeling involves microstructural cortical and cancellous bone. Structural modeling would involve part of a bone such as the tibial plateau or whole bone. System modeling involves inclusion of the bone as part of a joint (Henninger *et al.*, 2010). Whole bone

FE models documented in literature include the femur, tibia, radius, metacarpals, scapula, pelvis, and clavicle. Sources of geometry for whole bone models include cadavers, composite bones, and standardized image datasets such as the NIH Visible Human Project. The most common research application of these models is for evaluation of trauma fixation implants and prosthesis following implantation in bone. Industry applications predominantly address implant design. The trend towards development of patient specific FE models has potential clinical applications. An alternative approach today is the development of standardized FE bone models such as the Muscle-Standardized Femur, which can be adapted with patient-specific geometry, material, kinetic, kinematic and EMG inputs to develop patient specific models (Cristofolini *et al.*, 2010).

Microstructural FE models of cancellous bone, derived using CT scan, focus on pathological fracture risk, such as in osteoporosis and metastasis. Automated FE solvers can utilize CT scan density data to incorporate individual element material properties, specifically the elastic modulus. Soft tissue FE modeling includes muscles, ligaments, and joints. Non-linearity in geometry and mechanical behavior such as hysteresis and creep, necessitate non-linear and sometimes dynamic assumptions for analysis.

Limitations of whole bone FE models include accurate incorporation of muscle forces, exclusion of microstructural mechanical behavior, and inability to directly validate output parameters. However, geometry and material properties can be accurately incorporated using CT scanning and clinical/experimental setups can be carefully analyzed to derive biofidelic FE boundary conditions. In short, FEM is an important tool in present-day musculoskeletal research, with significant potential for clinical applicability.

#### **7.7.4.1.1. Finite Element Modeling (FEM) Software**

Finite element modeling and analyses can be completed using a number of software packages. Abaqus (Simulia, Dassault Systemes; Providence, RI, USA), COMSOL (COSMOLAB, Stockholm, Sweden) and ANSYS (ANSYS, Inc., Canonsburg, PA, USA) are common examples of software suites used for finite element analysis. They have the capability for solid modeling, meshing, linear and nonlinear modeling, implicit and explicit methods, and computational fluid dynamics.

### **7.7.4.2. Musculoskeletal Modeling Methods**

#### **7.7.4.2.1. SIMM Software**

SIMM (Musculographics Inc., Santa Rosa, CA, USA) is a biomechanics software package for the construction, modeling, animation, and analysis of 3-D musculoskeletal systems. It integrates musculoskeletal components such as bones, muscles, ligaments, and tendon. SIMM may be used to model muscle-tendon lengths, velocities, moment arms, and accelerations during gait. SIMM may also be implemented to analyze surgical procedures, such as osteotomies and total joint replacements. It was introduced in the early 1990's and is widely accepted and used throughout the biomechanics community.

#### **7.7.4.2.2. OpenSim Software**

OpenSim is the free counterpart to SIMM for further musculoskeletal model features. It was designed at Simbios, an NIH center at Stanford University for simulation of biological structures. This open-source software enables users to create and customize dynamics simulations of movement. It can be used to develop subject-specific models for inverse and forward dynamics. Open-

Sim allows import and export of SIMM models for advanced design.

#### **7.7.4.2.3. Adams Software**

Adams (MSC Software, Santa Ana, CA, USA) is a multi-body dynamics simulation software. It is used for dynamics analysis of mechanical systems implementing equations for kinematics, statics, quasi-statics, and dynamics. It can perform both linear and nonlinear dynamics problems.

#### **7.7.4.2.4. LifeMOD Software**

LifeMOD™ (LifeModeler, Inc., San Clemente, CA, USA) is a virtual human modeling and simulation software package. It is used for the development of biomechanical human models. LifeMOD is built on MD Adams software and can be integrated into computer-aided engineering (CAE) systems. LifeMOD can import complex product geometry from many computer-aided design (CAD) systems, such as CATIA, Pro/E, SolidWorks, and Unigraphics. It is also capable of importing MRI and CT data. LifeMOD outputs metrics of force, displacement, velocity, acceleration, torque, and angles. It includes anthropomorphic databases for automatic model creation, and can perform inverse and forward dynamics. It is also capable of building a virtual human model with 3-D motion, bones, joints, and muscle components.

#### **7.7.4.2.5. AnyBody Modeling System Software**

The AnyBody Modeling System™ (AnyBody Technology A/S, Denmark) is a software system for simulating the biomechanics of the human body in its environment. The model may be defined using external forces and boundary conditions for the environment given for any specified posture or motion. AnyBody computes the mechanical

properties for the body-environment system. Muscle forces, joint forces and moments, metabolism, elastic energy in tendons, and antagonistic muscle actions can be determined. Patient-specific or optimization models can be designed. Data may be imported from motion capture systems or exported for input to FE models.

### 7.7.4.2.6. Virtual Interactive Musculoskeletal System (VIMS) Software

Virtual Interactive Musculoskeletal System (VIMS) is biomechanical simulation software for human musculoskeletal system physiology. Its purpose is for the investigation of joint and connective tissue mechanics. Visualization in both static and animated states is possible. Adaptable anatomical models such as prosthetic implants and fracture fixation devices are integrated in the system along with computational capabilities for static, kinematic, kinetic, and stress analyses. A database containing long bone dimensions, connective tissue material properties, and a library of skeletal joint system functional activities and loading conditions are available. These can be modified, updated, and expanded. Application software is also available to allow end-users to perform biomechanical analyses interactively. The intent of this system, model library, and database, is for application to orthopaedic education, basic research, device development and application, and clinical patient-care related to musculoskeletal joint system reconstruction, trauma management, and rehabilitation (Chao *et al.*, 2007).

### 7.7.4.2.7. Locomotion Models

Applications of modeling efforts have been employed for better understanding of locomotion. Geyer *et al.* investigated muscle and energy demands in passive compliant structures such as tendons and ligaments during bouncing gaits – running, hopping, and trotting (Geyer, Seyfarth, & Blickhan, 2003). It was shown that these structures store and release energy. The afferent information from muscle receptors was examined using a two-

segment leg model with one Hill-type extensor muscle. Model parameters included values from literature such as segment lengths, moment arms, joint angles, isometric force, eccentric force, and excitation-contraction coupling, among others. This was completed using Matlab and Simulink software (MathWorks, Natick, MA, USA) in a forward dynamic simulation. It was concluded that position force feedback may stabilize running.

Additional research has also investigated running stability (Geyer, Seyfarth, & Blickhan, 2005; Knuesel, Geyer, & Seyfarth, 2005; Rummel & Seyfarth, 2008). A model was developed, which consisted of a spring-mass system for the stance phase and a functional control model for the swing phase – represented by a passive or actively driven pendulum. The model was validated against treadmill running. The results of the model indicated that for certain running speeds and pendulum lengths, the behavior of the mechanical system was stable (Knuesel, Geyer, & Seyfarth, 2005). Furthermore, a two-segment leg model was used to investigate the effects of leg compliance originating from the joint level on running stability (Rummel & Seyfarth, 2008). Due to leg geometry, a non-linear relationship between leg force and leg compression was found. The two-segment model serves as a conceptual model between the simpler spring-mass model and more detailed segmented models of human bodies.

## 7.8. CLINICAL BIOMECHANICS

Clinical biomechanics refers to an area of biomechanics that is focused on clinical application. It includes an interdisciplinary approach to make a direct impact on evidence-based medicine. Evidence-based medicine involves a clinician's practice to be based on scientific evidence, requiring relevant clinical questions, a thorough literature search, a critical appraisal of evidence and its applicability, and an application of the findings to the clinical problem (Buckwalter *et al.*,

2007). Clinical science and research may lead the clinician to change health care practice and treatment methods based on solid evidence. Clinical biomechanics encompasses such areas as cardiac biomechanics and orthopaedic biomechanics.

### 7.8.1. Pathologies

Common pathologies associated with biomechanical impairments include stroke, myelomeningocele (MM), spinal cord injury (SCI), cerebral palsy (CP), and osteogenesis imperfecta (OI).

#### 7.8.1.1. Stroke

Stroke is a leading cause of disability and the third leading cause of death in the U.S. (American Stroke Association, 2011). Approximately 795,000 Americans suffer a new or recurrent stroke each year. Ischemic stroke results from an obstruction of blood flow to the brain. Recovery and rehabilitation from a stroke is largely related to the location and severity of the lesion. Successful rehabilitation involves relearning skills and activities, recovery of ischemically injured cells, and brain plasticity.

#### 7.8.1.2. Myelomeningocele (MM)

Myelomeningocele (MM) is the most common central nervous system birth defect (Davis *et al.*, 2005). It is defined as the failure of the neural tube to close, resulting in a cystic dilatation of meninges and protrusion of the spinal cord through the vertebral defect (Farley & Dunleavy, 1996). In the United States, approximately 1340 infants are born with MM each year (CDC, 2006). Birth incidence of the disease was reported to be 3.68 cases per 10,000 live births from 1999-2001 (Canfield *et al.*, 2006). Patients with MM present with a multitude of impairments, but the primary functional deficits are lower limb paralysis and sensory loss. Paraplegia from the myelodysplasia

typically causes some impairment of mobility and musculoskeletal complications may also result.

#### 7.8.1.3. Spinal Cord Injury (SCI)

It is estimated that approximately 253,000 persons are living with spinal cord injury (SCI). The estimated annual incidence is approximately 40 cases per million population, or approximately 11,000 new cases each year (University of Alabama at Birmingham: <http://www.spinalcord.uab.edu>). Those with incomplete SCI (54%) have partial preservation of their lower extremity function, which indicates the potential for ambulation. Due to the reduced strength in the hip and trunk extensor musculature, upper extremity devices are commonly prescribed to assist ambulation. Waters *et al.* reported 76% of individuals with incomplete paraplegia and 46% of those with incomplete tetraplegia achieve community ambulation – with the help of bracing and mobility aids (Waters *et al.*, 1994a).

#### 7.8.1.4. Cerebral Palsy (CP)

Cerebral palsy (CP) is a condition characterized by orthopedic impairments of the lower extremities. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that 10,000 children in the United States develop CP each year (Schendel, Schuchat, & Thorsen, 2002). CP is caused by brain damage and has symptoms including postural instability and abnormal muscle tone. In patients with CP, voluntary movement becomes uncoordinated and restricted, and may result in a co-contraction of antagonist and agonist muscles (Miller & Clark, 1998). One of the most common types of CP is spastic diplegic cerebral palsy. It is estimated that 75-87% of patients with CP have a spastic type (Stanley, Blair, & Alberman, 2000). Spastic diplegic CP severely affects the lower extremities, and many of these children rely on assistive devices for ambulation.

#### **7.8.1.5. Osteogenesis Imperfecta (OI)**

Osteogenesis imperfecta (OI), a genetic disorder characterized by bones that break easily, is a pediatric pathology associated with crutch usage. OI has a prevalence of 1/5,000 to 1/10,000 with an estimated 20,000 to 50,000 cases in the U.S. (Byers & Steiner, 1992). Weak musculature and bowing of the long bones often requires the use of braces and mobility aids for ambulation.

#### **7.8.2. Advanced Clinical Approaches to Postural Stability**

Clearly, many different metrics can be calculated from COP data, and more than one measure is necessary to characterize posture in children with CP (Prieto *et al.*, 1996). However, it is not clear which parameters are most effective for detecting differences in sway between typically developing children and children with CP, nor under what conditions children with CP are balance-compromised. These observations provide the impetus for some of the more current work. Bustamante *et al.* (Bustamante Valles *et al.*, 2006) introduced a biomechanical model of postural control in children with CP that resulted in a comprehensive characterization, including metrics in the time, distance, and frequency spectra, as well as, multivariate analyses. A composite measure that included sway in both anterior/posterior and medial/lateral planes was also provided. The authors then compared the aforementioned metrics to a control group.

The metrics selected to describe postural sway included time and frequency domain measures and stabilogram diffusion coefficients. The sway metrics were chosen to provide a comprehensive description including amplitude (time domain), regulation (frequency domain) and control (stabilogram diffusion coefficients) characteristics. These combined metrics have been used by other researchers but not in the same groupings or with the same patient populations. In the study by Bustamante Valles and colleagues (Bustamante Valles,

*et al.*, 2006), metrics were calculated for both the AP and ML planes; sway area (SA) was computed using both AP and ML components. Four metrics in the time domain were used to describe the trajectories of the COP from the center point of the stabilogram and include a Mean Distance (MD), Total Traveled Distance (TX), Mean Velocity (MV) and Sway Area (SA). MD gives an indication of the average distance from the mean COP. TX is the total path excursion of the COP; MV is the average velocity of the COP; and SA is a composite measure that estimates the area covered by the COP path. Increases in measured values of time domain metrics are related to instability. Frequency domain parameters were calculated using a Fast Fourier Transform and included frequency dispersion (FD), centroidal frequency (CF) and 95% of power frequency (P95). FD provides an indication of the variability of the COP signal; CF is the frequency point at which the spectral mass is concentrated; and P95 is the frequency point below which 95% of the power is concentrated. All of the time and frequency domain metrics were calculated according to methods reported by Prieto *et al.* (Prieto *et al.*, 1996). While time domain metrics give an indication of the amount of sway, frequency domain metrics may indicate different postural strategies or regulation of sway. Lower frequencies are related to higher steadiness. It has been suggested that frequency domain metrics can help clinicians to detect minor changes in balance deficits (Collins & De Luca, 1993; Richman & Moorman, 2000).

Stabilogram diffusion coefficients were calculated according to Collins and De Luca (Collins & De Luca, 1993), and were used to examine the open- and closed-loop mechanisms controlling posture. The diffusion coefficients indicate the amount of postural instability; therefore, a larger coefficient indicates reduced control of posture. The short-term coefficient (DS) indicates the slope during the open-loop mechanism and the long-term coefficient (DL) indicates the slope during the closed-loop mechanism.

### 7.8.3. Upper Extremity Inverse Dynamics Models for Clinical Application

Quantitative movements of the upper extremity (UE) are critical for accurate clinical and rehabilitation assessment. Inverse dynamics models of kinematics and kinetics can be used to facilitate the recovery of movements necessary for daily activities of living. The following studies demonstrate the utility of motion analysis modeling for quantitative rehabilitation assessment.

A prior study by Striffling *et al.* examined UE kinematics of 10 children with spastic diplegic cerebral palsy, using anterior and posterior walkers (Striffling *et al.*, 2008). The study methodology included testing of each subject with both types of walkers in a motion analysis laboratory after an acclimation period of at least one month. Analyses included evaluations of the torso, shoulders (glenohumeral), elbows, and wrists. Torso motion was determined by calculating the point-wise average of the kinematics from the left and right side gait cycles. Kinematic data were collected at a rate of 60 samples per second using a 12 camera (Vicon, Oxford, UK) system. A unique UE marker set, consisting of 18 markers, allowed calculation of UE kinematics. The 18 marker locations included the left and right anterior superior iliac spines (ASIS), sternal notch, vertebra C7, left and right acromion processes, mid-humeri, olecranon, mid-radii, ulnar styloid processes, and the third and fifth metacarpals. A standard LE model permitted the calculation of the temporal stride parameters, which included cadence, walking speed, step length, and stride length. The results demonstrated that anterior and posterior walkers may be more statistically similar than different. For example, there were similarities in walking speed between the walkers. It was concluded that a walker choice does not impact stride length. Differences in cadence were not statistically significant between the two walker types.

Yang *et al.* developed a model for synergic analysis of upper limb target-reaching movements. The seven degree of freedom model consists of three segments and 14 markers placed on the upper arm, forearm, and hand (Yang *et al.*, 2002). A general statement was made concerning joint center calculation as determined from several calibration and static measurements. The shoulder center was determined from a reference measurement of the subject. Rotation order of Euler angles was unspecified. This model focused on using the least number of parameters to describe the synergies of movement in the simplest manner. It was found that topological invariance and synergies can be found in target-reaching movements of human upper limbs (Slavens & Harris, 2008)<sup>1</sup>.

A second study concerning reaching movements involving the trunk was conducted by Adamovich *et al.* (Adamovich *et al.*, 2001). Subjects were asked to move their arm to reach from an initial position to one of two remembered targets (without vision) placed in the ipsilateral or contralateral workspace. The endpoint and trunk positions were obtained using an optoelectronic 3-D motion analysis system. Infrared light-emitting diodes were placed on bony landmarks including the tip of the index finger, head of the ulna, lateral epicondyle, right and left acromion processes, and sternal notch. The coordinates of the markers at the fingertip and sternal notch were used to compute the arm endpoint and trunk trajectories, respectively. Tangential velocities were computed based on a five-point differentiation algorithm (Adamovich *et al.*, 2001). This study failed to mention how joint centers, global positioning, and joint angles were calculated.

Michaelsen *et al.* analyzed the effect of trunk restraint on the recovery of reaching movements in hemiparetic patients (Michaelsen *et al.*, 2001). The work involved developing a kinematic model composed of 10 infrared light-emitting diodes placed on the tips of the thumb and index, the wrist ulnar styloid process, the lateral humeral epicondyle, bilateral acromion processes, two

points along the vertical axis of the sternum, the hip, and the anterior knee. Data was collected for 2-6.5 seconds at a sampling frequency of 100 Hz (Michaelsen *et al.*, 2001). Four types of movement variables were analyzed: end point and trunk trajectories, tangential velocities, maximal joint and trunk excursions, and interjoint coordination.

Several methods were used to simplify this model. The model failed to use Euler angles to determine rotations of the joints. The specifics of the joint center locations were not discussed. Trunk flexion was measured as the sagittal displacement of the sternal marker. In addition, the models of the shoulder and elbow were over simplified with two degrees and one degree of freedom of movement, respectively. These movements are not anatomically correct. It was found that hemiparetic patients used more trunk recruitment to compensate for significantly decreased active shoulder and elbow movements when reaching. Patients may use different reaching strategies according to their clinical severity. This suggested that underlying “normal” patterns of movement coordination are not entirely lost after stroke and that appropriate treatments may be applied to uncover the latent movement patterns to maximize function.

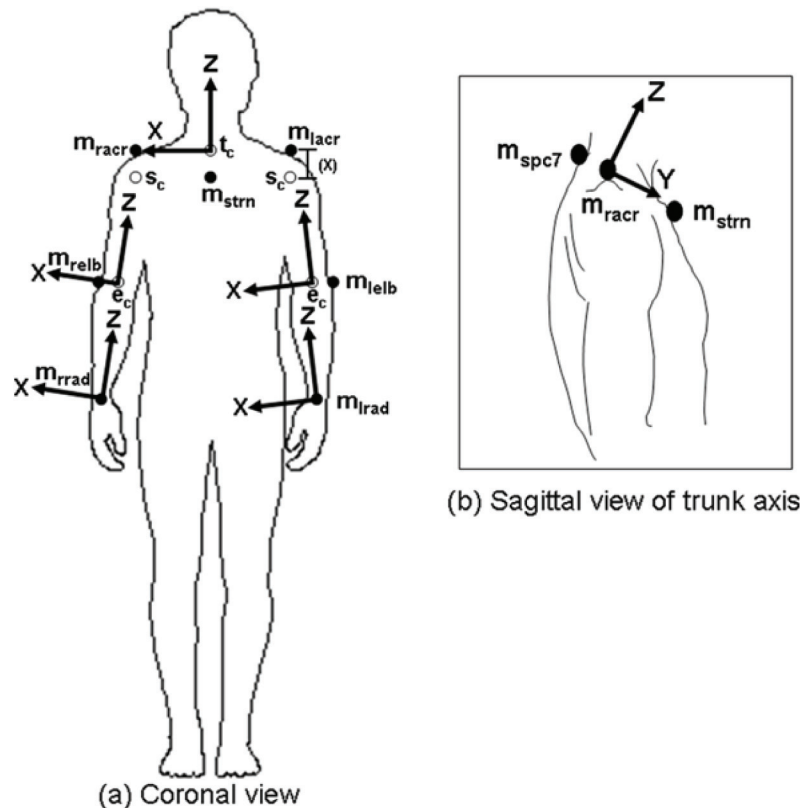
Hingtgen *et al.* developed an UE motion model for stroke rehabilitation assessment (Hingtgen *et al.*, 2006). It is composed of five segments: i) left lower arm, ii) left upper arm, iii) right lower arm, iv) right upper arm, and v) trunk (Figure 4). Fourteen markers were placed on bony landmarks. Four 3-DOF joints connect the rigid segments at the shoulder and elbow joints. Vicon BodyBuilder V3.55 (Oxford Metrics, Ltd., U.K.) was used for the development of the model. A series of Euler rotations sequenced Z-Y-X, expressed the joint angles of the distal segment with respect to the proximal segment, utilizing each segment’s local coordinate system. The trunk segment is described relative to the lab coordinate system. Validation was completed with linear static and dynamic testing with the Biodex System-3. The static and dynamic linear test results confirmed the system’s

accuracy and reliability in capturing 3-D upper extremity motion.

Upper extremity kinematic models are emerging in today’s research world. However, there are many different methods to model the upper extremity. Due to the variability and complexity of daily living tasks, the nature of free arm movements is different from the human gait, which is restricted, repeatable, or cyclic (Rau *et al.*, 2000). There are no standard activities for the arm. Many parameters need to be considered when developing an upper extremity model, such as: the global orientation; the type of motion system and hence the type of markers – either surface markers or electromagnetic sensors; the number of markers; how to model the joint centers including the degrees of freedom; and most importantly, the sequence of Euler angle rotations. Standardization of joint motions is very important for the enhancement of the study of biomechanical motion. Standardization of motion description is an aspired goal, since it will facilitate the exchange of data, and thus improve the interpretation of the results. With standardization, results from all types of motion-recording studies can be described by the same methodology. It would be necessary to choose the same set of bony landmarks for comparisons. In addition, proper definition of local coordinate systems and rotation sequence is needed to enhance the physical interpretation of rotation.

High joint forces during assistive device usage have been shown to lead to joint pain and approach levels of injury. Literature has shown that peak joint forces at the shoulder are directly correlated to device usage. These forces are also anticipated to be of concern at the wrist and elbow. Quantification of 3-D inverse dynamics and correlation between assistive device usage, functional outcomes, and pain is essential for improved care of children with severe orthopedic disabilities. The investigation of the joint demands placed on the UE may have significant impact on rehabilitation protocols and transitional care.

Figure 4. Local coordinate axes systems for the upper extremity model: (a) coronal view, and (b) sagittal view of trunk axis. Markers are shown as black circles and joint centers are shown as open circles. Axes follow the convention X: flexion/extension, Y: adduction/abduction, and Z: axial rotation. The distance ( $x$ ) was determined by measuring the circumference of the shoulder around the acromion and axilla. Source: Hingtgen *et al.*, 2006. © 2006, Elsevier - Used with permission.



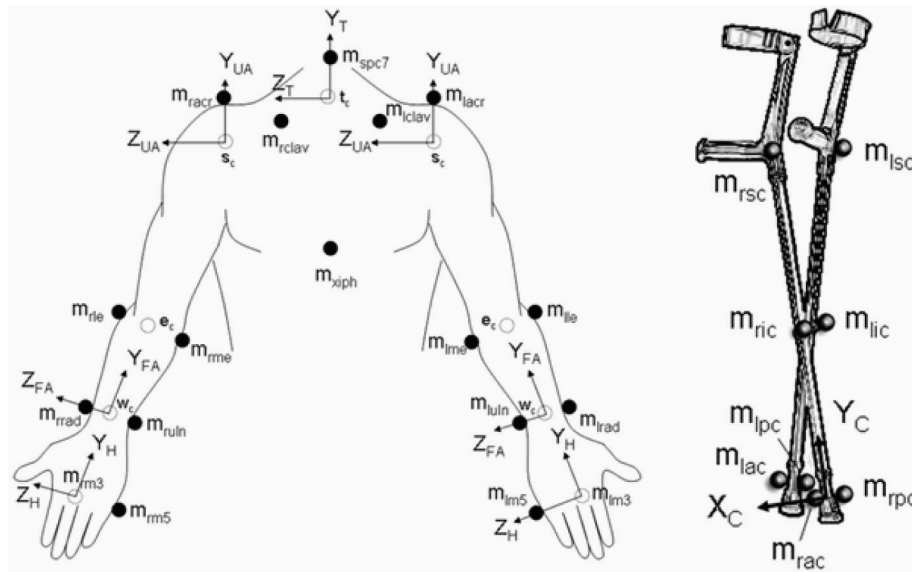
A prior study examined the UE kinetics in children with spastic diplegic CP using anterior and posterior walkers (Konop *et al.*, 2009c). Comparisons showed no significant differences in the kinetic joint parameters between walker types. With a larger sample size, more significant differences may be observed. The findings support the importance of continued efforts to quantify UE kinetics when designing or prescribing a walker, and can be used in formulating clinically relevant hypotheses in the future.

Our research group recently developed a UE pediatric model, to study reciprocal and swing-through gait patterns – Figure 5 (Slavens *et al.*, 2009; Slavens, Sturm, & Harris, 2010). To build

upon our group's construction of a validated UE kinematic model for adult rehabilitation (Hingtgen *et al.*, 2006), we began pilot work with biomechanical assessments of UE dynamics during Lofstrand crutch-assisted gait in nine children with MM. The mean peak joint forces were significantly different ( $p < 0.05$ ) at all joints between reciprocal and swing-through gait patterns – Figure 6 (Slavens *et al.*, 2009). Additional metrics, including force-time integral, rate of joint loading, peak moments, and the percent in the gait cycle where the peak moments occurred were also significantly different.

Newest efforts have investigated UE kinetics of children with cerebral palsy (CP), spinal cord injury (SCI), and osteogenesis imperfecta (OI)

Figure 5. Upper extremity model marker placement, joint centers, and segmental coordinate systems. Right-handed coordinate systems were constructed following the ISB convention with anatomical position being the neutral position (Wu et al., 2005). It follows that the X-axis is directed anteriorly (abduction/adduction axis), Y-axis is directed superiorly (internal/external rotation axis), and the Z-axis is directed laterally to the right (flexion/extension axis). Markers are shown as black circles and joint centers are shown as open circles. Source: Slavens et al., 2009. © 2009, Elsevier - Used with permission.



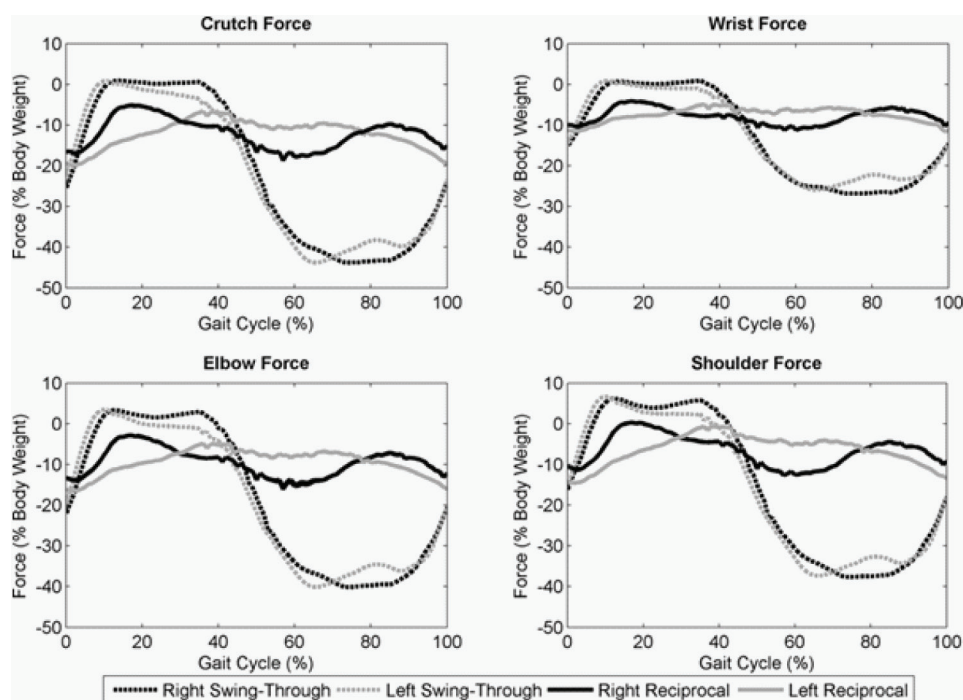
during crutch-assisted gait. Previous studies of UE kinetics during Lofstrand crutch-assisted gait have not included the involvement of cuff forces and moments. Accordingly, Bhagchandani and colleagues developed a novel instrumented Lofstrand crutch system with two six-axis dynamometers, which completely defined the UE kinematics and kinetics (Bhagchandani et al., 2010). The instrumented crutches were used with a validated ISB compliant kinematic model. The system was tested on children with CP, SCI, and OI. Evaluation of the UE dynamics of crutch users may ultimately help to reduce longer-term pathologies due to excessive loading or inappropriate gait patterns.

Our research group has also quantified wheelchair mobility in children with SCI. A novel 3-D biomechanical model of the upper extremities was developed and applied to 18 children with incomplete SCI. The UE motions of the trunk,

shoulders, elbows, and wrist were characterized during wheelchair mobility. Results may provide insight to be implemented in future kinetic studies of assistive mobility.

Analyses have confirmed that the UE inverse dynamics models are suitable for quantifying and distinguishing UE motion, forces, and moments during walker, crutch, and wheelchair mobility in children. We conclude that the 3-D dynamic and temporal-spatial data provided by the systems is useful for quantifying the metrics of interest in the proposed work. The proposed project results may show that UE joint demands directly relate to mobility devices. We also expect to find that joint demand patterns are repeatable, yet significantly distinct for each device. It is predicted that UE joint pain reduces function and mobility, and negatively impacts quality of life and first presents during early adulthood.

Figure 6. Mean joint forces for the right (black) and left (gray) crutches, wrists, elbows, and shoulders. Reciprocal gait (solid); swing-through gait (dashed). Superior force (+); inferior force (-). Source: Slavens et al., 2010. © 2010, Elsevier - Used with permission.



#### 7.8.4. Quantitative Functional Assessment

Complex diseases such as MM, SCI, CP, and OI often result in a reduction in functional ability. To quantify the reduction in functional ability and subsequent compensation methods, functional assessment tools are often applied.

In order to examine how joint stresses affect aspects of each participant's health and function, outcome measures from four recognized outcome domains—Impairment, Quality of Life, Participation, and Activity—are often used. *Impairment* measures may include the manual muscle test (MMT), range of motion, grip strength, and/or pain—Brief Pain Index or Visual Analog Scale. Other impairment measures are included in quantitative tests of strength, motion, and joint forces. *Quality of Life* measures include the World Health Organization Quality of Life Scale (WHOQOL),

Pediatric Outcomes Data Collection Instrument (PODCI), or the Pediatric Quality of Life Inventory (PEDS QL). The Short Form 36 (SF-36), or PODCI may measure participation. *Activity* (performance) may be measured through the Gross Motor Function Measure (GMFM), the Functional Mobility Scale (FMS), or the 6 Minute Walk Test (6 MWT).

#### 7.8.5. Mobility Devices

According to the latest NIDRR Mobility device report, there are an estimated 1.7 million wheelchair or scooter users; and 6.1 million users of walkers, crutches, canes, or other devices (Kaye, Kang, & LaPlante, 2000). Assistive mobility devices are typically used to aid ambulation. Three basic walking aid types are canes, crutches, and walkers. These devices are designed to support the body during ambulation by providing weight

transfer from the lower body to the upper body. This type of force transmission compensates for the lack of strength in the legs; however, it can lead to pain and pathology in the wrist, elbow, or shoulder joints, since the upper body is not designed for weight bearing. Previous studies have shown that long-term assistive device usage may lead to the development of pain and upper limb pathologies, including destructive shoulder arthropathy, coracoacromial pathology, degenerative arthritis of the shoulder and wrist, and carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) (Bateni & Maki, 2005; Collinger *et al.*, 2008; Kellner *et al.*, 1986; Klimaitis, Carroll, & Owen, 1988; Lal, 1998; Mercer *et al.*, 2006; Opila, Nicol, & Paul, 1987; Waring & Werner, 1989).

#### 7.8.5.1. Crutches

According to the recent mobility device report, there are an estimated 566,000 crutch users in the United States (Kaye, Kang, & LaPlante, 2000). Among these individuals, the leading causes of crutch usage include orthopedic impairments of the lower extremities, back, and neck. Many of these impairments lead to later serious conditions such as osteoarthritis and other inflammatory polyarthropathies.

Axillary crutches are usually prescribed for short-term or acute injuries. Axillary crutches fit under the axilla. They are designed with a top padded surface and a handle placed at the sides. Prolonged use of this type of crutch may lead to blood vessel or nerve damage. Lofstrand (forearm or Canadian) crutches, on the other hand, are typically prescribed to those in need of a long-term assistive device. Each Lofstrand crutch has a forearm cuff, as well as a handle for support. These crutches are often lighter in weight, have increased mobility, have less risk of tissue damage, and are more cosmetic than axillary crutches (Whittle, 2003). The vertical force is transmitted from the ground, through the shaft of the crutch, to the handle and hand interface.

Ambulatory ability is known to relate closely to quadriceps function (Schopler *et al.*, 1987). Studies have shown that approximately 50-60% of young adult patients ambulate in the household or community, with approximately 23% of these patients using an assistive device (Johnson *et al.*, 2007; Kolaski, 2006). During crutch walking, peak axial loads are substantial and reported to be 22% BW to 50% BW, where BW is the Body Weight (Bhagchandani *et al.*, 2010; Haubert *et al.*, 2006; Melis *et al.*, 1999; Slavens *et al.*, 2009; Slavens *et al.*, 2010; Waters *et al.*, 1994b). Haubert and colleagues reported the peak superior shoulder joint forces in 14 subjects (mean age of 37 years) to be 48.9 N, and have a loading rate of 311.6 N/s during crutch-assisted walking (Haubert *et al.*, 2006).

Forearm crutches are often prescribed to those with CP, SCI, MM, OI, and other orthopaedic impairments. However, mobility devices may place long-term crutch users at risk for development of upper limb pathologies. Current literature demonstrates that long-term crutch usage may result in upper limb pathologies, such as destructive shoulder arthropathy, degenerative arthritis of the shoulder and wrist, or carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) (Lal, 1998; Opila *et al.*, 1987). Repetitive impulse loading combined with prolonged wrist extension and radial deviation are proposed risk factors associated with the use of crutches (Sala *et al.*, 1998; Waring & Werner, 1989). Klimaitis and colleagues reported that bearing weight through the upper limbs may hasten the development of degenerative arthritis in the shoulder, possibly by contributing to the mechanical disruption of the rotator cuff (Klimaitis, Carroll, & Owen, 1988). Also, large superiorly directed weight-bearing forces may potentially threaten glenohumeral joint integrity as translation of the humeral head, and subsequent impingement of subacromial structures may occur if forces are not matched by an appropriate response of the rotator cuff and thoracohumeral depressor musculature (Newsam *et al.*, 2003; Sharkey & Marder, 1995). An association between the development of CTS and

the use of assistive devices by patients has also been described in the literature (Kellner *et al.*, 1986; Sala *et al.*, 1998; Waring & Werner, 1989). Clinically, patients using forearm crutches have reported hand pain and sensory disturbances; symptoms associated with CTS (Sala *et al.*, 1998).

### 7.8.5.2. Walkers

Walkers are widely employed to improve mobility for persons with balance and stability challenges, as well as lower limb impairments. The overall population of wheelchair and walker users doubled from 1980 to 1990 (Kaye *et al.*, 2000); there are more than 1.5 million walker users in the United States today (Bateni & Maki, 2005). Most walkers have adjustable handle height, and some have other adjustable parts. Posterior walkers are pulled behind and are widely prescribed. A walker allows a person to use his/her upper body to aid in the weight-bearing and stability aspects of ambulation, which his/her legs cannot fully provide (Mattsson & Andersson, 1997; Park, Park, & Kim, 2001). Today, most walkers that are prescribed for long-term usage are posterior walkers likely due to the perception that these walkers decrease forward trunk lean and provide a greater amount of energy efficiency (Levangie *et al.*, 1990; Logan, Byers-Hinkley, & Ciccone, 1990).

It is important to biomechanically quantify the joint forces and moments acting on the upper extremities during walking aid usage because of the altered quadrupedal gait patterns and increased magnitude and frequency of arm loads (Haubert *et al.*, 2006; Melis *et al.*, 1999; Requejo *et al.*, 2005). Previous studies, using advanced modeling techniques, have found peak vertical loads exerted on a walker average between 6% BW and 48% BW (Haubert *et al.*, 2006; Konop *et al.*, 2009a; Konop *et al.*, 2009b; Melis *et al.*, 1999; Waters *et al.*, 1994b). Joint load-related pathologies, including shoulder injury and arthritis later in life, are linked to the prolonged use of walking aids and wheelchairs (Bateni & Maki, 2005; Opila *et al.*, 1987).

### 7.8.5.3. Canes

Canes are the simplest form of assistive ambulatory devices. They are used to improve stability, generate a moment, and to redistribute or reduce limb loading (Whittle, 2003). Canes typically have a single shaft with a handle to transmit forces from the ground to the upper limb. The point of contact occurs at the hand, with typically small loads. Force transmission occurs along the length of the cane. Canes can be used unilaterally or bilaterally, depending on the amount of support needed by the user. With a single cane, the cane is typically advanced forward during the stance phase of the strongest leg. When two canes are used, they are typically advanced forward separately, during double limb support, providing maximum stability (Whittle, 2003). A cane may also be used to generate a moment, so as to reduce the amount of force the contralateral hip must generate to keep the pelvis balanced. The cane would be placed on the opposite side of the weak or painful hip. Canes may also be used to reduce limb loading in an affected leg. For this type of application, the cane is usually placed on the affected side close to the foot; thus, making it easier to transfer loads from the affected leg to the cane. The cane will, therefore, be advanced forward in synchrony with the affected leg during the swing phase. This mechanism is often useful for those with joint pain.

### 7.8.5.4. Wheelchairs

According to the Disability Statistics Abstract by the National Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR), there are approximately 1.6 million Americans living outside of institutions using wheelchairs (Kaye, Kang, & LaPlante, 2002). The majority (1.5 million) of these people use manual wheelchairs.

A wheelchair is a mobility orthosis offering additional support to the body for persons with a disability (Bergen, 1994). It can provide biomechanical strength to reduce or alter forces that

may further weaken the body. The wheelchair provides the user with maximum functional mobility along with support. Best designs are cosmetic, strong, and lightweight, and allow for custom modifications. The prescriptive wheelchair includes a postural support system and mobility base (Bergen, 1994). The components should be adjusted to the user for maximal manual function, and optimization of biomechanics for wheelchair propulsion and transfers. A biomechanical assessment of mobility, function, medical, and surgical history is an important aspect for the therapist to assess. Physical assessment should be performed to provide insight to the user's biomechanics, such as range of motion, movement of the body, and spinal alignment.

Performance of the wheelchair is directly related to the user's position in the wheelchair. This includes the mass distribution with respect to the wheel axis and the positions of the user's shoulder axis relative to the handrim. Ergonomic factors such as, rolling resistance, downhill turning tendency, yaw and pitch axis control, propulsion efficiency, static stability, and weight and portability influence wheelchair performance (Brubaker, 1990).

The biomechanics of wheelchair propulsion depends on the user's characteristics such as anthropometry, physiology, strength, range of motion, and mobility goals and the wheelchair's mass, dimensions, and additional features (Cooper, 1995). Wheelchair mobility should be optimized for comfort, safety, and performance. Wheelchair efficiency is closely related to the user's physiology, biomechanics of the stroke, and appropriateness of the wheelchair design to the user. Wheelchair propulsion has been shown to range from approximately 10% gross mechanical efficiency up to 30% when fully optimized for performance (Cooper, 1995). Kinematics and kinetics of wheelchair mobility may be quantified using advanced motion analysis techniques and instrumented hardware such as the SMARTwheel™, which can acquire pushrim forces and moments

(Cooper, 1995). Upper extremity joint forces and moments can thus be determined. Wheelchair use has shown high loading, where the highest forces have been reported at the shoulder joint ranging from 7% BW (0.9 m/s) to 11% BW (1.8 m/s) (Collinger *et al.*, 2008; Mercer *et al.*, 2006). Estimates of shoulder pain among manual wheelchair users with paraplegia range from 30% to 73% (Ballinger, Rintala, & Hart, 2000; Collinger *et al.*, 2008; Pentland & Twomey, 1991). Further analyses may explain the underlying biomechanics as it relates to mobility and orthopaedic injury from long-term wheelchair usage.

### 7.8.6. Assistive Technology

Assistive technologies encompass numerous devices designed to augment and assist those with disabilities. Rehabilitation engineering applications are used for the development of assistive technologies. Public Law 100-407 defines assistive technology as “*any item, piece of equipment or product system whether acquire commercially off the shelf, modified, or customized that is used to increase or improve functional capabilities of individuals with disabilities.*” It can include devices, strategies, or services to help someone increase activity performance.

Major categories of assistive technologies include prosthetics and orthotics, those for visual impairment, auditory impairments, tactile impairments, alternative and augmentative communication devices, manipulation and mobility aids, and recreational assistive devices.

Principles have been established to help match appropriate assistive technology to the person to enhance usability and acceptance (Enderle, Bronzino, & Blanchard, 2005). These principles are:

1. The user's goals, needs, and tasks must be clearly defined, listed and incorporated as early as possible in the intervention process.

2. Involvement of rehabilitation professionals with differing skills and know-how will maximize the probability for a successful outcome.
3. The user's preferences, cognitive and physical abilities and limitations, living situation, tolerance for technology, and future changes must be thoroughly assessed, analyzed, and quantified.
4. Careful and thorough consideration of available technology to meet the user's needs must be carried out to avoid overlooking potentially useful solutions.
5. The user's preferences and choices must be considered in the selection of the assistive technology device.
6. The assistive technology device must be customized and installed in the location and setting where it will be primarily used.
7. Not only must the users be trained to use the assistive device, but also the attendant or family members must be made aware of the device's intended purpose, benefits, and limitations.
8. Follow-up, readjustments, and reassessments of the user's usage patterns and needs are necessary at periodic intervals.

### 7.8.7. Biomechanics of Trauma

#### 7.8.7.1. Head and Neck Injuries

Injuries to the head may occur to the brain, skull, or scalp. Injury may occur as a laceration, abrasion, fracture, or other form of tissue disruption (Newman, 2002). These types of injuries typically occur due to excessive movement of part of the head relative to another. Acceleration, in terms of gravity units (g's), is used to measure movement.

Translational and rotational motions are key components of head injury (Newman, 2002). *Translation* is linear movement, without rotation. It is described by displacement, velocity, and acceleration. *Rotational motion* is that motion whereby

the angular orientation of an object changes. Rotation is described by angular displacement, angular velocity, and angular acceleration.

The body can be further characterized by injury tolerances. For the head, the tolerance level for internal injury depends on the limitation of the g-level in the anterior-posterior direction. A value of 80g over a time period greater than 3 ms should not be exceeded (Seiffert & Wech, 2007).

The head injury criterion (HIC) was developed to describe the g-level time dependency and injury severity. The HIC is computed in an iterative manner so that the measured acceleration time function is maximum.

$$HIC_{36} = \left[ \frac{1}{(t_2 - t_1)} \int_{t_1}^{t_2} a_r dt \right]^{2.5} (t_2 - t_1);$$

where  $t$  is time in seconds,  $a_r$  is the resultant acceleration measured in the head, and  $t_1$  and  $t_2$  are arbitrary time points. The maximum of 1000 is the guideline not to be exceeded for a unidirectional acceleration measurement. The limit of 1000 is used on a worldwide basis for vehicle accident simulations. HIC does not account for rotational influence.

Criteria for the basic requirement in rule-making are defined in FMVSS 208 (U.S Department of Transportation), the EEC directive for frontal impacts (European Parliament and Council on the protection of occupants of motor vehicles in the event of a *frontal impact* and amending Directive 70/156/EEC), and the EEC directive for lateral impact (European Parliament and Council on the protection of occupants of motor vehicles in the event of *lateral impacts* and amending Directive 70/156/EEC). Head protection criteria, HIC, should not exceed 1000. It is computed in the following way:

- For any two points in time,  $t_1$  and  $t_2$ , during the impact event separated by not more than a 36-ms time interval, and where

$t_1$  is less than  $t_2$ , the head injury criterion (HIC36) shall be computed using the resultant head acceleration at the center of gravity of the dummy head,  $a_r$ , expressed as a multiple of g.

- The maximum calculated HIC36 value should not exceed 1000.

The severity of injury is quite high for neck trauma, possibly resulting in permanent paralysis. Fortunately, injury statistics show only 2% to 4% of serious trauma to the neck (McElhaney *et al.*, 2002). Neck trauma may result from common activities such as football, diving, skilling, or gymnastics. Neck injury is characterized by several criteria defined herein (Seiffert & Wech, 2007):

- The shear force ( $F_y$ ), axial force ( $F_z$ ), and bending moment ( $M_y$ ), should be measured by the dummy upper neck load cell for the duration of the crash event.
- The axial force ( $F_z$ ) during the event can be in tension or compression. The occipital condyle bending moment ( $M_{ocy}$ ) can be in flexion or extension. This allows four possible  $N_{ij}$  loading conditions: tension-extension ( $N_{te}$ ), tension-flexion ( $N_{tf}$ ), compression-extension ( $N_{ce}$ ), or compression-flexion ( $N_{cf}$ ).
- Critical values for  $F_{zc}$  and  $M_{yc}$  for the  $N_{ij}$  equation are  $F_{zc} = 6806$  N for  $F_z$  in tension;  $F_{zc} = 6160$  N for  $F_z$  in compression;  $M_{yc} = 310$  Nm when there is a flexion moment at the occipital condyle;  $M_{yc} = 135$  Nm when the occipital condyle has an extension moment.
- Only one of the four loading conditions occurs at any point in time. The  $N_{ij}$  value at the point for the specific loading condition can be computed according to 
$$N_{ij} = \left( F_z / F_{zc} \right) + \left( M_{ocy} / M_{yc} \right).$$
- The  $N_{ij}$  value shall not exceed 1 at any time.

- Peak tension force,  $F_z$ , shall not exceed 4170 N at any time.
- Peak compression force ( $F_z$ ), shall not exceed 4000 N at any time.

These criteria have been used for the development of protection devices against trauma for the neck.

### 7.8.7.2 Chest and Abdomen Injuries

Thoracic and abdomen injury often occur during motor vehicle accidents. Impact occurs with the steering wheel, instrument panel, restraints, and/or airbags (Cavanaugh, 2002). Frontal and side impacts are the most common. Several limits were developed as the criteria for the chest and abdomen. Resultant chest acceleration should be less than 60 g (> 3 ms). The Thoracic Trauma Index (TTI) was developed for two-door and four-door vehicles, with < 85 g, and < 90g, respectively. The TTI is equal to 0.5 multiplied by the sum of  $RIB_y$  and  $T12_y$ ; where,  $RIB_y$  is the maximum absolute value of lateral acceleration in g's of the fourth or eighth rib on the struck side, and  $T12_y$  is the maximum absolute value of lateral acceleration in g's of the twelfth thoracic vertebra after filtering of the acceleration signal (Cavanaugh, 2002; Seiffert & Wech, 2007). Force of the chest should not exceed 8000 kN.

The resultant acceleration of the pelvis should be less than 130 g. The force of the abdomen and symphysis should be less than 2.5 kN and 10 kN, respectively.

## 7.9. OCCUPATIONAL BIOMECHANICS

### 7.9.1. Injury Mechanics

Biomechanics research had led the way to defining load limitations on humans. Colonel John Stapp was a pioneer in establishing human impact

tolerance levels. Protection criteria have been developed which serve as limits for the human body.

Injury tolerance limits serve as criterion to describe fractures, injuries of organs, and other human body injuries. Classifications of single or total injuries are summarized by the Abbreviated Injury Scale (AIS) or Overall Abbreviated Injury Scale (OAIS). The AIS scale is described through a severity code: 0 is no injury, 1 is minor, 2 is moderate, 3 is serious, 4 is severe, 5 is critical, 6 is maximum injury (virtually unsurvivable), and 9 is unknown (Abbreviated Injury Scale-1990 revision, 1990). Limits of injury level depend on variables such as age, gender, anthropometrics, and mass.

### 7.9.2. NIOSH Standards

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), a division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention is the federal agency responsible for making recommendations on the prevention of work-related injury and illness. NIOSH conducts and disseminates occupational safety and health information nationally and internationally for the well being of workers. NIOSH focuses on the prevention of work-related illness, injury, disability, and death and provides recommendations for improving workplace safety (<http://www.cdc.gov/niosh>).

NIOSH has set forth several research initiatives centering around workplace safety and health including: Prevention through Design, WorkLife Initiative, and the Health Hazard Evaluation Program. These programs are apt to help prevent injury in the workplace.

In regard to musculoskeletal disorders, NIOSH has reported evidence for work-related injuries of the shoulder, elbow, hand, and wrist. There have been positive associations identified between highly repetitive work and shoulder musculoskeletal disorders (NIOSH, 1997b). It has been shown that repeated or sustained shoulder postures with greater than 60° of flexion or abduction are cor-

related with shoulder musculoskeletal disorders (NIOSH, 1997b). Shoulder pain and shoulder tendinitis have been documented.

An association between highly repetitive work and carpal tunnel syndrome (CTS) has also been identified (NIOSH, 1997a). The relationship between forceful work and CTS has also been recognized, as well as an association between hand/wrist vibration and CTS. Strong evidence exists between a combination of risk factors, such as force and repetition, force and posture, and CTS (NIOSH, 1997a). Preventative measures can be developed and implemented based on this knowledge.

### 7.10. THE FUTURE OF BIOMECHANICS

The future of biomechanics will be highly dependent on interdisciplinary collaborations with basic sciences and engineering. Emerging technologies will be integrated to develop more advanced biomechanical methods and theories. These could include technologies to reduce time, distance, location, and communication limits that are currently in place. More advanced certification of engineers, training, and education will be needed. Advances in biomechanical subdisciplines and related engineering fields will be developed. New research areas such as those presented here on musculoskeletal modeling, micro-FEM, upper extremity and hand biomechanics are gaining popularity. Clinical implementation of advanced technologies such as gait-aided surgeries, as well as biomechanically-guided robotic surgeries may develop from advanced musculoskeletal and dynamics models. Surgical simulation may also exist based on novel soft tissue and musculoskeletal computer modeling techniques. Applications to a variety of new diseases and cancers are forthcoming. Future research opportunities exist in biomechanics areas related to biomedical imaging, tissue engineering, molecular engineering,

and nanotechnologies. Further development of clinical engineering for evidence-based research will be needed for the advancement of medicine. Biomechanical technology will also need to be developed for transfer to those with limited resources.

### 7.11. PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

Several professional organizations and societies specialize in biomechanics. A subset of the most common biomechanics organizations is listed herein. Other societies exist based on specific disciplines within biomechanics and their mission. Additional resources can be found online.

- Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers - Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (IEEE EMBS) <http://www.embs.org> <http://www.ieee.org>
- Gait and Clinical Movement Analysis Society (GCMAS) <http://www.gcmas.org/>
- European Society of Movement Analysis for Adults and Children (ESMAC) <http://www.esmac.org/>
- Rehabilitation Engineering and Assistive Technology Society of North America (RESNA) <http://resna.org/>
- International Society of Biomechanics (ISB) <http://isbweb.org/>
- American Society of Biomechanics (ASB) <http://www.asbweb.org/>
- Orthopaedic Research Society (ORS) <http://www.ors.org/>
- American Society of Mechanical Engineers - Summer Bioengineering Conference (ASME SBC) <http://www.asme.org/>
- Rocky Mountain Bioengineering Society (RMBS) <http://www.rmbs.org/>
- American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE) <http://www.aimbe.org/>

- Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES) <http://www.bmes.org/>
- International Federation for Medical and Biological Engineering (IFMBE) <http://www.ifmbe.org/>

Additional resources for reading and references for biomechanics topics can be found in the following journals and forums. Due to the vast field of Biomechanics, this is an abbreviated list.

- IEEE Transactions on Neural Systems and Rehabilitation Engineering
- Gait and Posture
- Journal of Biomechanics
- Assistive Technology
- Clinical Biomechanics
- Journal of Bone and Joint Surgery
- Journal of Orthopaedic Research
- Journal of Applied Biomechanics
- Biomch-L Forum <http://biomch-l.isbweb.org/forum.php>

### 7.12. CHAPTER SUMMARY

This chapter presented an overview of several disciplines of Biomechanics. Upper and lower extremity dynamics of human motion analysis were described. Rehabilitation engineering with regard to assistive mobility devices and postural stability highlighted the importance of technology for disability. Head, neck, chest, and abdomen trauma biomechanics gave insight to human limits and tolerance for injury. Safety in the workplace was discussed as the field of occupational biomechanics. Modeling methodologies for musculoskeletal system using finite element analysis and other software packages demonstrated the complexity in this subdiscipline. Since Biomechanics is a vast field, many other subdisciplines exist or are currently being developed. Readers are advised to refer to the aforementioned professional societies and organizations for further information.

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## ENDNOTE

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