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Neuromuscular Biomechanics

The use of computational physics, neuroscience, and robotics to analyze muscle form and function while study animal movements and design medical technologies.



#### Musculoskeletal simulation

#### Create dynamic simulations of movement

- Simulation of patient with disorders → (pre surgical tool to understand and plan surgical procedure)
- No creation of new motions

#### From physical human to virtual human



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# Acquire data

#### Anatomical B 3D

### Motion capture

- Input data that describe the motion to be simulated/analyzed
- Common acquired data
  - Motion capture from a marker model
  - Force plates (ground reaction force, GRF)
  - Electromyography (EMG)

# **Motion tracking**

### Marker Model

- Track motions (translations, rotations)
- Usually two marker data set is used
  - Model markers
    - Scaling and position the model in the simulation tool
  - Motion markers
    - Used to drive the simulation
- Different purpose
  - Medical, capture a **correct** motions for medical purpose
  - Games/cinema. Created to make fast motions that humans believe to be real

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# **Motion tracking**

#### Examples of marker model



#### 1. ASIS

- 2. Sacrum
- 3. Iliac crest
- 4. Greater trochanter
- 5. Thigh
- 6. Lateral knee
- 7. Medial knee
- 8. Shank
- 9. Lateral ankle
- 10. Medial ankle
- 11. Heel
- 12. 1<sup>st</sup> metatarsal head
- 13. 5<sup>th</sup> metatarsal head



### **Motion tracking**



#### Motion capture output



#### Force plates

- Used to acquire ground reaction force (GRF)
- User steps on the plate





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#### Force in x,y,z direction





#### Moment in x,y,z





#### Center of pressure, 2D point



### Electromyography

- Record activity of muscle
- Sensors placed on the skin



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Tissue data





#### Tissue data

		Ins.	# Elem.	S, BC or VP	PCSA (cm <sup>2</sup> )	$L_{opt}$ (cm)	$L_{\text{ten}}$ (cm)	Mass (g)	Pen. ang. (°)
Add. brev. (prox.)	Surf.	Line (3)	6	S	3.8	9.5	0	38.3	0
Add. brev. (mid)				S	3.5	10.4	0	38.3	0
Add. brev. (dist)				S	3.2	11.2	0	38.3	0
Add. long.	Line (3)	Line (3)	6	S	15.1	10.6	0	168.5	0
Add. magn. (dist.)	Point	Line (2)	3	S	26.5	10.8	4.2	302.0	0
Add. magn. (mid.)	Surf.	Line (3)	6	S	22.1	10.4	0	243.0	0
Add. magn. (prox.)	Line (1)	Line (1)	4	S	5.0	10.7	0	56.0	0
Bic. fem. CL	Point	Point	1	S	27.2	8.5	13.0	245.0	30
Bic. fem. CB	Line (3)	Point	3	S	11.8	9.1	3.1	114.0	0
Ext. dig. long.	Line (2)	Point	3	VP	5.4	6.0	30.1	34.1	8
Ext. hal. long.	Line (2)	Point	3	VP	6.1	6.0	17.8	38.3	14
Flex. dig. long.	Surf.	Point	3	VP	6.6	3.8	16.6	26.7	28
Flex. hal. long.	Surf.	Point	3	VP	31.1	2.6	23.4	83.7	30
Gastrocn. (lat.)	Point	Point	1	BC	24.0	5.7	23.4	144.0	25
Gastrocn. (med.)	Point	Point	1	BC	43.8	6.0	21.2	278.0	11
Gemellus (inf.)	Point	Point	1	S	4.1	3.4	0	15.0	0
Gemellus (sup.)	Point	Point	1	S	4.1	3.4	0	15.0	0
Glut. max. (sup.)	Surf.	Surf.	6	S	49.7	12.0	0	629.0	0
Glut. max. (inf.)	Surf.	Line (2)	6	S	22.5	15.1	0	360.0	0
Glut. med. (ant.)	Surf.	Surf.	6	S	37.9	3.8	0	152.5	0
Glut. med. (post.)	Surf.	Surf.	6	S	60.8	4.5	3.0	287.0	16
Glut. min. (lat.)	Surf.	Point	3	S	10.0	2.8	7.3	29.1	0
Glut. min. (mid.)				S	8.1	3.4	7.3	29.1	0
Glut. min. (med.)				S	7.4	3.7	7.3	29.1	0
Gracilis	Line (1)	Point	2	VP	4.9	18.1	14.0	92.9	0
Iliacus (lat.)	Surf.	Point	3	BC	6.6	10.3	11.3	71.5	26
Iliacus (mid.)	Surf.	Point	3	BC	13.0	5.2	11.3	71.5	0

Klein Horsman et al, Morphological muscle and joint parameters for musculoskeletal modelling of the lower extremity, Clinical Biomechanics 22 (2007) 239–247

#### From physical human to virtual human



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#### OpenSim

- Open source
- "free"
  - Software (GUI)
  - Library
  - Source code (ANSI C++, Gui Java)
- Module design
  - Exchange, share modules without alter or compile the source code
- https://simtk.org/home/opensim



#### **Experimental kinematics**



Anatomical

Human 100

# Scale (initialization)

#### Initialization

#### Scale Generic Simulation Model

- Markers scale the generic simulation model to match the motion model
- Scaling of individual bones
- Mass scaling
- Scaling of muscle fiber length, tendon slack length of the muscle-tendon actuators

#### Inverted Kinematic initialization

• Align the generic simulation model markers so they match the markers in the first frame of the motion capture data



### Initialization







Anatomical

Human



#### Inverse Kinematic phase

#### In each motion capture frame For every joint joint angels and translations are solved so the generic model markers match the motion capture markers.

Squared Error = 
$$\sum_{i=1}^{\text{markers}} w_i \left( \overrightarrow{x}_i^{\text{subject}} - \overrightarrow{x}_i^{\text{model}} \right)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{\text{joint angles}} \omega_j \left( \theta_j^{\text{subject}} - \theta_j^{\text{model}} \right)^2$$

### **Inverse Kinematics**







- Errors in experimental kinematics and reaction forces => errors in the kinematic solution
- Solution
  - Apply additional residual forces and moments so the model follow the same motion as the subject
- New Problem
  - Adding residual forces will not give a correct solution



Anatomical

Human 100

# **Residual reduction algorithm**

#### Solution

- Newton's second law links the measured ground
- reaction force and gravitational acceleration to the accelerations of the body segments

$$\vec{F}_{\text{external}} = \sum_{i=1}^{\text{segments}} m_i \vec{a}_i - \vec{F}_{\text{residual}}$$

Should be zero

 Problem becomes to alter the inverted kinematic solution and trunk mass center to minimize Fresidual

### **Residual reduction algorithm**







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Human 100

# **Computed Muscle Control**



#### From motion to muscle forces

- Calculate muscle excitations to produce a muscle-driven simulation of the motion capture movement
  - Performed using a static optimization criterion to distribute forces across synergistic muscles and proportional-derivative control to generate a forward dynamic simulation

### **Computed Muscle Control**





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Human 1000



Generation of motion from muscle forces

- Ground reaction force
- Compute muscle function (or EMG)
  - Generate motion from, which follow the inverted kinematic simulation.
- Using a full state equations representing of the activation and contraction dynamics of the muscles

$$\dot{l}_m = f_v^{-1}(l_m, l_{\mathrm{mt}}, a)$$



Anatomical

Human 1000



#### What to visualize?

- Simulation performed in 3D and time
- Can be 100s of variables, depending on model and methods, some with direct medical connection, some used to solve equations/mechanics/solvers
- Visualization problem.
  What is useful and what is "pretty picture syndrome"



#### Visualize Muscle force generated by the right gastrocnemius







### Thank You

### **Questions?**

