





# MUSCULOSKELETAL SIMULATIONS IN CROSS-COUNTRY SIT-SKIING

PhD Marie Lund Ohlsson, Swedish Winter Sports Research Centre Mid Sweden University 2018-09-27

PhD thesis: http://www.diva-portal.org/smash/get/diva2:1181248/FULLTEXT01.pdf

Lund Ohlsson, Marie, Jonas Danvind, and L. Joakim Holmberg. "Shoulder and Lower Back Joint Reaction Forces in Seated Double Poling." *Journal of applied biomechanics* (2018): 1-27.

Marie.Ohlsson@miun.se





### **Classification in parasports**

 Classification provides a structure for competition and is performed to ensure that an athlete's impairment is relevant to sport performance and that all athletes compete equitably.

(IPC Classification code, 2007)

 Classification has a large impact on creating fair competitions and therefore it is important that classification groups athletes into different classes depending on how their impairment affects their sport performance (Tweedy, Beckman, & Connick, 2014; Tweedy & Vanlandewijck, 2011).

Musculoskeletal simulations can answer where in the body muscle work is performed and thereby increase understanding of how impairment impact sports performance



### Lower back pain and injuries

High prevalence in able-bodied cross-country skiing

(Bahr et al., 2004), (Bergstrøm et al., 2004)

General risk factors

Sitting (Andersson et al., 1975) High peak anterior shear force, high compression over time (Norman et al., 1998) Spinal flexion results in high shear force (McGill et al., 2000)



### Lower back pain (LBP) and injuries

High prevalence in able-bodied cross-country skiing

(Bahr et al., 2004), (Bergstrøm et al., 2004)

 Hypothesized risk in Cross-Country sit-skiing Sitting

High ROM in spine flexion- extension

Many repetitions (~600 hours training yearly)

• Injury rates in Cross-Country sit-skiing ?





### Shoulder pain and injuries

Is a large risk for people using wheel-chair

Sub-acromion impingement syndrome common

(Bayley et al., 1987)

A crouched sitting posture, with backward tilt of pelvis and flexion of the spine can increase the risk of sub- acromion impingement

(Samuelsson et al., 2004)







### **Comparative study – two different sitting positions**







### **Comparative study – two different sitting positions**







### **Comparative study – two different sitting positions**







#### Aims

- Explore the difference between sitting position KH and KL
  - Performance
  - Spinal flexion
  - Muscular power
  - Joint reactions in the lumbar spine
  - Joint reaction in the shoulder





### **Methods**

### **Data collection**



5 able-bodied female participants national class cross-country skiers (62.6±8.1kg,1.67±0.05m)

Ergometer

Submaximal incremental test (4-7 x 3min)

37W : [B-La<sup>-</sup>] ~4mmol/l

Maximal time-trial 3 min (MAX)

4 cycles analysed



### **Methods**

### Musculoskeletal simulations using the Anybody Modelling System

 Inverse dynamics kinematic data (Qualisys AB, Sweden) and pole forces (Biovision, Wehrheim, Germany)







### Modelling

- Full body model (AnyBody Managed Model Repository v.1.6.3, www.anybodytech.com)
- Scaling LengthMassFat
- Simple force muscle model
- Lumbar spine, 5 vertebrae, spherical joints (De Zee et al., 2007)
- Lumbar spine rhythm
- Validation of lumbar spine forces (Bassini et al. 2017)
- The glenohumeral joint (shoulder) forces (Carbes S. Anyscript Wiki. 2011.)





## Shoulder

- 118 muscle fascicles on each side
- Wrapping of muscles by contact mechanics

#### • Contact criterion in the GH joint Veeger et al. 1991: J. Biomech. 24, 615-29 Van der Helm 1994: J. Biomech. 27, 551-69 Veeger et al. 1997: J. Biomech. 30, 647-52



TS Scapula thoracic gliding plane, ellipsoid Al Scapula thoracic gliding plane, ellipsoid









#### Modelling and simulation

- Connection body model and sit-ski
  - Hard constraints (no motion allowed)
  - Soft contraints (motion allowed, grey cylinders)



• Muscle recruitment criteria

$$G(f_m) = \sum_{i=1}^{n_m} (f_{m,i})^5$$



### **Muscular power**

• Muscular metabolic power

$$mMP_{i} = \begin{cases} f_{i} \cdot v_{i} / 1.25 & \text{if } v_{i} > 0\\ -f_{i} \cdot v_{i} / 0.25 & \text{if } v_{i} < 0 \end{cases}$$

 $v_i$  is the contraction velocity

$$\mathrm{mMP_{tot}} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} \int_{0}^{Cycle\ time} \mathrm{mMP_{i}}\ dt}{Cycle\ time}$$

*n* is the number of muscles



#### **Results**



**KH** - larger performance (mean power output in MAX / body weight)







#### **Results – Kinematics, Kinetics**

Knees high (KH): Larger ROM and flexion of spine

Larger ROM and flexion of hip

Axial pole forces smaller peak in 37W no difference in MAX









#### **Results**



Significant difference marked (\*) and tendency of difference ( $0.05 \le p < 0.10$ ) marked (‡). Error bars shows standard deviation.







### **Results- Muscular metabolic power**



Significant difference marked (\*) and tendency of difference  $(0.05 \le p < 0.10)$  marked (†). Error bars shows standard deviation.



### Summing up

KH

- Higher performance
- larger spinal flexion
- higher L4-L5 shear force
- higher L4-L5 compression force
- Relatively larger involvement of hips-legs and spine muscles





### Summing up

KL

- Larger shoulder joint reactions
- Lower performance
- Larger arm muscle power

KL KH

Limitations:

- able-bodied participants
- low number of participants



### Conclusion

- KH with larger flexion of spine might indicate higher risk of lower back pain/injury
- Larger shoulder reactions when shoulder muscle power was larger (KL)
- Most muscle metabolic power was produced in the arms for both positions
  - KH was relatively more driven by spine and hip-leg muscles (useful for classification development?)

KL KH



# Thank you!







Rolf & Gunilla Enström Foundation





Mittuniversitetet

Marie.Ohlsson@miun.se