#### Modeling Human-Exoskeleton Interaction with AnyBody Prof. John Rasmussen



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Submit questions and comments via the Questions panel.

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#### **Outline**:

- Introduction
- Presentation
- Final words
- Questions and answers

Host



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#### **AnyBody Modeling System**

- Simulations of Musculoskeletal systems
  - Multibody kinematic and dynamic analyses
- AnyBody Managed Model Repository
  - Applications
  - Open Body Models
- Special simulation features
  - Man-machine interaction simulation
  - Reaction force prediction
  - Imaging  $\rightarrow$  Patient-specific anatomy



Rasmussen et. al. (2011), ORS Annual Meeting



#### **Musculoskeletal Simulation**





#### **Simulation Work flow**





# Modeling Human-Exoskeleton Interaction with AnyBody

- 1. The exoskeleton design phases
- 2. Examples
- 3. Conclusions



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### The Exoskeleton Design Phases

- 1) Baseline: Analysis of the working situation
- 2) Conceptual: Assessing influence of assistance
- 3) Detailed design





# 1. Analysis of the working situation

Basic information about the working process is necessary for the conceptual design.

- Which time frames or postures of the working process are strenous or injury-prone?
- Which parts of the body are highly loaded?
  - Performance bottlenecks
  - Injury risks

Baseline analysis with no exoskeleton. Used for subsequent comparison.





### Motion for the Baseline Model











movakd

ALSTOM

# **Conclusions on baseline model**

- Full or estimated information about the motion of all body parts, joint angles, etc.
- All joint forces including critical points like the spine for assessment of injury risks.
- Muscle exertion levels for all body parts for identification of strength bottlenecks.
- Metabolism for single muscles and the entire muscle system.



# 2. Pre-prototyping

We are not designing an exoskeleton just yet. The aim of this phase is to

- Add abstract forces and moments to body parts and joints
- Evaluate their effect on injury risks and performance bottlenecks
  - Highly loaded joints
  - Highly loaded muscles
- Identify clever combinations of moments and forces that have the best effect
- Identify possible negative side effects.





### Eample: Metabolic power

(Shourijeh et al., WeRob 2016)

• If we only had **ONE** spring, which leg joint should it assist?

Case 1 – Ankle spring only

KANKLE

 $K_{KNEE}$ Case 2 – Knee spring only

 $T_{motor} = -K.(\theta - \theta_{ref})$ 

Case 3 – Hip flexion spring only





# **Case 1: Finding** *KANKLE*

- Vary *K<sub>ANKLE</sub>* 
  - $-300 \rightarrow 300 \text{ Nm/rad}$
  - Steps of 50 Nm/rad
- For each  $K_{ANKLE}$ 
  - Repeat Inverse Dynamics
  - Calculate Metabolic Energy Rate over entire task
  - Parametric study
- Find value with least energy expenditure





## **Case 2: Finding** *K*<sub>*KNEE*</sub>

• Parametric study for knee

#### Optimal $K_{KNEE} = 50 Nm/rad$





### **Case 3: Finding** *K*<sub>*HIP*</sub>

• Parametric study for hip

#### Optimal $K_{HIP} = 100 Nm/rad$





### **3. Detailed Design**

Getting designed parts into AnyBody:

• Solidworks2AnyBody plugin







# Detailed Design Analysis objectives

#### **Kinematics**

- Kinematic compatibility between exo and human
- Movement of the exo and collisions with the human body
- Actuator range-of-motion



#### Kinetics

- Contact forces between exoskeleton and human
- Power consumption and peak power for actuators
- Peak forces/moments of actuators
- Metabolic power and energy consumption



### **Kinematic Compatibility**



#### AXO-SUIT project ( <u>www.axo-suit.eu</u> )

- The EXO and the human body are parallel systems of kinematic constraints.
- When they get connected, they may not be compatible.
- Compatibility is complicated because human kinematics is complex.
- Incompatibility can lead to locking, chafing and unintentional joint loads.

## **Contact forces and straps**

- Any sort of assistive force or moments lead to contact forces with the body.
- Their behavior is complex because they depend on the exo design as well as the human behavior.
- Biomechanical simulation is probably the only way to assess them without building and testing prototypes.
- AnyBody allows for unilateral contact models.



### **Contact models**

- Straps, pressure pads etc. can be modelled with unilateral contact elements.
- This ensures change of contact between opposite sides of limbs with changing forces.
- Contact elements can contain Coulomb friction.



### Conclusions

- Human-exo interaction is complex.
- Exoskeletons can enhance safety and performance.
- They can also cause discomfort, pain and injury.
- Musculoskeletal simulation can assist in several stages of exoskeleton design.

Exoskeleton for wire-winding: www.movaid.edu



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• Contact for any kind of questions





#### **Time for questions**



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