

# Using global optimization method to compensate soft tissue artifacts on knee joint angles and moments calculation during cycling

## 應用全域最佳化方法補償腳踏車踩踏過程因皮膚移動造成計算膝關節角度與關節力矩之誤差

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**Abstract-** Soft tissue artifacts (STA) are a major source of errors in human motion analysis. The Global Optimization Method (GOM) is effective in compensating STA during gait, but its performance has not been reported during cycling. Five young adults performed cycling exercises on an ergometer. A CT-to-biplane fluoroscopy registration technique is taken as the gold standard. A model composed of the pelvis, thigh and shank was used to calculate the angles and moments at the knee from the skin markers, without considering STA and with GOM to compensate for STA. The results showed that the GOM was effective in compensating the STA of the markers for the calculation of the angles and moments at the knee during cycling movement.

**摘要-** 皮膚移動是人體動作分析主要的誤差來源之一。全域最佳化方法已被證實可有效補償步態過程之皮膚移動誤差，然而針對腳踏車運動仍未有相關之驗證結果。本研究以結合斷層掃描、雙平面動態 X 光比對技術之結果做為標準，驗證全域最佳化方法應用於腳踏車踩踏過程補償皮膚移動誤差之功效。五位年輕正常受試者參與本項研究，建構所需之下肢多連桿模型包含骨盆、大腿與小腿。其結果比較傳統未考慮多肢段皮膚移動誤差分析方法，顯示經由全域最佳化方法處理後所計算之膝關節角度與關節力矩誤差均有明顯降低。此方法證實可有效補償腳踏車運動過程因皮膚移動所造成之誤差。

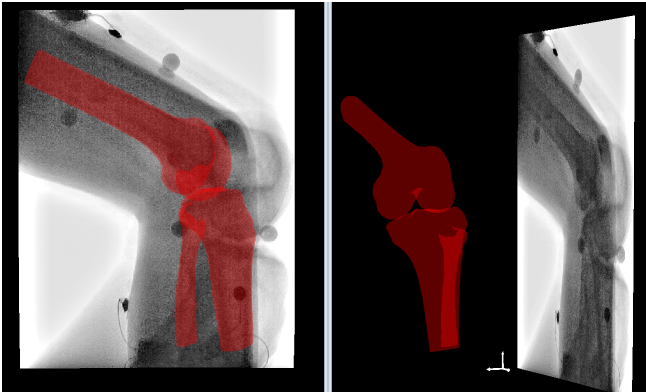
**Introduction-** Soft tissue artifacts (STA) are a major source of errors in human motion analysis, affecting the calculated joint angles and moments. The Global Optimization Method (GOM) is effective in compensating STA during gait [1] but its performance for activities involving large range of motion such as cycling has not been reported,

mainly owing to the difficulty in obtaining accurate skeletal motion noninvasively. This study evaluated the GOM using the skeletal motions of the knee measured by a 3D fluoroscopy technique during cycling.

**Methods-** Five young adults wearing 14 skin markers on the left lower limb performed cycling exercises on an ergometer (Fig. 1) while the pedal reaction forces were measured with an instrumented pedal and the trajectories by a motion capture system. The skeletal motions of the left knee were measured using a CT-to-biplane fluoroscopy registration technique [2] and then taken as the gold standard (Fig 2). A 3-link model composed of the pelvis, thigh and shank was used to calculate the angles and moments at the knee from the skin markers, without considering STA and with GOM to compensate for STA. The root-mean-squared errors (RMSE) of the calculated variables were then obtained with respect to the gold standard.

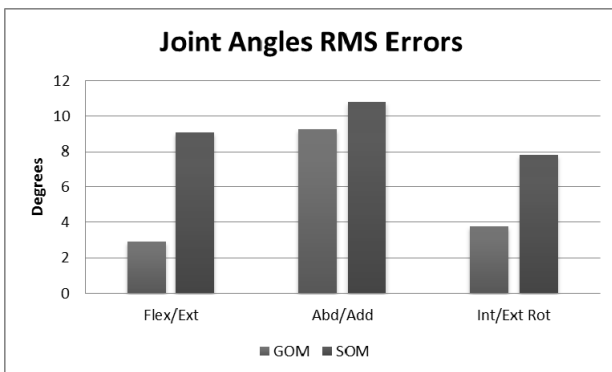


**Fig. 1:** The instrumented ergometer integrated with the dynamic fluoroscopy system for cycling exercise

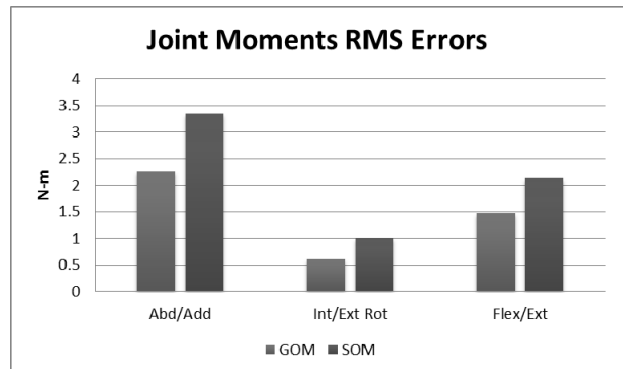


**Fig. 2:** The bone models obtained from CT scan were registered with fluoroscopic images during pedaling exercise for reproducing the kinematics of the knee.

**Results & Discussion-** The RMSE's of the angles in the sagittal, transverse and frontal planes using GOM were 2.9, 3.8 and 9.3 degrees, respectively, compared to 9.1, 7.8 and 10.8 degrees without considering STA (Fig. 3). The corresponding values for joint moments were 1.5, 0.6 and 2.3 Nm for GOM, and 2.4, 1.1 and 3.3 Nm without considering STA (Fig. 4). The results showed that the GOM was effective in compensating the STA of the markers for the calculation of the angles and moments at the knee during cycling movement, which will be useful for future study of knee biomechanics during cycling using skin marker-based motion analysis.



**Fig. 3:** Root mean square errors of knee joint angles computed from global optimization method (blue bar) and segmental optimization method (red bar) during one cycle.



**Fig. 4:** Root mean square errors of knee joint moments computed from global optimization method (blue bar) and segmental optimization method (red bar) during one cycle.

### References

- [1] Lu, T.W. and J.J. O'Connor (1999) J Biomech, 32: 129-134.
- [2] Tsai, T.Y., et al. (2010) Med Phys, 37: 1273-1284.