



# **Kantonsspital Aarau**



**Department of Orthopedic Foot Surgery**  
**Gait Laboratory**

# Forces Acting in the Forefoot During Normal Gait – A Clinical Application

Wyss Ch., MD, Department of Orthopedic Surgery Kantonsspital Aarau  
CH-5001 Aarau (Switzerland)



[christian.wyss@ksa.ch](mailto:christian.wyss@ksa.ch)

*Fin Christian*

*von Hilaire*

BIOMECHANICS OF THE FOREFOOT

*Aug. 2003*

Thesis presented for the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy

by

**Hilaire A.C. Jacob**

Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, BALGRIST  
University of Zurich

Bioengineering Unit  
University of Strathclyde  
Glasgow

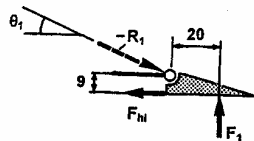
May 1989

Vol. I

# A Basic Paper

*H.A.C. Jacob / Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783–792*

(a) IP joint



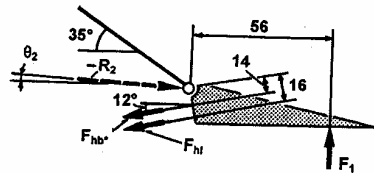
$$F_{Hl} \times 9 = F_1 \times 20$$

$$F_{Hl} = 2.2 F_1$$

$$R_1 = E_{Hl} + E_1$$

$$R_1 = 2.44 F_1 \quad \theta_1 = 24^\circ$$

(b) MP joint



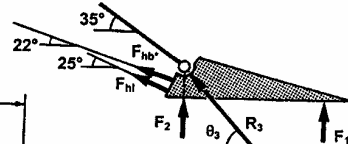
$$F_{hb*} \times 14 + F_{Hl} \times 16 = F_1 \times 56$$

$$F_{hb*} = 1.49 F_1$$

$$R_2 = E_1 + E_{hb*} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_2 = 3.63 F_1 \quad \theta_2 = 4^\circ$$

(c) Head of metatarsal

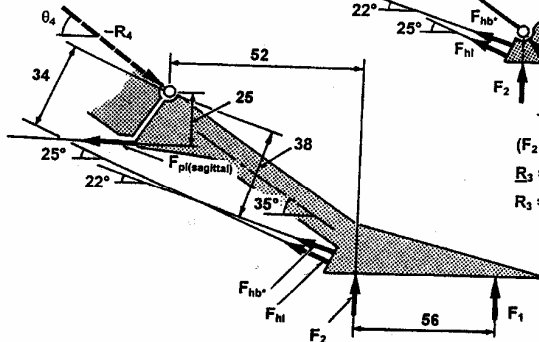


$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$R_3 = E_1 + F_2 + E_{hb*} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_3 = 5.01 F_1 \quad \theta_3 = 48^\circ$$

(d) TM joint



$$F_{Hl} \times 34 + F_{hb*} \times 38 + F_{pl(sagittal)} \times 25 = F_2 \times 52 + F_{hb*} \times (56 + 52)$$

$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$F_{pl(sagittal)} = 1.56 F_1$$

$$R_4 = E_1 + E_2 + E_{hb*} + E_{Hl} + E_{pl(sagittal)}$$

$$R_4 = 6.17 F_1 \quad \theta_4 = 37^\circ$$

Jacob, H.A.C:

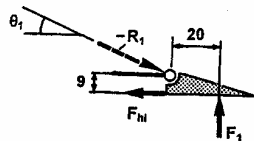
Forces acting in the forefoot during normal gait – an estimate

Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783 – 792

# A Basic Paper

*H.A.C. Jacob / Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783–792*

(a) IP joint



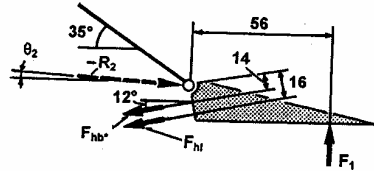
$$F_{Hl} \times 9 = F_1 \times 20$$

$$F_{Hl} = 2.2 F_1$$

$$R_1 = E_{Hl} + E_1$$

$$R_1 = 2.44 F_1 \quad \theta_1 = 24^\circ$$

(b) MP joint



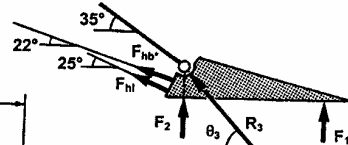
$$F_{Hb} \times 14 + F_{Hl} \times 16 = F_1 \times 56$$

$$F_{Hb} = 1.49 F_1$$

$$R_2 = E_1 + E_{Hb} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_2 = 3.63 F_1 \quad \theta_2 = 4^\circ$$

(c) Head of metatarsal

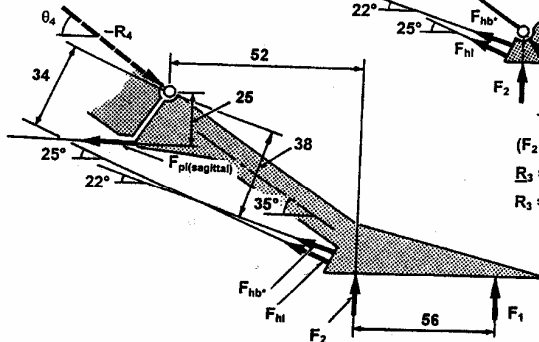


$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$R_3 = E_1 + F_2 + E_{Hb} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_3 = 5.01 F_1 \quad \theta_3 = 48^\circ$$

(d) TM joint



$$F_{Hl} \times 34 + F_{Hb} \times 38 + F_{pl(sagittal)} \times 25 = F_2 \times 52 + F_{Hb} \times (56 + 52)$$

$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$F_{pl(sagittal)} = 1.56 F_1$$

$$R_4 = E_1 + E_2 + E_{Hb} + E_{Hl} + E_{pl(sagittal)}$$

$$R_4 = 6.17 F_1 \quad \theta_4 = 37^\circ$$

Jacob, H.A.C:

Forces acting in the forefoot during normal gait – an estimate

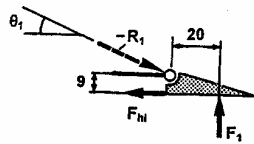
Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783 – 792

- static model of the 1st and 2nd ray

# A Basic Paper

*H.A.C. Jacob / Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783–792*

(a) IP joint



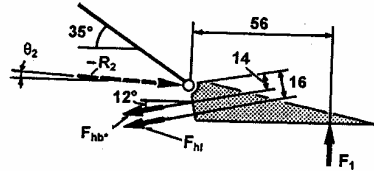
$$F_{Hl} \times 9 = F_1 \times 20$$

$$F_{Hl} = 2.2 F_1$$

$$R_1 = E_{Hl} + E_1$$

$$R_1 = 2.44 F_1 \quad \theta_1 = 24^\circ$$

(b) MP joint



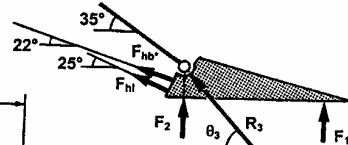
$$F_{Hb*} \times 14 + F_{Hl} \times 16 = F_1 \times 56$$

$$F_{Hb*} = 1.49 F_1$$

$$R_2 = E_1 + E_{Hb*} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_2 = 3.63 F_1 \quad \theta_2 = 4^\circ$$

(c) Head of metatarsal

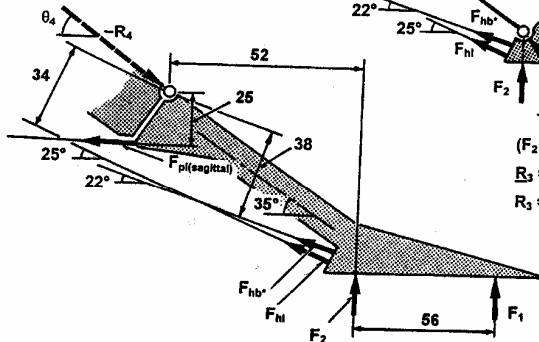


$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$R_3 = E_1 + F_2 + E_{Hb*} + E_{Hl}$$

$$R_3 = 5.01 F_1 \quad \theta_3 = 48^\circ$$

(d) TM joint



$$F_{Hl} \times 34 + F_{Hb*} \times 38 + F_{pl(sagittal)} \times 25 = F_2 \times 52 + F_{Hb*} \times (56 + 52)$$

$$(F_2 = 1.22 F_1)$$

$$F_{pl(sagittal)} = 1.56 F_1$$

$$R_4 = E_1 + E_2 + E_{Hb*} + E_{Hl} + E_{pl(sagittal)}$$

$$R_4 = 6.17 F_1 \quad \theta_4 = 37^\circ$$

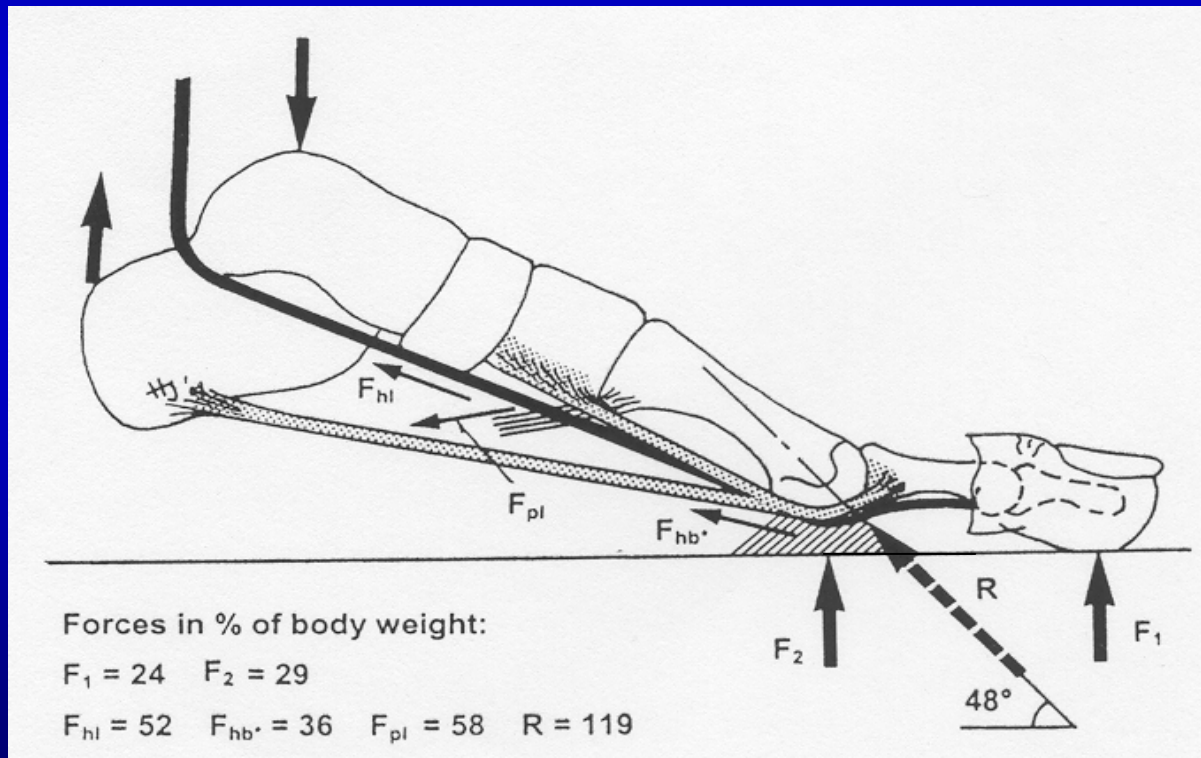
**Jacob, H.A.C:**

**Forces acting in the forefoot during normal gait – an estimate**

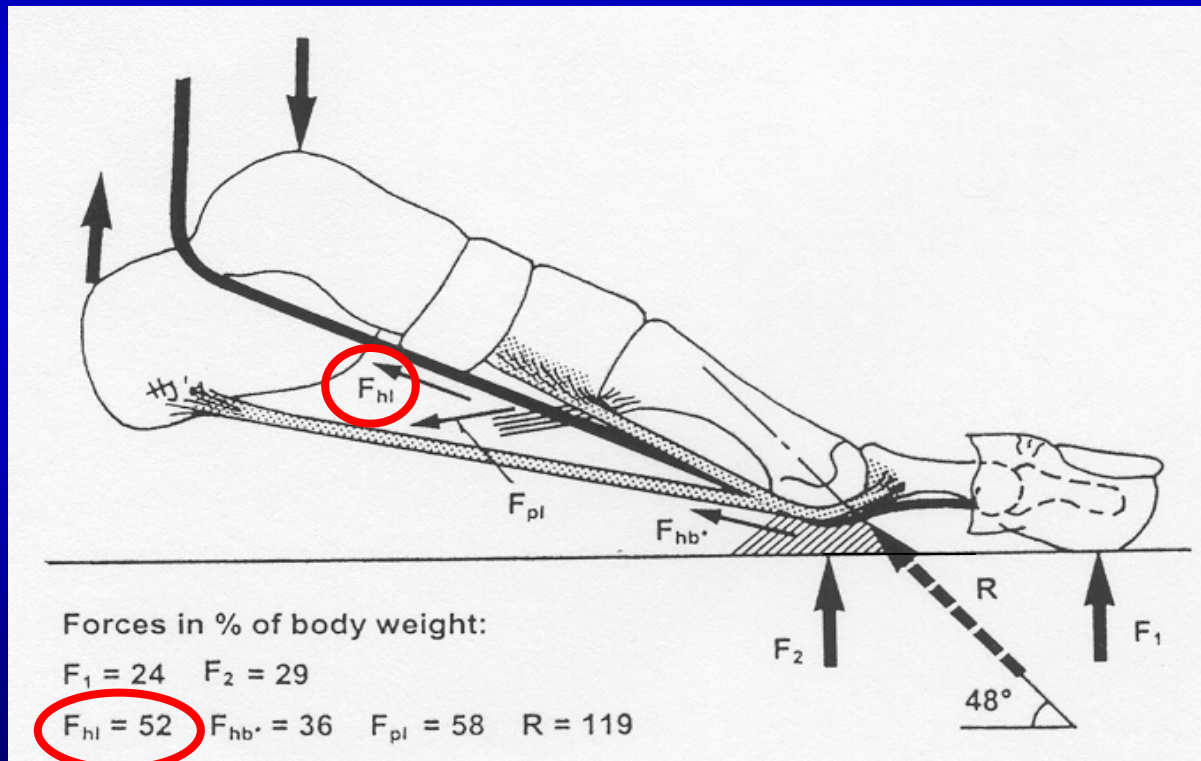
**Clinical Biomechanics 16 (2001) 783 – 792**

- static model of the 1st and 2nd ray
- only guilty for the push off

**External forces, determined with dynamic pressure measurement, do not correspond to the forces which really act on the foot**

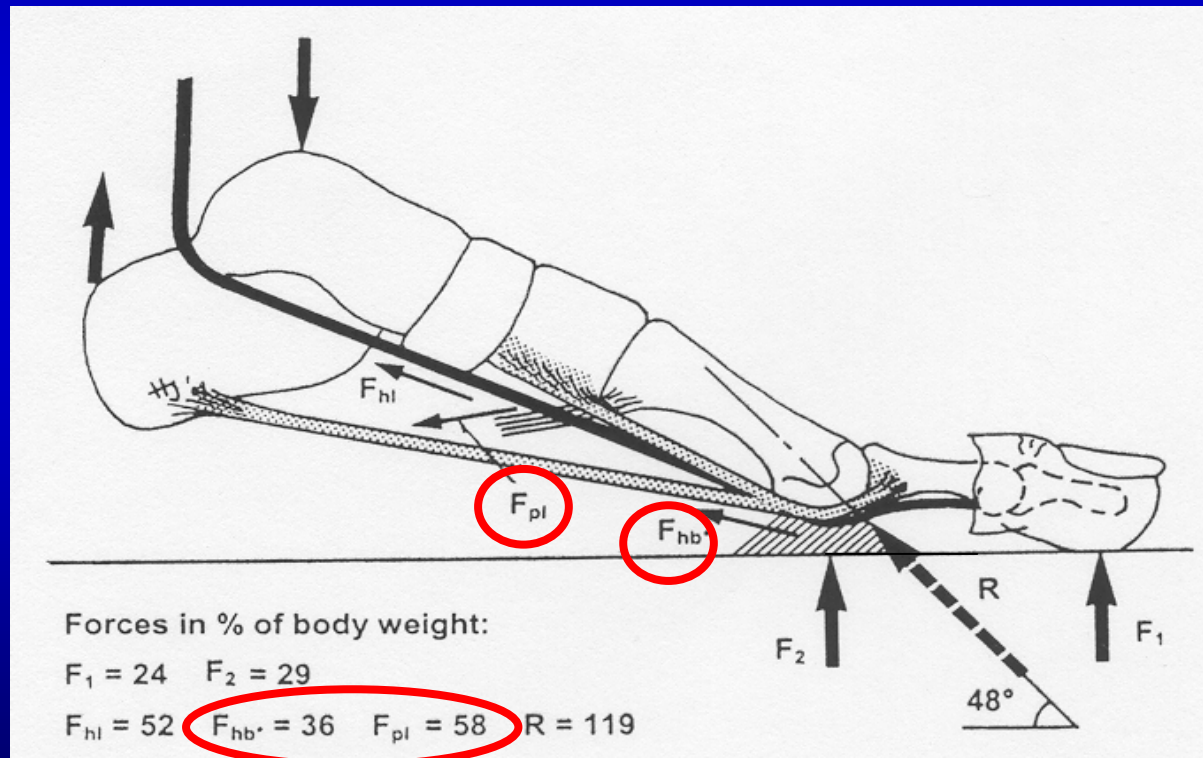


**External forces, determined with dynamic pressure measurement, do not correspond to the forces which really act on the foot**

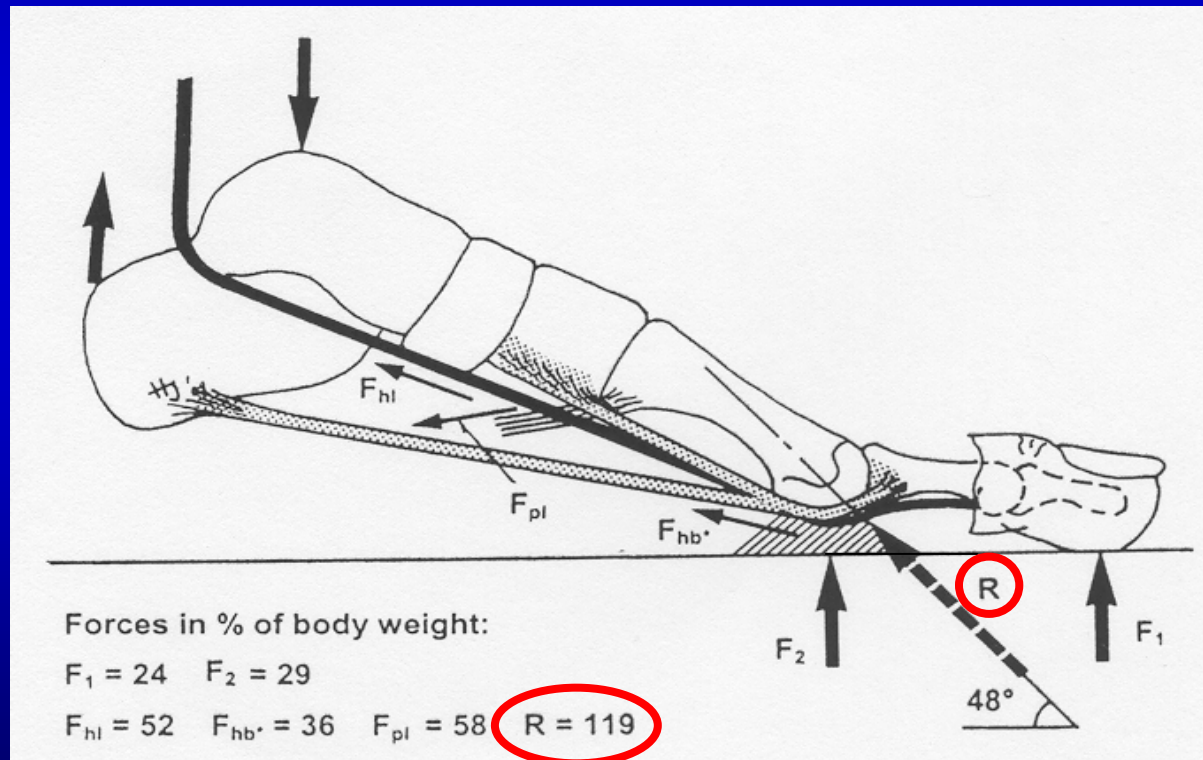




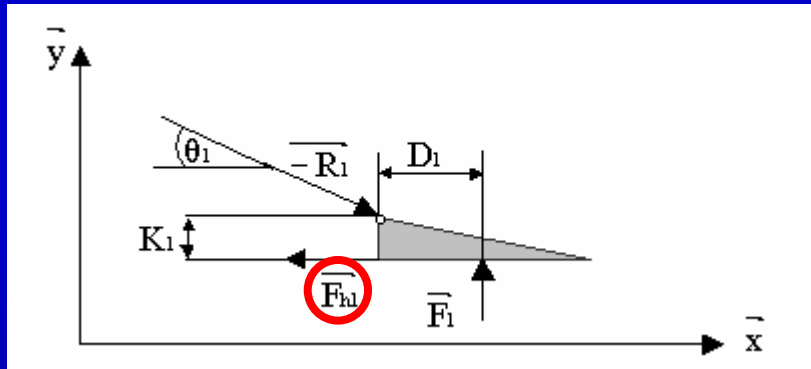
**External forces, determined with dynamic pressure measurement, do not correspond to the forces which really act on the foot**



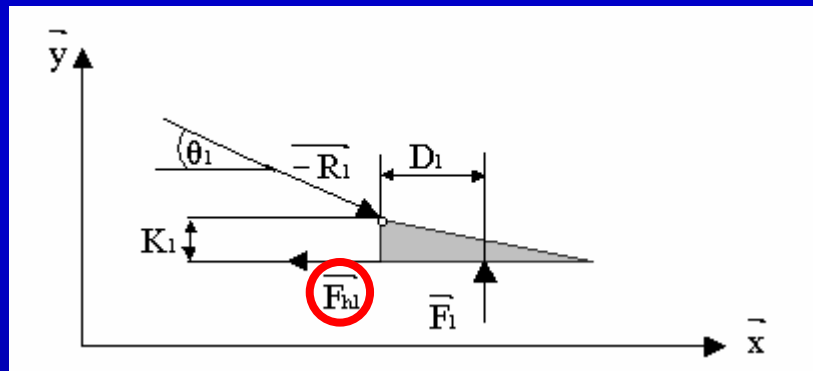
**External forces, determined with dynamic pressure measurement, do not correspond to the forces which really act on the foot**



# Free Body Diagram for the IP Joint of the 1st Ray



# Free Body Diagram for the IP Joint of the 1st Ray



Conditions of equilibrium in the IP joint:

$$1) \quad F_{hl} * K_1 = F_1 * D_1 \Rightarrow \textcircled{F_{hl}} = \frac{F_1 * D_1}{K_1}$$

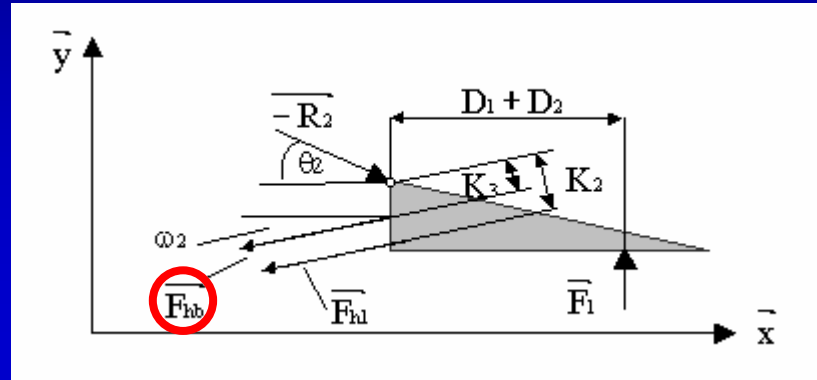
$$2) \quad \overline{R_1} = \overline{F_{hl}} + \overline{F_1}$$

Thus leading to:

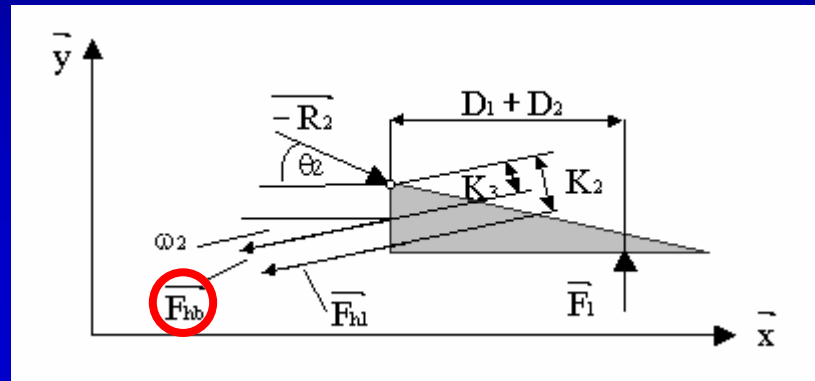
$$3) \quad R_1 = \sqrt{F_{hl}^2 + F_1^2}$$

$$4) \quad \theta_1 = \arccos\left(\frac{F_{hl}}{R_1}\right)$$

# Free Body Diagram for the MP Joint of the 1st Ray



# Free Body Diagram for the MP Joint of the 1st Ray



Conditions of equilibrium at the MP joint:

$$5) \quad F_{hb} * K_3 + F_{hl} * K_2 = F_1 * (D_1 + D_2) \Rightarrow \textcircled{F_{hb}} = \frac{F_1 * (D_1 + D_2) - F_{hl} * K_2}{K_3}$$

$$6) \quad \overline{R_2} = \overline{F_1} + \overline{F_{hb}} + \overline{F_{hl}}$$

$$R_{2x} = (F_{hb} + F_{hl}) * \cos \omega_2$$

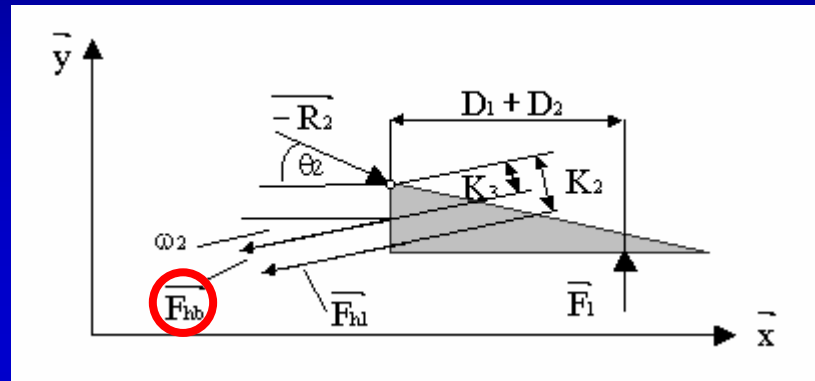
$$R_{2y} = F_1 - (F_{hb} + F_{hl}) * \sin \omega_2$$

Thus leading to:

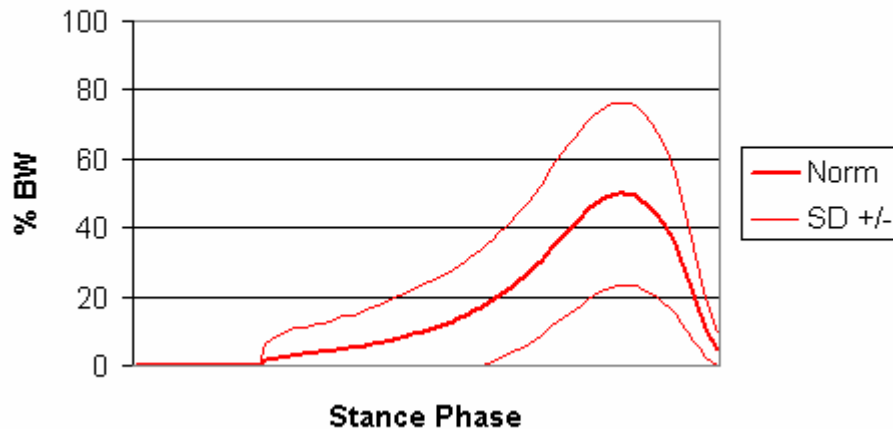
$$7) \quad R_2 = \sqrt{R_{2x}^2 + R_{2y}^2}$$

$$8) \quad \theta_2 = \arccos \left( \frac{R_{2x}}{R_2} \right)$$

# Free Body Diagram for the MP Joint of the 1st Ray



**R2 : Force in the MP - joint**



Conditions of equilibrium at the MP joint:

$$5) \quad F_{hb} * K_3 + F_{hl} * K_2 = F_1 * (D_1 + D_2) \Rightarrow F_{hb} = \frac{F_1 * (D_1 + D_2) - F_{hl} * K_2}{K_3}$$

$$6) \quad \begin{aligned} \vec{R}_2 &= \vec{F}_1 + \vec{F}_{hb} + \vec{F}_{hl} \\ R_{2x} &= (F_{hb} + F_{hl}) * \cos \omega_2 \\ R_{2y} &= F_1 - (F_{hb} + F_{hl}) * \sin \omega_2 \end{aligned}$$

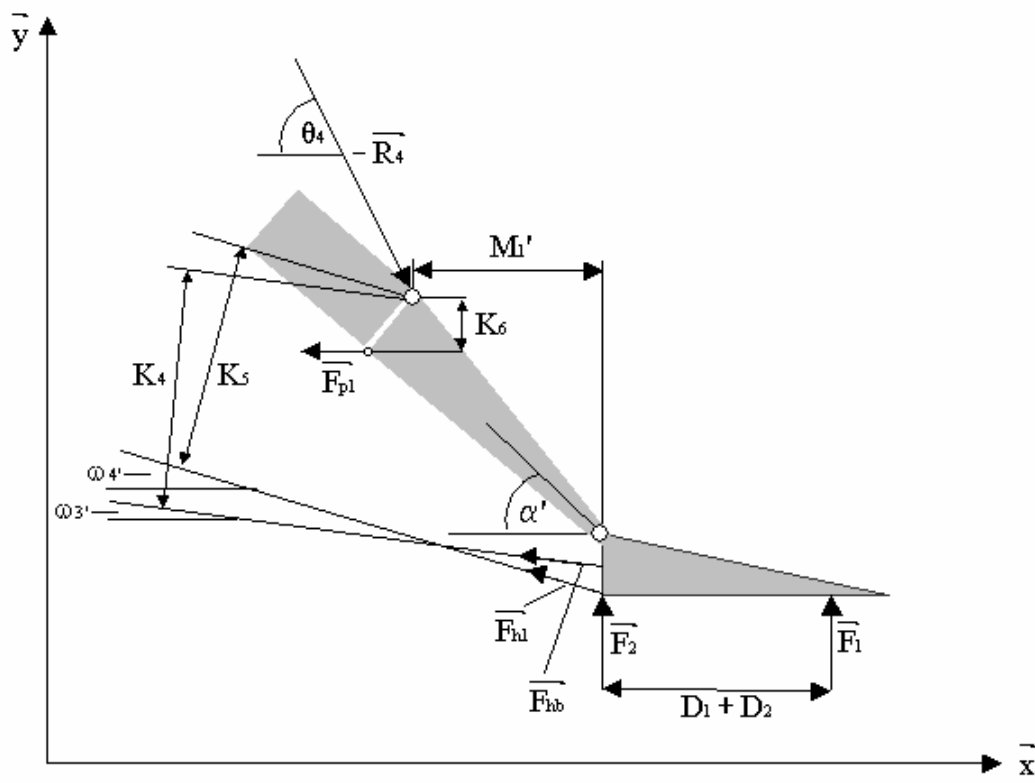
Thus leading to:

$$7) \quad R_2 = \sqrt{R_{2x}^2 + R_{2y}^2}$$

$$8) \quad \theta_2 = \arccos \left( \frac{R_{2x}}{R_2} \right)$$

# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine

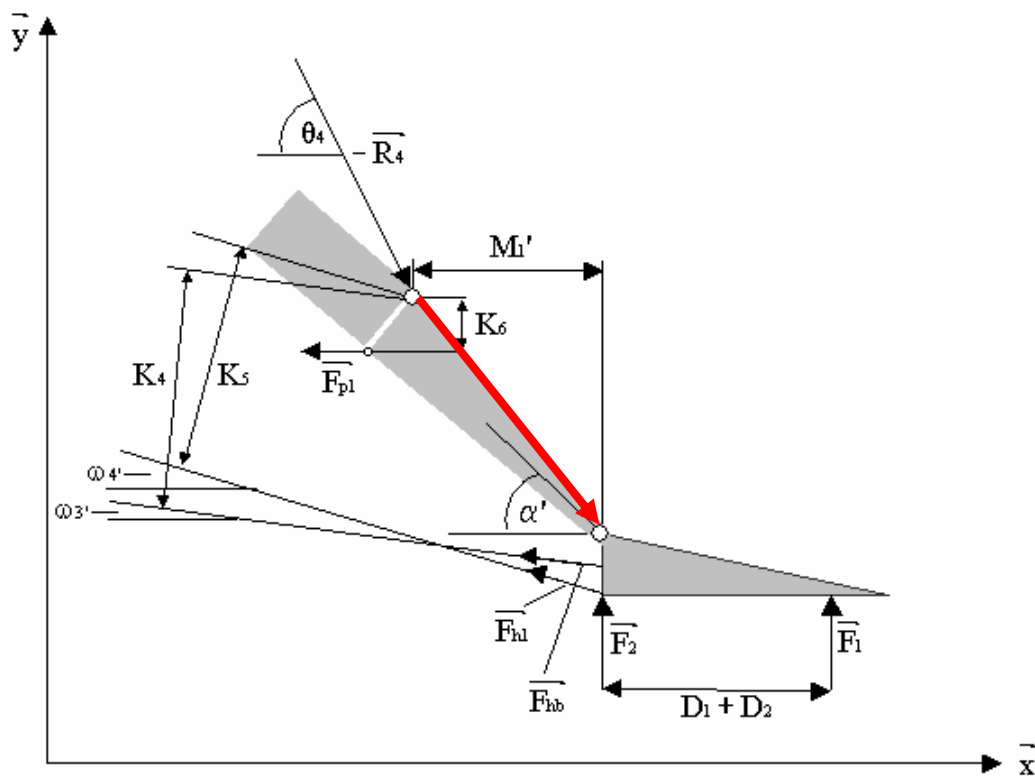
## Free Body Diagram of the TMT1 Joint





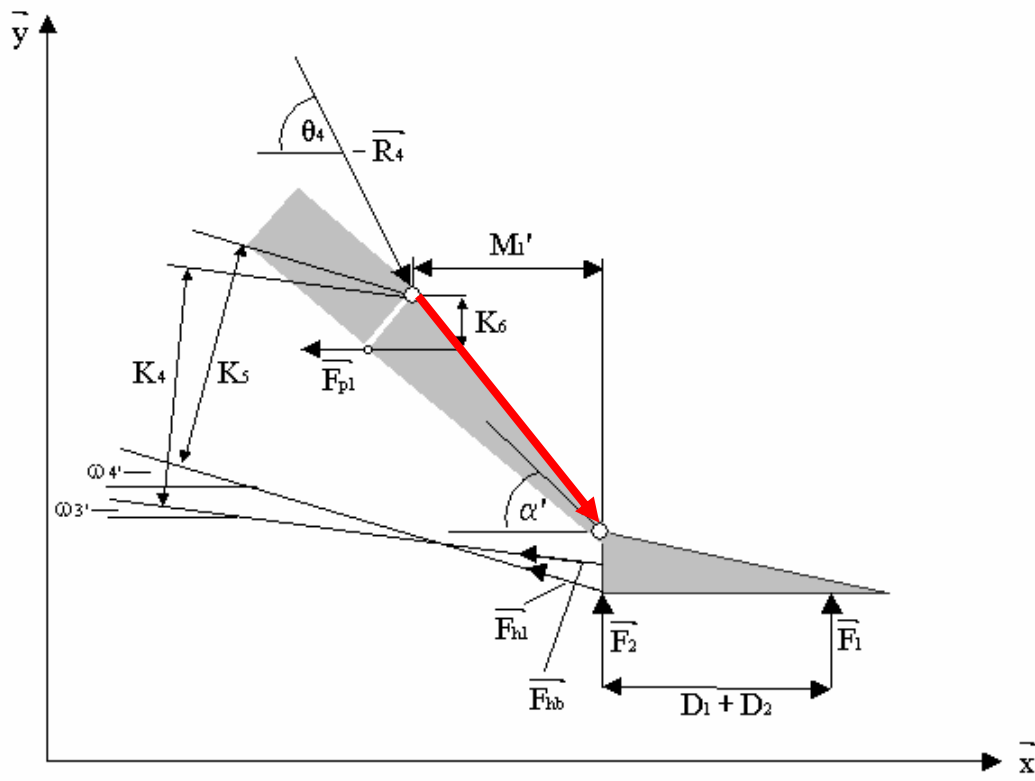
# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine

## Free Body Diagram of the TMT1 Joint

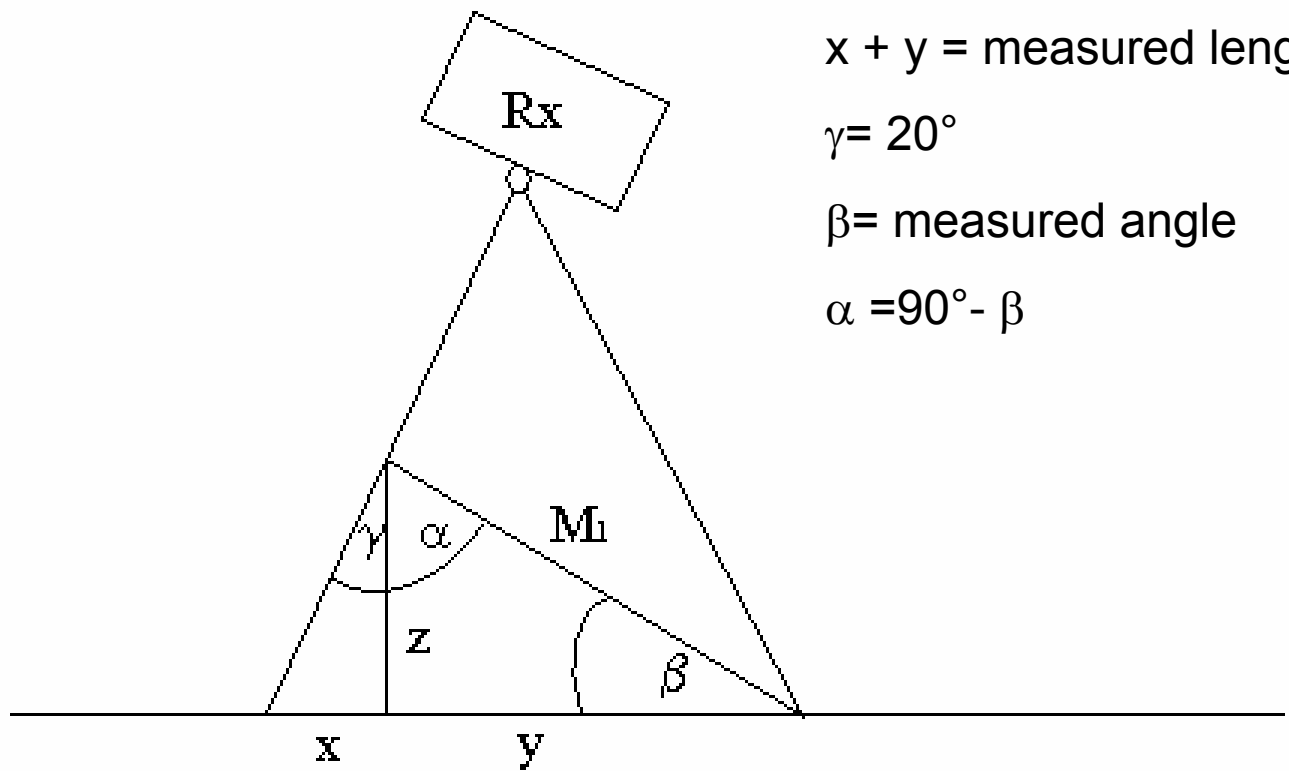


# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine

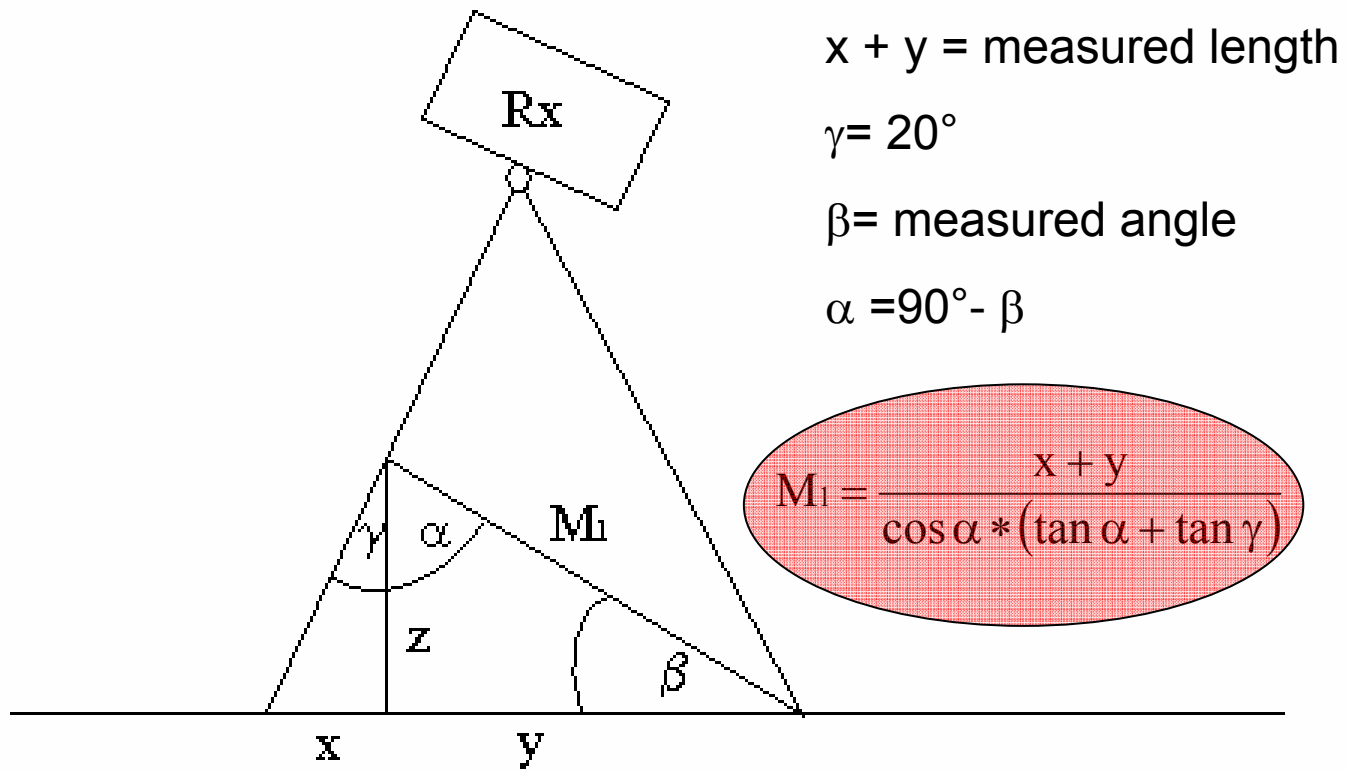
## Free Body Diagram of the TMT1 Joint



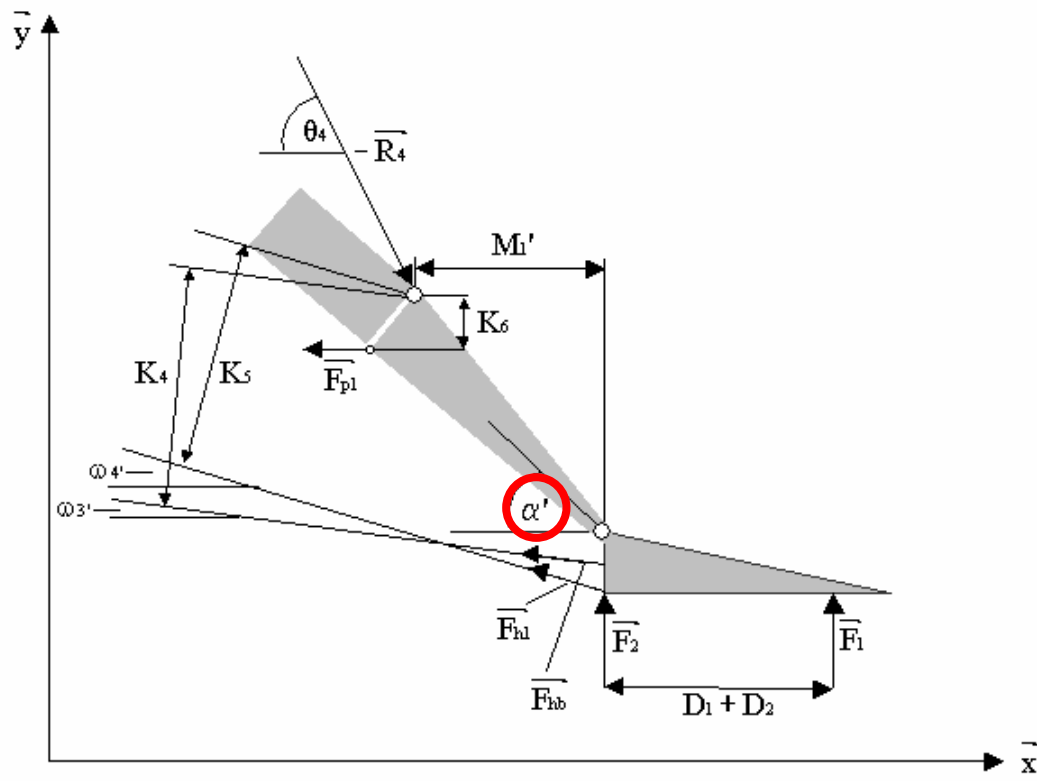
# Correction of the Projection Error



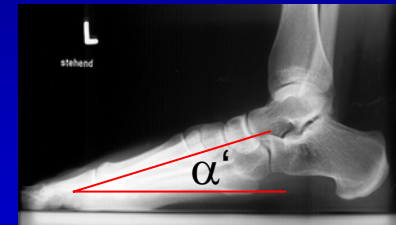
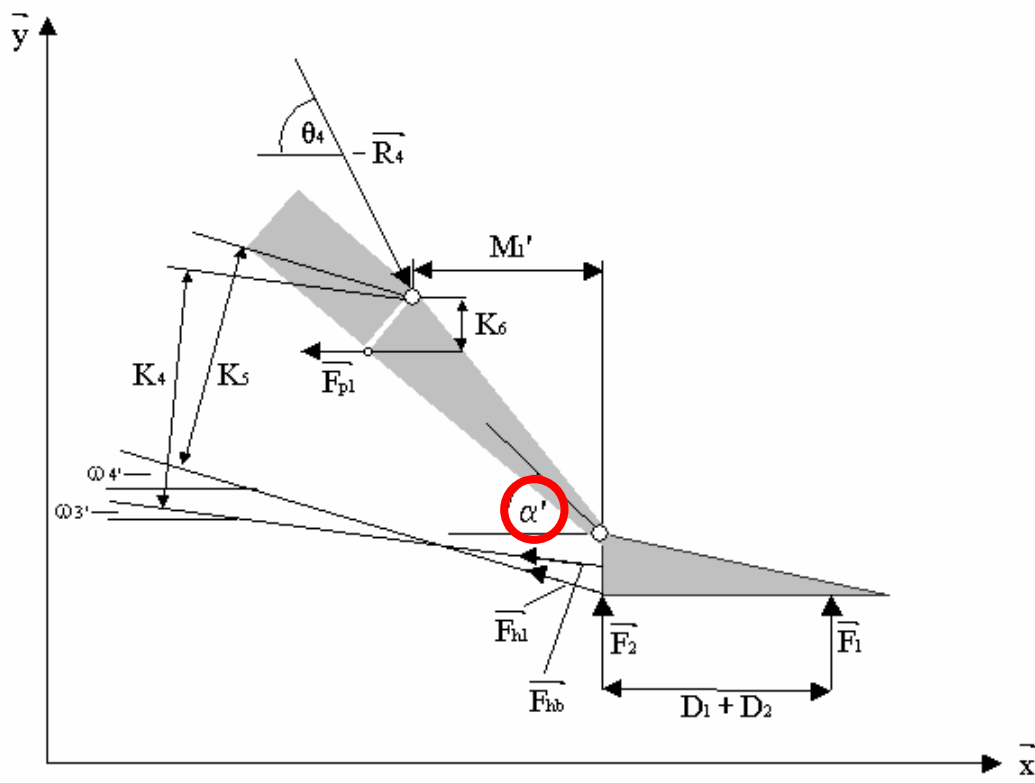
# Correction of the Projection Error



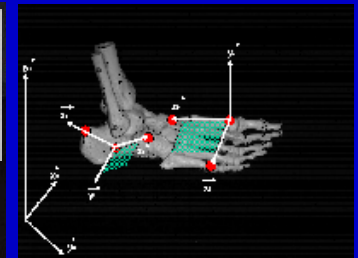
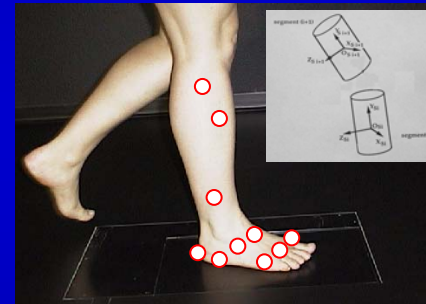
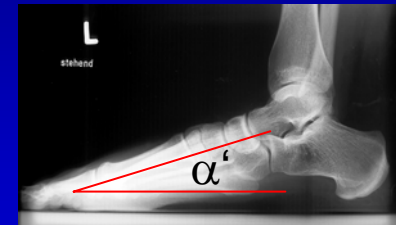
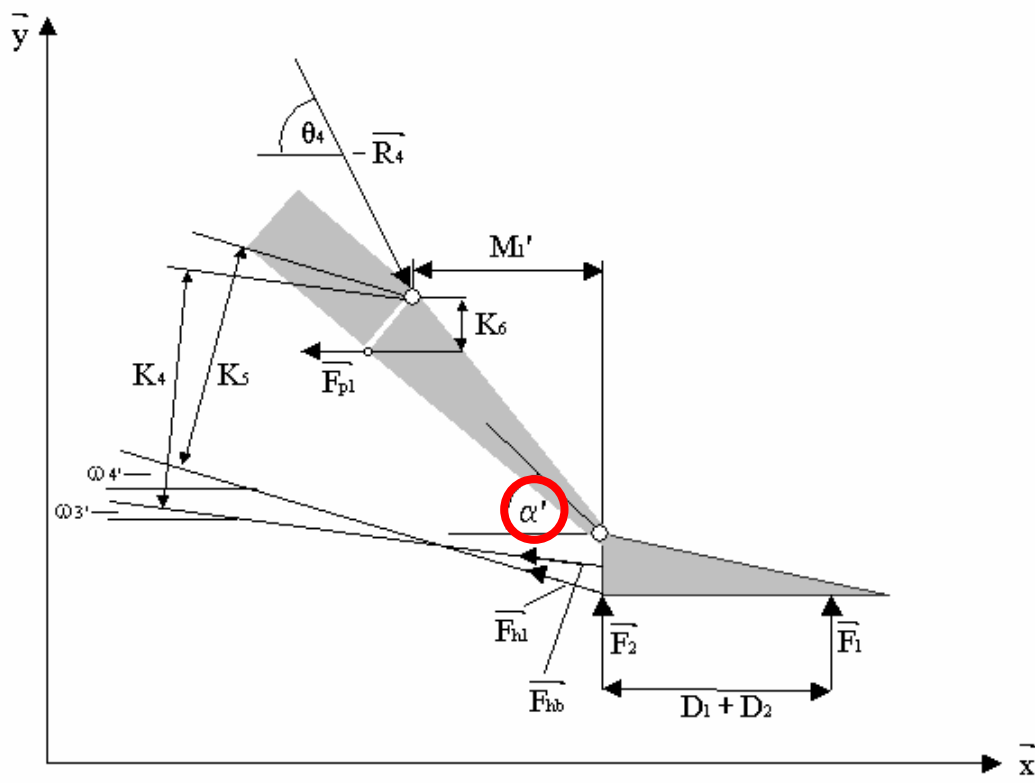
# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine



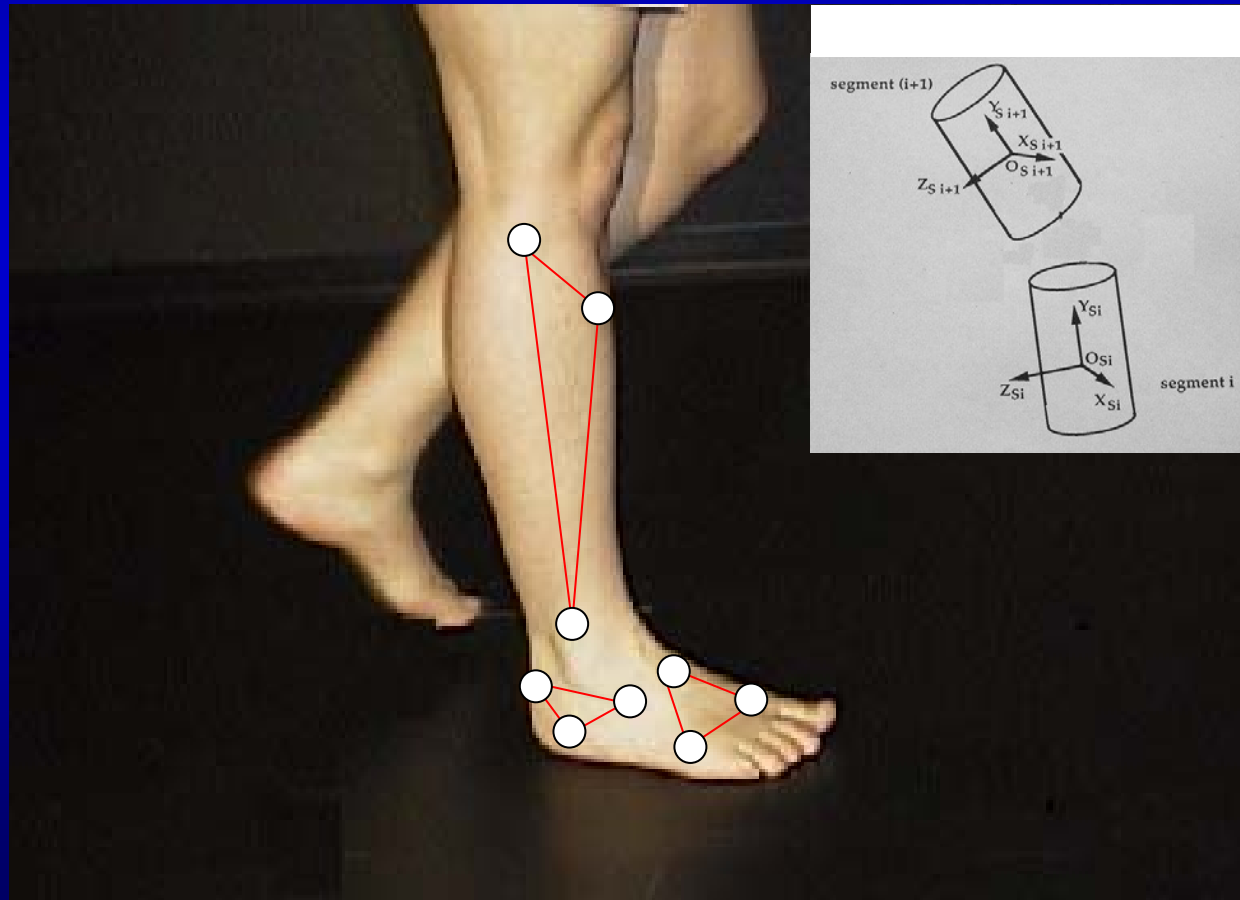
# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine



# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine

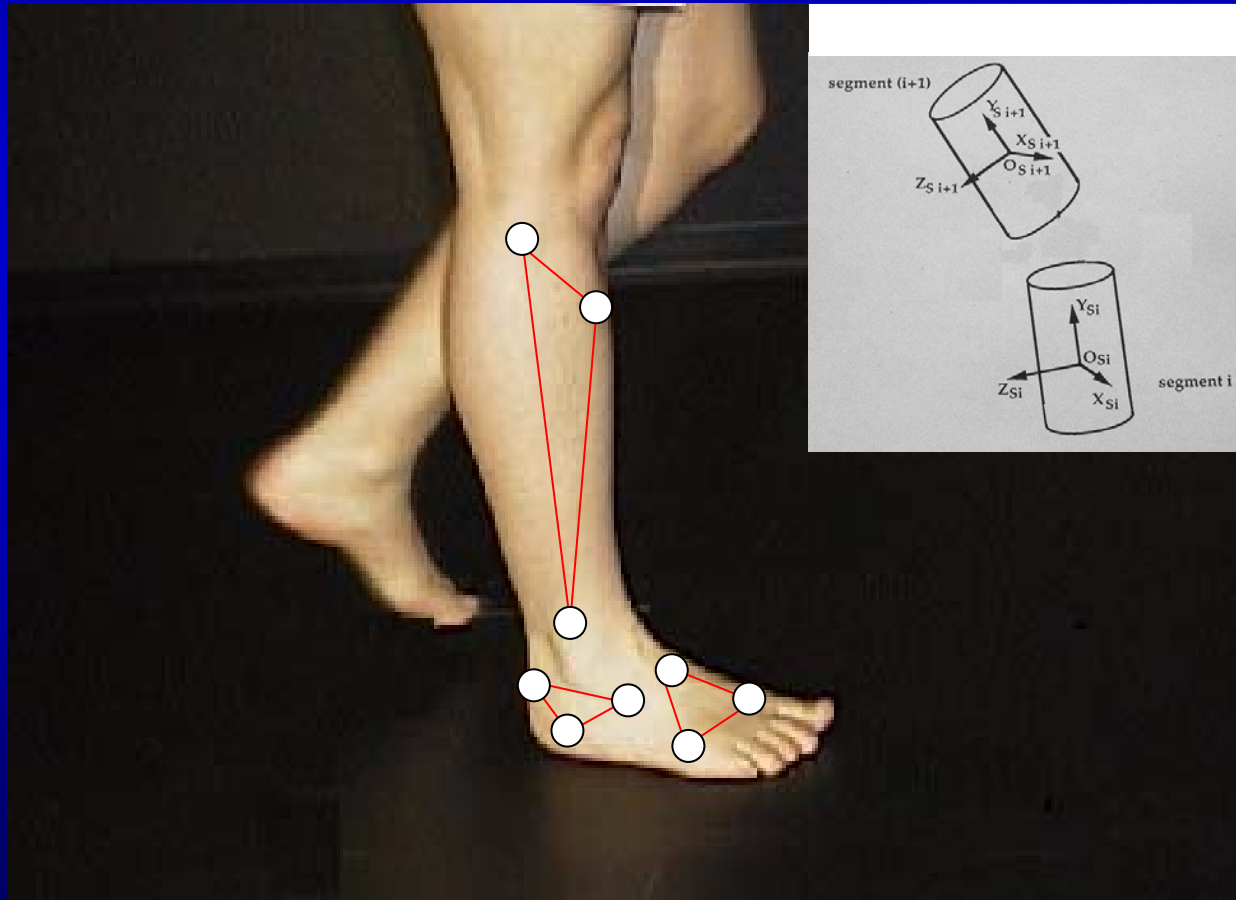


# 3D Motion Analysis



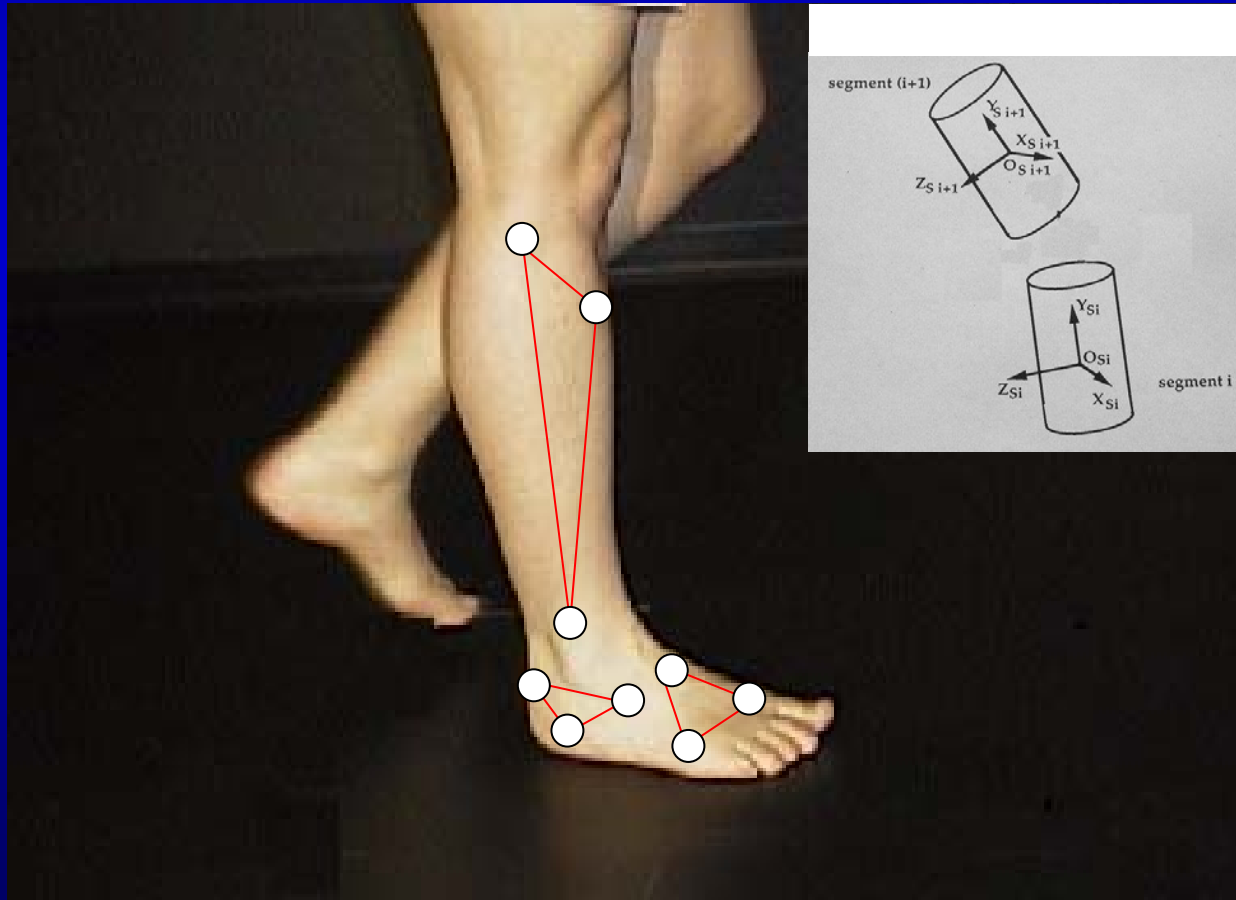


# 3D Motion Analysis



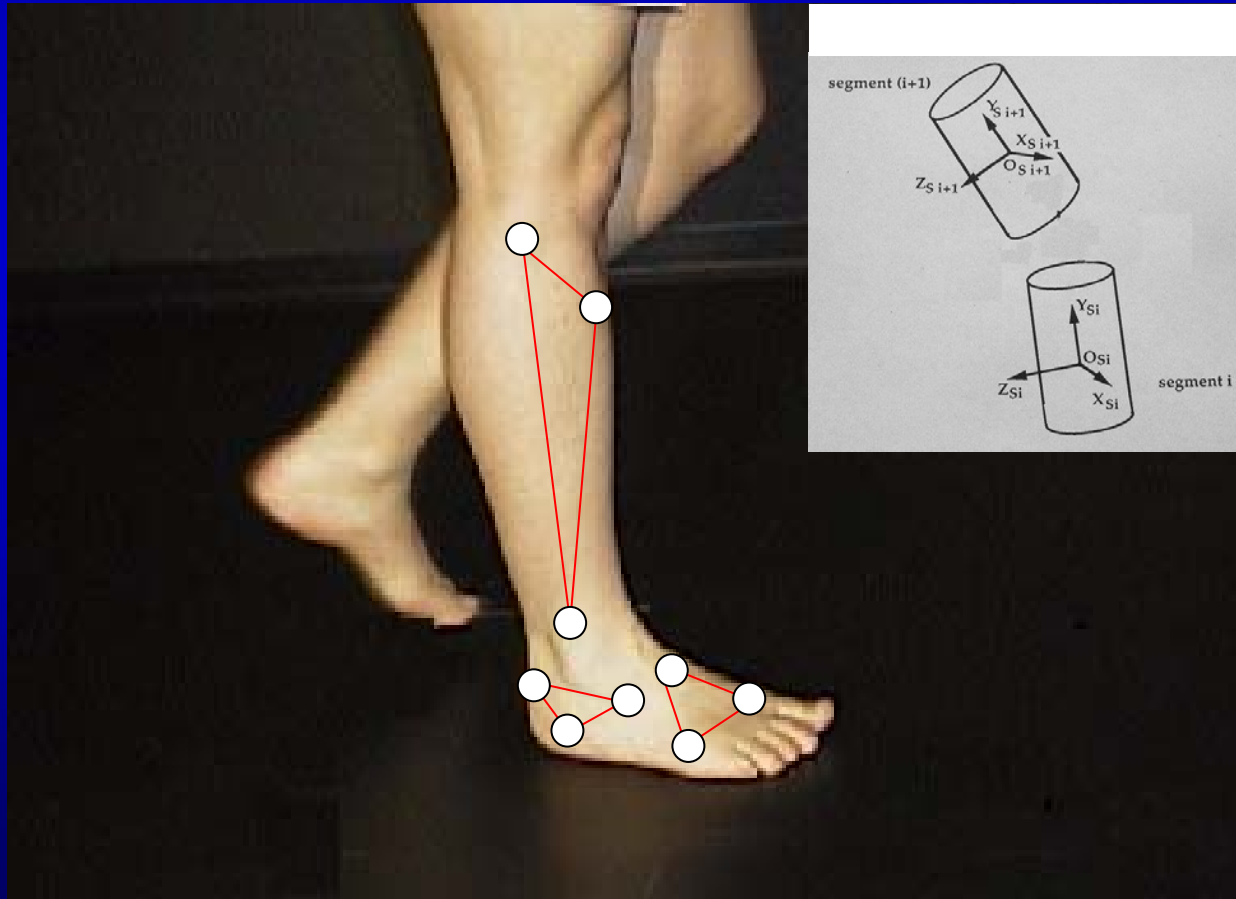
- Vicon 250 (50Hz)

# 3D Motion Analysis



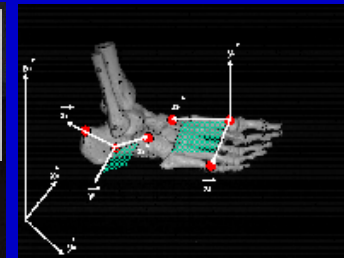
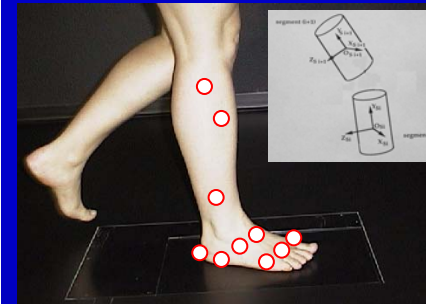
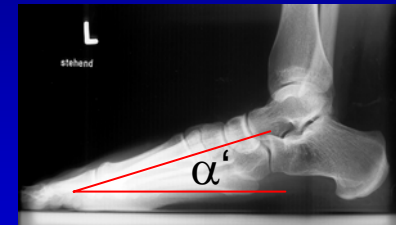
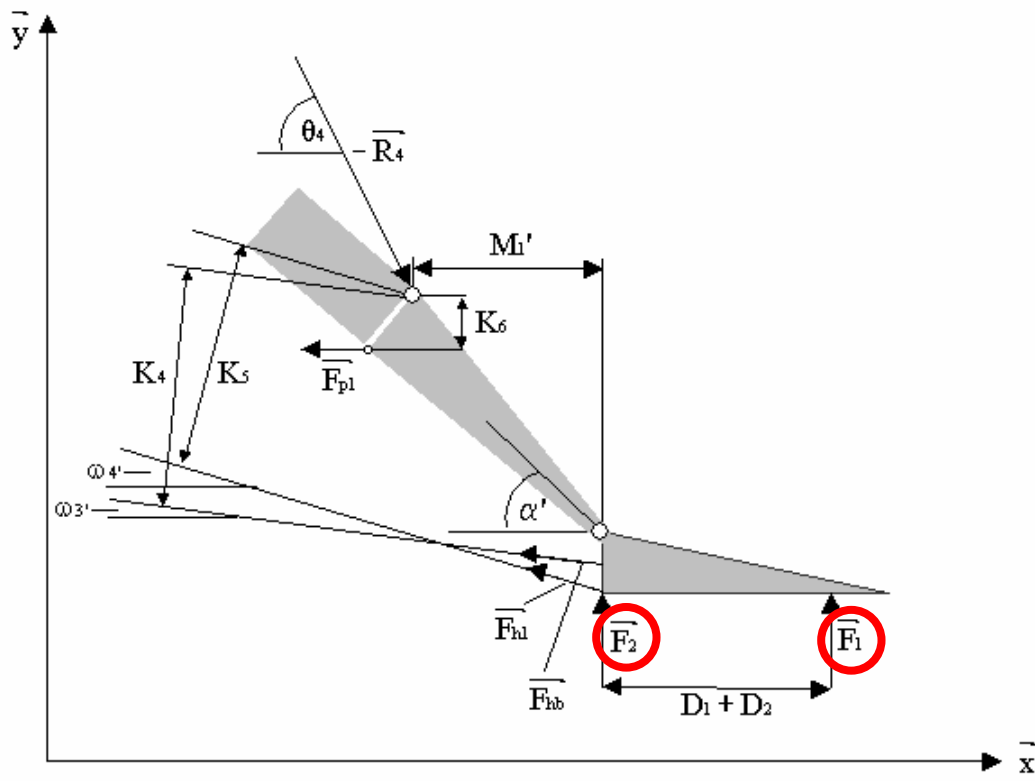
- Vicon 250 (50Hz)
- 5 Cameras

# 3D Motion Analysis

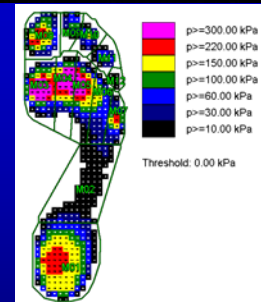
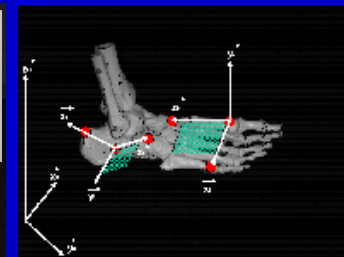
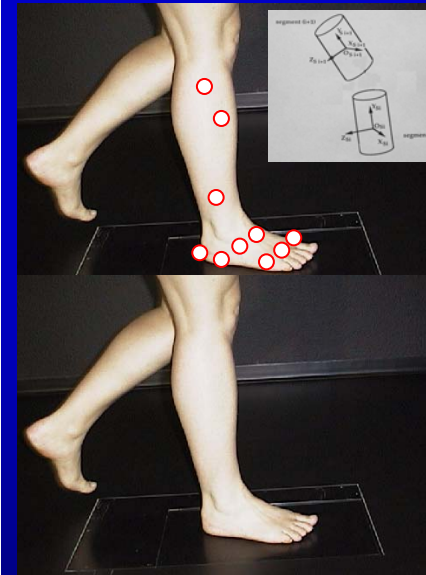
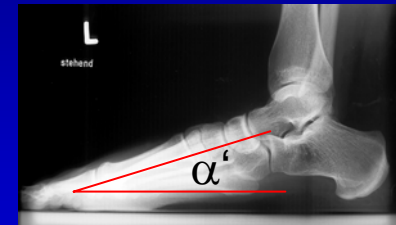
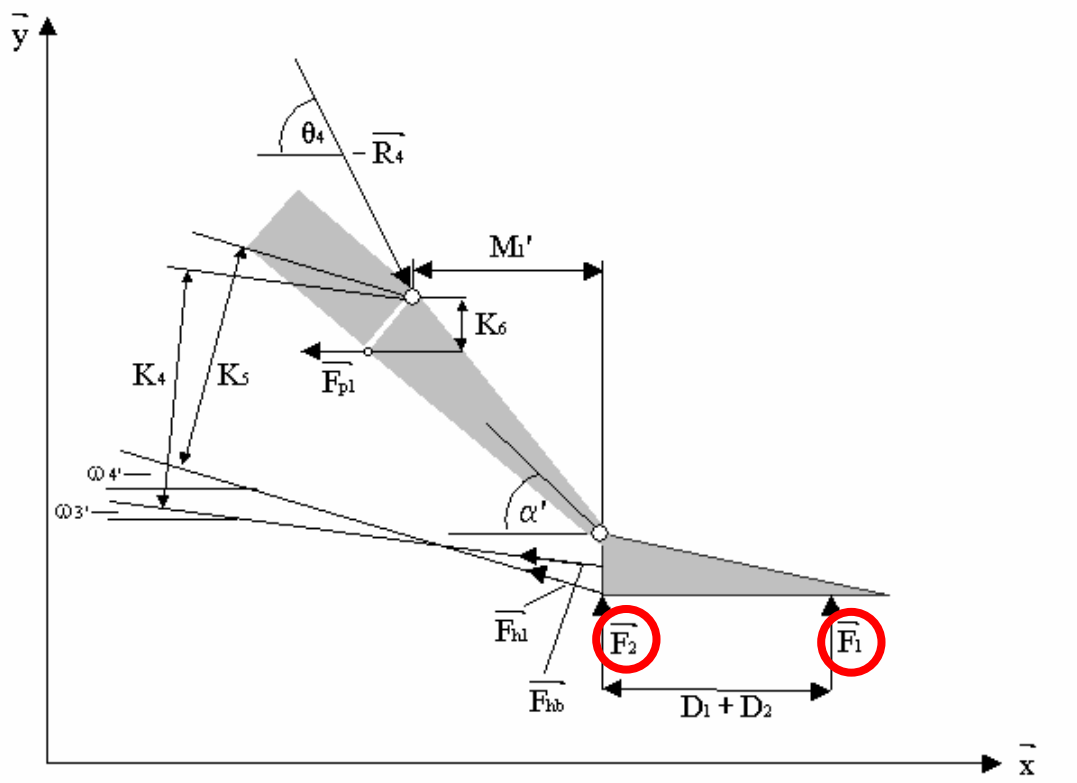


- Vicon 250 (50Hz)
- 5 Cameras
- unilateral

# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine



# Clinical Application in the Daily Routine



# Methods



**Dynamic pressure measurement**

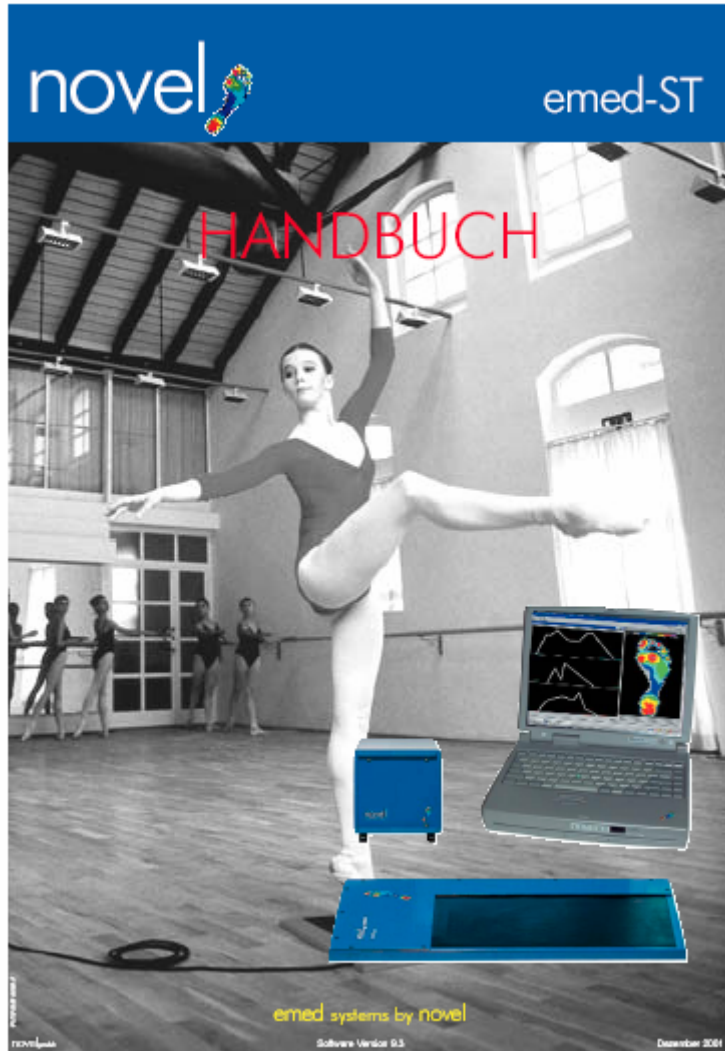
# Methods



## Dynamic pressure measurement

- 4 Sensors per square cm

# Methods

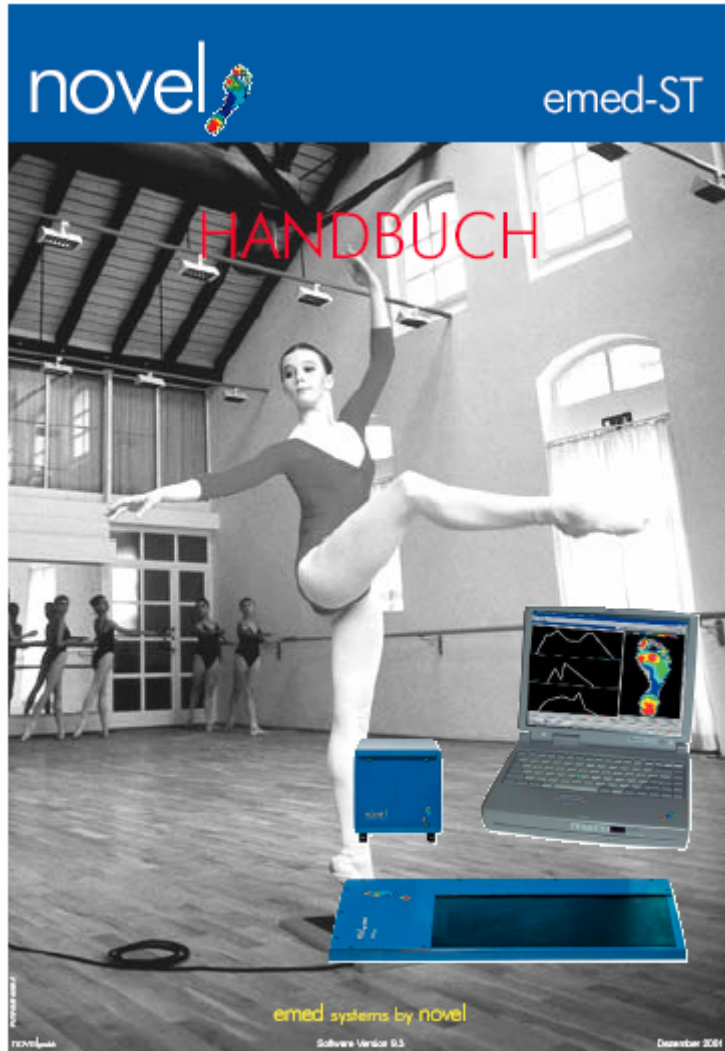


## Dynamic pressure measurement

- 4 Sensors per square cm
- 50 Hz



# Methods



## Dynamic pressure measurement

- 4 Sensors per square cm
- 50 Hz
- Second step method, 5 trials

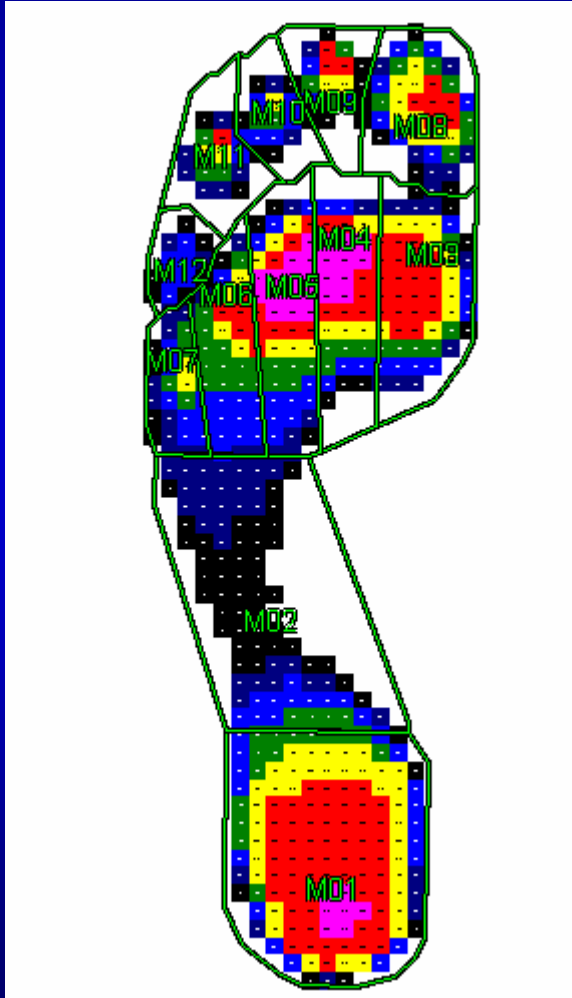
# Methods



## Dynamic pressure measurement

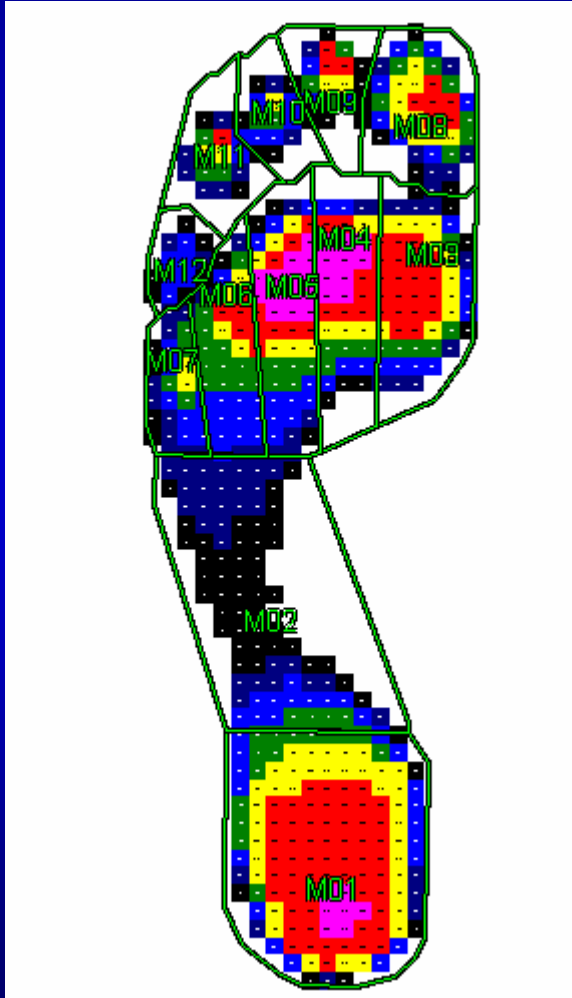
- 4 Sensors per square cm
- 50 Hz
- Second step method, 5 trials
- Gait velocity choosen freely

# Dynamic Pressure Measurement



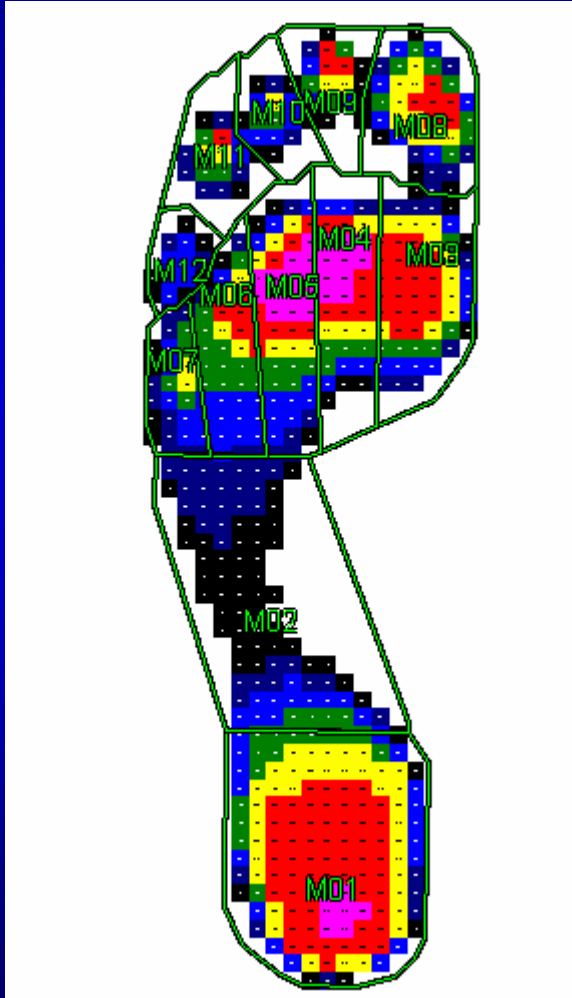
- Standardised mask with 12 areas

# Dynamic Pressure Measurement



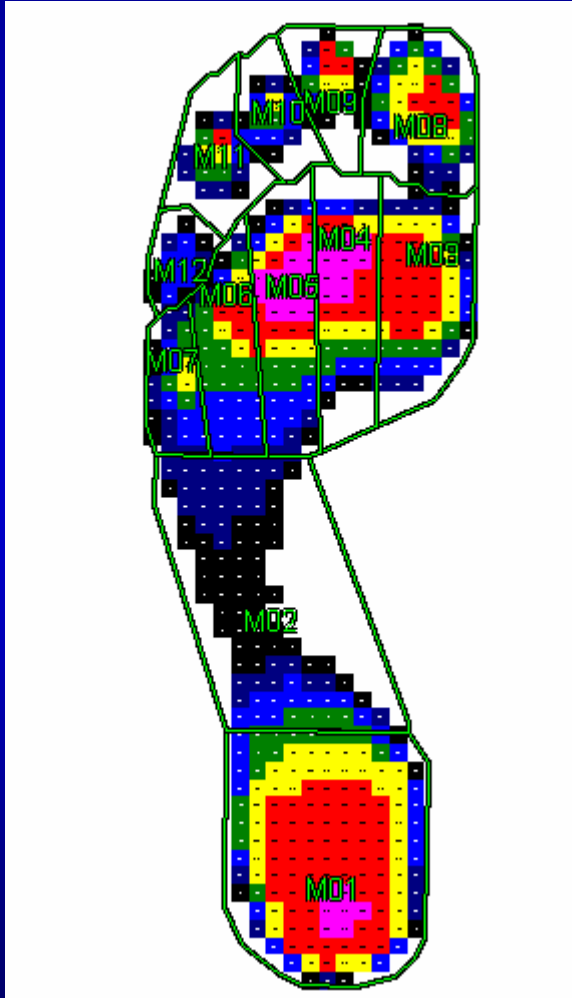
- Standardised mask with 12 areas
- Forces were normalized to the body weight. Body weight = 100%

# Dynamic Pressure Measurement



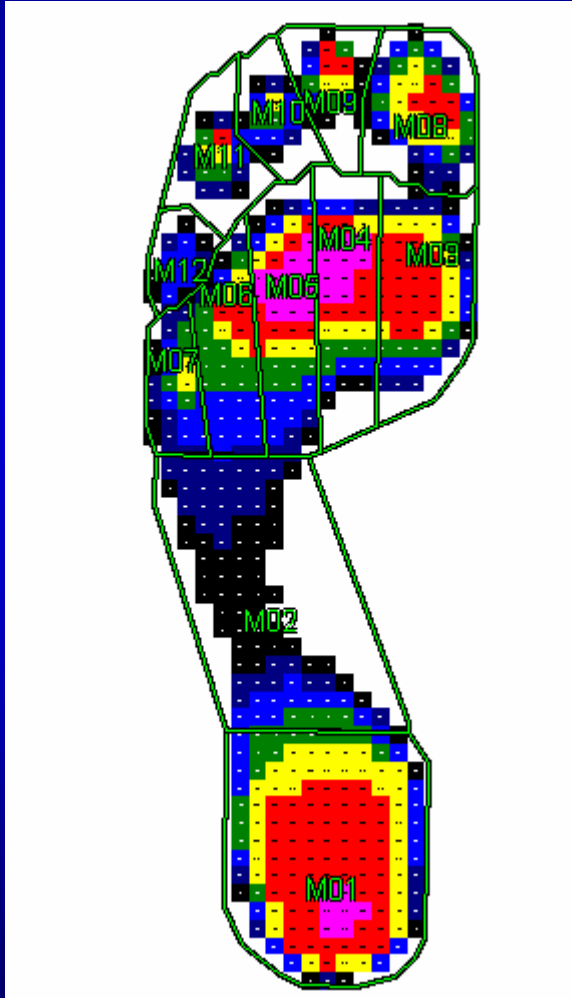
- Standardised mask with 12 areas
- Forces were normalized to the body weight. Body weight = 100%
- Time normalization
  - > Each step is divided into 100 intervals

# Dynamic Pressure Measurement



- Standardised mask with 12 areas
- Forces were normalized to the body weight. Body weight = 100%
- Time normalization
  - > Each step is divided into 100 intervals
  - > Linear interpolation

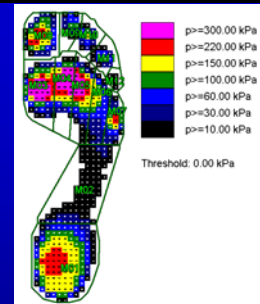
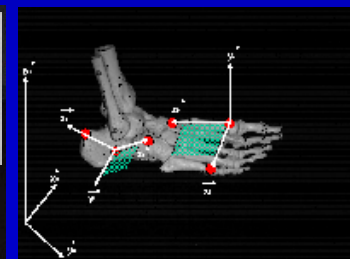
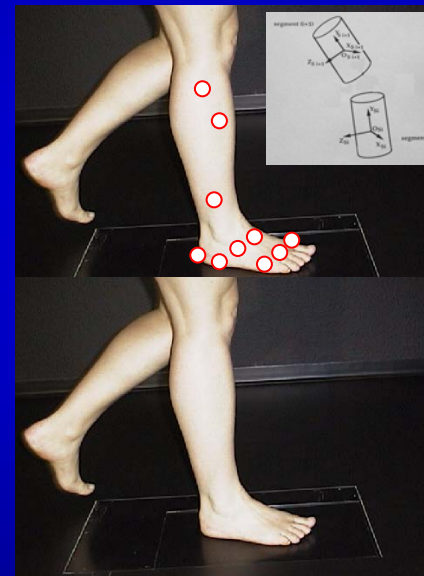
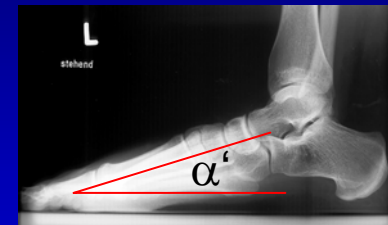
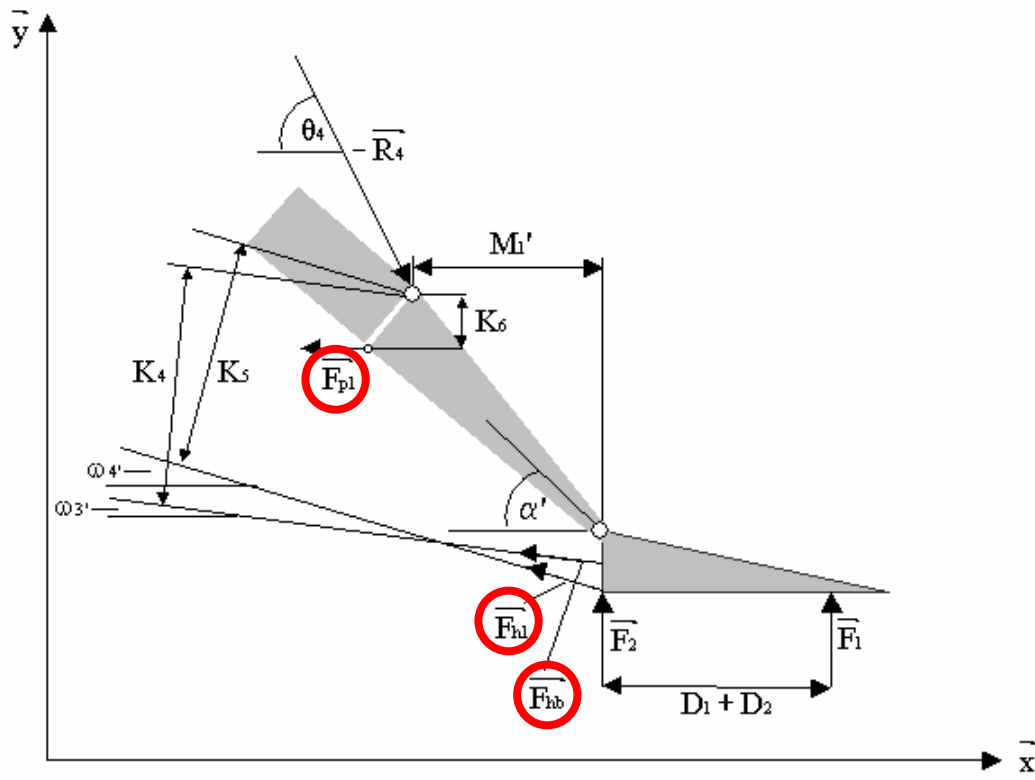
# Dynamic Pressure Measurement



- Standardised mask with 12 areas
- Forces were normalized to the body weight. Body weight = 100%
- Time normalization
  - > Each step is divided into 100 intervals
  - > Linear interpolation
- 5 trials > in each interval > Median/StDv

# Muscle Forces

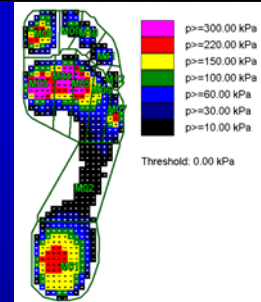
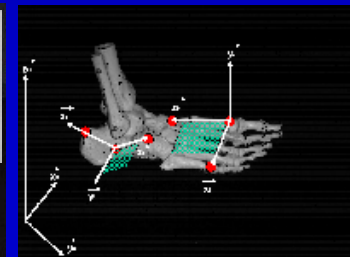
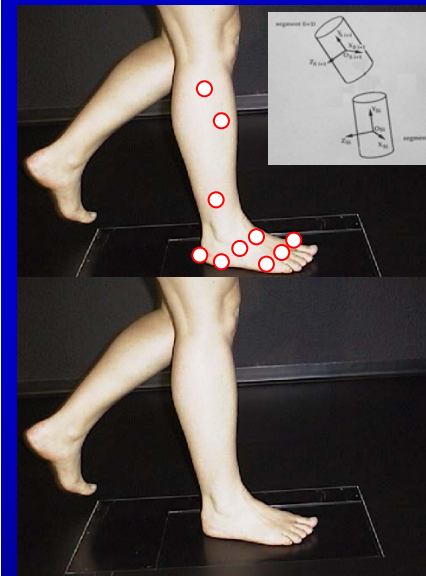
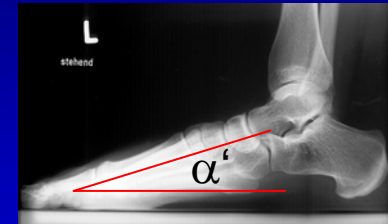
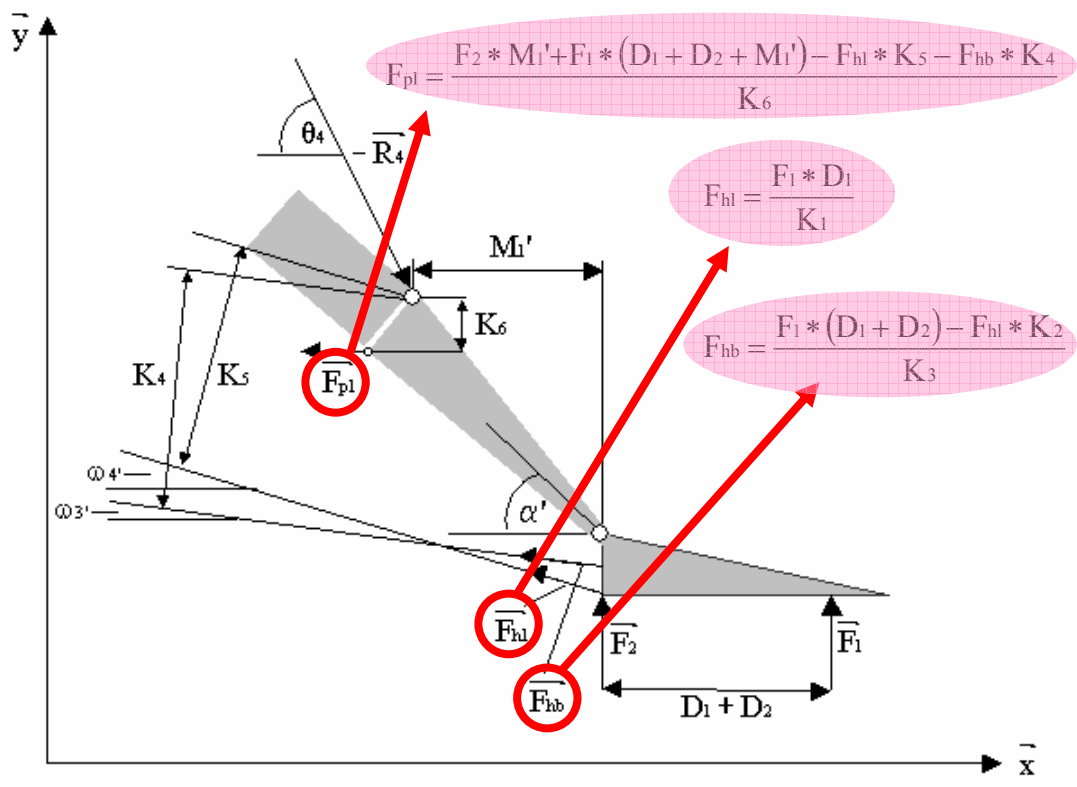
## Inverse Dynamics





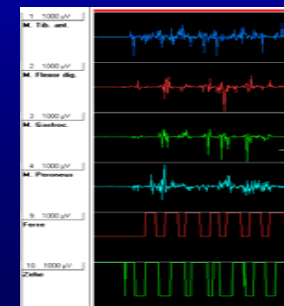
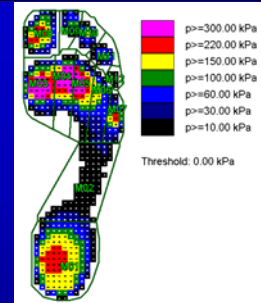
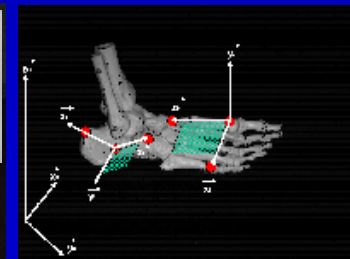
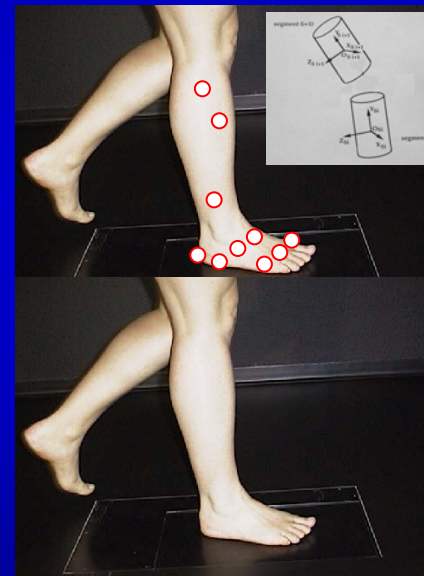
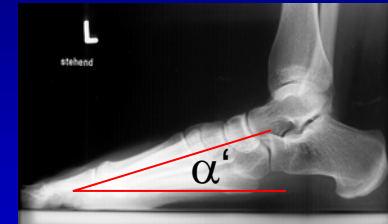
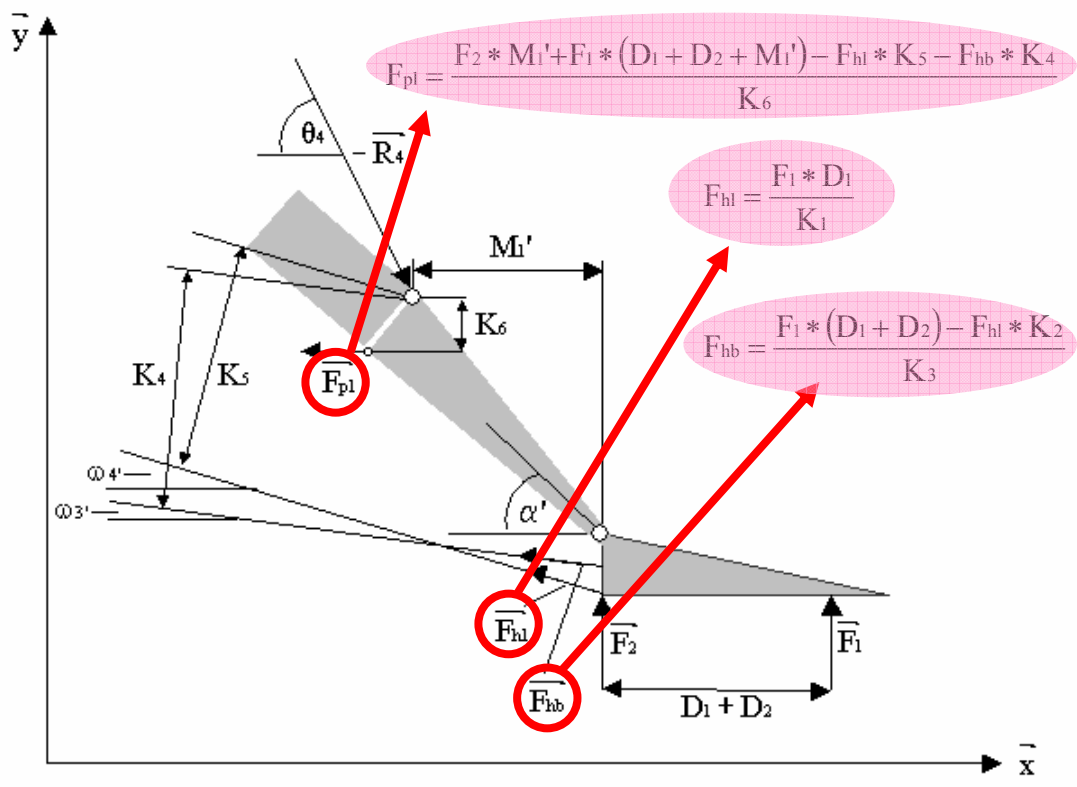
# Muscle Forces

## Inverse Dynamics using EMG

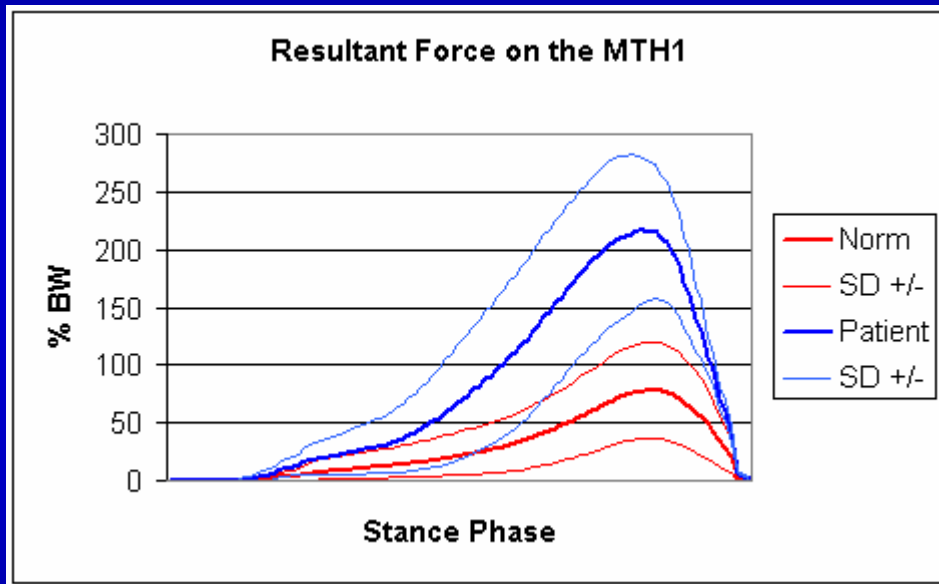


# Muscle Forces

## Inverse Dynamics using EMG

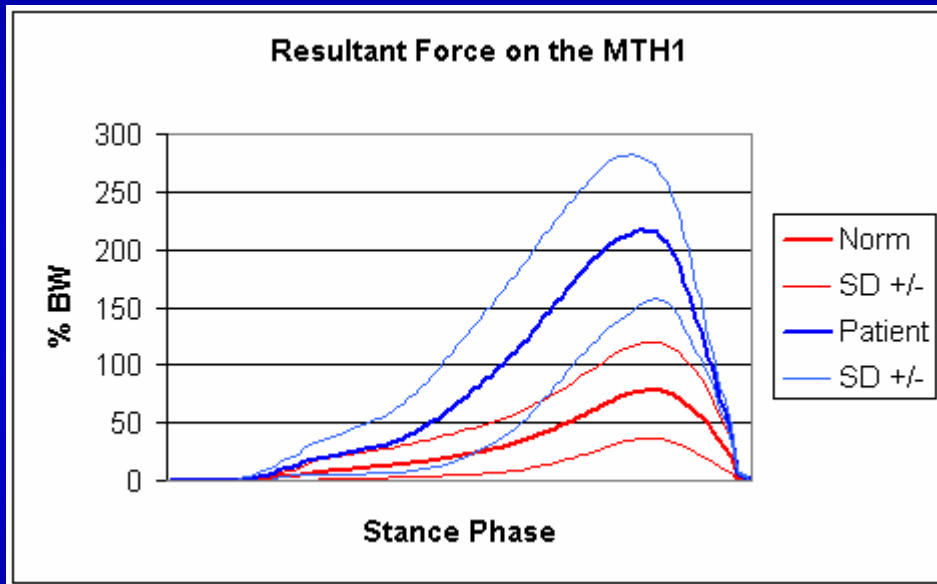


# Clinical Approach



- 5 Trials
- Median
- Standard Deviation

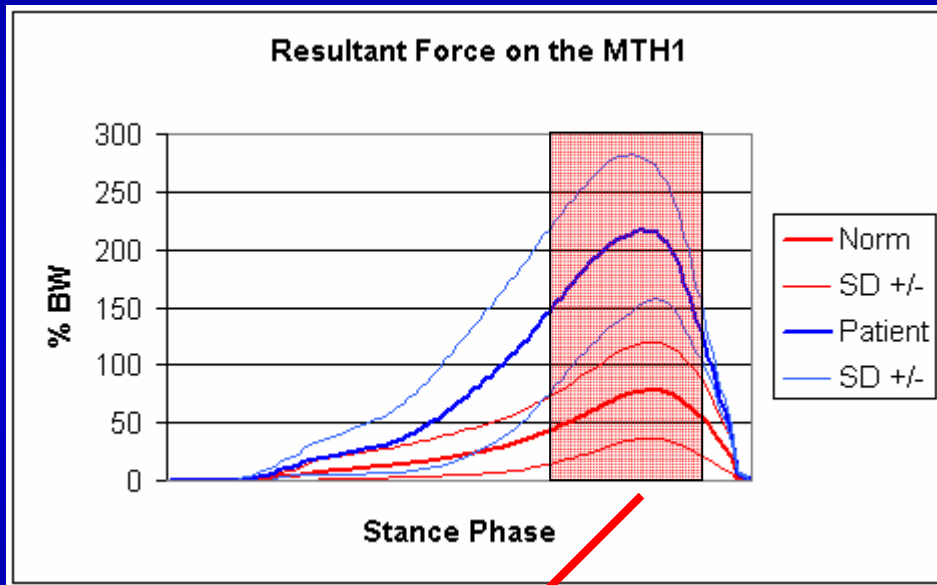
# Clinical Approach



- 5 Trials
- Median
- Standard Deviation

**more than 2 standard deviations >> pathologically**

# Clinical Approach

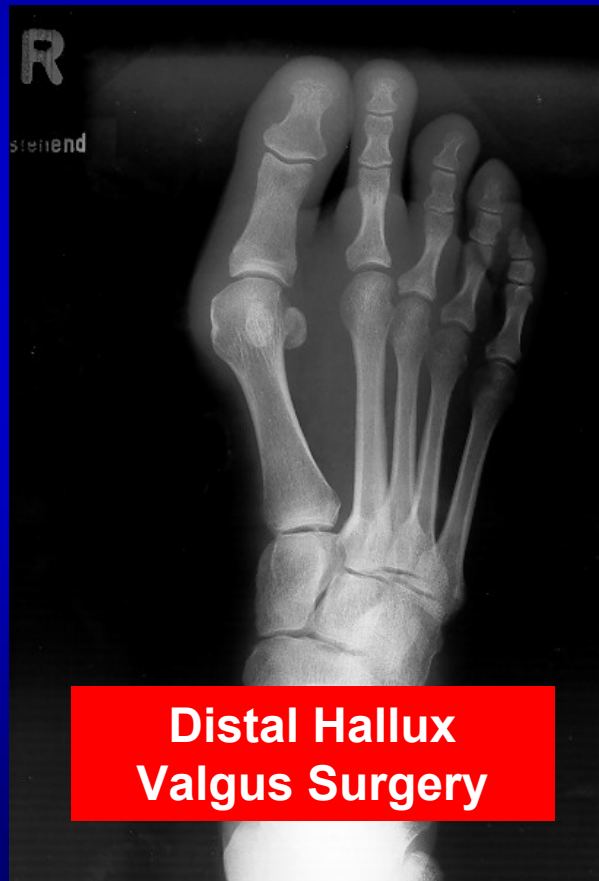


- 5 Trials
- Median
- Standard Deviation

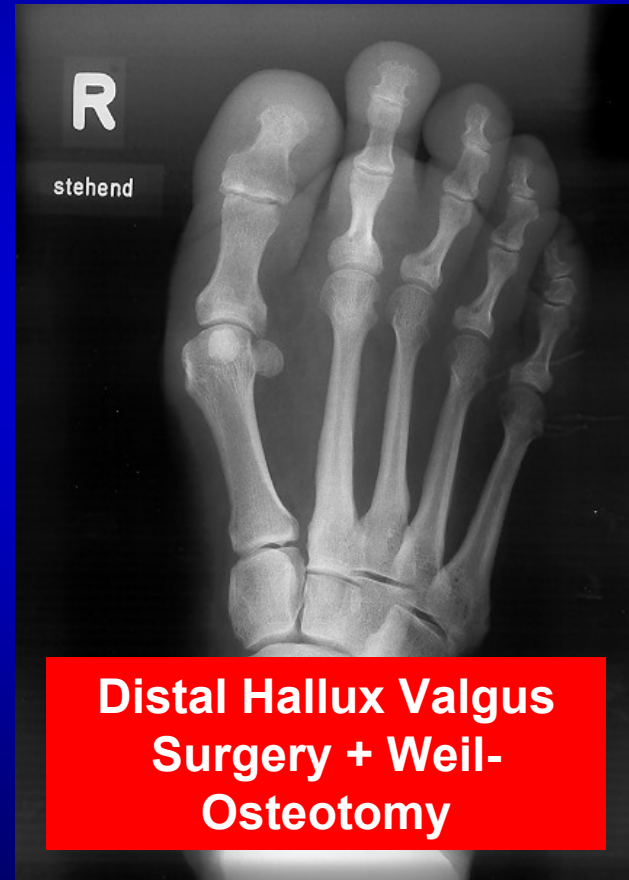
more than 2 standard deviations >> pathologically

# Clinical Example: Metatarsalgia, conservatively treated without succes

Case 1

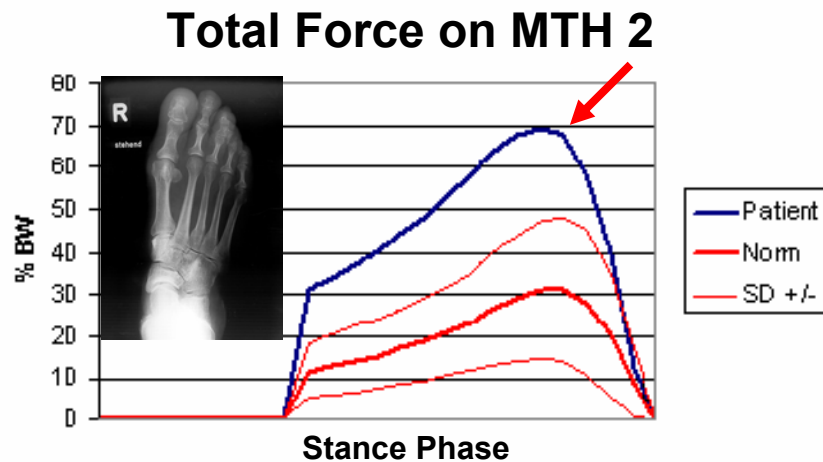


Case 2

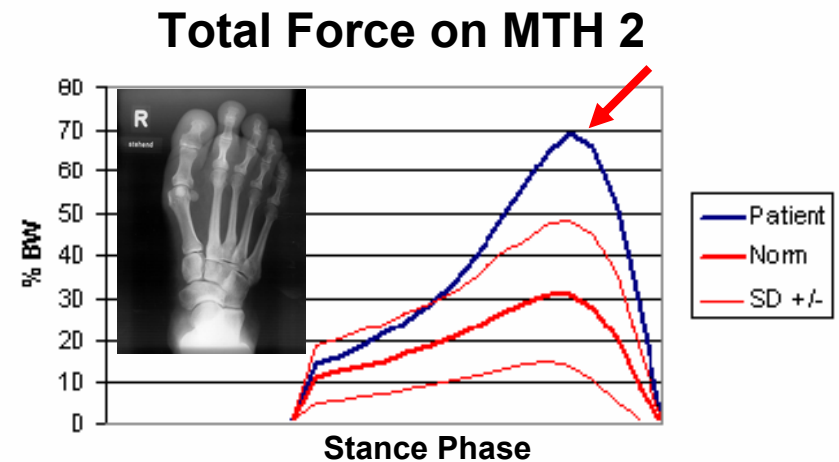


# Gait Analysis Data: Increased Total Force on MTH 2

Case 1



Case 2



**Aim of the computer simulation:**  
to decrease patients data (blue line) to the norm

# **Computer simulated treatment with Insoles**

**Decrease of 40% of the external force**

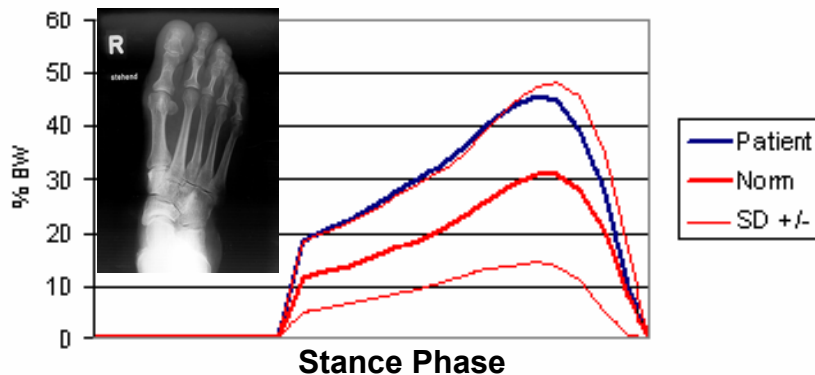


# Computer simulated treatment with Insoles

Decrease of 40% of the external force

## Case 1

### Total Force on MTH 2



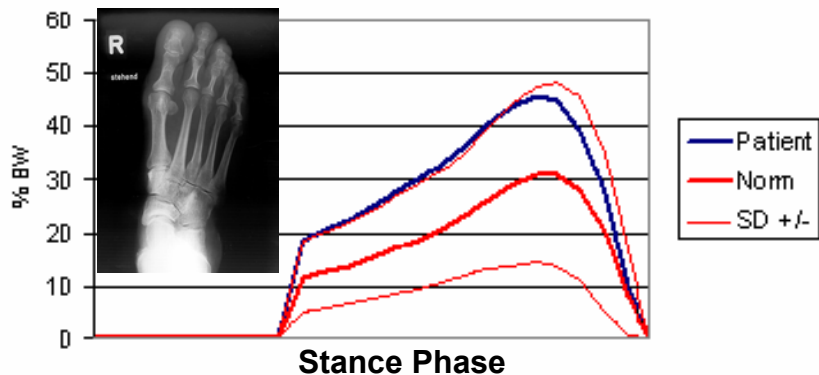
Insole = useful

# Computer simulated treatment with Insoles

Decrease of 40% of the external force

Case 1

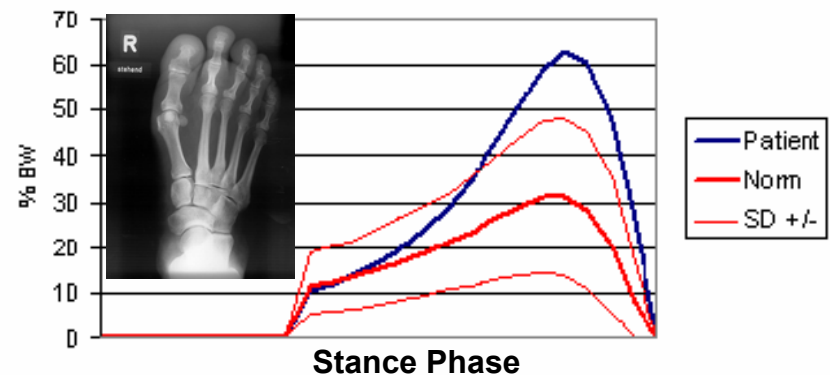
## Total Force on MTH 2



Insole = useful

Case 2

## Total Force on MTH 2



Insole not useful

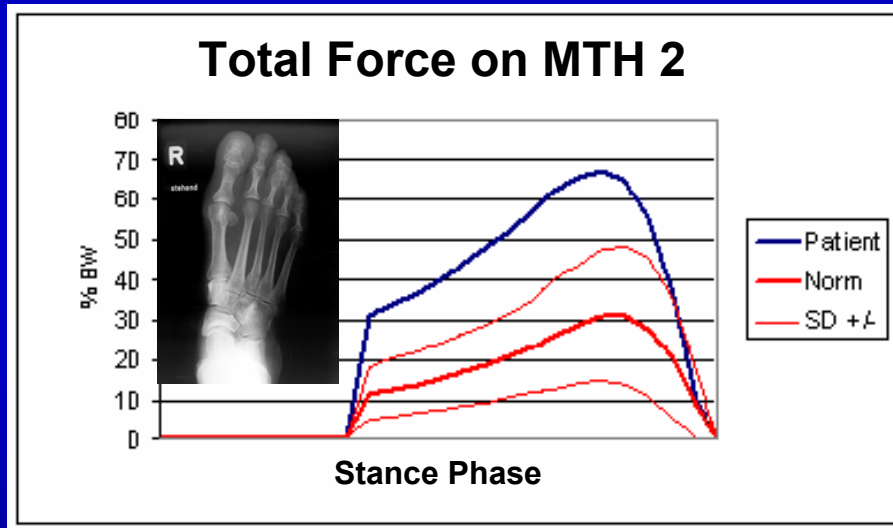
# **Computer simulated treatment with PIP arthrodesis**

**Shortening of the Phalanx of 1cm**

# Computer simulated treatment with PIP arthrodesis

## Shortening of the Phalanx of 1cm

### Case 1

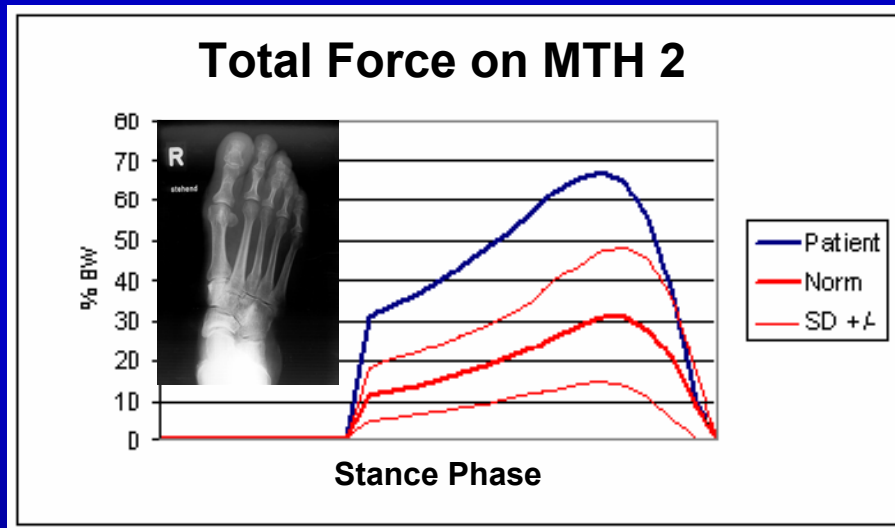


**PIP resection not useful**

# Computer simulated treatment with PIP arthrodesis

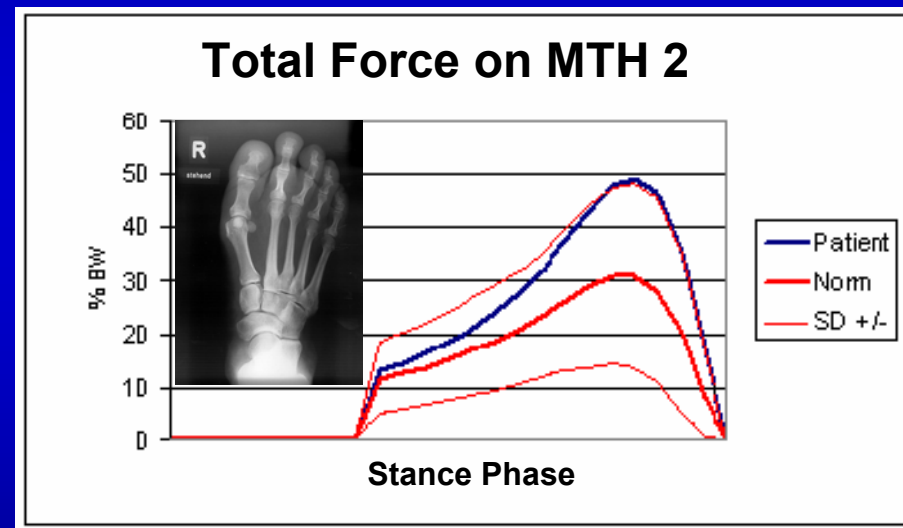
## Shortening of the Phalanx of 1cm

Case 1



PIP resection not useful

Case 2



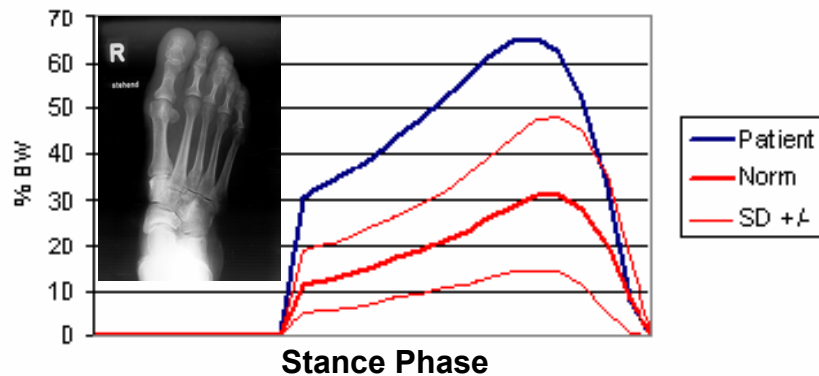
PIP resection probably useful

# **Computer simulated treatment with tenotomy of FDL**

# Computer simulated treatment with tenotomy of FDL

## Case 1

### Total Force on MTH 2

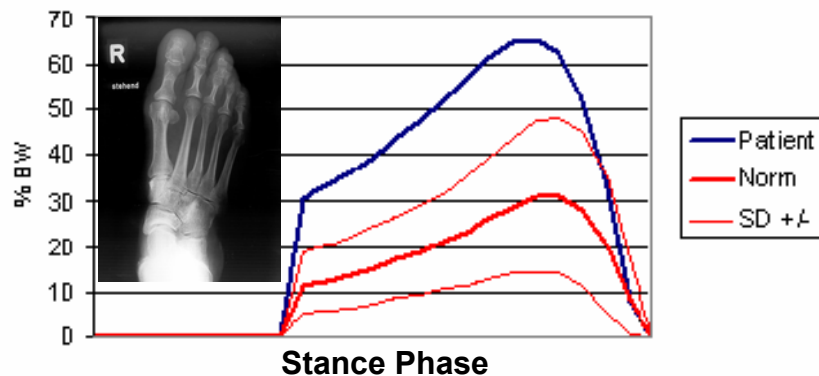


Tenotomy not useful

# Computer simulated treatment with tenotomy of FDL

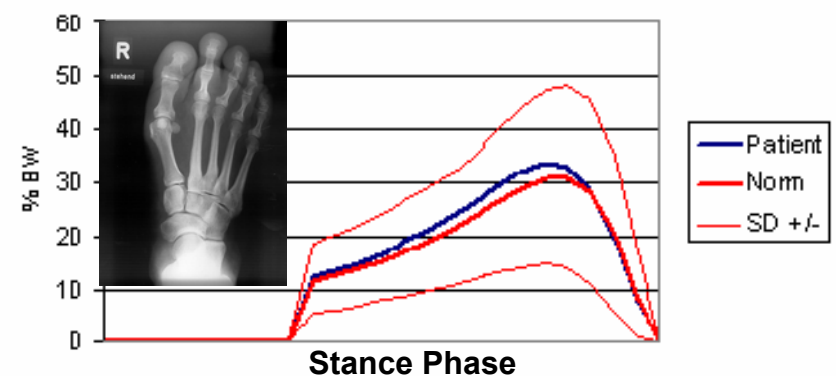
Case 1

## Total Force on MTH 2



Case 2

## Total Force on MTH 2



Tenotomy not useful

Tenotomy excellent



# **Computer simulated treatment with shortening of MT 2**

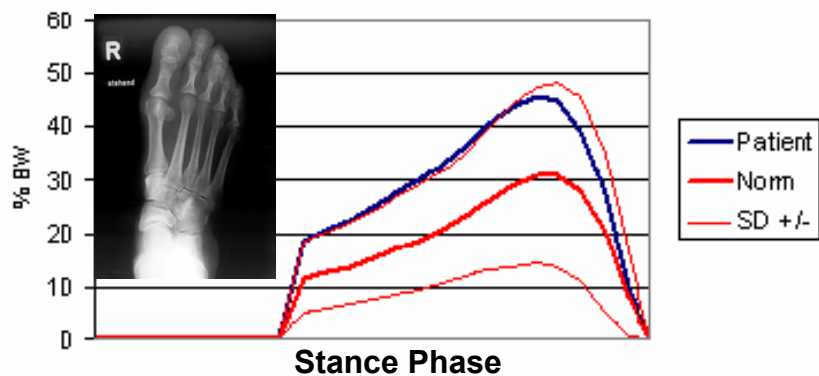
**Decrease of 40%, shortening of the metatarsal of 1cm**

# Computer simulated treatment with shortening of MT 2

Decrease of 40%, shortening of the metatarsal of 1cm

## Case 1

### Total Force on MTH 2



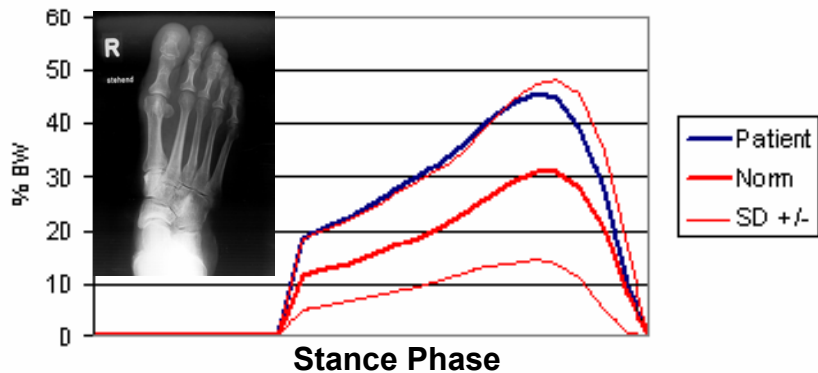
Osteotomy could be useful  
not better than the insole

# Computer simulated treatment with shortening of MT 2

Decrease of 40%, shortening of the metatarsal of 1cm

Case 1

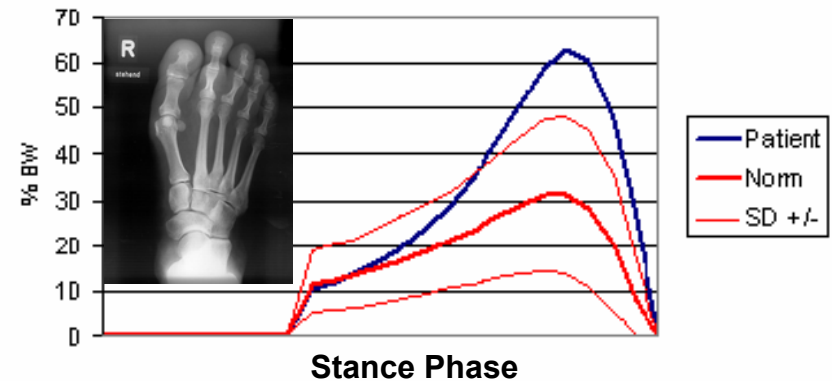
## Total Force on MTH 2



Osteotomy could be useful  
not better than the insole

Case 2

## Total Force on MTH 2

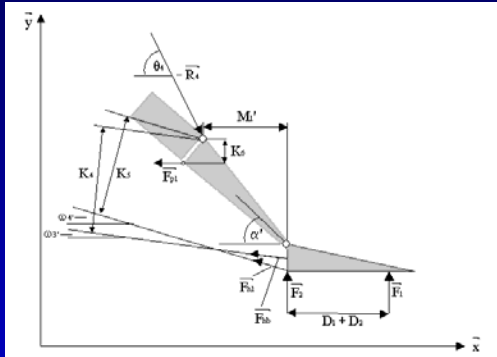


Osteotomy not useful

**Shortening of the second metatarsal  
leads not to a significant reduced total  
force on the metatarsal head**

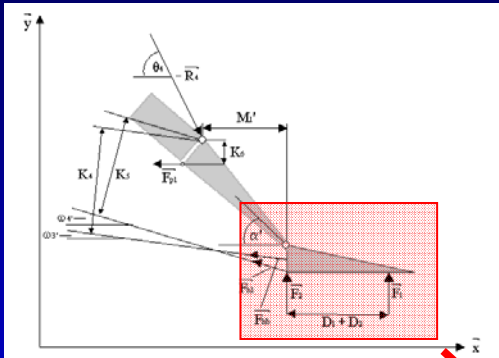
**1. Is there a correlation between the length of the metatarsals and increased forces at the metatarsal heads**

# Theoretical Study

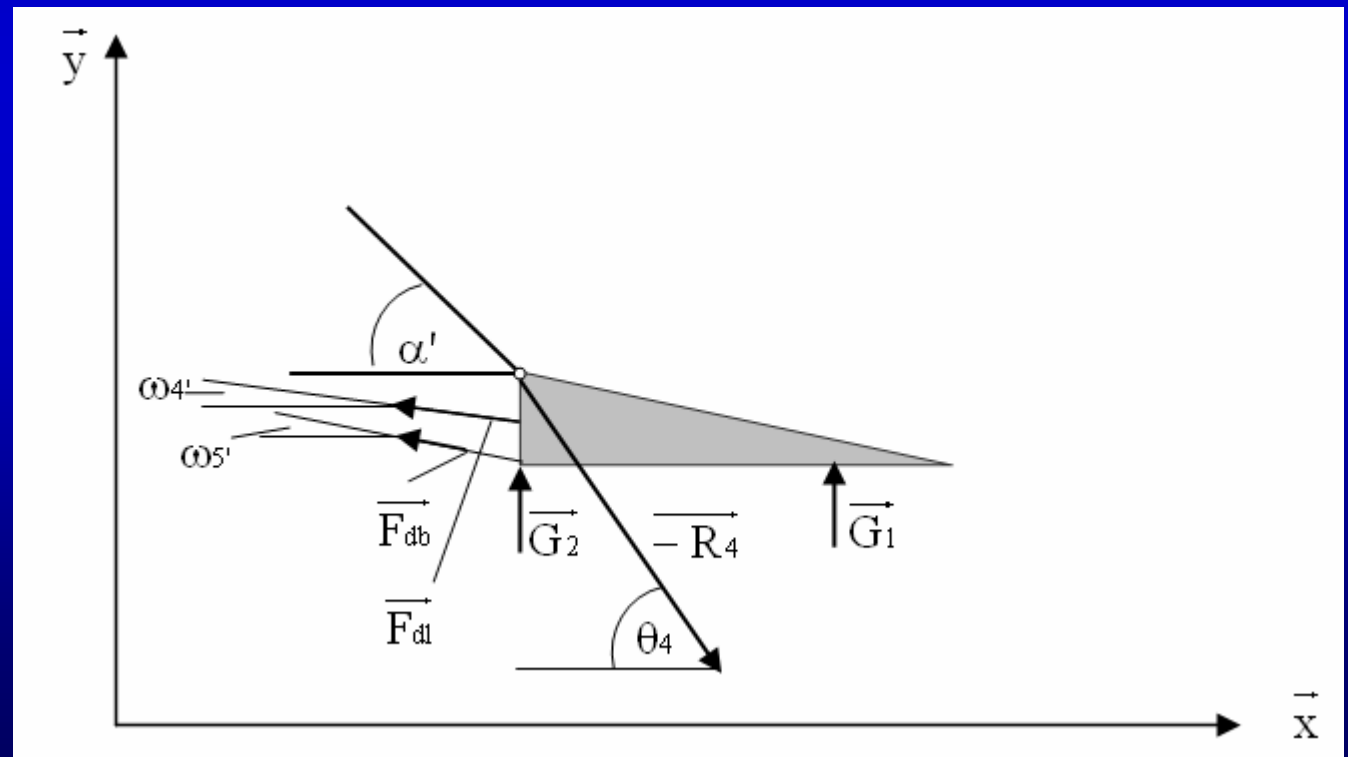




# Theoretical Study



## Determination of the Resultant Force

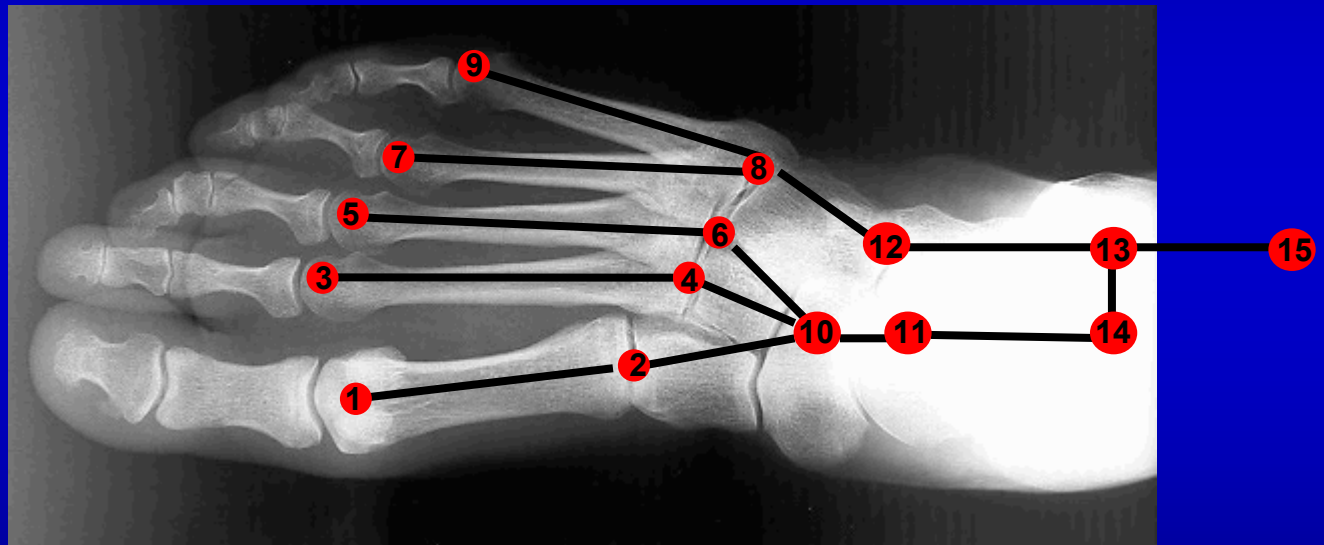




# Experimental Study

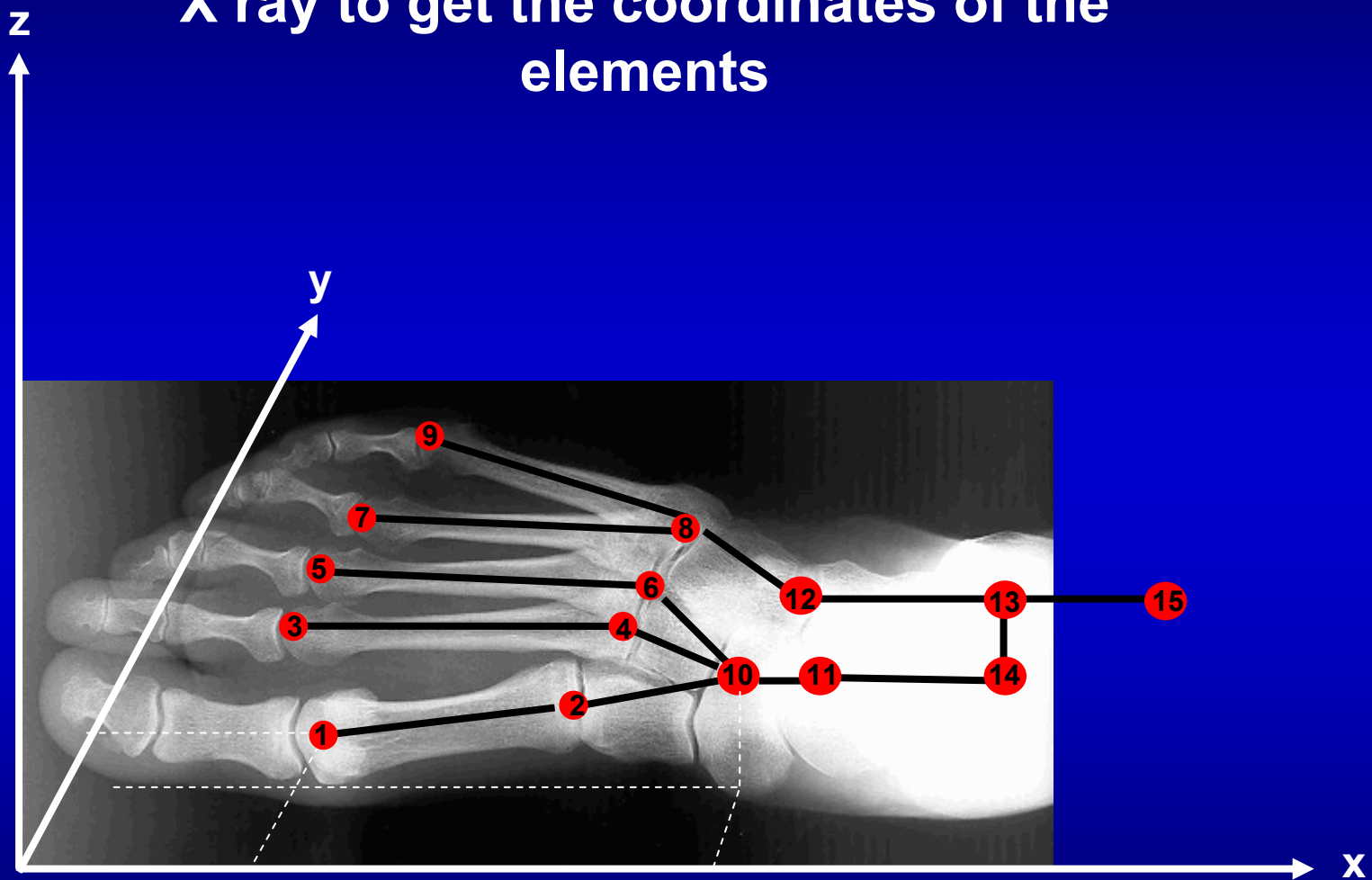
## Finite Element Method (Space Truss Elements)

element	node i	node j
1	1	2
2	3	4
3	5	6
4	7	8
5	9	8
6	2	10
7	4	10
8	6	10
9	8	12
10	10	11
11	12	13
12	14	13
13	13	15

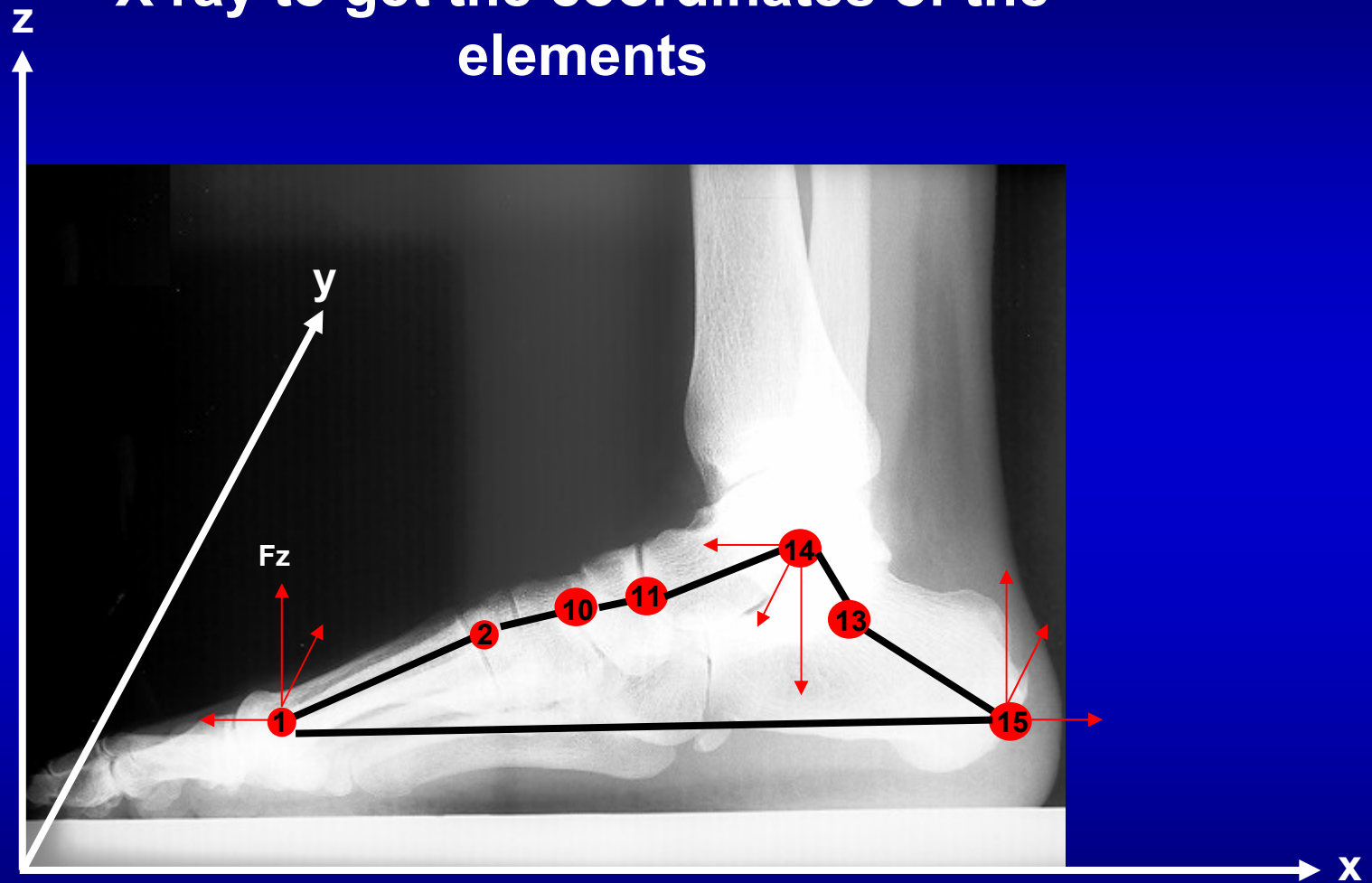


13 element model

# X ray to get the coordinates of the elements



## X ray to get the coordinates of the elements



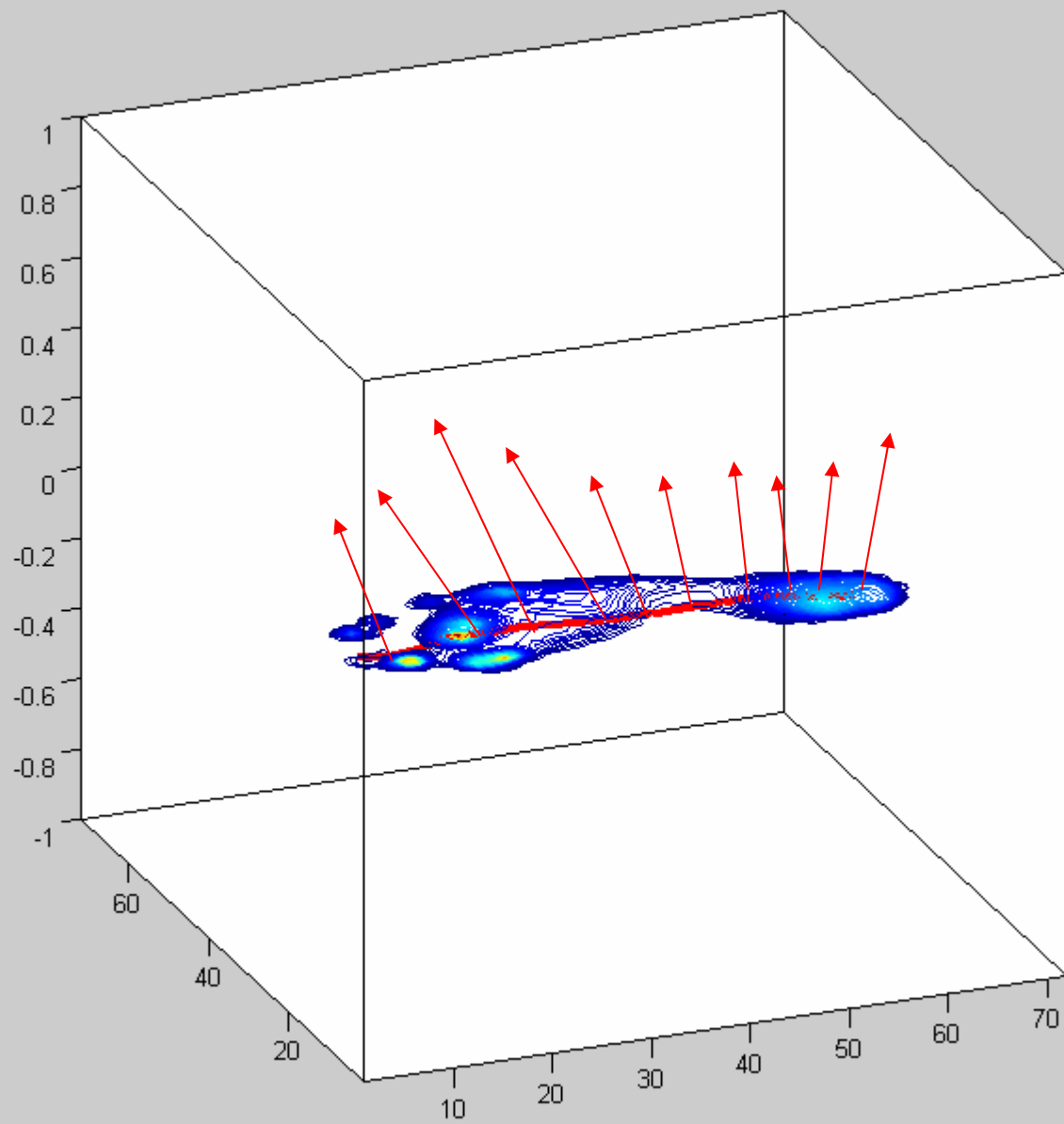
# AMTI 3 D Force Plate



# AMTI 3 D Force Plate + EMED SF Pressure measurement







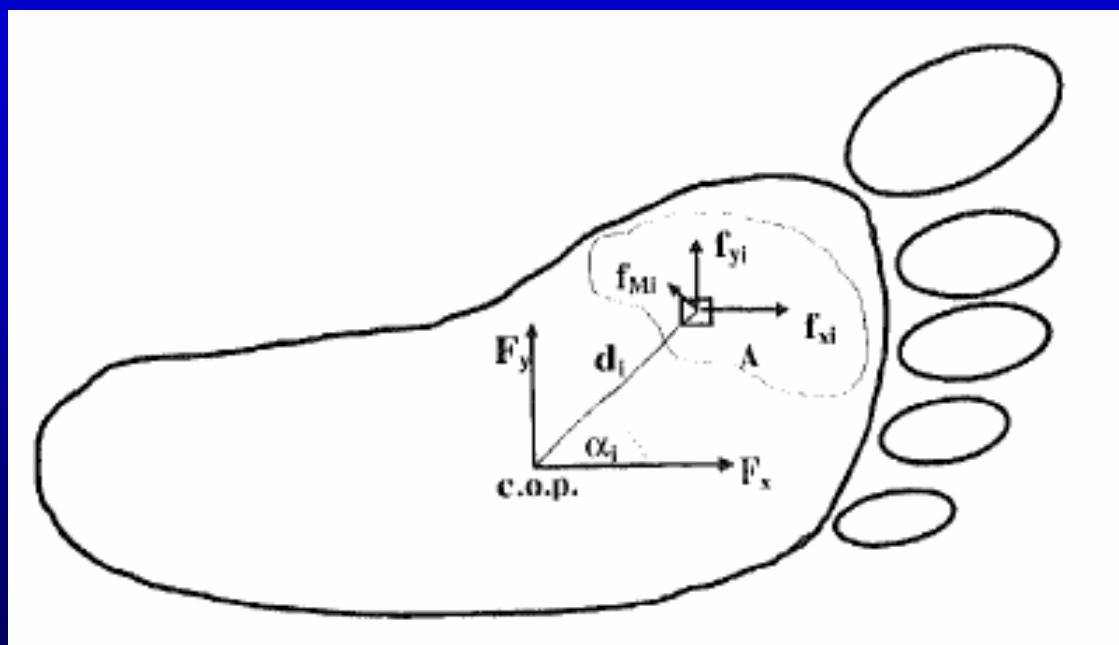
## Pattern of abnormal tangential forces in the diabetic neuropathic foot

Luigi Uccioli<sup>a</sup>, Antonella Caselli<sup>a</sup>, Claudia Giacomozzi<sup>b,\*</sup>, Velio Macellari<sup>b</sup>,  
Laura Giurato<sup>a</sup>, Lina Lardieri<sup>a</sup>, Guido Menzinger<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *Department of Internal Medicine, University of Rome Tor Vergata, Rome, Italy*

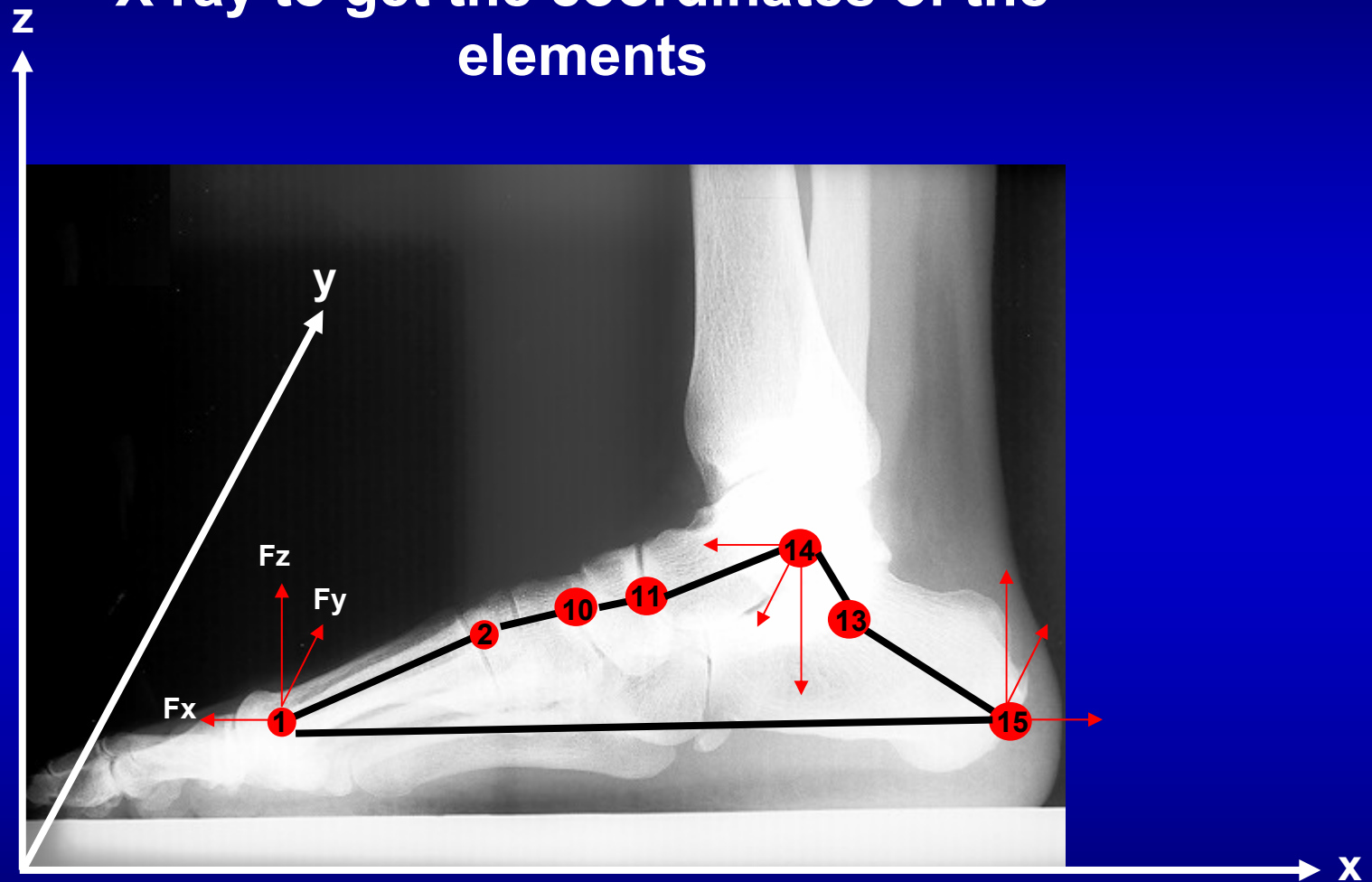
<sup>b</sup> *Biomedical Engineering Laboratory, Istituto Superiore di Sanità, Viale Regina Elena 299, 00161 Rome, Italy*

Received 29 September 2000; accepted 7 February 2001





## X ray to get the coordinates of the elements



**Shortening of 1 cm of the metatarsal 2  
leads to an increased force in the  
vertical direction of 4%**

**Shortening of 1 cm of the metatarsal 2  
leads to an increased force in the  
vertical direction of 4%**

**~ 1% Body Weight (stdv = 7% BW)**

**The change of the resultant force at the second metatarsal head after a shortening is not significant and is not due to the shortening itself**

**It is due to the reduced force at the tip  
of the second toe because of  
loosening of toe function after the  
operation**

# **Experimental Study**

**50 healthy / 50 metatarsalgia**

# **Experimental Study**

**50 healthy / 50 metatarsalgia**

**No correlation between length of  
metatarsals and the resultant or  
intraarticular forces**

**2. Is there a correlation between metatarsalgia and increased forces at the metatarsal heads**



# Healthy (n=505) versus Metatarsalgia (n=342)

Ray

1

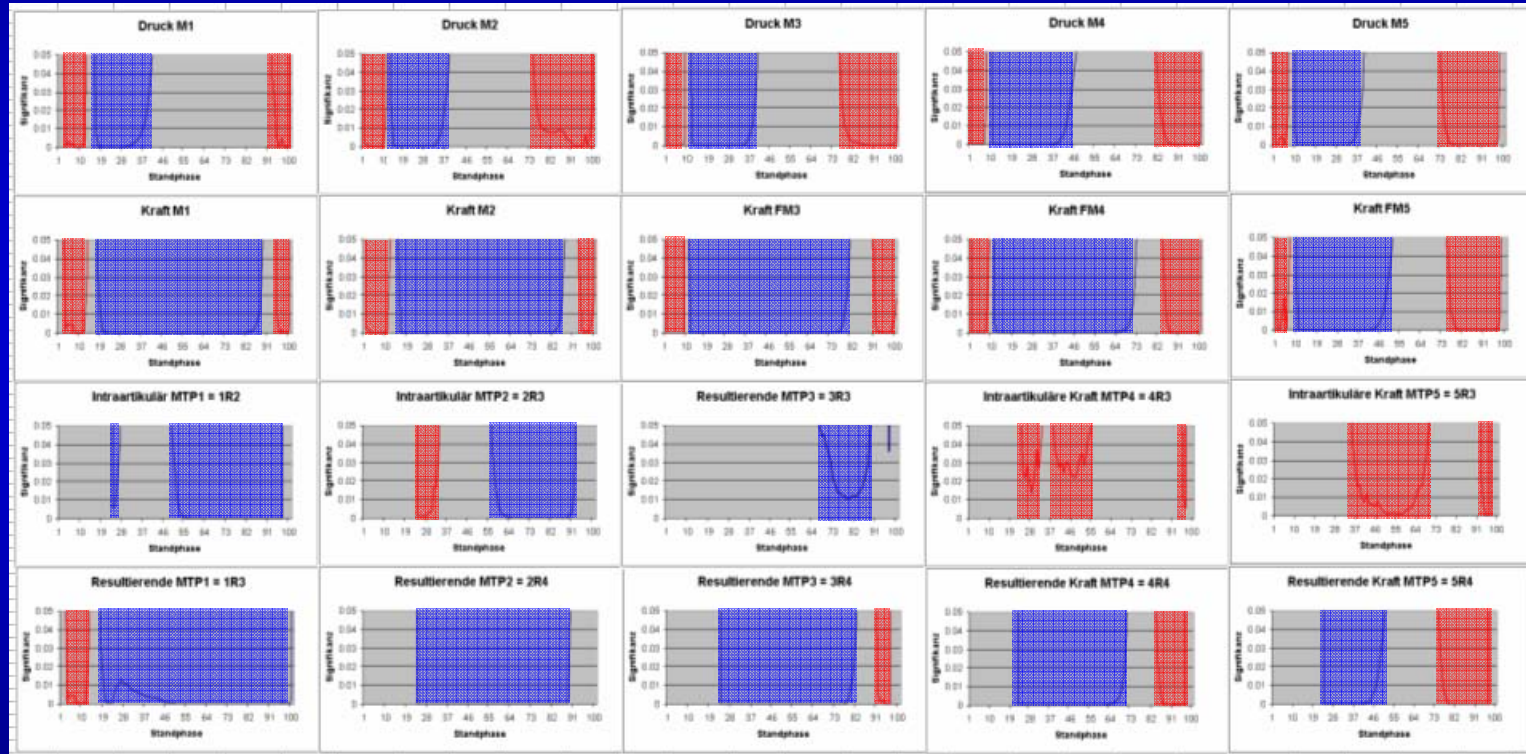
2

3

4

5

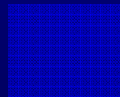
Max.  
Pressure



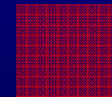
External  
Force

Intraart.  
Force

Resultant  
Force



significant decrease



significant increase

# The Facts

- **The resultant forces at the metatarsal heads do not correlate with the external forces**

# The Facts

- **The resultant forces at the metatarsal heads do not correlate with the external forces**
- **The resultant forces are higher than external forces**

# The Facts

- The resultant forces at the metatarsal heads do not correlate with the external forces
- The resultant forces are higher than external forces
- Metatarsalgia correlates not with increased resultant forces

# The Facts

- The resultant forces at the metatarsal heads do not correlate with the external forces
- The resultant forces are higher than external forces
- Metatarsalgia correlates not with increased resultant forces
- The length of metatarsals correlates not with increased forces

# **In Conclusion**

**We should not believe in orthopedic surgeons  
doctrin we should measure the problem**



**Thank you for  
your attention**



**Kantonsspital Aarau**



**Department of Orthopedic Foot Surgery  
Gait Laboratory**