Documentation for CusToM: Customizable Toolbox for Musculoskeletal simulation

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1 Introduction

Customizable Toolbox for Musculoskeletal simulation (CusToM) is a MATLAB® toolbox aimed at performing inverse dynamics based musculoskeletal analyzes. CusToM exhibits several features. It can generate a personalized musculoskeletal model, and can solve from motion capture data inverse kinematics, external forces estimation, inverse dynamics and muscle forces estimation problems.

According to user choices, the musculoskeletal model generation is achieved with libraries containing pre-registered models. These models consist of body parts osteoarticular models, set of markers or set of muscles to be combined together. From an anthropometric based model, the geometric, inertial and muscular parameters can be calibrated to fit the size and mass of the subject to be analyzed. Then, from motion capture data, the inverse kinematics step computes joint coordinates trajectories against time. Then, joint torques are computed thanks to an inverse dynamics step. To this end, external forces applied to the subject have to be known. They may be directly extracted from experimental data – as platform forces – or be estimated from motion data by using the equations of motion in an optimization scheme. Last, muscle forces are estimated. It consists in finding a repartition of muscle forces respecting the joint torques and representing the central nervous system strategy.

For a large set of musculoskeletal models and motion data, CusToM can easily performs all of the analyzes described above. CusToM has been created as a modular tool to let the user being as free and autonomous as possible. The osteoarticular models, set of markers and set of muscles are defined as bricks customizable and adaptable with each other. The design or the modification of a musculoskeletal model is simplified thanks to this modularity. Following the same idea, some methods are defined as adaptable bricks. Testing new cost functions in the optimization schemes, changing performance criteria or creating alternative motion analysis methods can be done in a relatively easy way.

A Graphical User Interface (GUI) has been developed to facilitate the data management and the model definition during a given study.

2 Statement of need

Inverse dynamics based musculoskeletal analysis aims at calculating biomechanical quantities to understand motion from joint kinematics to muscle forces. Generic models generally based on cadaveric templates are used as an input. These generic models are based on three layers modelisation. The first one is geometrical defining the polyarticulated rigid body system and the kinematic joints. The inertial layer defines mass, centers of mass position and inertia matrix of rigid body of the polyarticulated system. And, the muscle layer defines the muscle paths and force generation behaviours of muscles. This generic models are then calibrated through multiple calibration steps to be subject-specific based on motion capture data. Finally the subject-specific model is used to understand recorded motions of the subject.

However, musculoskeletal simulation requires high computational cost. Subject-specific calibrations and multiple simulations are required to compute subject-specific quantities on recorded trials. Current available musculoskeletal softwares are heavy and requires expertise like SIMM (MusculoGraphics, Inc., Santa Rosa, CA), Anybody (Anybody Technology, Aalborg, Denmark) and OpenSim (Simtk, Stanford, CA). Moreover, SIMM and Anybody are commercial softwares and, OpenSim is a freely available software but main algorithms source codes are not available. That's why, there was a need in developping a complete open-source software for musculoskeletal simulation. The source code was developed with Matlab to allow many researchers to understand and contribute to the code.

3 Targeted audience

CusToM is mainly addressed to PhD students, Master students, post-doctoral fellows, academics or anyone interested in motion analysis applications (e.g. coachs, ergonomists,...). The toolbox does not ask a high level in coding or computer science to run classical analyses and may also be used as a teaching support.

4 Installation instructions

CusToM was implemented and tested with the MATLAB® 2018a version on Windows 10. It requires the Symbolic Math Toolbox TM , the Optimization Toolbox TM , the Parallel Computing Toolbox TM , the Robotics System Toolbox TM , the Signal Processing Toolbox TM and the DSP System Toolbox TM to run.

After downloading the main folder named CusToM and placing it in a relevant location on the computer, the installation only consists in running the Installation function.

CusToM was not developped on MacosX and Linux. For MacosX, it could be necessary to download the source files of BTK and to compile and install BTK accordingly with your device. You would need to download btk-core-0.3.0 src.zip.

5 Graphical User Interface (GUI)

To perform a new study, the user has to create a new folder containing all the experimental data to be analyzed. This folder has to be the working folder of MATLAB during the study.

5.1 Musculoskeletal model generation

The first step consists in defining the musculoskeletal model parameters. To this end, the first GUI (Figure 1-4) is opened by executing GenerateParameters. The GenerateParameters function can be found in ...\CusToM\Functions\Interface.

It is composed of two parts. The left one allows the user to choose all the musculoskeletal model parameters on different tabs (1.1). The right one allows the visualization of the model resulting from the parameters tuning. This GUI generates a parameters file named ModelParameters by clicking on the Generate parameters button (1.3). This file is created in the current working folder of MATLAB.

The first tab (Figure 1) contains the general parameters. The size and the mass of the subject are defined here. It also contains the button **Load parameters** (1.4) allowing to load a ModelParameters file already computed for another study.

The second tab (Figure 2) allows the user to define the osteoarticular model. The whole body is divided into 5 parts: trunk (2.1), right leg (2.2), left leg (2.3), right arm (2.4) and left arm (2.5). The trunk is itself divided into the pelvis and lower trunk, the upper trunk and the head parts. The root solid can be chosen (2.6). For each of these parts, the body part model is chosen in a list of pre-defined models. A field NoModel can be used to define a partial model or a particular morphology. A user interested in defining new models can do it by defining a new model file in the corresponding folder and following the syntax of the pre-defined ones. The created model will then appear in the GUI as a new choice for a given body part. For example, to create a new osteoarticular arm model, you can go to ...\CusTom\Functions\Models\Osteoarticular\Arm and use the current models to create a new one. The drop down menu (2.6) allows to choose the solid root of the hierarchical structure describing the model. By default, this solid is the pelvis. This choice will influence the resolution of the inverse dynamic problem.

The third tab (Figure 3) contains parameters about the markers set. The choice of the markers set into a pre-defined list is done by using a drop down menu (3.1). According to the chosen set, additional options may be required (3.2). This could be a variable parameters on a given markers set, for example, the number of markers used on hands. Each marker is thus represented by a button (3.3). Each of them allows to remove or to add the considered marker from the set. A user interested in defining new markers sets can do it by defining a new markers set file in the corresponding folder and following the syntax of the pre-defined ones. The created markers set will then appear in the GUI as a new choice in the drop down menu. To create a new marker set, you can go to ...\CusToM\Functions\Models\Markers and duplicate one of the current markers sets to create a new one. Each marker of a marker set is associated to an anatomical point defined on a segment of the osteoarticular model. The set is defined as a cell table and each marker is declared with the following syntax: {'C3D_markername', 'Model_markername', {'Offf';'On';'Off'}}. The first string is the name of the marker that the toolbox will search in the experimental data, the second string is the name of the anatomical point to be found in the model (please

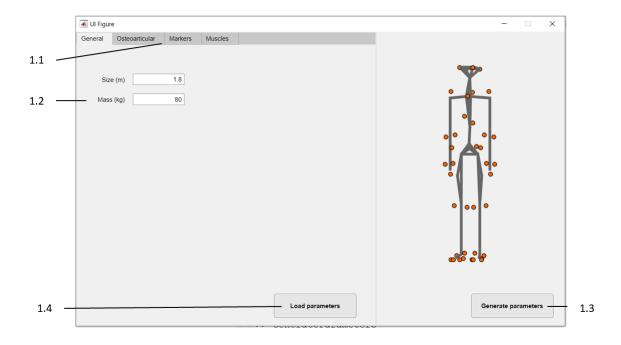


Figure 1: First tab of the GUI for the definition of the musculoskeletal model parameters: general parameters

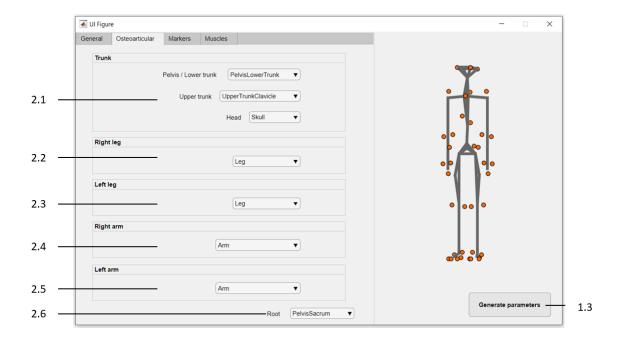


Figure 2: Second tab of the GUI for the definition of the musculoskeletal model parameters: body parts models.

notice that these two strings may be completely different), the 3 last strings are the Boolean allowing the optimization of the marker position on the model in the 3 local directions of the corresponding segment. Therefore, if you found some existing markers well placed but badly named for your own marker set, you can just use the anatomical position and change the marker name to be found in the experimental data.

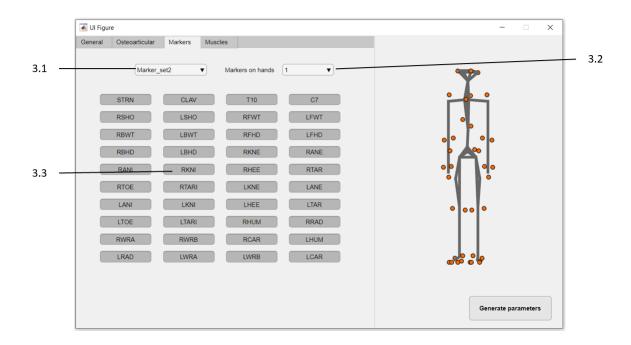


Figure 3: Third tab of the GUI for the definition of the musculoskeletal model parameters: marker set.

The fourth tab (Figure 4) allows to add muscles on the model. The toolbox contains several predefined sets of muscles. The addition or the deletion of a muscle set is done by using the **Delete** (4.3) and Add (4.4) buttons. For each added muscles set (4.1), additional information (4.2) such as the desired side of the muscles may be required. A user interested in defining new muscles sets can do it by defining a new muscles set file in the corresponding folder and following the syntax of the pre-defined ones. The created muscles set will then appear in the GUI as a new choice in the drop down menu. To create a new muscles set, you can go to ...\CusToM\Functions\Models\Muscles and use the current muscles sets to create a new one. Each muscle of a muscle set is associated to force generation parameters and an anatomical path defined with anatomical points of the osteoarticular model. The set is defined as a cell table and each muscle is a cell declared with the following syntax: {'Muscle_Name', f_0 , l_0 , K_t , l_s , α_0 , $\label{lem:condel} \begin{tabular}{ll} \beg$ first string is the name of the muscle, f_0 the maximal isometric tension developed by the muscle in N, l_0 is the rest length in m, K_t is the tendon stiffness (adimensional), l_s is the tendon slack length in m, $alpha_0$ is the pennation angle in degrees, and the final cell of strings is the muscle path (described with anatomical points defined in the osteoarticular model). Therefore, if you found some existing muscles that you would use or modify in your own set, you can just use the existing anatomical positions or add new ones to change the path.

The file ModelParameters contains all the musculoskeletal model parameters and is automatically generated by the GUI shown above. It is a structure which contains all these fields:

- Size: subject size;
- *Mass*: subject mass;
- PelvisLowerTrunk: function handle calling the model for the pelvis and lower trunk;
- UpperTrunk: function handle calling the model for the upper trunk model;
- *Head*: function handle calling the model for the head;
- RightLeg: function handle calling the model for the right leg;

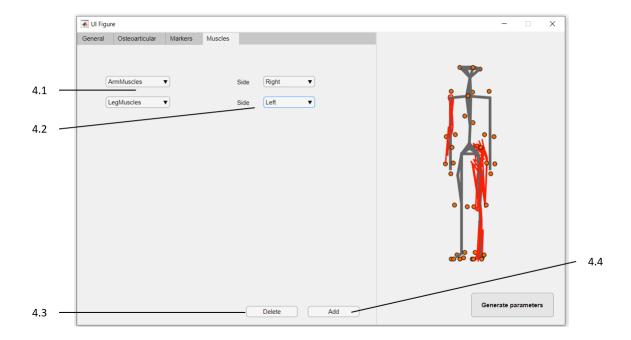


Figure 4: Fourth tab of the GUI for the definition of the biomechanical model parameters: muscles set.

- LeftLeg: function handle calling the model for the left leg;
- RightArm: function handle calling the model for the right arm;
- LeftArm: function handle calling the model for the left arm;
- Markers: function handle calling the markers set;
- MarkersOptions: additional options associated to the chosen markers set;
- MarkersRemoved: cell array containing the names of the markers to be ignored in the analysis compared to the ones contained in the chosen markers set;
- Muscles: cell array containing functions handle calling the muscle models;
- *MusclesOptions*: additional options associated to the chosen muscles set. The size and the structure of *MusclesOptions* is the same as the field *Muscles*.

5.2 Motion analysis

The second GUI (Figure 5) consists in defining all the analysis parameters. It can be opened by executing Analysis. This GUI generates a parameters file name AnalysisParameters by clicking on the Run button (5.7). All the motion analysis computations are thus automatically launched. The button Load parameters (5.2) allows to load a AnalysisParameters file already computed for another study. The GUI represents the different steps available for the motion analysis. It contains 3 calibration steps: the geometrical calibration, the inertial calibration and the muscular calibration, and four analysis steps: the inverse kinematics, the external forces estimation, the inverse dynamics and the muscle forces estimation.

The list box (5.4) allows to select files that have to be studied in the analysis steps. It contains all files in the current folder whose extension corresponds to the expected input file type. The field *filename* on the AnalysisParameters file thus contains a cell array with all the selected names.

The list boxes (5.5) and (5.6) allow to select the files used respectively for the geometrical calibration and for the inertial calibration. Only one file could be selected for each list box.

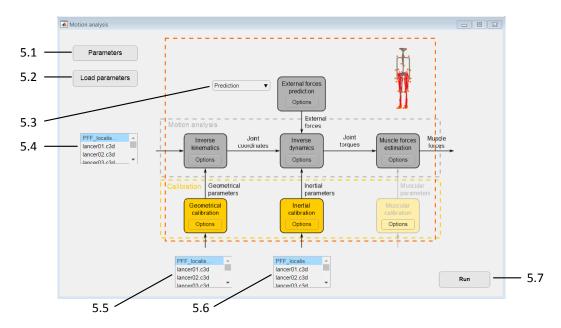


Figure 5: GUI for the motion analysis parameters.

General parameters of the motion analysis are available by clicking on the Parameters button (5.1) (Figure 6). The drop down (6.1) allows to select the type of input data. Currently, two types of data are supported: $.c3d^*$ and $.mvnx^{\dagger}$. The .c3d file format is a standard format used in biomechanics and animation. It contains all the information needed to read, display, and analyze 3D motion data. The .mvnx format is a XML based format for storing Xsens MVN motion capture data. It contains the 3D positions and orientations of all segments captured with Xsens MVN. A .mvnx file can be generated by the MVN Analyze software from a .mvn file by clicking File \rightarrow Export \rightarrow Export File (or Export Selection). The Exporter has to be selected on MVNX Exporter (*.mvnx), the MVNX Version on 3 and at least Joint Angle has to be ticked.

A user interested in using other input data (for example provided from a Kinect) can do it by defining a input handling function in the corresponding folder and following the syntax of the predefined ones. The created function and data type will then appear in the GUI as a new choice in the drop down menu.

If the check box (6.2) is active, the input data will be filtered (4-th order Butterworth low pass filter with no phase shift). The cut-off frequency of the filter can be modified (6.3). For a .c3d file, the input data are the markers position. For a .mvnx file, the input data are the joint angles.

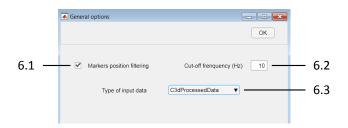


Figure 6: GUI for the general parameters of the motion analysis.

In the AnalysisParameters file, the general parameters are stored in the field *General* which itself contains these fields:

- FilterActive: logical value to select if the markers position have to be filtered or not;
- FilterCutOff: numerical value of the filter cut-off frequency;
- InputData: function handle calling the function to extract and process input data;

^{*}https://www.c3d.org/index.html

[†]https://www.xsens.com/

• Extension: character string containing the extension of the required input data.

Moreover, several additional options for each step of the motion analysis are available. Each of them is accessible by clicking the **Options** button associated to the step. For each step, the different options are detailed in the following sections.

Geometrical calibration

In the GUI (Figure 7-10), a check box (7.1) allows to activate or not the geometrical calibration step. If this step is activated, several options are available on four tabs.

The first tab (Figure 7) contains parameters about the frames used. The function used to select the frames throughout the motion is chosen with the drop down menu (7.2). The number of frames to select is defined in the box (7.3).

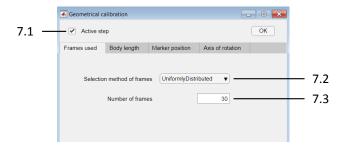


Figure 7: First tab of the GUI for the definition of the geometrical calibration parameters.

The second tab (Figure 8) contains parameters about the calibration of body part lengths. It allows to link two segments lengths, applying the same homothety coefficient for these two segments as a constraint in the optimization scheme. Thanks to the **Delete** (8.3) and **Add** (8.4) buttons, users can delete and add constraints. For each of them, the two solids are selected by using the drop downs menus (8.1) and (8.2). One solid can be selected only one time on the left drop downs menus. Otherwise, only the last constraint will be taken into account.

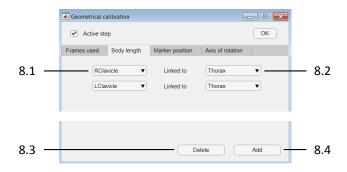


Figure 8: Second tab of the GUI for the definition of the geometrical calibration parameters.

The third tab (Figure 9) contains parameters about the calibration of the local positions of the model markers. The calibration of the local position of a marker could be blocked in one or more directions. So, for each marker, three check boxes (9.1) allow to fix or liberate the calibration of its local position along the x-axis, y-axis or z-axis (a checked box corresponds to a permitted calibration).

The fourth tab (Figure 10) contains parameters about the calibration of the axis of rotation orientation. Thanks to the **Delete** (10.4) and **Add** (10.5) buttons, the user can delete and add constraints. For each of them, the axis is selected with its associated solid by using the drop down menu (10.1). The orientation of this axis is indicated in (10.3). The three check boxes (10.2) allow to modify the orientation of the axis along the x-axis, the y-axis or the z-axis (a checked box corresponds to a permitted calibration).

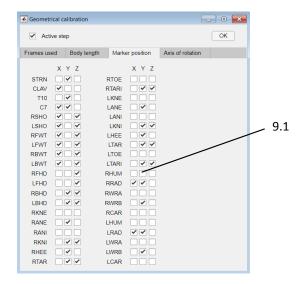


Figure 9: Third tab of the GUI for the definition of the geometrical calibration parameters.

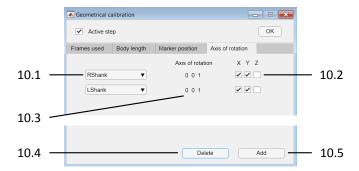


Figure 10: Fourth tab of the GUI for the definition of the geometrical calibration parameters.

In the AnalysisParameters file, the geometrical calibration parameters are stored in the field *CalibIK* which itself contains all of these fields:

- Active: logical value to activate or not the geometrical calibration step;
- filename: characters string containing the name of the file used;
- Frames. Method: function handle calling the function to select the frames throughout the motion;
- Frames. NbFrames: number of frames to be used in the geometrical calibration;
- LengthAdd: cell array containing the names of the solids involved in the additional constraints compared to constraints initially defined in the model;
- LengthDelete: cell array containing the name of the solids of the deleted constraints compared to constraints initially defined in the model;
- MarkersCalibModif: cell array containing the local calibrated directions of markers where modifications were applied compared to informations initially defined in the model;
- AxisAdd: cell array containing the orientation axes of the calibrated axes of rotation added to the ones being already defined in the model;
- AxisDelete: cell array containing the orientation of the calibrated axis of rotation deleted in the model.

In the case of .mvnx data, as the biomechanical model is provided, this step is not available.

Inertial calibration

In the GUI (Figure 11), a check box (11.1) allows to activate or not the inertial calibration step. If this step is activated, several options are available.

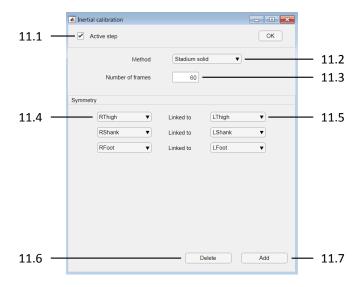


Figure 11: GUI for the definition of the inertial calibration parameters.

The inertial calibration method is selected thanks to the drop down menu (11.2). The number of frames to select is defined in the editable field (11.3). Some options could be added to link the inertial parameters of two symmetric solids through the definition of additional constraints. Thanks to the **Delete** (11.6) and **Add** (11.7) buttons, users can delete and add these constraints. For each of them, the two solids are selected by using the drop downs menus (11.4) and (11.5).

In the AnalysisParameters file, the inertial calibration parameters are stored in the field CalibID which itself contains all of these fields:

- Active: logical value to activate or not the inertial calibration step;
- filename: characters string containing the name of the file used;
- Frames. NbFrames: number of frames used;
- *Method*: function handle calling the inertial calibration method;
- Symmetry: array containing the position of solids in the osteoarticular model where a constraint of symmetry has been added.

In the case of .mvnx data, the inertial parameters are only calibrated with an anthropometric table and so, this step is not available.

Muscular calibration

At this moment, no validated muscular calibration is available. This step is thus deactivated. Muscular parameters of the models available in the current version are based on anthropometric data.

Inverse kinematics

In the GUI (Figure 12), a check box (12.1) allows to activate or not the inverse kinematics step. If this step is activated, several options are available.

The inverse kinematics method is selected with the drop down menu (12.2). The check box (12.3) allows to choose if the joint coordinates coming from this step will be filtered (4-th order Butterworth low pass filter with no phase shift) or not. If this box is selected, the cut-off frequency can be modified

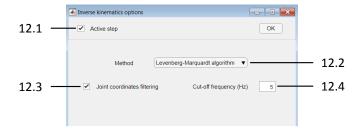


Figure 12: GUI for the definition of the inverse kinematics parameters.

(12.4).

In the AnalysisParameters file, the inverse kinematics parameters are stored in the field IK which itself contains all of these fields:

- Active: logical value to activate or not the inverse kinematics step;
- Method: numerical value calling the inverse kinematics function (1 for the optimization method; 2 for the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm);
- FilterActive: logical value to select if the joint coordinates will be filtered or not;
- FilterCutOff: numerical value of the filter cut-off frequency.

In the case of .mvnx data, as the joint coordinates are directly provided from the input file, no parameters can be modified for this step.

External forces computation

The external forces can be computed by three different methods (chosen in (5.3)): either there is no external force, either external forces are based on experimental data or external forces are predicted from the motion. The field *ID.InputData* of the AnalysisParameters file contains this information (numerical value 0 for no external external force, 1 for the experimental data and 2 for the prediction).

If there is no external force, no additional option is available.

If external forces are based on experimental data, additional options are defined in the GUI (Figure 13). The check box (13.1) allows to choose if the external forces data will be filtered (4-th order Butterworth low pass filter with non phase shift) or not. If this box is selected, the cut-off frequency can be modified (13.2). The drop down menu (13.3) allows to choose which function is used to extract and process input data. In the case of using the DataInC3D function, for each platform detected on the c3d, the solid with which it is in contact is selected in the drop downs menus (13.4). A field NoContact can be used to ignore platforms data.

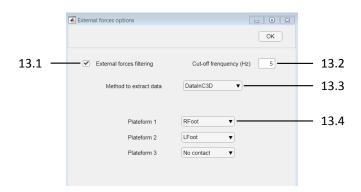


Figure 13: GUI for the definition of the external forces computation parameters when they are based on experimental data.

In the AnalysisParameters file, the external forces computation parameters when they are based on experimental data are stored in the field *ExternalForces* which itself contains of these fields:

- FilterActive: logical value to select if the joint coordinates are filtered or not;
- FilterCutOff: filter cut-off frequency;
- Method: function handle calling the function to extract and process c3d data;
- Options: cell array containing the names of solids which are in contact with the different platforms.

If external forces are computed using a prediction method, additional options are defined on the GUI (Figure 14). The check box (14.1) allows to choose if the external forces data will be filtered (4-th order Butterworth low pass filter with non phase shift) or not. If this box is selected, the cut-off frequency can be modified (14.2). The position and velocity thresholds and the friction coefficient are respectively defined by using the editable fields (14.3) and (14.4). Each contact point is chosen by using anatomical points available in the model. The drop down menu (14.5) allows to select a solid and the list boxes (14.6) allows to select a set of points into the associated solid. The deletion or the addition of a solid is made with the **Delete** (14.7) and **Add** (14.8) buttons.

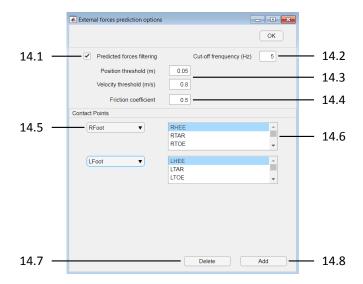


Figure 14: GUI for the definition of the external forces computation parameters when there are based on a prediction method.

In the AnalysisParameters file, the external forces computation parameters when they are based on a prediction method are stored in the field *Prediction* which itself contains all of these fields:

- FilterActive: logical value to select if the joint coordinates are filtered or not;
- FilterCutOff: filter cut-off frequency;
- PositionThreshold: position threshold;
- Velocity Threshold: velocity threshold;
- Friction Coef: friction coefficient;
- ContactPoint: cell array containing the names of the anatomical points defined as the contact points.

Inverse Dynamics

In the GUI (Figure 15), a check box (15.1) allows to activate or not the inverse dynamics step. No additional options are available for this step.

The field *ID.Active* of the AnalysisParameters file contains the logicial value to activate or not the inverse dynamics step.



Figure 15: GUI for the definition of the inverse dynamics parameters.

Muscle forces estimation

In the GUI (Figure 16), a check box (16.1) allows to activate or not the muscle forces estimation step. If this step is activated, several options are available.

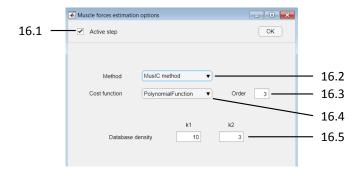


Figure 16: GUI for the definition of the muscle forces estimation parameters.

The muscle forces estimation method is selected with the drop down menu (16.2). If the MusIC method is selected, the densities of the database can be modified (16.5). The cost function used to solve the force sharing problem is chosen by using the drop down menu (16.4). According to the cost function used, additional options (16.3) – as the order of the polynomial function – could be required. A user interested in using original cost functions can do it by defining a new cost function in the corresponding folder and following the syntax of the predefined ones. The created function and data type will then appear in the GUI as a new choice in the drop down menu.

In the AnalysisParameters file, the muscle forces estimation parameters are stored in the field *Muscles* which itself contains all these fields:

- Active: logical value to activate or not the muscle forces estimation step;
- *Method*: muscle forces estimation method (1 for the use of an optimization method; 2 for the use of the MusIC method);
- DatabaseDensity: array containing the densities of the database used for the MusIC method;
- Costfunction: function handle calling the cost function used to solve the force sharing problem;
- ullet CostfunctionOptions: numerical value containing possibly options of the cost function used.

This step is available only if the biomechanical model contains muscles.

6 Results

The results of the different steps are automatically saved. The following sections detail the structure of the results. All of the numerical data is stored in SI units.

6.1 BiomechanicalModel

BiomechanicalModel is directly saved in the current folder. It contains all the parameters of the musculoskeletal model, independently from the data to analyze. This structure is composed of 7 fields.

Osteo Articular Model is a structure where each data represents a solid associated to a joint and contains all of these fields:

- name: characters string containing the solid name;
- sister / child / mother: numerical values representing the model structure tree each value corresponds to the number of the solid in the structure.
- a: (3x1) array containing the joint axis defined in the mothers reference system;
- joint: numerical value representing the type of joint (1 for a revolute joint; 2 for a prismatic joint);
- limit_inf / limit_sup: numerical values containing the joint limits;
- u / theta: (3x1) array and numerical value representing a fixed rotation after the joint of theta angle according to u axis;
- b: (3x1) array containing the joint position defined in the mothers reference system;
- c: (3x1) array containing the position of the center of mass defined in the current solid reference system;
- m: numerical value containing the solid mass;
- I: (3x3) array containing the solid inertia matrix defined in the current solid reference system;
- anat_position: cell array containing the set of anatomical positions, each defined by its name (characters string) and its local position on regards to the center of mass ((3x1) array);
- Visual: logical value to identify the real solids;
- calib_k_constraint: numerical value representing the number of the solid which had the same homothety coefficient for the geometrical calibration, empty array otherwise;
- L: cell array containing the names of two anatomical positions which represent the centers of the stadium solid used for the inertial calibration;
- *KinematicsCut*: numerical value containing the number of the geometrical cut achieved on this solid, empty array otherwise;
- ClosedLoop: cell array contains the name of an anatomical position (characters string) and its position for the closed loop defined in the current solid reference system –, empty array otherwise;
- linear_constraint: (2x1) array containing the number of a solid and the linear coefficient which link the joint coordinates of the two solids, empty array otherwise;
- limit_alpha: array containing the limits of axis orientation variation during the geometrical calibration, empty array if it is not possible to calibrate it;
- v: array representing axis which have to be calibrated during the geometrical calibration.
- kinematic_dependancy: struct to handle dependant joint coordinate as function of another joint coordinate.
 - 1. Active: Boolean if it is activated or not.
 - 2. Joint: Number of the joint coordinate in the OsteoArticularModel on which the joint coordinate is dependent.
 - 3. numerical_estimates: (Nx2) matrix. Rows of the first column are the values of independent joint coordinate and Rows of the second column are the values of dependant joint coordinate.
 - 4. q: function handle which gives the value of the dependent coordinate as function of the independent coordinate.

Markers is a structure where each data represents a marker and contains all of these fields:

• name: characters string containing the marker name;

- anat_position: characters string containing an anatomical landmark name where the marker is located;
- calib_dir: cell array indicating the local direction in which the marker position has to be calibrated during the geometrical calibration 'On' for a calibrated direction, 'Off' otherwise.
- exist: logical value indicating if the marker is defined on the osteoarticular model;
- num solid: numerical value indicating the number of the solid containing the marker;
- num_markers: numerical value indicating the number of the anatomical position on its associated solid where the marker is located.

Muscles is a structure where each data represents a muscle and contains all of these fields:

- name: characters string containing the muscle name;
- f0 / l0 / Kt / ls / alpha0: numerical values containing the muscular properties (maximum isometric force / optimal fiber length / tendon stress-strain constant / tendon slack length / pennation angle at muscle optimal fiber length);
- path: cell array containing the anatomical names (characters string) of the muscle path;
- exist: logical value indicating if the muscle is defined on the osteoarticular model;
- num_solid: array indicating the numbers of the solids containing the muscle;
- num_markers: array indicating the numbers of the anatomical positions on their associated solids
 where the muscle is located.

MomentArms is a cell array containing the moment arms of each muscle for each joint. If the value is not zero, the moment arm is expressed as an anonymous function according to the joint coordinates.

Muscular Coupling is an array containing the muscular coupling matrix.

MusICDatabase is a structure containing the database used for the MusIC method.

Geometrical Calibration is a structure containing the different results of the geometrical calibration. It contains all of these fields:

- frame_calib: array containing the number of frames used for the calibration;
- crit: array containing the stop criteria value for each iteration;
- errorm: cell array containing, for each iteration, the differences between the experimental markers positions and the reconstructed model markers positions;
- *k_calib*: array containing the homothety coefficients;
- *p_calib*: array containing the local variation of each model marker;
- alpha_calib: array containing the axis orientation variation.

Jacob is a structure containing all elements required for the computation of the Jacobian matrix.

Generalized_Coordinates is a structure allowing to reduce the number of joint coordinates q by considering independent joint coordinates q_{red} and dependent joint coordinates q_{dep} :

- q_{red} : symbolic vector array of independent q;
- q_{dep} : symbolic vector array of dependent q as a function of independent joint coordinates q_{red} ;
- q_{dep} : function handle returning a $N_{q_{dep}}$ D array of dependent q. The input is a vector array of numerical values of independent joint coordinates q_{red} ;
- q_{map} : $(N_q x N_{q_{red}})$ Mapping matrix from reduced joint coordinates space to global joint coordinates space

- q_{map_nnsix} : (N_qx6) Mapping matrix from 6-dof root solid to global joint coordinates space
- q_{dep_map} : $(N_q \times N_{q_{dep}})$ Mapping matrix from from dependent joint coordinates space to global joint coordinates space;
- $q_{complete}$: N_q D-symbolic array of global joint coordinates in which dependent coordinates are expressed as function of independent coordinates;

6.2 ExperimentalData

One ExperimentalData is saved per studied motion in the associated folder. This file is generated during the inverse kinematics step. It contains all variables of experimental motion data and is organized into these fields:

- FirstFrame: numerical value of the number of the first frame;
- LastFrame: numerical value of the number of the last frame;
- MarkerPositions: structure containing, for each marker (identified thanks to their names), their experimental positions;
- *Time*: array containing the time vector.

6.3 InverseKinematicsResults

One InverseKinematicsResults is saved per studied motion on the associated folder. This file is generated during the inverse kinematics step and contains all the results of this step. It is organized into these fields:

- Joint Coordinates: array containing the joint coordinates at each time;
- (in case of .c3d file) FreeJointCoordinates: array containing the joint coordinates of the 6-dof joint at each time;
- (in case of .mvnx file) PelvisPosition: cell array containing the position of the pelvis at each time;
- (in case of .mvnx file) *PelvisOrientation*: cell array containing the orientation of the pelvis at each time;
- ReconstructionError: array containing the differences between the experimental markers positions and the reconstructed model markers positions at each time.

6.4 ExternalForcesComputation

One ExternalForcesComputation is saved per studied motion in the associated folder. This file is generated during the external forces computation step and contains all the results of this step. It could contain three different fields according to the chosen step: NoExternalForce, ExternalForcesExperiments or ExternalForcesPrediction. Each of these fields contains the same structure where each data represents external forces at one time. Considering one of them, for each solid, a (3x2) array (field fext) represents the forces and torques applied on this solid – expressed on the global frame. The associated field Visual contains the same information adapted for the visualization of the results.

${\bf 6.5} \quad Inverse Dynamics Results$

One InverseDynamicsResults is saved per studied motion on the associated folder. This file is generated during the inverse dynamics step and contains all the results of this step. It is organized into these fields:

- JointTorques: array containing the joint torques at each time;
- DynamicResiduals: array containing the dynamic residuals at each time, that is the joint torques of the 6-dof joint.

6.6 MuscleForcesEstimationResults

One MuscleForcesEstimationResults is saved per studied motion on the associated folder. This file is generated during the muscle forces estimation step and contains all the results of this step. It is organized into these fields:

- MuscleForces: array containing the muscle forces at each time;
- Muscle Activations: array containing the muscle activations at each time.

6.7 Visualization

By executing GenerateAnimate, the GUI (Figure 17) allows to visualize different results.

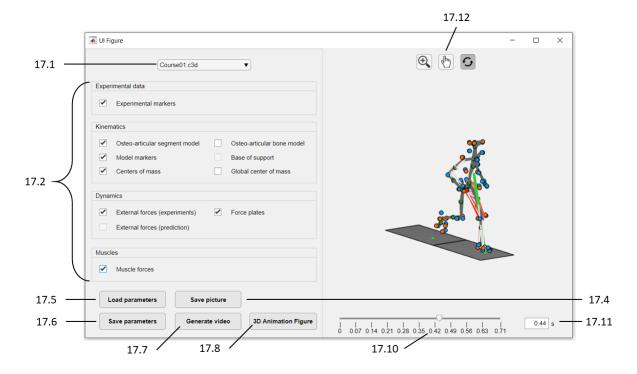


Figure 17: GUI for the animation.

The motion is selected by using the drop down menu (17.1). All elements to visualize could be selected thanks to the check boxes (17.2). Navigation buttons (17.12) allow to adjust the view. The time is set thanks to the slider (17.10) or thanks to the editable field (17.11). A copy of the picture on a png format could be done thanks to the button (17.4). A video of all the motion on a avi format could be done thanks to the button (17.7), or 3D interactive figure can be generated to explore different views (17.8). The button (17.6) allows to save the different parameters of the animation (view, elements to visualize) into the AnimateParameters file. The button (17.5) allows to load the parameters of a previous study.

When the input data are provided from XSens, a more attractive visual is available by clicking on the button Osteo-articular bone model. This avatar was extracted from the MVN Animate software[‡].

7 Tutorials and examples

4 tutorials extracted from research works are available in the current release. The first one consists in predicting the ground reaction forces on a sidestep motion. The second tutorial consists in analyzing kinematics of a pick-and-place task realized in a Virtual Reality environment (holding a Head-Mounted-Display). The third tutorial consists in estimating the lower limbs muscle forces during a cycling motion. The fourth tutorial consists in observing weight transfer during tennis serve performed in a real tennis

[†]https://www.xsens.com/products/mvn-animate

court. The tutorials are also illustrated by videos available in the repository. instructions below or the videos to run these examples.	You can either follow the

7.1 Tutorial #1: External forces prediction on a side-step motion

This example is a side-step motion. It is extracted from a database currently being developed for population characterization. The objective of the tutorial is to compare measured and predicted external forces.

Preparation

- 1. First of all, once MATLAB is launched, you need to run the Installation function. It permits to add the CusToM\Functions folder and its subfolders to the MATLAB path. This folder contains all the functions, models and dependencies used in the toolbox.
- 2. Second, make the CusToM\Examples\Side_Step being the current working folder of MATLAB. The folder contains a .c3d file and a post-processing file used at the end of this tutorial.

Generation of the Model Parameters

The following enables the creation of the musculoskeletal model parameters. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.1.

- 1. To generate the parameters of the model, execute GenerateParameters in the MATLAB command window.
- 2. Once the GenerateParameters GUI opened, first complete the size and mass of the subject. In the current example, the subject is 1.75m tall and weighs 70kg.
- 3. Select the Osteoarticular tab. The model used here is a whole body model. It is necessary to select the different body parts to assemble the model.
 - In the Trunk section, select PelvisLowerTrunk, UpperTrunkClavicle, and Skull in the corresponding drop down menus. This is the classical analysis model used in CusToM, exhibiting 6 dofs between the pelvis (mobile base of the model) and the environment, 6 dofs in the spine (lower and upper trunk nodes), 3 dofs at the neck and 6 additional dofs allowing the upper limbs to raise during the motion (clavicle joints).
 - In the Right Leg and Left Leg sections, just select Leg. This is a classical leg model, with 3 dofs at the hip, 1 dof at the knee and 2 dofs at the ankle.
 - In the Right Arm and Left Arm sections, just select Arm. This is a classical arm model, with 3 dofs at the shoulder, 2 dofs at the elbow and 2 dofs at the wrist.
- 4. Select the Markers tab. In this example, a whole body set of markers has been used. You can select it with the drop down menu as Marker_set2. In the Markers on hands drop down menu, select 1 marker for the hands. This set of marker is less complete than the Marker_set1 but is a classical ISB-friendly set.
- 5. Since the aim of the tutorial is to run a external forces prediction method, there is no need to add muscles to the model. However, feel free to add some if you want to test a muscle forces estimation method on this example.
- 6. All the parameters of the model are now properly set. You can generate the ModelParameters file by clicking GenerateParameters. The Analysis GUI is automatically opened.

Generation of the Analysis Parameters #1: External forces from experiment

The Analysis GUI is automatically opened once the GenerateParameters button is clicked. However, to run it independently from the GenerateParameters GUI, you can launch it with the command Analysis. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.2. Please note that the Analysis GUI automatically load the ModelParameters to update the visualization of the model on the top right of the window. The Analysis GUI automatically lists the .c3d files found in the current working folder of MATLAB.

In this first part, the inverse dynamics analysis will be run with the measured external forces to have a comparison point with the predicted data.

- 1. In the .c3d list on the left (files to process), select the ChgtDirection04.c3d file. Please note that you may here select as many files as you need to compute the same analysis on all of these files.
- 2. Click the Inverse Kinematics Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the method drop down menu, select the Levenberg-Marquardt method that is the fastest available.
 - Check the joint coordinates filtering as active with a Cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Inverse Kinematics Options tab.
- 3. Click the Geometrical Calibration Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the Frames tab, select the method UniformlyDistributed and choose a number of frames of 30. This is the recommendations issued from the papers [12, 8].
 - In the Body length tab, make sure that both RClavicle and LClavicle lengths are linked to the Thorax length. If this is not the case, click the Add button to generate these constraints.
 - In the Marker Position tab, the markers default local directions to optimize are automatically loaded from the Marker_set2. You can modify it the way you want. In the current tutorial, we keep the default values.
 - In the Axis of rotation tab, you can also add some joint axes directions to optimize. In the current tutorial, none of the axes of rotations are optimized.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Geometrical Calibration Options tab.
 - In the list below the Geometrical Calibration box, select the ChgtDirection04.c3d file to be used for the calibration.
- 4. Click the Inverse Dynamics Options. Make sure that the step is active, and close the tab.
- 5. In the External Forces tab, select from experiments. In this first part, we will run an analysis with the measured data to be able to compare after with the predicted one.
- 6. Click the External forces Options.
 - Check that the External forces filtering is active, with a cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - In the drop down menu Method to extract data, select DataInC3D. This is the classical way to proceed: the .c3d contains the external forces measures.
 - 3 drop down menus appears below the Method. For Plateform 1, select LFoot (the subject placed his left foot on this platform during the trial). For Plateform 2, select RFoot (the subject placed his right foot on this platform during the trial). Platform 3 was inactive during this trial.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the External forces Options tab.
- 7. Since all the analysis parameters have been set, you can run the analysis by clicking the Run button. The application automatically saves the AnalysisParameters, and launch the Main script containing the calls to the analysis functions and the model generation functions. The application first checks if the model exists. If this is not the case, the model is created. It may take some time (several preliminary computations are launched at this time), but it is executed once per subject. If the model already exists, the analysis is directly executed on the specified data with this model.

Generation of the Analysis Parameters #2: Predicted external forces

The file will now be analyzed with a force prediction method for the external forces instead of measuring them directly. A paper explaining the prediction method used here is currently being under review.

- 1. Run the Analysis GUI from the command window.
- Load the parameters you saved during the previous study by clicking Load Parameters and selecting the AnalysisParamaters.mat.

- 3. In the External Forces tab, select Prediction.
- 4. Click the External forces prediction Options.
 - Check that the Predicted forces filtering is active, with a cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - Check that the position and velocity thresholds are at 0.05m, 0.8m/s respectively, and that the friction coefficient is set at 0.5.
 - In the contact points menu, click Add two times to add contact points on both feet.
 - In the first drop down menu, select RFoot. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the right foot, the points called RFootPrediction1,...,RFootPrediction14. These points are uniformly distributed below the foot to create elementary forces respecting the dynamics equations during the motion. To select several points, you can use Crtl+click or Shift+click shortcuts.
 - In the second drop down menu, select LFoot. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the left foot, the points called LFootPrediction1, ..., LFootPrediction14.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the External forces Options tab.
- 5. Since all the analysis parameters have been set, you can run the analysis by clicking the Run button. Here, the model already exists, therefore the analysis is directly executed on the specified data with this model.

Post-processing

Once the analysis terminated, data can be post-processed the way you want.

- 1. To generate an animation of the motion, you can run the GenerateAnimate GUI from the MATLAB command window. Check all the boxes excepted the Muscles since no muscle forces were computed in this study. Adapt the point of view the way you want, and finally click Generate Video to proceed. The film edition takes a while, since it aggregates frame per frame MATLAB figures. Additional visualization features will be added in the next developments of the toolbox.
- 2. An example of post-processing can be found in the folder, called PostProcessingSideStep.m. You can open it and then run it to compare measured and predicted external forces.

7.2 Tutorial #2: Kinematics analysis of a pick-and-place motion realized in virtual environment

This example is a pick-and-place motion realized in a virtual environment with an haptic device. The task is similar to the ones analyzed in [6]. Here since no direct measurement of the external forces was made, the study focused only on kinematics features.

Preparation

- 1. First of all, once MATLAB is launched, you need to run the Installation function. It permits to add the CusTom\Functions folder and its subfolders to the MATLAB path. This folder contains all the functions, models and dependencies used in the toolbox.
- 2. Second, make the CusToM\Examples\VR_pick_and_place being the current working folder of MAT-LAB. The folder contains a .c3d file and a post-processing file used at the end of this tutorial.

Generation of the Model Parameters

The following enables the creation of the kinematical model parameters. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.1.

- 1. To generate the parameters of the model, execute GenerateParameters in the MATLAB command window.
- 2. Once the GenerateParameters GUI opened, first complete the size and mass of the subject. In the current example, the subject is 1.78m tall and weighs 60kg.
- 3. Select the Osteoarticular tab. The model used here is an {upper limb, trunk, head} model. It is necessary to select the different body parts to assemble the model.
 - In the Trunk section, select PelvisLowerTrunk, UpperTrunkClavicle, and Skull in the corresponding drop down menus. This is the classical analysis model used in CusToM, exhibiting 6 dofs between the pelvis (mobile base of the model) and the environment, 6 dofs in the spine (lower and upper trunk nodes), 3 dofs at the neck and 6 additional dofs allowing the upper limbs to raise during the motion (clavicle joints).
 - In the Right Leg and Left Leg sections, just select NoModel. The experimentation did not focus on leg motions, therefore the legs were not equipped with markers.
 - In the Right Arm section just select Arm. This is a classical arm model, with 3 dofs at the shoulder, 2 dofs at the elbow and 2 dofs at the wrist.
 - In the Left Arm section just select NoModel. The left arm was supposed to be static during the task and were not equipped with markers.
- 4. Select the Markers tab. In this example, a specific set of markers has been used. You can select it with the drop down menu as Marker_set3. In the Markers on hands drop down menu, select 1 marker for the hands. This set of marker is specific, especially with the head motion that was tracked directly with the HMD motion through markers.
- 5. Since the aim of the tutorial is to run a kinematic analysis, there is no need to add muscles to the model. However, feel free to add some if you want to test a muscle forces estimation method on this example.
- 6. All the parameters of the model are now properly set. You can generate the ModelParameters file by clicking GenerateParameters. The Analysis GUI is automatically opened.

Generation of the Analysis Parameters

The Analysis GUI is automatically opened once the GenerateParameters button is clicked. However, to run it independently from the GenerateParameters GUI, you can launch it with the command Analysis. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.2. Please note that the Analysis GUI automatically load the ModelParameters to update the visualization of the model on the top right of the window. The Analysis GUI automatically lists the .c3d files found in the current working folder of MATLAB.

- 1. In the C3D list on the left (files to process), select the Record_12.c3d file. Please note that you may here select as many files as you need to compute the same analysis on all of these files.
- 2. Click the Inverse Kinematics Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the method drop down menu, select the Levenberg-Marquardt method that is the fastest available.
 - Check the joint coordinates filtering as active with a Cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Inverse Kinematics Options tab.
- 3. Click the Geometrical Calibration Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the Frames tab, select the method UniformlyDistributed and choose a number of frames of 30. This is the recommendations issued from the papers [12, 8].
 - In the Body length tab, make sure that both RClavicle and LClavicle lengths are linked to the Thorax length. If this is not the case, click the Add button to generate these constraints.
 - In the Marker Position tab, the markers default local directions to optimize are automatically loaded from the Marker_set3. You can modify it the way you want. In the current tutorial, we keep the default values.
 - In the Axis of rotation tab, you can also add some joint axes directions to optimize. In the current tutorial, none of the axes of rotations are optimized.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Geometrical Calibration Options tab.
 - In the list below the Geometrical Calibration box, select the Record_12.c3d file to be used for the calibration.
- 4. Click the Inverse Dynamics Options. Make sure that the step is inactive, and close the tab.
- 5. Since all the analysis parameters have been set, you can run the analysis by clicking the Run button. The application automatically saves the AnalysisParameters, and launch the Main script containing the calls to the analysis functions and the model generation functions. The application first checks if the model exists. If this is not the case, the model is created. It may take some time (several preliminary computations are launched at this time), but it is executed once per subject. If the model already exists, the analysis is directly executed on the specified data with this model.

Post-processing

Once the analysis terminated, data can be post-processed the way you want.

- 1. To generate an animation of the motion, you can run the GenerateAnimate GUI from the MATLAB command window. Check the boxes Experimental Markers, Osteoarticular Model and Model Markers only, since no data is available for the other visualization features. Adapt the point of view the way you want, and finally click Generate Video to proceed. The film edition takes a while, since it aggregates frame per frame MATLAB figures. Additional visualization features will be added in the next developments of the toolbox.
- 2. An example of post-processing can be found in the folder, called PostProcessingVR.m. You can open it and then run it to extract joint angles against time for example.

7.3 Tutorial #3: Lower limbs muscle forces estimation on a cycling motion

This example is extracted from [23]. This research work consisted in linking the symmetry, the performance and the health during a cycling motion. The muscular symmetry is analyzed by the motion analysis containing an inverse kinematics step, an inverse dynamics step and a muscle forces estimation step. The markers set used is that called Marker_set2 in CusToM. External forces applied on each foot were measured with two mobile platforms located on pedals.

Preparation

- 1. First of all, once MATLAB is launched, you need to run the Installation function. It permits to add the CusToM\Functions folder and its subfolders to the MATLAB path. This folder contains all the functions, models and dependencies used in the toolbox.
- 2. Second, make the CusToM\Examples\Cycling being the current working folder of MATLAB. The folder contains the .c3d file and the .csv files to be processed. This is the classical way used in CusToM to launch an analysis: all of the data of a given subject is gathered in a unique folder being the current working folder of MATLAB. The folder also contains a post-processing script used at the end of the tutorial.

Generation of the Model Parameters

The following section enables the creation of the musculoskeletal model parameters. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.1.

- 1. To generate the parameters of the model, execute GenerateParameters in the MATLAB command window.
- 2. Once the GenerateParameters GUI opened, first complete the size and mass of the subject. In the current example, the subject is 1.84m tall and weighs 70kg.
- 3. Select the Osteoarticular tab. The model used here is a whole body model. It is necessary to select the different body parts to assemble the model.
 - In the Trunk section, select PelvisLowerTrunk, UpperTrunkClavicle, and Skull in the corresponding drop down menus. This is the classical analysis model used in CusToM, exhibiting 6 dofs between the pelvis (mobile base of the model) and the environment, 2 dofs in the spine (lower and upper trunk nodes), 2 dofs at the neck and 2 additional dofs allowing the upper limbs to raise during the motion (clavicle joints).
 - In the Right Leg and Left Leg sections, just select Leg. This is a classical leg model, with 3 dofs at the hip, 1 dof at the knee and 2 dofs at the ankle.
 - In the Right Arm and Left Arm sections, just select Arm. This is a classical arm model, with 3 dofs at the shoulder, 2 dofs at the elbow and 2 dofs at the wrist.
- 4. Select the Markers tab. In this example, a whole body set of markers has been used. You can select it with the drop down menu as Marker_set2. In the Markers on hands drop down menu, select 1 marker for the hands. This set of marker is less complete than the Marker_set1 but is a classical ISB-friendly set.
- 5. Select the Muscles tab. This example is about estimating lower limbs muscle forces involved in cycling at a given speed. Therefore we need to equip the legs with muscles. Click the Add button, and select LegMuscles in the drop down menu. Select Right for the side. Proceed the same way to equip the left leg with muscles. The set of muscles is directly adapted from the simple leg model in [5]. You can see in the visualization section that the modifications made in the model update automatically the rendering.
- 6. All the parameters of the model are now properly set. You can generate the ModelParameters file by clicking GenerateParameters. The Analysis GUI is automatically opened.

Generation of the Analysis Parameters

The Analysis GUI is automatically opened once the GenerateParameters button is clicked. However, to run it independently from the GenerateParameters GUI, you can launch it with the command Analysis. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.2. Please note that the Analysis GUI automatically load the ModelParameters to update the visualization of the model on the top right of the window. The Analysis GUI automatically lists the .c3d files found in the current working folder of MATLAB.

- 1. In the .c3d list on the left (files to process), select the <code>JOTH_Fin_125HzModif.c3d</code> file. Please note that you may here select as many files as you need to compute the same analysis on all of these files.
- 2. Click the Inverse Kinematics Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the method drop down menu, select the Levenberg-Marquardt method that is the fastest available.
 - Check the joint coordinates filtering as active with a Cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Inverse Kinematics Options tab.
- 3. Click the Geometrical Calibration Options.
 - Check the step as active.
 - In the Frames tab, select the method UniformlyDistributed and choose a number of frames of 30. This is the recommendations issued from the papers [12, 8].
 - In the Body length tab, make sure that both RClavicle and LClavicle lengths are linked to the Thorax length. If this is not the case, click the Add button to generate these constraints.
 - In the Marker Position tab, the markers default local directions to optimize are automatically loaded from the Marker_set2. You can modify it the way you want. In the current tutorial, we keep the default values.
 - In the Axis of rotation tab, you can also add some joint axes directions to optimize. In the current tutorial, none of the axes of rotations are optimized.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Geometrical Calibration Options tab.
 - In the list below the Geometrical Calibration box, select the JOTH_Fin_125HzModif.c3d file to be used for the calibration. In this example, there is only one .c3d file available, meaning that the calibration is made with the same file to be processed. In your own experimentation, feel free to dedicate a specific motion to the calibration, independently from the files to proceed with.
- 4. Click the Inverse Dynamics Options. Make sure that the step is active, and close the tab.
- 5. In the External Forces tab, select from experiments.
- 6. Click the External forces Options.
 - Check that the External forces filtering is active, with a cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - In the drop down menu Method to extract data, select Cycling. In this specific example, the .c3d file does not contain the external forces data, but 2 .csv files does. Therefore a specific function has been developed to extract the data from these files, in addition to the classical .c3d file extraction. If such a feature interest you, you can explore the way the function has been developed. The function can be found in ...\Functions\ExternalForces\FromExperiments\Cycling.m.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the External forces Options tab.
- 7. Click the Muscle Forces Estimation options.
 - Check that the step is active.

- In the Method drop down menu, select the MusIC method, an alternative solution to the classical optimization method that is fast and quasi-optimal [16].
- ullet In the Cost Function drop down menu, choose 3rd order polynomial cost function.
- As recommended in [17], the database density parameters can be set to $k_1 = 4$ and $k_2 = 4$ to have an optimal database generation computation time with a minimal loss of accuracy.
- Click ok to save the parameters and close the Muscle Forces Estimation options tab.
- 8. Since all the analysis parameters have been set, you can run the analysis by clicking the Run button. The application automatically saves the AnalysisParameters, and launch the Main script containing the calls to the analysis functions and the model generation functions. The application first checks if the model exists. If this is not the case, the model is created. It may take some time (several preliminary computations are launched at this time), but it is executed once per subject. If the model already exists, the analysis is directly executed on the specified data with this model.

Post-processing

Once the analysis terminated, data can be post-processed the way you want.

- 1. To generate an animation of the motion, you can run the GenerateAnimate GUI from the MATLAB command window. Check all the boxes excepted the external forces (prediction) since no external forces were predicted in this study. Adapt the point of view the way you want, and finally click Generate Video to proceed. The film edition takes a while, since it aggregates frame per frame MATLAB figures. Additional visualization features will be added in the next developments of the toolbox.
- 2. An example of post-processing can be found in the folder, called PostProcessingCycling.m. You can open it and then run it to see what it does.

7.4 Tutorial #4: Ground reaction forces prediction based on MIMU data

This example is based on data provided by XSens§. This study aimed at observing weight transfer during tennis serve. Motion capture data are based on magnetic and inertial measurement units (MIMU) and the ground reaction forces are predicted from the kinematics. This study was performed directly on a tennis court since it did not require laboratory instrumentation.

Preparation

- 1. Once MATLAB is launched, you need to run the Installation function. It permits to add the CusToM\Functions folder and its subfolders to the MATLAB path. This folder contains all the functions, models and dependencies used in the toolbox.
- 2. Then, make the CusToM\Examples\Tennis being the current working folder of MATLAB. The folder contains the .mvnx file.

Generation of the Model Parameters

As the biomechanical model is provided in the .mvnx file, the choice of parameters will not have any influence on the model, only the choice of the mass of the subject will allow to determine the inertial parameters.

- 1. Execute GenerateParameters in the MATLAB command window.
- 2. Once the GUI opened, complete the mass of the subject (for example 70kg).
- 3. Click on Generate parameters. The Analysis GUI is automatically opened.

Generation of the Analysis Parameters

The Analysis GUI is automatically opened once the GenerateParameters button is clicked. However, to run it independently from the GenerateParameters GUI, you can launch it with the command Analysis. For more information about the GUI, please refer to section 5.2.

- 1. Click the Parameters.
 - In the Type of input data drop down menu, select MVNX_V3.
 - Check the Input data filtering as active with a Cut-off frequency of 5Hz.
 - Click ok to save the parameters and close the Parameters tab.

Since the biomechanical model and the kinematics are provided in the .mvnx file, no options in calibration and inverse kinematics steps are available. Also as there is no muscle in the biomechanical model, the muscle forces estimation step is not performed.

- 2. In the .mvnx list on the left (files to process), select the tennis.mvnx file. Please note that you may here select as many files as you need to compute the same analysis on all of these files.
- 3. Click the Inverse Dynamics Options. Make sure that the step is active, and close the tab.
- 4. In the External Forces tab, select Prediction.
- 5. Click the External forces prediction Options.
 - ullet Opening this menu requires loading the mvnx file and therefore may take time.
 - Check that the Predicted forces filtering is active, with a cut-off frequency of 10Hz.
 - Check that the position and velocity thresholds are at 0.05m, 0.8m/s respectively, and that the friction coefficient is set at 0.5.
 - In the contact points menu, click Add four times to add contact points on both feet (each foot is composed of a foot and a toe).

[§]https://content.xsens.com/motion-data

- In the first drop down menu, select RightFoot. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the right foot, the points called RightFootPrediction1,...,RFootPrediction8. These points are uniformly distributed below the foot to create elementary forces respecting the dynamics equations during the motion. To select several points, you can use Crtl+click or Shift+click shortcuts.
- In the second drop down menu, select RightToe. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the right toe, the points called RightToePrediction1, ..., RightToePrediction7.
- In the third drop down menu, select LeftFoot. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the left foot, the points called LeftFootPrediction1, ..., LeftFootPrediction8.
- In the second drop down menu, select LeftToe. Then select in all the anatomical points defined on the left toe, the points called LeftToePrediction1, ..., LeftToePrediction7.
- Click ok to save the parameters and close the External forces Options tab.

Post-processing

Once the analysis terminated, data can be post-processed the way you want.

- 1. To generate an animation of the motion, you can run the GenerateAnimate GUI from the MATLAB command window. Adapt the point of view the way you want, and finally click Generate Video to proceed. The film edition takes a while, since it aggregates frame per frame MATLAB figures. Additional visualization features will be added in the next developments of the toolbox.
- 2. An example of post-processing can be found in the folder, called PostProcessingTennis.m. You can open it and then run it to observe predicted external forces applied on each foot.

8 Research studies using CusToM

2020

 A. Muller, C. Pontonnier, X. Robert-Lachaine, G. Dumont, and A. Plamondon. Motion-based prediction of external forces and moments and back loading during manual material handling tasks. Applied ergonomics, 82:102935, 2020

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- A. Muller, C. Pontonnier, and G. Dumont. Motion-based prediction of hands and feet contact efforts during asymmetric handling tasks. *IEEE Transactions on Biomedical Engineering*, 2019
- P. Puchaud, C. Sauret, A. Muller, N. Bideau, G. Dumont, H. Pillet, and C. Pontonnier. Accuracy
 and kinematics consistency of marker-based scaling approaches on a lower limb model: a comparative
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2018

- A. Muller, C. Pontonnier, and G. Dumont. The music method: a fast and quasi-optimal solution to the muscle forces estimation problem. *Computer methods in biomechanics and biomedical engineering*, 21(2):149–160, 2018
- A. Muller, C. Pontonnier, and G. Dumont. Music method enhancement by a sensitivity study of its performance: application to a lower limbs musculoskeletal model. *Computer Methods in Biomechanics and Biomedical Engineering*, 2018
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2017

- A. Muller, C. Pontonnier, and G. Dumont. Uncertainty propagation in multibody human model dynamics. *Multibody System Dynamics*, 40(2):177–192, 2017
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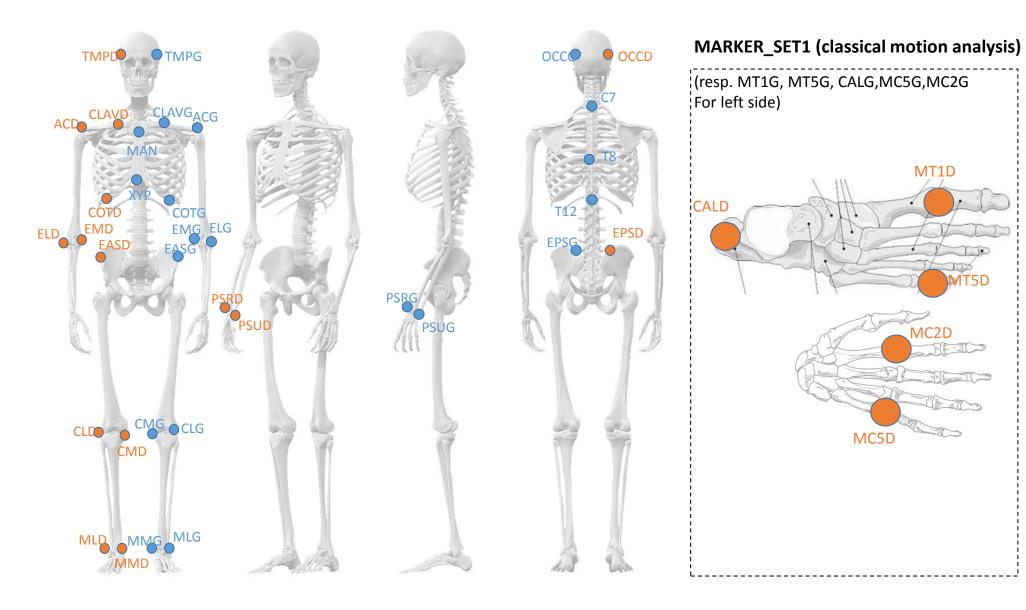
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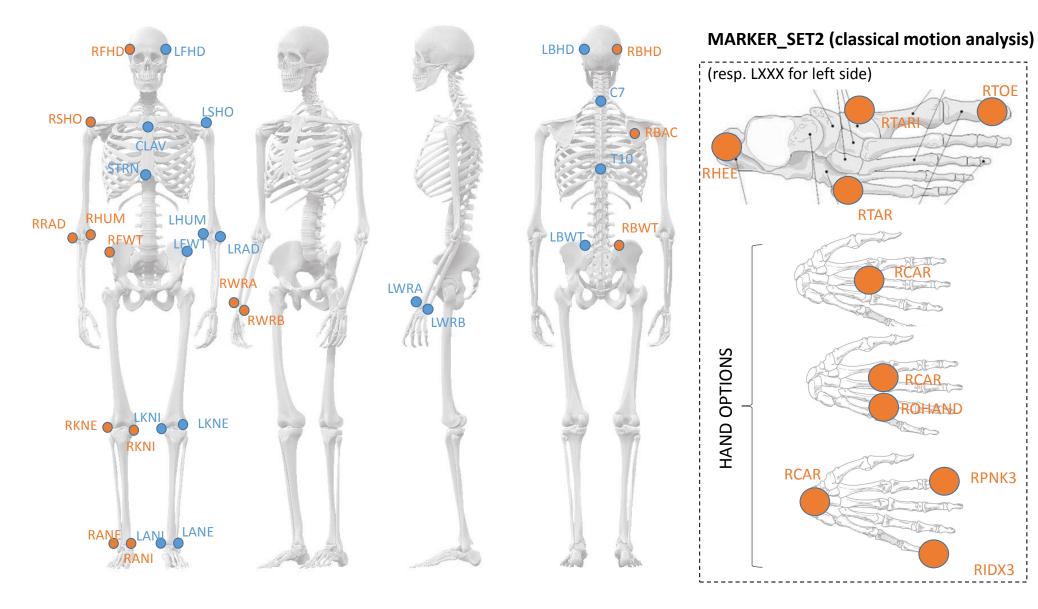
9 Appendix 1: Marker sets



MT1D

MC5D

Figure 18: Marker_set1 definition

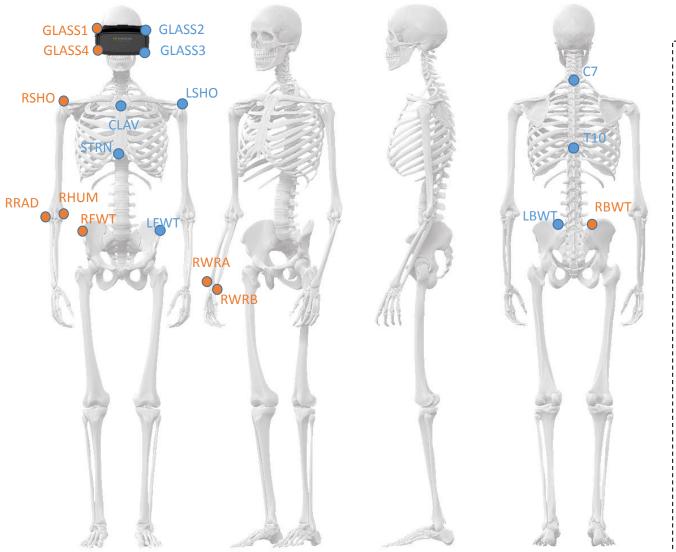


RTOE

RPNK3

RIDX3

Figure 19: Marker_set2 definition



MARKER_SET3 (upper body & VR setup)

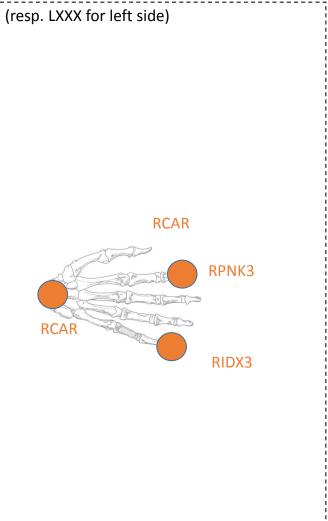


Figure 20: Marker_set3 definition

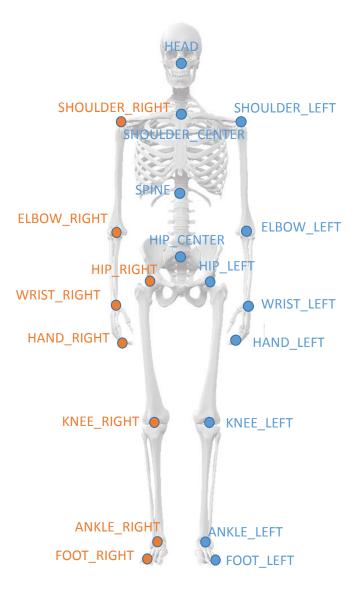


Figure 21: Marker_set4 definition

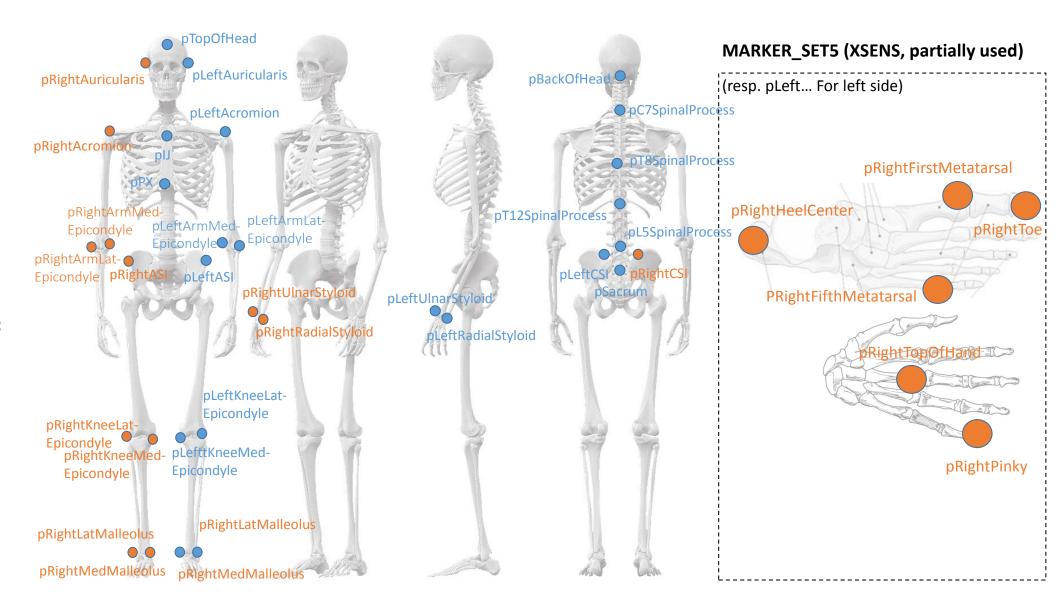


Figure 22: Marker_set5 definition