

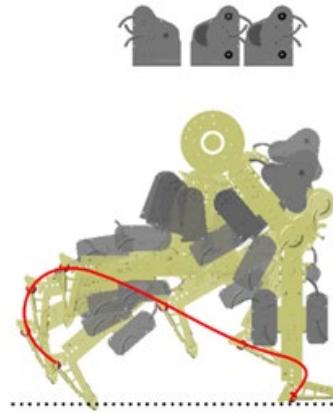
# COMPUTATIONAL MODELING IN SUPPORT OF NASA'S HUMAN RESEARCH PROGRAM

Alexander Schepelmann, Ph.D. | NASA GRC Machine Learning Forum | 2019-07-29

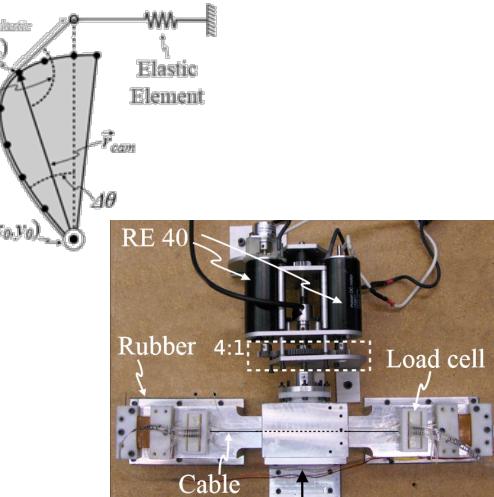
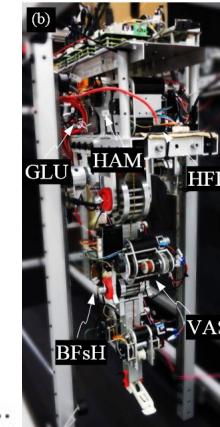
# ABOUT ME



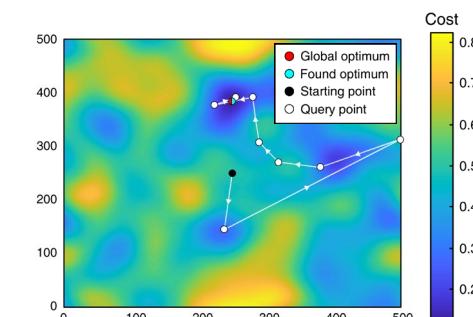
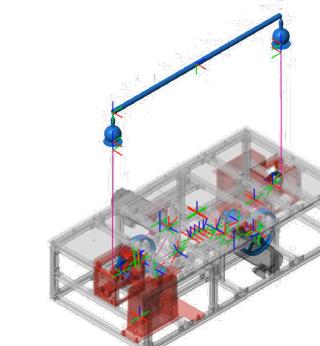
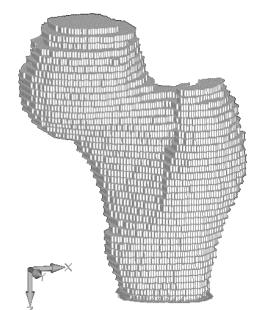
*CWRU: CWRU Cutter autonomous lawnmower.*



*CMU: Robotic Neuromuscular Leg.*



*CMU: Compact nonlinear SEA springs.*



*HEBI Robotics: Modular series elastic actuators (SEAs).*

*ZIN Technologies: Robotics and computational modeling for human spaceflight.*



**PROBABILISTIC CT SCAN SEGMENTATION TO DYNAMICALLY  
GENERATE FEA MODELS OF THE HUMAN FEMUR**



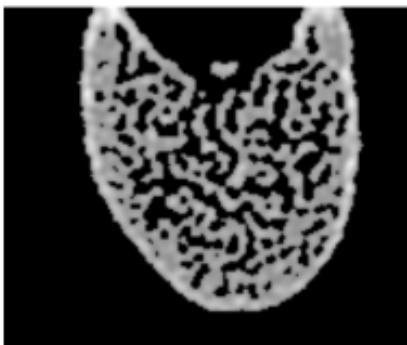
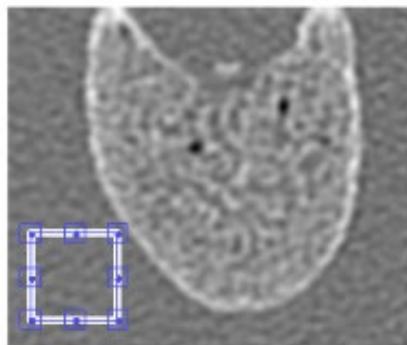
# LONG-DURATION SPACEFLIGHT IS DETRIMENTAL TO BONE HEALTH

- 0.4-2.7% monthly volumetric bone mineral density (vBMD) loss.
- Resistive exercise counters effects of microgravity.
- Required frequency and duration of exercise is unclear.

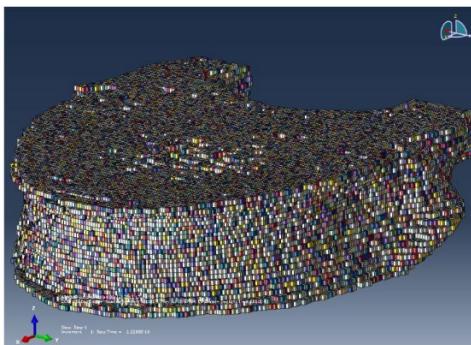


*Hybrid Ultimate Lifting Kit (HULK) exercise device.*

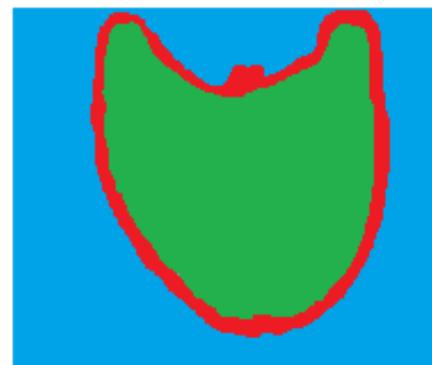
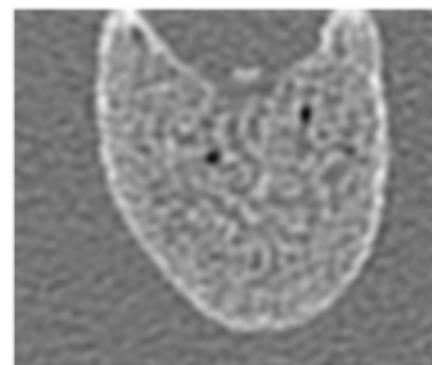
# FEA MODELS CAN BE USED TO CALCULATE BMD MAINTENANCE LOADS



*Manual calibration results:*  
Produces noisy output that requires additional,  
manual post-processing.



*Voxel initialization based solely on pixel intensity:*  
Produces heterogeneous mixture of elements that may  
be poorly initialized with zero stiffness.



*Desired scan processing output (hand-labeled):*  
Segmented bone cross-section that distinguishes between  
cortical, trabecular, and non-bone containing regions.

# PROBABILISTIC CLASSIFICATION: BETTER, AUTOMATIC SEGMENTATION

$$P(Y = y_j|X = x_i) = \frac{P(X = x_i|Y = y_j)P(Y = y_j)}{P(X = x_i)}$$

“Probability that sample Y belongs to group  $y_j$  given that feature X equals  $x_i$ ”

“Probability that feature X equals  $x_i$  given that sample Y belongs to group  $y_j$ ”

“Probability that sample Y belongs to group  $y_j$ ”

“Probability that feature X equals  $x_i$ ”

*Bayes' theorem.*

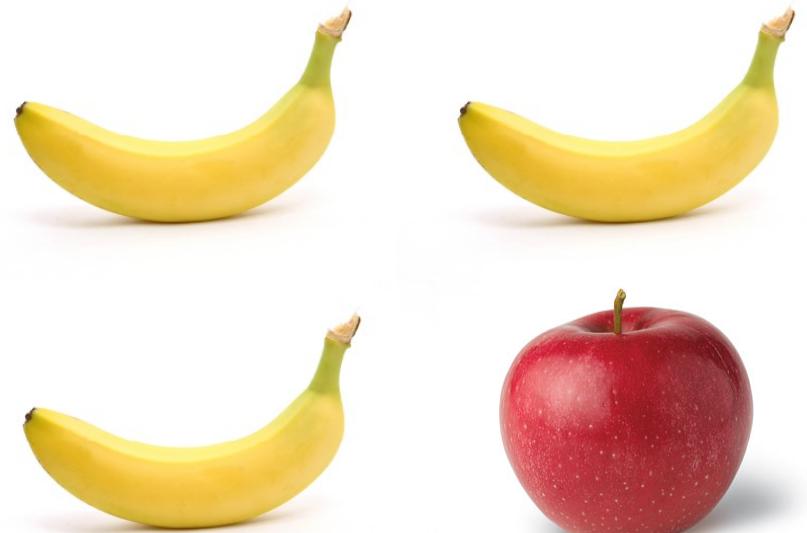
# EXAMPLE 1: CLASSIFYING FRUIT BASED ON COLOR

$$P(Y = \text{Yellow} | X = \text{Banana}) = \frac{P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Yellow})P(Y = \text{Yellow})}{P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Yellow})P(Y = \text{Yellow}) + P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Apple})P(Y = \text{Apple})}$$

$$= \frac{1 * 0.75}{1 * 0.75 + 0 * 0.25} = 1$$

$$P(Y = \text{Apple} | X = \text{Banana}) = \frac{P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Apple})P(Y = \text{Apple})}{P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Apple})P(Y = \text{Apple}) + P(X = \text{Banana} | Y = \text{Yellow})P(Y = \text{Yellow})}$$

$$= \frac{0 * 0.25}{0 * 0.25 + 1 * 0.75} = 0$$



The banana-apple universe, where  
75% of all fruit are bananas.

# FEATURE CLASSIFICATION ONLY RELIES ON RELATIVE LIKELIHOOD

$$P(Y|X) \propto P(X|Y)P(Y)$$

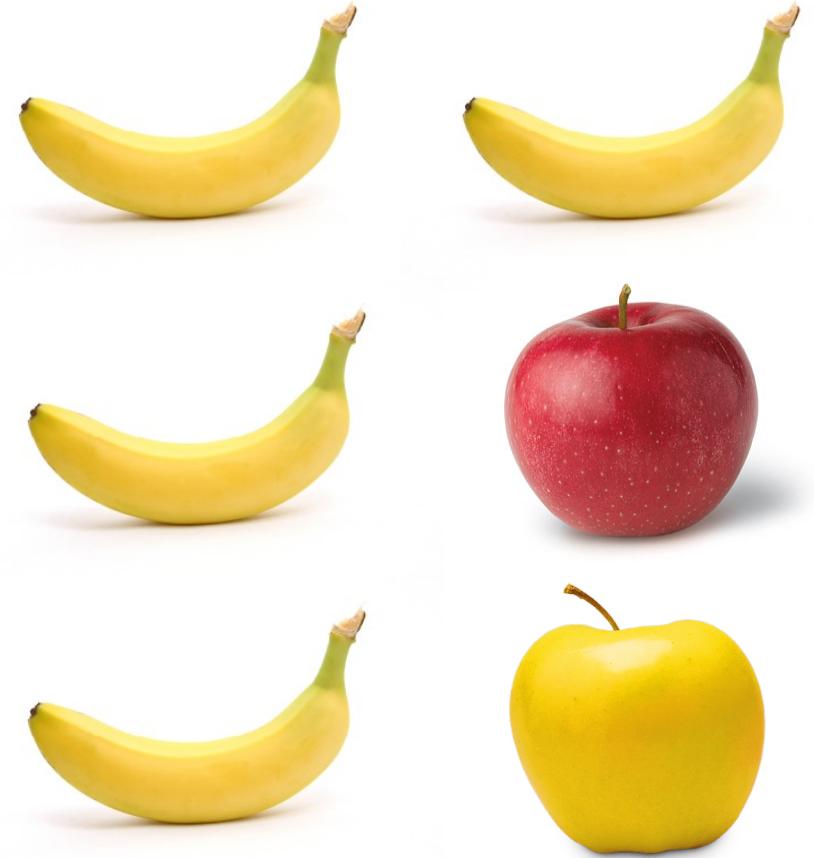
*Bayes' theorem numerator:*

*The conditional probability is proportional to the joint probability model.*

## EXAMPLE 2: INSUFFICIENT NUMBER OF FEATURES

$$P(Y = \text{香蕉} | X = \text{香蕉}) \propto P(X = \text{香蕉} | Y = \text{香蕉})P(Y = \text{香蕉}) \\ \propto 0.8 * 0.66 = 0.53$$

$$P(Y = \text{苹果} | X = \text{香蕉}) \propto P(X = \text{香蕉} | Y = \text{苹果})P(Y = \text{苹果}) \\ \propto 0.2 * 0.33 = 0.07$$



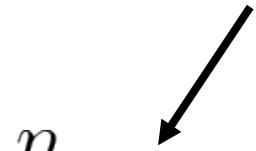
*The banana-apple universe, where 66% of all fruit are bananas and yellow apples exist.*

# MORE FEATURES WITH NAÏVE ASSUMPTIONS IMPROVE ACCURACY

$$P(Y|X_1, \dots, X_n) \propto P(X_1, \dots, X_n|Y)P(Y)$$



Assuming statistically independent features:  $P(X_1, \dots, X_n|Y) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i|Y)$



$$P(Y|X_1, \dots, X_n) \propto P(Y) \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i|Y)$$

# NAÏVE BAYES = INDEPENDENT FEATURE MODEL + DECISION RULE

Given:  $X^{new} = \langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle$

$$\hat{y} = \underset{j \in \{1, \dots, J\}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \propto P(Y = y_j) \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i^{new} | Y = y_j)$$

*Naïve Bayes classifier using the maximum a posteriori decision rule:  
Based on the features, it is most probable that the item being classified belongs to group.*

## EXAMPLE 3: CLASSIFYING FRUIT BASED ON COLOR AND SHAPE

$$P(Y = \text{banana} | X = \text{yellow}, \text{round})$$

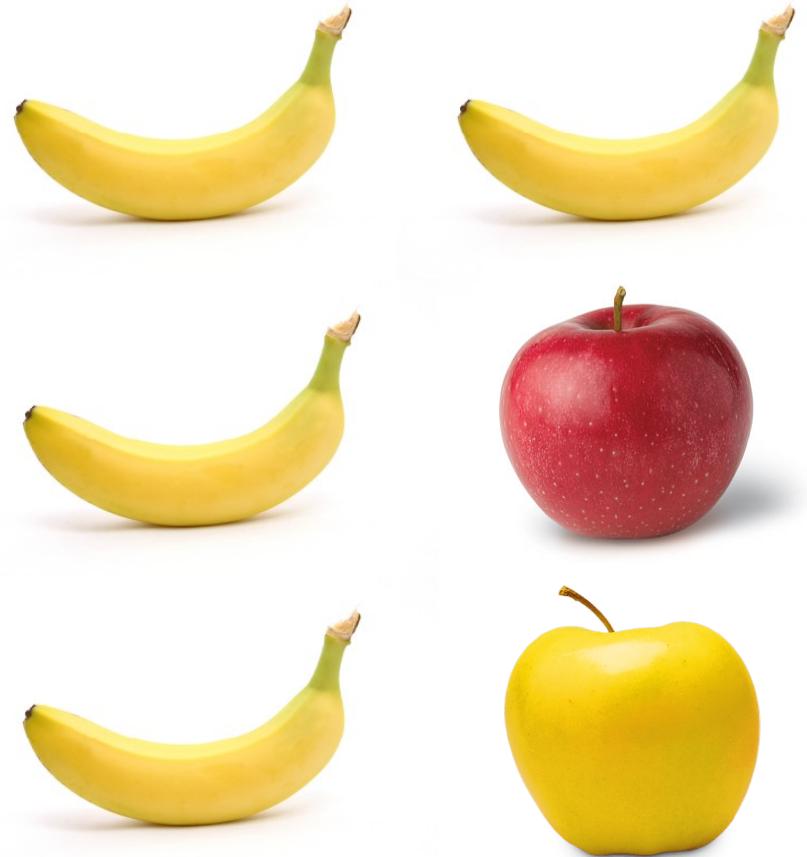
$$\propto P(Y = \text{banana}) * P(X = \text{yellow} | Y = \text{banana}) P(X = \text{round} | Y = \text{banana})$$

$$\propto 0.66 * 0.8 * 0 = 0$$

$$P(Y = \text{apple} | X = \text{yellow}, \text{round})$$

$$\propto P(Y = \text{apple}) * P(X = \text{yellow} | Y = \text{apple}) P(X = \text{round} | Y = \text{apple})$$

$$\propto 0.33 * 0.2 * 1 = 0.07$$



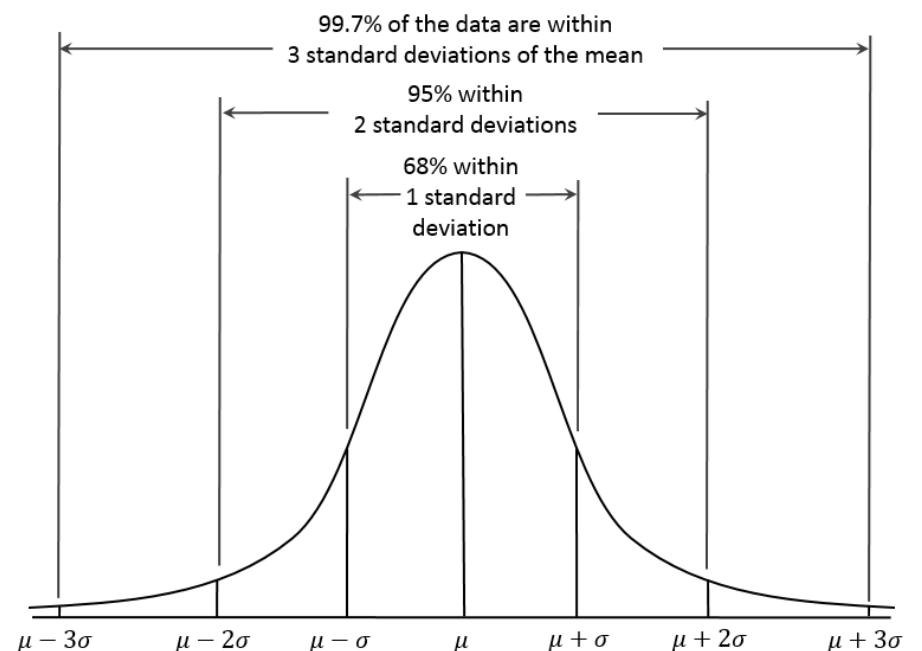
The banana-apple universe, but fruits  
are described by color **and** shape.

# GAUSSIAN DISTRIBUTION: ESTIMATING SAMPLE FEATURE LIKELIHOOD

$$P(Y = y_j) \prod_{i=1}^n P(X_i|Y = y_j)$$

Calculated as  $(n_{\text{class}} / n_{\text{tot}})$

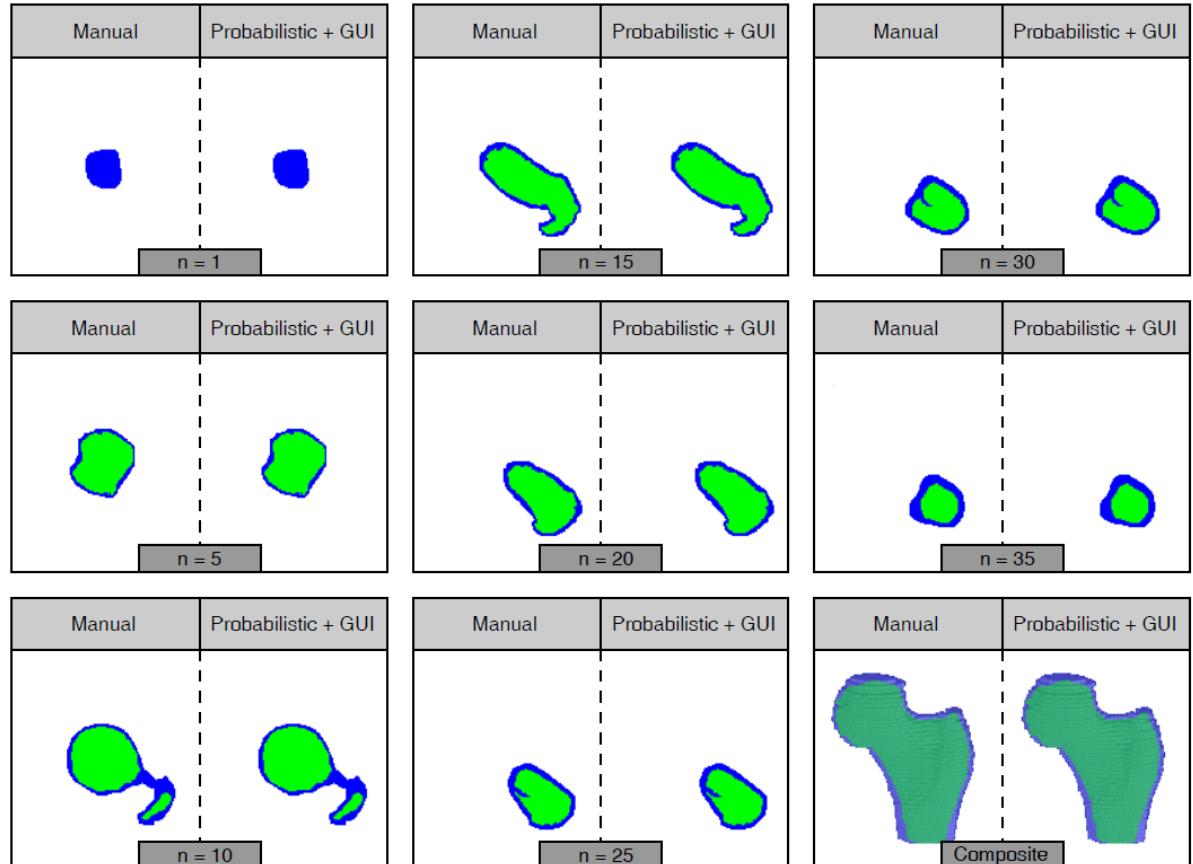
$$P(X = x_i|Y = y_j) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_{y_j}^2}} e^{-(x_i - \mu_{y_j})^2 / (2\sigma_{y_j}^2)}$$



*The probability density function  
of a Gaussian distribution.*

# AUTOMATIC CT IMAGE SEGMENTATION TO BUILD FEA BONE MODELS

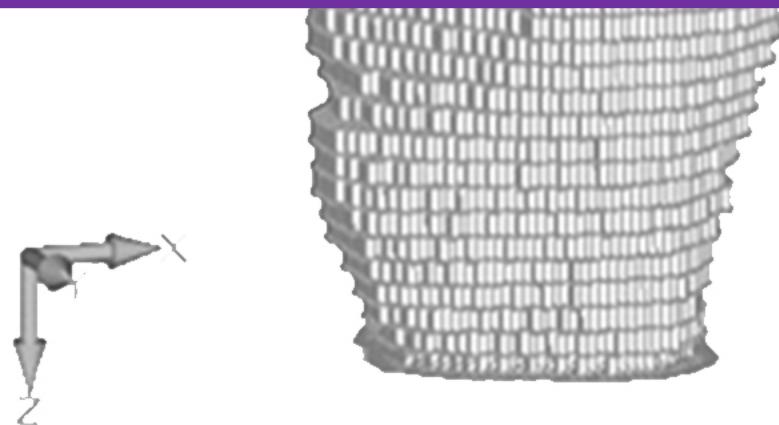
- GNB-based approach can generate identical segmentations to manual segmentation.
- Time to segment is much shorter:
  - **10 minutes vs. 8 hours**



*Manual vs. Probabilistic + GUI segmentation.*

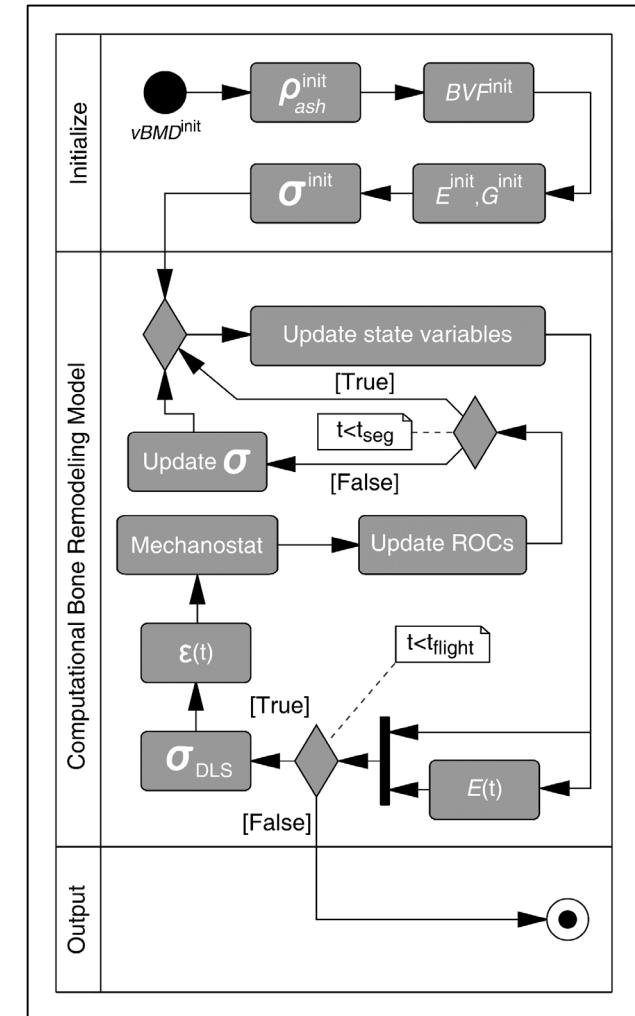


## STOCHASTIC MODEL PARAMETER OPTIMIZATION FOR VOLUMETRIC BONE MINERAL DENSITY MAINTENANCE



# PREDICTING CHANGES IN VOLUMETRIC BONE MINERAL DENSITY (vBMD)

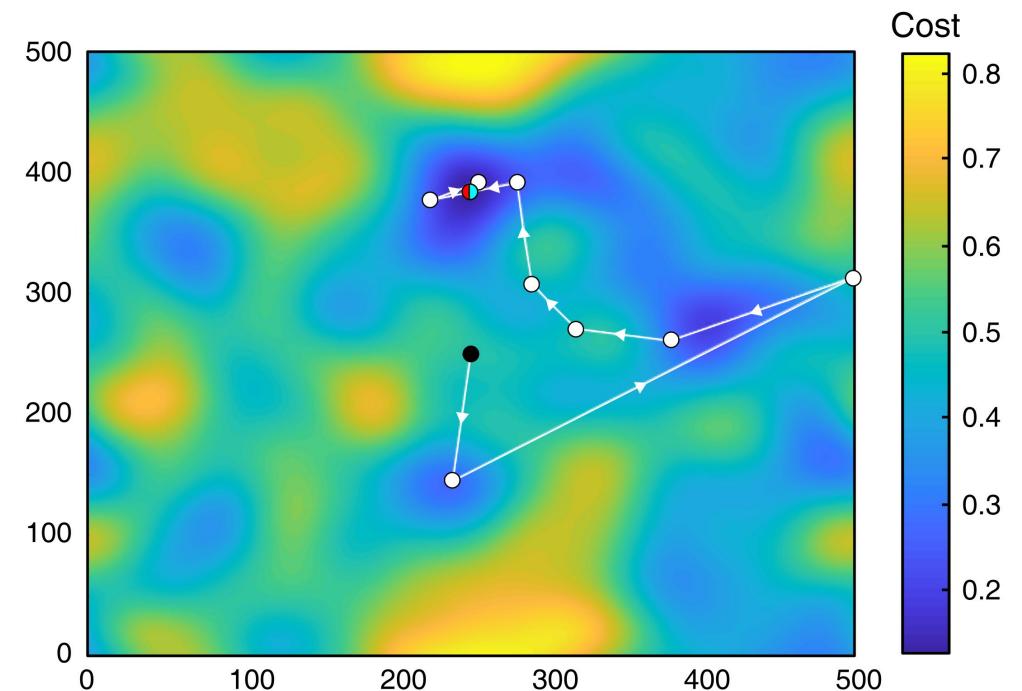
- Generated FE models are used in conjunction with computational bone model.
- Model simulates exercise-induced changes in vBMD.
- Model parameters can be tuned to individual users.
  - Model is highly nonlinear.
  - Number of parameters makes manual tuning difficult.
- Optimization can be used for automatic parameter tuning.



A schematic of the GRC-developed computational bone model.

# TUNING MODEL PARAMETERS THROUGH STOCHASTIC OPTIMIZATION

- Model is tuned by minimizing the difference between pre- and post-“flight” vBMDs from an analog study.
- Gradient-based techniques get “stuck” in local minima.
- Stochastic methods may find better minimum.



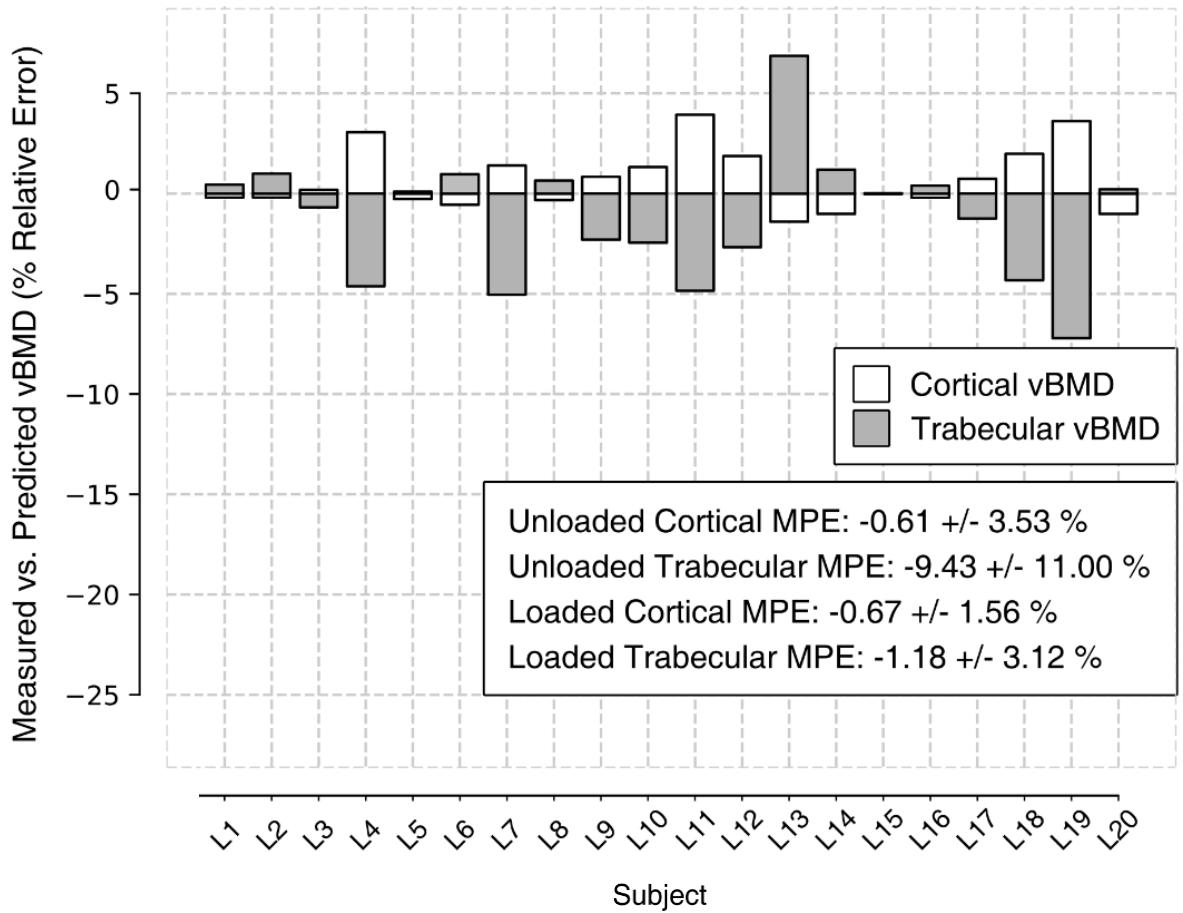
*Example schematic of stochastic optimization process over a 2D cost landscape.*

*Black: Initial value. White: Evaluations.*

*Red: Global optimum. Teal: Found optimum.*

# COMPUTATIONAL MODEL CAN PREDICT CHANGES IN vBMD

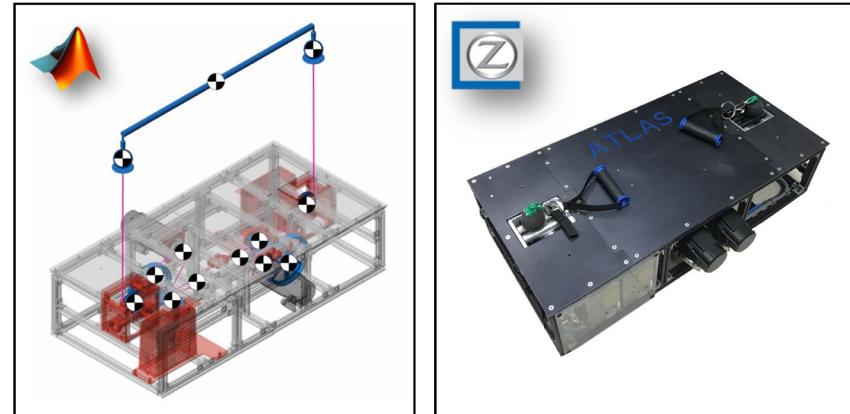
- As a black box, model predicts vBMD changes
- Some resulting parameters are unrealistic
- Model fidelity could be improved with:
  - Additional data
  - Additional constraints



*Relative error between measured and model-predicted changes in vBMD.*

# MACHINE LEARNING IS CENTRAL TO GRC'S HRP EFFORT

- Probabilistic segmentation and optimization were used to create a predictive model of bone mineral density (vBMD).
- The developed model can accurately predict vBMD and inform required resistive exercise loads for vBMD maintenance.
- This information is used to develop robotic exercise devices.
  - ZIN-developed ATLAS device is currently undergoing testing at JSC.
  - Intended ATLAS goal: use on Gateway and Mars missions.
  - Additional information in NASA/TM—2018-219938.



ATLAS: Simulated model (left) and hardware.