

Equine Hoof Biomechanics

Rita Aoun^{*1,2}, Abby Williams^{2,3}, Mandi Lopez^{1,2}

*** PhD student, presenter**

¹ School of Veterinary Medicine, Department of Veterinary and Clinical Sciences,
LSU

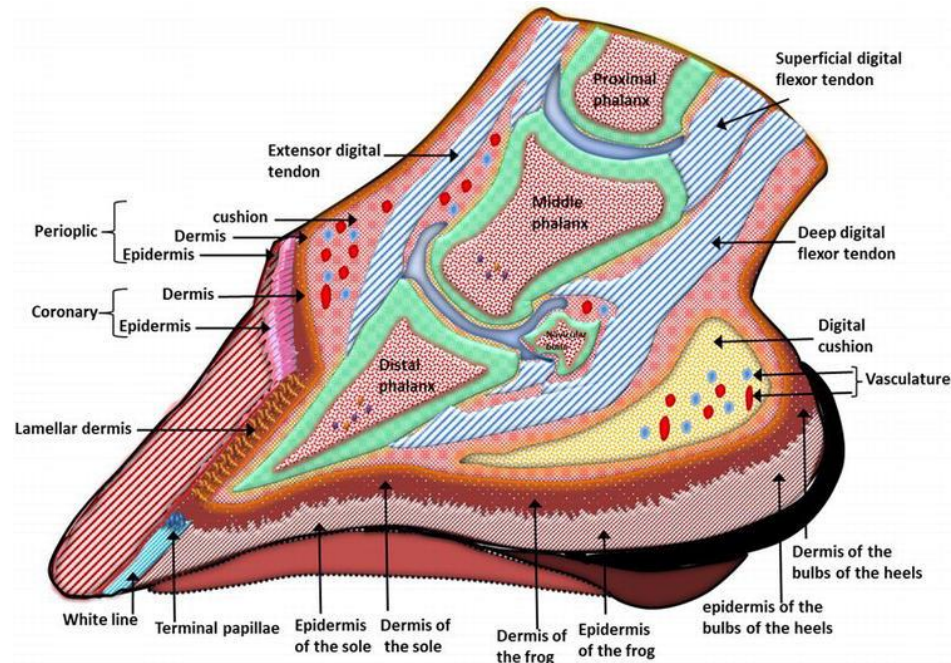
² Laboratory for Equine & Comparative Orthopedic Research (LECOR)

³ College of Sciences, Department of Biological Sciences, LSU

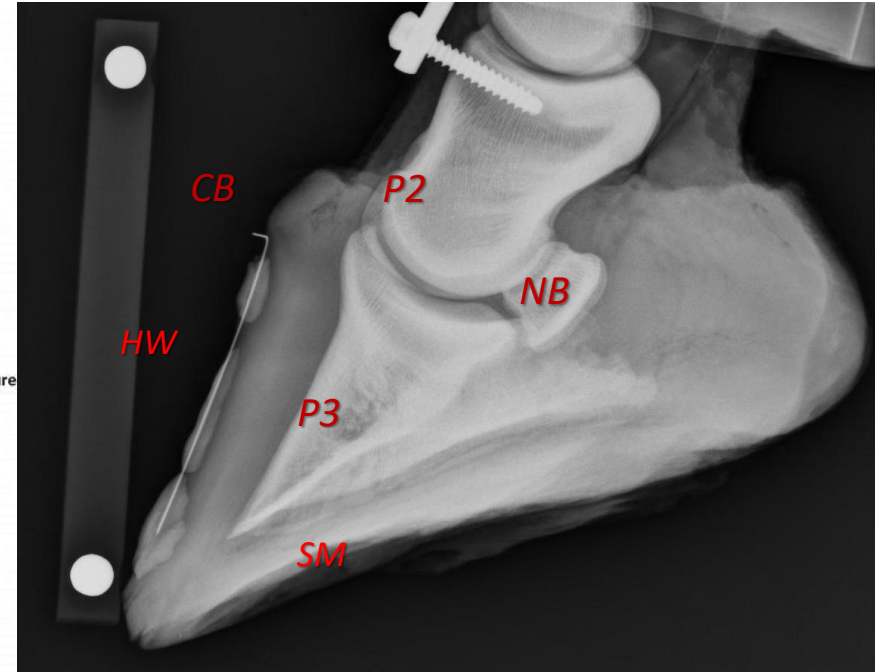


Equine Hoof Anatomy

- The equine hoof covering the distal portion of each limb plays a great role in the weight bearing and biomechanics.

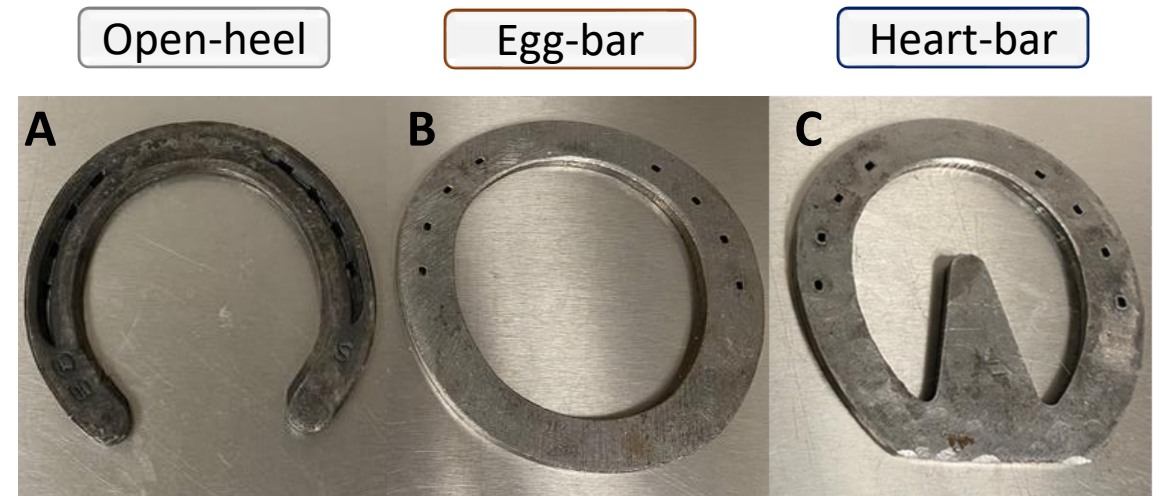


Budras et al.



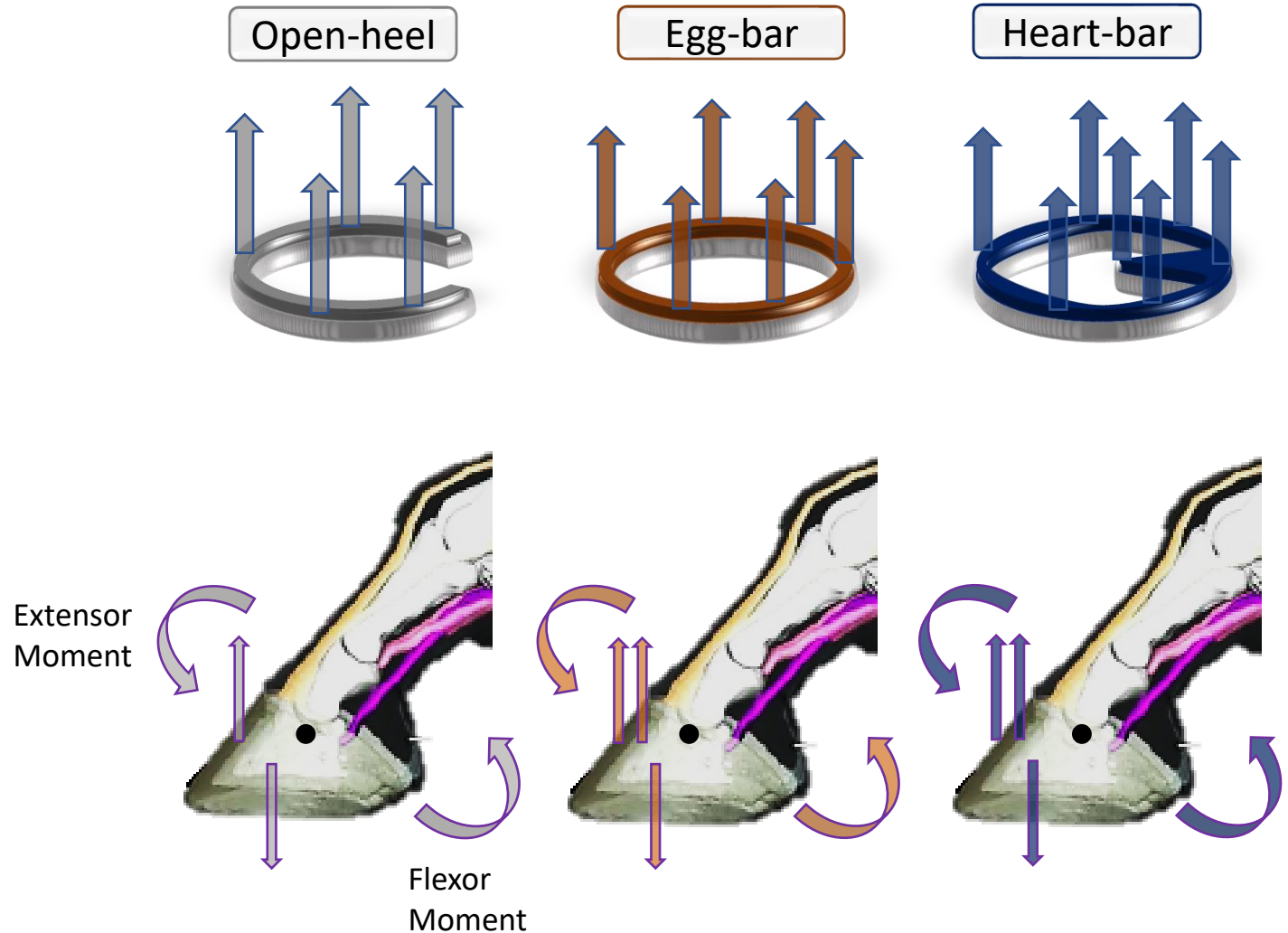
Horseshoe Effects in Hooves

- Biomechanical aid after proper trimming
- Supporting and stabilizing
- Distinctive redistribution of weight
- Relief of lamellar stress and compression

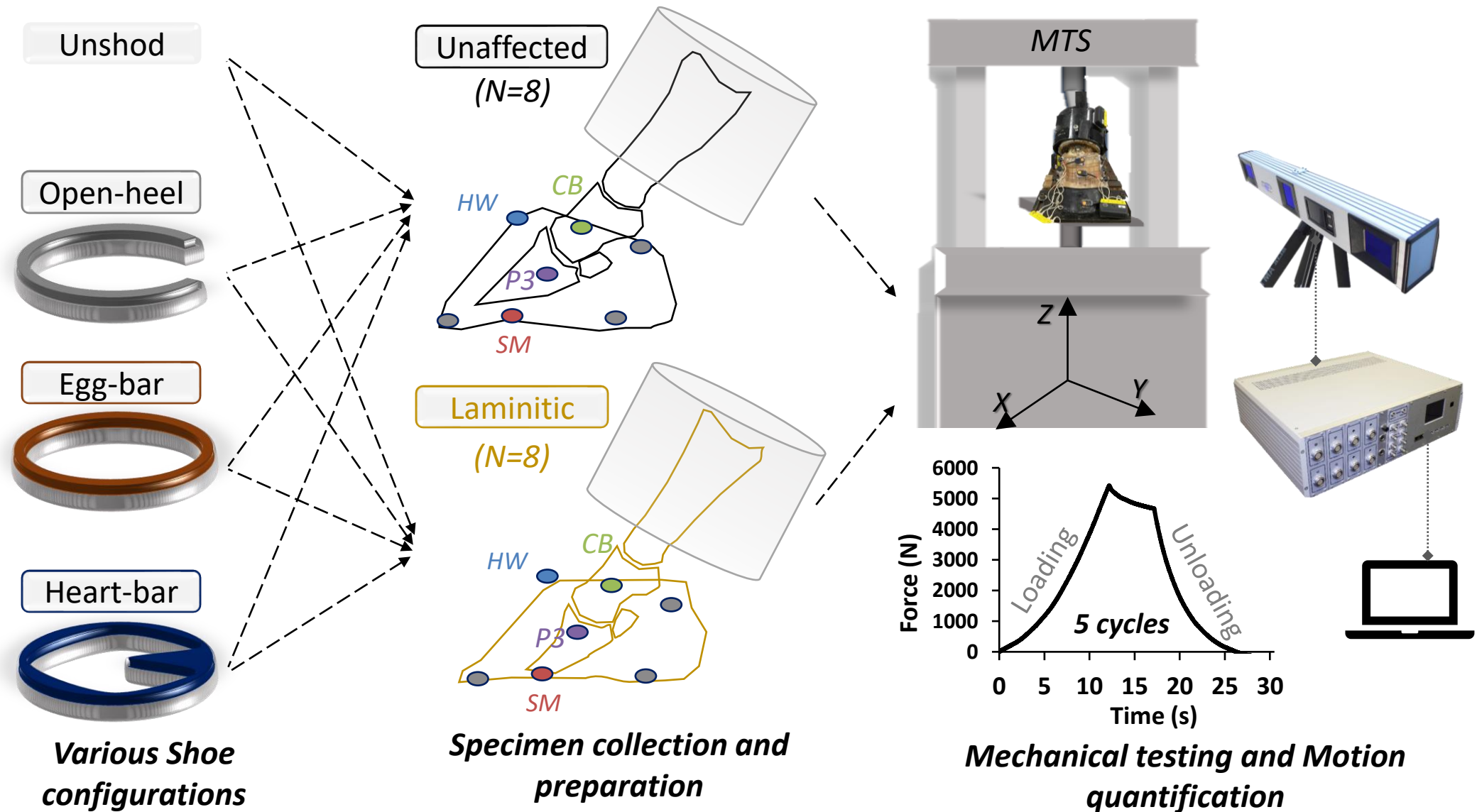


Load Distribution Changes with Shoes

- Open-heel supports the toe
 - Egg-bar supporting wall and heel
 - Heart-bar supporting wall and frog
- Limited knowledge about P3 motion in hooves with the different shoe configurations.

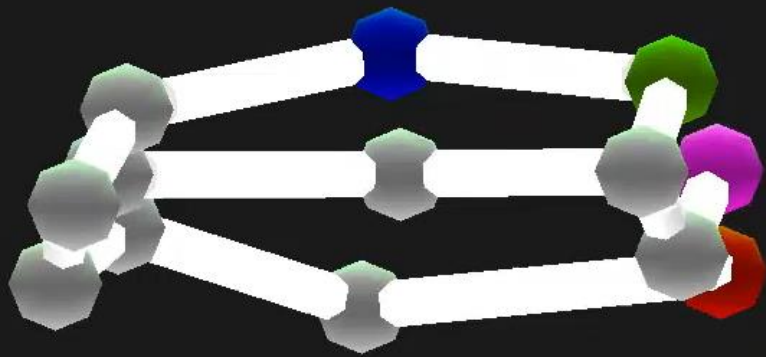


Study Design

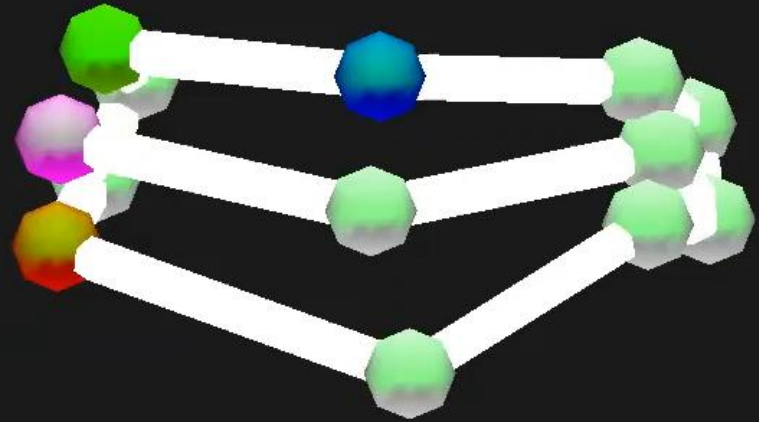


Compression of the Hoof During the Load

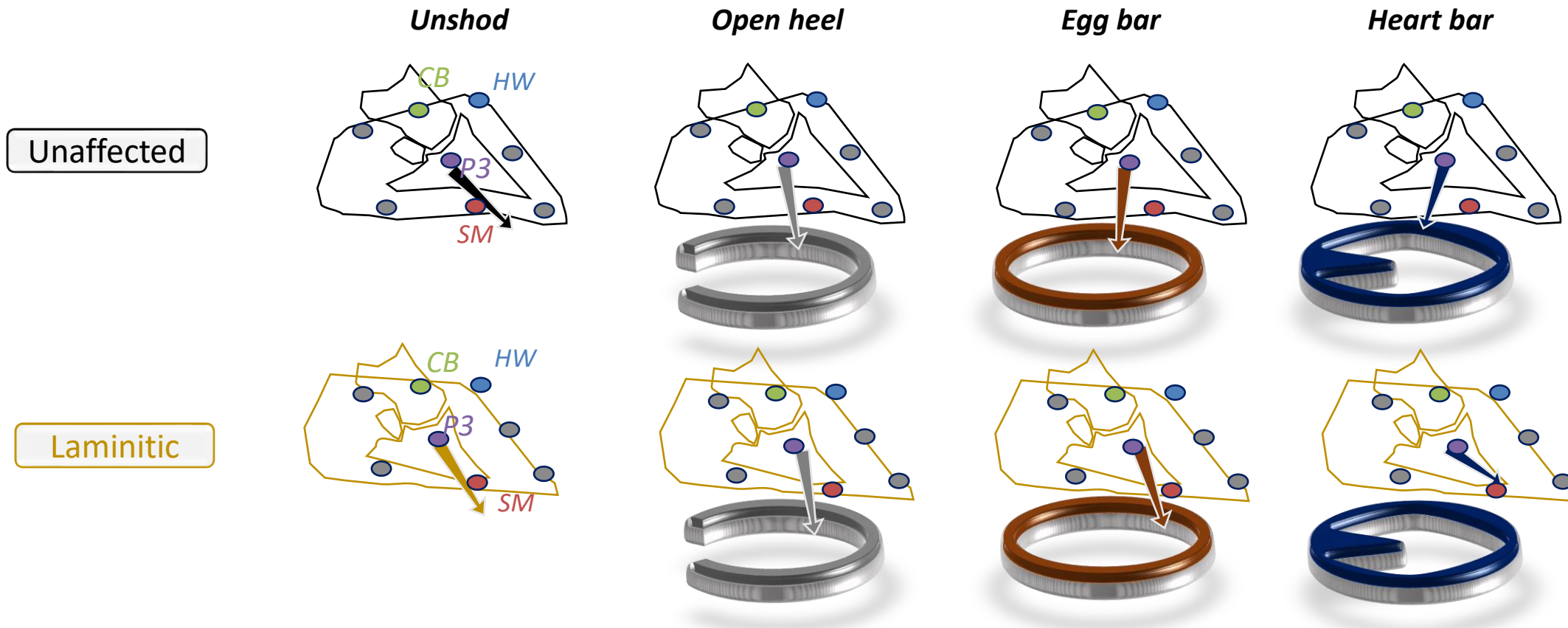
Caudal



Dorsal

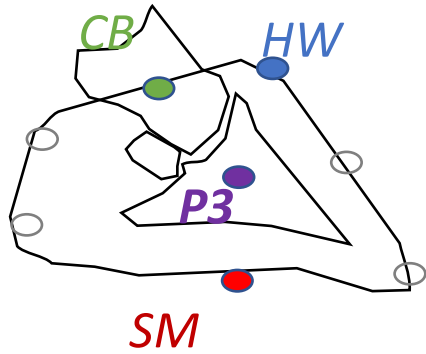


Direction of P3 Motion changes with shoes

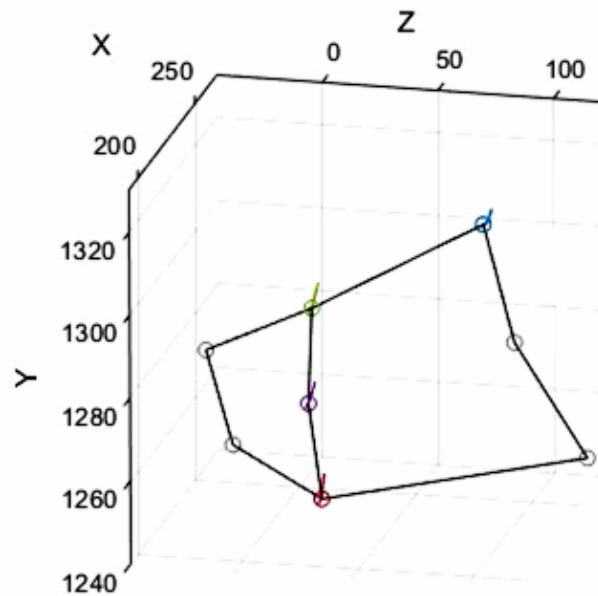


- Heart-bar shifts P3 motion towards the frog of unaffected hooves but towards the toe of laminitic hooves

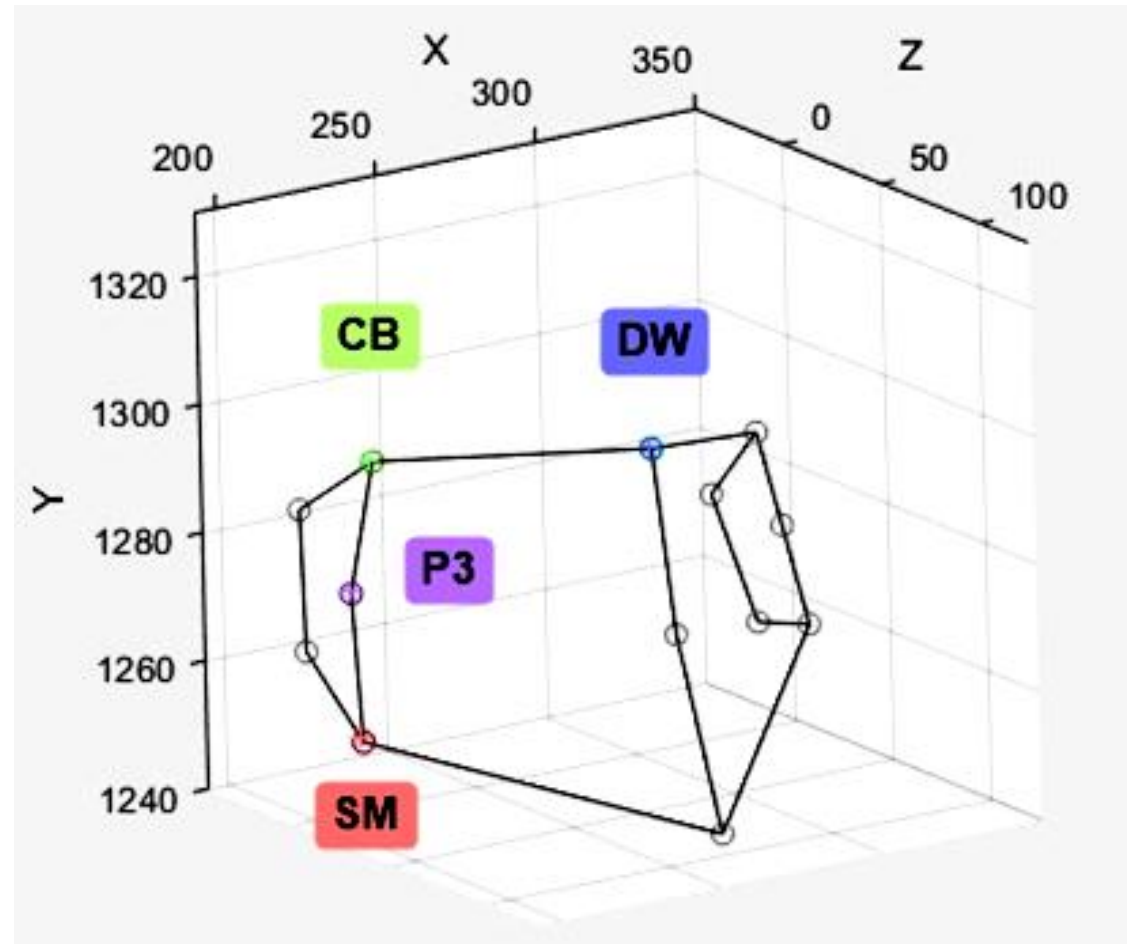
Animated Model of Hoof Components' Motion in Unaffected Hooves



Lateral



Quasi-Dorsal



Unaffected

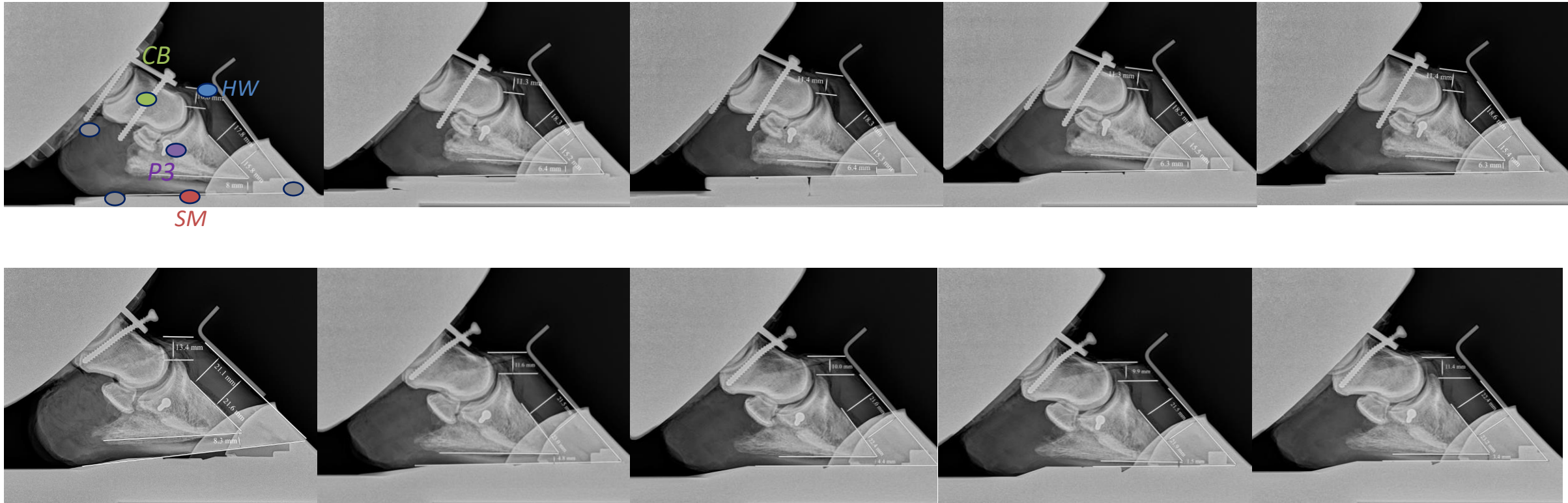
Laminitic

Laminitic

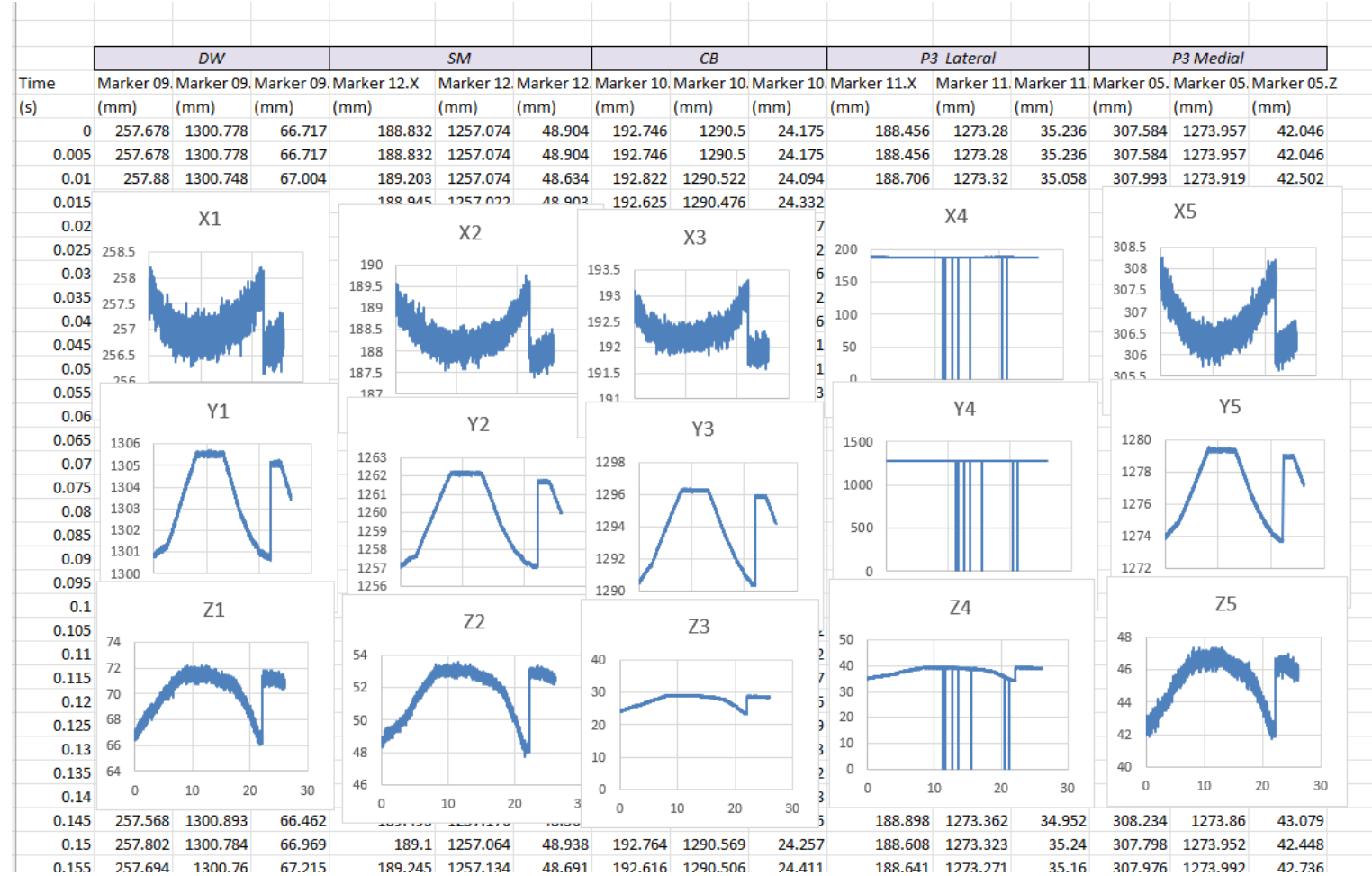
Laminitic

Laminitic

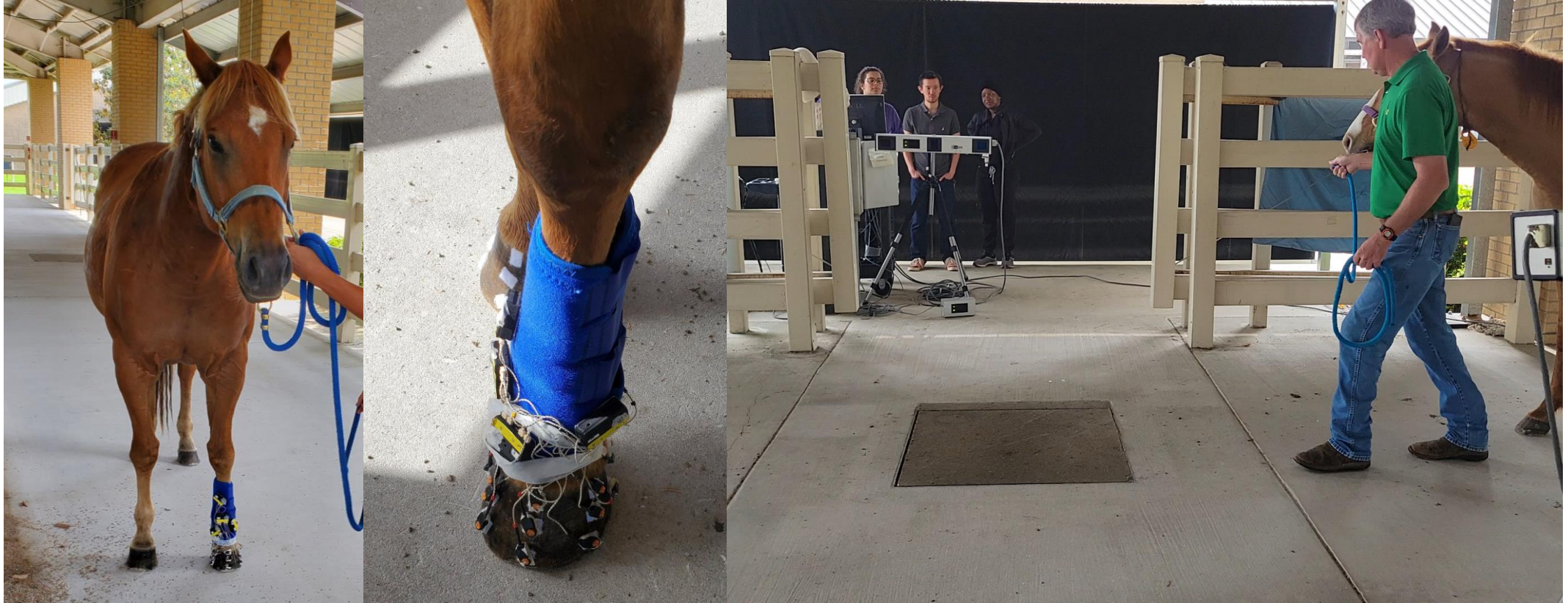
Laminitic



How does the data look like?



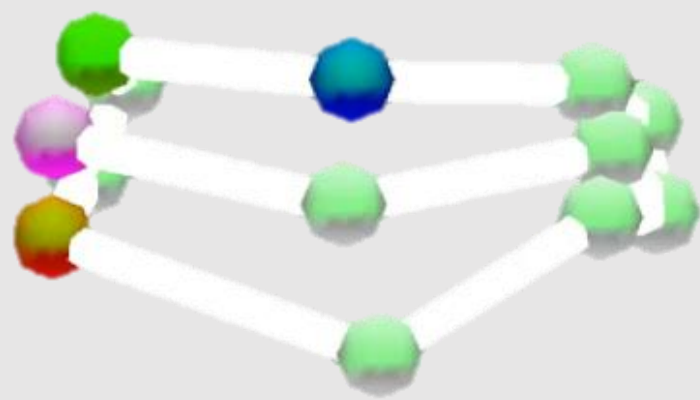
Live Motion Acquisition – Gait Analysis





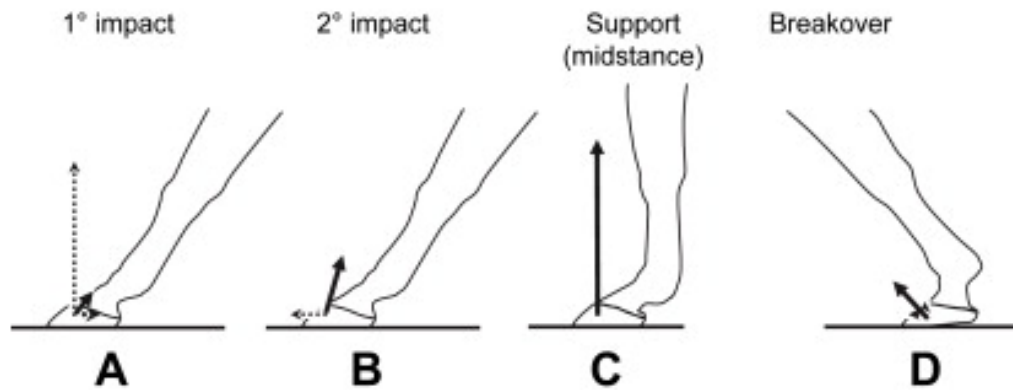
Questions?

Thank you!



Strain change in-vivo

Thomason, J. J., & Peterson, M. L. (2008).



Composite figure shows patterns of force, acceleration, and strain acting on the hoof during the stance and into the first period of breakover for acceleration and strain. (A, B) Vertical and horizontal (craniocaudal) components of GRF act on the hoof during the stance. The means of five stances are shown for a single horse trotting across a force plate. (C, D) A_V and A_H . A single stance is shown for a standardbred trotting on a track. (E) Principal compressive strain in the material of the hoof wall at the toe. (Data for A and B courtesy of Dr. Hilary Clayton, Lansing, MI; data for C through E courtesy of J. J. Thomason, PhD, Guelph, Ontario, Canada.)

