

Bone Mechanics

Serena Bonaretti, PhD
serena.bonaretti@stanford.edu

References and Acknowledgments

(In addition to the ones mentioned in Bone Anatomy and Physiology)

BOOKS

- Martin R.B. et al. *Skeletal Tissue Mechanics*. 2015
- Bartel B.L. et al. *Orthopaedic Biomechanics*. 2006

JOURNAL ARTICLES

- Several – see references on slides

PHD THESIS

- Helgason B. *Subject Specific Finite Element Analysis of Bone With Particular Application in Direct Skeletal Attachment of a Femoral Prosthesis*. 2008

Studying the Bone

Biology

Biomechanics

Imaging

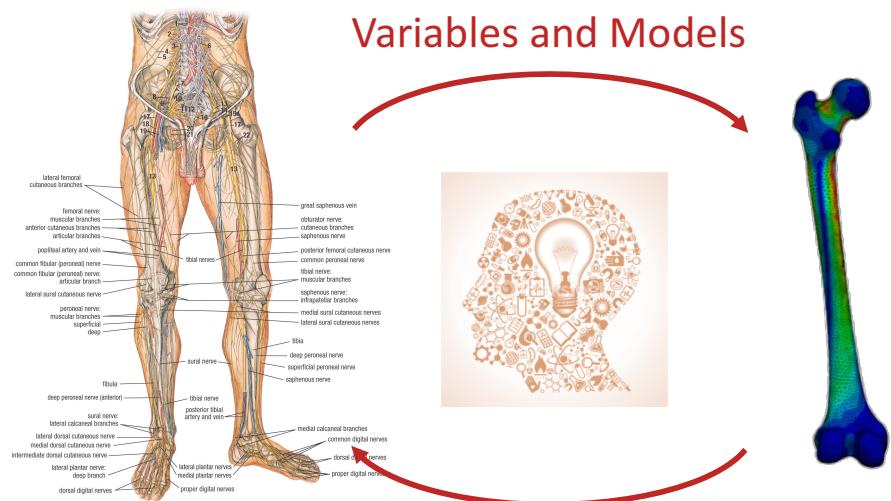
Bone

Bone Quality
Assessment

Bone Fracture
and Fixation

Biomechanics Uses Models

- Biomechanics is the application of classical mechanics to biological problems
- *Models* are:
 - the best tools we have to analyze physical problems
 - constructions of mind
 - simplifications of the real problem
- Warning 1: Do not confuse reality and model!
- Warning 2: GIGO!



Multi-Scale Approach to Bone Study

BODY
LEVEL



[m - cm]

ORGAN
LEVEL



[cm - mm]

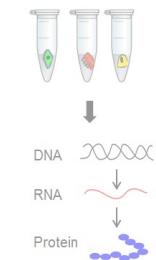
TISSUE
LEVEL



CELLULAR
LEVEL



MOLECULAR
LEVEL



Biology

Biomechanics

Rigid Object
Models

Deformable Continuum
Models

Statistical
Models

Imaging

The Body Level

BODY
LEVEL

ORGAN
LEVEL

TISSUE
LEVEL

CELLULAR
LEVEL

Biomechanics

Rigid Object
Models

Deformable Continuum Models

Statistical
Models

The Adult Skeleton

- The **adult skeleton** is made of 206 bones
- The functions of the skeleton are:

Protection

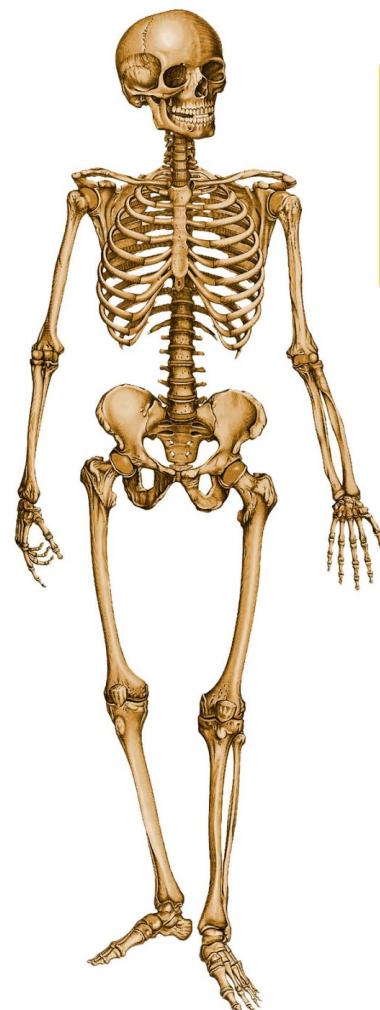
The cranium protects the brain, the rib cage protects heart and lungs

Shape

Without the skeleton, the body would be flabby and shapeless

Support

The vertebrae support the head



Movement

The bones and joints work with muscles to enable us to walk, run and sprint

Blood Production

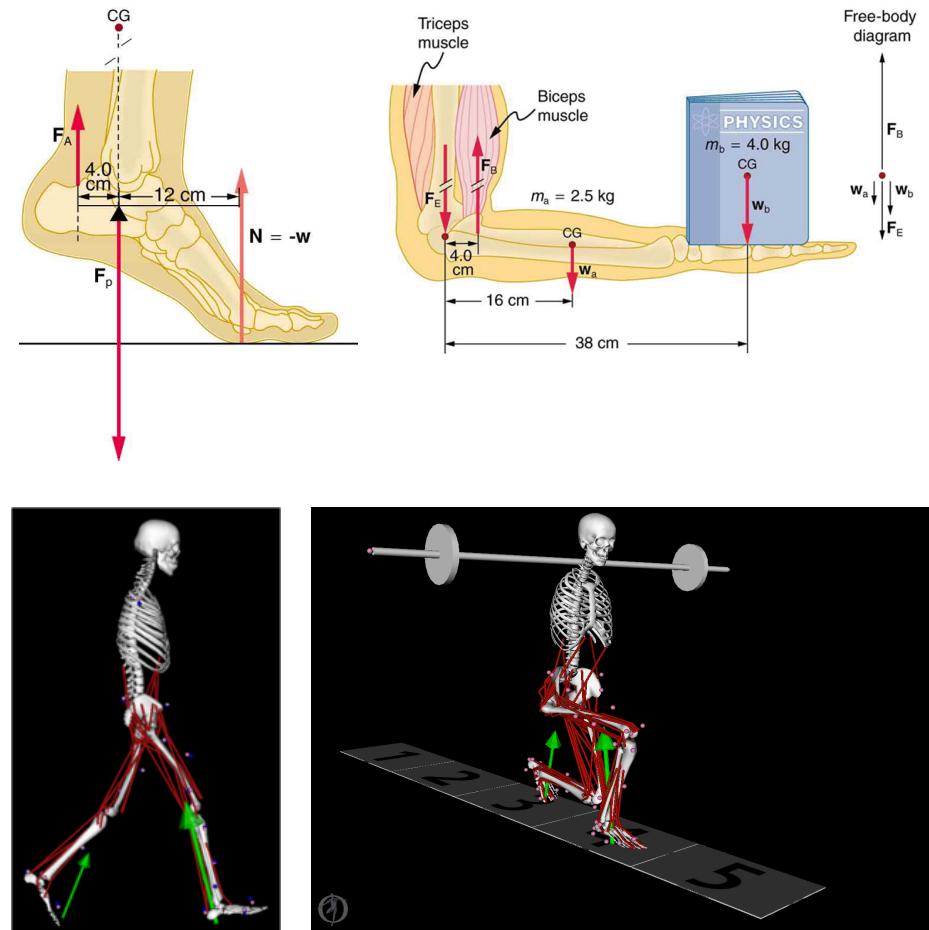
Red blood cells are made in the ribs and limb bones

Calcium Storage

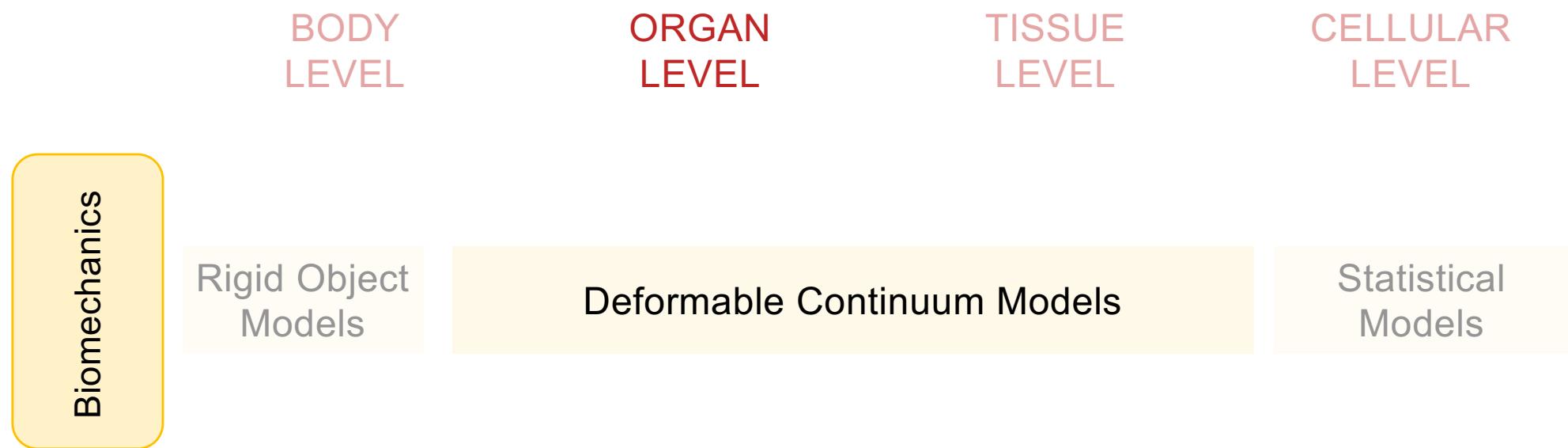
Bone is the largest supply of calcium

Kinematics - Force Analysis

- Skeleton is idealized as a kinematic chain of **rigid** objects
 - muscles are bundles of linear actuators connected to two bones
 - the rest of the body is considered only as mass lumped in selected points



The Organ Level



The Adult Skeleton

- The **adult skeleton** is made of 206 bones
- The functions of the skeleton are:

Protection

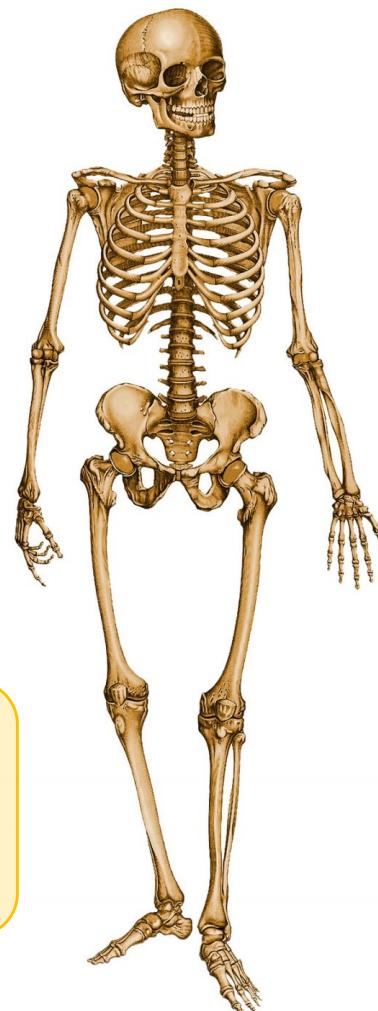
The cranium protects the brain, the rib cage protects heart and lungs

Shape

Without the skeleton, the body would be flabby and shapeless

Support

The vertebrae support the head



Movement

The bones and joints work with muscles to enable us to walk, run and sprint

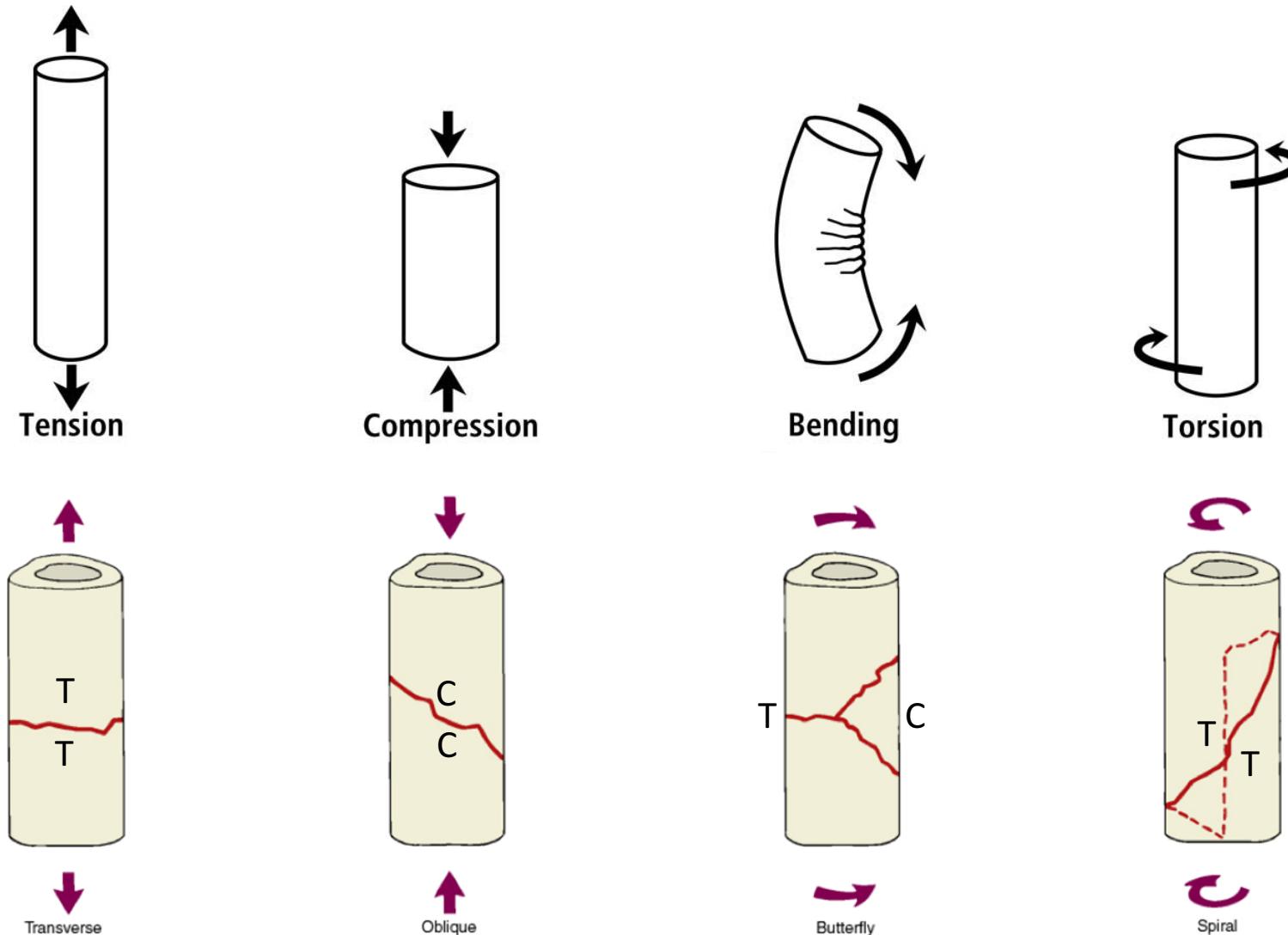
Blood Production

Red blood cells are made in the ribs and limb bones

Calcium Storage

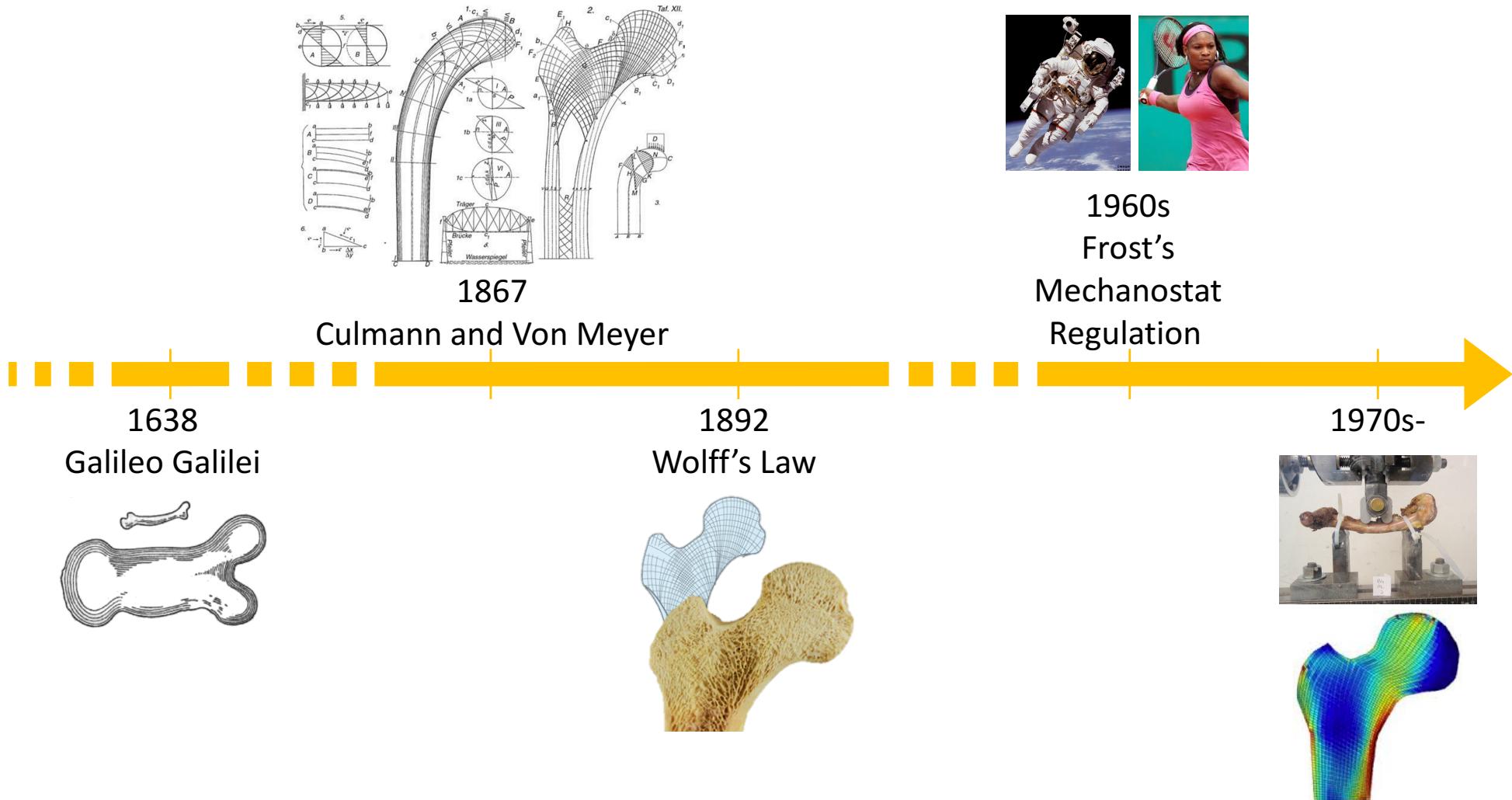
Bone is the largest supply of calcium

Forces Applied to Bones



- How does bone respond to the applied forces?

Studying Bone Mechanics



Relationship Between Bone Function and Shape

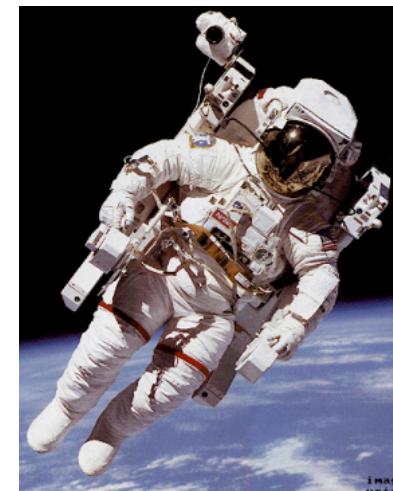
- Wolff's law (Wolff, 1892)

“Every change in the form and function of bone or of their function alone is followed by certain definite changes in their internal architecture, and equally definite alteration in their external conformation, in accordance with mathematical laws”



- Mechanostat regulation (Frost, 1960s)

The response of bone to its mechanical environment is controlled by a “mechanostat” that aims to keep bone tissue strain at an optimal level by homeostatically altering bone structure

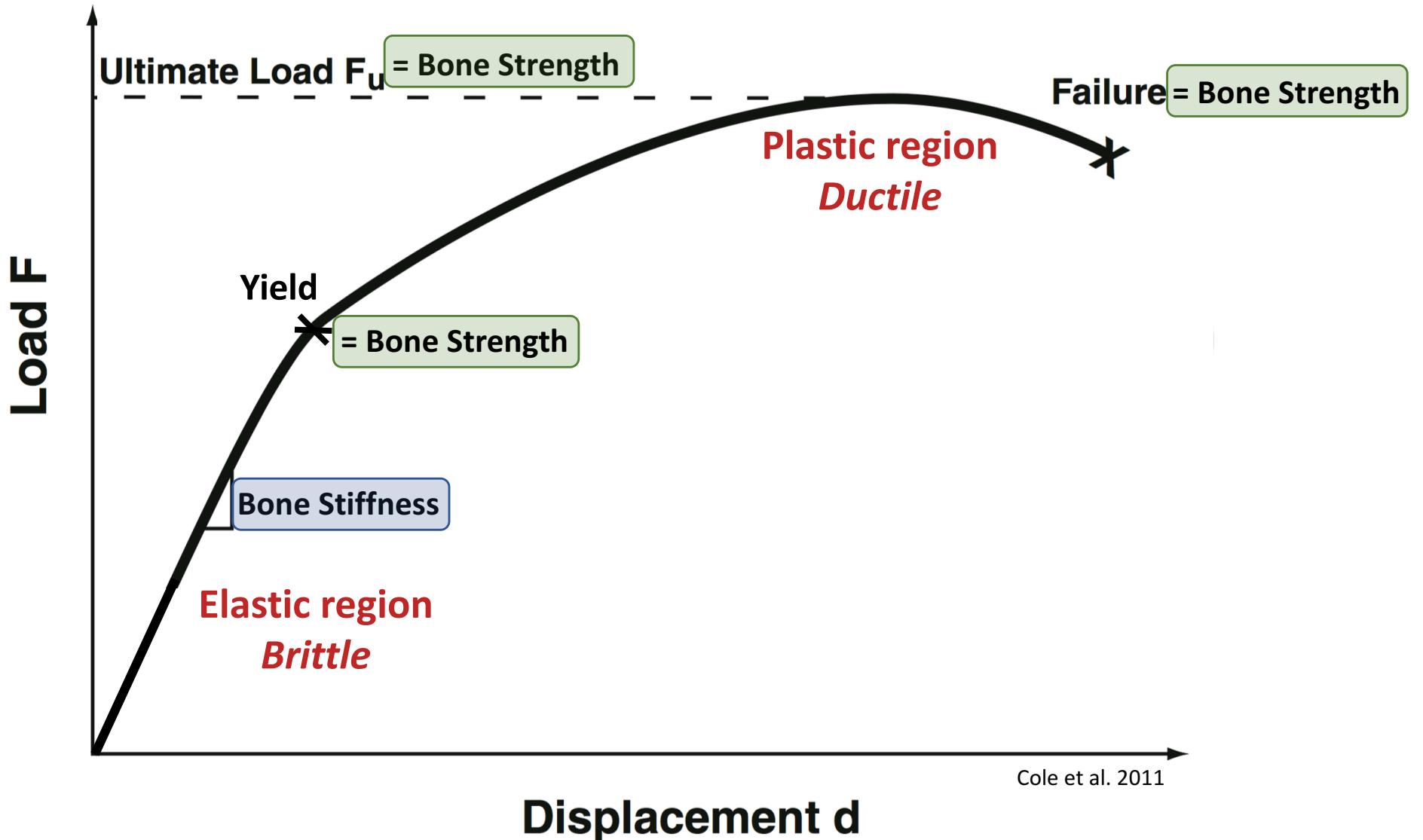


Load-Deformation Test

- Example: Concrete Compression Test

3

Load-Deformation Curve

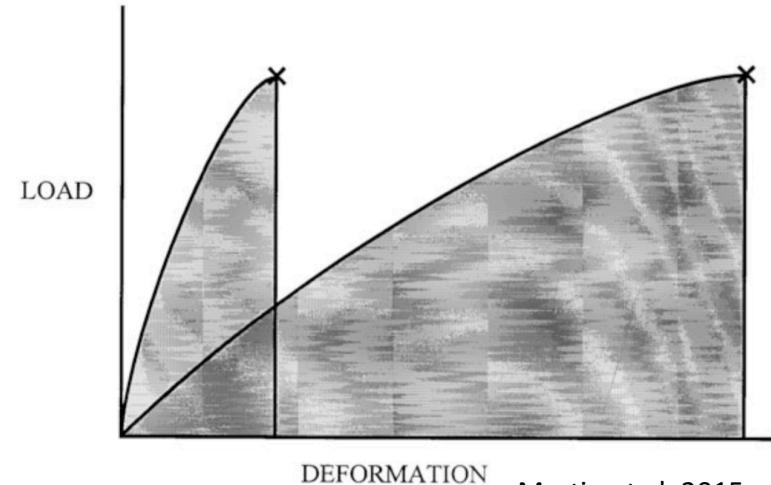


- **Stiffness** [N/m] = resistance to deformation
- **Strength** [N] = load at yield or failure or ultimate (conservative at yield)¹⁵

Mechanical Failure of Whole Bones

The mechanical requirements of a bone are a compromise between:

- The need for stiffness to make muscle actions efficient
 - If bones are not stiff, part of muscle energy is used in deforming the bones, rather than creating useful motion
- The need for compliance to absorb energy and avoid fracture
 - More compliant (less stiff) bone is able to absorb a greater amount of energy before reaching the failure load



- The need for minimal skeletal weight
 - Mineral tissue is dense and requires high energy to be carried around

Martin et al. 2015

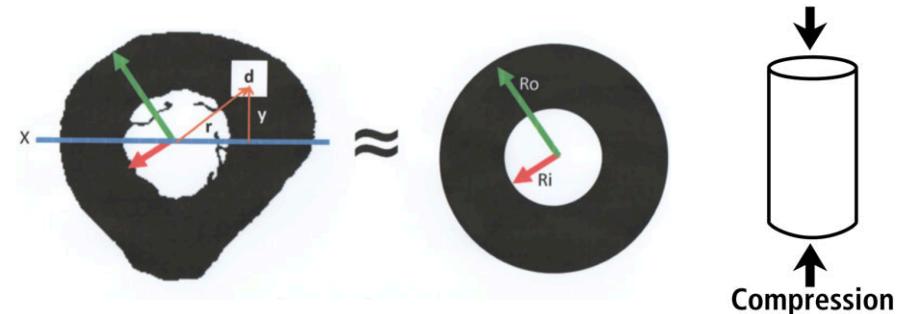
Bone Strength in Compression



www.youtube.com/watch?v=iF3RwVJglpc

Calculating Failure in Compression

- Let's consider a bone diaphysis as a cylinder with a periosteal diameter of 3 cm ($R_o=1.5\text{cm}$) and an endosteal diameter of 1.2 cm ($R_i=0.6\text{cm}$)
- Calculate failure load in *compression*



$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cross-sectional area} = A &= \pi(R_p^2 - R_e^2) = \pi(0.015^2 - 0.006^2) \\ &= 5.91 \times 10^{-4} \text{ m}^2.\end{aligned}$$

ultimate stress in compression, $\sigma_f = 195 \text{ MPa}$.

$$L_f = A\sigma_f = (5.94 \times 10^{-4})(195 \times 10^6) = 1.16 \times 10^5 \text{ N}$$

- For a 70-kg person, this is about 170x body weight

$$1.16 \times 10^5 \text{ N} / (70\text{Kg} \times 9.8\text{N/Kg}) = 169$$

TABLE 7.1. Typical mechanical properties for cortical bone

Property	Human	Bovine
Elastic modulus, GPa		
Longitudinal	17.4	20.4
Transverse	9.6	11.7
Bending	14.8 ^a	19.9 ^b
Shear modulus, GPa	3.51	4.14
Poisson's ratio	0.39	0.36
Tensile yield stress, MPa		
Longitudinal	115	141
Transverse	—	—
Compressive yield stress, MPa		
Longitudinal	182	196
Transverse	121	150
Shear yield stress, MPa	54	57
Tensile ultimate stress, MPa		
Longitudinal	133	156
Transverse	51	50
Compressive ultimate stress, MPa		
Longitudinal	195	237
Transverse	133	178
Shear ultimate stress, MPa	69	73
Bending ultimate stress, MPa	208.6 ^a	223.8 ^b
Tensile ultimate strain		
Longitudinal	0.0293	0.0072
Transverse	0.0324	0.0067
Compressive ultimate strain		
Longitudinal	0.0220	0.0253
Transverse	0.0462	0.0517
Shear ultimate strain	0.33	0.39
Bending ultimate strain	—	0.0178 ^b

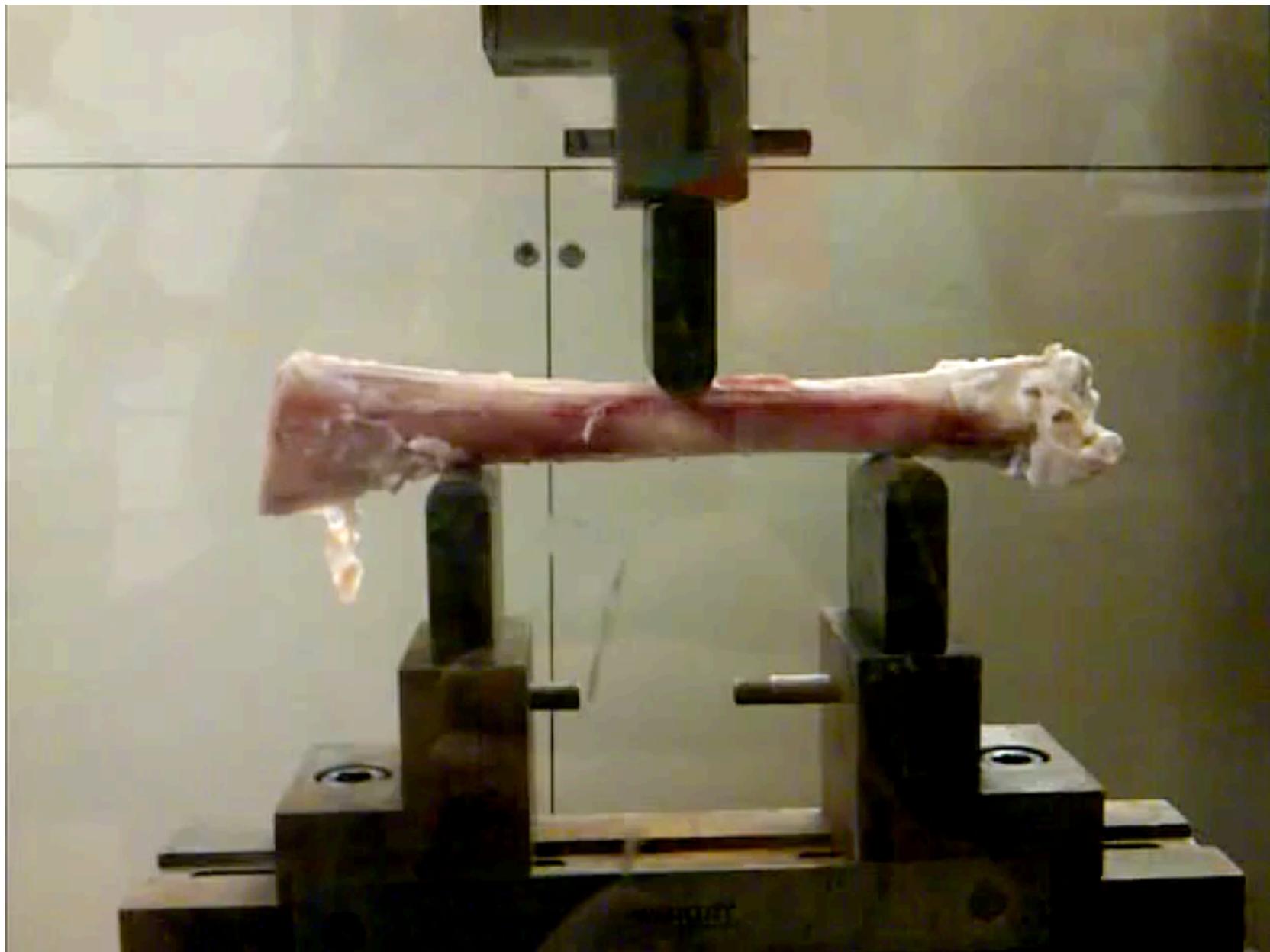
Human data are for adult femur and tibia; bovine data are for femur

Data compiled from Cowin (1989, pp. 102, 103, 111–113), except as indicated

^aFrom Currey and Butler (1975); adult femur, three-point bending

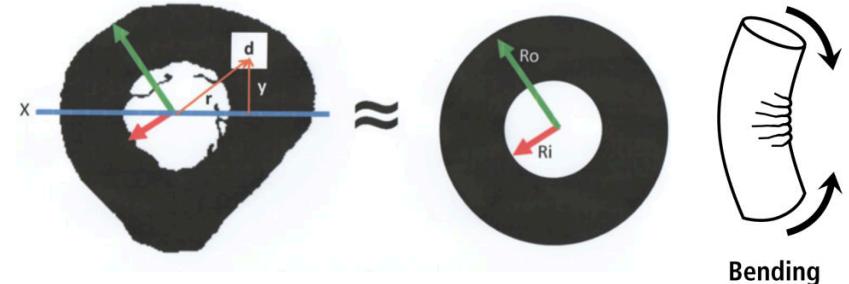
^bFrom Martin and Boardman (1993); tibia, three-point bending

Bone Strength in Bending



Calculating Failure in Bending

- Let's consider a bone diaphysis as a cylinder with a periosteal diameter of 3 cm ($R_o=1.5\text{cm}$) and an endosteal diameter of 1.2 cm ($R_i=0.6\text{cm}$)
- Calculate failure moment for *bending*



$$\begin{aligned}\text{Cross-sectional moment of inertia} &= I = \pi(R_o^4 - R_e^4)/4 = \pi(0.015^4 - 0.006^4)/4 \\ &= 3.87 \times 10^{-8} \text{m}^4\end{aligned}$$

ultimate stress in bending, $\sigma_{bf}=208.6 \text{ MPa}$

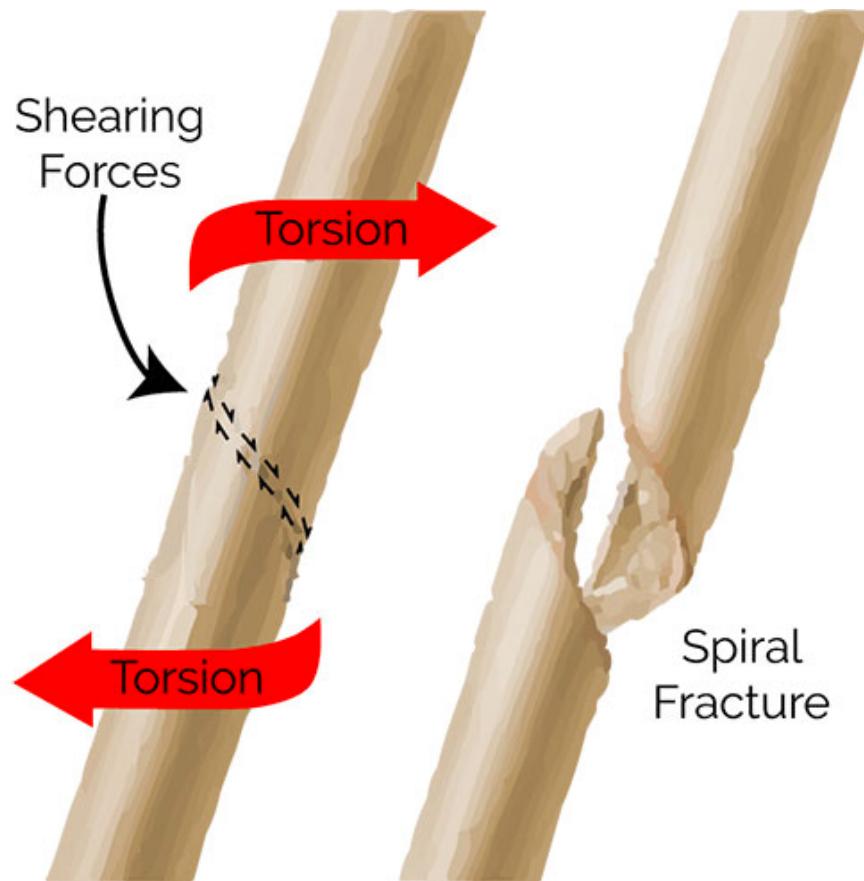
$$M_f = (I/c)\sigma_{tf} = (3.87 \times 10^{-8}/0.015)(208.6 \times 10^6) = 538 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

- For a 42cm femur supported at its ends, this M_f is produced by a force in the middle of 5124 N, which is 7x the body weight of a 70 kg person

$$F = 4M / L = 4 \times 538 / 0.42 = 5124 \text{ N}$$

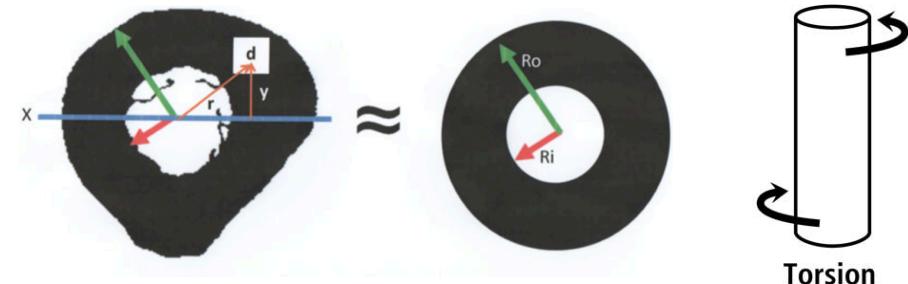
$$5124 \text{ N} / (70 \text{ Kg} \times 9.8 \text{ N/Kg}) = 7.4$$

Bone Strength in Torsion



Calculating Failure in Torsion

- Let's consider a bone diaphysis as a cylinder with a periosteal diameter of 3 cm ($R_o=1.5\text{cm}$) and an endosteal diameter of 1.2 cm ($R_i=0.6\text{cm}$)
- Calculate failure moment for *torsion*



$$\begin{aligned}\text{Polar moment of inertia } J &= \pi(R_p^4 - R_e^4)/2 = \pi(0.015^4 - 0.006^4)/2 \\ &= 7.75 \times 10^{-8} \text{m}^4\end{aligned}$$

ultimate shear stress, $\sigma_{sf} = 69 \text{ MPa}$

$$T_f = (J/r)\sigma_{sf} = (7.75 \times 10^{-8}/0.015)(69 \times 10^6) = 356 \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

- For a femur supported at the distal end, this T_f is produced by a force at the head ($b=9\text{cm}$) of 3960N, which is 6x a body weight of a 70 kg person

$$F = T_f / b = 356 \text{ Nm} / 0.09 = 3960 \text{ N}$$

$$3960 / (70 \text{ Kg} \times 9.8 \text{ N/Kg}) = 5.7$$

Bone Geometry



- Let us assume *constant bone mass*
- How do we distribute bone mass to have stiff bones? Why do long bones have that shape?
 1. The epiphysis are *expanded* and filled with *trabecular* bone
 2. The shaft is a *thick-walled hollow tube*

The Epiphysis Are *Expanded*...



- The forces across the joints are much larger than the forces in the shaft because of muscles
- The synovial cartilage is not a very strong tissue
→ large area for loads

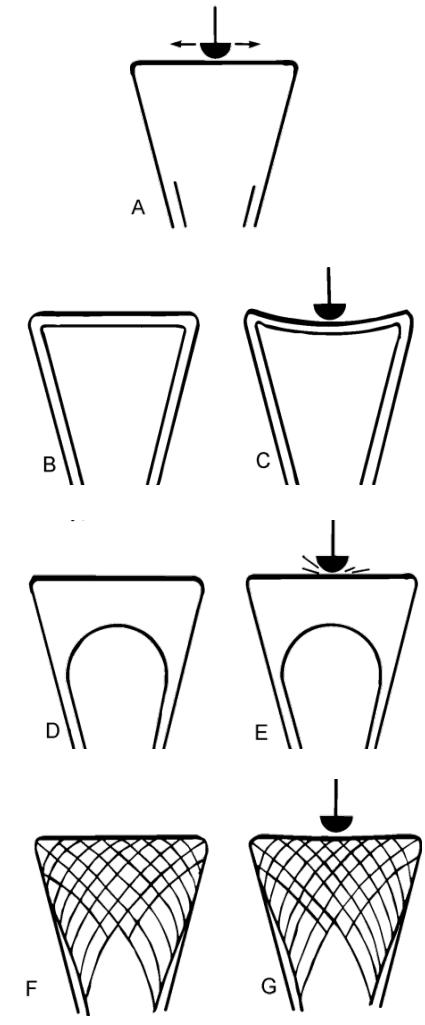


Currey J. 2006

... and Filled With *Trabecular Bone*



- Load transmitted from cortex to cortex
- Thin cortex → Too large deformations
- Thick cortex → High local stresses
- Trabecular bone structure → Adequate overall small deformation

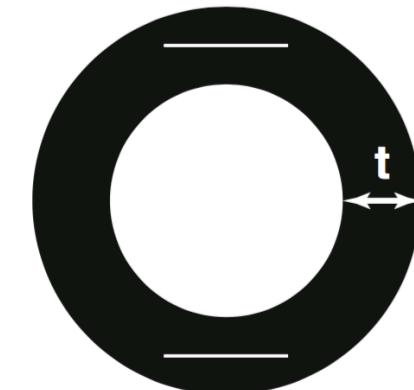
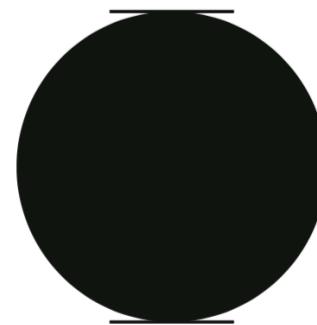
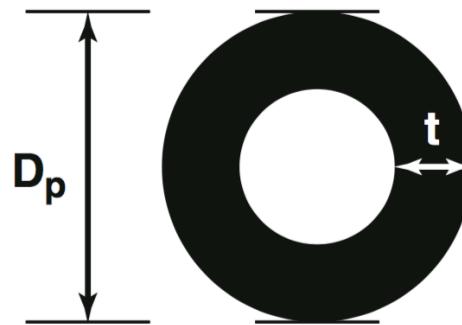


The Shaft is a Thick-Walled Hollow Tube

- Bones are *hollow* to minimize the amount of material while maximizing resistance to load



Cross-sectional Resistance to Bending



Periosteal Diameter (D_p):	100%	100%	125%
Cortical Area:	75%	100%	100%
Section Modulus:	94%	100%	170%

Cole et al. 2011

- Bone walls are *thick* to avoid *local buckling*

Bone Mechanics and Geometry - In Utero

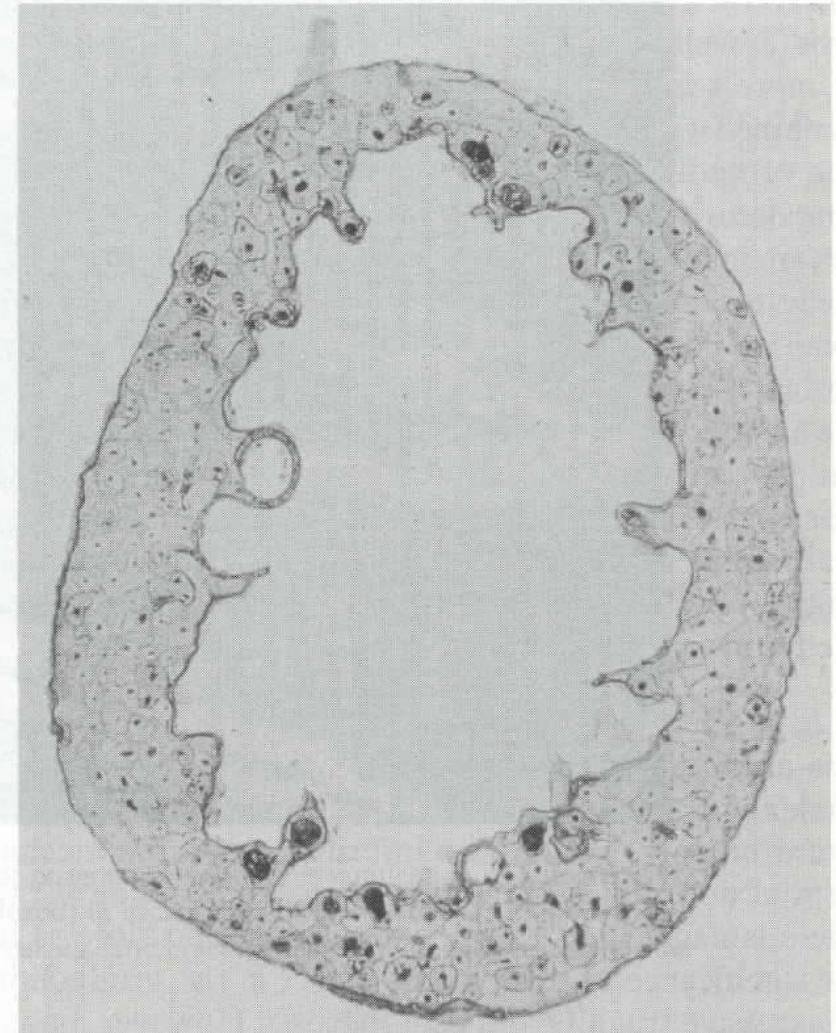
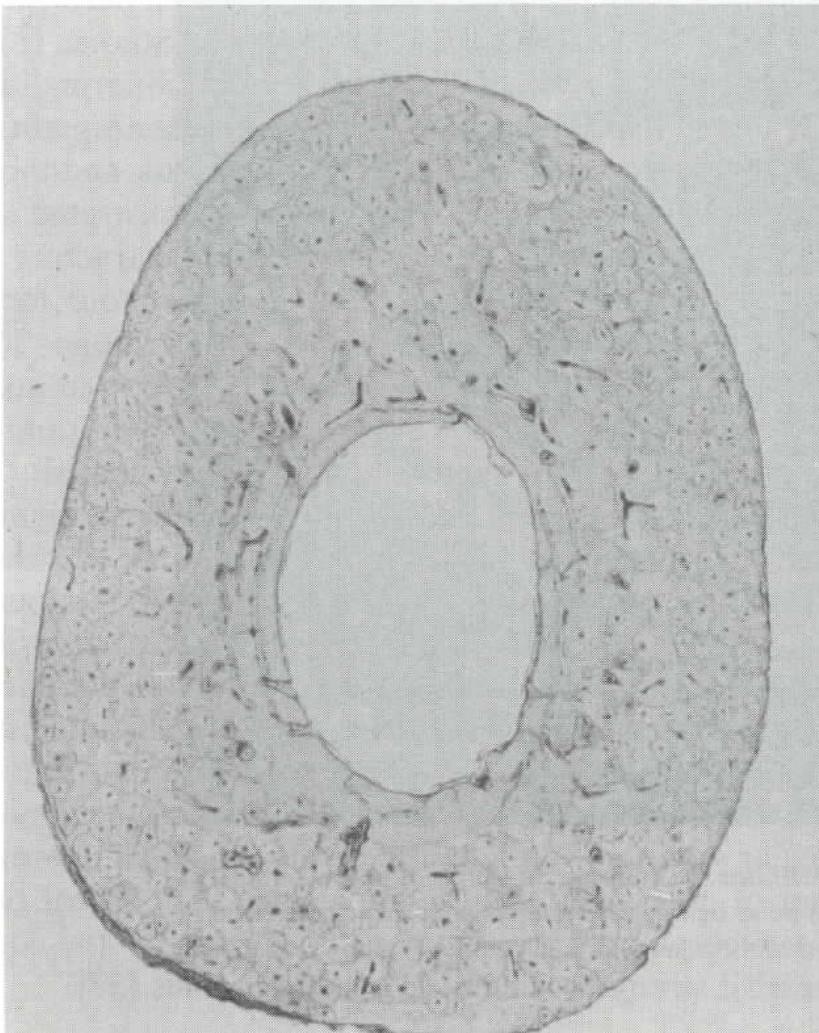


Rodriguez et al. 1988

- *In utero* hypokinesis leads to diminished bone diameter in newborns
- Appositional bone growth is regulated by diaphyseal surface strains *in utero* [Van der Meulen et al. 1993]

Bone Mechanics and Geometry – Effects of Disuse

- Adult beagle humeri (bilateral) after 40 weeks of immobilization in a plaster cast



Bone Mechanics and Bone Geometry: Long Duration Spaceflights

JOURNAL OF BONE AND MINERAL RESEARCH

Volume 21, Number 8, 2006

Published online on May 29, 2006; doi: 10.1359/JBMR.060509

© 2006 American Society for Bone and Mineral Research

Adaptation of the Proximal Femur to Skeletal Reloading After Long-Duration Spaceflight

Thomas F Lang,¹ Adrian D Leblanc,^{2,3} Harlan J Evans,⁴ and Ying Lu¹

ABSTRACT: We studied the effect of re-exposure to Earth's gravity on the proximal femoral BMD and structure of astronauts 1 year after missions lasting 4–6 months. We observed that the readaptation of the proximal femur to Earth's gravity entailed an increase in bone size and an incomplete recovery of volumetric BMD.

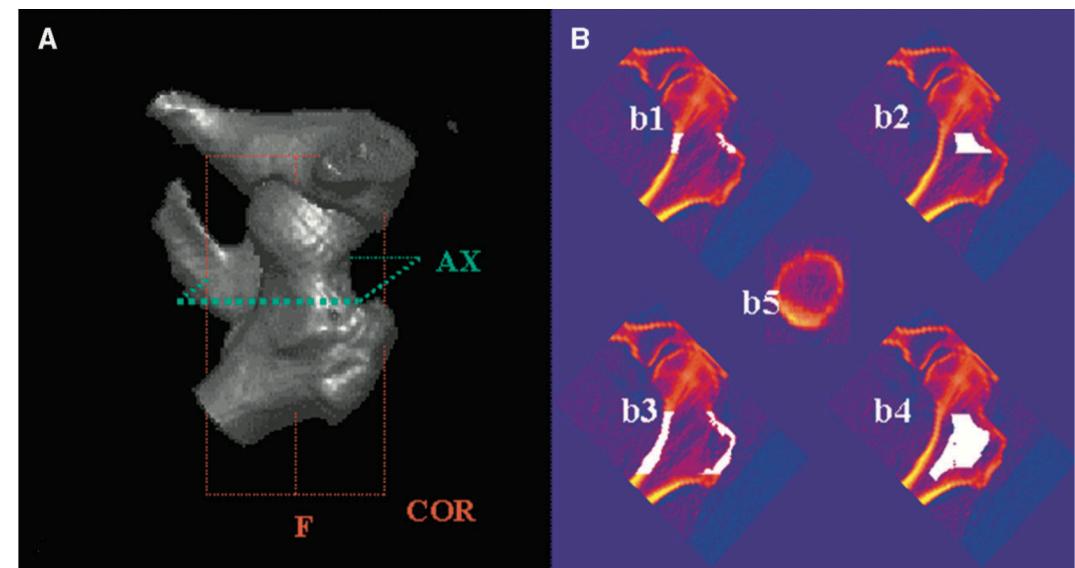


Long Duration Spaceflights - Introduction

- Bone loss occurs during period of disuse
 - Documented for bedrest studies and subject with spinal cord injury
- Bone loss was hypothesized as a medical complication for astronauts
 - What is the effect of disuse and reloading on the bone mass of the proximal femur?
 - What is the effect on bone geometry?
 - What is the effect on bone strength?

Long Duration Spaceflights – Subjects and Methods

- 16 International Space Station Crewmembers
- Flight duration: 4.5-6 months
- QCT pre-flights, post-flight (within 3 weeks of landing), and after 1 year
- Measurements:
 - vBMD
 - Bone volume
 - Bone strength estimates



Long Duration Spaceflights – Results and Conclusion

TABLE 1. FEMORAL NECK vBMD, MASS, AND VOLUME MEASURED PREFLIGHT (PrFL), POSTFLIGHT (PoFL), AND 1 YEAR AFTER MISSION, FOLLOWED BY THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES MEASURED DURING THE FLIGHT AND RECOVERY PERIODS AND THE RATIO OF 1 YEAR TO PrFL VALUES

		<i>PrFL</i>	<i>PoFL</i>	<i>R12</i>	$\Delta(\%) \text{ Flight}$	$\Delta(\%) \text{ Recovery}$	<i>Ratio</i> (<i>R + 12/PrFL</i>)
Total vBMD (g/cm ³)	Mean	0.358	0.324	0.326	<u>-9.40</u>	<u>0.90</u>	0.91
	SD	0.054	0.051	0.046	<u>6.40</u>	<u>5.90</u>	0.05
	<i>p</i> value				<0.001	0.530	<0.001
Total volume (cm ³)	Mean	18.344	17.852	19.140	<u>-1.40</u>	<u>7.20</u>	1.05
	SD	3.545	2.642	3.401	<u>10.90</u>	<u>9.90</u>	0.12
	<i>p</i> value				0.500	0.020	0.180
MNCS (cm ²)	Mean	11.69	11.80	12.09	<u>1.00</u>	<u>2.40</u>	1.03
	SD	1.76	1.73	1.91	<u>3.50</u>	<u>3.30</u>	0.04
	<i>p</i> value				0.600	0.020	<0.001

TABLE 2. TOTAL FEMUR vBMD, MASS, AND VOLUME MEASURED PREFLIGHT (PrFL), POSTFLIGHT (PoFL), AND 1 YEAR AFTER MISSION, FOLLOWED BY THE PERCENTAGE CHANGES MEASURED DURING THE FLIGHT AND RECOVERY PERIODS AND THE RATIO OF 1 YEAR TO PrFL VALUES

		<i>PrFL</i>	<i>PoFL</i>	<i>R12</i>	$\Delta(\%) \text{ Flight}$	$\Delta(\%) \text{ Recovery}$	<i>Ratio</i> (<i>R + 12/PrFL</i>)
Total vBMD (g/cm ³)	Mean	0.332	0.297	0.309	<u>-10.40</u>	<u>4.40</u>	0.93
	Median	0.325	0.297	0.308	<u>-9.72</u>	<u>4.72</u>	0.93
	<i>p</i> value				<0.001	0.02	<0.001
Total volume (cm ³)	Mean	106.322	104.242	112.008	<u>-0.70</u>	<u>7.20</u>	1.06
	SD	19.803	14.678	19.234	<u>10.10</u>	<u>7.30</u>	0.11
	<i>p</i> value				0.710	<0.001	0.070

- Bone geometry compensates for lack of bone density recovery

Finite Element Model (FEM)

- The deformation of a solid body under the action of a system of external forces or displacements can we described using a system of partial differential equations (PDEs)
- Partial differential equations in a domain with complex geometry and external forces can be solved numerically using the Finite Element Model (FEM)

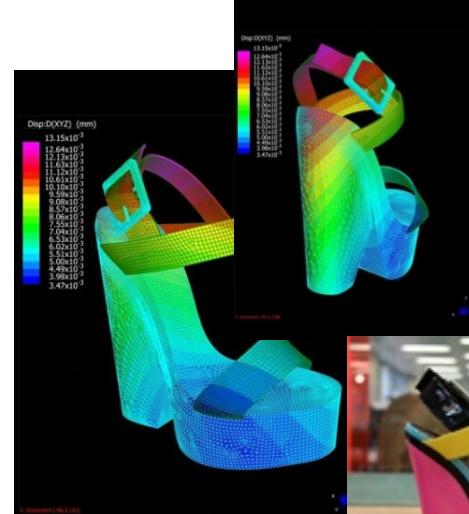
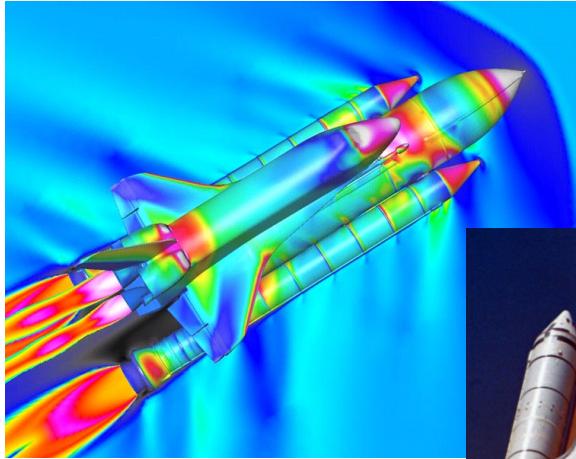
Creating the
Model

1. Geometry
2. Material Properties
3. Boundary Conditions

Solving PDEs

Analysis and
Interpretation
of Results
(Validation)

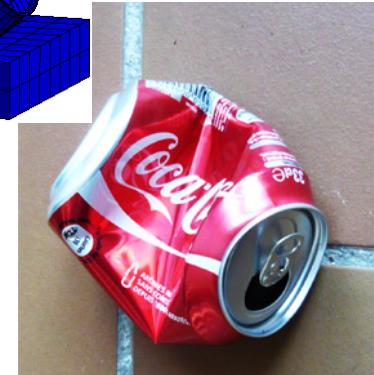
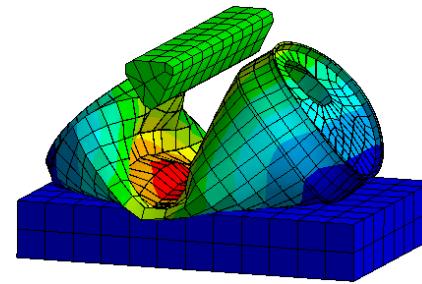
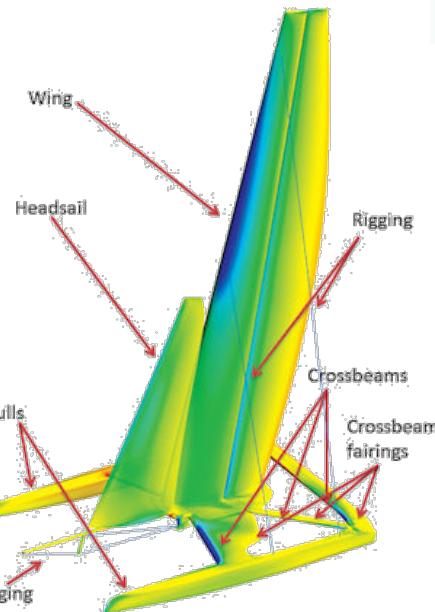
Finite Element Models in Engineering



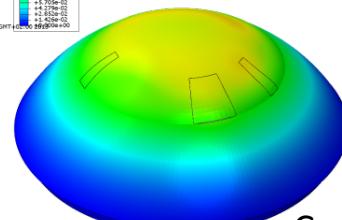
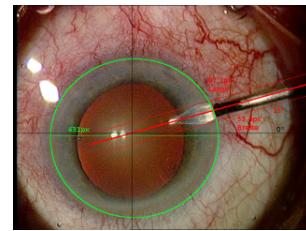
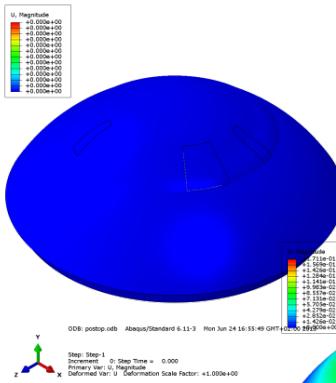
High



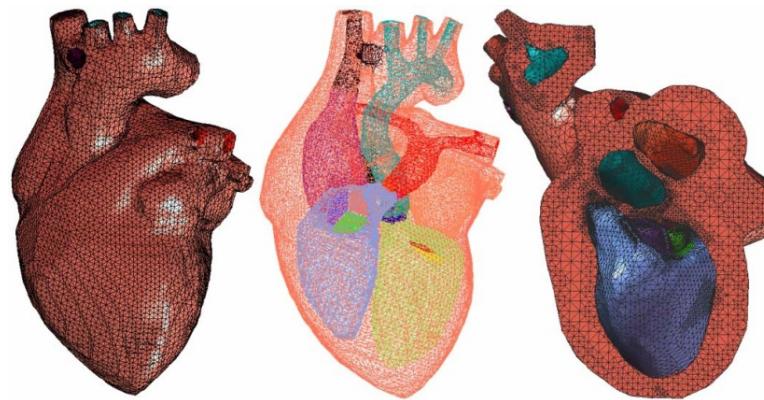
Low
35



Finite Element Models in Bioengineering



Courtesy H. Studer



Zhang et al. 2004

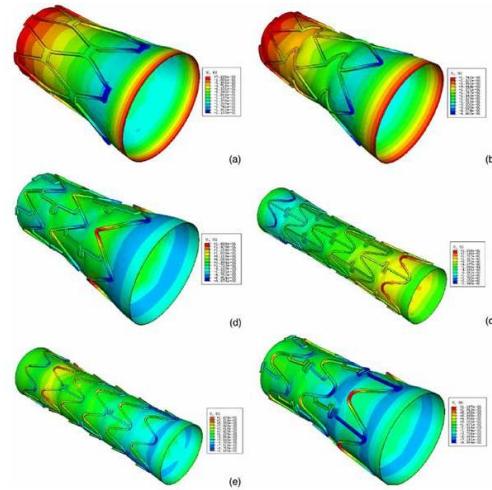
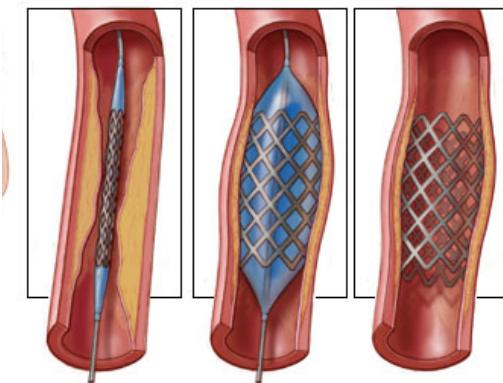
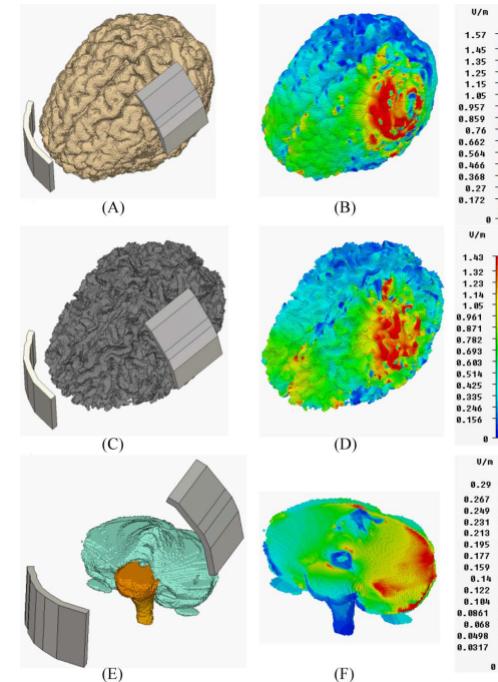


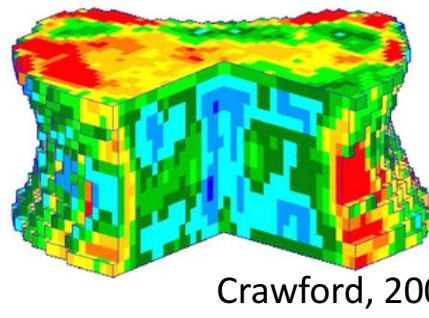
Figure 5. Displacement distributions for 6 different stent designs after balloon expansion [14]



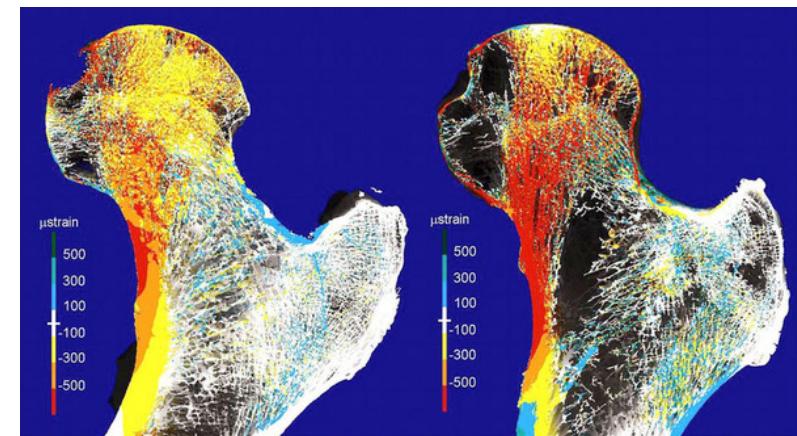
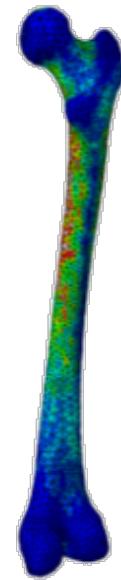
Low
36

Parazzini et al. 2011

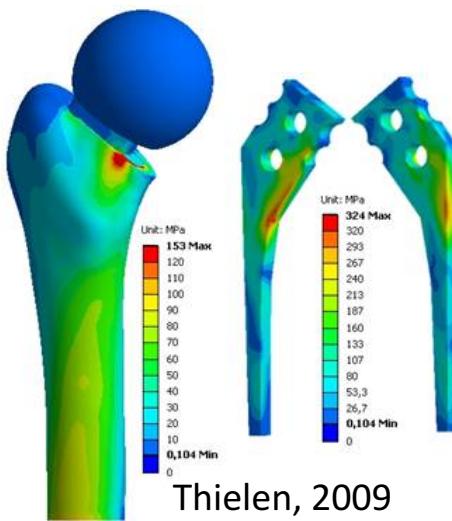
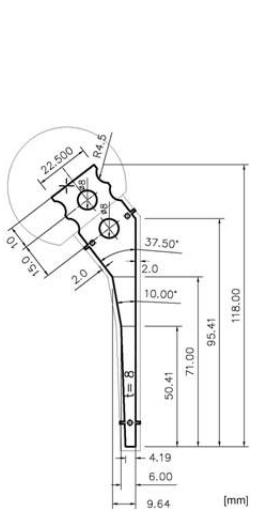
Finite Element Models in Bone



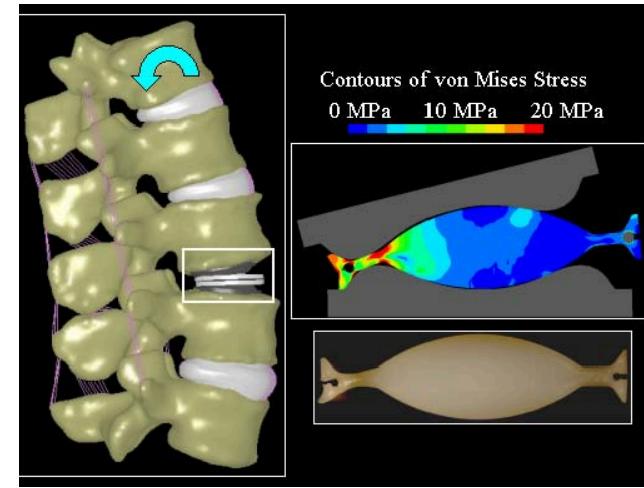
Crawford, 2003



Van Rietbergen, 2003

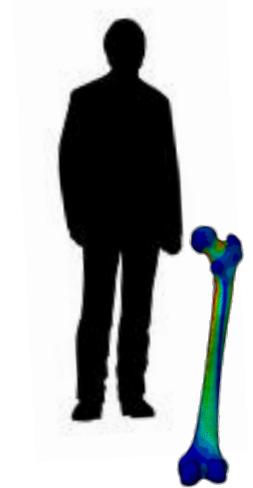
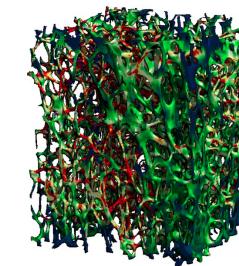
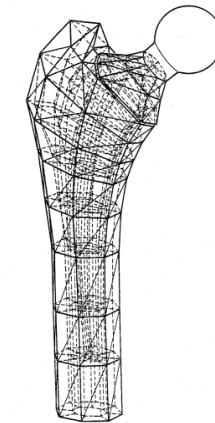
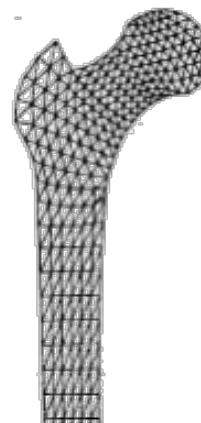


Thielen, 2009



Low
37

Timeline of Finite Element Models in Bone



1947¹
FEM
Mathematical formalism

1972²
FEM in
Bone mechanics

1983³
FEM for
Stress analysis
Fracture fixation
Artificial joints

1993⁴
FEM for
Process simulations
Micro-structural modeling

Today
Towards
Patient-specific fracture risk

¹http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Olgierd_Zienkiewicz

²Brekelmans W. et al. Acta orthop scand. 43 (5), 301–17. 1972.

³Huiskes R. J biomech. 16(6), 385-409. 1983.

⁴Huiskes R. J biomech eng. 115(4B), 520-527. 1993.

Geometry

Creating
the Model

1. Geometry
2. Material Prop.
3. Boundary Con.

Solving
PDEs

Analysis
and Interpretation
(Validation)



QCT



Segmentation



Meshing

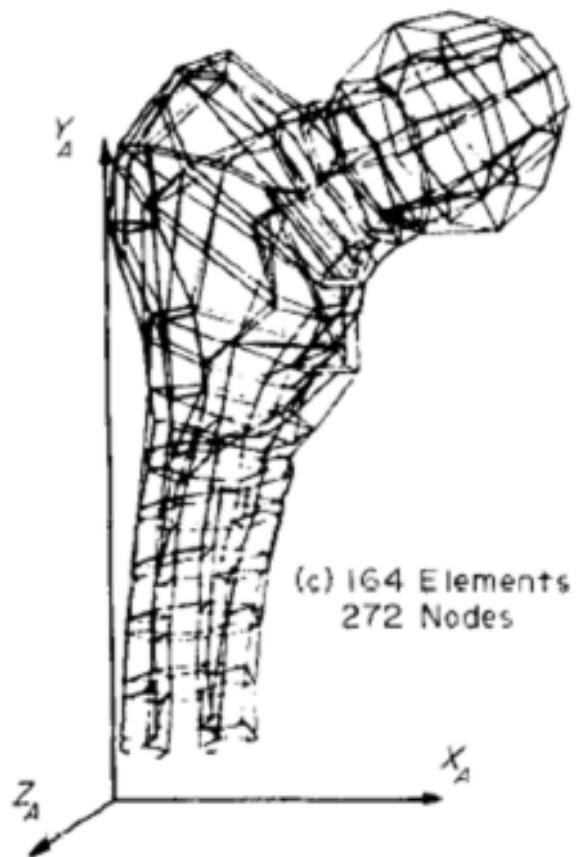
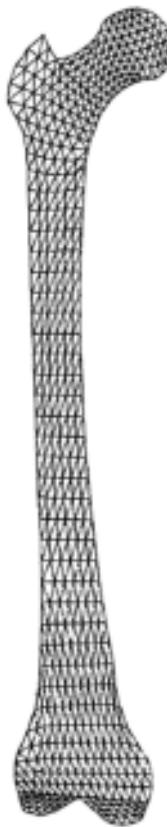
Meshing

Creating
the Model

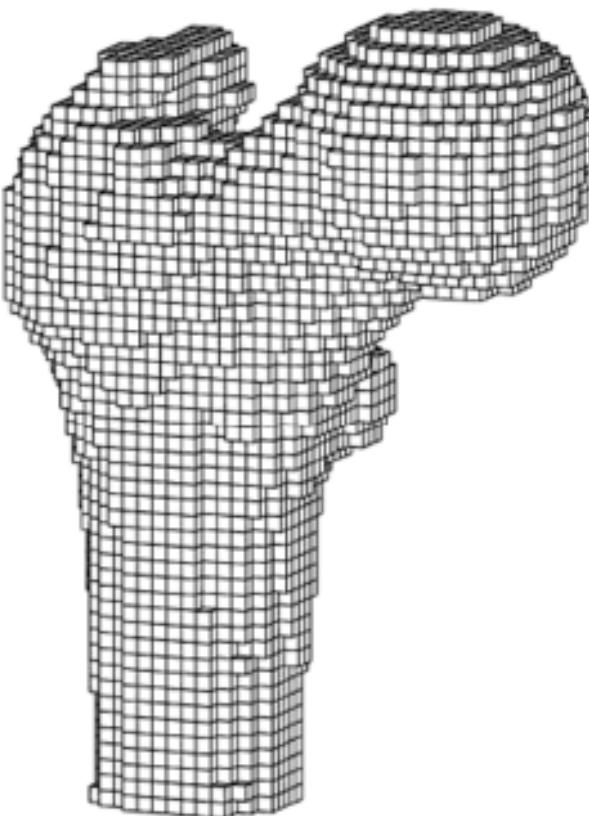
1. Geometry
2. Material Prop.
3. Boundary Con.

Solving
PDEs

Analysis
and Interpretation
(Validation)



Triangular surface
mesh
[Brekelmans , 1972]



Voxel-based mesh
[Keyak, 1990]



Tetrahedric mesh
[Viceconti, 1990] 40

Material Properties

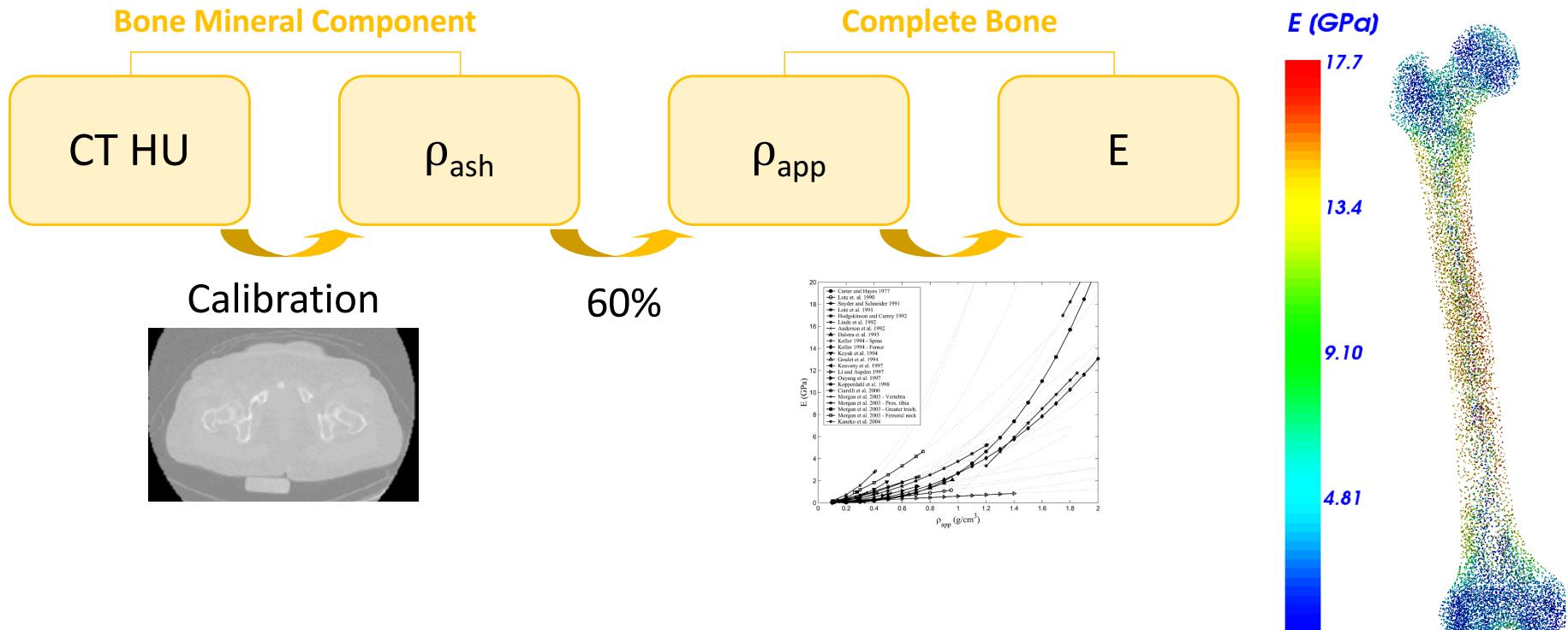
Creating
the Model

1. Geometry
2. Material Prop.
3. Boundary Con.

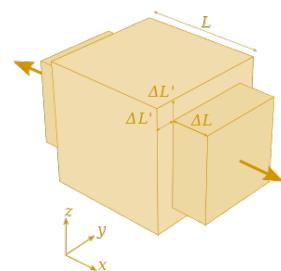
Solving
PDEs

Analysis
and Interpretation
(Validation)

- Constant from experimental data
- Subject specific from images



- Poisson's ratio = 0.3



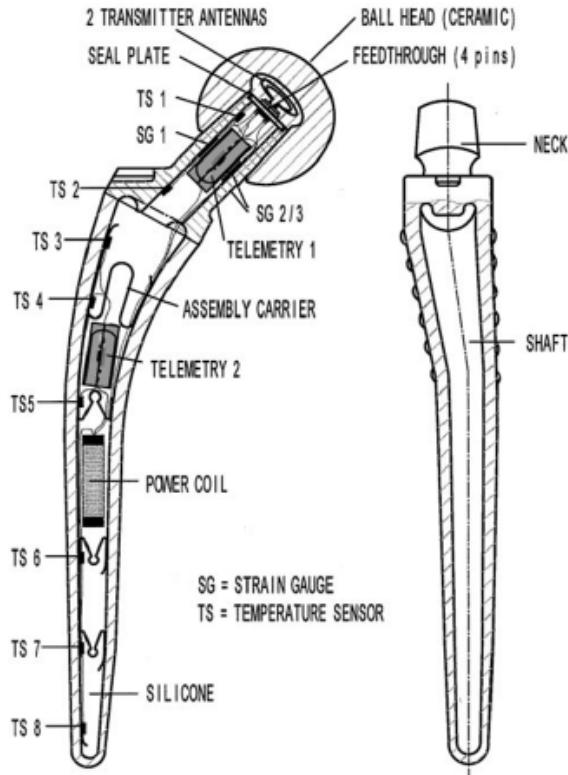
Boundary Conditions

Creating
the Model

1. Geometry
2. Material Prop.
3. Boundary Con.

Solving
PDEs

Analysis
and Interpretation
of Results
(Validation)



Gait analysis
[Heller, 2001]

Instrumented hip implants
[Bergmann, 2008]

Simulation of
interaction between
bones and muscles
[Heller, 2001]

Validation

Creating
the Model

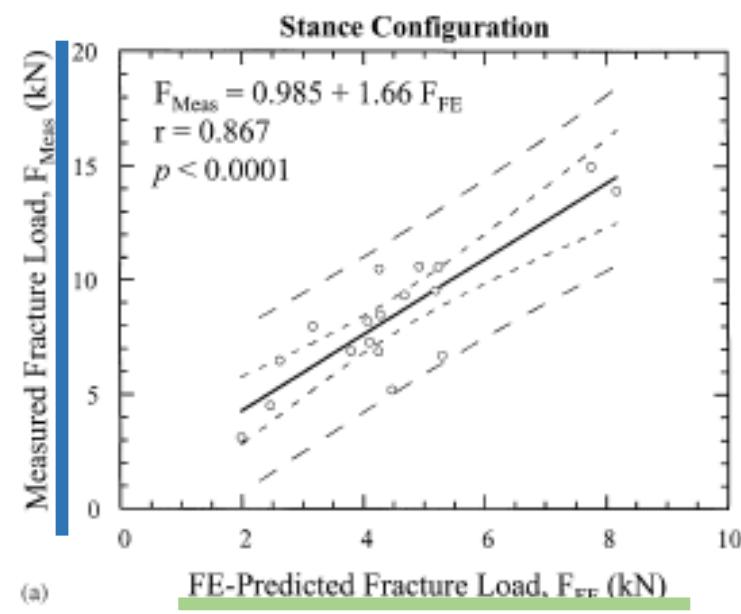
1. Geometry
2. Material Prop.
3. Boundary Con.

Solving
PDEs

Analysis
and Interpretation
of Results
(Validation)



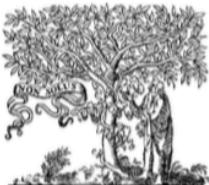
Experiment



FE simulation

[Keyak, 1998]

FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk



ELSEVIER

Journal of Biomechanics 41 (2008) 356–367

JOURNAL
OF
BIOMECHANICS

www.elsevier.com/locate/jbiomech
www.JBiomech.com

Subject-specific finite element models implementing a maximum principal strain criterion are able to estimate failure risk and fracture location on human femurs tested *in vitro*

Enrico Schileo^{a,*}, Fulvia Taddei^a, Luca Cristofolini^{a,b}, Marco Viceconti^a

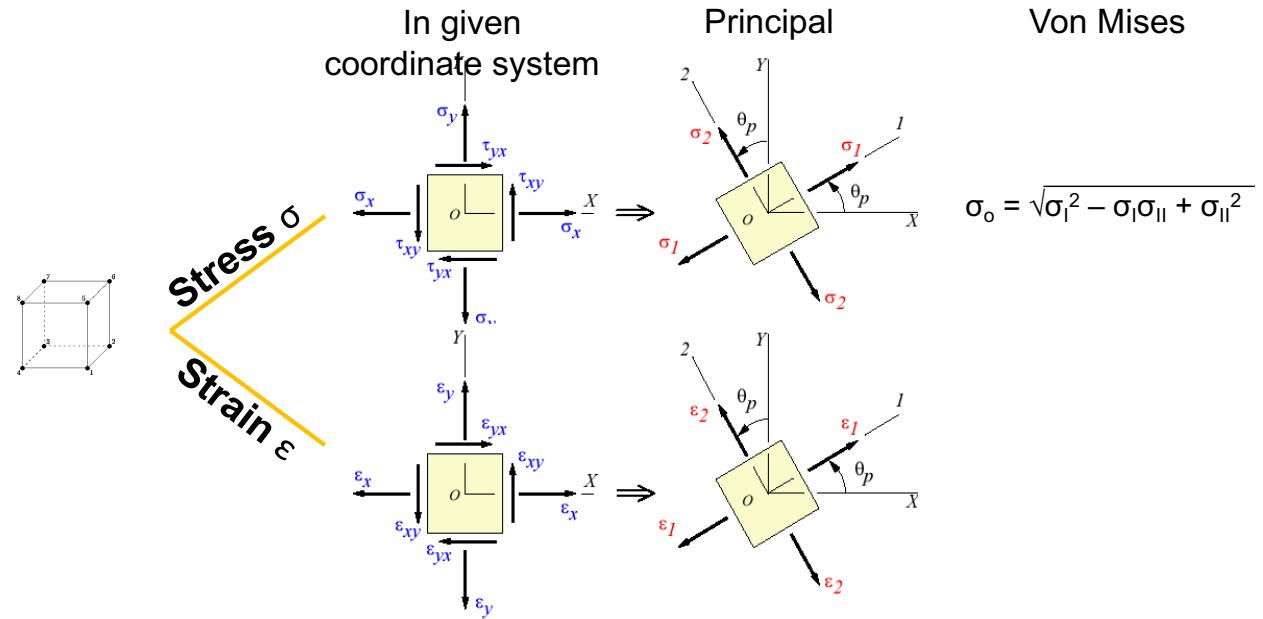
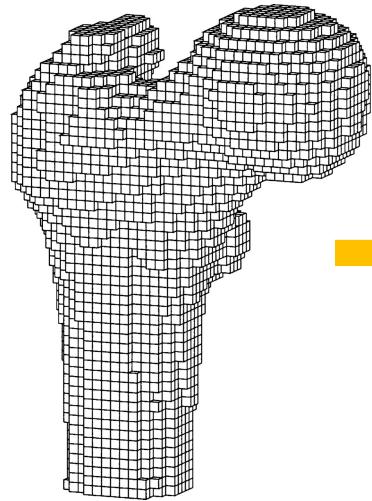
^aLaboratorio di Tecnologia Medica, Istituti Ortopedici Rizzoli, Via di Barbiano 1/10, 40136 Bologna, Italy

^bEngineering Faculty, University of Bologna, Italy

Accepted 2 September 2007

Background – Stress, Strain and Failure Criteria

- Stress and strains are normalized forces and deformation of mesh elements



Max Principal Strain

- Brittle materials
- A material fails when the **Max Principal Strain** reaches the “Limit” Strain
- Tension: $\epsilon_I > \epsilon_L$ or $\epsilon_{II} > \epsilon_L$
- Compression: $|\epsilon_I| > |\epsilon_L|$ or $|\epsilon_{II}| > |\epsilon_L|$

Max Principal Stress

- Brittle materials
- A material fails when the **Max Principal Stress** reaches the “Limit” Stress
- Tension: $\sigma_I > \sigma_L$ or $\sigma_{II} > \sigma_L$
- Compression: $|\sigma_I| > |\sigma_L|$ or $|\sigma_{II}| > |\sigma_L|$

Von Mises Stress

- Ductile and Isotropic materials
 - A material fails when the **von Mises Equivalent Stress** (σ_o) exceeds the Axial “Limit” Stress (σ_{yL}):
- $$\sigma_o = \sqrt{\sigma_I^2 - \sigma_I\sigma_{II} + \sigma_{II}^2} > \sigma_{yL}$$

*Limit = yield, ultimate, fracture

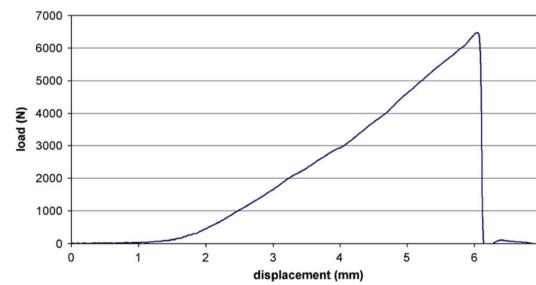
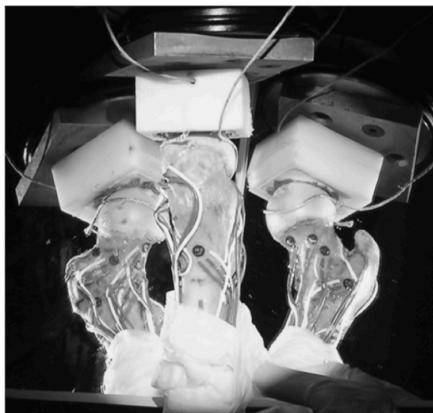
FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk - Introduction

- No agreement on the choice of the failure criterion to adopt for the bone tissue can be found in the FEM literature
- The use of stress-based criteria prevails on strain-based ones, while basic bone biomechanics suggest using strain parameters to describe failure
- Aim: To verify if a strain-based failure criterion can identify the failure patterns of bones in subject-specific simulations

FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk - Method

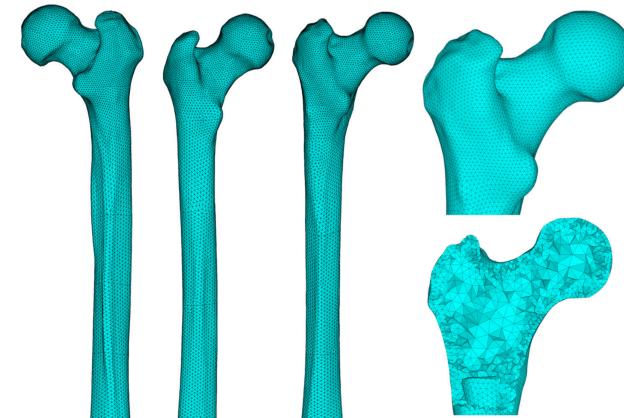
Experimental Test

- Uniform load applied at 2mm/sec
- High-speed camera to observe the location of fracture onset



FE Simulation

- Geometry: from CT images
- Material properties:
 $E=6.950\rho_{app}^{1.49}$
- Force: first local maximum from load-deformation curve
- 3 different failure criteria:
 - Max principal strain (ϵ_{max})
 - Von Mises stress (σ_{VM})
 - Max principal stress (σ_{max})



FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk - Failure Criteria

Table 3
Details of the failure criteria implemented

Criterion	Limit values	Implementation
ε_{\max} (max principal strain)	Compressive: $\varepsilon_{\lim}^C = 0.0104$ ^a Tensile: $\varepsilon_{\lim}^T = 0.0073$ ^a	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Each element is assigned a tensile or compressive predominance: $\varepsilon_{\max} = \sup(\varepsilon_1 , \varepsilon_3)$ The corresponding tensile or compressive ε_{\lim} is chosen RF is computed as $RF = \varepsilon_{\max}/\varepsilon_{\lim}$
σ_{\max} (max principal stress)	Compressive: $\sigma_{\lim}^C = 137\rho_{\text{ash}}^{1.88} (\rho_{\text{ash}} < 0.317 \text{ g/cm}^3)$ ^b $\sigma_{\lim}^C = 137\rho_{\text{ash}}^{1.72} (\rho_{\text{ash}} < 0.317 \text{ g/cm}^3)$ ^c Tensile: $\sigma_{\lim}^T = 0.8 * \sigma_{\lim}^C$	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> σ_{\lim}^C value is chosen upon element density, computed by BoneMat Each element is assigned a tensile or compressive predominance $\sigma_{\max} = \sup(\sigma_1 , \sigma_3)$ The corresponding tensile or compressive σ_{\lim} is chosen RF is computed as $RF = \sigma_{\max}/\sigma_{\lim}$
σ_{VM} (Von Mises stress)	$\sigma_{\lim} = 137\rho_{\text{ash}}^{1.88} (\rho_{\text{ash}} < 0.317 \text{ g/cm}^3)$ ^b $\sigma_{\lim} = 137\rho_{\text{ash}}^{1.72} (\rho_{\text{ash}} < 0.317 \text{ g/cm}^3)$ ^c	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> σ_{\lim} value is chosen upon element density, computed by BoneMat RF is computed as $RF = \sigma_{VM}/\sigma_{\lim}$

No compressive/tensile distinction

^aBayraktar et al. (2004b).

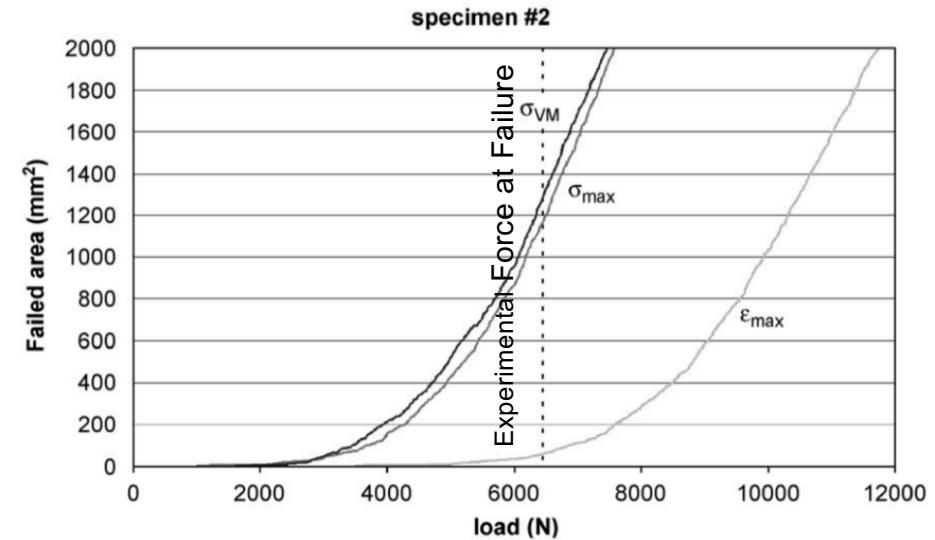
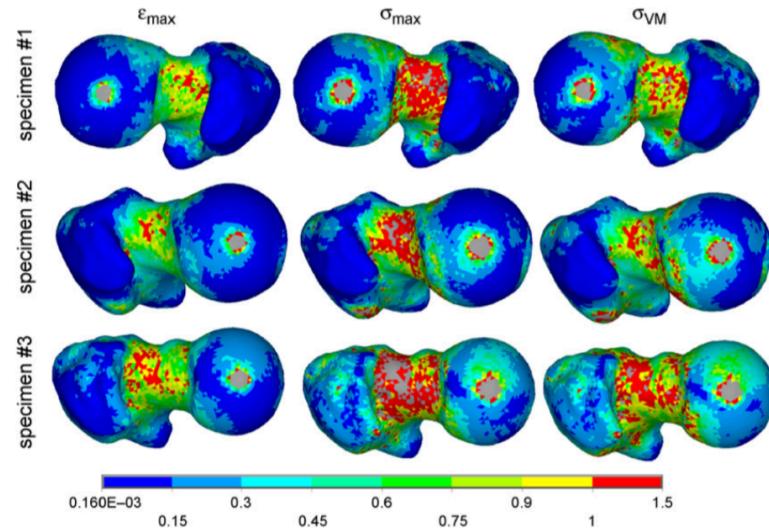
^bKeyak et al. (1994).

^cKeller (1994).

Note: Risk of Fracture = 1 / Factor of Safety

FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk - Results

- All specimen failed for a tensile effect in the supero-lateral aspect of the neck
- All the FE models predicted a predominantly tensile stress at the actual failure locations
- The load at which the first superficial elements were expected to fail was close to the actual failure load for the ϵ_{\max} RF



FEM to Estimate Femur Fracture Risk - Conclusion

- “The results seem to support, on a “whole bone” structural level and in clinically relevant loading conditions, the appropriateness of strain-based parameters to identify failure”
- Study suggests using Max Principle Strain Criteria to calculate subject-specific fracture risk using finite element models