### A systematic study of the muscle forcedeformation relationship at the human elbow: Toward physiology-aware assistive device control and noninvasive muscle force sensing

Laura Hallock Dissertation Talk 2021.08.11

Berkeley



 $f(D, \alpha, \theta)$ 

# Which hand would you prefer?



*UW "Highly Biomimetic Anthropomorphic Robotic Hand"* 



### Which hand would you prefer?





*UW "Highly Biomimetic Anthropomorphic Robotic Hand"* 

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## Endowing Devices with Human Dexterity



#### **GOAL**:

Build safe, capable assistive devices that grant the human user full control authority.



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#### **THESIS CONTRIBUTION**: New Modeling Paradigms & Prototype Control

VISION: Safe and Capable Systems for Assistance & Rehabilitation



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# Modeling Software Shortcomings





Humans are **highly over-actuated**, and existing modeling frameworks make **significant assumptions about muscle force distribution**.

# Modeling Software Shortcomings



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#### **GRADUATE WORK**: Advances in MSK Sensing & Modeling



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#### **Muscle Force-Deformation Mechanics**





#### **Muscle Force-Deformation Mechanics**





# Muscle Force-Deformation Mechanics: Complexities





geometric complexity, contact dynamics



# Muscle Force-Deformation Mechanics: Complexities





geometric complexity, contact dynamics morphological variation



Sycra, DeviantArt



# Muscle Force-Deformation Mechanics: Complexities



**Starting point**: Can we correlate simple muscle deformation signals with output force?





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$$\tilde{g} \in \int_{0}^{100} M_{20} = \int_{0}^{100} M_{20} = \int_{0}^{100} \int_{$$





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[*Hallock*, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, BioRob 2020] 34

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[Hallock, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, BioRob 2020] 35

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[Hallock, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, BioRob 2020] 36
## **Correlation Analysis:** Data Collection





## **Correlation Analysis**





### **Correlation Analysis** ELBOW ANGLE





### **Correlation Analysis** ELBOW ANGLE



#### SUBJECT





[Hallock, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, BioRob 2020] 41

### **Correlation Analysis** ELBOW ANGLE



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#### SUBJECT



1. Manual annotation is **prohibitively timeintensive** and **can't be done in real time**.

$$= \underbrace{ \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 &$$



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**Track muscle contours** via Lucas– Kanade optical flow.





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2. It's still unclear **what** deformation signals we should use, and **where** we should collect them.



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2. It's still unclear **what** deformation signals we should use, and **where** we should collect them.



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**Track muscle contours** via Lucas– Kanade optical flow.



## Observe the **entire muscle** under **multiple joint positions** and **loading conditions**.



### **GRADUATE WORK**: Advances in MSK Sensing & Modeling



# Data Collection Setup: Ultrasound + Motion Capture



Using **motion capture** to track the **ultrasound probe position**, we can generate **full 3D scans** of the arm under **static conditions**.



# **Preliminary Data Set**

brachioradialis

### Model target: elbow flexors

Data set:



biceps brachii

- 3 subjects (1 F, 2 M)
- full arm ultrasound volumetric scan
- 4 elbow flexion angles, 0–90°
- 5 loading conditions

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- **FS**: fully supported
- **GC**: gravity compensation only
- *LF*: light wrist weight (~225g)
- *MF*: medium wrist weight (~725g)
- HF: heavy wrist weight (~950g)



Ultrasound volumetric data collection, HART Lab 2017

## Preliminary Results: Qualitative





## Data Set Release: OpenArm 1.0





# Data Collection: Challenges & Shortcomings



Using **motion capture** to track the **ultrasound probe position**, we can generate **full 3D scans** of the arm under **static conditions**.



#### intensity map (2D slice)

#### output segmentation (2D slice)





[Nozik\*, **Hallock**\*, Ho, Mandava, Mitchell, Li, Bajcsy, EMBC 2019] 64

#### intensity map (2D slice)

#### output segmentation (2D slice)





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#### output segmentation (2D slice)



CNN-based segmentation performs better than classical registration on the **center of the muscle**, where we focus our modeling analyses.



[Nozik\*, Hallock\*, Ho, Mandava, Mitchell, Li, Bajcsy, EMBC 2019] 66

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[Nozik\*, Hallock\*, Ho, Mandava, Mitchell, Li, Bajcsy, EMBC 2019] 67

#### intensity map (2D slice)

#### output segmentation (2D slice)





### **GRADUATE WORK**: Advances in MSK Sensing & Modeling



# (Simplified) Biological Mechanism



How close is what we observe
to the simplified model?







### **Cross-Sectional**

Area

 $CSA_{\theta,LC}(x)$ 



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**Biceps Cross-Section** 



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90°

60°

(cm)

12

14

16



#### Cross-Sectional Area





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#### Cross-Sectional Area

 $CSA_{\theta,LC}(x)$ 



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# **Spatial Analysis:** Statistical Shape Modeling





- Multi-muscle dynamics
  - synergies
  - contact forces





- Multi-muscle dynamics
  - synergies
  - contact forces

### Geometric complexity

- nonlinear, config-specific "line of action"
- pennation angle
- tendon/aponeurosis thickness





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- fiber type (I or II)
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- concentric vs. eccentric contraction
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### Neurological complexity

- motor unit distribution
- tetanic vs. subtetanic contraction
- feedback vs. feedforward control

**BRAIN SPINE PNS** 

### **CHALLENGE**: "One step forward, one step back"

The more closely we attempt to model biological mechanisms, the more values and parameters we must assume based on literature.

action"

tendon/aponeurosis thickness

Mechanical complexity

permanon angle

- fiber type (I or II)
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- Neurological complexity
  - motor unit distribution
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faction"

lion

ION












# (Proposed) Suite of Models



### **GRADUATE WORK**: Advances in MSK Sensing & Modeling



# **Preliminary AMG-Force Model**

**AMG amplitude**  $A \propto$  [# activated muscle fibers] **AMG frequency**  $\nu \propto$  [mean fiber force]

[Harrison 2018]



 $\blacktriangleright$  muscle force  $\,F_m \propto A 
u$ 

- Preliminary data show significant correlation of  $A\nu$  quantity with muscle output force
- Currently working to validate model and investigate its spatial/temporal resolution



### **GRADUATE WORK**: Advances in MSK Sensing & Modeling



### **GRADUATE WORK:** Prototype Control



## **Prototype Deformation-based Control**





## **Prototype Deformation-based Control**



(points tracked via Lucas–Kanad optical flow)

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# **Prototype Deformation-based Control**



(points tracked via Lucas–Kanade optical flow)

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# Prototype Deformation-based Control: Performance





# Prototype Deformation-based Control: Performance



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# Prototype Deformation-based Control: Preferences





[Hallock, Sud, Mitchell, Hu, Ahamed, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, TNSRE 2021] (under review)

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### **GRADUATE WORK:** Prototype Control



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# Roadmap

**GOAL**:

Build safe, capable assistive devices that grant the human user full control authority.

### FUNDAMENTAL CHALLENGE: Insufficient Models

Current musculoskeletal modeling approaches don't sufficiently capture human dynamics to ensure safety and capability.

#### **THESIS CONTRIBUTION**: New Modeling Paradigms & Prototype Control

By directly measuring muscle movement (as deformation/vibration), we can build and use new classes of control-ready musculoskeletal models that represent human dynamics with greater fidelity.

**VISION**: Safe and Capable Systems for Assistance & Rehabilitation



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**VISION**: Safe and Capable Systems for Assistance & Rehabilitation



### **GRADUATE WORK:** Prototype Control



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## **VISION:** Advances in Assistive Device Control



## **Device Control**: Expanded Deformation Tracking



Points along the muscle fascia can be **reliably tracked in real time** via Lucas–Kanade optical flow-based methods.



[Hallock, Velu, Schwartz, Bajcsy, BioRob 2020] 108

## **Device Control**: Robot Teleoperation





## **Device Control**: Baseline sEMG Control





## **Device Control**: Proposed Augmented Control





## **VISION:** Advances in Assistive Device Control



## **VISION**: Advances in Motor Control Science



# Force-Activation Modeling: "Closing the Loop"





# Force-Activation Modeling: "Closing the Loop"



Measuring muscle output force directly would allow for **improved interpretation of existing sensing modalities**.



# Modeling Synergies: State-of-the-Art





# Modeling Synergies: Cost Function Evaluation





# Modeling Synergies: Novel Systems

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## **VISION:** Advances in Motor Science & Device Control



## **VISION:** Advanced Human–Robot Systems



# Addressing Pathology: "Closing the Loop"



ultrasound / AMG

Measuring muscle output force directly would allow for **better understanding**, **diagnosis**, and treatment of neuromuscular pathology.



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## Thanks to



## and to . . .

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the teaching teams — and students! — of EECS 106A and 127

















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aht their dog to lab 🥶









