



Towards optimal gait assistance

Human-in-the-loop
optimization

&

Neuromechanical
simulation

NRI PI meeting

Feb 28, 2020

Seungmoon Song

PIs: Chris Atkeson and Steve Collins

<http://biomechatronics.stanford.edu/>

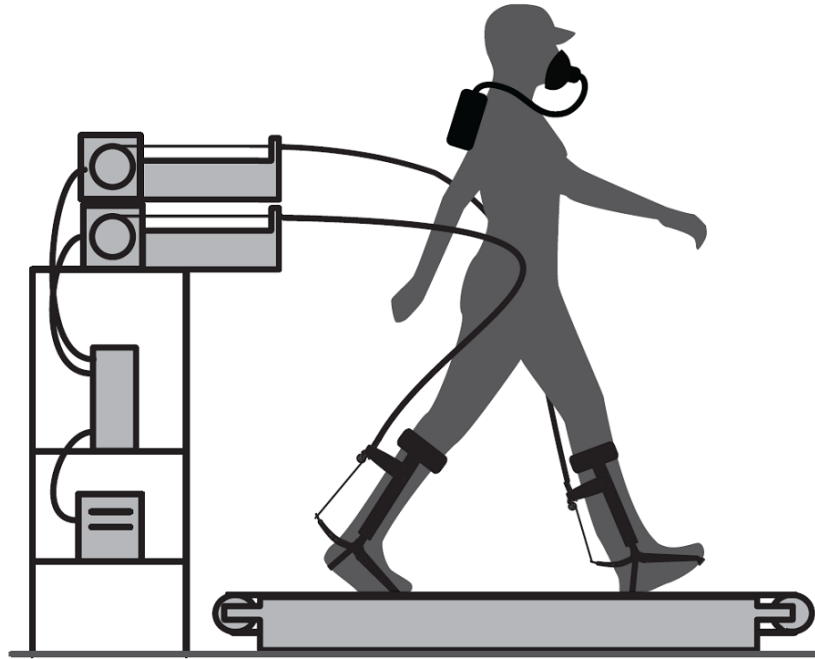


CMMI-1734449: NIR: INT:
Individualized Co-Robotics

smsong@stanford.edu

<http://seungmoon.com>

Objective: Improve normal walking

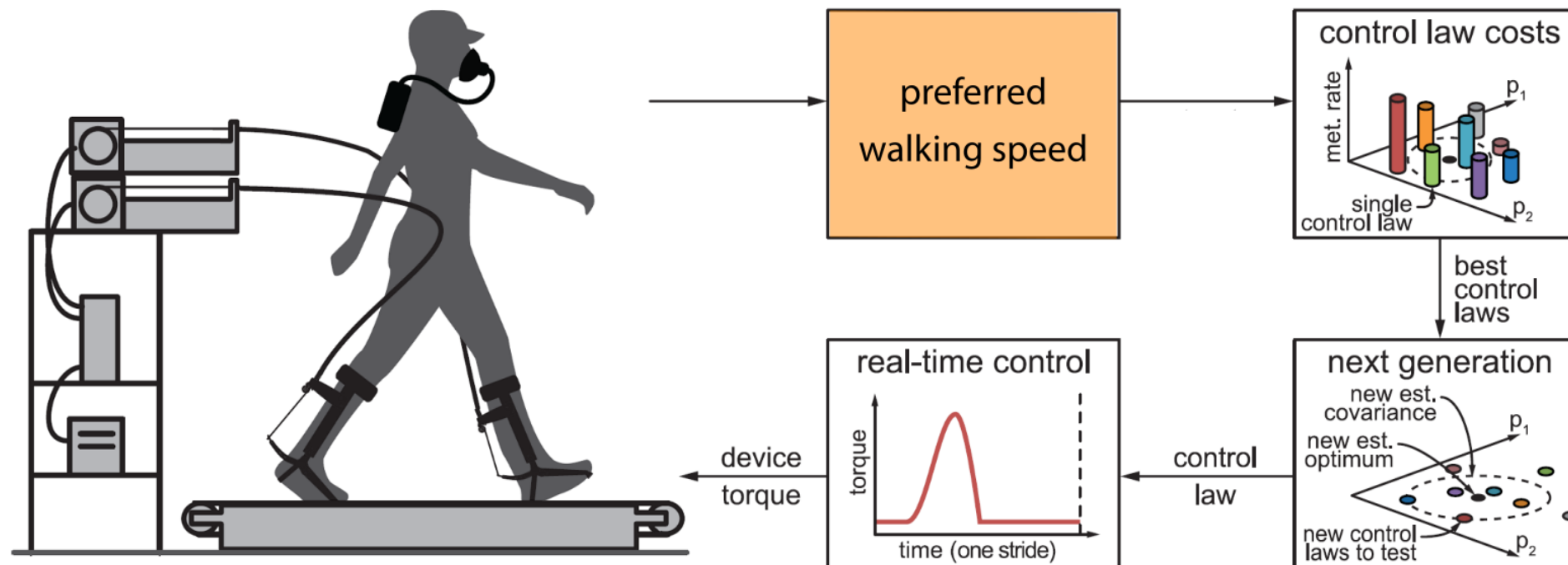


To get to target location:

- Safely
- With minimum effort
- In a minimum time

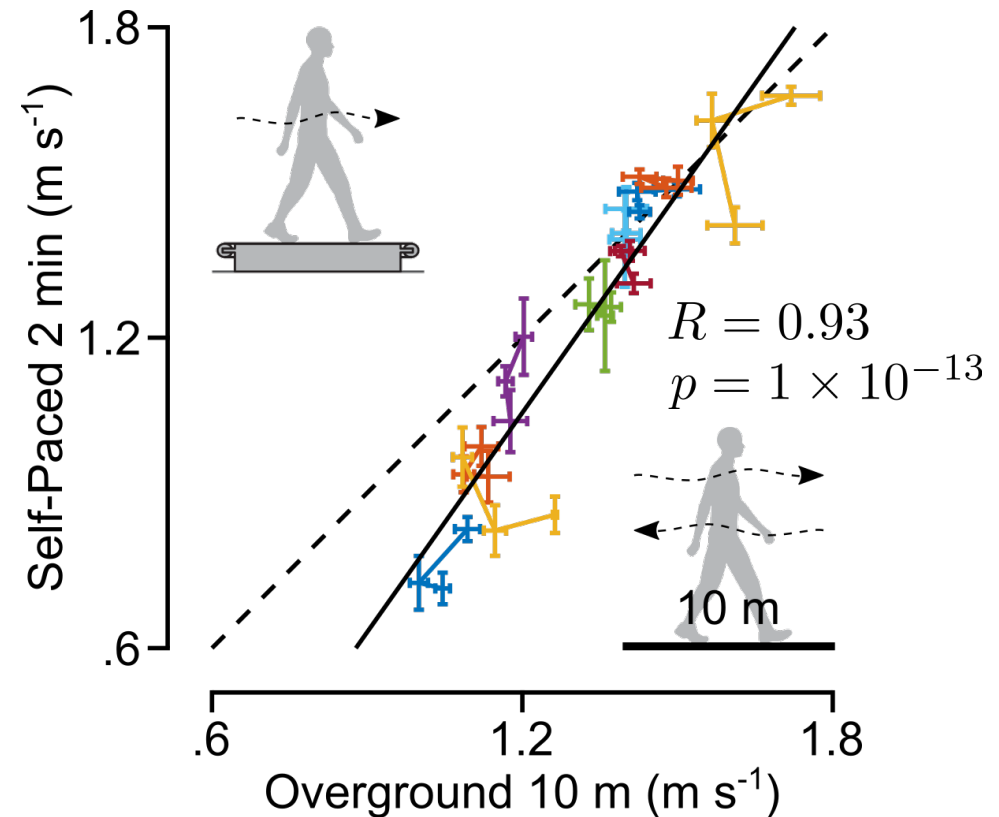
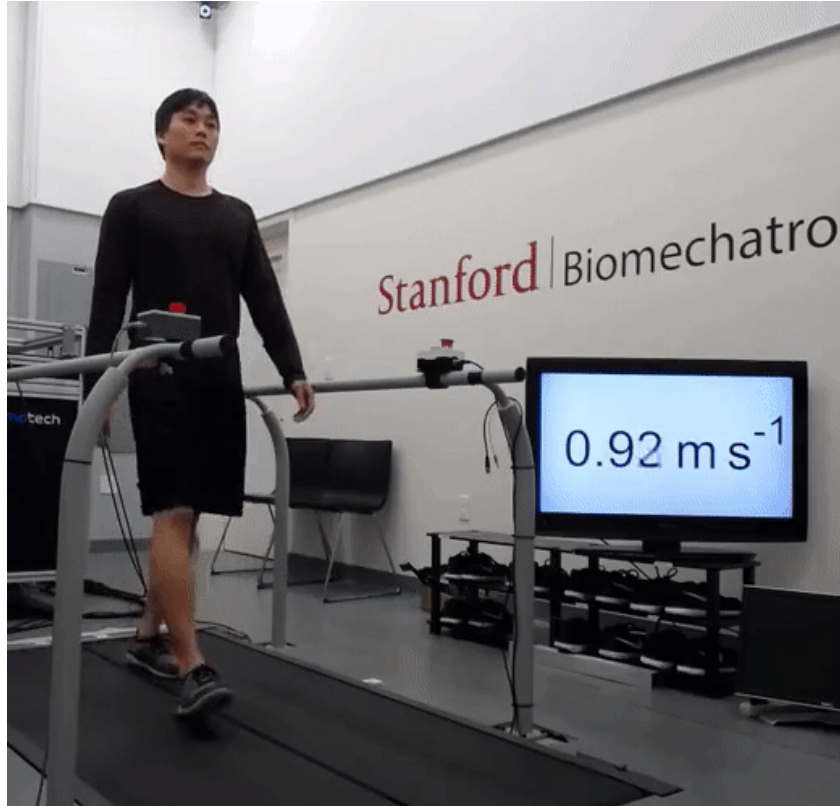
Can ankle assistance increase preferred walking speed?

Method: Human-in-the-loop optimization



[Zhang et al., *Science*, 2017]

Measure preferred walking speed: “Comfortable speed” on self-paced treadmill



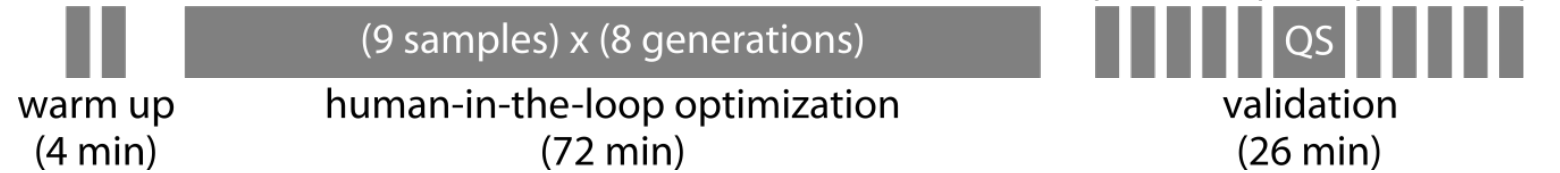
Self-pacing code: <https://github.com/smsong/self-paced-treadmill>

[Song, Choi & Collins, Using force data to self-pace an instrumented treadmill and measure self-selected walking speed, *submitted*]

Experiment: HILO for faster walking speed (N=10)



Two days of:

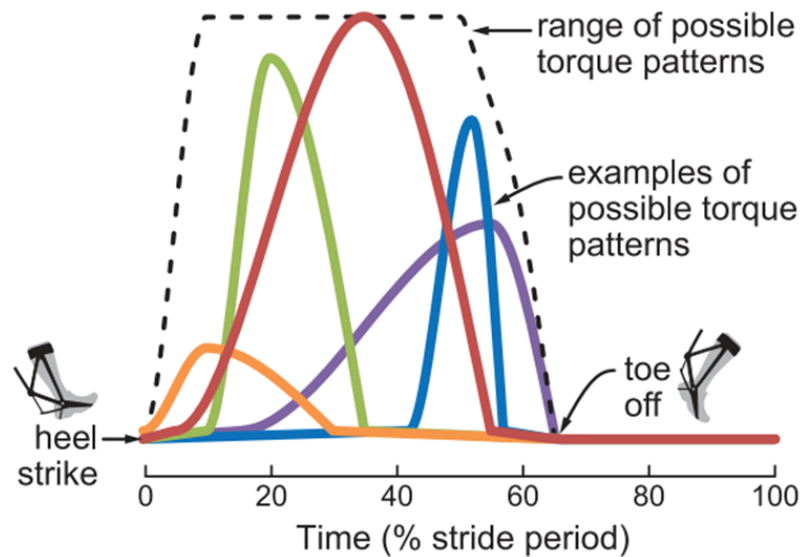


Instruction: “walk at a comfortable speed”

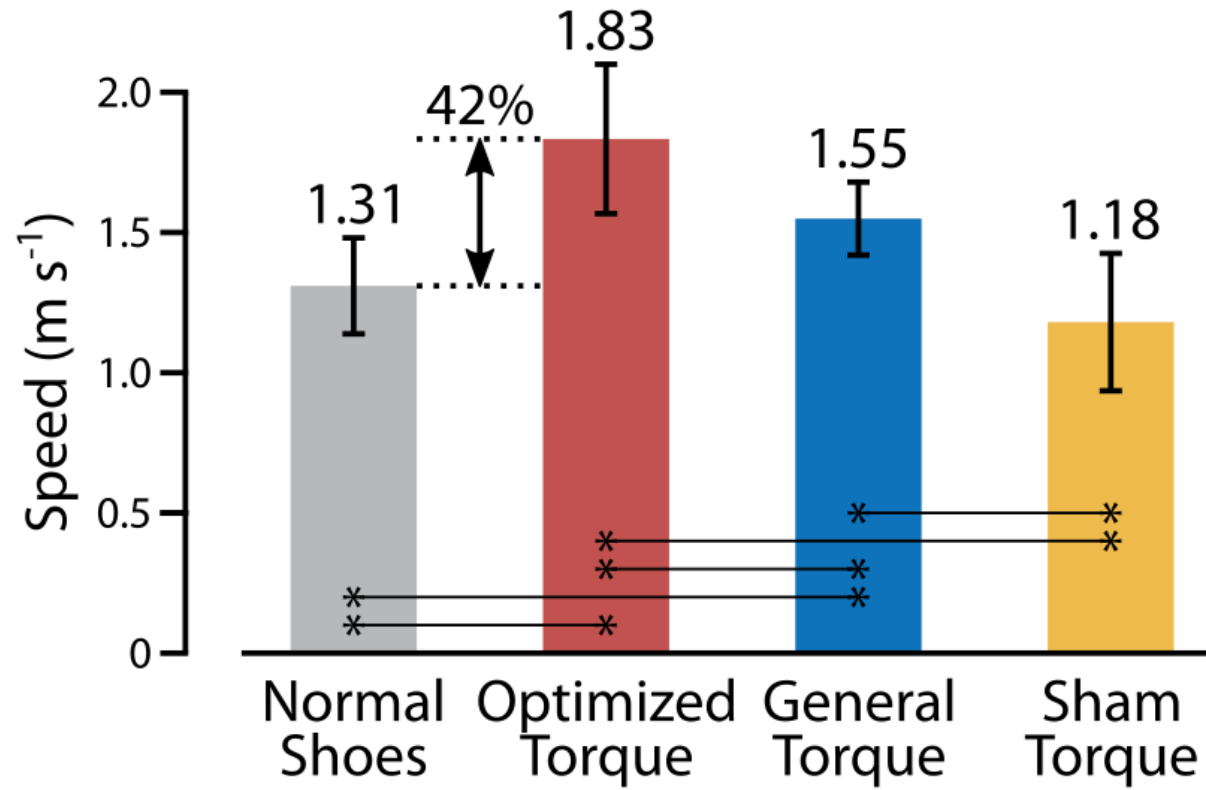
Optimize: Four torque parameters

Validation:

- Normal shoes
- Zero torque
- Optimized torque
- General torque
- Sham torque

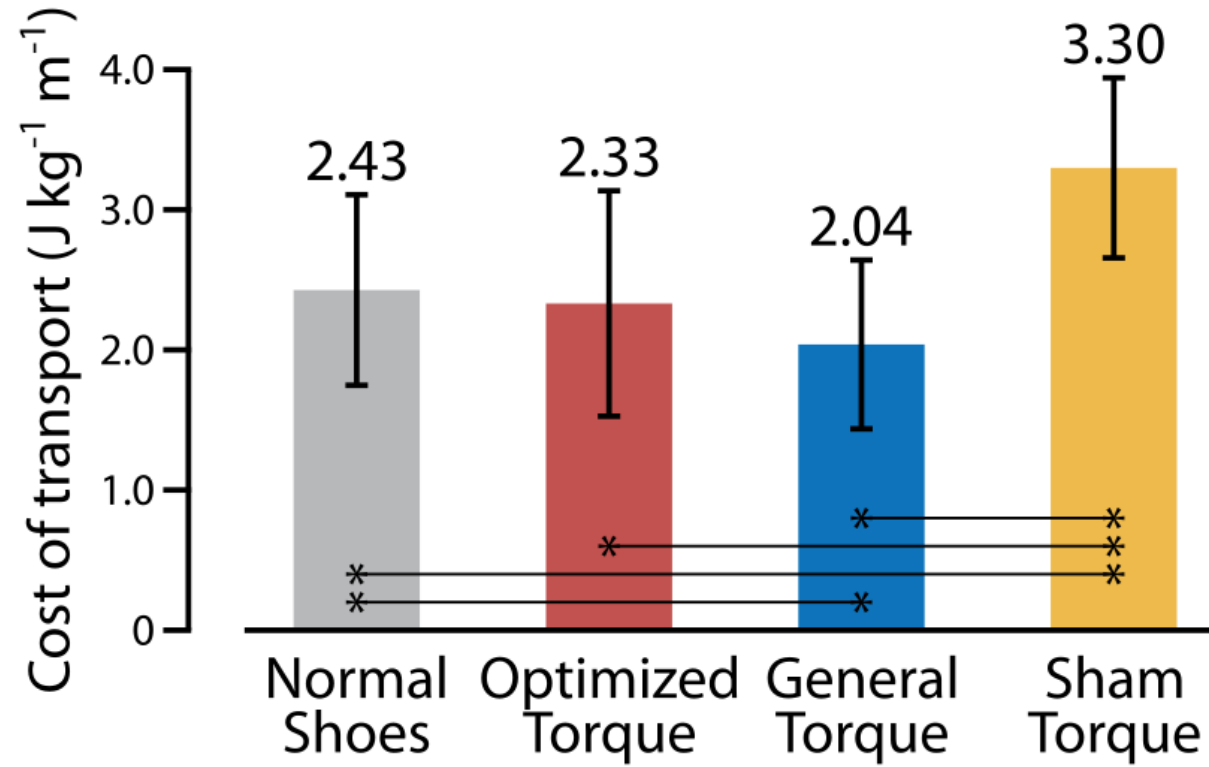


Main result: Walking speed



Self-selected walking speed increased by 42% (6 ~ 91%)

Quality of walking: Cost of transport



Change in COT varied across subjects (-31 ~ +78%)

Fast walking can be induced in different ways



Normal walking
Speed: 1.2 m s⁻¹



Optimized torque
Speed: +82%, COT: -20%



Optimized torque
Speed: +91%, COT: +78%

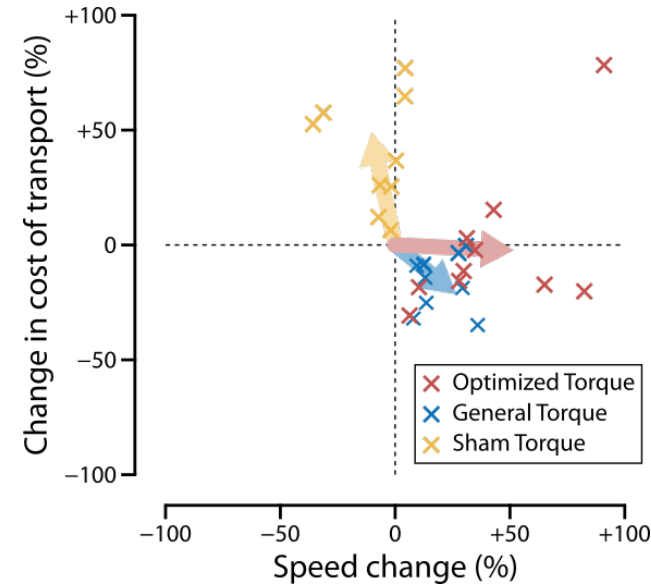


Implications

Ankle assistance can increase self-selected walking speed

Only focusing on speed in HILO may result in *bad* assistance

- Multi-objective HILO
- HILO with domain knowledge
 - Expert guided training
 - Smart exploration space
 - ...



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Individualized Co-Robotics for Gait Assistance

Exoskeleton assistance for impaired gait



Thu
Nguyen



Seungmoon
Song



Chris
Atkeson



Steven
Collins

Motor learning during walking in exoskeletons



Katherine
Poggensee



Sabrina
Abram

Task-invariant learning framework for exoskeletons

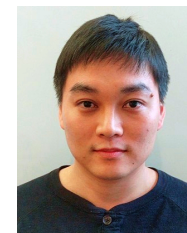


Ge
Lv



Haosen
Xing

Predictive neuromechanical gait simulation



Seungmoon
Song



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