

Rehabilitation
Engineering &
Applied
Research

How does it shape up? Buttocks shape across wheelchair cushions.

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Overview

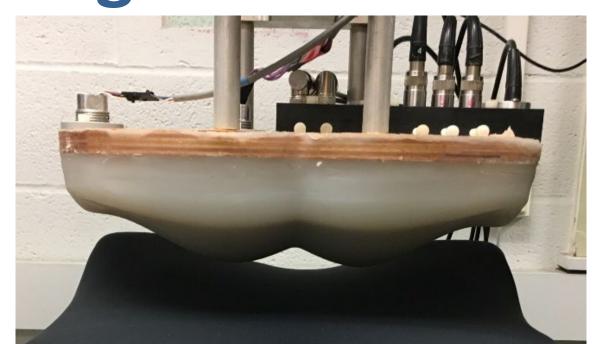
Shape Compliance is the ability of a cushion to support the buttocks with minimal buttocks deformation.

Biomechanical Risk is the intrinsic characteristic of an individual's soft tissues to deform in response to extrinsic applied force.

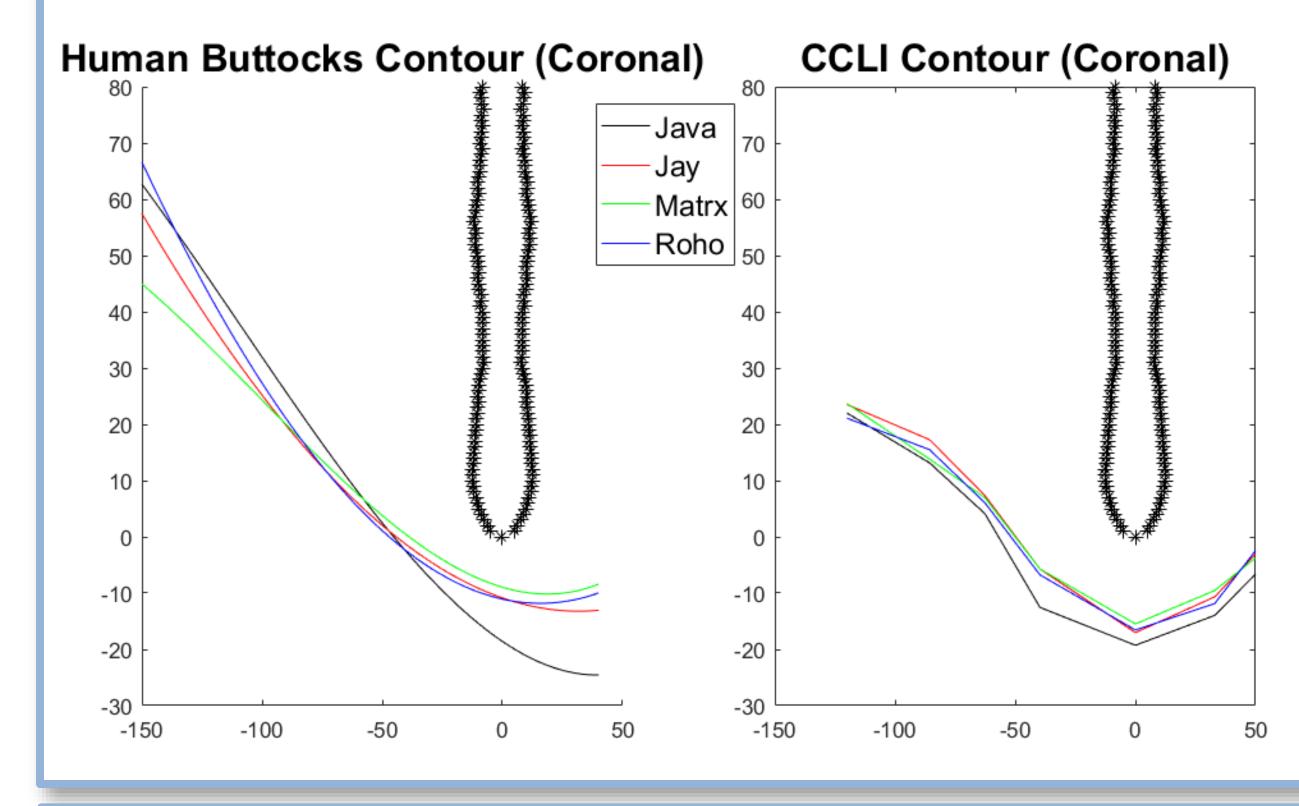
The <u>objective</u> was to describe the average contours of the human buttocks and of a compliant cushion indentor across different wheelchair cushions and across individuals of different levels of pressure ulcer risk.

Compliant Cushion Indentor (CCLI) Versus Human Testing

- CCLI tested with
- 61 kgf (representing a 95 kg person)
- Jay3, Roho HP, and Matrx Vi, Ride Java



- Human testing in the seated MRI. 3rd order polynomial fit to coronal skin contours
- Ride Java (n=15), J2 Deep Contour (n=9), Jay Fusion (n=3), Jay Active (n=1), Matrx Vi (n=13), Roho HP (n=15)



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Buttocks Shape According to Pressure Ulcer (PrU)Risk Status

Coronal contours were averaged across all participants when seated on flat HR45 foam (including able-bodied and wheelchair users) and is presented in the blue line below. Red lines show individual subjects in each risk status group, with MRIs of one example participant from each category demonstrated below. Buttocks contours differ considerably according to risk status.

—Average of all AB & WC

—Average of all AB & WC
—Individual Contours

Able-Bodied WC User - No PrU Hx WC User - PrU Hx 100 50 -50 Able-Bodied Wheelchair User No PrU Wheelchair User PrU History

One person, many cushions

- 53 yo M with
 Spina Bifida
- 8 years in WC
- 5'11", 205 lb
- No Hx of PrU
- Sagittal views on 4
 different
 wheelchair
 cushions
- Shear strain of adipose just posterior to ischium most evident on J2 Deep Contour and Matrx Vi
- Tissue thickness under the ischium is similar on all cushions
- Gluteus maximus
 is posterior and
 superior to peak of
 ischial tuberosity
 on all cushions

Unloaded J2 Deep Contour **Matrx Vi** Ride Java Roho HP

Discussion

Tissue contours in the loaded buttocks present an interesting way to investigate cushion shape compliance and to compare biomechanical risk of individuals.

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