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# GOVERNMENT/ INDUSTRY MEETING

January 22-24, 2020 | Washington, DC  
[sae.org/gim](http://sae.org/gim)

## Biomechanical Responses and Injuries of PMHS in Rear Facing Alternative Seating Configurations

Yun-Seok Kang<sup>1</sup>, Jason Stammen<sup>2</sup>, Alena Hagedorn<sup>3</sup>, Rakshit Ramachandra<sup>1</sup>,  
Colton Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Amanda Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Hyun Jung Kwon<sup>3</sup>, Kevin Moorhouse<sup>2</sup>, John H.  
Bolte IV<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Injury Biomechanics Research Center, The Ohio State University

<sup>2</sup>National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Vehicle Research and Test Center

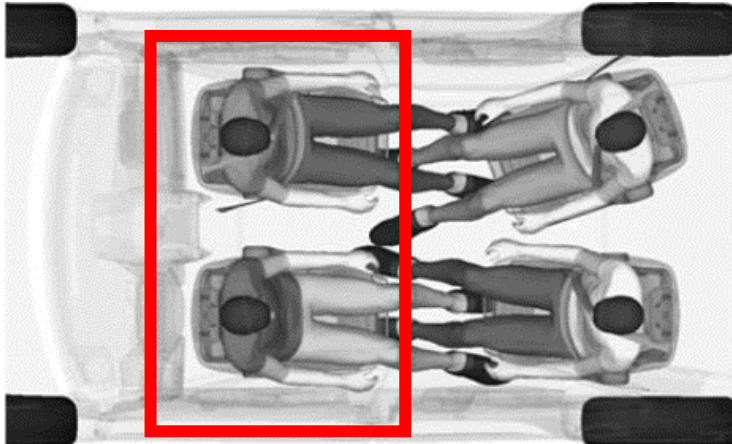
<sup>3</sup>Transportation Research Center, Inc.



# Motivation

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- Future vehicle interior cabin designs may incorporate non-standard seating configurations for vehicles with Automated Driving Systems (ADS)
  - One potential configuration is a reclined seat that is either rear-facing in a frontal collision or forward-facing in a rear collision
  - Studies using computational models and ATDs [Kitagawa et al., 2017; Jin et al., 2018; Zeller and Manneck, 2019]



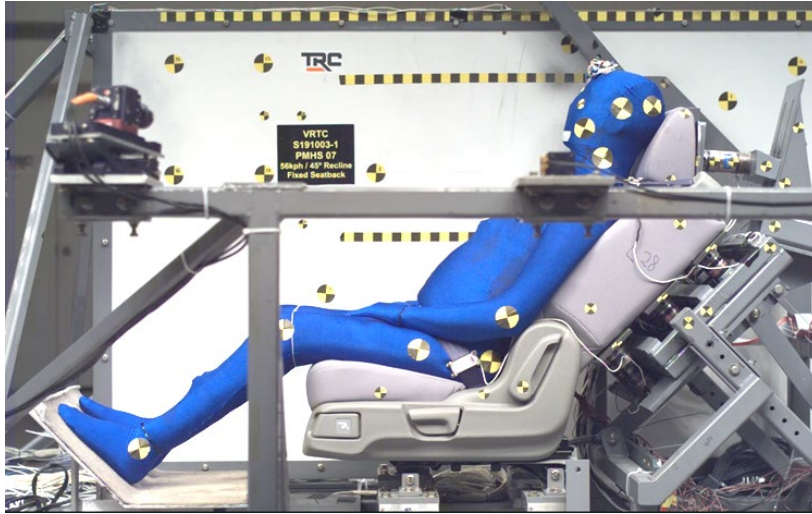
Kitagawa et al., 2017



Zeller and Manneck, 2019

# Objective

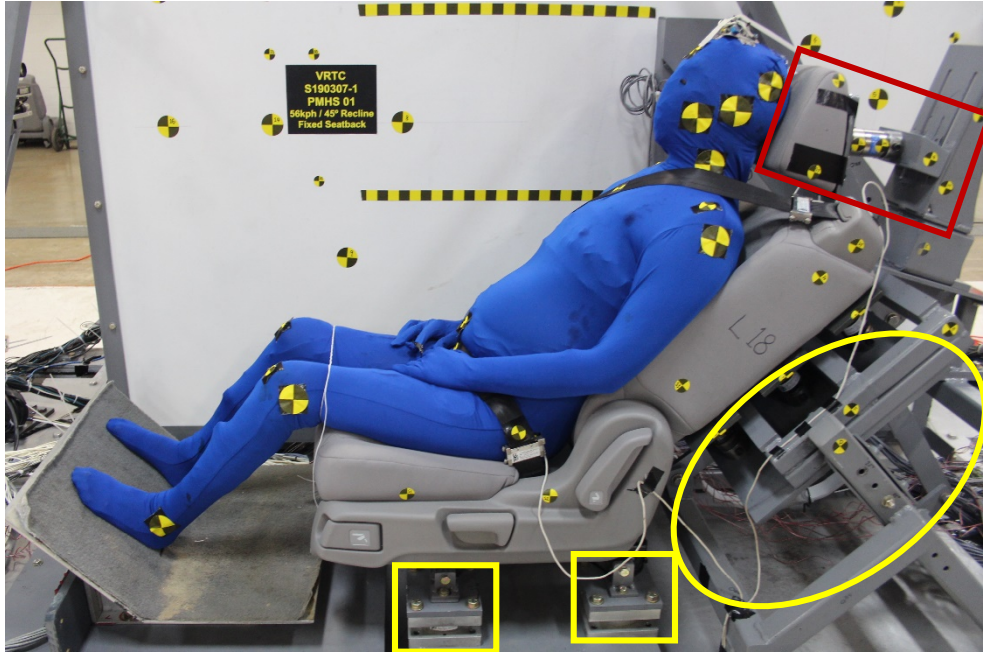
- To investigate biomechanical responses and injuries from Post Mortem Human Subjects (PMHS) in two recline angle scenarios in a rear-facing seating configuration at high speed impacts



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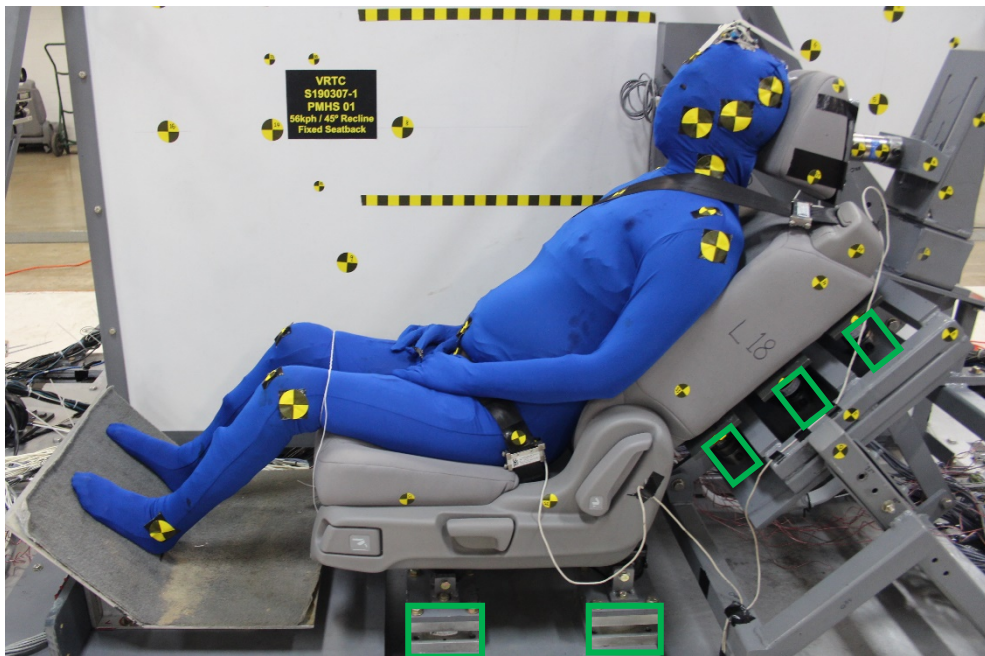
# Methods

# Sled Buck Design



- Adjustable head restraint (HR)
- Rigidized seat back (SB), seat anchor (SA), and HR supporting frame

# Sled Buck Design



- Adjustable head restraint (HR)
- Rigidized seat back (SB), seat anchor (SA), and HR supporting frame
- Load cell at HR (1), SB (6), and SA (4)
- 2017 Honda Odyssey with integrated seat belt

# PMHS Information

	Age	Height (cm)	Weight (kg)	Seated Height (cm)	Head Mass (kg)	Chest Depth (cm)
PMHS01	57	167.0	62.6	91.7	3.8	20.6
PMHS02	64	171.0	62.6	92.4	3.6	17.6
PMHS03	54	177.8	93.9	97.0	5.0	20.6
PMHS04	59	177.8	96.2	96.5	4.4	23.2
PMHS05	62	177.8	77.1	95.7	3.5	21.2
PMHS06	61	176.5	72.6	96.2	3.9	20.2
Mean (SD)	60 (4)	174.7 (4.6)	77.5 (14.7)	94.9 (2.3)	4.0 (0.6)	20.6 (1.8)
50 <sup>th</sup> Male	45	175	78.2	90.7	4.5	22.9

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# Text Matrix

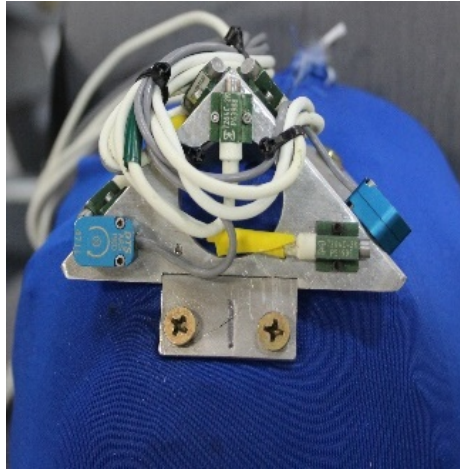
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	Sled pulse (km/h)	Seat back recline (deg)
PMHS01	56	45
PMHS02	56	25
PMHS03	56	25
PMHS04	56	45
PMHS05	56	45
PMHS06	56	25

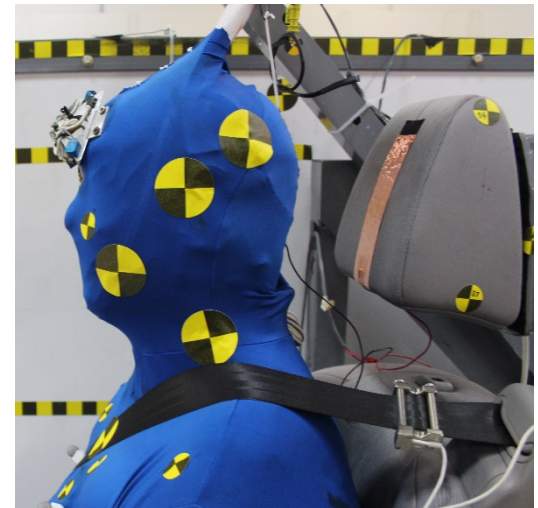
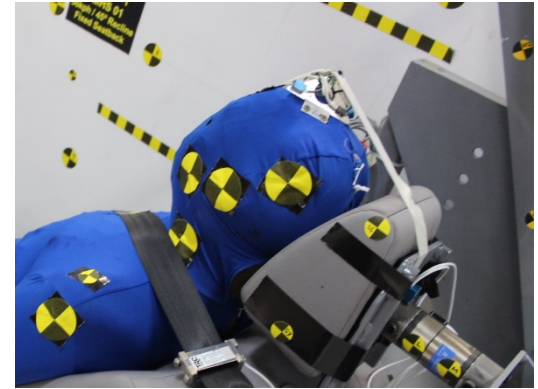
# PMHS Instrumentation

■ 6aω

	PMHS
Head	■
Chest	■
C2/4/6	●
T1	●
T4	●
T8	●
T12	●
S1	●
Pelvis	●
Femur	■ ●
Tibia	■ ●



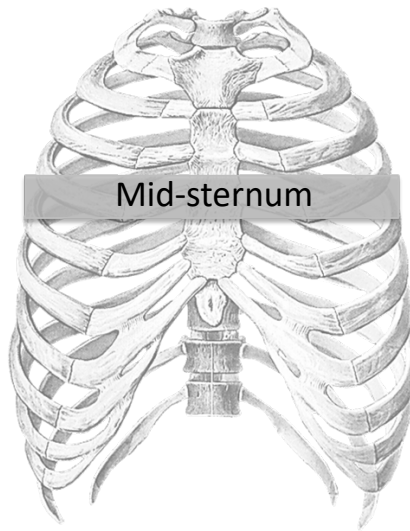
Kang et al., 2011 & 2015; Yoganandan et al., 2006



# PMHS Instrumentation

- 6aω
- Chestband
- Strain Gauges

	PMHS
Head	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Chest	<span style="color: gray;">■</span> <span style="color: orange;">■</span>
C2/4/6	●
T1	●
T4	●
T8	●
T12	●
S1	●
Pelvis	● ●
Femur	■ ●
Tibia	■ ●



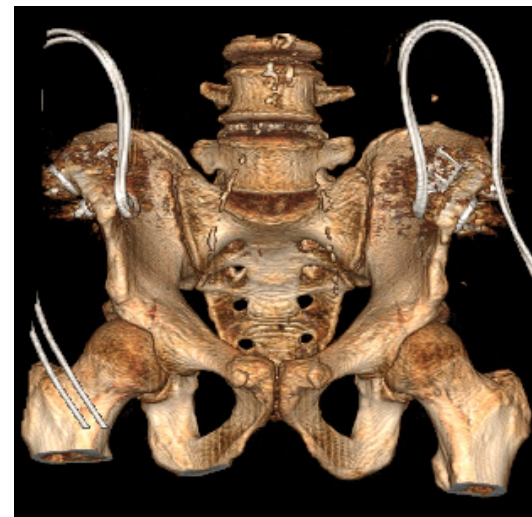
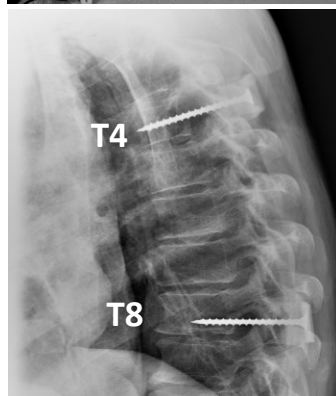
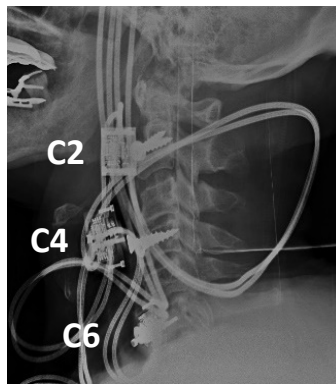
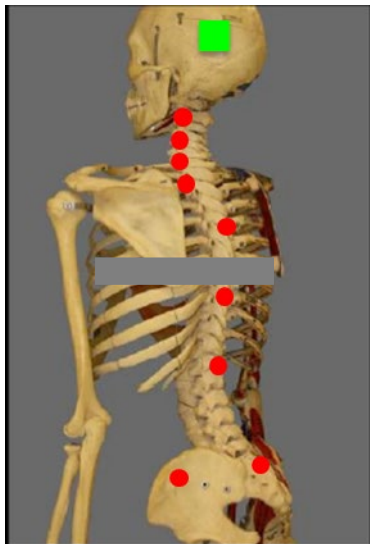




# PMHS Instrumentation

- 6aω
- Chestband
- Strain Gauges
- 3aω

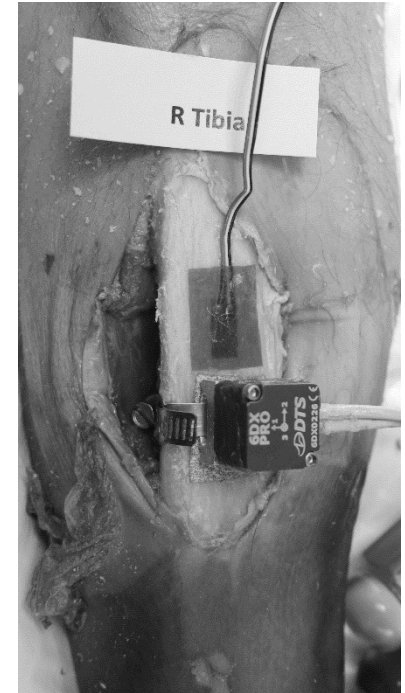
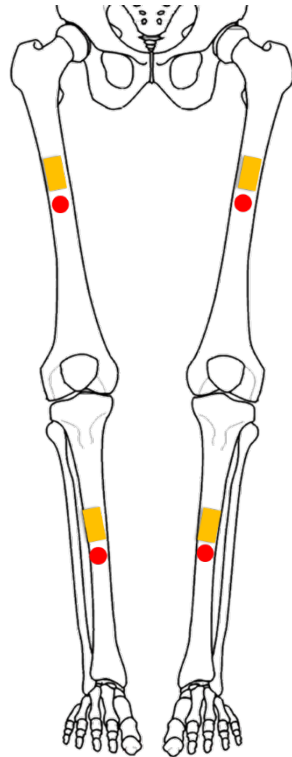
	PMHS
Head	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Chest	<span style="color: gray;">■</span> <span style="color: yellow;">■</span>
C2/4/6	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T1	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T4	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T8	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T12	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
S1	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
Pelvis	<span style="color: red;">●</span> <span style="color: red;">●</span>
Femur	<span style="color: brown;">■</span> <span style="color: brown;">●</span>
Tibia	<span style="color: brown;">■</span> <span style="color: brown;">●</span>



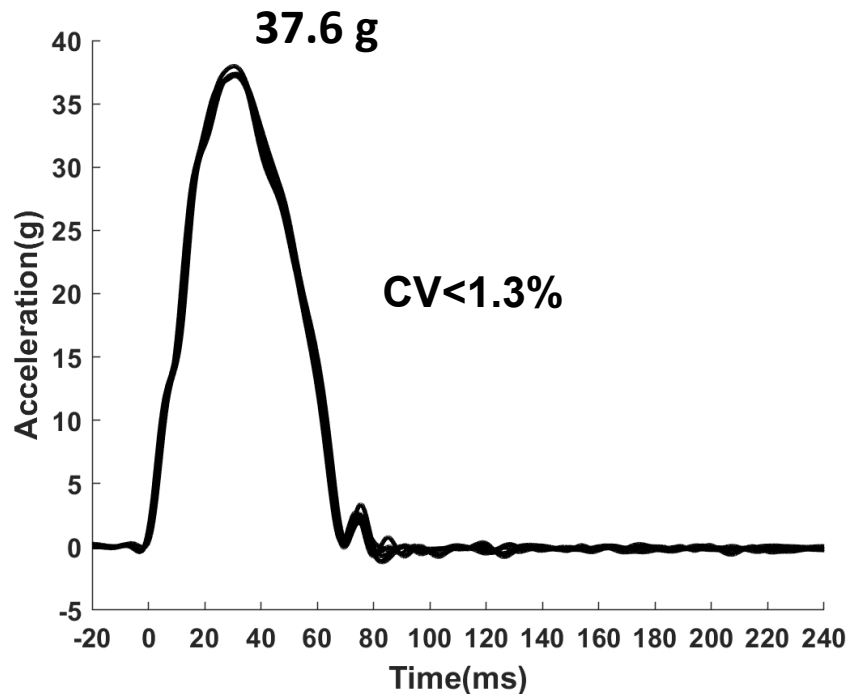
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- 6a $\omega$
- Chestband
- Strain Gauges
- 3a $\omega$

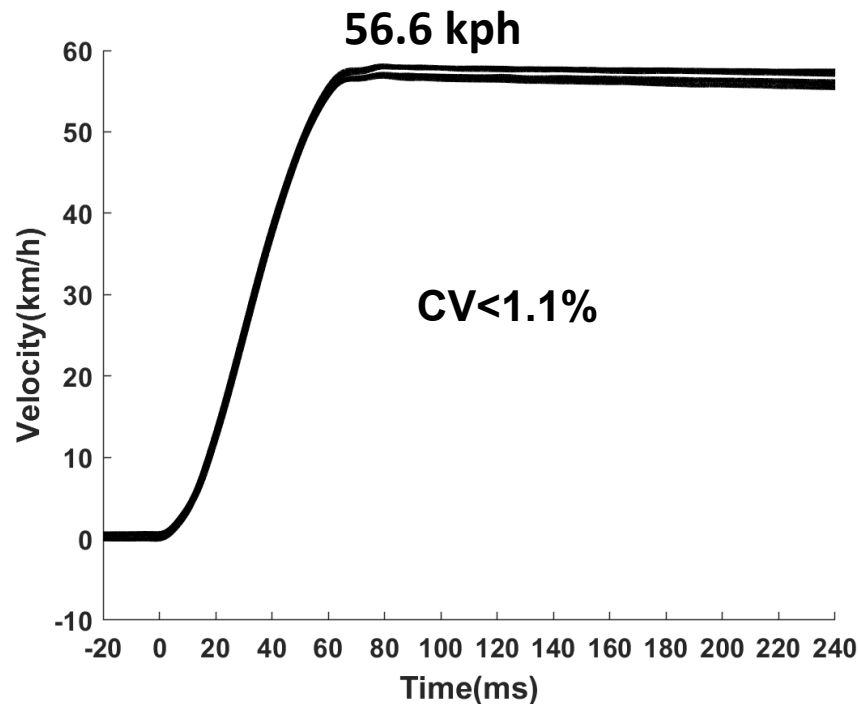
	PMHS
Head	<span style="color: green;">■</span>
Chest	<span style="background-color: gray; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> <span style="background-color: yellow; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span>
C2/4/6	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T1	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T4	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T8	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
T12	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
S1	<span style="color: red;">●</span>
Pelvis	<span style="color: red;">●</span> <span style="color: red;">●</span>
Femur	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> <span style="color: red;">●</span>
Tibia	<span style="background-color: yellow; width: 10px; height: 10px; display: inline-block;"></span> <span style="color: red;">●</span>



# Sled Input



Sled Acceleration

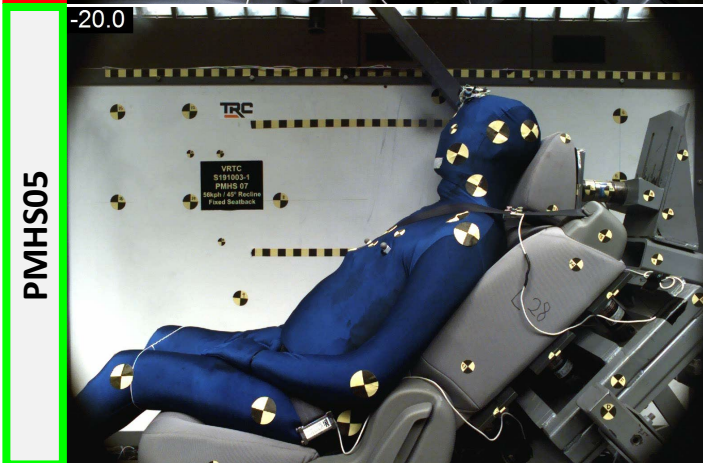
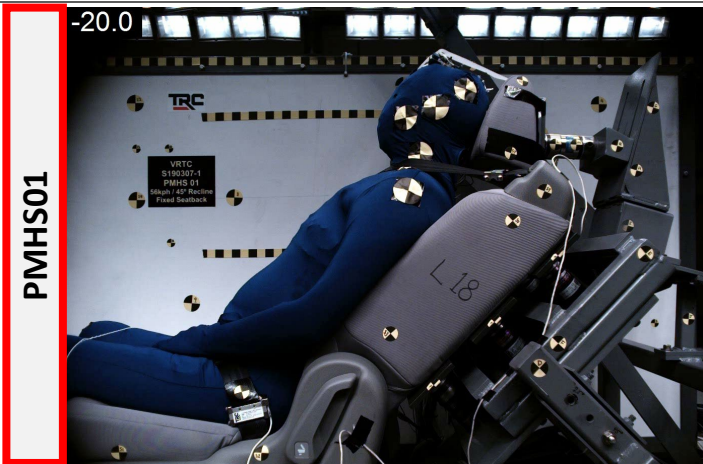


Sled Velocity

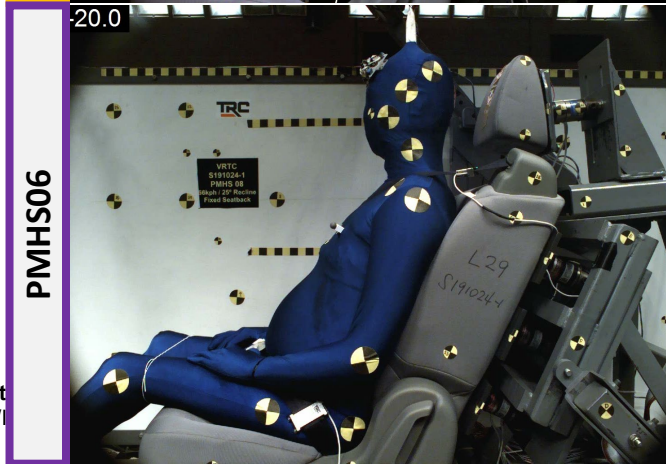
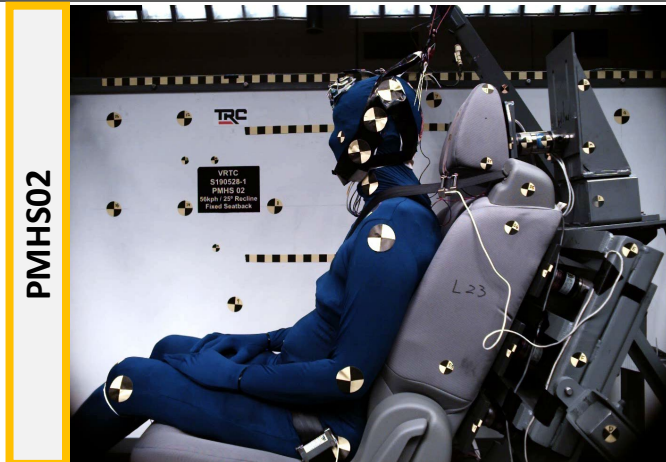
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# **Results (Preliminary Results)**

# High Speed Video - 45 deg (n=3)



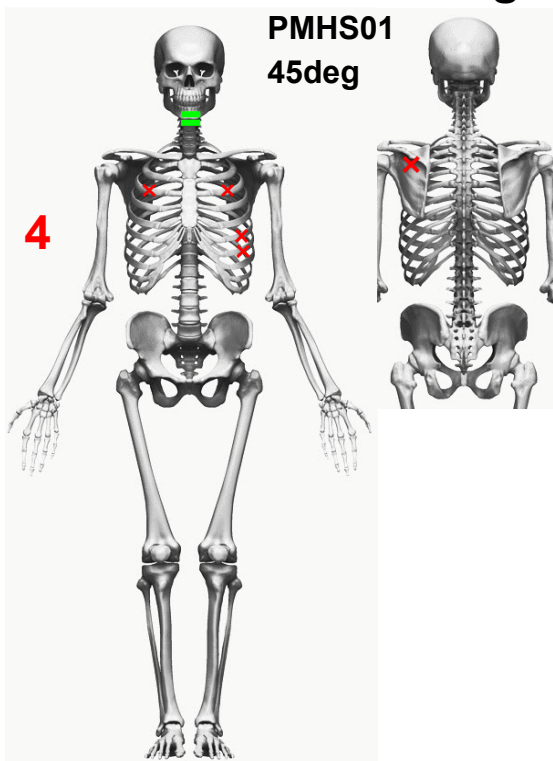
# High Speed Video - 25 deg (n=3)



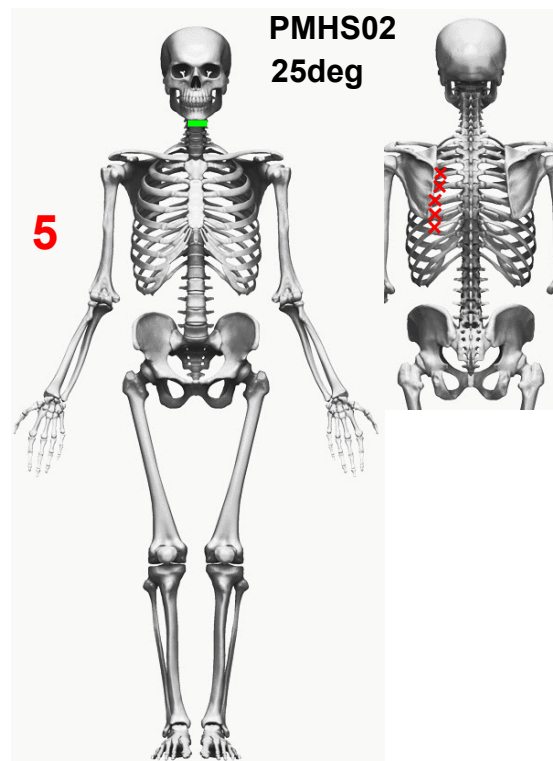
# Injuries

— laxity  
× Fracture

## SAE GI 2019 meeting



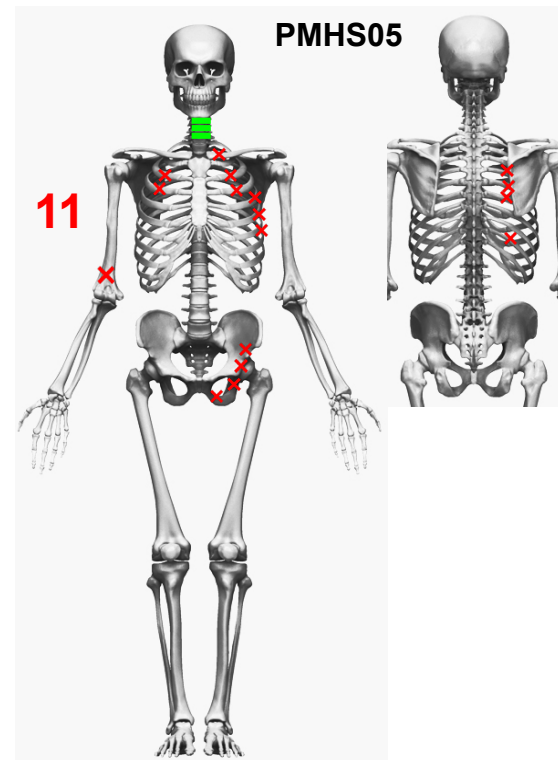
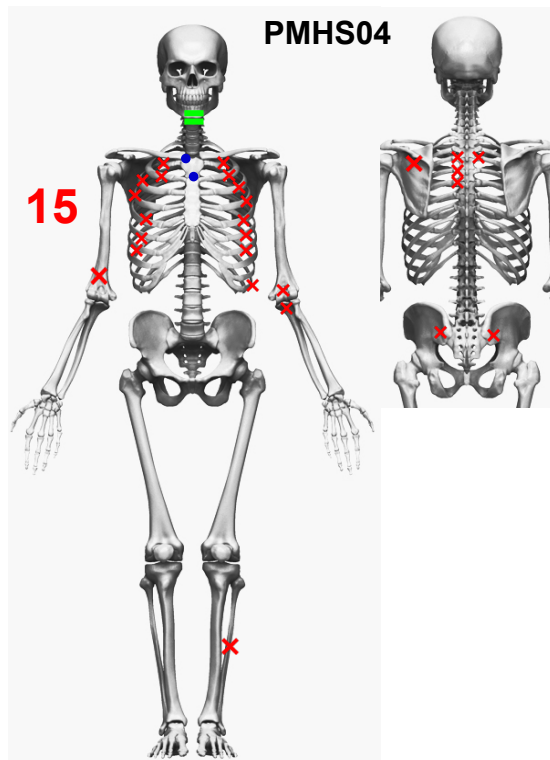
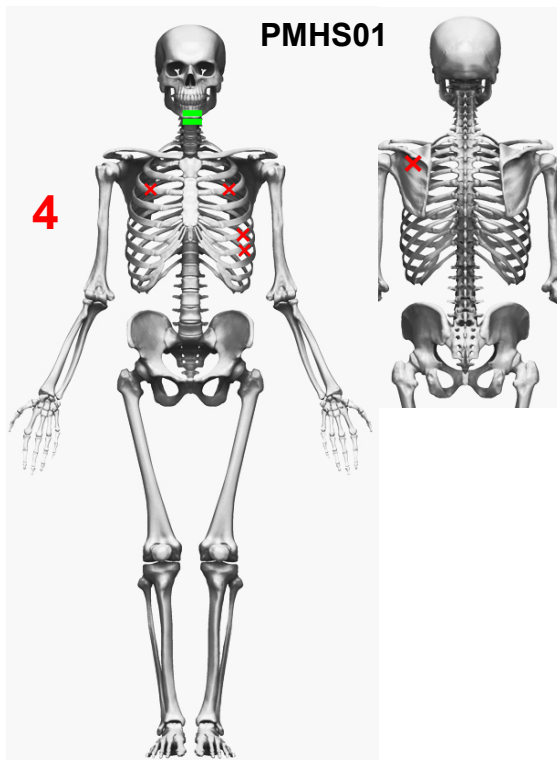
## TRC / RCCADS\* meeting





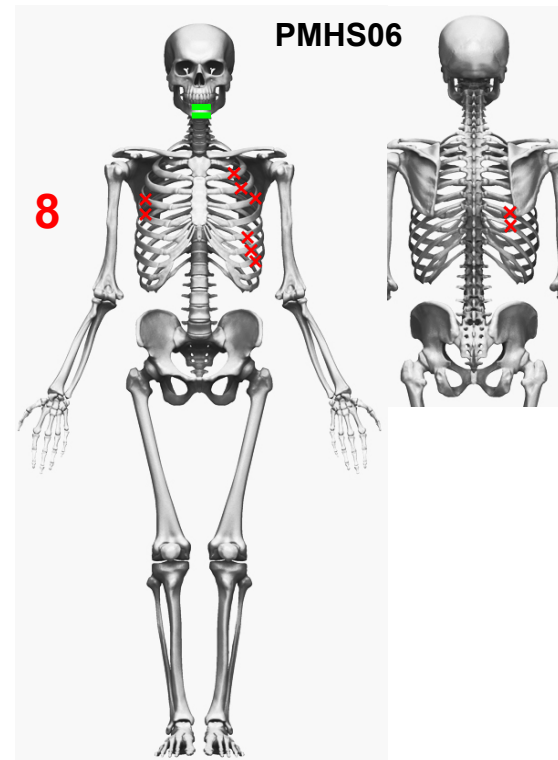
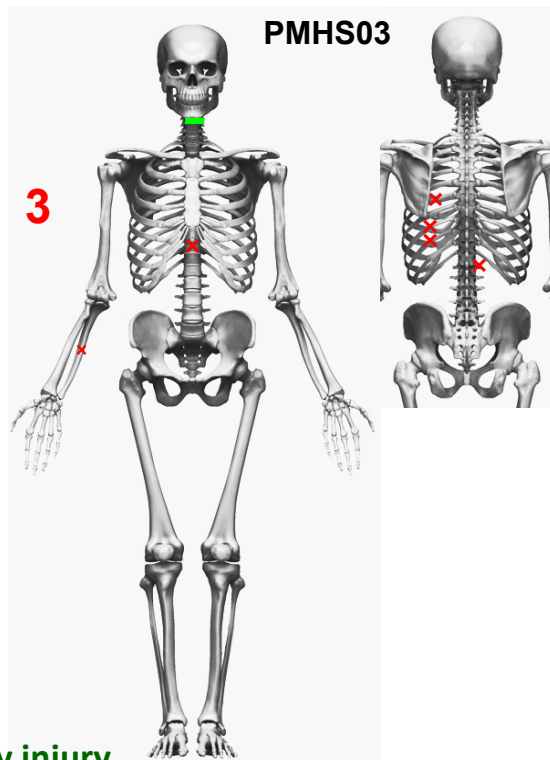
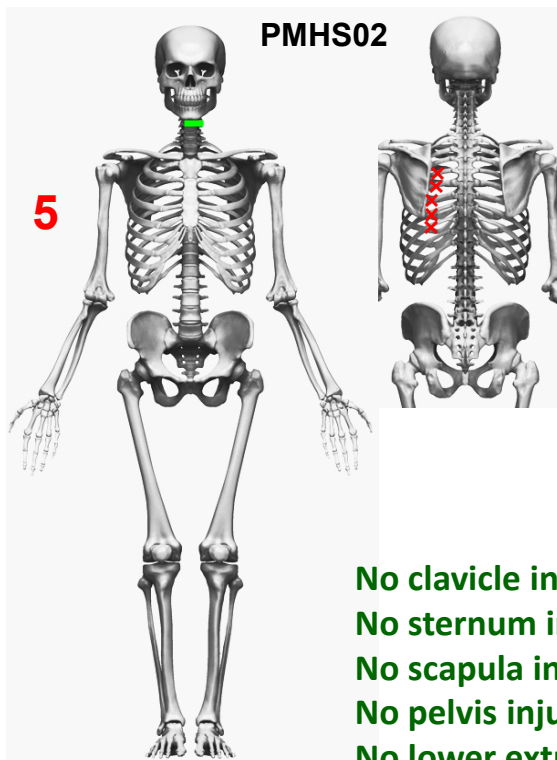
# Injuries – 45deg (n=3)

- laxity
- × Fracture
- Joint damage



# Injuries – 25deg (n=3)

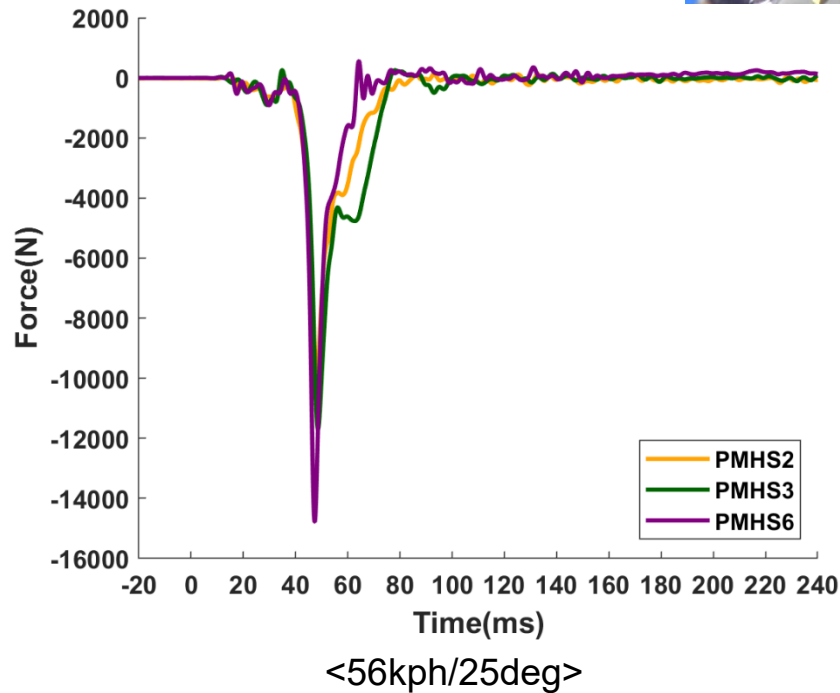
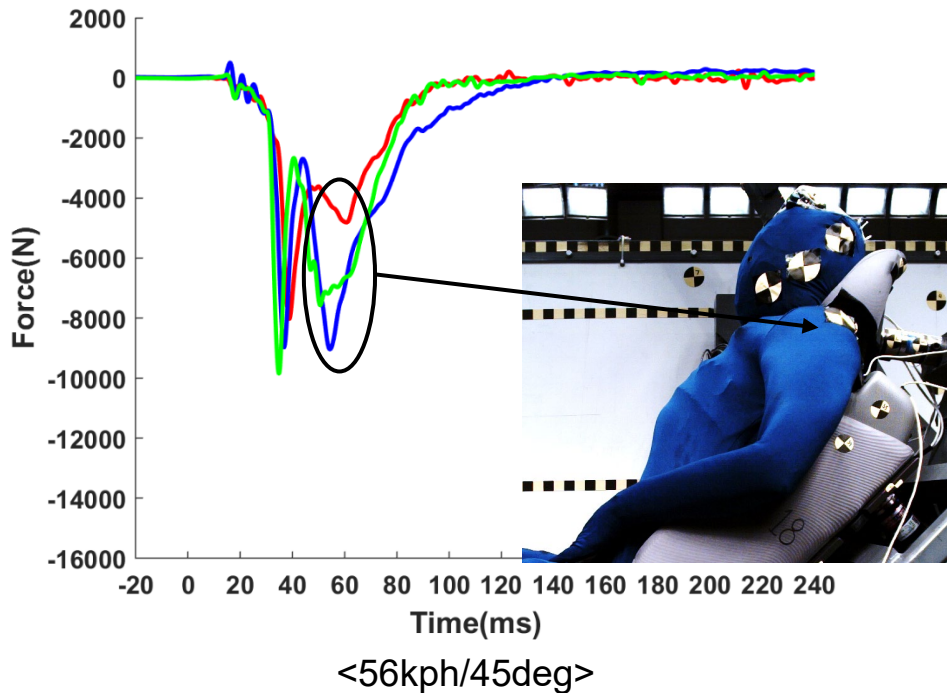
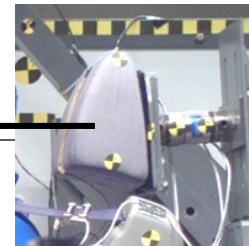
— laxity  
X Fracture



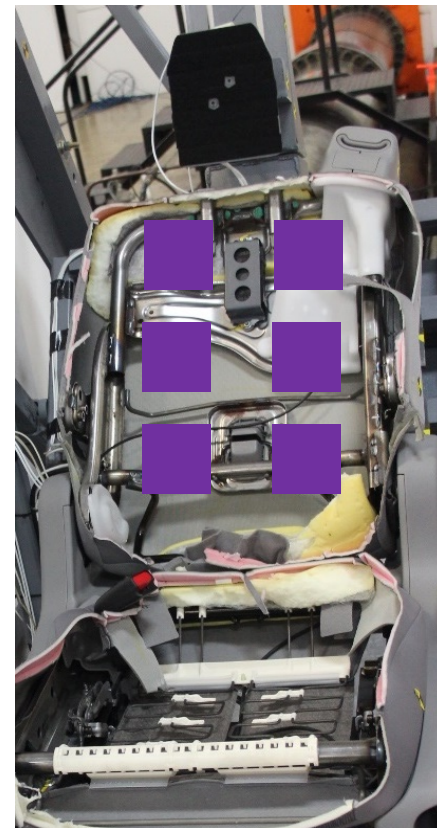
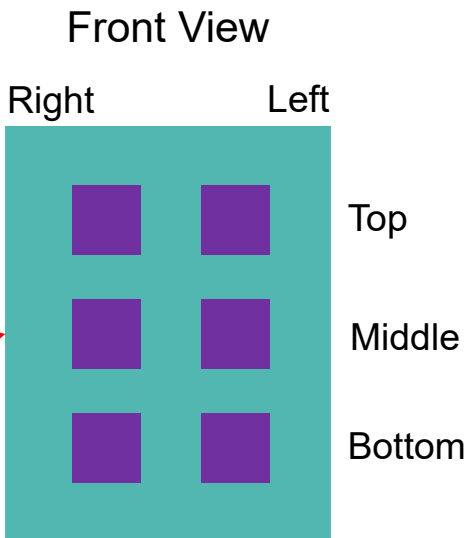
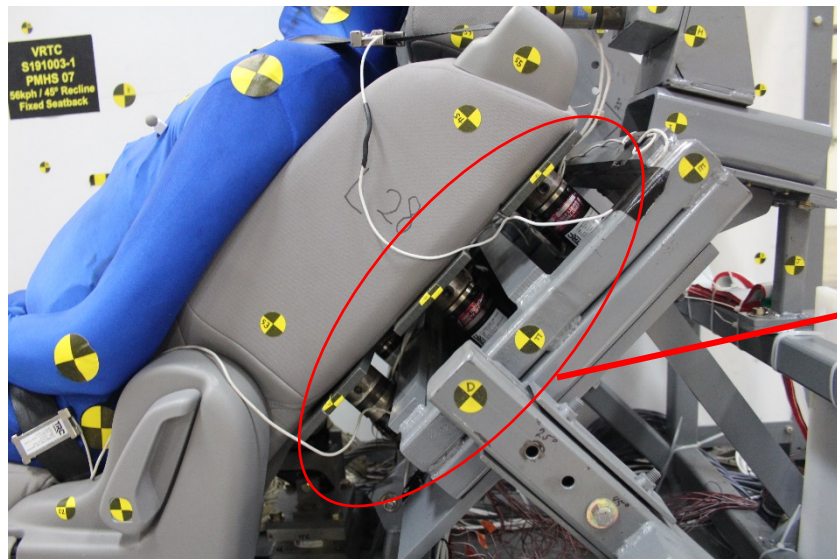
No clavicle injury  
No sternum injury  
No scapula injury  
No pelvis injury  
No lower extremity injury  
Less rib fractures  
One vertebral body fracture at T11 but @osteophyte

# Head Restraint Force x

x ←

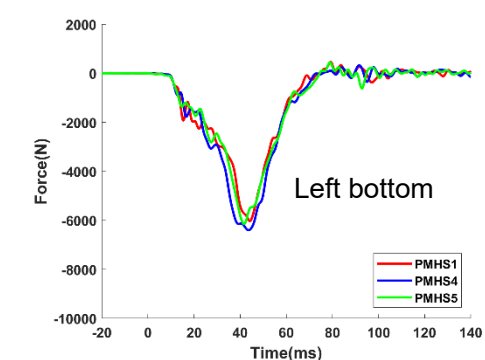
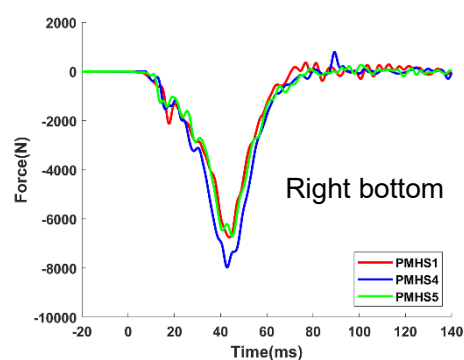
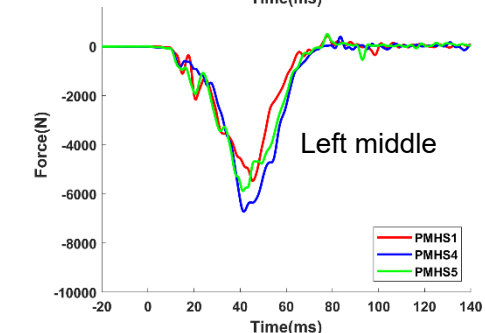
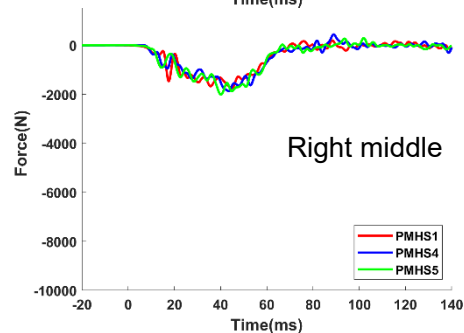
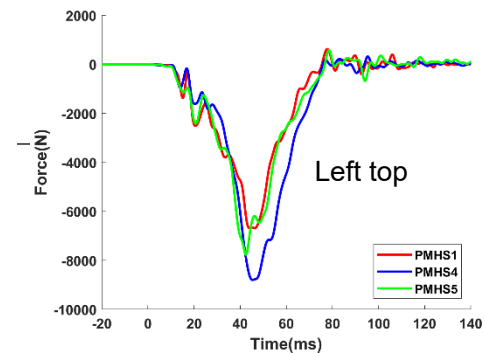
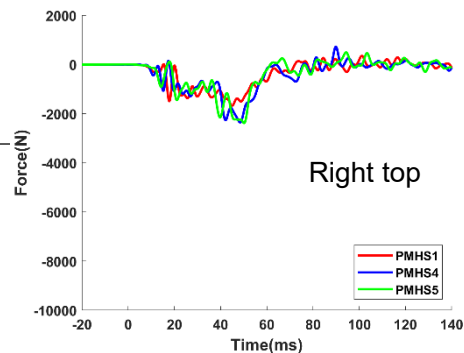
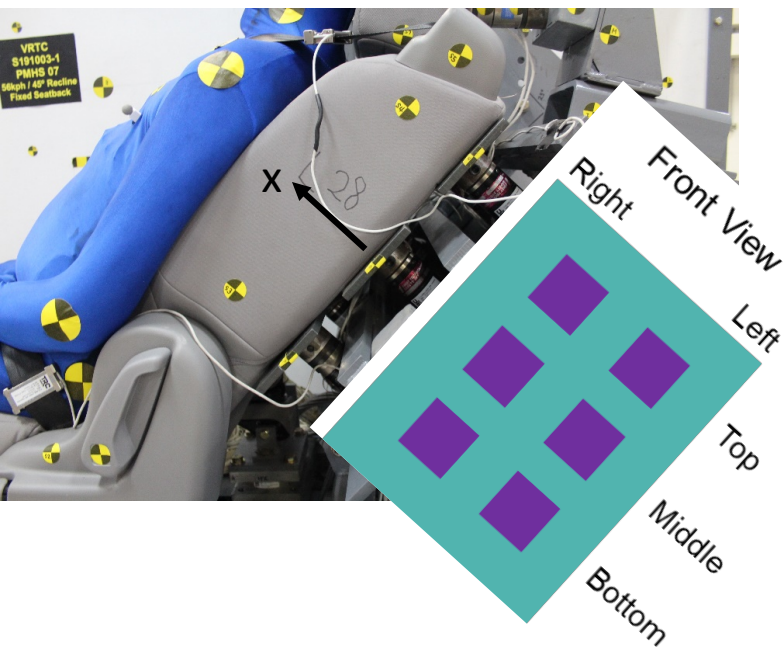


# Seat Back Load Cell



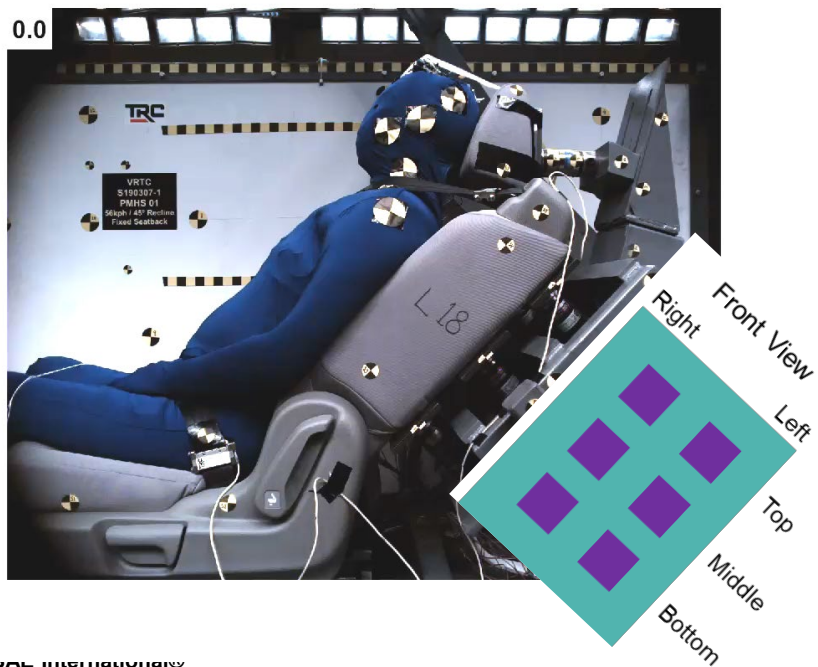
# Seat Back Force x

56kph/45deg (n=3)

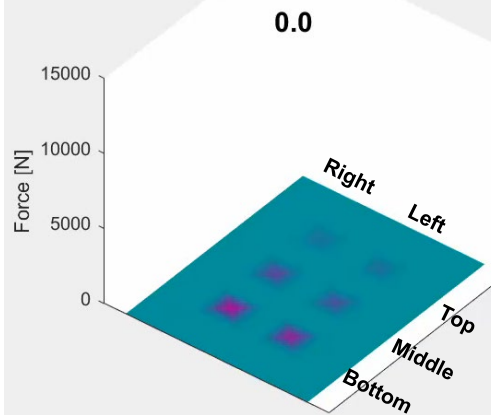


# Seat Back Force x

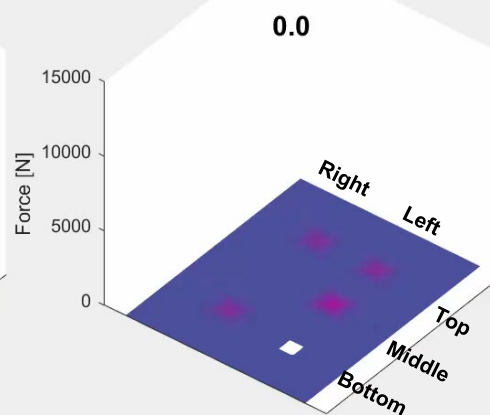
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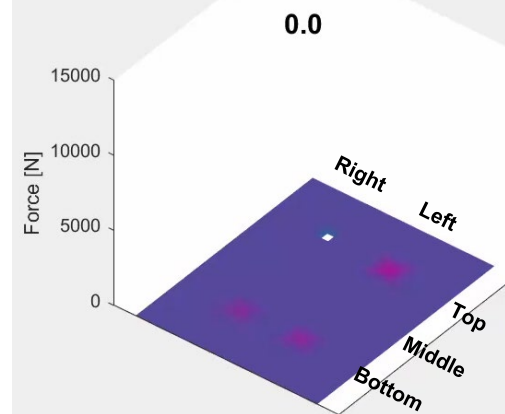
PMHS01



PMHS04

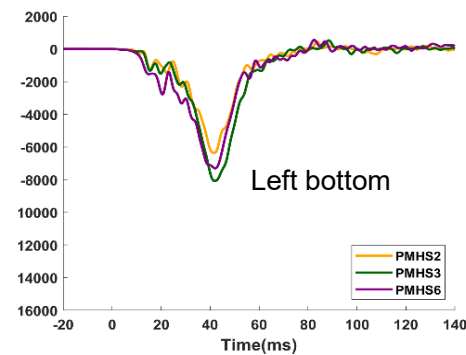
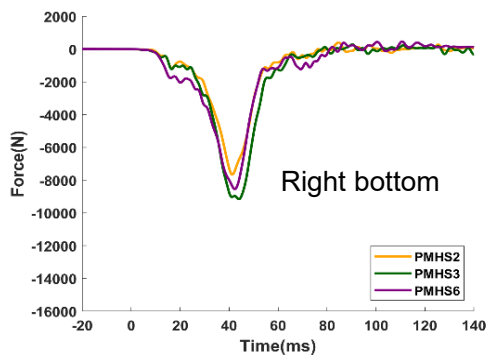
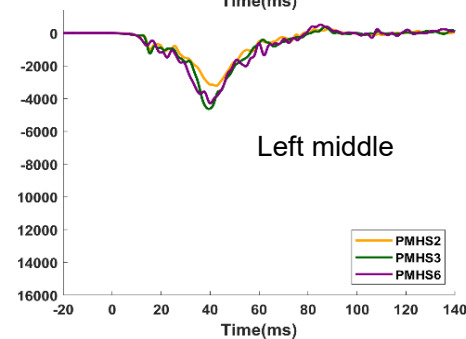
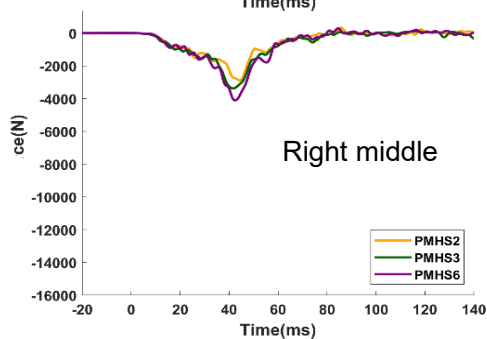
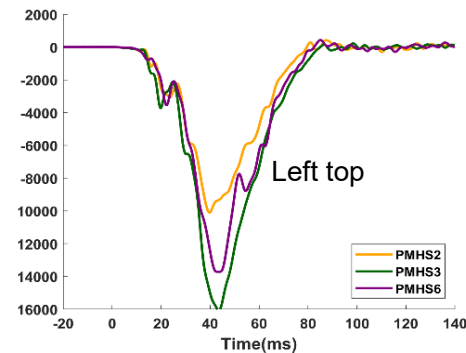
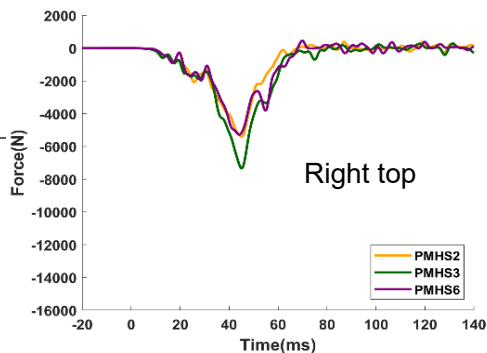
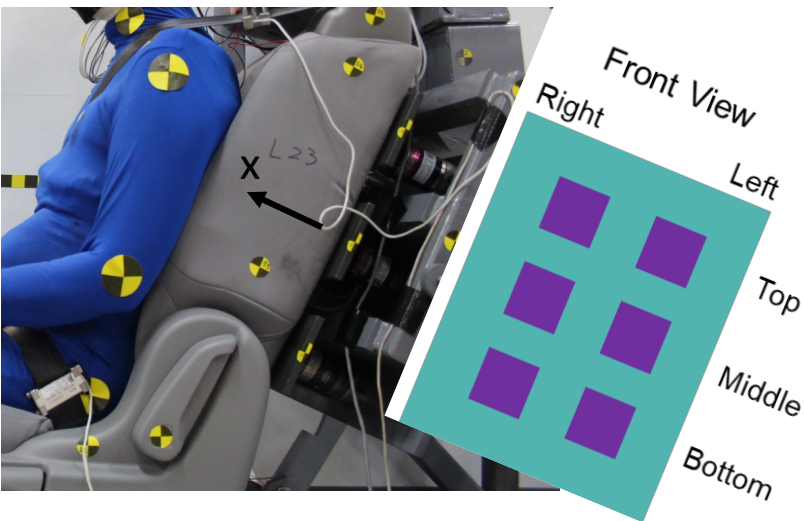


PMHS05



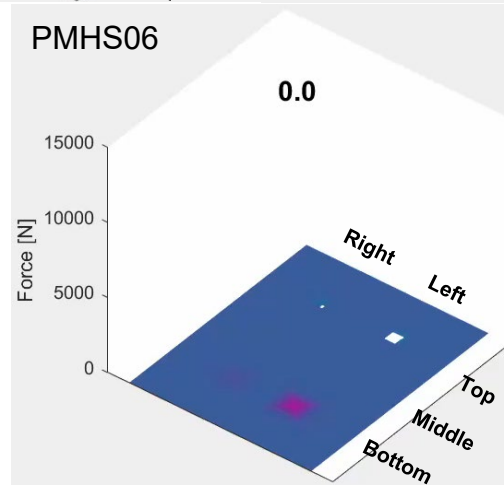
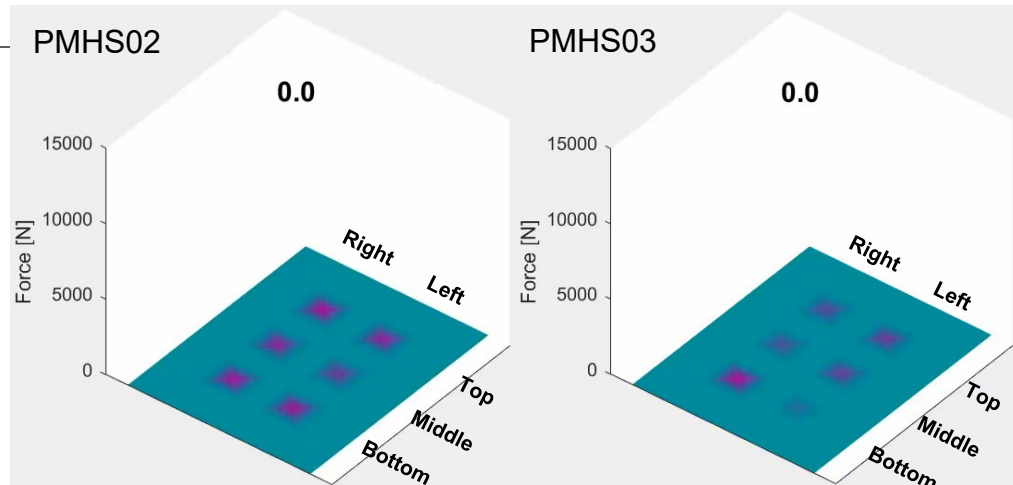
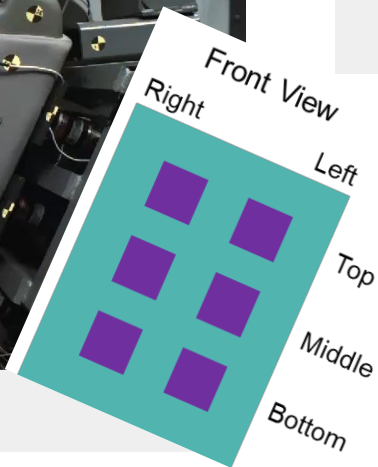
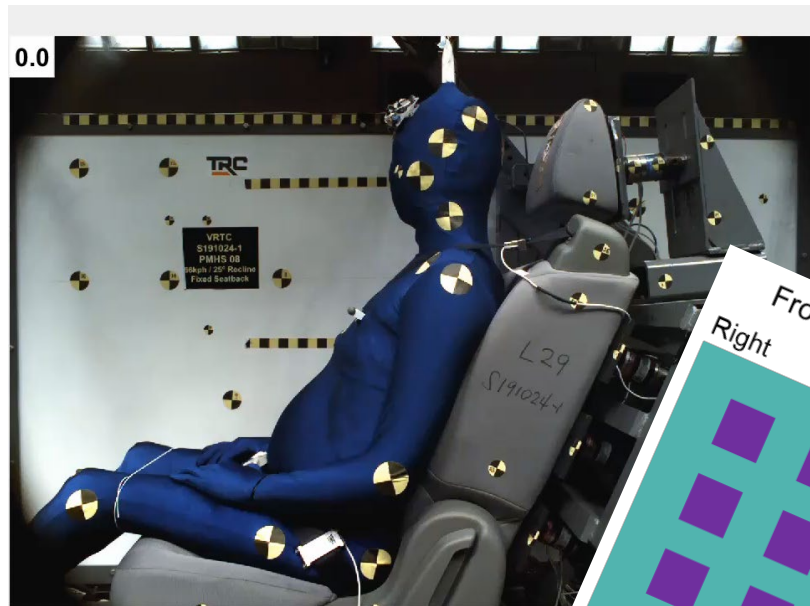
# Seat Back Force x

56kph/25deg (n=3)



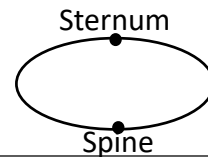
# Seat Back Force x

56kph/25deg (n=3)

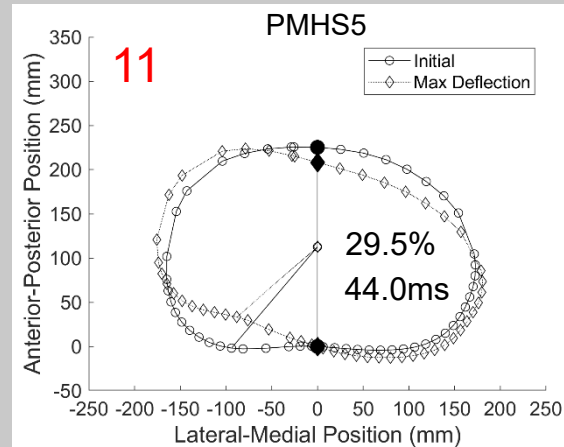
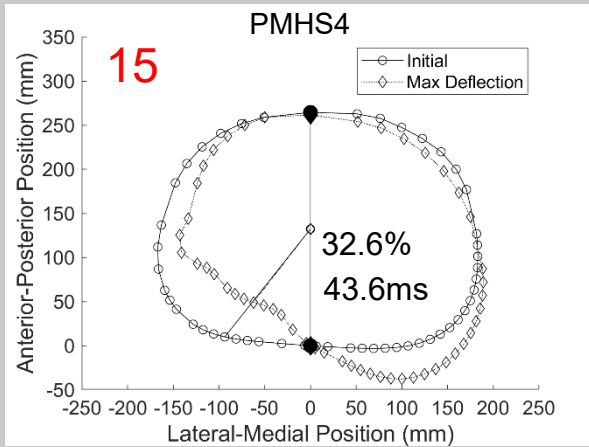
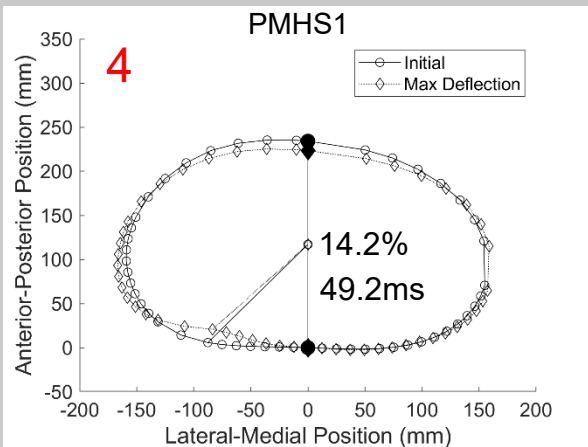




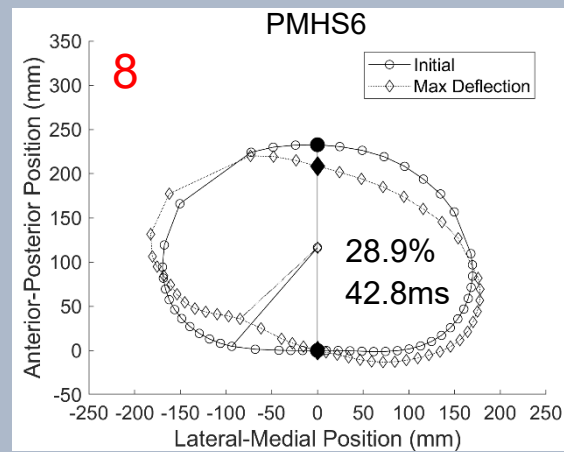
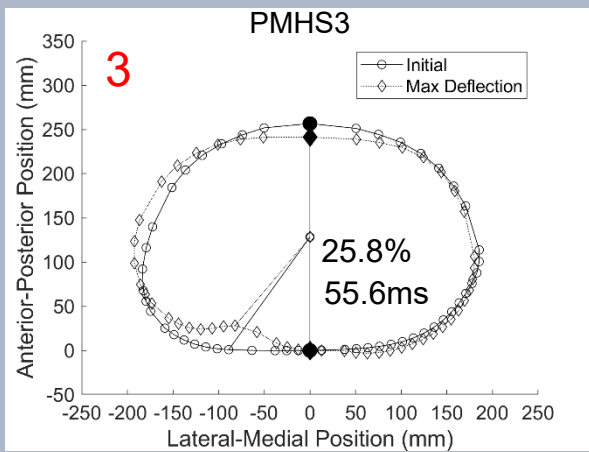
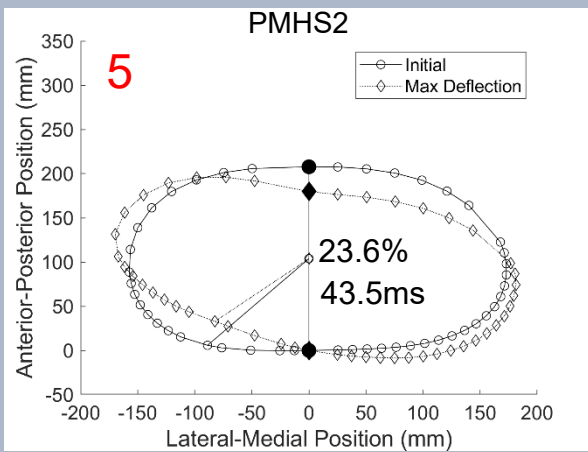
# Posterior Chest Deflection



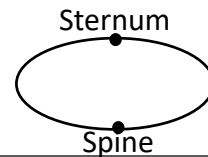
45deg



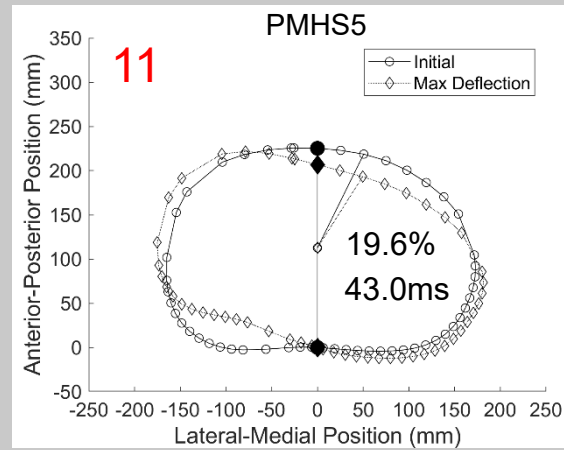
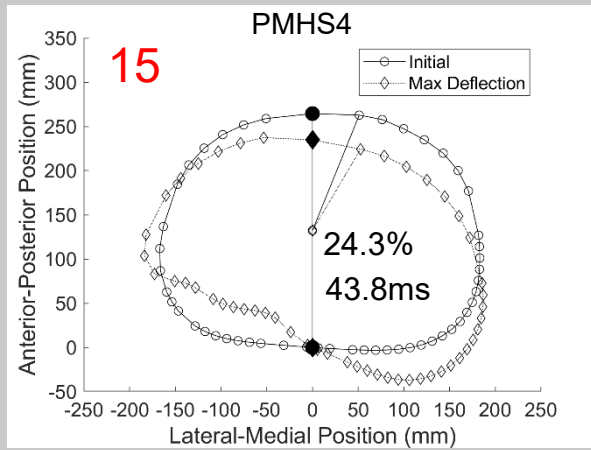
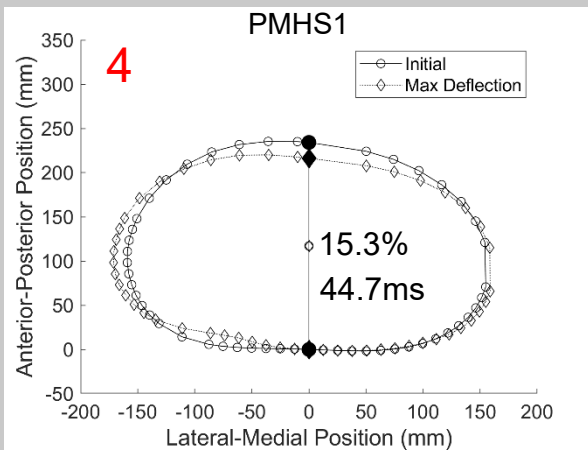
25deg



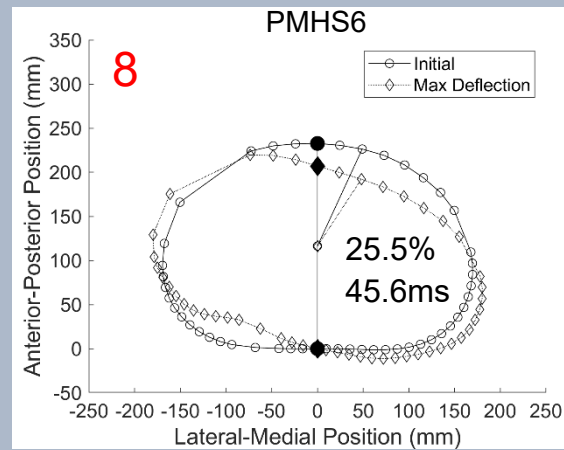
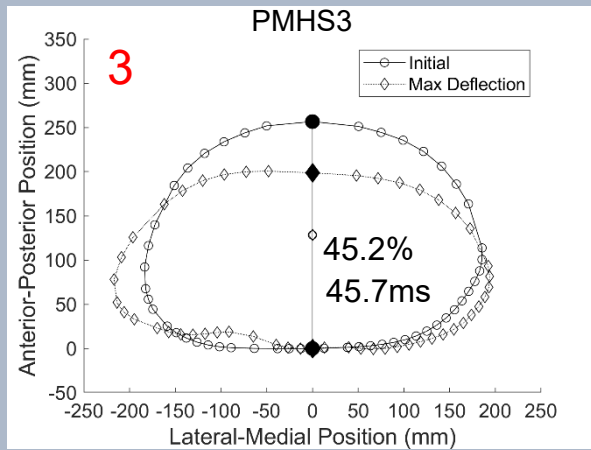
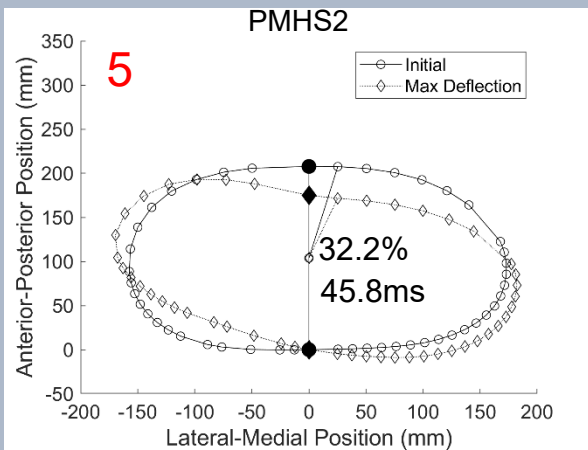
# Anterior Chest Deflection



45deg

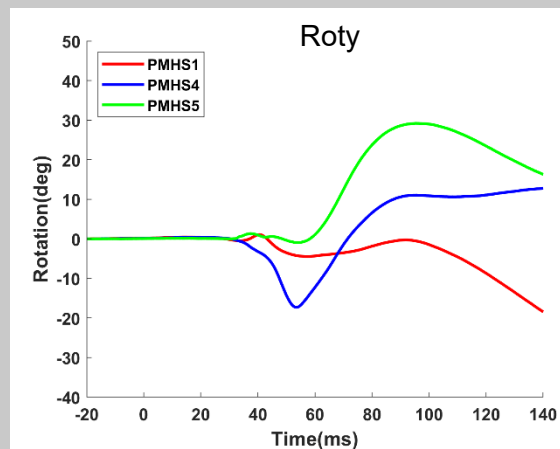
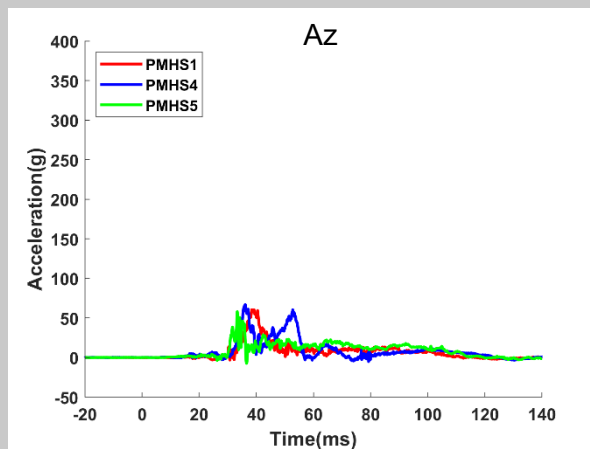
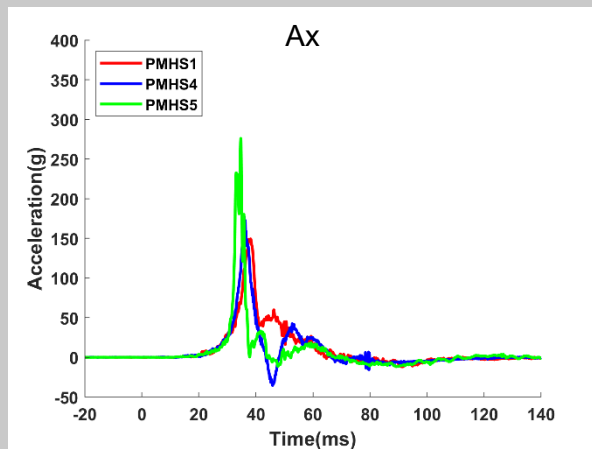


25deg

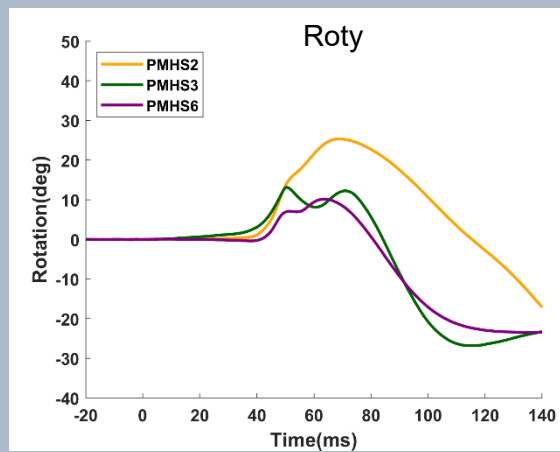
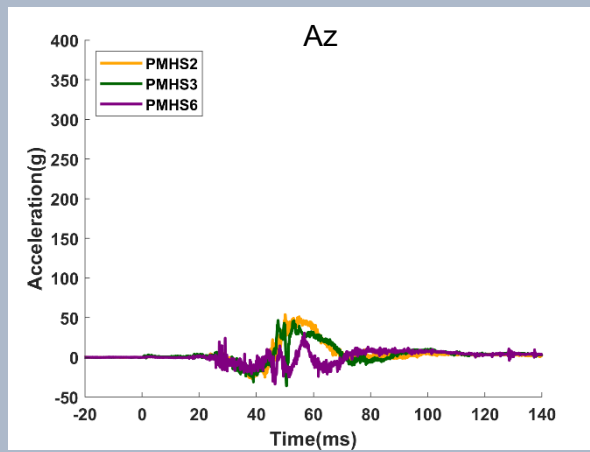
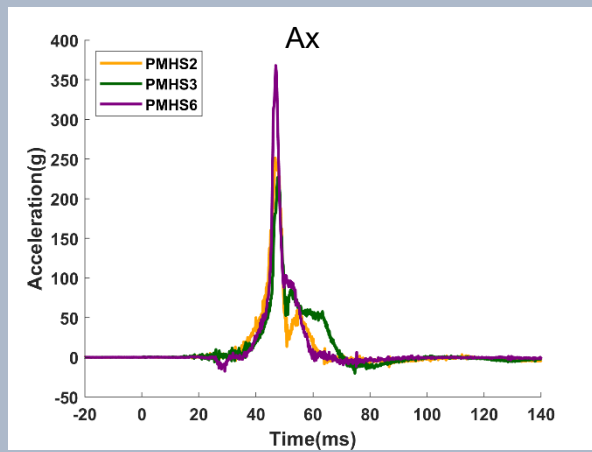


# Kinematics – Head

45deg

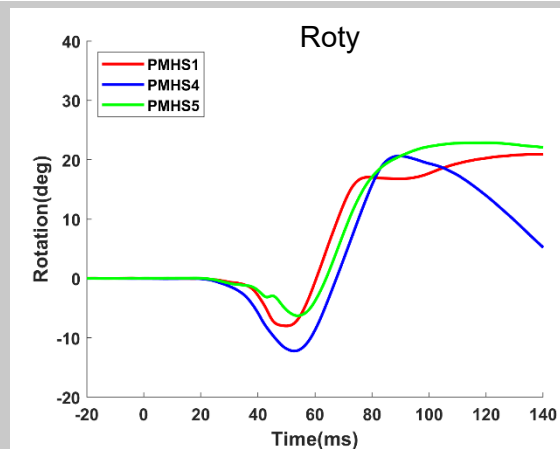
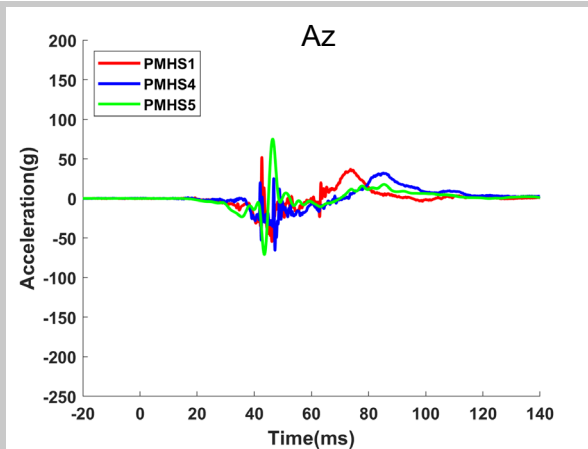
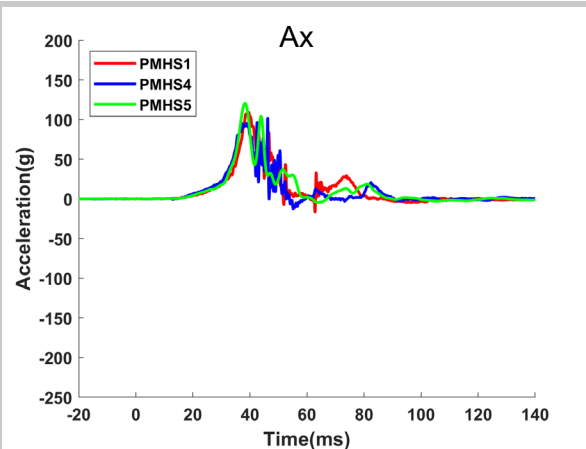


25deg

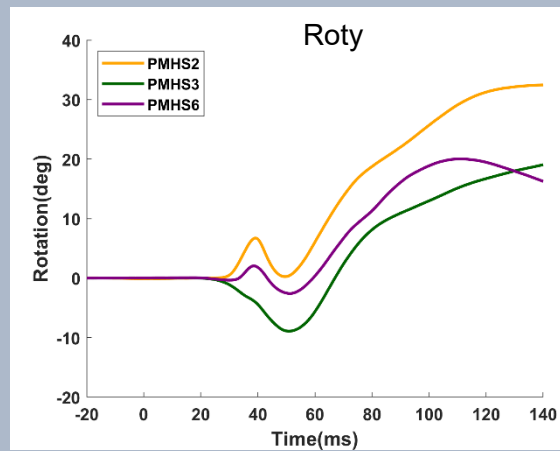
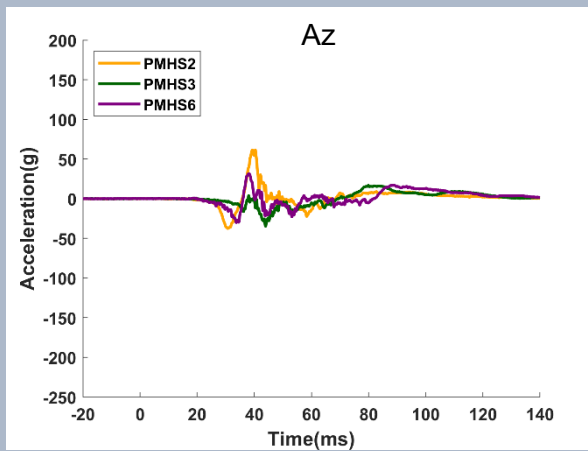
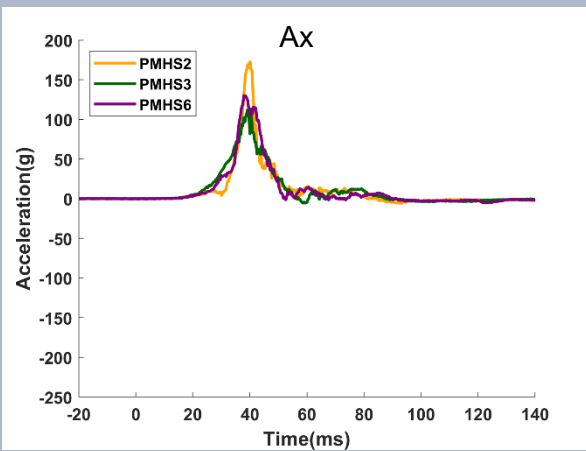


# Kinematics – Pelvis

45deg



25deg



# Summary

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- Rear-facing sled tests using 6 PMHS were conducted at 56km/h
  - Head and pelvis kinematics
  - Head restraint and seat back reaction forces
  - Injuries
    - Minor c-spine injuries and transverse process fractures
    - Rib fractures from all 6 PMHS
      - # of ribs fractured: 3 – 15
    - Clavicle, scapula, and pelvis fractures only in the 45 deg reclined condition
    - Humerus and ulna fractures
      - Flailing of the arms
    - More injuries in the 45 deg reclined condition

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# Thank you for your attention!!!

## Speaker Information

- Yun-Seok Kang, PhD
- Injury Biomechanics Research Center, The Ohio State University
- 333 West 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, Columbus, Ohio, 43210
- 614-366-7584
- [yunseok.kang@osumc.edu](mailto:yunseok.kang@osumc.edu)



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# GOVERNMENT/ INDUSTRY MEETING

January 22-24, 2020 | Washington, DC  
[sae.org/gim](http://sae.org/gim)

## Biomechanical Responses and Injuries of PMHS in Rear Facing Alternative Seating Configurations

Yun-Seok Kang<sup>1</sup>, Jason Stammen<sup>2</sup>, Alena Hagedorn<sup>3</sup>, Rakshit Ramachandra<sup>1</sup>,  
Colton Thomas<sup>3</sup>, Amanda Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Hyun Jung Kwon<sup>3</sup>, Kevin Moorhouse<sup>2</sup>, John H.  
Bolte IV<sup>1</sup>

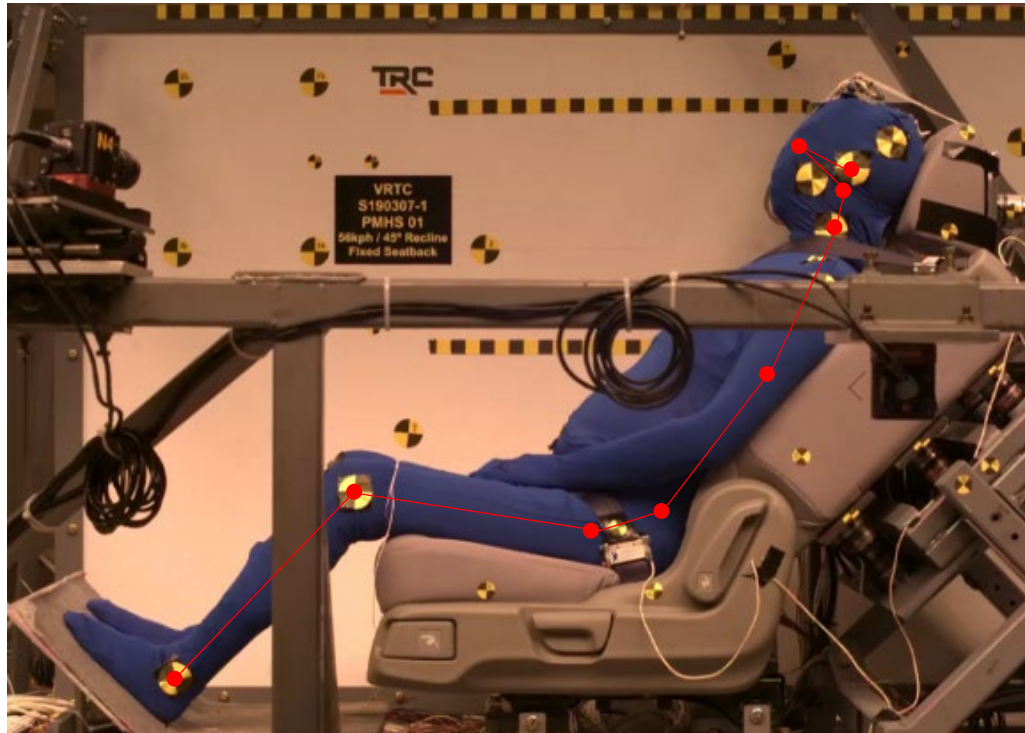
<sup>1</sup>Injury Biomechanics Research Center, The Ohio State University

<sup>2</sup>National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Vehicle Research and Test Center

<sup>3</sup>Transportation Research Center, Inc.



# PMHS Positioning



	UMTRI Target <sup>1</sup>	PMHS
Head Angle	22.3 ± 2°	22.0°
Pelvic Angle	21.1 ± 5°	25.0°
Thigh Angle	11.1 ± 2°	10.0°
Leg Angle	45.9 ± 2°	46.0°
<b>Hip-to-Eye Angle</b>	<b>31.6 ± 5°</b>	<b>26.0°</b>
Back set	0 mm	0 mm
Top set	---	46 mm
Hip X	+55 ± 10 mm	+60.4 mm
Hip Z	-375 ± 10 mm	-366 mm

<sup>1</sup>Reed MP, Ebert SM, Jones ML. Posture and belt fit in reclined passenger seats. Traffic injury prevention. 2019 Jun 12;20(sup1):S38-42.



# Injuries – 56kph/45deg

Body Region	PMHS01	PMHS04	PMHS05
Spine	C3/C4, C4/C5 laxity	C3/C4, C4/C5 laxity Right T4 TP fx Left T4/T5/T6 TP fxs	C4/C5, C5/C6, C6/C7 laxity Right T11 TP fx
Scapula	Left fx	Left fx	No Injury
Ribs	R3A L3A, L6A, L7A	R1A, R2A, R4L, R5M, R6A, R7A L1A, L2M, L3M, L4M, L5A, L6A L7A, L10L	R2A, R3A, R5P, R6P, R9P R4P L2A, L3A, L4L, L5L, L6L
Sternal Area	No Injury	Manubriosternal jt Right sternoclavicular jt	Left Clavicle fx
Pelvis	No Injury	Right posterior ilium fx Left posterior ilium fx	Left acetabulum fx (extended to ilium, ischium, and pubis)
Extremities	No Injury	Left fibula fx Left humerus, ulna fx Right humerus fx	Right humerus fx

# Injuries – 56kph/25deg

Body Region	PMHS02	PMHS03	PMHS06
Spine	C4/C5 laxity	C4/C5 laxity T11 VB fx Right L1 TP fx	C3/C4, C4/C5 laxity
Scapula	No Injury	No Injury	No Injury
Ribs	L5P, L6P, L7P, L8P, L9P	L7A, L9P, L10P	R4L, R5L L2A, L3A, L4L, L7A L8A&P, L9A&P
Sternal Area	No Injury	No Injury	No Injury
Pelvis	No Injury	No Injury	No Injury
Extremities	No Injury	No Injury	No Injury