

# 1 Reference *in-vitro* dataset for inertial-sensor-to-bone 2 alignment applied to the tibiofemoral joint

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## 13 ABSTRACT

14 Skin-attached inertial sensors are increasingly used for kinematic analysis. However, their ability to measure outside-lab can only be exploited after correctly aligning the sensor axes with the underlying anatomical axes. Emerging model-based inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment methods relate inertial measurements with a model of the joint to overcome calibration movements and sensor placement assumptions. It is unclear how good such alignment methods can identify the anatomical axes. Any misalignment results in kinematic cross-talk errors, which makes model validation and the interpretation of the resulting kinematics measurements challenging. This study provides an anatomically correct ground-truth reference dataset from dynamic motions on a cadaver. In contrast with existing references, this enables a true model evaluation that overcomes influences from soft-tissue artifacts, orientation and manual palpation errors. This dataset comprises extensive dynamic movements that are recorded with multimodal measurements including trajectories of optical and virtual (via computed tomography) anatomical markers, reference kinematics, inertial measurements, transformation matrices and visualization tools. The dataset can be used either as a ground-truth reference or to advance research in inertial-sensor-to-bone-alignment.

## 15 Background & Summary

16 In recent decades, researchers relied on laboratory equipment and computational methods to track human movements<sup>1</sup>. Optical  
17 motion capture (OMC) is often used to track body movements via skin-attached reflective markers and infrared cameras<sup>2</sup>.  
18 However, an OMC is limited in physical space and difficult to apply in outside-lab environments<sup>2</sup>, e.g., to measure early  
19 postoperative adaptations in a hospital<sup>3</sup>. Skin-attached inertial measurement units (IMUs) provide an alternative that can be  
20 applied in these demanding environments<sup>2</sup>. However, their noisy and biased measurements make the inference of kinematics  
21 a complex and highly studied sensor fusion problem<sup>4-6</sup> that furthermore requires a sufficient background in the field of  
22 biomechanics.

23 While interest in inertial sensors is rising, it remains an open question how good inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment methods  
24 relate the sensor's axes with the underlying anatomical axes<sup>7</sup> as defined by the clinical definitions<sup>8,9</sup>. Only after an accurate  
25 alignment, comparable kinematic measures can be obtained. The vast majority of IMU-based kinematic studies assume that  
26 the skin-attached IMUs' sensing axes approximately align with the underlying anatomical segmental axes<sup>10,11</sup>. Naturally,  
27 violations against such assumptions yield kinematic cross-talk errors (where parts of the rotations on certain axes are sensed on  
28 other axes)<sup>12,13</sup>, which makes interpretation notoriously difficult. Other approaches define functional movements or poses to  
29 conduct the sensor-to-bone alignment, but their accuracy highly depends on the ability of the subject or instructor to execute  
30 movements around isolated axes. More promising are model-based inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment methods that aim to relate  
31 inertial measurements with a model of the joint's mechanics, while overcoming the need for calibration movements and sensor  
32 placement assumptions<sup>14-17</sup>. Such methods require a sufficient amount of movement, for the model to become manifest in  
33 the inertial measurements. However, it is not known how well these model-based alignment methods are able to identify the  
34 direction of underlying joint axes that relate with anatomical landmarks, as defined by the clinical definitions<sup>8,9</sup>. Furthermore,  
35 it is not clear which movements are necessary in order to construct the alignment. Hull<sup>12</sup> highlighted that extensive validation  
36 of these alignment methods is often underestimated and most often done by means of their resulting joint kinematics, with

37 respect to an OMC kinematic reference<sup>14,18–20</sup>. It is thus not straightforward to evaluate alignment models when errors from  
38 inertial sensor orientation estimation and kinematic cross-talk due to mis-alignments are intertwined<sup>12</sup> and possibly disturbed  
39 by skin motion artifacts, which led researchers to question an OMC as an appropriate reference<sup>12,13,21</sup>.

40 Previous datasets that combine different modalities, including inertial sensor measurements, have been published for the  
41 assessment of human grasping<sup>22,23</sup> and for the recognition of gait adaptations<sup>24</sup>. To our knowledge, the proposed dataset  
42 is the first publicly accessible dataset that provides an anatomical reference for inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment methods.  
43 We focus on the tibiofemoral (TF) joint that is most studied for inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment<sup>7</sup> and report a rich dataset  
44 of dynamic movements on a cadaver that were recorded with multi-modal measurements including trajectories of optical  
45 markers and virtual (through volumetric computed tomography (CT) scanning) anatomical markers, reference joint kinematics  
46 and inertial measurements (Fig. 1d). Within the measurement protocol, regular static measurements for gyroscope bias  
47 estimation and compensation<sup>25</sup> and slow rich movements for magnetometer calibration<sup>26</sup> are included. This work provides  
48 the methodological details to allow for replication of the developed validation strategy. The necessary alignment matrices are  
49 provided to validate IMU-based estimates of underlying anatomical axes, and compare estimates in the underlying anatomical  
50 coordinate systems. The measurement protocol intrinsically overcomes the ethical difficulties for an in vivo measurement  
51 protocol<sup>27</sup> and can aid in a better understanding and advancement on inertial sensor-based biomechanical modeling<sup>14,15</sup> of  
52 the complex tibiofemoral joint<sup>28</sup>. The current dataset can furthermore be used for the validation of inertial-sensor-based  
53 identification of biomechanical parameters, e.g. joint center position<sup>29,30</sup> and is expected to be used repeatedly as a ground-truth  
54 reference in the multidisciplinary field that links sensor fusion and biomechanics.

## 55 **Methods**

### 56 **Specimen overview**

57 A complete fresh frozen cadaveric lower limb, disarticulated at the level of the hip was used for the experiment. The female  
58 specimen (age: 52, left leg) did not show any history in knee injuries, e.g., meniscal lesions, ligament ruptures or knee  
59 osteoarthritis, and was obtained from the licensed Institute for Orthopaedic Research and Training (IORT, Leuven, Belgium).  
60 The use of human specimen and all test procedures were approved by the local ethical committee UZ Leuven and registered at  
61 the Belgian National Council for Bioethics (number: NH019) prior to experimental testing.

### 62 **Experimental work-flow**

63 The specimen was kept in a freezer and removed twenty-four hours prior to experimentation, to allow sufficient time for  
64 thawing. First, the specimen was equipped with clusters of spherical infrared reflective markers that were rigidly attached  
65 via bone-pins at the medial side, mid-distance onto the femur and tibia segments as illustrated in Fig. 1a. A minimum of  
66 three non-collinear markers were necessary to establish a coordinate system, but four markers per cluster were used to reduce  
67 registration errors from occlusion in the optical motion tracking system. Second, a volumetric computed tomography scan  
68 (Siemens Somatom Force, Siemens Healthcare, Erlangen, Germany) was obtained from the frozen specimen, after placement  
69 of the bone-pins. Images were obtained with a slice thickness of 0.6 mm. The computed tomography scans were analyzed with  
70 Mimics (Materialise, Haasrode, Leuven, Belgium) to create three-dimensional (3D) reconstructions of both femur and tibia  
71 bones (Fig. 1b). Afterwards, the necessary anthropometric osseous anatomical landmarks were identified to construct joint  
72 coordinate systems for the femur and tibia from the 3D surface bone models, following Grood and Suntay<sup>8</sup>. The marker clusters  
73 were localized in both the CT-scan images and the optical motion capture system. This aid in the spatial alignment between the  
74 two reference systems and the registration of virtual anatomical landmarks. Before conduction of dynamic experiments, each  
75 bone-pin was equipped with a rigidly attached wireless inertial sensor (Mtw Awinda, Xsens, Enschede, the Netherlands) via zip  
76 ties (Fig. 1c). A hardware time synchronization was used to simultaneously capture optical marker trajectories by a six-camera  
77 OMC (MX+, Vicon, Oxford, UK) and inertial measurements, both with a sample rate of 100Hz.

### 78 **Measurement protocol**

79 Data of multiple dynamic experiments were collected by experienced physiotherapists. Prior to each trial, a pseudo-static  
80 time-period was introduced where the specimen was held still for approximately five seconds in the position described by the  
81 measurement protocol. For each trial, the specimen was then moved in an unloaded position by hand from full extension to a  
82 desired level of tibiofemoral flexion, following a predefined measurement protocol by altering the following protocol variables:

- 83 1. *Movement plane* – We differentiated between movements in a fixed vertical movement plane (horizontal femoral-fixed  
84 flexion-axis), fixed horizontal movement plane (vertical femoral-fixed flexion-axis) and a mixed movement plane that  
85 could change its orientation over time. This overcomes a fixed horizontal axis-setup on a mechanical knee rig<sup>31</sup> that may  
86 prevent identification of axis direction, (i.e., a problem of sign pairing may arise such that a femur-fixed flexion-axis that  
87 is pointing in medial direction, is estimated to point in lateral direction, but with the same orientation<sup>32,33</sup>).

- 88 2. *Movement duration* – 15 seconds, 30 seconds or 120 seconds, to allow for both quick processing as well as the introduction  
89 of drift-effects<sup>4,34</sup>.
- 90 3. *Movement excitation* – We instructed different movement excitation levels as slow, fast and mixed, and later quantified it  
91 as slow (norm angular velocity  $0.85 \pm 0.63$  rad/s (femur-attached inertial sensor) and  $0.72 \pm 0.60$  rad/s (tibia-attached  
92 inertial sensor)), fast (norm angular velocity  $1.63 \pm 1.05$  rad/s (femur-attached inertial sensor)  $1.60 \pm 1.20$  rad/s (tibia-  
93 attached inertial sensor)) and mixed (a random sequence of slow and fast movement periods) to mimic a wide range of  
94 movement dynamics.
- 95 4. *Tibiofemoral flexion range of motion (RoM)* – We differentiated between tibiofemoral flexion RoM of 60 degrees, in line  
96 with expected RoM during normal gait and 110 degrees to simulate functional squat movements<sup>13</sup>.

97 The measurement protocol included every possible combination of these four protocol variables and a custom script gave  
98 real-time feedback on the RoM to guide the physiotherapists in actuating the specimen. Experiments were executed with care  
99 to ensure that the limb was supported in the same way for all runs. Additionally, functional limb poses and movements were  
100 recorded and are described as:

- 101 • A *vertically positioned* specimen (horizontal femur-fixed flexion-axis) with a manually fixated tibia at the ankle joint or  
102 femur at the femoral head. Followed by a set of manually induced rotations of the femur or tibia from full extension up  
103 to maximal tibiofemoral flexion.
- 104 • A *vertically positioned* specimen (horizontal femur-fixed flexion-axis) with a manually fixated femur at the femoral head.  
105 Followed by a set of isolated manually induced tibia internal and external rotation movements within the maximum  
106 physical range of motion.
- 107 • A *horizontally positioned* specimen (vertical femur-fixed flexion-axis) with a manually fixated tibia at the ankle joint or  
108 femur at the femoral head. Followed by a set of manual induced rotations of the femur or tibia from full extension up to  
109 maximal tibiofemoral flexion.

110 Although not in line with the intuition of model-based alignment methods that aim to be independent from calibration  
111 movements. These additional functional movements enrich the dataset with a debugging purpose on simple functional limb  
112 motions.

### 113 Spatial alignment

114 We differentiate between the following Cartesian coordinate systems in which measurements can be expressed: 1) the global  
115 reference coordinate system  $M$ , in which the anatomical landmarks from the 3D surface bone models are defined, 2) the global  
116 reference coordinate system  $G$  of the OMC in which marker trajectories are expressed, 3) the sensor coordinate system  $S$  in  
117 which the inertial measurements and estimated biomechanical parameters are expressed, 4) the navigation coordinate system  $N$   
118 that serves as a reference for the sensor orientation  $q^{NS}$ . Since the optical markers on femur and tibia are identified in both  
119 the CT-scan ( $M$ ) and in the optical motion capture system ( $G$ ), a common intermediate coordinate system  $O$  can be defined  
120 on the basis of three non-collinear optical markers  $O1$ ,  $O2$  and  $O3$  with normalized base vectors;  $x = O1 \rightarrow O2$ ,  $z = (O1 \rightarrow$   
121  $O3) \times (O1 \rightarrow O2)$ ,  $y = x \times z$ , which was made right-handed, by inverting  $z$  if  $x \times y \neq z$ . This allows us to describe virtual  
122 anatomical marker trajectories within  $G$  after the necessary rotations from reference coordinate frame  $M$  to reference coordinate  
123 frame  $G$  via intermediate coordinate frame  $O$ .

124 Furthermore, the sensor's internal on-chip sensing axes are not perfectly aligned with the IMU-case, nor with a coordinate  
125 system on the basis of three surrounding rigidly attached optical markers  $O_F$ ,  $O_T$ . A constant misalignment that describes  
126 the rotation from inertial sensor coordinate system to the optical marker-based coordinate system was identified for each  
127 sensor ( $q^{O_F S_F}$ ,  $q^{O_T S_T}$ ) with the closed-form solution in Theorem 4.1 from J. D. Hol<sup>25</sup> by using measured (from the inertial  
128 measurements) and approximated (from the optical cluster markers) angular velocities as an input<sup>25</sup>, from all experimental data  
129 points (excluding the pseudo-static time-period) of all trials, to cover most of the rotation space<sup>35</sup>.

### 130 Data Records

131 The data records and a dataset summary spreadsheet (*Data\_Summary.xlsx*) are available through the Figshare repository<sup>36</sup>  
132 (<https://doi.org/10.6084/m9.figshare.c.5328773>). The dataset summary spreadsheet provides additional information for each  
133 trial including the measurement protocol variables, file-size and the amount of recorded samples (including the pseudo-  
134 static period at the start of each trial). Raw and derived data from different modalities (optical marker trajectories, inertial

135 measurements, reference kinematics, alignment matrices) were structured into separate .mat datafiles (structure arrays data-  
136 type) per trial with a custom Matlab (R2019b, Mathworks, Natick, USA) script. Each datafile has the following naming  
137 convention "*MovementPlane*"\_"*Duration*"\_"*Excitation*"\_"*RoM*" and is structured as illustrated in Fig. 2a. The naming  
138 convention for the functional movements is provided in the dataset summary spreadsheet. Table 1 provides a detailed  
139 explanation on the abbreviations used in the data structure, including the unit and the reference coordinate system in which the  
140 data are expressed. The following sections further describe the raw and derived data that are available within each datafile.

## 141 Raw data

### 142 3D surface bone models

143 The surface bone models of both femur (tibia.stl) and tibia (femur.stl) segments provide additional insight and allow for the  
144 identification of other custom landmarks. We also provided a reduced vertex version of both surface bone models (indicated  
145 by '\_red' suffix) that can be used for rapid plotting. From these models, anatomical landmarks and optical markers were  
146 identified on the 3D surface bone models and structured in (ct.mat) as depicted in Fig. 2b. Table 2 provides a full explanation  
147 of the identified points, spheres and circles. Note that coordinates are expressed in the reference coordinate system of the  
148 CT-image.

### 149 Optical marker trajectories

150 Six (MX+, Vicon) infrared cameras positioned in a half-sphere around the specimen recorded the trajectories of the optical  
151 marker clusters that were rigidly attached at the femur and tibia segments. The raw marker trajectories were processed in Vicon  
152 Nexus (Vicon, Motion Systems, Oxford, UK) using the processing pipelines for the labeling and gap filling. Gap-filling was  
153 done with a cubic spline interpolation. For each trial, the processed, unfiltered optical marker trajectories of the four markers  
154 per cluster (O1-O4) (both for femur and tibia) were included in the datafiles.

### 155 Inertial measurements

156 Each inertial sensor that was attached on the specimen consisted of a gyroscope, an accelerometer and a magnetometer that  
157 measured the sensor's angular velocity, external specific force (comprised of the sensor's acceleration and gravity component)  
158 and magnetic field strength, in three orthogonal directions. The sample rate  $f_s$  of the inertial sensors and an estimate of its  
159 orientation expressed in terms of a unit quaternion  $q_t^{NS}$  with respect to a sensor navigation coordinate system  $N$  (typically  
160 aligned with the Earth's gravity and the local magnetic field) is provided in each datafile. The subscript  $t$  explicitly denotes the  
161 time-dependency. The sensor fusion algorithm that was used to obtain these orientation estimates (Xsens Kalman filter) is  
162 proprietary of the sensor<sup>37</sup>, but any custom or available<sup>38,39</sup> orientation estimation strategy can be applied to the available raw  
163 inertial measurements. Also, an accurate orientation of the sensor can be obtained from the available marker trajectories after  
164 the necessary spatial alignment<sup>25</sup>.

165 Additionally, regular measurements for gyroscope bias estimation and magnetometer calibration were included and  
166 annotated in the dataset summary spreadsheet. The gyroscope bias can be estimated from measurements where the sensor-  
167 equipped specimen was kept stationary for approximately ten seconds<sup>4</sup>. If magnetometer readings are a desired input of the  
168 inertial-sensor-based alignment algorithm subject to validation, possible magnetic disturbance (due to mounting of the sensor on  
169 magnetic objects or the presence of magnetic equipment in the lab) can be compensated for<sup>26</sup> using these associated recordings  
170 of slow movements in all directions of the data acquisition.

## 171 Derived data

### 172 Virtual anatomical marker trajectories and sensor alignment rotations

173 A spatial alignment was used to describe the trajectory of virtual anatomical landmarks within the OMC reference coordinate  
174 frame  $G$ . Fig. 2a describes the data structure used for all trials, including the virtual anatomical landmarks. Furthermore, the  
175 constant misalignments rotations  $q^{OF SF}$  and  $q^{OT ST}$  are provided (align.mat) for each sensor and describe the rotation from the  
176 inertial sensor coordinate frame to the optical marker-based coordinate frame.

### 177 Reference kinematics

178 Reference kinematics consisting of tibiofemoral flexion, tibia external rotation and tibiofemoral abduction were calculated  
179 from the virtual anatomical marker trajectories following the standards for reporting clinical rotations of the knee<sup>8</sup> and are  
180 provided as a reference for each trial. The motions in the measurement protocol contained tibiofemoral flexion angles  $> 90^\circ$   
181 and in hyper-extension ( $< 0^\circ$ ). This would lead to clipping in the TF flexion kinematics when calculated following Grood and  
182 Suntay<sup>8</sup>. We therefore used the adaptation from Dabirrahmani and Hogg<sup>40</sup> to provide a kinematic reference for all ranges  
183 of tibiofemoral flexion. The provided kinematics allow in-depth assessment of inertial-sensor-to-bone alignment methods  
184 by feeding the algorithm with samples that are measured during specific ranges of clinical rotations. We also provide the  
185 time-dependent base vectors for the femoral ( $I_t, J_t, K_t$ ) and tibial ( $i_t, j_t, k_t$ ) Cartesian coordinate systems as a reference. These

186 vectors can for example be used to visualize the movement from a static tibia or femur anatomical coordinate frame perspective  
187 or to rotate estimated joint axes into anatomical coordinate systems for validation purposes.

### 188 **Visualization tools**

189 All Matlab scripts for visualization and assessment of the data are provided. An example plot of the raw and processed data for  
190 one datafile is given in Fig. 3. The script to reproduce this visualization includes the transformation of coordinates starting  
191 from a global CT-scan frame  $M$  to a global optical motion capture frame  $G$ , and the identification procedure to obtain the  
192 rotations  $q^{OS}$  that align the optical marker frames  $O$  with the inertial frames  $S$ .

### 193 **Missing data**

194 After data acquisition, we found trials of inertial sensor measurements that had a significant data-length mis-match with the  
195 optical marker trajectories. Also, we occasionally found trials with optical marker trajectories, where occlusion of the markers  
196 prevented a correct processing (with a minimum of three visible optical markers per segment). These particular datasets were  
197 dropped as annotated in the dataset summary spreadsheet<sup>36</sup>. Furthermore, slight deviations from the protocol as described in this  
198 study can be seen in certain trials that either started in 90° tibiofemoral flexion, instead of in a full extended pose or exceeded  
199 the desired measurement duration or RoM. All deviations of the protocol are described in the dataset summary spreadsheet. In  
200 general, the missing data does not result in any significant loss or limitation. For any combination of measurement protocol  
201 variables, there is a sufficient amount of usable data-points to infer the relation between sensor axes and anatomical axes.  
202 Additionally, depending on the IMU-based algorithm of interest, random samples from different experiments can be combined  
203 if a time-dependency is not assumed<sup>14,33</sup>.

### 204 **Technical Validation**

205 The multimodal dataset of size (53 trials, 321,073 samples) is sufficient for the purpose of validating inertial-sensor-to-bone  
206 alignment strategies and inferred biomechanical parameters from inertial sensor data. The measurements of both the marker  
207 trajectories and inertial measurements needed to be temporally synchronized to be of use. The temporal synchronization was  
208 established by using a custom analog signal routed between the base stations (Lock Sync box, Vicon and Awinda Station,  
209 Xsens). A length mismatch of 2 samples (3 out of 53 trials) and one sample (24 out of 53 trials) was found. The corresponding  
210 potential time mismatch of 0.01 to 0.02 seconds should not pose a problem for the validation in most use-cases.

211 The raw measurement data were checked semi-automatically and manually on anomalies. We provided the constant  
212 misalignment orientations  $q^{OS_F}$  and  $q^{OS_T}$  for each inertial sensor and its surrounded optical cluster markers. These mis-  
213 alignment orientations were obtained from all experimental data points. To prove a rigid placement of the inertial sensor with  
214 respect to its cluster of optical markers and a correct data-match between the inertial data and optical marker trajectories, the  
215 constant misalignments were re-calculated for each trial separately. The per-file calculated misalignments deviated from the  
216 provided misalignment in the range of the expected accuracy of such sensor alignment methods<sup>41</sup> with angular distances<sup>42</sup>  
217 of  $0.98^\circ \pm 0.55^\circ$  for the femur-attached inertial sensor and  $0.99^\circ \pm 0.78^\circ$  for the tibia-attached inertial sensor.

218 Unloaded motions on cadavers are often used to describe the relative movement of the bones<sup>28,43,44</sup>. The tibiofemoral  
219 flexion was set by the measurement protocol. It is known that secondary rotations are coupled to flexion<sup>44</sup>. We plotted the  
220 first flexing and extending movement path between full extension and 110 degrees tibiofemoral flexion for six trials with  
221 different configurations of measurement protocol variables in Fig. 4. The coupling pattern between secondary kinematics  
222 and tibiofemoral flexion is visible with peak internal rotations ranging up to 22.86° and abduction/adduction values ranging  
223 from 10.87° abduction to 7.62° adduction, within the expected ranges of motion<sup>44</sup>.

### 224 **Usage Notes**

225 All data are available on-line in the Figshare repository<sup>36</sup> and structured in the same way in Matlab compatible .mat files.  
226 Note that these files can be converted into .csv or other applicable formats for usage with other programming tools. Data are  
227 categorized in folders based on the movement plane (vertical plane, horizontal plane, mixed plane and functional movements).  
228 Additional datasets for gyroscope bias estimation, magnetometer calibration, CT-scan data and inertial sensor alignment are  
229 included in separate folders.

### 230 **Code availability**

231 All Matlab code used for visualization and spatial alignment is available in a public GitHub repository (<https://github.com/IveW/IS2B>)  
232 accompanied with detailed usage notes and commentary.

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## 320 Acknowledgements

321 This work was supported by the European Regional Development Fund – We-lab for HTM [grant number 1047]. The authors  
322 would like to thank Elias Theunynck and Emiel Nieuwlaet for their assistance during data collection.

## 323 Author contributions statement

324 The study was initially conceived by I.W. and K.C. The study design was constructed by I.W., M.K., T.S. and K.C. Experiments  
325 were conducted by I.W., O.T. and D.S. O.T. annotated and processed the raw optical marker trajectory data, I.W. processed and  
326 structured the data. The manuscript was initially drafted by I.W. and K.C. I.W., M.K., T.S., D.S., O.T., L.S., H.H., K.C. wrote,  
327 formatted, and revised the manuscript. All authors reviewed the manuscript prior to submission and agreed on authorship.

328

## Competing interests

329

The authors declare no competing interests.

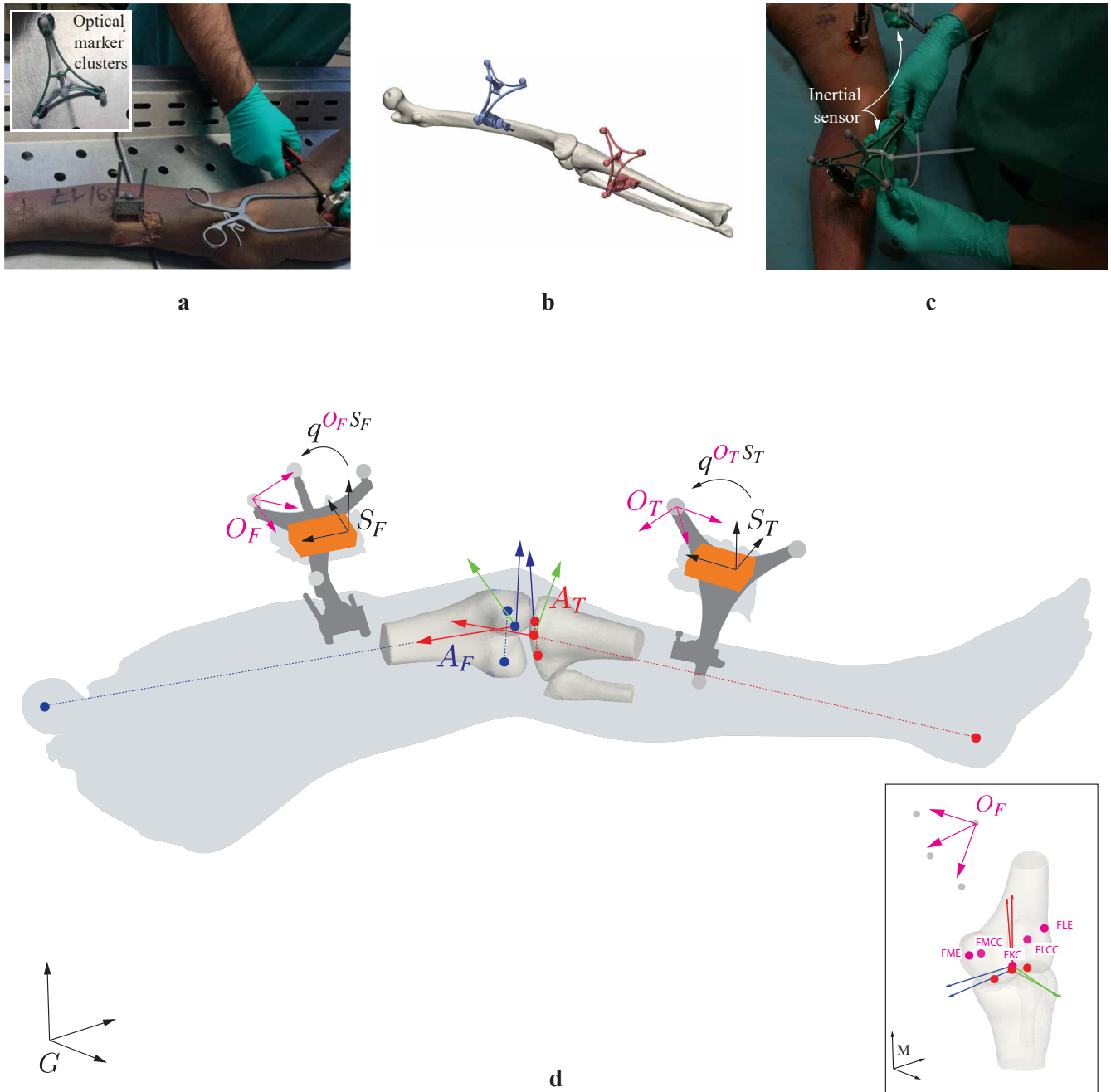
Data structure abbreviation	Explanation	Unit	Reference coordinate system
flexion_dh	Tibiofemoral flexion (following Dabirrahmani and Hogg) <sup>40</sup>	[deg]	N/A
flexion_gs	Tibiofemoral flexion (following Grood and Suntay) <sup>8</sup>	[deg]	N/A
rotation	Tibia external rotation <sup>8</sup>	[deg]	N/A
abduction	Tibiofemoral abduction <sup>8</sup>	[deg]	N/A
I J K	Base vectors for the femoral Cartesian coordinate system <sup>8</sup>	unit vector	G
i j k	Base vectors for the tibial Cartesian coordinate system <sup>8</sup>	unit vector	G
Acc_X Y Z	Accelerometer measurements on the X, Y, Z sensor axes	[m/s <sup>2</sup> ]	S
Gyr_X Y Z	Gyroscope measurements on the X, Y, Z sensor axes	[rad/s]	S
Mag_X Y Z	Magnetic field strength measured on the X, Y, Z sensor axes	[a.u.] <sup>37</sup>	S
q	Sensor orientation estimate $q^{NS}$ expressed in terms of a unit quaternion	unit vector	N/A
fs	Sample frequency	[Hz]	N/A
FHC	Femoral Hip Center position	[mm]	G
FKC	Femoral Knee Center position	[mm]	G
FLCC	Femoral Lateral Condyle Center position	[mm]	G
FLE	Femoral Lateral Epicondyle position	[mm]	G
FMCC	Femoral Medial Condyle Center position	[mm]	G
FME	Femoral Medial Epicondyle position	[mm]	G
TAC	Tibial Ankle Center position	[mm]	G
TKC	Tibial Knee Center position	[mm]	G
TLCC	Tibial Lateral Condyle Center position	[mm]	G
TMCC	Tibial Medial Condyle Center position	[mm]	G
O1-O4	Optical marker position	[mm]	G

**Table 1.** Abbreviations used in the datafile structures of the experimental trials (Fig. 2a) together with a full explanation, the unit and the reference coordinate system in which the measures are expressed.

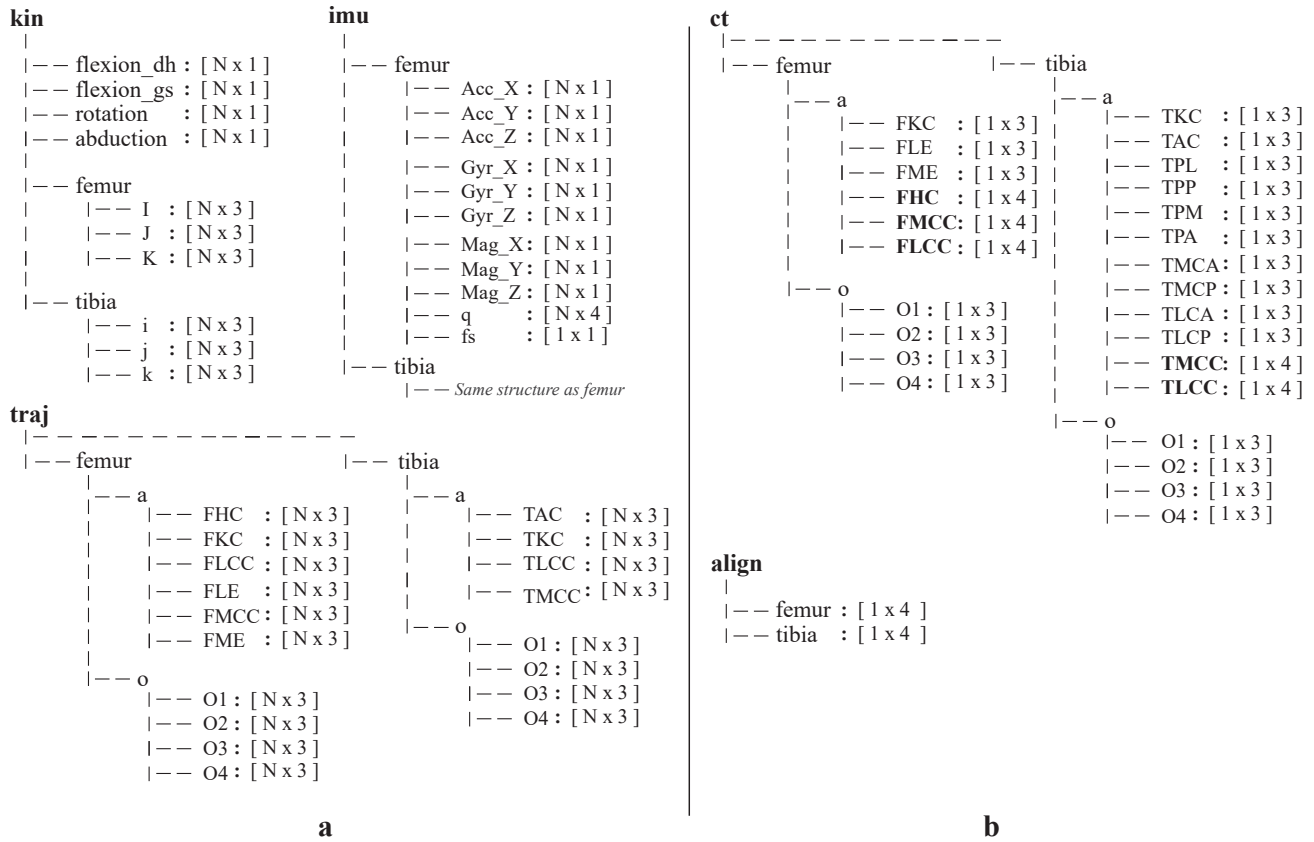


<b>Data structure abbreviation</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Unit</b>	<b>Reference coordinate system</b>
FKC	point	Femoral Knee Center	[mm]	M
FLE	point	Femoral Lateral Epicondyle	[mm]	M
FME	point	Femoral Medial Epicondyle	[mm]	M
TKC	point	Tibia Knee Center	[mm]	M
TAC	point	Tibia Ankle Center	[mm]	M
TPL	point	Tibia Plateau most Lateral point	[mm]	M
TPP	point	Tibia Plateau most Posterior point	[mm]	M
TPM	point	Tibia Plateau most Medial point	[mm]	M
TPA	point	Tibia Plateau most Anterior point	[mm]	M
TMCA	point	Tibia Medial Plateau most Anterior point	[mm]	M
TMCP	point	Tibia Medial Plateau most Posterior point	[mm]	M
TLCA	point	Tibia Lateral Plateau most Anterior point	[mm]	M
TLCP	point	Tibia Lateral Plateau most Posterior point	[mm]	M
TMCC	circle	Tibia Medial Plateau Center	[mm]	M
TLCC	circle	Tibia Lateral Plateau Center	[mm]	M
FHC	sphere	Femur Hip Center	[mm]	M
FMCC	sphere	Femur Medial Condyle Center	[mm]	M
FLCC	sphere	Femur Lateral Condyle Center	[mm]	M
O1-O4	point	Optical marker position	[mm]	M

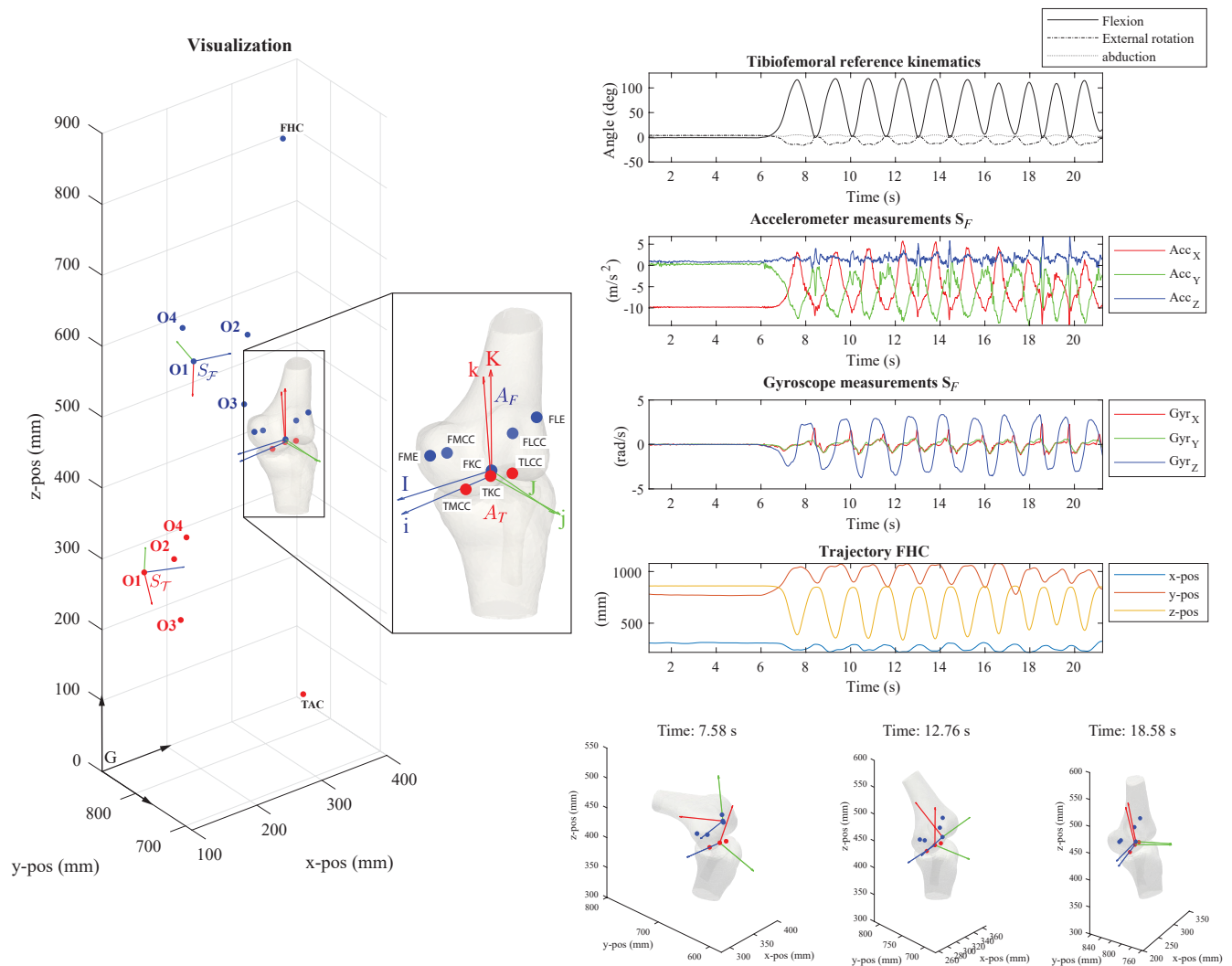
**Table 2.** Abbreviations used in the datafile structure for the computed tomography scan (Fig. 2b) together with the type (point, circle or sphere) a full explanation, the unit and the reference coordinate system in which the measures are expressed.



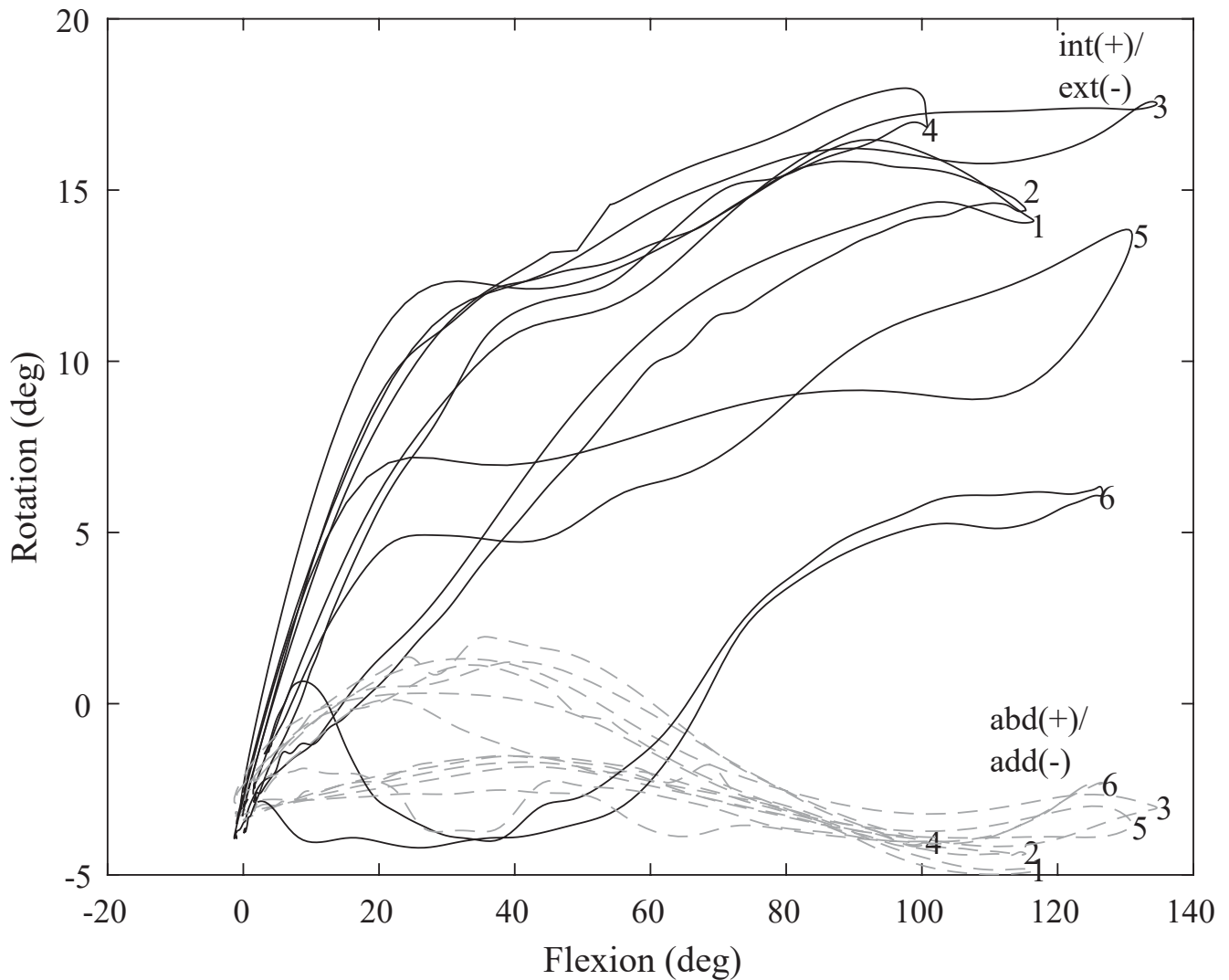
**Figure 1. Experimental set-up.** (a) A cadaveric lower limb is equipped with rigidly attached bone-pins, at the medial side of the femur ( $F$ ) and tibia ( $T$ ) segments. Each bone-pin is equipped with retro reflective marker clusters (that are used to create optical marker-based coordinate systems  $O_F$  and  $O_T$ ) and inertial sensors (orange boxes) with sensor coordinate systems  $S_F$  and  $S_T$ . (b) Three-dimensional surface bone models are reconstructed for the femur and tibia bone and osseous anatomical landmarks are identified within Mimics. Anatomical reference coordinate systems  $A_F$  and  $A_T$  are defined on the base of virtual anatomical landmarks. Anatomical landmarks are furthermore rotated into a common intermediate coordinate system (pink) within the CT-scan coordinate system  $M$ , to rotate the landmarks into the optical motion capture reference frame  $G$ . The full explanation of all abbreviations of the annotated anatomical landmarks can be found in Table 1. (c) Inertial sensor are rigidly attached on the femur and tibia-attached bone-pins via zip ties. The alignment rotations  $q^{O_F S_F}$  and  $q^{O_T S_T}$  define the rotation from coordinate frame  $S$  to coordinate frame  $O$  for the femur and tibia-attached inertial sensors. As a result, all coordinate systems can be tracked with respect to the optical motion capture reference coordinate system  $G$ , after the necessary coordinate system transformations. (d) Illustration of the measurement set-up with the different coordinate frames.



**Figure 2.** The data structure that is used for all experimental trials (a), and the CT-scan landmarks (b). The data dimensions are provided between brackets. The data in (a) is grouped per modality and segment with the abbreviations: (kin) reference joint kinematics, (imu) inertial measurements, (traj.o) optical and (traj.a) virtual anatomical marker trajectories. For the CT-scan landmark positions in (b) a similar grouping is used. Anatomical landmarks in bold represent spheres and circles. The first three coordinates define the coordinates of the center and a fourth coordinate was used for the radius where appropriate. N denotes the amount of samples. An explanation of each individual abbreviation in the data structure can be found in Table 1 for the structure in (a) and in Table 2 for the structure in (b).



**Figure 3. Visual and annotated representation of the multimodal data content.** Reference kinematics, inertial measurements, virtual anatomical/optical marker trajectories and a representation of the relevant anatomical landmarks on the three-dimensional bone surface models (in this example: V\_15\_f\_110.mat). Here, the specimen is in a vertical position (horizontal femoral-fixed flexion-axis). The full explanation of all abbreviations can be found in Table 1. The code for reproducing the plots for any trial is available via the public GitHub repository (<https://github.com/IveW/IS2B>).



**Figure 4. Six flexion and extending movement paths for different configurations of measurement protocol variables.** To illustrate the natural coupling pattern between secondary rotations (in black: internal (int)/external (ext) rotation, in dashed gray: abduction (abd)/adduction (add)) and tibiofemoral flexion: (1) fast movement in a vertical movement plane, (2) slow movement in a vertical movement plane, (3) fast movement in a horizontal movement plane, (4) slow movement in a horizontal movement plane, (5) fast movement in a mixed movement plane, (6) slow movement in a mixed movement plane.