

P-FEA OF PATHOLOGICAL HUMAN FEMURS

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Recent patient-specific QCT-based high-order finite element (p-FE) models have been shown to predict well the mechanical response of fresh frozen healthy femurs in-vitro, including the risk of fracture [4, 1, 3]. These p-FE models account for the exact geometry as well as the inhomogeneous material properties of femurs, are created in a semi-automated manner from QCT scans and validated on a large cohort of fresh frozen healthy femurs.

Since in clinical practice pathological femurs are of interest, we herein extend the use of QCT-based p-FEMs to femurs with metastatic tumors, femurs with a prosthesis following a total-hip-replacement procedure and femurs containing benign and giant-cell-tumors that underwent curettage and cement filling.

p-FE analyses on femurs affected by metastatic or benign tumors (based on QCT scans) will be presented and their results compared to a experiments performed on fourteen femurs containing metastases. We also address the generation of p-FE models of femurs with metallic implants from QCT images that are corrupted due to X-ray scatter from the metallic implants [2]. The FE predictions of strains, displacements and fracture loads are compared to experimental observations following a verification and validation procedure.

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