

Manuscript Details

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| Manuscript number | CLBI_2018_588_R1 |
| Title | Effect of Baseplate Positioning on Fixation of Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty |
| Article type | Research Paper |

Abstract

Background: The glenoid component in reverse total shoulder arthroplasty is recommended to be positioned inferiorly or with a downward tilt with the intention of reducing scapular notching. However, it is still unclear whether modifying the position of the glenoid prosthesis affects implant stability. The aim of this study was to determine the association between implant positioning and glenoid prosthesis fixation using Grammont reverse total shoulder arthroplasty. **Methods:** Four positions for the glenoid prosthesis were studied using the finite element method. The glenosphere was positioned as follows: 1) in the middle of the glenoid fossa, 2) flush with the inferior glenoid rim, 3) with an inferior overhang, 4) with a 15° inferior inclination. Bone-prosthesis micromotions and strain-induced bone adaptations were quantified during five daily activities. **Findings:** When the glenoid component was tilted inferiorly, the activities producing anterior-posterior shear forces (e.g. standing up from an armchair) caused an increase in peak micromotions. In the lateral-middle glenoid, inferior positioning caused a 64.6% reduction in bone apparent density. In the lateral-inferior glenoid, central positioning led to the most severe bone resorption, reaching 43.9%. **Interpretation:** Reducing activities which generate anterior-posterior shear forces on the shoulder joint will increase bone formation and may improve the primary stability of the implant when fixed in the position with an inferior tilt. Postoperative bone resorption is highly dependent on implant positioning. Understanding the relationship between bone resorption and implant positioning will help surgeons improve the long-term stability of reverse total shoulder arthroplasty.

| | |
|---|---|
| Keywords | inferior position; inferior tilt; reverse total shoulder arthroplasty; bone remodeling; micromotion; fixation. |
| Taxonomy | Clinical Anatomy, Functional Anatomy, Musculoskeletal Anatomy, Bone, Joint (Skeletal System) |
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| Corresponding Author's Institution | School of Biological Science and Medical Engineering, Beihang University, Beijing, China; Beijing Advanced Innovation Centre for Biomedical Engineering, Beihang University, Beijing, China |
| Order of Authors | Min Zhang, Sarah Junaid, Thomas Gregory, Ulrich Hansen, Cheng-Kung Cheng |
| Suggested reviewers | andrew amis, Roger Emery |

Submission Files Included in this PDF

File Name [File Type]

Cover Letters.doc [Cover Letter]

JCLB_authorchecklist_final.doc [Checklist]

Response to reviewers.doc [Response to Reviewers]

Highlights.doc [Highlights]

Manuscript.doc [Manuscript File]

Fig. 1 Four fixation configurations of glenoid prosthesis.ppt [Figure]

Fig. 2 Regions of interest in comparisons of glenoid prostheses.ppt [Figure]

Fig. 3 Micromotion distributions at the resected surface.ppt [Figure]

Fig. 4 Maximum of predicted micromotions at the bone-prosthesis interface.doc [Figure]

Fig. 5 Bone remodelling process on the glenoid frontal plane.doc [Figure]

Fig. 6 Percentage of change of bone apparent density.doc [Figure]

Conflict of interest.doc [Conflict of Interest]

Author statement.doc [Author Statement]

Figure Legends.doc [Supporting File]

Supplementary Loading conditions used in this study.doc [Supporting File]

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Author Statements

No work in this study is on prior or duplicate submission or publication elsewhere, and no work is presented as an abstract at a professional meeting. The manuscript has been read and approved by all authors. All the authors believe that the manuscript represents honest work.

I confirm that the submitted paper complies with the journal's requirements and the study by Viceconti et al (2005).

Reference

Viceconti et al. Extracting clinical data from finite element simulations. Clin Biomech 2005;20:451–454

CLINICAL BIOMECHANICS AUTHOR CHECKLIST

Authors of all papers should submit this checklist together with their manuscript. The checklist will be made available to Editors to assist with preliminary assessment. Please refer to the Guide for Authors found at <https://www.elsevier.com/journals/clinical-biomechanics/0268-0033/guide-for-authors> before submitting your manuscript

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| Acronyms | Acronyms need to be defined at first use. | √ |
| Acronyms | Acronyms with 'of' in them such as 'range of motion' should be abbreviated as RoM (not ROM) | √ |
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| Section heading | The main text should be divided into appropriate headings: Introduction, Methods, Results, Discussion, and Conclusions. Section 2 of main text should be Methods (not Material and Methods) Subheadings may also be used and reviews may use other headings. | √ |
| Section heading | The section heading 'Introduction' should be used for all FLAs. | √ |
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| Reference | Sometimes Clin Biomech is provided in the reference lists as Clin Biomech (Bristol, Avon). (Bristol, Avon) should not be used in reference lists, it should just read Clin Biomech. Please ensure that (Bristol, Avon) is deleted when it appears in reference lists. | √ |

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| References | There are no strict requirements on reference formatting at submission. References can be in any style or format as long as the style is consistent. Where applicable, author(s) name(s), journal title/book title, chapter title/article title, year of publication, volume number/book chapter and the pagination must be present. Use of DOI is highly encouraged. The reference style used by the journal will be applied to the accepted article by Elsevier at the proof stage. Note that missing data will be highlighted at proof stage for the author to correct. | √ |

Response to Reviewers

Comments from the editors and reviewers:

Editor:

- Add abstract word count to title page (ensuring it doesn't exceed 250 words)

Ans: Thank you for your comment. I have added abstract word count on the title page. The word count is 245.

-Reviewer 1

Line observations:

103. All the glenoid positions were guided by an experienced orthopedic shoulder surgeon...question: are these movements explained in other articles?? To cite a few

Ans: Thank you for your comment. In this manuscript, FP1 (glenoid prosthesis was fixed in the middle of the glenoid fossa) is the recommended position in Grammont design. This position was explained in Boileau's study (2005).

Reference

Boileau, P., 2005. Grammont reverse prosthesis Design, rationale, and biomechanics, J Shoulder Elbow Surg, 14, 147S-161S, doi:10.1016/j.jse.2004.10.006

Other implant positions were explained or shown in the X-ray images in below articles.

1. Boileau, P., 2011. Bony Increased-offset Reversed Shoulder Arthroplasty Minimizing Scapular Impingement While Maximizing Glenoid Fixation. Orthop Elat Res 469, 2558-2567, doi: 10.1007/s11999-011-1775-4.



Fig. 5A-B (A) An AP radiograph performed 3 months after surgery demonstrates complete bone graft healing. (B) No bone graft resorption or lysis and no scapular notching are observed at 36 months' followup. Note the low and inferiorly tilted positioning of the glenoid implant in addition to its lateralization.

2. Boileau, P., 2016. Complications and revision of reverse total shoulder arthroplasty. *Orthop Traumatol Surg Res* 102, S33-S43, doi: 10.1016/j.otsr.2015.06.031.

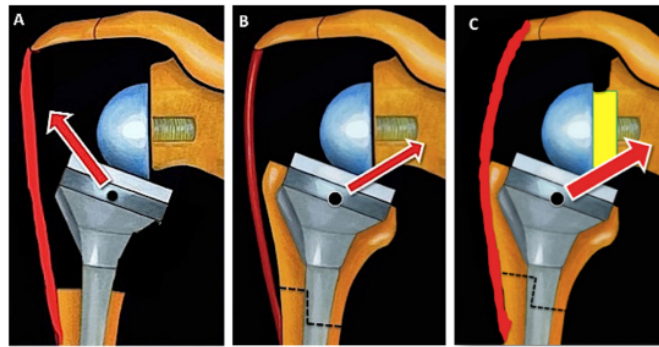


Fig. 3. Deltoid wrapping angle. A. Implant instability with proximal humeral bone defect by loss of deltoid wrapping angle. B. Proximal humeral bone graft, improving deltoid wrapping angle. C. Glenoid bone graft (BIO-RSA) increasing humeral lateralization and deltoid wrapping angle (increased deltoid coaptation force).

3. Feeley, B. T., 2014. Decreased scapular notching with lateralization and inferior baseplate placement in reverse shoulder arthroplasty with high humeral inclination. *Int J Shoulder Surg* 8, 65–71, doi: 10.4103/0973-6042.140112.

111. The glenoid head and base plate of the implant were manufactured?? question: why the manufactured word??

Ans: Thank you for your comment. I want to explain that the glenoid head and baseplate are made of cobalt-chrome, so they were modeled as linear isotropic materials with a Young's modulus of 220 GPa. A rephrased sentence was added into the manuscript and shown below:

“The glenoid head and baseplate of the implant, which are manufactured from cobalt-chrome, were modeled as linear isotropic materials with a Young’s modulus of 220 GPa.”

165. Why the value of 0.75 was used? (the cite is placed but the reasons of selecting this number and how it can affect the final results??. in a few words describe more the selected value

Ans: Thank you for your comment. s is a constant for determining the extent of the stimulus range. In this study, $s=0.75$ was used. Because 0.75 has been successfully validated with in-vitro tests by Kerner et al. (1999) and Charalampos Bitsakos (2005). The detailed description of clinical validation with the periprosthetic human bone adaptation were reported in Charalampos Bitsakos’ PhD dissertations in the Biomechanics Section, Mechanical Engineering Department, Imperial College London (2005). The sentence below was added into the manuscript to explain the value further.

“In this study, $s=0.75$ was used (Kerner et al., 1999), as this value has been successfully validated with in-vitro tests by Kerner et al. (1999) and Bitsakos (2005).”

Reference

1. Bitsakos, C., 2005. Computer Simulation of Periprosthetic Bone Remodelling after Total Hip Arthroplasty. PhD. thesis, Imperial College London, London, UK.
2. Kerner, J., Huiskes, R., van Lenthe, G.H., Weinans, H., van Rietbergen, B., Engh, C.A., Amis, A.A., 1999. Correlation between pre-operative periprosthetic bone density and post-operative bone loss in THA can be explained by strain-adaptive remodelling. *J Biomech* 32, 695-703, doi: 10.1016/S0021-9290(99)00041-X.

-Reviewer 2

Title: Effect of Baseplate Positioning on Fixation of Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty

General Comments: This manuscript investigates the relationship between the placement of the glenoid component and implant fixation using finite element analysis. Loosening of the glenoid is a common complication for Grammont reverse RTSA—often requiring revision surgery. Many factors such as osseointegration, scapular notching, and strain-induced bone loss can result in aseptic glenoid loosening. Biomechanical evaluation was performed utilizing the finite element method. The glenosphere was positioned in the middle of the glenoid fossa, flush with the inferior glenoid rim, inferior overhang, and with a 15° inferior inclination. Bone-prosthesis micromotions and strain-induced bone adaptations were quantified during five daily activities. There seems to be a need for biomechanical evaluation and supporting data regarding glenoid positioning and subsequent stability. This study can potentially provide meaningful outcomes and be impactful, but as it stands, minor revision is needed.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. RTSA has been changed into RSA in the manuscript.

My main concerns are:

(1) Paper lacks hypothesis. Adding a formal hypothesis would significantly strengthen the impact of the manuscript.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. A hypothesis, which is shown below, was added in the manuscript.

“It hypothesizes that the placement of glenoid component will relate to the implant fixation. This study is aimed to investigate the hypothesis using finite element analysis.”

I have listed specific comments for each section below.

Abstract:

Introduction:

Line 57: “Inferior positioning and inferior tilting are recommended to minimise postoperative scapular notching in RTSA”...spelling error: minimize.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. Minimise is British spelling. It is acceptable as long as consistent spelling was used in the manuscript. British spelling was used in the whole manuscript.

Line 69: Consider elaborating on the findings reported by Chae et al. as a summary. “The relationship between micromotion and bone ingrowth has been used to predict the occurrence of postoperative integration and to evaluate the primary fixation of implants using finite element models (Chae et al., 2016).”

Ans: Thank you for your comment. Modified summary from Chae’s report was added in the manuscript and shown below:

“Finite element method has been used to calculate bone-prosthesis micromotion after RSA, and then to predict the occurrence of postoperative integration utilizing the relationship between micromotion and bone ingrowth (Chae et al., 2016)”

Line 73: In the sentence, “Apart from scapular notching and osteoporosis, stress-shielding is another factor leading to erosion of the bone bed supporting the RTSA (Ahir and Walker, 2004).” Consider removing “Apart from scapular notching and osteoporosis...”

Ans: Thank you for your comment. Modified sentence was added into the manuscript and shown below:

“Stress-shielding is another factor leading to erosion of the bone bed supporting the RSA (Ahir and Walker, 2004).”

Line 77: “Suárez (2012) evaluated the effects of the assumption of bonding condition and unbonding condition at the bone-prosthesis interface on bone adaptation in a finite element model.” Delete the word condition in “bonding condition..”

Ans: Thank you for your comment. Modified sentence was added into the manuscript and shown below:

“Suárez (2012) evaluated the effects of the assumption of bonding and unbonding conditions at the bone-prosthesis interface on bone adaptation in a finite element model.”

Line 82: I think the best article from Boileau to quote here would be this one :

Boileau et al., Angled BIO-RSA (Bony-Increased Offset-Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty).2017 JSES

Ans: Thank you for your comment. Boileau has made big contributions to the application of reverse shoulder arthroplasty from “Grammont reverse prosthesis Design, rationale, and biomechanics” published in 2005 to “Bony-Increased Offset-Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty” published in 2017. I agree that the article “Bony-Increased Offset-Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty” is the most proper one here. The changed reference has been added into the manuscript.

Line 83-35: As I mentioned previously, the existence of testable hypothesis will make paper stronger and message “lauder”.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. A hypothesis, which is shown below, was added in the manuscript.

“It hypothesizes that the placement of glenoid component will relate to the implant fixation. This study is aimed to investigate the hypothesis using finite element analysis.”

Methods:

Line 97: Please note in the methods the reference line you used to measure the inclination in all cases. Please be specific, ideally 2 data points for each: determination of the entry point of the central peg and orientation (i.e. inclination in

this study). Also, it would make your study more complete if you list the measured version in the case used.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. The reference line used in Nyffeler's study was used to measure the inclination in this study. The sentences below were added into the manuscript to specify the reference line and determination of the entry point of the central peg and orientation.

“With the intersection of the superoinferior and anteroposterior axes being a reference point (Nyffeler et al., 2005), determination of the entry point of the central peg for the four implant positions (Fig. 1) was 0 mm for FP1, 0.8 mm inferiorly for FP2, 4.7 mm inferiorly for FP3 and 0 mm for FP4. Inclinations for the four prosthesis positions (Fig. 1) were 0°(FP1), 0°(FP2), 0°(FP3) and 15°(FP4) respectively.”

Reference

Nyffeler, R.W., Werner, C.M.L., Gerber, C., 2005. Biomechanical relevance of glenoid component positioning in the reverse Delta III total shoulder prosthesis. *J Shoulder Elbow Surg* 14, 524-528, doi: 10.1016/j.jse.2004.09.010.

Line 108: Were material properties derived at any point from the cadaveric sample?
Not clear to me. Please elaborate.

Ans: Yes, material properties were derived from the cadaveric sample. In the FE modelling, the average of CT values (Hounsfield Unit) of four points in each tetrahedral element was set as the CT value of this element. The material property of this element was obtained in terms of CT-apparent density correlation (Equation 1) and modulus-density relationship (Equation 2).

$$\rho_{\text{apparent}} = 0.0009H + 0.1072 \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$$E = 3790\rho^3 \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

Because the mesh size in the lateral scapula and remaining bone were only 1.5 mm and 3.0 mm respectively, the site-dependent and heterogeneous characteristics of human bone can be represented by the method assigning material property on an element-by-element basis. Detailed validation of the FE model of the scapula was reported in our previous work (Zhang, 2012).

Reference:

1. Zhang, M., 2012. Effects of Scapular Notching and Bone Remodelling on Long-Term Fixation of the Glenoid Component in Reverse Shoulder Arthroplasty. PhD. thesis, Imperial College London, London, UK.

Line 167: The five physiologic activities tested in this study were discussed, but the forces used/applied during the FE modeling were omitted from the manuscript and supplement. I would suggest authors to consider mentioning it somewhere.

Ans: Thank you for your comment. The forces used to calculate micromotions in the FE modeling was added on Line 146. Details were shown below. The forces used to calculate bone remodeling was described on Line 170-173.

Line 146: “The micromotion of all the nodes at the bone-implant interface in each physiological activities shown in the supplementary (Kontaxis, 2010) was recorded for each implant position.”

Results:

Well written and presented in organized fashion.

Discussion:

Very thorough. Provided many examples of relevant and recent evidence currently in the literature.

Line 220: Consider deleting “in order” in the sentence, “This study simulated implantation of the glenoid components of an RTSA in four different positions in order to analyse micromotion at the bone-prosthesis interface and bone adaptation”

Ans: Comment was accepted. Thank you for it. Modification was added into the manuscript.

Line 224: Consider deleting i.e. position-specific in the sentence, “(2) postoperative bone resorption is highly dependent on implant positioning, i.e. position-specific.”

Ans: Thank you for the comment. Modification was shown below:

“(2) postoperative bone resorption is highly dependent on implant positioning.”

Line 238: Consider changing “Inclining the glenosphere led to an increase in peak micromotions, with Task 2 (lifting a block to head height) producing a value of 82.5 μm and Task 5 (standing up from an armchair) showing micromotion of 137.4 μm .” into 2 sentences and change the beginning of the line to: “Tilting the glenoid component inferiorly led to an increase in peak micromotions. Resulting in Task 2 (lifting a block to head height) producing a value of 82.5 μm and Task 5 (standing up from an armchair) showing micromotion of 137.4 μm .”

Ans: Thank you for the comment. Modification was added into the manuscript and shown below:

“Tilting the glenoid component inferiorly led to an increase in peak micromotions. Noticeably, the value was 82.5 μm in Task 2 (lifting a block to head height) and 137.4 μm in Task 5 (standing up from an armchair).”

Line 240: Consider changing “indicated” to “suggests” in sentence: “This indicated that bone ingrowth would not occur in the inferior part of the glenoid because both values exceeded the upper limit of 50 μm for stimulating bone formation (Pilliar et al., 1986).”

Ans: Thank you for the comment. Modification was added into the manuscript and shown below:

“This suggests that bone ingrowth would not occur in the inferior part of the glenoid because both values exceeded the upper limit of 50 μm for stimulating bone formation (Pilliar et al., 1986).”

Line 246: Consider modifying this sentence, “In Task 5, where the greatest micromotion was observed across all five activities, micromotion below 50 μm (the threshold of bone ingrowth) covered 73.5% of the baseplate.” To “The greatest micromotion was observed in Task 5. However, micromotion below 50 μm covered 73.5% of the baseplate”

Ans: Thank you for the comment. The modification was added into the manuscript.

Line 253-254: Reducing activities ...will improve the primary stability Please consider replacing will with may. This statement can't be derived from your study, but suggestion can be made. Same for abstract.

Ans: Thank you for the comment. The modification was added into the manuscript.

References:

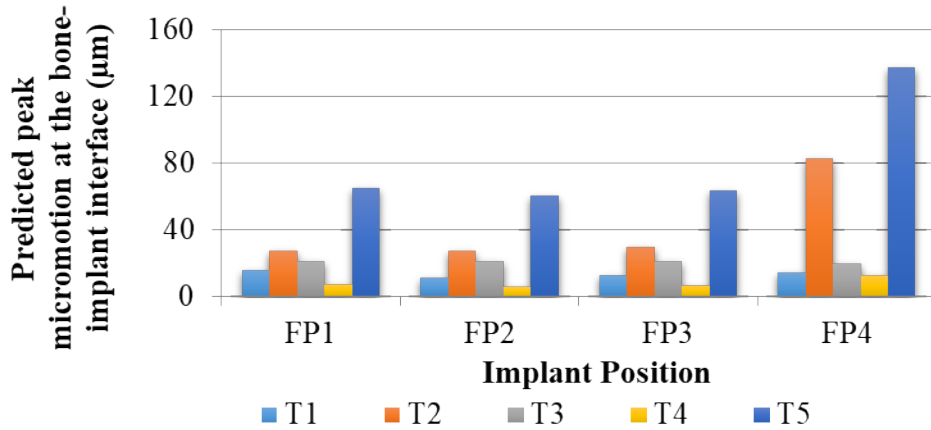
Very good, as suggested previously, add Boileau paper.

Figures:

Fig 4 & 6: I would suggest authors to invert the data as you analyzed the effect of the position of the glenoid.

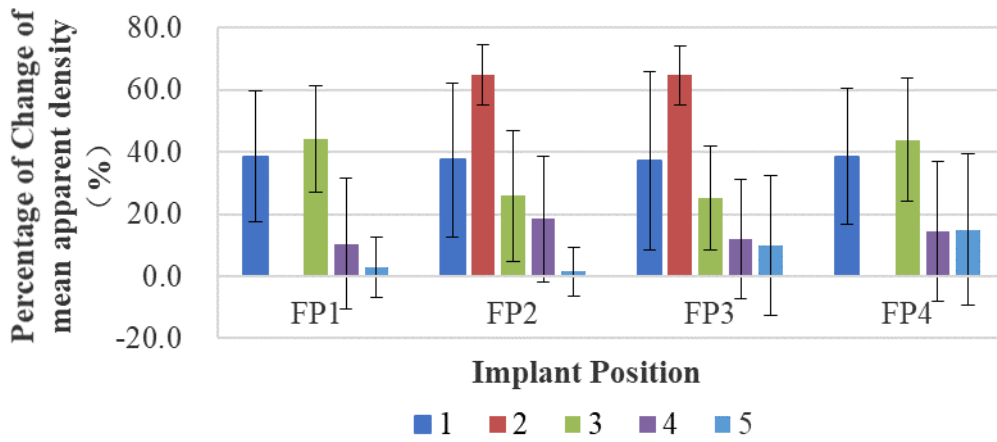
Ans: Thank you for the comment. Modification are shown in Figure 4 and Figure 6 and below.

Fig. 4:



T1 - Combing hair; T2 - Lifting a block to head height;
 T3 - Lifting a block to shoulder height; T4 - Hands on the lower back; T5 - Sit-to-stand from an armchair

Fig. 6



1 - Lateral superior; 2 - Lateral middle; 3 - Lateral inferior;
 4 - Medial superior; 5 - Medial inferior

Highlights

- Inferior tilting of implant leads to increased micromotion in the inferior glenoid
- The amount of micromotion is activity-specific
- Reducing activities with anteroposterior shear forces improves implant stability
- Inferior positioning increases bone resorption in the lateral-middle glenoid
- Central positioning increases bone resorption in the lateral-inferior region

1 **Effect of Baseplate Positioning on Fixation of Reverse Total Shoulder Arthroplasty**

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20 **Word count for abstract: 245; Word count for the main text: 3600**

21 **Declarations of interest: none**

22 **Abstract**

23 *Background:* The glenoid component in reverse total shoulder arthroplasty is recommended to
24 be positioned inferiorly or with a downward tilt with the intention of reducing scapular
25 notching. However, it is still unclear whether modifying the position of the glenoid prosthesis
26 affects implant stability. The aim of this study was to determine the association between
27 implant positioning and glenoid prosthesis fixation using Grammont reverse total shoulder
28 arthroplasty.

29 *Methods:* Four positions for the glenoid prosthesis were studied using the finite element
30 method. The glenosphere was positioned as follows: 1) in the middle of the glenoid fossa, 2)
31 flush with the inferior glenoid rim, 3) with an inferior overhang, 4) with a 15° inferior
32 inclination. Bone-prosthesis micromotions and strain-induced bone adaptations were
33 quantified during five daily activities.

34 *Findings:* When the glenoid component was tilted inferiorly, the activities producing anterior-
35 posterior shear forces (e.g. standing up from an armchair) caused an increase in peak
36 micromotions. In the lateral-middle glenoid, inferior positioning caused a 64.6% reduction in
37 bone apparent density. In the lateral-inferior glenoid, central positioning led to the most
38 severe bone resorption, reaching 43.9%.

39 *Interpretation:* Reducing activities which generate anterior-posterior shear forces on the
40 shoulder joint will increase bone formation and may improve the primary stability of the
41 implant when fixed in the position with an inferior tilt. Postoperative bone resorption is highly
42 dependent on implant positioning. Understanding the relationship between bone resorption
43 and implant positioning will help surgeons improve the long-term stability of reverse total
44 shoulder arthroplasty.

45 **Keywords** inferior position; inferior tilt; reverse total shoulder arthroplasty; bone remodeling;
46 micromotion; fixation.

47 **1. Introduction**

48 Loosening of the glenoid is a common complication for Grammont reverse total shoulder
49 arthroplasty (RSA), with an incidence rate of 3.5% to 9%, and often requires reintervention
50 (Zumstein et al., 2010; Boileau, 2016). In addition to infection, there are many other factors
51 leading to aseptic glenoid loosening, i.e. scapular notching, osseointegration, and strain-
52 induced bone loss (Pilliar et al., 1986; Huiskes et al., 1987; Chae et al., 2015; Boileau, 2016).

53 Scapular notching is caused by mechanical impingement between the humeral component
54 and the scapular neck during arm adduction and is hastened by bone osteolysis. It is reported
55 to be present in approximately 50% to 96% of Grammont RSA (Sirveaux et al., 2004;
56 Simovitch et al., 2007; Kempton et al., 2011). Inferior positioning and inferior tilting are
57 recommended to minimise postoperative scapular notching in RSA (Nyffeler et al., 2005;
58 Kelly II et al., 2008). The space between the glenoid bone and the inferior rim of the glenoid
59 component is generally recommended to be maintained within the range of 2 mm to 6 mm
60 (Kelly II et al., 2008; Kontaxis and Johnson, 2009; Kempton et al., 2011). The recommended
61 angle of inclination is between 10° and 15° (Nyffeler et al., 2005; Kempton et al., 2011).

62 Osseointegration is the direct structural and functional connection between living bone
63 and the surface of a load-bearing implant. Pilliar reported that the occurrence of bone
64 ingrowth is closely correlated with the relative movement between the bone and the implant,
65 which is also known as micromotion (Pilliar et al., 1986). Bone ingrowth occurs in the
66 presence of micromotion within a threshold of 50 µm (Pilliar et al., 1986). However, when
67 bone-implant micromotion exceeds 150 µm, mature fibrous connective tissues form a less
68 stable connection with the implant (Pilliar et al., 1986). Finite element method has been used
69 to calculate bone-prosthesis micromotion after RSA, and then to predict the occurrence of

70 postoperative integration utilizing the relationship between micromotion and bone ingrowth
71 (Chae et al., 2016).

72 Stress-shielding is another factor leading to erosion of the bone bed supporting the RSA
73 (Ahir and Walker, 2004). Finite element analysis has been used extensively for predicting
74 stress distribution and strain-induced bone remodelling (Büchler et al., 2002; Sharma et al.,
75 2009; Sharma et al., 2010; Suárez et al., 2012). Suárez (2012) evaluated the effects of the
76 assumption of bonding and unbonding conditions at the bone-prosthesis interface on bone
77 adaptation in a finite element model. Sharma (2010) reported on the correlation between
78 strain-induced bone adaptation and the design of total shoulder prostheses.

79 Even though inferior positioning and inferior tilting have been proposed for minimizing
80 scapular notching (Boileau, 2017), it is still unclear how this may affect bone ingrowth and
81 bone adaptation during normal daily activities. It hypothesizes that the placement of glenoid
82 component will relate to the implant fixation. This study is aimed to investigate the
83 hypothesis using finite element analysis.

84 2. Methods

85 2.1 Finite element (FE) modelling

86 CT images (Voxel sizes: $0.48\text{mm} \times 0.48\text{mm} \times 0.33\text{mm}$) of a 71-year-old cadaveric
87 scapula without any previous shoulder surgeries and disease (Science Care, Phoenix, USA)
88 were used to create the geometry of the bone in Avizo 5 (Mercury Systems, Andover, USA).
89 The geometry of a Delta CTA RSA (Depuy Synthes Company, Warsaw, USA) was inserted
90 into the bone model according to the recommended surgical techniques for a Delta CTA
91 implant (2005 version) (Depuy Synthes Company, Warsaw, USA). Four positions of the
92 glenoid component were simulated (Fig. 1): (a) glenoid prosthesis fixed in the middle of the
93 glenoid fossa (FP1), (b) glenoid prosthesis positioned flush to the glenoid rim (FP2), (c)
94 glenoid component moved inferiorly until the inferior locking screw protruded from the bone
95 (FP3), (d) glenoid component inclined inferiorly by approximately 15° (FP4) (Nyffeler et al.,
96 2005). With a fixed angle of 17° from the inferior surgical screw to the middle peg of the
97 implant, the distance between the bottom of the glenosphere and the inferior rim of the
98 glenoid bone for FP3 was 3.9 mm, which is within the reported range of overhang of the
99 glenoid component (2 to 4 mm) for a Delta CTA RSA (Nyffeler et al., 2005). With the
100 intersection of the superoinferior and anteroposterior axes being a reference point (Nyffeler et
101 al., 2005), determination of the entry point of the central peg for the four implant positions
102 (Fig. 1) was 0 mm for FP1, 0.8 mm inferiorly for FP2, 4.7 mm inferiorly for FP3 and 0 mm
103 for FP4. Inclinations for the four prosthesis positions (Fig. 1) were 0° (FP1), 0° (FP2), 0° (FP3)
104 and 15° (FP4) respectively. In the FP4 model, the downward tilt of the glenoid implant
105 required resection of the inferior glenoid pole. All the glenoid positions were guided by an
106 experienced orthopaedic shoulder surgeon. For each placement, geometries of the scapula and
107 the implant were imported into FE software. In this study, MSC. Marc Mentat (MSC
108 Software Corporation, Santa Ana, USA) was utilized for creating resected surface on the

109 glenoid, meshing and FE analysis. All models were constructed from linear tetrahedral
110 elements and assumed to be linearly elastic and isotropic. The material properties of bone in
111 each FE model were calculated using the relationship introduced by Carter and Hays (1977)
112 and were assigned element-by-element. The FE model of the scapula was validated against
113 the cadaveric scapula in our previous work (Zhang, 2012). The glenoid head and baseplate of
114 the implant, which are manufactured from cobalt-chrome, were modeled as linear isotropic
115 materials with a Young's modulus of 220 GPa. The four titanium screws used to secure the
116 implant were modeled as linear isotropic materials with a Young's modulus of 110 GPa.

117 The baseplate of the Delta CTA RSA was press-fit to the bone. To evaluate micromotion
118 at the bone-baseplate interface, the baseplate in the FE model was assumed to be unbounded
119 and set with a frictional surface-to-surface contact with the bone. 0.4 was recommended for
120 the friction coefficient at the baseplate-bone interface (Harman et al., 2005; Hopkins et al.,
121 2008). In addition, varying the coefficient of friction was found not significantly affect the
122 predicted micromotions in our previous work (Zhang, 2012). In this current study, the four
123 peripheral surgical screws in the RSA were assumed to be securely tightened. Thus, the
124 interface between bone and screws was modelled as a rigidly bonded interface. Five
125 physiological activities from daily life were simulated: 1) Combing hair, 2) Lifting a block
126 higher than the shoulders, 3) Lifting a block to shoulder height, 4) Hands on the lower back, 5)
127 Sit-to-stand from an armchair ([Supplementary](#)) (Kontaxis, 2010). Force magnitudes
128 ([Supplementary \(d\) \(e\)](#)) and loading positions ([Supplementary \(f\) \(g\)](#)) in each activity were
129 obtained from Kontaxis' study, as well as the scapular reference coordinate (Kontaxis, 2010).
130 In the intact bone model ([Supplementary \(b\)](#)), AI represents the inferior angle, AA is the
131 posterior point of the acromion, and TS is the medial end of the scapular spine. The origin of
132 the coordinate system in the FE model of the intact bone is on the point AA; Xs is on the line
133 determined by AA and TS; Ys is vertical to Xs; Zs is vertical to the plane determined by AA,

134 TS and AI; The coordinate system of the implanted scapula was defined based on the resected
135 surface ([Supplementary \(c\)](#)). The origin of the coordinate system in the FE model of the
136 implanted scapula is on the middle point of the baseplate. X is vertical to the resected surface,
137 Y is from the inferior to the superior, Z is from the posterior to the anterior. The medial ends
138 of the scapula in each FE model were fixed to prevent movement and so as not to influence
139 the motion of the glenoid. Bone-implant micromotions and strain-induced bone resorption
140 were recorded for various fixation positions. The quality of the meshes was checked using a
141 mesh convergence study, finding that a mesh size of 1.5 mm in the lateral scapula and 3.0 mm
142 in the remaining bone offered a reliable prediction of interface micromotion and bone
143 adaptation.

144 2.2 Micromotion analysis

145 The relative displacement of each pair of contacting nodes on the fixation interface after
146 loading was calculated. This indicated the extent of micromotion of that pair of nodes. The
147 micromotion of all the nodes at the bone-implant interface in each physiological activities
148 shown in the [supplementary](#) (Kontaxis, 2010) was recorded for each implant position. The
149 calculation method was validated by Harman and Hopkins (Harman et al., 2005; Hopkins et
150 al., 2008). Our previous study investigated micromotion and post-operative stress variations
151 in six FE models of cadaveric scapulae implanted with a Delta CTA RSA in the middle of the
152 glenoid (Zhang, 2012). The results showed the same level of micromotion and bone density
153 distribution across all models. Thus, this study used one of the scapulae for analyzing
154 micromotion and bone remodelling with the Delta CTA RSA fixed in various positions.

155 2.3 Bone adaptation analysis

156 The strain-induced bone remodelling algorithm proposed by Weinans et al. was used in
157 this study (Weinans et al., 1992). This algorithm was developed in accordance with ‘Wolff’s

158 Law' and uses strain energy density as the feedback. It has been clinically validated using the
 159 adaptation of periprosthetic human bone by Kerner et al. (Kerner et al., 1999). For the purpose
 160 of investigating changes in bone density in this current study, only the internal structure was
 161 remodelled and the outer shape of the glenoid was assumed to be unchanged. Changes in bone
 162 apparent density were calculated on an element-by-element basis and expressed by Equation 1.

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta\rho^i &= \tau \Delta t A(\rho^i) \{S^i - S_n^i(1+s)\}, & S^i &\geq S_n^i(1+s) \\ &= \tau \Delta t A(\rho^i) \{S^i - S_n^i(1-s)\}, & S^i &\leq S_n^i(1-s) \end{aligned} \quad \text{Equation 1}$$

$(0 \text{ g/cm}^3 < \rho < 1.8 \text{ g/cm}^3)$

163 Where i relates to elements, S is the bone remodelling stimulus ($S = U / \rho$), U is the
 164 strain energy density, S_n is the reference stimulus, τ is the time scale (the relationship between
 165 simulated time and real time), $A(\rho)$ is the free surface density (Martin, 1984), Δt is the
 166 time increment expressed in Equation 2, and s is a constant for determining the extent of the
 167 stimulus range. In this study, $s=0.75$ was used (Kerner et al., 1999), as this value has been
 168 successfully validated with in-vitro tests by Kerner et al. (1999) and Bitsakos (2005). The
 169 reference stimulus ($S_n = U_n / \rho_n$) was calculated according to the strain energy (U_n) and bone
 170 apparent density (ρ_n), which were obtained from an intact scapula bone. Five physiological
 171 daily activities were applied to the intact scapula (Supplementary) (Kontaxis, 2010). The
 172 stimulus was calculated for each loading condition and the average of the stimuli from all
 173 loading conditions represented the stimulus (S) in one iteration. In each iteration, the
 174 Young's modulus was calculated using the relationship proposed by Carter and Hayes (1977)
 175 and was updated when the next iteration started. The Poisson's ratio was assumed to be
 176 constant during the entire bone adaption process.

$$\tau \Delta t = \frac{\Delta\rho_{max}}{\{A(\rho)(S - (1+s)S_n)\}_{max}} \quad \text{Equation 2}$$

177 Variations in distribution of bone apparent density in the frontal plane, which passes
178 through the middle of the stem, were recorded and used to predict postoperative adaptive bone
179 resorption in the scapula.

180 Five regions of interest were chosen for statistical comparison of glenoid positioning (Fig.
181 2). Three regions were in the lateral glenoid and two regions were in the medial glenoid (Fig.
182 2). The bone apparent density in each region was averaged. A student's t-test was applied to
183 investigate the relationship between the position of the glenoid implant and strain-induced
184 bone adaptation. A *P* value of less than 0.05 was considered significant.

185 3. Results

186 Micromotion at the bone-prosthesis interface was recorded for the four glenoid implant
187 positions under five loading conditions (Tasks 1 to 5) (Supplementary). The interface
188 micromotion while standing up from an armchair (Task 5) was illustrated in Fig. 3. The
189 results indicate that large interface micromotions were predominantly located at the tip of the
190 central peg, as well as at the superior and inferior rims of the baseplate. In comparison with
191 the other three positions, an inferior tilt of the glenoid prosthesis led to a considerable increase
192 in micromotion at the inferior region of the baseplate.

193 The maximum micromotion at the bone-prosthesis interface for each implant position (Fig.
194 1) under the five loading conditions (tasks 1 to 5) (Supplementary) is illustrated in Fig. 4. It
195 was found that the maximum micromotion in FP4 (inferior tilt of the glenoid implant) reached
196 82.5 μm in Task 2 (Lifting a block to head height) and 137.4 μm in Task 5 (Standing up from
197 an armchair). In Task 5, where the greatest micromotion was observed across all activities,
198 micromotion of less than 50 μm (the threshold value for bone ingrowth) covered 73.5% of the
199 baseplate. For the implant positions without any inferior tilting, the average peak micromotion
200 for the five loading conditions (Supplementary) was 27.4 μm for FP1, 25.2 μm for FP2 and
201 26.6 μm for FP3. However, for Task 5 alone, the peak micromotion reached 67.2 μm for FP1,
202 63.5 μm for FP2 and 65.4 μm for FP3.

203 Variations in the distribution of postoperative bone apparent density with time for the four
204 glenoid implant positions were predicted with a bone remodelling algorithm. Results at four
205 follow up stages are shown in Fig. 5. It was found that severe bone resorption occurred
206 around the central peg and the back of the baseplate in all four models. Low apparent
207 densities predominantly appeared above the central peg when the glenoid component was

208 located inferiorly (FP2 and FP3) and were distributed almost evenly around the central peg in
209 FP1 and FP4.

210 The percentage change in mean bone apparent density in the postoperative period of F4 in
211 the five regions of interest is shown in [Fig. 6](#). It is noticeable that the bone apparent density at
212 the lateral-middle (2) region showed high strain-induced bone resorption for FP2 (64.1% (SD
213 9.7%)) and FP3 (64.6% (SD 9.5%)). There were no lateral-middle values in the case of central
214 positioning of the glenoid (FP1 and FP4), as this region just covered the hole for the implant
215 stem. In the lateral-inferior region (3), central positioning of the glenoid component (FP1:
216 43.9% (SD 17.1%) and FP4: 43.8% (SD 19.8%)) led to greater variation in bone apparent
217 density than moving the glenoid component inferiorly (FP2: 25.9% (SD 21.1%) ($p<0.05$) and
218 FP3: 25.0% (SD 16.7%) ($p<0.05$)). In addition, [Fig. 6](#) also illustrates a greater reduction in
219 bone apparent density in the lateral region (1, 2, 3) than in the medial region (4, 5).

220 4. Discussion

221 This study simulated implantation of the glenoid components of an RSA in four different
222 positions to analyse micromotion at the bone-prosthesis interface and bone adaptation. The
223 most important findings were that (1) inferior tilting of the glenoid component lead to high
224 levels of micromotion in the inferior glenoid, but this is activity-specific, and (2)
225 postoperative bone resorption is highly dependent on implant positioning.

226 The micromotion detailed in Fig. 4 shows that inferior positioning (FP3) of the implant
227 did not result in different levels of micromotion than could be expected with a traditional
228 implant position (FP1). For the positions with 0° tilt, the average peak micromotion for all the
229 loading conditions (27.4 µm in FP1, 25.2 µm in FP2 and 26.6 µm in FP3) was lower than the
230 upper limit of 50 µm, above which bone formation would not occur (Pilliar et al., 1986). This
231 indicated a suitable initial stability of the glenoid prosthesis. This finding is consistent with
232 radiological reports for successful RSAs (Roche et al., 2013; Boileau, 2016). Variations in
233 peak micromotions for the different activities show that a patient's lifestyle may affect the
234 initial stability of the implant. The high peak micromotions observed for Task 5 (67.2 µm in
235 FP1, 63.5 µm in FP2 and 65.4 µm in FP3) indicates that further studies into the relationship
236 between lifestyle and micromotion could be beneficial for developing improved guidelines for
237 postoperative recovery.

238 Tilting the glenoid component inferiorly led to an increase in peak micromotions.
239 Noticeably, the value was 82.5 µm in Task 2 (lifting a block to head height) and 137.4 µm in
240 Task 5 (standing up from an armchair). This suggests that bone ingrowth would not occur in
241 the inferior part of the glenoid because both values exceeded the upper limit of 50 µm for
242 stimulating bone formation (Pilliar et al., 1986). Roberts et al. reported similar findings in an
243 anteroposterior radiographic study, where serious inferior radiolucent lines were observed

244 with the use of an inferior-tilt configuration (Roberts et al., 2007). Using in-vitro testing and
245 finite element simulations, Chae et al. also reported high micromotion in the inferior part of
246 the glenoid (Chae et al., 2015; Chae et al., 2016). The greatest micromotion was observed in
247 Task 5. However, micromotion below 50 μm covered 73.5% of the baseplate. This explains
248 the initial stability of the glenoid component when fixed with an inferior tilt (Simovitch et al.,
249 2007). Variations in peak micromotion for position FP4 (inferior titling of baseplate) for the
250 five loading conditions (Task 1: 16.1 μm , Task 2: 82.5 μm , Task 3: 19.8 μm , Task 4: 12.3 μm ,
251 Task 5: 137.4 μm) showed that the increase in micromotion induced by glenoid positioning is
252 activity-specific. Reducing activities that produce high anterior-posterior shear forces (for
253 example, Task 2 & 5) may improve the primary stability of the prosthesis when fixed with an
254 inferior tilt.

255 In comparison to positioning with a 0° inclination, tilting the implant inferiorly induced a
256 superior shift in the glenohumeral resultant force on the glenosphere surface and increased
257 bone loss around the inferior glenoid pole. The magnitude of the resultant glenohumeral (GH)
258 force, which originates from the muscles surrounding the shoulder, is assumed not to be
259 related to implant positioning. Changing the position of the loading point may reduce the
260 shear forces on the implant and thus was not a factor for the increase of micromotions in FP4.
261 Tilting the implant required the inferior scapular pole to be resected, leading to increased
262 contact between trabecular bone and the implant. This weak bone supporting the implant may
263 explain the high micromotions in the inferior region observed in our study (Chae et al., 2015).
264 An inferior inclination of the glenosphere requires the removal of cortical bone, which has
265 been suggested to increase the risk of glenoid loosening (James et al., 2011; Kempton et al.,
266 2011; Roche et al., 2013). In addition, specific recommendations for reducing scapular
267 notching by tilting the glenosphere are still controversial (Edwards et al., 2012; Li et al.,
268 2013).

269 Bone density distributions in the frontal plane for four glenoid positions under various
270 loading conditions were predicted in this study. The results indicated the same tendency for
271 strain-induced bone resorption in all four implant positions. Bone loss occurred initially in the
272 area next to the bone-prosthesis interface, and then expanded to the peripheral regions. This
273 finding is consistent with radiographic observations of bone loss in Grammont RSA (Roberts
274 et al., 2007; Fávvaro et al., 2015).

275 This study also demonstrated that changing the position of the glenoid prosthesis induced
276 different levels of strain-induced bone resorption. An inferior movement of the glenoid
277 component led to greater bone resorption in the lateral-middle region, while central
278 positioning of the glenoid component induced increased bone loss in the lateral-inferior
279 region. These observations are corroborated by radiographic images (Roberts et al., 2007;
280 Farshad and Gerber, 2010; Fávvaro et al., 2015). Farshad et al. reported that radiographic bone
281 resorption at eight years after RSA was more severe than at three years, with the most
282 noticeable region being above the central peg (Farshad and Gerber, 2010). The distribution of
283 bone resorption with inferior positioning of the glenoid prosthesis in RSA is possibly caused
284 by the inferior movement of the glenohumeral force on the glenoid bone. The inferior
285 movement was 1.8 mm for FP2 and 3.9 mm for FP3 . Thus the load above the middle peg
286 (lateral-middle region) after implantation reduced significantly, leading to low postoperative
287 strains and greater bone resorption.

288 A limitation of this study is that the time constant used in the strain-induced bone
289 remodelling algorithm has only been validated in studies on hip replacements for dogs
290 (Kerner et al., 1999; Bitsakos, 2005). It is necessary to develop a time constant which could
291 connect the predicted bone remodelling with clinical data obtained from patients with RSA. It
292 would be beneficial to assess bone resorption in real time with different glenoid positions.
293 Another limitation is that the bone-baseplate interface was assumed to be unbonded, which is

294 a worst case scenario. In a study evaluating the effect of various connection conditions at the
295 bone-baseplate interface on the amount of bone resorption, Suárez et al. reported that bonding
296 the interface (best case scenario) produced slightly less bone resorption than when the
297 interface was unbonded (worst case scenario) (Suárez et al., 2012). This current study
298 evaluated the amount of bone resorption when the glenoid component was fixed in various
299 positions. Changing the position of the implant will lead to the same effects on results as long
300 as the bone-baseplate interface connection conditions in the various FE models are the same.

301 **5. Conclusions**

302 In conclusion, tilting the glenoid component inferiorly would lead to increased
303 micromotion in the inferior glenoid, but the amount of micromotion depends on the activity
304 being performed. Reducing activities with anterior-posterior shear forces will improve the
305 primary stability of the bone-prosthesis interface when the prosthesis is fixed with an inferior
306 tilt. Moving the glenoid component inferiorly led to a reduction in bone apparent density in
307 the lateral-middle region. Central positioning of the glenoid component increased bone
308 resorption in the lateral-inferior glenoid. Understanding the relationship between
309 postoperative bone resorption and implant positioning is beneficial for improving the long-
310 term stability of RSA.

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316 **Conflict of interest statement**

317 All the authors, their immediate family, and any research foundation with which they are
318 affiliated have not received any financial payments or other benefits from any commercial
319 entity related to the subject of this article.

320 **References**

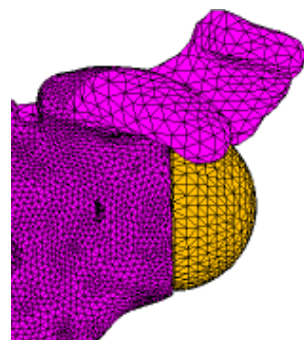
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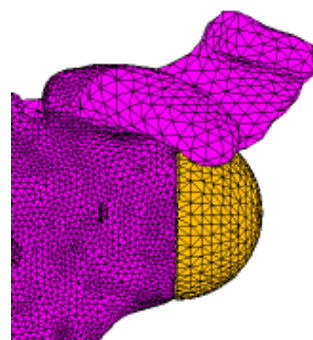
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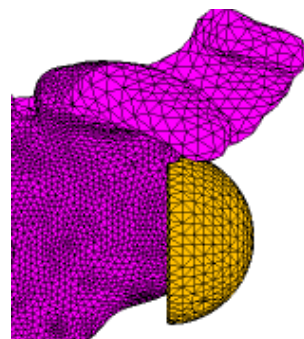
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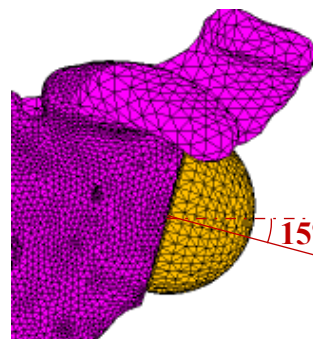
FP1
(a)



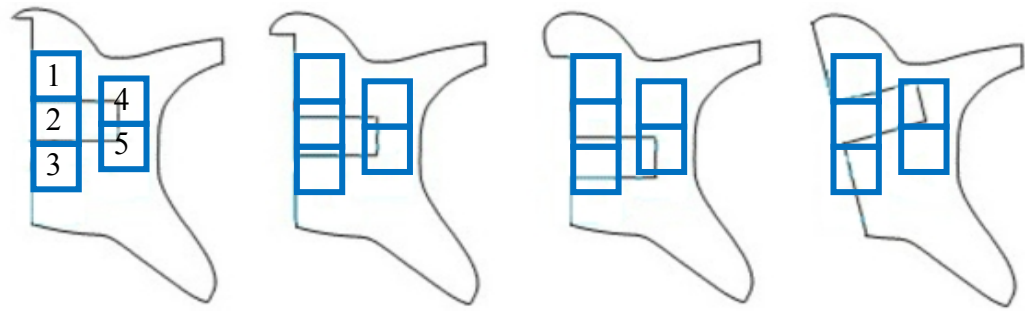
FP2
(b)



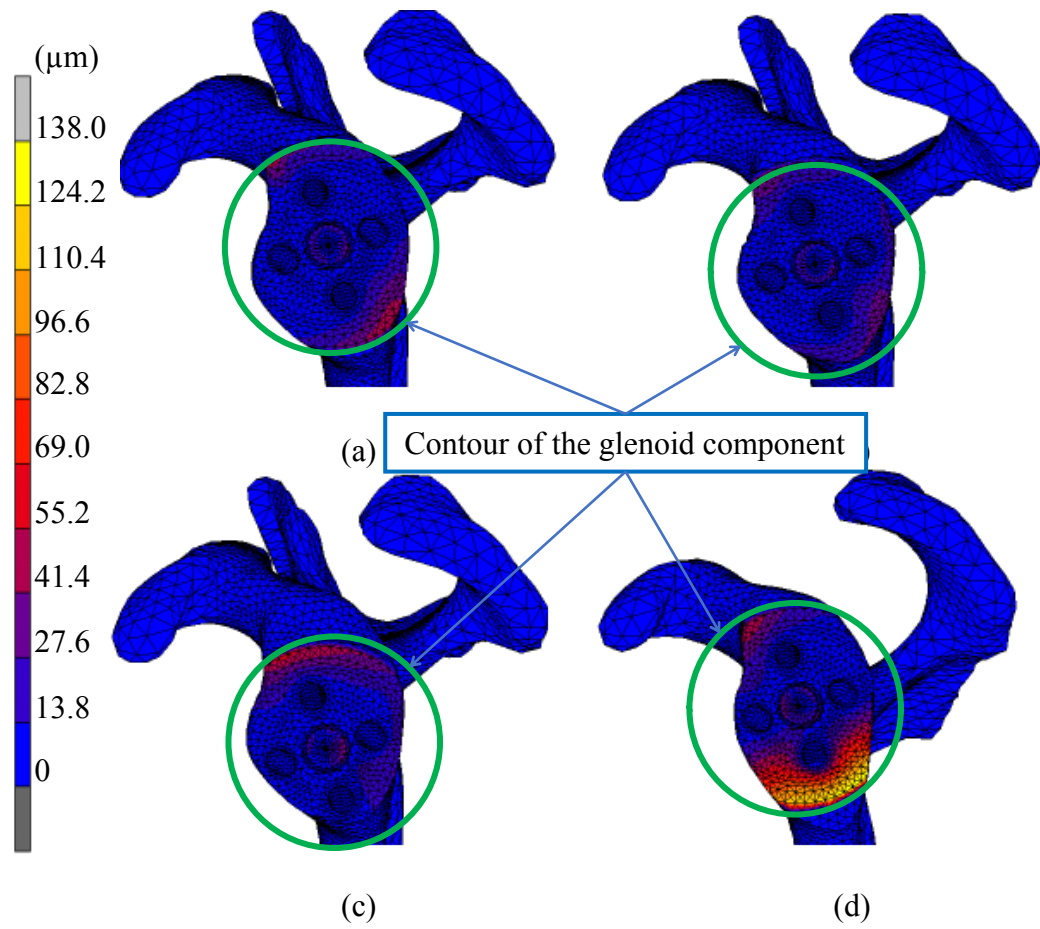
FP3
(c)

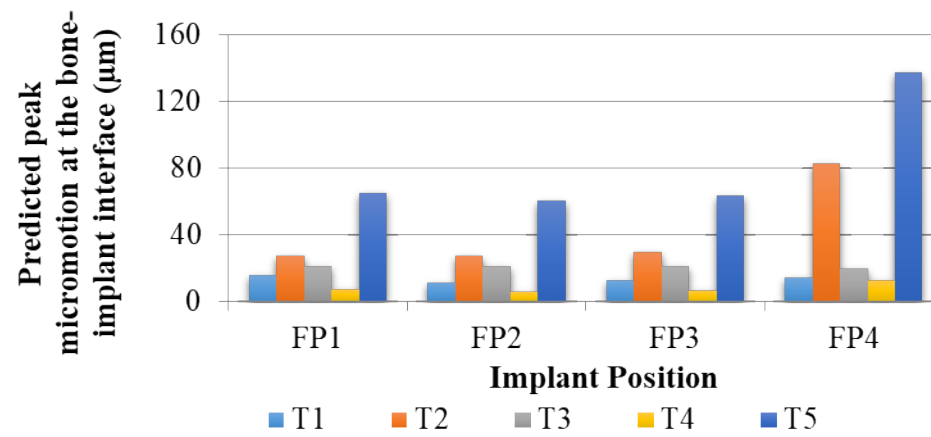


FP4
(d)



1 - Lateral superior; 2 - Lateral middle; 3 - Lateral inferior;
4 - Medial superior; 5 - Medial inferior

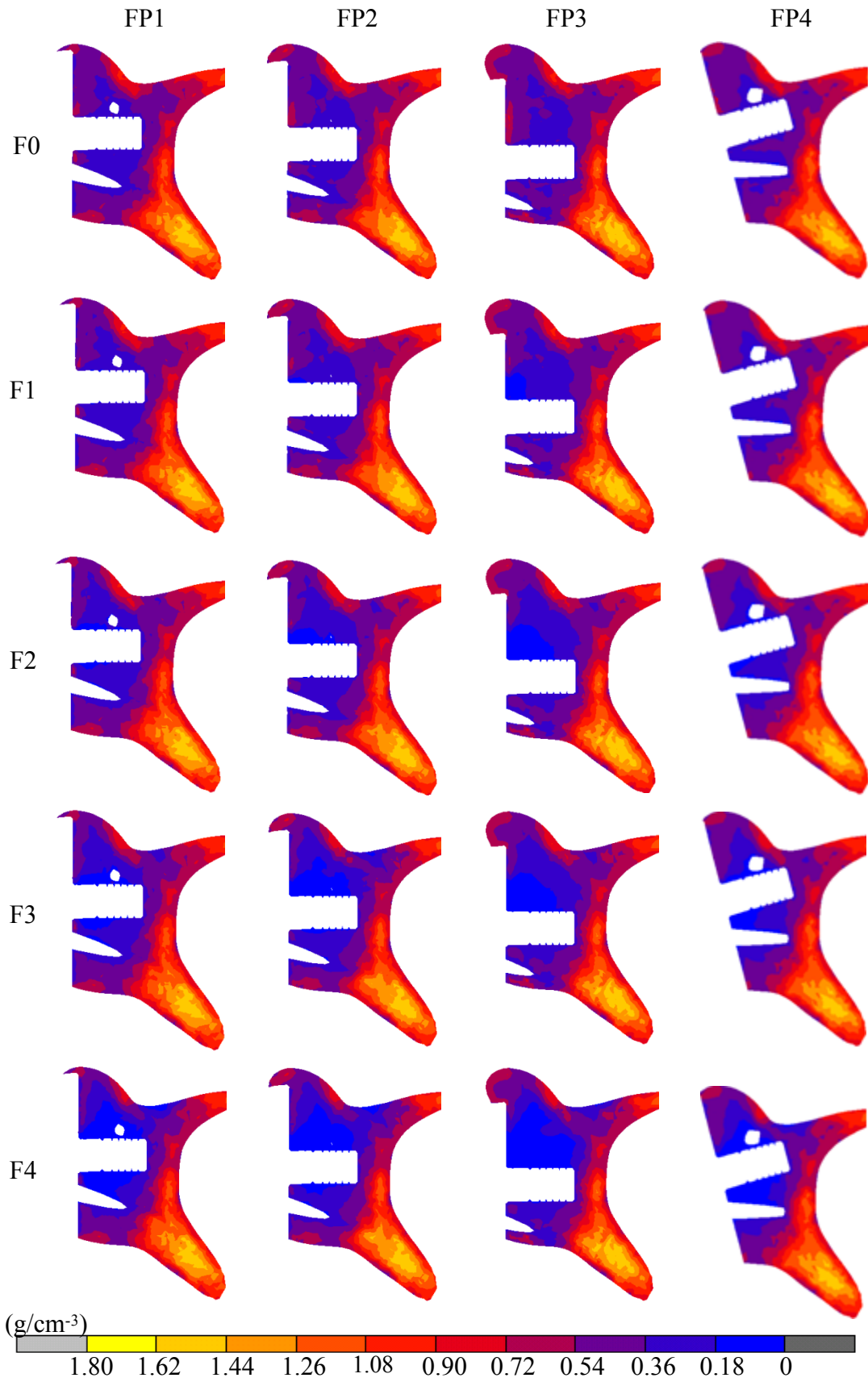


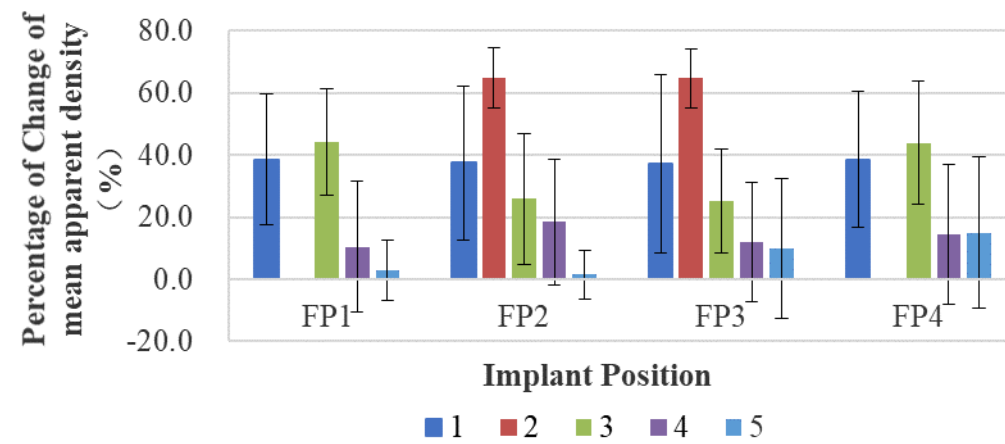


T1 - Combing hair; T2 - Lifting a block to head height;

T3 - Lifting a block to shoulder height; T4 - Hands on the

lower back; T5 - Sit-to-stand from an armchair





1 - Lateral superior; 2 - Lateral middle; 3 - Lateral inferior;
 4 - Medial superior; 5 - Medial inferior

Conflict of interest statement

All the authors, their immediate family, and any research foundation with which they are affiliated have not received any financial payments or other benefits from any commercial entity related to the subject of this article.

Author contributions

| Name of Author | Contribution (CRediT roles) |
|-----------------------|---|
| Min Zhang | Conceptualization; Data curation; Formal analysis; Investigation; Methodology; Project administration; Validation |
| Sarah Junaid | Validation |
| Thomas Gregory | Clinical support |
| Ulrich Hansen | Supervision |
| Cheng-Kung Cheng | Supervision |

Figure Legends

Fig. 1 Four fixation configurations of the glenoid prosthesis.

Fig. 2 Five regions of interest for statistical comparison of glenoid positions.

Fig. 3 Micromotion distributions at the resected surface when standing up from an armchair.

(a) the baseplate was in the middle of the glenoid fossa; (b) the baseplate was flush to the inferior glenoid rim; (c) the baseplate with an inferior overhang; (d) the baseplate was a 15° inferior inclination. The scapula in the case of inferior tilting (d) was superiorly rotated 15° in order to show the whole contact surface. The green circle in each picture represents the contour of the glenosphere in the reverse total shoulder arthroplasty.

Fig. 4 Maximum predicted micromotions at the bone-prosthesis interface. FP1 to FP4 refer to the four fixation positions of glenoid component in Fig. 1.

Fig. 5 Bone remodelling process in the glenoid frontal plane. F0 represents the time before the operation. F1 to F4 represent follow up stages during the bone remodelling process. FP1 to FP4 refer to the four implant positions in Fig. 1.

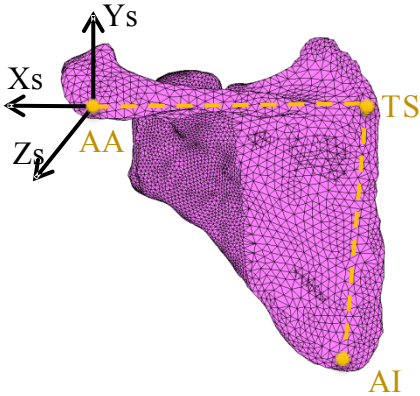
Fig. 6 Change in mean bone apparent density in the five regions of interest for each fixation position of the glenoid component. FP1 to FP4 refer to the four implant positions in Fig. 1.

Supplementary

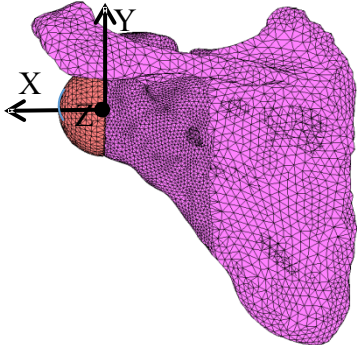
Loading Conditions used in this study

| Task No. | Task | Description |
|----------|------------------------------------|--|
| Task 1 | Combing hair | The largest moment arm of shear forces in the anterior region. |
| Task 2 | Lifting a block to head height | The largest moment arm of compressive force in the posterior region. |
| Task 3 | Lifting a block to shoulder height | Very small anteroposterior shear force. |
| Task 4 | Hands on the lower back | The largest moment arm of shear forces in the posterior region. |
| Task 5 | Sit-to-stand from an armchair | The largest moment arm of compressive force in the anterior region. |

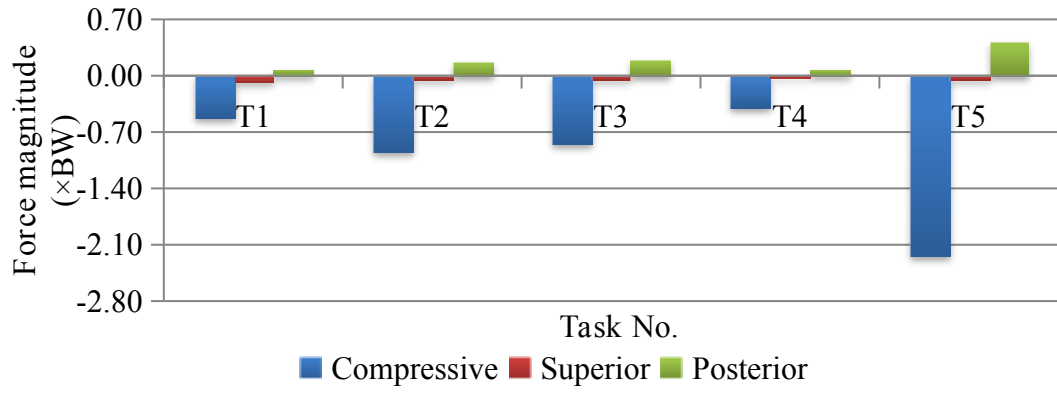
(a)



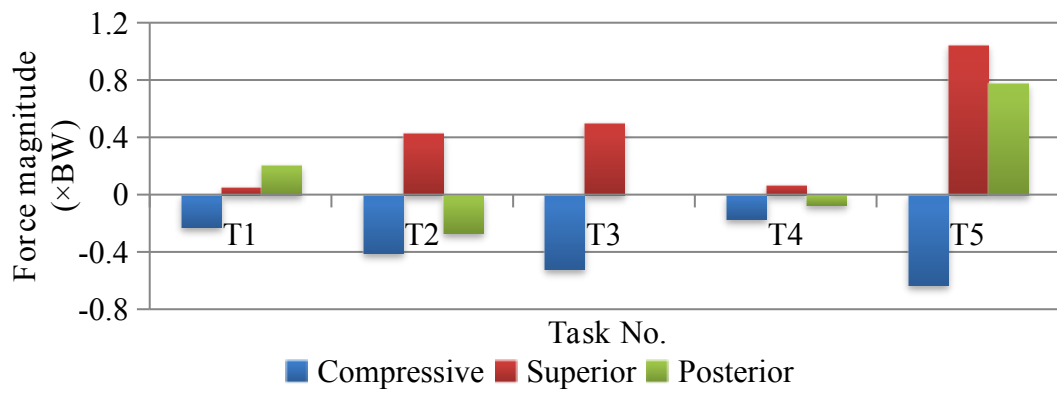
(b)



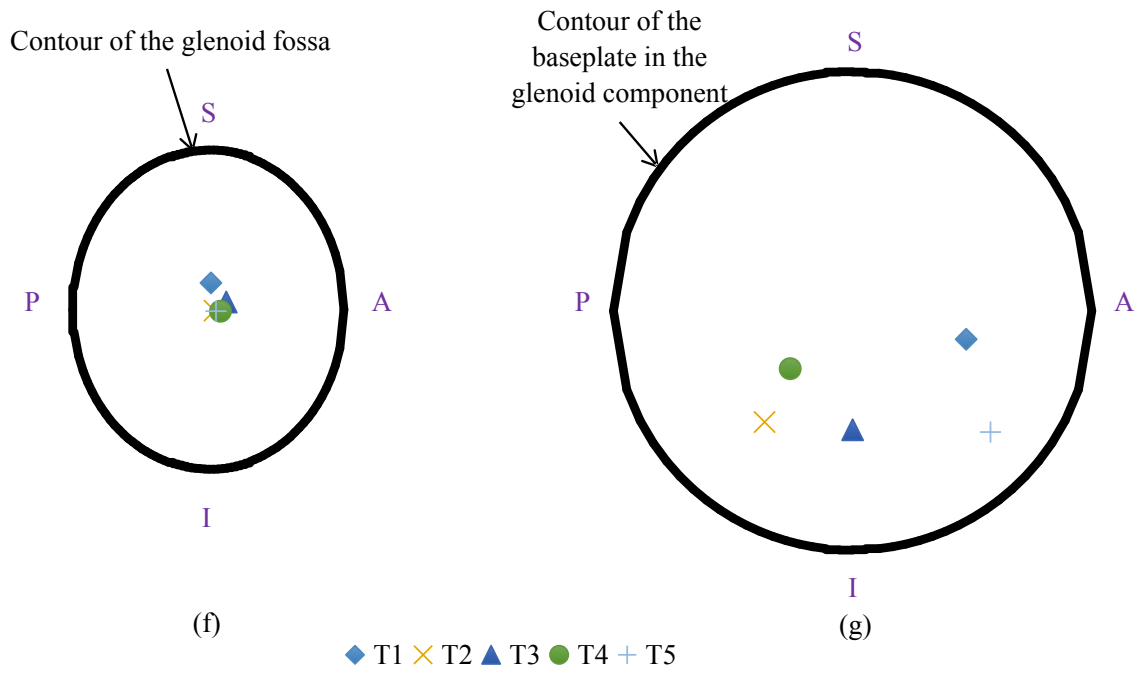
(c)



(d)



(e)



(a) Description of the five daily activities simulated in this study. (b) Coordinate system for intact scapula. AI: the inferior angle, AA: the posterior point of acromion, TS: the root of scapular spine; (c) Coordinate system for the finite element model of implanted scapula; (d) Magnitudes of glenohumeral force for a normal shoulder during the five daily activities shown in (a); (e) Magnitudes of glenohumeral force for a Delta reverse total shoulder arthroplasty during the five daily activities shown in (a); (f) Positions of loading of the glenohumeral force in a normal shoulder; (g) Positions of loading of the glenohumeral force in a Delta reverse total shoulder arthroplasty (modified from Kontaxis, 2010). T1-5: Task 1-5 in (a). A/P/S/I: Anterior/Posterior/Superior/Inferior.