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Locomotion dynamics of agile canines

by

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Principal supervisor: Prof David Eager

Co-supervisors: Dr Paul Walker and Dr Terry Brown

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Certificate of Authorship/Originality

I, Hasti Hayati declare that this thesis, is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the award of Doctor of Philosophy, in the school of Mechanical and Mechatronic, Faculty of Engineering and IT, at the University of Technology Sydney.

This thesis is wholly my own work unless otherwise reference or acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.

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ABSTRACT

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Greyhounds are the fastest of all canine breeds, capable of attaining 70 km/h in 30 metres. The greyhound's unique sprinting ability has made it an elite sprinter and racing animal throughout history. Greyhounds sustain specific injuries, mainly skeletal, that are believed to be race-related and are rarely seen in other breeds of dogs. This dissertation focuses on studying the locomotion dynamics and foot-surface interaction of greyhounds. Accordingly, a thorough review was conducted of the literature on severe musculoskeletal injuries in greyhounds, factors contributing to injury in greyhound racing, different methods of measuring the locomotion dynamics of legged mechanisms, and different approaches to simulating legged locomotion. This review is presented in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 outlines common types of severe race-related injuries in racing greyhounds drawn from two years' worth of injury data collected on New South Wales greyhound racing tracks by qualified on-track veterinarians between January 2016 and December 2017. In Chapter 4 the method used to study the functional properties of greyhound race track sand surfaces is described, and the findings of the effects of altering the moisture content and rates of compaction on the dynamic behaviour of sand surfaces are presented and compared with findings from relevant literature. The experimental method used to derive the stiffness and damping coefficients of sand samples is explained in detail. Chapter 5 shows how the galloping dynamics of greyhounds were measured using a single Inertial Measurement Unit (IMU). The IMU which was equipped with a tri-axial accelerometer was embedded in a pocket located approximately on the

greyhound's Centre of Mass. The acceleration signals could successfully identify the turning dynamics regardless of the type of track surface. Finally, Chapter 6 presents the results of simulations of the hind-leg dynamics during the most critical duration of the galloping gait using the Spring-Loaded-Inverted-Pendulum method. The primary purpose of the designed SLIP model was to estimate greyhound hind-leg dynamics by altering surface properties.

Dedication

To my family.

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List of Publications

Journals

- [1] **Hayati, H**, David E, and Paul W. “The effects of surface compliance on greyhound galloping dynamics.” *Proceedings of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers, Part K: Journal of Multi-body Dynamics* 223(4): 1033-1043, 2019.
- [2] **Hayati, H**, Mahdavi F, Eager D. “Analysis of agile canine gait characteristics using accelerometry.” *Sensors* 19(20): 4379, 2019.
- [3] Eager, D and **Hayati, H**. “Additional Injury Prevention Criteria for Impact Attenuation Surfacing Within Children’s Playgrounds.” *ASCE-ASME Journal of Risk and Uncertainty in Engineering Systems, Part B: Mechanical Engineering* 5(1): 011002, 2019.
- [4] **Hayati, H**, David E, and Paul W. “Locomotion dynamics of turning and sprinting on different surfaces in agile quadrupeds: racing greyhounds” *ASME Journal of Dynamic Systems, Measurement, and Control* [Under Review].

Conferences

- [1] Eager D, **Hayati, H**, Chapman C. “Impulse Force as an Additional Safety Criterion for Improving the Injury Prevention Performance of Impact Attenuation Surfaces in Children’s Playgrounds.” In *ASME 2016 international mechanical engineering congress and exposition* 2016 Feb 8. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection.
- [2] **Hayati, H**, Eager D, Jusufi A, Brown T. “A study of rapid tetrapod running and turning dynamics utilizing inertial measurement units in greyhound sprinting.” In *ASME 2017 International Design Engineering Technical Conferences and Com-*

puters and Information in Engineering Conference 2017 Nov 3. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection.

[3] **Hayati, H**, Eager D, Stephenson R, Brown T, Arnott E. “The impact of track related parameters on catastrophic injury rate of racing greyhounds.” In *9th Australasian Congress on Applied Mechanics (ACAM9)* 2017 (p. 311). Engineers Australia.

[4] **Hayati, H**, Walker P, Mahdavi F, Stephenson R, Brown T, Eager D. “A comparative study of rapid quadrupedal sprinting and turning dynamics on different terrains and conditions: racing greyhounds galloping dynamics.” In *ASME 2018 international mechanical engineering congress and exposition* 2018 Nov 9. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection. [Nominated for best paper, an invited paper to ASME journals].

[5] **Hayati, H**, Walker P, Brown T, Kennedy P, Eager D. “A Simple Spring-Loaded Inverted Pendulum (SLIP) Model of a Bio-Inspired Quadrupedal Robot Over Compliant Terrains.” In *ASME 2018 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition* 2018 Nov 9. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection.

[6] Mahdavi F, Hossain MI, **Hayati, H**, Eager D, Kennedy P. “Track Shape, Resulting Dynamics and Injury Rates of Greyhounds.” In *ASME 2018 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition* 2018 Nov 9. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection.

[7] **Hayati H**, Mahdavi F, Eager D. “A single IMU to capture the fundamental dynamics of rapid tetrapod locomotion: Racing greyhounds”. In *European Society of Biomechanics*. 2019 Jul 10.

[8] Mahdavi F, Hossain MI, **Hayati, H**, Eager D, Kennedy P. “Track Shape, Resulting Dynamics and Injury Rates of Greyhounds.” In *ASME 2018 International Mechanical Engineering Congress and Exposition* 2018 Nov 9. American Society of Mechanical Engineers Digital Collection.

[9] **Hayati, H**, Eager D., Walker P. “An impact attenuation surfacing test to analyse the dynamic behaviour of greyhound racetrack sand surface.” In *World Engineering Convention Australia 2019 proceeding* 2019 Nov 22. [Accepted].

Nomenclature and Notation

g	Gravitational acceleration
l	Hind-leg length
\dot{l}	Hind-leg linear velocity
\ddot{l}	Hind-leg linear acceleration
m_b	Overall mass of the greyhound
m_c	Mass of the Clegg hammer
m_l	Hind-leg mass of the greyhound
$[\ddot{x}]$	Vector of acceleration obtained from the accelerometers
$[\dot{x}]$	Vector of velocity obtained from the accelerometers
$[x]$	Vector of surface penetration obtained from the accelerometers
y	Surface compression
\dot{y}	Surface linear velocity
\ddot{y}	Surface linear acceleration
C_s	Surface damping coefficient
F	Impact force of the Clegg hammer
K_l	Hind-leg stiffness coefficient
K_s	Surface stiffness coefficient
T	Kinetic energy
U	Potential energy
\mathcal{L}	Lagrangian
θ	Hind-leg angle with respect to the ground
$\dot{\theta}$	Hind-leg angular velocity
$\ddot{\theta}$	Hind-leg angular acceleration
G_{max}	maximum acceleration
J_{max}	maximum jerk

w	moisture content
M_b	mass of the container and wet sand
M_c	mass of the container and dry sand
M_a	mass of the container

Abbreviation

AIS	anatomical injury severity
CFL	compressed flight phase
CoM	center of mass
CWT	continuous wavelet transform
DFT	discrete Fourier transforms
EFL	extended flight phase
FFT	fast Fourier transform
GPS	global positioning system
GRF	ground reaction force
HFR	high frame rate
iKMS	integrated kinematic measurement system
IMU	inertia measurement unit
ISS	injury severity index
LF	left fore-leg
LH	left hind-leg
NSW	new south wales
OTV	on track veterinarians
RF	right fore-leg
RH	right hind-leg

Contents

Certificate	ii
Abstract	iii
Dedication	v
Acknowledgments	vi
List of Publications	viii
Notation	xi
Abbreviation	xiii
List of figures	xix
List of tables	xxv
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Thesis	1
1.2 Background	1
1.3 Aim, objectives and significance	2
1.3.1 Stakeholders	2
1.3.2 Aims	3
1.3.3 Objectives and significance	3
1.4 Methods	4
1.5 Thesis organization	5
1.6 Contributions to the body of literature	6

2 Literature review	7
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Greyhound is an elite sprinter	8
2.3 Common greyhound racing injuries	8
2.4 Injury contributing factors in greyhound racing	10
2.4.1 Track-design factors	10
2.4.2 Race-related factors	14
2.4.3 Seasonal factors	14
2.5 Characteristics of sand	15
2.5.1 Size, shape and percentage of sand particles	15
2.5.2 Water retention	16
2.6 Limb-surface interaction	18
2.6.1 Track surface test methods and devices	19
2.6.2 Measuring legged locomotion dynamics	21
2.6.3 SLIP model to simulate legged locomotion dynamics	25
2.7 Summary	27
3 A Retrospective study of severe injuries in racing greyhounds	29
3.1 Introduction	29
3.2 Methods	30
3.2.1 Injury data analysis	30
3.2.2 Race video analysis	31
3.3 Results and discussion	31
3.3.1 Level 1 and 2 injuries AIS	31

3.3.2	Hazardous location on the race track	34
3.4	Summary	45
4	Dynamic behaviour of greyhound track surfaces	46
4.1	Introduction	46
4.2	Methods	46
4.2.1	An impact test to study the dynamic behaviour of the sand .	47
4.2.2	Obtaining the stiffness coefficients of the sand samples	50
4.3	Results and discussion	51
4.3.1	Effect of moisture content and rate of compaction on the dynamic behaviour of the sand sample	51
4.3.2	The stiffness coefficient of the sand sample	54
4.4	Summary	58
5	A Single IMU to measure greyhound locomotion dy- namics	59
5.1	Introduction	59
5.2	Methods	59
5.2.1	Identifying limb strike in IMU signals	60
5.2.2	How bend and surface compliance affect greyhounds galloping dynamics	63
5.2.3	Surface hardness test using a modified Clegg hammer	65
5.2.4	Animal ethics consideration	66
5.3	Results and discussion	66
5.3.1	Limb strikes and their corresponding IMU signals	66

5.3.2	Effect of bend and different surface composition on greyhound galloping dynamics	68
5.3.3	Impact test data	79
5.4	Summary	80
6	Greyhound's hind-leg SLIP model during right-hind leg single-support	82
6.1	Introduction	82
6.2	Methods	83
6.2.1	Kinematic analysis	83
6.2.2	SLIP model	86
6.3	Results and discussion	91
6.3.1	Simulation verification	91
6.3.2	RH single-support dynamics over natural grass vs artificial rubber	92
6.3.3	Effect of sand density of the track surface on the dynamics of greyhound RH single-support	96
6.3.4	Effect of sand moisture content of the track surface on the dynamics of greyhound RH single-support	100
6.4	Summary	102
7	Conclusion and future works	104
7.1	Conclusion	104
7.2	Contributions	104
7.2.1	Identifying common types of life-threatening injuries in greyhounds	104

7.2.2	Identifying ideal moisture content and rates of compaction of sand surfaces	104
7.2.3	Measuring greyhounds galloping dynamics	105
7.2.4	Estimating greyhounds hind-leg dynamics via a mathematical model	105
7.3	Future work and limitations	105
7.3.1	Additional injury types and injury contributing factors	105
7.3.2	Designing a test rig to measure the angular accelerations . . .	106
7.3.3	Higher resolution of kinematic and kinetic analysis	106
7.3.4	Higher DOF SLIP models	106
Appendices		121

List of figures

2.1	A galloping greyhound on a race track.	8
2.2	A greyhound leans towards the inner rail while running around a bend at the Richmond track, NSW, Australia.	12
2.3	Sand particle shape. Modified after Power's article [1].	16
2.4	Typical soil water characteristic curves for different types of soil [2].	17
2.5	A filter paper (A). Soil samples in filter papers (B). A pressure cell (C).	17
2.6	WP4-C Dewpoint potentiometer and the soil samples (A). Field Scout TDR350 Moisture Meter (B). Potentiometer rods (C).	18
2.7	A simple SLIP model.	25
3.1	AIS of Level 1 injuries of greyhound racing tracks in NSW, 2016.	32
3.2	AIS of Level 2 injuries of greyhound racing tracks in NSW, 2016.	32
3.3	AIS of Level 1 injuries of greyhound racing tracks in NSW, 2017.	33
3.4	AIS of Level 2 injuries of greyhound racing tracks in NSW, 2017.	33
3.5	Injury location graphs for Bathurst 307 m and Bulli 400 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively.	37
3.6	Injury location graphs for Dapto 520 m and Dubbo 318 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively.	38

-
- 3.7 Injury location graphs for Gosford 515 m and Goulburn 350 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively. 39
- 3.8 Injury location graphs for Grafton 407 m and Lismore 520 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively. 40
- 3.9 Injury location graphs for Maitland 450 m and Nowra 520 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively. 41
- 3.10 Injury location graphs for Richmond 535 m and The Gardens 515 m race distances. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively. 42
- 3.11 Injury location graphs for Wentworth Park 520 m race distance. Red, yellow, blue and green dots represent catastrophic, major, medium and minor injuries, respectively. 43
- 4.1 A low traffic condition with the density of 1.35 g/cm^3 (A). A medium traffic condition with the density of 1.45 g/cm^3 (B). A high traffic condition with the density of 1.55 g/cm^3 (C). 49
- 4.2 The process of drying out the sand sample, altering the moisture content and the impact test using a modified Clegg hammer. 50
- 4.3 The G_{max} versus time of the sand samples with different moisture levels and rates of compaction. The red, blue and black lines represent the drop height of 400 mm, 500 mm and 600 mm, sequentially. 51
- 4.4 The load-deformation plots of the sand samples with different moisture levels and rates of compaction. The red, blue and black lines represent a drop height of 400 mm, 500 mm and 600 mm, respectively. 54

- 5.1 A greyhound galloping on the straight section of a track with sand surface and wearing the designed jacket with embedded sewn pocket (A). The commercial (GPSports/SPI Pro X) and in-house IMU (B). The schematic view of the oval shape sandy track and greyhound's paw prints. The coordinate reference is where the theodolite was mounted to survey the paw prints. Two cameras are mounted for simultaneous kinematic test (C). 62
- 5.2 Forward acceleration vs time of eight consecutive strides of a greyhound. The negative peaks (highlighted by red marks) correspond to fore-leg strikes and the positive peaks (highlighted with blue marks) correspond to hind-leg strikes. 67
- 5.3 Anterior-posterior (Black line) and dorsal-ventral (blue line) acceleration vs time of three consecutive strides of a greyhound and the corresponding gait events. 68
- 5.4 Anterior-posterior acceleration of the whole race in Track A. Accelerating (a), Back straight running (b), the first bend (c), Home straight running (d), the second bend (e) and deceleration (f) are highlighted. The red dashed lines show the average of negative peaks. 69
- 5.5 Anterior-posterior acceleration of six consecutive strides on Home straight of Track A (A). Anterior-posterior acceleration of six consecutive strides on the bend of Track A (B). Anterior-posterior acceleration of six consecutive strides on Home straight of Track B (C). Anterior-posterior acceleration of six consecutive strides on the bend of Track B (D). The blue and red circles show the hind-legs and fore-legs strikes, respectively. The dashed red lines show the average of peaks of signals due to fore-leg strikes. The blue dashed lines show the average of peaks of signals due to hind-leg strikes. . . . 71

5.6	Dorsal-ventral acceleration of six consecutive strides on Home straight of Track A (A). Dorsal-ventral acceleration of six consecutive strides on the bend of Track A (B). Dorsal-ventral acceleration of six consecutive strides on Home straight of Track B (C). Dorsal-ventral acceleration of six consecutive strides on the bend of Track B (D). The blue and red circles show the hind-legs and fore-legs strikes, respectively. The red dashed lines show the average of peaks of signals due to fore-leg strikes.	73
5.7	FFT spectral analysis of dorsal-ventral acceleration of Track B. . . .	74
5.8	Dorsal-ventral accelerations and Morlet wavelet power spectrum at Track A.	75
5.9	Anterior-posterior accelerations and Morlet wavelet power spectrum at Track A.	76
5.10	Dorsal-ventral accelerations and Morlet wavelet power spectrum at Track B.	77
5.11	Anterior-posterior accelerations and Morlet wavelet power spectrum at Track B.	78
5.12	The G_{max} versus time of the sand and grass surfaces with different moisture levels and rates of compaction.	80
6.1	(A) One stride of a galloping greyhound and its corresponding phases. (B) Paw impact pattern of rotatory gallop. (C) Footfall timing of stride duration in percentages; LF, RF, CFL, RH, LH and EFL stands for left fore-leg, right fore-leg, compressed flight, right hind-leg, left hind-leg and extended flight, respectively.	84

- 6.2 Motion tracking procedure during RH single-support. (A) The coordinate reference point of the system is the touchdown of RH. (B) A reference line from the approximate location of hip joint and shoulder joint is drawn. The CoM location (60% along the way from hip to shoulder joints) on the reference line is estimated. (C) Greyhounds' hip joint and CoM's dynamics during RH single-support using Kinovea semi-automatic tracking toolbox were tracked. Only the hip joint fluctuation versus time for three data sets are presented here. 86
- 6.3 SLIP models of RH single-support of a galloping greyhound. (A) 4-DOF system. (B) 3-DOF system. 87
- 6.4 Load-deformation cycles for natural grass for impact velocities of 2.8 to 3.4 m/s (A). Load-deformation cycles for synthetic rubber terrain for impact velocities of 2.4 to 3.4 m/s (B). The slope of the blue dashed line is the effective spring coefficient of the surface (107 kN/m for natural grass surface and 68.2 kN/m for synthetic rubber surface). 89
- 6.5 Hind-leg compression vs time (A) and Hind-leg rotation vs time (B) of four greyhounds galloping on the natural grass surface compared with the simulation results. The experimental data and the model results are shown with scattered dots and rigid lines, respectively. The same colours in the scattered plots correspond to the model with similar initial conditions. The root mean square method for the hind-leg compression and leg rotation was equal to 1.59 mm and 0.23 rad, respectively. 92

- 6.6 Dynamics of greyhound RH single-support. Hind-leg compression (A), hind-leg rotation (B), surface compression (C), CoM trajectories (D), Force acting on the CoM (E) and Force acting on the hind-leg (F) on two different surface compliances. The rigid black line represents the natural grass surface and the blue dashed line represents the synthetic rubber surface, respectively. 94
- 6.7 Dynamics of greyhound's RH single-support. Hind-leg compression (A), hind-leg rotation (B), surface compression (C), CoM trajectories (D), Force acting on the CoM (E) and Force acting on the hind-leg (F) on two different surface compliances. The blue, black and red lines denote the low, medium and high-density condition, respectively. 97
- 6.8 Dynamics of greyhound's RH single-support. Hind-leg compression (A), hind-leg rotation (B), surface compression (C), CoM trajectories (D), Force acting on the CoM (E) and Force acting on the hind-leg (F) on two different surface compliances. The blue, black and red lines denote the low, medium and high-density condition, respectively. 98
- 6.9 Dynamics of greyhound's RH single-support. Hind-leg compression (A), hind-leg rotation (B), surface compression (C), CoM trajectories (D), Force acting on the CoM (E) and Force acting on the hind-leg (F) on two different surface compliances. The blue, black and red lines denote the low, medium and high-density condition, respectively. 99
- 6.10 Dynamics of greyhound's RH single-support. Hind-leg compression (A), hind-leg rotation (B), surface compression (C), CoM trajectories (D), Force acting on the CoM (E) and Force acting on the hind-leg (F) on three different surface compliances. The rigid, dashed and dotted lines denote the 12%, 17% and 20% moisture content, respectively. 101

List of tables

2.1	Recommended sand particle sizes and percentage by GRNSW.	13
3.1	Injury severity score.	30
3.2	Injury levels.	30
3.3	Level 1 and 2 right hind-leg injury type in 2016. Not applicable is abbreviated as NA.	34
3.4	Level 1 and 2 Right hind-leg injury type in 2017. Not applicable is abbreviated as NA.	35
3.5	Total number and percentage of Level 1 right hind-leg injuries that happened on bends in 2016.	43
3.6	Total number and percentage of Level 2 right hind-leg injuries happened on bends in 2016.	44
3.7	Total number and percentage of Level 1 right hind-leg injuries happened on bends in 2017.	44
3.8	Total number and percentage of Level 2 right hind-leg injuries happened on bends in 2017.	44
4.1	Sand particle sizes and percentages at the Wentworth Park track. . .	47
4.2	Impact data from conducting a drop test on the sand sample.	53
5.1	Average of stance and flight duration and limb duty factor of galloping greyhounds.	67

5.2	Average of peaks for anterior-posterior and dorsal-ventral accelerations on Tracks A and B.	69
5.3	The average of stride frequencies of greyhounds galloping on Track A and B.	74
6.1	Impact data of conducting a drop test on different surfaces. For the sand sample, the second part of the name is the moisture content in percentage. The ‘low’, ‘medium’, and ‘high’ denotes the ‘low density’, ‘medium density’, and ‘high density’ conditions, respectively.	90
6.2	Model inputs for the 3-DOF SLIP model of greyhounds hind-leg. . . .	91