

The relationship between strength, speed-strength and performance in change of direction tasks

NOVEMBER 2017

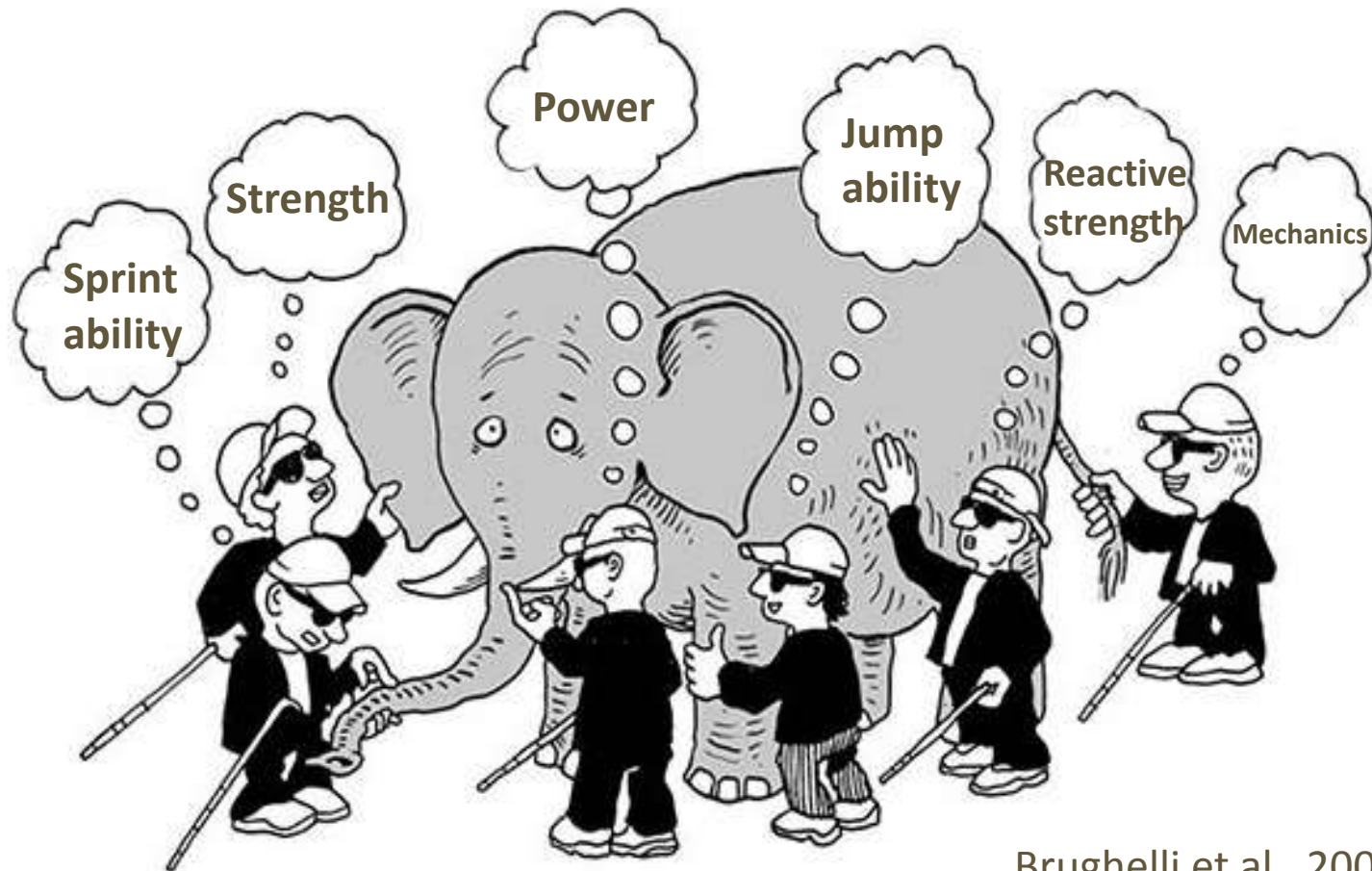


**AUT SPORTS PERFORMANCE
RESEARCH INSTITUTE NEW ZEALAND**

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Change of Direction (COD) Performance



Brughelli et al., 2008



Thesis Flowchart

How can performance in COD tasks be enhanced in rugby union players?

Literature review

Chapter 2: Physical characteristics and performance in change of direction tasks: a brief review and training considerations



Cross-sectional research

Chapter 3: Study 1 -The relationship between multidirectional jumping and performance in change of direction tasks

Chapter 4: Study 2 – The relationship between performance in multidirectional jumping and change of direction tasks in individual- and team-sport players

Chapter 5: Study 3 – The relationship between performance in multidirectional jumping and change of direction tasks in individual- and team-sport players



Thesis Flowchart (cont.)

Experimental research

Chapter 6: Study 4 – The influence of eccentric strength training on performance in change of direction tasks in adolescent rugby union players

Chapter 7: Study 5 – The acute influence of accentuated jump training on performance in change of direction tasks in adolescent rugby union players



Chapter 8 - Practical applications and conclusions



Literature Review Bourgeois et al., 2017 (JASC)

- ❑ COD assessment and 'global' COD performance?

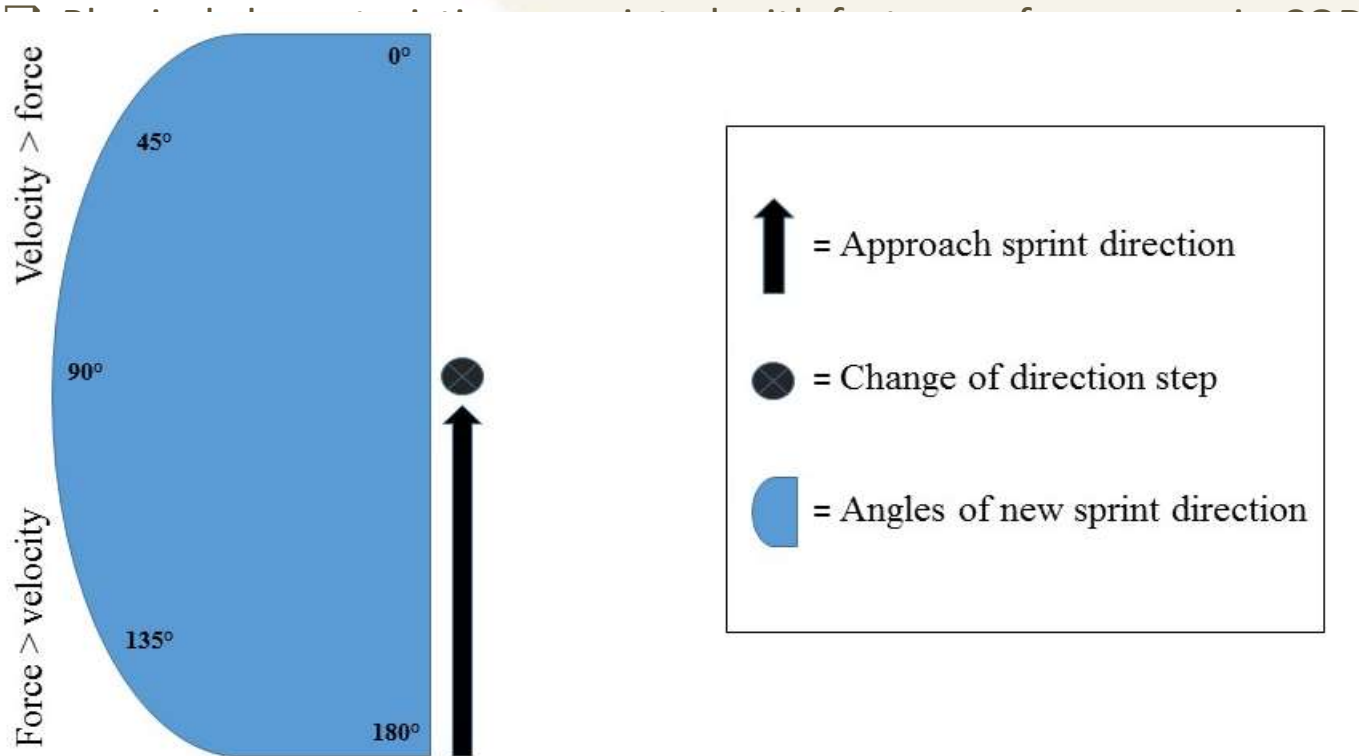


Figure 2.1. Continuum of mechanical determinants of changing sprint direction.

(Bartlett, 2007; Holmberg, 2009)

- *Video analysis, and Posture, Placement and Intention*

COD and Multidirectional Jumping (MDJ) Tasks

Bourgeois et al., 2017 (JSCR)

Reliability (n = 20) and Kinetic Analysis (n = 19)

□ Performance measures

- COD: approach time, exit time and total time
- MDJ: approach time, jump distance

Findings

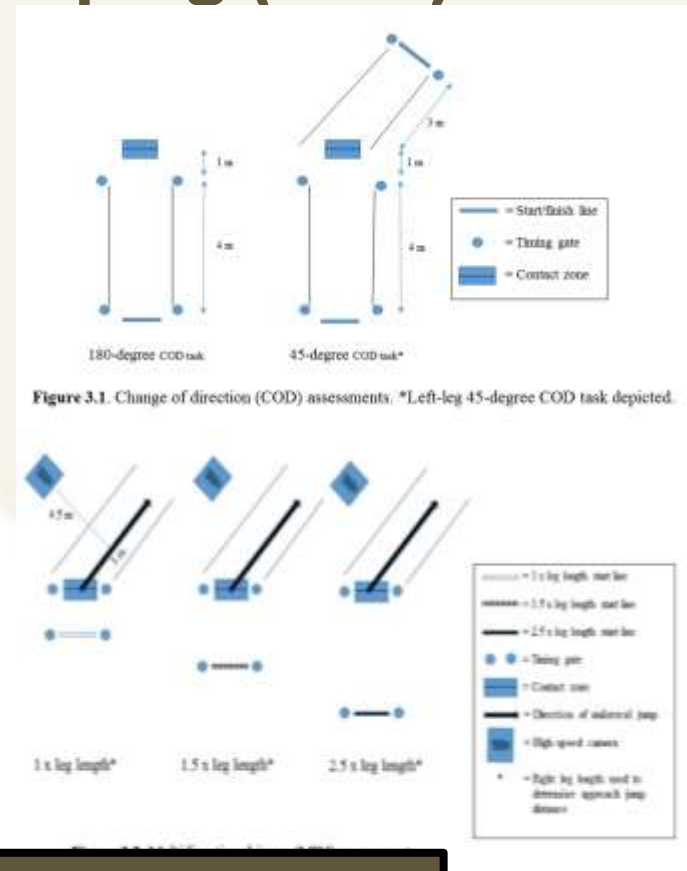
**Task-specific
kinetics**

- *COD plant-step kinetics* displayed high variability
 - *F_y and F_z = 180°* performance
- *MDJ plant-step kinetics and* displayed SLOW performances

(me) were

formance

**HIGH inter- and
intra-individual
variability**



Strength, Speed-strength and Performance in COD Tasks

Cross-section Analysis of Football Code Athletes ($n = 12$)

- ❑ 180° and 45° COD performance
 - Sprint times
- ❑ CMJ and DJ (unilateral; vertical, horizontal and lateral)
 - Displacements and stance-phase kinetics
- ❑ Isometric and isokinetic unilateral strength

Findings

- ❑ CMJ and DJ ***impulse and vertical take-off velocity*** correlated with 180° and 45° COD performance
- ❑ ***Vertical and horizontal CMJ and DJ*** measures shared task-specific association
- ❑ ***Eccentric force*** during CMJ and DJ correlated with COD performance
- ❑ ***45° COD tasks superior*** in distinguishing Forwards and Backs

Effects of a Six-week Strength Training Programme on COD Performance in Youth Rugby Athletes

Bourgeois et al., 2017 (Sports)

Strength Training Intervention

- ❑ **Eccentric phase-emphasis condition** (EPE, weeks 1 to 6, $n = 12$)
 - Posttest 1 (week 7), Rest (weeks 8 and 9), Posttest 2 (week 10)
 - Washout period (weeks 11 to 13)
- ❑ **Conventional condition** (weeks 15 to 20, $n = 6$)
 - Posttest 1 (week 21), Rest (weeks 22 and 23), Posttest 2 (week 24)

❑ Performance measures

- **Strength:** relative isometric unilateral peak force production
- **Agility:** 50% max effort sit to stand, 180° COD, exit time and total time

Mode-specific
response

- EPE = (s) decrease → (t) decrease
- ❑ **COD Benefits**
 - 180° = EPE total time g

SLOW experienced
greater benefit

Short-term Accentuated Jump Training and Performance in COD Tasks in Adolescent Rugby Union Players

Jump Training Intervention

- ❑ **Accentuated jump condition** (AJT, weeks 1 to 4, $n = 8$)
 - Posttest 1 (week 5), Washout period (weeks 6 and 7), Posttest 2 (week 8)
- ❑ **Control condition** (CON, weeks 1 to 4, $n = 8$)
 - Same as above
- ❑ **Performance measures**
 - **JUMP**: CMJ, DJ and MDJ displacements and stance-phase kinetics
 - **COD**: approach time, exit time and total time

**ACUTE response
observed**

**SLOW experienced
greater benefit**

- ❑ **COD Benefits**
 - $180^\circ = (m-vl)$ approach and exit time

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

- ❑ Consider *sport-* and *position-specific* criterion COD task(s)
 - Posture, Placement and Intention; Individual-specific changes; *Time?*
- ❑ *MDJ* can be used to *train, assess and predict* 180° and 45° COD performance
 - Sufficient familiarisation; establish reliability
- ❑ Mechanical determinants are *task-specific*
 - $\geq 90^\circ \rightarrow F_y$ and F_z ; $\leq 90^\circ \rightarrow F_x$ and F_z
 - *MDJ GCT: distance reactive index?*
- ❑ *Mode-specific* response to strength training
 - Conventional: more acute
 - Eccentric-phase emphasis: retention and development; $\leq 90^\circ$ COD tasks?
- ❑ *10 sessions* of accentuated jump training influenced jump and COD measures
 - *DJ* measures most improved
 - *Accentuated jump training beneficial post-COD-step task(s)?*

A blurred photograph of a gym with people working out, overlaid with a dark green diagonal shape. The word "QUESTIONS" is written in bold black text across the center of the image.

QUESTIONS