

# Pelvic Responses and Injuries to Male Post-Mortem Human Subjects (PMHS) in Rear-facing Seat Configurations in High-speed Frontal Impacts

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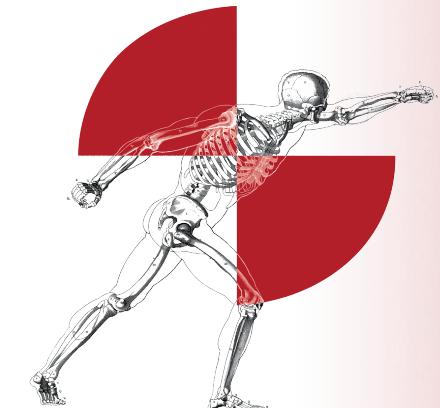
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Angela Tesny<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Bendig<sup>1</sup>, Alena Hagedorn<sup>3</sup>, Kevin Moorhouse<sup>2</sup>, John H. Bolte IV<sup>1</sup>**

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<sup>3</sup>Transportation Research Center Inc.

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*RCCADS Public Workshop*  
5/25/2023



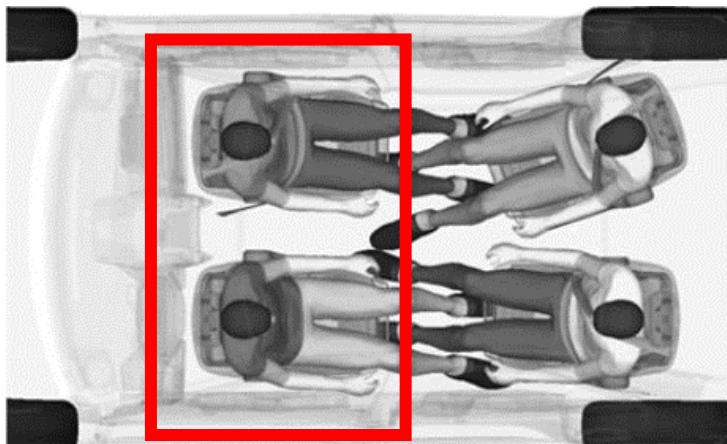
**INJURY BIOMECHANICS  
R E S E A R C H C E N T E R**



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

# Introduction

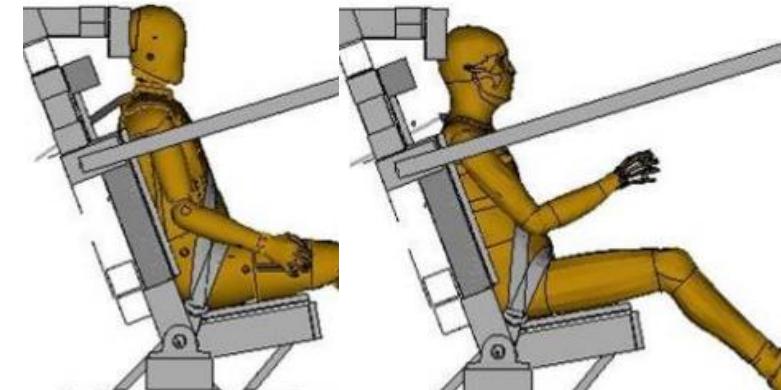
- Future vehicle interior cabin designs may incorporate non-standard seating configurations for vehicles with Automated Driving Systems (ADS)
  - One potential configuration is a reclined seat that is rear-facing in a frontal collision  
[Jorlov et al., 2017; Koppel et al., 2019; Ostling and Larsson, 2019]
  - Studies using computational models and ATDs [Kitagawa et al., 2017; Jin et al., 2018; Zeller and Manneck, 2019]
    - FE models: validated in low-speeds (< 17 km/h)
    - ATDs: not validated for rear impacts



Kitagawa et al., 2017



Zellmer and Manneck, 2019; Soni et al., 2020



# Introduction

- Recent rear-facing studies [Kang et al., 2020 & 2022]
  - PMHS responses and injuries at  $\Delta V$  of 56km/h
  - Two recline conditions (25deg & 45deg)
  - Original equipment manufacture (OEM) seats with rigid reinforcement
    - ABTS (Kang et al., 2020)
    - FDR (Kang et al., 2022)
  - PMHS injuries
    - Cervical spine laxity
    - Upper extremity injuries
    - Lower extremity injuries
    - **Rib fractures**
    - **Pelvis fractures**



ABTS/Odyssey



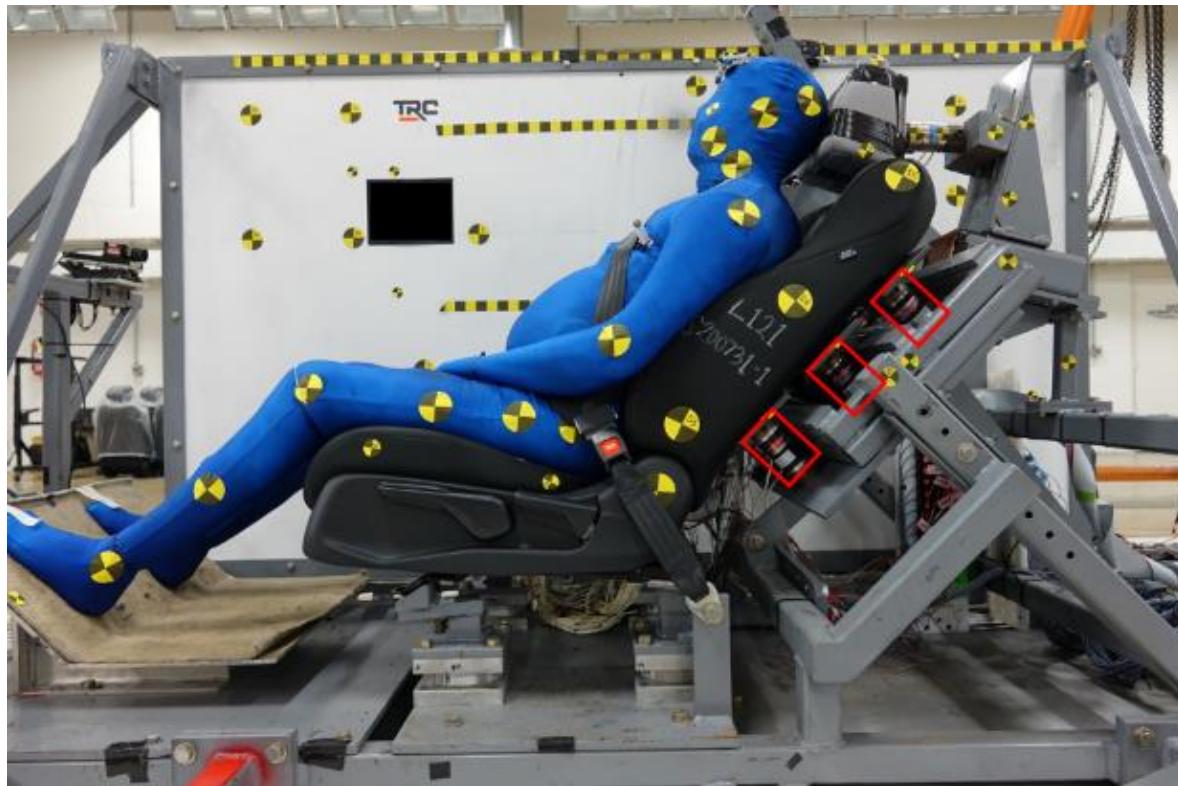
FDR/Accord

## Objectives

- To investigate pelvis injury and responses in rear-facing seat configurations in high-speed frontal impacts



# Sled Buck Description



PMHS14



PMHS21

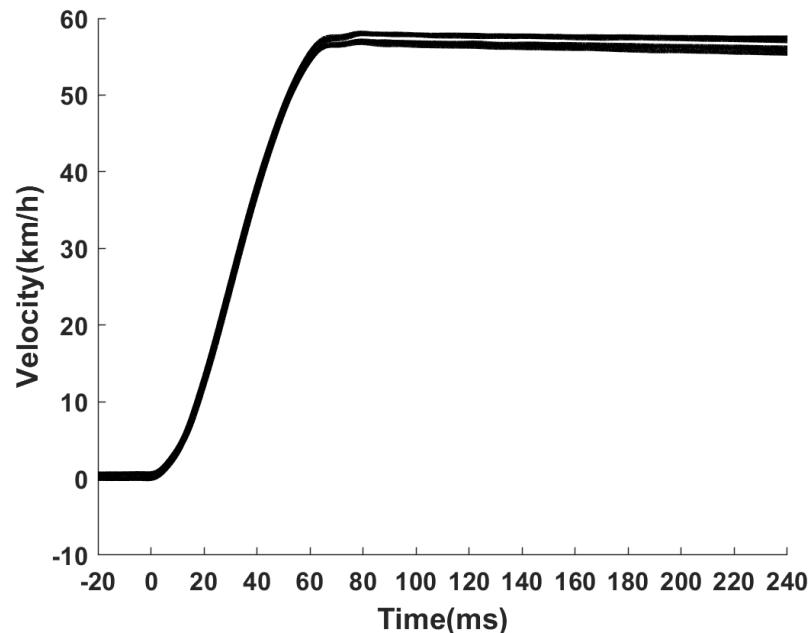
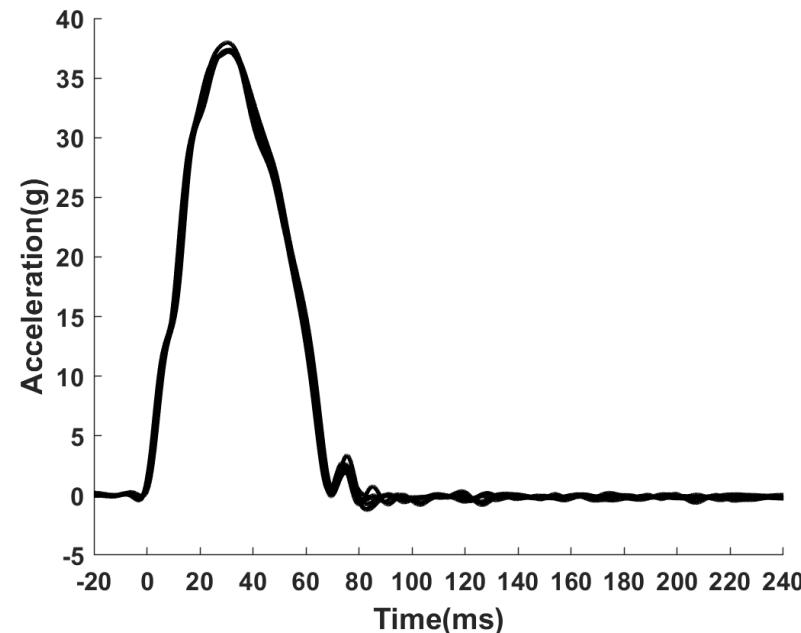


# Male PMHS Characteristics – 56 km/h

| N=14                  | Speed | Seat | Recline | Age    | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) | Seated Height (cm) | Head Mass (kg) | Chest Depth (cm) | Cause of Death                        |
|-----------------------|-------|------|---------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PMHS01                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 57     | 167.0       | 62.6        | 90.0               | 3.8            | 20.6             | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease |
| PMHS02                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 64     | 171.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 17.6             | Alcohol Abuse                         |
| PMHS03                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 54     | 174.0       | 93.9        | 97.0               | 5.0            | 20.6             | Choking and asphyxiation              |
| PMHS04                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 59     | 178.0       | 96.2        | 96.5               | 4.4            | 23.2             | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease |
| PMHS05                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 62     | 176.0       | 77.1        | 95.7               | 3.5            | 21.2             | Pancreatic CA                         |
| PMHS06                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 61     | 176.5       | 72.6        | 94.0               | 3.9            | 20.2             | Ischemic stroke, heart failure        |
| PMHS09                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 71     | 187.5       | 89.4        | 96.5               | 4.3            | 17.1             | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease |
| PMHS10                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 62     | 177.8       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 20.1             | Cardiac Arrest                        |
| PMHS11                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 65     | 181.0       | 92.1        | 96.5               | 4.3            | 21.7             | Stroke                                |
| PMHS12                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 58     | 177.8       | 71.7        | 94.2               | 3.9            | 21.1             | Lung CA with mets                     |
| PMHS13                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 53     | 176.3       | 76.2        | 95.7               | 3.7            | 19.7             | Melanoma with mets                    |
| PMHS14                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 63     | 172.3       | 85.3        | 93.0               | 3.8            | 23.4             | Heart failure                         |
| PMHS21                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 62     | 172.7       | 68.5        | 89.7               | 3.8            | 20.2             | Lung CA with mets                     |
| PMHS22                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 61     | 176.6       | 71.7        | 94.1               | 3.6            | 19.3             | Metastatic squamous cell carcinoma    |
| Mean (SD)             | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 61 (5) | 176.0 (4.8) | 80.0 (12.7) | 94.3 (2.3)         | 4.0 (0.4)      | 20.4 (1.8)       | N/A                                   |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Male | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 45     | 175         | 78.2        | 90.7               | 4.5            | 22.9             | N/A                                   |

# Male PMHS Characteristics – 56 km/h

| N=14                  | Speed | Seat | Recline | Age    | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) | Seated Height (cm) | Head Mass (kg) | Chest Depth (cm) | Cause of Death                        |
|-----------------------|-------|------|---------|--------|-------------|-------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|
| PMHS01                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 57     | 167.0       | 62.6        | 90.0               | 3.8            | 20.6             | Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease |
| PMHS02                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 64     | 171.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 17.6             | Alcohol Abuse                         |
| PMHS03                | 56    | ABTS | ABT     | ABT    | ABT         | ABT         | ABT                | ABT            | ABT              | ABT                                   |
| PMHS04                | 56    | ABTS | ABT     | ABT    | ABT         | ABT         | ABT                | ABT            | ABT              | ABT                                   |
| PMHS05                | 56    | ABTS | ABT     | ABT    | ABT         | ABT         | ABT                | ABT            | ABT              | ABT                                   |
| PMHS06                | 56    | ABTS | ABT     | ABT    | ABT         | ABT         | ABT                | ABT            | ABT              | ABT                                   |
| PMHS09                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS10                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS11                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS12                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS13                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS14                | 56    | FDR  | FDR     | FDR    | FDR         | FDR         | FDR                | FDR            | FDR              | FDR                                   |
| PMHS21                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 62     | 172.7       | 68.5        | 89.7               | 3.8            | 20.2             | Lung CA with mets                     |
| PMHS22                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 61     | 176.6       | 71.7        | 94.1               | 3.6            | 19.3             | Metastatic squamous cell carcinoma    |
| Mean (SD)             | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 61 (5) | 176.0 (4.8) | 80.0 (12.7) | 94.3 (2.3)         | 4.0 (0.4)      | 20.4 (1.8)       | N/A                                   |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Male | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 45     | 175         | 78.2        | 90.7               | 4.5            | 22.9             | N/A                                   |



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| N=14                  | Speed | Seat | Recline | Age | Height (cm) | Weight (kg) | Seated Height (cm) | Head Mass | Chest Depth | Cause of Death |
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| PMHS02                | 56    | ABTS | 25      |     |             |             | 92.4               |           |             | Alcohol        |
| PMHS03                | 56    | ABTS | 25      |     |             |             | 97.0               |           |             | Chronic        |
| PMHS04                | 56    | ABTS | 45      |     |             |             | 96.5               |           |             | Chronic        |
| PMHS05                | 56    | ABTS | 45      |     |             |             | 95.7               |           |             | Paralysis      |
| PMHS06                | 56    | ABTS | 25      |     |             |             | 94.0               |           |             | Ischemia       |
| PMHS09                | 56    | FDR  | 45      |     |             |             | 96.5               |           |             | Chronic        |
| PMHS10                | 56    | FDR  | 25      |     |             |             | 94.5               |           |             | Cardiac        |
| PMHS11                | 56    | FDR  | 25      |     |             |             | 96.5               |           |             | Stroke         |
| PMHS12                | 56    | FDR  | 25      |     |             |             | 94.2               |           |             | Lung           |
| PMHS13                | 56    | FDR  | 45      |     |             |             | 95.7               |           |             | Melancholy     |
| PMHS14                | 56    | FDR  | 45      |     |             |             | 93.0               |           |             | Headache       |
| PMHS21                | 56    | FDR  | 25      |     |             |             | 89.7               |           |             | Lung           |
| PMHS22                | 56    | FDR  | 45      |     |             |             | 94.1               |           |             | Metabolic      |
| Mean (SD)             | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     |     |             |             | 94.3 (2.3)         |           |             | N/A            |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Male | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     |     |             |             | 90.7               |           |             |                |

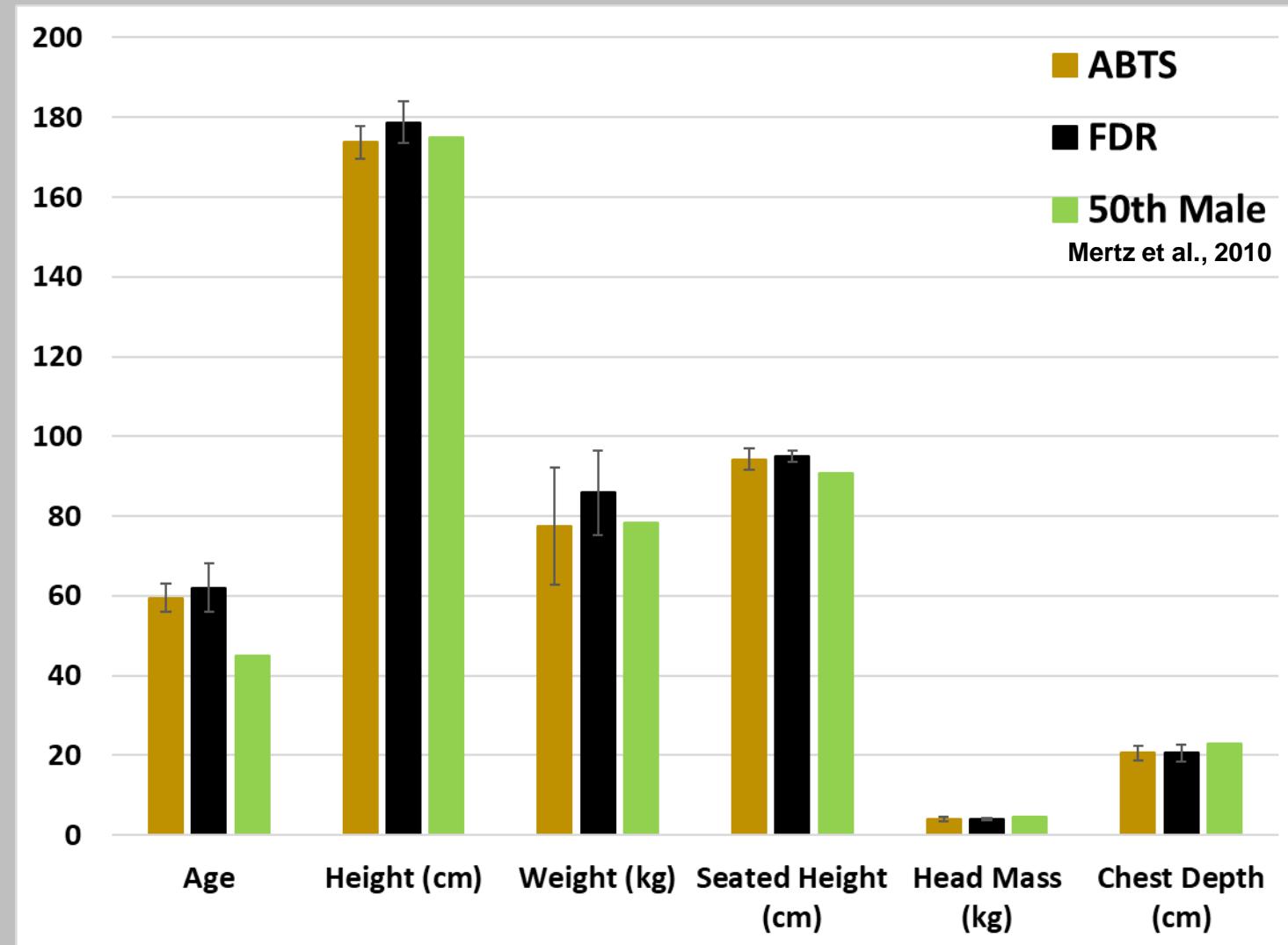
The collage consists of five images:

- Top-left: A blue-painted PMHS seated in a grey car seat, facing forward, with yellow reflective markers attached to its body. The background shows a white wall with black and yellow hazard stripes.
- Top-right: A view of the PMHS's head and neck assembly, showing the internal mechanical structure and sensors.
- Bottom-left: Another view of the PMHS seated in the car seat, with more yellow markers visible on its legs and torso.
- Bottom-right: A view of the PMHS's back and spine area, showing the internal mechanical structure and sensors.
- Bottom-center: A view of the PMHS's lower back and pelvis area, showing the internal mechanical structure and sensors.

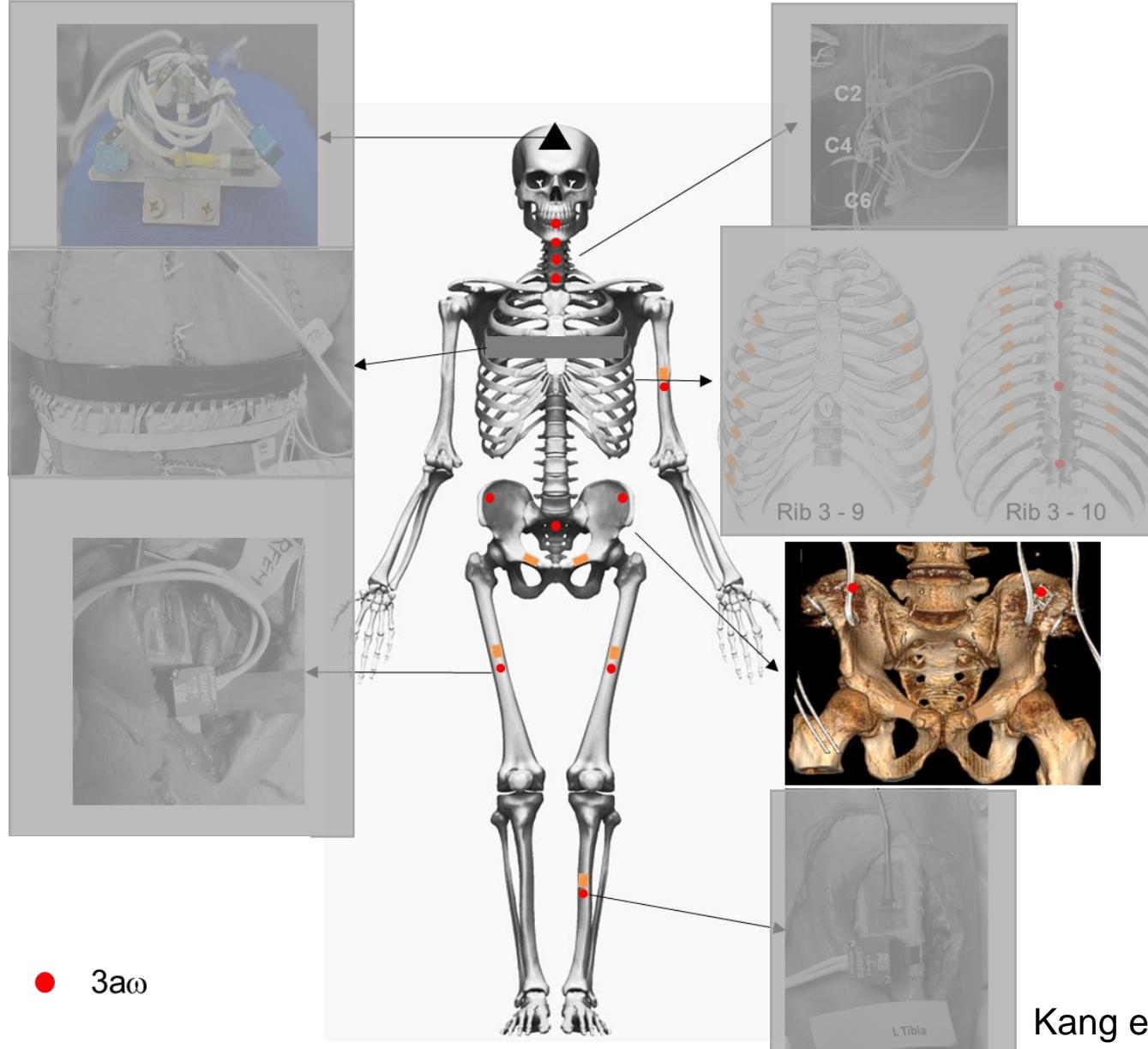
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| PMHS02                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 64     | 171.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 17.6             | Alcohol Abuse                         |
| PMHS03                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 54     | 174.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 20.0             |                                       |
| PMHS04                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 59     | 178.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 23.0             |                                       |
| PMHS05                | 56    | ABTS | 45      | 62     | 176.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 21.0             |                                       |
| PMHS06                | 56    | ABTS | 25      | 61     | 176.0       | 62.6        | 92.4               | 3.6            | 20.0             |                                       |
| PMHS09                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 71     | 187.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 17.0             |                                       |
| PMHS10                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 62     | 177.8       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 20.1             | Cardiac Arrest                        |
| PMHS11                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 65     | 181.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 21.0             |                                       |
| PMHS12                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 58     | 177.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 21.0             |                                       |
| PMHS13                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 53     | 176.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 19.0             |                                       |
| PMHS14                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 63     | 172.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 23.0             |                                       |
| PMHS21                | 56    | FDR  | 25      | 62     | 172.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 20.0             |                                       |
| PMHS22                | 56    | FDR  | 45      | 61     | 176.0       | 100.7       | 94.5               | 4.4            | 19.0             | Carcinoma                             |
| Mean (SD)             | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 61 (5) | 176.0 (4.8) | 80.0 (12.7) | 94.3 (2.3)         | 4.0 (0.4)      | 20.4 (1.8)       | N/A                                   |
| 50 <sup>th</sup> Male | N/A   | N/A  | N/A     | 45     | 175         | 78.2        | 90.7               | 4.5            | 22.9             | N/A                                   |

# Male PMHS Characteristics – 56 km/h

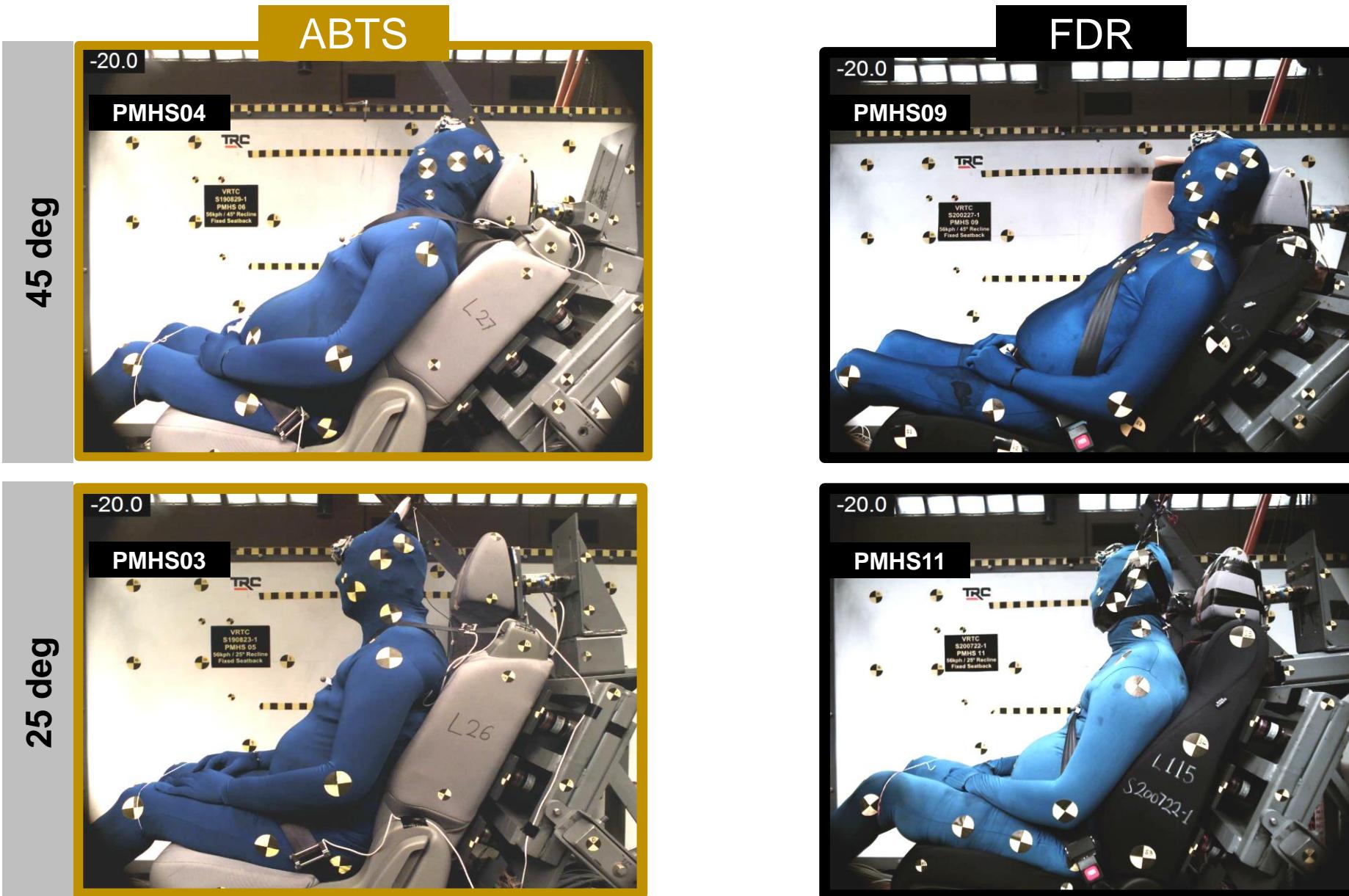


# PMHS Instrumentation

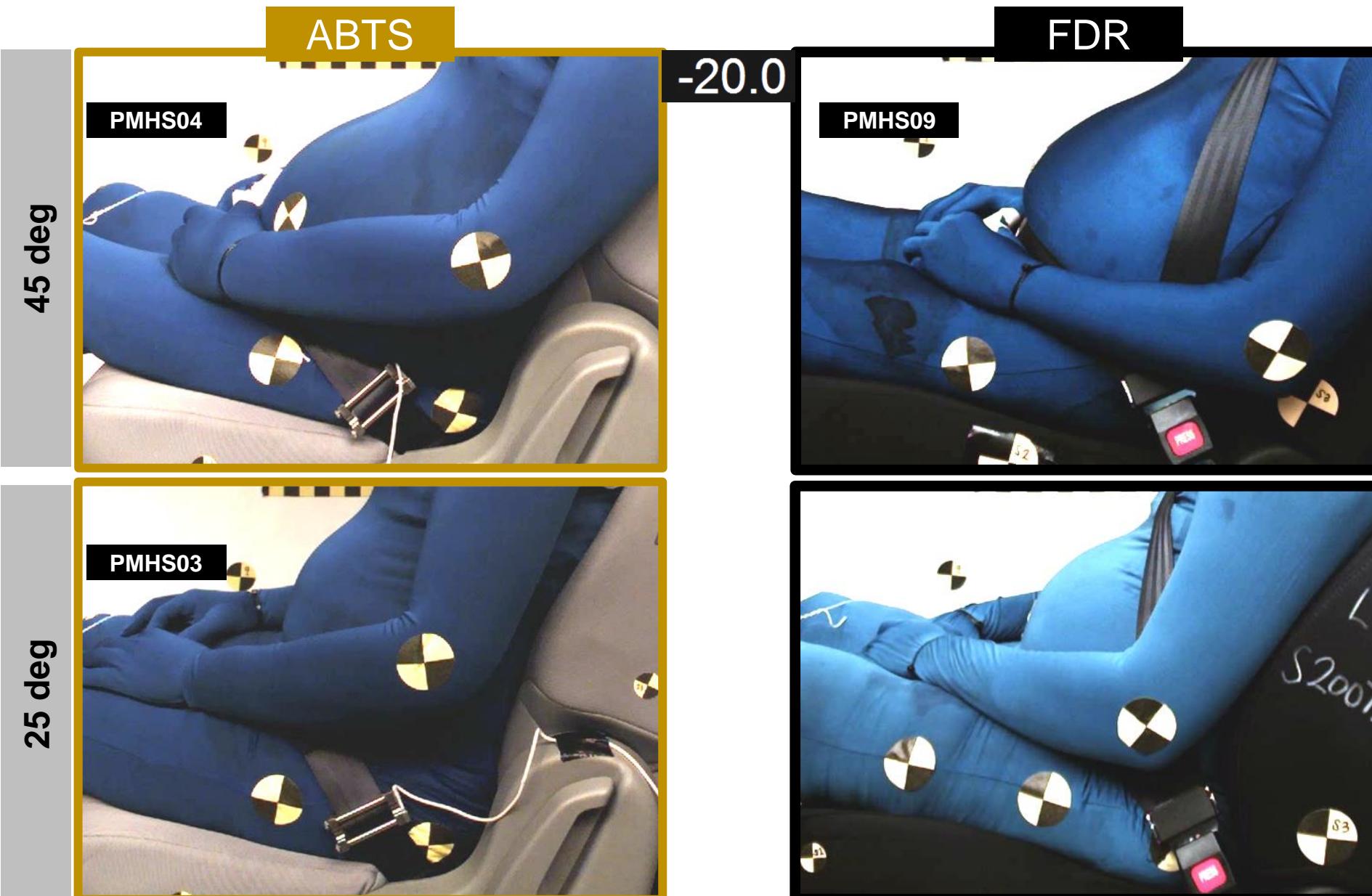


Kang et al., 2020 & 2022

# High Speed Videos



# High Speed Videos



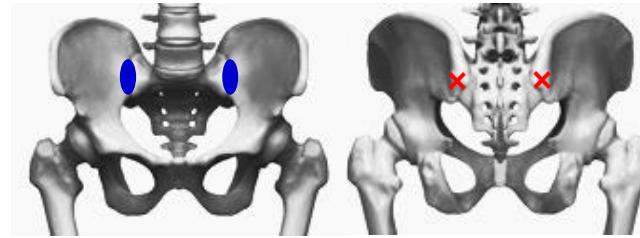
**56 kph, 45 deg**

Fracture  
 SI Joint damage

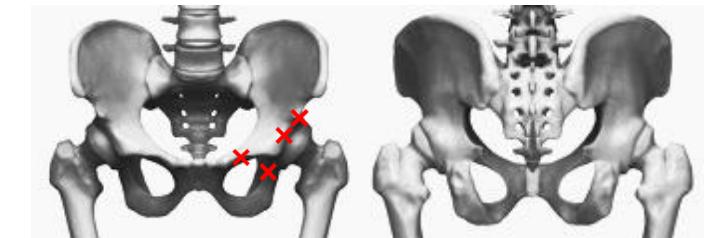
ABTS



PMHS01

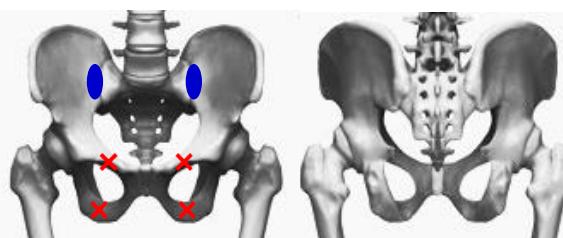


PMHS04

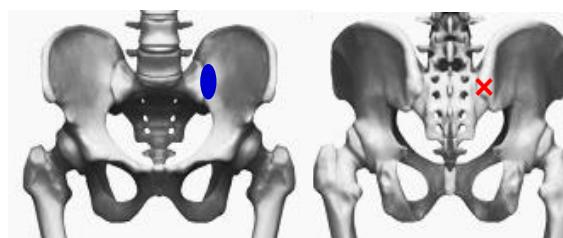


PMHS05

FDR



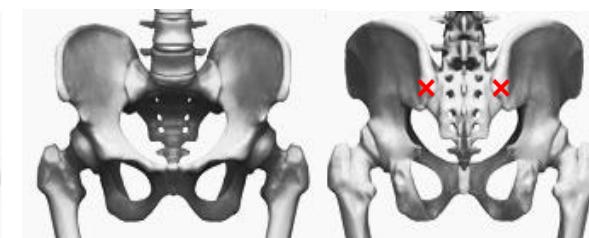
PMHS09



PMHS13



PMHS14

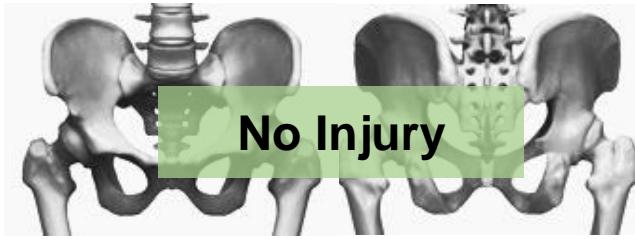


PMHS22

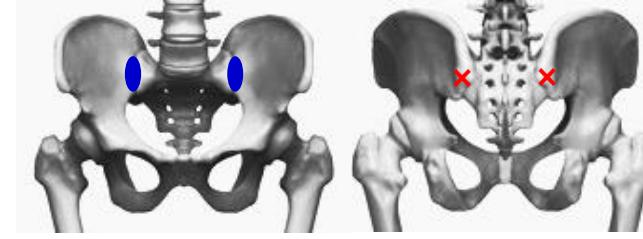
**56 kph, 45 deg**

 Fracture  
 SI Joint damage

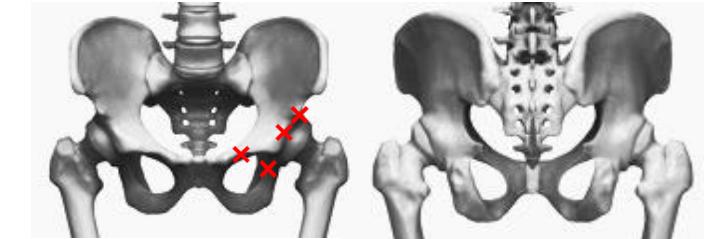
ABTS



**PMHS01**



**PMHS04**



**PMHS05**

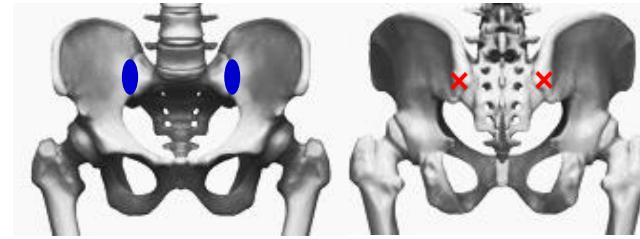
56 kph, 45 deg

✖ Fracture  
● Joint damage

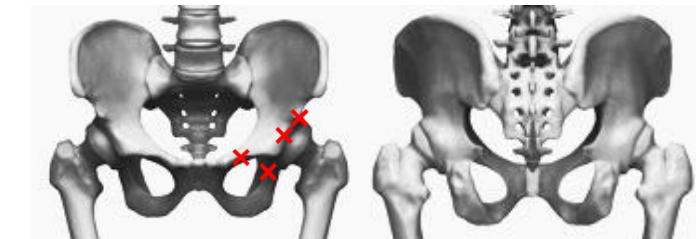
ABTS



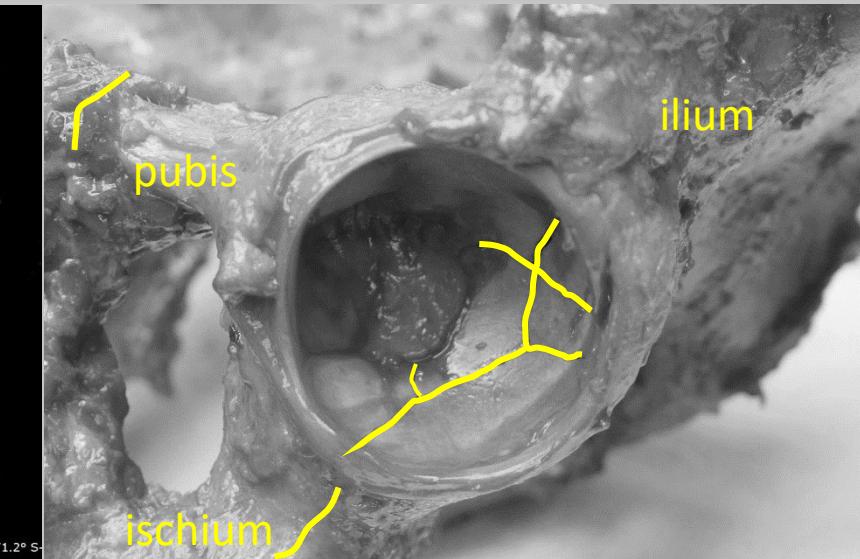
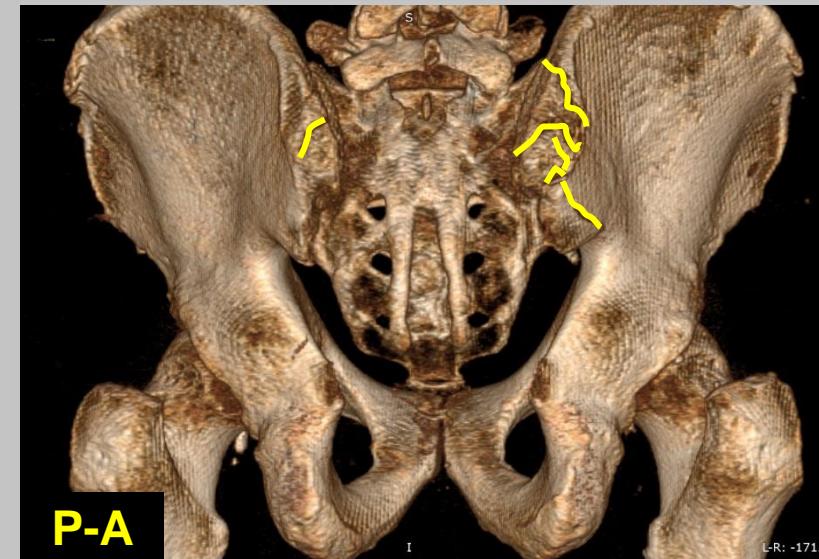
PMHS01



PMHS04



PMHS05



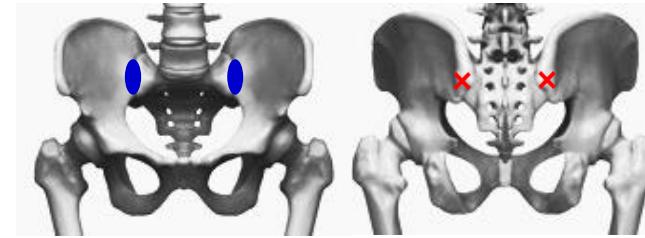
**56 kph, 45 deg**

 Fracture  
 Joint damage

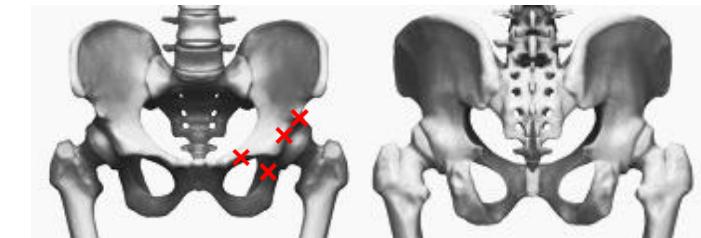
ABTS



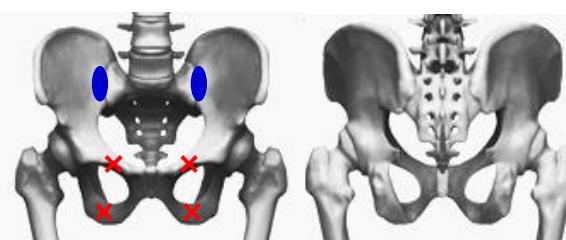
PMHS01



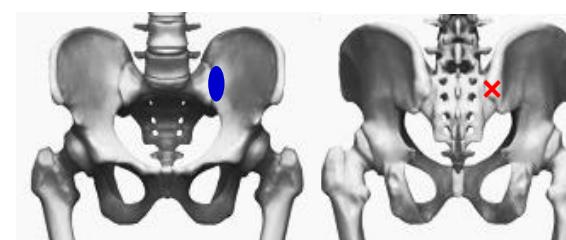
PMHS04



PMHS05



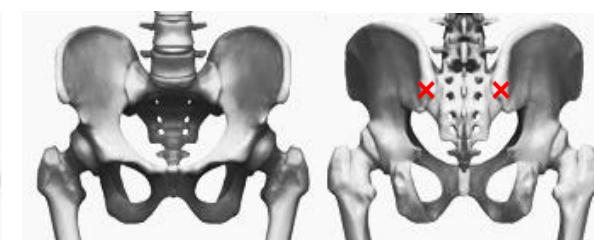
PMHS09



PMHS13



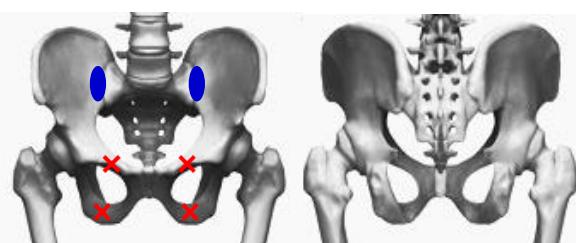
PMHS14



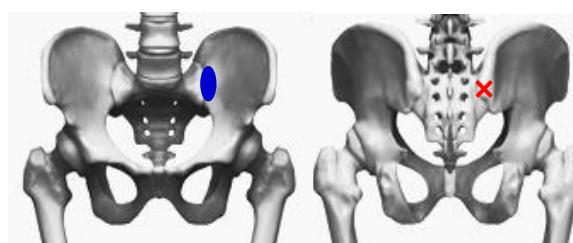
PMHS22

**56 kph, 45 deg**

FDR



**PMHS09**



**PMHS13**

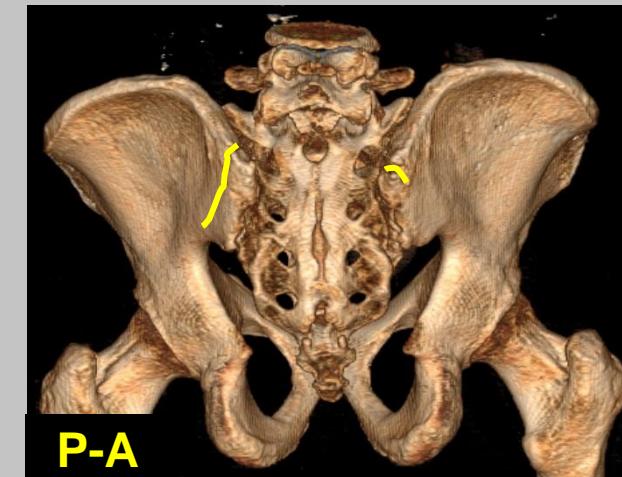
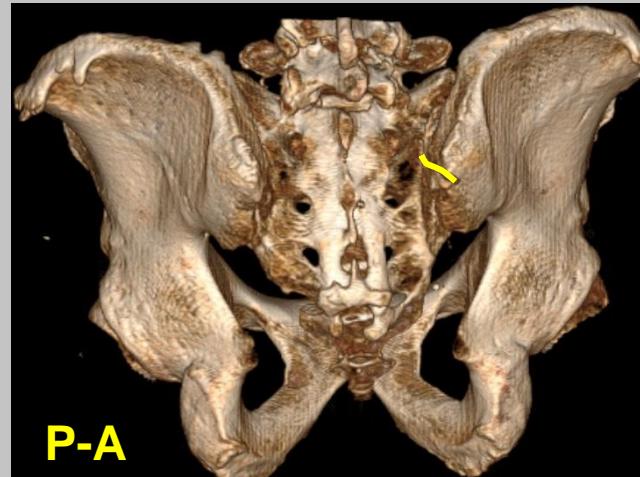
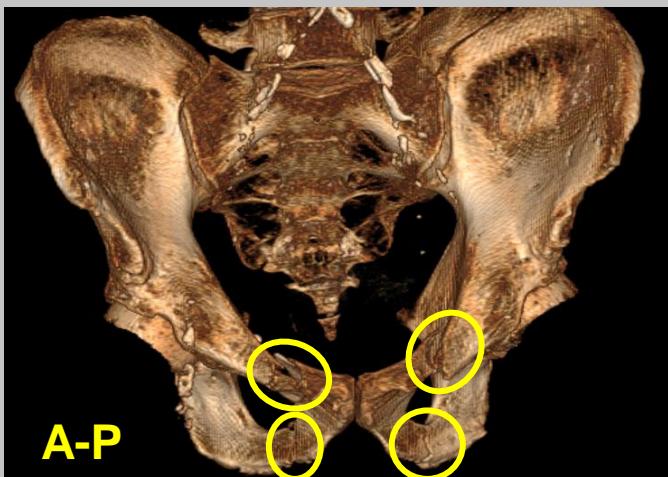


**PMHS14**

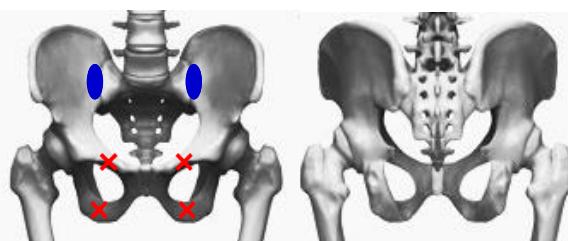


**PMHS22**

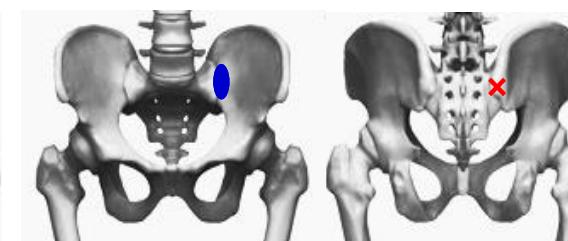
**56 kph, 45 deg**



FDR



**PMHS09**

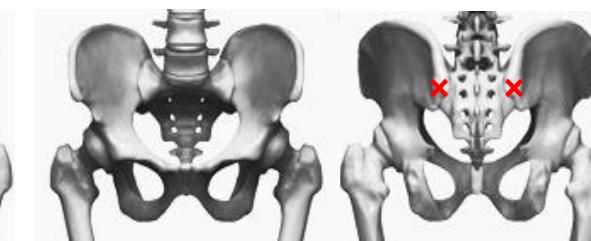


**PMHS13**



**No Injury**

**PMHS14**



**PMHS22**

**56 kph, 25 deg**

 Fracture  
 Joint damage

ABTS



PMHS02

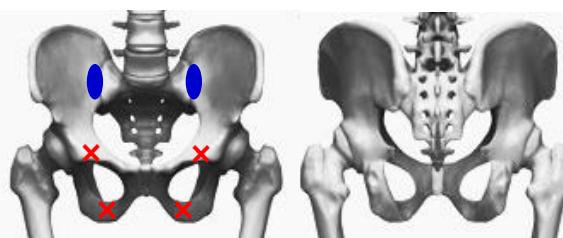


PMHS03



PMHS06

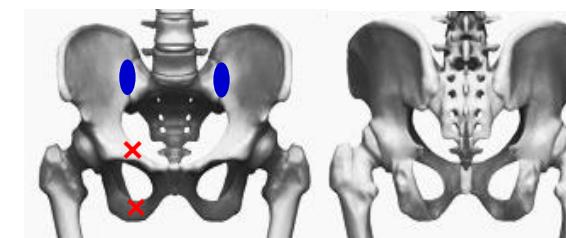
FDR



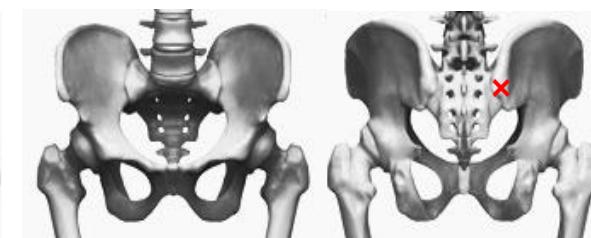
PMHS10



PMHS11



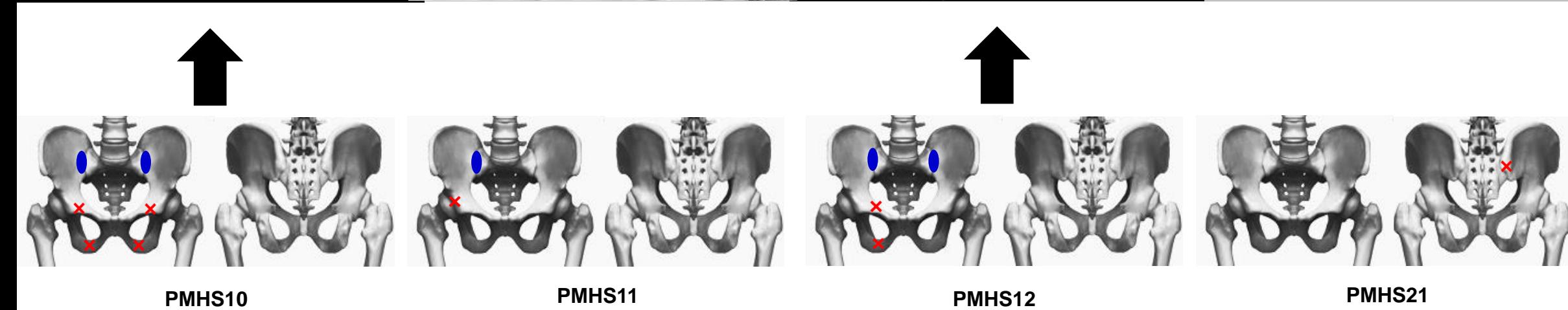
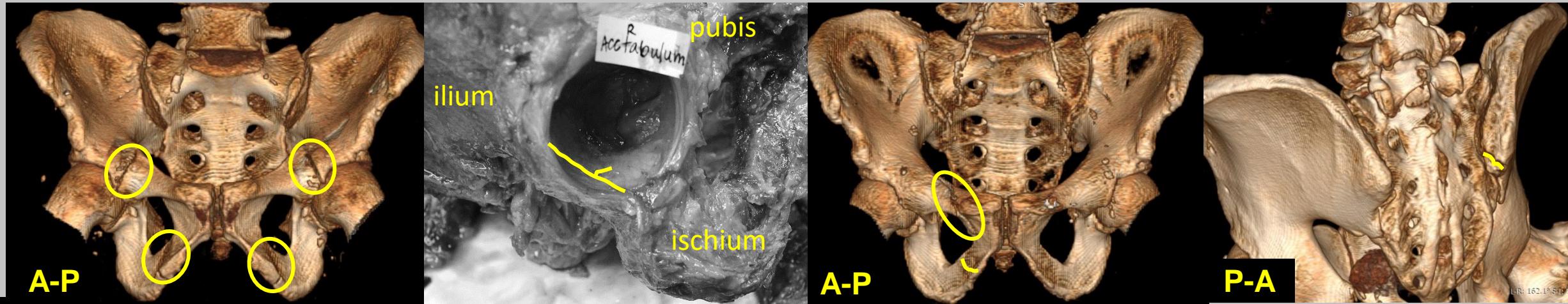
PMHS12



PMHS21

**56 kph, 25 deg**

 Fracture  
 Joint damage



56 kph, 25 deg

✖ Fracture  
● Joint damage

ABTS



PMHS02



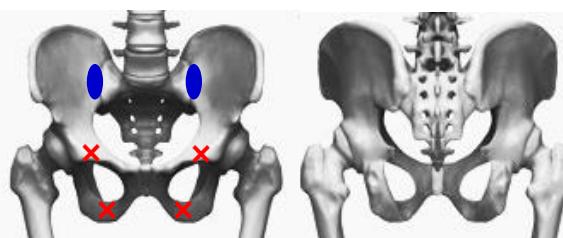
PMHS03



PMHS06

Why?

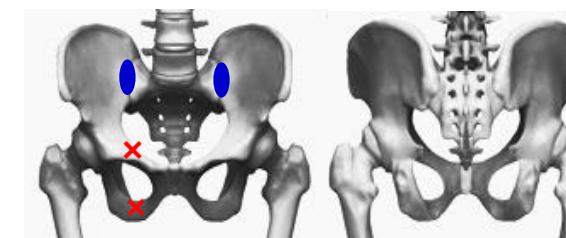
FDR



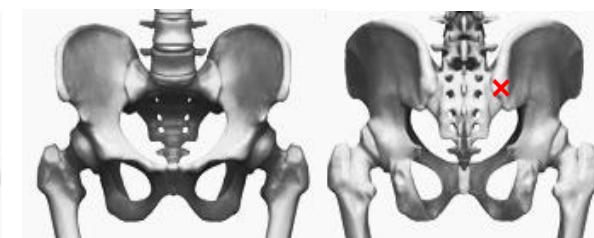
PMHS10



PMHS11

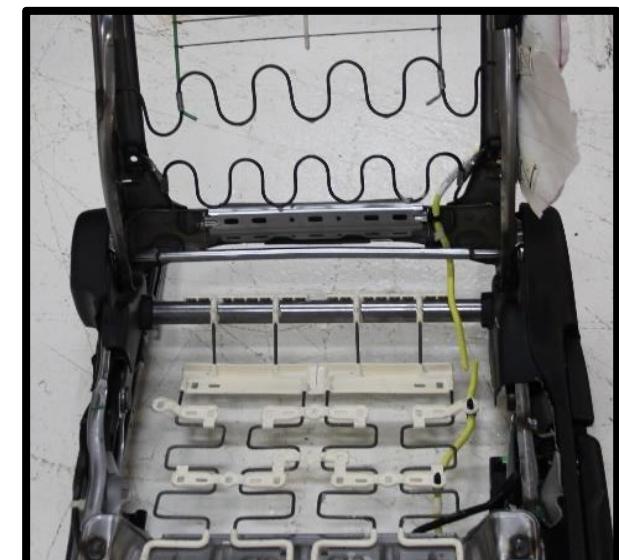
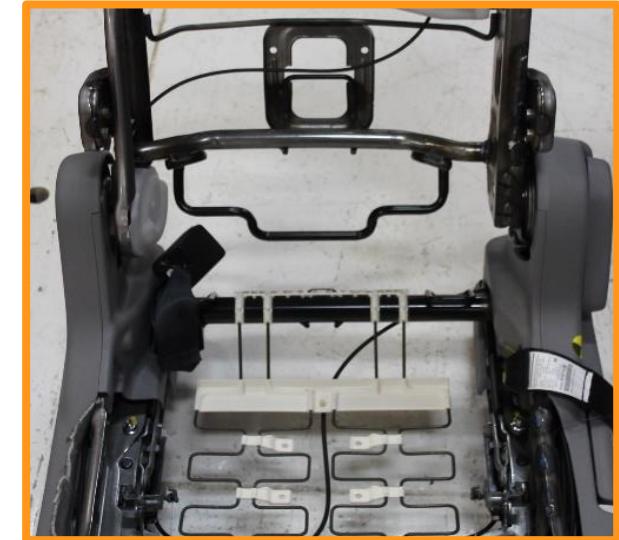
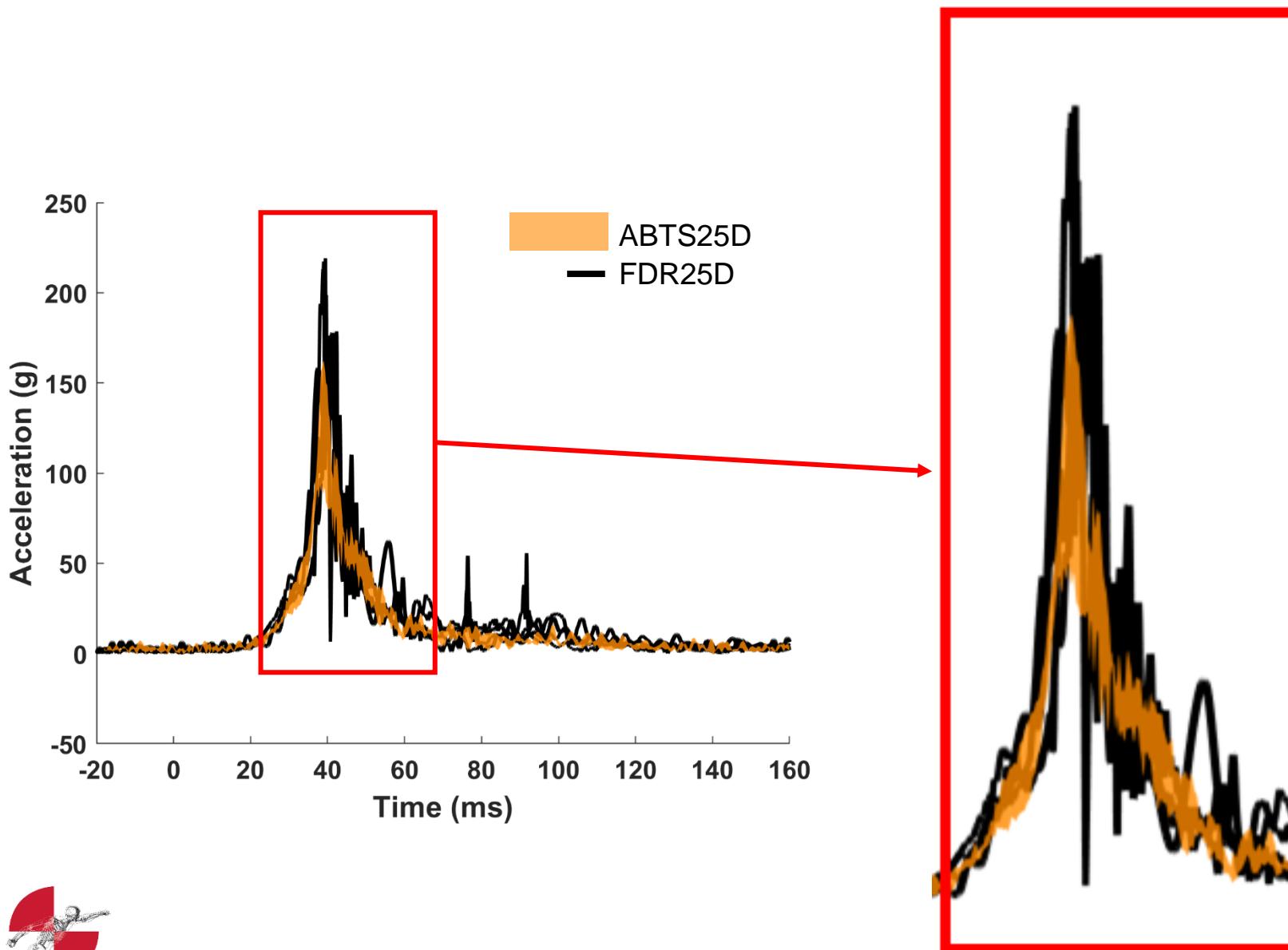


PMHS12

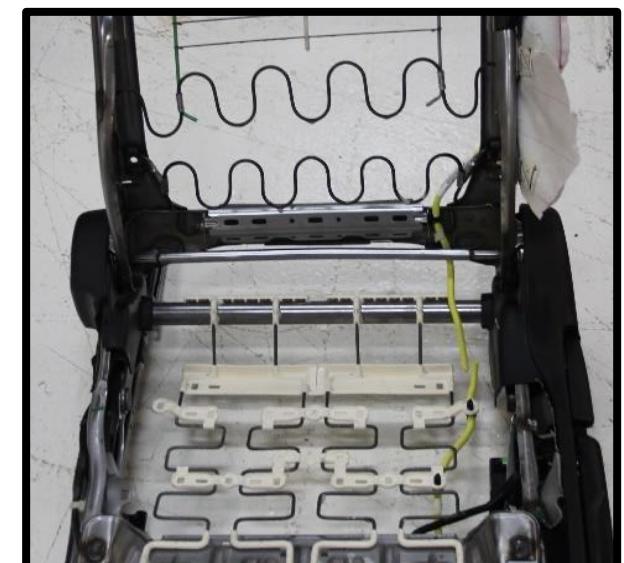
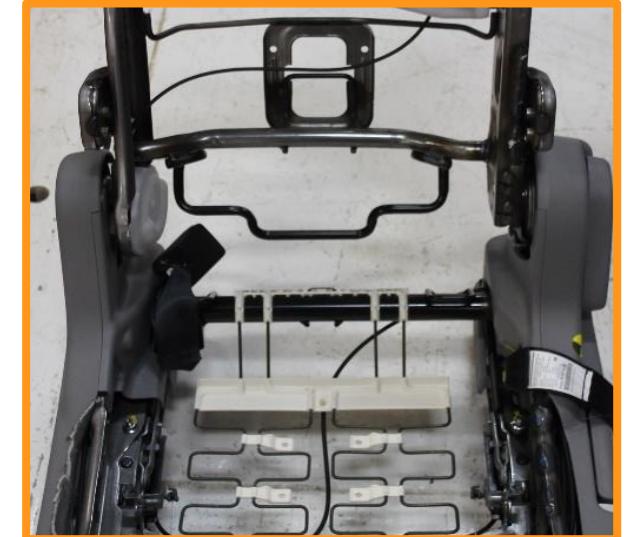
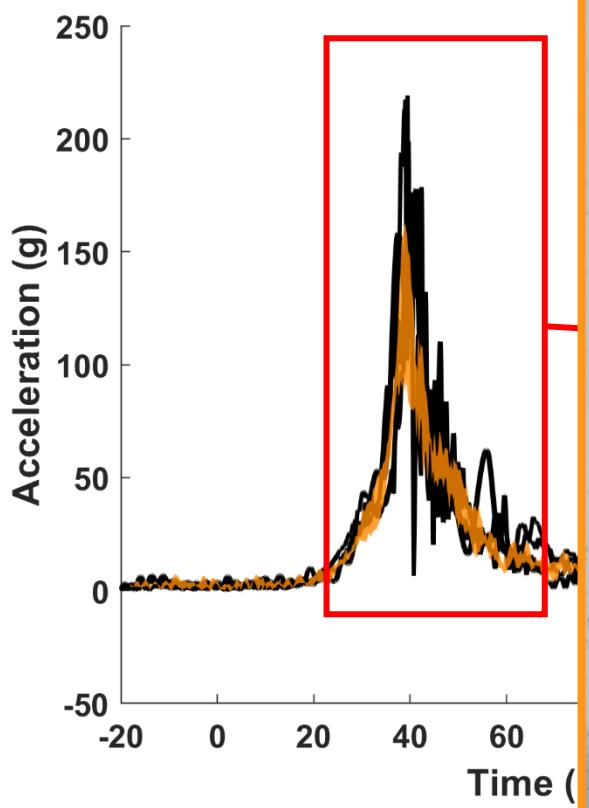


PMHS21

# Pelvis Resultant Acceleration

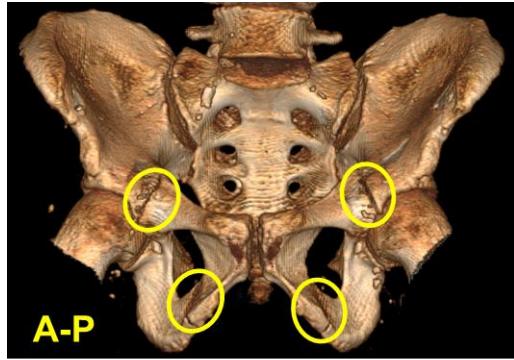


# Pelvis Resultant Acceleration

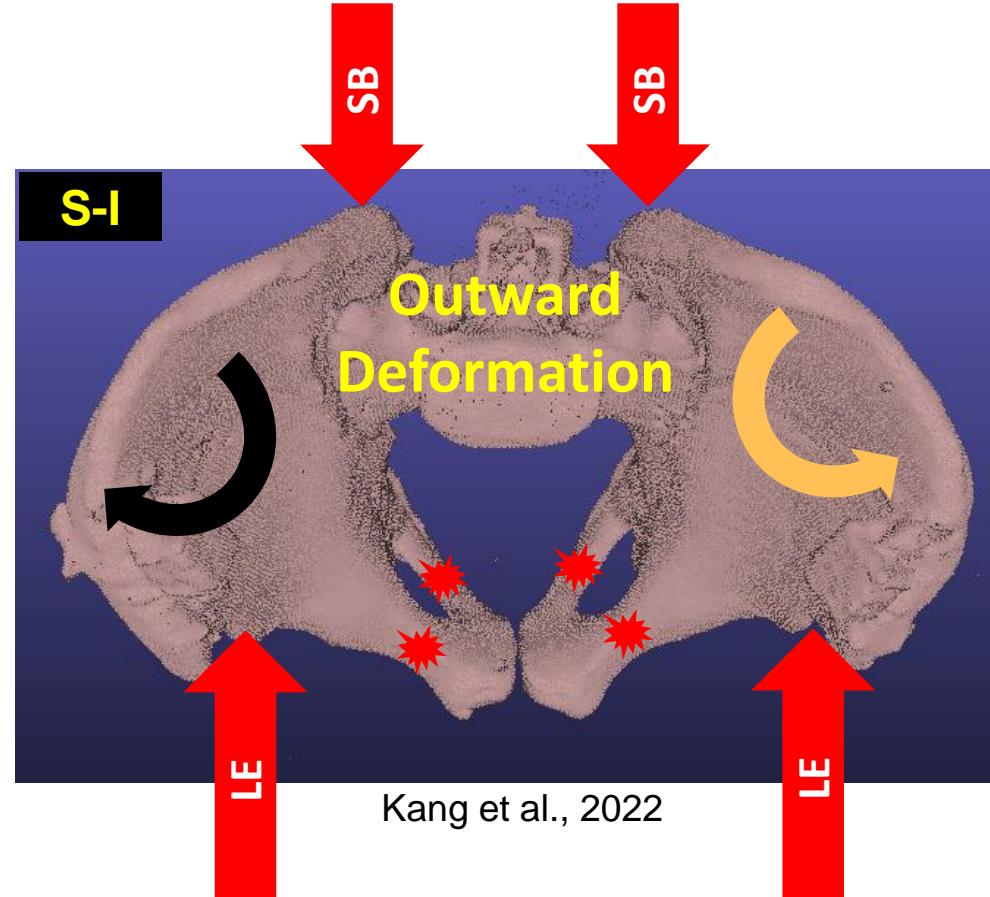
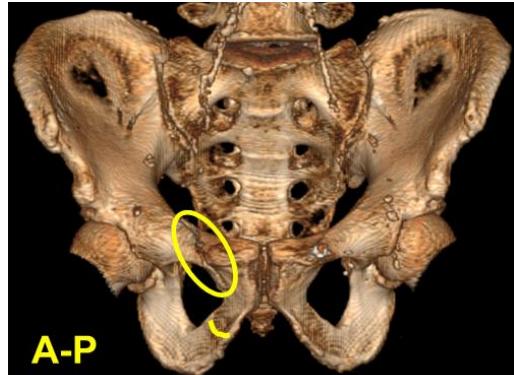


# Pubic Ramus Fracture

PMHS10  
FDR25D



PMHS12  
FDR25D



$$(7+3)\text{kg} \times 90\text{g} \times 9.81 = 8.8\text{kN}$$

$$(7+3)\text{kg} \times 90\text{g} \times 9.81 = 8.8\text{kN}$$

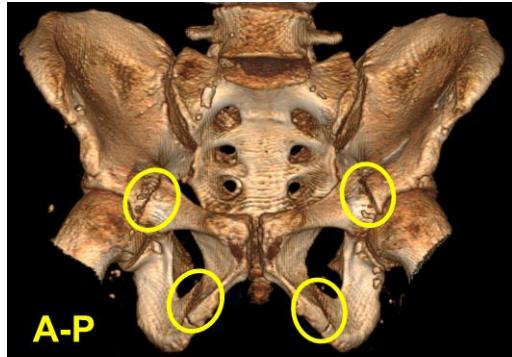


- Thigh: ~7kg
- Leg: ~3kg

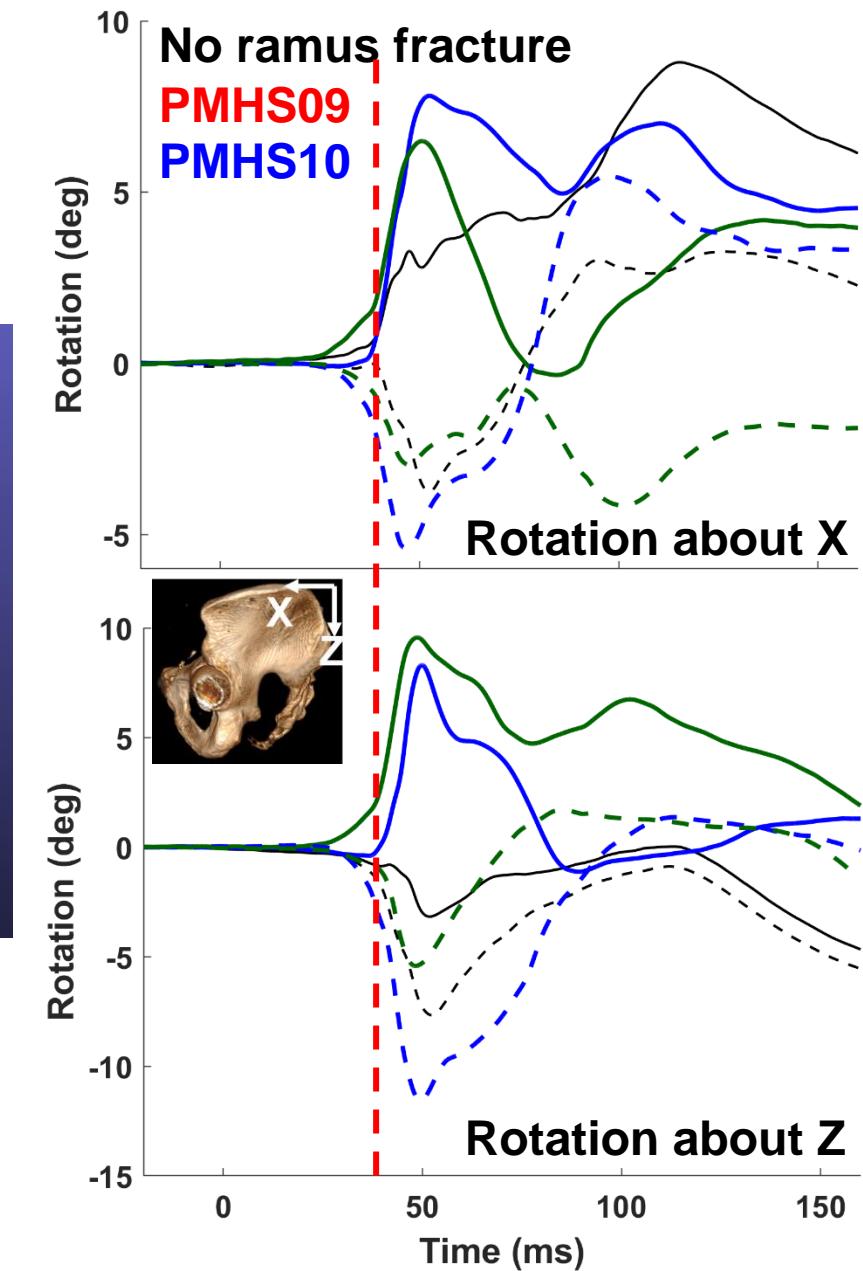
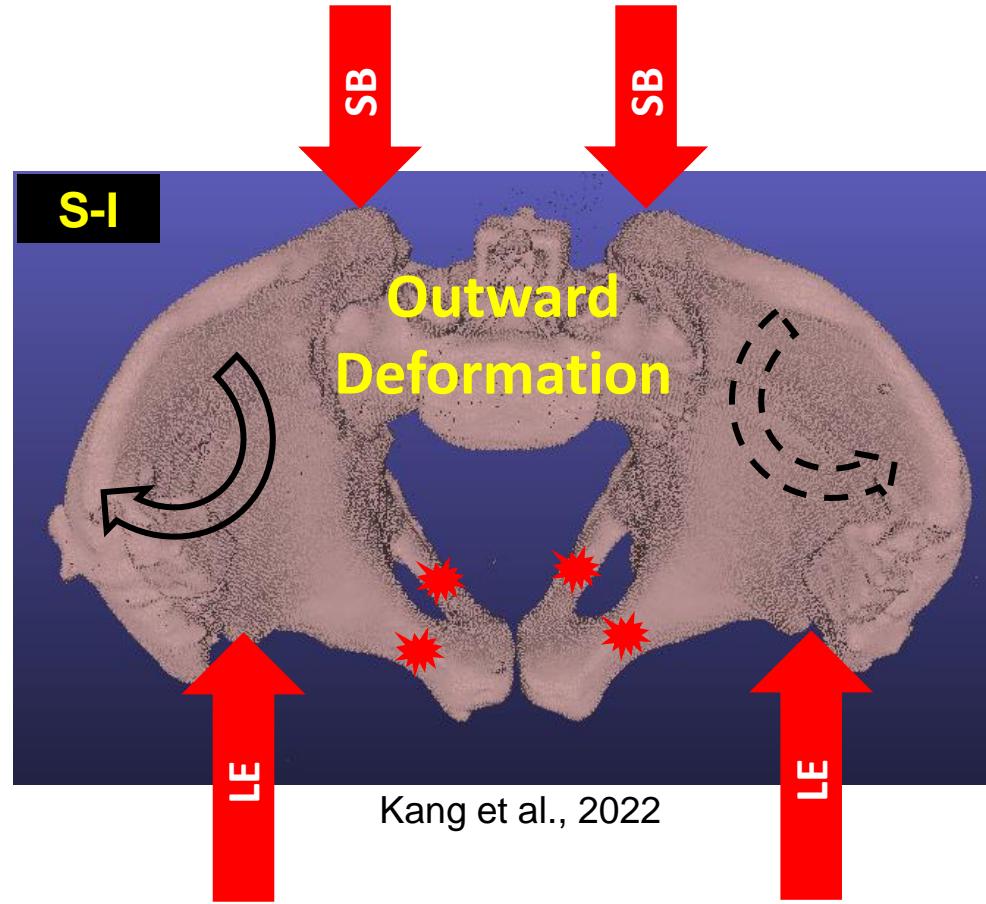
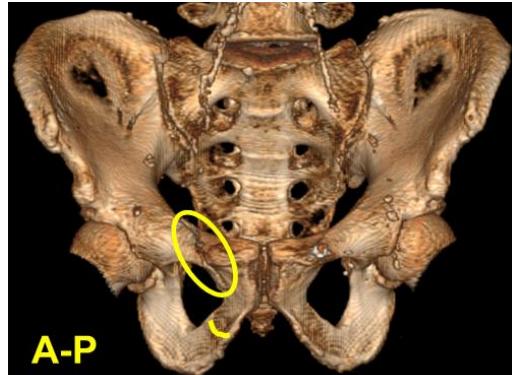


# Pelvis Outward Deformation

PMHS10  
FDR25D

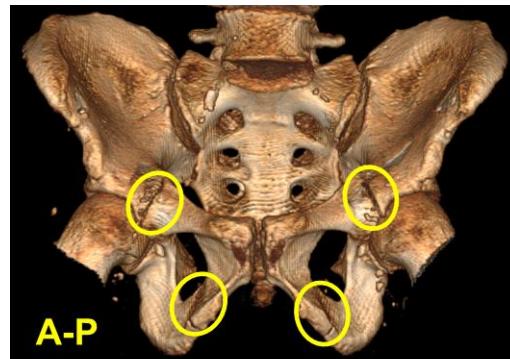


PMHS12  
FDR25D

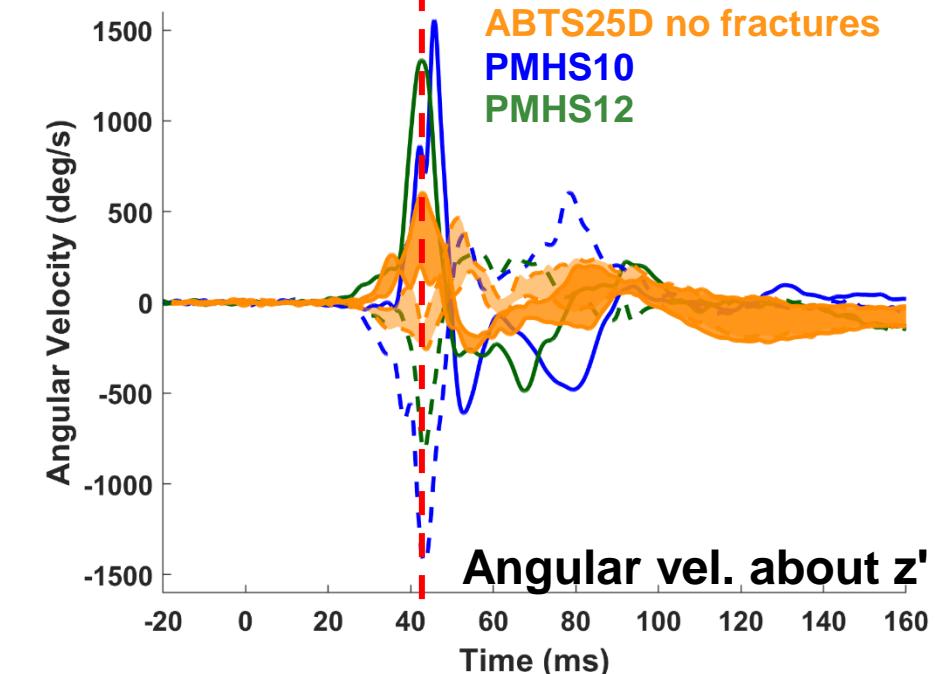
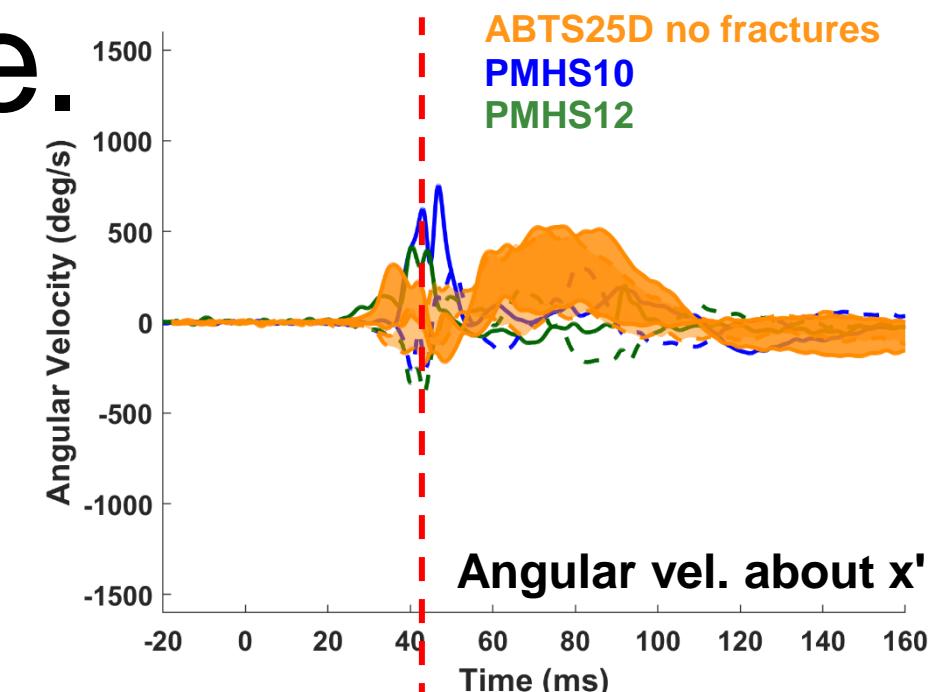
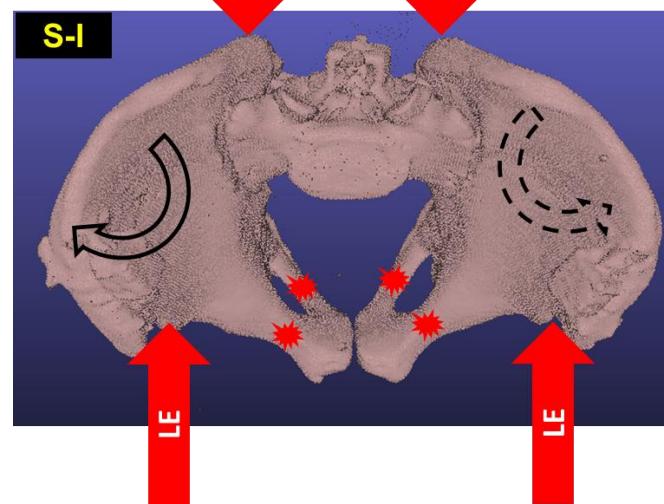
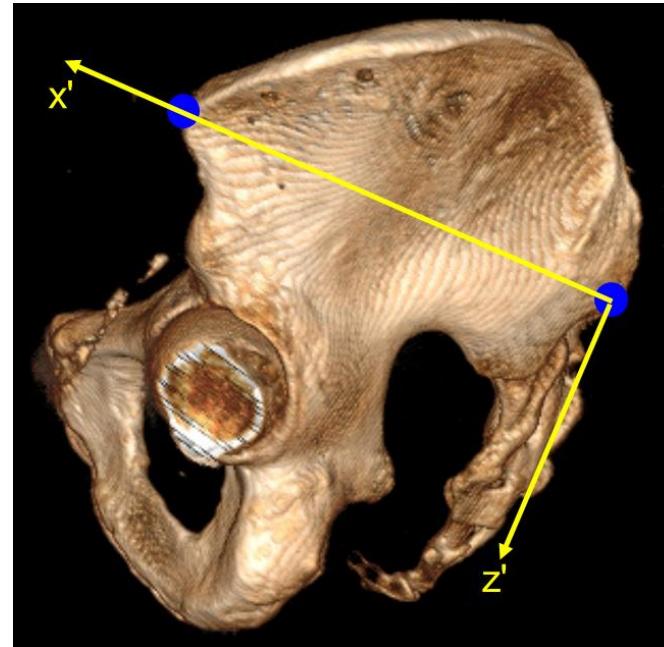
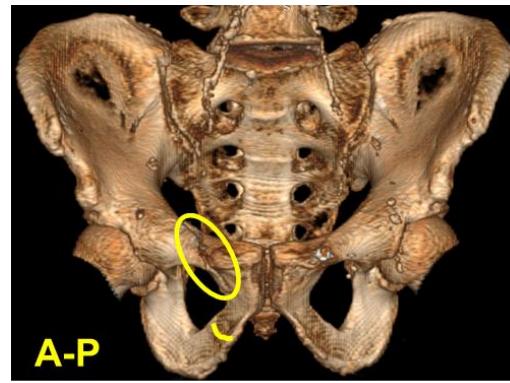


# Pelvis Off-axis Local Kine.

PMHS10  
FDR25D



PMHS12  
FDR25D



56 kph, 25 deg

Fracture  
Joint damage

ABTS



PMHS02

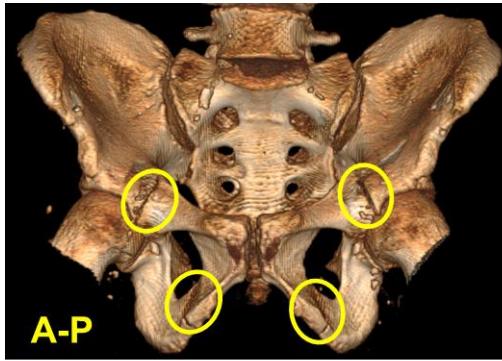


PMHS03

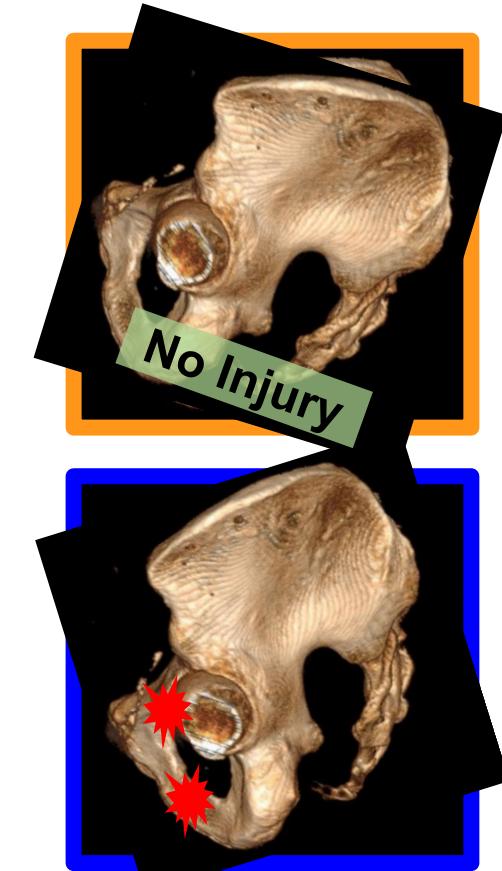
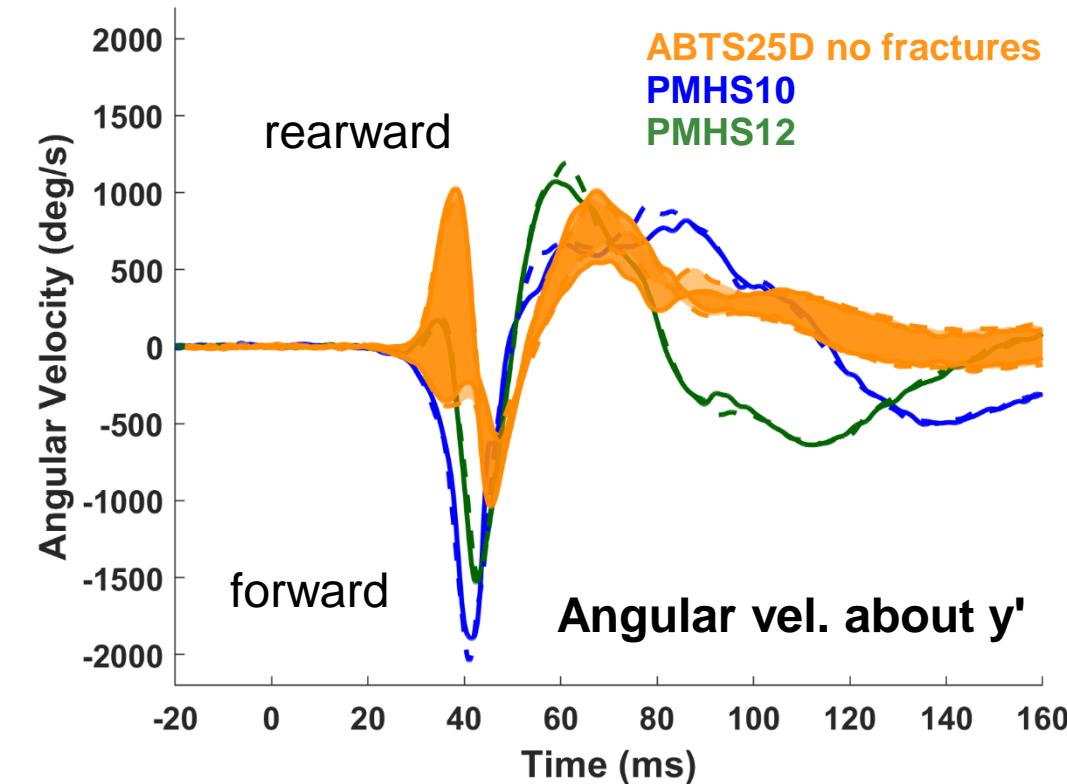
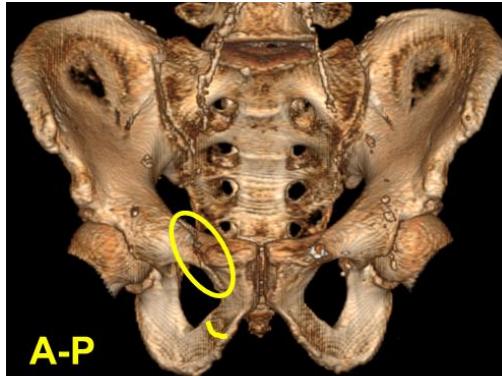


PMHS06

PMHS10  
FDR25D

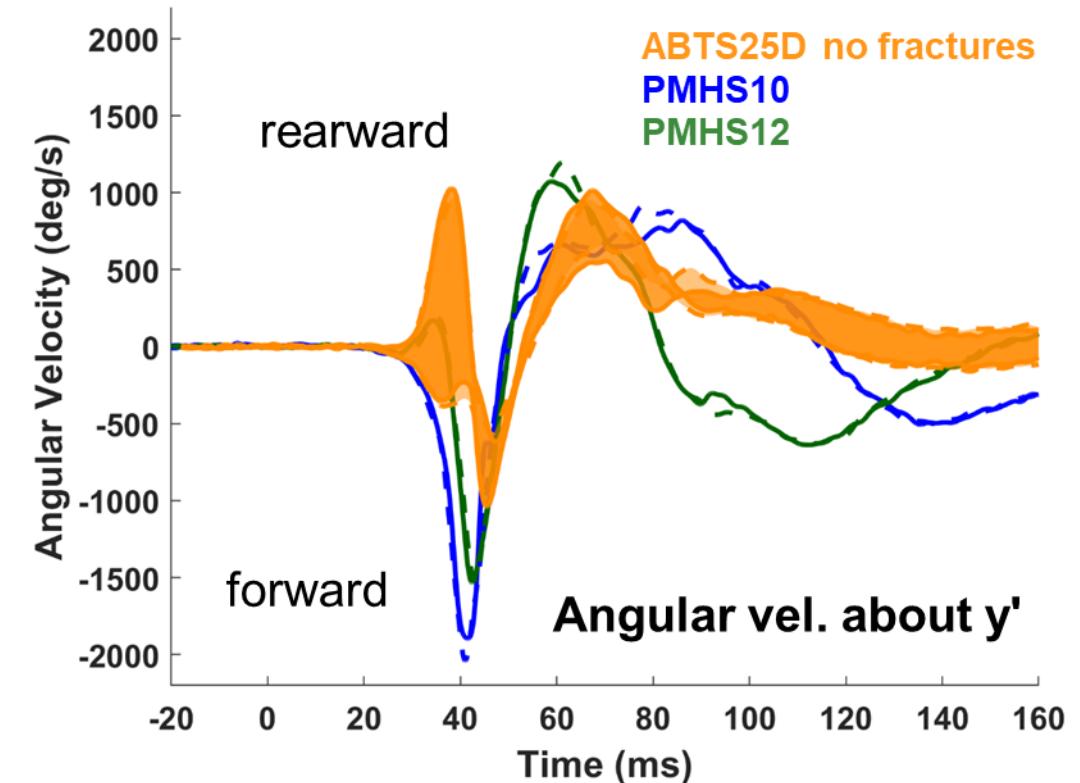
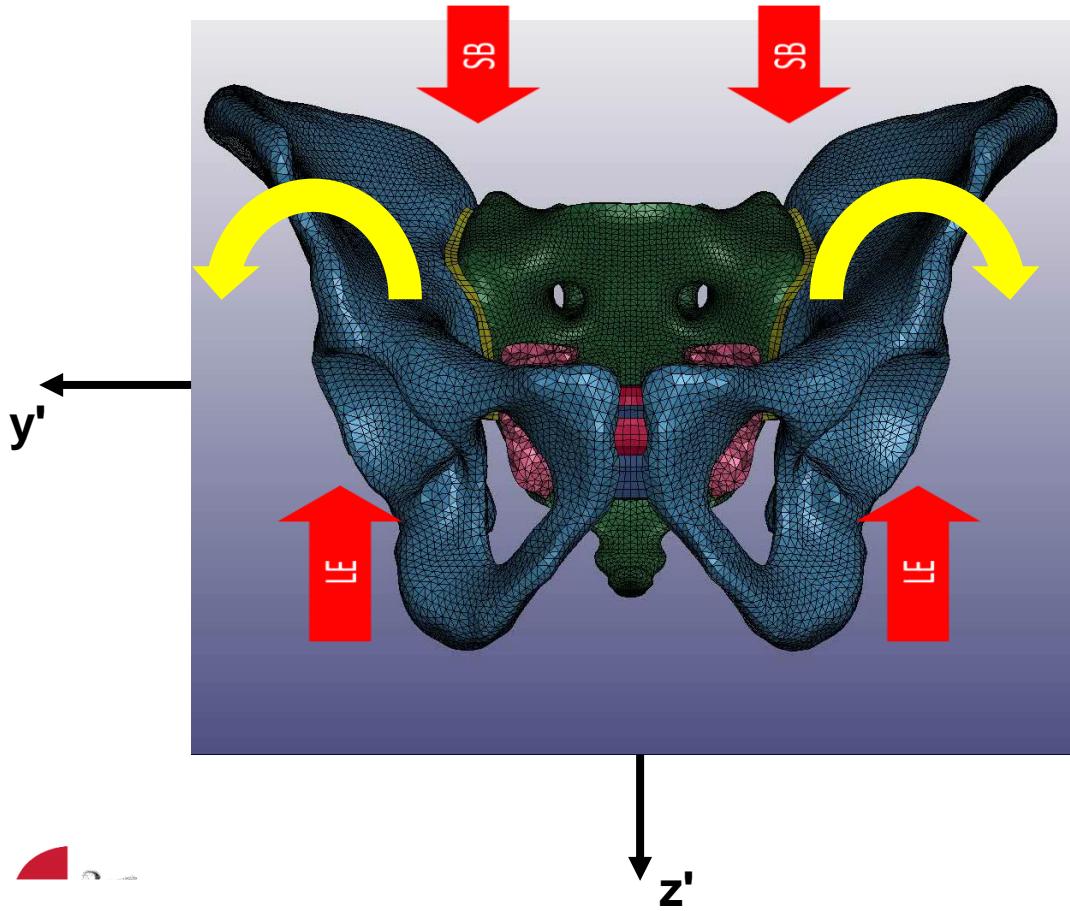


PMHS12  
FDR25D



# Pelvis Outward Deformation

- Pubic ramus fractures in GHBMC
  - Large forward angular velocity about  $y'$  axis



56 kph, 25 deg

Fracture  
Joint damage

ABTS



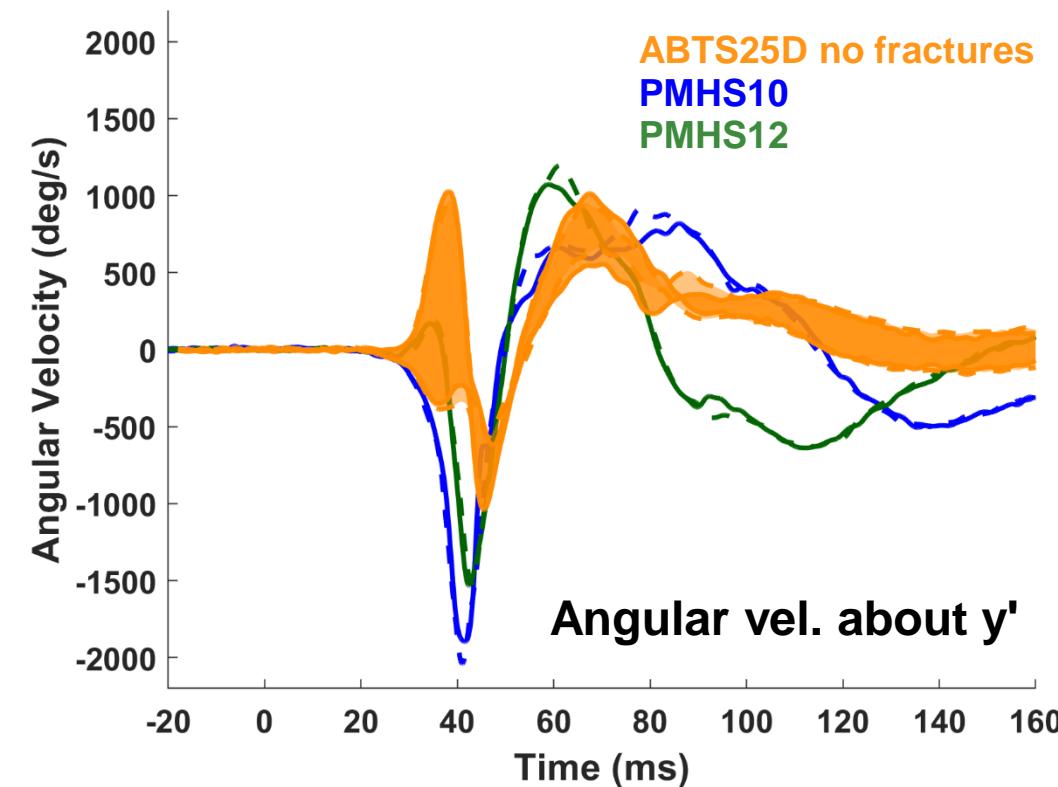
PMHS02



PMHS03



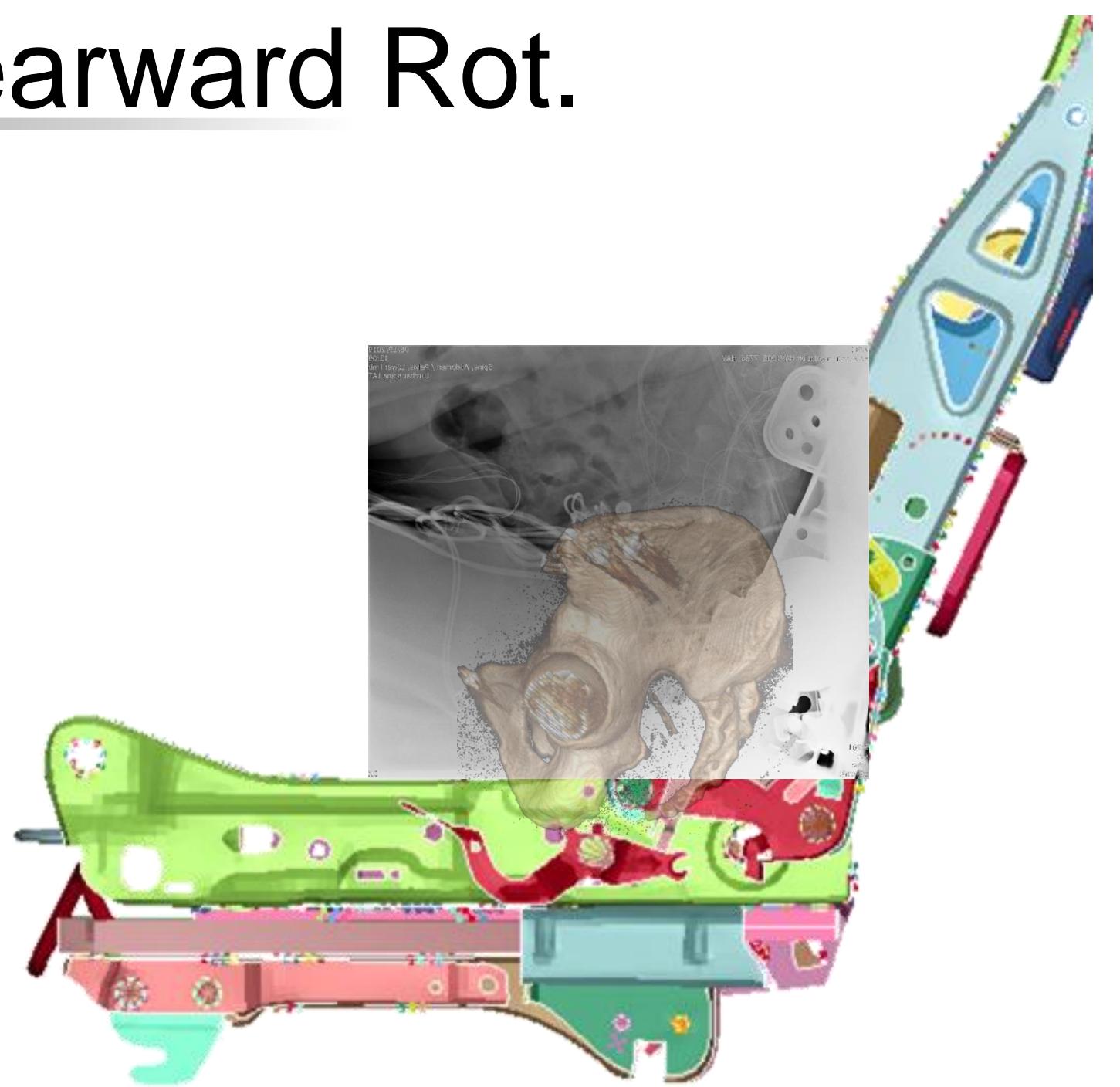
PMHS06



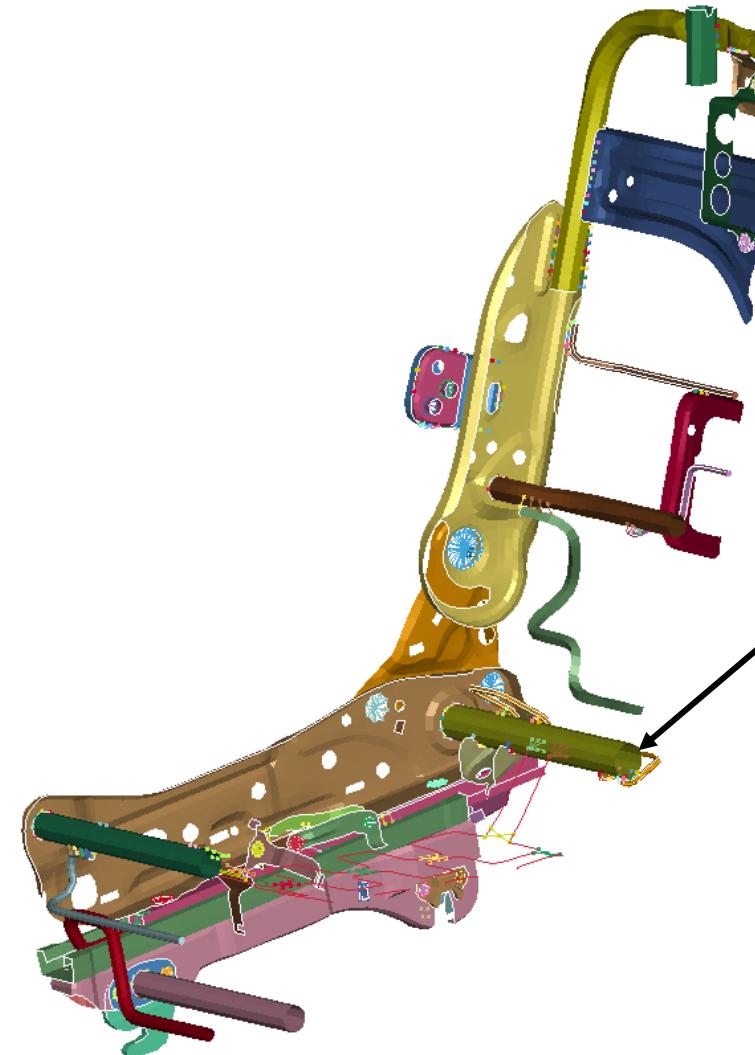
Why?



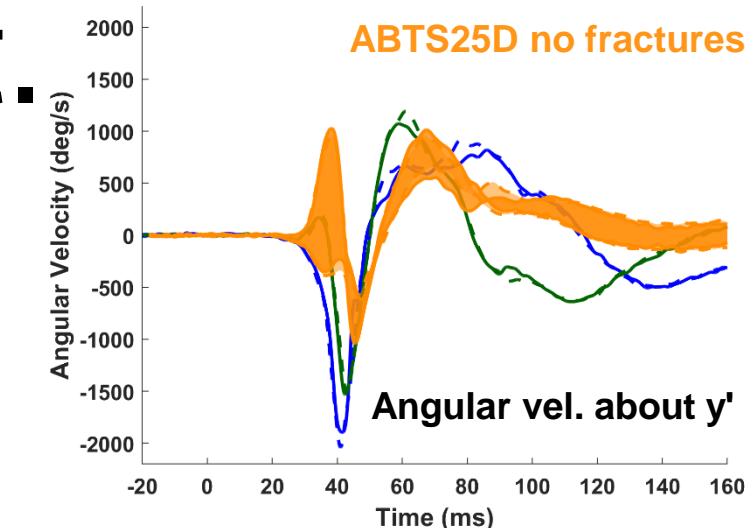
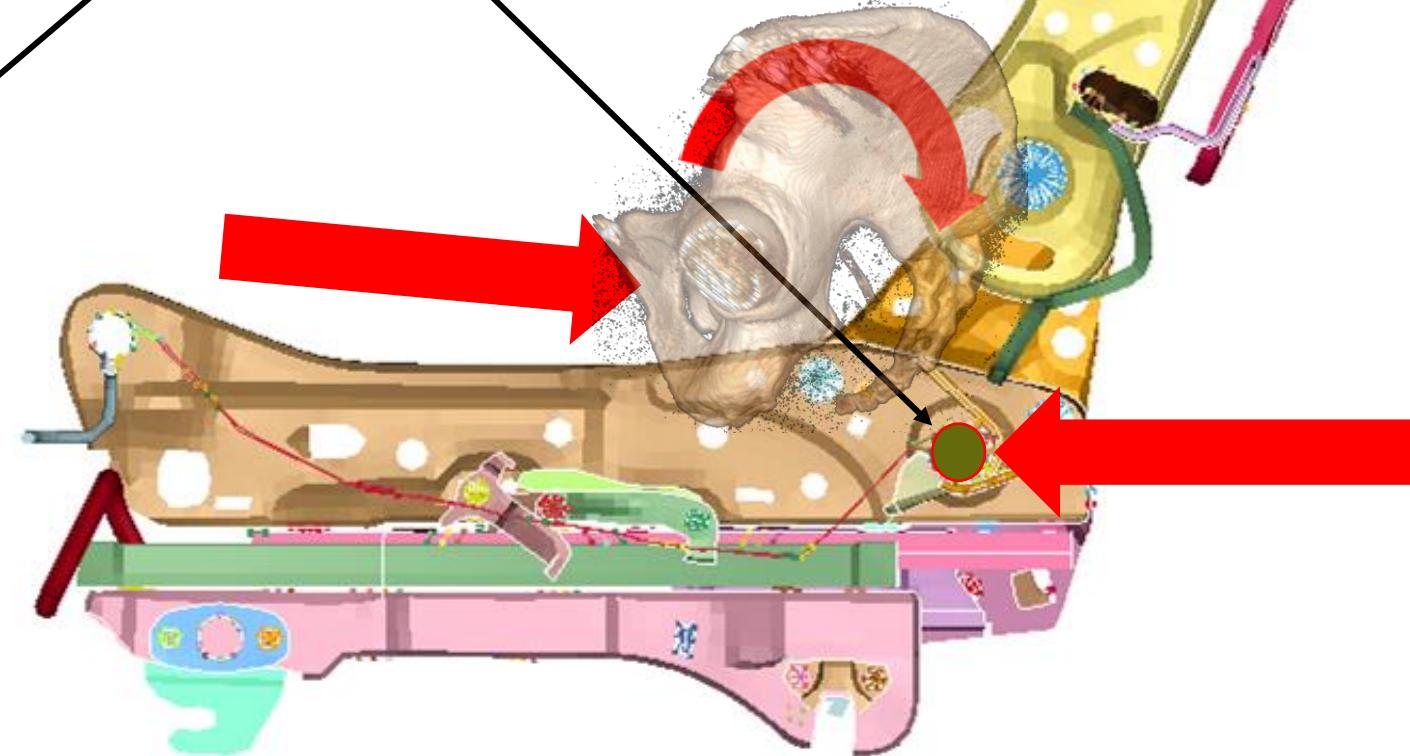
# ABTS Pelvis Rearward Rot.



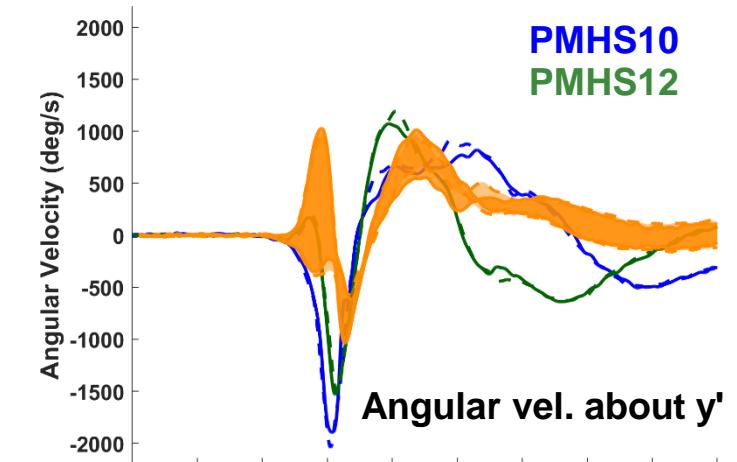
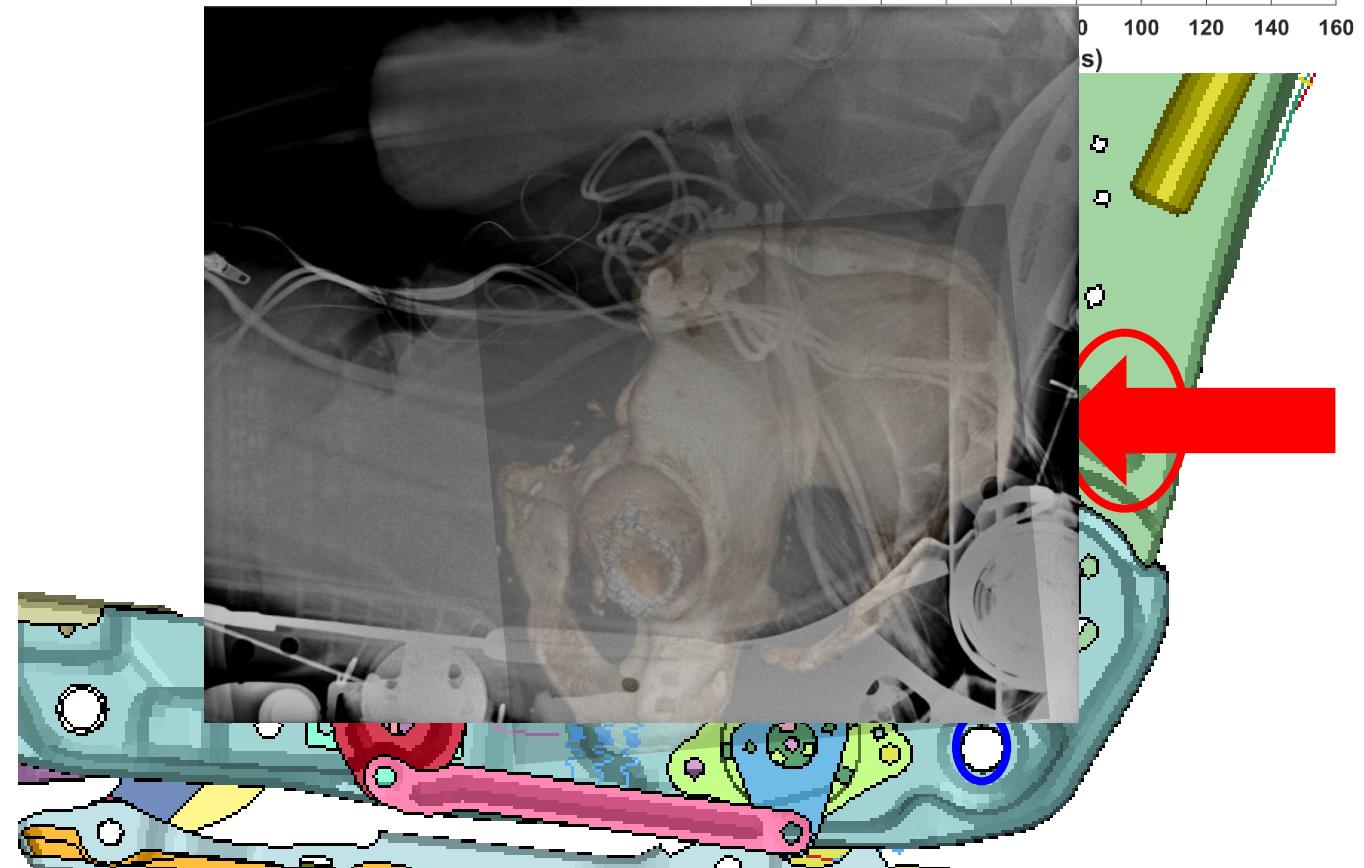
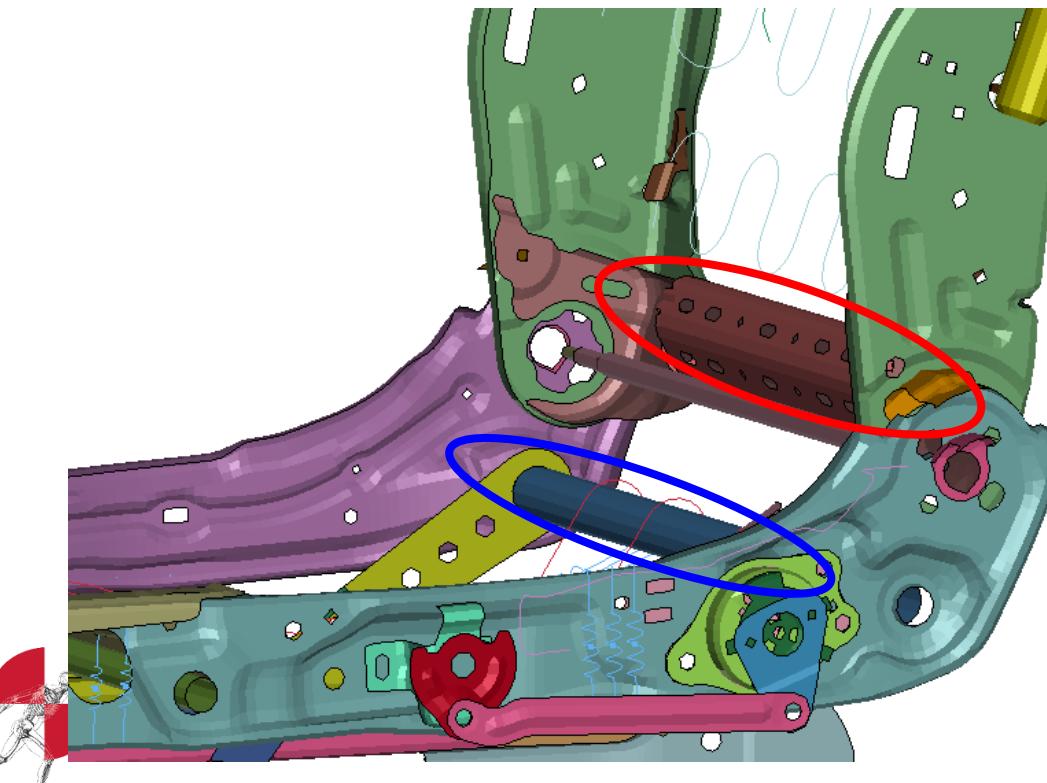
# ABTS Pelvis Rearward Rot.



Lower anchor bar

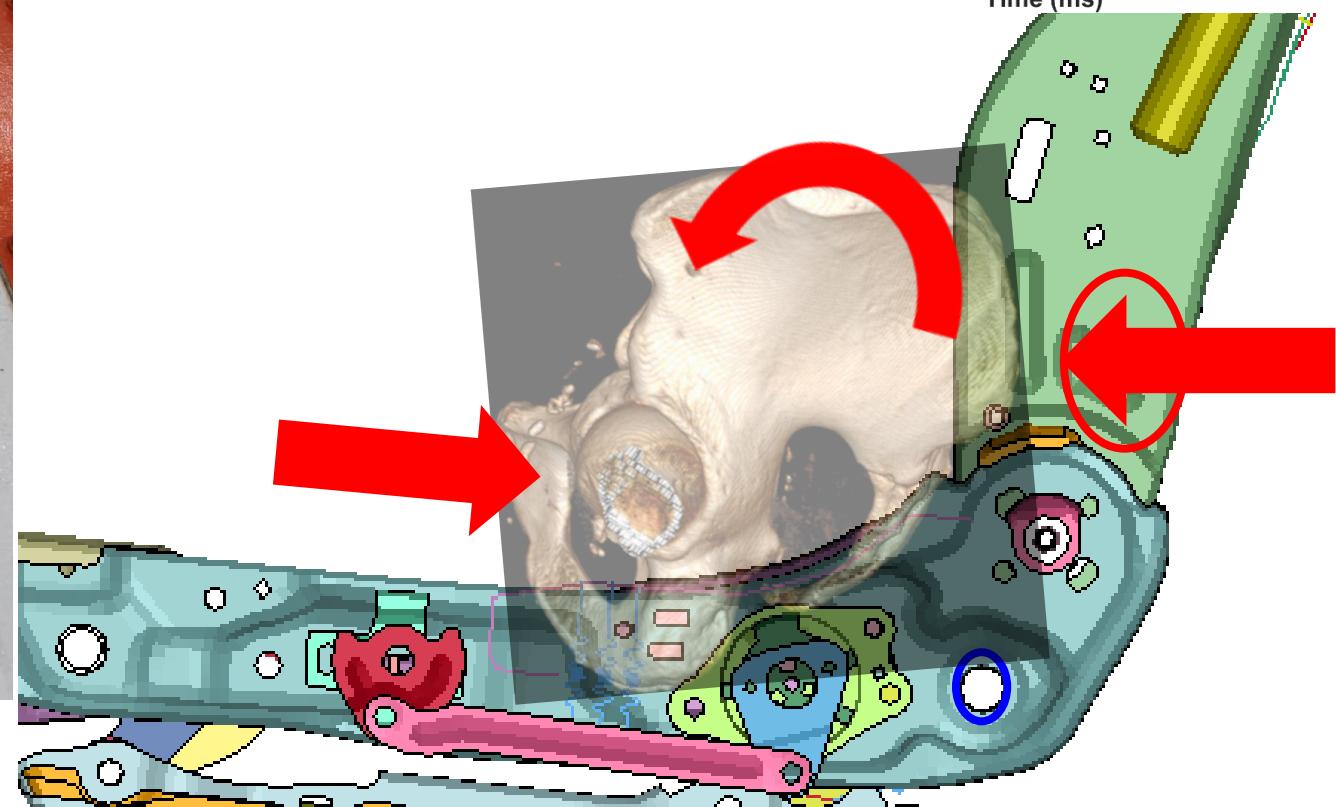
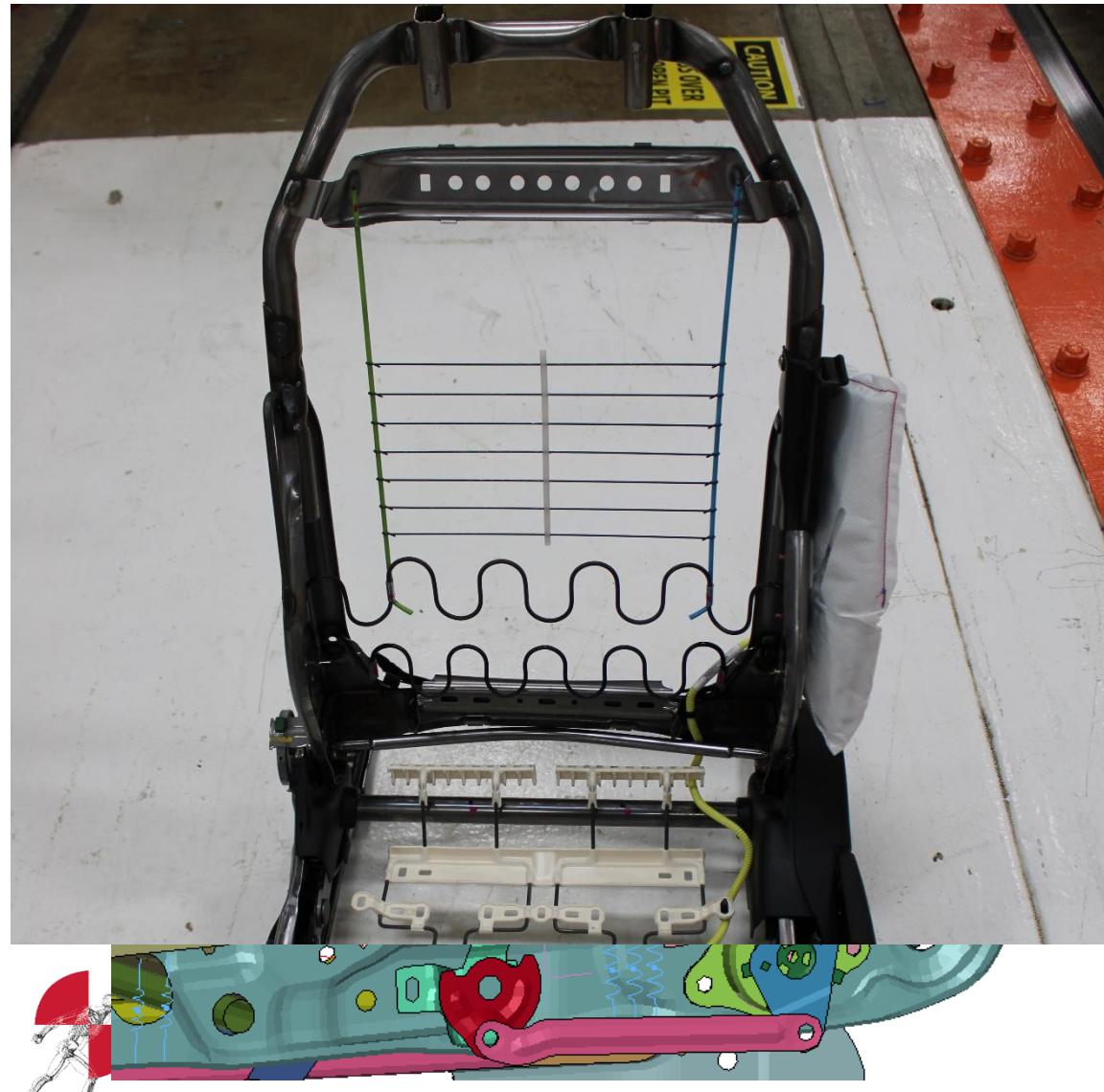


# FDR Pelvis Forward Rot.



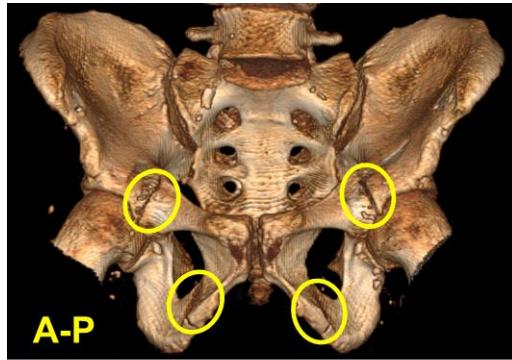
Angular vel. about y'

# FDR Pelvis Forward Rot.

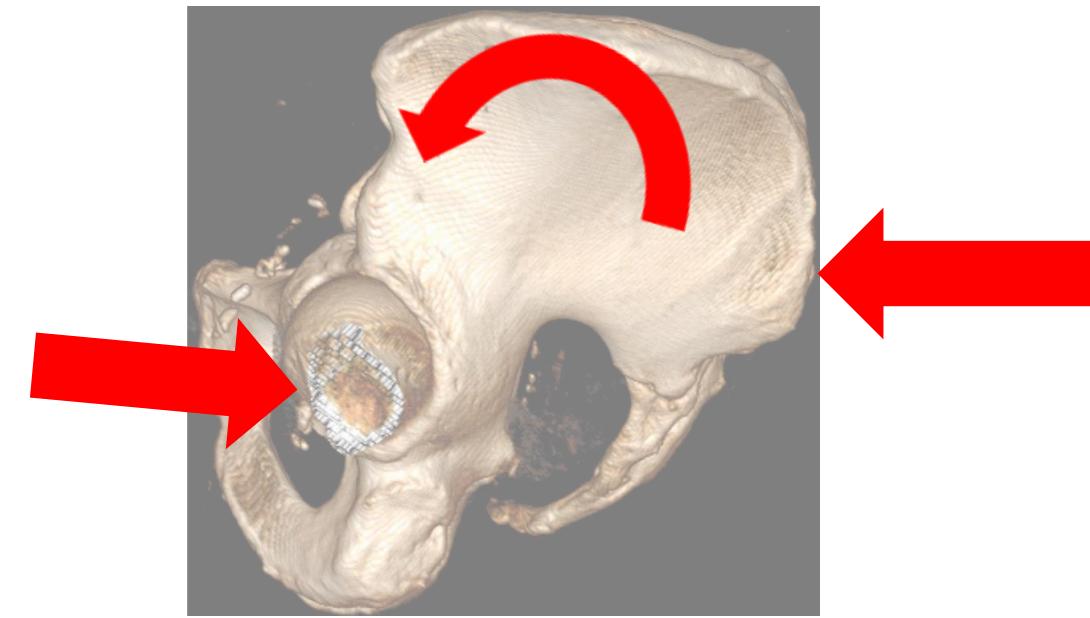
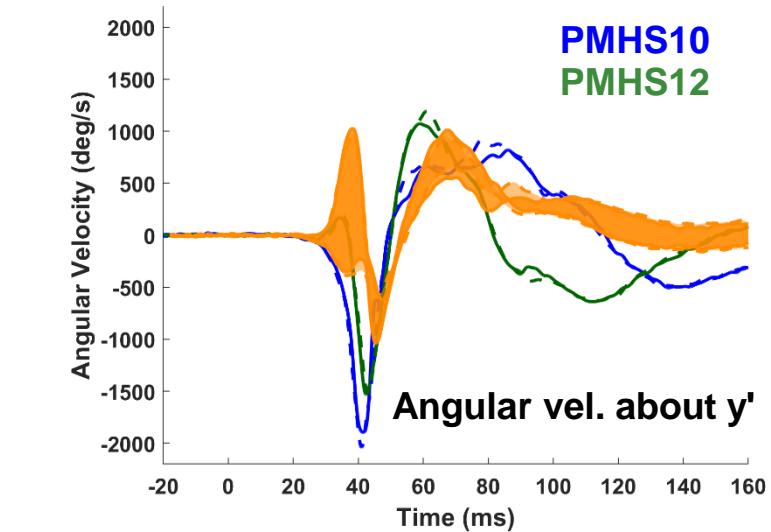
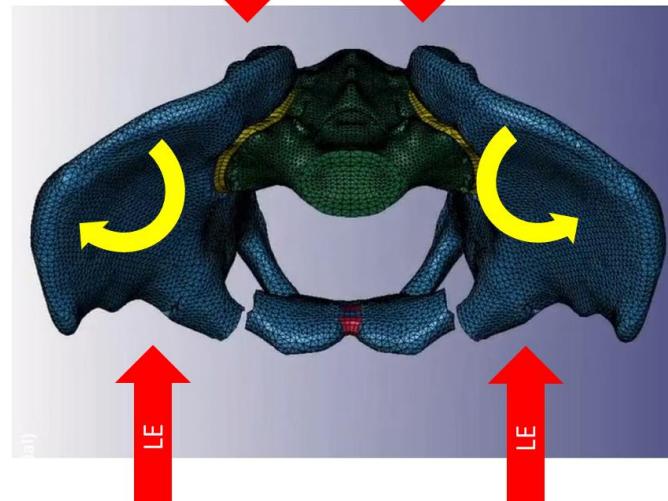
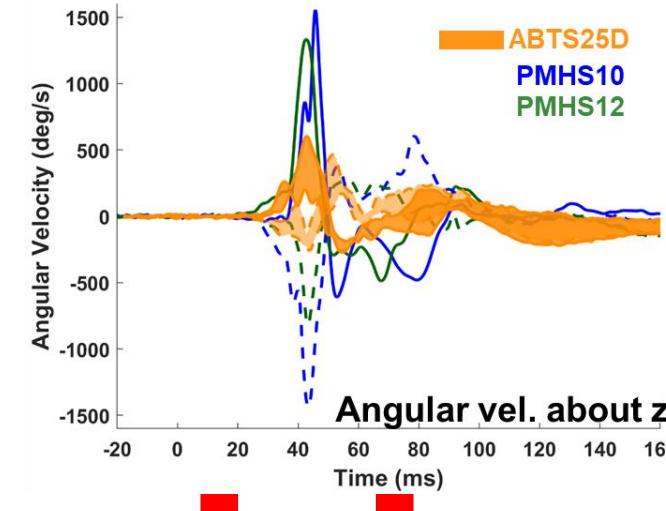
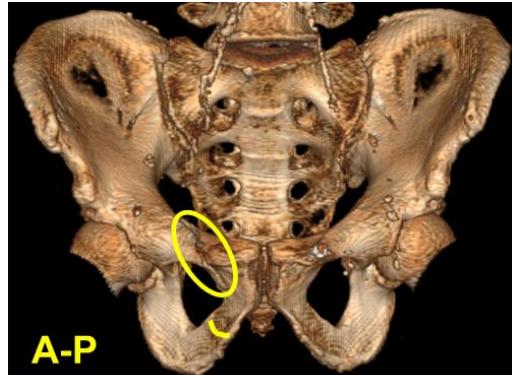


# FDR Pelvis Forward Rot.

PMHS10  
FDR25D



PMHS12  
FDR25D



# Summary

- Pelvis injury patterns
  - Posterior aspect fractures (e.g., PSIS, SI joint damage)
  - Pubic ramus fractures
- Pelvis local angular kinematics
  - Importance of pelvis instrumentation on each iliac wing
  - Angular velocities about local y' and z' axes
    - An indicator of the pubic ramus fractures
    - **Combination of large forward angular velocity about y' axis with book opening deformation (angular velocity about z')**
  - Global rotation peak occurred later
- Seatback frame design
  - ABTS lower anchor bar → pelvis rearward rotation
  - FDR lower cross bar → pelvis forward rotation

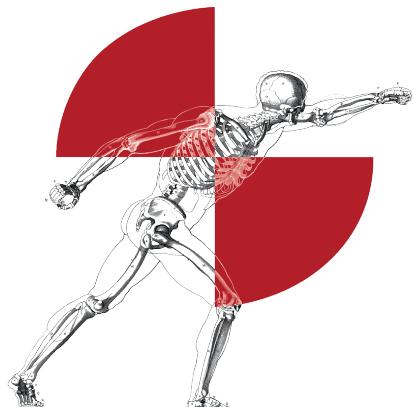


# Acknowledgements

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and do not represent the  
views of any sponsors or  
collaborators



Hyun Jung Kwon, PhD  
Oliver Lindemer  
Jason Jenkins

Students and staff of the Injury  
Biomechanics Research Center



# Pelvic responses and injuries to male post-mortem human subjects (PMHS) in rear-facing seat configurations in high-speed frontal impacts

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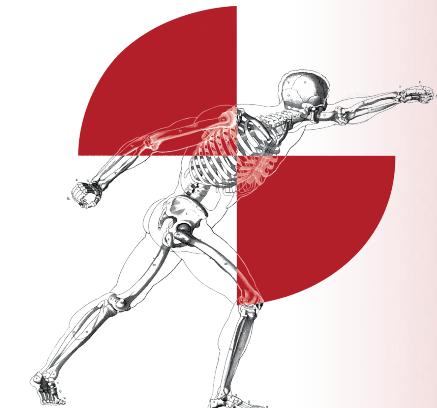
**Yun-Seok Kang<sup>1</sup>, Jason Stammen<sup>2</sup>, Amanda Agnew<sup>1</sup>, Gretchen Baker<sup>1</sup>, Vikram Pradhan<sup>1</sup>,  
Angela Tesny<sup>1</sup>, Alexander Bendig<sup>1</sup>, Alena Hagedorn<sup>3</sup>, Kevin Moorhouse<sup>2</sup>, John H. Bolte IV<sup>1</sup>**

<sup>1</sup>Injury Biomechanics Research Center, The Ohio State University, <sup>2</sup>Vehicle Research and Test Center, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration,

<sup>3</sup>Transportation Research Center Inc.

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*RCCADS Public Workshop*  
5/25/2023



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