

# Automation, Customization, and Traumatic Brain Injury Trends in Motor Vehicle Crashes

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Acknowledgements: Jason Forman, PhD; Matt Panzer, PhD; Francisco Lopez-Valdes, PhD; Sophie Tushak

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# Brain Injury Biomechanics 101









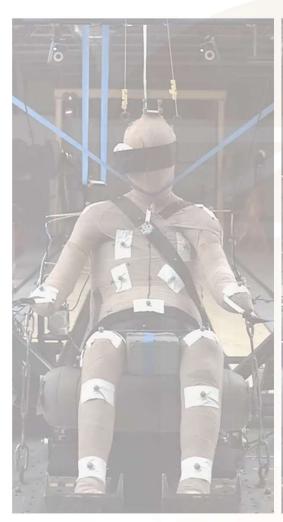


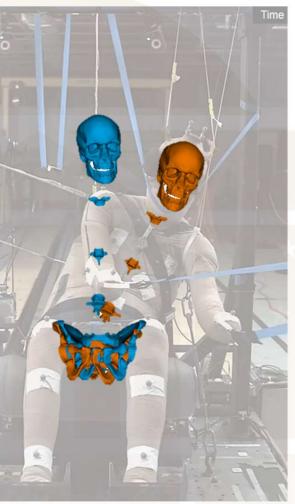
Neutral

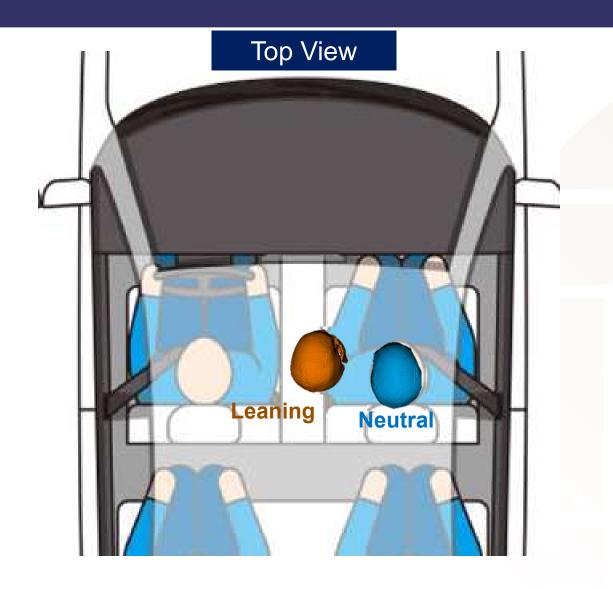
Leaning 20° Inboard





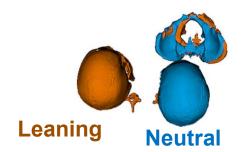


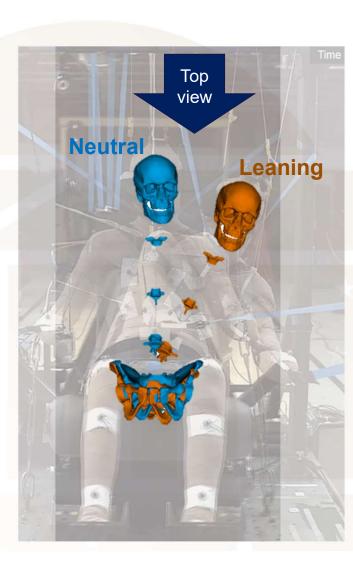




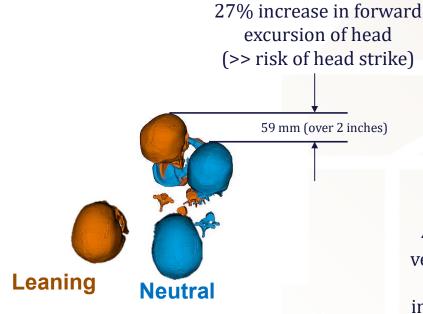


# Top View

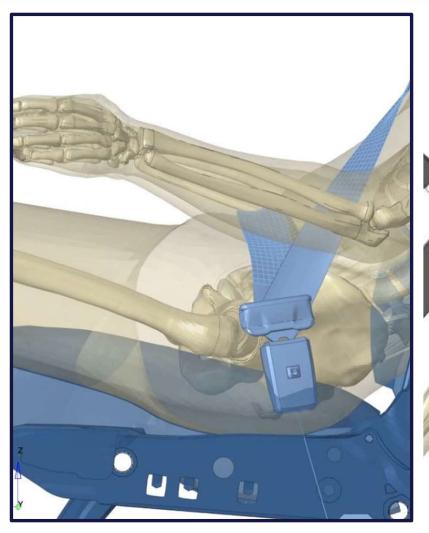


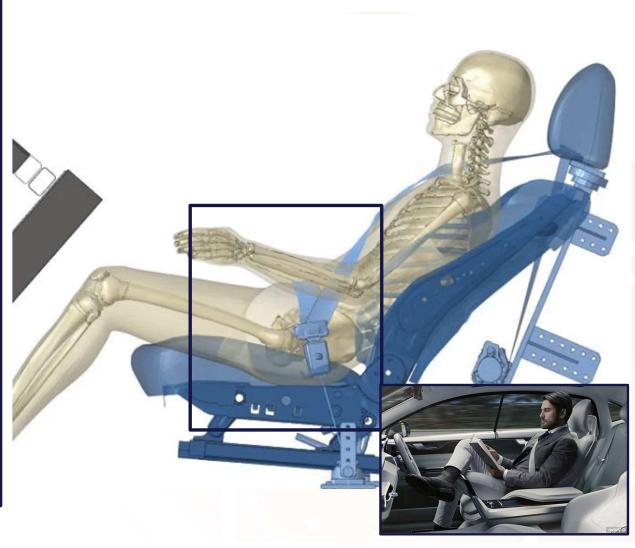


## Top View



40% increase in relative velocity between head and vehicle interior (2-fold increase in kinetic energy) (>>severity of head strike)











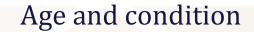
# Customization and low-hanging fruit

**Body Shape** 

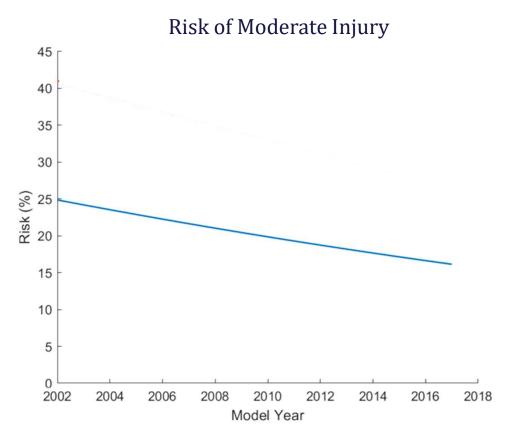


Sex

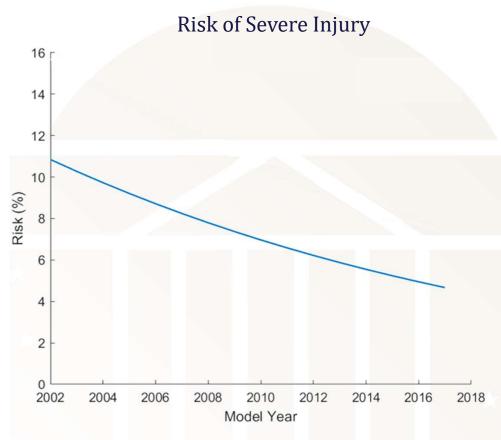


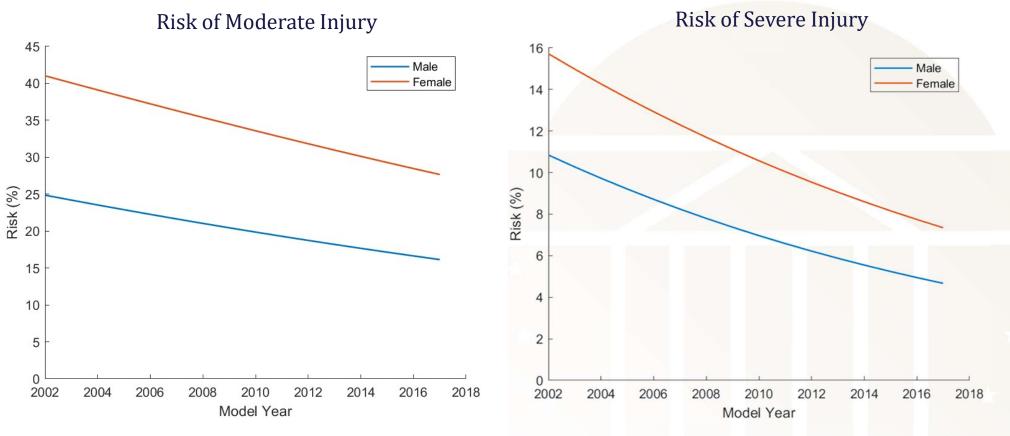






Frontal, belted, 56 km/h, 50 years old, male. Forman et al. (2019)





Frontal, belted, 56 km/h, 50 years old, male and female. Forman et al. (2019)

Disclaimer: the causes of this are multifaceted and poorly understood (men drive systematically heavier vehicles, women wear systematically different clothing, etc.), but....

Greatest sex disparity is in lower severity injuries in lower-speed crashes (both historically understudied)

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#### Odds ratios for different head injuries

Body Region	Sex Female	
Skull AIS 2+	0.50	N.S.
Moderate Brain	1.72	p<0.

<0.05

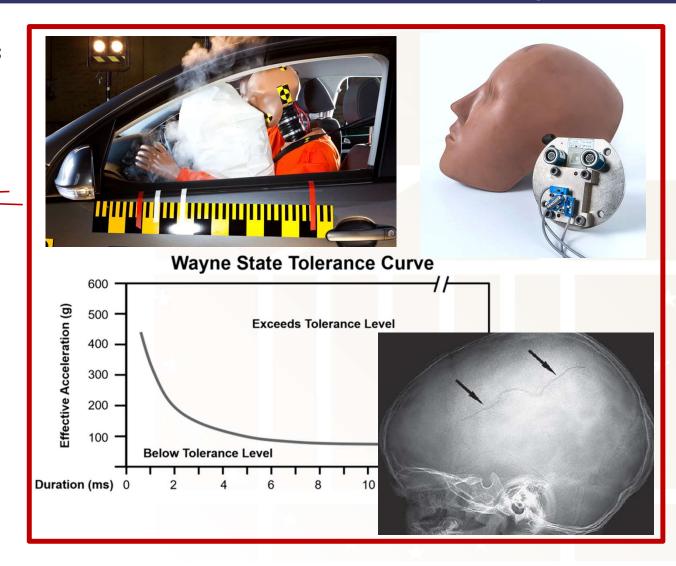
Frontal impacts with belted occupants. NASS-CDS/CISS 1998-2018. Pre-publication findings; personal communication, Forman et al. For discussion only; do not cite.



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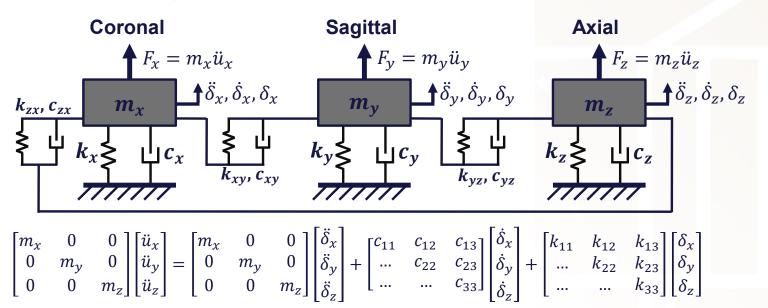
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$$UBrIC = \left\{ \sum_{i} \left[ \omega_i^* + (\alpha_i^* - \omega_i^*) e^{-\frac{\alpha_i^*}{\omega_i^*}} \right]^2 \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$



#### DAMAGE: Diffuse Axonal, Multi Axis, General Evaluation

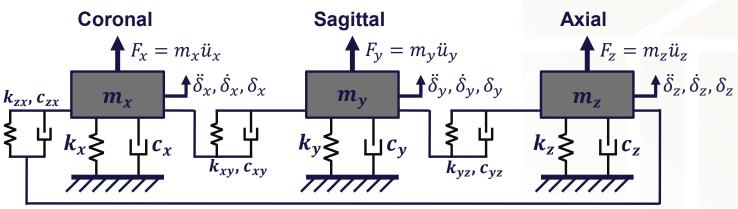


Gabler et al., 2018; Gabler et al., 2019

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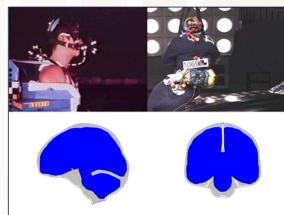


#### DAMAGE: Diffuse Axonal, Multi Axis, General Evaluation



$$\begin{bmatrix} m_{x} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_{y} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_{z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{u}_{x} \\ \ddot{u}_{y} \\ \ddot{u}_{z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} m_{x} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & m_{y} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & m_{z} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \ddot{\delta}_{x} \\ \ddot{\delta}_{y} \\ \ddot{\delta}_{z} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & c_{13} \\ \dots & c_{22} & c_{23} \\ \dots & \dots & c_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \dot{\delta}_{x} \\ \dot{\delta}_{y} \\ \dot{\delta}_{z} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} k_{11} & k_{12} & k_{13} \\ \dots & k_{22} & k_{23} \\ \dots & \dots & k_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \delta_{x} \\ \delta_{y} \\ \delta_{z} \end{bmatrix}$$





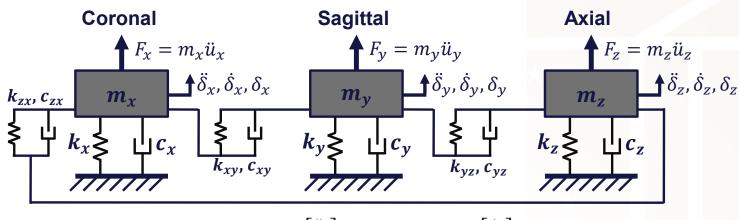
Gabler et al., 2018; Gabler et al., 2019

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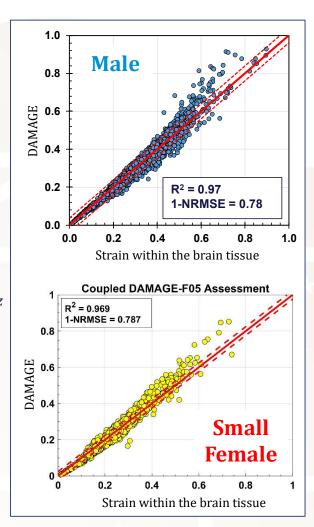


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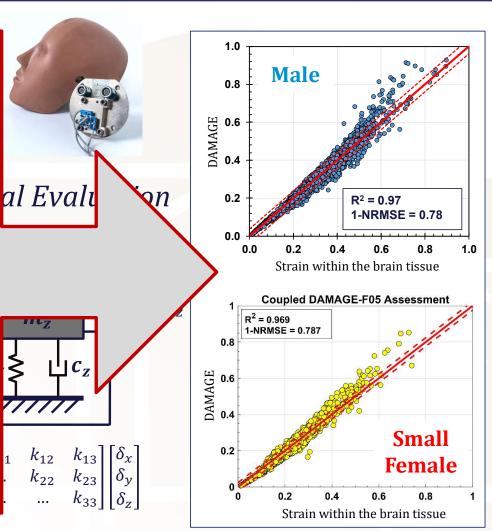
Gabler et al., 2018; Gabler et al., 2019; Reynier et al., 2022



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U DAMAGE is already measured by EuroNCAP in their new car assessments ("5-star crash rating")

Small-female DAMAGE was developed in collaboration with the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, who publishes one of the most influential vehicle rating systems ("IIHS Top Safety Pick")



Gabler et al., 2018; Gabler et al., 2019; Reynier et al., 2022



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