





## Muscle-tendon behaviour during sprint in road cyclists : Effect of the force-velocity condition



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Thursday, 5th July.

SCIENCE & CYCLING - NANTES

Maxime Robin

Introduction	<b>Objectives &amp; Hypothesis</b>	Materials & Methods	<b>Results / Discussion</b>	Conclusion
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## Force- and Power-velocity Relationship in pedalling : measurement of muscle properties of the lower limbs



- **Pmax** and **Vopt** = Performance factor

Vandewalle et al. 1987, Driss et al. 2002, Dorel et al. 2010.



 Specific coordination of different muscles (mono- and bi-articular)

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# Ultrasound allowed to better understand the muscle behaviours and determine the contributions of tendinous and contractile structures



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## **Objectives**



• Describe fascicle-tendon behaviours of a mono-articular muscle : vastus lateralis (VL) and a bi-articular muscle : gastrocnemius lateralis (GL) during maximal sprint cycling

 Investigate whether both fascicle and muscle-tendon unit shortening velocities are influenced by the force-velocity condition







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## Experimentation

#### Subjects :

11 well trained cyclists (13 000 kms/year): 21,9  $\pm$  4,5 years, 177,5  $\pm$  4,7 cm; 67,3  $\pm$  4,6 kg

#### Matériels :



LODE ergometer





MTU length

Grieve et al 1978, Visser et al 1980



Ultrafast ultrasound 500 - 2000 Hz

Fascicle length Litchwark et al. 2016



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Single session. 1400 Fmax Force sur la pédale (N) 009 00 000 000 000 000 000 000 200 Vmax 0 50 100 150 200 0 250 Fréquence de pédalage (rpm) lsokinetic sprint 120 Isokinetic sprint 160 Isokinetic sprint 60 Isokinetic sprint 90 Isokinetic sprint Isokinetic sprint measurements 5 minutes rest Antropometric 2 minutes rest 5 minutes rest 5 minutes rest 5 minutes rest 5 minutes rest minutes rest -ode position Probe on GL Warm-up 10 Probe on VL 300w minutes 150w Ŝ ŝ  $\sim$ ኅ Two conditions were randomly repeated to check the reproducibility





\* for significant differences between the considered condition and the direct higher condition



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## To conclude...



## VL and GL have different muscle-tendon behaviours

### VL : Knee extensor

Concentric behaviour

The force-velocity condition influence the shortening velocities (MTU and fascicle)

## **GL** : Knee and plantar flexors

More complex behaviour Eccentric - Concentric mode (MTU) : stretching of elastic structures (0 - 70°) Quasi-isometric mode (Fascicle) : Low fascicle shortening velocity Slight effect of pedalling rate

## **Perspectives :**

- Orientating for strength training
- What behaviour in standing position?
- What effects of training ?









## Thank you for your attention



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## Data angle



High velocity sprint = decreased range of motion