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**CENTRUM FÖR  
IDrottsteknologi**

## Benefits of *drafting* in double poling in cross-country skiing

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## FROM **Lienz (Tyrol)** OVER **Salzburg (24 yrs)** TO **Gothenburg (SWE)**



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### Resisting forces in cross-country skiing


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- **Gravitational force** ( $F_G$ ) =  $mg \sin\alpha$   
 where
  - $m$  is the mass of the skier and equipment
  - $g$  is acceleration due to gravity
  - $\alpha$  is the inclination or declination of the surface
- **Frictional force** ( $F_f$ ) =  $\mu N$  =  $\mu mg \cos\alpha$   
 where
  - $\mu$  is the friction coefficient between skis and snow
  - in roller skiing,  $\mu$  is replaced by a rolling resistance coefficient ( $\mu_R$  =  $\mu$ )
- **Aerodynamic drag** ( $F_D$ ) =  $\frac{1}{2} C_D A \rho v^2$   
 where
  - $C_D$  is the drag coefficient
  - $A$  is the projected frontal area
  - $\rho$  is the air density
  - $v$  is the air velocity

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### Earlier research of $F_D$ in xc-skiing

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- Effect of drafting on work intensity in classical cross-country skiing. (1995)**  
*Int J Sports Med.*, Bilodeau B., Roy B., Boulay M. R.
  - Methods**  
On-snow skiing (2 km course). Diagonal stride and double poling techniques. Paired skiers (n= 10), leader and drafter. After 30 min recovery the skiers switched positions and repeated the protocol.
  - Results**  
Heart rate significantly different ( $\Delta HR = 7$  b/min, 172 vs 165 b/min,  $p<0.05$ )
- Effect of drafting on heart rate in cross-country skiing (1994) MSSE.**  
*Bilodeau B., Roy B., Boulay M. R.*
  - Methods**  
On-snow skiing (2 km course). Gears 2, 3 and 4. Paired skiers (n= 6), leader and drafter. After 30 min recovery the skiers switched positions and repeated the protocol.
  - Results**  
Heart rate significantly different ( $\Delta HR = 9$  b/min, 163 vs 154 b/min,  $p<0.05$ )

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### Earlier research, cont.

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- Drag area of a cross-country skier (1988).**  
*Int J Sport Biomech.*, Spring E., Savolainen S., Erkkilä J., Hämäläinen T., Pihkala P.
  - Methods**  
Roller skis on asphalt surface. Skiers (n=3) rolling in different postures and clothing. Calculations of air drag and drag area from measured velocities.
  - Results**  
Calculations of air drag and drag area from measured velocities.
- Effects of body position on slide boarding performance by cross-country skiers (2006).**  
*MSSE*, Leirdal S., Saetran L., Roeleveld K., Vereijken B., Bråten S., Löset S., Holtermann A., Ettema G.
  - Methods**  
Wind tunnel. Force plate. Skiers (n=6) imitating ski-skating movements on a sliding board. Low, moderate (gear 5?) and high positions (gear 3?)
  - Results**  
Aerodynamic drag, VO<sub>2</sub>, heart rate, power

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### Aim of this study

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- Changed techniques and velocities
- Lack of integrative physiological-biomechanical view on the “problem”
- Increased importance of tactics in World Cup and Ski Classic
- Improved technology in controlled conditions (LAB)



The aim of this part study was to investigate  
the **effects of drafting in double poling cross-country skiing**

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**Wind tunnel experiments**

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Design and development of a climatic wind tunnel for physiological sports experimentation

(2017) Review: *J Sports Eng Tech*  
Ainegren M.<sup>1</sup>, Tuplin S.<sup>2</sup>, Carlsson P., Render P.<sup>2</sup>  
<sup>1</sup> Sports Tech Research Centre, Mid Sweden University  
<sup>2</sup> Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK

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### DOUGLAS BAG METHOD ( $\text{VO}_2$ )

- 5 bags front + 5 back

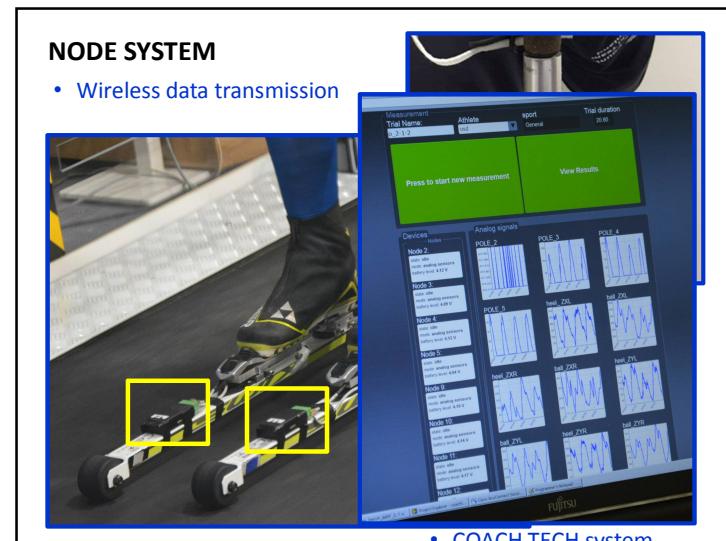
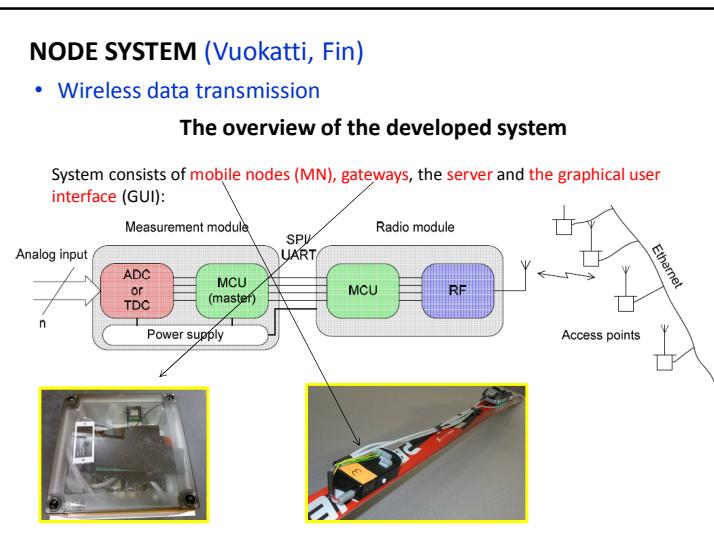
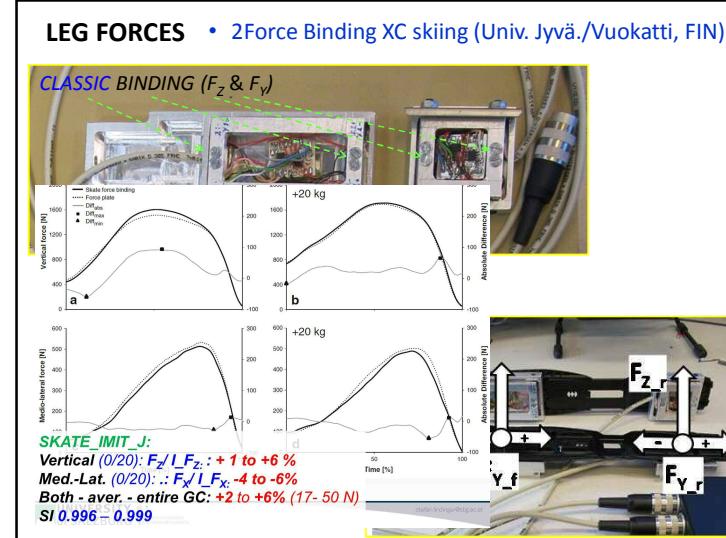
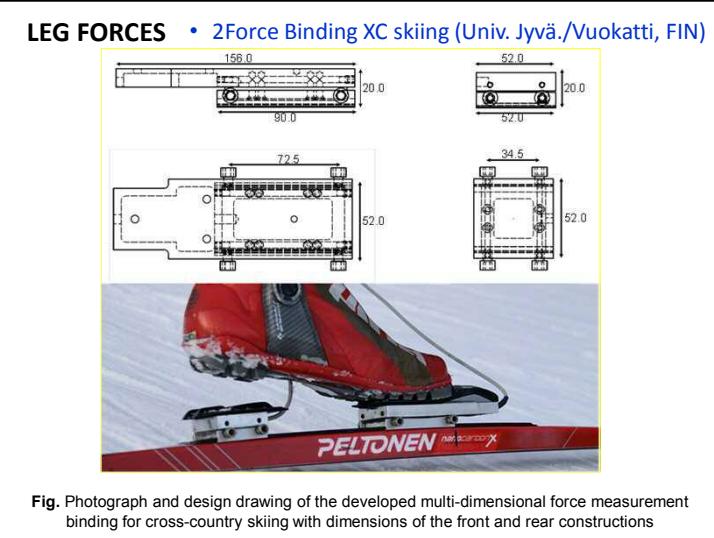


**Lactate & HR**

### POLE FORCES

- **Strain gauge** load cells; aluminium tube; glide box (no cross forces)  
(Univ. Salzburg, AUT)





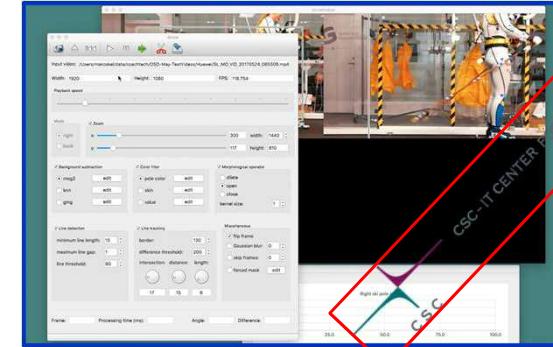
## 2D KINEMATICS - VIDEO TECHNOLOGY

- High speed cams (smart phones HUWEI; CANON)
- Data processing software – line pixel recognition (CSC Kajaani, FIN) – pole angle  $\Rightarrow$  ***propulsive*** component



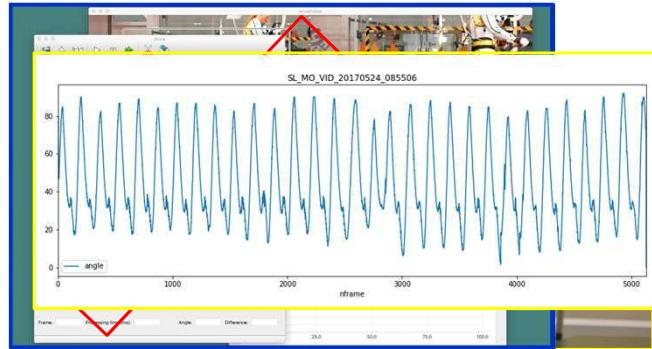
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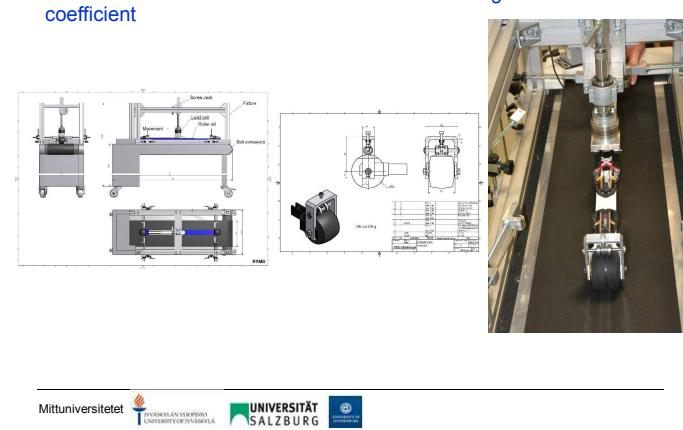
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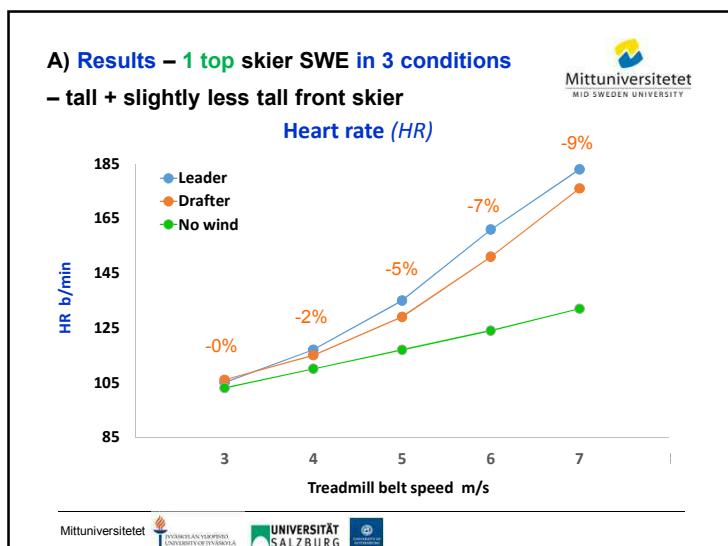
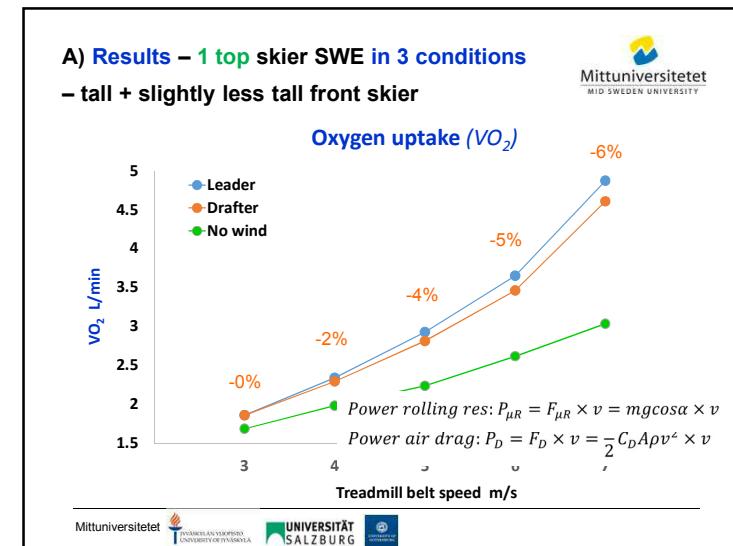
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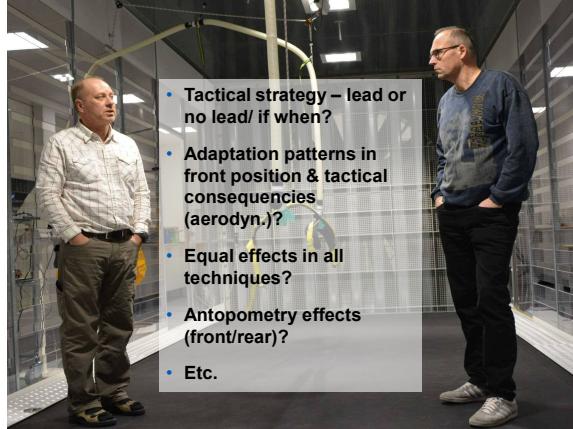
## Roller skis

Measurement & standardization of roller skis rolling resistance coefficient





**DISCUSSION & CONCLUSIO**



- Tactical strategy – lead or no lead/ if when?
- Adaptation patterns in front position & tactical consequences (aerodyn.)?
- Equal effects in all techniques?
- Antopometry effects (front/rear)?
- Etc.

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OC – team &  
Vesa Linnamo (Chair) &  
Stef J Lindinger (Co-Chair)

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**11.-15.3.2019 Vuokatti, Finland**

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