

*RIKEN Symposium*

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*– Computational Biomechanics –*

**Simulation Study on Mechanical  
Adaptation in Cancellous Bone by  
Trabecular Surface Remodeling**

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and Yoshihiro TOMITA**

**Kobe University / RIKEN**

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# Introduction

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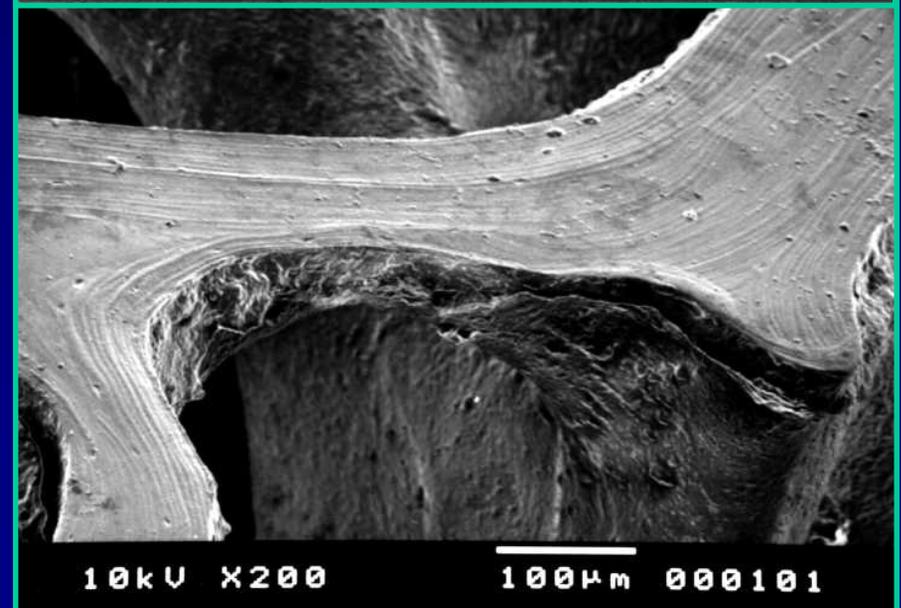
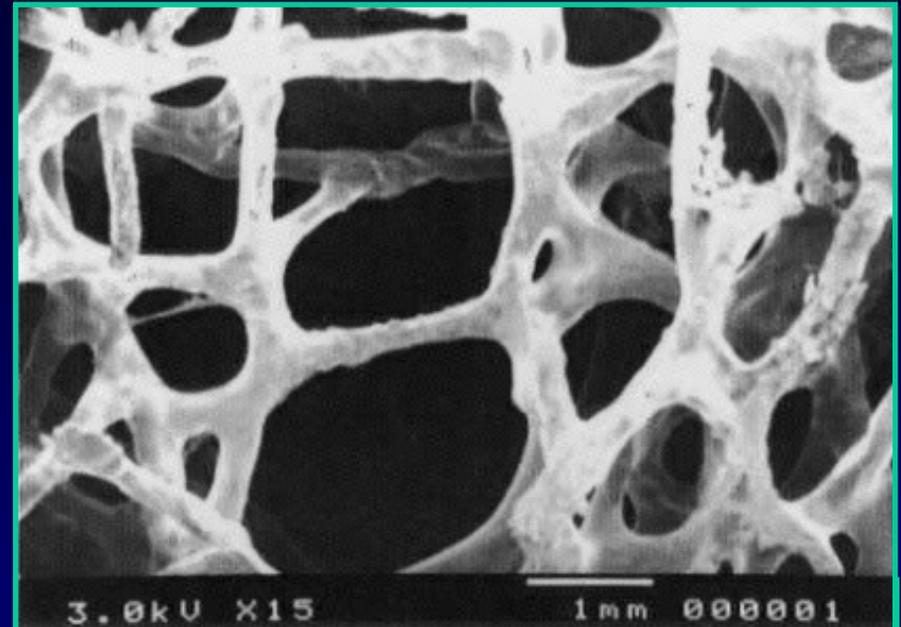
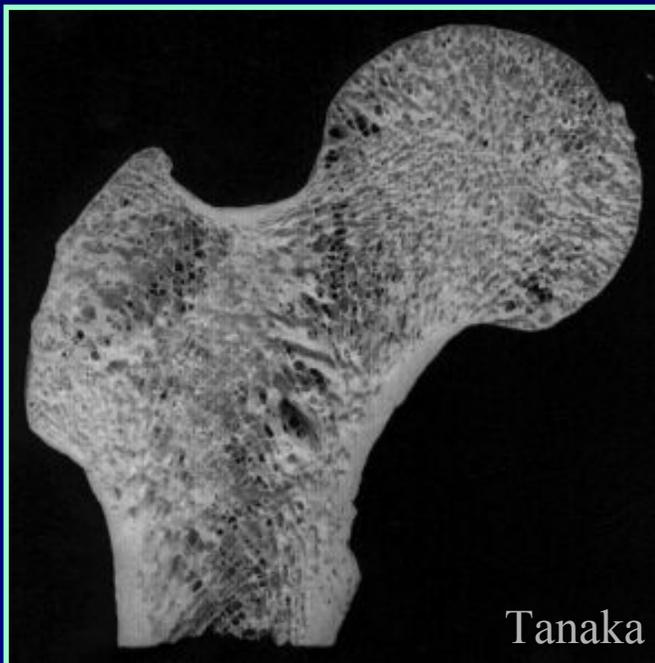
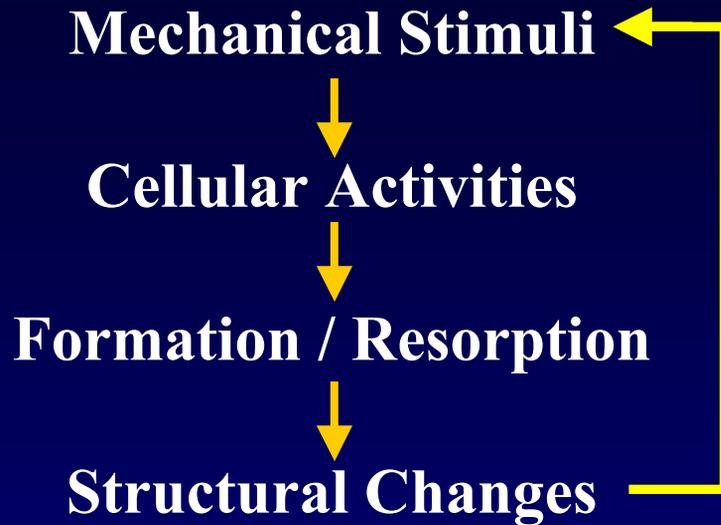
## Bone Functional Adaptation by Remodeling

**Mechanical Environment**

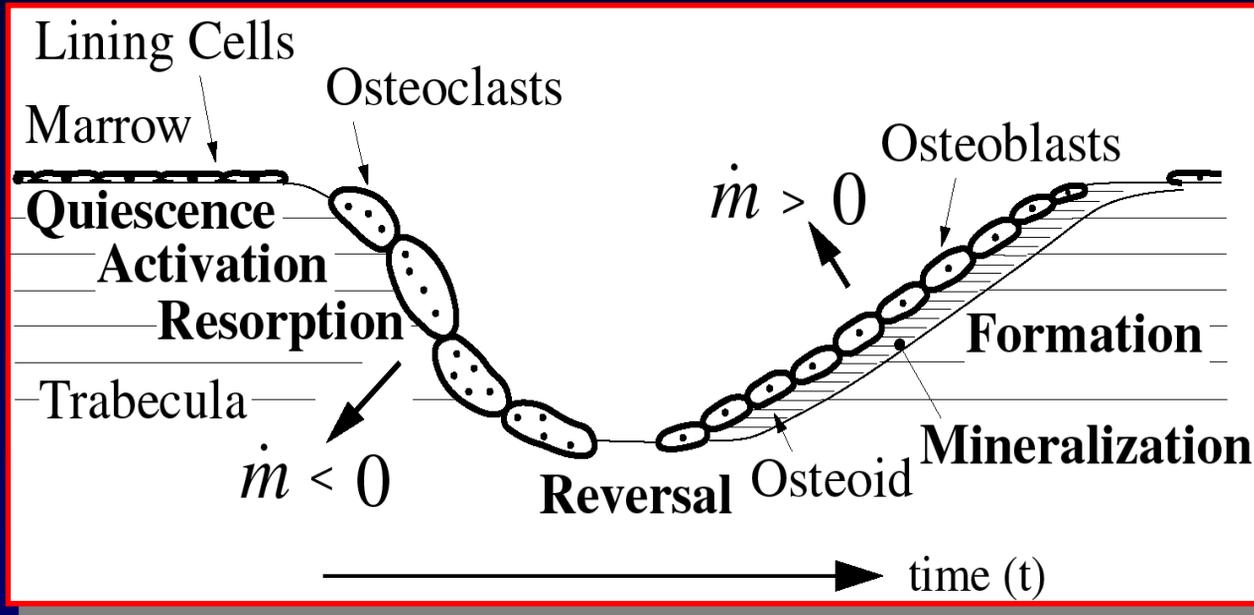


**Bone Structure**

# Hierarchical Structure of Bone



# Trabecular Surface Remodeling



(Parfitt94)

- **Trabecular microstructure of cancellous bone**
  - changing / maintained by remodeling under mech. influence
- **Adaptation to mechanical environment**
  - regulated by Oc / Ob activities on trabecular surface
- **Surface movement by cellular activities lead to**
  - macroscopic changes of trabecular architecture

# Computational Simulation for Bone Remodeling

## Theoretical models & Computational simulations

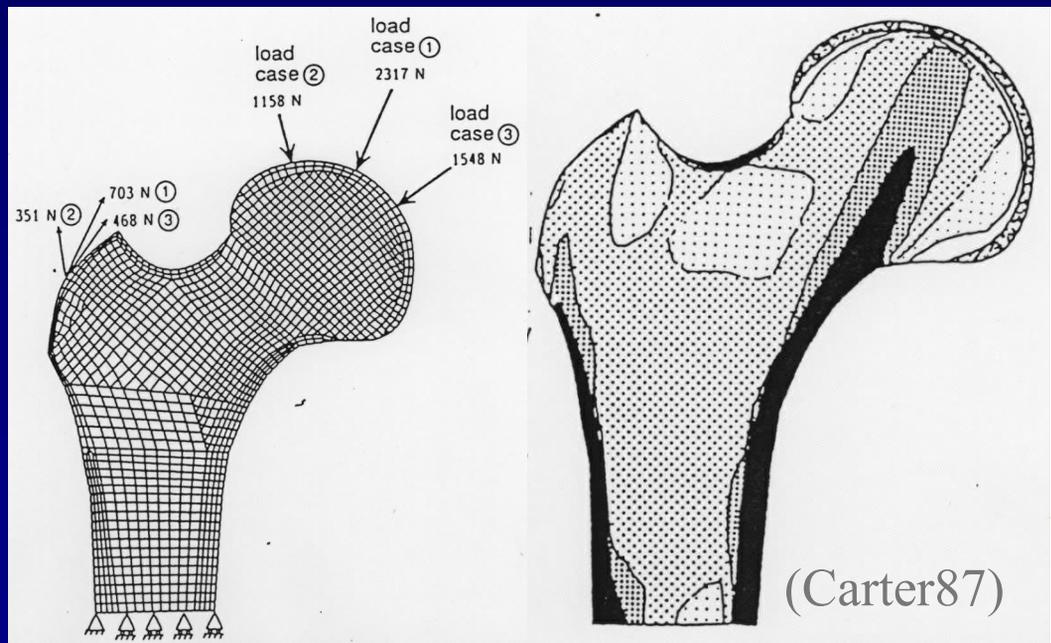
### Macroscopic Phenomena

Cowin76, Carter87, Huiskes87,  
Beaupre90, Weinans92

### Microscopic Mechanism

Cowin92, Sadegh93,  
Mullender94

- Adaptive Elasticity (Cowin76)
- Self Optimization Model (Carter87)



# Trabecular Level Remodeling

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## Trabecular Remodeling

- **Microscopic resorption / formation by osteoclasts / osteoblasts on trabecular surface** (e. g. Parfitt84)
- **Local mechanical signals play an important role** (e.g. Guldberg97)
- **Trabecular level mechanical stimulus related to morphological changes of trabecular architecture**

# Outline

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## Simulation for Trabecular Surface Remodeling

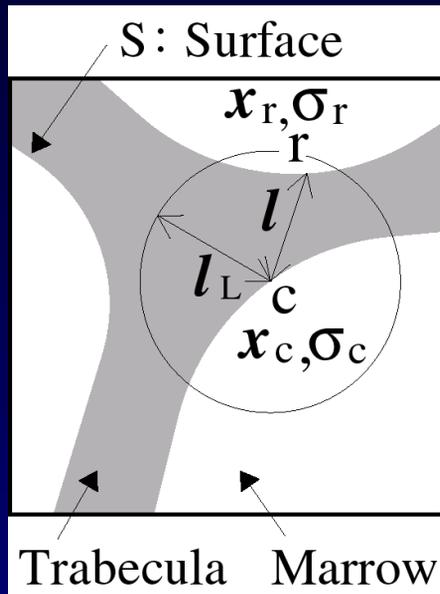
- Remodeling Rate Equation
- Method of Pixel-based Simulation
- Computational Simulation for Proximal Femur

# **Uniform Stress Hypothesis**

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- **A Remodeling Rate Equation:  
based on Uniform Stress Hypothesis  
as an optimality condition  
for remodeling equilibrium (Adachi98)**
- **Nonuniformity in local stress distribution on  
trabecular surface as driving force of remodeling**
- **Related to local morphological changes of  
trabecular architecture**

# A Remodeling Rate Equation



Stress nonuniformity

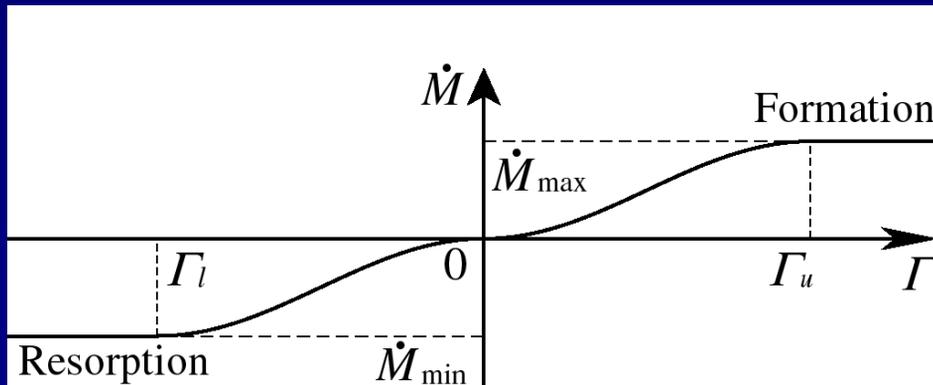
$$\Gamma = \ln(\sigma_c / \sigma_d)$$

Representative stress

$$\sigma_d = \int_S w(l) \sigma_r dS / \int_S w(l) dS$$

→ Driving force of remodeling

## A Remodeling Rate Equation



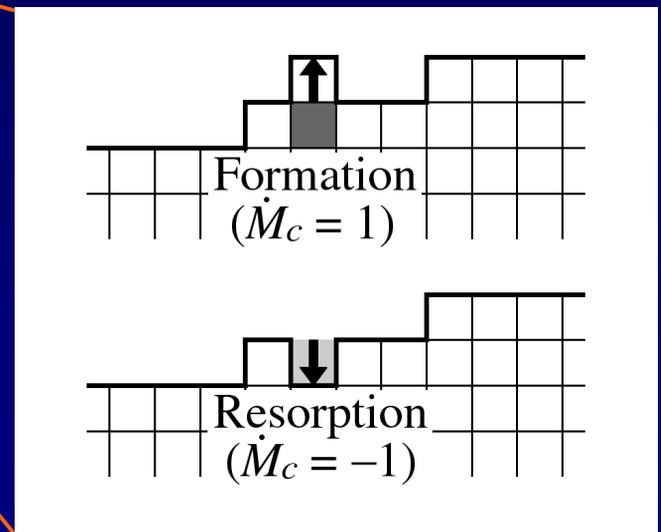
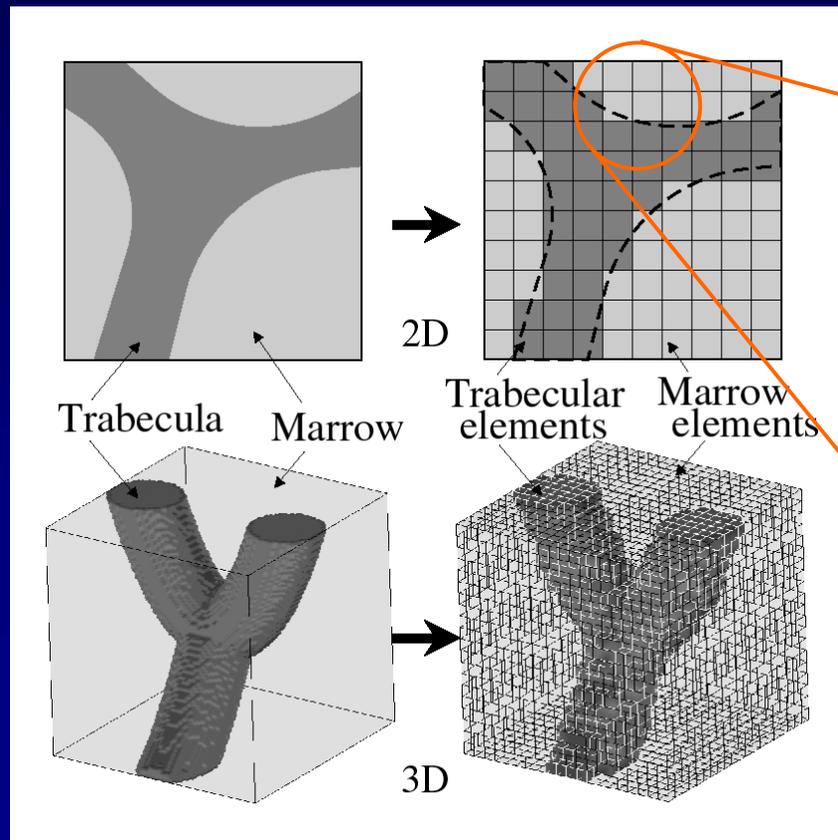
$$\dot{M} = F(\Gamma)$$

$$= \begin{cases} \Gamma > 0 : \text{Formation} \\ \Gamma < 0 : \text{Resorption} \end{cases}$$

# Microstructural Finite Element Model

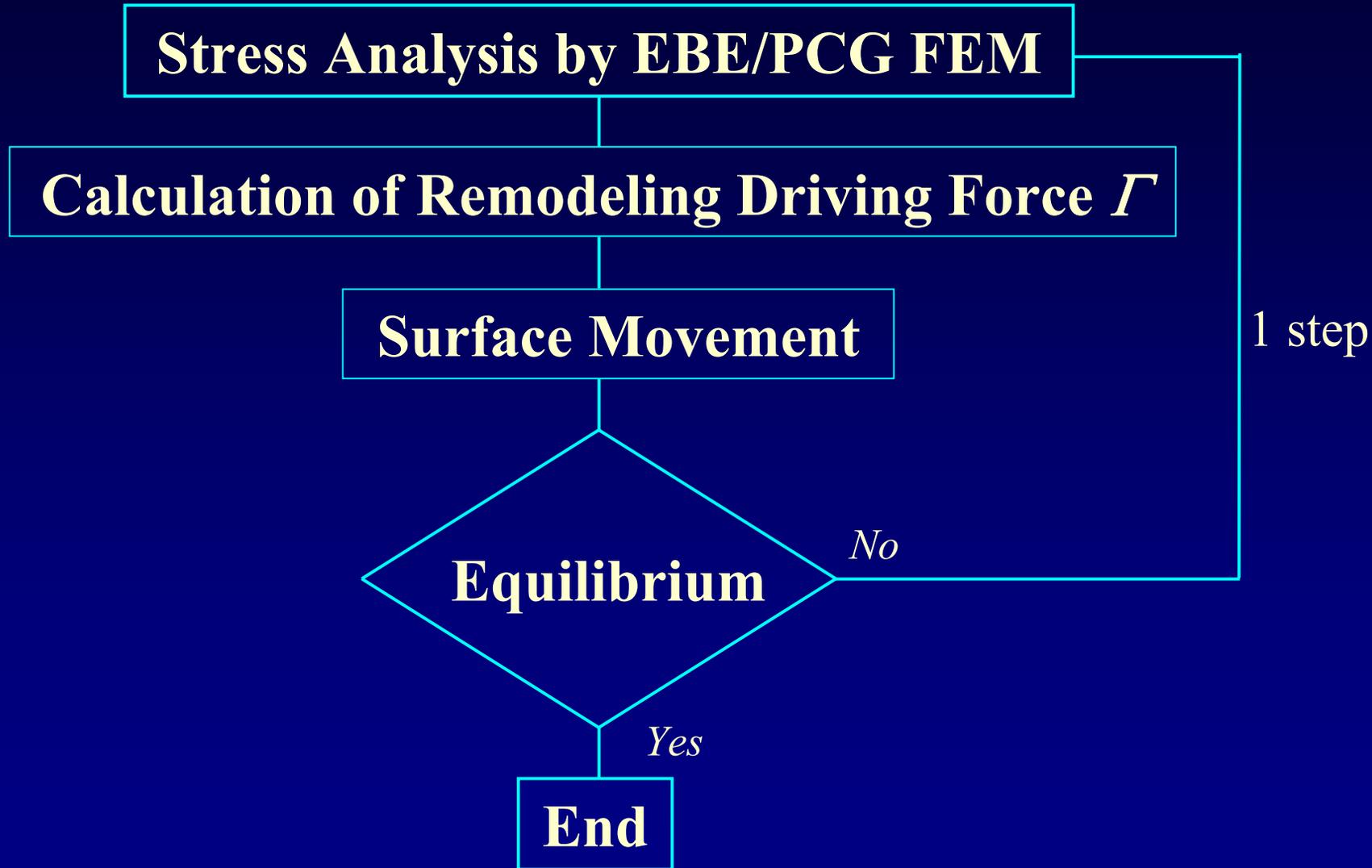
## Trabecular Bone

- Microstructural voxel/pixel finite element models
- Resorption/formation by removing/adding elements
- Generated by using digital images,  $\mu$ CT

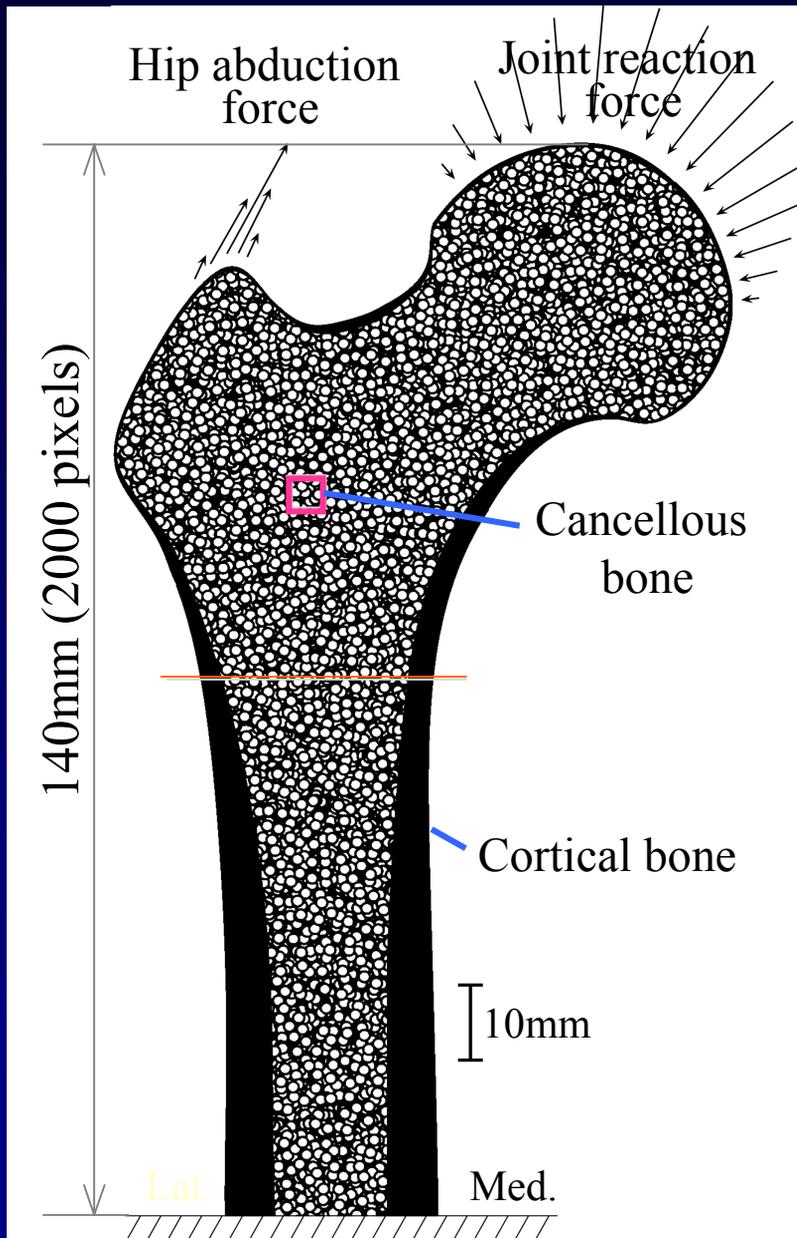


# Remodeling Simulation

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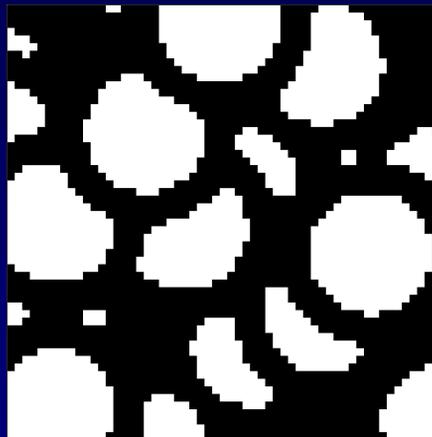


# Large-Scale FE Pixel Model of Proximal Femur

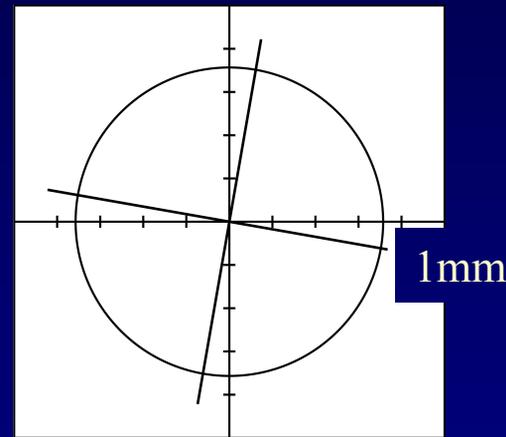


- Bone part: 0.67 Million Elements
- Pixel size:  $70\mu\text{m}$

4mm  $\times$  4mm region



Fabric ellipse



$$H_1 = 714\mu\text{m}, H_2 = 713\mu\text{m}$$
$$H_1/H_2 = 1.00$$

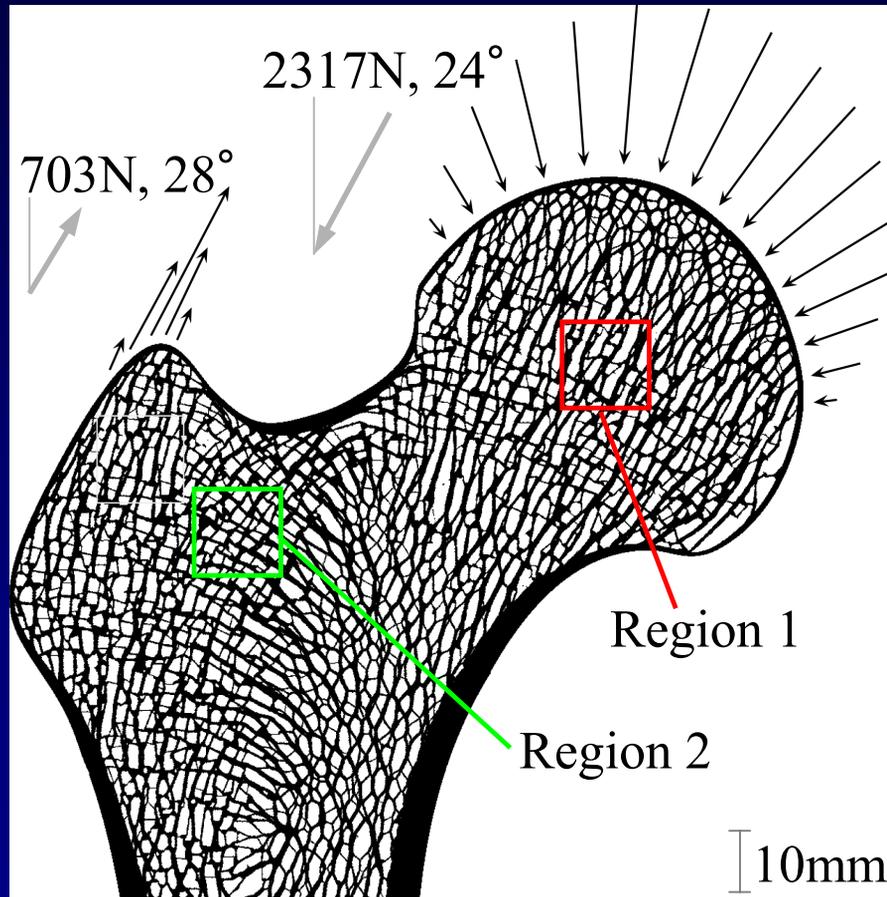
\*Model parameters

- (1) Threshold values:  $\Gamma_u = 1.0$ ,  $\Gamma_l = -2.0$
- (2) Sensing distance:  $l_L = 1.0\text{mm}$  ( $\sim 14$  pixels)

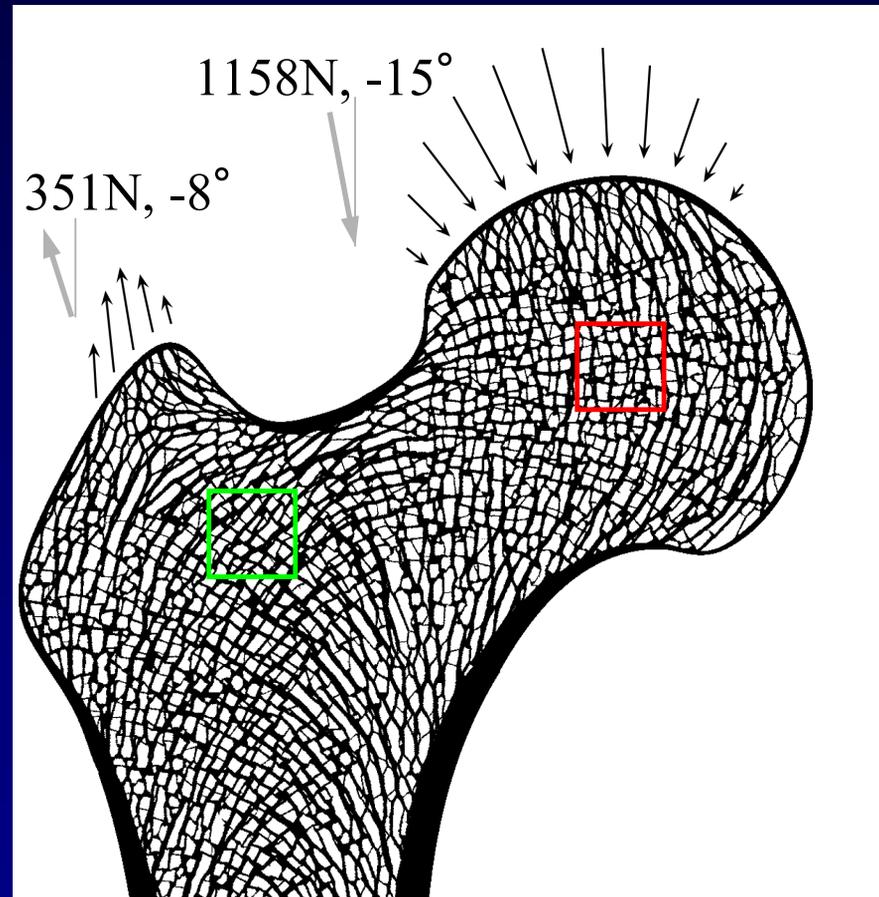
# Trabecular Structural Changes

## - Trabecular bone remodeling at 12th Step

### One-legged stance



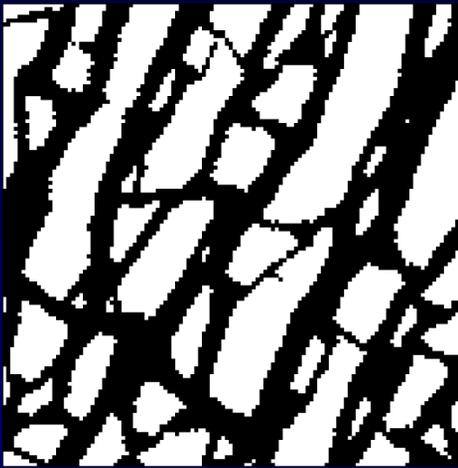
### Abduction



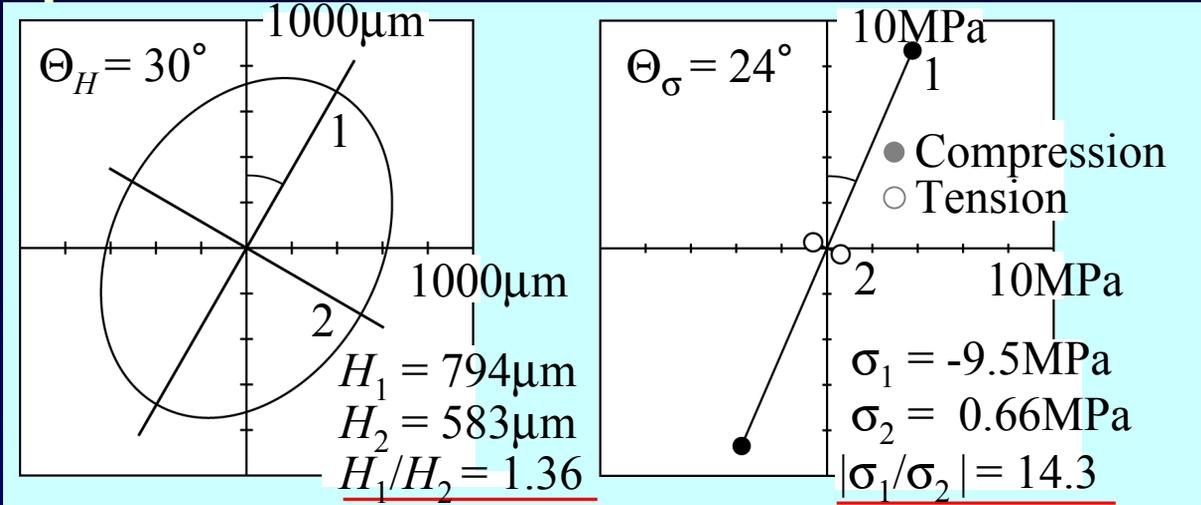
\* Boundary condition (Beaupré90)

# Trabecular Structure & Mechanical Environment

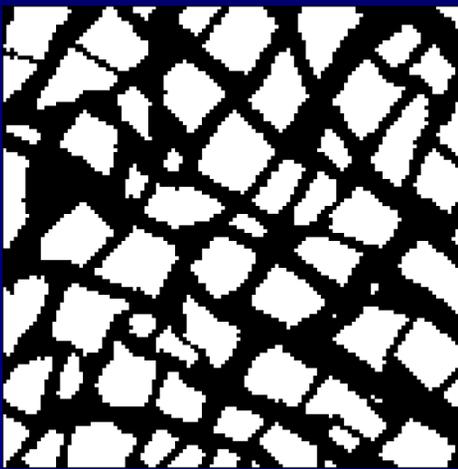
## - Region 1: Uniaxial Compression



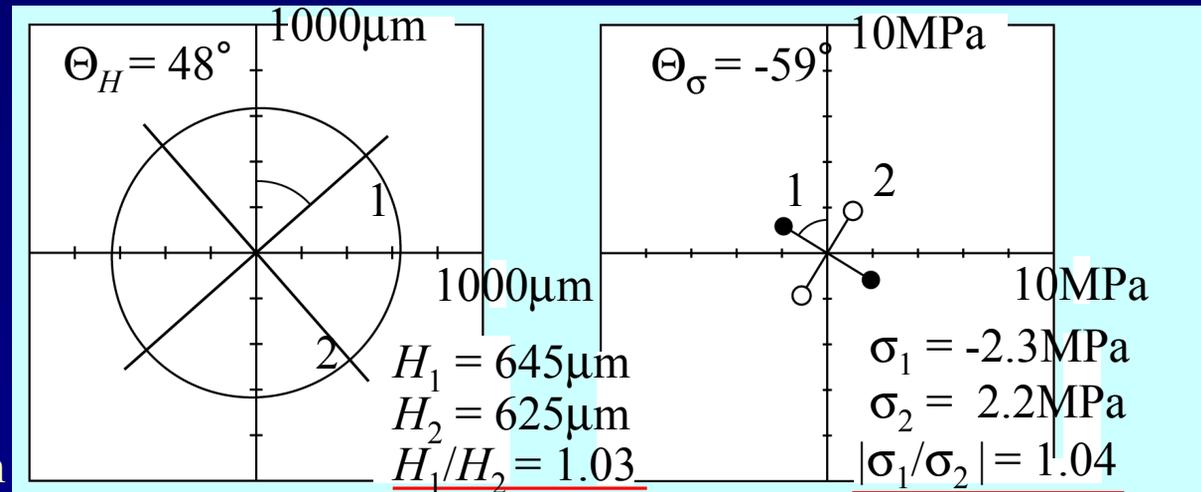
1 mm



## - Region 2: Compression-Tension



1 mm

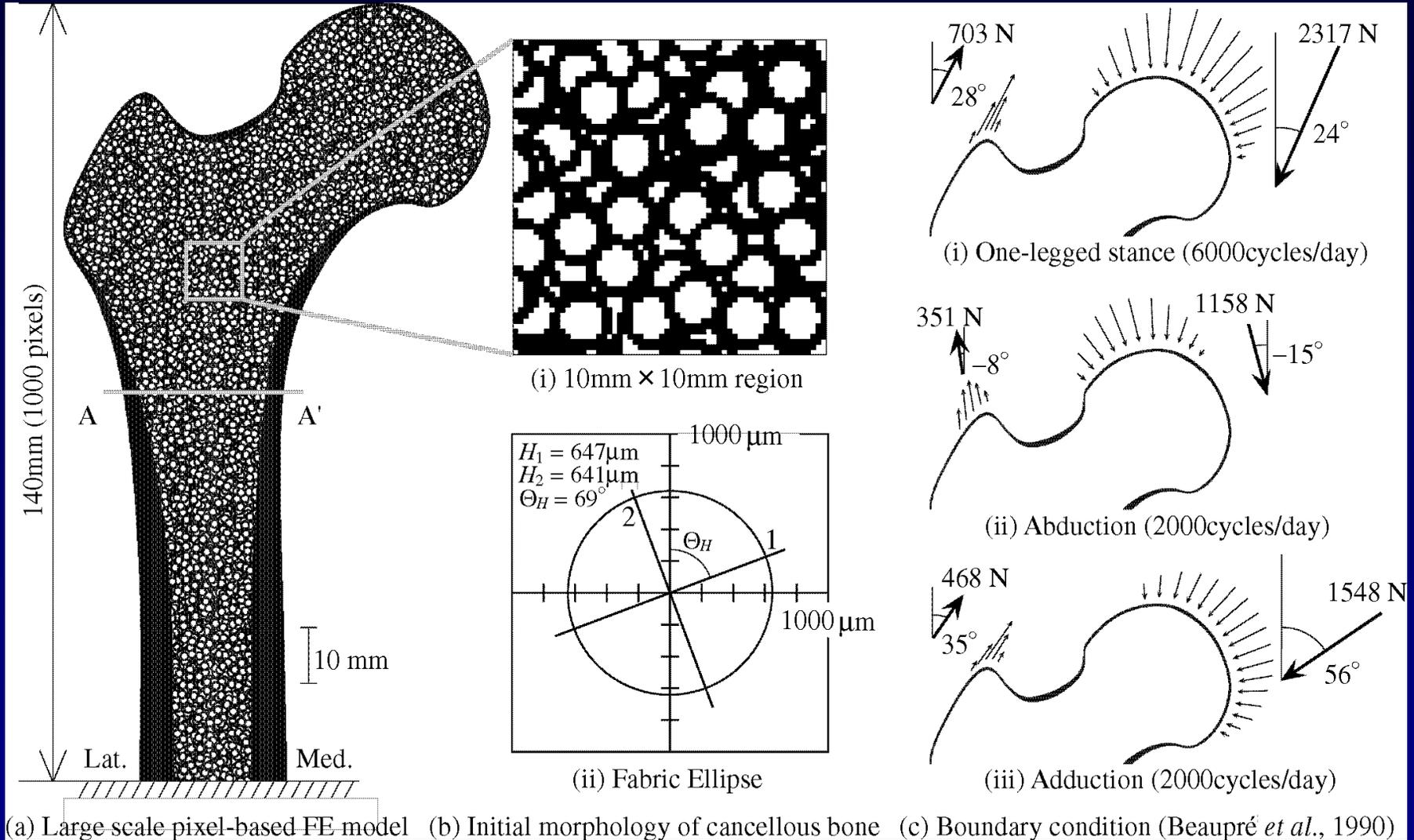


Trabecular microstructure

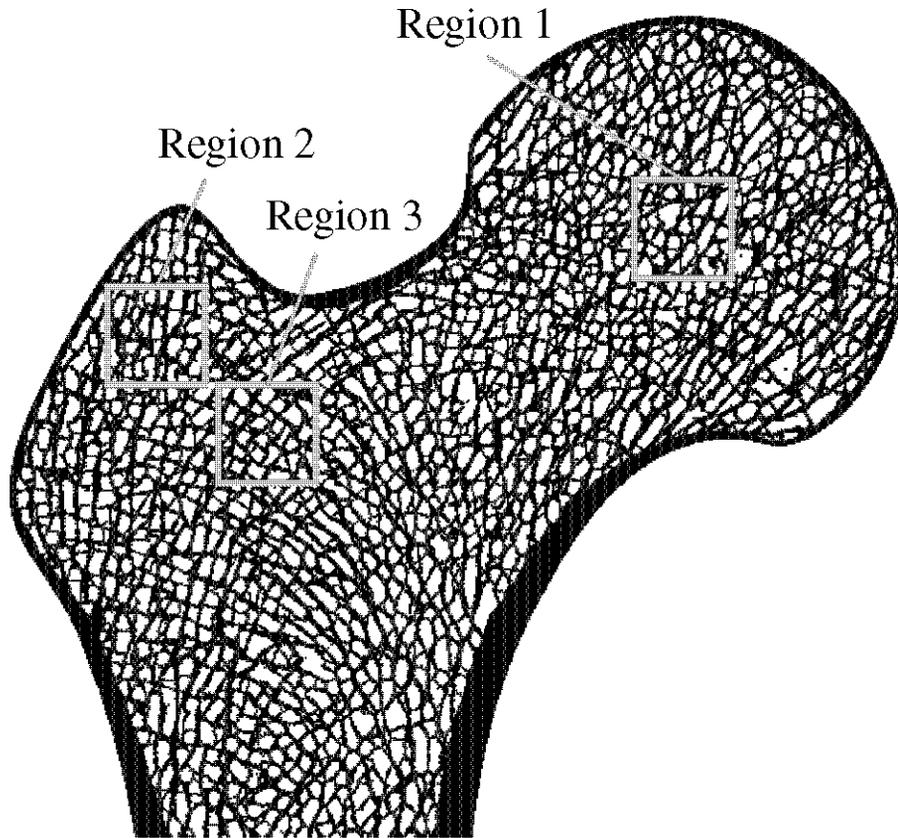
Fabric ellipse

Apparent principal stress

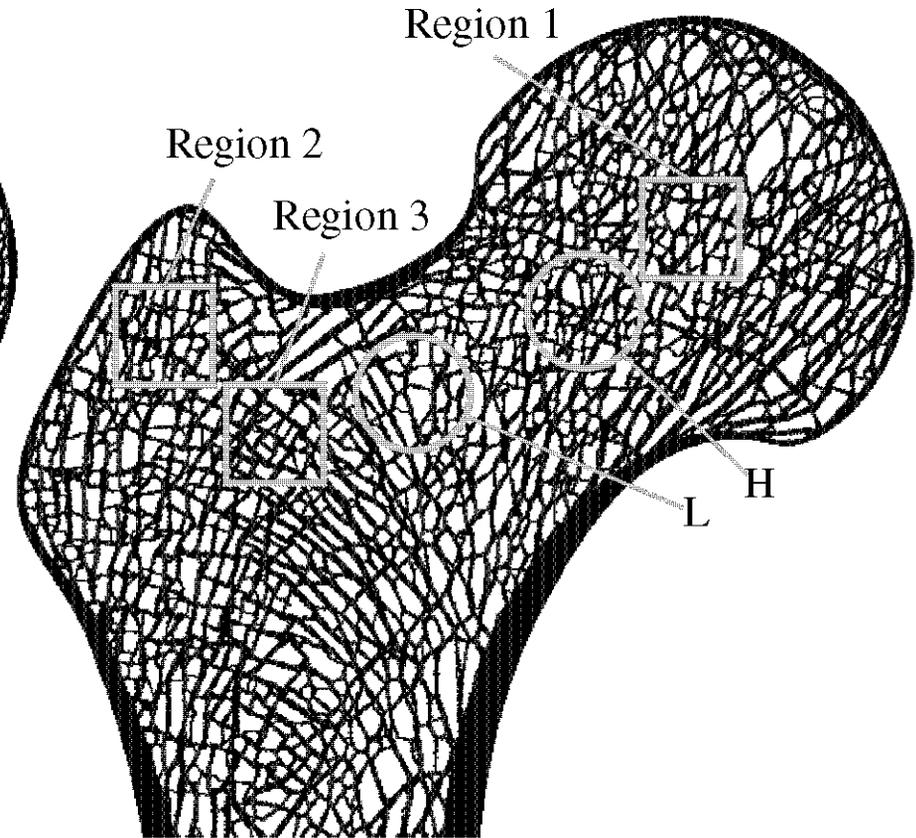
# Remodeling under Multiple Loading



# Structural Changes under Multiple Loading



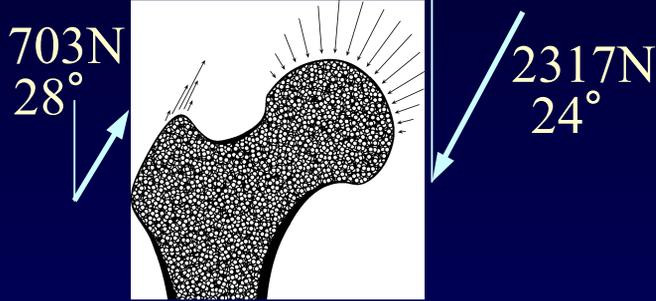
(a) 5th step



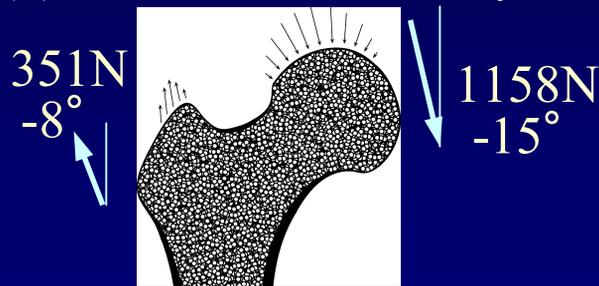
(b) 15th step

# Structural Changes under Multiple Loading

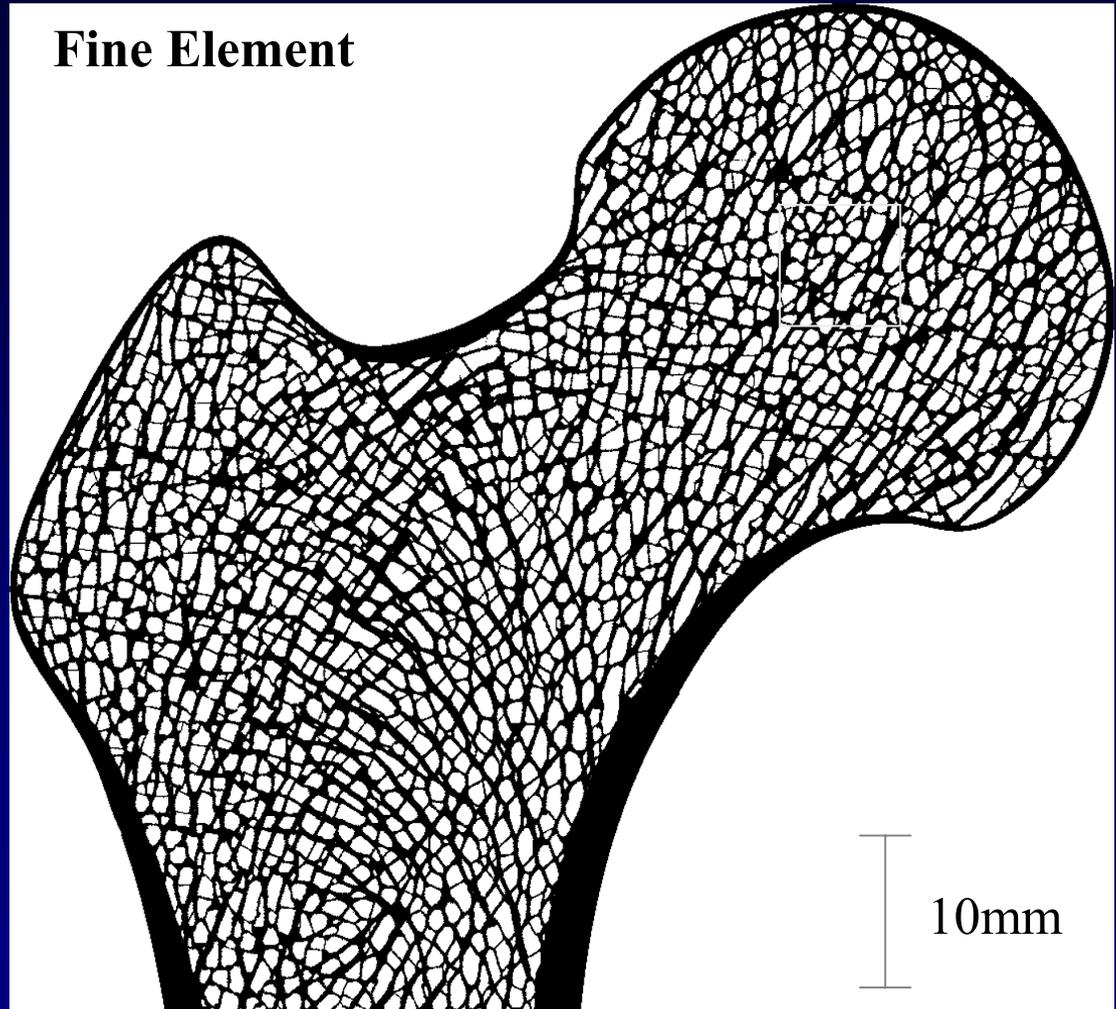
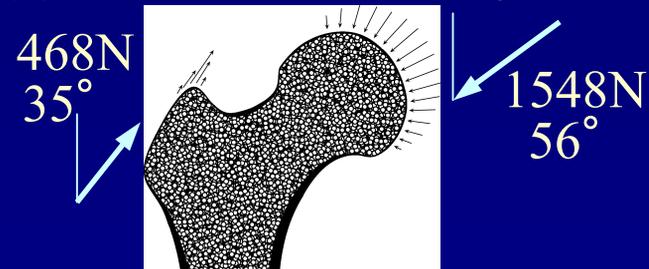
(1) One-legged stance: 6000/day



(2) Abduction: 2000/day



(3) Adduction: 2000/day

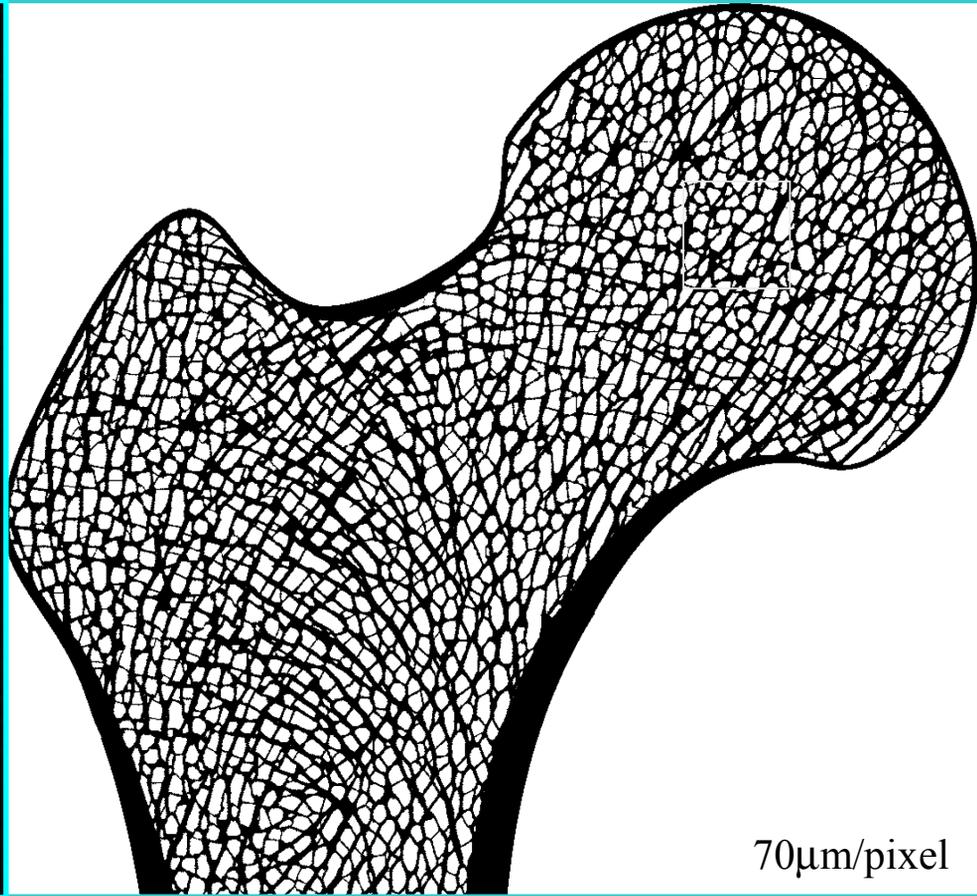
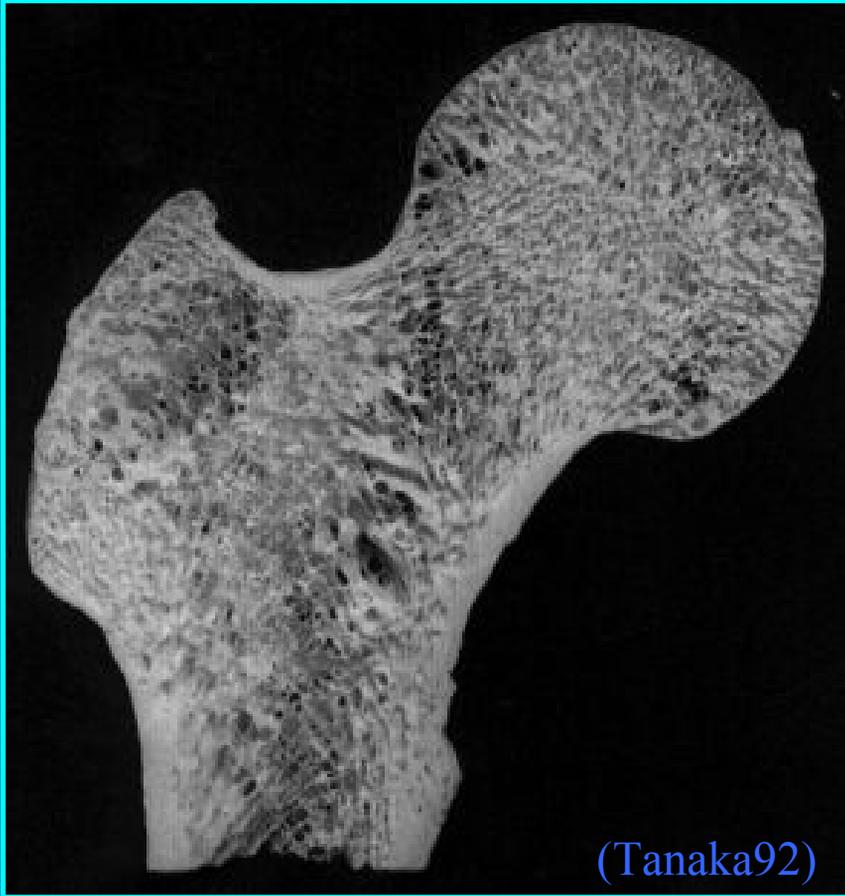


Trabecular bone remodeling at 10th step

\* B.C.: Beaupré *et al.* (1990)

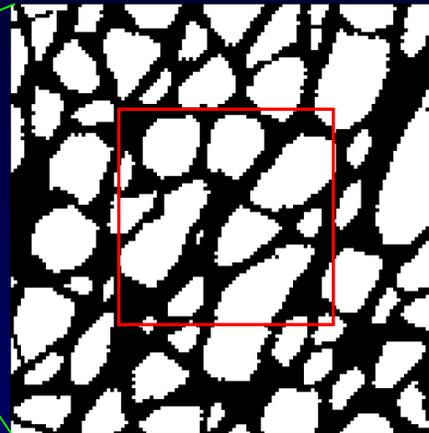
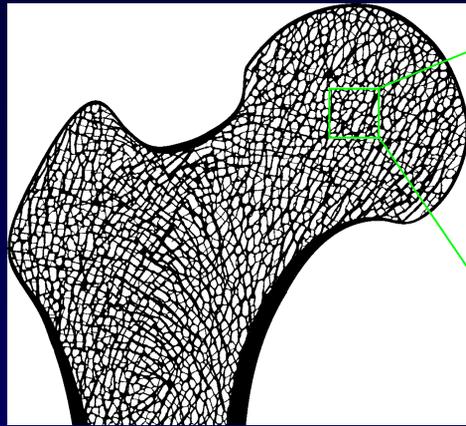
# Comparison

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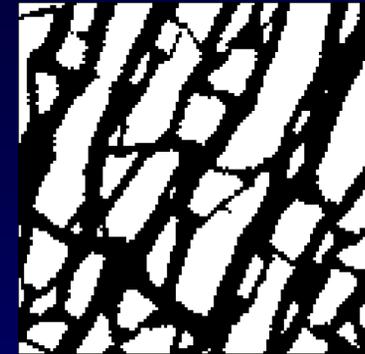


# At Microstructural Level

## Trabecular microstructure for multiple loading condition

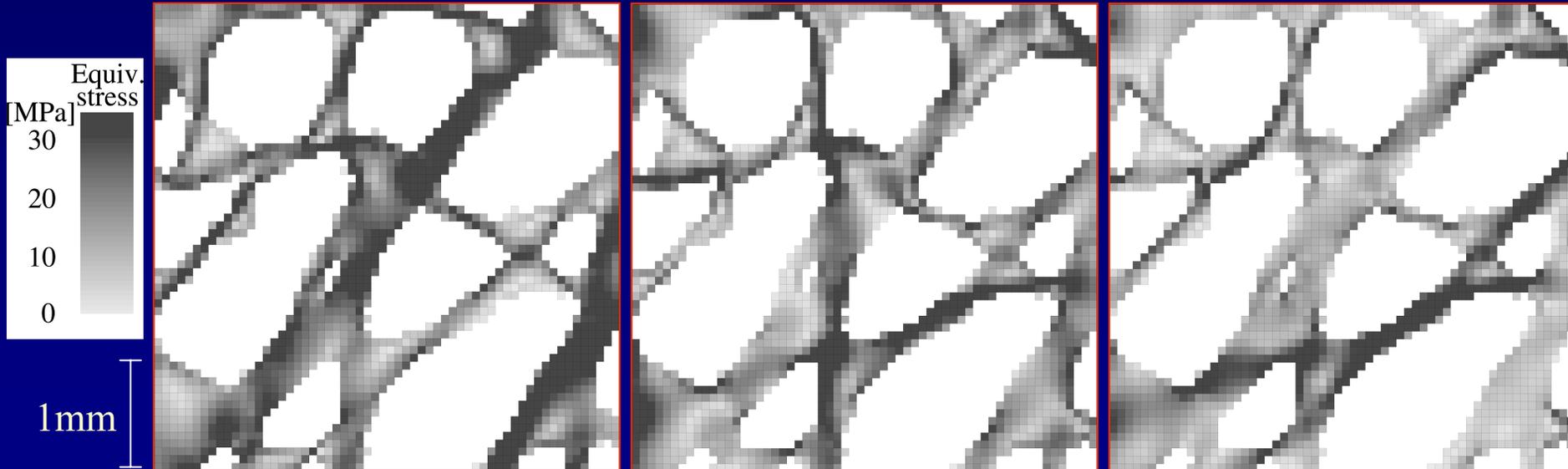


1mm



\*Single loading condition:  
One-legged stance

## Equivalent stress distribution



One-legged stance

Abduction

Adduction

# **Discussion and Conclusion**

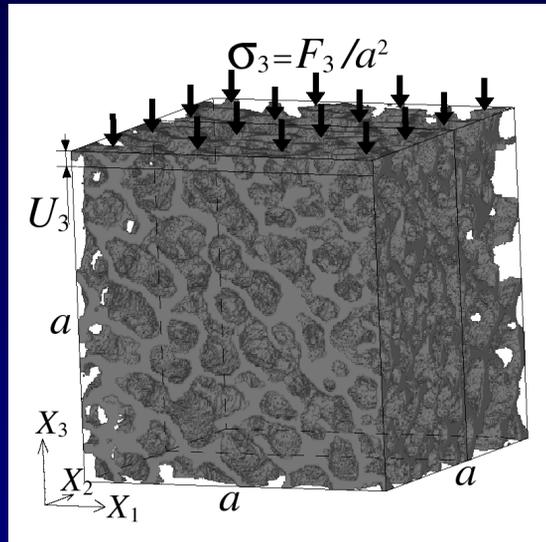
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- **Trabecular surface remodeling in cancellous bone**
- **Large-scale pixel FE model of proximal femur**
- **Trabeculae adapt to mechanical environment**
- **Direct evaluation of micro-macro relationships**
- **Insight into microscopic mechanism**

**Proposed simulation method using microstructural voxel FE models could be applicable to predict the trabecular remodeling**

# Future Works

3D remodeling simulation  
using digital-image based  
FE model ( $\mu$ CT)



Guldberg97

Comparison with  
experiment

Application to orthopaedic  
research area: Remodeling  
at bone-implant interface

