

# PREDICTION OF ENERGY EXPENDITURE FROM IMUs FOR BOTH OVERGROUND AND TREADMILL WALKING

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## Introduction

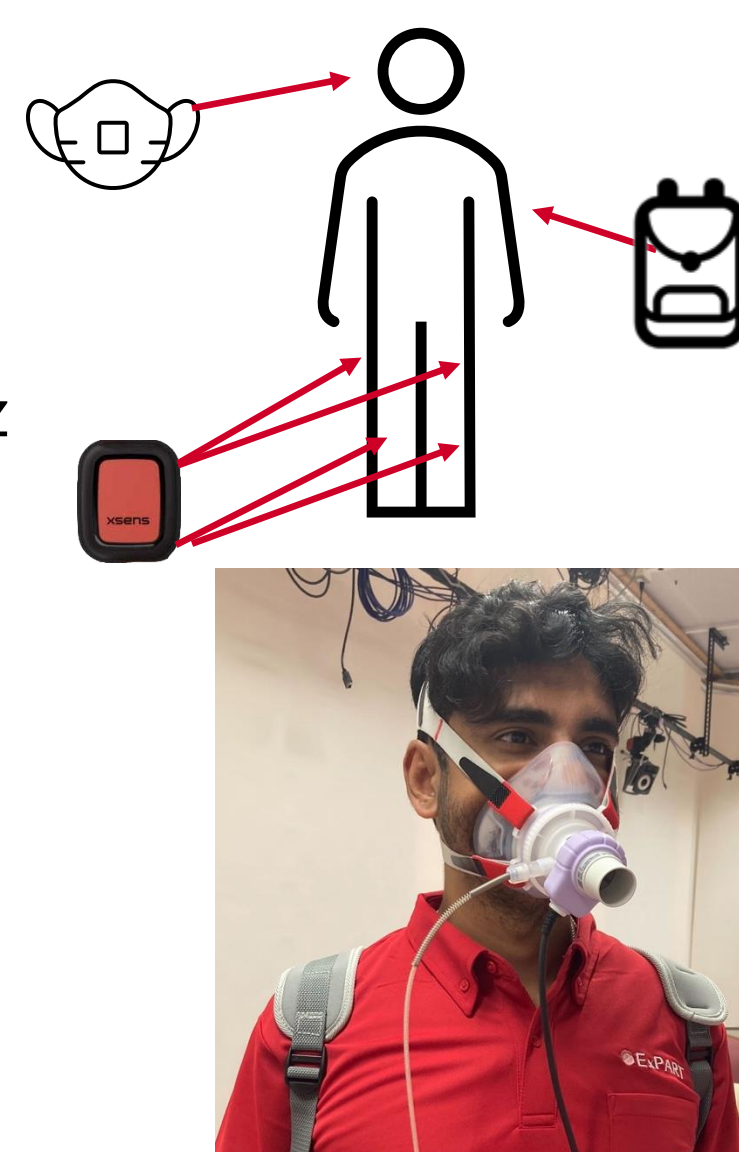
- The modern urban lifestyle leads to sedentarism (e.g., obesity, physical inactivity...) => Results in many lifestyle-based diseases<sup>1</sup>
- Energy Expenditure (EE) is a key tool to measure physical (in)activity  
=> The gold-standard -> indirect calorimetry, is Impractical to use in daily-life.  
=> Smartwatches and activity monitors have poorer accuracy and are unreliable<sup>2</sup>
- Replicate and extend the Open Metabolics system (from Stanford U)<sup>2</sup> for a Japanese young population with low physical activity<sup>3</sup>  
=> Extension to overground walking and different speeds

## Conclusion

- ✓ Full replication remains a challenge, but smarter algorithms are key to EE prediction
  - Anthropometric differences between the participants' pool
  - Few participants in the original model (N=13<sup>2</sup>)
  - Walking surfaces (only treadmills<sup>2</sup>)
  - Usage of a simple linear regression model?
- ✓ Plan to build a new prediction model using our own data => real-life environments
  - Use a neural network-based approach
  - Test new predictions on daily-life gait data based on our trained model

## Methods

- Participants
  - 10 Japanese males (age 23.3 ±1.4 years | height 1.73 ±0.05 m | weight 63.2 ±9.1 kg\*)
  - 10 Japanese females (age 21.0 ±1.9 years | height 1.58 ±0.04 m | weight 49.6 ±5.4 kg\*)
- \* **significantly higher in males (p<0.001)**
- Setup
  - Face mask for breath measurement → Mouth
  - Mobile Aeromonitor (Minato Medical Science Co., Ltd.) → Back
  - Put four 3-axes IMUs (Movella Inc.) → Thighs and shanks @60Hz
- Walking Conditions
  - Overground (OG) & Treadmill (TM)
  - 3 speeds : Slow 1.0m/s | Comfortable 1.3m/s | Fast 1.5m/s
  - Face mask (breath-by-breath measurement)
  - Shoe-type controlled
  - Randomized cross-over design



- Time line  
10 min TM familiarization → 5 min resting trial → Waling Trials : 6 min × 6 conditions  
(with 4-min rest between every walking trial and 10 mins rest between changing of OG and TM)

### Error comparison method

#### Reference EE: Mobile Aeromonitor (Ground truth)

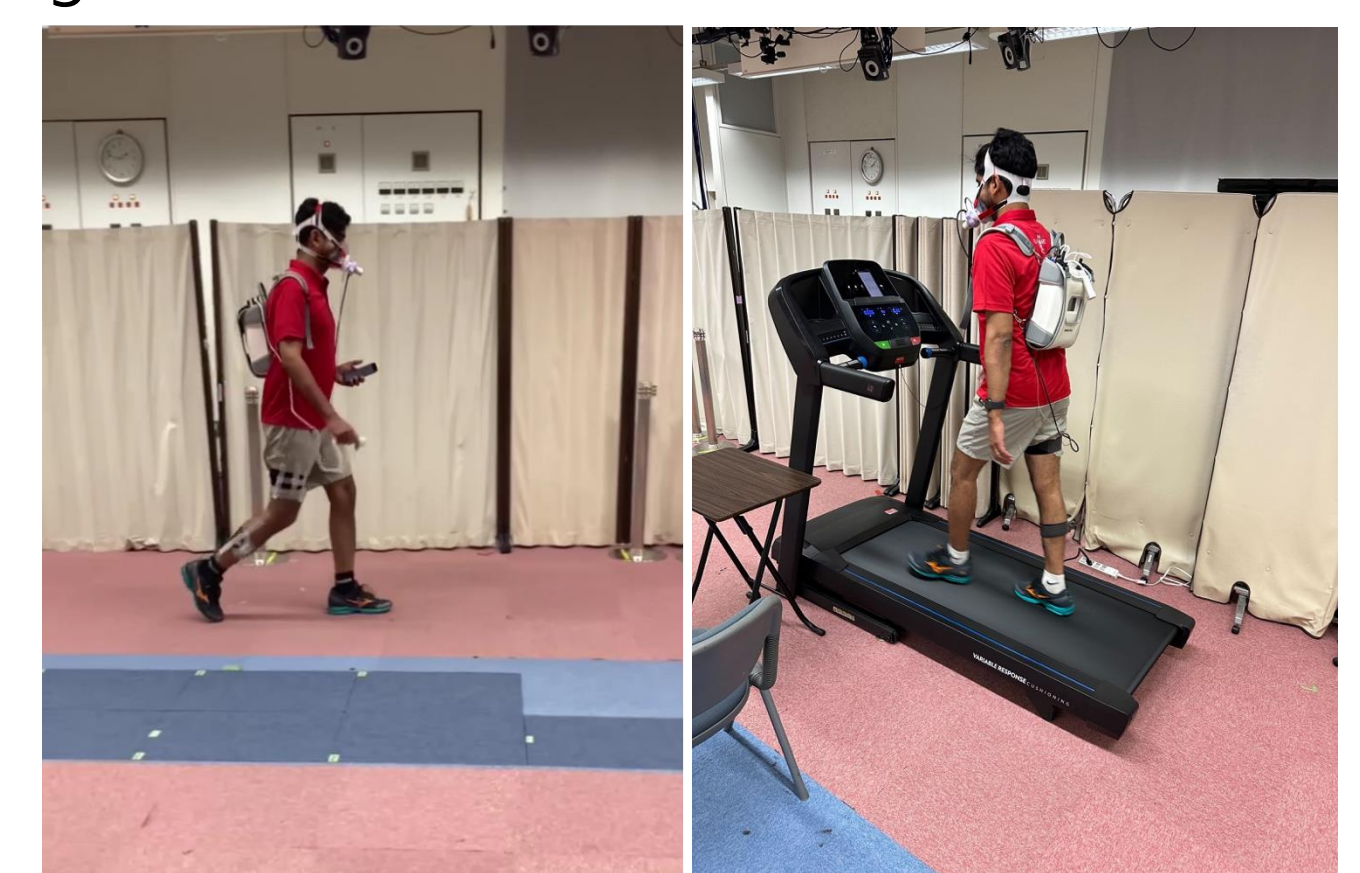
- EE\_Aero = (15962 + 5155 × RER) × VO<sub>2</sub> × 60 × body weight<sup>4</sup>
  - RER = Respiratory Exchange Ratio
  - VO<sub>2</sub> = Oxygen consumption rate

#### Estimated EE: from IMUs (IMU predictions)

- EE\_IMU = Open-source model (Stanford University)

#### Estimation Error (%)

$$EE\_Error\ (%) = \frac{(EE\_Aero - EE\_IMU)}{EE\_Aero} \times 100$$



## Results

The IMU-estimated EE showed substantial variation across participants and speeds\* (p<0.001\*) & TM showed smaller estimation errors than OG

### Tendencies

At comfortable speed → relatively the **best predicted** condition

At slow speed → EE **overestimated**

At fast speed → EE **underestimated**

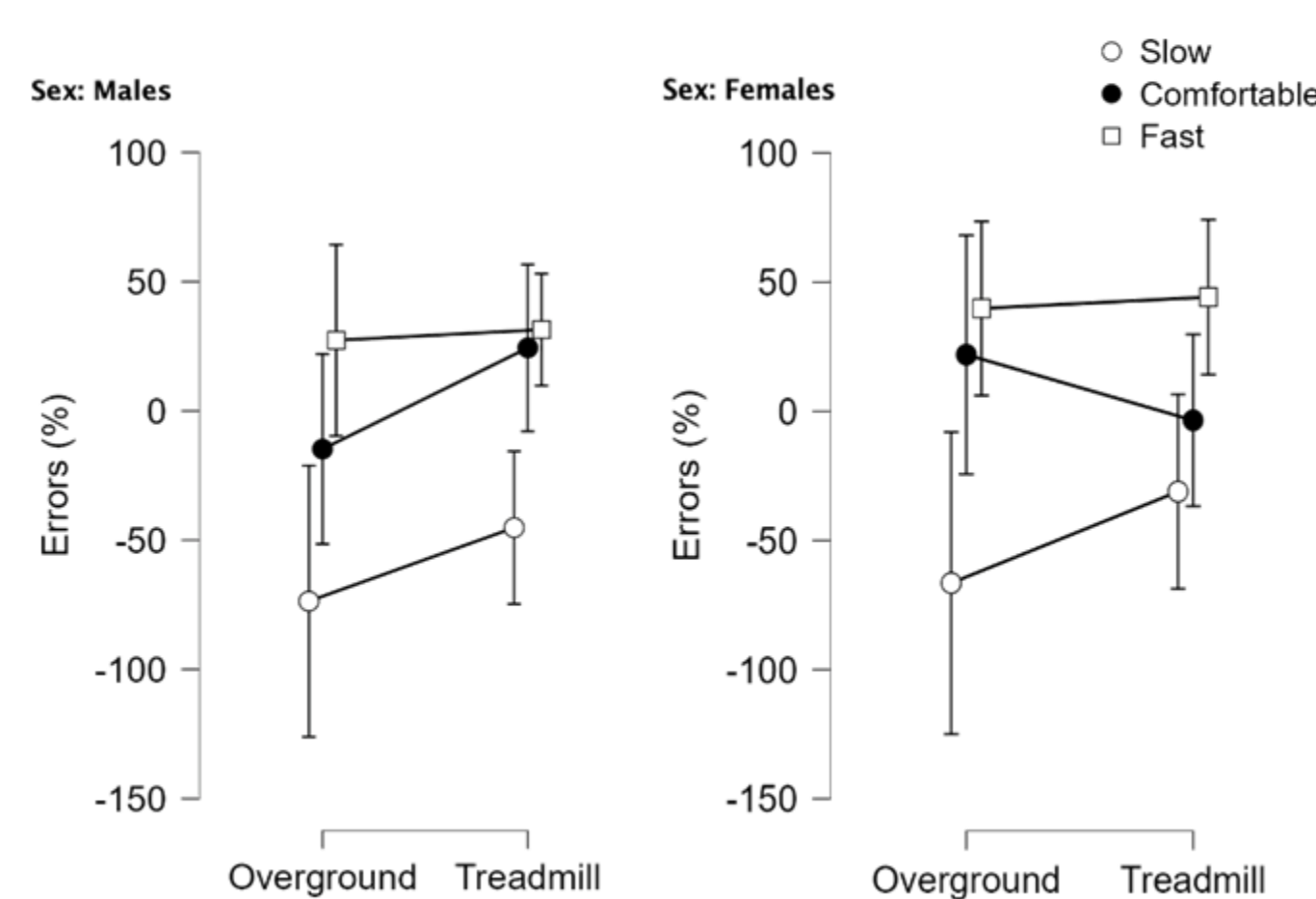


Fig 1. Descriptive plots of Estimation Errors

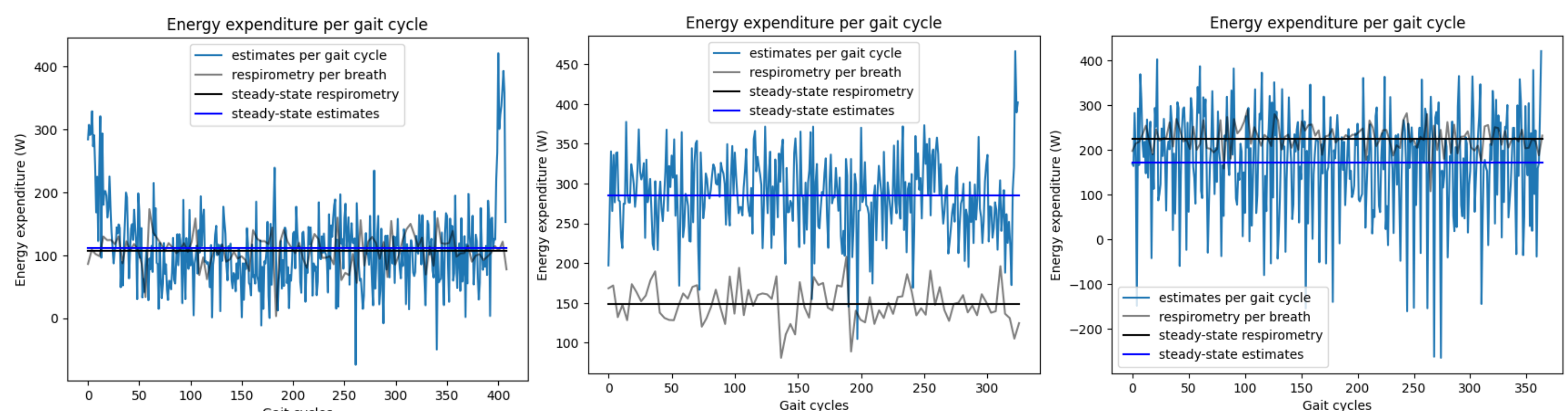


Fig 2. Three representative IMU based EE predictions compared to ground-truth EE. (BLUE=IMU predictions, BLACK=Ground truth)

## Discussion

- ✓ IMU-based EE estimation is feasible, but currently inaccurate and only partially replicable
- ✓ We were unable to (completely) replicate the results of Slade et al., (2021)<sup>2</sup>

### Possible Reasons

- Small training sample (N=13) in the original model?
- Anthropometric differences between the participants' pool (USA v/s Japan)?
- Differences in walking surface (only TM in the original model)?
- Simplicity of the linear regression approach?

### Future Work

- We plan to train a neural network-based model using our dataset and evaluate its generalizability to new participants  
=> Extension from laboratory-overground to daily life gait data

## References

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