

# Biomechanical Principles in Throwing

By

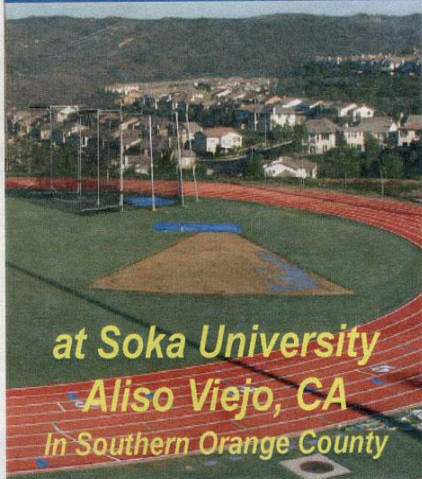
Gideon Ariel, Ph.D.

Soka University, Throwing Camp 6-28-05

SHOT PUT - DISCUS - JAVELIN - HAMMER



June 27-July 1, 2005



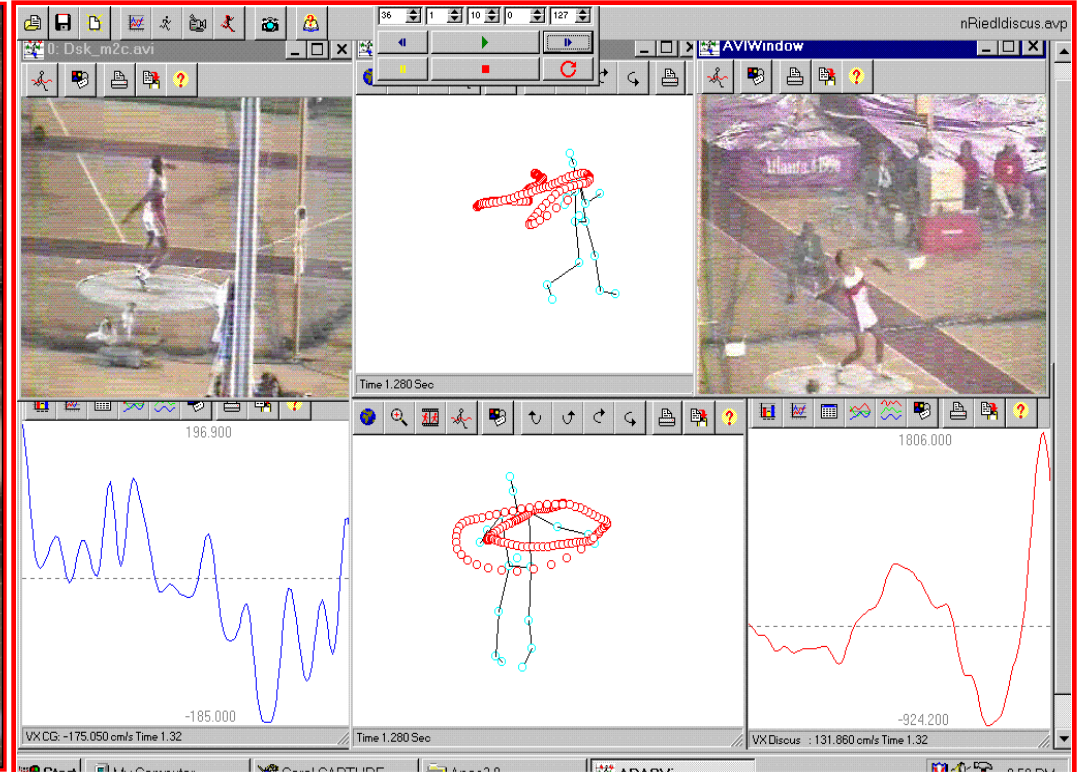
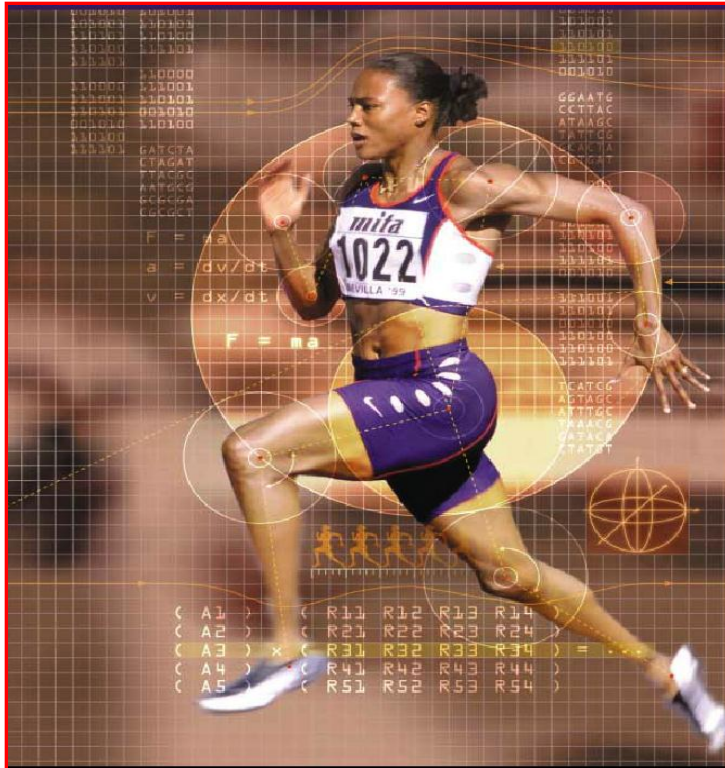
at Soka University  
Aliso Viejo, CA  
In Southern Orange County





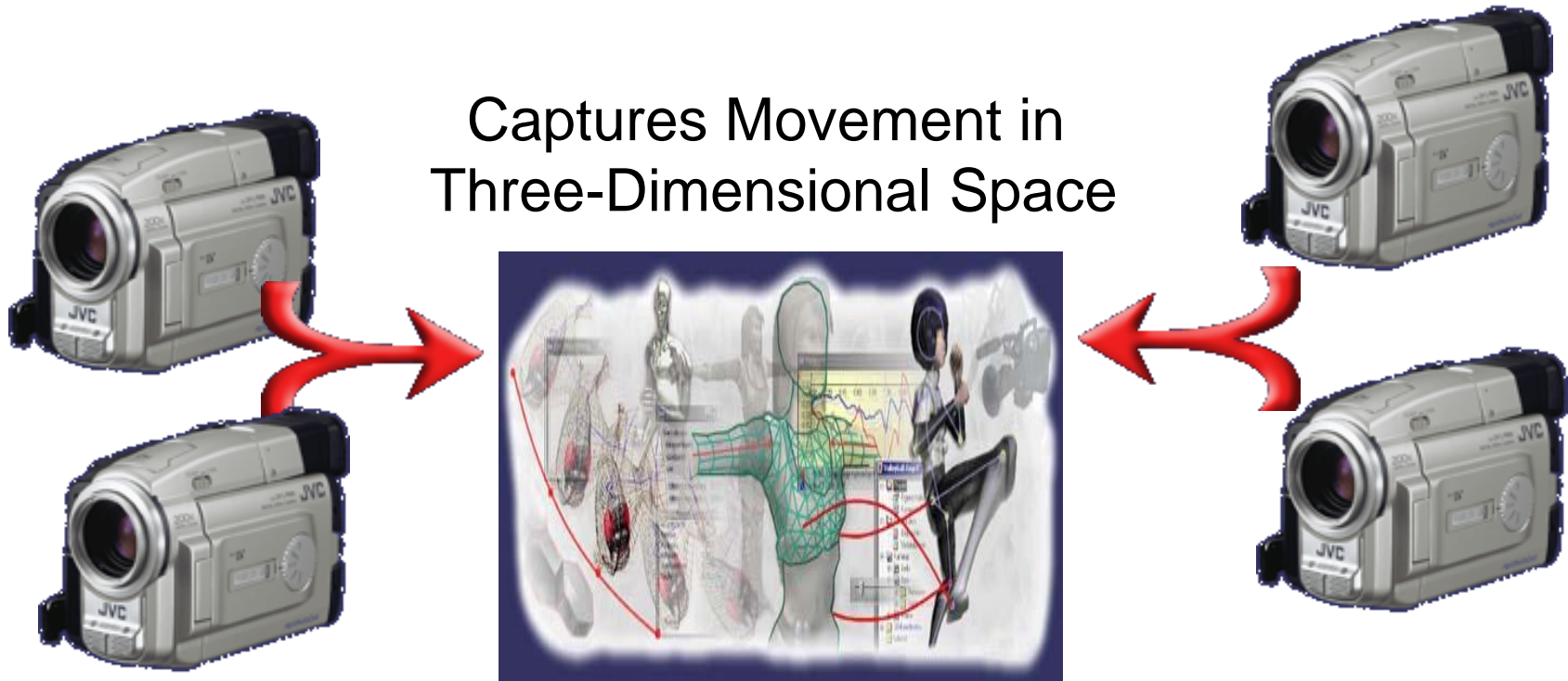
# Optimizing Athletic Performance Through High-Technology

**Biomechanics** – The field of study which makes use of the laws of physics and engineering concepts to describe motion of body segments, and the forces which act upon them during activity



Capture videos using several cameras simultaneously and save the clips directly as AVI files to your hard disk. This allows you to connect multiple digital video cameras to your computer and to start capturing with one mouse click.

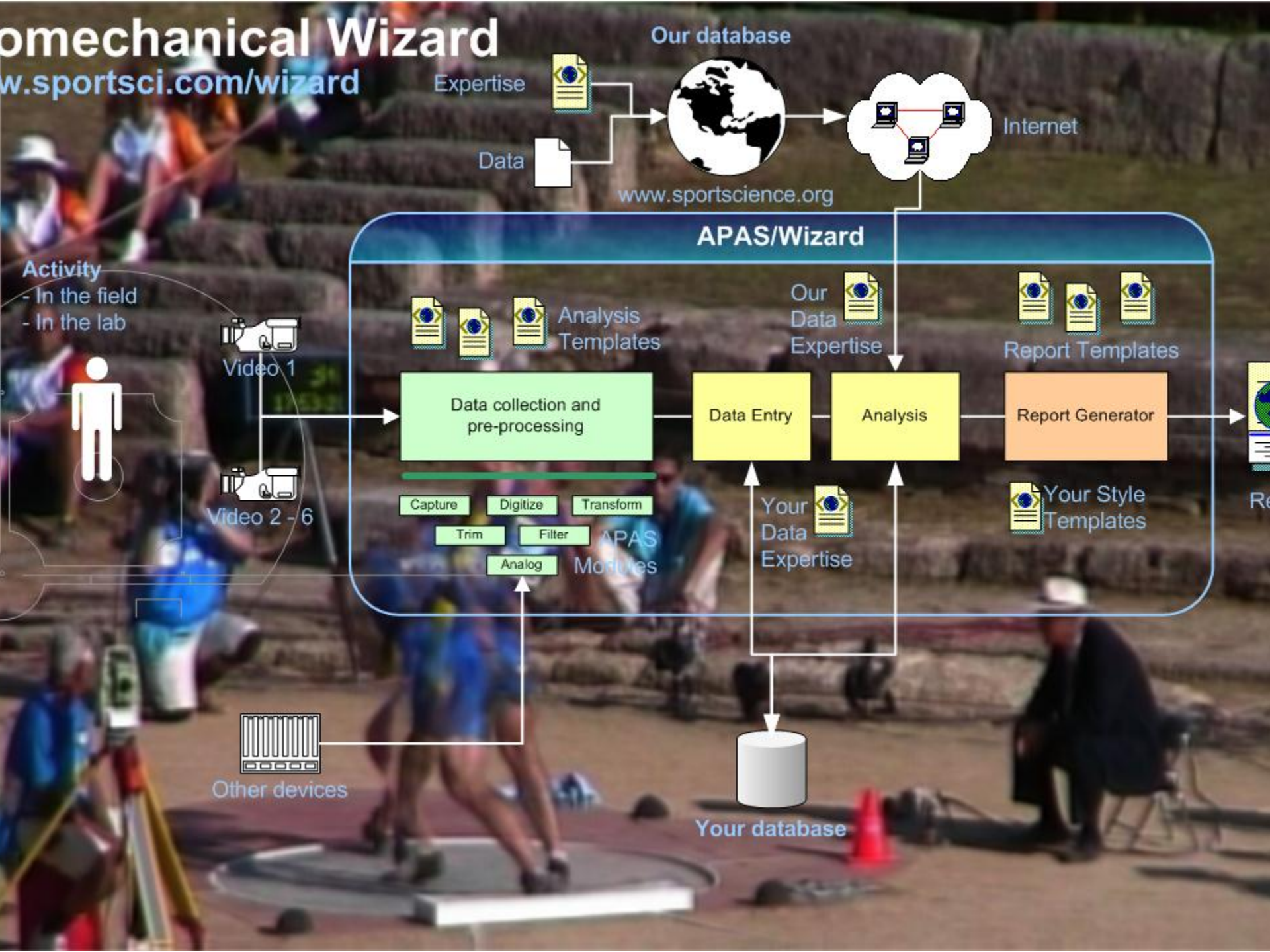
## Captures Movement in Three-Dimensional Space





# Biomechanical Wizard

[www.sportsci.com/wizard](http://www.sportsci.com/wizard)



# Phases of the Discus Throw:

1. PREPARATION
2. ENTRY
3. AIRBORNE
4. TRANSITION
5. DELIVERY



Indications of the Rhythm and Timing of the Throw

## PARAMETER

W1

W2

W3

HR1

1. Height of release (cm)

165

205

166

196

2. Angle of release

35.0

36.0

36.7

29.0

3. Release velocity (m/s-1)

25.5

26.3

24.9

25

4. Duration of entry phase (s)

0.45

0.36

0.44

0.40

5. Duration of airborne phase (s)

0.12

0.02

0.09

0.05

6. Duration of transition phase (s)

0.20

0.21

0.23

0.22

7. Duration of delivery phase (s)

0.16

0.15

0.16

0.27

8. Change of discus velocity in airborne phase (m/s-1)

-0.88

-

1.52

-0.45

9. Change of discus velocity in transition phase (m/s-1)

2.23

2.44

3.07

-0.11

10. Change of discus velocity in delivery phase (m/s-1)

17.88

16.72

13.13

18.31

11. Total change of discus vel. ( T+D phase) (m/s-1)

20.01

19.16

16.20

18.20

12. Official throwing distance (cm)

6734

6690

6612

62.0

# CBA Graphing module

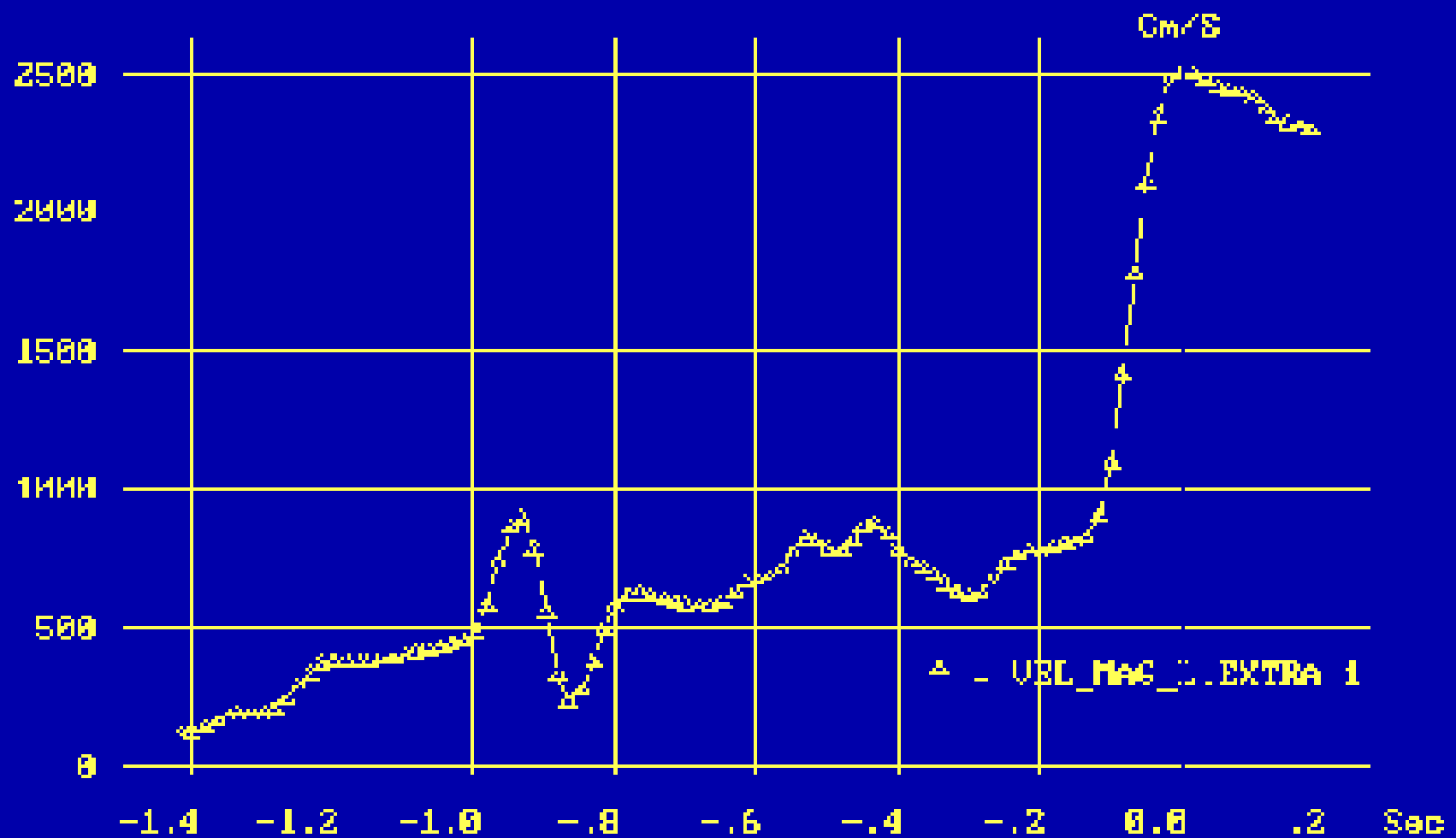


Time

A

1991

2001-107



# Differences:

- Angle of release
- Duration of the delivery phase
- Change of the discus velocity in the transition and the delivery phase



# DISCUSSION

Lose of the discus velocity  
in the airborne and transition phase



Necessary increment of velocity  
in the delivery phase



Poor control of the discus in the moment of release



Consequence: low angle of release  
**SHORTER LENGTH OF THE THROW**

# Correction of the training process

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It is necessary:

- to increase the discus velocity in the transition phase
- to improve movement co-ordination in the delivery phase

The results of this analysis has showed significant differences in numerous parameters, including those which are considered as a basic: velocity, release angle, height of release, trunk angle, as well as in many others. Since those differences can be treated as the errors of technical execution that significantly influence the length of the throw, suggestions for their correction through training process have been made.

## Contributions to Throwing Velocity

- **Translated linear velocity of CM & shoulder**



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- **Horizontal flexion of shoulder joint**

## **Contributions to Throwing Velocity**

- Translated linear velocity of CM & shoulder
- Hip rotation
- Spinal rotation
- Horizontal flexion of shoulder joint
- **Internal rotation of humerus**



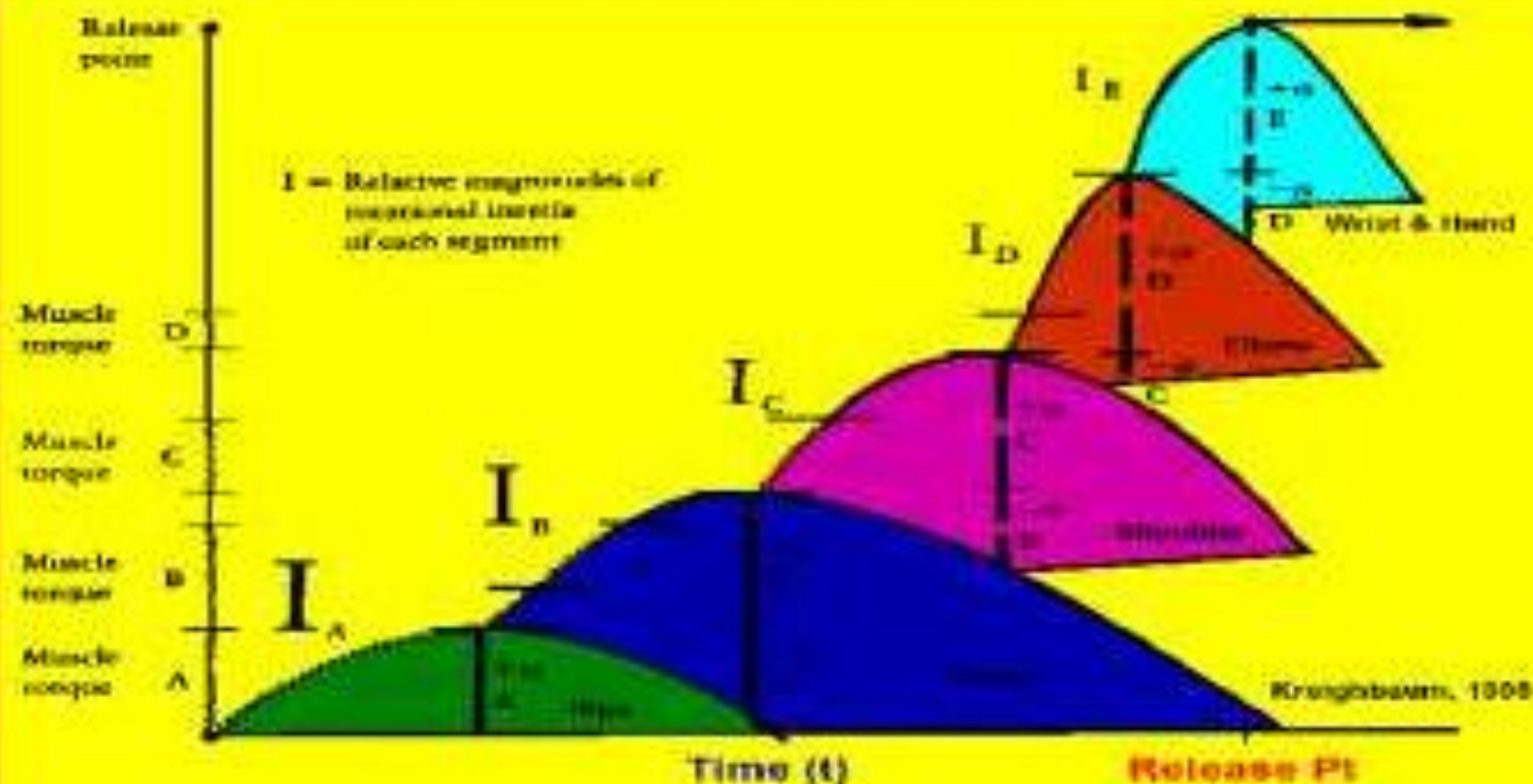
## Contributions to Throwing Velocity

- Translated linear velocity of CM & shoulder
- Hip rotation
- Spinal rotation
- Horizontal flexion of shoulder joint
- Internal rotation of humerus
- **Elbow extension**

## Contributions to Throwing Velocity

- Translated linear velocity of CM & shoulder
- Hip rotation
- Spinal rotation
- Horizontal flexion of shoulder joint
- Internal rotation of humerus
- Elbow extension
- **Wrist & Finger flexion**

# Kinetic Link Sequential Transfer

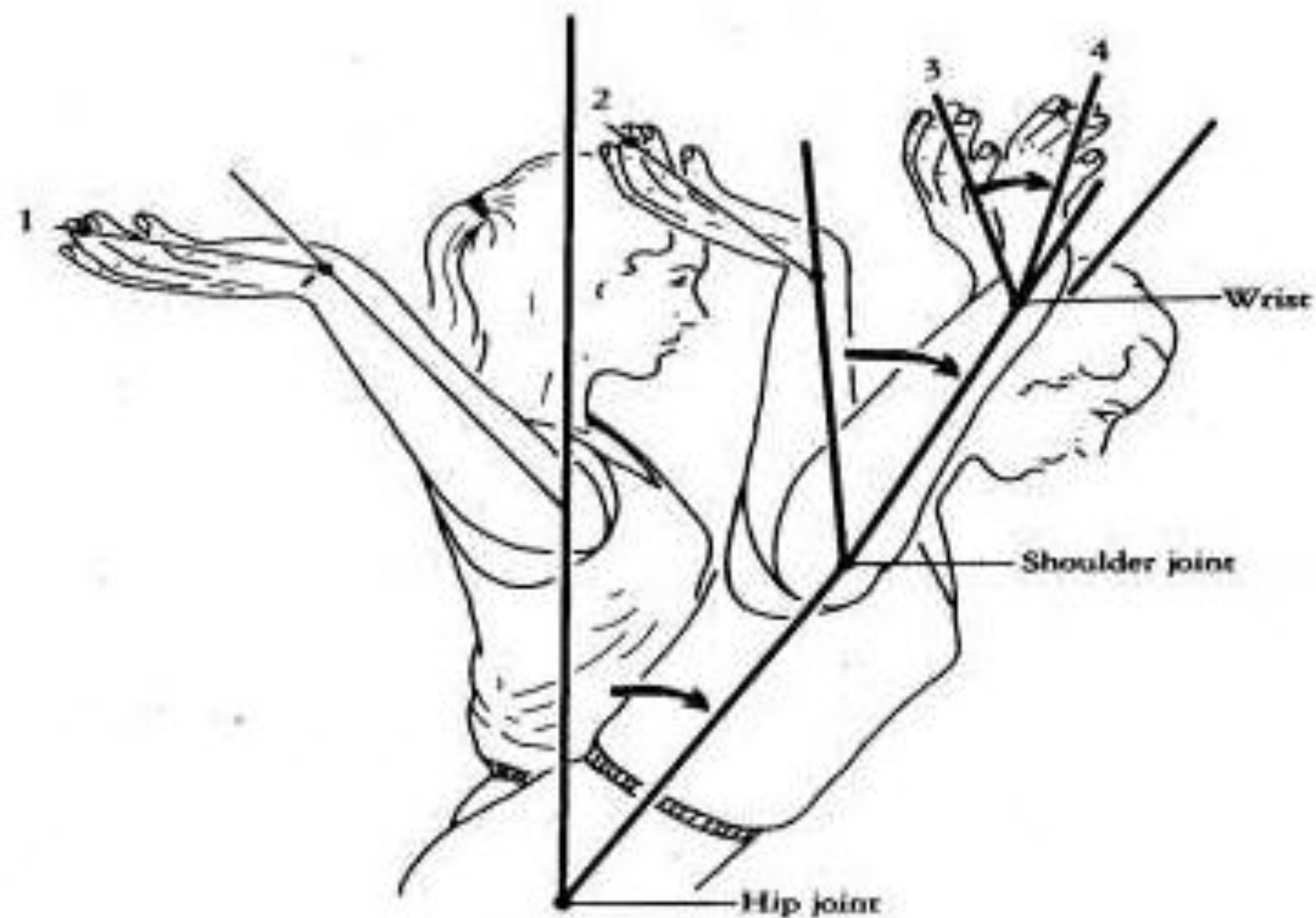




# Elastic Loading

- **Extreme stretch of the arm throwing muscles facilitate the throwing motion.**





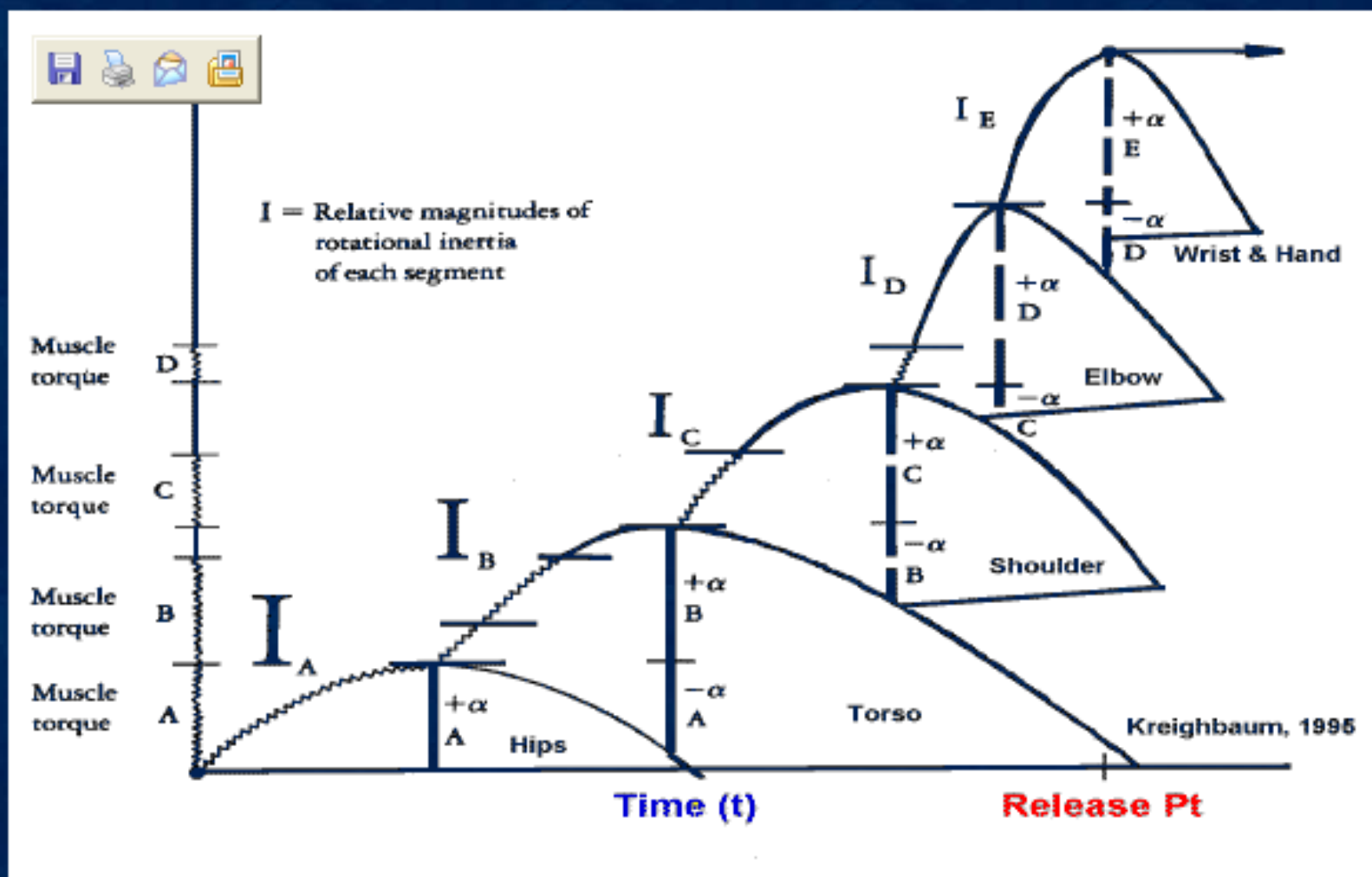
**FIGURE K.2**

Flexion of the hip, medial rotation of the shoulder joint, and flexion of the wrist with all distal segments of the upper extremity fixed.

# Elastic Loading

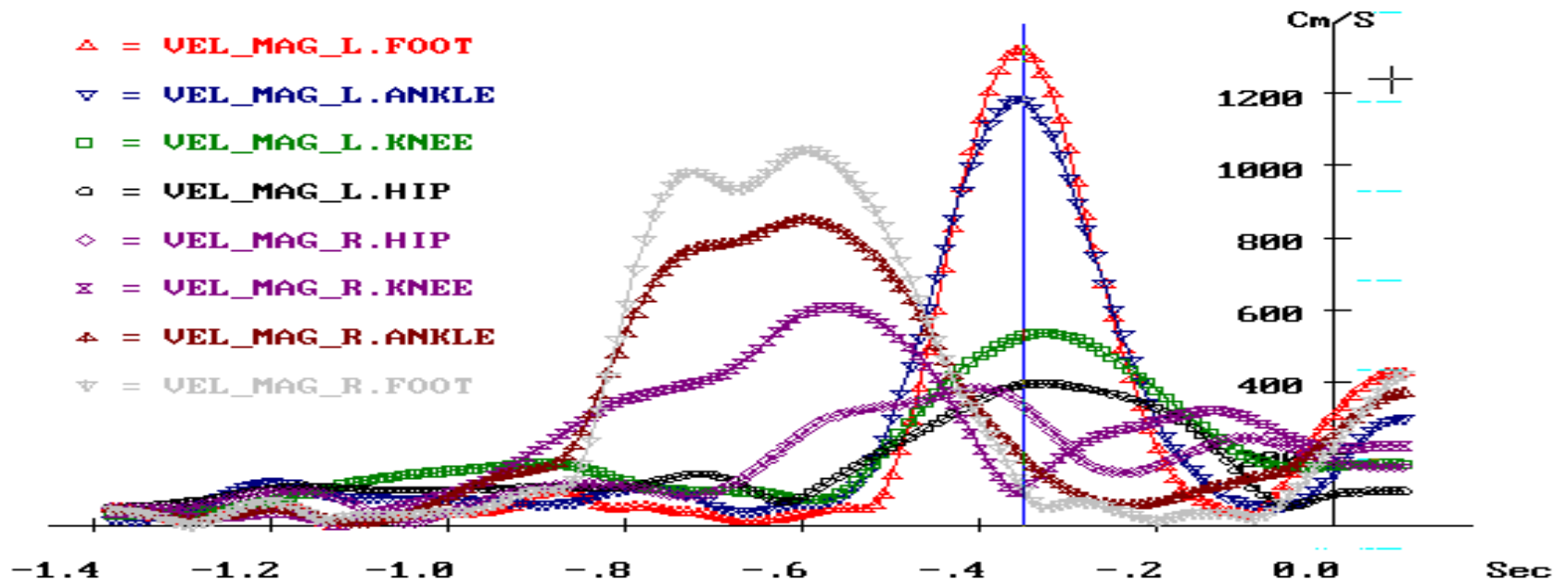
- Extreme stretch of the arm throwing muscles facilitate the throwing motion.
- **Elastic loading in combination with sequential muscular acceleration and deceleration lead to the transfer of velocity from the torso to the arm.**

Critical sequential timing between the successive accelerations and decelerations of the segments are necessary for effective kinetic link transfer of velocity (Figure 5). The sequential timing of the trunk rotation, horizontal shoulder flexion and elbow extension transfer the trunk's torsional velocity out through the arm appendage while providing a shortened effective arm radius with a smaller rotational inertia in the beginning of the accelerative phase permitting high rotational velocities and then the extension of the arm leads to a flinging transfer motion which increases the arm radius and tangential velocity.

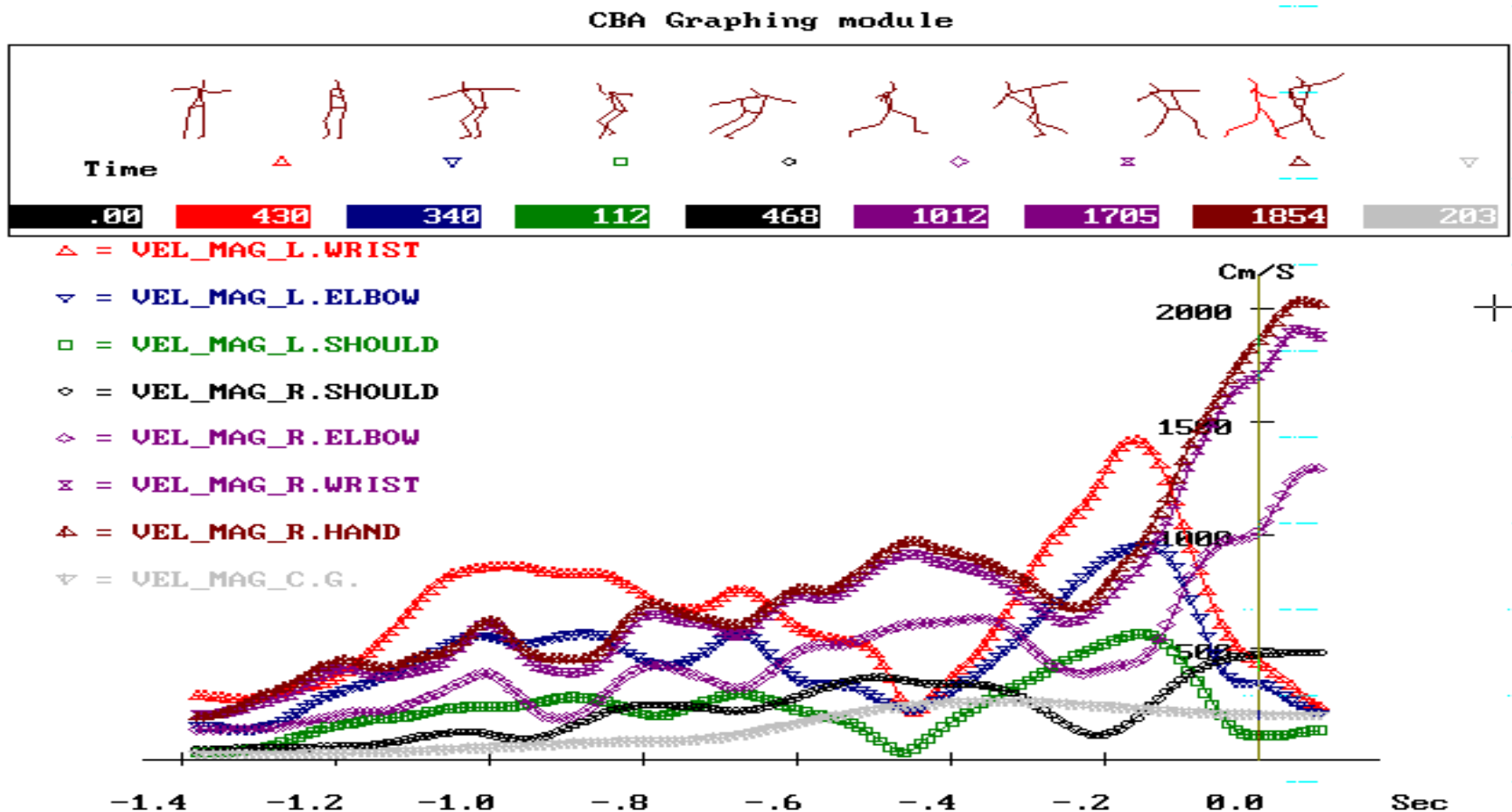


# Calculating the Velocities of the lower limb revealed acceleration and deceleration patterns in a unique sequence

CBA Graphing module

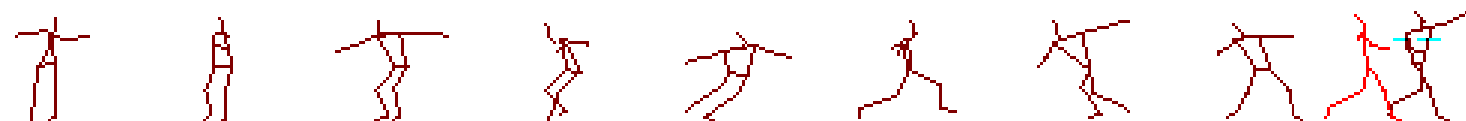


# Observing the upper extremities reveals a pattern as well.





# CBA Graphing module



Time

△

▽

□

◇

◇

⌘

△

▽

.00

430

340

112

468

1012

1705

1854

203

△ = VEL\_MAG\_L.WRIST

▽ = VEL\_MAG\_L.ELBOW

□ = VEL\_MAG\_L.SHOULD

◇ = VEL\_MAG\_R.SHOULD

◇ = VEL\_MAG\_R.ELBOW

⌘ = VEL\_MAG\_R.WRIST

△ = VEL\_MAG\_R.HAND

▽ = VEL\_MAG\_C.G.

Cm/S

2000

1500

1000

500

-1.4

-1.2

-1.0

-.8

-.6

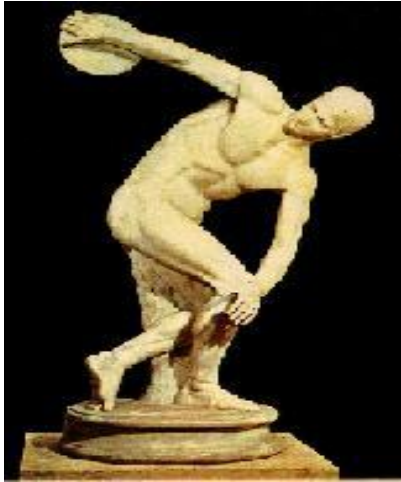
-.4

-.2

0.0

Sec





# **Biomechanical Analysis of Discus Throwing at Olympic Games**

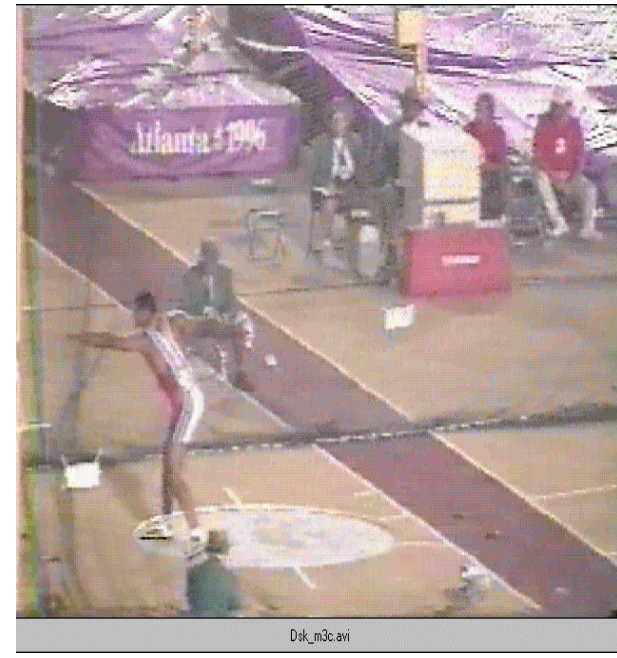


**There Were 18 Throwers During the Qualifying Round and the Best 8 Athletes Competed for the Gold Medal in the Final Round.**





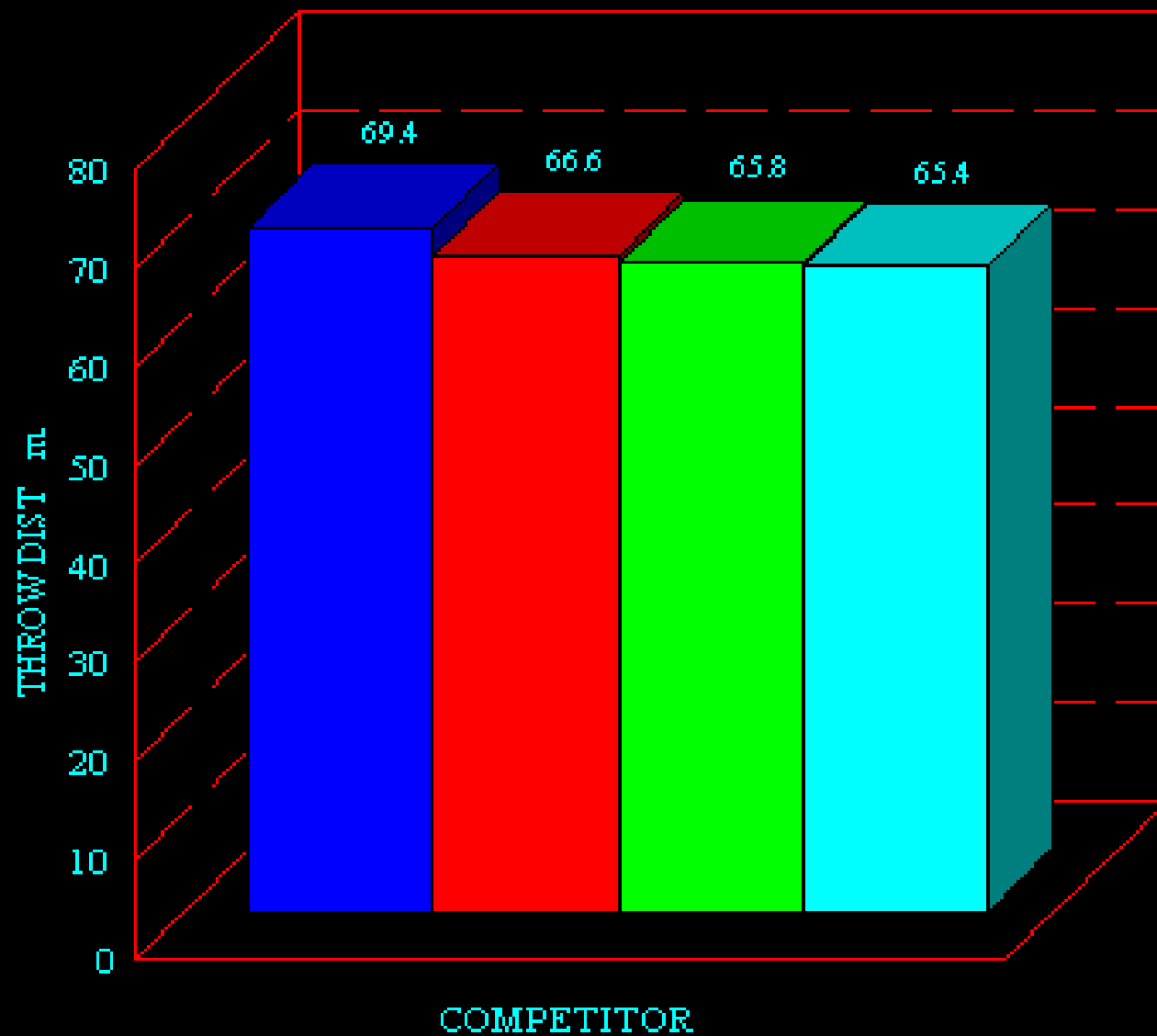
# Video Cameras Were Placed in Several Locations to Maximize the Data Obtained for the Event



- **The Order of Finish Was:**  
**Riedel Representing Germany (GER) Winning the Gold,**  
**Dubrovshchik From Belarus (BLR) Finishing Second,**  
**the Bronze Medal Was Won by Kaptyukh From Bulgaria,**  
**and the Fourth Place Finisher Was Washington Representing**  
**the United States.**

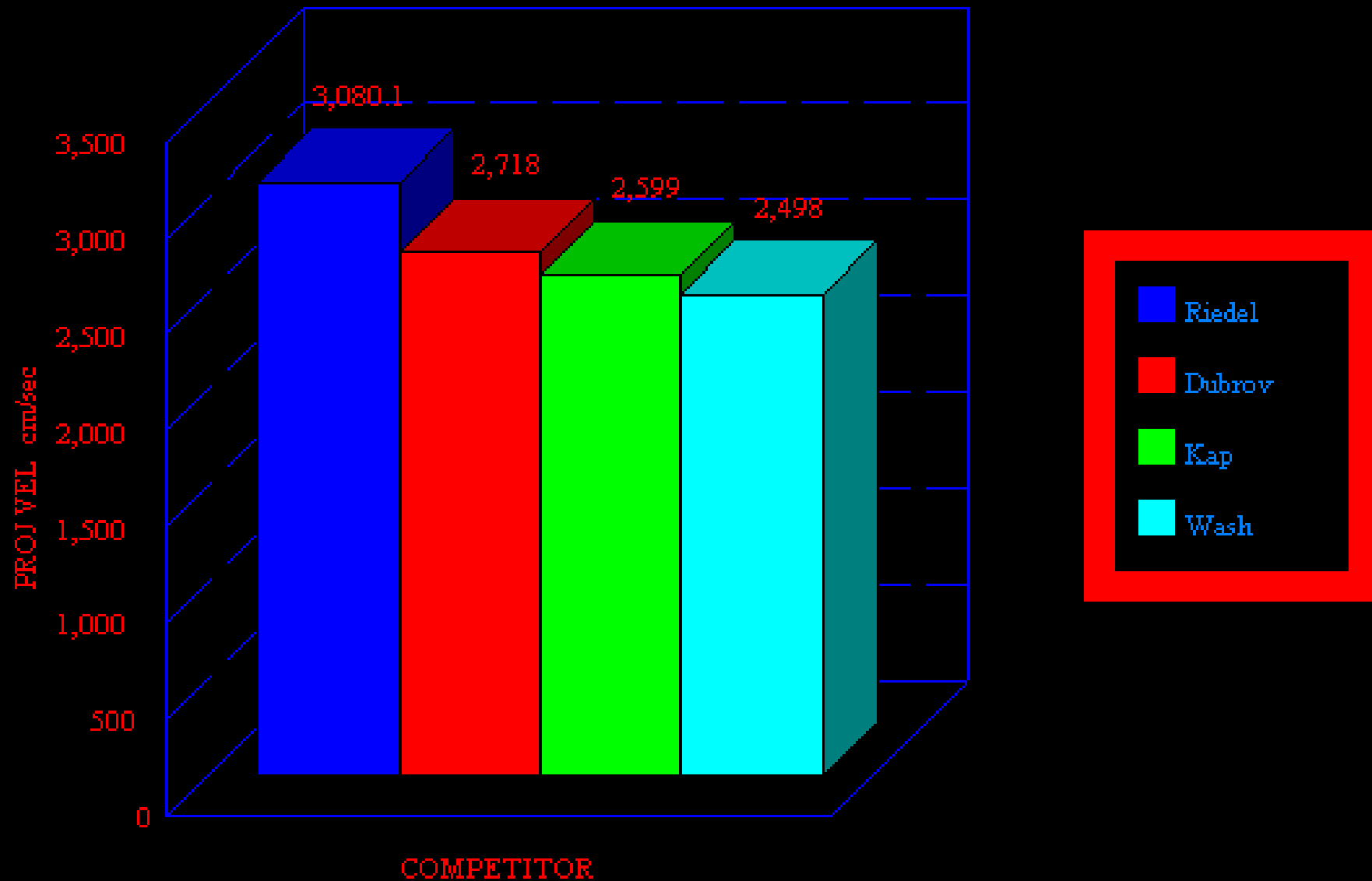


# DISCUS THROW DISTANCE m.

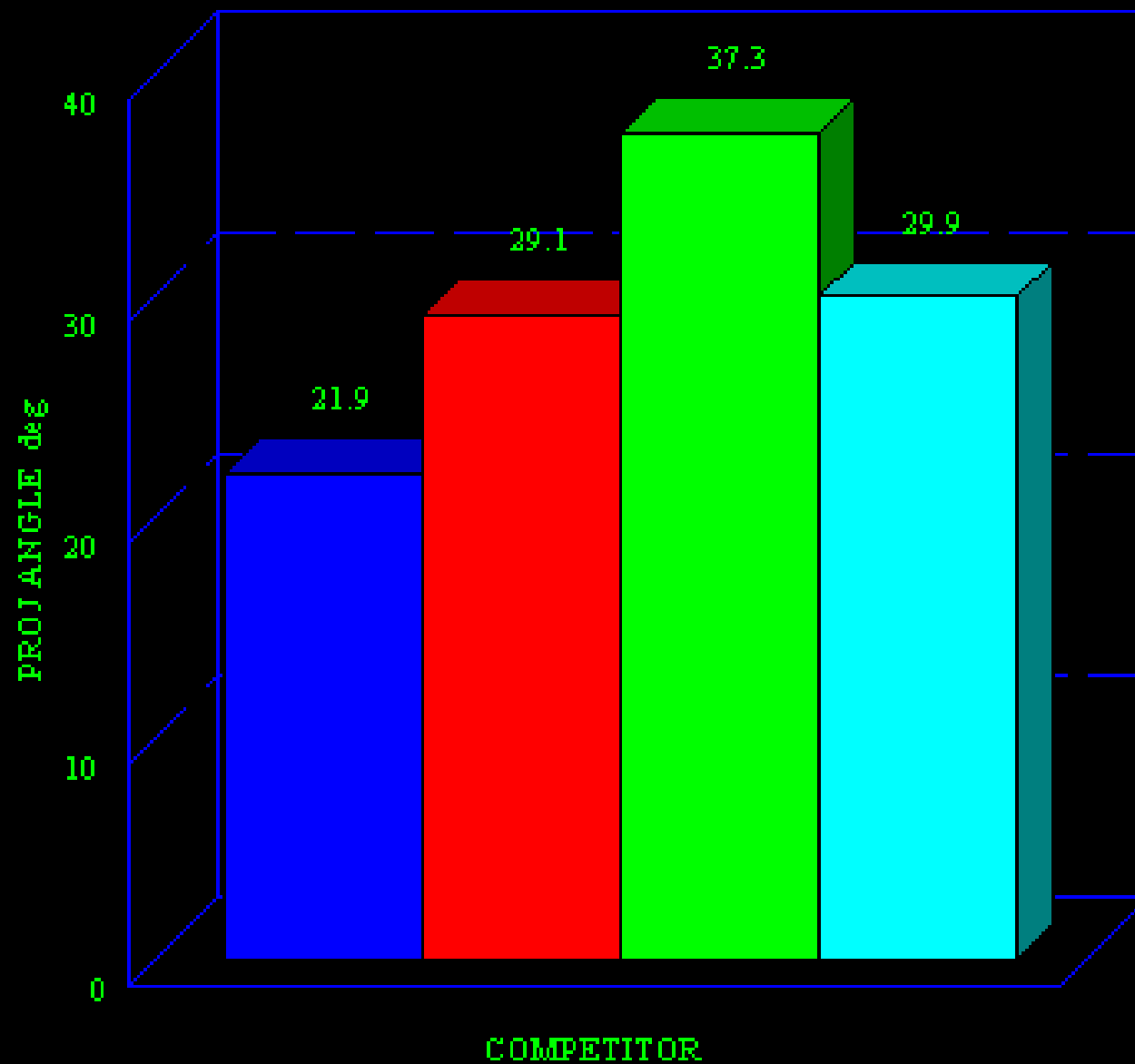


Riedel  
Dubrov  
Kap  
Wash

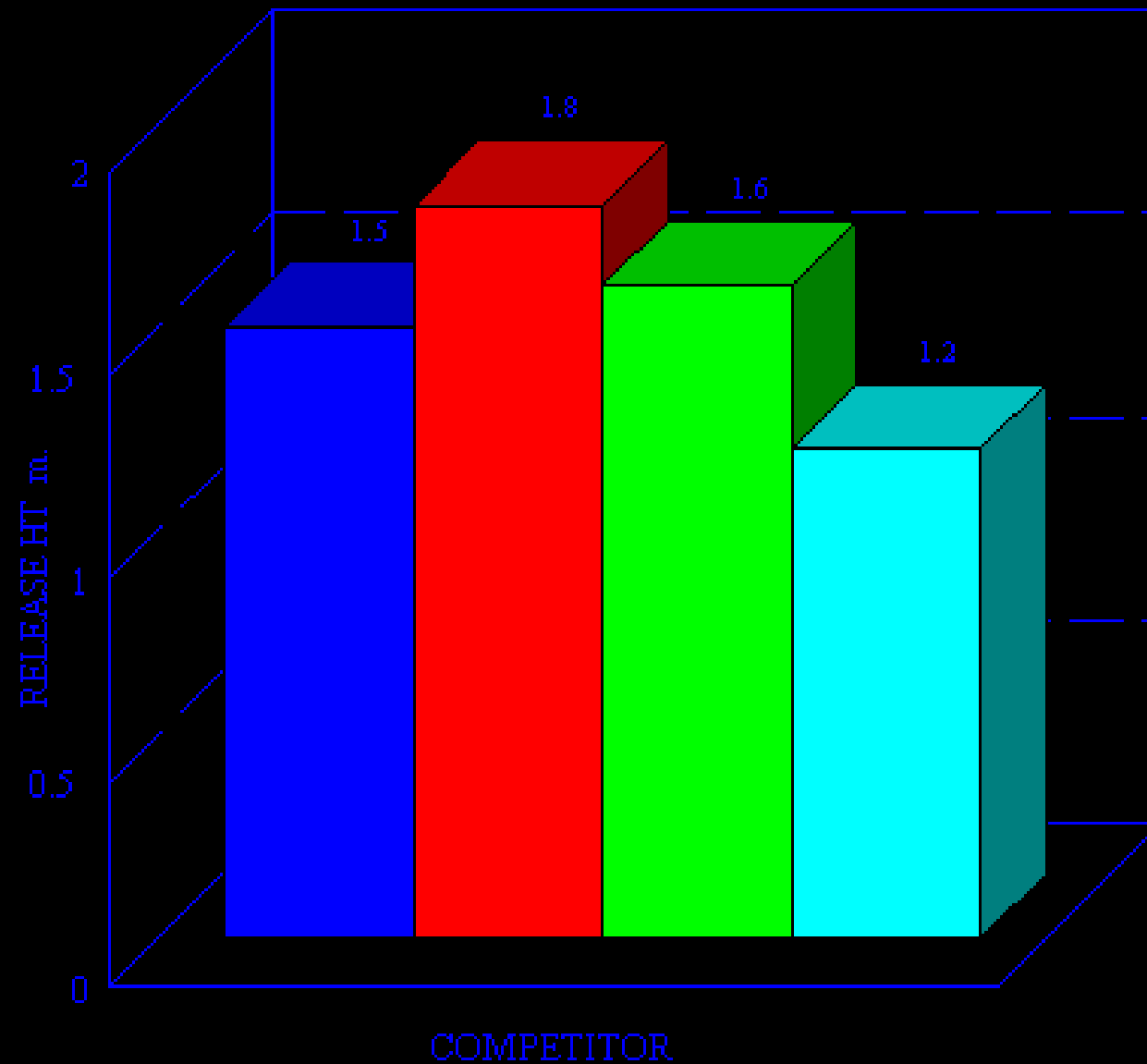
# DISCUS PROJECTION VELOCITY cm/sec



# DISCUS RELEASE ANGLE deg

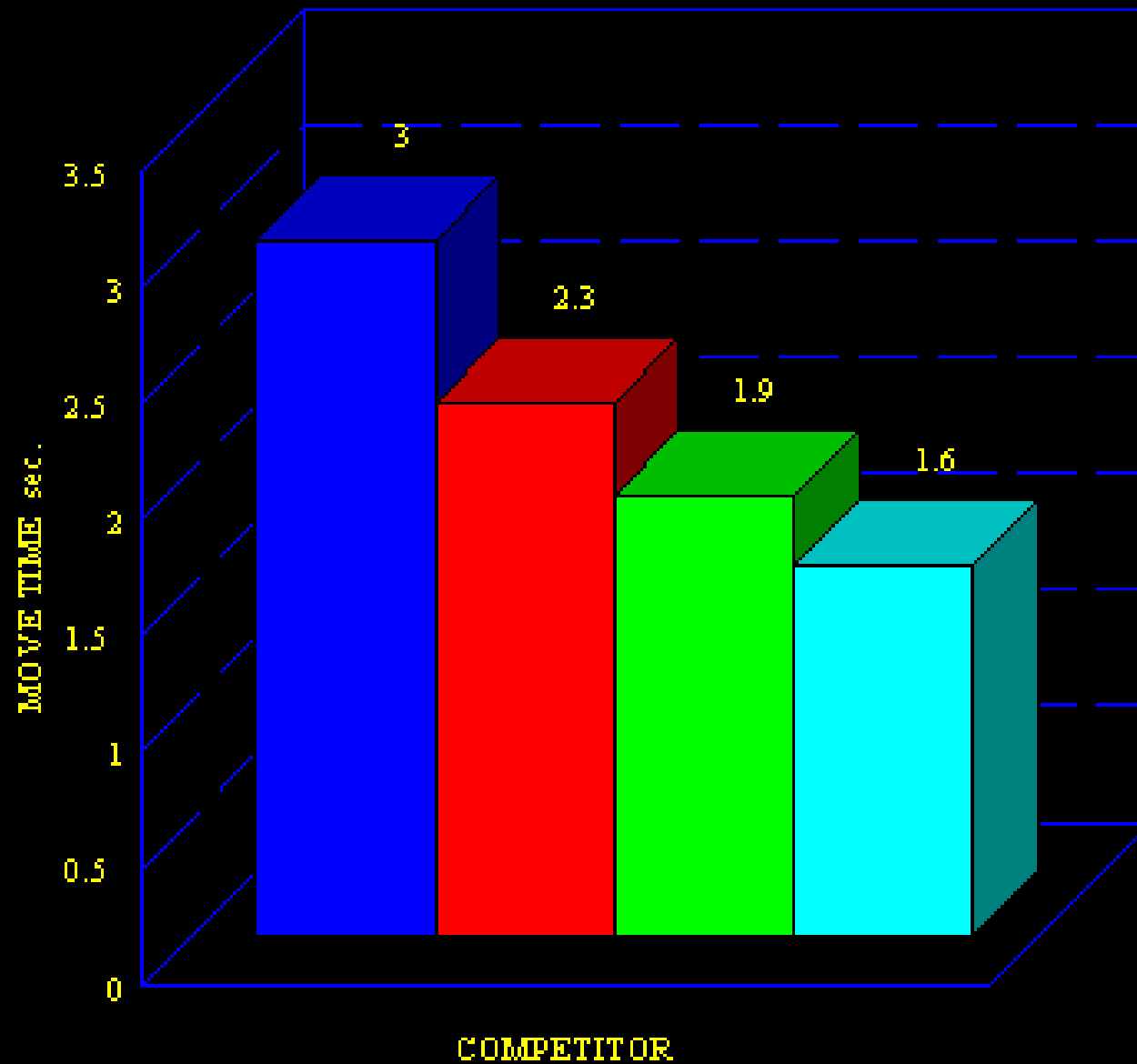


# DISCUS RELEASE HEIGHT m.





# DISCUS MOVEMENT TIME sec.



Riedel  
Dubrov  
Kap  
Wash

# Throwing Kinematics for Top Four Discus Performers at 1996 Atlanta Olympics

Performer	Release Height (m)	Release Speed (m/s)	Release Angle (°)	Initial Spin (rad/s)	Final Spin (rad/s)
Riedel (Ger)	69.4	3080.1	21.9	1.5	3.0
Dubrovshchik (Blr)	66.6	2718.5	29.1	1.8	2.3
Kaptyukh (Blr)	65.8	2599.0	37.3	1.6	1.9
Washington (USA)	65.4	2498.0	29.9	1.2	1.6

**The Combined Effect of the Projection Velocity, Projection Angle, and Height of Release Resulted in medalist Throws of 69.4 M (Olympic Record) by Riedel (GER), 66.6 M by Dubrovshchik (BLR), 65.8 M for Kaptyukh (BLR), Followed by 65.4 M for Washington (USA). The Aerodynamic Variable of Angle of Attack Was Not Determined for These Throwing Trials**





# **Biomechanical Analysis of the Shot-Put Event at the 2004 Athens Olympic Games**

**Gideon Ariel, Ph.D.**

**Institute for Biomechanical Research, Coto Research Center, Coto De Caza  
California**

The stadium was Ancient Olympia. The site of the ancient Games of the Olympiad, 2,800 years ago. The site of the modern Games of the Olympiad; the shot put competition was held there.

The Purpose of this study was to analyze the best Shot-put performances in the Athens Olympic Games, 2004. The Shot-Put event at the 2004 Olympics was conducted at the sacred Olympia location. The Biomechanical Analysis of the Shot Put event was sponsored by the International Track and Field Coaches Association. Multiple high speed digital video cameras were placed in specific location on the field at proper angles in order to capture the performance of the athletes in the preliminaries and finals. This was the only biomechanical analysis performed at the Athens Olympic Games where cameras were placed on the performance field.

Two stationary cameras were placed at 45 degrees to each other. In addition 3 more cameras used by the NBC broadcasting were used to assist the other 2 cameras. Temporal and kinematics variables were calculated from the videos records and were analyzed yielding three-dimensional biomechanical results. Pattern of the segments movement were used rather than absolute values, to assist the athletes and the coaches.

Because of limited space, Kinematics parameters presented in this study are for the best 3 final performers. However, analysis was perform for all participants and will be presented in the oral presentation.



**Fig 1.** Two cameras views of performance



Figure 2. Strobbling photographs to represent the different styles



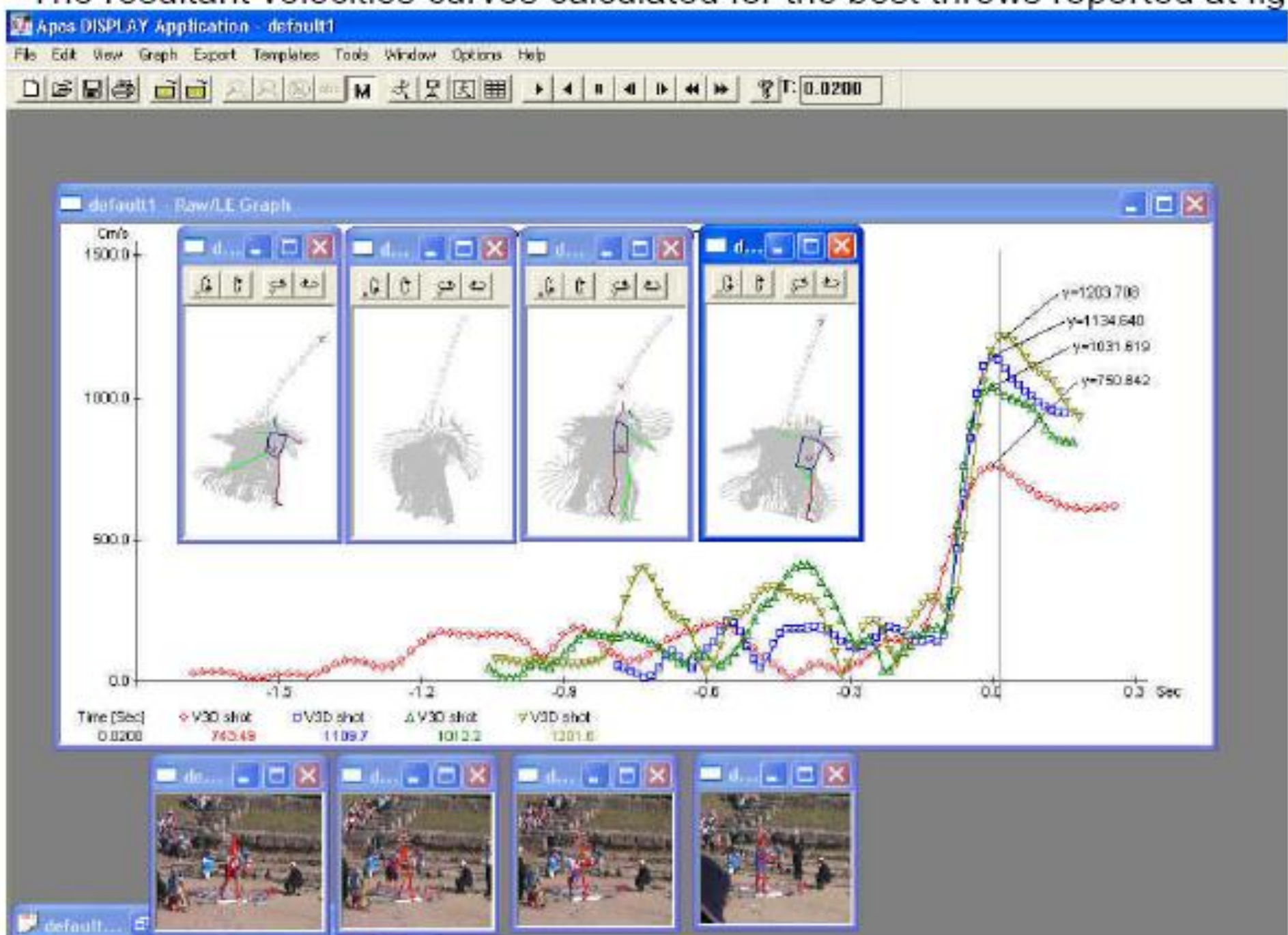


Figure 1. Shot-put velocities curves

Table 1 represent the physical parameters of the three best Throwers

Performer	Place	Distance m	Release Height m	Shot Velocity m/s	Release Angle deg.
Yuriy Belonog	Gold (1)	21.16	2.55	13.85	33
Adam Nelson	Silver (2)	21.16	2.33	13.95	33
Joachim Olsen	Bronze (3)	21.07	2.31	13.60	41

Table 1. Physical parameters results.

### **Discussion:**

The Shot-put distance depends on variety of factors. The angle in which the athlete can achieve the optimal acceleration to his/her arm segments. The release height, release velocity and release angle. The segment acceleration depends on the technique to allow optimal combinations of the above parameters. From the present analysis it was determined that Adam Nelson exhibit close to optimal performance.





THANK YOU

