

# LEST (Lower Extremity Strength Tester)

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# Presentation Overview

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# Problem Statement

- Pelvic instability: Loss of strength in the muscles of the pelvic girdle.
  - Commonly experienced by women during and after pregnancy.
- The maximum voluntary contraction (MVC) of the hip flexor muscles has been shown to be associated with pelvic instability [1].

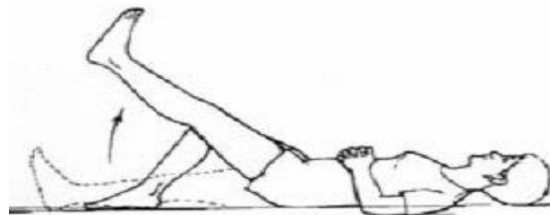


Figure 1: Straight leg raise [2]

# Background

- Effects of childbirth on pelvic floor muscles
- Current test for pelvic instability is very subjective.
  - Client would like to measure quantitatively
- Straight leg raise
  - Hip flexor (iliopsoas) contracts to raise the leg
  - Knee extensors (quadriceps, rectus femoris) stabilizes the leg
  - Tests pelvic instability
- Testing procedure

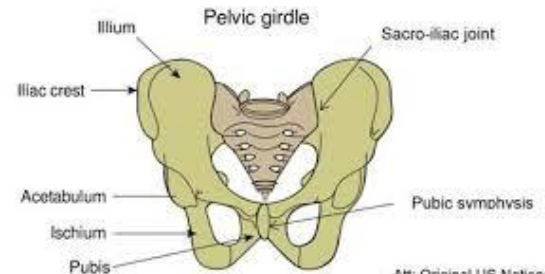


Figure 2: Pelvic girdle [3]

Att: Original US National Cancer

# Product Design Specifications

- Portable between SARC and field locations.
- Able to withstand MVC from an adult female (264.8 N) [4].
- Accurately measures forces applied by the ankle within 5%.
- Easily adjustable for ankle height of adult US female (3.058") [5][6].
- Comfortable
- Budget of \$488.16
- No additional support for the patient.
- Integrated load cells must measure MVC's and integrate with testing setup at lab locations.

# Existing Device

- Physically fully functional
- Electronics
  - Load cell
  - SST Transmitter (not working)
  - Arduino
- 47 lbs.
- Areas of improvement include reducing weight and flexion of the base plate.

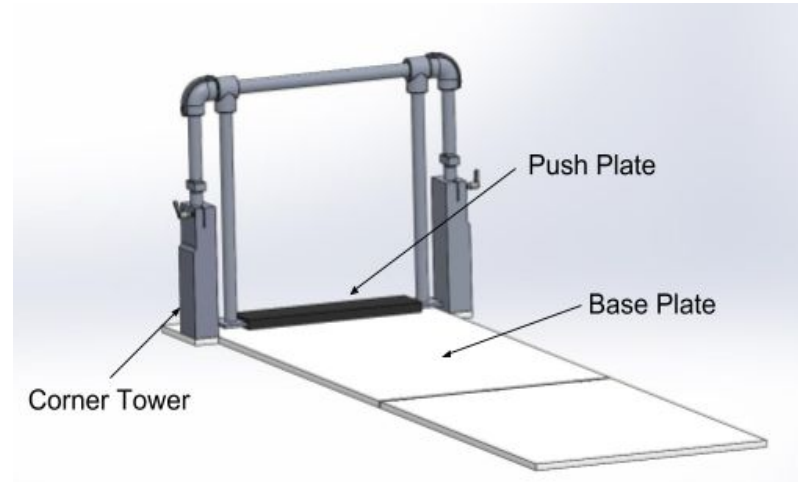


Figure 3: Existing device

# Proposed Design Modifications: The Bike Mod



- Hollow tubing
- Quick-adjustment shaft collars.
- Metal plates on bottom

Figure 4: Model of the Bike Mod

# Proposed Design Modifications: The Crutch

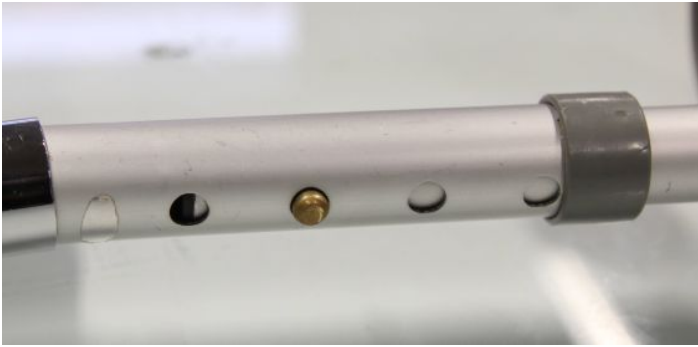


Figure 5: A crutch leg.

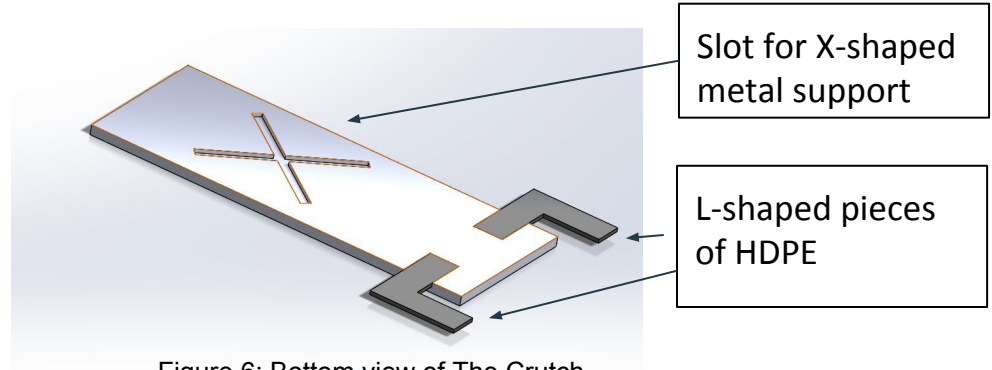


Figure 6: Bottom view of The Crutch.

- Replacement for corner towers
- Bottom view of the base plate



# Proposed Design Modifications: The Cufflink

- Cuffs that can attach to user's legs
- Heart rate monitoring system

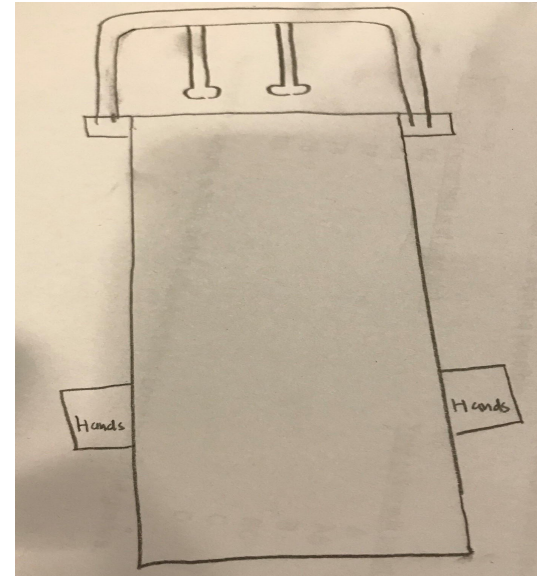


Figure 7: The Cufflink

# Design Matrix

## Updated Matrix-

Criteria	Design	Modification One - The Bike Mod	Modification Two - The Crutch Design	Modification 3 - The Cufflink Design
Weight Reduction (25)	5/5	25	25	15
Quickness of data collection after fatiguing task (25)	5/5	25	20	15
Reducing Base Plate Flexion (10)	5/5	10	8	2
User Comfort (10)	4/5	8	8	6
Ease of Fabrication/Assembly (10)	3/5	6	4	10
Cost (10)	3/5	6	8	8
Aesthetics (5)	4/5	4	4	5
Safety (5)	5/5	4	4	3
Total (100)		88	81	64

Figure 8: Updated Design Matrix

# Proposed Final Design

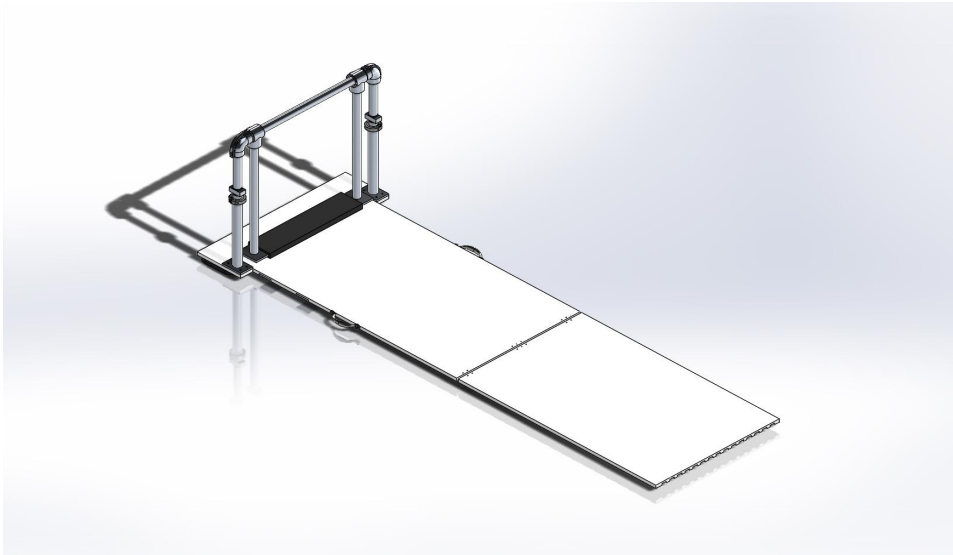
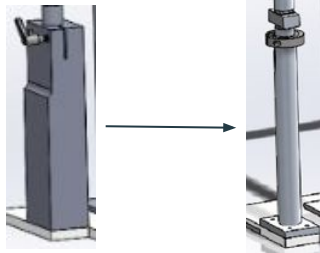


Figure 10: Model of the proposed final design.

- Features the modifications included in the bike mod.
- Additional features
  - Base plate side handles
  - Vacuum cups
- Overall weight:  
34.43 lbs

# Future Work

Modify corner towers



Modify Electronics

**Arduino**



**ADC Board**

Make additions to the base plate



[6]



[7]

Modify metal frame and push plate



# Acknowledgements

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Clients:

Dr. Rita Deering, Marquette University Department of Physical Therapy

Dr. Bryan Heiderscheit, UW-Madison Department of Orthopedics and Rehabilitation

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