

THE EFFECT OF GEOMETRY OF PROSTHESIS ON THE STABILITY
OF HIP JOINT ARTHROPLASTY USING FINITE ELEMENT METHOD

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*To my beloved husband, Mohamad Shukri, my mother, Ramlah Abdul
Rahman and my family*

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ABSTRACT

Lack of stability is known as one of the principal factors contributing to the loosening of hip prosthesis. Initial stability of the hip prosthesis is related to the magnitude of relative displacement at the femoral bone-prosthesis interface. The present study investigated the effect of prosthesis geometry on the initial stability. In addition, the effect of hole and fin as additional features of prosthesis was also investigated. Three-dimensional (3D) finite element model of femur and prosthesis was constructed based on Computed Tomography (CT) dataset of a Malaysian male patient. Simulations of normal walking condition were performed on the models to investigate the relative displacement between the bone and prosthesis interface. The simulation results showed that rectangular hip prosthesis contributed to the reduction of relative motion at the proximal and distal ends of the prosthesis. For the prosthesis with additional hole as a feature on the proximal region of prosthesis, the result showed that it increased the magnitude of relative displacement at the proximal region on the medial side. For the effect of fin, it was observed that the relative displacement was lower than 40 μm along the lateral and medial sides.

ABSTRAK

Kekurangan kestabilan adalah salah satu faktor utama yang menyumbang kepada kegagalan pembedahan pinggul tulang. Kestabilan pertama bagi implan adalah berkait rapat dengan magnitud pergerakan relatif di antara dua permukaan iaitu permukaan tulang dan permukaan implan. Tujuan projek ini dijalankan adalah untuk menyiasat kesan geometri implan ke atas kestabilan pertama. Selain itu, kesan lubang dan sirip sebagai ciri tambahan pada implan juga turut dikaji. Model tiga dimensi (3D) femur dan implan dibina berdasarkan setdata Tomografi Berkomputer yang diperoleh dari seorang pesakit lelaki Malaysia. Simulasi berdasarkan beban berjalan secara biasa dijalankan untuk mengkaji pergerakan relatif di antara permukaan tulang dan implan. Keputusan dari simulasi menunjukkan bahawa implan yang berbentuk segiempat dapat merendahkan pergerakan relatif di bahagian proksimal dan bawah implan. Bagi implan yang mempunyai ciri lubang pada bahagian proksimal implan, keputusan menunjukkan bahawa ia telah meningkatkan pergerakan relatif pada kawasan proksimal bagi bahagian tengah. Untuk kesan sirip, diperhatikan bahawa pergerakan relatif lebih rendah daripada $40\mu\text{m}$ pada bahagian tengah dan belakang.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CHAPTER	TITLE	PAGE
	THESIS TITLE	i
	DECLARATION	ii
	DEDICATION	iv
	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	v
	ABSTRACT	vi
	ABSTRAK	vii
	TABLE OF CONTENT	viii
	LIST OF TABLES	x
	LIST OF FIGURES	xi
	LIST OF SYMBOLS	xv
1	INTRODUCTION	
	1.1 Problem Definition	1
	1.2 Objectives	2
	1.3 Scope	3
2	LITERATURE REVIEW	
	2.1 Stability of the Hip Prosthesis	4
	2.2 Factors Influences the Initial Stability	4
	2.3 Previous Studies about Stability	7
	2.3.1 Boundary and Loading Condition	9
	2.3.2 Measurement of Stability	13
	2.3.3 Previous Results of Finite Element Analysis	14

3	METHODOLOGY	
3.1	Construction of Three Dimensional (3D) Model of Femur Bone	18
3.2	Construction of Three Dimensional (3D) Model of Hip Prosthesis	19
3.3	Finite Element Analysis	24
3.4	Measurement of Initial Stability	27
3.5	Validation of Simulation Procedure	28
4	RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	
4.1	Simulation Results of the Initial Design	35
4.2	Effect of Geometry on the Initial Stability of Prosthesis	39
4.3	Effect of Hole Feature on the Initial Stability of Prosthesis	46
4.4	Effect of Fin Feature on the Initial Stability of Prosthesis	52
5	CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	
5.1	Conclusion	58
5.2	Recommendations	59
	REFERENCES	60
	APPENDICES A-C	64-83

LIST OF TABLES

TABLE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Results of relative displacement	16
3.1	Finite Element model and case study	21
3.2	Number of tetrahedral element constructed	24
3.3	Mechanical properties of bone and prosthesis materials	25
3.4	Value of force for normal walking condition	27
4.1	Summary of effect of geometry on relative displacement	44
4.2	Summary of effect of geometry, effect of hole and effect of fin on relative displacement	57

LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE NO.	TITLE	PAGE
2.1	Major categories of the material for orthopaedics implant	5
2.2	Graph of micromotion for different percentage modulus	6
2.3	3D model of hip prosthesis	7
2.4	Geometry of prosthesis (a) Initial geometry (b) Second geometry obtained from optimization model	8
2.5	Finite element model (a) Long and short prosthesis (b) three-dimensional of femoral bone	9
2.6	Loading condition of finite element analysis	10
2.7	Effect of muscle force on bone-implant micromotion	11
2.8	Loading condition of walking and stair climbing	13
2.9	Cross sectional of distal hip prosthesis	15
3.1	Summary of methodology	17

3.2	Construction of 3D femoral bone (a) 2D segmentation CT dataset (b) 3D model of femoral bone (c) 3D triangular surface of femoral bone	18
3.3	Relationship between the hip geometric parameters and hip prosthesis (a) femoral bone (b) hip prosthesis	19
3.4	Alignment of the hip prosthesis in the femoral bone	20
3.5	Profile for the initial design of hip prosthesis	21
3.6	Profile for the second design of hip prosthesis	22
3.7	Profile for the third design of hip prosthesis	22
3.8	Profile for prosthesis incorporated with holes feature	23
3.9	Profile for prosthesis incorporated with fin feature	23
3.10	Contact interactions at the femoral bone-prosthesis interface (a) Initial design (b) Second design (c) Third design (d) Hole prosthesis (e) Fin prosthesis	25
3.11	(a) Location of force for normal walking condition (b) Resultant force	26
3.12	Node selection on the master (prosthesis) and slave surface (femoral bone) (a) Lateral side (b) Medial side	28
3.13	Three dimensional beam model to simulate bone and Prosthesis behaviour	29
3.14	Beam theory (a) Bonding surface (b) Non-bonding surface	30

3.15	Simplified model of bone and prosthesis	31
3.16	Slip between prosthesis and bone surface	32
3.17	Comparison of relative displacement between analytical and finite element analysis	34
4.1	Graph of relative displacement along lateral (AB) and medial (CD) side	36
4.2	(a) Finite element model of bone and prosthesis in hip arthroplasty (b) Simplified non-composite beam to simulate actual model	37
4.3	Contact area of prosthesis with femoral bone on medial side and lateral side	38
4.4	Location of nodes on the lateral and medial side (a) Initial design (b) Second design (c) Third design	40
4.5	(a) Graph of relative displacement along lateral line (b) Distribution of displacement in bone and prosthesis	41
4.6	Cross section of initial and second design at proximal region	42
4.7	(a) Graph of relative displacement along medial line (b) Distribution of displacement in bone and prosthesis	43
4.8	Comparison of longitudinal contact and sharp corner between rectangular and cylindrical prosthesis	45
4.9	Comparison of cross section between rectangular cross section and cylindrical cross section	46

4.10	Graph of second prosthesis along lateral and medial line	47
4.11	Location of nodes on the medial and lateral and medial side (a) Second design of prosthesis (b) Second design with triangle hole	48
4.12	Graph of relative displacement along lateral line between second design and hole prosthesis	49
4.13	Graph of relative displacement along medial line between second design and hole prosthesis	50
4.14	Location of loading and cross section of second design and hole prosthesis	52
4.15	Distribution of displacement for second design and a hollow prosthesis	53
4.16	Location of nodes on the medial and lateral and medial side (a) Second design (b) Second design with fn	54
4.17	Graph of relative displacement along lateral line	55
4.18	Graph of relative displacement along medial line	55
4.19	Cross section of finite element model at proximal region	57

LIST OF SYMBOLS

A	-	Area
E	-	Young Modulus
L	-	Length
σ	-	Stress
δ	-	Displacement/deflection

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Problem Definition

Hip arthroplasty is a procedure to replace the damaged bone on the hip joint with an implant called hip prosthesis. However, there are several important issues in determining the longevity of the hip prosthesis such as stress distribution in the femoral bone and the stability of the hip prosthesis. Many authors have agreed that one of the factors contributing to the long-term longevity of the hip arthroplasty is the stability of the hip prosthesis (Chae *et al.*, 2006, Pancanti *et al.*, 2003, and Viceconti *et al.*, 2006). Unlike cemented prosthesis, the stability of cementless prosthesis depends on the rate of bone growth to the prosthesis surface. There are two types of stability; initial stability and secondary stability. Initial stability refers to the amount of relative motion at the bone-prosthesis surface induced by the physiological loading before biological process. While, secondary stability is the relative motion at the bone-prosthesis surface once the biological process is completed (Viceconti *et al.*, 2006 and Orlick *et al.*, 2003).

There are many factors influencing the initial stability such as geometry and material properties of prosthesis, quality of the bone, and the human activity. Different approaches have been used in evaluating the stability of either *in vitro* study or *in vivo* study. These approaches are important to determine the long-term fixation of hip prosthesis and the success of the hip arthroplasty. Many previous studies have analysed and investigated the effect of cross section on the hip prosthesis. However, they were more interested to investigate the stress distribution

on the prosthesis surface compared to its stability (Joshi *et al.*, 2000, Bennet and Goswami, 2007, Sabatini *et al.*, 2008, and Chen *et al.*, 2009).

Therefore, the focus of this study is to analyse and determine the relative motion on the cementless prosthesis by investigating the effect of geometry of prosthesis. In addition, the effect of hole and fin as an additional feature on the proximal region of prosthesis was also investigated in this study. In this study, a finite element analysis was performed to evaluate the relative motion at the bone-prosthesis interface for normal walking condition. Three-dimensional solid model of femur bone constructed from the CT dataset was obtained from a male patient. Then, the prosthesis was designed based on the morphological data extracted from femoral bone constructed earlier.

1.3 Objectives

The objective of this study is to design hip prosthesis for total hip joint arthroplasty based on morphological data of a patient. In addition, a finite element procedure was established in order to assess the initial stability. The initial stability was determine based on the value of relative displacement at the bone-prosthesis interface. Finally, another objective of this study is to investigate the effect of geometry of prosthesis and additional features on the initial stability.

1.4 Scope

The computed tomography (CT) dataset was obtained form a male patient. Then, the three-dimensional model of femoral bone was constructed based on this dataset. After that, the morphological data of bone were obtained in order to construct the hip prosthesis. The design of prosthesis was focused on cementless and collarless hip prosthesis. The parametric studies were to investigate the effect of geometry of prosthesis and additional feature on the initial stability. There were two

types of feature, which are hole and fin. As for loading condition, normal walking condition was chosen as the loading case.

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