



Ergonomics and human factors

Bi9100 Ergonomics and Applied Anthropology











Ergonomics

- Ergos (greek) work
- Nomos (greek) law
- The relationship between man and work environment
- Multidisciplinary specialization



Basic concepts

Criteria and parameters under evaluation

- Floor surface
- Work area
- Work position
- (Repetitive) work motion
- Static and dynamic work ratio
- Physical demands
- Load manipulation
- Visual conditions
- Background color schemes
- Visual input
- Acoustic conditions
- Mikroclimatic conditions
- Psychosocial conditions

Notes on history:

First use/definiton: W. Jastrzebowski, resp. H. Murrell (1949)

- Historical/archeological evidence of adjusting instruments to match the human body and its capacity
- Systematic study of interaction is a recent concept

Performance and capacity

- Somatic dimensions and motions/mobility
- Muscle strength; physical work
- Sensory capacity
- Psychological features/capacity
- Adaptation to work conditions





Stress

- Acute stress
- (anticipative stress)
- Chronic stress

- Chronic fatigue syndrome
- Burnout syndrome

• Stress prevention

- Stand-up work
- Sitting-position work



Anthropo-technical system

- The human body the living part of the system
- The technical element "lifeless" part
- The main goal work/workplace efficiency (improvements in function, safety, design – adjusting/adapting the technical element to human physical and psychological capacity)
- An optimal design reflects/respects biological variability
- Fit the man to the job fit the job to the man

"Traditional" ergonomics



Traditional methods of physical anthropology in ergonomics

- Anthropometry
- Dynamometry
- Kinantropology
- Biomechanics

• Basic ("structural") measurements

-h

- Functional measurements
- Design "conversion"
- The human body is a dynamic system







- Importance of establishing the appropriate target population
- Individual solutions or wide-scale fitting solutions
- Use of 3D advanced techniques (to model real/extreme situations)













Tennis Elbow: lateral epicondylitis strained & inflammed

Golfers Elbow: medial epicondyle strained & inflammed









TIRE FLIP











"New" approaches in ergonomics/HF

- Simulations and modelling (advanced PC supported methods – virtual model of the human body)
- HCI human computer interaction (IT hardware, software, interfacing fit to the user requirements); signal reception from the surroundings; responses (neurophysiological level)
- Cognitive ergonomics
- Recovery from work







3D simulatiom (SW Siemens Tecnomatix Jack)



3D simulations



Cognitive testing





Manipulation tests





Recovery from work

- High work-load associations with several stressrelated disorders: anxiety, depression, chronic fatigue, burnout, high blood pressure, cardiovascular diseases...
- Ability to recover (in terms of turning off from work) is an important preventive factor
- Work stress is closely associated with changes in various physiological indicators – elevated blood pressure, heart rate etc.
- Work stress increase with low level of decision-making, responsibility and control over outcoumes paired with high demands

Specifics of practical applications/method of physical anthropology

- Work load regulation efficiency, work proces management and regime
- Workplace conditions adaptation optimalization and individualization
- Workplace conditions adaptation minimizing health and injury risks
- Analysis of planned or implemented work proces
- Specific ethic aspect

Anthropometry of a Czech Children Sample and its Use in Ergonomics – Preliminary Report

Martin Čuta, Martin Zach

Department of Anthropology, Faculty of Science at Masaryk University, Vinařská 5, Brno CZ-603 00, Czech Republic

Department of Furniture. Design and Habitat. Faculty of Forestry and Wood Technology, Mendel University in



Simulation I – boy and girl (early school age), horizontal school desk (relevant size standard) with overlapping reach distances (comfort position)



Simulation II – boy and girl (middle school age), reclining school desk (relevant size standard) with overlapping reach distances (maximum reach position)

Mobile technology use study



In males, hand width correlated with phone width

Positive correlation between first finger apex surface and the keyboard



Mobile technology use study





Women more styleconscious

Males more focused on technical parameters when selecting a phone



Repetitive stress injury – mobile technology

- Texting thumb
- Text neck

How texting could damage your spine

Forces on the neck increase the more we tilt our heads, causing spine curvature				
Force 10-12lb on neck	27lb	40lb	49lb	60lb
Neck tilt 0 degrees	15 degrees	30 degrees	45 degrees	60 degrees



Forward Head Posture (FHP) or "Text Neck" Syndrome is a condition which, develops when the head is not properly aligned with the neck causing a curvature of the spine.



Correct your Head Position Neck Sofa with the patented inner "Support Structure" allows you to re-train how, you use specific wireless devices. Supporting your head allows for weight and added pressure to be minimized. Thereby providing proper posture alignment. Better posture of course means better overall health.

