Running Dynamics library

Running Vertical Oscillation

The primary goal in running is to propel body forward and move horizontally. Apart from horizontal movement, a bit of vertical movement is needed to create the necessary force required for our running stride.

What is Vertical Oscillation (VO)?

Vertical Oscillation (VO), is a measure of how much we move vertically during each stride when running. Vertical Oscillation is one of the key Running Dynamics metrics that reflects the efficiency of our running stride.

Why is VO important?

- VO is measured in cm. Ideal range for VO is 5-10cm.
- VO > 10cm means too much vertical oscillation. It also means higher ground impact when landing, which can increase injury risk.
- VO < 5cm means lack of flight in stride, thereby lack of power and pace. It also indicates more time spent on ground (higher GCT), and low running performance.

How VO is traditionally measured

The traditional way is by wearing a waist pod, or chest strap.

With Nohayo's new algorithm the VO measurement can be done using only a watch, ring, or earbuds that has 3D accelerometer. No waist pod or chest strap is needed!

Nohayo VO algorithm performance

The algorithm is implemented in embedded C and can run on wearables like a smartwatch, ring, and earbuds that has a 3D accelerometer and a DSP unit.

The algorithm was compared to Garmin waist pod, and shows accuracy of > 96.5%. The algorithm was tested on 430 running sessions, both outdoor and on a treadmill.







