

Electrical Stimulation-Induced Gluteal and Hamstring Muscle Activation Can Reduce Sitting Pressure in Individuals with a Spinal Cord Injury

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The Netherlands*



Introduction (1)

- Pressures sores major problem in SCI
 - 85% of people with SCI develop pressure ulcers (decubitus) during their life *Liu et al. (2006)*
 - Medical costs: over 3 billion Euro annually in the UK *Riordan et al. (2009)*
- Risk factors:
 - Muscle atrophy (decrease of contact area)
 - Disturbed/decreased blood circulation below lesion
 - Long lasting sitting pressure over bony prominences (ischial tuberosities)

Introduction (2)

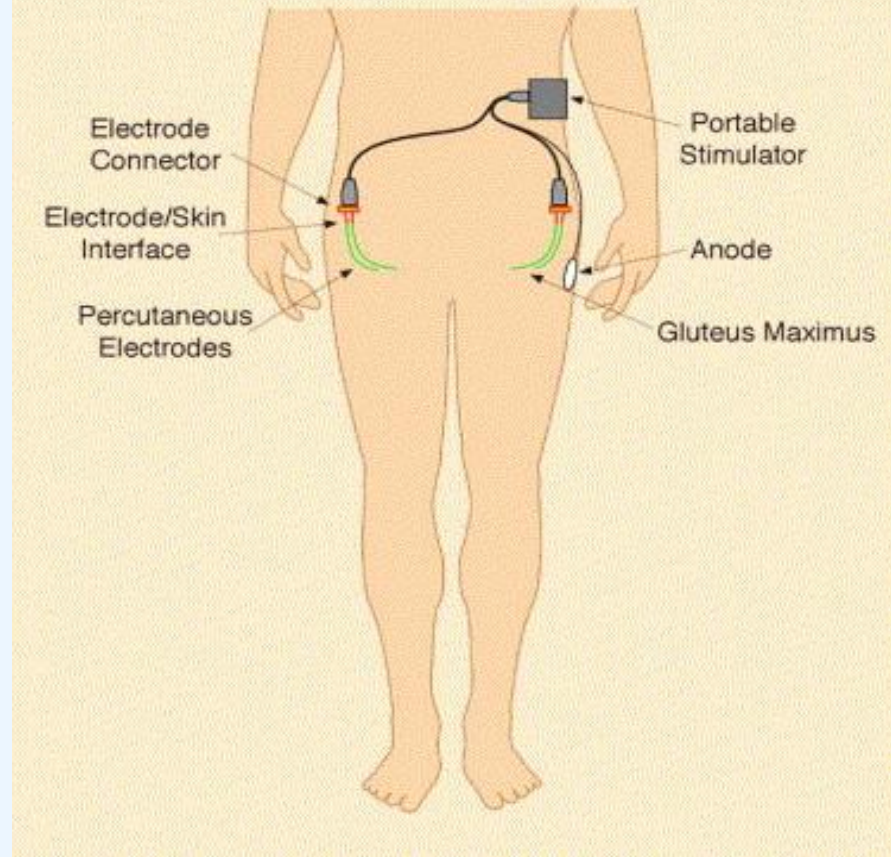
- Preventative measures
 - Special cushions
 - Weight shifting
 - Instruction of preventive measures
- Pressure sores still occur; methods may not adequate enough
- No activation= no counteracting muscle atrophy and circulation

Passive methods!

Introduction (3) Earlier research

- Acute effects of Surface ES
 - Blood flow ↑ *Janssen et al. (2003), Levine et al. (1990)*
 - Muscle size ↑ *Levine et al. (1990)*
- Long term effects of ES (implanted)
 - Same positive effects *Bogie et al. (2006)*
 - Sitting pressure ↓ *Van Londen et al. (2008)*

Tissue Health System



Liu et al., *JRRD* 2006

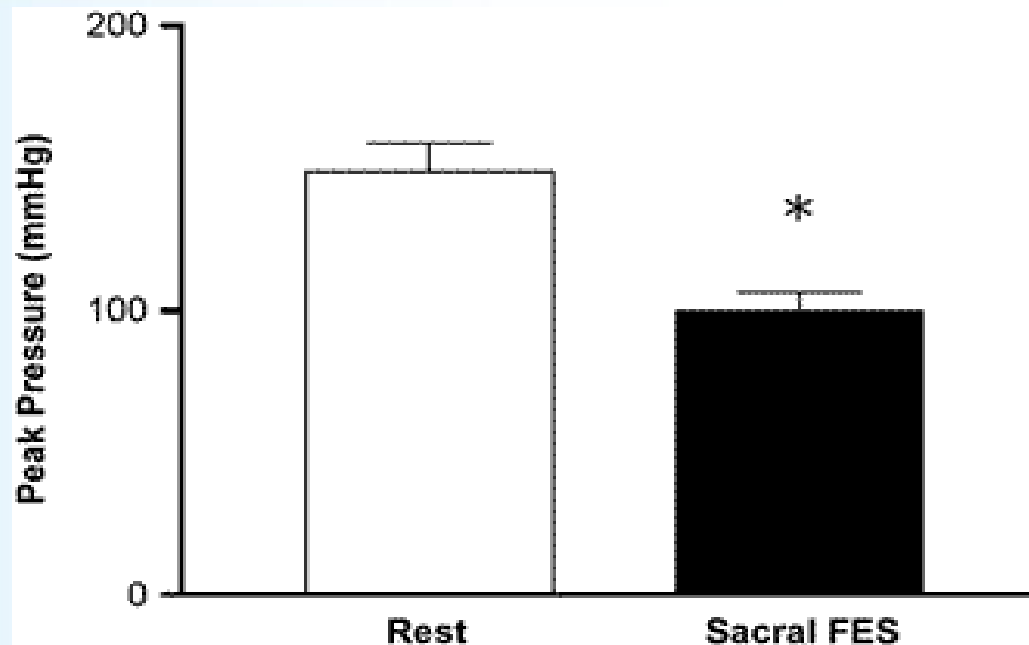
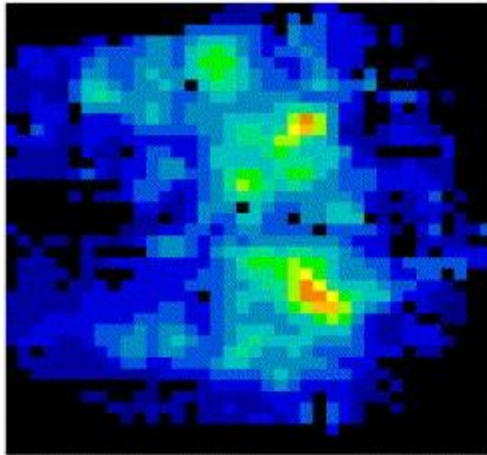


Figure 5.

Ischial tuberosity peak pressure before (rest) and during optimal sacral functional electrical stimulation (FES) in five participants with spinal cord injury and sacral anterior root stimulator implant (mean $\pm$ standard error of measurement = 148.6 mmHg $\pm$ 10.0 at rest vs 99.78 mmHg $\pm$ 6.7 during FES). * Significant at $p = 0.002$.

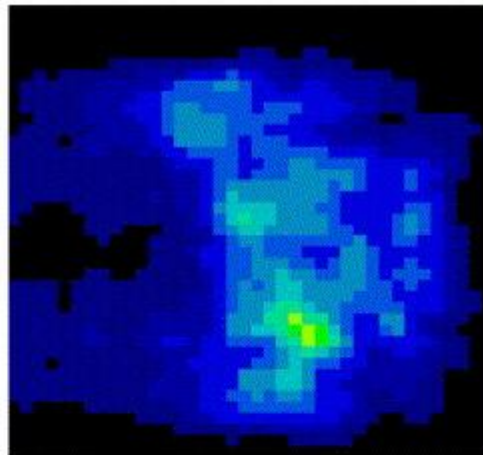
Baseline

A



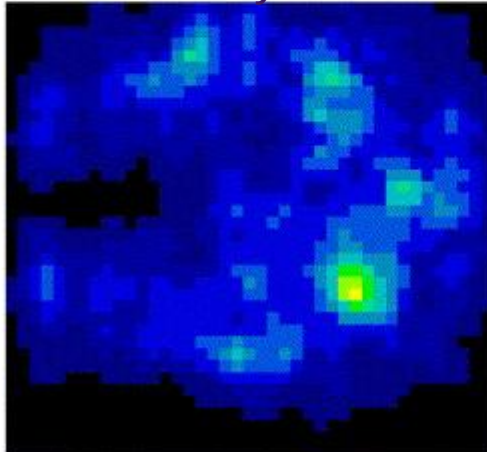
Initial daily use

B



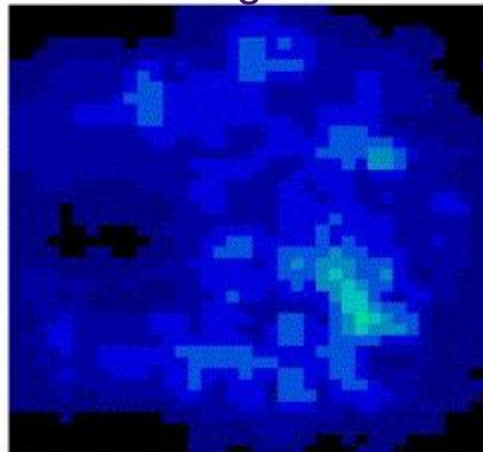
6 months of daily use

C



40 months of regular use

D



Legend: Calibrated pressure 0 to <150mmHg



Implanted percutaneous gluteal stimulation system *Bogie et al. APMR 2006*



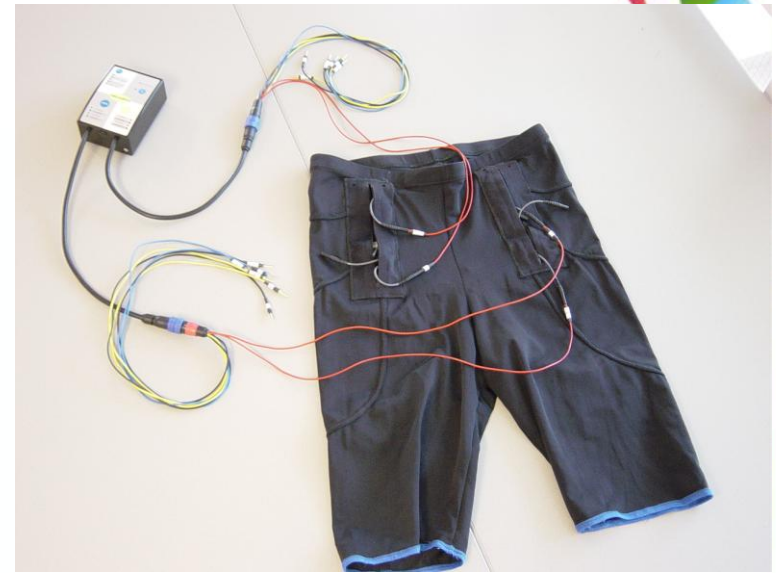
Introduction (4)

- Recent pilot-study: ES of *gluteals* using surface electrodes acutely reduced peak sitting pressure (Van Londen et al. APMR 2008),
- but..
 - Electrodes under buttocks not desirable;
 - Too large stimulator for daily life conditions
 - no effects studied outside lab during longer periods or different protocols.

- This study: custom-made shorts with built-in electrodes to simultaneously activate gluteal and hamstring muscles



BioShorts with built-in electrodes



NeuroPro 8-channel stimulator

Electrodes used. One on top of gluteals, the other halfway hamstrings

Purpose

To evaluate the effect of ES-induced activation of the gluteal and hamstring muscles on the sitting pressure distribution in individuals with SCI (Upper motor neuron lesion).



Methods (1) Participants Characteristics

	Mean $\pm$ SD (range)
Participants (M/F)	19 (14/5)
Age (years)	36.5 $\pm$ 10.7 (22-58)
(UMN) Lesion level	C3 - C8 (N=13) Th1-Th12 (N=6)
ASIA impairment classification	ASIA A: 15 ASIA B: 3 ASIA C: 1
Time since injury (months)	100 $\pm$ 92 (6-309)
Body mass (kg)	80.8 $\pm$ 14.3 (60-107)

Methods (2)

- 1. Stimulation Protocol A and B
 - Own daily-use wheelchair while sitting pressure was measured.
 - Two 3-hr protocols were randomly applied,
3 min of stimulation (hamstring and gluteal muscles) 17-min rest.
 - Protocol A: 1s:1s
 - Protocol B a 1s:4s on-off duty cycle

- 2. Activating gluteal muscles exclusively versus gluteal and hamstring muscles.
 - As above,
 - Stimulatie vlgs 1s:4s on-off
 - Gluteal mm
 - Gluteal and hamstring mm

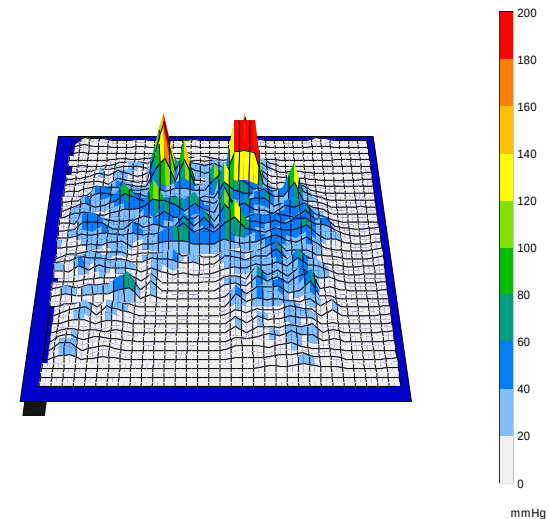
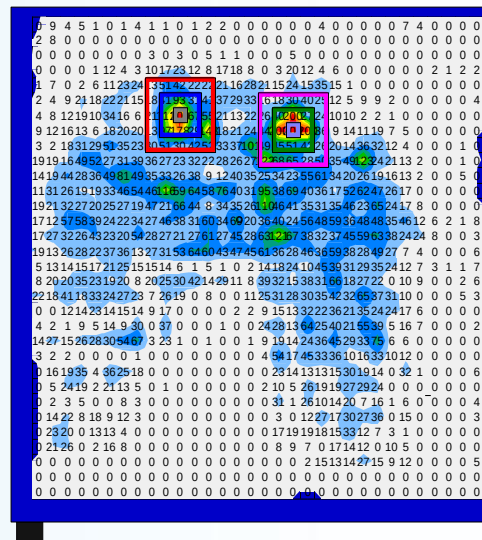
Methods (3)

- Questionnaire on usability
 - 10 questions
 - Completely agree – completely disagree (1-5)

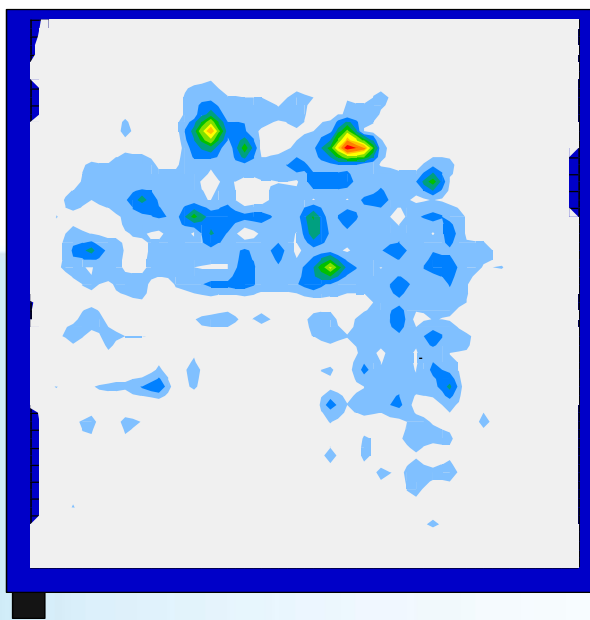


Methods (4)

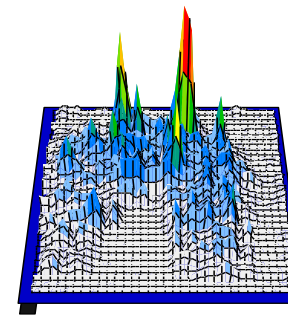
- Pressure mapping
- Recordings (4-8 Hz) at start (t0), after 1 (t1), 2 (t2), and 3 (t3) hrs during 3 min stim and last min rest.



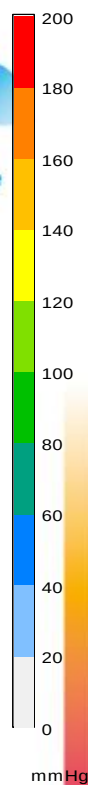
Results (1)



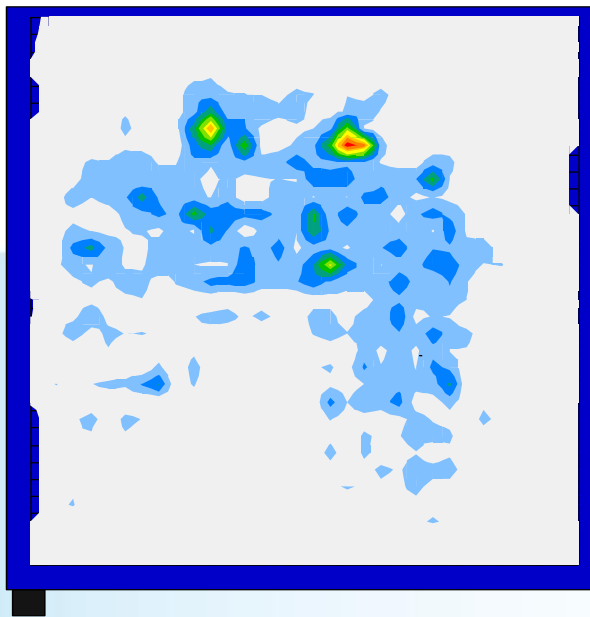
Minimum



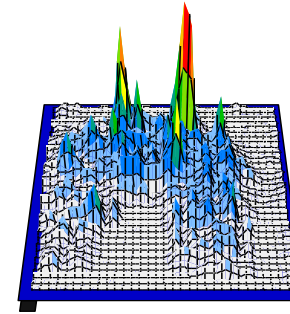
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	196.69
Average (mmHg)	12.68
Variance (mmHg²)	342.17
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.50
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.93
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.60
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

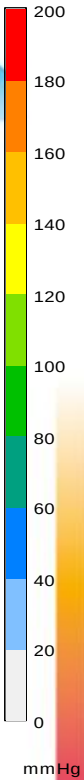


Minimum



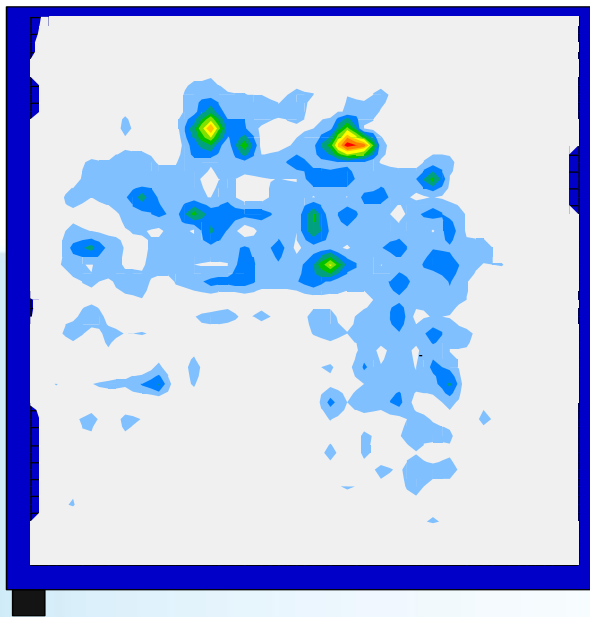
Reade
revalidatie | reumatologie

Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.80
Variance (mmHg ²)	349.40
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.69
Coefficient of variation (%)	146.04
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.59
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

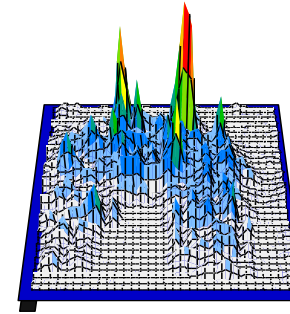


mmHg

Electrical stimulation: OFF

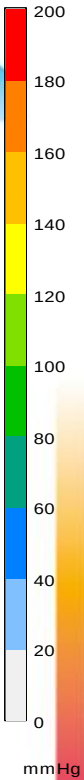


Minimum



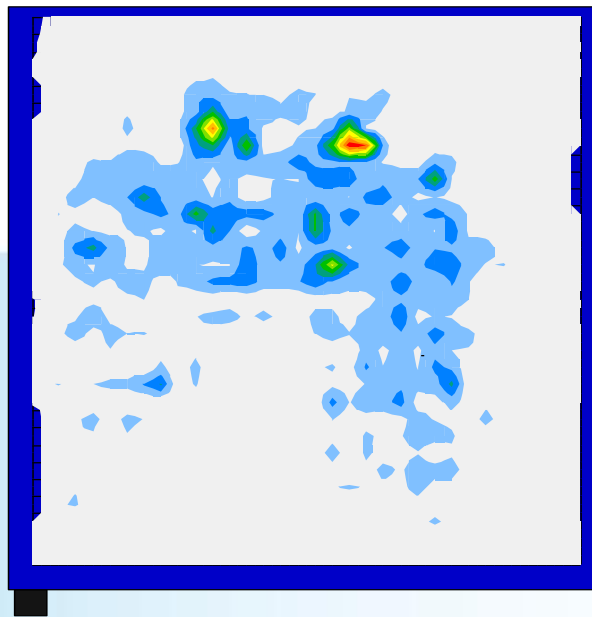
Reade
revalidatie | reumatologie

Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
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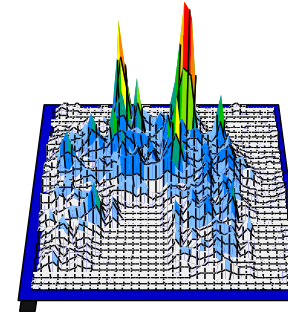


mmHg

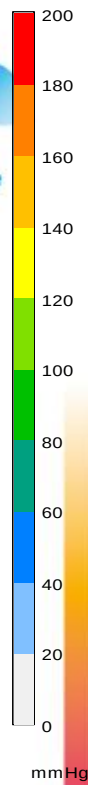
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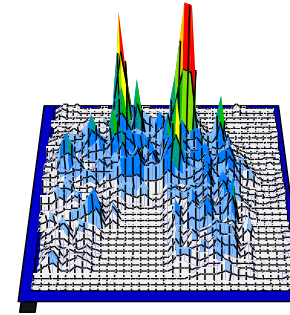
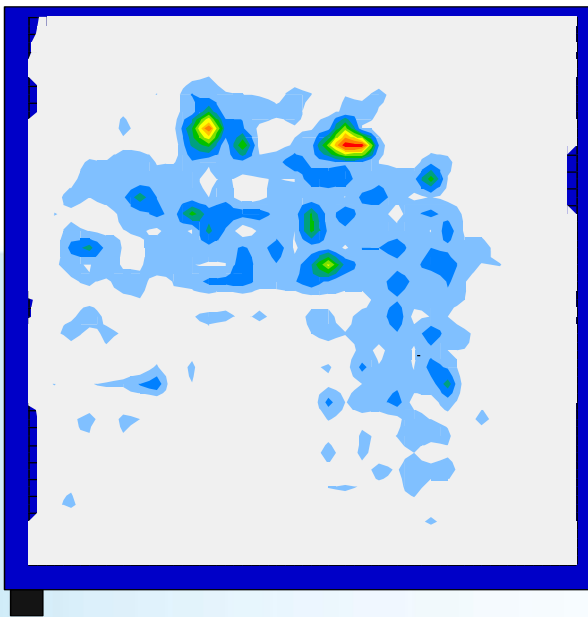
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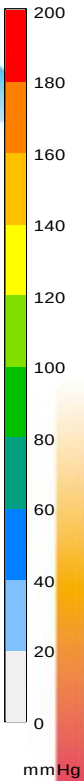
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.95
Variance (mmHg²)	359.38
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.96
Coefficient of variation (%)	146.41
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.58
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



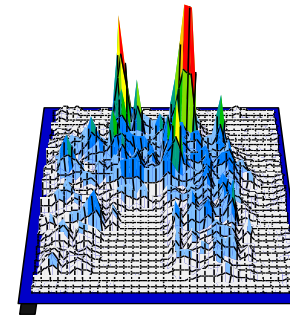
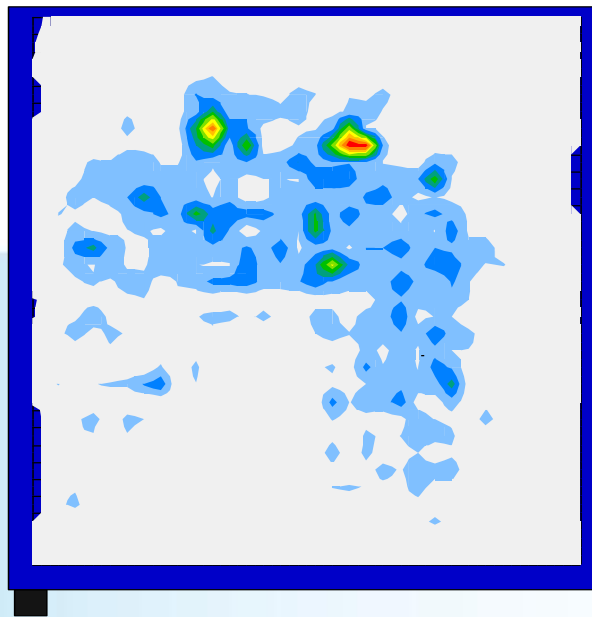
Electrical stimulation: OFF



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.01
Variance (mmHg ²)	377.13
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.42
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.21
Horizontal center (in)	7.88
Vertical center (in)	9.59
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

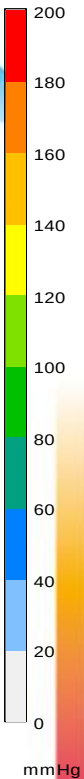


Electrical stimulation: OFF

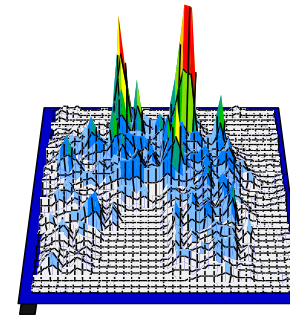
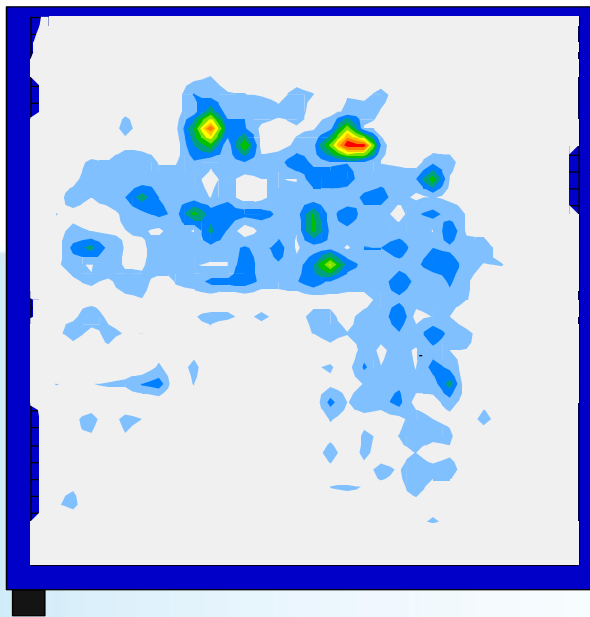


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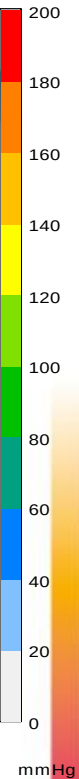
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.06
Variance (mmHg ²)	378.85
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.46
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.07
Horizontal center (in)	7.88
Vertical center (in)	9.60
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



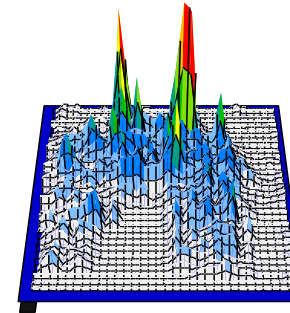
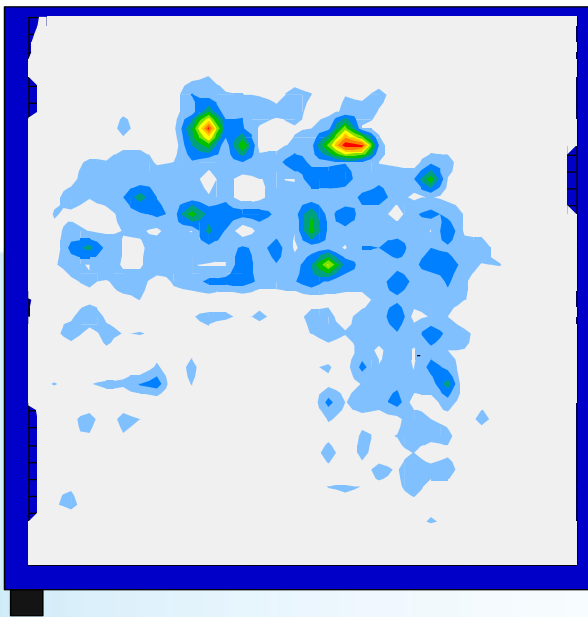
Electrical stimulation: OFF



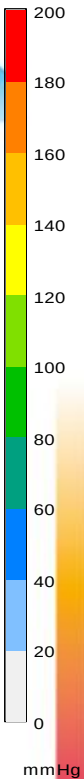
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.11
Variance (mmHg ²)	378.43
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.45
Coefficient of variation (%)	148.37
Horizontal center (in)	7.88
Vertical center (in)	9.59
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



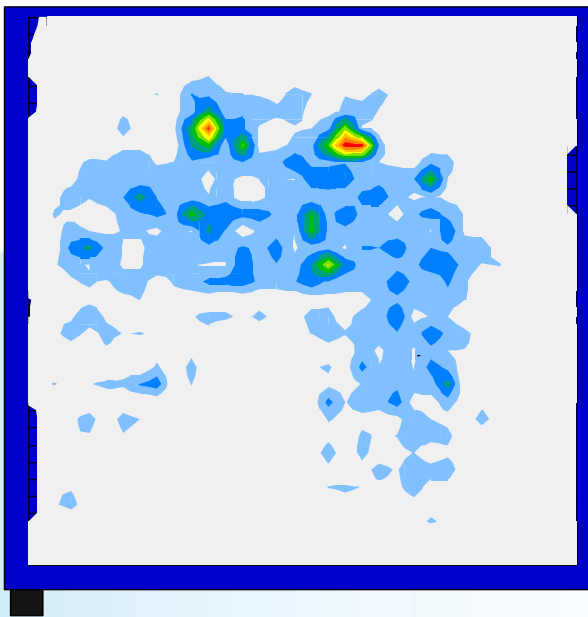
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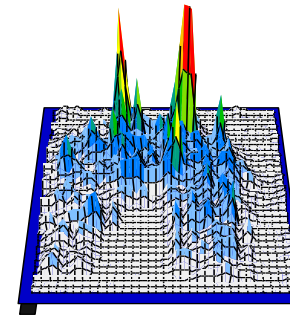
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.25
Variance (mmHg ²)	380.81
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.51
Coefficient of variation (%)	147.23
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.58
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



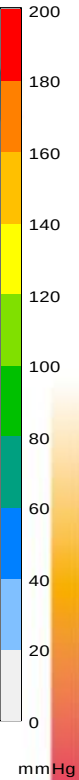
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Minimum

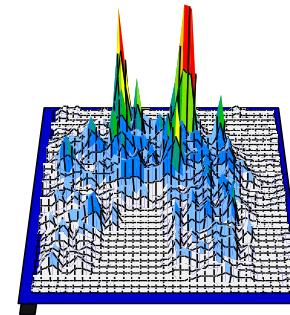
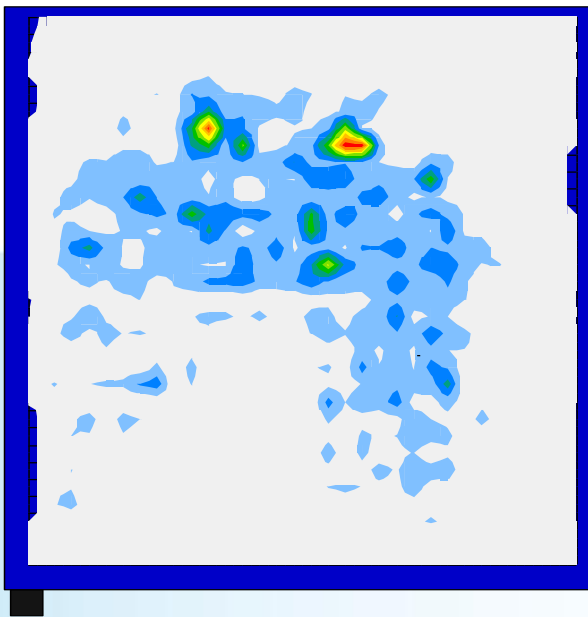


Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.30
Variance (mmHg ²)	384.60
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.61
Coefficient of variation (%)	147.44
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.59
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

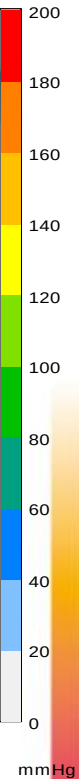


mmHg

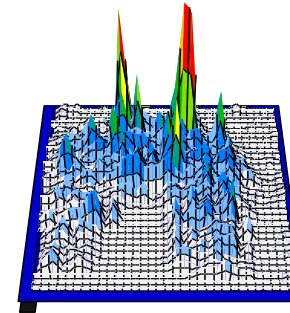
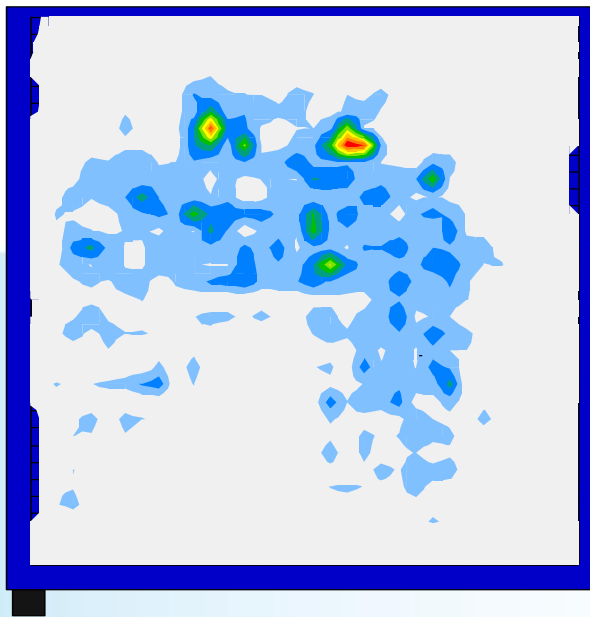
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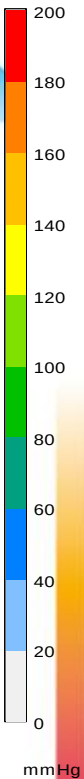
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.35
Variance (mmHg ²)	385.46
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.63
Coefficient of variation (%)	147.10
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.58
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



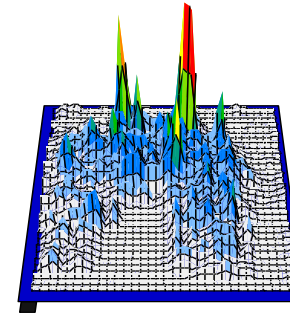
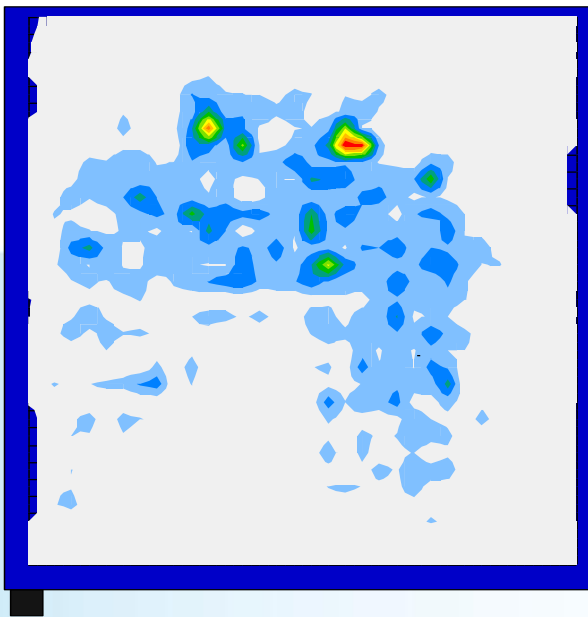
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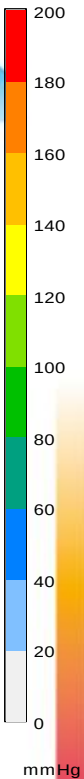
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.40
Variance (mmHg ²)	379.24
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.47
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.36
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.55
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



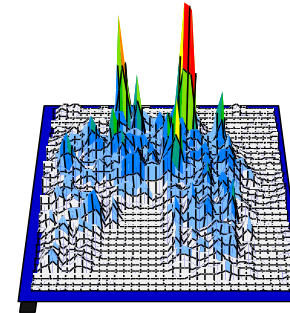
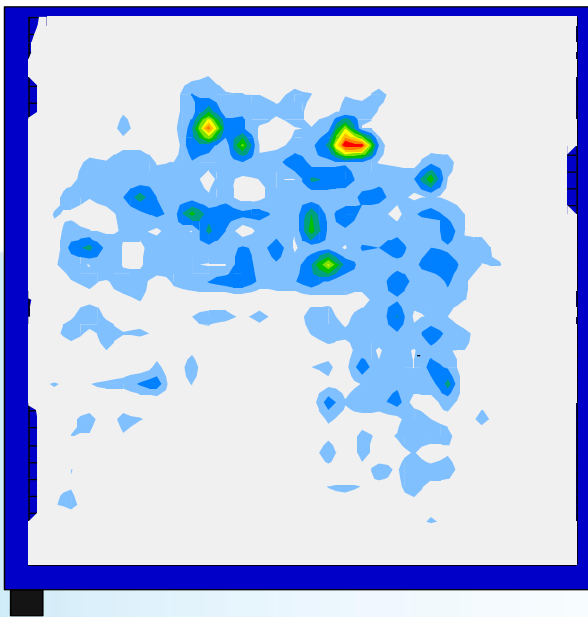
Electrical stimulation: OFF



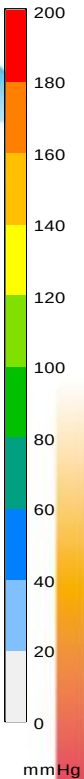
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.35
Variance (mmHg ²)	370.74
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.25
Coefficient of variation (%)	144.25
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.53
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF



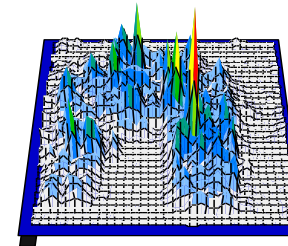
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.39
Variance (mmHg ²)	371.91
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.28
Coefficient of variation (%)	144.05
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.51
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



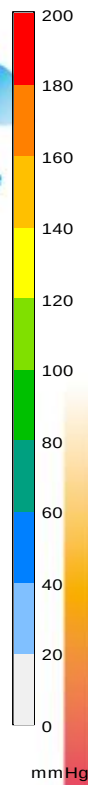
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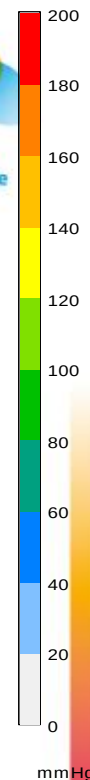
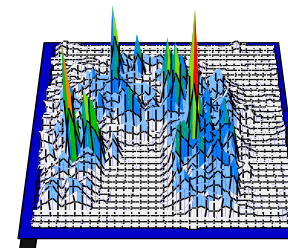
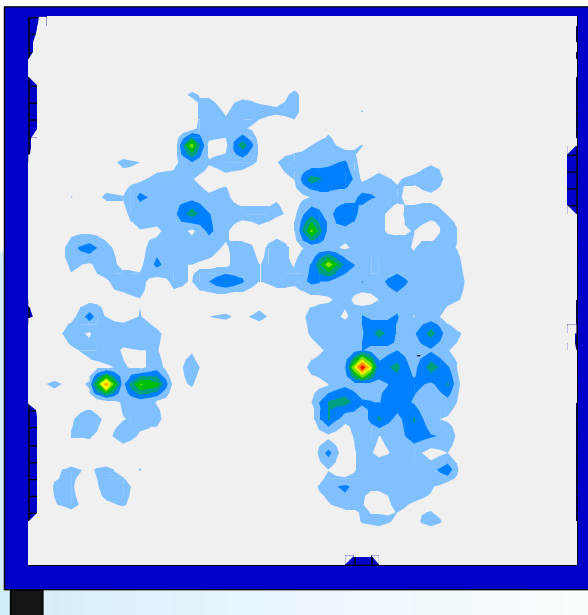
Minimum



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.98
Variance (mmHg²)	313.37
Standard deviation (mmHg)	17.70
Coefficient of variation (%)	136.35
Horizontal center (in)	7.75
Vertical center (in)	8.68
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: ON



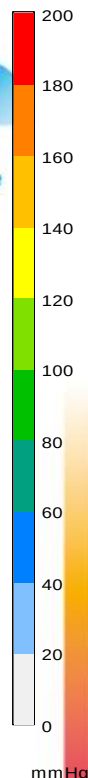
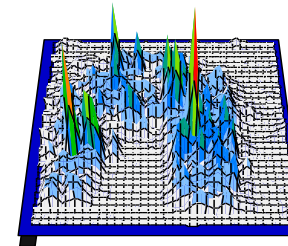
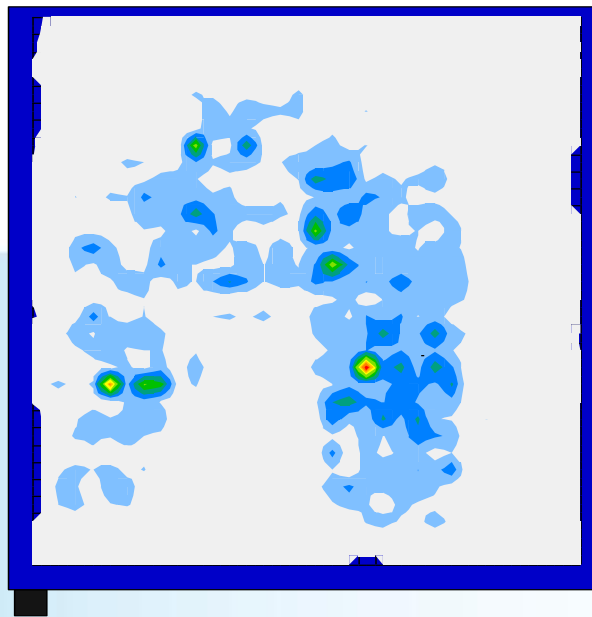
mmHg

Minimum



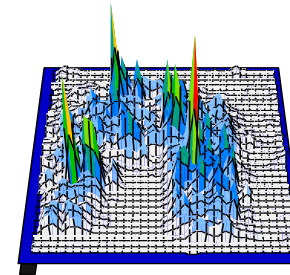
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.11
Variance (mmHg ²)	314.79
Standard deviation (mmHg)	17.74
Coefficient of variation (%)	146.45
Horizontal center (in)	7.80
Vertical center (in)	8.22
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

Electrical stimulation: ON

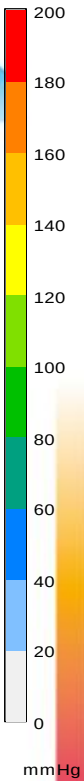


Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.21
Variance (mmHg²)	315.99
Standard deviation (mmHg)	17.78
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.57
Horizontal center (in)	7.78
Vertical center (in)	8.18
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

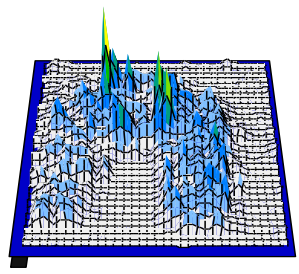
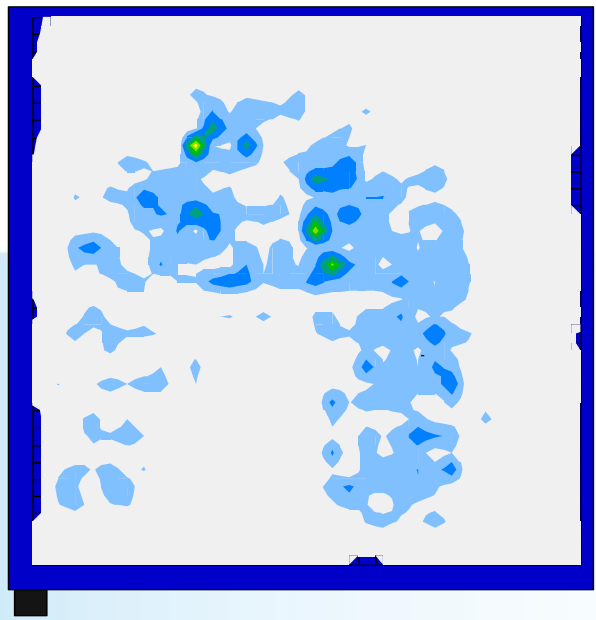
Electrical stimulation: ON



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.52
Variance (mmHg ²)	332.91
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.25
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.75
Horizontal center (in)	7.73
Vertical center (in)	8.29
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



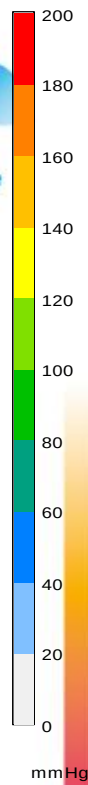
Electrical stimulation: ON

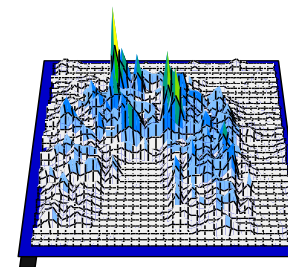
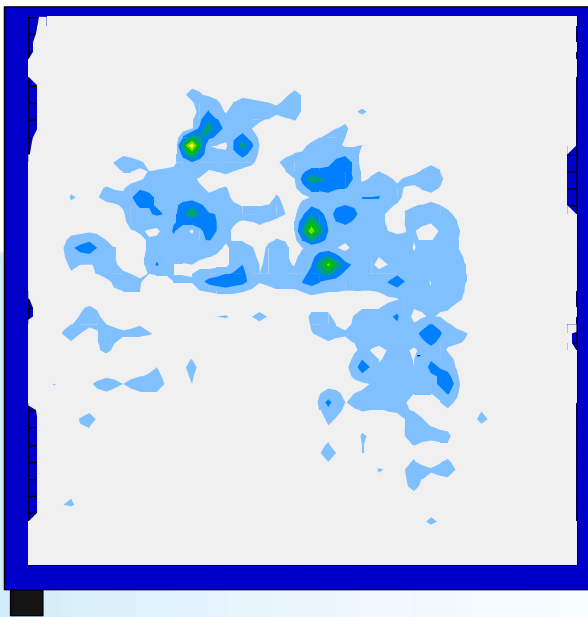


Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	136.92
Average (mmHg)	10.91
Variance (mmHg²)	217.93
Standard deviation (mmHg)	14.76
Coefficient of variation (%)	135.32
Horizontal center (in)	7.79
Vertical center (in)	8.67
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: ON

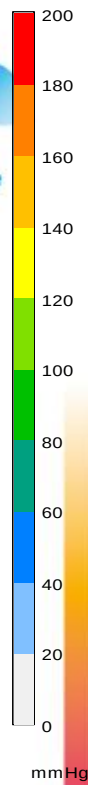


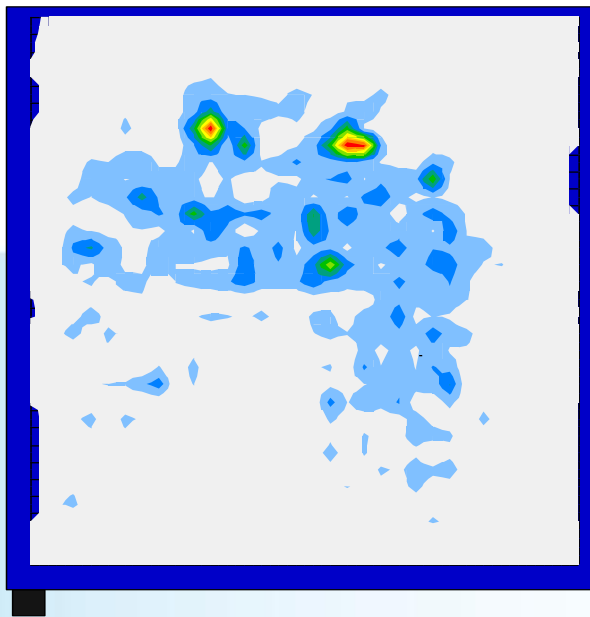


Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	136.92
Average (mmHg)	10.08
Variance (mmHg²)	203.48
Standard deviation (mmHg)	14.26
Coefficient of variation (%)	141.45
Horizontal center (in)	7.77
Vertical center (in)	9.15
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

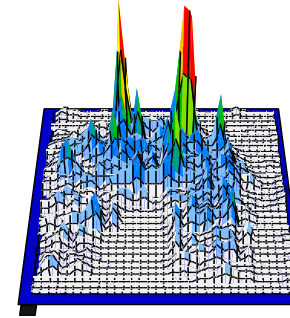


Electrical stimulation: OFF



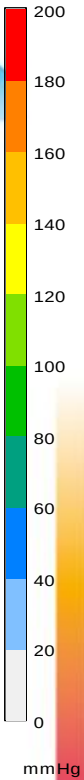


Minimum



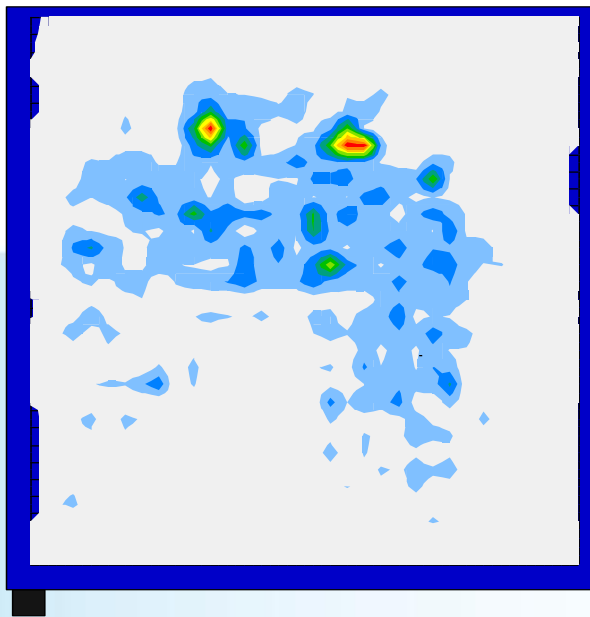
Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.18
Variance (mmHg ²)	343.31
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.53
Coefficient of variation (%)	152.16
Horizontal center (in)	7.90
Vertical center (in)	9.62
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

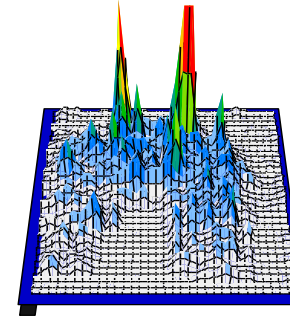


mmHg

Electrical stimulation: OFF

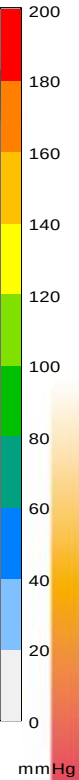


Minimum

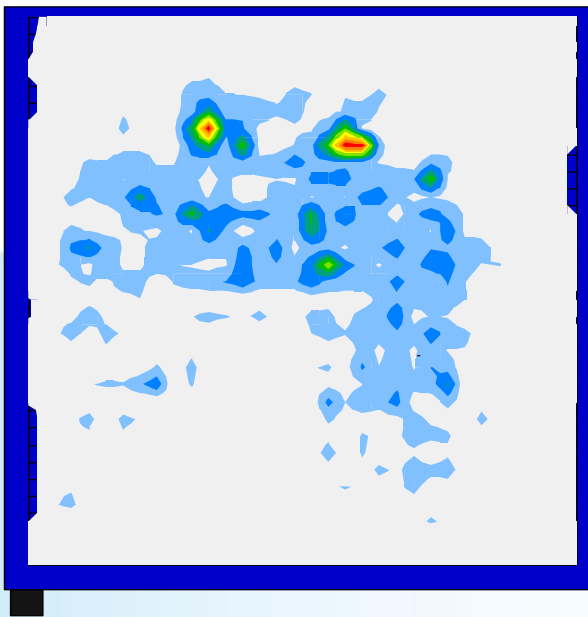


Reade
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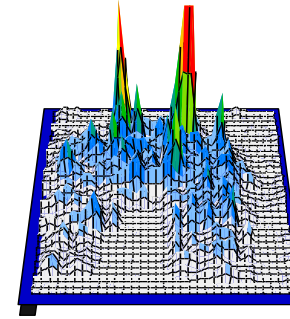
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.63
Variance (mmHg ²)	367.64
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.17
Coefficient of variation (%)	151.80
Horizontal center (in)	7.88
Vertical center (in)	9.64
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

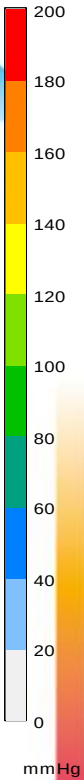


Minimum

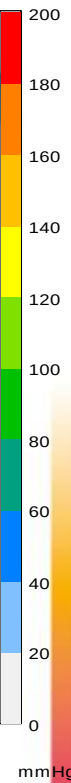
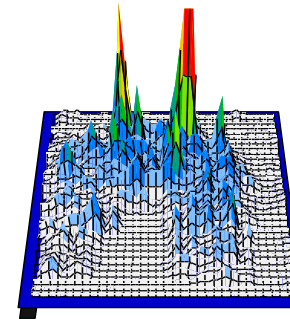
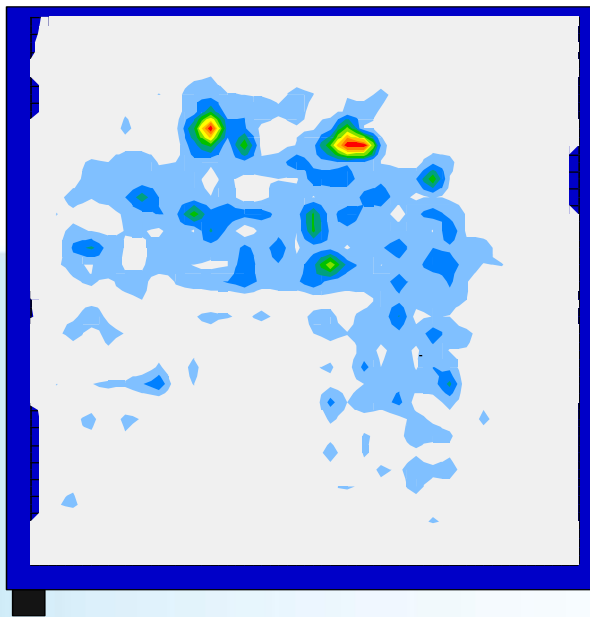


Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.66
Variance (mmHg²)	367.76
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.18
Coefficient of variation (%)	151.47
Horizontal center (in)	7.88
Vertical center (in)	9.63
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



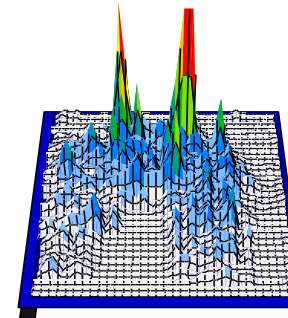
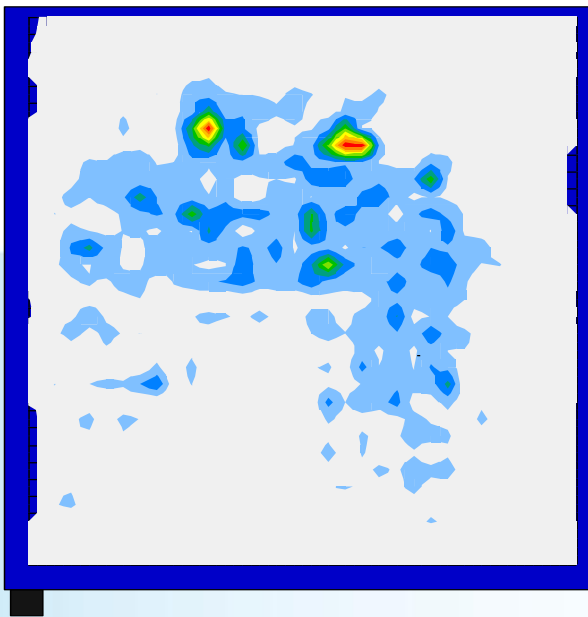
Electrical stimulation: OFF



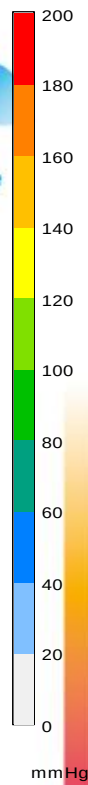
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.85
Variance (mmHg ²)	374.26
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.35
Coefficient of variation (%)	150.55
Horizontal center (in)	7.87
Vertical center (in)	9.62
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



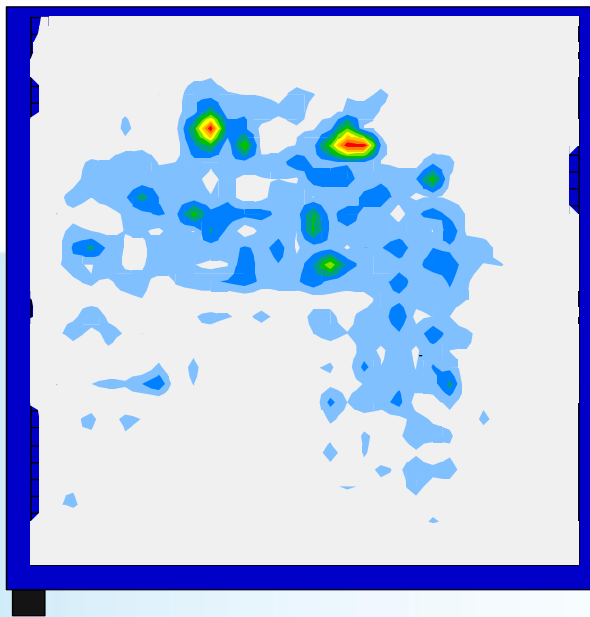
Electrical stimulation: OFF



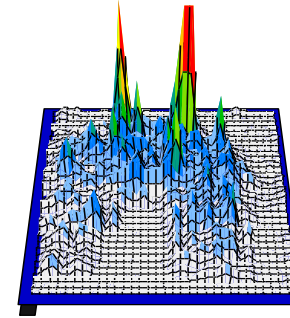
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.96
Variance (mmHg ²)	377.73
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.44
Coefficient of variation (%)	150.00
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.62
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

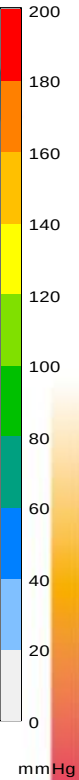


Minimum

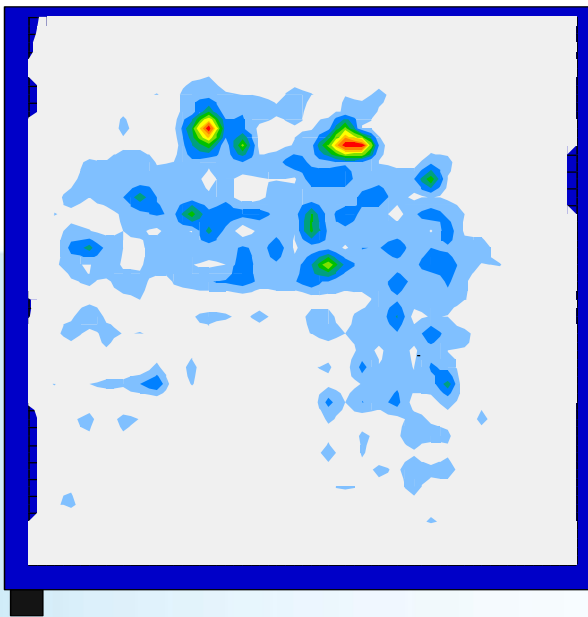


Reade
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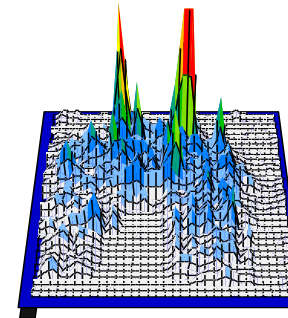
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.96
Variance (mmHg ²)	377.72
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.44
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.97
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.61
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



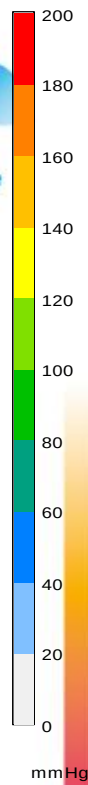
Electrical stimulation: OFF



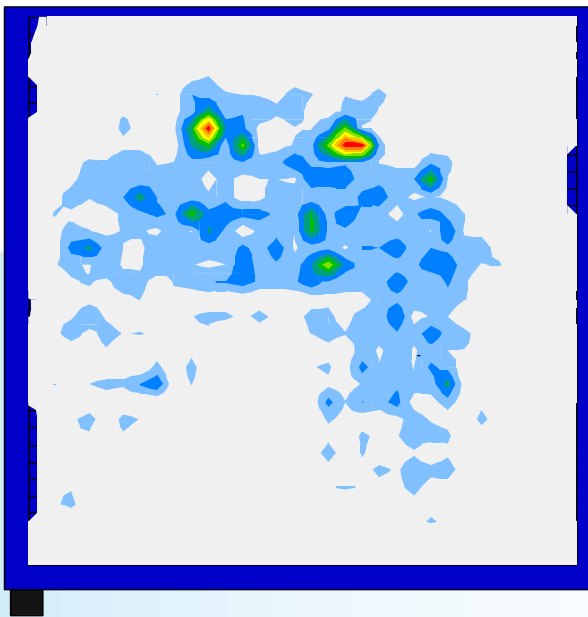
Minimum



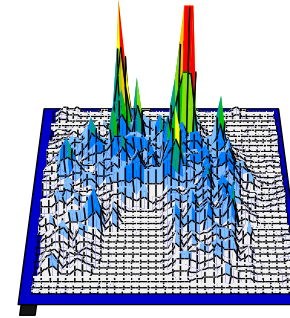
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.06
Variance (mmHg²)	382.62
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.56
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.75
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.61
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

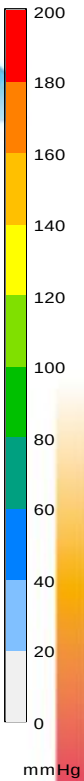


Minimum

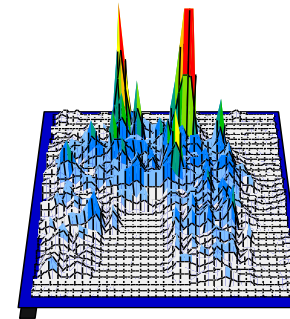
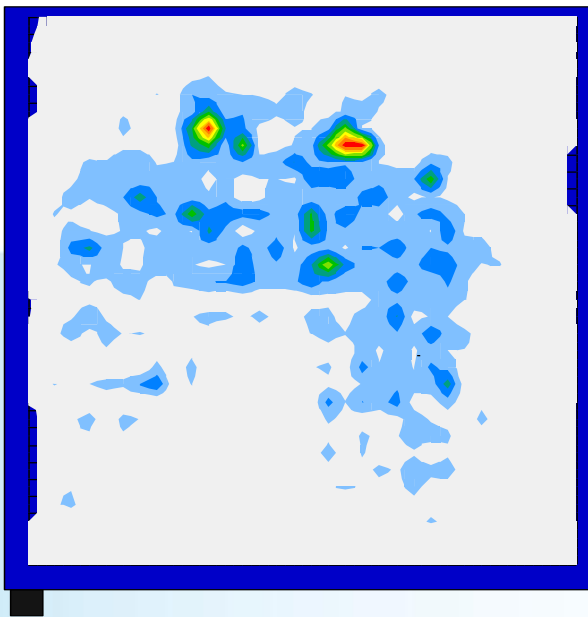


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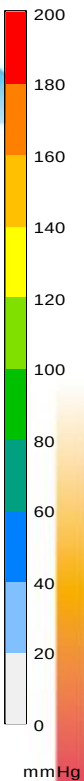
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.16
Variance (mmHg²)	385.03
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.62
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.07
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.61
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



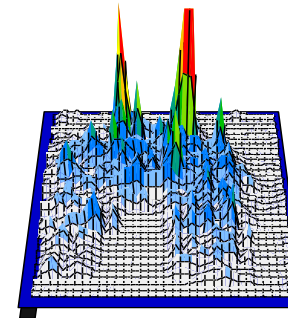
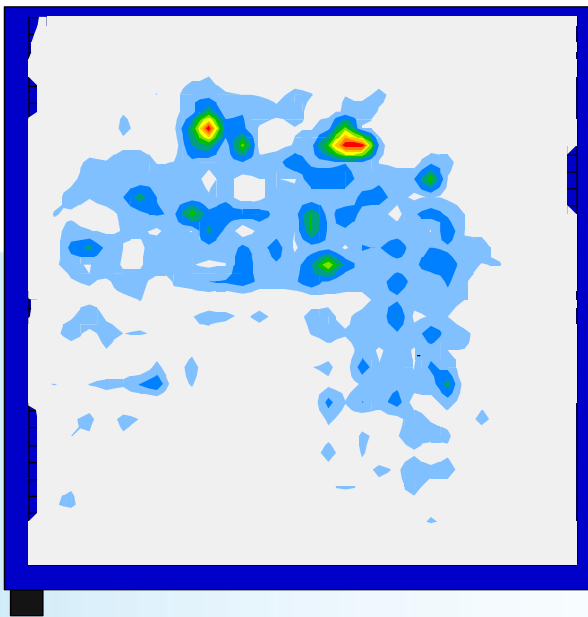
Electrical stimulation: OFF



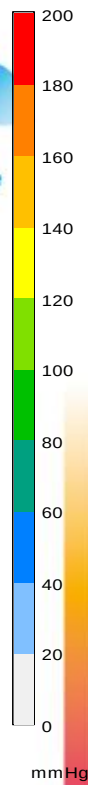
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.16
Variance (mmHg ²)	385.03
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.62
Coefficient of variation (%)	149.07
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.61
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



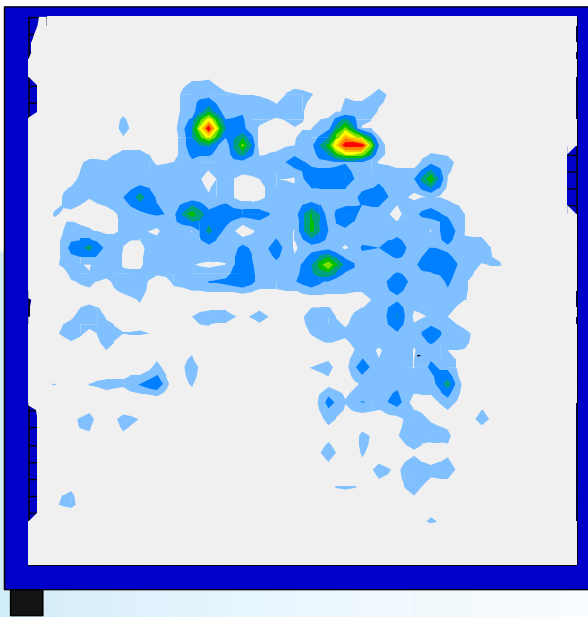
Electrical stimulation: OFF



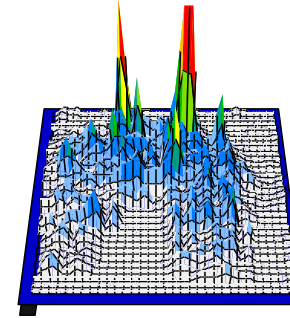
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.24
Variance (mmHg ²)	384.99
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.62
Coefficient of variation (%)	148.24
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.59
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

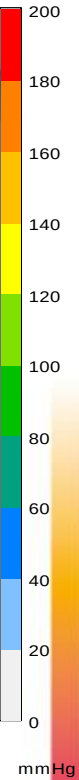


Minimum

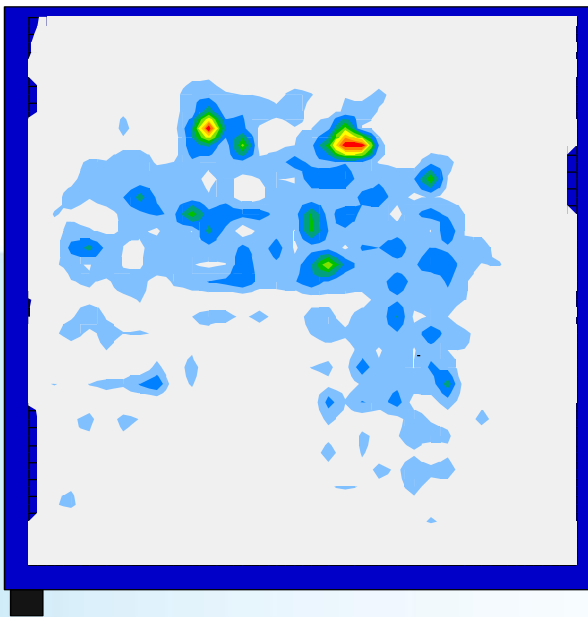


Reade
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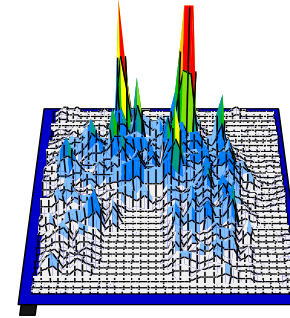
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.24
Variance (mmHg ²)	379.77
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.49
Coefficient of variation (%)	147.24
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.56
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

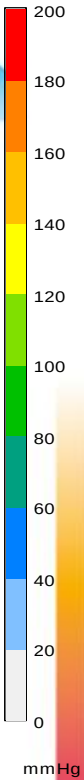


Minimum



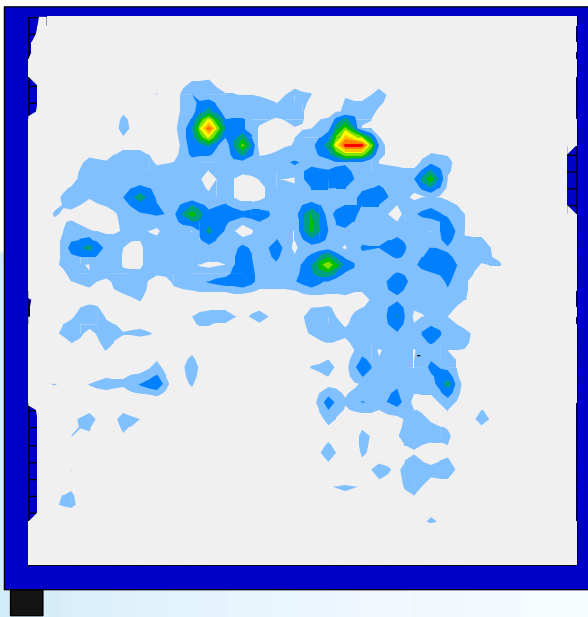
Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.24
Variance (mmHg ²)	379.77
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.49
Coefficient of variation (%)	147.24
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.56
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

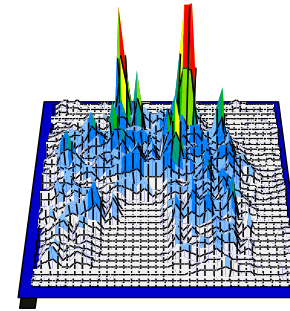


mmHg

Electrical stimulation: OFF

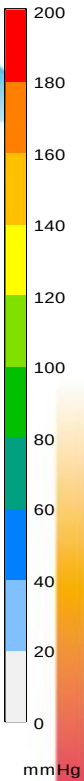


Minimum



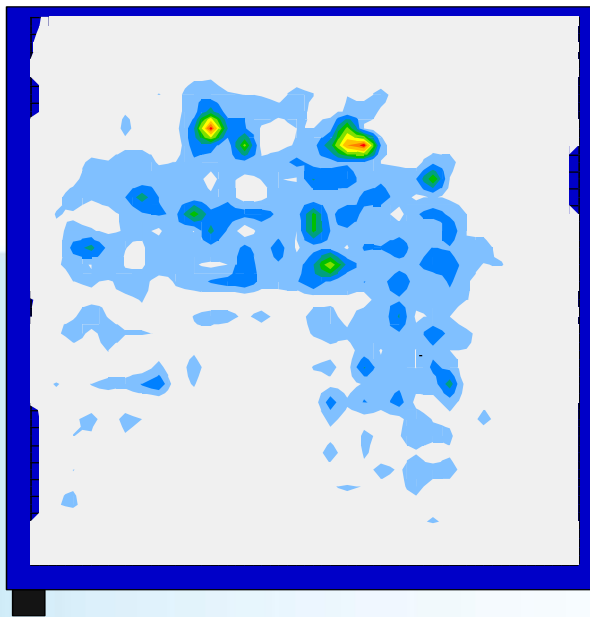
Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	193.77
Average (mmHg)	13.23
Variance (mmHg ²)	367.33
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.17
Coefficient of variation (%)	144.86
Horizontal center (in)	7.86
Vertical center (in)	9.53
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

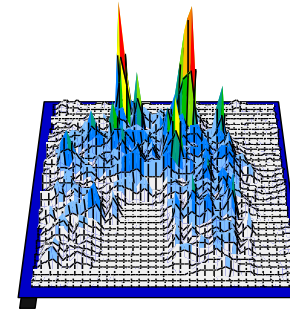


mmHg

Electrical stimulation: OFF

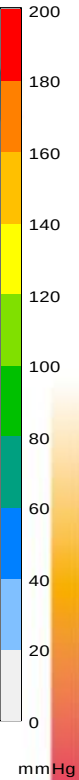


Minimum



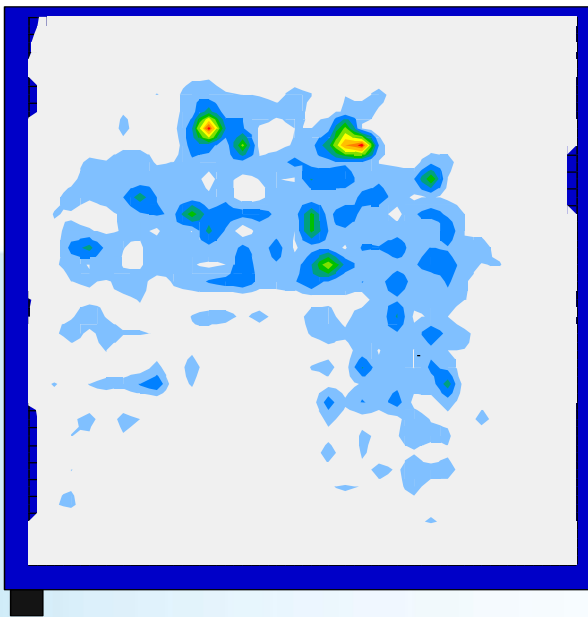
Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	190.14
Average (mmHg)	13.29
Variance (mmHg ²)	360.01
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.97
Coefficient of variation (%)	142.82
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.51
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

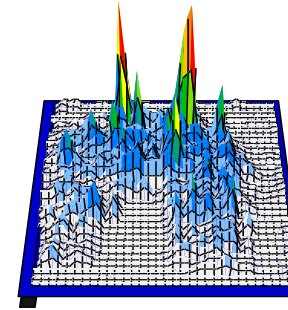


mmHg

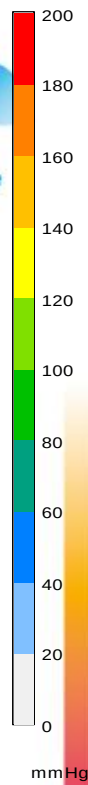
Electrical stimulation: OFF



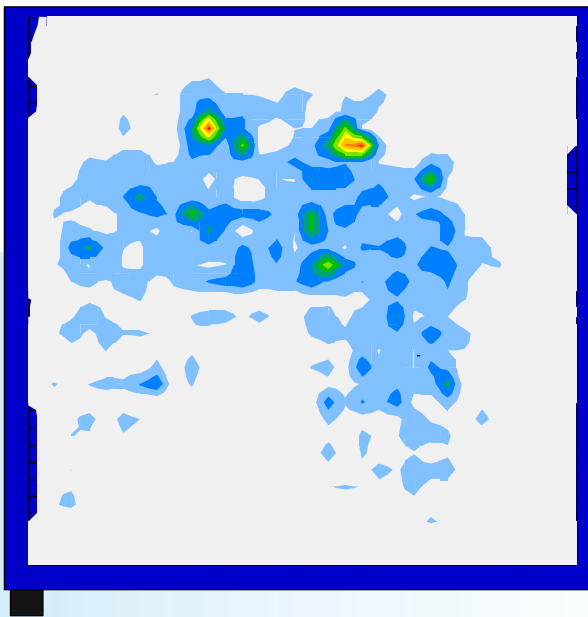
Minimum



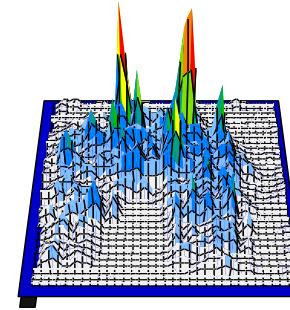
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	190.14
Average (mmHg)	13.29
Variance (mmHg²)	359.99
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.97
Coefficient of variation (%)	142.81
Horizontal center (in)	7.85
Vertical center (in)	9.51
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

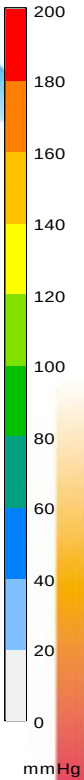


Minimum

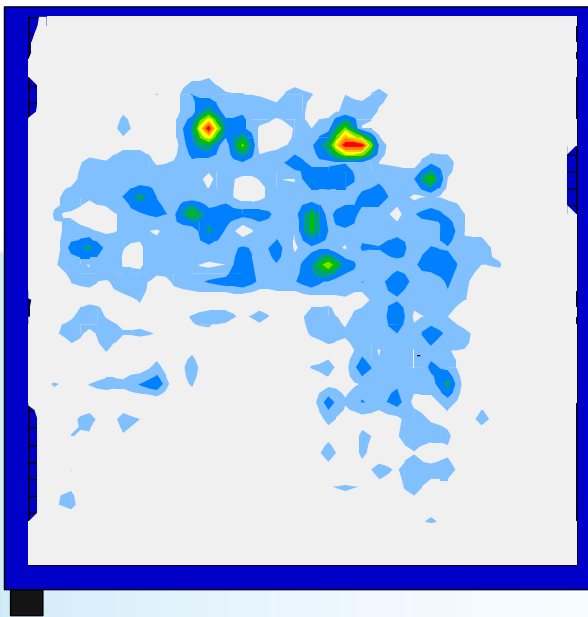


Reade
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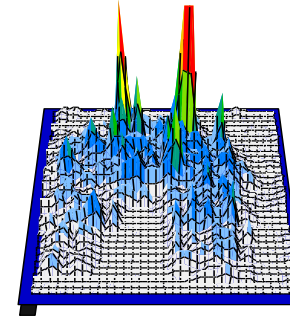
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	189.47
Average (mmHg)	13.38
Variance (mmHg²)	363.46
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.06
Coefficient of variation (%)	142.52
Horizontal center (in)	7.84
Vertical center (in)	9.52
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



Electrical stimulation: OFF

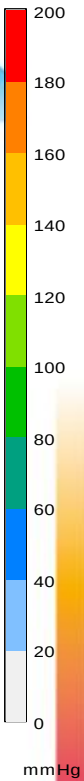


Minimum

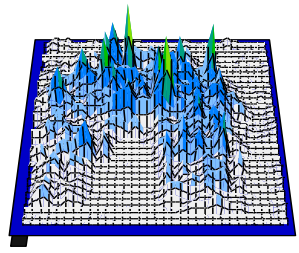


Reade
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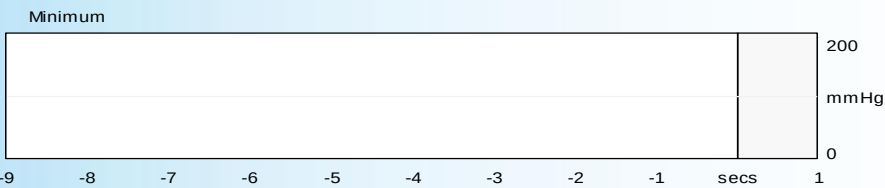
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	13.53
Variance (mmHg²)	389.26
Standard deviation (mmHg)	19.73
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.79
Horizontal center (in)	7.84
Vertical center (in)	9.56
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



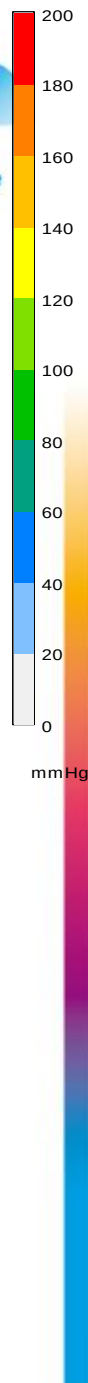
Electrical stimulation: OFF



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	118.99
Average (mmHg)	12.51
Variance (mmHg²)	267.56
Standard deviation (mmHg)	16.36
Coefficient of variation (%)	130.74
Horizontal center (in)	7.83
Vertical center (in)	9.27
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

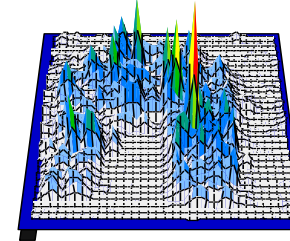


Electrical stimulation: ON



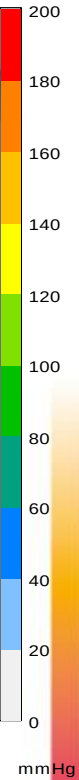


Minimum

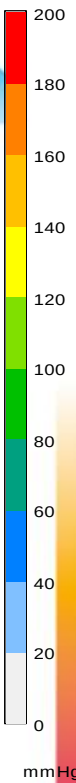
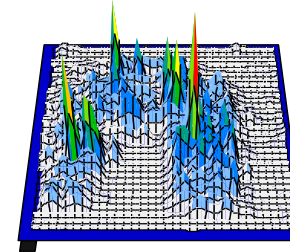
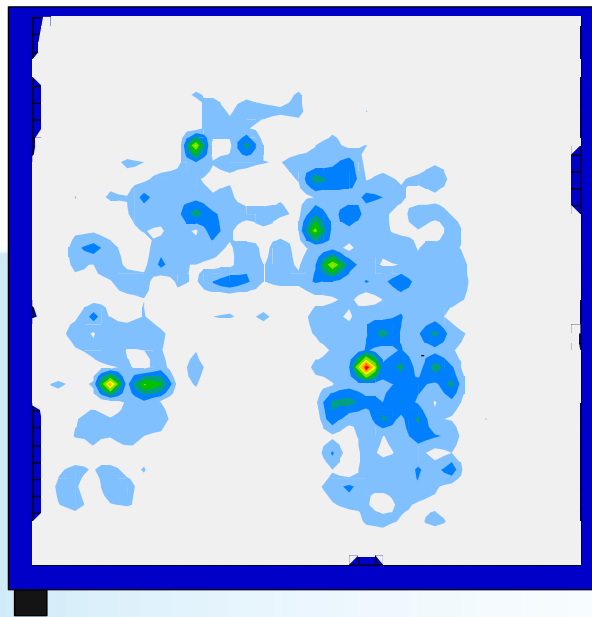


Reade
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Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.88
Variance (mmHg ²)	313.12
Standard deviation (mmHg)	17.70
Coefficient of variation (%)	137.43
Horizontal center (in)	7.75
Vertical center (in)	8.63
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

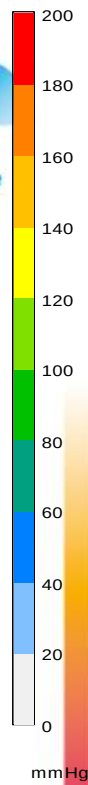
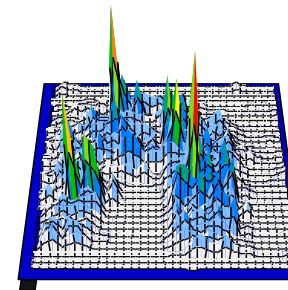


Electrical stimulation: ON



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.25
Variance (mmHg ²)	318.96
Standard deviation (mmHg)	17.86
Coefficient of variation (%)	145.84
Horizontal center (in)	7.77
Vertical center (in)	8.18
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00

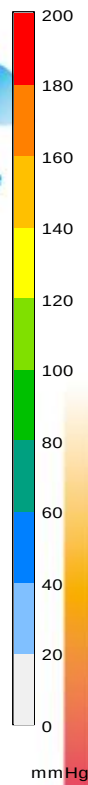
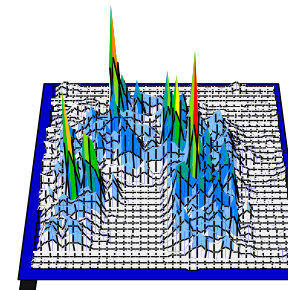
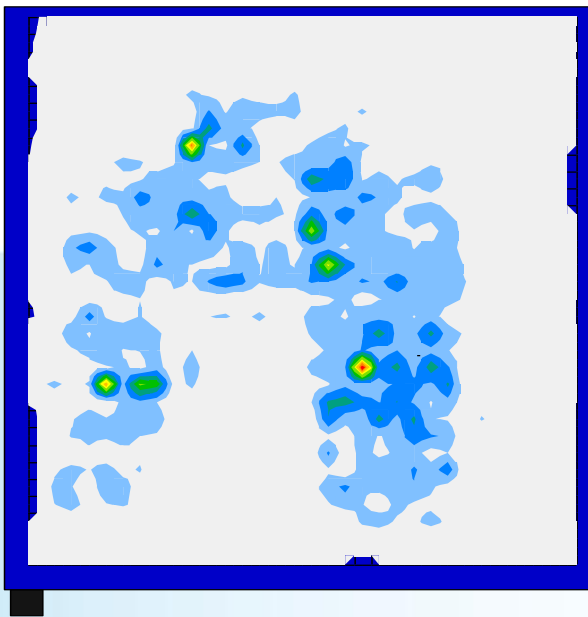
Electrical stimulation: ON



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.51
Variance (mmHg²)	334.69
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.29
Coefficient of variation (%)	146.29
Horizontal center (in)	7.73
Vertical center (in)	8.29
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



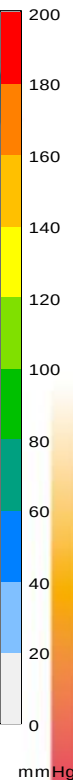
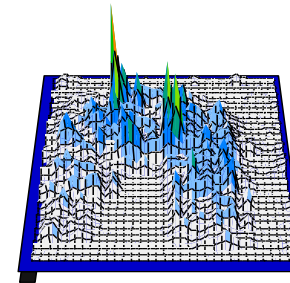
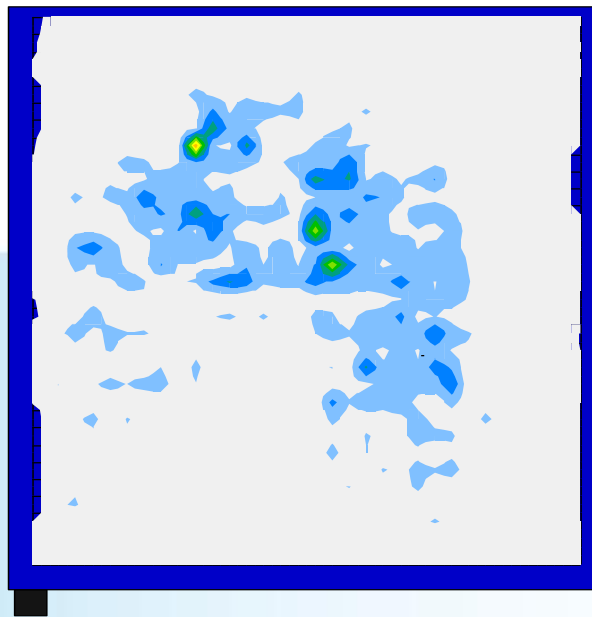
Electrical stimulation: ON



Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	12.62
Variance (mmHg²)	341.45
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.48
Coefficient of variation (%)	146.44
Horizontal center (in)	7.71
Vertical center (in)	8.28
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



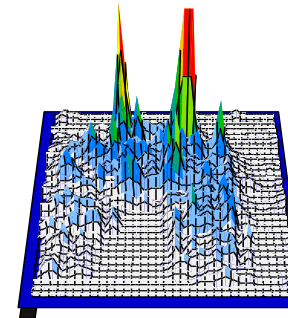
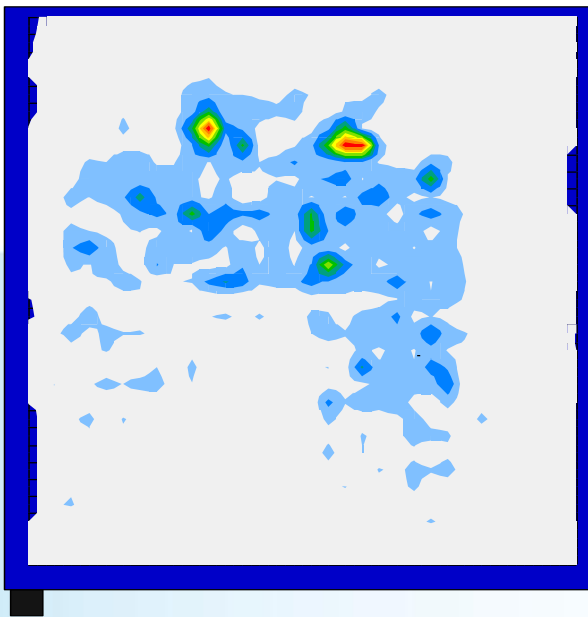
Electrical stimulation: ON



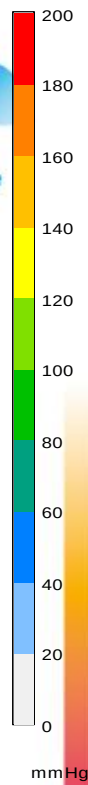
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	160.58
Average (mmHg)	10.16
Variance (mmHg ²)	216.29
Standard deviation (mmHg)	14.71
Coefficient of variation (%)	144.71
Horizontal center (in)	7.77
Vertical center (in)	9.15
Sensing area (in ²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



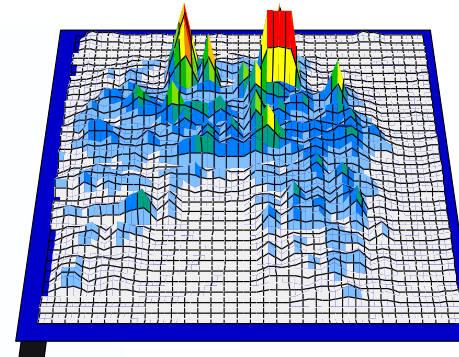
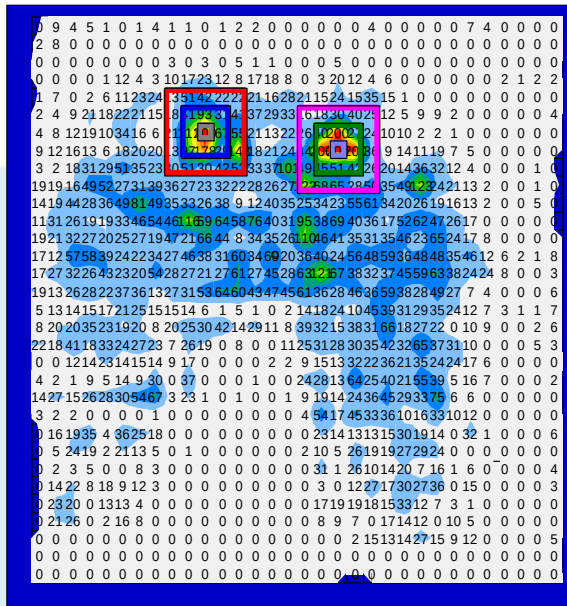
Electrical stimulation: OFF



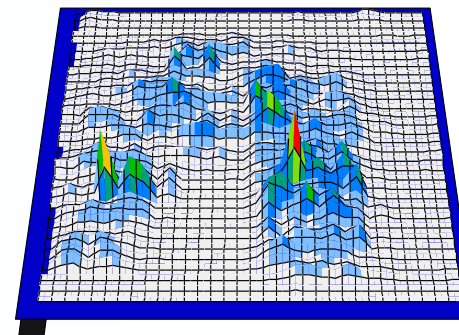
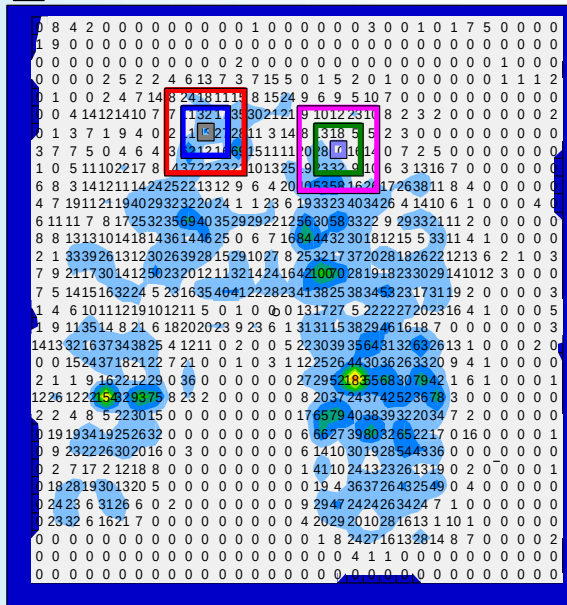
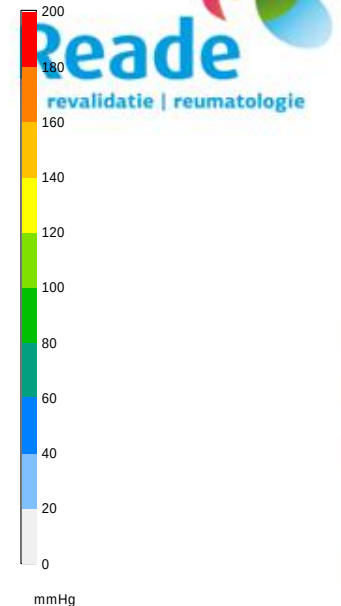
Minimum (mmHg)	0.00
Maximum (mmHg)	200.00
Average (mmHg)	11.80
Variance (mmHg²)	341.63
Standard deviation (mmHg)	18.48
Coefficient of variation (%)	156.70
Horizontal center (in)	7.81
Vertical center (in)	9.66
Sensing area (in²)	286.60
Regional distribution (%)	100.00



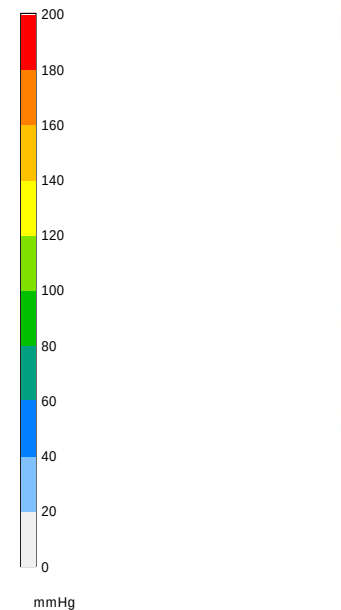
Electrical stimulation: OFF

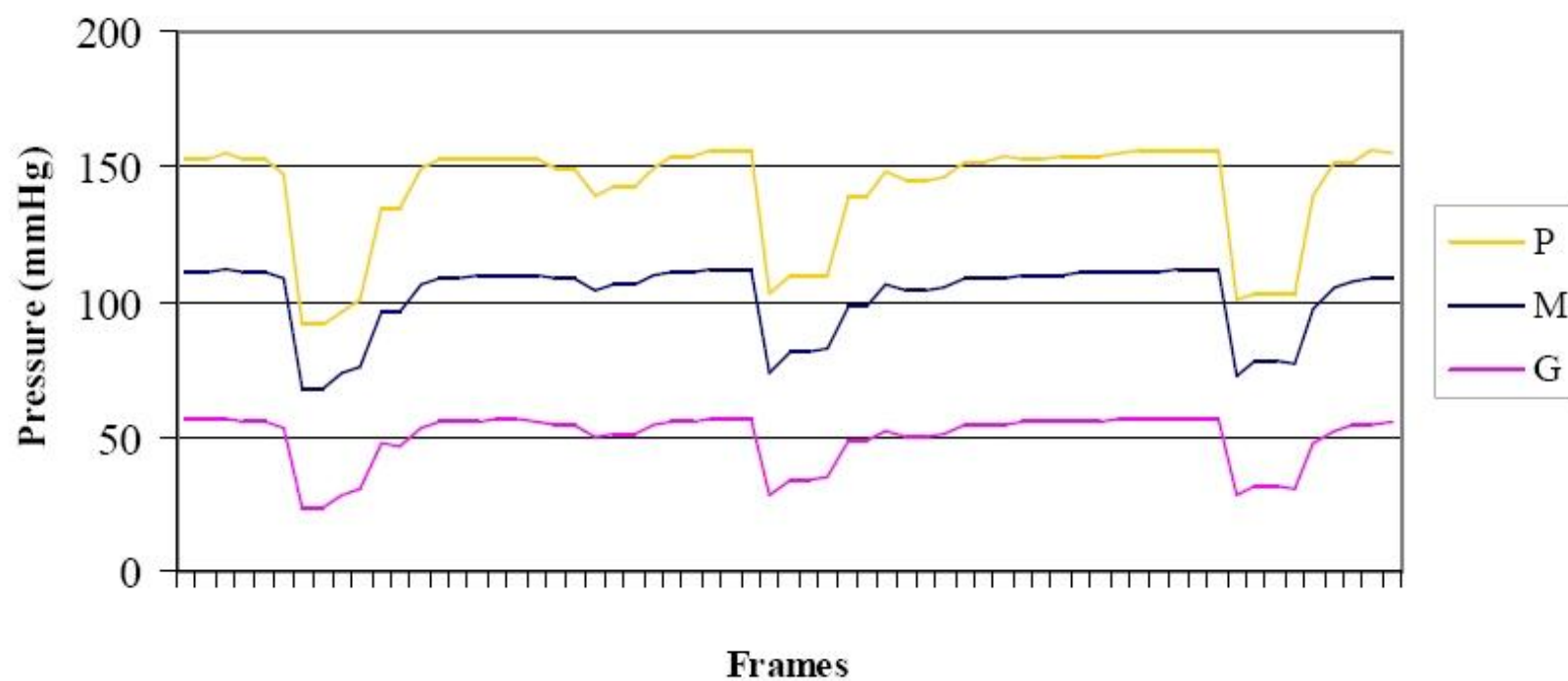


NO STIM



STIM

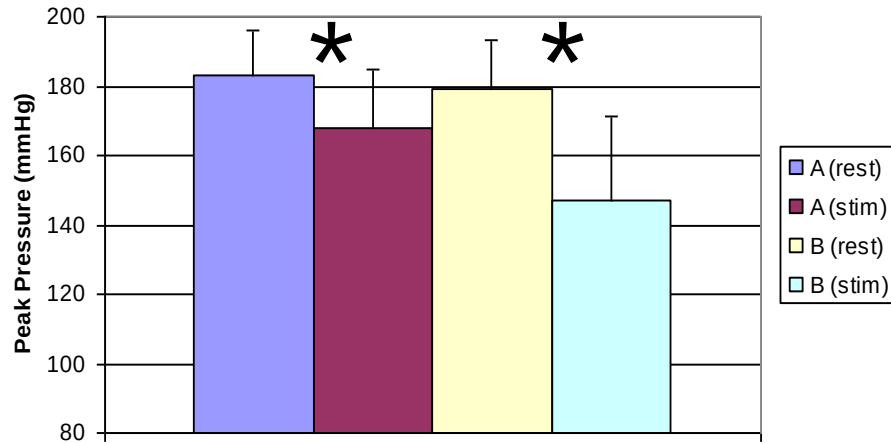




Results (2)

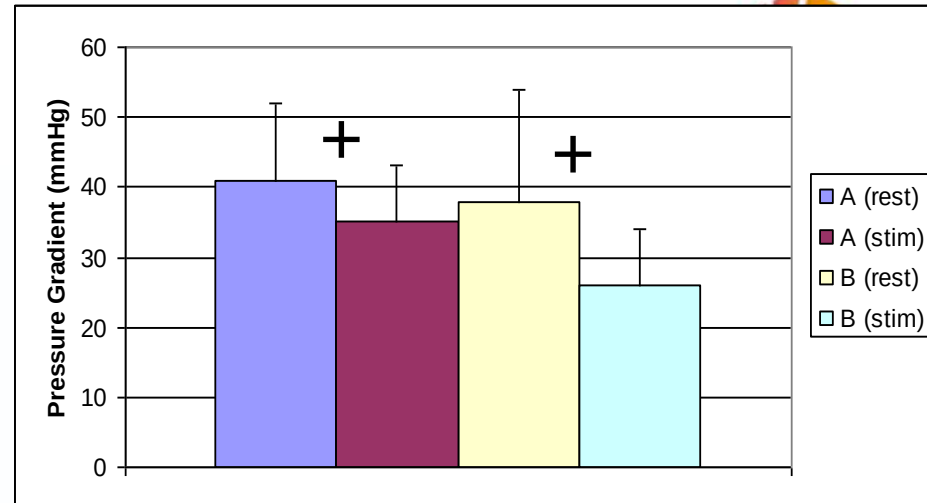
Group Effects

Peak Pressure

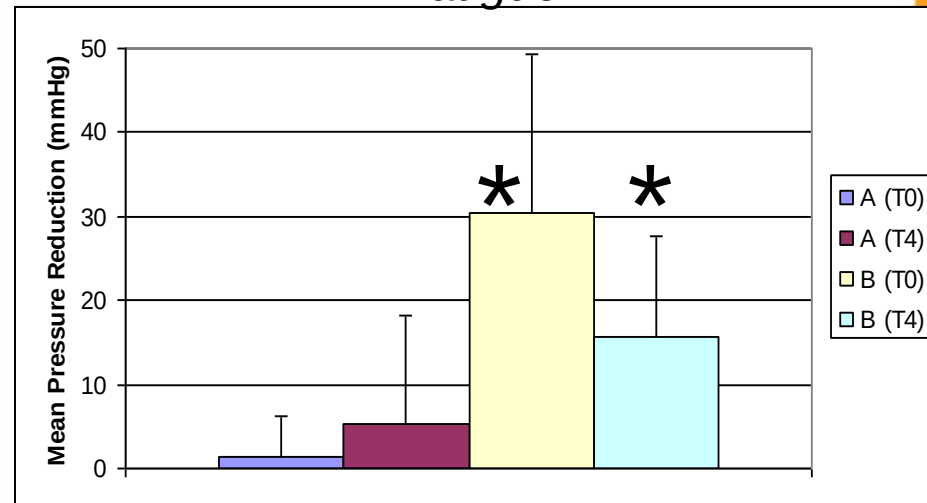


* p<0.05
+ p<0.05

Gradient



Fatigue



Results (3)

Gluteal vs. gluteal and hamstring activation

- Mean reduction in pressure

	GluteusHamstring (mmHg)	Gluteus (mmHg)	Difference (mmHg)
G mean	-14.7 17.1 (-49.3%)	-5.3 9.2 (-18.5%)	9.45 9.69
M mean	-37.8 23.2 (-34.6%)	-11.8 11.7 (-10.2%)	25.5 18.5
P mean	-41.3 44.9 (-27.6%)	-13.0 16.1 (-8.6%)	28.28 34.97

Results (4)

- Usability of the BioShorts (N=19)
 - 6 participants were not able to put on the BioShorts myself
 - None remarked wearing the shorts painful
 - Nobody experienced the stimulation as painful
 - If the BioShorts is found helpful in the prevention of decubitus, all participants will use the shorts more often
 - Use of Gel (pads) not handy

Conclusions

- 1. Both protocols A and B: decrease peak pressure and gradient
- 2. Prot B (1:4): larger effects
Prot B: less fatigue
- 3. Gluteal and Hamstring activation more effect than gluteal activation exclusively.
- 4. This method appears practical in daily life and well tolerated

Discussion

- Pressure reduction sufficient?
- Additional effects of ES
 - Improved circulation
 - Improved oxygenation
 - Reduction of muscle atrophy

Further research (1)

- Oxygenation
 - Oxygen saturation
 - Blood flow
- Usability !



Further research (2)

- Prospective study (RCT):
‘Gluteal and hamstring muscle activation decreases the incidence of pressure ulcers in sitting individuals with a spinal cord injury’.....;-).
- 3 groups recurrent PU's - → at least 2 times in 3 year?
- N= 30 → power?
 - ES (n=10)
 - No ES (n=10)
 - ES at night (n=10)
- Follow up? → 1 year?

Thank You!