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## A kinematic comparison of the techniques of athletes and decathletes in 110m hurdles of inter university players

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### Abstract

**Aims:** The purpose of this study was to a kinematic comparison of the techniques of athletes and decathletes in 110 m hurdles of Inter university players.

**Materials and Method:** For the purpose of the study, eight Athletes (hurdle specialist) and eight Decathletes hurdler of different university, who was participated in 75<sup>th</sup> All India Inter University. The Kinematic parameters were determined by using a video kinematic analyzer.

**Results:** Some of the most important variable have been determined it was found that athletes are distinguished from decathletes by Shorter stride length over the hurdle, Shorter flight time over the hurdle, Lower C.G. in takeoff to landing, Shorter supporting time in 1<sup>st</sup> stride post hurdle, Shorter 1<sup>st</sup> stride post hurdle, Shorter flight time in 1<sup>st</sup> stride post hurdle.

**Conclusion:** The result of this study showed there was not statistically significant difference in all kinematic parameters between athletes and decathletes but there was a significant difference in most of the kinematics and Physical parameters.

**Keywords:** kinematic, hurdles, techniques, take off, landing, decathletes

### Introduction

The hurdle clearance technique is one amongst the key components defining the competition result from the aspect of biomechanics; hurdles are a fusion of cyclic sprinting and acyclic clearance of ten 1.067 M hurdle. The hurdler so creates a high level of sprinting skills, special flexibility at the hip joint, quick strength, and a high level of technical knowledge. During clearing the hurdle, the loss of horizontal velocity must be as small as possible, however, this depends on various factors, particularly those who define the takeoff and also the landing point of hurdle clearance are crucial. the proper position of those 2 points could be a precondition for an optimal path of the flight of the CG and it reflects within the flight time that must be as short as possible Besides the proper position, the kinematic - dynamic structure of takeoff and landing that directly influences the velocity of hurdle clearance is also significant.

### Method

The purpose of this study was to a kinematic comparison of the techniques of athletes and decathletes in 110 m hurdles of Inter university players. For the purpose of the study, eight Athletes (hurdle specialist) and eight Decathletes hurdler of different university, who was participated in 75<sup>th</sup> All India inter-university Athletic championship organized by Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences, Karnataka, Bangalore and Alva's Education Foundation(R), Moodbidri dated 16<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> January 2015 were selected as subjects. For the purpose of the study, data are collected over 16 male Inter university players divided in to eight athletes(hurdle specialist) age:  $23.10 \pm 0.87$  years, body weight  $74.62 \pm 2.82$  kg., standing height:  $1.81 \pm 0.04$  m., and decathletes (decathletes hurdler) age:  $24.35 \pm 0.65$  years, body weight  $73 \pm 1.6$  kg., standing height:  $1.84 \pm 0.01$  meters.

### Selection of Variables

To obtain variable Measurements, standard and calibrated equipments like high-definition video cameras (SONY PMW 200) series, steel tape, weighing machine, and specialized

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motion analyzing software (APAS-Ariel performance Analysis system.- U.K.) were used.

**Physical variables**

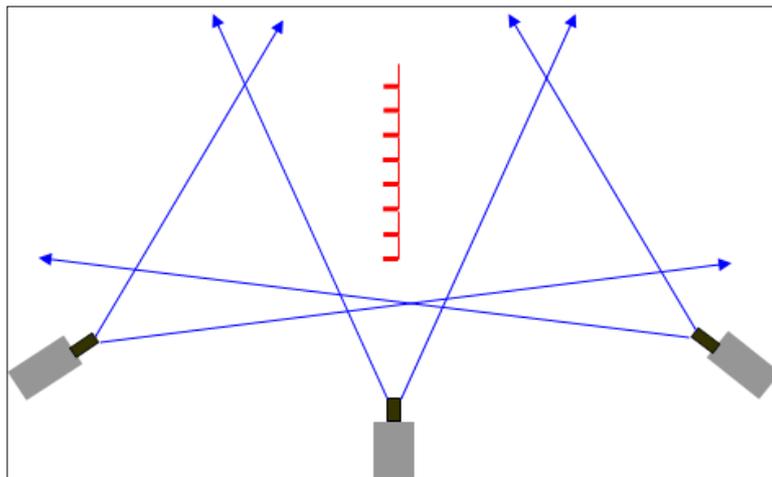
1. Age
2. Body weight
3. Standing height

**Kinematic variables**

1. The takeoff distance at front of the place of the hurdle.
2. The stride length over the hurdle.
3. The landing distance at behind the place of the hurdle.
4. The length of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle.

5. The height of C.G. at the contact before the hedge attack.
6. The height of C.G. at the takeoff while attacking the hedge.
7. The max height of C.G. at crossing the hedge.
8. The height of C.G. at landing of post hurdle.
9. The flight time of over the hurdle.
10. The height of C.G. at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle.
11. The support time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle
12. The flight time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle.
13. The performance (entire hurdle-race time)

**Filming protocol**



**Fig 1**

Three synchronized high definition video (SONY PMW 200 series) cameras using by Researcher. The subjects were filmed in sagittal plane only. Only one hurdle clearance and stride before or after the clearance were registered for analysis purposes, the filming zone was wide enough to accommodate the required sequence of movement. The camera was positioned near the 1<sup>st</sup> hurdle. An angle 45<sup>o</sup>, 90<sup>o</sup>, 45<sup>o</sup>. The frequency of the cameras was 120 Hz, Manual filming system was used to record the performance of the subject. The performances were recorded in 1/100 of a second. The subjects were filmed during the competition only. The cameras were placed on the tripod. Cameras and the filmed target was 11 m. whilst the height of its attachment was 1.27 m and remained un-change during the recordings.

The captured video film was adding into the APAS-Ariel performance Analysis system-software and it gives an appropriate treatment for the comparison of the athletes and decathletes kinematic variables.

**Statistical procedures**

For the statistical calculation of the physical and kinematics variables, Independent t-test was used to examine the difference between athletes and decathletes. The mean and standard deviation of two groups' physical and kinematics variable were calculated with the SPSS (V. 16) software. In all statistic analysis, the significance threshold was set at p<0.05.

**Table 1:** Kinematic variable comparison of athletes and decathletes

Parameter	HS (n = 8)	DH (n = 8)
The takeoff distance at front of the place of the hurdle	1.90m	2.10
The stride length over the hurdle	3.50m	3.75m
The landing distance at behind the place of the hurdle	1.60m	1.65m
The length of 1 <sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle.	1.54m	1.66m
The height of C.G. at the contact before the hedge attack	1.03m	1.04m
The height of C.G. at the takeoff while attacking the hedge	1.15m	1.17m
The max height of C.G. at crossing the hedge	1.27m	1.36m
The height of C.G. at landing of post hurdle	1.15m	1.22m
The flight time of over the hurdle	0.37s	0.40s
The height of C.G. at takeoff in 1 <sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle	1.08m	1.11m
The support time of 1 <sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle	0.10s	0.12s
The flight time of 1 <sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle	0.07s	0.08s

**Kinematic variables of hurdle clearance technique and the first stride of post hurdle of athletes**

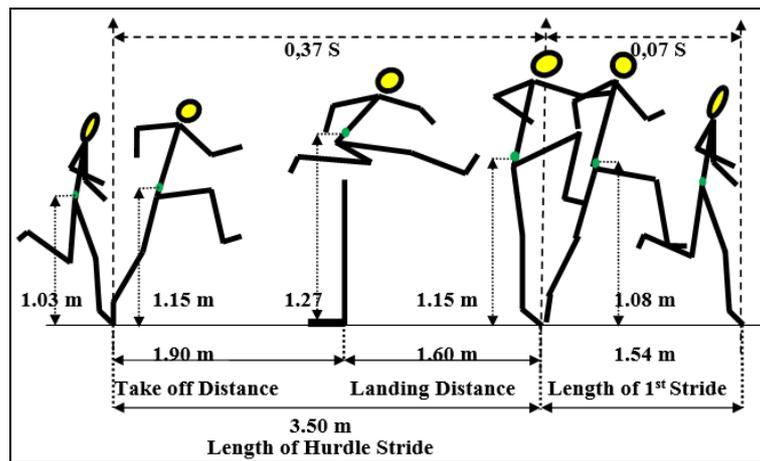


Fig 2

**Kinematic variables of hurdle clearance technique and the first stride of post hurdle of decathletes**

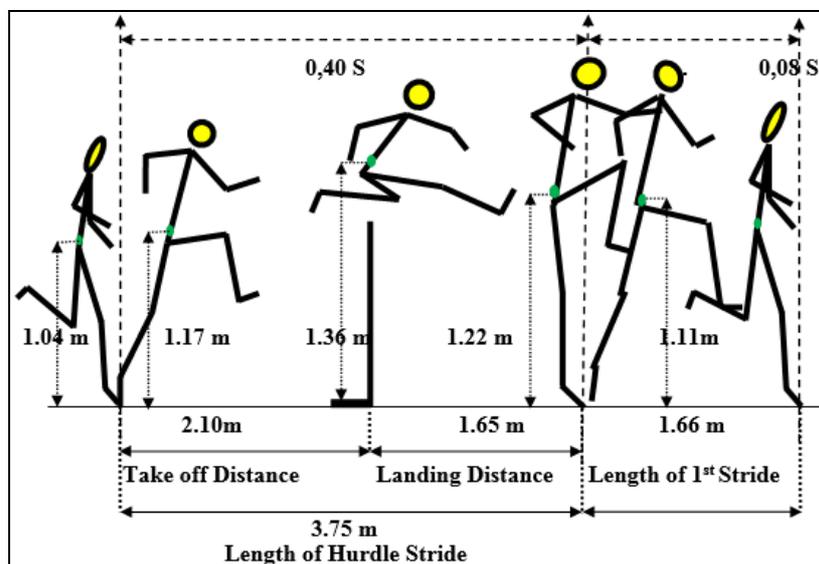


Fig 3

**Result**

For the purpose of the study, data are collected over sixteen male Inter university players divided in to eight athletes (hurdle specialist) age:  $23.10 \pm 0.87$  years, body weight  $74.62 \pm 2.82$  kg., standing height:  $1.81 \pm 0.04$  m., and eight decathletes (decathletes hurdler) age:  $24.35 \pm 0.65$  years, body weight  $80.34 \pm 1.92$  kg., standing height:  $1.84 \pm 0.01$  m., the Performance of 110 m. hurdle race achieved by athletes (SH) were significantly better than those decathletes ( $p < 0.05$ ). The relative value was  $14.95 \pm 0.61$  s., and  $16.35 \pm 0.76$  s., respectively.

**1. The takeoff distance at front of the place of the hurdle**

The takeoff distance was  $1.90 \pm 0.01$  m. in athletes and  $2.10 \pm 0.01$  m. in decathletes that represents 54.28% and 56% of the whole hurdle stride length. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes. Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

**2. The stride length over the hurdle**

The stride length at over the hurdle was  $3.50 \pm 0.02$  m. in athletes and  $3.75 \pm 0.02$  m. in decathletes, it was greater than athletes. There was a significant difference between athletes

and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

**3. The landing distance behind the place of the hurdle**

The landing distance at behind the place of the hurdle was  $1.60 \pm 0.01$  m. in athletes and  $1.65 \pm 0.01$  m. in decathletes which represents 45.72% and 44% of whole hurdle stride. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

**4. The length of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle**

The length of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was  $1.54 \pm 0.01$  m. in athletes and  $1.66$  m. in decathletes, there was larger than athletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

**5. The height of C.G. at the contact before the hedge attack**

The height of C.G. at the contact before the hedge attack was  $1.03$  m. in athletes and  $1.04$  m. in decathletes, which represents 57.22% and 56.52% of their body height  $1.80$  m.

and 1.84m. Decathletes C.G. was higher than that of athletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **6. The height of C.G. at the takeoff while attacking the hedge**

The height of C.G. at the takeoff while attacking the hedge was 1.15 m. in athletes' and  $1.17 \pm 0.01$  m. in decathletes, which represents 61.66% and 63.58% of their body height 1.80 m. and 1.84 m. Both groups were equal, there were not significant.

Not significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **7. The max height of C.G. at crossing the hedge**

The max height of C.G. at crossing the hedge was  $1.27 \pm 0.01$  m. in athletes and 1.36 m. in decathletes, there were higher than that in athletes, body position above the hurdle was also higher in decathletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **8. The height of C.G. at landing of post hurdle**

The height of C.G. at landing of post hurdle was 1.15 m. in athletes and 1.22 m. in decathletes, there were higher than that in athletes, body position at landing (touchdown) was also extra higher in decathletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **9. The height of C.G. at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle**

The height of C.G. at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was 1.08 m. in athletes and 1.11 m. in decathletes, there were higher than that in athletes, body position at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride post hurdle was also extra higher in decathletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **10. The flight time of over the hurdle**

The flight time of over the hurdle was 0.37 s. in athletes and 0.40 s. in decathletes, there was higher than that in athletes, stride length over the hurdle was also larger in decathletes. Decathletes took more time in flight than the athletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **11. The support time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle**

The support time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was  $0.10 \pm 0.00$  s. in athletes and 0.12 s. in decathletes, there were higher than that in athletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

Significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

#### **12. The flight time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle**

The flight time of 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was  $0.07 \pm 0.00$  s. in athletes and  $0.08 \pm 0.00$  s. in decathletes. There was a significant difference between athletes and decathletes.

significant at  $p < 0.05$ .

### **Discussion of findings**

Efficient hurdle clearance is defined by the length of the stride before hurdle clearance and after hurdle clearance. The entire hurdle stride length of athletes groups was 3.50 meters and decathletes group was 3.75 meters. The take-off distance at front of the hurdle was 1.90 meters in athletes and 2.10 meters

in decathletes that represent 54.28% and 56% of the entire hurdle stride length. The landing distance behind the hurdle was 1.60 meters in athletes and 1.65 meters in decathletes, that is 45.72% and 44% of the entire hurdle stride length. The optimal ratio between the take-off point and landing point in athletes was 54:46 and 56:44 in decathletes. We can see that athletes have a slightly shorter stride before hurdle clearance and a slightly longer after hurdle clearance.

The take-off in front of the hurdle is one among the elements of vital importance to best hurdle clearance since it directly defines the flight of the movement. The quality of hurdle clearance is directly related to the height of the C.G. in the take-off phase. From the aspect of kinematics, an efficient hurdling is that the one in which vertical oscillations of the C.G. are as small as possible. The hurdler must maintain a high position of the C.G. during take-off. The athletes height of the C.G. at the end of the propulsion phase is 1.15 meters, and 1.17 meters in decathletes, that represents 63.53% and 63.58% of their body height (BH=1.81m and 1.84m). The raising of the C.G. from the braking phase to the propulsion phase amounts to 12 cm. in athletes and 12 cm. in decathletes. The max height of C.G. is depends on the technique of takeoff in front of a hurdle and on the anthropometrical characteristics of the flight.

The criterion of an efficient hurdle clearance technique is that the shortest possible time of the flight phase (hurdle clearance time) since the hurdler loses speed in the air. The length of the flight of the C.G. of athletes is 3.50 meters, and 3.75 meters, in decathletes. The flight time is 0.36 seconds, in athletes and 0.40 seconds in decathletes. The height of the C.G. at over the hurdle is in positive correlation with the hurdle clearance times. As a rule, the higher the trajectory of the flight of the C.G., the longer the flight phase. In athletes, this value was 1.27meters, and decathletes this value was 1.36 meters, that in this case the foremost efficient trajectory of the flight of C.G over the hurdle. The raising of C.G relative to the take-off phase is so 1.15 meters, in athletes and 1.17 meters, in decathletes, that is maybe the results of a comparatively short take-off distance of athletes.

The landing phase is one among the foremost vital elements of the hurdling technique. This phase has the largest reserve potential for improving the competition result. In the landing phase, it's necessary to carry out as efficiently as possible the transition from hurdle clearance to running between hurdles. This transition from acyclic movement into cyclic movement needs a high degree of technical knowledge; the support time in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was 0.10 seconds in athletes and 0.12 seconds in decathletes. The athletes' groups maintain a C.G. position of 1.15 meters and therefore the decathletes teams don't maintain a C.G. position. Decathletes teams C.G. position at the time was a 1.22 meters. It was much more than the athletes. "Soft" landing of the hurdler after hurdle clearance is indicated by the vertical velocity that may be a negative influence. The maintenance of the horizontal velocity of the C.G. after hurdle clearance and that may be a requirement for an efficient model of running to the next hurdle.

The length of the post stride allows to achieving best speed between the hurdles. The athletes' 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle length was 1.54 meters and 1.60 meters in decathletes. The height of C.G. at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was 1.08 meters in athletes and 1.11 meters in decathletes, there were higher than that in athletes, body position at takeoff in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle was also extra higher in decathletes groups. These divergences, conformation between the support

time duration of the 1<sup>st</sup> stride post hurdle

On the basis of this parameter, it can be established that the athletes' were an efficient hurdle technique according to the result, the researcher found that improving the performance in hurdle race involves a number of reduction must be required in kinematics parameters.

A kinematic comparison of the techniques of athletes and decathletes in 110 m hurdles of Interuniversity players allowed determining the common parameters and the specific distinctive technical component of each group by examining the kinematic particularities in the phases of the takeoff, flight, and landing, some of the most important variable has been determined it was found that athletes are distinguished from decathletes by-

- Shorter stride length over the hurdle
- Shorter flight time over the hurdle
- Lower C.G. in takeoff to landing
- Shorter supporting time in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle
- Shorter 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle
- Shorter flight time in 1<sup>st</sup> stride of post hurdle

### Recommendations

The result of this study to showed that athletes are distinguished by rational and efficient hurdle clearance techniques which were expressed in the better outcome of the latter.

1. A similar study may be conducted by selecting kinetic and angular kinematics variables.
2. A similar study may be attempted by junior age group players.
3. A similar study can also be conducted on female players.
4. The study may be undertaken with a large number of variables.
5. A Similar study may be undertaken to analyze the other games and event players.
6. A Similar study may be conducted by more sophisticated equipment of different sports.
7. A Similar study may be conducted on college, state and international players.

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