

Comparison of the Velocity and Power Parameters During Loaded-Squat Jump Exercise of National Athletes in Different Branches*

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Abstract

The aim of this investigation is to compare velocity and power variables during loaded-squat jump (SJ_{Loaded}) exercise of national athletes dealing with different sports branches and to identify whether velocity and power parameters become different or not according to branches. In accordance with this purpose, a total of 36 national athletes (age: 20.3 ± 1.68 years; height: 173.5 ± 6.46 cm; weight: 72.3 ± 10.29 kg) composed of 12 wrestlers (age: 19.5 ± 9.0 years; height: 172.3 ± 6.19 cm; weight: 75.5 ± 13.9 kg), 12 arm wrestlers (age: 20.5 ± 2.02 years; height: 174.7 ± 4.76 cm; weight: 72.6 ± 8.31 kg) and 12 kickboxers (age: 20.7 ± 1.81 years; height: 173.5 ± 8.29 cm; weight: 68.9 ± 6.94 kg) dealing with different sports branches have voluntarily participated in this study. For identifying velocity and power parameters, SJ_{Loaded} exercise was executed with an external load that corresponds to 40% of body weights of the athletes by utilizing an isoinertial velocity transducer (T-Force dynamic measurement system) and values of mean velocity (MV), mean propulsive velocity (MPV), peak velocity (PV), mean power (MP), mean propulsive power (MPP) and peak power (PP) were determined. All data analyzes were performed in the SPSS 16.0 statistical program. Firstly, in order to analyze data, it was determined that the data indicated normal distribution by looking at the Shapiro-Wilk coefficient regarding the normality of the distribution of the data. Therefore one-way analysis of variance (One-way ANOVA) was utilized to identify statistical significant differences among athletes competing in different branches with regard to the velocity and power variables during the SJ_{Loaded} exercise. According to analyze results, no statistical significant difference wasn't seen among branches with regard to MV [$f(2.33) = 1.306$], MPV [$f(2.33) = 2.195$], PV [$f(2.33) = 2.242$], MP [$f(2.33) = 1.225$], MPP [$f(2.33) = 2.787$] and PP [$f(2.33) = 2.607$] parameters during SJ_{Loaded} exercise ($p > 0.05$). The velocity and power parameters obtained in the SJ_{Loaded} exercise don't differ according to the branches.

Keywords: squat jump, velocity, power

1. Introduction

It is believed that kinetics and kinematics related to resistance trainings are an important stimulant in consist of neuromuscular adaptations (Crewther *et al.*, 2006). A stimulated muscle performs a strength against the tendons that provide the transfer to the skeletal structure by attempting to contract and the natural resistors exposed during the muscular movement determine the resulting movement (Aşçı, 2001). In other words, the muscle has the ability to adjust a counter-force that can withstand the resistance applied to itself during shortening and this attribute depends on continuous adjustment of the speed created by the muscular contraction system against an external resistance (Edman *et al.*, 1978). The power and strength characteristics (Harman, 2008) used to describe some crucial abilities that participate to peak human effort in sports activities or other physical exercises are crucial at sport events requiring an ability of creating a considerably high force against high work rate (power) and great resistances (strength). For this reason, the achievement in several sports branches depends on the player's maximal strength and explosive leg power to a large extent (Yessin & Hatfield, 2007).

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Power being one of the crucial component of sportive performance (Newton & Kraemer, 1994; Young *et al.*, 2005; Cronin & Sleivert, 2005) is the mechanic amount stated as the temporal rate of the work done (Enoka, 1994) and it usually relates to the ability of being able to reveal the possible maximal strength (Stone *et al.*, 2003). Thus, if maximal strength values of athletes is similar, the individual releasing the strength values with higher speeds (or in a short time) will get a more pronounced advantage with regard to performance in anaerobic sport branches (Ratamess, 2012). An increase in power gives the athlete an advanced athletic performance in which an improved quick-power relationship is sought (Sankarmani *et al.*, 2012). Power can be expressed as one movement, movement series or multiple motion repetitions in aerobic exercise. It can also be determined as average or immediately for the exercise period or any state of movement (Knuttgen & Komi, 2003).

Velocity expressed as vector amount, is the temporal rate of alteration in positions (Zatsiorsky, 1998). Strength-velocity of muscular contraction relation - first expressed in 1930s - indicates an opposite relation between strength of muscular contraction and velocity of contraction. In other words, as the weight increases, the strength produced by the muscle rises and the motion velocity diminishes (Boreham, 2006). This circumstance is true experimentally. If the weight is heavy in bench press movement, athlete will perform exercise with low velocities. But if it is desired to make the movement in half of the maximal, athlete will perform exercise with higher velocities (Kraemer & Vinger, 2007). The velocity of movement is an crucial factor to follow intensity of exercise (Sanchez-Medina *et al.*, 2010) and the movement velocity in exercise is able to be an important reference for the real effort exerted by the athlete. In an investigation of Gonzales-Badillo and Sanchez-Medina (2010), it has been concluded that every 5% rise in relative load (among 30-100% of one-repetition maximum) results in difference of 0.07-0.09 m.s⁻¹ in velocity of movement.

As far as we have examined the literature, no research has been performed before to compare the velocity and power parameters of the national athletes in different branches on loaded-squat jump movement. Determining velocity and power parameters is able to be beneficial while ascertaining specific characteristics of training in sport branches requiring explosiveness in different movements. The aim of this investigation is to compare velocity and power parameters in SJ_{Loaded} movement of national athletes dealing with different branches and to identify whether velocity and power parameters become different or not according to the branches.

2. Material and Method

2.1 Participants

A total of 36 national athletes (age: 20.3 ± 1.68 years; height: 173.5 ± 6.46 cm; weight: 72.3 ± 10.29 kg) composed of 12 wrestlers (age: $19.5 \pm .90$ years; height: 172.3 ± 6.19 cm; weight: 75.5 ± 13.9 kg), 12 arm wrestlers (age: 20.5 ± 2.02 years; height: 174.7 ± 4.76 cm; weight: 72.6 ± 8.31 kg) and 12 kickboxers (age: 20.7 ± 1.81 years; height: 173.5 ± 8.29 cm; weight: 68.9 ± 6.94 kg) dealing with different sports branches have voluntarily participated in this study.

2.2 Procedures

Height and body weight measurements of the athletes were determined by using a Seca769 electronic measuring instrument (SecaCorporation, Hamburg, Germany) with an accuracy of 0.001 m and 0.01 kg, sequentially. After the physical characteristics of the participants were determined, the external load being equivalent to 40% of body weight was determined. Before the loaded-squat jump (SJ_{Loaded}) exercise was applied, a total of 20 minutes of standard warm-up - composed of 15 minutes of general (5 minutes stretching for lower body stretching after 10 minutes of running) and 5 minutes of specific exercises (squat exercise performing with submaximal intensity)- was applied to the participants. After the warm-up, loaded-squat jump movement was executed with an load that corresponds to 40% of body weights of the subjects by using free weight. During test, athletes must bring their knees to the flexion situation until their thighs were straight to floor from stationary situation, to jump quickly without losing touch between their shoulders and bar following the start command and to repeat it 3 times (Loturco *et al.*, 2015). These movements were repeated when these requirements were not fulfilled. Since, body weight must be moved as well as the external load in the SJ_{Loaded} movement and variables as velocity and power must be identified thanks to the ability to accelerate the total mass (body weight and additional load) of the subject (Cormie *et al.*, 2007). A linear transducer device (T-Force Dynamic Measurement System; Ergotech Consulting S.L, Murcia, Spain) was attached to the last section of the bar to identify velocity and power values. Utilizing of linear transducer system is proper particularly for weight lifting movement or exercises performed in resistance training including to accomplish a load (permanent mass) moving throughout a vertical axis versus gravitation. The measuring system comprise of an electromechanics hardware consisting of velocity sensor and interface, a software (software of T-Force system) and a grapple attached to weight lifted by athletes (Sanchez-Medina *et al.*, 2010, 2014).

2.3 Statistical Analysis

For the analysis of data, it has been determined that the distribution of data is normal by looking at the Shapiro-Wilk

coefficient related to the normality of the distribution of data. One-way variance analysis (One-way ANOVA) was performed for determining differences between velocity and power parameters in SJ_{Loaded} exercise of athletes in different branches. All variables were expressed as mean and standard deviation. SPSS software 16.0 (SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL) was utilized for all statistical Analyzes. The statistical analyzes was performed in $p < 0.05$ significance level.

3. Results

The physical characteristics of the athletes were presented in table 1 and the results of descriptive statistical pertaining to velocity and power parameters in SJ_{Loaded} exercise were presented in table 2. The comparison results of velocity and power parameters in SJ_{Loaded} exercise according to sport branches were presented in table 3.

Table 1. Physical Characteristics of the Athletes

Branches	n	Variables								
		Age (year)		Height (cm)			Weight (kg)			
		Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)	Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)	Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)
Wrestling	12	18.00	21.00	19.5 ($\pm .90$)	158.0	183.0	172.3 (± 6.19)	52.9	98.9	75.5 (± 13.9)
Arm wrestling	12	18.00	24.00	20.5 (± 2.02)	168.0	184.0	174.7 (± 4.76)	55.2	84.1	72.6 (± 8.31)
Kickbox	12	18.00	24.00	20.7 (± 1.81)	164.0	185.0	173.5 (± 8.29)	58.7	79.5	68.9 (± 6.94)
Total	36	18.00	24.00	20.3 (± 1.68)	158.0	185.0	173.5 (± 6.46)	52.9	98.9	72.3 (± 10.29)

Table 2. Descriptive Statistical Results Pertaining to Velocity and Power Parameters in Loaded-Squat Jump Exercise

Variables										
Wrestling				Arm Wrestling				Kickbox		
Variables	n	Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)	Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)	Min.	Max.	Mean (sd)
MV (m/s ⁻¹)	12	1.09	1.51	1.23 ($\pm .12$)	.91	1.34	1.15 ($\pm .10$)	.94	1.44	1.20 ($\pm .14$)
MPV (m/s ⁻¹)	12	1.19	1.68	1.35 ($\pm .14$)	.95	1.47	1.22 ($\pm .12$)	1.01	1.62	1.31 (± 1.81)
PV (m/s ⁻¹)	12	1.92	2.83	2.31 ($\pm .25$)	1.79	2.40	2.12 ($\pm .17$)	1.88	2.61	2.25 ($\pm .24$)
MP (W)	12	248.1	446.0	359.8 (± 67.5)	194.1	437.6	327.0 (± 63.7)	222.5	423.4	324.7 (± 51.6)
MPP (W)	12	348.4	874.6	558.6 (± 139.7)	257.1	650.7	443.7 (± 112.2)	323.4	677.1	483.1 (± 108.7)
PP (W)	12	574.1	1517.3	1007.8 (± 239.1)	498.6	1074.9	834.8 (± 157.0)	624.4	1193.3	892.6 (± 158.5)

MV: Mean Velocity; MPV: Mean Propulsive Velocity; PV: Peak Velocity; MP: Mean Power; MPP: Mean Propulsive Power; PP: Peak Power

Table 3. One-Way Variance Analysis Comparing Velocity and Power Parameters in Loaded-Squat Jump Exercise According to Branches

		Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Significance
MV	Between Groups	.042	2	.021	1.306	.285
	Within Groups	.533	33	.016		
	Total	.575	35			
MPV	Between Groups	.104	2	.052	2.195	.127
	Within Groups	.778	33	.024		
	Total	.882	35			
PV	Between Groups	.236	2	.118	2.242	.122
	Within Groups	1.736	33	.053		
	Total	1.972	35			
MP	Between Groups	9221.571	2	4610.785	1.225	.307
	Within Groups	124197.539	33	3763.562		
	Total	133419.110	35			
MPP	Between Groups	81671.042	2	40835.521	2.787	.076
	Within Groups	483486.550	33	14651.108		
	Total	565157.592	35			
PP	Between Groups	185990.645	2	92995.323	2.607	.089
	Within Groups	1176953.645	33	35665.262		
	Total	1362944.290	35			

p>0.05; MV: Mean Velocity; MPV: Mean Propulsive Velocity; PV: Peak Velocity; MP: Mean Power; MPP: Mean Propulsive Power; PP: Peak Power

Regarding table 3, it is observed that there isn't statistical significant difference among the branches in relation to MV, MPV, PV, MP, MPP and PP parameters in SJ_{Loaded} exercise.

4. Discussion and Conclusion

In this study comparing power (MP, MPP, PP) and velocity (MV, MPV, PV) parameters during SJ_{Loaded} movement of

national athletes who are engaged in different sports branches and analyzing whether these parameters become different as per the branches, it has been observed that there isn't significant discrepancy statistically among the branches in respect to both velocity and power parameters. In literature, no study has been performed before to compare the velocity and power parameters of the national athletes in different branches during SJ_{Loaded} exercise. Only in the study of Can (2017) conducted on handball players competing in the Handball 1st League and arm wrestlers being placed in European and World arm wrestling championships, velocity and power parameters of both groups during SJ_{Loaded} exercise were compared. In the mentioned study, it has been determined that branches differentiated with regards to MV and PV values during the SJ_{Loaded} exercise and arm wrestlers have a better velocity values during weight lifting than the handball players. Due to the fact that jumping feature in handball is an important performance indicator and jump exercises are included in training programs, it is a surprising result that the arm wrestlers have a better value than the handball players in terms of velocity parameters while handball players are expected to have better jump speed. It has been argued that physical characteristics and level of struggle are important factors in the emergence of such a result. For instance, due to the fact that handball players compete in the 1st league while arm wrestlers are composed of the athletes being placed in European and World arm wrestling championships and handball players weigh more, it has been suggested that their jumps with heavier loads may cause their lifting velocity to be low. Moreover, it has been obtained that there isn't significant discrepancy statistically among the branches in respect to power parameters.

In some studies, kinetic or/and kinematic values of athletes struggling in different branches obtained in jump exercises were compared. In a research conducted by Dal Pupo *et al.*, (2012), they have found that sprinter has better value than volleyball players in terms of peak velocity parameter in both squat jump and countermovement jump exercise and suggested that the difference may be due to the training protocol applied by the sprinters. Kollias *et al.*, (2001) has reported that velocity values of sprint runners during vertical-jump movement are higher than basketball, football and volleyball players. In the study of Loturco *et al.*, (2014), jump velocities of Brazilian national karate players during SJ_{Loaded} movement performed with an outer load equaled to 40 % of athlete's weights were found as 1.23 ($\pm .15 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$). Can (2017) has found the mean velocity of national arm wrestlers and the handball players of the 1st league during SJ_{Loaded} movement applied with an outer load equaled to 40 % of subject's weights as 1.21 ($\pm .09 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$) and 1.10 ($\pm .07 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$) respectively. In this study, mean velocity values were found as 1.23 ($\pm .12 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$) for national athletes, 1.15 ($\pm .10 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$) for arm wrestlers and 1.20 ($\pm .14 \text{ m.s}^{-1}$) for kickboxing athletes. As can be observed from these results, it can be argued that the increase in the level of fighting in the athletes also increases the velocity of the lifts.

In conclusion, this research is the first one in that it compares velocity and power parameters of national athletes competing in different branches during SJ_{Loaded} exercise. Therefore, it is thought that these findings reached can be an important reference source for future investigations. Velocity and power parameters can be different according to movements applied in the every sports branch. Obtaining power and velocity values can be beneficial while ascertaining specific training characteristics in branches requiring explosiveness in different movements.

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