

1 **ASSESSMENT OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PHYSICAL**
2 **PERFORMANCE AND PERCENTAGE CHANGE OF DIRECTION**
3 **DEFICIT IN HIGHLY TRAINED FEMALE SOCCER PLAYERS**
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5

6 **Abstract**

7 **Purpose:** Different studies indicate that female players in team sports, such as soccer, tend to have
8 a lower change of direction deficit (CODD) than their male counterparts and that players who
9 performed better in linear and curved sprints tended to have a worse CODD, suggesting that
10 maximum speed does not equate to a faster change of direction (COD). This study assessed how
11 performance variables related to speed and jumping influence the variability of %CODD among
12 adult highly trained female soccer players. **Methods:** Fifty-two highly trained female soccer
13 players (age: 23.1 ± 3.25 years; height: 163.6 ± 5.49 cm; weight: 59.7 ± 5.71 kg) participated in
14 this study and performed 180COD, 40-m sprint, countermovement jump (CMJ), and standing
15 broad jump (SBJ) tests. **Results:** Significant correlations were found between 180CODL,
16 %CODDR, %CODDL, and between-limbs SBJ asymmetry ($r = 0.28$ to 0.74). A very large
17 correlation existed between %CODDR and %CODDL ($r = 0.91$). Regression analyses indicated a
18 strong inverse relationship between the 10-m sprint time and %CODDR and %CODDL. No
19 predictive models were found for 180COD in either limb. Differences in performance variables
20 such as 180CODR, 180CODL, and asymmetry %CODD were significant between the **high and**
21 **low** %CODD groups, with moderate to large effect sizes. **Conclusions:** The present study suggests
22 that specific physical performance variables, particularly acceleration and unilateral horizontal
23 jumping, are vital to improving COD in highly trained female soccer players, highlighting the need
24 for specific training interventions.

25
26 **Key Words:**

27 football; women; dynamic performances; velocity

28 Introduction

29 It is estimated that soccer attracts 265 million people worldwide ¹. Recent statistics from the
30 Fédération Internationale of Football Association indicate that there are more than 13.3 million
31 officially registered women players ². Emphasis on the advancement of women's soccer is
32 imperative to improve performance, reduce the likelihood of injury, and understand the unique
33 physical requirements and talents of female athletes ³.

34
35 From a time-motion analysis standpoint, female players run distances ranging from 4 to 13 km per
36 match, of which a significant part, between 0.2 and 1.7 km, is done at high speed (>15-km/h) ⁴. In
37 addition, elite female players perform more high-intensity running in international than domestic
38 league matches ⁵. These statistics highlight the demanding nature of high-level women's soccer,
39 which requires a focus on both physical and technical skills. The physical and technical demands
40 of high-level women's soccer involve various actions, such as jumping and rapid changes of
41 direction (COD), which are critical in influencing match outcomes and are considered key
42 indicators of performance level in the sport ⁶. The ability to rapidly change direction is recognised
43 as a key component of physical fitness, emphasised by the frequent and dynamic changes of
44 direction executed by players throughout competitive matches ⁷. In the specific context of soccer,
45 it is observed that the majority of COD movements are 180° or less, with a significant majority not
46 exceeding 90° ⁸. The ability to sprint, jump, and execute cutting manoeuvres is believed to depend
47 on the ability to exert high levels of force ⁹. These data underline the importance of tailoring
48 training programs to the individual athlete's specific fitness levels and competitive parameters,
49 supporting the idea that physical performance assessments are essential to personalise training
50 programs.

51
52 Emerging from COD ability are terms such as the change of direction deficit (CODD) and the
53 percentage of change of direction deficit (%CODD), which serve as crucial metrics for evaluating
54 physical performance in soccer. CODD is calculated as the difference between the time taken to
55 complete a specific distance (inclusive of a COD), and the time taken to run the same distance in
56 a straight line ¹⁰. At the same time, %CODD gives a percentage perspective of this difference,
57 highlighting the efficiency of COD relative to pure speed ¹¹. These metrics provide deeper insight
58 into an athlete's ability to perform rapid COD maneuvers, which are fundamental in soccer.
59 Furthermore, until now, few studies have investigated in depth the analysis of variations in the
60 %CODD ^{11,12}. Introduced by Freitas et al. ¹³, this novel computational approach to CODD is
61 designed to provide a rationalised analysis, considering that there are currently two methodologies
62 for CODD, one based on time and the other on velocity, which can be confusing for coaches and
63 trainers. By focusing on the proportional disparity between speed (in a straight-line sprint) and
64 COD capability rather than raw numbers, this technique normalises the metric, improving the
65 overall understanding of COD capabilities when comparing groups ¹³. Recent research indicates
66 that female athletes in team sports, such as soccer, tend to have a shorter CODD than their male
67 counterparts, which implies a superior result, ultimately indicating greater COD efficiency. Kobal
68 et al. ¹⁴ found that athletes who performed better in linear and curved sprints tended to have higher
69 CODDs, suggesting that faster players have to brake harder because of their increasing velocity.
70 However, a greater CODD does not necessarily mean that players have to brake harder; rather,
71 may also imply that players simply decelerate over a longer distance. Furthermore, female soccer
72 players were observed to have a higher CODD than their counterparts in other team sports,
73 suggesting a comparative disadvantage in COD ability, regardless of their linear speed ability ¹⁵.

74 The practical application of the CODD and %CODD in women's soccer not only improves our
75 understanding of the physical demands of the sport but also guides the development of more
76 effective training strategies for movement patterns that are common in the sport. Highlighting these
77 aspects can contribute significantly to the evolution of training methodologies aimed at improving
78 specific physical attributes necessary for competitive success in women's soccer.

79
80 A previous study conducted with adolescent female soccer players showed that the first 10-m sprint
81 seems to have a key role in determining an individual's ability to change direction effectively,
82 which accounts for a substantial part of the variance in 180COD performance¹¹. Nevertheless,
83 the study found no significant predictors for %CODD, although there were correlations among
84 180COD performance, %CODD, acceleration, linear sprint, and horizontal jump performance¹¹.
85 In contrast, research on male soccer players from a professional academy did not identify any
86 significant predictors of CODD based on velocity and jumping¹⁶. These studies highlight a critical
87 gap in the literature, as they do not sufficiently explore the relationship between physical
88 performance variables and %CODD in adult female soccer players. To the best of our knowledge,
89 studies have yet to assess these aspects in adult female soccer players, leaving a gap in
90 understanding the physical characteristics that may underpin CODD in this population. Therefore,
91 the current study aimed to analyse the influence of performance variables related to speed and
92 jumping ability in explaining variability in %CODD among highly trained adult female soccer
93 players. By addressing this gap, this study attempts to provide valuable information that can help
94 improve future training interventions, with the goal of increasing performance and reducing the
95 incidence of injury among elite female soccer players. Finally, we hypothesized that specific
96 performance variables, such as speed, COD and jumping ability, would significantly contribute to
97 the variability in %CODD among highly trained adult female soccer players.

98

99 **Methods**

100 ***Subjects***

101 Fifty-two highly trained¹⁷ female soccer players (age: 23.1 ± 3.25 years; height: 163.6 ± 5.49 cm;
102 weight: 59.7 ± 5.71 kg) consented to participate in this study. This sample size of 52 was
103 determined to detect moderate effect sizes (ES: 0.7) in an independent t-test that guaranteed a
104 statistical power of 80% and an alpha level of 0.05, according to G*Power calculations (version
105 3.1.9.6). Inclusion criteria required participants to have a minimum of six years of soccer training
106 experience and to be actively involved in competitive matches. Exclusion criteria included any
107 recent injury (within the last six months), chronic illness that could affect performance, and an
108 inability to complete the testing protocols. These soccer players had participated in club-level
109 soccer training for a minimum of six years, with a regimen that included three 90-minute technical
110 and tactical field sessions per week. In addition, they undertook a 90-min physical training session
111 each week aimed at improving speed, agility, quickness, coordination, and injury prevention. In
112 addition, players were tested in the fifth month of the competition. They participated in one game
113 per week in Spain's third national league. The study adhered to the ethical guidelines of the
114 Declaration of Helsinki (2013) and received regional ethics committee approval (CP19/039,
115 CEICA, Spain).

116

117 ***Procedures***

118 Physical performance assessments were performed on a single day, starting with horizontal and
119 vertical jumps, followed by linear sprints, and concluding with COD assessments. The tests were

120 conducted on an artificial turf surface, with weather conditions being mild and dry, temperatures
121 around 21°C, and no significant winds. Athletes were discouraged from engaging in high-intensity
122 activities 48 h before the assessments to reduce muscle fatigue. They were also instructed to stay
123 away from caffeine and other stimulants (e.g., energy drinks and dietary supplements) that could
124 affect performance. Given the regular training sessions and evaluations conducted on these teams,
125 each athlete was familiar with the testing protocols. A Raise, Activate, Mobilise and Potentiate
126 (RAMP) system warm-up protocol was performed before testing¹⁸. A 3-min rest period was
127 established between tests to promote recovery and ensure consistency of performance. Sports
128 shoes were used for the jumping tests and soccer boots for the sprint and COD assessments.

129

130 *Unilateral standing broad jump*

131 Unilateral standing broad jump (SBJ) was measured using a standard 30-m tape measure and was
132 assessed as described elsewhere¹⁹. Each participant was given two opportunities, with a 45-s rest
133 interval between them. The greater of the two distances achieved was then selected for further
134 statistical evaluation. The evaluation covered unilateral jumps, starting with the dominant leg
135 before moving to the non-dominant leg, ensuring equal flexion. The variables analysed included
136 right SBJ with one leg (SBJR) and left SBJ with one leg (SBJL). Intraclass correlation coefficient
137 (ICC) values ranged from 0.86 to 0.88 for the unilateral SBJ.

138

139 *Unilateral countermovement jump*

140 The countermovement jump (CMJ) was evaluated using Optojump (*Optojump system, Microgate,*
141 *Bolzano, Italy*), which consists of two photocells for accurate data acquisition and is described
142 elsewhere¹⁹. Each athlete was given two opportunities, with a 45-second interval to rest between
143 attempts. The best recorded jump was chosen for a detailed examination. Variables analysed
144 included the left CMJ with one leg (CMJL) and the right CMJ with one leg (CMJR). ICC values
145 ranged from 0.91 to 0.93 for unilateral CMJ jumps.

146

147 *40-m linear sprint*

148 Sprint speed was assessed over a linear 40-m sprint, with intermediate times recorded at 10 and 30
149 m, as described elsewhere¹⁹. Timing gates placed at different intervals allowed differentiation
150 between acceleration (0 to 10 metres) and maximum speed (30 to 40 metres) capabilities. Each
151 participant performed the sprint twice, interspersed with a 3-min period of passive rest, ensuring
152 that they were fully recovered and could execute the next sprint with maximum effort. The
153 reliability of these measurements was confirmed by an ICC ranging from 0.92 to 0.96.

154

155 *180° change of direction test*

156 The timing accuracy of this event was ensured using double-beam photoelectric cells provided by
157 Witty (Microgate, Bolzano, Italy) as described elsewhere¹⁹. Each athlete was given two
158 opportunities to complete the test, with a 3-min passive rest period between attempts and facilitate
159 full recovery. The fastest time recorded was chosen for analysis in the study, achieving an ICC of
160 0.93, indicating high reliability. The variables analysed included the one 180COD with left
161 (180CODL) and right (180CODR) legs. The percentage CODD was calculated using the formula:
162 $((\text{COD time} - 10 \text{ m sprint time}) / 10 \text{ m sprint time}) \times 100$ ²⁰.

163

164 *Statistical Analysis*

165 All statistical analyses were performed using SPSS version 25 and Microsoft Excel. Data are
166 presented as mean \pm standard deviation (SD). Reliability was assessed by CV and ICC using a
167 spreadsheet. Normality was assessed using the Shapiro-Wilk test, which confirmed normal
168 distribution for all variables except interlimb asymmetries. Multiple linear regression models
169 (stepwise backward elimination procedure) with COD times and %CODD as dependent variables
170 and anthropometric measures, jumping performance, sprint times, and asymmetries as independent
171 variables. Variables with $P > .05$ were excluded. Pearson's correlation assessed the relationships
172 between COD times and %CODD with the rest of variables according to Hopkins et al. ²¹. The
173 median split technique divided players into high or low %CODD groups and compared them using
174 paired t -tests. Differences in asymmetries were analysed with Friedman's ANOVA ($P < .05$).
175 Cohen's d effect size values were classified as follows: trivial (<0.2), small (>0.2), moderate (>0.5),
176 and large (>0.8) ²¹.

177

178 **Results**

179 Table 1 presents the descriptive data on physical performance and asymmetries.

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Table 1 here

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183 The relationship between 180CODL, %CODDR, %CODDL, between-limbs SBJ asymmetry and
184 between-limbs CODD asymmetry demonstrated significant correlations ($P < .05$), with correlation
185 coefficients ranging from small to very large ($r = 0.28$ to 0.74) with 180CODR (Figure 1A).
186 Significant ($P < .05$) and small to very large ($r = -0.30$ to 0.41) relationships were found between
187 180CODL and %CODDL, SBJR, and SBJL (Figure 1B). In addition, a very large correlation was
188 found between %CODDR and %CODDL ($r = 0.91$; $P < .05$) and 10-m ($r = -0.84$; $P < .05$) (Figure
189 1C). A very large negative correlation was observed between %CODDL and 10m ($r = -0.83$; $P <$
190 $.05$) (Figure 1D).

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Figure 1 here

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194 For %CODDR, the regression analysis in Model 1 showed a negative and significant standardised
195 coefficient for the 10-m sprint time ($\beta = -0.62$), indicating a strong inverse relationship between
196 the 10-m sprint time and %CODDR (Table 2). This model accounts for 37% of the variance in
197 %CODDR. For %CODDL, Model 1 also shows a negative and significant standardised coefficient
198 for the 10-m sprint time ($\beta = -0.75$), suggesting a strong inverse relationship between the 10-m
199 sprint time and %CODDL. Model 2 for %CODDL introduces SBJL as another predictor with a
200 negative standardised coefficient ($\beta = -0.30$). The R^2 value of 0.74 in Model 2 indicates that this
201 model explains 74% of the variance in %CODDL. However, no regression model was predictive
202 for 180COD in either limb.

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Table 2 here

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206 Between-group analyses with high and low %CODD revealed significant differences in
207 performance across several tests, including 180CODR, 180CODL, 10-m sprint, %CODDR,
208 %CODDL, and %CODD asymmetry with significant ($P < .05$) and moderate and large ES (ES: -
209 1.07 to 0.55) (Table 3).

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Discussion

This study assessed how performance variables related to speed and jumping influence the variability of %CODD among adult highly trained female soccer players. The main findings of the study were that: 1) significant correlations between several performance metrics, including 180CODL and 180CODR, %CODDR and %CODDL, and SBJ asymmetry ($r = 0.28$ to 0.74) were found, highlighting the relationship between COD ability, jumping power and acceleration; 2) a very large correlation ($r = 0.91$) between %CODDR and % CODDL indicated a uniform pattern of directional change deficit; 3) regression analysis showed the predictive power of 10-m sprint time for %CODDR and %CODDL, with strong inverse relationships indicating that faster 10-m sprint times correspond to a greater %CODD; 4) the addition of SBJL as a predictor of %CODDL significantly improved the explanatory power of the model, explaining a substantial part of the variance in %CODDL and underlining the importance of jumping performance in determining COD ability; and, 5) comparative analysis between groups classified by %CODD performance revealed significant disparities in several tests, such as 180COD and %CODD asymmetry. The effect sizes varied from moderate to large, indicating performance differences based on COD efficiency and highlighting the relevance of %CODD as a critical factor in assessing physical capabilities.

231 This study observed a significant relationship between 180CODR and 180CODL, %CODD of
232 both legs, and SBJ asymmetry ($r = 0.28-0.74$). A similar relationship was observed between
233 180CODL and %CODD of the same leg and SBJ of both legs ($r = -0.30$ to 0.41). In addition, a
234 very large correlation ($r = 0.91$) was found between %CODDR and %CODDL, reflecting a
235 uniform pattern of directional change deficit. Focusing on the relationship between 180COD and
236 %CODD, our findings are reinforced by those found in a recent study of adolescent soccer players,
237 which found important relationships between 180CODL, 180CODR, %CODDR, and %CODDL
238 ($r = 0.63-0.82$)¹¹. To date, limited research has investigated the relationship between 180COD and
239 %CODD in women's soccer. The use of %CODD was recommended by Freitas et al.¹³ and is
240 based on the difference in percentage between sprint and COD itself. The aim was to standardise
241 the measurement of CODD as it is currently proposed to be calculated based on time or speed,
242 something that could lead to confusion for technical teams¹¹. For this reason, previous research
243 has used CODD instead of %CODD^{16,22}. In such research, "large" correlations have been reported
244 between the COD test and CODD in the left and right ($r = 0.69-0.65$) limb in adolescent soccer
245 players¹⁶ and male team athletes between 505 times and CODD (dominant leg $r = 0.64$ and non-
246 dominant $r = 0.63$)²². This suggests that better performances in COD tests correlate with CODD
247 and %CODD. Another outstanding result was the relationship between 180CODR and SBJ
248 asymmetry or 180CODL and SBJ performance with both legs. Regarding jump asymmetry and
249 COD, Maloney et al.²³ demonstrated that unilateral jump asymmetry was associated with lower
250 COD performance ($r = 0.6$) in healthy adult males. Dos'Santos et al.²⁴ found a unilateral horizontal
251 jump asymmetry of 6.3% that showed no association with COD performance in a male university
252 sample. To the authors' knowledge, there are few studies on the relationship between jump
253 asymmetries and COD performance in adult female soccer players^{21,22}. Notably, the
254 aforementioned studies found jumping tests to be more sensitive in identifying limb asymmetries
255 (8-12%) than COD tests (2-3%) and were negatively related to sprint times^{25,26}. These
256 contradictory results indicate the need to increase knowledge through research to establish the

257 relationship between these asymmetries and physical performance. The last of the aspects
258 mentioned refers to the greater horizontal jump distance and performance in the COD. In the action
259 itself performed to change direction, we can find certain similarities with unilateral horizontal,
260 vertical, and lateral jumps²⁷. The present study found significant relationships between 180CODL
261 and SBJ of both legs ($r = -0.31-0.30$). Other research has found similar results between 180COD
262 and horizontal jumping with the right ($r = -0.59-0.47$) and left legs ($r = -0.53-0.49$) in a sample of
263 adolescent female soccer players¹¹. One explanation for the lower ratio in our study is that
264 movement patterns associated with horizontal jumping are trained from an early age^{28,29}, whereas
265 skills such as COD are developed more intensively in later stages of the athletic career; thus, this
266 ratio decreases in older athletes²⁵. Coaches and practitioners are advised to include plyometric
267 exercises such as: lateral jumps, unilateral forward and backward jumps, in addition to lateral
268 displacements, quick footwork exercises with ladders, and sprints with elastic resistance bands or
269 sleds. This allows athletes to partly mimic the movement patterns of the sport and increase
270 explosive power capabilities.

271
272 In our study, the regression analysis shows the predictive power of a 10-m sprint time for %Codd
273 in both legs, indicating that a faster 10-m sprint corresponds to a higher (worse) %Codd.
274 Furthermore, by adding SBJL as a predictor for %CoddL, the model's explanatory power
275 increased significantly, explaining a substantial part of the variance in %CoddL and emphasising
276 the importance of jumping performance in COD capacity. Fernandes et al.¹⁶ suggested that one
277 explanation for athletes with higher acceleration performing worse in CODD could be that higher
278 momentum requires more intense braking, which depends on eccentric strength. In that study,
279 adolescent female players with better CODD showed no correlations between the 10-m sprint and
280 CODL ($r = -0.39$) and CODR ($r = -0.34$)¹⁶. Similar results were observed in male athletes playing
281 team sports in the CODD and acceleration (sprint 10-m) ($r = -0.11$)¹⁰. The hypothesis of Fernandes
282 et al.¹⁶ is supported by previous research linking CODD mainly to the braking phase and thus to
283 eccentric-type strength³⁰. Consequently, exercises that emphasise eccentric loading, such as
284 isoinertial training, could improve the CODD³⁰. As noted above, horizontal jumping is related to
285 COD performance, and the predictive power of SBJL demonstrates this for %COD. Kugler et al.
286³¹ have highlighted the importance of horizontal forces for acceleration, emphasising that not only
287 is maximal force needed in the forward direction, but it must also be applied optimally. A current
288 systematic review and meta-analysis revealed a positive relationship between horizontal jump
289 distance and linear sprint performance, suggesting that athletes who achieve longer jumps tend to
290 have faster sprint speeds³². This result is due to the fact that there are certain similarities in the
291 two tasks: 1)the strength in the horizontal direction and power output, 2)the anaerobic energy
292 metabolism and, 3)the characteristics of the movement (unilateral contacts with the ground and
293 the extension of the three joints)³². In a similar vein, Robbins et al.³³ conducted an analysis of the
294 relationship between linear velocity (acceleration in the first few metres and velocity over longer
295 distances) and horizontal jump in elite college soccer players, finding correlations between long
296 jump distance and top speed performance ranging from 0.35 to 0.47, while their correlation
297 coefficients with acceleration performance ranged from 0.35 to 0.43. Furthermore, Mackala et al.
298³⁴ found large to very large associations between long jump performance and sprint times at 10 m
299 ($r = 0.70$), 30 m ($r = 0.74$), and 100 m ($r = 0.82$). Despite all the above, research on SH is difficult
300 to interpret because of the different protocols used: the standing long jump, the horizontal drop
301 jump, the horizontal triple jump, and its scarcity in women's soccer²⁶.

302

303 When analysing the sample by dividing it into two groups (high-low %CODD), the group
304 exhibiting high %CODD demonstrated superior outcomes in 180CODR and 180CODL (ES= -0.86
305 and -1.07) and %CODD (ES right= -0.64 and ES left= -0.83). However, the same group also had
306 a significantly higher %CODD asymmetry (ES = 0.55) and a significant worse 10-m sprint time
307 (ES =0.42). Similar results were reported in a recent study of adolescent female soccer players
308 with the same sample division (%CODD high and low groups) ¹¹. The %CODD high group
309 performed better in horizontal jump asymmetry, 180CODR, and %CODDR-%CODDL (ES =
310 0.73-2.39) ¹¹. In addition, the group with the worst %CODD score had a significantly lower
311 acceleration performance (ES = 0.63) and a non-significant but higher %CODD asymmetry (ES =
312 0.37) ¹¹. Similar results were observed in the aforementioned study by Fernandes et al. ¹⁶. As
313 indicated, athletes with greater speed in the first few metres could be penalised in the COD by
314 braking more intensely, generating a more significant eccentric load. In addition, more trained
315 athletes may have a greater asymmetry in the CODD because of the greater specialisation or
316 adaptation of one of the limbs by repeating similar movement patterns with that leg. Despite the
317 significant findings in these studies, further research is needed to draw conclusions and fully
318 understand how these variables interact.

319
320 Among the limitations of the present study, it should be noted that the research focused on adult
321 female soccer players, and the findings cannot be generalised to other populations (e.g. male
322 football, other ages and team sports). In addition, a larger sample would have facilitated the
323 classification of players by position and allowed more reliable results to be obtained ^{29,30}. Finally,
324 the scarcity of research related to %CODD in women's soccer was another limiting factor.
325 However, this study provides novel data relevant to improving women's soccer performance.

326 **Conclusions**

327
328 The present study shows a strong relationship between COD, jumping power, and acceleration,
329 highlighting the correlation between %CODDR and %CODDL. The study also reveals that 10-m
330 sprint times predict %CODDR and %CODDL and that faster times indicate greater CODD,
331 highlighting the role of sprinting performance on COD ability. Group analysis based on %CODD
332 showed that those with better %CODD had better results in 180CODR, 180CODL, and overall
333 %CODD but also showed greater %CODD asymmetry.

334 **Practical Applications**

335
336 Based on the results of this study, it is recommended that the physical preparation of adult female
337 soccer players should focus on trying to improve acceleration, deceleration and, therefore, COD
338 movements as well. For this purpose, vertical and horizontal jumping exercises executed
339 unilaterally should be included. In addition, with the aim of improving deceleration, higher
340 eccentric loads should be worked on with specific COD exercises or inertial training.

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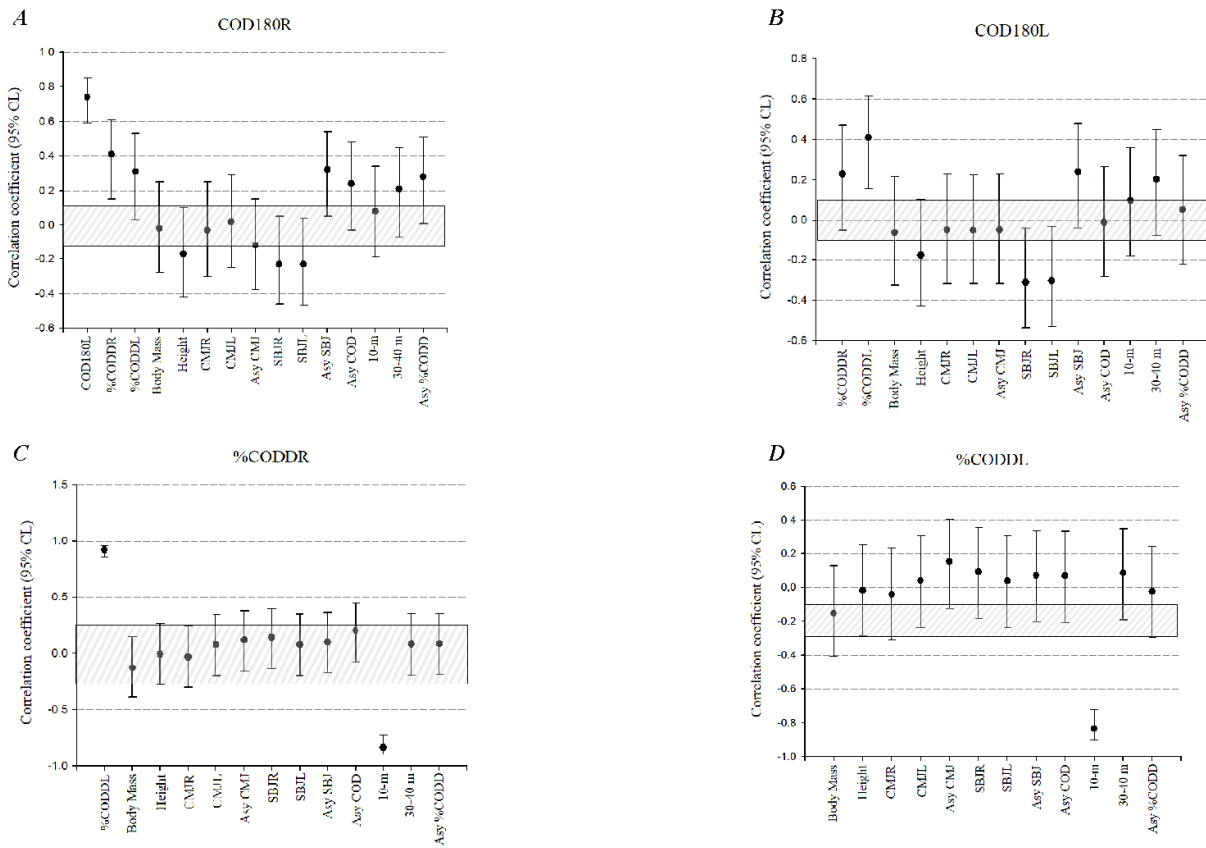


Figure 1. Correlation coefficients (95% confidence interval) describing the relationships between the 180° change of direction right (180CODR) and left (180CODL), the percentage-based change of direction deficit with right leg (%COPDR) and left leg (%COPDL), body mass, height, unilateral countermovement jump with right (CMJR) and left (CMJL), between-limbs CMJ asymmetry (Asy CMJ), standing broad jump with right (SBJR) and left (SBJL) legs, between-limbs horizontal jump asymmetry (Asy HJ); 10 m linear sprint, 30-40 m sprint, and between-limbs %COPDD asymmetry (Asy %COPDD) for all female soccer players. The grey areas represent the range of trivial correlation coefficient.

Table 1. Descriptive data for all physical performance tests

| Variable | Mean \pm SD | Asymmetry (%) |
|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| CMJR (cm) | 13.5 \pm 2.07 | 6.16 \pm 5.56 |
| CMJL (cm) | 13.7 \pm 1.91 | |
| SBJR (cm) | 144.2 \pm 12.7 | 2.81 \pm 2.01 |
| SBJL (cm) | 144.8 \pm 12.1 | |
| 180CODR (s) | 2.67 \pm 0.17 | 3.44 \pm 2.75 |
| 180CODL (s) | 2.65 \pm 0.18 | |
| 10-m (s) | 1.94 \pm 0.16 | |
| 30-40 m (s) | 1.39 \pm 0.09 | |
| %CODDR (%) | 38.8 \pm 16.4 | 11.6 \pm 9.73 |
| %CODDL (%) | 38.1 \pm 15.6 | |

CMJR and CMJL: unilateral countermovement jump with right and left legs; SBJR and SBJL: standing broad jump with right and left legs; 10-m: linear sprint of 10 m; 180CODR and 180CODL: 10-m shuttle-sprint with one change of direction to right or left; %CODDR and %CODDL: the percentage-based change of direction deficit to right of left

Table 2. Model linear regression analysis with measures of COD and %CODD.

| | | Intercept | Standardized coefficient | Partial <i>r</i> | <i>P</i> | R ² | <i>r</i> |
|--------|---------|-----------|--------------------------|------------------|----------|----------------|----------|
| %CODDR | Model 1 | 10-m | -0.62 | -0.62 | < .001 | 0.37 | 0.62 |
| | Model 1 | 10-m | -0.64 | -0.64 | < .001 | 0.41 | 0.40 |
| %CODDL | | 10-m | -0.75 | -0.70 | | | |
| | Model 2 | | | | .008 | 0.74 | 0.47 |
| | | SBJL | -0.30 | -0.37 | | | |

*No variables in 180CODR and 180CODL models

180CODR and 180CODL: 10-m shuttle-sprint with one change of direction to right or left; %CODDR and %CODDL: the percentage-based change of direction deficit to right of left; SBJL: standing broad jump with left leg.

Table 3. Analysis of all variables between **high and low** %Codd groups

| | High %Codd (n=16) | Low %Codd (n=17) | ES (95% CI) | <i>P</i> |
|---------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| CMJR (cm) | 14.1 ± 1.81 | 13.3 ± 2.19 | 0.36 (-0.18; 0.92) | .197 |
| CMJL (cm) | 13.3 ± 1.73 | 13.6 ± 2.06 | 0.14 (-0.41; 0.68) | .631 |
| Asy CMJ (%) | 6.19 ± 5.21 | 5.98 ± 5.99 | 0.04 (-0.51; 0.58) | .895 |
| SBJR (cm) | 144.1 ± 11.7 | 144.5 ± 13.9 | -0.04 (-0.58; 0.51) | .898 |
| SBJL (cm) | 145.9 ± 10.6 | 144.1 ± 13.5 | 0.15 (-0.39; 0.70) | .590 |
| Asy SBJ (%) | 2.68 ± 1.83 | 3.01 ± 2.17 | -0.15 (-0.71; 0.39) | .577 |
| 180CODR (s) | 2.61 ± 0.12 | 2.73 ± 0.16 | -0.86 (-1.43; -0.28) | .004* |
| 180CODL (s) | 2.59 ± 0.11 | 2.74 ± 0.15 | -1.07 (-1.65; -0.47) | < .001* |
| Asy COD (%) | 3.83 ± 2.51 | 3.18 ± 2.99 | 0.23 (-0.32; 0.7) | .407 |
| 10-m (s) | 1.96 ± 0.21 | 1.90 ± 0.09 | 0.42 (-0.13; 0.97) | < .001* |
| 30-40 m (s) | 1.41 ± 0.10 | 1.37 ± 0.09 | 0.34 (-0.21; 0.89) | .231 |
| %CoddR (%) | 34.8 ± 20.1 | 44.1 ± 6.07 | -0.64 (-1.20; -0.08) | .02* |
| %CoddL (%) | 33.2 ± 18.1 | 44.2 ± 6.18 | -0.83 (-1.40; -0.25) | .005* |
| Asy %Codd (%) | 14.6 ± 9.35 | 9.76 ± 8.58 | 0.55 (-0.01; 1.11) | .04* |

CMJR and CMJL: unilateral countermovement jump with right and left legs; SBJR and SBJL: standing broad jump with right and left legs; 10-m: linear sprint of 10 m; 180CODR and 180CODL: 10-m shuttle-sprint with one change of direction to right or left; %CoddR and %CoddL: the percentage-based change of direction deficit to right of left; CI: confidence intervals; ES: effect size

* indicates a significant difference between **high and low** %Codd groups ($P < .05$).