

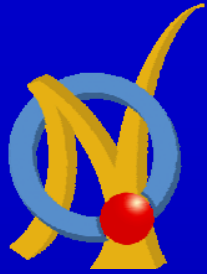
Complex tibial plateau fractures treated with Ilizarov fixation frames

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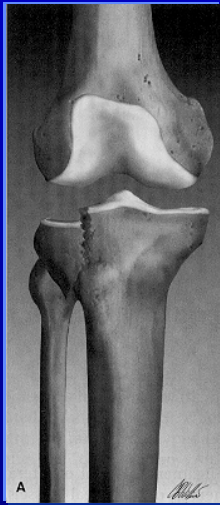
Schatzker type 5 and 6

- Often high energy fractures
- Internal soft tissue degloving/open
- Condylar separation/articular depression
- Diaphyseal-metaphyseal dissociation



Treatment enigma?

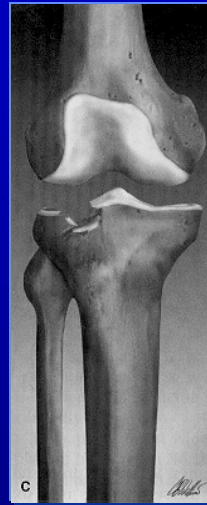
Schatzker's classification



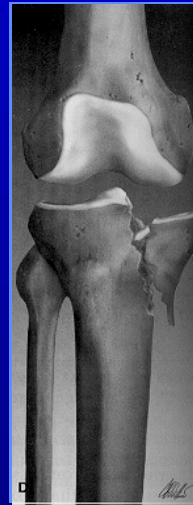
Type 1



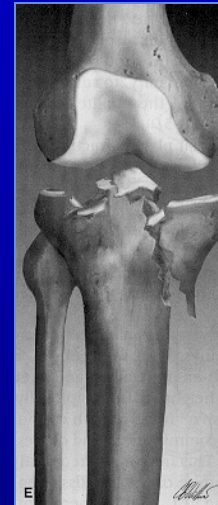
Type 2



Type 3



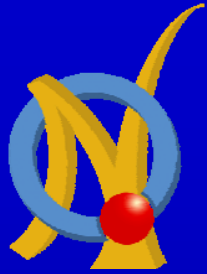
Type 4



Type 5



Type 6



Complication rates – dual plating Schatzker type 5 and 6

- Deep infection 40% (23-100)
- Skin necrosis 35%
- Loss of fixation/malunion 25%
- Amputation 8%

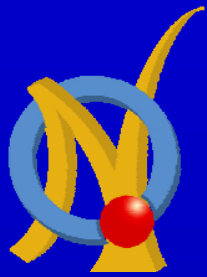
Dual plating





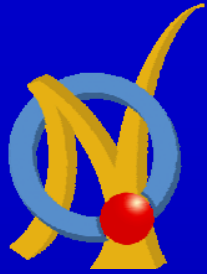
Treatment goals

- Avoid skin necrosis and infection
- Articular surface congruence
- Correct mechanical axis/joint stability
- Joint mobility
- Early weight bearing



Ilizarov fixation – tibial plateau fractures Schatzker type 4, 5 and 6

- Period Jan. 95 - Dec. 01
- 59 patients 60 fractures
- Men 28 49 yr (32-82)
- Women 31 56 yr (24-89)



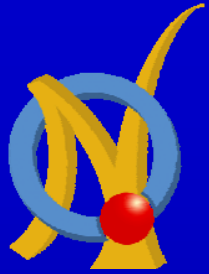
Schatzker type fracture

4

5

6

• Men	1	13	14
• <u>Women</u>	0	17	15
	1	30	29



Soft tissue injuries

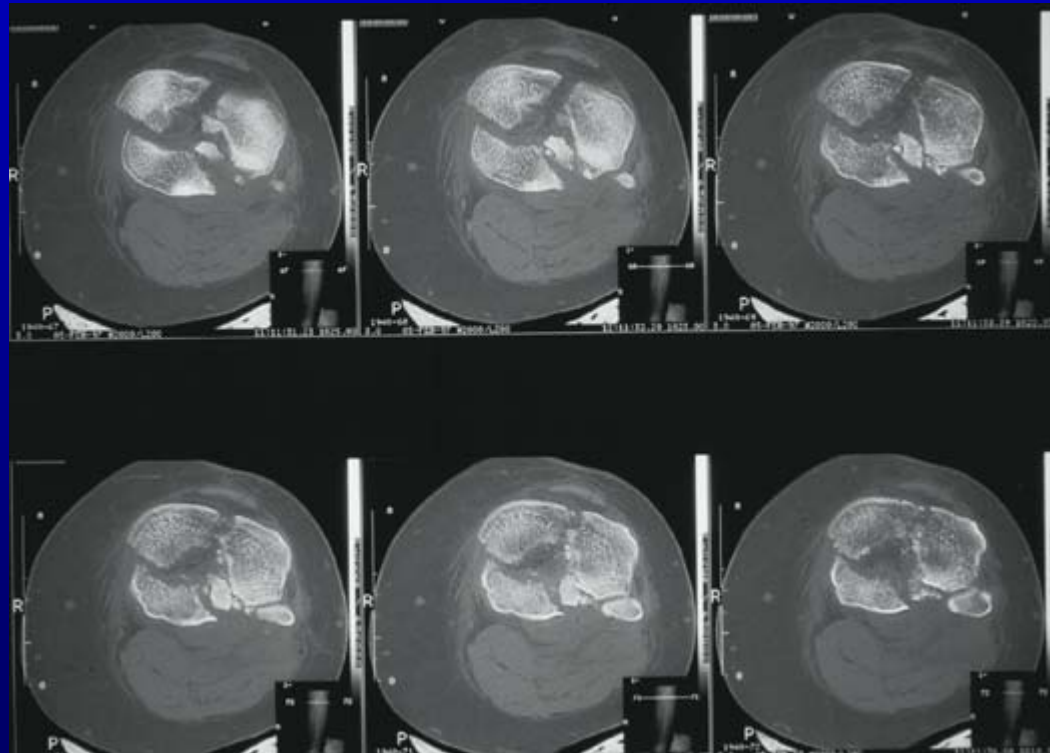
- Open fractures 13
- Closed (skin contusion) 47
- Peroneal nerve injury 5
- Compartment syndrome 6

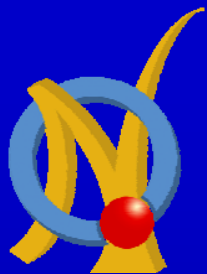


Preoperative planing

- CT – scan
- CT – reconstruction – sagital and coronal plane
- Ring size and number
- Calcaneus traction – if surgery delayed

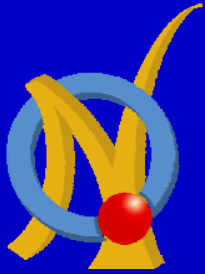
CT-scan is obligatory for planing



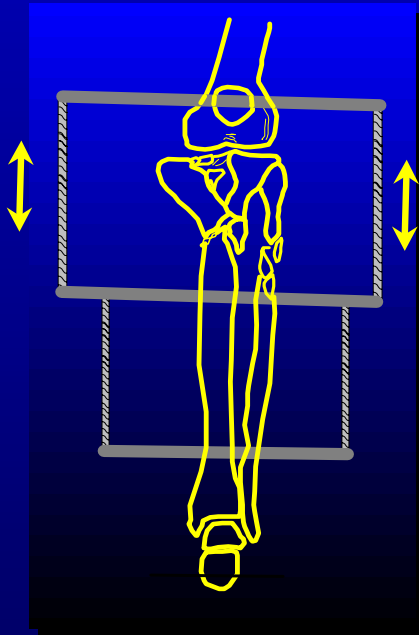


Ilizarov surgical strategy

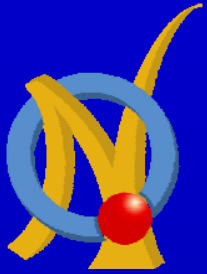
- Minimal invasive
- Initial reduction by ligamentotaxis
- Fine reduction (elevation, bonegraft supplementary cannulated screws)
- Neutralization by Ilizarov frame



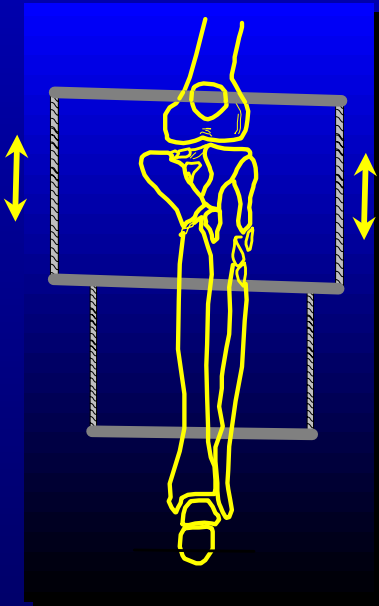
Ilizarov-technique



- 3 rings
- 1 proximal for the knee joint
- 2 distal for shaft fracture
- trans knee distraction (ligamentotaxis)



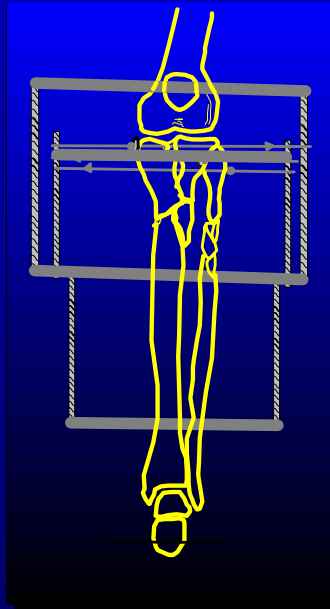
Ilizarov-technique



- Fine reduction
- Elevation
- Bone graaft
- Screws
- 4 olive wires



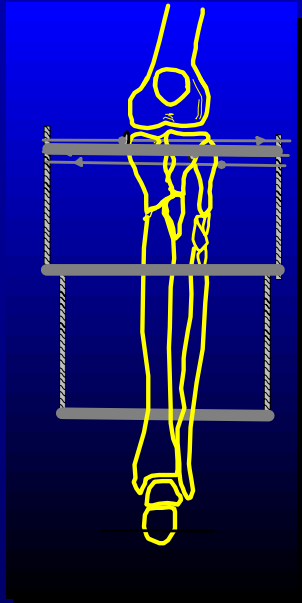
Ilizarov-technique



4 olive wires are fixed to a proximal ring



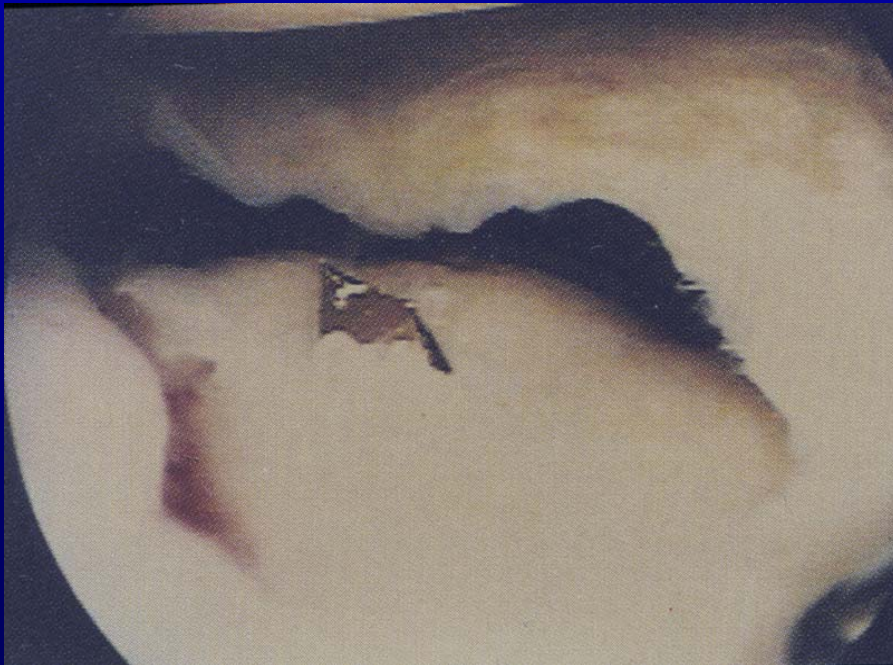
Ilizarov-technique



If knee joint is stable
remove femoral ring



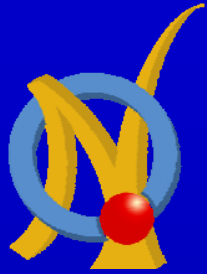
Arthroscopic assisted
elevation
can be used





Schatzker type 5





Treatment a.m. Ilizarov





Before



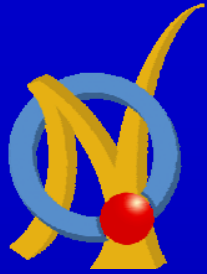
After



Before



After



Surgical procedures

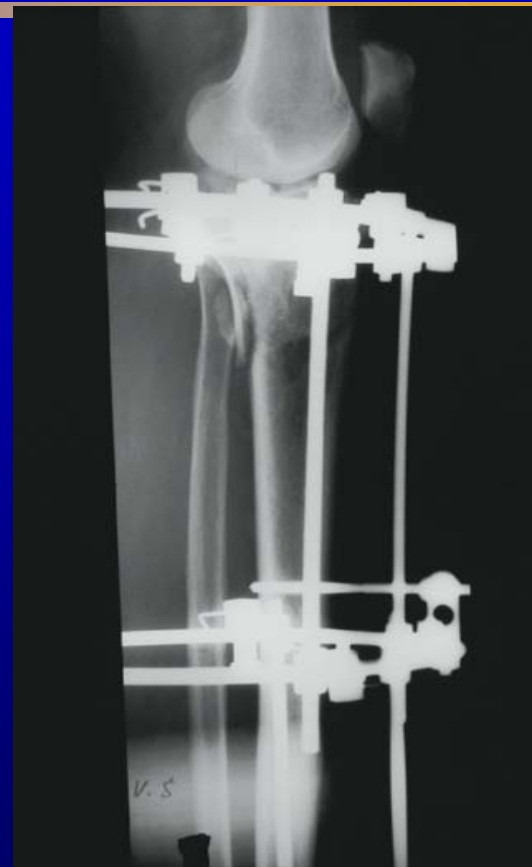
60 Ilizarov frames

- Non bridging-knee 34
- Bridging-knee 26
- Supplementary cannulated screws 17
- Autograft 28
- Arthroscopic assisted 11



Fracture dislocation Schatzker type 6







Before



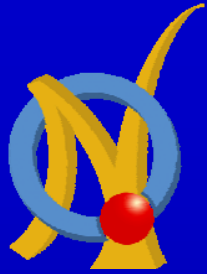
After



Before

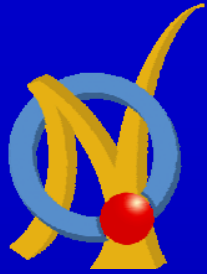


After



Results - 60 Ilizarov fixations

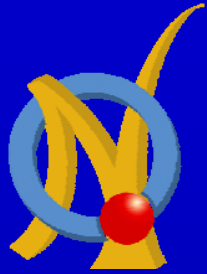
- Fractures united 59 (2 bonegrafts)
- Hospital stay 13 days (7-44)
- Weighth-bearing 3 weeks (0-8)
- Time in fixator = time to union
14 weeks (10-32)



Complications

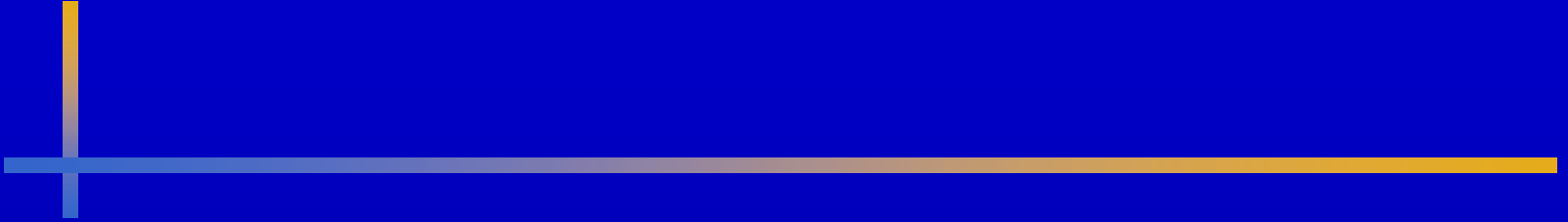
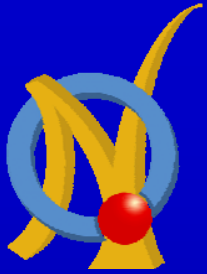
60 fractures

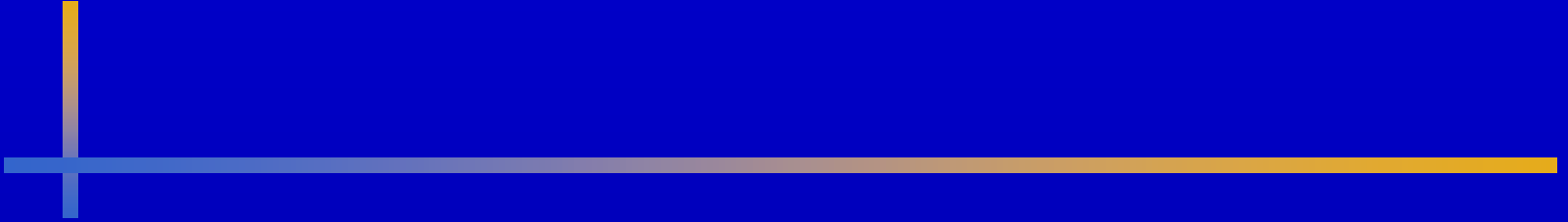
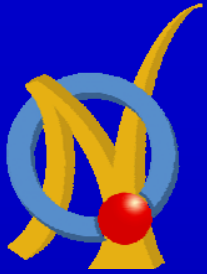
- Superficial pin infection All
- Peroneal nerve/tib.post 3
- Compartment syndrome 6
- Amputation 1

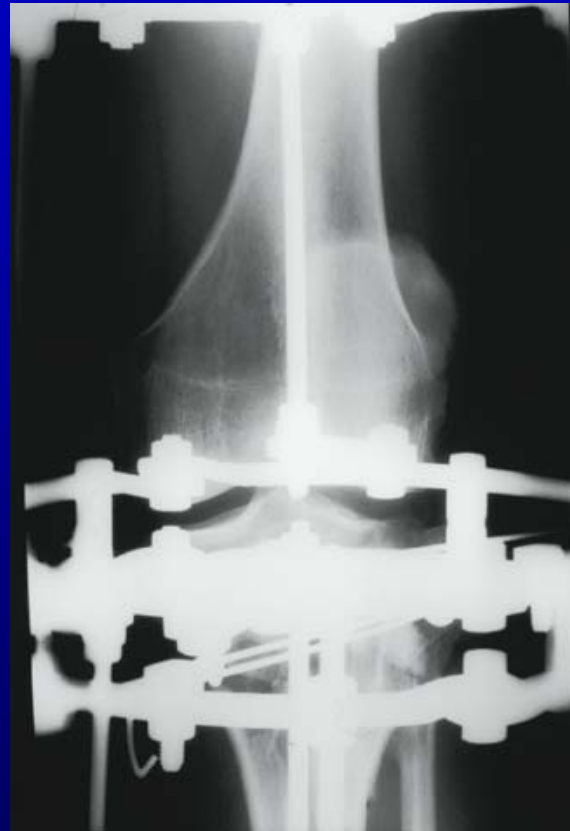
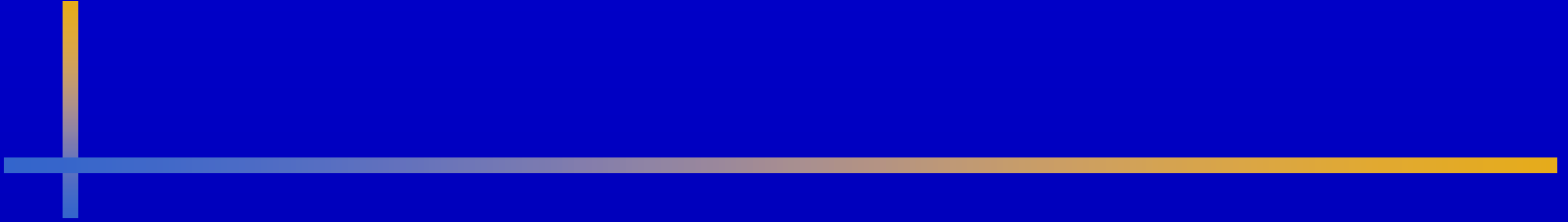
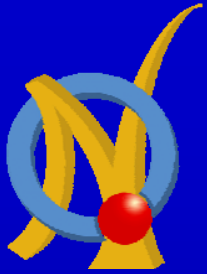


Re-operations 60 fractures

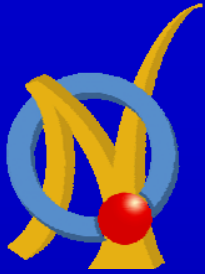
- Delayed union – autograft 2
- Pyartron – synovectomy 4
- Arthroscopic release – buckethandle 4
- Secondary TKA + HTO 3
- Fixator adjustment 5



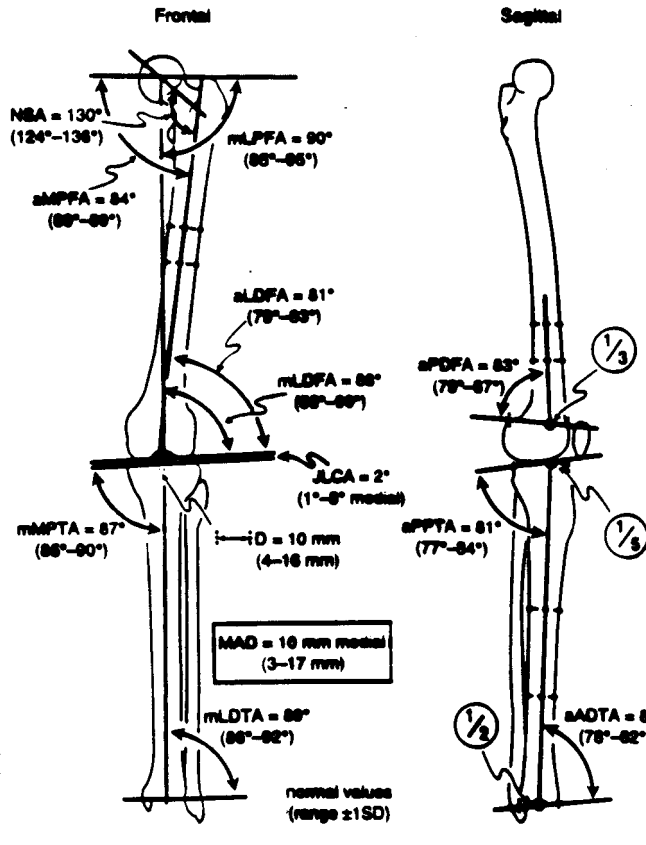


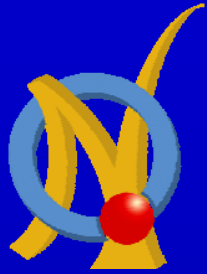






Standard Measurements

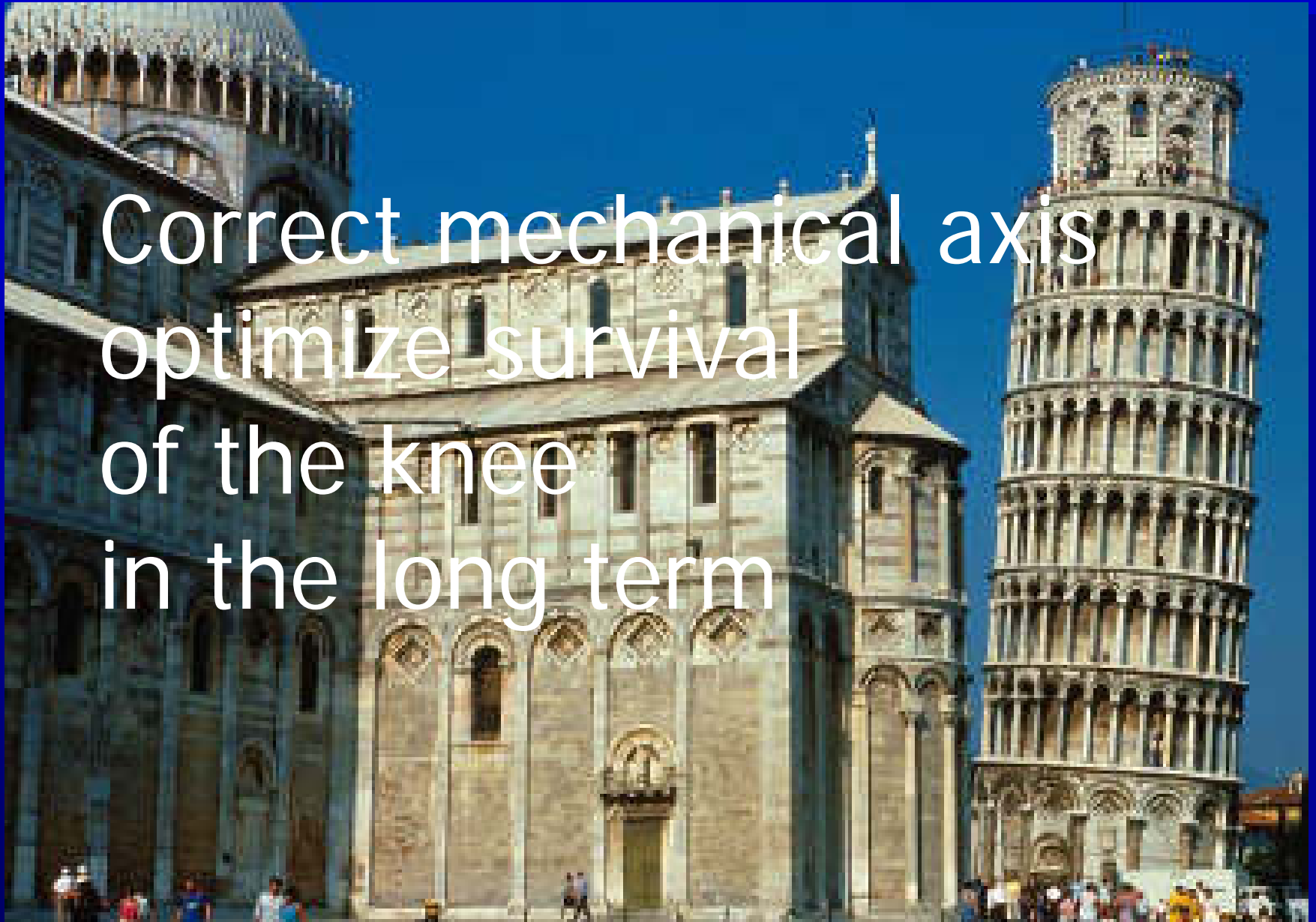




Mechanical axis at union

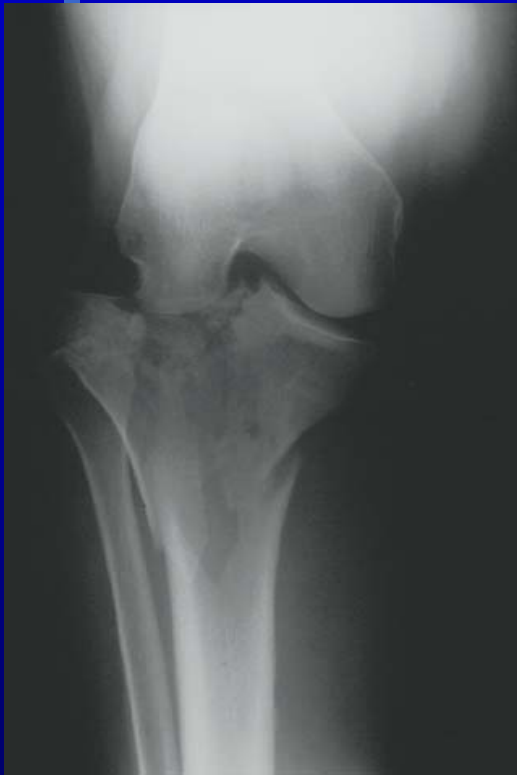
- Normal axis – in AP plane $56/59 = 95\%$
(2 valgus, 1 varus – 10 degrees)
- Normal axis in LAT plane $57/59 = 96\%$
(2 recurvatum – 10 degrees ext. deficit)

Correct mechanical axis
optimize survival
of the knee
in the long term









Before



After



Before



After



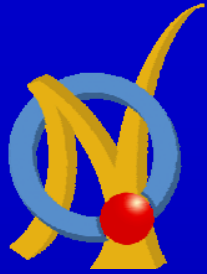
Summary

- Good and excellent 53/60 ~ 88%
- Poor results (7)
 - 2 converted to TKA
 - 1 HTO
 - 1 pyartron (poor movement and pain)
 - 1 varus malalignment and pain
 - 1 early amputation (crush+nervedeficit)



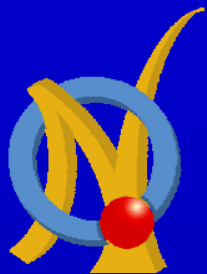
Summary

- lizarov technique avoid skin necrosis and deep bone/implant infection
- Pyarthron is a serious complication, but can be treated
- Avoid pin placement nearer than 14-16 mm from articular surface
- The technique requires often use of oral antibiotics



Summary

- Good and excellent results in 88%
- Bridging the knee means loss of flexion (20 degrees)
- Mechanical axis is perfect in majority
- Stable and minimal invasive
- Acute knee ligament injuries is not a problem
– reconstruction if needed should be delayed



Conclusion

Iliizarov fine wire fixation of complex tibial plateau fractures gives better short term results

than

open traditional dual plating



