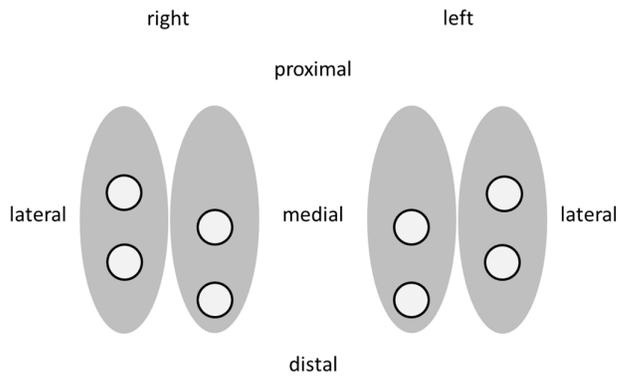
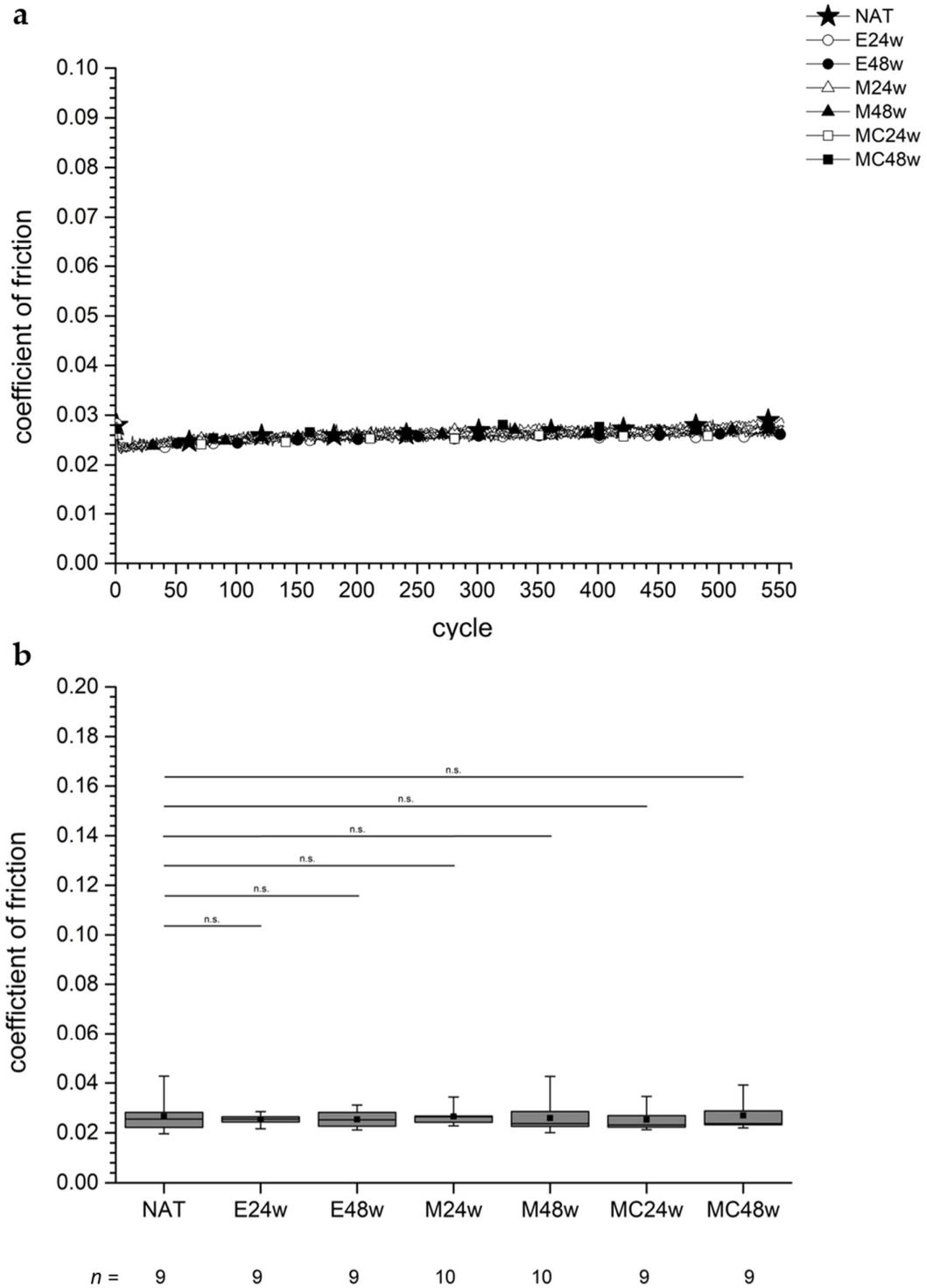


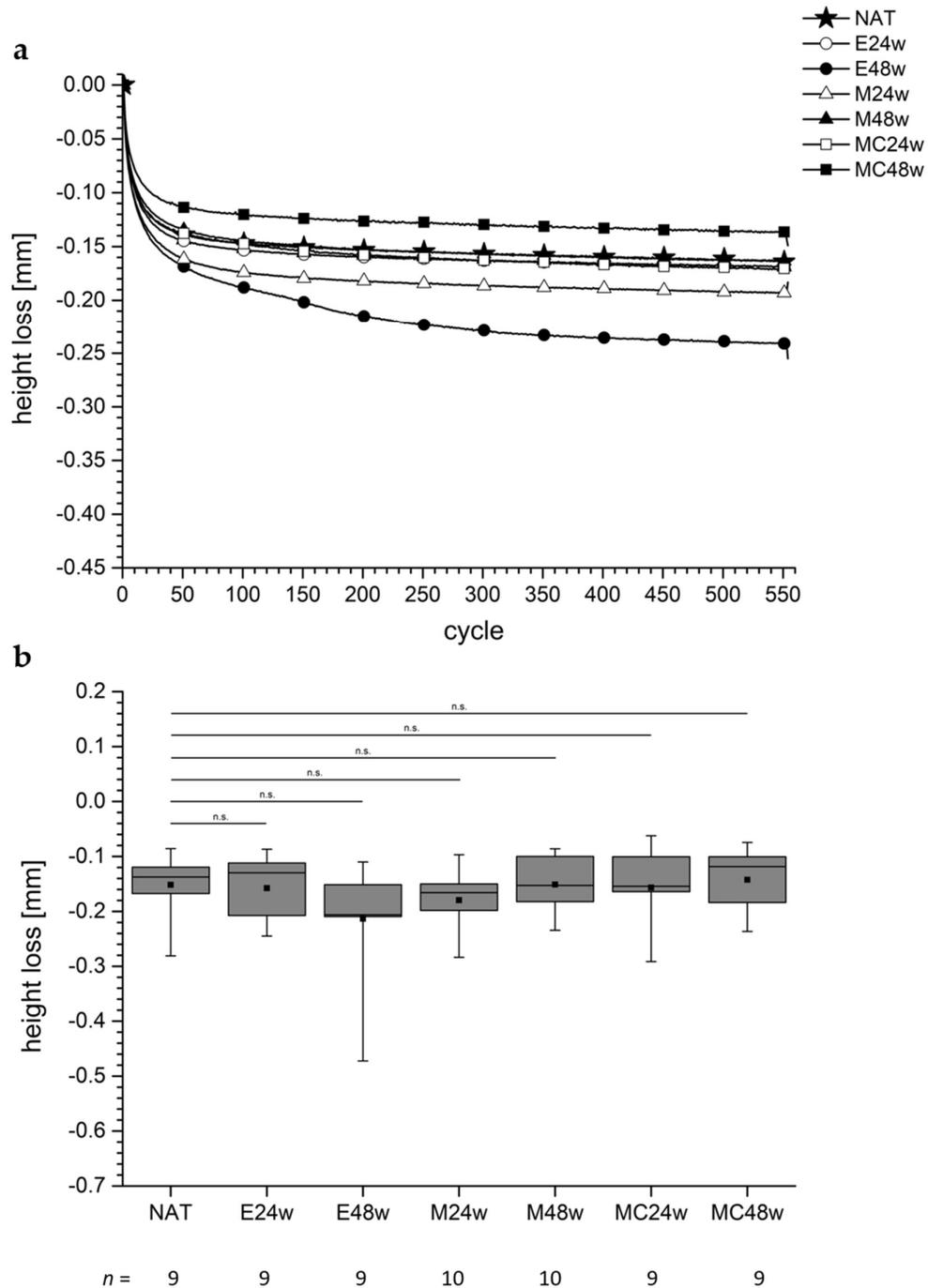
## Supplementary figures



**Figure S1.** Sketch of the facets of the trochleae and the distribution of the defect areas ( O ) where the 6 mm defects were set (according to Schwarz et al. 2019, (22)). The areas next to the defect area (grey) were referred to as non-defect areas. In the defect areas, we harvested the regenerated cartilage tissue, and in the non-defect areas, we harvested the articular cartilage, as osteochondral pins with a diameter of 5 mm as “internal” controls (27).



**Figure S2.** The CoFs from the non-defect areas. **(a)** The figure shows the trends of the CoF during the examination duration of approximately 1 h (554 cycles). For the sample size per group, see figure **(b)**. **(b)** The CoFs showed no significant differences (n.s.) between the NAT group and each individually operated group.



**Figure S3.** The HLs from the non-defect areas. (a) The figure shows the trends of the HL during the examination duration of approximately 1 h (554 cycles). For the sample size, see figure (b). (b) The HLs showed no significant differences (n.s.) between the NAT group and each individually operated group.