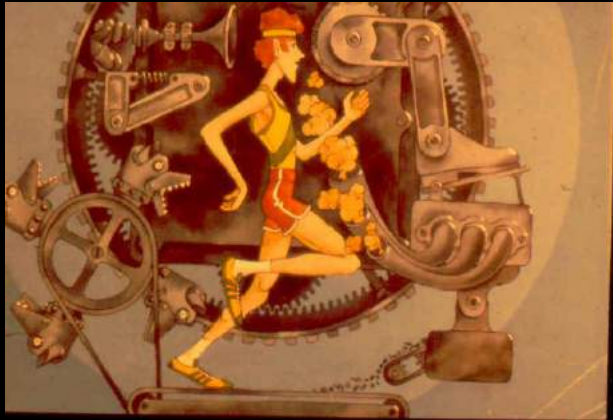


# Session RPE as a Device for Monitoring Training

Carl Foster, Ph.D., FACSM

Department of Exercise and Sport Science

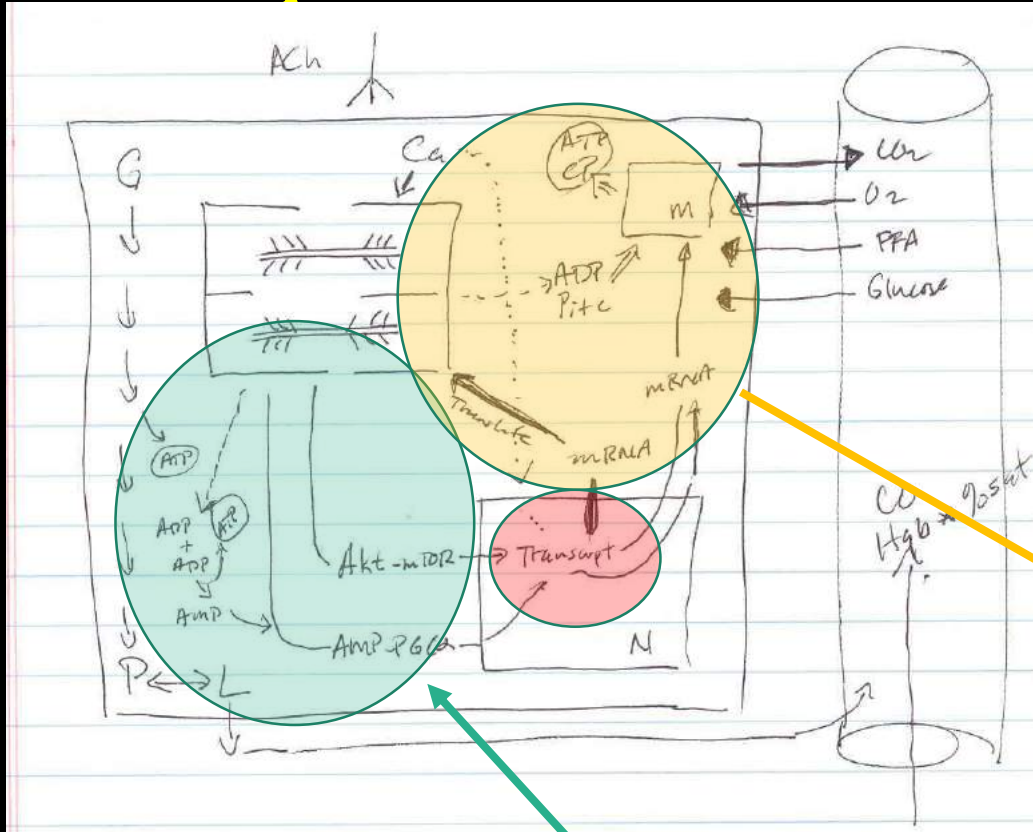
University of Wisconsin-La Crosse, USA



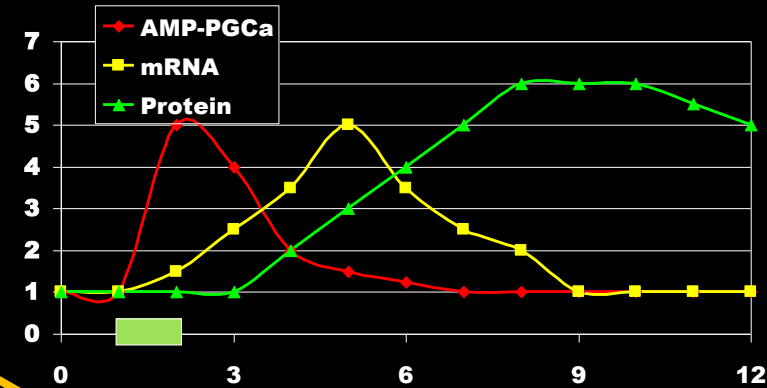
# Athletes Are Supposed to Get Better With Training



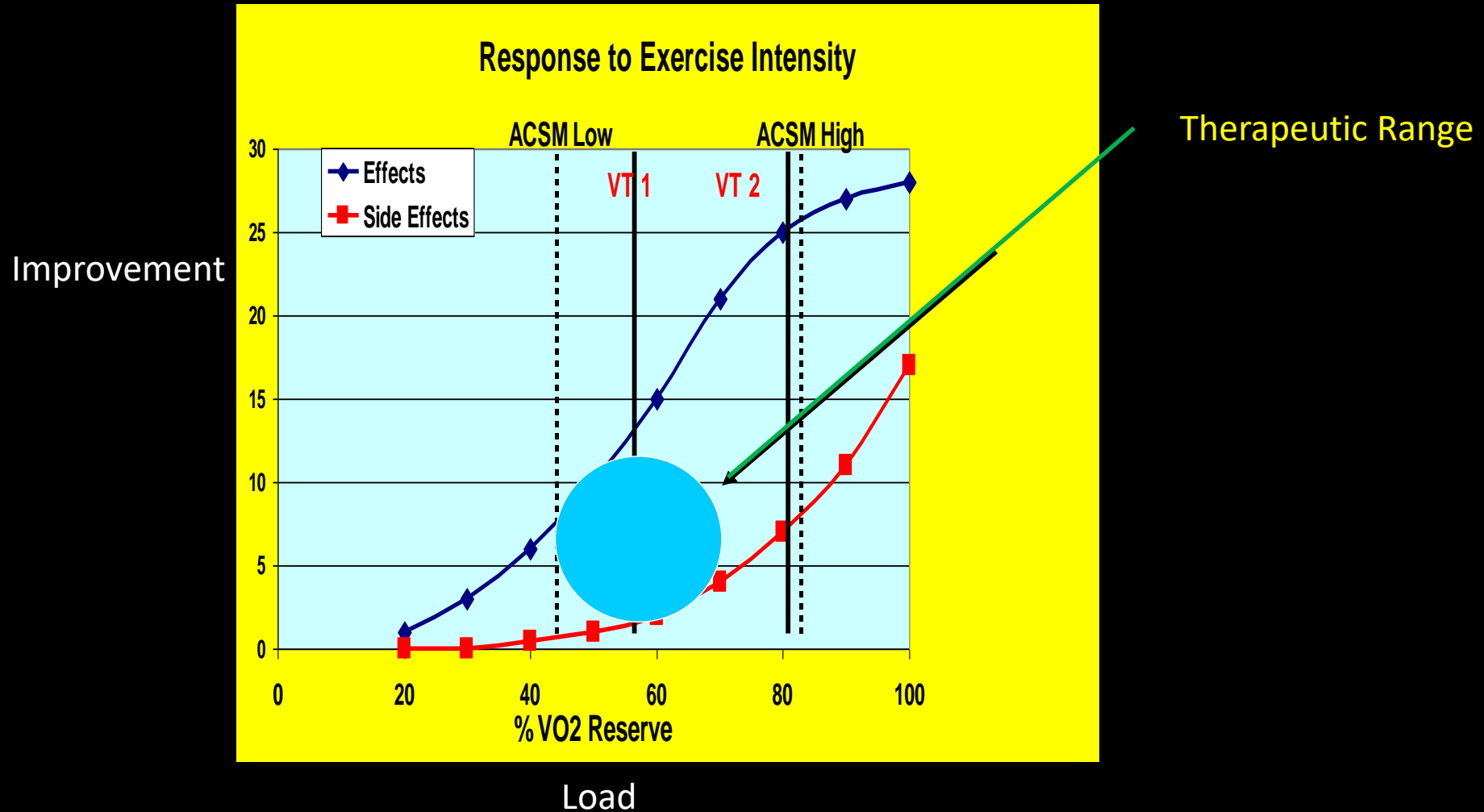
# Adaptation: The Essence of Training



**Training Schematic**  
Temporally Dependent Response



# We Believe that There is a Proportional Input-Output Relationship



# Who Cares About Monitoring?

Physicians

Physios/Rehabilitation Specialists

Personal Trainers

Sports Coaches

What is the problem? (Diagnosis)

How do we fix the problem? (Prescription)

Is the fix being implemented? (Monitoring)

Is the fix working? (Evaluation)

# The Coach Has to Have a Device for Monitoring Training



Laboratory



Training Track

## Internal and External Training Load: 15 Years On

Franco M. Impellizzeri, Samuele M. Marcora, and Aaron J. Coutts

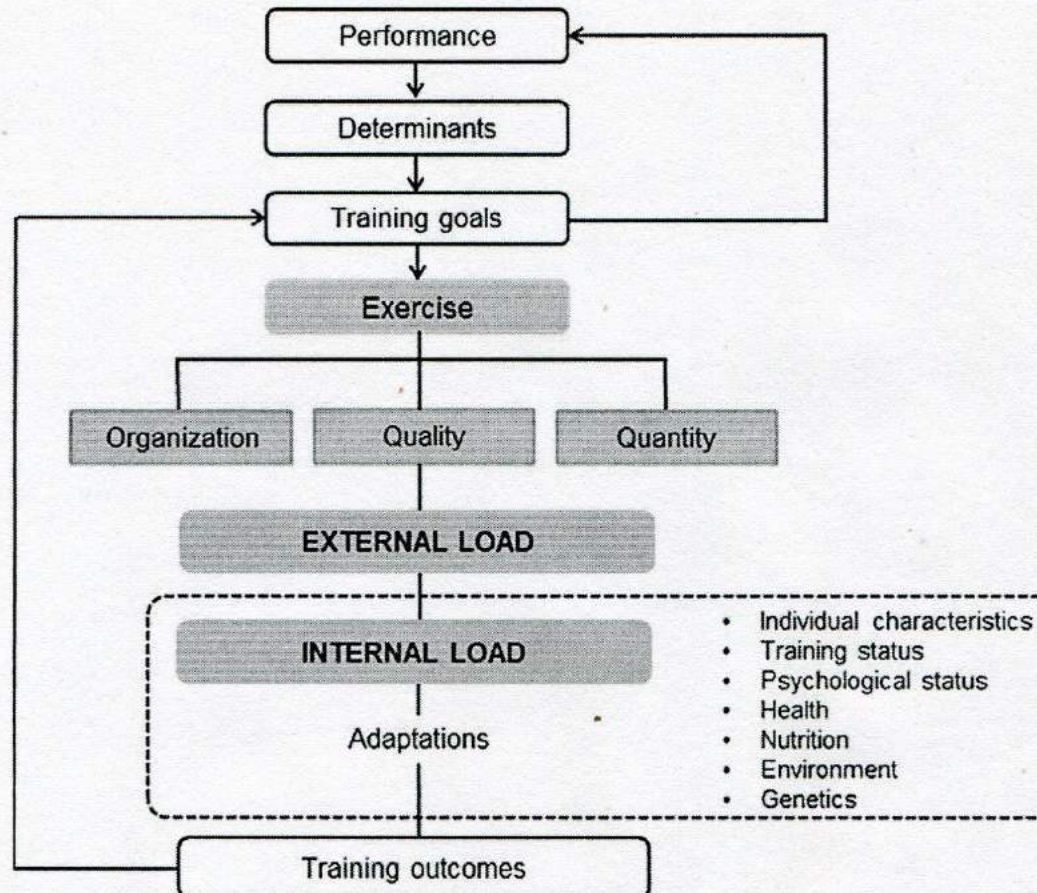
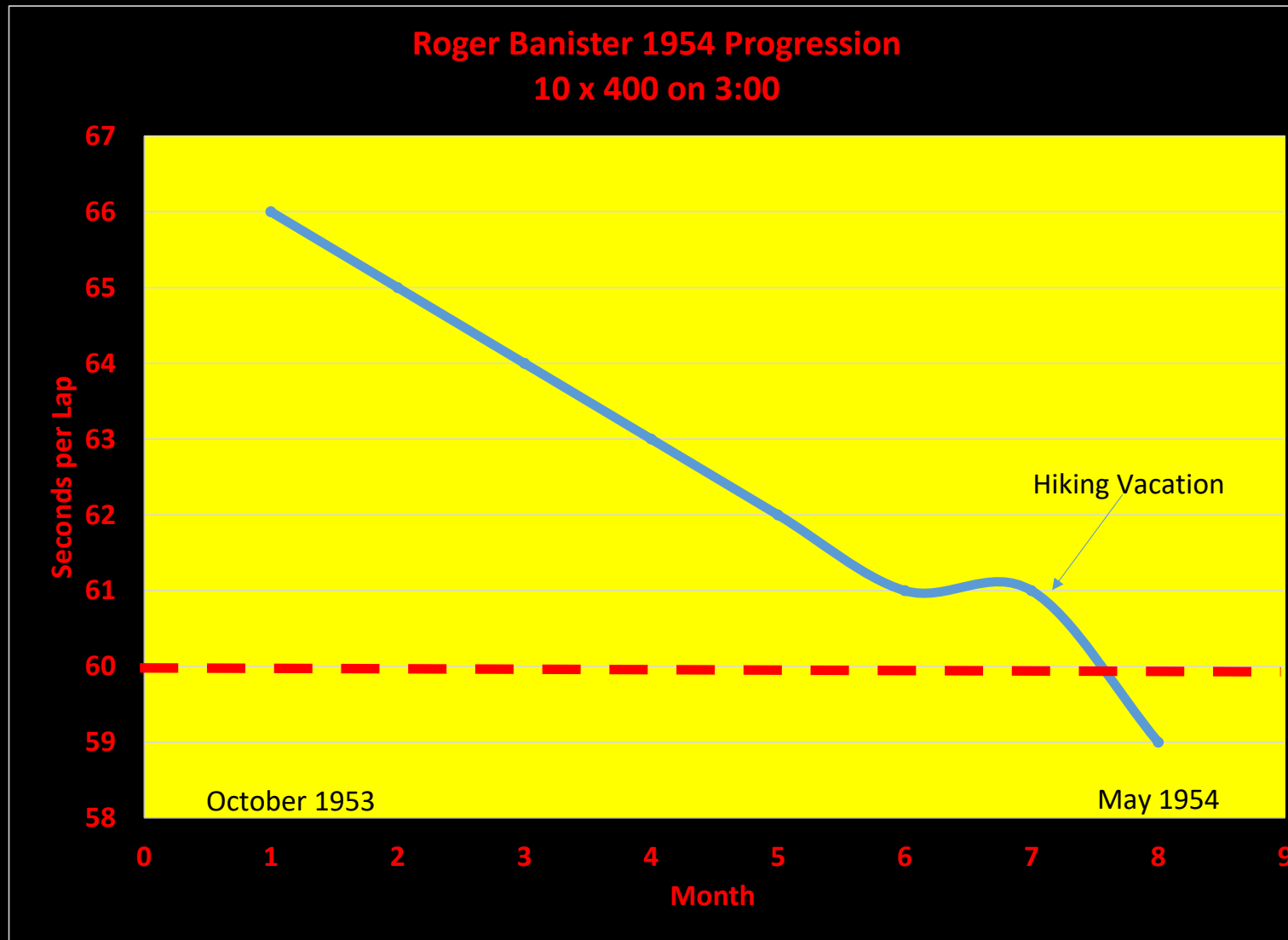


Figure 1 — Theoretical framework of the training process.

# External Training Load: Index Workouts

Frantz Stampfl, Bill Bowerman



Cold  
Wind  
Track



# Regulation of Energy Expenditure during Prolonged Athletic Competition

MSSE 37: 670-675, 2005

CARL FOSTER<sup>1</sup>, JESUS HOYOS<sup>2</sup>, CONRAD EARNEST<sup>3</sup>, and ALEJANDRO LUCIA<sup>4</sup>

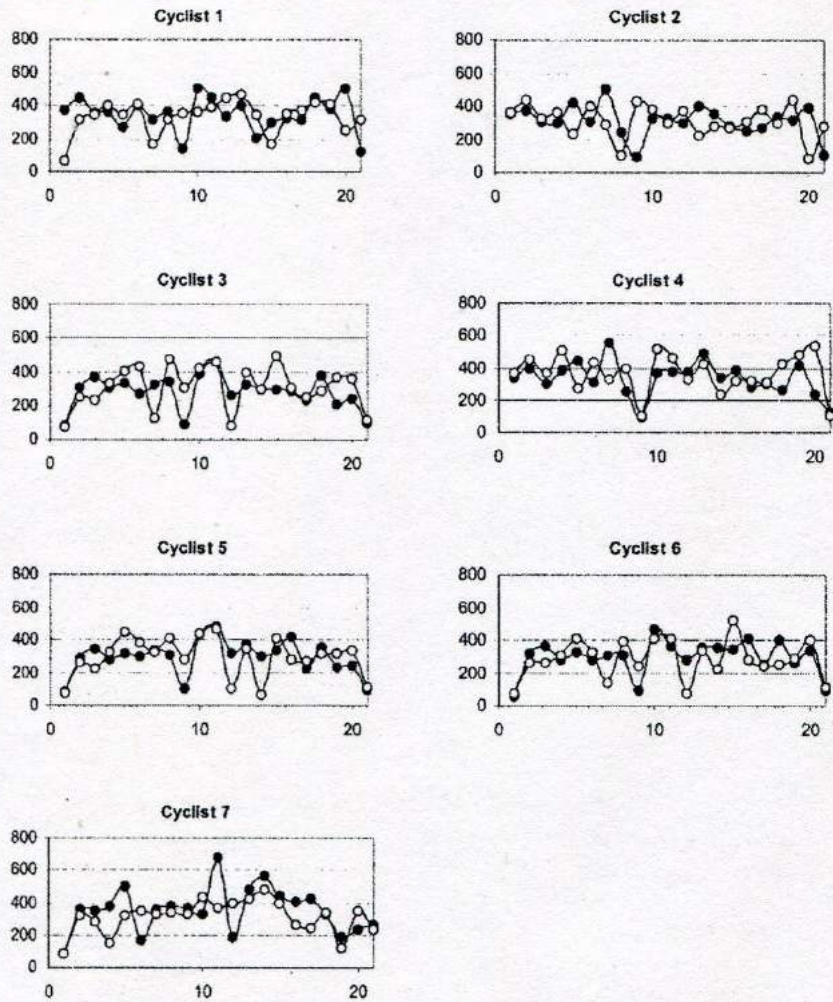


FIGURE 4—Day-to-day variation in training impulse score.

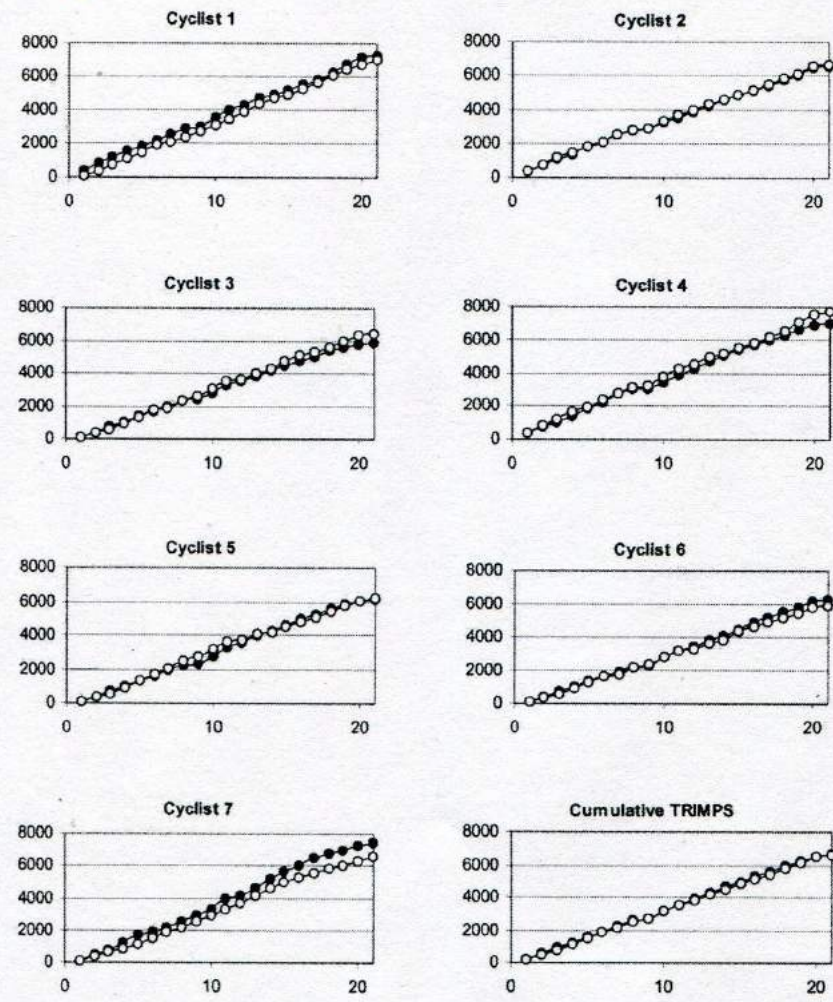
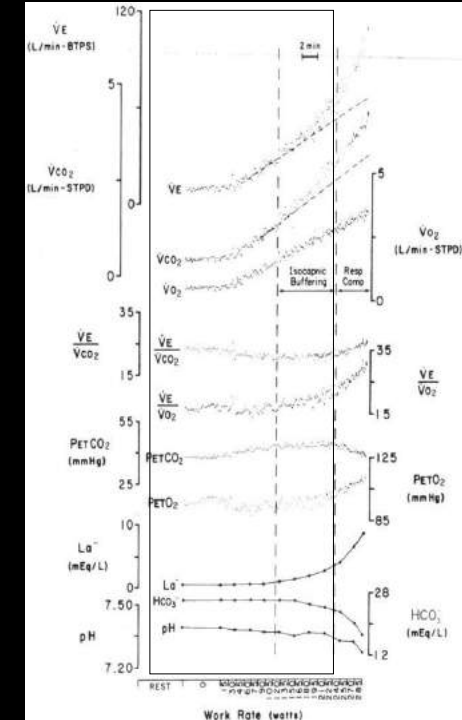
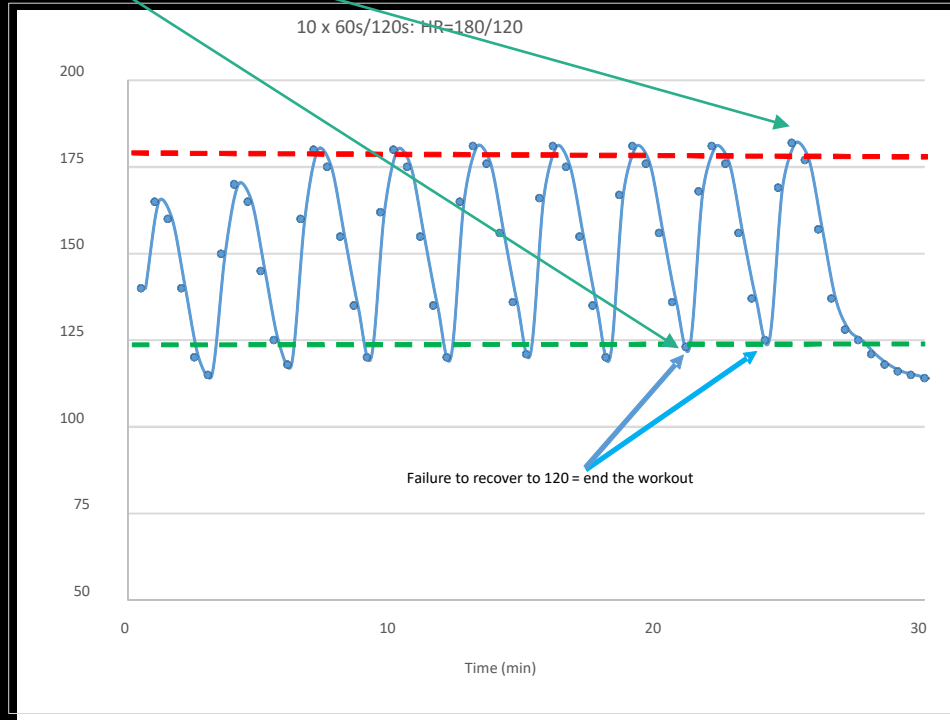
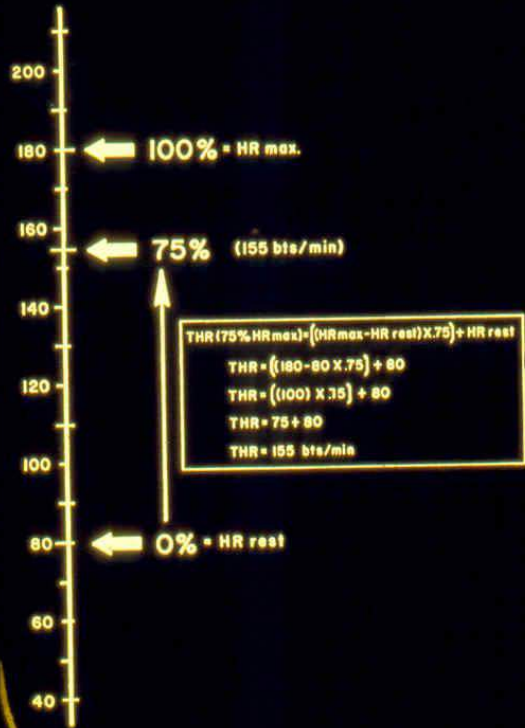


FIGURE 8—Cumulative training impulse score (TRIMPS).

Time to stop workout

# Monitoring = Acute Responses to Exercise



%HRR

Where did 180 and 120 come from?

Threshold concepts



Karvonen



Gerschler & Reindell



Hollmann

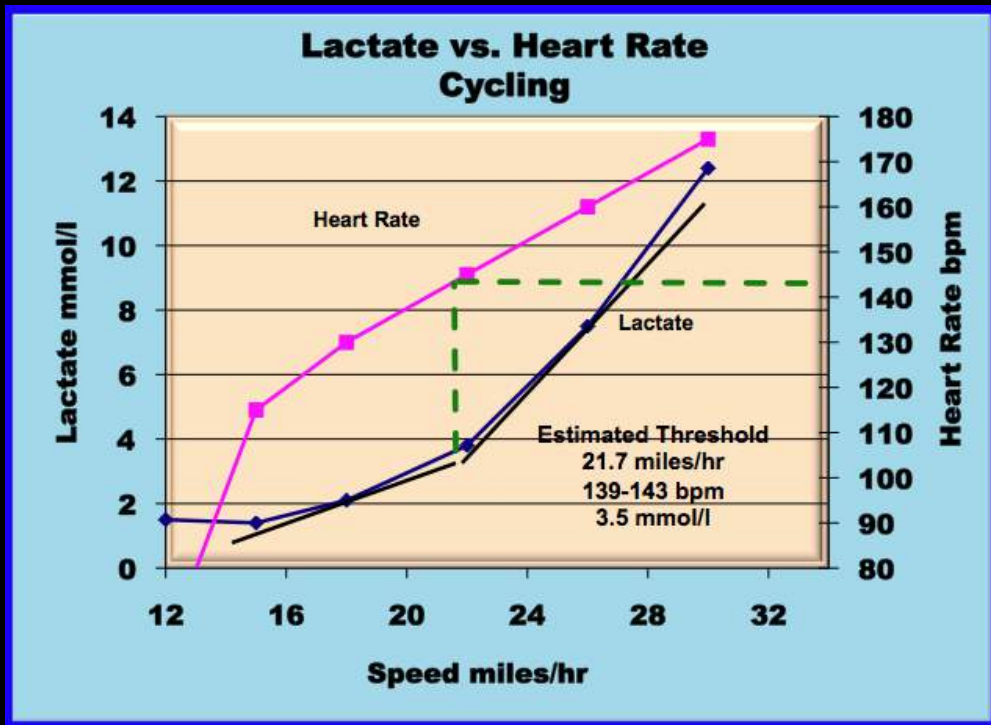


Wasserman



Sjodin

## The Lactate Profile



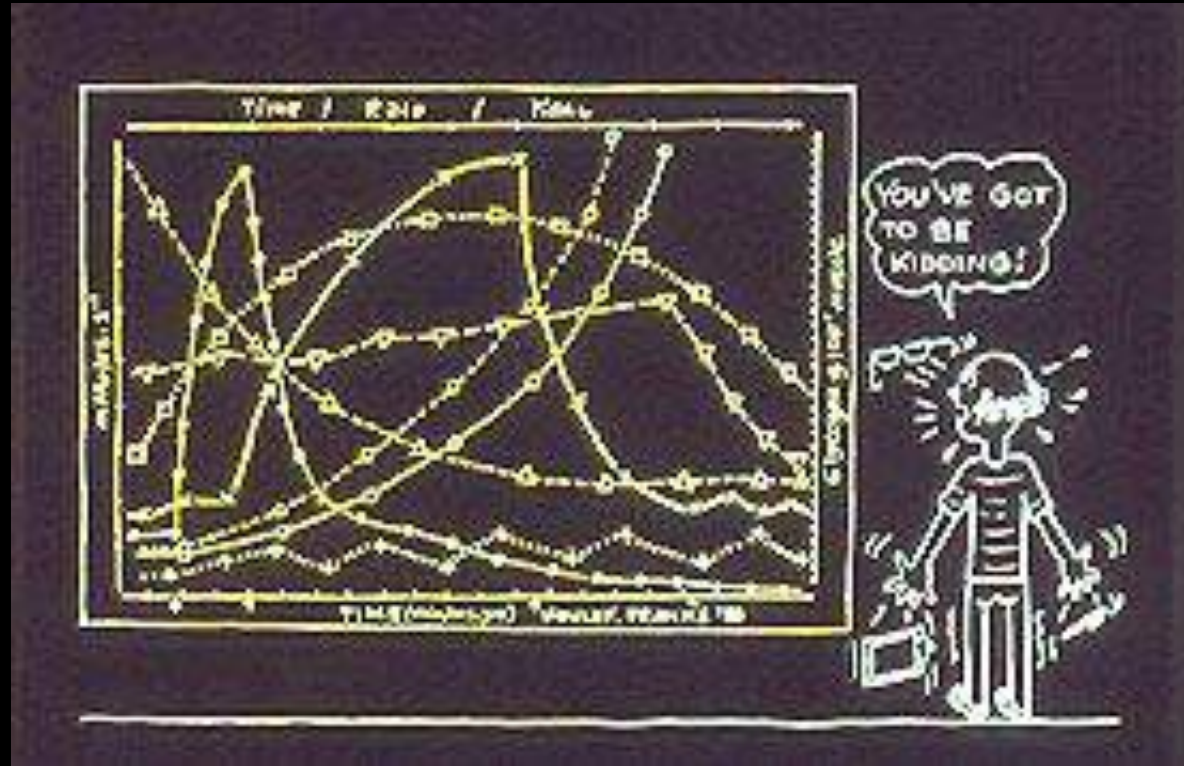
FTP



Talk Test

© Copyright - J.C Moreau / A.S.O.

# It's Easy to Get Too Much Information



What is the Coach/Physician/Therapist/Trainer going to use for decision making?

Research tools vs coaching aids

Decision making time?

# Linking Physiological Response to Performance Change: TRIMPS

(Brilliant but Complex)



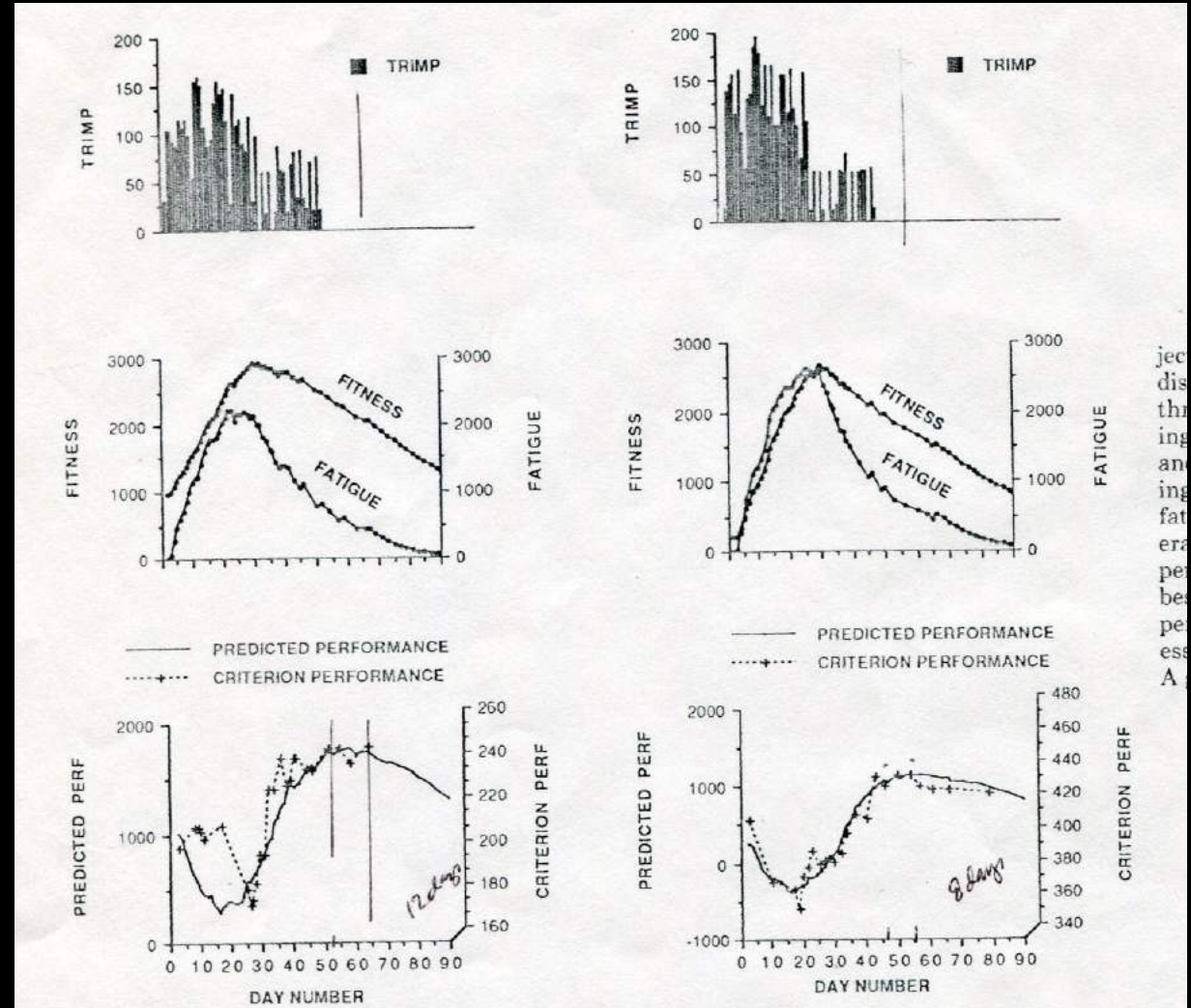
Eric W. Banister, Ph.D.

TW Calvert et al. A systems model of the effects of training on physical performance *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Transactions on Systems, Man and Cybernetics*, 6: 94–102, 1976.

EW Banister et al. Modeling the training responses. *1984 Olympic Scientific Congress: Sport & Elite Performers*, Champaign, Human Kinetics, 1986.

RH Morton et al. Modeling human performance in running *J Appl Physiol* 69: 1171-1177, 1990

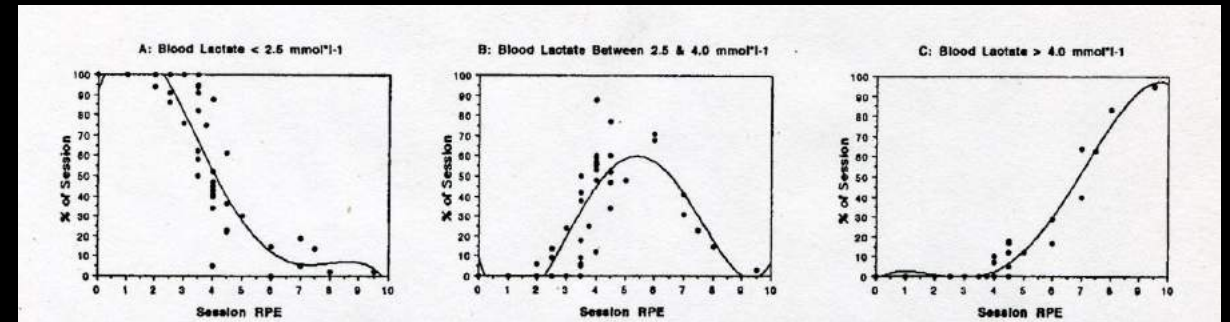
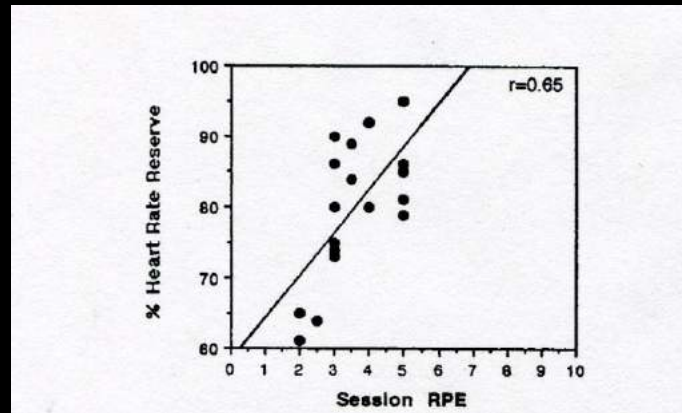
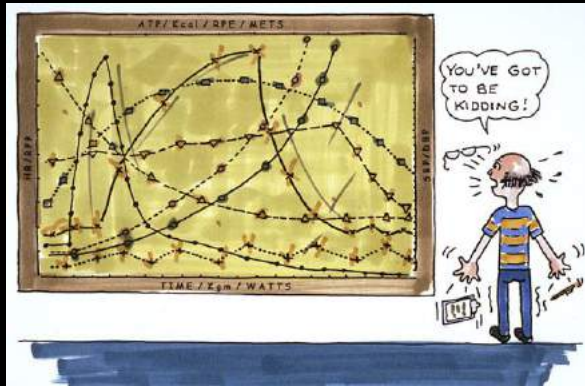
JR Fitz-Clarke et al. Optimizing athletic performance by influence curves. *J Appl Physiol* 71: 1151-1158, 1991.



jec  
dis  
thr  
ing  
an  
ing  
fat  
era  
pe  
be  
ess  
A

# Making Eric Banister Understandable & Practical

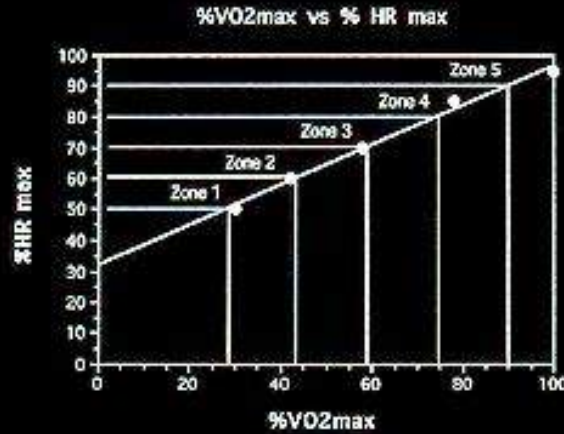
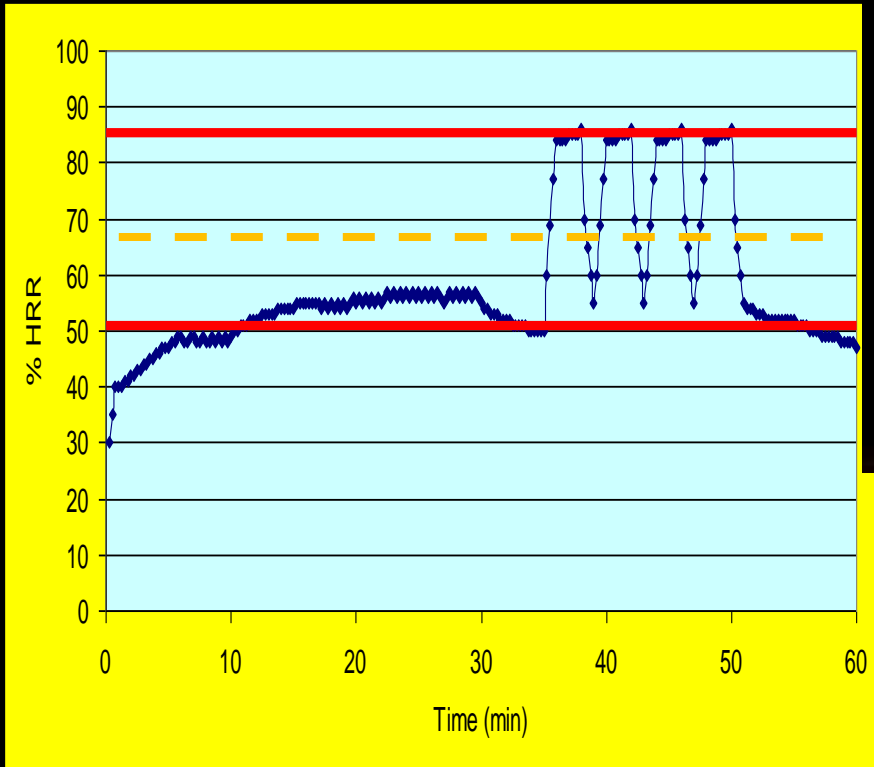
## The Emergence of the Session RPE Method



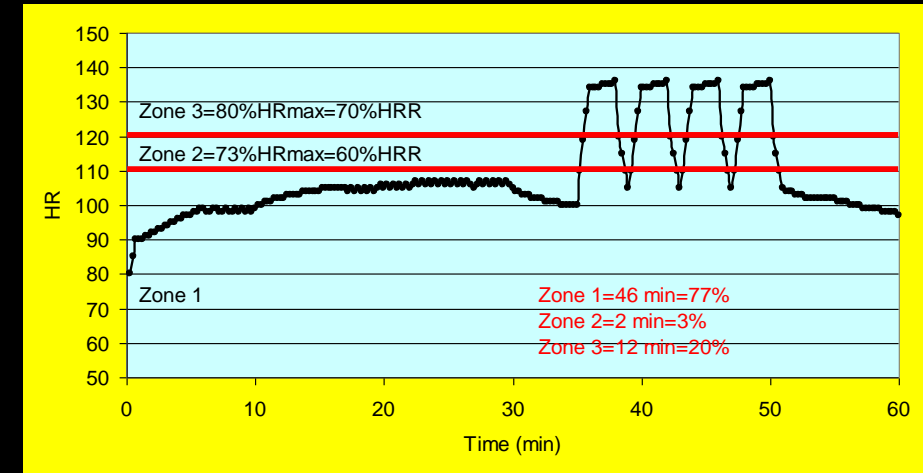
C Foster et al. Effects of specific versus cross training on running performance *Eur J Appl Physiol* 70: 367-372, 1995

# Modifications of TRIMPS

Solving the weaknesses of %HRR and Steady State Exercise



Sally Edwards, M.S.  
Summated HR Zone Points



$$\text{TRIMPs} = 46 * 1 + 2 * 2 + 12 * 3 = 46 + 4 + 36 = 86$$

$$\text{sRPE} = 60 * 4.5 = 270$$

Banister "lite"

C Foster et al. *J Strength Cond Res*  
15: 109-115, 2001

So.....

1. HR Monitors are a good tool for some types of training (internal training load)
2. Power Meters are a very good tool for some types of training (external—power, or internal—TSS)
3. The TRIMPS concept is too complicated for everyday use as designed
4. More high tech tools are complicated, good for answering research questions
5. We need something simple and practical  
sRPE may be more practical



# What Does sRPE Training Monitoring Look Like?

Date	Day	Time	sRPE	Load	Week	Cycle	Monotony	Strain	Complaint
5.27.19	1	40	3	120					3.6
	2	90	3	270					3.6
	3	100	3	300					3.7
	4	70	3	210					3.8
	5	100	3	300					3.8
	6	100	3	300					3.7
	7	45	3	135	1635	748	2.19	3414	3.6

Total time is the simplest measure of volume to use.....saddle to saddle

Summate within a day

Beware of “accountants” (10%)

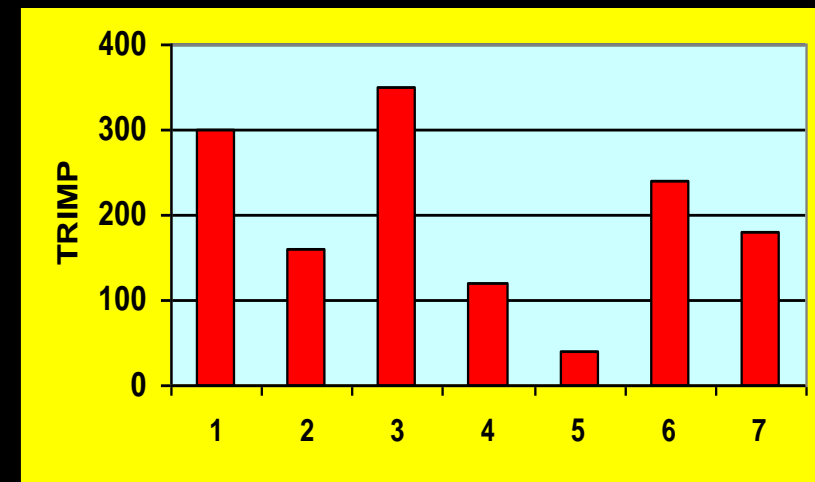
# Session RPE TRIMP Calculation

● Sunday	60	5	300
● Monday	40	4	160
● Tuesday	70	5	350
● Wednesday	40	3	120
● Thursday	20	2	40
● Friday	60	4	240
● Saturday	60	3	180

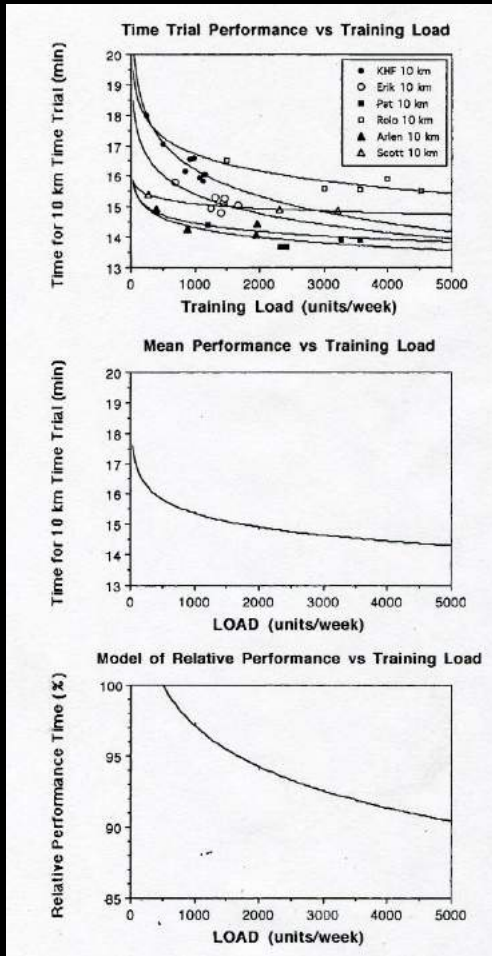
● WEEK<sub>sRPE</sub>TRIMP=1390

● MONOTONY (X/sd=1.86)

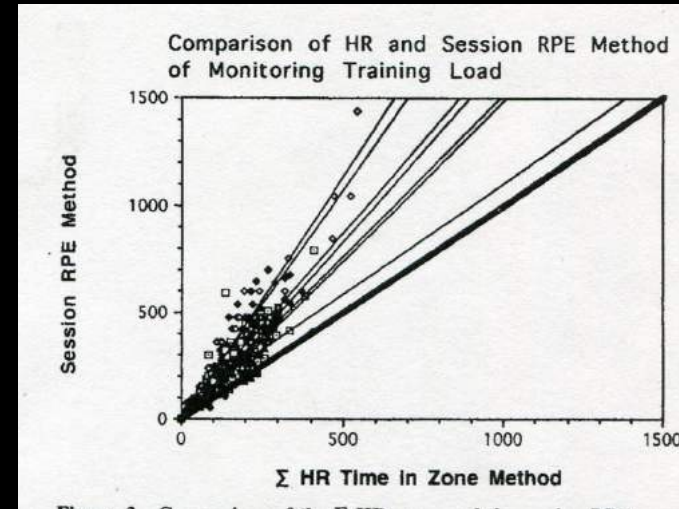
● STRAIN=1420 \* 1.94 = 2591



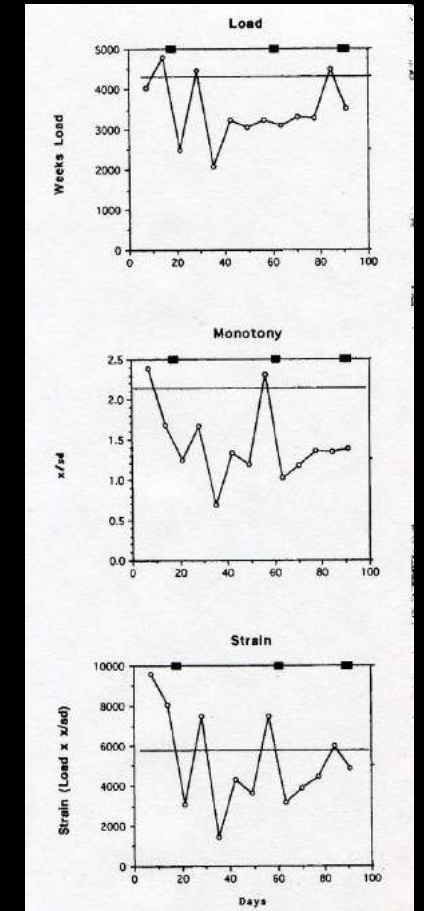
# Session RPE & Training Monotony Lead to Explanations



C Foster et al.  
*Wisc Med J* 95: 370-374, 1996



C Foster  
*MSSE* 30: 1164-1168, 1998

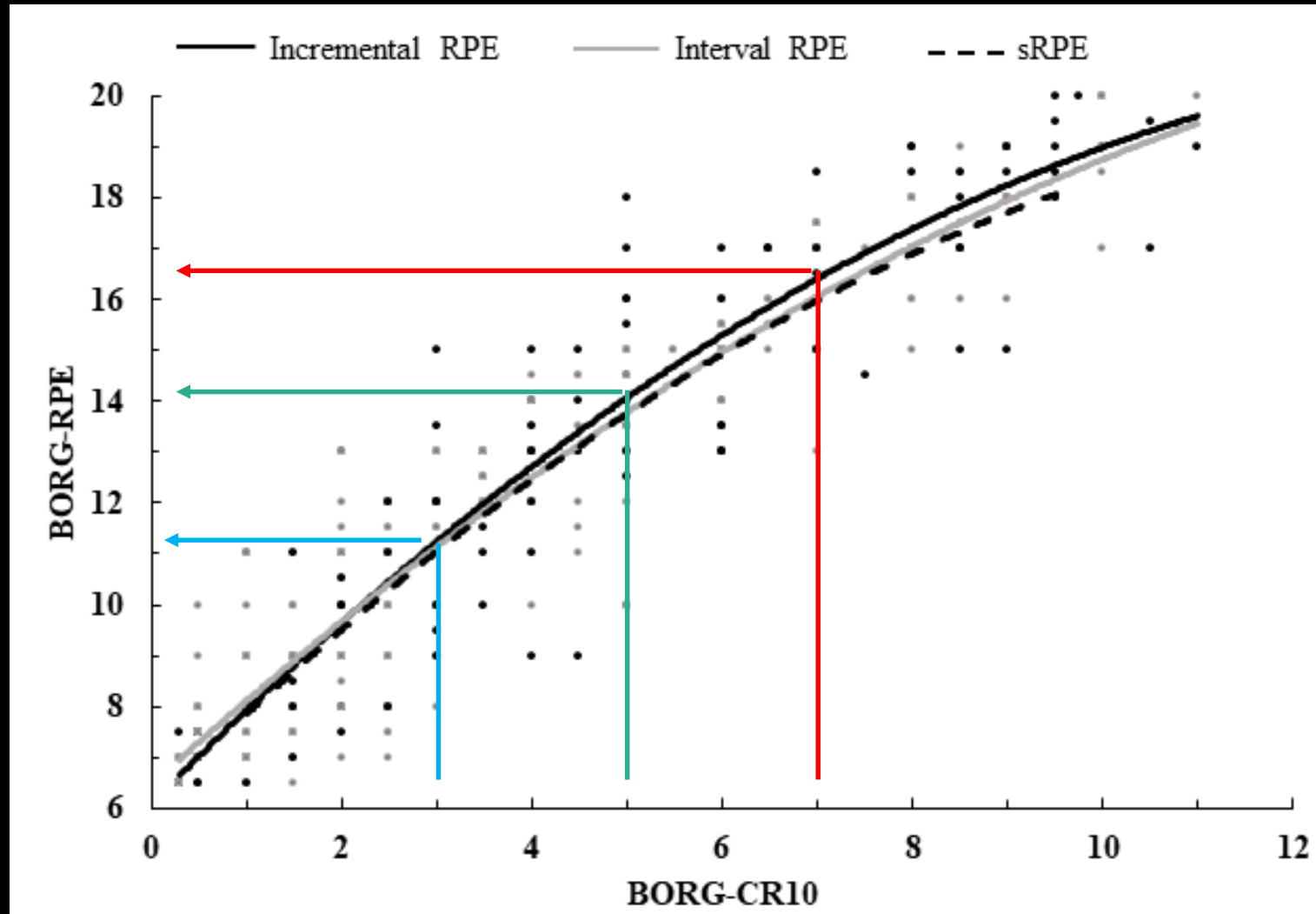


The Good

The Bad

# Which Borg Scale to Use?

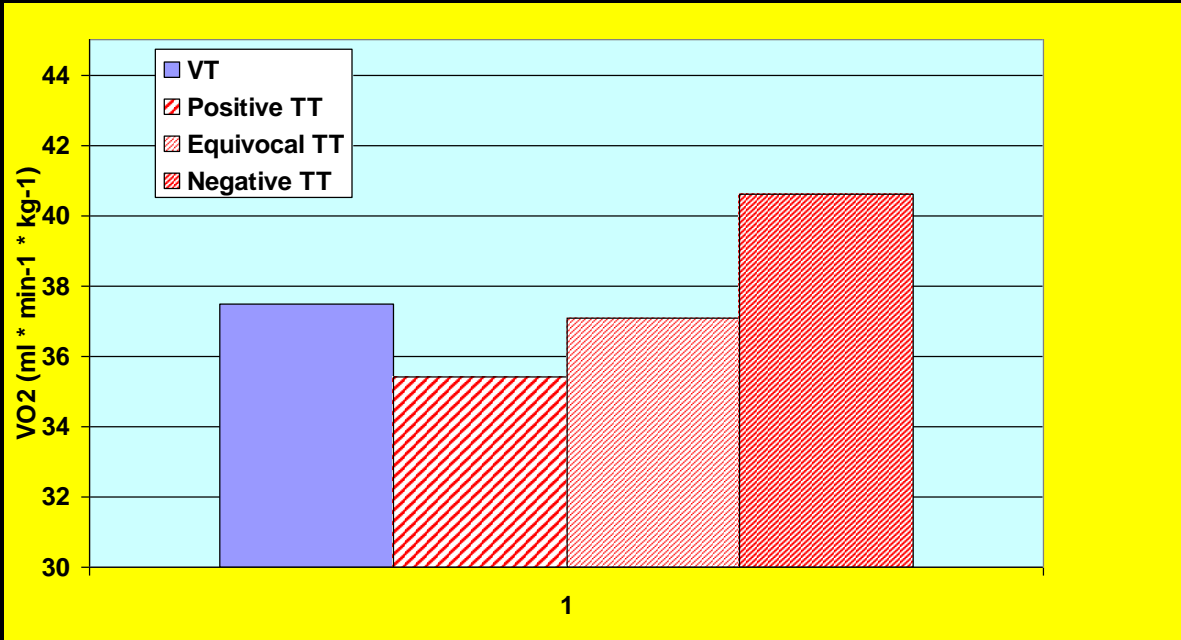
B Arney *IJSP* (In Press 2019)



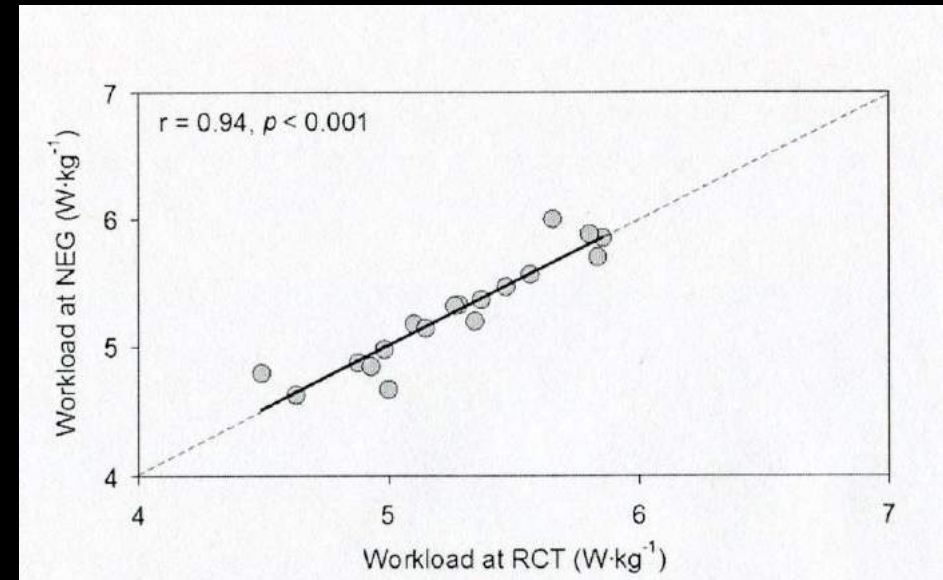
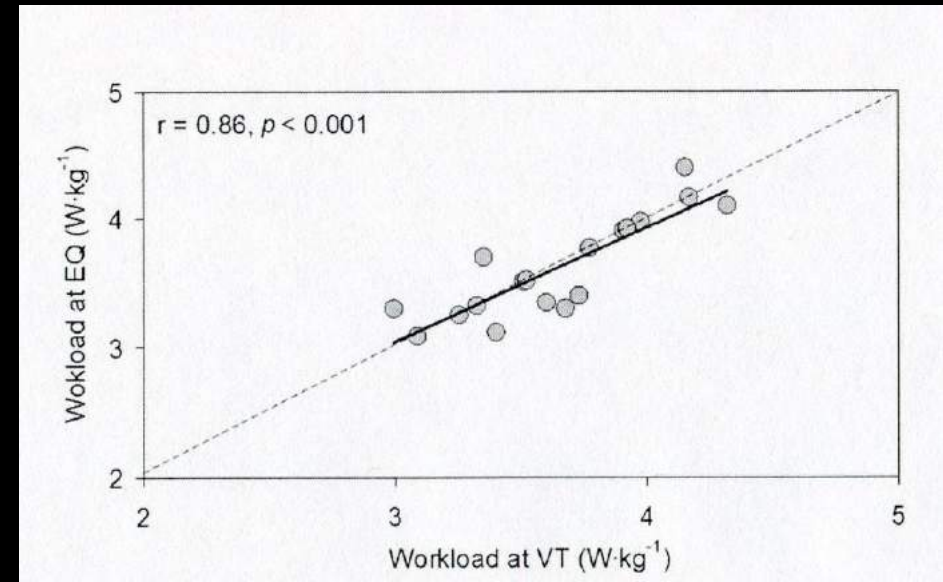
# The Talk Test

## The Lactate Profile Made Simple

### Training Zones for Idiots

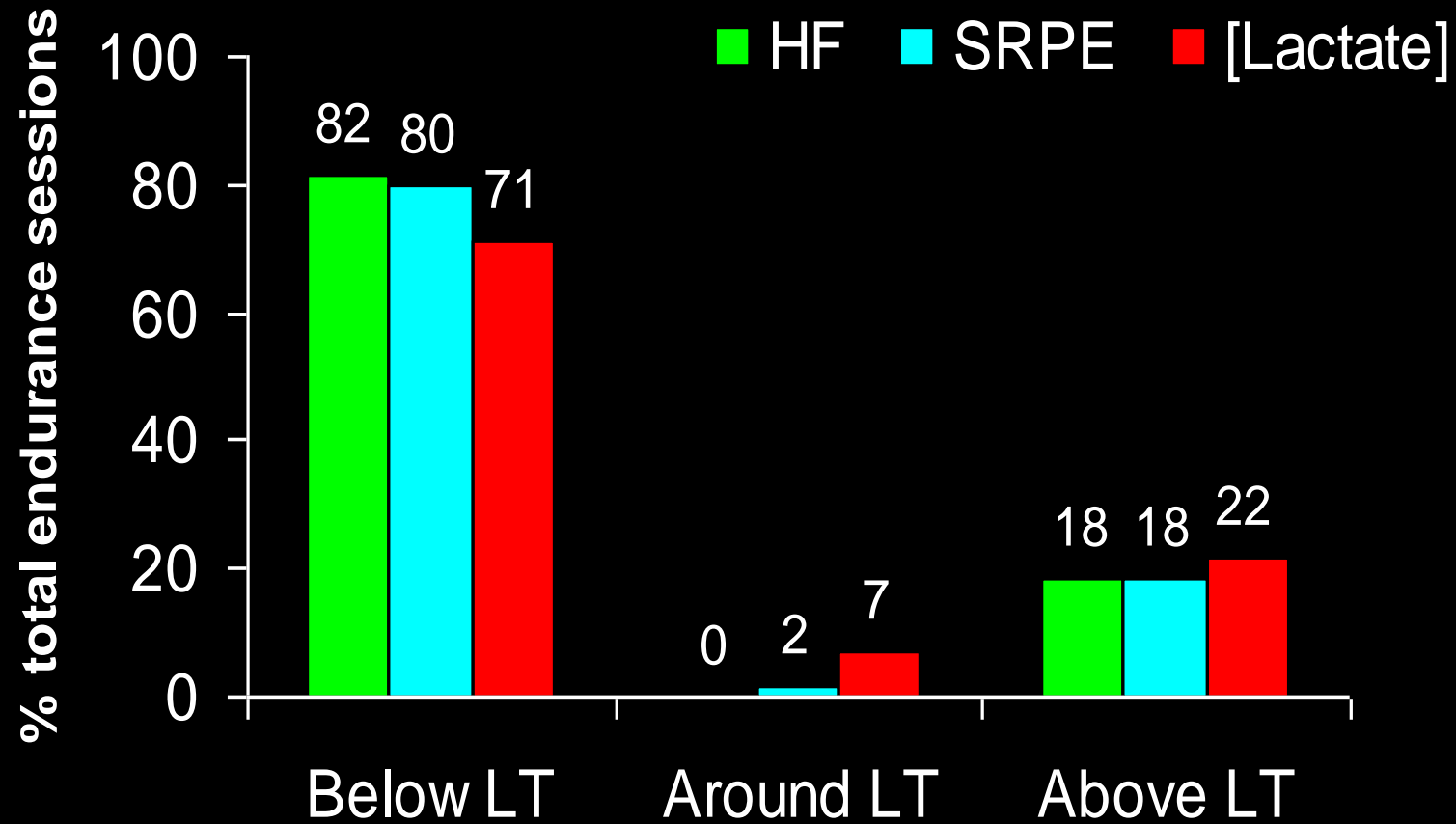


M Dehart-Beverley Clin Exerc Physiol 2: 34-38, 2000



J Rodriguez-Morroyo JSCR 27: 1942-1949, 2013

**Seiler KS, Kjerland GO: The Polarized Training Model: An Optimal Distribution of Training Intensity** *Scand J Med Sci Sports* 16:49-56, 2006

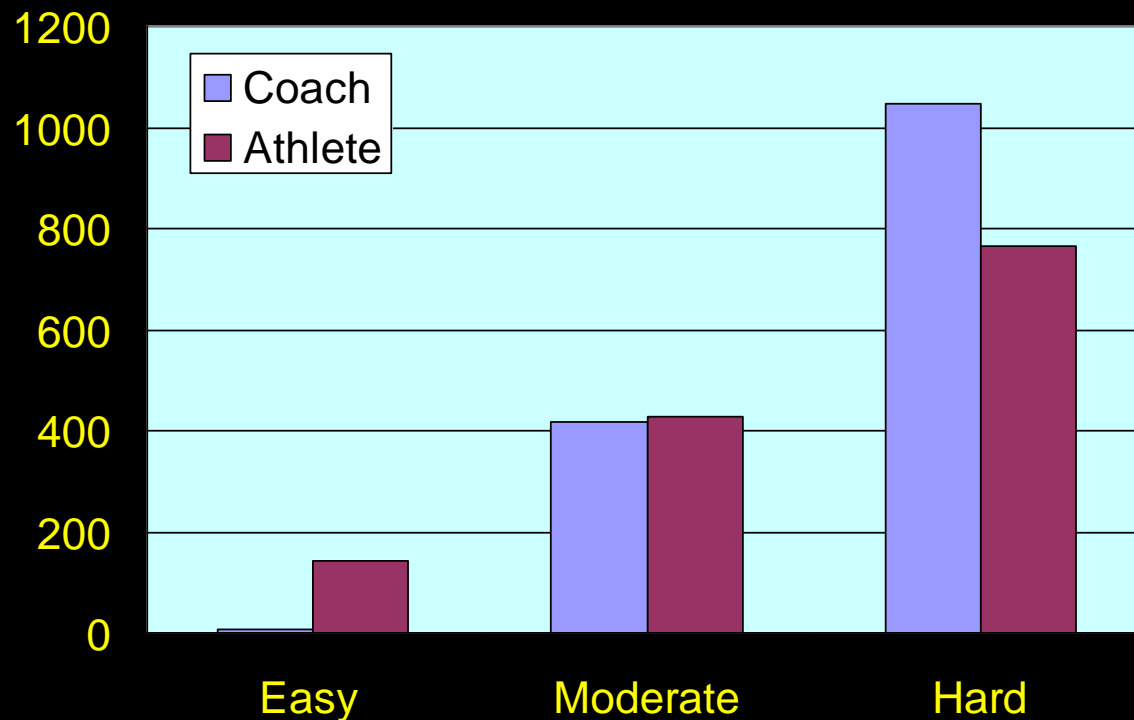


Polarized training 75/10/15

# How Well Was the Plan Executed?

C Foster: *S Afri J Sports Med* 8:3-7, 2001

## Skaters Training LOAD (Session RPE \* Duration)



Runners  
Speed Skaters  
Swimmers  
Basketball Players  
Volleyball Players

# Use of sRPE in Cycling



How was your ride?



# Effect of cycling competition type on effort based on heart rate and session rating of perceived exertion

J. A. RODRIGUEZ-MARROYO <sup>1</sup>, J. G. VILLA <sup>1</sup>, G. FERNANDEZ <sup>1</sup>, C. FOSTER <sup>2</sup>

*J Sports Med Phys Fit* 53: 154-161, 2013

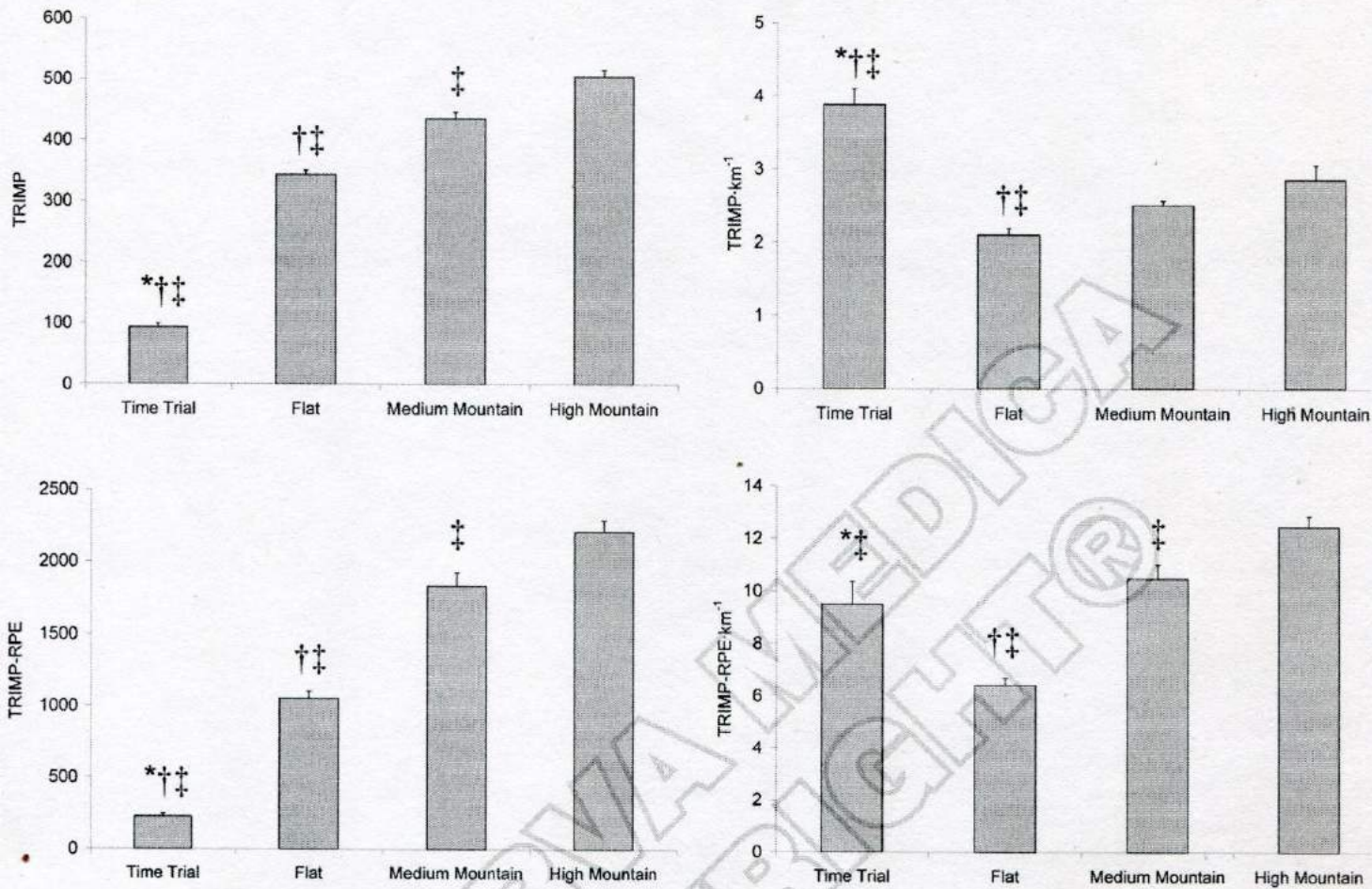


Figure 1.—Competition load calculated using HR ( $TRIMP_{HR}$ ) and session RPE ( $TRIMP_{RPE}$ ) and expressed as  $TRIMP \cdot km^{-1}$  in the different type of stages analyzed. \*significant difference with flat stages ( $P < 0.05$ ); †significant difference with Medium Mountain stages ( $P < 0.05$ ); ‡significant difference with high mountain stages ( $P < 0.05$ ).

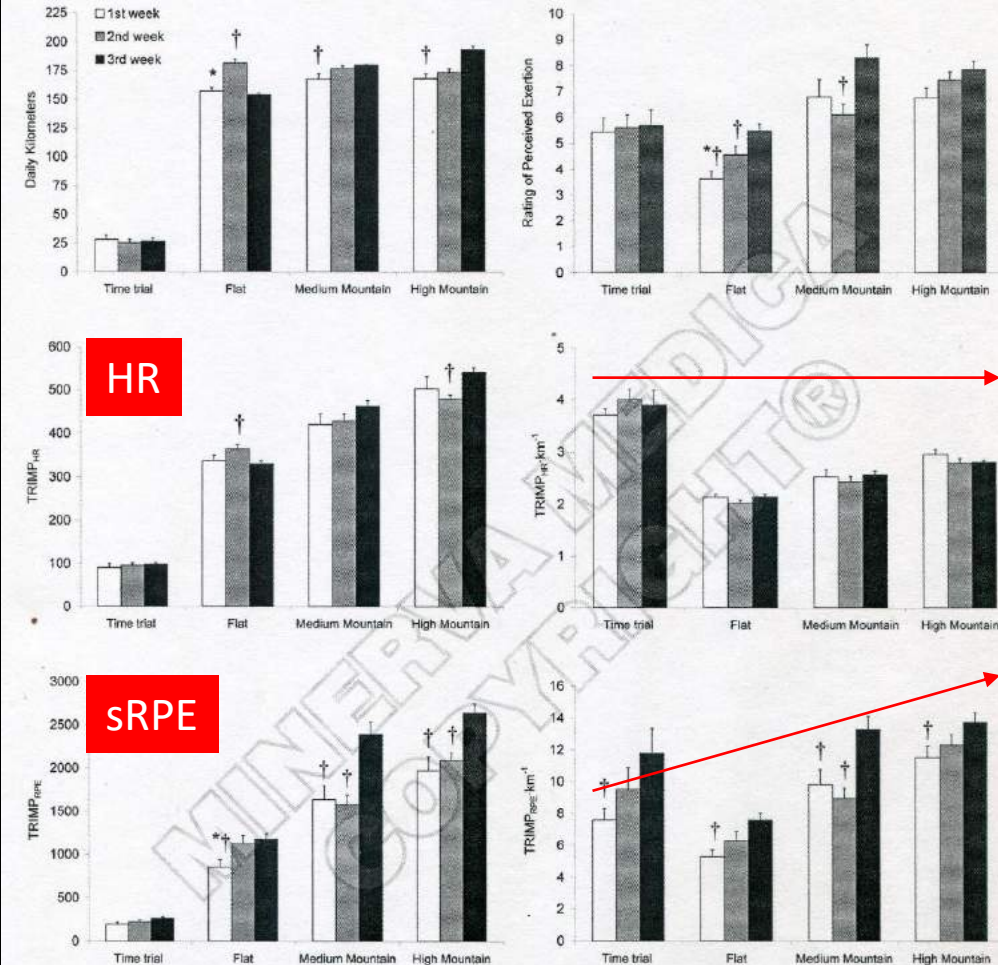
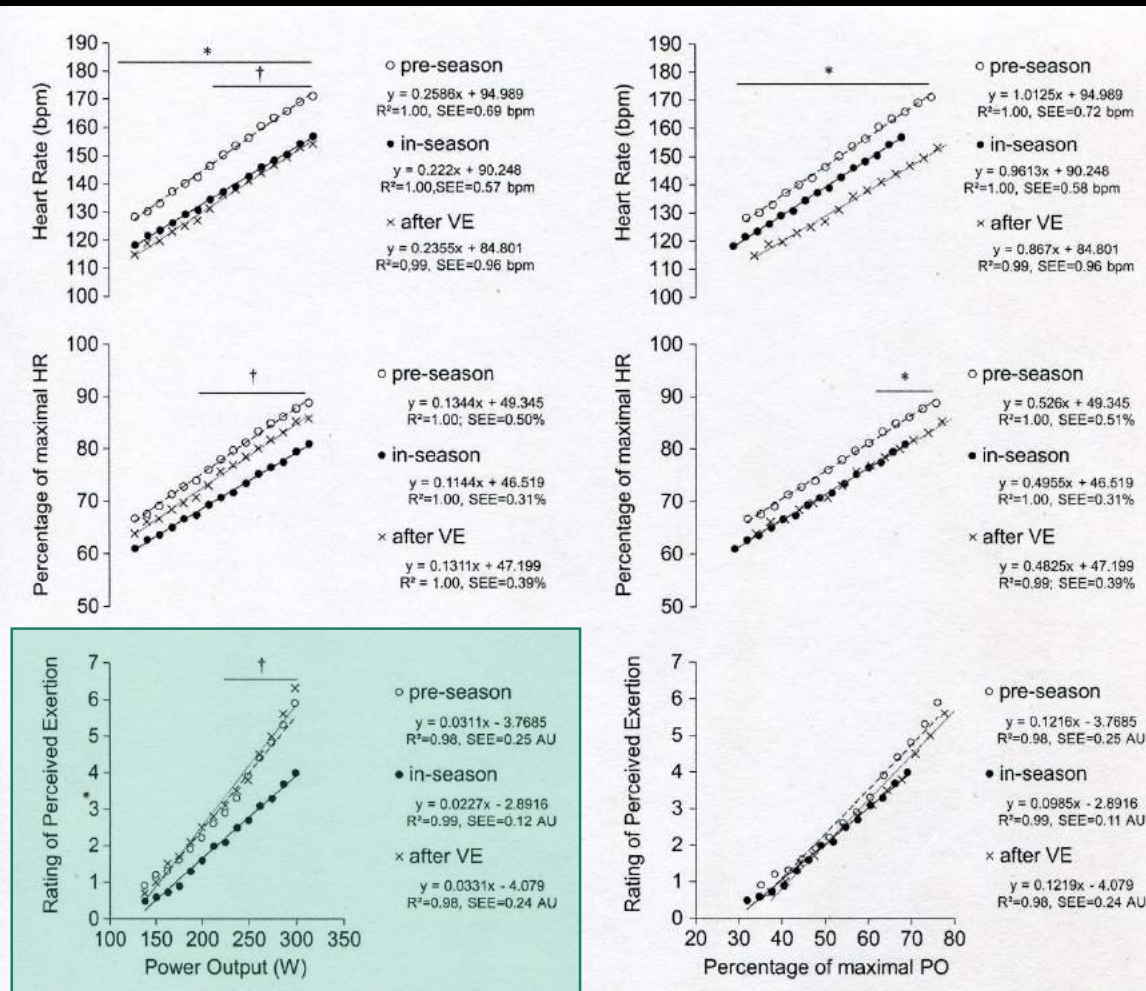


Figure 2.—Evolution of the daily kilometres, session RPE and competition load calculated using the HR ( $TRIMP_{HR}$ ) and session RPE ( $TRIMP_{RPE}$ ) and expressed as  $TRIMP \cdot km^{-1}$  in the different type of stages over the course of the *Vuelta a España*. \*significant difference with 2<sup>nd</sup> week ( $P < 0.05$ ); †significant difference with 3<sup>rd</sup> week ( $P < 0.05$ ).

## Reliability and Seasonal Changes of Submaximal Variables to Evaluate Professional Cyclists

Jose A. Rodríguez-Marroyo, Raúl Pernía, José G. Villa, and Carl Foster



**Figure 1** — Heart rate (HR), percentage of maximal HR, and rating of perceived exertion (RPE) as a function of absolute and relative power output (PO) between 125 W and 300 W during the progressive incremental test. SEE, standard error of estimate. \*Significant differences with after-VE ( $P < .05$ ). †Significant differences with in-season ( $P < .05$ ).

# COMPARISON OF HEART RATE AND SESSION RATING OF PERCEIVED EXERTION METHODS OF DEFINING EXERCISE LOAD IN CYCLISTS

*J Strength Cond Res 26: 2249-57, 2012*

JOSE A. RODRÍGUEZ-MARROYO,<sup>1</sup> GERARDO VILLA,<sup>1</sup> JUAN GARCÍA-LÓPEZ,<sup>1</sup> AND CARL FOSTER<sup>2</sup>

**TABLE 3.** Session RPE, HR, and daily time spent in the 3 intensity zones analyzed in the different weeks of 21-day races.\*†

	First week	Second week	Third week
RPE	5.1 ± 0.2‡	5.7 ± 0.2	6.5 ± 0.2
Maximal HR (b·min <sup>-1</sup> )	188 ± 1‡§	181 ± 1	180 ± 1
Mean HR (b·min <sup>-1</sup> )	143 ± 2§	140 ± 1	138 ± 1
Zone 1 (min)	98.9 ± 6.1	100.6 ± 6.2	118.3 ± 4.8
Zone 2 (min)	87.7 ± 5.5‡§	117.7 ± 5.1	132.1 ± 5.9
Zone 3 (min)	22.3 ± 2.8‡	10.9 ± 1.5	7.2 ± 1.0

\*Zone 1 = exercise intensity below VT; zone 2 = exercise intensity between VT and RCT); zone 3 = exercise intensity above RCT; RPE = rating of perceived exertion; HR = heart rate; RCT = respiratory compensation threshold; VT = ventilatory threshold.

†Values are mean ± SEM.

‡Significantly different from the third week ( $p < 0.05$ ).

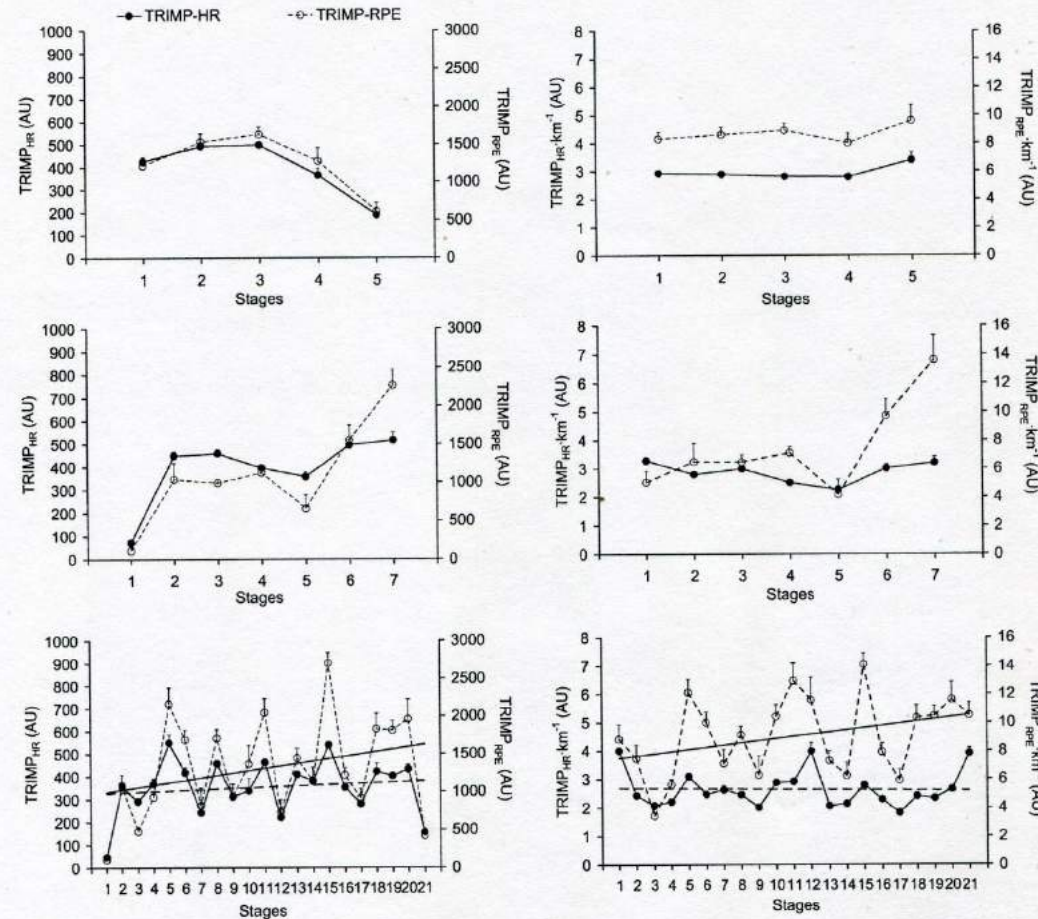
§Significantly different from the second week ( $p < 0.05$ ).

Wk 1=209 min /1064 au/ 10.7%  
 Wk 2=229 min/1306 au/ 4.6%  
 Wk 3=258 min /1674 au/ 2.8%

# COMPARISON OF HEART RATE AND SESSION RATING OF PERCEIVED EXERTION METHODS OF DEFINING EXERCISE LOAD IN CYCLISTS

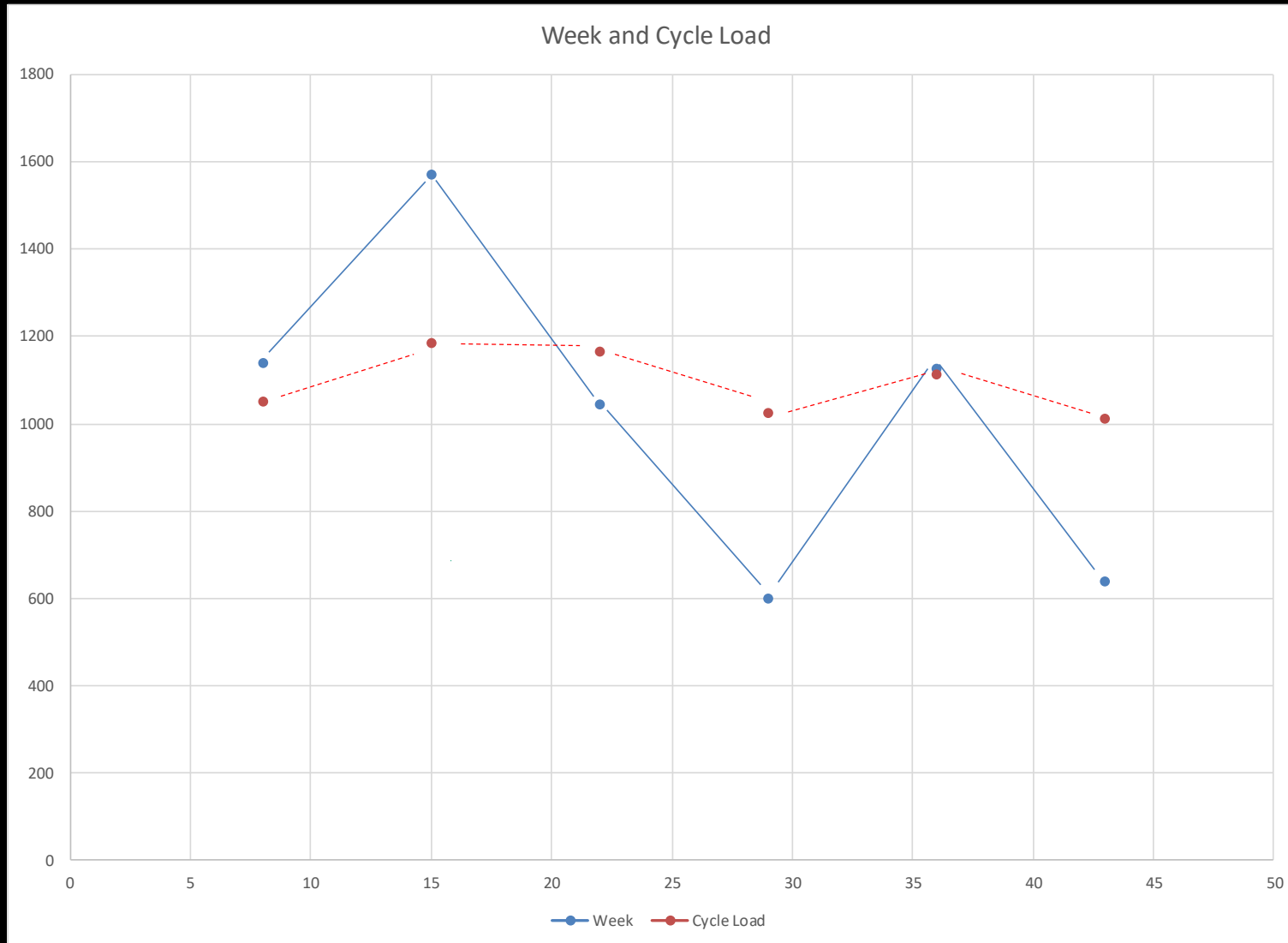
*J Strength Cond Res* 26: 2249-57, 2012

JOSE A. RODRÍGUEZ-MARROYO,<sup>1</sup> GERARDO VILLA,<sup>1</sup> JUAN GARCÍA-LÓPEZ,<sup>1</sup> AND CARL FOSTER<sup>2</sup>



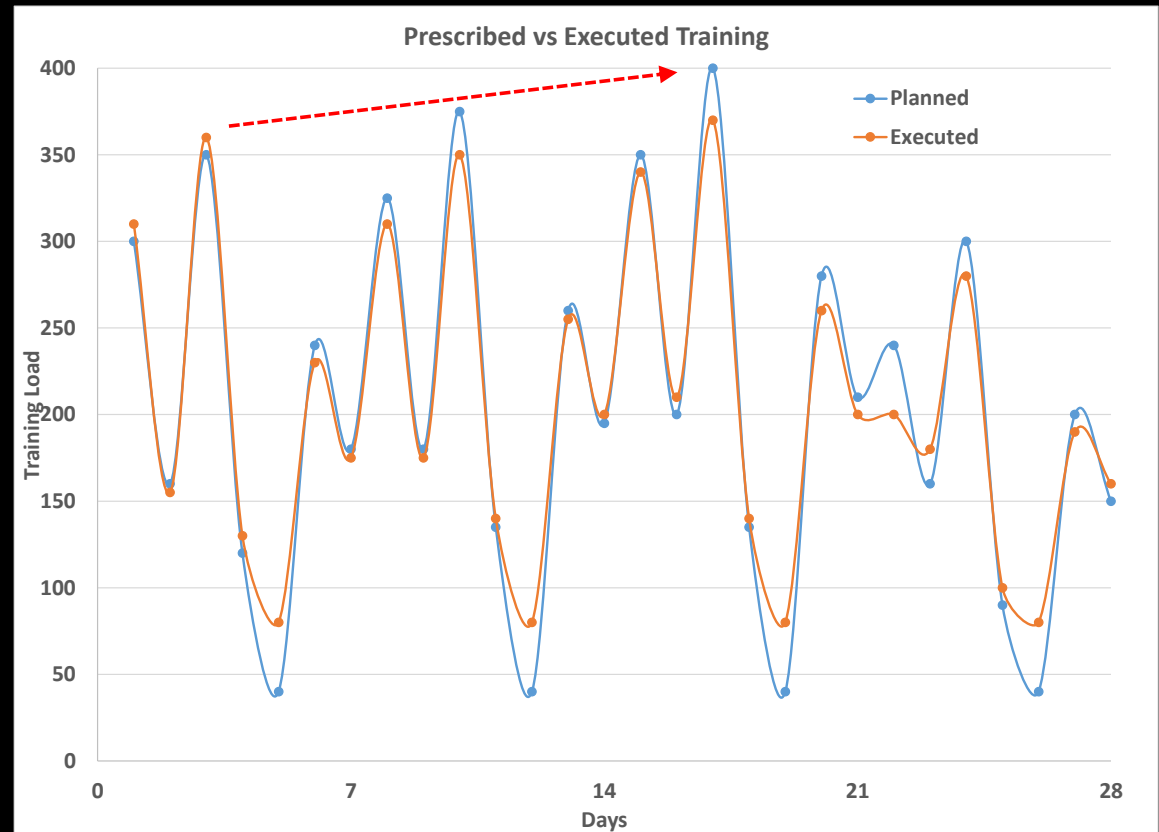
**Figure 5.** Trend of the competition load distribution during the course of the cycling races. Tracings from top to bottom represent 5-, 7-, and 21-day cycling races, respectively. AU = arbitrary units.

# What Does Training Monitoring Look Like?



# Do Your Patients/Athletes Do What You Want them to Do?

- How do you communicate to patients and physicians/coaches how well they are matching your designed training program?
- Have them collect it, plot it, and bring to you for discussion



# Summary



- Coach/athlete (therapist/patient\_ relationship)
- Monitor with a purpose!
  - Coaching aid
  - So you know what you're doing
  - So you know matching of plan vs execution
  - Progress outside competition
  - Make changes as needed!!!!
- Graphics to visualize data
  - Make patient/client/athlete record/graph
  - Discuss graph together
- Method of integrating training
  - Index Workouts
  - Warm-up
  - Training Load
    - Monotony
    - Training distribution
- Technology
  - Session RPE
  - Talk Test
  - HR Zone Sums
  - Volume/Step Counter/ Accelerometer
  - Speed/VO<sub>2</sub>/Lactate
- KISS

sRPE vs HR

sRPE Accounts for accumulated Fatigue!

# Thank You

A Cat Named Chicken Production

