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# Aerobic Training and its Influence on Long-Distance Running Performance

CDT Creighton Morgenfeld, Dr. Margaret Reynolds

MA389: United States Military Academy

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# Agenda

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1 Background

2 Literature Review

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# Motivation

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- Popularity of marathon and long-distance running



# Motivation

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- Popularity of marathon and long-distance running
- Well-established predictors of performance ( $\text{VO}_2$  max, lactate threshold, etc.)



# Motivation

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- Popularity of marathon and long-distance running
- Well-established predictors of performance ( $\text{VO}_2$  max, lactate threshold, etc.)
- Expensive, time consuming, and difficult tests



# Motivation

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- Popularity of marathon and long-distance running
- Well-established predictors of performance ( $\text{VO}_2$  max, lactate threshold, etc.)
- Expensive, time consuming, and difficult tests
- **Training indices** bridge gap (distance, pace, training sessions, etc.)



# Statistical Models

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- Slovic (1977) incorporated **training indices** into model. [4]
- Tanda (2011) found relationship between **average weekly distance** ( $K$ ) and **average pace** ( $P$ ) on race pace ( $P_m$ ). [5]

$$P_m = 17.1 + 140e^{-0.0053K} + 0.55P$$

- Doherty et al's (2020) meta analysis of 85 articles in the field. [1]
  - Results help inform endurance training



# Tanda's Model

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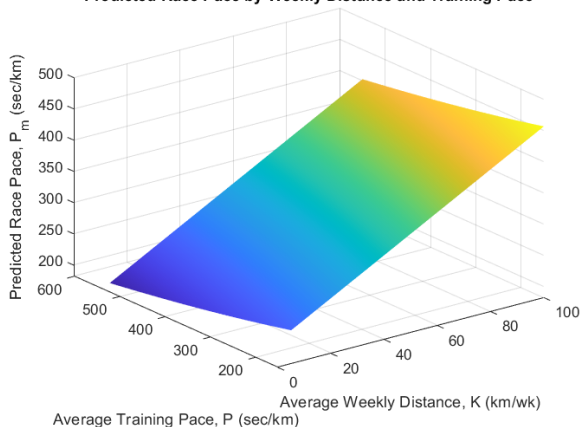
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$$P_m = 17.1 + 140e^{-0.0053K} + 0.55P$$

Predicted Race Pace by Weekly Distance and Training Pace







# Mechanistic Models

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- Keller's (1973, 1974) foundational work [2, 3]
- Woodside (1991) extended the model [6]



# Keller's Problem

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Given the following:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dv}{dt} + \frac{1}{\tau}v &= f(t), \quad f(t) \leq F \\ \frac{dE}{dt} &= \sigma - f(t)v(t), \quad E(0) = E_0 \\ T, \tau, \sigma\end{aligned}$$

Maximize:

$$D = \int_0^T v(t) dt$$



# Keller's Model

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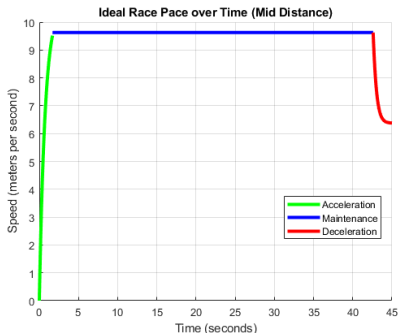
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$$v(t) = \begin{cases} F\tau(1 - e^{-t/\tau}), & 0 \leq t \leq t_1 \\ \tau/\lambda, & t_1 \leq t \leq t_2 \\ \sqrt{\sigma\tau + [v^2(t_2) - \sigma\tau]e^{-2(t_2-t)/\tau}}, & t_2 \leq t \leq T \end{cases}$$





# Keller's Model

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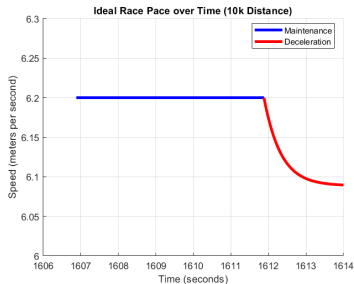
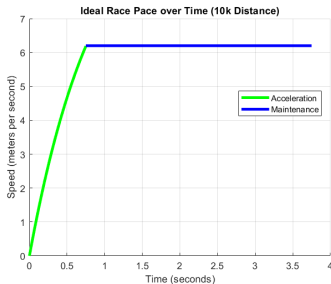
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$$v(t) = \begin{cases} F\tau(1 - e^{-t/\tau}), & 0 \leq t \leq t_1 \\ \tau/\lambda, & t_1 \leq t \leq t_2 \\ \sqrt{\sigma\tau + [v^2(t_2) - \sigma\tau]e^{-2(t_2-t)/\tau}}, & t_2 \leq t \leq T \end{cases}$$





# Way Ahead

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- Identify links between approaches



# Way Ahead

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- Identify links between approaches
- Determine important training indices



# Way Ahead

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- Identify links between approaches
- Determine important training indices
- Communicate effectively



# References

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- [1] Cailbhe Doherty, Alison Keogh, James Davenport, Aonghus Lawlor, Barry Smyth, and Brian Caulfield, *An evaluation of the training determinants of marathon performance: A meta-analysis with meta-regression*, Journal of Science and Medicine in Sport **23** (2020), no. 2, 182–188.
- [2] Joseph B. Keller, *A theory of competitive running*, Physics Today **26** (1973), 43–47.
- [3] ———, *Optimal velocity in a race*, The American Mathematical Monthly **81** (1974), no. 5, 474–480.
- [4] Paul Slovic, *Empirical study of training and performance in the marathon*, Research Quarterly. American Alliance for Health, Physical Education and Recreation **48** (1977), no. 4, 769–777, available at <https://doi.org/10.1080/10671315.1977.10615491>.
- [5] Giovanni Tanda, *Prediction of marathon performance time on the basis of training indices*, Journal of Human Sport and Exercise **Volume 6** (201109), 521–520.
- [6] William Woodside, *The optimal strategy for running a race (a mathematical model for world records from 50 m to 275 km)*, Mathematical and Computer Modelling **15** (1991), no. 10, 1–12.





# Appendix A – Doherty

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Marathon finish time	Average weekly distance	Weekly training hours	Peak' week	Longest training run	N runs >32km	Average training pace	N weekly runs
250	38.2	3.9	50.0	23.5		90.9	2.4
249	38.7	3.9	51.3	23.7		91.6	2.4
248	39.3	4.0	52.6	23.8		92.2	2.5
247	39.9	4.1	53.9	24.0		92.8	2.6
246	40.5	4.1	55.2	24.2		93.4	2.7
245	41.1	4.2	56.5	24.4		94.0	2.8
244	41.7	4.2	57.8	24.5		94.6	2.8
243	42.3	4.3	59.1	24.7		95.2	2.9
242	43.0	4.4	60.4	24.9		95.8	3.0
241	43.6	4.4	61.7	25.1		96.4	3.1
240	44.2	4.5	63.0	25.2		97.1	3.2



# Appendix B – Tanda 2D

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