Purdy's Computerized Training Program

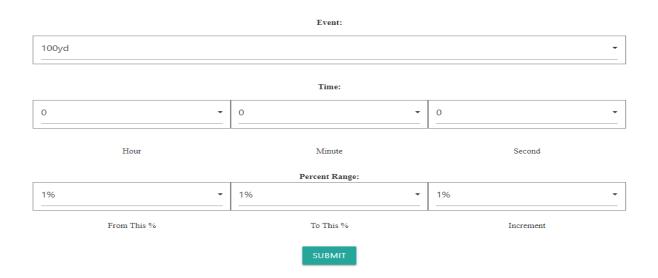
Description

This program was developed for coaches or runners alike so that they have the ability to input their running information into one program and thereby retrieve a table that shows what a runner should be able to run for any event given their abilities. It also allows for the percentage of effort, "Performance Percentage", to be manipulated and give coaches and runners the edited times for a "less-exerting" workout. The program works with multiple running events, being distance or sprint, relay or hurdle, the calculations match up despite the non-linearity of different events.

Example

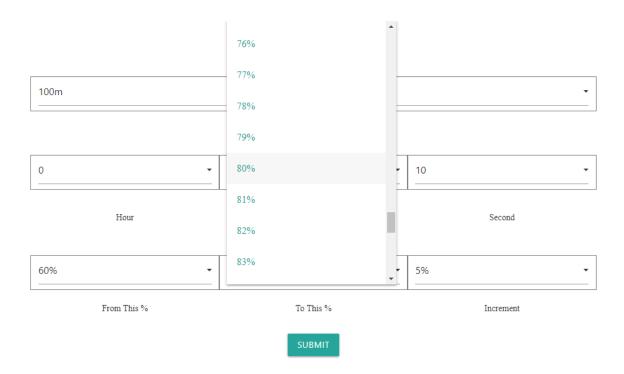
The following is an example of how a coach would use the program to direct his/her runner on a workout for the day:

1. The coach starts up the program and is shown the drop down boxes



Drop-down Boxes for Event, Time and Percent Range with Submit Button

2. The coach inputs his/her runner's event, 100 meter dash, as "100m"; the runner's time, 9.8 seconds, as "10 (seconds)"; and the desired percentage range for the exertion level s/he picked that day, 60% to 80% by 5% intervals, as "60% (From this %)" "80% (To This %)" "5% (Increment)"



Selection of Specified Coach Inputs into Dropdown Boxes

3. The coach hits the submit button and the table is generated/shown as output, with the ability to scroll down through all the events. The coach now has the times his/her runner should complete a distance in for a number of repetitions the coach picks with discretion to future events/trials/etc.

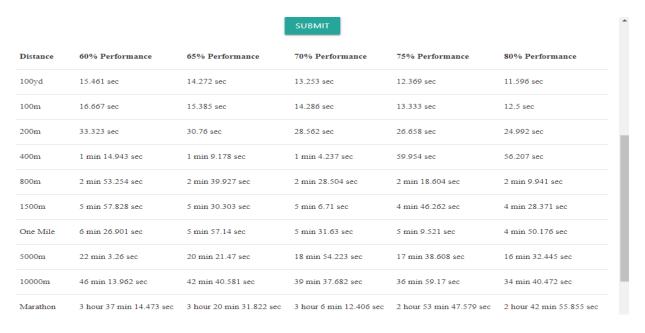


Table of Times for Events Ran at 60% to 80% Pacing of Best Time

Motivation

The motivation behind the creation of this program is to provide a simple program to our client and mentor: Michael Stahr. This project was meant to also count towards credit of the completion of the Computer Science Senior Design Project/Capstone requirement for graduating from Miami University of Ohio.

Purdy Research - How It Works

The program works based on the idea of Dr. Gerry Purdy's formula for defining a level system; that when given a velocity for a given event, a value is set for that performance. The formula found to solve this is as follows:

$$P = C_1 (M - z) + C_2 (e^{C3(M-z)} - 1)$$

Where:

- P = Purdy Points (what is trying to be found)
- C₁, C₂, and C₃ = These constants were found to equal constants found for the 500, 1100, and 1400 Purdy Point levels that were then normalized to the 1400 Purdy Point level in order to reconcile very large values. The values are found in the table shown below.

EVENT	C ₁	C ₂	C ₃
100 yd	851.88528	1.1643153 E-03	16.72092
100 m	839.75428	3.1833857 E-03	15.415497
200 m	881.70483	1.4162419 E-02	13.487407
400 m	1047.9015	2.1175050 E-05	22.084218
800 m	1131.6133	8.4512363 E-07	27.394097
1500 m	1164.4589	2.3040003 E-04	20.538790
One mile	1168.6261	3.5898808 E-04	19.974554
5000 m	1179.3839	2.6071613 E-03	17.831672
10000 m	1152,9698	1.1470485 E-02	15.899776
Marathon	1195.5466	6.7257161 E-02	12.725493
110 m HH	915.40060	7.7499020 E-02	12.025866
400 m IH	911.61065	9.2208460 E-02	11.805470
3000 m SC	1381.5344	2.1066044 E-02	14.743573
400 m R	879.66309	1.7573247 E-03	15.941420
1600 m R	939.19286	5.5475673 E-03	15.054013
High Jump	1628.6633	2.2572603 E-03	18.363365
Pole Vault	1209.5647	5.6711223 E-02	10.225523
Long Jump	1141.7440	2.8924221 E-03	13.404993
Triple Jump	1309.3753	2.8496697 E±06	22,407650
Shot Put	1001.1731	7.7887132 E+00	4.2556778
Discus	1067.8118	1.4504505 E+00	5.8442144
Hammer	1080.2544	1.0144750 E+00	6.1872162
Javelin	1030.1710	6.2638991 E+00	4.4074288

NOTE: Constants assume normalized values for the performance marks, i.e., each performance must be divided by the 1400 point level performance before the scoring equation is evaluated to determine the point score. See text for further explanation. Values are listed with the necessary significant digits to retain precision in the numerical evaluation process.

Normalized Constants for Each Event

The following excerpt is directly from Dr. Purdy's work in an attempt to show some insight on how these values came to be:

"...equations for C₁, C₂, and C₃ are computed iteratively by the Gauss-Seidell technique with initial values of 1.0 for the constants. Equation 2 is solved with the initial value of C_2 and C_3 . Equation 3 is solved with the initial value of C_3 and the new value of C₁. Finally, Equation 4, is solved with the new values of both C_1 and C_2 . These equations can be computed iteratively until the new values do not change substantially from the old ones. The main problem with this method is that converging to a final value for the constants tends to be a very slow process. When a small correlation is made to the constants, the next change is even smaller, and so on. Another method can be employed that will speed up the process. It is the method of Marguardt. This method uses the partial derivatives of the function equation, which in this case means the partials of Equation 1 with respect to the three constant parameters at each of the three known point levels (3 constant parameters, 3 known point levels, 9 partial derivatives). This algorithm requires good estimates of the constant parameters so that the initial values of the derivatives do not send the solution off in the wrong direction resulting in a divergence of the solution. The above Gauss-Seidell method gives the required first-level approximations...then used the Marguardt method to optimize the constant values."

- M = Performance Mark, the Velocity the program will calculate based on the user's entries for event and time, normalized (i.e. divided) by the 1400 Purdy Point level.
- z = Zero Offset, the Velocity that is set for each event given a Purdy Point level of zero, normalized (i.e. divided) by the 1400 Purdy Point level.

Contributors

The following people contributed to the creation of this program:

- Arianna Bryant Developer
- Jinxian Zhu Developer
- Binpeng Liu Developer
- Zengzhi Jiang Developer
- Michael Stahr Data/Information Provider and Mentor/Client