

# Applications of wearable data for performance, load, and recovery analytics

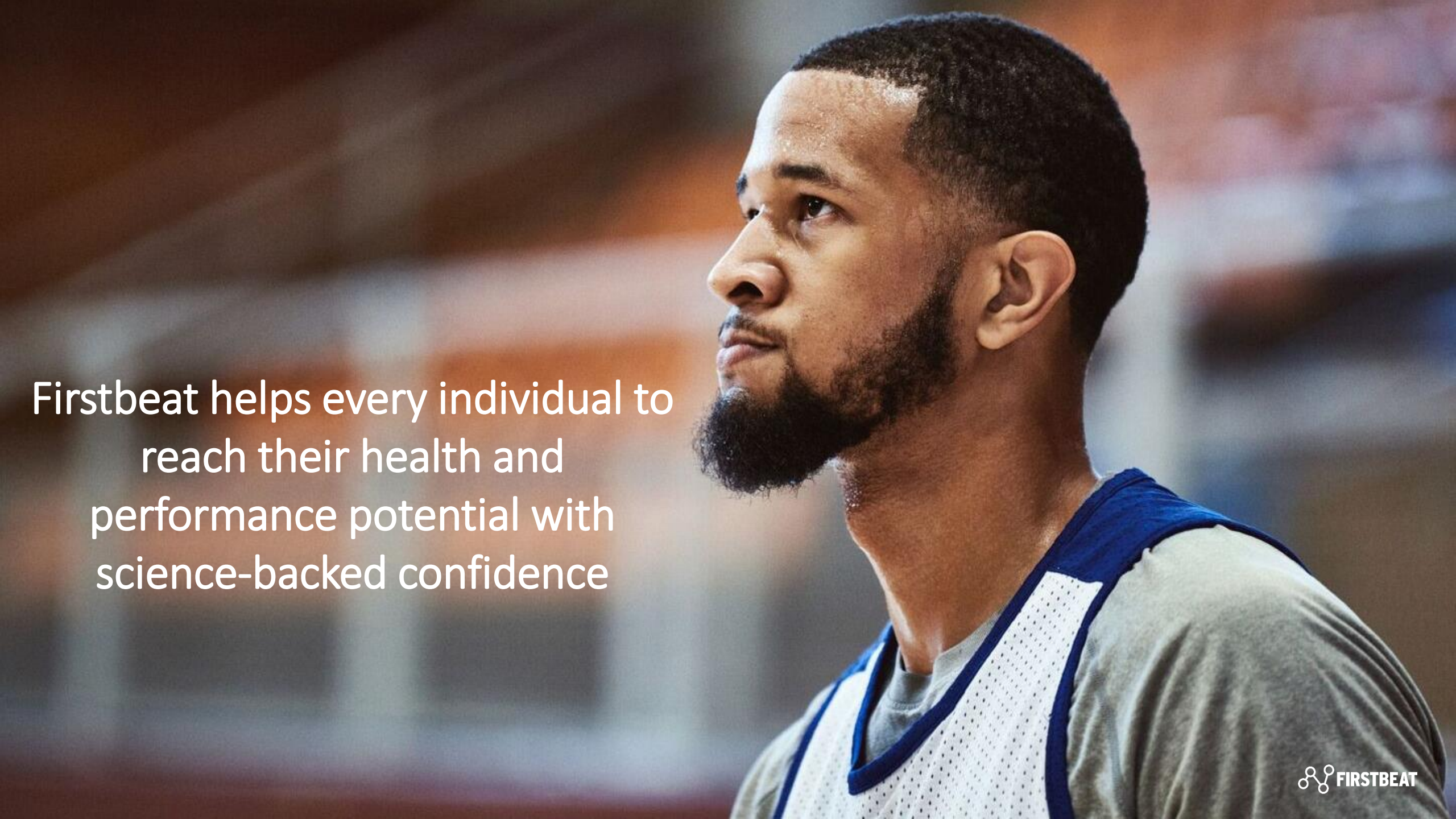
Tero Myllymäki

Head of physiology

17 May 2019





A close-up, profile shot of a man with a beard and short dark hair, looking off to the side. He is wearing a white basketball jersey with blue trim. The background is blurred, suggesting an indoor sports arena.

Firstbeat helps every individual to  
reach their health and  
performance potential with  
science-backed confidence

# TRUSTED AND USED BY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE

## PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

More than **23 000** professional athletes and **1000** teams worldwide use Firstbeat solutions to improve performance.

**1000+**

elite teams

**26**

national teams

**25%**

of Champions League soccer teams

**100+**

NCAA programs

**>50%**

of all NHL teams

## CONSUMER PRODUCTS

Firstbeat's advanced performance analytics are integrated into over **100 wearables** to provide meaningful insights for fitness and lifestyle.

GARMIN

SONY

huami

SAMSUNG

Microsoft

actxa®

SUUNTO

Jabra

withings

BOSCH

pear

EPSON®

HUAWEI

MONTBLANC

## WELLNESS SERVICES

Firstbeat Lifestyle Assessment has been delivered to **300 000** employees for lifestyle health screening and coaching

NHS



SUPERCELL

SAP

accenture

KPMG

CISCO

Standard Chartered



Heineken®

Canon

Unilever

EY



# EXAMPLES OF PRODUCTS WITH FIRSTBEAT ANALYTICS INSIDE



withings



GARMIN



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HUAWEI



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MONT  
BLANC



SUUNTO



HUAWEI

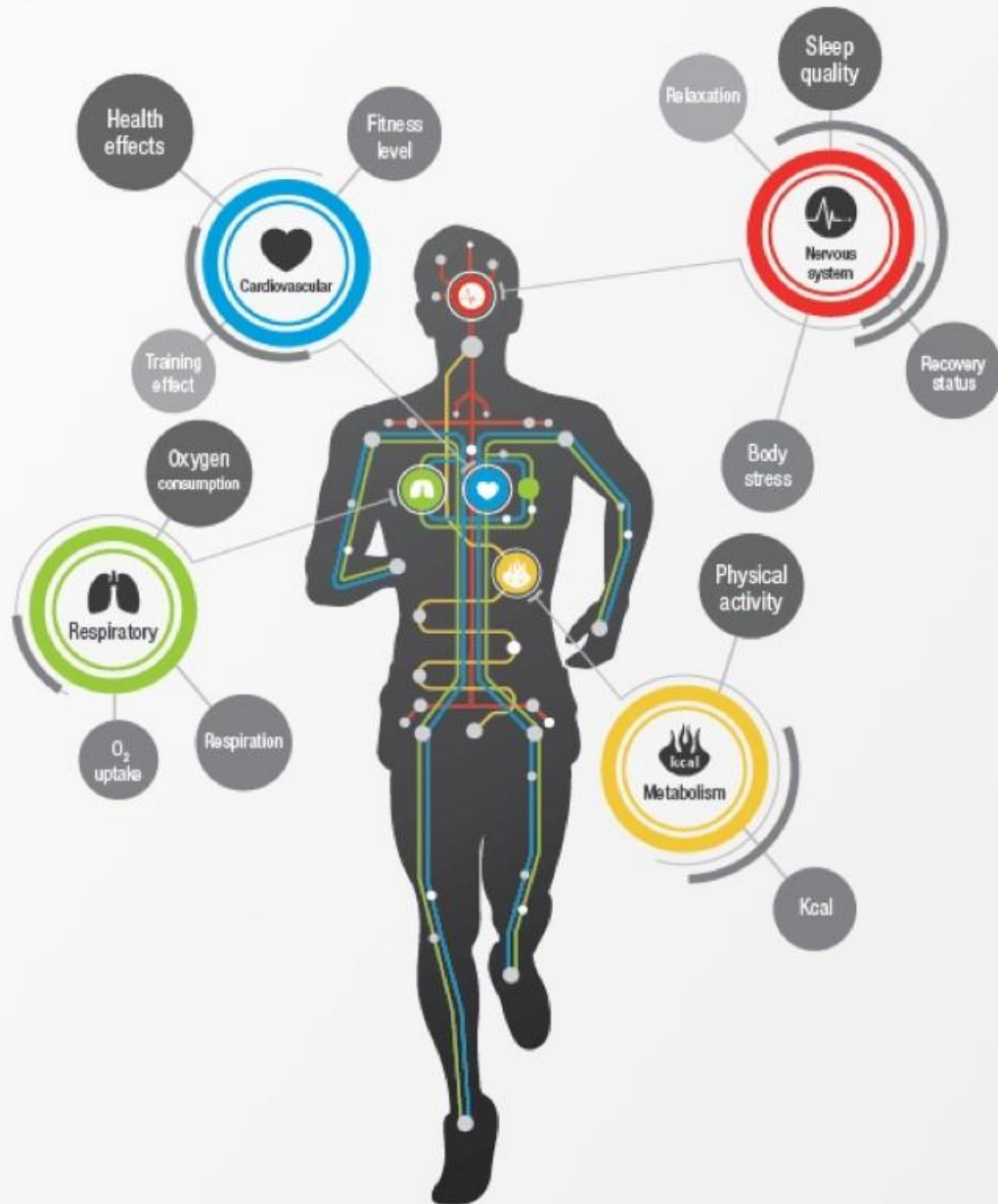


GARMIN



GARMIN

# DIGITAL MODEL OF PHYSIOLOGY



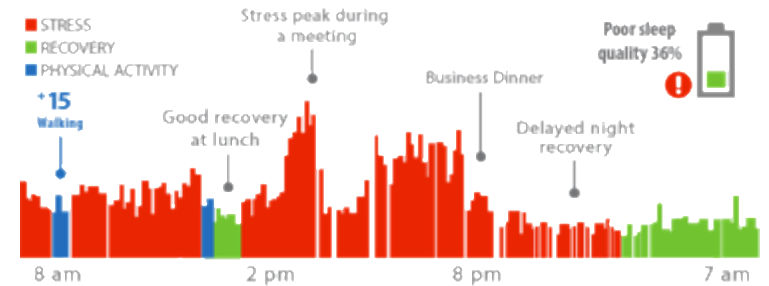
SLEEP QUALITY INDEX

**MODERATE** 72

42  
ml/kg/min  
You are in **GOOD** fit for your age!

## WORK

■ STRESS  
■ RECOVERY  
■ PHYSICAL ACTIVITY



## SLEEP

Poor sleep quality 36%

3.6  
TE

Improving fitness

↑ 15min more will highly improve your fitness!

3.8/5  
TE  
523  
KCAL

52h

**REST A WHILE**  
Next exercise in:  
52hours

You are fit for running!  
This workout would be good for you:

**INTENSIVE RUN**  
45min | 5mi | 3.6TE

START

Schedule for later

To improve fitness you need to recover so let's rest today.  
RECOVERY TIME: 24h

125  
Points

Good for health

**FIRSTBEAT**

A male cyclist is shown in a laboratory setting, wearing a black sleeveless top and shorts, equipped with a metabolic mask and a backpack-mounted device. A female researcher, wearing a black polo shirt and red pants, is operating a piece of equipment, likely a metabolic cart, connected to the cyclist. The background is a blurred laboratory environment with various equipment and structural elements.

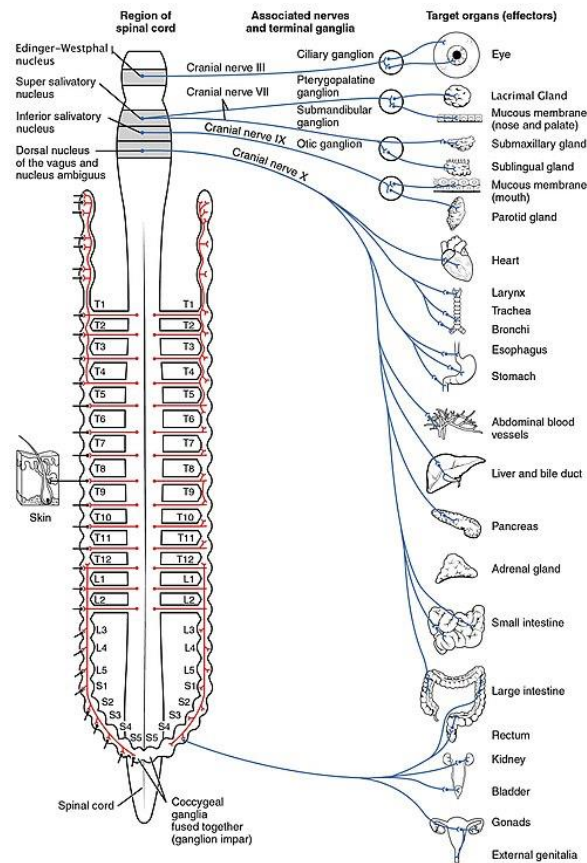
# PHYSIOLOGY

Human physiology seeks to understand the mechanisms that work to keep the human body alive and functioning



# AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM CONTROLS OUR BODY

## Parasympathetic



Heart regulation

Respiration

Oxygen demand

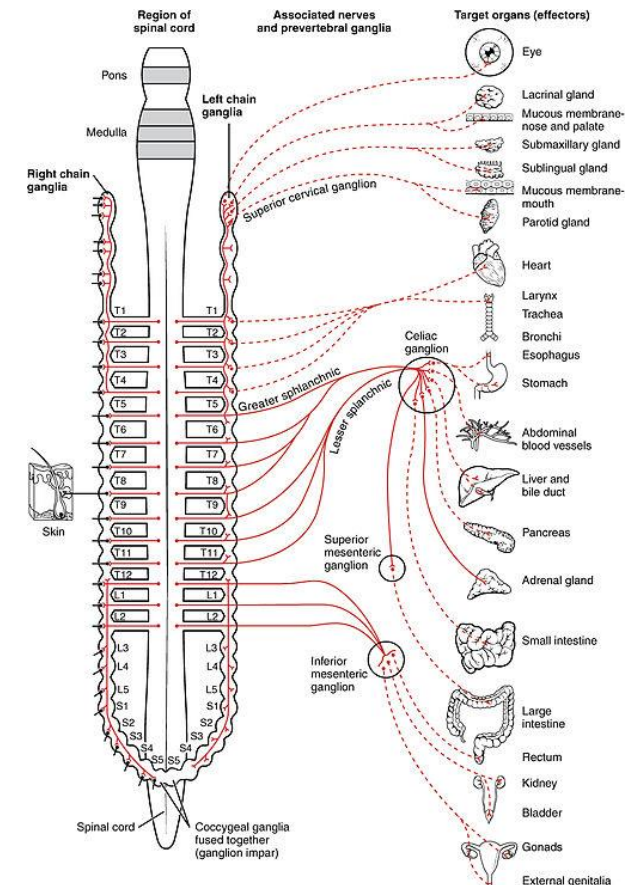
Stress response

Sleep

Recovery

Digestion

## Sympathetic



Adapted from: OpenStax College - Anatomy & Physiology, Connexions Web site

# HRV GIVES US ACCESS TO AUTONOMIC NERVOUS SYSTEM

**Heart rate variability** (HRV) refers to beat-by-beat changes in heart rate.

HRV is mediated by **autonomic nervous system** (ANS)<sup>1</sup> and scientific studies have shown HRV can be used as a non-invasive measure of sympathetic and parasympathetic activity.

**HRV reflects the control of heart.** Heart reflects body's physiological processes and demands such as exercise status, hormonal reactions, metabolism, cognitive processes, stress reactions, relaxation/recovery, sleeping and emotions.

## Autonomic nervous system (ANS): Balance, Control of Heartbeat

+

**Sympathetic**  
Activation,  
mobilization  
of body  
resources

-

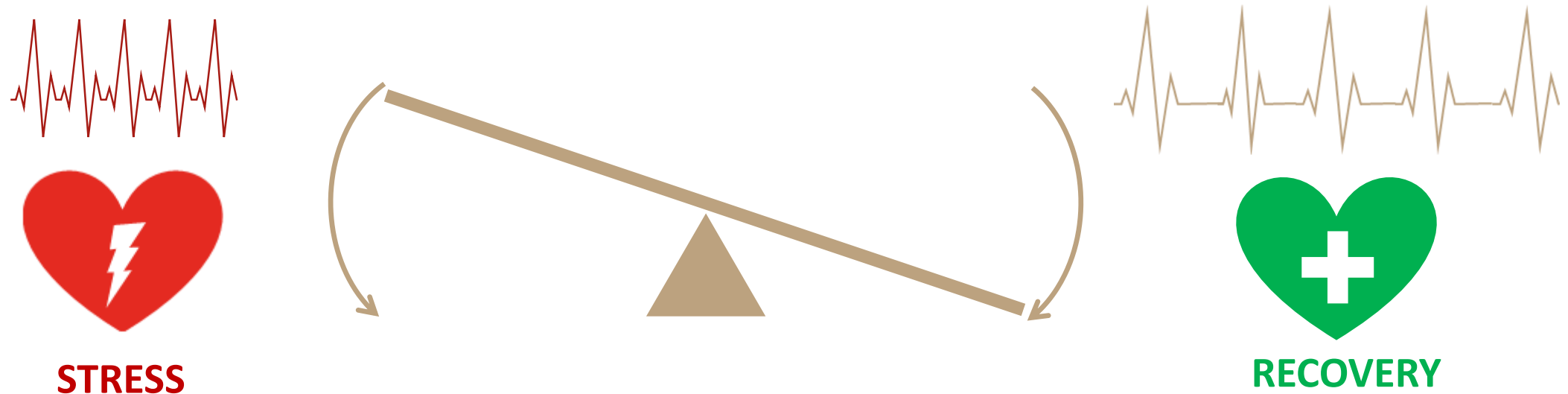
**Parasympathetic**  
Calming down,  
recovery,  
restoration of  
resources



<sup>1</sup> Task Force 1996. Heart rate variability: standards of measurement, physiological interpretation and clinical use. *Circulation*. 93(5):1043-65.



# HEALTHY HEART HAS VARIATION



## Reduced / low HRV is associated with

Acute stress (Hall et al 2004)

Work stress (Vrijkotte et al 2000, Clays et al 2011)

Heart disease, anxiety, depression, asthma and PTSD ...

## High HRV is associated with

Reduced morbidity and mortality (Sajadieh et al 2004; Stein et al 2005)

Psychological well-being and quality of life (Geisler et al 2010)

Better physical fitness (de Meersman 1993)

# OUR APPROACH

Firstbeat wants to truly understand how human body works for **providing the most accurate and meaningful feedback** for anyone interested on wellbeing, health and performance.

Firstbeat analytics is **based on applying heart rate variability** and other sensor information and packing that into compelling UX on human physiology.

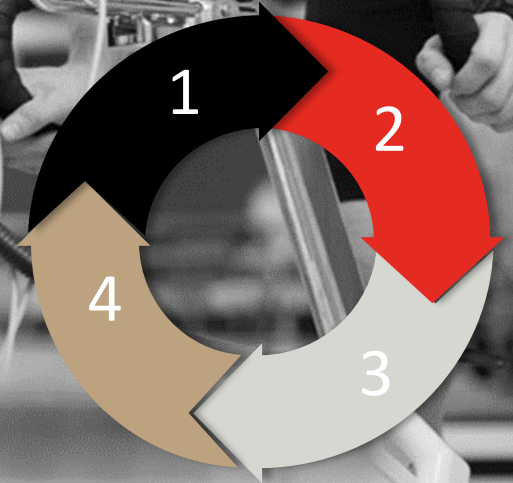
Firstbeat analytics has been developed to form a comprehensive network of algorithms during 20 years **by expert teams** of physiology, mathematics, and software development.

1. Collect data in a lab

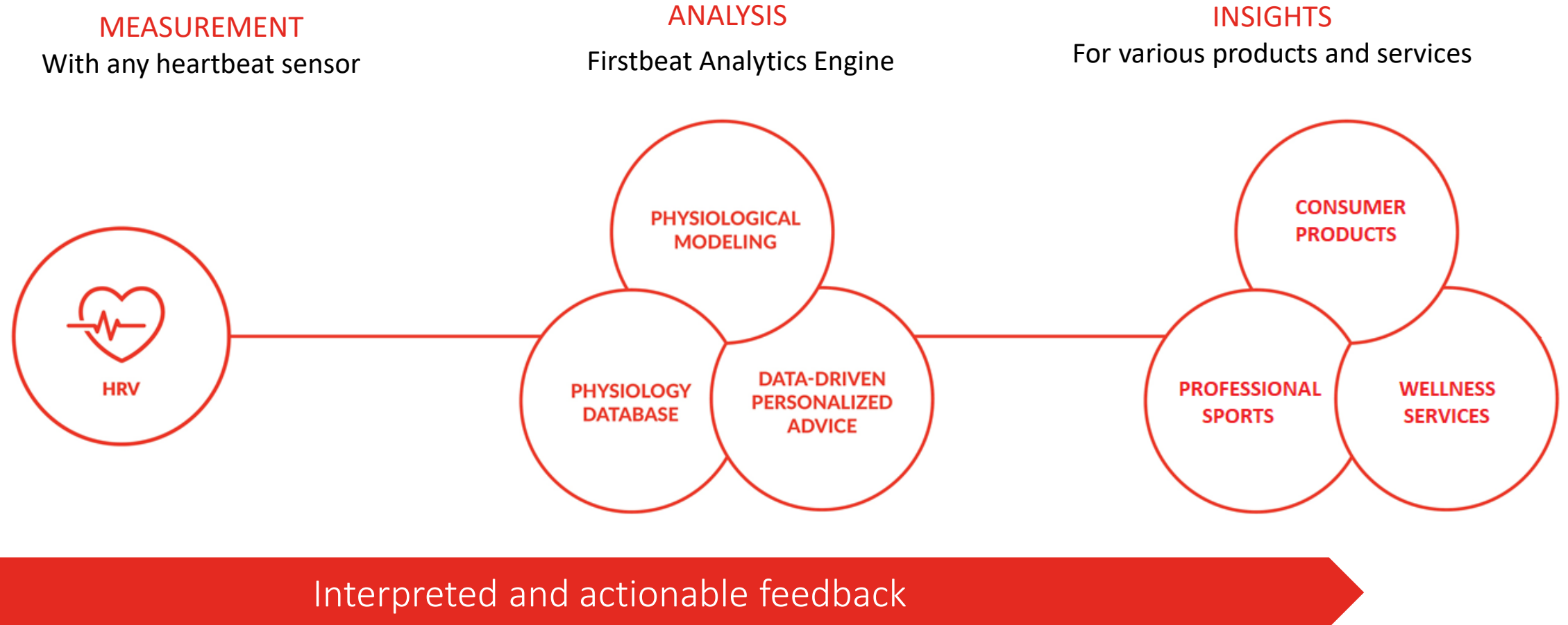
2. Build algorithms

3. Test & validate

4. Improve constantly



# FROM MEASUREMENT TO INSIGHTS





# SENSORS

## CONSUMER DEVICES

Optical HR monitors and chest straps



## FIRSTBEAT BODYGUARD2

ECG-based HR monitor



## FIRSTBEAT SPORTS SENSOR

ECG-based chest strap with memory



# DIGITALIZING BODY

1. Measurement (RR-intervals, acceleration, speed, power)
2. Signal processing, artefact correction, and quality control
3. Algorithms, decision trees, neural networks, AI
4. Digital modelling of physiology systems
5. Personal calibration and adaptation
6. Body status, interpretation for different use cases, insights on the contexts
7. Benefiting from the knowledge, e.g. feedback on lifestyles and effects of behaviors



ANS balance  
Stress & recovery  
Body resources  
Sleep

VO2max / Fitness level  
Training effects & load  
Training status  
Lactate threshold / FTP

Oxygen consumption  
Excess Post-exercise  
Oxygen consumption  
(EPOC)  
Respiration

Energy expenditure  
Physical activity  
Health effects

# APPLICATIONS OF TRACKING PERFORMANCE AND LOAD

17 May 2019





# CLASSICAL FIELD TEST OF FITNESS LEVEL (VO2MAX)

**The Cooper Test** (12 min run test) was designed by Kenneth H. Cooper in 1968 for US military use

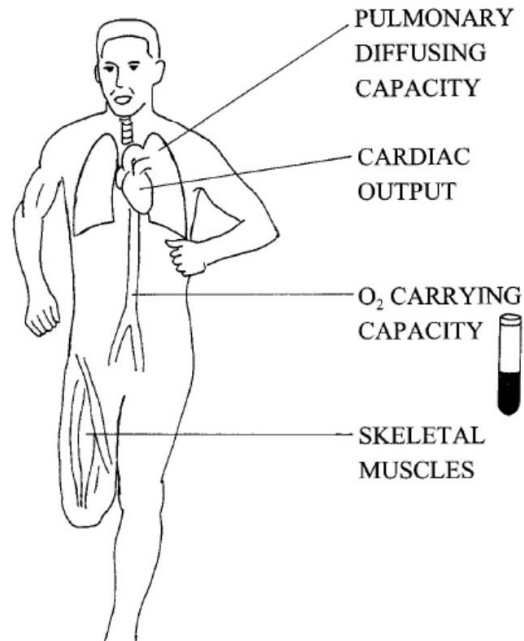
**Challenge:** requires maximal effort, monitoring of distance and time, and a standardized track/route

$$\text{VO}_2 \text{ max} = \frac{d_{12} - 504.9}{44.73}$$

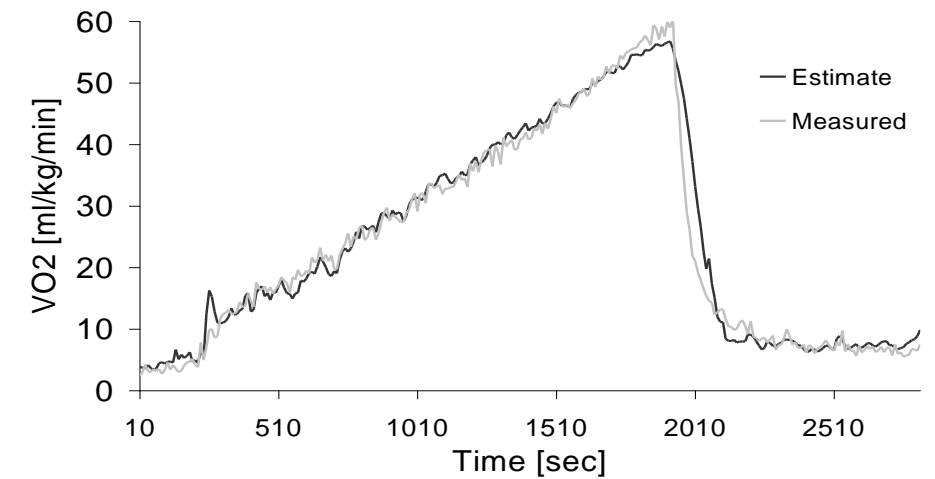
Where d12 is the distance in meters completed in 12 minutes

## HOW ABOUT GETTING VO2MAX FROM ANY RUNNING WORKOUT?

# LABORATORY TESTING



\* Bassett DR jr & Howley ET (2000). Limiting factors for maximal oxygen uptake and determinants of endurance performance. Med & Sci Sports & Exerc. 32 (1): 70-84.

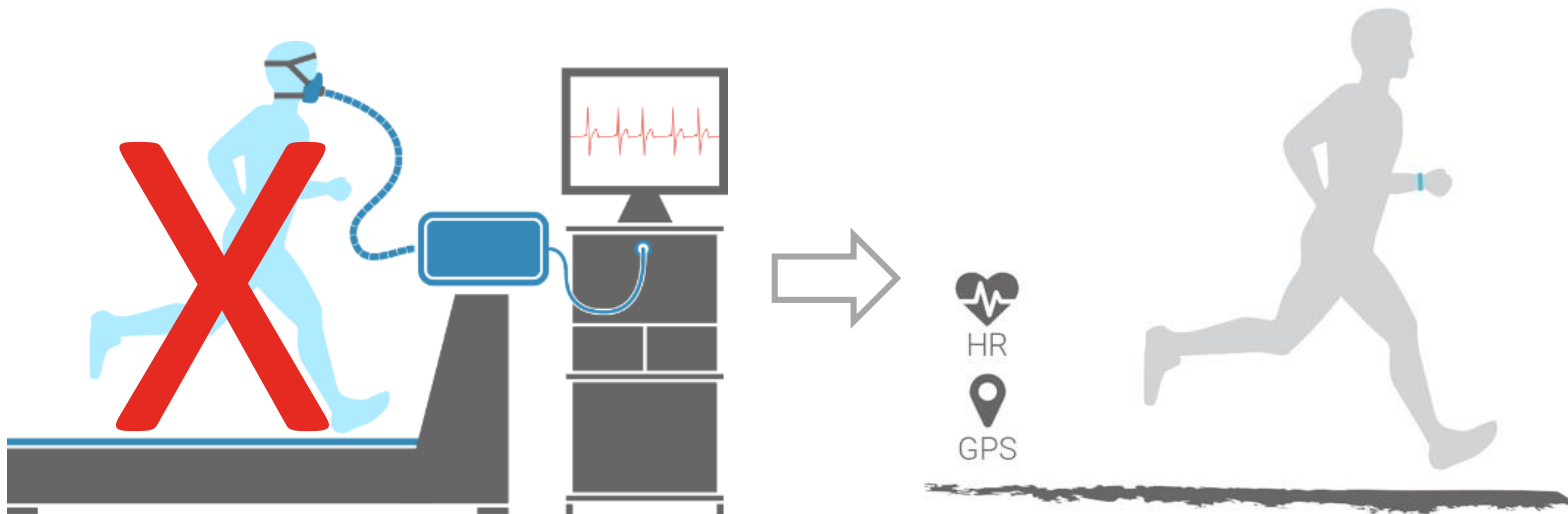
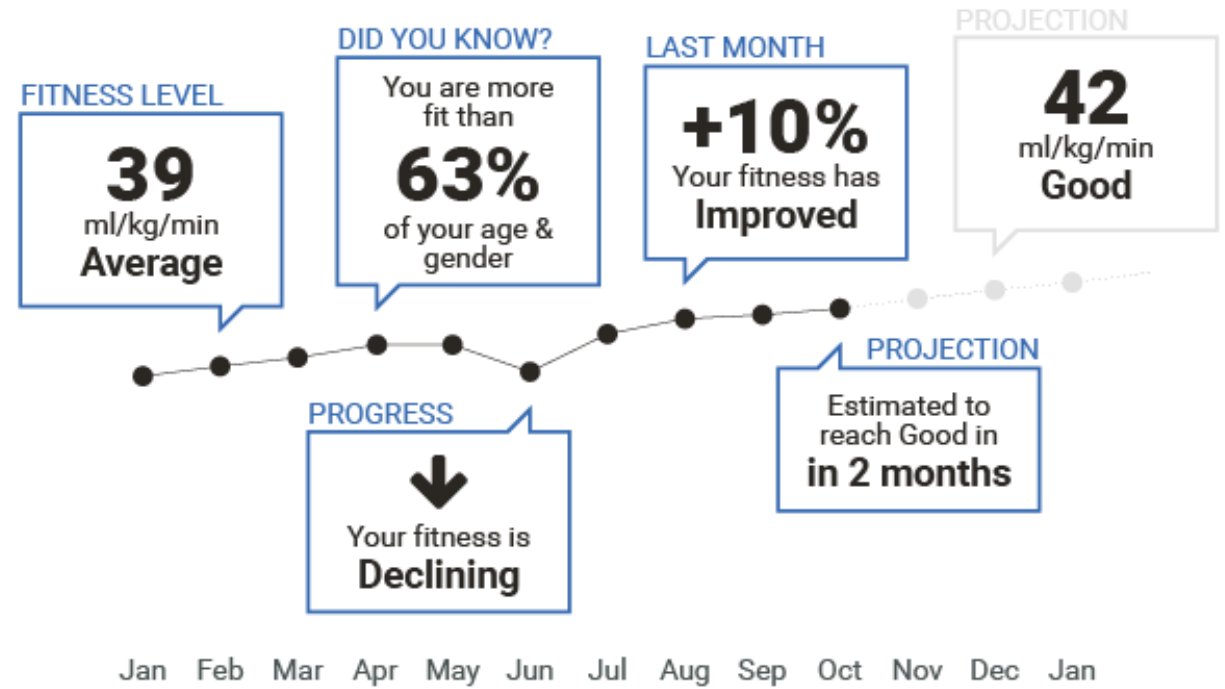


Science background

Gold-standard data  
collection

Physiology modeling

# VO2MAX FROM ANY OUTDOOR RUN





# FIRSTBEAT VO2MAX ANALYTICS EVOLUTION

BEFORE  
FIRSTBEAT

GEN 1

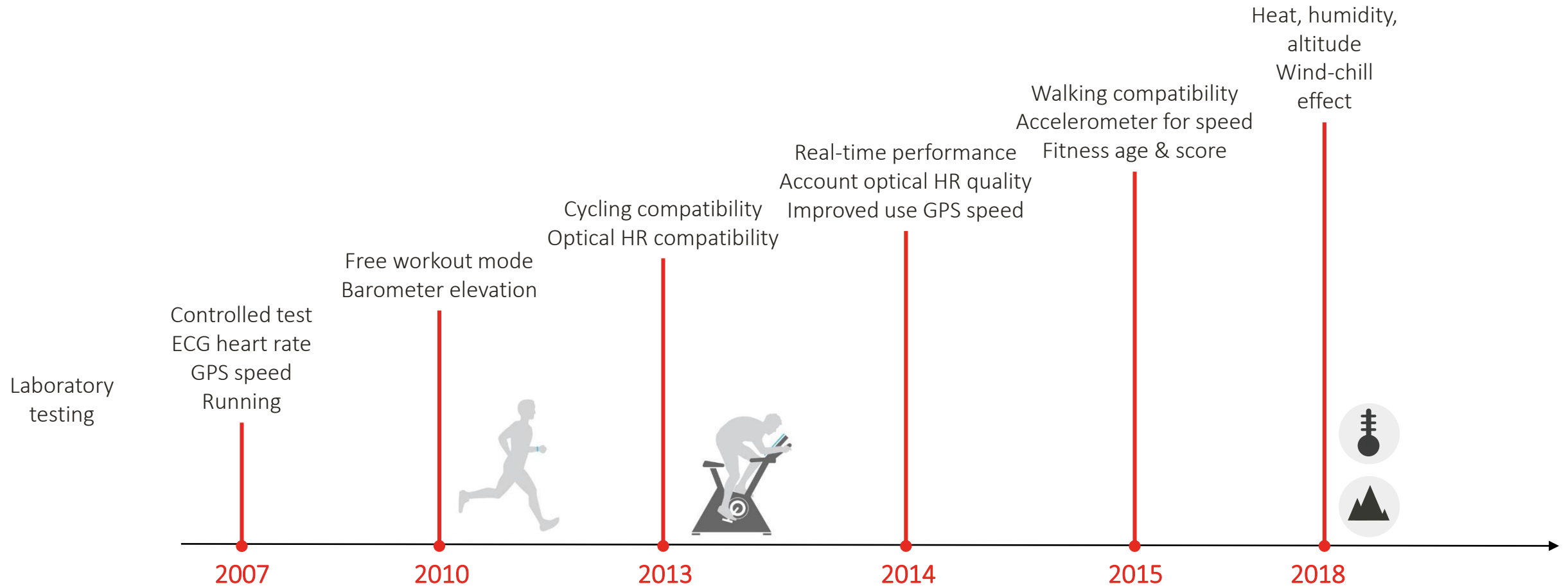
GEN 2

GEN 3

GEN 4

GEN 5

GEN 6

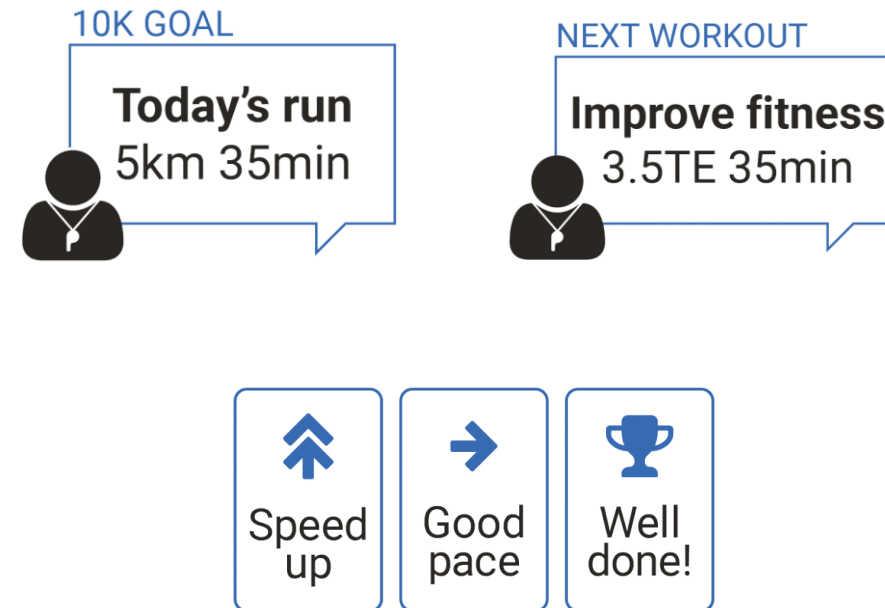


# HOW TO IMPROVE FITNESS?

## MEASURE THE IMPACT OF TRAINING



## GET PERSONALIZED GUIDANCE AND COACHING



# TRAINING ADAPTATIONS

## AEROBIC EFFECTS OF TRAINING

- Improved VO<sub>2</sub>max, endurance and fatigue resistance abilities
- Improved aerobic metabolism due to higher capillary density and aerobic enzyme activity
- Enhanced ability to use fat as energy source
- Improved central and peripheral blood flow, ventilation/pulmonary fitness

## ANAEROBIC EFFECTS OF TRAINING

- Improved ability to produce high-levels of energy anaerobically and turn that into sprinting performance
- Improved anaerobic metabolism and enzyme activity
- Elevated CP and ATP stores in the muscles
- Enhanced glucose and glycogen metabolism
- Biomechanical & neuromuscular adaptation



# DRIVING FACTORS IN ELITE SPORTS



## OPTIMIZE PERFORMANCE

Offer personalized training advice based on what works best for each player.



## REDUCE INJURIES

Manage training loads and recovery together with data to minimize injury risks.



## FAST-TRACK PLAYER DEVELOPMENT

Teach players how to listen to their bodies and help them achieve their full potential

# WINNING TEAMS BALANCE LOAD, STRESS AND RECOVERY

## TRAINING LOAD



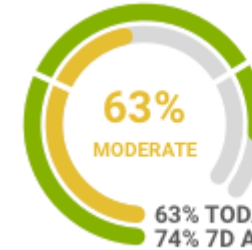
DURATION TODAY  
00:57:35 ▼

TRIMP  
TRIMP TODAY  
128 ▼

## TRAINING EFFECT



## RECOVERY STATUS ▼

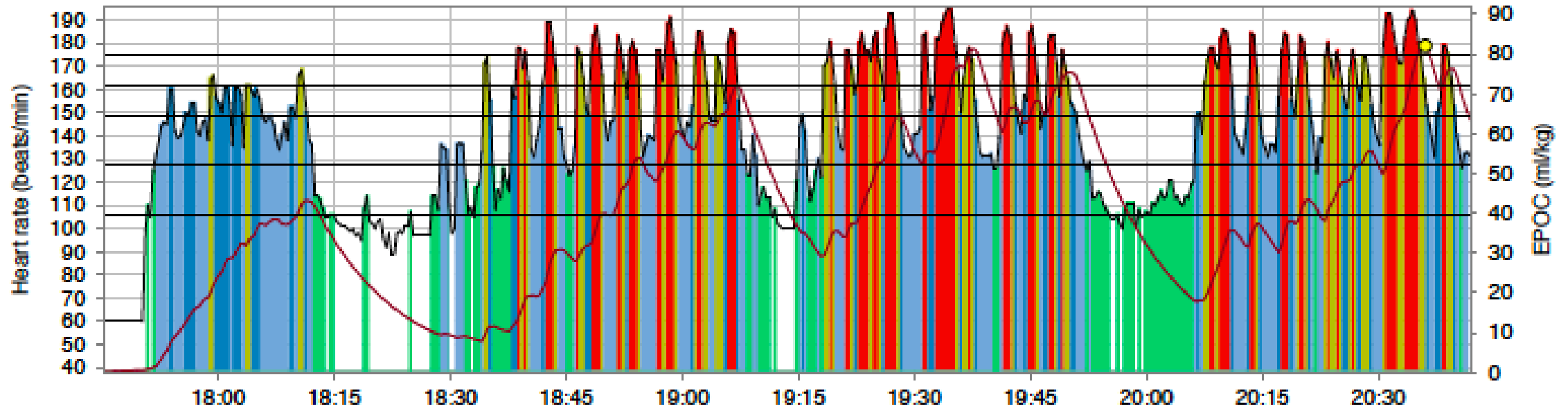


## ATHLETE DISTRIBUTION

EXCELLENT	2
GOOD	2
MODERATE	3
POOR	1



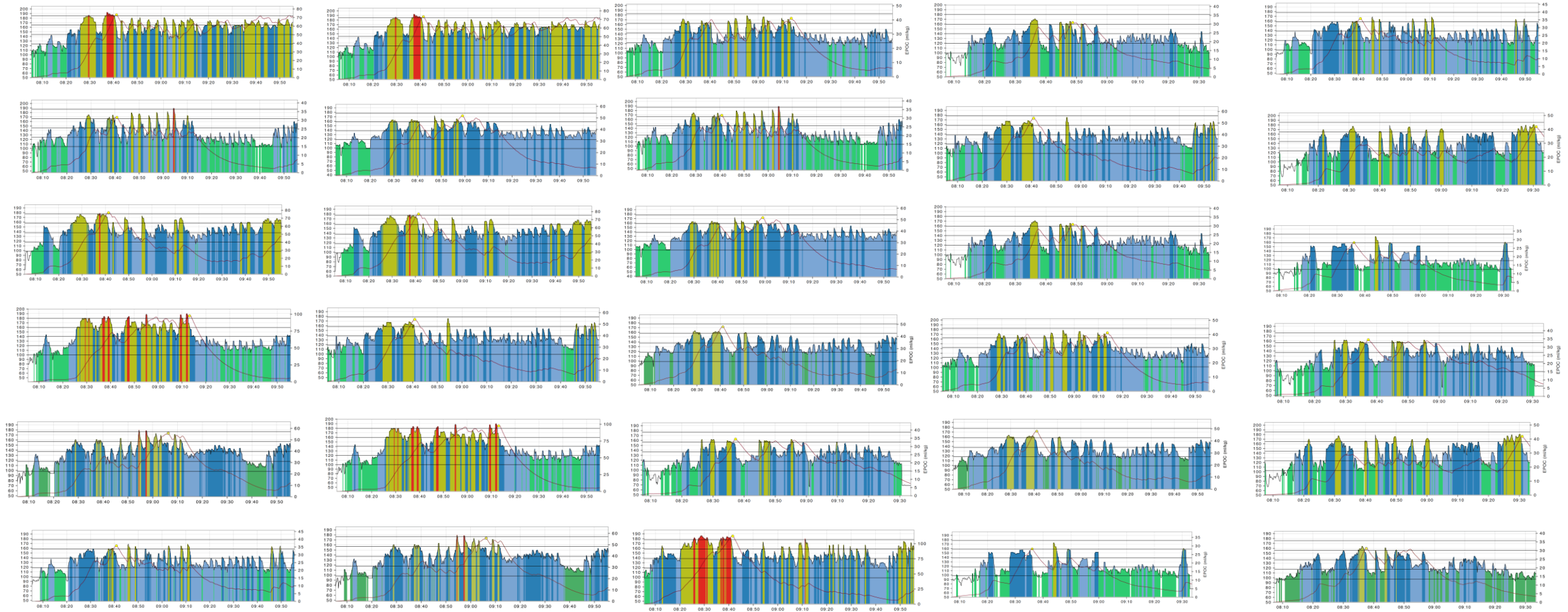
# LOAD ACCUMULATION IN GAME



- TOTAL TRIMP 233 (175min) => 1.3 TRIMP/min
- TRIMP in 1-3 periods: 176 (105min) => **1.7 TRIMP/min**



# WHY LOAD QUANTIFICATION IS NEEDED IN TEAM SPORTS?



# TEAM OR PERSONAL MONITORING CLOSE-BY OR IN THE DISTANCE

## Firstbeat Sports Sensor (BLE)

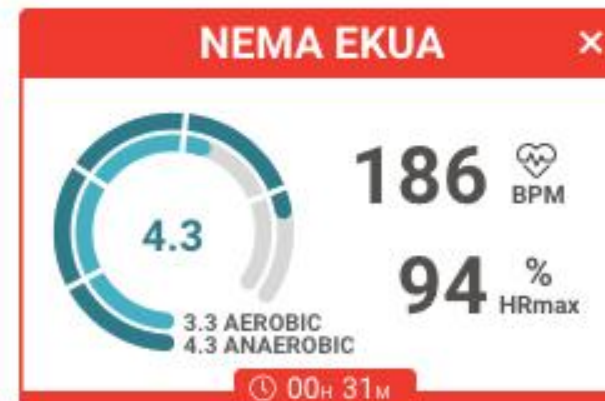
- 12-hour built-in memory for data
- Embedded processor for load calculations (e.g. aerobic and anaerobic training effect, TRIMP, energy expenditure)
- Beat-by-beat heart rate detection and 9D acceleration (accelerometer, gyroscope and magnetometer) sensors
- Water resistant 30m / 100ft

## Firstbeat Sports Live app (ipad)

- Real-time display for intensity and cumulative load
- Range of 40-100meters (BLE)
- Wireless data upload and memory upload
- Automatic sync to cloud









# APPLICATIONS OF WEARABLE DATA IN TRACKING RECOVERY

17 May 2019



# TOP PERFORMANCE REQUIRES BALANCE

# LEARN HOW YOUR BODY REACTS



## MANAGE STRESS

Recognize activities that cause stress



## ENHANCE RECOVERY

See how you recover during day and night



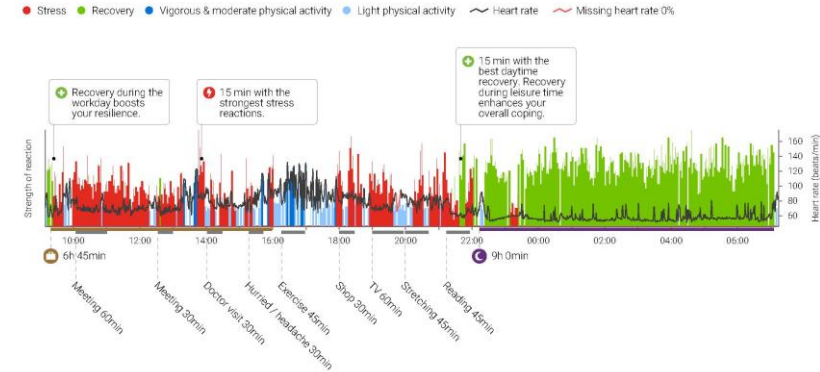
## EXERCISE RIGHT

Understand the effects of physical activity

### LIFESTYLE ASSESSMENT

Person: Ellie Example			
Age	42	Activity Class	6.0 (Good)
Height (cm)	158	Resting heart rate	46
Weight (kg)	51	Max. heart rate	175
Body Mass Index	20.4		

Measurement:	
Start time	Thu 23.02.2012 09:09
Duration	22h 6min
Heart rate (low/avg/high)	50 / 67 / 132



#### STRESS AND RECOVERY

##### STRESS AND RECOVERY BALANCE

60 - 100p Good  
30 - 59p Moderate  
0 - 29p Low

**87**  
100

Stress and recovery balance was good.

##### AMOUNT OF STRESS REACTIONS

7h 6min

≤ 40% Normal  
≥ 60% More than usual

32%

##### AMOUNT OF RECOVERY (day & night)

8h 3min

≤ 20% Low  
20 - 29% Moderate  
≥ 30% Good

36%

➢ A small amount of recovery during the daytime (21min).

#### SLEEP

##### RESTORATIVE EFFECT OF SLEEP

60 - 100p Good  
30 - 59p Moderate  
0 - 29p Low

**98**  
100

The sleep period was long enough and recovery was good.

##### LENGTH OF SLEEP

9h 0min (Good)

7h 41min

≤ 50% Low  
50 - 74% Moderate  
≥ 75% Good

85%

##### QUALITY OF RECOVERY (Heart rate variability)

0 - 18 ms Low  
19 - 35 ms Moderate  
≥ 36 ms Good

42 ms

##### SELF-REPORTED SLEEP QUALITY

😊 😊 😊 😊 😊

#### PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

##### HEALTH EFFECTS OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

60 - 100p Good  
30 - 59p Moderate  
0 - 29p Low

**64**  
100

Good health effects

##### DURATION OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Light 2h 42min  
Moderate 16min  
Vigorous 1min

#### ENERGY EXPENDITURE

##### TOTAL ENERGY EXPENDITURE

1786 kcal

● Vigorous & moderate physical activity 100 kcal  
● Light physical activity 408 kcal  
○ Other 1279 kcal



# PROCESS OF IMPROVING EMPLOYEE WELLNESS WITH WEARABLE DATA



## MEASURE

Physiological snapshot of everyday life



## LEARN FROM DATA

Identify factors that affect your well-being and performance



## GET THE BALANCE RIGHT

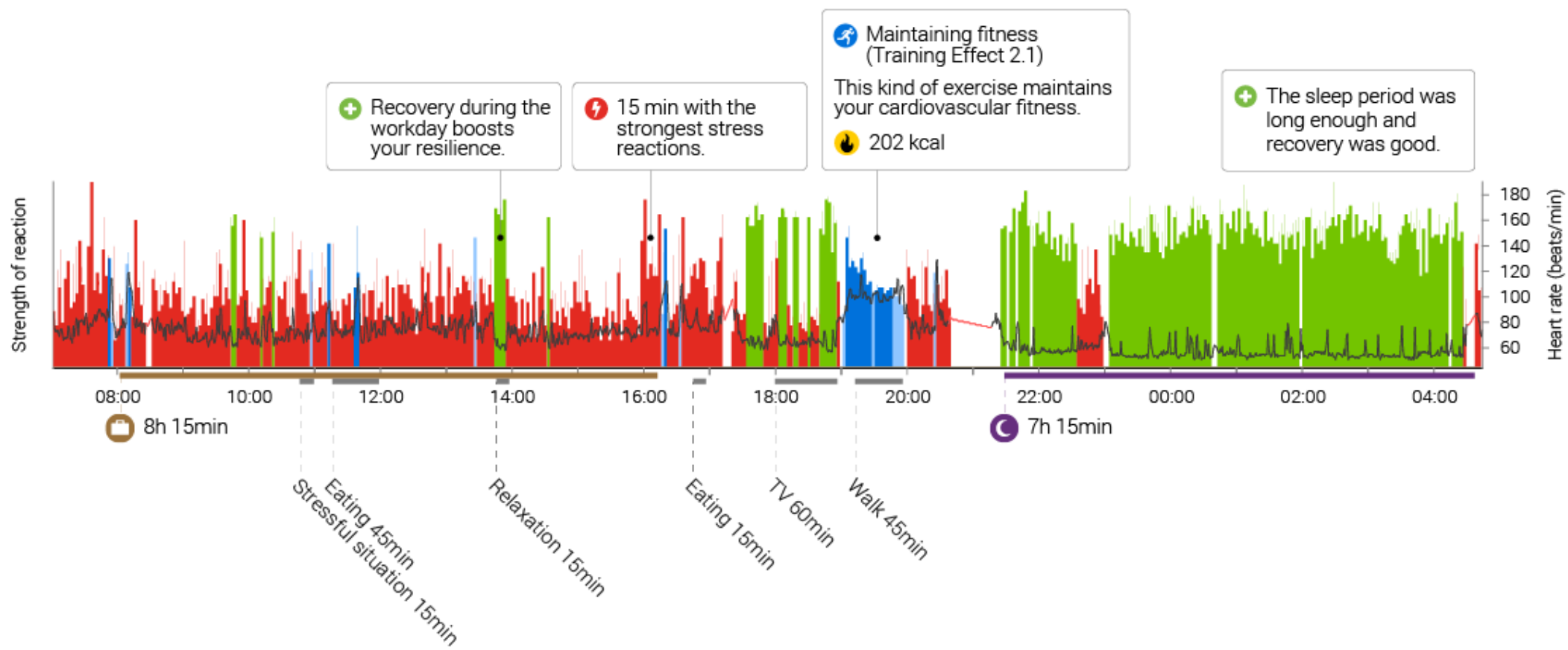
Health coaching to improve well-being and performance

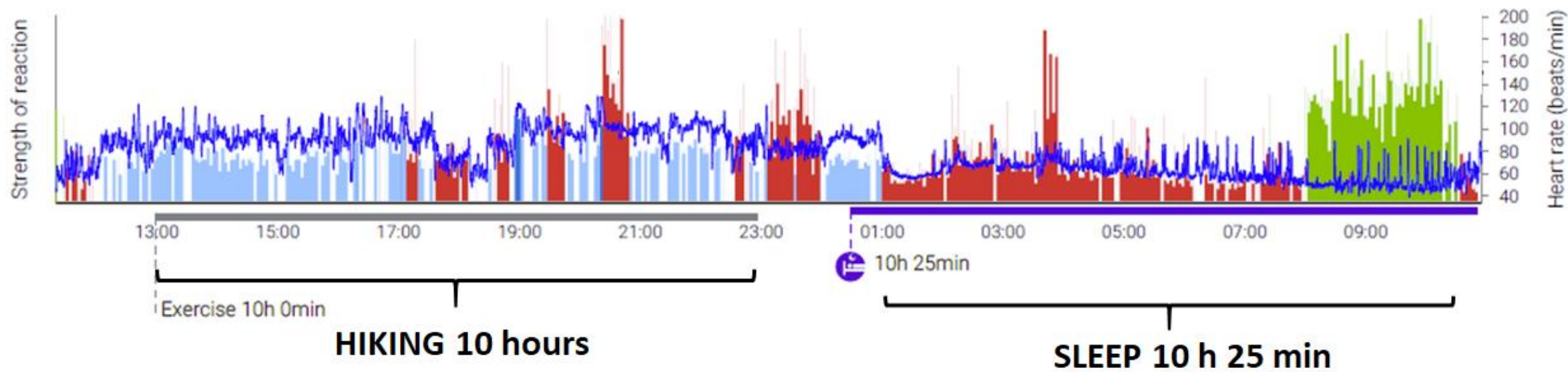
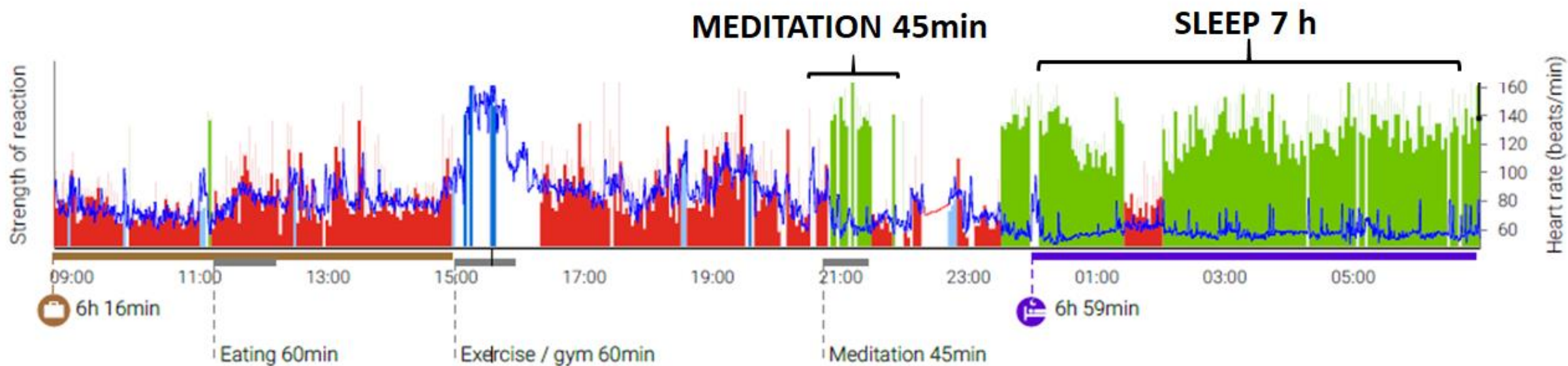


## MAKE LIFESTYLE CHANGES

Improve stress management, exercise and sleep quality

# 24 H STRESS AND RECOVERY ANALYSIS

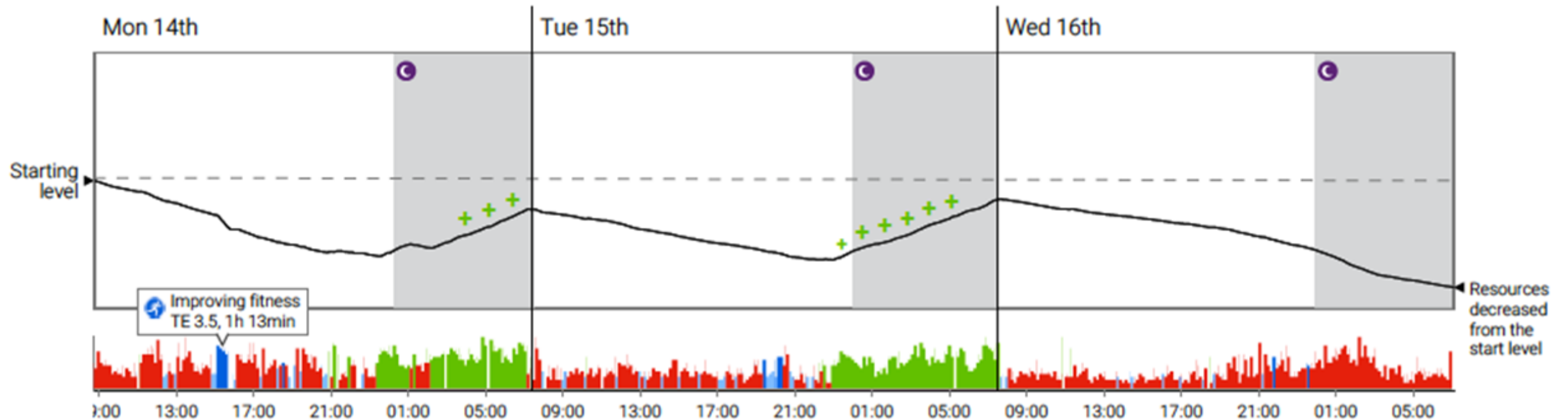




# FOLLOWING UP OF BODY RESOURCES

## BODY RESOURCES

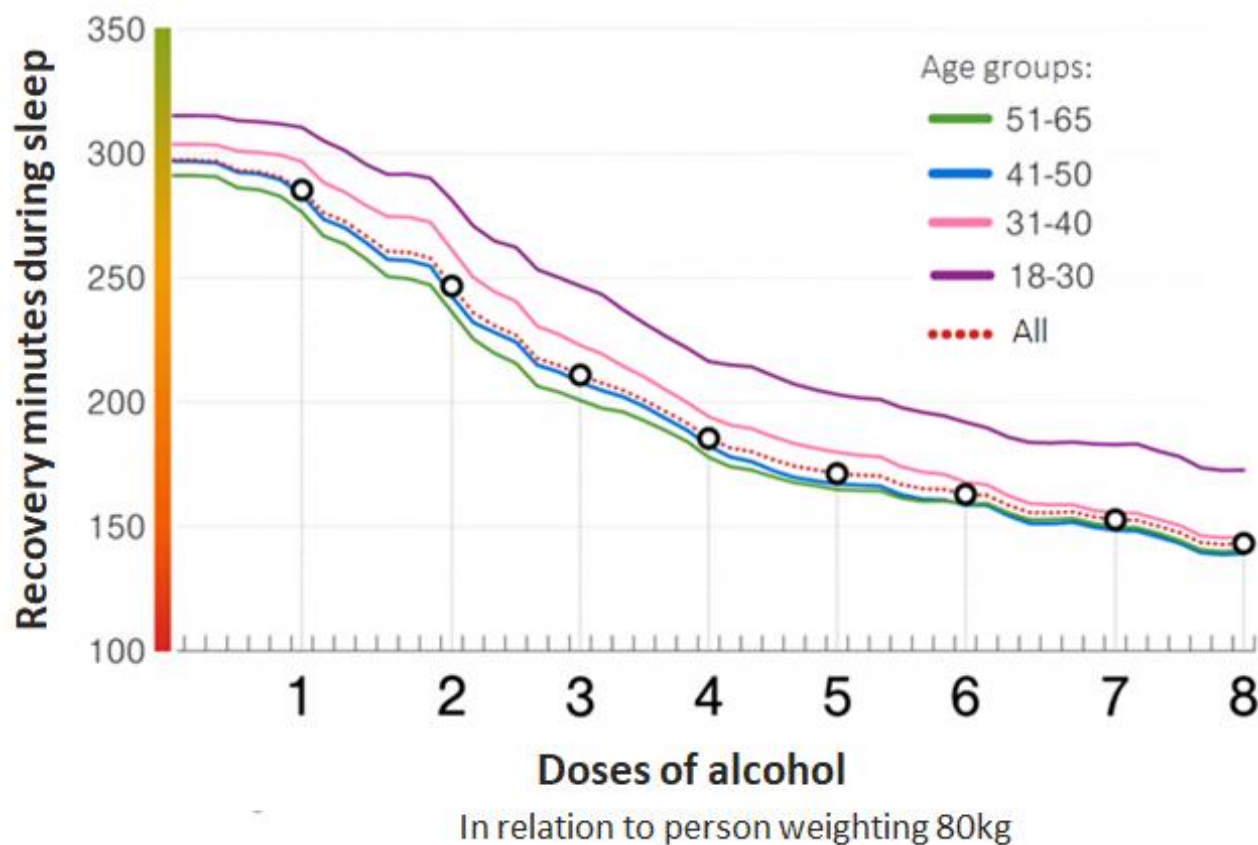
↗ Resources increase   ↘ Resources decrease   + Significant recovery period   ● Stress   ● Recovery   ● Vigorous & moderate physical activity   ● Light physical activity





# UNDERSTANDING WHICH FACTORS MAY COMPROMISE PERFORMANCE

## Effect of alcohol on nocturnal recovery minutes



## How does alcohol affect your sleep?

By Ana Sandoiu | Published Monday 7 May 2018

Fact checked by Tim Newman

A new study assesses the effect of alcohol consumption on the restorative quality of sleep. The findings might make you want to change your drinking — and implicitly, your sleeping — habits.

JMIR MENTAL HEALTH

Pietilä et al

Original Paper

Acute Effect of Alcohol Intake on Cardiovascular Autonomic Regulation During the First Hours of Sleep in a Large Real-World Sample of Finnish Employees: Observational Study

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Abstract

**Background:** Sleep is fundamental for good health, and poor sleep has been associated with negative health outcomes. Alcohol consumption is a universal health behavior associated with poor sleep. In controlled laboratory studies, alcohol intake has been shown to alter physiology and disturb sleep homeostasis and architecture. The association between acute alcohol intake and physiological changes has not yet been studied in noncontrolled real-world settings.

**Objective:** The aim of this study was to assess the effects of alcohol intake on the autonomic nervous system (ANS) during sleep in a large noncontrolled sample of Finnish employees.

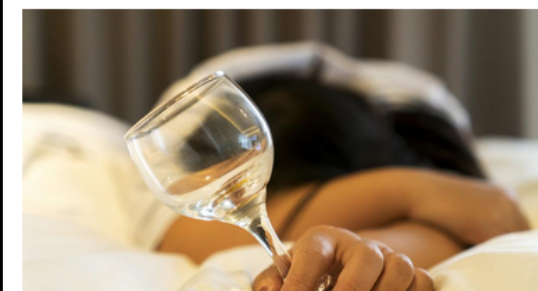
**Methods:** From a larger cohort, this study included 4098 subjects (55.81% female, mean age 45.1 years) who had continuous beat-to-beat R-R interval recordings of good quality for at least 1 day with and for at least 1 day without alcohol intake. The participants underwent continuous beat-to-beat P-R interval recording during their normal everyday life and self-reported their alcohol intake as doses for each day. Heart rate (HR), HR variability (HRV), and HRV-derived indices of physiological state from the first 3 hours of sleep were used as outcomes. Within-subject analyses were conducted in a repeated measures manner by studying the differences in the outcomes between each participant's days with and without alcohol intake. For repeated measures two-way analysis of variance, the participants were divided into three groups: low ( $\leq 0.25$  g/kg), moderate ( $> 0.25$ – $0.75$  g/kg), and high ( $> 0.75$  g/kg) intake of pure alcohol. Moreover, linear models studied the differences in outcomes with respect to the amount of alcohol intake and the participant's background parameters (age, gender, body mass index, BMI, physical activity, PA, and baseline sleep HR).

**Results:** Alcohol intake was dose-dependently associated with increased sympathetic regulation, decreased parasympathetic regulation, and insufficient recovery. In addition to moderate and high alcohol doses, the intraday effects of alcohol intake on the ANS regulation were observed also with low alcohol intake (all  $P < .001$ ). For example, HRV-derived physiological recovery state decreased on average by 9.3, 24.0, and 39.2 percentage units with low, moderate, and high alcohol intake, respectively. The effects of alcohol in suppressing recovery were similar for both genders and for physically active and sedentary subjects but stronger among young than older subjects and for participants with lower baseline sleep HR than with higher baseline sleep HR.

http://med.oxfordjournals.org/doi/10.1093/med/oxfordjournals/med.a011111

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Group member not for citation purposes



Pietilä et al.

Acute effect of alcohol intake on cardiovascular autonomic regulation during the first hours of sleep in a large real-world sample of Finnish employees.

JMIR Mental Health 2018

# Thank you!