



# Understand training? Integrating molecular, behavioral and environmental aspects

Yannis Pitsiladis, MMedSci., PhD, FACSM

Professor of Sport and Exercise Science  
University of Brighton and University of Rome "Foro Italico"

# The Scientific Basis of Training



**World-Class Performance**

***Molecular/Genetic***

**Behavioral**

***Environmental***

# “The genetic talent myth and the power of practice”



## THE CAMBRIDGE HANDBOOK OF Expertise and Expert Performance

EDITED BY  
K. Anders Ericsson  
Neil W. Charness  
Robert B. Hoffman  
Paul J. Feltovich

## Outliers THE STORY OF SUCCESS MALCOLM GLADWELL

#1 bestselling author of *The Tipping Point* and *Blink*

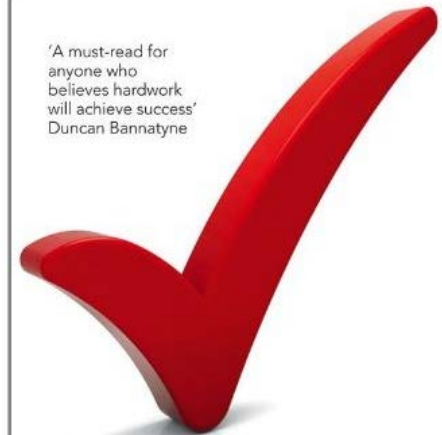
## THE GENIUS IN ALL OF US NEW INSIGHTS INTO GENETICS, TALENT, AND IQ



DAVID SHENK

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'A must-read for  
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believes hardwork  
will achieve success'  
Duncan Bannatyne



Matthew Syed  
**Bounce**  
The myth of talent  
and the power of practice

Anything is possible if you work at it...



# The Role of Deliberate Practice in the Acquisition of Expert Performance

K. Anders Ericsson, Ralf Th. Krampe, and Clemens Tesch-Romer

The theoretical framework presented in this article explains expert performance as the end result of individuals' prolonged efforts to improve performance while negotiating motivational and external constraints. In most domains of expertise, individuals begin in their childhood a regimen of effortful activities (deliberate practice) designed to optimize improvement. Individual differences, even among elite performers, are closely related to assessed amounts of deliberate practice. Many characteristics once believed to reflect innate talent are actually the result of intense practice extended for a minimum of 10 years. Analysis of expert performance provides unique evidence on the potential and limits of extreme environmental adaptation and learning.



**“....practice is both necessary and sufficient for the attainment of deliberate performance, and is effective because it selectively activates dormant genes that are contained within all healthy individuals' DNA”.**



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## E-08 Special Event - The Genetics Talent Myth & The 10,000 Hour Rule

FRIDAY, JUNE 1, 2012 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM  
 ROOM: 2001

- 401 9:30 AM - 9:35 AM**  
**Chair: Yannis P. Pitsiladis, FACSM**  
*Glasgow, United Kingdom.*  
*(No relationships reported)*
- 402 9:35 AM - 10:10 AM**  
**For the Talent Myth or the 10,000 Hour Rule?**  
**K. Anders Ericsson, Ph.D.**  
*(No relationships reported)*  
*Tallahassee, FL*
- 403 10:10 AM - 11:00 AM**  
**No Talent Myth and the Science of Expert Individual Differences**  
**Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA.**  
*(No relationships reported)*
- 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM**  
**Influences the Ability to Respond Favorably to Exercise Training**  
**Claude Bouchard, FACSM.** *Pennington Biomedical Research Ctr., Baton Rouge, LA.*  
*(C. Bouchard: Consulting Fee; Weight Watchers International, Pathway Genomics.)*
- 11:00 AM - 11:30 AM Overall Discussion**

Genetic Talent & The Myth of The 10,000 Hour Rule



COMMENTARY

Open Access

# Why nature prevails over nurture in the making of the elite athlete

Evelina Georgiades<sup>1</sup>, Vassilis Klissouras<sup>2</sup>, Jamie Baulch<sup>3</sup>, Guan Wang<sup>4</sup> and Yannis Pitsiladis<sup>4,5\*</sup>

From 34th FIMS World Sports Medicine Congress  
Ljubljana, Slovenia. 29<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

## Abstract

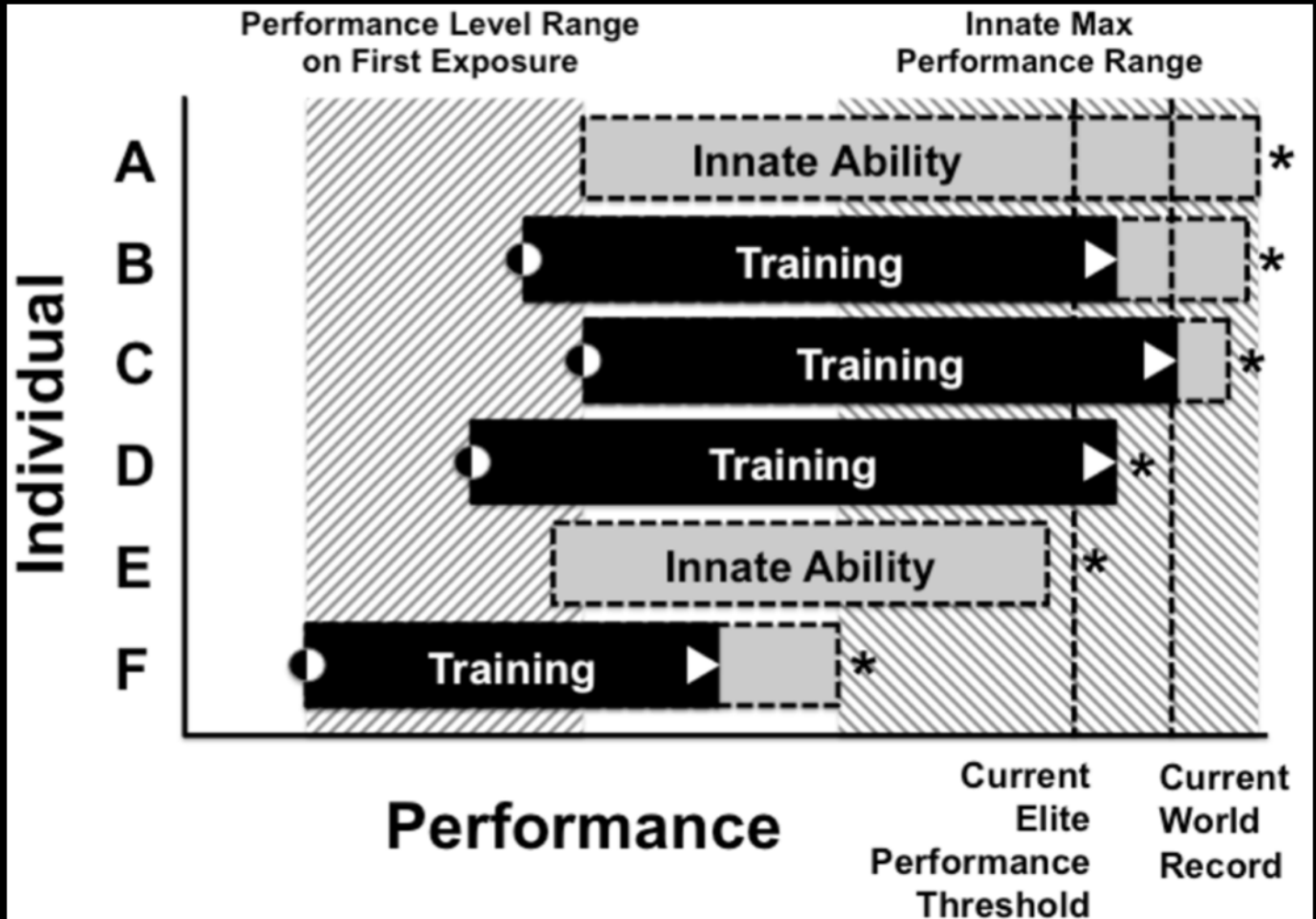
While the influence of nature (genes) and nurture (environment) on elite sporting performance remains difficult to precisely determine, the dismissal of either as a contributing factor to performance is unwarranted. It is accepted that a complex interaction of a combination of innumerable factors may mold a talented athlete into a champion. The prevailing view today is that understanding elite human performance will require the deciphering of two major sources of individual differences: genes and the environment. It is widely accepted that superior performers are endowed with a high genetic potential actualised through hard and prodigious effort. Heritability studies using the twin model have provided the basis to disentangle genetic and environmental factors that contribute to complex human traits and have paved the way to the detection of specific genes for elite sport performance. Yet, the heritability for most phenotypes essential to elite human performance is above 50% but below 100%, meaning that the environment is also important. Furthermore, individual differences can potentially also be explained not only by the impact of DNA sequence variation on biology and behaviour, but also by the effects of epigenetic changes which affect phenotype by modifying gene expression. Despite this complexity, the overwhelming and accumulating evidence, amounting through experimental research spanning almost two centuries, tips the balance in favour of nature in the "nature" and "nurture" debate. In other words, truly elite-level athletes are built – but only from those born with innate ability.

**Keywords:** Nature, Nurture, Genes, Twin studies, Heritability, Trainability, Sport performance



# What makes champions? A review of the relative contribution of genes and training to sporting success

Tucker R, Collins M. *Br J Sports Med* (2012). doi:10.1136/bjsports-2011-090548





COMMENTARY

# Why nature prevails over nurture in the making of the elite athlete

Evelina Georgiades<sup>1</sup>, Vassilis Klissouras<sup>2</sup>, Jamie Baulch<sup>3</sup>, Guan W

From 34th FIMS World Sports Medicine Congress  
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## Abstract

While the influence of nature (genes) and nurture (environment) precisely determine, the dismissal of either as a contributing factor that a complex interaction of a combination of innumerable factors. The prevailing view today is that understanding elite human performance sources of individual differences, genes and the environment. It is endowed with a high genetic potential actualised through hard work and model have provided the basis to disentangle genetic and environmental traits and have paved the way to the detection of specific genes for phenotypes essential to elite human performance is above 50% but also by variation on biology and behaviour, but also by the effects of epigenetic gene expression. Despite this complexity, the overwhelming and accumulated research spanning almost two centuries, tips the balance in favour of words, truly elite-level athletes are built – but only from those born with

**Keywords:** Nature, Nurture, Genes, Twin studies, Heritability, Trainability

## Table 1 Some key milestones in genomics, genetics, and exercise biology

1971	Vassilis Klissouras/Twin Studies of $\dot{V}O_2$ max [17]
1984	Claude Bouchard/Twin Studies of trainability of $\dot{V}O_2$ max [43]
1999	Claude Bouchard/Heritage Family Study [44]
2000	Hugh Montgomery/Candidate Gene Approach – ACE [49]
2001	The Human Genome Project - Initial sequencing and analysis of the human genome ( <a href="http://web.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/index.shtml">http://web.ornl.gov/sci/techresources/Human_Genome/index.shtml</a> )
2003	The ENCODE Project – large public research consortium aimed at identifying all functional elements in the human genome sequence ( <a href="http://www.encodeproject.org">www.encodeproject.org</a> )
2003	Kathy North/ACTN3 Speed Gene [50]
2007	Yannis Pitsiladis/Genetics of East African Runners [45]
2008	The 1000 Genomes Project – the largest public catalogue containing human variation and genotype data ( <a href="http://www.internationalgenome.org">www.internationalgenome.org</a> )
2016	GAMES/The first GWAS of athletic performance [52]
2016	The Athlome Project – call for international collaborated efforts in genetic discovery for elite human performance, muscle injury prevention and adaptive training [53]

\*see Bouchard and Malina, 2014 [66] for a detailed account of the history of genomics, genetics, and exercise biology

# Athlome Project



GENOMICS,  
GENETICS  
AND EXERCISE  
BIOLOGY

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[www.athlomeconsortium.org](http://www.athlomeconsortium.org)



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Physiological  
GENOMICS

## Direct-to-consumer genetic testing for predicting sports performance and talent identification: Consensus statement

Nick Webb<sup>1</sup>, Alun Williams<sup>2</sup>, Mike McNamee<sup>3</sup>, Claude Bouchard<sup>4</sup>,  
Yannis Pitsiladis<sup>5</sup>, Ildus Ahmetov<sup>6</sup>, Evan Ashley<sup>7</sup>, Nuala Byrne<sup>8</sup>, Silvia Comparesi<sup>9</sup>,  
Malcolm Collins<sup>10</sup>, Paul Dijkstra<sup>11</sup>, Nir Eynon<sup>12</sup>, Moriyuki Fukuda<sup>13</sup>, Fleur C Ganton<sup>14</sup>,  
Nils Hoppe<sup>15</sup>, Søren Holm<sup>16</sup>, Jane Kaye<sup>17</sup>, Vassilis Kiliaras<sup>18</sup>, Alejandro Lucia<sup>19</sup>,  
Kamiel Maase<sup>20</sup>, Colin Moran<sup>21</sup>, Kathryn N North<sup>22</sup>, Fabio Pigozzi<sup>23</sup>, Guan Wang<sup>5</sup>

Current genetic testing has zero predictive power on talent identification and should not be used by athletes, coaches or parents



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British Journal of  
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## II.

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# Genetic testing for exercise prescription and injury prevention: AIS-Athlome consortium-FIMS joint statement

Nicole Vlahovich<sup>1</sup>, David C. Hughes<sup>1,8</sup>, Lyn R. Griffiths<sup>2</sup>, Guan Wang<sup>3</sup>, Yannis P. Pissiladis<sup>4,5</sup>, Fabio Pigozzi<sup>4,5</sup>, Nobert Bachl<sup>5,6</sup> and Nir Eynon<sup>7\*</sup>

From 34th FIMS World Sports Medicine Congress  
Ljubljana, Slovenia. 29<sup>th</sup> September – 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2016

## Abstract

**Background:** There has been considerable growth in basic knowledge and understanding of how genes are influencing response to exercise training and predisposition to injuries and chronic diseases. On the basis of this knowledge, clinical genetic testing may in the future allow the personalisation and optimisation of physical activity, thus providing an avenue for increased efficiency of exercise prescription for health and disease.

**Results:** This review provides an overview of the current status of genetic testing for the purposes of exercise prescription and injury prevention. As such there are a variety of potential uses for genetic testing, including identification of risk associated with participation in sport and understanding individual response to particular types of exercise. However, there are many challenges remaining before genetic testing has evidence-based practical applications, including adoption of international standards for genomics research, as well as resistance against the agendas driven by direct-to-consumer genetic testing companies. Here we propose a way forward to develop an evidence-based approach to support genetic testing for exercise prescription and injury prevention.

**Conclusion:** Based on current knowledge, there is no current clinical application for genetic testing in the area of exercise prescription and injury prevention, however the necessary steps are outlined for the development of evidence-based clinical applications involving genetic testing.

Current genetic testing has zero predictive power on talent identification and should not be used by athletes, coaches or parents



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35th World Congress of Sports Medicine  
Athlome consortium 2015 conference information and registration details

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Current genetic testing has zero predictive power on talent identification and should not be used by athletes, coaches or parents



**World-Class Performance**

***Molecular/Genetic***

**Behavioral**

***Environmental***

# Which **R<sub>x</sub>** program is best?



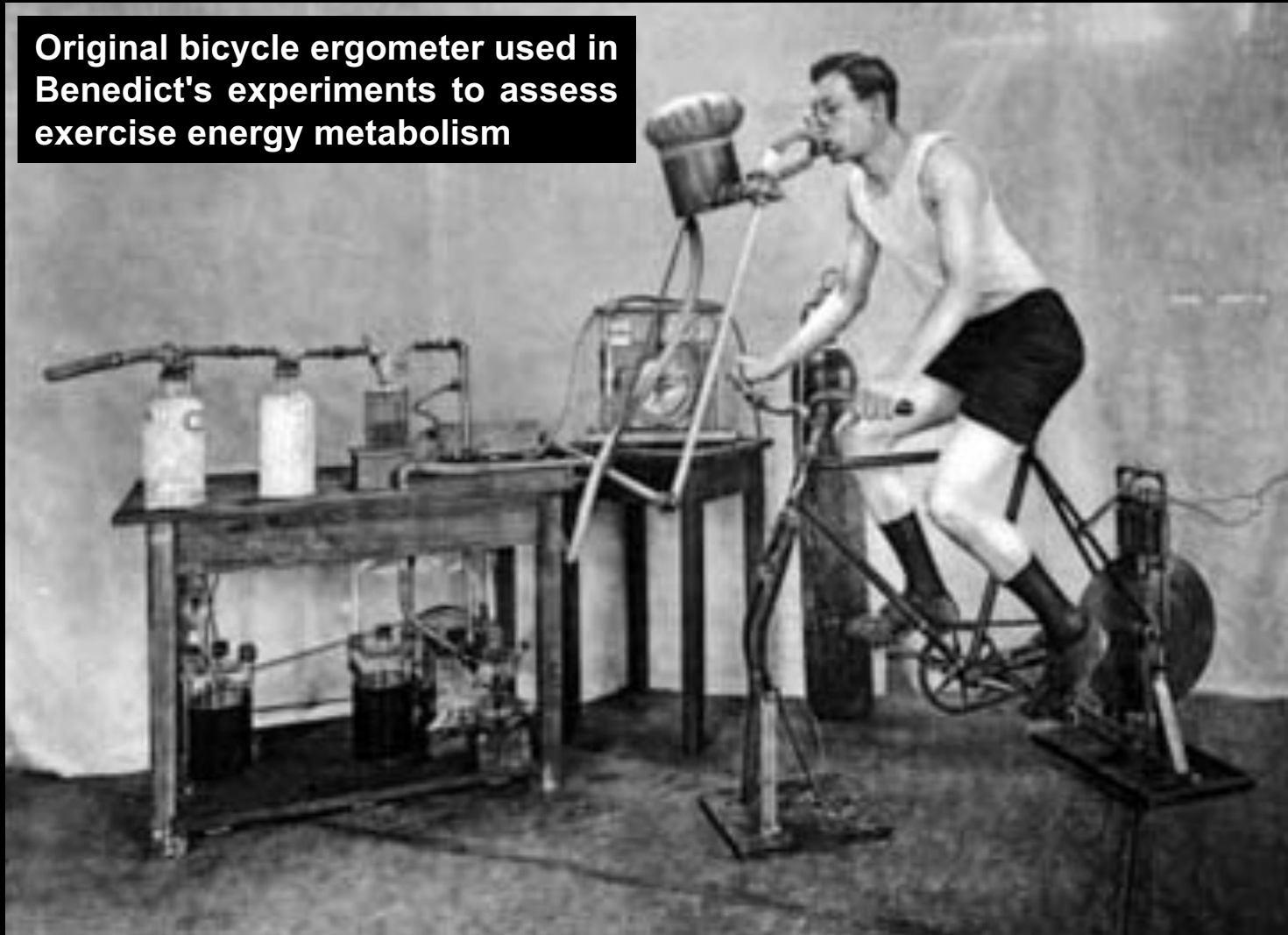


# How to individualize training?



# Laboratory 1900s

**Original bicycle ergometer used in Benedict's experiments to assess exercise energy metabolism**



# AV Hill and Otto Meyerhof (1922)

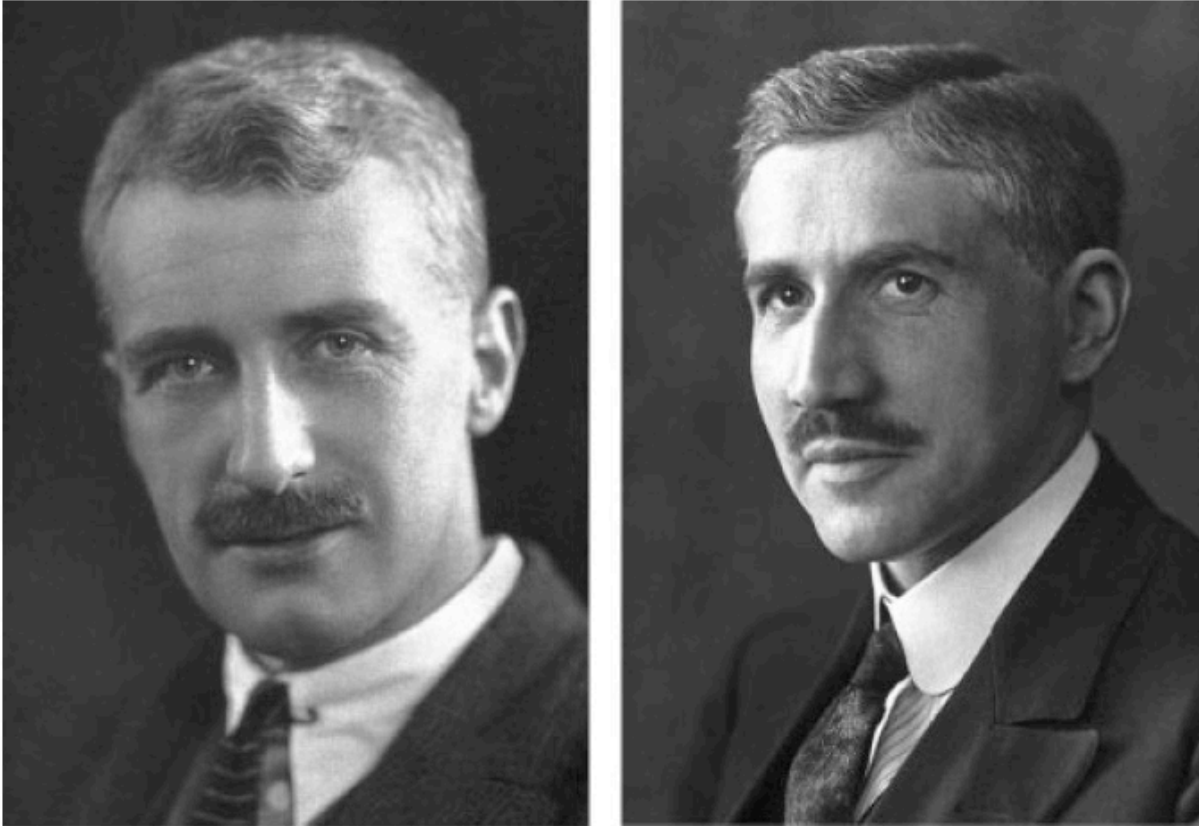
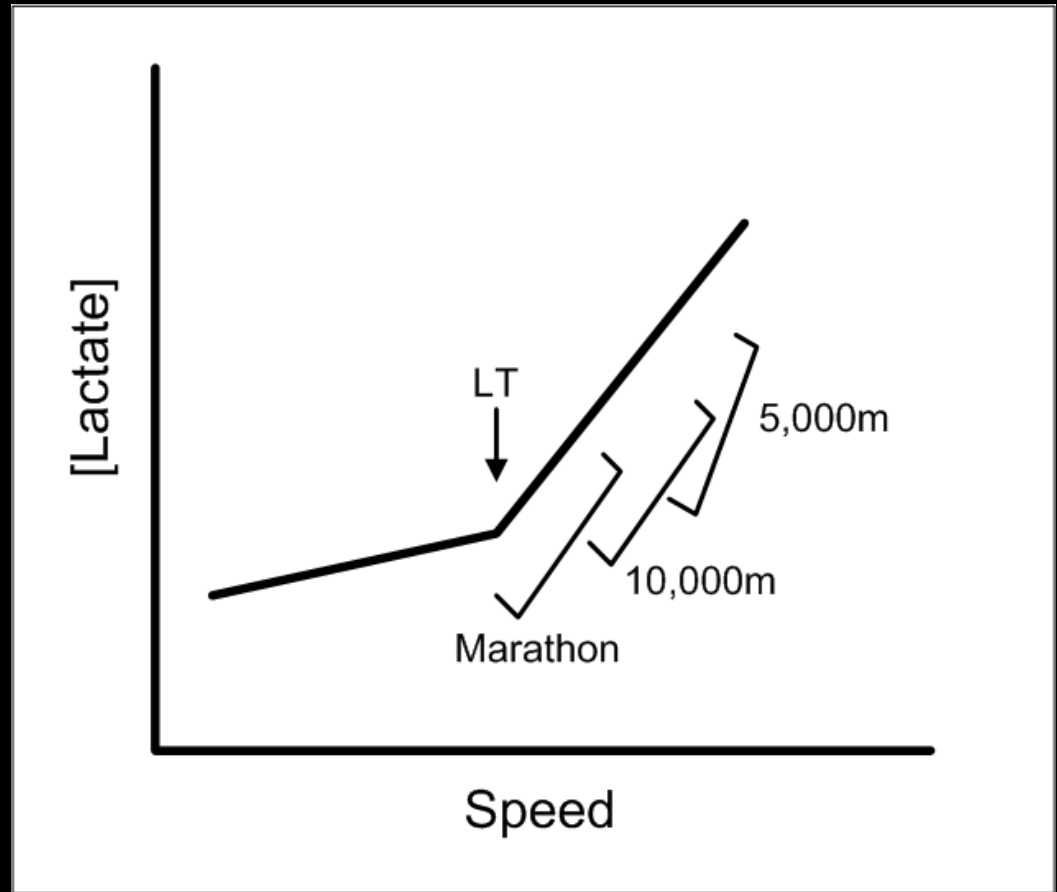


Fig. 2. Archibald V. Hill (*left*) and Otto Meyerhof (*right*). Figures borrowed with permission of the Nobel Foundation.

# Lactate: Friend not foe and implications for training and performance

**Measure of fatigue but NOT the cause of fatigue and ... a measure of training intensity**





# Indoor testing





*(Slide courtesy of Jamie Pringle, EIS)*



*(Slide courtesy of Jamie Pringle, EIS)*



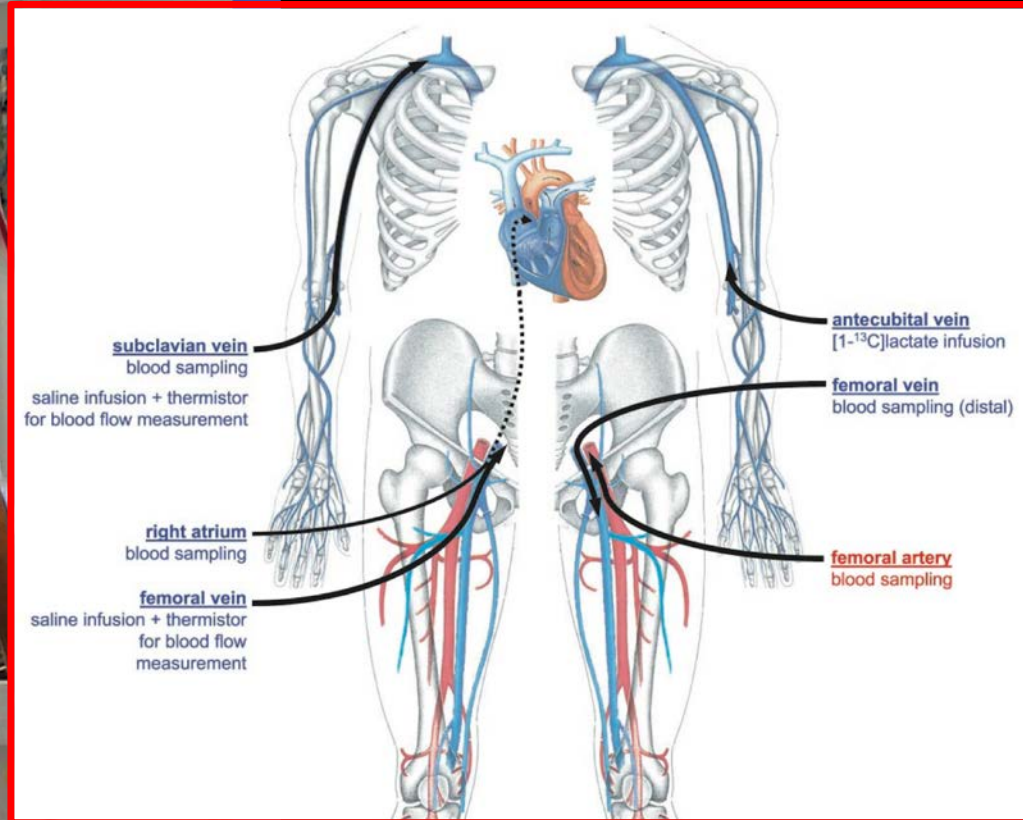
*(Slide courtesy of Jamie Pringle, EIS)*





# Modern (Research) Laboratory

Cross country skiing; classical



e.g. Culbet et al. 2004

# The “Omics” Cascade

What CAN happen

GENOMICS

BIOINFORMATICS

What APPEARS  
to happen

TRANSCRIPTOMICS

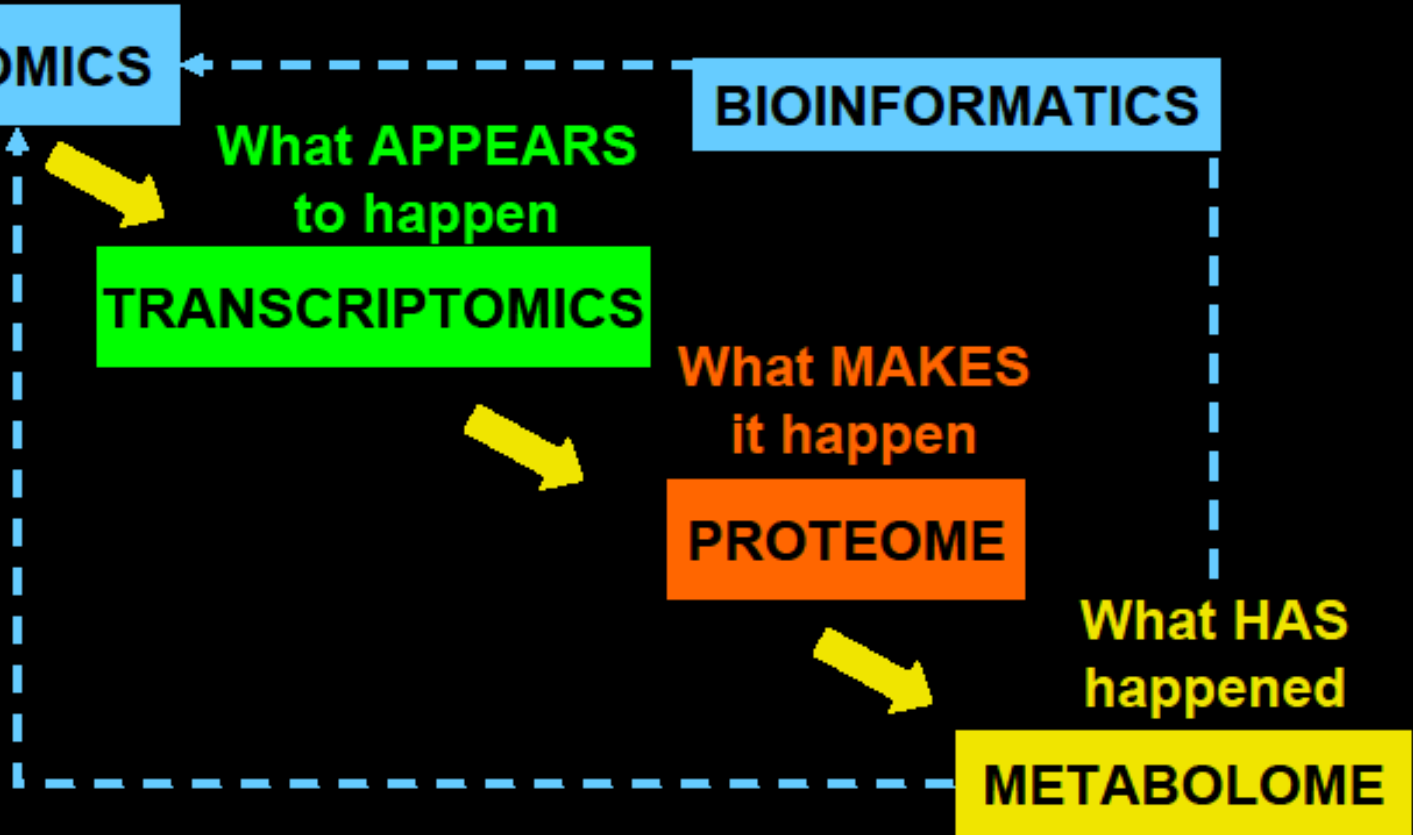
What MAKES  
it happen

PROTEOME

What HAS  
happened

METABOLOME

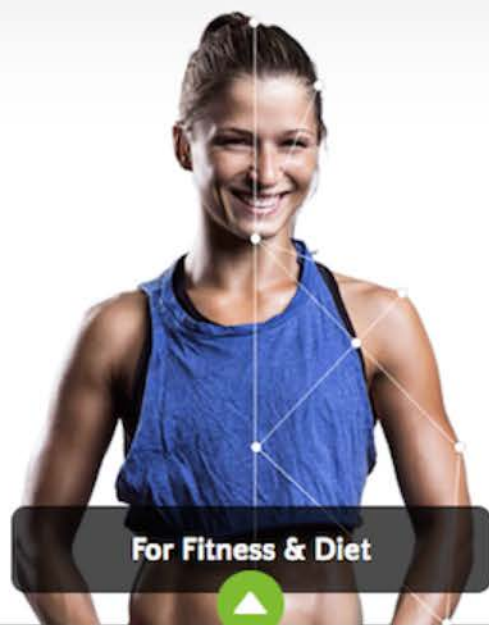
PHENOTYPE





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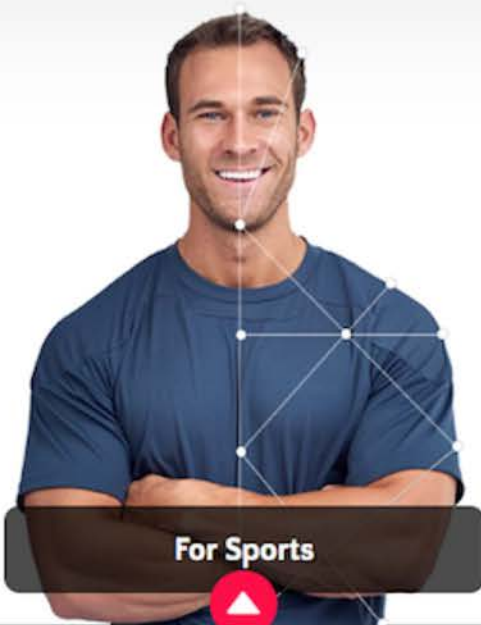


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## Letter to the editor: A genetic-based algorithm for personalized resistance training

**AUTHORS:** Karanikolou A, Wang G, Pitsiladis Y

University of Brighton, Eastbourne BN20 7SN, United Kingdom

**ABSTRACT:** In a recent paper entitled "A genetic-based algorithm for personalized resistance training", Jones et al. [1] presented an algorithm of 15 performance-associated gene polymorphisms that they propose can determine an athlete's training response by predicting power and endurance potential. However, from the design of their studies and the data provided, there is no evidence to support these authors' assertions. Progress towards such a significant development in the field of sport and exercise genomics will require a paradigm shift in line with recent recommendations for international collaborations such as the Athlome Project (see [www.athlomeconsortium.org](http://www.athlomeconsortium.org)). Large-scale initiatives, involving numerous multi-centre and well-phenotyped exercise training and elite performance cohorts, will be necessary before attempting to derive and replicate training and/or performance algorithms.

**CITATION:** Karanikolou A, Wang G, Pitsiladis Y. Letter to the editor: A genetic-based algorithm for personalized resistance training. *Biol Sport*. 2017;34(1):31–33.

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**Key words:**

Genetic polymorphism  
Personalised training  
Athletes  
Talent identification  
Athletic performance





Sport &gt; Football &gt; International

# Meet the former British Olympian using gene mapping to find the next Mo Salah

**Exclusive interview:** Despite genetic testing being in its relatively early stages, former sprinter Craig Pickering is in no doubt that it represents the next leap forward in professional sport

Richard Edwards | Wednesday 21 March 2018 12:24 GMT | [2 comments](#)



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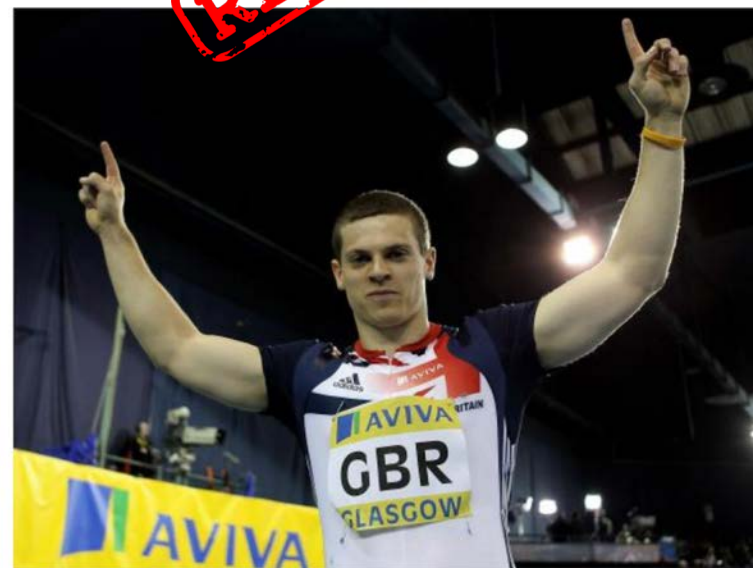
The search is on to find the next Mohamed Salah *Getty*

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1	Uruguay		3	3	0	0	5	0	+5	9
2	Russia (H)		3	2	0	1	8	4	+4	6
3	Saudi Arabia		3	1	0	2	2	7	-5	3
4	Egypt		3	0	0	3	2	6	-4	0

Craig Pickering, the former British sprinter and head of Sports Science at DNAFit and he tells *Independent Sport* that the genetic detail unearthed on Salah and his teammates can play a critical role in ensuring that when Egypt begin their World Cup campaign against Uruguay on June 15, they're in the best shape imaginable.



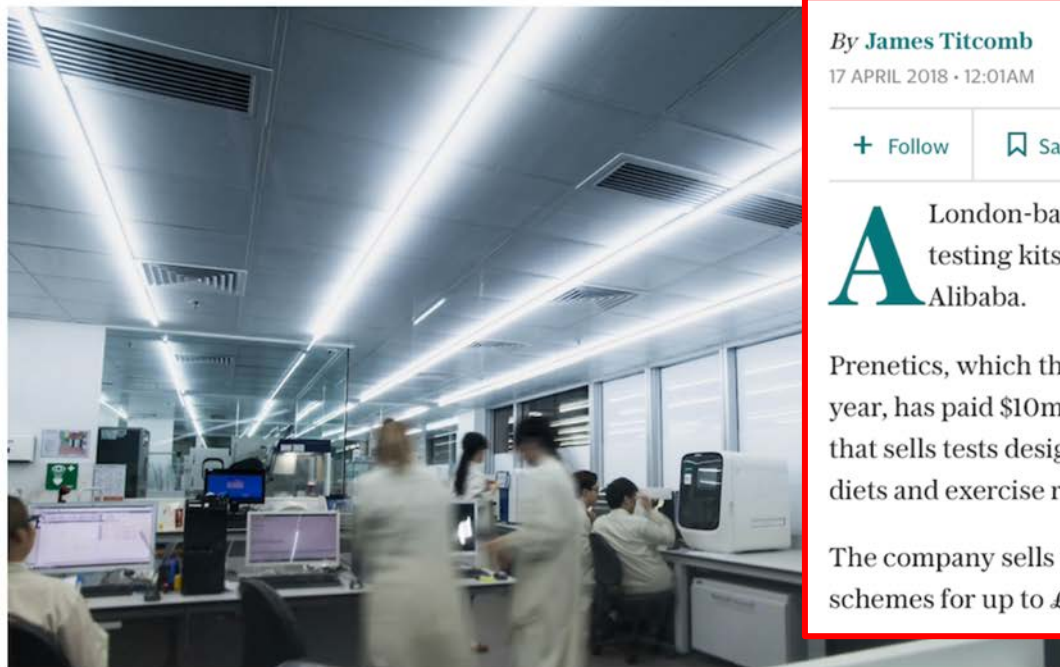
Pickering knows what it takes to succeed at the highest level of sport (*Getty*)

# Technology Intelligence

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## Genetic testing boom continues as UK start-up DNAFit sold for \$10m



A DNAFit testing lab CREDIT: DNAFIT

By James Titcomb

17 APRIL 2018 • 12:01AM

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A London-based company has cashed in on the boom in DNA-testing kits by selling itself to a Hong Kong firm backed by Alibaba.

Prenetics, which the Chinese internet retail behemoth invested in last year, has paid \$10m (£7m) to acquire DNAFit, a five-year-old company that sells tests designed to determine a person's suitability to different diets and exercise regimes.

The company sells the tests online and through employee benefits schemes for up to £249, and has sold tens of thousands of the kits.

4 Facebook quietly stopped apps from harvesting users' private data just two weeks ago



# Olympic Selection using NGS

South China Morning Post EDITION: HONG KONG THU SEP 13, 2018

## SCIENCE

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News / China / Science

### China science

#### Gattacca by 2022? China to select Winter Olympics athletes by their genes

Sporting hopefuls will have to undergo whole genome sequencing as part of preparations by the host nation

PUBLISHED : Friday, 31 August, 2018, 4:06pm  
UPDATED : Tuesday, 04 September, 2018, 1:55pm

COMMENTS: 18



China's athletic hopefuls for the 2022 Winter Olympics will have to undergo genetic screening for a chance to represent the host nation.

Stephen Chen

INKSTONE: CHINA NEWS BRIEFING

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Athletes with the potential to represent the country in the Games will have to undergo whole genome sequencing, the process that determines a person's complete, unique DNA profile.

"Complete genome sequencing will be applied on outstanding athletes competing in the winter games for speed, endurance and explosive force, with at least 300 athletes in each group," said the document, jointly drafted by the ministry, the Beijing Organising Committee for the 2022 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games, and other government agencies earlier this year.



The large-scale genetic profiling, screening and analysis work will be carried out by the General Administration of Sport of China, the Ministry of Education and the Chinese Academy of Sciences from now through 2020.

The project's budget has not been disclosed.

Athletes are usually selected through competitions and trials and there have been no reports of other countries using similar genetic testing for their sportsmen, though some are conducting research on similar topics.

# Effective new technologies ...

## REVIEW

*Nature* (2017) | doi:10.1038/nature24286

Received 13 July 2017 | Accepted 21 September 2017 | Published online 11 October 2017

doi:10.1038/nature24286

# DNA sequencing at 40: past, present and future

Jay Shendure<sup>1,2</sup>, Shankar Balasubramanian<sup>3,4</sup>, George M. Church<sup>5</sup>, Walter Gilbert<sup>6</sup>, Jane Rogers<sup>7</sup>, Jeffery A. Schloss<sup>8</sup> & Robert H. Waterston<sup>1</sup>

This review commemorates the 40th anniversary of DNA sequencing, a period in which we have already witnessed multiple technological revolutions and a growth in scale from a few kilobases to the first human genome, and now to millions of human and a myriad of other genomes. DNA sequencing has been extensively and creatively repurposed, including as a 'counter' for a vast range of molecular phenomena. We predict that in the long view of history, the impact of DNA sequencing will be on a par with that of the microscope.



# The Anti-Doping Crisis in Sport

## Rio Olympics 2016: Anti-doping system needs complete reform - Thomas Bach

🕒 2 August 2016 | Olympics

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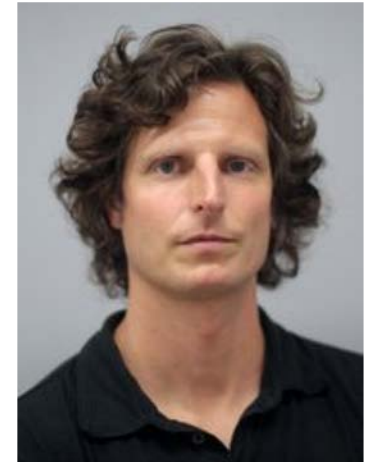


Bach claimed a total ban went against "natural justice" for clean Russian athletes

ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

# Doping in Two Elite Athletics Competitions Assessed by Randomized-Response Surveys

Rolf Ulrich<sup>1</sup> · Harrison G. Pope Jr.<sup>2,3</sup> · Léa Cléret<sup>4</sup> · Andrea Petróczi<sup>5,6</sup> ·  
Tamás Nepusz<sup>5,7</sup> · Jay Schaffer<sup>8</sup> · Gen Kanayama<sup>2,3</sup> · R. Dawn Comstock<sup>9</sup> ·  
Perikles Simon<sup>10</sup>

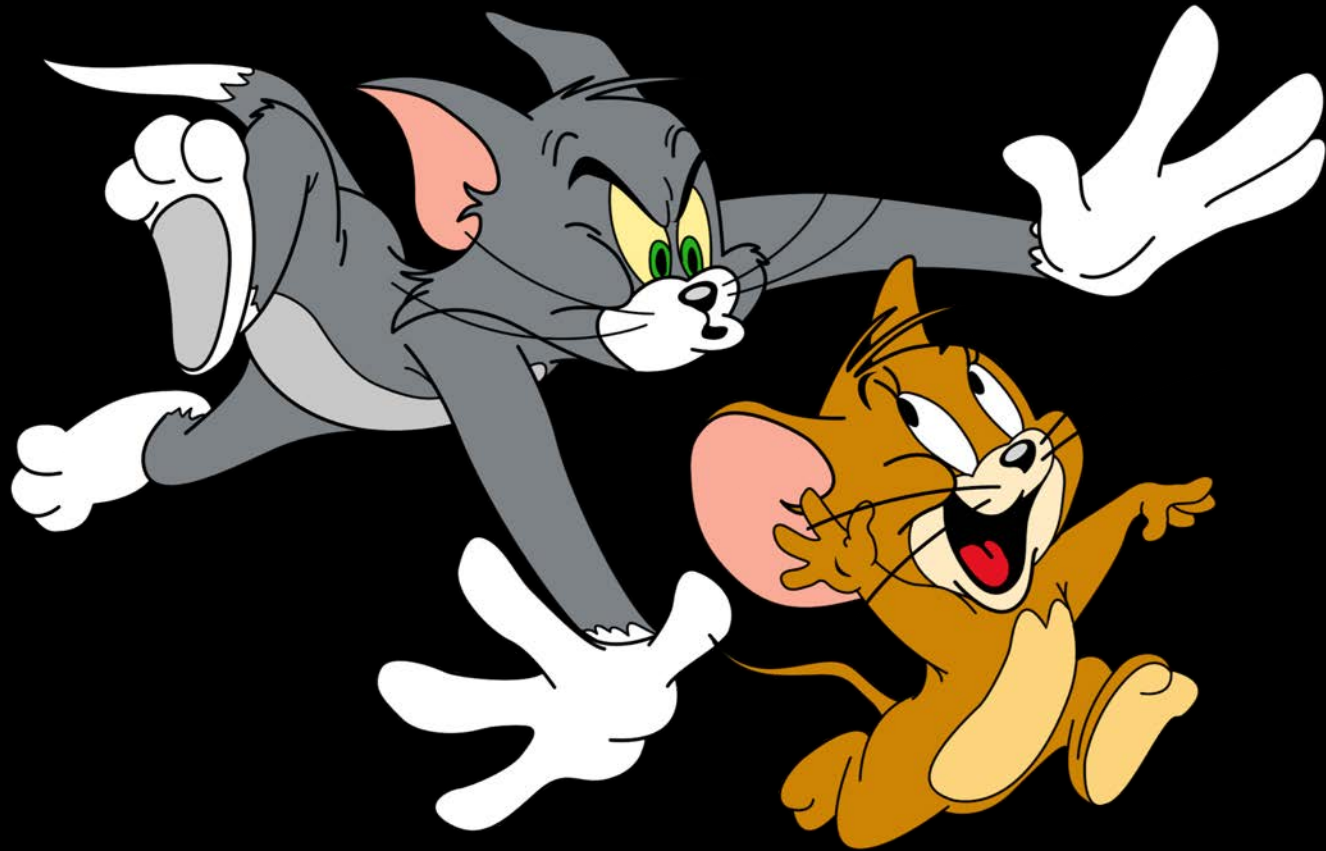


We utilized a “randomized response technique”—a method that guarantees anonymity for individuals when answering a sensitive question—to estimate the prevalence of past-year doping at two major international athletic events: the 13th International Association of Athletics Federations World Championships in Athletics (WCA) in Daegu, South Korea and the 12th Quadrennial Pan-Arab Games (PAG) in Doha, Qatar, both held in 2011.

After performing numerous sensitivity analyses, assessing the robustness of our estimates under various hypothetical scenarios of intentional or unintentional noncompliance by respondents, we found that the prevalence of past-year doping was at least 30% at WCA and 45% at PAG.

These findings suggest that biological testing greatly underestimates the true prevalence of doping in elite athletics, and indicate the need for future studies of the prevalence of doping in athletics using randomized response techniques.

# A paradigm shift is needed



In sport, the cheats are usually a step ahead



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*Physical Genomics* 48: 202–209, 2016.  
First published January 12, 2016; doi:10.1155/physgenomics.00108.2015

Blood transcriptional signature of recombinant human erythropoietin administration and implications for antidoping strategies

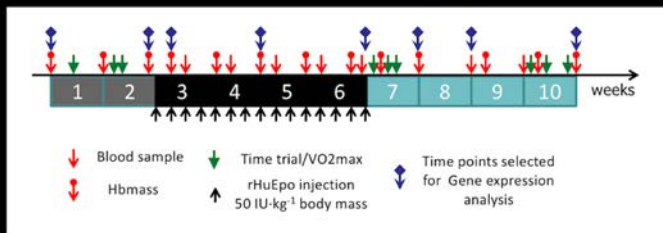
Jérôme Durronet,<sup>1</sup> Dineshchew W. Hailu,<sup>1</sup> Kerli Moones,<sup>2</sup> Evangelia Dushabaki,<sup>3</sup> Wendy Beattie,<sup>1</sup> Martin Moones,<sup>3</sup> Wondyefraw Mekonen,<sup>4</sup> Neford Ongaro,<sup>5</sup> Edwin Angila,<sup>6</sup> Rajan K. Patel,<sup>7</sup> Neal Padmanabhan,<sup>8</sup> Martin W. McBride,<sup>9</sup> John D. McClure,<sup>9</sup> and Yannis P. Pitsilladis<sup>10</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Institute of Cardiovascular and Medical Sciences, College of Medical, Veterinary and Life Sciences, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, United Kingdom; <sup>2</sup>Department of Medical Physiology, Addis Ababa University, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia; <sup>3</sup>Faculty of Sport and Exercise Sciences, University of Turku, Turku, Estonia; <sup>4</sup>Sorathide Institute of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences, University of Sorathide, Glasgow, United Kingdom; <sup>5</sup>Department of Medical Physiology, School of Medicine, College of Health Sciences, Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya; and <sup>6</sup>YFMS Reference Collaborating Centre of Sports Medicine for Anti-Doping Research, University of Brighton, Eastbourne, United Kingdom

Submitted 28 October 2015; accepted in final form 7 January 2016

**SCO Group:** 19 endurance trained males living and training at or near sea-level (Glasgow, Scotland)

**KEN Group:** 20 Kenyan endurance runners living and training at moderate altitude ~2150 m (Eldoret, Kenya)



INTERNATIONAL  
OLYMPIC  
COMMITTEE

August, 2017



# Next Generation Anti-Doping Tests

Application	Human Transcriptome Array 2.0, Thermo Fisher Scientific		
Biological replicates	N=10		
Comparison	2 days Epo	2 weeks Epo	2 weeks post Epo
Transcripts/ genes	67,528	67,528	67,528
Criteria	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05
Significant transcripts/ genes	0	10,705 (3,764↓, 6,941↑)	18 (18↓)

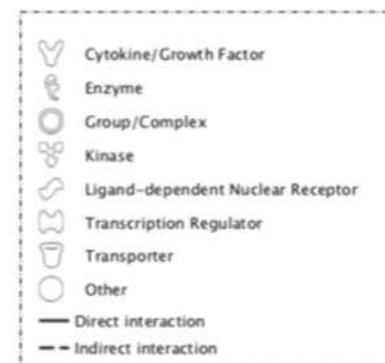
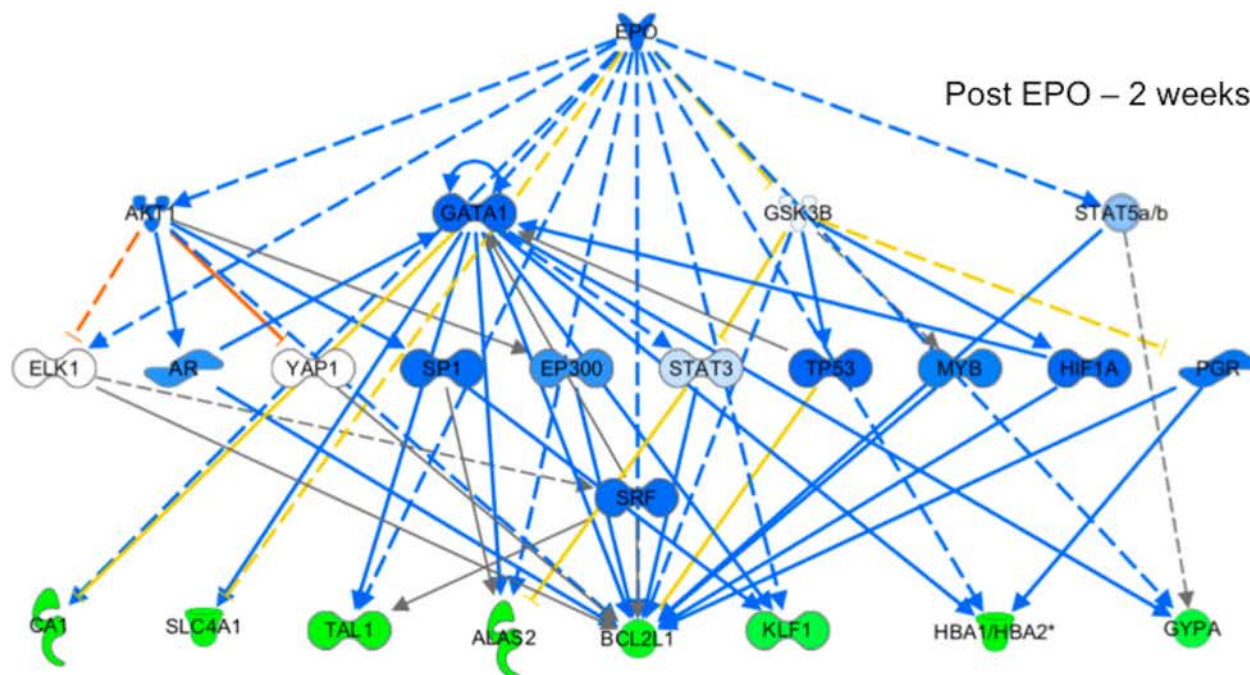
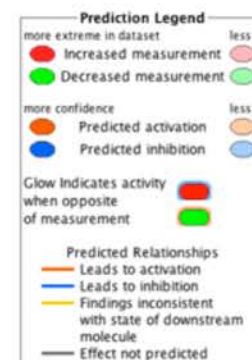
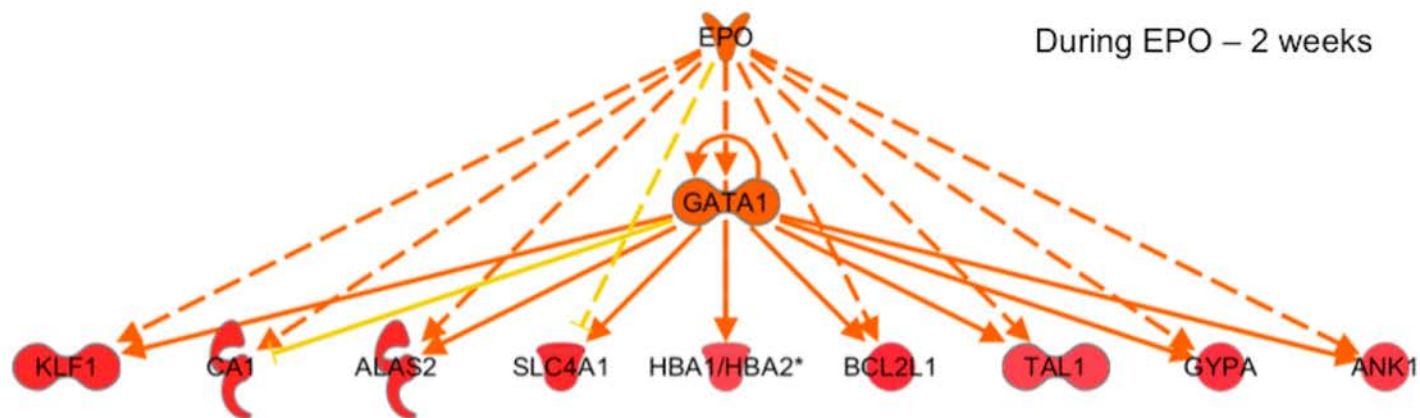


Application	HumanHT-12 v4.0 Expression BeadChip, Illumina		
Biological replicates	N=10		
Comparison	2 days Epo	2 weeks Epo	2 weeks post Epo
Transcripts/ genes	28,007	28,007	28,007
Criteria	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05
Significant transcripts/ genes	1↑	8,162 (4,942↓, 3,220↑)	960 (532↓, 428↑)



Application	RNA-Seq, Illumina		
Biological replicates	N=10		
Comparison	2 days Epo	2 weeks Epo	2 weeks post Epo
Transcripts/ genes	14,473	14,235	14,226
Criteria	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05
Significant transcripts/ genes	4↑	4,831 (2,167↓, 2,664↑)	2,250 (1,414↓, 836↑)





# World's longest sea crossing: Hong Kong-Zhuhai bridge opens

🕒 23 October 2018



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**A CHINESE GENOME GIANT SETS  
ITS SIGHTS ON THE ULTIMATE  
SEQUENCER**



Flying over the world's longest sea bridge

Chinese President Xi Jinping has officially opened the world's longest sea crossing bridge, nine years after construction first began.

# 华大基因 BGI

Industry	Genome sequencing
Founded	September 9, 1999 (Beijing)
Headquarters	Shenzhen, Guangdong, China
Number of locations	Shenzhen, Hong Kong, Wuhan, Hangzhou, Beijing, China; Boston, USA; Copenhagen, Denmark; Brisbane, Australia
Area served	Worldwide
Key people	Yang Huanming (Chairman) Wang Jian (President) Xun Xu (rotating CEO) Yang Shuang (COO)
Divisions	BGI China (Mainland) BGI Asia Pacific BGI Americas (North and South America) BGI Europe (Europe and Africa)
Subsidiaries	List of subsidiaries: <a href="#">[show]</a>
Website	<a href="http://www.bgi.com/global/">www.bgi.com/global/</a> <a href="#">↗</a> <a href="http://www.genomics.cn/">www.genomics.cn</a> <a href="#">↗</a>

27<sup>th</sup> October, 2018








**A CHINESE GENOME GIANT SETS  
ITS SIGHTS ON THE ULTIMATE  
SEQUENCER**

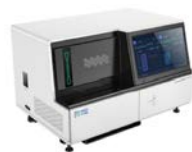
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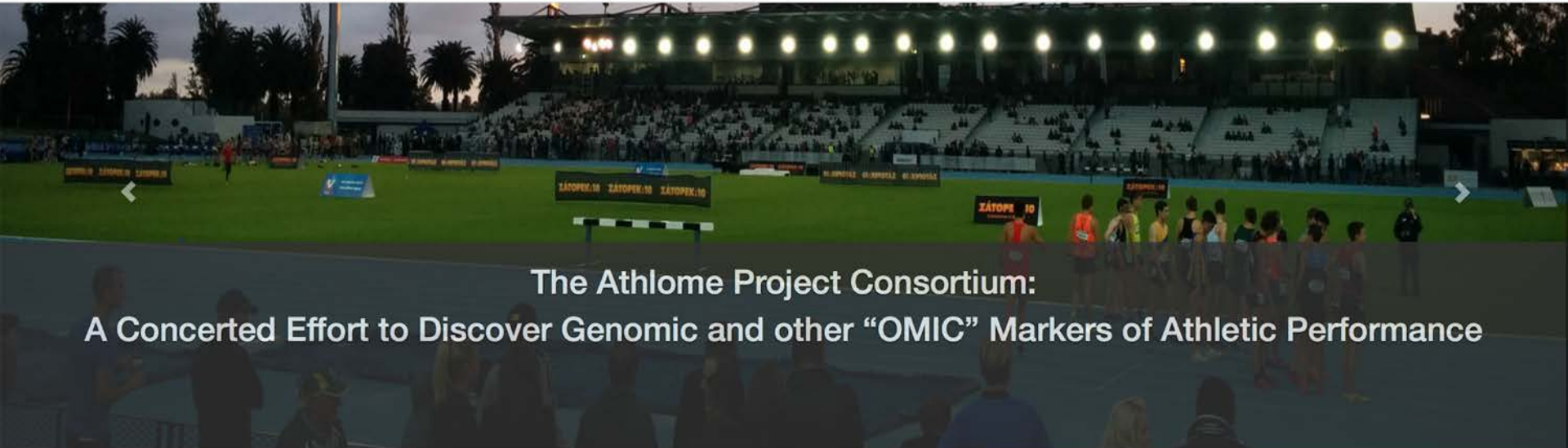
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Significant transcripts/ genes	4 (3↑, 1↓)	4,831 (2,167↓, 2,664↑)		2,250 (1,414↓, 836↑)

Application	RNA-Seq, BGI			
Biological replicates	N=10			
Comparison	2 days Epo	2 weeks Epo		2 weeks post Epo
Transcripts/ genes	-	-		-
Criteria	FDR<0.05	FDR<0.05		FDR<0.05
Significant transcripts/ genes	149 (145↑, 4↓)	4,168 (2,077↓, 2,091↑)		3,332 (1,917↓, 1,415↑)

# Athlome Project



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## The Athlome Project Consortium:

A Concerted Effort to Discover Genomic and other “OMIC” Markers of Athletic Performance

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[www.athlomeconsortium.org](http://www.athlomeconsortium.org)





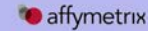
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## Cohorts & Funding

1 1000 Athlome Project	▼
1 Eastern Europe population studies (The Russian and Belarusian cohorts, GELAK, GELAV, and GUAP)	▼
1 ELITE	▼
1 Elite East African athlete cohort	▼
1 Epigenetics of Elite Athletic Performance	▼
1 GAMES	▼
1 GENATHLETE	▼
1 Gene SMART Study	▼
1 GENESIS	▼
1 GOINg	▼
1 J-HAP	▼
1 NTR	▼
1 POWERGENE	▼
1 Rat models of exercise and health (LCR-HCR rat model)	▼
1 Super-athletes: Genes and Sweat	▼



University of Brighton



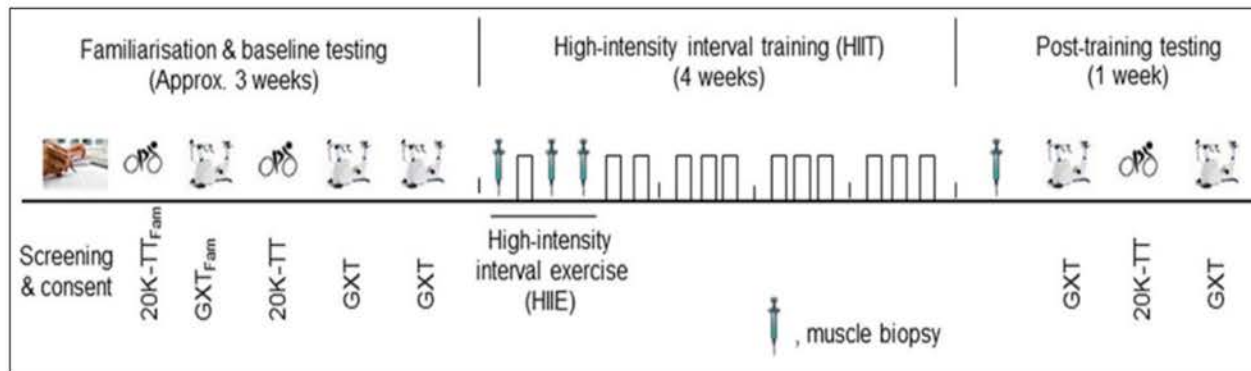
## The use of whole-genome expression to predict exercise training response in the Gene SMART study: Preliminary results

Karanikolou A<sup>1</sup>, Wang G<sup>1</sup>, Papadimitriou ID<sup>2</sup>, Yan X<sup>2</sup>, Garnham A<sup>2</sup>, Bishop DJ<sup>2</sup>, Eynon N<sup>2</sup>, Pitsiladis YP<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>FIMS Reference Collaborating Centre of Sports Medicine for Anti-Doping Research, University of Brighton, Eastbourne, UK; <sup>2</sup>Institute of Sport, Exercise and Active Living (ISEAL), Victoria University, Victoria, Australia

# Study Design

- 41 subjects, 4 time points (pre, post, 3hp, 4wp)



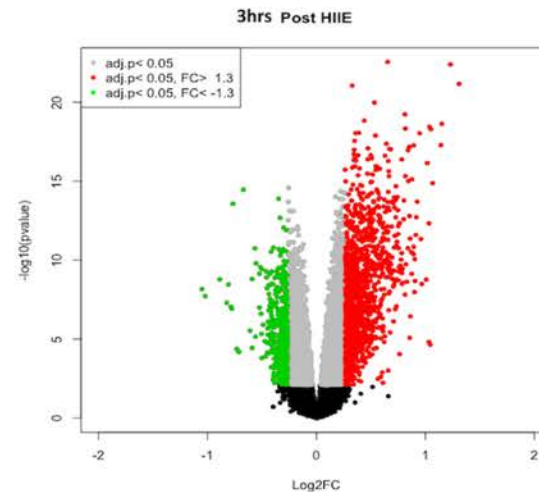
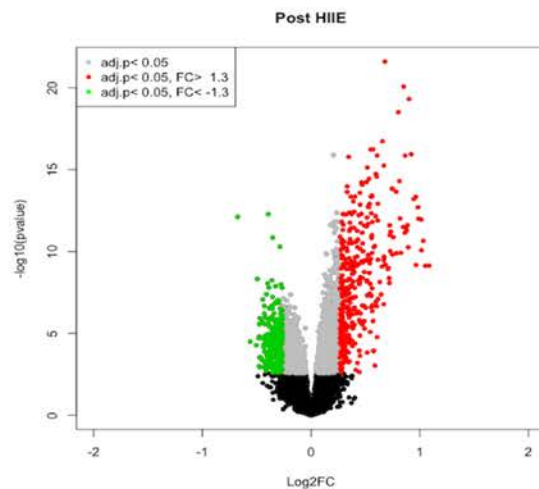
- Whole blood transcriptome analysis using GeneChip<sup>TM</sup> HTA 2.0 (Affymetrix, Thermo Fisher Scientific; >285,000 full-length transcripts)
- Data analysis: Bioconductor “oligo” and “limma” packages
- Differentially expressed transcripts were reported at 5% false discovery rate (FDR)



# Gene SMART Study

## Differentially expressed transcripts

- 3,655 and 11,324 transcripts were differentially expressed immediately and 3hrs post HIIE (adj  $p$  value  $<0.05$ ), respectively
- 1,417 were in common between the 2 time points
- No transcripts were differentially expressed after 4 weeks of HIIT

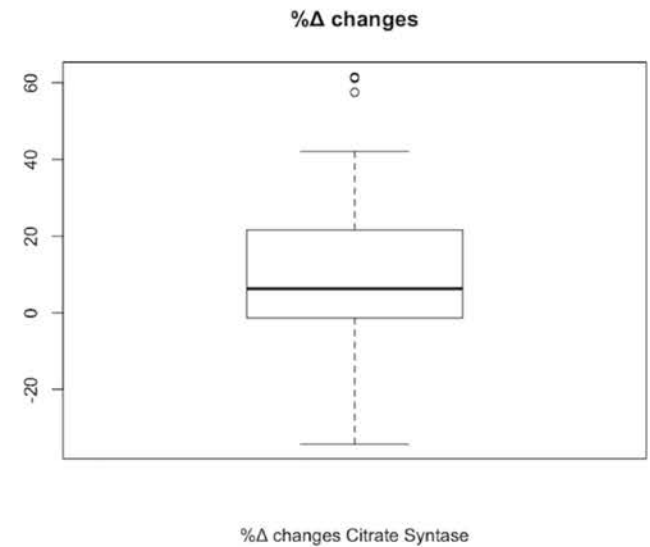
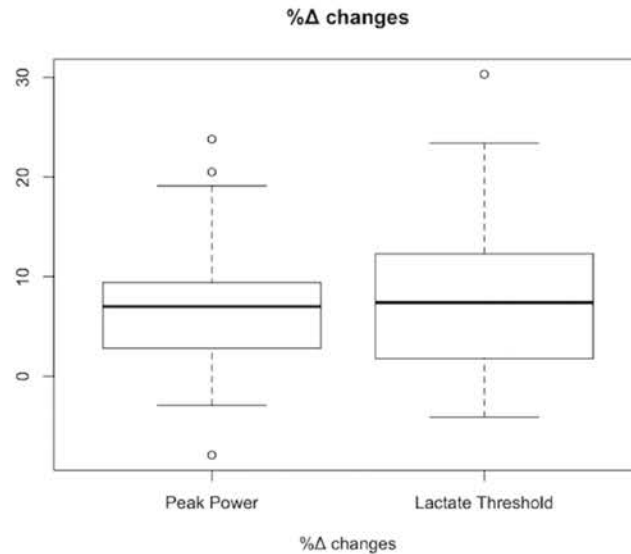




# Gene SMART Study

## Aerobic adaptation post 4weeks of HIIT

%delta ( $\Delta$ ) changes in Peak Power ranged from -7.9% to 23.8%, in Lactate Threshold (LT) from -4.1% to 30.3% after 4 weeks of HIIT, while the % $\Delta$  changes in CS ranged from -34.5% to 61.5%.



# Machine Learning & Artificial Intelligence

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## NEWS


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**Business** Your Money Market Data Companies Econ

### The race to make the world's most powerful computer ever

By Mary-Ann Russon  
Technology of Business reporter

4 September 2018



Could quantum computing unlock secrets of our bodies and the universe itself?

Quantum computers have long been touted as incredibly powerful machines that will be able to solve hugely complex computational problems much faster than any computer we have available today. But no-one can agree on the best way to make them. Who will win the race?

### The "Omics" Cascade

What CAN happen

GENOMICS

What APPEARS to happen

TRANSCRIPTOMICS

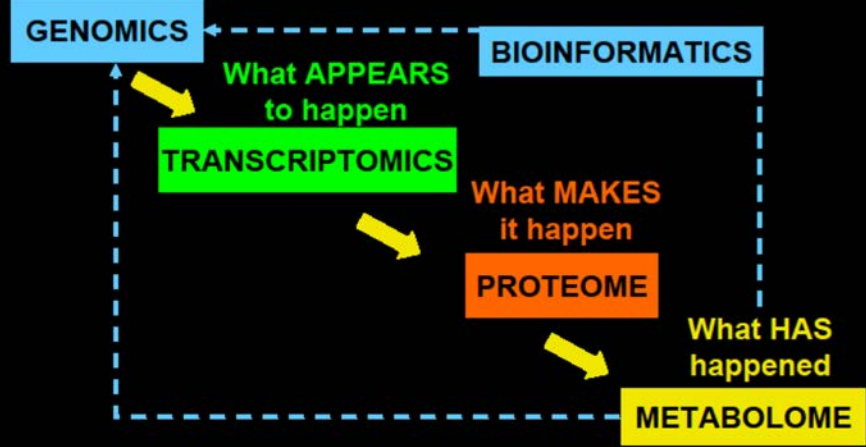
What MAKES it happen

PROTEOME

What HAS happened

METABOLOME

PHENOTYPE




Superfast quantum computers could speed up the discovery of new medicines, crack the most complex cryptographic security systems, design new materials, or how to make

Quantum computers could help find molecules to tackle genetic diseases

Physicists, engineers and computer scientists around the world are trying to develop four very different types of quantum computers, based around light particles, trapped ions, superconducting qubits, or nitrogen-vacancy centres in diamonds.

Companies like IBM, Google, Rigetti, Intel and Microsoft are currently leading the quantum charge.

Each method has its pros and cons, but the overarching challenge is the fragile nature of quantum itself.



GETTY IMAGES

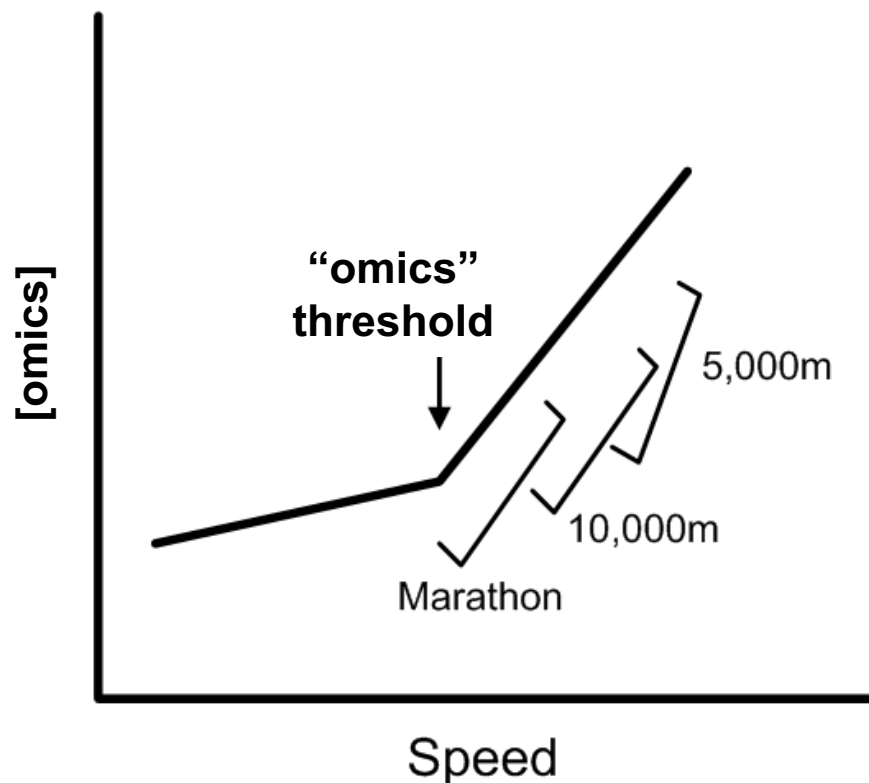
## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

# Passing the anaerobic threshold is associated with substantial changes in the gene expression profile in white blood cells

Dmitry A. Sakharov  
Maxim U. Shkurnik  
Anatoly I. Grigoriev

Table S1. Upregulated genes in response to RTT.

GeneSymbol	EntrezID	PValue	adj.P.Val
ABCH1	5243	7.90E-09	4.18E-06
ADAMTS1	9510	9.74E-05	3.18E-03
AGK*	55750	1.24E-08	5.83E-06
ACPA1*	56895	1.20E-06	1.56E-04
AKAP5	9405	3.35E-07	6.11E-05
AKR1C3*	8644	4.44E-07	7.28E-05
ANXA1*	301	3.01E-05	1.46E-03
ARAP2	116984	7.61E-08	2.03E-05
AREG	374	3.64E-09	2.43E-06
ARL4C	10123	4.31E-08	1.37E-05
AUTS2	29053	1.17E-05	7.61E-04
BAGAL1*	8702	3.79E-07	6.50E-05
BAGAL1*	9331	5.26E-08	1.59E-05
BNC2	54796	1.83E-05	1.04E-03
BXDC5	80135	5.04E-06	4.33E-04
Clorf21	81263	4.66E-10	1.03E-06
Clorf46	339789	5.41E-08	1.59E-05
Clorf25	375484	1.95E-06	2.23E-04
Clorf150	115904	3.89E-07	6.55E-05
CACYPB*	27101	1.11E-05	7.34E-04
CEBLB	868	2.23E-08	8.72E-06
CCL4	6351	5.67E-06	4.73E-04
CCL4L1	9560	2.95E-09	2.24E-06
CUN2D2	894	5.21E-08	1.59E-05
CD160	11126	4.87E-07	7.78E-05
CD226	19066	3.60E-08	1.20E-05
CD244	51744	2.39E-08	9.10E-06
CD247	919	3.71E-09	2.43E-06
CD38	952	1.57E-11	1.07E-07
CD69	969	2.68E-09	2.18E-06
CEP78	84131	6.06E-11	2.50E-07
CKS2	1164	7.37E-05	2.62E-03
CLK1	1395	1.00E-05	7.30E-04
CMKLRL1	1240	7.99E-10	1.21E-06
CNO1GL	246175	7.66E-07	1.08E-04
COG6	57511	8.78E-05	2.96E-03
COP54	51138	3.10E-05	1.49E-03
CREM	1390	3.24E-09	2.34E-06
CRIM1	51232	2.14E-08	8.47E-06
CRISF3	10821	5.61E-06	2.20E-03
CRD7*	54677	1.06E-05	7.29E-04
CRYZ	1429	3.50E-06	3.36E-04
CSF7	8530	5.72E-08	1.65E-05
CYSW	1521	5.36E-08	1.59E-05
CX3CR1	1524	1.26E-05	8.04E-04



GeneSymbol	EntrezID	PValue	adj.P.Val	FC
TBC1D19	55296	4.82E-06	4.23E-04	1.31
THX21	30009	1.18E-07	2.79E-05	1.33
TRAF1	7013	8.79E-05	2.96E-03	1.32
TRFD2	7029	5.42E-07	8.33E-05	1.45
TCFBR3	7049	1.46E-09	1.61E-06	1.67
TICIT1	201633	3.17E-07	5.91E-05	1.42
TIPARP*	25976	2.95E-07	5.65E-05	1.32
TKTL1	8277	1.31E-06	1.65E-04	1.38
TLE1	7088	2.40E-06	2.56E-04	1.33
TLR3	7098	4.50E-05	1.91E-03	1.32
TMASF19	116211	5.75E-04	1.06E-02	1.40
TMEM156	80008	1.21E-06	1.56E-04	1.38
TNFAIP3	7128	6.18E-07	9.14E-05	1.47
TCX	9760	2.08E-08	8.45E-06	1.44
TPP1	7178	1.05E-05	7.29E-04	1.33
TRGV7	6981	3.17E-09	2.34E-06	1.49
TRGV9	6983	6.07E-06	4.93E-04	1.53
TSPYL1	7259	3.36E-06	3.28E-04	1.40
TPC38	55020	2.52E-07	5.05E-05	1.33
TKK	7294	2.79E-08	9.95E-06	1.38
UCHL5	51377	7.29E-07	1.08E-04	1.31
USP28	57646	8.59E-10	1.24E-06	1.51
WDR67	93594	7.46E-07	1.07E-04	1.34
YES1	7525	3.22E-05	1.53E-03	1.36
YPEL1	29799	1.36E-09	1.61E-06	1.42
ZBTB38	253461	7.25E-08	1.98E-05	1.33
ZNF600	162966	3.41E-07	6.12E-05	1.33
ZNF721	170960	9.08E-04	1.46E-02	1.31
ZNF841	284371	1.06E-05	7.30E-04	1.31
ZNF91	7644	2.36E-04	5.80E-03	1.36

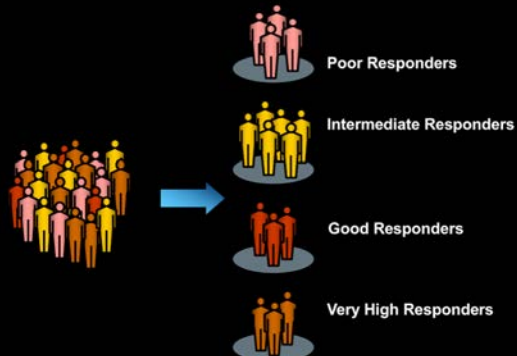
adj.P.Val — adjusted p-value (FDR&lt;0.05); FC — fold change.

\*Genes involved in lipid metabolic process (GO:0006629).

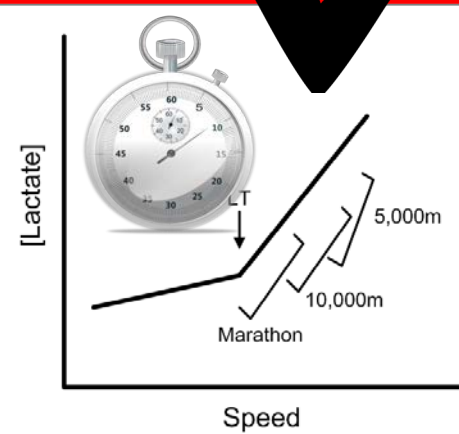
EntrezID	PValue	adj.P.Val	FC	GeneSymbol	EntrezID	PValue	adj.P.Val	FC
5	4.41E-07	7.27E-05	1.31	SNORA4	619568	6.32E-06	5.09E-04	1.54
628	1.05E-09	1.38E-06	1.51	SNORA40	677822	1.10E-05	7.34E-04	1.39
1	2.07E-07	4.33E-05	1.34	SNORA49	677829	2.02E-05	1.11E-03	1.57
120	5.34E-08	1.59E-05	1.42	SNORA61	677838	5.08E-07	7.97E-05	1.20
7	3.86E-06	3.59E-04	1.38	SNORA68	26780	2.01E-05	1.10E-03	1.49
36	5.13E-08	1.59E-05	1.43	SNORA8	654320	2.58E-07	5.13E-05	1.43
41	5.98E-10	1.12E-06	1.40	SNORD104	692227	4.06E-04	8.35E-03	1.38
470	3.97E-05	1.75E-03	1.34	SNORD158	114599	9.81E-05	3.18E-03	1.45
6	3.22E-03	3.54E-02	1.45	SNORD126	9302	2.08E-06	2.31E-04	1.42
35	1.24E-03	1.80E-02	1.34	SNORD128	9300	4.64E-06	4.11E-04	1.53
34	9.88E-05	3.18E-03	1.89	SNORD129	9297	2.44E-04	5.88E-03	1.38
29	3.78E-06	3.53E-04	1.78	SNORD32A	26819	1.37E-04	4.01E-03	1.36
5	1.07E-08	5.26E-06	1.34	SNORD34	26817	1.63E-06	1.94E-04	1.46
3	3.44E-03	3.70E-02	1.42	SNORD35A	26816	9.80E-07	1.32E-04	1.33
2	4.11E-03	4.20E-02	1.33	SNORD41	26810	5.70E-06	4.73E-04	1.45
5	3.36E-05	1.58E-03	1.35	SNORD46	94161	2.47E-05	1.27E-03	1.37
9	5.01E-03	4.82E-02	1.34	SNORD49A	26800	4.97E-06	4.32E-04	1.39
075	3.09E-08	1.09E-05	1.54	SNORD4H	26772	5.35E-07	8.25E-05	1.51
9	4.97E-05	2.03E-03	1.34	SNORD5	692072	5.86E-07	8.77E-05	1.41
148	6.95E-06	5.48E-04	1.71	SNORD90A	26799	3.06E-03	3.43E-02	1.38
768	1.35E-03	1.92E-02	1.31	SNORD54	26795	1.59E-04	4.42E-03	1.37
775	5.07E-06	4.33E-04	1.40	SNORD57	26792	6.55E-06	5.20E-04	1.31
772	9.94E-06	7.02E-04	1.49	SNORD58A	26791	4.86E-05	2.00E-03	1.47
757	2.28E-04	5.66E-03	1.40	SNORD59	692075	3.30E-05	9.02E-04	1.31
8	1.77E-05	1.02E-03	1.42	SNORD60	26788	3.70E-06	3.48E-04	1.59
157	2.88E-12	2.77E-08	2.00	SNORD61	26787	2.42E-04	5.88E-03	1.32
7	1.93E-07	4.17E-05	1.47	SNORD63	26785	4.38E-06	3.95E-04	1.38
74	1.23E-06	1.58E-04	1.41	SNORD68	606500	4.87E-04	9.42E-03	1.32
836	2.13E-06	2.35E-04	1.35	SNORD74	619498	2.98E-07	5.67E-05	1.36
23	4.21E-08	1.35E-05	1.51	SNORD76	692196	1.01E-03	1.58E-02	1.41
4	7.02E-09	3.82E-06	1.32	SNORD78	692198	1.36E-03	1.93E-02	1.33
512	1.55E-06	1.86E-04	1.41	SNORD8	319103	5.67E-05	2.22E-03	1.44
69	2.31E-06	2.48E-04	1.38	SNORD80	26774	1.32E-03	1.88E-02	1.39
82	5.30E-07	8.22E-05	1.37	SNORD82	25826	1.47E-04	4.18E-03	1.47
1	1.06E-05	7.29E-04	1.47	SNORD94	692225	1.51E-04	4.25E-03	1.49
615	3.48E-06	3.35E-04	1.30	SNRPN	6638	3.96E-03	4.09E-02	1.40
857	2.70E-06	2.75E-04	1.42	SPN	6603	1.90E-06	3.61E-04	1.34
792	4.45E-06	4.00E-04	1.20	SPON2	10417	3.38E-07	6.11E-05	1.61
801	1.97E-04	5.13E-03	1.39	STSSIA6*	338596	1.34E-06	1.67E-04	1.67
806	1.56E-07	3.52E-05	2.21	STARD4	134429	2.43E-06	2.57E-04	1.36
505	4.68E-05	1.95E-03	1.41	STX14	6775	6.59E-09	3.73E-06	1.42
807	2.70E-07	5.28E-05	1.62	STX39	27347	1.57E-07	3.55E-05	1.33
808	5.74E-05	2.22E-03	1.72	SYNE1	23545	2.64E-06	2.74E-04	1.36
809	2.15E-06	2.35E-04	1.51	SYT11	23208	5.05E-07	7.97E-05	1.37
811	5.20E-05	2.09E-03	1.34	SYT12	54843	7.16E-08	1.98E-05	1.56
812	3.79E-06	3.53E-04	1.49	SYT13	94120	2.54E-08	9.30E-06	1.39
562	2.90E-04	6.60E-03	1.38	TARP	445347	1.54E-08	6.49E-06	1.58



## How to individualize training?



**VS.**



# The Scientific Basis of Training



## Necessary Steps to Accelerate the Integration of Wearable Sensors Into Recreation and Competitive Sports

Peter Dükig, MSc<sup>1,2</sup>; Christian Stimmel, MBA<sup>2</sup>; Billy Sperlich, PhD<sup>1</sup>; Shaun Sutehall, BSc<sup>3</sup>; Borja Muniz-Pardos, MSc<sup>4</sup>; Giscard Lima, BPhEd, MSc<sup>5</sup>; Liam Kilduff, BSc, PhD<sup>6</sup>; Iphigenia Keramitsoglou, MSc, PhD<sup>7</sup>; Guoping Li, MD<sup>8,9</sup>; Fabio Pigozzi, MD, PhD<sup>5,9,10,11</sup>; and Yannis P. Pitsiladis, MMedSci, PhD, FACSM<sup>5,9,10</sup>

# “Intelligent” coaching







# e-Celsius<sup>®</sup>

## Performance

e-Celsius Performance<sup>®</sup>, is a miniaturised ingestible electronic pill that wirelessly transmits a continuous measurement of gastrointestinal temperature.

The data are stored on a monitor called e-Viewer Performance<sup>®</sup>. This device shows alerts if the measurement is outside the desired range. The activation box is used to turn the pill on from standby mode and connect with the

monitor for data collection in either real time or by recovery from the internal memory of e-Celsius Performance<sup>®</sup>. Each monitor can be used with up to three pills at



### e-Celsius Performance<sup>®</sup> pill

Storage: Up to one year

Weight: 1.7g

Size: 17.7mm x 8.9 mm

Sampling: 30s

Accuracy: 0.2°C

Operational range: 25°C to 45°C

Records up to 2000 data

Wireless transmission (433 MHz)

Communication range: 1 m

Operational duration: 20 days

### Monitor

3 pills per monitor

Multichannel: 7 monitors in parallel

Storage: 80 000 data per pill

Autonomy in charge: 24h

Size: 120mm x 70mm x 15mm

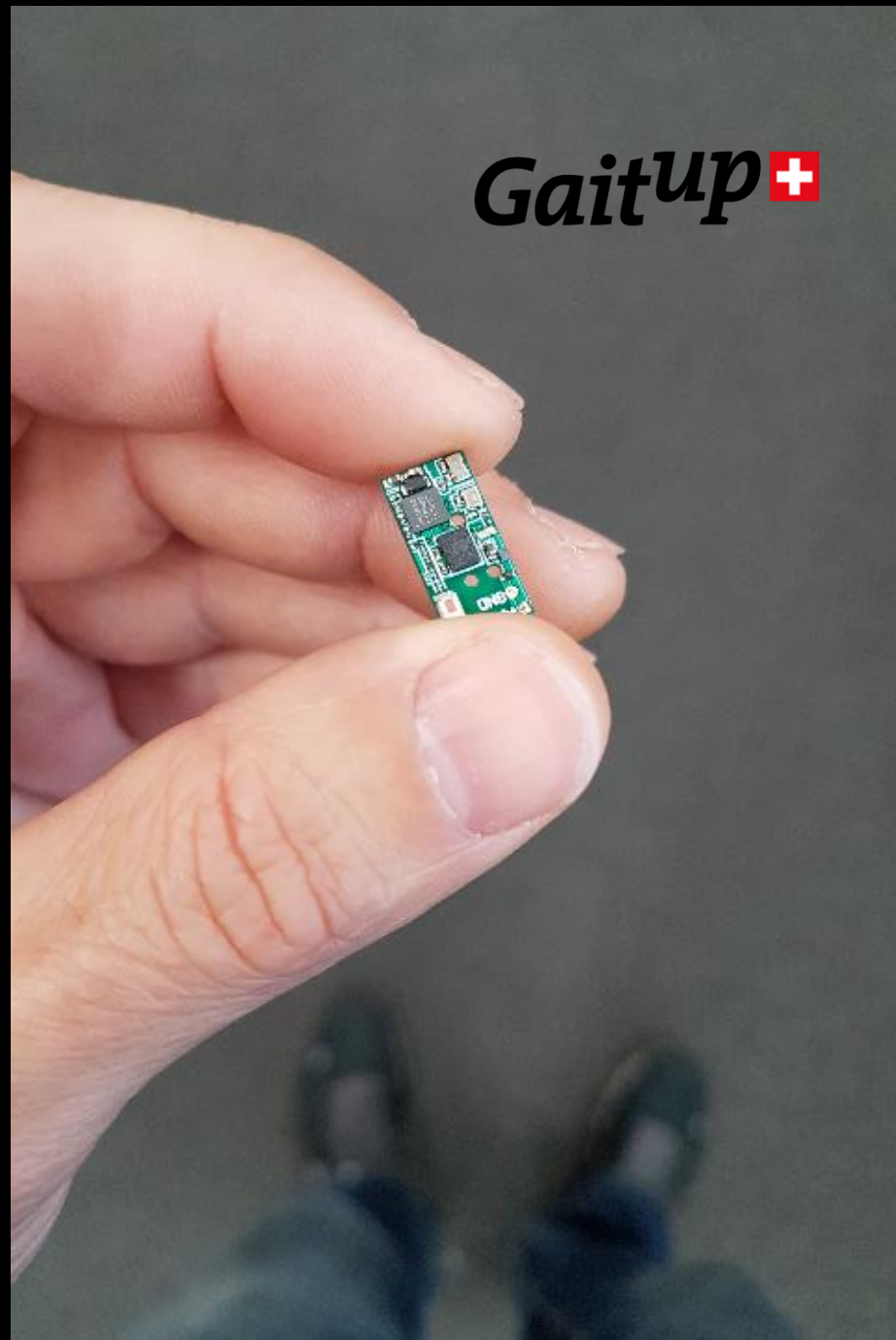


once to enable extended use. The monitor's interface allows the user to download data to a PC/ Mac for storage. The pill is safe, non-invasive and easy to use, leaving the gastric system after one or two days, depending on individual transit time.


# Physilog® NanoCore™

*“A motion lab-on-chip”*


- Hardware: IMU sensing, processing, memory, communication
- Know-how from medical applications and Swiss luxury watch industry
- Miniaturisation at its best:  
Start of project: 18g -> **Now: 0.2g**
- Weight on shoe requires more effort than anywhere else



# Wearable biomarker devices

  
WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES





**WT | WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES CONFERENCE**  
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WEARABLE TECHNOLOGIES

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## This Wearable Can Measure Your Stress Through Stress Hormones in Your Sweat

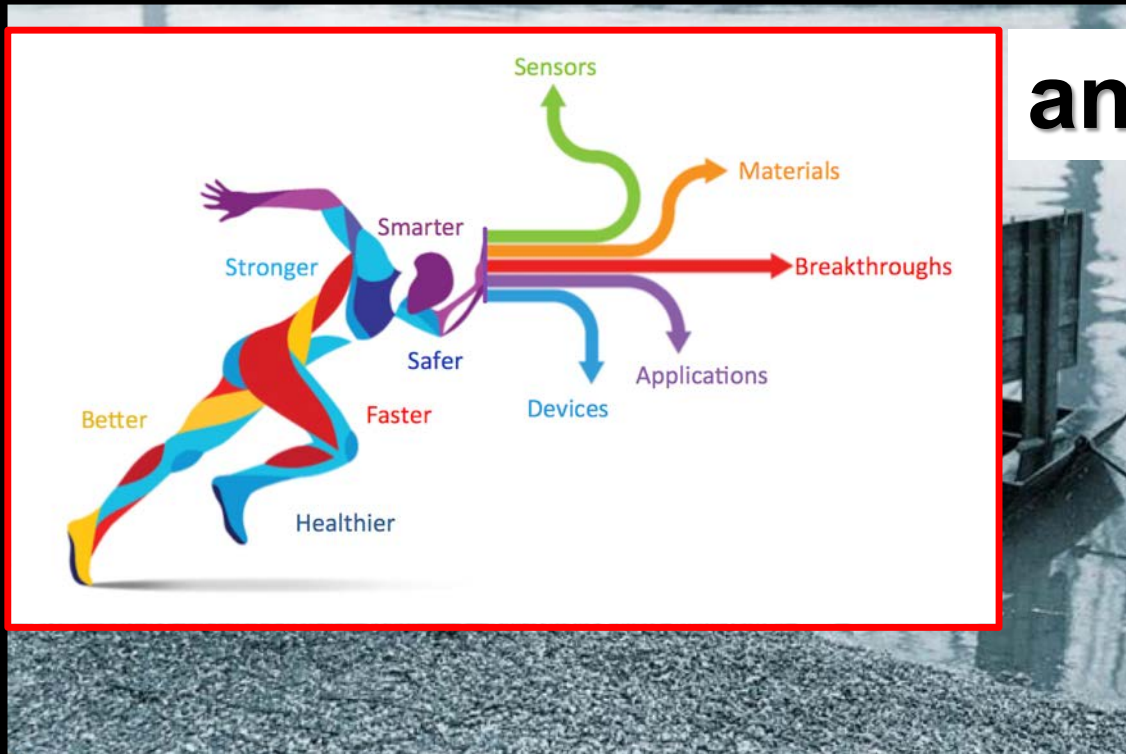
By Cathy Russey



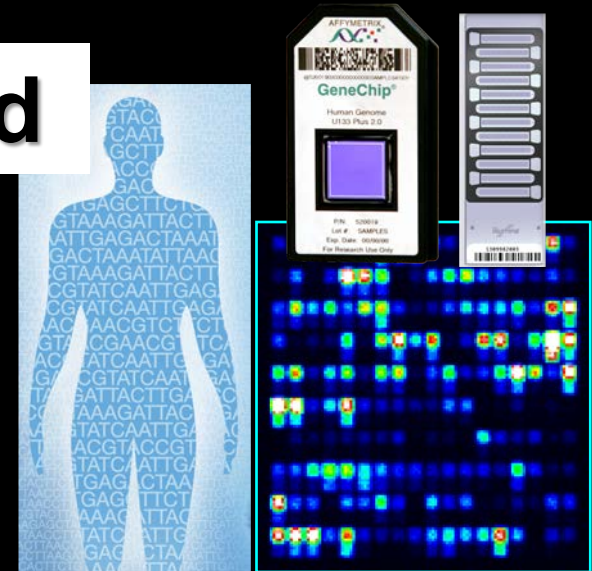




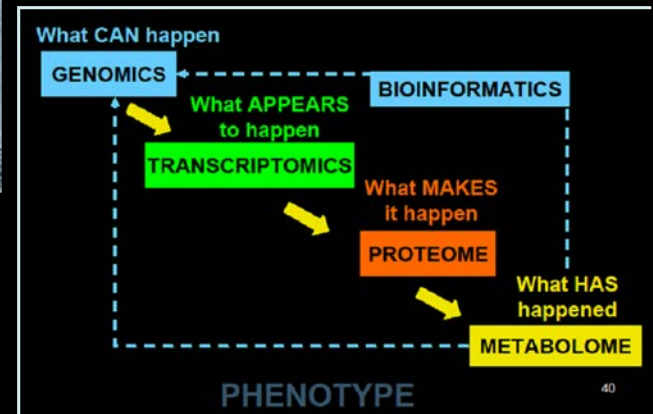
# The Scientific Basis of Training



and



**New bioinformatics methods  
will be needed**





**World-Class Performance**

***Molecular/Genetic***

**Behavioral**

***Environmental***



# The first sub-4-minute mile



**Sir Roger Gilbert Bannister, CBE**  
**(23 March 1929 – 3 March 2018)**



*John Landy*  
*3:58.0*  
*21<sup>st</sup> June 1954*

*3:58.8*

*Roger Bannister*  
*3:59.4*  
*6<sup>th</sup> May 1954*

*“Mile of the Century”*  
*Vancouver Empire Games*  
*Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> August 1954*

*Slides courtesy of Tim Noakes*

# Belief

*(and have a good support team)*

**Bannister achieved what he believed his coach believed he could achieve.**

**Support team: By your actions you contribute to the perception each athlete has of her or his ultimate performance potential.**



# Belief

**“The crucial thing that he (Stampfl) said was: ‘Well I think you can run a 3:56 mile’. If he believed that - I hope he did - it certainly was a helpful comment. And he said if you have the chance and you don’t take it you may regret it for the rest of your life”**

**Sir Roger Bannister May 6th 2004**

