



SAND2018-12191C

Wearables at the Canyon for Health (WATCH)

Quantifying Physical and Cognitive Fatigue in
Extreme Environments



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PRESENTED BY Sandia National Laboratories

Dept. of Scalable Analysis & Visualization



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Ooh Aah Point



Photo credit: WATCH team member, Rob Abbott

0.7mi; 790ft Down
20 miles to go!

Purpose of the Study

1) Markers for Health:

- Identify physiological, cognitive markers most related to health and task performance

2) Wearable Devices:

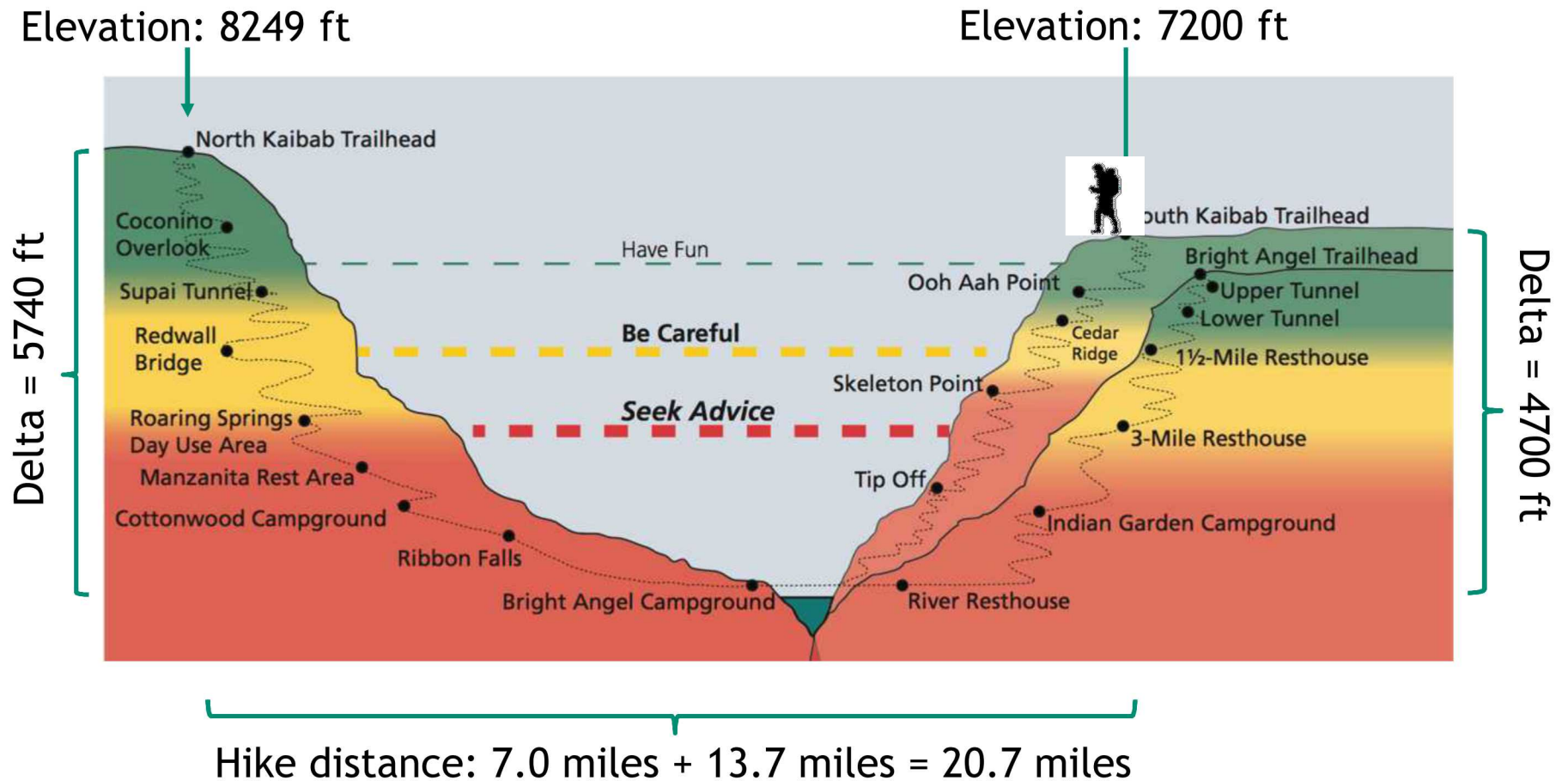
- Identify which commercial off-the-shelf (COTS) wearable devices are best for measurement and in rugged environments

3) Health Events:

- Use statistical analyses on collected data to identify which markers are most predictive of benign vs. traumatic health events

Two populations of interest: Military & Civilian

The Rim-to-Rim Hike



Average Conditions Throughout the Year

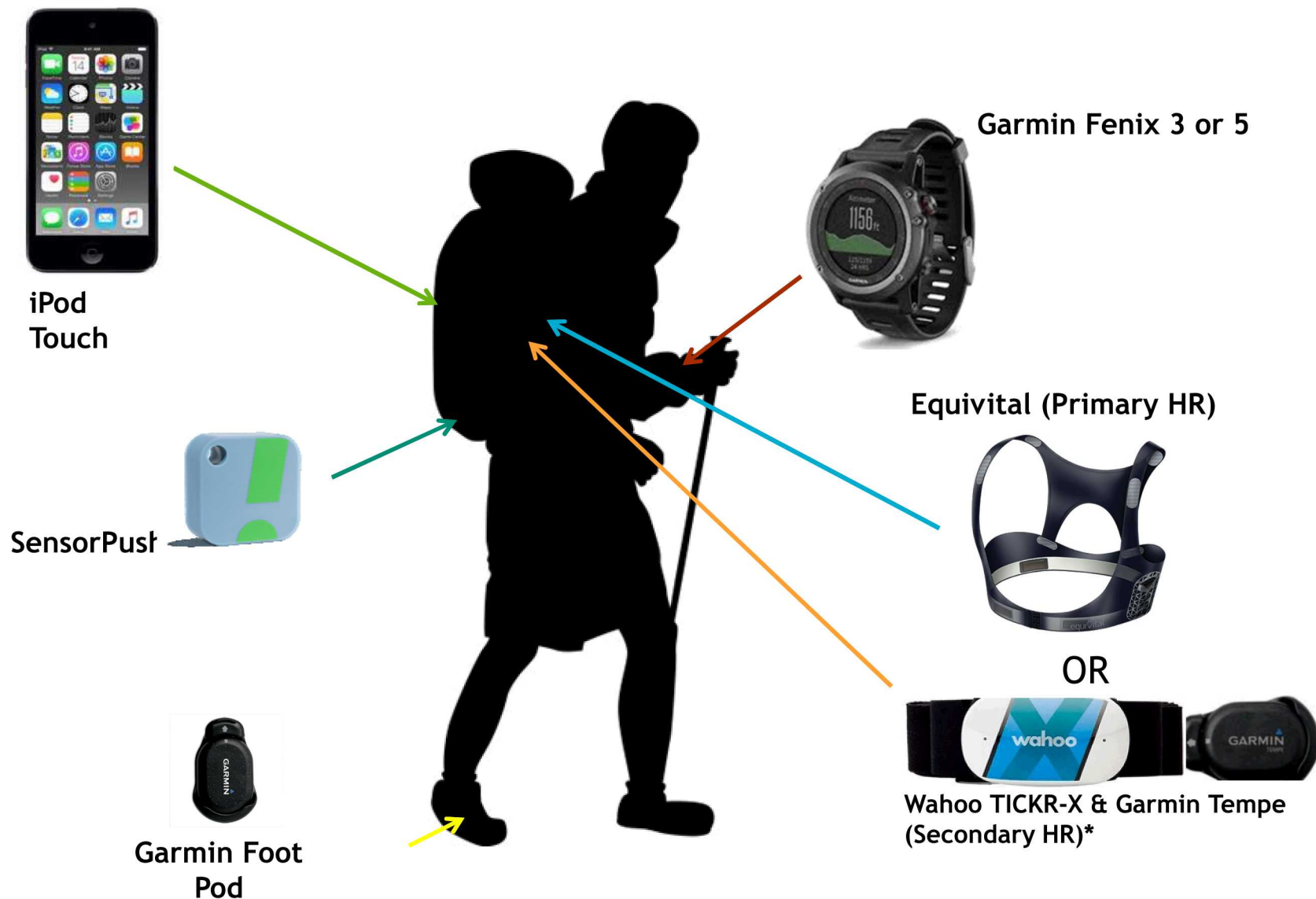
Location	Summer	Winter	Spring/Fall
Avg Top Min	48°F	19°F	32°F
Avg Top Max	83°F	45°F	63°F
Avg River Min	74°F	38°F	56°F
Avg River Max	104°F*	59°F	82°F

***Temperatures can feel like 140°F in the sun and reach 115°F in the shade in Summer.**

Devices Used



September 2018 Data Collection Package

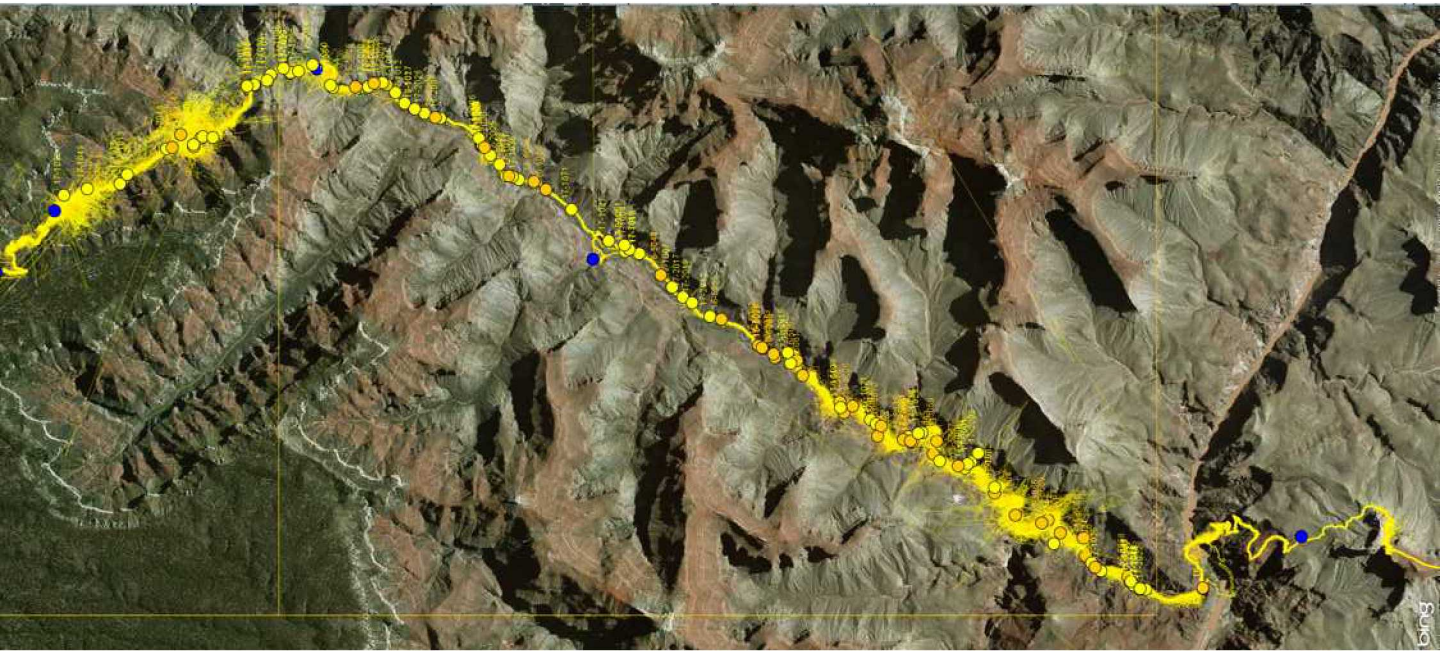


Data Collected

- Heart rate
 - HRV
 - ECG (Intervals, QRS)
- Distance & Cadence
- GPS
 - Location
 - Elevation
- Body Temperature
- Environmental Temp & Humidity
- Cognitive Battery
 - VSTM
 - Go/No-go
 - BART
 - Subjective Mental/Physical fatigue
- Survey Data
 - Pre-hike
 - Personality
 - Pack weight
 - Sleep Quality
 - Home elevation
 - Start Time
 - Post-hike
 - Fatigue
 - End Time
 - Recovery (one-week)
- Blood data
 - Delta CK
 - Lactate
 - ...
- Observation notes

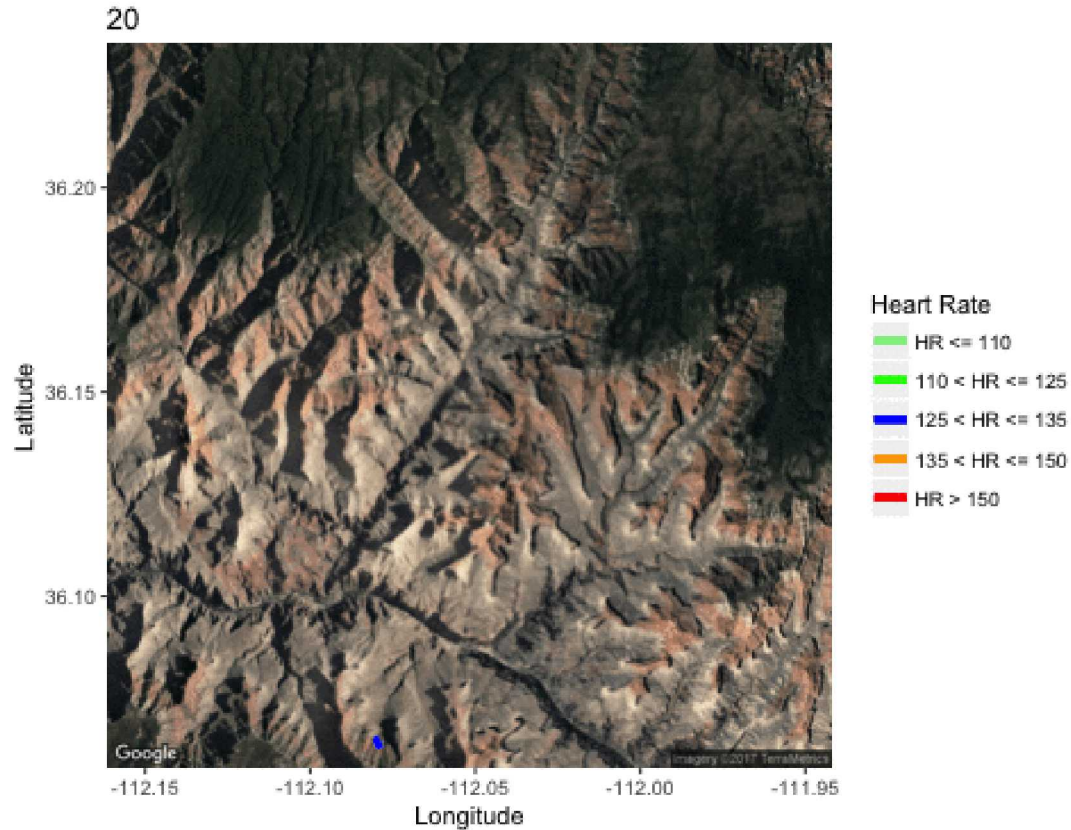
Data Collected to Date

	Wearables	Cognitive	Bloodwork	Surveys
TOTAL	174	162	179	452
Sep 2018	38	38	37	38
Oct 2017	27	27	24	27
May 2017	59	57	67	99
Oct 2016	50	40	51	288





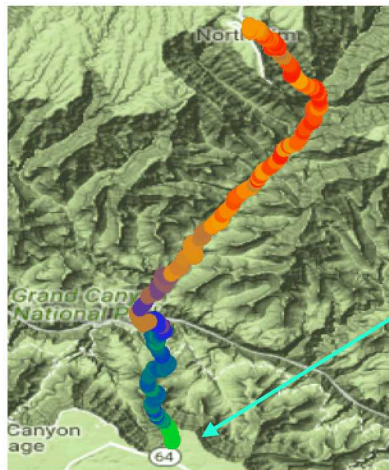
Comparing Heart Rates Across Subjects



(Longitude shifted for visibility)

Intensity of Hike

Average Heart Rate (military)

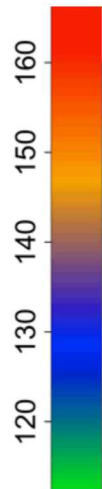


By GPS coordinates

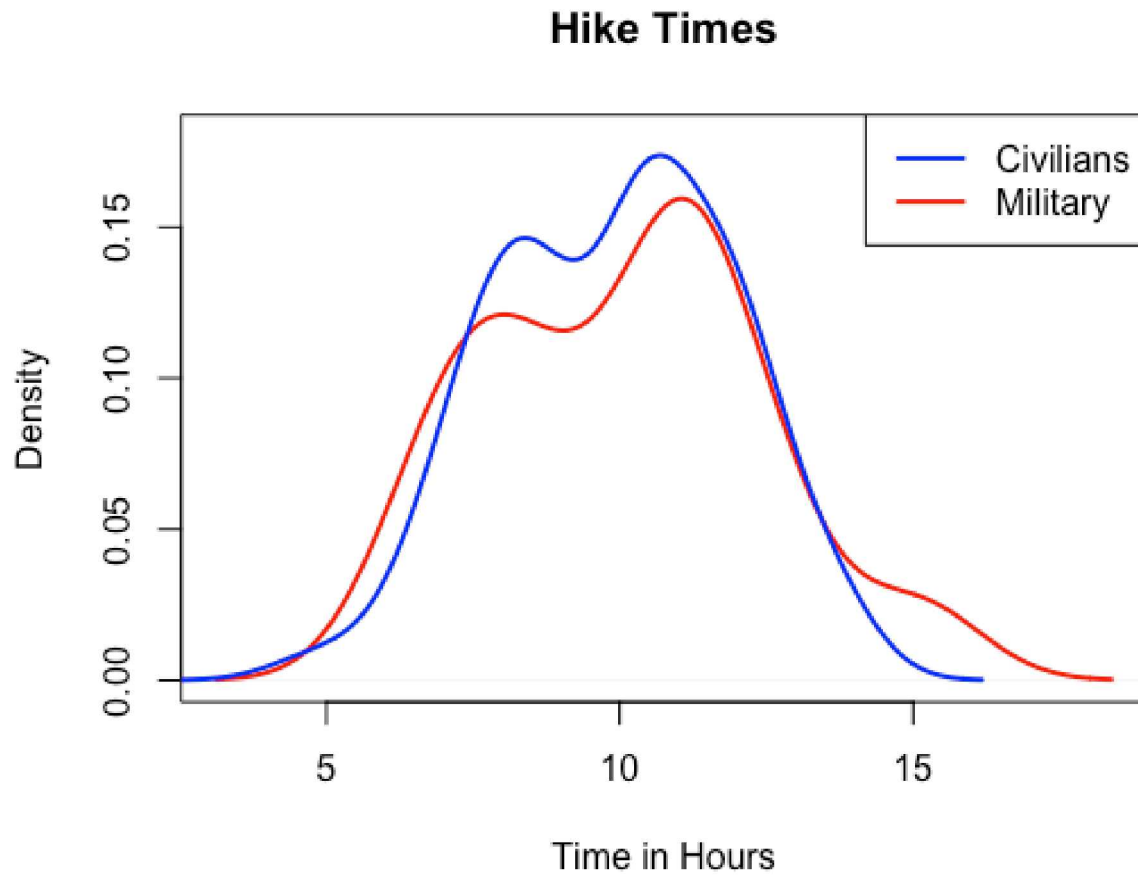
North Rim
(finish)

South Kaibab
(start)

By elevation



Hike Times



Cognitive Assessments

- Subjective Fatigue
- Visual Short Term Memory (VTSM)
- Go/No-Go
- Balloon Analogue Risk Task (BART)

Cognitive Assessments – Subjective Fatigue

[Quit](#)

Fatigue Questionnaire

On a scale from 0 to 6, what is your current level of **mental fatigue**?

0 - No fatigue

1 - Very light fatigue

2 - Light fatigue

3 - Moderate fatigue

4 - Heavy fatigue

5 - Very heavy fatigue

6 - Maximal fatigue

[Continue](#)

[Quit](#)

Fatigue Questionnaire

On a scale from 0 to 6, what is your current level of **physical fatigue**?

0 - No fatigue

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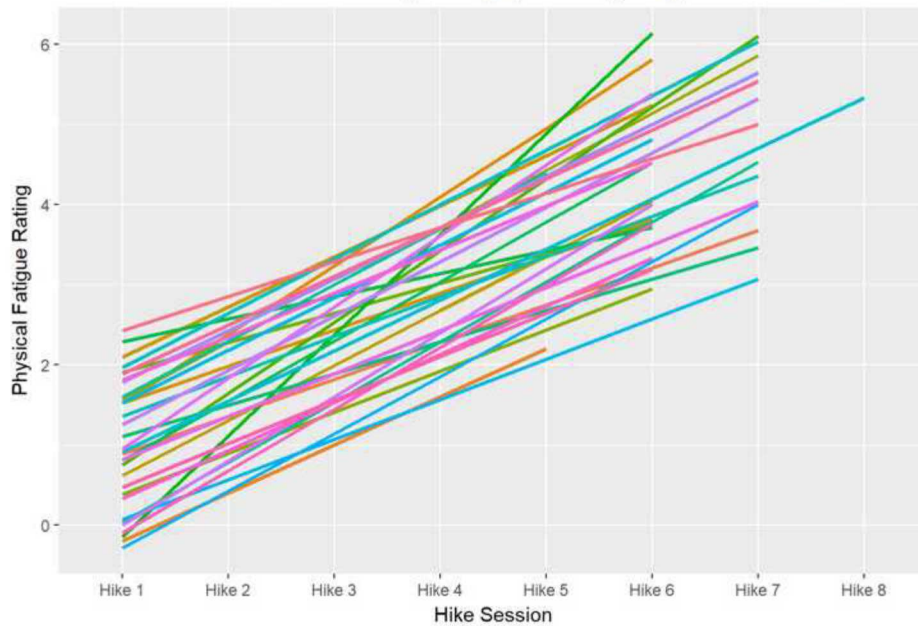
5 - Very heavy fatigue

6 - Maximal fatigue

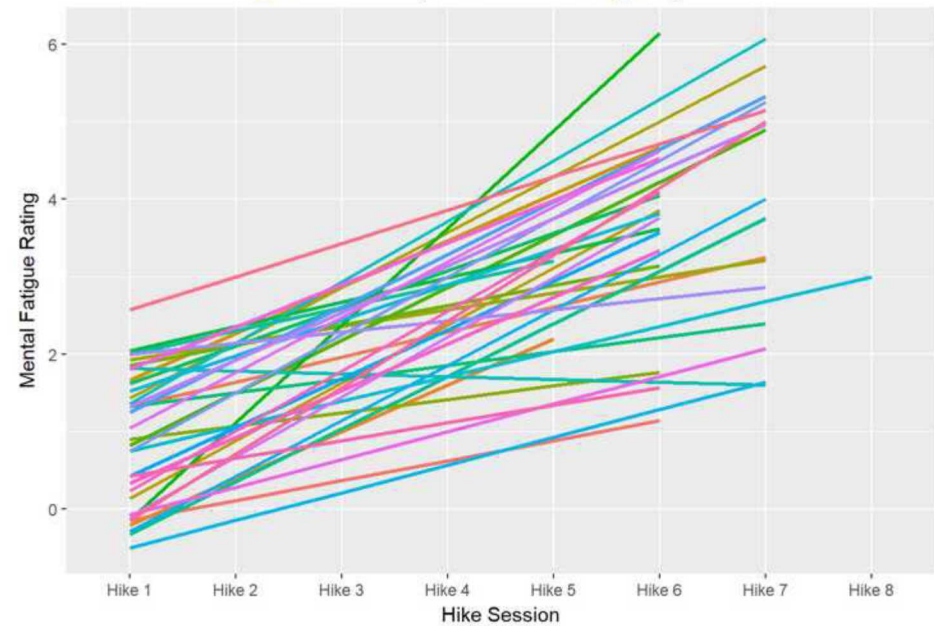
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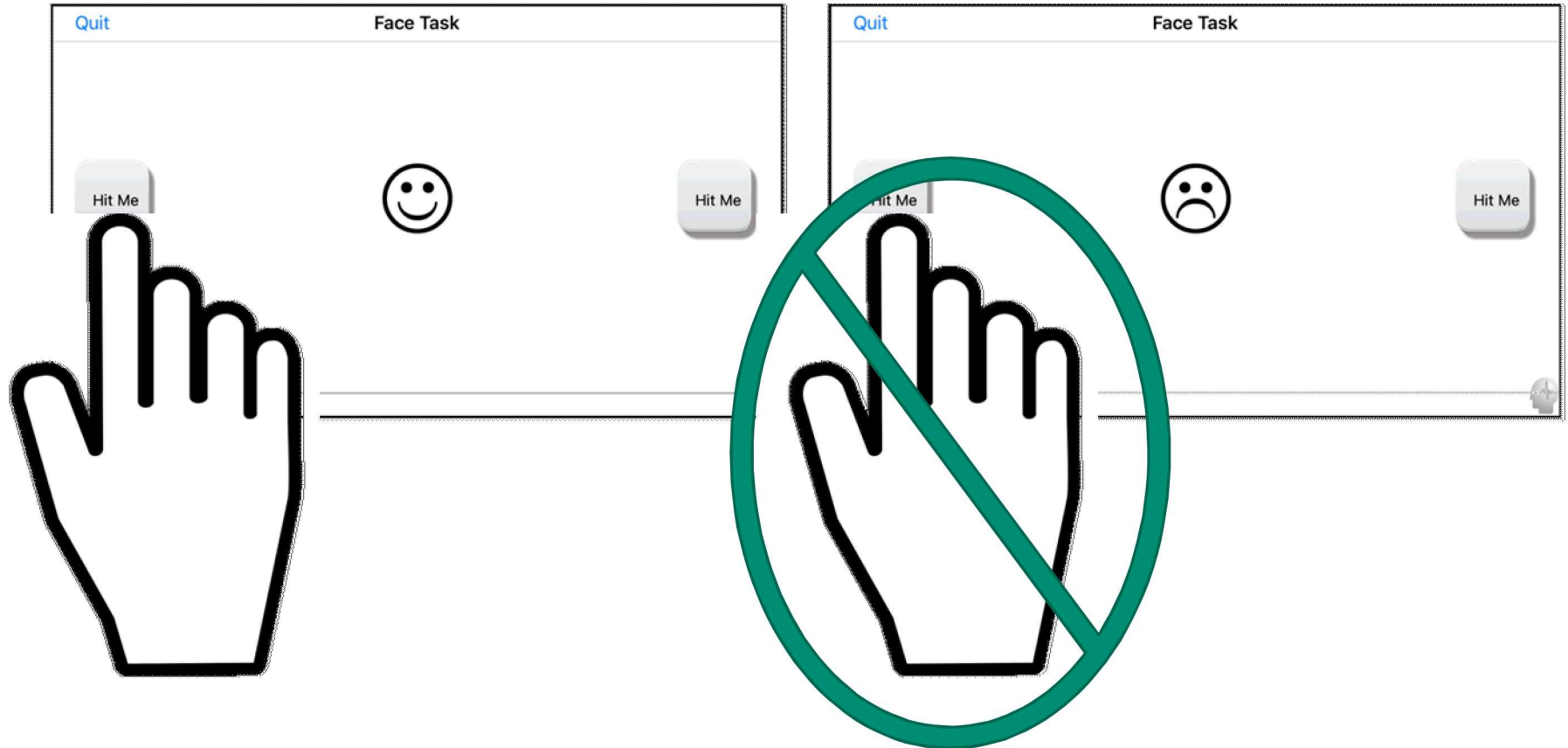
Fatigue

Trend line for each subject for physical fatigue by hike session



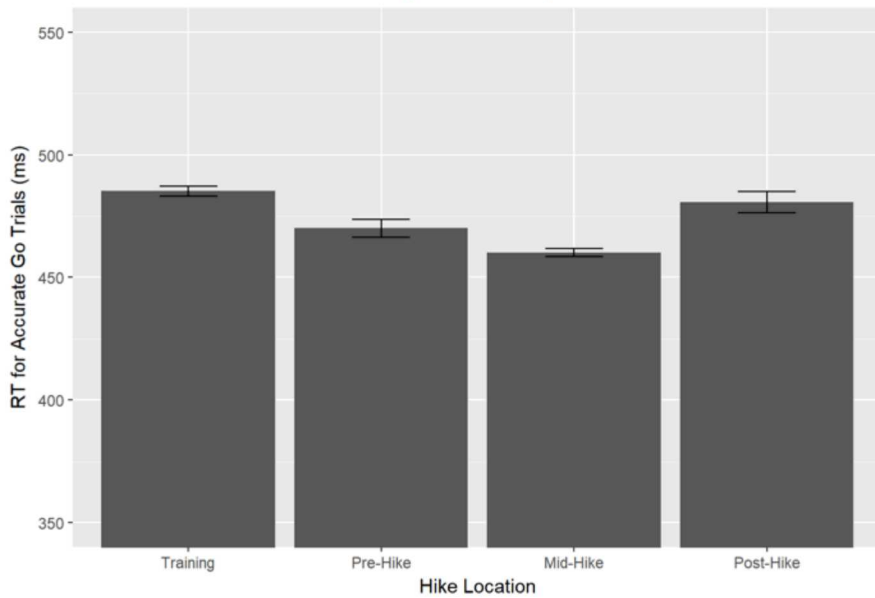
Trend line for each subject for mental fatigue by hike session



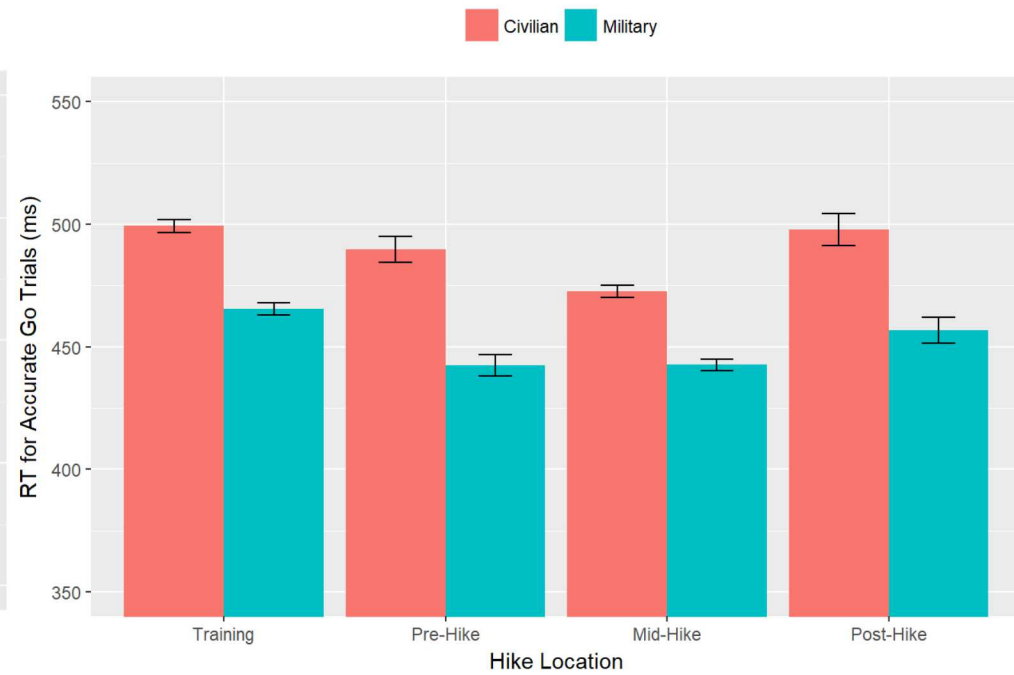


Go/No-Go

Go/No-Go Response Time by Hike Location

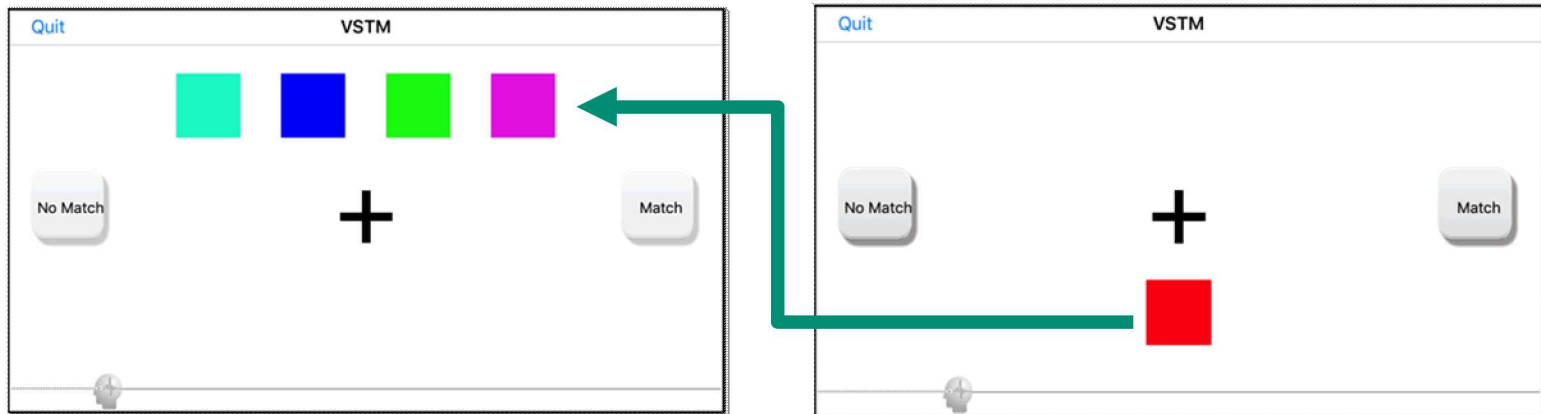


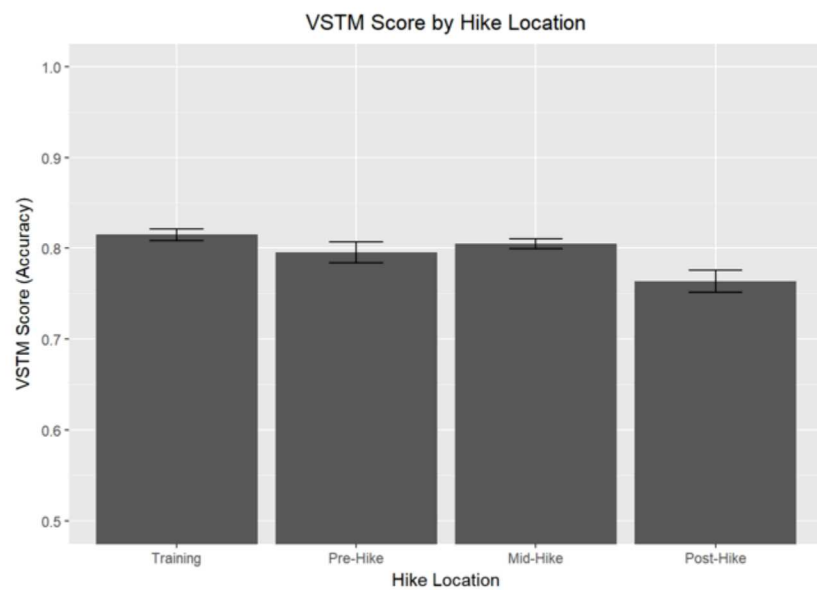
Go/No-Go Response Time by Hike Location



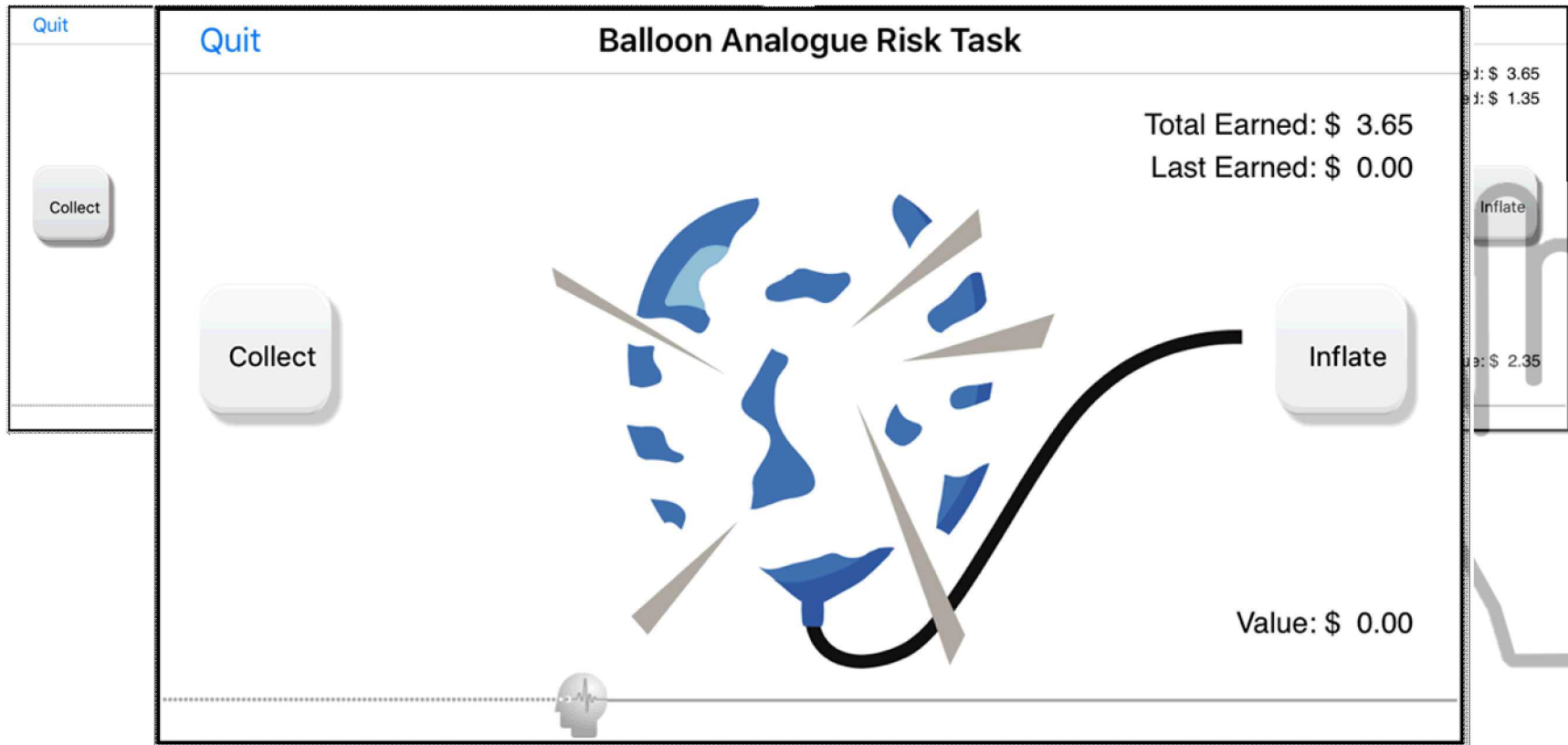
Cognitive Assessments – VSTM

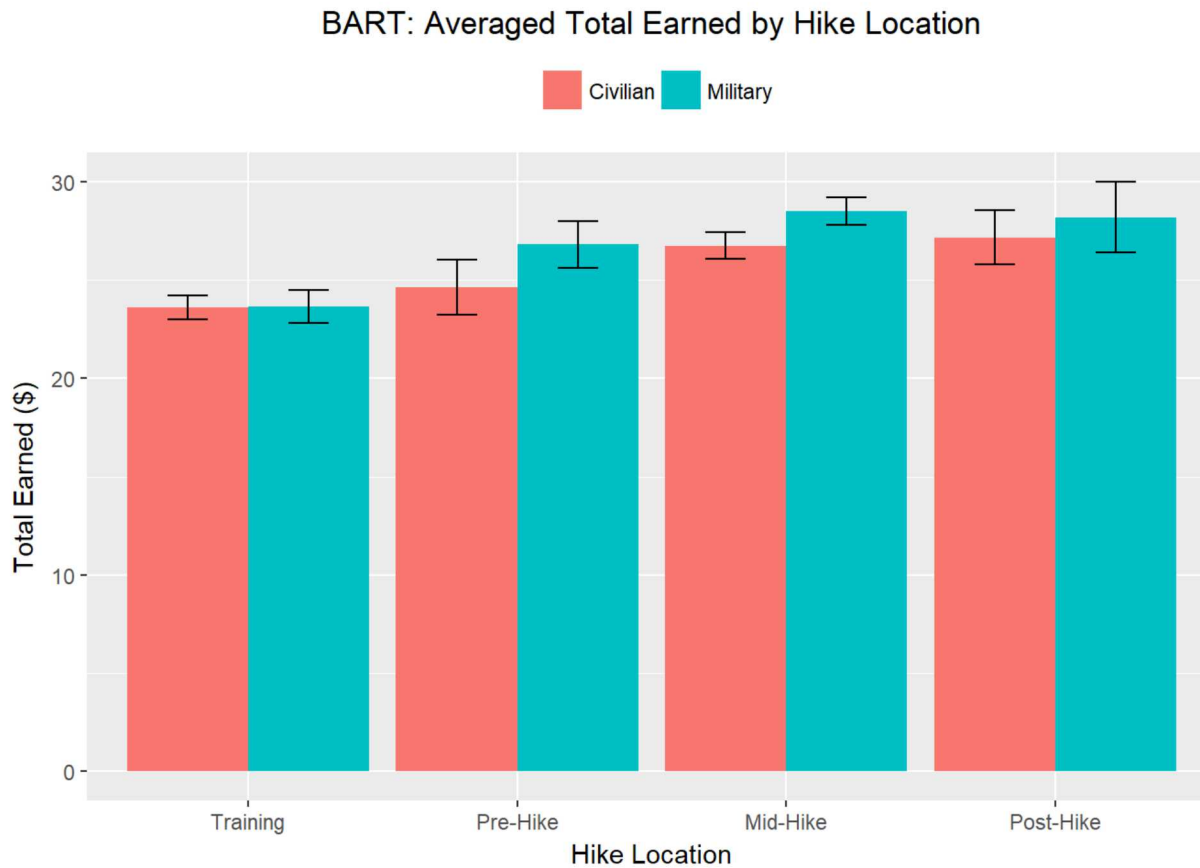
Visual Short Term Memory (VSTM) task





Cognitive Assessments – BART

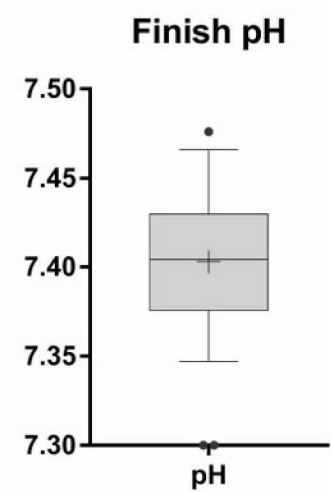
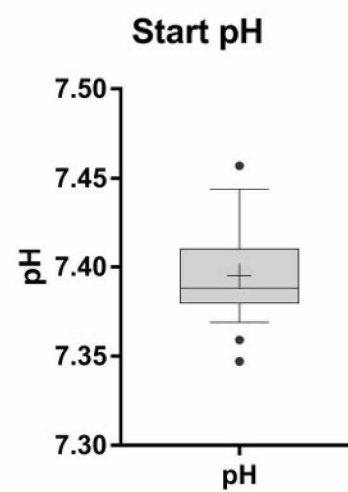
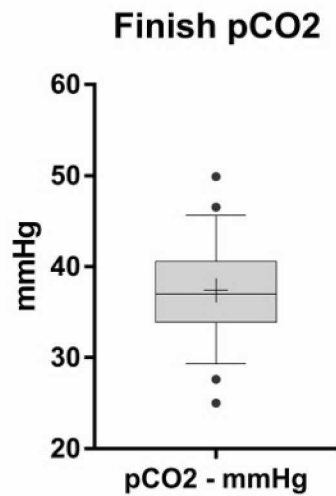
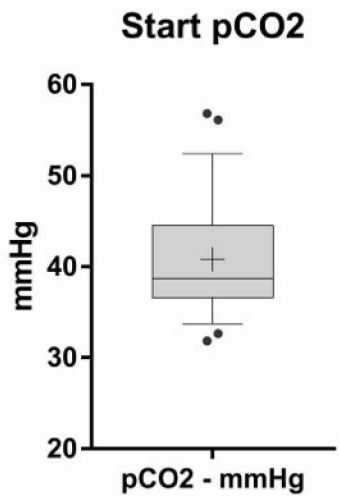
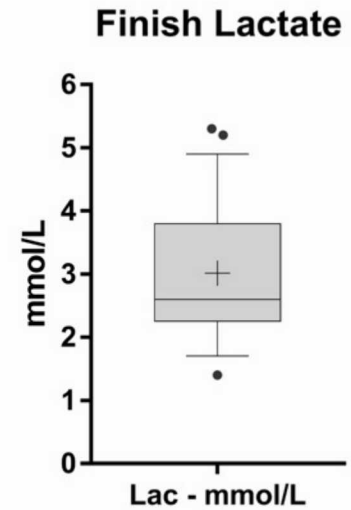
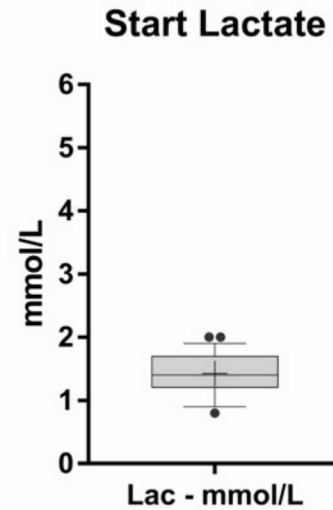
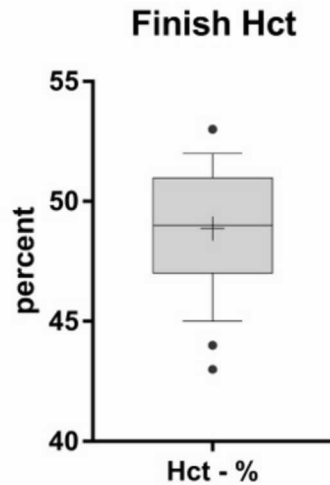
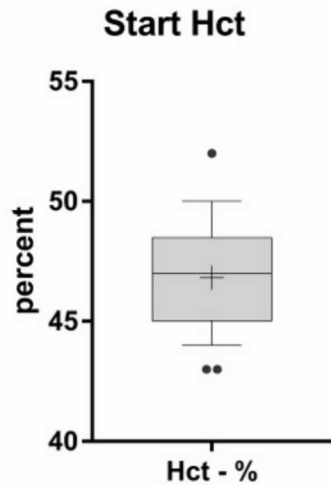




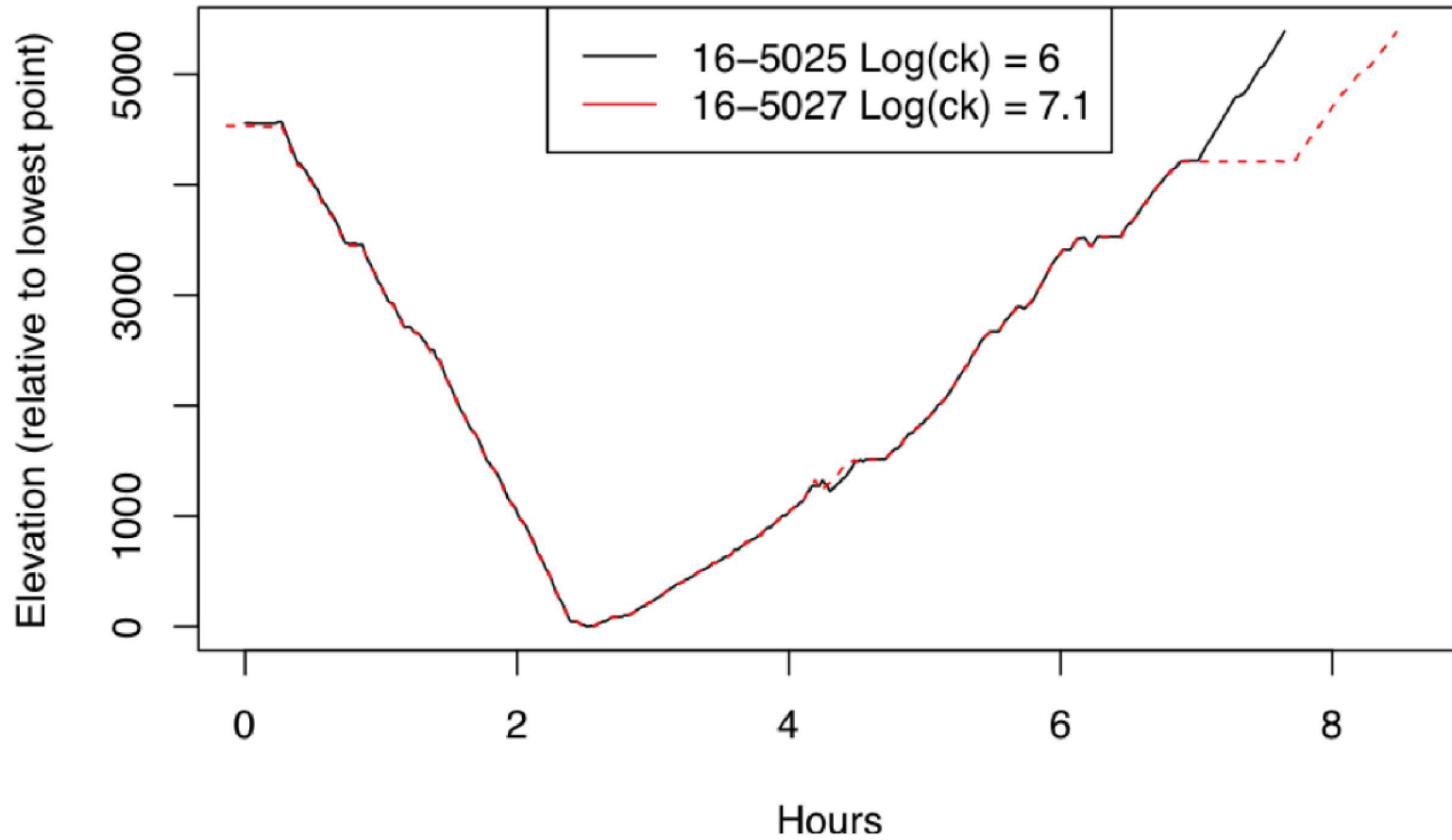
More risks are taken throughout the course of the hike.

- Creatine Kinase (CK)
 - An enzyme used as a marker for muscle damage
 - Used to detect various health events such as myocardial infarction or rhabdomyolysis.
- Hematocrit
 - Measure of % of red blood cells
 - One of the best measures of dehydration
- Blood lactate
 - Lactic acid in the blood is linked to deficient oxygen to tissue during high levels of activity
 - Can be used as a measure of muscle breakdown
- $p\text{CO}_2$ – partial pressure of carbon dioxide in blood
 - Can be used to understand respiration rate
 - Decrease can be caused by hypoxia and hyperventilation
- pH
 - Blood is modulated around 7.4
 - Changes can result from respiration changes and lactate

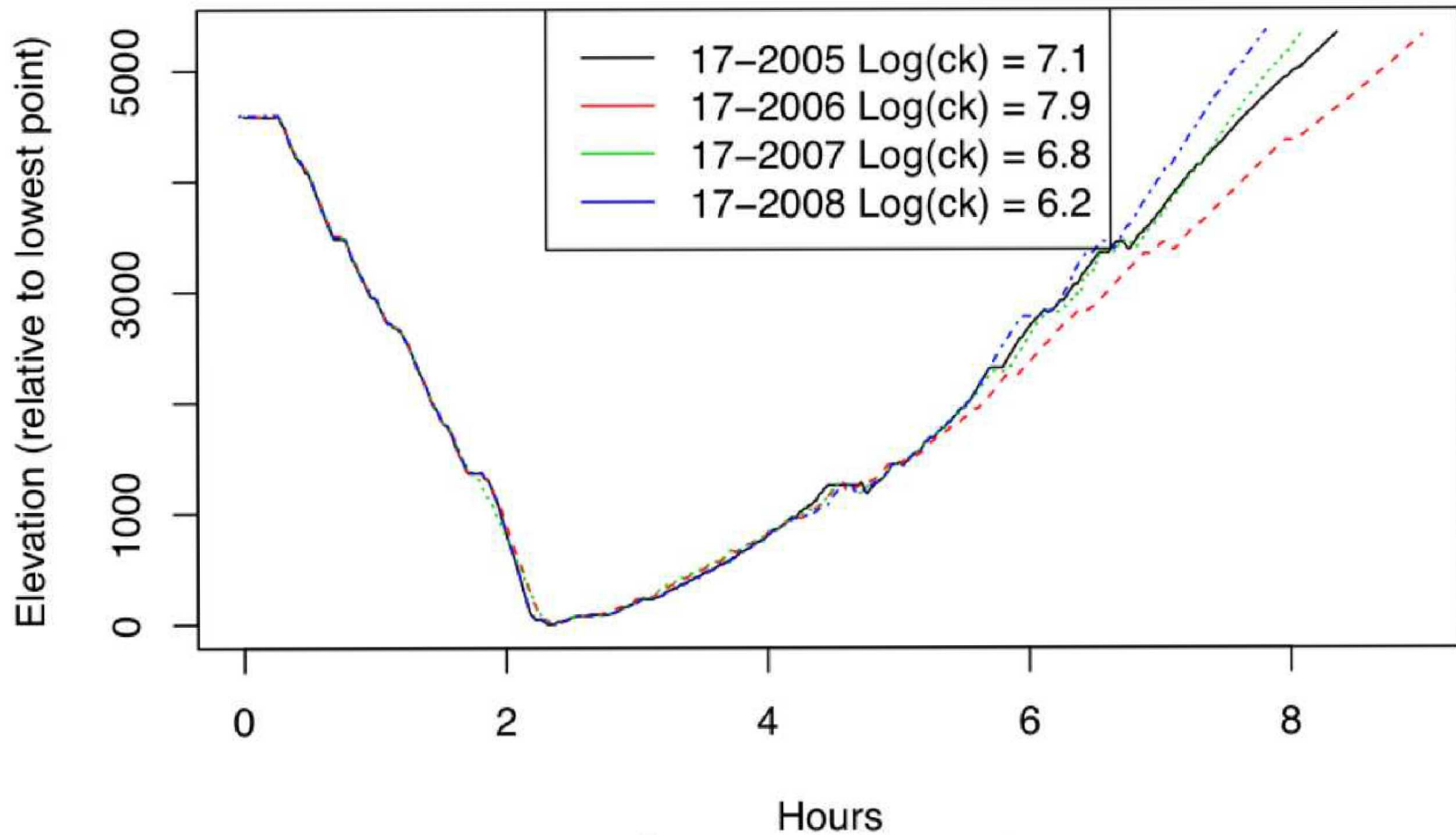
Blood Data



Identifying “Droppers”



Identifying “Droppers”



Wearables at the Z-Machine (WAZE)

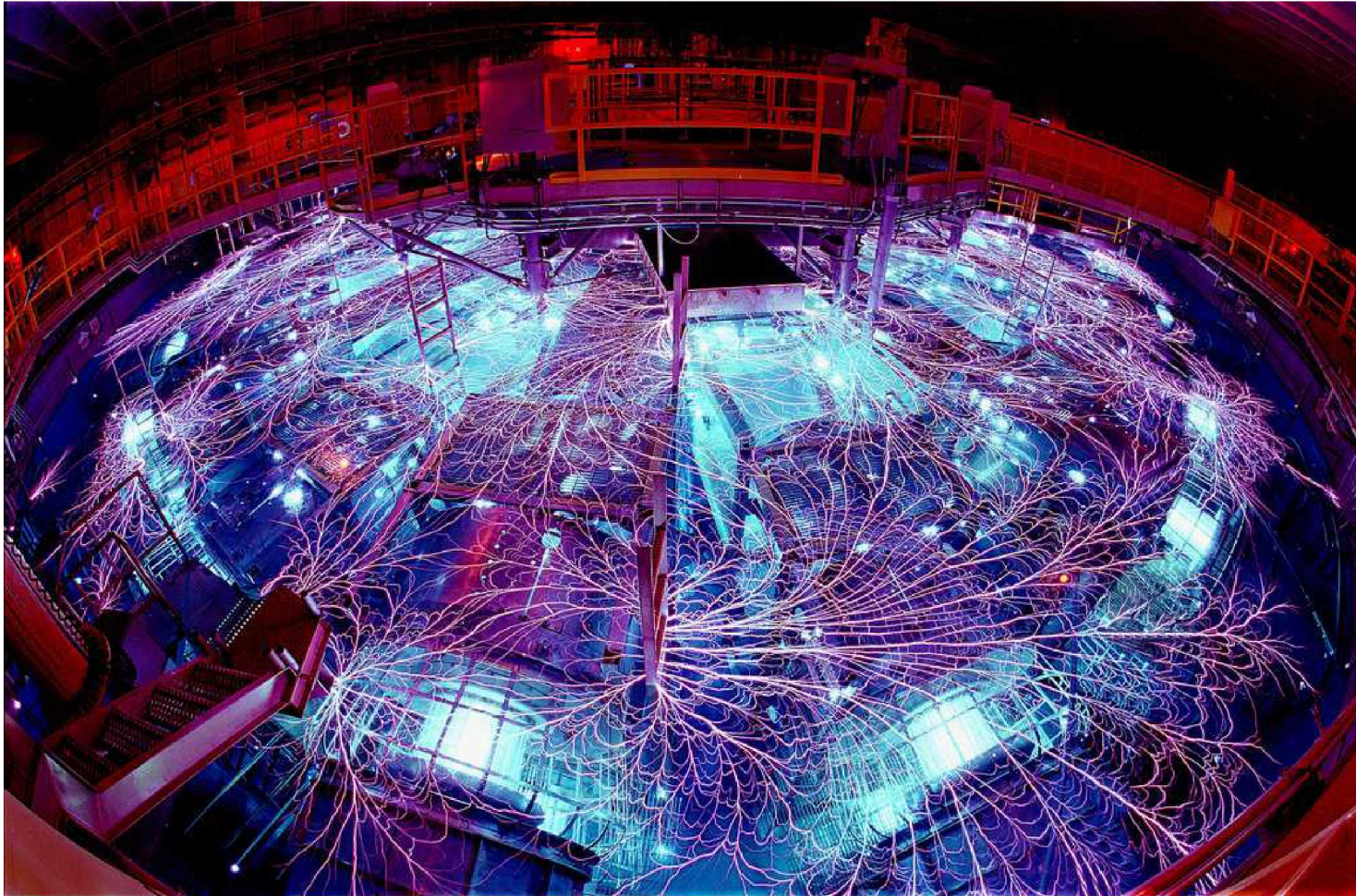


Photo Credit: Randy Montoya



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- Observations
- Sleep journals
- More environmental condition measures
- No blood draw
- Activity logs
 - Including task and equipment & PPE used

Conclusions

- Several data streams are necessary to predict health events. It is difficult to do it in real-time.
- Individual variability is key to understand – outliers can often reveal interesting insights.
- Fatigue is not just physical – you can also observe cognitive decline.
- COTS devices are good enough to use for fatigue analysis and performance prediction, but not all are created equally.
- You must understand the nature of the task as much as possible before you can start to apply a research paradigm.

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