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ANALYSIS OF NAVIGATION PATTERN IN THE SPORT OF ROWING

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GOAL: Evaluation of the wind-wave interaction in enclosed basin and analysis of the impact of the environmental conditions on the sport of rowing

MATERIALS AND METHODS: analysis of meteorological data for the site of Poznan (PL) and "Timing Analysis" of the M4x regatta (data analysis of "speed/stroke rate" assessed every 50m)
- Evaluation of the wind speed and direction recorded data and elaboration of wind roses trough the Windrose PRO (Enviroware) software
- Evaluation of the wave through a computer code developed in MATLAB using the "parametric equation"
- Development of a "Timing & Performance Analysis" of the semi-final and final races with the aid of "tracking’s" techniques for data analysis

WHY POZNAŃ?: in the Malta’s basin in Poznan, you can do the analysis of the race with a favorable wind ("tailwind") and with the wind against it ("headwind")

CONCLUSION 1: Our results confirmed the research of Muhlbauer et al. (2010). The graphs of "speed" and "stroke rate" show that, irrespective of the race type, boat rank or boat type, the navigation’s "pattern" has always the same typology. In fact we had a faster start in the first quarter (500m) followed by a decreasing of the boat speed in the second and/or third quarter (s) and, finally, a new increasing of the boat speed in the last quarter (2000m)

CONCLUSION 2: The R^2 coefficient was always higher in the final races. The analysis shows how the curves of "speed" and "stroke rate" are more regular in the final compared to the semi-final by making us to suppose that the navigation’s "pattern" is more regular in tailwind conditions than in headwind conditions

CONCLUSION 3: Between the semifinal and final:
• the Poland did 8cm for stroke in less with a decreasing of 1 stroke
• the Germany did 7cm for stroke in more with an increasing of 1 stroke
• the Italy did 7cm for stroke in more with a decreasing of 3 strokes

CONCLUSION 4: regarding the environmental changes between the semifinal and the final and in consideration of the "Timing & Performance Analysis", we can said that:
• the Poland has adapted better to the new conditions, perhaps aided by a better understanding of the home’s field and sparring himself in the semi-final
• the Germany is in a “middle way” regarding the adaptation
• the Italy has not adapted to the new conditions