# USING GPS TRACKING TO MONITOR EXERTNAL LOAD OF NCAA DIVISION II WOMEN'S LACROSSE ATHLETES IN OUT-OF-CONFERENCE GAMES

Peyton S. Higgins<sup>1</sup>, William D. Mahone<sup>1</sup>, Crystal L. Williams<sup>1</sup>, Adrianna Piontek<sup>1</sup>, Greg A. Ryan<sup>2</sup> Robert L. Herron<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Montevallo, Montevallo, AL. <sup>2</sup>Piedmont University, Demorest GA.

# INTRODUCTION

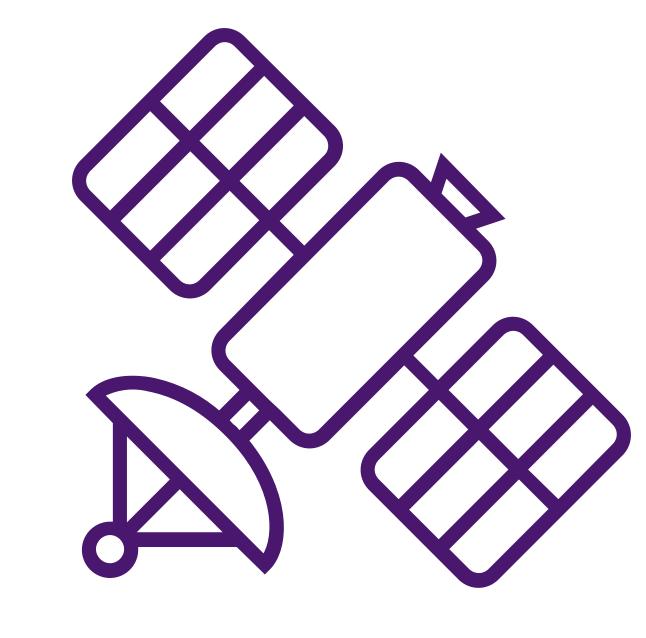
- External load monitoring is important to understand for the safety and health of athletes.
- The purpose of this project is to monitor external load on athletes competing in NCAA Division II women's lacrosse out-of-conference games.

# METHODS

• n = 15; Females

5 DII Lacrosse





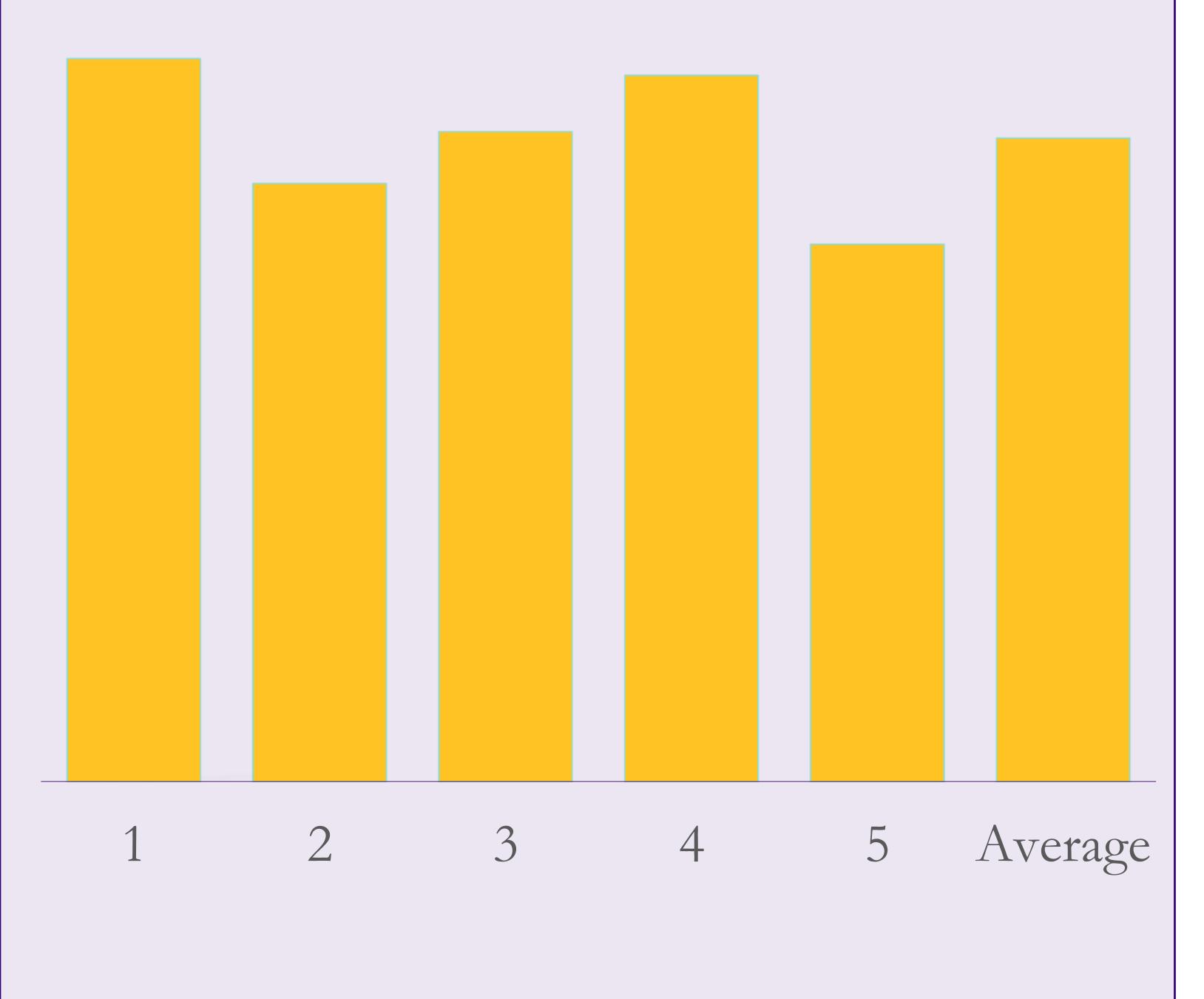
- Means and standard deviations calculated.
- 2D Load (au), 3D Load (au), Total distance (m) Work Rate (m/min) and hard running distance (m) or the distance traveled over 4.5 m·s<sup>-1</sup>

# RESULTS

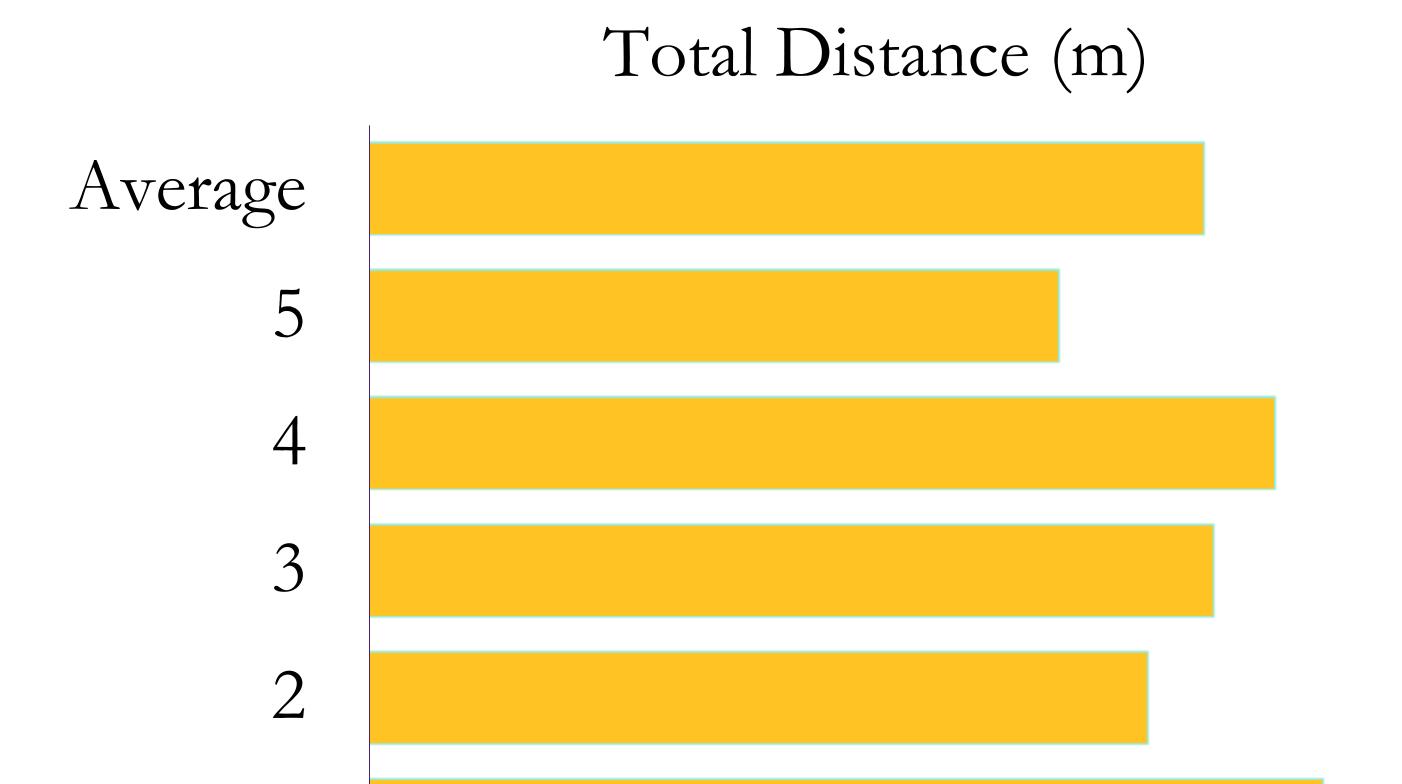
- 2D Load Average = 237 ± 106 au
- 3D Load Average = 360 ± 161 au
- Total Distance Covered Average = 5486.9 ± 1893.1 m
- Hard Running Distance Average = 470.4 ± 593.9 m
- Work Rate =  $44.6 \pm 13.8 \text{ m} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$



# 3D Load Profile Out-of-Conference



#### RESULTS



### CONCLUSION

• Division II women's lacrosse has substantial, but different in-game performance and load metric when compared to Division I research.

# PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS

- External load data can help coaches and training staff to optimize practice plans.
- Data can be used to create better strength and conditioning strategies.
- Load management can optimize performance and minimize risk of injuries.