

DATA-INFORMED PRAGMATISM: PARMA CALCIO'S USE OF ANALYTICS IN SOCCER

Complex Sport Caen June 29th, 2023



Performance & Analytics Department – Origins & Missions

Analytics Unit – Structure & Tasks

Working Hand in Hand – Examples

Future & Perspectives



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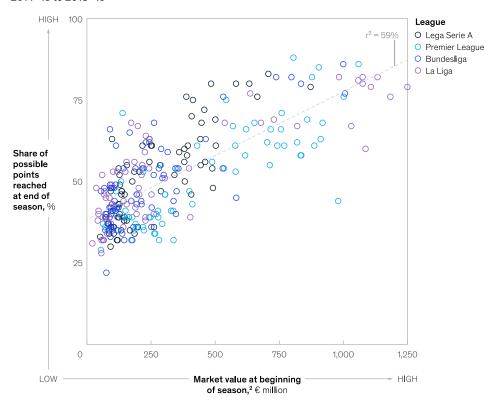
Future & Perspectives



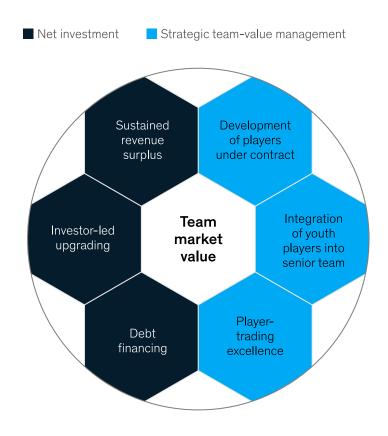
IN SOCCER, MONEY KIND OF MEANS SUCCESS

There is a STRONG correlation between market value and points scored...

Relationship between points at end of season and team value at beginning of the season, 2014–15 to 2018–19¹

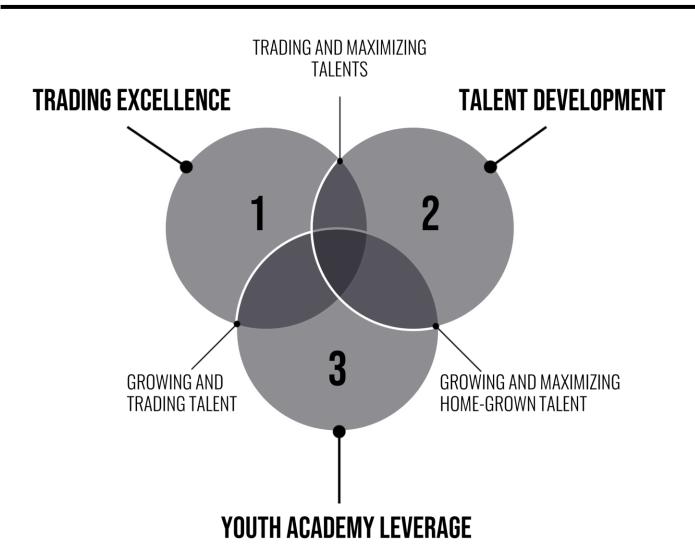


... and 6 main ways to increase the market value of a team





THE TRUE ROLE OF THE PERFORMANCE & ANALYTICS DEPARTMENT



"FOOTBALL IS A BUSINESS UNLIKE ANY OTHER.

WHILE MONEY IS IMPORTANT, THE WINNING FORMULA IS MORE ABOUT THE SOUND MANAGEMENT OF A CLUB'S MOST IMPORTANT ASSET: ITS TEAM."

Everyone does mistakes, the business of football is high uncertainty. We need to make sure that information and data are embedded into decision processes, to reduce uncertainty.

THIS IS THE ROLE OF THE PERFORMANCE & ANALYTICS DEPT.



WE SUPPORT THE BOARD, COACHES, STAFF, AND PLAYERS WITH OBJECTIVE INFORMATION AND SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT TO MAKE BETTER DECISIONS AND PERFORM ON THE PITCH.

SUPPORT: We provide assistance, guidance, and resources to help people achieve their goals and address their challenges

BOARD, COACHES, STAFF, AND PLAYERS: We are operating across the different functions, supporting all key decision-makers

OBJECTIVE INFORMATION: Data and insights that are unbiased, fact-based, and impartial

SCIENTIST SUPPORT: Rigorous and systematic methods based on scientific principles and disciplines such as physiology, biology, psychology, coaching, or mathematics

BETTER DECISIONS AND PERFORMANCE: We are focused on Performance improvement and decision-making optimization.



#1 PEOPLE ----

Football is a human capital industry. Ensuring to have the right person in the right position is key to ensuring the proper growth of the structure

#3 MANAGEMENT -----

Football organizations need to favor the learning and growth of people and knowledge. For this purpose, we can't simply manage people as the season goes on.

#2 TECHNOLOGY

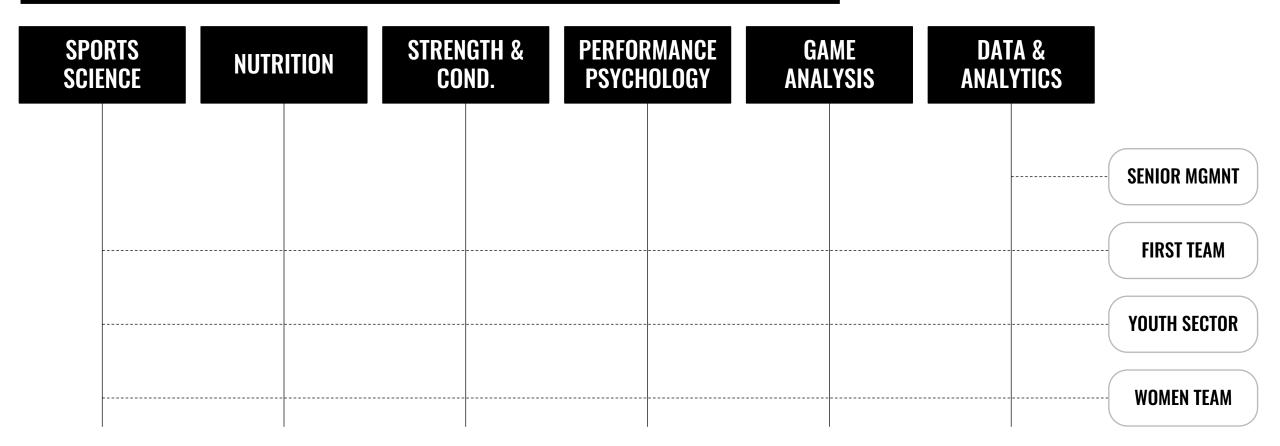
Ensuring operations run smoothly requires up-to-date technologies and aligned data collection within the organization

#4 PROCESSES

To allow for the best evidence-based and data-informed decision to be made, all the data value chain needed to be improved and reviewed



HIGH LEVEL ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT



The Performance & Analytics unit is composed of **6 units**: four of them focussed aggregated under the Human Performance area. Each function is led by a **function manager**, in charge of the roadmap and the improvement of its services. These persons manage various numbers of collaborators embedded in the different divisions and teams.



HIGH LEVEL ORGANIZATION OF THE DEPARTMENT

	SPORTS SCIENCE	NUTRITION	STRENGTH & COND.	PERFORMANCE PSYCHOLOGY	GAME ANALYSIS	DATA & ANALYTICS	HEAD OF PERF. Youth
	M. MANDORINO	C. GAVIOLI	M. MORABITO	C. CONTI	F. CORRADINI	S. COUSTOU	R. KAVANAGH
EDUCATION	PhD	MSc	MSc	PhD	MSc	MSc	PhD
INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE							
ANALYTICS MINDSET							



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ORGANIZATION OF THE UNIT

DATA & ANALYTICS

S. COUSTOUHEAD OF DATA & ANALYTICS

M. MATTEOTTI

MACHINE LEARNING SPECIALIST

N. VAN LIESHOUT

DATA VISUALIZATION SPECIALIST

MLG

DATA ANALYST INTERN

TKO

DATA VISUALIZATION INTERN

YMO

DATA SCIENST INTERN

TBD

DATA SCIENTIS



QUICK INTRO ABOUT ME

Coming from the world of Data & Analytics, applied it to the Sports industry









2016Data Science Intern

Analyzing the impact of load over non-muscular injuries **2017**Data Scientist

Retail & Luxury Data Scientist Product & Customer analytics **2018-2021** CEO

Worked with 15+ teams solving data oriented problems

2022 Head of Data & Analytics

Data Architecht, Data Engineer, Data Scientist, Data Analyst, Data...



CORE PRINCIPLES

SCALABLE & COST-EFFECTIVE

BUILD FOR LONG TERM PURPOSE

LEAN AT CORE

Maximize impact; reduce waste

Transparent, documented, automated

Build, measure, learn

Capable to serve multiple teams

Capable to serve multiple clubs

Same data in, same insights out

Transparent because trust comes from well-defined processes

Documented because long term project might need more than one architect

Automated to keep focusing on building, not running the business We build initial products and services quickly

We measure initial feedbacks and usage

We learn and iterate, fast



KEY ACTIVITIES

BUILD & MAINTAIN THE SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUST

2DELIVER ON-DEMAND INSIGHTS & ANALYSES

DEVELOP & AUTOMATIZE TOOLS & DASHBOARDS

In support of all sporting areas of the club

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

SCOUTING

HUMAN PERFORMANCE

TECHNICAL STAFF

SPORTS MEDICINE



BUILD AND MAINTAIN THE SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUST

20+ data sources covering all areas











Wyscout





noisefeed







45k players 50k matches 105M events – 250 qualifiers



80k players 26k teams 1.7M transfers 3.2M season performances



11k players 16k matches in tracking & agg 1B frames 25B positions (x,y)

noisefeed

110k players 120k injuries

Wyscout

445k players 330k matches 12.5M matches/players stats



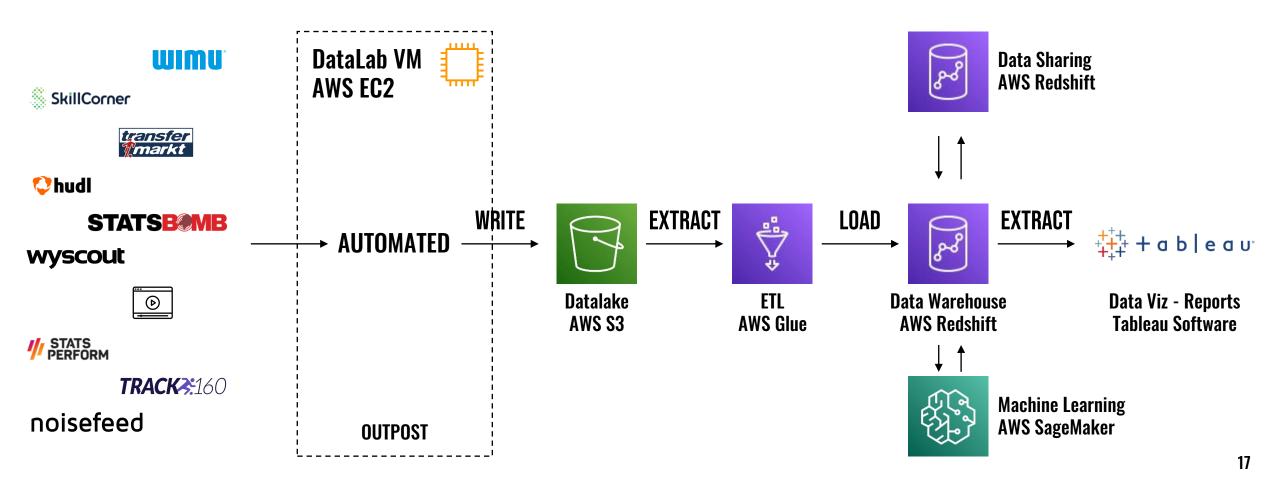
165 players (3 teams)1700 sessions, since Nov '215M minutes of training



BUILD AND MAINTAIN THE SINGLE SOURCE OF TRUST



We integrate many data sources into our own databases, ensure cleaning and availability so we can answer key questions within impact-time





ENHANCING DATA THROUGH MACHINE LEARNING

Having cleaned data allows us to enhance it using machine learning

EXPECTED GOALS

POST SHOT EXPECTED GOALS

EXPECTED THREAT

VAEP (discontinued)

PLAYING STYLE PRE-MATCH xPOINTS

EXPECTED ASSISTS

EXPECTED WIN/POINTS

DEFENSIVE xTHREAT

EXPECTED HEART RATE

PLAYER SIMILARITY CHANGE LEAGUE IMPACT

EXPECTED TRANSFER VALUE



AUTOMATED PROCESSES

Data is refreshed or updated periodically

HOURLY/DAILY



wyscout



WEEKLY/MONTHLY







ON-DEMAND





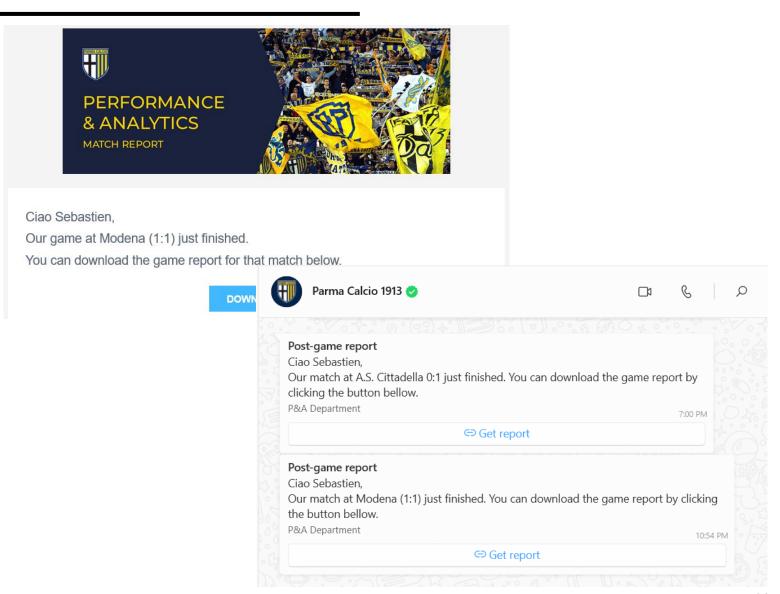


AUTOMATED PROCESSES

Calculations, dashboard generation, and distribution are automated

They all run on their schedule or on-demand depending on the use cases

Reports are available via Tableau, and sent via email or WhatsApp automatically





BUILDING A CLUB-WIDE ASSET

Instead of working in siloes, we centralize all the data club-wide, and merge them to analyze data from multiple angles, all at once

SENIOR MANAGEMENT

SCOUTING

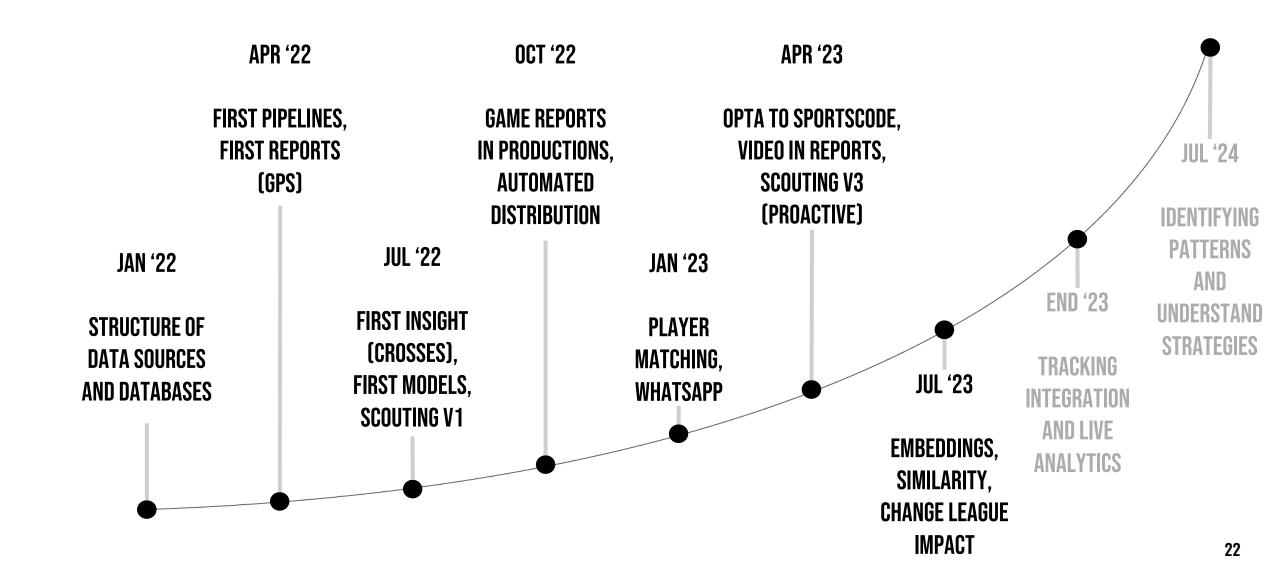
TECHNICAL STAFF

HUMAN PERFORMANCE

SPORTS MEDICINE

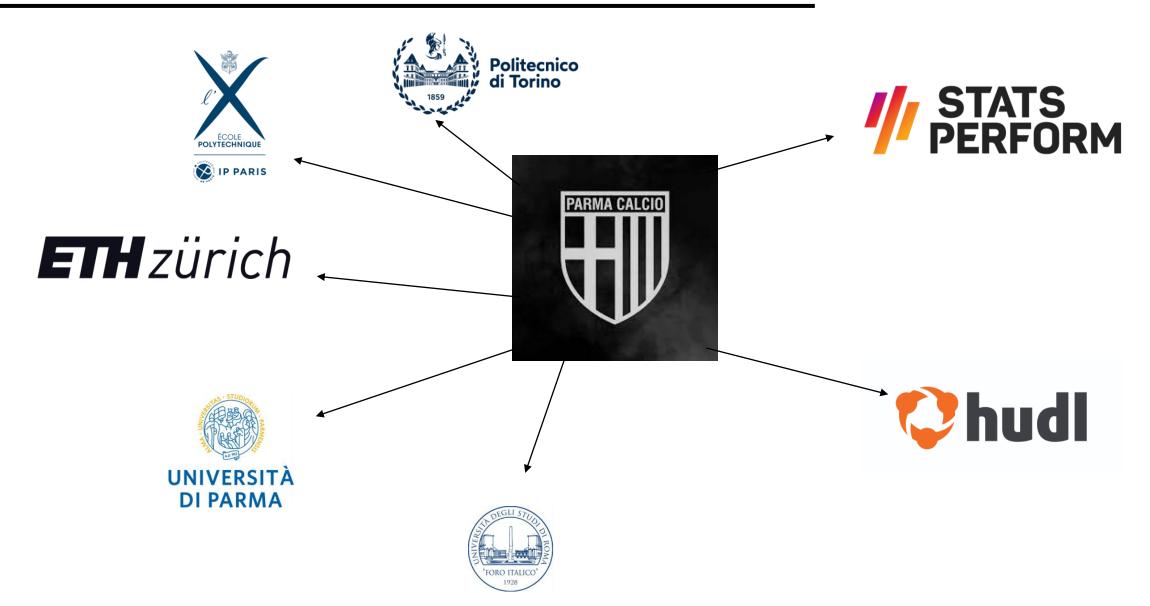


MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS AND ROADMAP





BUILD AND DEVELOP STRONG PARTNERSHIPS





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Sports Science



SUPPORTING DIVISIONS – SENIOR MANAGEMENT

Squad profile analysis (squad depth, performance profile, playing style analysis)

Automation of KPIs tracking

Financials analytics

Expected Rankings

Other on-demand analytics (players, coaches, team analyses)

Youth Management

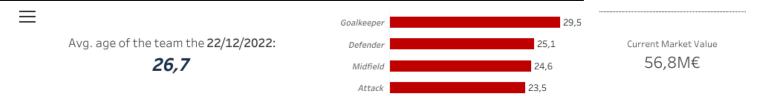




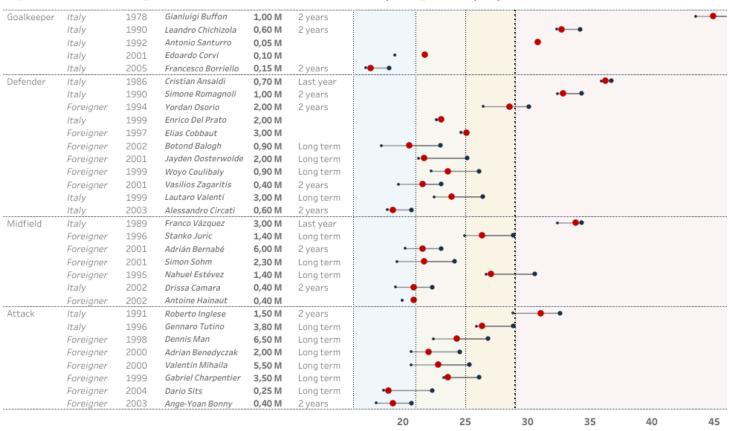




FOLLOWING AGE AND CONTRACT DURATION

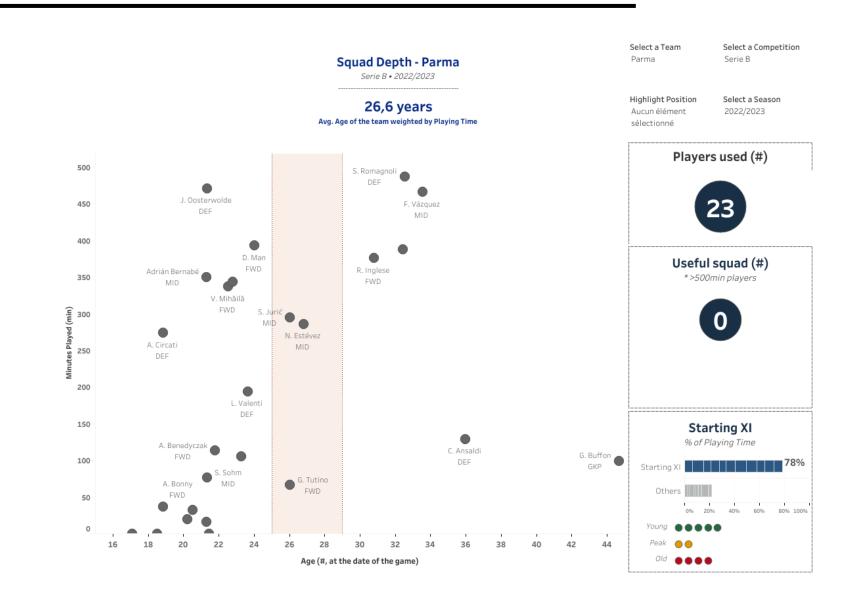


Squad Profiles - • age at start and end of the contract | • age at 22/12/2022 .





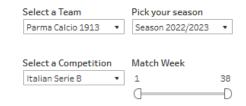
TRACKING AGE AND TIME PLAYED TO PROFILE THE TEAM

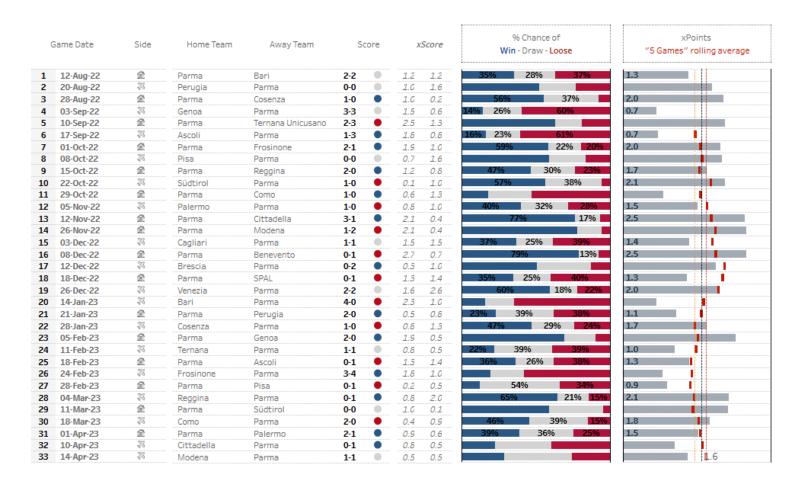




BEYOND WINS AND LOSSES, EXPECTED POINTS

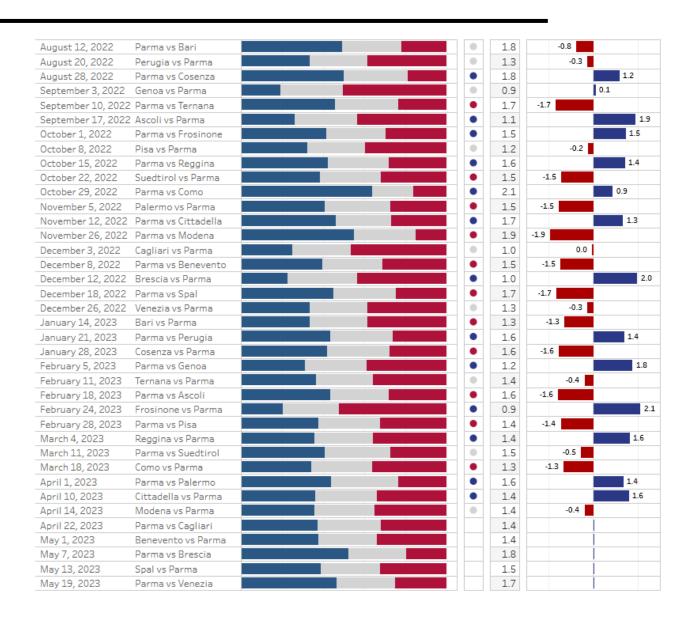








ESTIMATING RESULTS BEFORE THE GAME





QUANTIFYING PLAYERS' ROTATION AND TIME PLAYED

Parma

Selected a Team

Playing Time Tracking • Parma Selected Competition(s) Selected a Season 2022/2023 Serie B 2022/2023 圇 28 **a** 28 圇 圇 23 圇 28 **a** 28 e XeX 圇 圇 * * 圇 圇 X 23 28 28 圇 圇 28 Goalkeeper A. Santurro 0% O \square \square 0 (i) 0 0% B. Maliszews. 387 13% 4 E. Corvi 0% 0 0 F. Borriello 1,170 **40**% 12 G. Buffon **1**6 П П L. Chichizola 1,474 **50% ■** □ 0 Defender 794 27% 11 \square \square 0 A. Circati B. Balogh 11 \square \square 0 710 24% 17 C. Ansaldi 846 29% □ □8 386 13% 6 E. Cobbaut 27 2,491 **85**% E. Del Prato 17 1,552 53% J. Oosterwol. 22 L. Valenti 2,097 71% 6 S. Romagnoli 533 18% 524 12 18% V. Zagaritis W. Coulibaly 691 23% 14 23 2,062 **70**% Y. Osorio 14% 12 Midfielder 410 A. Hainaut 22 Adrián Berna. 1,751 **59%** 39 **1**6 631 21% D. Camara 47 F. Vázguez 2,753 93% (o N. Buayi-Kiala 0% 2.145 73% 29 N. Estévez 1,852 63% 25 S. Jurić ■ 57 21 S. Sohm 1,060 **36**% □ □ 0 11 V. Mihăilă 493 **17**% 22 1,173 **25** A. Benedyczak **40**% 47 20 693 24% A. Bonny 49 1,485 22 D. Man **50%** 49 D. Šits 49 2% 2 7 G. Charpenti. 189 6% □ □ 0 **1**6 G. Tutino 724 25% L. Zanimacch. 765 **26**% 10 22 R. Inglese 1,370 47%

07-08 14-08 21-08 28-08 04-09 11-09 18-09 25-09 02-10 09-10 16-10 23-10 30-10 06-11 13-11 20-11 27-11 04-12 11-12 18-12 25-12 01-01 08-01 15-01 22-01 29-01 05-02 12-02 19-02 26-02 05-03 12-03 19-03 26-03 02-04 09-04 16-04 20-03 19-03 12-03 19-03 1



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SUPPORTING DIVISIONS – SCOUTING

Our scouting department is supported by leveraging our database of 45 000 players, combining Opta StatsPerform, NoiseFeed and TransfertMarkt data

Using machine learning models, the team is developing specific metrics to understand danger creation, defensive capabilities and scoring abilities of players



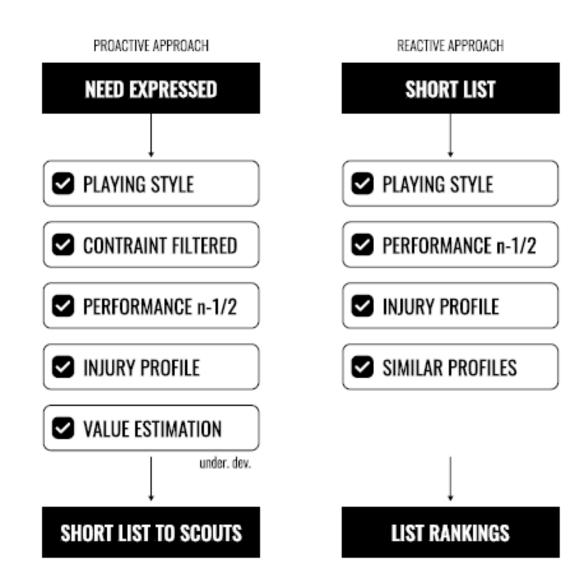




wyscout

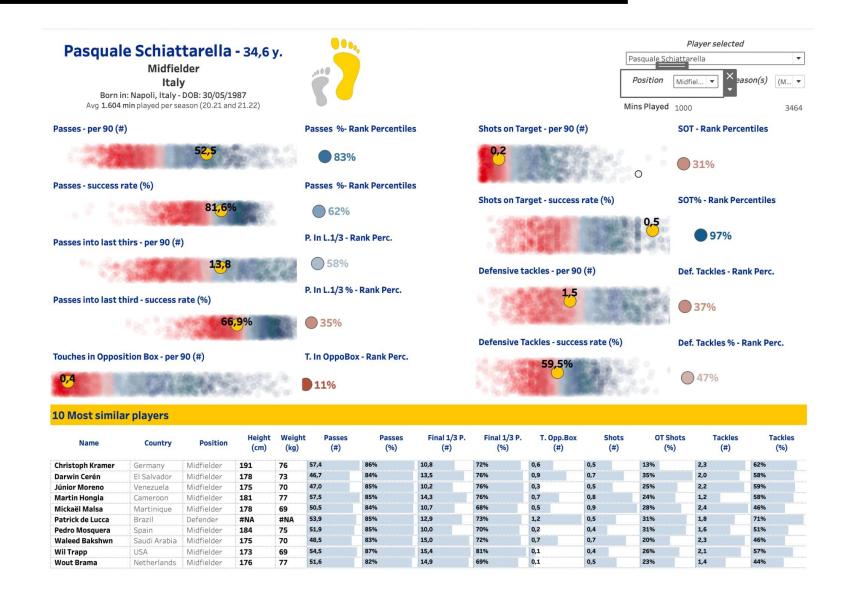


TWO APPROACHES OF SCOUTING: REACTIVE AND PROACTIVE



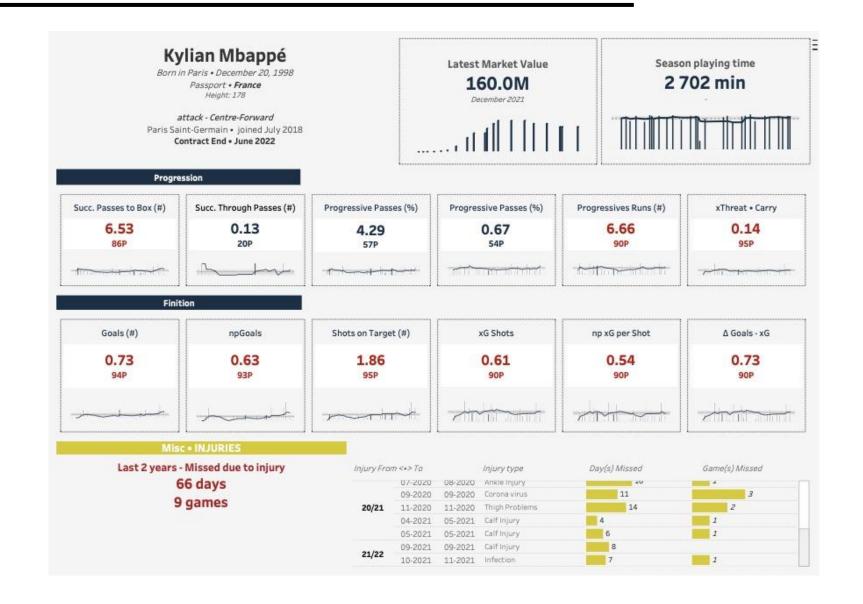


REACTIVE SCOUTING - DUE DILIGENCES (21.22 WINTER)



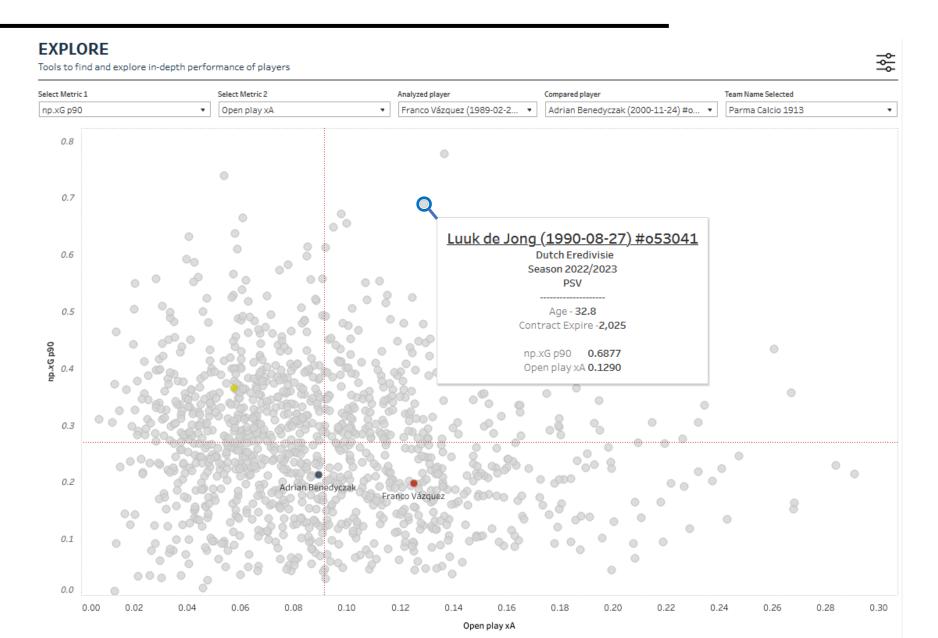


REACTIVE SCOUTING - DUE DILIGENCES (21.22 SUMMER)





PROACTIVE SCOUTING (23.24 SUMMER)





PROACTIVE SCOUTING (23.24 SUMMER)

COMPARE

Tools to compare players on-field performance

 Competition(s)
 Season(s)
 Search players
 Position
 Rank by (score)

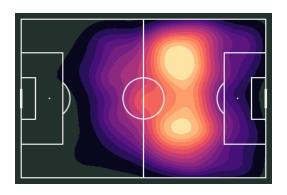
 Italian Serie B
 Season 2022/2023
 Multiple values
 Full Backs

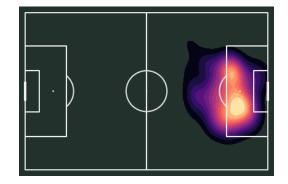
Alessandro Circ	19.7	Italian Serie B • Season 2022/2023	801 min	69%
Yordan Osorio	29.1	Italian Serie B • Season 2022/2023	2261 min	96%
Botond Balogh	21.0	Italian Serie B • Season 2022/2023	917 min	67%
Elias Cobbaut	25.6	Italian Serie B • Season 2022/2023	615 min	67%
Lautaro Valenti	24.4	Italian Serie B • Season 2022/2023	2068 min	100%

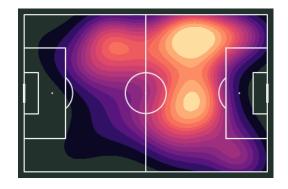
Aerial Duels Wons		Ball recoveries	Intercep		Passes Ending in			Verticality Index
	_							
	•••••							



PLAYER SIMILARITY AND PLAYING STYLE (M. MATTEOTTI'S THESIS)

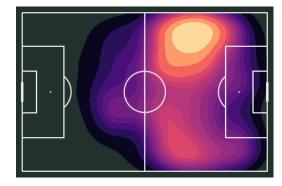


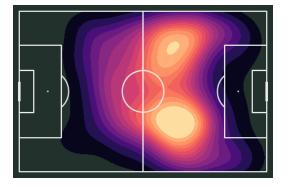




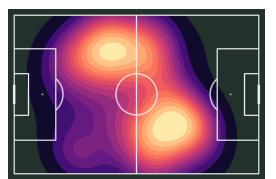


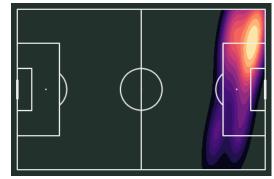






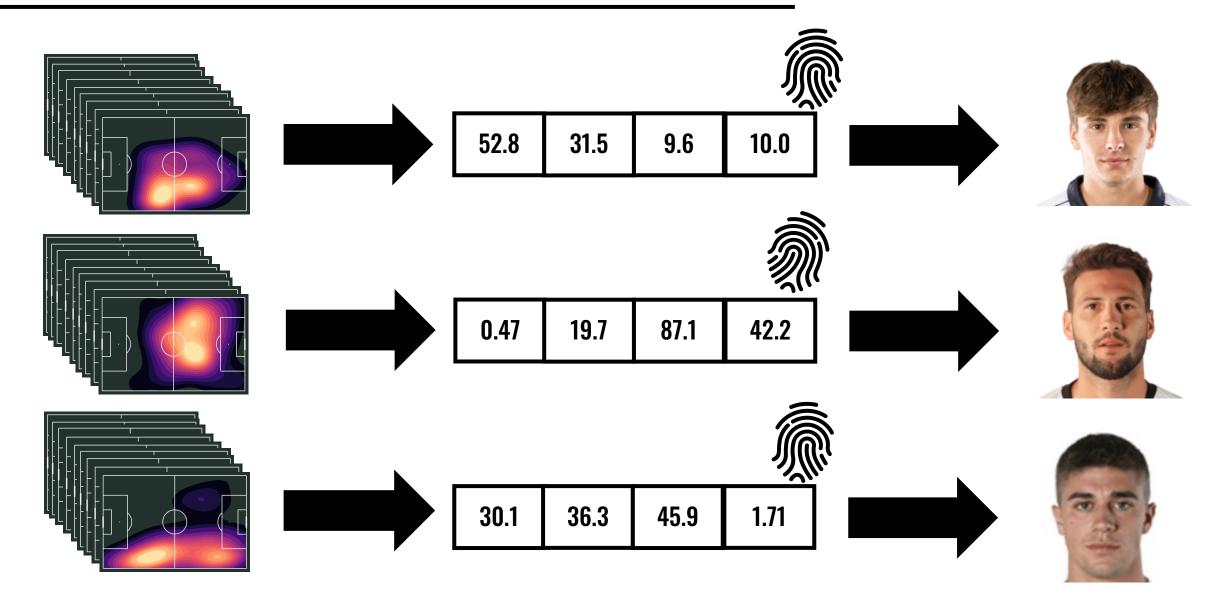








PLAYER SIMILARITY AND PLAYING STYLE (M. MATTEOTTI'S THESIS)





PLAYER SIMILARITY AND PLAYING STYLE (M. MATTEOTTI'S THESIS)



A. Bernabé





D. Bisoli





G. Bonaventura



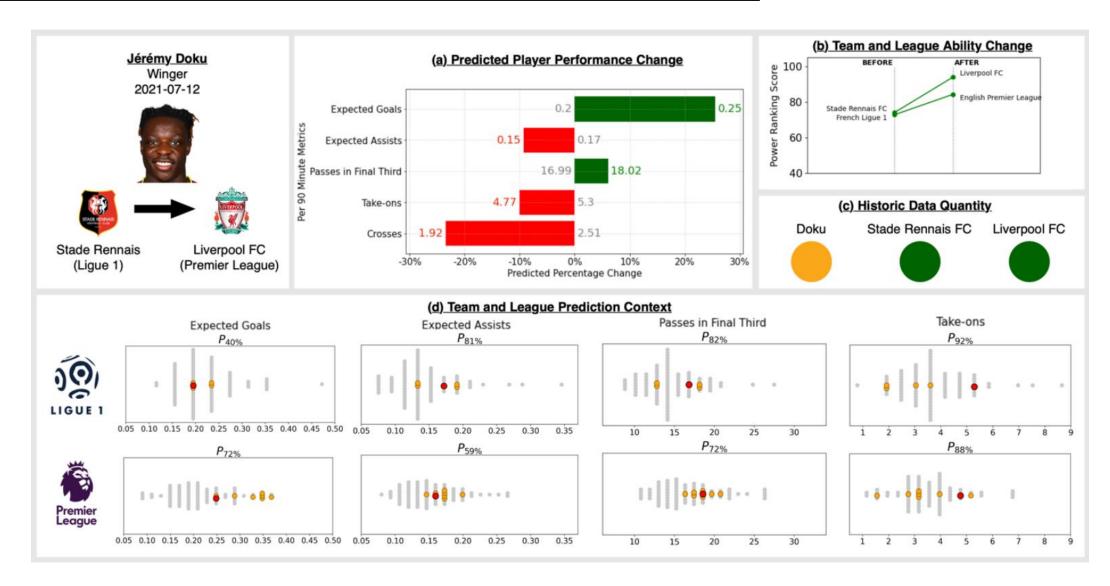


S. Zurkowski



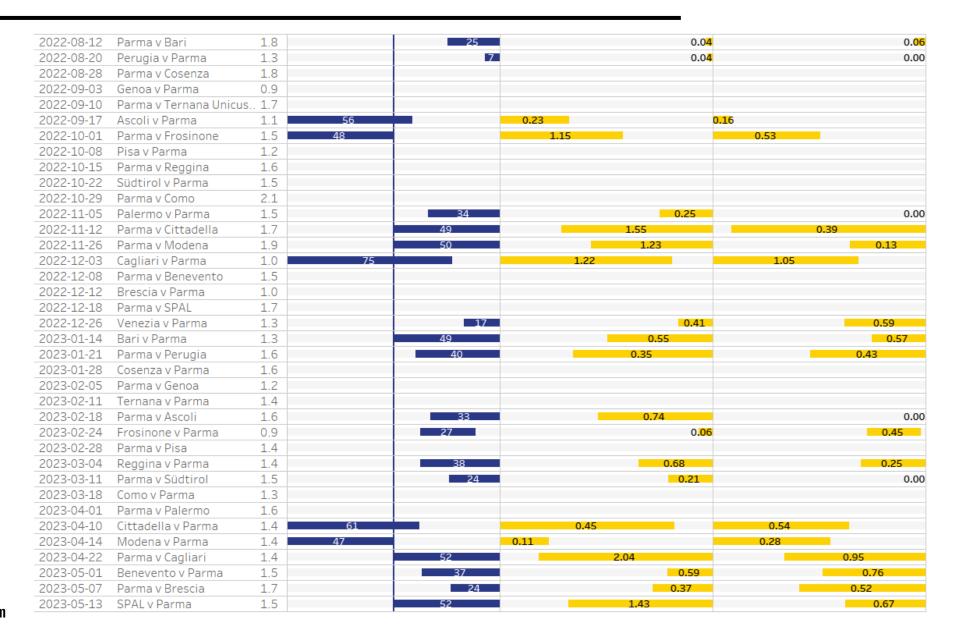


CHANGE LEAGUE IMPACT (M. MATTEOTTI'S THESIS)





TEAM CHEMISTRY

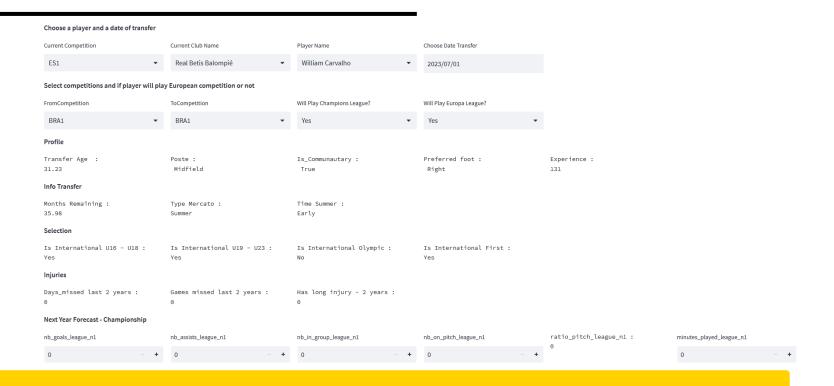


Credit: Sezer Unar, Medium



EXPECTED TRANSFER VALUE

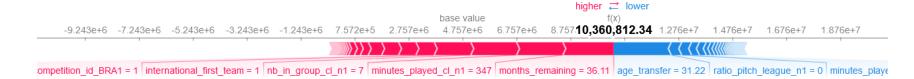
With a simple tool, we can estimate and simulate any player's market value, with interactive parameters





Market Value (22/23) according to Parma Calcio: 10,360,805€

Viewing results with plot - Money (22/23 too)





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SUPPORTING DIVISIONS – MATCH ANALYSIS

We support match analysts and technical staffs, from First Team men and women, to Agonistica (U19-U16)

Depending on the team, the Data & Analytics unit is providing pre-game report, post-game reports (in PDF by mail, via WhatsApp, and with synchronized video in Tableau software)

To proceed, we used design-thinking concept where end-users needs are integrated to develop customized reports

These are further adapted based on feedbacks or new needs

On-demand, other deeper analyses of specific aspects of the game are done











OUR "GAME DAY" DATA PROVIDERS













U15

WFT





U18

U17

U16

J15

WFT

wyscout

FT

U19

U18

U17

U16

U15

WFT



FT

U19

U18

U17

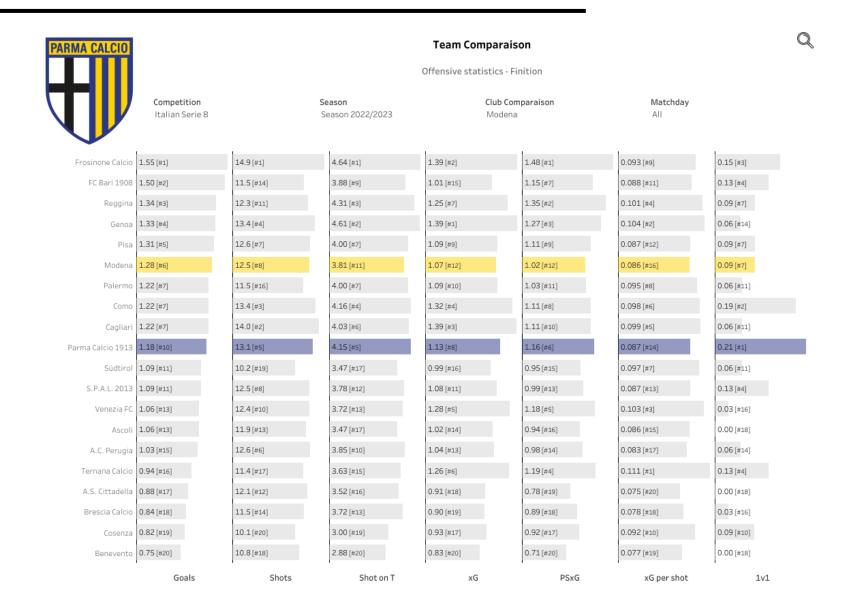
U16

U15

WFT



PRE-GAME ANALYSIS – HOW ARE TEAMS PLAYING?





POST-GAME ANALYSIS – HOW ARE TEAMS PLAYING?



Season 2022/2023 • Italian Serie B • Regular • 4

September 3, 2022 • 15:15:00 | Luigi Ferraris - Genova

Genoa vs Parma Calcio 1913

74%

33%

47%

45% 50% 41%

39%

3-3

GERRA	

	MT1		MT2			
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4		
% Possession	56%	60%	57%	49%		
% Territorial Dom.	51%	67%	59%	45%		
% Field Tilt	56%	90%	58%	32%		
Goals	1 1	1	1 1	0		
Shots	3 (4.	1,1	5		
Shots on Target	1	3	1 1 1	0		
xG	0.35	0.23	0.79	0.13		
Crosses	3	4	4	1		
Crosses Succesfulls	1	0	1	0		
Passes	148	98	69	75		
Passes Succesful	131	76	50	53		
% Verticality	30%	39%	40%	48%		
Passes leading to Shot	1	2	0	3		
xThreat Passes	0.22	0.15	0.16	0.07		
Low Passes > 15m - Left	4	1.	1	3		
Low Passes > 15m -	8	8	1	4 .		
Low Passes > 15m -	3	2	, 2	3		
Aerials Duels	2	5	6	4		
Aerials Duels Won	1	4	2	0		

Par	ma I	Calcio	1913

MT1				MT2			
Q1		Q2		Q3		Q4	
44%		40%		43%		51%	
49%		33%		41%		55%	
44%		10%		42%		68%	
1		1		0		1	
4 (2		0		4	
2		1		0 .		1	
0.23		0.08		0.00		0.21	
3		1		2		8	
1		0		0		3	
116		66		53		78	
92		51		35		52	
29%		49%		45%		46%	
1		1		0		1	
0.19		0.16		0.04		0.28	
4		4		4		2	
5		4		2		7	
4		6		2		0	
2		5		6		4	
1		1		4		4	

GAME

DATA COLLECTION

DATA INTEGRATION

DATA MANIPULATION

REPORT SHARING

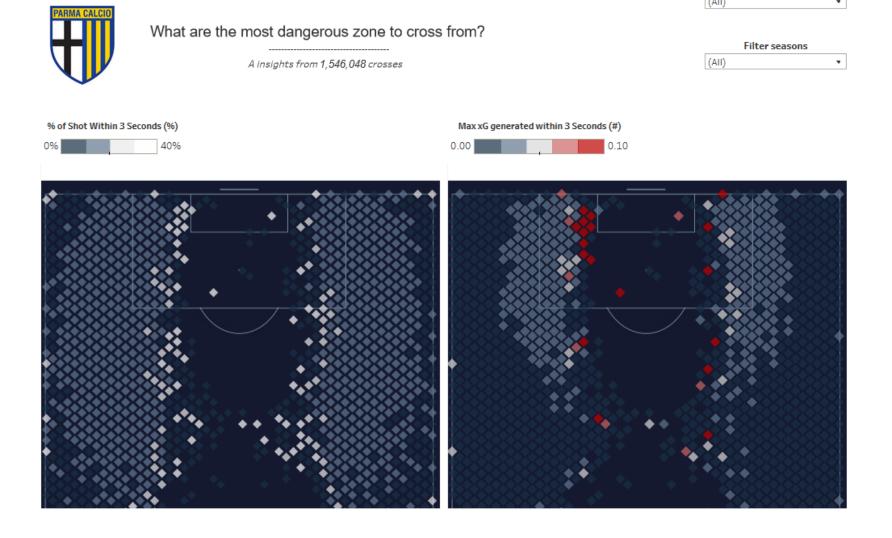








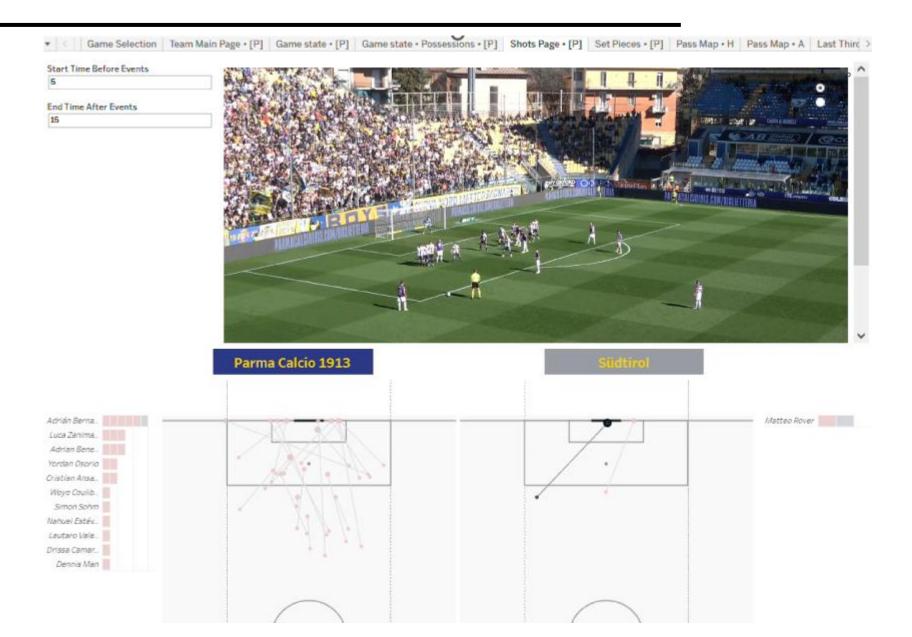
TREND ANALYSIS - CROSSES INSIGHTS



Filter competitions

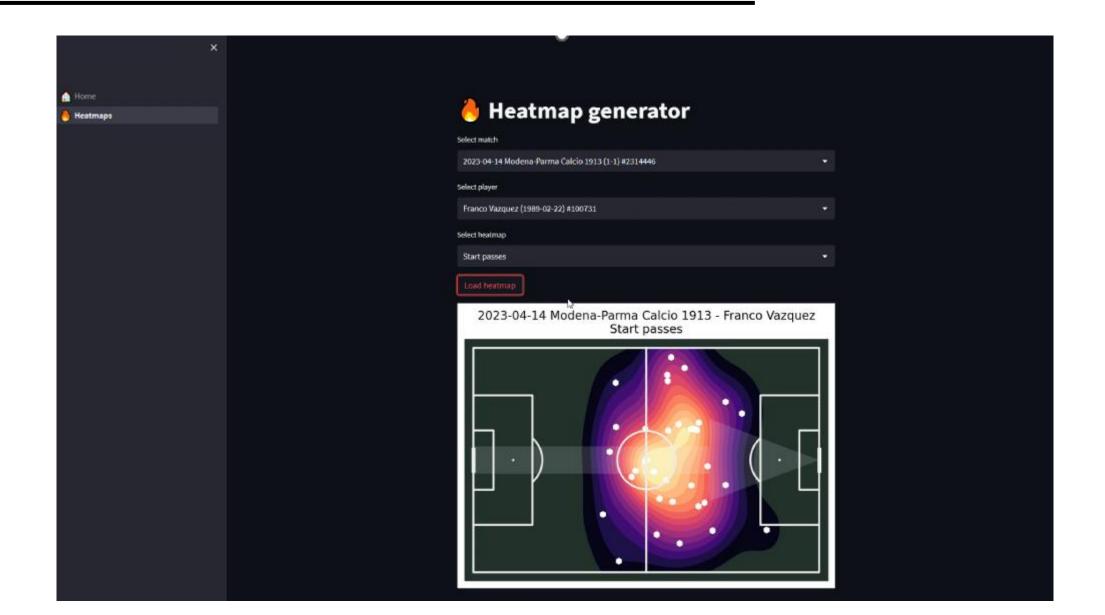


LINKING DATA & VIDEO





TEACHING "SELF-SERVICE ANALYTICS"





NEXT **BIG** CHUNK OF WORK, LEVERAGING TRACKING



OFF THE BALL ACTIONS



RISK/REWARDS - xT UNDER PRESSURE



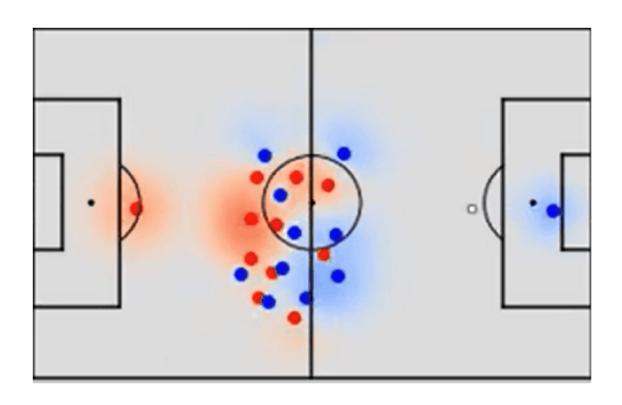
MACHINE LEARNING

MLops framework



BIG DATA

Large volume of data



- PITCH CONTROL
- TEAM SPREAD & SHAPE
- **GK SPECIFIC METRICS**
- LINES DETECTIONS
- PRESSURES & OPEN SPACES
 SET PIECES



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T U19

U18

U17

U16

U15

WFT



FT

U19

U18

U17

U16

U15

WFT



FT

U19

U18

U17

U16

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U19

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WFT



PRE-TRAINING REPORTS

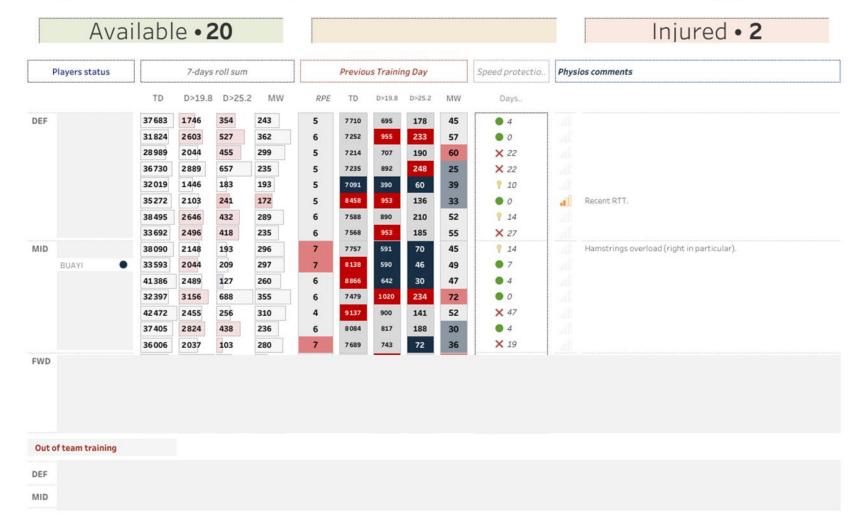


Players availability and warnings

s22.23 • PRIMA SQUADRA • w25 23 décembre 2022 D+5 • D-3 Select_Date 22/12/2022

Team PRIMA SQUADRA

Player Disp., All





16-08

21-08

26-08

31-08

05-09

10-09

15-09

20-09

25-09

POST-TRAINING REPORTS

Parma Calcio 1913 | First Team **DRILLS ANALYSIS - PER PLAYERS**

Drill duration

76 min

Training day - FP - s22.23

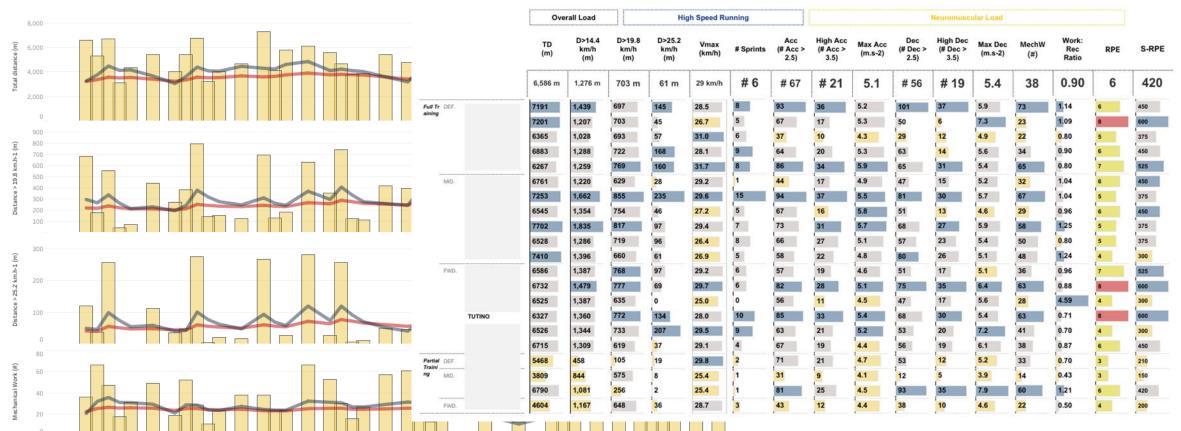
5-December-22 - 1100

 \equiv

D+2 | D-3 w23

Last 2 months load dynamic Trainings & Games | 7d Acute & 28d Chronic Loads

Parma Calcio 1913 | First Team Game Format: Pitch Size: Description: N Sets:, Duration:, Recovery Time: Area per Player: m2



30-09

05-10

10-10

Type of Drill: Full Training



MONITORING PROCESS

Did the players reached 90% of their max speed recently?

Sep 19 Sep 21 Sep 23 Sep 25 Sep 27

Weekly monitoring report

Date Selected

17/10/2022

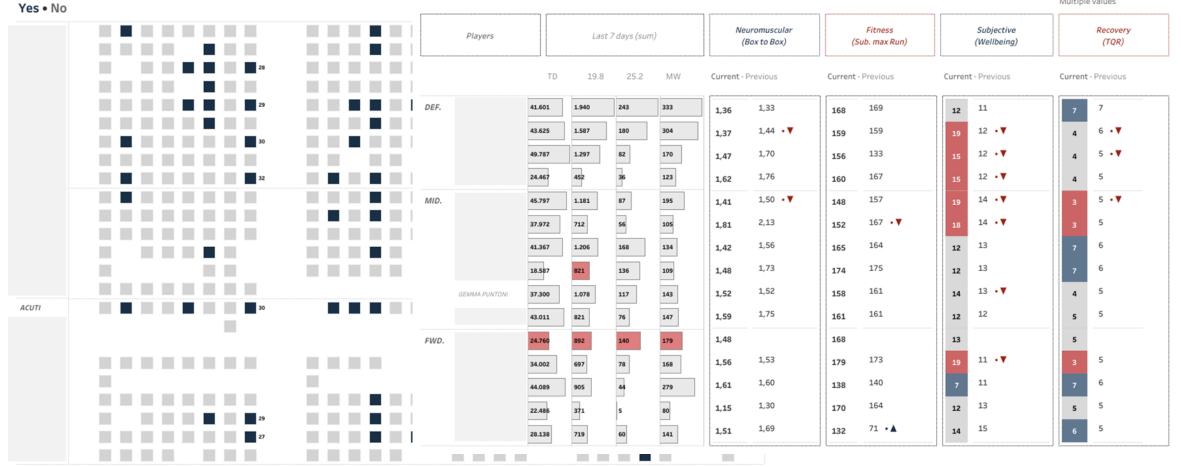
Team Selected WOMEN TEAM

Player Display Name

Multiple values

Legend.

Current test. • Average of Previous • ▲ ▼ changes



Oct 9

Oct 11

Oct 13 Oct 15

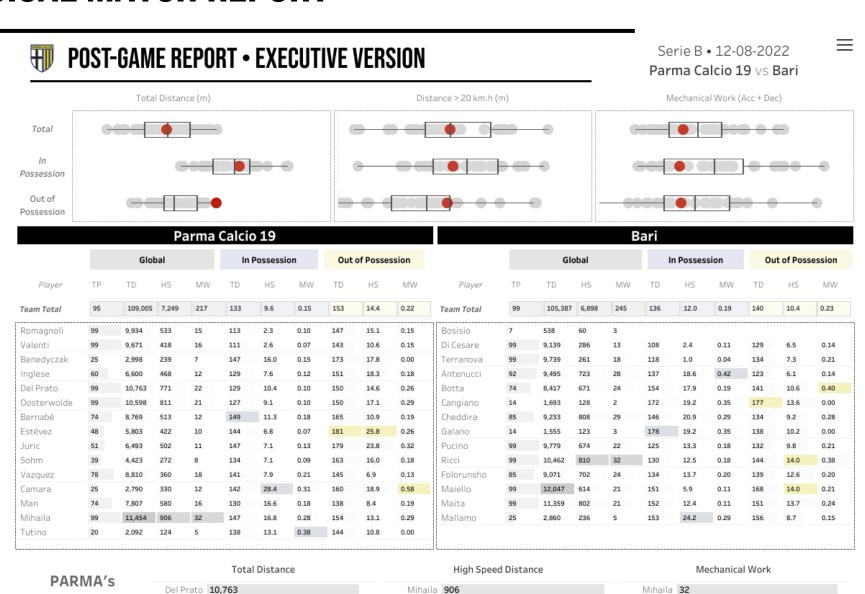


PHYSICAL MATCH REPORT

TOP 3

Mihaila 11,454

Oosterwolde 10,598



Oosterwolde 811

Del Prato 771

Del Prato 22

Oosterwolde 21

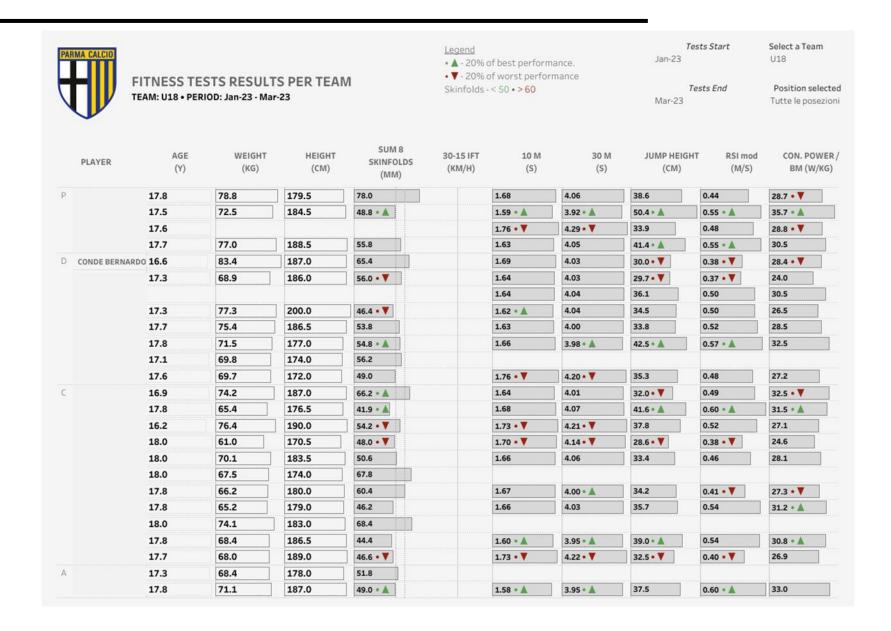


WEEKLY LOAD REPORTS





PHYSICAL TESTING





Performance & Analytics Department – Origins & Missions

Analytics Unit – Structure & Tasks

Working Hand in Hand – Examples

Future & Perspectives



ON-GOING/FUTURE PROJECTS

Identifying team formation & shapes

Understanding patterns of pressing/counterpressing

Detect patterns of passes and runs leading to dangerous situations

Calculate risks taken and expected reward from a player

Integrating tracking derived metrics (Pitch Control, EPV, ...) in our scouting processes

Define set pieces strategies based on tracking and event data

Increase awareness via Hackathons, Challenges, Data Sharing, etc



Grazie mille!
Questions?

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