Six-Minute Man Sander Eitrem 5:58.52 – first man below the 6:00.00 barrier

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31-Jan-2026, one week after the Six-Minute race

Abstract. In Calgary, November 2005, Chad Hedrick was the first to skate the 5,000 m below 6:10. His world record time 6:09.68 was then beaten a week later, in Salt Lake City, by Sven Kramer's 6:08.78. Further top races and world records followed over the ensuing seasons; up to and including the 2024-2025 season, a total of 126 races have been below 6:10, with Nils van der Poel's 2021 world record being 6:01.56. The appropriately hyped-up canonical question for the friends and followers and aficionados of speedskating has then been *when* (and by whom) we for the first time would witness a below 6:00.00 race. In this note I first use extreme value statistics modelling to assess the state of affairs, as per the end of the 2024-2025 season, with predictions and probabilities for the 2025-2026 season. Under natural modelling assumptions the probability of seeing a new world record during this new season is shown to be about ten percent. We were indeed excited but in reality merely modestly surprised that a race better than van der Poel's record was clocked, by Timothy Loubineaud, in Salt Lake City, November 14, 2025. But Six-Minute Man Sander Eitrem's outstanding 5:58.52 in Inzell, on January 24, 2026, is truly beamonesquely shocking. I also use the modelling machinery to analyse the post-Eitrem situation, and suggest answers to the question of how fast the 5,000 m ever can be skated.

Key words: extreme value statistics, five thousand metre speedskating, Kuppern, models for records below thresholds, Sander Eitrem, Sir Roger Bannister, Six-Minute Man

1 The 5k speedskating race, barrier by barrier

The 5,000 m speedskating event is a classic one, twelve and a half gruelling laps on the 400 m track used for all serious competitions, since about 1895. Skaters race in pairs (or, occasionally, in quartets, though not for the major championships), currently with speed up to unbelievable 50 km/h for the top skaters: 5 full kilometres, in just above 6 minutes! This is more than twice as fast as the Jakob Ingebrigtsens of the world manage in the absence of ice.

In January 1955, Norwegian media were unwilling to believe it, when first Dmitry Sakunenko (7:54.9) and then Boris Shilkov (7:45.6, in a later pair) broke the 8-minute barrier, in Medeo (in Kazakhstan, then CCCP); even Norwegians were convinced a year later, however, when Shilkov won the Olympic gold on the Lago di Misurina skating rink with 7:48.7, eight seconds ahead of Sigge Ericsson. In March 1965, Fred Anton Maier famously did 7:28.1 at Notodden (with Professor Svein Sjøberg his pairmate, setting a nice personal best of 7:58.5), the first below 7:30. As we recall, in sufficiently educated circles, the next barrier was taken care of in Medeo March 1977, first with Sergei Marchuk's 6:58.88 and then Kay Arne Stenshjemmet's 6:56.9 in a later pair.

Fast-feeding to the next barrier and the Nagano Olympics 1998, an era later (and parenthetically bypassing fabulous skaters Baranov, Pribytkov, Bochkarev, Shasherin, Visser, Karlstad, Gustafson, Hadschieff, and even the Olympic quadruple-winner Johann Olav Koss,

Figure 1: There has of course been room for S. Eitrem's *Overtro og trolldom hos de gramle grekere* on my bookshelves (from 1921, and with a new translation of Lukan's *Løgnhalsen*), since S. Eitrem first showed world-class 5k promise in 2021, i.e. hundred years later.

all with fixed-blade skates, before the advantageous clap-skates took over, in the season leading up to Nagano), we have first Bart Veldkamp's 6:28.31 and then the gold medal winner Gianni Romme's 6:22.22.

Since 1998, then, the world has been waiting for the *six-minute man*. Progressive world records have been set – we recall Uytdehaage, Ervik, Hedrick (first under 6:10), elegant Fabris 6:07.40 followed by an angry Kramer's 6:03.32 in 2007, Bloemen 6:01.86 in 2017, van der Poel 6:01.56 in 2021; as per the end of the 2024-2025 season, there had been a total of $n = 126$ races below 6:10.

In this note I first study these fabulous sub-6:10 races, showing that a two-parameter extreme value statistics model fits these very well. This makes it possible to form informative predictions for the 2025-2026 season, including a clear probability curve

$$p(t) = P(\text{there will be a race below } t), \quad \text{for } t \in [6{:}00, 6{:}10].$$

In particular, the meaningful $p(\text{wr})$ can be computed, before the new season sets off, the probability of seeing a race below van der Poel's 6:01.56. Importantly, the estimates of these $p(t)$ carry uncertainties, of course, and these are strongly skewed. Even with well estimated underlying parameters, as with $\widehat{p}(t) = p(t, \widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma})$ below, their distributions are skewed, leading to very non-symmetric confidence intervals and curves, as we shall see below.

2 A two-parameter model for sub-6:10 races

The world's $n = 126$ sub-6:10 races, up to the 2024-2025 season, are plotted in Figure 2, left panel; that figure also includes the so far 39 new sub-6:10 races seen for the pre-Olympic 2025-2026 season. It is convenient here to translate race results r_i to $y_i = 6{:}10.00 - r_i$, to more easily use established extreme value statistics theory. So van der Poel's world record

corresponds to $y_{\rm wr} = 8.44$, and the top skaters have y_i not far below this threshold.

The two-parameter model to be used here has cumulative and density function

$$G(y, a, \sigma) = 1 - (1 - ay/\sigma)^{1/a} \quad \text{and} \quad g(y, a, \sigma) = (1 - ay/\sigma)^{1/a-1}/\sigma. \tag{2.1}$$

For such skating race data a is most often positive, so the allowed domain for y are those for which $ay/\sigma < 1$, or $y \le \sigma/a$, a fixed upper bound, corresponding to a fixed lower bound for the skating races r. The smooth limiting case $a \to 0$ is the exponential $G(y, 0, \sigma) = 1 - \exp(-y/\sigma)$; a slightly negative a can be encountered too, with heavy tails and no fixed lower bound for the world's top skaters.

The log-likelihood function, for races $y_1, \ldots, y_n$, which we take as being independent, is

$$\ell_n(a, \sigma) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \{-\log \sigma + (1/a - 1) \log(1 - ay_i/\sigma)\}.$$

For the $n = 126$ sub-6:10 races, the maximum likelihood estimates are $(\widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma}) = (0.208, 2.609)$, with approximate standard errors $(0.083, 0.314)$, as per classical likelihood theory. The empirical and fitted cumulative distribution functions (c.d.f), i.e. $G_n(y)$ and $G(y, \widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma})$, translated back to race time scale, are graphed in Figure 2, right panel; as we see, the model fit is excellent, also when it comes to world record terrain, the very best races.

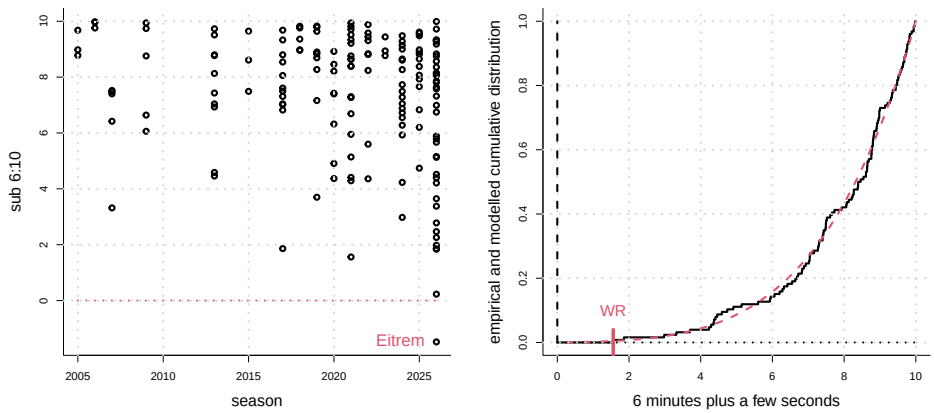

Figure 2: Left panel: all 126 sub-6:10 races, from 2005 to 2025, where speedskating enthusiasts easily can spot and identify world records by Hedrick, Fabris, Kramer, Bloemen, van der Poel. Also included are the so far surprisingly high number 39 of such races for the 2025-2026 season, pre the Milano Olympics, with Eitrem's beamonesque 5:58.52. Right panel: empirical and fitted c.d.f.s for sub-6:10 races, up to 2024-2025, with van der Poel's world record 6:01.56.

So via the $G(y, \widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma})$ we may predict individual races, for skaters drawn from the pool of the best ones. We are however interested in the best of these races, for a certain event with e.g. 10 top skaters, or over a full season. Via the machinery above, we translate the best of N races $r^* = \min\{r_1, \ldots, r_N\}$ to $Y^* = \max\{Y_1, \ldots, Y_N\}$. For this we have

$$P(Y^* \le y_0) = G(y_0, a, \sigma)^N = \{1 - (1 - ay_0/\sigma)^{1/a}\}^N.$$

With N a Poisson, with mean λ, the as yet unknown number of races below 6:10 in say the next season, we infer

$$P(Y^* \le y_0) = \exp\{-\lambda(1 - ay_0/\sigma)^{1/a}\} = p(y_0, a, \sigma, \lambda) \tag{2.2}$$

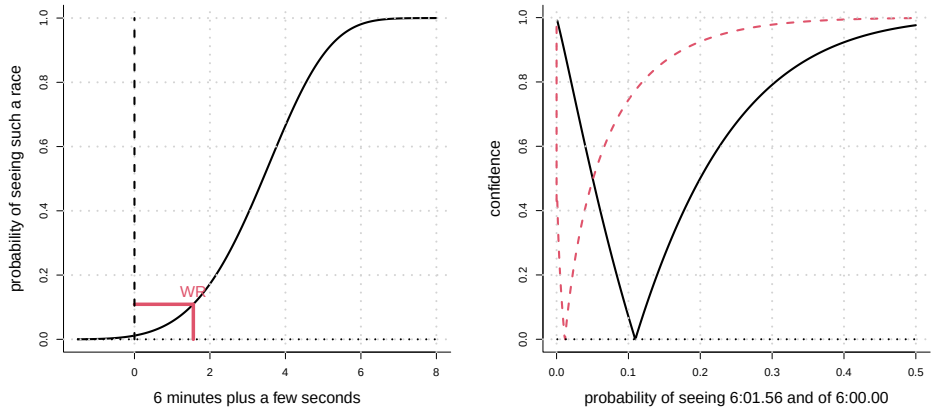

Figure 3: Left panel: the probability curve, for seeing a race at a certain level, or better, during the 2025-2026 season, from the pre-season perspective, using $\lambda = 25$ in the (2.2) formula. Ths probabilities for seeing a new world record, or a six-minute race, are estimated at 0.109 and 0.012. Right panel: confidence curves for the two probabilities. These are non-tight and quite skewed, so quoting the 10.9 percent chance of seeing a world record is telling merely half the story.

for the top result r^* of such a season.

This may now be used to predict the best race of the 2025-2026 season, as seen from the pre-season perspective. The number of sub-6:10 races over the past five seasons have been 19, 9, 3, 18, 14, as per Figure 2, left panel. For an Olympic season a higher number can be expected, with top efforts not only from the main players among nations, but also from others, so we may take e.g. $\lambda = 25$. Applying (2.2) we find the estimated curve shown in Figure 3, left panel, of central interest to speedskating fans. Those studying this curve, pre season, will see that there is an approximate 10 percent chance of seeing a world record during the 2025-2026 season; that seeing a best race in the admirable time of 6:04 has about 50 percent chance; and also that Six-Minute barrier just can be broken, though with a low probability of about 1 percent.

These probabilities are direct estimates, though, and carry their uncertainties. The $p(y_0, \widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma}, \lambda)$ quantities have quite skewed distributions, as it turns out, so say 90 percent confidence intervals for the estimated probabilities, here 0.109 and 0.012, will be skewed and not symmetric. To compute appropriate confidence intervals and curves, I follow methodology developed in Schweder & Hjort (2016, Ch. 3), via Wilks theorems and their refinements, with the main ingredient being the log-likelihood profile function

$$\ell_{\rm prof}(p) = \max\{\ell_n(a,\sigma)\colon p(y_0,a,\sigma,\lambda) = p\}.$$

Here p is the estimate level, for any such probability associated with Figure 3, left panel. This profile is then transformed to the confidence curve

$$\mathrm{cc}(p) = \Gamma_1(D_n(p)), \quad \text{with the deviance } D_n(p) = 2\{\max \ell_{\rm prof} - \ell_{\rm prof}(p)\},$$

with $\Gamma_1(\cdot)$ the c.d.f. for the χ^2_1.

This confidence machinery is illustrated for Figure 3, right panel, for two probabilities; (i) that of seeing a world record, beating van der Poel's 6:01.56, estimated at 0.109; and (ii) the Six-Minute probability of seeing a race breaking that threshold, estimated at 0.012. Confidence intervals are strongly skewed. Thus merely saying, when a statistician might be

pressed to do so, that the new world record probability is estimated at 0.109, is not quite sufficient, as the uncertainty is significant; a 90 percent confidence interval is $[0.006, 0.440]$. Similar comments apply, and more drastically, to the Six-Minute estimate of 1.2 percent; a 90 percent confidence interval associated with that point estimate is $[0, 0.233]$.

3 Testing model adequacy via monitoring processes

The extreme value statistics machinery developed and applied above have assumed that the 5k world is essentially stable, or stationary, from the 2006-2006 to the 20024-2025 season. This statement concerns the level of the individual top races, between 6:01.56 and 6:10.00, not the volume of skaters managing to land in that admirable window. To check this modelling assumption, consider the monitoring process

$$Z_n(y) = \sqrt{n}\{G(y, \widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma}) - G_n(y)\} \quad \text{for } y \in [0, 10],$$

i.e. the normalised difference between the parametric and nonparametric cumulatives. This is the full black curve inside the cloud of similar but simulated thinner curves of Figure 4.

Large-sample theory can be be developed for the $Z_n(y)$ process, and it converges indeed under model conditions in distribution to a well-defined zero-mean Gaussian process; see Hjort & Stoltenberg (2026, Ch. 10) for technical details. For the present purposes it is easier to simulate Z_n processes, however, under model conditions, to see how the observed Z_n sits inside such a cloud. These are the sim = 25 thin curves in the left hand panel. For each, there is a simulated dataset $y^* = (y_1^*, \ldots, y_n^*)$, constructed via

$$y_i^* = (\widehat{\sigma}/\widehat{a})\{1 - (1 - u_i)^{\widehat{a}}\} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \ldots, n,$$

with the u_i an i.i.d. uniform sample. We learn from this that the observed monitoring process is fully inside the normal range for such curves, i.e. there is no statistical evidence against the stationarity assumption from 2005-2006 to 2024-2025.

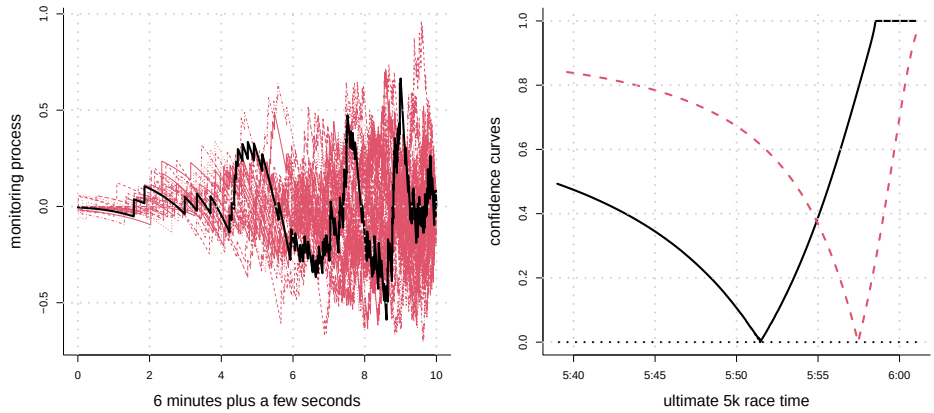

Figure 4: Left panel: the model monitoring process Z_n based on all $n = 126$ races from 2005-2006 to 2024-2025 (full black line), along with sim = 25 simulated such processes (thin red lines), under model conditions. Right panel: the Ultimate Race time, $r_0 = 6{:}10.00 - \widehat{\gamma}$, estimated as 5:57.46 with pre-season data (red dashed) but now post Eitrem as 5:51.26 (full black), with confidence curves.

Another check of interest, regarding the stationarity, is to see if the (a, σ) parameters have remained essentially constant, over this nineteen-year window. A model which should

be able to pick up any trend, if present, takes

$$(a_j, \sigma_j) = (a, \sigma \exp(\gamma x_j)) \quad \text{for } j = 1, \ldots, 19,$$

with $x_j = t_j - \bar{t}$, say, calendar year minus their average. Fitting and assessing this model shows that the estimated $\widehat{\gamma}$ is rather close to zero, i.e. no significant trend is present, inside this period.

Crucially and revealingly, however, when the dataset is extended, from the first ever 2005-2006 season with any sub-6:10 up to and including the first half of the Olympic 2025-2026 season, there *are* changes, *both* in volume (39 new such top races, during November, December, January) *and* in quality. This matches what can be interpreted from the raw data, plotted in Figure 2, left panel. New skaters in the very top category, like Loubineaud, Jílek, Dawson, Semirunniy, Lorello, Fartsholder (as Klassekampen rather aptly writes his name, see Hjort (2025)), along with established giants like Ghiotto, Bloemen, Bergsma, Huizinga, form a significantly faster 5k ensemble, compared to the top skaters of the previous seasons.

4 How fast can they race?

"Du kainn itj gå på null", opined Hjallis, a.k.a. triple-gold Olympic winner Hjalmar Andersen, when asked about how fast one could ever skate the 10,000 m. For the extreme values model (2.1) we may at least estimate that alluring quantity, a lower bound r_0 for how fast skaters can manage the 5k. When a in the model is positive, which for sports results is a natural assumption, the upper limit is the clear-cut parameter

$$\gamma = \sup\{y > 0 \colon g(y, a, \sigma) > 0\} = \sigma/a, \quad \text{translating to } r_0 = 6{:}10.00 - \gamma.$$

When a tends to be small, the γ is high and r_0 is small; in the smooth limit, where a tends to zero, the Y distribution is the exponential, with infinite support, which here would correspond to there being no clear lower limit for speedskating races.

The maximum likelihood estimate may be read off from earlier estimation efforts as $\widehat{\gamma} = \widehat{\sigma}/\widehat{a}$. The traditional delta method ensures that approximate variances for smooth functions of $(\widehat{a}, \widehat{\sigma})$ can be read off via quadratic forms of the inverse observed Fisher information matrix, Here we are outside that smooth terrain, due to a being small, so more precise analysis comes via the log-likelihood profile function

$$\ell_{\rm prof}(\gamma) = \max\{\ell(a, \sigma) \colon \sigma/a = \gamma\} = \max_{\text{all } a} \ell(a, a\gamma).$$

Again following the methods developed in Schweder & Hjort (2016, Ch. 3), the confidence curve for γ, which then translates to such for the ultimate race time r_0, is

$$\mathrm{cc}(\gamma) = \Gamma_1(D_n(\gamma)), \quad \text{with deviance } D_n(\gamma) = 2\{\max \ell_{\rm prof} - \ell_{\rm prof}(\gamma)\}.$$

I have carried out such analysis for the case of pre 2025-2026 data, when the top 5k world was reasonably stationary, with world record 6:01.56, and then for the revised world view after Eitrem and the Inzell 24-Jan-2026 World Cup races. Pre-season, we have $\widehat{\gamma} = 12.54$, with $\widehat{r}_0 = 5{:}57.46$; with the fabulous races for the 2025-2026 season, I find $\widehat{\gamma} = 18.74$, with $\widehat{r}_0 = 5{:}51.26$. See Figure 4, right panel, with confidence curves. These are and have to be quite wide, as there are inherent uncertainties in the very lower tail of the top races.

Eitrem's race had a 200 m opening of 19.03, followed by twelve stunning 400 m laps averaging 28.39 seconds for each. The presumed and estimated Ultima Thule 5k Race would mean and openiing of 18.00 and then twelve close to unbelievable laps with 27.77; see Lid (1942). We shall see – and we all remember Yuskov's race in Salt Lake City in November 2013, for its first seven laps, and we know from Semerikov and Dawson how the last five laps of a 5,000 m occasionally can end up looking like 1500 m laps. We will excitedly and fully believe it, when Stolz does the 1500 m in 1:40 (perhaps next year), or 100 seconds, which is 54.0 km/h speed, but it is currently beyond human belief systems that he could go on for a full 5k in that speed (which would mean an another-planetary 5:33.33).

5 Concluding remarks

In this note I have examined the full set of 126 sub-6:10 races, from Hedrick's world record November 2005 up to the end of the 2024-2025 season, fitted these to the well-fitting two-parameter model (2.1), and then used the appropriate machinery to predict future best-race results, for a given event, like a World Cup, or over a full season. Some rounding off comments are as follows.

Remark A: Eitrem. While we await a high quality post-career biography to be written by or about Eitrem, ten years from now (perhaps by Jon Fosse or Anders Heger), there is ample material to be found in skating literature and on the net. A detailed and redable account on his career, from young child to World Champion and now world record holder, is in Finsen (2026, pages 6-10); his *Alt om skøyter 2026* indeed serendipitously has Eitrem as front cover man.

Remark B: volume, quantity, horizon. I have indicated above that the 2025-2026 season is indeed a significant break with the stationarity of 2005-2006 to 2024-2025, in both volume and quality. Remarkably, the international spread is also widening, outside the traditionally strongest nations. The full list of sub-6:10 nations, represented by their usual acronyms, is NOR, FRA, SWE, USA, CAN, CZE, NED, AUT, ITA, GER, KOR, POL, CHN, RUS, BEL, JPN, NZL. Check indeed Section 5, with items most enthusiasts know by heart.

Remark C: Bannister and Eitrem. Eitrem's 5:58.52 is for the history books and for the eternal memory of speedskating. Even *Dagsrevyen* at the NRK, the canonical main channel for the Norwegian Broadcasting Corporation, and which very unfortunately shies away from mentioning speedskating at all,* spent a national record time of nine minutes on him.

In the history of sports, media, culture, communication, exposure, public attention, nothing can beat Sir Roger Bannister, however; read his *The First Four Minutes* (Bannister, 1955). This had to do both with the fabulous race itself, at the Iffley Road track in Oxford, May 1954, but also the media situation ten years after the war, its immediately understood highly symbolic value, the receptibility of both UK and the rest of the world. This was not merely a nerd story for those sufficiently interested, but world news, for every citizen and family, for politics and dinner tables. I fear, though, that there are still segments of people not yet knowing about, or understanding, or appreciating, the Six-Minute Man. But we should muster the courage to say, even if we do not dare to shout it from our modest

*thanks to the intricacies of modern attention economy and competition with other television channels; enthusiasts are pushed to pay NOK 399 pro month to watch our heroes Eitrem, Jílek, Loubineaud, Ghiotto, Bergsma, Kongshaug; see Hjort (2025) for further lamentations

rooftops, that Sander Eitrem is Norway's answer to Sir Roger Bannister. It is indeed directly comparable to Kuppern's 15.46.6 in Squaw Valley 1960 (Kosichkin skated in a later pair), a feat discussed or pointed to in at least four novels by prominent Norwegian authors.

Sir Roger's Four-Minute Mile also had a certain 'ketchup effect'; once *he* was under four, other athletes understood they could do it too. His record was broken the same year, by John Landy, and within two years about ten runners had achieved the sub-four. So perhaps also Eitrem's feat will be followed by ketchup. But it may also prove to be a Jim Hines phenomenon; as we recall he was the first to sub-Hary with his 9.95 in the thin-air Mexico City Olympics 1968, and 14 years had to pass before we saw 9.93.

Remark D. My model (2.1) is a special case of more general model formulations for extreme value statistics, built up during several decades, associated with the names of Fisher, Kolmogorov, Gnedenko, Tippett, Gumbel, and several others. Interestingly, both E. Gumbel and S. Eitrem wrote about lies and liars, around 1921, a century ago; check with Eitrem (1921), Gumbel (1919, 1922, 1958).

Remark E: why and how are records beaten? Suppose $X_1, X_2, \ldots$ are i.i.d. from some continuous distribution, with $M_n = \max_{i \le n} X_i$ the best result after n trials; this is a new record provided $M_n > M_{n-1}$. Crucially, such records are few and far between, under the i.i.d. assumption. With Z_n the number of records set, in the course of the first n trials, $\mathrm{E}\, Z_n$ is the harmonic sum $1 + 1/2 + \cdots + 1/n$, growing slowly, as $\log n$. Indeed it can be shown, via Lindeberg theorems, that $(Z_n - \log n)/(\log n)^{1/2} \to_d \mathrm{N}(0,1)$. So why and how are many more records set, after all? The answer is that the i.i.d. condition does not hold up; equipment, ice conditions, halls, training regimes become steadily better. I trust, though, that 5:59.99 will still be seen as a pretty good result, twelve years from now.

Remark F: other barriers to break. Methods developed and applied in this note may be used for similar studies, with probability assessments and predictions, of the other speedskating distances, to various other sports, and to various other phenomena involving measurements setting new records. Methods similar to those exhibited here are indeed used to assess Usain Bolt's world records in the 100 m sprint, in Schweder & Hjort (2016, Ch. 14), for instance, and some applications to temperature time series in meteorology are briefly outlined in Hjort (2026b). See also Hjort (2026a) for studying chess ratings, though with different parametric models. Magnus Carlsen is the Sander Eitrem of chess.

Vital speedskating thresholds ahead of us include the following (where we ought to check with Jordan Stolz in a few years, regarding the first three). (i) The first 33.50 or better in the 500 m; (ii) the first 1:05.00, or 65 seconds, in the 1000 m; (iii) the first below 1:40.00, or 100 seconds, in the 1500 m; (iv) the first lady below 6:35 in the 5k; (v) the first lady below 15:30 in the 10k.

I have actually started to look at the 500 m, starting with all races, so far, below 34.50 seconds. Here there is a detectable trend of improvement, over recent years, however, unlike the 5,000 m over the 2005-2006 to 2024-2025 period, where stationarity was seen to be an adequate assumption in the analysis above. This means that the model (2.1) needs adjustment, with the parameters (a, σ) developing over time. Analysis and predictions hence become more complex, but are doable with extended care and efforts.

Remark G: quartets. Quartets are for Beethoven and Shostakovich, and, occasionally, for 5k speedskating. The world would have been less satisfying if the six-minute had been broken that way, however; quartet skaters have a slight time advantage.

Acknowledgments

Speedskating historians are always indebted to the admirable efforts of Evert Stenlund and his website, `www.evertstenlund.se/other.htm`, along with `speedskatingresults.com` and `live.isuresults.eu/events`. These online databases and tables are wondrously and consistently useful and continuously updated. The data I have used in this report are essentially from the Stenlund site, patiently excerpted, reorganised, curated, supplemented with my own personal notes over the past seventy years or so. Thanks are also due to the many active and knowledgeable people in the *Forum for skøytehistorie* on Facebook, where I serve among the three admins.

National records in the sub-6:10 club, as of 31-Jan-2026

5.58.52	EITREM Sander	NOR	Inzell	26	0124	1
6.00.23	LOUBINEAUD Timothy	FRA	SLC	25	1114	1
6.01.56	van der POEL Nils	SWE	SLC	21	1203	1
6.01.84	DAWSON Casey	USA	Calgary	25	1121	1
6.01.86	BLOEMEN Ted-Jan	CAN	SLC	17	1210	1
6.01.98	JILEK Metodej	CZE	Inzell	26	0124	2
6.02.98	ROEST Patrick	NED	SLC	24	0128	1
6.04.21	FARTHOFER Alexander	AUT	SLC	25	1114	1
6.04.23	GHIOTTO Davide	ITA	SLC	24	0128	2
6.06.75	GROSS Gabriel	GER	SLC	25	1114	3
6.07.04	LEE Seung-Hoon	KOR	Calgary	13	1110	3
6.07.81	SEMIRUNNIY Vladimir	POL	Inzell	26	0124	6
6.08.36	LIU Hanbin	CHN	Calgary	25	1121	4
6.08.64	TROFIMOV Sergej	RUS	SLC	21	1203	1
6.08.76	SWINGS Bart	BEL	SLC	21	1203	4
6.08.83	SASAKI Shomu	JPN	SLC	25	1114	4
6.09.68	MICHAEL Peter	NZL	SLC	17	1210	7

We're eagerly waiting for SUI, FIN, DEN, KAZ, BLR, EST, LAT and yet other civilised societies to join this list.

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Footnote. After having been appropriately absorbed by the World Cup events and various championships, during the first months of the 2025-2026 season, via speedskating fora and the unfortunate NOK 399 pro month to get Viaplay Vinter on my laptop screen, I was inspired to dig out data and write up this note. I then wished to write up a good *FocuStat Blog Post*, as these are sometimes reaching a sizeable international readership (we've got fanmail from Steven Pinker, etc.). To my frustration *&* irritation the University of Oslo has changed the Wondrously Well-Working Vortex `html`, which I and FocuStat comrades have used for ten years, for a Horribly Bad-Working Vortex editing system, where writing math is a nightmare; having the new Vortex system installed has also seriously disturbed some of our previously perfect pitch layouted Blog Posts. I might have to move to Andorra to find a university taking better care of its humble employees.