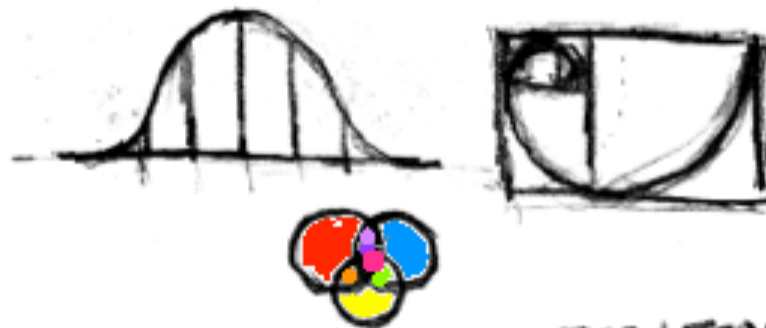


WELCOME TO AUSTIN



FAST 500:
UNDERSTANDING
RESEARCH



JOSH FEDER MD.





PART ①

TRUST THE UNIVERSE





MY UNIQUE
IDEA!



Dr Awesome
Famous

NEW!

IT WORKS!

DO IT!

I GOT
BETTER!



A SATISFIED
CUSTOMER

SIDE EFFECTS:



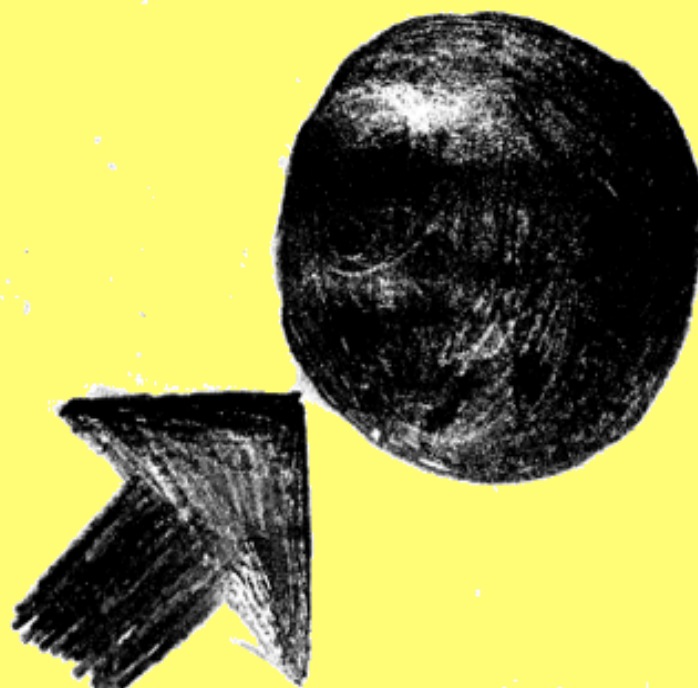
WHAT WENT WRONG? (let's make a list)

-
-
-
-
-

common mistakes in doing science





A POSITIVE REPORT
IS A GOOD START...



BUT IT'S ONLY,
LITERALLY,
A STARTING POINT...



HOW DO WE KNOW
WHAT'S 'TRUE?'

- ☐ IT WORKS 
- ☐ IT DOESN'T WORK 
- ☒ THERE'S A CHANCE...

HOW MUCH OF A CHANCE?



WE NEED A BUNCH OF
EXAMPLES TO HELP US
PREDICT HOW WELL IT
WORKS: 😊😊😊😊😞😊😞😊

ACTIVITY 1:
A BUNCH OF EXAMPLES



EXPERIENCE WITH BUNCHES OF EXAMPLES

LEADS TO ...

THE LAW OF
RANDOM SCATTER

TRUST THE UNIVERSE
TO SCATTER RANDOMLY.



Q: HOW DO WE DO THIS
IN OUR OWN RESEARCH?

A: FIND WHERE THERE SHOULD
BE RANDOM SCATTER,
AND IF ITS NOT THERE,
THEN SOMETHING MAY BE
CHANGING THE NATURAL
ORDER OF THE UNIVERSE



is it
random?
maybe, but
maybe not



↑
UNUSUAL
CLUSTER



SCIENCE
LIVES BY
THIS IDEA

THE NULL HYPOTHESIS:

'MY TREATMENT DOESN'T WORK'

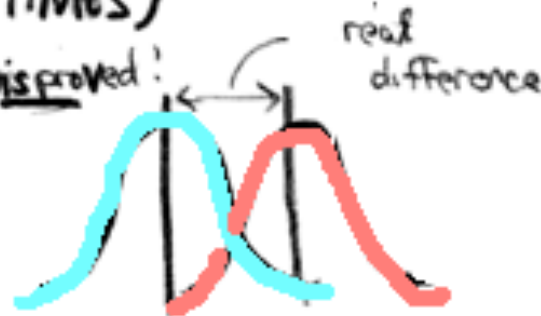
PROVE THIS. AND IF YOU CAN'T,
THEN MAYBE IT DOES WORK
(SOMETIMES)

ALL
RESEARCH
SHOULD
CONSIDER
THIS

H_0 :



H_0 Disproved!



THIS MEANS THAT
YOU NEED COMPARISON
CONTROL
CONDITIONS



AND
YOU NEED TO CONSIDER
CONFOUNDING
VARIABLES



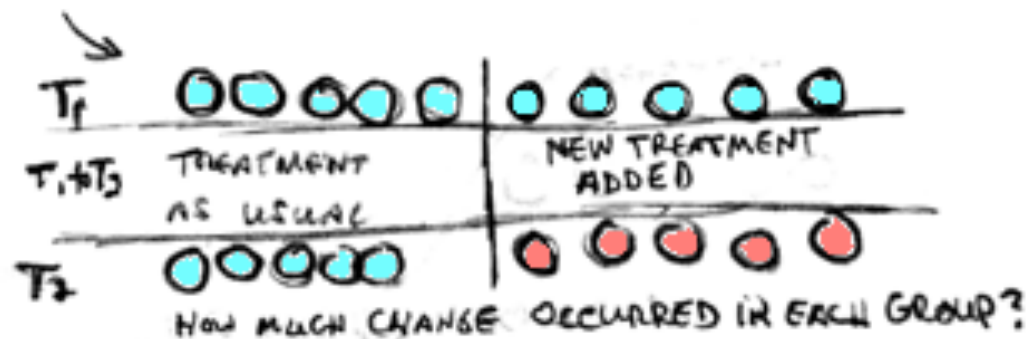
EXAMPLES: D.I.R. RESEARCH



← 200 CASES OF KIDS WHO IMPROVED
vs

quasi experimental pilot study
vs

randomized controlled trial (RCT)



- RCT RATINGS
- THE 5% SOLUTION
- HOW MANY RCTS DOES IT TAKE TO BE CONFIDENT?
- METAANALYSIS

good Q? (1)
 population (2)
 random (2)
 blind (2)
 clear method (2)
 clear data (2)
 appropriate analysis/stats (2)
 clear presentation of results (1)
 Discussion is full, accurate (1)
 Disclosure of funding (2)
 TOTAL = X of 17



BEYOND RCTS:

EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

HAVE YOU HEARD THE STORY
OF THE GUY WHO WAS SEARCHING
FOR HIS LOST WALLET?







IF AN RCT SAYS YOU
CAN TRAIN EVERYONE
TO POINT TO A GREEN SQUARE,
AND POINTING TO GREEN SQUARES
IS PART OF AN IQ TEST,
SHOULD YOU TRAIN EVERYONE
TO POINT TO A GREEN SQUARE?



WHY NOT?

AGE 12

AGE 20

FUNCTIONAL UTILITY →  

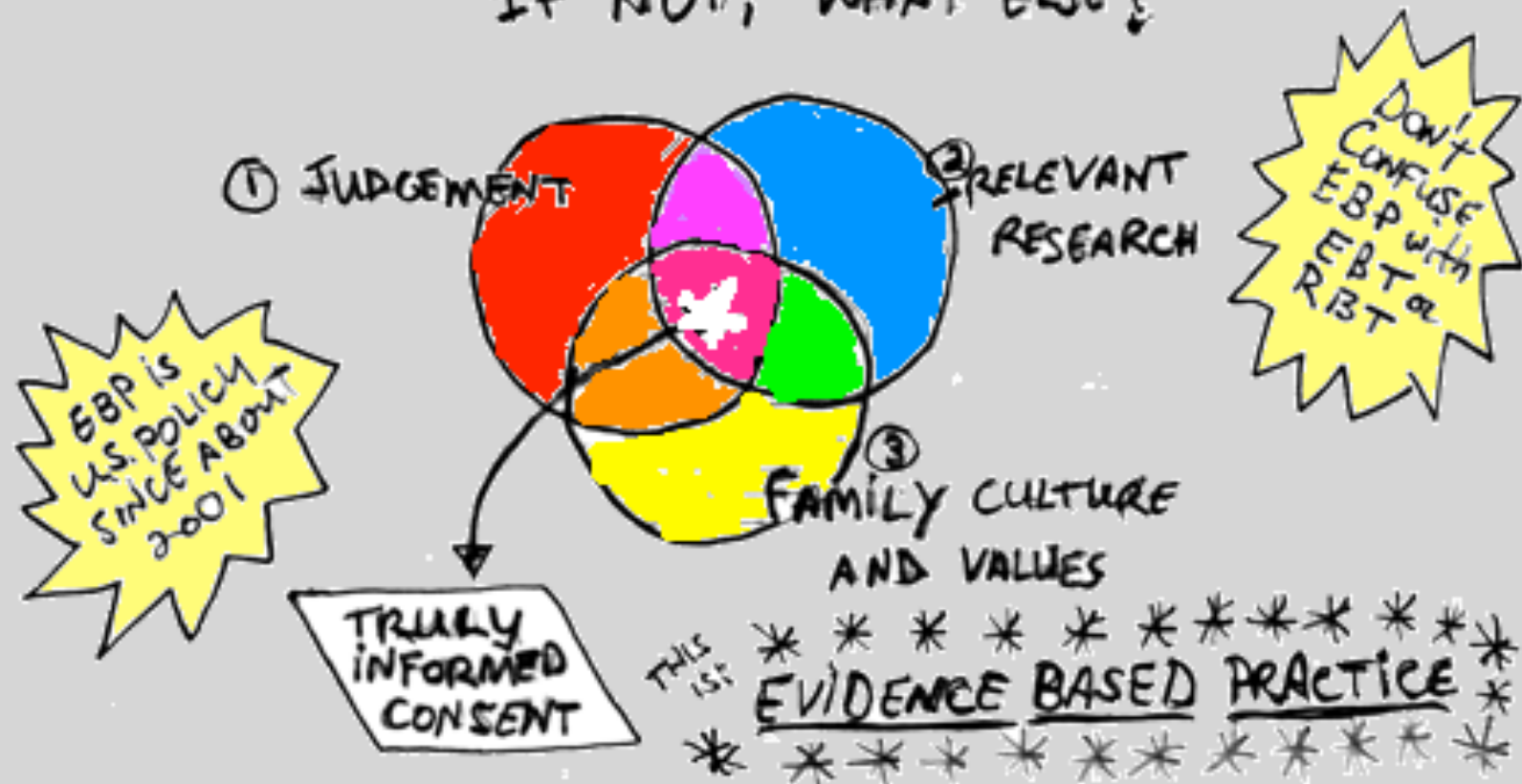
COMPLIANCE/VULNERABILITY

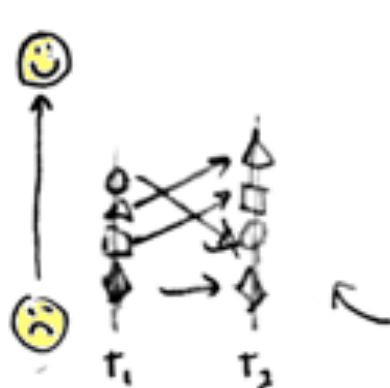
RESPECT FOR THE PERSON/FAMILY





IF NOT, WHAT ELSE?






RELEVANT OTHER KINDS OF RESEARCH

MULTIPLE BASELINE → 

← SINGLE SUBJECT DESIGN

LONG TERM FOLLOWUP (SURVIVAL STUDIES) → 

EX: THE 'DEMISE' OF THE DSM
 (OR: WHEN USUAL SCIENCE
 DOESN'T DESCRIBE USUAL PEOPLE)



Part ②

NAVIGATING THE PATH



WELCOME TO THE (CLINICAL) WORLD

- all comers
- MULTIPLE TREATMENTS
- CONTEXT MATTERS
- MULTIPLE REALITIES
- CHANGING COURSE AS YOU GO





Activity 2a

FOUR CORNERS
(MULTIPLE REALITIES)



Activity 2b

Bayesian thinking
(a mindful walk)





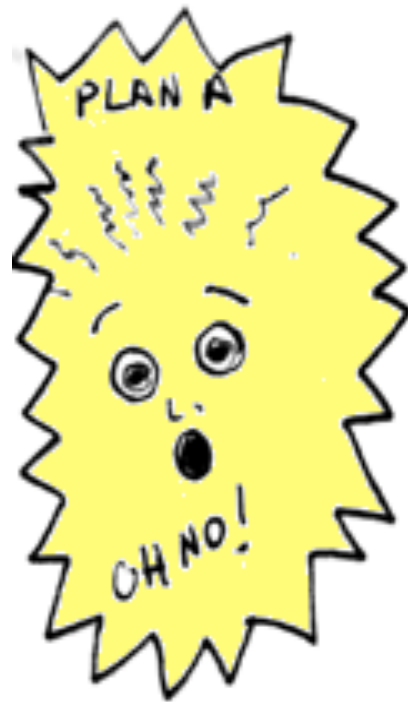
MANUALS 'VS' PRINCIPLES
(MAP VS. COMPASS)

QUANTITATIVE 'VS' QUALITATIVE

(IT'S NOT A COMPETITION,
IT'S A COLLABORATION)

NOTE:
DON'T MAKE
UP DATA.
a. It's wrong
b. You hurt people
c. wastes resources





FAILURE IS USUAL

FAILURE IS NECESSARY
(USE IT TO GUIDE NEXT STEPS!)

FAILURE TO REPORT FAILURE
IS FOOLISH
DISHONEST
WASTEFUL
AND HARMFUL



SCIENCE IS LITTERED WITH SULLIED DISHONESTY







Part 

BEING AN EXPERT

Q: WHAT DO YOU CALL THE GUY
WHO GRADUATES LAST
IN HIS CLASS IN
MEDICAL SCHOOL?



GET USED TO IT

KEEP UP ON

- OPEN STUDIES
- CONTROLLED STUDIES
- YOUR STUDIES

PHD?
GUESS WHAT?
YOU ARE
AN EXPERT

PEOPLE
WILL ASK
YOUR
OPINION



Let's think
this through
together...



ALL RESEARCH CAN



HURT PEOPLE



The I.R.B.*
is your friend.
Be grateful -
bring them cookies



* Institutional Review Board for the
Protection of Human (and other) Subjects



LET'S THINK ABOUT HARM!

- DRUG STUDIES
- THERAPY STUDIES
- SURVEY STUDIES
- SECONDARY ANALYSIS
- OTHER?



SOME KINDS OF HARM

- death
- disability
- upset
- release of private information
- inactive treatment or placebo arm
- loss of precious time
- financial impact
 - direct cost
 - indirect (gas, time off work)

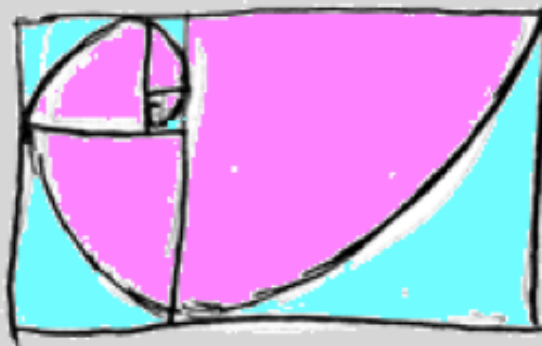




WISDOM
FROM
EXPERIENCE!

BUILD
YOUR
HUMILITY!

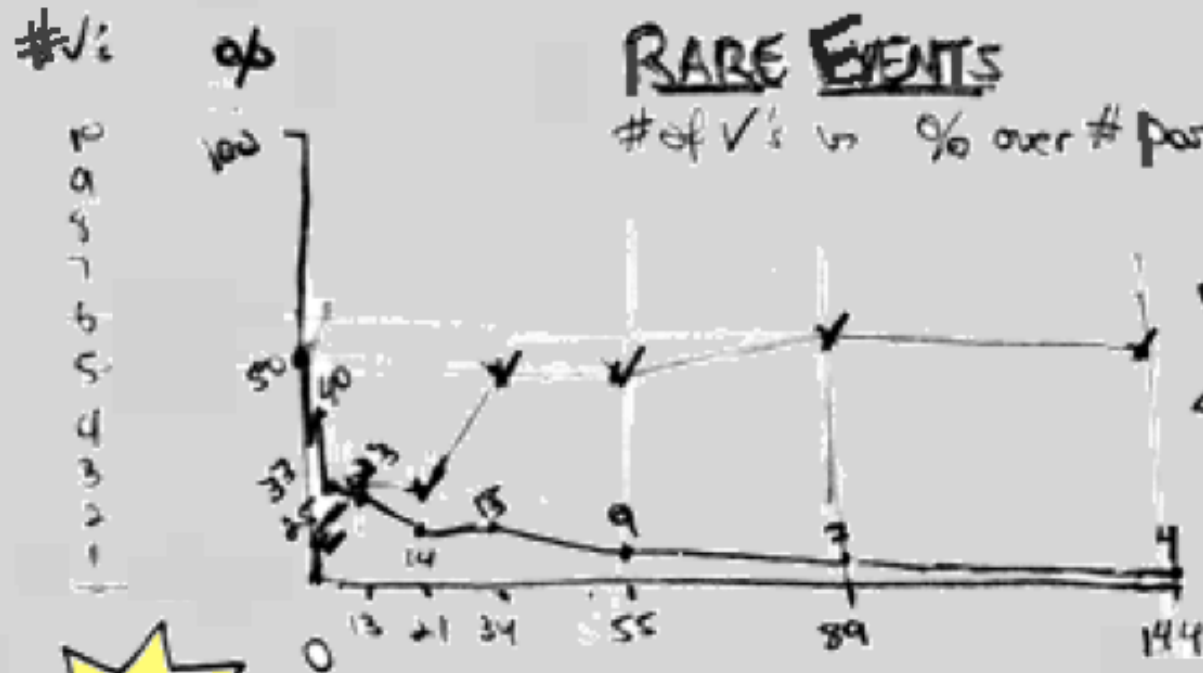
ACTIVITY 3: RARE EVENTS



| # | ✓ | t | % |
|-----|-----|----|----|
| 0 | | | |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 50 |
| 2 | | | |
| 3 | | | |
| 5 | 1 | 2 | 60 |
| 8 | | | |
| 13 | 1 | 3 | 23 |
| 21 | | | |
| 34 | 2 | 5 | 18 |
| 55 | | | |
| 89 | 1 | 6 | 7 |
| 144 | | | |
| T | 144 | 66 | 4 |

RARE EVENTS

of V's vs % over # possible



EXPERIENCE
TAKES
TIME AND WORK

REMEMBER
MER/DIA

IT TAKES A LOT OF DATA
TO REACH A DECENT PREDICTION
OF HOW OFTEN A RARE EVENT OCCURS.



EXPLAIN THIS:

1990 AUTISM RATES : 4/10,000

2017 AUTISM RATES : 1/65

BECAUSE:

YOU'RE THE EXPERT!

—
—
—
—

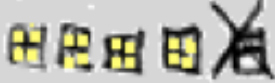
WISDOM
IS A
HEALTHY MIX
OF RATIONAL THINKING
AND COMPASSION



FDA
APPROVAL



COMMON SCENARIOS

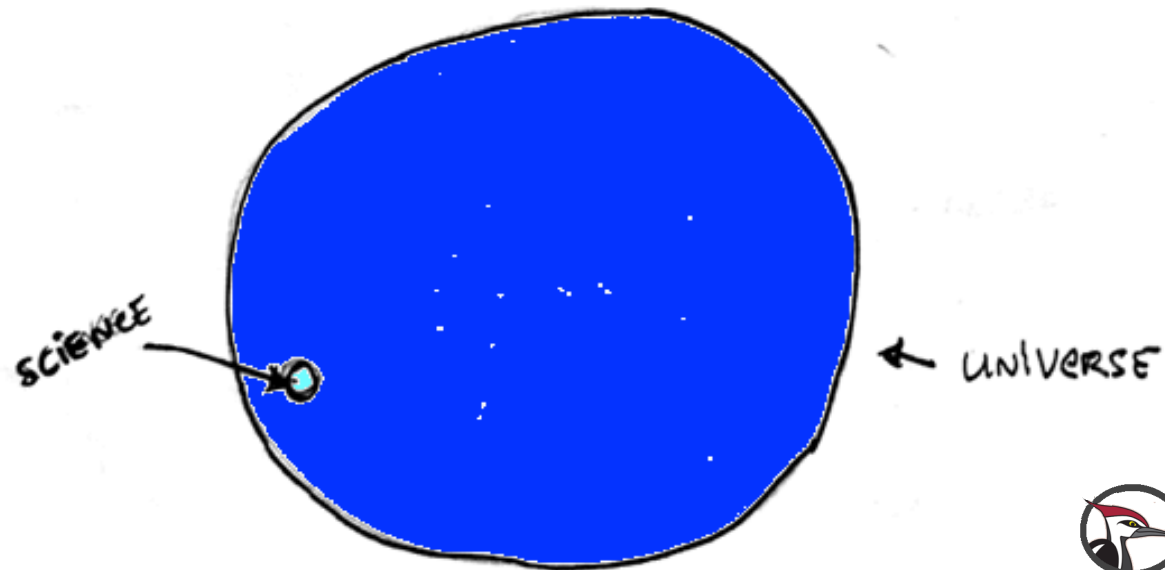
- WHEN 50% GET BETTER
- LONE 'ROGUE' GENIUS
- ABROGATING THE 5% AGREEMENT (DATA SUPPRESSION)
- PUBLICATION BIAS: 
- SURVIVAL CURVES: "CURED!" (REALLY?)
- THE RARE GIFT OF 2 GOOD STUDIES



THE TRUTH COMES
OUT IN TIME



REMEMBER THIS:



FINDING YOUR TRUTH



- OPEN FEASIBILITY STUDIES
- CONTROLLED TRIALS
- SINGLE SUBJECT DESIGN
- QUANTITATIVE + QUALITATIVE
- GOAL: 2 GOOD STUDIES
INCLUDING OUTSIDERS
- EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE
- HUMILITY
- HONESTY





Quiz

1. 3 ELEMENTS OF EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE
(DRAW AND LABEL IT!)
2. WHAT'S WRONG WITH BASING TREATMENT
ON 'THE LATEST NEW RESEARCH' ?
3. TRUST THE UNIVERSE TO _____
4. WHAT'S THE '5% AGREEMENT'?
5. THE TRUTH COMES OUT IN TIME. DISCUSS.

IECD?
BECOME A
WOODPECKER!

ADDITIONAL TOPICS

- GRANT RANTS
- IRB BLUES
- HOW TO CONNECT
- Kim, TEARFUL
- LOVE & POTIONS
- WOODPECKER LORE

www.
circlestretch
•com





TRUST THE UNIVERSE

FOLLOW THE PATH

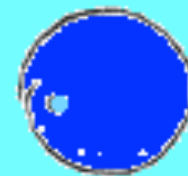
BE THE (HUMBLE) EXPERT

AND

HELP EACH OTHER



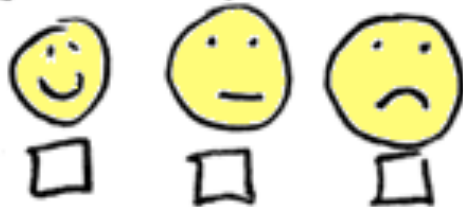
lfeder@fielding.edu



Bonus:

a. draw the relationship between science and the universe

b. give me your feedback:



c. suggestions for improvement:





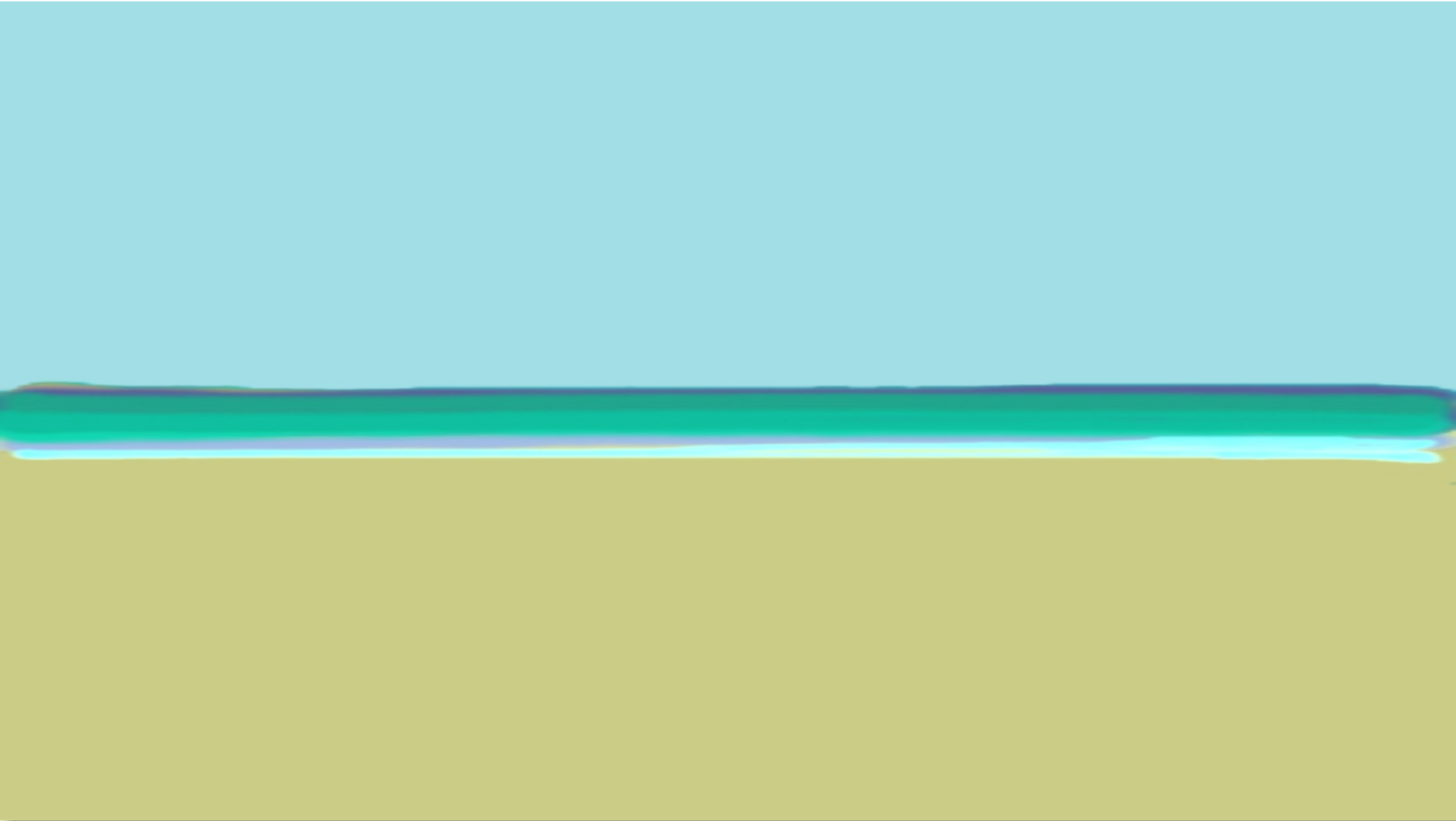


grap
hic
medi
cine



IMAGE COPYRIGHT THOM FERRIER 2011

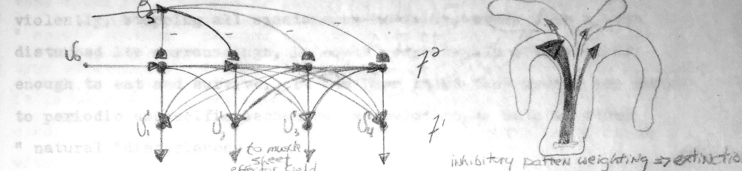




after a "few" contacts with the air.

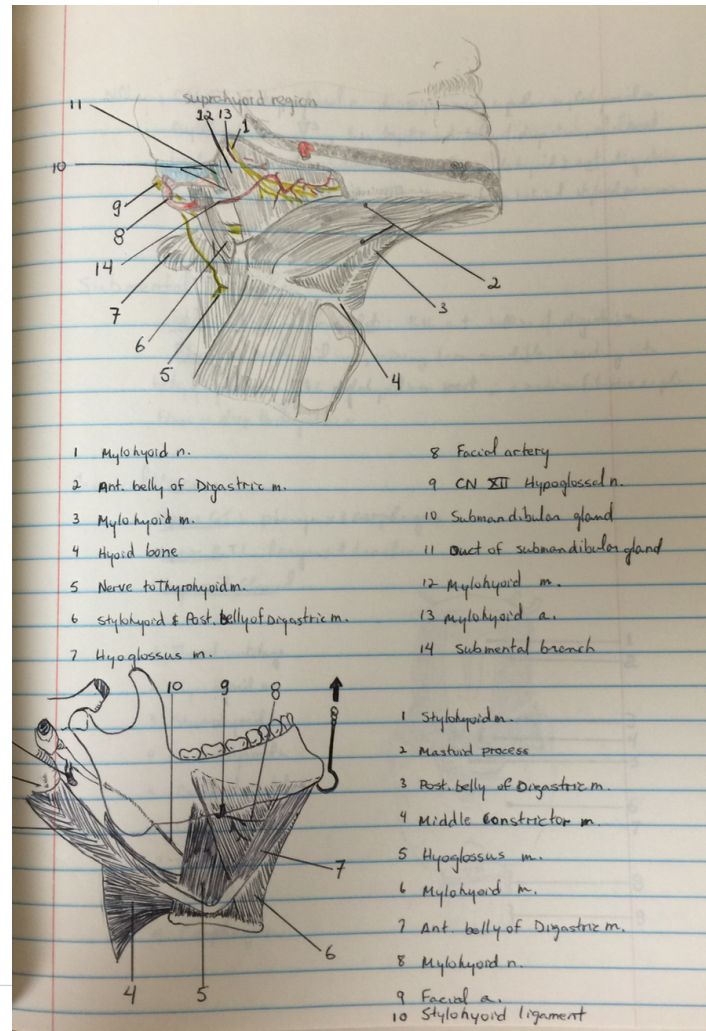
(b) It must concurrently tell O^1 to "fire" more often.
 (c) The animal must eventually fall back into a "normal" pattern when the environmental conditions no longer warrant the extinction.

If the CS^+ feeds into the RP system via another outstar, then all three of these conditions can be incorporated into the network:



O_s is a sensory input outstar, a conditionable one, which changes its pattern weighting, Q_s , when new data is fed into it. Still, if the hydra learned to avoid the surface of the water, it could never regain the old pattern. Therefore, c in the LTM signal equation must be large, so that without new stimulation the network forgets the avoidance pattern. In other words, if the UCS is strong enough to trigger the behavior, then the "added" CS^+ must be inhibitory. When the tentacle hits air, the O_s can learn to inhibit that extension, and in doing this puts more weight on other extensions. This implies that there is competition between the vertices of the outstars in R^2 . O^1 benefits by the loss of O^3 because some inhibition aimed at it is shut off. To keep up the inhibition going toward the effector field the sensory input segment must reverberate. All these additions suggest an unwieldy, highly complex network. This cannot be physiologically shown to exist in any form; it must be carved out of the nerve net by setting appropriate thresholds and association strength parameters.





If it gets better, did the treatment work?

Regression toward the Mean

