WHAT EXPERIMENT TO DO NEXT

ADAPTED FROM “ON PRIORITIZING EXPERIMENTS” BY P. AVASTHI

DOES THE EXPERIMENT DIRECTLY ADDRESS YOUR BIOLOGICAL QUESTION?

- **YES**
  - HOW LIKELY IS THE EXPERIMENT TO WORK?
    - LIKELY
    - RISKY
  - WILL THE EXPERIMENT BUILD OR TEST A TOOL THAT IS ESSENTIAL FOR ANSWERING YOUR BIOLOGICAL QUESTION?
    - YES
    - NO
  - HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?
    - LONG TIME
    - SHORT TIME
- **NO**
  - JUST CURIOUS?
    - YES
    - NO
  - IS THIS A NOVEL WAY TO TACKLE THE PROBLEM OR IS THERE A BIG PAYOFF IF IT WORKS?
    - YES
    - NO
  - IS THE RATIONALE SOLID AND WILL IT LIKELY WORK?
    - YES
    - NO
  - HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?
    - LONG TIME
    - SHORT TIME

SLAM DUNK EXPERIMENT
- DO IT NOW!
  - HIGH PRIORITY
  - IMPORTANT EXPERIMENTS! MIX IN WITH SLAM DUNK EXPERIMENTS SO YOU’RE MAKING STEADY PROGRESS.

TRY IT WHEN YOU HAVE TIME
- HIGH RISK, HIGH REWARD
  - WHEN YOU HAVE TIME, DO SMALL TRIALS TO EVALUATE FEASIBILITY AND DECREASE RISK. EXCITING TERRITORY, BUT DON’T SPEND ALL OF YOUR TIME HERE.

TRASH IT ASAP