

WHAT EXPERIMENT TO DO NEXT

ADAPTED FROM "ON PRIORITIZING EXPERIMENTS" BY P. AVASTHI

DOES THE EXPERIMENT DIRECTLY ADDRESS YOUR BIOLOGICAL QUESTION?



YES

NO

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

HOW LONG WILL IT TAKE?

LONG TIME

SHORT TIME

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?

NO

YES



TRASH IT ASAP



SLAM DUNK EXPERIMENT

DO IT NOW! HIGH PRIORITY



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.



TRY IT WHEN YOU HAVE TIME