

Curiosity for Investigators



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We are all investigators

- **Perception**

- ▣ A way of regarding, understanding, or interpreting something.

- **Reality**

- ▣ The state of things as they actually exist.



What traits are most critical for the success of an investigator?

- ❑ The ability to learn
- ❑ A hunger for knowledge
- ❑ Going out and finding answers
- ❑ Independently pursuing new and unique ideas
- ❑ Persistence in education

People who have a beast inside them that feeds on learning and knowledge.

CURIOSITY

THE DESIRE TO KNOW



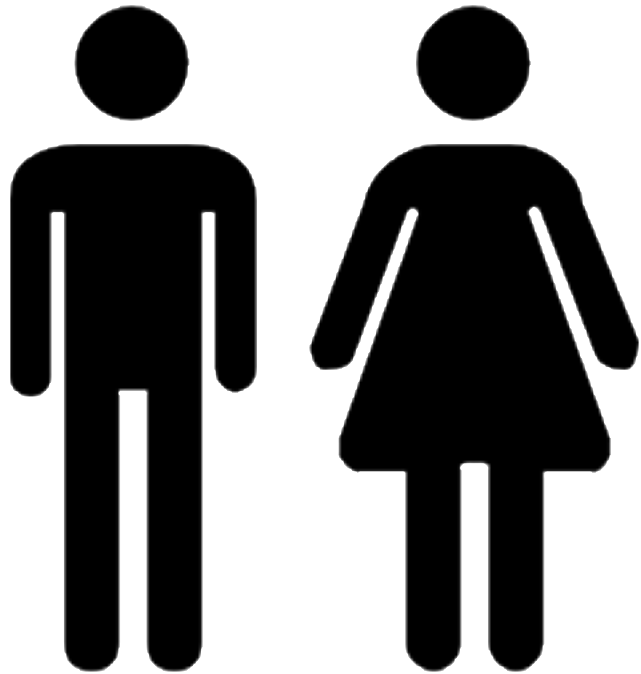
Information Gap Theory



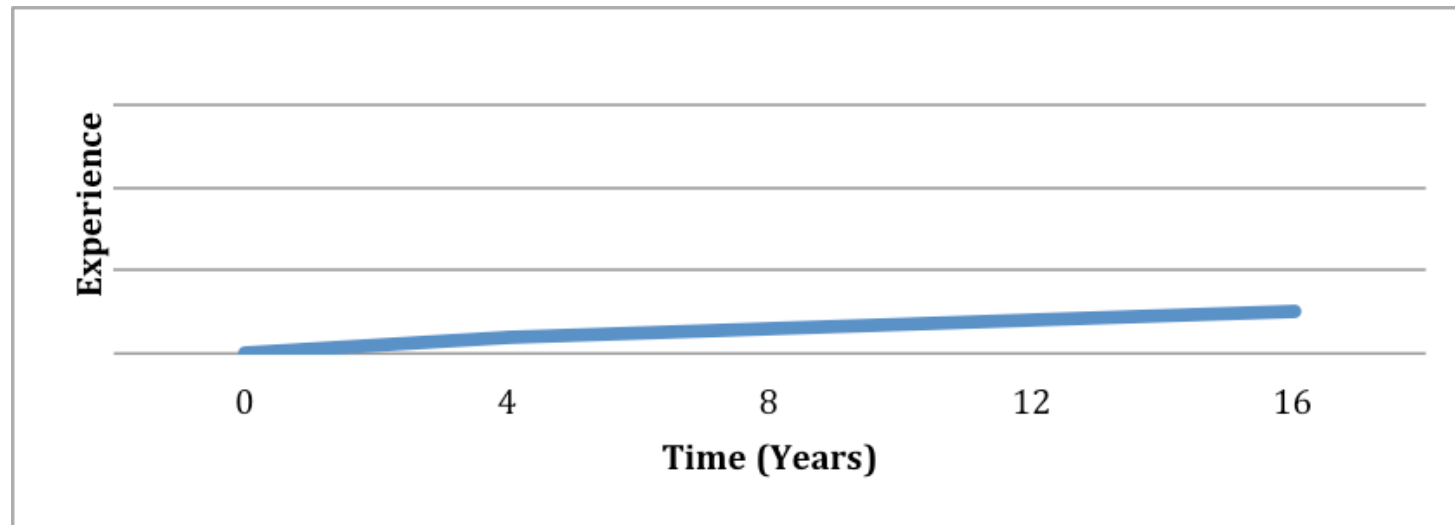
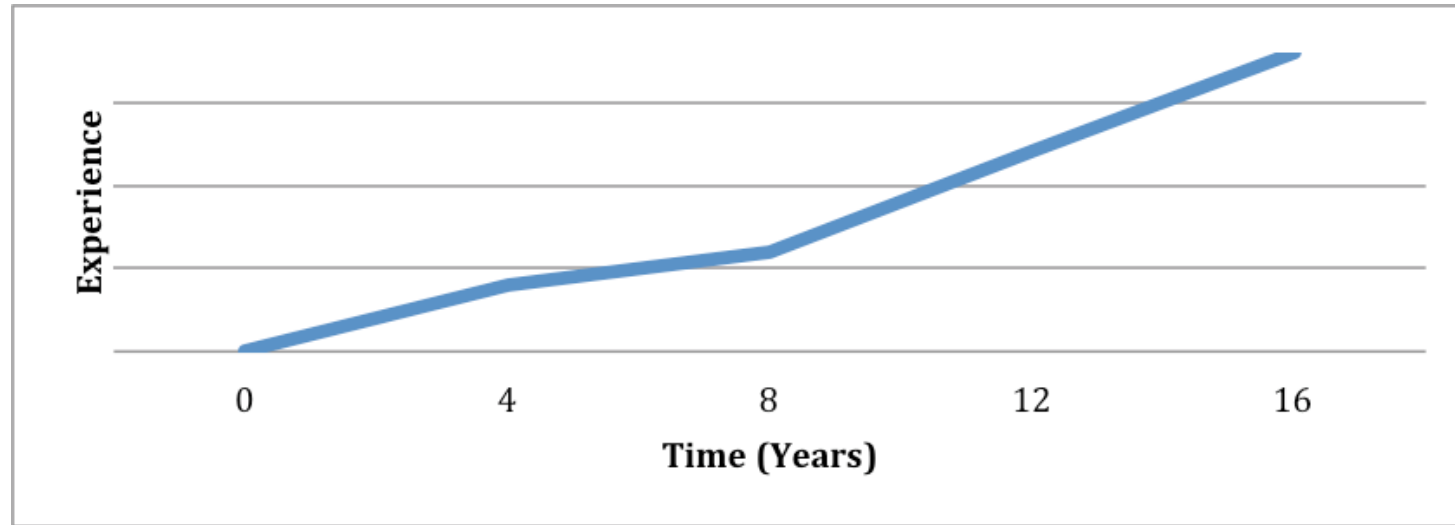
Curiosity as a Positive Trait

- Psychology tells us that curiosity is...
 - ▣ ...positively correlated with intelligence
 - ▣ ...positively correlated with memory recall
 - ▣ ...regulated by a strong countering trait

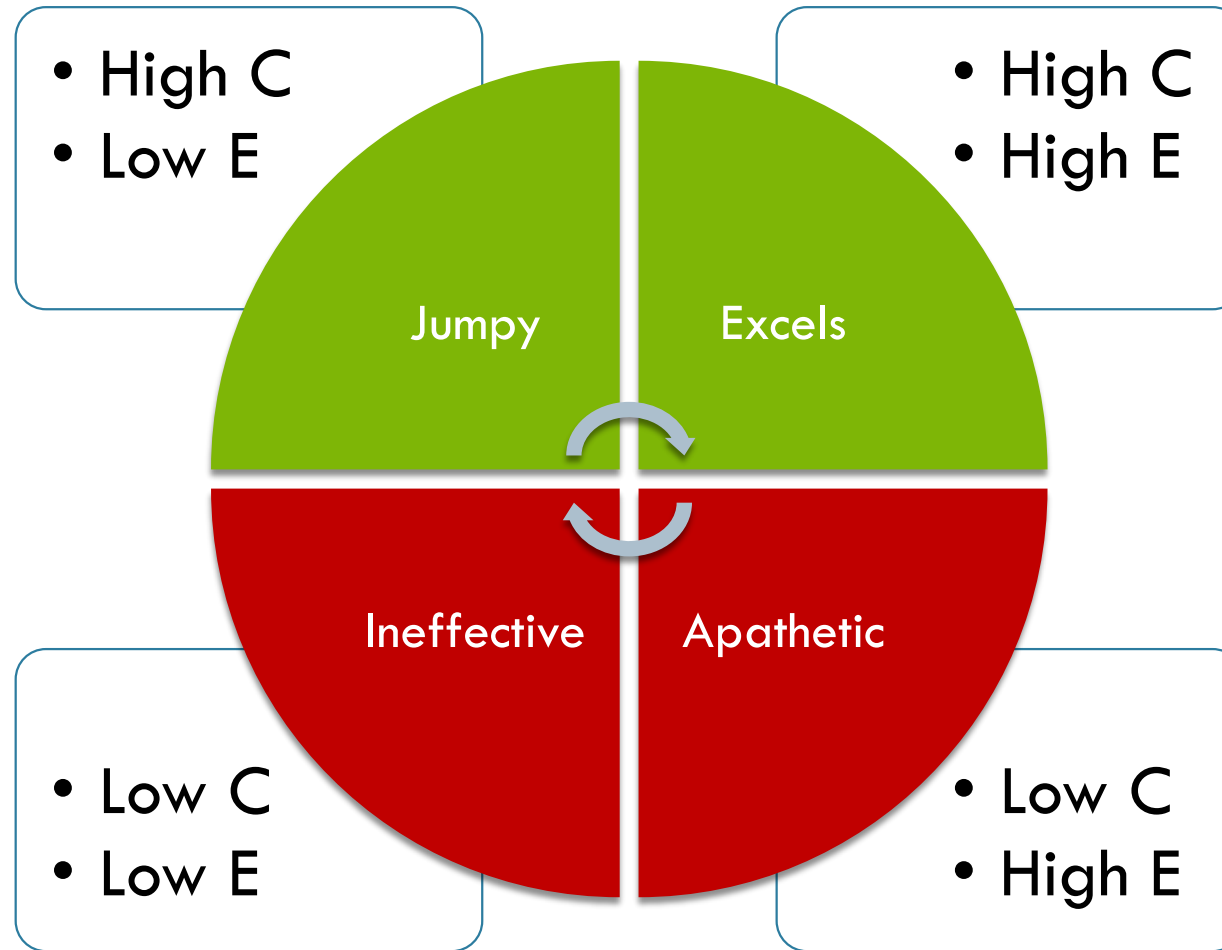
The Jack and Diane Problem



Curiosity and Experience



Curiosity and Experience

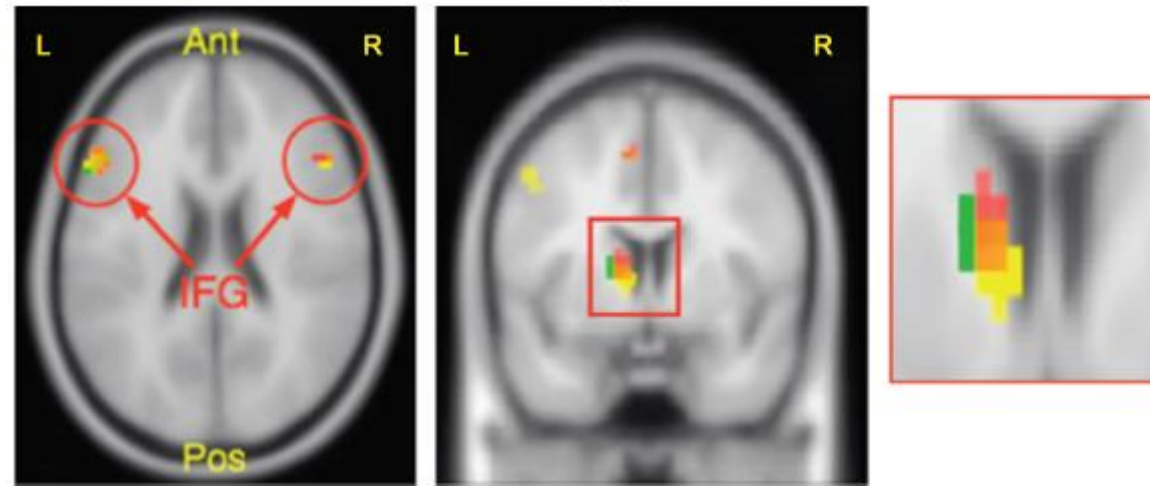




CURIOUSER

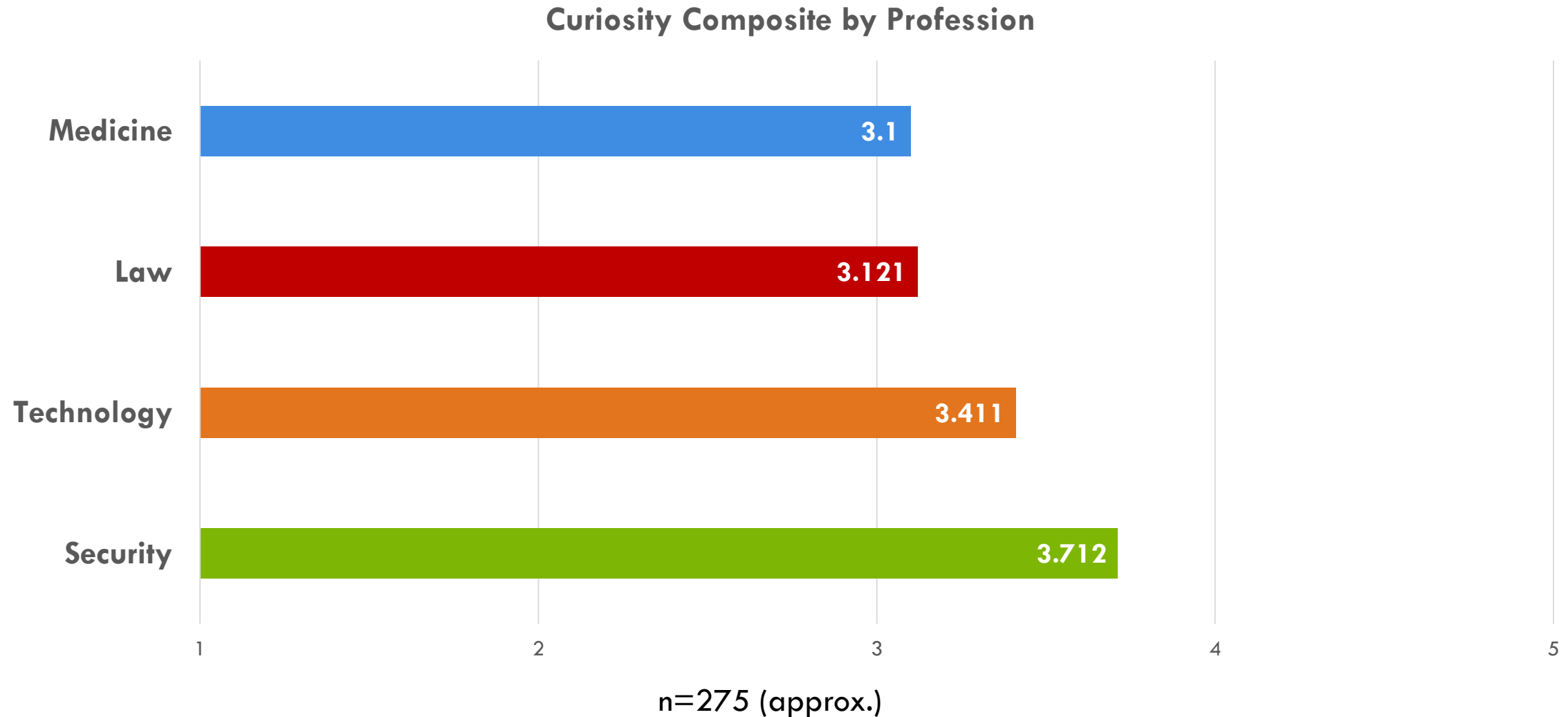
Can we measure it?

- Physiological via fMRI:

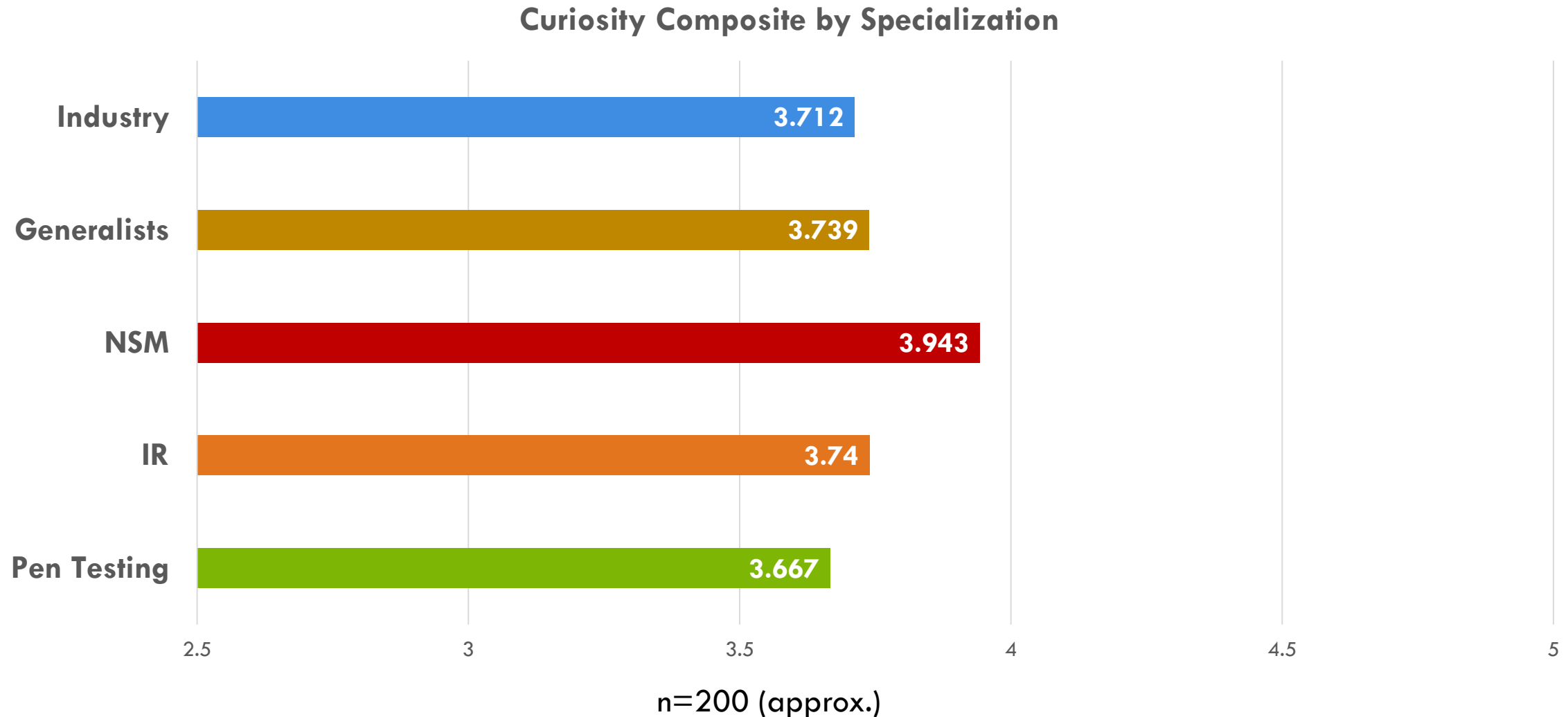


- Psychological Testing:
 - ▣ Curiosity and Exploration Inventory
 - ▣ Limited and Not Situationally Specific

Are Security Practitioners More Curious?



Which specialization attracts/develops more curious people?



Growing Curiosity

Curiosity peaks when you believe you are equally likely to know or not know something.



Government	Percentage
Current government	85%
Previous government	15%

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

Curiosity in an Investigation

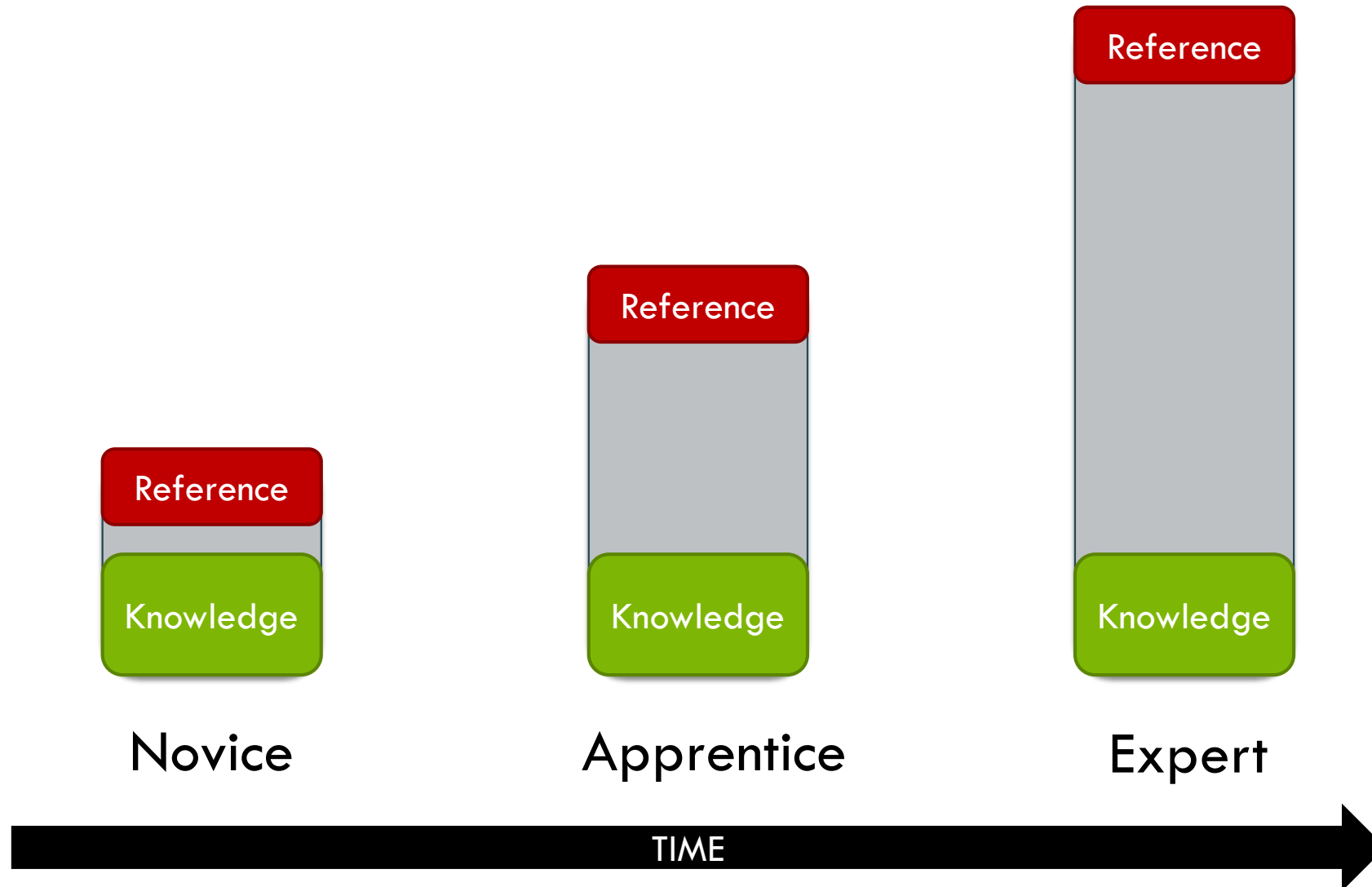
This file doesn't look familiar.



The file creates a scheduled task

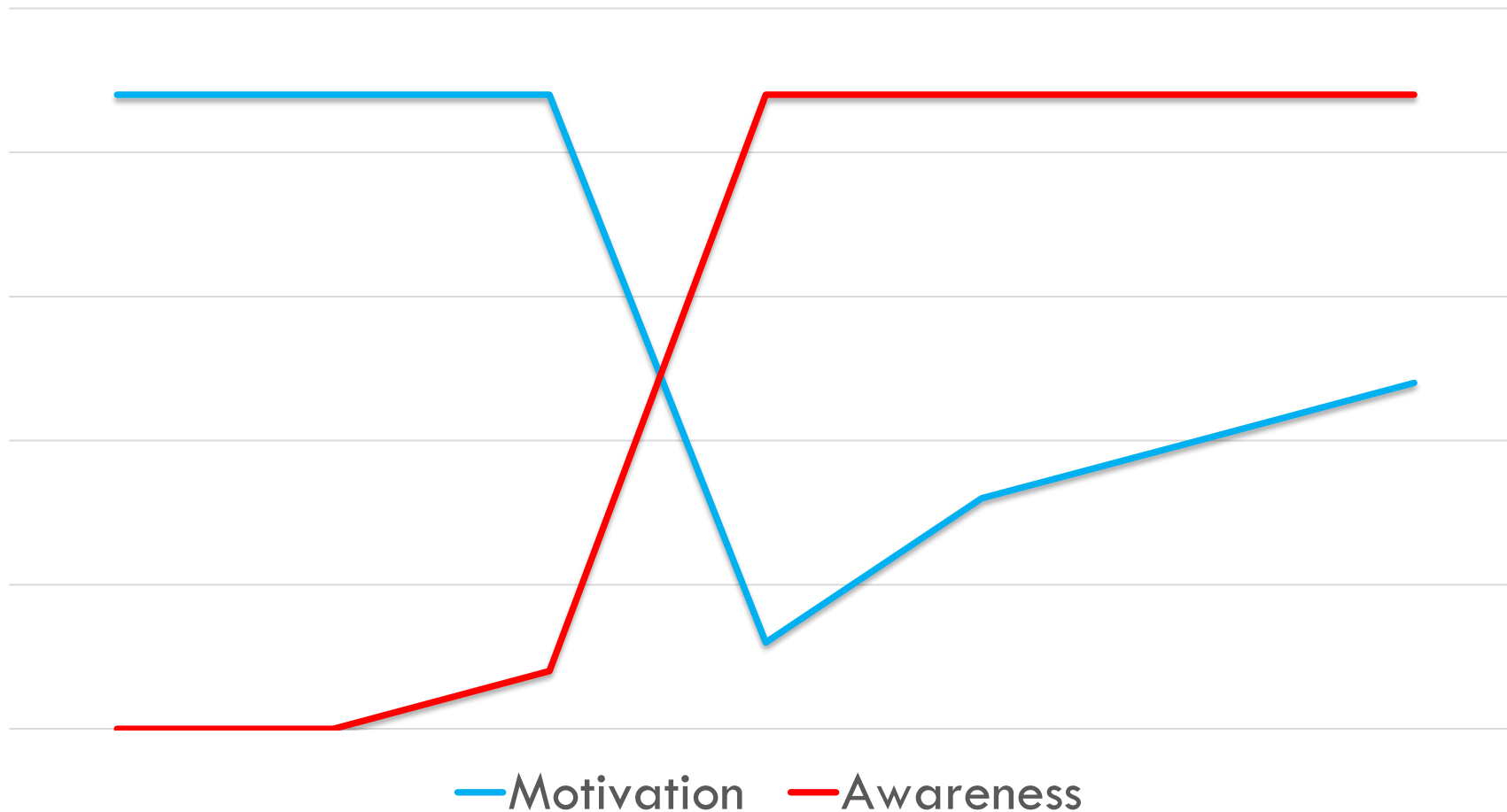


Your Awareness Reference Point



Rapid Gap Awareness (RGA)

Topical Motivation vs. Awareness



Feed the Beast - Optimizing Curiosity

- Ask and Encourage Questions
 - ▣ Fear is often about not knowing what to ask
 - ▣ Recognize the limiting function of fear
- Manage Cognitive Resources
 - ▣ Intense focus on one task rapidly depletes resources
 - ▣ Switch between ~3 work streams per day
- Gain exposure to new rabbit holes
 - ▣ Curiosity is sparked by assimilation of different ideas
 - ▣ Infosec + [History | Psychology | Math | ???]

THANK YOU!

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