

DTC-Genetics, the quantified  
self and patient-driven  
research

03.01.12, Bastian Greshake

# some words about me

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- Bachelor in Life Sciences (2010)
- Scholarship/Research Assistant at Biodiversity & Climate Research Center (since 2010)
- Master studies at the Goethe University in Frankfurt/Main (since 2011)
- Not exactly a biologist with much professional background in human genetics, but...



# some words about me

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- customer of DTC genetic testing
- some background in data mining
- some experience with web application design
- interest in social media & crowd-sourcing

```
def self.perform(snp_id)
  @snp = Snp.find(snp_id)
  if @snp.mendeley_updated < 31.days.ago
    key_handle = File.open(::Rails.root.to_s+"/key_mendeley.txt")
    api_key = key_handle.readline.rstrip

    url = "http://api.mendeley.com/oapi/documents/search/"+@snp.name+"/?co

  begin
    resp = Net::HTTP.get_response(URI.parse(url))
  rescue
    retry
  end

  data = resp.body
  result = JSON.parse(data)

  if result["total_results"] != 0
    print "mendeley: Got papers\n"
    result["documents"].each do |document|
      mendeley_url = document["mendeley_url"]
      uuid = document["uuid"].to_s
      first_author = document["authors"][0]["forename"]+" "+document["
      title = document["title"]
      pub_year = document["year"]
      doi = document["doi"]

      if MendeleyPaper.find_all_by_uuid(uuid) == []
        print "-> paper is new\n"
        @mendeley_paper = MendeleyPaper.new(:mendeley_url => mendeley
        if doi != []
          @mendeley_paper.doi = doi
        end

        @mendeley_paper.save
        @snp.ranking = @snp.mendeley_paper.count + 2*@snp.plos_paper

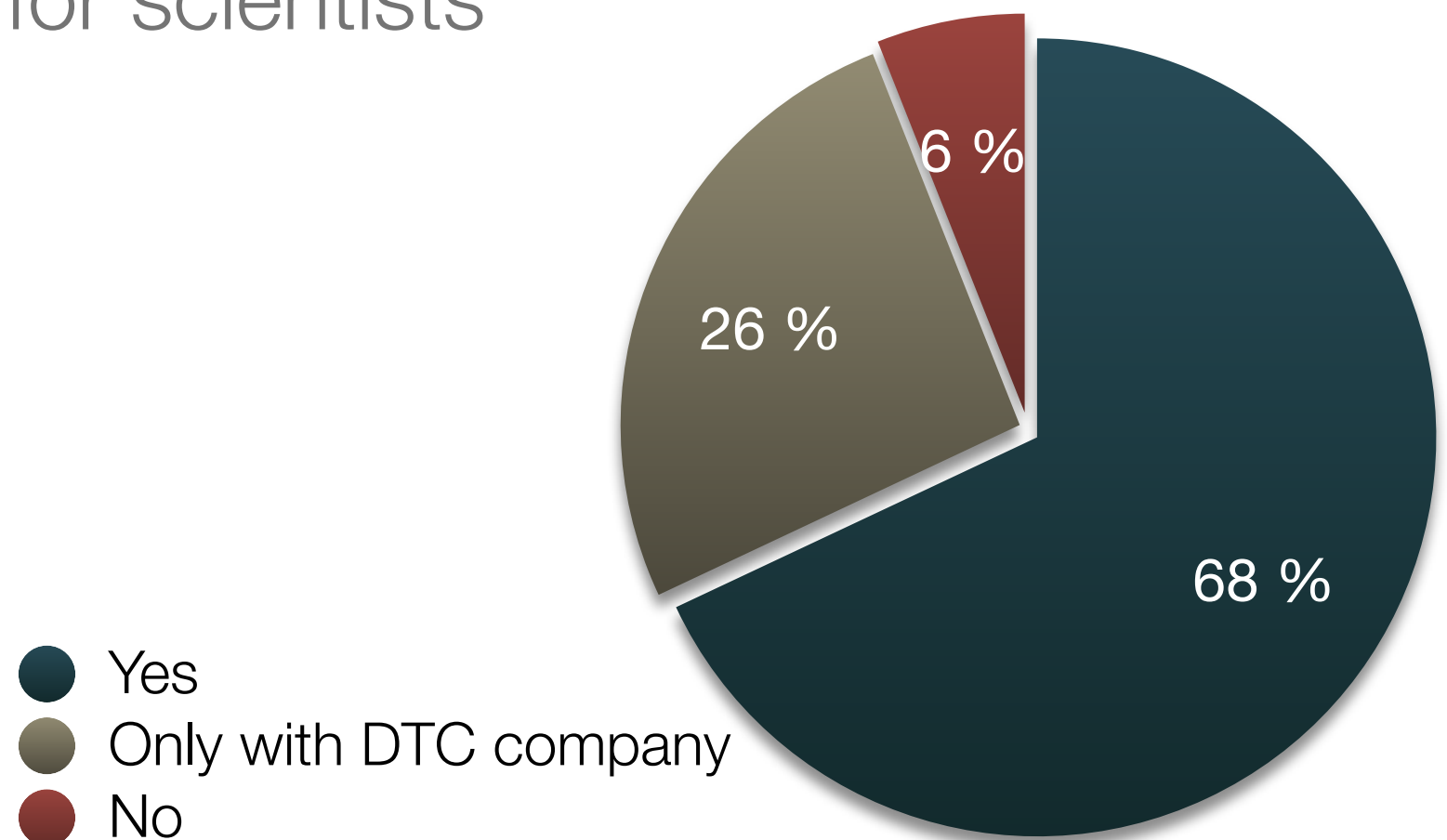
        print "-> Written paper\n"
      else
        print "-> paper is old\n"
        @mendeley_paper = MendeleyPaper.find_by_uuid(uuid)
      end
      Resque.enqueue(MendeleyDetails, @mendeley_paper)
    end
  else
    print "mendeley: No papers found\n"
  end
  @snp.mendeley_updated = Time.zone.now
  @snp.save
  sleep(1)
end
```

# mining DTC genetic tests

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- lots of potential for open data (100k+ customers)
- people are willing to share (and are doing so)
- cheap data source for scientists
- but?

Sharing DTC test results (n=226)



# mining DTC genetic tests

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- people need motivation to share this kind of information
- plus a low entry barrier to participate
- and the data should be reusable and needs to be searchable (findable!)





public 23nM datasets [Go to spreadsheet view](#) - [Hide colors](#) [Print...](#)IND [PGP](#) [BuzzData](#) [openSNP](#)

| Row ▲ |                       | Name / username (or not)                   | url ( this spreadsheet URL is: <a href="http://bit.ly/cNDHf3">http://bit.ly/cNDHf3</a> )  |
|-------|-----------------------|--|---|
|       | <a href="#">+ Add</a> | (All)                                      | (All)   |
| 1     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | V. Alex Brennen / vab                      | <a href="http://vab.mit.edu/">http://vab.mit.edu/</a>   |
| 2     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Hong ChangBum / 23nM: hongiv               | <a href="http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Hongiv">http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Hongiv</a>   |
| 3     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Mark Davis / m86                           | <a href="http://www.markcoenterprises.net/files/23andMe">http://www.markcoenterprises.net/files/23andMe</a>                                     |
| 4     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Gene Girard                                | <a href="http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Gene_Girard">http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Gene_Girard</a>                               |
| 5     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Mikolaj Habryn / dichro / 23nM: Mikolaj    | <a href="https://sites.google.com/a/rcpt.to/dichro/Home/genotyping">https://sites.google.com/a/rcpt.to/dichro/Home/genotyping</a>               |
| 6     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Joakim Jardenberg / 23nM: jardenberg       | <a href="http://jardenberg.se/b/min-dna-profil-projekt-transparens/">http://jardenberg.se/b/min-dna-profil-projekt-transparens/</a>             |
| 7     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | John Kemeny / 23nM: john26                 | <a href="https://www.23andme.com/you/community/thread/4861/">https://www.23andme.com/you/community/thread/4861/</a>                             |
| 8     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Hyungyong Kim / yong27                     | <a href="http://biohackers.net/wiki/yong27/Genome">http://biohackers.net/wiki/yong27/Genome</a>   |
| 9     | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | James I. McMillian / 23nM: BlueEyesRedHair | <a href="http://www.box.net/shared/edlj33z0rz">http://www.box.net/shared/edlj33z0rz</a>   |
| 10    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Andrew Morrow / 23nM: AndrewMorrow         | <a href="http://amorrow2.pbworks.com/">http://amorrow2.pbworks.com/</a>   |
| 11    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Paul Shenton / 23nM: Pupsenok              | <a href="https://www.23andme.com/user/?community_profile=b62913e07f500">https://www.23andme.com/user/?community_profile=b62913e07f500</a>       |
| 12    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Sam Snyder                                 | <a href="http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Samsnyder">http://www.snpedia.com/index.php/User:Samsnyder</a>                                   |
| 13    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Mike Spear / 23nM: Mikes Gene              | <a href="http://www.genomealberta.ca/personalgenotyping/default.aspx">http://www.genomealberta.ca/personalgenotyping/default.aspx</a>           |
| 14    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Elise Wood / glytch                        | <a href="http://glytch.org/blog/posts/2009_03_18_my_genome_from_23andme">http://glytch.org/blog/posts/2009_03_18_my_genome_from_23andme</a>     |
| 15    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Debra Patek / 23nM: familypast             | <a href="http://www.familypast.com/genome_familypast_Full_2011030108330">http://www.familypast.com/genome_familypast_Full_2011030108330</a>     |
| 16    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Michael Lally / 23nM: Maolalai             | <a href="http://www.box.net/shared/tzym2lsik6">http://www.box.net/shared/tzym2lsik6</a>   |
| 17    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Grant Brunner                              | <a href="http://www.archive.org/details/GrantBrunners23andmeResults012511">http://www.archive.org/details/GrantBrunners23andmeResults012511</a> |
| 18    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Manu Sporny                                | <a href="http://manu.sporny.org/2011/public-domain-genome/">http://manu.sporny.org/2011/public-domain-genome/</a>                               |
| 19    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | orta                                       | <a href="http://github.com/orta/dna">http://github.com/orta/dna</a>   |
| 20    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Manuel Corpas and family (multiple)        | <a href="http://manuelcorpas.com/five-family-relatives-genome-download/">http://manuelcorpas.com/five-family-relatives-genome-download/</a>     |
| 21    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Kenneth Reitz                              | <a href="https://github.com/kennethreitz/genome">https://github.com/kennethreitz/genome</a>   |
| 22    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Razib Khan                                 | <a href="http://razib.com/razib.zip">http://razib.com/razib.zip</a>   |
| 23    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Ramūnas Janavičius                         | <a href="http://cancergenetics.wordpress.com/2011/04/13/my-genome-scan-r">http://cancergenetics.wordpress.com/2011/04/13/my-genome-scan-r</a>   |
| 24    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Beau Gunderson                             | <a href="https://github.com/beaugunderson/genome">https://github.com/beaugunderson/genome</a>   |
| 25    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Bastian Greshake                           | <a href="https://github.com/gedankenstuecke/genotyping_23andme">https://github.com/gedankenstuecke/genotyping_23andme</a>                       |
| 26    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Genomes Unzipped (12 individuals)          | <a href="http://www.genomesunzipped.org/data">http://www.genomesunzipped.org/data</a>   |
| 27    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Nils Homer                                 | <a href="http://nilshomer.com/index.php?title=My_Genetic_Data">http://nilshomer.com/index.php?title=My_Genetic_Data</a>                         |
| 28    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | anonymous, Ashkenazi                       | <a href="https://rapidshare.com/files/961006780/ASHK.tar.gz">https://rapidshare.com/files/961006780/ASHK.tar.gz</a>                             |
| 29    | <a href="#">Edit</a>  | Sebastian Bassi                            | <a href="https://github.com/sbassi/MiGenomaSbassi">https://github.com/sbassi/MiGenomaSbassi</a>   |



public genomes

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[www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/body/public-genomes.html](http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/body/public-genomes.html)18 Aug 2009 – Many people are paying to have their  
**genomes** on the Internet. Are they crazy?

SNPedia

Page [Discussion](#)

## Genomes

This [spreadsheet](#) of genomes with rawThese are the 104 public genomes. They  
genomes. Nearly all of them have regular  
to date each is.

Navigation

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Platform

[Aaron Vollrath](#) [23andMe v2](#)[Almelina](#) [23andMe v2](#)

1

[gedankenstuecke / genotyping\\_23andme](#)

Code

Network

My raw genotyping data from 23andme — [Read more](#)[ZIP](#)[HTTP](#)[Git Read-Only](#)[https://github.com/gedankenstuecke/genotyping\\_23andme](https://github.com/gedankenstuecke/genotyping_23andme)

Files

Commits

Branches 1

Tags

Download

Latest commit to the **master** branch[edit on readme](#)

finding DTC results up to now

# mining DTC genetic tests

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- results are hidden somewhere on the web
- often no phenotypic annotation
- not easily re-usable



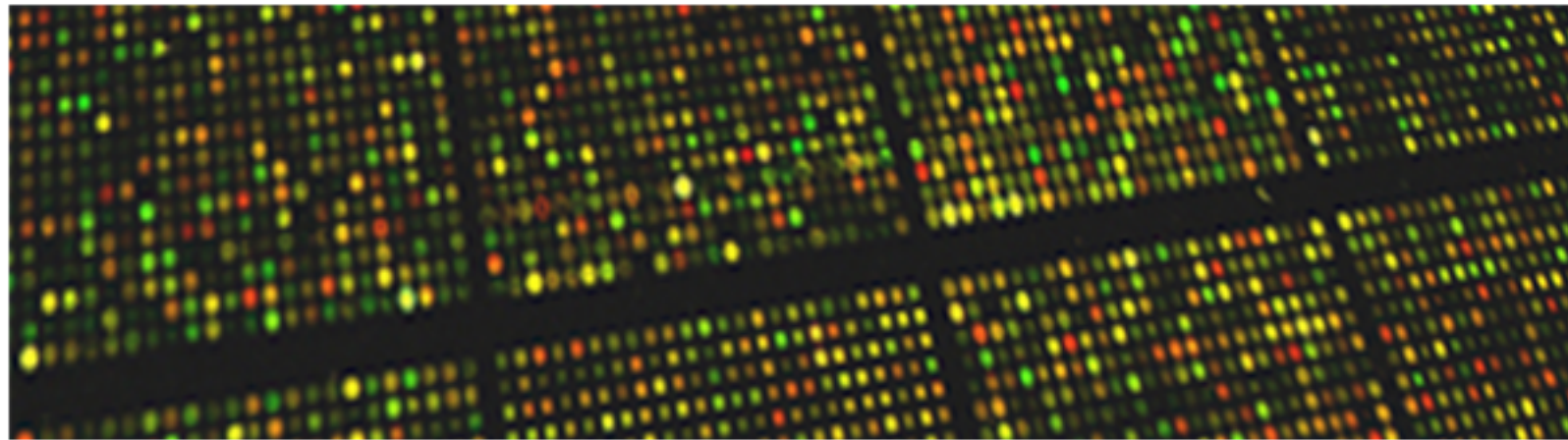
# openSNP

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- wants to be a central repository for sharing DTC results
- enables users to share phenotypes as well
- lowers barrier to participate
- motivation via benefits for users
- ultimate aim: enabling GWAS



# Welcome to *openSNP*



*openSNP* allows customers of direct-to-customer genetic tests to publish their test results, find others with similar genetic variations, learn more about their results, find the latest primary literature on their variations and help scientists to find new associations.

Sign Up!

For Genotyping Users

[For Scientists](#)

[FAQ](#)

## Upload Your Genotyping File



Upload the genotyping raw-data you got from [23andMe](#) or [deCODEme](#) to the database of *openSNP* to make it available for everybody.

## Share Your Phenotypes & Traits



Share as many phenotypes, characteristics and traits with other *openSNP* users and find others with similar characteristics. And maybe help scientists to discover new genetic associations.

## Share your stories on variations & phenotypes



*openSNP* lets you share your stories on your genetic variations & phenotypes with others. Discover the stories of other users. Find others to exchange experiences about your variations.

## Find literature on genetic variation



*openSNP* gets the latest open access journal articles on genetic variations via the [Public Library of Science](#). Additionally popular articles are indexed via the social reference manager [Mendeley](#). Summaries are provided by [SNPedia](#).

the front



# Hello Bastian!



## Description of yourself

Life Scientist, currently studying ecology and evolution in Frankfurt/Main, Germany and one of the founders of openSNP. Feel free to message me if you encounter bugs.

Variations you did not enter yet (13)

[Your variations](#)

[Your messages](#)

[Replies to your comments](#)



| Name of Phenotype   | Created at       |
|---|------------------|
| <a href="#">Sex</a>   | 27.12.2011 15:14 |
| <a href="#">Faktor 5 Leiden (F5)</a>  | 27.12.2011 13:40 |
| <a href="#">Number of great-great grandparents born in Sweden</a>               | 06.12.2011 18:43 |
| <a href="#">Brown hair, brown eyes, pale skin. B+ blood type. Central Asian</a> | 03.12.2011 07:40 |
| <a href="#">Kell Blood Group (K/k antigens)</a>                                 | 03.12.2011 01:33 |
| <a href="#">Hypertriglyceridemia</a>  | 03.12.2011 01:11 |
| <a href="#">Diego Blood Group</a>   | 03.12.2011 00:58 |
| <a href="#">ENTP</a>  | 02.12.2011 12:33 |
| <a href="#">SAT Writing</a>   | 02.12.2011 00:31 |

# Phenotype: Number of toes

[Back to your homepage](#)  
[Back to your phenotypes](#)



KNOWN PHENOTYPES:

- 10 (5 + 5), Other than 10 (5 + 5) [Download genotyping-files of all corresponding users](#) 
- 10 (5 + 5) [Download genotyping-files of all corresponding users](#) 

| Description   |                  | Users sharing this phenotype (4) | Comments (0) |
|---|------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|
| User  |                  | Variation                        |              |
|  | Beau Gunderson   | 10 (5 + 5)                       |              |
|  | Mark Davis       | 10 (5 + 5)                       |              |
|  | Martin           | 10 (5 + 5)                       |              |
|  | Bastian Greshake | 10 (5 + 5)                       |              |

# other resources

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- Personal Genome Project
  - data is open
  - participation not



## Volunteers from the general public working together with researchers to advance personal genomics.

We believe individuals from the general public have a vital role to play in making personal genomes useful. We are recruiting volunteers who are willing to share their genome sequence and many types of personal information with the research community and the general public, so that together we will be better able to advance our understanding of genetic and environmental contributions to human traits. Learn more about how to [participate](#) in the Personal Genome Project.



**Project Overview.** The PGP hopes to make personal genome sequencing more affordable, accessible, and useful for humankind. Learn more about our [mission](#).



**Want to participate?** We aim to enroll 100,000 informed participants from the general public. Learn more about [participation](#) in the PGP and how you can get involved.



**Meet our volunteers.** Participants may volunteer to publicly share their DNA sequence and other personal information for research and education. Meet the "[PGP-1K](#)".

### Participant Login

[Login Now](#)

### Project News

[Subscribe to our newsletter.](#)

**Oct 5, 2011:**PGP-HMS prepares for national blood collection campaign, adds hundreds of walk-in clinics to network.[See list.](#)

**Sep 10, 2011:**KPGP publishes 32 genomes of Korean participants.  
[More.](#)

# Personal Genome Project

# other resources

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- Personal Genome Project
  - data is open
  - participation not
- genomera
  - participation is open
  - focus on small scale studies/experiments



## Processing Reality: Impact of Dopamine Modulation on Memory Filtering IN DESIGN

You are a Data Participant

[Invite Friends](#)

[Change Role](#)

**Objective:** To determine if genetic variants related to dopamine processing in the brain impact the processing of memories according to their relation with ongoing reality

What would you like to contribute?



**gedankenstuecke** joined as a data participant.

less than a minute ago

Comment...



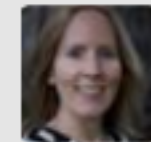
**lwbaum** joined as a data participant.

about 11 hours ago

### Organizers



**cwhogg**



**melanie**

### Participant Tasks

- 1) Complete background demographic survey(s) (10 min)
- 2) Complete memory filtering tasks (2x) (30 min)

### Participant Requirements

- 1) Absence of psychological or neurologic disorders (ie. bipolar disorder, schizophrenia, epilepsy, parkinson's, prior stroke, traumatic brain injury, dementia)

Feedback

genomera

# genomera

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- started out of DIYGenomics
- for users: Find interesting studies to participate in
- enables citizen science
- not limited to association studies
- no results so far



# more patient driven research

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- PatientsLikeMe
  - around since ~2006
  - published a dozen studies since then
  - famous example: ALS research on lithium intake

# problems of patient driven research

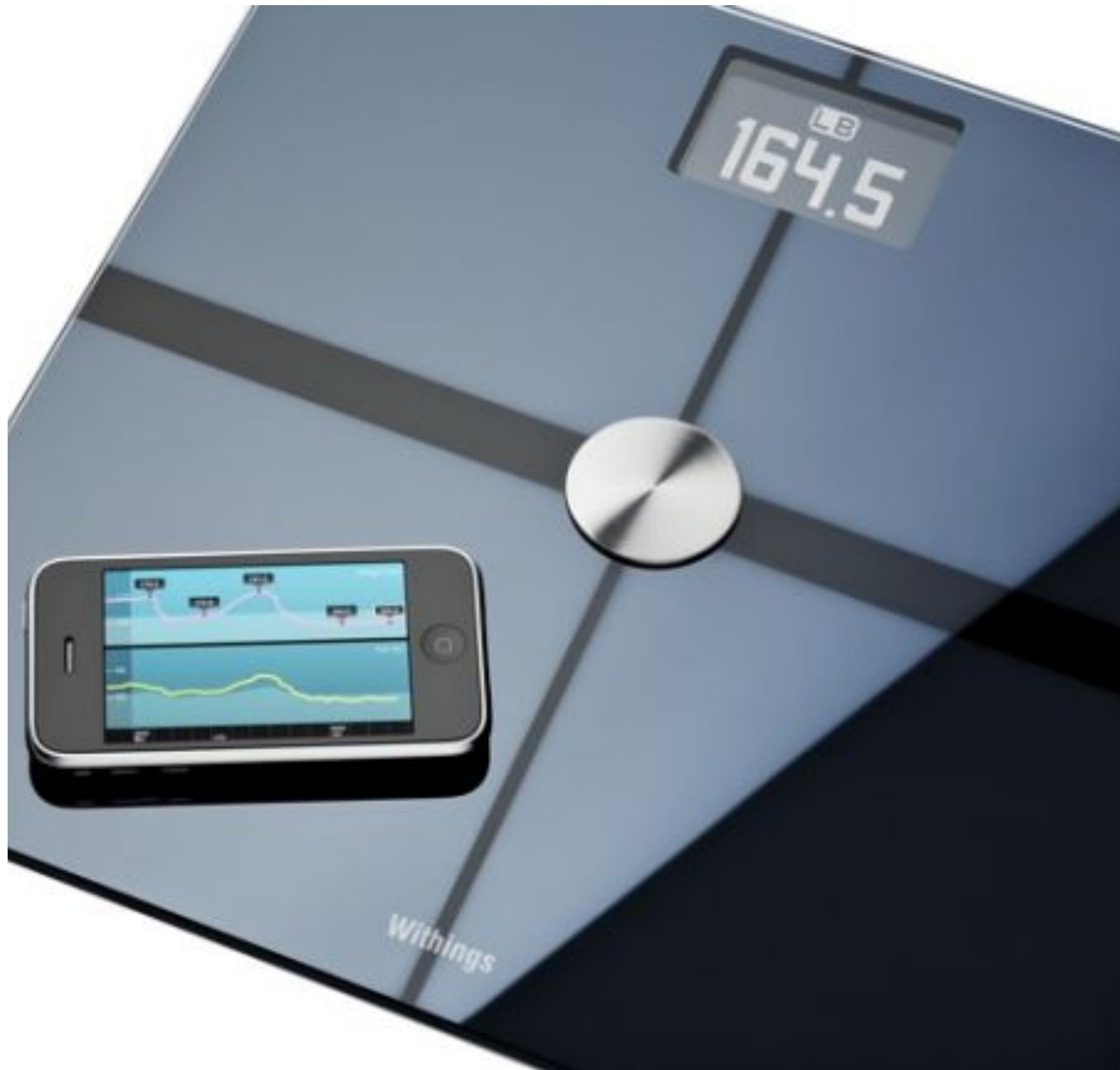
---

- sample sizes
- bias in participants
- no blind experiments
- motivation of participants
- accuracy of data

# potential of patient driven research

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- possible sample sizes
- low costs
- "warm fuzzy feeling inside" for patients



Quantified Self Movement



# quantified self

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- new data sources
  - eating habits
  - work-outs
  - sleep habits
  - ...
- automated through technology
  - smart phones

# Quantified Self and Science

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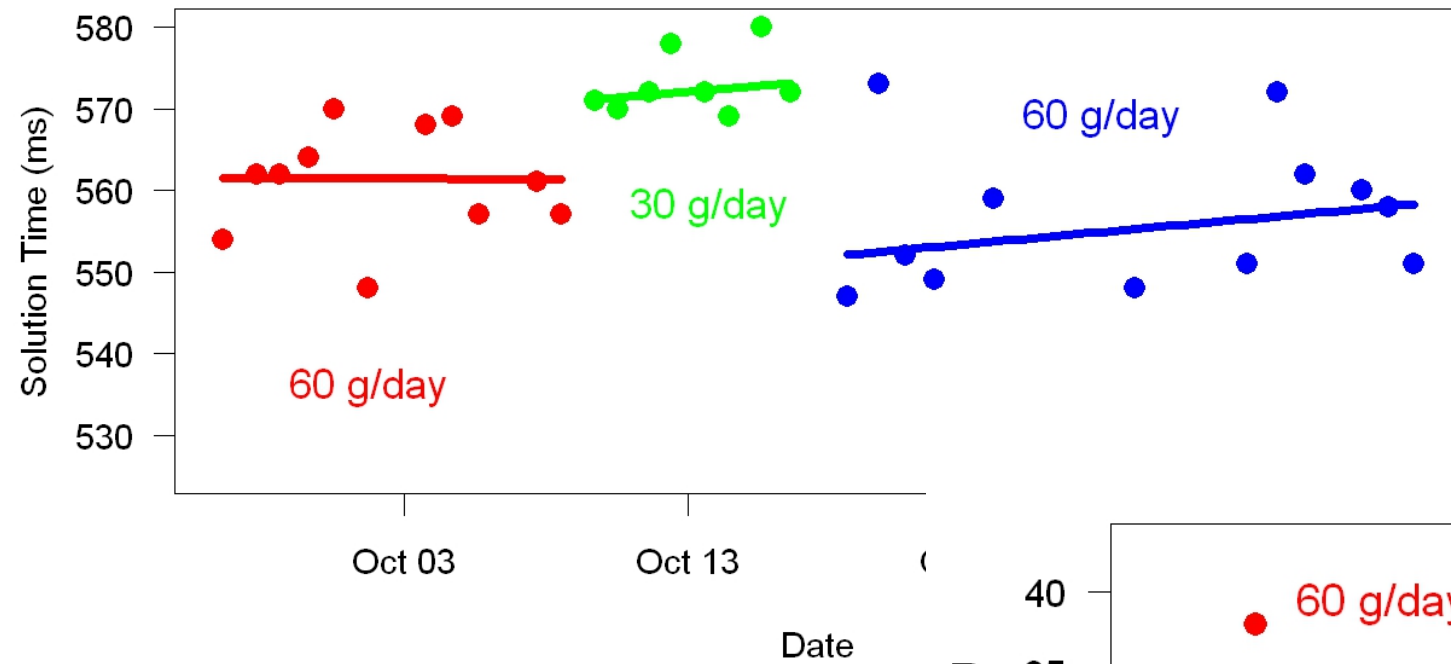
# QS projects

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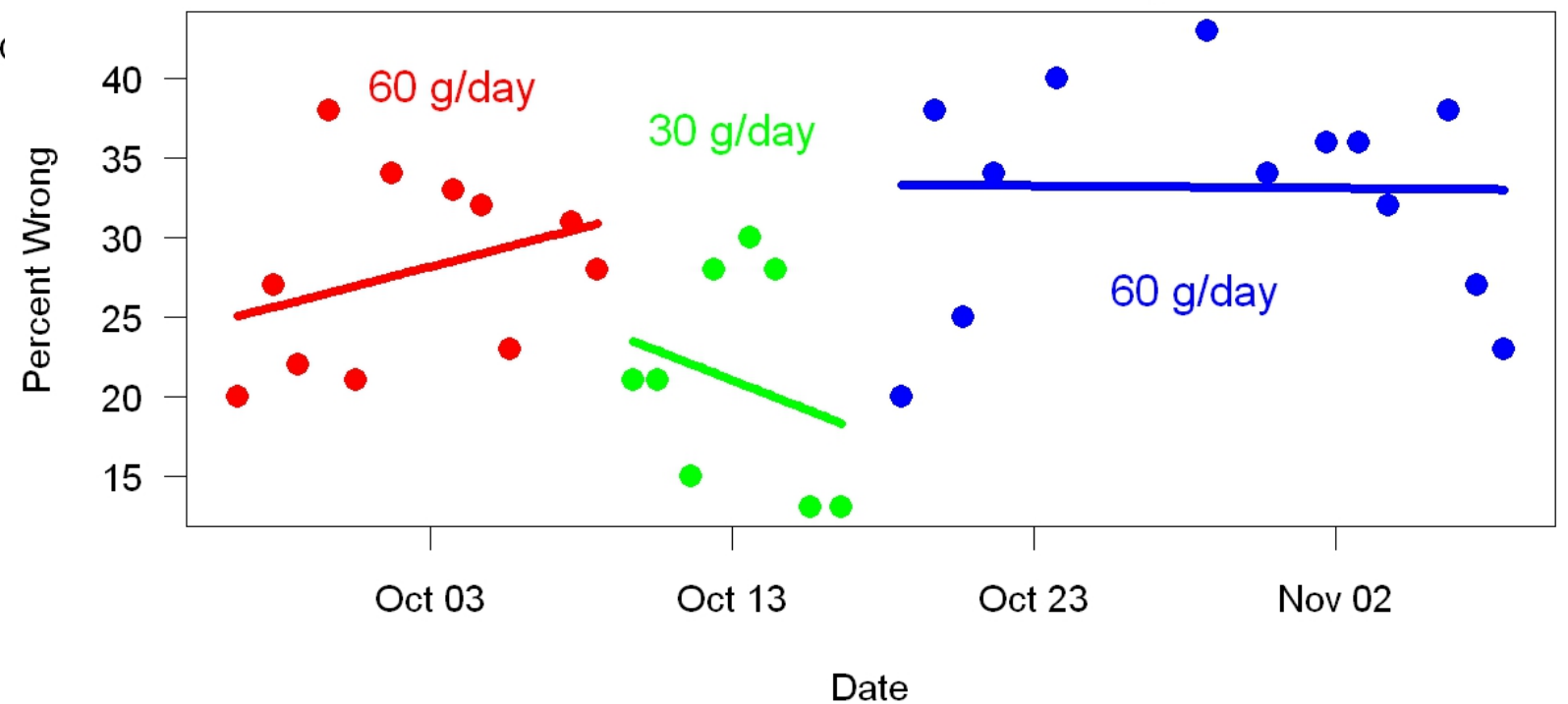
- tracking health in response to work-outs (minimizing impacts of disease/genetic predisposition)
- track response to different drugs
- tracking well-being in response to eating habits (butter vs arithmetics)

# butter vs arithmetics

How Much Butter? Speed



How Much Butter? Accuracy



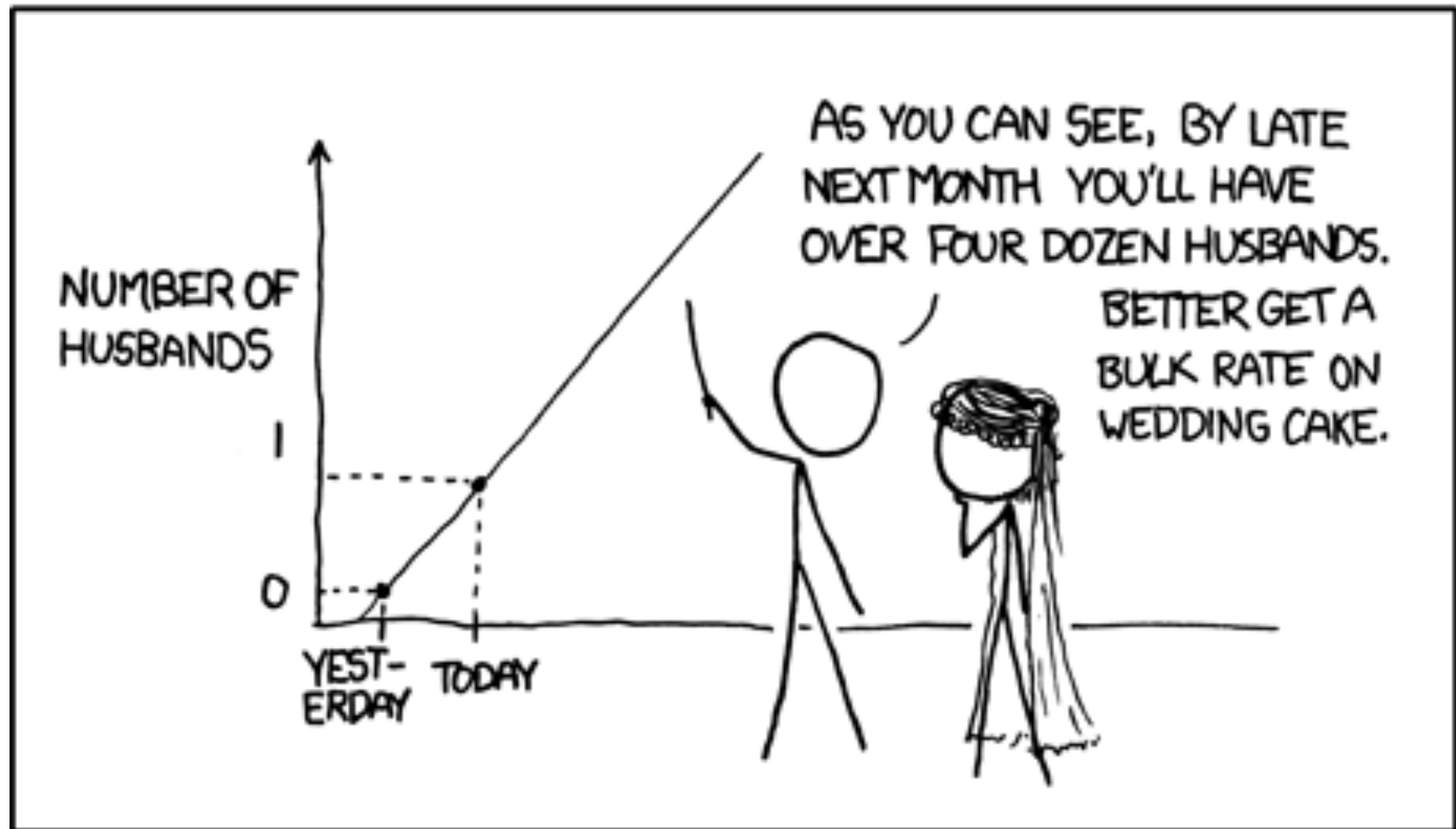


# Conclusions

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- DTC results and patient driven research can lead to new scientific knowledge
- can be performed in addition to traditional research
- technology enables new kinds of research
- can we include the Quantified Self Movement in our studies?

## MY HOBBY: EXTRAPOLATING



thanks for your attention  
time to discuss this