

The idea behind the egg work was that fertilized eggs (chicken embryos) were placed in a cool chamber heated by incandescent lights controlled by a Schmidt binary RNG. The temperature was adjusted such that the random output would keep the eggs cooler than was optimum. It was assumed that the eggs would use PK to influence the RNG to increase the amount of heat they received. The egg work developed from a line of research using the same idea with young chicks. This work was instigated as part of a general investigation of animal psi.

Dr. Levy (WJL) investigated possible chick and egg PK on and off for several years (Levy 1970, 1971). The early work tested eggs that were a few days (on the order of 6) from hatching when WJL bought them and used a still air incubator (i.e. wooden box with light bulbs). Later work used eggs that were incubated entirely in the lab and used home-made forced air (to cool the eggs faster) incubators. Most of the successful egg work was carried out in the summer months as the eggs had a very low hatching rate in the other seasons.

Various assistants helped WJL with the work - sometimes taking the primary experimenter role with WJL overlooking the work. During the summer of 1973, Douglas Richards carried out what were considered replications of WJL's egg work. By this time the eggs typically scored at 3.00-5.00% above MCE (50.00%) so that significance could be achieved in a 24 hr., 1 trial per minute testing session. Eggs were tested individually and highly consistent individual differences were found.

It had been established by this time that the eggs would also influence the RNG to cool themselves off if they were kept too hot. Richards returned to school, and WJL pursued the egg work alone during the winter. Although hatching rates were very poor (1 or 2 at most per dozen eggs) WJL was successfully carrying out help-hinder experiments between individual eggs.

In January of 1974 under WJL's supervision, I took over the egg experiments. The experiments were quite successful even though the hatching rates were very poor.

After noticing several long strings of hits in the record, the RNG output was recorded on paper punch tape for computer analysis. With this procedure, several new "effects" were discovered. The eggs that showed significant scoring (hitting or missing) did so in long strings (up to 30 or 40). If the strings were taken out, the data gave chance results. Also, there was an increased number of trials per session (24 hour period) on those sessions that showed scoring. It was postulated that the PK process was somehow influencing the timer on the RNG.

After he was confronted with conclusive evidence showing his fraudulent activities in the rat implantation work, WJL admitted falsifying the rat work but denied any other fraudulent activities.

After WJL left, Doug Richards and I both attempted to replicate WJL's work and our own previously successful experiments. In brief, we found nothing but chance results.

Although WJL denied falsifying the egg data, there is considerable circumstantial evidence indicating this is not the case. The easiest way to fraudulently produce scoring with the eggs would be to add hits or misses by manipulating one wire. This would have

an increased number of trials and stringing as an artifact. If the strings are taken out of the data, the scoring is chance and the trial rates are normal. Very similar stringing occurred later in the rat implantation work. Initially WJL discussed the rat stringing as an "effect." However, after being confronted with uncontestable evidence, he admitted the rat stringing was an artifact of his fraudulent practices.

Examining the records of the egg work WJL did the week before I took over the experiment showed on 2 days there were strings approximately 100 hits long. The deviation required to give significant results was approximately 100. WJL never mentioned these strings to anyone although it would be difficult to overlook them, in the record.

Also, I learned to candle the eggs and could tell which ones were alive. On at least one occasion, an egg that was dead at the time of testing showed significant scoring. WJL reprimanded me for checking the egg after rather than before testing ("We shouldn't waste time with dead eggs.").

WJL also denied falsifying the gerbil experiments, but strong circumstantial evidence has been found there too (see abstract Levin, 1975). The question of whether WJL had access to the equipment for all these experiments has to be answered with a definite "yes." Although his constant attention to any experiment along his lines of research was conspicuous, it was not questioned as he was the administrator responsible for our employment and training.

Levy, W.J., & Andre, Eve, "Possible PK by Young Chickens to Obtain

Warmth," Proceedings of the PA, 1970, p.8

Levy, W.J., "Possible PK by Chicken Embryos to Obtain Warmth,"  
Proceedings of the PA, 1971, p. 25.

Return to: [Fraud Articles](#)