

Pixology

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Pixology is the study of perception thresholds.

Pixology is to history, science, biology, politics, economics, and sociology what calculus is to algebra.

Pixology as a scientific process has not been previously and properly recognized much like people who still "can't see the trees for the forest." In fact, Pixology is the study of the specific point in one's perception when you can't see the trees for the forest.

The significance of Pixology is that it doesn't just ask "Can you see the trees for the forest?" but rather asks "At what point did you notice that the trees have disappeared?" It also asks, "What is the relationship of the size of the trees to the size of the forest?" However, Pixology is primarily relevant for people with a technical, or anal-retentive, disposition in that it allows them to determine at what point they can't see the forest for the trees. (Note: it does not concern itself as to whether "anal-retentive" is actually hyphenated or not hyphenated.)

Pixology has also existed in literature such as Shakespeare's "Midsummer's Nights Dream" where he wrote, "The poets eye... gives airy nothingness a local habitation and a name." Giving airy nothingness a "local habitation and a name" is the process of Pixology as well as the history of humans as a species.

Instead of asking "the numbers of angels that can dance on the head of a pin" Pixology asks "At what point did you start envisioning images of angels?"

Instead of asking "the number of monkeys needed to change a light bulb" Pixology asks "When did you realize that changing light bulbs was not part of the monkey's pay grade?"

Pixology as a scientific process has always existed much in the way that gravity existed before Newton applied math and definitions to it. (Mrs. Newton's assessment at the time, however, was "Speaking of apples, could you go back outside and get some for me. We have company coming for dinner, and I need to bake a pie.")

Pixology also studies societies' abhorrence of out-breeding (bastards) versus in-breeding. This is despite the tendency for in-breeding to produce people who act like social bastards and out-breeding to produce individuals that frequently have a very significant and positive impact on society. Pixology asks how much of a bastard are those individuals? And at what point was their bastardy noticed by the rest of society?

The subtlety of the significance of Pixology is such that we are usually so startled by those moments where we simultaneously are able to see both the trees AND the forest that we take those Whole Threshold Fixation moments for granted by frequently abbreviating them with the letters "WTF."

Pixology asks not only what caused the evolution of animals into two types of biological systems (cold blooded and warm blooded animals) but also asks why the 80/20 ratio typical of herbivores to carnivores for cold-blooded animals differs from the 95/5 ratio typical of herbivores to carnivorous for warm-blooded animals?

Pixology also recognizes that most answers as to the 80/20 ratio and perception thresholds are as obvious as your hand in front of your face. However, if you are like most people, you haven't noticed the obvious that you are likely to have four fingers and one thumb which is an 80/20 ratio. Or that when you put only your thumb in your eye it still doesn't hurt as much as doing it with all of your other fingers and toes which is a 95/5 ratio.

Limits to Pixology

Because of Pixology, there is also now an explanation for people sometimes being too smart. Those people who are too smart have always been a problem for societies. For example, 100 years ago Bill Gates would have been institutionalized for his Asperger's syndrome, and Steve Jobs would have been jailed for fathering a child out of wedlock. (Ironically, Jobs named his ill-fated "Lisa" computer for his out-of-wedlock daughter.)

An even worse fate for someone who was too smart for their own good was not what happened to Copernicus, but rather what happened to one of his disciples Giordano Bruno. (Bruno was burned at the stake for his heresy.) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Giordano_Bruno

Pixology not only studies the threshold for being too smart, it even allows you to calculate the threshold for being too smart as that threshold changes. A successful understanding of Pixology allows a person to avoid being viewed as a threat to society. Instead, the Pixology thresholds for the process of being too smart can be defined as going from being regarded as a smart-ass, to being regarded as humorous, to being regarded as profound.

Famous Pixology Cats

Pixology also explains the types of cats foisted on famous scientist who have investigated the Laws of Physics.

"Schrödinger's cat" resulted from the Quantum Mechanics concept of his cat being trapped in a box and the uncertainty as to whether the cat was alive or dead until he opened up the box. Mathematically, until he opened up the box, the cat was simultaneously both alive AND dead. Schrödinger's cat was called Enigma.

"Heisenberg's cat" resulted from his concept whereby observing an event changes that event due to changes in either the energy or momentum as part of the observation process. However, the process of observing Heisenberg's cat changes the behavior of the cat because it requires dissection, with the resulting difficulty that, by observing the cat, you effectively kill the cat. It is why 90% of the key to solving any problem is the proper definition of that problem such that by properly defining a problem, you tend to kill it as a problem. Heisenberg's cat was called Entropy.

Isaac "Newton's cat" was called Inertia, but every time he let go of it, it dropped to the ground.

Einstein, however, was allergic to cats, which is possibly why he failed to understand or believe in Quantum Mechanics and string theory. Instead Einstein had a dog named Dice which he mistakenly thought was God.

And finally, Stephen "Hawking's cat" is called Pixel. He communicates with it only by computer. The problem with Pixel is that every time as you try to look at it and get too close, his cat disappears. It also explains why most people don't understand Hawking's cat, and why Stephen Hawking probably doesn't like cats.