

Personality Traits

One might consider the personality traits of those who are expected to excel at induction versus deduction. Such traits could be applied to consider whether someone who excels at induction would also excel at deduction.

Induction tends to give answers and results much faster than deduction. If you are quick witted but quickly get impatient when others are slower, then induction is for you. If you get angry if anybody would question your work, then induction is for you. If you have trouble admitting to your errors, then induction is for you. Those who desire a hierarchical lifestyle whereby one is not interested in questioning orders but rather desires to follow orders, then induction is for you. If you prefer to work on problems that have a clear-cut methodology for solving them, then induction is for you. If you have a good amount of discipline to work through a problem for a short time, but after a while with no results prefer to give up and work on another problem, then induction is for you. If you are in a meeting and a large majority of the scientists express a particular opinion, you generally take the side associated with the majority inductive opinion, particularly if you know that you will be criticized if you don't, then induction is for you.

Deduction is a process of trial-and-error where intuition and creativity reign supreme. One goes down a road knowing that it most likely will lead nowhere. However, deductive thinking also requires responsibility as well as a deep understanding of physics in order for such a process to successfully lead to a solid piece of science. If you prefer to deeply think through problems before giving a definite answer, then deduction is for you. If you have excessive patience on working through problems, then deduction is for you. If you can't sleep until a problem is correctly solved, then deduction is for you. If you don't mind making and admitting to errors, then deduction is for you. If you desire at times to be excessively correct, rather than be considered by others to be correct, then deduction is for you. If you have the discipline to work on a given problem for years rather than weeks, then deduction is for you. If you don't allow what others believe or expect to stand in the way of your work, then deduction is for you. If you are in a meeting and a majority of the scientists express a particular inductive opinion, you generally take the side associated with what you believe, then deduction is for you.

Those who will take on inductive problems generally will be working through the problem in agreement with time-tested methodology and often with the support of the majority. Those that work on inductive problems, will generally have a highly acceptable manner of coping in society. A primary tool of inductive thinking is to formulate an abstract problem into mathematical equations and apply known methods for their resolution. Such methodology can be improved and perfected to a large degree.

Based on these personality traits, consider now whether someone who excels at induction would also excel at deduction. This seems doubtful as the personality traits of a highly successful inductionist are in many instances contrary to the useful personality traits of a highly successful deductionist. It is certainly conceivable that a

person that is both a great inductionist and a great deductionist arises, but more likely an individual will excel at either induction or deduction, but not both. It is entirely possible that those who are the strongest at resolving problems via induction, find themselves at a complete loss when solving problems demanding deductive skills.