

Epilogue

State space grids began as a solution to a very immediate problem. As Marc Lewis and Alex Lamey brainstormed about ways to reveal attractors in infant socioemotional behavior, they were simply trying to test a hypothesis on a small data set. Poetically, the state space grids idea self-organized and grew. It was a useful technique picked up by one person and then another. The reaction from venerable scholars and first year students was immediately positive and contagious. With the advent of GridWare, the technique became accessible to a large number of researchers. There were hundreds of software downloads within a short time. More and more studies were conducted using state space grids. Then came the requests for workshops and now there is a book to explain it all. From an immediate problem to a global solution, there is more growth ahead.

The range and quality of research presented here reflects the hard work of many people. Of course, the primary credit goes to Marc Lewis, Isabel Granic, and Alex Lamey who got this all started. They laid the groundwork that has made the quality and proliferation of state space grids possible. They made the ball, I just ran with it. Jerry Patterson and Mike Stoolmiller were early supporters who made supportive contributions to this work. Tom Dishion has been and continues to be one of the strongest supporters of state space grid analysis. Over the years, I have learned a great deal from those who invited me to do workshops—too many individuals to possibly list them all. Still, I would like to thank those at Arizona State, Wayne State, UCLA, York University and the universities of Michigan, Groningen, Pittsburgh, Arizona, Groningen, Utrecht, and Valle (Columbia). I have also been impressed with the number and quality of Master's and Doctoral theses using state space grids (e.g., Baetz 2003; Erickson 2010; Gardner 2004; Granic 2000; Guo 2011; Hao 2006; Herbers 2011; Hogue 2010; Hollenstein 2005; Howerter 2010; Kear 2011; Lavictoire 2010; Lee 2011; Litteljohn 2004; McCutcheon 2005; Murphy-Mills 2011; Rolling 2008; Sravish 2011; Williams 2008). This is the next generation of researchers who will take this technique further than I can currently imagine. I would also like to thank my current collaborators who are pushing with me to make state space grid analysis reach its fuller potential, especially Erika Lunkenheimer, Nick Allen, Peter Kuppens, Anna Lichtwarck-Aschoff, Meredith Chivers, and Emily Butler. Finally, various funding agencies made the state space research

I conducted possible, including the National Institute of Mental Health and the Tri-council of Canada: Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canadian Institutes of Health, and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council.

It is February 2012 as I complete this book while on sabbatical in Melbourne, Australia. I began writing in a cabin among the fiery autumn foliage of Lac Bevan in the mountains of Quebec and completed most while under the dome in the State Library of Victoria; auspicious locations, to say the least. The completion of the book is much like an end to the first chapter of the state space grid story, covering a dozen years of contributions. The next installment covering the next dozen years will certainly be filled with new directions and new domains. If you are reading this, then you will probably be one of the people making an impact on the next chapter. I look forward to learning what you have discovered.

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