

Create Agency!

Suggestions for Emerging Atypicals

Dan Mailman

Table of contents

0.1	To the Emerging Neuro-Atypical	1
0.2	The Nature of Atypicality	2
0.3	The Habit of Linguistic Restructure	3
0.4	The Secrets of the Universe	4
0.5	“Begin Anywhere”	4
0.6	If There’s a Path, Take a Step!	4
0.7	Let’s practice with a game, “Hey Sherlock!”	4
0.8	Universal Principle #1	4
0.8.1	Tools make things easier	4
0.9	My Origin Story	4
0.10	Universal Principle #2	4
0.10.1	You can choose your conversations	4
0.11	Theory of Everything (ToE)	5
0.12	CWH: Working Hypotheses	5
0.13	Universal Principle #3	5
0.13.1	Accurate models enable effective action	5
0.14	Final Principle (for now)	5
0.15	Thank You	5

0.1 To the Emerging Neuro-Atypical

Create Agency! Write Your Own Manual.

0.2 The Nature of Atypicality

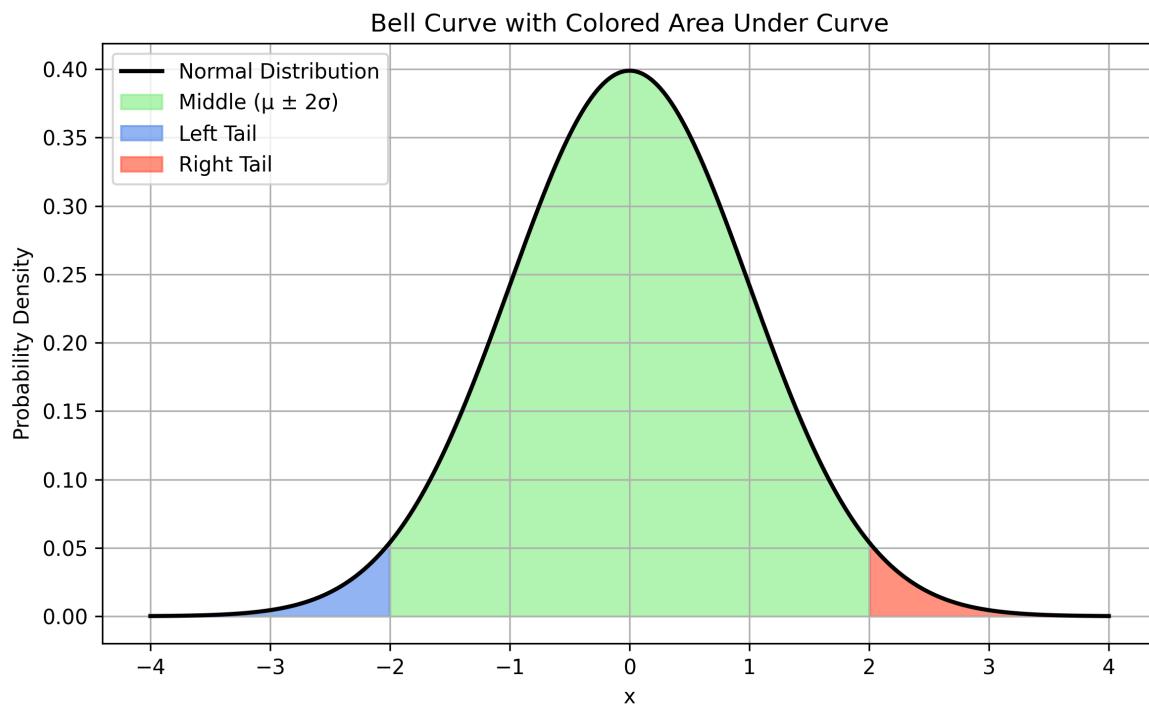


Figure 1: Distribution: Bell Curve

Random Colored Points in 3D Space

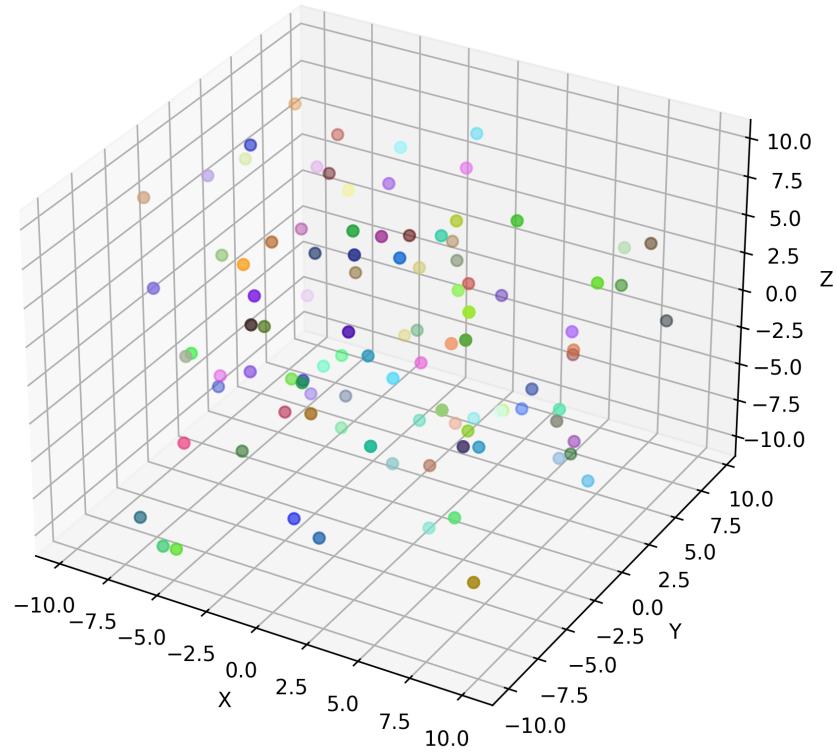


Figure 2: Scatter: Random 3D Points

0.3 The Habit of Linguistic Restructure

The original title of this talk was

Using Linguistic Transformation to Define An Agentic Path gets us to.

0.4 The Secrets of the Universe

0.5 “Begin Anywhere”

0.6 If There’s a Path, Take a Step!

0.7 Let’s practice with a game, “Hey Sherlock!”

If you see one, yell “Opportunity”

“We are not broken.”

That’s the only time I’ll say it.

Because focus takes practice.

And this talk is about **building**, not reacting.

Audience rule:

If I slip back into talking about what we are not—

Yell “BZZZ!”

0.8 Universal Principle #1

0.8.1 Tools make things easier

If a tool doesn’t reduce friction, it’s not a tool—it’s an ornament.

0.9 My Origin Story

- First autistic diagnosis in Houston, TX
- Parents: Biology professors with scientific instincts
- Fairhill Elementary: early adaptive education
- Learned to build systems—and learned to **omit myself** from them

0.10 Universal Principle #2

0.10.1 You can choose your conversations

You don’t owe your attention to every signal.

You can step in. You can step out. You can rewrite your role.

0.11 Theory of Everything (ToE)

My ToE:

- All information is culturally transmitted
- Cultures are sets of conversations
- Conversations are bundles of information

I use this to choose where—and how—I participate.

0.12 CWH: Working Hypotheses

“Believe,” “know,” “understand”—for me, they’re all shorthand for:
Current Working Hypothesis

This gives me:

- Flexibility without shame
- Strength without arrogance
- A toolbox, not a dogma

0.13 Universal Principle #3

0.13.1 Accurate models enable effective action

Example: Jobs

- Companies may see NA employees as risky
 - Consultants = lower perceived risk
 - I don’t apply—I **propose**
- And that has opened doors a résumé couldn’t

0.14 Final Principle (for now)

You will build your own tools.

These are mine.

Use them as blanks. Modify. Break. Rebuild.

The point isn’t to follow—

It’s to **practice agency** by modeling and building in your own way.

0.15 Thank You

Dan Mailman

dan@danmailman.net

Website & PDF: [add URL]