Agenda
Representing reality

| 1. Fixation of evidence
| 2. Reading discussion

Fixation of evidence

Method:
conversation analysis

Sociological method from symbolic interactionist tradition

- Interactionists: the '***interaction***' is the basic object that society and individuals are built from.
- Careful dissection of those interactions is therefore a crucial method.

Repair

- Interactionists: the instrumental side of interaction (communication, manipulation, persuasion, etc) is often secondary to the ***situation*** of the interaction.

  Most important is that the interaction "works out"

- Conversation analysis tries to locate the moments when the interaction order is breaking down, and how participants work together to repair it.

#13   [JGII(b):8:14]

1   John: So who'r the boyfriends for the week.

2   (0.2)

3   Mary:.k.hhhhh- Oh: go::d e-yih this one'n that one yihknow,

4   I jist, yih know keep busy en go out when I wanna go out
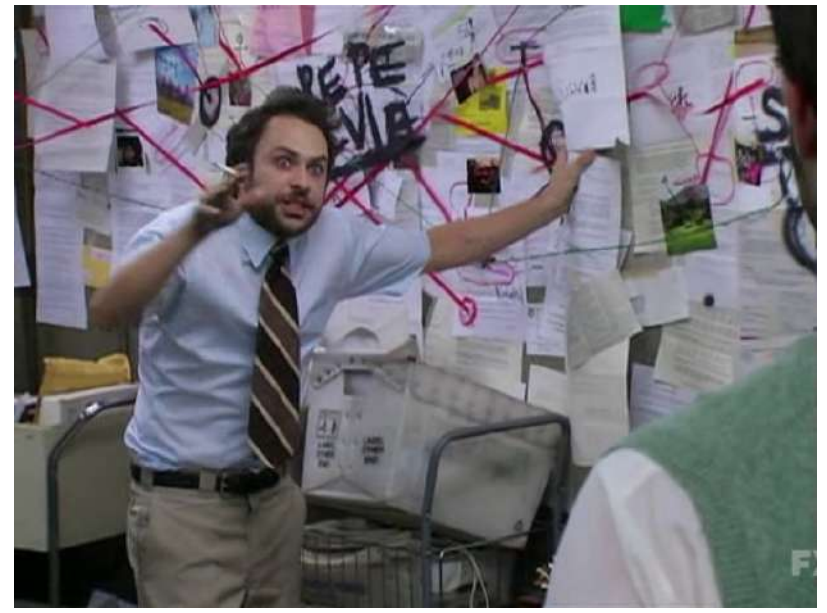
5   John it's nothing .hhh I don't have anybody serious

6   on the string,

7   John: So in other words you'd go out if I:: askedche out

8   one a' these times.

9   Mary:Yeah! Why not.

The fixation of (visual) evidence

Amann and Knorr Cetina (1988)

"Low-level" processes

- Much of the literature looks at how scientists negotiate theories and beliefs in the face of the body of evidence.
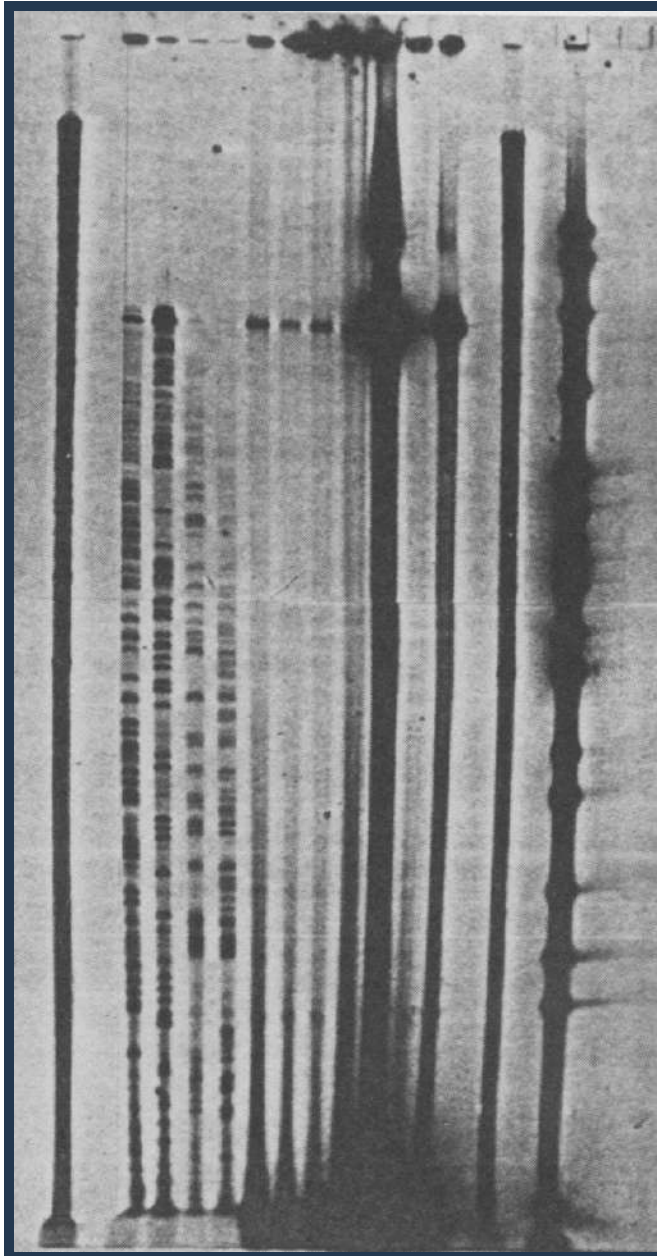- This article instead focuses on the way that 'raw' data becomes evidence.

Projected (idealized) sequence

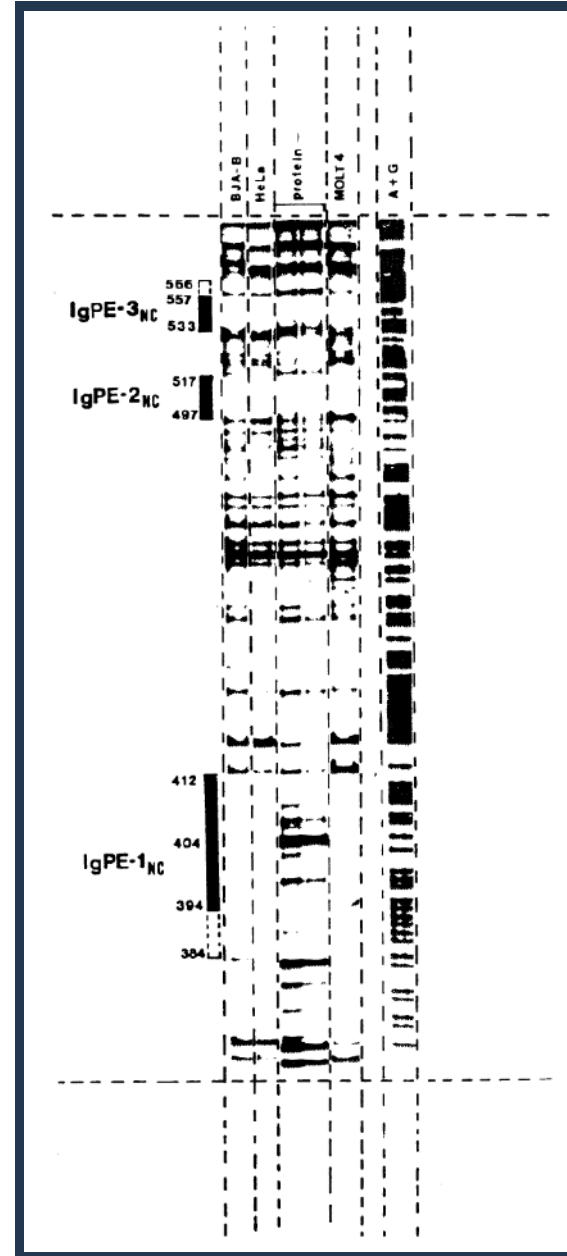- Opening sequence ➔ inquiry sequence ➔ evaluation sequence ➔ closing sequence

Raw data does not allow this

- Ambiguities, omissions, technical errors, etc. complicate the fixation.
- Conversational devices are used to resolve these issues.
  (procedural implicature, optical induction, and oppositive devices)

"Raw" autoradiograph

Published figure

Actor–network theory
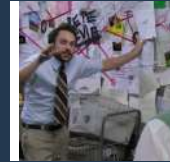
⋮ **Sismondo (2009)**
Chapter 8: Actor–network theory

⋮ **Callon (1984)**
Some Elements of a Sociology of Translation: Domestication of the Scallops and the Fishermen of St Brieuc Bay

Image credit

 Excerpt from Fitch and Sanders. 2005. *Handbook of Language and Social Interaction*

 Screen capture from It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia (2005)

 "Change my mind" meme from Imgflip