

# TKR TRANSCRIPT: DR. EDWIN C. MAY IN CONFERENCE

9 July 2009 at [www.dojopsi.com/chat/](http://www.dojopsi.com/chat/)

Ten Thousand Roads Remote Viewing and Dowsing Project ("TKR")

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## Introduction to the chat guest:

A web page made to feature Dr. May and this transcript is located here:

<http://www.dojopsi.com/rvexpo/DrMay/>

**TKR on Dr. May's invitation to chat:** *Former Director of Research in the STAR GATE program; responsible for the majority of published research in the program, and many of the most groundbreaking papers in psi research history, we are honored to host Dr. Edwin C. May for some Q&A. Dr. May will be publishing a book called ESP WARS in early 2010. His website is LFR.ORG*

This transcript was obtained from a live chat held in the TKR chat room at the Dojo Psi. Copyright © 2009 to Edwin May and Palyne "PJ" Gaenir ([www.palyne.com](http://www.palyne.com)) on behalf of TKR and the Dojo Psi. (Transcript integrity notes: typos corrected, topical Q&A put more cohesively together, room traffic ignored.) Chat moderator: PJ Gaenir.

## Dr. Edwin C. May in Conference at TKR

[moderated session July 9, 2009 at 9:00pm Eastern Daylight Time at [www.dojopsi.com/chat/](http://www.dojopsi.com/chat/)]

*We are Ten Thousand Roads Remote Viewing and Dowsing Project aka "TKR." The rules are simple: Relax, have fun, be cordial, no politics or religion. Remote Viewing rocks!*

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** This is a moderated chat conference with special guest physicist Dr. Edwin C. May, former Director of the STAR GATE research program, and long-term leader in the field of psi research. Our focus tonight is his upcoming book and exposure to Russian psi efforts, Associative Remote Viewing, and Fuzzy Set Analysis. But if you have other questions send 'em and we'll try to fit them in. Transcript available on our feature page for him within a week: <http://www.dojopsi.com/rvexpo/DrMay/> Hi Dr. May! Welcome to TKR and the Dojo Psi.

**Dr\_Edwin\_C\_May:** Hello!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** The questions I ask you tonight will be mostly sourced from other people live in chat with us here, selected / paraphrased / extended / combined / etc. by me, just FYI. Let's talk first about your upcoming book. Tell us a little about it!

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): After the cold war I have joined up with my former adversaries in the KGB to document what happened during the cold war.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): So they had a psychic program too -- like Star Gate? Was it just the same? If not, how did it differ?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Actually during the cold war itself they did NO RV. Surprise, eh?

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): I thought they had!

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): We all thought they had. They focused on what they called psychotronic weapons, devices to cause westerners to be sick during negotiations or war.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Well that's worrisome. Did they succeed?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): No! The 2nd in command of KGB told me they didn't work. I said, "...by definition. Had they worked, you would have won the cold war."

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Well... I guess that's probably true!

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): phew

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Is Russia or any of the former USSR still researching PSI?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Yes. There is still a military group in Russia called by the romantic name Group 10003. Joe and I are honorary members.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Hey, a new remote viewing target for us! ;-)

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Why not.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Does anyone teach RV in Russia? (I think the question means 'methods'.)

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Hmm. Yes, there is a school (military) for RV but their methods are way questionable.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Do they use a method like say, CRV or something, their own version?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): No, it is more "natural" ... and they do it in a combat zone.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Nothing like learning to view "with distractions" !

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): You bet. At the height, they had 40 count 'em 40 institutes conducting research into psychotronic weapons.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): What did these "psychotronic weapons" consist of? Just people trying to "remote influence," or were they electronically aided?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): electronic aided

{Moderator's transcript note: Dr. May was typing in the chat box with the conference and at that moment was on the telephone with me as well. He was responding verbally as well as in writing and sometimes back and forth partial pieces between the two, and I'd say, "Type that in the box!" to make sure it got written down. He said the above quizzically as he typed it, but it was the first part of a sentence, which verbally continued, "what kind of electronic are you talking about?" I said, "Oh I don't know, probably like machines that allegedly interface with the mind or something." He said, "Oh, not that I know of." And I said, "You just typed the first half of your earlier sentence in the chat box and it looks to everyone like you had the opposite answer!" So he corrected it. I told him this would be a fabulous gaffe for every conspiracy theorist out there!}

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Wrong response. They have not mentioned it nor do I know about it.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): So they didn't try electronics, or what?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Very hard to tell. Why? Although they were thought of from the west point of view as being atheistic, they were NOT. They come from a long line and history of shamanism. They have very little critical thinking.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Psychotronics--as a weapon--may not have worked, but was there any usable technology that resulted from the research?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): They think so but I don't.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Why do they do it a combat zone?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): I don't know. I asked General Savin, the commander, that question. I said, don't you know what the R stands for in RV? "REMOTE!" He said they get better data with the viewers in the zone.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Wow, that brings a new meaning to "the zone" than what I expected!

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Yup

Palyne\_Gaenir: How do they teach/train the "natural" method?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: That is mostly due to G. Savin and he thinks he is psychic as hell.

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: I have tested only one of their Viewers... Elena Klimova.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Is she good?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: As good as Joe.

Palyne\_Gaenir: What about current research on PK? What's that like?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Research on PK? That was, of course, the basis behind the psychotronic weaponry in the RV era 1992 to present. Almost no PK.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Have YOU done any research on 'psychotronic' subjects?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: We tried, but it did not work!! I am a HUGE skeptic on PK. I am not sure it exists.

Palyne\_Gaenir: What? No spoon bending parties for you??

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: There are a very few anomalies there. A spoon bent on the bowl, for example, give me a spoon and \$1,000,000 and I would not know how to bend it that way by "normal" methods. The military gave us tons of cash in the early years to try to develop PK methods to destroy Russian guidance systems. They did not work.

Palyne\_Gaenir: What is the most promising research being done on psi right now?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Hmm. Promising research? Well there are only three problems to solve. (1) when, (2) where (3) and for how long does psi happen. No one including me has a clue how to even address these three. Unless and until we solve them we are all wasting our time in trying to figure out how psi works.

Palyne\_Gaenir: You can't just sit someone down and measure their brain during the session?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Nope. Even the viewer does not know "when" psi happens. So you wire someone up [from] EEG, for example in an RV trial, but all the psi happens while the viewer is pulling into the parking lot! No wonder you don't see anything in the brain waves. Someone at a conference asked me what I would do with 1 million dollars. My answer shocked the bloke. I would give the money back!!

Palyne\_Gaenir: Why?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: I have no clue what experiment to do to address the above problem. And I have actually returned 100K USD to the funder. We were going to use an fMRI machine and it would have been a huge waste of funds.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Do the Russians use telepathy? What kind of issues/topics do the Russians look at, what's of interest to them, or the focus of their research/work today?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Three-in-one questions, eh? Okay here goes. At the current moment, they are doing only traditional RV, probably in counter terrorism as far as I know there. Like here, there is no research. That's sad!!!

Palyne\_Gaenir: What is the single most important thing you have learned in your psi/RV career?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Psi is real!!! And I think it will be understood with classical physics and not quantum silliness. Our data STRONGLY points in that direction.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Regarding PK: Are there no Uri Gellers?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: In Russia?

Palyne\_Gaenir: Er, anywhere? Since you're such a skeptic about PK?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Lots of self-claims. One example, I met a woman from Tomsk who was a human magnet. Metal, wood, paper, plastic, and glass stuck to her body.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Wow! What the heck could cause that?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: She was willing to strip nude to demonstrate such stuff to all parts of her body.

Palyne\_Gaenir: ROFL!

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Damn. Larissa would not let me be the scientist I should have been...

Palyne\_Gaenir: That IS funny. So it wasn't true?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Tons of stuff stuck to normal visible body parts. I have tons of pics to show.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Why? How does that happen?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Not a clue? I am not sure it is real... not fraud, mind you.

Palyne\_Gaenir: You mean just like some anomaly?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: No. There are tons of things that can mimic psi that isn't -- for example I can flip a coin with knowledge of physics so that you call it in the air and I can make you get it right 10 of 10 or wrong 10 of 10. Looks like PK but is physics.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Ah. In the USSR, did they use the double-blind as a basic in protocol?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Honestly I don't know. I have been dealing mostly with the military people who do not care about such things in combat. I will be meeting with my counterpoint (scientist) in October to learn more about the research.

Palyne\_Gaenir: I guess it's hard to be DB when you are standing there. Do you think that affects their success?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: In combat DB is almost true by definition. If there were no blinds why do the RV in the first place? In the lab and so-call training DB MUST and only be used.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Well but you could know the situation but not the answer.

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Yes, but you THINK you know the situation and do mislead people.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Could the stress from the combat zone enhance some type of PSI effect? Building some human survival mechanism? Or maybe adrenals affecting the body in some way that makes things more vivid, or...?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Savin thinks so but I don't know. (Savin is the General in charge of their RV program.)

Palyne\_Gaenir: Do you know, did Nina Kulagina participate in any of the military psi experiments during the cold war?

Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May: Most people today there think she was a fraud.

Palyne\_Gaenir: Are you aware of any specific noise reduction techniques to offset combat zone distractions employed by Russian military RV'ers? Or 'dealing with noise' in any research anywhere?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** I know that here in the West, Chuck Honorton developed the Ganzfeld to reduce the "noise." I am not at all sure if it is necessary. For example, some of the best viewing has come in 2 am in Denny's over hot fudge sundays, or by Hella who was seasick on our sub experiment.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** heh! And you know this from experience?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** yup. Gary Langford and I did a Jupiter project that way.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** I have about a dozen questions here about RNGs. Let's see if I can combine them. 1 - ever use them? 2 - Is the REG (random event generator) a good measuring instrument of PSI ? 3 - Do you think this is a promising area of research?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** I conducted at SRI what is held up by Dean Robert Jahn (Princeton) as the most controlled RNG study in history. We spent \$250K on that one experiment. What we found? Well that there is psi going on but NOT PK.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** What does that mean?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** REG's (hate that term) do not measure anything but experimenter precognition. The devices are NOT changed in any way whatsoever. See my FANTASTIC theory call Decision augmentation theory. :-)

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Do you believe in 'remote influence' between people?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** Yes with a caveat. IF you believe in voodoo for example, and you know that I am casting a spell on you, then it is no surprise your behavior is changed. That is standard psychology, not psi.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** I'm going to move on to some other subjects so we can cover them but I might come back to a few Russia - PK - etc. later. What does it take to convince skeptics that this stuff (psi) is real?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** Good question. I used to think that being a tight-assed and rigorous scientist is enough. NOPE!! Big time the only thing that will work and what kept us alive for 20 years was successful applications and how it works be damned. Win big and consistent on the stock market, for example. But this brings up an interesting and very difficult point. The relationship between evidence and belief is very tenuous.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** You said the Russians didn't do RV - did WE teach them RV?? I mean did they not get it until they heard of it from us?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): That might be true, but I will ask Savin in October when I see him next.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Is group 10003 viewed by the Russian government as legitimate -- do they do applications?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Yes they do only applications. But like here they had to fight to stay in business. Savin reported to what we could call the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff!

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Wow.

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Same for us.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Briefly: Is your REG experiment published? (ref Jahn above)

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): My RNG paper is not yet published. :( On my nearly infinite to-do list.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Do you think brainwave technology (sonic, photic, etc.) improves viewing/results?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): No! Most of psi work in the brain is dreadful!!! Look, even with fMRI neuroscientists cannot tell if a person is in love, horny, angry, or bored. No hope for psi there.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Did you talk with the Russians about reported phenomena such as ghosts/etc. in that genre? Do they believe in that stuff?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Not part of our discussions.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Did you talk with the Russians about reported phenomena such as UFOs? Do they believe in that stuff?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Not directly but I know from private conversations with Savin he loves UFO's [and aliens etc.]. He is ONE you know

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): **hahaha!** Do you have a position on extraterrestrial intelligence? (or alternate dimensional intelligence, or...)

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Horizontal. Seriously, I am mainly trying to determine if there is terrestrial intelligence. I know Jacques Vallee well and he is not sure.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): OK, let me ask you about your biofeedback related research --

subconscious psi? -- where is that, was that productive? Is it still underway?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): I have just retired from further research but the most interesting stuff we did was called prestimulus response. That is our nervous system response (or so we thought) to a future random surprise!! Well it turns out that our very strong effects were experimenter (not subject) related. Thus the 'who' part of the 3 questions above.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): So does a typical Russian RV/psi session work like a typical US session? "Relax and describe?" Is there anything else (besides the combat zone...) they do differently?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): I don't know the answer to how the Russians do it. Ask me in October when I am back from Moscow and sober again.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): heh! Do you think 'light' has anything to do with psi?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): you mean electro magnetic waves light? or skinny people?

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): EM waves light :-)

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): No, you cannot get precognition with EM. The best you can do by long-standing EM theory is 1 nanosecond per foot away, called advanced waves in EM theory.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Do you have any opinions about Rupert Sheldrakes' "morphogenetic field" theory?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Rupert is a good chap and conducts clever PSI studies. As far I know his interesting idea of morphogenetic field has not been tested carefully.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Based on our past relationship with Russia do you believe what they tell you?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Hmm. Some of it yes!! But mostly no.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Let's talk about ARV. What is different about the TARGETS in ARV vs. normal RV? Anything?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): No difference as far as I know. From the viewer point of view RV and ARV are the same thing.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Is there any difference in the session length, style, etc.?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** No. The only difference is what determines the feedback target ONLY.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** How much data is not enough vs. too much for an RV evaluation with best accuracy likelihood?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** I invented an analysis system that can help with that answer. Imagine two things, accuracy, the percent of the target that is correctly described by the viewer, this is NOT enough to measure RV. Why? 15 pages of transcript can mention EVERYTHING and assure 100% accuracy. To guard against that we have Reliability, the % of what the viewer says that is correct. A good measure is the product of the two. That is you have to describe as much of the target as possible, but in a parsimonious way! - only say right stuff. Short responses have ALWAYS been quantitatively better. 15 pages are mostly wrong!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Thanks. Have you ever placed real bets with your ARV?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Yep and won!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** How much?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Few hundred on horse races. Story with Gary Langford: we had an ARV on a quarter horse race. The agreement, tell us where you will be at 4pm tomorrow. We bet on a good match and WON!! Now the fun question is ... do we actually have to take Gary to the promised target??

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Do you think that taking him to a different location would be problematic after the fact? FOR the session PRIOR?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Might be, but there is a nifty way out of this bind. IF you can precognize potential futures rather than only ones that happen, then all is okay and we don't have to actually take Gary anywhere. This has been confirmed in a lab study at SRI.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Probable futures?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Let me explain. Radin and I did the following study. Imagine a 6-sided computer die which is by definition fair. The subject must guess in advance [which] face [will] be up after the toss. Unknown to the subject, 1/2 the trials two things happen. First a fair toss selects a face... say 4... then a biased toss happens next with a 50% chance of a 4 turning up. An interest in the physical dynamics of precognition here -- it typically involves feedback. I've found one example of reaching back in time where the viewer could have no possible feedback; feedback arrived after the viewer had died. There is a question of 'remembering the future', as Mr. Targ put it.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Are you aware of any instances where precognition apparently happened with no possibility for feedback of any sort for the viewer?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** I'm imagining that this must have happened frequently during Stargate taskings, but haven't found it documented. Well the participants guessed the most probable future whether it turned up or not! Nice!!!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Do you think it might cause psychological issues in the viewer if you muck about with feedback on something like this? Even if it didn't affect the results at the time? (So in potential it could affect their success rate farther down the road?)

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Actually I think RV is psychologically risky in the first place.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** How come?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** We have seen it in the lab, in the military unit and elsewhere, that some (not all) people become defined by their putative RV ability. (btw in me also!) I have actually had to excuse people from our project because of this. How this manifests is this, some people invent all kinds of reasons why a session failed and blame externals and become quite unstable!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Tell me about frontloading. You and others have said there is a 'too much' and 'not enough' amount that is ideal for applications. How is this measured and can you give an example?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** NEVER do frontloading!! It is like asking "Don't think of a pink elephant."

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** What do you think is most important about a viewer developing skill? Learning a method? Studying meditation? Being born genetically predisposed to it? Using proper protocol? Or...?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Don't take yourself seriously. Brush of the wins as much as the failures. From my point of view all you need to know about doing RV can be had for about \$20 in Joe's book RV Secrets, most of what is there is what NOT to do.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Do you think any certain methodology or approach (eg CRV, Ganzfeld, Silva, etc.) is better than another?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Nope, this is way easier than people like to think but most people do NOT have the native skill. Just did one ARV trial today, one page, three sentences, two

drawings and we were done.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Not everyone is a world-class viewer like Joe, sure, but is that really required for accurate ARV when fuzzy set analysis is in place? Can't even minimal data, if accurate, answer that?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Look... we love to make all this more complicated than it is. Think like this. Almost anyone can make a sound on a violin, but how many Yasha Heifitz's are there? Not many. Same for RV. I am convinced at this current time we cannot train RV.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** If I can play 'amazing grace' decently enough for my little church, is that good enough? :-) How do we decide 'how good' a person has to be?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** for ARV? Okay, I made an ARV breakthrough in 2007. That is, I figured out how to statistically tell (in advance) if an RV is good, bad or indifferent BEFORE learning the feedback target. Thus one only commits resources on trials that are likely to be good. For example, 12 of 50 sessions met the predefined stat criteria. Of these 10 were correct. This has never been seen in psi research before.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** 10 of 12?! Are you serious? Will you share all the money you're going to make? :-)

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** You can get very rich with ARV with that rate. Hell no!!!

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Are you working on getting rich with ARV? And if not why not?? (LOL)

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** I will form a company with a nifty logo. 1 middle finger raised on high.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Funny. I was wondering if you could comment on information theory approaches (such as redundancy coding) to improving RV and ARV?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Yes, we looked at that in detail. After a whole bunch of work, it works!... but (oh in a way that is what the above ARV thing is)... Ryzl conducted a 400 bit telepathy experiment and got them ALL correct. This is published in the JP. Classic use of information theory. And Jim Carpenter at the RRC encoded PEACE into ASCII and sent it by psi without an error.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Is FSA the "ARV breakthrough criteria" you referred to?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Yes, fuzzy sets were part of they key.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Are you willing to publish or share your fuzzy set analysis category-set and

methodology so that laymen could try it?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Of course.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): I will be at your door tomorrow morning. I'm sure your wife won't mind.

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): I have tried but most people really don't want to put in the effort.

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): What was the rest of the 'key'?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): FSA gives something called Figure of Merit (FoM) which is the accuracy times the reliability. This is a number between 0 and 1 and has no inherent meaning yet. By using old non-psi FoM's I could get what is called the NULL distribution for FoM's (null meaning no psi). Thus I could compute a stat for a single trial and this worked very well!

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): So fuzzy set analysis is one thing; the FoM is the FSA output; you give the FoM(s) meaning, by comparing them to a null distribution (the number you'd get in a situation when you know psi is NOT happening)?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Exactly

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): And that's the entire breakthrough?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Underwhelming, eh?

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Do you think successful psi is affected by the presence of 'skeptics'? If so, do you think that is psychical or psychological or both?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Yes and 100% psychological. Here is how I worded it once to a room full of Generals. They were bitching that a room full of skeptics should not matter so I said (ta da...) 'Imagine General that you are about to go on stage in front of 3000 yelling feminists... and it's your job to get an erection.' They get it!

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): One serious point! PLEASE let us all quit trying to mystify psi. If something causes problems in "normal" circumstances (like you have to pee) then it will also in paranormal circumstances!! Get REAL!

[Palyne\\_Gaenir](#): Do you have any thoughts on the validity of research on "bioenergy" or "bioplasm" they were doing in the USSR? Or any you have seen elsewhere?

[Dr.\\_Edwin\\_C.\\_May](#): Ah... voices from beyond the grave! {Moderator's note: I suggested verbally the question probably instead meant Kirlian stuff.} The Russians are way big on

such stuff. But the CIA did a very careful study of Kirlian photography and found it is normal emotional-driven changes in skin conductance. Nothing psychic. Shocking eh?

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** So you're just feeling BLUE. What's the most successful, impressive psi you ever saw?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Joe's RV of the Typhoon class sub, but there were many similar good things by other people.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** When you say most people balk at the effort for fuzzy set analysis, what part of it is 'too hard' for them?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** The math, the programming... hell I am happy to give people the tools but most don't want it.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Sell it for thousands. People will then flock to buy it. If you just give away information free they have no respect, no matter how legit it is. Ask me how I know. ;-)

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Ah the TM approach

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** (yes exactly lol) Regarding forced-choice like dowsing, is it more or less successful than free-response like RV?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** Forced choice is about 10% as good as FR, and for understood reasons. Go to my site [WWW.LFR.ORG](http://WWW.LFR.ORG) and look for Target pool bandwidth paper in the library for details.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** You said earlier, "...thus I could compute a stat for a single trial and this worked very well!" By single trial do you mean one task, one session, one target, one viewer? Or multiple of any of those?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** One session, that is what is important for ARV.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Given that both gravity and psi exhibit non-locality and occur instantaneously (faster than light), do you see any relationship between gravity and psi?

**Dr.\_Edwin\_C.\_May:** please be careful about the term non-local. Gravity is NOT NL for some people... NL communication means a long-distance phone call! Non-local has a very specific meaning in physics and we need not go into that here. There probably is not relation between psi and gravity except to keep you in your chair.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** There are media rumors that India has recently been using RV for

antiterrorism with some success. What do you think of this?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** I go to India twice a year and am helping setting up a 5-year masters program in psych with a psi component. I don't believe that story.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** OK. Do you see a way/model for psi to fit into classical physics? You said you thought that would end up being the area (not 'quantum stuff') to look, or something like that.

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** Yes, in physics: let me try to summarize. The arrow of time in real life... time goes in one direction only, is WELL understood in terms of classical thermodynamics, called the 2nd law. As it turns out RV is related to the 2nd law also. More changes of entropy, more psi. In there is a clue for classical physics research to understand the mechanism. This idea has been tested 6 separate times in the lab and not failed ONCE to show this significant relationship. These results tell me one important thing: a psi sensory system (whatever that turns out to be) behaves exactly like the rest. So we are dealing with a sensory system somehow and it is WAYYYYYYYYYYYY premature to give up classical physics.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Do you think RV has 'progressed' as far as 'ability to get viewer skill/results' (not analysis, target selection, and other issues) since RV began in the 1970s with Ingo, Gary, then Hella, Joe and others?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** Practice does not help improve RV by direct measure. I have data on a handful of people going back 30 years and 1000s of sessions. Good news! They do NOT lose their ability!! yea... bad news. They do not get better over time (sigh).

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Does that apply to target acquisition or, if you were to separate being 'on target' from 'quality/quantity' of data, that part of it, or both?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** This only applies to the outcome metric as a function of session. Do you all know about Morris's airport study?

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** No, what is that?

**Dr. Edwin C. May:** They called it that because Morris examined tons of books that one might find in airport books stores on how to become psychic. Bottom line? No correlation among the many techniques described. I do not think with our current knowledge we can improve our RV ability.

**Palyne\_Gaenir:** Joe recommends practice. How do you reconcile that between his and your perspective on this?

[Dr. Edwin C. May](#): What makes it so wonderful about my dear colleague Joe (and we love each other after working together for 30 years) is that we do not agree on everything. This is one point. I can defend what I say... and he thinks he can defend his point of view. We both learn tons from each other.

[Palyne Gaenir](#): I know you have WAY overstayed your time and this has been a really FAST chat! You must be exhausted. Thank you SO much for agreeing to stay longer! We still have a lot of questions but they will have to dream of getting answered another time. :-)  
Thanks so much Dr. May. This has really been fascinating!!

[Dr. Edwin C. May](#): It has been good fun and the questions are among the best I have had. Thank you all!

[end chat, July 9, 2009 at 11:0pm Eastern Time]

This interview is a part of the **REMOTE VIEWING EXPO JULY 2009** held by **TKR**, the **Ten Thousand Roads Remote Viewing and Dowsing Project**. Expo: <http://www.dojopsi.com/rvexpo/>. The page for Dr. May's materials/info is <http://www.dojopsi.com/rvexpo/DrMay/>. To talk more about this conference or its ideas, visit the TKR Remote Viewing Forum at <http://www.dojopsi.info/forum/>. To try some hands-on remote viewing, visit Viewer Studios and RV Galleries at TKR at the Dojo Psi, at <http://www.dojopsi.com/tkr/>. To casual chat with other viewers, visit us Monday nights 8:30-10:30pm Eastern at <http://www.dojopsi.com/chat/>.