

If Dogs Did Data

I imagine the dogs in Pavlov's experiments, if they were like modern scientific people, would produce some charts.

"Look Fido, everyone knows food is caused by the ringing of bells. This chart shows the instance of bell ringing and the instance of dinner. It's definitive proof that if you want to obtain food for yourself as you go out into the world, you need to learn to ring bells."

Actual dogs, once out of the lab, would remember pretty quickly that food is obtained through foraging or from someone putting it into a dish. They may still salivate at the bell, but they wouldn't starve to death waiting for it to feed them.

But not trained expert scientific dogs. With the proper modern mindset, dogs could go on chasing bells and preaching the necessity of doing so while starving or remaining malnourished for three or four generations.