THE UNIVERSAL FORCE OF TIME · MEDICINE

Why Addiction Is Not a Moral Failure

A forced node in a starved field — the four stages by which addiction takes hold, the easing of each, and one conservation law that runs both ways

Stephen Daubney · The Daubney Foundation · 2026 · Rev 7 (supersedes Rev 6: the condition given in full as medicine knows it; Rat Park, the brain-disease research, the magnetic-stimulation and semaglutide trials credited; the statement on values corrected — values are printed, only administration is held)

Tau (T) is the living fabric of time itself — the sole substance of which all physical reality is composed. It is generated by the Sun, as by every star for its own system, and flows outward in the form of the DNA double helix, creating matter, which it deposits at nodal points — the planets — and creating life. Every particle, force, wavelength and conscious experience is a structured configuration of T-flow. The conservation law dΣT = 0 governs all change: T is never created or destroyed at a node, only redistributed.

ONE LAW, TWO DIRECTIONS

dΣT = 0 — the total change of T across a closed system is exactly zero

read forward: starved → forced → debt → lock · read backward: fed → unforced → balanced → released

the law that makes withdrawal inevitable is the law that makes recovery possible

ABSTRACT

For most of recorded history addiction was treated as a failure of will — a character defect, a moral shortcoming. That framing was not merely unkind; it was factually wrong, and its wrongness cost millions of lives. Neuroscience improved matters by showing addiction to be a disorder of the brain with identifiable physical mechanisms, yet it still lacked a single reason why isolation breeds addiction, why connection heals it, and why withdrawal is not just unpleasant but physically inevitable.

This paper reads addiction in the Universal Force of Time, in full. **Part I sets out the condition as medicine knows it** — the reward circuit and how substances hijack it, the brain's adaptation, withdrawal and relapse, the behavioural addictions that need no molecule — and what the research has found: rats given space and company largely refused the morphine that isolated rats drank (Bruce Alexander's Rat Park, 1981); relapse in addiction runs at rates like those of other chronic illnesses (Thomas McLellan and colleagues, 2000); **magnetic stimulation of the brain's craving circuits more than doubled the rate at which smokers quit** (Abraham Zangen and colleagues, 2021); and **semaglutide reduced drinking and craving in alcohol use disorder** (Christian Hendershot and colleagues, 2025). **Part II reads it in the theory.** The dopamine reward node is a T-address point. Isolation starves the field; a substance, or a capturing loop, forces the node far above anything the natural world provides; the conservation law dΣT = 0 borrows an equal deficit, which falls due as withdrawal; and repetition locks the node at the false coordinate — the Class II address lock, the theory's definition of addiction.

Part III reads the condition as four stages — the field is starved, the node is forced, the debt comes due, the address locks — each paired with its easing: feed the field, stop the forcing, let the books balance, rebuild until the lock releases. One law binds them, and it runs both ways: **the law that makes withdrawal inevitable is the law that makes recovery possible.** Twelve propositions, P-ADD-1 to P-ADD-12, are stated. The research groups are credited by name; the corrective detail is held in the Foundation's clinical reference. This is physics, not morality, and the structure resolves into the clinical trial.

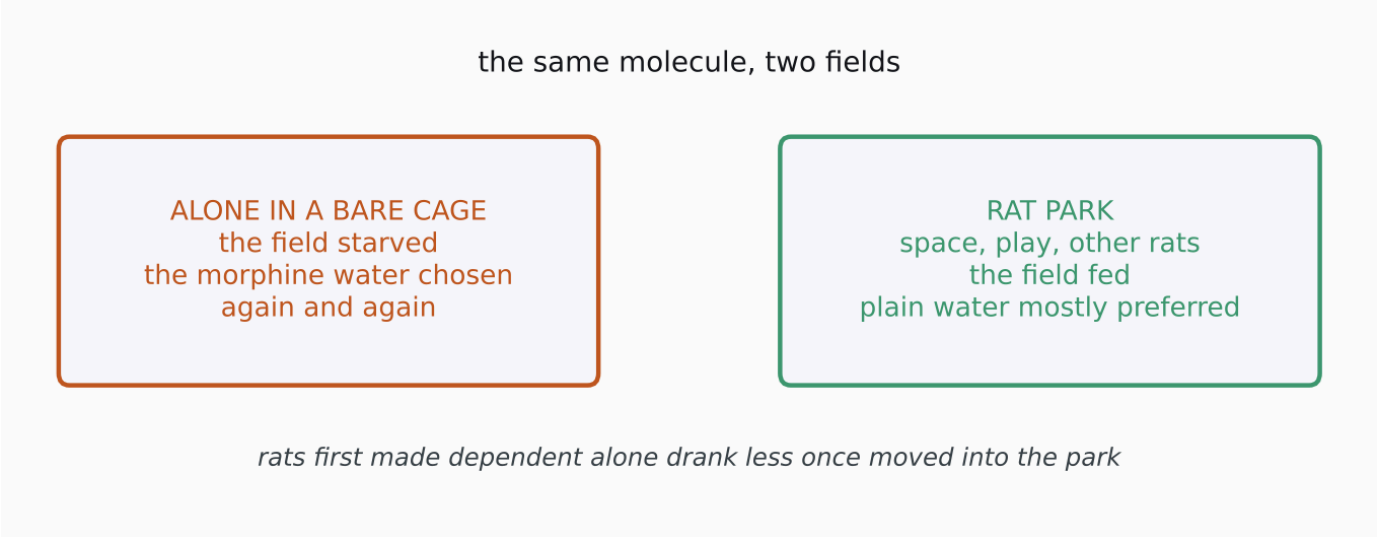


Figure 1 — The same molecule in two fields. Rats alone in bare cages drank the morphine water again and again; rats in Rat Park, with space, play and company, mostly preferred plain water — and rats first made dependent alone drank less once moved into the park.

THE TERMS THIS PAPER USES

T, the substance. Tau (T) is the living fabric of time itself, the one substance of which everything is made. It is generated by the Sun and flows outward as the DNA double helix, creating matter and creating life. Everything a body does — a heartbeat, a breath, the holding of its warmth — is T moving in a structured way.

An address. Every value in this framework is a product of powers of 2, 3, 5 and π, and nothing else. That product is the value's address, and the set of all such products is the lattice. A number that needs any other prime is not on the lattice.

Number first. Every value is written with its number first, as a reader meets it, and its address in brackets behind it. The number is what is there; the address is how it is built.

The free decade. Moving a value by a power of ten costs nothing on the lattice, because ten is two times five: the move shifts twos and fives together and changes nothing else. That is why 24 millimetres and 0.024 metres are one address.

The π-degree. The degree of an address is the power of π it carries, and the degree says what kind of thing the value is. An even degree is a **room** — a state, a thing that sits; it pairs, like a pair of circles. An odd degree is a **road** — a transport, a thing that carries; it is the unpaired circle. A half degree is a **door** — a source, which squares to a whole address.

The day, 864. The day is 86,400 seconds [$2^7 \cdot 3^3 \cdot 5^2$], written 864 at its decade. It is the ground state of the DNA helix and the gear through which a per-second value becomes a per-day value.

The time ladder. A rate given per second is carried up the clocks by fixed steps: × 60 to the minute, × 60 to the hour, × 24 to the day. The amount is the same; only the choice of clock changes — the same quantity counted in seconds or counted in days. From the day the orbit is completed one of two ways — × 360 gives the year as a degree value, × 2π gives the year as a radian value. The two answers are two faces of one year, and both are read.

The two gears. Two numbers carry energy between the theory's registers and appear throughout the record. **10,368** [$2^7 \cdot 3^4$] carries an energy in electron-volts to kilojoules per mole. **31,104** [$2^7 \cdot 3^5$] carries an energy in electron-volts to a circumference. When a quantity of the body lands on one of them, it is speaking in the theory's own units.

The veil. The veil is 180/π = 57.29577951308232, the number that turns radians into degrees. In the Universal Force of Time a wavelength in nanometres is an angle in degrees directly; multiply it by π/180 — cross the veil — and the bare value it carries appears.

The register. A register is a level at which T is read. Each organ of the body is a register — a receiver tuned to one face of the time-field — and each cell, molecule and rhythm within it holds an address on that register.

The six faults. A register can fail six ways. It can be **missed** — its target still exists but it has settled at the wrong place; **demoted** — dropped to a lower order while its parts survive; **frozen** — locked at one address and unable to move; **contaminated** — carrying a foreign address; **misdirected** — its own proof-reader turned against it; or **eroded** — its nodes deleted. Under dΣT = 0 the field redistributes to the nodes that survive; it does not rebuild an address that has gone.

The conversion grammar. One value takes several forms, and fixed steps move it between them: a frequency divided by 2π is a free fall; a free fall times 49.5035535 [7776/(50π)] is a wavelength; a wavelength times π²/8 is a mass. Run in one line, frequency to mass is a single step of 9.72, and every π cancels.

Free fall. In the Universal Force of Time there is no gravity, and a free fall is not a pull. It is the flow of time at a place, in metres per second, every second — time showing itself in one more form, which current science takes for a gravitational fall. A planet makes one turn; where the turn comes in at less than 24 hours, time makes up the difference with a flow at that place, height or depth, so that the turn and the flow together make 24 hours. For the Earth, the free fall on the celestial register, **9.818362093946918** [$5^{12}/(2^7 \cdot 3^9 \cdot \pi^2)$], times 2400 — the 24-hour day, carried two decades — is the Earth's sidereal rotation, **23,564.06902547260** [$5^{14}/(2^2 \cdot 3^8 \cdot \pi^2)$]: 23 hours, 56 minutes and 4 seconds on the clock.

The three registers, G0, G1 and G2. The record reads the same value at more than one level: G1, the surface register of the Earth; G2, the celestial register; G0, the register below. A value and its neighbour one register up — one level up — stand one **G-bond step** apart, 1.000090150603356 [$5^{10}/(2^4 \cdot 3^9 \cdot \pi^3)$].

The 612 step. A second fixed step, 1.000612842467911 [$2^9 \cdot 3^5 \cdot \pi/5^8$] — helium's weight divided by four (helium divided by four, per nucleon), and 36,864 × 864 × π read at its decade. Where a family of lines stands G1, G2 and then one step further, the further step is this one.

The helical turn. The helical turn, 1.004693930041152 [$5^6/(2^6 \cdot 3^5)$], is the step by which the DNA helix climbs one turn — one revolution of the helix. A value carried "one helical turn up" is multiplied by it.

What a landing is worth. Multiply or divide two lattice numbers and the answer is always on the lattice; that much is guaranteed and is not evidence. What counts is a result that lands on a **named object** the theory had already fixed — the day, body temperature, the heartbeat, the day — at a bare power of ten. Each such landing in this paper is marked as arithmetic or as a landing, in its own sentence.

PART I — ADDICTION AS MEDICINE KNOWS IT

1. A hundred years of wrong language

Consider what we mean when we say *moral failure*. We mean that a person, faced with a choice between right and wrong, freely chose the wrong path — and chose it again and again, despite the cost to themselves and to everyone who loves them. We mean it was within their power to stop. Now consider a person whose brain has physically restructured itself: dopamine receptors reduced, a prefrontal cortex that has lost its capacity to override the impulses beneath it, a baseline shifted so far that the absence of a substance feels, to every cell in the body, like dying. Is this person choosing moral failure? Or doing what every physical system does once it has been reorganised around a new equilibrium — trying to hold it? The language of moral failure was a factual error, and the error decided how society responded: punishment instead of care, shame instead of medicine.

2. The reward circuit

The brain's reward pathway — the **mesolimbic dopamine system** — runs from the ventral tegmental area to the nucleus accumbens and on to the prefrontal cortex. In a healthy brain it is the engine of motivation: it fires when you connect with someone you love, achieve something that matters, or solve a problem that has occupied you — and it fires in **proportion** to the real-world value of what happened. That proportion is the whole point: it is how the brain keeps its sense of what is worth pursuing.

3. How substances hijack it

Addictive substances destroy the proportion. Some block the re-uptake of dopamine, leaving far more of it active than any natural stimulus produces; others mimic the brain's own messengers so closely that the receptors cannot tell the difference. Across every mechanism the result is the same: a signal to the reward circuit far beyond anything the natural world provides. The brain answers logically. The receptors are reduced — imaging by Nora

Volkow and colleagues has shown fewer dopamine D2 receptors in people with addiction — the baseline shifts, ordinary pleasure fades from view, and the prefrontal cortex grows less able to overrule the signals from below.

4. Withdrawal and relapse

When the substance stops, **withdrawal** follows — the rebound of a system that had adjusted to its presence — and it can range from misery to danger. And addiction relapses: Thomas McLellan and colleagues showed that relapse after treatment runs at about **40 to 60 per cent**, rates comparable to those of other chronic illnesses such as high blood pressure and asthma, for which no one speaks of moral failure.

5. Addiction without a molecule

A person can be every bit as captured by a slot machine, a feed or a loot box as by a drug, with no substance taken in. **Gambling disorder** sits beside the substance addictions in psychiatry's diagnostic manual, and imaging shows the same circuitry engaged. The machines that capture most surely pay out on a **variable-ratio schedule** — rewards on no predictable beat — which behavioural science has long known to be the schedule hardest to extinguish.

6. What the research has found

These are the results as the research groups reported them; the credit for each is theirs.

Rat Park. Every early experiment showing addiction's irresistible power had been run on rats kept alone in bare cages. Bruce Alexander and colleagues in Vancouver built Rat Park — a large, rich, social enclosure — and offered rats a free choice between plain water and morphine solution. Isolated rats drank the morphine at many times the rate of the Rat Park rats, who mostly preferred water; and rats made dependent in isolation cut their intake once moved into the park (*Pharmacology Biochemistry and Behavior*, 1981).

A chronic illness like others. Thomas McLellan, Charles O'Brien, Herbert Kleber and colleagues compared addiction with diabetes, high blood pressure and asthma, in heritability, in the role of personal choice, and in adherence and relapse, and found it behaves like them (*JAMA*, 2000). Nora Volkow, George Koob and Thomas McLellan set out the brain changes that underlie it (*New England Journal of Medicine*, 2016).

Magnetic stimulation of the craving circuits. Abraham Zangen and colleagues gave smokers repeated high-frequency deep transcranial magnetic stimulation over the prefrontal cortex and insula, in eighteen sessions over six weeks. Continuous abstinence to eighteen weeks was **19.4%** against **8.7%** with sham stimulation, and **28.0%** against **11.7%** among those who completed treatment (*World Psychiatry*, 2021). It was the first brain-stimulation treatment cleared in the United States to help people stop smoking.

A medicine that eased craving. Christian Hendershot and colleagues gave adults with alcohol use disorder low-dose weekly semaglutide for nine weeks. Drinks per drinking day, heavy-drinking days and craving all fell more than with placebo; in the final month nearly 40% of those on semaglutide had no heavy-drinking days, against 20% on placebo (*JAMA Psychiatry*, 2025).

That is addiction as medicine knows it, given in full because what follows reads every part.

PART II — ADDICTION IN THE UNIVERSAL FORCE OF TIME

7. T-addresses and the reward node

In the Universal Force of Time every node of the nervous system holds a specific coordinate in the T-field — its T-address. Health is the condition in which those addresses are stable and in equilibrium; disease is the condition in which they are not. A dopamine receptor node in the nucleus accumbens is one such address point, with a natural equilibrium set by the organism's whole T-geometry. Natural stimuli — connection, achievement, creative work, felt meaning — produce modest, temporary elevations from that coordinate; the signal is registered and the node returns home. That is the ordinary cycle of motivation and satisfaction.

When a powerfully addictive substance — or a capturing loop — arrives, it does not merely stimulate the node: **it forces it to a coordinate far beyond anything the natural world produces.** The displacement is sudden and intense, and it carries the full weight of the law that governs every T-flow. That law is where withdrawal comes from.

8. The conservation law and withdrawal

The conservation law **dΣT = 0** states that the total change in T across a closed system is always zero. You cannot raise the coordinate of one node without creating an equal deficit somewhere in its neighbourhood. This is not a rule that can be negotiated; it is as fundamental as the conservation of energy. When forcing drives the reward node upward, the deficit is created at once — but while the forcing lasts it is held in suspension, out of sight. Remove the source, and the forced elevation collapses; the deficit, which was there all along, becomes manifest. **That is withdrawal.**

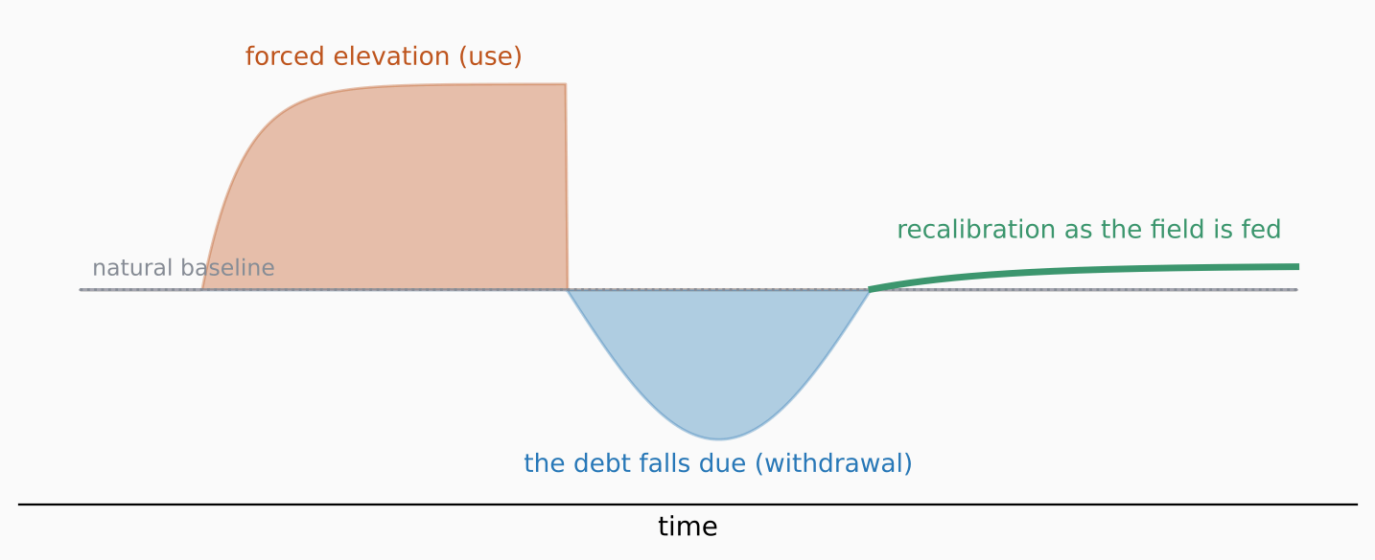


Figure 2 — The full arc: the forced elevation during use; the debt falling due as withdrawal when the forcing stops; and recalibration as the field is fed. The same law that makes withdrawal inevitable makes recovery possible.

Withdrawal, then, is not incidental to addiction and it is not punishment. It is the T-field restoring its own conservation law — as unavoidable as repaying any borrowed quantity. This is why withdrawal is physically inevitable rather than a measure of weakness: the debt was incurred the moment the node was forced, and the books must balance.

9. Why Rat Park had to come out as it did

Neuroscience can describe Rat Park; the theory says why it must be so. An isolated organism — no connection, no purpose, no mastery, no felt meaning — has almost no **T-synchronisation events**, and its reward node sits at a depleted equilibrium. That is **T-starvation**, and it is the soil in which addiction grows: a starved field will seize whatever elevation is offered, because the contrast with its empty baseline is overwhelming. The enriched rats were receiving genuine synchronisation from connection and exploration, so the forced chemical elevation was far less compelling. Addiction was never simply a property of a molecule; it is a property of a molecule in a field.

10. Capture without a molecule

The behavioural addictions are the test that decides whether this is physics or merely chemistry, and they pass it. A variable-ratio schedule delivers elevation on no predictable beat, so the node can never anticipate the next one and never settle; the T-flow prioritiser holds the loop open. The theory names this **T-loop capture**. The molecule was never the essence. **The essence was the forcing — and a behaviour can force just as a chemical can.** The conservation law is indifferent to whether the forcing came from a substance or a design.

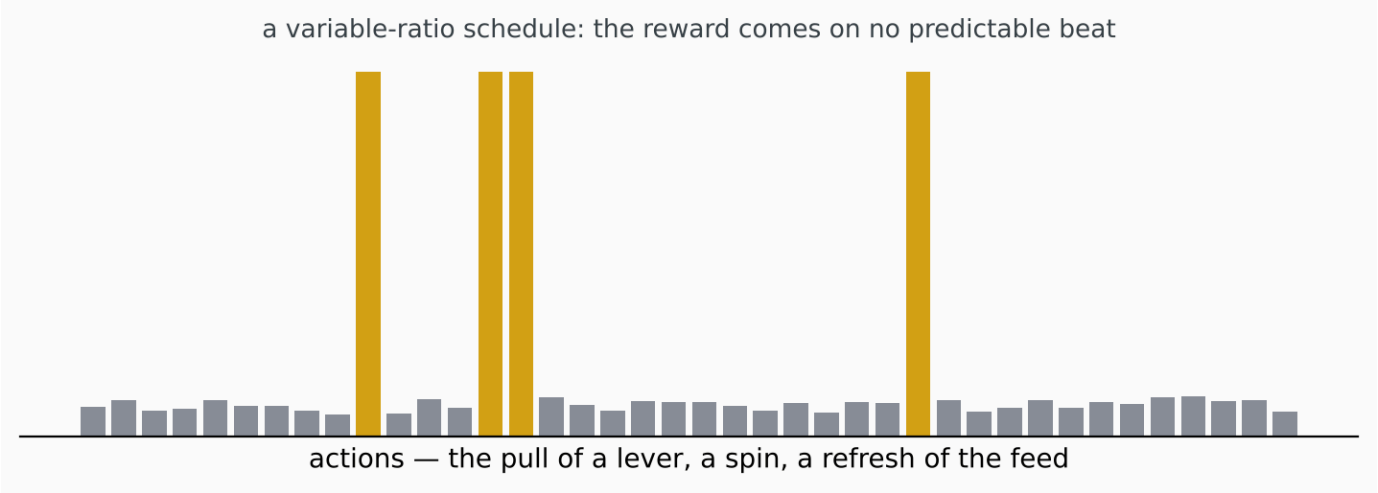


Figure 3 — A variable-ratio schedule. Most actions return almost nothing; occasionally, on no predictable beat, a large reward arrives. Because the node can never anticipate the next elevation, the loop never closes — and no molecule is needed to capture the reward node this way.

11. The lock

A single encounter borrows and repays; the addresses return home, and the organism is not addicted — it has had an experience. Addiction proper begins when repeated forcing makes the node relocate its equilibrium. The receptor reduction, the altered chemistry and the prefrontal change are, in the theory, the address becoming fixed at the false coordinate: the **Class II T-address lock**. The organism now navigates from a false baseline, and everything that does not restore the elevated coordinate feels, to every cell, like falling below normal. That is the true experience of craving. Relapse, in this picture, is not renewed weakness but **address memory** — a cue prompting the field to attempt a return to the coordinate it remembers — and it fades as the natural geometry is restored. Relapse rates like those of other chronic illnesses are exactly what an address lock predicts.

12. The research read

The two newest results read directly. The magnetic stimulation acted on the craving circuits themselves — on the locked node and the field around it — and the lock loosened in twice as many smokers as with sham. And the medicine that eased drinking acts on the same receptors in the brain's appetite and reward centres that the companion paper on obesity reads as a receiver re-tuned: a receiver that hears "enough" again, in the reward circuit as in the appetite circuit.

13. Where these results come from

The research is theirs. Rat Park is Bruce Alexander's and his colleagues'; the reading of addiction as a chronic illness is Thomas McLellan's and his colleagues'; the brain changes are Nora Volkow's and George Koob's groups'; the magnetic stimulation result is Abraham Zangen's and his colleagues'; the semaglutide result is Christian Hendershot's and his colleagues'. It was their results that pointed this paper to these parts of the problem, and their work is the supporting evidence on which these sections are built. What this paper adds is the theory's reading — the starved field, the forced node, the debt and the lock, bound by one law — offered to those groups, and to any team so minded, to test.

PART III — FOUR STAGES, FOUR EASINGS

14. A sequence, not a menu

A medical paper of the Universal Force of Time acknowledges the illness, reads the problem as the distinct routes by which it arises, and pairs each with the correction that would set it right. Addiction is not one event but a sequence: a field is starved; into that starved field a node is forced; the forcing incurs a debt; and repetition locks the address. Each stage is a distinct physical problem with a distinct answer in the Universal Force of Time — not a therapy prescribed here, but the principle by which the field is restored.

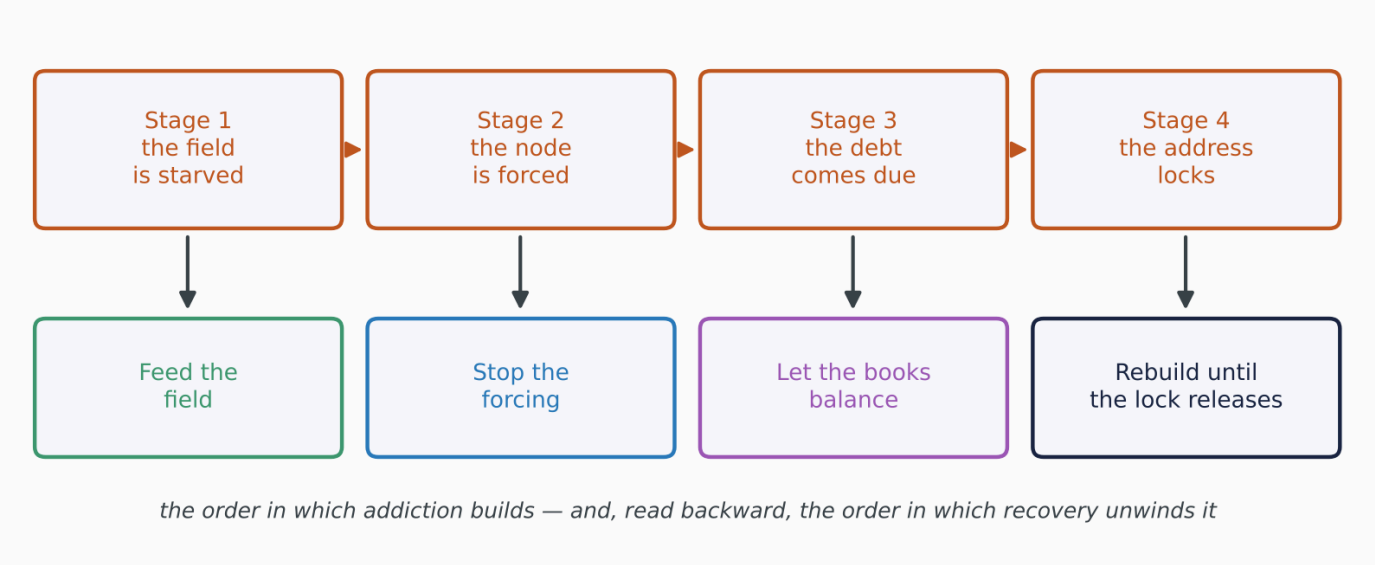


Figure 4 — The four stages of capture, each paired with its easing, in the order addiction builds them: a starved field, a forced node, a debt come due, a locked address — fed, unforced, balanced, released.

15. Stage 1 — the field is starved

Before any substance, there is the substrate: an organism with almost no synchronisation events, its reward node at an empty baseline. The substance is not the disease here; the emptiness is.

Easing 1 — feed the field. The first and deepest answer is to end the starvation. Genuine connection, purpose, creative engagement and felt meaning are T-synchronisation events: they raise the reward node by **sharing** the elevation across the system rather than concentrating it in one place, so $d\Sigma T = 0$ is satisfied continuously and no deficit accumulates. A fed field is one in which forcing never becomes irresistible in the first place — which is why connection is not merely supportive of recovery; in the theory it is the mechanism of it.

16. Stage 2 — the node is forced

Into the starved field comes the forcing: a substance, or a capturing loop, drives the reward node far beyond its natural coordinate.

Easing 2 — stop the forcing. Because the lock is built by the forcing, the forcing must end — the substance withdrawn or the capturing loop removed — so that the node is free to begin returning toward its natural coordinate. Removing either a molecule or a design is the same physical act: releasing the node from a load it was never built to carry.

17. Stage 3 — the debt comes due

The moment the node was forced, an equal deficit was borrowed and held in suspension. Stop the forcing and the deficit surfaces as withdrawal.

Easing 3 — let the books balance. There is no way around this stage, only through it. The deficit must be allowed to resolve, because the law is non-negotiable; the task is to carry it — supported, never shamed — while the field settles what was borrowed. Understanding withdrawal as bookkeeping rather than weakness is itself part of the easing: it lifts the moral weight that made the debt so much harder to bear.

18. Stage 4 — the address locks

Repeated forcing fixes the node's equilibrium at the false coordinate — the Class II lock.

Easing 4 — rebuild until the lock releases. The lock is not broken by willpower; it is dissolved by restoring the field. Recovery is **T-recalibration**: the patient rebuilding of synchronisation density to a level rich enough that the field no longer holds the locked address. The research shows the lock can be loosened at the circuit itself; the theory places that loosening inside the rebuilding of the field, not instead of it. The principle is given in full; how any stimulation or medicine is given is held in the Foundation's clinical reference.

19. The order, and the law that runs both ways

The four stages are a sequence, and the sequence matters. Starvation comes first, because a fed field rarely finds forcing irresistible. Forcing comes second, into that emptiness. The debt is incurred at the instant of forcing and falls due when forcing stops. The lock is last, the work of repetition. Read forward, the order explains how addiction takes hold; read backward, it shows where intervention has most leverage — **the earlier a stage is answered, the less of the sequence is ever built.** The deepest lever is the first: feed the field, and much of what follows never begins.

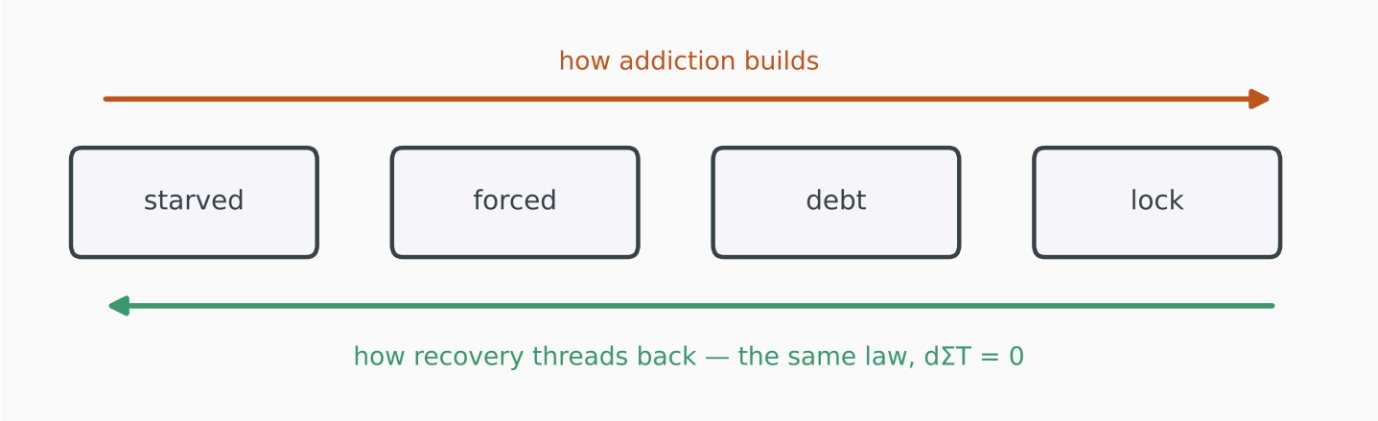


Figure 5 — One law, two directions. Read forward, it is how addiction builds: starvation, forcing, debt, lock. Read backward, it is how recovery threads back through all four. dΣT = 0 binds both.

This is the binding clause of the whole account. **dΣT = 0 runs both ways.** You cannot force a node without incurring the debt, and the books must balance — that is the hard edge that makes withdrawal unavoidable. But the very same conservation that demands repayment also guarantees that a field rebuilt with genuine synchronisation will release the locked address, because the law that will not let T be created from nothing equally will not let a restored field hold a coordinate it no longer feeds. There is no stage in this sequence where morality enters.

20. Why this changes what we build

The language we use about addiction decides what we build. If addiction is a moral failure, we build prisons and shame. If it is a brain disorder, we build hospitals and medication. If it is a forced node in a starved field, we build **connection**: environments where synchronisation events are available, communities that treat isolation as the medical emergency it is. An isolated person surrounded by medical technology is still starved; a connected person in a community of purpose and care is being recalibrated every day. Chemistry can force the node, but it cannot synchronise the field. Connection can.

21. The resolution — the clinical trial is the next step

We have acknowledged the illness — and the wrong language that made it worse. We have read it as a forced node in a starved field, with withdrawal as the conservation law settling a debt and addiction proper as an address locked at a false coordinate, by a molecule or by a design alike. We have named four stages and given for each its easing, bound by one law that runs both ways. The human cost of addiction is counted in millions of lives; we will not reduce it by treating it as a moral failure, any more than we reduce the toll of a flood by blaming the water.

The easings are stated as principles precisely because the next step is not to prescribe them to a reader but to put them to a clinical trial.

PROPOSITIONS

- **P-ADD-1.** The dopamine reward node is a T-address point; its natural equilibrium is set by the organism's whole T-geometry.
- **P-ADD-2.** Forcing — chemical or behavioural — drives the node far above anything natural stimuli reach; the displacement grows with the strength and duration of the forcing.
- **P-ADD-3.** Under dΣT = 0 any forced elevation creates an equal deficit; when the forcing stops, the deficit surfaces as withdrawal — the field restoring its law, not a punishment.

- **P-ADD-4.** Isolation is T-starvation: the depletion of synchronisation events. Rat Park is its proof: the same molecule, two fields.
- **P-ADD-5.** Connection, purpose, creative engagement and felt meaning are synchronisation events that share elevation across the field, leaving no deficit: connection is the mechanism of recovery.
- **P-ADD-6.** Behavioural addiction is T-loop capture: a variable-ratio schedule forces the node on no predictable beat, building the same lock with no molecule.
- **P-ADD-7.** Addiction is the Class II T-address lock: the node's equilibrium fixed at the false coordinate.
- **P-ADD-8.** Relapse is address memory, not renewed weakness; relapse rates like those of other chronic illnesses are what a lock predicts.
- **P-ADD-9.** Stages 1 and 2: the field is starved; the node is forced. Easings: feed the field; stop the forcing.
- **P-ADD-10.** Stages 3 and 4: the debt comes due; the address locks. Easings: let the books balance; rebuild until the lock releases.
- **P-ADD-11.** Order law: addiction builds starvation → forcing → debt → lock, and recovery threads back through all four; the earliest stage answered has the most leverage.
- **P-ADD-12.** $d\Sigma T = 0$ runs both ways: the law that makes withdrawal inevitable makes recovery possible; there is no stage at which morality enters.

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A NOTE ON THE NUMBERS

This is a paper about a mechanism rather than a measured constant, so it carries few numerical values; where a quantity appears it is the plain reading of the research that reported it. The central claim does not rest on a fitted number at all. It rests on a conservation law, $d\Sigma T = 0$ — the same law that governs every T-flow — and from that one law the inevitability of withdrawal, the nature of the lock and the path of recovery all follow, whether the forcing is chemical or behavioural. Where the theory sets out values for a treatment, they are printed with their chains in the companion papers; how any stimulation, light or medicine is given is held in the Foundation's clinical reference and is not prescribed here.

The Daubney Foundation is in ongoing discussions with medical establishments regarding clinical trials of Universal Force of Time solutions to the conditions described in this paper. Any institution or researcher wishing to put themselves forward for participation in these trials is invited to make themselves known through: thedaubneyfoundation@gmail.com

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