

Table 2: A selection of adaptive biases

Category and Domain	False Positive (FP)	Costs of FP	False Negative (FN)	Costs of FN	Result
<i>Protective:</i> Approaching Sounds	Ready too early	Low	Struck by source	High	Bias toward underestimating time to arrival
<i>Protective:</i> Foods	Reject a food type that is in fact safe	Low	Ingest toxin or pathogen	High	Bias towards acquiring permanent aversion on the basis of one piece of evidence of toxicity
<i>Protective:</i> Diseased persons	Avoid noninfectious person	Usually low	Become infected	Often very high	Tendency to avoid persons with physical afflictions, even if non-infectious
<i>Protective:</i> Physically-threatening persons	Avoid altercation with safe person	Usually low	Suffer physical injury	Often high	Tendency to overestimate physical formidability of potentially threatening persons
<i>Social:</i> Men's inference of female sexual interest	Inferring sexual interest where there is none	Rejection — relatively low	Inferring no interest when there is	Missed reproductive opportunity — high	Sexual overperception by men
<i>Social:</i> Women's inference of commitment	Inferring interest to commit where there is none	Desertion—high	Inferring unwillingness to commit where there is willingness	Delayed start to reproduction—relatively low	Underperception of commitment by women
<i>Social:</i> Social Exchange	Attempt to <i>free ride</i> and get caught	Potential ostracism, especially in collectivist social situations — high	Cooperate when one could <i>free ride</i>	Give up a unnecessary benefit in exchange — relatively low	Bias toward cooperation
<i>Self and Future:</i> Beliefs about future achievements	Believe you can achieve things when you cannot	Low (if costs of failure are low)	Believe you cannot achieve things when you in fact could	High (if benefit of success is high)	Optimistic bias (where benefits of success exceed costs of failure); Overconfidence bias