

Intrinsic Difficulties - Nature is stacked against us

Difficult Detection

- limited replication

- Small effects amid many confounding variables

if many variables change at once, identifying any one that has a noticeable effect may be difficult.

too many possibilities, you may not know which variable to focus on. (endocrine disruptors)

- Interaction

means that 'behavior' of one factor depend/change according to other factors present.

our factor does not appear to have a consistent effect

difficult to study if not aware of wh/ interactions matter

the effect of one factor won't be consistent across different contexts - until you know about them.

(flash powder, cards, ammonia + bleach)
is BAD

- Time lags: in a cause-effect relationship, the effect occurs long after the cause

shows down the rate at wh/ we can cycle thru S.M.

big problem in climate change

DES - drug given to suppress miscarriage. It elevated cervical cancer rates in daughters of women who took it during pregnancy - 20-30 yr time lag.