Application due
**Friday Dec. 13, 2024**

WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology

APPCN Member Program

2025 - 2027

**Laura A. Flashman, Ph.D., ABPP**
Training Program Co-Director

**Bonnie C. Sachs, Ph.D., ABPP**
Training Program Co-Director

# SETTING & OVERVIEW

Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center is a Level I trauma center located in Winston-Salem, North Carolina and home to the Wake Forest University School of Medicine, with a total of 198 buildings spanning 428 acres. The Department of Neurology at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, where this fellowship is housed, has been ranked by US News and World Report as being among the nation's best hospitals. The Neurology Department is home to a Comprehensive Stroke Center, Comprehensive Epilepsy Center, and a new Neuroscience ICU, and has subspecialty clinics in neuromuscular/ALS, Movement Disorders, Stroke, Behavioral Neurology, Headache, Multiple Sclerosis, and Pediatric Neurology. Additionally, Atrium Health has recently been nationally recognized on Newsweek's List of Top 100 Americans Most Loved Workplaces for 2023.

As with most academic medical centers, Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist and Wake Forest University School of Medicine strive to fulfill the integrated missions of patient care, research and teaching, and providing patients with leading-edge technology and clinical trials. The objective of providing high quality clinical care and research training to postdoctoral level fellows is very much in accord with the tripartite institutional mission of the Medical School and Center. More specifically, as with other graduate medical education programs at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist, our program mission is to train professionals who will become recognized as leaders in clinical care, applied research, and education.

## Leah A. Chapman, Ph.D.

**Pediatric Neuropsychologist**
**Assistant Professor of Neurology, Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery and Pediatrics (joint)**

*Clinical interests:* Neuro-oncology; traumatic brain injury/concussion; epilepsy; medically complex pediatric cases
*Research interests:* Late-effects of chemotherapy and radiation on the developing brain; neurodevelopmental implications of craniosynostosis and surgical interventions; traumatic brain injury/concussion; Tourette's syndrome/tic disorders.

## Laura A. Flashman, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

**Professor of Neurology**
**Section Head, Neuropsychology Program**
**Training Program Co-Director**

*Clinical interests:* Traumatic brain injury; multiple sclerosis; epilepsy; normal and abnormal aging; neuropsychiatry.
*Research interests:* Unawareness of illness and neurobiological correlates of unawareness of illness in neuropsychiatric disorders; functional/structural MRI of memory and attention in psychiatric illness, traumatic brain injury, Mild Cognitive Impairment and Alzheimer's disease.

## Rachel K. B. Hamilton, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

**Assistant Professor of Neurology**

*Clinical interests:* Complex medical comorbidities; stroke and cerebrovascular disease; neurodegenerative disease; epilepsy; movement disorders; traumatic brain injury; developmental trauma; cultural influences on the assessment process
*Research interests:* Psychopathy and cognition; decisional capacity; frontotemporal dementia and social cognition; neural networks

## Bonnie C. Sachs, Ph.D., ABPP-CN

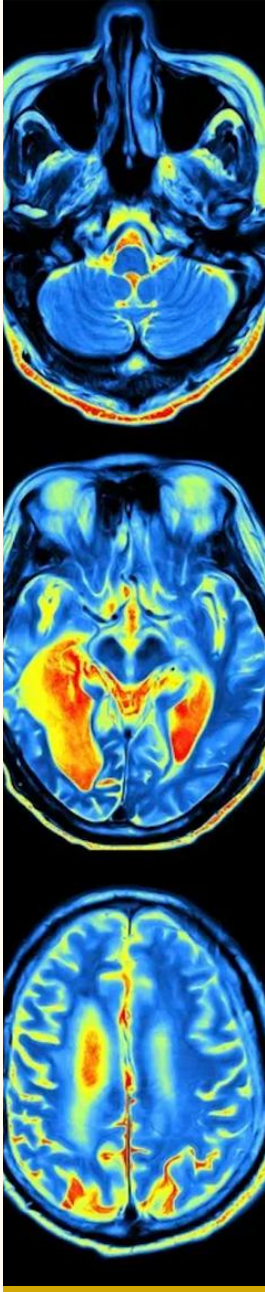
**Professor of Neurology, Gerontology & Geriatric Medicine (joint)**
**Training Program Co-Director**

*Clinical interests:* Alzheimer's disease; Mild Cognitive Impairment; atypical dementias, movement disorders
*Research interests:* Lifestyle interventions for Mild Cognitive Impairment; dementia; DBS for movement disorders; psychometrics; vascular disease/cognitive impairment

## Lia K. Thibodaux, Ph.D.

**Pediatric Neuropsychologist**
**Assistant Professor of Neurology**

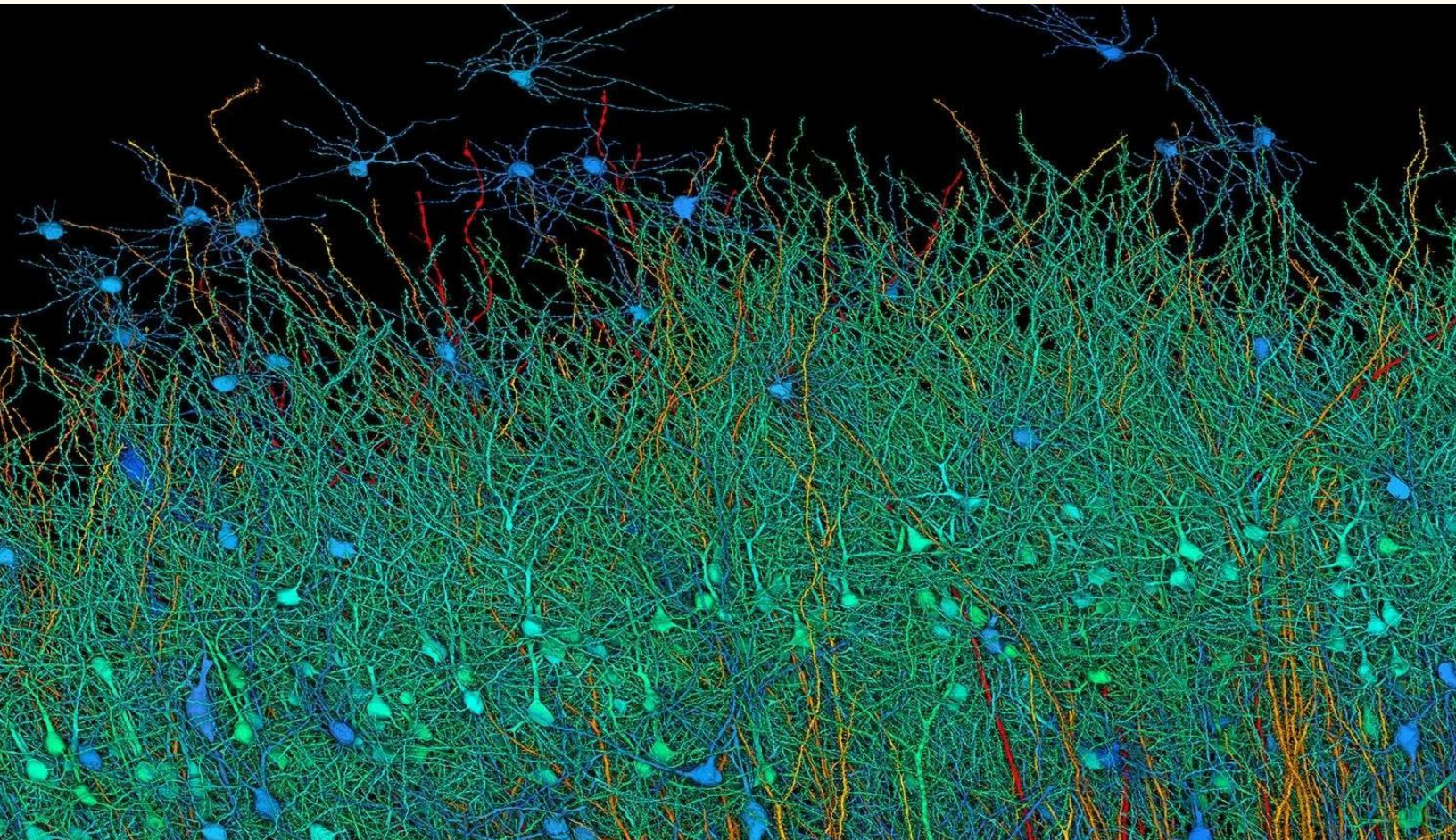
*Clinical interests:* Epilepsy, genetic disorders, and accessible assessments for patients who are deaf and hard of hearing.
*Research interests:* Measurement equivalence/ invariance of scores within specialized populations and utility of commonly used measures in specialized populations



# FACULTY

# OUR MISSION

The Wake Forest School of Medicine Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology is dedicated to cultivating future leaders in the field of neuropsychology. The overarching goal of our fellowship program is to produce outstanding scientist-practitioners who are rigorously trained with a broad-based foundation in assessment, intervention, consultation, and research. We strive to mold professionals who are not only intellectually curious and culturally adept but also skilled collaborators across medical disciplines. At the heart of our mission is the development of six core competencies: (1) patient care that is compassionate, effective, and unparalleled in clinical excellence; (2) expertise in neuropsychological knowledge, including psychometrics, brain-behavior relationships, and comprehensive assessment techniques; (3) practice-based learning focused on continuous improvement through self-evaluation and the advancement of critical thinking that seamlessly integrates state-of-the-art evidence-based practice; (4) strong interpersonal skills and interdisciplinary collaboration, preparing fellows to be effective team players in complex healthcare environments; (5) professionalism and the commitment to ethical practice and respectful interactions; and (6) systems-based practice as manifested through an awareness of and responsiveness to the larger context and system of health care.



# CLINICAL TRAINING

The Wake Forest School of Medicine Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology is a two-year full-time program that meets Houston Conference Guidelines for training in neuropsychology. We are a member of the Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and participate in the APPCN Resident Matching Program (the "Match"). **We anticipate offering TWO positions for the adult track for the 2025 training year**.

Our fellowship involves opportunities to see adult patients through the general Neuropsychology Clinic and specialty clinics. Pediatric training opportunities are also available for interested applicants. The Neuropsychology Service at Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist serves as the primary training site for all fellows. Outpatients make up the bulk of referrals, though an inpatient rotation is also available. Referrals involve a wide variety of patient populations, including dementia, movement disorders, multiple sclerosis, traumatic brain injury, stroke, epilepsy, and neuro-oncology. For more information, please visit our Neuropsychology and Neurology Clinic websites, and the Fellowship webpage:

- https://www.wakehealth.edu/Specialty/n/Neuropsychology
- https://www.wakehealth.edu/Service-Line/n/Neurosciencehttps://school.wakehealth.edu/Education-and-Training/Residencies-and-Fellowships/Postdoctoral-Fellowship-in-Clinical-Neuropsychology

In addition to seeing patients through the general outpatient neurology clinic with a variety of conditions including concussion, traumatic brain injuries, cerebrovascular accidents/stroke, and multiple sclerosis, adult fellows will rotate in the following specialty clinics:

1) **Epilepsy Surgery Clinic**: Fellows will have the opportunity to perform Phase I clinical neuropsychological assessment for epilepsy surgery patients who are seen as part of their evaluation in our Comprehensive Epilepsy Center (CEC). There is also the opportunity for fellows to conduct post-operative assessment of these patients as well as Wada testing.

2) **Movement Disorders Clinic**: Both fellows will have the opportunity to evaluate patients with movement disorders as part of pre-surgical work-up for Deep Brain Stimulation (DBS), Gamma Knife stereotactic radiosurgery, and some focused ultrasound (FUS) cases for individuals with Parkinson's disease and essential tremor.

3) **Memory & Cognitive Disorders Clinic**: Fellows will evaluate older adults who are referred for evaluation of memory loss and/or suspected dementia. Fellows will be exposed to a variety of conditions including mild cognitive impairment (MCI), Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, frontotemporal dementia syndromes, and movement disorders such as Parkinson's disease dementia and Lewy Body Dementia.

4) **Inpatient Rehabilitation Unit**: Fellows will have the opportunity to participate in a multidisciplinary treatment team on the inpatient Acquired Brain Injury Unit. This rotation includes brief cognitive/emotional screening of patients who are oriented enough for testing, education of patients/caregivers and staff members on the nature of the individual's cognitive deficits, and participation in treatment team meetings to coordinate care. The patient population includes individuals ages 13 through 100 with a variety of acquired brain injuries such as stroke, traumatic brain injury, tumors, and other neurologic diagnoses. Additional opportunities include participation in the Acquired Brain Injury Task Force focused on the administrative side of inpatient rehabilitation and the coordination of care between the attending doctors, advanced practice providers, and a variety of therapists.

The typical caseload of adult fellows is 3-4 cases with some psychometry support. Due to the variety of offerings, clinical opportunities range from 1-hour screenings to 4- or 6-hour comprehensive evaluations. All fellows provide consultation to referral sources, feedback with patients and families, and where appropriate, participate in intervention planning and monitoring as part of their duties.

## RESEARCH &
# DIDACTICS

Didactic opportunities are plentiful and include weekly Neuropsychology Seminar, Multidisciplinary Epilepsy Surgery Case Conference, Multidisciplinary DBS Case Conference, Multidisciplinary Tumor Boards, quarterly Psychometry Meetings, and Behavioral Neurology Case Conference. Neurology Department Grand Rounds are held twice monthly. Elective didactics include Epilepsy Journal Club, Cancer & Cognition Research Meetings, Psychiatry Department Grand Rounds, Pediatric Grand Rounds, Clinicopathologic Conference, Brain Cutting, Radiology Grand Rounds, Alzheimer's Disease Research Center (ADRC) Consensus meetings, and PM&R Grand Rounds.

Our program emphasizes both clinical and research/quality improvement to enhance the care of our patients. Thus, fellows are expected to engage in either a research or quality improvement project during their fellowship. The extent of involvement in research is tailored to each fellow's interests and career goals. Projects may take several forms depending on interests, available data sets, and ongoing projects. Current research primarily focuses on epilepsy, MCI and Alzheimer's disease, brain tumors, and traumatic brain injury. Studies include cognitive and emotional evaluation, pharmacological and non-pharmacological interventions, and assessment of predictors of cognitive outcome, treatment-related cognitive dysfunction, and drug-related clinical trials. Quality improvement projects are designed to enhance clinical services and patient care and may include development of new clinics, implementation of assessment tools within other programs, and evaluation of the impact of these services.

Where History Meets Innovation:

# WINSTON SALEM

Known as the City of Arts and Innovation, Winston-Salem blends historic charm with the vibrant spirit of contemporary Southern culture.

Located less than 2 hours from the Blue Ridge Mountains and 4 hours from the North Carolina coast, Winston-Salem offers the perfect melding of a historical heritage and a forward-thinking community. At the heart of this heritage lies Old Salem, a living history museum and one of America's most authentic and well-documented colonial sites. The city's walkable downtown boasts over 100 restaurants, from cozy cafes to fine dining establishments. The vibrant arts scene, anchored by institutions like the Stevens Center and the Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art, provides year-round cultural enrichment.

The city experiences all four seasons, with mild winters and warm summers. Spring and fall are particularly pleasant. The climate is perfect for enjoying the city's numerous greenways and public parks, including Salem Lake and the scenic Reynolda Gardens.

Education and innovation are at the heart of Winston-Salem. The presence of prestigious institutions like Wake Forest University and the University of North Carolina School of the Arts contributes to a dynamic, intellectually stimulating environment. The city's commitment to innovation is evident in its thriving business sector, which balances established industries with emerging tech startups. Housing options are diverse, ranging from historic homes in charming neighborhoods to modern apartments in the bustling downtown area. The cost of living remains reasonable compared to larger metropolitan areas, making Winston-Salem an attractive option for families and young professionals.

With its blend of Southern hospitality, cultural richness, economic opportunities, and natural beauty, Winston-Salem offers a community that values both its heritage and its future.











# ALL WELCOME

The Wake Forest School of Medicine Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology is firmly committed to fostering equity, justice, inclusion, and diversity, recognizing these principles as fundamental to excellence in both training and clinical practice. To that end, we follow Federal Equal Opportunity guidelines. We strive to create an enriching environment where fellows from all backgrounds can thrive and develop into future leaders in the field of neuropsychology. To this end, we actively recruit and support fellows from underrepresented groups, provide culturally competent training emphasizing diverse patient backgrounds, and integrate discussions of equity and justice into our curriculum. Our program fosters an inclusive learning environment where all perspectives are valued, continuously improves practices to eliminate bias and promote fairness, collaborates with diverse communities to address their specific neuropsychological needs, and prepares fellows to be advocates for equity and inclusion in their future careers. By embracing diversity and championing equity, we aim to train neuropsychologists who will not only excel clinically but also lead in creating a more inclusive healthcare system.

# APPLICATION PROCESS

We anticipate TWO adult-focused openings for the 2025 cycle. Our program participates in the APPCN Match, and adheres to all pertinent rules and procedures associated with the match as outlined of their website.

Education/training qualifications: Requirements include prior neuroscience courses, APA or CPA approved internship with a strong emphasis on neuropsychology, commitment to clinical research, and completion of doctoral requirements. Prior to appointment as a postdoctoral fellow, individuals must provide evidence of completion of all requirements for the doctoral degree from a regionally accredited university or professional school program, including completion of an APA or CPA accredited internship training; official transcript, copy of diploma or official letter from the Department Chair or Graduate Advisor will be acceptable. Postdoctoral fellows are appointed to full time positions for one year, renewable for an additional year. A total of 2000 hours of training are provided in each year, exceeding the postgraduate hours required for licensure in NC.

Candidates should submit their application electronically by December 13, 2024. Interviews will be held virtually to increase accessibility and equity, with the opportunity to meet with faculty who attend INS. Whether or not applicants are able to attend INS will not factor in to rankings.

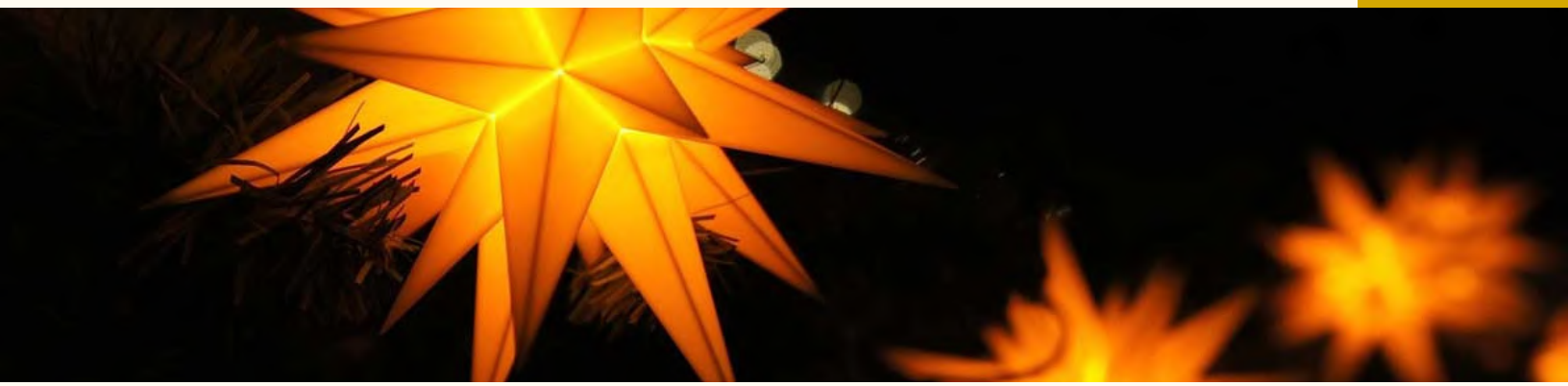
We are a member of Association of Postdoctoral Programs in Clinical Neuropsychology (APPCN) and participate in the APPCN Resident Matching Program.

The following should be emailed as a single document to April Edwards, Fellowship Coordinator at apedward@wakehealth.edu:

- Completed application cover page (located on the next page)
- A 1-2 page maximum Personal Statement describing your clinical and research experiences and interests, fellowship objectives, and career goals
- Current curriculum vitae
- Names, affiliation, and e-mail addresses of three professional references
- Three de-identified sample reports reflecting a breadth of clinical experience.
- Up to three recently published articles, abstracts, or preprints (if available).
- Three letters of recommendation, at least one of which is from your current supervisor/internship director, should be emailed directly by them to apedward@wakehealth.edu
- Official graduate transcript sent directly to:

April Edwards, Fellowship Coordinator
(apedward@wakehealth.edu)
Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Department of Neurology
Medical Center Boulevard
Winston-Salem, NC 27157

# SUMMARY OF BENEFITS



Benefits include health insurance, personal time off (sick leave, vacation time, time for professional development), and an annual professional development fund. Postdoctoral fellows are eligible for 15 business days of paid vacation, 5 days of paid sick leave, and 5 professional days per academic year for the attendance at professional and scientific meetings. There is annual paid time off for 7 federal holidays as well as two floating holidays recognized by Atrium Health Wake Forest Baptist Medical Center: Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Memorial Day, and Fourth of July.

Salaries are based on NIH training stipend guidelines.

**Parental Leave**
Family Medical Leave provides eligible teammates with up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave for events such as the birth of a child, adoption of a child, or to bond with a newborn child. To be eligible for FMLA leave, a teammate must have completed one year of service with the Medical Center and worked at least 1,250 hours during the last 12 months. A teammate on FMLA leave will continue to receive benefits coverage if he/she pays his/her portion of the benefits.

**Medical Leave**
Non-FMLA Medical Leave may be granted for a teammate’s own serious health condition if they are not eligible for FMLA Leave. A serious health condition includes the period of incapacitation resulting from giving birth, or pregnancy. A teammate on non-FMLA Leave will continue to receive benefits coverage if they pay their portion of benefits.

WAKE FOREST SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

# Postdoctoral Fellowship in Clinical Neuropsychology

## APPLICATION COVER PAGE

NAME _____

PHONE NO _____

EMAIL _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____

_____

PLACE OF BIRTH _____ CITIZENSHIP _____

**TESTING EXPERIENCE:** Please list specific numbers of comprehensive neuropsychological assessments administered, neuropsychological screenings (e.g., RBANS, DRS-2 only), and reports you have written on the following patient age groups:

| | Comprehensive Neuropsychological Evaluations | Screening Assessments | Written Reports |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Child** (age 6-17) | | | |
| **Adult** (18-65) | | | |
| **Geriatric** (65 and older) | | | |

Average number of comprehensive assessment cases completed/week during internship: _____

Average number of neuropsychological screenings completed/week during internship: _____

**RESEARCH EXPERIENCE:** Please list the patient samples you have worked with and the methods employed: