

The Modification of Instinctive Behavior

Chapter 3

Instinctive Systems

- **Lorenz & Tinbergen** - evolution occurs when a species incorporates environmental knowledge into its genetic structure.
 - Greylag goose and egg-rolling.
- Learning can sometimes modify instinctive behavior - even though the fixed action patterns are innate.

Energy Model

- Action-specific energy builds up but is blocked (inhibited).
- The energy motivates appetitive (approach) behavior.
- Presence of a sign stimulus releases the energy by stimulating an innate releasing mechanism.
- The behavior occurs as a fixed action pattern (or chain of actions).