HUD DIAGNOSTICS · FIELD NOTE

The number isn't the player. It's the player × the pool.

Every stat on a HUD is polluted by the field it was recorded in. Here's why "tight" and "loose" are half the pool's fingerprint — and what to read instead.

Change the pool and the number moves — **even if the player never changed a single decision.** It's a bias, not noise: more hands never washes it out.

THE CORE TRAP

Same number. Opposite meaning.

> The pool deals a **limped, multiway pot.** Now read a player's VPIP…

Folds the junk → VPIP ↓

Looks TIGHT

→

Could be **perfect** — folding trash multiway is correct. Could be a nit.

Plays them → VPIP ↑

Looks LOOSE

→

Could be a **leak**. Could be a correct iso-raise he *should* make more.

One stat → two opposite players. Undecidable from the number alone.

THE CRUEL PART

The perfect player gets flagged as broken.

HUD colors are calibrated on reg-vs-reg, balanced play. But correct play **adapts to the field in front of you.** Adapt correctly to a limpy, passive, multiway pool and you deviate from that benchmark **by construction** — so the software paints the best player at the table as a nit or a maniac.

THE FIX

Read the tells, not the totals.

If aggregates are convolved with the field, don't label off them. Label off behaviors that survive the convolution — the ones almost never correct in *any* pool.

✕ The pool's shadow

POLLUTED AGGREGATES

- **VPIP** — entry rate
- **PFR** — raise rate
- **3-Bet %** — re-raise rate
- **Fold-to-C-bet** — defense rate

Each one is you × the field. More hands sharpen a *biased* number — never a truer one.

✓ Pool-invariant tells

SURVIVE THE CONVOLUTION

- **Limps** — a leak in every pool
- **Min-raises** — rarely correct anywhere
- **Call-3bet → fold flop** — fit-or-fold
- **Sizing tells** — small = weak, jam = nuts
- **Passive showdown lines** — no protection

A fish produces these. A solver essentially never does. That's a read the field can't fake.

A limp is a leak in every pool. VPIP is just the field's fingerprint.

Read the tells — it's what your eyes already do live.