

About Us

- Laura: 24 years old chemistry student from Germany
- Huracan: 8 years old gelding from Spain
- together since 2017
- started with traditional clickertraining
- joined PP in feb 2019 &
 Pain Science & Perfomance in 2020



My motivation to go for walks





Benefits we can get from walks

- increased motivation
- opportunity to "practice" riding
- stimulating the horse's brain and nervous system
- longer "workouts"
- increasing self-confidence



What I mostly do on walks

- giving the horse the opportunity to display natural behaviors like
 - foraging
 - investigating things
 - sensory input (scents, different grounds)
- fostering curiosity
- challenges







What to reward on walks?

my personal choices:

- walking beside/in front of me
- not only high effort
- waiting for me/stopping
- sometimes crunches & pantherwalk



Dealing with autonomy on walks

horse does whatever he/she wants!

- safety first
- autonomy in movement context
- letting the horse choose how fast/where to go
- don't be afraid to say no yourself



What about using pressure on walks?

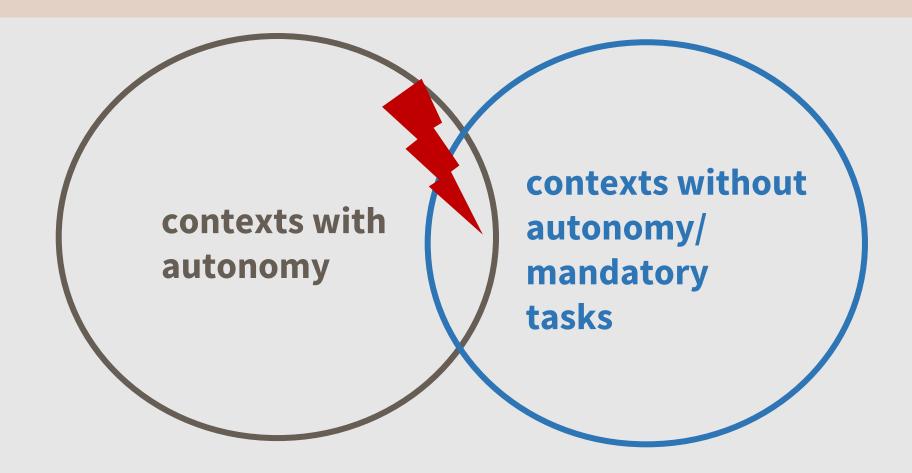
- safety first!
- we cannot control the environment on walks
 - → sometimes it might be necessary to use pressure for safety reasons
- try to avoid punishment (LIMA principle)
- don't feel bad for it

Eating on walks - grass is the enemy?

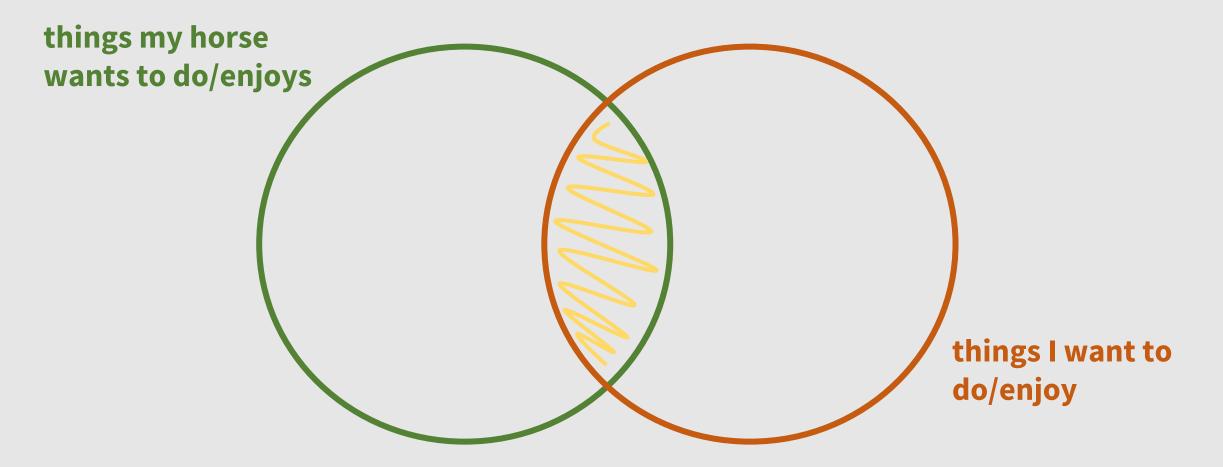
- foraging is a natural behavior
 - → horses usually move to find food
- compromise: grazing and racing
- keep an eye on what your horse is eating



"autonomy conflict" on walks



Finding balance...



What to keep in mind while walking

- allow your horse to enjoy your walk in his/her own way
- oberserve your horse's state of mind to react accordingly
- do what feels safe to you
- implement default behaviors
- have fun!



My horse doesn't want to go for walks...

- don't force your horse to go out with you
- let the horse decide when to go home
- allies → horses usually move in company
- progress is non-linear