Sanchez's anti-Citadel of Ricks strategy analysis

Summery:

This doc will be an analysis of the strategy Rick performed against the Citadel of Ricks and The Galactic Federation simultaneously. The strategy starts in S3EP1. The doc will dive into other aspects of intelligence such as EQ and Reasoning etc as long as they are a part of the strategy.

By Amin.

For context, Tammy and BP (BirdPerson) are getting married. They invited Rick and his family to the marriage. Tammy turned out to be working for the Galactic Federation, and she baited Rick and his family into going there so the empire could get a hold of them. Rick and his family escape but they can't return to earth as the Empire tracked their point of origin and conquered earth. They stay on a small uncomfortable planet all by themselves which irritates and angers them. Rick however doesn't care. He overhears them talking about how much they hate Rick and how bad of a person he is which makes him feel extreme guilt. So he chooses to turn himself in for the Federation. At the same time, the Citadel of Ricks is also trying to assassinate Rick. The Citadel of Ricks is an empire where everyone who lives there is either a Rick or a Morty from a parallel universe.

Currently Rick is held at the GF (The Galactic Federation) headquarters. He and a soldier from the GF are linked to a certain machine. The machine is called the Brainaliser and the sole purpose of it is to send user A's consciousness to user B's mind and vice versa.

The soldier's consciousness (We will call him GF agent cus he's nameless.) gets transported into Rick's where he finds himself in Rick's pretty much mind palace. This is a very important detail as the MP is crucial for Rick's strategy and intelligence in general.

His MP showcases high levels of:

- Memory: Rick has a perfect memory regarding all of his past experiences. He's shown to be able to perfectly remember all details around him even the details that aren't directly in front him and showcases the perfect visual and auditory accuracy of the memories in his MP.

- VSI: He is able to visualise entire scenarios on the spot with perfect detail and parallelism to the original thing from real life. Such visualisations were so good that it fooled the entirety of the GF. We will discuss this more later.

- Emotional Understanding/Self awareness/Empathy: He creates versions of the characters in his head that he can engage with. Such replicas are completely in line with the originals as they have the same appearance, behaviour, sound tones, facial expressions, style of talking and acting etc. This showcases his level of understanding of others around him. We will discuss this later.

- Abstract thinking: In his MP, the people that Rick encounters share the exact same perception of the world. Their thoughts and behaviour is perfectly presented in the MP as it is irl. Meaning that Rick was thinking about how specific characters will react, perceive and analyse his words while simultaneously talking with them. He has to actively assess and create their emotional responses, thoughts, choice of words, and what they would or won't do (as long as he doesn't force them to do something.). This will be discussed more later.

- Sensory: In many instances we see that the memories that Rick holds have insane wide details. For example his visualisation of his interaction with Prime Rick in the garage showcases the ENTIRETY of his neighbourhood with every house, plant, road, tree, car and everything else contained in his neighbourhood extremely detailed to perfection. This showcases how far his perception goes to storing all details he encounters consciously or subconsciously.

Rick meets GF agent at a certain restaurant after having lunch with replicas of his family members. GF agent explains that they want the Portal gun formula to achieve dimensional travel. Rick takes him there. The memory he shows him is the memory of

Rick at a younger age failing to create portal travel. Prime Rick suddenly shows up then tries to talk him into joining him on uniting the ricks in exchange of giving him a portal gun but Rick refuses as he has a family to take care of. Prime Ricks gets mad then leaves. Later that day Rick and his wife Dianne decide to take their daughter Beth, to get ice cream. Rick waits in the car for them but he gets ambushed: as soon as Beth and Dianne get out of the house, Prime Rick sends a bomb through a portal killing them both leaving Rick emotionally destroyed.

As a response he engages with his emotions, enhancing his intellectual limits to find the right formula to create the portal gun to kill Prime Rick.

GF agent instantly takes out a futuristic camera thingy and sends a pic of the formula to the headquarters.

This was the first tactic made by Rick in this strategy. First of all, Rick uses his high VSI to recreate the entire memory he had with Prime (with the help of the original memory ofc) and visualises the same scenario. This way, h 'll be able to control the "memory" at any time he wants, adding and/or changing any detail he desires. He manipulates and misdirects the GF into believing that this is his actual memory thanks to his VSI. He then uses his interpersonal intelligence and abstract thinking to make the scene more realistic giving every character presented suitable dialogue, emotions etc.. Making the scene more believable.

And since this is a visualised simulation, Rick changes the formula completely and visualises his younger self writing a code for a software virus instead of a mathematical formula for interdimensional travel. He had to think and create a code that would completely corrupt the GF's futuristic tech on the spot, which is insane considering that the GF technology is completely novel for him.

With this, Rick indirectly manipulated GF agent to send the lethal virus to the facility and give him full control over the Brainaliser. With this, Rick's consciousness leaves GF agent 's consciousness in Rick's body and teleporters over to GF agent 's body. Like this, he is able to disguise himself as GF agent and trick the other commanders into believing that GF agent successfully accomplished the mission and found the information. Something to note here: while getting the information, Rick's brain was

slowly decaying because the GF wants to kill him right when he gives them the info. So GF agent was left in a soon-to-be-dead body, shielding Rick from GF agent waking up and accusing him of being Rick. This also buffs the Mind Palace as Rick was doing insane visualisations and mental tasks while his brain was melting.

Rick (as GF agent) then explains that he turned himself in because “probably” the most sensitive and important data regarding the GF is also in the same ship containing the prison. Turns out, Rick turned himself in to get rid of the GF from the inside so his family could achieve peace.

Rick here predicted all of these events, predicted that they will enter his mind and try to get the portal gun formula, pre planned installing the virus then planned on finding the sensitive data.

Right Before he leaves, a team of rick agents storm the place and kill everyone. Rick didn’t expect this, so he hides from the Rick team. Quickly, he uses the Brainaliser and exchanges consciousness with another Rick agent called Rick D99. The other Ricks shoot both of Rick’s previous bodies, killing GF agent (trapped in Rick’s body.) and Rick D99 (trapped in GF agent ’s body.). Rick abuses his cheer fighting skills and kills the other Ricks. One of the Ricks tells him that Summer and Morty (his grandkids) are held hostages in the Citadel of Ricks by the council of Ricks.

Rick quickly adapts to this information. He takes the Brainaliser with him, some weaponry too then uses the ship that the Ricks team used and flies away. He understands from this interaction that the Citadel is aiming to Kill him and potentially his grandkids, forcing him to target them as well.

The Rick members at the headquarters try to contact Rick, thinking that he’s one of their agents who just fulfilled the mission. Rick refuses to talk with any agent, saying that “He’ll talk with a Rick with higher clairance.”.

A Rick with higher status comes in. He claims to be the Commander and Chief of the Citadel’s malecia. Rick here uses the Brainaliser, his consciousness gets transported to the commander Rick wirelessly through the speaker they are using to talk. The commander’s consciousness is in the body of Rick when he was in the ship. Rick, now

in the body of the commander (aka in the Citadel.) tells the agents that the soldier in the ship (aka the actual commander.) is a spy and orders them to blow him up immediately so he doesn't complicate the situation. Even if the commander tried saying anything, no one would believe him and it'd just prove the idea of him being a Spy.

Rick wanted a High ranking member of the Citadel so he could wander off freely in secret sacred personnel-only areas. Since the agents that initially contacted him didn't have such luxury.

Rick abuses his freedom and goes to a certain area where, using the portal gun fluid, the entire Citadel can be teleported anywhere in the universe.

Now, Rick's initial plan had the goal of destroying the GF from the inside but it got hindered by the Citadel. Rick's strategy was resilient enough to recover, and the intervention of the Citadel added another goal: destroy the Citadel. Rick is now on his way to destroy BOTH of these facilities, his initial strategy is still intact.

Rick makes the ENTIRE Citadel teleport into the Galactic Federation, destroying both the Citadel and GF with one stone.

Since the mega ships are collapsing and the alien jail inmates are fighting the ricks, one of the Ricks runs away to investigate meanwhile the others (the council and Morty and Summer.) stay inside for protection.

The member of the council comes back explaining that they are doomed, the citadel has been taken down, and that Rick C137 (our Rick) is coming for them. One of the Ricks (we will call him Rick A.) takes Summer as hostage so Rick C137 doesn't kill him, and orders the other ricks to fight for Morty. But suddenly, Rick C137 (disguised as the rick who just came in) pushes a button locking the door and takes out a gun. Rick C137 has killed that member of the council who left to investigate, disguised as the member so he could deceive the rest of the council. Rick C137 kills the council except for the one holding Summer hostage then gives a marked gun to Morty.
The next part of the strategy is quite complicated so I'll give an idea of Rick's reasoning first:

- Rick notices that Rick A is holding his summer (Rick's) as a hostage.

- Rick makes fun of this move, saying that he does not care about his summer as he has infinite grandkids in other infinite parallel universes.

- Rick A claims that Rick came here to save Summer and Morty, proving that he indeed does care for them.

- Rick argues that he just came here to kill Rick A and get rid of the Citadel as they are actively trying to assassinate him. Rick also says that that Summer isn't his original Summer (for context, in the world of Rick and Morty, there are infinite universes, most have Ricks and Morties and their families etc... Many of them are completely the same or with extremely minor differences. Rick and Morty fucked up their own world (earth C137) so they came to a universe where the Rick and Morty of THAT universe were conveniently dead at the time when our MCs arrived, so Rick and Morty from earth C137 just continued to live with Summer from that reality and she's aware of this.). Rick heremixes his claims with information that his granddaughter already fully believes in which would indirectly influence her to believe the rest of his claims.

- Rick A asks "why don't you shoot me then?"

- Rick explains that the bullet will go through Summer THEN Rick A which might not kill him/would make the death longer/isn't efficient.

Rick here is completely manipulating Morty, Summer and Rick A into believing that he doesn't care about them, which encourages Rick A to taunt the grandkids and completely breaks Summer. Seeing how little does his grandfather care for him, how Rick A (the one who's holding his sister hostage.) taunt him, and how his own Summer is breaking down and crying, Morty becomes stressed and furious. He takes his gun and points it at Rick.

Morty orders Rick to put the gun down, he says that he isn't gonna let Rick let his sister die.

This was entirely planned for by Rick. Rick led the conversation above, destroyed Morty and Summer emotionally to achieve this very reaction from Morty.

Rick, instead of continuing along with the facade, explains that he “was tricking Rick A into freeing Summer by acting as if he doesn’t care”. He then starts insulting Morty, and says that he ruined everything and “got them all killed”. He keeps cursing at Morty. This way, he provokes Summer and Rick to curse him and insult him too (Summer because in her POV, Morty blew up Rick’s plan to save them, and Rick A because he hates Morty.)

All of these waves of insults destroy Morty. He was already in shock and in distress from what he was seeing but knowing that HE is the reason why Rick’s plan was hindered and blocked (in his POV) and the fact that he’s getting bashed and insulted by multiple people, some of them are the closest to him destroy the last bit of sanity he has left.

Morty quickly becomes even more distressed, anxious, confused, infuriated and most importantly IRRATIONAL to the point that all of those negative emotions overwhelm him and hinder his logical thought process. In the heat of the moment, Morty shoots his own Rick.

Rick A is amused by this. And since in his POV, Rick is dead, he lets go of Summer cus there isn’t really any actual danger. But suddenly, Rick shoots him when he’s vulnerable, killing him.

Wrapping this tactic up, Rick basically gave a MARKED gun to morty because it’s a fake gun that shoots fake plasma (they don’t use bullets there lol). The gun will SEEMINGLY kill Rick but in reality it just leaves a scratch.

Rick predicted the entire thing before even stepping into the room. He predicted Summer’s reaction, that Rick A will take her hostage, Morty’s reaction then worked based on that. He knew exactly the right emotions he should provoke inside Morty to make him shoot him, so he manipulated him, doing an entire play to indirectly provoke him and influence him. He emotionally analyzed and understood Morty and precisely how he’d act under pressure and how he’d react to Rick’s hateful comments then

provoked the needed emotions in him using Summer and Rick A too (he also analyzed their emotional states and actions.). Rick basically took control of everyone in that room, manipulating since walking in.

He manipulated Rick A by acting dead to expose his vulnerability (to make him let go of Summer), manipulated Summer into insulting and stressing Morty out, manipulated the council of Ricks and the people guarding it by dressing as one of them, manipulated Summer via feeding her half truths (mixing the lie that he only came here to kill the council because they are targeting him (half truth) with the fact that that Summer isn't even his Summer (truth) to manipulate her into thinking that he doesn't care about her or Morty and didn't come for them (Lie)).

Now, after destroying the Citadel and the GF and restoring the kids, Rick has to make sure that GF loses its galactic/universal influence, not just their prison headquarters (Rick teleported the Citadel into one of their prisons but the prison is so big that it's the size of a moon lol). This is important cus Beth (Rick's daughter) and her husband Jerry are on earth, which is conquered by the GF. So one of Rick's goals is to free them too. Rick and the kids go to the main central economic headquarters of the GF, where Rick literally hacks the system and manipulates the value of the GF's currency (which is used in ALL of the plants conquered by the GF uses) from 1 to 0. The GF is now bankrupt. Because money has no value anymore in the planets controlled by the GF, all hell breaks loose and the GF is immediately losing planets and connections. This galactic empire is basically falling apart. Rick uses this, goes to earth where Beth and Jerry are. The GF leaves earth since they don't have anything anymore, and they forget about Rick as they have bigger issues to deal with.

This strategy is filled with foresight, intelligence, thinking and reasoning, EQ, deception, FSIQ etc, adding to its complexity. I'll be doing a quick wrap for the main elements in all aspects of this strategy:

Categories:

Effectiveness:

Rick here accomplished multiple goals with his strategy, all being perfectly reached despite the numerous attempts of ruining the strategy by others. He:

- Escaped from the Galactic Federation Prison, one of the biggest and most secure prisons in the galaxy.

- Took down the entire Citadel, successfully getting rid of them and protecting himself from their current and future assassination attempts. The Citadel is the most dominant empire in the entire universe, Rick successfully decreased their multiversal influence into nothing.

- Took down the galactic prison, destroying it completely.

- Destroyed the Galactic Federation, a universal empire controlling thousands of planets. He destroyed their economy completely and freed every world they enslaved (such as earth.) taking their universal Influence and completely demolishing it into nothingness.

- Successfully saved his Summer and Morty From the Citadel, a multiversal empire holding them specifically hostage.

- Successfully saved his Beth and Jerry from the GF, a universal empire.

- Managed to achieve all of that while concealing the formula of the portal gun.

Efficiency:

It's important to note here that Rick started executing his strategy with literally NO resources nor influence at hand. He started the execution as a prisoner in a galactic prison, tied to a machine that he saw for the first time, unconscious. Rick literally had zero materials, resources and influence while going against the two biggest empires in the entire universe, each having universal influence at least.

In all of his tactics, Rick used the least amount of resources. Firstly he broke out of confinement and switched bodies with GF agent using mainly his abstract thoughts (the virus in his mind.), reached the Citadel and gained the ability to visit all secret areas unnoticed using the brainaliser, transported the Citadel into the GF using the teleporter that the Citadel itself designed and built, and overthrown the GF just by pressing one button to change the currency. Rick literally sacrificed the LEAST amount of materials, resources and time (the entire strategy took a couple minutes.). He started off with no resources and no influence while going against literal space empires, outsmarting them with basic tools. He utilized all of the materials he found efficiently and creatively, using simple stuff like his own mind palace or the brainaliser to achieve goals such as hacking futuristic alien technology and gain influence, while being at an extreme disadvantage in terms of resources and manpower.

Not to mention how little was the time he sacrificed to execute the strategy, being a couple of minutes to achieve his goal.

Execution:

This strategy was executed perfectly, and it was fully aligned with what Rick had in mind while creating it.

- Rick was able to create a perfect visualised simulation so accurate that it tricked the GF into thinking that it's a memory.
- changed the portal gun formula with a virus designed to transfer the control over the brainaliser to Rick, concealing the formula from the GF and escaping the brainaliser.
- provoked specific emotions in Morty, Rick A and Summer controlling their actions to be a replica of what he had in mind.
- Concealed his identity and took over new ones manipulating both the GF and the Citadel.

Resilience:

Strategic Resilience is an extremely dominant factor in this strategy. His main plan was to hand himself to the GF, escape and find a new body with the Brainaliser, look for the

sensitive and wanted data regarding the empire, destroying it from the inside. But it was hindered with the sudden intervention of Seal Team Ricks. The second part of the strategy (beginning from the intervention.) is strategy resilience, as Rick found a new creative way to destroy the GF after he was forced into doing so since he can't be seen in a Rick's body and can't forget about his grandkids at the Citadel.

Rick's strategy was so resilient that even after completely destroying it, he implemented a complex series of new tactics to attack the GF in a new way using the fact that he's in a Rick's body (a disadvantage because if he was seen like that by the GF agents storming the place, he'd get attacked by them.) to his advantage, as it became his ticket to enter the Citadel. The resilience factor here just demonstrates how even after you fully take down and hinder Rick's initial plan/strategy, he'll still come back with a better and more resilient/creative strategy to haunt you. The entire second half of the strategy was strategic resilience.

Shielding:

Rick's strategy being hindered doesn't downscale the shielding aspect in any way, Seal Team Rick's attack was completely unpredictable and Ric couldn't have known that the Citadel is after him and are aware of his location. Imagine in Musical Chairs a plane suddenly crashes on the island hindering Akiyama's strategy, Lol.

Rick here shielded his strategy masterfully:

- He used the brainaliser to send his consciousness to GF agent 's body, leaving GF agent 's consciousness in Rick's. This shields the strategy in two ways.

Firstly, Rick is in GF agent 's body so the other GF agents have NO way of knowing or even guessing that Rick made out of the brainaliser in GF agent 's body. GF agent HIMSELF told them that they have gathered the formula and are ready to go. For all they know, their agent has gathered the formula that they just received on their screens (it's impossible for it to be fake as the agent inside of Rick's mind confirmed the formula to be coming from a memory. For context, memories can not be altered.) and

he has just arrived from the mission. Any other theory is more than unlikely, nearly impossible with the information they have.

Secondly, Rick's mind was being slowly melted so that he dies instantly when the formula is found. This was to prevent any further potential implications from Rick. Rick uses this and traps GF agent in his decaying mind so that by the time he reaches GF agent 's body, GF agent would be dead since his mind in Rick's body is melted. This shields Rick from the potential danger of GF agent waking up and trying to uncover Rick's strategy.

- The second shielding is when Rick uses the brainaliser to transfer his consciousness into the commander Rick. This was, Rick finds the perfect route into the Citadel without letting anyone notice his ship. As Rick is suddenly in The Commander's body, he's able to wander the facility freely without any issues or suspects. As he requested, he wanted a high ranking member so no one would question his presence. Rick is in the body of a man known, feared and trusted by everyone in the facility. This makes his strategy invincible as he won't be suspected nor questioned by anyone and nobody would dare put an eye on him or even suspect that it isn't the commander (since that would be irrational.). Rather than sneaking in, Rick took over the body of someone who can easily enter, shielding himself from any potential danger.

Also Rick instantly ordered his men to kill the Rick on the ship by claiming that he's a spy and can't be trusted. The Rick who's on the ship will obviously try contacting the facility, claiming that HE is the real commander, hindering Rick's strategy. So as a countermeasure, Rick claims that the commander (in the body of Rick D99 on that ship.) is a spy, taking ALL credibility from him in case he got to tell them about Rick, and orders them to instantly blow him up so he doesn't get the chance.

- Rick also shielded his strategy via disguising himself as a member of the council when entering. This protected him from any Rick soldiers around and allowed him to trap the Council without any unnecessary issues.

Foresight:

This strategy can be separated into 2 parts:

- Pre Seal Team Rick intervention:
Rick here anticipated all of the events leading up to him gaining control over GF agent 's body. Rick's initial plan was for him to be a prisoner under the surveillance of the GF, have GF agents break into his mind, give them a trojan horse containing a virus that would give him access and full control over the other agent's body (GF agent in this case.), use his new body to reach the sensitive data being held there and destroy the empire from the inside.

This was high tier anticipation as it was extremely unpredictable yet Rick was able to fully foresee it from the early beginning. The GF had numerous ways to gain the info but they chose what Rick anticipated, and then they fell from his highly covered trap. He predicted all of the events happening in the first part of the strategy.

- Post Seal Team Rick intervention:

After the Rick team came in and blew Rick's cover, he ran away into the Citadel. From that specific point forward, Everything Rick did was anticipated. After getting the body of the commander he predicted where the teleporter was, he arrived there then merged the Citadel with the GF. After that he arrived at the location of the council. He analyzed Summer, Rick A and Morty, predicting all of their emotional reactions to his actions and abusing said reactions in order to advance with his strategy. This is a hard task as he was supposed to predict the complex overlapping emotional reactions of two emotionally unstable kids under extreme pressure and a literal replica of himself that has the same level of EQ and the same complex emotional profile.

Adaptability:

Adaptability is the most important element in Rick's strategy as the entire sum of tactics implemented after the Seal Team Rick attack was pure adaptability. Rick had to adapt to the sudden threat posed by the Citadel, adding it into his goal and instantly finding new creative tactics to take it down. The adaptability here was-

Strategic- Rick had to assess the situation then create and implement a number of newer tactics that were suitable for the current situation he found himself in. Rick instantly came up with an invincible, efficient, complex and aligned strategy to take down the two biggest empires in the universe although it was a completely novel situation for him. It was also completely sudden as he had no idea that the Citadel had his grandkids and didn't know that they were targeting him or even had his location. His initial plan didn't take into account for them yet he still managed to immediately form a unique new chain of tactics fully countering and outsmarting them with.
It was also obvious that the Citadel of Ricks being run and inhabited by millions of other literal replicas of Rick, all having similar intelligence to him, was a big issue. As he had to adapt to many of his versions, each one knowing everything about him fully (since they are all the same person technically.) and each having enough intellectual capabilities to be his rival.

Environment- This doesn't affect much over all but I just wanted to mention how Rick adapted to each body/disguise he took (GF agent 's body, the commander's body, the council Rick's disguise.) studying and mimicking them fully and to different unique contradictory environments (the GF and the Citadel.). This was crucial for his strategy to work.

Alignment:

Aligned Morty, Rick A and Summer's emotional outbursts aligning their emotions with the fake emotions he's showing and aligned it with Morty's distress causing him to become irrational, guiding him and building him up in a specific way so he would act how Rick wants. Used the Citadel to destroy the GF, hitting two birds with one stone.

Tactical complexity:

Engineered a multi-dimensional strategy based on abstract ideas (such as the virus code and the MP in general), implemented multi-layered tactics that served multiple near impossible purposes where he merged his goal of taking down the Citadel and the GF together destroying them both with the same set of tactics for example.

Rick managed to use the people around him influencing them to do actions thinking that they are doing it out of their own free will whereas they are unknowingly serving Rick's strategy.

Abused his family and his other versions' weaknesses and patterns of thought against them, and while constantly acting and disguising himself in the body or in the disguise of someone else.

Used each resource he had creatively and in a complex manner such as the brainaliser, the Citadel's main teleporter and even his own consciousness and mind palace.

Manipulated Morty using a multi-layered scheme.

His strategy was used against literal versions of himself from other dimensions having nearly perfectly parallel personality, decision making and intelligence yet he used that fact to his advantage creating a strategy so multi-layered, creative and complex that not even millions of him could counter with the sole purpose of exceeding the Citadel hence he had to build a strategy not even HE could counter or, realistically, "think of".

His strategy was so complex that it was invisible for most of the time where no character even slightly questioned or suspected it for the entire run.

Personal Ranking of Rick's best strategy sub categories for this strategy:

Adaptability>=Effectiveness>=Efficiency>=Resilience>Shielding>
Foresight>Tactical complexity>Execution>=Alignment.