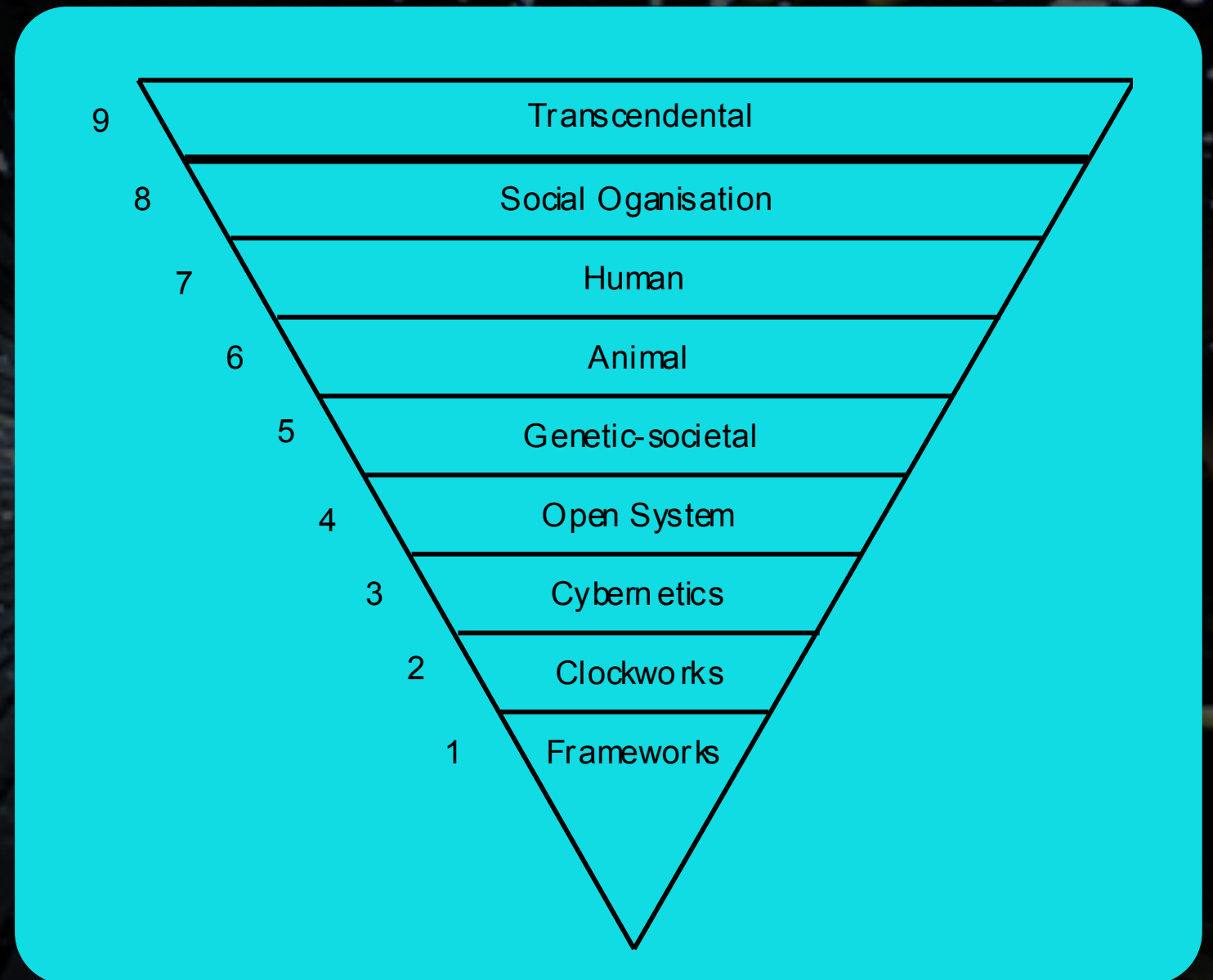


Hierarchy of Complex Systems

- Levels 1 to 3 encompass the physical systems.
- Levels 4 to 6 the biological systems
- Levels 7 and 8 the human and social systems.



The background image shows a vast, modern architectural interior, likely a library or a large public building. The most striking feature is the high, vaulted ceiling, which is constructed from a complex network of steel beams and glass panels, creating a series of repeating arches. The space is multi-leveled, with balconies on upper floors that have glass railings. The ground floor is open and bright, with a polished floor that reflects the light. In the distance, there are bookshelves and study areas, suggesting a library or academic setting. The overall atmosphere is one of grandeur and modern design.

PARSONS'S (AND MERTON'S) FUNCTIONAL STRUCTURALISM