



Towards a University
for a Regenerative
Third Horizon



Module 5

Qualsystems: The Cosmic Laws of Unfolding

QUALITATIVE SYSTEMS THINKING



QUALITATIVE SYSTEMS THINKING

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Relational Quantum Theory Helgoland – Carlo Rovelli


“What is an observation when there is no scientist observing?”

The key to the answer, I believe, is the simple observation that scientists as well, and their measuring instruments, are all part of nature. What quantum theory describes, then, is *the way in which one part of nature manifests itself to any other single part of nature.*”

Properties are an interaction complex and are not fixed to an object.



Helgoland, Carlo Rovelli, Allen Lane, 2021



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Early Search Bogdanov's Tektology

"Tektology must clarify the modes of organisation that are perceived to exist in nature and human activity; then it must generalise and systematise these modes; further, must explain them, that is, propose abstract schemes of their tendencies and laws; finally, based on these schemes, determine the direction of organisational methods and their role in the universal process."



1873 -1928

Essays in Tektology: The General Science of Organization, A. Bogdanov, Intersystems, 1984 Trans G. Gorelik.



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Privileging Relationship Rachevsky's Relational Biology

The essence of reductionism in biology is to keep the matter of which an organism is made, and throw away the organization, with the belief that, since physicochemical *structure implies function*, the organization can be effectively reconstituted from the analytic material parts.

Relational biology, on the other hand, keeps the organization and throws away the matter; *function dictates structure*, whence material aspects are entailed.



1899 - 1972

Relational Biology, A.H. Louie,
<https://ahlouie.com/relational-biology/>



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Unfolding from the Implicate Order

The essential features the implicate order are, as we have seen, that the whole universe is in some way enfolded in everything in that each thing it enfolded in the whole.

All things found in the explicate order emerge from the holomovement and ultimately fall back into it. They endure only for some time, and while they last, their existence is sustained by a constant process of unfoldment and re-enfoldment, which gives rise to their relative stable and independent forms in the explicate order



The Undivided Universe, D.Bohm and B.J.Hiley, Routledge, 1993



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The Process of Unfolding

The foundation of qualsystems unfolding is that there is and implicate order which is laden with patterns of possibilities. However, for these patterns to become manifest in the experienced world or explicate order, there has to be a dynamic process of coming into being.

Qualsystems is based on the observation that natural and cultural generation follows a progression of perceptible qualities associated with the series of whole numbers 1,2,3,4 and so on.

Each of these qualities or attributes expresses a different aspect and articulation of systemic structure in the sense of emerging qualitative complexity.

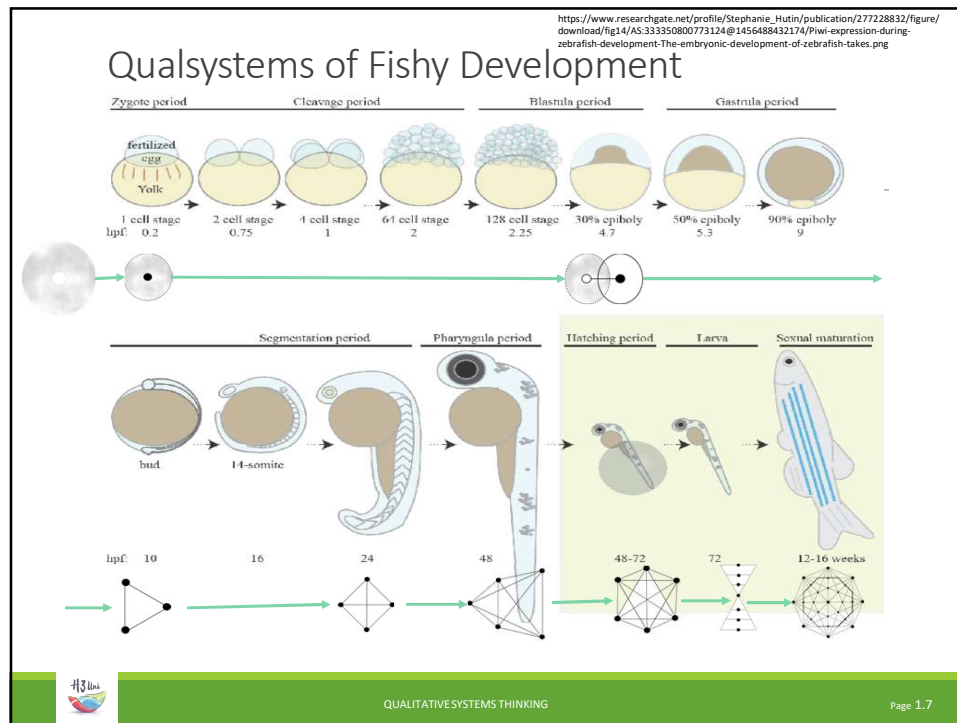
This qualitative principle leads to some rules or laws of unfolding.



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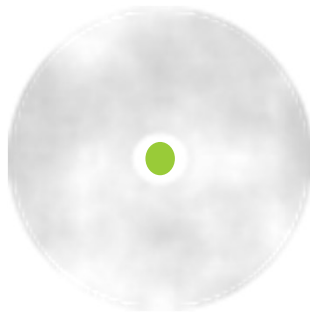
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Bringing a Garden into Manifestation



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NULLAD – All Gardens



The Universal
Potential of Life

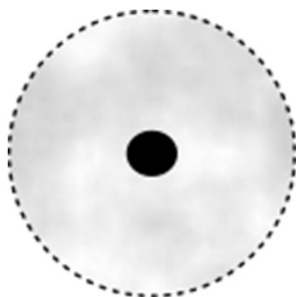


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MONAD - This Garden



This particular desirable
garden in this location in this
culture in this climate at this
phase planetary condition.



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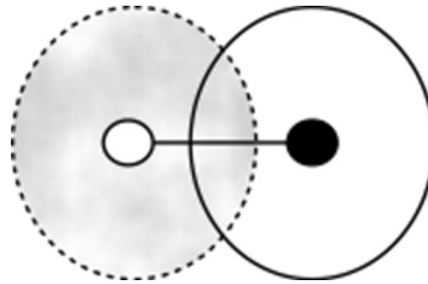
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DYAD – This Garden



NATURE
(ESSENCE)
What is the
containing
habitat.
ecology.
seasonality?



NURTURE
(EXISTENCE)
What is the
genre of
garden
design to be
evoked?



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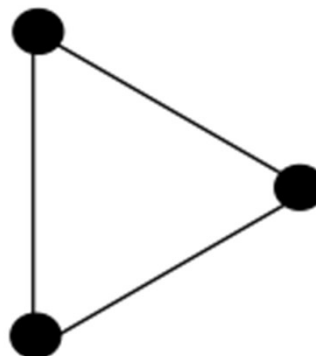
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TRIAD – This Garden



The creative
urge of the
gardener
Affirming

The resources
and materials
of the plot
Receptive



The emerging
design
possibilities
and ideas
Reconciling

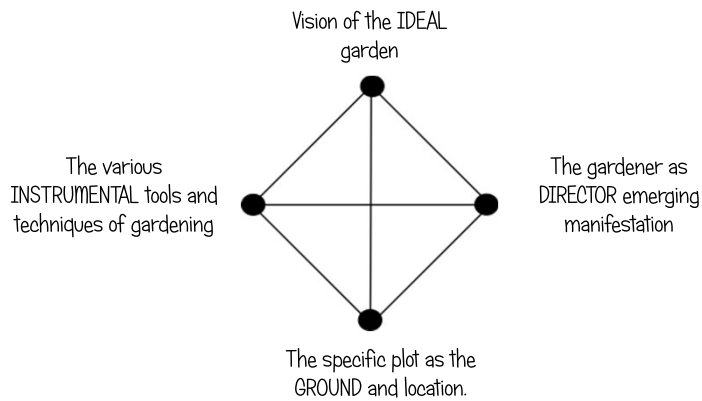


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TETRAD – This Garden

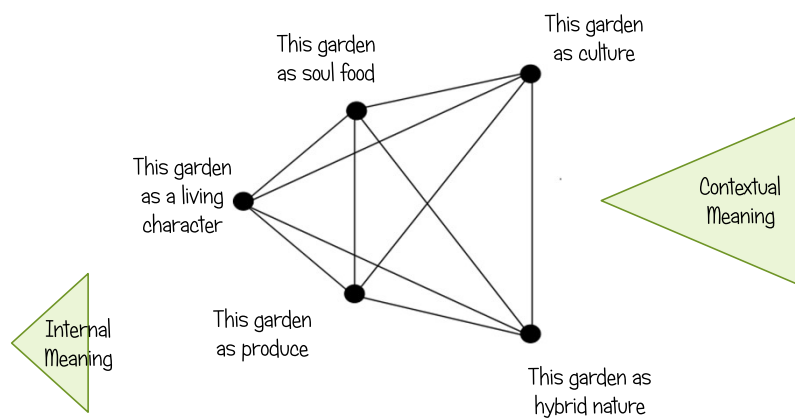


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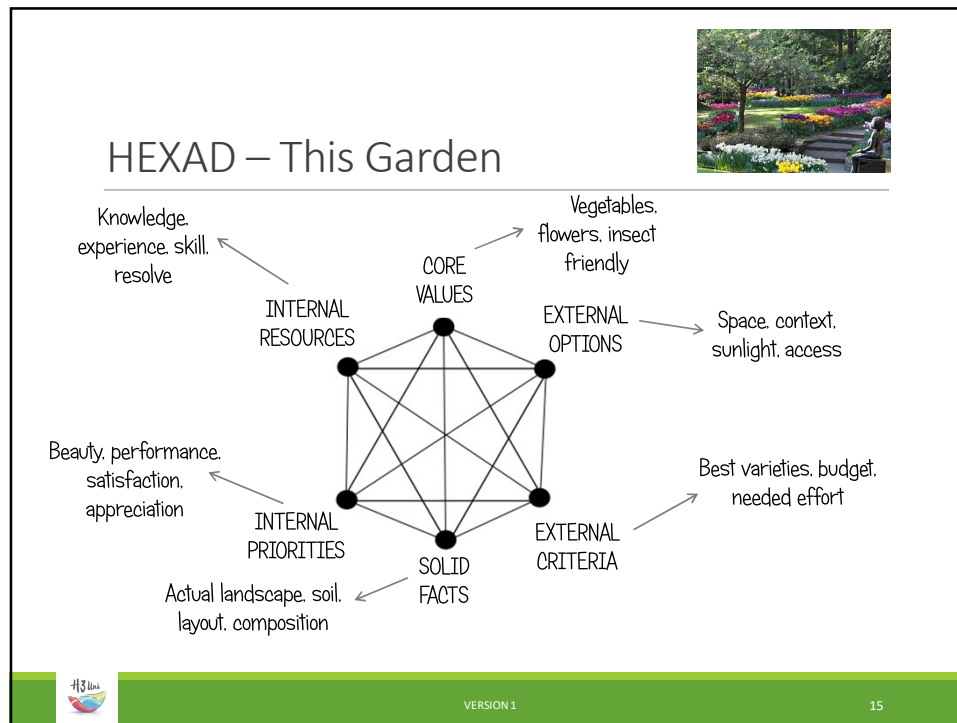
PENTAD – This Garden



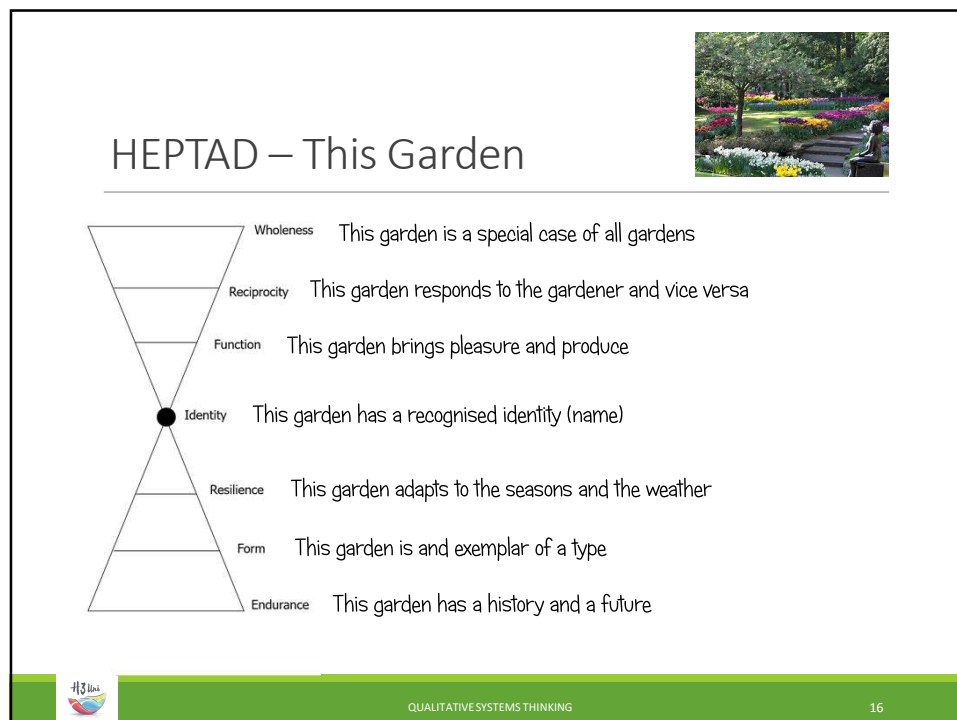
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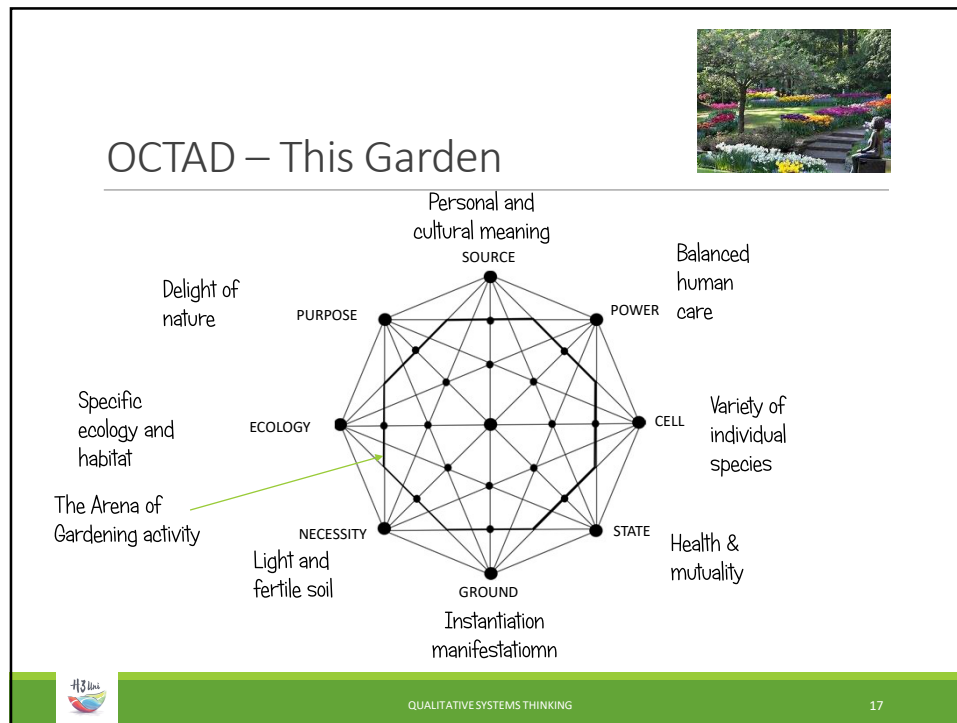
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Qualtum Unfolding – The Basis

The proposition is that complex constructive processes in the universe proceed according to qualitative laws as well as quantitative laws.

On planet earth we experience two broad forms; natural and human. Natural constructive processes are evident in the variety of species in the biosphere. A strong example is the development of the mammalian embryo from a single cell into well articulated independent organism.

Human constructive processes range from the establishing of a work of art, a family to a civilisation.

There is a crucial difference. The former is taken care of by Nature whereas the latter require intentionality and conspicuousness. Since these human attributes are weakly developed and often distorted human constructive process rarely form harmonious wholes and are riddled with conflict, confusion and conceit.

This where qualsystems unfolding helps.

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Qualtum Unfolding – The Theory

Qualsystems Theory enables us to give us an account of the unfolding of the Implicate Order to the Explicate Order. It a discipline for reflective understanding of any complex and moving situation. This unfolding progresses through the sequence of number systems (monad, dyad, triad etc.) which form a discrete series analogous to quantum levels. We call them *qualtum levels*.

In any unfolding process there is no guarantee that a complete unfolding will take place. The transitions are subject to hazard. The further the unfolding the more complex the next (n+1) system and the greater the variety of the total set of systems up to that stage.

The sequence is quasi infinite (qualitative infinity) but our understanding is constrained by cognitive limits. So far the qualtum range has been largely but not completely developed as far as the Duodecad or 12-term system.



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Qualtum Unfolding – Perception is Reality

In terms of subjective understanding each qualsystems enables a distinct perspective which help our sense making and provokes insight.

In terms of objective understanding each qualsystems corresponds to a stage of a visible unfolding (e.g. in embryology the progression from fertilised ovum to articulated organism).

Actually both understandings are one and the same understanding since we are inseparable from the world we are trying to understand in the relational paradigm.

In so far as endeavours follow this progression of unfolding, they develop and achieve manifestation and maturity creative human. Therefore studying the expression of qualsystems specific to a practical domain of realization can reveal such things as sequences of experiential qualities, or whether stages have been overlooked or become fixated upon.

In collaborative work qualsystems provides a language for communicating varied perceptions and interpretations of situations aiding concerted effort without losing important differences. Qualsystems also helps guide application of skill and effort as well as giving a better sense of growing and endeavour on secure foundations and with a sense of synchronous timing.



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Principles of Unfolding – Part 1

1. Complex meaningful systems have an origination in an *asingularity**, the Monad, which contains all possibilities for that unique potential.
2. The heart of the Monad has the property of being a distinction from the Totality which is still imbued with the quality of wholeness.
3. The essential quality of wholeness (or the lack of it) is a key determinant of what it is possible to unfold.
4. From this starting point or in a profound sense, conception, the qualsystem unfolding begins.

* *asingularity* – point origination, contrasted with *singularity* – a point conclusion



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Principles of Unfolding – Part 2

5. Successful or complete unfolding follows the sequence of number *n-term systems* such that any higher complexity sub-system is emergent from the previous *(n-1)-term system*. For example the 4-term system (Tetrad) emerges from the 3-term systems (Triad)
6. *n-term systems* that have not embodied this principle are likely to be weak and fail to fulfil the potential of the Monad.
7. The transition from one order of system to the next order (*n* to *n+1*) is a discontinuity and subject to hazard. Unfolding is not a deterministic process although it has deterministic elements.



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Principles of Unfolding - Part 3

8. In natural biological systems the role of life is to reduce the hazard of transitions so that multiple potentials can be realised. (A good example is the development of the fertilised ovum into a mature organism)
9. Whereas in nature some ecological or even cosmic value is intrinsic in human social systems it needs to be implanted. Human agency is at an early stage of evolution in this respect especially in regard to the intrinsic value of monads.
10. In human social systems the hazard is greater because the agency of unfolding is the human being with widely differing appreciation of qualities, potential and creative action.



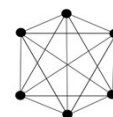
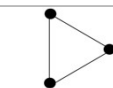
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The Sequence of Unfolding (Part 1)

- **MONAD** – *Universality:*
(Sub-Universe of Concern)
- **DYAD** – *Complementarity:*
(Essence v Existence)
- **TRIAD** – *Dynamism: Relational life*
 1. Affirming influence: Envisioned Pattern
 2. Receiving/Denying influence: Accessible Resources
 3. Reconciling influence: Creative Spirit
- **TETRAD** – *Field of Action:*
 1. Ideal,
 2. Ground,
 3. Instrumental,
 4. Directive
- **PENTAD** – *Potential significance:*
 1. Quintessence
 2. In the service of ...
 3. Higher nature
 4. Served by ...
 5. Lower nature
- **HEXAD** – *Coalescence of Fact and Value*
 1. Core values
 2. External options
 3. Internal priorities
 4. Unavoidable facts
 5. External criteria
 6. Internal resources



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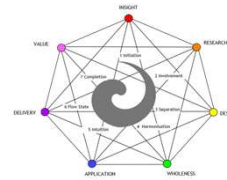
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The Sequence of Unfolding (Part 2)

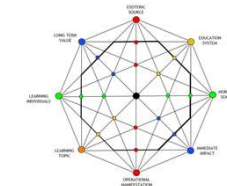
HEPTAD: Generative Structure (structure-process)

Structure	Process
1. INSIGHT	Initiation
2. RESEARCH	Involvement
3. DESIGN	Separation
4. WHOLENESS	Harmonisation
5. APPLICATION	Intuition
6. DELIVERY	Flow State
7. VALUE	Completion



OCTAD: Sustainable Totality (completedness)

1. Intrinsic Nature
2. Inherent Values
3. Integrative Holon
4. Essential Resources
5. Supportive Platform
6. Critical Functions
7. Autonomous Holon
8. Organisational Form

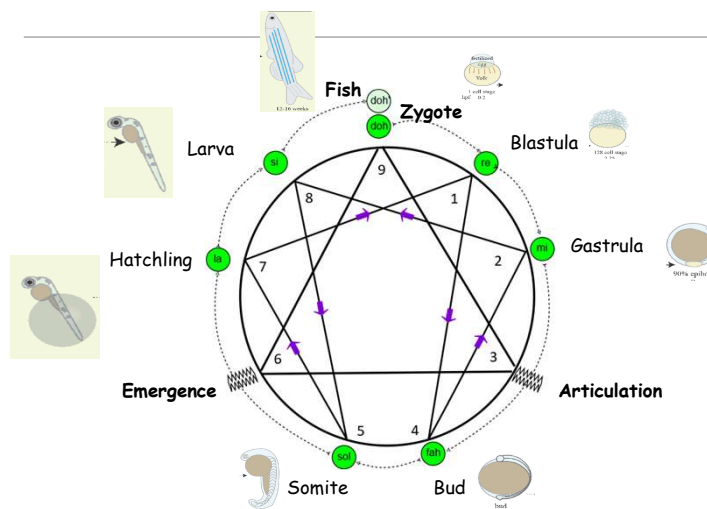


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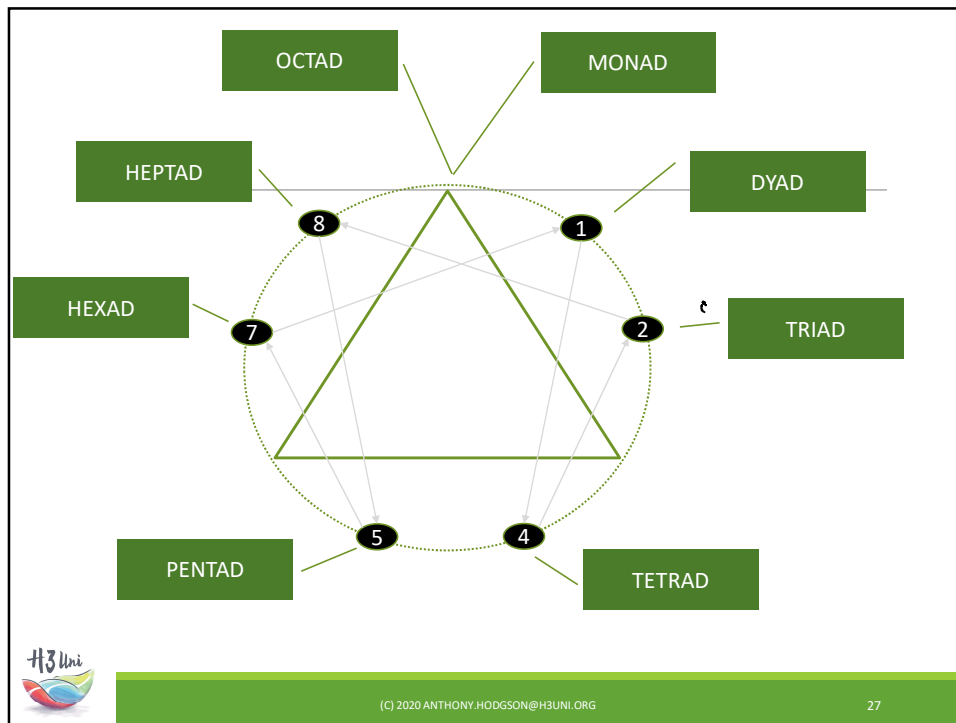
ENNEAGRAM – 9 term system



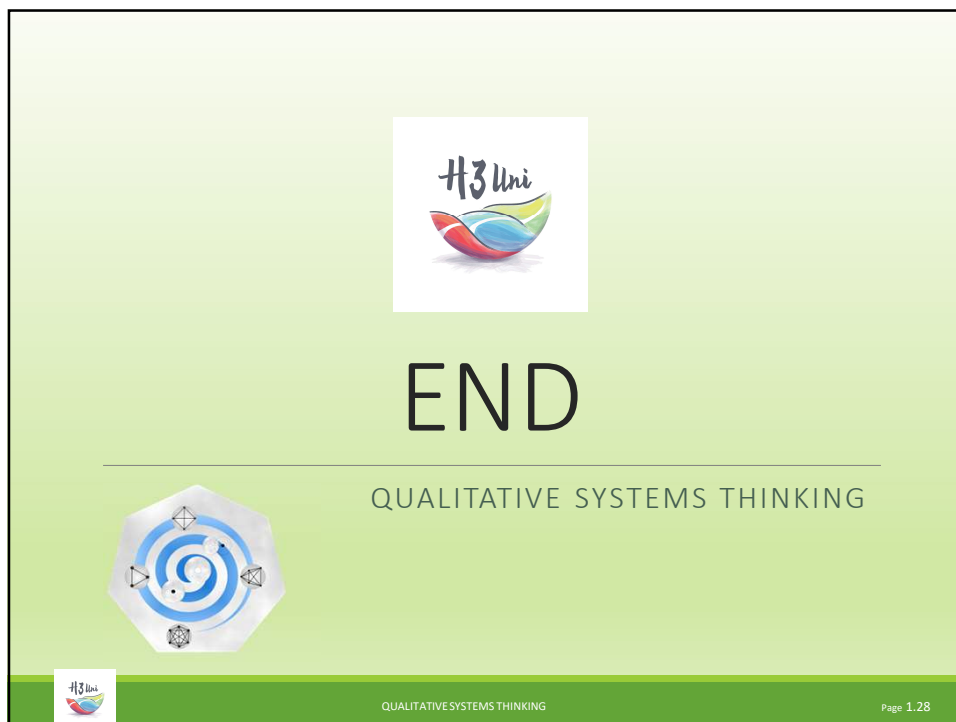
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