

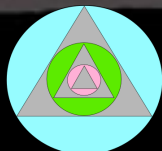
Cosmic Ecology

An exploration of the cosmic significance of humanity based on the natural philosophy of J.G.Bennett and drawing on multiple sources of science and spirituality,

Part 1 – Human Beings in the Universe

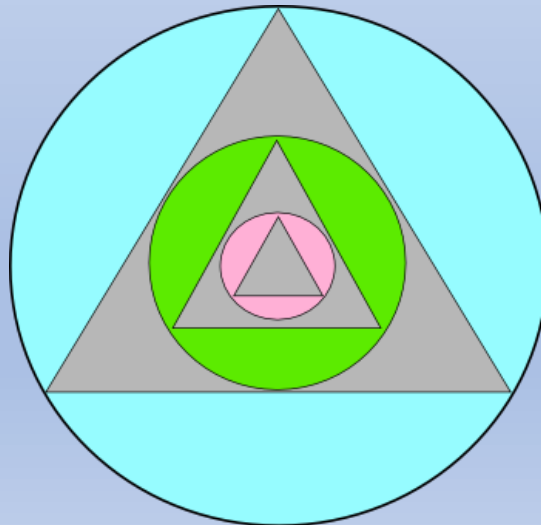
Module 1 – From Terrestrial to Cosmic Ecology

Dr. Anthony Hodgson



Section 1

The Forbidden Zone



Cosmic Ecology – A New Field of Study

- what is cosmic ecology as a field of study? What subject is this?
- Other traditional disciplines have constraining assumptions usually with a price of rejection even ridicule to anything that does not fit. The traditions of religion and philosophy are even more constrained and punish with a process of excommunication even death.
- Methods such as systems thinking, holism, integral frameworks and so on have made forages into transdisciplinarity.
- Ecumenical movements have affirmed all beliefs lead to the same truth with at best only the power to slightly slow the degeneration.
- The fresh approach of cosmic ecology is another forage into this dangerous territory. Why is cosmic ecology dangerous?

The Challenge

There is a widespread social distortion which
create a wilful pathology in our worldviews that
block us from discovering a
cosmic ecology.

Yet in this ecosystem we live and have our being.



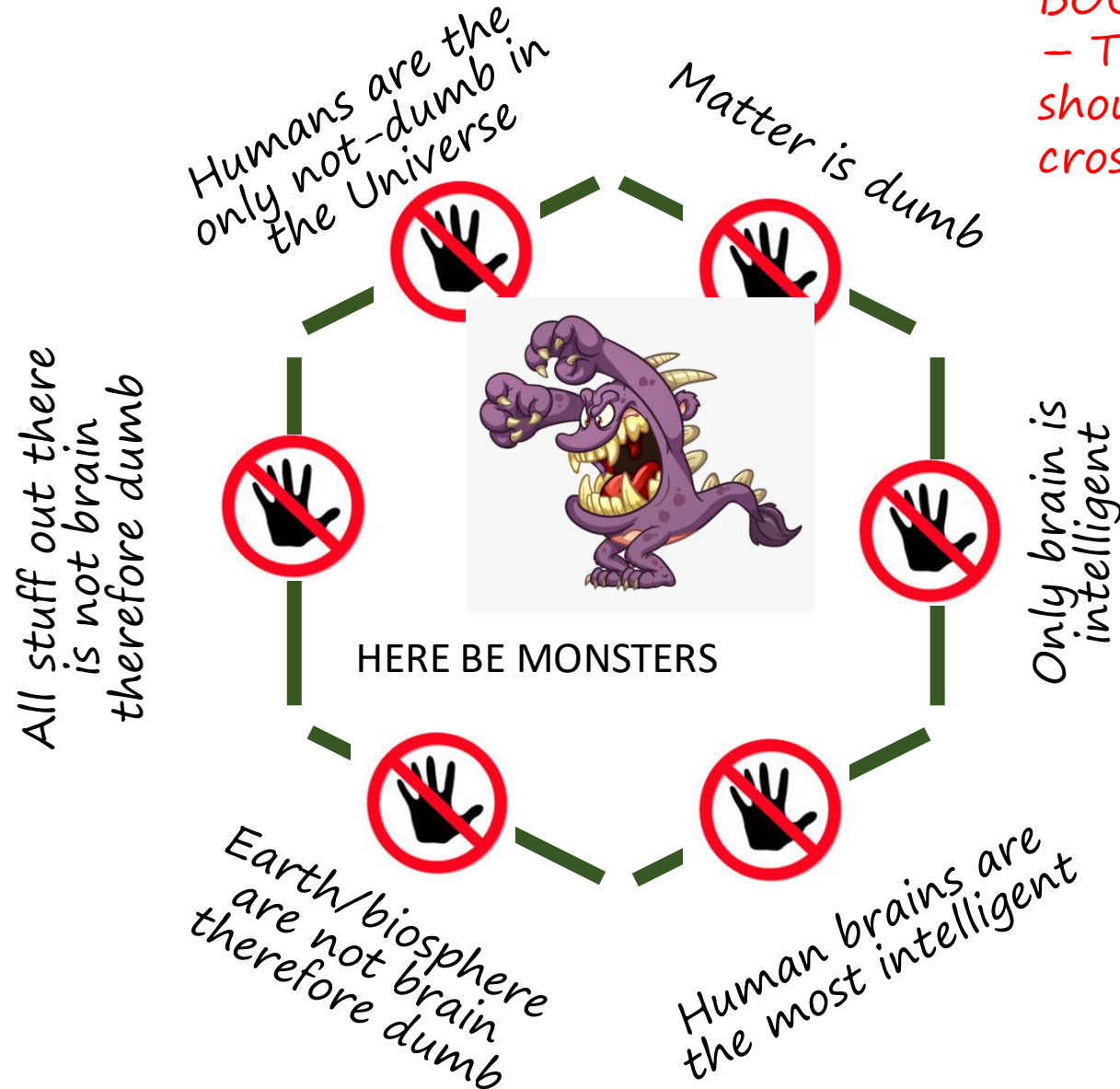
These distortions create a
Forbidden Zone*



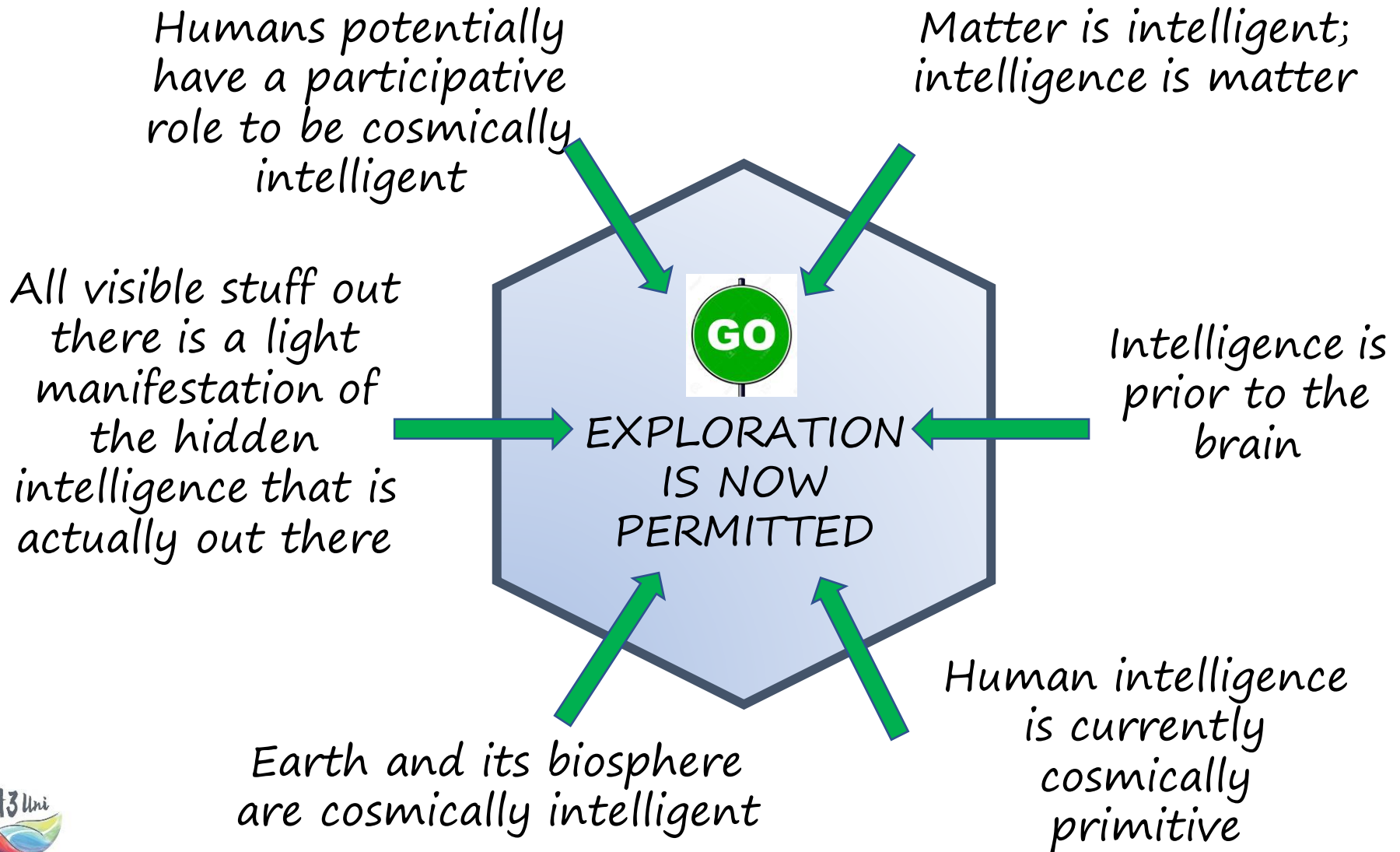
**Note: Entering it can even attract the death penalty*

The Forbidden Zone

BOUNDARIES
– These limits
should not be
crossed!



Hypotheses opening the Cosmic Portal to the Happy Zone



Discussion Interlude 1

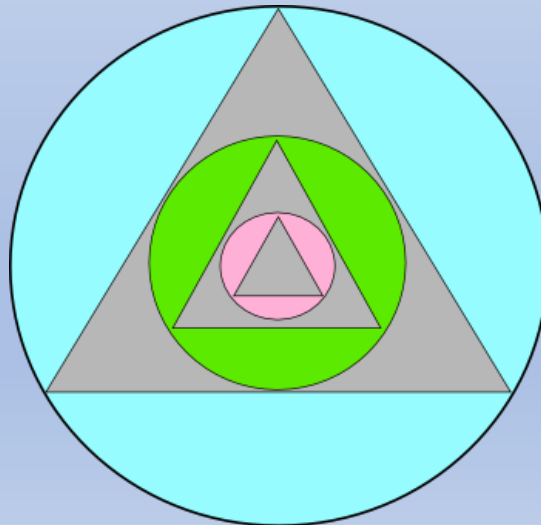
Share any feelings you
have about your own
experience of
“the forbidden zone”



RANDOM
PAIRS

Section 2

The Greater Anthropocene



Waking up on Planet Earth – Learning the Hard Way



DISCOVERING
COSMIC
ECOLOGY

Deeper Meaning
and Purpose

RECOGNISING
SPIRITUAL
FAILURE

Survival of
Biosphere

HITTING
PLANETARY
LIMITS

Survival of
Humanity

DISCOVERING
TERRESTRIAL
ECOLOGY

Habitat and
Species Extinction

EXPLOITATION
OF 'INFINITE
FLAT EARTH'

Expansive Domination
and Exploitation



Acknowledging the Greater Anthropocene

Arrival of the
Anthropocene



Has created a
planet-wide
impasse



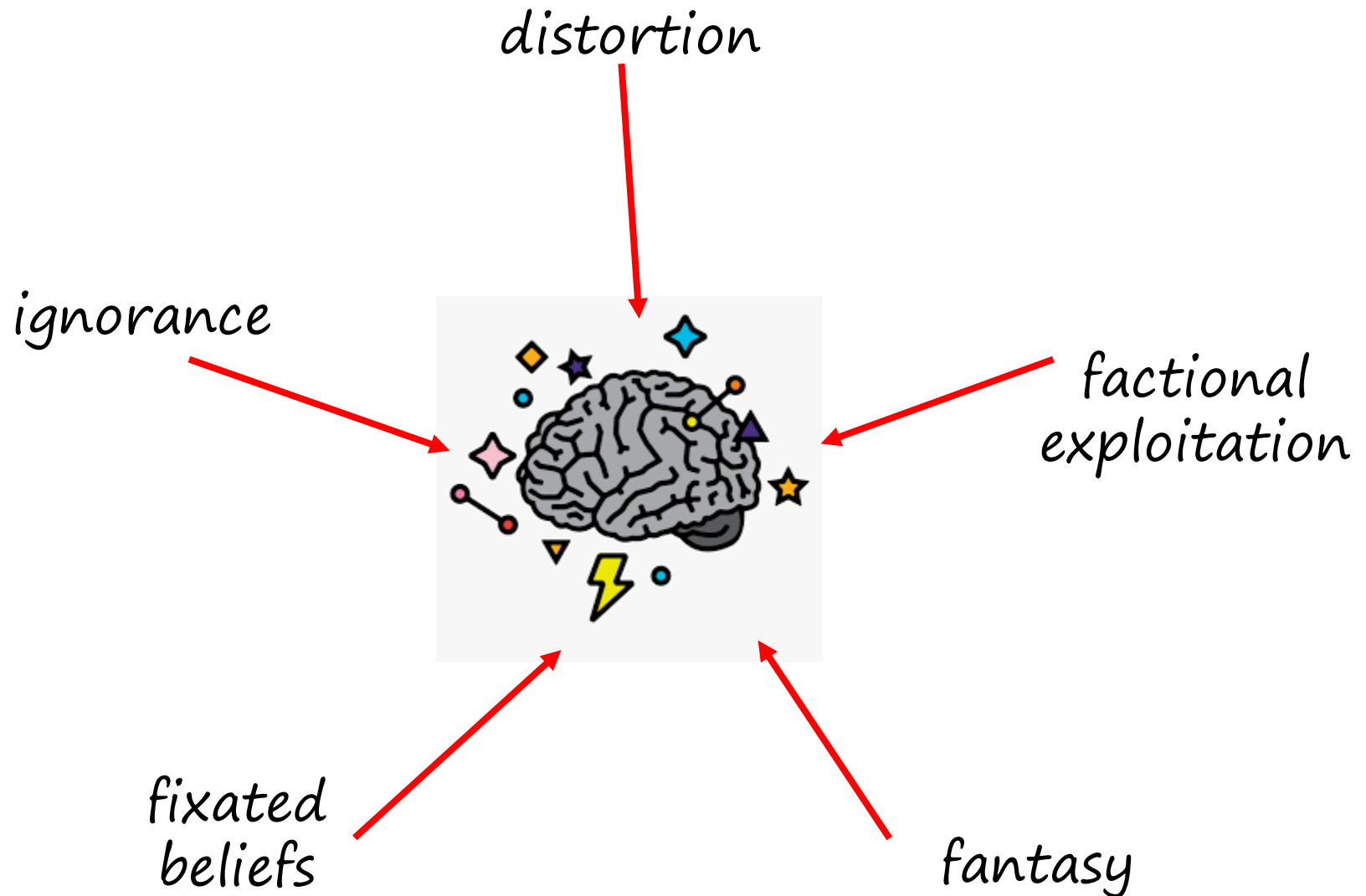
We are
“off the map”



Impact is
predominantly
negative – why?



Fragmented Incomplete Understanding



Accumulating Feedback from the Whole

- For thousands of years we have lived in weakly connected domains and so our fragmentation catastrophies have not destroyed the Gaian system
- But now all our domains are strongly connected and catastrophies are no longer in isolation
- However, our minds remain fragmented with no effective collective basis for evoking behaviour congruent with our true human/planetary situation
- This has led to a tragic situation for humanity

Entering the portal of
opportunity,
we can entertain
alternative worldviews
and see
what new questions,
learning and meaning
they bring

Discussion Interlude 2

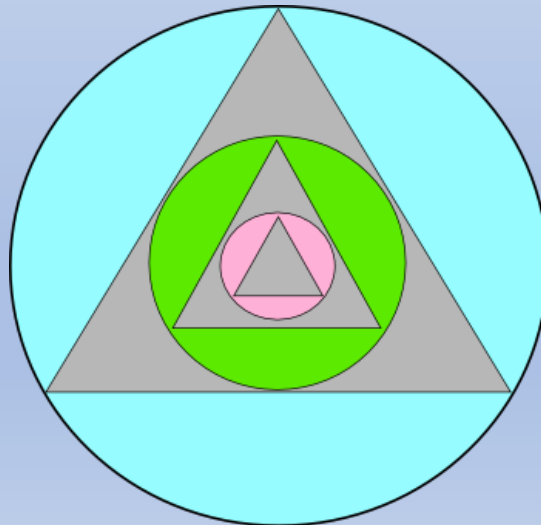
Do you agree that worldview is an important factor in the social global pathology of humans?



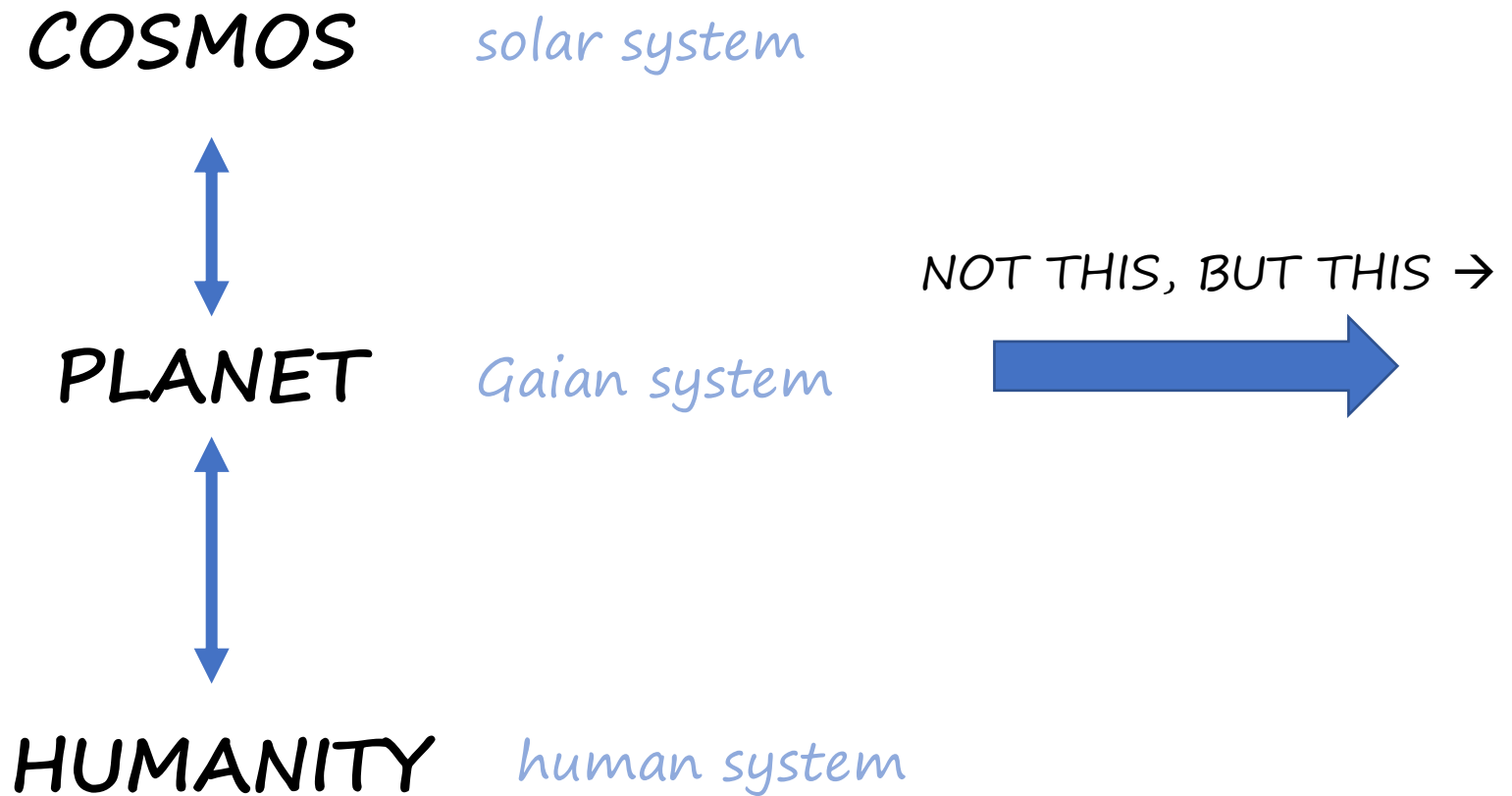
RANDOM
PAIRS

Section 3

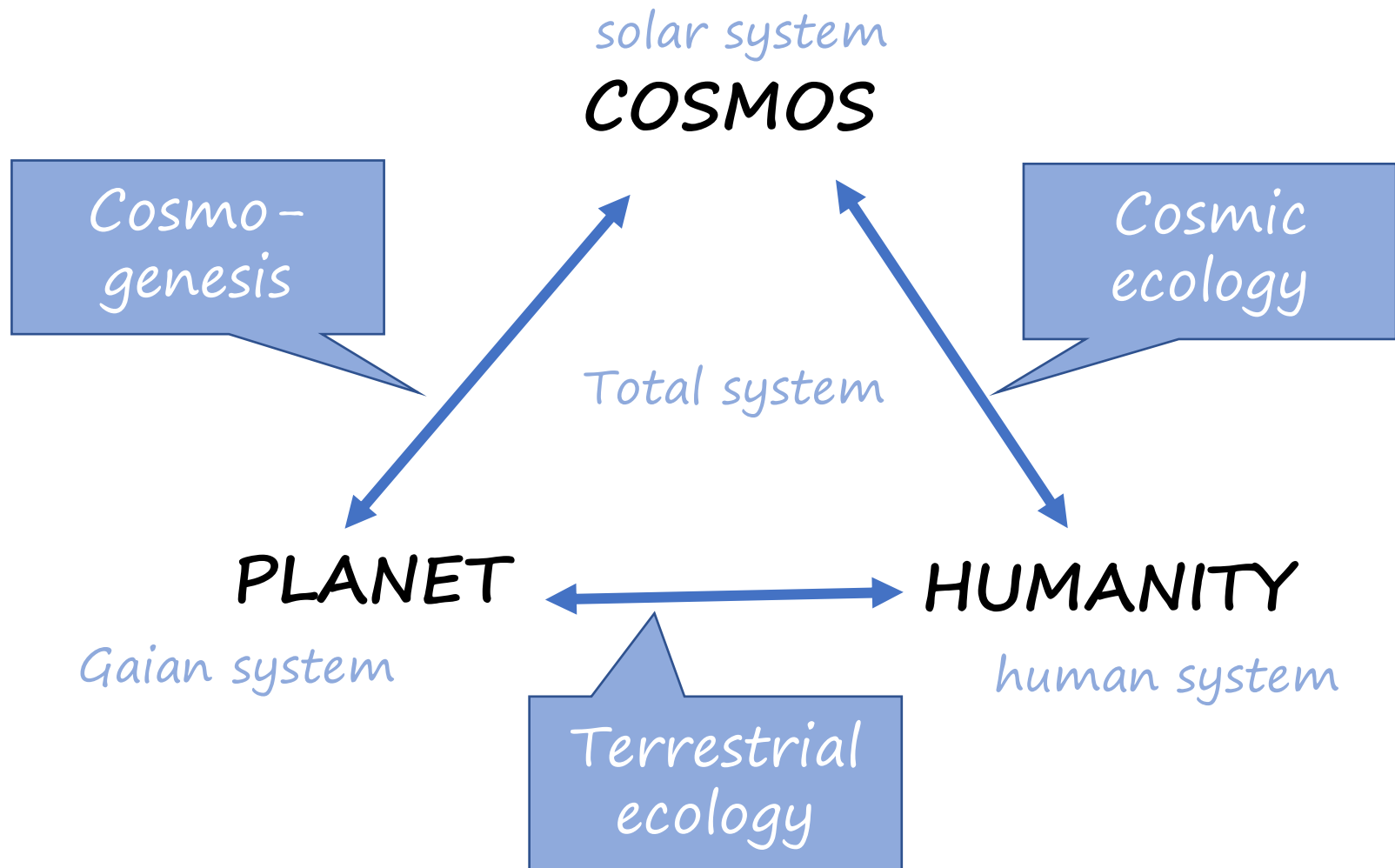
The Eternal Triangle



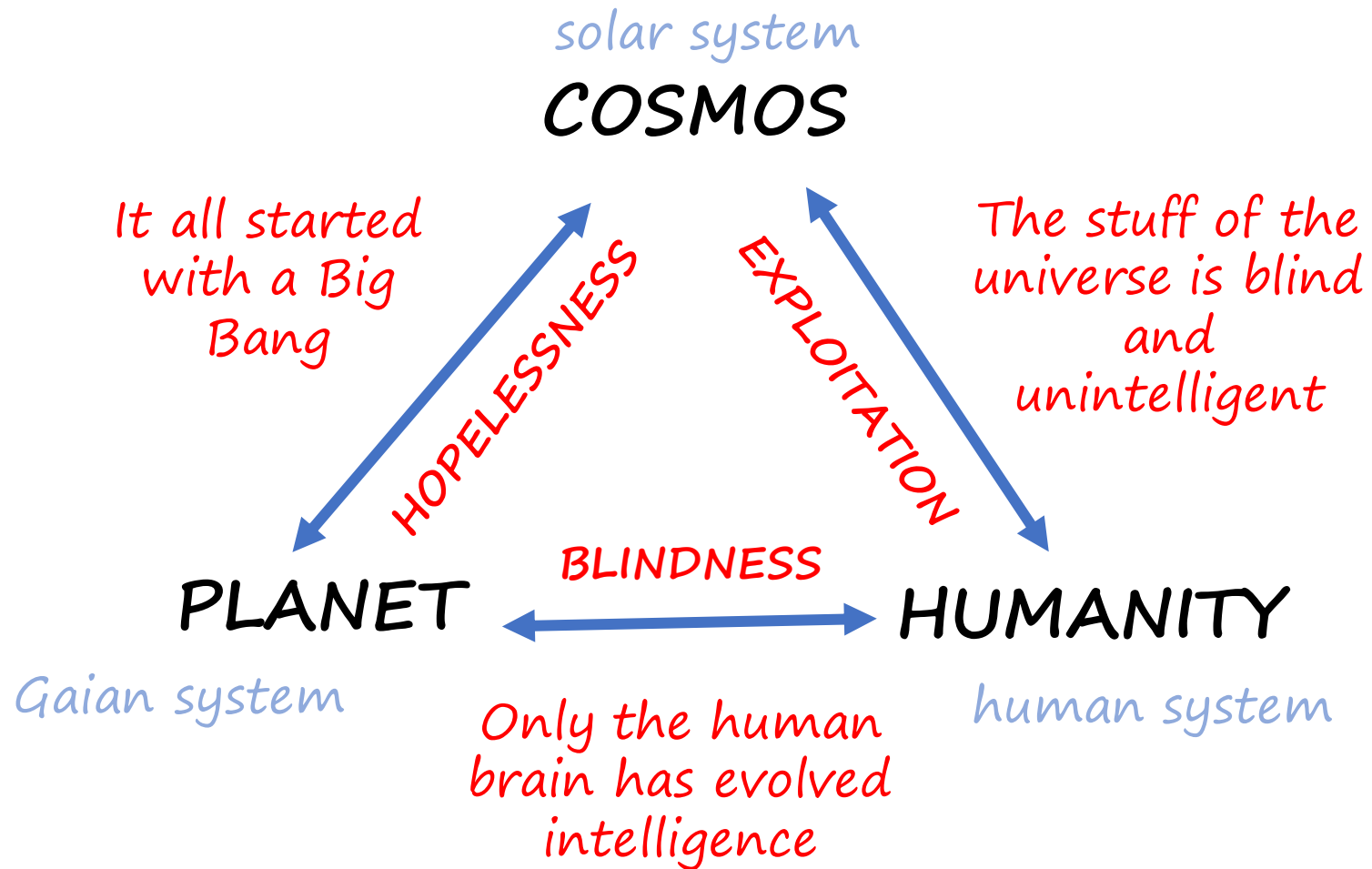
From Causal Chain to Eternal Triangle



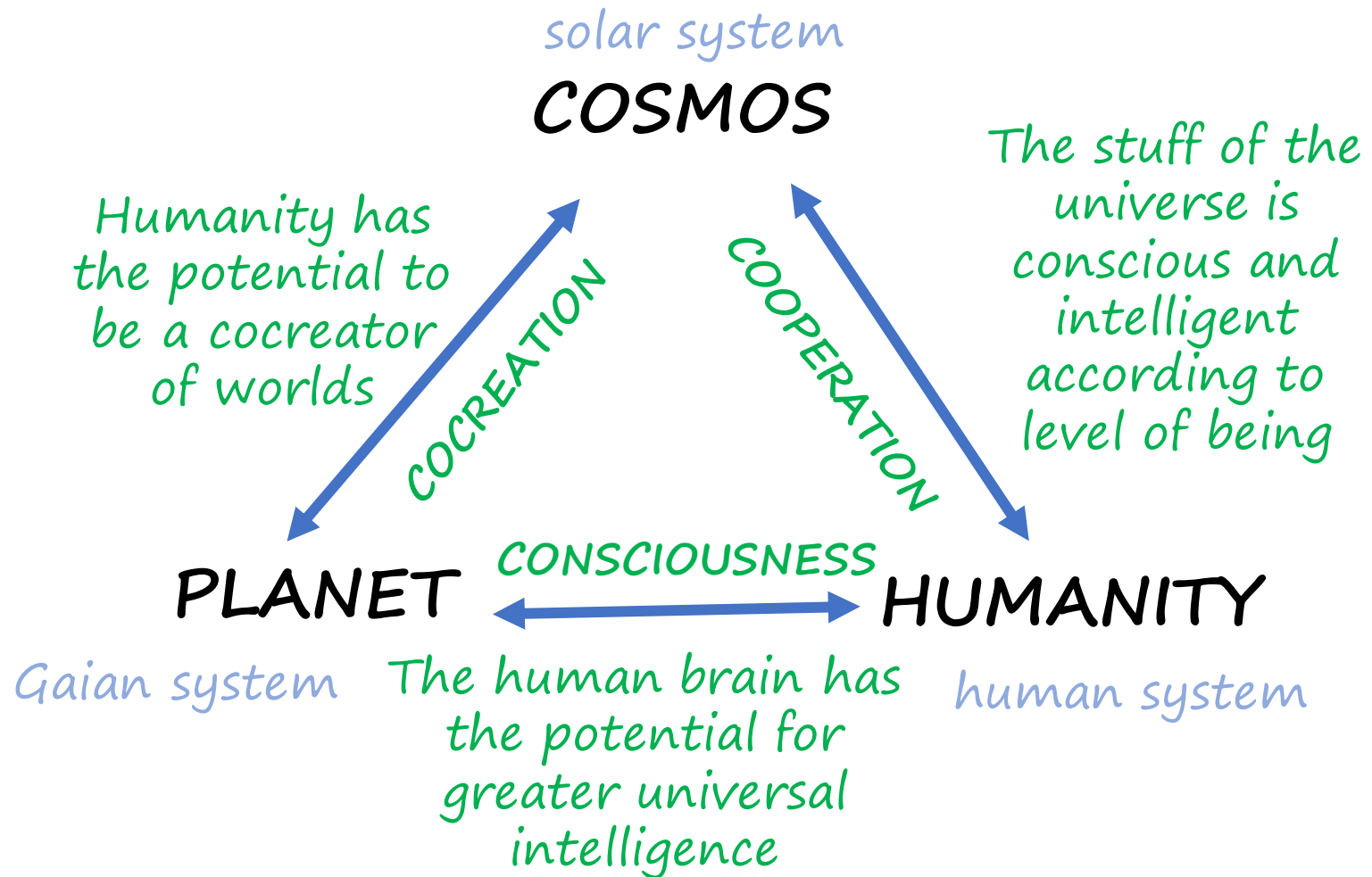
The Eternal Triangle



Avidya



Vidya



So what are the drivers of global tragedy?

- A tragedy occurs when an action, thought to be in the best interests of the actor, turns out to provoke a destructive even catastrophic collapse on a scale that no single actor or collective can avert.
- Three global tragedies arise from the blinkered human purposes of
 - A. Acquiring sufficiency for self without consideration for other
 - B. Getting it now without consideration for future generations
 - C. Assuming complete knowledge and awareness with the false sense of certainty that it gives rise to

Waking Up to the Anthropocene Predicament

C- Tragedy of
Consciousness

The
Anthropocene
Predicament



A- Tragedy of the
Commons

B- Tragedy of the
Horizons

Discussion Interlude 3

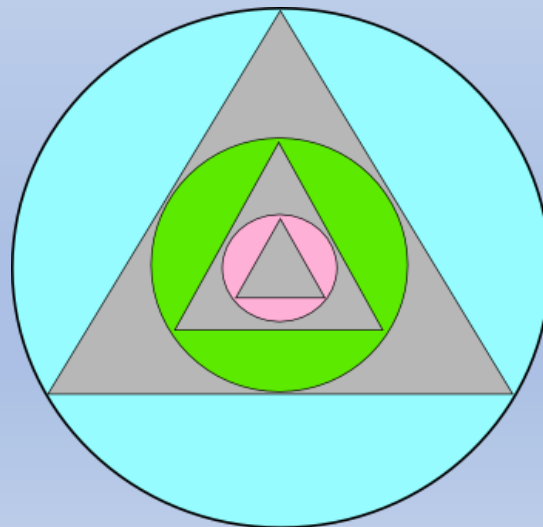
As you see it, why is there
a tragedy of consciousness?



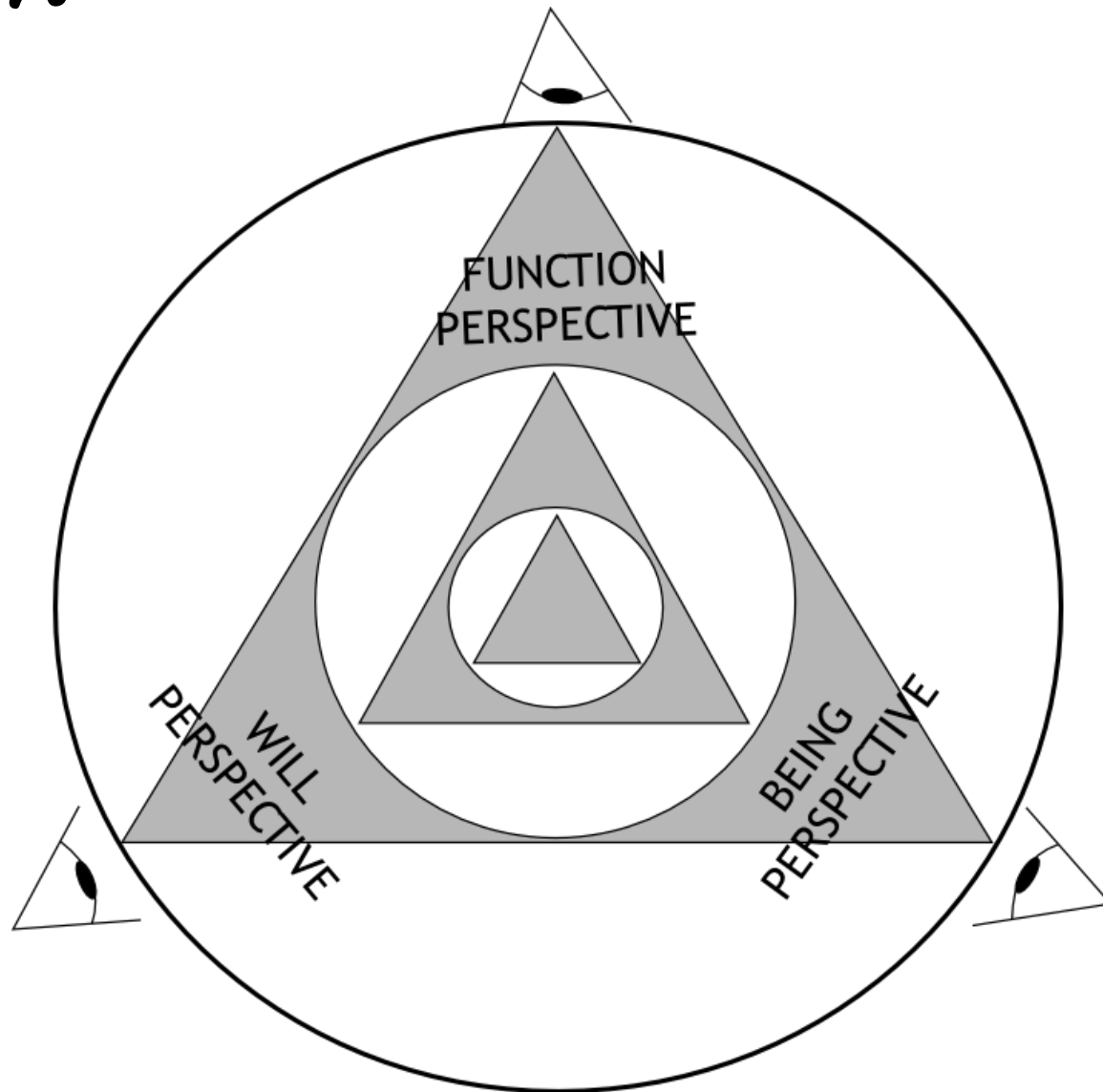
RANDOM
PAIRS

Section 4

The Three Aspects of Experience



Function
Being
Will



The Three Aspects of Experience

- UNITY – Non-duality (Advaita) is beyond experience and “closer than your jugular vein”

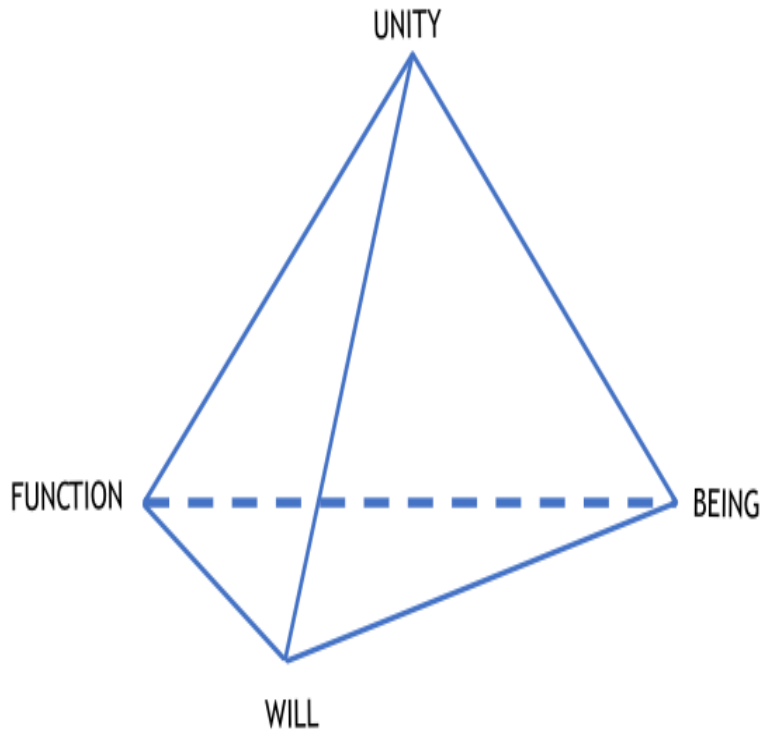
The foundation of cosmic ecology is to unpack unity into three distinct but inseparable aspects. This is already dualistic device, but it is counter balanced by knowing it is that.

Our experience (phenomena and noumena; objective and subjective) presents us with a huge diversity of occasions (“an occasion like this”) which is still a very small sample of what David Bohm called the qualitative infinity of the universe.

The advantage of seeing in three aspects of function, being and will is that it acts as an antidote to getting stuck in the dualistic trap (mind/matter; spiritual/material; conscious/inert) and, analogous to map making, enables a method of philosophical triangulation.

So what are these aspects ?

The Triad Beyond Unity



FUNCTIONAL ASPECT

Experience as 'goings on' through material processes and transformations articulating differentiation and diversity in the ONE.

BEING ASPECT

Experience as an appreciation of entities and qualities identified by their inner togetherness, their patterning, independent of what is 'going on'.

WILL ASPECT

Experience as specific instantiations of intent, choice, connectivity and value meaning.

Universality of Function, Being and Will

Cosmic ecology proposes that in a conscious universe, the unfolding of unity through Monad, Dyad to Triad takes place at every level and every scale.

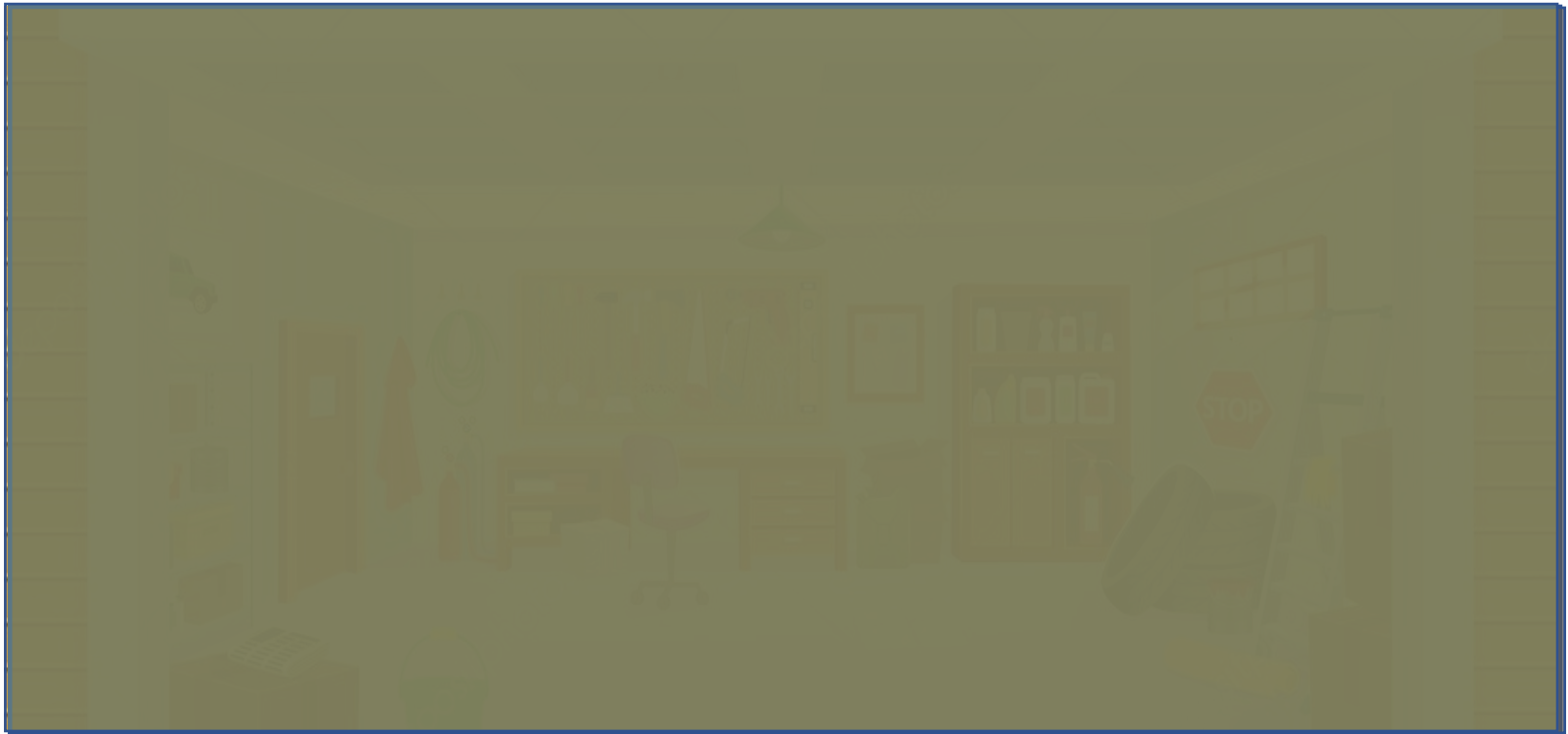
We encounter it anthropomorphically through our own experience, but that is simply what we are given to start with.

FUNCTION – HOW? Behaviour over time

BEING – WHAT? Bounded inner-togetherness?

WILL – WHY? Value, meaning, purpose

Example 1 – Experience as a room



1. Room in Darkness
2. Lit by candles
3. Lit by electricity
4. Window flung open

Tools = function
Light = being
Choice of action = will

Example 2 – Riding a horse



The rider needs a functional behaviour of getting from A and B faster than walking and so co-opts the speed of a different being – a horse.

The inner character of a human and of a horse are different so a way of cooperation is needed.

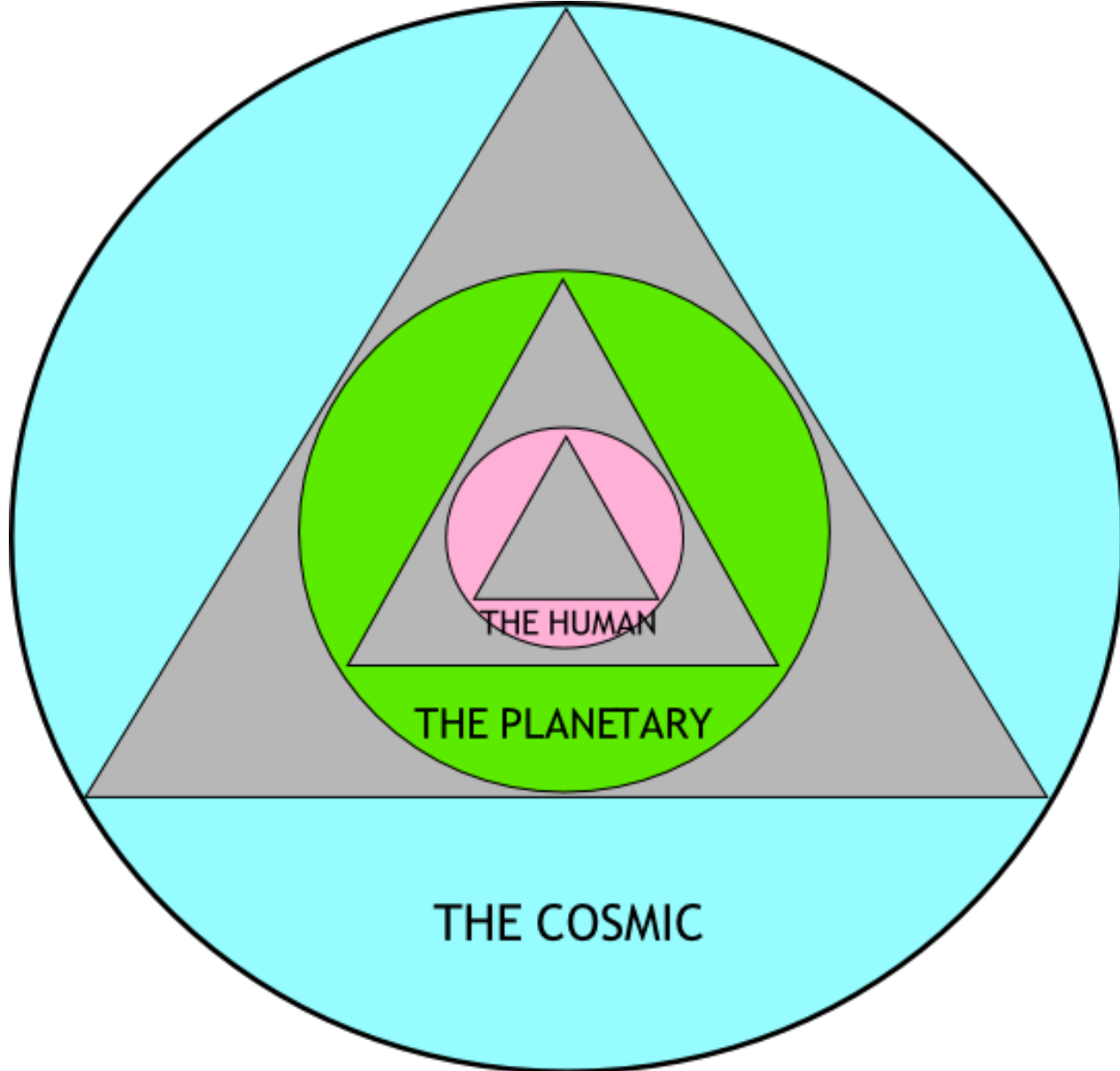
The horse does not share the rider's needs but, trained to do so, will subject its will to the will of the rider.

FUNCTION – rider and horse trot the journey

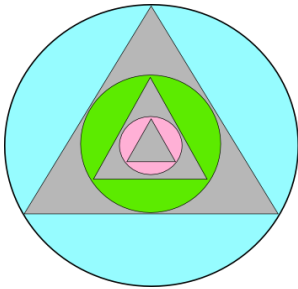
BEING – a temporary hybrid holon (human/horse) is formed

WILL – rapporte between are established enabling the event

Hints of the Cosmic Ecology Curriculum



Three Aspects v Three Perspectives



COSMIC

PLANETARY

HUMAN

FUNCTION

PROCESS

BEHAVIOUR

KNOWLEDGE

BEING

HOLONS

ENERGY

CONSCIOUSNESS

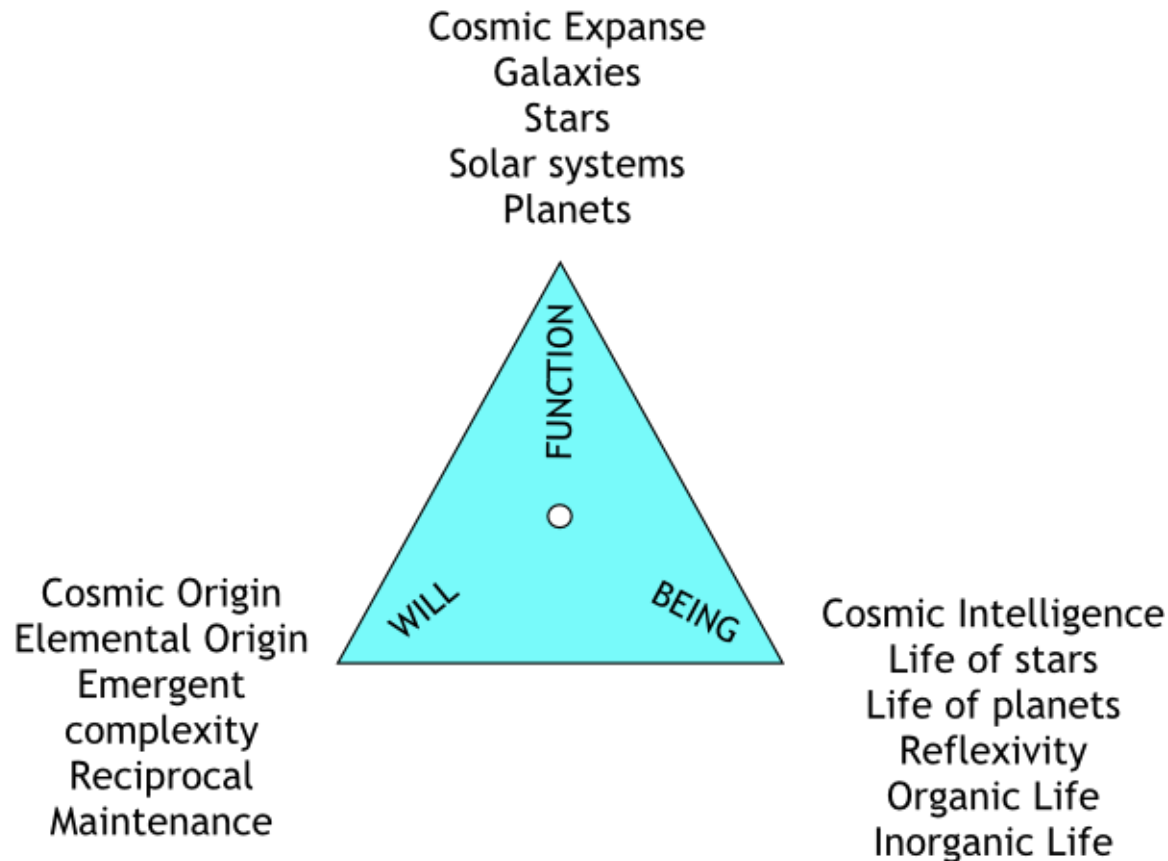
WILL

LAWS

PATTERNS

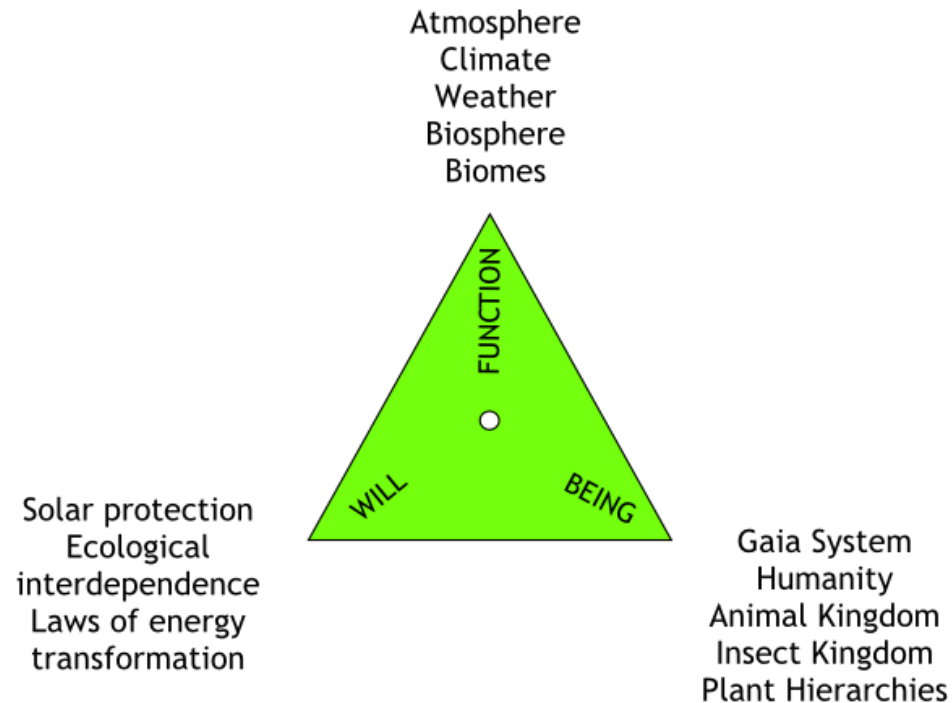
PARTICIPATION

The Cosmic Triad



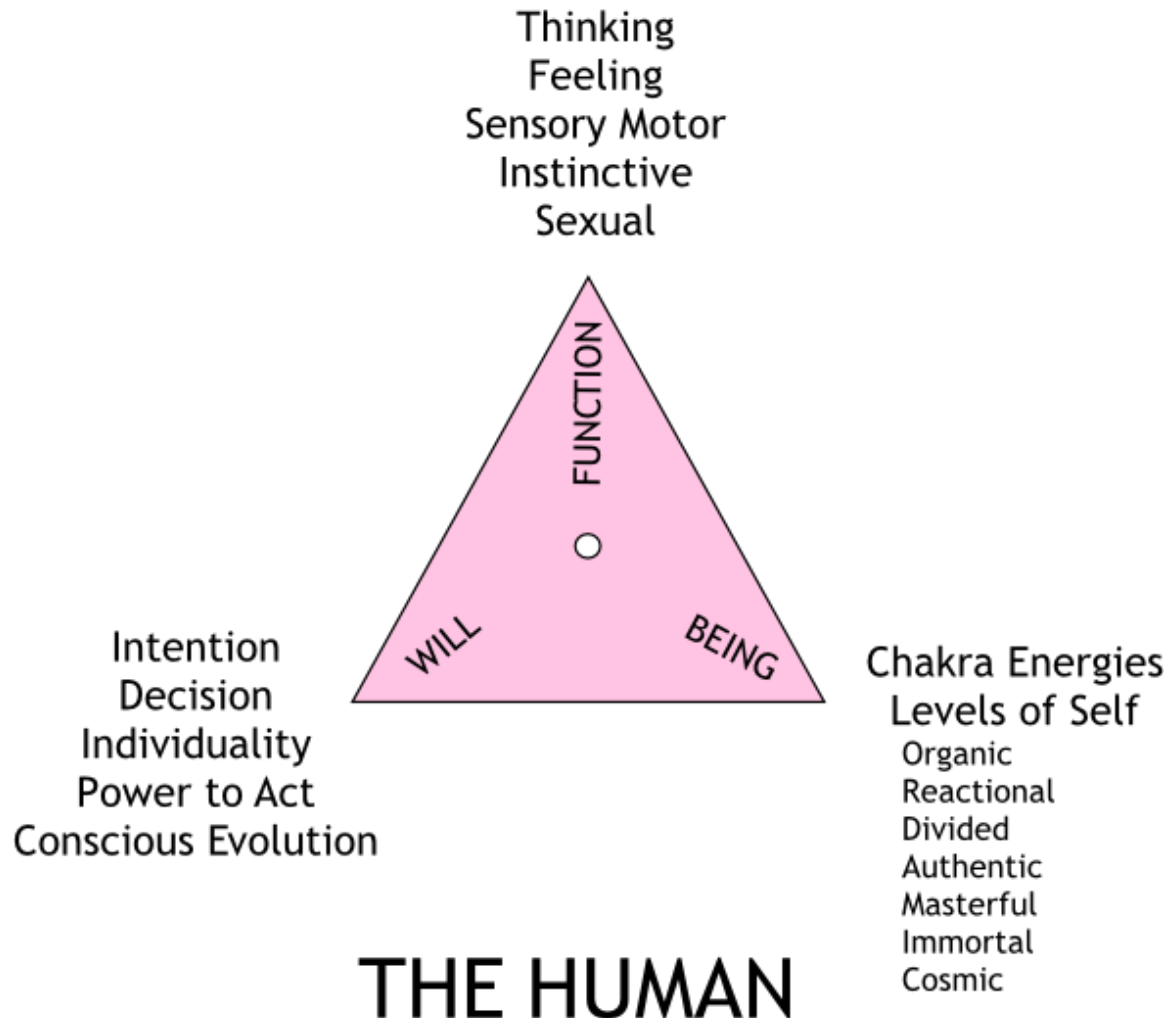
THE COSMIC

The Planetary Triad



THE PLANETARY

The Human Triad



Discussion Interlude 4

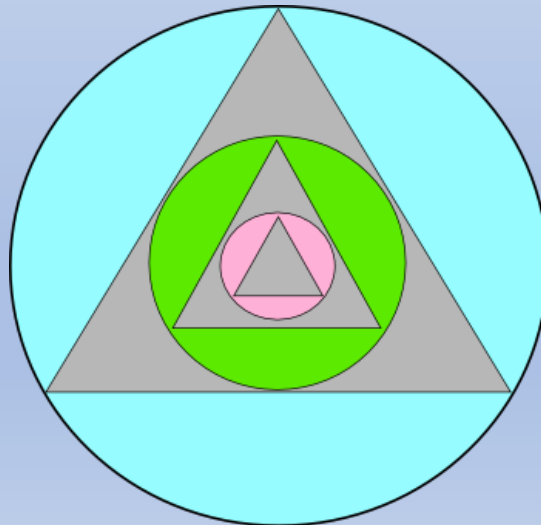
Share any specific area of interest that you hope the cosmic ecology will shed light on.



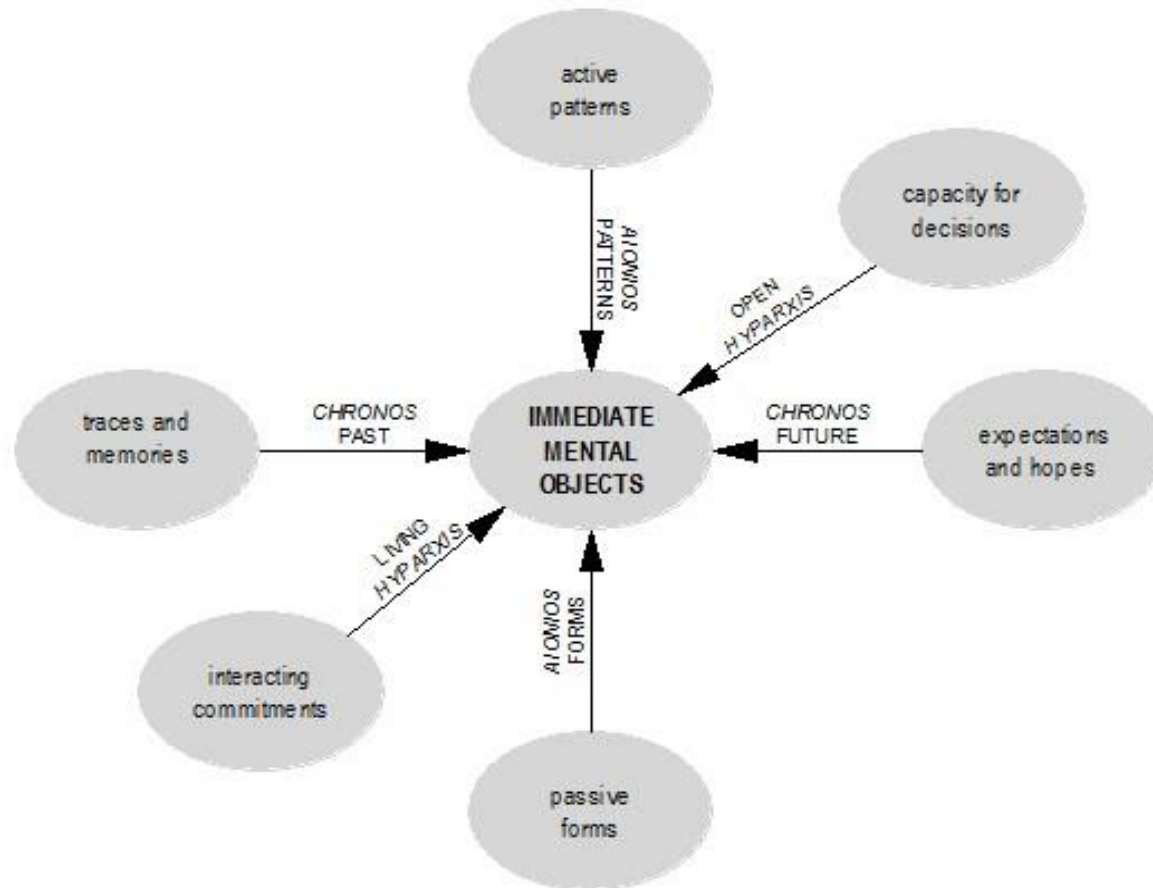
OPEN
PLENARY

Conclusion

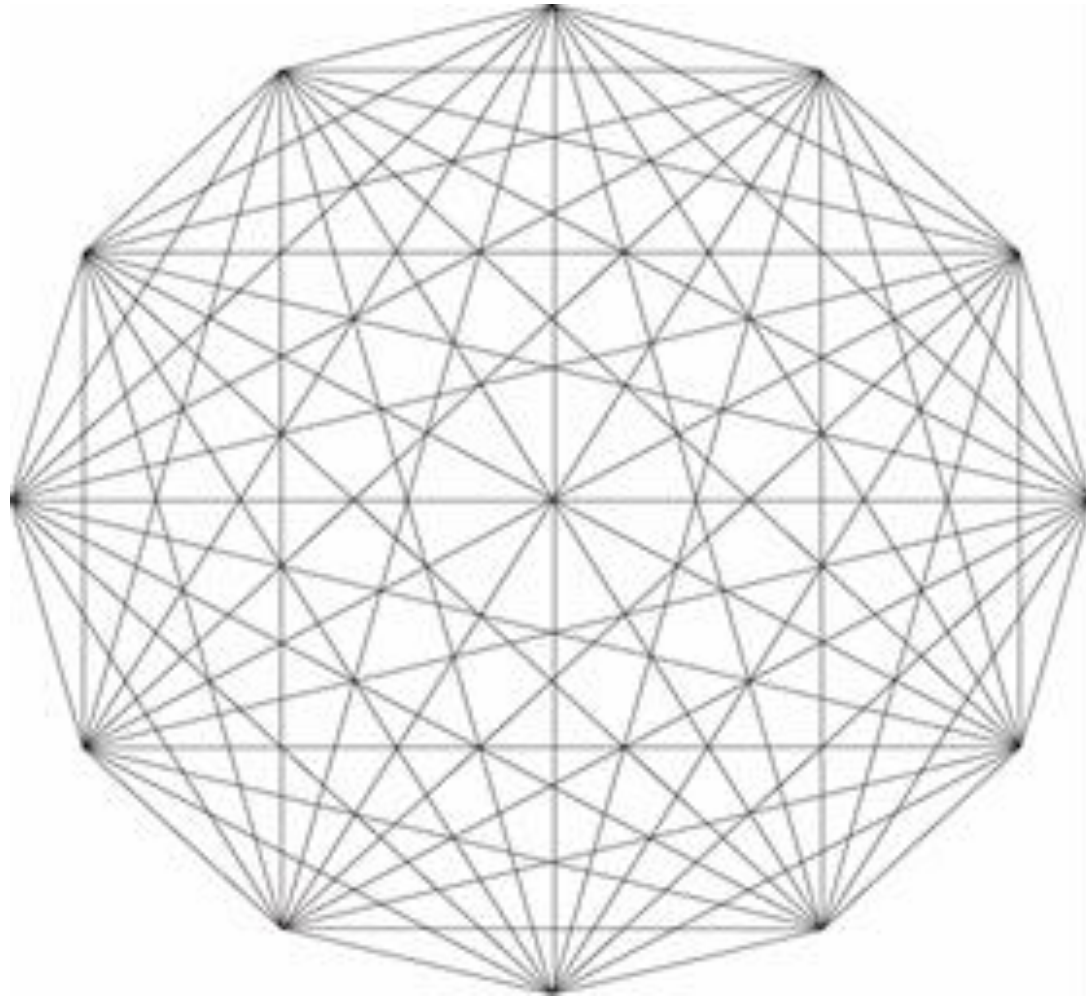
Crucial Thinking Tools



Stepping out of Space-time Limitations – the 7 Dimensions of experience



Seeing the Cosmos Through the Lens of Pattern Dynamics



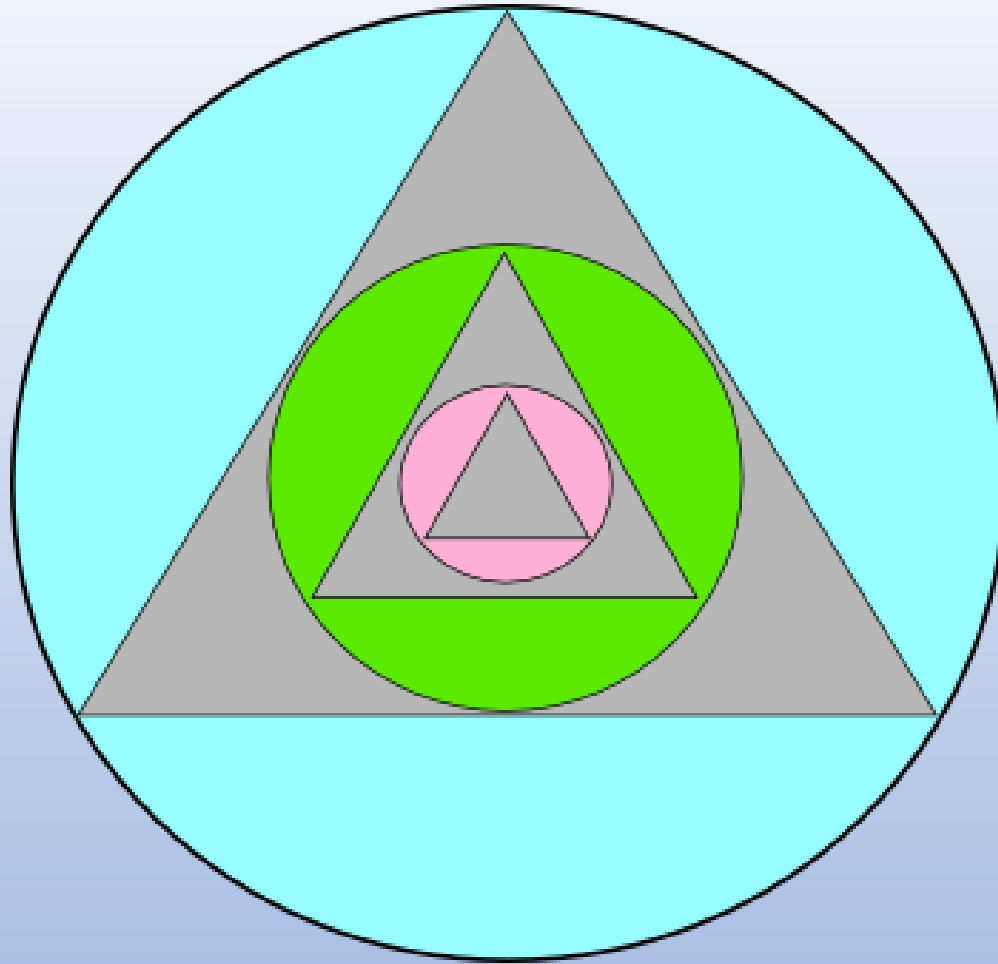
Consciousness, Hazard and Intelligence – the DRAMATIC Universe

J.G.Bennett indicated that the presence of uncertainty and hazard are essential for there to be a consciousness that can exercise free will and responsibility. He affirmed that hazard is a fundamental correlating condition for intelligence.

No hazard, no intelligence.

The universe as intelligence requires the universe to be inherently uncertain as well as law conformable. Given the postulate of universal hologen as intelligent substance then the principle of uncertainty must be extended from the quantum level to be a property of the entire range of universal substance to absolute substance itself and its correlating property of quantum systems.

- Bennett, J.G., 1991, *Hazard: The Risk of Realization*, Bennett Books, Santa Fe, New Mexico



Cosmic Ecology
END Module 1