State Credit
(bias + correlations)

conserved resource
(depletes)

spend credit
(reduces W_{rev})

Protocol Optimization
(geometry)

reduces waste
(does not deplete)

efficient path
(reduces W_{irr})

Code Register
(write/erase)

entropy
export

Heat Bath
at T

dissipate heat (Q)

State credit is conserved (spending requires prior accumulation). Protocol efficiency is not conserved (always available if implementable).