See Possibilities in Problems

Live Virtual Workshop
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Nothing is intractable.

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HSD Vision

People everywhere thrive because we
see patterns clearly,
seek to understand, and
act with courage to
transform turbulence and uncertainty
into possibility for all.

HSD Simple Rules

Stand in inquiry

- Turn judgment into curiosity
- Turn conflict into shared exploration
- Turn defensiveness into self-reflection
- Turn assumptions into questions

Find the energy in difference

Zoom in and zoom out

Connect through stories and impacts

Search for the true and useful

Celebrate life

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Today’s Adaptive Action

- WHAT?
  What is the problem with problem solving?

- SO WHAT?
  So what is the Pattern Logic alternative?

- NOW WHAT?
  Now what patterns do you want to shift?

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What
is the problem with problem solving?

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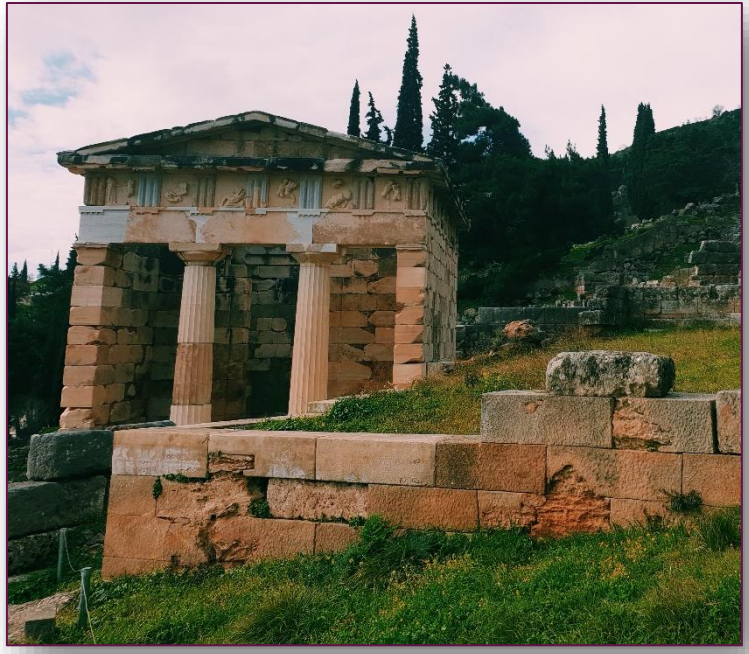
Problem solving version 1: Superstition

- Reading the entrails of animals
- Asking the Oracle at Delphi
- Waiting for the word of God
- Or . ..

Assumptions:

- The world is beyond our knowing
- Someone or something decides
- Only magicians know answers
- The purpose is to find good men and follow them
- Might makes right



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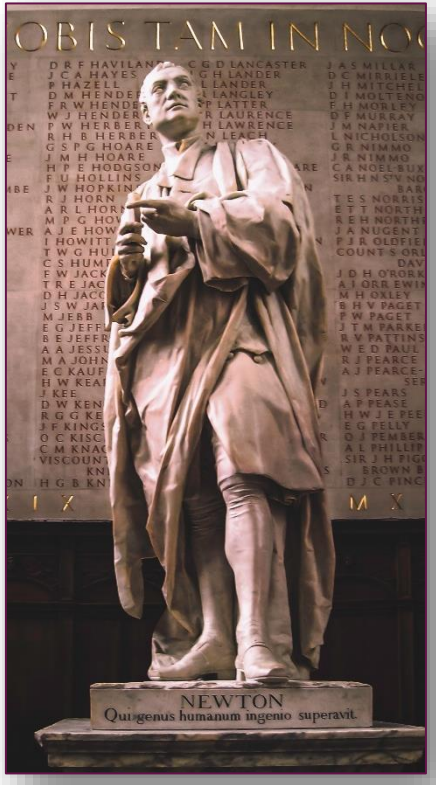
Problem solving version 2: Rationality

1. Define the problem
2. Divide it up into manageable chunks
3. Solve each part separately
4. Put it back together

Assumptions:

- It is a watchmaker world
- Systems are closed and knowable
- The rules are clear, and everyone knows them
- The purpose is to predict and control
- Understanding makes right



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Problem solving version 3: Garbage Can

1. Share descriptions of the problem
2. Include related problems
3. Brainstorm possible solutions
4. Wait for someone to find a solution that fits at least one of the descriptions
5. Fund it and do it

Assumptions:

- The world is complex and confusing
- Systems are open and unknowable
- The rules are random
- The purpose is to find a clever solution
- Capacity to implement makes right

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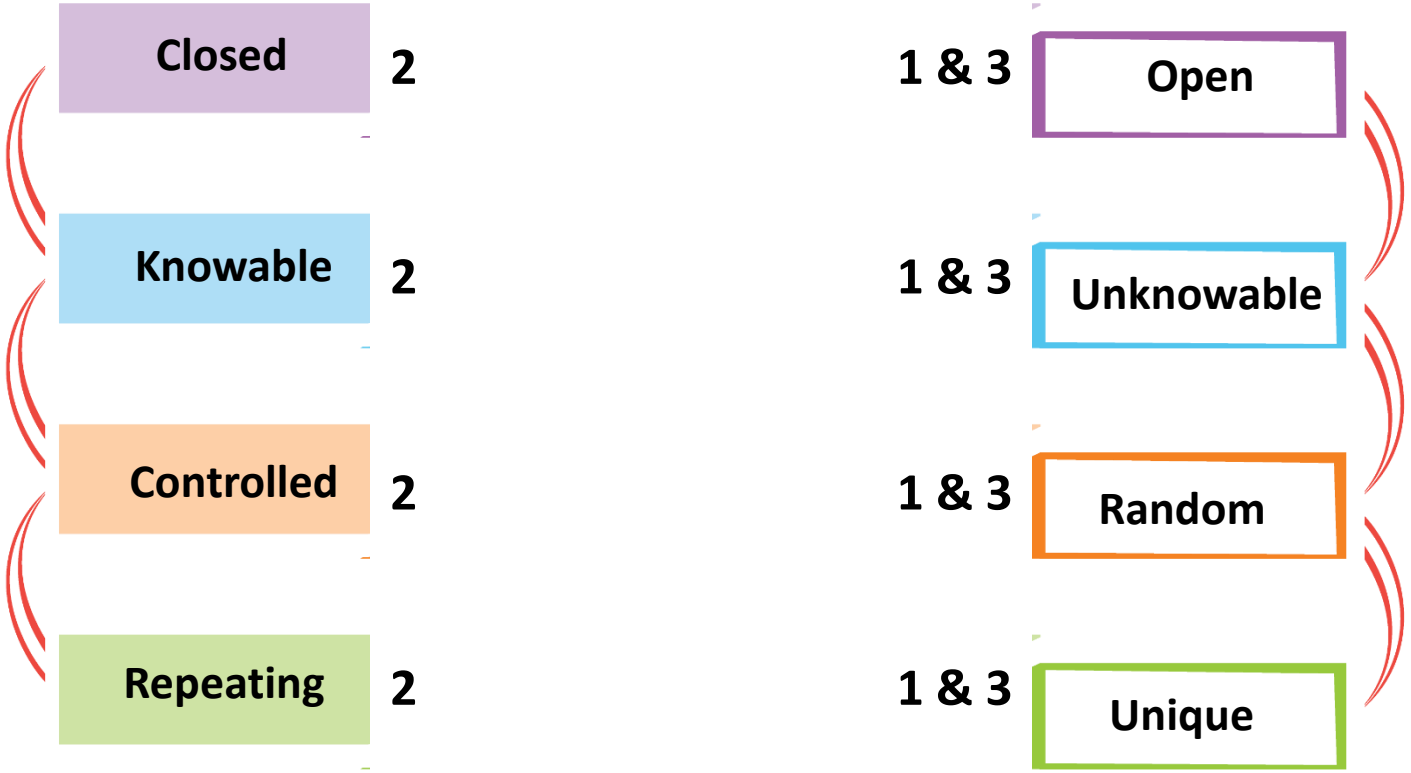
What is the problem?



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SO WHAT
is the Pattern Logic alternative?

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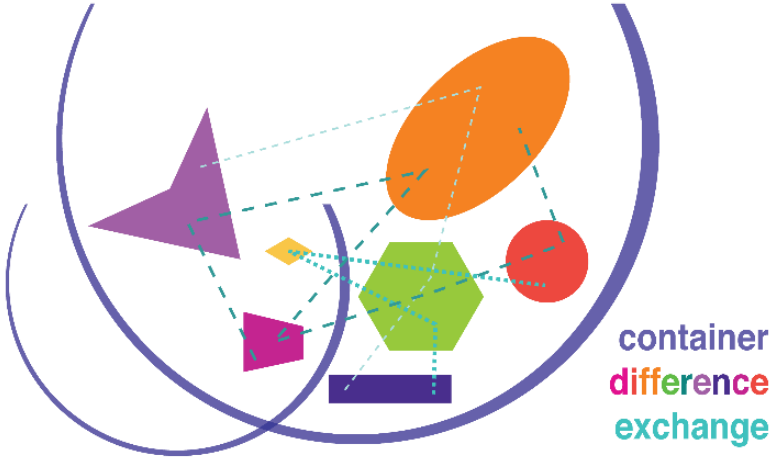
Problem solving version 4: Pattern Logic

- WHAT is the current pattern?
- SO WHAT is the potential in this pattern?
- NOW WHAT can I do to shift the pattern?

Assumptions:

- The world is a complex adaptive system
- Self-organizing processes drive change
- Container, Differences, and Exchanges influence self-organizing
- The purpose is to find the next wise action
- Inquiry makes right



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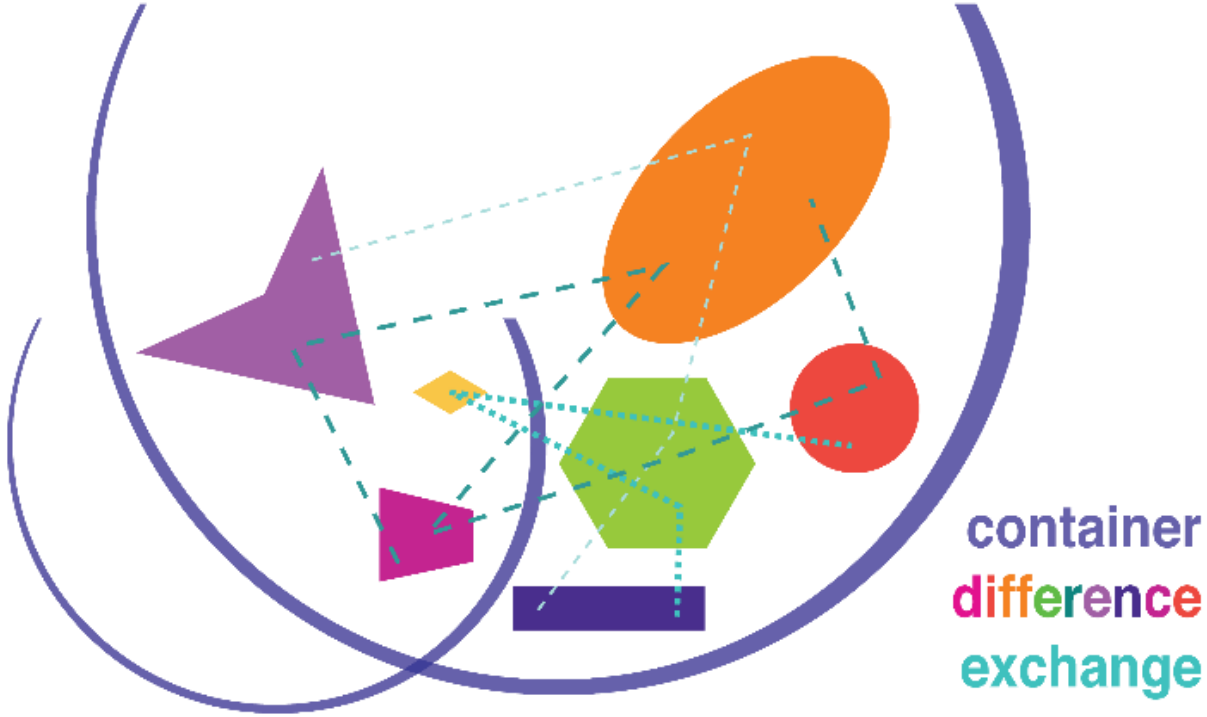
Pattern Logic



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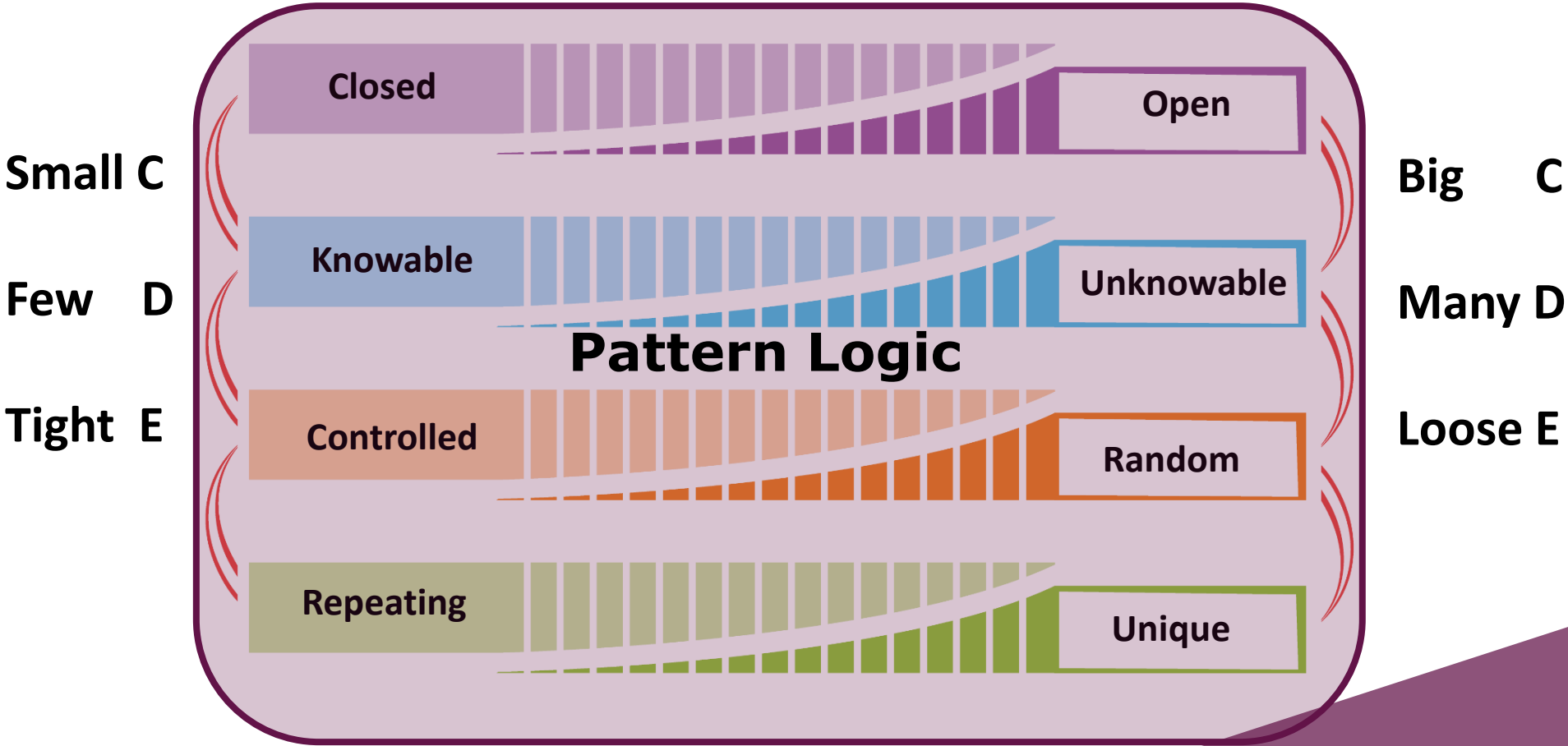
What is the possibility?



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Pattern Logic

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Pattern Logic

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Now what
patterns do you want to shift?

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Your Wicked Issue

	Too tight	Just Right	Too Loose
Containers			
Differences			
Exchanges			

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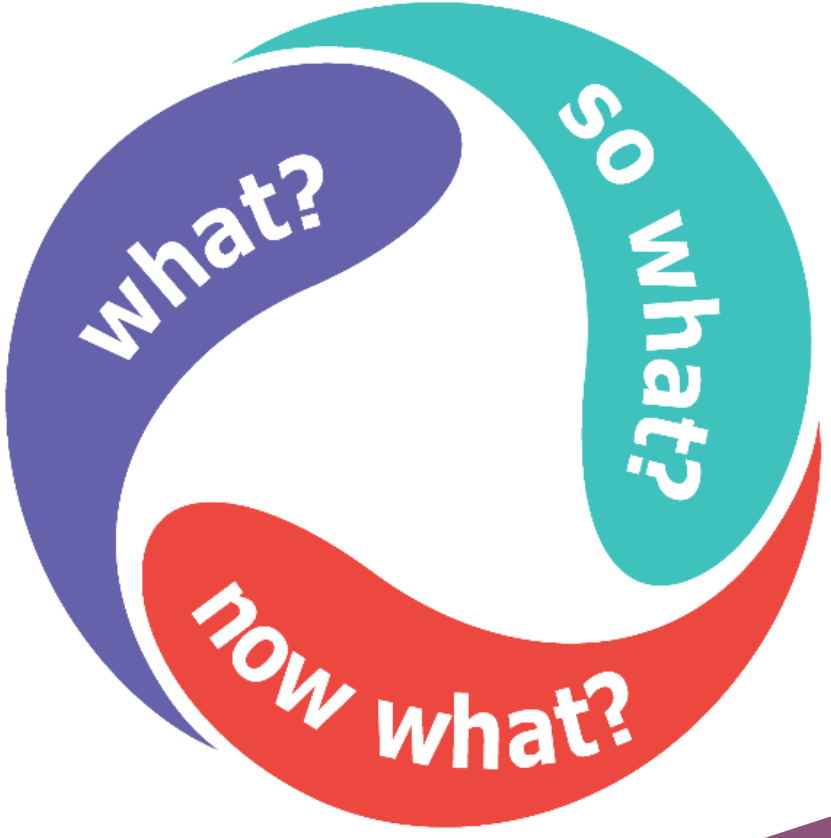
Your
Next Wise Action



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Want to learn more?

- Daily Power of Questions
- Free, monthly webinars
- Blog posts and event announcements
- Adaptive Action Labs
  (Two, 3-hour sessions on relevant topics)
- Dragons of Complexity
- HSDP Certification
  (online and face-to-face)
- Website with many resources
- Books and more!

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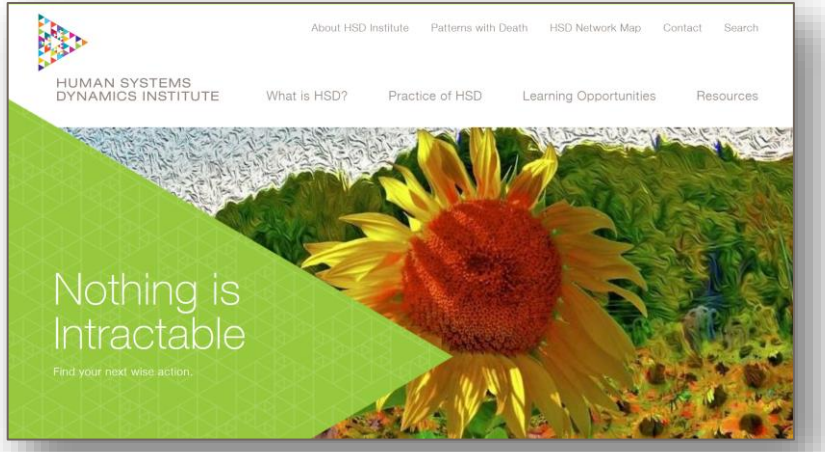

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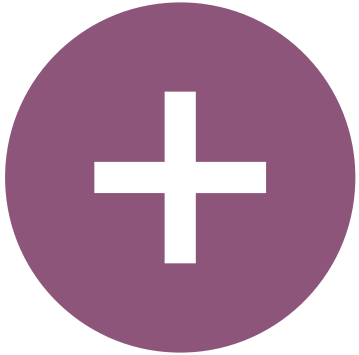
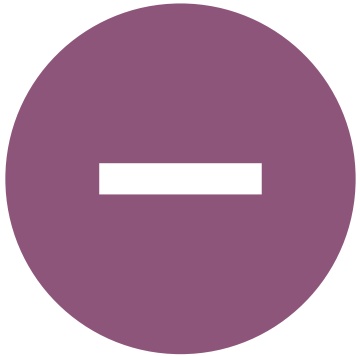
Our Adaptive Action





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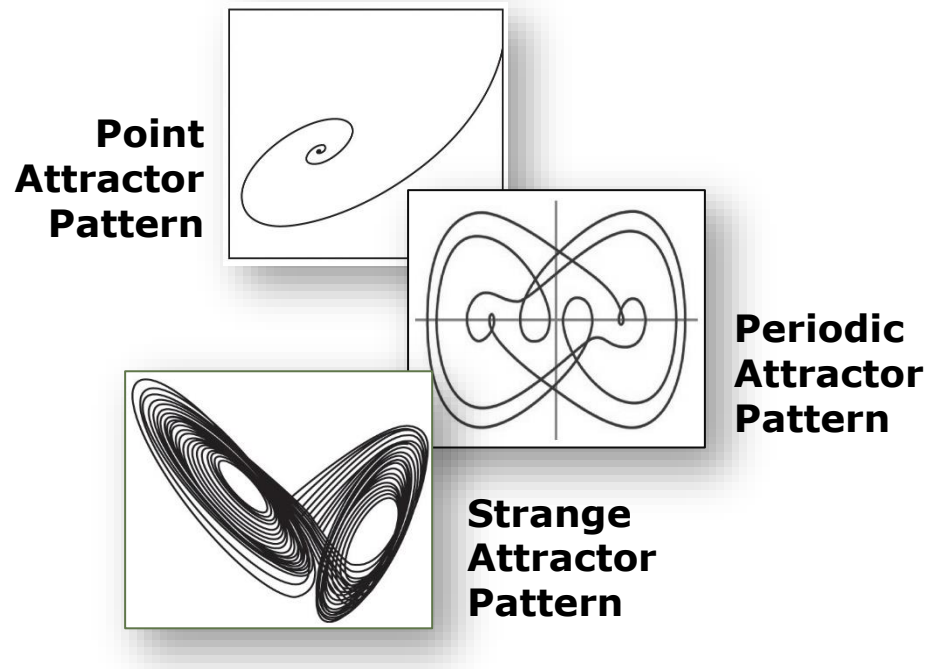

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