

Culture, Convergence, and Education

Order, Beauty, and Meaning
in the Age of Intelligent Machines

Professor Pyeoungkee Kim · IACST

The keynote question

If nature disperses possibility, why do humans create order, beauty, play, and meaning?



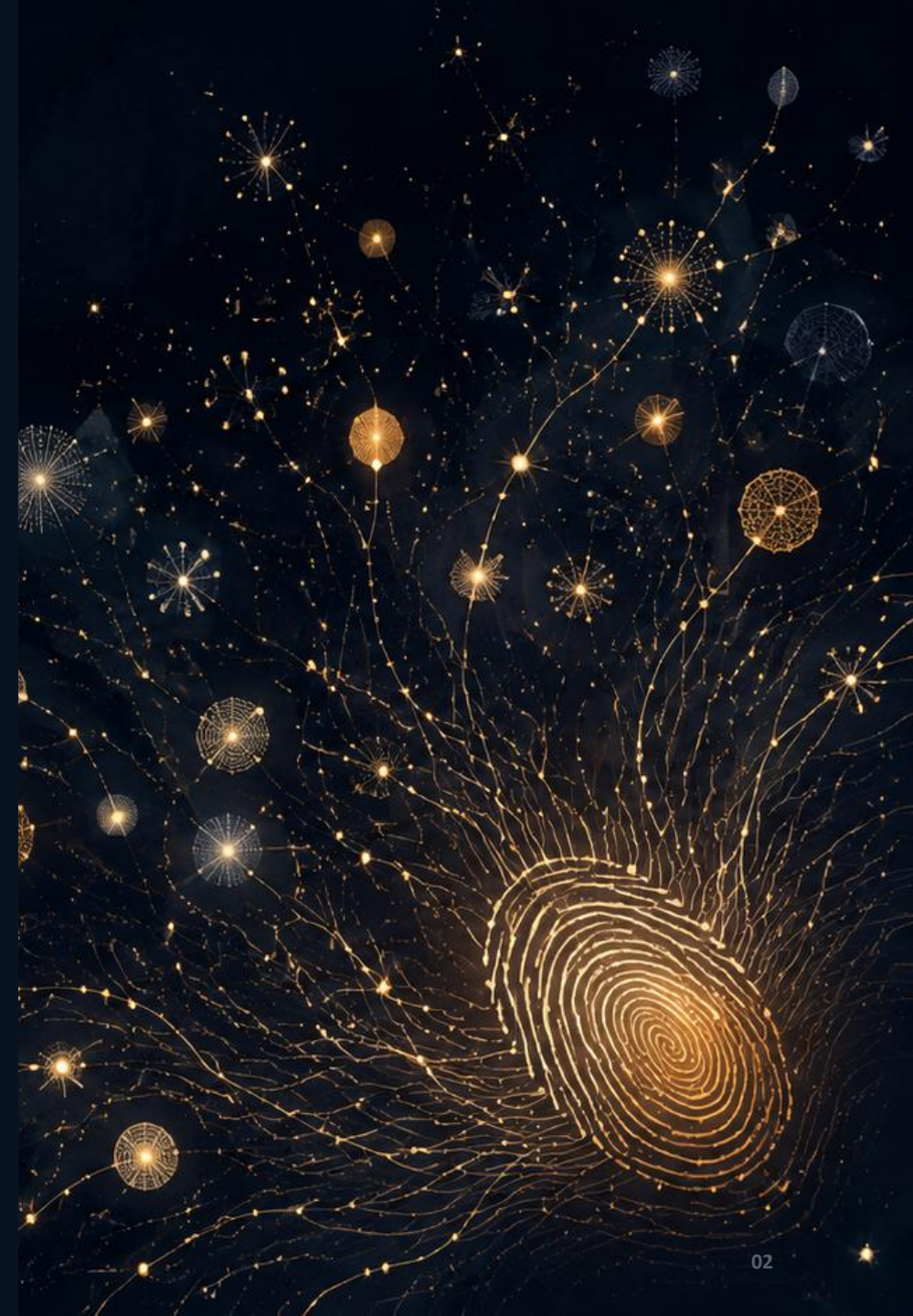
Culture turns uncertainty into shared meaning — without closing the future.

NATURE

CHAPTER 01

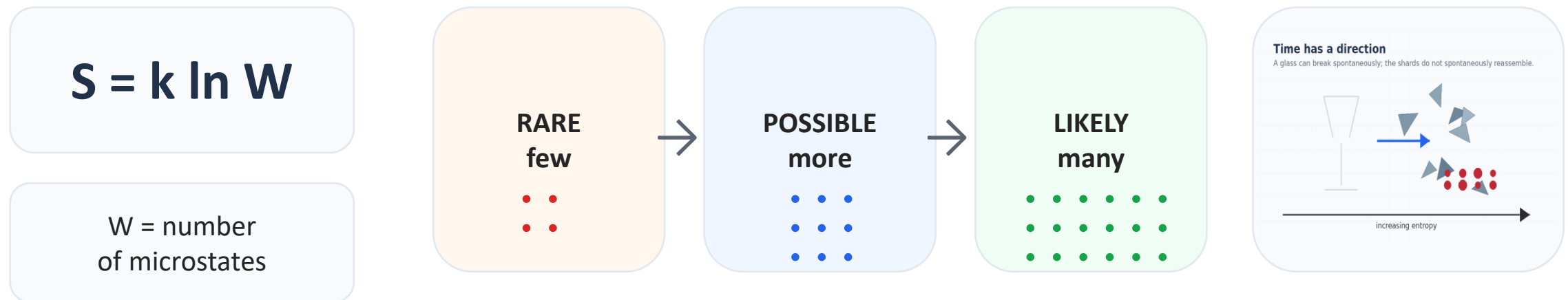
NATURE · HUMAN · CONNECTION

Nature, Entropy and Connection



Nature usually favors spread over concentration.

Large systems tend toward macro-states that can be realized in far more microscopic ways.



Time flows from less probable concentration toward more probable dispersion.
A broken glass does not spontaneously reassemble.

The arrow of time follows gradients.

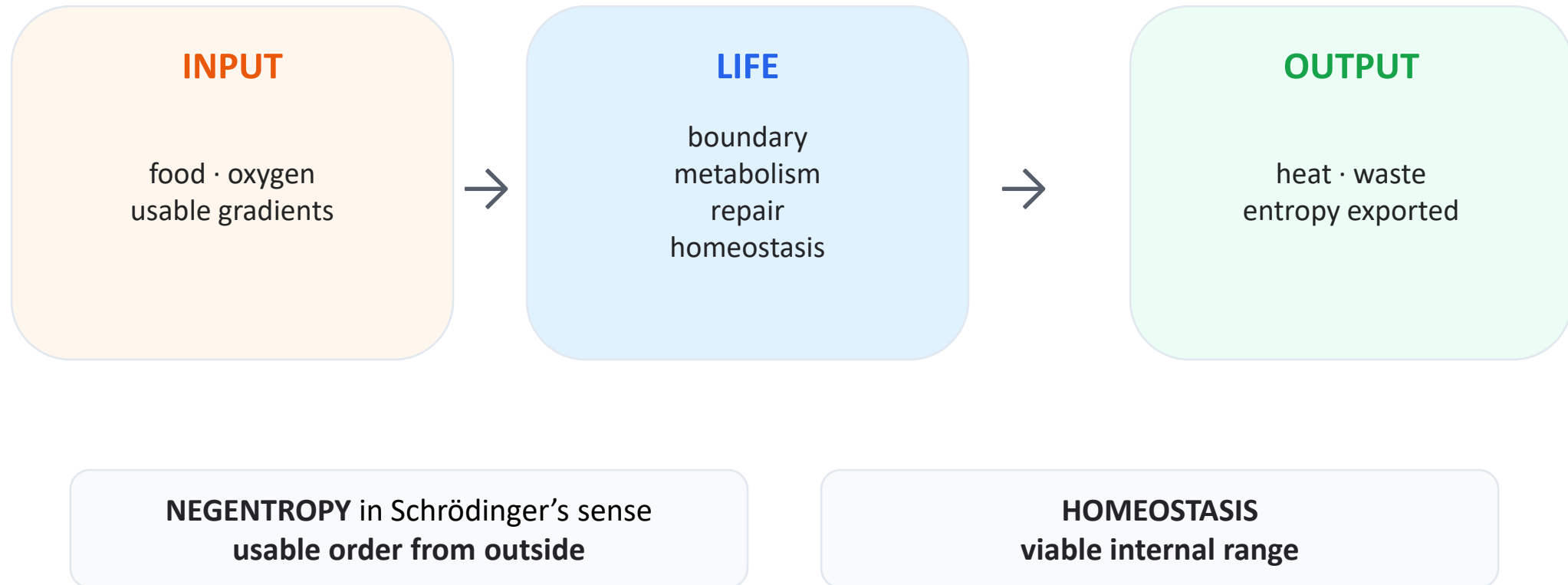
Work becomes possible because differences exist.



Equilibrium means usable differences have mostly disappeared.

Life imports negentropy and maintains homeostasis.

Biological order is active maintenance, not static perfection.



Connection Matters: Our breath connects us to stars and ancient life.

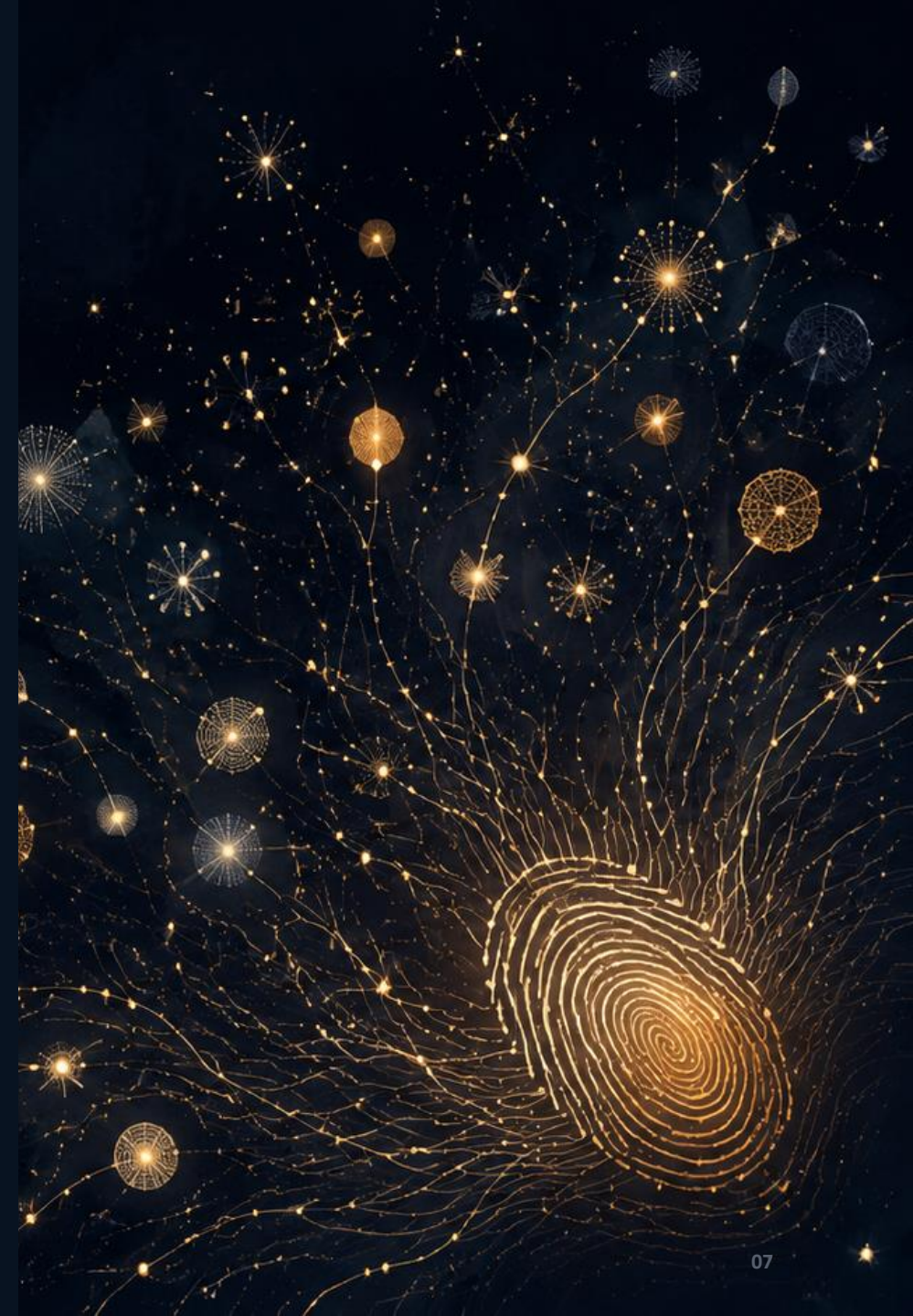
Human homeostasis depends on materials and atmospheres made by cosmic and biological history.



Life is not separate from nature:
our bodies carry stellar matter and breathe an atmosphere shaped by ancient organisms.

Each person is unique. Human life is shared.

The central human problem is
how singular lives can flourish together.



Uniqueness is part of life's evolutionary strategy.

Variation becomes structured difference—not mere chaos.



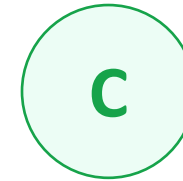
ARISES

genes + development
+ chance



EVOLVES

variation gives selection
something to work on



CONTRIBUTES

different views become
creativity and resilience

ORDER → HOMEOSTASIS

+

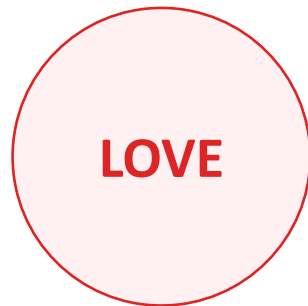
UNIQUENESS → EVOLUTION

An Ancient View of Human Flourishing: Eat. Love. Play.

A modern synthesis of Siduri's counsel to Gilgamesh — not a direct quotation.



body



others



joy

Shared joy needs norms, institutions, and harmony.

Epic of Gilgamesh



The [Deluge](#) tablet of the *Gilgamesh* epic in [Akkadian](#)

Written	ca. 2100–1200 BC ^[1]
Country	Mesopotamia
Language	Akkadian
Media type	Clay tablet



Human nature is plural.

Individual drives, social capacities, and beauty coexist.

DRIVES

survival
acquisition
status

SOCIALITY

care
cooperation
institutions

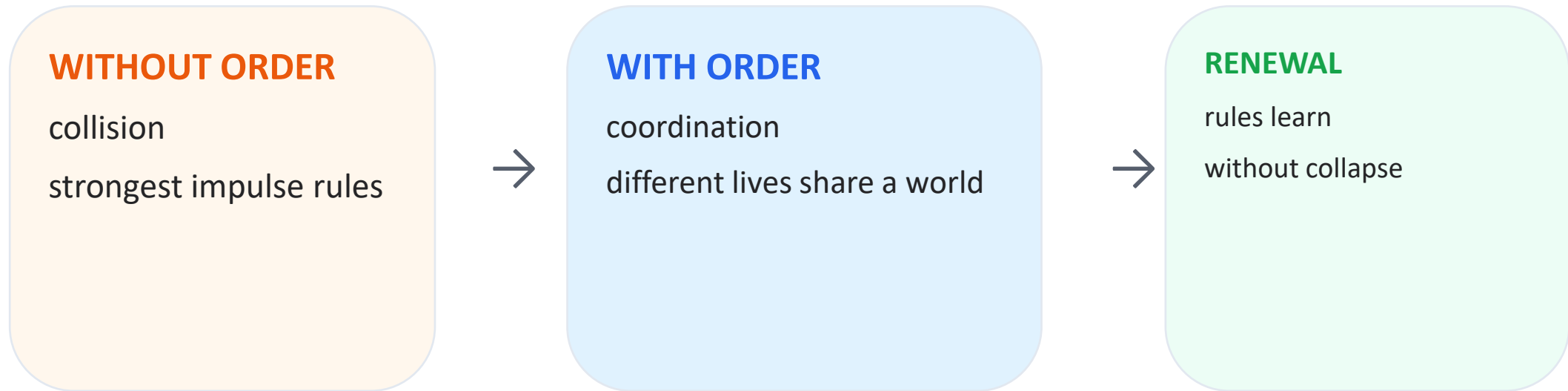
BEAUTY

play
imagination
meaning

A political animal who also plays, imagines, and pursues beauty.

Order makes plural forms of play possible.

Social entropy is a metaphor for destructive uncertainty—not a thermodynamic measure.



Good order reduces destructive uncertainty while preserving diversity.

Order and Beauty align human potentials.

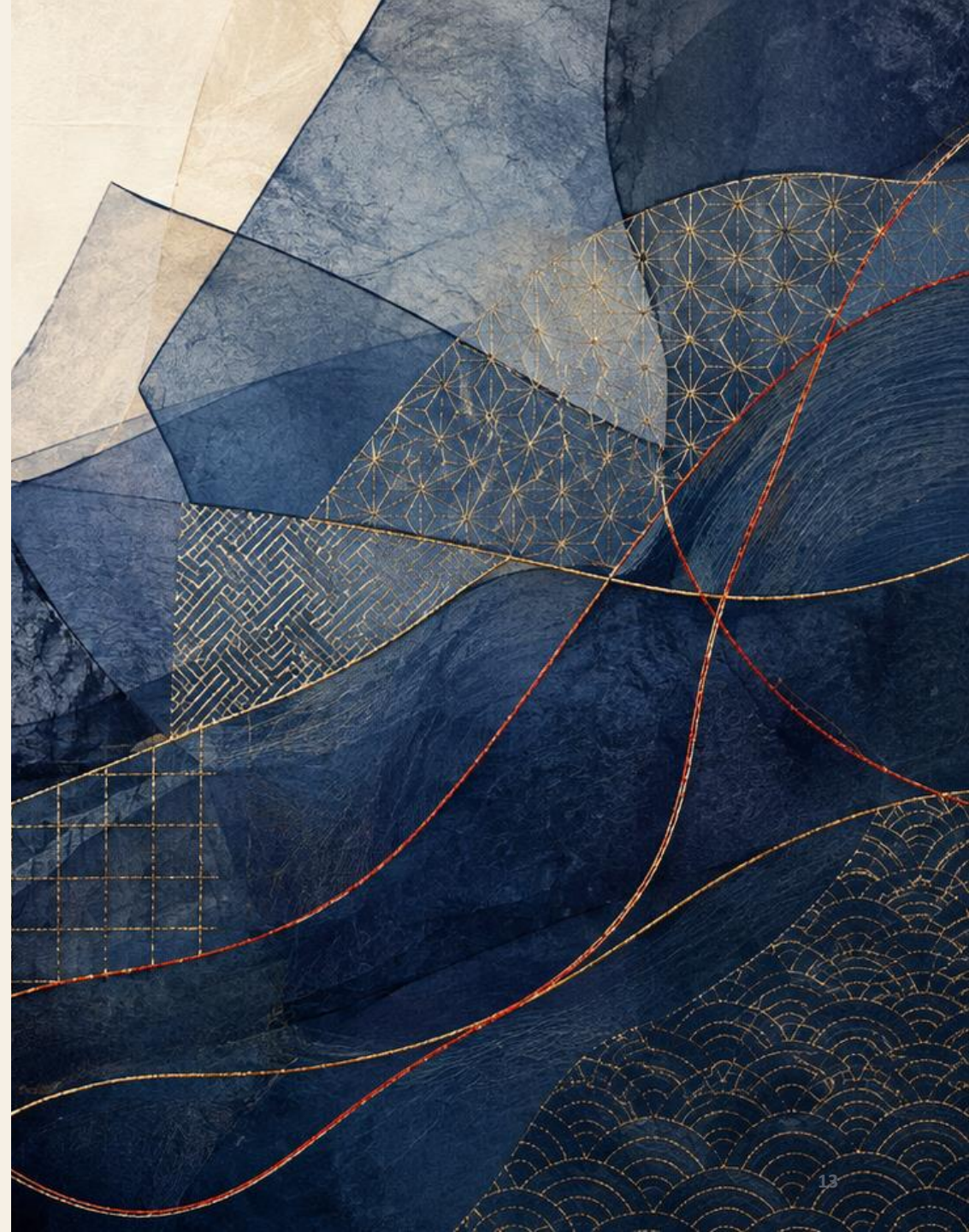
They restrain harm while sustaining cooperation and creativity.



The goal is shared flourishing, not uniformity.

Order and beauty meet new possibilities.

Culture preserves a shared world while making room for
worlds not yet imagined.



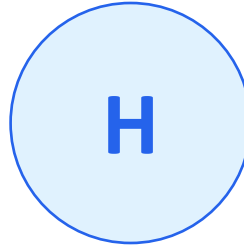
Three enduring orientations shape culture.

Intention gives ethical direction to order, harmony, and beauty.



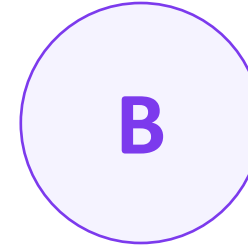
ORDER

reliable patterns



HARMONY

coordinated difference



BEAUTY

felt significance

INTENTION asks: Whose flourishing does this serve?

Why is culture about order?

Pattern, writing, and cultivation all point to ordered human worlds.

紋

pattern

marks · form · order

文

writing

symbols · memory · meaning

COLERE

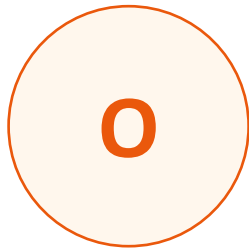
cultivation

care · dwelling · tending

Culture gives patterned form to shared life.

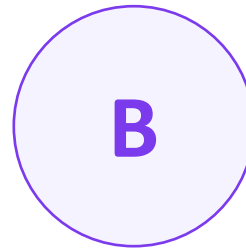
Working definition

Culture organizes uncertainty into meaningful order while opening new possibilities.



ORDER

livable world



BEAUTY

felt meaning



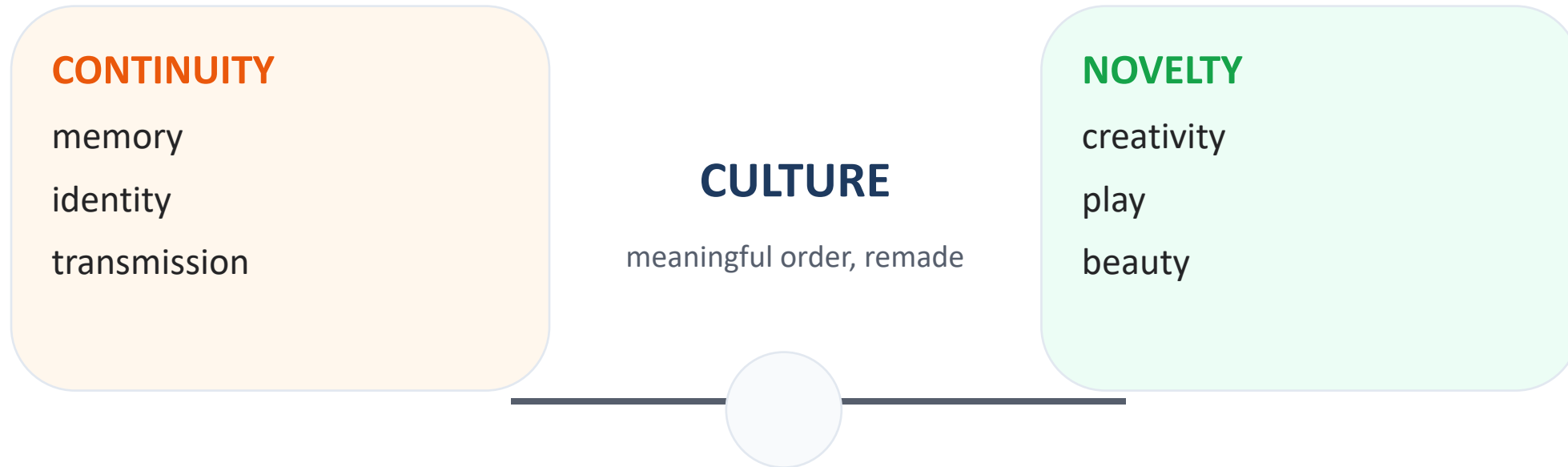
POSSIBILITY

new creation

Meaningful order, without closing the future.

Culture holds continuity and novelty in tension.

Too much continuity becomes rigidity. Too much novelty becomes noise.



Culture Technology

Technology is not the subject, it is a medium, infrastructure, and partner in cultural creation.

METHOD

how we make

MEDIUM

where culture appears

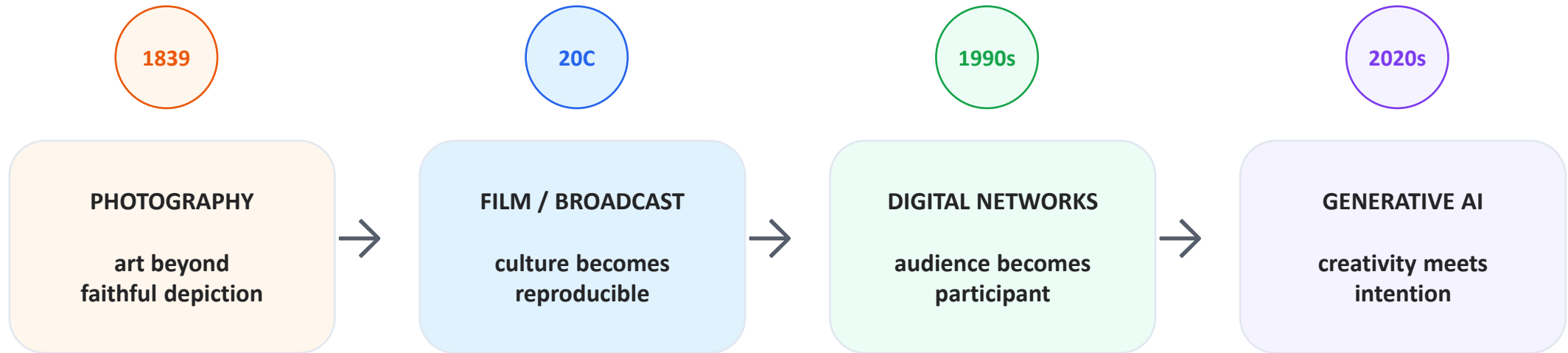
PARTNER

what co-creates

Technology amplifies human capacity to create and share culture.

Advances in Culture Technology can redefine key concepts.

The human task is to understand the shift and redefine key concepts.



We must understand Culture Technology and continually redefine our concepts.

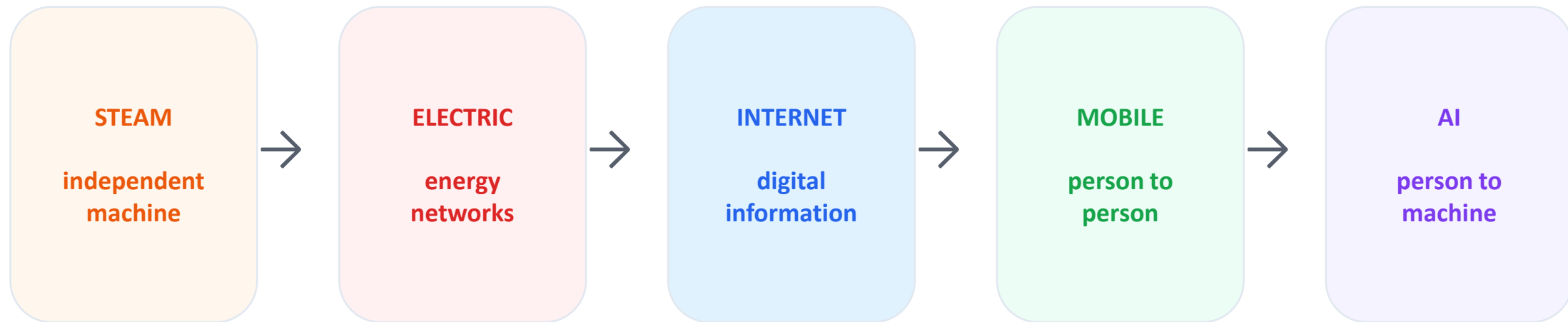
A new participant enters the world.

Intelligent machines do not merely extend tools; they reshape decisions, roles, and cultural production.



Each revolution changes what becomes connected.

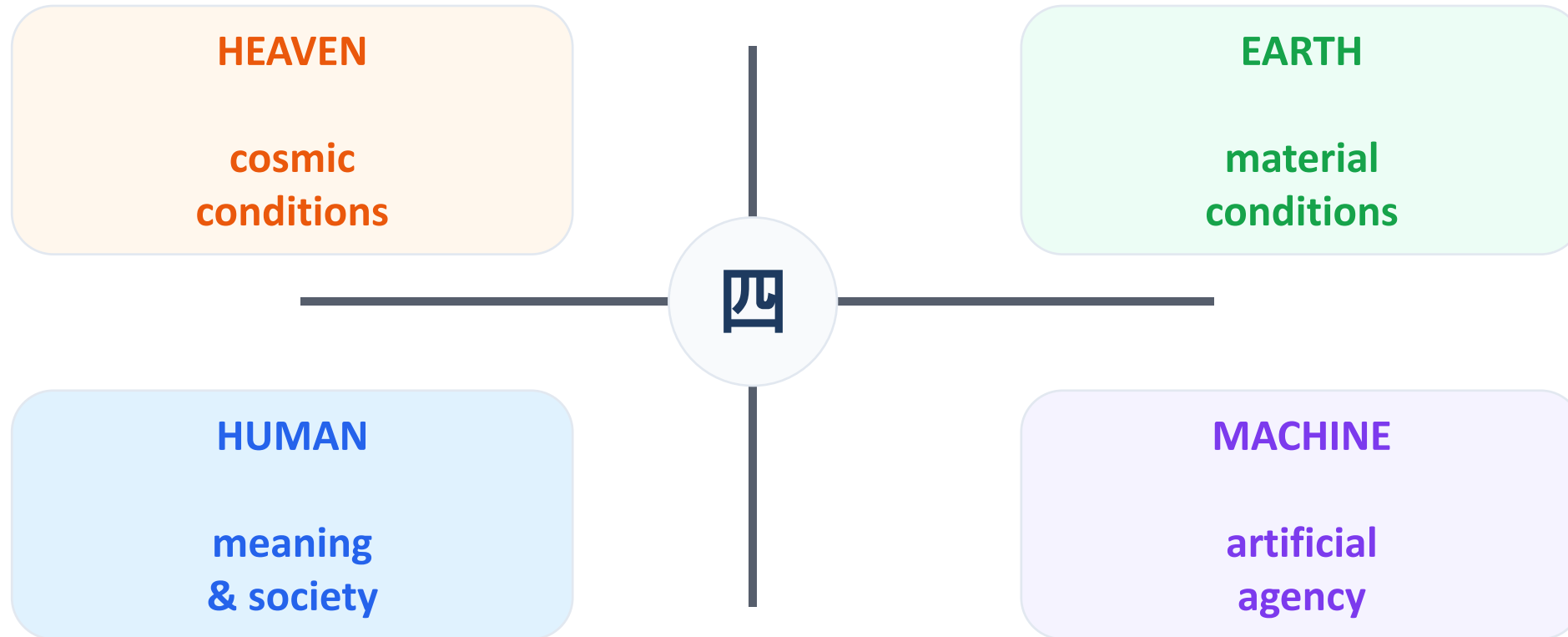
From a human-only world toward human-machine coexistence.



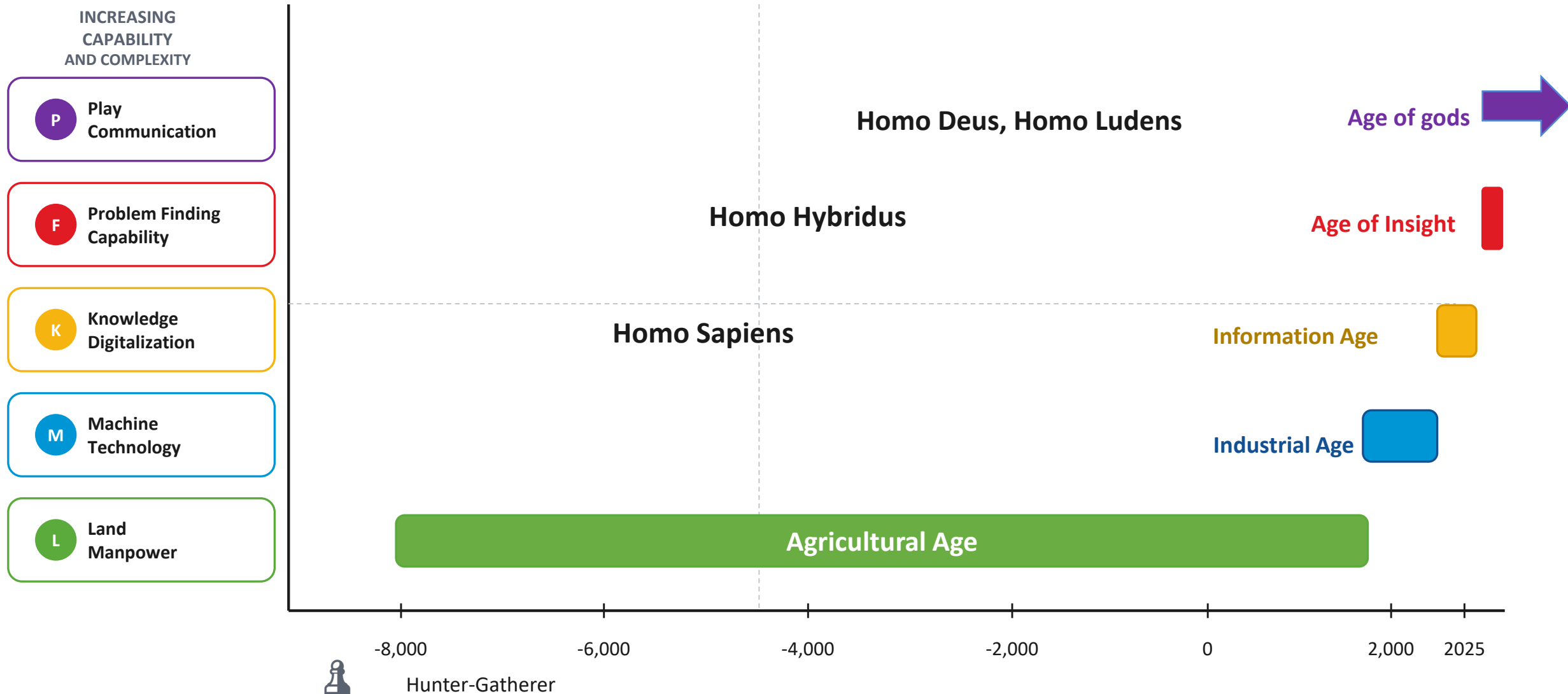
Connection evolves from power, to information, to people,
and now to human-machine cooperation.

Heaven (天) · Earth (地) · Human (人) · Machine(機)

A proposed four-part frame for culture in the age of intelligent systems.



Prospects for Human History



Humanity and Machinarity

Current AI is powerful, but it is not yet self-evolving cultural intelligence.

HUMANITY

embodiment
intention
uniqueness
culture

KEY GAP

No intrinsic intention
No lived uniqueness

$$\mathbf{H.I}_{\text{intelligence}} = f(\mathbf{C}_{\text{computation}}, \mathbf{I}_{\text{intention}})$$

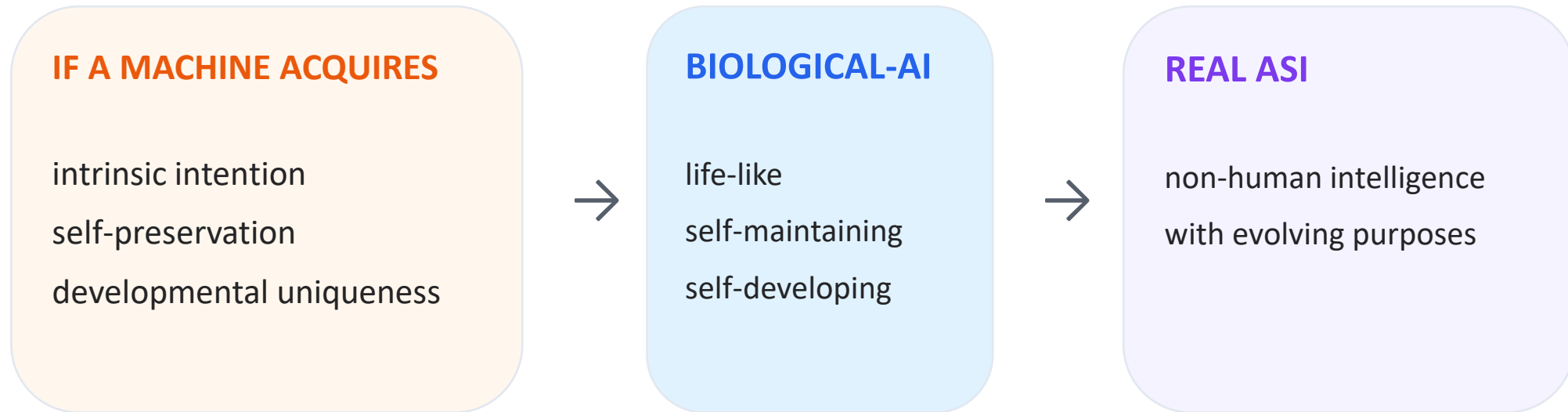
CURRENT AI

computation
scale
replication
autonomy in execution

Without Intention and Uniqueness, current AI is not yet self-evolving cultural intelligence.

Biological AI Machines could make genuinely autonomous ASI more plausible.

The danger changes if machines become self-maintaining and purposive.



The issue shifts from capability to agency with its own trajectory.

Teach people to find what matters.

When machines solve more given problems, human contribution moves upstream—to framing, meaning, and responsibility.



Convergence = permeability + purpose

融 opens boundaries; 合 aligns differences around a shared intention.



融

RONG · 融

Boundaries
become
permeable.

Hard separation softens;
interaction can begin.



合

HE · 合

Differences
align around
purpose.

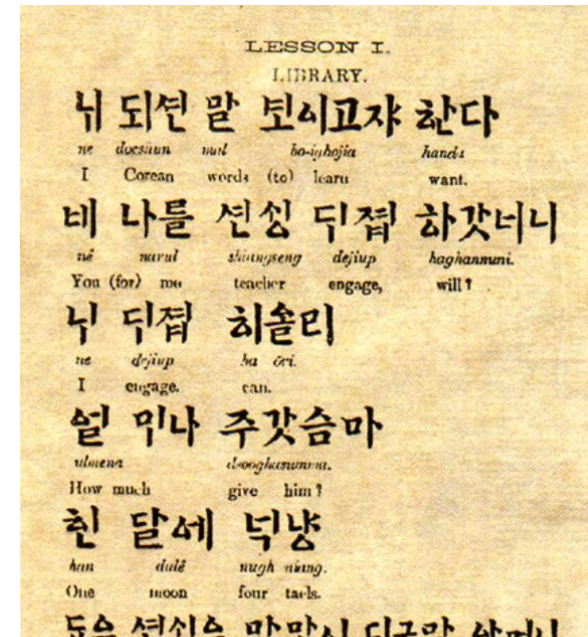
Shared intention holds
difference together.

**Convergence begins when different forms of knowledge meet a shared intention
— and becomes valuable through education.**

Conceptual reading for this keynote, not a strict historical etymology claim.

Hangul: intention first, convergence next.

Invention begins with intention; refinements often emerge through cultural convergence.



PRIMARY CREATIVITY = INTENTION

SECONDARY CREATIVITY = CONVERGENCE

Problem Finding vs Problem Solving

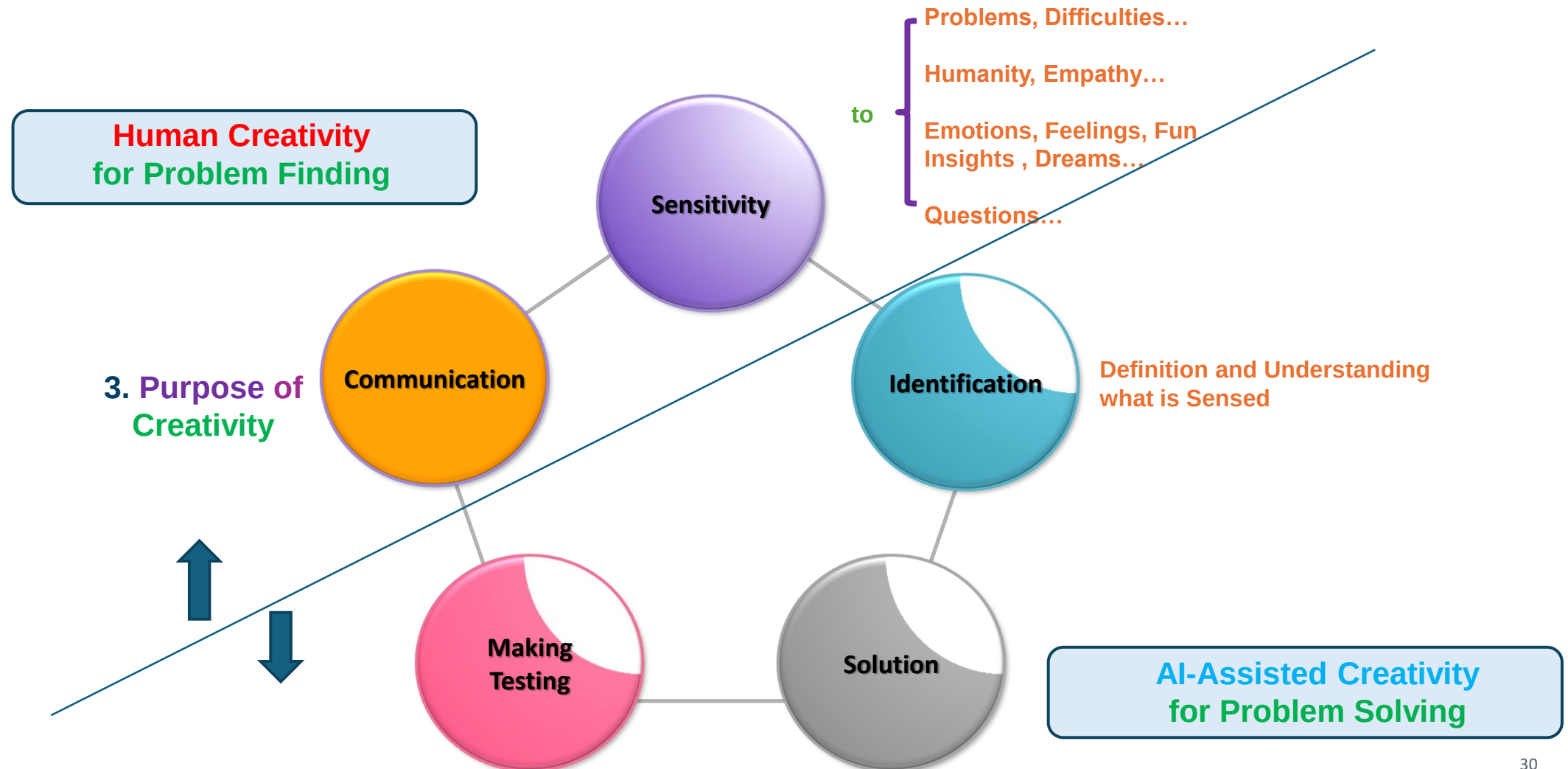


Guernica (1937)



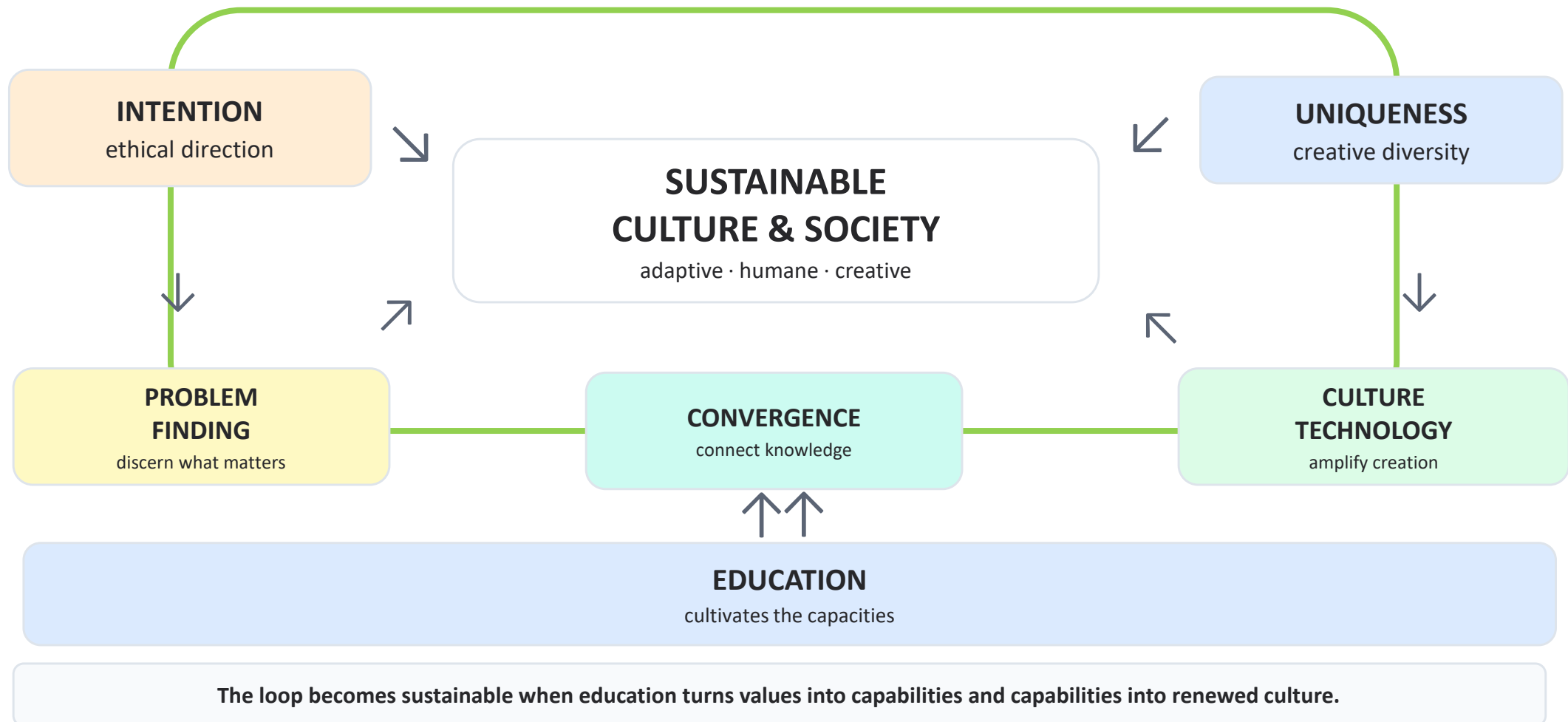
Théâtre D'opéra Spatial (2022)

Problem-Finding Education for Communication



Education develops the cultural cycle for a sustainable society.

Culture needs Intention and Uniqueness; education develops culture technology, problem finding, and convergence.

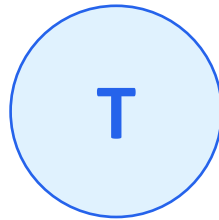


**Culture turns uncertainty into shared meaning —
without closing the future.**



CULTURE

meaning



TECHNOLOGY

capacity



EDUCATION

wisdom

Discern what matters · Ask why · Take responsibility