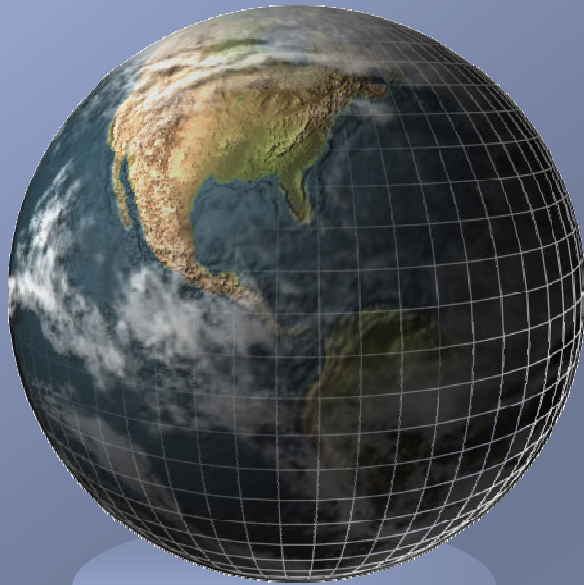


# Integral Theories of Everything: Ervin Laszlo and Ken Wilber

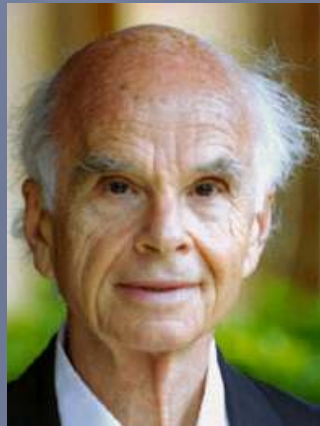


Brian Van der Horst  
Université Intégrale  
Paris, 16 October 2008

# What's An INTEGRAL Theory?

**The integration of body, mind, soul,  
and spirit in self, culture, and nature.**

**This vision attempts to honor and integrate the largest  
amount of research from the greatest number of  
disciplines—including the natural sciences (physics,  
chemistry, biology, neurology, ecology), art, ethics, religion,  
psychology, politics, business, sociology, and spirituality.**



**Ken Wilber, and The Integral Vision**



## The context from which the presenter speaks:

- **Founding** Member and Chief Facilitator, Europe, of **Integral Institute**.
- **Investigative journalist** since 1965, staff writer for the Village Voice, Playboy, Viva. Published 100s of articles about healers, psychics, gurus, parapsychologists, Zen masters, spiritual teachers.
- **Editor** for New Realities magazine, Integral Leadership Review, and columnist for Practical Psychology and New Age Journal.
- **NLP trainer and coach** since 1983, taught 10,000 world-wide, director of French and US Institutes.

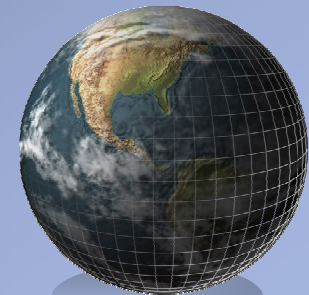


# Brian's experiences:

- Hatha, bhakti, siddha and raja yoga, macrobiotics, tantra, Actualizations, est, aikido, mountain climbing, karate, psychedelics, kundalini, mystical Christianity, Feldenkrais, scuba diving, Alexander, zazen, long-distance running, Sufi dancing, painting and folk singing.

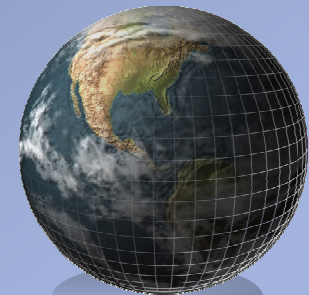
# Scoops and scope:

- First articles on Findhorn, the Course in Miracles, and Rahjneesh, psychokenesis experiments.
- Worked with various consciousness organizations, and have been involved in projects with people like Buckminster Fuller, George Leonard, Swami Muktananda, the scribe of The Course in Miracles, Werner Erhard, Marilyn Ferguson, Ken Wilber and the Dalai Lama.



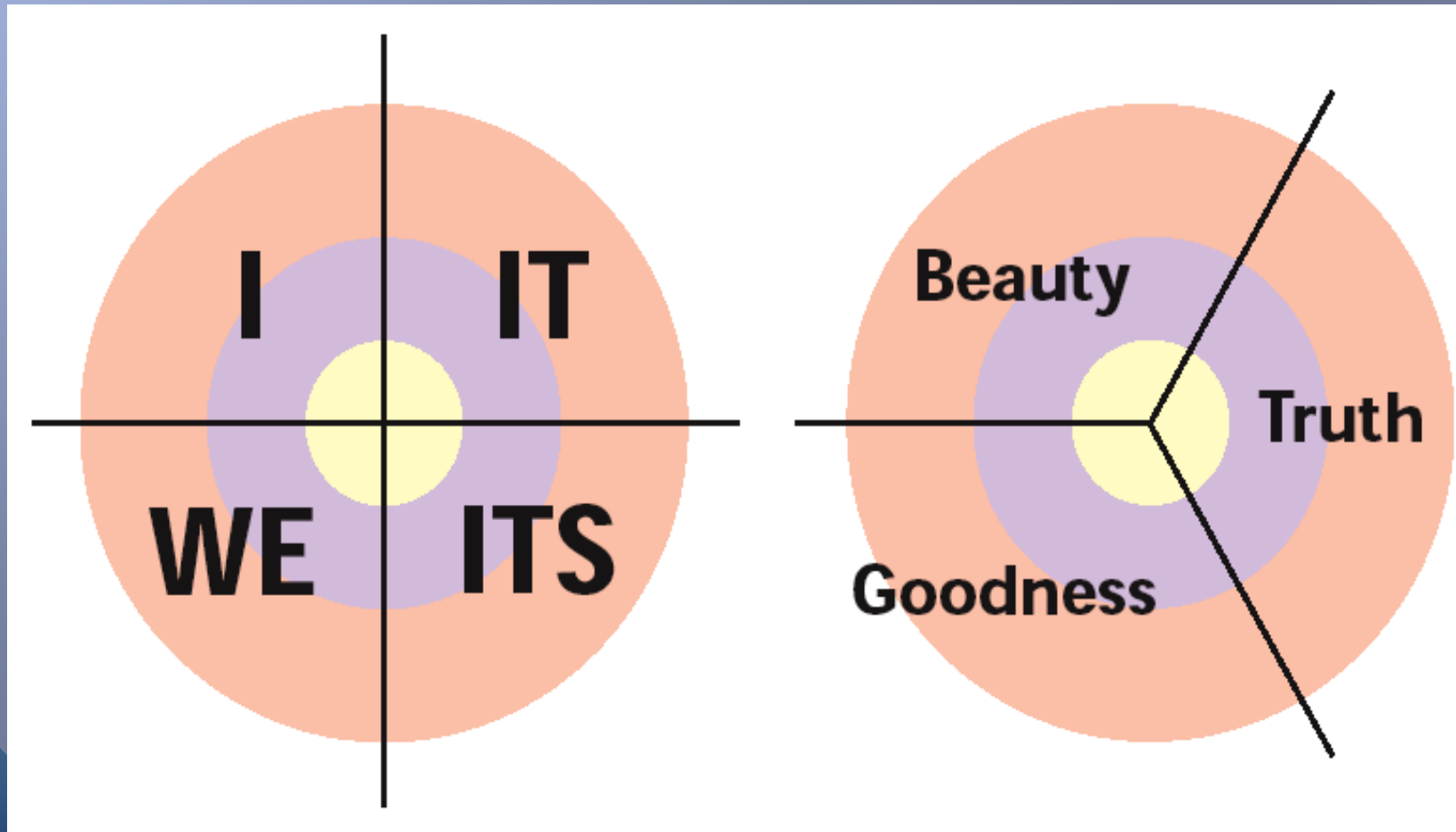
## How the Integral Vision changed my life.

- Compassion for developmental stages.
- Everyone is right, but often incomplete.
- All my friends were evolved.
- More love in my life.
- Could learn easier.
- Increase in experiential and spiritual awareness.
- More energy and strategic wisdom for life.

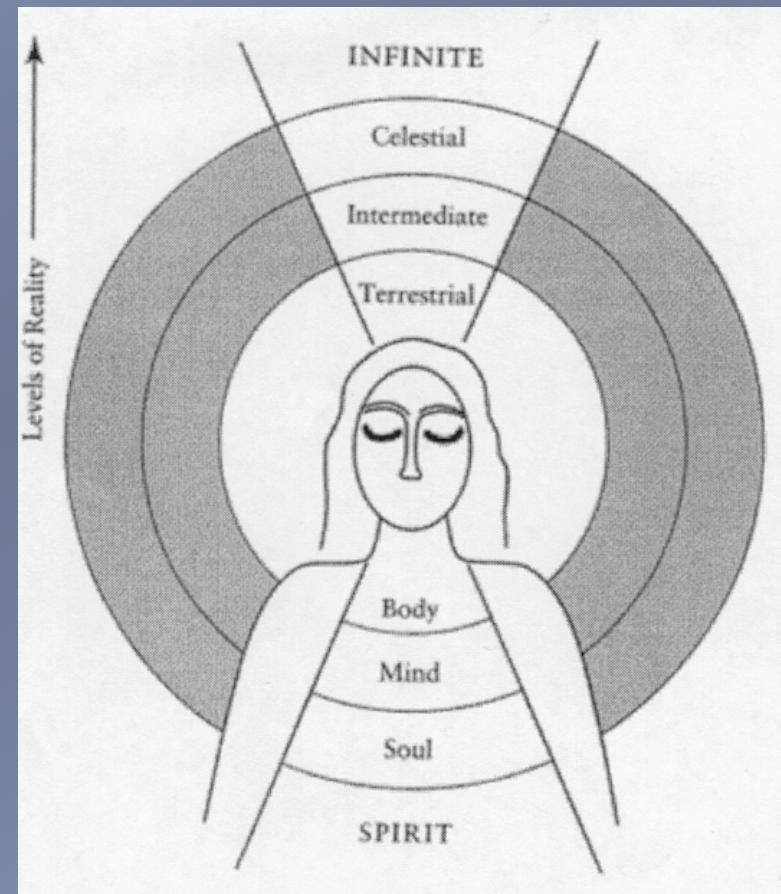
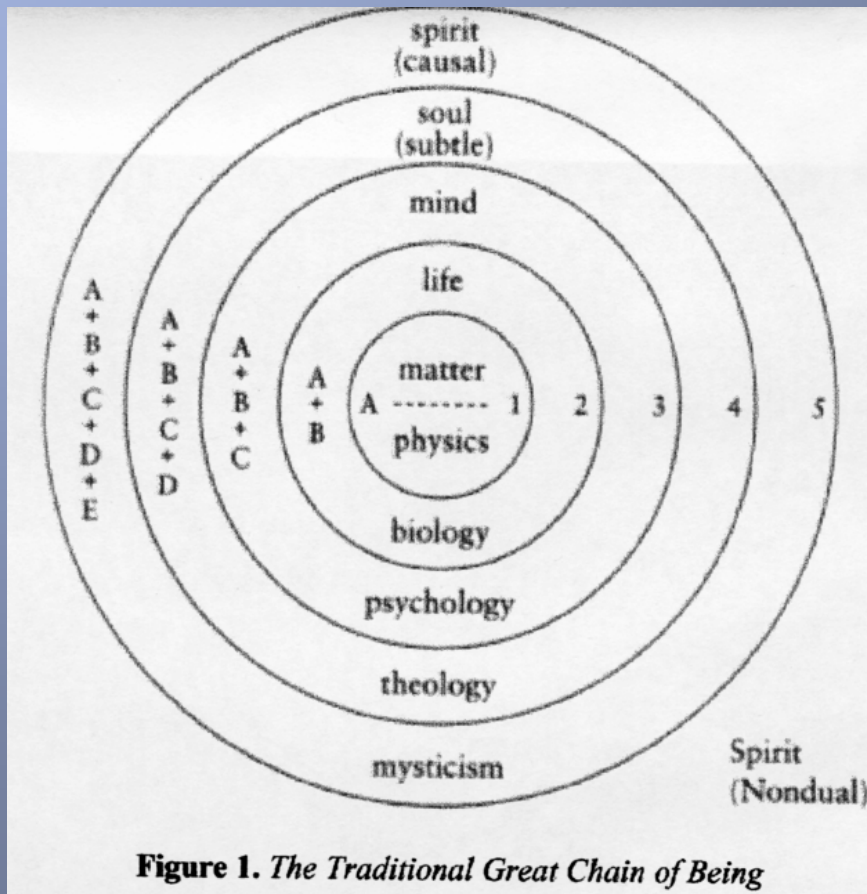


# Plato (428/427 BC – 348/347 BC)

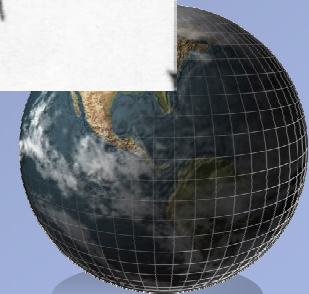
Classical Greek philosopher, who, together with his mentor, Socrates, and his student, Aristotle, helped to lay the foundations of Western philosophy, and an integral approach.



- Descartes, Spinoza, and Leibniz and the Great Chain of Being



Huston Smith's *The Religions of Man*



# The Great Integral Hierarchy

## • Plotinus (205-270 CE)

- Absolute One (Godhead)
- Nous (intuitive mind)
- Soul/World-Soul
- Creative Reason
- Logical Faculty
- Concepts and Opinions
- Images
- Pleasure/Pain (Emotions)
- Perceptions
- Sensation
- Vegetative life Function
- Matter

## • Aurobindo (1872–1950)

- Satchitananda/Supermind
- Intuitive Mind/Overmind
- Illumined World-Mind
- Higher-mind/Network-mind
- Logical Mind
- Concrete mind
- Lower mind
- Vital-emotional; impulse
- Perception
- Sensation
- Vegetative
- Matter (physical)





# Sri Aurobindo

(August 15, 1872–December 5, 1950),

Indian nationalist, scholar, poet, mystic, evolutionary philosopher, yogi and guru

Sri Aurobindo initiated and defined **integral yoga** in the early 1900s as "a path of integral seeking of the Divine by which all that we are is in the end liberated out of the Ignorance and its undivine formations into a truth beyond the Mind, a truth not only of highest spiritual status but of a dynamic spiritual self-manifestation in the universe."

In Sri Aurobindo's **integral psychology**, and for that matter his metaphysic as a whole, the cosmos is described as an ascending dimension of physical, vital, mental, and higher, transpersonal realms.

At the same time, there is the series of Outer being, the Inner being, and the inmost Psychic being forming a "concentric" sequence or hierarchy.



# LASZLO VS. WILBER?

## Books

Source: Barnes & Noble.com

- **Ervin** (born 1932): 74 books, with translations: 199 hardcover and soft.
  - sales rank: Ranked number 55,000, 77k, 136k, 137k
- **Ken** (born 1949): 172 books, 79 English.
  - sales rank: 5,000, 30k, 45k, 50k
- Co-authorships, forwards.
- **A theory of everything (TOE)** is a putative theory of theoretical physics that fully explains and links together all known physical phenomena.
- The status of a physical TOE is open to philosophical debate. For example, if physicalism is true, a physical TOE would coincide with a philosophical theory of everything. Some philosophers (Aristotle, Plato, Hegel, Whitehead, et al) have attempted to construct all-encompassing systems. Others are highly dubious about the very possibility of such an exercise.



***KEN WILBER wrote 27 books, many translated in more than 30 languages,  
-- the most translated academic author of the United States.***

- **Spectrum of Consciousness (1977)**
- **No Boundary (1979)**
- **The Atman Project (1980)**
- **Up from Eden (1981)**
- **The Holographic Paradigm (1982)**
- **A Sociable God (1982)**
- **Eye to Eye (1983)**
- **Quantum Questions (1984)**
- **Spiritual Choices (1986)**
- **Transformations of Consciousness (1987)**
- **Grace and Grit (1991)**
- **Sex, Ecology, Spirituality (1995)**
- **A Brief History of Everything (1996) (Integral Theory)**
- **The Eye of Spirit (1997)**
- **Marriage of Sense and Soul (1998)**
- **One Taste (1999)**
- **Integral Psychology (2000)**
- **A Theory of Everything (2000)**
- **Boomeritis (2002)**
- **The Simple Feeling of Being (2004)**
- **Integral Spirituality (2006)**
- **The One Two Three of God, (2006)**
- **Integral Life Practice (2006)**
- **The Integral Vision (2007)**
- **Integral Life Practice (2008)**
- **The Many Faces of Terrorism**
- **Collected Works of Ken Wilber, vol. XI, [Kosmic Karma and Creativity],**



## Laszlo's books

- Quantum Shift in the Global Brain : How the New Scientific Reality Can Change Us and Our World 2008
- CosMos : A Co-creator's Guide to the Whole World , Jude Currivan 2008
- Not-Two Is Peace : Ordinary People's Way of Global Cooperative Order Adi Di Peter Russella Samraj, (Introduction) 2007
- Science and the Reenchantment of the Cosmos : The Rise of the Integral Vision of Reality 2006
- Chaos Point : The World at the Crossroads 2006
- Global Survival : The Challenge and Its Implications for Thinking and Acting (Editor) , Peter Seidel (Editor) 2006
- Science and the Akashic Field : An Integral Theory of Everything 2004
- You Can Change the World : Global Citizen's Handbook for Living on Planet Earth , Mikhail Gorbachev (Introduction) 2004
- Connectivity Hypothesis : Foundations of an Integral Science of Quantum, Cosmos, Life, and Consciousness, R. Abraham 2003
- Consciousness Revolution : A Transatlantic Dialogue Peter Russell, Stanislas Grof, 2003
- Invisible Walls : Why We Ignore the Damage We Inflict on the Planet... And Ourselves Seidel, Brown, (Foreword ) 2001
- An Arrow Through Chaos : How We See into the Future David Loye, (Foreword ) 2000
- Macroshift 2001-2010 : Creating the Future in the Early 21st Century Arthur Charles Clarke (Foreword ) 2000
- The Evolutionary Outrider : The Impact of the Human Agent on Evolution, Loye, Abraham, Fritjof Capra, 1998
- Invisible Walls : Why We Ignore the Damage We Inflict on the Planet...and Ourselves Peter Seidel, 1998
- Insight Edge : An Introduction to the Theory and Practice of Evolutionary Management , Christopher Laszlo, James Ogilvy 1997
- 3rd Millennium : The Challenge and the Vision : The Club of Budapest Report on Creative Paths of Human Evolution 1997
- Changing Visions : Human Cognitive Maps: Past, Present, and Future , Allan Combs, Robert Artigiani, Vilmos Csanyi 1996
- Holistic Vision for Our Time 1996
- Whispering Pond : A Personal Guide to the Emerging Vision of Science 1996
- Evolution : The General Theory , Alfonso Montuori (Editor) 1996
- Interconnected Universe : Conceptual Foundations of Transdisciplinary Unified Theory 1995
- Vision 2020 : Reordering Chaos for Global Survival 1994
- Choice, Evolution or Extinction? : A Thinking Person's Guide to Global Issues 1994
- Multi-Cultural Planet : The Report of a UNESCO International Expert Group 1994
- The Inner Limits of Mankind 1994
- Evolution of Cognitive Maps : New Paradigms for the Twenty-First Century (Editor) , Robert Artigiani (Editor) , 1993
- Transition to a Global Society by Suheil Bushrui, Iraj Ayman, and Ervin Laszlo (Paperback - Aug 1993)
- Creative Cosmos , Karl Pribram (Foreword ) 1993
- Age of Bifurcation : Understanding the Changing World, Vol. 3 1991



## Laszlo's books

- New Evolutionary Paradigm 1991
- Disarmament : The Human Factor: Proceedings of a Colloquim on the Societal Context for Diasarmament Donald Keys (Editor)
- Evolution : The Grand Synthesis , Jonas Salk (Foreword ) 1987
- African and Arab Co-operation for Development. by Ervin (ed) Laszlo 1984
- Systems Science and World Order : Selected Studies 1983
- Rcdc (Regional Cooperation Among Developing Countries : the New Imperative of Development in the 1980s) 1981
- Food and Agriculture in Global Perspective : Discussions in the Committee of the Whole of the United States , Joel Kertzman, Thorvald Stoltenberg (Foreword ) , Davidson Nicol (Preface ) 1980
- Obstacles to the New International Economic Order , Jaime Estevez, Rosario Green, Jorge A. Lozoya, A. K. Bhattacharya 1980
- United States, Canada and the New International Economic Order (Editor) , Joel Kurtzman (Editor) 1979
- Inner Limits of Mankind : Heretical Reflections on Today's Values, Culture and Politics 1978
- Objectives of the New International Economic Order , Elliott Eisenberg, Vankata Raman, Robert M., Jr. Robert M. Baker Jr. 1978
- Goals for Mankind : A Report to the Club of Rome on the New Horizons of Global Community , Club of Rome Staff 1977
- Goals in a Global Community : Studies on the Conceptual Foundations (Editor) 1977
- Vistas in Physical Reality (Editor) , Emily B. Sellon (Editor) 1976
- Design for Evolution : Self-Organization and Planning in the Life of Human Systems Erich Jantsch, (Editor) 1975
- Strategy for the Future : The Systems Approach to World Order 1974
- General Systems Philosophy for the Social and Behavioral Sciences John W. Sutherland, (Editor) 1973
- World Encyclopedia of Peace (Editor) 1973
- World System : Models, Norms, Variations (Editor) 1973
- Introduction to Systems Philosophy - toward a New Paradigm of Contemporary Thought 1972
- The Relevance of General Systems Theory : Papers Presented to Ludwig Von Bertalanffy on His Seventieth Birthday (Editor) 1972
- Systems View of the World 1972
- Human Values and the Mind of Man 1971
- Evolution-Revolution Rubin Gotesky (Editor) 1971
- Goals for Mankind: A Report to the Club of Rome on the New Horizons of by Ervin Laszlo 1970
- Human Values and Natural Science (Editor) , James B. Wilbur (Editor) 1970
- La métaphysique de Whitehead: recherche sur les prolongements anthropologiques. by Alfred North). Laszlo, Ervin, 1970
- System, Structure and Experience : Toward a Scientific Theory of Mind 1969
- Philosophy in the Soviet Union : A Survey of the Mid-Sixties (Editor) 1967
- Beyond Scepticism and Realism: A Constructive Exploration of Husserlian and Whiteheadian Methods of Inquiry 1966
- The Communist Ideology in Hungary: Handbook for Basic Research, by Ervin Laszlo 1966
- Individualism, Collectivism, and Political Power: A Relational Analysis of Ideological Conflict by Ervin Laszlo 1962



# Ervin's Integral Model

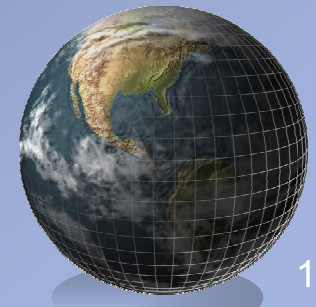
- **Cosmology**, by way of physics.
- Most fundamental element of reality is the **quantum vacuum**, the energy- and information-filled plenum that underlies, generates, and interacts with our universe **and human experience**.
- **In-formation**, a process that actually “forms” the recipient.
- “**Akasha** is an all-encompassing medium that underlies all things and becomes all things... that populate the manifest world.
- ” The cosmic proto-consciousness... eternally is.. the **SELF REALIZED MIND OF GOD.**”



# LAZSLO'S INTEGRAL VIEW

- QUANTUUM VACUUM CREATES ENERGY AND MATTER
- IN-FORMATION EVOLVES UNIVERSE
- STRING AND SUPER-STRING THEORY
- TOE= FINDING A MATHEMATICAL FORUMLA
- HOLOGRAPHIC UNIVERSE
- COHERENCE, ENTANGLEMENT, NON=LOCALITY
- METAVERSE

**= AKASHIC FIELD**



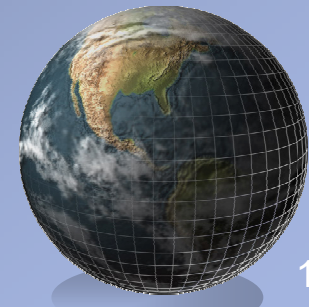
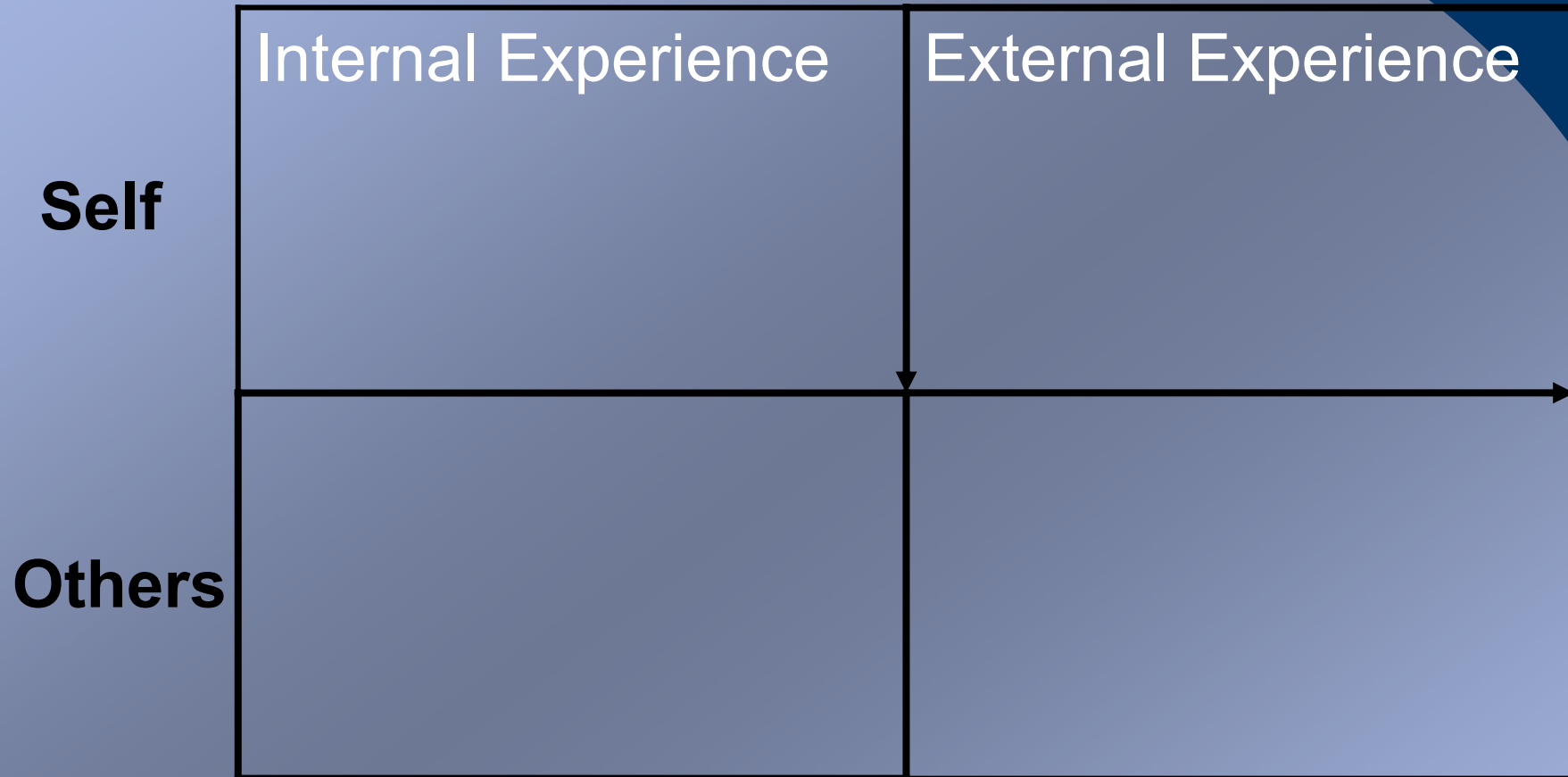
# Wilber's Integral Model

- Quadrants
  - Levels or stages:  
Spiral Dynamics
  - Lines
  - States
  - Types
  - **HOLONs**
- An IOS can be used to help index any activity—from art, to dance, to business, to law, to poetry, to education, to psychology, to medicine, to spirituality, to politics, to ecology—it allows each of those domains to talk to the others.
  - In the history of humankind, this has never really happened before.

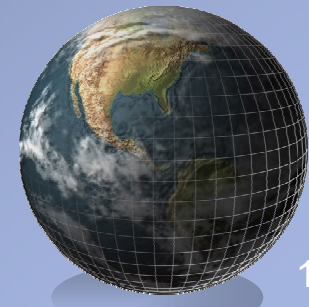
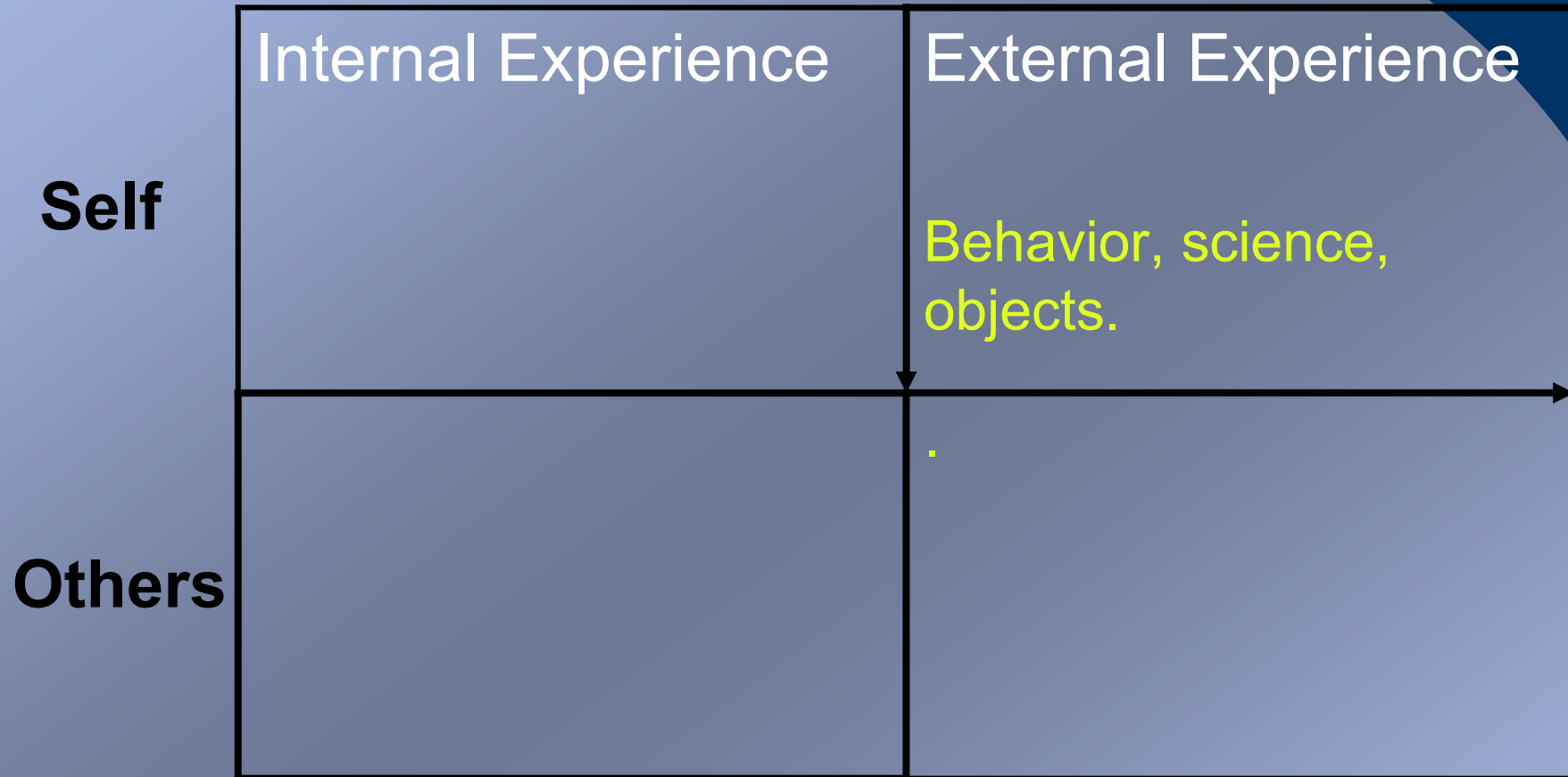




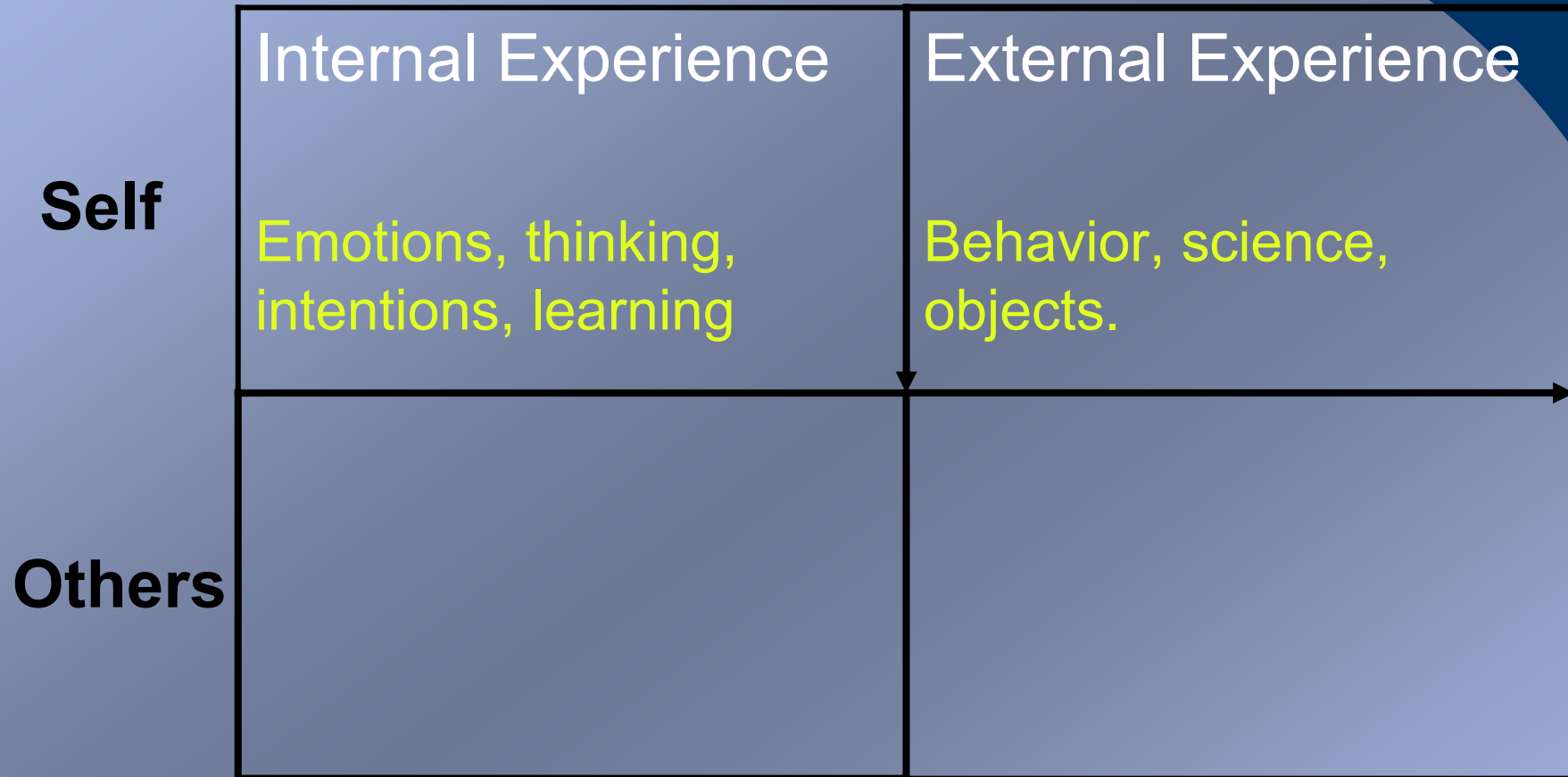
# FOUR QUADRANTS



# FOUR QUADRANTS



# FOUR QUADRANTS



# FOUR QUADRANTS

<b>Self</b>	<b>Internal Experience</b> Emotions, thinking, intentions, learning	<b>External Experience</b> Behavior, science, objects.
<b>Others</b>	Culture, Esthetics, laws, religions, worldspace.	

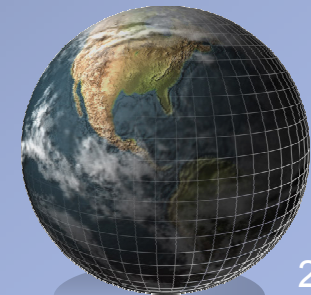
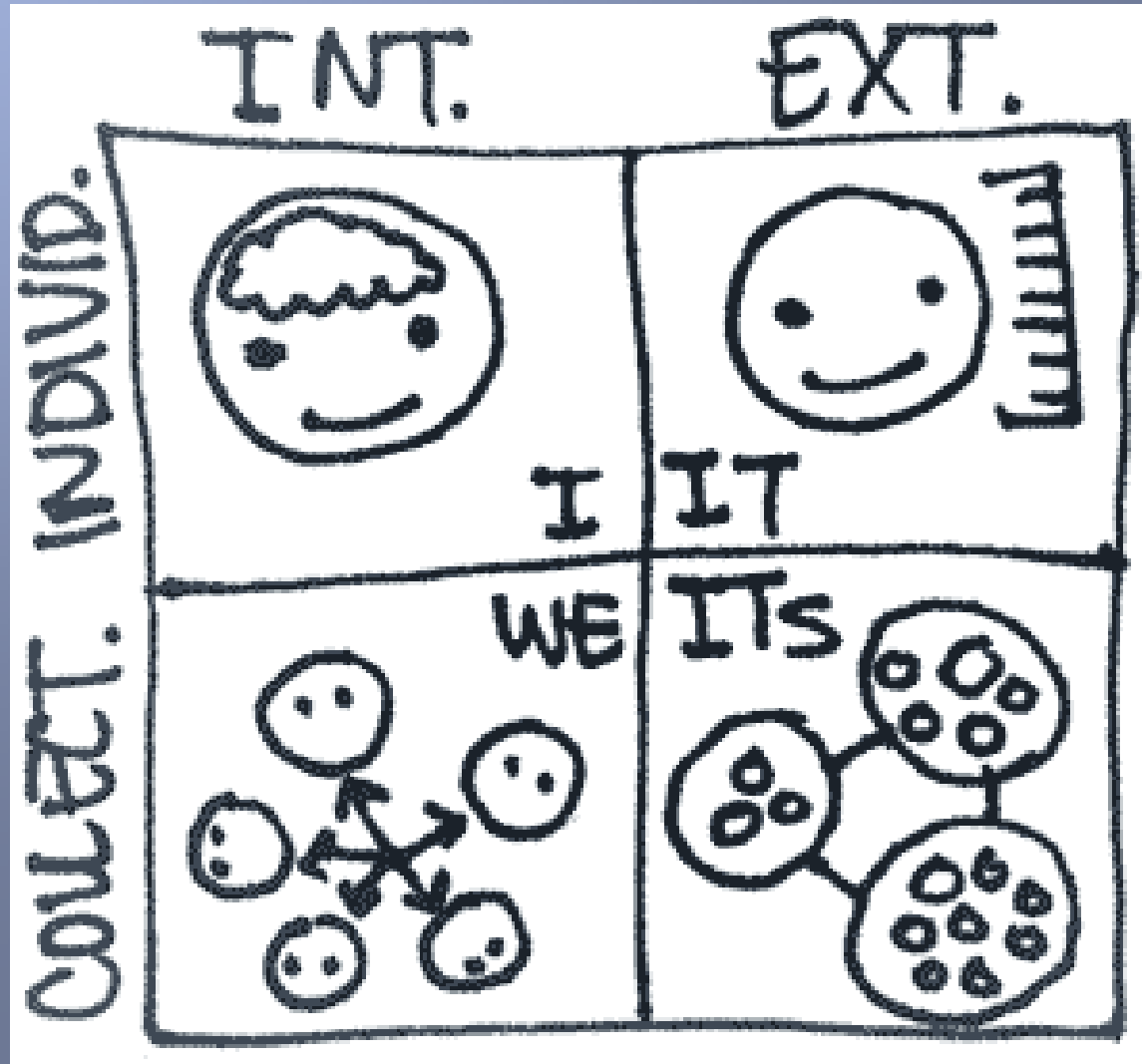


# FOUR QUADRANTS

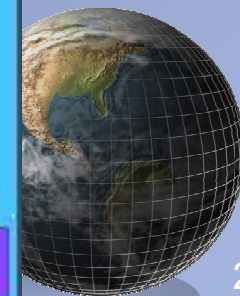
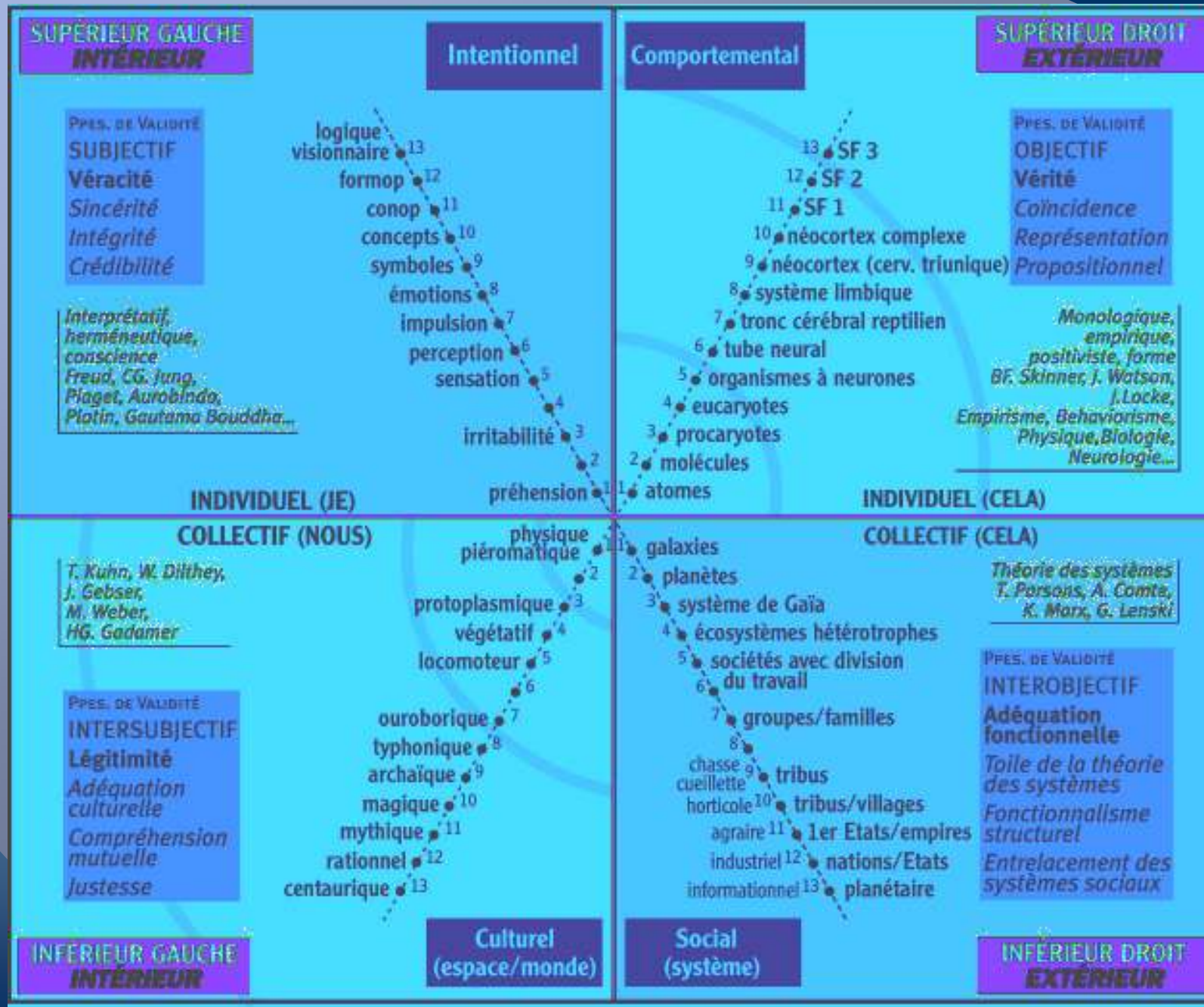
<b>Self</b>	<b>Internal Experience</b> Emotions, thinking, intentions, learning	<b>External Experience</b> Behavior, science, objects.
<b>Others</b>	Culture, Esthetics, laws, religions, worldspace.	Sociology, systems of civilizations, politics, commerce.



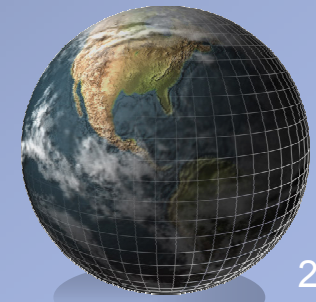
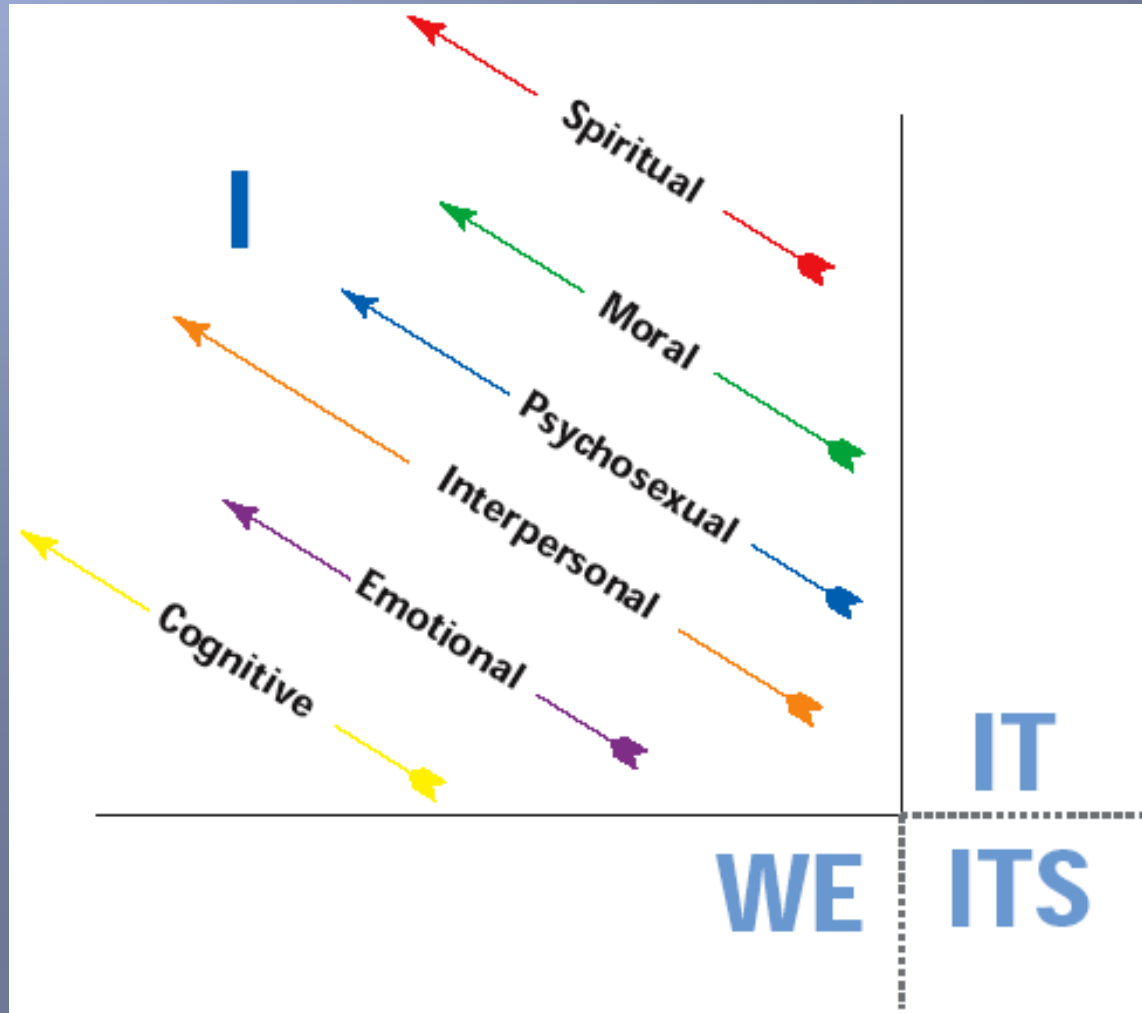
Even a 7 year-old can get it.



# Some details of the four quadrants



# LINES OF DEVELOPMENT

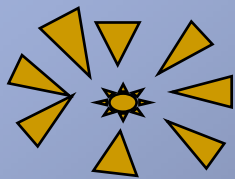




# STAGES: Spiral Dynamics

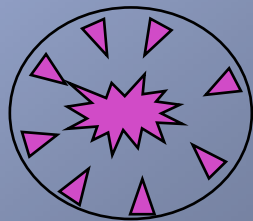
Value Memes: psychosocial "DNA"

Survival Band



Instinct Driven

Tribal Order



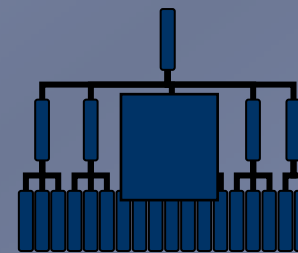
Safety Driven

Exploitive Empire



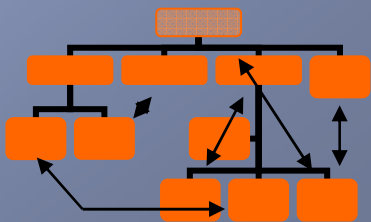
Power Driven

Authority Structure



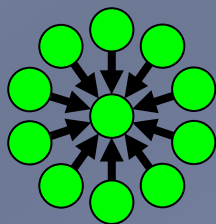
Order Driven

Strategic Enterprise



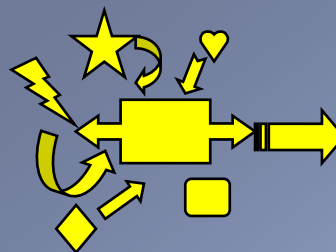
Success Driven

Social Network



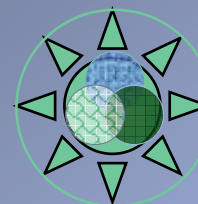
People Driven

Systemic Flow

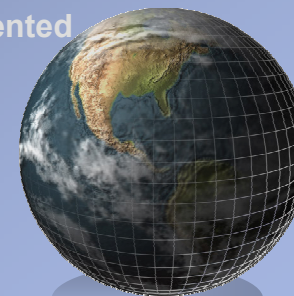


Process Oriented

Holistic Organism

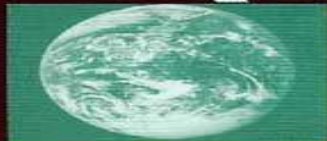


Synthesis Oriented



# SPIRAL DYNAMICS: the evolution of consciousness and culture

The incisive and far-reaching theory of Spiral Dynamics, originating with the work of Clare Graves in the 1960s, and developed and applied by Dr. Don Beck and others, charts the evolution of human culture and consciousness beginning 100,000 years ago, through eight color-coded *value memes*, or levels of development, with a ninth on the horizon. These memes are systems of values that apply as much to the mindsets of individuals as to the worldviews of entire societies. In the world today, all the meme levels are manifesting—from survival clans (beige) to social democracies (green), with hints of higher levels of human development (yellow, turquoise, and to a very minimal extent, coral) just beginning to emerge.



## TURQUOISE MEME

**Holistic meme** – starting 30 years ago

**Worldview:** An elegantly balanced system of interlocking forces

**Mindset:** Experience the wholeness of existence through mind & spirit

**Manifestations:** Holonic, intuitive thinking; global networks for global results



## YELLOW MEME

**Integrative meme** – starting 50 years ago

**Worldview:** The world is a chaotic organism forged by differences and change

**Mindset:** Flexibility, functionality, responsibility, and spontaneity have highest priority

**Manifestations:** Integrative structures, systems thinking, "Third Way" politics



## GREEN MEME

**Communitarian/Egalitarian meme** – starting 150 years ago

**Worldview:** A human habitat in which we share life's experiences, freed from dogma

**Mindset:** Seek peace in the inner self and explore the caring dimensions of community

**Manifestations:** Human rights movements, communes, Woodstock, multiculturalism



## ORANGE MEME

**Achievist/Strategic meme** – starting 300 years ago

**Worldview:** A marketplace full of possibilities and opportunities

**Mindset:** Play the game to win; cultivate optimistic, risk-taking self-reliance

**Manifestations:** The Enlightenment, Silicon Valley, Fortune magazine, corporate states



## BLUE MEME

**Purposeful/Authoritarian meme** – starting 5,000 years ago

**Worldview:** An ordered existence under the control of the ultimate truth

**Mindset:** Life has meaning, direction and purpose; enforce principles of rightful living

**Manifestations:** Puritan America, codes of honor, the Moral Majority



## RED MEME

**Impulsive/Egocentric meme** – starting 10,000 years ago

**Worldview:** A jungle where the strongest and most cunning survive

**Mindset:** Avoid shame, get respect, and do what you want

**Manifestations:** Feudal kingdoms, rebellious youth, epic heroes, "terrible twos"



## PURPLE MEME

**Magical/Animistic meme** – starting 50,000 years ago

**Worldview:** A magical place alive with spirit beings and mystical signs

**Mindset:** Keep the tribe's nest safe and warm; observe tribal customs, seasonal cycles

**Manifestations:** Family rituals, shamans, blood oaths, magical New Age beliefs



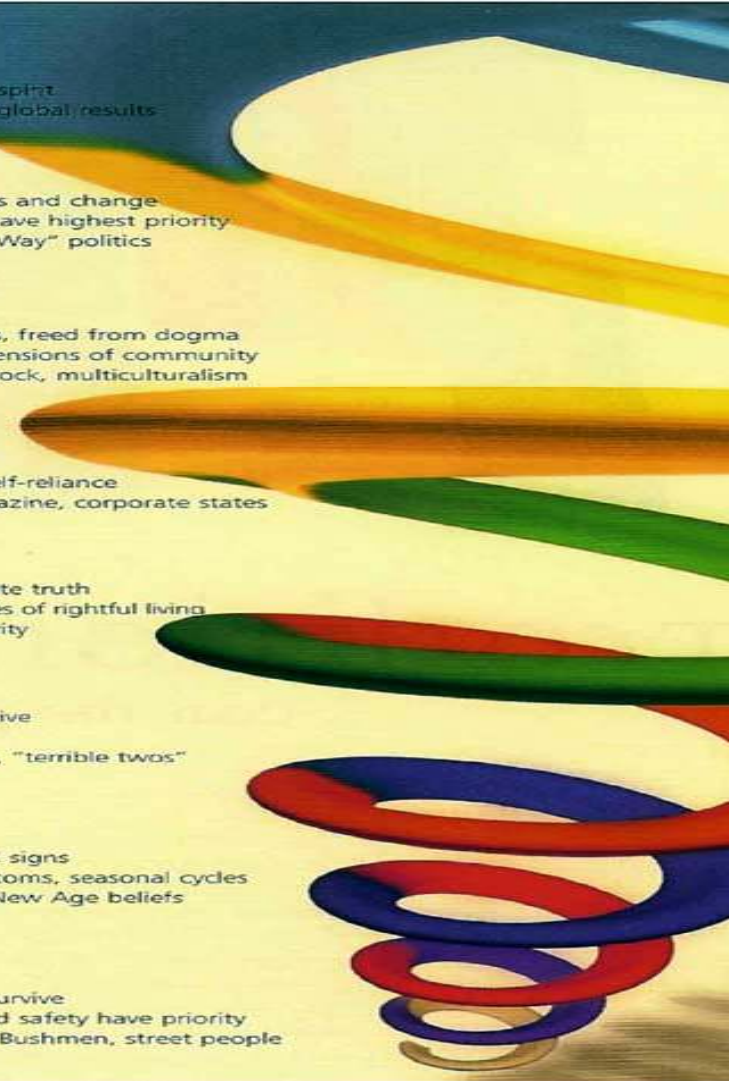
## BEIGE MEME

**Instinctive/Survivalistic meme** – starting 100,000 years ago

**Worldview:** A natural milieu where humans rely on instincts to survive

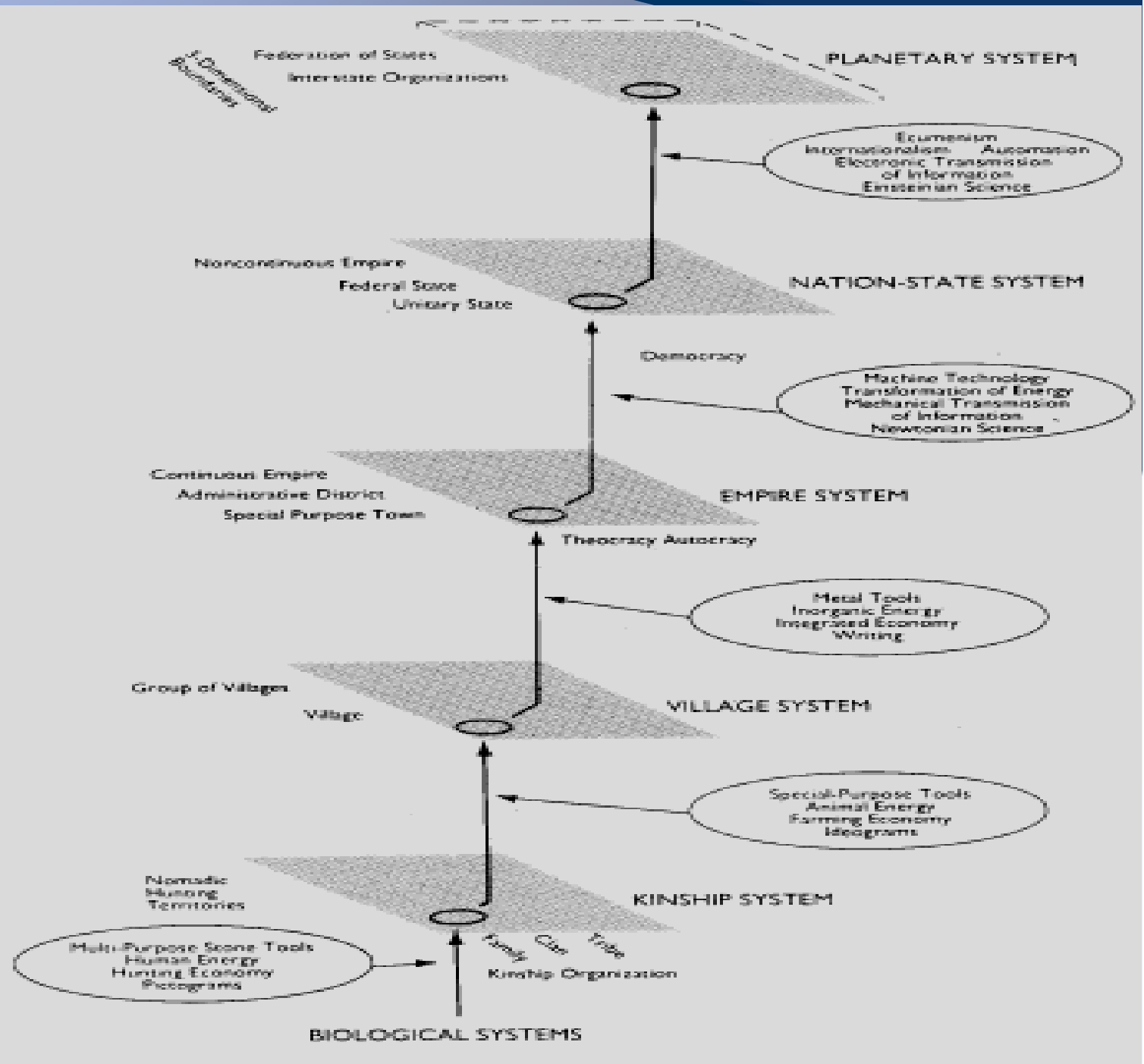
**Mindset:** Do what you must to stay alive. Food, warmth, sex, and safety have priority

**Manifestations:** First human societies, starving masses, African Bushmen, street people



# HOLARCHIES OF EVOLUTION

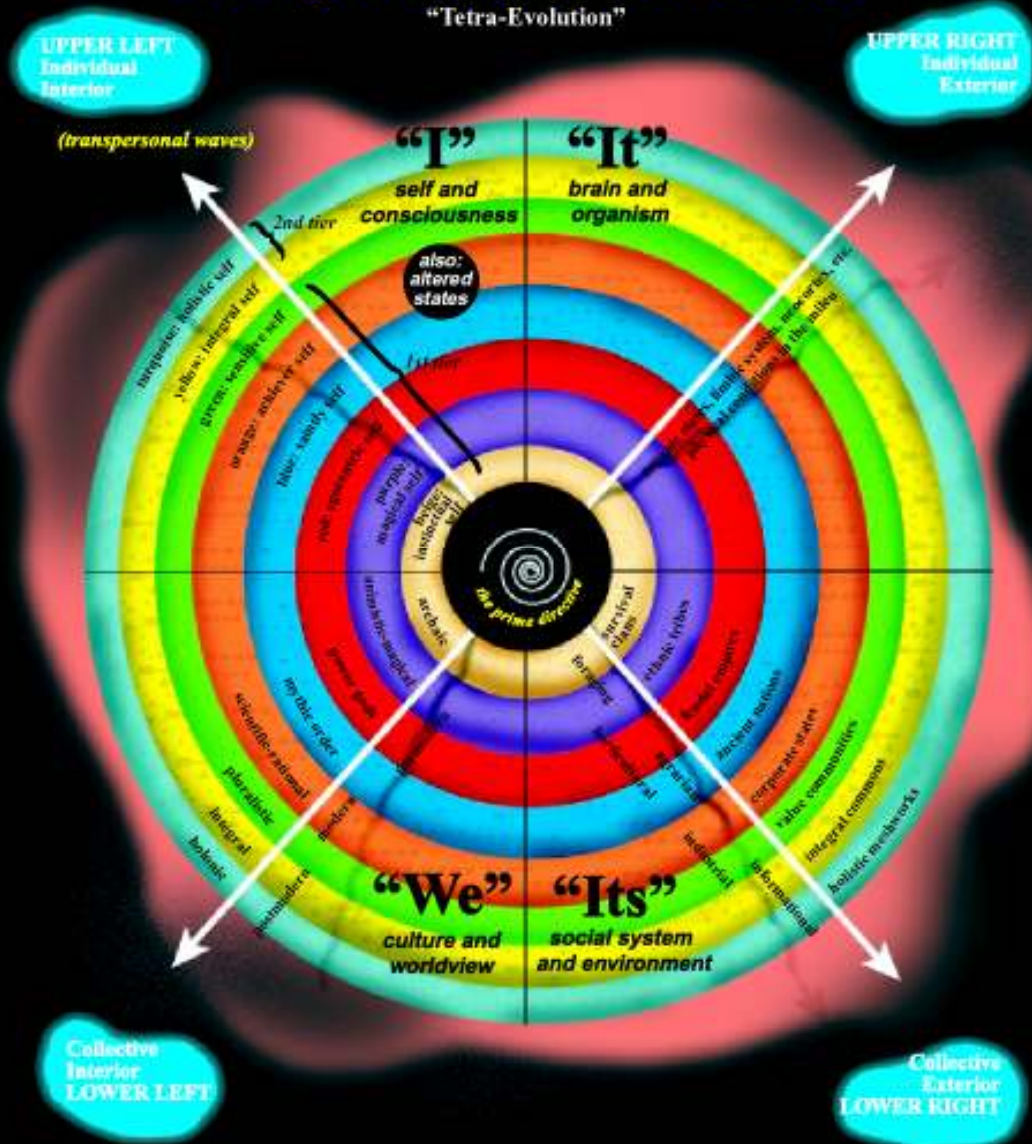
Example:  
Emergent Geopolitical  
Systems Levels



# 4Q/8L

## ALL QUADRANTS/ALL LEVELS

"Tetra-Evolution"



# Complementarities

## ERVIN

- Ships travels on the sea's surface and spread waves. Wave fields meet and create Wave-interference patterns. In this way the (quantum) vacuum carries (holographic) information on atoms, molecules, cells and even on organism and populations and ecologies.
- Cosmology– a career from social and systems science to spirit.
- Sub-atomic Bottom-up and top-down macro explanations.
- The universe is conscious, people are cause.

## KEN

- Spirit is like wetness in the oceans, seas, waves, clouds, and people. Doesn't create anything, but is always, already there.
- Kosmology– a career from spirituality, to science, psychology, anthropology and sociology.
- Consciousness learns the universe.
- AGAPE AND EROS ontological and teleological forces.





# Brian Van der Horst Cognitive Services

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<http://www.bvdh.com>

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