

# Universal laws and architectures: Theory and lessons from brains, bugs, nets, grids, planes, docs, fire, bodies, fashion, earthquakes, turbulence, music, buildings, cities, art, running, throwing, **Synesthesia**, spacecraft, statistical mechanics

John Doyle 道陽

Jean-Lou Chameau Professor

Control and Dynamical Systems, EE, & BioE

**Ca<sup>#</sup>1tech**

# Requirements on systems and architectures

accessible  
accountable  
accurate  
adaptable  
administrable  
affordable  
auditable  
autonomy  
available  
credible  
process  
capable  
compatible  
composable  
configurable  
correctness  
customizable  
debugable  
degradable  
determinable  
demonstrable

dependable  
deployable  
discoverable  
distributable  
durable  
effective  
efficient  
evolvable  
extensible  
fail transparent  
fast  
fault-tolerant  
fidelity  
flexible  
inspectable  
installable  
Integrity  
interchangeable  
interoperable  
learnable  
maintainable

manageable  
mobile  
modifiable  
modular  
nomadic  
operable  
orthogonality  
portable  
precision  
predictable  
producible  
provable  
recoverable  
relevant  
reliable  
repeatable  
reproducible  
resilient  
responsive  
reusable  
robust

safety  
scalable  
seamless  
self-sustainable  
serviceable  
supportable  
securable  
simplicity  
stable  
standards  
compliant  
survivable  
**sustainable**  
tailorable  
testable  
timely  
traceable  
ubiquitous  
understandable  
upgradable  
usable

# Requirements on systems and architectures

accessible dependable manageable safety  
accountable deployable mobile scalable  
accurate discoverable modifiable seamless  
adaptable distributable modular self-sustainable  
administrable durable nomadic serviceable  
affordable effective operable supportable  
audible  
autonomous  
availability  
creativity  
productivity  
capable fault-tolerant provable survivable  
compatible fidelity recoverable **sustainable**

When concepts fail, words arise.

Mephistopheles, *Faust*, Goethe

**Mephistopheles.** ...Enter the templed hall of Certainty.

**Student.** Yet in each word some concept there must be.

**Mephistopheles.** Quite true!

But don't torment yourself too anxiously;  
For at the point where concepts fail,  
At the right time a word is thrust in there...

- **Concrete case studies**
- **Theorems**

When concepts fail, ~~words~~ arise.  
**Mephistopheles**, *Faust*, Goethe

Sorry, still too many  
words and slides.

Hopefully read later?

- Concrete case studies
- Theorems

When concepts fail, ~~words~~ arise.  
Mephistopheles, *Faust*, Goethe

## “Laws and Architecture”

- Few words more misused
- Few concepts more confused

What's the best/simplest fix?

- **Concrete case studies**
- **Theorems**

*and words*  
✓

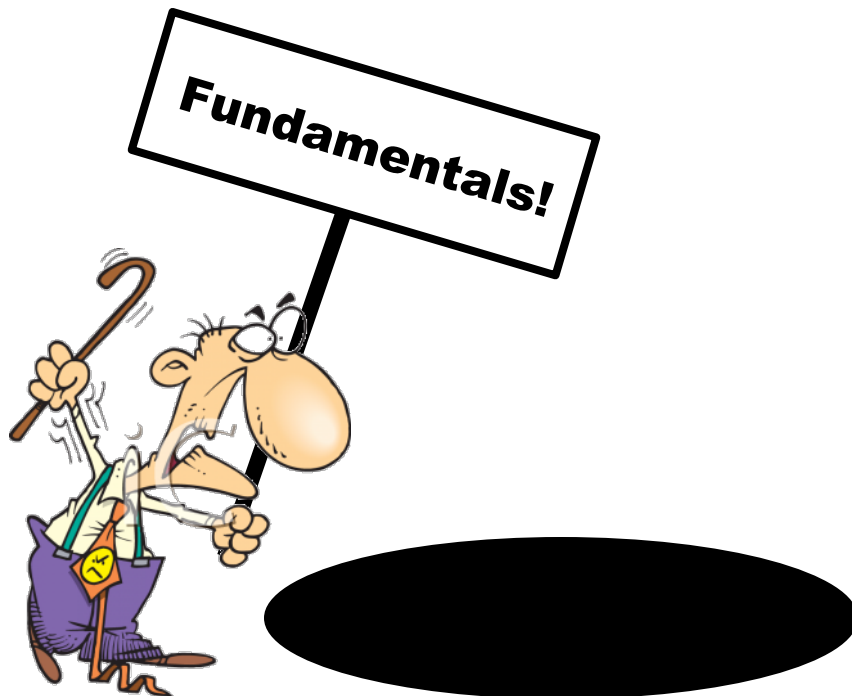
Reality is a crutch for people who can't do math.

***Anon, Berkeley, 70's***

# $\cap \{\text{Case Study}\}$

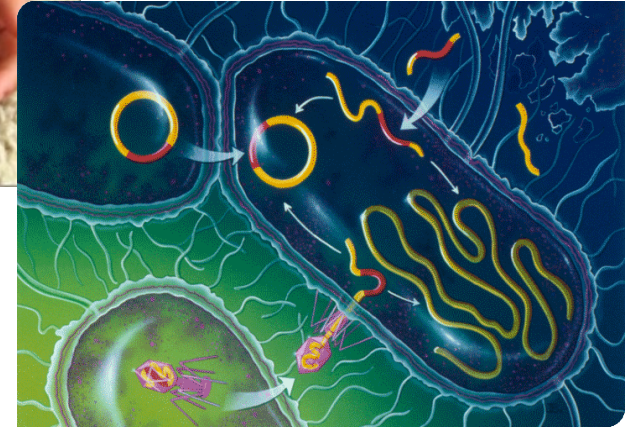
- **Brains**

- Nets/Grids (cyberphys)
- Bugs (microbes, ants)
- Medical physiology



- Lots of aerospace
- Wildfire ecology
- Earthquakes
- Physics:
  - turbulence,
  - stat mech (QM?)
- “Toy”:
  - Lego
  - clothing, fashion
- Buildings, cities
- **Synesthesia**

**Focus today:**  
• **Neuroscience**  
+ **People care**  
+ **Live demos**



- Cell biology (esp. bacteria)
  - + Perfection
  - ± Some people care
- Internet (of everything) (& Cyber-Phys)
  - + Understand the details
  - Flawed designs
  - Everything you've read is wrong (in science)\*
- Medical physiology (esp. HRV)
  - + People care, somewhat familiar
  - Demos more difficult

\* Mostly high impact “journals”



Focus today:

- Neuroscience
  - + People care
  - + Live demos
- Cell biology (esp. bacteria)
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\* Mostly high impact “journals”



**Siri 3.0**



**Glass 3.0**

**What we want to build but can't, yet.**



**FaceWorld**



The zombie apocalypse is already here...



# Sustainable ≈ **robust** + **efficient**

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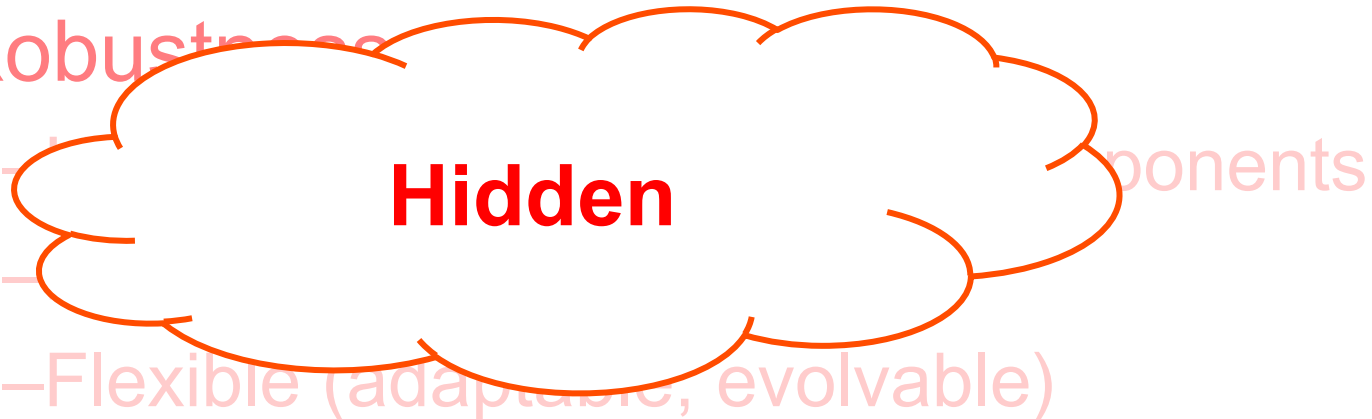
# Priorities

- Functionality (behavior, semantics)
- **Robustness**
  - Uncertain environment and components
  - Fast (sense, decide, act)
  - Flexible (adaptable, evolvable)
- **Efficiency**
  - Energy
  - Other resources (make and maintain)

# Simple, apparent, obvious

- **Functionality**

- **Robustness**



- **Efficiency**

# Complexity $\Leftrightarrow$ Robustness

- Functionality (behavior, semantics)
- **Robustness**
  - Uncertain environment and components
  - Fast (sense, decide, act)
  - Flexible (adaptable, evolvable)
- Efficiency
  - Energy
  - Other resources (make and maintain)

# Sustainable ≈ **robust** + **efficient**

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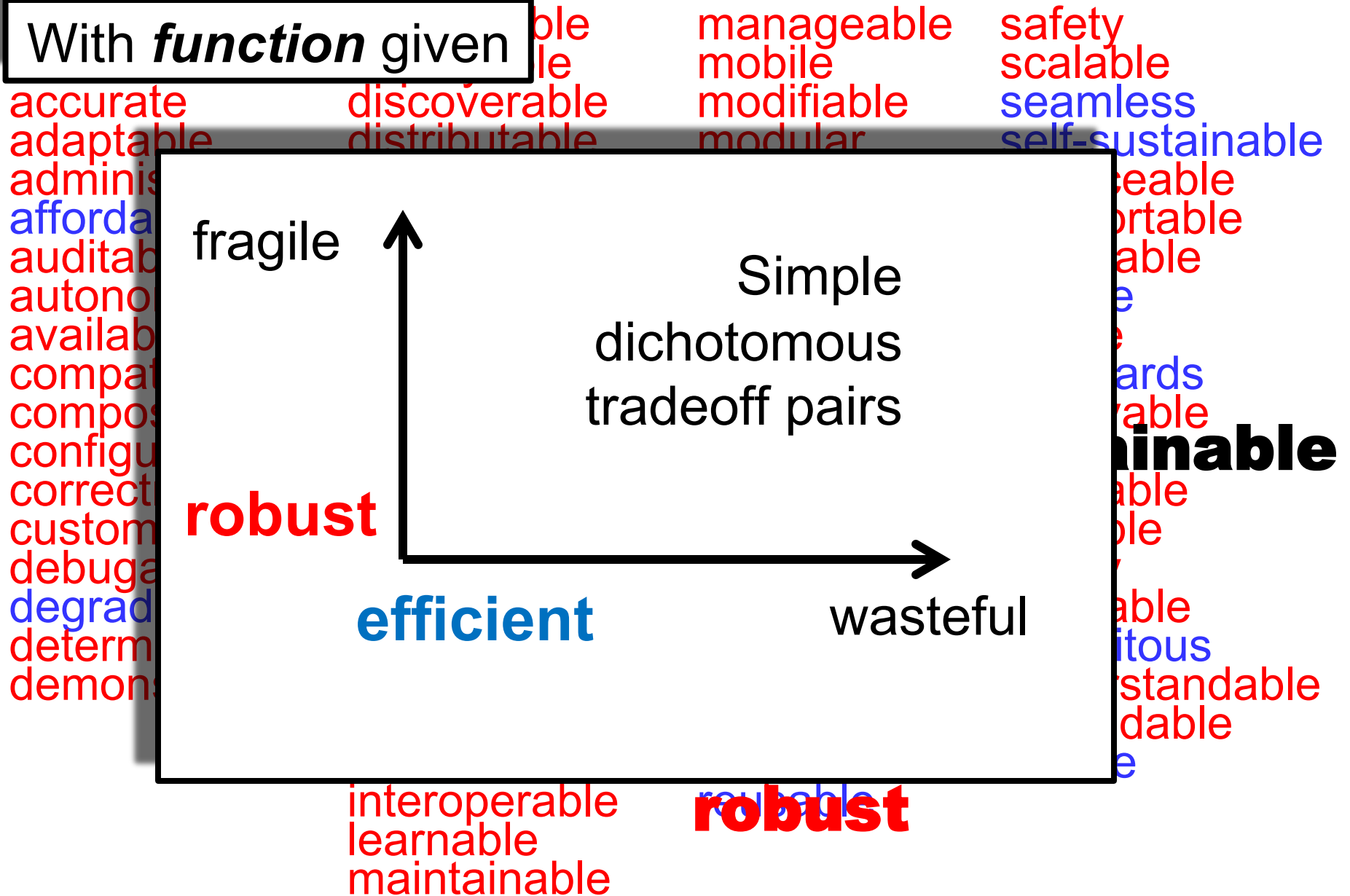
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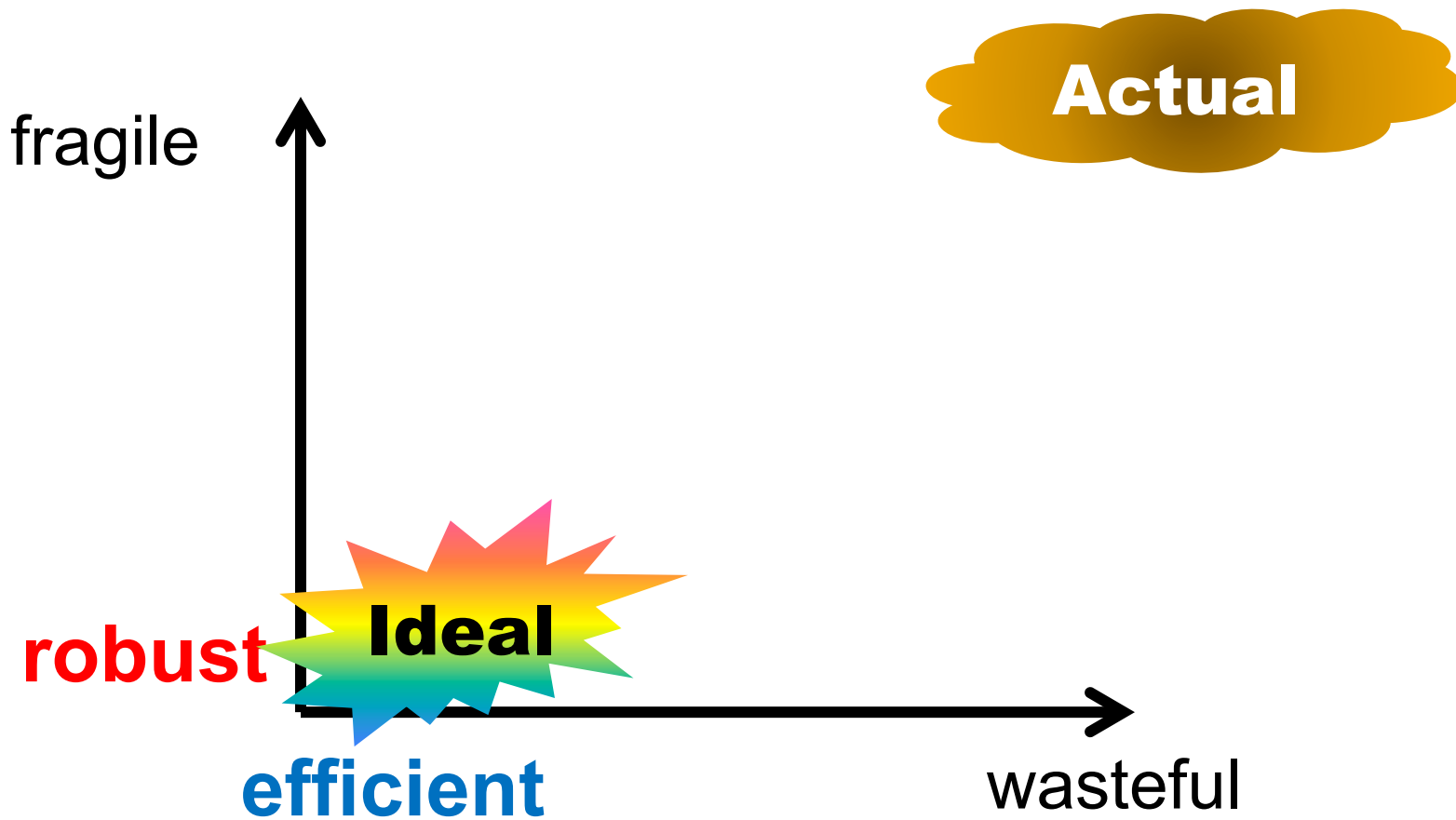


# PCA ≈ Principal *Concept* Analysis ☺

With *function* given



# The main tradeoff



# Efficiency/instability/layers/feedback

- New efficiencies but also instability/fragility
- New distributed/layered/complex/active control

- Sustainable infrastructure? (e.g. smartgrids)

- Money/finance/lobbyists/etc

- Industrialization

- Society/agriculture/weapons/etc

- **Bipedalism**

- Maternal care

- Warm blood

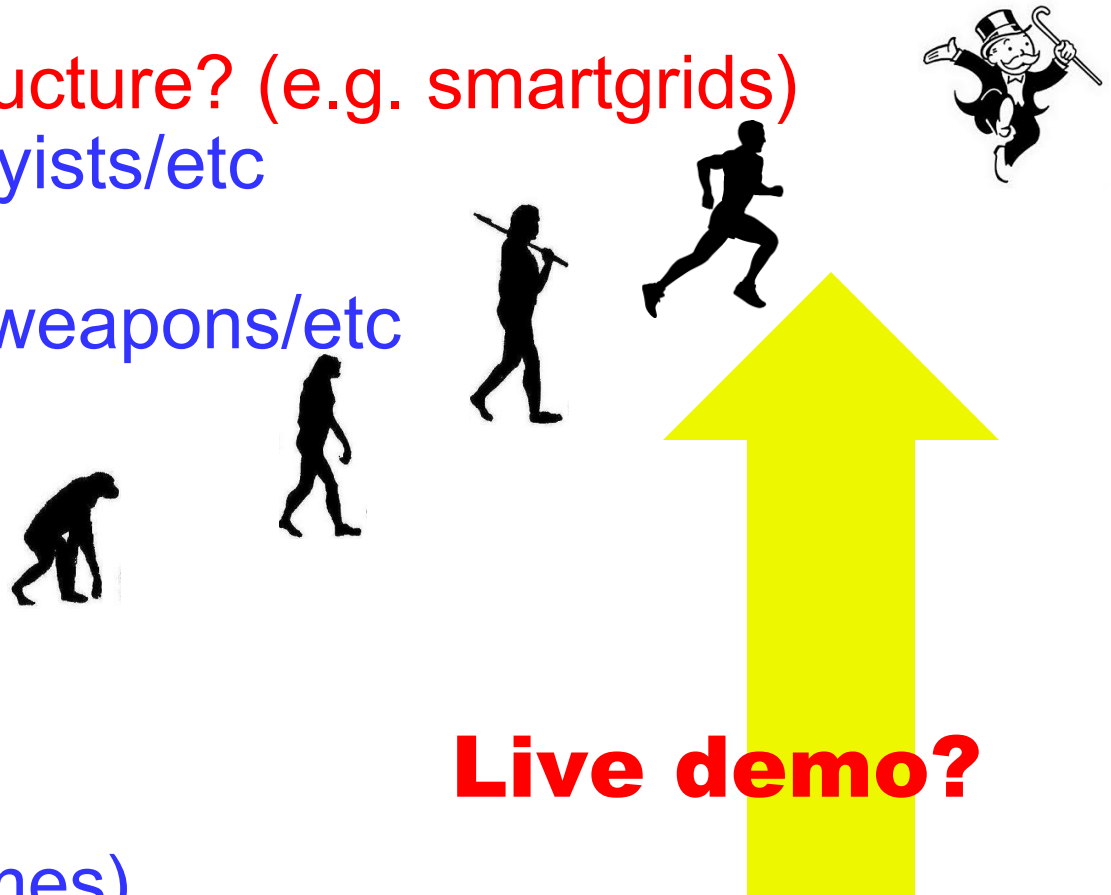
- Flight

- Mitochondria

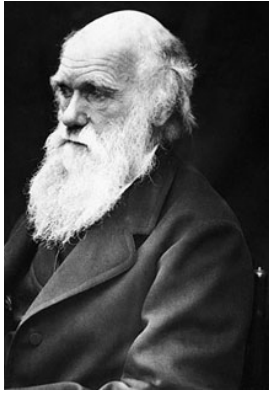
- Oxygen

- Translation (ribosomes)

- Glycolysis (2011 *Science*)

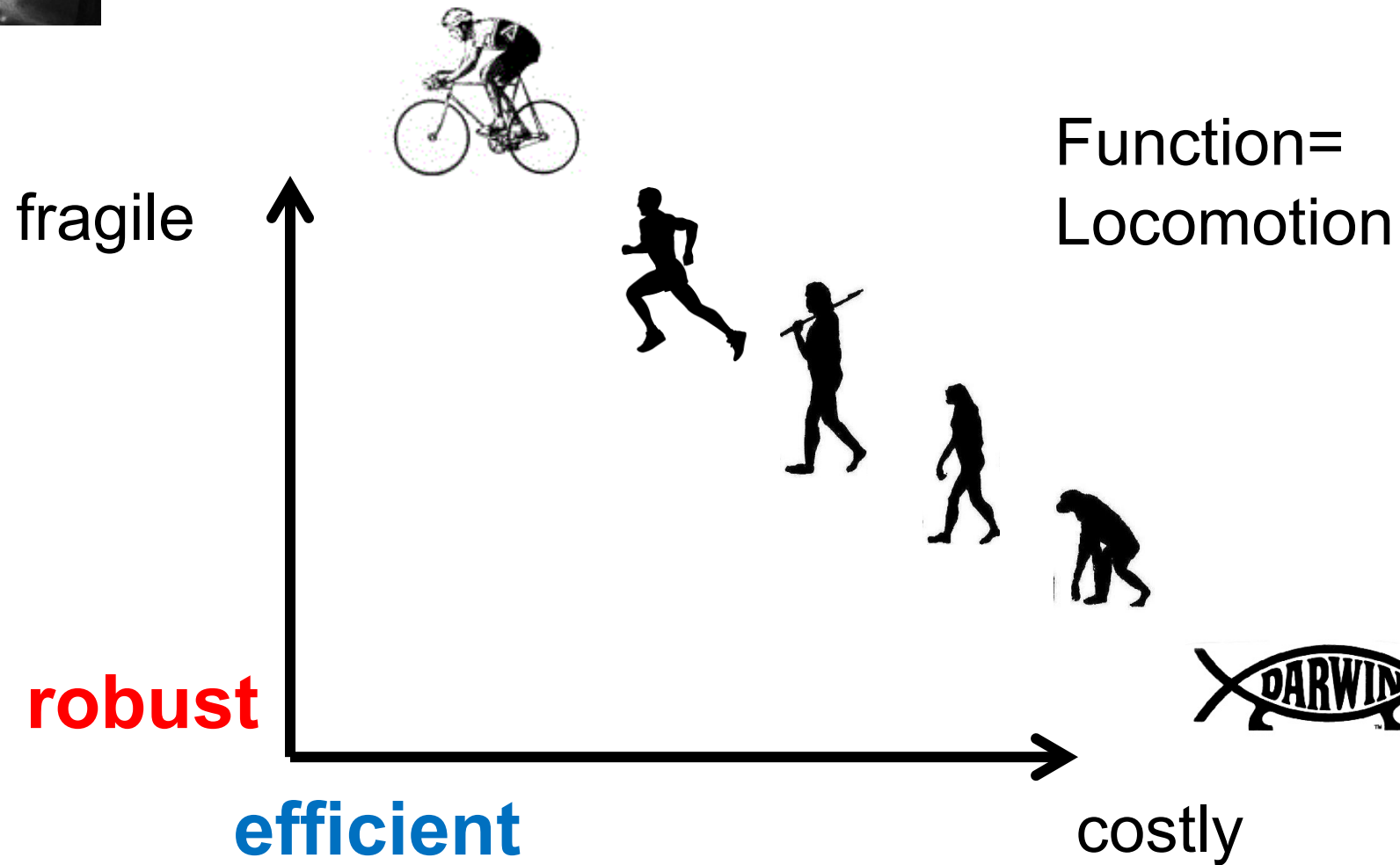


**Live demo?**

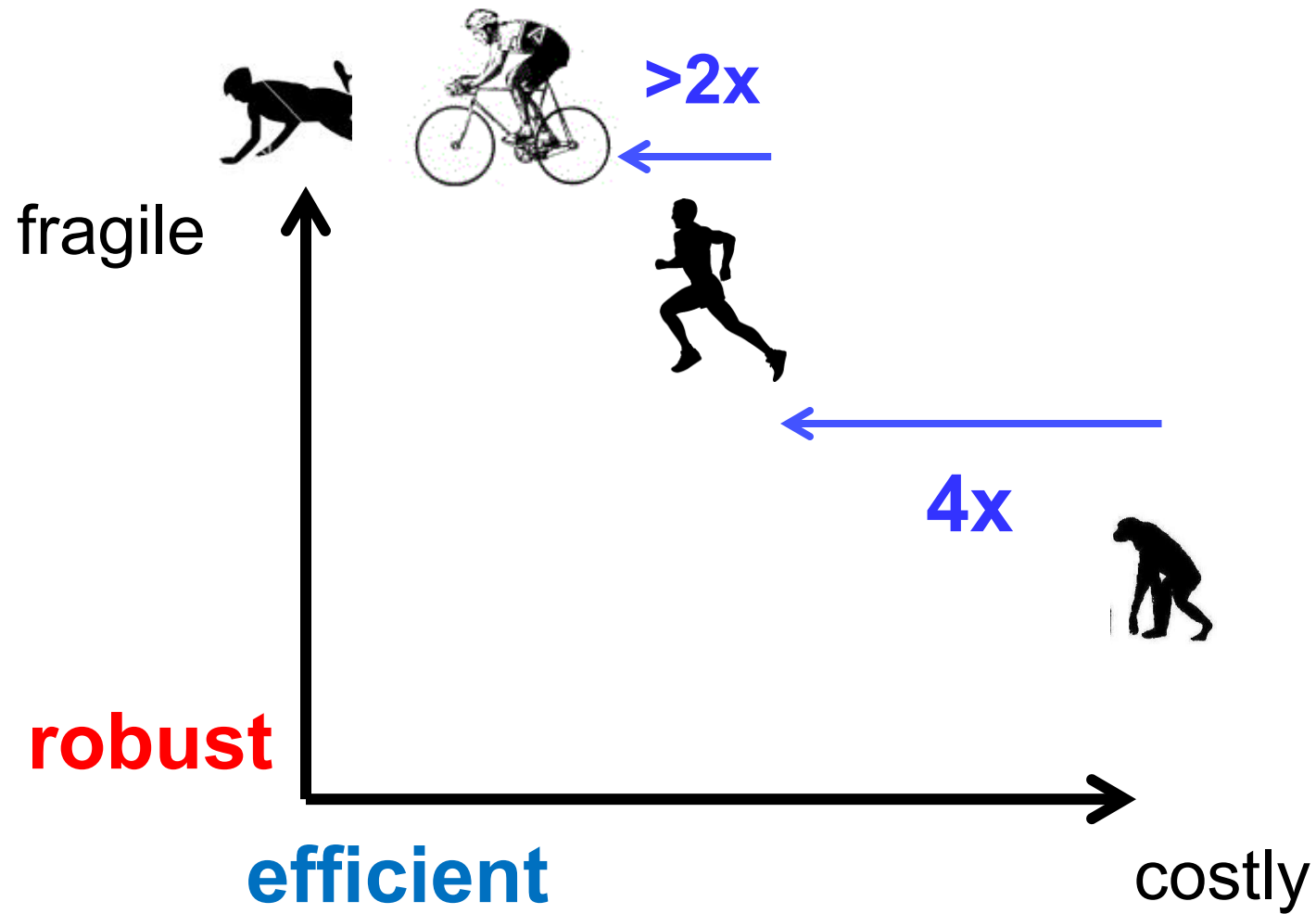


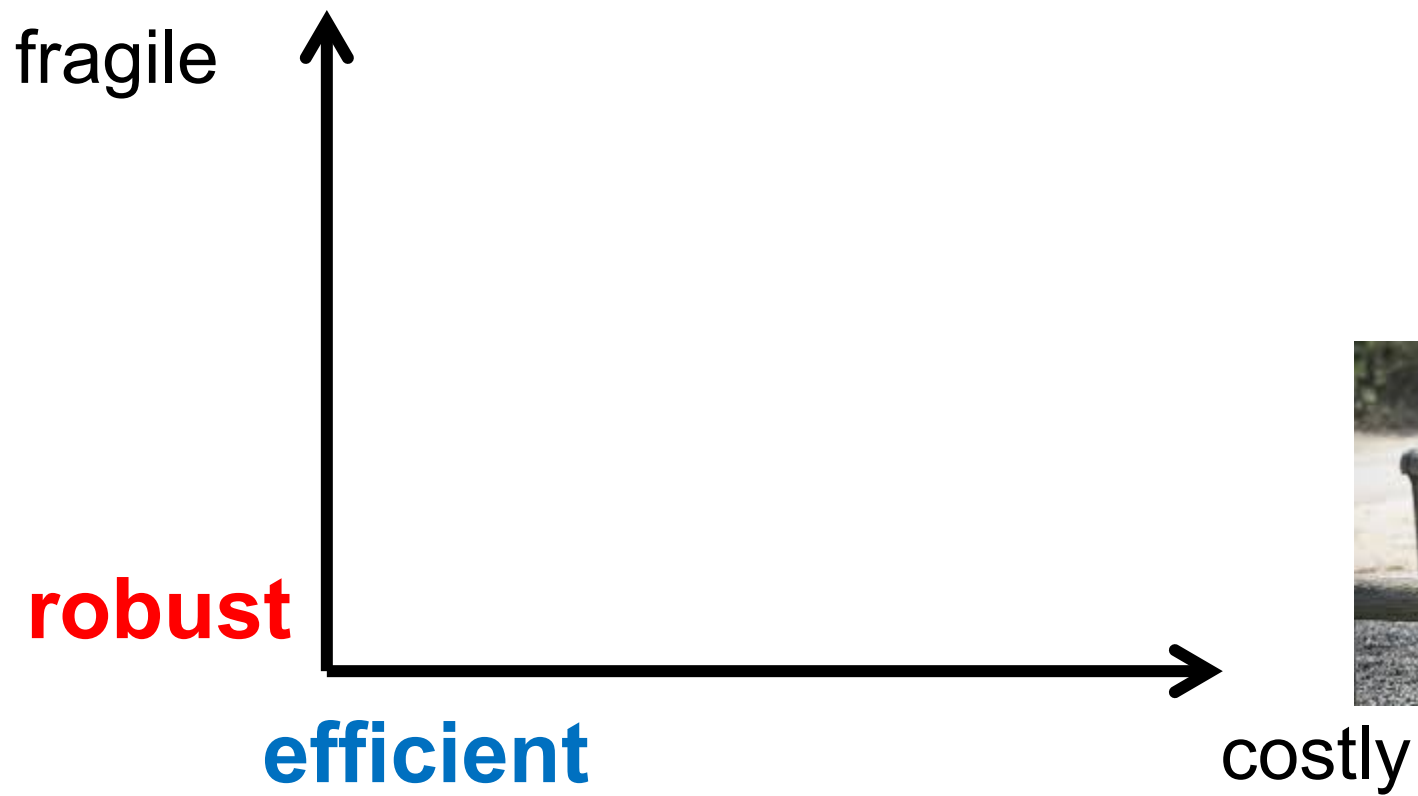
# Tradeoffs

(swim/crawl to run/bike)



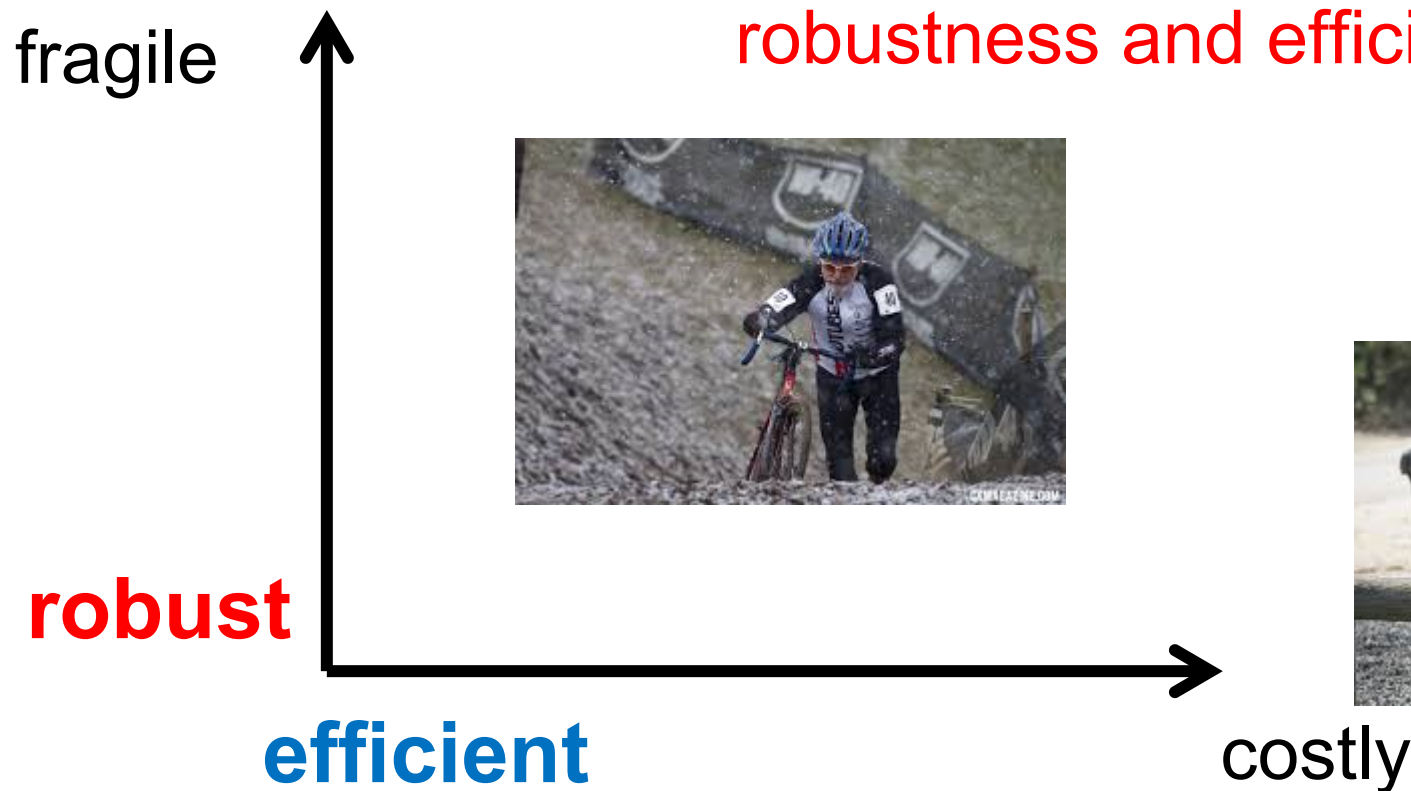
# Tradeoffs







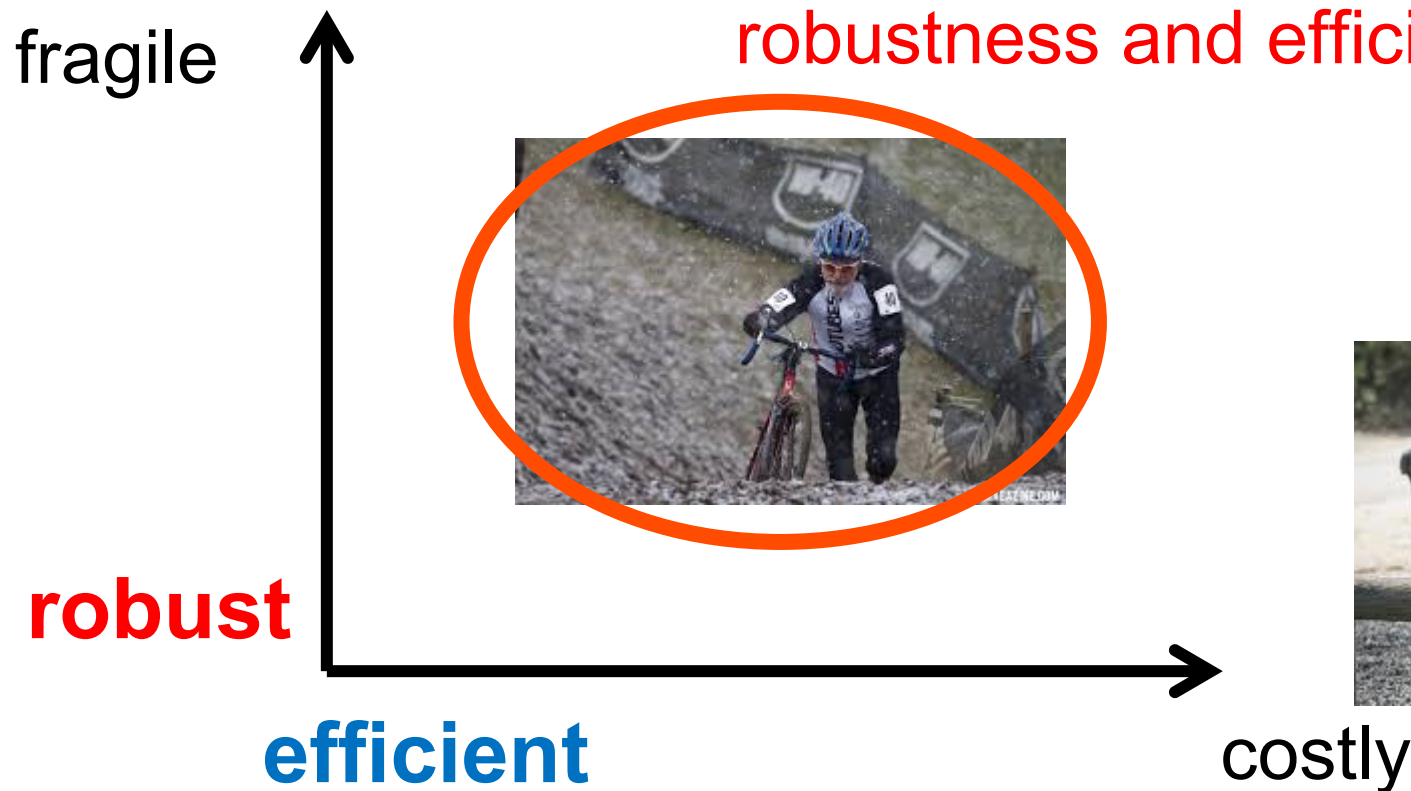
How does a layered architecture, including an “executive,” trade off robustness and efficiency?





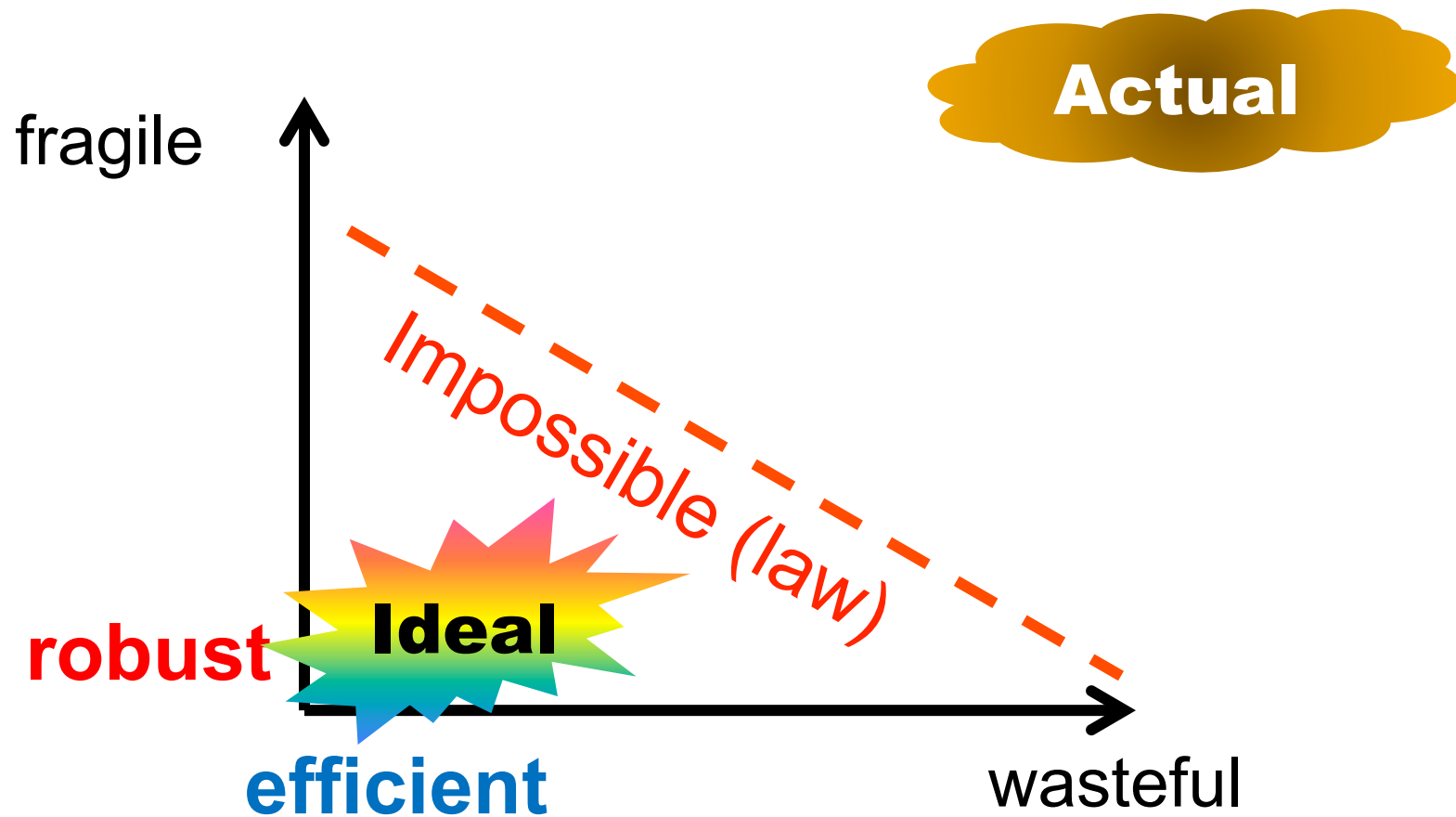


How does a layered architecture, including an “executive,” trade off robustness and efficiency?

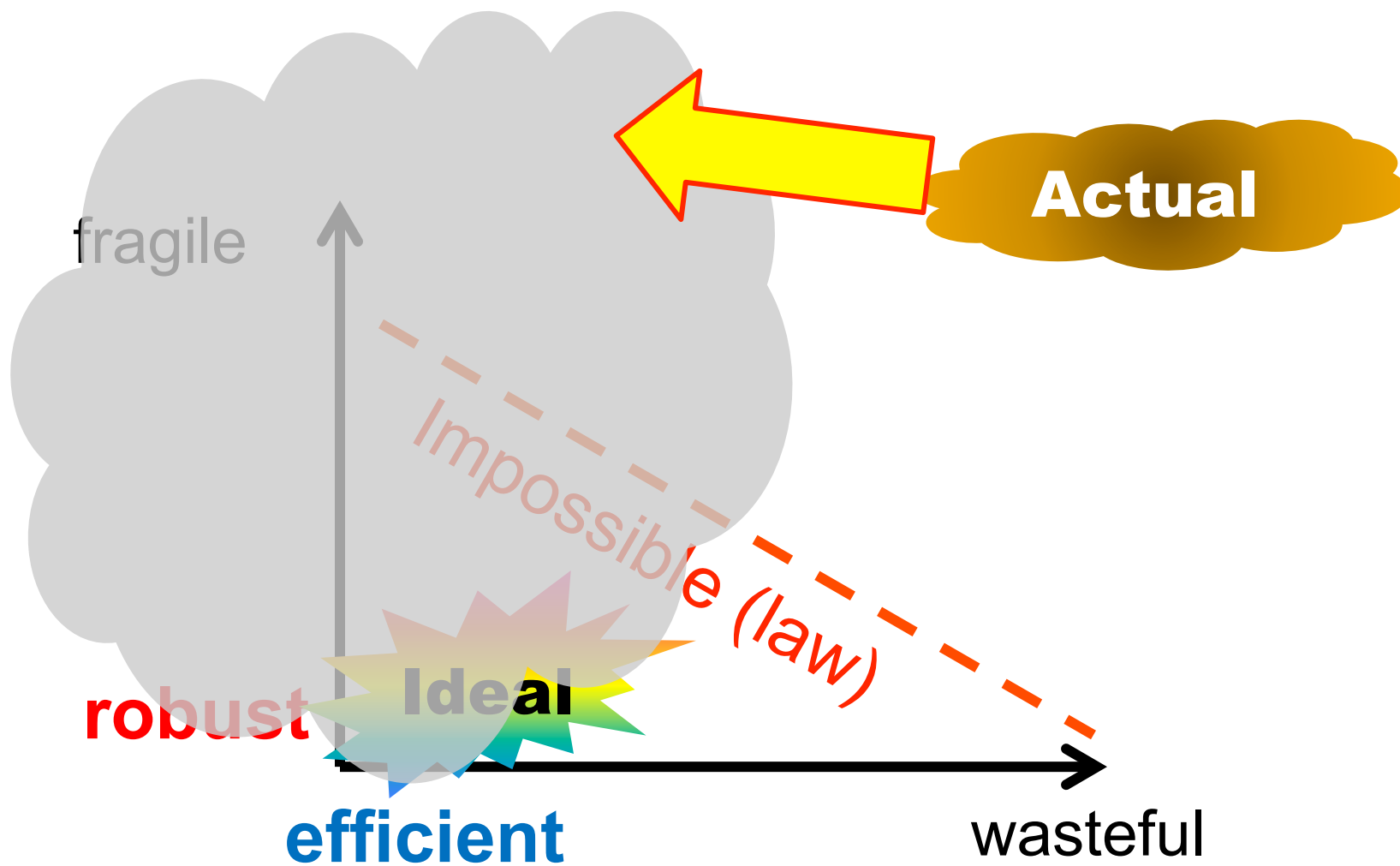




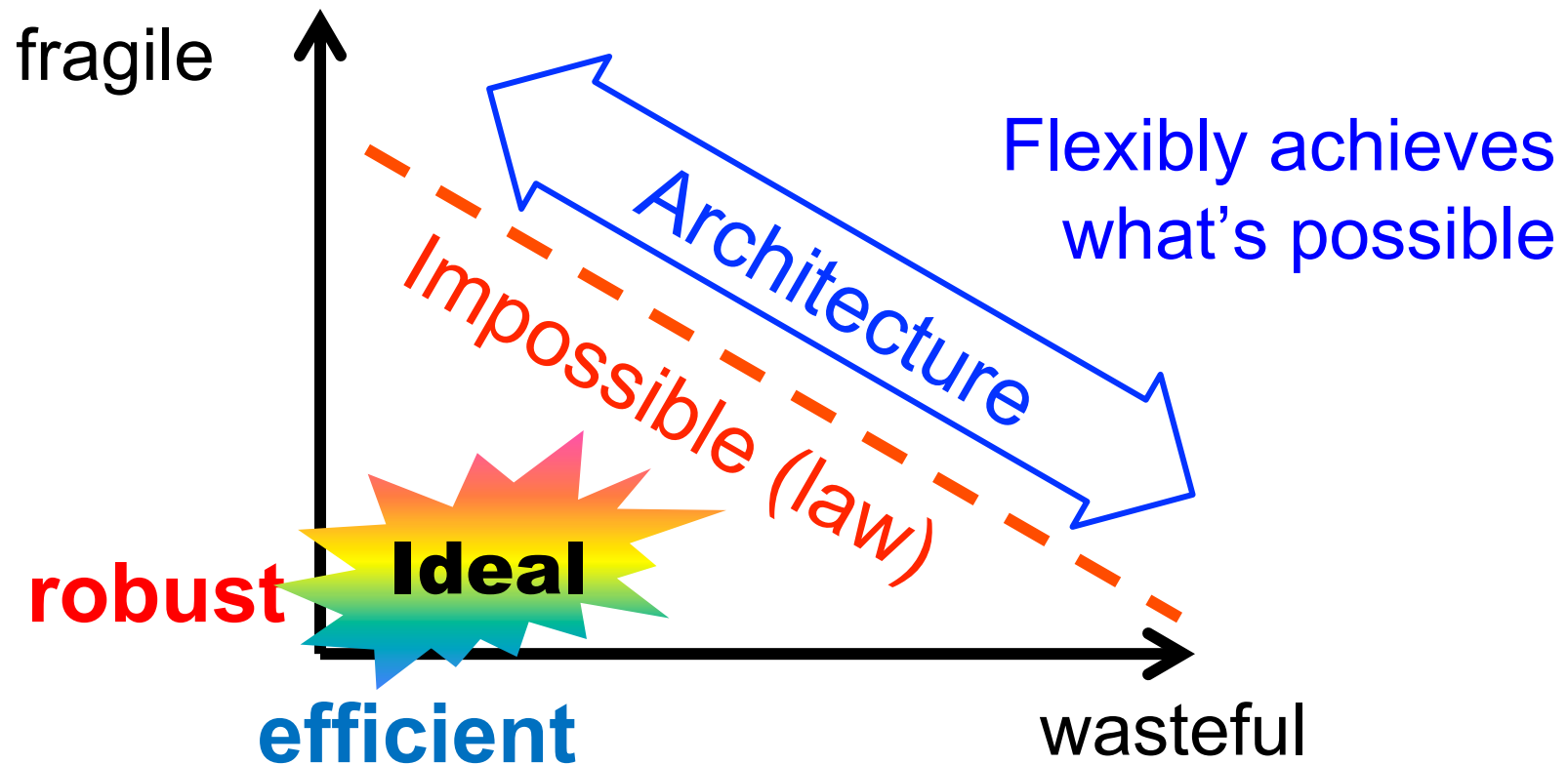
# Universal laws



**The risk**

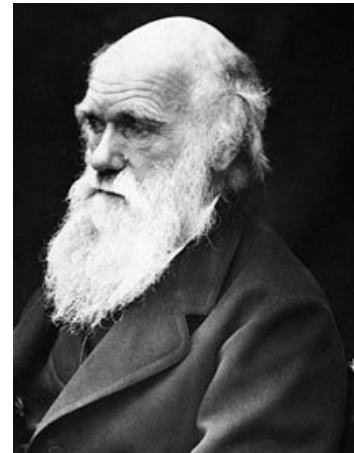


# Universal laws and architectures



# Universal laws and architectures

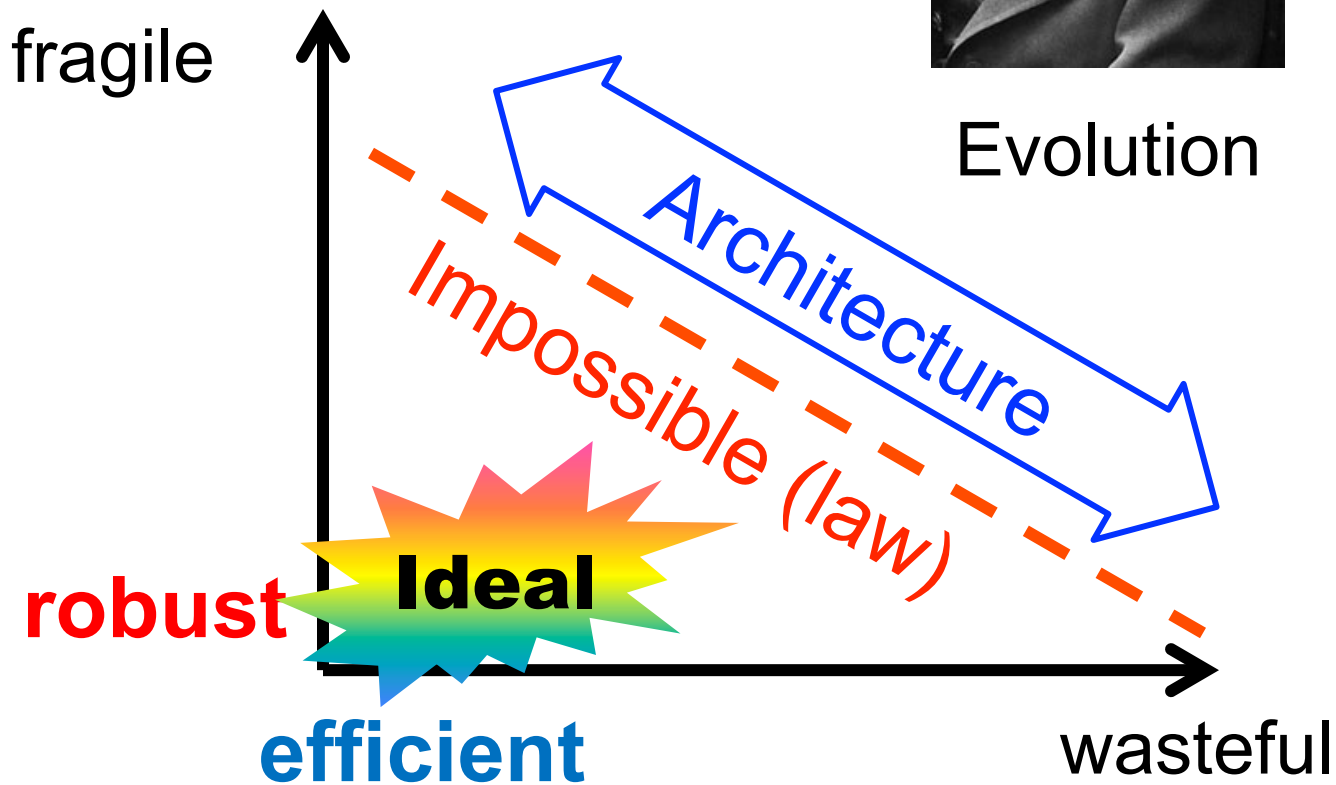
Our heroes



Evolution

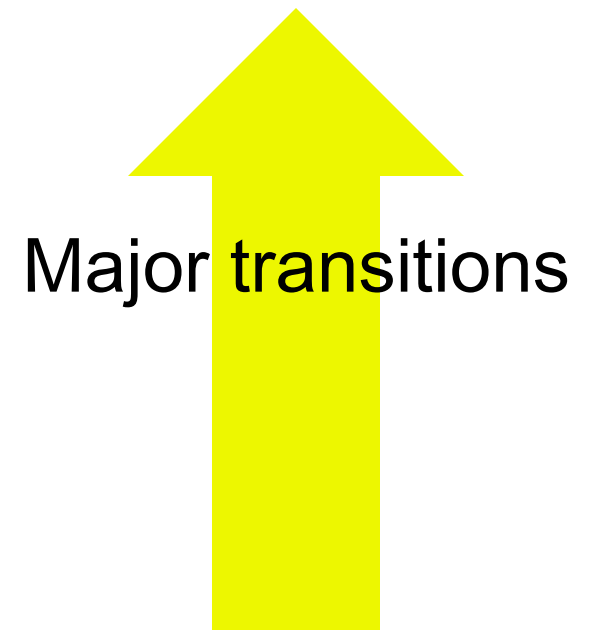


Complexity



# Efficiency/instability/layers/feedback

- All create new efficiencies but also instabilities
- Needs new distributed/layered/complex/active control
- Sustainable infrastructure? (e.g. smartgrids)
- Money/finance/lobbyists/etc
- Industrialization
- Society/agriculture/weapons/etc
- Bipedalism
- Maternal care
- Warm blood
- Flight
- Mitochondria
- Oxygen
- Translation (ribosomes)
- Glycolysis (2011 *Science*)



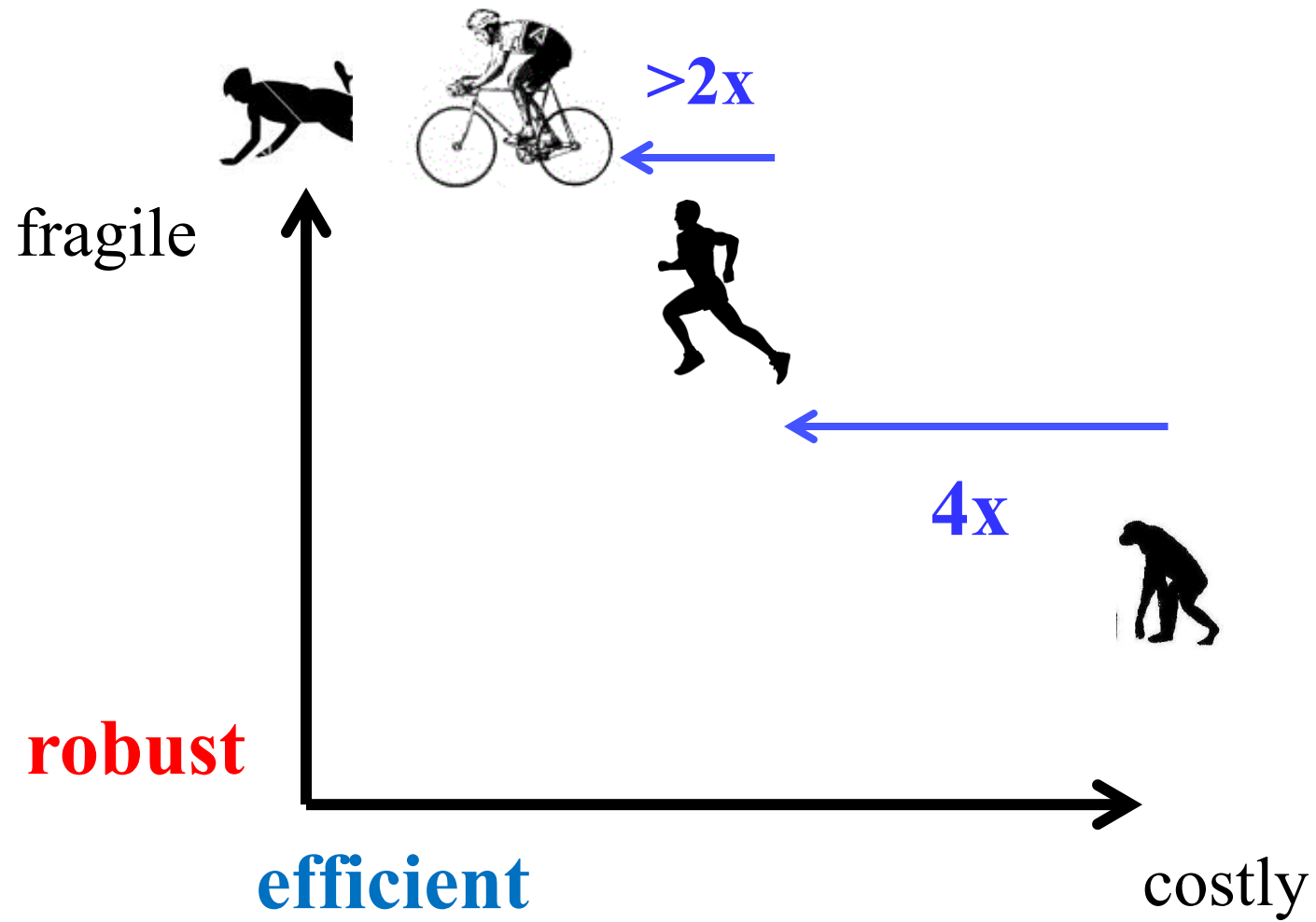
“Nothing in *biology* makes sense except in the light of *evolution*.”

*T Dobzhansky*

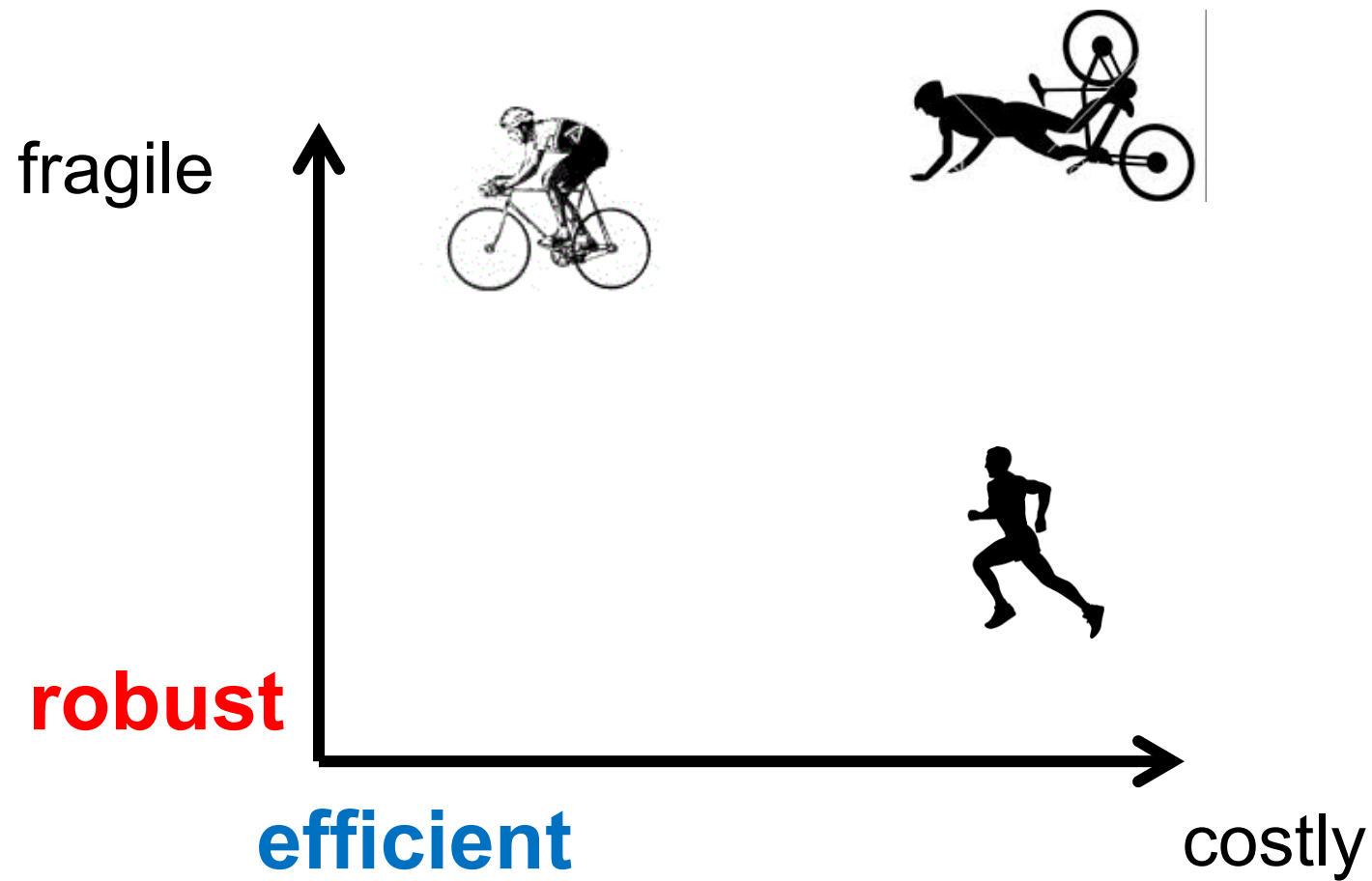
“Nothing in *evolution* makes sense except in the light of *biology*.”

*Tony Dean (U Minn) paraphrasing  
T Dobzhansky*

# Tradeoffs

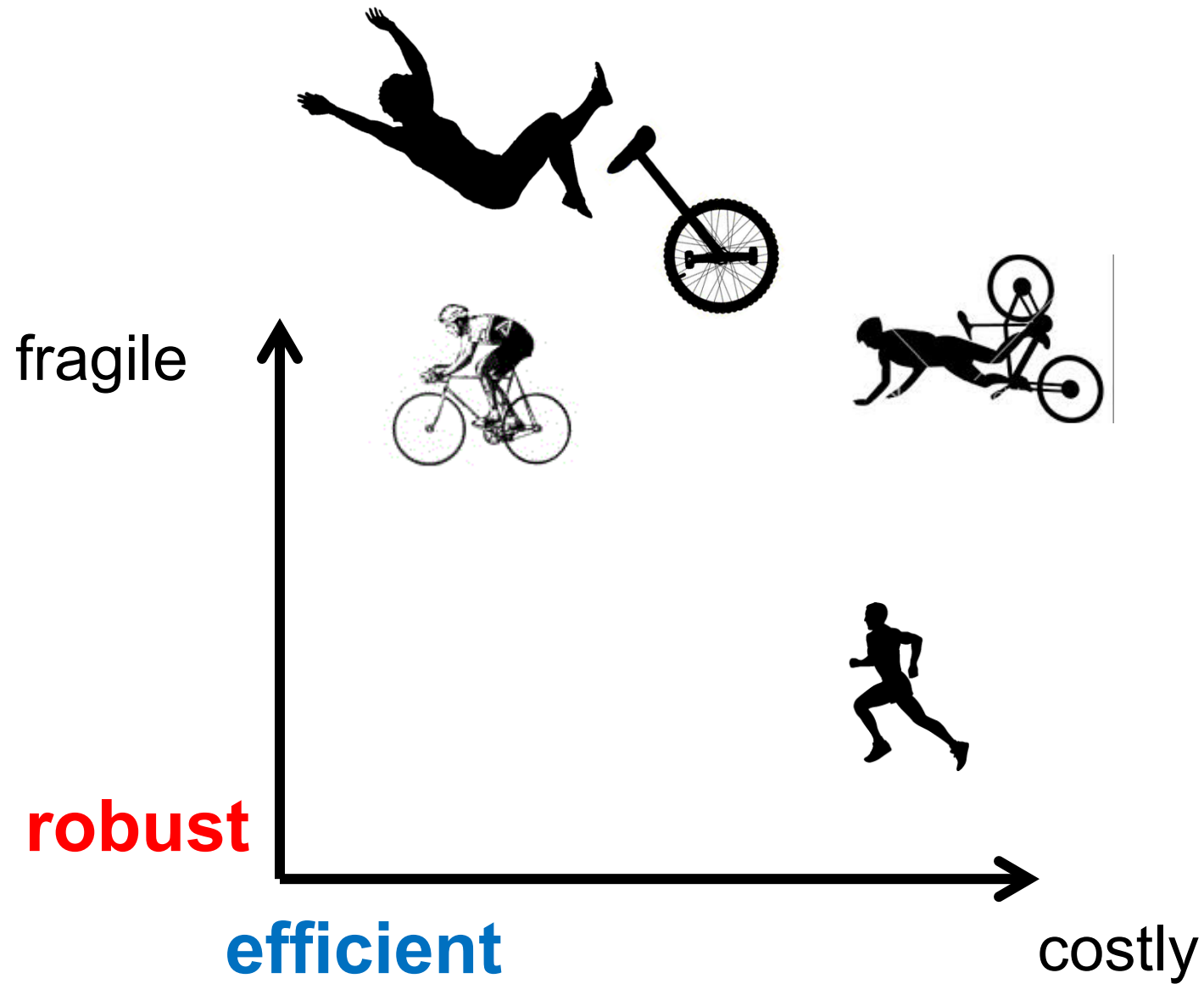


# Tradeoffs

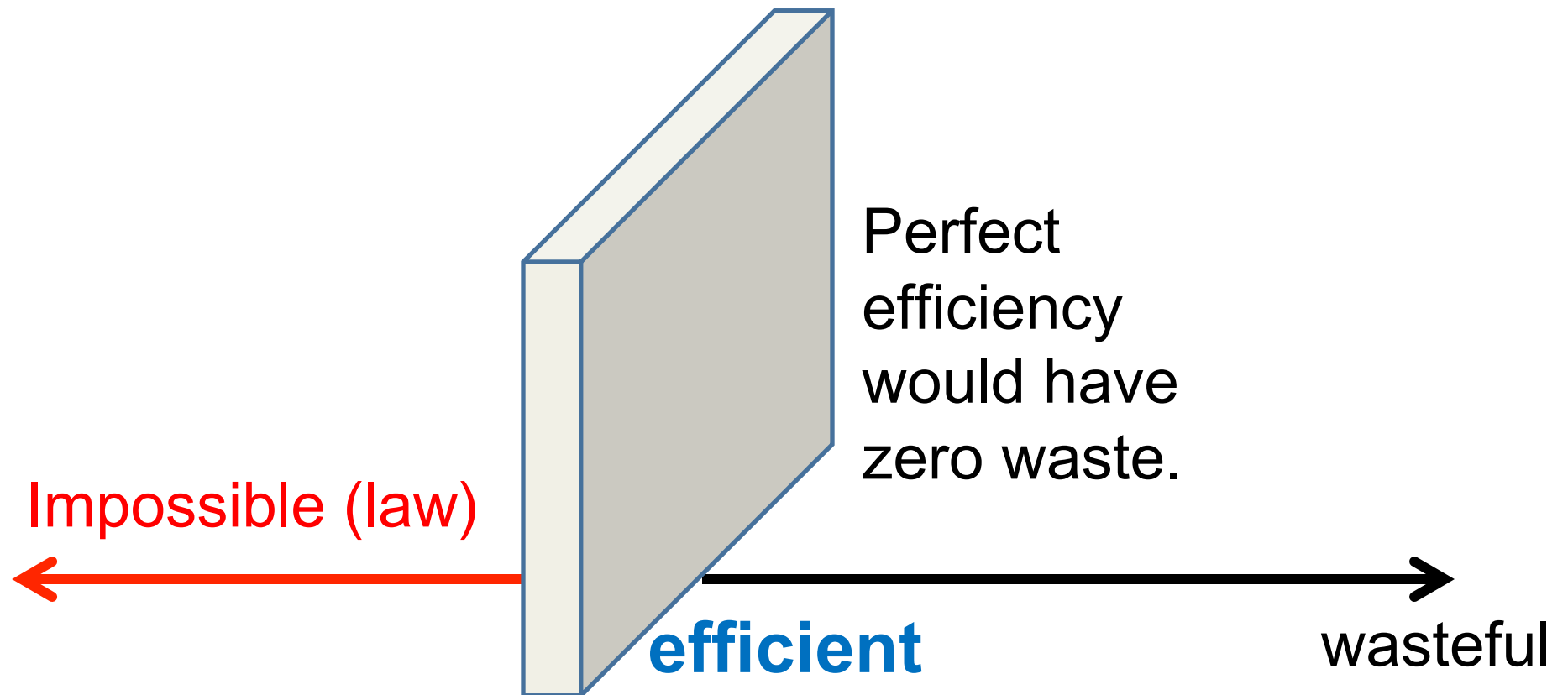




# Tradeoffs

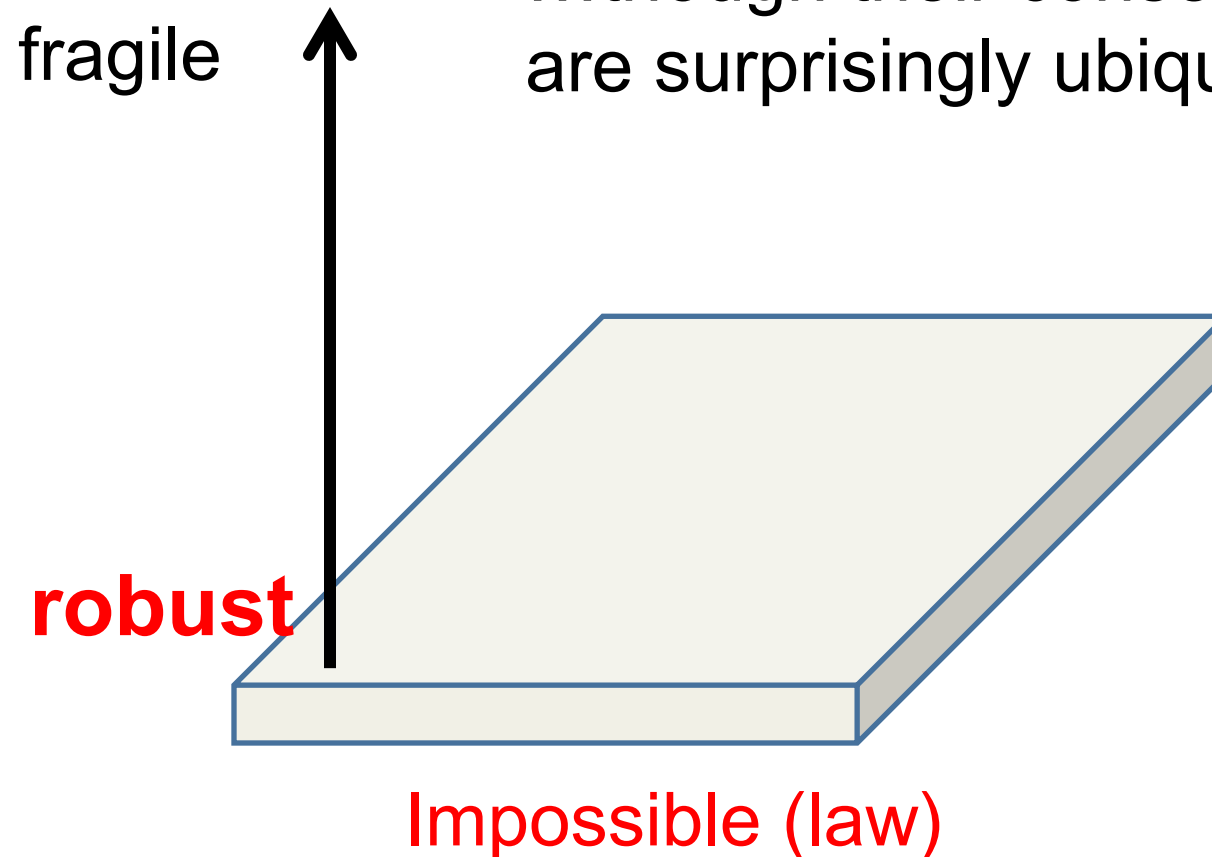


Materials and energy have many “universal conservation laws” that limit achievable efficiency.

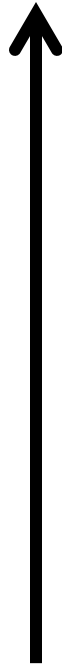


Robustness also has  
“universal conservation laws”  
that are less familiar...

...though their consequence  
are surprisingly ubiquitous.



fragile



**robust**

- **Brains**
- Nets/Grids (cyberphys)
- Bugs (microbes, ants)
- Medical physiology
- Lots of aerospace
- Wildfire ecology
- Earthquakes
- Physics:
  - turbulence,
  - stat mech (QM?)
- “Toy”:
  - Lego
  - clothing, fashion
- Buildings, cities
- **Synesthesia**

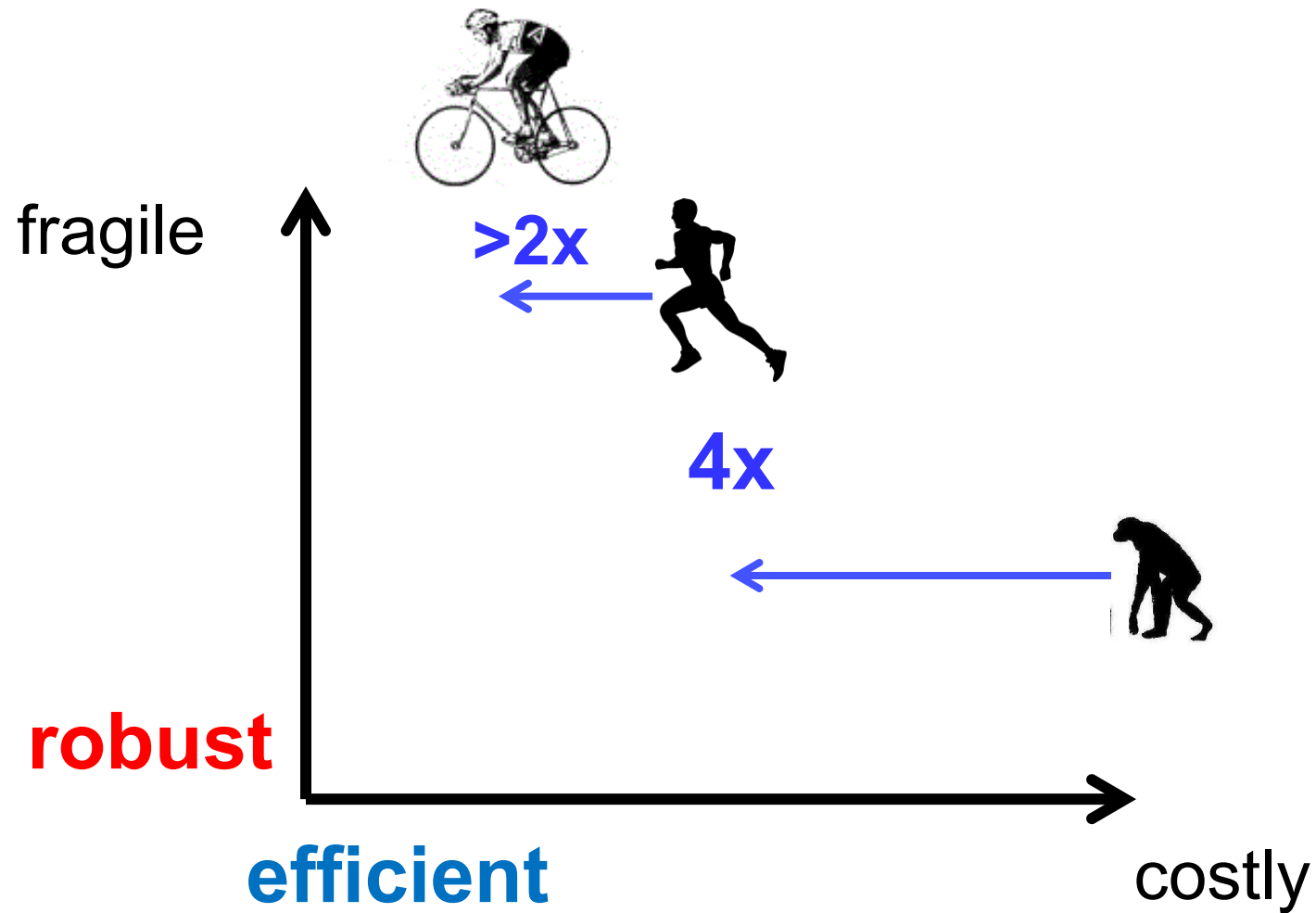
- **Neuroscience**  
+ People care  
**+Live demos!**

- 1.experiments
- 2.data
- 3.theory
- 4.universals

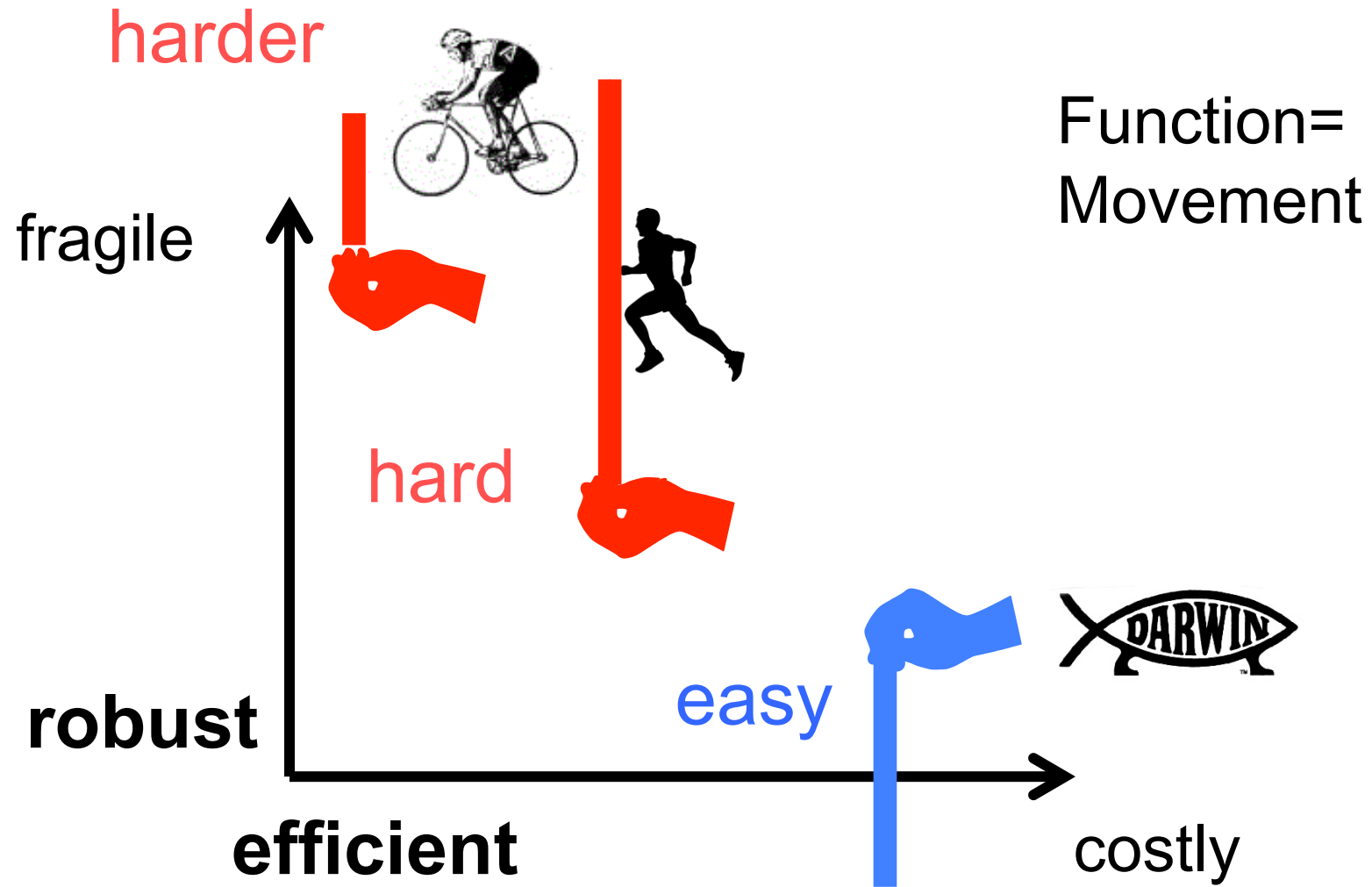


Simpler demo?

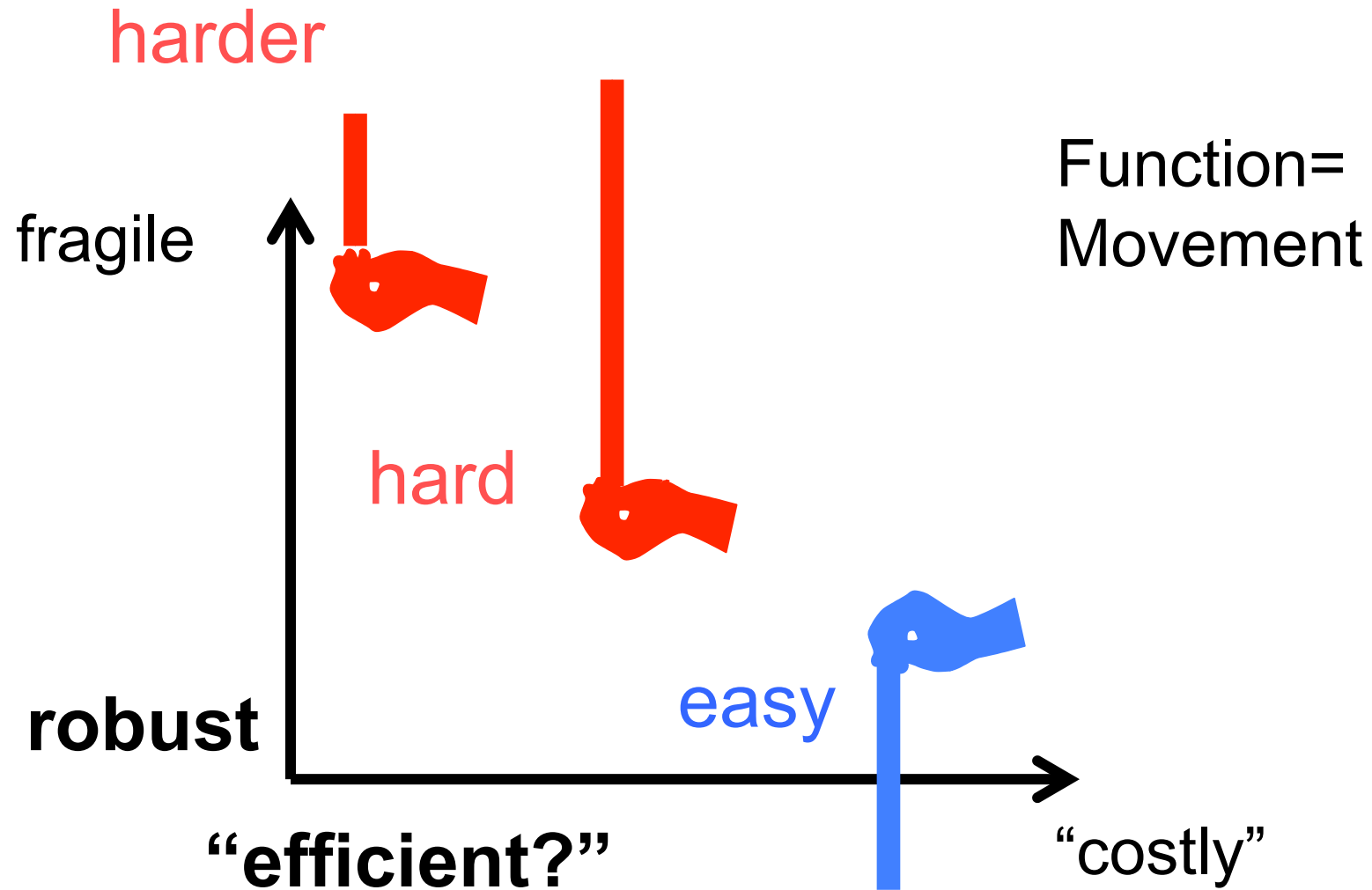
## Tradeoffs



## A convenient cartoon

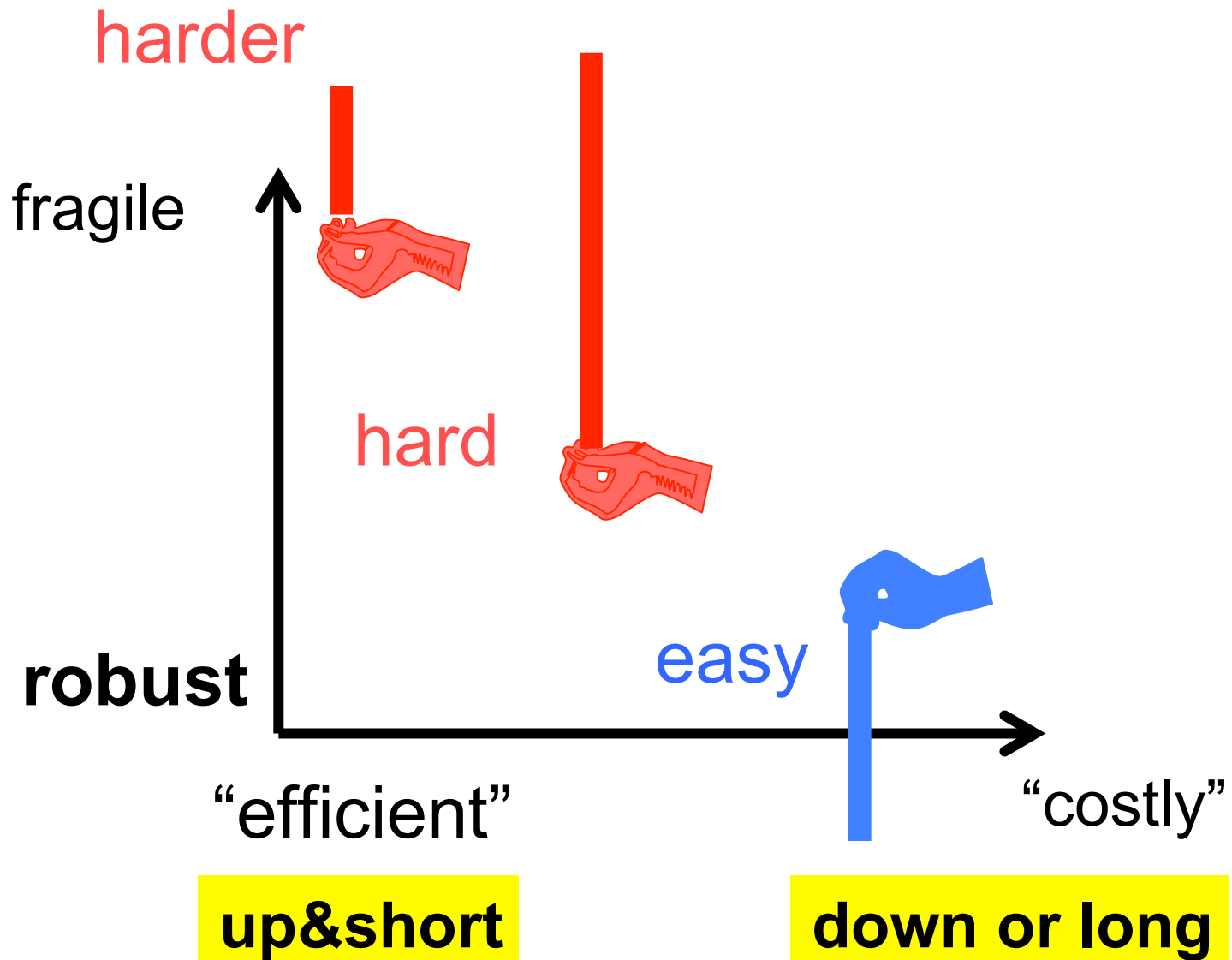


# A convenient cartoon demo



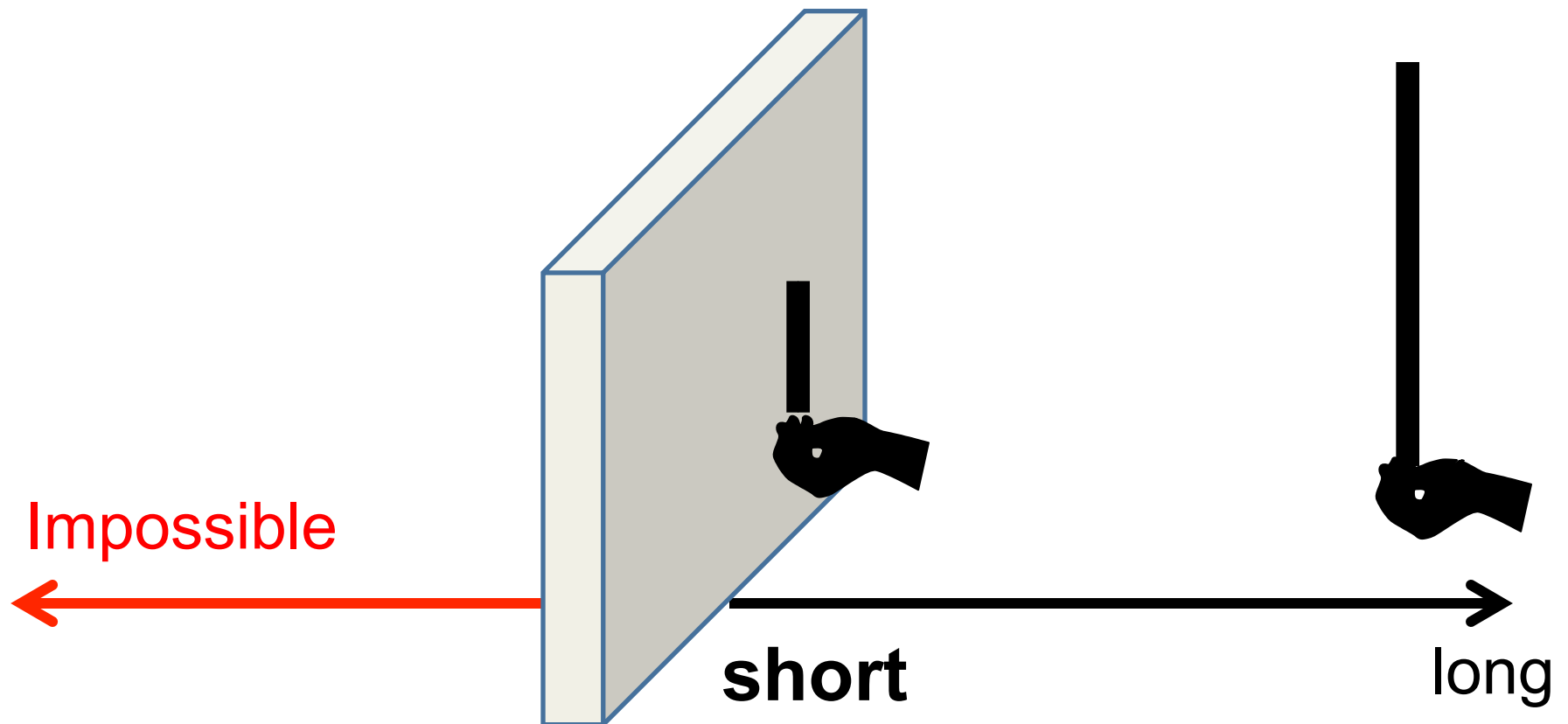


# cartoon demo



## cartoon demo

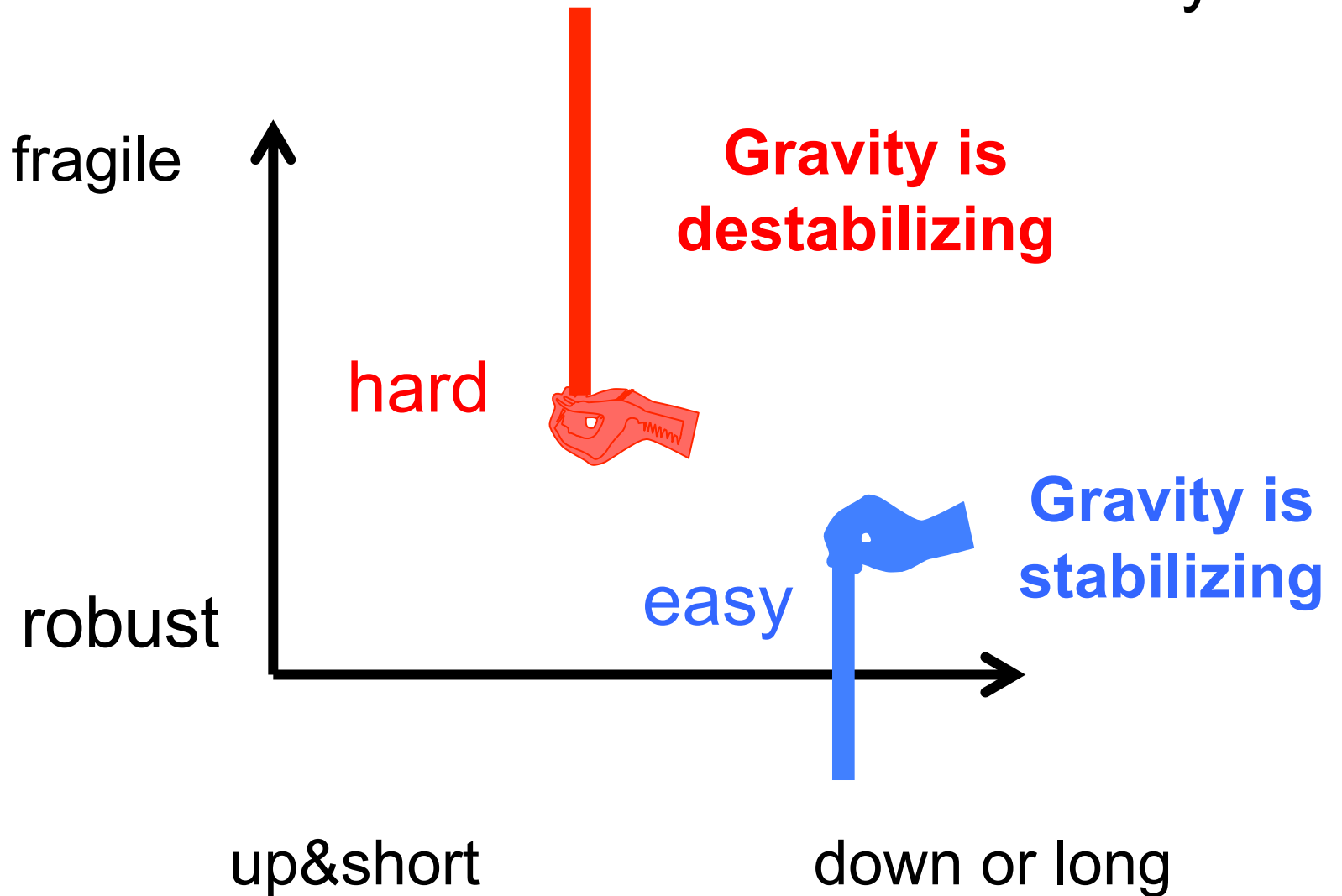
Length is positive  
(not “waste,” but a cartoon)



# Universal laws?

Law #1 : Mechanics

Law #2 : Gravity



# Efficiency/instability/layers/feedback

- New efficiencies but also instabilities
- New distributed/layered/complex/active control

- Sustainable infrastructure? (e.g. smartgrids)

- Money/finance/buyists/etc

- Industrialization

- Society/agriculture/weapons/etc

- **Bipedalism**

- Maternal care

- Warm blood

- Flight

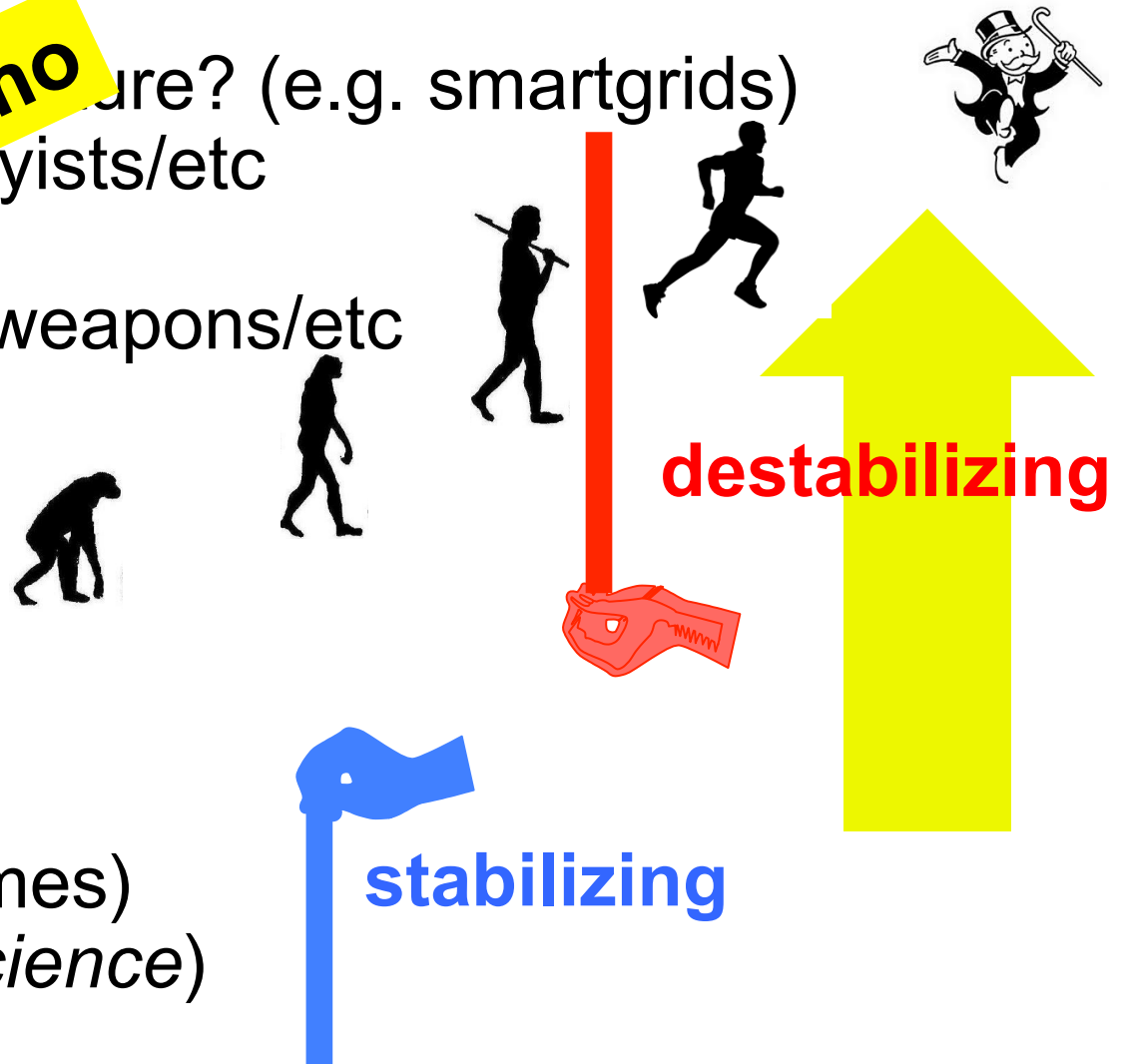
- Mitochondria

- Oxygen

- Translation (ribosomes)

- Glycolysis (2011 *Science*)

cartoon demo



# Universal laws?

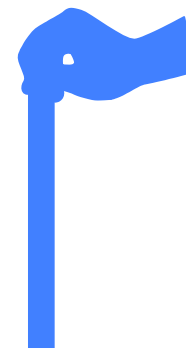
Law #1 : Mechanics  
Law #2 : Gravity

We think of  
mechanics and gravity as  
“obeying universal *laws*.”

**Gravity is  
destabilizing**

But both “universal” and “law”  
are confused and overloaded,  
so unfortunate terminology.

**Gravity is  
stabilizing**



# Universal laws?

Law #1 : Mechanics  
Law #2 : Gravity

We think of  
mechanics and gravity as  
“obeying universal *laws*.”

(Generally: ***constraints***)



**Gravity is  
destabilizing**



**Gravity is  
stabilizing**

**But the *consequences*  
(even of gravity) depend  
on other constraints.**

**More  
unstable**

Law #1 : Mechanics

Law #2 : Gravity

Law #3 : ??

Law #4 : ??

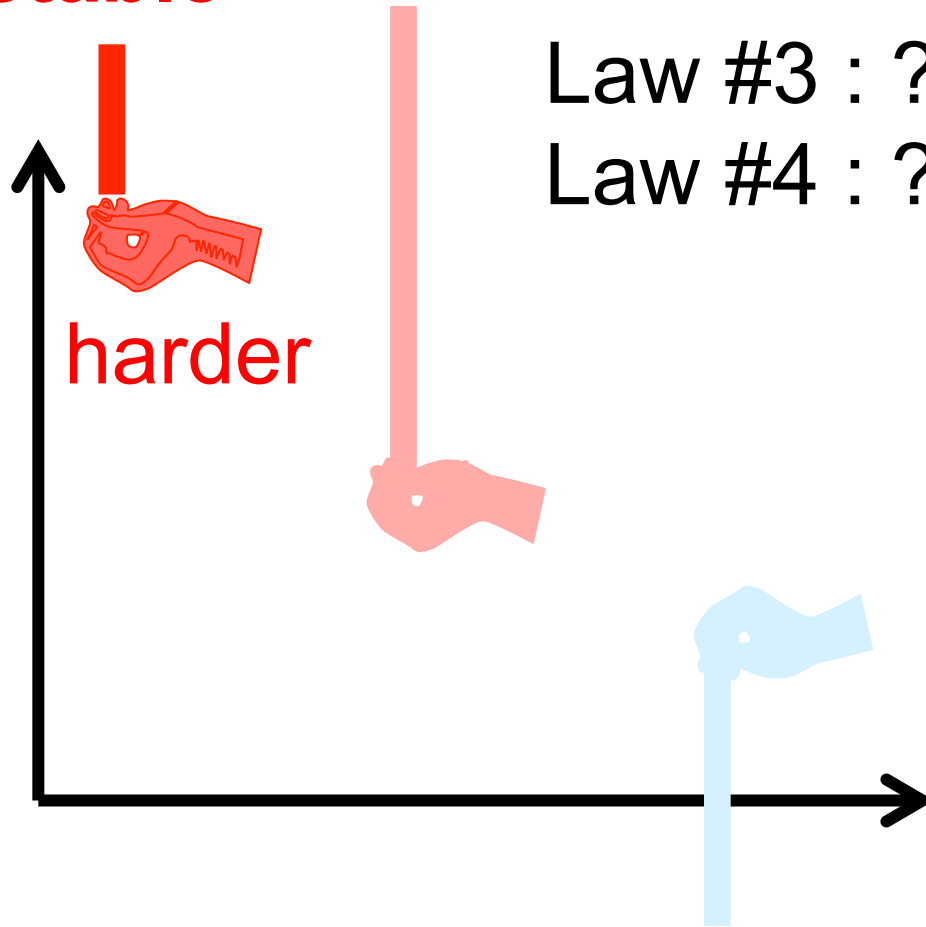
fragile

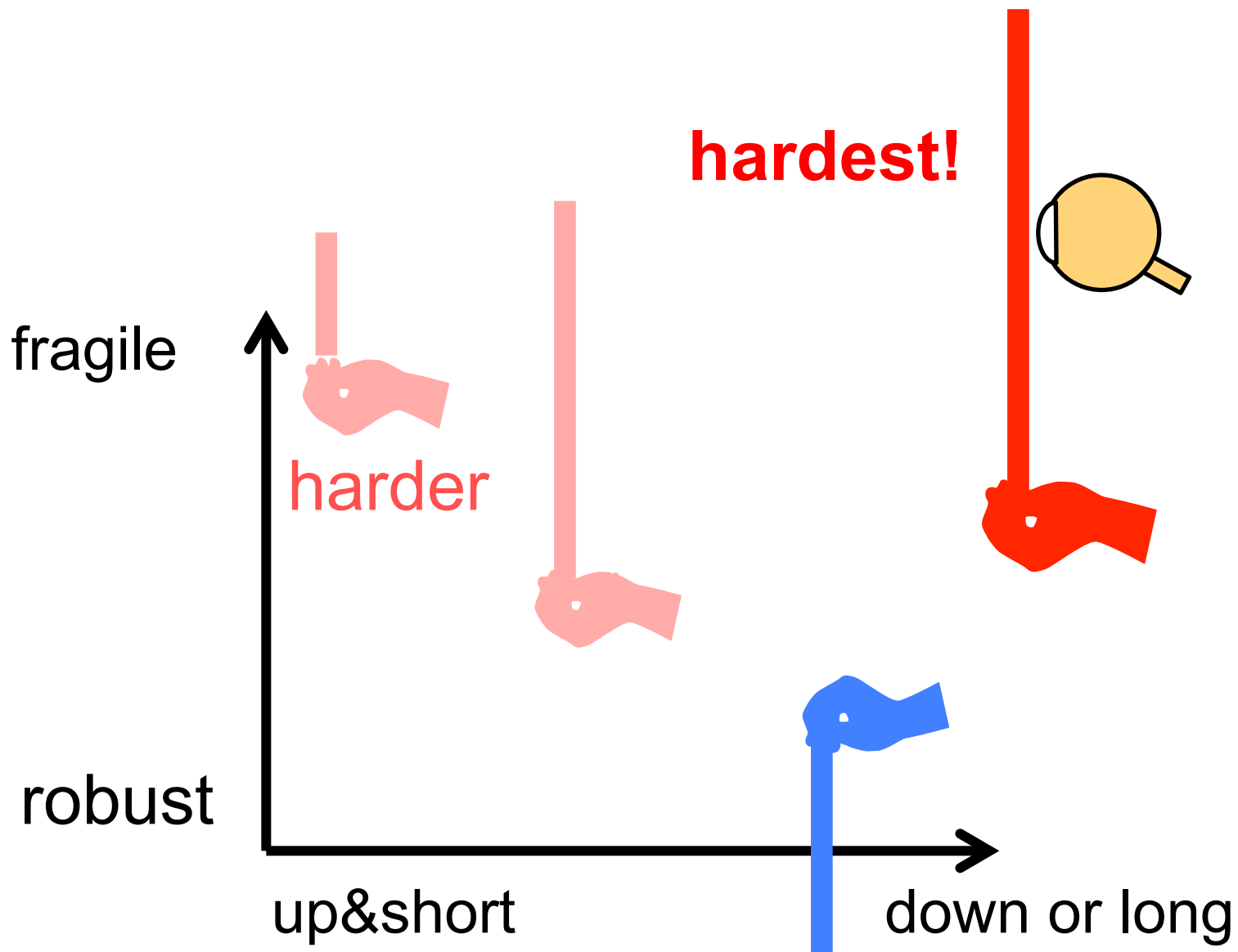
**harder**

robust

up&short

down or long

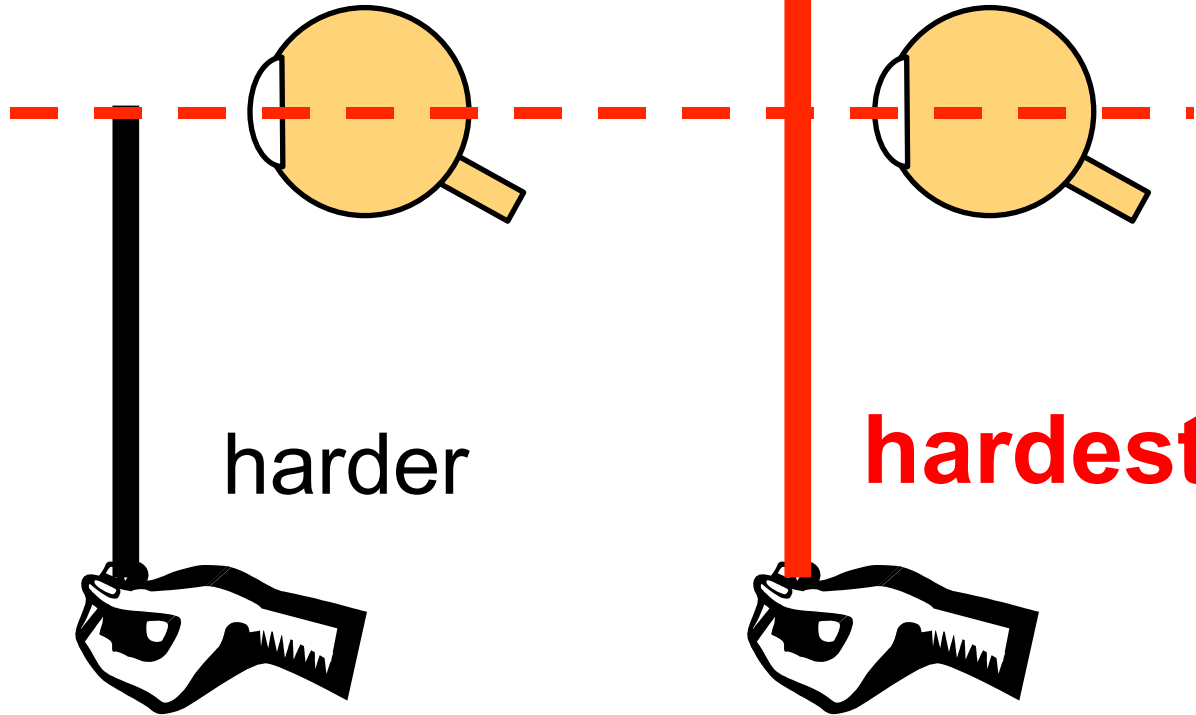






What is *sensed* matters.

Why?!?



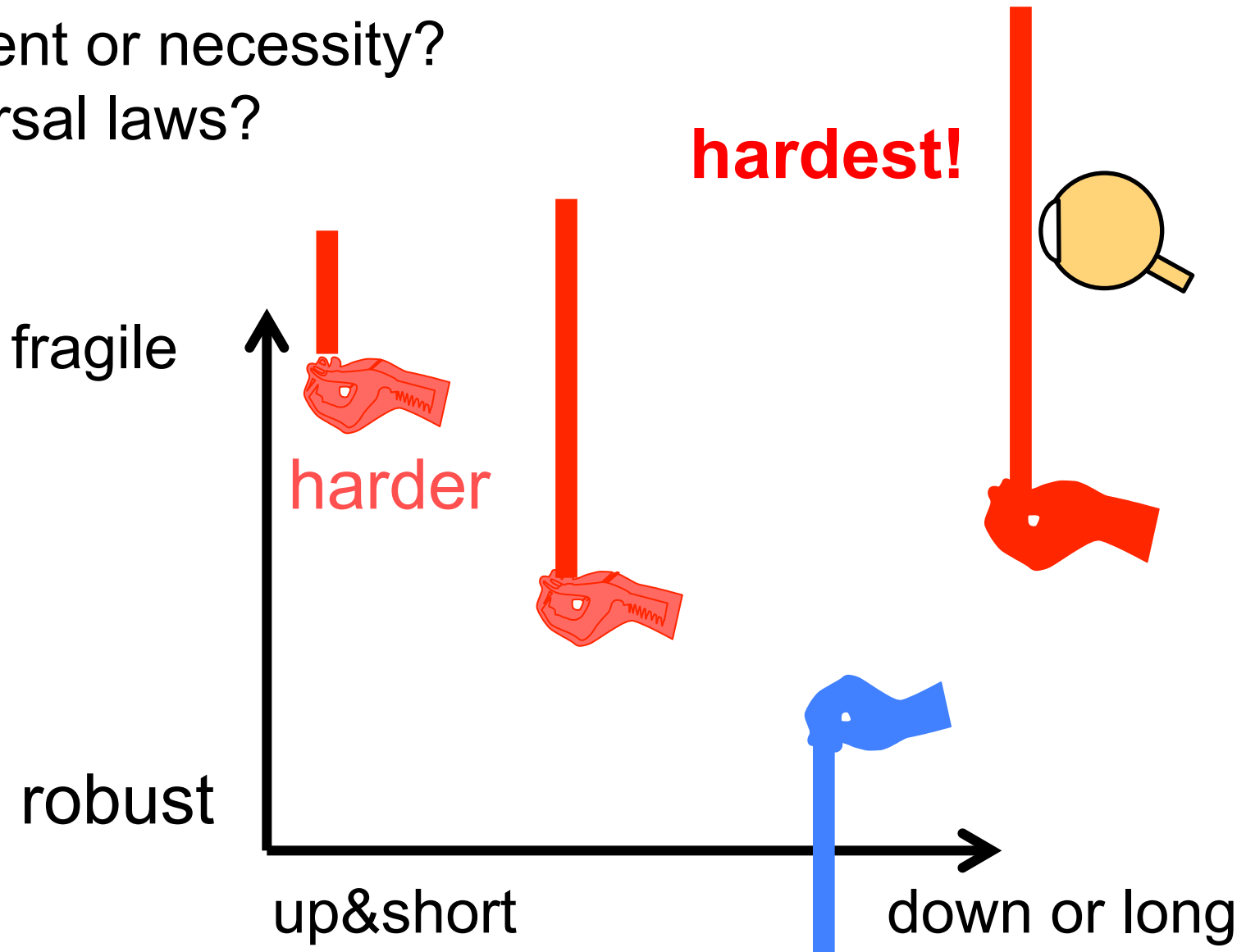
hardest!

Why?

Easy to *prove* using simple models.

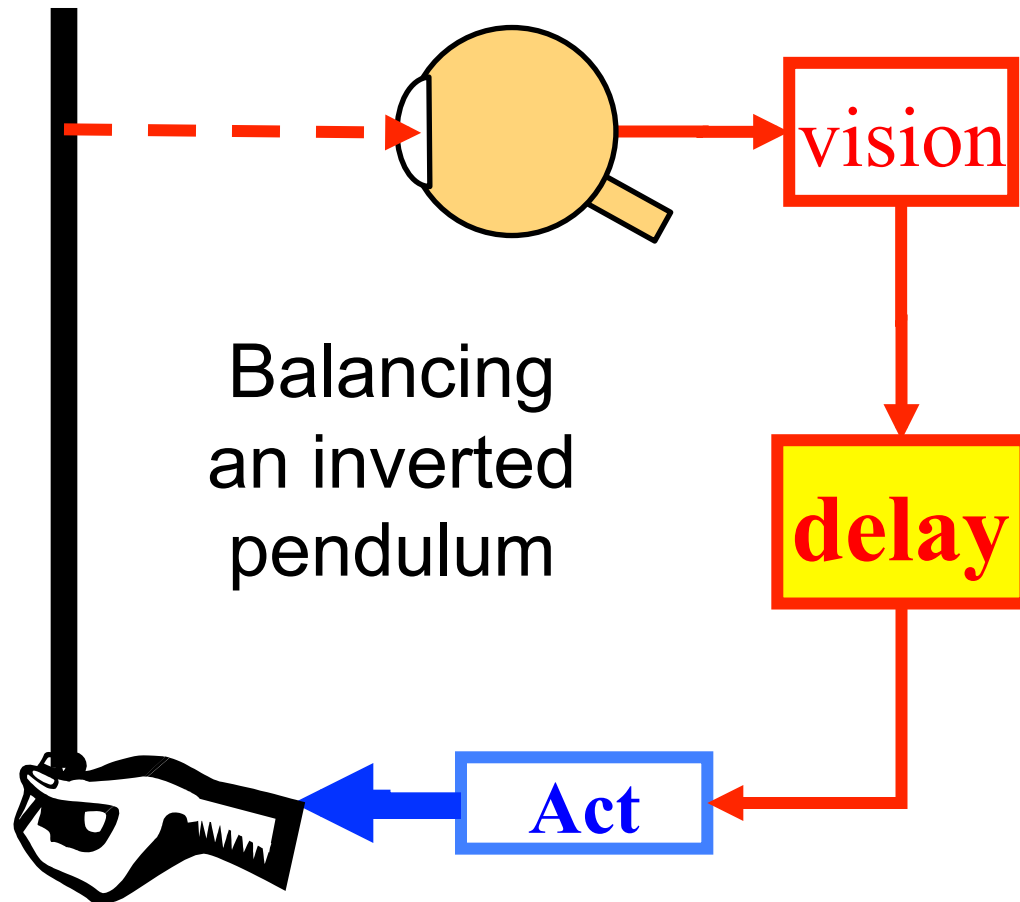
# Why?

Accident or necessity?  
Universal laws?



Some  
minimal  
math  
details

## (4) Universal laws +



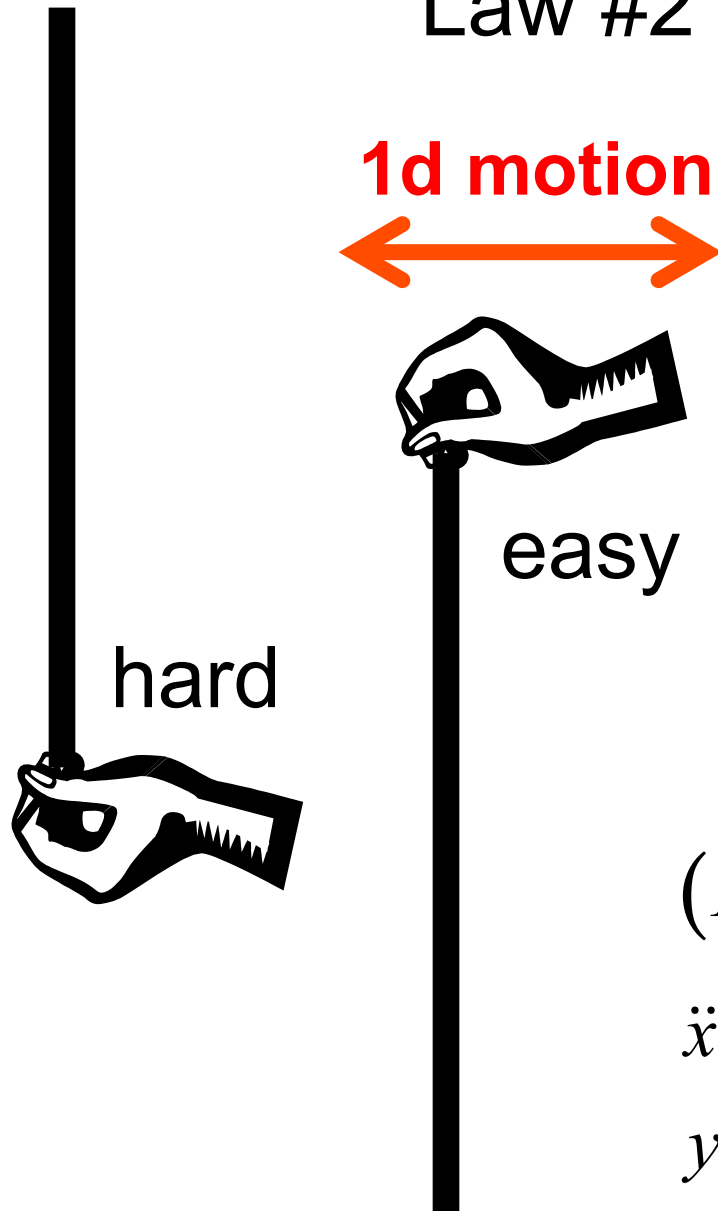
Mechanics+  
Gravity +  
Light +

$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

**+ Neuroscience**

Law #1 : Mechanics

Law #2 : Gravity



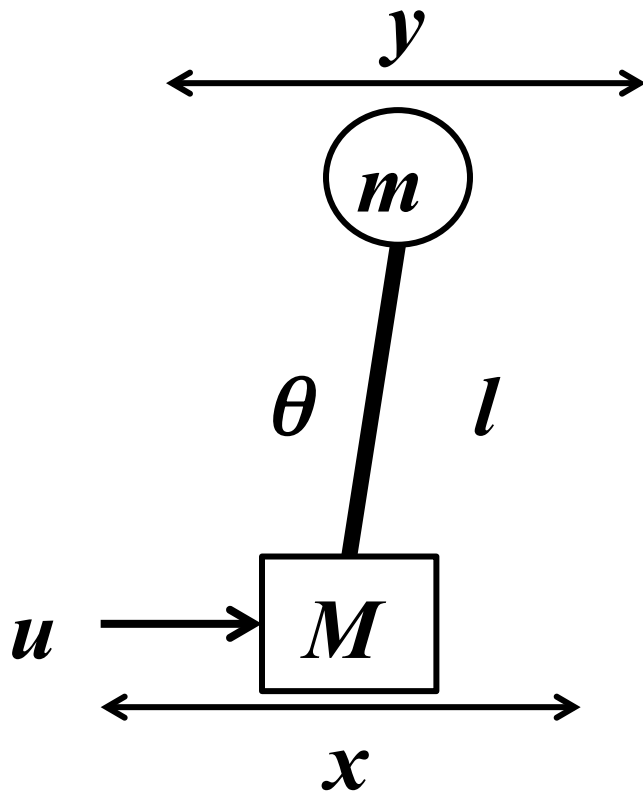
Use “conservation laws”

$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml(\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l\ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$y = x + l_o \sin \theta$$

# Standard inverted pendulum



$l$       *length*

$m$       *mass*

$M$       *mass*

$g$       *gravity*

$u$       *control force*

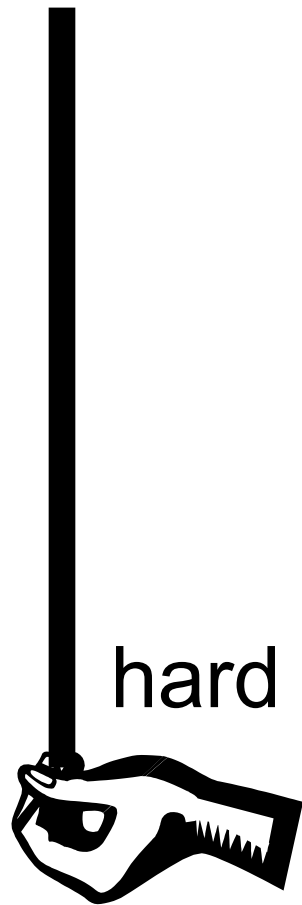
$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml(\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l\ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$y = x + l \sin \theta$$

Law #1 : Mechanics

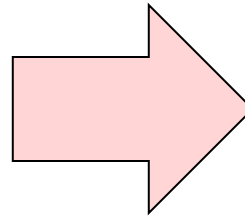
Law #2 : Gravity



1d motion



easy



linearize

$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml\ddot{\theta} = u$$

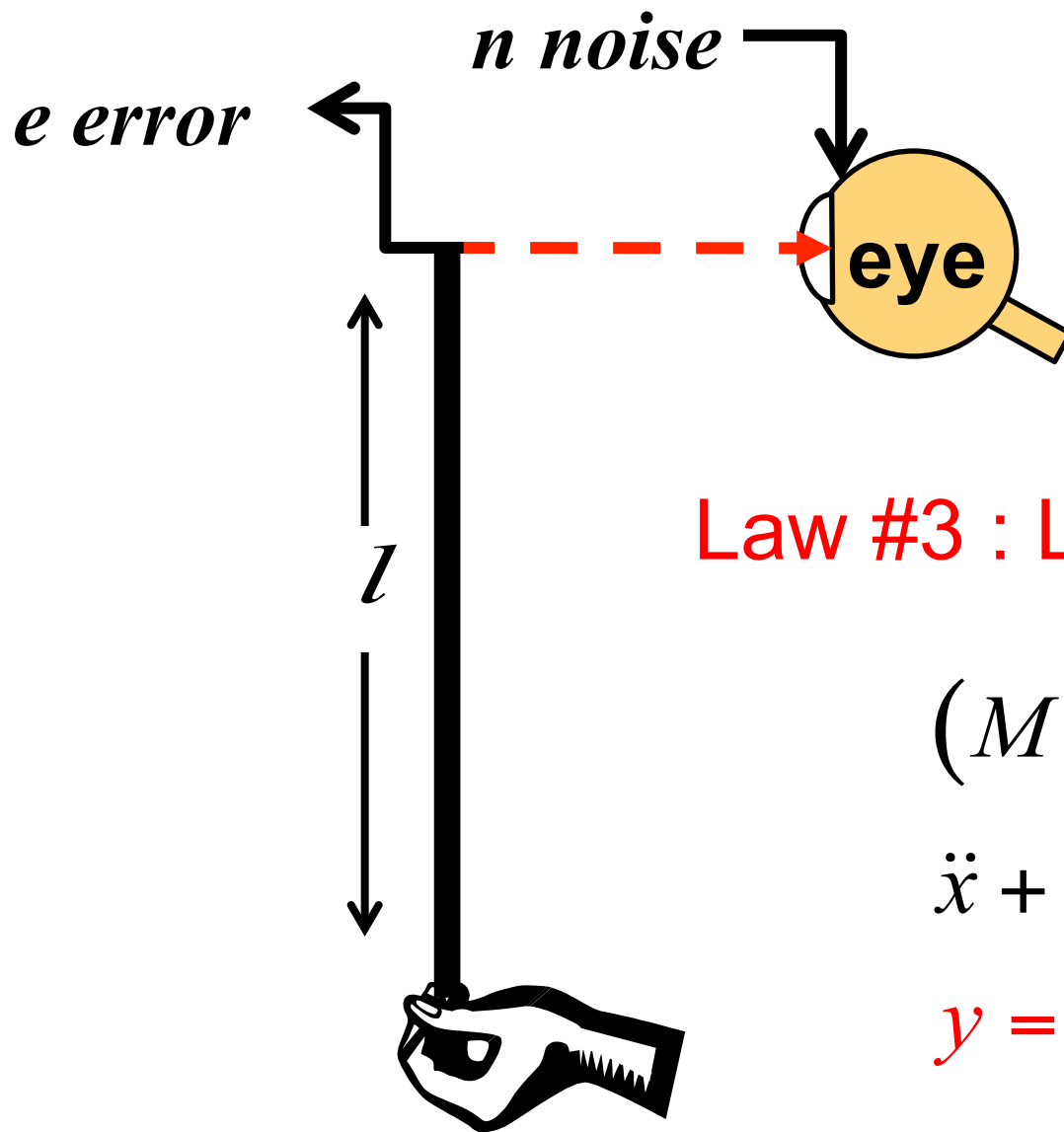
$$\ddot{x} + l\ddot{\theta} \pm g\theta = 0$$

$$y = x + l_o\theta$$

$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml(\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l\ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$y = x + l_o \sin \theta$$



Law #3 : Light (vision)

$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml\ddot{\theta} = u$$

$$\ddot{x} + l\ddot{\theta} \pm g\theta = 0$$

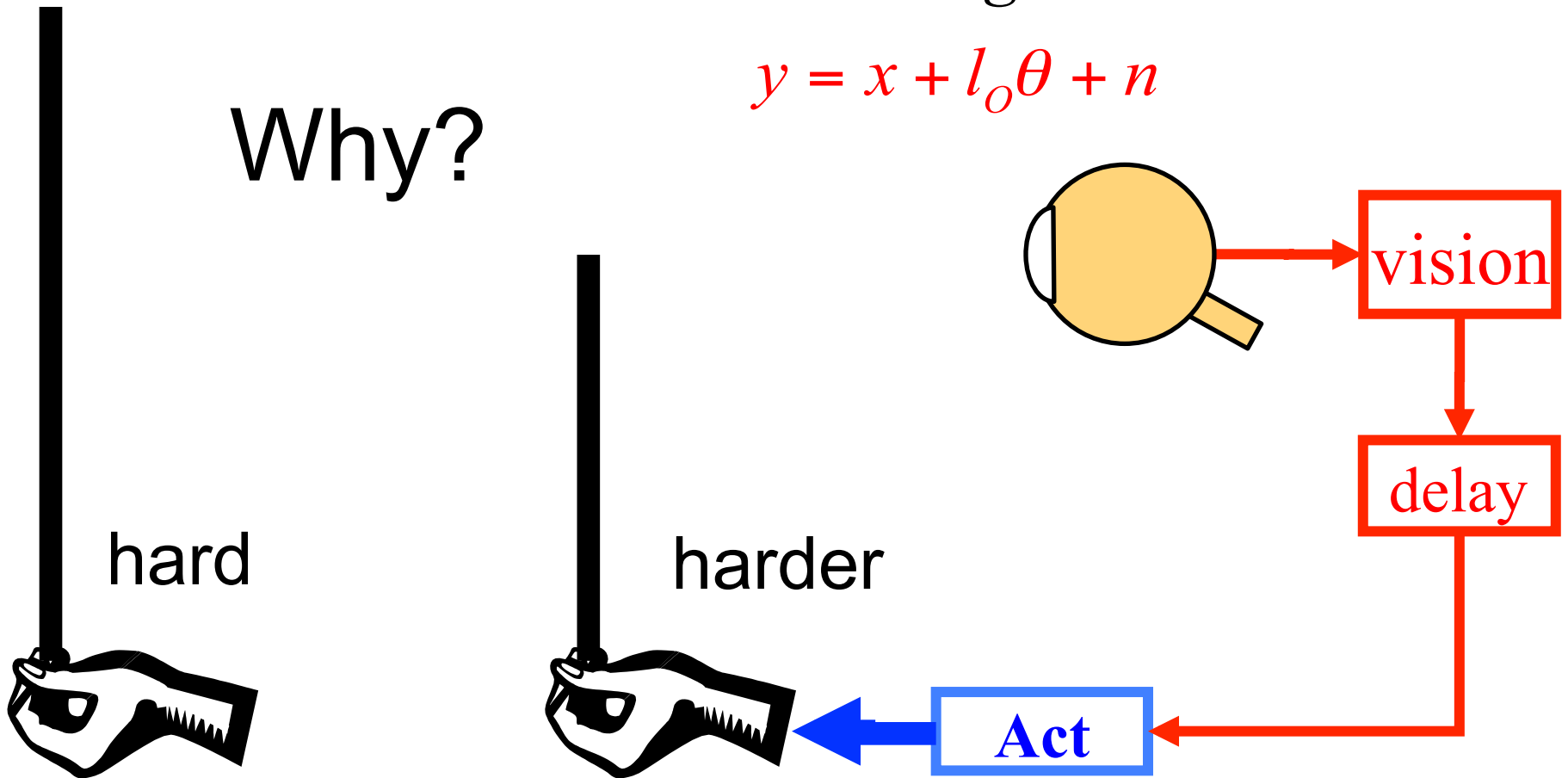
$$y = x + l_o\theta + n$$

Law #3 : Light  $(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml\ddot{\theta} = u$

$$\ddot{x} + l\ddot{\theta} \pm g\theta = 0$$

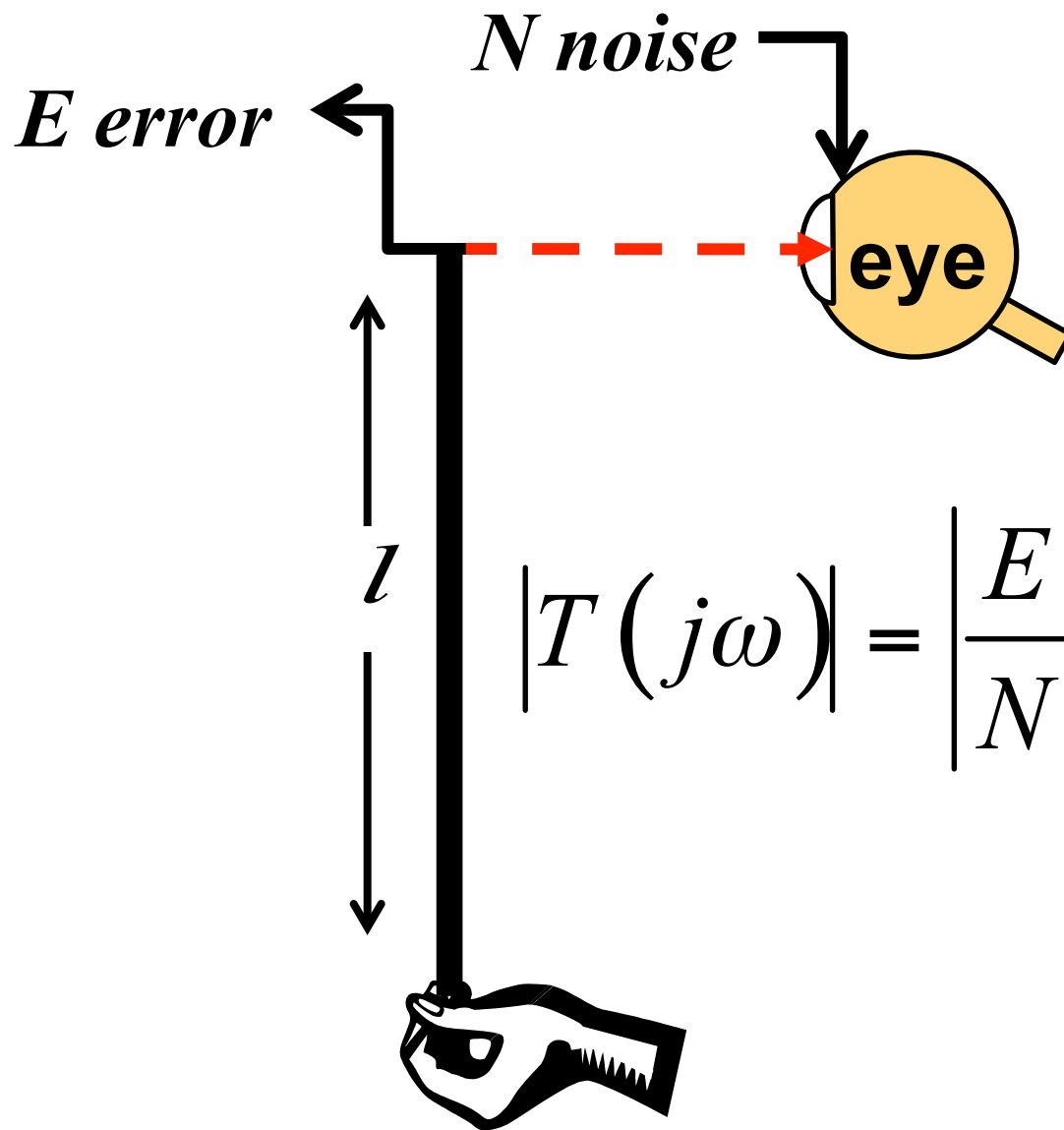
$$y = x + l_o\theta + n$$

Why?



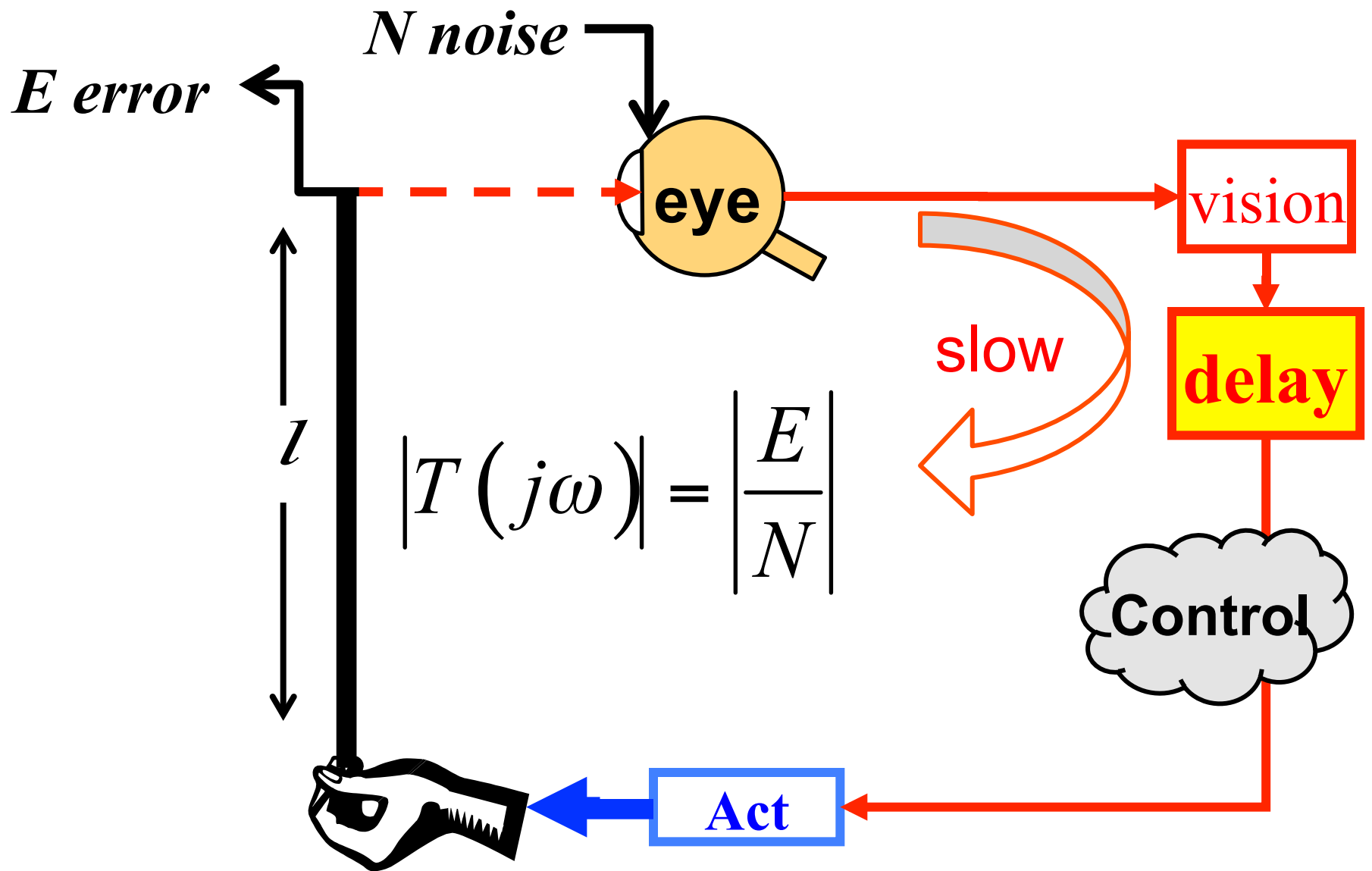
Easy to *prove* using simple models.





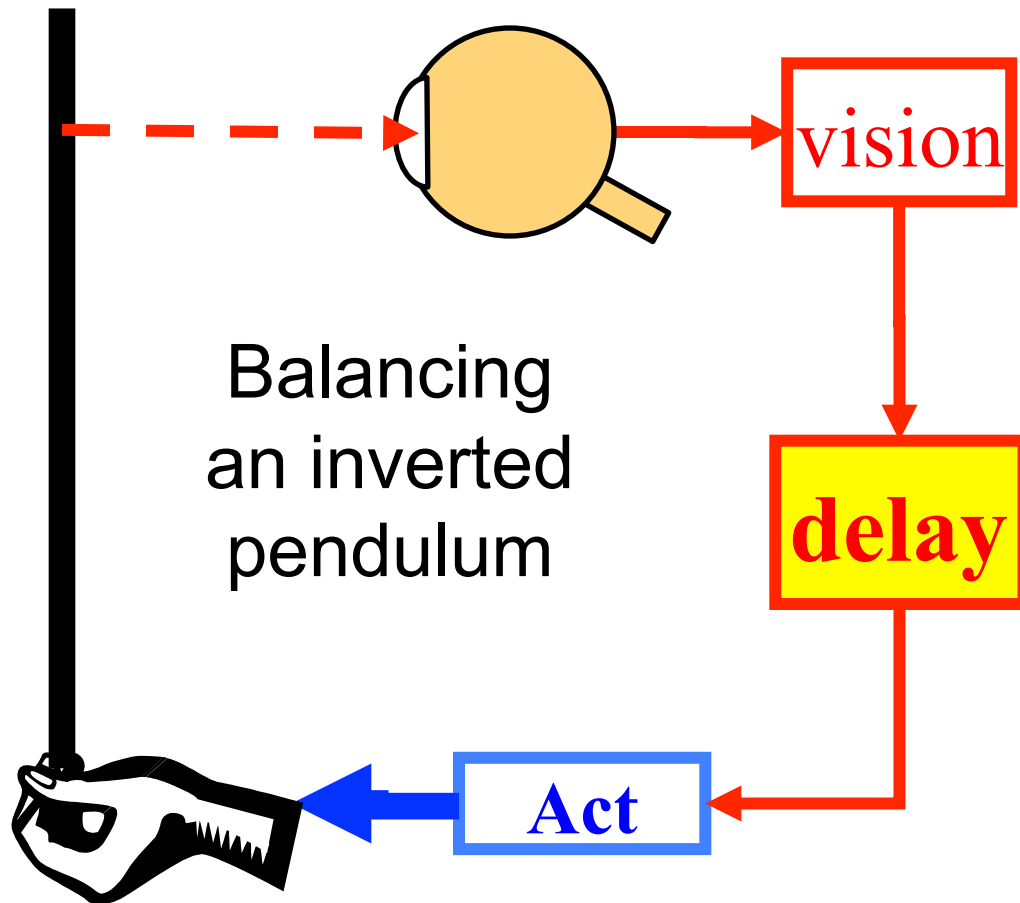
$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq ?$$

Frequency  
domain



# Universal laws

Mechanics+  
Gravity +  
Light +



$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

$$p \propto \sqrt{\frac{1}{l}}$$

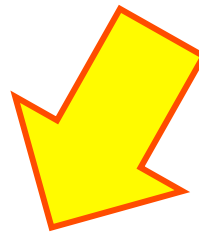
$$\tau \approx .3s$$

Laplace transform  
(One complex variable)

$$(M + m)\ddot{x} + ml\ddot{\theta} = u$$

$$\ddot{x} + l\ddot{\theta} \pm g\theta = 0$$

$$y = x + l_o\theta + n$$



$$\begin{bmatrix} x \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{D(s)} \begin{bmatrix} ls^2 \pm g \\ -s^2 \end{bmatrix} u$$

$$D(s) = s^2 (Mls^2 \pm (M + m)g)$$

$$y = x + l_o\theta = \left[ \frac{(l - l_o)s^2 \pm g}{D(s)} \right] u$$

$$p = \sqrt{\frac{g}{l}} \sqrt{1 + r} \quad r = \frac{m}{M} \quad z = \sqrt{\frac{g}{l - l_o}}$$

**Fragility** two ways ( $\sim$  Bode\* and Zames):

$$\exp\left(\int \ln|T|\right) \triangleq \exp\left(\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} \ln|T(j\omega)| \left(\frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}\right) d\omega\right)$$

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)|$$

$$\left. \exp\left(\int \ln|T|\right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

\* With key help from Freudenberg and Seron et al

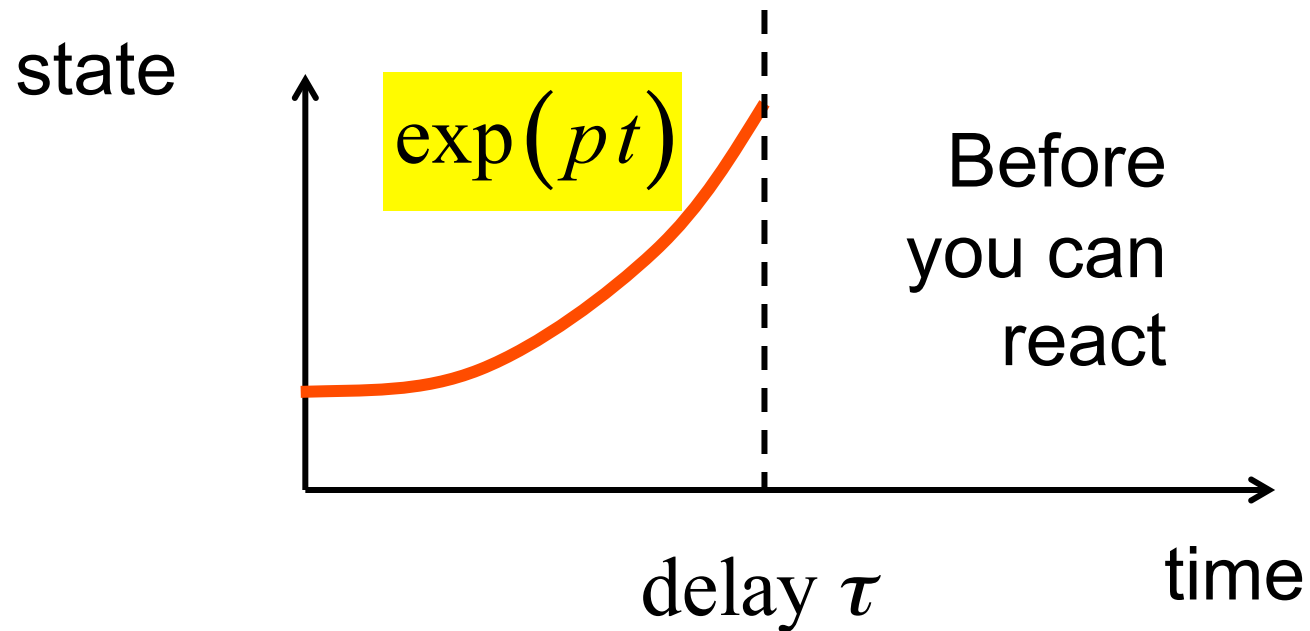
$$\exp\left(\int \ln|T|\right) \triangleq \exp\left(\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \ln|T(j\omega)| \left(\frac{p}{p^2 + \omega^2}\right) d\omega\right)$$

$$\|T\|_\infty = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)|$$

## **Amplification (noise to error)**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Entropy rate} \\ \text{Energy (L2)} \end{array} \right\} \exp\left(\int \ln|T|\right) \Bigg|_{\|T\|_\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

# intuition

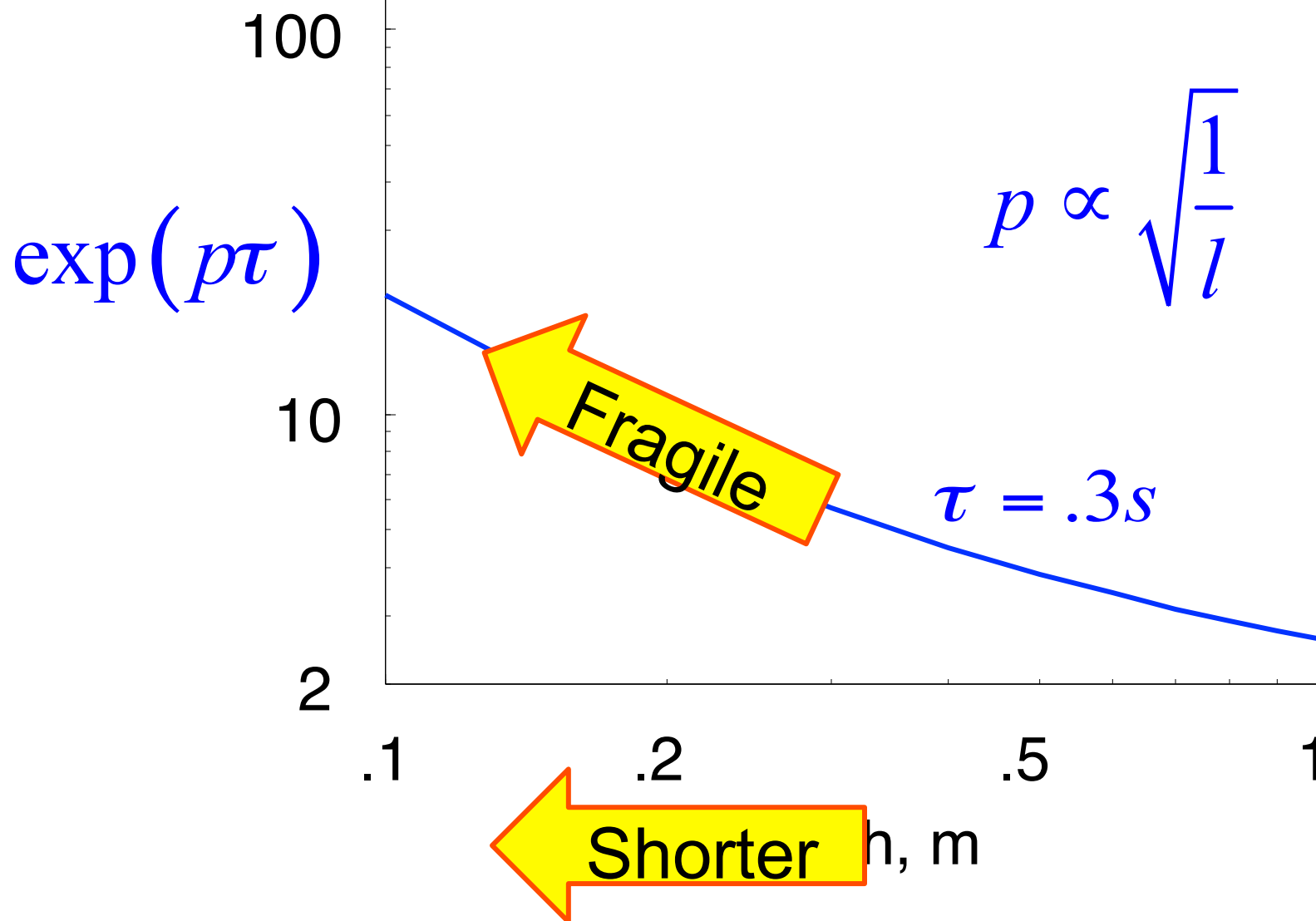


Entropy rate

Energy (L2)

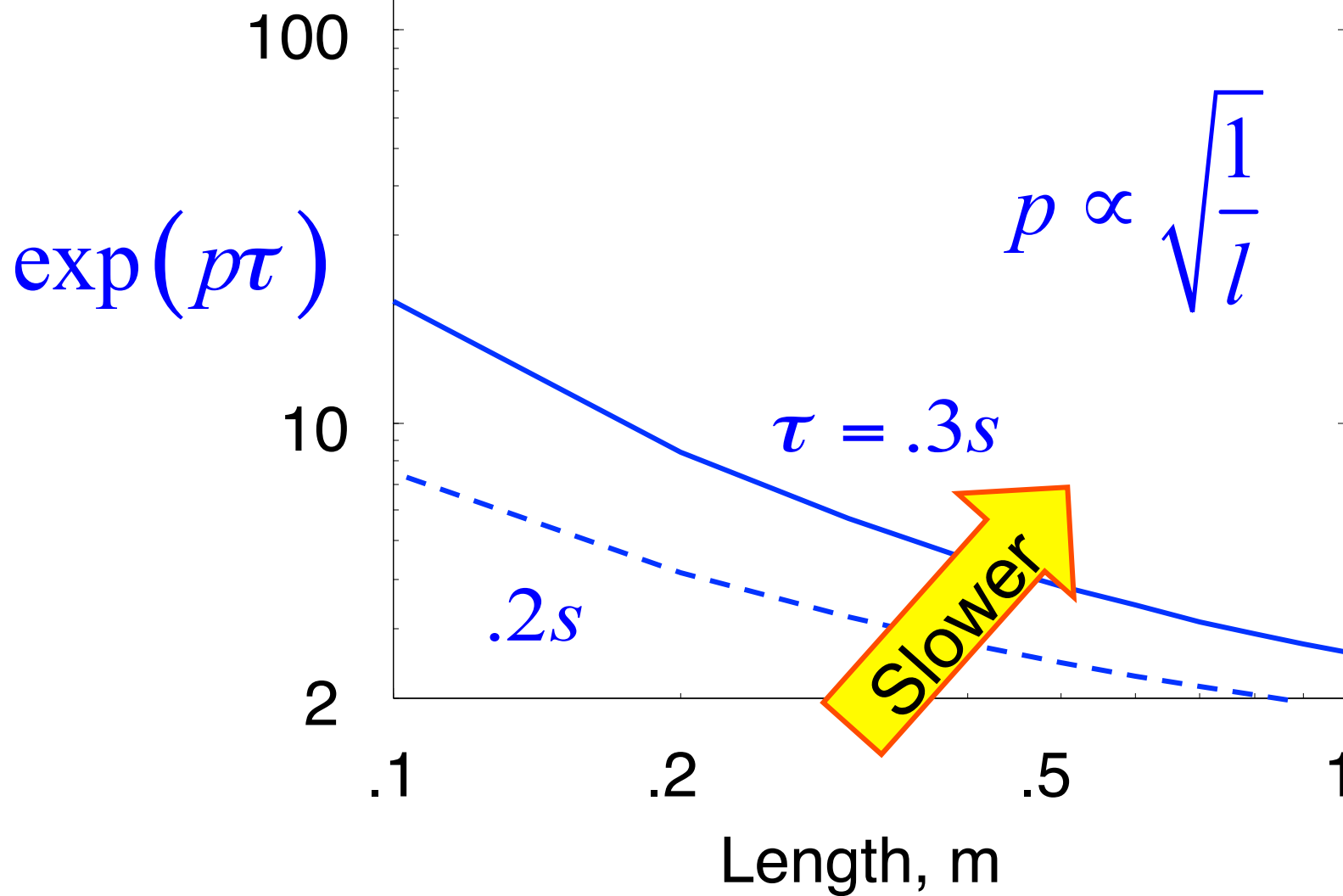
$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

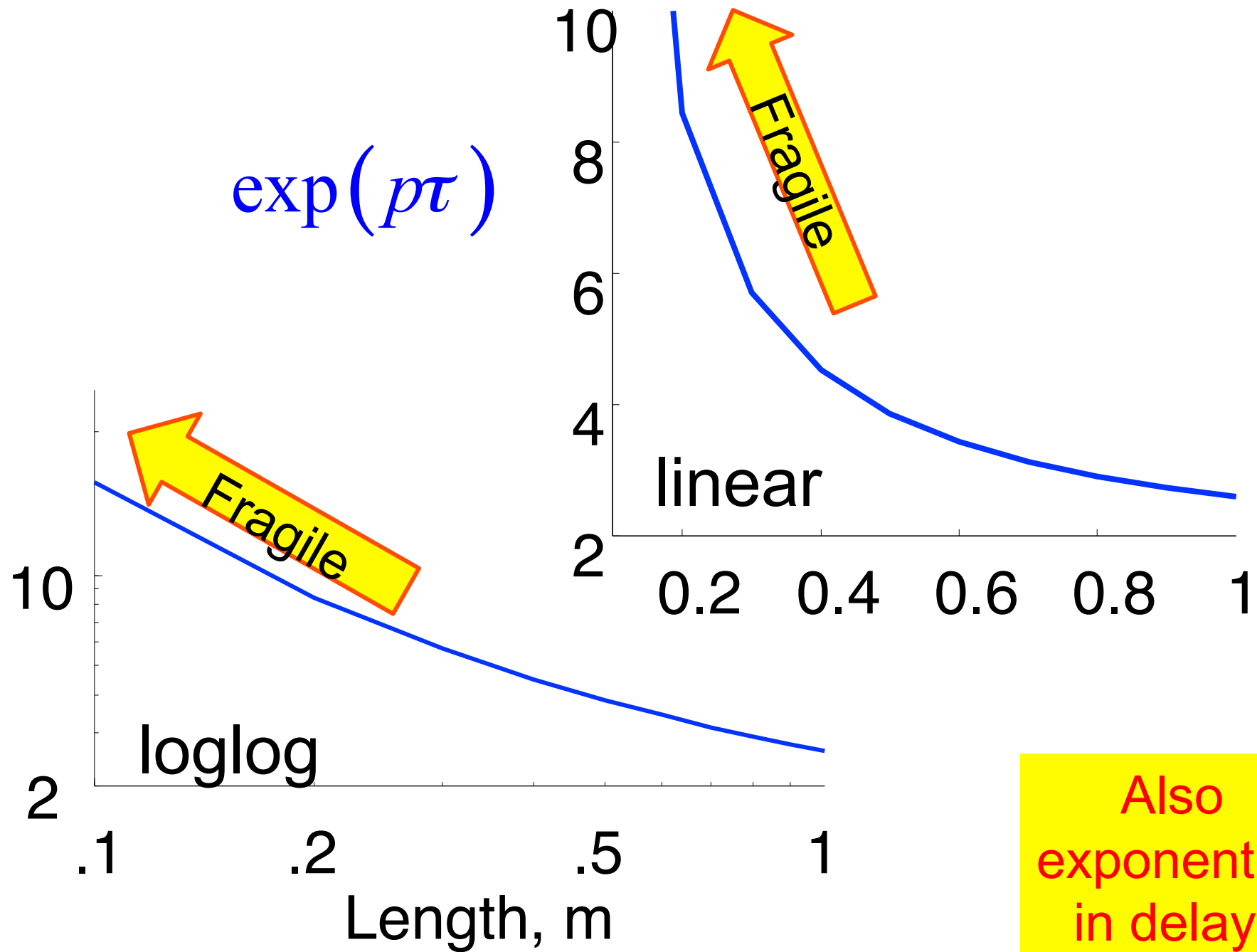
$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$





$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

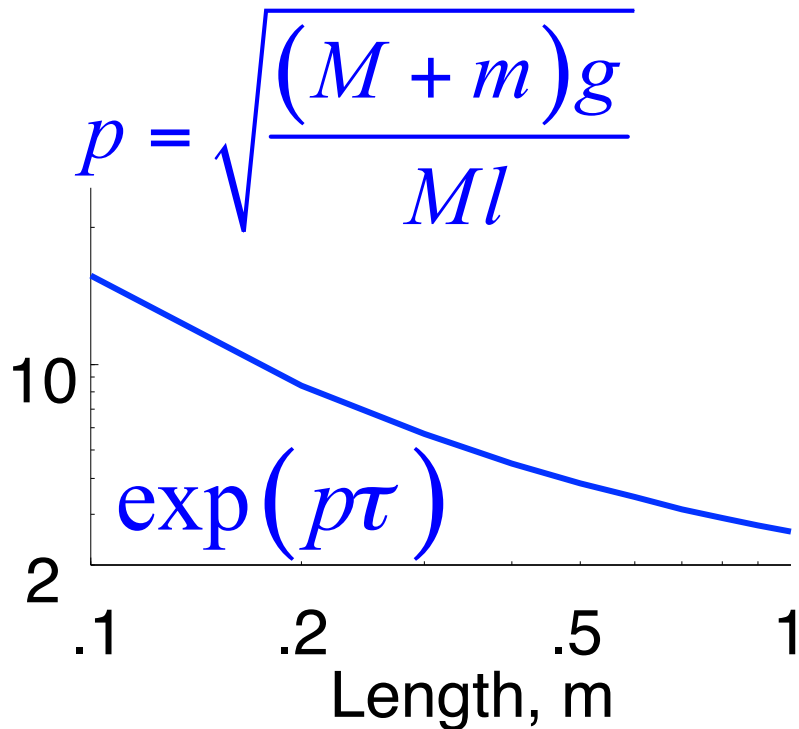
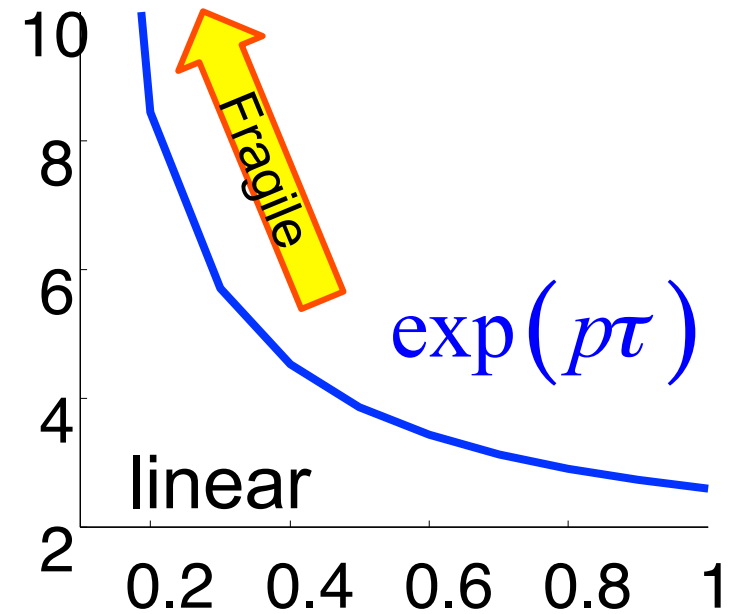




Also  
exponential  
in delay!



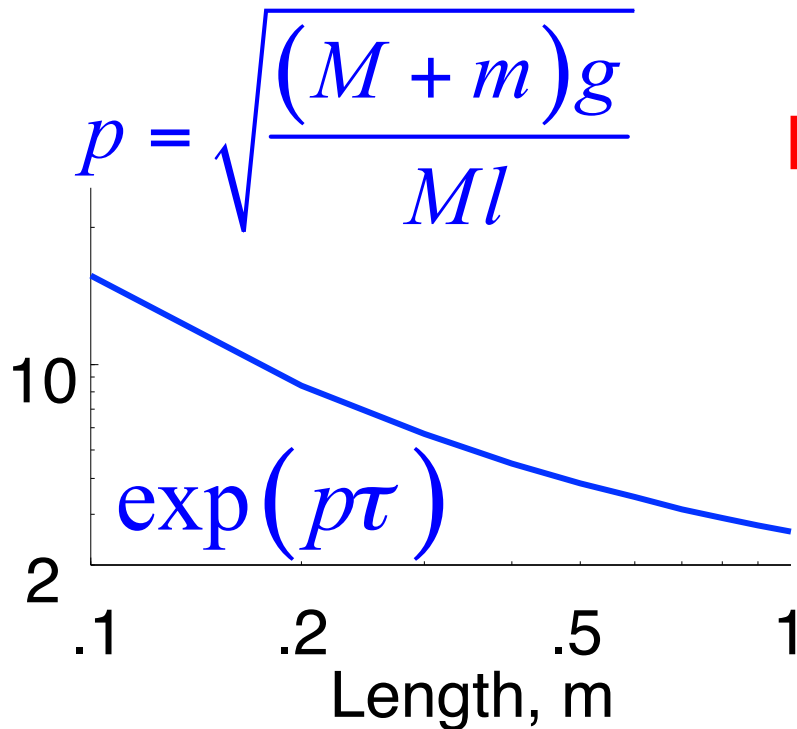
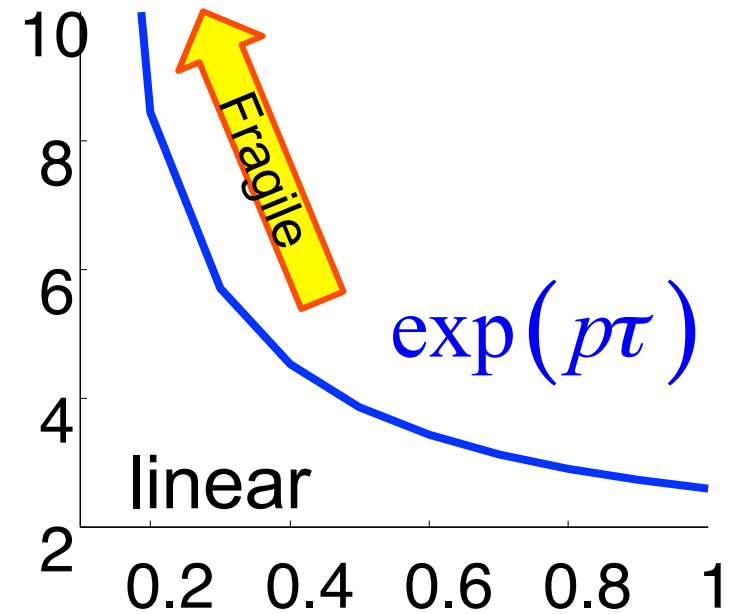
$l$     *length*  
 $m$     *mass*  
 $M$     *mass*  
 $g$     *gravity*



Idealized model



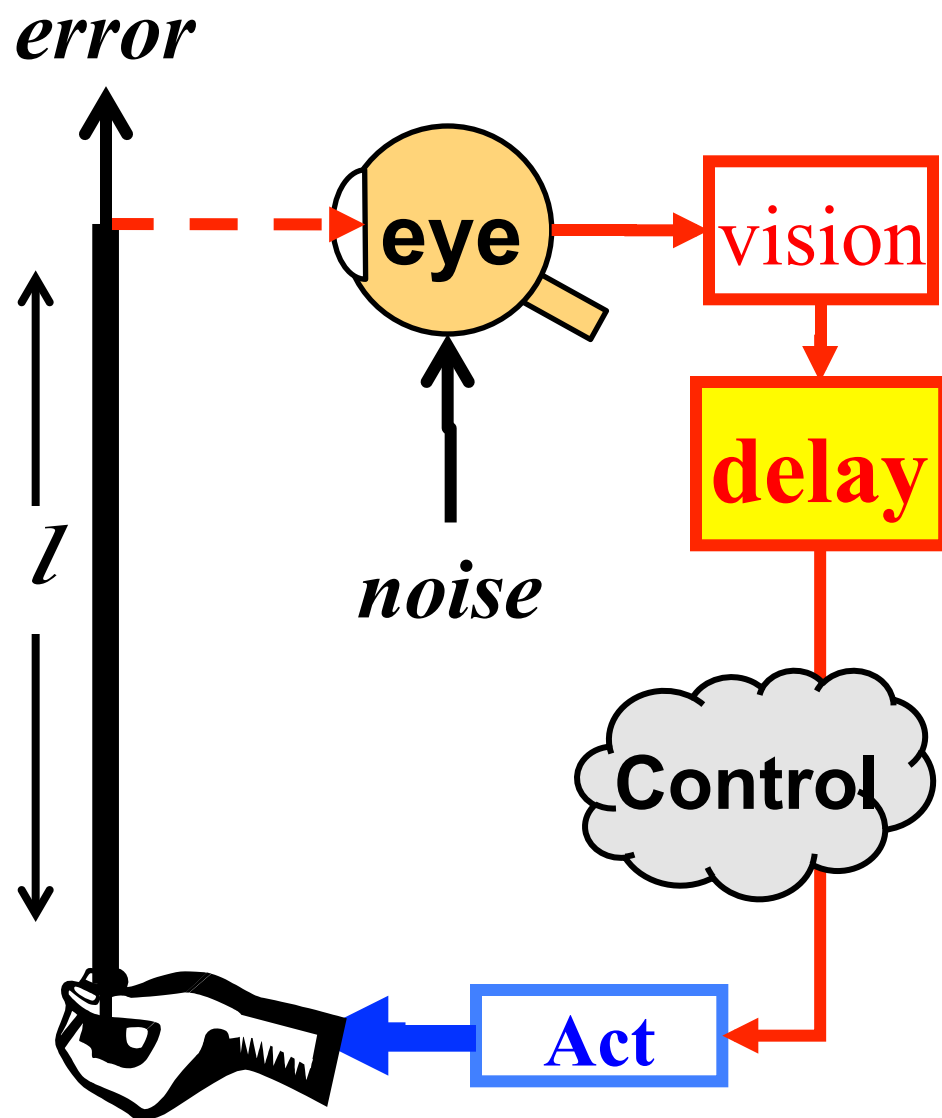
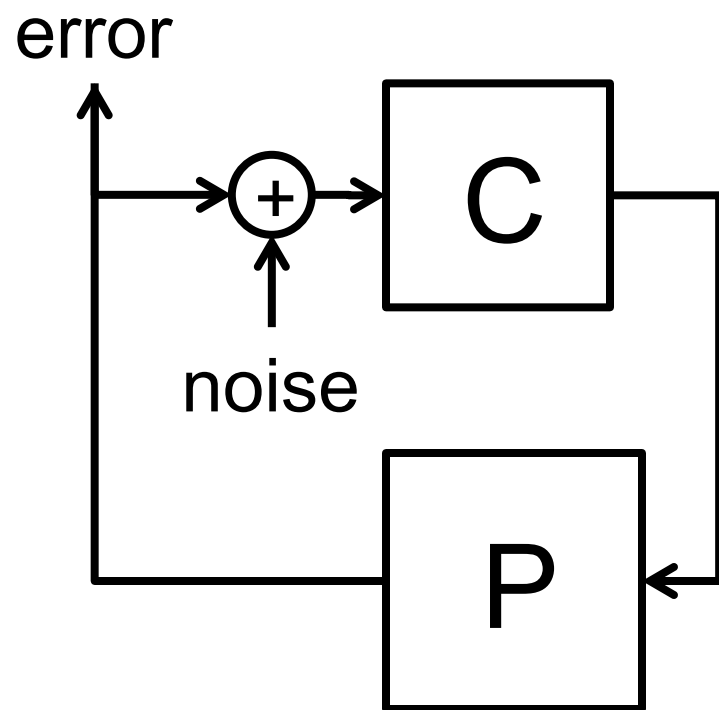
$l$  *length*  
 $m$  *mass*  
 $M$  *mass*  
 $g$  *gravity*



**Essential constraint (“law”):**

$$\left\{ \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\}_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$

$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$

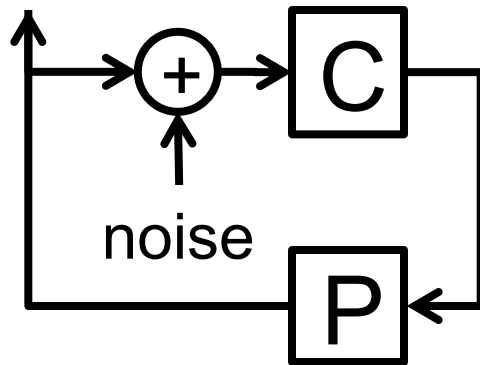


## Proof?

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

Max modulus

error



$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$

$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s)$$

$$P(p) = \infty \Rightarrow T(p) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow M(p) = \Theta(p)^{-1}$$

$$P(s) = P_M(s) \exp(-\tau s) \Rightarrow$$

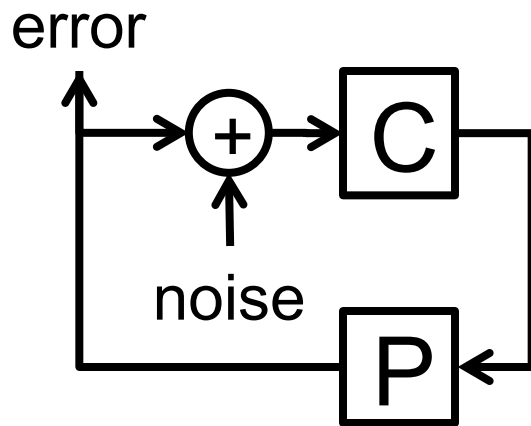
$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \|M\|_{\infty} \geq |M(p)| \geq |\Theta(p)^{-1}| \geq \exp(\tau p)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(\tau p)$$

## Proof?

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

Max modulus



$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s)$$

$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$

$M$  “minimum phase” (stably invertible)

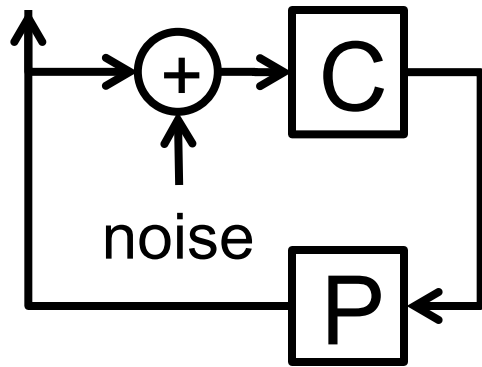
$\Theta$  “all pass”

## Proof?

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

Max modulus

error



$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$

$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s)$$

$$P(p) = \infty \Rightarrow T(p) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow M(p) = \Theta(p)^{-1}$$

$$T = \frac{PC}{1 + PC}$$

$$\text{so } P(p) = \infty \Rightarrow T(p) = 1$$

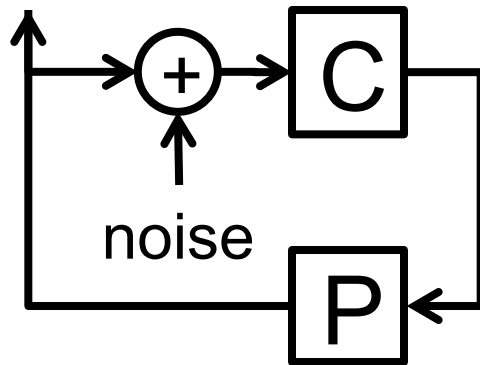


## Proof?

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

Max modulus

error



$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$

$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s)$$

$$P(p) = \infty \Rightarrow T(p) = 1$$

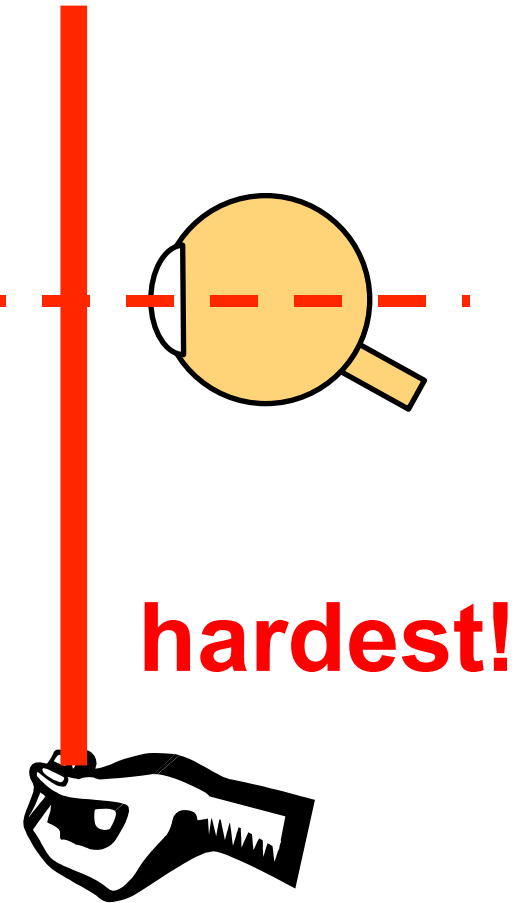
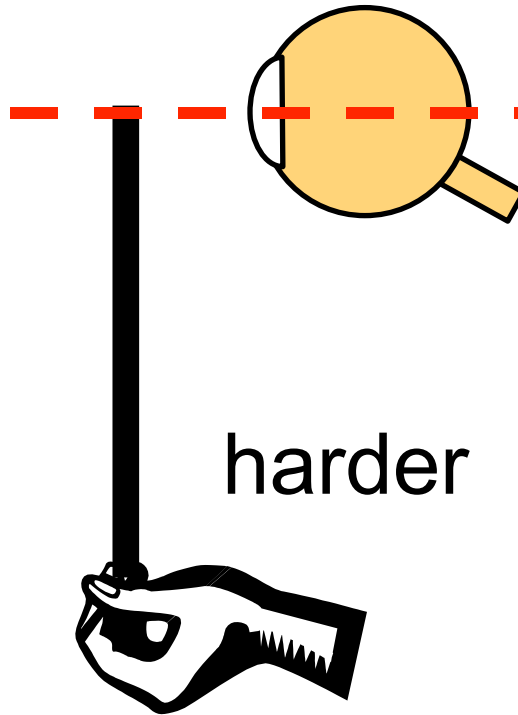
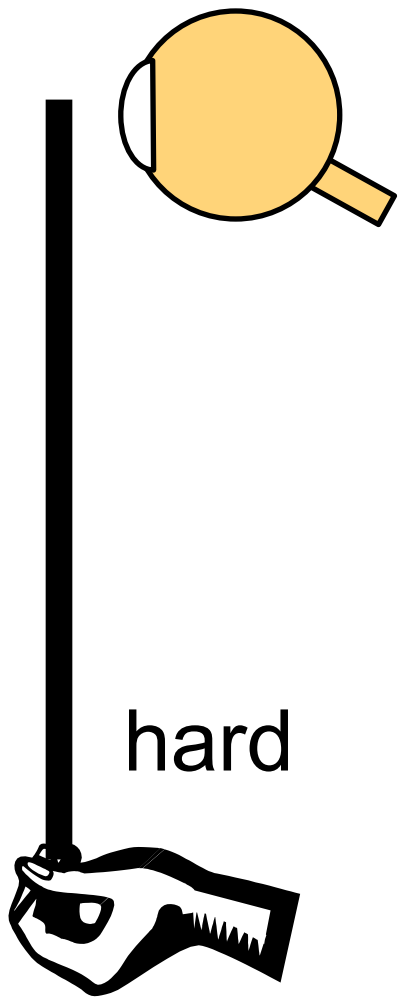
$$\Rightarrow M(p) = \Theta(p)^{-1}$$

$$P(s) = P_M(s) \exp(-\tau s) \Rightarrow$$

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \|M\|_{\infty} \geq |M(p)| \geq |\Theta(p)^{-1}| \geq \exp(\tau p)$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(\tau p)$$

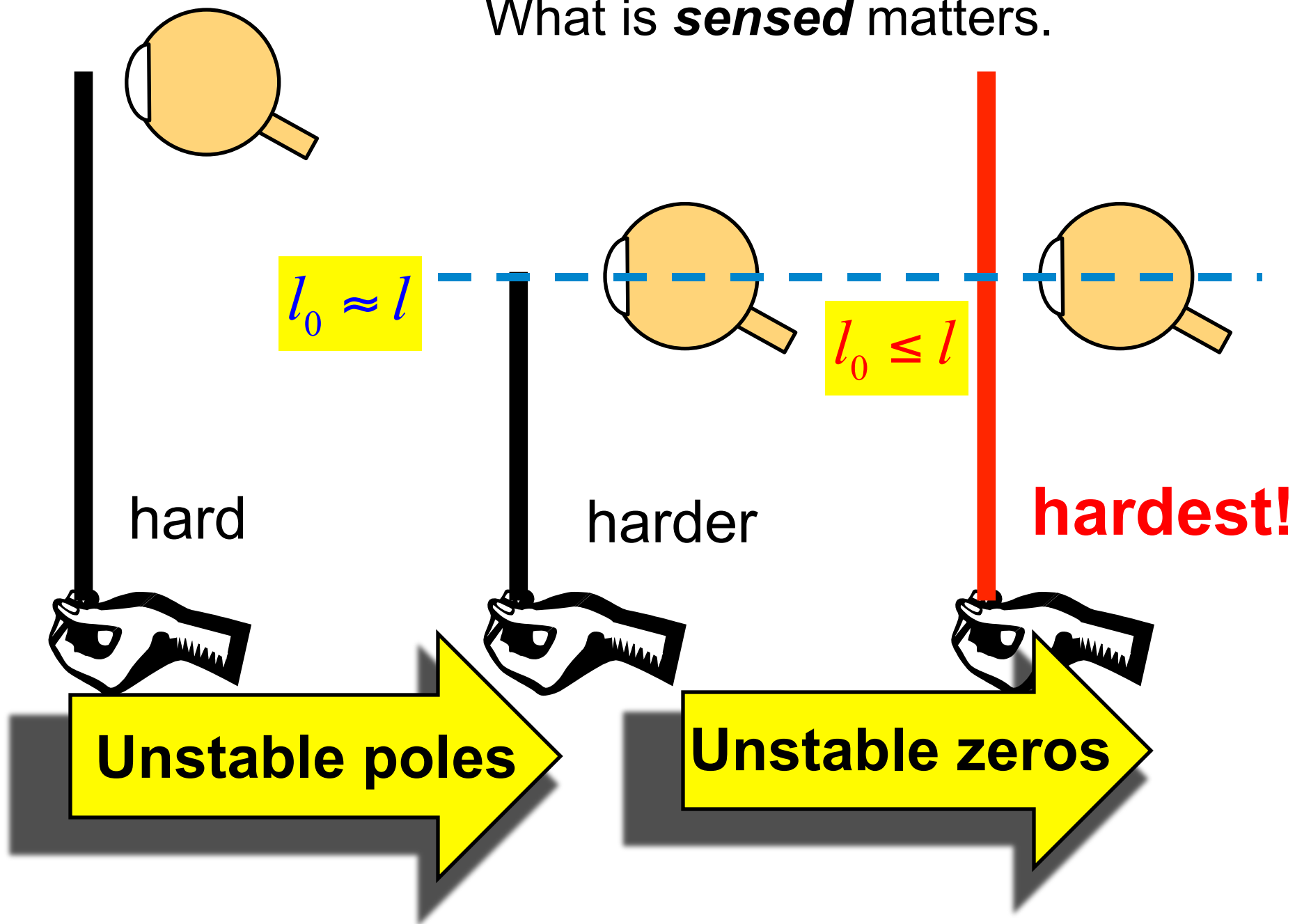
What is *sensed* matters.



Why?

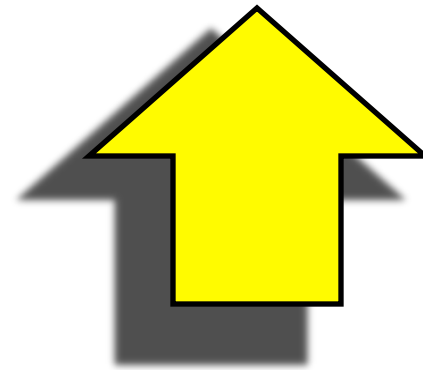
Easy to *prove* using simple models.

What is *sensed* matters.



Fragility two ways (Bode\* and Zames):

$$\exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \Bigg|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

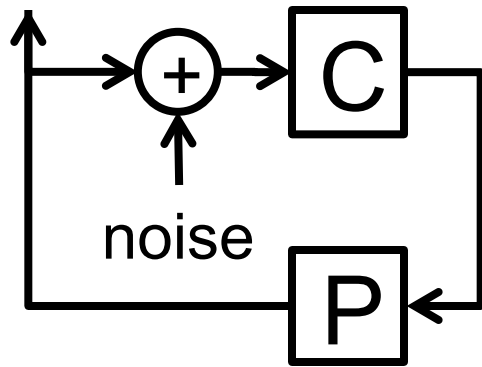


**Unstable zeros**

**Proof?**

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

error



$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s) \frac{s - z}{s + z}$$

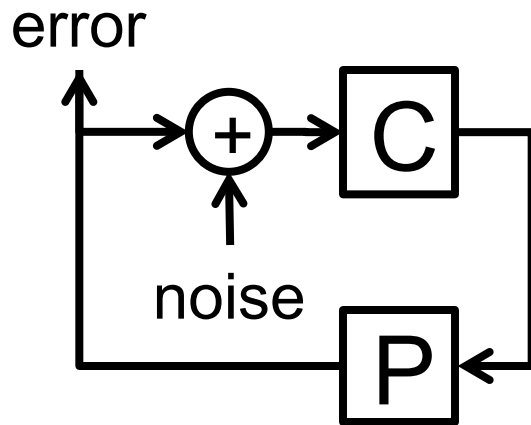
$$P(s) = P_M(s) \left[ \exp(-\tau s) \frac{s - z}{s + z} \right] \Rightarrow$$

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \|M\|_{\infty} \geq |M(p)| \geq |\Theta(p)^{-1}| \geq \exp(\tau p) \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(\tau p) \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$

**Proof?**

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$



$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s) \frac{s - z}{s + z}$$

$$T = \frac{PC}{1 + PC}$$

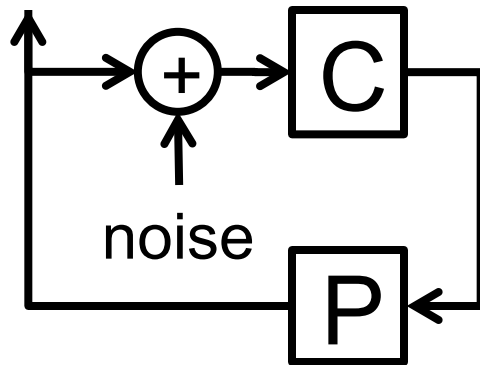
$$\text{so } P(p) = \infty \Rightarrow T(p) = 1$$

$$\& \ P(z) = 0 \Rightarrow T(z) = 0$$

**Proof?**

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \sup_{\omega} |T(j\omega)| = \sup \left\{ |T(s)| \mid \operatorname{Re}(s) \geq 0 \right\}$$

error



$$T(s) = M(s)\Theta(s) \quad |\Theta(j\omega)| = 1$$

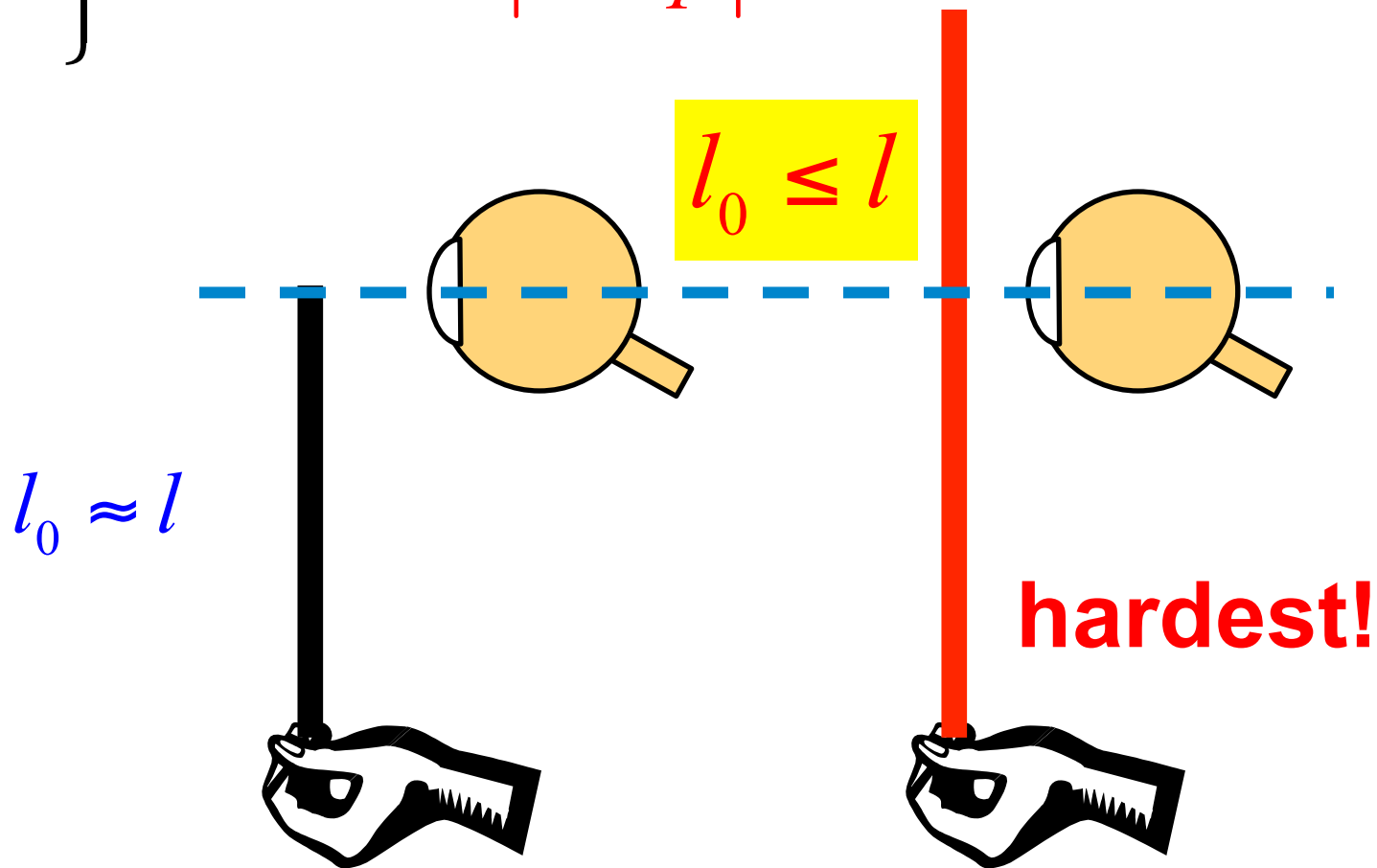
$$\Theta(s) = \exp(-\tau s) \frac{s - z}{s + z}$$

$$P(s) = P_M(s) \left[ \exp(-\tau s) \frac{s - z}{s + z} \right] \Rightarrow$$

$$\|T\|_{\infty} = \|M\|_{\infty} \geq |M(p)| \geq |\Theta(p)^{-1}| \geq \exp(\tau p) \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$

$$\Rightarrow \|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(\tau p) \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$

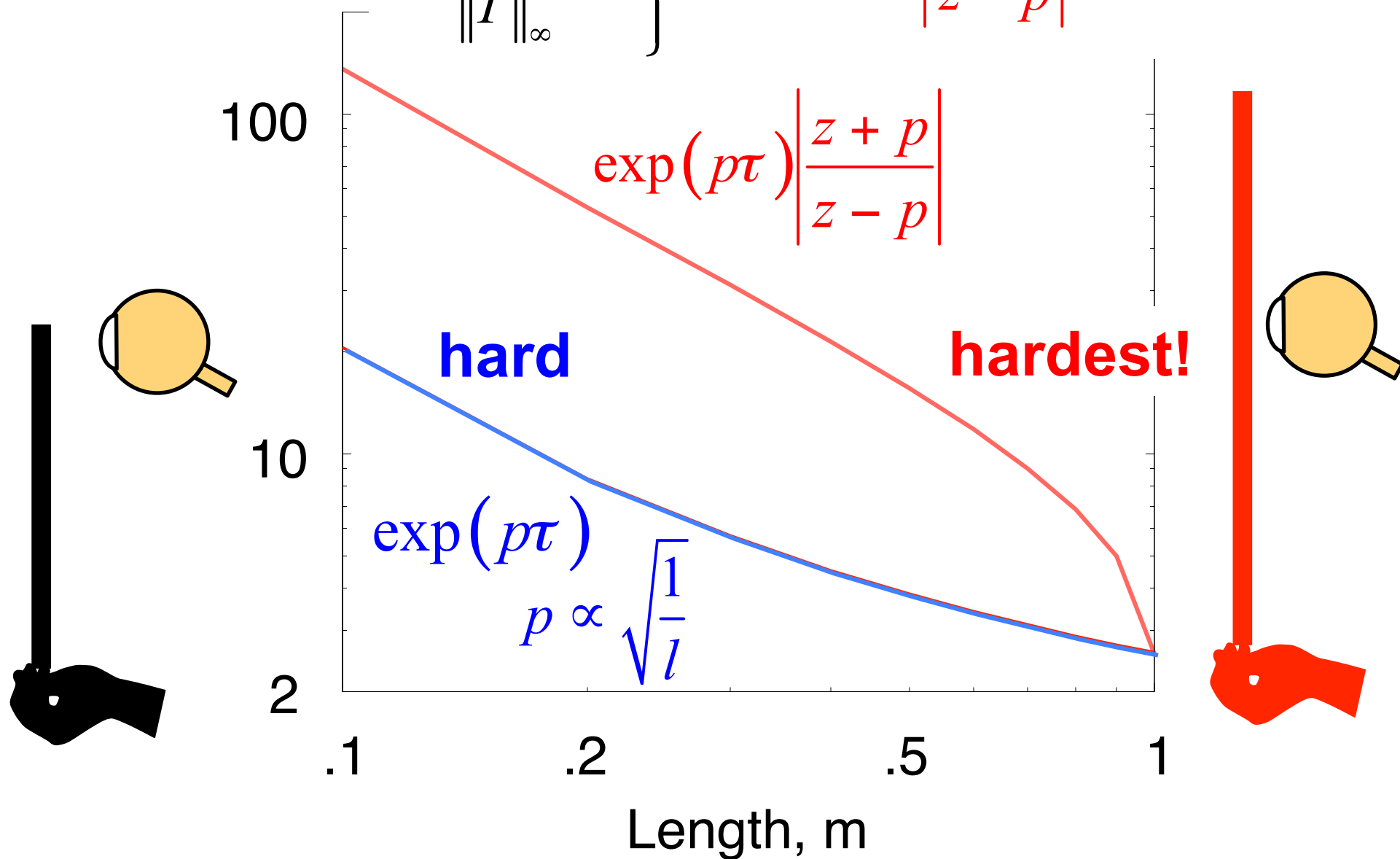
$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\}_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right| \geq \exp(p\tau)$$



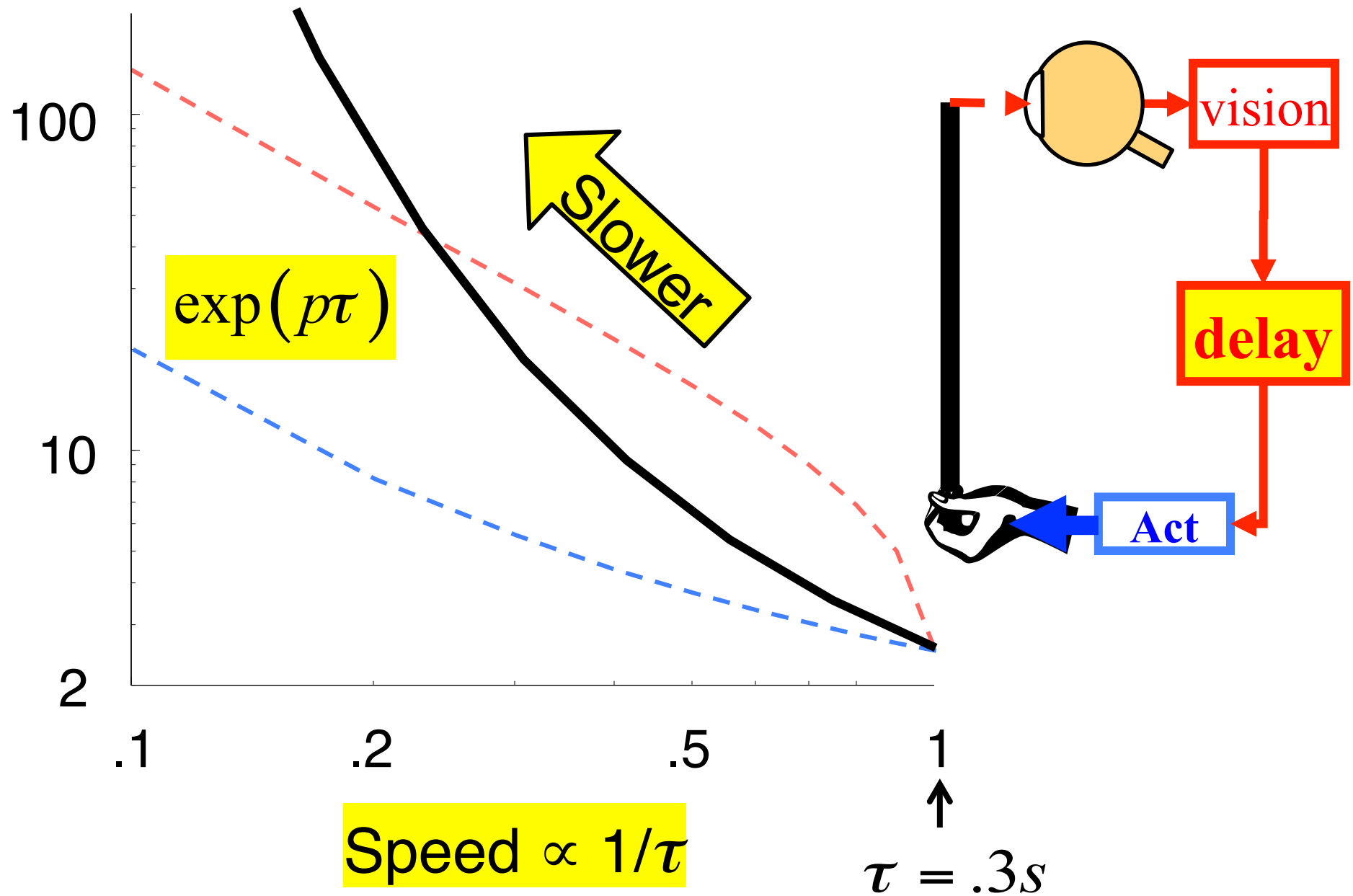


$$\tau = .3s$$

$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right| \geq \exp(p\tau)$$



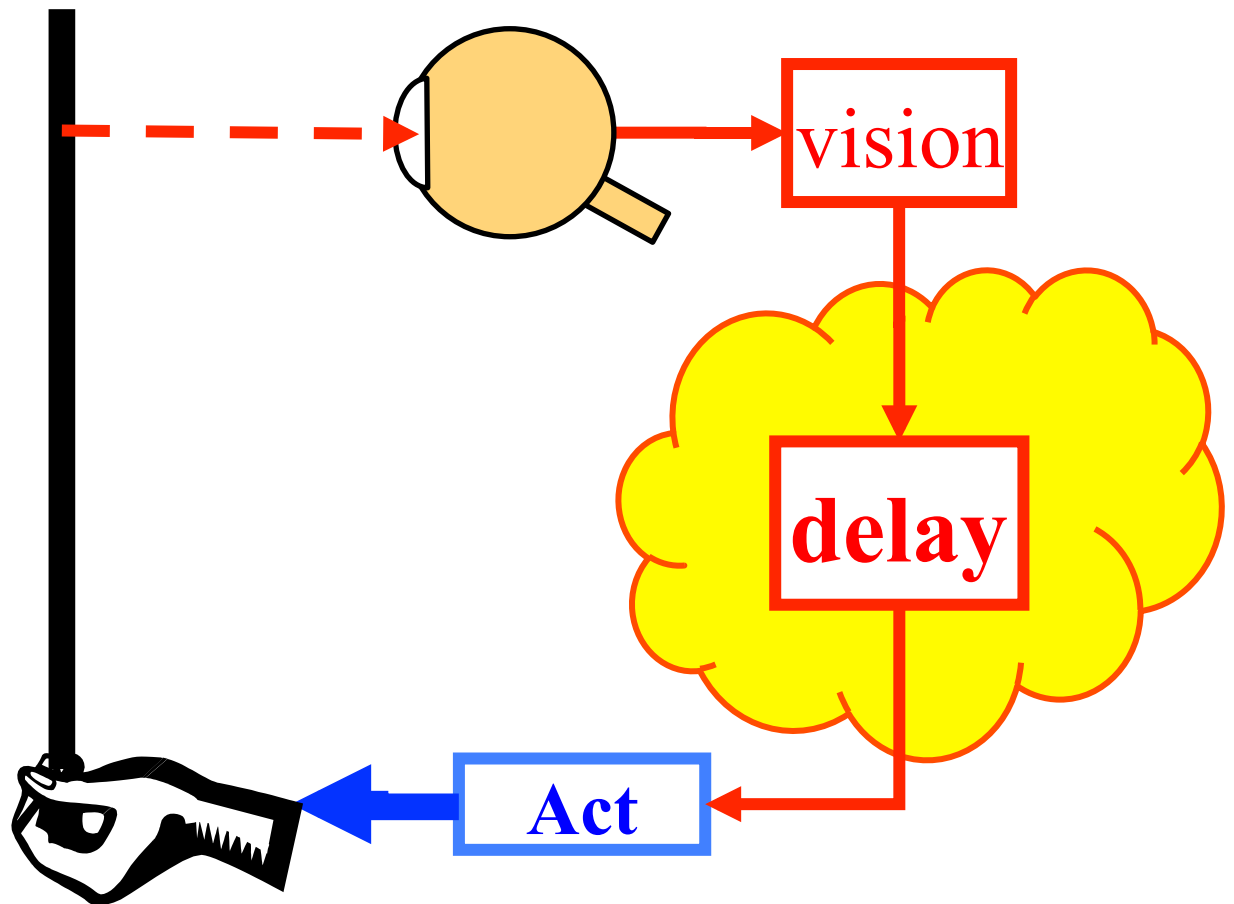
Vary delay?



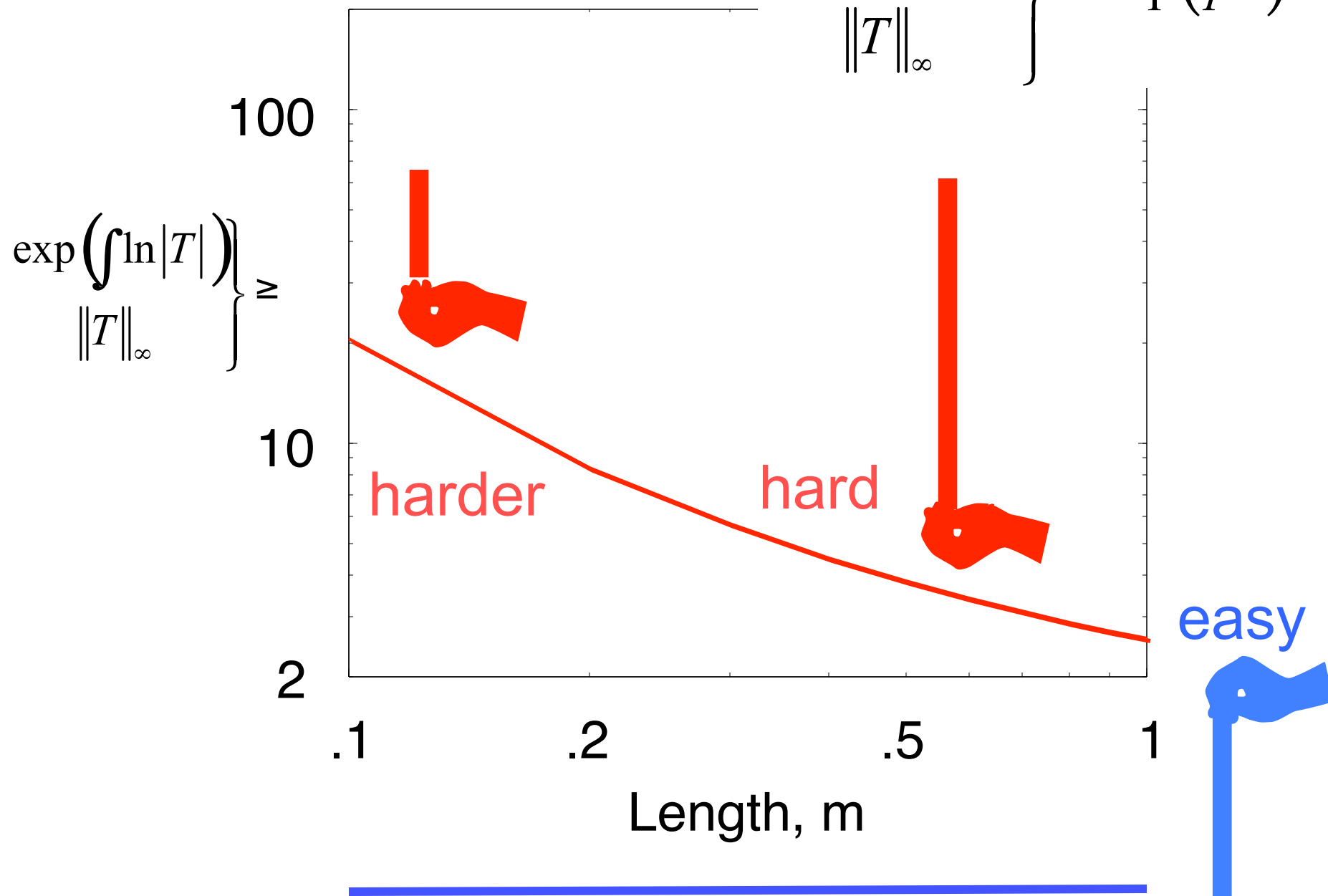
**Holds for *all* controllers.**

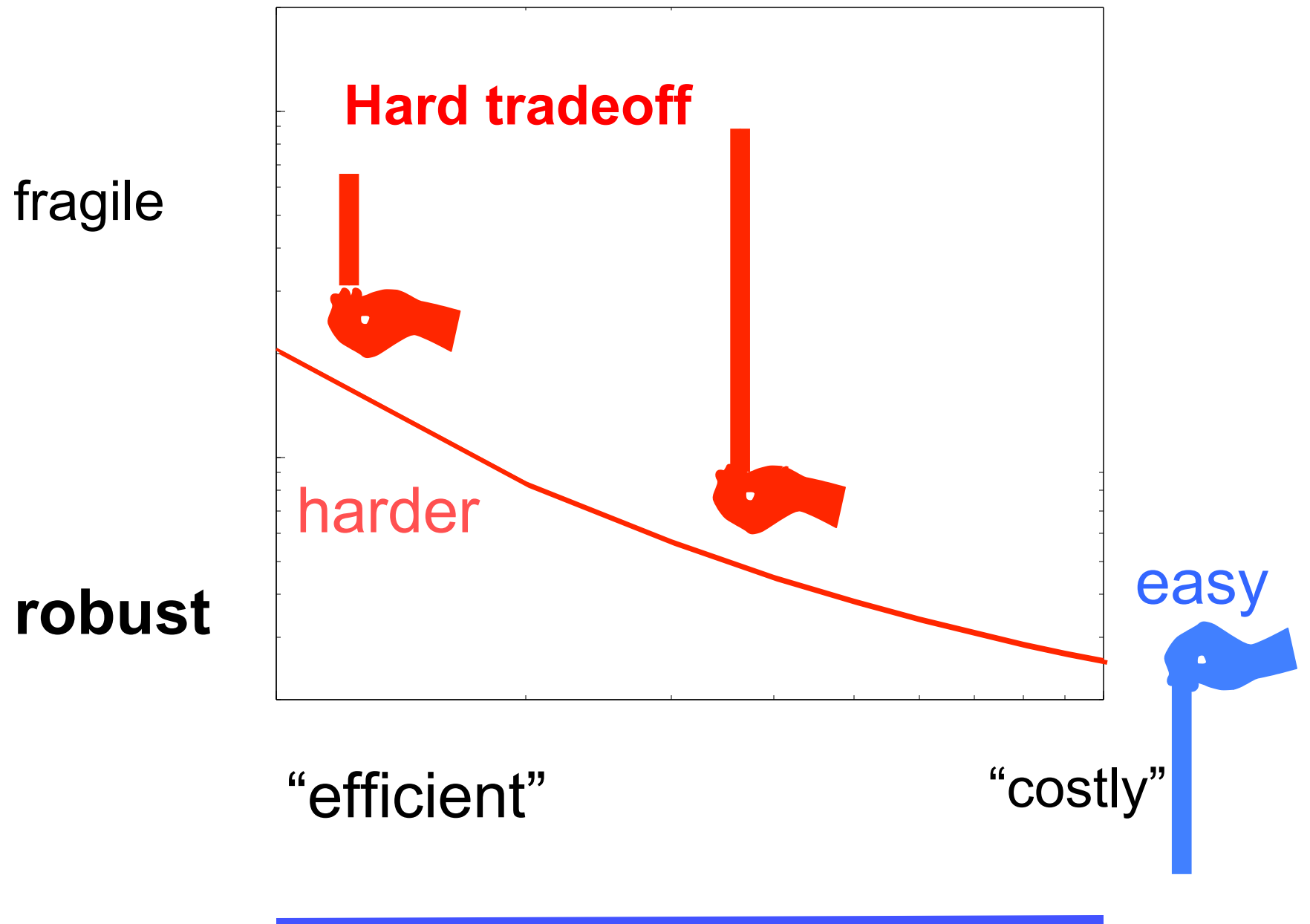
$$\|T\|_{\infty} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

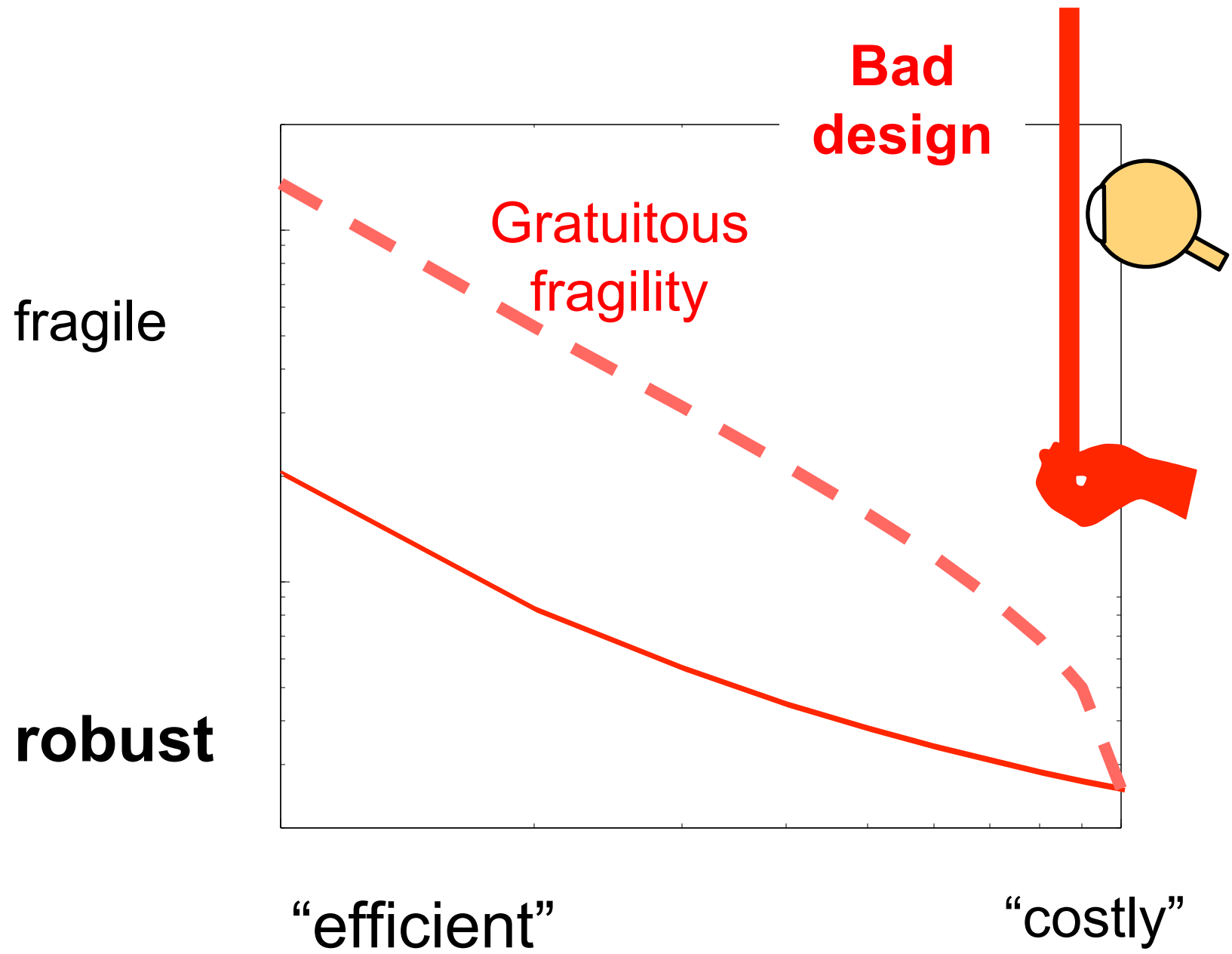
A “law” about  
*intrinsic*  
problem  
difficulty  
(a la Turing).



$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau)$$







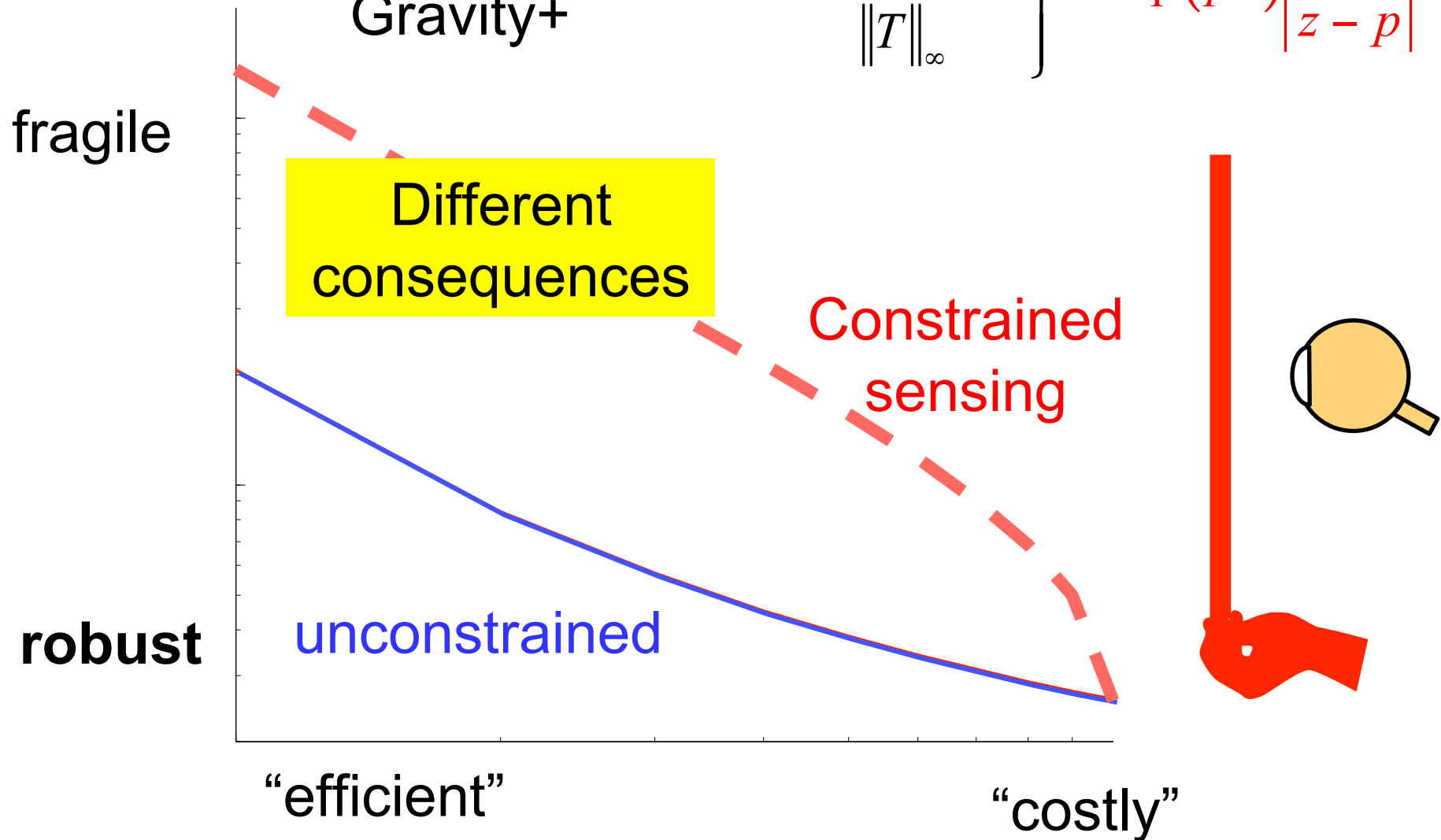
# The nature of “laws”

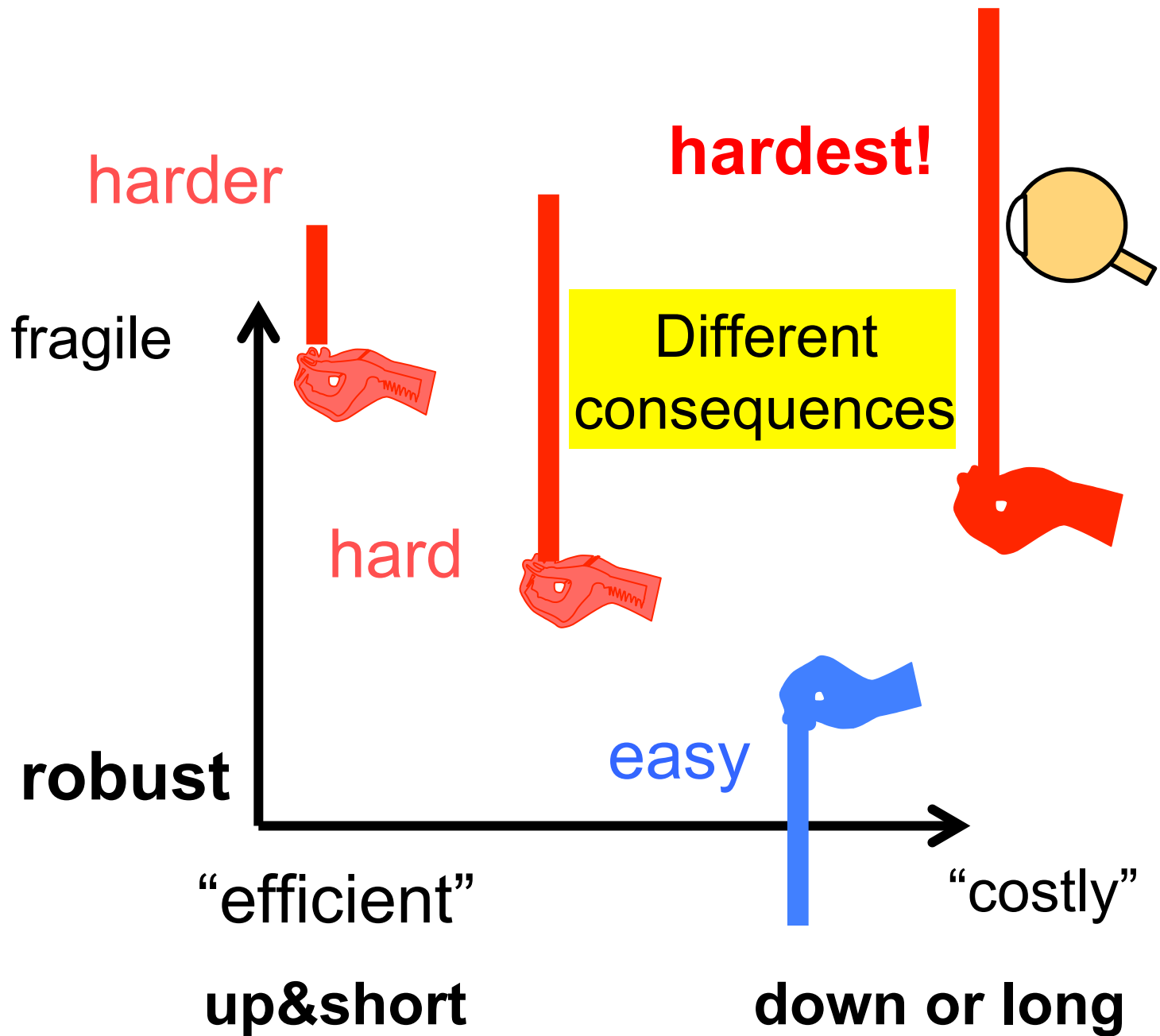
Same constraints:

Mechanics+

Gravity+

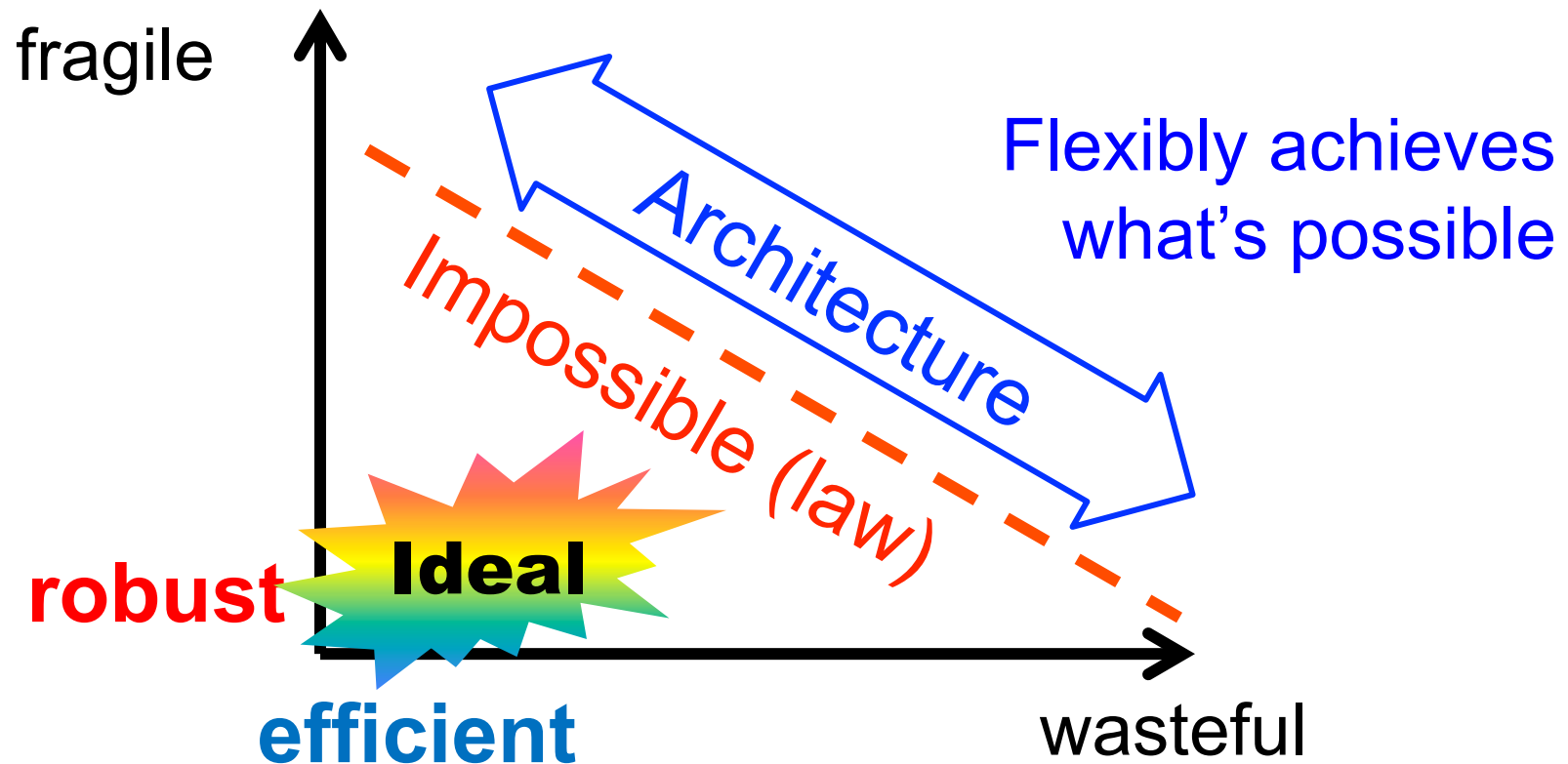
$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

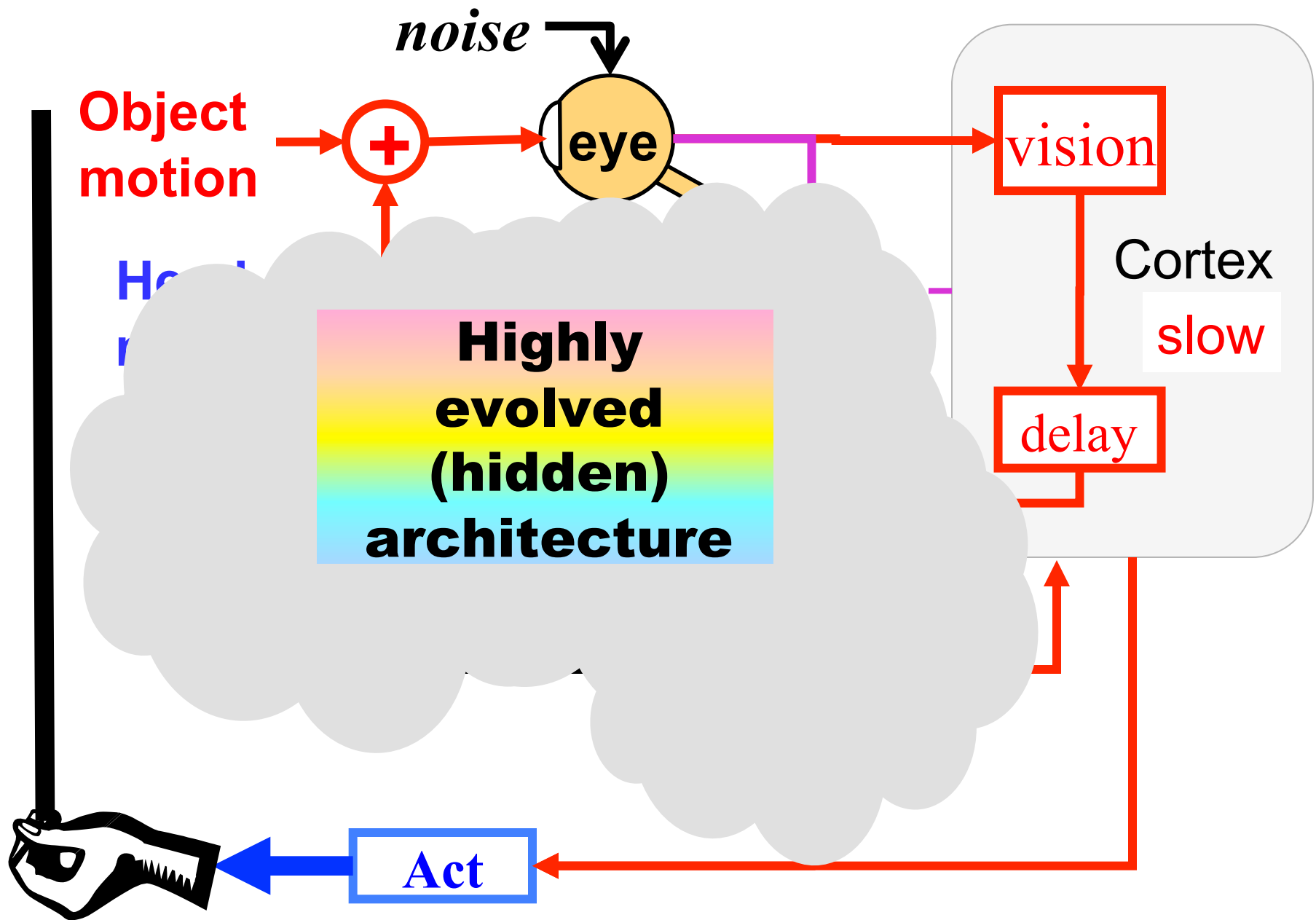




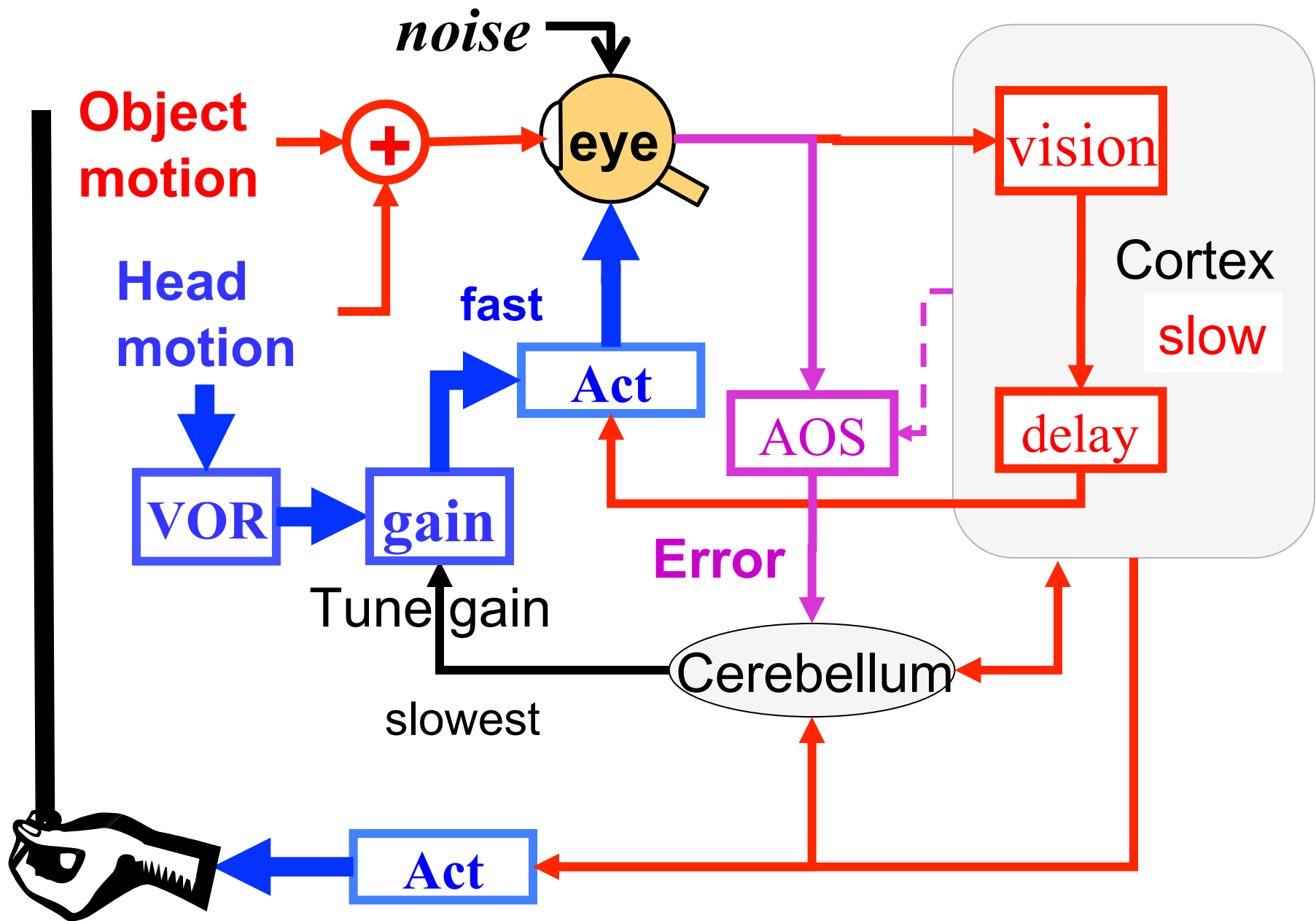


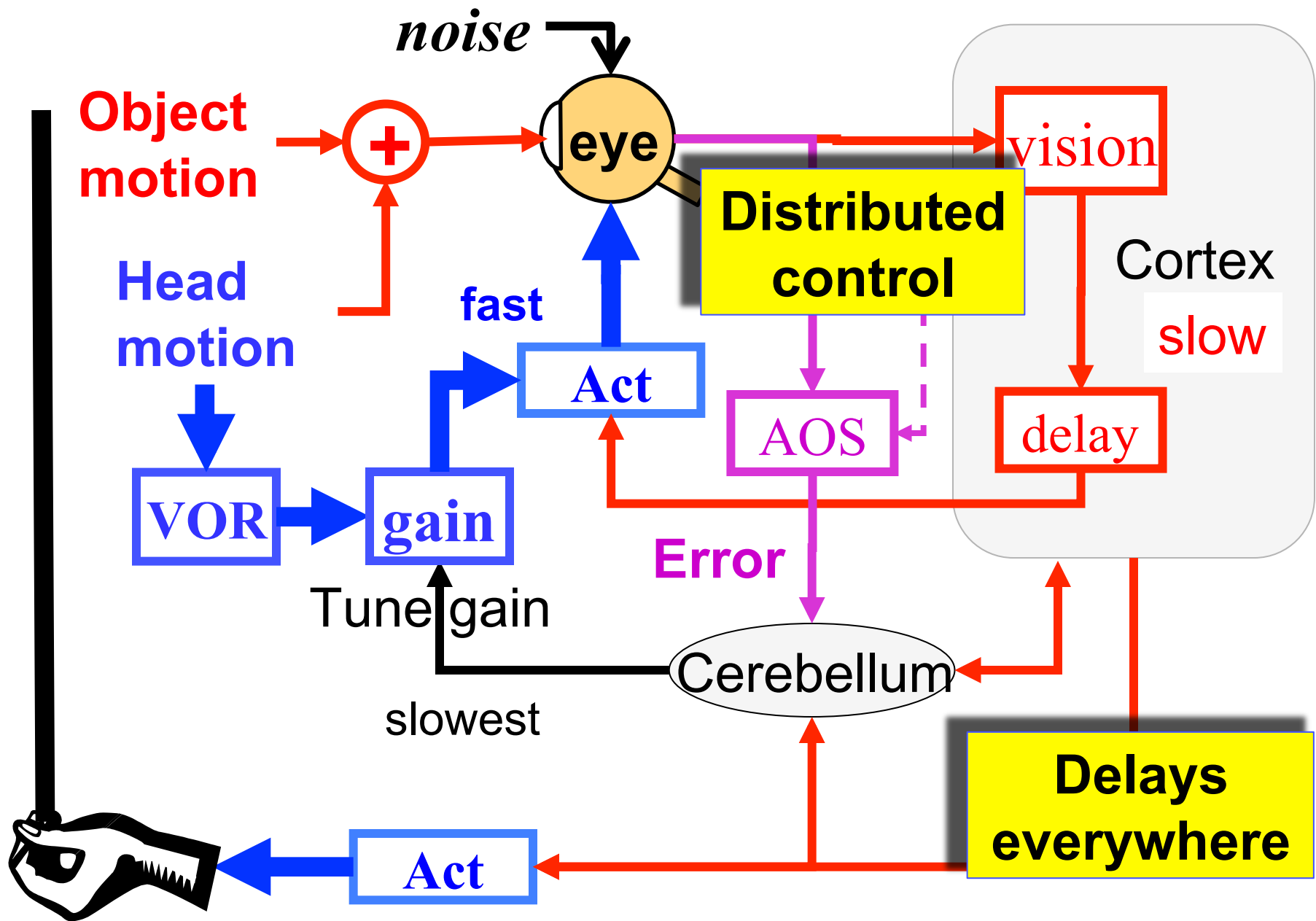
# Universal laws and architectures



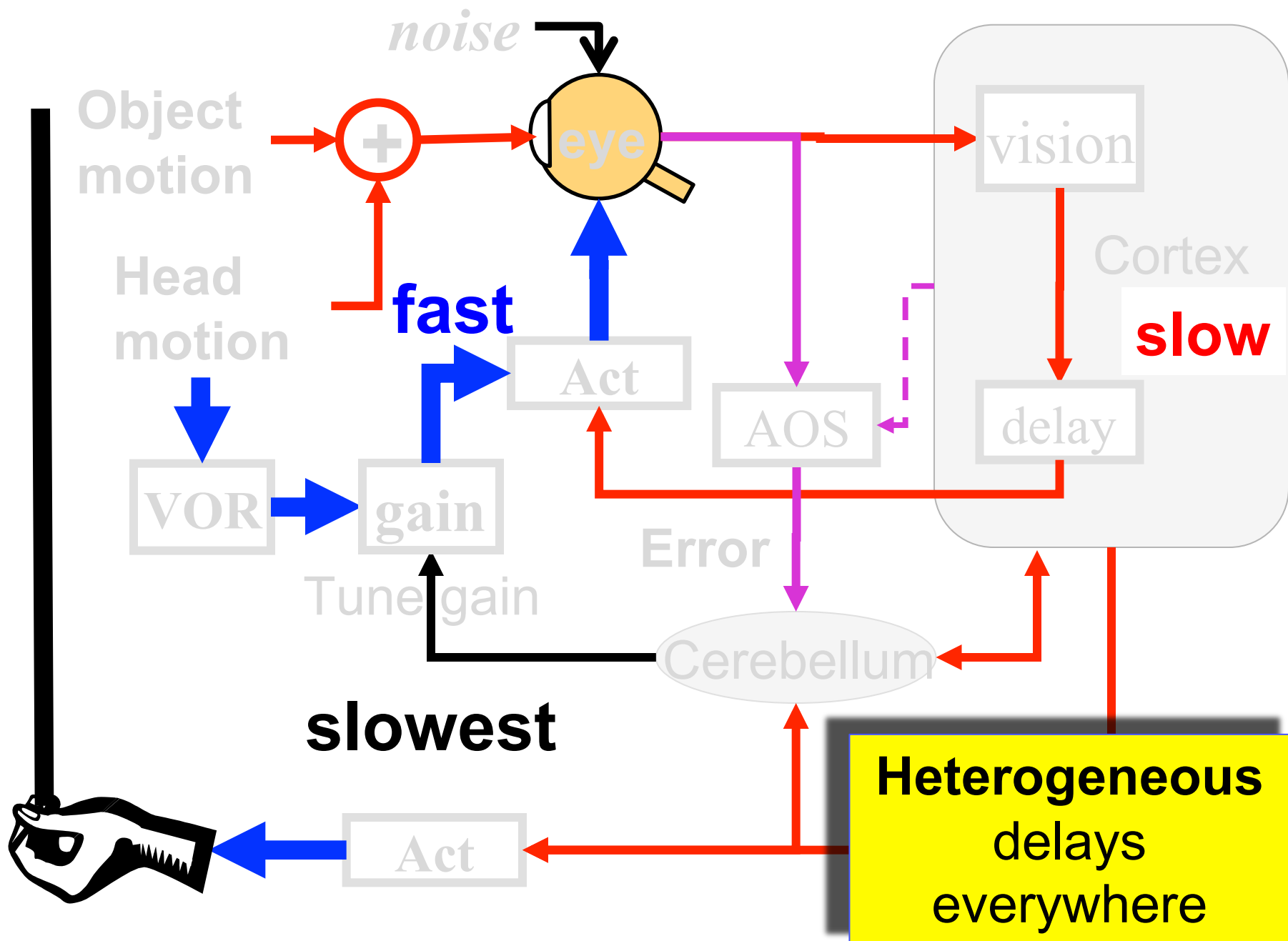


AOS = Accessory Optical system





AOS = Accessory Optical system



# Efficiency/instability/layers/feedback

**How universal? Very.**

- Sustainable infrastructure? (e.g. smartgrids)
- Money/finance/lobbyists/etc
- Industrialization
- Society/agriculture/weapons/etc
- Bipedalism
- Maternal care
- Warm blood
- Flight
- Mitochondria
- Oxygen
- Translation (ribosomes)
- **Glycolysis (2011 Science)**

Major transitions



# Glycolytic Oscillations and Limits on Robust Efficiency

Fiona A. Chandra,<sup>1\*</sup> Gentian Buzi,<sup>2</sup> John C. Doyle<sup>2</sup>

Both engineering and evolution are constrained by trade-offs between efficiency and robustness, but theory that formalizes this fact is limited. For a simple two-state model of glycolysis, we explicitly derive analytic equations for hard trade-offs between robustness and efficiency with oscillations as an inevitable side effect. The model describes how the trade-offs arise from individual parameters, including the interplay of feedback control with autocatalysis of network products necessary to power and catalyze intermediate reactions. We then use control theory to prove that the essential features of these hard trade-off “laws” are universal and fundamental, in that they depend minimally on the details of this system and generalize to the robust efficiency of any autocatalytic network. The theory also suggests worst-case conditions that are consistent with initial experiments.

UG biochem, math,  
control theory

un-  
fo-  
w-  
the cell's use of ATP. In glycolysis, two ATP molecules are consumed upstream and four are produced downstream, which normalizes to  $q = 1$  (each  $y$  molecule produces two downstream) with kinetic exponent  $a = 1$ . To highlight essential trade-offs with the simplest possible analysis, we normalize the concentration such that the unperturbed ( $\delta = 0$ ) steady states are  $\bar{y} = 1$  and  $\bar{x} = 1/k$  [the system can have one additional steady state, which is unstable when  $(1, 1/k)$  is stable]. [See the supporting online material (SOM) part I]. The basal rate of the PFK reaction and the consumption rate have been normalized to 1 (the 2 in the numerator and feedback coefficients of the reactions come from these normalizations). Our results hold for more general systems as discussed below and in SOM, but the analysis

Chandra, Buzi, and Doyle

Insight  
Accessible  
Verifiable



# Glycolytic oscillations

- Exhaustively studied
  - Extensive experiments and data
  - Detailed models and simulations
  - Great! But all just deepen the mystery
- Perfectly illustrates “conservation law”
- Without which? Bewilderment.

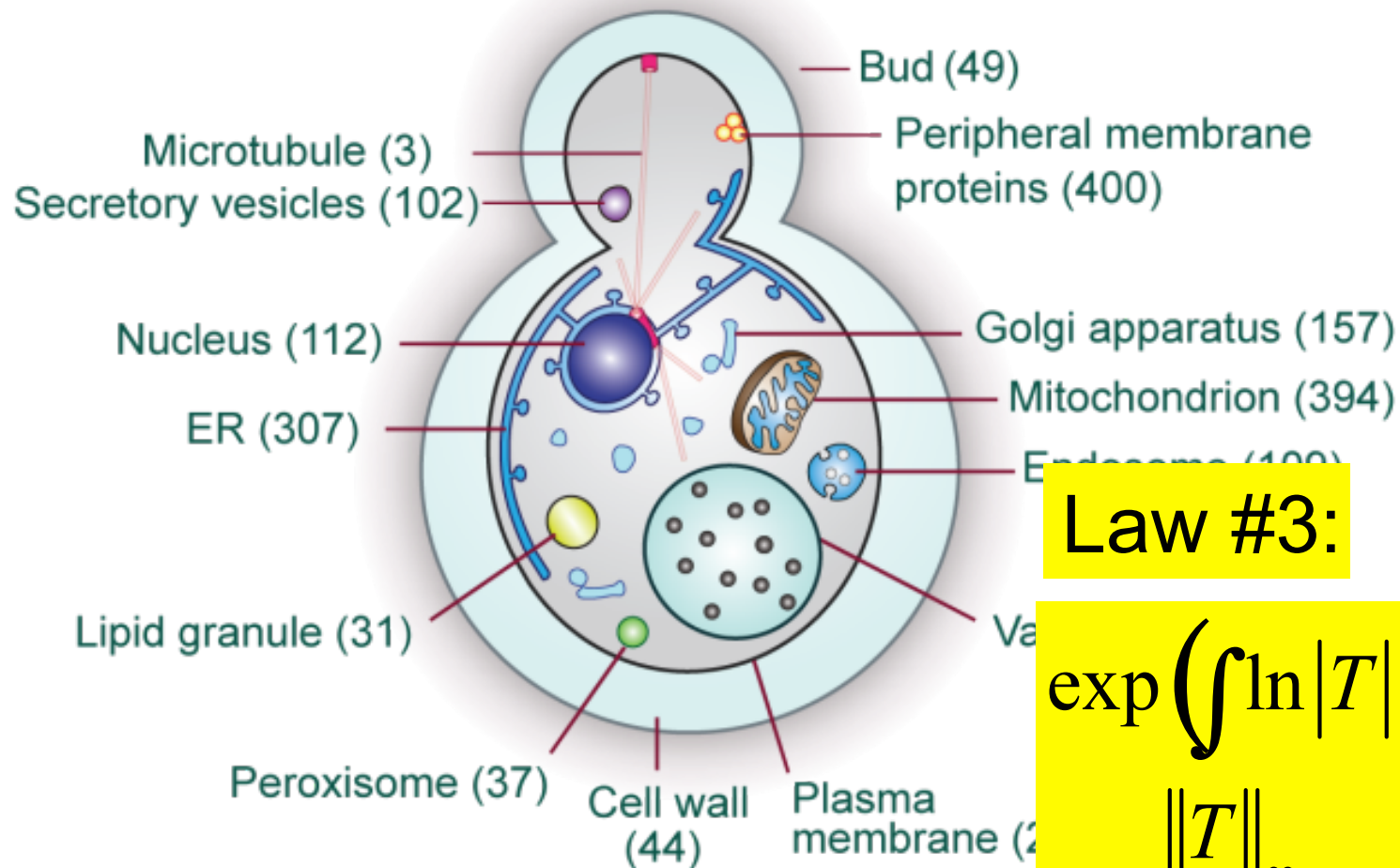
$$\exp \left( \int_{\|T\|_{\infty}}^{\ln |T|} \right) \geq \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$



Law #1 : Chemistry (vs mechanics)

Law #2 : Autocatalysis (vs gravity)

( $\rightarrow$  RHP  $p$  and  $z$ )



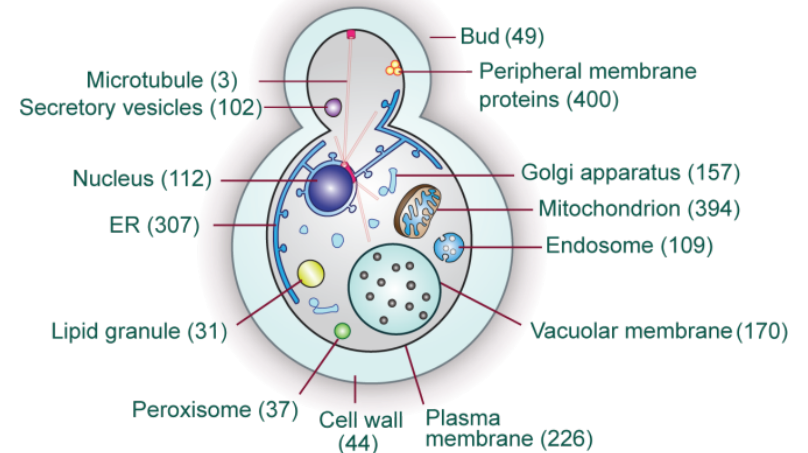
Law #3:

$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\infty} \geq \left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$

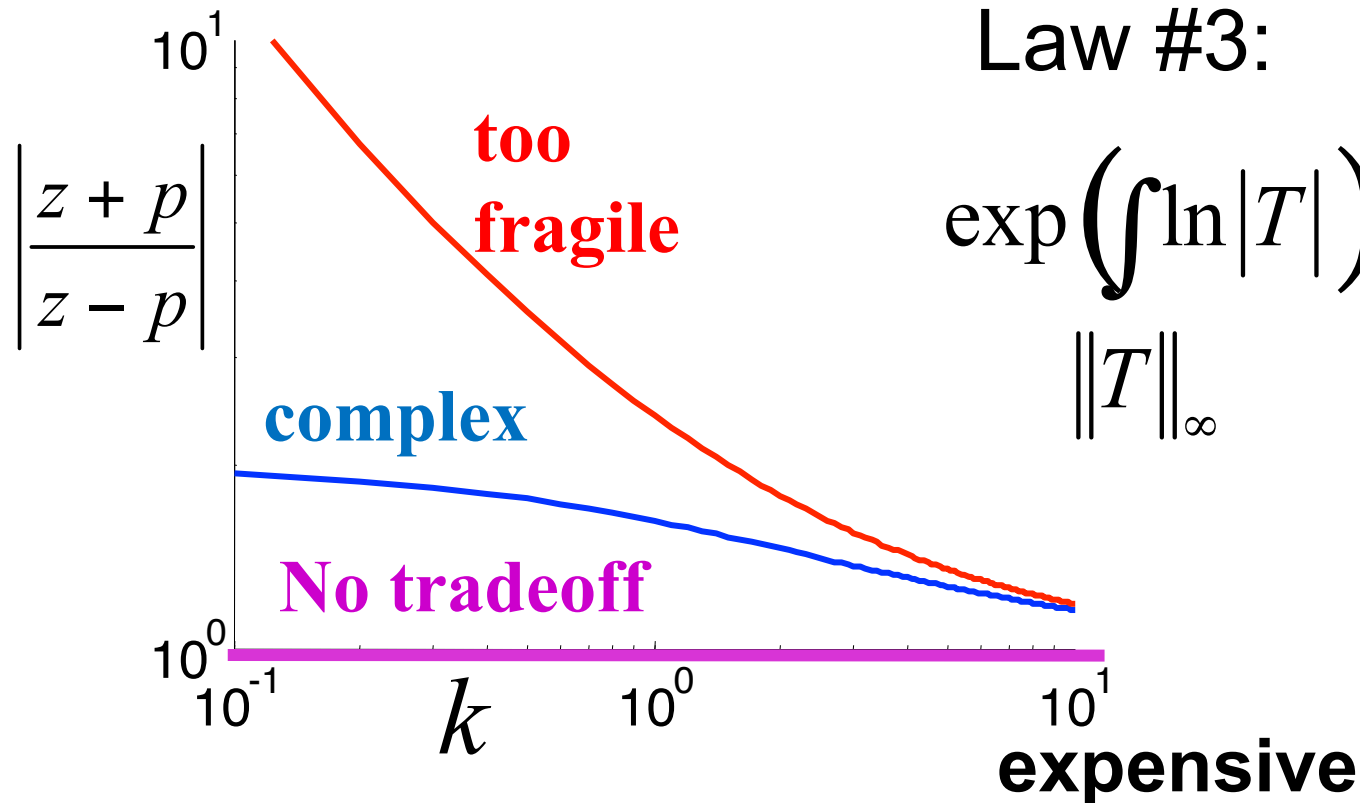
Law #1 : Chemistry

Law #2 : Autocatalysis

( $\rightarrow$  RHP  $p$  and  $z$ )



**fragile**



Law #3:

$$\exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \Bigg|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

**Robust Efficiency in  
Energy Supply**

**fragile**

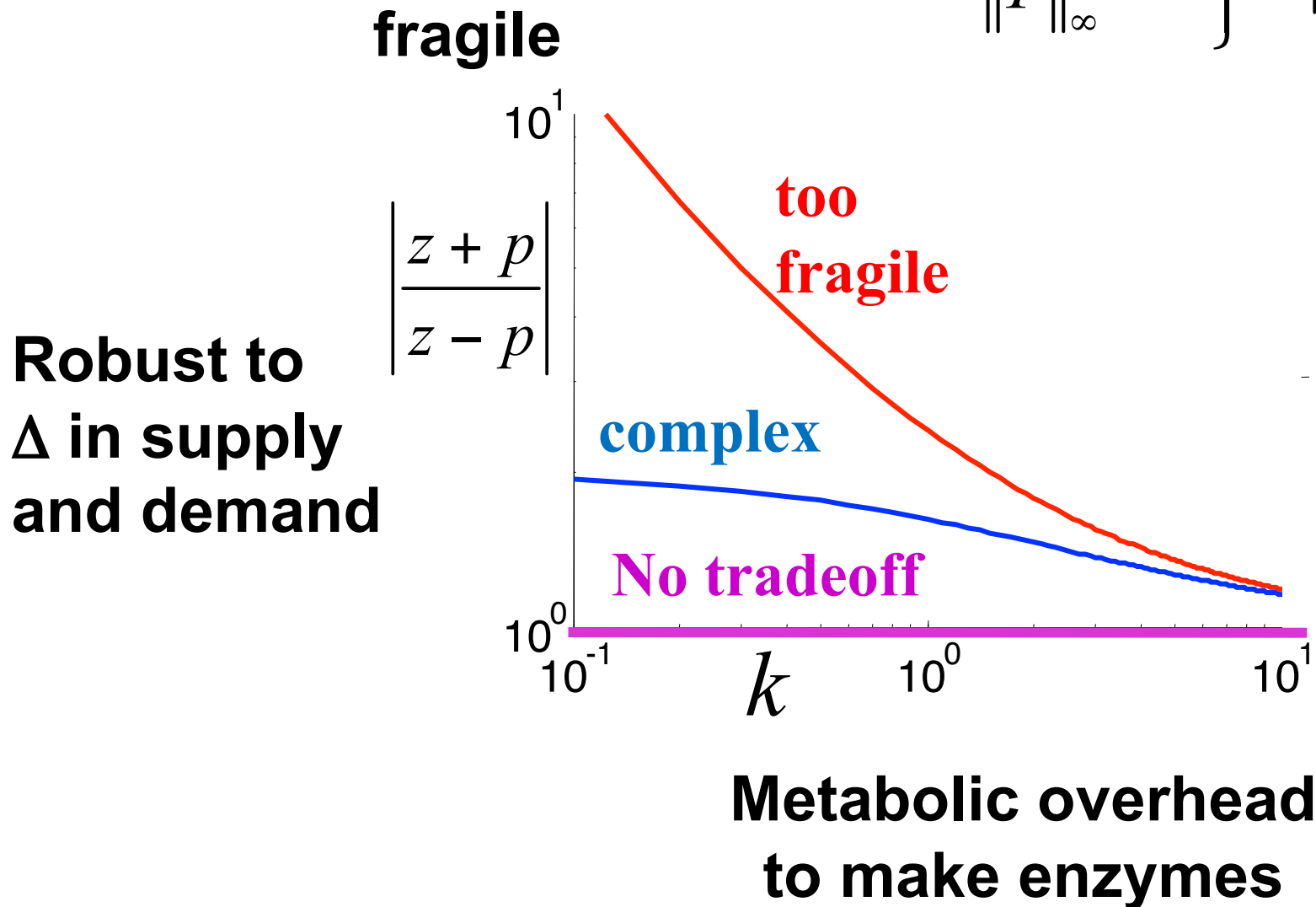
**Robust to  
 $\Delta$  in supply  
and demand**



**Metabolic overhead  
to make enzymes**

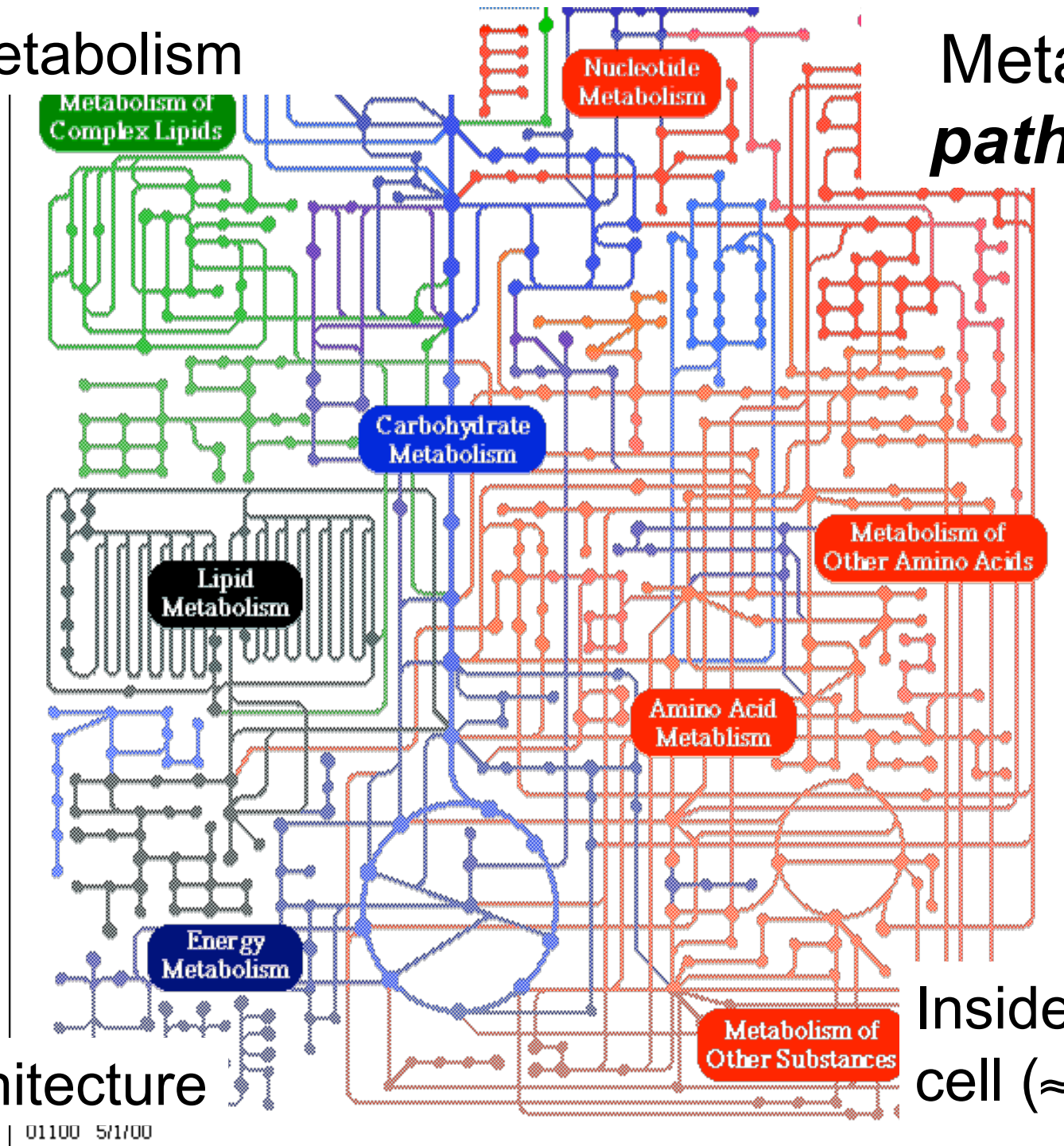
# Robust Efficiency in Energy Supply

$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$



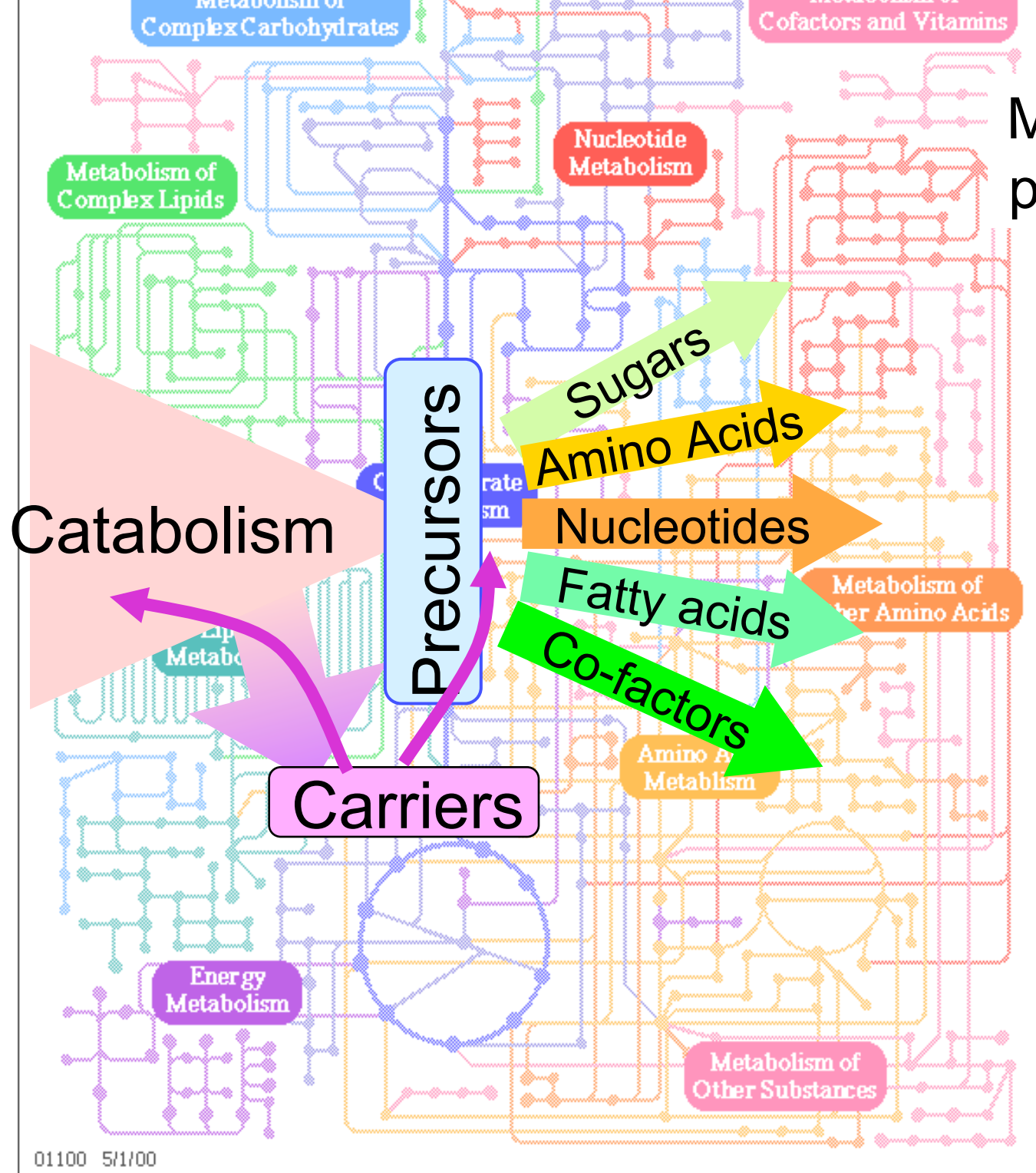
Core metabolism

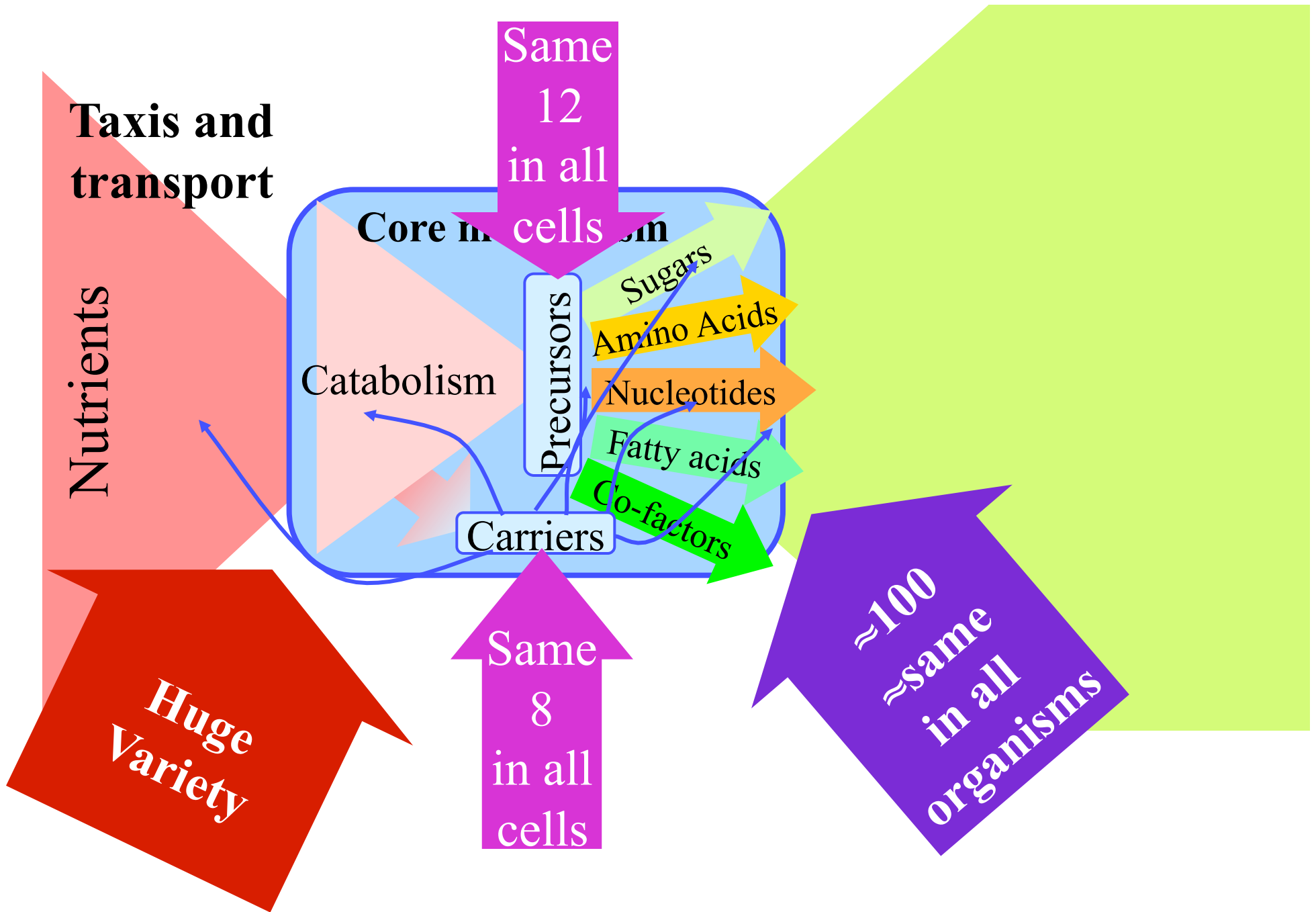
Metabolic  
*pathways*

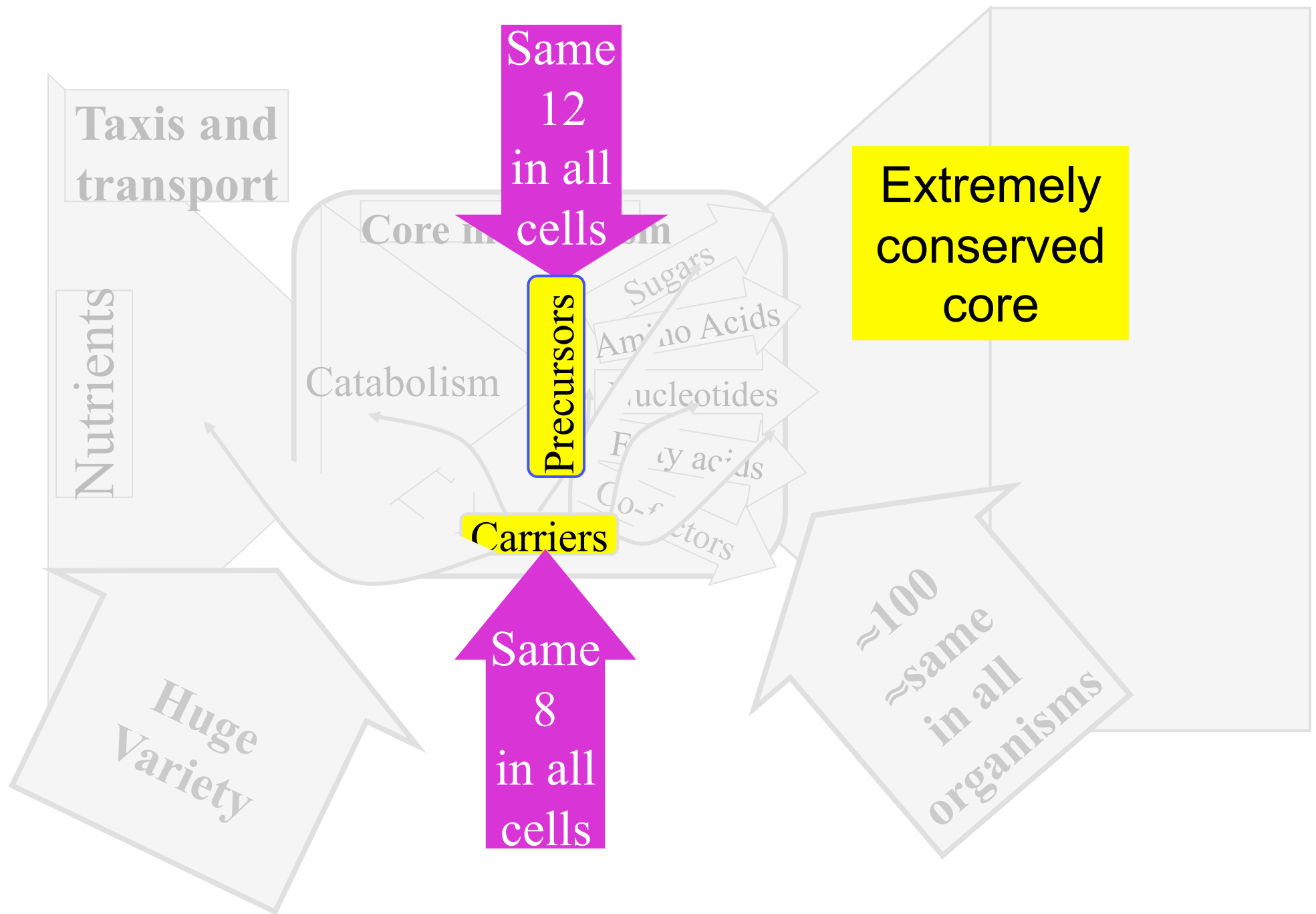




# Metabolic pathways









**Taxis and transport**

12

**Autocatalytic feedback**

**Polymerization and complex assembly**

**Nutrients**

**Core metabolism**

**Catabolism**

**Precursors**

**Sugars**

**Fatty acids**

**Co-factors**

**Amino Acids**

**Nucleotides**

**Carriers**

**Genes**

**Trans\***

**Protein**

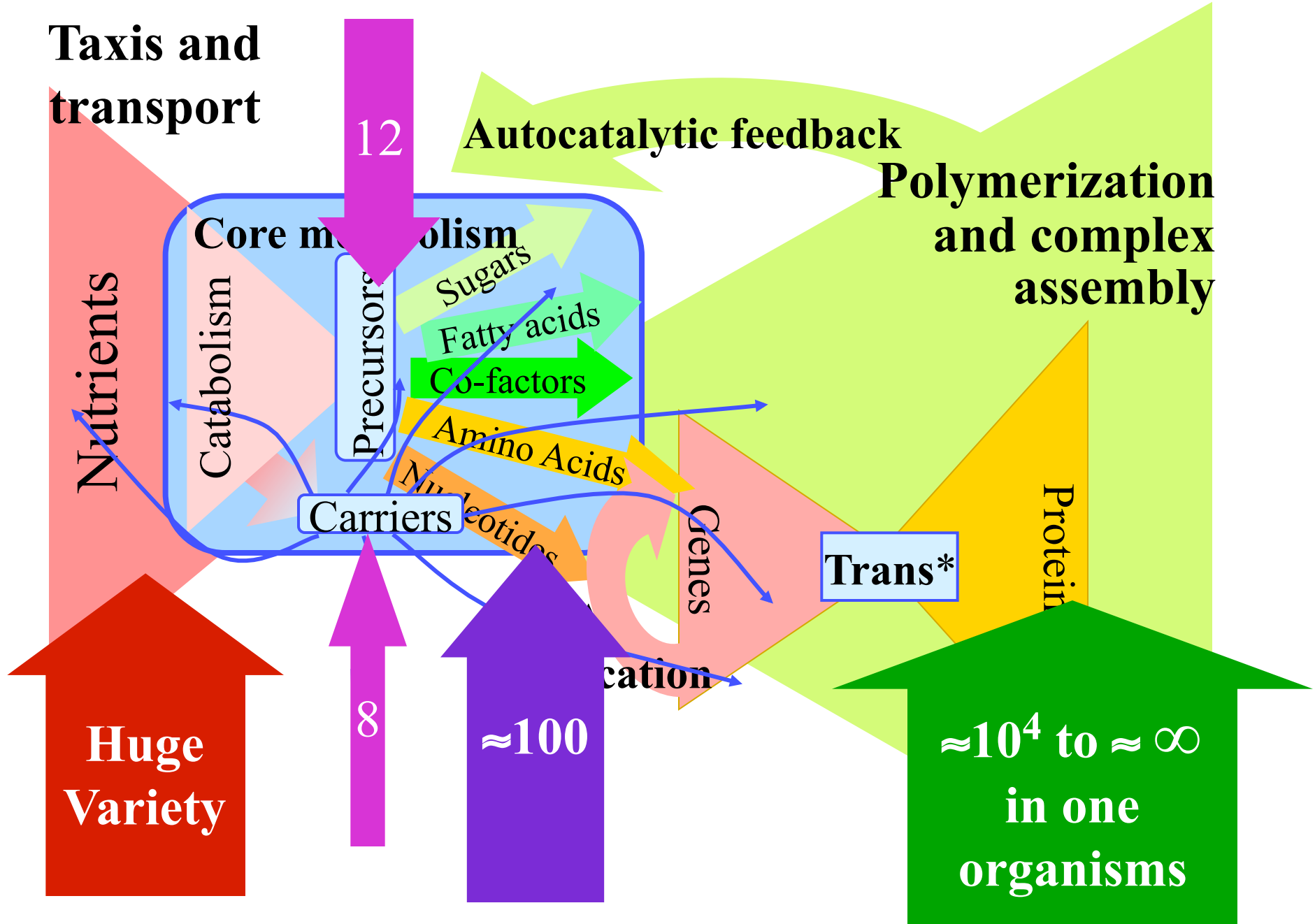
**Regulation**

**Huge Variety**

8

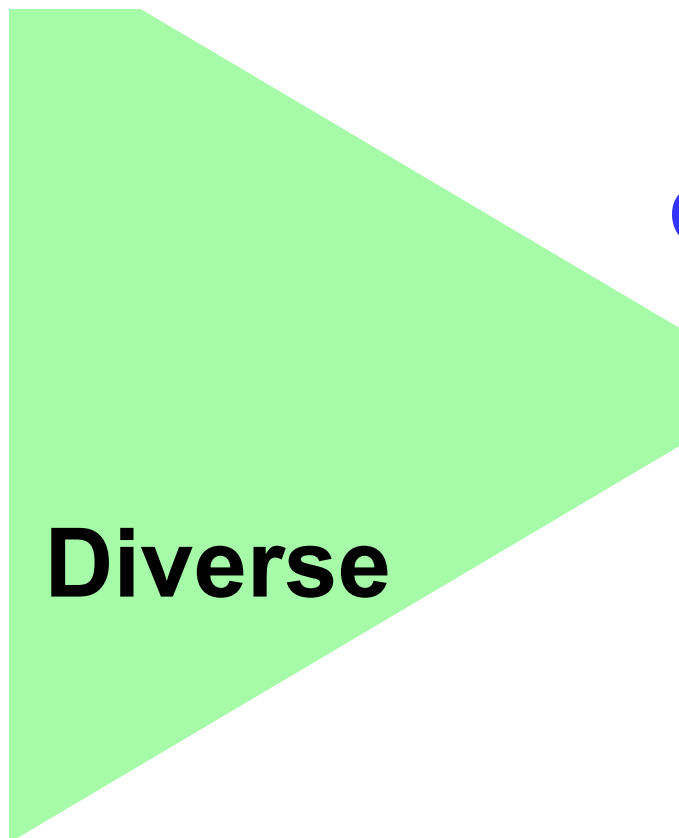
$\approx 100$

$\approx 10^4$  to  $\approx \infty$   
in one organisms



Efficient  
Robust  
**Evolvable**

Deconstrained

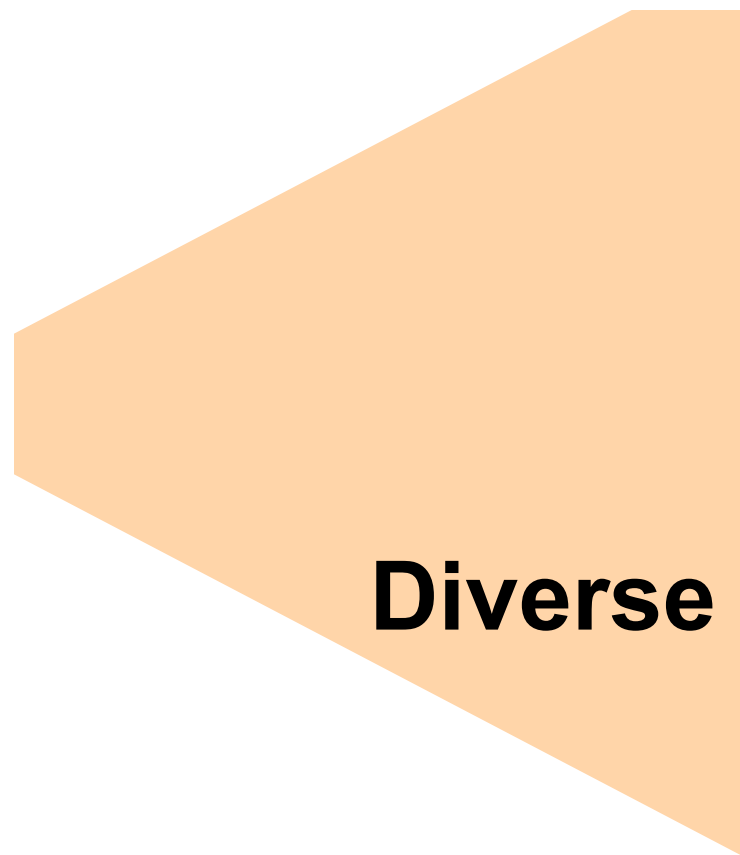


**Diverse**

Constrained

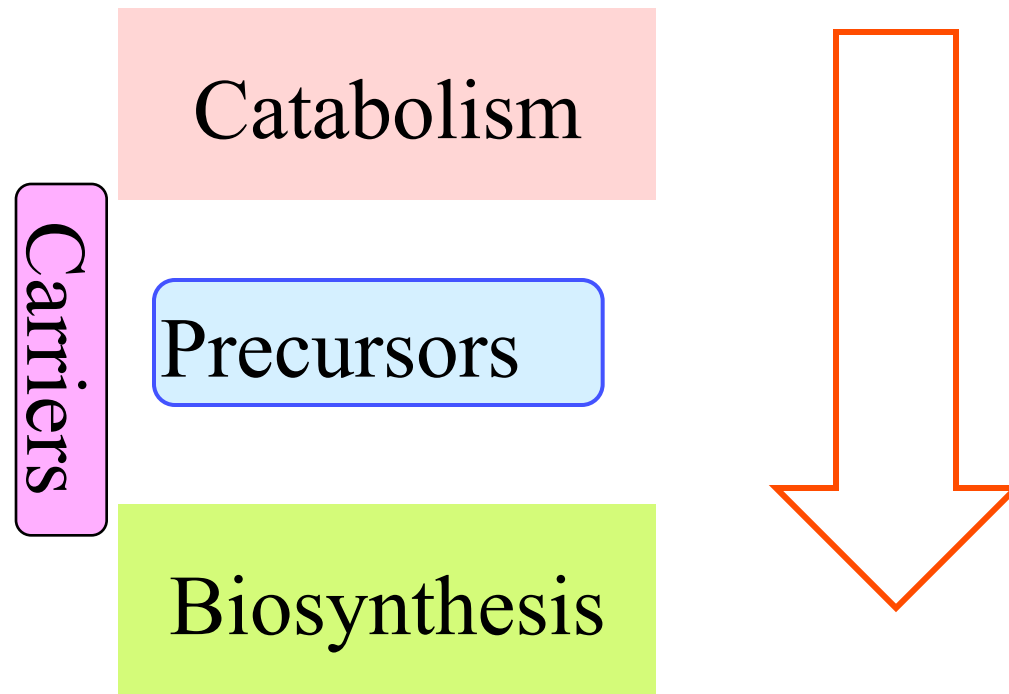


Deconstrained



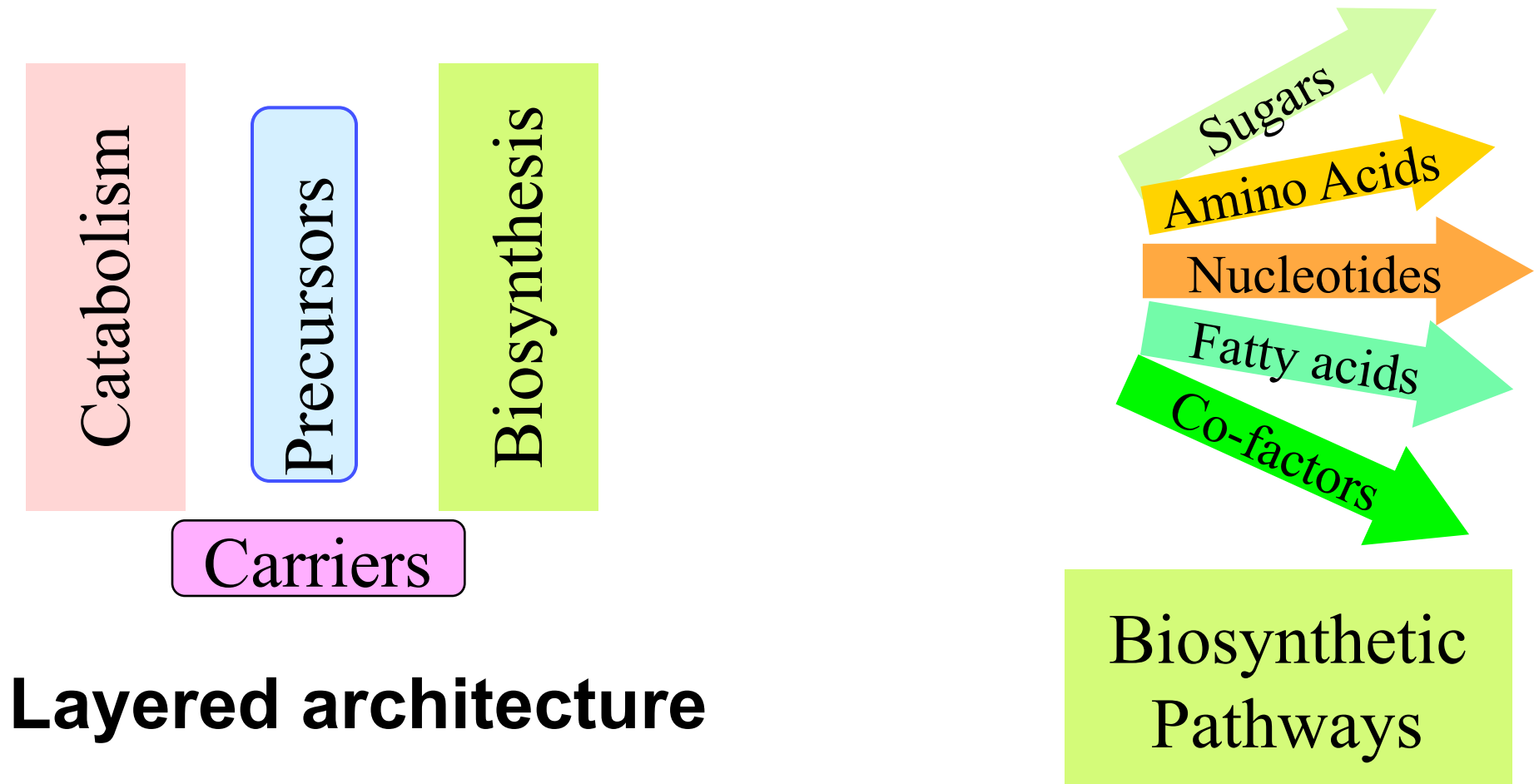
**Diverse**

# Inside every cell

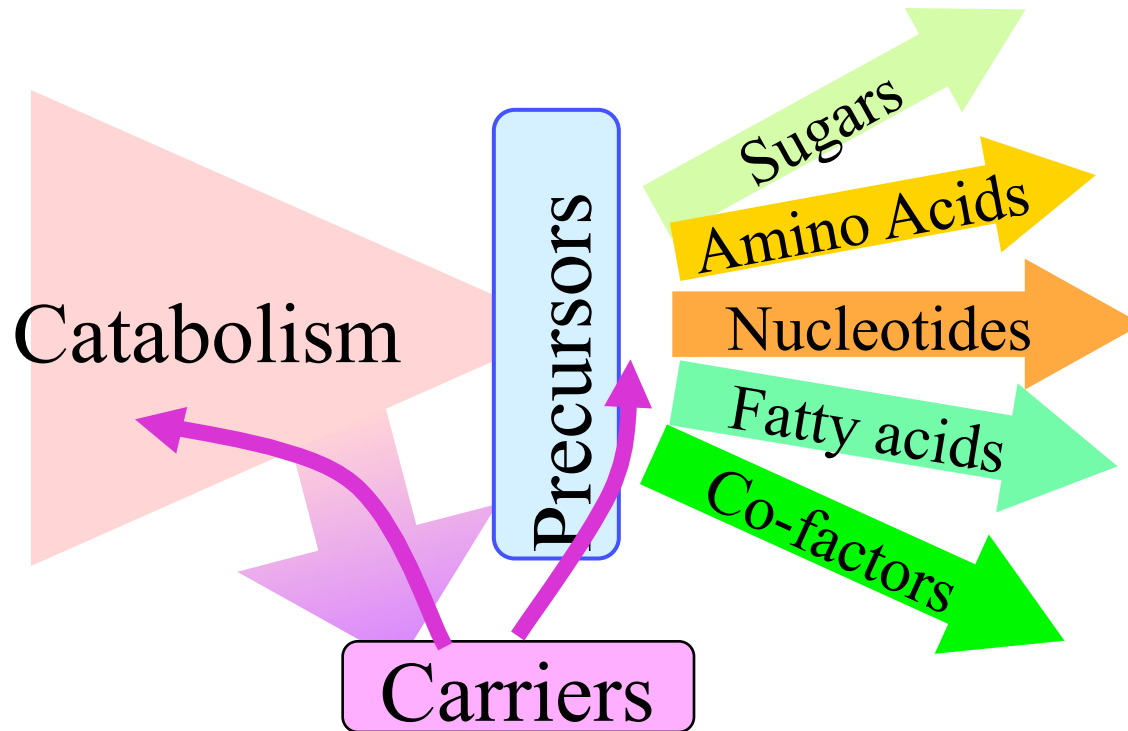


**Layered architecture**

# Inside every cell



# Inside every cell



**Core metabolic bowtie**  
**Layered architecture**

Efficient  
Robust  
**Evolvable**

**food**



**Blood**

Glucose

Oxygen

Organs

Tissues

Cells

Molecules

**Universal metabolic system**

Efficient  
Robust  
**Evolvable**

Deconstrained

**food**



Constrained

**Blood**

Glucose

Oxygen

Deconstrained

Organs

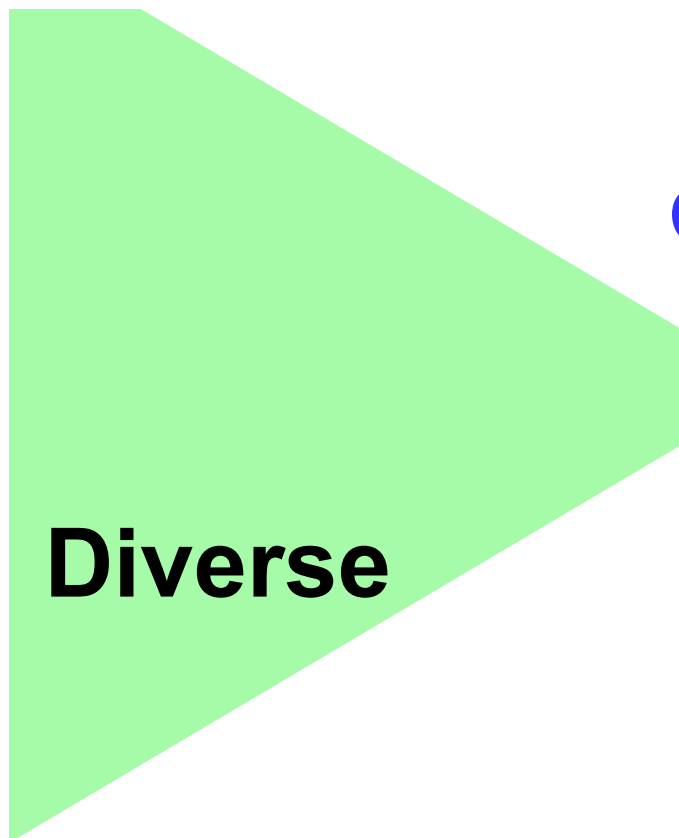
Tissues

Cells

Molecules

Efficient  
Robust  
**Evolvable**

Deconstrained

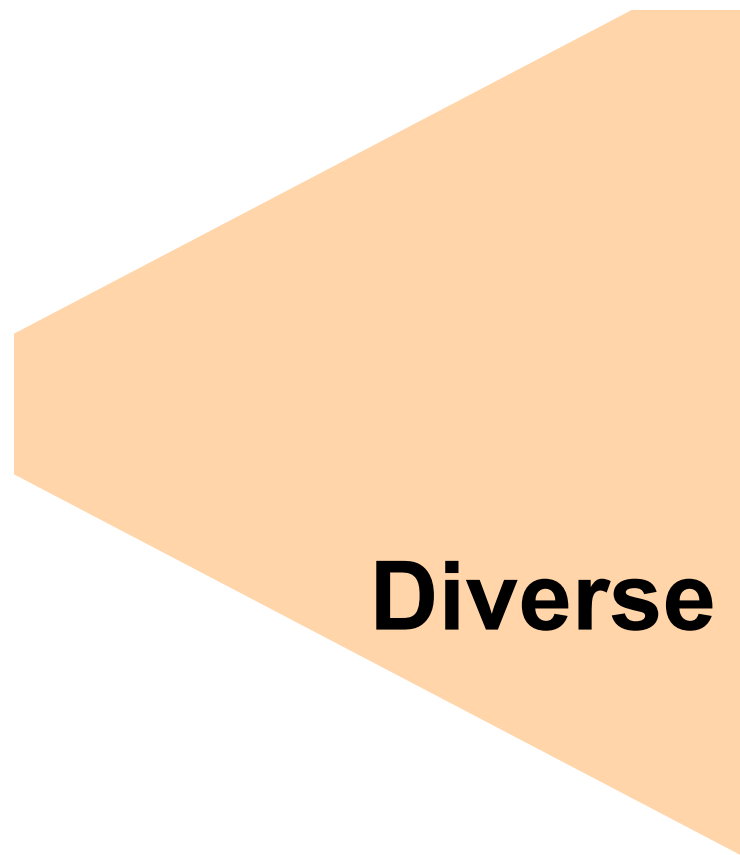


**Diverse**

Constrained



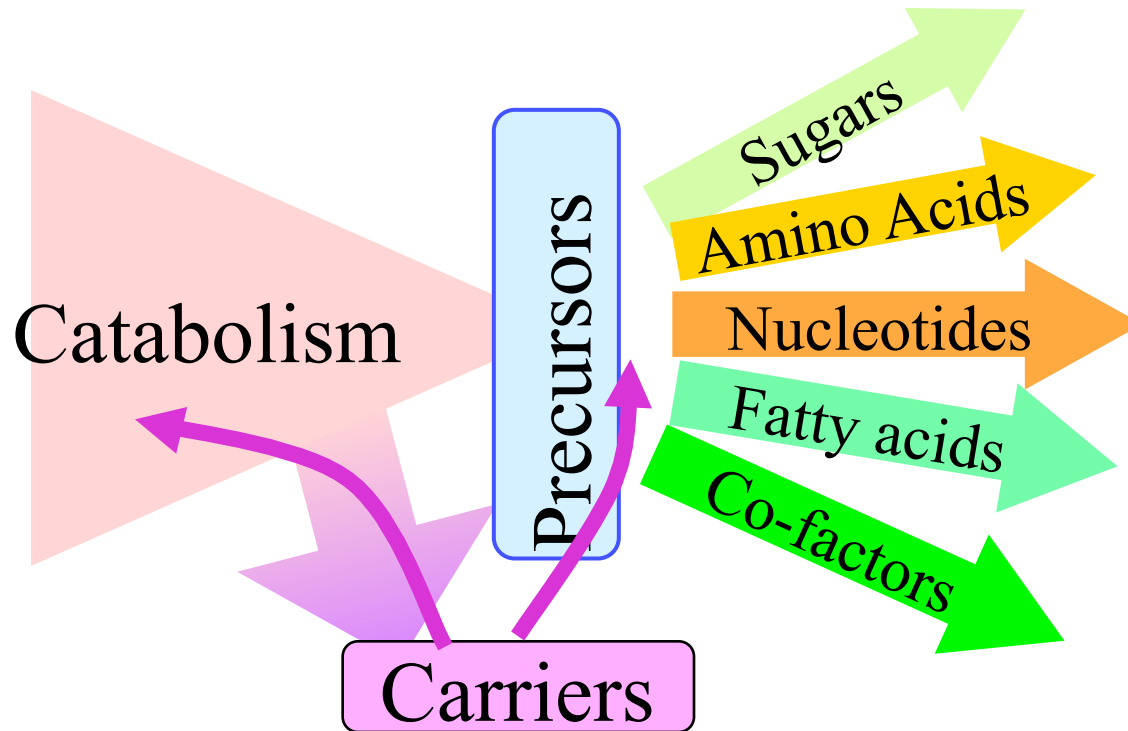
Deconstrained



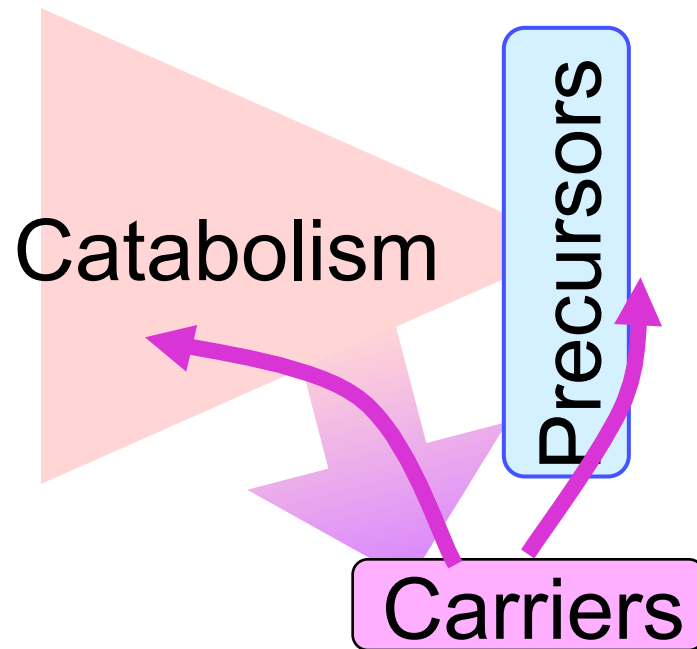
**Diverse**



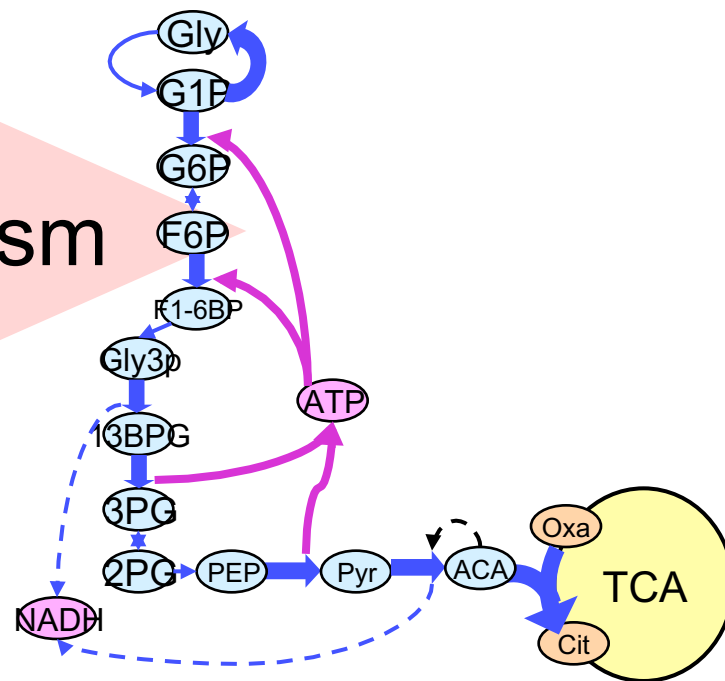
# Inside every cell

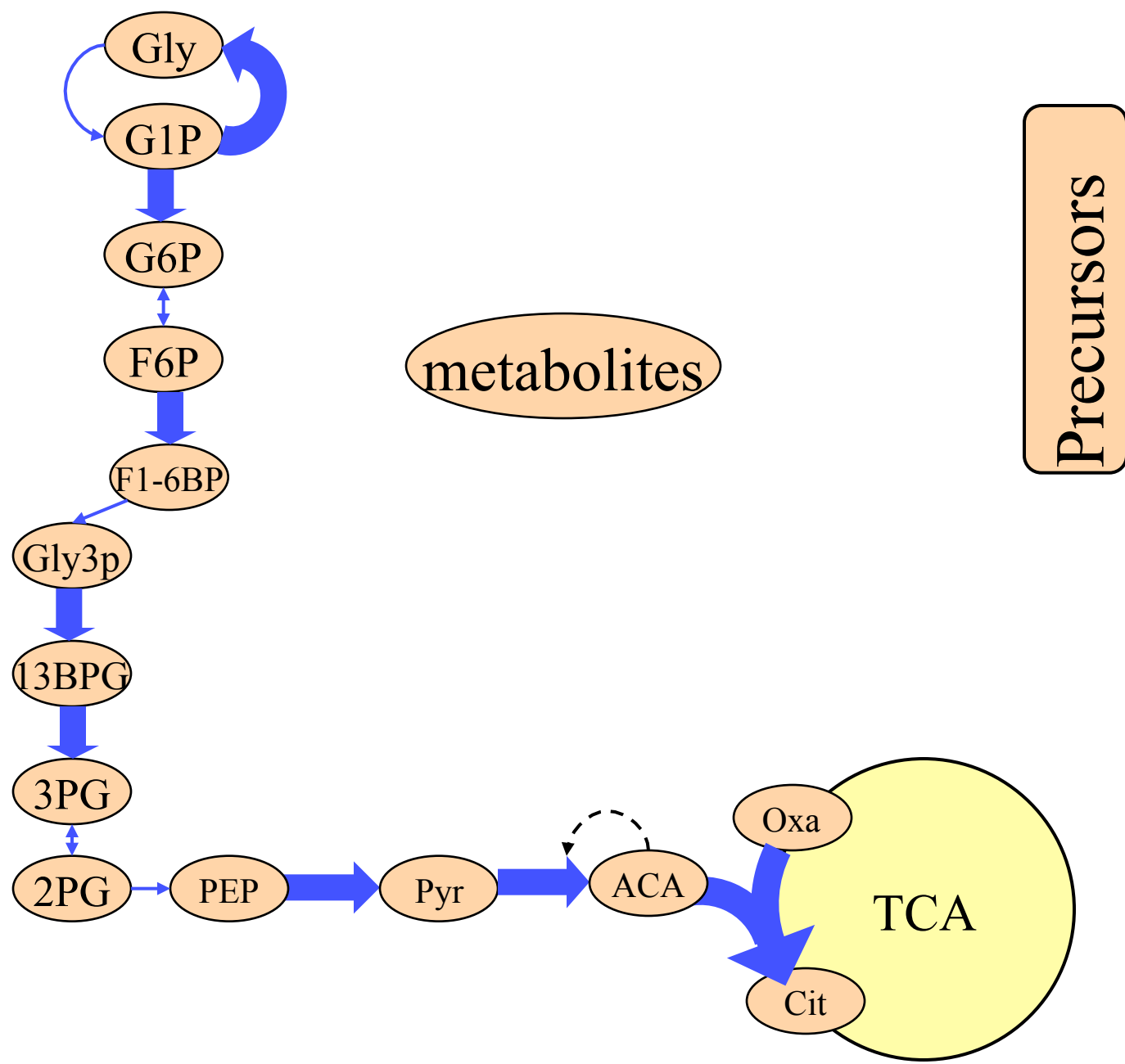


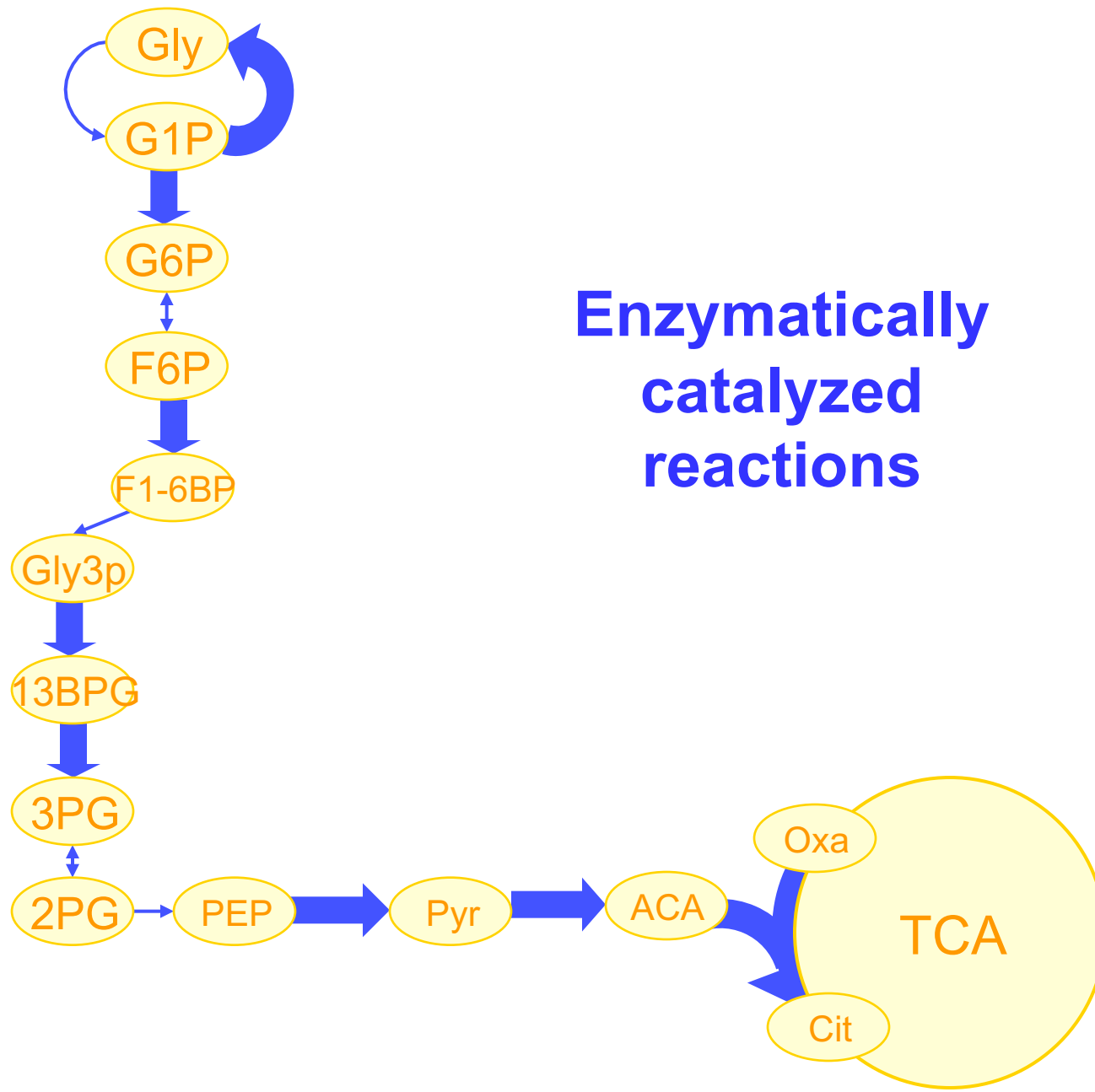
**Core metabolic bowtie**  
**Layered architecture**

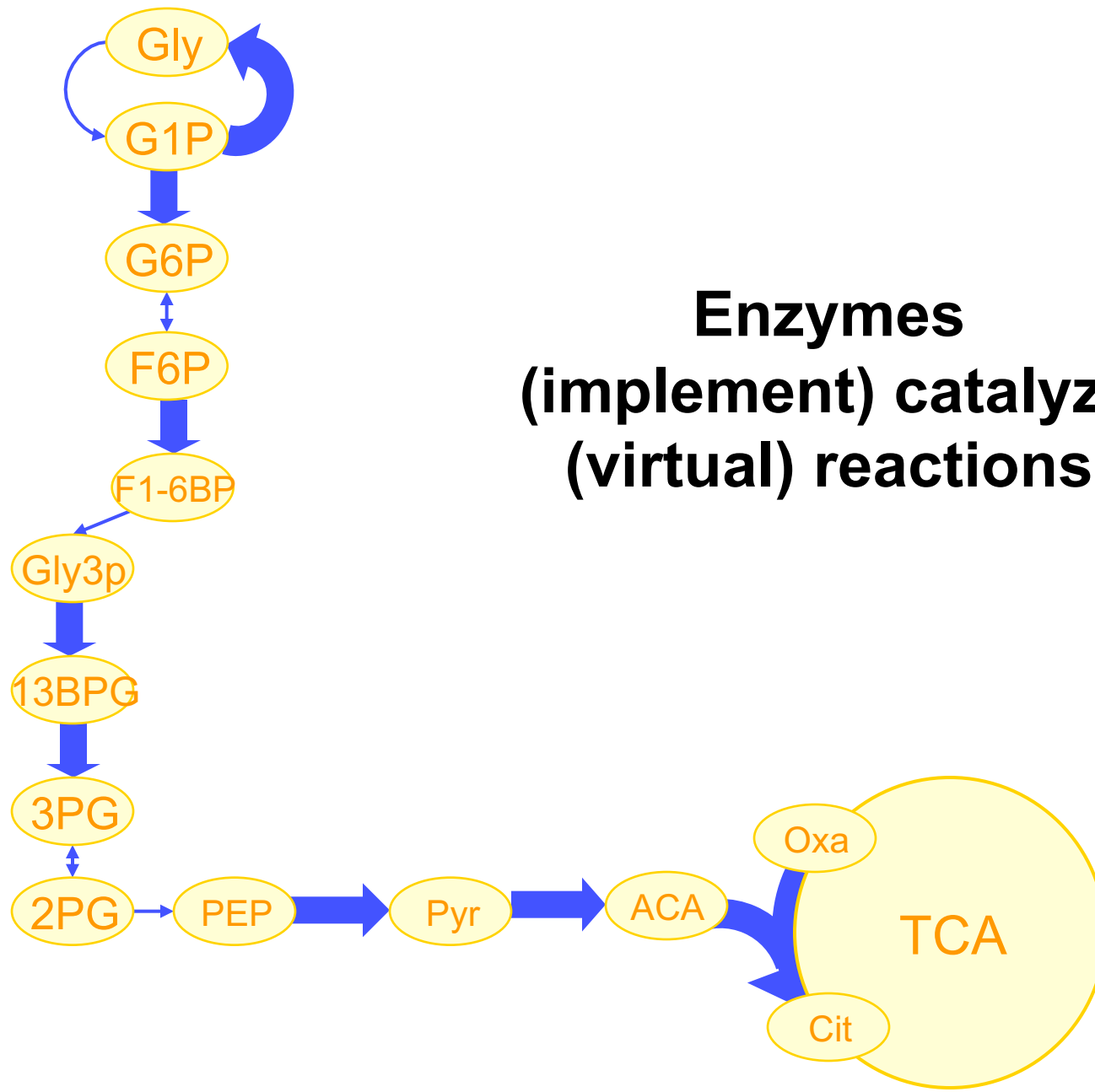


# Catabolism

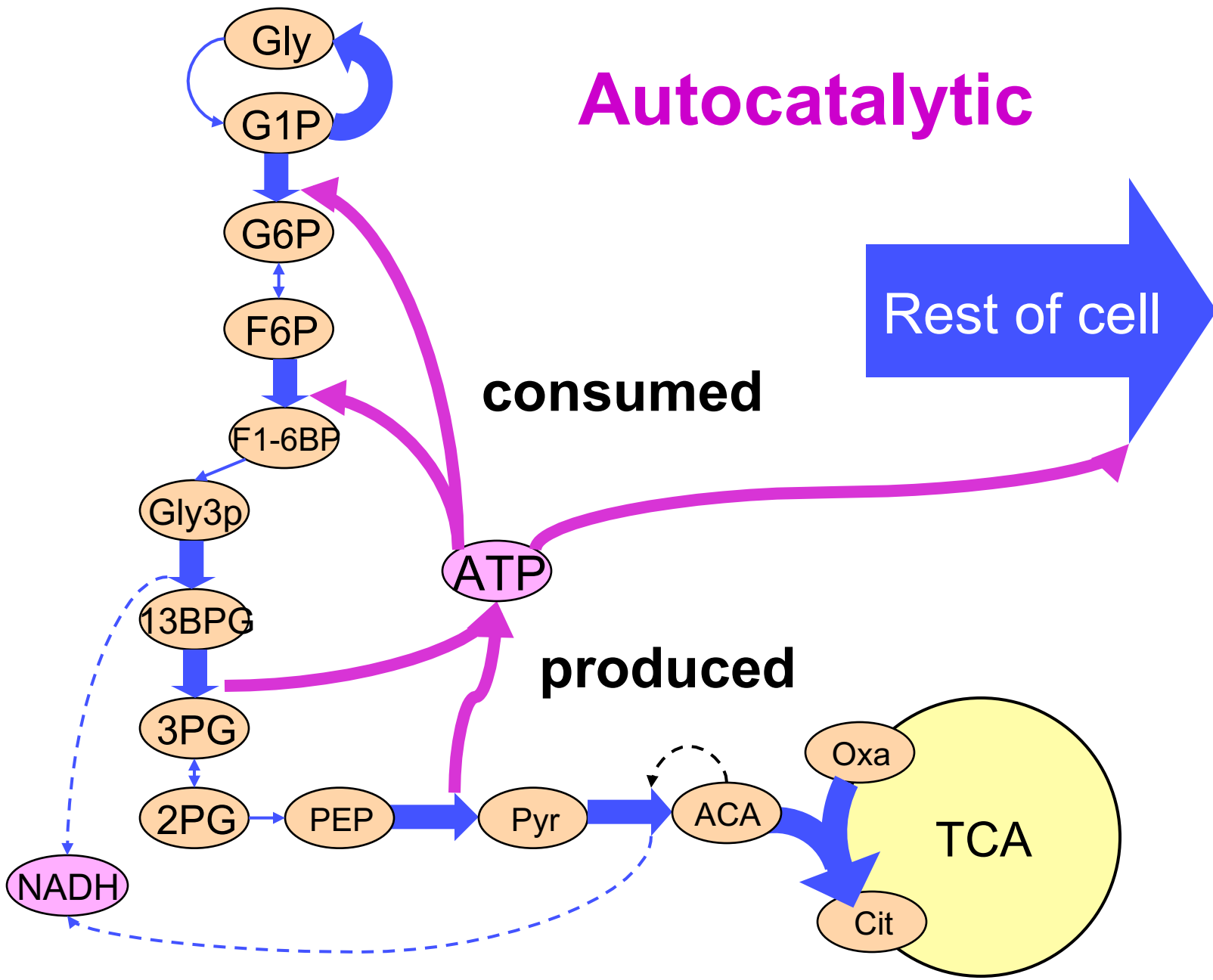


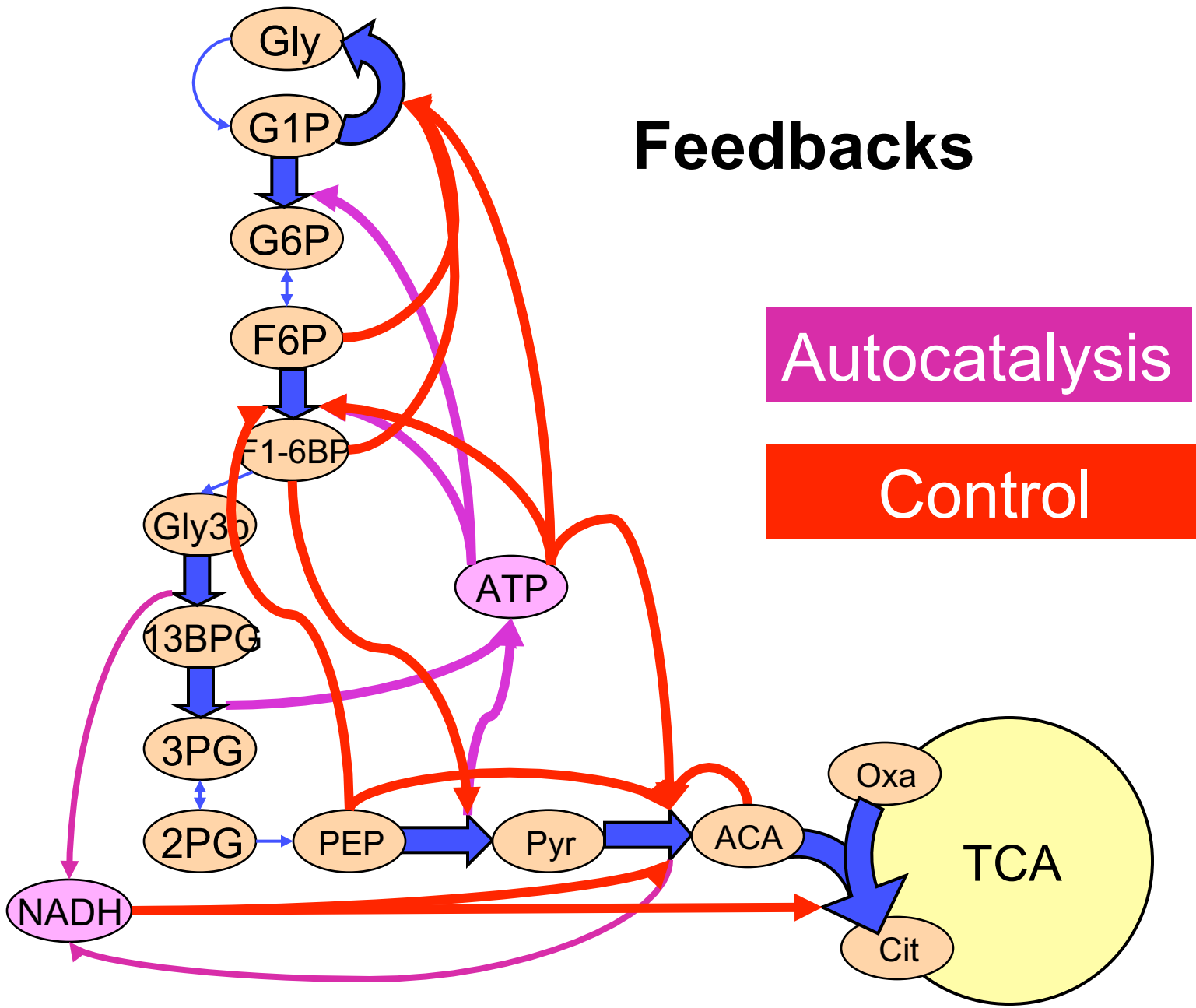




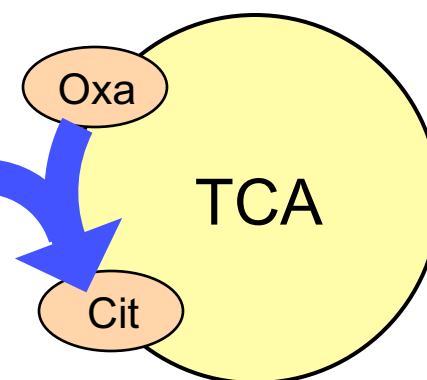
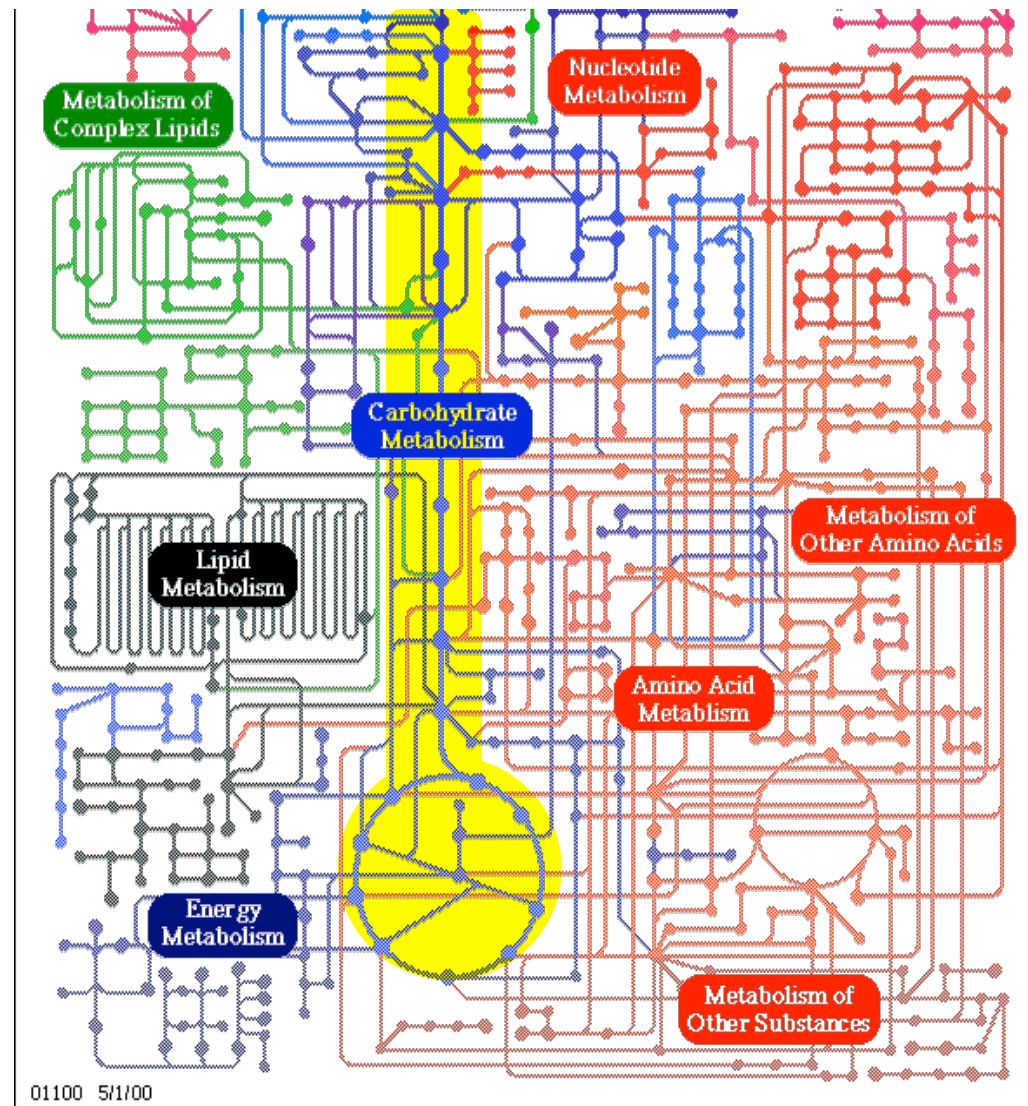
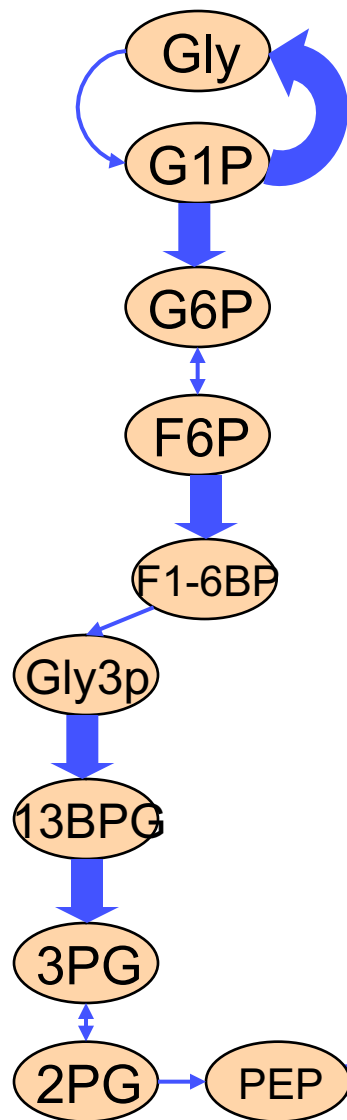


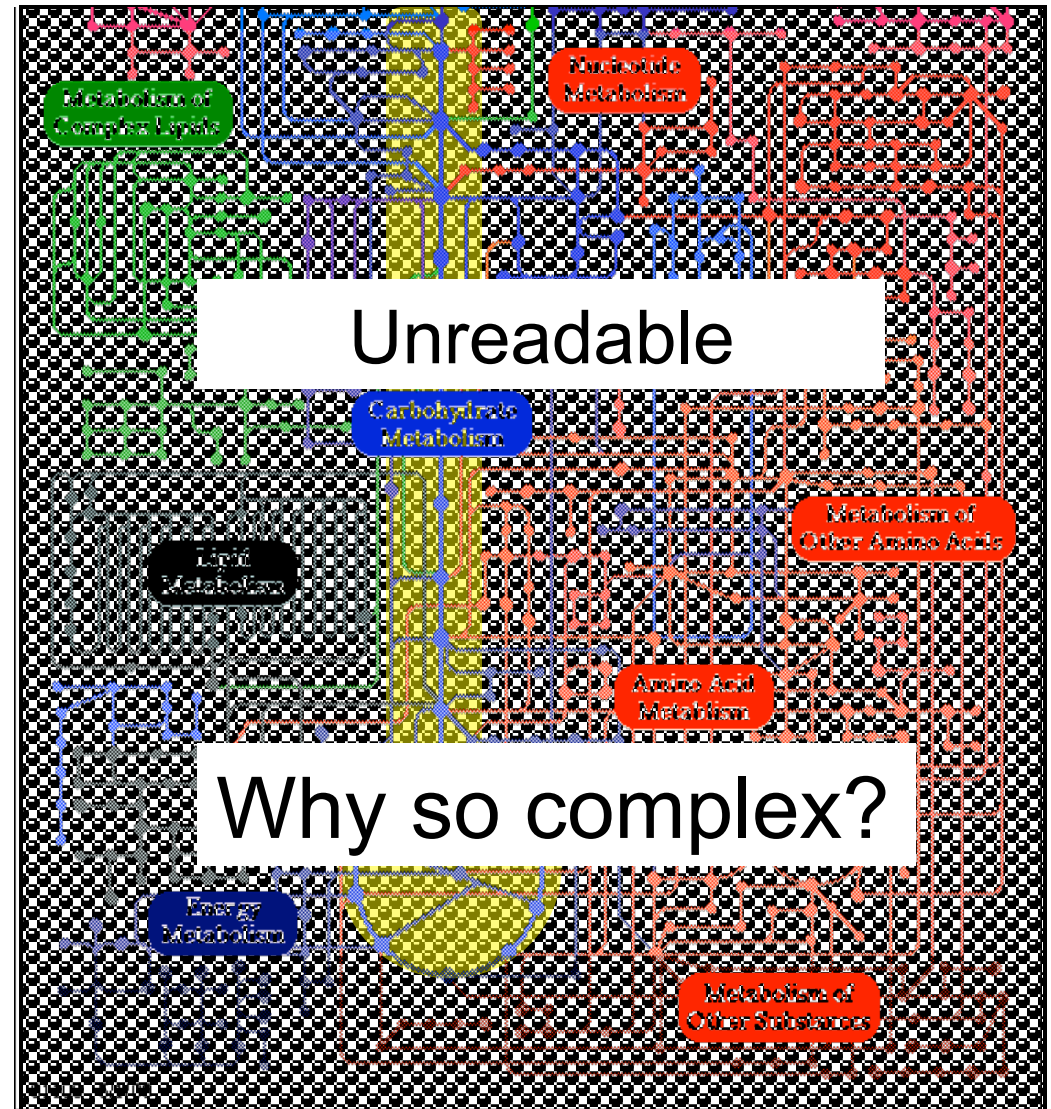
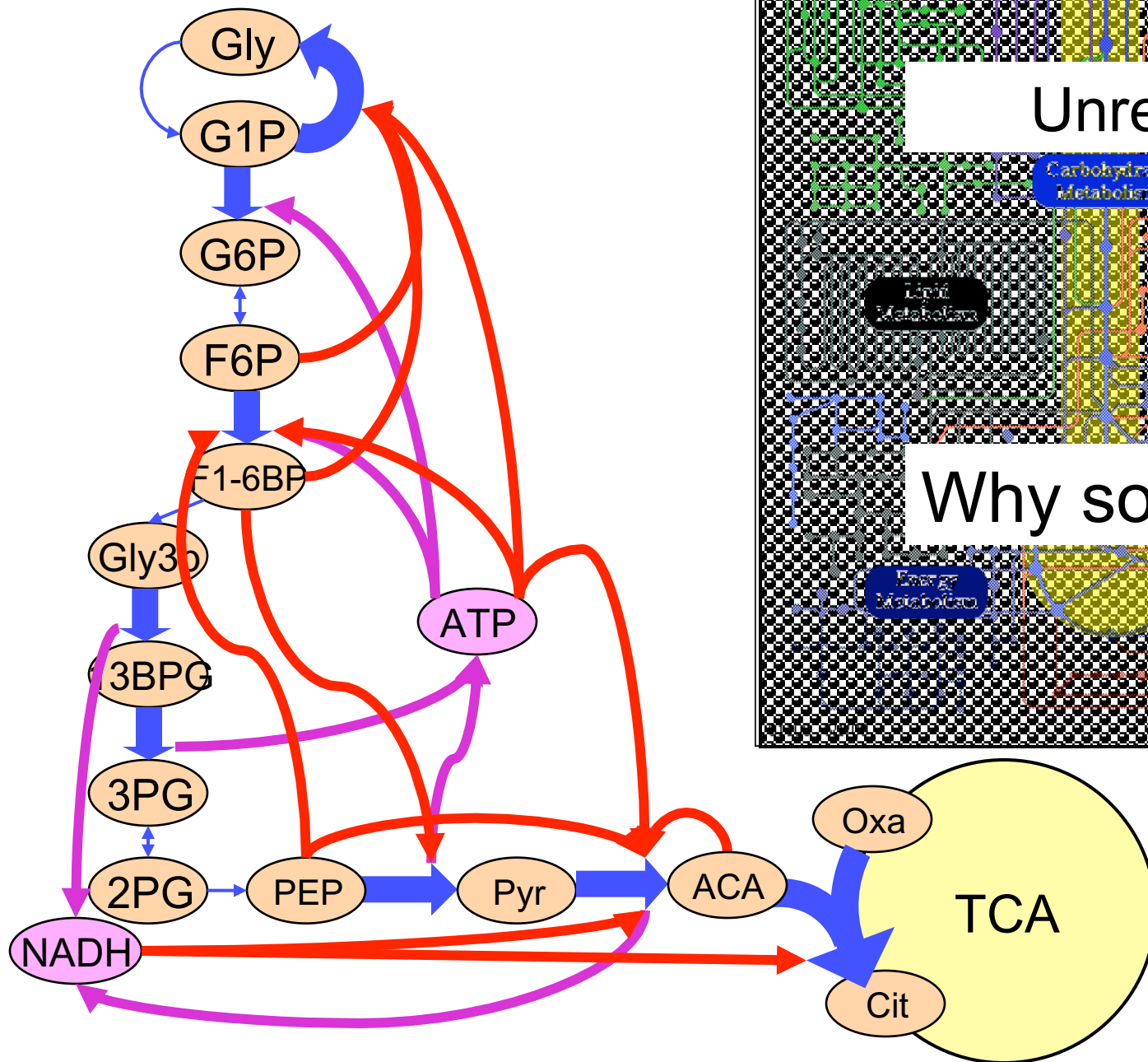
**Enzymes**  
(implement) catalyze  
(virtual) reactions



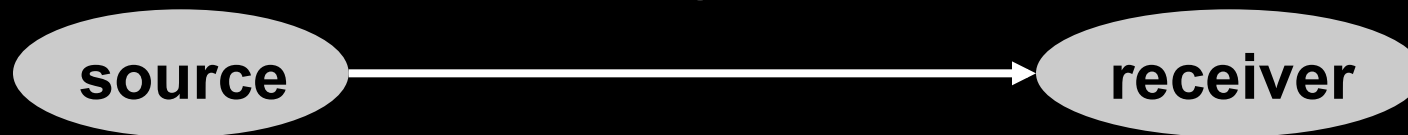






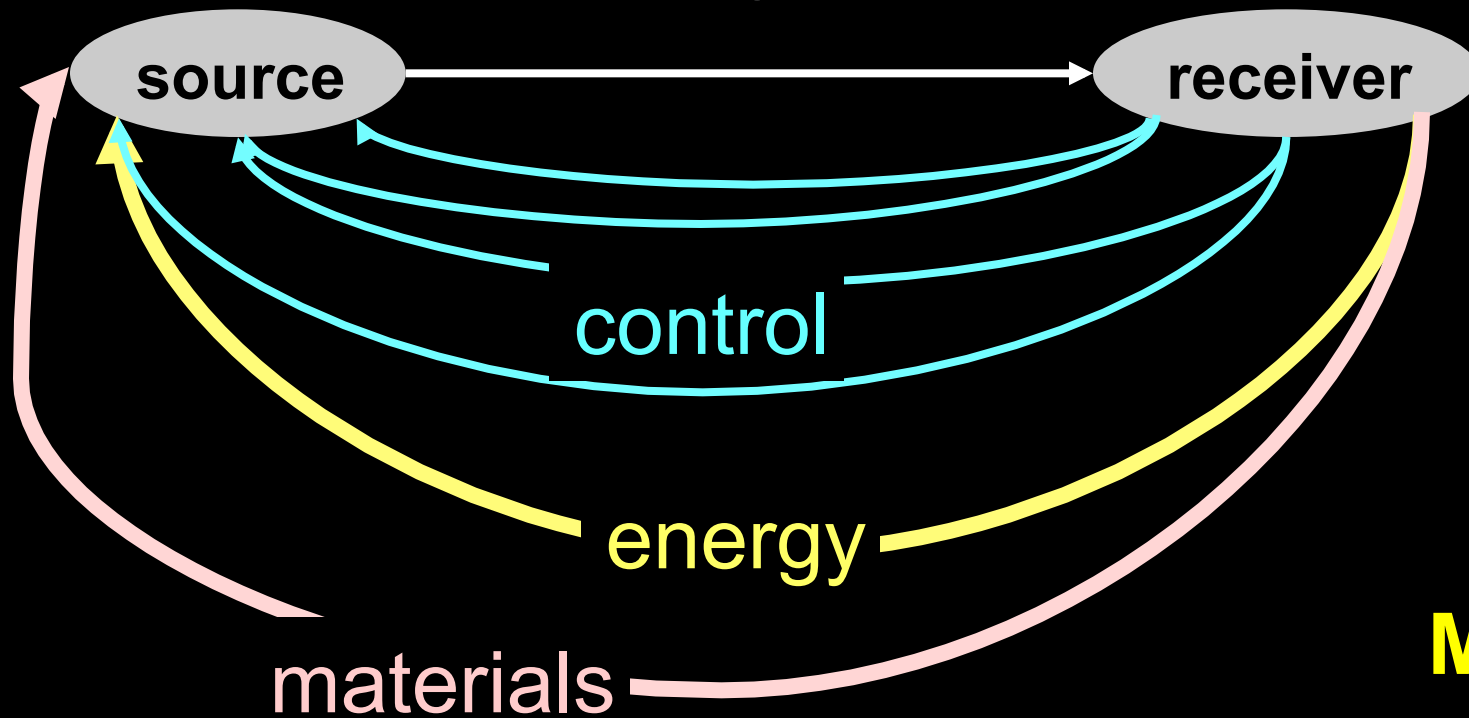


signaling  
gene expression  
metabolism  
lineage



**Biological  
pathways**

signaling  
gene expression  
metabolism  
lineage



**More  
complex  
feedback**

# Glycolytic Oscillations and Limits on Robust Efficiency

Fiona A. Chandra,<sup>1\*</sup> Gentian Buzi,<sup>2</sup> John C. Doyle<sup>2</sup>

Both engineering and evolution are constrained by trade-offs between efficiency and robustness, but theory that formalizes this fact is limited. For a simple two-state model of glycolysis, we explicitly derive analytic equations for hard trade-offs between robustness and efficiency with oscillations as an inevitable side effect. The model describes how the trade-offs arise from individual parameters, including the interplay of feedback control with autocatalysis of network products necessary to power and catalyze intermediate reactions. We then use control theory to prove that the essential features of these hard trade-off “laws” are universal and fundamental, in that they depend minimally on the details of this system and generalize to the robust efficiency of any autocatalytic network. The theory also suggests worst-case conditions that are consistent with initial experiments.

UG biochem, math,  
control theory

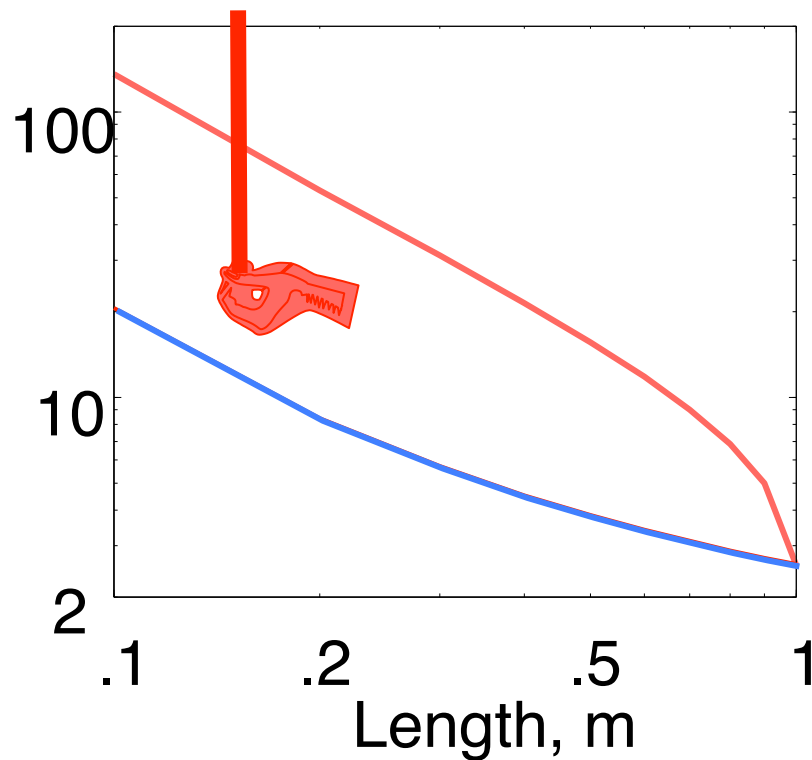
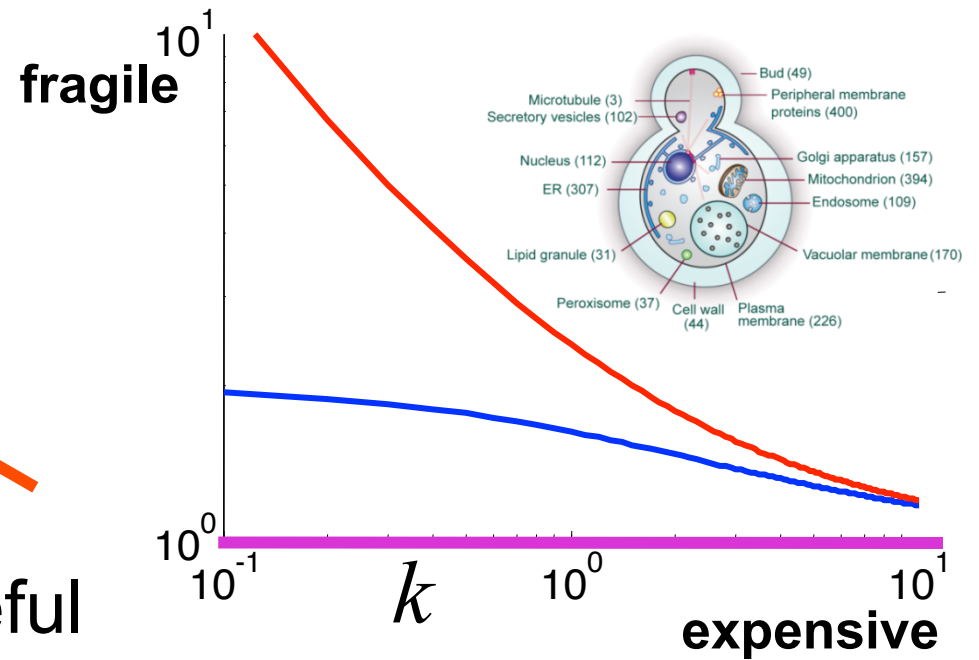
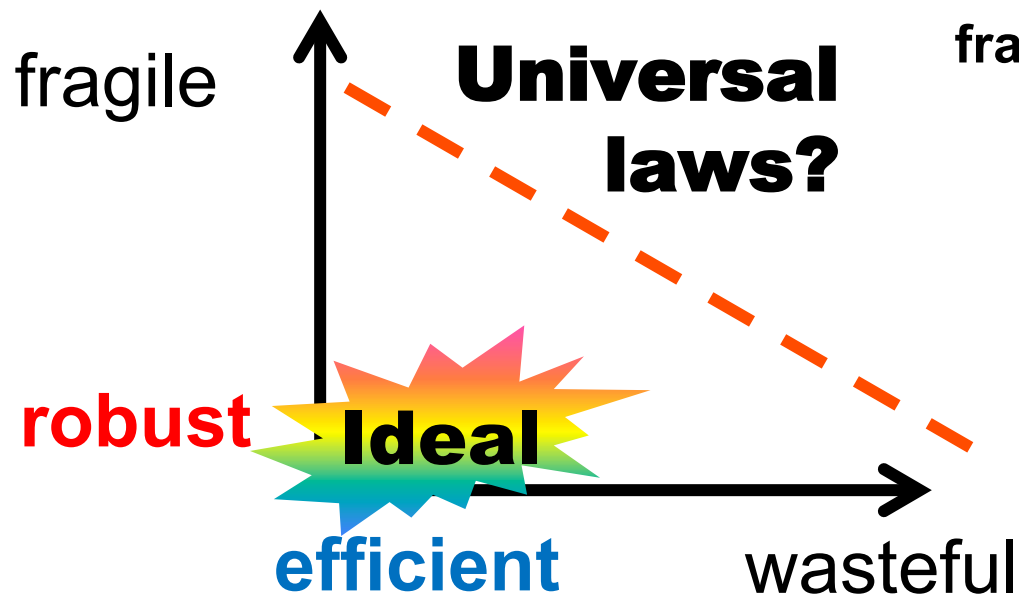
un-  
fo-  
w-  
the cell's use of ATP. In glycolysis, two ATP molecules are consumed upstream and four are produced downstream, which normalizes to  $q = 1$  (each  $y$  molecule produces two downstream) with kinetic exponent  $a = 1$ . To highlight essential trade-offs with the simplest possible analysis, we normalize the concentration such that the unperturbed ( $\delta = 0$ ) steady states are  $\bar{y} = 1$  and  $\bar{x} = 1/k$  [the system can have one additional steady state, which is unstable when  $(1, 1/k)$  is stable]. [See the supporting online material (SOM) part I]. The basal rate of the PFK reaction and the consumption rate have been normalized to 1 (the 2 in the numerator and feedback coefficients of the reactions come from these normalizations). Our results hold for more general systems as discussed below and in SOM, but the analysis

Chandra, Buzi, and Doyle

Most important paper so far.



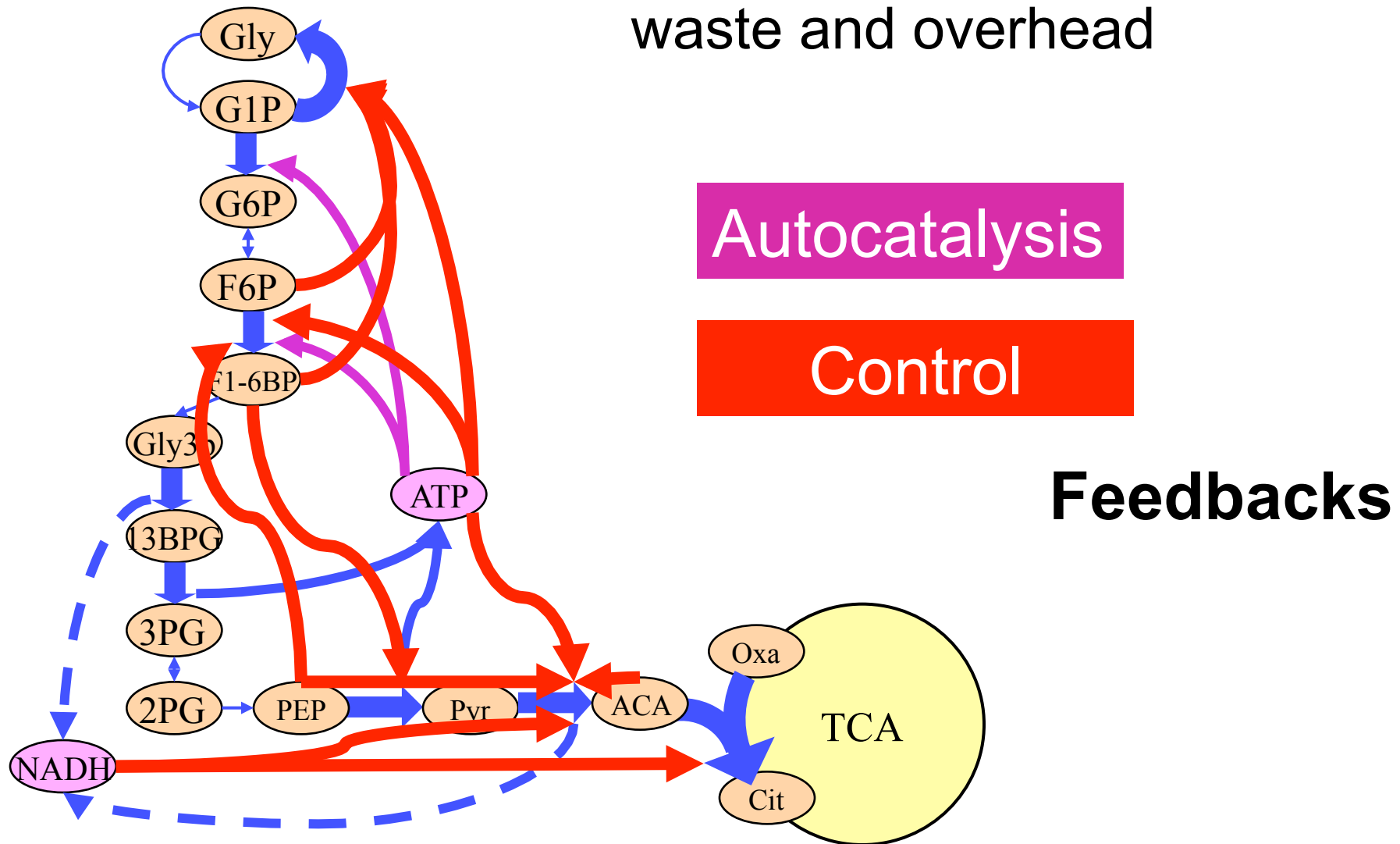




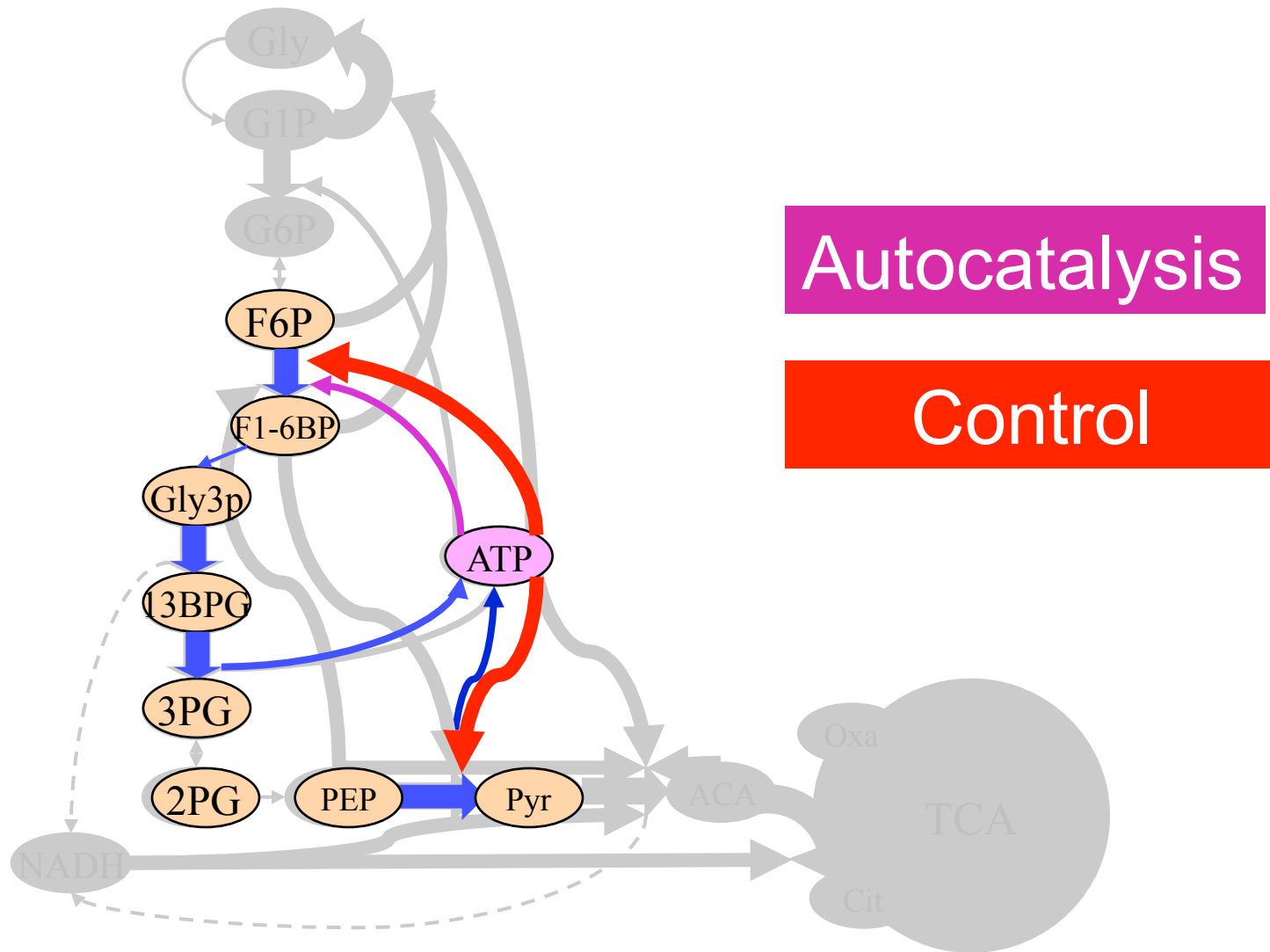
$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

**Robust**=maintain energy charge  
w/fluctuating cell demand

**Efficient**=minimize metabolic  
waste and overhead



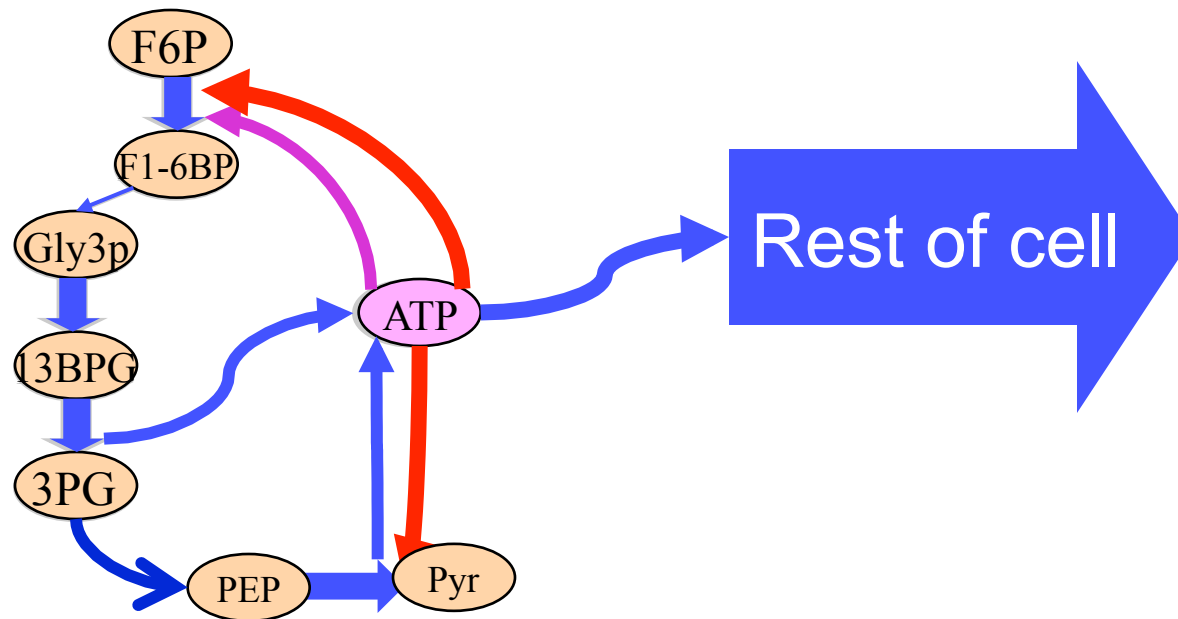
# Minimal model?

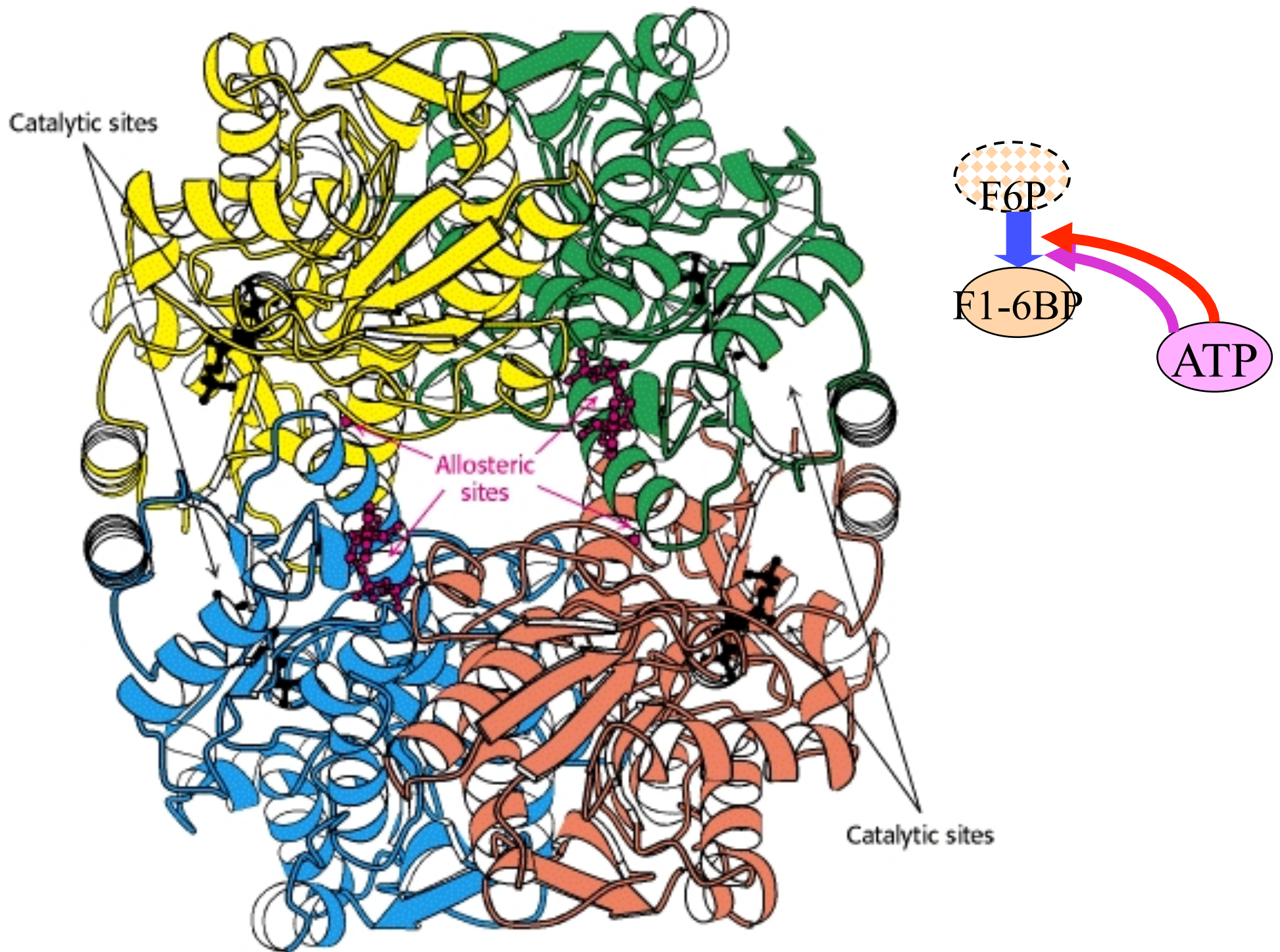




Minimal model  
~1 equilibrium  
2 metabolites  
3 “reactions”

Control  
Plus  
Autocatalytic  
Feedback



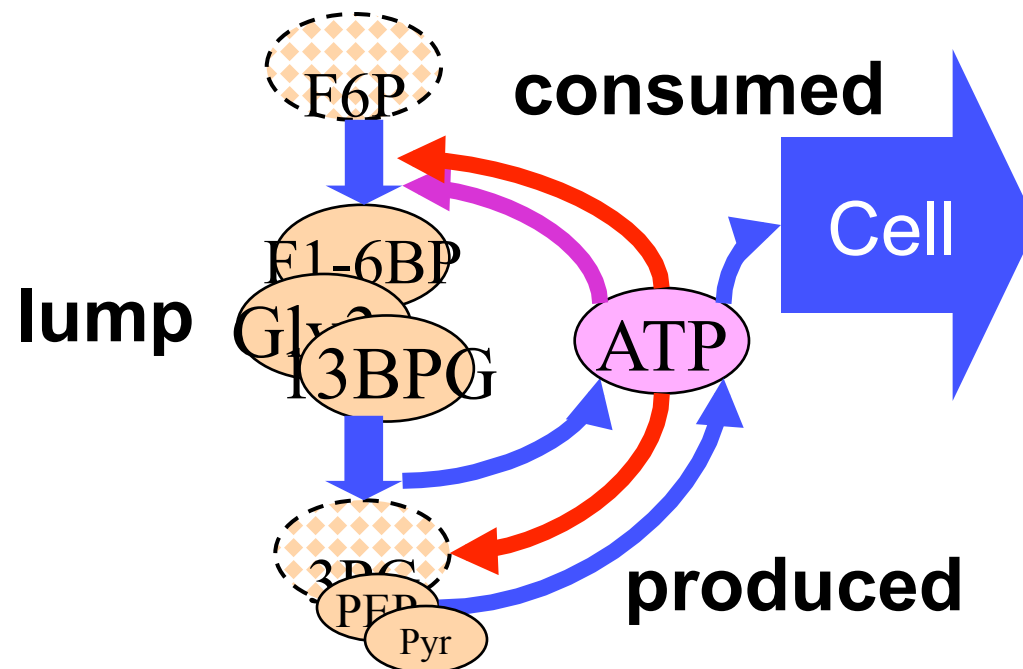


# Minimal model

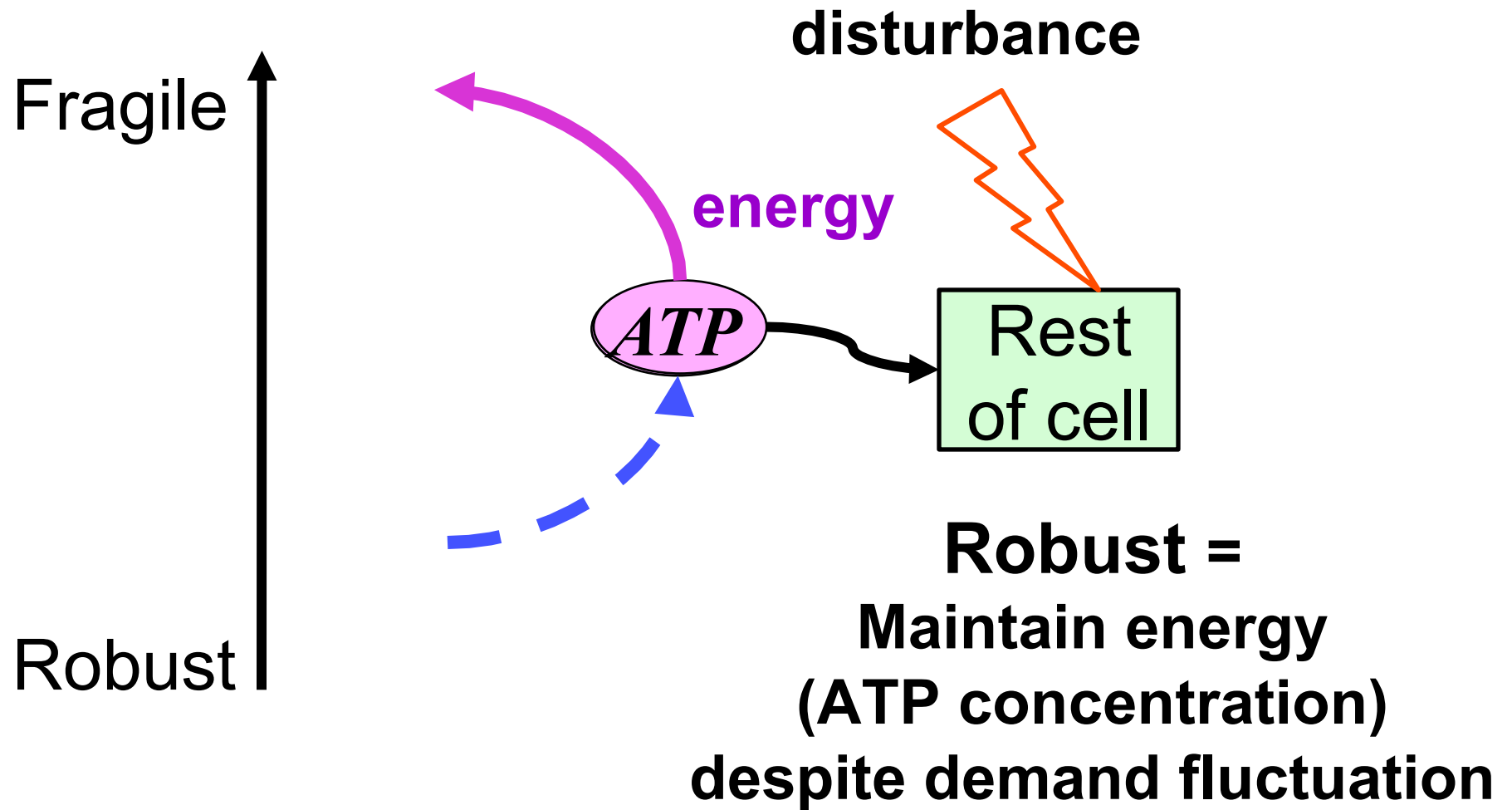
~1 equilibrium

2 metabolites

3 “reactions”



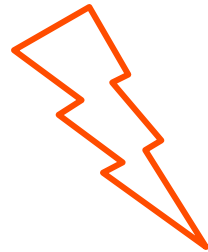
# Hard tradeoff in glycolysis



**disturbance**

Accurate vs  
sloppy

Fragile



What makes this hard?

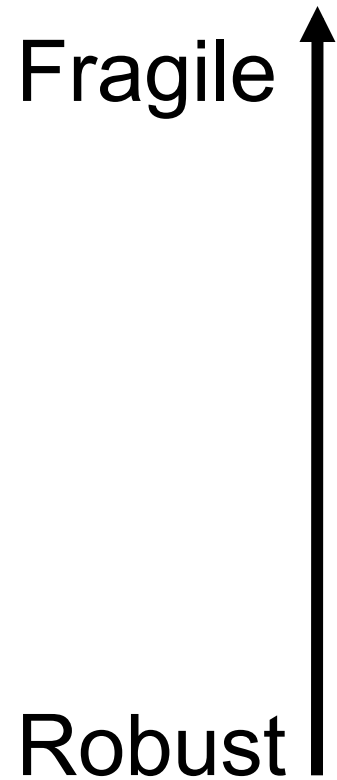
1. Instability (autocatalysis)
2. Delay (enzyme amount)

Robust

**Robust**

≈ **Disturbance rejection**

≈ **Accurate**

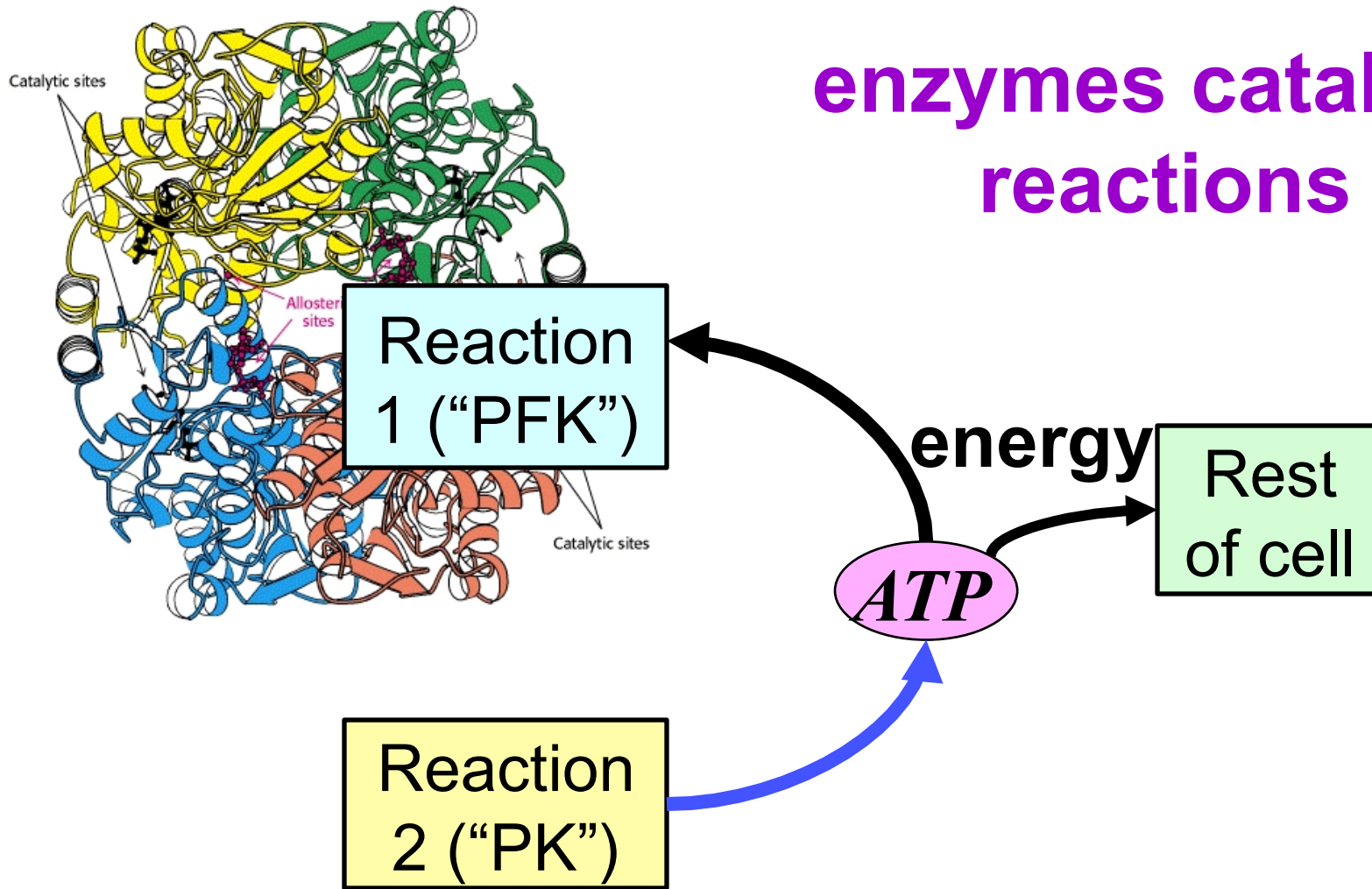


What makes this hard?

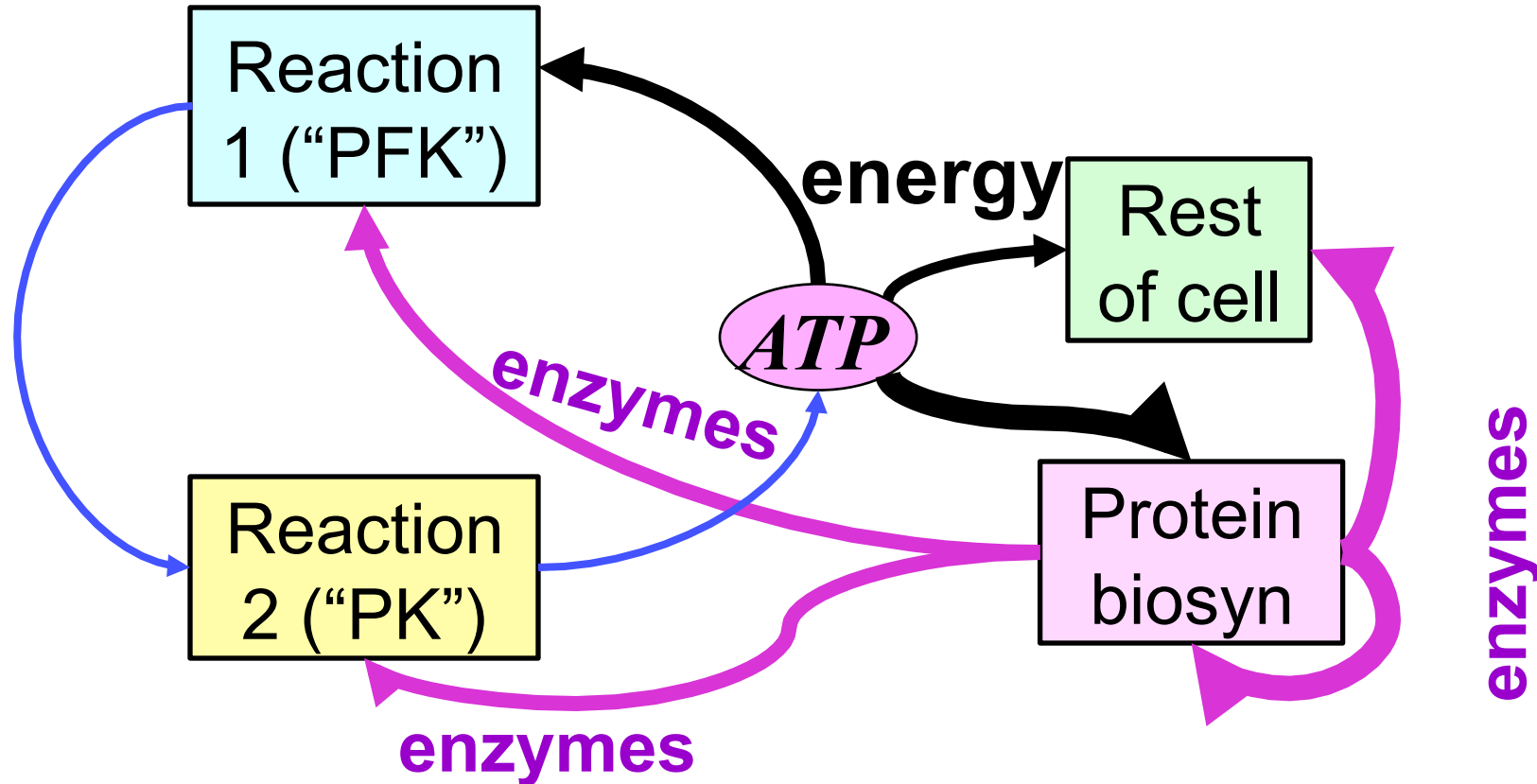
1. Instability
2. Delay

The CNS must cope with both!

# enzymes catalyze reactions



enzymes catalyze  
reactions, another  
source of autocatalysis



**Efficient =**  
**low metabolic overhead**  
**≈ low enzyme amount**



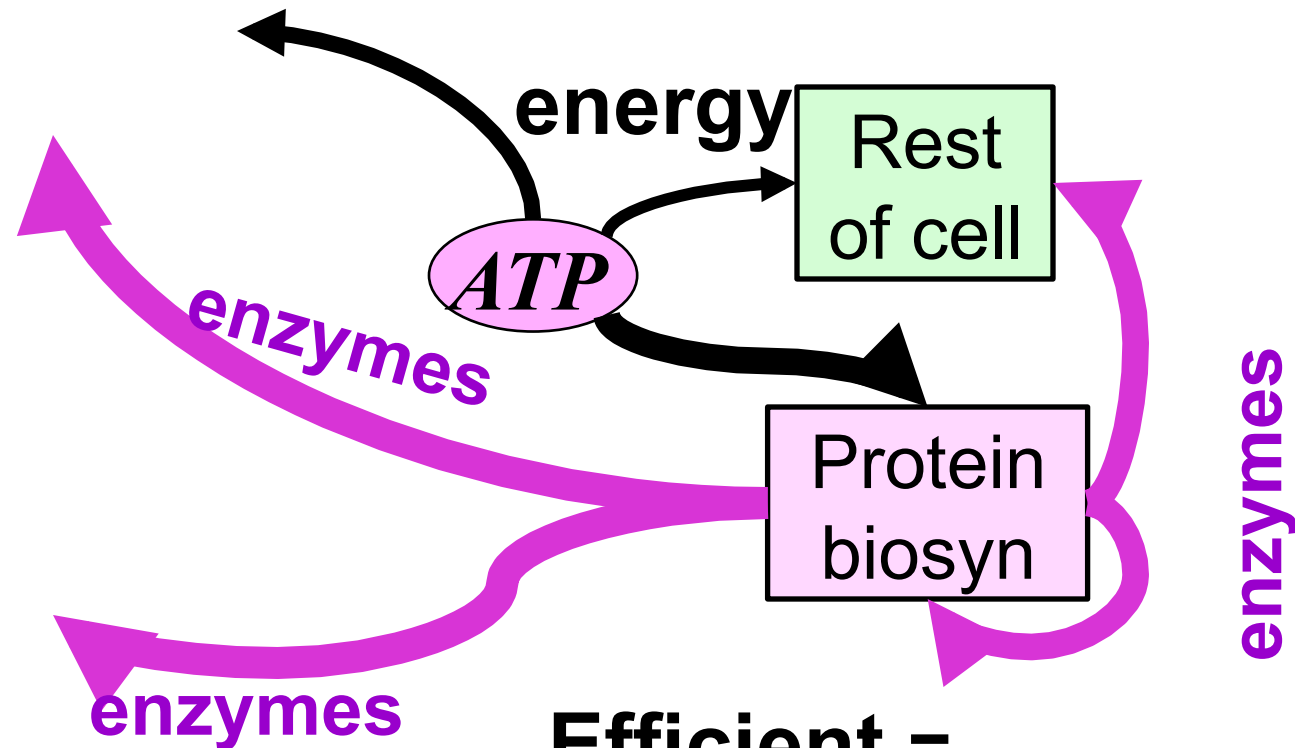
enzymes catalyze  
reactions, another  
source of autocatalysis

reaction  
rates

$\propto$

enzyme  
amount

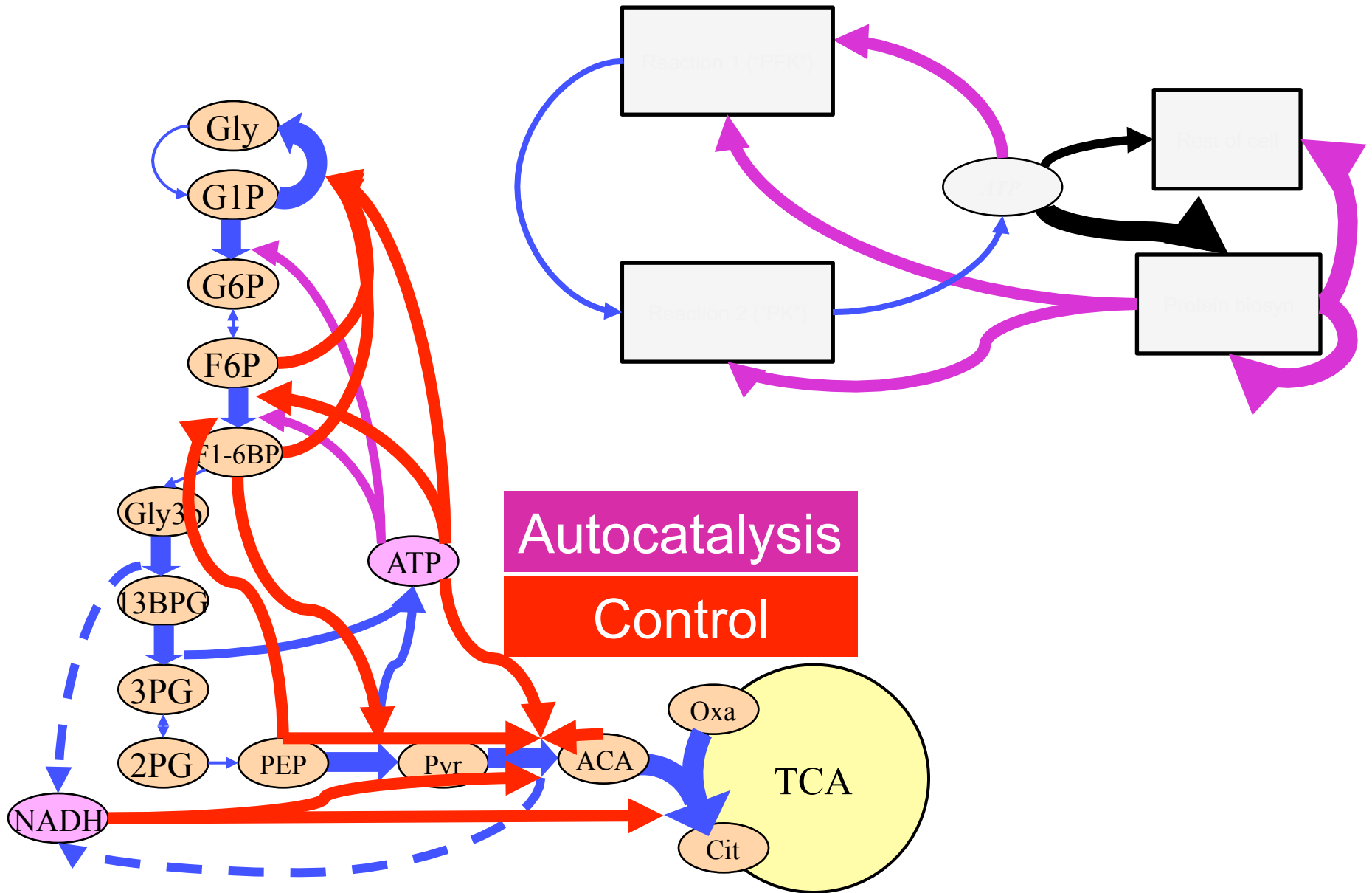
Can't make  
too many  
enzymes  
here,  
need to  
supply rest  
of the cell.



**Efficient =**

low metabolic overhead  
 $\approx$  low enzyme amount  
( $\Rightarrow$  **slow reactions**)

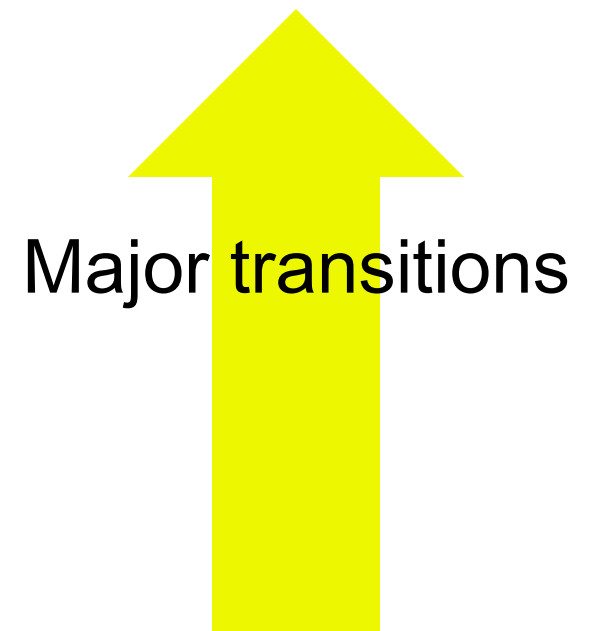
# Autocatalysis



# Autocatalysis

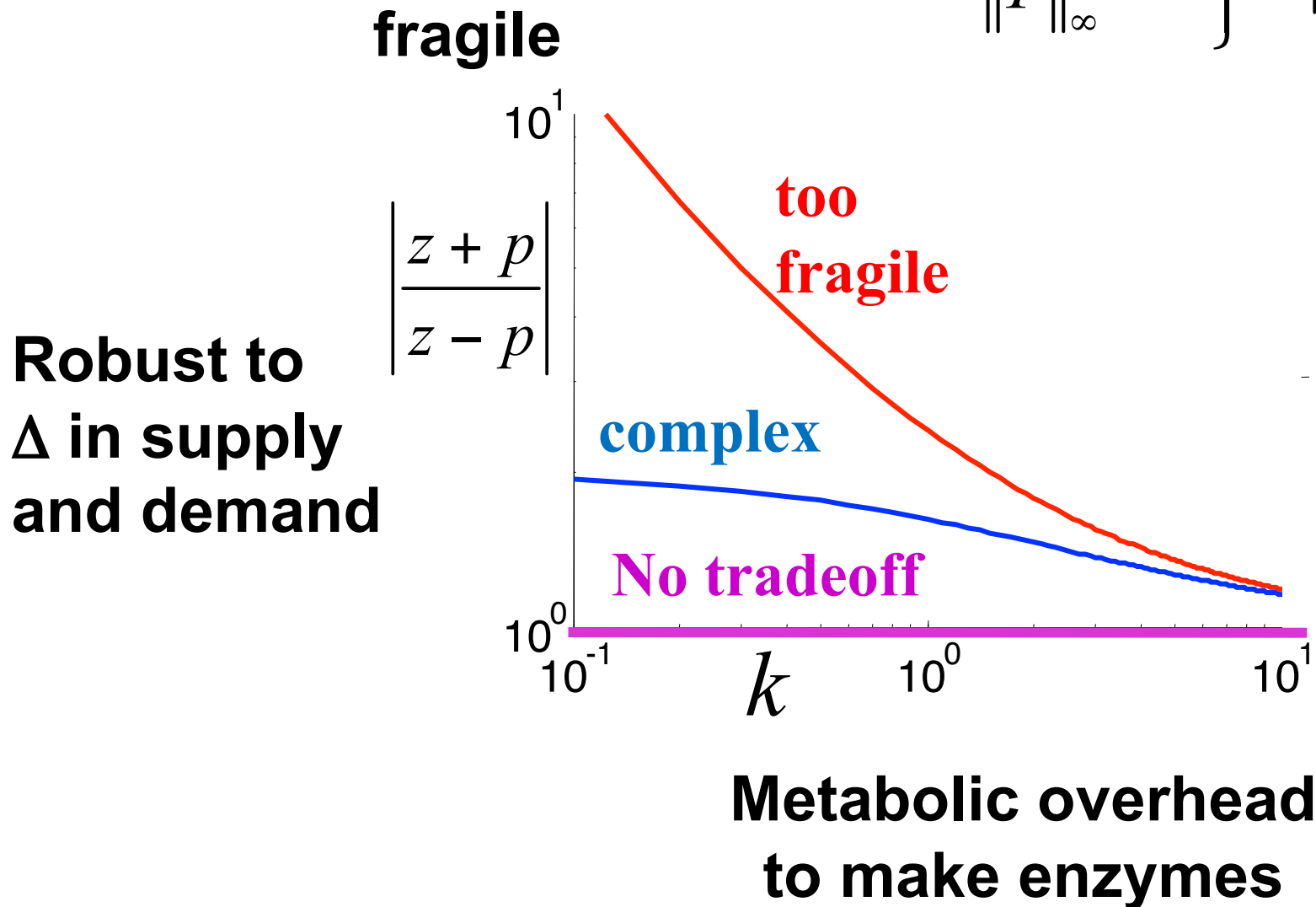
- New forms important in most transitions
- Major and poorly studied source of instability

- Sustainable infrastructure? (e.g. smartgrids)
- Money/finance/lobbyists/etc
- Industrialization
- Society/agriculture/weapons/etc
- Bipedalism
- Maternal care
- Warm blood
- Flight
- Mitochondria
- Oxygen
- Translation (ribosomes)
- Glycolysis (2011 *Science*)



# Robust Efficiency in Energy Supply

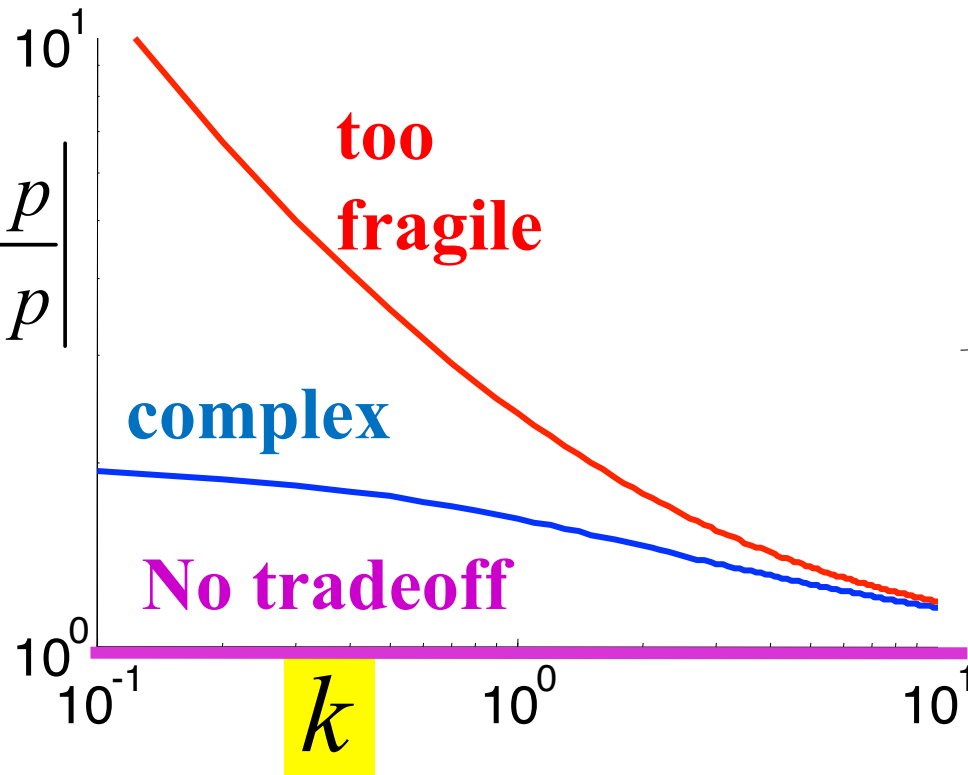
$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$



Robust to  
 $\Delta$  in supply  
and demand

fragile

$$\left| \frac{z + p}{z - p} \right|$$



Metabolic overhead



# What (some) reviewers say

- “...to establish universality ... is **simply wrong**. It cannot be done...
- ... a mathematical scheme **without any real connections to biological or medical**...
- ...universality is well justified in physics... for biological and physiological systems ...**a dream ...never be realized**, due to the vast diversity in such systems.
- ...**does not seem to understand or appreciate** the vast diversity of biological and physiological systems...
- ...a high degree of abstraction, which ...make[s] the model **useless** ...

# What (some) reviewers say

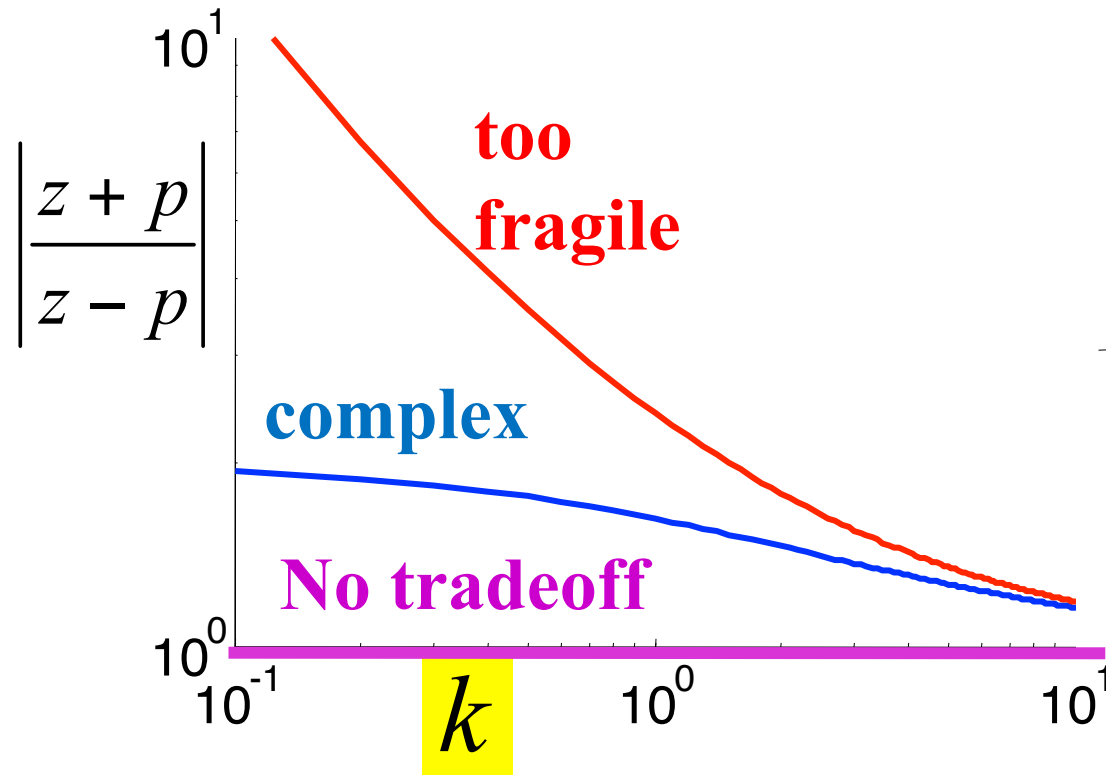
- “...to establish universality ... is **simply wrong**. It cannot be done...
- ... a mathematical scheme **without any real connections to biological or medical...**
- ...university biology ...never such a
- ...**does not seem to understand or appreciate** the vast diversity of biological and physiological systems...
- ...a high degree of abstraction, which ...make[s] the model **useless** ...

If you agree

- You're in good company
- Stay off commercial aircraft

Robust to  
 $\Delta$  in supply  
and demand

fragile



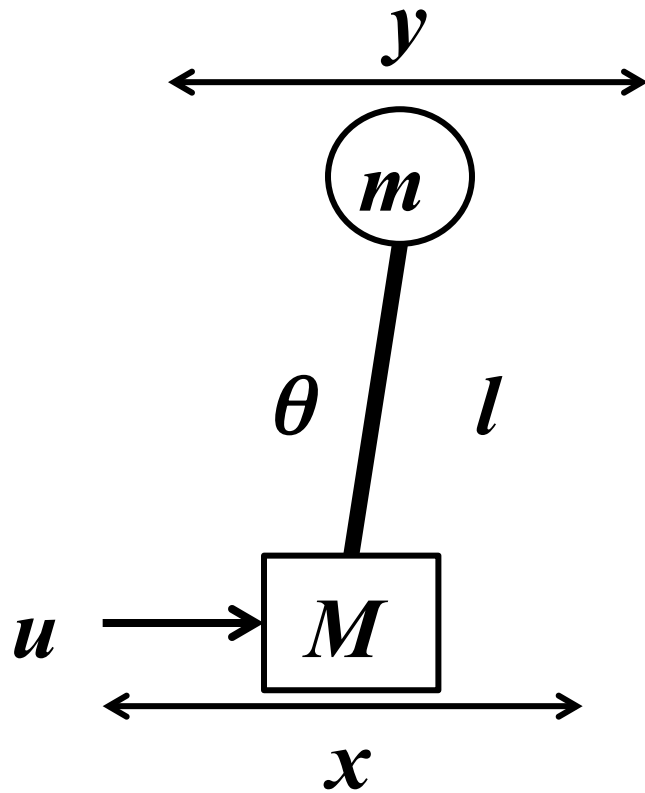
Metabolic overhead





Uncertainty?

## Standard inverted pendulum



$l$     *length*

$m$     *mass*

$M$     *mass*

$g$     *gravity*

$u$     *control force*

$$y = x + l_o \sin \theta + n$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l \ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$(M + m) \ddot{x} + ml (\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$

# Uncertainty?

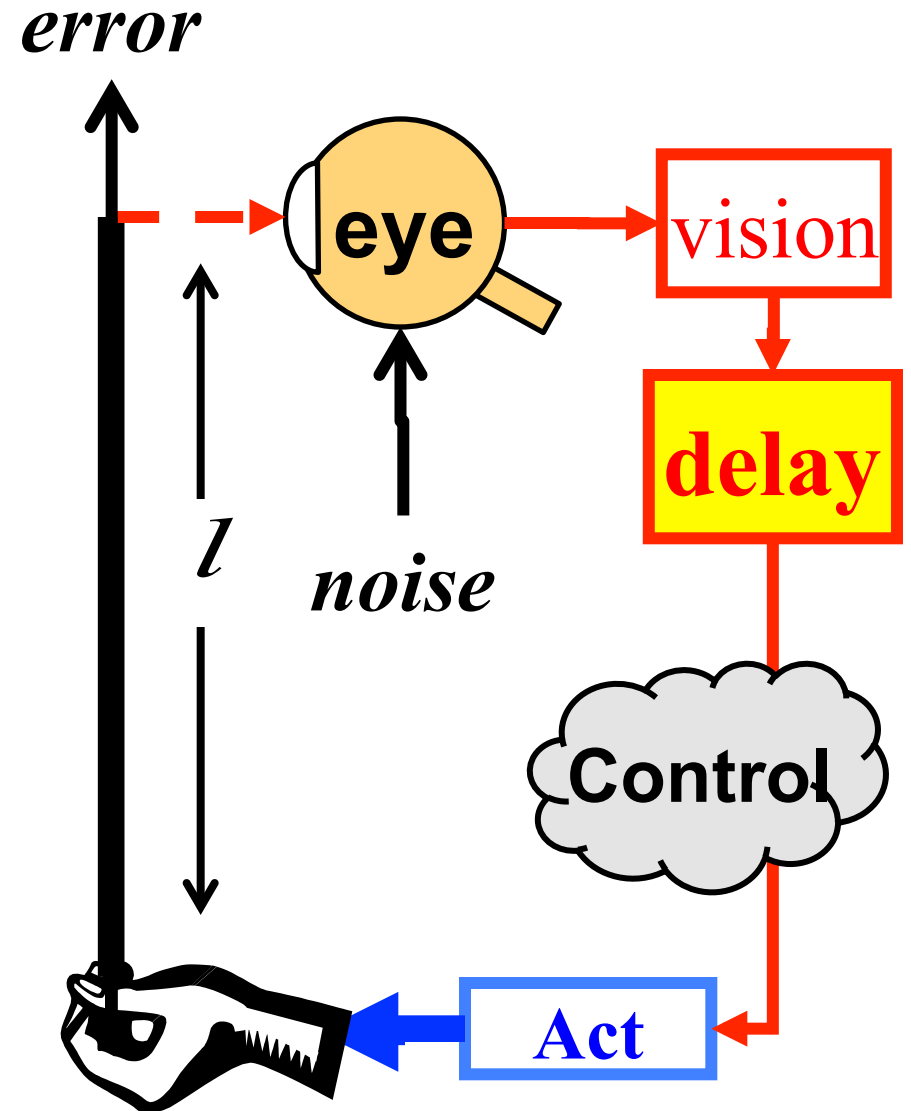
In our model?  
In our brain?  
In our brain's model?

- Parameters
- Noise
- Unmodeled dynamics

$$y = x + l_o \sin \theta + n$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l \ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$(M + m) \ddot{x} + ml (\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$



# Uncertainty?

In our model?

In our brain?

In our brain's model?

- **Parameters (real)**
- **Noise (additive)**
- **Unmodeled dynamics (complex)**
- **Nonlinear dynamics**

Analysis  
Limits/laws  
Synthesis

$$y = x + l_o \sin \theta + n$$

$$\ddot{x} \cos \theta + l \ddot{\theta} + g \sin \theta = 0$$

$$(M + m) \ddot{x} + ml (\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta - \dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta) = u$$

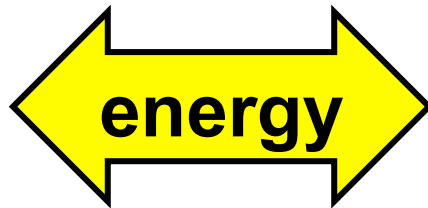
# Homeostasis and HRV

**controls**

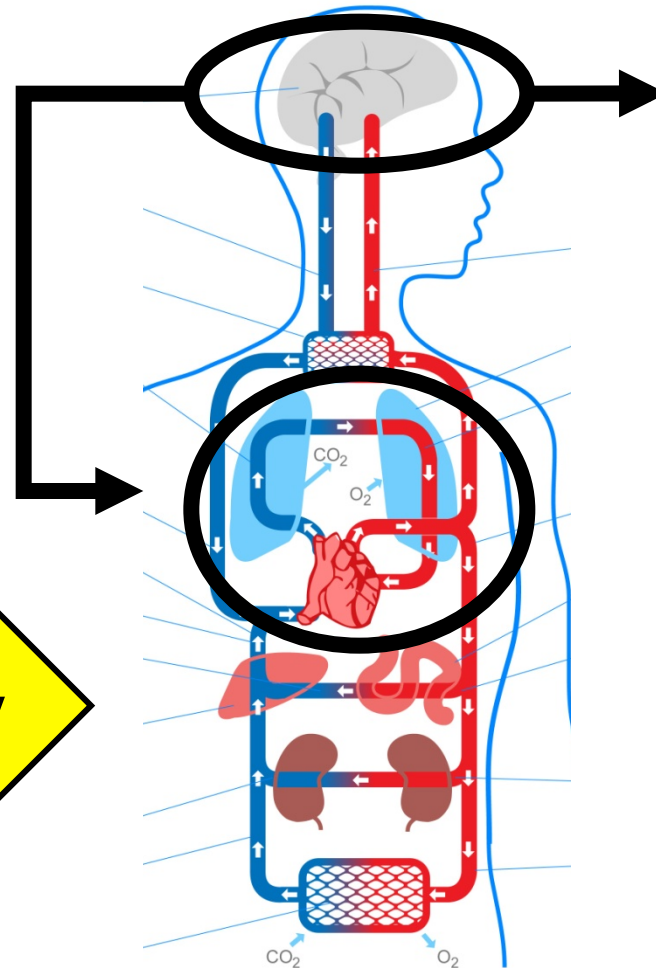
**heart rate**  
**ventilation**

**errors**

**O<sub>2</sub>**  
**BP**

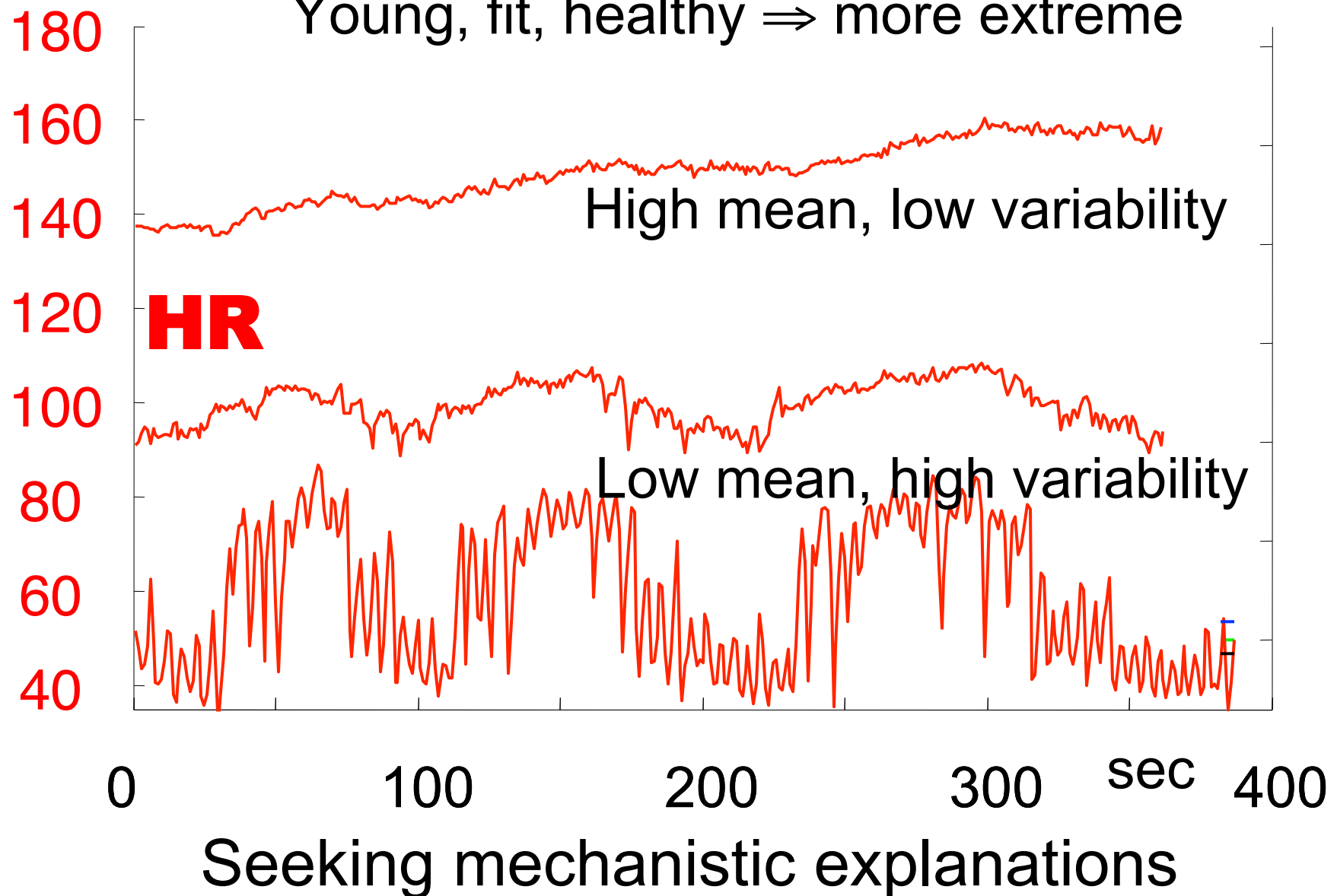


**external**  
**disturbances**



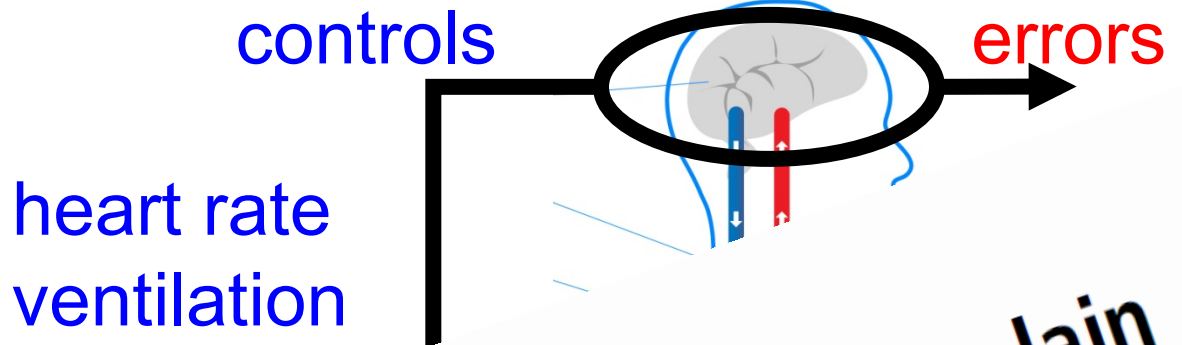
# The persistent mystery

Young, fit, healthy  $\Rightarrow$  more extreme



# Homeostasis and HRV

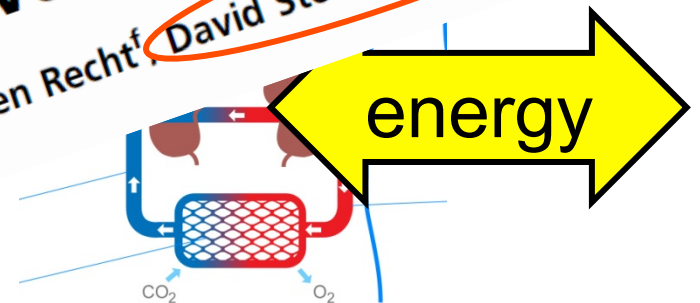
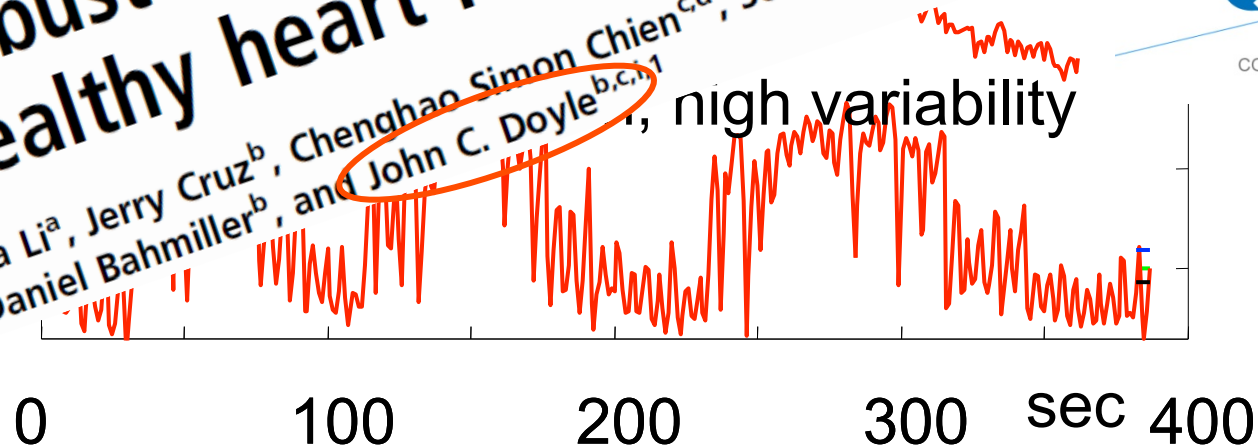
**Finally!**



**Robust efficiency and actuator saturation explain healthy heart rate control and variability**

180  
160

Na Li<sup>a</sup>, Jerry Cruz<sup>b</sup>, Chenghao Simon Chien<sup>c,d</sup>, Somayeh Sojoudi<sup>e</sup>, Ben Recht<sup>f</sup>, David Stone<sup>g</sup>, Marie Csete<sup>h</sup>, Daniel Bahmiller<sup>b</sup>, and John C. Doyle<sup>b,c,1</sup>, high variability



external disturbances

# Homeostasis and robust efficiency

**controls**

heart rate  
ventilation  
vasodilation  
coagulation  
inflammation  
digestion  
storage  
...

**errors**

O<sub>2</sub>  
BP  
pH  
Glucose  
Energy store  
Blood volume  
...

**Mechanistic physiology**

**energy**

trauma

infection

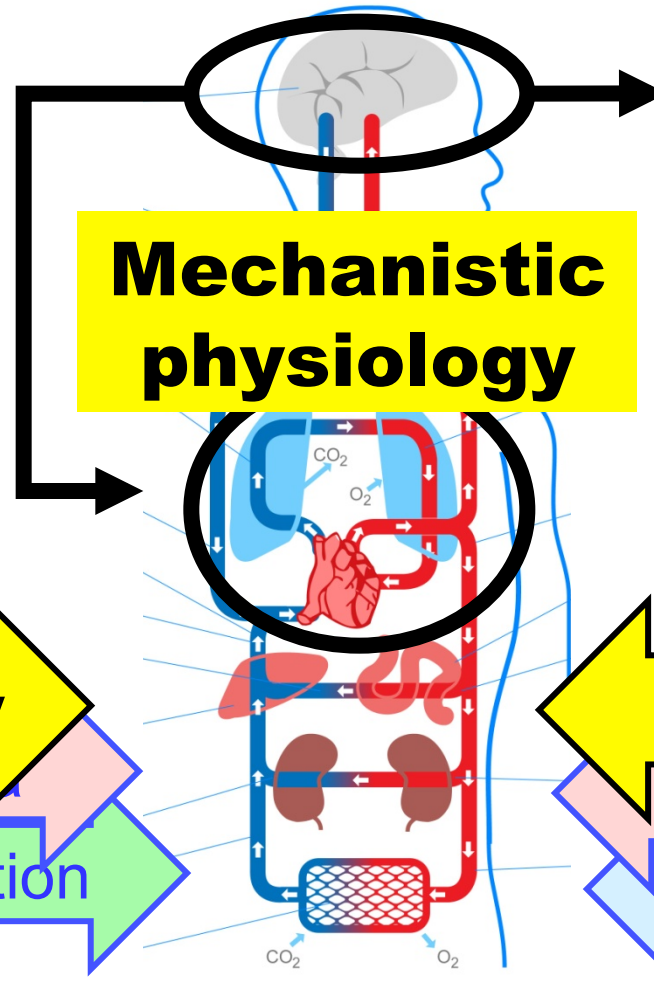
**external disturbances**

**breath**

heart beat

sensor

**internal noise**



# **The main tradeoff: Robust efficiency**

**Robust efficiency** and actuator saturation explain  
healthy heart rate control and variability

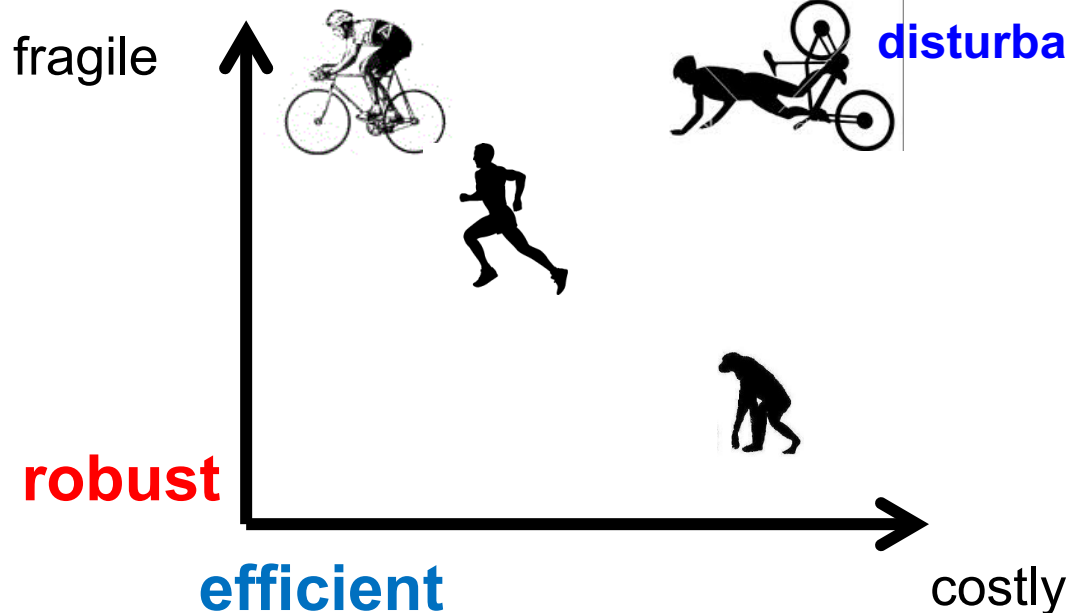
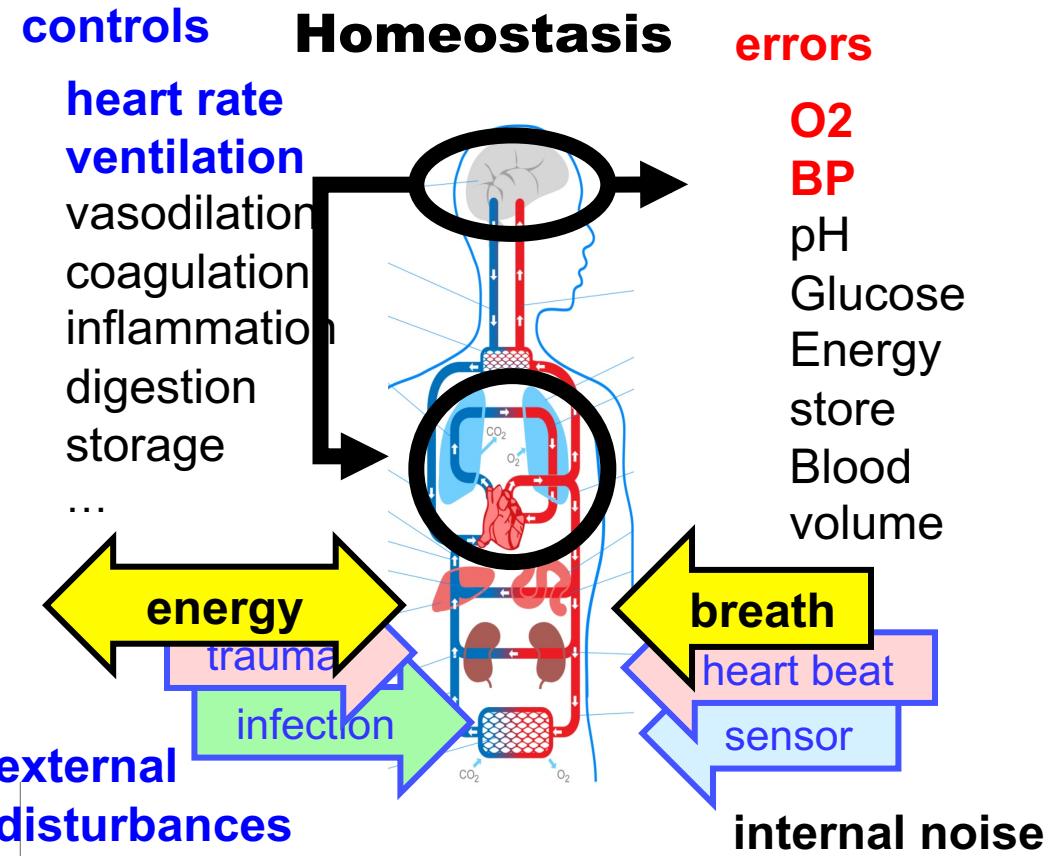
Na Li<sup>a</sup>, Jerry Cruz<sup>b</sup>, Chenghao Simon Chien<sup>c,d</sup>, Somayeh Sojoudi<sup>e</sup>, Ben Recht<sup>f</sup>, David Stone<sup>g</sup>, Marie Csete<sup>h</sup>,  
Daniel Bahmiller<sup>b</sup>, and John C. Doyle<sup>b,c,i,1</sup>

**Mechanistic  
physiology +  
rigorous math  
and stats**



## Tradeoffs:

- physiology
- evolution
- ecologically relevant



**Mechanistic  
physiology +  
rigorous math  
and stats**

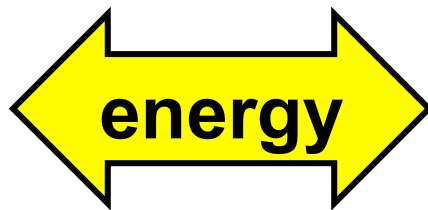
# Homeostasis

**controls**

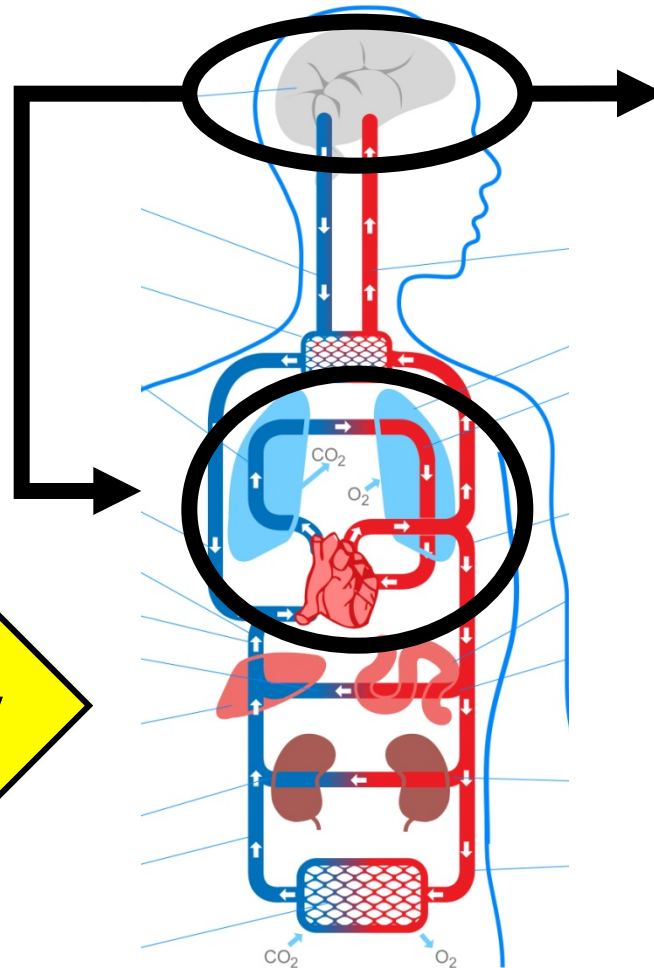
**heart rate**  
**ventilation**

**errors**

**O<sub>2</sub>**  
**BP**



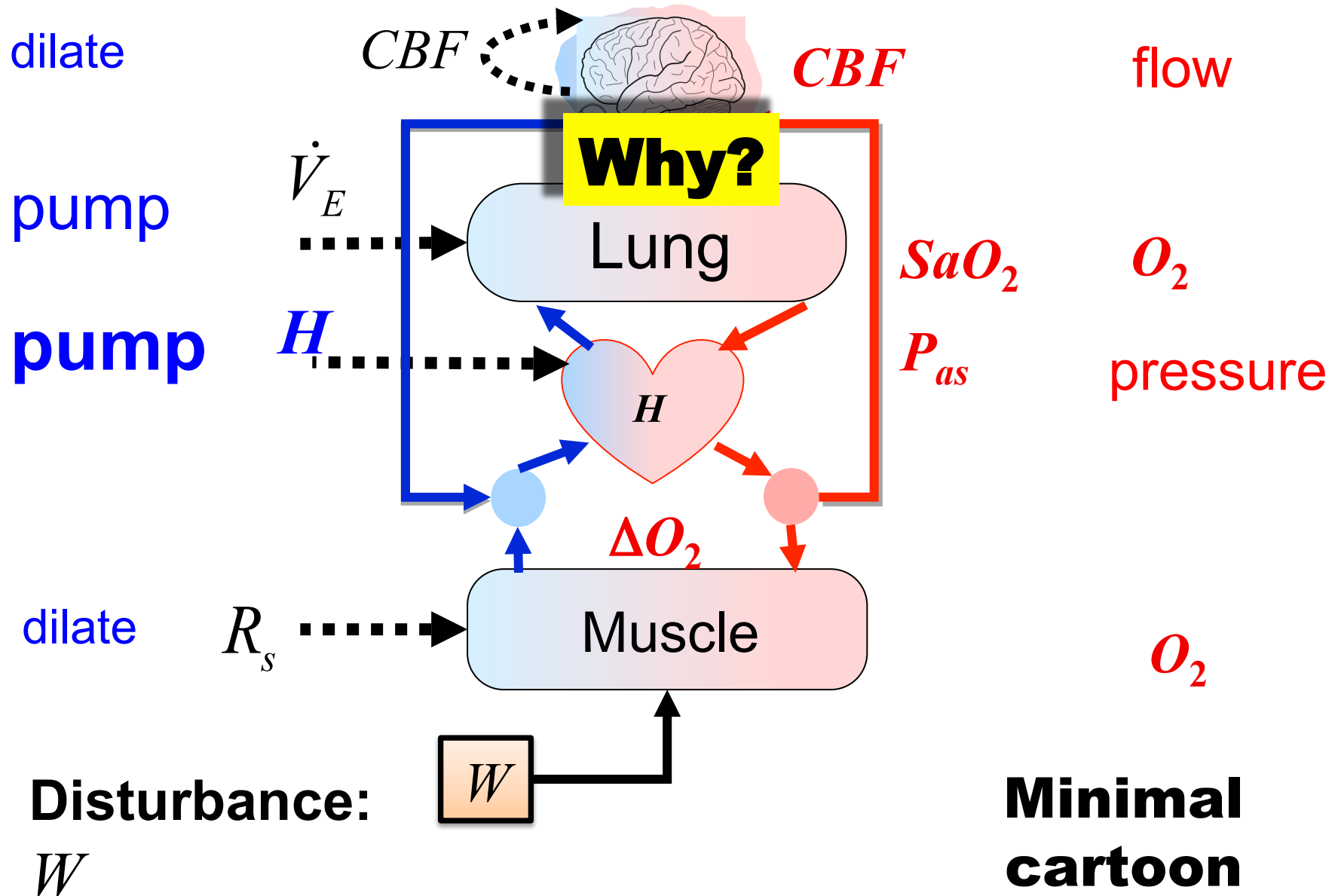
**external**  
**disturbances**



**high variability**

# Health

**low variability**



high variability

# Healthy homeostasis

low variability

regulated  
variables

flow

$O_2$

pressure

$O_2$

actuators

dilate  
pump  
**pump**  
dilate

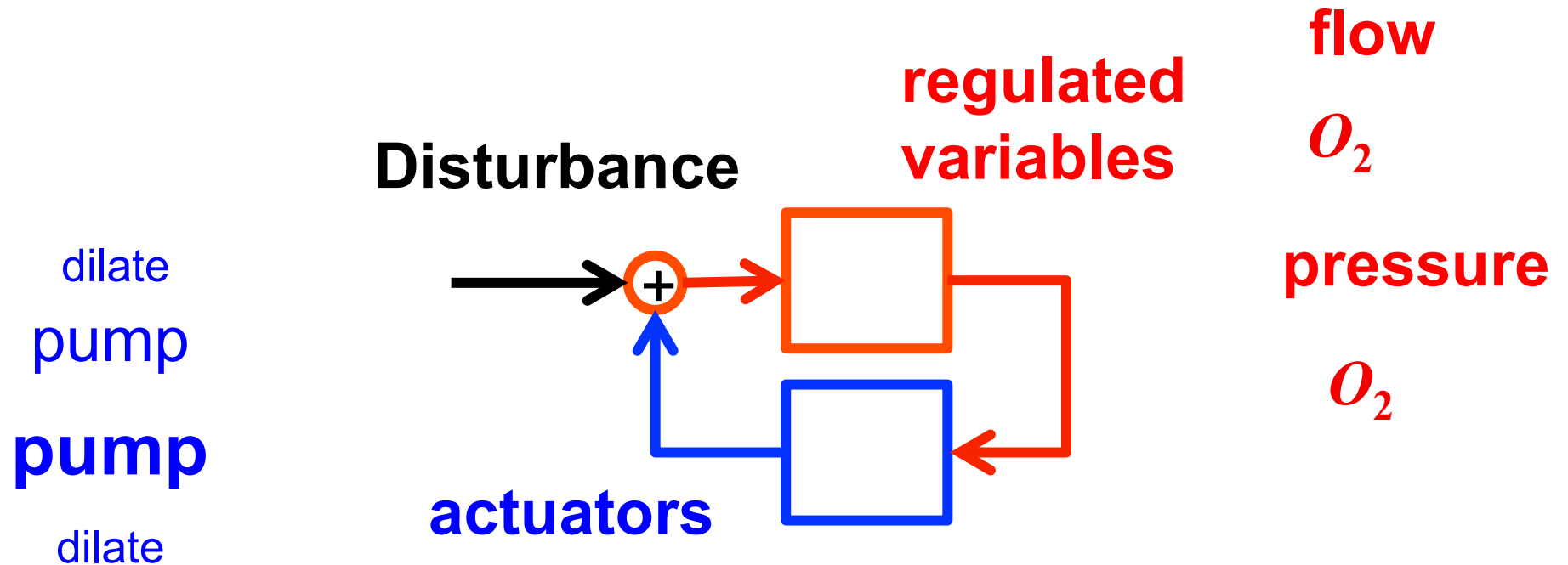
**Disturbance:**  
run

**Minimal  
cartoon**

high variability

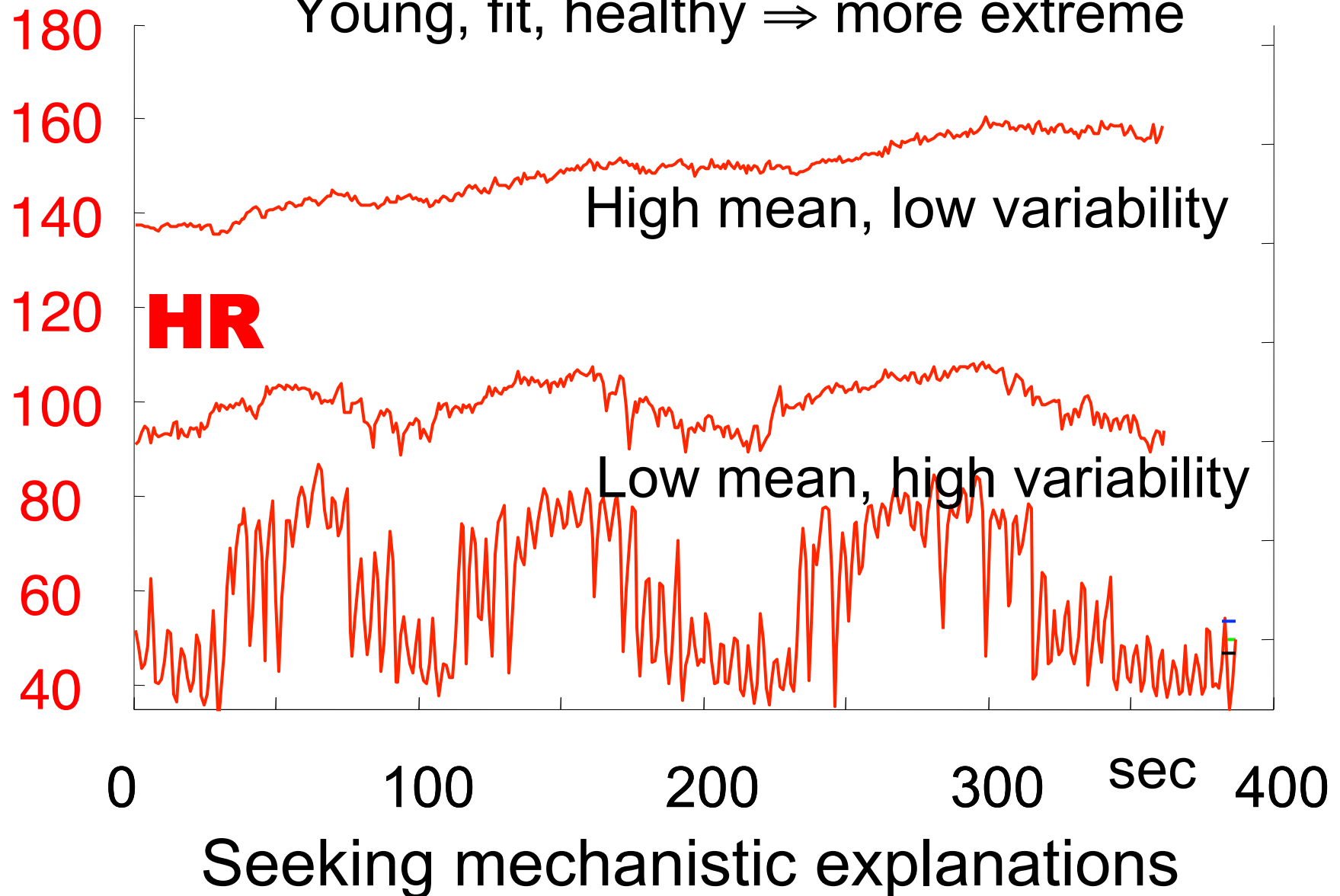
# Healthy homeostasis

low variability



# The persistent mystery

Young, fit, healthy  $\Rightarrow$  more extreme

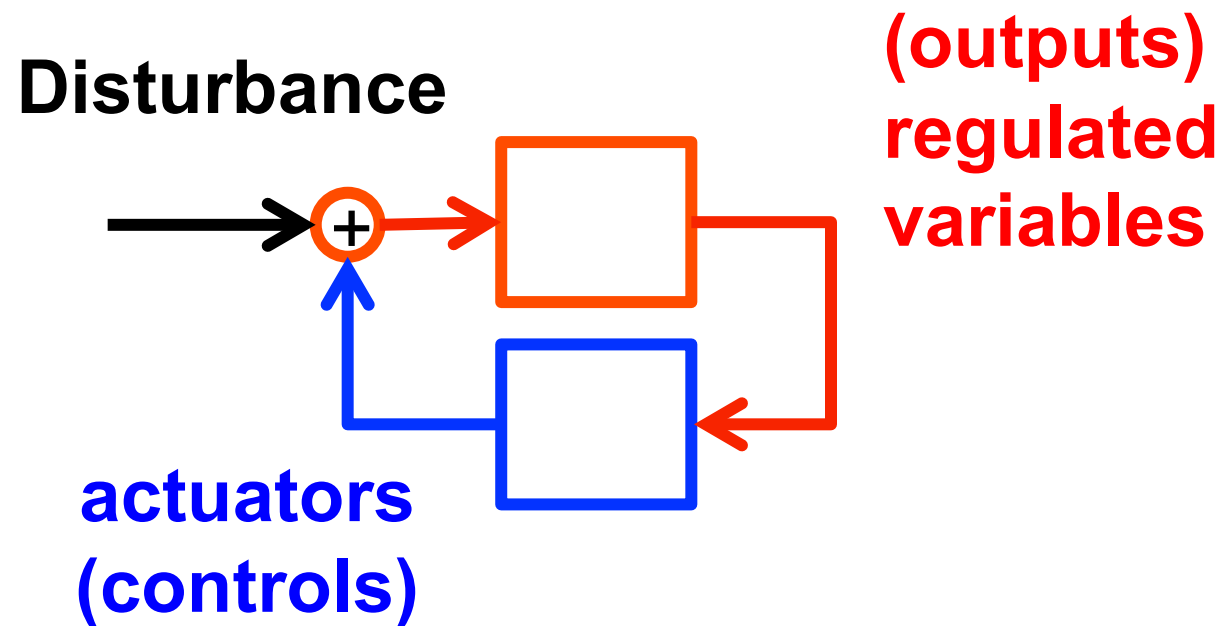


# Universals

**low** variability errors

+ **large** disturbances

⇒ **high** variability controls



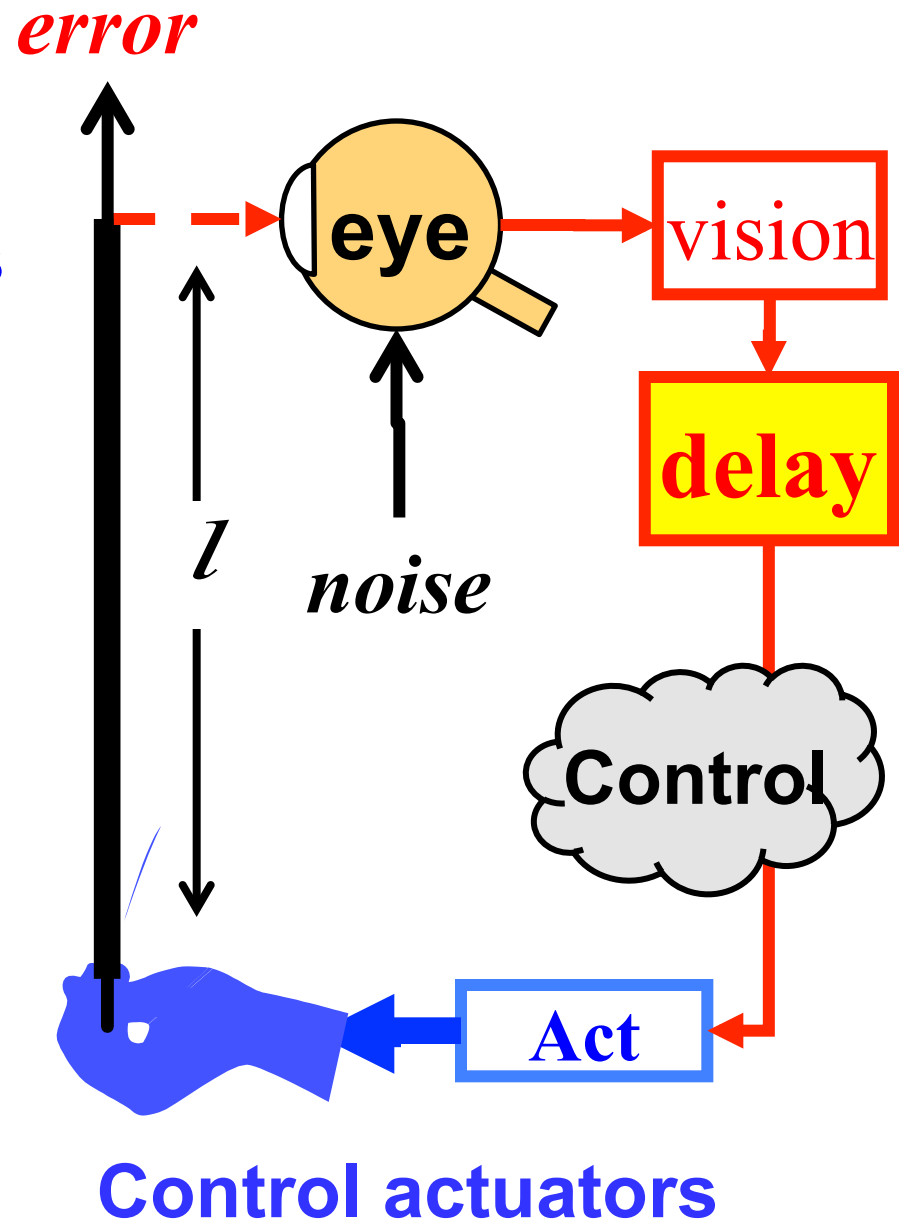
# Universals

*low* variability *errors*

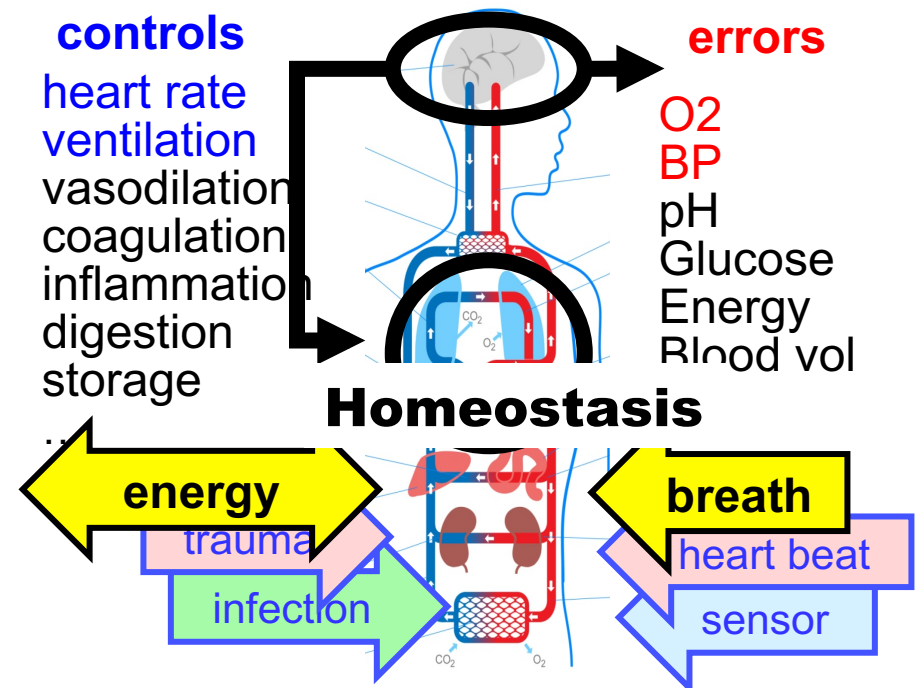
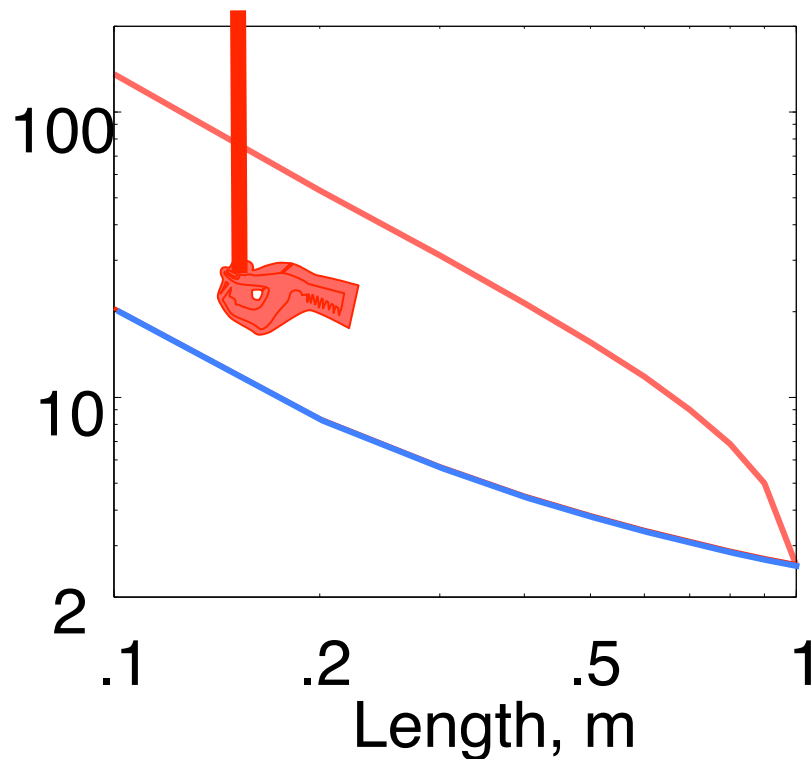
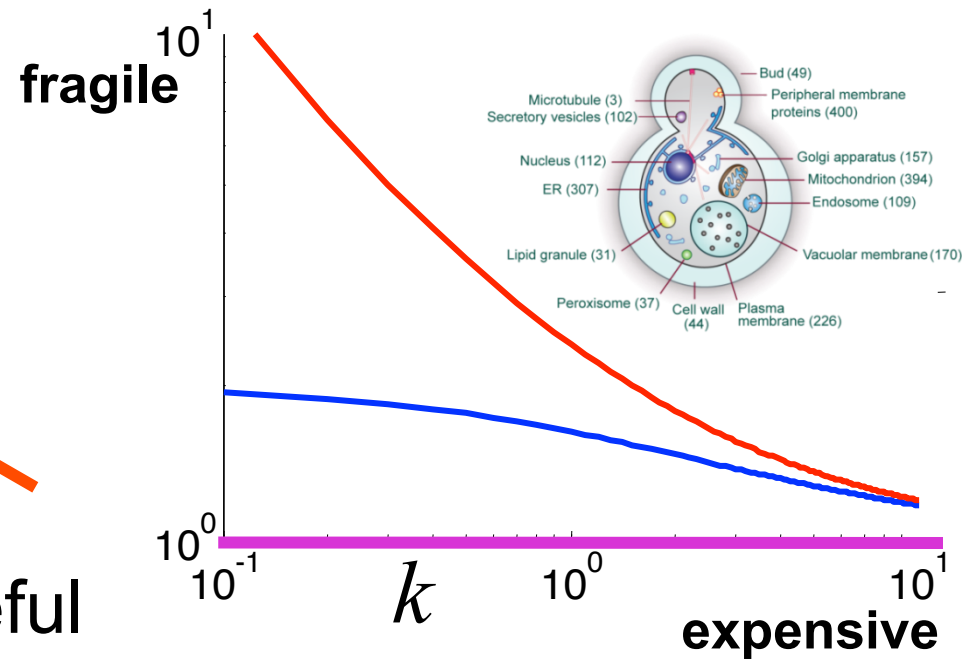
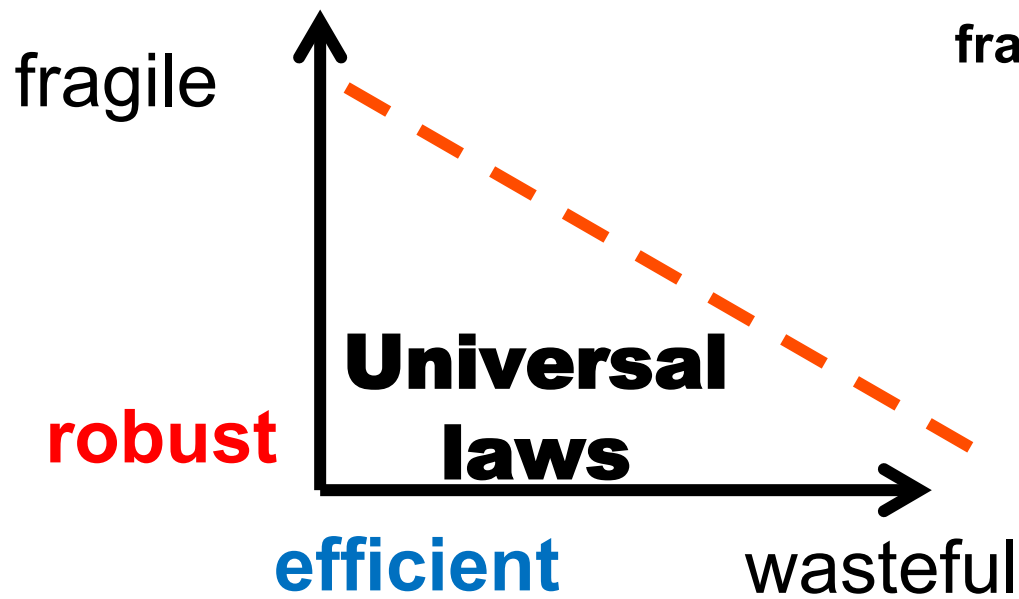
+ *large noise/delay*

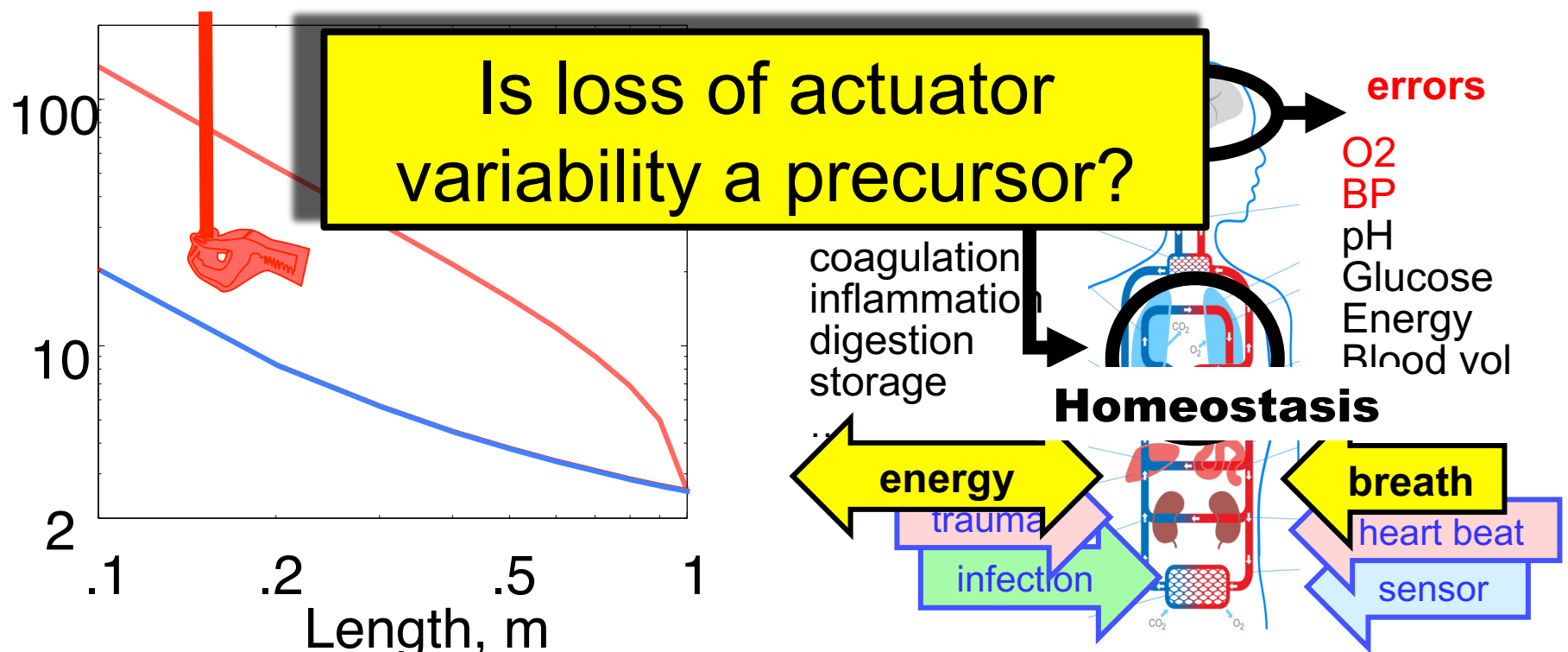
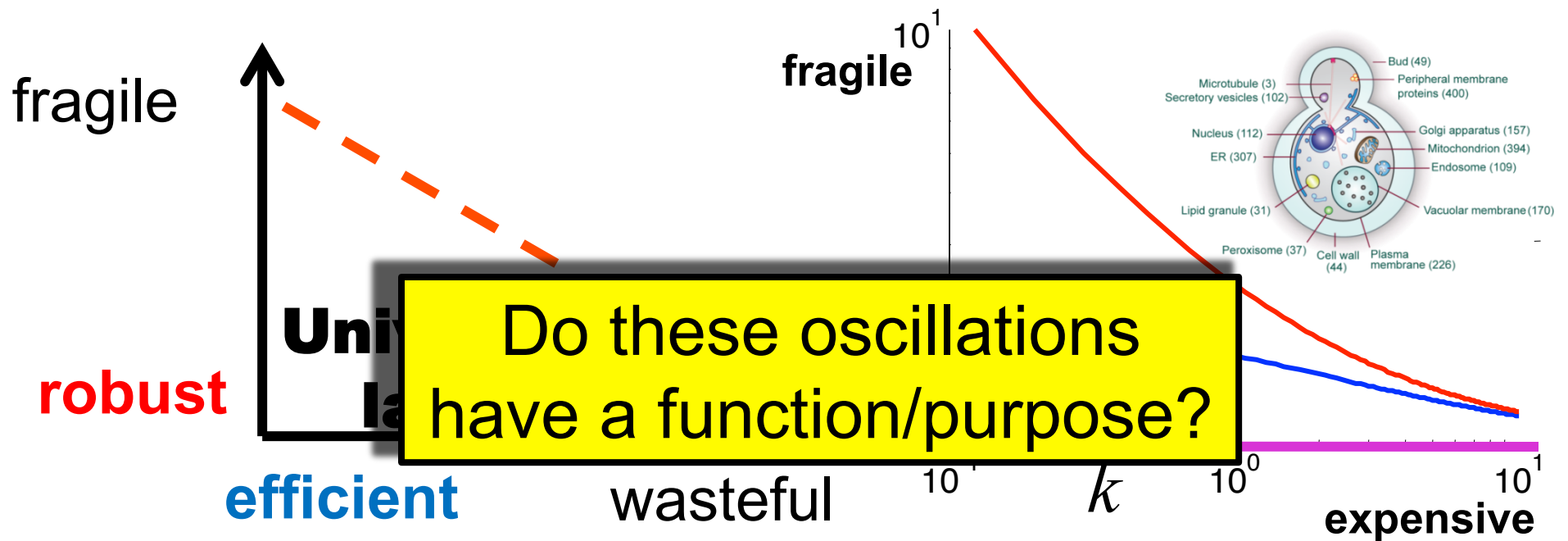
⇒ *high* variability controls

Is loss of  
actuator  
variability a  
precursor  
of a crash?







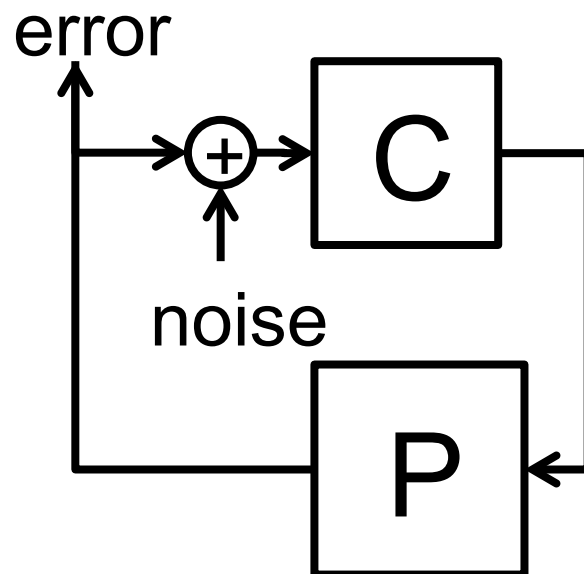


# Understand this more deeply?

$$\left. \exp \left( \int \ln |T| \right) \right\|_{\|T\|_{\infty}} \geq \exp(p\tau) \left| \frac{z+p}{z-p} \right|$$

Mechanics+  
Gravity +  
Light +  
Control theory

$$|T(j\omega)| = \left| \frac{E}{N} \right|$$



**+ Neuroscience**

