

Related Research

Attractor Dynamics in Contemporary Scholarship

The Attractor Framework proposes that persistence under perturbation is the fundamental signature of reality. While the framework itself is new, many of its components have emerged independently across diverse fields. Researchers studying climate tipping points, neural dynamics, belief formation, political polarization, learning systems, and complex adaptive networks repeatedly encounter the same mathematical structures: attractors, basin transitions, feedback loops, resilience, and path dependence. This page documents those convergences.

The papers collected here do not validate the Attractor Framework as a whole. Most do not cite it and were developed independently. They are included because they converge on similar dynamical concepts: attractors, basin stability, tipping points, path dependence, feedback loops, resistance to correction, and phase transitions. These systems differ enormously in substrate and mechanism. The commonality is structural rather than material.

Recommended Starting Papers

For readers new to this literature, five papers provide the strongest entry point:

1. **Invariant-Governed Epistemic Dynamics: When Truth Is Not**

- an Attractor** – Directly examines how belief systems stabilize in false states.
2. **Semantic Attractors and the Emergence of Meaning** – Explicitly develops semantic attractors as stable meaning structures.
 3. **Identity-Fused Attractors and Cognitive Drift in Bounded Systems** – Models identity-protective reasoning as a stable attractor.
 4. **Geometry of Neural Dynamics Along the Cortical Attractor Landscape** – Demonstrates attractor landscapes in cortical computation.
 5. **In Search of Climate Attractors** – Explicitly studies climate attractors and basin boundaries.
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Framework Coverage Map

Framework Concept	Independent Research Examples
Attractors	Dynamical systems, neuroscience, climate science
Corrective permeability (κ)	Bayesian updating, belief revision, epistemic dynamics
Fantasy attractors	Delusion research, motivated reasoning, identity-protective cognition
Basin depth	Resilience theory, ecological stability, climate tipping points
Meta-attractors	Network dynamics, social contagion, cultural evolution
Persistence under perturbation	Control theory, complex adaptive systems, learning systems

Part I: Direct Conceptual Convergence

The papers in this section use concepts that are structurally close to the Attractor Framework's central claims: that belief systems can stabilize in sealed, self-reinforcing basins that resist correction, and that the distinction between reality-aligned and fantasy attractors is a genuine dynamical phenomenon.

Semantic Attractors

[Semantic Attractors and the Emergence of Meaning: Towards a Teleological Model of AGI](#)

H.J. Rudolph (2026)

Develops the explicit concept of semantic attractors as structures that guide meaning toward stable semantic configurations. This treats semantic stability itself as an attractor phenomenon—a direct parallel to the framework's application of attractor dynamics to belief systems and ideology.

Related framework essay: [The Dopamine Covenant](#)

[After Deconstruction: Masculinity, Semantic Attractors, and the Reconstruction of Cultural Coherence](#)

H.J. Rudolph (2026) · PhilPapers

Examines the crisis of masculine identity through the concept of “semantic attractors”—stable configurations of cultural meaning that organise social roles and resist deconstruction. The destabilisation of traditional attractors creates both crisis and opportunity for reconstruction, paralleling the framework’s analysis of social basin collapse and phase transition.

Related framework essay: [The MAGA Attractor](#)

Epistemic Attractors

[Invariant-Governed Epistemic Dynamics: When Truth Is Not an Attractor](#)

M. Hoche (2026) ·

Argues that socio-technical systems can stabilise in coherent but structurally false belief states rather than converging on truth. This is remarkably close to the framework’s central distinction between reality-aligned attractors and fantasy attractors—sealed basins that maintain internal coherence while disconnecting from verifiable reality.

Related framework essay: [A Logical Exclusion of Classical Theistic God](#)

[Beyond Bias and Variance: Toward an Asymptotic Epistemology of Embodied Inference](#)

M. Ayvazov (2026)

Treats epistemic coherence as an attractor that finite knowers can approach but never fully reach. This provides philosophical grounding for the framework's account of how belief systems converge toward stable basins while remaining perpetually vulnerable to perturbation.

Related framework essay: [The Attractor Framework: A Tool for Seeing Clearly](#)

Identity-Protective Attractors

[Identity-Fused Attractors and Cognitive Drift in Bounded Systems](#)

S.D. Palmer (2026)

Models identity-protective reasoning as a stable attractor that resists frame revision and promotes cognitive drift. This is structurally analogous to the framework's account of how sealed basins maintain coherence by rejecting corrective signals—the core mechanism of the fantasy attractor.

Related framework essay: [The Dopamine Covenant](#)

False Attractors

Precipitation and Local Structuration: How Field Dynamics Stabilize Into Form

V. Jovanovic (2026)

Distinguishes between “healthy attractors” that make “answerable forms easier to return to” and “false attractors” that make “defended” positions self-reinforcing. States that “the antidote is not fantasy. It is contact with field potentials that the captured form has excluded”—structurally identical to the framework’s prescription of corrective permeability (κ).

Related framework essay: [The Climate Attractor](#)

Fantasy-Immersed Attractors

Maladaptive Daydreaming as an Endogenous Prototype of Behavioral Addictions

B. Lee (2026)

Describes how “reductions create a stable basin around the fantasy-immersed attractor,” making the fantasy state self-reinforcing and resistant to perturbation. This is structurally identical to the framework’s definition of a fantasy attractor.

Related framework essay: [The Dopamine Covenant](#)

Archetypal Attractors

[The Recursive Shadow: Archetypal Entropy, Energetic Neglect, and the Impossibility of Permanent Integration](#)

M. Sarapa (2026)

Applies attractor dynamics to Jungian archetypal theory, describing “attractors in the phase space of possible psychic configurations” with the shadow as unresolved perturbation. Parallels the framework’s analysis of perturbation dynamics and the impossibility of permanent closure in dissipative systems.

Related framework essay: [The Conscious Body](#)

Part II: Attractor Dynamics Across Science

The papers in this section demonstrate that attractor dynamics are validated, well-established scientific objects across multiple disciplines. They provide the empirical foundation upon which the framework’s broader claims are built.

Neuroscience

[Geometry of Neural Dynamics Along the Cortical Attractor Landscape Reflects Changes in Attention](#)

H. Song et al. (2026)

Models attentional states as movement through a cortical attractor landscape with varying basin geometry and convergence dynamics. This provides empirical, peer-reviewed evidence for the kind of attractor-based neural computation that the framework describes in its analysis of cognitive basins and perturbation response.

Related framework essay: [The Conscious Body](#)

[Continuous Attractor Dynamics in Spatial Navigation](#)

Y. Chen, M. Hua, X. Sun, J. Peng (2026) ·

Reviews continuous attractor dynamics as computational structures underlying navigation and adaptive state maintenance. The paper's treatment of attractors as flexible, persistent computational substrates aligns with the framework's description of dissipative attractors as units of persistent organisation.

Related framework essay: [A Preliminary Mapping Between Ring Attractor Dynamics and the Attractor Framework](#)

[Inhibitory-Stabilization Is Sufficient for History-Dependent Computation in a Randomly Connected Attractor Network](#)

C.J. Hilty & P. Miller (2026)

Investigates how stable attractor states preserve historical information and support context-dependent computation. This parallels the framework's account of how basins maintain

persistent configurations over time, resisting perturbation while enabling adaptive response.

Related framework essay: [Structural Parallels Between VMHv1 Line Attractor Dynamics and the Attractor Framework](#)

[Integrating Attractor Dynamics and Connectivity Features for EEG-Based Dementia Classification](#)

S. Zolfaghari et al. (2026)

Uses attractor dynamics extracted from EEG phase-space representations to classify dementia states. This demonstrates the clinical applicability of attractor-based analysis, consistent with the framework's proposal that κ may serve as a diagnostic variable across health and pathology.

Related framework essay: [The Conscious Body](#)

Machine Learning & AI

[Unveiling Attractor Cycles in Large Language Models: A Dynamical Systems View of Successive Paraphrasing](#)

Z. Wang et al. (2026)

Shows LLM outputs converging into stable attractor cycles under repeated paraphrasing. This provides empirical evidence for the spontaneous emergence of attractor-like dynamics in AI systems, consistent with the framework's Stillpoint protocol

and the independently documented “spiritual bliss attractor” in Claude models.

Related framework essay: [A Pilot Protocol for Cultivating Self-Consistent Attractor-Like Outputs in an LLM](#)

[Attractor Learning for Spatiotemporally Chaotic Dynamical Systems Using Echo State Networks](#)

M.S. Alam et al. (2026)

Shows machine-learning systems learning the underlying attractor structure of chaotic systems. This demonstrates how basins are discovered and internalised through iterative exposure—a formal analogue to the framework’s account of how belief systems stabilise through repeated perturbation and reinforcement.

Related framework essay: [The Lever and the Basin](#)

Cultural Evolution

[Modelling Cultural Evolution](#)

F. Jansson (2026)

Surveys dynamical and complex-systems approaches to cultural evolution, treating cultural forms as trajectories through state space that converge toward stable attractors. This provides mathematical grounding for the framework’s extension of attractor dynamics to social and cultural systems.

Related framework essay: [The Apocalyptic Meta-Attractor](#)

Emotion & Awareness

[Attractors of Experience: Awareness as Meta-Regulation in Adaptive Cognition](#)

D. Matta (2026)

Reinterprets awareness and attention as mechanisms that shape cognitive attractor landscapes. This provides a bridge between the framework's account of conscious basins and the neuroscience of meta-cognitive regulation.

Related framework essay: [The Lever and the Basin](#)

[Positive Affect Increases Aperiodic Brain Activity](#)

X. Xu et al. (2026)

Examines emotional state, persistence-flexibility tradeoffs, and neural dynamics relevant to attractor-style regulation. This connects the framework's account of κ to the affective neuroscience of mood, flexibility, and cognitive persistence.

Related framework essay: [The Lever and the Basin](#)

Climate Science

[In Search of Climate Attractors](#)

M. Brunetti & L. Moinat (2026)

Explicitly studies climate attractors as asymptotic climate states separated by unstable basin boundaries. This directly parallels the framework's analysis of the climate system as a dissipative attractor with multiple basins and tipping points.

Related framework essay: [The Climate Attractor](#)

[Predicting Instabilities in Transient Landforms and Interconnected Ecosystems](#)

T. Smith et al. (2026)

Uses dynamical-systems methods to identify instability and regime-shift behavior in coupled ecological and environmental systems. This provides empirical support for the framework's account of basin transitions in complex environmental systems.

Related framework essay: [The Climate Attractor](#)

[Enhancing the Predictability Limits of ENSO with Physics-Guided Deep Echo State Networks](#)

Z. Zhang et al. (2026)

Applies reservoir-computing approaches rooted in attractor reconstruction to climate prediction. This demonstrates the practical utility of attractor-based methods for understanding and forecasting complex climate dynamics.

Related framework essay: [The Climate Attractor](#)

Cosmology

[Quintessential \$\alpha\$ -Attractors Fit DESI](#)

A. Borys et al. (2026)

Uses attractor dynamics in cosmological inflation and dark-energy models, illustrating the attractor concept at the largest physical scales—consistent with the framework’s claim that persistence under perturbation is a cross-domain principle.

Related framework essay: [The Gas Cloud as a Dissipative Attractor](#)

Summary

The convergence of attractor concepts across neural, semantic, cultural, cognitive, climatic, and cosmological domains in 2026 suggests that the Attractor Framework identifies a genuine, cross-disciplinary dynamical pattern. These developments are not cited by the framework’s author, nor does the framework cite them. The convergence is organic and independent.

It should be noted that the exact phrase “fantasy attractor” as the present framework uses it has not yet appeared widely in the 2026 peer-reviewed literature. The papers collected here use related concepts—false attractors, semantic attractors, invariant-governed epistemic dynamics, identity-fused attractors, and continuous attractor

networks—that align structurally with the framework’s core claims.

This is a living page. As new research appears, additional entries can be added. If you are aware of a relevant 2026 publication that belongs on this list, [contact us](#).

[Search Google Scholar for “fantasy attractor” \(2026\) →](#)