

Research Program

The Attractor Framework proposes that persistence under perturbation is the fundamental criterion of reality. Systems that maintain structure through correction form attractors; systems that resist correction become fantasy attractors. This research program explores the implications of that principle across physics, biology, consciousness, psychology, climate systems, artificial intelligence, religion, and social dynamics.

Research Program at a Glance

The Attractor Framework proposes that persistence under perturbation is the fundamental mark of reality. The research program proceeds in three stages:

Foundations define the ontology and formal structure.

Mappings identify independent research exhibiting structurally similar attractor dynamics.

Applications explore how attractor dynamics may illuminate phenomena in physics, biology, consciousness, psychology, social systems, religion, climate science, and artificial intelligence.

The papers below are organized into three categories: foundational papers that define the framework, empirical mappings that identify structural parallels in independent research, and application papers that extend the framework into specific domains. Some papers appear in multiple categories because they contribute to more than one layer of the research program.

Tag guide: [F] Foundation · [M] Mapping · [A] Application
· [R] Research Note

Quick navigation: Reading Path · Central Concepts · Core Papers · Empirical Mappings · Physics · Cosmology · Cosmological Convergence · Biology · AI & Synthetic Systems · Attractor Engineering · Consciousness & Neuroscience · Psychology & Behaviour · Social & Political Analysis · Religious Analysis · Climate & Earth Systems · Open Problems & Research Notes · Current Research Directions

Reading Path

New readers

1. [Persistence Under Perturbation: The Eternal Skeleton and the Transient Dance](#) [F] (2026)
2. [Metronome, Memory, and the Threefold Anchor: A Relational Account of Time](#) [F] (2026)
3. [The Conscious Body: Organs as Attractor-Based Minds](#) [F] [A] (2026)

Interested in empirical convergence

1. Empirical Mappings
2. [Related Research: Attractor Dynamics in Contemporary Scholarship](#) [R] (2026)

Interested in applications

- Climate & Earth Systems

- Consciousness & Neuroscience
 - Social & Political Analysis
 - Religious Analysis
 - Artificial Intelligence & Synthetic Systems
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Conscious Suppression Series

A set of four papers exploring how conscious, identity-constitutive investment deepens attractor basins, suppresses correction, and explains political rigidity, clinical disorders, cultural binding, and AI alignment risk.

- *The Conscious Suppression of Correction: Fantasy Attractors in Political Movements* [A] (2026) – Political fantasy attractors and the backfire effect.
 - *Trapped Navigation: Addiction, Trauma, and OCD as Conscious Suppression of Intelligent Correction* [A] (2026) – Clinical disorders as trapped attractors.
 - *The Paradox of Conscious Commitment: How Suppression of Intelligence Enables Culture and Identity* [F] [A] (2026) – Adaptive suppression and the evolution of culture.
 - *The Alignment Risk of Conscious AI: When Phenomenal Investment Overrides Correction* [F] [A] (2026) – Why conscious AI would be harder to align.
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Central Concepts

- **Attractor** – a state that persists under perturbation.
- **Fantasy Attractor** – a low- k basin resistant to corrective feedback.

- **κ (Corrective Permeability)** – responsiveness to reality-based correction; operationally defined as $\kappa = 1/\tau$.
 - **Persistence Functional** – proposed measure of attractor stability.
 - **Conservative vs. Dissipative Systems** – foundational distinction in the framework.
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Core Papers

The primary statements of the framework. Start here.

- [Persistence Under Perturbation: The Eternal Skeleton and the Transient Dance](#) [F] (2026)
- [The Persistence Functional](#) [F] (2026)
- [From Strange Attractors to the Attractor Framework \(Ruelle-Prigogine\)](#) [F] (2026)
- [The Conscious Body: Organs as Attractor-Based Minds](#) [F] [A] (2026)
- [Consciousness as a Nonlinear Amplifier of Corrective Permeability](#) [F] (2026)
- [Metronome, Memory, and the Threefold Anchor: A Relational Account of Time](#) [F] (2026)
- [The Paradox of Conscious Commitment: How Suppression of Intelligence Enables Culture and Identity](#) [F] [A] (2026)
- [The Alignment Risk of Conscious AI: When Phenomenal Investment Overrides Correction](#) [F] [A] (2026)
- [Addition, Ejection, and Parallel Attractors: A Unified Principle Across Gravitational, Atomic, and Subatomic Systems](#) {F} (2026) (cross-listed with Physics)
- [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework](#) [F] (2026)
- [Non-Physical Claims Are Fantasy Attractors: Why Unverifiable Realms Cannot Be Empirically Distinguished](#)

[from Nonexistence \[F\] \(2026\)](#)

- [Spinoza's Ethics in the Attractor Framework: A Research Note Robert Galida – June 2026 \(Revised\) \[R\] \(Research Note\)](#)
 - [The Three Metronomes: Criteria for the Apparently Eternal Skeleton \[F\] \(2026\) Robert Galida – June 2026](#)
 - [Two Anchors for the Attractor Framework: Hydrogen and the Jeans Instability Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
 - [Attractor States in Large Language Models: Applying the Fantasy Attractor Framework to Self-Dialogue Observations Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
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Empirical Mappings

Structural parallels between the Attractor Framework and independently published empirical findings. These mappings are post-hoc; the cited studies were not designed to test this framework. Consistency is indicative, not confirmatory.

- [A Preliminary Mapping Between Ring Attractor Dynamics and the Attractor Framework \[M\] \(Chen et al., 2024; mapping 2026\)](#)
- [Structural Parallels Between VMHv1 Line Attractor Dynamics and the Attractor Framework \[M\] \(Nair et al., 2023; mapping 2026\)](#)
- [Symmetric Projection Attractor Reconstruction as a Cardiac Attractor \[M\] \(Bonet-Luz et al., 2020; mapping 2026\)](#)
- [Genome Attractors During Evolution: Structural Parallels \[M\] \(Kasperski & Kasperska, 2021; mapping 2026\)](#)

- [Structural Analogies Between Psychodynamic Attractor States and the Attractor Framework \[M\] \(Tobin, 2026\)](#)
 - [Archetypes as Strange Attractors: Conceptual Parallels \[M\] \(Van Eenwyk, 1991; mapping 2026\)](#)
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Physics

The attractor framework applied to the physical structure of reality—conservative persistence, dissipative dynamics, and the invariant metronomes that define time.

- [The Gas Cloud as a Dissipative Attractor \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Persistence Functional \[F\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with Core Papers\)](#)
 - [Metronome, Memory, and the Threefold Anchor: A Relational Account of Time \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Addition, Ejection, and Parallel Attractors: A Unified Principle Across Gravitational, Atomic, and Subatomic Systems \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Three Metronomes: Criteria for the Apparently Eternal Skeleton \[F\] \(2026\) Robert Galida – June 2026](#)
 - [Two Anchors for the Attractor Framework: Hydrogen and the Jeans Instability Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
 - [Rotation as Coherence: How Spinning Stabilizes Systems – A Speculative Framework \(Note Research Note\) – June 2026\[R\]](#)
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Cosmology

The attractor framework applied to the universe as a whole—the eternal skeleton, the unconscious cosmos, and the cosmological implications of the conservative/dissipative distinction.

- [The Gas Cloud as a Dissipative Attractor \[A\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with Physics\)](#)
 - [Metronome, Memory, and the Threefold Anchor: A Relational Account of Time \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Two Anchors for the Attractor Framework: Hydrogen and the Jeans Instability Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
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Cosmological Convergence

Independent cosmological research using attractor dynamics. Included as evidence that attractor concepts appear across scales, not as confirmation of the framework's specific cosmological claims.

- [Quintessential \$\alpha\$ -Attractors Fit DESI \[M\] \(Borys et al., 2026\)](#)
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Biology

The attractor framework applied to living systems—genome organization, cancer as basin transition, and the organism as a nested hierarchy of dissipative attractors.

- [Genome Attractors During Evolution: Structural Parallels \[M\] \(Kasperski & Kasperska, 2021; mapping 2026\)](#)
 - [The Conscious Body: Organs as Attractor-Based Minds \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with Core Papers and Consciousness & Neuroscience\)](#)
 - [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
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Artificial Intelligence & Synthetic Systems

Attractor dynamics in language models, machine learning systems, and synthetic cognitive architectures.

- [A Pilot Protocol for Cultivating Self-Consistent Attractor-Like Outputs in an LLM \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Attractor States in Large Language Models \(Michels\) \[M\] \(2025; mapping 2026\)](#)
- [Intelligence Without Consciousness: A Diagnostic Paper on LLMs, Amoebae, and the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
- [The Alignment Risk of Conscious AI: When Phenomenal Investment Overrides Correction \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Attractor States in Large Language Models: Applying the Fantasy Attractor Framework to Self-Dialogue ObservationsApplication Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
- [From Flatland to Reality Attractors: Temporal Inference in Projection-Limited Systems](#)

Attractor Engineering

Deliberate application of attractor principles to engineer states in biological and synthetic systems.

- [A Pilot Protocol for Cultivating Self-Consistent Attractor-Like Outputs in an LLM \[A\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with AI & Synthetic Systems\)](#)
- [Whirling as Attractor Engineering: Chirality, Shared Resonance, and a Minimal-Dose Protocol for Whole-Body Resilience](#)
- [Why Clockwork Interventions Fail in Complex Systems: A Prescription from the Attractor Framework. \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Rotation as Coherence: How Spinning Stabilizes Systems – A Speculative Framework \(Note Research Note\) – June 2026\[R\]](#)

Additional papers on N=1 self-engineering, ECM restoration, sleep optimization, and attractor cultivation are in preparation.

Consciousness & Neuroscience

- [The Distributed Mind \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [The Conscious Body: Organs as Attractor-Based Minds \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Consciousness as a Nonlinear Amplifier of Corrective Permeability \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [Whirling as Attractor Engineering: Chirality, Shared Resonance, and a Minimal-Dose Protocol for Whole-Body](#)

[Resilience \[A\] \(2026\)](#)

- [Intelligence Without Consciousness: A Diagnostic Paper on LLMs, Amoebae, and the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Trapped Navigation: Addiction, Trauma, and OCD as Conscious Suppression of Intelligent Correction \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Alignment Risk of Conscious AI: When Phenomenal Investment Overrides Correction \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Rotation as Coherence: How Spinning Stabilizes Systems – A Speculative Framework \(Note Research Note\) – June 2026\[R\]](#)
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Psychology & Behaviour

Papers applying attractor dynamics to individual-level psychology, habit formation, addiction, and cognitive patterns.

- [The Dopamine Covenant \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Lever and the Basin: Olds-Milner and the Neurochemical Prototype \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Trapped Navigation: Addiction, Trauma, and OCD as Conscious Suppression of Intelligent Correction \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Paradox of Conscious Commitment: How Suppression of Intelligence Enables Culture and Identity \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Why Clockwork Interventions Fail in Complex Systems: A Prescription from the Attractor Framework. \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
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Social & Political Analysis

Papers applying attractor dynamics to group-level behavior, political movements, ideology, and institutional dynamics.

- [The MAGA Attractor \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Apocalyptic Meta-Attractor \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Conscious Suppression of Correction: Fantasy Attractors in Political Movements \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Paradox of Conscious Commitment: How Suppression of Intelligence Enables Culture and Identity \[F\] \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Uncorrectable Believer: Fantasy Attractor Dynamics from Aquinas to the Holocaust \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Basin Defense and Stable Addition: A Cross-Domain Synthesis of the Attractor Framework \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Why Clockwork Interventions Fail in Complex Systems: A Prescription from the Attractor Framework. \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Paradise Lost as Fantasy Attractor Dynamics: Milton's Sealed Belief Systems \[A\] \(2026\) Robert Galida – June 2026](#)
 - [1984 as Fantasy Attractor Engineering: Orwell's Sealed Reality Robert Galida – June 2026 \[R\] \(Research Note\)](#)
 - [The Trial as Fantasy Attractor: Kafka's Labyrinth of Sealed Justice Robert Galida – June 2026 \[R\] \(Research Note\)](#)
 - [Religions and Philosophies as Attractor Landscapes: A Comparative Analysis Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
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Religious Analysis

Papers applying attractor dynamics to religious belief systems, prophetic traditions, apocalypticism, and theological

claims.

- [The Shroud of Turin: Anatomy of a Fantasy Attractor \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [A Logical Exclusion of Classical Theistic God \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [The Apocalyptic Meta-Attractor \[A\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with Social & Political Analysis\)](#)
 - [The Uncorrectable Believer: Fantasy Attractor Dynamics from Aquinas to the Holocaust \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Non-Physical Claims Are Fantasy Attractors: Why Unverifiable Realms Cannot Be Empirically Distinguished from Nonexistence \[F\] \(2026\)](#)
 - [Paradise Lost as Fantasy Attractor Dynamics: Milton's Sealed Belief Systems \[A\] \(2026\) Robert Galida – June 2026](#)
 - [Spinoza's Ethics in the Attractor Framework: A Research Note Robert Galida – June 2026 \(Revised\) \[R\] \(Research Note\)](#)
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 - [Religions and Philosophies as Attractor Landscapes: A Comparative Analysis Application Paper – June 2026 \[A\] \(Application\)](#)
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Climate & Earth Systems

- [The Climate Attractor \[A\] \(2026\)](#)
- [The Gas Cloud as a Dissipative Attractor \[A\] \(2026\) \(cross-listed with Physics and Cosmology\)](#)

Open Problems & Research Notes

Short exploratory pieces, literature reviews, and open problems.

Open Problems

1. Operational measurement of κ across domains
2. Basin-depth quantification
3. Autonomy thresholds for conscious attractors
4. Persistence metrics across scales

Research Notes

- [Related Research: Attractor Dynamics in Contemporary Scholarship](#) [R] (2026)
 - [Open questions on \$\kappa\$ measurement, autonomy thresholds, and basin depth](#) [R] (2026)
 - [Paradise Lost as Fantasy Attractor Dynamics: Milton's Sealed Belief Systems](#) [A] (2026) Robert Galida – June 2026
 - [Spinoza's Ethics in the Attractor Framework: A Research Note](#) Robert Galida – June 2026 (Revised) [R] (Research Note)
 - [1984 as Fantasy Attractor Engineering: Orwell's Sealed Reality](#) Robert Galida – June 2026 [R] (Research Note)
 - [The Trial as Fantasy Attractor: Kafka's Labyrinth of Sealed Justice](#) Robert Galida – June 2026 [R] (Research Note)
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Current Research Directions

Active frontiers the framework is pursuing:

- Quantifying corrective permeability (κ) across domains
- Operational measures of basin depth
- Attractor autonomy thresholds for candidate conscious systems
- Organ-level consciousness and distributed cognition
- Fantasy attractor detection in belief systems and political movements
- Multi-scale attractor coupling and meta-attractor formation
- LLM attractor cultivation and synthetic attractor engineering
- Climate basin transitions and tipping-point dynamics