

Towards a model of trust  
drawn from neuroscience,  
psychology, and economics:

*Implications for the  
New and Next Generation  
Computing Environments*

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for the Study of Trust (T-R-U-S-T)



CROSSING Conference 2019  
Darmstadt 9|10|19

# To Trust or Not to Trust: That is the Question



How much money would you  
lend this person?

\$0    \$2    \$6    \$8    \$10

Low



Neutral



High



Low



Neutral



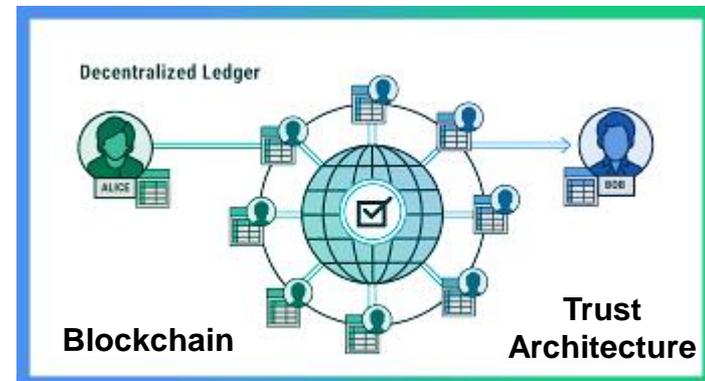
High



# Why Should We Care About Trust ?

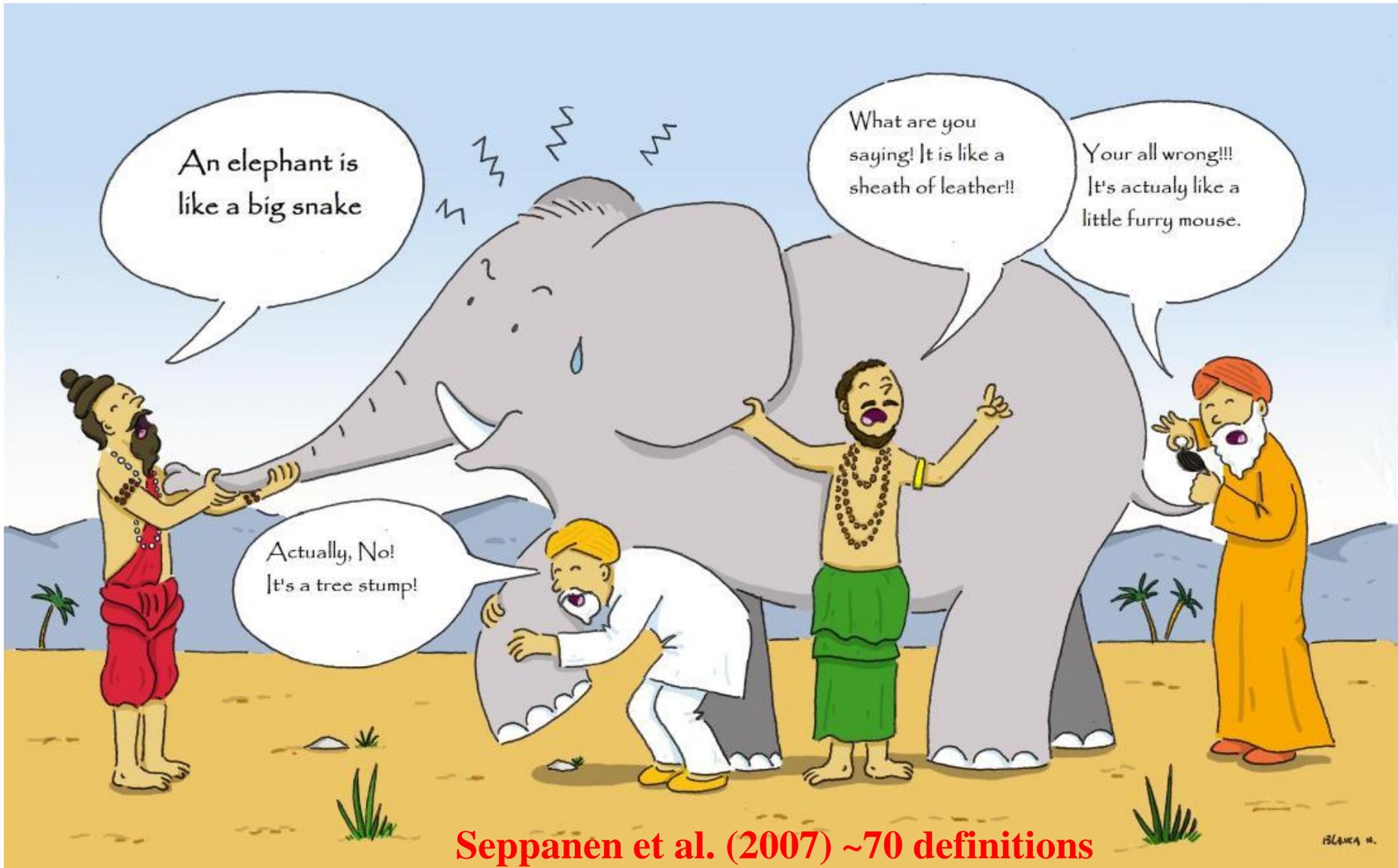


<http://bahaiteachings.org/free-society-depends-trust-trustworthiness>

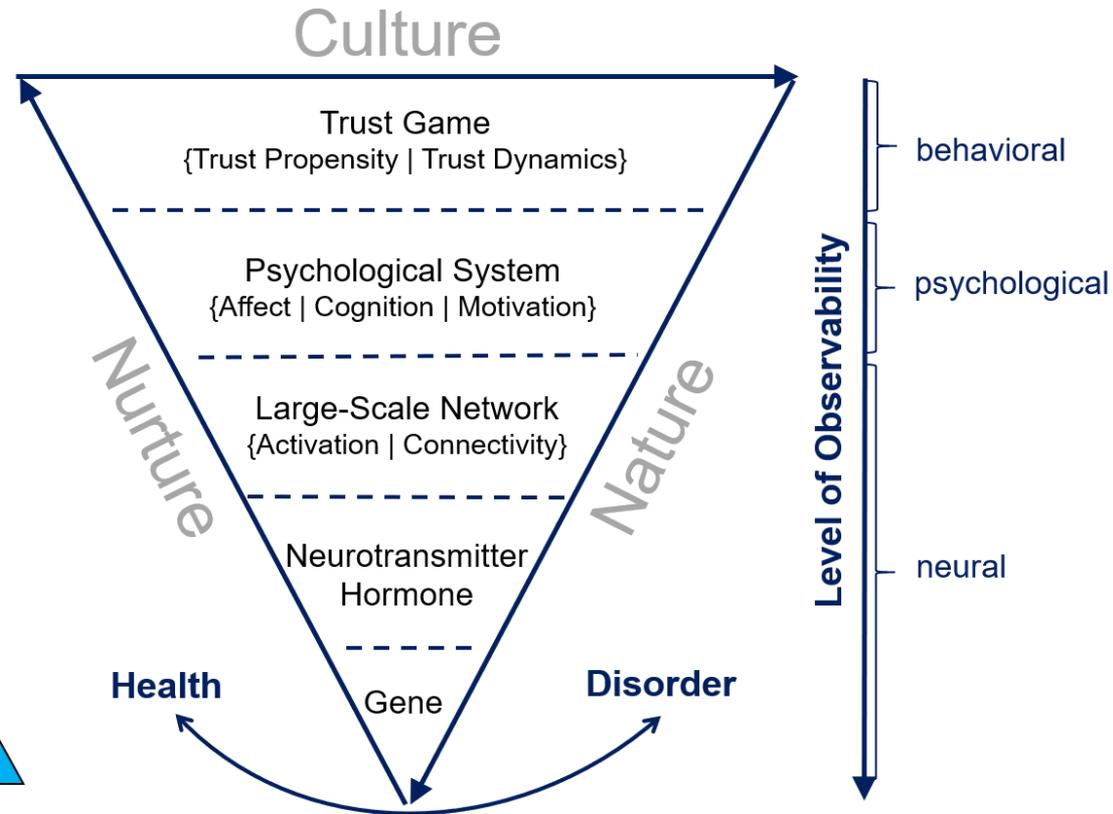
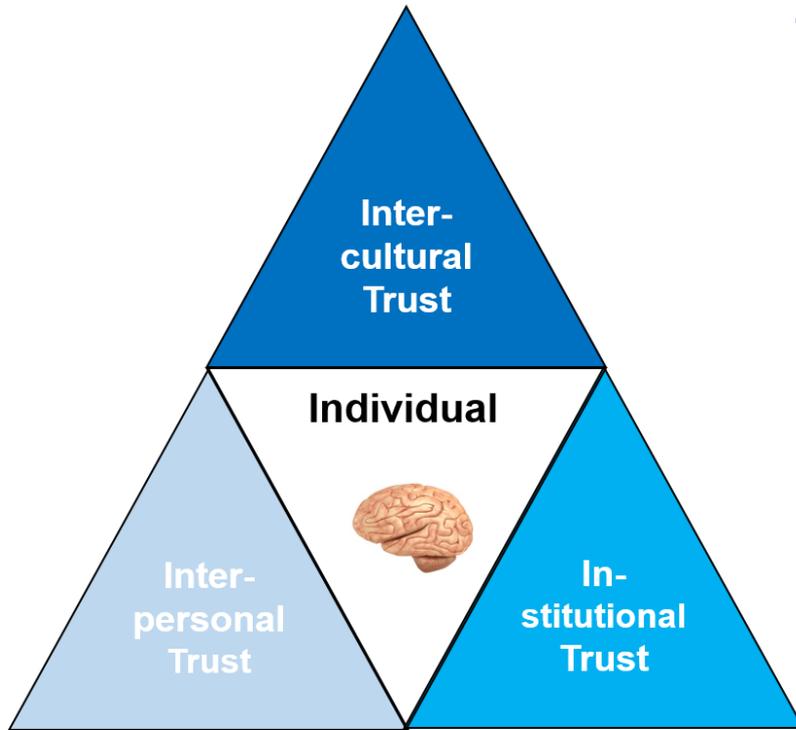


<https://medium.com/nhct-nanohealth-care-token/decentralized-vs-centralized-systems-cb31b95928c5>

# Parable: The Blind Men and the Elephant



# NeuroPsychoEconomic Approach



Definition → Framework → Model

# Definition & Paradigm



<https://www.theodysseyonline.com/trust-underestimated-fear>

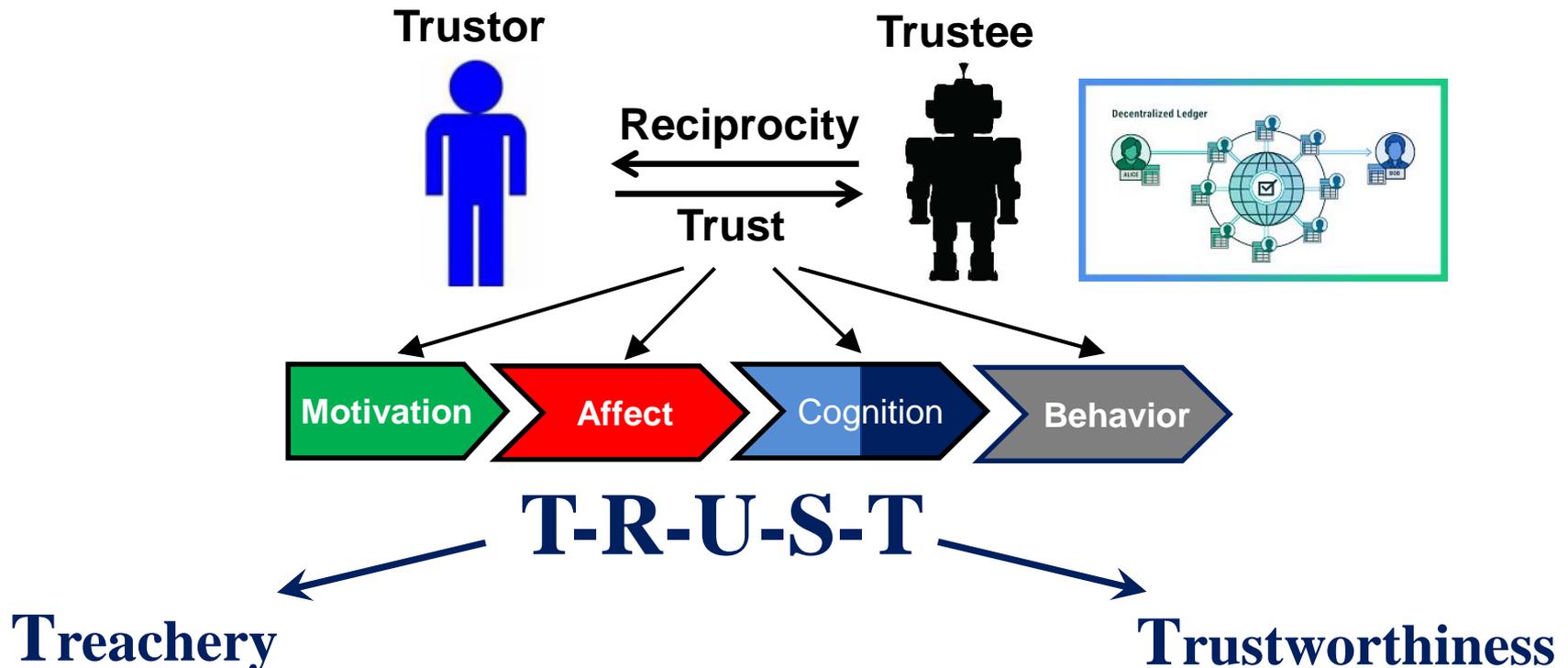
Interpersonal trust encompasses one's willingness to accept **vulnerability** based on the expectation regarding the behavior of another party that will produce some positive outcome in the future.

# Working Definition of Trust

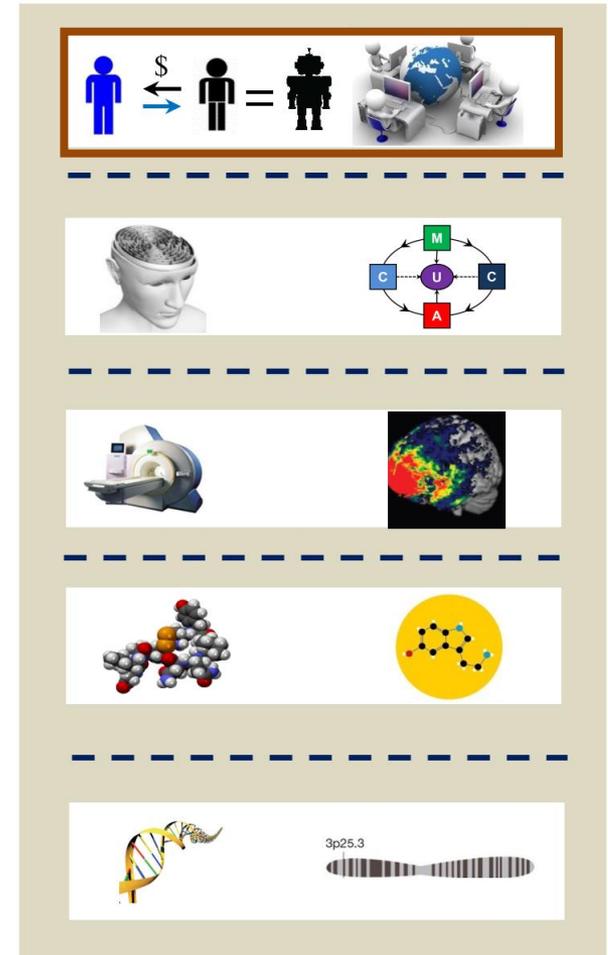
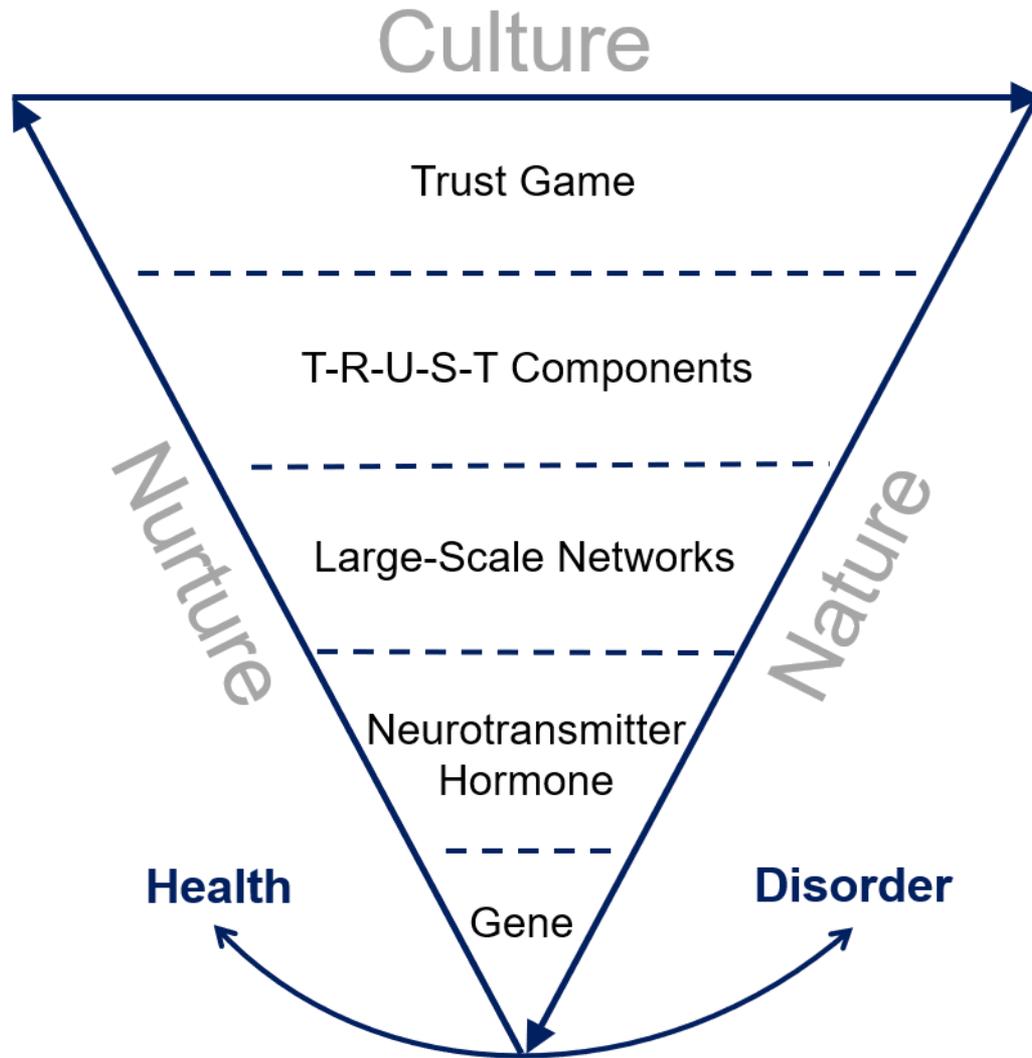


Trust in reciprocity entails a psychological state in which a **trustor** is willing to be vulnerable to the risk of **treachery (affect)** based on the **expectation (cognition)** regarding the action of a **trustee** that will produce some anticipated **reward (motivation)** due to reciprocation in the future.

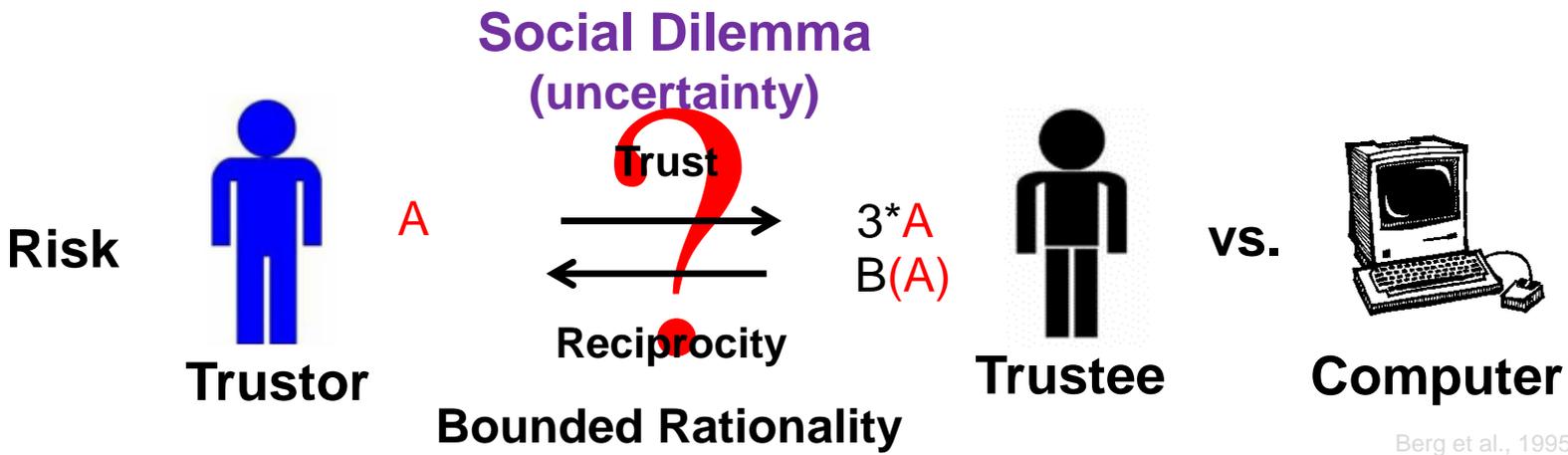
## Social Dilemma (uncertainty)



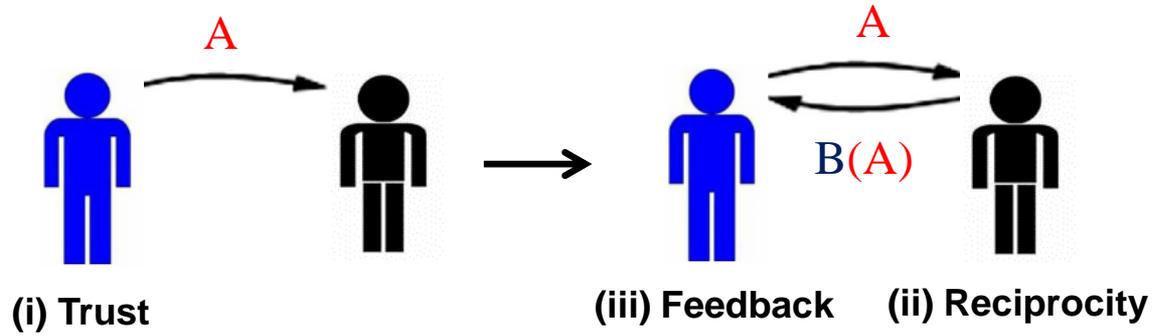
# NeuroPsychoEconomic Framework



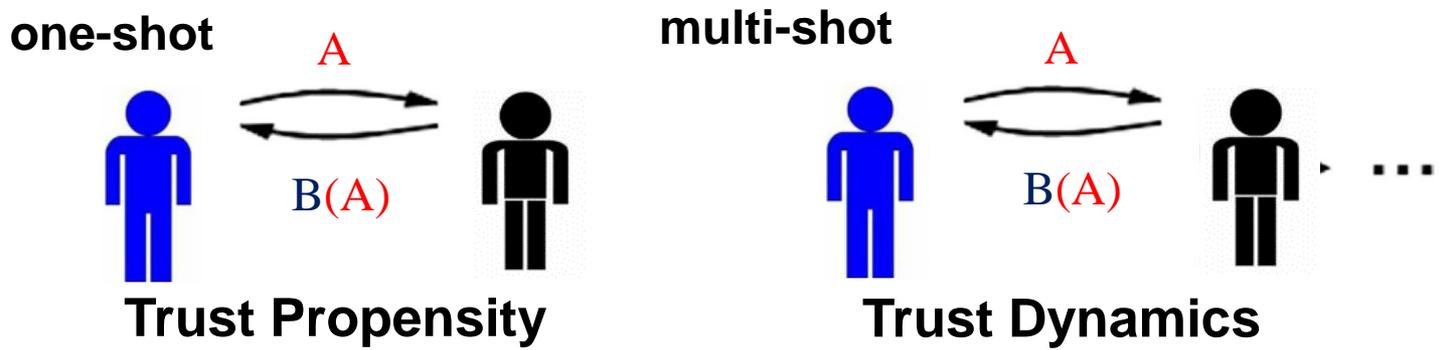
Game Theory:



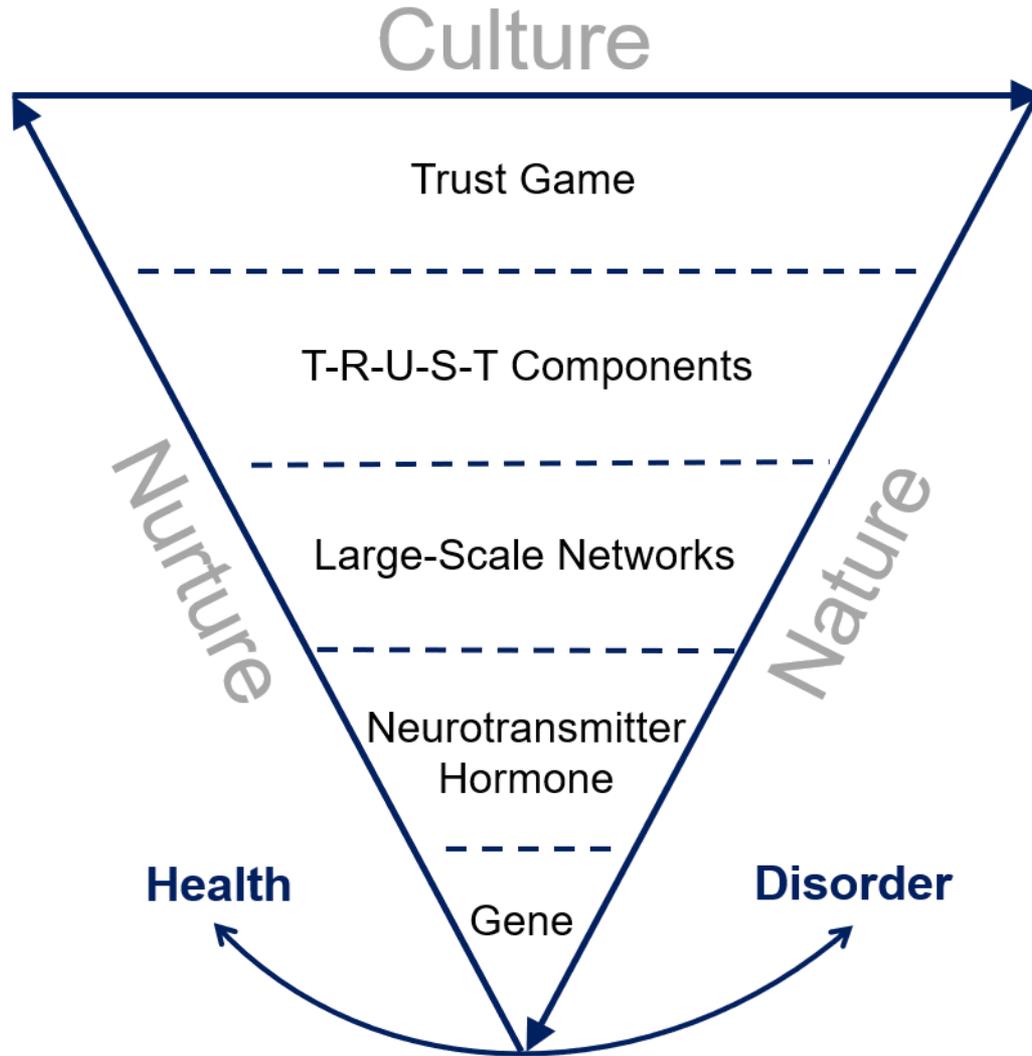
Stages:



Types:



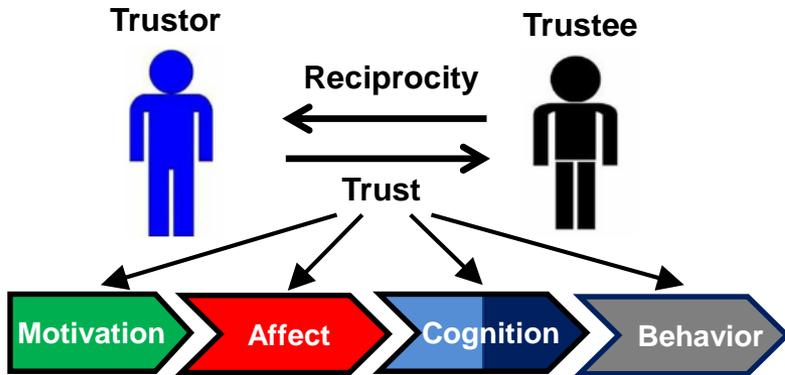
# NeuroPsychoEconomic Framework



# Psyche: T-R-U-S-T Components

## T-R-U-S-T Model

### Social Dilemma (uncertainty)



### Bounded Rationality

CBT, calculus-based trust

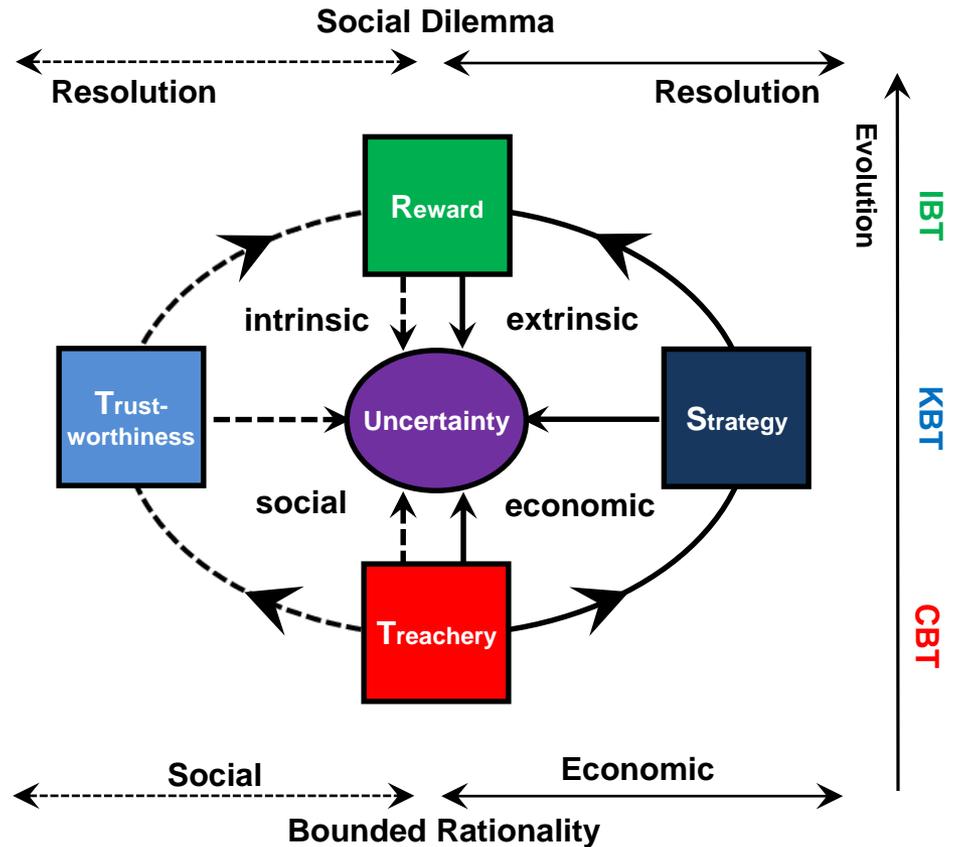
KBT, knowledge-based trust

IBT, identification-based trust

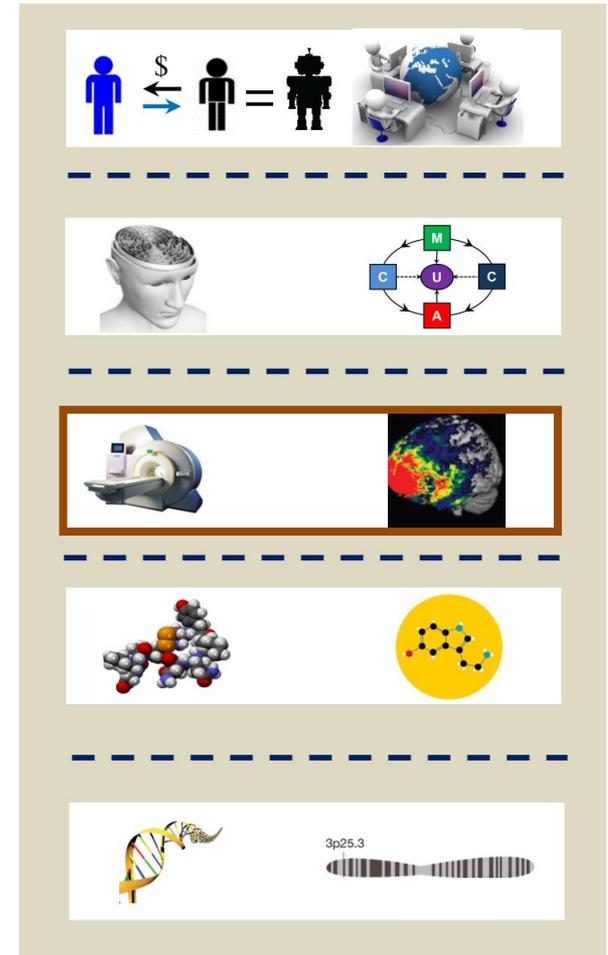
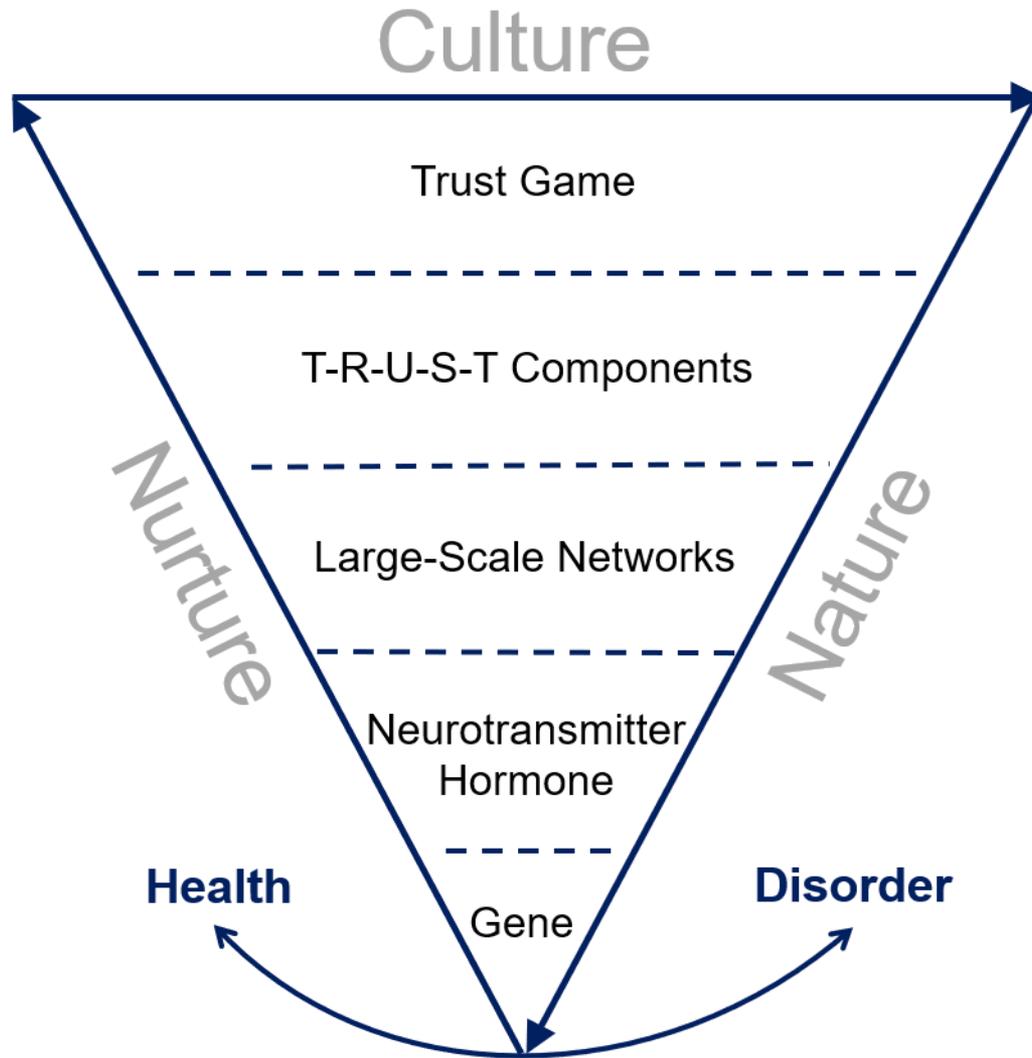
## Formation

T - R → U ← S - T

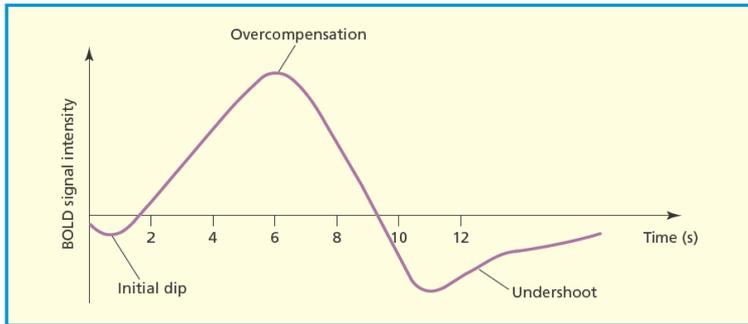
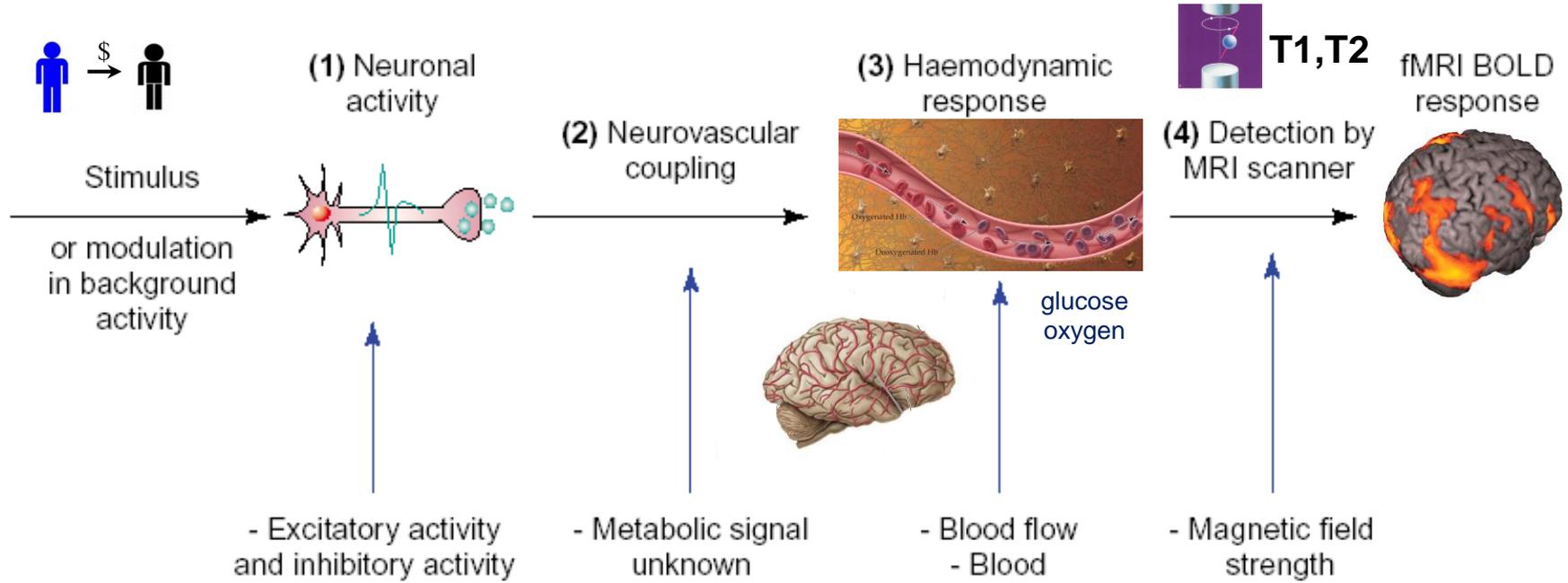
## Resolution



# NeuroPsychoEconomic Framework

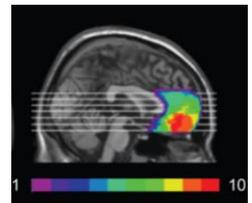


## Blood Oxygen Level Dependent (BOLD) Signal



**1) Control Condition**

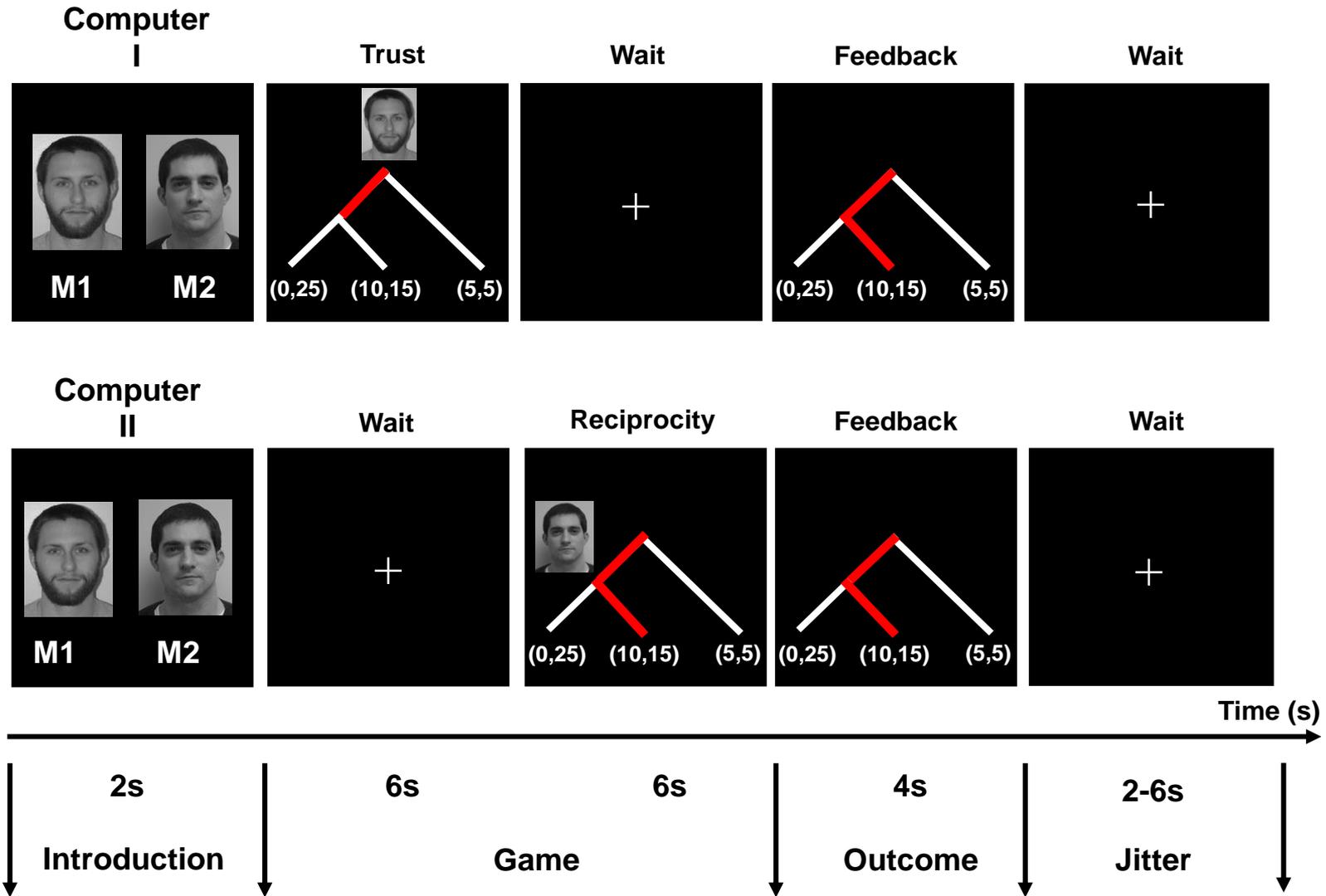
**2) Lesion Evidence**



↑ neural activity → ↑ blood flow → ↑ de-/ oxygenated Hgb → ↑ T2\* → ↑ MR signal



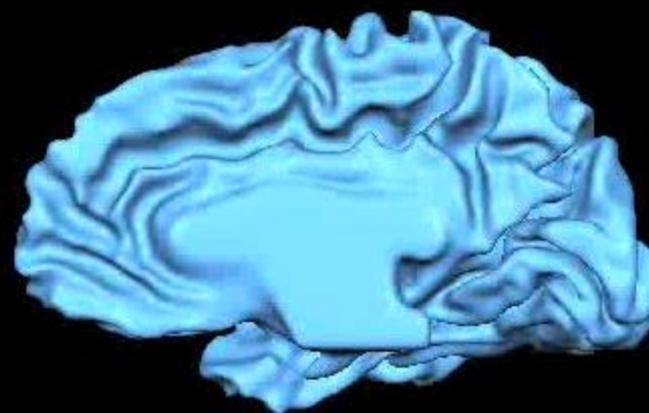
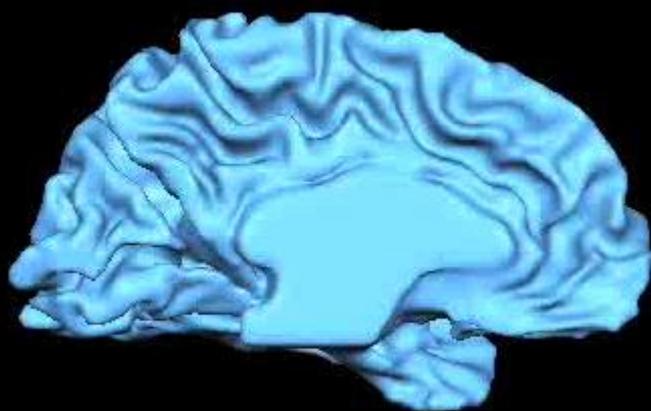
# Task-Based Functional MRI

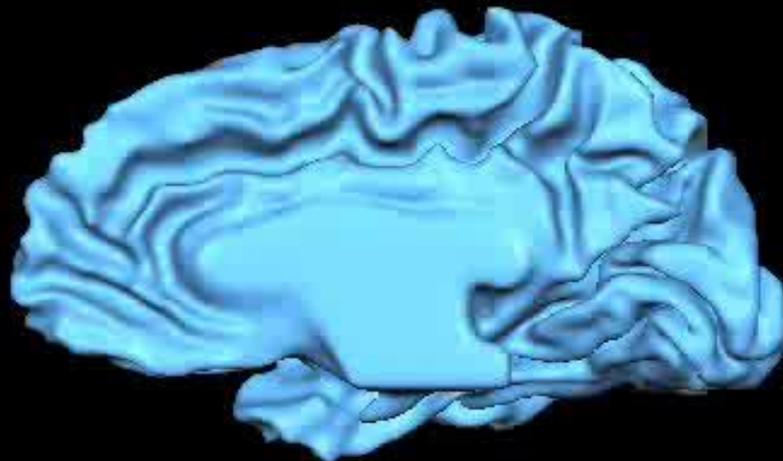
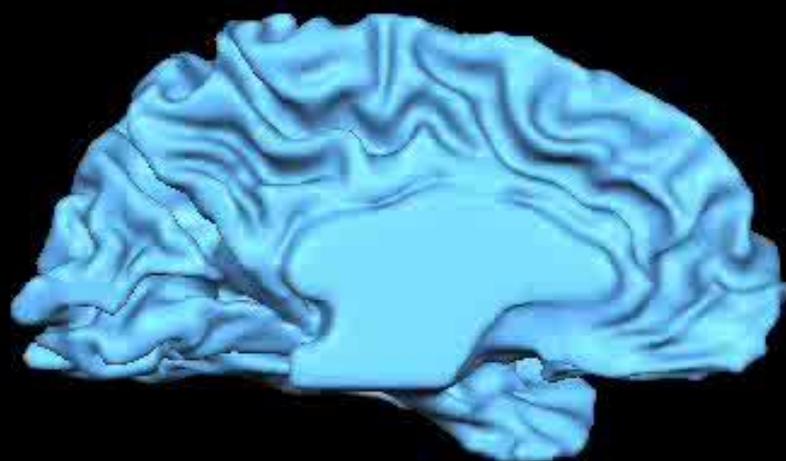


# Inside the Scanners

Scanner I

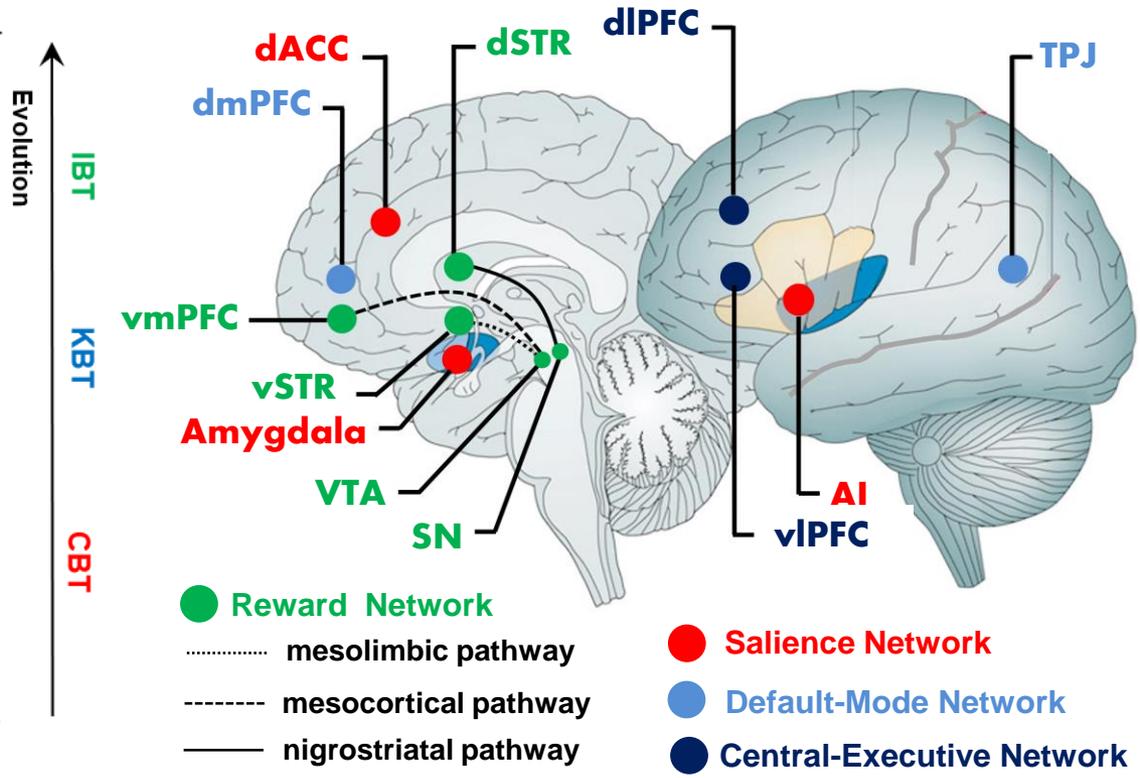
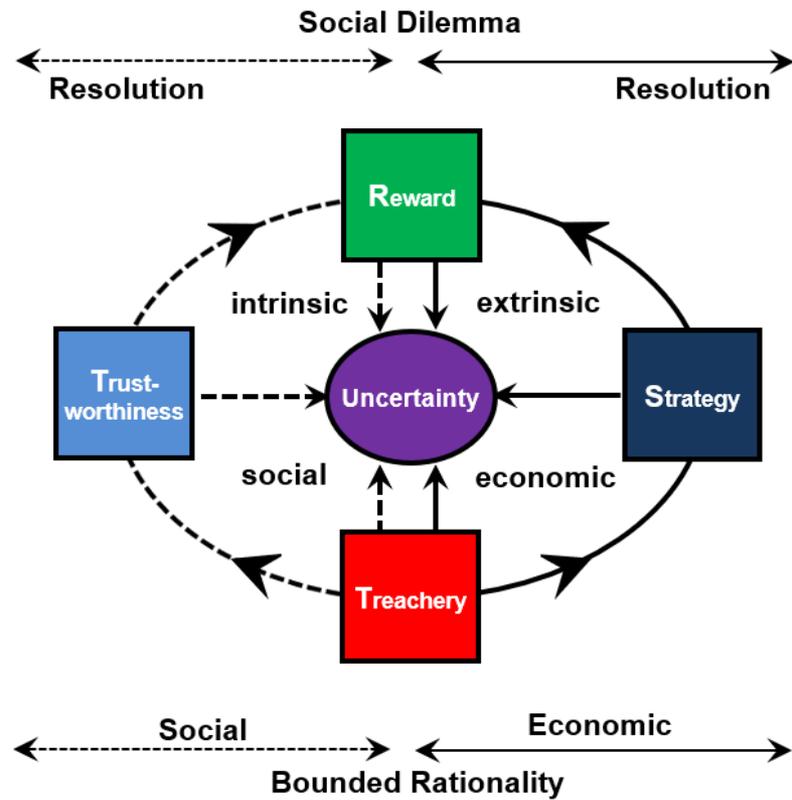
Scanner II







## Domain-General Large-Scale Networks



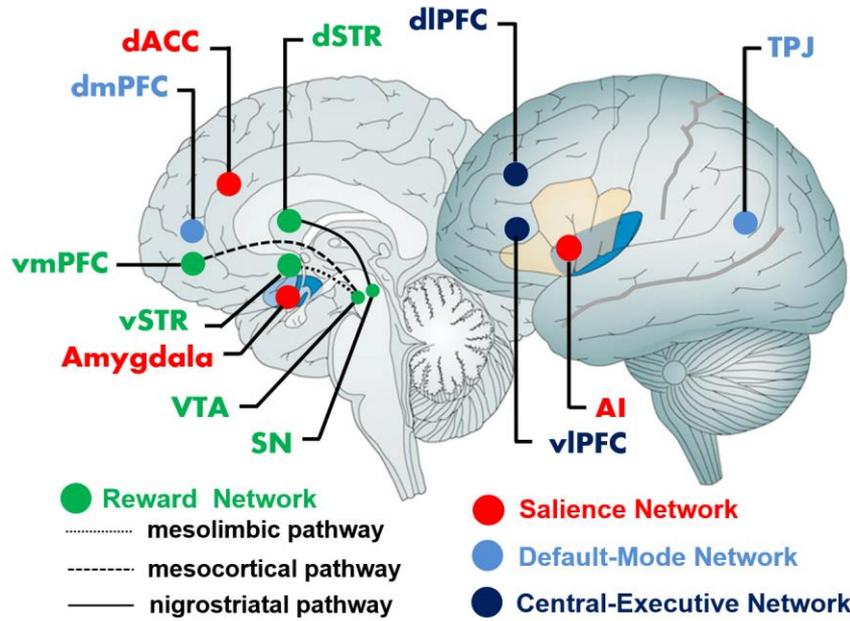
CBT, calculus-based trust; KBT, knowledge-based trust; IBT, identification-based trust; VTA, ventral tegmentum area; SN; substantia nigra; dSTR, dorsal striatum; vSTR, ventral striatum; vmPFC, ventromedial prefrontal cortex; AI, anterior insula; dACC, dorsal anterior cingulate cortex; TPJ, temporoparietal junction; dmPFC; dorsomedial PFC; dIPFC, dorsolateral PFC; vIPFC, ventrolateral PFC

# Social Dilemma: Formation

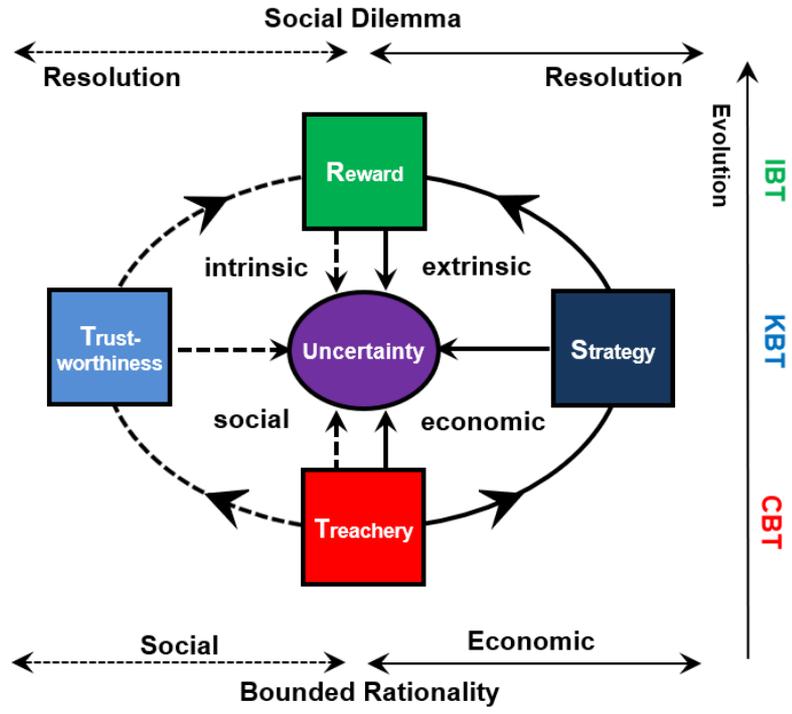
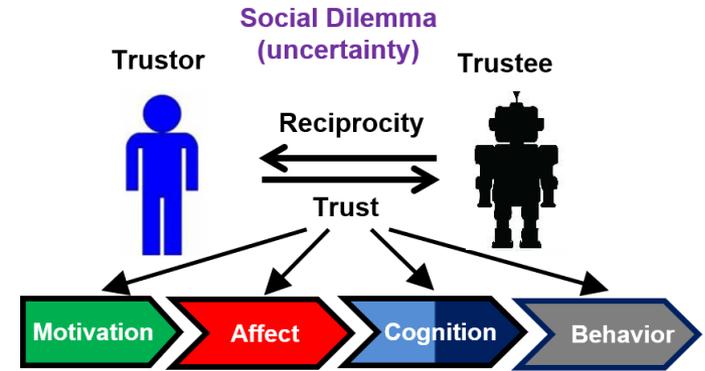
T - R - U - S - T

**Formation**

**Resolution**



VTA, ventral tegmentum area; SN; substantia nigra; dSTR, dorsal striatum; vSTR, ventral striatum; vmPFC, ventromedial prefrontal cortex; AI, anterior insula; dACC, dorsal anterior cingulate cortex; TPJ, temporoarietal junction; dmPFC; dorsomedial PFC; dIPFC, dorsolateral PFC; vIPFC, ventrolateral PFC

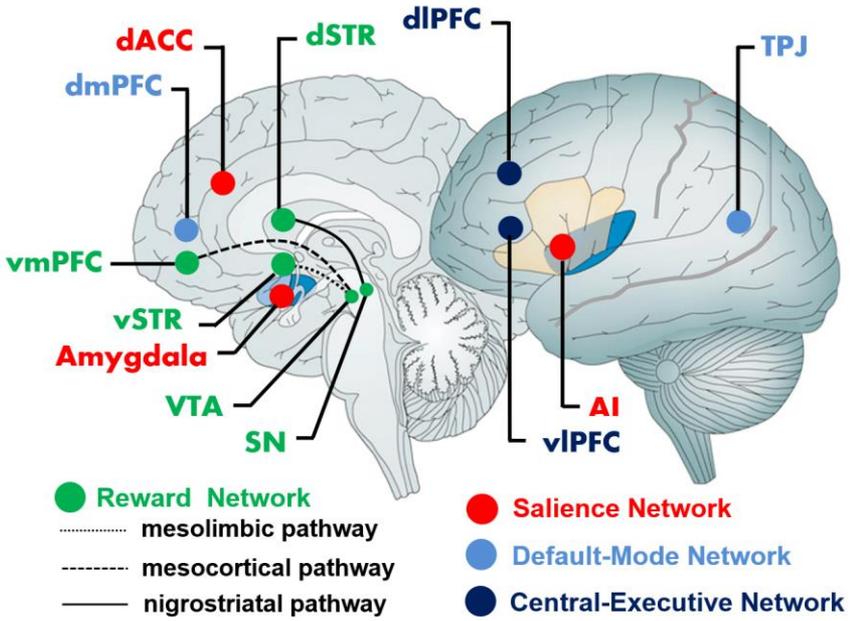


CBT, calculus-based trust; KBT, knowledge-based trust; IBT, identification-based trust;

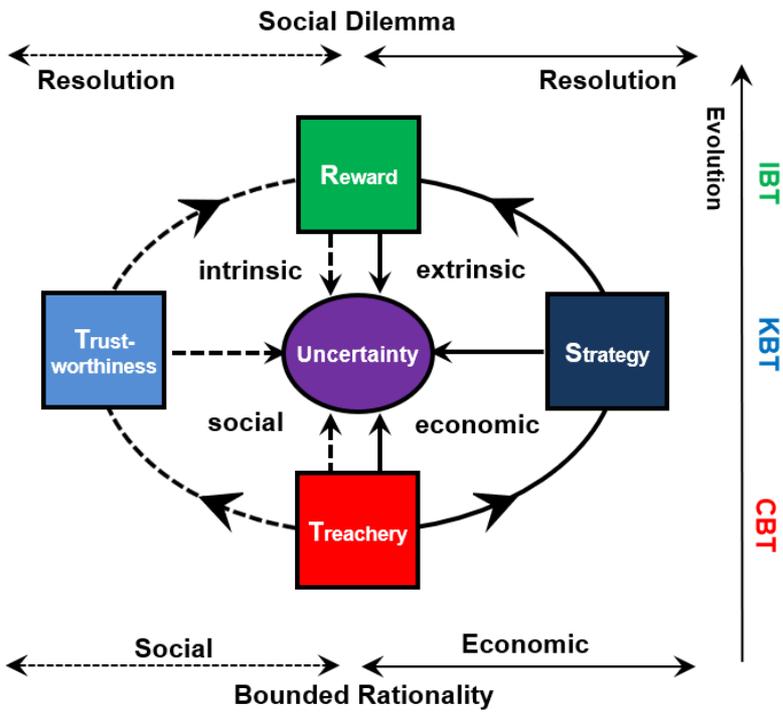
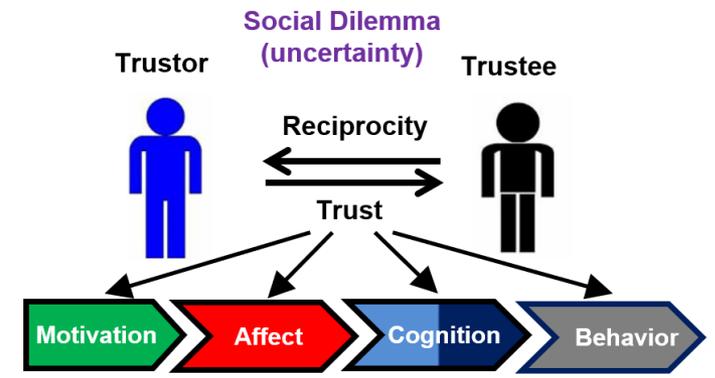
# Reward Network = Reward

## Anticipation of Reward

- Subjective Reward Value (Utility)
  - Ventromedial prefrontal cortex (vmPFC)
- Reinforcement Learning
  - Striatum (STR)



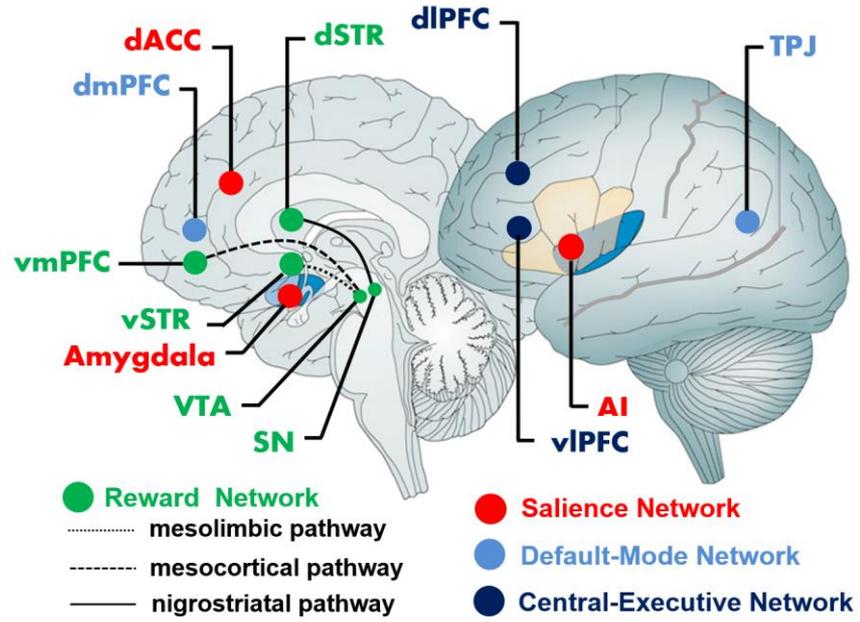
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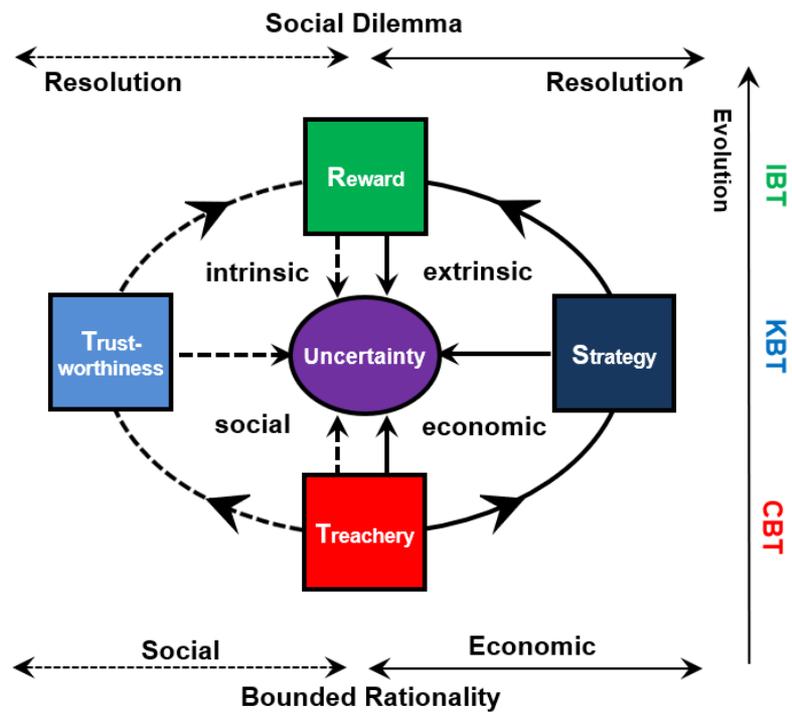
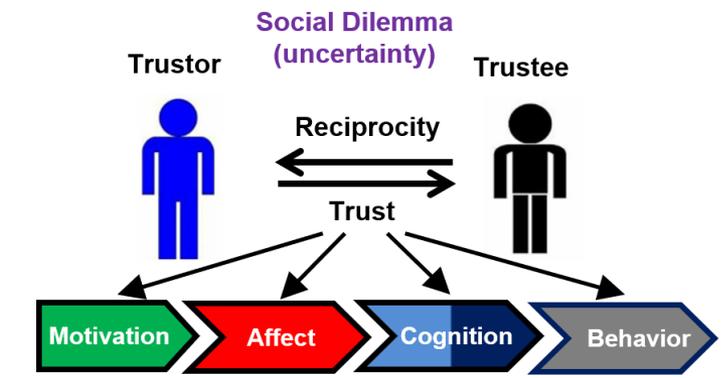
CBT, calculus-based trust; KBT, knowledge-based trust; IBT, identification-based trust;

## Risk of Treachery

- **Threat of Treachery (Emotional Response)**
  - Amygdala
- **Treachery Aversion (Subjective Feeling)**
  - Anterior Insula (AI)
- **Treachery vs. Reward (Monitoring)**
  - Dorsal Anterior Cingulate Cortex (dACC)



VTA, ventral tegmentum area; SN; substantia nigra; dSTR, dorsal striatum; vSTR, ventral striatum; vmPFC, ventromedial prefrontal cortex; AI, anterior insula; dACC, dorsal anterior cingulate cortex; TPJ, temporoarietal junction; dmPFC; dorsomedial PFC; dIPFC, dorsolateral PFC; vIPFC, ventrolateral PFC



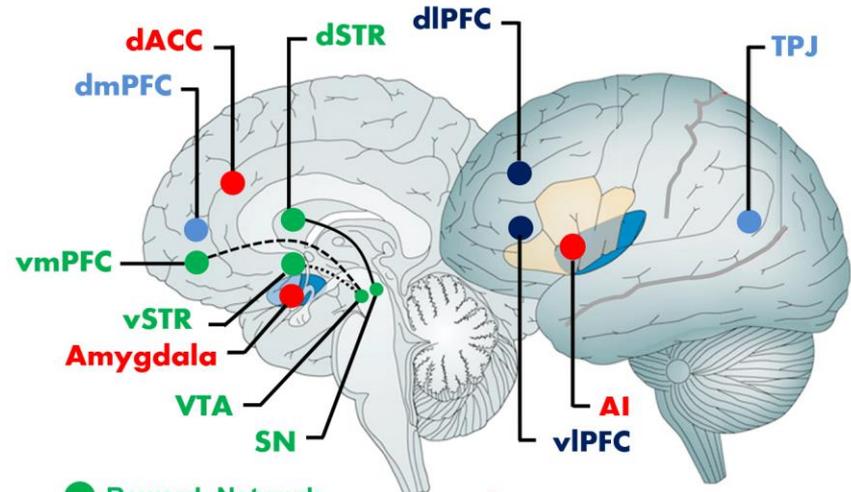
CBT, calculus-based trust; KBT, knowledge-based trust; IBT, identification-based trust;

# Social Dilemma: Resolution



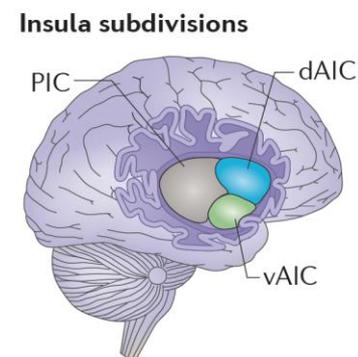
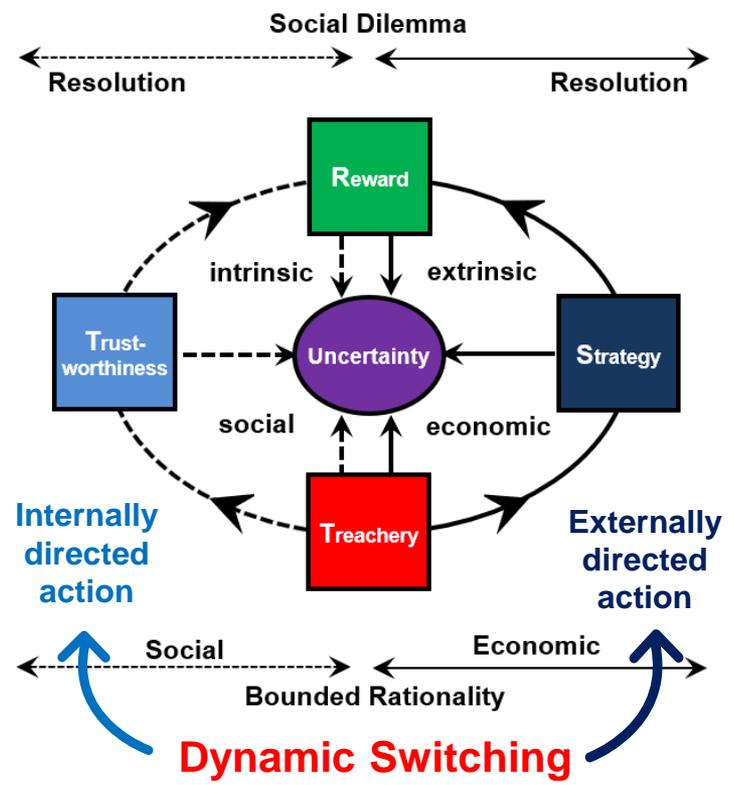
**T - R - U - S - T**

**Formation      Resolution**

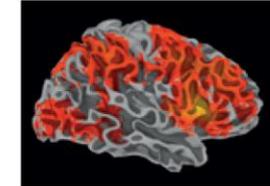


- **Reward Network**
- **Saliience Network**
- **Default-Mode Network**
- **Central-Executive Network**
- ..... mesolimbic pathway
- mesocortical pathway
- nigrostriatal pathway

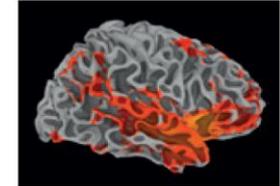
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dAIC co-activation associated with cognitive processing areas



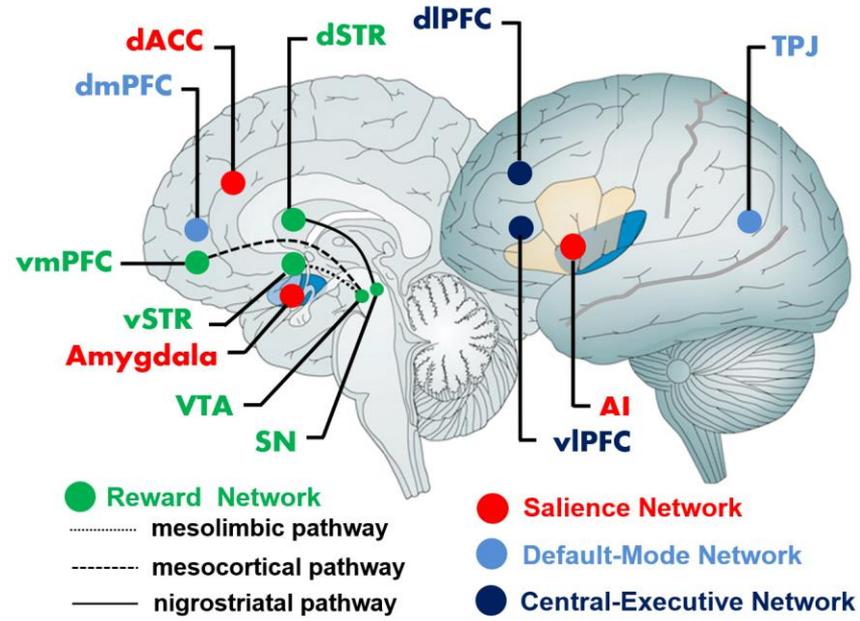
vAIC co-activation associated with affective processing areas



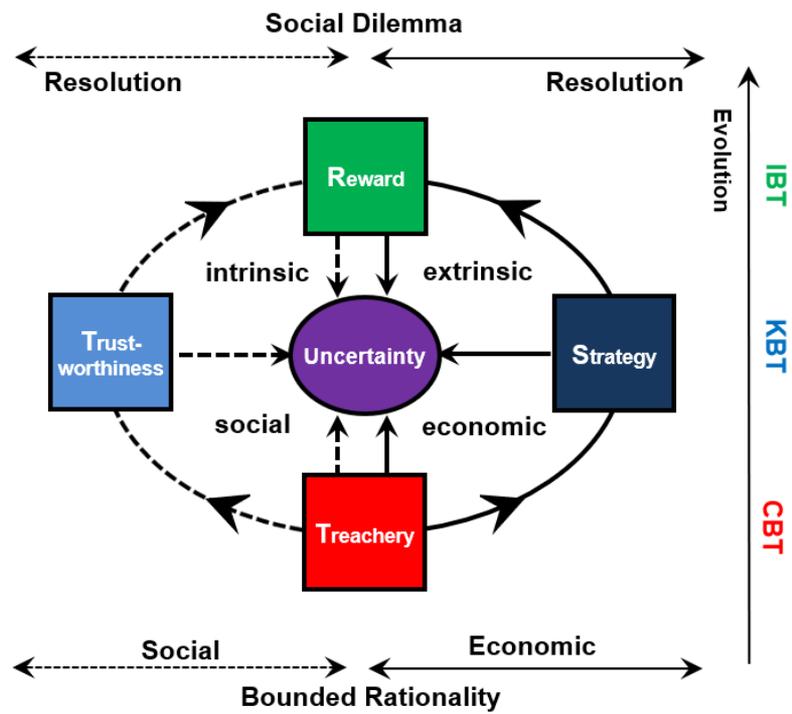
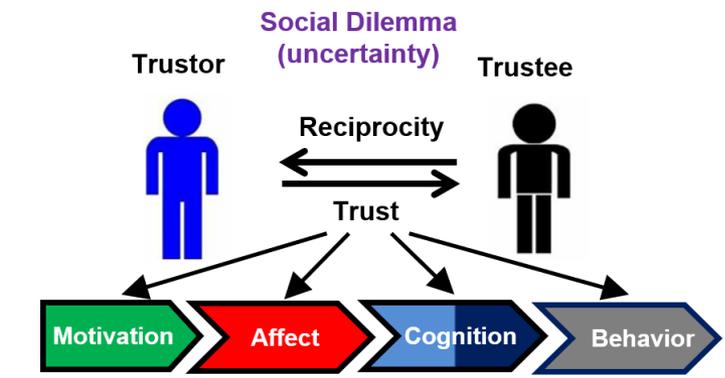
# Default-Mode Network = Trustworthiness

## Evaluation of Trustworthiness

- Inferring and Attributing of Traits
  - Dorsomedial prefrontal cortex (dmPFC)
- Inferring and Attributing of Intentions
  - Temporoparietal junction (TPJ)



VTA, ventral tegmentum area; SN; substantia nigra; dSTR, dorsal striatum; vSTR, ventral striatum; vmPFC, ventromedial prefrontal cortex; AI, anterior insula; dACC, dorsal anterior cingulate cortex; TPJ, temporoparietal junction; dmPFC; dorsomedial PFC; dIPFC, dorsolateral PFC; vIPFC, ventrolateral PFC



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# Central-Executive Network = Strategy

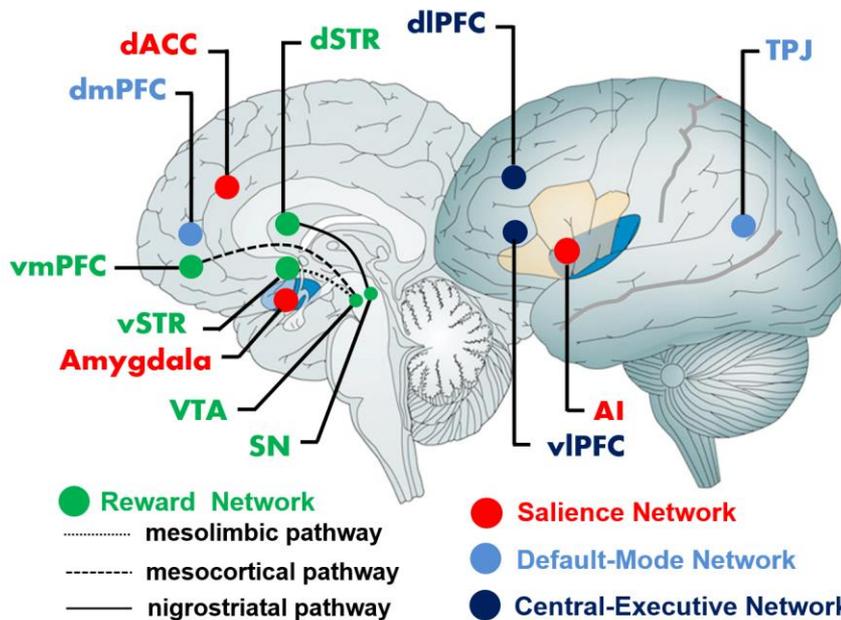
## Context-Based Adaption of Strategy

### ➤ Accounting Conflicting Evidence

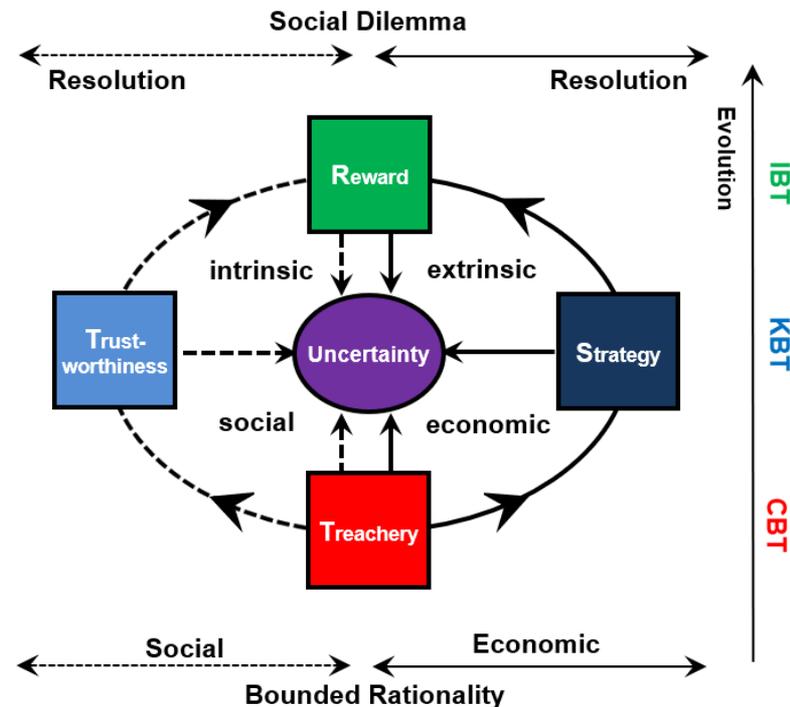
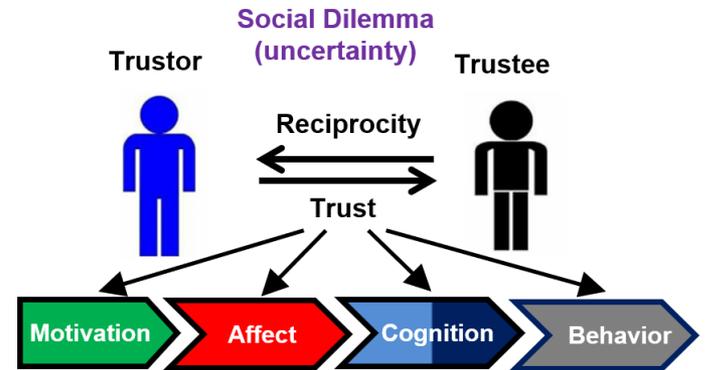
- Dorsolateral PFC (dlPFC)

### ➤ Disaccounting Conflicting Evidence

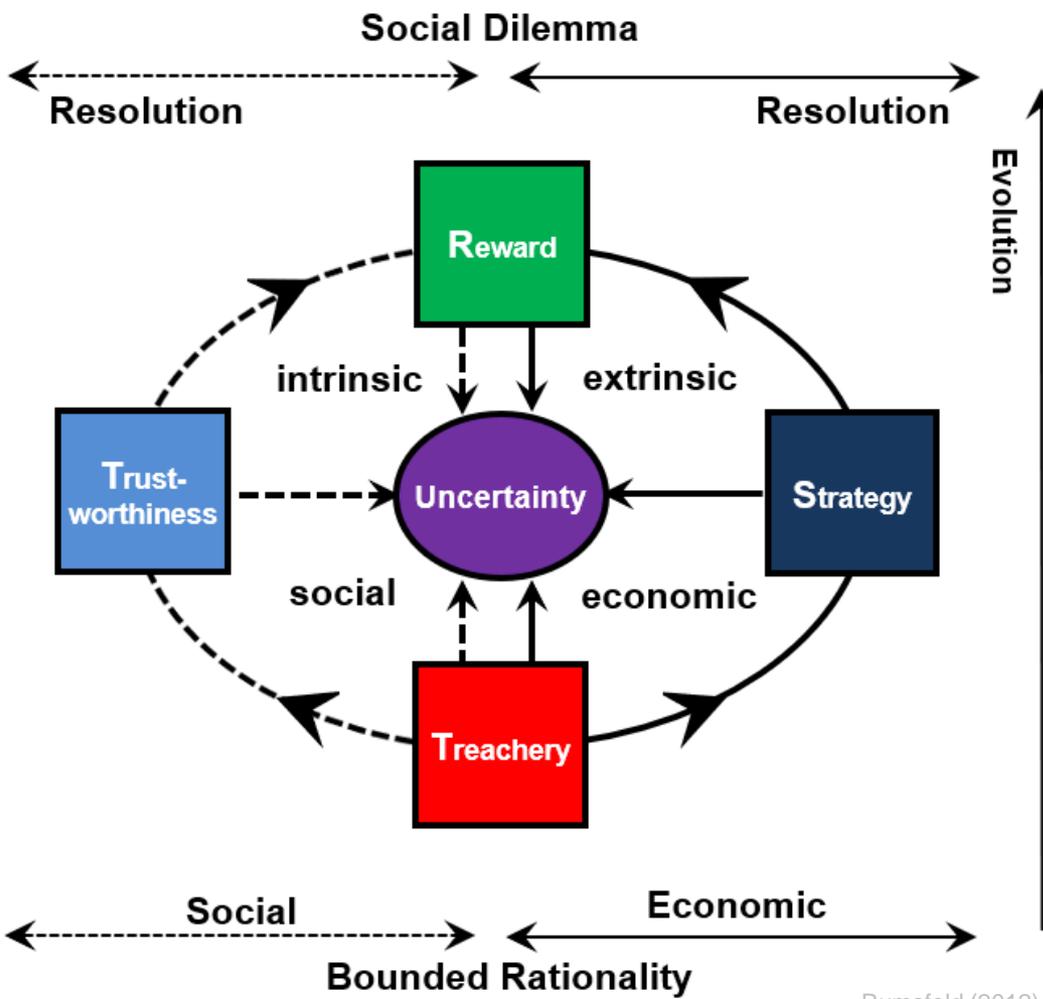
- Ventrolateral PFC (vlPFC)



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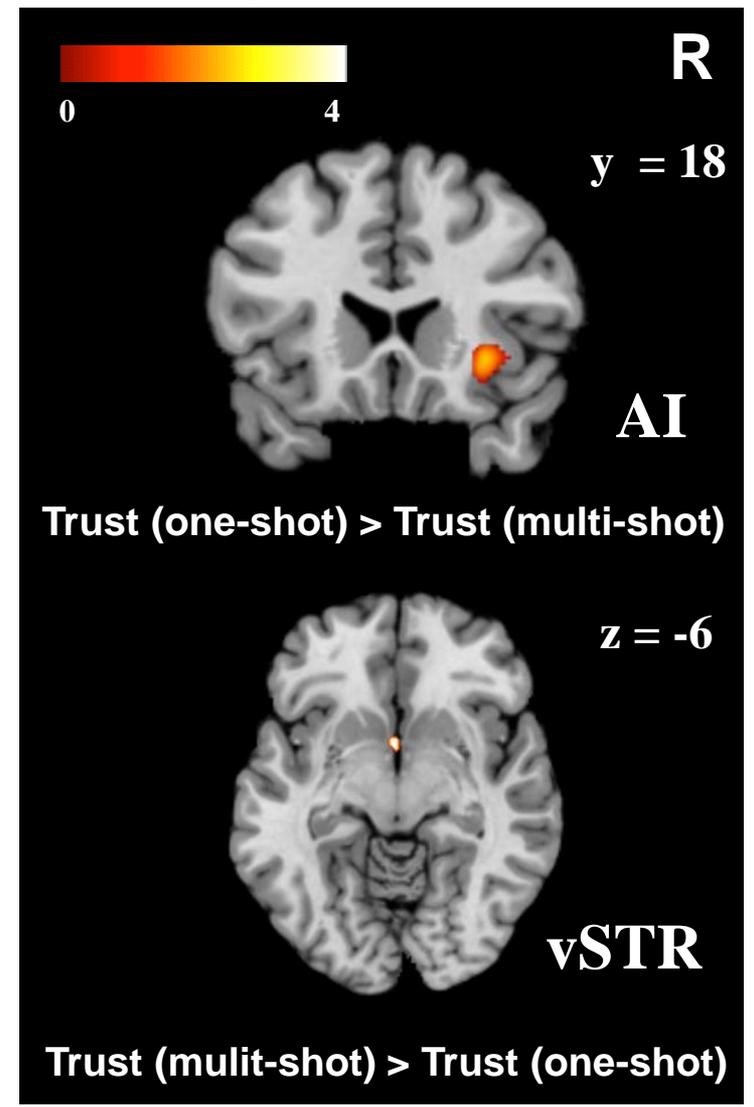


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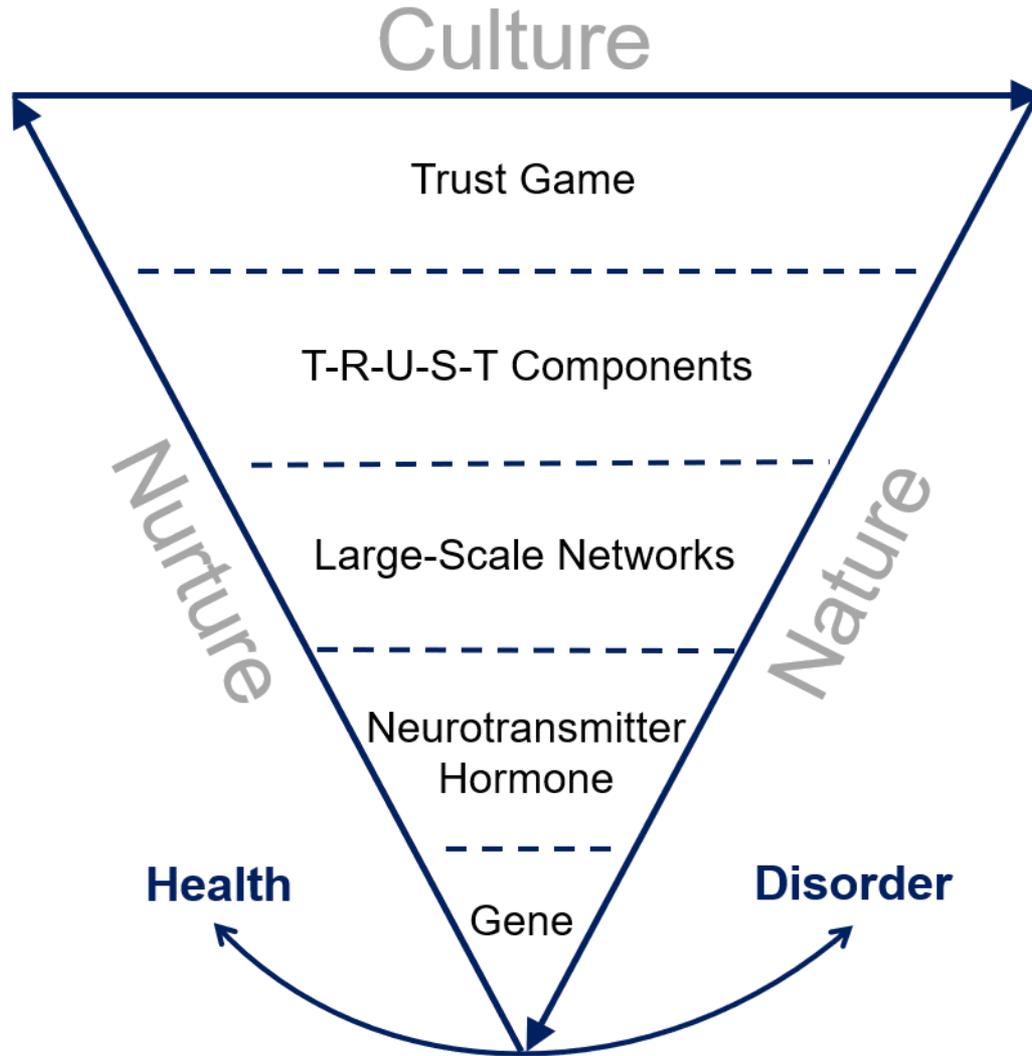


**CBT, calculus-based trust [The unknown unknowns]**  
**KBT, knowledge-based trust [The known unknowns]**  
**IBT, identification-based trust [The known knows]**

ALE: 30 papers, 10,000 permutations,  
 cluster forming threshold of  $P < 0.001$ ,  $k > 90$



# NeuroPsychoEconomic Framework



Trust Game

T-R-U-S-T Components

Large-Scale Networks

Neurotransmitter  
Hormone

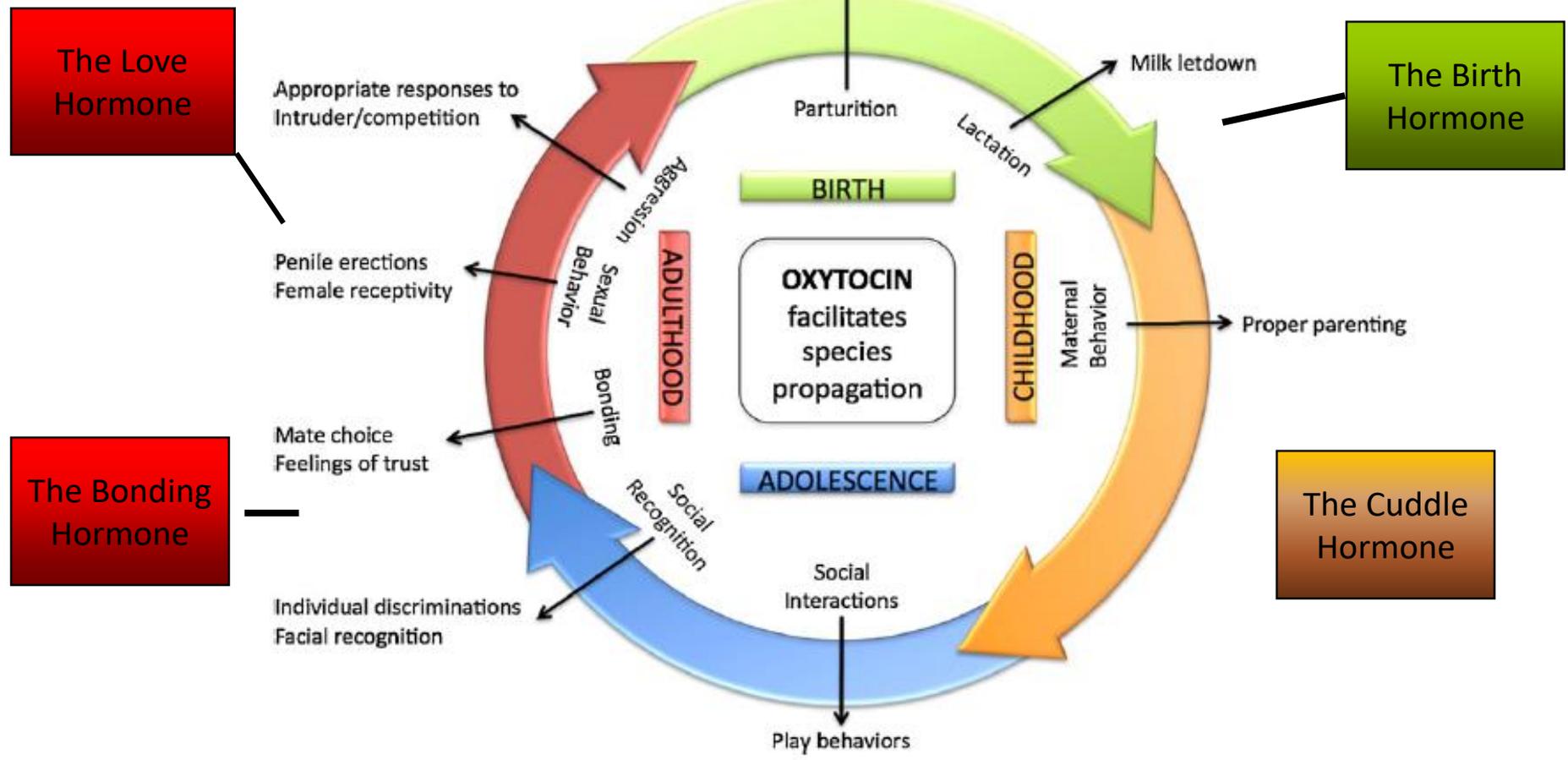
Gene

Health

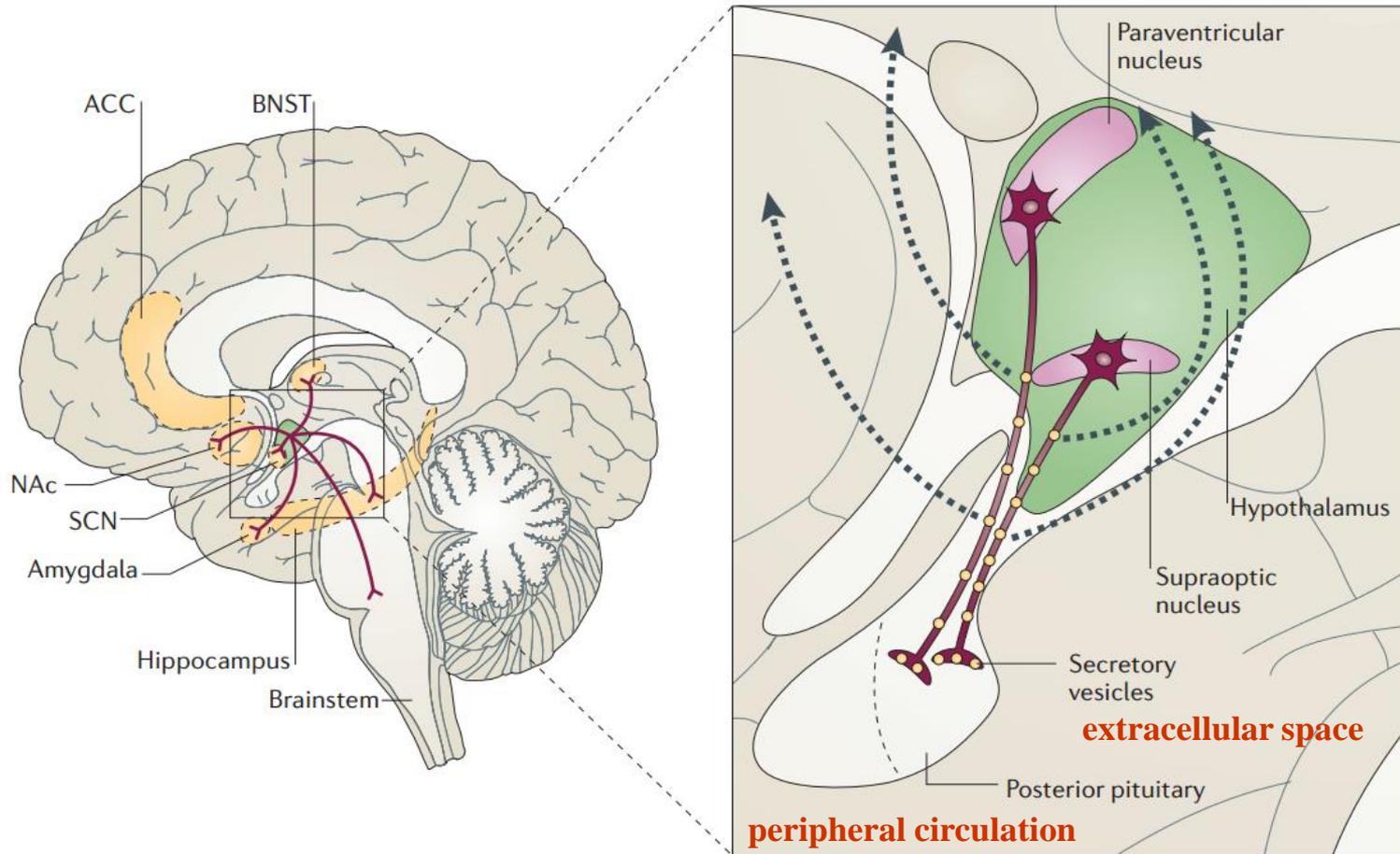
Disorder

3p25.3

## Oxytocin (quick birth)



## Hormone & Neurotransmitter



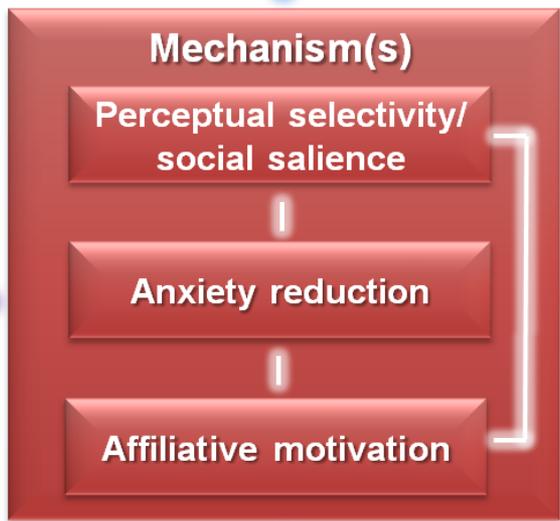
Meyer-Lindenberg et al., 2011

anterior cingulate cortex (ACC), suprachiasmatic nucleus (SCN), nucleus accumbens (NA), bed nucleus of stria terminalis (BNST)

## Interactionist Model

- Task difficulty
- Stimuli valence
- Group status

Contextual/ situational factors



Exogenous OXT administration

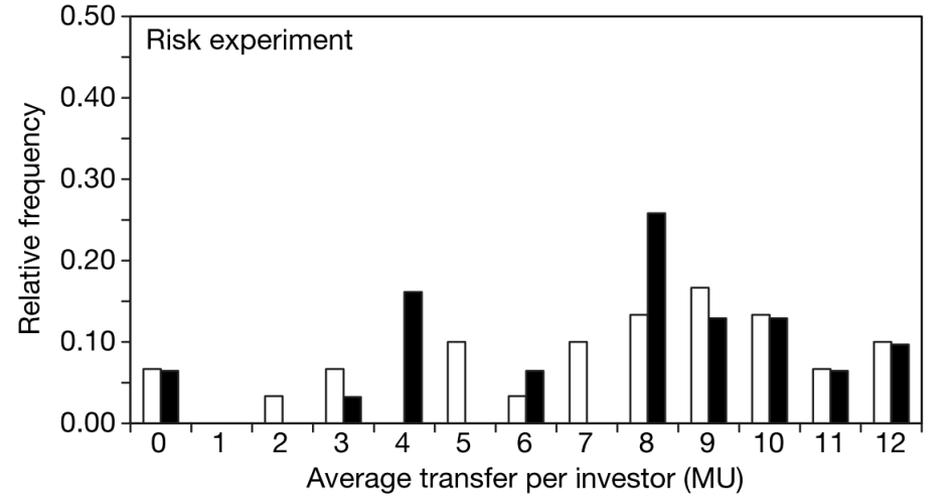
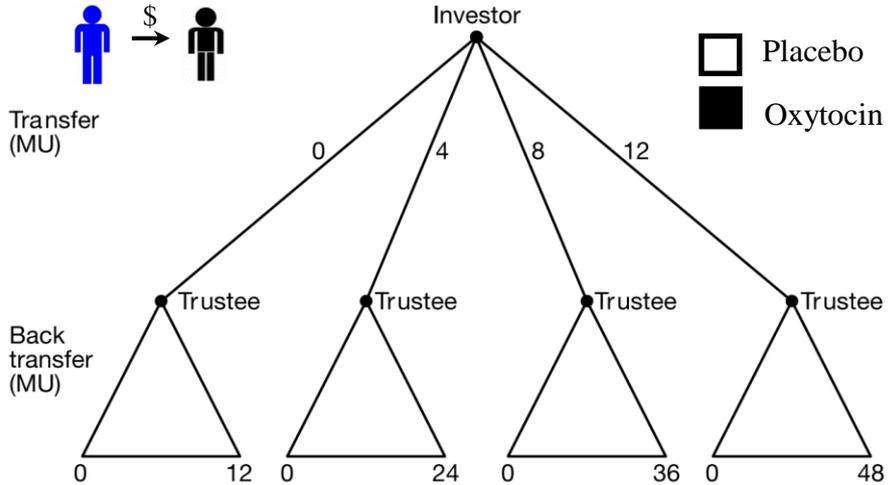
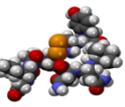


- Attachment style
- Mental Disorder
- OXTR Gene

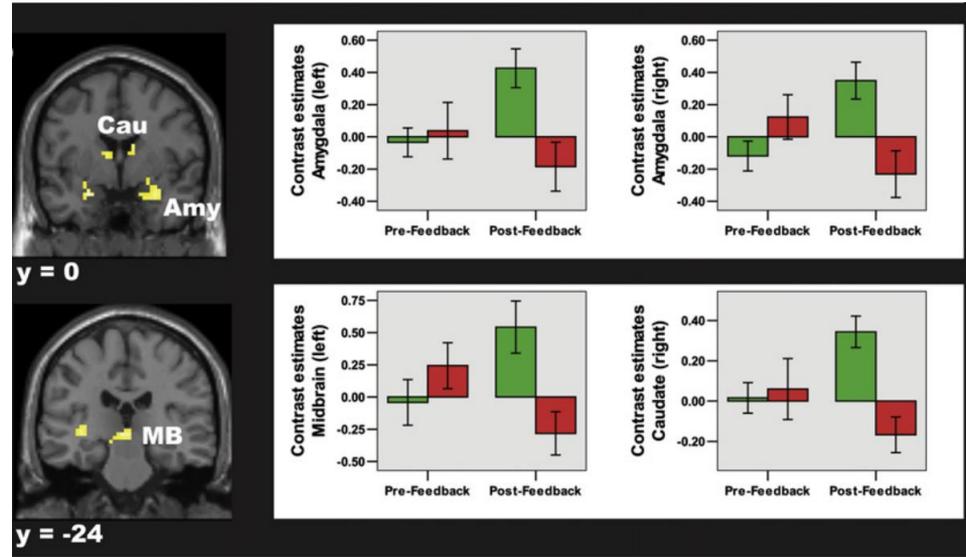
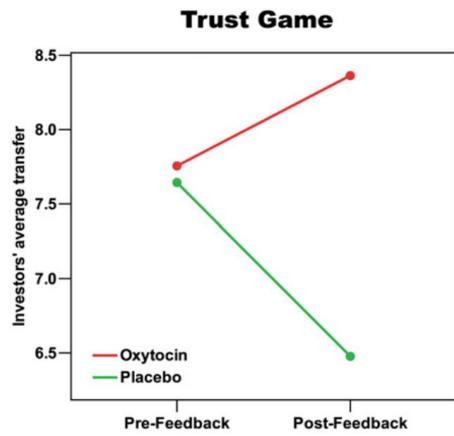
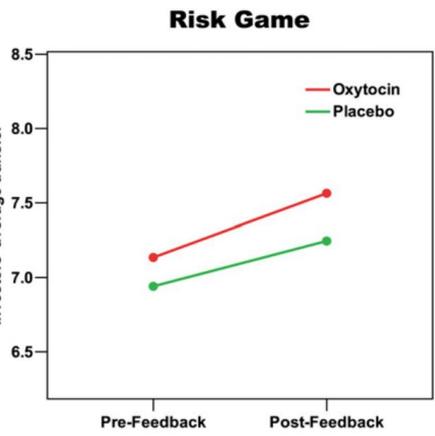
Stable individual differences



# Neuropeptide: Oxytocin

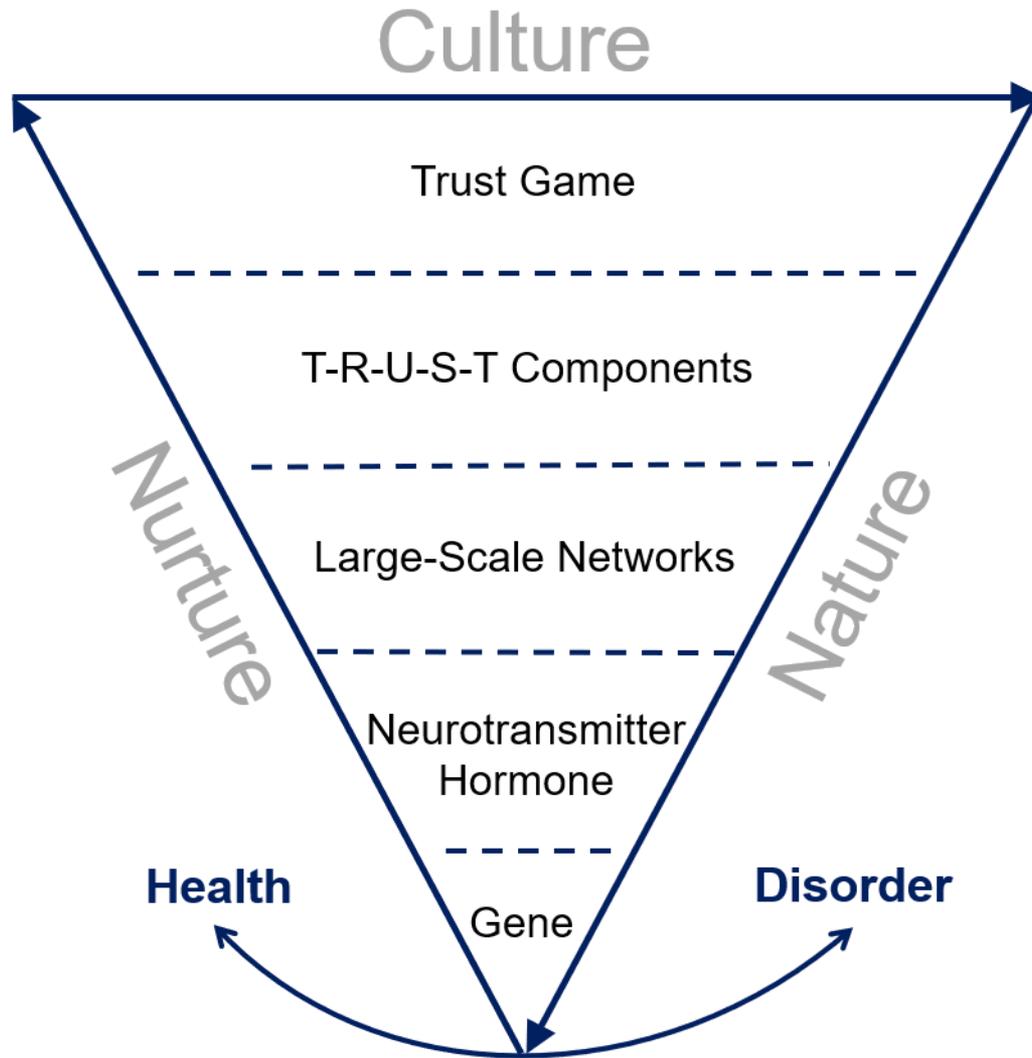


Kosfeld et al., 2005



Baumgartner et al., 2008

# NeuroPsychoEconomic Framework



Trust Game

T-R-U-S-T Components

Large-Scale Networks

Neurotransmitter  
Hormone

Gene

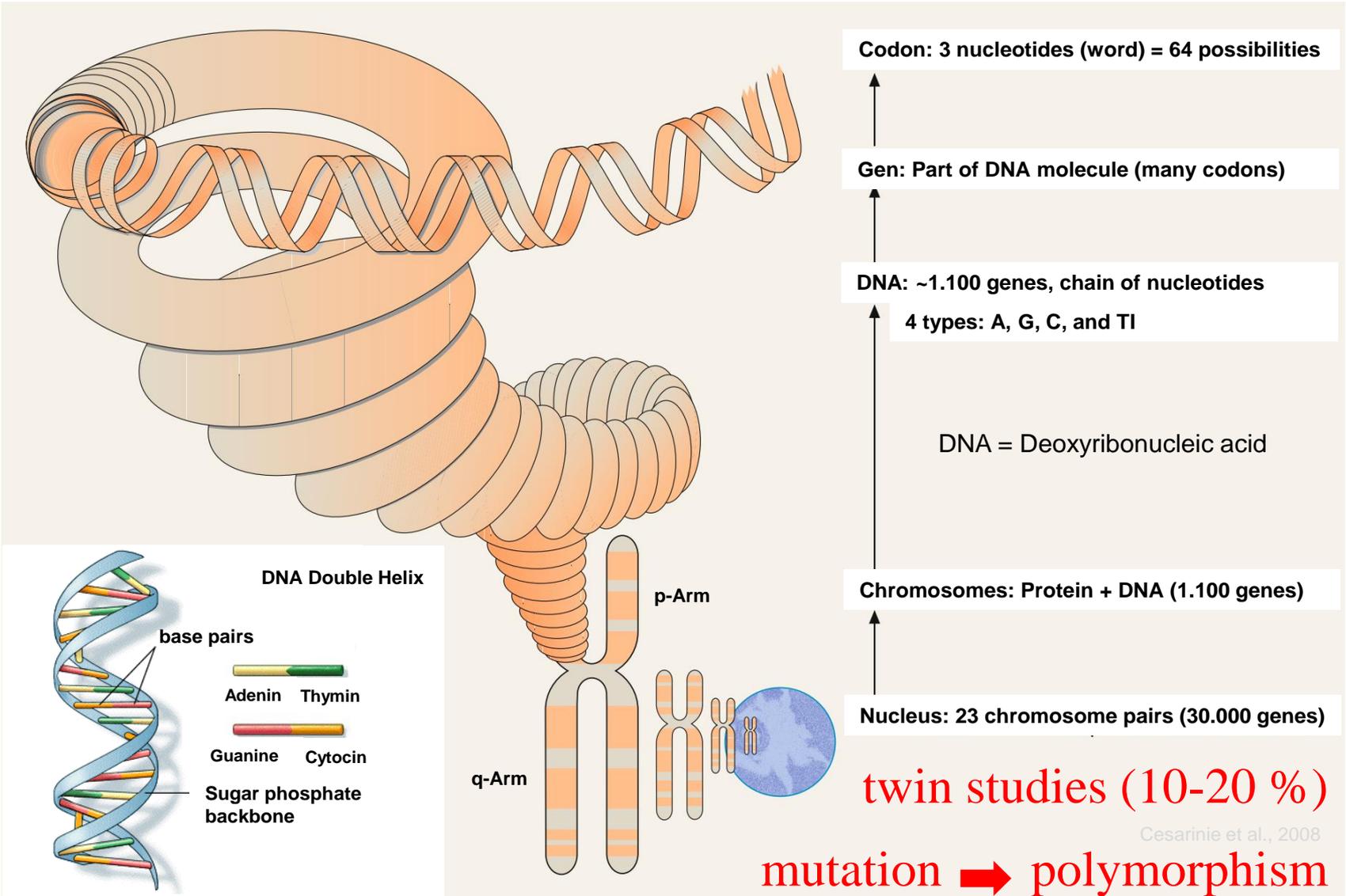
Health

Disorder

3p25.3



# Gene



Cesarinie et al., 2008

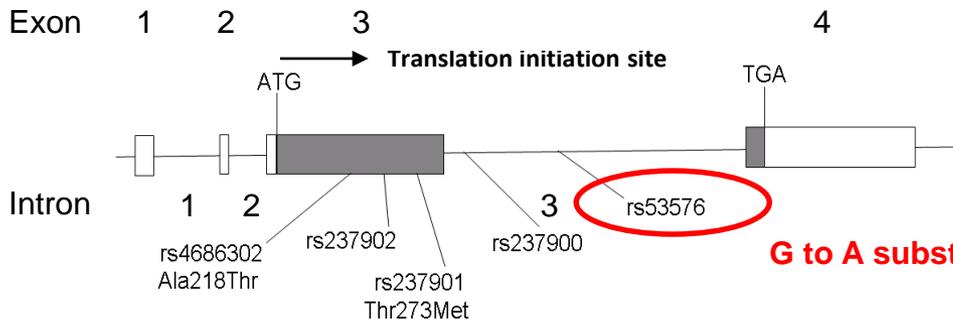
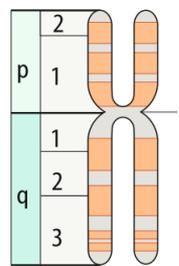


# Oxytocin-Receptor Gene



Chr3 (p.25.3)

Single-Nucleotide Polymorphism (SNP)



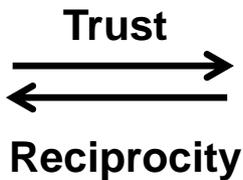
G to A substitution

Coding Region

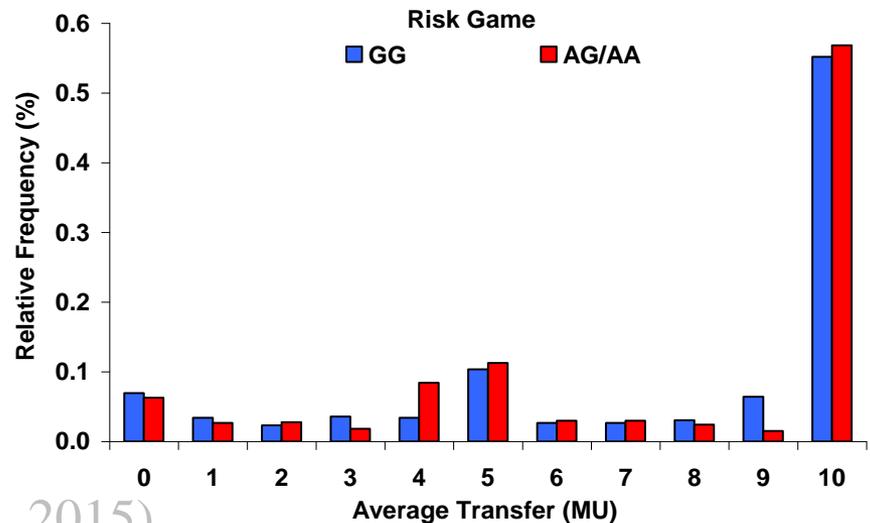
Untranslated region

A allele carrier (AA and AG) vs. G allele carrier (GG = homozygous)

Trustor

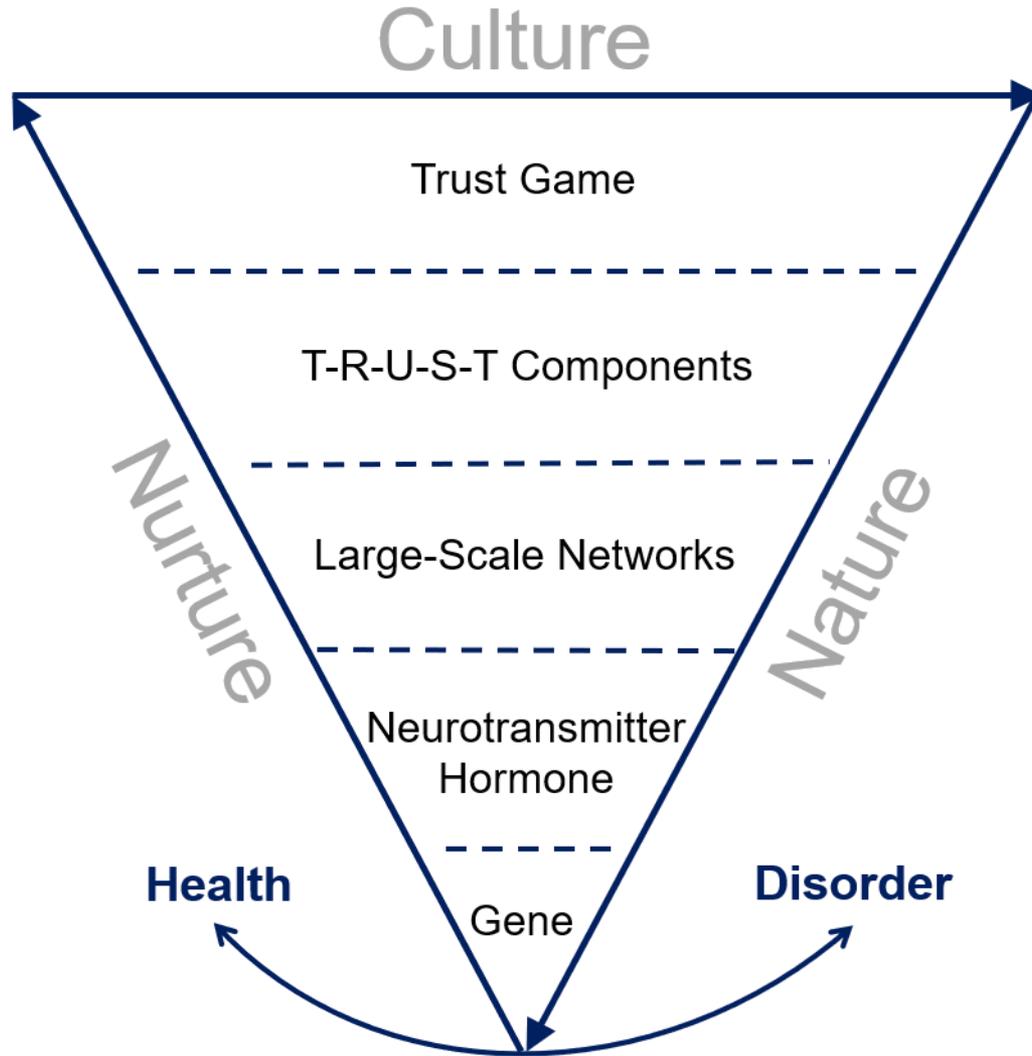


Trustee



Robustness of OT Research (Nave et al., 2015)

# Summary: T-R-U-S-T Model

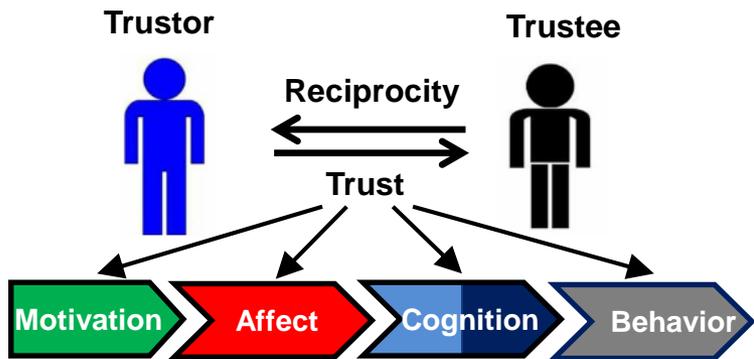


# T-R-U-S-T Model

Formation

Resolution

T - R → U ← S - T

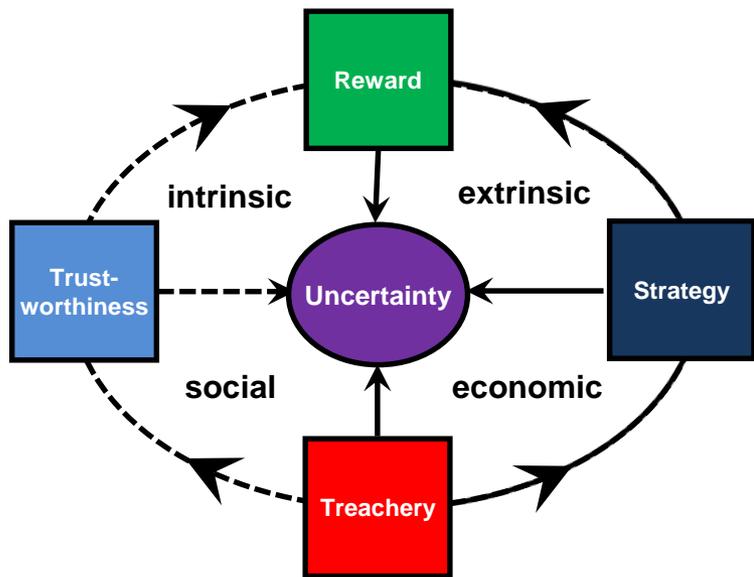


Social Dilemma

Resolution

Resolution

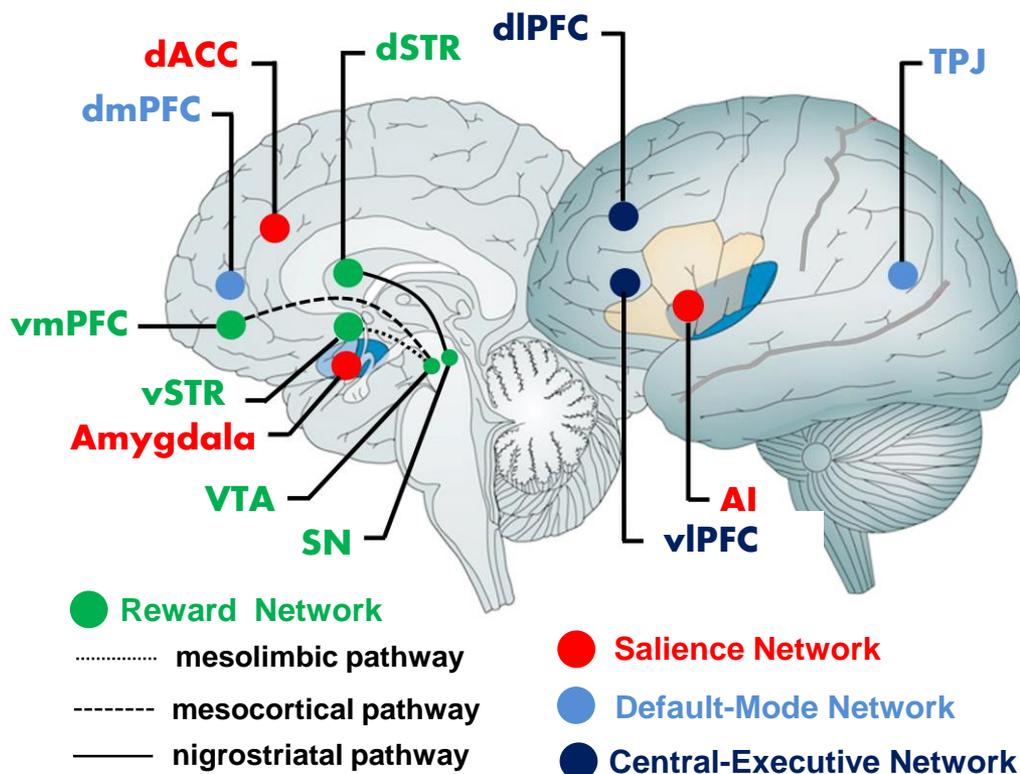
Evolution



Social

Economic

Bounded Rationality



● Reward Network

..... mesolimbic pathway

----- mesocortical pathway

———— nigrostriatal pathway

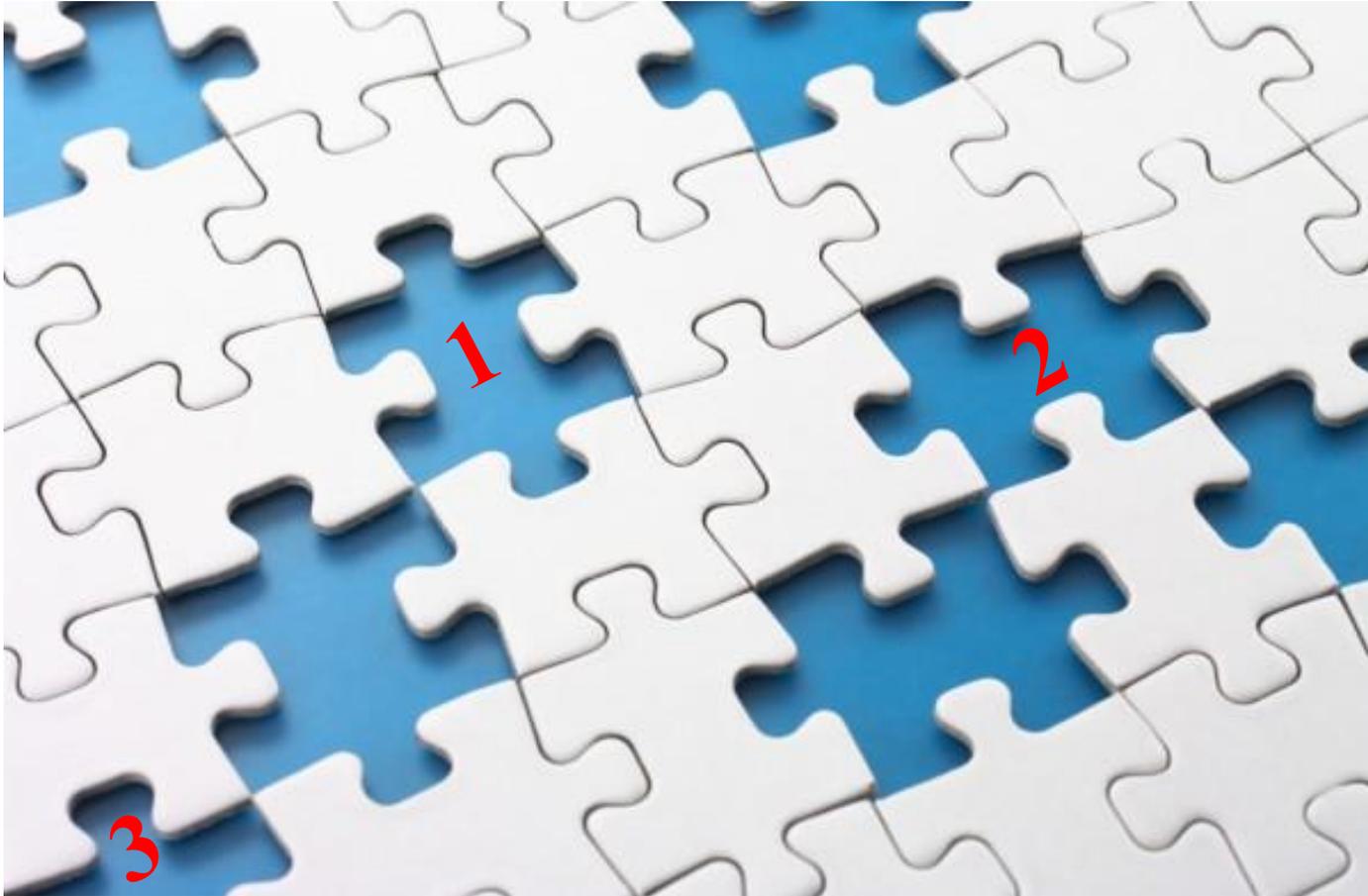
● Saliency Network

● Default-Mode Network

● Central-Executive Network

CBT, calculus-based trust; KBT, knowledge-based trust; IBT, identification-based trust; VTA, ventral tegmentum area; SN, substantia nigra; dSTR, dorsal striatum; vSTR, ventral striatum; vmPFC, ventromedial prefrontal cortex; AI, anterior insula; dACC, dorsal anterior cingulate cortex; TPJ, temporoparietal junction; dmPFC, dorsomedial PFC; dIPFC, dorsolateral PFC; vIPFC, ventrolateral PFC

# Outlook: What's next?



**Paradigm**



**Mechanism**



**Application**

# T-R-U-S-T<sup>3</sup> Initiative

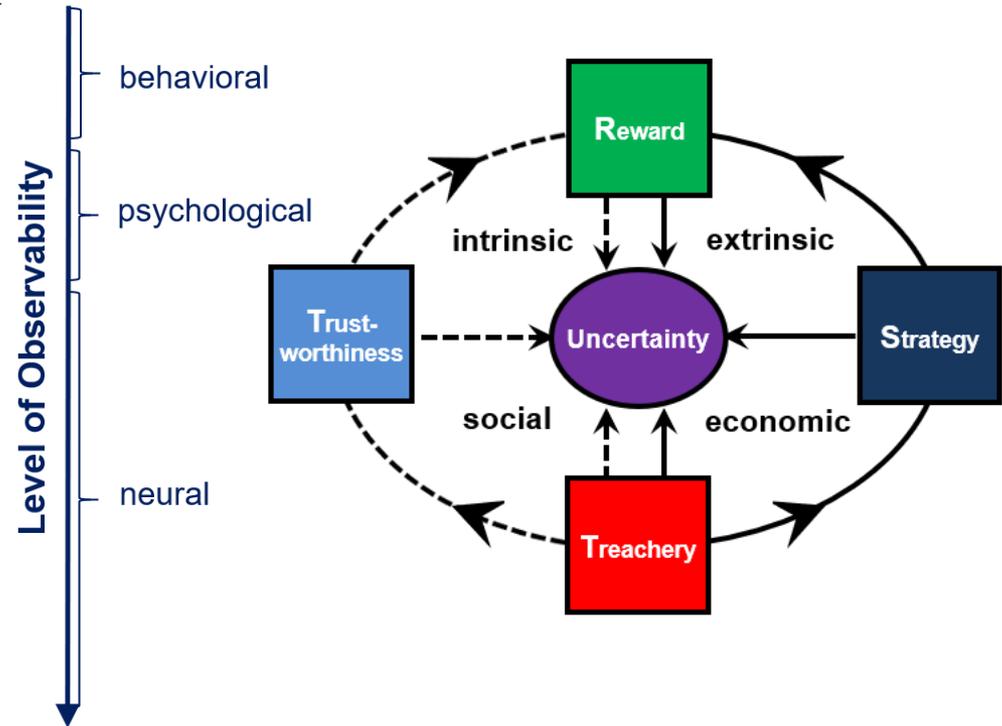
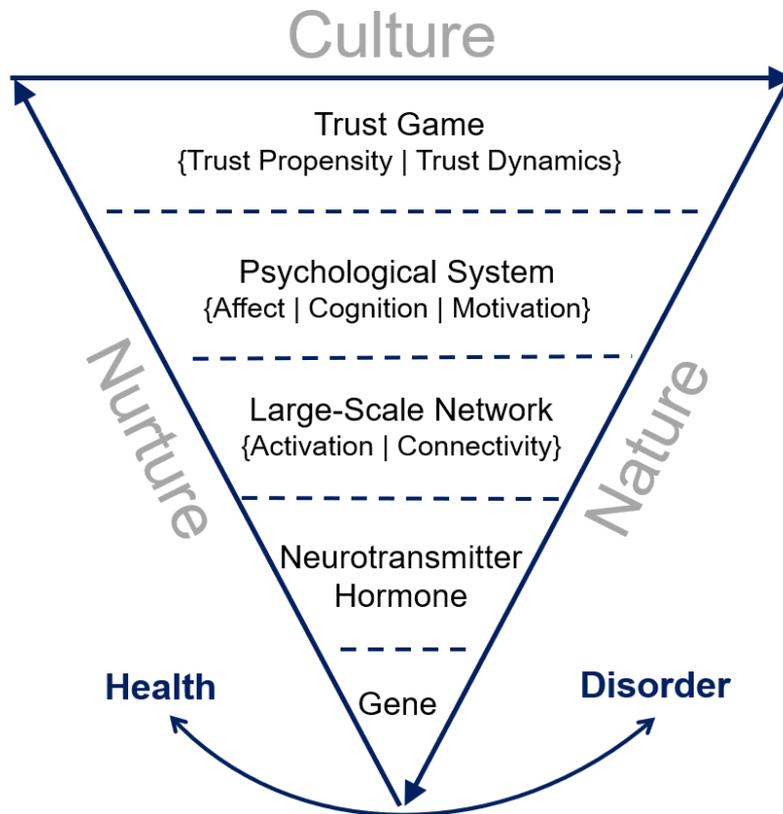


**T**oward a **R**efined **U**nderstanding of the **S**tudy of **T**rust (T-R-U-S-T)

Framework



**T-R-U-S-T** Model

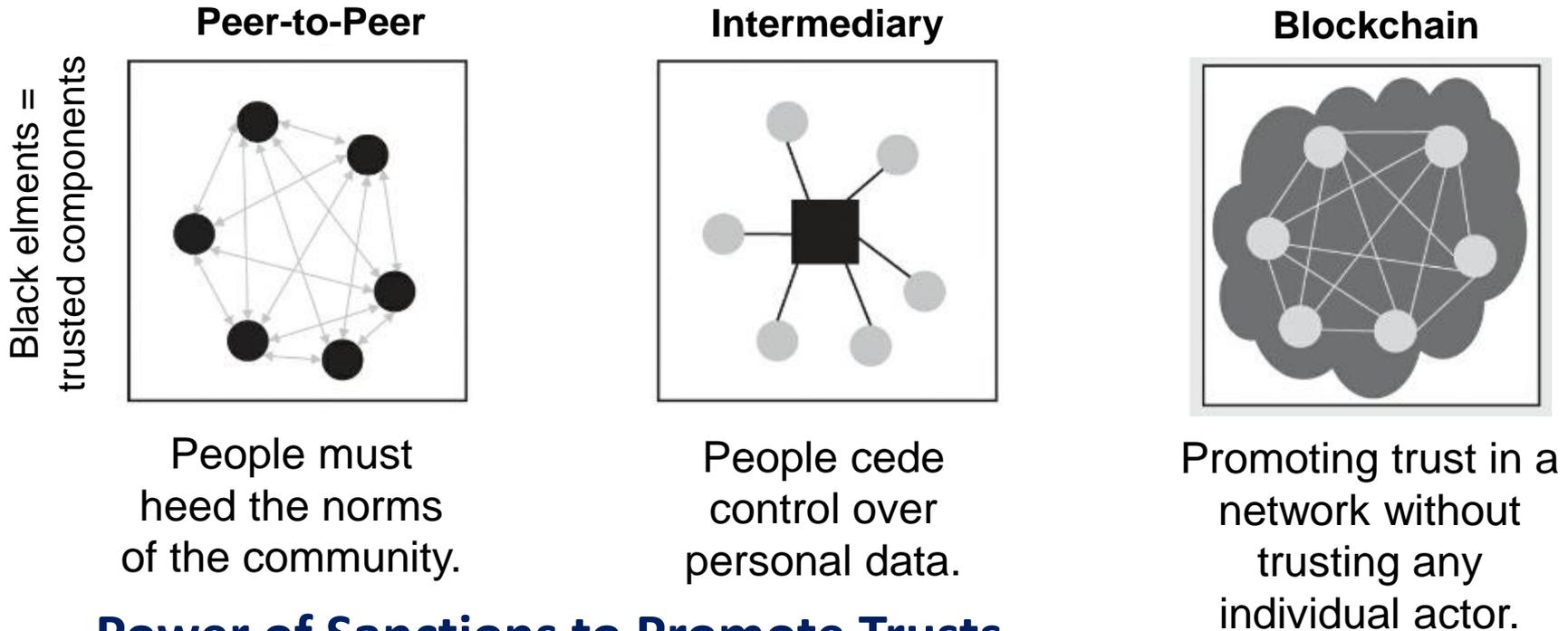


**T**ransdisciplinary **R**esearch **U**nion for the **S**tudy of **T**rust (T-R-U-S-T)

# Trust Architectures



Different architectures give rise to a trust trade-off, in which users give up some freedom to gain the benefits of trust.



**Power of Sanctions to Promote Trusts.**

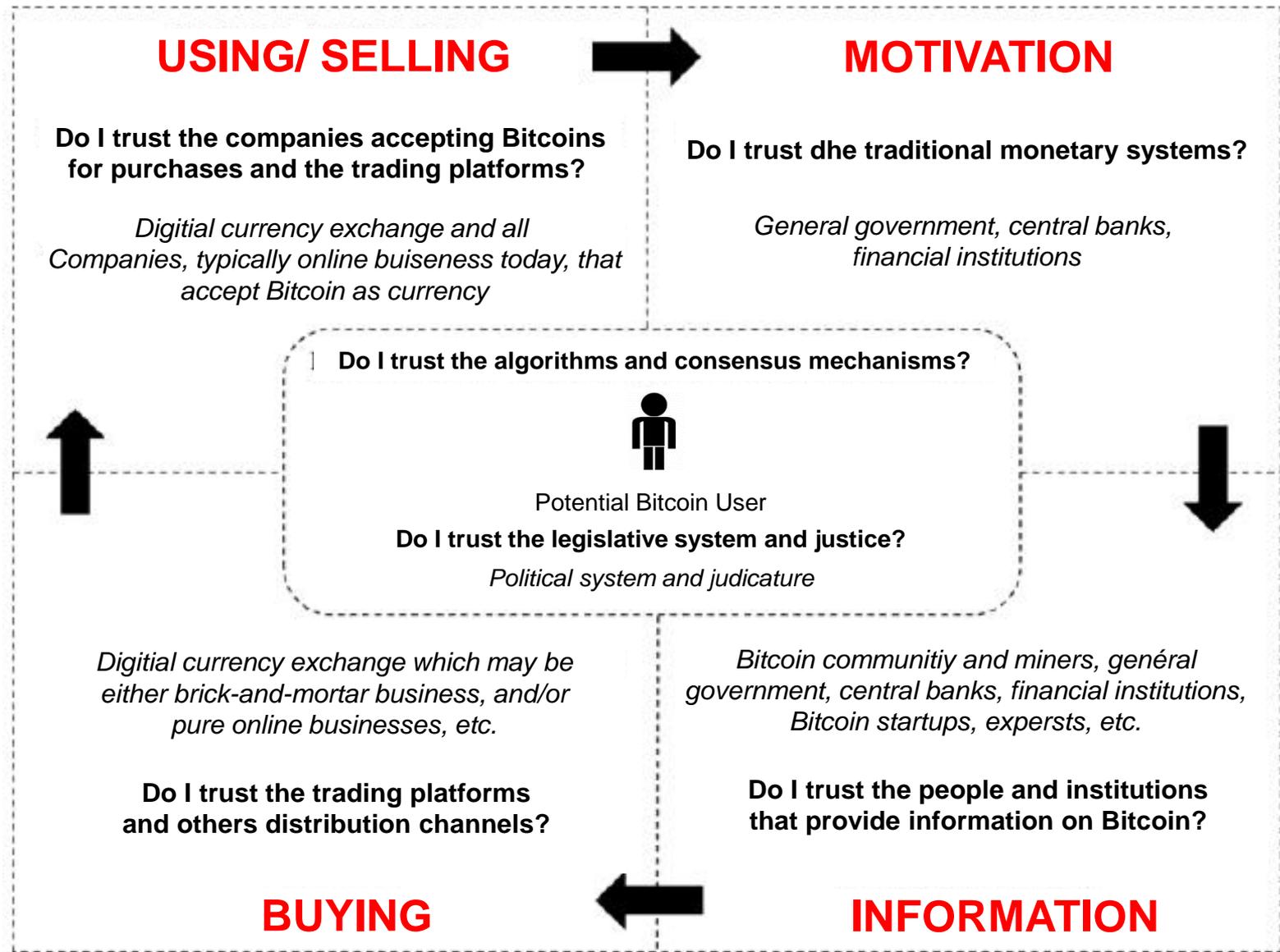
**“Trustless Trust”**

Centralized trust creates vulnerabilities and is not transitive.

K. Werbach, 2018

## Crypto-Economics

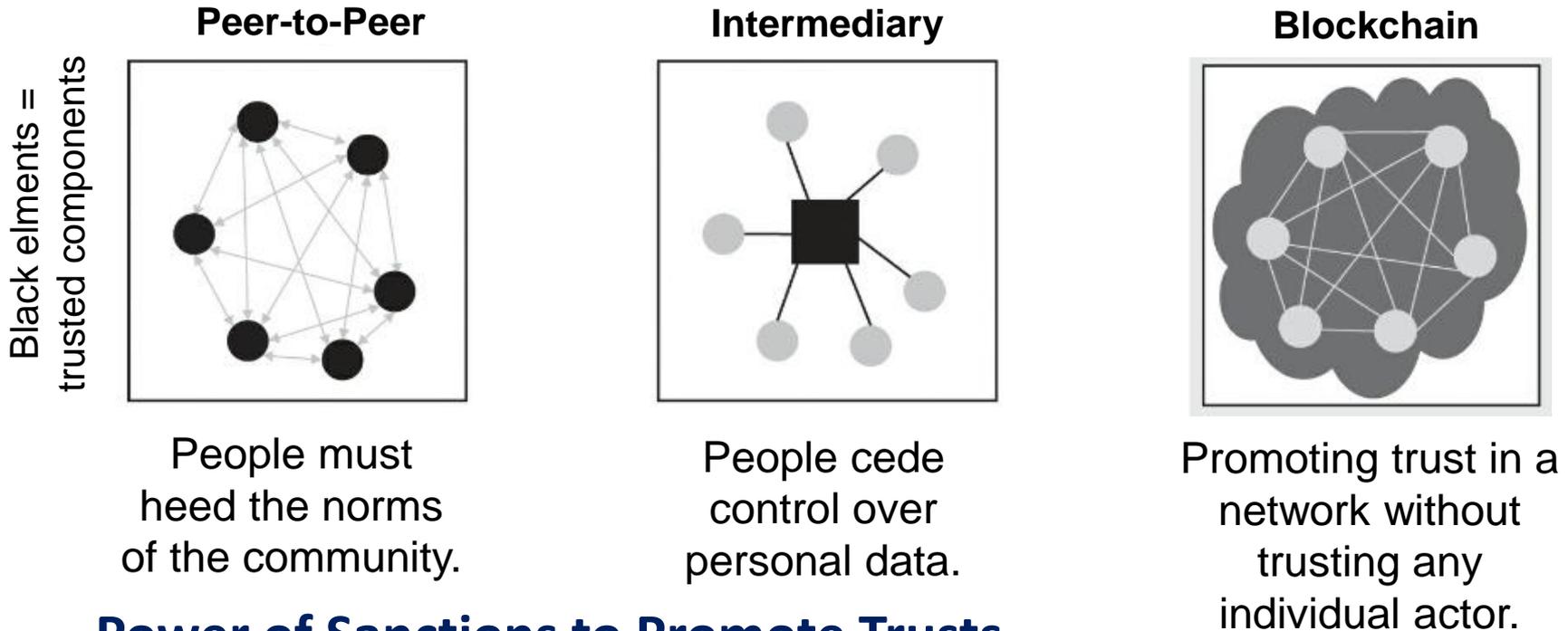
# Blockchain — Too Trusted to Fail?



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**Crypto-Economics** => **Crypto-Psycho-Economics**

Towards a model of trust  
drawn from neuroscience,  
psychology, and economics:

*Implications for the  
New and Next Generation  
Computing Environments*

Frank Krueger, Ph.D.

*Social Cognition and Interaction:  
Functional Imaging (SCI:FI) Lab*

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