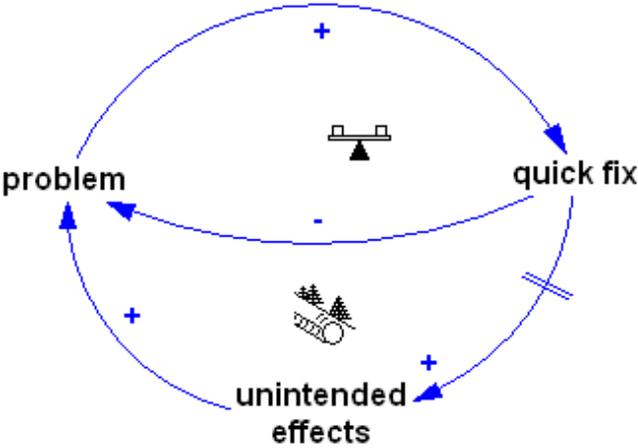
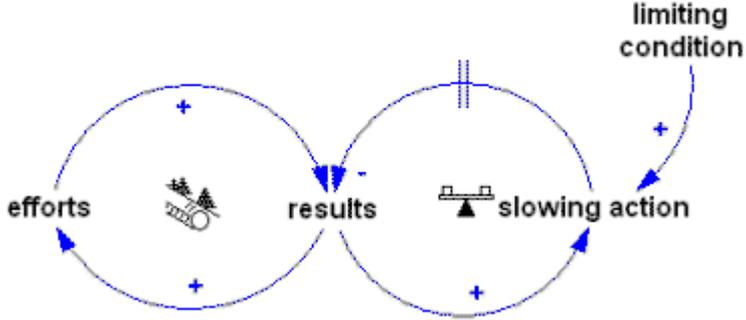


# Systems Thinking: Archetypes of processes in systems, an overview

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Source: The Fifth Discipline Workbook, by Peter Senge et. al. , 1995

Archetype: description	Pattern
<p><b>Balancing process with delay</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• pattern of small peaks and long depressions</li> <li>• feeling powerless over results of own activities</li> <li>• short term effects are opposite of long term effects</li> </ul> <p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• building awareness of pattern</li> <li>• remedies with less harmful effects</li> <li>• reformulating the problem: what is the goal of the stabilizing loop, the primary goal of the organisation</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Limits to growth</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• banging one's head against the wall</li> <li>• resistance to the limits of life</li> </ul> <p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• gaining insight in stabilising processes (look for the potential limits)</li> <li>• resist the temptation to invest in the reinforcing process</li> <li>• learn to know the duration of the delay in the process</li> <li>• in times of growths: deal with limitations, anticipate</li> <li>• look for other factors to stimulate growths</li> <li>• is growth the real goal?</li> </ul>	

Archetype: description	Pattern
<p><b>Shifting the burden</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I can stop whenever I want</li> <li>• a symptom that asks for action</li> <li>• attention is distracted from the problem</li> <li>• addiction, shifting the burden to the intervening persons</li> </ul> <p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• what is the problem, look for the fundamental cause</li> <li>• use the archetype as an instrument for inquiry</li> <li>• suspend judgement and solution, engage in dialogue</li> <li>• strengthen the long term solution and formulate a vision with long term goals</li> <li>• detoxification: gaining time for fundamental solutions</li> <li>• strengthen the overall condition of the organisation</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Tragedy of the commons</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• problem can only be solved with the help of competitors/users/consumers</li> <li>• "It is hard to get my share", queues, feeling powerless</li> <li>• more than one loops of growth, with a common resource limit</li> </ul> <p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• show the structure of the pattern of shared costs</li> <li>• protect the resource, or try to replenish the limiting supplies</li> <li>• requires strong legislation: the problem cannot be solved on the level of the organisation</li> </ul>	

Archetype: description	Pattern
<p><b>Accidental Adversaries</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>groups that intent to work together, but actually fight each other</li> </ul> <p>Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>find solutions with advantage for both parties</li> <li>remove obstacles for the other party</li> <li>build awareness of each other's goals</li> </ul>	