

Relational Value Exploitation: Taxonomy and Mechanisms What If the More Real a Relation Becomes, the More Exploited It Becomes?

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Abstract

Value generated within a relation can be appropriated at points that no single account of exploitation covers. Ordinary treatments locate appropriation at production and distribution. This paper proposes a taxonomy indexed instead by the lifecycle of relational value, coarse-grained into six sub-spacetimes: encounter, formation, co-generation, valuation, circulation, and reproduction. Each is treated as an extended region rather than a point, so that regions overlap and each admits finer resolution into a structure of the same shape. Within a region, three aspects separate the object of intervention: the form an interaction may take, the conditions under which it becomes possible, and the process by which it actually occurs. A Lacanian layer then supplies the dynamics. Registers are not treated as three mutually exclusive categories. Each exploitative action receives an entry register, a driving form, and a trajectory across registers, on the ground that an intervention entering at one register propagates through the others. Tabulation of the resulting corpus of 225 mechanisms yields a distributional result. Interventions entering through the Real hold between a tenth and a fifth of the sites at the encounter, formation, and co-generation regions, fall to none at valuation and one in twenty at circulation, and return to an eighth at reproduction. Interventions entering through the Imaginary do not follow that movement and persist through valuation, so the depletion is specific to the Real rather than a general effect of symbolic dominance. The paper reads this pattern through the Lacanian formula for foreclosure: relational depletion has no term in the registers that perform valuation and circulation, so it is not recorded as a loss and returns at the reproduction stage as exhaustion, dissolution, and lost generative capacity. The title question receives a restricted answer. Relational depth raises the appropriable surface and the cost of exit, so it raises exploitability where the depth is asymmetric, meaning that one party's relation-specific sedimentation is unmatched by the other's. Because the uncompressed configuration space is combinatorially large, the taxonomy is organized into atomic sites, single-stage composites, and multi-stage motifs, and each site carries a local admissibility test separating exploitation from ordinary relational coordination. The framework is a revisable conceptual proposal. Empirical use requires operational indicators for depth, register entry, and return, together with rival-mechanism tests.

Keywords: exploitation; relational value; value lifecycle; Lacanian registers; foreclosure; recognition; circulation; relational reproduction.

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This paper is a preliminary discussion paper intended to share an evolving idea and invite further dialogue, criticism, revision, and independent development. Its definitions, distinctions, and taxonomic constructions remain provisional. Circulation across scholarly and practical communities is part of the purpose of releasing the manuscript at this stage.

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The taxonomy below describes mechanisms through which relational value is appropriated. A description of a mechanism can be read as an instruction for performing it. The author's purpose is diagnostic and protective: to give parties who bear relational depletion a vocabulary in which their situation becomes sayable, and to give institutions a checklist against which their own arrangements can be examined. The author asks readers to weigh foreseeable harms before applying the material, and asks in particular that the mechanisms described at the formation and co-generation stages be used for detection and remedy rather than for design.

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Status. This working draft records an evolving stage of the author’s position and is circulated for discussion. Definitions, section structure, taxonomic entries, and numbering remain subject to revision. A systematic review of exploitation theory, an expanded psychoanalytic review, empirical case work, and an originality audit remain future research stages.

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Statement on the use of language models. The exploratory discussions and preparation of this paper involved Anthropic’s Claude and OpenAI’s ChatGPT. These systems supported exploratory dialogue, taxonomic reconstruction, source discovery followed by website verification, tabulation and counting, argumentative criticism, and drafting in L^AT_EX. The author selected the research questions, directed and approved the theoretical commitments and epistemic status of the claims, and bears sole responsibility for the manuscript, including its definitions, taxonomy, constructed examples, arguments, conclusions, and errors. Authorship credit remains with the human author. The access level and claim limit for every cited source are recorded in the accompanying literature audit.

Related research programme. This paper belongs to the author’s work on generative relational theory and its economic and jurisprudential extensions. The companion papers are *The Geometry of Value: Loop Deficits as Invariant Measures of Structural Exploitation*, which develops a gauge-theoretic account of value circulation in which the loop deficit is an observable rather than a criterion of exploitation, and *The Structure of Exploitation on Heterogeneous-Value Loops: Gauge Symmetry, Holonomy, and the Loop Deficit*, which treats exploitation as a symmetry phenomenon on circuits carrying several kinds of value. The present paper takes responsibility for the lifecycle-indexed taxonomy, the aspect grammar, the register-dynamic layer, the foreclosure result, and the asymmetric-depth thesis. Companion work retains responsibility for the formal invariants, the admissibility conditions in their gauge-theoretic form, and governance design.

Suggested citation. Huang, Wanhong. “Relational Value Exploitation: Taxonomy and Mechanisms. What If the More Real a Relation Becomes, the More Exploited It Becomes?” Working discussion paper, 2026.

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1 Introduction

This section states the motivating problem, defines the paper’s object, gives the three claims that organize the taxonomy, and sets out the sequence of analysis.

A research assistant contributes ideas across three years of weekly discussion and appears as third author. A moderator sustains a community whose reputation becomes a platform’s valuation. A supplier learns a joint production routine and finds the routine retained after the contract ends. A carer maintains the conditions under which another person works, and the maintenance is recorded nowhere. These situations share a structure. Value arises within a relation rather than within any party to it, and the value is appropriated at a point where the arrangement’s own accounting registers no loss.

Existing accounts of exploitation locate appropriation at production and distribution. Value is created and then unequally divided. The situations above resist that placement. In the third case the appropriated object is a capacity rather than an output. In the second the object is a reputation that no participant produced alone. In the first the appropriation occurs at the point where a contribution is named, with the underlying work unchanged. In the fourth the appropriated object is the condition of production and has no category in which to appear. Appropriation, in other words, has a location in the life of a relation, and that location varies.

This paper takes the location seriously and builds the taxonomy on it.

Definition 1.1 (Relational value exploitation). Relational value exploitation is the asymmetric appropriation, redirection, blocking, conversion, or foreclosure of value generated by a relational configuration, carried out by a party positioned to control some transition of that configuration, and registered as a loss in no accounting available to the depleted party.

Definition 1.1 carries three commitments worth stating at once. The value is generated by a configuration and is therefore not decomposable in advance into shares belonging to prior subjects. The appropriation runs through control over a transition rather than through possession of a thing. The final clause makes invisibility constitutive: an arrangement in which the depleted party can state the loss in the arrangement’s own terms is a dispute about distribution, and belongs to a different analysis.

1.1 The three claims

Claim 1.2 (Lifecycle sub-spacetimes). The generation of relational value admits a coarse-graining into six regions: encounter, formation, co-generation, valuation, circulation, and reproduction. Each region is an extended relational sub-spacetime rather than an instant. Regions overlap. Each region admits finer resolution into a structure of the same shape, so that a node at one scale is a region at the next.

Claim 1.3 (Register dynamics and foreclosure). Exploitative interventions are located by the register through which they enter and by the trajectory along which they propagate, rather than by membership in a single register. Across the corpus of mechanisms tabulated below, interventions entering through the Real hold between a tenth and a fifth of the sites at the encounter, formation, and co-generation regions, fall to none at valuation and one in twenty at circulation, and return to an eighth at reproduction. Interventions entering through the Imaginary do not follow that movement and persist through valuation. Relational depletion accordingly has no term in the registers that perform valuation and circulation, is recorded as a loss in no account produced there, and returns at the reproduction stage as exhaustion, dissolution, and lost generative capacity.

Claim 1.4 (Asymmetric depth). Relational depth enlarges the appropriable surface and raises the cost of exit. Depth also raises the cost of appropriation to the appropriating party, because appropriation degrades the relation that generates the value. Exploitability therefore rises with depth where the depth is asymmetric, meaning that the relation-specific sedimentation borne by one party is unmatched by the other’s.

Claim 1.4 is the restricted form of the question in the paper’s title. The unrestricted form, under which deeper relations are exploited more, is refuted by ordinary cases: depth commonly brings voice, mutual hostage, and reciprocal constitution, all of which reduce appropriation. The restriction to asymmetric depth preserves the intuition and states a condition under which it holds.

1.2 Contributions and sequence

The paper makes five contributions. First, it indexes exploitation by lifecycle region rather than by domain, so that the same mechanism can be recognized across academic, platform, employment, and intimate settings. Second, it separates within each region the form of an interaction, its conditions, and its process, and shows that this triple recurs at every region. Third, it supplies a register-dynamic layer in which entry, driving form, and trajectory replace categorical assignment to one register. Fourth, it reports the distribution of register entry across the corpus and draws the foreclosure result of Claim 1.3 from it. Fifth, it attaches to every taxonomic site a local admissibility test, so that ordinary coordination is not classified as exploitation by construction.

Section 2 states the antecedent traditions and the boundary of the present contribution. Section 3 defines the architecture: regions, aspects, registers, coding, combinatorics, and admissibility. Sections 4 through 9 give the six regional taxonomies, with one subsection per site. Section 10 treats composites and motifs. Section 11 reports the register distribution and develops the foreclosure result. Section 12 develops the asymmetric-depth thesis. Section 13 states limits, obligations, and the consolidated position.

2 Antecedent Structure and Contribution Boundary

This section locates the proposal within economic, sociological, psychoanalytic, and critical traditions, and identifies the role licensed by each and the boundary of the present contribution.

The most direct antecedent concerns the title thesis of this paper rather than its taxonomy. The economics of transaction costs established that investment specific to a relation creates a quasi-rent appropriable by the counterparty, and that the appropriability rises with the specificity of the investment [21, 14]. The claim that a deeper relation is more exploitable is, in that vocabulary, the claim that relation-specific investment invites hold-up. Claim 1.4 asserts no priority over that result. Two differences define the present contribution. That literature analyses the problem within one contracting frame and one accounting, so the question of which losses have terms available to them does not arise. Its object is the quasi-rent rather than the constitution of the parties by the relation, and it therefore has no place for the appropriation of generative capacity, of standing, or of the conditions of reproduction.

Table 1 organizes the remaining comparison.

Three exclusions are stated here. The paper offers no theory of value magnitude and therefore no measure of how much is appropriated at a site. It offers no general normative theory, so that a judgment of injustice requires premises the paper does not supply. It offers no empirical prevalence claim, so that the frequency of any mechanism remains open.

Table 1: Antecedent traditions and contribution boundaries

Tradition	Licensed role	Present boundary
Transaction cost and hold-up	Relation-specific investment creates appropriable quasi-rent [21, 14]	Supplies the title thesis in contracting form. The present paper adds the lifecycle location of appropriation and the question of which losses are expressible.
Capital conversion and misrecognition	Forms of capital are convertible at rates that depend on position, and domination operates through misrecognition [2]	Asymmetric convertibility and misrecognition are taken from this source. The register-dynamic layer and the lifecycle index are the present addition.
Commensuration	Rendering heterogeneous qualities comparable is a consequential social process [6]	Owens metricization and comparability imposition at the valuation region. The paper treats them as sites within a wider taxonomy.
Categorical inequality	Exploitation and opportunity hoarding operate through durable categorical boundaries [20]	Supplies the paired structure of extraction and exclusion. The present paper distributes both across lifecycle regions.
Exit, voice, and loyalty	Exit cost and loyalty govern responses to decline [11]	Supplies the exit-cost component of relational depth.
Brokerage	Position between otherwise disconnected parties yields advantage [3, 18]	Supplies intermediation rent. The paper adds the condition separating generative from extractive intermediation.
Recognition	Standing, disrespect, and participatory parity are distinct moral objects [13, 8]	Licenses the valuation region's normative weight. Recognition capture is treated as one site rather than as the general form of injustice.
Epistemic injustice	Credibility deficit and interpretive resource scarcity are wrongs of knowledge [9]	Supplies the hermeneutical reading of the foreclosure result.
Subsumption	Capital can subordinate the labour process itself and not only its product [17]	Licenses generativity capture. The present paper generalizes the object from the labour process to relational capacity.
Digital and platform labour	Participation, attention, and sociality are productive and appropriable [19, 22, 10]	Supplies the circulation region's empirical setting. The taxonomy claims applicability beyond platforms.
Reproductive and affective labour	The work sustaining the conditions of production is systematically unrecorded [7, 12]	Supplies the reproduction region and its invisibility mechanism.
Relational sociology	Transactions rather than substances are the primitive units of the social [5]	Licenses the ontological starting point of Definition 1.1.
Lacanian registers	Real, Imaginary, and Symbolic are knotted rather than separable [15]; what is foreclosed from the Symbolic returns in the Real [16]	Supplies the register layer and the formula read in Claim 1.3, subject to Remark 7.4. The distributional finding and its economic reading are the present addition.
Psychoanalysis of consumption	Desire and enjoyment are constitutive of the consuming subject [1]; fetishism and narcissism structure consumption [4]	Establishes that psychoanalytic apparatus, Lacanian in the first case and Freudian in the second, has been applied to markets. The present paper applies it to the appropriation of relational value.

3 Architecture of the Taxonomy

This section defines the four layers on which every taxonomic entry below is built: the lifecycle region, the aspect, the register dynamics, and the admissibility test. It closes with the coding scheme and with the reason the taxonomy is organized into levels rather than enumerated.

3.1 Regions as sub-spacetimes

Write $\mathcal{F}$ for the relational spacetime of an arrangement, understood as the set of relational events together with the states that persist between them. The coarse-graining of Claim 1.2 partitions the generation of relational value into six regions, given in Equation (1).

$$\mathcal{F}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_2 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_3 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_4 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_5 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}_6 \rightarrow \mathcal{F}'_1 \quad (1)$$

The regions are encounter and relation possibility, relation formation, shared experience and co-generation, valuation and recognition, circulation and conversion, and return and relational reproduction. The final arrow records that reproduction resets the possibility space with which the next cycle begins, so that Equation (1) is a circuit rather than a chain.

Three properties distinguish this from a value chain.

Each region is extended. Relation formation is not an instant at which a relation begins; it is an interval containing approach, testing, role confirmation, boundary setting, commitment, conflict, and repair. Formally, a region is written as in Equation (2), with $[t_a, t_b]$ an interval of relational time and $\mathcal{R}_{\text{loc}}$ the local relational structure.

$$\mathcal{F}_k = [t_a, t_b] \times \mathcal{R}_{\text{loc}} \quad (2)$$

Regions overlap. Value is generated while a relation is still forming; recognition and circulation begin while generation continues; circulation alters the relation that generated the value. Equation (3) records this.

$$\mathcal{F}_i \cap \mathcal{F}_j \neq \emptyset \quad (3)$$

Regions are scale-relative. A node observed at one resolution is a region at the next, as recorded in Equation (4).

$$\text{node at scale } L = \text{region at scale } L - 1 \quad (4)$$

Trust, observed within relation formation, is a node. Resolved further, trust is itself a region containing its own encounter, formation, generation, valuation, circulation, and reproduction of expectations. A university is a node in a network of institutions and a region containing departments, laboratories, people, interactions, and events. Equation (4) implies that the six-region division claims no natural joint in the social world. It claims a resolution at which a taxonomy of appropriation becomes statable, and rests on that ground alone.

3.2 Aspects: form, conditions, process

Within a region, three aspects separate the object on which an intervention operates. The distinction was found at the encounter region and then tested at the remaining five, where it holds.

Definition 3.1 (Aspects). For a region $\mathcal{F}_i$, the *form* aspect concerns the structure into which an interaction is organized; the *conditions* aspect concerns what makes an interaction of that kind possible at all; the *process* aspect concerns how the interaction actually proceeds and among whom.

Table 2: The aspect grammar and its question at each region

Region	Form	Conditions	Process
Encounter	In what form may we meet?	Under what conditions can meetings occur?	Who actually meets whom?
Formation	What relation are we becoming?	Under what conditions can it stabilize?	How does it stabilize?
Co-generation	In what structure do we generate together?	Under what conditions is generation possible?	How is value actually generated?
Valuation	In what form can value become recognizable?	Who controls the conditions of recognition?	How is value attributed and compared?
Circulation	Through what carrier may value travel?	Under what conditions may it move or convert?	Where does value actually flow, and into what?
Reproduction	In what form may value return, and to whom?	Under what conditions can the relation regenerate?	How does return, or its absence, occur?

The three answer distinct questions, given in Table 2. Keeping them apart matters because a single practice frequently operates on more than one, and the practice is then a composite rather than a taxonomic atom. A platform commission is an instance. Requiring that value pass through the platform operates on form; charging for passage operates on conditions; retaining a share at each passage operates on process. Treating the commission as one mechanism conceals that a reform addressing only the rate leaves the other two untouched.

3.3 Registers as dynamics

The Lacanian registers supply the layer beneath the aspect grammar. Their role here requires care, because two mistakes are available.

The first mistake treats the Real as material infrastructure, the Imaginary as psychology, and the Symbolic as documentation, and then sorts mechanisms into three boxes. The registers do not partition in that way. The Real is what resists complete symbolization and appears through lack, excess, rupture, and limit rather than as an object available for manipulation [15]. An actor does not control the Real. An actor arranges the conditions under which another party encounters it.

The second mistake treats the registers as independent coordinates. They are knotted, and an intervention entering at one propagates to the others. Cosmetic presentation in a service role enters through symbolic codes of appearance, forms an idealized image, and issues in an attraction the subject cannot fully articulate. The same practice therefore has a symbolic entry and a real terminus, and belongs to no single register.

The paper accordingly replaces categorical assignment with three descriptors.

Definition 3.2 (Register dynamics). An exploitative action carries an *entry register* $r_0 \in \{R, I, S\}$, being the register through which the intervention first operates; a *driving form* δ , being the mechanism by which the intervention passes from one register to the next, drawn from lack, desire, identification, recognition, prohibition, fantasy, rupture, and repetition; and a *trajectory* $\tau = (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_k)$, being the typical path of propagation.

The governing principle is stated as follows.

Proposition 3.3 (Registers locate, they do not contain). *The entry register of an intervention constrains the operations initially available to it and does not constrain the registers in which its effects appear.*

Proposition 3.3 has a consequence used throughout the taxonomy. Because operations available at entry differ by register, the three registers admit different degrees of enumeration. The Symbolic is a code, so the operations upon it are enumerable: classify, name, authorize, prohibit, rank, encode, contract, and record. The Imaginary admits enumeration up to a set of typical figures: image, identification, expectation, fantasy, and desire. The Real admits no enumeration of operations upon it, and admits only a short list of ways in which an encounter with it may be staged: the production or intensification of a lack, the production of an excess that ordinary attention fails to absorb, the staging of a rupture, and the exposure of a limit.

Remark 3.4 (Taxonomic asymmetry). The Real column of any linguistic taxonomy leaves a systematic remainder. A taxonomy in which the Real were enumerated as completely as the Symbolic would indicate that a symbolic representation had been substituted for it. The sparseness of the Real-entry mechanisms below is therefore reported as a feature of the object rather than corrected.

3.4 Admissibility: exploitation and coordination

Gatekeeping, ranking, matching, role assignment, deferral, boundary setting, and succession are how coordination works. A taxonomy that classifies each as exploitation empties the term. Every site below therefore carries a local admissibility note, governed by four joint conditions.

Condition 3.5 (Absorption). A quantity surrendered at one position persistently fails to return, and an identifiable position receives the difference.

Condition 3.6 (Schema power). The receiving position also determines the description under which the arrangement is accounted for: the categories, the registries, the boundaries of the relevant circuit, or the standards of contribution.

Condition 3.7 (Blocked return). No act available to the depleted party opens a channel through which value returns to the relation that generated it.

Condition 3.8 (Asymmetric depth). The relation-specific sedimentation borne by the depleted party, comprising history, identity investment, non-portable capacity, and foregone alternatives, is unmatched by the receiving position.

Remark 3.9 (Joint and per-person application). Conditions 3.5 through 3.8 are applied jointly and to a named position rather than to an arrangement in aggregate. Severally they are insufficient. A consented subsidy satisfies Condition 3.5 alone. A standard-setting body satisfies Condition 3.6 alone. A concluded collaboration satisfies Condition 3.7 alone. An apprenticeship satisfies Condition 3.8 alone. The taxonomic sites below name locations at which appropriation becomes available, and the conditions decide whether it has occurred.

3.5 Coding and the levels of the taxonomy

Each atomic site receives a code of the form given in Equation (5), with i the region, $d \in \{F, C, P\}$ the aspect, and n the position within the aspect.

$$Ei.d.n \tag{5}$$

Site E2.C.5 is accordingly the fifth condition-aspect mechanism of the formation region. Codes are stable across revisions and are used to write composites.

Enumeration of complete configurations is not attempted, and the reason is arithmetic. Writing n_i for the number of sites at region i , and allowing each region to carry at most one mechanism or none, the number of nonempty configurations is given by Equation (6).

$$N_{\text{single}} = \prod_{i=1}^6 (1 + n_i) - 1 \quad (6)$$

Allowing several mechanisms at one region replaces the choice with a subset, and Equation (7) follows.

$$N_{\text{multi}} = 2^{\sum_{i=1}^6 n_i} - 1 \quad (7)$$

With the corpus tabulated below, Equation (7) exceeds 2^{230} . Neither quantity is a result about society; both are elementary counts, and they are recorded because they establish that the taxonomy proceeds by compression rather than by listing. The compression adopted has three levels.

The first level is the *atomic site*, a pair of aspect and action within one region, coded by Equation (5) and carrying its register dynamics and its admissibility note. Sections 4 through 9 enumerate these.

The second level is the *single-region composite*, a set of sites within one region that operate together. Composites are defined as a class and are not enumerated.

The third level is the *multi-region motif*, a small directed structure in which a site at one region creates, amplifies, conceals, or legitimates a site at another. Writing $\prec$ for that dependence, a motif has the form of Equation (8).

$$M = (\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}, \prec) \quad (8)$$

The dependence relation itself admits classification into enabling, amplification, conditioning, lock-in, concealment, and legitimation. Motifs are treated in Section 10. Their point is that a mechanism at the formation region and a mechanism at the valuation region can constitute one object of analysis when the first is what makes the second available, which a list of atoms cannot express.

Remark 3.10 (Locus and reach). The region of a site is where the intervention is performed. It is not the extent of the value affected. Dependency structured at the formation region can reach co-generation, valuation, circulation, reproduction, and relational futures that have not yet occurred. Reach is recorded as a property of each site rather than as a further classificatory axis, on the ground that promoting it would multiply the taxonomy without distinguishing mechanisms.

4 Encounter and Relation Possibility

This section gives the taxonomy of the first region. Its object is the space of relations that can come into existence at all: who may meet whom, in what form, and under what conditions. Value has not been generated here, and in most cases no relation yet exists. Appropriation is nonetheless available, because the distribution of future relational value is settled in part by which relations are permitted to form.

Claim 4.1 (Pre-relational appropriation). Appropriation of relational value can be performed before the relation that generates the value exists. The object appropriated at this region is the conditions and the probability of future relational generation.

Table 3 lists the thirty-three sites of this region with their register dynamics. The table carries the code, the action, the entry register, the driving form, and the typical trajectory. Exploitation logic and worked instances are given in the subsections rather than in the table, which keeps the columns legible and prevents the example from being mistaken for the definition.

Three of the four modes by which an encounter with the Real may be staged appear here as stable sites: lack at 4.2.5, excess at 4.3.7, and rupture at 4.3.11. Exposure of a limit has no stable site at this region and appears first at co-generation, where a subject's existing arrangements are found unable to supply something the arrangement demands.

Table 3: Encounter region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E1.F.1	Relational-role imposi- tion	S	classification, authoriza- tion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.F.2	Mandatory intermedia- tion	S	institutionalization, dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.F.3	Hierarchical formatting	S	rank, authority	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.F.4	Publicity structuring	S	boundary making	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.F.5	Identifiability structur- ing	S	naming, traceability	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.F.6	Temporal-form structur- ing	S	scheduling, scarcity	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.F.7	Appearance-based encounter design	S	aesthetic coding, identifi- cation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.F.8	Affective framing	I	fantasy, identification	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E1.C.1	Condition appropriation	S	ownership, exclusion	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.C.2	Infrastructure control	S	access, dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.C.3	Resource withholding	R	deprivation, dependency	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E1.C.4	Condition degradation	R	friction, instability	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E1.C.5	Structured lack produc- tion	R	lack, desire	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E1.C.6	Scarcity construction	S	prohibition, lack	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E1.C.7	Risk production	I	fear, uncertainty	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E1.C.8	Desirability construc- tion	I	fantasy, identification	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E1.C.9	Qualification control	S	credentialing, authoriza- tion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.C.10	Classification-based ex- clusion	S	labelling, categorization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.C.11	Mobility restriction	S	boundary, immobility	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.P.1	Access restriction	S	prohibition, authoriza- tion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.2	Visibility manipulation	S	salience, suppression	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.3	Ranking	S	ordering, comparison	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.4	Matching control	S	classification, compatibil- ity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.5	Encounter routing	S	recommendation, redirec- tion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.6	Attention steering	I	desire, salience	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E1.P.7	Attention capture through excess	R	excess, rupture	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$

continued on the next page

Table 3, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E1.P.8	Trust priming	S	recognition, endorsement	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.9	Fear priming	I	anxiety, avoidance	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E1.P.10	Frequency manipulation	S	repetition, habituation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.P.11	Encounter interruption	S	rupture, prohibition	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.P.12	Alternative-path sup- pression	S	exclusion, dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E1.P.13	Sequencing control	S	ordering, framing	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E1.P.14	Timing manipulation	S	urgency, scarcity	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$

Three settings recur through the constructed examples of this paper and are introduced here. The *laboratory* is a research group led by a principal investigator, containing doctoral students, postdoctoral researchers, and a research assistant. The *platform* is an online service on which contributors write, curate, and moderate, and which stands between them and their readers. The *household* is an arrangement in which one adult sustains the conditions under which another works. Each example is constructed and describes no actual person or organization.

4.1 Encounter form

The sites of this aspect operate on the structure into which a meeting is organized. They do not decide whether two parties meet. They decide what a meeting between them can be.

4.1.1 Relational-role imposition (E1.F.1)

Definition. A party with authority over the setting assigns, in advance of any meeting, the roles under which the parties may encounter one another, and thereby fixes the range of relations the meeting can produce.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, since a role is a position in a system of names. The driving form is classification followed by authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the assigned name shapes what each party imagines is appropriate to ask, expect, or offer, and issues in the actual conduct of the meeting, including what is said and what remains unsaid.

Constructed example. A platform admits new participants either as contributors or as readers. Two people who might have collaborated meet within an interface that gives one of them a publishing surface and the other a comment field. Nothing forbids collaboration. The encounter is nonetheless organized as address and response, and the joint project neither party rules out is also never proposed.

Admissibility. Role assignment is how most institutions make interaction legible, and a university that distinguishes supervisors from candidates is not thereby exploiting anyone. The site becomes exploitative where the assigning party also receives the value the restricted form makes available, satisfying Conditions 3.5 and 3.6 together, and where no route exists by which the parties may renegotiate the role, Condition 3.7.

4.1.2 Mandatory intermediation (E1.F.2)

Definition. A third position is made unavoidable, so that a relation which could form directly may form only through it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through a rule or a terms-of-service provision that prohibits direct contact. The driving form is institutionalization passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$, since the rule produces an actual absence of any direct channel, after which the parties cease to imagine the direct relation as available.

Constructed example. A platform's terms prohibit contributors from publishing contact details, and its interface strips them from posted text. A reader who wishes to commission work and a contributor who wishes to accept can reach each other only through the platform's brokering feature, which retains a share. After two years, contributors describe direct commissioning as something that is not done.

Admissibility. Intermediation is often generative. A broker who supplies discovery, assurance, and dispute resolution creates the relation from which it draws. The distinguishing feature is the active prevention of the direct channel together with retention at the position that prevents it, which is Conditions 3.5 and 3.7 jointly. Where the intermediary would survive the removal of the prohibition, the site is not in use.

4.1.3 Hierarchical formatting (E1.F.3)

Definition. The meeting is organized so that a difference of standing is present before any interaction, with the effect that subsequent exchange carries an asymmetry neither party introduced.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through rank, title, and the arrangement of precedence. The driving form is rank passing into authority. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the marked difference produces an image of relative entitlement to speak, which issues in the actual distribution of speaking time, initiative, and refusal.

Constructed example. A laboratory holds its intake meetings in the principal investigator's office, with the investigator seated and the candidate standing until invited. The practice is described internally as informal. Candidates who later report having been unable to raise questions about authorship at intake describe the setting rather than any statement made in it.

Admissibility. Differences of standing frequently track differences of responsibility, and a clinic in which the attending physician holds final authority is functioning rather than extracting. The site is in use where the formatting exceeds the responsibility it tracks and where the marked position also determines what counts as a contribution, which is Condition 3.6.

4.1.4 Publicity structuring (E1.F.4)

Definition. Whether an encounter occurs in public, in semi-public, or in private is determined by a party other than the participants, altering what may be expressed and therefore what relation may form.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules that establish the boundary. The driving form is boundary making. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$, since the rule produces actual conditions of exposure or seclusion, and the parties then form expectations calibrated to those conditions.

Constructed example. A platform removes private messaging and requires that all exchange occur on public threads. Contributors who might have raised a concern about payment terms find that raising it publicly marks them, and that no other channel exists. Coordination among contributors does not form.

Admissibility. Public deliberation is a legitimate design goal and transparency requirements protect participants in many settings. The site becomes exploitative where the structuring party benefits from the coordination it prevents, which links Conditions 3.5 and 3.7, and where the same party is exempt from the exposure it imposes.

4.1.5 Identifiability structuring (E1.F.5)

Definition. The party controlling the setting determines whether participants appear under their own names, under institutional titles, under pseudonyms, or anonymously, and thereby determines what each party can know about the other at the moment of encounter.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through naming and the rules of traceability. The driving form is naming passing into identifiability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the available identity information shapes the image each party forms, and that image issues in actual conduct such as candour, deference, or withdrawal.

Constructed example. A platform displays reviewer identities to authors and withholds author identities from reviewers, then reverses the arrangement for a different class of submission. In each configuration the party whose identity is visible moderates their expression. The platform describes both configurations as neutral defaults.

Admissibility. Anonymity protects, and identification enables accountability; both are ordinary design choices. The site is in use where the configuration is selected by a party that gains from the resulting asymmetry of candour, and where the configuration itself is not open to challenge by those subject to it.

4.1.6 Temporal-form structuring (E1.F.6)

Definition. The encounter is organized as brief, one-off, or open-ended, so that the relations it can produce are bounded in advance by the time available to them.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through scheduling rules and formats. The driving form is scheduling passing into scarcity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the format produces an actual limit on what can be said, and the parties then imagine the relation as one of a kind that does not develop.

Constructed example. A professional association organizes its annual meeting as timed rotations of seven minutes. Attendees exchange affiliations and leave. Longer conversations occur at a separate dinner, admission to which is by the association's invitation.

Admissibility. Brief formats are efficient and often welcome. The site is in use where the organizing party retains the longer format for a selected group and derives advantage from the difference, and where attendees have no route to the format they would choose.

4.1.7 Appearance-based encounter design (E1.F.7)

Definition. The manner in which a party is first presented is designed by a third position, so that the encounter begins from an image the presented party did not compose and the encountering party did not choose.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, since dress, grooming, and comportment are codes with a grammar. The driving form is aesthetic coding passing into identification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$, terminating in an attraction or deference the encountering party is frequently unable to state a reason for. Site 4.3.7 addresses the distinct case in which the presentation is designed to exceed absorption rather than to signify.

Constructed example. A retailer specifies uniform, grooming, and greeting for floor staff, and trains a standard opening posture. Customers report the staff as unusually attentive. Neither the specification nor its purpose is disclosed to customers, and staff are evaluated on conversion.

Admissibility. Uniforms identify, and professional presentation is ordinary. The site becomes exploitative where the designed presentation is used to produce an inclination that the encountering party would revise if the design were disclosed, and where the presented party bears the labour of maintaining it without receiving the value it produces.

4.1.8 Affective framing (E1.F.8)

Definition. The emotional character of an encounter is established in advance, so that parties arrive already disposed to read the relation as intimate, prestigious, safe, or urgent.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates first on the image of the relation rather than on any rule. The driving form is fantasy passing into identification. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the produced image is subsequently ratified by symbolic markers such as titles and ceremonies, and then issues in actual commitments of time and money.

Constructed example. A laboratory conducts its recruitment weekend as a series of shared meals at the investigator's home, described as how the group works. Candidates arrive at the formal interview having already understood the group as a family. Questions about working hours are not asked, and the group's attrition rate is not mentioned.

Admissibility. Hospitality is not extraction, and a welcoming setting can be exactly what a newcomer needs. The site is in use where the produced image diverges systematically from the arrangement's operation, and where the party producing it receives the additional commitment the image induces, which is Conditions 3.5 and 3.6 jointly.

4.2 Encounter conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on what makes encounters of a given kind possible at all. They are the deepest sites of the region, since a party controlling conditions need form no view about which particular encounters should occur.

4.2.1 Condition appropriation (E1.C.1)

Definition. A party takes ownership of the resources on which the formation of a class of relations depends, and thereby acquires the power to determine whether relations of that class occur.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the assignment of property and the exclusion it authorizes. The driving form is ownership passing into exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the assignment produces an actual condition of access or its absence, and parties then imagine the space of available relations accordingly.

Constructed example. The only hall in a small city suitable for gatherings above one hundred people is purchased by a firm that continues to rent it out. Community organizations retain access at a fee. Meetings that would have been convened on a possibility are now convened on a budget, and the organizations that lack one stop convening.

Admissibility. Ownership of a venue is not exploitation, and a firm that maintains a hall supplies a genuine condition. The site is in use where the owner also determines which purposes qualify for access, Condition 3.6, and where the value generated by the gatherings does not return to sustain the conditions of gathering, Condition 3.7.

4.2.2 Infrastructure control (E1.C.2)

Definition. A party operates the connective infrastructure through which encounters are carried, and thereby determines the technical envelope within which relations may form, without necessarily owning the conditions in the sense of 4.2.1.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through interface rules and protocol specifications. The driving form is access passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$, since specifications produce an actual envelope of the possible, and parties then come to imagine the envelope as the shape of the world.

Constructed example. A platform's application programming interface permits a contributor to be followed but supplies no method by which contributors may form a group. The absence is a design decision recorded in no policy. Contributors organize through an external service, are told that linking to it violates the terms, and disperse.

Admissibility. Every infrastructure has an envelope, and a design that omits a feature is usually a matter of scope. The site is in use where the omission is maintained against demand, where the operating party benefits from the coordination the omission prevents, and where no route exists by which users may obtain the capability elsewhere.

4.2.3 Resource withholding (E1.C.3)

Definition. Resources necessary for a party to form relations of its own are held back, so so that entry into a particular relation becomes the route by which the party obtains them.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention operates first as an actual absence borne by the other party rather than as a rule addressed to them. The driving form is deprivation passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the absence is experienced before it is understood, produces an image of the withholding party as the source of what is missing, and is finally rationalized in the vocabulary of merit or of policy.

Constructed example. A doctoral candidate requires computing allocation to complete a study. The allocation exists and is unassigned. It is released after the candidate agrees to join a second project of the investigator's choosing. No refusal is recorded, and no policy is cited.

Admissibility. Resources are finite and their allocation is a legitimate exercise of judgment. The site is in use where the resource is available, where the condition attached to its release is unrelated to its use, and where the releasing party receives the additional work the condition secures.

4.2.4 Condition degradation (E1.C.4)

Definition. The environment in which relations form is made worse, so that relations continue to be possible while becoming thinner, more effortful, and less likely to deepen.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through fatigue, noise, interruption, and instability. The driving form is friction passing into instability. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: degradation is borne materially, comes to be imagined as a property of the participants rather than of the setting, and is then named as a lack of engagement or of collegiality.

Constructed example. An employer moves to hot-desking, removes the shared kitchen, and schedules meetings across the lunch hour. Lateral acquaintance between teams declines over eighteen months. The employer commissions a survey, which reports low cross-team collaboration, and responds with a mandatory networking programme.

Admissibility. Cost control and space reduction are ordinary and frequently necessary. The site is in use where the degrading party retains the value of the coordination it has made harder, and where the parties bearing the degradation have no route to restore the conditions, which is Condition 3.7.

4.2.5 Structured lack production (E1.C.5)

Definition. A lack is produced or intensified in a party, so that the party begins to seek, and a particular relation is positioned as what the seeking is for.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, in the restricted sense available at this register. The intervening party does not manipulate the Real, and arranges instead the conditions under which the other party encounters something the existing symbolic order fails to close. The driving form is lack passing into desire. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the experienced insufficiency produces an image of what would satisfy it, and that image is then given a name under which it may be pursued. Site 4.2.6 is the symbolic-entry counterpart, in which the object is made scarce rather than the subject made wanting.

Constructed example. A professional body publishes an annual competency framework. Each edition names a capability that most members do not hold. Members describe themselves as behind. The body offers certification in the named capability. The framework is revised annually, and the condition of being behind is never closed.

Admissibility. Naming a gap in professional capability is a service where the gap is real and the standard is set by parties who do not sell the remedy. The site is in use where the same position sets the standard and supplies what meets it, Condition 3.6, and where the insufficiency is renewed rather than resolved, so that no act of the depleted party closes it, Condition 3.7.

4.2.6 Scarcity construction (E1.C.6)

Definition. Access to a relation that is not naturally limited is made limited, so that the relation acquires value from its restriction rather than from its content.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule declaring the limit. The driving form is prohibition passing into lack. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the declared limit produces an actual exclusion, the exclusion produces a wanting, and the wanting is finally expressed in the symbolic vocabulary of exclusivity. The return to the Symbolic distinguishes this site from 4.2.5, where the lack is not resolved into a name that the restricting party issues.

Constructed example. A platform introduces an invitation-only tier with no additional features, issuing one hundred invitations per month against unmet demand. Members of the tier describe their access as an achievement. The platform reports increased retention across both tiers.

Admissibility. Genuine capacity limits are ordinary, and a seminar that seats twenty is not constructing scarcity. The site is in use where the limit is set without a capacity constraint, and where the party setting it captures the resulting increase in commitment.

4.2.7 Risk production (E1.C.7)

Definition. The alternatives to a given relation are rendered dangerous in the perception of a party, so that the party's range of acceptable relations contracts without any alternative being closed.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates first on the image of the alternative rather than on any fact about it. The driving form is fear passing into uncertainty. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the produced fear is subsequently supported by symbolic material such as cautionary cases and policies, and issues in the actual avoidance of the alternatives.

Constructed example. A firm’s onboarding materials recount three anonymized incidents in which former employees who joined competitors faced litigation. No case is identified, and the firm has commenced no such action in nine years. Departures to competitors fall.

Admissibility. Warning about genuine hazards is a duty rather than a mechanism, and a firm that discloses real legal exposure is protecting its staff. The site is in use where the represented hazard exceeds the actual one, and where the party producing the representation is the beneficiary of the resulting reduction in alternatives, which combines Conditions 3.6 and 3.8.

4.2.8 Desirability construction (E1.C.8)

Definition. A class of relational object is made to appear as the one worth pursuing, so that alternatives cease to be considered while remaining formally open.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the construction of an ideal image. The driving form is fantasy passing into identification. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$, since the ideal is ratified through rankings and prestige vocabulary and then issues in the actual distribution of applications, relocations, and years.

Constructed example. Public discussion of a discipline concentrates on six laboratories. Graduates who fail to enter them describe their careers as compromised, including those in positions with better resources and supervision. Applications to the six laboratories exceed their capacity by two orders of magnitude, and their conditions of work are set accordingly.

Admissibility. Reputation frequently tracks quality, and concentrating attention on excellent work is not a mechanism. The site is in use where the parties who benefit from the concentration also produce and maintain the representation that causes it, and where the resulting excess supply is converted into worse terms for entrants.

4.2.9 Qualification control (E1.C.9)

Definition. Entry into a relational space is made conditional on a credential, and the issuance of the credential is controlled by a party with an interest in the space.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through certification and the authorization it confers. The driving form is credentialing passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the credential produces an image of the holder as the kind of party with whom relations are appropriate, and issues in actual admission.

Constructed example. An association restricts conference attendance to holders of its certificate, which it issues after a course it also delivers. Practitioners trained elsewhere are competent and absent. The association reports that its members constitute the field.

Admissibility. Credentials protect the public where competence is hard to observe and error is costly. The site is in use where the issuing party is also the beneficiary of restricted entry, and where no independent route to demonstrating the same competence is recognized.

4.2.10 Classification-based exclusion (E1.C.10)

Definition. A classification applied before any interaction determines which parties are eligible to encounter which others, so that the outcome of a relation is settled before the relation is available.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through labelling and categorization. The driving form is labelling passing into categorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the label produces an image of the labelled party held by others and eventually by the party, and issues in actual exclusion. Site 4.2.9 concerns a credential the party may seek; this site concerns a classification assigned to them.

Constructed example. A lending platform assigns each applicant a tier from a model whose inputs include the applicant's postal district. Applicants in the lowest tier are not declined and are instead shown no offers. The applicants are told that no offer is currently available.

Admissibility. Classification is unavoidable at scale and frequently improves matching. The site is in use where the classifying party is the beneficiary of the resulting allocation, where the classification is unavailable for inspection or challenge, and where its inputs stand in for the property they claim to measure.

4.2.11 Mobility restriction (E1.C.11)

Definition. Physical or legal movement is constrained, and the space of possible encounters contracts with it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic where the restriction operates through permission, and the material variant in which movement is obstructed directly is the real-entry counterpart. The driving form is boundary passing into immobility. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the permission regime produces an actual inability to travel, and the parties then imagine their relational horizon at the scale movement permits.

Constructed example. A research visa is tied to a single named host institution and lapses on departure. A postdoctoral researcher who wishes to change groups after a disagreement would forfeit residence. The disagreement is not pursued.

Admissibility. Immigration control and site security are exercises of legitimate authority whose purposes lie outside any single relation. The site is in use where a party to the relation is also the party controlling the permission, so that a public instrument is converted into private leverage, and where the tie raises exit cost without a corresponding commitment on the controlling side, Condition 3.8.

4.3 Encounter process

The sites of this aspect operate on how encounters actually proceed within a given form and under given conditions. They decide who meets whom, in what order, how often, and with what disposition.

4.3.1 Access restriction (E1.P.1)

Definition. A party positioned at the boundary of a relational space decides which parties may pass into it, and thereby determines directly which encounters can occur.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule of admission and the authority to apply it. The driving form is prohibition passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the decision produces an image of belonging and its absence, and issues in actual presence or absence in the room.

Constructed example. A laboratory’s weekly meeting is described as open to the group. Attendance requires the investigator’s addition to a calendar invitation. Two research assistants have not been added in a year and hear of decisions afterwards.

Admissibility. Admission control is necessary wherever a space has capacity, confidentiality, or safety requirements. The site is in use where the deciding party gains from the exclusion, where the criterion is not stated, and where the excluded party has no route of appeal, which is Conditions 3.6 and 3.7.

4.3.2 Visibility manipulation (E1.P.2)

Definition. Parties who have entered a shared space are prevented from appearing in one another’s field of perception, so that the encounter fails without any exclusion having been performed.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules governing what is surfaced. The driving form is salience passing into suppression. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the suppressed party is absent from the image others form of the space, and is then absent from their actual conduct. Site 4.3.1 removes a party from the space; this site leaves them in it and removes them from perception. Site 4.3.3 concerns the order in which the visible appear.

Constructed example. A platform reduces the distribution of posts containing external links. Contributors who cite sources see engagement fall and attribute the fall to their writing. The policy is not published. Contributors adapt by ceasing to cite.

Admissibility. Every system that presents more items than a reader can attend to performs selection, and selection is not suppression. The site is in use where the selecting party benefits from the pattern of suppression, where the rule is withheld from those it governs, and where affected parties have no route to learn why their reach changed.

4.3.3 Ranking (E1.P.3)

Definition. The order in which parties appear to one another is determined by a third position, so that encounter probability is redistributed without any party being hidden.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the ordering rule. The driving form is ordering passing into comparison. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: position in an order produces an image of relative worth, which issues in the actual allocation of attention, since attention to a list decays sharply with position.

Constructed example. A hiring platform orders candidates by a responsiveness score. Recruiters review the first page. Candidates in other time zones are placed lower, are never reviewed, and receive no indication that a score exists.

Admissibility. Ordering is unavoidable in any presentation of many items, and ordering by a declared and relevant criterion is a service. The site is in use where the ordering party sells position, where the criterion is undisclosed, or where the criterion measures something other than what it is taken to measure and the ordering party knows this.

4.3.4 Matching control (E1.P.4)

Definition. A third position determines which parties are paired with which, so that the set of encounters is composed rather than discovered.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the classification scheme on which compatibility is computed. The driving form is classification passing into a grammar of compatibility. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the pairing produces an image of the counterpart as suitable, and issues in the actual relation.

Constructed example. A graduate programme assigns supervisors by an internal allocation that balances teaching load. Students are told the allocation reflects research fit. A student whose interests lie elsewhere spends four years on a topic chosen for them and describes the fit as their own failure.

Admissibility. Assignment solves genuine coordination problems and often protects the weaker party from a market. The site is in use where the assigning party optimizes for its own objective while representing the assignment as fit, Condition 3.6, and where reassignment is unavailable.

4.3.5 Encounter routing (E1.P.5)

Definition. A party seeking one counterpart is directed toward another, so that the encounter occurs and the intended encounter does not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through recommendation and redirection. The driving form is recommendation passing into redirection. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the recommendation produces an image of the offered counterpart as the relevant one, and issues in the actual meeting. Site 4.3.4 composes pairs where none was sought; this site substitutes one counterpart for another.

Constructed example. A booking service receives a search for a named independent workshop and returns three sponsored workshops above it, with the named one below the fold. The service reports that users chose the sponsored options.

Admissibility. Recommendation is valuable where the user's stated target is a poor proxy for their interest, and substitution is often welcome. The site is in use where the substitution serves the routing party's revenue, where the sponsorship is not disclosed at the point of choice, and where the sought counterpart is suppressed rather than merely accompanied.

4.3.6 Attention steering (E1.P.6)

Definition. Within a field in which several parties are equally visible, the disposition to attend is directed toward some and away from others.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on desire and salience rather than on the composition of the field. The driving form is desire passing into salience. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the produced inclination is subsequently rationalized in the language of quality and issues in actual approach. Site 4.3.2 removes parties from the field; this site leaves the field intact and alters what is wanted from it.

Constructed example. A conference organizer places one group's poster beside the refreshment table and assigns the remainder to a corridor. All posters are listed in the programme. The favoured group reports substantially more discussions and is invited to the following year's panel.

Admissibility. Some arrangement of a space is unavoidable, and arrangement is not steering. The site is in use where the arranging party has an interest in the parties favoured, and where the arrangement is represented as neutral to those subject to it.

4.3.7 Attention capture through excess (E1.P.7)

Definition. A presentation is composed to exceed what ordinary perception absorbs, so that attention is interrupted and an encounter begins from a break rather than from a judgment.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, in the restricted sense of Section 3.3. The intervening party arranges the conditions of an encounter with something the existing perceptual and symbolic order fails to absorb. The driving form is excess passing into rupture. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the break occurs before it is understood, produces an image of the presented party as remarkable, and is finally named in the vocabulary of style or presence. Site 4.1.7 concerns presentation that signifies within a code; this site concerns presentation designed to exceed one.

Constructed example. A performer's stage presentation uses a scale of costume and lighting that no other act in the venue attempts. Audience members afterwards report having been unable to look away and are unable to say why. Merchandise purchase is concentrated in the twenty minutes following the set.

Admissibility. Striking presentation is an ordinary and often admirable feature of performance, display, and design. The site is in use where the interruption is engineered by a party other than the presented one, where it is converted immediately into a commitment made under interruption, and where the presented party bears the cost of sustaining it without receiving the value.

4.3.8 Trust priming (E1.P.8)

Definition. A disposition to trust or to distrust is established before any interaction supplies evidence for it, so that the encounter begins from a credence the parties did not earn.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through badges, titles, ratings, and endorsements. The driving form is recognition passing into endorsement. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the marker produces an image of reliability, and issues in the actual extension of credit, disclosure, or discretion.

Constructed example. A marketplace displays a verification badge indicating that a seller has supplied a business registration. Buyers read the badge as an assurance of performance. The marketplace's dispute records show no difference in fulfilment between badged and unbadged sellers, and the badge is sold as part of a subscription.

Admissibility. Signals that compress verification history are among the most useful institutions available, and rating systems reduce genuine uncertainty. The site is in use where the marker is sold rather than earned, where it is read as certifying more than it certifies and the issuing party knows this, and where the issuing party captures the resulting trust.

4.3.9 Fear priming (E1.P.9)

Definition. A disposition to avoid certain parties is established in advance, so that encounters with them do not occur and the absence is experienced as the party's own preference.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the production of an image of threat. The driving form is anxiety passing into avoidance. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$, terminating in actual avoidance. Site 4.2.7 produces risk attaching to a class of alternative arrangements; this site produces it attaching to particular counterparts.

Constructed example. A department head refers to a colleague in another group as difficult in private conversation with new arrivals. No incident is cited. Arrivals do not approach the colleague, whose collaborations decline, which is subsequently noted in review as evidence of poor collegiality.

Admissibility. Warning a newcomer about a person who has caused documented harm is protective and belongs to ordinary care. The site is in use where no incident supports the representation, where the representing party benefits from the isolation produced, and where the represented party has no route to learn of or answer the representation.

4.3.10 Frequency manipulation (E1.P.10)

Definition. How often two parties encounter one another is controlled, so that familiarity accumulates on some pairings and fails to accumulate on others.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through scheduling and rotation rules. The driving form is repetition passing into habituation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the schedule produces actual co-presence, and repeated co-presence produces the image of the counterpart as familiar and safe.

Constructed example. A manager schedules a preferred report into every client meeting and rotates the remainder. Within a year clients name the preferred report as their contact and the manager cites client preference in the promotion case.

Admissibility. Continuity of contact serves clients and is a legitimate scheduling objective. The site is in use where the scheduling party represents the resulting familiarity as an independent judgment of merit, which is Condition 3.6, and where the rotation is not disclosed to the parties evaluated by its outcome.

4.3.11 Encounter interruption (E1.P.11)

Definition. A contact that has begun to develop is broken off by a third position, so that the relation does not reach the point at which it could sustain itself.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument by which the break is effected, and the driving form is rupture passing into prohibition. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces an actual discontinuity, and the parties then imagine the relation as one that did not work.

Constructed example. Two contributors on a platform begin a joint series. The platform revises its policy on co-authored posts mid-series and removes the format. The series ends. Each contributor privately concludes that the other lost interest.

Admissibility. Products change and features are retired for ordinary reasons. The site is in use where the interrupting party benefits from the failure of the relation, where the timing tracks the relation's development rather than a product cycle, and where no route exists by which the parties may continue.

4.3.12 Alternative-path suppression (E1.P.12)

Definition. The other relations a party might form are reduced in number, so that the remaining relation gains power from the absence of alternatives rather than from what it offers.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules that close the alternatives. The driving form is exclusion passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual reduction in reachable counterparts, and the party then imagines the remaining relation as necessary. Formally, a party's degree in the graph of available relations falls toward one, as recorded in Equation (9).

$$\deg(i) = k \longrightarrow \deg(i) \approx 1 \quad (9)$$

Constructed example. A firm's contract prohibits its consultants from contact with former clients for two years and from acceptance of introductions made through firm engagements. A consultant of nine years finds, on leaving, that the network built in those years is unreachable.

Admissibility. Protection of client relationships and of confidential information is a legitimate contractual interest. The site is in use where the restriction exceeds that interest, where the restricting party retains the relationships the restriction detaches, and where the depleted party's investment in them was unmatched, which is Conditions 3.7 and 3.8.

4.3.13 Sequencing control (E1.P.13)

Definition. The order in which a party encounters several counterparts is determined by a third position, so that each encounter is interpreted through the ones placed before it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the ordering of the process. The driving form is ordering passing into framing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the earlier encounter supplies the frame within which the later is imagined, and the frame issues in actual judgment. Site 4.3.3 orders parties within a single presentation; this site orders encounters across time.

Constructed example. A programme arranges for candidates to meet the two most demanding laboratories first and the sponsoring laboratory last. Candidates describe the sponsoring laboratory as unusually supportive. The comparison set was composed by the sponsor.

Admissibility. Some order is necessary and a well-designed sequence can help a candidate calibrate. The site is in use where the sequencing party is one of the compared options, and where the composition of the comparison set is not disclosed.

4.3.14 Timing manipulation (E1.P.14)

Definition. The window within which an encounter or a decision is available is set so that the decision is taken under time pressure the setting party controls.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the declared deadline. The driving form is urgency passing into scarcity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the deadline produces an actual foreclosure of consultation, comparison, and reflection, and the party then imagines the decision as one they made.

Constructed example. An offer of a funded position is issued on a Friday with acceptance required by Monday, before two other decisions are due. The deadline reflects no administrative constraint. The candidate accepts and later learns that both other offers would have been made.

Admissibility. Deadlines are necessary wherever places are finite and cohorts are assembled to a calendar. The site is in use where the deadline is unrelated to any constraint, where it is timed against the candidate's alternatives rather than against the institution's calendar, and where extension is refused without reason.

5 Relation Formation

This section gives the taxonomy of the second region. Its object is the passage from a relation that has become possible to a relation that is constituted: what the parties are becoming to each other, on what conditions the arrangement stabilizes, and by what process it settles into a form that persists. The first region determined whether a meeting could occur. This region determines what the meeting becomes.

Claim 5.1 (Constitutive appropriation). Appropriation can be built into the constitution of a relation rather than performed upon it afterwards. Where it is, the arrangement generates the

asymmetry it later exhibits, and a party examining the arrangement’s operation finds nothing wrong with it.

A relation that has formed alters the space of relations its parties can subsequently form. Equation (10) records the case in which formation contracts that space, so that stability and foreclosure advance together.

$$R_t \longrightarrow \Omega_{t+1}, \quad |\Omega_{t+1}| < |\Omega_t| \quad (10)$$

Equation (10) is where the paper’s title question acquires its first concrete form. A relation deepens by accumulating history, obligation, identity, and dependence. Each of these is also a term in the cost of leaving. Section 12 takes up the consequence; this section supplies the mechanisms.

A note on the reading of this section is owed here rather than in the front matter. Several sites below describe practices with an established literature in coercive control and in the psychology of influence, and a description of a practice can be read as a specification for it. The admissibility paragraphs are written for the party who suspects that something is happening to them and lacks the vocabulary to say what. The correct use of this section is retrospective and diagnostic.

Table 4 lists the thirty-nine sites of the region.

Table 4: Formation region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E2.F.1	Role fixation	S	naming, authorization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.F.2	Hierarchical stabilization	S	rank, authority	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.F.3	Dependency structuring	R	lack, asymmetry	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E2.F.4	Exclusivity imposition	S	prohibition, possession	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E2.F.5	Reciprocity asymmetrization	S	obligation, expectation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.F.6	Boundary expansion	S	entitlement, role extension	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.F.7	Boundary contraction	S	exclusion, distancing	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.F.8	Identity incorporation	I	identification, belonging	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.F.9	Pseudo-intimacy construction	I	fantasy, identification	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.F.10	Contractual enclosure	S	codification, obligation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E2.C.1	Trust condition control	S	recognition, reassurance	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.C.2	Information asymmetry maintenance	S	opacity, selective disclosure	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.C.3	Uncertainty production	I	anxiety, dependence	$I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$
E2.C.4	Security withholding	R	lack, vulnerability	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E2.C.5	Recognition scarcity	S	scarcity, desire	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.C.6	Alternative-resource suppression	S	dependency, foreclosure	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E2.C.7	Norm opacity	S	ambiguity, discretion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.C.8	Norm shifting	S	reinterpretation, discretion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.C.9	Resource-conditioned attachment	S	scarcity, dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E2.C.10	Exit-cost construction	R	sunk cost, lock-in	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$

continued on the next page

Table 4, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E2.C.11	Vulnerability amplification	R	insecurity, exposure	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E2.P.1	Commitment acceleration	S	urgency, binding	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.2	Commitment delay	S	withholding, deferral	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.3	Selective reciprocity	S	conditional exchange	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.4	Reciprocity escalation	I	indebtedness, obligation	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.5	Trust acceleration	I	identification, projection	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.6	Trust withholding	S	evaluation, deferral	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.7	Trust asymmetry production	S	authority, opacity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.8	Disclosure extraction	I	intimacy, confidence	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.9	Selective self-presentation	I	concealment, image	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.10	Relational mirroring	I	similarity, identification	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.11	Affective synchronization	R	resonance, attachment	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E2.P.12	Intermittent reinforcement	R	lack, repetition	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$
E2.P.13	Conflict manufacture	S	antagonism, coalition	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.14	Coalitional enclosure	S	inside and outside	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.15	Norm internalization steering	S	repetition, identification	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E2.P.16	Consent engineering	S	framing, normalization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E2.P.17	Boundary testing	R	incremental violation	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E2.P.18	Normalization through repetition	S	habituation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$

5.1 Relation form

The sites of this aspect determine what the parties are becoming to one another. They operate on the shape of the relation rather than on the terms under which it holds.

5.1.1 Role fixation (E2.F.1)

Definition. A relation that is developing is given a name that arrests it, so that the forms it might otherwise have taken cease to be available.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the act of naming and the authority to make the name stick. The driving form is naming passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the name organizes what each party imagines is proper to the relation, and issues in the actual range of requests made. Site 4.1.1 imposes a role before any meeting; this site fixes one onto a relation already under way.

Constructed example. A research assistant has been proposing study designs for a year. At the first formal review the investigator records the position as technical support. The description is accurate to the contract and inaccurate to the work. Subsequent design proposals are received as helpfulness rather than as contribution.

Admissibility. Naming a relation is how parties coordinate expectations, and a clear description of a role protects the person in it. The site is in use where the naming party receives the contribution the name renders invisible, which is Conditions 3.5 and 3.6 jointly, and where the named party has no route by which the name may be revised.

5.1.2 Hierarchical stabilization (E2.F.2)

Definition. A difference of standing that arose from a temporary condition is converted into a permanent feature of the relation, outliving the condition that justified it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the marks that record standing. The driving form is rank passing into authority. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the recorded difference produces an image of settled competence, and issues in the actual allocation of decisions.

Constructed example. A founder holds technical authority in a two-person venture because they were the only engineer. Four years later the second founder has the deeper technical knowledge. Architecture decisions continue to route through the first, and the arrangement is described as how the company has always worked.

Admissibility. Stable authority reduces coordination cost and is worth preserving through short fluctuations in expertise. The site is in use where the stabilized position resists the evidence that would revise it, where the holder is the beneficiary of that resistance, and where the other party's accumulated investment in the venture makes departure costly, Condition 3.8.

5.1.3 Dependency structuring (E2.F.3)

Definition. The relation is constituted so that one party's continued functioning runs through it, with the effect that the relation's terms are set against the cost of its absence rather than against the value of its presence.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention operates first through what the party would actually lack, and the driving form is lack passing into asymmetry. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the dependence is lived before it is recognized, produces an image of the counterpart as indispensable, and is finally expressed in a vocabulary of loyalty or of gratitude. This site is the formation-region counterpart to 4.3.12, which reduces alternatives before the relation exists.

Constructed example. A doctoral candidate's visa, salary, laboratory access, dataset, and sole reference letter all run through one supervisor. Each arrangement is standard in isolation. Their concentration means that any disagreement is a disagreement about the candidate's continued existence in the country.

Admissibility. Concentration of support is often unavoidable in small institutions and is frequently generous rather than strategic. The site is in use where the concentration is maintained after alternatives become available, where the concentrating party draws terms from it, and where no route exists by which the dependent party may diversify, which is Condition 3.7.

5.1.4 Exclusivity imposition (E2.F.4)

Definition. The relation is constituted as excluding others of its kind, so that the party's remaining relational capacity is reserved to it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the prohibition and the claim of possession it carries. The driving form is prohibition passing into possession. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the prohibition produces an actual absence of parallel relations, and the party then imagines the relation as their only one.

Constructed example. A gallery contract requires that an artist show nowhere else worldwide, with no minimum number of exhibitions required of the gallery. The artist shows twice in five years. The gallery's roster grows.

Admissibility. Exclusivity is a fair exchange where the exclusive party makes a matching commitment, and many good arrangements are exclusive. The site is in use where exclusivity runs one way, so that the sedimentation borne by one party is unmatched, which is Condition 3.8.

5.1.5 Reciprocity asymmetrization (E2.F.5)

Definition. A relation understood by both parties as mutual is constituted so that giving runs in one direction and obligation in the other.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the vocabulary in which the exchange is described. The driving form is obligation passing into expectation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the description produces an image of a debt outstanding, and issues in the actual pattern of who gives what.

Constructed example. A senior colleague describes early assistance to a junior as an investment. Over eight years the junior supplies reviews, referrals, and teaching cover. Requests running the other way are received as surprising. The original assistance amounted to two introductions.

Admissibility. Asymmetric giving is normal and often admirable, and mentorship is rarely balanced within any short interval. The site is in use where the asymmetry is maintained by a description the giving party cannot contest, and where the account is never closed, so that no act discharges the obligation.

5.1.6 Boundary expansion (E2.F.6)

Definition. The domain over which the relation carries authority grows beyond the domain in which it was formed.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through claims of entitlement attaching to the role. The driving form is entitlement passing into role extension. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the extended claim produces an image of the relation as one of general standing, and issues in actual compliance in the new domain.

Constructed example. An employer introduces a wellbeing programme requiring disclosure of sleep and exercise data, then a policy on social media conduct outside work, then a review of secondary employment. Each step is presented as an extension of care.

Admissibility. Relations legitimately broaden, and a colleague who becomes a friend has expanded a boundary by agreement. The site is in use where the expansion runs from the stronger position, where refusal carries cost in the original domain, and where the expanding party gains from the new domain.

5.1.7 Boundary contraction (E2.F.7)

Definition. The domain in which the relation carries obligation is narrowed on one side while the domain in which it carries claim is preserved on the other.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the redescription of what the relation covers. The driving form is exclusion passing into distancing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the narrowing produces an image of the relation as limited in exactly the respects in which support would be owed, and issues in the actual withdrawal of that support. This site and 5.1.6 frequently appear together, and the pair is a single-region composite treated in Section 10.

Constructed example. A platform describes contributors as independent creators when questions of sick pay and equipment arise, and as members of its community when questions of content standards and exclusivity arise. Both descriptions appear in the same handbook.

Admissibility. Limits on the scope of a relation are proper and protective, and no relationship carries unlimited obligation. The site is in use where the narrowing party retains the corresponding claims, so that scope is asymmetric between obligation and entitlement.

5.1.8 Identity incorporation (E2.F.8)

Definition. A party comes to understand the relational role as constitutive of who they are, with the consequence that leaving the relation is experienced as a change of self rather than a change of arrangement.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on the image the party holds of themselves. The driving form is identification passing into belonging. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is subsequently ratified by titles, insignia, and forms of address, and issues in actual conduct including the acceptance of terms that a party holding the role externally would refuse. This site is the clearest instance of relational depth in the sense of Section 12, and Condition 3.8 is frequently satisfied through it.

Constructed example. A laboratory refers to its members as its people and marks arrivals and departures with ceremony. Members describe themselves by the group's name before their discipline. A postdoctoral researcher offered better terms elsewhere declines, and afterwards describes the alternative as not who I am.

Admissibility. Belonging is a good and identity-forming institutions are among the most valuable things people join. The site is in use where the incorporating party draws terms from the raised cost of exit, and where the incorporation is cultivated while the reciprocal commitment is withheld, which is Conditions 3.8 and 3.5.

5.1.9 Pseudo-intimacy construction (E2.F.9)

Definition. Markers of closeness are supplied at a level the underlying reciprocity does not support, so that a party invests on the strength of an intimacy the relation has not established.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image of a relation closer than the one in force. The driving form is fantasy passing into identification. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$, terminating in actual investment of time, money, and defence of the counterpart. Site 5.1.8 makes the role part of the self; this site makes the counterpart appear closer than they are.

Constructed example. A subscription service addresses supporters by first name in messages composed by template, thanks them for being part of the family, and marks anniversaries. Support requests receive replies after eleven days from an unnamed queue.

Admissibility. Warmth is not deception, and organizations that treat people kindly are not manipulating them. The site is in use where the represented closeness is produced by a party that has arranged its operations to prevent the reciprocity the representation implies, and where the additional commitment it induces accrues to that party.

5.1.10 Contractual enclosure (E2.F.10)

Definition. The relation is fixed in an instrument whose terms outlast the circumstances that produced them, so that revision requires the consent of the party the terms favour.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through codification. The driving form is codification passing into obligation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces actual constraint, and the parties then imagine the terms as the shape of the relation.

Constructed example. An early collaboration agreement assigns all derived intellectual property to one party, reflecting that party's sole funding at the time. Funding later becomes joint. The clause governs eleven subsequent projects, and its amendment requires unanimity.

Admissibility. Written terms protect the weaker party at least as often as the stronger, and durability is the point of a contract. The site is in use where the instrument is drafted by the party it favours, where amendment is procedurally reserved to that party, and where the counterparty's investment has since become relation-specific.

5.2 Formation conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on what allows a relation to stabilize: trust, information, security, norms, resources, and the cost of leaving.

5.2.1 Trust condition control (E2.C.1)

Definition. A party controls which evidence, signals, or institutions are capable of producing trust, and thereby controls whether relations excluding it can stabilize at all.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the designation of what counts as assurance. The driving form is recognition passing into reassurance. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the designated signal produces confidence, and issues in the actual extension of credit or commitment. Site 4.3.8 primes trust toward a particular party; this site controls the machinery by which trust becomes available.

Constructed example. A single agency issues the reference letters that a professional field recognizes. Practitioners with fifteen years of practice and no letter are unable to form new engagements. The agency also operates a placement service.

Admissibility. Assurance institutions solve a real problem and their concentration is sometimes efficient. The site is in use where the controlling party competes in the market its assurance governs, and where no alternative route to demonstrating reliability is recognized.

5.2.2 Information asymmetry maintenance (E2.C.2)

Definition. A difference in knowledge of the relation's real terms is preserved through the period in which the relation forms, so that one party commits on a picture the other knows to be incomplete.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through selective disclosure. The driving form is opacity passing into selective disclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the incomplete account produces a favourable image of the arrangement, and issues in actual commitment.

Constructed example. A platform's contributor agreement states a revenue share and omits that the share applies after a platform fee deducted at source. Contributors compute expected earnings from the stated figure. The deduction appears in a schedule available on request.

Admissibility. Complete disclosure of every term at first contact is impossible and would serve nobody. The site is in use where the omitted term is one the other party would act on, where the omission is preserved rather than incidental, and where the omitting party gains from the commitments made under it.

5.2.3 Uncertainty production (E2.C.3)

Definition. The future of the relation is held indeterminate, so that a party continues to invest in the hope of resolution rather than on the basis of settled terms.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on the image of a future that is neither promised nor refused. The driving form is anxiety passing into dependence. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$: the indeterminate image produces actual continued effort, and the effort is finally described in the vocabulary of commitment or of promise. Site 5.3.2 defers a commitment that has been sought; this site prevents the question from acquiring a form in which it can be put.

Constructed example. A research assistant asks whether the position will be converted to a doctoral place. The answer over three years is that it depends on how things develop. Each answer is truthful. No criterion is stated, and none is applied.

Admissibility. Genuine uncertainty is common and honesty about it is a virtue. The site is in use where the uncertainty is producible into determinacy at will by the party maintaining it, and where that party receives the effort the indeterminacy sustains, which is Conditions 3.5 and 3.6.

5.2.4 Security withholding (E2.C.4)

Definition. Stability that could be provided is not provided, so that the party remains exposed and looks to the relation rather than to any arrangement for its security.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through actual exposure borne by the party. The driving form is lack passing into vulnerability. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the exposure is lived, produces an image of the counterpart as the source of whatever safety exists, and is then named as flexibility or as the nature of the sector.

Constructed example. A care organization employs support workers on contracts renewed monthly. Its funding is committed in three-year cycles. Workers who raise concerns are not dismissed and are not renewed, and the pattern is visible to the rest.

Admissibility. Short contracts are sometimes the only instrument available to an organization whose own funding is short. The site is in use where the organization's horizon exceeds the one it passes on, where the difference is retained as flexibility at the organization, and where the exposure produces the compliance from which it benefits.

5.2.5 Recognition scarcity (E2.C.5)

Definition. Acknowledgement is made rare within the relation, so that its occasional provision organizes the party's effort around obtaining it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules governing when acknowledgement is issued. The driving form is scarcity passing into desire. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the rarity produces an image of acknowledgement as a thing of great worth, and issues in actual additional effort. Site 5.3.12 concerns the timing pattern of provision rather than its overall rate.

Constructed example. A department names one outstanding contributor a year from a staff of sixty. The award carries no money. Applications for it require a portfolio taking approximately forty hours to assemble, and the portfolios are used in the department's own reporting.

Admissibility. Selective honours are meaningful precisely because they are selective, and distinction that everyone receives distinguishes nobody. The site is in use where the scarcity is set by the party receiving the effort it produces, and where acknowledgement of ordinary good work is withheld in order to preserve the scarcity of the exceptional kind.

5.2.6 Alternative-resource suppression (E2.C.6)

Definition. A party's access to resources outside the relation is closed, so that the relation becomes the route to what the party needs.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules that close the outside routes. The driving form is dependency passing into foreclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rules produce an actual absence of outside supply, and the party then imagines the relation as the only source.

Constructed example. A laboratory's policy requires that all external collaborations be approved by the head, and approval has not been granted in four years. Members hold no independent grants and no outside co-authorship. The policy is described as protecting focus.

Admissibility. Coordination of external commitments is a legitimate management interest, particularly where funders impose conditions. The site is in use where approval is withheld without stated criteria, where the suppressing party benefits from the resulting concentration, and where the suppression persists across a period long enough to make the members' capacities non-portable.

5.2.7 Norm opacity (E2.C.7)

Definition. The standards governing the relation are left unstated, so that the party who interprets them holds a discretion that the other party cannot see as discretion.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence where a standard would be. The driving form is ambiguity passing into discretion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of a standard that exists and has not yet been met, and issues in actual continued effort toward it.

Constructed example. A group has no written criterion for authorship. Members are told that substantial contribution is the standard. Whether a given contribution is substantial is decided at the point of submission by the person who decides the author list.

Admissibility. Standards resist codification in genuinely novel work, and premature specification can be worse than silence. The site is in use where the unspecified standard is applied by a party with an interest in its application, where specification is requested and declined, and where the party subject to it has no route of appeal.

5.2.8 Norm shifting (E2.C.8)

Definition. The standards of the relation are changed during its course, so that a party who has met the stated requirement is found to have met a superseded one.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through reinterpretation of what the standard was. The driving form is reinterpretation passing into discretion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the revised standard produces an image of the party's work as insufficient, and issues in the actual production of more of it. Site 5.2.7 leaves the standard unstated; this site states it and moves it.

Constructed example. A promotion requires two lead publications. A candidate produces two. The requirement is then described as two lead publications in venues of the first rank. The candidate produces a third. The requirement is then described as sustained independent funding.

Admissibility. Standards rise legitimately as a field advances, and an institution is entitled to raise its expectations. The site is in use where the revision is applied retrospectively to a party who relied on the earlier statement, where the revising party receives the additional work, and where no version of the standard is recorded in a form the party may hold the institution to.

5.2.9 Resource-conditioned attachment (E2.C.9)

Definition. Access to resources a party requires is tied to the continuation of the relation rather than to the work the resources serve.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule of allocation. The driving form is scarcity passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces actual conditional access, and the party then imagines continuation as a precondition of their work rather than as a choice about it.

Constructed example. A collaborator's access to a shared dataset, an instrument booking, and a mailing list is administered by the group and terminates on departure. The dataset was assembled jointly. No provision exists for continued access to the portion the departing party built.

Admissibility. Institutional resources properly attach to institutional membership, and withdrawal on departure is ordinary. The site is in use where the resource in question was co-produced, where no provision for continuation is offered even on terms, and where the resulting non-portability is what makes the relation costly to leave.

5.2.10 Exit-cost construction (E2.C.10)

Definition. Conditions are accumulated during formation whose effect is to make departure progressively more expensive, so that the relation is held by the cost of leaving rather than by the value of staying.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through the actual accumulation of non-transferable capacity, history, and foregone alternatives. The driving form is sunk cost passing into lock-in. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the accumulation occurs materially, produces an image of departure as loss, is expressed in the vocabulary of investment and of commitment, and returns to the Real as the actual inability to leave. Equation (11) records the loss on exit as the sum of the value embedded in the relation and the cost of rebuilding it elsewhere.

$$L_i = V_i(R) + C_{\text{reconstruction}} \quad (11)$$

Constructed example. An engineer spends six years mastering a proprietary internal system with no external equivalent, accumulating standing legible only within the firm. Compensation is below market. Offers elsewhere require starting at a level the engineer held four years earlier.

Admissibility. Deep specialization is productive and firms properly invest in firm-specific capability. The site is in use where the accumulation is steered toward the non-portable form where a portable one was available, where the firm sets terms against the exit cost it constructed, and where the investment is unmatched on the firm's side, which is Condition 3.8.

5.2.11 Vulnerability amplification (E2.C.11)

Definition. The party's exposure outside the relation is increased, so that the relation's protective value rises without any improvement in what it offers.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through actual increases in exposure such as the concentration of housing, income, immigration standing, and professional reputation in one counterparty. The driving form is insecurity passing into exposure. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the exposure is borne, produces an image of the relation as shelter, and is finally described as an integrated package of support. Site 5.2.4 withholds security that could be given; this site increases the exposure against which security is measured.

Constructed example. An employer provides accommodation, arranges the work permit, and holds the professional registration. Each was offered as a benefit at recruitment. A dispute over unpaid hours is also a dispute about housing and residence.

Admissibility. Integrated provision is genuinely valuable to a newcomer and is often the only practical arrangement. The site is in use where the concentration is maintained after separation becomes feasible, where the concentrating party sets terms against the aggregate exposure, and where unbundling is refused.

5.3 Formation process

The sites of this aspect operate on how the relation actually settles: the sequencing of commitment, the movement of trust and disclosure, the rhythm of reward, and the process by which an arrangement comes to be experienced as normal.

5.3.1 Commitment acceleration (E2.P.1)

Definition. A binding commitment is obtained before the party has acquired the information that would inform it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument by which the commitment is taken. The driving form is urgency passing into binding. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the instrument produces an image of an opportunity closing, and issues in the actual signature. Site 4.3.14 compresses a decision about whether to meet; this site compresses a decision about what to become.

Constructed example. A studio offers a three-year exclusive on the day of a first meeting, with the terms available for signature that afternoon and described as standard. Comparable agreements in the sector run to eighteen months.

Admissibility. Fast agreement suits both sides where the terms are standard and the market is thin. The site is in use where speed is set by the offering party against the other party's ability to compare, where an extension is refused without reason, and where the terms diverge from what comparison would have revealed.

5.3.2 Commitment delay (E2.P.2)

Definition. A commitment sought by one party is deferred while that party's contribution is received in full, so that performance and obligation are separated in time.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the deferral itself. The driving form is withholding passing into deferral. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the deferral produces an image of a commitment approaching, and issues in continued performance. Site 5.2.3 prevents the question from taking a form; this site receives the question and postpones the answer.

Constructed example. A contributor is asked to serve as acting editor pending a decision on the permanent appointment. The decision is scheduled and rescheduled over two years. The acting role carries the work of the permanent one and none of its authority.

Admissibility. Appointment processes are slow for legitimate reasons and interim arrangements are often the best available. The site is in use where the deferral is within the gift of the party receiving the work, where the interim role carries full duties, and where the party has no route to a decision.

5.3.3 Selective reciprocity (E2.P.3)

Definition. Responsiveness is supplied when the relation serves the responding party and withdrawn otherwise, so that the pattern of exchange trains one party toward unconditional availability.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the conditional structure of response. The driving form is conditional exchange. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the pattern produces an image of the counterpart as busy rather than as selective, and issues in the party's actual continued availability.

Constructed example. A collaborator replies within the hour when a deadline of theirs is near and after three weeks otherwise. Over two years the other party begins holding their own work open in anticipation of the fast periods.

Admissibility. Uneven responsiveness is usually a matter of load rather than of strategy, and most people are worse correspondents than they intend. The site is in use where the pattern tracks the responding party's interest rather than their availability, and where the resulting asymmetry of availability is converted into work performed.

5.3.4 Reciprocity escalation (E2.P.4)

Definition. Small unrequested benefits are supplied early, establishing an obligation against which progressively larger returns are drawn.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on the party's sense of standing in relation to the other. The driving form is indebtedness passing into obligation. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the felt debt is expressed in the vocabulary of favour and of loyalty, and issues in actual performance.

Constructed example. An intermediary covers a newcomer's conference registration, then their travel, then an introduction. Eighteen months later the intermediary requests unremunerated work on a commercial project. The newcomer describes refusal as impossible after everything.

Admissibility. Generosity that creates goodwill is not a mechanism and gift relations are among the oldest forms of social binding. The site is in use where the early benefits are calibrated to establish obligation rather than to help, where the returns exceed them by an order of magnitude, and where the account is not closable by any act of the obliged party.

5.3.5 Trust acceleration (E2.P.5)

Definition. A party is brought to extend confidence beyond what the available evidence supports, so that the relation proceeds on a credence it has not earned.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the production of identification. The driving form is identification passing into projection. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the identification is ratified in shared vocabulary and declared common purpose, and issues in the actual transfer of information, money, or discretion. Site 4.3.8 primes trust before an encounter; this site accelerates it within one under way.

Constructed example. A prospective partner discloses an apparent confidence at a second meeting and describes the other party as the only person who would understand. Reciprocal disclosure follows. A joint venture is agreed at the fourth meeting without reference checks.

Admissibility. Rapid trust is often correct and is the basis of much good collaboration. The site is in use where the accelerating party structures the disclosure to produce reciprocity, where the disclosed material is of low actual sensitivity, and where the accelerated trust is converted into a commitment the party would not otherwise make.

5.3.6 Trust withholding (E2.P.6)

Definition. A party is required to continue demonstrating reliability after the demonstration is complete, so that effort directed at proving trustworthiness never terminates.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the evaluative frame in which the party is held. The driving form is evaluation passing into deferral. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the frame produces an image of the self as not yet adequate, and issues in continued demonstration.

Constructed example. A researcher's fourth submission is again returned with a request for additional validation. Comparable submissions from other members of the group are forwarded without validation. The difference is not stated and is visible in the group's records.

Admissibility. Scrutiny is proper and its intensity may reasonably differ with experience. The site is in use where the standard applied to one party diverges from that applied to comparable others, where the divergence is undisclosed, and where the withholding party receives the additional work it produces.

5.3.7 Trust asymmetry production (E2.P.7)

Definition. Transparency is required of one party while opacity is retained by the other, so that the relation is legible in one direction only.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules governing reporting and disclosure. The driving form is authority passing into opacity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the asymmetric rule produces an image of one party as accountable and the other as authoritative, and issues in the actual flow of information.

Constructed example. Staff record activity in fifteen-minute increments visible to management. Decisions on allocation and promotion are taken in meetings whose minutes are not circulated. Both arrangements are described in the same policy on transparency.

Admissibility. Asymmetric disclosure is often required by law, by confidentiality, or by the different responsibilities of the parties. The site is in use where the asymmetry exceeds any such requirement, where the opaque party uses the information it receives to set the terms it does not disclose, and where the transparent party has no route of inspection.

5.3.8 Disclosure extraction (E2.P.8)

Definition. Personal, professional, or strategic information beyond what the relation requires is obtained during formation, under conditions in which withholding would read as reticence.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the frame of confidence within which the request appears. The driving form is intimacy passing into confidence. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the frame is ratified by the language of openness and issues in the actual transfer of information that is later used.

Constructed example. A recruitment process includes an informal conversation in which candidates are invited to discuss family plans, financial pressures, and other applications. The conversation is described as getting to know each other. Notes are retained and consulted at the offer stage.

Admissibility. Getting to know a prospective colleague is ordinary and mutual candour builds good working relations. The site is in use where the disclosure runs one way, where the material obtained bears on the terms subsequently offered, and where its retention is undisclosed to the disclosing party.

5.3.9 Selective self-presentation (E2.P.9)

Definition. The stronger party composes an account of itself from which the features bearing on the other party's decision are absent, so that the relation forms against an incomplete counterpart.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the composed image. The driving form is concealment passing into image. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is supported by selectively chosen symbolic material and issues in actual commitment. Site 5.2.2 withholds terms of the arrangement; this site composes a picture of the party offering them.

Constructed example. A group's recruitment page features four alumni now holding faculty positions. Twenty-one members left the group in the same period, of whom three hold academic posts. The page states nothing false.

Admissibility. Presenting one's best case is universal and expected on both sides of a recruitment. The site is in use where the omitted material is the material a reasonable party would act on, where the composing party knows this, and where the resulting commitment is relation-specific and costly to reverse.

5.3.10 Relational mirroring (E2.P.10)

Definition. The values, idiom, and interests of the other party are reflected back to them, producing a sense of recognition that the underlying commonality does not support.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through similarity and the identification it produces. The driving form is similarity passing into identification. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the reflected image is confirmed in shared vocabulary, and issues in actual preference for the mirroring party.

Constructed example. A sales representative reviews a prospective client's public writing before a meeting and introduces two of its themes as personal convictions. The client describes the representative as unusually aligned with their thinking and selects them over a cheaper supplier.

Admissibility. Preparation before a meeting is courteous and finding genuine common ground is the substance of most good relationships. The site is in use where the reflected material is adopted rather than held, where the mirroring is undisclosed and would change the other party's judgment if disclosed, and where it substitutes for the qualities on which the decision purports to rest.

5.3.11 Affective synchronization (E2.P.11)

Definition. Emotional and bodily entrainment is produced through shared intensity, so that attachment forms at a rate the parties' actual knowledge of one another does not support.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, in the restricted sense of Section 3.3, since collective rhythm, exhaustion, and co-presence operate below the level at which they are articulated. The driving form is resonance passing into attachment. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: entrainment occurs bodily, produces an image of the group as a unity the party belongs to, and is afterwards named as culture or as spirit.

Constructed example. An organization opens each intake with a three-day residential of long sessions, shared sleeping arrangements, short nights, and collective declarations. Participants describe an unusual closeness with people they met on the first morning. Attrition in the following year falls.

Admissibility. Shared intensity is how many good communities form, and ritual is not manipulation. The site is in use where the entrainment is engineered by a party that benefits from the resulting attachment, where conditions such as sleep restriction are components of the design, and where the attachment is converted into terms accepted during the period it holds.

5.3.12 Intermittent reinforcement (E2.P.12)

Definition. Attention, approval, or reward is supplied on an irregular schedule, so that effort is sustained by the unpredictability of provision rather than by its rate.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the mechanism operates through a rhythm of presence and absence that the party lives before interpreting. The driving form is lack passing into repetition. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$: the irregular provision is experienced, produces an image of the next occasion as imminent, returns to the Real as continued effort, and is finally described as dedication. Site 5.2.5 sets the overall rate of acknowledgement; this site sets its distribution in time, and the two are separable, since a generous overall rate delivered unpredictably produces the effect and a sparse rate delivered predictably does not.

Constructed example. A supervisor is unresponsive for weeks, then sends an unprompted message describing a student's work as the most interesting in the group. The pattern repeats without relation to the work submitted. The student checks messages through the night.

Admissibility. Irregular contact is usually a symptom of an overloaded schedule rather than a schedule of reinforcement. The site is in use where the pattern is uncorrelated with the quality of what is submitted, where it is correlated with the party's signs of disengagement, and where the sustained effort accrues to the reinforcing party.

5.3.13 Conflict manufacture (E2.P.13)

Definition. An external antagonist is supplied, so that internal cohesion forms faster than the parties' actual agreement warrants and internal disagreement becomes disloyalty.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the naming of the antagonist. The driving form is antagonism passing into coalition. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the named antagonist produces an image of the group as under threat, and issues in actual closure of the group's boundary.

Constructed example. A group's leadership describes a rival laboratory as engaged in a campaign against it. No instance is produced. Members cease attending the rival's seminars, and a member who maintains a collaboration there is described as naive.

Admissibility. Real conflicts exist and naming them is often necessary for a group's survival. The site is in use where no instance supports the representation, where the naming party benefits from the closure it produces, and where the closure removes the members' alternative relations rather than protecting them.

5.3.14 Coalitional enclosure (E2.P.14)

Definition. The distinction between inside and outside is made the organizing feature of the relation, so that the party's remaining relations are reclassified as external.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the vocabulary of membership. The driving form is the distinction between inside and outside. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the distinction produces an image of outsiders as not understanding, and issues in the actual attenuation of outside ties. Site 5.3.13 supplies an antagonist; this site requires no antagonist and operates through the boundary alone.

Constructed example. A venture adopts a vocabulary in which its staff are insiders and everyone else is described as not in the arena. Social events fall on weekends. Within two years staff report that their friendships are almost entirely internal.

Admissibility. Strong internal culture is valuable and shared identity does real work. The site is in use where the enclosure reduces the members' alternatives while the enclosing party's own alternatives are preserved, and where the reduction is what makes the terms of membership sustainable.

5.3.15 Norm internalization steering (E2.P.15)

Definition. The relation's terms are brought to be understood by the party as natural and proper, so that compliance no longer requires enforcement.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through repeated formulation of the terms as principles. The driving form is repetition passing into identification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the formulation produces an image of the compliant self as the good member, and returns to the Symbolic as the party's own statement of the norm to others. The return to the Symbolic distinguishes this site from those terminating in the Real, since the mechanism completes when the party becomes an enforcer of it.

Constructed example. A group repeats that people who care about the work do not count their hours. Within three years the phrase is used by junior members to correct newer ones. No policy on hours exists.

Admissibility. Shared norms are the substance of professional culture and internalization is how any craft is transmitted. The site is in use where the internalized norm allocates a burden to the party internalizing it, where the party formulating it is exempt, and where the norm's effect is to prevent the party from stating a claim they would otherwise have.

5.3.16 Consent engineering (E2.P.16)

Definition. Formal agreement is obtained under conditions arranged so that the agreement carries the appearance of choice and little of its substance.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the framing of the decision, its defaults, and its presentation. The driving form is framing passing into normalization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the framing produces an image of the choice as free and unremarkable, and issues in the actual agreement.

Constructed example. A platform presents a revised agreement as a single acceptance covering continued use and a new grant of derivative rights. Declining ends access to four years of the contributor's archived work, which is exportable only in a format the platform's own tools read.

Admissibility. Standard-form agreement is the only workable instrument at scale and defaults are unavoidable. The site is in use where the bundling joins terms a party would accept to terms they would refuse, where the cost of declining is constructed rather than intrinsic, and where the constructing party is the beneficiary.

5.3.17 Boundary testing (E2.P.17)

Definition. The limit of what a party will accept is established through a sequence of small increments, each of which is minor relative to the last, so that the cumulative position is reached without a point at which refusal was natural.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since each increment is a small actual imposition rather than a statement about the relation. The driving form is incremental violation. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the increment is borne, produces an image of the party as reasonable for having borne it, is described as the way things are done, and returns to the Real as the next increment.

Constructed example. A first request concerns a document over a weekend. Two months later the request concerns a weekend of work. Six months later a holiday is deferred. Each request is small against the one preceding it, and none is refused.

Admissibility. Relations legitimately deepen through accumulated small favours, and most long-standing collaborations look like this from outside. The site is in use where the increments run one way, where the cumulative position is one the party would have refused if put at once, and where refusal at any point carries a cost the party has by then acquired.

5.3.18 Normalization through repetition (E2.P.18)

Definition. An arrangement recognized at its introduction as exceptional becomes, through repetition, the standard against which the relation is measured.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the description of the arrangement as temporary. The driving form is habituation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the description authorizes an actual period of the arrangement, the period produces an image of it as ordinary, and the arrangement is finally restated as the standard. Site 5.3.17 escalates the demand; this site holds the demand constant and moves the baseline.

Constructed example. A team accepts a fortnight of extended hours for a launch. The launch recurs quarterly. In the third year the hours are described in the induction pack as the team's normal rhythm, and a new member who works to contract is counselled about fit.

Admissibility. Genuine peaks require exceptional effort and teams properly rise to them. The site is in use where the exception recurs on a schedule the imposing party controls, where the baseline is revised without renegotiation of terms, and where the party bearing it has by then accumulated the exit cost of 5.2.10.

6 Shared Experience and Co-generation

This section gives the taxonomy of the third region. Its object is the mobilization of a constituted relation's generative capacity: the structure in which parties generate together, the conditions under which generation is possible, and the process by which value actually arises from interaction.

What is generated here exceeds the output. Equation (12) records the composition, in which the interaction term is the part that belongs to no prior party.

$$V = V_A + V_B + V_{AB}, \quad V_{AB} \gg V_A + V_B \quad (12)$$

Alongside the output there arise trust, shared language, coordination routines, tacit knowledge, reusable material, reputation, and the capacity to generate again. The last of these is the region's distinctive object, and the distinction between taking what was generated and taking the capacity to generate is developed at 6.3.15.

Claim 6.1 (Generative appropriation). Appropriation at this region can take the capacity and direction of generation rather than its product. A party may retain everything produced and lose the ability to produce again, and a party may lose nothing produced and lose the authority to determine what is produced next.

Remark 6.2 (Recurrence of operations across regions). Several sites below repeat operations already named at the formation region: uncertainty is produced at 5.2.3 and again at 6.2.8, acknowledgement is made irregular at 5.3.12 and again at 6.3.10, and an exception is made standard at 5.3.18 and again at 6.3.21. The repetition is not redundancy. The operation is the same and the object differs: at formation the object is the terms of the relation, and here the object is the work. This recurrence supports the compression announced in Section 3.5, and Section 11 returns to it, since a small operation set recurring across six objects accounts for the corpus more economically than an enumeration does.

Table 5 lists the forty-five sites of the region. The exposure of a limit, the fourth mode by which an encounter with the Real may be staged and the one absent from Section 4, appears here at 6.2.13.

Table 5: Co-generation region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E3.F.1	Contribution-role fixa- tion	S	role assignment	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.F.2	Hierarchical production formatting	S	authority, command	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.F.3	Invisible-support for- matting	S	non-classification	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.F.4	Pseudo-collaboration construction	I	fantasy, framing	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$

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Table 5, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E3.F.5	Unilateral agenda setting	S	authority, problem definition	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.F.6	Task fragmentation	S	decomposition, opacity	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.F.7	Contribution isolation	S	separation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.F.8	Prospective authorship shaping	S	anticipatory attribution	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.C.1	Resource asymmetry maintenance	S	scarcity, dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.C.2	Tool and infrastructure enclosure	S	ownership, access	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.C.3	Information withholding	S	opacity, selective disclosure	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.C.4	Knowledge dependency construction	S	expertise monopoly	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.C.5	Time asymmetry	R	urgency, unequal availability	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E3.C.6	Risk externalization	S	uncertainty allocation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.C.7	Cost externalization	R	burden transfer	$R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$
E3.C.8	Recognition uncertainty in generation	S	ambiguity, desire	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.C.9	Reward uncertainty	S	intermittent expectation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.C.10	Artificial scarcity of participation	S	exclusivity, competition	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.C.11	Alternative-generation suppression	S	exclusivity, foreclosure	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.C.12	Generative-environment degradation	R	fatigue, instability	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E3.C.13	Limit exposure	R	impossibility, insufficiency	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E3.P.1	Contribution extraction	R	effort appropriation	$R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$
E3.P.2	Attention extraction	I	salience, repetition	$I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$
E3.P.3	Affective labour extraction	I	care, attachment	$I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$
E3.P.4	Creative appropriation in generation	S	reframing, capture	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.5	Selective incorporation	S	inclusion and exclusion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.6	Contribution dilution	S	aggregation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.7	Contribution inflation	S	narrative control	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.8	Feedback withholding	S	opacity, dependency	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.9	Selective feedback	S	reinforcement	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.10	Intermittent recognition	I	scarcity, repetition	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E3.P.11	Goal shifting	S	moving standard	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.12	Scope creep imposition	S	obligation expansion	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.P.13	Generative redirection	S	agenda control	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.14	Generativity suppression	S	prohibition, constraint	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.P.15	Generativity capture	S	ownership, futurity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.16	Recombination capture	S	aggregation, synthesis control	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$

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Table 5, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E3.P.17	Coordination rent ex- traction	S	brokerage, indispensabil- ity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.18	Conflict-based produc- tivity extraction	S	competition, antagonism	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.19	Identity-based overcon- tribution	I	identification, belonging	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E3.P.20	Moralization of contri- bution	S	normativity, guilt	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.21	Normalization of over- production	S	habituation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E3.P.22	Learning capture	S	knowledge retention	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E3.P.23	Failure externalization	S	blame allocation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E3.P.24	Success appropriation	S	narrative ownership	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$

6.1 Co-generative form

The sites of this aspect operate on the structure within which parties generate together, and thereby on which contributions are capable of appearing as contributions at all.

6.1.1 Contribution-role fixation (E3.F.1)

Definition. Positions within the generating work are assigned in advance, so that some parties occupy roles from which conception is not expected and others occupy roles from which execution is not expected.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the assignment of production roles. The driving form is role assignment. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the assignment produces an image of who has ideas, and issues in the actual pattern of who speaks at design meetings. Site 5.1.1 fixes the role a party holds in a relation; this site fixes the role they hold in a piece of work.

Constructed example. A laboratory divides its members into those who design studies and those who run them. Assignment follows seniority at entry. Members of the second group who propose designs are thanked and redirected, and after two years stop proposing.

Admissibility. Division of labour raises output and specialization serves those who choose it. The site is in use where assignment does not track capability, where the assigning party receives the conceptions the assignment renders invisible, and where no route exists by which a member may move between the groups.

6.1.2 Hierarchical production formatting (E3.F.2)

Definition. Joint generation is organized as instruction and compliance, so that a process described as collaborative produces contributions only along a single direction.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the command structure. The driving form is authority passing into command. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the structure produces an image of the directing party as the source of the work, and issues in the actual distribution of initiative.

Constructed example. A project is described in its funding application as a collaboration between three groups. Its meetings consist of the lead group reporting decisions and the others reporting progress against them. Two of the three groups have no mechanism by which to propose a change of direction.

Admissibility. Direction is necessary and someone has to decide. The site is in use where the arrangement is represented externally as collaboration while operating as command, so that the directing party draws the standing of collaboration and the authority of hierarchy at once.

6.1.3 Invisible-support formatting (E3.F.3)

Definition. Work sustaining the conditions of generation is classified as something other than contribution, so that its performance leaves no trace in the record of who produced what.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of a category. The driving form is non-classification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the missing category produces an image of the work as natural rather than as performed, and issues in its actual allocation to the same parties year after year.

Constructed example. A group's contribution statement recognizes conception, analysis, and writing. Data cleaning, instrument maintenance, scheduling, and the management of conflict between members are performed by two people and appear nowhere. Both are described in review as reliable rather than as productive.

Admissibility. No taxonomy of contribution is complete and every scheme omits something. The site is in use where the omission is stable, where the omitted work is necessary to the output that is recognized, and where the parties who define the categories are those whose work the categories capture, which is Condition 3.6.

6.1.4 Pseudo-collaboration construction (E3.F.4)

Definition. The appearance of joint creation is maintained while decision rights and benefit rights remain concentrated, so that participants contribute at the level appropriate to partners and receive at the level appropriate to suppliers.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on the participants' picture of what they are part of. The driving form is fantasy passing into framing. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the picture is ratified by the vocabulary of partnership and issues in actual contribution at partner level. Site 6.1.2 organizes the work as command openly; this site organizes it as command and describes it as collaboration.

Constructed example. A platform describes its moderators as community partners, holds a monthly forum for their proposals, and implements none of them over three years. Moderators continue to prepare proposals. The forum is cited in the platform's governance disclosures.

Admissibility. Consultation that does not bind is legitimate where it is described accurately. The site is in use where the framing induces contribution the participants would withhold if the decision structure were stated, and where the framing party receives that contribution.

6.1.5 Unilateral agenda setting (E3.F.5)

Definition. The question to be worked on is determined by one party, so that others contribute within a problem they had no part in choosing.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the definition of the problem. The driving form is authority passing into problem definition. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the defined problem produces an image of the field of relevant work, and issues in the actual direction of effort.

Constructed example. Doctoral projects in a group are selected from a list the investigator maintains. Candidates arriving with their own question are told it is interesting and unfunded. Eight theses over a decade develop a single programme, and its direction is the investigator's alone.

Admissibility. Programmatic coherence is valuable and a principal investigator is answerable for a funded direction. The site is in use where the agenda-setting party is also the beneficiary of the resulting concentration, and where contributors have no route by which a question of their own may enter, which is 6.3.13 in its prospective form.

6.1.6 Task fragmentation (E3.F.6)

Definition. The work is divided finely enough that contributors cannot see the whole to which they contribute, and therefore cannot state what their contribution was worth.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the decomposition scheme. The driving form is decomposition passing into opacity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the scheme produces actual isolation from the assembled product, and contributors then imagine their work as minor.

Constructed example. A data service issues annotation tasks of forty seconds each without indication of the model, the client, or the purpose. Annotators are paid by the task. The assembled corpus is licensed for a sum no annotator is in a position to compare against their payment.

Admissibility. Decomposition is how large work is organized and fine tasks are often the only way to distribute it. The site is in use where the decomposition is finer than the coordination requires, where the assembling party alone holds the view of the whole, and where that view is what would allow contributors to state a claim, which is Conditions 3.6 and 3.7.

6.1.7 Contribution isolation (E3.F.7)

Definition. Contributors are prevented from communicating with one another, so that each faces the coordinating party alone and no comparison of terms is possible.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules or architecture that prevent lateral contact. The driving form is separation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual absence of lateral ties, and each contributor then imagines their own terms as particular to them. Site 6.1.6 hides the product; this site hides the other producers.

Constructed example. A firm engages twenty specialists on separate contracts, each containing a confidentiality clause covering its own terms. Rates differ by a factor of three for equivalent work. No specialist is in a position to establish this.

Admissibility. Confidentiality of individual terms protects some parties and is often requested by them. The site is in use where the clause is imposed by the engaging party, where the engaging party benefits from the absence of comparison, and where no aggregate figures are published in its place.

6.1.8 Prospective authorship shaping (E3.F.8)

Definition. Attribution is settled before the work is done, so that the record of who generated the value is fixed independently of what each party contributes.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the anticipatory allocation of credit. The driving form is anticipatory attribution. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the allocation produces an image of the contributions to come, and issues in the actual conduct of the work, since a party whose position is fixed has no reason to exceed it.

Constructed example. At a project's first meeting the order of authors is agreed by seniority and recorded in the plan. A junior member subsequently supplies the central argument. The order is not revisited, and the agreement is cited as the reason.

Admissibility. Early clarity about attribution prevents disputes and protects junior parties at least as often as it harms them. The site is in use where the agreement is treated as final against contribution that diverges from it, where revision is unavailable, and where the party who drafted the agreement benefits from its rigidity.

6.2 Co-generative conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on what makes joint generation possible: resources, tools, knowledge, time, risk, cost, and the expectations under which parties commit effort.

6.2.1 Resource asymmetry maintenance (E3.C.1)

Definition. Control of the materials of generation is preserved on one side, so that joint work proceeds on terms set by the party that could withdraw its conditions.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the allocation rules. The driving form is scarcity passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rules produce actual conditional access, and the parties then imagine the arrangement as the natural shape of the collaboration.

Constructed example. A collaboration between two groups runs on data held by one and analysed by the other. Access is granted quarterly and renewed at the holder's discretion. The analysing group's four-year programme depends on renewals that have never been refused and have never been guaranteed.

Admissibility. Resource holders bear obligations to funders and to subjects that constrain what they may grant. The site is in use where the discretion exceeds those obligations, where terms are set against the dependent group’s accumulated commitment, and where no durable access arrangement is offered.

6.2.2 Tool and infrastructure enclosure (E3.C.2)

Definition. The instruments through which value is generated are owned by a party that charges for their use, so that a share of what is generated is drawn at the point of generation.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through ownership and the access terms it authorizes. The driving form is ownership passing into access. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the terms produce actual conditional use, and users then imagine the instrument as the only means available.

Constructed example. A platform supplies the editing, hosting, and distribution tools its contributors use, and takes a share of revenue in each. A contributor publishing elsewhere loses their archive, their formatting, and their subscriber list, none of which is exportable in a usable form.

Admissibility. Building and maintaining tools is real work and charging for it is proper. The site is in use where the share exceeds the cost of provision by a margin sustained through the absence of alternatives, where portability is withheld, and where the enclosing party is the same party that withholds it.

6.2.3 Information withholding (E3.C.3)

Definition. Knowledge material to the work is retained by one party while the other bears the risk of producing without it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through selective disclosure. The driving form is opacity passing into selective disclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the incomplete brief produces an image of the task as the one described, and issues in actual work directed at the wrong target.

Constructed example. A contractor is briefed on functional requirements and not on the budget, the client’s actual decision criteria, or the two competing proposals. Three revisions are performed. The unstated criterion is disclosed after the third.

Admissibility. Not every fact can be shared, and duty requires that some be withheld. The site is in use where the withheld fact is one the working party would act on, where the withholding party bears none of the cost of the resulting misdirection, and where the cost falls on the party who could have avoided it.

6.2.4 Knowledge dependency construction (E3.C.4)

Definition. Knowledge required for generation is kept undocumented and untransmitted, so that the work continues to route through the party who holds it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of a record where a record would be. The driving form is expertise monopoly. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the absence produces actual routing of the work, and the group then imagines the holder as indispensable. Site 6.2.3 withholds facts about a particular task; this site withholds the method.

Constructed example. An engineer maintains a system with no documentation, declines to pair, and handles all incidents. The arrangement is described as efficient. The team's capacity to operate the system does not grow over four years, and the engineer's leverage in each salary discussion does.

Admissibility. Documentation is costly and its absence is usually a symptom of pressure rather than a strategy. The site is in use where transmission is declined when offered and resourced, where the holder converts the resulting routing into terms, and where the group has no route to acquire the knowledge otherwise.

6.2.5 Time asymmetry (E3.C.5)

Definition. Urgency is borne by one party while discretion over timing is retained by the other, so that the cost of the schedule falls where the control over it does not.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through the actual distribution of nights, weekends, and waiting. The driving form is urgency passing into unequal availability. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the asymmetry is lived, produces an image of one party as responsive and the other as busy, and is finally named as professionalism or as seniority.

Constructed example. A supervisor returns comments on a Friday evening requiring revisions by Monday, then takes eleven weeks to respond to the revision. The pattern holds across four submissions. The student reorganizes their year around the possibility of a response.

Admissibility. Senior workloads are genuinely heavier and response times legitimately differ. The site is in use where the demanding party's own delays are not accounted against the same schedule, where the waiting party's time carries no cost to the arrangement, and where the resulting availability is what the arrangement runs on.

6.2.6 Risk externalization (E3.C.6)

Definition. The uncertainty attaching to joint generation is allocated to the party with less capacity to bear it, while the return conditional on success is allocated elsewhere.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the allocation instrument. The driving form is uncertainty allocation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces an actual exposure, and the exposed party then imagines the exposure as the nature of the work.

Constructed example. A delivery platform sets fares per completed job. Waiting time, cancellation, vehicle failure, and demand fluctuation fall on the courier. The platform's revenue per completed job is invariant to all four.

Admissibility. Allocating risk to the party best placed to manage it is efficient and often right. The site is in use where the allocation runs against that principle, where the allocating party is insulated from the variance it creates, and where no instrument is offered by which the bearing party may hedge.

6.2.7 Cost externalization (E3.C.7)

Definition. The material cost of sustaining generation is borne by contributors while the value generated accrues elsewhere.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through the actual expenditure borne. The driving form is burden transfer. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$: the expenditure is made, is subsequently classified as the contributor's own investment, and produces an image of the arrangement as entrepreneurial. Equation (13) records the comparison the site makes available, in which the ratio of value received to cost borne differs between positions.

$$\frac{V_i}{C_i} \gg \frac{V_j}{C_j} \quad (13)$$

Constructed example. Contributors to an open repository supply equipment, connectivity, testing hardware, and the time of maintenance. A firm builds a commercial product on the repository and returns nothing to it. Its accounts record no cost of acquisition for the component.

Admissibility. Voluntary contribution to a commons is a gift and is not thereby exploited, and many contributors want exactly the arrangement they have. The site is in use where an identifiable position absorbs the difference and controls the terms of use, and where no channel exists through which return may reach the contributors, which is Conditions 3.5 and 3.7.

6.2.8 Recognition uncertainty in generation (E3.C.8)

Definition. Whether a contribution will be acknowledged is left open through the period in which it is made, so that effort continues in pursuit of a determination that is not offered.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of a stated criterion at the point where one would apply. The driving form is ambiguity passing into desire. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the openness produces an image of acknowledgement as achievable, and issues in continued production. Site 5.2.3 holds the relation's future open; this site holds the standing of a particular piece of work open.

Constructed example. Contributors to a jointly written report are told that authorship will be determined once the shape of the report is clear. It is not clear at submission. The determination is made by the party assembling the final draft.

Admissibility. Contribution is genuinely hard to assess before work is complete and premature allocation causes its own harms, as at 6.1.8. The site is in use where the deciding party is a beneficiary of the decision, where no criterion is supplied on request, and where the uncertainty is what sustains the contribution.

6.2.9 Reward uncertainty (E3.C.9)

Definition. Material return for contribution is held indeterminate, so that parties supply effort against a possibility rather than an entitlement.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the structure of the indeterminate offer. The driving form is intermittent expectation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the structure produces an image of a return that may arrive, and issues in actual unpaid or underpaid effort. Site 6.2.8 concerns acknowledgement and this site concerns payment, and the two are separable, since arrangements exist that acknowledge fully and pay nothing.

Constructed example. An early-stage firm defers a share of salary against equity whose terms are not settled. Staff work for two years against the deferral. The instrument is issued at a valuation and with a vesting schedule determined after the work is performed.

Admissibility. Contingent reward aligns interests and is appropriate where the contingency is genuine and symmetric. The site is in use where the terms of the contingent instrument are set by one party after the effort is sunk, and where that party's own return is not subject to the same contingency.

6.2.10 Artificial scarcity of participation (E3.C.10)

Definition. Inclusion in the generating work is presented as a scarce privilege, so that contributors accept terms calibrated to the value of admission rather than to the value of their contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the declared limit on participation. The driving form is exclusivity passing into competition. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the limit produces an image of participation as a distinction, and issues in acceptance of the terms attached to it. Site 4.2.6 makes a relation scarce; this site makes the work scarce.

Constructed example. A studio admits four assistants a year from several hundred applicants, and describes the position as the most sought in its field. Assistants are unpaid for six months. The studio's output over that period is produced substantially by them.

Admissibility. Selective admission is proper where places are genuinely limited by supervision capacity or by resources. The site is in use where the limit is set below capacity, where the party setting it receives the work, and where the terms accepted are calibrated to admission rather than to contribution.

6.2.11 Alternative-generation suppression (E3.C.11)

Definition. A contributor's capacity to generate is reserved to one arrangement, so that no part of it is available to any other.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the reservation instrument. The driving form is exclusivity passing into foreclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces an actual absence of parallel work, and the contributor then imagines their capacity as belonging to the arrangement. Site 5.2.6 closes access to outside resources; this site closes the outward flow of the party's own capacity.

Constructed example. An employment contract assigns to the employer all inventions conceived during the term, whether or not related to the work and whether or not made using its resources. An employee's unrelated project developed at weekends is claimed on departure.

Admissibility. Employers properly claim what their resources and direction produce. The site is in use where the claim extends beyond the domain of the work, where the claiming party makes no corresponding commitment to develop what it claims, and where the contributor loses the capacity to generate elsewhere.

6.2.12 Generative-environment degradation (E3.C.12)

Definition. The conditions under which parties generate well are worsened while the demand for output is preserved, so that the arrangement draws against capacity it is consuming.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through fatigue, interruption, and overload. The driving form is fatigue passing into instability. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the degradation is borne, produces an image of declining performance as personal, and is finally recorded as a capability concern. Site 4.2.4 degrades the conditions of encounter; this site degrades the conditions of work.

Constructed example. A team's calendar is filled to ninety per cent with meetings, its notification channels are always on, and its planning horizon is one week. Output quality declines. The organization introduces a performance improvement process for two members.

Admissibility. Periods of pressure are unavoidable, and organizations sometimes run hot for good reason. The site is in use where the degradation persists past the period that justified it, where the degrading party continues to draw the output, and where the decline is attributed to the parties bearing it rather than to the conditions.

6.2.13 Limit exposure (E3.C.13)

Definition. A party is placed before a task their existing capability, tools, and arrangements are unable to complete, so that the insufficiency of their own apparatus is disclosed to them and the arrangement supplies what closes it.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, and this site is the fourth mode of staging an encounter with the Real, the one absent from Section 4. The driving form is impossibility passing into insufficiency. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the failure is met before it is understood, produces an image of the self as not yet adequate, and is finally named as a development need. The site differs from 4.2.5, where something is absent from the party's situation, in that here nothing is absent and the party's whole apparatus is found unequal to what is asked.

Constructed example. A consultancy assigns new analysts a first engagement calibrated to fail without the firm’s proprietary method, which is taught in the second month. Analysts describe the first month as the point at which they understood they needed the firm. Retention through year three is materially higher for those who experienced it.

Admissibility. Stretch assignments develop people and encountering the edge of one’s competence is how anyone learns. The site is in use where the failure is engineered rather than encountered, where the party engineering it supplies the remedy, and where the resulting dependence is converted into terms, which is Conditions 3.6 and 3.8.

6.3 Co-generative process

The sites of this aspect operate on how value actually arises through interaction: what is drawn from contributors, how their contributions are handled as they are made, how the standard of completion moves, and how the capacity to generate is directed and retained.

6.3.1 Contribution extraction (E3.P.1)

Definition. Effort beyond the terms of the arrangement is drawn from a contributor without a corresponding return, so that the arrangement’s output rises and its obligations do not.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention consists in the actual taking of hours, capability, and bodily effort. The driving form is effort appropriation. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$: the effort is expended, is recorded in the output rather than in the account of who produced it, and produces an image of the contributor as committed.

Constructed example. A support worker’s shift covers eight residents. Two additional residents are added without a change of hours or pay. The work is completed. The organization’s cost per resident falls and is reported as a productivity gain.

Admissibility. Effort fluctuates and colleagues cover for one another as a matter of course. The site is in use where the additional effort is structural rather than occasional, where an identifiable position absorbs the difference, and where no route exists by which the contributor may have the addition recognized.

6.3.2 Attention extraction (E3.P.2)

Definition. The attention of participants is drawn continuously as the input to generation, so that presence itself becomes the productive act.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through salience and the anticipation of what the next interval holds. The driving form is salience passing into repetition. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$: the anticipation produces actual time spent, and the time is finally recorded as engagement.

Constructed example. A platform notifies contributors of partial signals, showing that a post is being read without showing by whom or how many. Contributors return every few minutes. The aggregate of those returns is the inventory the platform sells.

Admissibility. Services that people want to use hold attention, and holding it is not a mechanism. The site is in use where the interface is calibrated against withdrawal rather than against use, where the extracted attention is the arrangement's product, and where participants are not in a position to see that it is.

6.3.3 Affective labour extraction (E3.P.3)

Definition. The work of maintaining the emotional conditions of joint generation is drawn from particular parties and is not counted as work.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the attachment that makes the work feel owed. The driving form is care passing into attachment. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow R \rightarrow S$: the attachment produces actual effort, which is finally described as a disposition of the person rather than as a task performed. Site 6.1.3 removes the category; this site draws the work.

Constructed example. One member of a group absorbs conflict, reassures those who are struggling, and manages the relationship with a difficult collaborator. The group functions. The member's own project is two years behind, and the delay is discussed at review without reference to the cause.

Admissibility. Caring for colleagues is a good and most people who do it want to. The site is in use where the work is allocated by position rather than chosen, where the arrangement depends on it, and where it is excluded from the account of contribution while its absence would be immediately visible.

6.3.4 Creative appropriation in generation (E3.P.4)

Definition. An idea still in the joint process is restated in a form that attributes it to one party, before the process has produced a record capable of contradicting the restatement.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the restatement itself. The driving form is reframing passing into capture. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the restatement produces an image of the origin of the idea, and issues in the actual attribution recorded downstream.

Constructed example. A proposal emerges over three group discussions with contributions from four people. A week later one of them presents it to the faculty as an idea they have been developing. No minutes exist. The account is not contested, and after a year it is the only account.

Admissibility. Ideas genuinely have unclear origins and honest parties frequently misremember who said what. The site is in use where the restating party is systematically the beneficiary, where the absence of a record is maintained by that party, and where those present have no route by which an alternative account may be entered, which is Condition 3.6.

6.3.5 Selective incorporation (E3.P.5)

Definition. The usable part of a contribution is taken while the contributor's authority over its development is excluded, so that the contribution enters and the contributor does not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the decision about what is adopted. The driving form is inclusion and exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the decision produces an image of the contribution as a suggestion rather than as a direction, and issues in the actual exclusion of its author from what follows.

Constructed example. A student proposes a method that the group adopts. The student is not included in the subsequent design work, is not consulted on the extension, and appears fourth on the resulting paper. The method is described in it without reference to its origin.

Admissibility. Good ideas properly circulate beyond their authors and no contributor owns a method. The site is in use where the adopting party controls both the adoption and the composition of what follows, and where the pattern is stable across contributors and contributions.

6.3.6 Contribution dilution (E3.P.6)

Definition. Identifiable contributions are aggregated into a collective attribution, so that individual claims lose their object.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the aggregating description. The driving form is aggregation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the description produces an image of the work as undivided, and issues in the actual impossibility of any individual claim upon it.

Constructed example. A report's acknowledgements thank the team. Its substantive analysis was performed by two people over five months, and its remaining contributors attended meetings. The report is cited by the organization as evidence of its own analytical capacity.

Admissibility. Collective attribution is appropriate where contribution was genuinely collective, and insisting on individual credit can itself be corrosive. The site is in use where aggregation is applied selectively, where the aggregating position is separately credited, and where the aggregation removes the record by which a contributor could establish what they did.

6.3.7 Contribution inflation (E3.P.7)

Definition. The share of the work attributable to a dominant party is enlarged in the account of it, so that coordination or supervision is recorded as generation.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of the account. The driving form is narrative control. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the account produces an image of the party's role, and issues in the actual allocation of subsequent opportunity. This site and 6.3.6 are complementary, and their conjunction is a single-region composite treated in Section 10.

Constructed example. A project lead's contribution consisted of scheduling, budget management, and the final read-through. The internal record describes the lead as having driven the intellectual direction. The record is written by the lead.

Admissibility. Coordination is real work and its systematic undervaluation is a genuine problem in its own right. The site is in use where the account is composed by the party it describes, where it is the only account, and where the parties who could correct it are the ones whose share it reduces.

6.3.8 Feedback withholding (E3.P.8)

Definition. Information about the quality of a contribution is withheld while further contributions are requested, so that the contributor cannot improve independently and remains reliant on the evaluating party.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of an evaluation where one is due. The driving form is opacity passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of a standard the contributor has not grasped, and issues in continued production directed at guessing it.

Constructed example. A researcher submits four chapters over eighteen months and receives no comments. Each submission is followed by a request for the next. At the end the work is described as having required extensive revision.

Admissibility. Feedback is expensive and delays are usually a matter of workload. The site is in use where the evaluating party continues to request work through the period of silence, where the silence is selective across contributors, and where the contributor has no alternative evaluator available.

6.3.9 Selective feedback (E3.P.9)

Definition. Evaluation is supplied at moments calculated to sustain contribution rather than at moments when it would inform the work.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the timing rule governing response. The driving form is reinforcement. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the timing produces an image of the evaluator as attentive at the decisive moments, and issues in continued contribution. Site 6.3.8 withholds throughout; this site supplies at chosen points.

Constructed example. A contributor who has begun to reduce their output receives, within the week, the first substantive praise in eight months. Output returns to its previous level. The pattern recurs at nine-month intervals over four years.

Admissibility. Encouragement at low points is kind and effective management often looks like this. The site is in use where the timing tracks the contributor's disengagement rather than the work, where it is decoupled from any assessment of quality, and where the sustained output accrues to the evaluating party.

6.3.10 Intermittent recognition (E3.P.10)

Definition. Acknowledgement of contribution is supplied irregularly and at high intensity, so that a low overall rate of recognition sustains a high rate of contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image of the next occasion. The driving form is scarcity passing into repetition. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the anticipation is ratified when acknowledgement arrives, and issues in continued production. This site stands to 5.3.12 as the work stands to the relation, per Remark 6.2.

Constructed example. Once each year an investigator names a member's work as the best thing the group has done. The naming is unrelated to any assessable difference in quality. Members describe the possibility of being named as what the year is for.

Admissibility. Praise is good and unpredictable praise is not thereby a schedule. The site is in use where the distribution is uncorrelated with assessable quality, where ordinary acknowledgement is withheld to preserve the intensity of the occasional kind, and where the sustained contribution accrues to the recognizing party.

6.3.11 Goal shifting (E3.P.11)

Definition. The standard of completion is revised as the work approaches it, so that contribution is extended without renegotiation of what is owed for it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the restatement of the requirement. The driving form is a moving standard. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the restated requirement produces an image of the work as not yet done, and issues in further production. Site 5.2.8 moves the standard of the relation; this site moves the standard of the deliverable.

Constructed example. A commissioned analysis is agreed at three scenarios. At delivery a fourth is requested, then a sensitivity analysis, then a revised presentation format. The fee is fixed. The commissioning party describes each addition as clarification of the original scope.

Admissibility. Requirements are discovered during work and revision is often the honest consequence. The site is in use where revision is unaccompanied by adjustment of consideration, where the revising party controls the determination of whether a change is a clarification or an addition, and where no route to renegotiation exists.

6.3.12 Scope creep imposition (E3.P.12)

Definition. Additional work is attached incrementally to an agreed task, each increment minor against the last, so that the total substantially exceeds what was agreed.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the framing of each addition as small. The driving form is obligation expansion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the framing produces actual additional work, and the party then imagines the enlarged task as the task. Site 5.3.17 tests the limits of the relation; this site enlarges the content of an assignment.

Constructed example. A design engagement for one interface acquires a second screen, then a style guide, then a component library, then documentation. Each is introduced as a small addition while you are in there. The engagement is priced on the first interface.

Admissibility. Adjacent work is often genuinely cheaper to perform in place and both parties benefit. The site is in use where the additions accumulate without repricing, where the imposing party controls the characterization of each, and where refusal at any point carries a cost accrued through the earlier ones.

6.3.13 Generative redirection (E3.P.13)

Definition. Capacity assembled for one purpose is turned toward another chosen by the controlling party, so that the contributors' generative effort serves an end they did not join.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the exercise of agenda control. The driving form is agenda control. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the redirection produces an image of the new purpose as continuous with the old, and issues in the actual reallocation of work. Site 6.1.5 sets the agenda at the outset; this site changes it after capacity has assembled.

Constructed example. A volunteer community builds a translation corpus for public access. The hosting foundation licenses the corpus exclusively to a commercial partner and directs the community's remaining effort at the partner's priority languages. The public access commitment is retired in a governance note.

Admissibility. Purposes properly evolve, and organizations adapt to their circumstances. The site is in use where the redirection is decided by a party that does not contribute the capacity, where the contributors have no vote on it, and where the new purpose transfers value out of the arrangement that assembled them.

6.3.14 Generativity suppression (E3.P.14)

Definition. Contributors are confined to execution, so that their capacity to originate is held unused while their capacity to produce is drawn.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through prohibition and the constraints of the process. The driving form is prohibition passing into constraint. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the constraint produces an actual absence of originated work, and the contributor then imagines themselves as an executor.

Constructed example. A studio's process requires that all concepts originate with the creative director. Staff produce variations within approved concepts. After four years several report having lost the habit of generating concepts at all.

Admissibility. Coherent direction requires that not everyone originate, and disciplined execution is a skill. The site is in use where the confinement is permanent rather than developmental, where the confining party retains the value of the capacity it holds unused, and where the confinement erodes the capacity itself, which is a cost borne at the reproduction region.

6.3.15 Generativity capture (E3.P.15)

Definition. The capacity and direction of future generation are taken rather than the present product, so that the arrangement acquires what the party will make rather than what they have made.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through instruments that reach forward. The driving form is ownership passing into futurity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the instrument produces an image of the party's future work as already committed, and issues in the actual foreclosure of alternatives. Equation (14) records the object, being expected generation over the remaining horizon rather than the present quantity.

$$E[V_{t+1}, V_{t+2}, \dots] \longrightarrow X \quad (14)$$

This is the region's distinctive site and the ground of Claim 6.1. It differs from 6.3.14, which holds capacity unused, and from 6.3.11, which enlarges a present task.

Constructed example. An agreement assigns to a publisher a right of first refusal over an author's next four works, at terms to be set by the publisher at the time of each. The author's capacity to write is not diminished. Its direction and its price are now settled elsewhere.

Admissibility. Forward commitments are ordinary and often favourable, since they supply the security that makes long work possible. The site is in use where the forward right is unpriced, where its terms are set unilaterally at exercise, and where the party granting it has by then no alternative counterparty, which is Conditions 3.6 and 3.8.

6.3.16 Recombination capture (E3.P.16)

Definition. The right to combine many separate contributions into a product of far greater value is held by a party that produced none of them.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the terms that reserve the combining right. The driving form is aggregation passing into control of synthesis. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the reservation produces an image of the combination as the combining party's creation, and issues in the actual allocation of the combined value.

Constructed example. A repository's terms permit contributors to license individual entries and reserve to the operator the right to publish the assembled corpus. The corpus is licensed commercially. No individual entry has material value, and the corpus has a great deal.

Admissibility. Assembly is genuine work and creates value that the parts do not have. The site is in use where the combining party takes the entire increment, where the terms reserving the right were not negotiated by the contributors, and where no channel returns any part of it, which is Condition 3.7.

6.3.17 Coordination rent extraction (E3.P.17)

Definition. A central position in the flow of joint work draws a share disproportionate to the coordination it supplies, sustained by the absence of any route around it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules that route the work. The driving form is brokerage passing into indispensability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the routing produces an image of the position as essential, and issues in the actual concentration of information at it. Section 2 concedes brokerage to its established literature; the addition here is the condition distinguishing generative from extractive intermediation.

Constructed example. Communication between a client and six subcontractors passes through a managing agent, whose contract forbids direct contact. The agent’s coordination occupies four hours a week. Its share is thirty per cent.

Admissibility. Coordination is valuable and its supplier is entitled to be paid for it. Following the criterion at Equation (15), the site is in use where the value captured substantially exceeds the generation enabled and the position is maintained by preventing the direct channel.

$$E_M = \frac{\text{value captured by } M}{\text{generation enabled by } M} \quad (15)$$

6.3.18 Conflict-based productivity extraction (E3.P.18)

Definition. Competition among contributors is manufactured, so that output rises through mutual pressure rather than through anything the arrangement supplies.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through comparative ranking and its publication. The driving form is competition passing into antagonism. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the ranking produces an image of colleagues as rivals, and issues in actual increases in effort together with actual reductions in cooperation.

Constructed example. A team’s individual output is posted weekly in rank order. Output rises eighteen per cent in a quarter. Requests for help between team members fall to near zero, and two members leave within the year.

Admissibility. Comparison motivates and transparency about performance is often owed. The site is in use where the ranking is introduced for its pressure rather than for its information, where the cooperative capacity it consumes is not accounted, and where the extracting party is insulated from the attrition it produces.

6.3.19 Identity-based overcontribution (E3.P.19)

Definition. A party’s identification with the arrangement is drawn on to obtain contribution beyond what the terms provide, so that the arrangement is funded by the party’s sense of who they are.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through identification and belonging. The driving form is identification passing into belonging. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the identification is expressed in the vocabulary of mission and issues in actual unpaid effort. This site is the co-generative counterpart of 5.1.8, which produces the identification.

Constructed example. An organization’s staff are told that people who believe in the work do not watch the clock. Average hours exceed contracted hours by a third. Staff who raise the discrepancy describe themselves afterwards as having been disappointing.

Admissibility. Mission-driven work is meaningful and many people rightly give more to it. The site is in use where the identification is cultivated by the party receiving the excess, where the excess is structural rather than occasional, and where raising it is coded as a failure of belief.

6.3.20 Moralization of contribution (E3.P.20)

Definition. Additional contribution is recast as an ethical requirement, so that its refusal becomes a moral failing rather than a negotiating position.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the moral vocabulary applied to the request. The driving form is normativity passing into guilt. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the vocabulary produces an image of refusal as selfishness, and issues in actual compliance. Site 6.3.19 draws on who the party is; this site draws on what a good person would do.

Constructed example. An organization delivering essential services describes a request for over-time pay as taking money from the people it serves. The request is withdrawn. The organization's reserves are not discussed.

Admissibility. Some work carries genuine moral weight and appeals to it are sometimes proper. The site is in use where the moral frame is deployed by the party that benefits materially, where the alternatives to the contributor's sacrifice are not disclosed, and where the frame forecloses a claim the contributor would otherwise have.

6.3.21 Normalization of overproduction (E3.P.21)

Definition. An exceptional level of output becomes, through repetition, the standard expectation, so that the ordinary case is measured against the exceptional one.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the description of the exceptional period as a target. The driving form is habituation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the description authorizes the actual period, the period produces the image of it as ordinary, and the level is finally restated as the baseline. This site stands to 5.3.18 as the work stands to the relation.

Constructed example. A group publishes six papers in a year in which two members worked through their leave. The following year's target is set at six. The two members are not consulted, and the year in which they worked through leave is described as demonstrating what the group can do.

Admissibility. Ambitious targets are legitimate and past achievement is evidence of capacity. The site is in use where the exceptional period's cost is not counted in setting the new baseline, where the party setting it did not bear that cost, and where the parties who did have no route to have it counted.

6.3.22 Learning capture (E3.P.22)

Definition. The capability accumulated by contributors through joint work is retained by the arrangement in a form the contributors cannot take with them.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules governing what may be documented, taken, or described afterwards. The driving form is knowledge retention. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rules produce an actual absence of portable record, and the contributor then imagines their experience as unprovable. Site 6.2.4 withholds knowledge from contributors; this site withholds their own accumulated knowledge from them on exit.

Constructed example. An analyst develops methods across four years of engagements. Client confidentiality prevents description of the work, internal tooling prevents export of the methods, and the firm's policy prevents publication. The analyst leaves with four years of experience they are unable to demonstrate.

Admissibility. Confidentiality obligations are real and firms properly own what they develop. The site is in use where the restriction exceeds those obligations, where no sanitized or attestable form is offered, and where the resulting non-portability is what makes departure costly, which is Condition 3.8.

6.3.23 Failure externalization (E3.P.23)

Definition. Adverse outcomes of joint generation are attributed to contributors while favourable outcomes are attributed to the directing position.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the allocation of blame. The driving form is blame allocation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the allocation produces an image of the directing party as sound and the contributors as unreliable, and issues in the actual distribution of subsequent opportunity.

Constructed example. A study fails to replicate. The investigator's account attributes the failure to the execution of the protocol. The protocol was specified by the investigator, and the account is the one the funder receives.

Admissibility. Accountability properly attaches to those who performed the work, and honest post-mortems name causes. The site is in use where the allocation is systematically asymmetric across cases, where the allocating party is the subject of the allocation, and where those blamed have no route to enter their own account.

6.3.24 Success appropriation (E3.P.24)

Definition. An outcome produced by a relational configuration is retold as the achievement of a single party, so that the configuration disappears from the account of its own product.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of the narrative. The driving form is narrative ownership. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the account produces an image of an individual capacity, and issues in the actual concentration of subsequent resources at that party. This site is completed at the valuation region, where Section 7 treats the removal of relational context as its own mechanism.

Constructed example. A product built by eleven people over three years is described in every external account as the founder’s vision. The founder’s next venture raises on that account. None of the eleven is identifiable from it.

Admissibility. Public accounts are necessarily short, and a single name is often the only workable shorthand. The site is in use where the shortening is performed by its beneficiary, where it is the only account available, and where the resources it attracts are allocated on the strength of a capacity that was in fact relational.

7 Valuation and Recognition

This section gives the taxonomy of the fourth region. Its object is the passage from value that has been generated to value that has been made recognizable: the form in which it may appear, the conditions under which recognition is issued, and the process by which it is attributed, compared, and named.

The passage is not neutral. Writing Φ for the valuation process, whose arguments are the symbolic order in force, the images available, and the material record, Equation (16) records that recognized value is the output of an operation rather than a reading of a quantity.

$$\hat{V} = \Phi(V; \mathcal{S}, \mathcal{I}, \mathcal{R}) \quad (16)$$

A quantity that no available format admits does not receive a low value at this region. It receives no value, and the difference matters, since a low value can be argued against and an absent one supplies nothing to argue with. Equation (17) names the residue.

$$\Delta_V = V_{\text{generated}} - V_{\text{represented}} \quad (17)$$

Claim 7.1 (Attributive appropriation). Appropriation at this region alters no transfer and no output. It alters which party is recorded as having generated the value and which dimensions of the value survive into the record.

7.1 The absence of real entry

This region carries no site entering through the Real, and the absence is argued rather than reported.

Proposition 7.2 (No real entry at valuation). *An intervention entering through the Real operates by arranging the conditions of an encounter with what resists symbolization. The operations of the valuation region operate upon representations: formats, metrics, credentials, attributions, comparisons, and records. An intervention here therefore acquires purchase only through a representation, and the Real affords no point of entry.*

Corollary 7.3 (Foreclosure of the unrepresented). *Whatever part of the generated value resists representation passes through this region unrecorded. It is therefore unavailable to any claim made downstream, since circulation and conversion operate on what valuation has produced. The residue Δ_V of Equation (17) is not merely unmeasured. It is unsayable in the vocabulary in which subsequent claims are made.*

Remark 7.4 (Extension beyond the clinical claim). The formula invoked here belongs to a clinical doctrine. Lacan advances foreclosure as an account of psychosis, in which the foreclosed element is a particular signifier, the Name-of-the-Father, and its return in the Real takes the form of hallucination

and delusion [16]. Nothing in that doctrine licenses the general social reading the present paper gives it. The extension is an analogy, defended here only by its yield: it predicts where in a lifecycle the Real should be absent, that prediction is argued independently at Proposition 7.2, and the corpus is consistent with it. A reader who rejects the analogy may take Corollary 7.3 on its own terms, since its argument rests on what the valuation region's operations act upon and requires no psychoanalytic premise.

Corollary 7.3 is the pivot of Claim 1.3. The Lacanian formula holds that what is foreclosed from the Symbolic returns in the Real. Section 9 identifies the return: relational depletion appears at the reproduction region as exhaustion, dissolution, and lost generative capacity, having been recorded as a loss nowhere between its production and its arrival.

The corollary also explains a difficulty in ordinary dispute. A party who has supplied coordination, care, tacit knowledge, or the maintenance of the conditions of work frequently reports being unable to state what was taken. The report is accurate. The taking occurred at a region whose vocabulary contains no term for the thing.

Table 6 lists the thirty-four sites of the region. Two mechanisms present in the source material are absent here and are not omissions. Scarcity of recognition is already a site at 5.2.5, where its object is the relation, and irregular acknowledgement is already a site at 6.3.10, where its object is the work. Repeating them here would count one operation twice, and Remark 6.2 governs the treatment.

Table 6: Valuation region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E4.F.1	Value-format imposition	S	codification, commensuration	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.2	Metricization	S	quantification, ranking	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.3	Monetization framing	S	price representation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.4	Credentialization	S	certification, authorization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.5	Authorship formatting	S	attribution grammar	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.6	Ownership encoding	S	property assignment	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E4.F.7	Binary recognition formatting	S	inclusion and exclusion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.F.8	Prestige formatting	I	status, distinction	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E4.C.1	Recognition access control	S	gatekeeping, authorization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.2	Evaluator monopoly	S	authority concentration	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.3	Evidence control	S	disclosure, record control	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E4.C.4	Record asymmetry	S	documentation inequality	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.5	Attribution opacity	S	ambiguity, discretion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.6	Comparability imposition	S	commensuration	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.7	Temporal control of recognition	S	delay, withholding	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E4.C.8	Interpretive asymmetry	S	framing power	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.C.9	Norm-setting capture	S	standard setting	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.1	Credit capture	S	attribution, ownership	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.2	Credit dilution	S	aggregation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.3	Credit reassignment	S	narrative reassignment	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$

continued on the next page

Table 6, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E4.P.4	Value under-recognition	S	devaluation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.5	Value inflation	I	prestige amplification	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E4.P.6	Selective recognition	S	inclusion and exclusion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.7	Misrecognition	I	projection, distortion	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E4.P.8	Recognition withholding	S	lack, dependence	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.9	Ranking manipulation	S	ordering, comparison	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.10	Benchmark manipulation	S	reference control	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.11	Narrative appropriation	S	storytelling, framing	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.12	Context stripping	S	decontextualization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.13	Context loading	S	framing, association	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.14	Symbolic substitution	S	proxy replacement	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.15	Reputation capture	I	association, prestige	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E4.P.16	Stigma production	S	labelling, exclusion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E4.P.17	Legitimacy capture	S	authorization, institutionalization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$

7.2 Valuation form

The sites of this aspect determine the shape value takes in order to become recognizable. They decide what can appear, and therefore what Δ_V contains.

7.2.1 Value-format imposition (E4.F.1)

Definition. A single admissible form of contribution is established, so that value generated in other forms is absent from the record rather than recorded at a low level.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the specification of the admissible form. The driving form is codification passing into commensuration. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the format produces an image of what counts as real work, and issues in the actual redirection of effort toward what the format admits.

Constructed example. A department's promotion case admits refereed articles, competitive grants, and doctoral completions. A member who rebuilt the department's teaching, mediated a decade of disputes, and maintained the shared instrument has an empty case. The case is described as thin.

Admissibility. Every evaluative system admits some things and not others, and specification is what makes evaluation possible at all. The site is in use where the party setting the format is the beneficiary of the exclusions, which is Condition 3.6, and where the excluded work is necessary to the output the format recognizes.

7.2.2 Metricization (E4.F.2)

Definition. Heterogeneous contribution is compressed into a scalar, so that the dimensions along which contributions differ cease to be available for argument.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the construction of the measure. The driving form is quantification passing into ranking. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the number produces an image of the party's standing, and issues in the actual allocation of resources. The general process of rendering unlike things comparable is conceded to its literature at Section 2; the site here is its use as a location of appropriation.

Constructed example. A hospital evaluates clinicians by patients seen per session. A clinician whose consultations run long because their patients are the most complex records the department's lowest figure. The measure carries no term for complexity, and none is introduced.

Admissibility. Measures make large systems governable and their absence favours whoever is best connected. The site is in use where the omitted dimension is known to the measuring party, where correction is declined, and where the measured parties have no route by which a second dimension may enter.

7.2.3 Monetization framing (E4.F.3)

Definition. Relational value is represented as a price, so that what has no price is represented as having no value.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the price representation. The driving form is price representation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the price produces an image of the arrangement as an exchange, and issues in the actual treatment of unpriced contribution as free.

Constructed example. A platform reports the value of its community as the revenue attributable to it. Moderation, dispute resolution, and the induction of new members appear in the report as costs avoided. The community's own account of what it produces has no place in the document.

Admissibility. Financial representation is required of most organizations and is not a mechanism. The site is in use where the framing party is the one whose contribution the price captures, where the unpriced contribution is the input its revenue depends upon, and where no parallel account is maintained.

7.2.4 Credentialization (E4.F.4)

Definition. Value is recognized only when certified by a designated issuer, so that the issuer stands between generated value and its acknowledgement.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through certification. The driving form is certification passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the certificate produces an image of demonstrated capability, and issues in the actual allocation of positions. Site 4.2.9 uses credentials to control who may enter a relational space; this site uses them to control which value is acknowledged.

Constructed example. An accreditation body recognizes prior practice only through its own assessment route, priced at several months of median earnings in the occupation. Practitioners of fifteen years are recorded as unqualified until they pay.

Admissibility. Certification protects the public where competence is costly to observe. The site is in use where the issuer prices the route against the value of recognition rather than the cost of assessment, and where no alternative route to demonstrating the same competence is admitted.

7.2.5 Authorship formatting (E4.F.5)

Definition. The grammar in which contribution is attributed admits a limited set of positions, so that contributions that do not fit the positions are distributed among them by convention rather than by fact.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the attribution grammar. The driving form is attribution grammar. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the ordered list produces an image of the relative contribution, and issues in the actual allocation of subsequent opportunity.

Constructed example. A field reads first authorship as principal contribution and last authorship as direction. A study conceived by its third author, executed by its second, and funded by its last is read by every reader as belonging to the first and the last. The convention is not stated anywhere and is known to everyone.

Admissibility. Attribution grammars compress genuinely complex facts into a readable form and the alternative is unreadable. The site is in use where the parties who benefit from the convention are those who administer it, where a contribution statement is available and not used, and where the misallocation is systematic rather than incidental.

7.2.6 Ownership encoding (E4.F.6)

Definition. Value generated by a configuration is encoded as the property of a single party, so that a quantity with no decomposition into prior shares acquires one by legal operation.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through property assignment. The driving form is property assignment. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the assignment produces actual exclusive control, and the parties then imagine the value as having originated where the title sits. The difficulty is stated at Equation (12): the interaction term belongs to no party in advance, and any assignment of it is a decision rather than a finding.

Constructed example. A dataset is assembled from the observations of two hundred contributors, the schema of one institution, and the curation of a small team. Title vests in the institution by the terms of the contributor agreement. Its licensing revenue is recorded as institutional income.

Admissibility. Title has to sit somewhere and clear ownership enables use. The site is in use where the assignment is drafted by the party receiving it, where no share attaches to the contributors, and where no channel returns any part of the proceeds to them.

7.2.7 Binary recognition formatting (E4.F.7)

Definition. Continuous contribution is recorded as present or absent against a threshold, so that contribution below it is recorded as none.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the threshold rule. The driving form is inclusion and exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the binary record produces an image of the party as having contributed or not, and issues in the actual allocation.

Constructed example. A scheme records a researcher as having contributed to a project where their time on it exceeds twenty per cent. Four researchers at fifteen per cent appear nowhere. Their combined time exceeds that of the recorded contributor.

Admissibility. Thresholds reduce administrative burden and prevent trivial claims. The site is in use where the threshold is set by the party whose recorded share rises as others fall below it, and where the aggregate excluded contribution is material to the output.

7.2.8 Prestige formatting (E4.F.8)

Definition. Value is recognized through position within an order of standing, so that identical work receives different recognition according to where it appears.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since standing is a matter of the image a name carries rather than of any rule. The driving form is status passing into distinction. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is ratified in rankings and lists, and issues in the actual allocation of attention and resources.

Constructed example. Two identical manuscripts are circulated as preprints, one under the name of a well-known department and one under a regional institute. The first receives eleven times the readership in the first month. The difference precedes any reading.

Admissibility. Reputation carries genuine information and using it economizes on scarce attention. The site is in use where the standing is maintained by the parties who benefit from it, where it substitutes for rather than supplements assessment, and where no route exists by which work outside the order may be assessed on its content.

7.3 Valuation conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on who may issue recognition, on what evidence it rests, and on the standards by which it is governed.

7.3.1 Recognition access control (E4.C.1)

Definition. Entry into the process by which recognition is issued is controlled, so that a party's work is assessed only if a gatekeeper permits it to be assessed.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule of nomination or submission. The driving form is gatekeeping passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the rule produces an image of those assessed as the field of candidates, and issues in the actual absence of the rest.

Constructed example. A prize accepts nominations from members of its own academy. A body of work outside the academy’s networks is never nominated, and the prize’s record shows no unsuccessful candidacy for it.

Admissibility. Nomination systems economize on assessment and screen out unserious claims. The site is in use where the nominating body’s members are eligible for what they control, and where no route to assessment exists outside it.

7.3.2 Evaluator monopoly (E4.C.2)

Definition. Authority to determine what a contribution was worth is concentrated in one party, so that no second assessment is available against which the first may be tested.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the concentration of evaluative authority. The driving form is authority concentration. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the single source produces an image of its judgment as the fact of the matter, and issues in the actual dependence of the assessed party.

Constructed example. A candidate’s record consists of one supervisor’s letter, one internal review written by the same supervisor, and a set of publications on which the supervisor is corresponding author. No other party has a basis for an independent view.

Admissibility. Concentrated assessment is unavoidable in small fields and often reflects who actually knows the work. The site is in use where the concentrating party is a counterparty in the relation being assessed, where a second assessor is available and not used, and where the assessed party has no route to obtain one.

7.3.3 Evidence control (E4.C.3)

Definition. Which materials may enter the assessment is determined by a party with an interest in its outcome.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the admissibility rule. The driving form is disclosure passing into control of the record. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual limitation on what is before the assessor, and the assessed party then imagines the shortfall as their own.

Constructed example. A review admits published outputs and excludes internal reports, teaching materials, and correspondence. Two thirds of a member’s work over the period is therefore not before the panel. The exclusion is described as a rule about scope.

Admissibility. Scope rules are necessary and panels cannot read everything. The site is in use where the rule is set by a party whose own record the rule favours, where the excluded material is material to the question, and where no supplementary route is offered.

7.3.4 Record asymmetry (E4.C.4)

Definition. The party that maintains the record of what occurred is a party to what occurred, so that one side's account is documented and the other's is recollection.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the ownership of documentation. The driving form is documentation inequality. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the record produces an image of what happened, and issues in the actual resolution of any later dispute. Site 6.3.4 exploits the absence of a record during generation; this site concerns the ownership of the record that exists.

Constructed example. Design decisions are recorded in a document that one party edits. Its revision history is not shared. A dispute about who proposed the central idea is resolved by reference to the document.

Admissibility. Someone has to keep the record and whoever does will keep it from their own vantage. The site is in use where the record is the sole admissible evidence, where its history is withheld, and where the keeping party is a beneficiary of its content.

7.3.5 Attribution opacity (E4.C.5)

Definition. The standard governing attribution is left unstated, so that its application in any particular case is discretionary and unreviewable.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence where a standard would be. The driving form is ambiguity passing into discretion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of a standard the party has not met, and issues in continued effort rather than in a claim. Site 5.2.7 leaves the relation's norms unstated; this site leaves the attribution rule unstated.

Constructed example. A group has no criterion for who is named on outputs. Members who ask are told that it depends on the case. Across thirty outputs the same two names appear on every one, and no member is in a position to say that a rule was broken.

Admissibility. Attribution genuinely resists codification and rigid rules produce their own injustices. The site is in use where specification is requested and declined, where the deciding party is a beneficiary of every decision, and where the pattern across cases is unavailable to those subject to it.

7.3.6 Comparability imposition (E4.C.6)

Definition. Contributions of different kinds are placed in a single ordering, so that a comparison with no ground is nonetheless produced and acted on.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the construction of the common scale. The driving form is commensuration. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the common scale produces an image of the contributions as differing in degree, and issues in the actual allocation. Site 7.2.2 compresses one contribution to a scalar; this site places unlike contributions on a single scale.

Constructed example. A single index ranks a theoretical monograph, a clinical trial, a software library, and a policy submission. Weights are set by a committee whose stated purpose is to avoid privileging any field. The index determines the allocation of nine posts.

Admissibility. Allocation across unlike claims requires some comparison and refusing to compare is itself a decision. The site is in use where the weights are set by parties whose own kind of work the weights favour, and where the incommensurate character of the comparison is not disclosed alongside its output.

7.3.7 Temporal control of recognition (E4.C.7)

Definition. When recognition is issued is controlled, so that its timing serves the issuing party's need for continued contribution rather than the point at which the contribution was made.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the scheduling of the determination. The driving form is delay passing into withholding. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the delay produces an actual extension of the party's dependence, and the party then imagines recognition as approaching.

Constructed example. A promotion decision is deferred at four successive cycles, each time on procedural grounds. The candidate remains in post at the lower grade, performing the duties of the higher one, for the entire period.

Admissibility. Processes are slow and deferral is often administrative rather than strategic. The site is in use where the deferral is within the gift of the party receiving the work, where the duties of the higher position are performed throughout, and where no route to a decision exists.

7.3.8 Interpretive asymmetry (E4.C.8)

Definition. The authority to determine what a contribution means rests with one party, so that the same act may be recorded as initiative or as overreach according to who describes it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the exercise of framing power. The driving form is framing power. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the description produces an image of the act, and issues in its actual consequences.

Constructed example. A member raises a methodological objection at a group meeting. The objection is recorded in the minutes as a request for clarification. The same member's identical objection, later restated by the group head, is recorded as a change of direction.

Admissibility. Someone interprets, and interpretation is not misconduct. The site is in use where the interpreting party benefits from the interpretations given, where the pattern is stable across cases, and where the interpreted party has no route by which an alternative description may be entered on the record.

7.3.9 Norm-setting capture (E4.C.9)

Definition. The rule determining what counts as value is itself controlled by a party subject to it, so that the standard and the performance are set by the same position.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of standard setting. The driving form is standard setting. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the standard produces an image of the field's purpose, and issues in the actual direction of everyone's effort. This site is Condition 3.6 in its purest form and underwrites many of the sites above.

Constructed example. A platform defines quality content, publishes the definition, and applies it in its distribution. The definition tracks the characteristics of content on which the platform's advertising performs best. Contributors adapt, and the adaptation is recorded as an improvement in quality.

Admissibility. Standards have to be set and the parties who know a field are the ones competent to set them. The site is in use where the setting party's material interest is served by the standard, where the interest is undisclosed, and where those governed have no representation in its revision.

7.4 Valuation process

The sites of this aspect operate on how generated value is actually attributed, compared, described, and named.

7.4.1 Credit capture (E4.P.1)

Definition. Acknowledgement for value produced by a configuration is concentrated on a party whose contribution was one among several.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the act of attribution. The driving form is attribution passing into ownership. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the attribution produces an image of the party as the source, and issues in the actual allocation of subsequent opportunity.

Constructed example. An analysis conducted by four people over a year is presented to the board by one, who answers all questions and is thereafter referred to as the person who did the work. The other three are listed in an appendix the board does not read.

Admissibility. Presentation by one person is practical and does not by itself misattribute. The site is in use where the presenting party does not correct the resulting impression, where the correction is available at no cost to them, and where subsequent allocation follows the impression.

7.4.2 Credit dilution (E4.P.2)

Definition. Acknowledgement is spread across a group wide enough that no member's share is identifiable, so that individual claims lose their object at the point of attribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the aggregating attribution. The driving form is aggregation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the collective form produces an image of undivided work, and issues in the actual absence of any individual record. Site 6.3.6 aggregates contributions during generation; this site aggregates the attribution afterwards.

Constructed example. A funder requires named contributions. The submission lists thirty-one names in alphabetical order under a single heading. Two of the thirty-one performed substantially all of the work, and the record supports no such reading.

Admissibility. Collective attribution is honest where contribution was collective and prevents scrambles for position. The site is in use where the aggregating party is separately credited outside the aggregate, and where the aggregation removes the only record by which a member could establish what they did.

7.4.3 Credit reassignment (E4.P.3)

Definition. Acknowledgement is moved from the party who generated the value to another, so that the record states an origin the process did not have.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the revised attribution. The driving form is narrative reassignment. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 7.4.1 concentrates acknowledgement on a genuine participant; this site moves it to a different party.

Constructed example. A method developed by a departing researcher is described in the group's subsequent grant application as having been developed by the group's current lead. The departing researcher's name appears in no version of the application.

Admissibility. Attribution is revised for good reasons, including the correction of earlier errors. The site is in use where the revision follows the departure or the weakening of the original party, where the revising party is the recipient, and where no route of correction is available to the party displaced.

7.4.4 Value under-recognition (E4.P.4)

Definition. A class of contribution is systematically recorded below its actual weight, without being excluded from the record altogether.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the weight assigned. The driving form is devaluation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the low weight produces an image of the work as unskilled, and issues in the actual terms on which it is engaged. This site differs from 7.2.1, where the contribution has no admissible form at all.

Constructed example. An organization's competency framework places relationship management two bands below technical delivery. The organization's revenue is retained overwhelmingly through relationships. The framework is reviewed by a committee of technical directors.

Admissibility. Weights are judgments and reasonable people rank contributions differently. The site is in use where the weighting party's own kind of contribution is favoured by the weights, where evidence against the weighting is available, and where the parties affected have no representation in the review.

7.4.5 Value inflation (E4.P.5)

Definition. The recognized value of a contribution rises with the standing of the party associated with it rather than with anything about the contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image standing carries. The driving form is prestige amplification. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is ratified in citation and invitation, and issues in the actual allocation of resources. This site is the complement of 7.4.4, and their conjunction across a field is treated as a composite in Section 10.

Constructed example. A short commentary from a well-known laboratory is cited two hundred times in three years. A longer study establishing the same point, published a year earlier by an unknown group, is cited nine times, six of them by the commentary's own authors.

Admissibility. Standing carries information about reliability and attending to it is rational under scarce time. The site is in use where standing substitutes for assessment rather than supplementing it, and where the parties who benefit are those who maintain the order of standing.

7.4.6 Selective recognition (E4.P.6)

Definition. Recognition is issued for the parts of a contribution that serve the issuing party and withheld for the parts that do not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the choice of what to acknowledge. The driving form is inclusion and exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the selection produces an image of what the party is good at, and issues in the actual direction of their future work.

Constructed example. A member's reliability in execution is praised at every review over six years. Their two proposals for a change of direction are not mentioned in any review. The member is subsequently described as lacking strategic contribution.

Admissibility. Reviews are selective by necessity, since a complete account would be useless. The site is in use where the selection is stable and tracks the issuing party's interest, where the omitted material is what the party is later found to lack, and where the party cannot see the pattern from any single review.

7.4.7 Misrecognition (E4.P.7)

Definition. A contribution is recorded as an act of a different kind, so that its meaning rather than its magnitude is altered.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates through the image of the contributing party rather than through a rule. The driving form is projection passing into distortion. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is expressed in the record and issues in actual consequence. The term is taken from its established use in the sociology of domination, conceded at Section 2.

Constructed example. A member's objection to a proposed schedule is recorded as a concern about their own workload. The objection concerned patient safety. The member is subsequently offered support with resilience.

Admissibility. Misunderstanding is common and most of it is innocent. The site is in use where the recharacterization runs consistently in a direction that relieves the recording party of a claim, and where the recharacterized party has no route to enter their own account.

7.4.8 Recognition withholding (E4.P.8)

Definition. Acknowledgement that is due is not issued, so that the party continues to work toward a determination that is available and not given.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the non-issuance. The driving form is lack passing into dependence. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of the work as not yet sufficient, and issues in further production. Site 7.3.7 controls when recognition arrives; this site concerns its non-arrival where the determination has in fact been made.

Constructed example. A supervisor has privately described a thesis as complete to two colleagues. The student is told it needs more work. Two further chapters are produced over nine months and are not incorporated.

Admissibility. Reserve about praise is a style and high standards are a service. The site is in use where the determination has been reached and is not communicated, where the withholding party receives the further work, and where the party has no independent assessor available.

7.4.9 Ranking manipulation (E4.P.9)

Definition. A party's position in a recognized ordering is altered by an act on the ordering rather than on the contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the operation on the order. The driving form is ordering passing into comparison. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 4.3.3 orders parties to control who encounters whom; this site orders them to control what their work is recorded as worth.

Constructed example. Internal performance scores are moderated in a calibration meeting to fit a distribution set in advance. Two members whose raw assessments were identical receive different final bands, decided by which of their managers argued longer.

Admissibility. Calibration corrects for differences in rater severity and is defensible. The site is in use where the adjustment is driven by a target distribution unrelated to performance, where the process is undisclosed to those ranked, and where the resulting order governs allocation.

7.4.10 Benchmark manipulation (E4.P.10)

Definition. The reference against which a contribution is assessed is chosen so as to produce the assessment desired.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of the reference. The driving form is reference control. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the chosen reference produces an image of the contribution as strong or weak, and issues in the actual determination. Site 7.4.9 moves the party within a fixed order; this site changes what the order is against.

Constructed example. A team's output is compared to the organization's weakest comparable team in its manager's promotion case and to its strongest in the case for its own budget. Both comparisons are drawn from the same dataset, and neither cites the other.

Admissibility. Comparators are chosen and every choice is arguable. The site is in use where different comparators are used for the same object according to the conclusion sought, where the choice is not disclosed, and where the choosing party is the beneficiary of both conclusions.

7.4.11 Narrative appropriation (E4.P.11)

Definition. The account of how the value came about is composed by a party whose role it enlarges, so that the story rather than the record does the attributive work.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of the account. The driving form is storytelling passing into framing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 6.3.24 appropriates a success during and immediately after generation; this site concerns the durable account that becomes the record.

Constructed example. A history of an organization is commissioned from a writer briefed by its current leadership. Two founding contributors who left after a dispute appear in one sentence each. The history is the only extended account and is cited by all subsequent ones.

Admissibility. Histories are written from somewhere and no account is neutral. The site is in use where the commissioning party is a subject of the account, where competing accounts are unavailable, and where the account governs subsequent allocation of standing.

7.4.12 Context stripping (E4.P.12)

Definition. The relational history that produced a value is removed from its record, so that the value appears to have originated in an individual capacity.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through decontextualization. The driving form is decontextualization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the stripped record produces an image of an individual achievement, and issues in the actual allocation of resources to that individual. Equation (18) records the operation, in which value conditional on a relation and a history is rewritten as value attaching to a party.

$$V(A \mid R, H) \longrightarrow V(A) \quad (18)$$

This site has a particular standing in the present framework. Definition 1.1 holds that relational value is generated by a configuration and is not decomposable in advance into shares of prior subjects. Removal of the configuration from the record is therefore the operation that makes every subsequent individual attribution appear well founded, and de-relationalization is accordingly a mechanism in its own right rather than a byproduct of compression.

Constructed example. A profile describes a researcher’s finding without reference to the group in which it was made, the instrument another group built, the dataset a community assembled, or the eleven years of institutional support. The finding is then described as evidence of an exceptional individual, and further support is allocated on that basis.

Admissibility. Accounts are necessarily shortened, and naming everyone is impossible. The site is in use where the shortening is performed by the party it favours, where the removed context is what a reader would need to allocate correctly, and where allocation follows the shortened account.

7.4.13 Context loading (E4.P.13)

Definition. Association is added to a contribution’s record, so that assessment is performed on the association rather than on the contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the added association. The driving form is framing passing into association. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. This site is the complement of 7.4.12, which removes context; here context is supplied that the work did not carry.

Constructed example. A submission is circulated with a covering note recording that the work was conducted under a named programme and reviewed by a named figure. Neither statement is false, and neither bears on the submission’s content. Assessors report high confidence.

Admissibility. Provenance is genuine evidence and supplying it is often required. The site is in use where the supplied association bears no relation to the quality of the work, where its supply is selective across submissions, and where the supplying party controls both the association and the assessment.

7.4.14 Symbolic substitution (E4.P.14)

Definition. A proxy marker replaces the assessment it was introduced to summarize, so that the marker is assessed and the underlying value is not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the elevation of the proxy. The driving form is proxy replacement. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the marker produces an image of the underlying quality, and issues in the actual decision. This site differs from 7.2.2 in that the proxy need not be a quantity, and the substitution is of one object of assessment for another rather than a compression of many dimensions into one.

Constructed example. A hiring process was designed to assess reasoning under uncertainty. It comes to be conducted by reference to the candidate’s undergraduate institution, which was originally recorded as one input among nine. The other eight are still collected and are not read.

Admissibility. Proxies are indispensable and a good proxy is a genuine economy. The site is in use where the proxy has displaced rather than summarized the assessment, where the displacement is unacknowledged, and where the parties advantaged by the proxy are those who maintain the process.

7.4.15 Reputation capture (E4.P.15)

Definition. Standing generated by a configuration accrues to a single party within it, so that the party carries away a reputation the configuration produced.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image the configuration produces and the party comes to hold. The driving form is association passing into prestige. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is ratified in the party's titles and invitations, and issues in the actual transfer of the standing when the party moves.

Constructed example. A platform's reputation for careful discussion is produced by four hundred volunteer moderators over six years. The reputation is carried in the platform's name, is recorded as goodwill in its accounts, and is realized on its sale. No moderator holds a transferable record of having produced it.

Admissibility. Institutions properly accumulate reputations and their members benefit from being associated with them. The site is in use where the standing is realizable by the holding party and unrealizable by its producers, and where no portable record is offered to the producers, which is Condition 3.7.

7.4.16 Stigma production (E4.P.16)

Definition. A negative marker is attached to a party, reducing the recognized value of their contribution independently of its content.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the label. The driving form is labelling passing into exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the label produces an image of the party, and issues in the actual devaluation of their work. Site 4.3.9 produces avoidance before an encounter; this site discounts a contribution already made.

Constructed example. A member who declines an unpaid role is described in subsequent discussions as not a team player. Their work over the following two years receives the department's lowest assessments. The assessments cite collegiality.

Admissibility. Records of conduct are legitimate and collegiality is a real requirement. The site is in use where the marker follows the assertion of a claim, where the marking party is the party against whom the claim was made, and where the marker attaches to work it does not concern.

7.4.17 Legitimacy capture (E4.P.17)

Definition. The standing that a configuration's work confers on the arrangement as a whole accrues to the institution that hosts it, so that the institution's authority is produced by parties who receive none of it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the institutional attribution. The driving form is authorization passing into institutionalization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the attribution produces an image of the institution as the source of the standard, and issues in its actual authority over subsequent cases. Site 7.4.15 concerns reputation carried by a party; this site concerns legitimacy accruing to a structure.

Constructed example. A voluntary body's standards are drafted by practitioners who serve without payment. The body cites the standards as evidence of its authority in a successful bid for statutory recognition. The drafters are subsequently subject to the regime and have no seat in it.

Admissibility. Institutions properly draw legitimacy from the quality of what is done under them. The site is in use where the legitimacy is converted into authority over its own producers, where the producers hold no position in the resulting structure, and where their contribution is not recorded in the instrument that establishes it.

8 Circulation and Conversion

This section gives the taxonomy of the fifth region. Its object is value that has been made recognizable and now moves: across relations, across systems, and between forms. Two processes are combined here and are separable. Equation (19) records transport, in which a value of one kind passes between positions, and Equation (20) records conversion, in which a value of one kind becomes a value of another.

$$V_A^{(a)} \longrightarrow V_B^{(a)} \longrightarrow V_C^{(a)} \quad (19)$$

$$V^{(a)} \xrightarrow{C} V^{(b)} \quad (20)$$

Most of the region's sites operate at the intersection. A party that controls the path and the conversion together controls the flow of relational value without altering the quantity generated at any point in it.

Two quantities organize the region. The first is conversion capacity, being the extent to which a given party can turn a relational value into another form. Equation (21) records the case in which the same value carries different capacity for different parties.

$$\kappa_A(V_R) \ll \kappa_B(V_R) \quad (21)$$

An interaction on a platform is convertible by one participant into acquaintance and by the other into behavioural data, prediction, advertising inventory, and capital. Nothing about the generated value differs between them. The second quantity is portability, being the fraction of accumulated value a party can carry out of the arrangement that produced it. Equation (22) records the asymmetry that arises where a firm retains what a departing member loses.

$$\pi_{\text{member}} \ll 1, \quad \pi_{\text{firm}} \approx 1 \quad (22)$$

Claim 8.1 (Circulatory appropriation). Appropriation at this region requires no reduction in the value generated and no alteration of its attribution. Control of the route, the carrier, the convertibility, and the return path is sufficient.

Table 7 lists the forty sites of the region. Two mechanisms present in the source material are held at the reproduction region rather than here. Obstruction of return and redirection of reinvestment concern whether the generating relation is replenished, which is the object of Section 9, and they appear there as 9.4.1 and 9.4.6.

Table 7: Circulation region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E5.F.1	Carrier imposition	S	encoding, standardization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.F.2	Currency-format imposition	S	commensuration, monetization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.F.3	Mediated circulation	S	intermediation, brokerage	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.F.4	Closed-loop circulation	S	enclosure, exclusivity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.F.5	Non-portable value formatting	S	lock-in, non-transferability	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.F.6	Conversion monopoly	S	authorization, exclusivity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.F.7	Asymmetric convertibility	S	differential access	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.F.8	One-way circulation design	S	directionality, enclosure	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.C.1	Channel ownership	S	ownership, access	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.C.2	Network access control	S	membership, authorization	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.3	Liquidity control	S	withholding, scarcity	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.C.4	Portability restriction	S	lock-in, enclosure	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.5	Interoperability restriction	S	incompatibility, standard control	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.C.6	Conversion-rule opacity	S	opacity, discretion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.7	Exchange-rate control	S	pricing, conversion ratio	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.8	Fee imposition	S	rent extraction	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.C.9	Temporal withholding	R	delay, dependency	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E5.C.10	Priority access control	S	ranking, privilege	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.11	Conversion information asymmetry	S	opacity, informational advantage	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.C.12	Risk transfer in circulation	S	risk allocation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.1	Value diversion	S	redirection	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.2	Intermediation rent extraction	S	brokerage, indispensability	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.3	Conversion appropriation	S	transformation, ownership	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.4	Value laundering	S	reframing, detachment	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.5	Relational decontextualization	S	abstraction, portability	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.6	Selective circulation	S	inclusion and exclusion	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.7	Circulation blocking	S	prohibition, friction	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.8	Circulation acceleration	S	urgency, amplification	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.9	Circulation throttling	S	scarcity, pacing	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.10	Ranking-mediated flow capture	S	ordering, preferential routing	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$

continued on the next page

Table 7, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E5.P.11	Network centralization	S	brokerage, topology control	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.12	Artificial bottleneck creation	S	scarcity, congestion	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.13	Reputation capture	conversion I	prestige, monetization	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E5.P.14	Attention capture	conversion I	salience, monetization	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E5.P.15	Trust capture	conversion cap- I	credibility, transfer	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E5.P.16	Credential capture	conversion S	authorization, opportunity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.17	Cross-domain value arbitrage	S	differential valuation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.18	Conversion-chain opacity	S	concealment, complexity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E5.P.19	Residual-value capture	S	accumulation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E5.P.20	Value leakage engineering	R	friction, asymmetry	$R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$

8.1 Circulation form

The sites of this aspect determine the carrier value takes in order to travel and the shape of the path it may travel along.

8.1.1 Carrier imposition (E5.F.1)

Definition. A single admissible carrier is established for the movement of value, so that value that cannot be loaded onto it does not travel.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the specification of the carrier. The driving form is encoding passing into standardization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the carrier produces an image of what is transmissible, and issues in the actual immobility of everything else. Site 7.2.1 determines what may be recognized; this site determines what may move.

Constructed example. A field transmits standing through citation. A researcher's most consequential work is a maintained software library used by two hundred groups. It is not citable in the form the field's instruments read, and the researcher's record shows a gap of four years.

Admissibility. Standard carriers are what make value transmissible at all and their absence would favour whoever is best introduced. The site is in use where the party specifying the carrier benefits from what the specification excludes, and where an available alternative carrier is declined.

8.1.2 Currency-format imposition (E5.F.2)

Definition. Heterogeneous relational value is compressed into a single unit of exchange, so that its differences cease to travel with it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the unit's construction. The driving form is commensuration passing into monetization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the unit produces an image of the values as interchangeable, and issues in their actual exchange at a common rate.

Constructed example. A community's contributions of writing, moderation, translation, and dispute resolution are recorded in a single points currency. Points are earned at rates set by the operator. Dispute resolution earns at one fifth the rate of writing and takes four times as long.

Admissibility. A common unit enables exchange across contributions that would otherwise not trade. The site is in use where the rates are set by the party that receives the aggregate, where they diverge from any defensible account of cost or of value, and where contributors have no representation in their setting.

8.1.3 Mediated circulation (E5.F.3)

Definition. Value is prevented from passing directly between the parties who generated and who use it, so that every passage crosses a third position.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule requiring passage. The driving form is intermediation passing into brokerage. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual absence of direct routes, and the parties then imagine the intermediary as the market. Site 4.1.2 makes intermediation mandatory for the formation of a relation; this site makes it mandatory for the movement of value.

Constructed example. A distribution agreement prevents a producer from selling directly to any customer served by the distributor. The producer's own customers, acquired before the agreement, are within the definition. Every subsequent sale to them carries the distributor's margin.

Admissibility. Distribution is real work and exclusivity is the ordinary price of investment in a channel. The site is in use where the intermediary's position is maintained by prohibition rather than by service, and where the prohibition covers relations the intermediary did not create.

8.1.4 Closed-loop circulation (E5.F.4)

Definition. Value may be used only within the system that issued it, so that accumulation inside the system produces no claim outside it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the terms of redemption. The driving form is enclosure passing into exclusivity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the terms produce an image of the accumulated balance as wealth, and issue in its actual expenditure inside the system.

Constructed example. Contributors accrue credits redeemable against the platform's own services. Credits are not withdrawable and expire after eighteen months. The platform reports contributor earnings in credits at their nominal value.

Admissibility. Internal currencies reduce transaction cost and can favour the parties who hold them. The site is in use where the issuing party sets both the earning and the redemption rates, where expiry returns unredeemed value to the issuer, and where reporting states nominal rather than realizable value.

8.1.5 Non-portable value formatting (E5.F.5)

Definition. Accumulated value is held in a form that has no meaning outside the arrangement that produced it, so that departure extinguishes it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the format in which accumulation is recorded. The driving form is lock-in passing into non-transferability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the format produces an actual loss on departure, and the party then imagines their accumulated standing as belonging to the arrangement.

Constructed example. A firm's internal reputation is recorded in a ratings history, a network of internal advocates, and knowledge of a proprietary process. An employee of eleven years describes their standing to an external recruiter and finds that none of it is statable.

Admissibility. Internal systems are internally meaningful and no firm can guarantee external legibility. The site is in use where a portable form was available and not adopted, where the arrangement sets terms against the resulting exit cost, and where the accumulation was directed toward the non-portable form.

8.1.6 Conversion monopoly (E5.F.6)

Definition. The right to turn one kind of value into another is reserved to a single party, so that every conversion crosses a position that prices it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the reservation. The driving form is authorization passing into exclusivity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the reservation produces an image of the conversion as a service, and issues in the actual concentration of the converted value.

Constructed example. Attention generated by contributors is convertible into revenue only through the platform's advertising system. Contributors may not sell placement themselves, may not carry their audience elsewhere, and receive a share determined by the platform.

Admissibility. Operating a conversion mechanism is costly and exclusivity may be the only way to fund it. The site is in use where the reservation is maintained by prohibition of alternatives, where the share is set unilaterally, and where the parties generating the convertible value have no route around it.

8.1.7 Asymmetric convertibility (E5.F.7)

Definition. The same relational value carries materially different conversion capacity for different parties to the relation that generated it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the differential access that establishes the asymmetry. The driving form is differential access. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the differential produces actual divergence in what each party realizes, and the parties then imagine the divergence as reflecting differences in what they contributed. The site is stated at Equation (21). The convertibility of capital forms and its dependence on position is conceded to its literature at Section 2; the contribution here is its placement as a site in the lifecycle and its relation to the return question of Section 9.

Constructed example. A household arrangement generates coordination, trust, and the conditions of sustained concentration. One party converts these into a professional record and an income. The other converts them into nothing that any institution recognizes. Both parties generated them jointly.

Admissibility. Parties differ in what they can do with what they have, and the difference is often innocent. The site is in use where the asymmetry is maintained by the advantaged party's control over the conversion mechanism, where the disadvantaged party has no route to a conversion of their own, and where terms are set against the difference.

8.1.8 One-way circulation design (E5.F.8)

Definition. The system of movement is built so that value enters readily and leaves with difficulty.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the asymmetric design of the paths. The driving form is directionality passing into enclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the design produces an actual asymmetry in flow, and the parties then imagine accumulation inside the system as the natural state.

Constructed example. Importing a contributor's existing archive takes one action. Exporting it produces a file whose format no other service reads, after a request processed within thirty days. Both features are documented.

Admissibility. Import is genuinely easier to build than export and asymmetry of effort is usual. The site is in use where the asymmetry is maintained after export is requested and resourced, where the designing party benefits from the retention, and where the format is chosen for its illegibility elsewhere.

8.2 Circulation conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on the conditions under which value may move or convert at all: the channels, the rates, the timing, and the information.

8.2.1 Channel ownership (E5.C.1)

Definition. The routes along which value travels are owned by a party that charges for passage and may deny it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through ownership and the access terms it authorizes. The driving form is ownership passing into access. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the terms produce actual conditional passage, and the parties then imagine the channel as the only route.

Constructed example. An academic field's dissemination runs through five publishers. A body of work outside them travels no further than the author's own network, and the field's indexing instruments do not record it.

Admissibility. Building and maintaining channels is real work with real cost. The site is in use where ownership is used to price passage against the value carried rather than the cost of carriage, and where the owning party prevents alternative routes from forming.

8.2.2 Network access control (E5.C.2)

Definition. Entry to the network in which value circulates is conditional on membership granted by a party within it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the membership rule. The driving form is membership passing into authorization. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the rule produces an image of the network as a community of the qualified, and issues in the actual exclusion of the rest.

Constructed example. Access to a trading network requires sponsorship by two existing members. Members are compensated for sponsorship through a share of the entrant's subsequent volume. Entry rates track sponsorship economics rather than competence.

Admissibility. Networks properly control admission where trust and settlement risk are at stake. The site is in use where admission is priced by incumbents to whom the proceeds flow, and where competence supplies no independent route in.

8.2.3 Liquidity control (E5.C.3)

Definition. Whether accumulated value can be converted into a usable form at a given moment is determined by the party holding it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule governing redemption. The driving form is withholding passing into scarcity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces actual illiquidity, and the party then imagines their balance as provisional. Site 8.2.9 concerns the imposition of delay in a particular case; this site concerns the standing power to determine convertibility.

Constructed example. A marketplace holds seller balances subject to a reserve policy revised at the operator's discretion. The reserve rises for sellers whose disputes exceed a threshold the operator sets and does not publish. Sellers cannot forecast available funds.

Admissibility. Reserves protect buyers against genuine settlement risk. The site is in use where the policy is undisclosed, where the held balances earn for the holder, and where no route exists by which a seller may contest a reserve.

8.2.4 Portability restriction (E5.C.4)

Definition. Value accumulated within a system is prevented from being carried to another, though a portable form exists.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule prohibiting transfer. The driving form is lock-in passing into enclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 8.1.5 concerns a format that is intrinsically non-portable; this site concerns a portable value that is not permitted to move.

Constructed example. A contributor's ratings, review history, and subscriber list exist in structured form and are exportable by the operator for its own analytics. The terms prohibit export by the contributor. The prohibition is described as a protection of other users' privacy.

Admissibility. Third-party privacy is a genuine constraint on portability and often decisive. The site is in use where the stated ground does not cover the restricted data, where the restricting party exports the same data for its own purposes, and where the restriction is what makes departure costly.

8.2.5 Interoperability restriction (E5.C.5)

Definition. Incompatibility between systems is maintained, so that value remains where it was generated for want of anywhere it can go.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through control of the standard. The driving form is incompatibility passing into control of the standard. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the standard produces an actual barrier, and the parties then imagine the systems as incommensurable.

Constructed example. Two professional registers hold equivalent records in different schemas. Mapping between them is technically straightforward. Each body declines to publish its schema, and practitioners moving between jurisdictions re-accredit from the beginning.

Admissibility. Divergent standards arise for historical reasons and their reconciliation is costly. The site is in use where reconciliation is declined after being offered and funded, and where the declining parties benefit from the re-accreditation the divergence requires.

8.2.6 Conversion-rule opacity (E5.C.6)

Definition. The rule by which one value becomes another is withheld, so that the converting party retains an unreviewable discretion over the outcome.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the withholding of the rule. The driving form is opacity passing into discretion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of the conversion as technical, and issues in actual acceptance of whatever it yields.

Constructed example. A platform's revenue share depends on a quality factor, a retention factor, and a category weighting, none of which is published. Two contributors with identical audiences receive amounts differing by a factor of three. Neither can formulate a question about it.

Admissibility. Formulas are withheld to prevent gaming, and the concern is real. The site is in use where withholding exceeds what anti-gaming requires, where no audited aggregate is published in its place, and where the withholding party is the residual claimant on the difference.

8.2.7 Exchange-rate control (E5.C.7)

Definition. The ratio at which one kind of value becomes another is set unilaterally by a party on one side of the conversion.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the setting of the ratio. The driving form is pricing passing into the conversion ratio. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 8.2.6 conceals the rule; this site concerns the authority to set it whether or not it is published.

Constructed example. An operator sets the rate at which contributor credits convert to currency, and revises it downward twice in a year. Credits already earned convert at the prevailing rate rather than the rate at which they were earned. Both revisions are announced.

Admissibility. Rates change, and an issuer needs the ability to revise them. The site is in use where revision applies retroactively to value already earned, where the setting party is the counterparty to every conversion, and where no instrument allows a holder to fix a rate.

8.2.8 Fee imposition (E5.C.8)

Definition. A charge is levied on the movement of value itself, so that a share is taken at each passage independently of anything supplied at that passage.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the charging rule. The driving form is rent extraction. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual reduction at each passage, and the parties then imagine the charge as the cost of the system. The distinction from a payment for service is the one at Equation (15).

Constructed example. A payment intermediary charges a percentage on transfers. Its cost per transfer is invariant to the amount. Its charge on a large transfer between two parties who have transacted for a decade equals its charge on a first transfer between strangers.

Admissibility. Charging for a service is proper and percentage pricing is a common way to fund one. The site is in use where the charge is unrelated to the cost or risk borne, where it is sustained by the absence of an alternative route, and where the charging party prevents such a route from forming.

8.2.9 Temporal withholding (E5.C.9)

Definition. Value that has been earned is held before release, so that the party bears an actual gap in means while the holding party has use of the amount.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention operates first as an actual absence of means borne by the party rather than as a statement about the arrangement. The driving form is delay passing into dependency. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the gap is lived, produces an image of the holding party as the source of what will arrive, and is finally described as a settlement cycle.

Constructed example. A contractor is paid ninety days after invoice. The contractor pays its own suppliers within thirty. The difference is financed by the contractor at commercial rates, and the client records the terms as working-capital efficiency.

Admissibility. Settlement takes time and terms are a normal subject of negotiation. The site is in use where the terms are imposed rather than agreed, where the imposing party is the beneficiary of the float, and where the bearing party has no alternative counterparty, which is Condition 3.8.

8.2.10 Priority access control (E5.C.10)

Definition. Some parties are placed earlier in the flow of value than others by a rule that sells position rather than reflecting contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the priority rule. The driving form is ranking passing into privilege. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the rule produces an image of the prioritized as the leading parties, and issues in their actual receipt of the flow first.

Constructed example. A marketplace offers paying sellers first refusal on incoming orders. Non-paying sellers receive what remains. Order counts are published and are read by buyers as evidence of quality.

Admissibility. Priority is a legitimate product and paying for it is ordinary commerce. The site is in use where the resulting order is represented to third parties as evidence of something else, and where the parties disadvantaged are not in a position to know the rule.

8.2.11 Conversion information asymmetry (E5.C.11)

Definition. One party to a conversion knows the realizable value of what is converted and the other does not, so that the price is set against the ignorance.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the informational position. The driving form is opacity passing into informational advantage. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the asymmetry produces an image of the offered price as the price, and issues in the actual conversion at it.

Constructed example. An agent acquires rights from a community for a fixed sum, having already negotiated a licence at eleven times that figure. The community is told the market is uncertain. The prior negotiation is not disclosed.

Admissibility. Traders properly hold private information and are not obliged to surrender their whole book. The site is in use where the informed party stands in a relation of trust to the other, where the information concerns the very transaction proposed, and where no independent valuation is available.

8.2.12 Risk transfer in circulation (E5.C.12)

Definition. The risks of movement, being price, credit, and performance risk, are allocated to the party least able to bear them while the return is allocated elsewhere.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the allocation instrument. The driving form is risk allocation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. This site stands to 6.2.6 as circulation stands to generation.

Constructed example. A marketplace guarantees buyers a full refund on any dispute and charges the refund to the seller regardless of outcome. Its own commission is retained. The policy is presented as buyer protection.

Admissibility. Buyer protection creates the trust on which a marketplace runs and benefits sellers collectively. The site is in use where the intermediary retains its commission on reversed transactions, where it bears none of the loss it allocates, and where sellers have no route of appeal.

8.3 Circulation process

The sites of this aspect operate on where value actually flows, at what rate, through whom, and into what form.

8.3.1 Value diversion (E5.P.1)

Definition. Value on a path toward the parties who generated it is redirected to a party that did not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument effecting the redirection. The driving form is redirection. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces an actual change of destination, and the generating parties then imagine the arrangement as one in which nothing was ever due to them.

Constructed example. Advertising revenue attributable to a contributor's pages is booked to a platform-wide pool from which a fixed programme budget is drawn. The residual is retained. The contributor is told there is no per-page accounting.

Admissibility. Pooling is administratively necessary and often favours smaller contributors. The site is in use where per-source accounting exists internally and is withheld, and where the pooling party is the residual claimant.

8.3.2 Intermediation rent extraction (E5.P.2)

Definition. A position on the path of circulation draws a share disproportionate to what it supplies, sustained by the absence of a route around it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the routing rules. The driving form is brokerage passing into indispensability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 6.3.17 draws rent on the coordination of generation; this site draws it on the movement of what was generated. The criterion is Equation (15), and the distinction between generative and extractive intermediation turns on whether the position would survive the removal of its prohibitions.

Constructed example. An agent takes twenty per cent of a performer's fee, negotiates one engagement a year, and holds a clause covering all engagements including those the performer sources. The clause survives termination for two years.

Admissibility. Agents create engagements that would not otherwise exist and are entitled to share in them. The site is in use where the share extends to engagements the position did not create, and where the extension is what sustains the share.

8.3.3 Conversion appropriation (E5.P.3)

Definition. A party controlling a conversion retains the increment the conversion creates, so that the difference between the input and output forms accrues wholly to the converter.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the terms governing the conversion. The driving form is transformation passing into ownership. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the terms produce an image of the converted value as the converter's creation, and issue in its actual retention.

Constructed example. Interaction records generated by users are converted into a predictive model. The model's licensing revenue substantially exceeds the platform's cost of conversion. Users are told that their data is used to improve the service.

Admissibility. Conversion is genuine work and its performer is entitled to a return on it. The site is in use where the increment is retained in full, where the terms reserving it were not negotiated, and where the input's producers have no channel through which any share may reach them.

8.3.4 Value laundering (E5.P.4)

Definition. Value is passed through enough transformations that its connection to the relation that generated it becomes untraceable, so that later claims have no object to attach to.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the sequence of transformations. The driving form is reframing passing into detachment. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the sequence produces an image of the final asset as originating with its current holder, and issues in the actual impossibility of tracing.

Constructed example. Community-contributed material is aggregated, cleaned, restructured, rebranded, and licensed to a subsidiary, which incorporates it into a product described as proprietary. Each step is documented. No document connects the first to the last.

Admissibility. Assets are legitimately restructured and provenance is often lost innocently. The site is in use where the sequence is longer than any operational purpose requires, where the party performing it is the beneficiary of the resulting untraceability, and where a provenance record was feasible and not kept.

8.3.5 Relational decontextualization (E5.P.5)

Definition. Value is detached from the relational history that produced it in order to make it portable, and the detachment removes the basis on which its producers could claim it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through abstraction. The driving form is abstraction passing into portability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the abstracted form produces an image of the value as free-standing, and issues in its actual circulation without its origin.

Site 7.4.12 strips context in order to reattribute credit. This site strips it in order to move the value, and the difference matters because the motive here is functional. Portability genuinely requires abstraction, so the mechanism arrives with a good reason attached, which is what makes it the hardest site in the region to contest.

Constructed example. Local agricultural knowledge held across a region's practice is documented, standardized, and published as a database of techniques. The database is accurate and useful. It contains no record of which communities hold which practice, and licensing of it returns nothing to any of them.

Admissibility. Abstraction is what makes knowledge transmissible and refusing it would confine value to its origin. The site is in use where a provenance layer was feasible and omitted, where the omitting party captures the licensing value, and where the omission is what prevents any return, which is Condition 3.7.

8.3.6 Selective circulation (E5.P.6)

Definition. Only value favourable to the controlling party is permitted to move, so that the circulating record is a filtered sample presented as the whole.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the filtering rule. The driving form is inclusion and exclusion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the filtered flow produces an image of the arrangement's performance, and issues in the actual decisions of third parties.

Constructed example. A service solicits reviews from customers whose transactions completed without incident and does not solicit from the remainder. All published reviews are genuine. The aggregate rating is not.

Admissibility. Soliciting feedback is normal and no service can compel every customer to respond. The site is in use where solicitation is conditioned on the expected content, where the conditioning is undisclosed, and where the resulting aggregate is presented as representative.

8.3.7 Circulation blocking (E5.P.7)

Definition. Value is prevented from leaving, entering, or moving within a system, so that it remains where the blocking party can use it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the prohibition. The driving form is prohibition passing into friction. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. Site 8.2.4 restricts portability as a standing condition; this site concerns particular acts of prevention.

Constructed example. A researcher's request to deposit a preprint is refused on the ground that the work is under commercial evaluation. The evaluation continues for three years. The work is not published in any form during it.

Admissibility. Embargoes serve legitimate commercial and confidentiality purposes. The site is in use where the embargo exceeds the purpose in duration, where the blocking party has use of the blocked value in the interval, and where no route to release exists.

8.3.8 Circulation acceleration (E5.P.8)

Definition. Movement of certain value is hastened beyond its own rhythm, so that it is realized before the relation that produced it can register the consequences.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the amplifying rule. The driving form is urgency passing into amplification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual surge, and the parties then imagine the surge as demand.

Constructed example. A platform's distribution concentrates on content showing early engagement, producing an eight-hour peak. Contributors reorganize their work toward material that peaks. The stock of durable material on the platform declines over two years.

Admissibility. Responsive distribution serves readers and rewards work that lands. The site is in use where acceleration is tuned to the platform's realization rather than to readers, where its effect on the stock of durable work is known, and where contributors bear the reorganization.

8.3.9 Circulation throttling (E5.P.9)

Definition. Movement is slowed deliberately, producing a scarcity from which the throttling party benefits.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the pacing rule. The driving form is scarcity passing into pacing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. This site is the complement of 8.3.8, and a system operating both simultaneously on different classes of value is a single-region composite.

Constructed example. Withdrawals below a threshold are processed weekly, and above it, monthly. Contributors adjust their behaviour to stay below the threshold, which reduces the operator's outflow. The processing cost is identical in both cases.

Admissibility. Batch processing is efficient and thresholds are ordinary operational tools. The site is in use where the pacing is unrelated to cost, where it produces behaviour favourable to the pacing party, and where that effect is the observable purpose of the design.

8.3.10 Ranking-mediated flow capture (E5.P.10)

Definition. An ordering is used to concentrate the flow of attention and value on parties selected by the ordering party.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the ordering rule. The driving form is ordering passing into preferential routing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 4.3.3 orders parties to control encounter, and site 7.4.9 orders them to control assessment. Here the object is the flow itself.

Constructed example. A search interface places paid results above organic ones with a label of low contrast. Eighty per cent of clicks fall on the first three positions. Merchants who decline to pay experience a fall in volume they attribute to demand.

Admissibility. Advertising funds free services and disclosed advertising is unobjectionable. The site is in use where the disclosure is calibrated to be unread, where the ordering party is the seller of position, and where displaced parties are not in a position to identify the cause.

8.3.11 Network centralization (E5.P.11)

Definition. A distributed structure of flow is reorganized around a single position, so that value that once moved along many paths now moves along one.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rules that consolidate the topology. The driving form is brokerage passing into control of the topology. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rules produce an actual change in the graph, and the parties then imagine the centre as infrastructure.

Constructed example. Regional exchanges settle their own trades until a national platform offers free connectivity. Within four years the regional systems are decommissioned. The platform then introduces per-transaction charging, and no regional capability remains to restore.

Admissibility. Consolidation produces real efficiencies and network effects are not a mechanism. The site is in use where the transitional terms are withdrawn once the alternatives are gone, and where the centralizing party arranged the withdrawal of the alternatives.

8.3.12 Artificial bottleneck creation (E5.P.12)

Definition. A constriction that no capacity limit requires is introduced, and passage through it is priced.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the rule establishing the constriction. The driving form is scarcity passing into congestion. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. Site 4.2.6 constructs scarcity of a relation; this site constructs scarcity of passage.

Constructed example. A certification body limits examination sittings to two per year at a single location, then offers a priority route at four times the fee. Its assessment capacity is not the binding constraint, and the limit is set administratively.

Admissibility. Capacity limits are real and queueing is often unavoidable. The site is in use where the limit exceeds the capacity constraint, where the constraining party sells relief from it, and where no alternative provider is permitted.

8.3.13 Reputation conversion capture (E5.P.13)

Definition. Standing produced by a configuration is converted into a realizable asset by a single party within it.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image of standing that the configuration produced. The driving form is prestige passing into monetization. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is encoded in valuation and issues in an actual realization. Site 7.4.15 concerns the accrual of the standing; this site concerns its conversion into a form the holder can realize.

Constructed example. A community's standing for reliability is realized on the sale of the platform that hosts it. The purchase price is attributed substantially to goodwill. The community learns of the sale from a public announcement.

Admissibility. Businesses are sold and goodwill is a legitimate component of value. The site is in use where the goodwill was produced by unpaid parties, where they hold no instrument through which any part of the realization reaches them, and where their consent was not required for it.

8.3.14 Attention conversion capture (E5.P.14)

Definition. Attention generated between participants is converted into revenue by a third party to the interaction.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the salience that draws attention. The driving form is salience passing into monetization. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$. Site 6.3.2 draws the attention; this site converts it.

Constructed example. Two friends exchange messages about a purchase they are considering. The exchange is the occasion of an advertising impression sold at auction. Neither participant is a party to the auction, and neither receives any part of its proceeds.

Admissibility. Advertising funds services people choose to use and the exchange is not thereby illegitimate. The site is in use where the converting party controls the disclosure of what is converted, where no alternative funding arrangement is offered, and where participants have no route to withhold the input while retaining the service.

8.3.15 Trust conversion capture (E5.P.15)

Definition. Trust built within a relation is converted into commercial, political, or institutional advantage by the party holding it.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the credence the relation produced. The driving form is credibility passing into transfer. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the credence is expressed as an endorsement and issues in actual behaviour by the trusting parties.

Constructed example. A commentator builds an audience over eight years on independent analysis, then accepts undisclosed payment to recommend a product. The audience acts on the recommendation at the rate established by the eight years.

Admissibility. Trust is properly convertible and disclosed endorsement is an ordinary transaction. The site is in use where the conversion is undisclosed, where the trust was built on a representation of independence, and where the trusting parties bear the cost of acting on it.

8.3.16 Credential conversion capture (E5.P.16)

Definition. The route by which a credential becomes an opportunity is controlled by the party that issues the credential.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the issuance and placement rules. The driving form is authorization passing into opportunity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 7.2.4 controls which value is recognized; this site controls what recognition converts into.

Constructed example. A training provider issues the qualification and operates the placement service through which the qualification is used. Employers recruit through the service alone. Graduates who decline the placement contract hold a qualification with no route to employment.

Admissibility. Integrated training and placement genuinely helps graduates and is often the point of the programme. The site is in use where the integration is exclusive, where the issuing party prices the placement against the credential's value, and where no independent route to employment is recognized.

8.3.17 Cross-domain value arbitrage (E5.P.17)

Definition. A party acquires value where it is cheaply valued and realizes it where it is dearly valued, holding a position in both domains that the producing party does not.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the difference in valuation regimes. The driving form is differential valuation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$.

Constructed example. A firm engages contributors in a community where the contribution is understood as collegial, and sells the aggregate into a commercial market where it is understood as an asset. The firm participates in both and is the only party that does.

Admissibility. Arbitrage moves value to where it is most useful and is not in itself a wrong. The site is in use where the acquiring party conceals from the producing side the valuation obtaining on the other, and where the producing side has no access to the second domain, which is Conditions 3.6 and 3.7.

8.3.18 Conversion-chain opacity (E5.P.18)

Definition. The sequence by which a contribution becomes a return is concealed, so that parties supplying inputs cannot establish what their inputs became.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the concealment. The driving form is concealment passing into complexity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the concealed chain produces an image of the process as technical, and issues in the actual absence of any claim.

Constructed example. A user's activity becomes a behavioural feature, then a segment, then an inventory category, then a price. Each step is documented internally. The user's disclosure states that data is used to personalize experiences.

Admissibility. Complete disclosure of an internal processing chain is neither feasible nor of use to most readers. The site is in use where a comprehensible summary is feasible and withheld, where the withholding party is the residual claimant on the chain, and where the concealment is what prevents a claim from being formulated.

8.3.19 Residual-value capture (E5.P.19)

Definition. Quantities too small to be worth any individual party's attention are aggregated at a position where the aggregate is substantial.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the terms that assign the residue. The driving form is accumulation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the terms produce an actual accumulation, and the contributing parties then imagine their individual share as having been worthless.

Constructed example. Unredeemed balances below a minimum withdrawal threshold revert to the operator after a period. Each balance is a trivial sum. The annual aggregate is a material line in the operator's accounts.

Admissibility. Thresholds reduce processing cost and dormancy rules are common. The site is in use where the threshold is set above the processing cost, where the reversion is to the party setting it, and where no aggregation route is offered by which holders could realize their balances collectively.

8.3.20 Value leakage engineering (E5.P.20)

Definition. A small loss is built into each passage of value, so that the accumulated transfer is substantial while no single instance is worth contesting.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention operates as a persistent shortfall borne in the party's own means before it is located in any rule. The driving form is friction passing into asymmetry. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$: the shortfall is experienced, is eventually traced to a schedule of charges and spreads, and produces an image of the arrangement as costly rather than as extractive.

Constructed example. A remittance service quotes a low headline charge and applies a spread on the exchange rate. A sender remitting monthly for a decade transfers, through the spread alone, an amount exceeding two months of the remitted sum. The spread is disclosed in a rate table.

Admissibility. Spreads compensate genuine risk and disclosed pricing is legitimate. The site is in use where the total cost is disaggregated across components no party sums, where the aggregate is known to the charging party and to nobody else, and where a single comprehensible figure is feasible and not given.

9 Return and Relational Reproduction

This section gives the taxonomy of the sixth region. Its object is what becomes of value after it has circulated, and in particular whether any part of it returns to sustain the relation that generated it. The region closes the circuit of Equation (1) and resets the possibility space with which the next cycle begins.

Equation (23) defines the return ratio, being the proportion of the value generated from a relation that reaches the relation again.

$$\rho_R = \frac{\text{value returned to the generative relation}}{\text{value generated from the relation}} \quad (23)$$

Two outcomes are available at the close of a cycle. Equation (24) records generative circulation, in which the relation's capacity to generate is greater after the cycle than before, and Equation (25) records extractive circulation, in which value has moved and the capacity that produced it has fallen.

$$R_t \rightarrow V_t \rightarrow R_{t+1}, \quad G(R_{t+1}) > G(R_t) \quad (24)$$

$$R_t \rightarrow V_t \rightarrow X, \quad G(R_{t+1}) < G(R_t) \quad (25)$$

Claim 9.1 (Reproductive appropriation). Appropriation at this region takes the arrangement's capacity to generate again rather than any quantity it has generated. An arrangement satisfying Equation (25) may show no unpaid invoice, no misattributed credit, and no diverted payment, and be consuming the conditions of its own production throughout.

9.1 The return of the real

Section 7.1 established that the Real affords no point of entry at the valuation region, and Section 8 found the circulation region close behind it. This region reverses the movement, and the reversal is argued before it is counted.

Proposition 9.2 (Real entry at reproduction). *The object of the reproduction region is the arrangement's capacity to generate again. That capacity is borne materially, in the persons who hold it, the time in which it recovers, and the conditions that sustain it. Interventions here therefore act upon something that is not exhausted by any representation of it, and the Real supplies entry points that the representational middle denies.*

Corollary 9.3 (Depletion arrives as event rather than claim). *By Corollary 7.3, relational depletion acquires no term at the regions where value is valued and moved, and therefore generates no record*

during the interval in which it accumulates. It becomes apparent at this region in the forms available to it here, being exhaustion, departure, breakdown, and the dissolution of the arrangement. Those forms are events rather than claims. A party who observes them at this region has no document from any earlier region with which to establish what was taken.

Corollary 9.3 completes Claim 1.3 and states the sense in which the Lacanian formula is being used. What is foreclosed from the Symbolic returns in the Real: the depletion excluded from the vocabulary of valuation and circulation returns at reproduction as a material fact about people and arrangements, and it returns in a form that supports no claim, because the record that would have supported one was never made.

Remark 9.4 (The magnitude of the return). The return recorded in Section 11 restores Real entry to approximately the share it held at the encounter and co-generation regions. It does not exceed that share. The claim is that the Real is depleted across the representational middle and present at either side of it, and no claim is made that reproduction is the region of greatest Real involvement.

Table 8 lists the thirty-four sites of the region.

Table 8: Reproduction region: atomic sites and register dynamics

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E6.F.1	Return-format imposition	S	codification	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.F.2	Individualised return formatting	S	atomisation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.F.3	Symbolic-only return	S	recognition substitution	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.F.4	Deferred-return formatting	S	promise, futurity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.F.5	Conditional-return formatting	S	obligation, compliance	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.F.6	Gift reframing of owed return	I	gratitude, discretion	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E6.F.7	Closed reinvestment formatting	S	enclosure	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.F.8	Successor formatting	S	lineage, legitimacy	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.F.9	Debt inversion	I	indebtedness	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E6.F.10	Termination formatting	S	closure, settlement	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.1	Surplus determination control	S	accounting authority	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.2	Return-accounting opacity	S	opacity	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.3	Reproduction-cost externalisation	R	burden transfer	$R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$
E6.C.4	Recovery withholding	R	fatigue, denial of rest	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E6.C.5	Slack elimination	S	tightening, utilisation	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.C.6	Maintenance invisibility	S	non-classification	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.7	Memory control	S	record ownership	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.8	Succession control	S	inheritance	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.C.9	Dependency renewal conditioning	S	dependency	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$

continued on the next page

Table 8, continued from the previous page

Code	Action	Entry	Driving form	Typical trajectory
E6.C.10	Reproductive-alternative foreclosure	S	non-portability	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.C.11	Vulnerability persistence	persis- R	insecurity	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E6.P.1	Return-flow obstruction	S	blocking	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.2	Return diversion	S	redirection	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.3	Return dilution	S	aggregation	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.P.4	Return delay	S	timing	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.5	Selective return	S	discrimination	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.P.6	Reproduction redirection	S	agenda control	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.P.7	Generative-capacity extraction	ex- S	capability transfer	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.8	Relational asset stripping	strip- S	dissolution	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.9	Exhaustion pacing	R	extraction near collapse	$R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$
E6.P.10	Terminal extraction	S	end-game	$S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$
E6.P.11	Narrative closure	S	historiography	$S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$
E6.P.12	Nostalgic re-enrolment	I	image of the past	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$
E6.P.13	Guilt-based enrolment	re- I	betrayal coding	$I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$

9.2 Return form

The sites of this aspect determine the form return may take and the party to whom it may be made. They decide, before any quantity is settled, whether the relation is a possible recipient at all.

9.2.1 Return-format imposition (E6.F.1)

Definition. A limited set of forms is established in which return may be made, so that needs having no corresponding form receive nothing.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the specification of admissible forms. The driving form is codification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the format produces an image of what the arrangement owes, and issues in the actual absence of everything else.

Constructed example. A university returns to its academic staff titles, authorship, and research allowance. It has no instrument through which time may be returned. A member whose depletion is entirely a depletion of time receives an allowance they have no hours in which to spend.

Admissibility. Institutions have limited instruments and cannot return everything. The site is in use where an instrument is available and not adopted, where the party specifying the formats is the beneficiary of the omission, and where the omitted form is the one the depleted party requires.

9.2.2 Individualised return formatting (E6.F.2)

Definition. Return is made only to persons and never to the relation, so that the unit that generated the value is never replenished.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the atomising rule of distribution. The driving form is atomisation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the rule produces an actual decay of the shared conditions, and the parties then imagine the arrangement as a set of individuals who happen to work together. The site follows directly from Definition 1.1: where value is generated by a configuration, a distribution rule admitting only individual recipients has no account into which the configuration's share can be paid.

Constructed example. A firm distributes its surplus as individual bonuses. Its shared testing infrastructure, its documentation, and its internal training all degrade over four years. Each year's bonus pool is larger than the cost of maintaining them.

Admissibility. Individual reward is fair, legible, and what most people want. The site is in use where no channel of any size exists for return to the shared conditions, where their degradation is visible to the distributing party, and where the parties bearing the degradation have no route to propose the alternative.

9.2.3 Symbolic-only return (E6.F.3)

Definition. Standing is returned where resource was supplied, so that the circuit closes in the register of recognition and remains open in the register of means.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the substitution of a recognition for a transfer. The driving form is recognition substitution. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the acknowledgement produces an image of the account as settled, and issues in the actual continuation of the supply.

Constructed example. A conference names its reviewers in the proceedings and pays them nothing. Each review takes four hours. The conference's registration income exceeds its costs by a margin larger than the reviewing at any plausible rate.

Admissibility. Recognition is a genuine return and many contributors value it above payment. The site is in use where the recognizing party has the means to make a material return and does not, where the recognition is what forecloses the request, and where the supply is structural rather than voluntary.

9.2.4 Deferred-return formatting (E6.F.4)

Definition. Return exists only as a future form, so that present contribution is exchanged against an instrument whose realization lies beyond the contributor's control.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the deferred instrument. The driving form is promise passing into futurity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the instrument produces an image of the return as secured, and issues in present contribution against it. Site 6.2.9 concerns uncertainty about whether reward will be given; this site concerns a return whose form is settled and whose realization is not.

Constructed example. A cooperative issues members patronage certificates redeemable at the board's discretion in a year the board declares. No year has been declared in eleven years. The certificates appear on members' statements at face value.

Admissibility. Deferral is often the only responsible course where an arrangement's finances are uncertain. The site is in use where the deferring party controls the condition of realization, where its own returns are not similarly deferred, and where no route to realization is available to the holder.

9.2.5 Conditional-return formatting (E6.F.5)

Definition. Return is made contingent on continued participation, which converts a payment for what was done into an instrument governing what will be done.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the condition attached. The driving form is obligation passing into compliance. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the condition produces an image of the return as a reward for loyalty, and issues in actual continuation.

Constructed example. A firm's deferred compensation vests only for staff in post at the vesting date and is forfeited on resignation for any reason. The deferred portion grows with tenure. Staff describe their accumulated forfeiture exposure as the reason they have not left.

Admissibility. Retention instruments are lawful, common, and often generous in aggregate. The site is in use where the forfeited amount is consideration for work already performed, where the forfeiture accrues to the party imposing it, and where the exposure grows with the very sedimentation that makes departure costly, which is Condition 3.8.

9.2.6 Gift reframing of owed return (E6.F.6)

Definition. A return that is owed is presented as an act of generosity, so that it may be withdrawn at will and gratitude is owed for it.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, since the intervention operates on the image of the transfer rather than on its amount. The driving form is gratitude passing into discretion. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is expressed in the vocabulary of goodwill, and issues in the actual absence of any claim.

Constructed example. A supervisor describes the writing of a reference letter as something done for those who have earned it. The letter is a condition of the candidate's progression and a normal duty of the role. The description makes its withholding unremarkable.

Admissibility. Generosity beyond duty is real and should be recognized as such. The site is in use where the reframed act belongs to the role, where the reframing party gains discretion it would otherwise lack, and where the reframing removes a claim the other party would have had.

9.2.7 Closed reinvestment formatting (E6.F.7)

Definition. Return is usable only within the system that issued it, so that replenishment of the relation is possible only through the party from whom it is owed.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the terms of use. The driving form is enclosure. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. This site stands to 8.1.4 as reproduction stands to circulation: there the closed loop constrains what a holder may buy, and here it constrains how a relation may rebuild.

Constructed example. A research group's returned overhead may be spent on equipment purchased through the institution's own supplier at a premium of a third. The group needs the time of a technician, which the scheme does not fund.

Admissibility. Restricted funding is standard practice and reflects real accountability requirements. The site is in use where the restriction routes the return back to the party that owed it, and where the form the relation actually needs is excluded by the scheme.

9.2.8 Successor formatting (E6.F.8)

Definition. The party that counts as the relation's continuation is defined, so that return made to the successor discharges the obligation without reaching those who generated the value.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the definition of succession. The driving form is lineage passing into legitimacy. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the definition produces an image of continuity, and issues in the actual destination of the return.

Constructed example. A project's returns are directed to an alumni association formed after the project ended, chaired by its former director. The working group that produced the results is not constituted as anything and receives nothing. The association is described as the project's legacy body.

Admissibility. Successor bodies solve a genuine problem where the original arrangement has dissolved. The site is in use where the successor is constituted by the party owing the return, where those who generated the value hold no position in it, and where their exclusion is what makes the discharge possible.

9.2.9 Debt inversion (E6.F.9)

Definition. The contributing party is positioned as the one who owes, on the ground that they were permitted to contribute, so that the direction of obligation is reversed.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image of the arrangement as having conferred an opportunity. The driving form is indebtedness. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is expressed in the language of gratitude, and issues in the actual absence of any claim and frequently in further contribution. Site 5.3.4 builds an obligation through benefits supplied; this site produces one from the fact of participation alone.

Constructed example. Volunteers at an institution are told that the experience they gained is the return. Several go on to paid roles elsewhere and describe themselves as owing the institution. The institution's own accounts record their labour as a saving.

Admissibility. Access to experience is a real benefit and volunteering is frequently a fair exchange. The site is in use where the arrangement's own accounts record the labour as a saving while its account to the contributor records it as a gift, and where the inversion is what prevents the claim.

9.2.10 Termination formatting (E6.F.10)

Definition. What counts as the end of the relation is defined, and the definition extinguishes claims that had not yet been made.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument of termination. The driving form is closure passing into settlement. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the instrument produces an image of the account as closed, and issues in the actual bar to any subsequent claim.

Constructed example. A departure agreement records a payment as full and final settlement of all claims. It is presented on the last day, with the final salary conditional on signature. The claims it settles include ones the departing party has not yet identified.

Admissibility. Settlement provides finality that both parties usually want. The site is in use where signature is conditioned on a payment already owed, where the timing prevents advice, and where the settling party is aware of claims the other has not identified.

9.3 Return conditions

The sites of this aspect operate on whether the relation is able to reproduce its generative capacity: whether a surplus is found to exist, whether the cost of maintenance is borne, whether recovery occurs, and whether any record survives on which a claim could rest.

9.3.1 Surplus determination control (E6.C.1)

Definition. Whether anything remains to be returned is determined by the party that would return it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the accounting authority. The driving form is accounting authority. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the accounts produce an image of an arrangement operating at margin, and issue in the actual absence of a return.

Constructed example. A production company allocates corporate overhead, interest on internal loans, and a distribution fee to each project. No project has shown a net profit in nine years. Participants remunerated on net profit have received nothing, and the company has grown throughout.

Admissibility. Cost allocation is necessary and every method is contestable. The site is in use where the allocating party is the residual claimant, where the method is not open to inspection by those it determines, and where no independent verification is available.

9.3.2 Return-accounting opacity (E6.C.2)

Definition. Whether return occurred is not ascertainable, so that the question cannot be put in a form that admits an answer.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of the account. The driving form is opacity. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the absence produces an image of the arrangement as having done what it could, and issues in the actual impossibility of a claim.

Constructed example. A foundation reports its community reinvestment as a single figure combining grants, staff time, and the notional value of donated services. Communities receiving nothing cannot establish this from the report, and no other report exists.

Admissibility. Aggregate reporting is standard and disaggregation is costly. The site is in use where disaggregated figures exist internally, where they are withheld from the parties whose return they concern, and where the reporting party is the beneficiary of the aggregate presentation.

9.3.3 Reproduction-cost externalisation (E6.C.3)

Definition. The cost of keeping the relation able to generate is borne by the parties whose capacity is being consumed.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention consists in an actual burden carried before it is named in any account. The driving form is burden transfer. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow S \rightarrow I$: the burden is borne, is classified as personal commitment or as vocation, and produces an image of the arrangement as sustaining itself. Site 6.2.7 externalises the cost of generation; this site externalises the cost of remaining able to generate.

Constructed example. A community forum runs on the work of moderators who absorb hostility, mediate disputes, and induct newcomers without payment or support. The forum's operating costs, as reported, are hosting and one part-time engineer. Moderator turnover is high and is treated as a recruitment matter.

Admissibility. Voluntary stewardship is among the best things people do and is not thereby exploited. The site is in use where the arrangement's continued operation depends on the borne cost, where an identifiable position absorbs the difference, and where no channel returns any part of it to those bearing it.

9.3.4 Recovery withholding (E6.C.4)

Definition. The time in which generative capacity regenerates is taken, so that the arrangement draws on capacity that has not been restored.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through fatigue and the actual absence of recovery. The driving form is fatigue passing into the denial of rest. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the depletion is borne, produces an image of the self as failing to cope, and is finally named as a resilience concern.

Constructed example. An on-call rota assigns one week in three with no compensating time. Staff take their annual leave and answer calls during it. The organization's leave utilization figures are healthy, and its incident response times are cited as a strength.

Admissibility. Availability is genuinely required in many services and rotas are the standard means. The site is in use where recovery is nominally provided and practically prevented, where the arrangement's performance depends on the practice, and where the depletion is recorded against the individuals rather than against the rota.

9.3.5 Slack elimination (E6.C.5)

Definition. The unstructured capacity from which future generation arises is removed in favour of measured utilisation.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the utilisation target. The driving form is tightening passing into utilisation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the target produces an actual absence of uncommitted time, and the parties then imagine the absence of new work as a failure of initiative.

Constructed example. A group introduces a ninety per cent billable target. Its three most cited programmes over the previous decade began in unbilled time. No new programme begins in the four years following, and the group's utilisation is its best recorded.

Admissibility. Utilisation targets are a legitimate response to real financial pressure. The site is in use where the arrangement's generative history is known to depend on the eliminated capacity, where the eliminating party retains the near-term gain, and where the loss falls on a later period the target does not measure.

9.3.6 Maintenance invisibility (E6.C.6)

Definition. The work of maintaining the conditions of generation is not classified as work, so that its non-return leaves no trace and its withdrawal is unforeseeable.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the absence of a category. The driving form is non-classification. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 6.1.3 removes the category during generation, and this site concerns its consequence at reproduction: an unrecorded input cannot be budgeted, and an unbudgeted input is discovered only when it stops.

Constructed example. One member of a team has maintained the shared build system for six years. No role, budget line, or objective records this. The member leaves. The system fails within a month, and the organization's review describes the failure as unforeseeable.

Admissibility. Informal maintenance arises naturally and formalizing every contribution would be oppressive. The site is in use where the absence of the record is what prevents the return, where the arrangement depends on the maintenance, and where the classifying party is the beneficiary of the omission.

9.3.7 Memory control (E6.C.7)

Definition. The record of what the relation produced is held by one party, so that claims to return have no evidentiary basis once the relation ends.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through ownership of the record. The driving form is record ownership. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 7.3.4 concerns the record's use in attribution; this site concerns its availability after the relation closes.

Constructed example. A departing employee's access to internal systems terminates at the moment of notice. The record of what they built, whom they advised, and what they proposed exists only there. Their subsequent account of their work is unverifiable, including to themselves.

Admissibility. Access termination is a normal security control with obvious justification. The site is in use where no export of the departing party's own record is offered, where the offer would carry no security cost, and where the absence of the record is what prevents any subsequent claim.

9.3.8 Succession control (E6.C.8)

Definition. Who inherits the relation's accumulated capacity is determined by a party external to those who accumulated it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the appointment power. The driving form is inheritance. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the appointment produces an image of continuity, and issues in the actual transfer of the accumulated capacity to a party of the appointing position's choosing.

Constructed example. A laboratory's data, methods, and collaborations pass to a successor named by the institution. The three members who built them over a decade are not consulted and are not candidates. Two leave the field.

Admissibility. Institutions properly appoint to institutional positions and continuity is a legitimate objective. The site is in use where the appointing party is external to the accumulation, where those who built the capacity have no standing in the decision, and where the transfer extinguishes their access to what they built.

9.3.9 Dependency renewal conditioning (E6.C.9)

Definition. Return is granted on condition that dependence continues, so that replenishment of the relation is available only at the price of its perpetuation on the present terms.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the condition attached to renewal. The driving form is dependency. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the condition produces an actual constraint on the relation's development, and the parties then imagine the terms as permanent.

Constructed example. A funder renews a community organization's grant annually on condition that the organization not seek other funders in its area of work. The grant covers seventy per cent of costs. The condition is described as avoiding duplication.

Admissibility. Funders legitimately coordinate and exclusivity sometimes serves the funded party. The site is in use where the condition prevents the recipient from reducing its dependence, where the funder benefits from the dependence, and where renewal remains annual while the constraint is permanent.

9.3.10 Reproductive-alternative foreclosure (E6.C.10)

Definition. The relation is prevented from regenerating elsewhere, so that its dissolution in one place is its dissolution altogether.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument of prevention. The driving form is non-portability. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. Site 8.2.4 restricts the portability of value; this site restricts the portability of the relation itself.

Constructed example. A team of nine that has worked together for six years is dissolved in a restructuring. Their contracts prohibit joint departure and solicitation of one another for eighteen months. The coordination capacity built over six years is not reconstituted anywhere.

Admissibility. Protection against team lift-outs is a recognized commercial interest. The site is in use where the restriction operates after the arrangement has itself dissolved the team, where the restricting party retains no use for the capacity it is preventing from reforming, and where the prevention is what extinguishes it.

9.3.11 Vulnerability persistence (E6.C.11)

Definition. The party is maintained at a level of insecurity at which any return appears sufficient, so that the adequacy of return is measured against precariousness rather than against contribution.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, through the actual persistence of exposure. The driving form is insecurity. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the exposure is borne, produces an image of the arrangement as what stands between the party and worse, and is finally described as a competitive labour market. Site 5.2.11 amplifies vulnerability during formation; this site maintains it across cycles.

Constructed example. An organization renews its delivery staff on nine-month contracts over seven years. Each renewal is received with relief. Pay has risen below inflation throughout, and the organization's reserves have tripled.

Admissibility. Fixed terms are sometimes the only instrument an organization's own funding permits. The site is in use where the organization's horizon exceeds the one it passes on, where the difference accrues to it as flexibility, and where the insecurity is what makes the return acceptable.

9.4 Return process

The sites of this aspect operate on how return, or its absence, actually occurs, and on what happens to the arrangement's generative capacity at the close of a cycle.

9.4.1 Return-flow obstruction (E6.P.1)

Definition. Value on a path back toward the generating relation is prevented from arriving.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instrument of prevention. The driving form is blocking. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instrument produces an actual absence of replenishment, and the relation then imagines its decline as its own.

Constructed example. A firm builds a product on an open library, generating substantial revenue. Its policy prohibits contribution to external projects on legal review grounds. The library's two maintainers reduce their work and the library's release cadence falls.

Admissibility. Legal review of external contribution is prudent and its outcome is often negative for good reason. The site is in use where the reviewing party is the principal beneficiary of the library, where alternatives to code contribution such as funding are also declined, and where the obstruction is what produces the decline.

9.4.2 Return diversion (E6.P.2)

Definition. Return owed to the generating relation is sent to a different recipient.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the redirecting instrument. The driving form is redirection. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. Site 8.3.1 diverts value in transit; this site diverts value already identified as a return.

Constructed example. A licensing agreement provides that a share of revenue returns to the originating department. The share is credited to the central research fund and allocated by a committee to institutional priorities. The department receives nothing in four years.

Admissibility. Central allocation serves institutional purposes and can be fairer than local retention. The site is in use where the return was represented to the generating parties as theirs, where the diverting party sets the allocation, and where the generating parties have no standing before it.

9.4.3 Return dilution (E6.P.3)

Definition. Return is made to a pool wide enough that the generating relation's share is negligible.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the definition of the pool. The driving form is aggregation. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Sites 6.3.6 and 7.4.2 aggregate contribution and attribution; this site aggregates the return itself.

Constructed example. A profit share distributes an amount attributable to one division across a workforce of four thousand. The division of thirty that produced it receives the same per-head amount as everyone else. The scheme is described as recognizing collective effort.

Admissibility. Firm-wide schemes have real virtues and prevent divisive internal competition. The site is in use where the attribution exists internally and is set aside only for the return, where the setting party's own remuneration tracks the attribution, and where the generating unit's replenishment depends on what it does not receive.

9.4.4 Return delay (E6.P.4)

Definition. Return is withheld until after the point at which it could have sustained the relation.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the timing decision. The driving form is timing. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the delay produces an actual gap during which capacity is lost, and the parties then imagine the eventual return as having been made.

Constructed example. A funding renewal arrives eight months after the previous grant ended. Three of the five staff have taken other posts by then. The renewal is at the previous level, and the capacity it was intended to sustain no longer exists.

Admissibility. Funding cycles are slow for reasons no single party controls. The site is in use where the timing is within the gift of the returning party, where the consequence of the gap is foreseeable, and where the returning party retains the use of the funds during it.

9.4.5 Selective return (E6.P.5)

Definition. Return is made only to compliant parties, which converts replenishment into an instrument of discipline.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the selection rule. The driving form is discrimination. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the rule produces an image of return as a reward, and issues in the actual differentiation of capacity across the arrangement.

Constructed example. Discretionary research funds are allocated to members who have supported the head's proposals at committee. The correlation is visible across six years in the group's own records. No criterion is published.

Admissibility. Discretionary allocation is legitimate and judgment about promise is what it is for. The site is in use where allocation tracks compliance rather than the declared criterion, where the allocating party benefits from the compliance, and where the pattern is unavailable to those subject to it.

9.4.6 Reproduction redirection (E6.P.6)

Definition. The relation's regenerative capacity is turned toward the controlling party's next cycle rather than toward the relation's own renewal.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the exercise of agenda control at the point of renewal. The driving form is agenda control. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$. Site 6.3.13 redirects capacity within a cycle; this site redirects what would have renewed the arrangement itself.

Constructed example. A community's fundraising, conducted to endow its own long-term operation, is applied to the launch of the parent organization's new programme. The community is thanked for enabling growth. Its own operating deficit is unchanged.

Admissibility. Growth is often the best use of a surplus and organizations properly make that judgment. The site is in use where the surplus was raised on a representation of purpose, where the redirecting party is external to the raising, and where the redirection leaves the raising arrangement unable to renew.

9.4.7 Generative-capacity extraction (E6.P.7)

Definition. The capacity itself is taken rather than its output: the people, the routines, and the tacit coordination that constitute the arrangement's ability to generate.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instruments effecting the transfer. The driving form is capability transfer. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the instruments produce an actual relocation of the capacity, and the originating arrangement then imagines its decline as a loss of individuals. Site 6.3.15 captures the direction of future generation while leaving the capacity in place; this site removes the capacity.

Constructed example. An acquirer purchases a company for its team, retains the eleven engineers on individual contracts, disperses them across four unrelated groups, and closes the product. The coordination built over five years does not survive the dispersal and was the stated reason for the purchase.

Admissibility. Acquiring capability is a legitimate purpose and the parties acquired are usually well compensated. The site is in use where the capacity resided in the configuration rather than in the individuals, where the acquirer's own actions destroy it, and where the parties who built it hold no instrument recording what was destroyed.

9.4.8 Relational asset stripping (E6.P.8)

Definition. An arrangement is dissolved and its transferable components retained, so that what could be moved is taken and what could not is discarded.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the instruments of dissolution. The driving form is dissolution. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$. Site 9.4.7 takes the capacity intact; this site takes the separable parts and abandons the rest.

Constructed example. A publisher acquires a magazine, retains its archive, brand, and subscriber list, and closes its editorial operation. The editorial relationships with two hundred contributors, built over twenty years, are transferable to nobody and end.

Admissibility. Acquisition and restructuring are lawful and often the only alternative to closure. The site is in use where the separable assets were produced by the relations being discarded, where the discarded relations receive nothing, and where no attempt at continuation is made despite its feasibility.

9.4.9 Exhaustion pacing (E6.P.9)

Definition. Extraction is set at the highest rate the arrangement survives, so that the relation persists in a condition of permanent near-depletion.

Register dynamics. Entry is real, since the intervention operates through an actual load carried in bodies and hours before it appears in any measure. The driving form is extraction near collapse. The trajectory runs $R \rightarrow I \rightarrow S$: the load is borne, produces an image of the arrangement as demanding, and is finally described as a high-performance environment. Attrition is the observable consequence and is treated as a recruitment problem.

Constructed example. A service raises caseloads until turnover reaches twenty-eight per cent, then holds them there. Turnover at that level is sustainable given the recruitment pipeline. The caseload is not reduced in the following four years, and quality measures are not collected.

Admissibility. Operating near capacity is efficient and some attrition is normal. The site is in use where the load is set by reference to the attrition it produces, where the arrangement's capacity to generate is known to be falling, and where the setting party captures the near-term output.

9.4.10 Terminal extraction (E6.P.10)

Definition. Extraction is maximized where the relation will not continue, since no future cycle constrains it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the decision to close. The driving form is the end-game. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow R \rightarrow I$: the decision produces an actual final period of intensified demand, and the parties then imagine the period as an unusually difficult stretch.

Constructed example. A closure is decided in March and announced in November. Between those dates the unit is set targets above any it has met, and its members work to them. Redundancy terms are calculated on service length and are unaffected by the final period's output.

Admissibility. Winding down an operation properly requires completing commitments. The site is in use where the demand exceeds what completion requires, where the closing party withholds the decision in order to obtain it, and where the parties bearing it receive no share of what it produces.

9.4.11 Narrative closure (E6.P.11)

Definition. The arrangement's history is written so that no claim of unreturned value remains sayable within it.

Register dynamics. Entry is symbolic, through the composition of the account. The driving form is historiography. The trajectory runs $S \rightarrow I \rightarrow R$: the account produces an image of the arrangement as having been fair, and issues in the actual absence of claims. This is the operation of 7.4.11 performed at the close, and its effect is stronger, since a completed account admits no correction from a relation that no longer exists.

Constructed example. A closing programme publishes a final report describing an equitable partnership that achieved its objectives. Two partner organizations that collapsed during the programme appear in a list of participants. The report is the only surviving account and is the one cited by the funder's evaluation.

Admissibility. Final reports are required and are properly written by those who ran the programme. The site is in use where the composing party is the subject of the account, where no other account survives, and where the parties depleted by the programme had no route to enter theirs before it closed.

9.4.12 Nostalgic re-enrolment (E6.P.12)

Definition. A party re-enters the arrangement on the strength of an image of its earlier terms rather than an assessment of its present ones.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the retained image of the relation as it was. The driving form is the image of the past. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is confirmed by continuities of name, place, and vocabulary, and issues in the actual re-entry.

Constructed example. A researcher returns to a group after six years, remembering its openness and its long unstructured discussions. Every senior member of that period has left and the group now operates to quarterly deliverables. The name, the room, and the seminar series are unchanged.

Admissibility. Returning to a place one valued is ordinary and often right. The site is in use where the arrangement maintains the surface continuities while knowing the substance has changed, where the returning party is not told, and where the re-entry restores an exit cost the party had discharged.

9.4.13 Guilt-based re-enrolment (E6.P.13)

Definition. Departure is coded as betrayal, so that a party remains or returns in order to avoid the description rather than in order to obtain anything.

Register dynamics. Entry is imaginary, through the image of the departing self. The driving form is betrayal coding. The trajectory runs $I \rightarrow S \rightarrow R$: the image is expressed in the language of loyalty and abandonment, and issues in actual continuation. Site 6.3.20 moralizes the supply of contribution; this site moralizes the act of leaving.

Constructed example. A member of a small organization gives notice. Colleagues are told that the departure places the year's work at risk. The member withdraws the notice, remains two further years, and describes the decision afterwards as one they did not make.

Admissibility. Departures do cause real difficulty and saying so is honest. The site is in use where the difficulty is a consequence of the arrangement's own failure to provide for succession, where the party invoking it benefits from the continuation, and where the coding forecloses a decision the party would otherwise have been free to make.

10 Composites and Motifs

The sites of Sections 4 to 9 are atoms. Actual arrangements combine them, and the combination is frequently the object worth analysing, since a site that is innocuous alone can be the enabling condition of one that is not. This section defines the two composite levels announced at Section 3.5 and names the motifs the corpus makes visible.

10.1 Single-region composites

Definition 10.1 (Single-region composite). A single-region composite is a set of two or more sites within one region that operate together, written $C_i \subseteq A_i$ with $|C_i| \geq 2$.

Composites at this level are defined as a class and are not enumerated, for the reason given at Equation (7). Three recur often enough to name.

The *asymmetric boundary* composite joins 5.1.6 and 5.1.7. The domain over which the relation carries claim is enlarged while the domain over which it carries obligation is narrowed. Neither site alone establishes anything, since relations properly broaden and limits are properly set. Their conjunction on one party is the structure of a relation that has become unilateral without any term of it changing.

The *attribution scissors* composite joins 6.3.6 and 6.3.7. Identifiable contribution is aggregated into a collective attribution at the same time as a coordinating role is enlarged in the account. The two operations are complementary: the first removes the object of any individual claim and the second supplies a beneficiary for what the removal released.

The *differential pacing* composite joins 8.3.8 and 8.3.9. Movement of value favourable to the controlling party is accelerated while movement unfavourable to it is slowed. Each is defensible in isolation as responsiveness or as batch efficiency. Their simultaneous operation on different classes of value within one system is the observable signature.

10.2 Multi-region motifs

Definition 10.2 (Dependence). For sites e_p and e_q , write $e_p \prec e_q$ where the operation of e_p makes e_q available, more effective, harder to escape, harder to see, or easier to justify.

Definition 10.3 (Motif). A motif is a pair $M = (\{e_1, \dots, e_k\}, \prec)$ as at Equation (8), in which at least two sites belong to different regions.

The dependence relation itself admits classification, and the kind of dependence determines what a remedy at the upstream site achieves. *Enabling* dependence makes the downstream site possible, so removal upstream removes the downstream site. *Amplifying* dependence increases its yield without being necessary to it. *Conditioning* dependence sets the terms on which it operates. *Lock-in* dependence raises the cost of escaping it. *Concealing* dependence removes the evidence that would support a claim against it. *Legitimizing* dependence supplies the account under which it appears proper.

Table 9 names nine motifs the corpus makes visible.

Figure 1 sets it out. The format chain deserves separate comment, since it is the foreclosure result of Corollary 7.3 stated as a mechanism rather than as an argument. Where a contribution has no admissible form at the valuation region, it acquires no carrier at circulation and no format for return at reproduction. The three sites are separately defensible. Specification is what makes evaluation possible, standard carriers are what make value transmissible, and limited return instruments are an ordinary institutional fact. Their composition produces a contribution that was generated, was never represented, never moved, and was never returned, with no party having performed anything identifiable as a taking.

10.3 A worked composite

The laboratory of the constructed examples illustrates how atoms assemble. Resources are held on one side, so joint work proceeds on terms the holder could withdraw, which is 6.2.1. The question

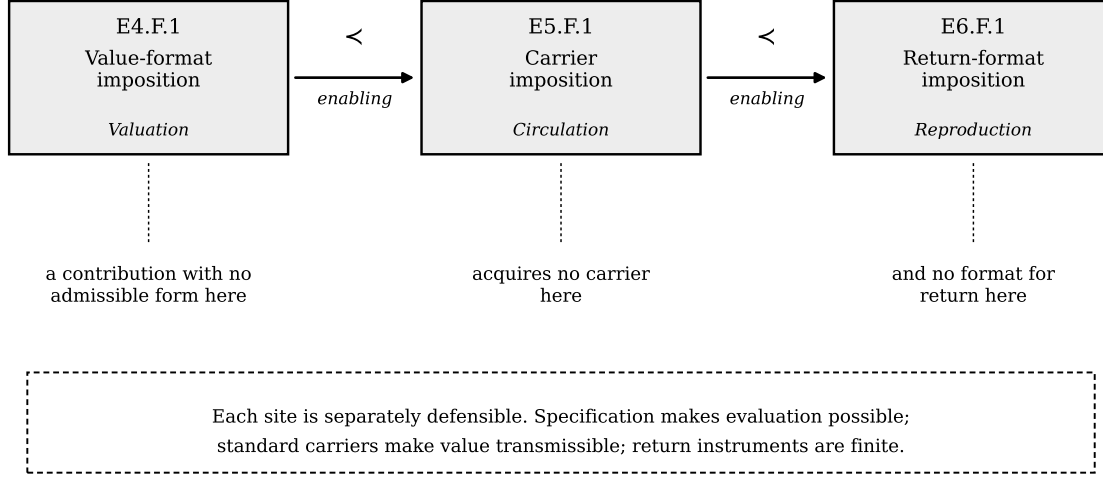


Figure 1: The format chain, an enabling motif spanning three regions. Each site is individually defensible, and their composition produces a contribution that was generated, never represented, never moved, and never returned, with no party having performed anything identifiable as a taking.

worked on is chosen by the holder, which is 6.1.5. Whether contributions will be acknowledged is left open through the period in which they are made, which is 6.2.8, and effort accordingly continues, which is 6.3.1. Members are confined to execution, which is 6.3.14. The outcome is retold as the achievement of the investigator, which is 6.3.24 and then 7.4.11. The record that would support a different account is held by the institution and terminates on departure, which is 9.3.7.

Six of these seven sites pass the admissibility conditions individually. A principal investigator is answerable for a funded direction and properly sets it. Resources are finite and their allocation is a matter of judgment. Attribution is genuinely hard to assess before work is complete. Presentation by one person is practical. Access termination is a normal security control. The arrangement is nonetheless one in which Conditions 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, and 3.8 are jointly satisfied at a named position, and the composite is what makes that visible. This is the reason the taxonomy carries a composite level rather than a list.

Remark 10.4 (Where remedy attaches). The kind of dependence determines the point at which a remedy is effective. In an enabling chain, action at the upstream site removes the downstream one, so the format chain is addressed by widening admissible form at 7.2.1 rather than by adjusting return at 9.2.1. In a concealing chain the upstream site removes the evidence, so remedy requires that a record be made at the time, which is a demand on the generation region rather than on the reproduction region where the loss becomes apparent. In a lock-in chain the downstream site is the effective point, since the upstream accumulation has already occurred.

Table 9: Multi-region motifs

Motif	Chain	Dependence	What the chain achieves
Dependency and ex- traction	E2.F.3 $\prec$ E3.P.1	enabling	Constitution of the relation as dependence makes uncompensated effort available without any instrument compelling it.
Prospective credit	E3.F.8 $\prec$ E4.P.1	conditioning	Attribution settled before the work fixes the record independently of what each party contributes.
Recognition and con- version	E4.P.1 $\prec$ E5.P.16	enabling	Concentrated credit becomes the input to a conversion the same position controls.
Invisibility and non- return	E3.F.3 $\prec$ E6.C.6 $\prec$ E6.C.3	concealing	Work absent from the categories of generation is absent from the budget of reproduction, so its cost falls on those performing it.
Depth and terminal draw	E2.C.10 $\prec$ E6.F.5 $\prec$ E6.P.10	lock-in	Accumulated exit cost supports conditional return, which supports maximal extraction at the close.
Enclosure and foreclo- sure	E5.F.5 $\prec$ E5.C.4 $\prec$ E6.C.10	lock-in	Non-portable formatting, restricted portability, and prevented regeneration compound into the extinction of a relational capacity.
Format chain	E4.F.1 $\prec$ E5.F.1 $\prec$ E6.F.1	enabling	A contribution with no admissible form at valuation acquires no carrier at circulation and no return format at reproduction.
Narrative chain	E3.P.24 $\prec$ E4.P.11 $\prec$ E6.P.11	legitimizing	An account composed during generation becomes the durable record and then the closing history, each stage foreclosing correction at the next.
Identity chain	E2.F.8 $\prec$ E3.P.19 $\prec$ E6.P.13	amplifying	Identification produced at formation is drawn on during generation and invoked against departure at reproduction.

11 Register Distribution and the Foreclosure Result

This section reports the distribution of register entry across the corpus, states what the distribution licenses, and develops the consequences of Corollary 7.3 for accounting and for remedy.

11.1 Method and its limits

Each of the 225 sites carries one entry register, assigned by Definition 3.2 as the register in which the intervention first operates. Assignment was performed at the point of drafting each site, against its definition rather than against its vocabulary. Two conventions were held throughout. An intervention operating first as an absence or a burden borne by the other party is assigned to the Real even where an instrument authorized it, which is why withholding of resources, of security, and of settlement enters there. An intervention operating within a code is assigned to the Symbolic even where its terminus is bodily, which is why presentation designed to signify is separated at 4.1.7 from presentation designed to exceed absorption at 4.3.7.

Three limits on what the count establishes are stated here.

The corpus was assembled by the reasoning that then counted it. A distribution over a set the analyst composed is not an observation about the world, and the figures below are internal to the taxonomy. This is the strongest objection available to the section and it is conceded without qualification.

Two of the six figures are insulated from that objection and the rest are not. The absence of Real entry at valuation is argued at Proposition 7.2 from what the region's operations act upon, and its return at reproduction is argued at Proposition 9.2 from what that region's object consists in. Both arguments would stand if the counts came out otherwise, in which case the discrepancy would indicate an error in the site assignments. The counts corroborate the arguments and do not establish them.

The unit of the count is the site rather than the incidence. A region with more sites of a given kind is not thereby a region where interventions of that kind occur more often. Prevalence is an empirical question the paper does not address.

11.2 The distribution

Table 10 gives the counts.

Three findings follow.

The Real is depleted across the representational middle. Real entry holds between a tenth and a fifth of the sites at the encounter, formation, and co-generation regions, falls to none at valuation and one in twenty at circulation, and returns to an eighth at reproduction. Regions 4 and 5 are the regions at which value is made representable and the representation is moved, and they are the regions at which the Real affords no purchase. The claim is stated over the pair rather than over valuation alone, since circulation operates on what valuation produced and inherits its vocabulary.

The depletion is register-specific. Imaginary entry runs 15, 21, 11, 12, 8, and 12 per cent across the regions and holds at an eighth through valuation, where Real entry is absent. The representational middle therefore excludes one register and retains the other. This is what the theory requires rather than an anomaly in it. Recognition operates through images, so prestige, misrecognition, inflation of value by association, and the accrual of reputation all have purchase at

Table 10: Entry register by region

Region	Sites	Symbolic	Imaginary	Real
1 Encounter	33	24 (73%)	5 (15%)	4 (12%)
2 Formation	39	24 (62%)	8 (21%)	7 (18%)
3 Co-generation	45	35 (78%)	5 (11%)	5 (11%)
4 Valuation	34	30 (88%)	4 (12%)	0 (0%)
5 Circulation	40	35 (88%)	3 (8%)	2 (5%)
6 Reproduction	34	26 (76%)	4 (12%)	4 (12%)
Total	225	174 (77%)	29 (13%)	22 (10%)

valuation. What resists symbolization has none. A general account in which the Symbolic simply crowds out everything else would predict both registers falling together, and that is not the shape of the corpus.

A small operation set recurs across objects. The corpus contains substantially fewer operations than sites. Uncertainty is produced at 5.2.3, 6.2.8, and 6.2.9, with the relation, the acknowledgement, and the reward as its successive objects. Acknowledgement is made irregular at 5.3.12 and 6.3.10. An exception becomes a baseline at 5.3.18 and 6.3.21. A standard is moved at 5.2.8 and 6.3.11. Context is removed to reattribute at 7.4.12 and to make portable at 8.3.5. An ordering reallocates encounter at 4.3.3, assessment at 7.4.9, and flow at 8.3.10. Scarcity is constructed of a relation at 4.2.6, of participation at 6.2.10, and of passage at 8.3.12. Aggregation dissolves a claim at 6.3.6, 7.4.2, and 9.4.3. Rent is drawn on a position at 6.3.17 and 8.3.2. Risk is allocated downward at 6.2.6 and 8.2.12.

This is the compression announced at Section 3.5. The taxonomy is better described as a small set of operations crossed with the six objects the lifecycle supplies than as an enumeration of 225 unrelated mechanisms, and the practical consequence is that a party who recognizes an operation at one region has reason to look for it at the others.

Remark 11.1 (Sites deliberately not repeated). Four mechanisms present in the source material appear once in the corpus rather than at every region where they could be described, because the operation and its object are already sited elsewhere. Scarcity of recognition is held at 5.2.5, where its object is the relation, and is not repeated at valuation. Irregular acknowledgement is held at 6.3.10, where its object is the work. Obstruction of return and redirection of reinvestment are held at 9.4.1 and 9.4.6, where their object is the replenishment of the generating relation, and are not repeated at circulation. Counting these at more than one region would inflate the corpus and would double-count the operations reported above.

11.3 Foreclosure read economically

Corollary 7.3 and Corollary 9.3 together give the paper’s central claim its content. Value generated within a relation includes components that the available formats of valuation admit and components that they do not: the maintenance of the conditions of work, the absorption of conflict, tacit coordination, the capacity to generate again. The second class is not valued at a low level. It receives no term.

The consequence is not that these components are undercompensated. It is that their loss produces no entry in any account at the regions where accounts are made. A party depleted in this way passes through valuation and circulation without a record of the depletion having been created

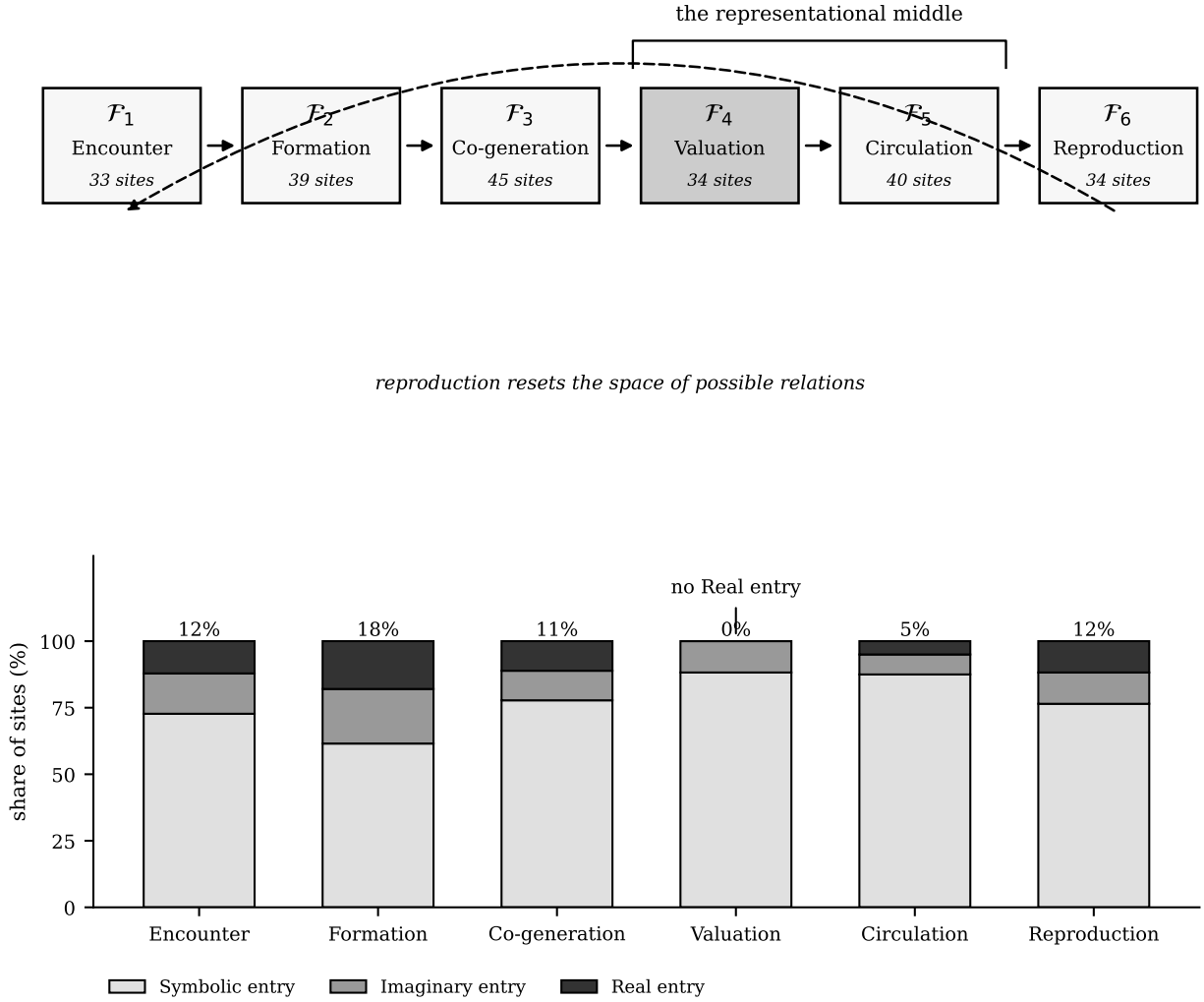


Figure 2: The lifecycle circuit and the distribution of entry register. The upper panel gives the six regions of Equation (1), with the dashed arc recording that reproduction resets the space of possible relations. Regions shaded darker carry no site entering through the Real. The lower panel gives the share of sites at each region by entry register. Real entry holds between a tenth and a fifth at regions 1 to 3, is absent at valuation, stands at one in twenty at circulation, and returns to an eighth at reproduction. Imaginary entry does not follow that movement.

anywhere. The loss accumulates and arrives at the reproduction region in the forms available there, which are exhaustion, departure, breakdown, and dissolution.

By that point the arrangement is in the position described at Corollary 9.3. What has occurred is an event rather than a claim. The party observing it holds no document from any earlier region with which to establish what was taken, and the arrangement's own records are consistent with everything having been in order throughout, because they were kept in a vocabulary in which the loss had no name.

Remark 11.2 (Consequences for remedy). Two consequences follow for the design of remedies, and both run against the intuitive placement.

Remedies applied at the reproduction region arrive after the record that would support them was not made. Compensation schemes, exit settlements, and post-hoc reviews all operate on evidence, and the evidence was foreclosed upstream. The effective intervention is at 7.2.1, being the range of admissible form, and at the recording practices of the generation region. Remark 10.4 states the general form: in a concealing chain, remedy belongs where the concealment occurs.

Remedies that improve measurement address only what is representable. A better metric, a fuller contribution statement, or a more careful attribution scheme operates within the vocabulary whose boundary is the problem. They are worth having and they do not reach Δ_V . What reaches it is the addition of a format, which is a change in the vocabulary rather than a refinement within it, and the party positioned to make that change is ordinarily the party Condition 3.6 identifies.

12 Relational Depth and Asymmetric Exploitability

This section takes up the question in the paper’s title. It defines relational depth in the terms the framework supplies, states why the unrestricted thesis fails, states the restricted thesis, and identifies what would tell against it.

12.1 Depth as register sedimentation

The word real in the title does not name the Lacanian register, and the two are separated here to prevent the confusion.

Definition 12.1 (Relational depth). The depth $\mathfrak{R}$ of a relation for a party is the extent to which the relation has become constitutive of that party’s situation. It accumulates across all three registers: materially, in shared history, non-portable capacity, and foregone alternatives; imaginarily, in identification and in the party’s picture of who they are; and symbolically, in roles, titles, obligations, and the vocabulary in which the party describes their own life.

Depth in this sense is what Section 5 describes being produced. Identification at 5.1.8 is its imaginary component, exit cost at 5.2.10 its material component, and role fixation at 5.1.1 its symbolic component. A relation becoming real, in the sense the title intends, is the long sedimentation and institutionalization of all three.

$$\mathfrak{R}(R) = f(\text{R-sedimentation}, \text{I-sedimentation}, \text{S-sedimentation}) \quad (26)$$

Equation (26) is a statement of composition rather than a functional form. No measure is proposed, and Section 13 records the absence as a limit.

12.2 Why the unrestricted thesis fails

The unrestricted thesis holds that exploitation rises with depth, as at Equation (27).

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathfrak{R}} > 0 \quad (27)$$

Three considerations tell against it, and each is available from the corpus itself.

Depth raises the cost of appropriation to the appropriating party. Where the value is generated by the configuration, as Definition 1.1 holds, appropriation that degrades the configuration reduces what there is to appropriate in the next cycle. Site 9.4.9 exists as a distinct mechanism precisely

because this constraint binds: extraction has to be paced against collapse, and the pacing is a concession to the constraint rather than an escape from it. Site 9.4.10 is its complement, and its availability only at the close confirms that the constraint operates everywhere else.

Depth commonly produces reciprocal hostage. A party deeply embedded in a relation is also a party whose withdrawal is costly to the counterpart, and many of the strongest positions available to the weaker party in the corpus depend on exactly this. Site 6.2.4 is a mechanism operated by a subordinate position against a superior one, and it works because depth runs both ways.

Depth produces voice. Sedimentation of history and identity supplies the standing from which claims are made and the shared vocabulary in which they are intelligible. A relation with no depth affords a party very little from which to object.

The unrestricted thesis therefore has counterexamples in its own material. It is stated in the paper's title as a question, and the answer given here is negative in that form.

12.3 The restricted thesis

Claim 12.2 (Asymmetric depth). Exploitability rises with depth where the depth is asymmetric. Writing $\mathfrak{R}_A$ and $\mathfrak{R}_B$ for the depth borne by each party, the relevant quantity is the difference, and the effect runs through the three consequences of unmatched sedimentation: an enlarged appropriable surface, a raised cost of exit, and a reduced capacity to state a claim.

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial(\mathfrak{R}_A - \mathfrak{R}_B)} > 0 \quad (28)$$

Equation (28) states Condition 3.8 in differential form, and supplies the sense in which the title question receives an affirmative answer.

The three consequences are separable. The enlarged surface is a matter of what there is to take: a party constituted by the relation supplies not only labour but attention, identification, standing, coordination, and the capacity to generate again, and Sections 6 and 9 enumerate the sites at which each is available. The raised exit cost is the quantity of Equation (11) and is what allows terms to be set against the cost of leaving rather than the value of staying. The reduced capacity to state a claim is the contribution the present framework adds, and it runs through Corollary 7.3: the components of value that deep relations generate disproportionately are the components that the valuation region admits least readily. Care, coordination, maintenance, and the absorption of conflict grow with depth and are exactly the classes for which Δ_V is large.

That last point is the connection between the paper's two claims, and it is worth stating directly. Depth increases the share of generated value that is unrepresentable. Unrepresentable value is foreclosed at the valuation region. Foreclosed value produces no record. A party without a record has no claim. Depth accordingly raises exploitability through the epistemic channel and not only through the two channels the hold-up literature identifies.

12.4 What would tell against it

Claim 12.2 is a conditional statement about a quantity the paper does not measure, and its testability rests on proxies that later work would have to defend. Four observations would tell against it.

Arrangements exhibiting large depth asymmetry together with high return ratios in the sense of Equation (23), sustained across cycles and without external enforcement, would indicate that asymmetric depth does not by itself generate the effect. Long-standing craft apprenticeships and some family firms are the obvious places to look.

Arrangements in which the deeply embedded party sets the terms would indicate that the direction of the effect is not fixed by depth. Cases in which a subordinate holds an arrangement through irreplaceable tacit knowledge, as at 6.2.4, are candidates, and the question is whether they are exceptions or a second regime.

A finding that the classes of value generated disproportionately in deep relations are in fact well represented by available formats would remove the epistemic channel and leave the claim resting on the hold-up literature's two channels alone.

A finding that depth asymmetry is generally accompanied by compensating institutions such as tenure, licensing, collective representation, or fiduciary duty, and that these are effective, would confine the claim to arrangements outside their reach.

Remark 12.3 (Relation to the hold-up literature). Section 2 concedes relation-specific investment and the appropriability of quasi-rent to their literature. The restricted thesis adds two things to that account. It locates the appropriation across a lifecycle rather than at the point of contract renegotiation, so that mechanisms operating at valuation and at reproduction come into view. And it identifies a channel that a single-accounting analysis has no place for, being the unavailability of terms in which the loss could be stated. Where the hold-up literature analyses a party who knows what they are losing and lacks the bargaining position to prevent it, the present account also treats a party who lacks the vocabulary to say what it was.

13 Limits, Obligations, and Conclusion

13.1 Limits

The severest limits are given first.

The corpus is the author's construction and the distributional finding of Section 11 is internal to it. Section 11.1 states the concession and identifies the two figures insulated by argument. An independent coding of a mechanism set assembled without the register layer would be the appropriate test, and it has not been performed.

Every example in the paper is constructed. Constructed examples establish that a mechanism is describable and coherent. They establish nothing about its frequency, its distribution across sectors, or its magnitude. No empirical claim is made anywhere in the paper, and none should be read into it.

No measure of magnitude is proposed. The paper says where value can be appropriated and supplies no way to say how much was. This restricts the framework to diagnosis and prevents it from supporting any claim about the size of a wrong.

Depth is defined at Definition 12.1 and not measured, so Equation (28) is not testable in the form given. Operational indicators for the three components of sedimentation are the first thing later work would need.

The six-region division has no claim to being a natural joint. Equation (4) states that a node at one scale is a region at the next, from which it follows that the division is a choice of resolution. The defence offered is that this resolution makes a transferable taxonomy statable, and a different resolution might make a better one statable.

The aspect grammar was found at the encounter region and tested at the other five. It holds there. Whether it holds at other coarse-grainings of the lifecycle, or in domains organized differently from those the examples draw on, is open.

The Real is treated through four modes of staged encounter and is otherwise left as a systematic remainder, per Remark 3.4. A reader who holds that the Real admits fuller specification will find

the treatment thin, and a reader who holds that it admits none will find the four modes already too many. The paper occupies a position between these and defends it only by use.

The admissibility conditions are stated jointly and are not weighted. Nothing in the paper says what to conclude where three of four are satisfied, which is the ordinary case in practice.

The framework describes mechanisms and supplies no normative theory. A judgment that a given arrangement is unjust requires premises about standing, entitlement, and desert that the paper does not offer.

13.2 Obligations

Research Obligation 13.1 (Independent coding). The distributional finding should be tested by independent coders working from site definitions supplied without the register assignments, on a corpus assembled by parties other than the present author.

Research Obligation 13.2 (Operational indicators). Later work should propose and defend indicators for the three components of relational depth, for the return ratio of Equation (23), and for the representation gap of Equation (17), together with an account of what each indicator fails to capture.

Research Obligation 13.3 (Empirical cases). Case studies should test whether the motifs of Table 9 recur in settings the author did not draw on, and should report motifs the taxonomy fails to accommodate.

Research Obligation 13.4 (Institutional design). Work on remedy should follow Remark 11.2 and address the range of admissible form and the recording practices of the generation region, rather than the compensation practices of the reproduction region alone. Proposals should state what each addition to the admissible vocabulary costs and whom it burdens.

13.3 Conclusion

The paper proposes that exploitation of relational value be indexed by the region of the value lifecycle at which an intervention is performed, by the aspect of that region on which it operates, and by the register through which it enters and propagates. Six regions coarse-grain the lifecycle. Each is extended, they overlap, and each resolves into a structure of the same shape. Within a region, form, conditions, and process separate the object of intervention, and the triple holds at all six. Registers locate an intervention and do not contain its effects, so each site carries an entry register, a driving form, and a trajectory rather than a category. Four joint conditions decide whether a site has been used exploitatively, applied to a named position rather than to an arrangement in aggregate, and each of the 225 sites carries its own statement of the non-exploitative case.

The distributional finding is that the Real is depleted across the valuation and circulation regions and present on either side of them, while the Imaginary persists throughout. The absence at valuation is argued from what the region's operations act upon and the return at reproduction from what its object consists in, so the finding does not rest on the count alone. Read through the Lacanian formula, relational depletion has no term where value is valued and moved, generates no record while it accumulates, and arrives at the reproduction region as an event that supports no claim.

The title question receives a restricted answer. Depth does not by itself raise exploitation, since it also raises the cost of appropriation, produces reciprocal hostage, and supplies voice. Depth raises exploitability where it is asymmetric, through an enlarged appropriable surface, a raised cost of exit, and a reduced capacity to state a claim. The third channel is the one this framework

adds, and it connects the paper's two results: the components of value that deep relations generate disproportionately are the components that valuation admits least readily, so depth increases the share of what is generated that can never be said to have been taken.

A Register of Sites

Table 11 lists all 225 atomic sites in code order, with the region and aspect in which each is defined, its entry register, and the page on which it is treated. Codes follow Equation (5) and are stable across revisions.

Table 11: Register of the 225 atomic sites

Code	Site	Region	Aspect	Entry	Page
E1.F.1	Relational-role imposition	Encounter	Form	S	19
E1.F.2	Mandatory intermediation	Encounter	Form	S	20
E1.F.3	Hierarchical formatting	Encounter	Form	S	20
E1.F.4	Publicity structuring	Encounter	Form	S	20
E1.F.5	Identifiability structuring	Encounter	Form	S	21
E1.F.6	Temporal-form structuring	Encounter	Form	S	21
E1.F.7	Appearance-based encounter design	Encounter	Form	S	22
E1.F.8	Affective framing	Encounter	Form	I	22
E1.C.1	Condition appropriation	Encounter	Conditions	S	23
E1.C.2	Infrastructure control	Encounter	Conditions	S	23
E1.C.3	Resource withholding	Encounter	Conditions	R	24
E1.C.4	Condition degradation	Encounter	Conditions	R	24
E1.C.5	Structured lack production	Encounter	Conditions	R	24
E1.C.6	Scarcity construction	Encounter	Conditions	S	25
E1.C.7	Risk production	Encounter	Conditions	I	25
E1.C.8	Desirability construction	Encounter	Conditions	I	26
E1.C.9	Qualification control	Encounter	Conditions	S	26
E1.C.10	Classification-based exclusion	Encounter	Conditions	S	27
E1.C.11	Mobility restriction	Encounter	Conditions	S	27
E1.P.1	Access restriction	Encounter	Process	S	28
E1.P.2	Visibility manipulation	Encounter	Process	S	28
E1.P.3	Ranking	Encounter	Process	S	28
E1.P.4	Matching control	Encounter	Process	S	29
E1.P.5	Encounter routing	Encounter	Process	S	29
E1.P.6	Attention steering	Encounter	Process	I	30
E1.P.7	Attention capture through excess	Encounter	Process	R	30
E1.P.8	Trust priming	Encounter	Process	S	30
E1.P.9	Fear priming	Encounter	Process	I	31
E1.P.10	Frequency manipulation	Encounter	Process	S	31
E1.P.11	Encounter interruption	Encounter	Process	S	32
E1.P.12	Alternative-path suppression	Encounter	Process	S	32
E1.P.13	Sequencing control	Encounter	Process	S	33
E1.P.14	Timing manipulation	Encounter	Process	S	33
E2.F.1	Role fixation	Formation	Form	S	35
E2.F.2	Hierarchical stabilization	Formation	Form	S	36
E2.F.3	Dependency structuring	Formation	Form	R	36
E2.F.4	Exclusivity imposition	Formation	Form	S	37
E2.F.5	Reciprocity asymmetrization	Formation	Form	S	37
E2.F.6	Boundary expansion	Formation	Form	S	37
E2.F.7	Boundary contraction	Formation	Form	S	38
E2.F.8	Identity incorporation	Formation	Form	I	38
E2.F.9	Pseudo-intimacy construction	Formation	Form	I	39
E2.F.10	Contractual enclosure	Formation	Form	S	39
E2.C.1	Trust condition control	Formation	Conditions	S	40
E2.C.2	Information asymmetry maintenance	Formation	Conditions	S	40

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Table 11, continued from the previous page

Code	Site	Region	Aspect	Entry	Page
E2.C.3	Uncertainty production	Formation	Conditions	I	40
E2.C.4	Security withholding	Formation	Conditions	R	41
E2.C.5	Recognition scarcity	Formation	Conditions	S	41
E2.C.6	Alternative-resource suppression	Formation	Conditions	S	42
E2.C.7	Norm opacity	Formation	Conditions	S	42
E2.C.8	Norm shifting	Formation	Conditions	S	42
E2.C.9	Resource-conditioned attachment	Formation	Conditions	S	43
E2.C.10	Exit-cost construction	Formation	Conditions	R	43
E2.C.11	Vulnerability amplification	Formation	Conditions	R	44
E2.P.1	Commitment acceleration	Formation	Process	S	44
E2.P.2	Commitment delay	Formation	Process	S	45
E2.P.3	Selective reciprocity	Formation	Process	S	45
E2.P.4	Reciprocity escalation	Formation	Process	I	45
E2.P.5	Trust acceleration	Formation	Process	I	46
E2.P.6	Trust withholding	Formation	Process	S	46
E2.P.7	Trust asymmetry production	Formation	Process	S	47
E2.P.8	Disclosure extraction	Formation	Process	I	47
E2.P.9	Selective self-presentation	Formation	Process	I	47
E2.P.10	Relational mirroring	Formation	Process	I	48
E2.P.11	Affective synchronization	Formation	Process	R	48
E2.P.12	Intermittent reinforcement	Formation	Process	R	49
E2.P.13	Conflict manufacture	Formation	Process	S	49
E2.P.14	Coalitional enclosure	Formation	Process	S	50
E2.P.15	Norm internalization steering	Formation	Process	S	50
E2.P.16	Consent engineering	Formation	Process	S	50
E2.P.17	Boundary testing	Formation	Process	R	51
E2.P.18	Normalization through repetition	Formation	Process	S	51
E3.F.1	Contribution-role fixation	Co-generation	Form	S	54
E3.F.2	Hierarchical production format- ting	Co-generation	Form	S	54
E3.F.3	Invisible-support formatting	Co-generation	Form	S	55
E3.F.4	Pseudo-collaboration construction	Co-generation	Form	I	55
E3.F.5	Unilateral agenda setting	Co-generation	Form	S	56
E3.F.6	Task fragmentation	Co-generation	Form	S	56
E3.F.7	Contribution isolation	Co-generation	Form	S	56
E3.F.8	Prospective authorship shaping	Co-generation	Form	S	57
E3.C.1	Resource asymmetry maintenance	Co-generation	Conditions	S	57
E3.C.2	Tool and infrastructure enclosure	Co-generation	Conditions	S	58
E3.C.3	Information withholding	Co-generation	Conditions	S	58
E3.C.4	Knowledge dependency construc- tion	Co-generation	Conditions	S	58
E3.C.5	Time asymmetry	Co-generation	Conditions	R	59
E3.C.6	Risk externalization	Co-generation	Conditions	S	59
E3.C.7	Cost externalization	Co-generation	Conditions	R	60
E3.C.8	Recognition uncertainty in genera- tion	Co-generation	Conditions	S	60
E3.C.9	Reward uncertainty	Co-generation	Conditions	S	61
E3.C.10	Artificial scarcity of participation	Co-generation	Conditions	S	61
E3.C.11	Alternative-generation suppression	Co-generation	Conditions	S	61
E3.C.12	Generative-environment degrada- tion	Co-generation	Conditions	R	62
E3.C.13	Limit exposure	Co-generation	Conditions	R	62
E3.P.1	Contribution extraction	Co-generation	Process	R	63
E3.P.2	Attention extraction	Co-generation	Process	I	63

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Table 11, continued from the previous page

Code	Site	Region	Aspect	Entry	Page
E3.P.3	Affective labour extraction	Co-generation	Process	I	64
E3.P.4	Creative appropriation in genera- tion	Co-generation	Process	S	64
E3.P.5	Selective incorporation	Co-generation	Process	S	64
E3.P.6	Contribution dilution	Co-generation	Process	S	65
E3.P.7	Contribution inflation	Co-generation	Process	S	65
E3.P.8	Feedback withholding	Co-generation	Process	S	66
E3.P.9	Selective feedback	Co-generation	Process	S	66
E3.P.10	Intermittent recognition	Co-generation	Process	I	66
E3.P.11	Goal shifting	Co-generation	Process	S	67
E3.P.12	Scope creep imposition	Co-generation	Process	S	67
E3.P.13	Generative redirection	Co-generation	Process	S	68
E3.P.14	Generativity suppression	Co-generation	Process	S	68
E3.P.15	Generativity capture	Co-generation	Process	S	68
E3.P.16	Recombination capture	Co-generation	Process	S	69
E3.P.17	Coordination rent extraction	Co-generation	Process	S	69
E3.P.18	Conflict-based productivity extrac- tion	Co-generation	Process	S	70
E3.P.19	Identity-based overcontribution	Co-generation	Process	I	70
E3.P.20	Moralization of contribution	Co-generation	Process	S	71
E3.P.21	Normalization of overproduction	Co-generation	Process	S	71
E3.P.22	Learning capture	Co-generation	Process	S	71
E3.P.23	Failure externalization	Co-generation	Process	S	72
E3.P.24	Success appropriation	Co-generation	Process	S	72
E4.F.1	Value-format imposition	Valuation	Form	S	75
E4.F.2	Metricization	Valuation	Form	S	75
E4.F.3	Monetization framing	Valuation	Form	S	76
E4.F.4	Credentialization	Valuation	Form	S	76
E4.F.5	Authorship formatting	Valuation	Form	S	77
E4.F.6	Ownership encoding	Valuation	Form	S	77
E4.F.7	Binary recognition formatting	Valuation	Form	S	77
E4.F.8	Prestige formatting	Valuation	Form	I	78
E4.C.1	Recognition access control	Valuation	Conditions	S	78
E4.C.2	Evaluator monopoly	Valuation	Conditions	S	79
E4.C.3	Evidence control	Valuation	Conditions	S	79
E4.C.4	Record asymmetry	Valuation	Conditions	S	80
E4.C.5	Attribution opacity	Valuation	Conditions	S	80
E4.C.6	Comparability imposition	Valuation	Conditions	S	80
E4.C.7	Temporal control of recognition	Valuation	Conditions	S	81
E4.C.8	Interpretive asymmetry	Valuation	Conditions	S	81
E4.C.9	Norm-setting capture	Valuation	Conditions	S	81
E4.P.1	Credit capture	Valuation	Process	S	82
E4.P.2	Credit dilution	Valuation	Process	S	82
E4.P.3	Credit reassignment	Valuation	Process	S	83
E4.P.4	Value under-recognition	Valuation	Process	S	83
E4.P.5	Value inflation	Valuation	Process	I	84
E4.P.6	Selective recognition	Valuation	Process	S	84
E4.P.7	Misrecognition	Valuation	Process	I	84
E4.P.8	Recognition withholding	Valuation	Process	S	85
E4.P.9	Ranking manipulation	Valuation	Process	S	85
E4.P.10	Benchmark manipulation	Valuation	Process	S	85
E4.P.11	Narrative appropriation	Valuation	Process	S	86
E4.P.12	Context stripping	Valuation	Process	S	86
E4.P.13	Context loading	Valuation	Process	S	87
E4.P.14	Symbolic substitution	Valuation	Process	S	87

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Table 11, continued from the previous page

Code	Site	Region	Aspect	Entry	Page
E4.P.15	Reputation capture	Valuation	Process	I	88
E4.P.16	Stigma production	Valuation	Process	S	88
E4.P.17	Legitimacy capture	Valuation	Process	S	88
E5.F.1	Carrier imposition	Circulation	Form	S	91
E5.F.2	Currency-format imposition	Circulation	Form	S	91
E5.F.3	Mediated circulation	Circulation	Form	S	92
E5.F.4	Closed-loop circulation	Circulation	Form	S	92
E5.F.5	Non-portable value formatting	Circulation	Form	S	93
E5.F.6	Conversion monopoly	Circulation	Form	S	93
E5.F.7	Asymmetric convertibility	Circulation	Form	S	93
E5.F.8	One-way circulation design	Circulation	Form	S	94
E5.C.1	Channel ownership	Circulation	Conditions	S	94
E5.C.2	Network access control	Circulation	Conditions	S	95
E5.C.3	Liquidity control	Circulation	Conditions	S	95
E5.C.4	Portability restriction	Circulation	Conditions	S	96
E5.C.5	Interoperability restriction	Circulation	Conditions	S	96
E5.C.6	Conversion-rule opacity	Circulation	Conditions	S	96
E5.C.7	Exchange-rate control	Circulation	Conditions	S	97
E5.C.8	Fee imposition	Circulation	Conditions	S	97
E5.C.9	Temporal withholding	Circulation	Conditions	R	97
E5.C.10	Priority access control	Circulation	Conditions	S	98
E5.C.11	Conversion information asymmetry	Circulation	Conditions	S	98
E5.C.12	Risk transfer in circulation	Circulation	Conditions	S	99
E5.P.1	Value diversion	Circulation	Process	S	99
E5.P.2	Intermediation rent extraction	Circulation	Process	S	99
E5.P.3	Conversion appropriation	Circulation	Process	S	100
E5.P.4	Value laundering	Circulation	Process	S	100
E5.P.5	Relational decontextualization	Circulation	Process	S	101
E5.P.6	Selective circulation	Circulation	Process	S	101
E5.P.7	Circulation blocking	Circulation	Process	S	102
E5.P.8	Circulation acceleration	Circulation	Process	S	102
E5.P.9	Circulation throttling	Circulation	Process	S	102
E5.P.10	Ranking-mediated flow capture	Circulation	Process	S	103
E5.P.11	Network centralization	Circulation	Process	S	103
E5.P.12	Artificial bottleneck creation	Circulation	Process	S	103
E5.P.13	Reputation conversion capture	Circulation	Process	I	104
E5.P.14	Attention conversion capture	Circulation	Process	I	104
E5.P.15	Trust conversion capture	Circulation	Process	I	104
E5.P.16	Credential conversion capture	Circulation	Process	S	105
E5.P.17	Cross-domain value arbitrage	Circulation	Process	S	105
E5.P.18	Conversion-chain opacity	Circulation	Process	S	106
E5.P.19	Residual-value capture	Circulation	Process	S	106
E5.P.20	Value leakage engineering	Circulation	Process	R	106
E6.F.1	Return-format imposition	Reproduction	Form	S	109
E6.F.2	Individualised return formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	109
E6.F.3	Symbolic-only return	Reproduction	Form	S	110
E6.F.4	Deferred-return formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	110
E6.F.5	Conditional-return formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	111
E6.F.6	Gift reframing of owed return	Reproduction	Form	I	111
E6.F.7	Closed reinvestment formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	111
E6.F.8	Successor formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	112
E6.F.9	Debt inversion	Reproduction	Form	I	112
E6.F.10	Termination formatting	Reproduction	Form	S	113
E6.C.1	Surplus determination control	Reproduction	Conditions	S	113

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Table 11, continued from the previous page

Code	Site	Region	Aspect	Entry	Page
E6.C.2	Return-accounting opacity	Reproduction	Conditions	S	113
E6.C.3	Reproduction-cost externalisation	Reproduction	Conditions	R	114
E6.C.4	Recovery withholding	Reproduction	Conditions	R	114
E6.C.5	Slack elimination	Reproduction	Conditions	S	115
E6.C.6	Maintenance invisibility	Reproduction	Conditions	S	115
E6.C.7	Memory control	Reproduction	Conditions	S	115
E6.C.8	Succession control	Reproduction	Conditions	S	116
E6.C.9	Dependency renewal conditioning	Reproduction	Conditions	S	116
E6.C.10	Reproductive-alternative foreclo- sure	Reproduction	Conditions	S	117
E6.C.11	Vulnerability persistence	Reproduction	Conditions	R	117
E6.P.1	Return-flow obstruction	Reproduction	Process	S	117
E6.P.2	Return diversion	Reproduction	Process	S	118
E6.P.3	Return dilution	Reproduction	Process	S	118
E6.P.4	Return delay	Reproduction	Process	S	118
E6.P.5	Selective return	Reproduction	Process	S	119
E6.P.6	Reproduction redirection	Reproduction	Process	S	119
E6.P.7	Generative-capacity extraction	Reproduction	Process	S	120
E6.P.8	Relational asset stripping	Reproduction	Process	S	120
E6.P.9	Exhaustion pacing	Reproduction	Process	R	120
E6.P.10	Terminal extraction	Reproduction	Process	S	121
E6.P.11	Narrative closure	Reproduction	Process	S	121
E6.P.12	Nostalgic re-enrolment	Reproduction	Process	I	122
E6.P.13	Guilt-based re-enrolment	Reproduction	Process	I	122

B Terms and Notation

Table 12 gives the terms of art used in the paper with the site of their definition. Table 13 gives the notation.

Table 12: Terms of art

Term	Meaning	First use
Relational value exploitation	Asymmetric appropriation of value generated by a relational configuration, registered as a loss in no accounting available to the depleted party	Def. 1.1
Relational sub-spacetime	An extended region of the value lifecycle, not an instant, admitting finer resolution into a structure of the same shape	Claim 1.2
Region	One of the six coarse-grained sub-spacetimes of Equation (1)	§3.1
Aspect	Form, conditions, or process: the object on which an intervention within a region operates	Def. 3.1
Entry register	The register in which an intervention first operates	Def. 3.2
Driving form	The mechanism by which an intervention passes from one register to the next	Def. 3.2
Trajectory	The typical path of propagation across registers	Def. 3.2
Real	That which resists complete symbolization, appearing through lack, excess, rupture, and limit	§3.3
Imaginary	The register of image, identification, expectation, fantasy, and desire	§3.3
Symbolic	The register of code: classification, naming, authorization, prohibition, rank, encoding, contract, record	§3.3
Taxonomic asymmetry	The systematic remainder the Real leaves in any linguistic taxonomy	Rem. 3.4

continued on the next page

Table 12, continued from the previous page

Term	Meaning	First use
Atomic site	A pair of aspect and action within one region, coded by Equation (5)	§3.5
Single-region composite	Two or more sites within one region operating together	Def. 10.1
Multi-region motif	A small directed structure in which sites at different regions stand in dependence	Def. 10.3
Dependence	The relation $\prec$ by which one site makes another available, more effective, harder to escape, harder to see, or easier to justify	Def. 10.2
Absorption	A quantity surrendered persistently fails to return and an identifiable position receives the difference	Cond. 3.5
Schema power	The receiving position also determines the description under which the arrangement is accounted for	Cond. 3.6
Blocked return	No act available to the depleted party opens a channel of return	Cond. 3.7
Asymmetric depth	Relation-specific sedimentation borne by one party and unmatched by the other	Cond. 3.8
Relational depth	The extent to which a relation has become constitutive of a party's situation, across all three registers	Def. 12.1
Representation gap	The part of generated value that available formats of valuation do not admit	Eq. (17)
Foreclosure	Here, the exclusion of the unrepresentable from the vocabulary of valuation and its return at reproduction	Cor. 7.3
Return ratio	The proportion of value generated from a relation that reaches the relation again	Eq. (23)
Generative circulation	A cycle after which the relation's capacity to generate is greater	Eq. (24)
Extractive circulation	A cycle after which that capacity is lower	Eq. (25)
Conversion capacity	The extent to which a party can turn a relational value into another form	Eq. (21)
Portability	The fraction of accumulated value a party can carry out of the arrangement that produced it	Eq. (22)
Generativity capture	Appropriation of the capacity and direction of future generation rather than of the product	§6.3.15
Reach	The extent of value affected by a site, distinct from the region at which it is performed	Rem. 3.10

Table 13: Notation

Symbol	Meaning	First use
$\mathcal{F}$	The relational spacetime of an arrangement	§3.1
$\mathcal{F}_k$	The k th region of the lifecycle	Eq. (1)
$[t_a, t_b]$	The interval of relational time over which a region extends	Eq. (2)
$\mathcal{R}_{\text{loc}}$	The local relational structure of a region	Eq. (2)
R, I, S	The Real, Imaginary, and Symbolic registers	Def. 3.2
r_0	Entry register of an action	Def. 3.2
δ	Driving form of an action	Def. 3.2
τ	Register trajectory of an action	Def. 3.2
$Ei.d.n$	Code of an atomic site: region, aspect, position	Eq. (5)
n_i	Number of sites at region i	Eq. (6)
N_{single}	Configurations with at most one mechanism per region	Eq. (6)
N_{multi}	Configurations allowing several mechanisms per region	Eq. (7)
M	A multi-region motif	Eq. (8)
$\prec$	Dependence between sites	Def. 10.2
C_i	A single-region composite within region i	Def. 10.1
A_i	The set of sites available at region i	§3.5

continued on the next page

Table 13, continued from the previous page

Symbol	Meaning	First use
Ω_t	The space of relations available to a party at t	Eq. (10)
$\deg(i)$	Degree of a party in the graph of available relations	Eq. (9)
L_i	Loss on exit: value embedded plus cost of reconstruction	Eq. (11)
V_{AB}	The interaction term of jointly generated value	Eq. (12)
V_i/C_i	Ratio of value received to cost borne at a position	Eq. (13)
E_M	Value captured by an intermediary over generation enabled by it	Eq. (15)
Φ	The valuation process	Eq. (16)
$\hat{V}$	Recognized value	Eq. (16)
Δ_V	Representation gap	Eq. (17)
$V(A \mid R, H)$	Value conditional on a relation and a history	Eq. (18)
κ_i	Conversion capacity of party i	Eq. (21)
π_i	Portability available to party i	Eq. (22)
ρ_R	Return ratio	Eq. (23)
$G(R_t)$	Generative capacity of a relation at t	Eq. (24)
$\mathfrak{R}$	Relational depth	Def. 12.1
E	Extent of exploitation, used only comparatively	Eq. (27)

Acknowledgments

The author thanks Ron Eglash for dialogue that helped inspire the wider inquiry into generative justice and value circulation within which this paper was developed. The definitions, taxonomy, register construction, constructed examples, arguments, conclusions, and errors remain the author's responsibility. This acknowledgment records intellectual inspiration from dialogue.

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