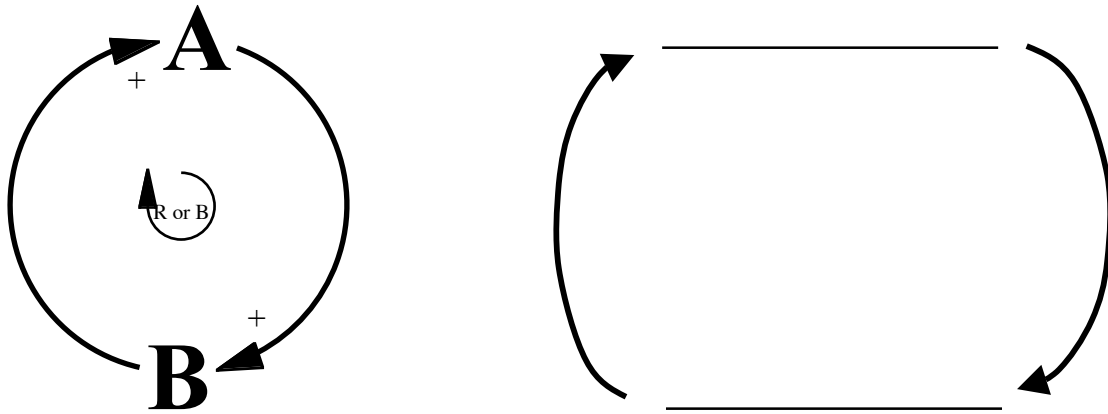


Causal Loop Diagram Template with Questions



Questions to ask when creating and analyzing causal loop diagrams

Creating a loop:

- Are there two elements in the system that affect one another?
- Are there just two elements affecting one another or are there more?
- Between any two parts of your loop, is the relationship...
- Does the first part increase or decrease the second part?
- What kind of loop is it – reinforcing (R) or balancing (B)? Label the center of the loop.
- Can I talk around the loop more than once?
- Are there any other loops or elements that might be connected to this loop?

Analyzing a loop:

- Given the label of 'R' or 'B', what kind of behavior would this loop produce over time?
- If multiple loops are connected, what loop(s) might be more or less influential over time?
- How do you know when to stop adding elements of the system to your diagram? (Consider meaningful boundaries.)