

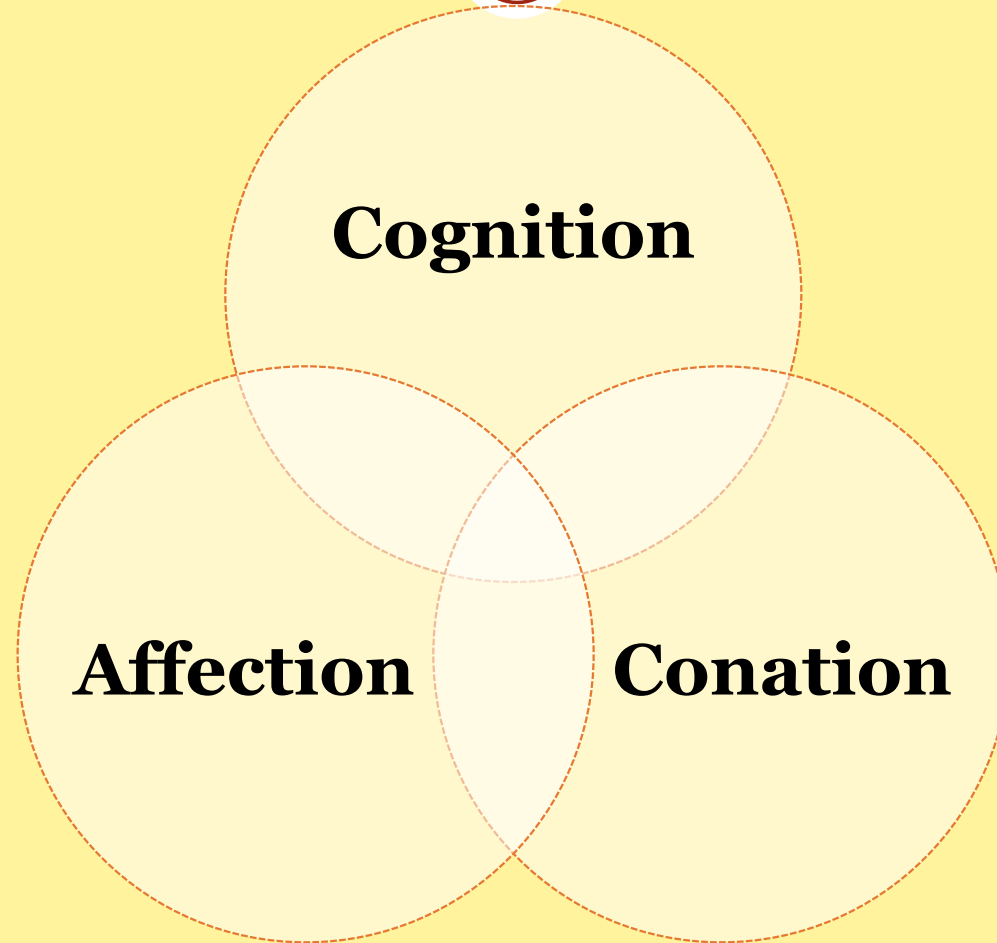
# PERSONALITY STUDIES



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# Personality

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# PERSONALITY

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**Motivation**

**Basic pre-  
disposition**

**Genetic factors**

# The study of personality helps in:

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- **Understanding human nature**
- **The person in his entirety**
- **Individual differences**
- **Differentiate between mature and immature individuals**
- **Adjustment & maladjustment**
- **Level of pathology/ kind of disorders**
- **Nature of treatment for an individual**

# Features of Personality:

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**ADAPTABILITY**

**DISTINCTIVENESS**

**Personality**

**FLEXIBILITY**

**OBJECTIVITY**

# Other characteristics:

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- 1. Holism**
- 2. Motivation**
- 3. Individual differences**
- 4. Stability & consistency**

# Different approaches to the study of personality:

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## **PSYCHOANALYTIC APPROACH -**

**Freud, Neo-  
Freudians**

## **DISPOSITIONAL APPROACH -**

**Allport, Costa  
& McCrae ,  
Eysenck, Cattell  
etc.**

## **BEHAVIOURAL & COGNITIVE APPROACH -**

**Skinner,  
Bandura,  
Dollard-Miller  
etc.**

## **HUMANISTIC & EXISTENTIAL APPROACH -**

**Maslow,  
Rogers, Rollo  
May, Sarte,  
Kierkegaard,  
Hiedeger etc.**

# Different perspectives in the study of personality:

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## **BIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE –**

**Role of genes; twin &  
adoption studies**



## **ENVIRONMENTAL PERSPECTIVE –**

**Role of the situational  
context**



# NATURE-NURTURE DEBATE

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**Nature  
(Biology)**

**Dispositional approach**

**Psychoanalytic approach**

**Humanistic approach**

**Behavioural & cognitive approach**

**Nurture  
(environment)**

# Freewill versus determinism

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**DETERMINISM**

**Behavioural & cognitive approach**

**Psychoanalytic approach**

**Dispositional approach**

**Humanistic approach**

**FREEWILL**

# Idiographic versus Nomothetic approach:

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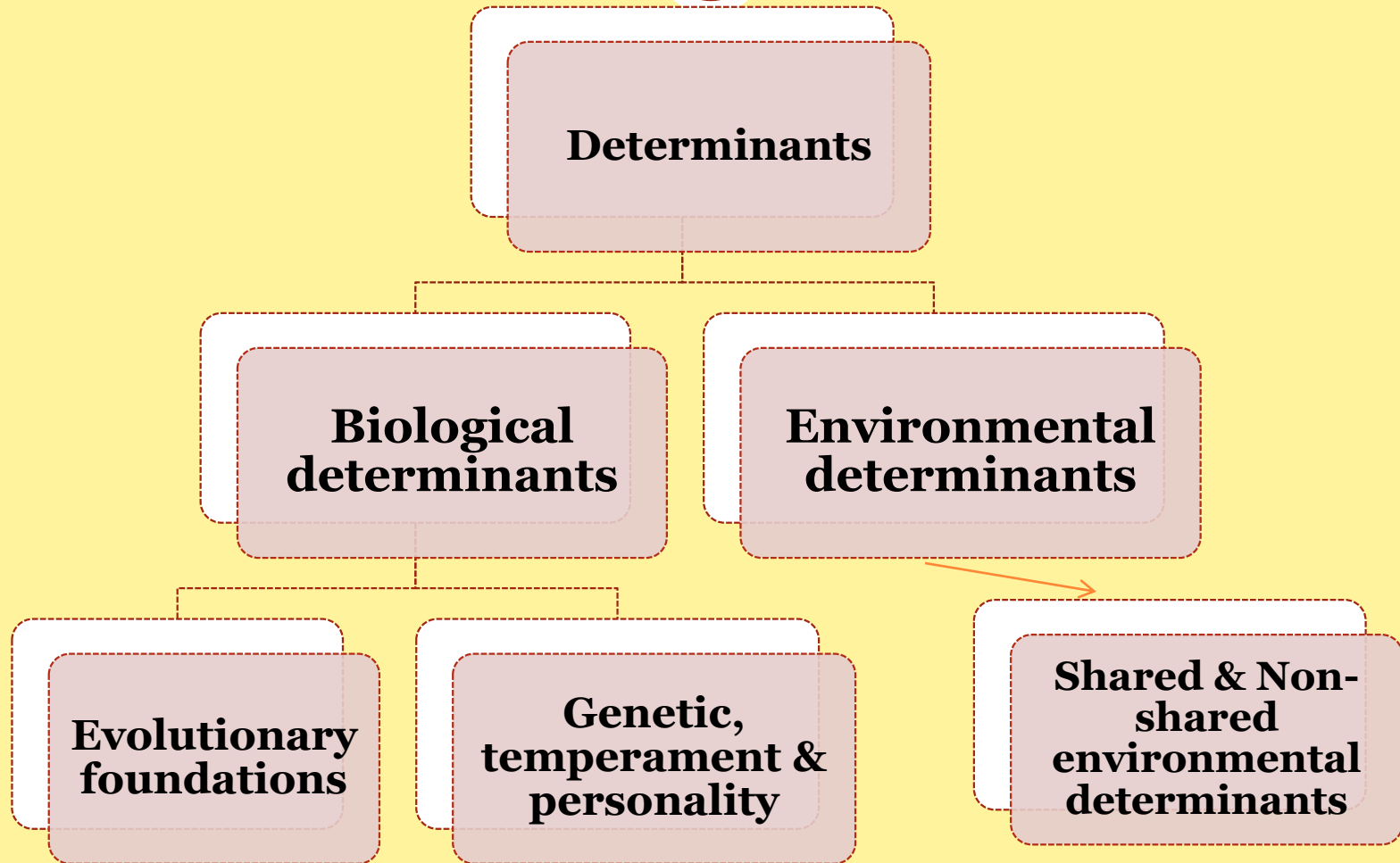
## **IDIOGRAPHIC APPROACH:**

**Focus on  
uniqueness/  
subjectivity**

**NOMOTHETIC  
APPROACH: Focus  
on generalizability/  
predictability**

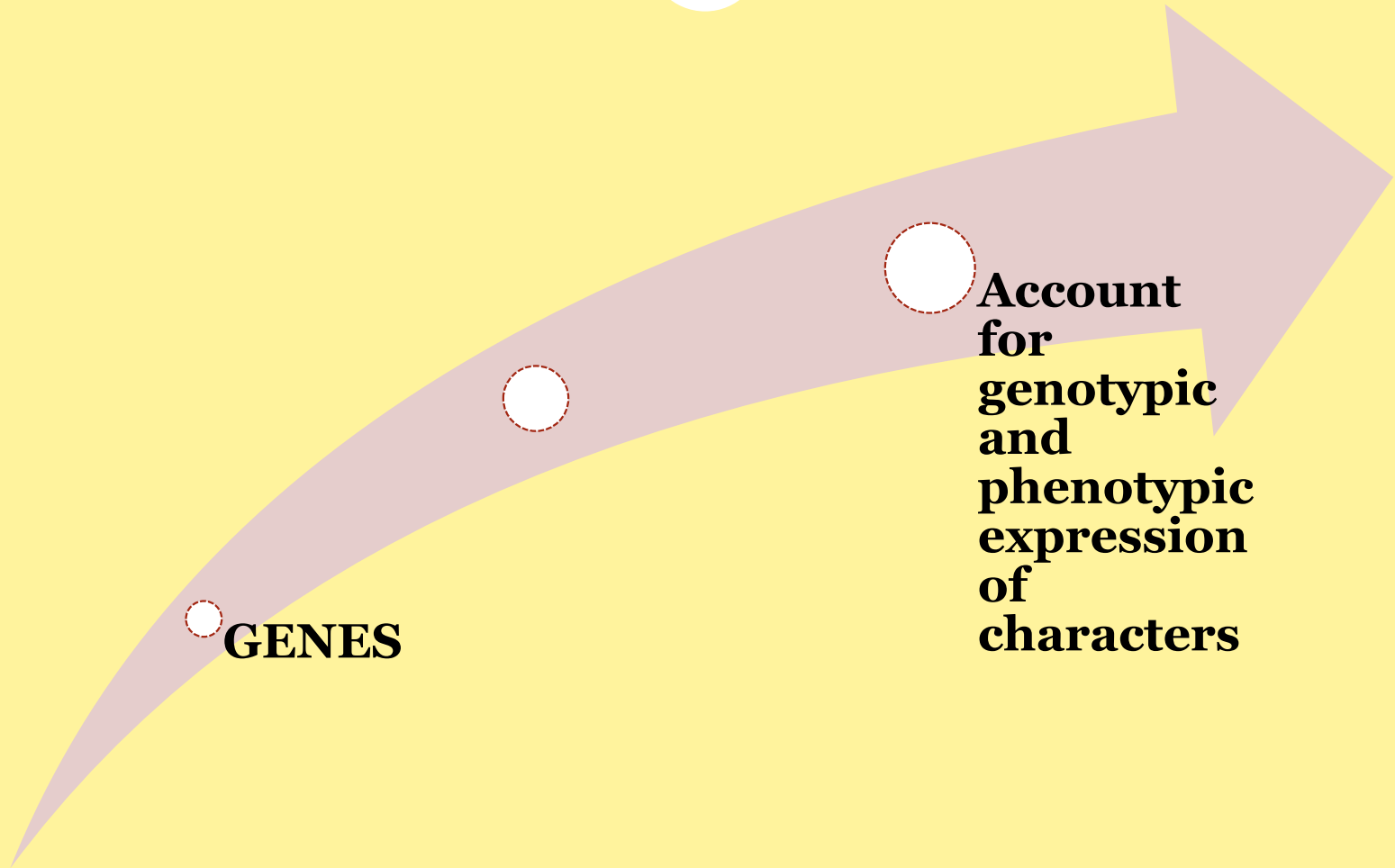
# Determinants of Personality:

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# Heritability = Genetic variation in a trait/ Phenotypic variation in a trait

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# ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINANTS

## Shared factors :

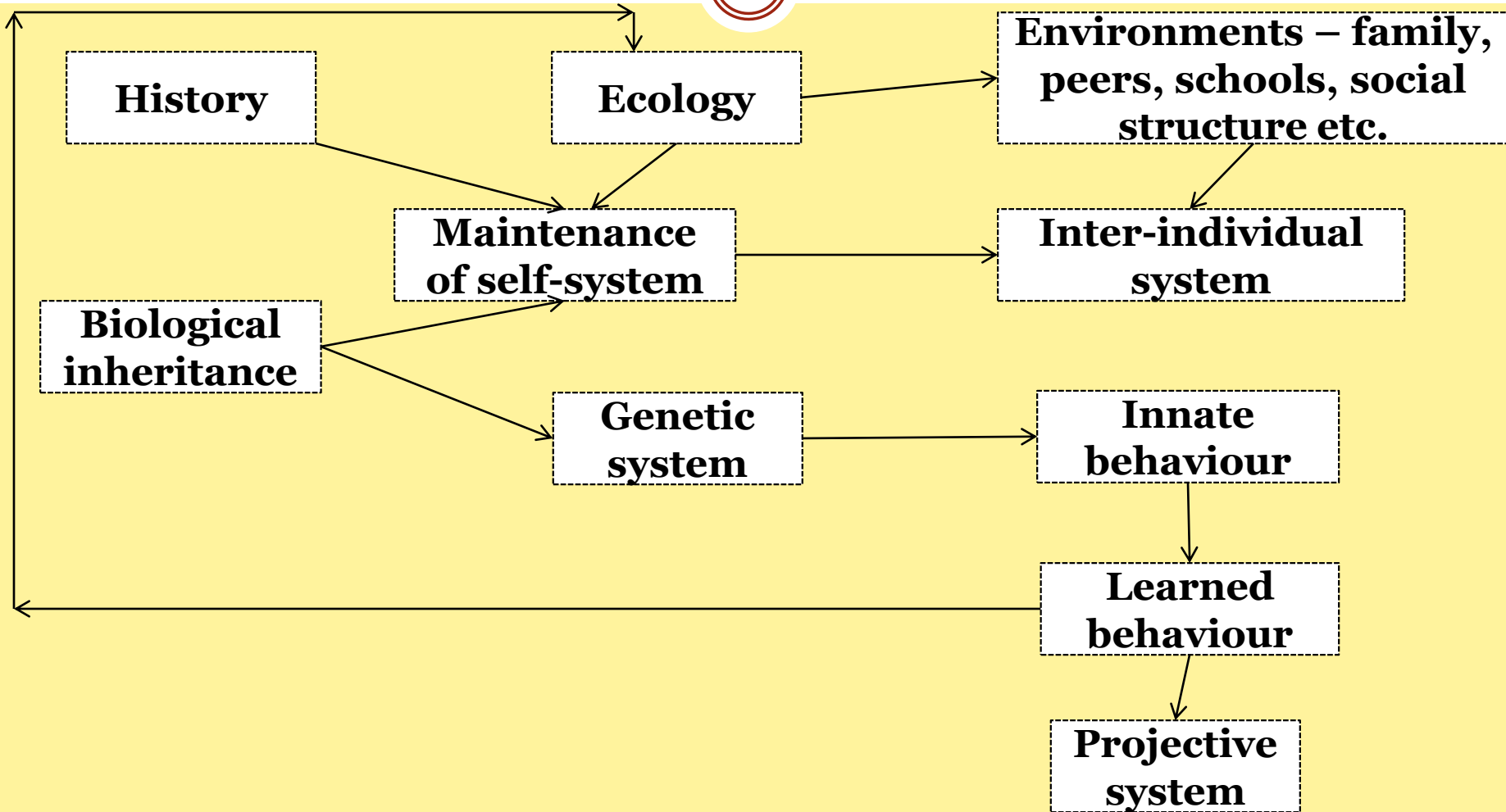
Parent-child relationships, parenting styles and disciplines, parents' teaching behaviours, stimulating physical environment

## Non-shared factors:

Unique treatment of the child by parents, parents; beliefs, expectations and values; birth order; Sibling resemblances due to same sex, closer chronological age etc. ; Spacing among siblings

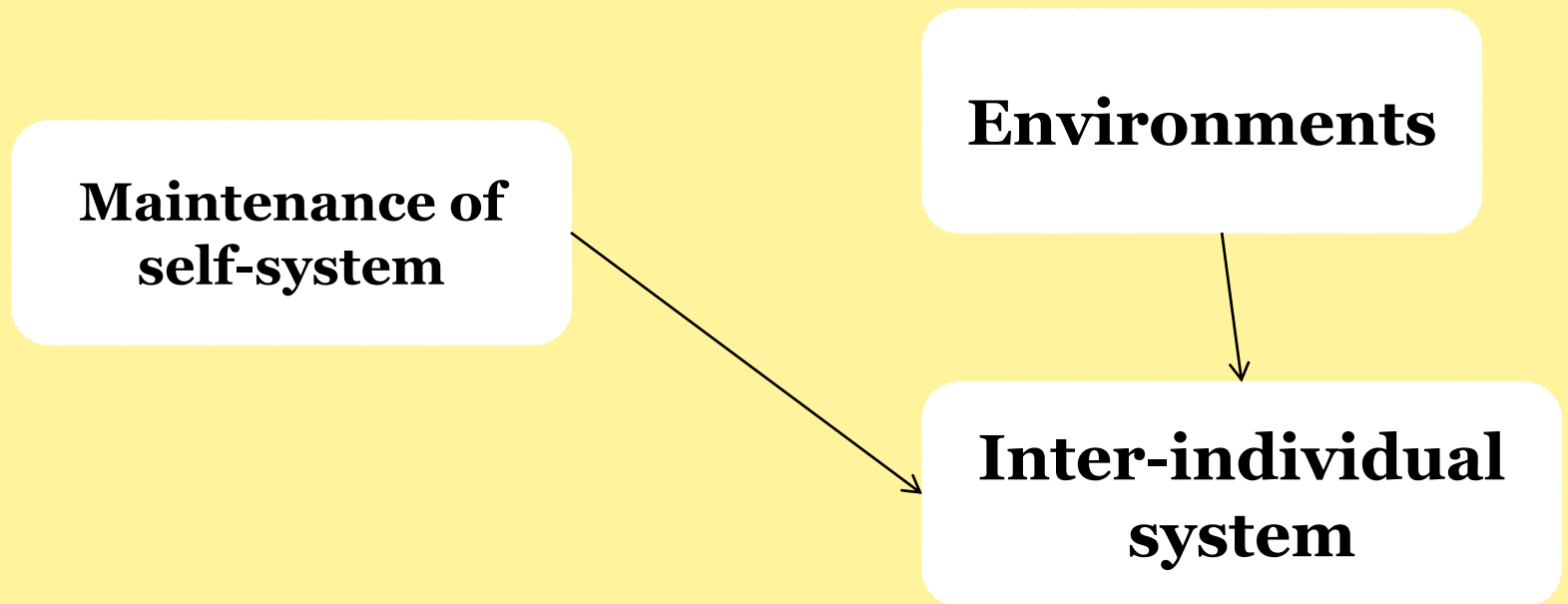
# Inter-relations between the different determinants of personality:

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# Culture

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## **Culture**

A program of shared rules that govern the behavior of members of a community or society

A set of values, beliefs, and attitudes shared by most members of that community

## **Individualist cultures**

Cultures in which the self is regarded as autonomous, and individual goals and wishes are prized above duty and relations with others

## **Collectivist cultures**

Cultures in which the self is regarded as embedded in relationships, and harmony with one's group is prized above individual goals and wishes

- ***Genetic-environmental correlation*** relates to the idea that heredity influences the environments to which individuals are exposed. It underlies ***NICHE-PICKING*** on the part of the individual. Thus, development is best understood as a series of complex exchanges between nature and nurture.

# Gender & Personality

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- **Psychoanalytic explanation: Oedipus and Electra Complex**
- **Role of gender stereotypes prevalent in the eastern society; the role of patriarchy etc.**
- **Gender & aggression**

# Person & the Situation:

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**Behaviour**

**Dynamic**

**Interaction  
of:**

**The person  
(person  
variables)**

**The  
situation  
(psychologically  
meaningful  
elements)**