

CAUSAL LOOPS – TWO TYPES OF LOOPS

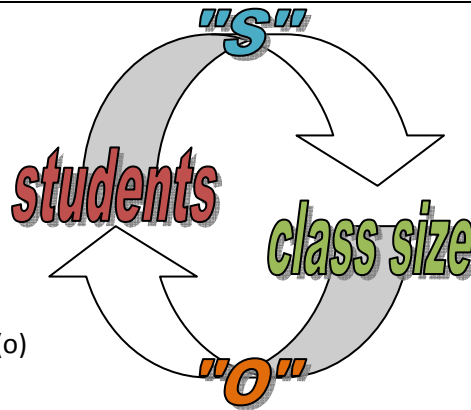
Balancing Loops

S = same / o = opposite

EXAMPLE – DR. CHRIS

When student #s go UP, class size goes up (S)

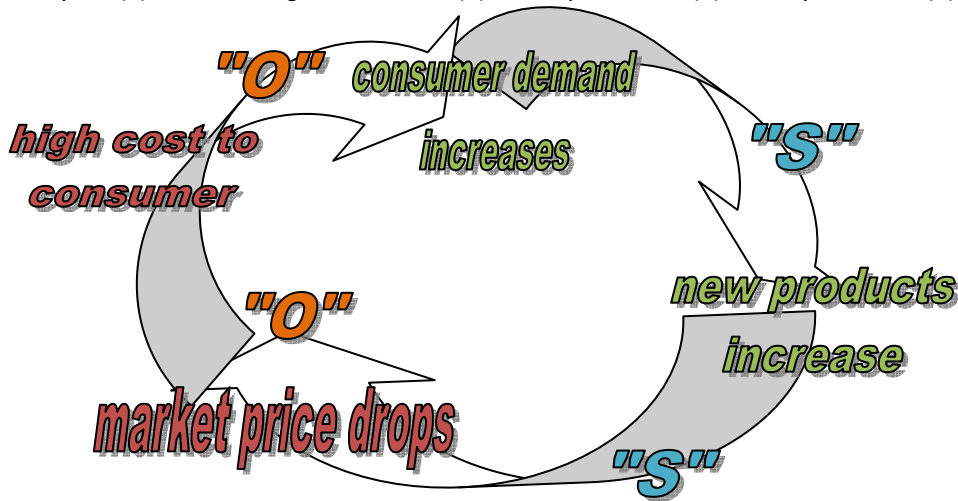
When class size goes UP, student #s go DOWN (o)



Reinforcing Loops

Supply & demand & causal loops

increase in layoffs (o), confidence goes decreases (o), anxiety increases (o), anxiety increases (o), performance decreases (o)



high costs to consumer, consumer demand for organic food increases (o), new products increase (s), production increases (s), market price decreases (o)

Reinforcing = Fly Wheels

Generate exponential growth or great collapse

Influences go up

Balancing Loops

Influences are to be self-correcting

Keeps us from spinning out of control

Determining Balancing versus Reinforcing

- Balancing = odd # of "o's"
- Reinforcing = no "o's" or even # of "o's"

Don't put a value on variables when looking at these loops