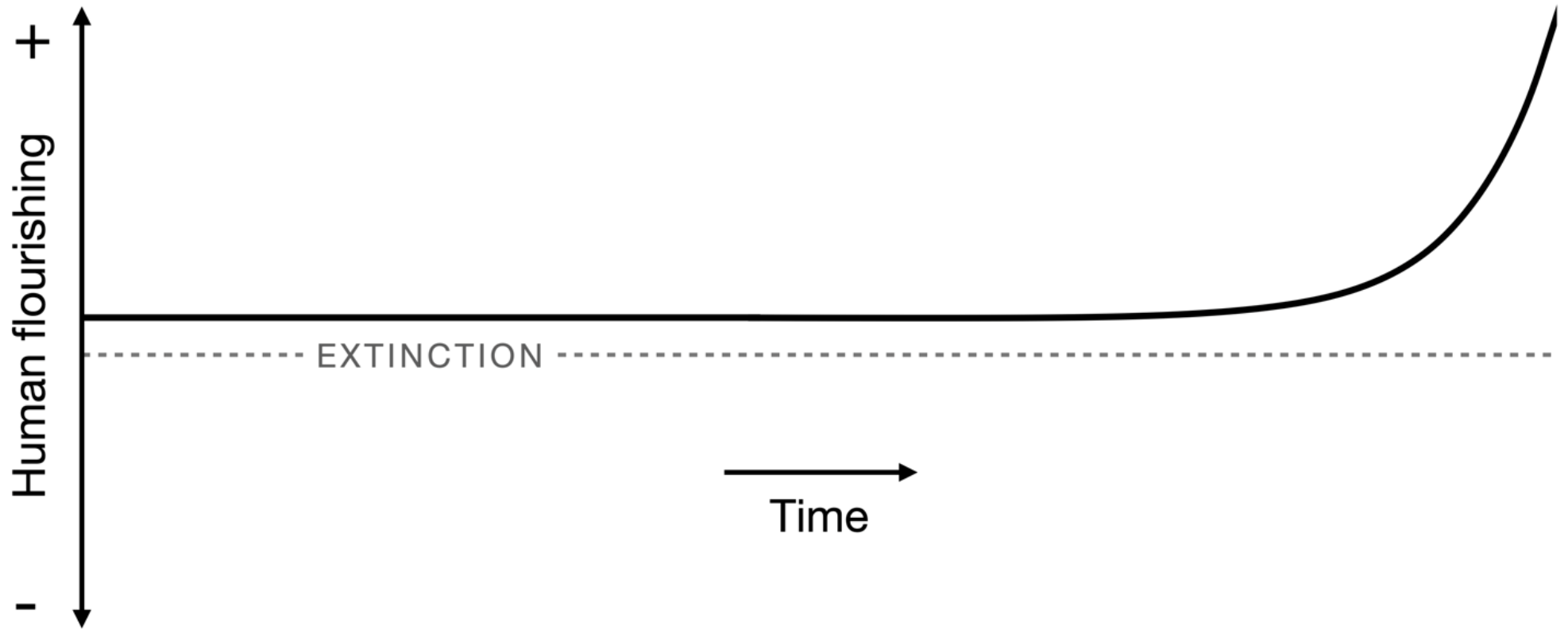


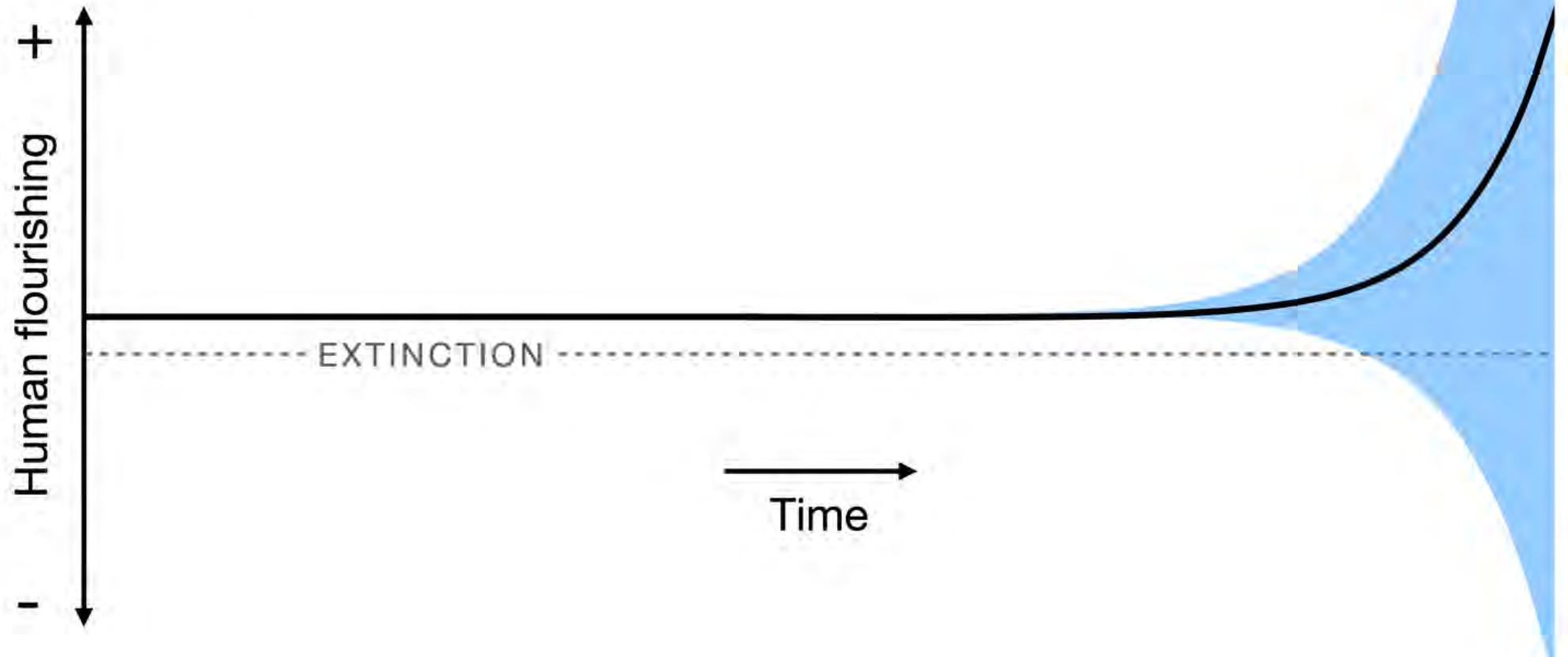
Thinking and the future of humanity

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- Our existence was marginal for most of history
- Recently, dramatic improvement
- Never further from extinction

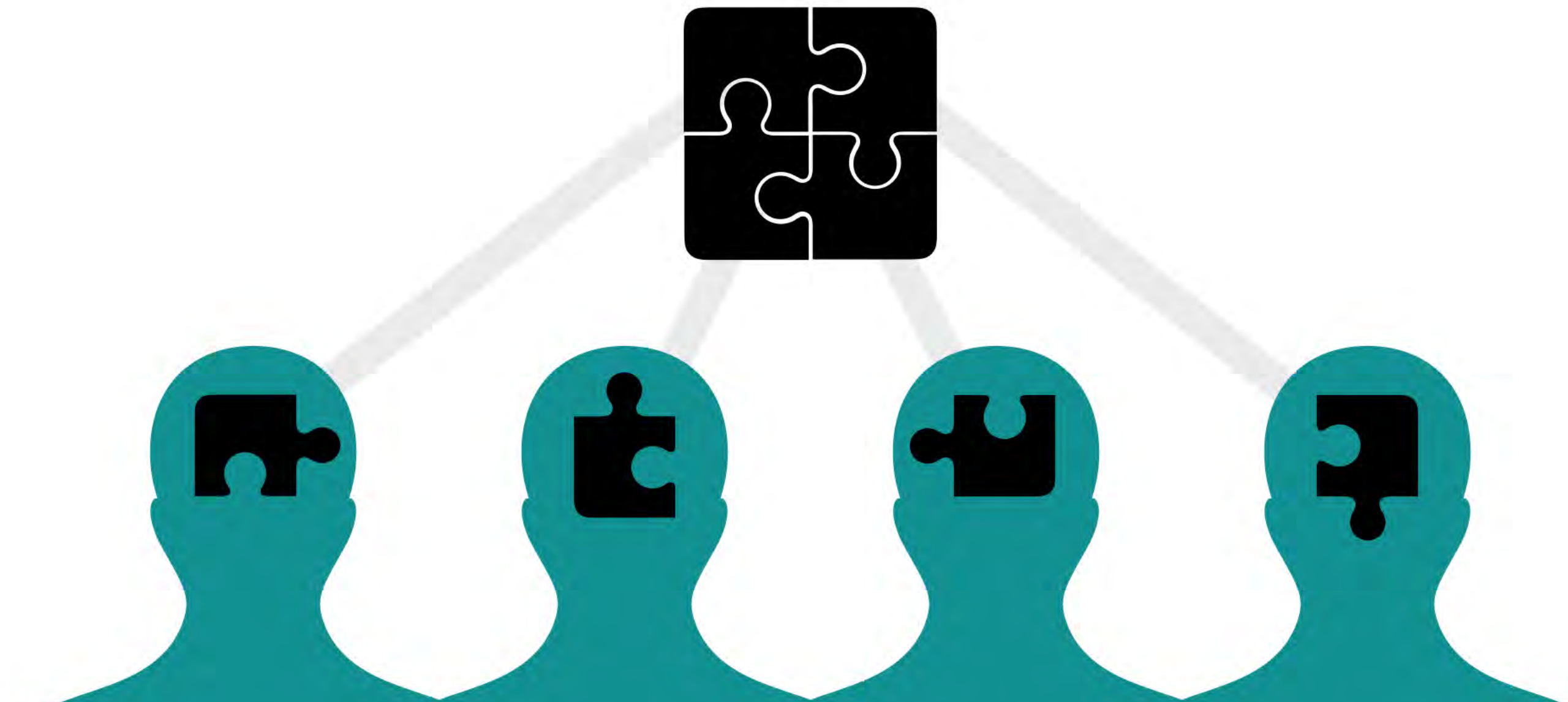


- For most of history, we could not extinguish ourselves
- Now we could
- Never ***closer*** to extinction



The stranded spaceship





Knowledge we need is distributed across minds

Galton's ox

Individual guesses: 420, 450,
480, **520**, 570, 600, 630, 660

Average of guesses: **541.25**

Actual weight: **544**



Heuristics for creative thinking

Invert the problem



Question the unit of analysis



Reverse the arrow of causation



Make it extr**eme**

Ideas on demand

1. Identify the problem
2. Individual silent observation
3. Pool knowledge
4. "How could this be different?"
5. Look for patterns

Procedural
ensures that
you are
never stuck

Problem selection

Importance

Tractability

Neglectedness

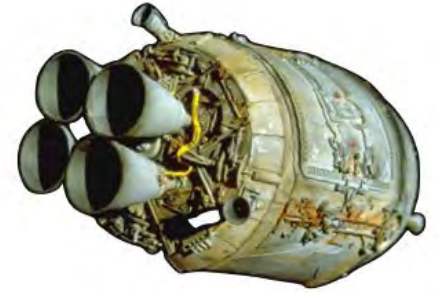
Prioritise problems that score high on all three



ITN example

	Project A: <i>Climate change</i>	Project B: <i>Mirror bacteria</i>
Importance	★★★★★	★★★★★
Tractability	★★★	★★★★
Neglectedness	★	★★★★

**Knowledge is the
crucial resource**



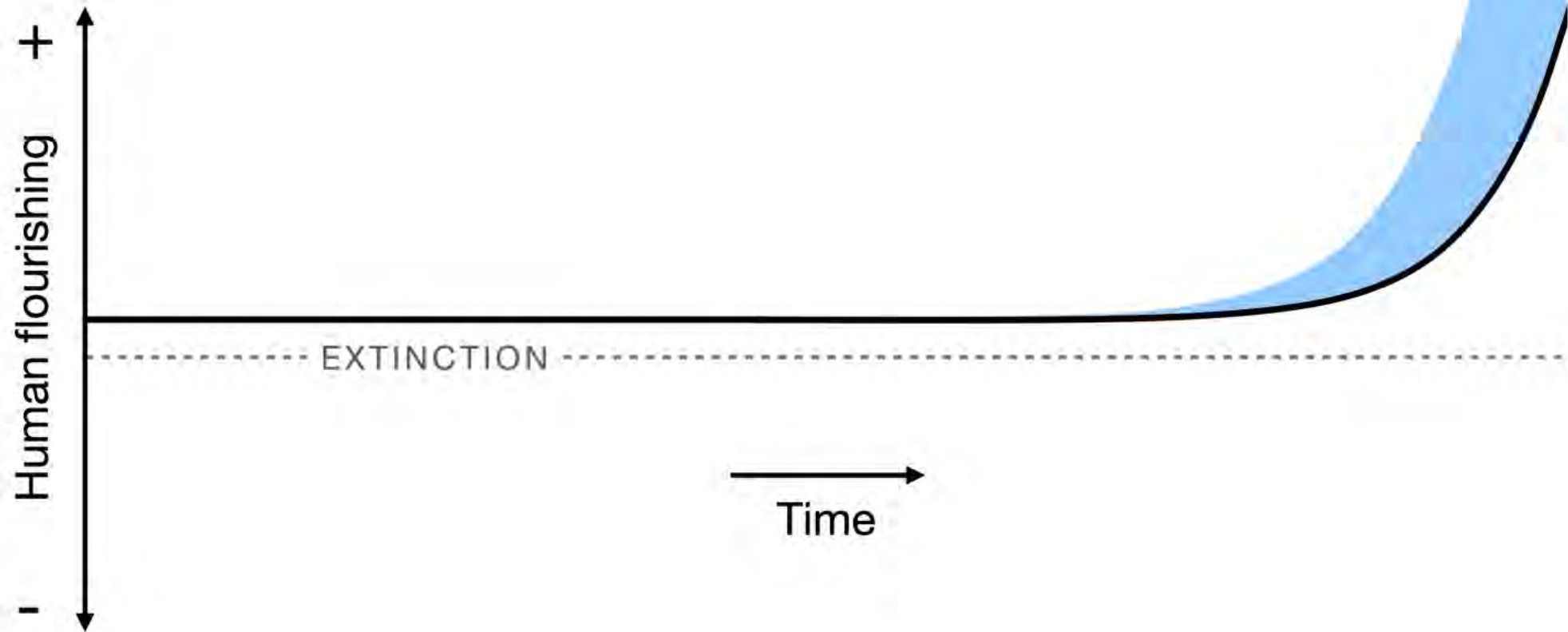
**Diversity produces
better solutions**



**Be strategic about
where you contribute**



Let's aim here →



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