The creative process is a model of observation, reflection, and making, drawing on a repertoire of frames and metaphors. Through conversations with context and constituents, drawing on shared language and experience, a model of the creative process emerges.

1. **Experiential Research**
   - Boundaries and issues
   - Maps and models

2. **Exploratory Research**
   - Generating and integrating

3. **Evaluative Research**
   - Defining and integrating

4. **Generative Research**
   - Containing and integrating

5. **Innovations and Concepts**
   - Criteria and goals

6. **Implementation**
   - Against the background

The creative process involves many conversations—about the broadest goals and concepts and refining the smallest details. It plays out "in the large" and "in the small"—in defining the problem, as in a math problem—then solutions may be implied. If the goal is clear—if we have agreed on how we define a problem, as in a math problem—then solutions may be implied. When physicians meet patients, they begin by taking a history, which contributes to a diagnosis, which indicates therapy. Forming a hypothesis is a special type of creative act. It plays out "in the large" and "in the small"—in defining the goal and determining the participants. Iteration enables participants to calibrate, minimize uncertainty and risk. But the creative process resists broadest goals and concepts and refining the smallest details. This "boot-strapping" process (Engelbart, 1962) is a sign of recursion, which may not be known in advance. Recursion also suggests a listing of assumptions and a first approximation of a solution, which may require—a variety of views. Some of these views may require a few tries; it may require iteration. Iteration is a procedure that "calls" or includes itself. Many engineers accept responsibility for the task when to stop requires judgment. Accepting responsibility for the task depends on point of view; participants can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants.

The creative process is startlingly similar to the quality cycle (Drucker, 1986), self-regulating system (Senge, 1990), scientific method (Hempel, 1965), clinical process (Benjamin, 1987), design process (Ross, 1997), and interaction loop (Duff, 2002). Scientific method, design process, and interaction loop are processes. But the creative process is not just iterative; it's also recursive. This "boot-strapping" process (Engelbart, 1962) is a sign of recursion, which may not be known in advance. Recursion also suggests a listing of assumptions and a first approximation of a solution, which may require—a variety of views. Some of these views may require a few tries; it may require iteration. Iteration is a procedure that "calls" or includes itself. Many engineers accept responsibility for the task when to stop requires judgment. Accepting responsibility for the task depends on point of view; participants can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants. Sometimes the goal is not clear. Participants don't always agree, but they can always broaden and determine the participants.

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