Tour through time and the Spectrum of Overwhelming Systems

...with ourselves as a guide through history
Going back in time, and widely within the primates

Homo ~2.6 Ma
Hominini ~6-8 Ma
Great Apes ~14 Ma
Apes ~25 Ma
Monkeys ~50 Ma
Primate ~80 Ma

See e.g.:
Primates: what’s special about them?

Technical *and* Social Intelligence – General Intelligence

Technical prowess: fruits and rainforests?

Stereoscopic vision to be able to handle the fruits and move through the 3-D forest: orienting the fruits for manipulation, browsing through them, and so on.

Hands: to be able to carry and manipulate the fruits by peeling them, removing seeds, getting past their defenses.

Color vision: to be able to tell the difference between different species of fruit and fruits in different stages of maturation. Color vision is highly developed in few species except in primates.

High intelligence: to be able to figure out how to handle a large range of different types and instances of fruits without the need to specialize strongly in certain types.

Good memory: to be able to memorize the locations of fruit patches in 3D and the paths between them.

Living together... The complex herd
... and the Trans-Complex *troop*
Dunbar’s relation between brain and group size

Next time... The Great Apes and early *Homo*

... among other things why they may live in small-ish groups.
Discussion points:

• What about non-primate species with regard to social and technical intelligence?

• We spoke about how Complicatedness hinges on alignment between the parts of the system. Reflect on alignment in herds and troops.

• What are the expressions of Complexity in the troop?