# Futures Triangle: The Interplay of Past, Present and Future

Structured reflection on futures > How do past, present and future interrelate?

Given examples in the explanation are quite general, you are expected to find them more specifically related to your topic.

Megatrends like demographics or digitalisation can be present in your map, but give a more detailed description what related to this trend affects your problem field or topic.
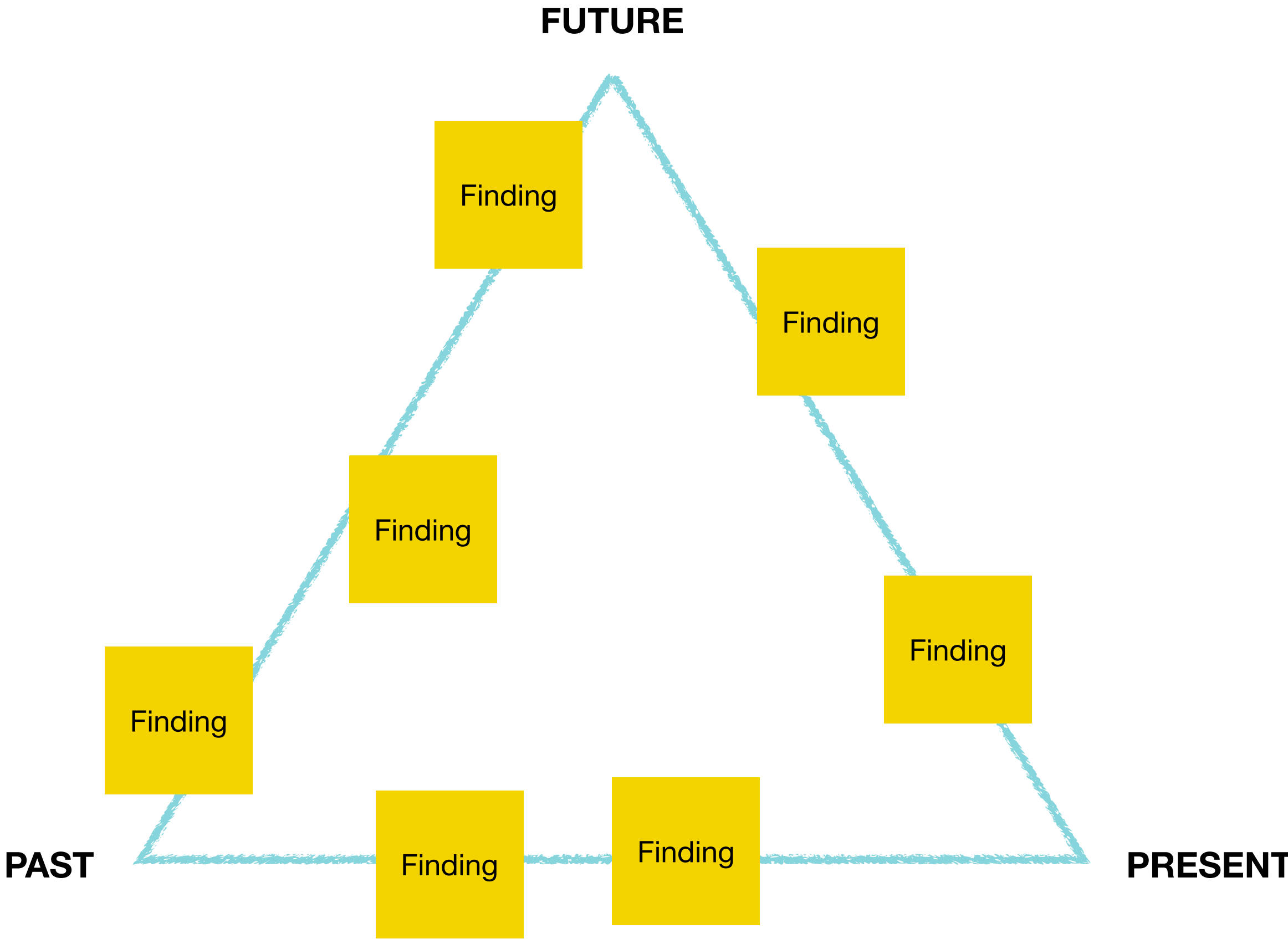
Push of the PRESENT= the tailwind that inevitably propels you forwards
Tailwind in the form of events and things in the present.
(For example: new technology (electric mobility, machine learning, synthetic biology and CRISPR-Cas9), demographic change, globalisation, Increased occurrence of natural disasters, Covid-19, etc)).

Pull of the FUTURE = you're hanging on to something that is dragging you along
Tug on a rope in the form of visionary or imagined images of the future.
(For example: climate change and meeting climate-change targets, the EU's New Green Deal, the colonisation of Mars).

Weight of the PAST = the baggage that you carry with you
A weight on you shoulders in the form of past events and experiences.
(For example: good and bad traditions, narratives passed down through generations, World wars, the refugee crisis, the consequences of burning fossil fuels, data protection).

A dispersal of interesting findings in all three corners is a sign of balanced research.