

CE102: Environmental Studies

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Explosion of Environmental Issues

From Few to Many, From Local to Global

Science Response

Response of Regulatory Agencies



Exploration of Environmental Issues

Spatial Scales

- Micro-scale (10 to 100 m) and Middle-scale (100 to 500 m)
- Neighborhood scale (500 m to 4 km)
- Urban scale (4 to 100 km to 1,000 km)
- Continental scale (1,000 to 10,000 km)
- Global scale (> 10,000 km)

EXTENT OF IMPACT

LOCAL

EPIDEMICS,
BACTERIAL
CONTAMINATION

SEWAGE, ORGANIC CARBON,
OXYGEN DEPLETION

1900 '10 '20 '30 '40 '50 '60 YEAR

SCIENCE
RESPONSE

SANITARY ENGINEERING
Chemistry, Microbiology



REGULATORY
ACTION

U.S.-CANADA
BOUNDARY
WATERS TREATY (1909)

LOCAL
SEWERAGE & SANITATION
REGULATIONS

REGIONAL

EXTENT OF IMPACT

SCIENCE
RESPONSE

REGULATORY ACTION

1950 '60 '70 '80 '90 2000 YEAR

LIMNOLOGY

Hydrobiology (phytoplankton, zooplankton, fish), chemistry, hydrology

GLWQ AGREEMENT (1972 & 1978)
TERTIARY SEWAGE TREATMENT
P-BAN IN DETERGENTS

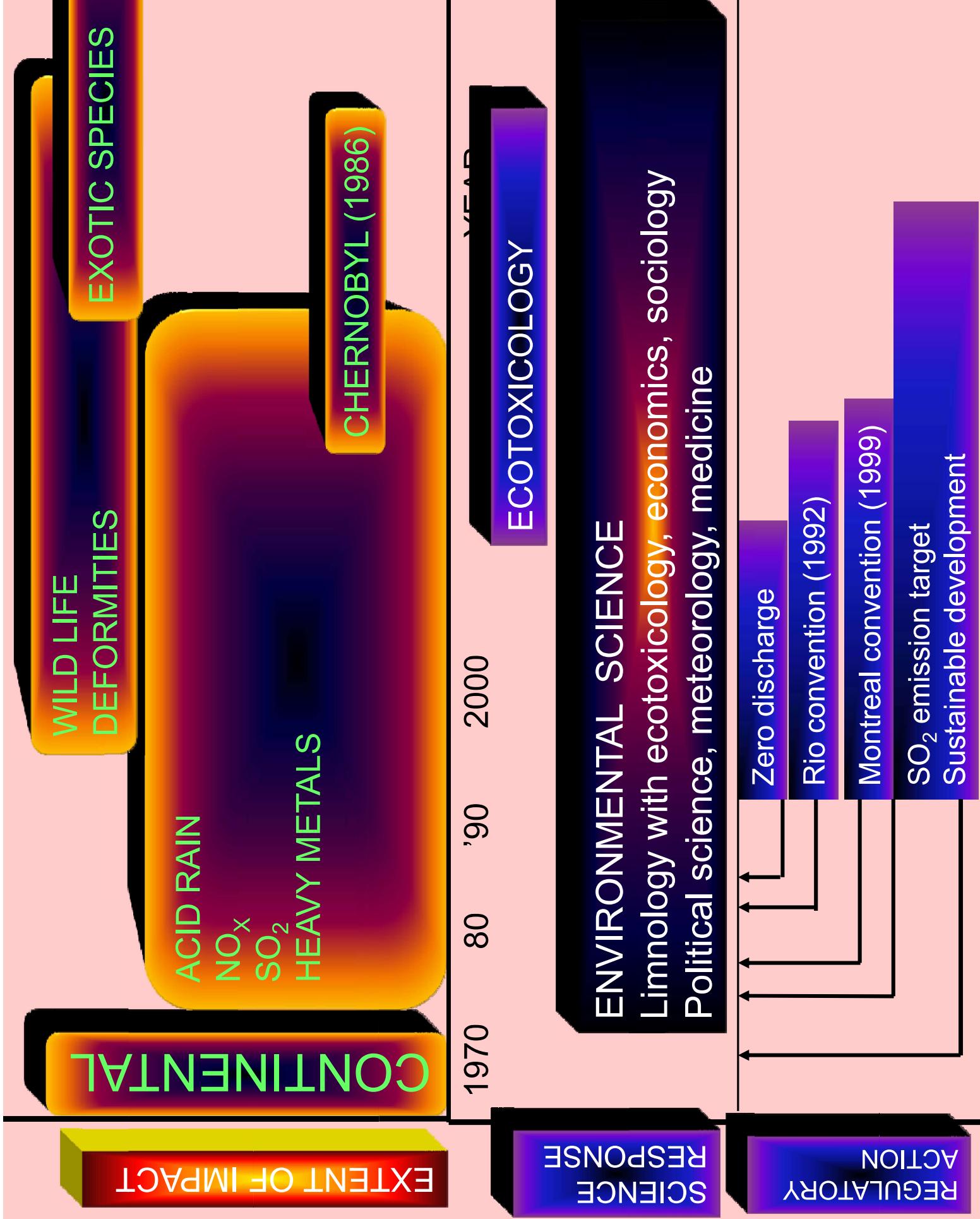
METAL CONTAMINATION

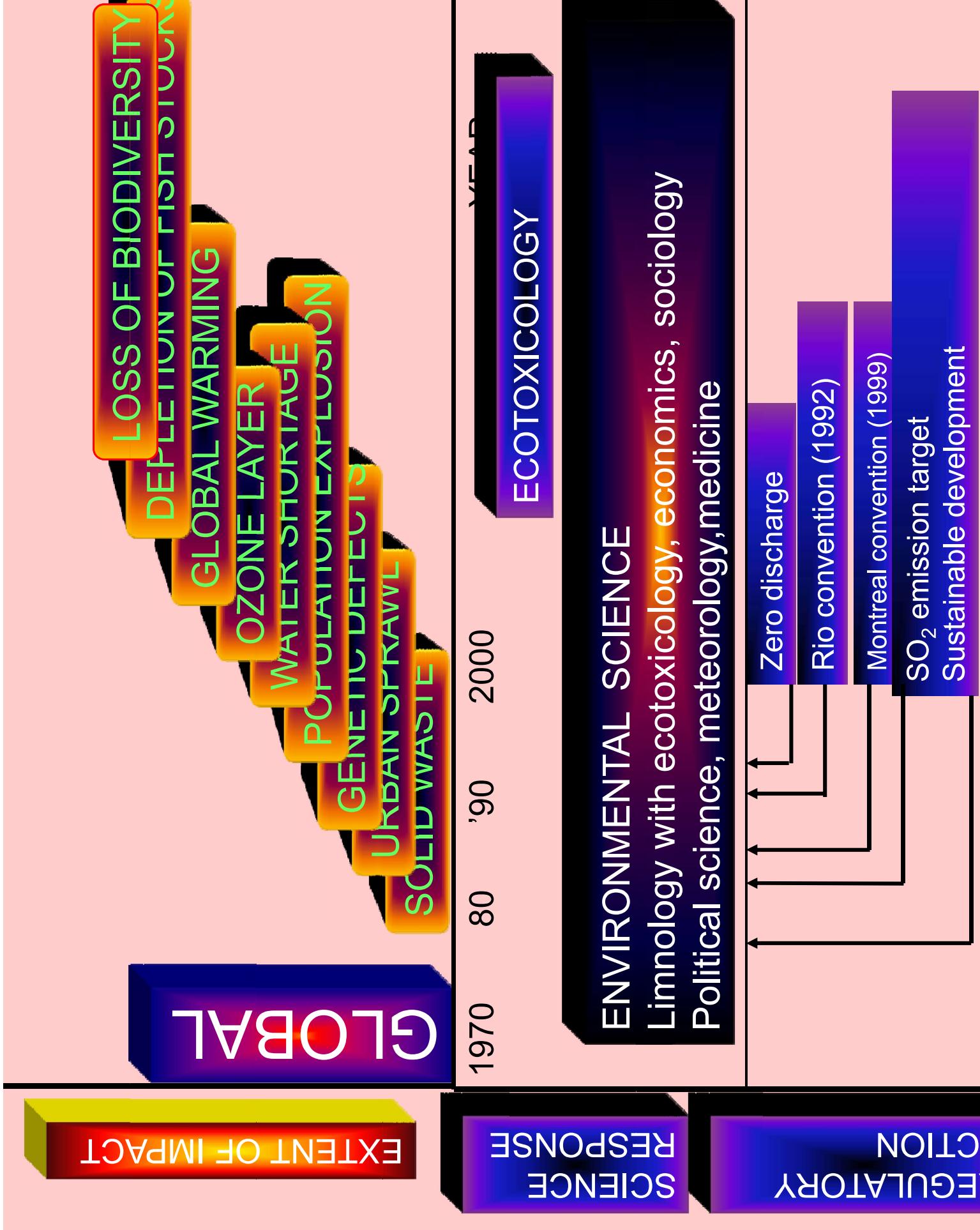
LARGE DIVERSIONS
WATER DIVERSIONS

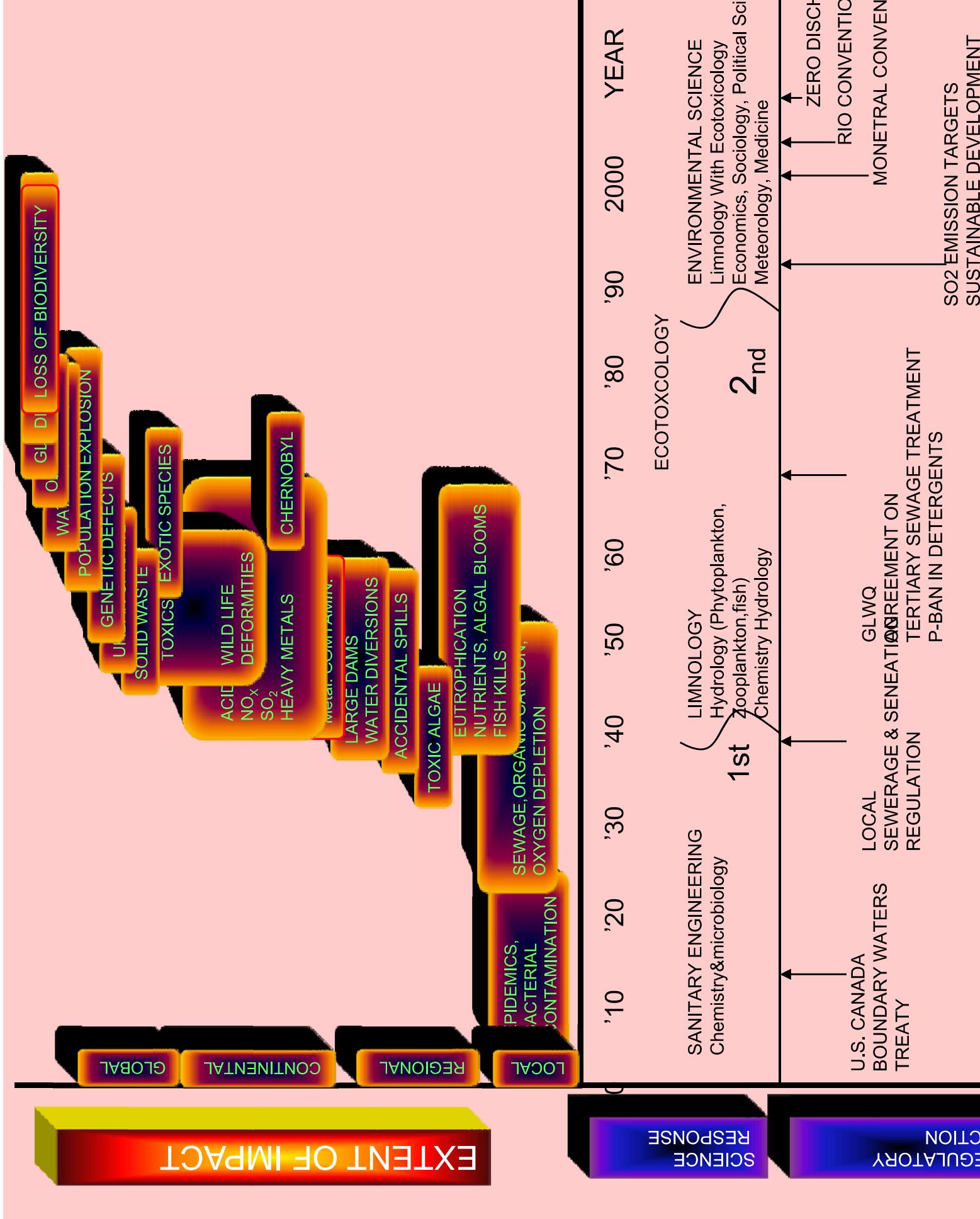
ACCIDENTAL SPILLS

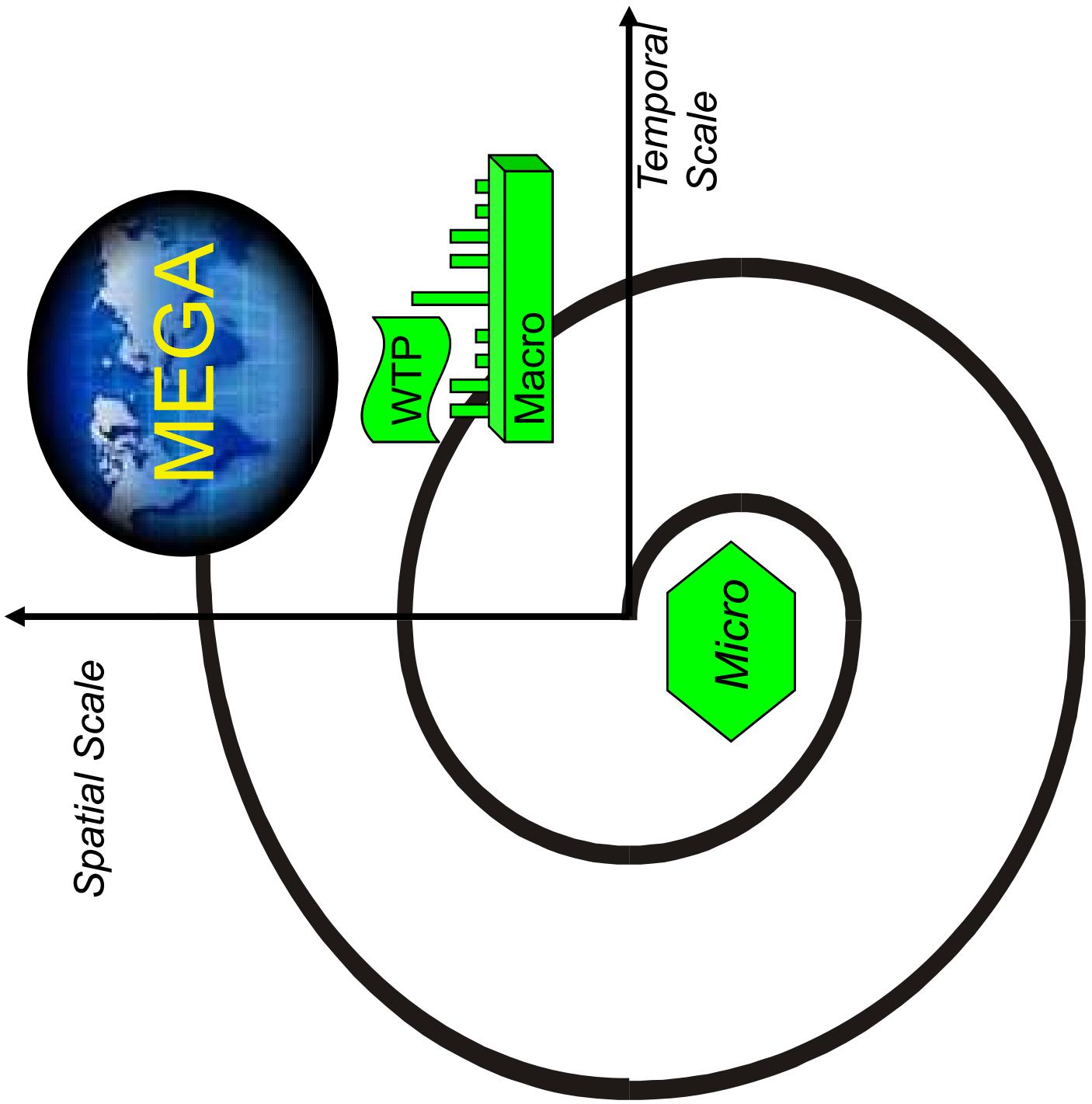
TOXIC ALGAE

EUTROPHICATION
NUTRIENTS, ALGAL BLOOMS
FISH KILLS





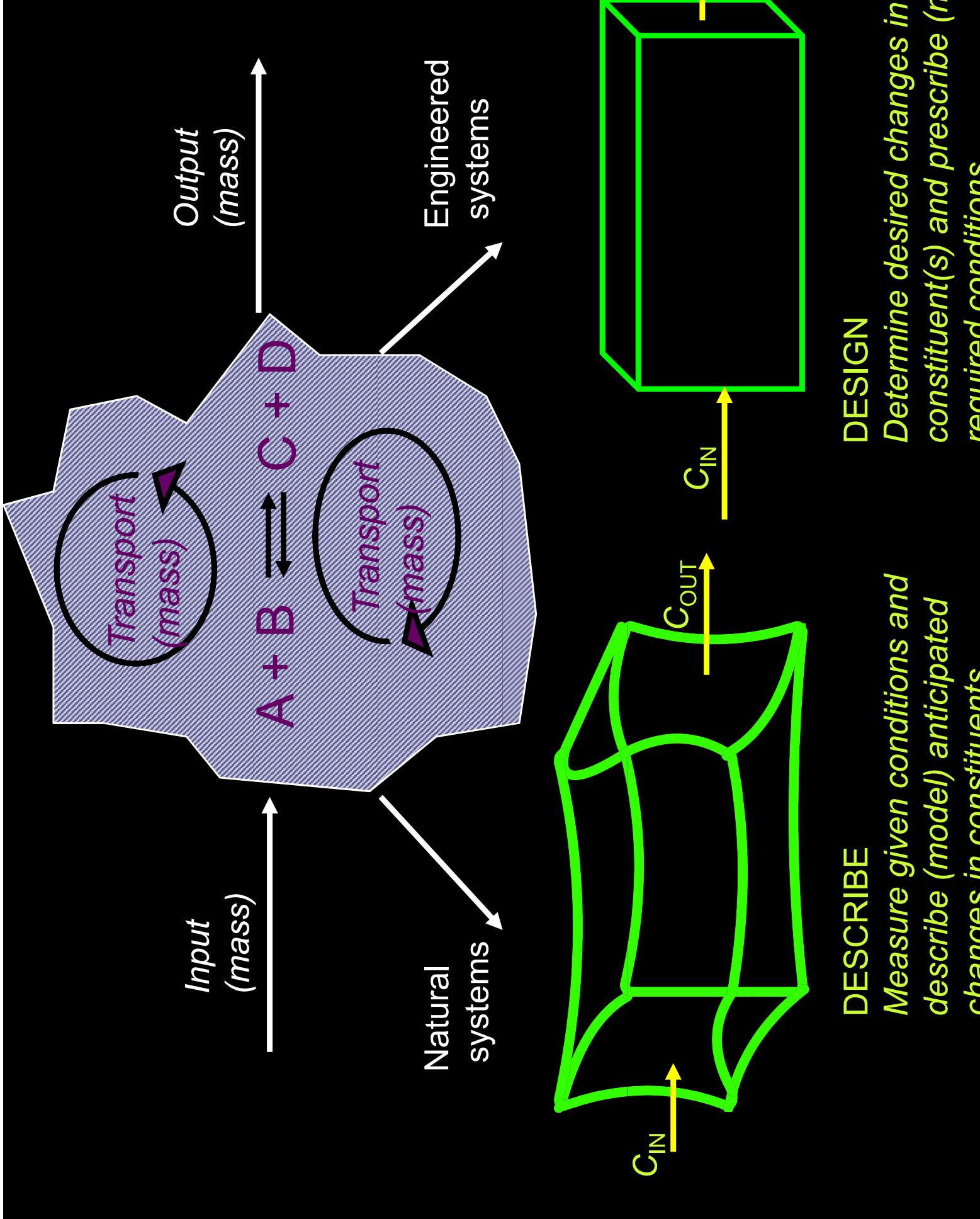




The environment is in fact a continuum of systems involving similar processes over a remarkable range of temporal and spatial scales

Environmental Systems

- Natural
 - We are concerned with understanding a
describing changes
- Engineered
 - We are concerned with the selection of conditions
required to effectively accomplish specific
changes



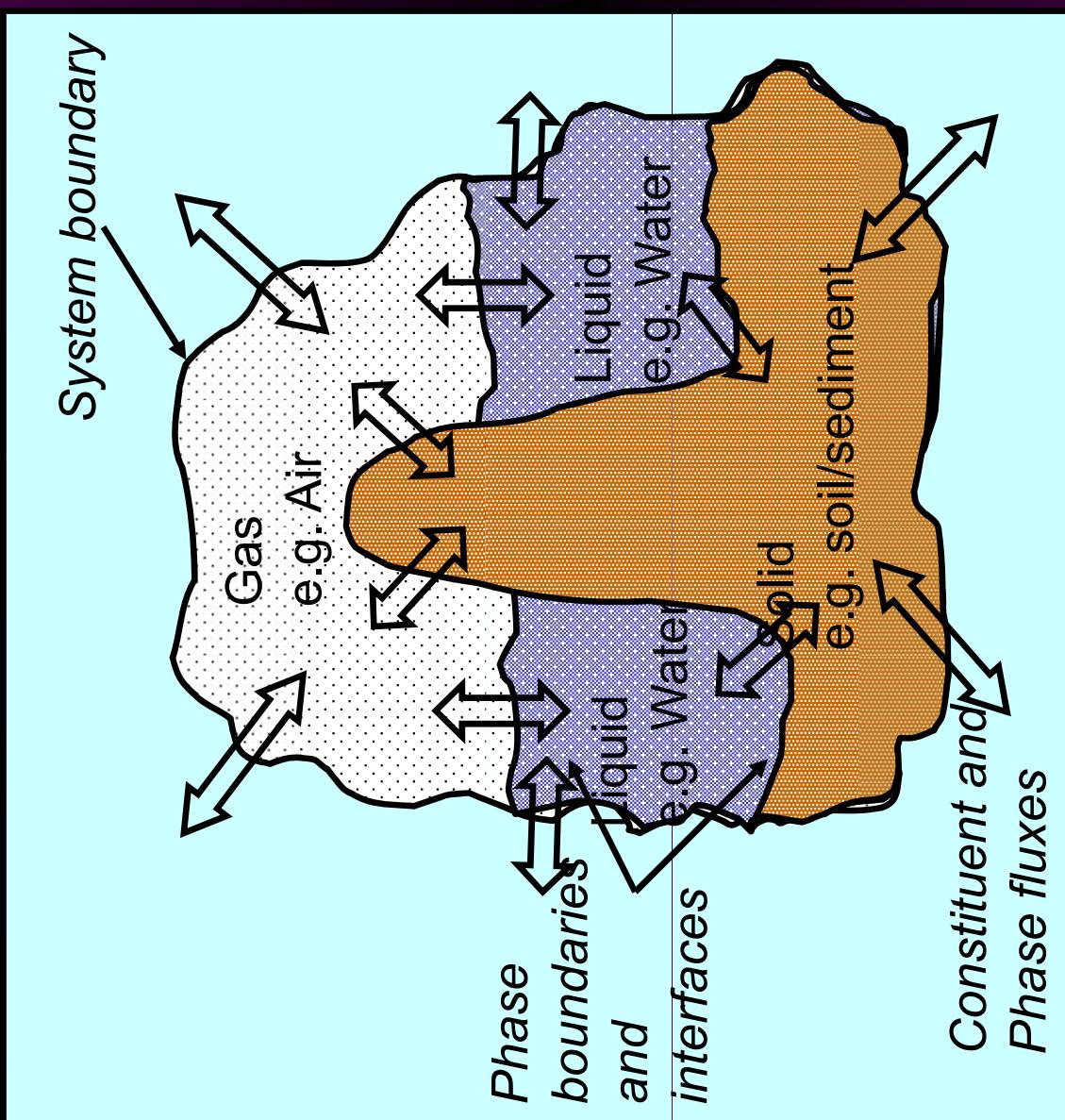
Natural & Engineered Environmental Systems

- While the objectives, information requirements & expected results for natural and engineered systems usually quite different, the underlying processes & principles of change are essentially the same. Similar methods by which the processes are analyzed & described should be fundamentally the same.
- Successful approaches to system characterization process analyses, and quantification of components & constituent changes must in every instance, be based the same principles and precepts of process dynamics

Character and Scale – Natural & Engineering Environmental Systems

- At the most elementary level we distinguish the character of a system on the basis of its scale.
- By character we mean the properties of a system and the nature of changes that occur within it.
- By scale we mean the size (spatial scale) of the system and the time (temporal scale) together determine the boundaries within which over which the changes of interest occur

Generalized Multiphase System of Gaseous, Liquid and Solid Phases



It is important to note, however, that composition of each phase depicted in the figure changes as a result of phase reductions and additions may occur not only through reactions among constituents within the phase, but also by movement of mass across its boundaries accumulations or depletion within interfaces at the phase boundaries.

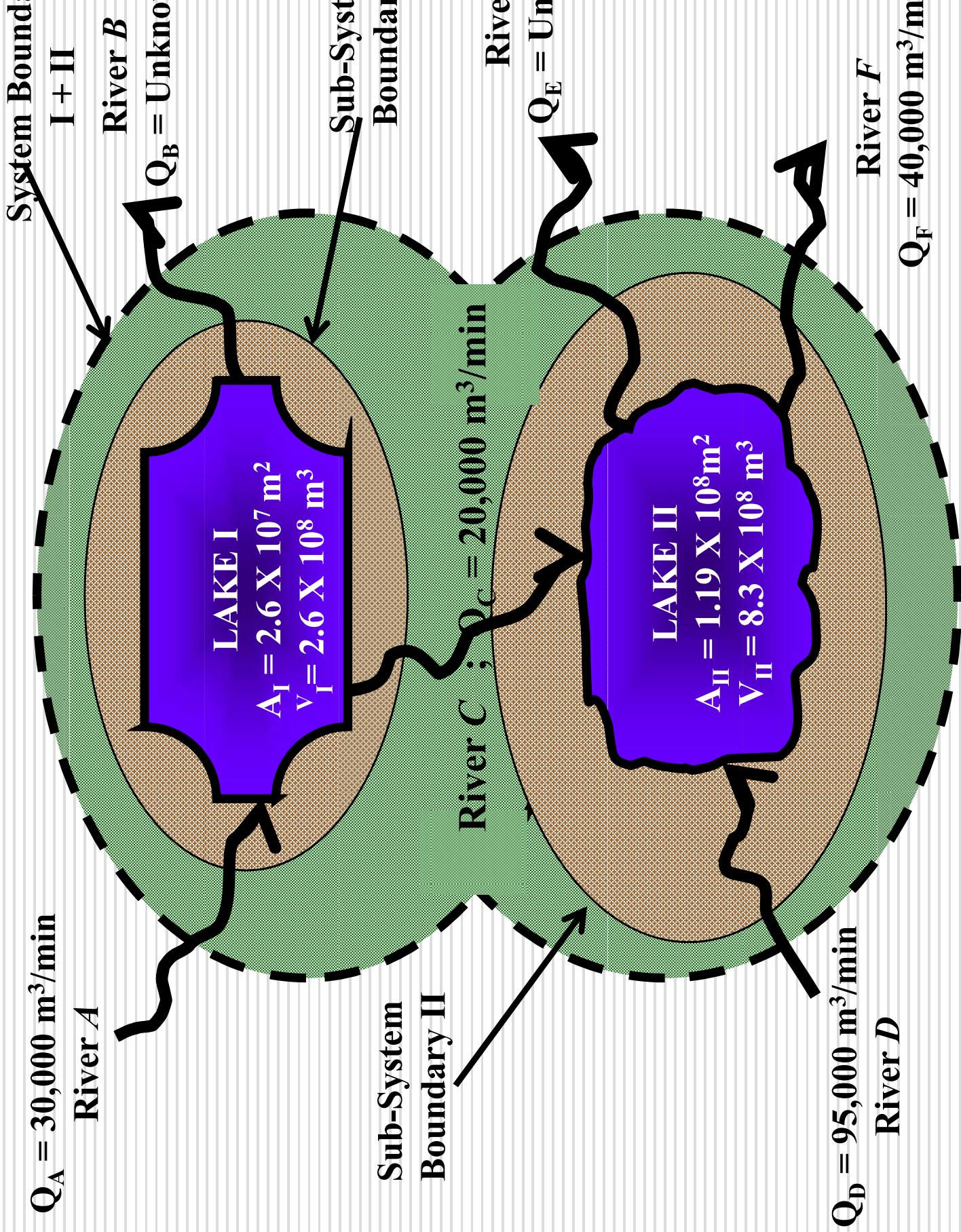
Environmental Systems – Analysis Approach

- All systems are comprised by subsystems; mega-scale systems by macro-scale systems, and micro-scale systems by microsystems. This is why many processes can be influenced at macroscopic scale by similar microscopic mass phenomenon.
- The most fundamental analysis of any system has its origin ultimately at the molecular level, and must provide that there is continuity of principles derived from this scale to the full scale of the system.

Environmental System Characterization

- We will begin to develop rigorous mass and material balance approaches to system characterization and modeling
- These approaches can be extended to analysis and design systems involving increasingly more complex transport transformation phenomena
- Before embarking on this, let us first consider a relatively simple environmental system and several sets of different circumstances that lend themselves to intuitive and common sense approaches to material balance based “modeling”
- In this we will learn some basic ground rules. Mostly in the *Intuition and Common Sense*

Intuition and Common Sense



Objective:

Find Q_B and Q_E

Volumes of lakes are constant

- i) Define boundary : \rightarrow system boundary Lake I + Lake II
- ii) Mass balance of water

$$Q_A + Q_D = Q_B + Q_E + Q_F$$

steady state condition \rightarrow temporarily stable condition

Otherwise

$$(Q_A + Q_D) - (Q_B + Q_E + Q_F) = d/dt (V_I + V_{II})$$

- iii) Redefine boundaries:

Lake I – subsystem $\rightarrow Q_B = Q_A - Q_C = 10,000 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$

Lake II – subsystem $\rightarrow Q_E = Q_C + Q_D - Q_F = 75,000 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$

What allows us to write above equation is that mass concentration water in water is constant and equal to its density ρ_w

$$Q_A \rho_w - Q_B \rho_w - Q_C \rho_w = 0$$

Assumption \rightarrow System involved incurred no change in its properties

- Let us complicate by acknowledging that evaporation may be important/significant ($r = 0.5 \text{ cm/d} \rightarrow \text{cm}^3/\text{cm}^2/\text{d}$)
- New sink term
 - $\rightarrow Q_A \rho_w - Q_B \rho_w - Q_C \rho_w - EV_I \rho_w = 0$
 - ($EV_I \rho_w = 0.5 / 100 \times 1440 \text{ m/min} \times 2.6 \times 10^7 \text{ m}^2 = 90 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$)
 - $\rightarrow Q_C \rho_w + Q_D \rho_w - Q_E \rho_w - Q_F \rho_w - EV_{II} \rho_w = 0$
 - ($EV_{II} \rho_w = 0.5 / 100 \times 1440 \times 1.19 \times 10^8 = 413 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$)
 - $Q_B = 9910 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$
 - $Q_E = 74,600 \text{ m}^3/\text{min}$

- Constituent mass balance
- Boundary same as before
- Chloride \rightarrow no transformation \rightarrow conservative
- Cl⁻ is not evaporated
- $C_A(Cl^-) = 40 \text{ mg/L}; C_D(Cl^-) = 60 \text{ mg/L}$
- \rightarrow Assumption $C_B(Cl^-) = C_C(Cl^-)$ (complete mixing)

$$C_B(Cl) = C_C(Cl) = \frac{30,000 \times 40}{9,910 + 20,000} = 40.1 \text{ mg/L}$$

$$C_E(Cl) = C_F(Cl) = \frac{(20,000 \times 40.1) + (95,000 \times 60)}{74,587 + 40,000} = 56.7 \text{ mg/L}$$

In reviewing the constructs of these intuitive “models”, note and contemplate these several important points:

1. Proper selection of boundaries can simplify solutions by reducing the number of unknowns
2. A separate and perhaps somewhat different material balance equation must be written for each component of interest
3. All transport and transformation processes should be first identified in physical context and then translated into equations
4. Any and all assumptions you are making should be identified, stated explicitly and analyzed for merit, and
5. Balanced equations should be developed in terms of general variables first, checked for dimensional consistency, and then quantified with numerical parameter values having appropriate units.

A Natural Environmental Macroscale System

