

1 Dependency Links: Re-visited

As a group, review the system diagram below. Describe a stock-flow model you think this could represent.

- What is the stock? Include reasonable units.
- What are the flows? Include reasonable units.
- Are there factors not currently represented in this diagram that you think would have a significant impact on the value of the stock?

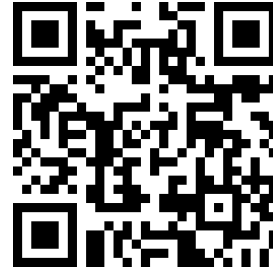
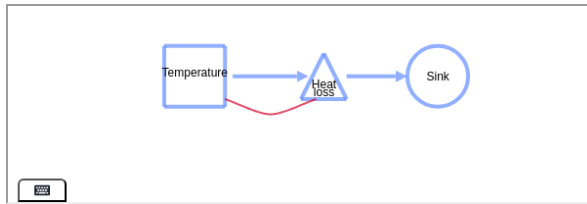


Figure 1.1 A system diagram with a single stock, single outflow, and single dependency link.

2 Parameters in System Diagrams

Let's practice recognizing potential parameters in stock-flow models and representing them in a system diagram. For each stock-flow model below, identify any parameters you think might be present. Then create a system diagram including those parameters.

Use the interactive as needed if it is helpful to recall the various components that comprise a system diagram.

- **Stock:** Population of a community

Flows: Births, deaths

Add Stock
Add Flow
Add Rate
Add Parameter
Add Dependency Link

Add Source/Sink
Add Label

Delete Last Component



Figure: A blank space to construct a system diagram.

- **Stock:** Indoor temperature

Flows: Furnace, heat loss

Add Stock
Add Flow
Add Rate
Add Parameter
Add Dependency Link

Add Source/Sink
Add Label

Delete Last Component

Figure: A blank space to construct a system diagram.

- **Stock:** Energy in solar panels

Flows: Sun, energy use

Add Stock
Add Flow
Add Rate
Add Parameter
Add Dependency Link

Add Source/Sink
Add Label

Delete Last Component

3 Parameters and Equilibrium Values

Let's practice using parameters in equilibrium calculations. For each stock-flow model below,

- Sketch a system diagram on paper with the indicated parameters and dependency links.
- Determine the parameter value that will result in the desired equilibrium value.

1. **Stock:** Population of a community

Flows: Births, deaths

Parameters: Carrying capacity

Rates:

- Death rate is constant at 1,000 individuals per year
- Birth rate (B) depends on the population (P) and the carrying capacity (C):

$$B = 0.25P \left(1 - \frac{P}{C} \right)$$

Desired Equilibrium: $P = 100,000$

2. **Stock:** Temperature in a greenhouse

Flows: Sun, heat loss

Parameters: Outside temperature, thickness of greenhouse material

Rates:

- Temperature rate is constant from the sun at 15° fahrenheit per day
- Heat loss (H) depends on the inside temperature (T), the outside temperature (A), and the thickness in milimeters of the greenhouse material (K):

$$H = \frac{6(T - A)}{K}$$

Desired Equilibrium: $T = 75^\circ$ fahrenheit, given that the outside temperature is 65° fahrenheit