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# National security implications from tipping events centered in Arctic waters



## PRESENTED BY

Diana Bull, Kara Peterson, George Backus, Jasper Hardesty, Amy Powell  
Asmeret Naugle, & William Hart

## PRESENTATION FOR

The Effects of Climate Change on the World's Oceans  
Session 16: Climate, oceans and security  
June 4<sup>th</sup> 2018



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# Motivating Question: When, where, and to what degree might national security risks arise around the world from changes in Arctic waters?

## Overview of connections

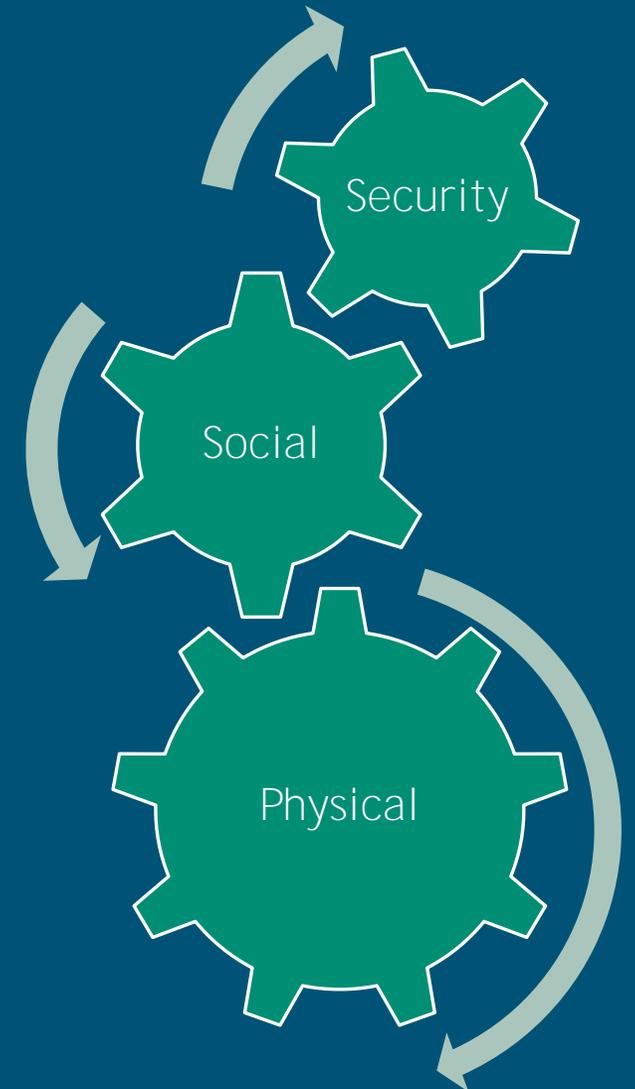
- Arctic changes rippling into global climate
- Systems approach
- Sources of uncertainty

## Physical Modeling

- State of the Art
- Needed Enhancements

## Anticipatory Security and Climate Decision Tool

- Climate exacerbating global security concerns
- Anticipatory framework to test risk mitigation techniques



# The Arctic Environment is Rapidly Changing



The Arctic is warming at **2-3 times** the rate of the rest of the US

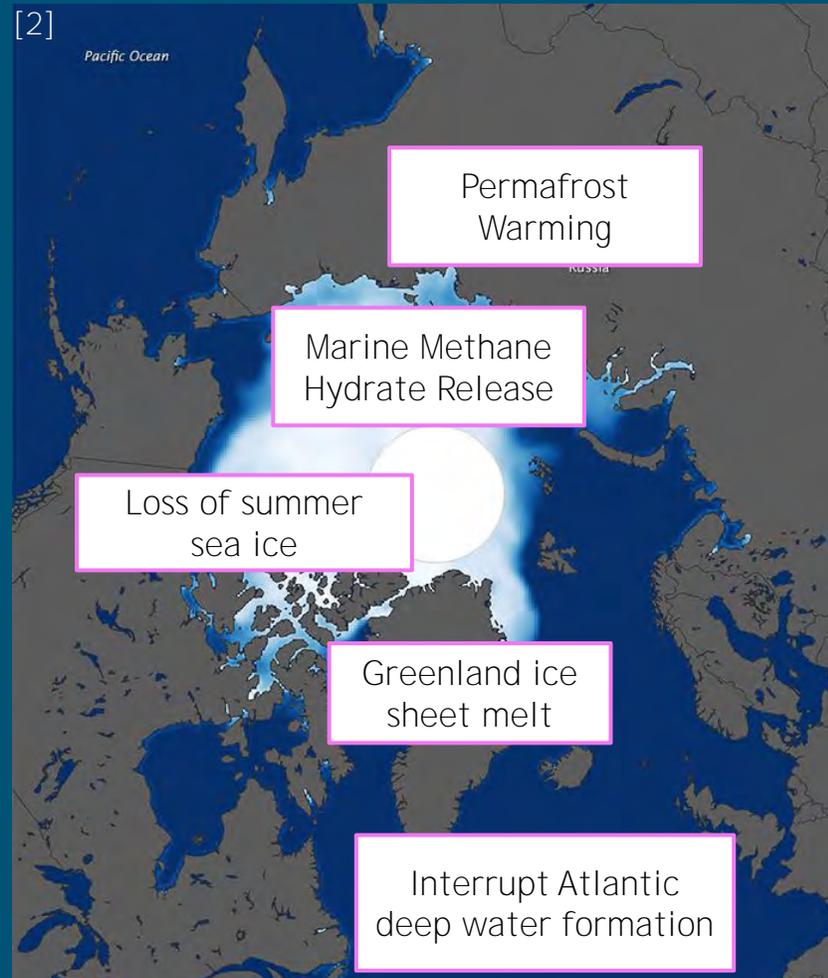


What happens in the Arctic **does not** stay in the Arctic

# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



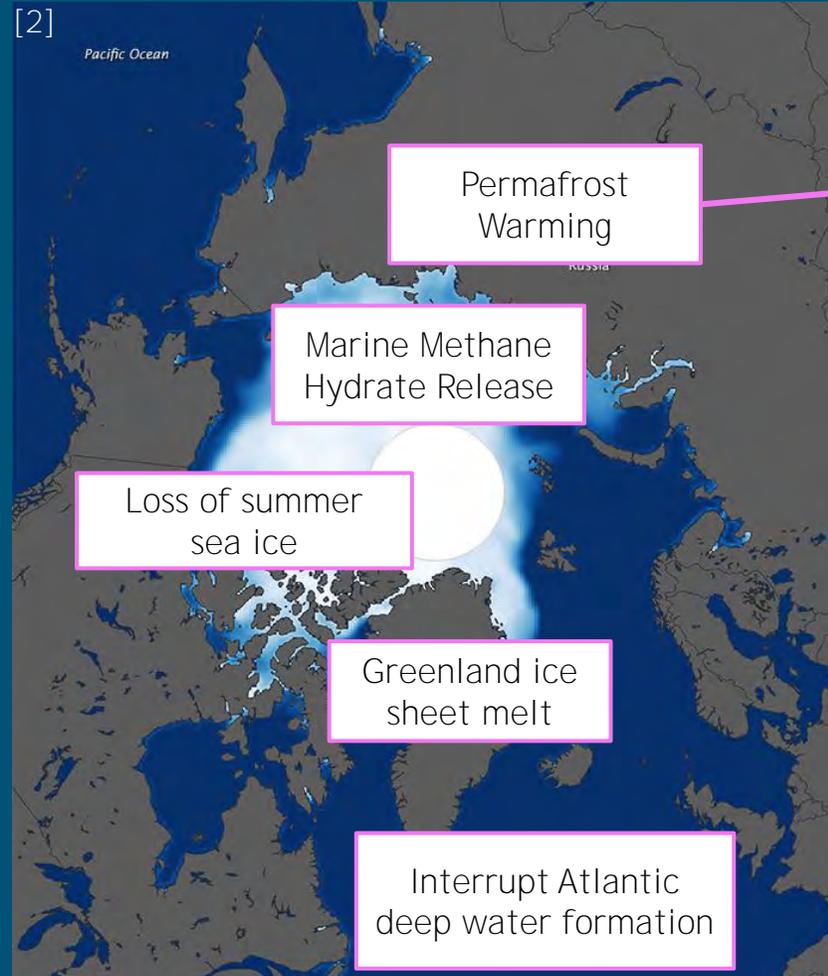
## Changes in the Arctic Impact the Entire Earth System [1]



# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



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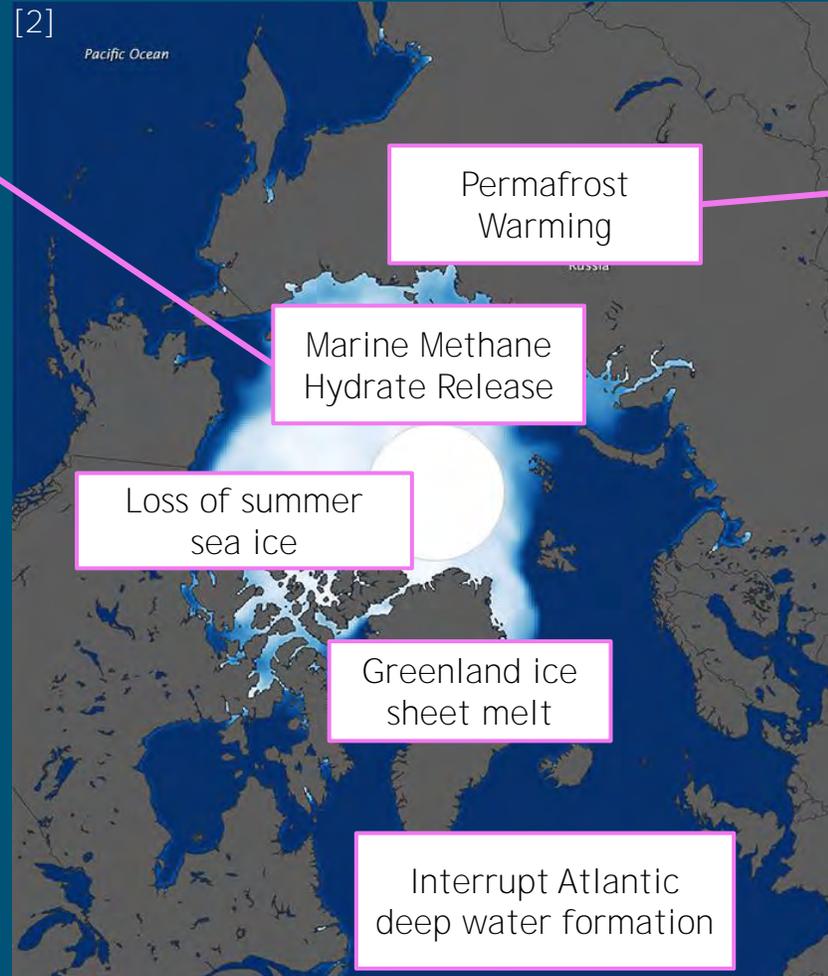
*Global Effects:*  
Significant greenhouse gas release;  
changes in hydrology/nutrient  
loads; increased erosion nutrient  
loading; ocean acidification;  
potential release of ancient  
pathogens [3,4,5,6,7,8]

# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



## Changes in the Arctic Impact the Entire Earth System [1]

*Global Effects:*  
Significant greenhouse gas release [9,10]

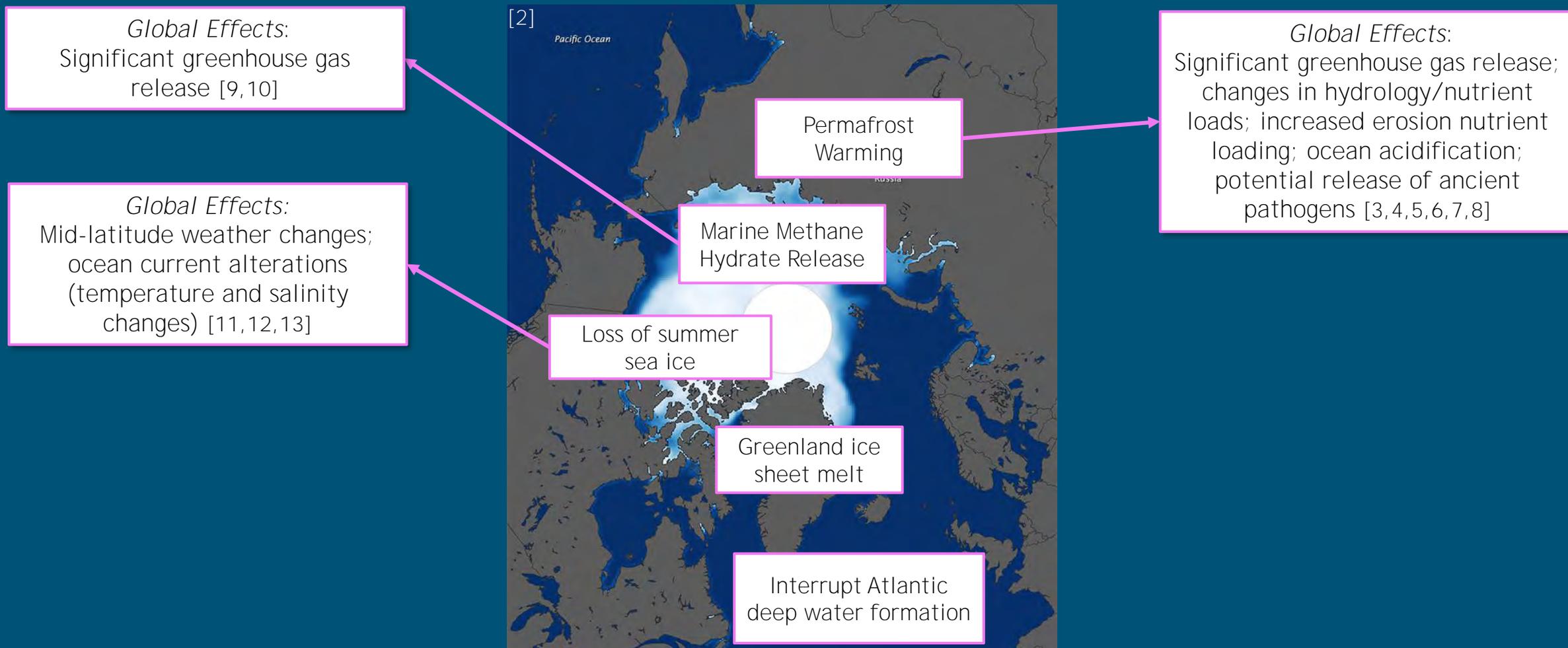


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# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



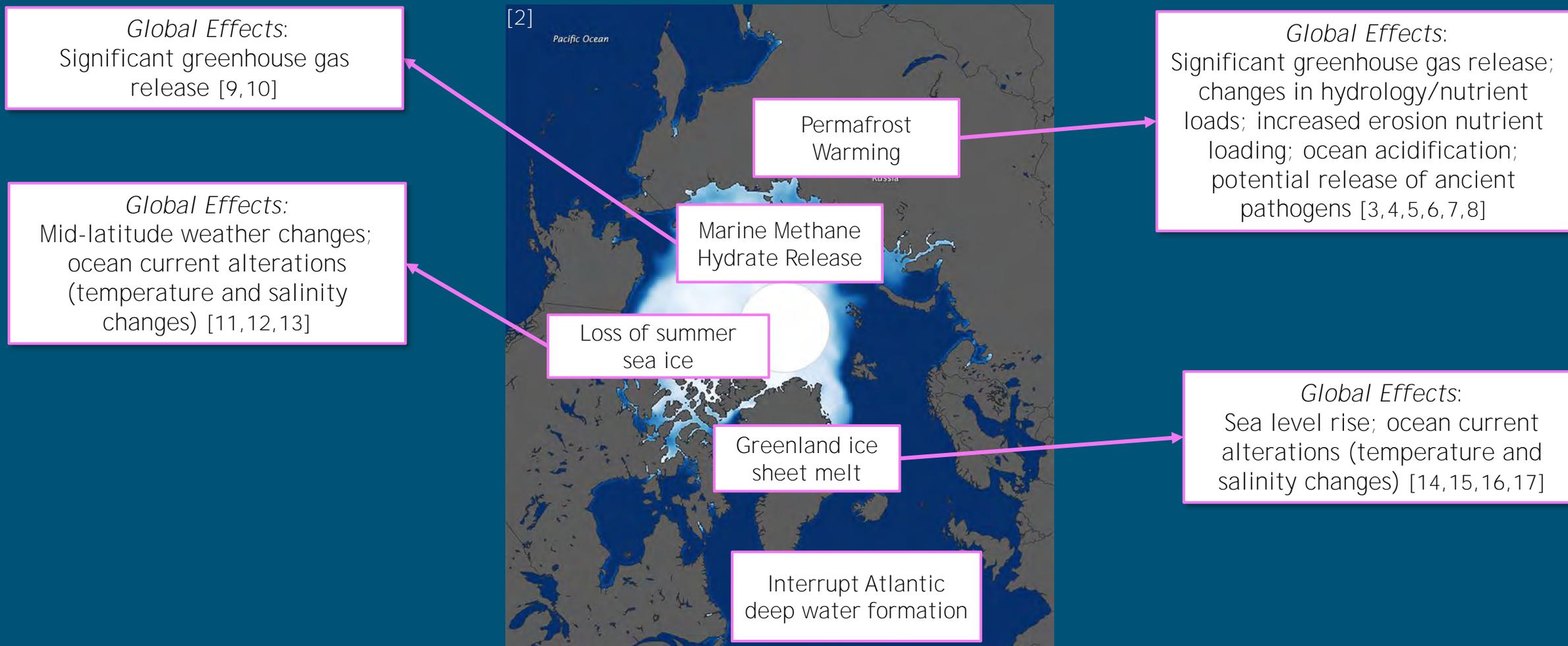
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# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



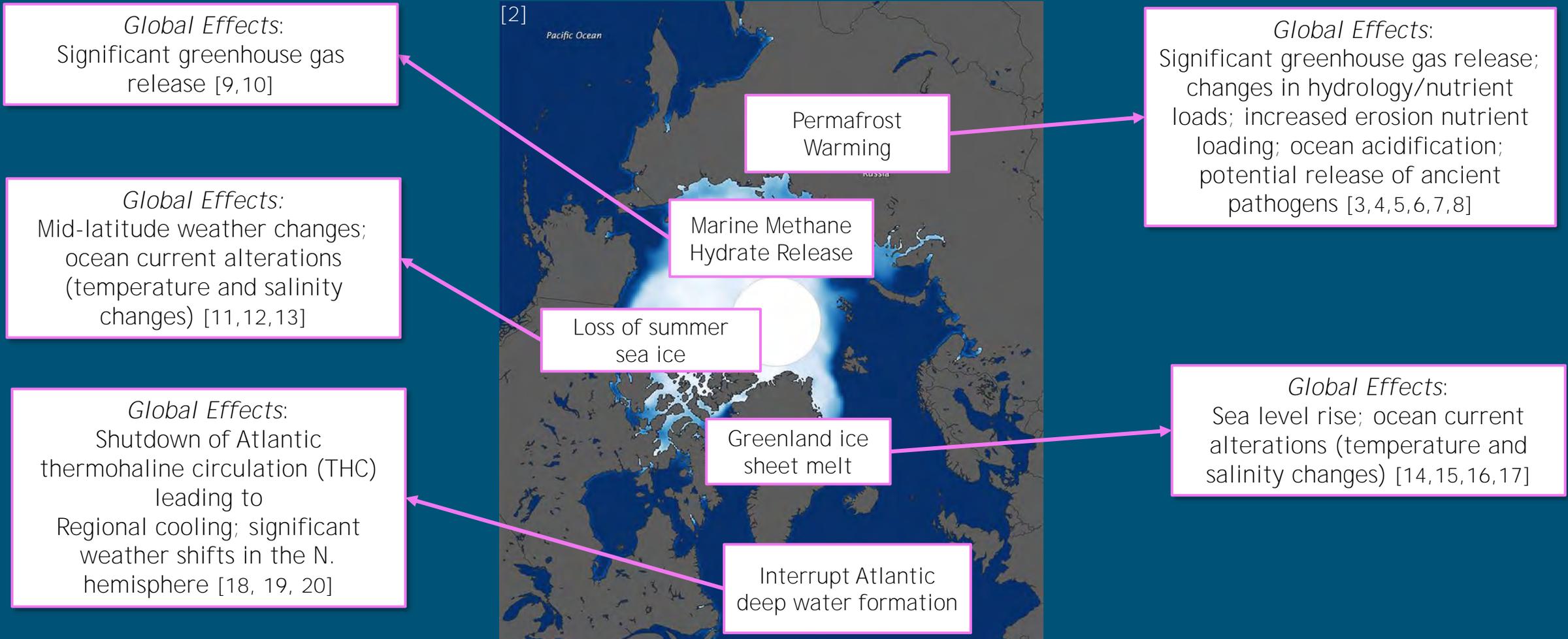
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# Regional Changes Lead to Global Effects: Environmental Connection



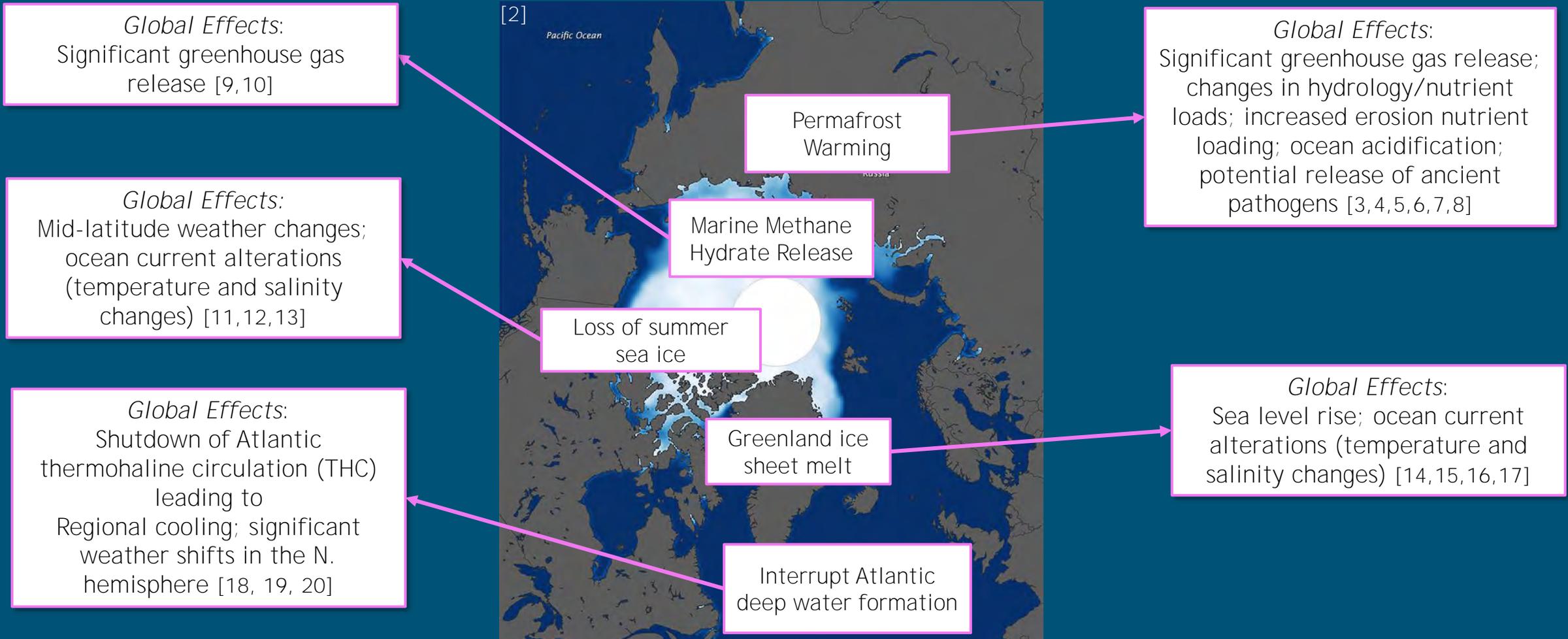
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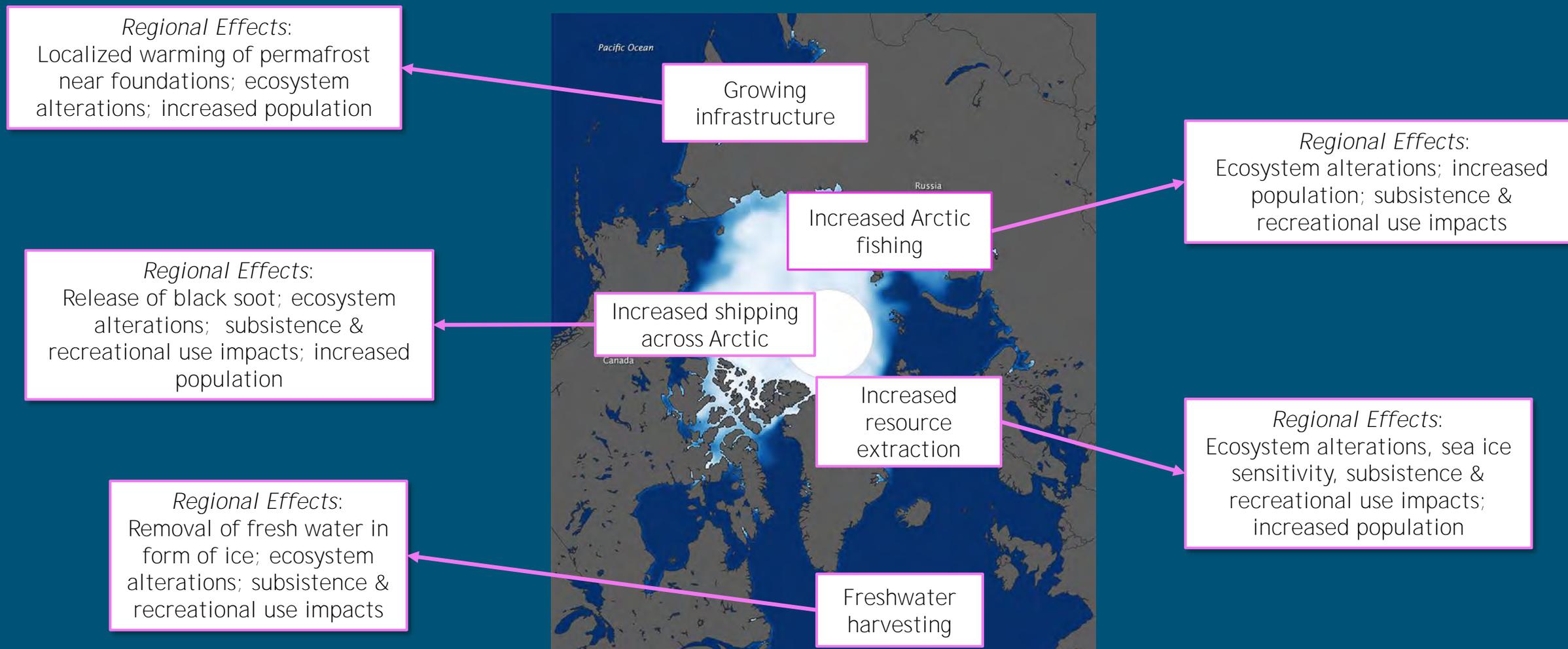


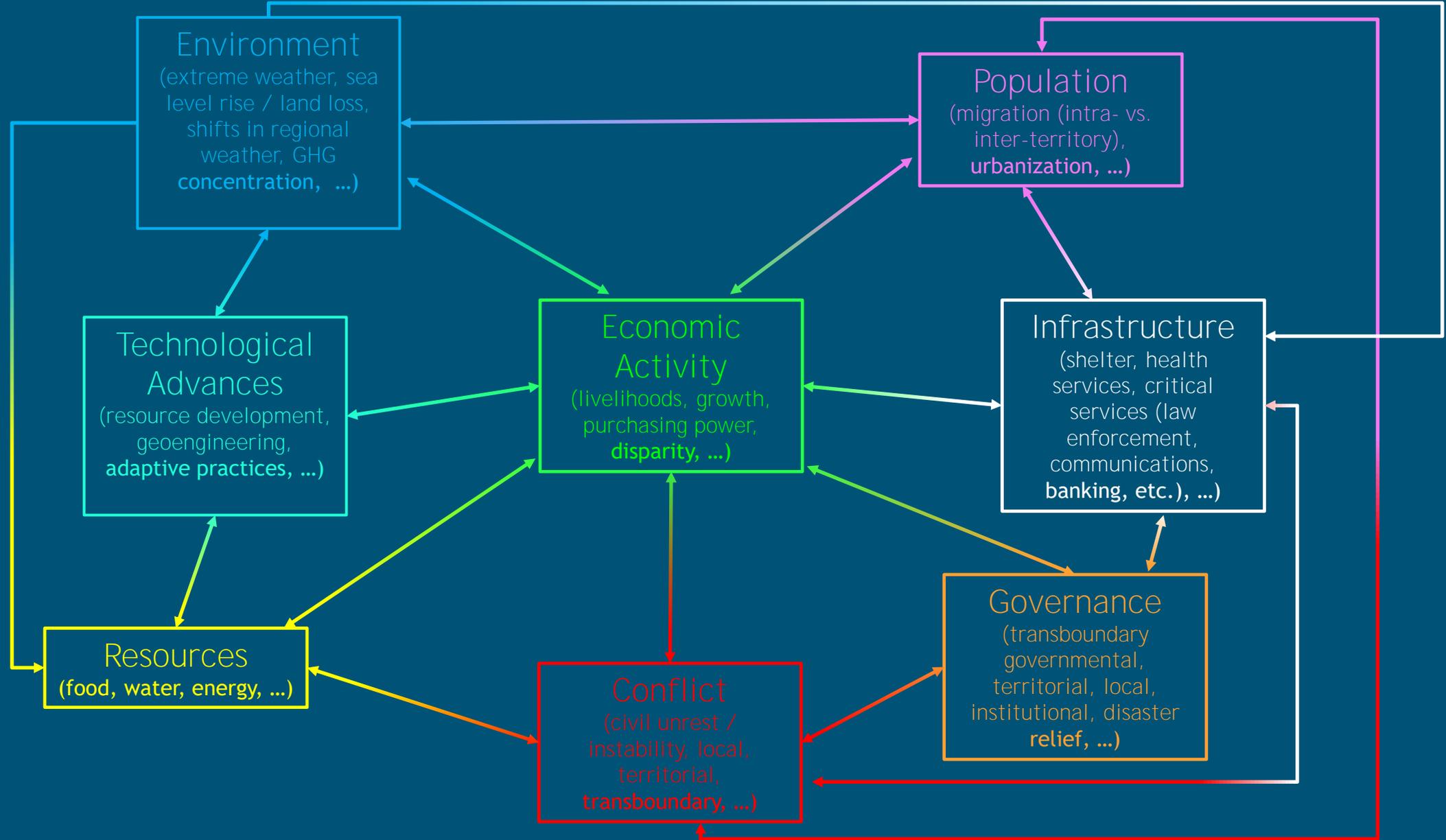
*“Given the huge complexity of comprehensive process-based climate models ...the uncertainties associated with the possible future occurrence of abrupt shifts are large and not well quantified.” [21]*

# Socio-economic-political Changes Lead to Regional Effects: System Connection



## Activity in the Arctic Impacts Environmental Conditions





# System Analysis: Sources of Uncertainty



## Physical Systems

- Inaccurate or incomplete models
  - Highly complex
  - Inability to include all contributing factors
    - Lack of knowledge about contributing factors
    - Inherent uncertainty in contributing factors (for example, weather)
  - Resolution requirements (spatial scales & computing power)
- Availability of calibration/validation data
- Strong dependence on initial conditions

## Socio-economic-political Systems

- Looser concepts of causality
- Lack of universality
- Inaccurate or incomplete models
  - Highly complex
  - Inability to include all contributing factors
    - Lack of knowledge about contributing factors
    - Inherent uncertainty in contributing factors
- Availability of calibration/validation data
- Strong dependence on history and initial conditions

## Full System

- Mixed-modeling approach
  - Physical sciences with social sciences
  - Models may utilize different methods
  - All sub-models have associated uncertainty
- Multi –spatial and –temporal scales
  - Feedbacks between systems, inclusive of delays, spanning multiple scales
- Increased complexity can lead to difficulty in interpretation
- Validation increases in difficulty
  - Validation of sub-models is insufficient – full system model must also be validated



# Approach towards Physical Environment Systems

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## Earth System Models

Understand the dynamics of the physical components of the climate system: atmosphere, ocean, land, ice (sea and land), and biogeochemical cycles.

Goal: decadal & centurial predictions of global climate

- Spatial Resolution: 100's of km
- Physics: Simplified parameterizations of unresolved processes appropriate to spatial scale
- Examples: E3SM (DOE), CESM (NCAR), NESM (Navy), GFDL (NOAA)

Challenges: data processing / analytics; computational expense limits resolution and ability to capture important small-scale processes

## Regional Models

Often, high resolution versions of the ESMs in a geographically limited area

Goal: seasonal & decadal predictions of region

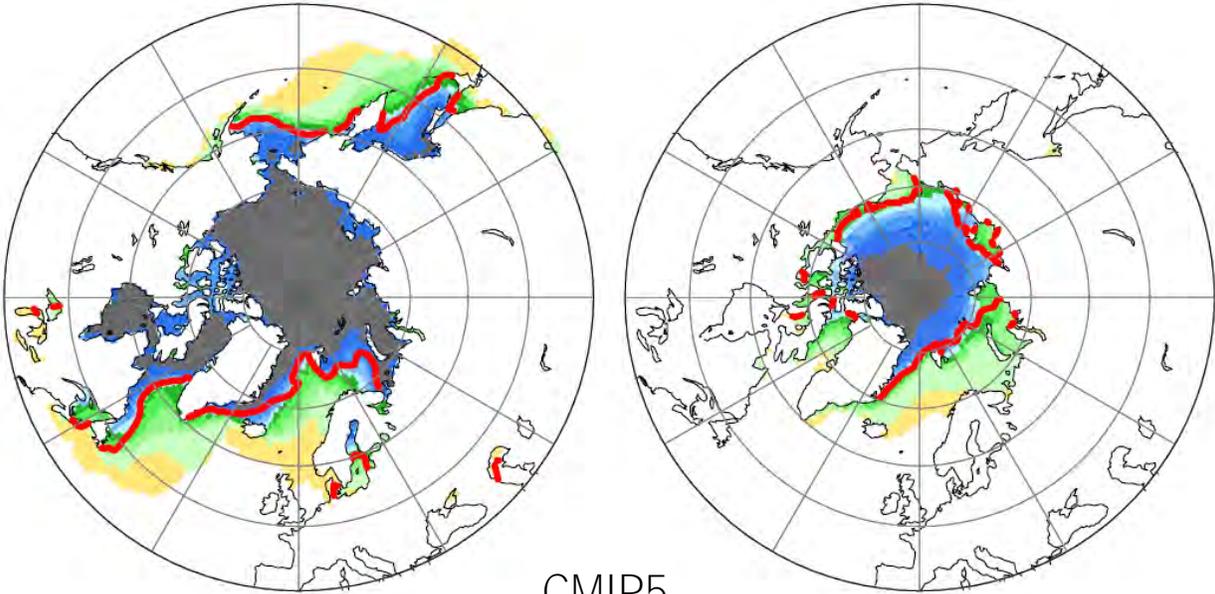
- Spatial Resolution: 10's of km
- Physics: Typically similar parameterizations as their parent ESM model
- Examples: RASM (DOE/NPS), ...

Challenges: data processing / analytics; effectuating results in ESM's

## Earth System Models

February (1986-2005)

September (1986-2005)



CMIP5

Observed ice = red line



NUMBER OF MODELS

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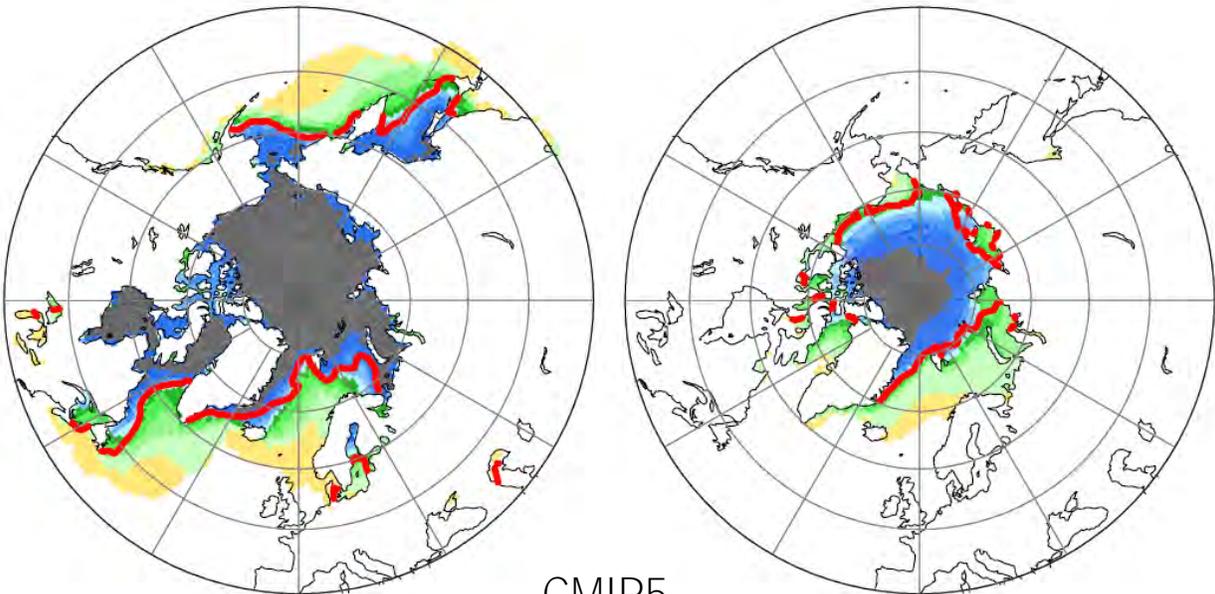
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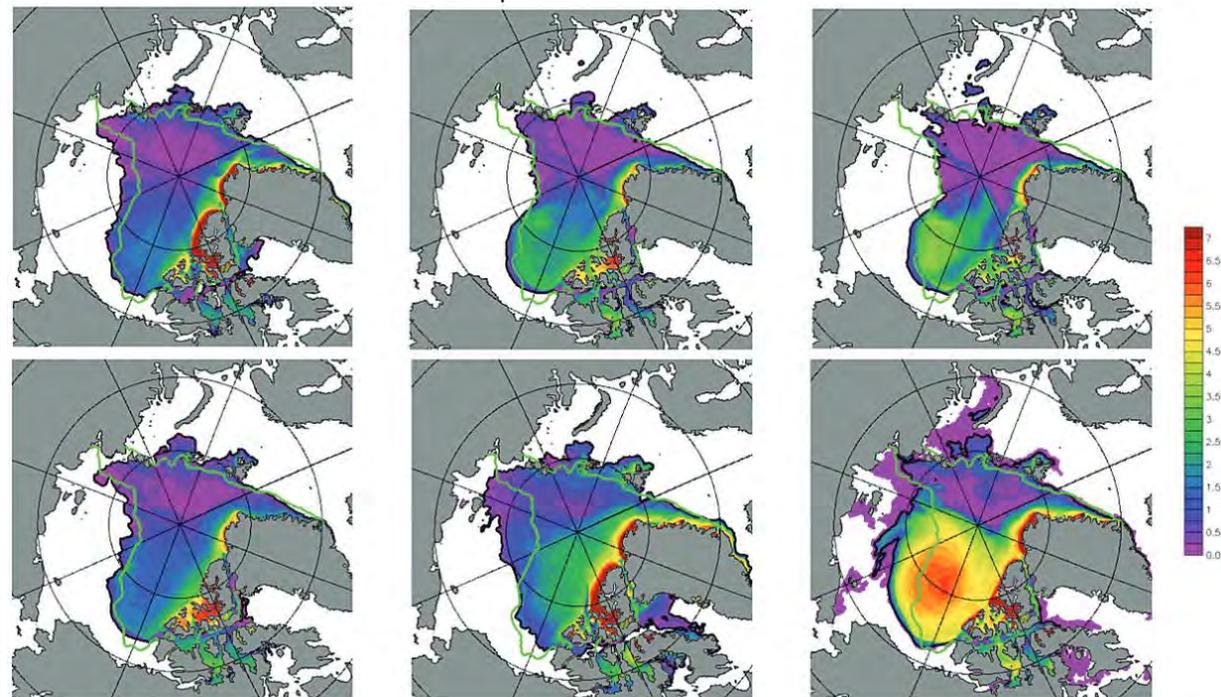
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NUMBER OF MODELS

## Regional Models

September 2007



RASM distinct initialization conditions

Observed ice = green line

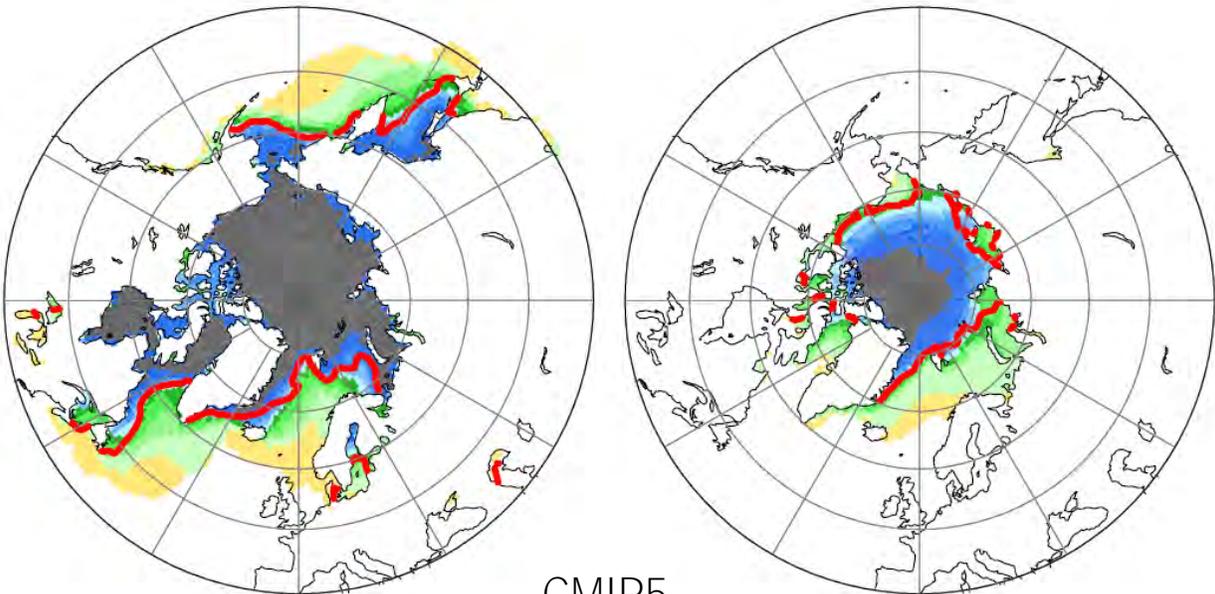
Color bar is thickness of ice



## Earth System Models

February (1986-2005)

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CMIP5

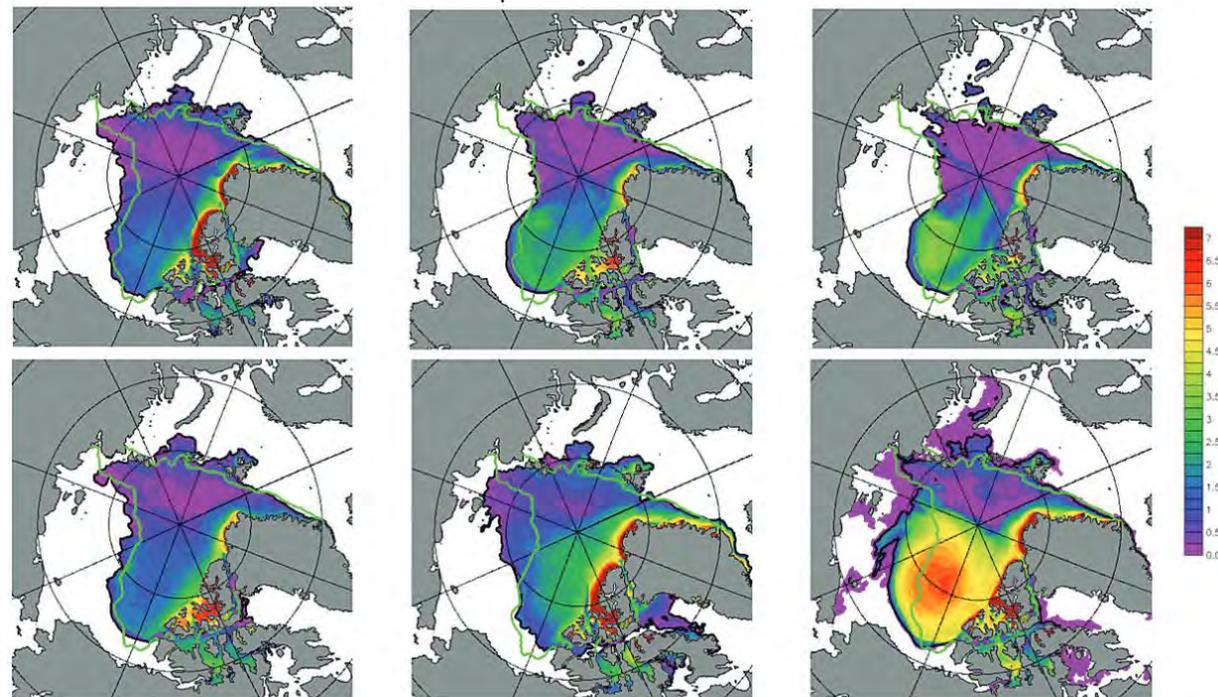
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NUMBER OF MODELS

## Regional Models

September 2007



RASM distinct initialization conditions

Observed ice = green line

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## Process Models

Don't just increase the resolution—enhance the physics!

- Add new process models to capture dynamics of changing Arctic (e.g. ocean waves, ice floes, hydrology and 3D heat flow, eddy resolved mixing, etc.)
- Incorporate feedbacks between physical systems key to evolving dynamics (e.g. ice floe distribution and waves, ice concentration and humidity in atmosphere, etc.)

## Computational Architecture

Couple these enhanced models *back into* the global simulations

- Develop *scale-aware variable resolution* architecture: alter the underlying physics to match the resolution ensuring continuous & conservative coupling between resolutions

## Data Analytics

Develop analysis tools to identify critical parameters and changes whilst tracing downstream implications

## Uncertainty Quantification

Evaluate sensitivities of critical parameters and evaluate skill with validation data



# Development of an Anticipatory Security and Climate Decision Tool

# Key Factors in Global Security



## Governance

- Influencing factors: cooperation mechanisms, strength and breadth of existing institutions, policy response effect, scale of problem (spatial, economic, population percentage), ...

## Resources

- Uncontested access to and ability to produce / procure food, water, and energy at sufficient caloric levels and purity to maintain health of population, ...

## Economy

- Maintenance of livelihoods and purchasing power, overall growth of the economy, disparity minimizing policies, ...

## Infrastructure

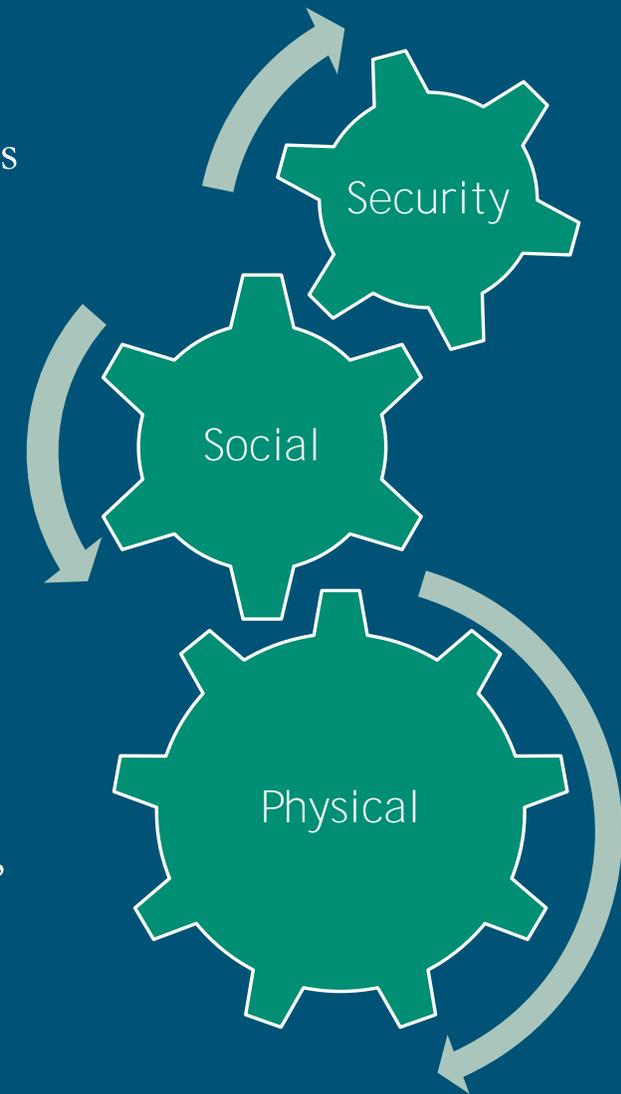
- Integrity and availability of: personal shelter, health services, critical services (law enforcement, banking, etc.), ...

## Population

- Rates of population shifts through migration (intra- vs. inter-territory ) and urbanization, duration of resettlement, shifts in cultural identification, ...

## Conflict

- Influencing factors: resource stability, health of economy, personal health, infrastructure, discrimination, ...



Both magnitude and rate of change affect security outcomes

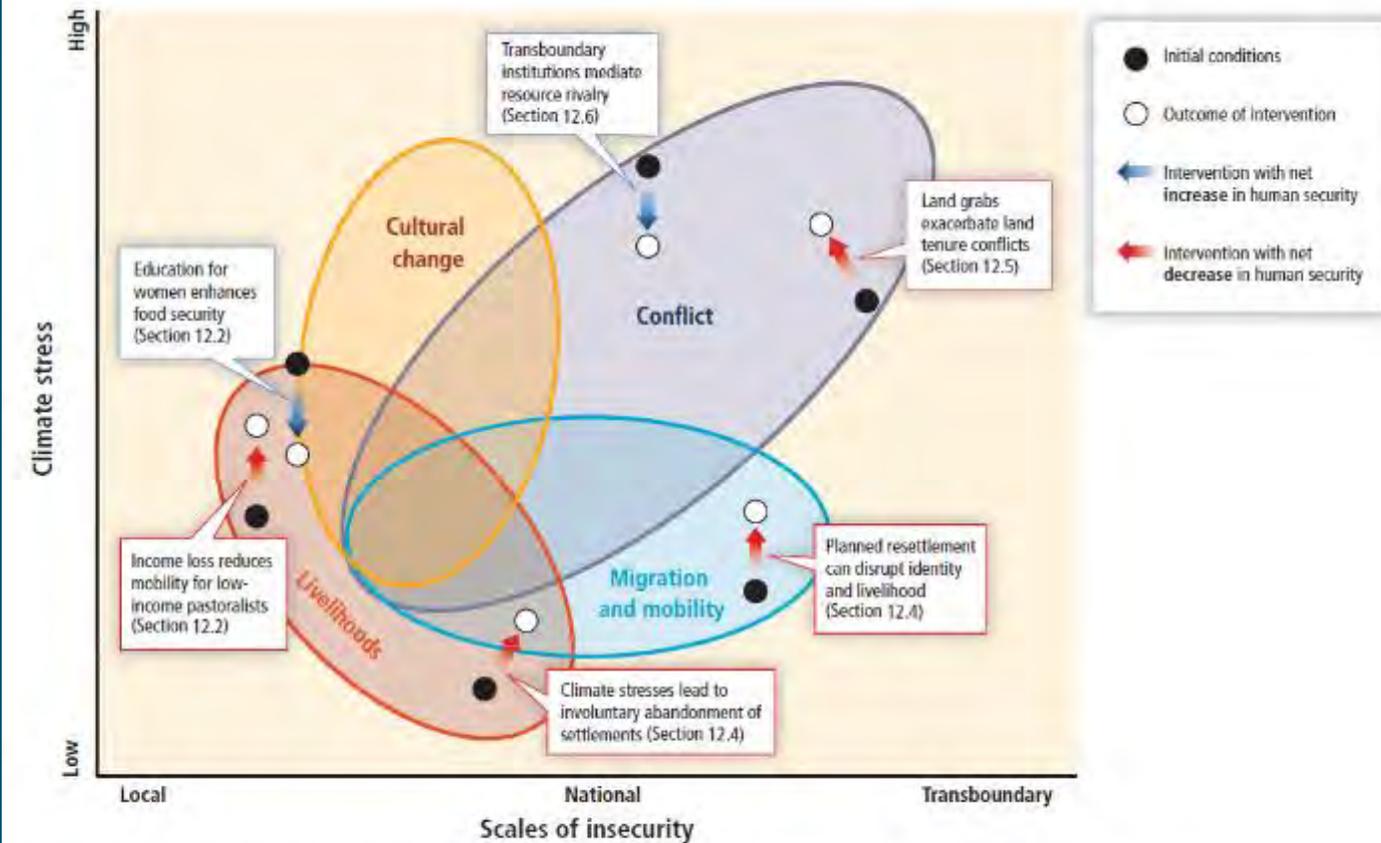
## Case studies

- Often limited in focus (e.g. water stress, food security, destruction of property) [Table 12.1 in 24 has comprehensive list of references]
- Often selective in scope of inclusion (e.g. not identifying drivers of water shortage, just outcomes)
- Often too specific to assist in anticipatory decisions not directly related to case study

## Broad coupling [24, 25, 26, 27]

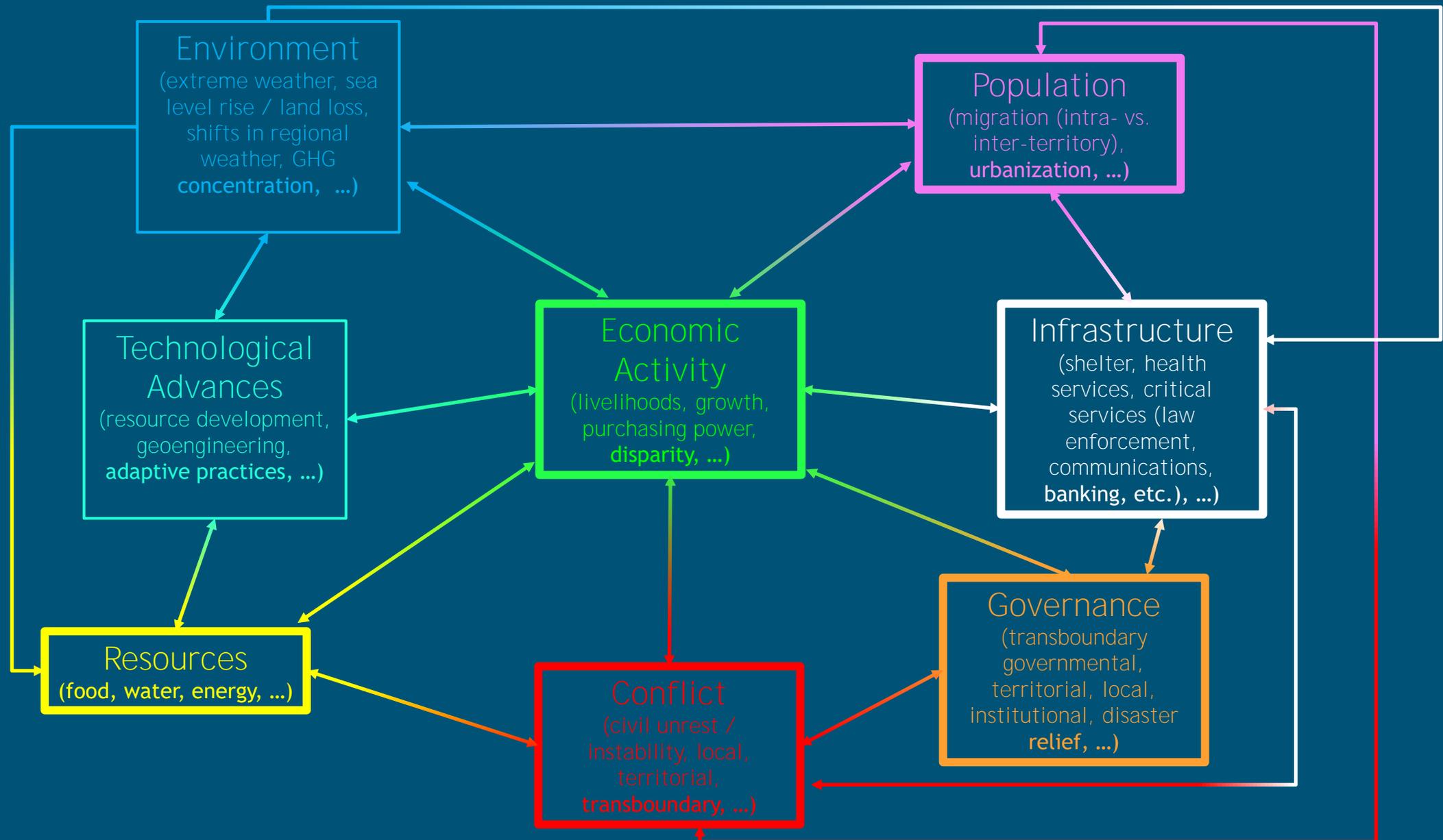
- Qualitatively linking dynamics between environmental changes and socio-economic-political changes
- Often too generalized or reliant upon weakly validated correlations to assist in anticipatory decisions

## Fifth Assessment Report of the IPCC.

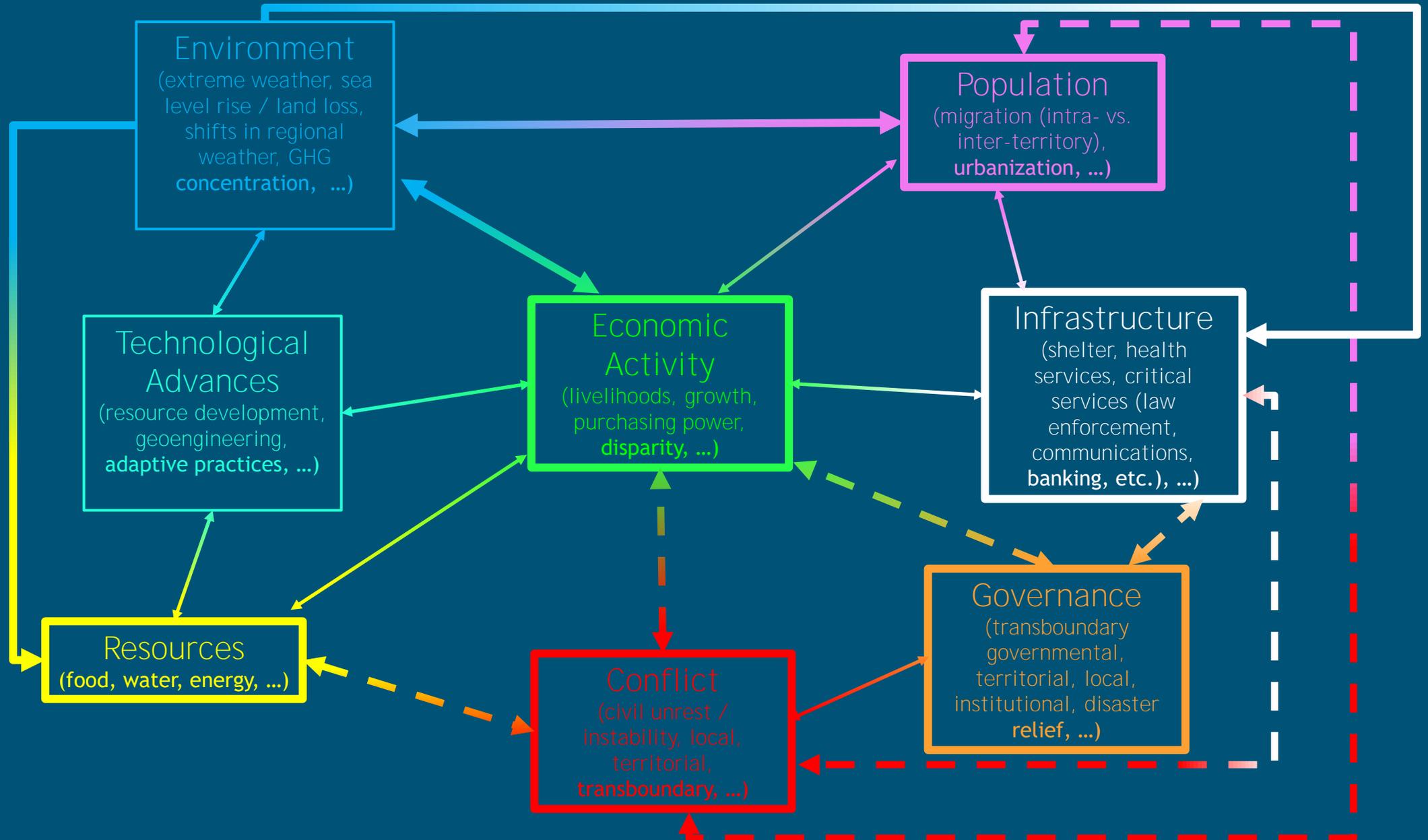


**Figure 12-3** | Synthesis of evidence on the impacts of climate change on elements of human security and the interactions between livelihoods, conflict, culture, and migration. Interventions and policies indicated by difference between initial conditions (solid black) and outcome of intervention (white circles). Some interventions (blue arrows) show net increase human security while others (red arrows) lead to net decrease in human security.

# System Dynamics: Security Factors



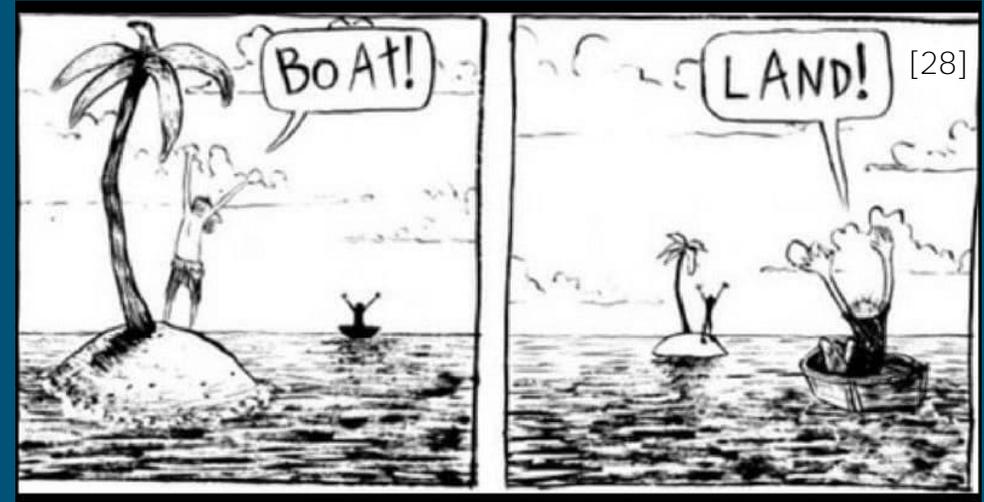
# System Dynamics: Linking Environment to Security Factors



## Set the perspective

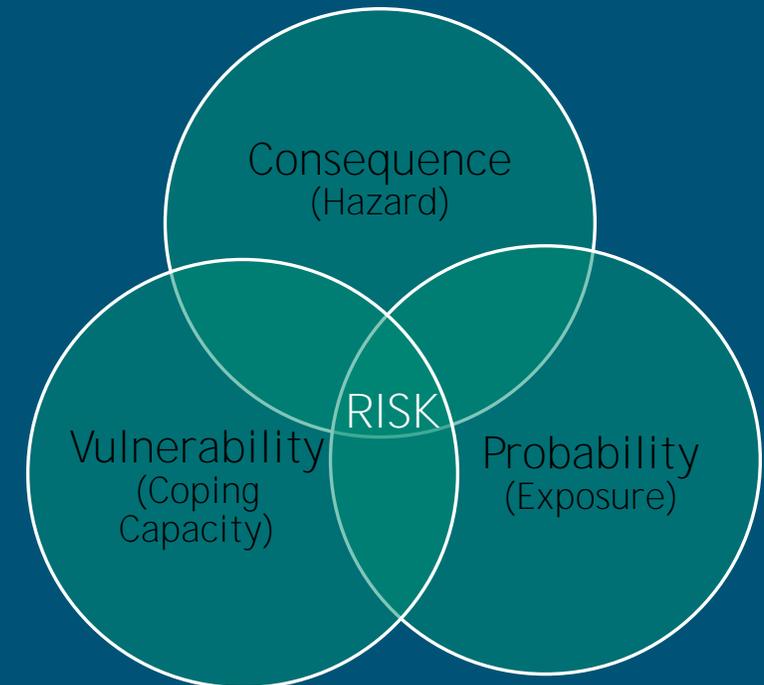
Prioritize the problems to be addressed by identifying and engaging relevant stakeholders

- Characterize consequence metrics for stakeholders (e.g. safety, monetary, assets, etc.)
- Establish unacceptable consequences
- Establish constraints for mitigation (e.g. monetary, diplomatic, personnel deployments, etc.)

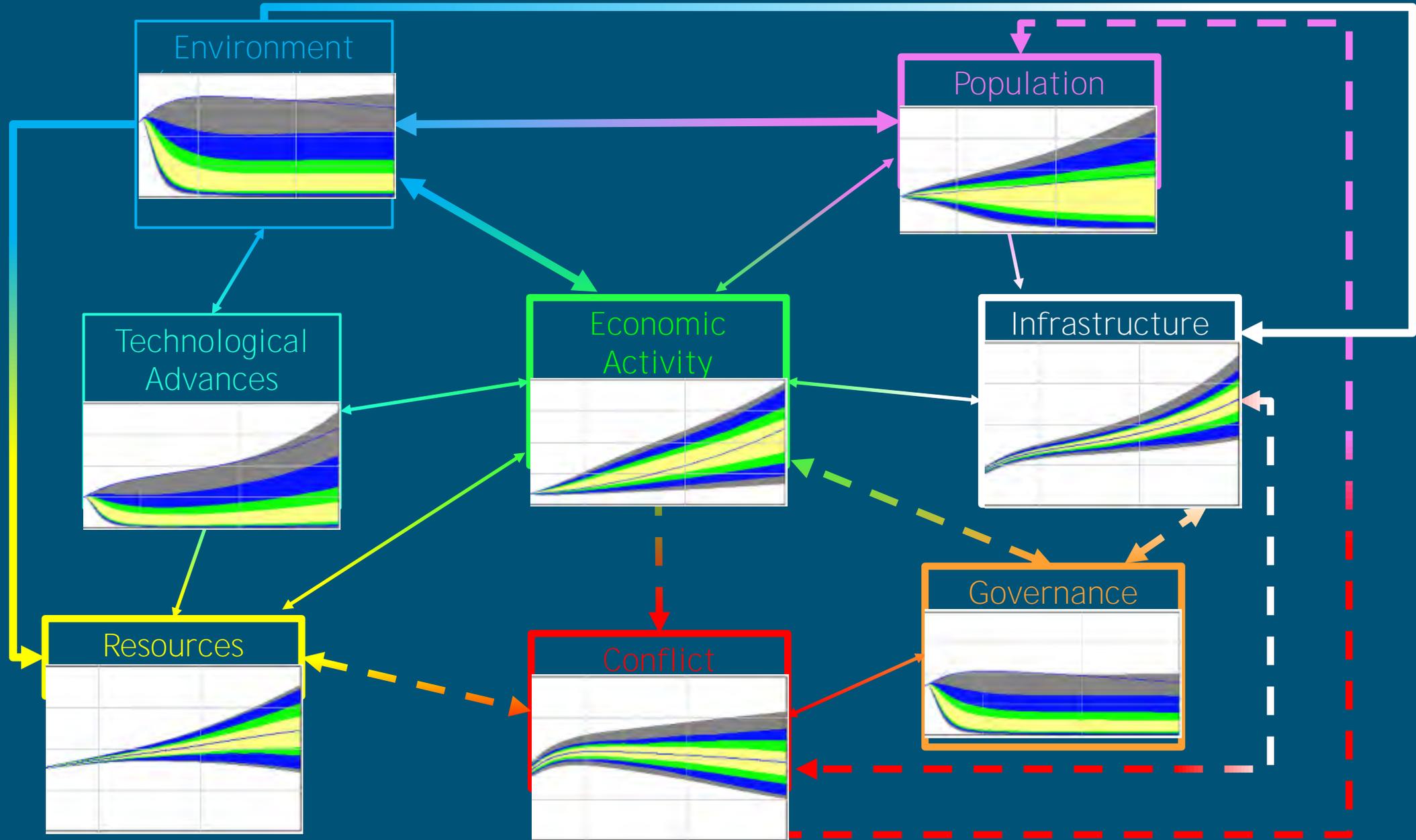


Configure the system dynamics model

- Prioritize information in model for stakeholder perspective
- Employ actuarial techniques to establish risk assessments from model outputs
  - Consequences directly related to magnitudes from model output



# System Dynamics Output: Quantitative forecasts inclusive of uncertainty

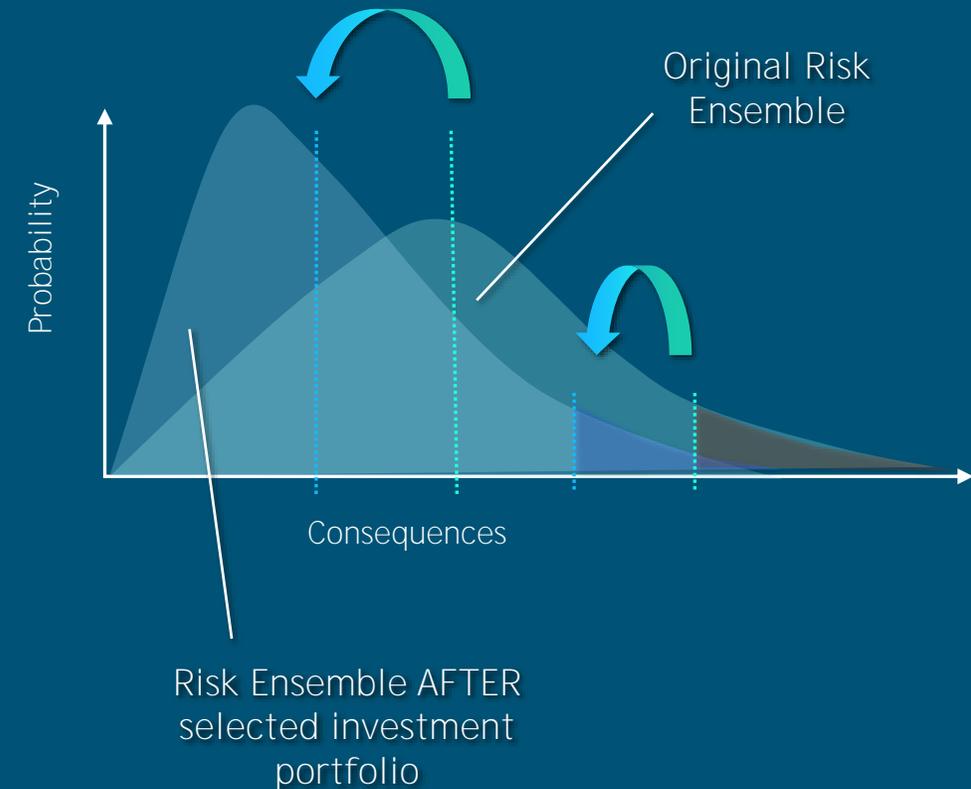


## Translate system dynamics outputs

- Develop risk assessments
  - Establish vulnerability
- Quantify mitigation constraints

## Develop risk-mitigation decisions

- Progressively Hedged Decisions: based on the *consequences* that will occur over the lifetime of the risk assessment and optimized to minimize the overall risk of the entire ensemble
  - Optimization based on risk assessment and constraints
  - Automated mechanism based on mathematical framework catered to stochastic problems



“balance the risk of having inadequate capabilities or insufficient capacity when required to operate in the region with the opportunity cost of making premature and/or unnecessary investments” [29]

# Security and Climate Decision Tool—An Anticipatory Framework

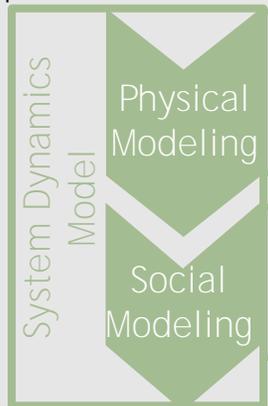


## Identify problem

- Identify consequences of interest to stakeholders (stability of water-sharing agreements, loss of national security infrastructure (e.g. naval bases), etc.)

## Evaluate System Dynamics

- Configure system dynamics models to incorporate relevant physical and socio-political-economic dependencies



- Reduce uncertainty in physical modeling
  - High-resolution regional model coupled into the earth system models
  - Process models that resolve feedbacks at relevant spatial and temporal scales

- Incorporate tunable socio-political-economic models catered to the time-frame and locations
  - Employ sensitivity analysis to identify / refine driving variables

## Risk & Constraints

- Employ uncertainty in system dynamics model to develop robust and quantitative risk assessments
- Establish mitigation constraints

## Optimal Decision

- Employ optimization framework (progressively hedged decisions) to maximize responsiveness to *entire* risk assessment



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16. Ahlstrom et al. Abrupt shift in the observed runoff from the southwestern Greenland ice sheet, *Science Advances*, 3, no. 12, e1701169, doi: 10.1126/sciadv.1701169, (2017)
17. Graeter et al. Ice Core Records of West Greenland Melt and Climate Forcing, *GRL*, 45, 3164–3172, DOI: 10.1002/2017GL076641, (2018) (increase in surface melt rates)
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19. Oltmanns, Karstensen, Fischer, Increased risk of a shutdown of ocean convection posed by warm North Atlantic summers, *Nature Climate Change*, 8, pp. 300-304 (2018). doi:10.1038/s41558-018-0105-1
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# QUESTIONS

# System Dynamics Modeling



Identifies and models feedback and dependencies between disparate sectors to develop quantitative anticipatory analysis

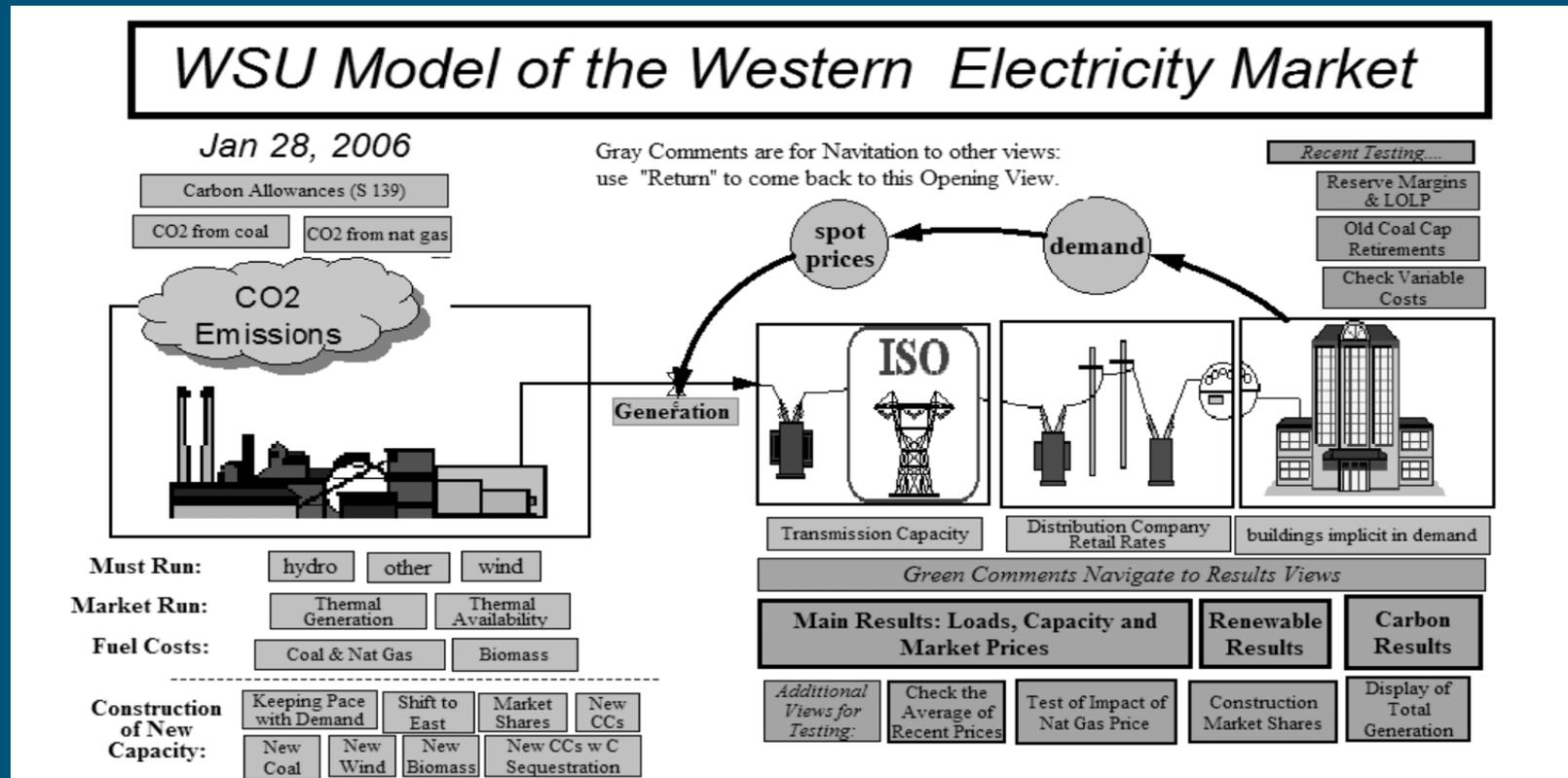
Can integrate uncertainty through risk analysis, policy analysis, scenario analysis, sensitivity analysis...

Mixed-modeling can incorporate models of all system aspects

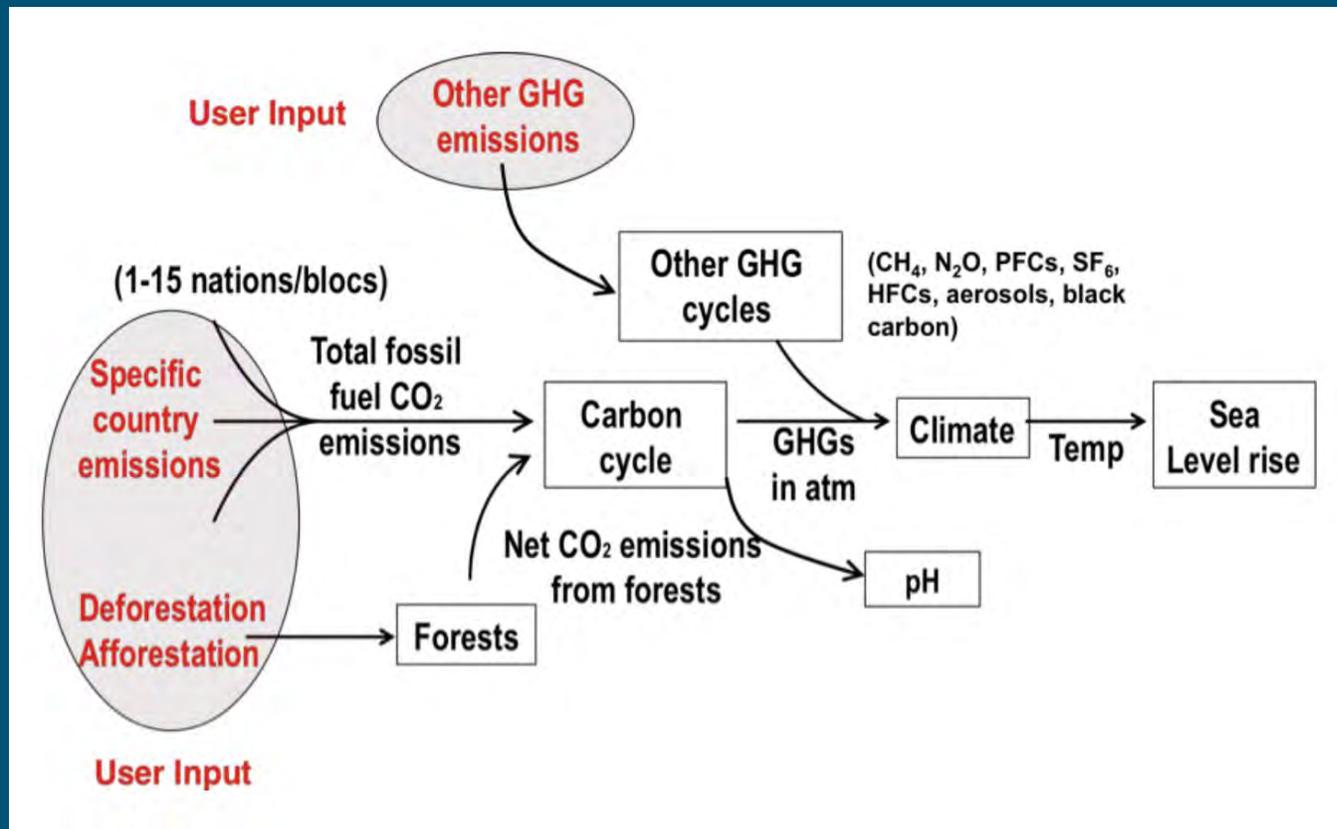
- For example, can integrate hard physical sciences with social disciplines
- Examples:
  - Energy systems: Dimitrovski, A., Ford, A., & Tomsovic, K. (2006). An interdisciplinary approach to long-term modelling for power system expansion. *International journal of critical infrastructures*, 3(1-2), 235-264.
  - Climate policy: Sterman, J., Fiddaman, T., Franck, T., Jones, A., McCauley, S., Rice, P., ... & Siegel, L. (2012). Climate interactive: the C-ROADS climate policy model. *System Dynamics Review*, 28(3), 295-305.
  - Climate-induced migration: Naugle, A., Backus, G. A., Tidwell, V. C., Kistin-Keller, E., & Villa, D. (2018). A regional model of climate change and human migration. Accepted to *International Journal of System Dynamics Applications*.



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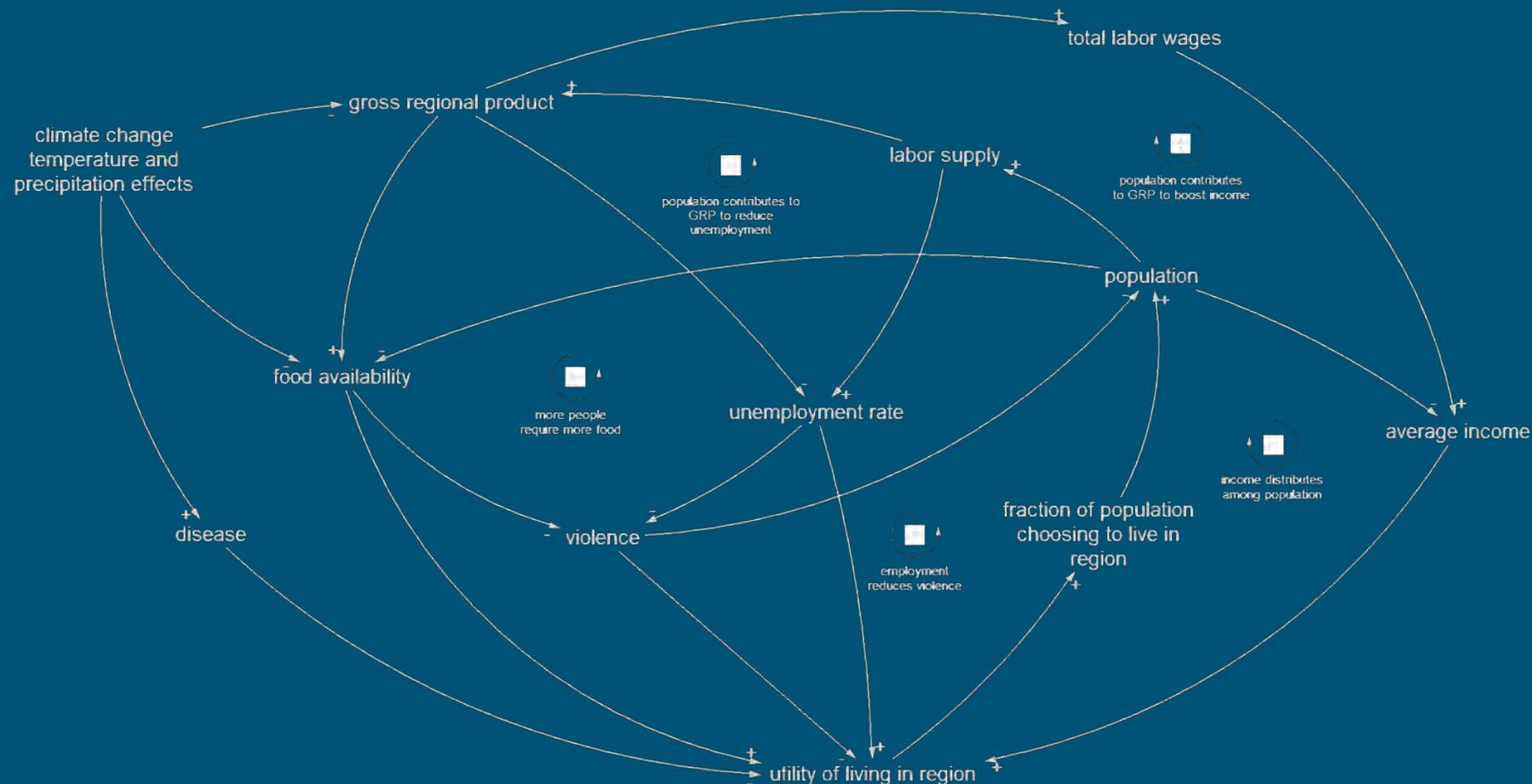
Climate policy: Sterman, J., Fiddaman, T., Franck, T., Jones, A., McCauley, S., Rice, P., ... & Siegel, L. (2012). Climate interactive: the C-ROADS climate policy model. *System Dynamics Review*, 28(3), 295-305.



# Mixed Modeling: Examples



**Climate-Induced Migration:** Naugle, A., Backus, G. A., Tidwell, V. C., Kistin-Keller, E., & Villa, D. (2018). A regional model of climate change and human migration. Accepted to *International Journal of System Dynamics Applications*.



# Progressively Hedged Decision Examples



## Satellite Scheduling:

- C.G. Valicka, D. Garcia, A. Staid, J.P. Watson, G. Hackebeil, S. Rathinam, and L. Ntaimo. Models for Optimal Constellation Scheduling Under Weather Uncertainty. *European Journal of Operational Research* – Under Review.

## Power Grid Planning:

- F.D. Munoz and J.P. Watson (To Appear). A Scalable Solution Framework for Stochastic Transmission and Generation Planning Problems. *Computational Management Science*. <sup>11</sup>SEP 2015.

## Power Grid Management:

- K. Cheung, D. Gade, C. Silva-Monroy, S.M. Ryan, J.P. Watson, R.J.B. Wets, and D.L. Woodruff (2015). Toward Scalable Stochastic Unit Commitment - Part 2: Solver Configuration and Performance Assessment. *Energy Systems*, Vol. 6, No. 3, pp. 417–438.

## Power Grid Resiliency:

- R. Guttromson and J.P. Watson (2016). Defining, Measuring and Improving Resilience of Electric Power Systems. In *Smart Grid Handbook*, Volume II, Part 3, Chapter 39. Eds: C-C. Liu, S. McArthur, and S-J. Lee. Wiley.
- J.P. Watson, R. Guttromson, C. Silva-Monroy, R. Jeffers, K. Jones, J. Elison, C. Rath, J. Gearhart, D. Jones, T. Corbet, C. Hanley, and L-T. Walker (2014). Conceptual Framework for Developing Resilience Metrics for the Electricity, Oil, and Gas Sectors in the United States. Sandia National Laboratories Technical Report, No. SAND2014-18019.

# Progressively Hedged Decision Examples



## Forestry Planning

- F.B. Veliz, J.P. Watson, A. Weintraub, R.J.B. Wets, and D.L. Woodruff (To Appear). Stochastic Optimization Models in Forest Planning: A Progressive Hedging Approach. *Annals of Operations Research*. [SEP]

## Water Security

- Designing contamination warning systems for municipal water networks using imperfect sensors J Berry, RD Carr, WE Hart, VJ Leung, CA Phillips, JP Watson *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management* 135 (4), 253-263
- Sensor network design of contamination warning systems: A decision framework R Murray, R Janke, WE Hart, JW Berry, T Taxon, J Uber *American Water Works Association. Journal* 100 (11), 97
- Sensor placement in municipal water networks JW Berry, L Fleischer, WE Hart, CA Phillips, JP Watson *Journal of Water Resources Planning and Management* 131 (3), 237-243

## Pyomo

- Pyomo: Optimization modeling software that includes mature capabilities for modeling and solving stochastic optimization problems. *Pyomo won an R&D100 Award in 2016.*
- Hart, W.E., C.D. Laird, J.-P. Watson, D.L. Woodruff, G.A. Hackebeil, B.L. Nicholson, and J.D. Siirola, *Pyomo – Optimization Modeling in Python. Second Edition. Vol. 67. Springer (2017)*
- Watson, J.-P., Woodruff, D.L. and Hart, W.E., *PySP: modeling and solving stochastic programs in Python, Mathematical Programming Computation, Vol. 4, No. 2, pp. 109-149 (2012)*
- Watson, J.-P. and Woodruff, D.L., *Progressive hedging innovations for a class of stochastic mixed-integer resource allocation problems, Computational Management Science, Vol. 8, No. 4, pp. 355-370 (2011)*



Civil unrest  
and instability

Localized  
Violence

Terrorism,  
Insurgencies,  
and Civil War

State-on-State  
Conflict

## Environmental drivers of conflict [24]:

- Health (disease vectors, nutrition, safety, sanitation, shelter)
- Resource (food, water, energy) stability
- Political stability (personal safety)
- Economic stability
- Public service stability

## ‘Universal’ drivers of conflict [Halvard Bauhaug]:

- history of violence,
- poor governance,
- horizontal (inter-group) inequalities (economic and political terms)
- low level development,
- discrimination,

scale adapted from: CNA. 2017. *The Role of Water Stress in Instability and Conflict*. CRM-2017-U-016532. Final.

# Potential Arctic Tipping events



Candidate Control Parameter(s)	Qualitative change in Arctic system state (Tipping Element)	Resultant global physical effects	Socio-Economic Impacts
<p>Freshwater Input</p> <p>DEPENDENT UPON: SALINITY, MASS, TEMPERATURE, AND VELOCITY OF INCOMING CURRENTS; ATMOSPHERIC PATTERNS;</p>	<p>Shutdown / reversal of Atlantic thermohaline circulation (THC)</p> <p>SYSTEM VARIABLE: THC</p>	<p>Regional cooling; significant weather shifts in the N. hemisphere; alteration to / loss of critical habitats;</p>	<p>Dramatic shifts in world-wide natural resource availability (water and food) along with altering suitability of landscapes supporting human life inducing migration</p>
<p>Ice Sheet Temperature</p> <p>DEPENDENT UPON: ATMOSPHERIC TEMP.; INCIDENT RADIANCE; MASS OF ICE; SALINITY, MASS, TEMPERATURE, AND VELOCITY OF SEA WATER INTERACTING WITH ICE SHEET</p>	<p>Greenland ice sheet melt</p> <p>SYSTEM VARIABLE: ICE VOLUME</p>	<p>Sea level rise; ocean current alterations; alteration to / loss of critical habitats; alteration to atmospheric patterns</p>	<p>Coastal inundation around the world, dramatic shifts in world-wide natural resource availability (water and food)</p>
<p>Permafrost Temperature</p> <p>DEPENDENT UPON: ATMOSPHERIC TEMP.; INCIDENT RADIANCE; SNOW AND VEGETATION COVER; ICE CONTENT AND SEDIMENT TYPE COMPOSING PERMAFROST</p>	<p>Permafrost thaw</p> <p>SYSTEM VARIABLE: PERMAFROST DISTRIBUTION AND EXTENT</p>	<p>Significant greenhouse gas release; alteration to vegetation and critical habitat; changes in hydrology; increased erosion</p>	<p>Instability of national security infrastructure in region (DEW line radars, etc.); dramatic shifts in world-wide natural resource availability (water and food) along with altering suitability of landscapes supporting human life</p>
<p>Ocean Temperature</p> <p>DEPENDENT UPON: ATMOSPHERIC TEMP.; INCIDENT RADIANCE; SALINITY, MASS, TEMPERATURE, AND VELOCITY OF INCOMING CURRENTS; WAVE ENERGY; MASS OF ICE;</p>	<p>Loss of summer sea ice</p> <p>SYSTEM VARIABLE: SEA ICE VOLUME</p>	<p>Mid-latitude weather changes and alteration to atmospheric patterns; ocean current alterations; alteration to / loss of critical habitats</p>	<p>increasing regional conflicts over Arctic resources; loss of biological resources; increased drought and loss of agriculture at mid-latitudes,</p>