

**EXERGY DESTRUCTION PRINCIPLE:  
Is the Optimum Thermodynamic System  
One that Maximizes It's Use of Exergy?**

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WISE  
University of Waterloo  
January 29, 2019

# In Memory of James Kay



Colleague, Close Friend,  
and Brilliant Mind

# Learning From Each Other

- Story of an Engineer and Ecologist discovering new science and understanding.
  - The **Engineer** discovering ecological concepts with new and exciting engineering applications.
  - The **Ecologist** discovering engineering clarity to 2nd Law concepts applied to living systems.

# Contrasting the Engineer and the Ecologist

## Engineer

- lives in world of clarity
- lives in human simplified world
- looks for quantitative patterns / correlations

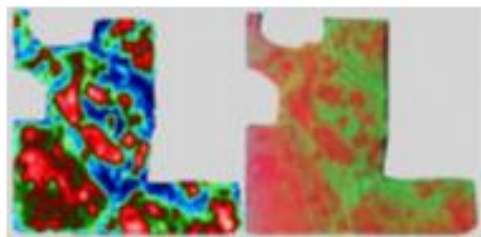
## Ecologist

- accustomed to vagueness
- lives in the real world
- looks for qualitative patterns / correlations
- (James -> systems ecologist)

# History

- ▶ Mid-1990s: James Kay & Eric Schneider  
“exergy destruction principle”  
(EDP) [[The SCIENCE](#)]

- ▶ Late 1990s: Brought in to introduce  
thermodynamic rigor to EDP



Harvested September, 1998      June 26, 1998  
Thermal Band correlation > 0.86

Introduced to Jeff Luvall  
[[APPLICATION](#) + [more SCIENCE](#)]

- ▶ 2015–now Precision agriculture  
[Grain Farmers]



# How Does Nature Optimize Complex Thermodynamic Systems?

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- Constructal theory (Time)

# How Does Nature Optimize Complex Thermodynamic Systems?

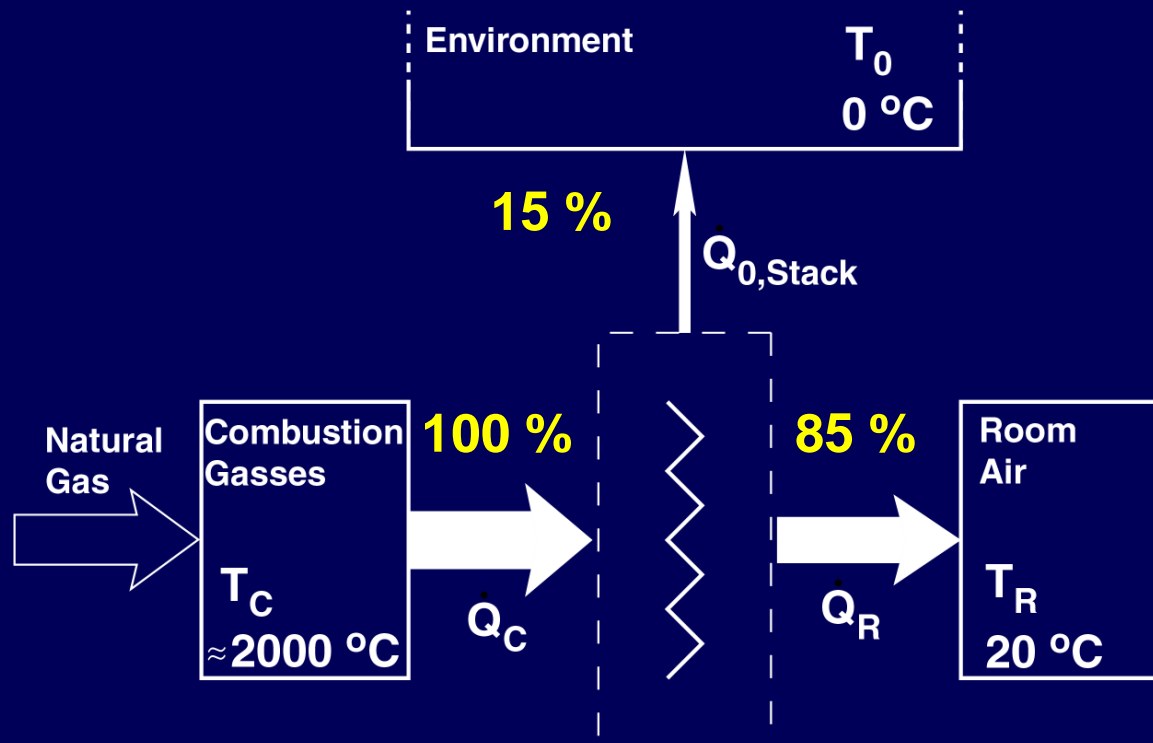
- Maximum Efficiency Principle (Energy)
- Maximum Power Principle (Energy)
- Maximum Entropy Principle (Entropy)
- Maximum Empower Principle (Emergy)
- Constructal theory (Time)
- Exergy Destruction Principle (Exergy)

# How Efficient is Your Home Furnace?

Mid-efficiency  
High Efficiency

85 %  
95 %

$$\eta = \frac{Q_{\text{IntoRoom}}}{Q_{\text{NaturalGasCombustion}}}$$

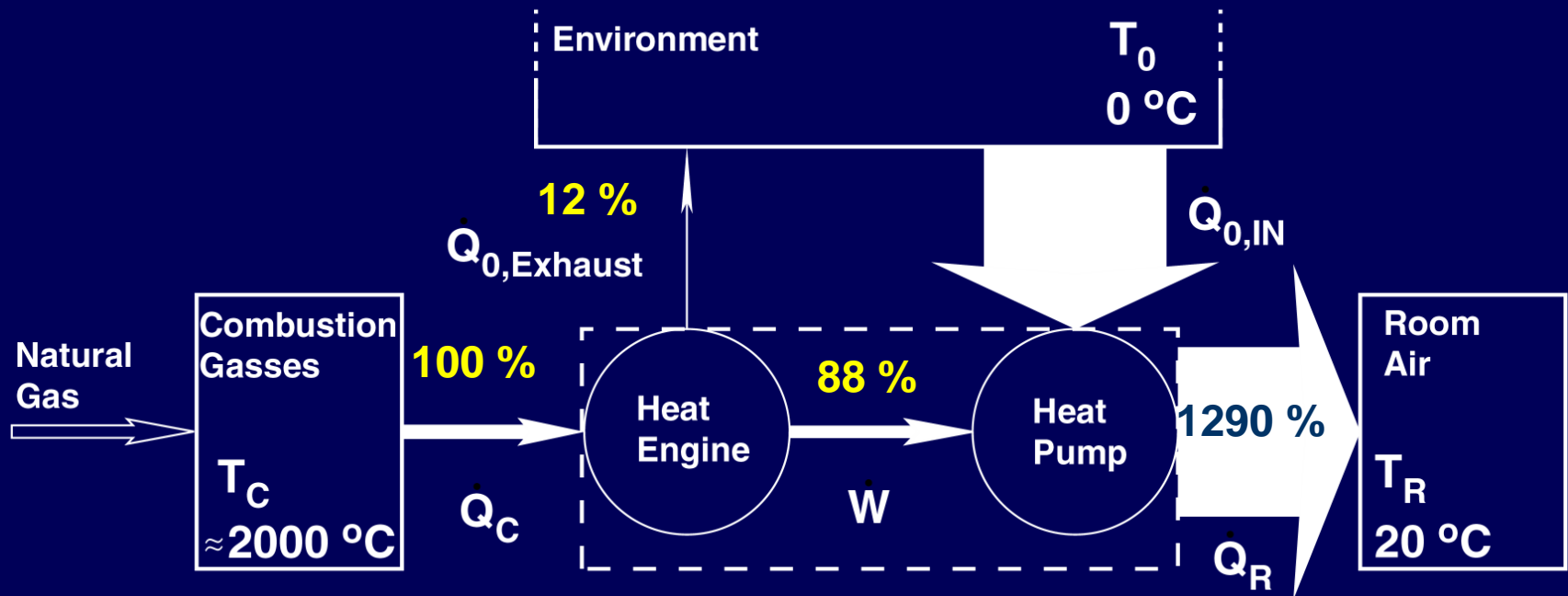


# Rerun: How Efficient is Your Home Furnace?

Q: Imagine now, how you would respond to a salesperson who tried to sell you a revolutionary type of furnace with a claimed efficiency of **120 %**.

Q: Would you be suspicious?

# Exergy Conserving Home Heating Furnace



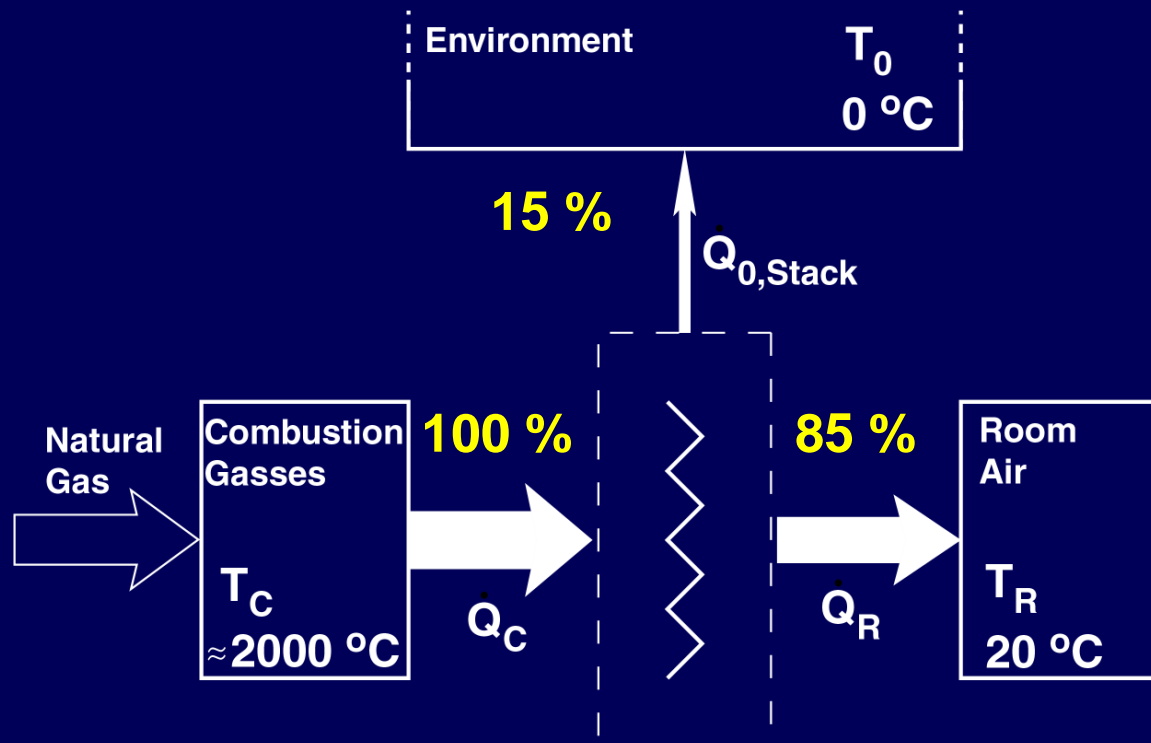
$$\eta_I = \frac{Q_{\text{Into Room}}}{Q_{\text{Natural Gas Combustion}}} = 1290\%$$

$$\eta_{II} = \frac{Q_{\text{Into Room}}}{Q_{\text{Maximum, Into Room}}} = 100\%$$

# How Efficient is Your Home Furnace?

$$\eta_I = 85\%$$

$$\eta_{II} = 6.6\% !$$





# Remember

- Intuition is a poor substitute for the physics of thermodynamics.
- Intuition can seriously limit one's ability to conceive of alternative systems.

Corollary: There are an infinite number of exergy conserving systems.

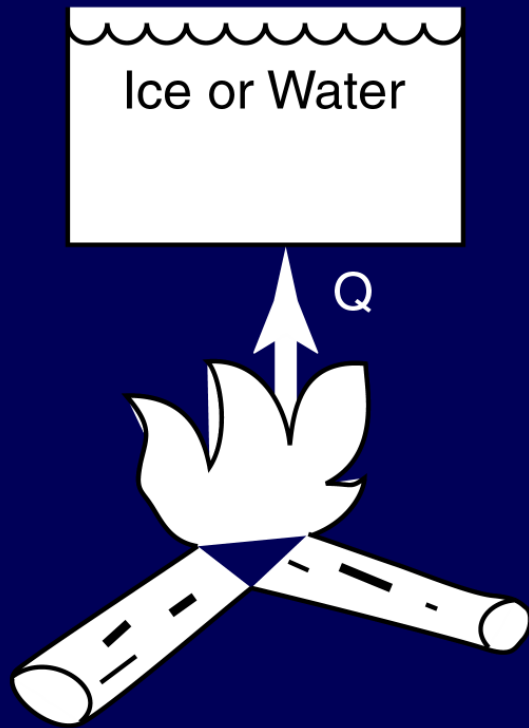
# It is Easier to Boil Ice Than Water?

**Q:** Ideally, does it take less natural gas to bring 1 kg of ice at  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , or 1 kg of water at  $60\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ , to a  $100\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  boil?

**A:** It takes a factor of 3.3 less natural gas to bring the  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ice to a boil!

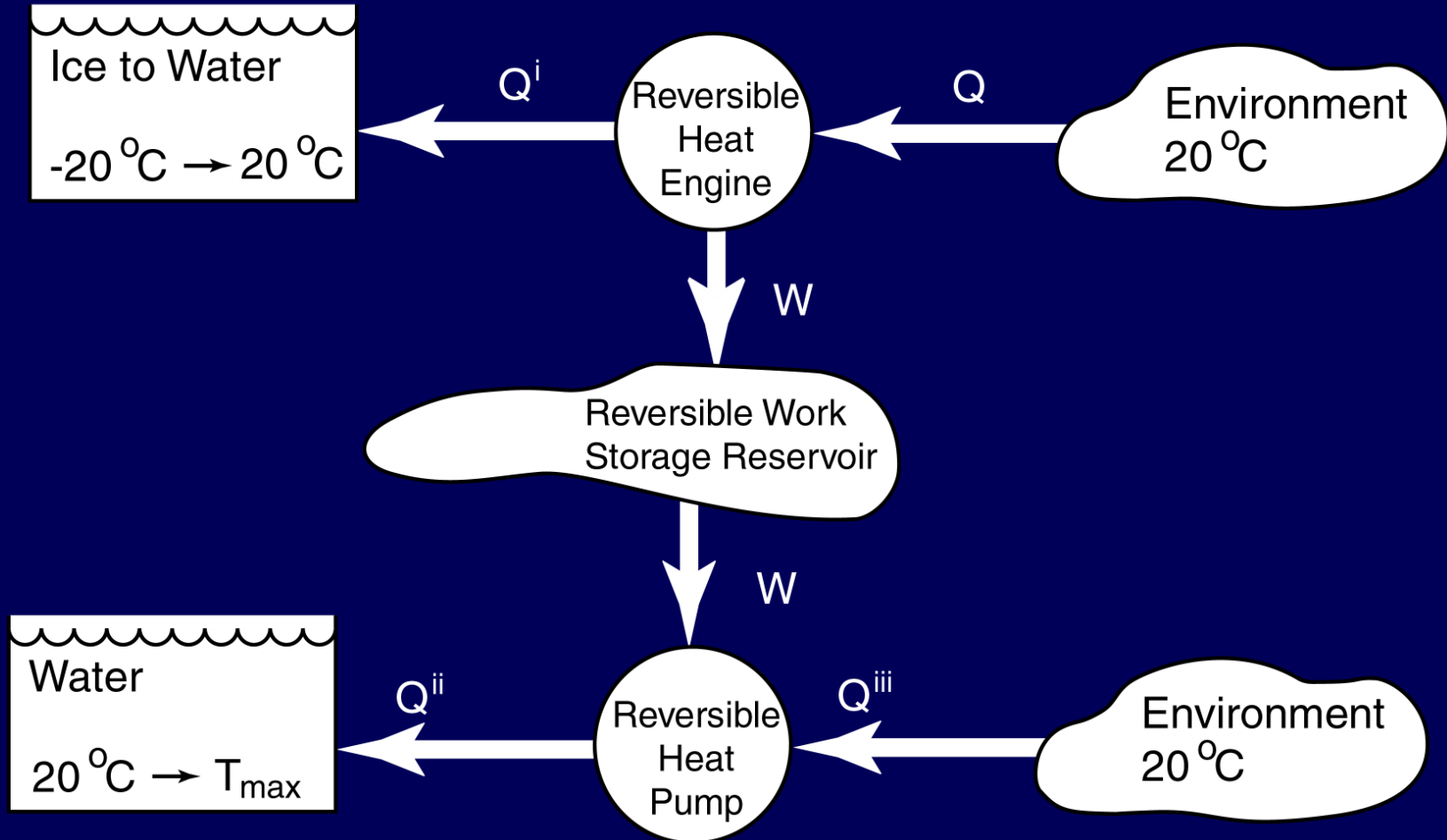
Theoretically, the  $-20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  ice can be heated to  $88\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$  with no natural gas.

# Energy, not Exergy, Approach

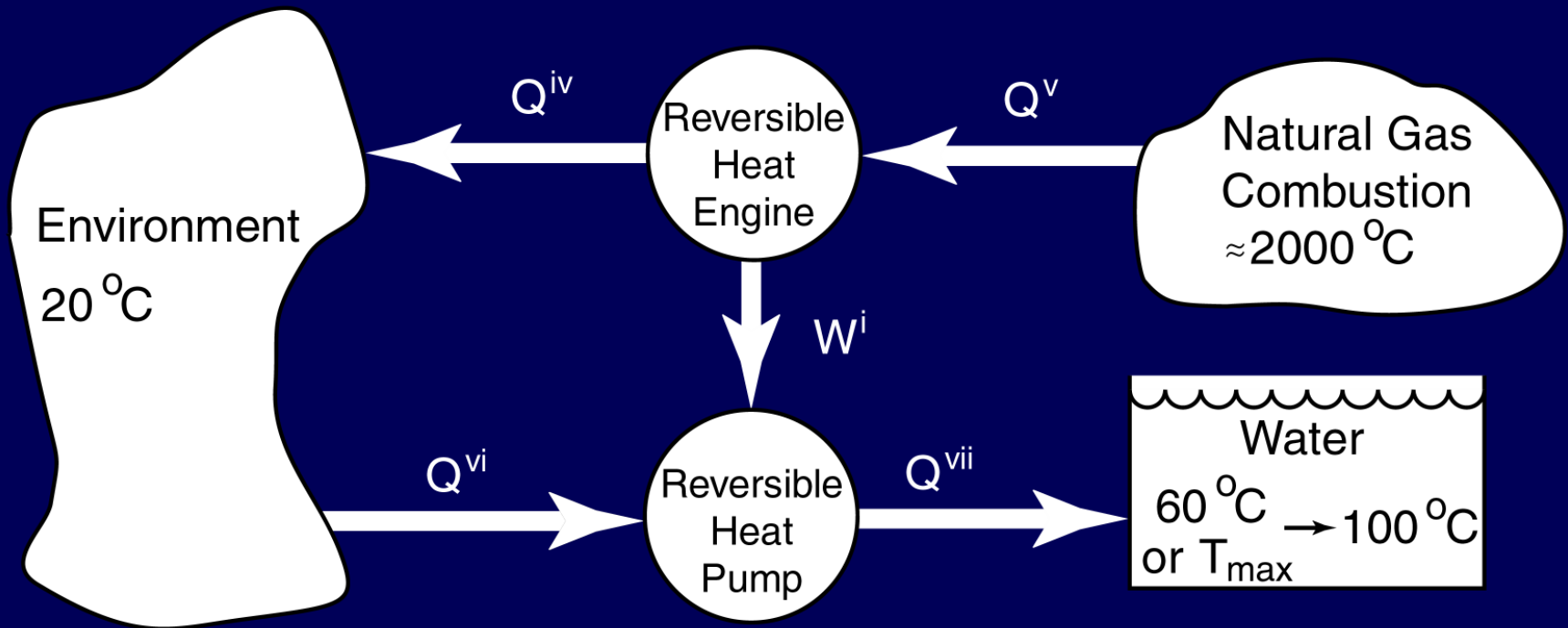


Energy approach requires less Natural Gas to heat 60 °C water to 100 °C.

# Exergy Approach



# Exergy Approach (Continued)



# Remember

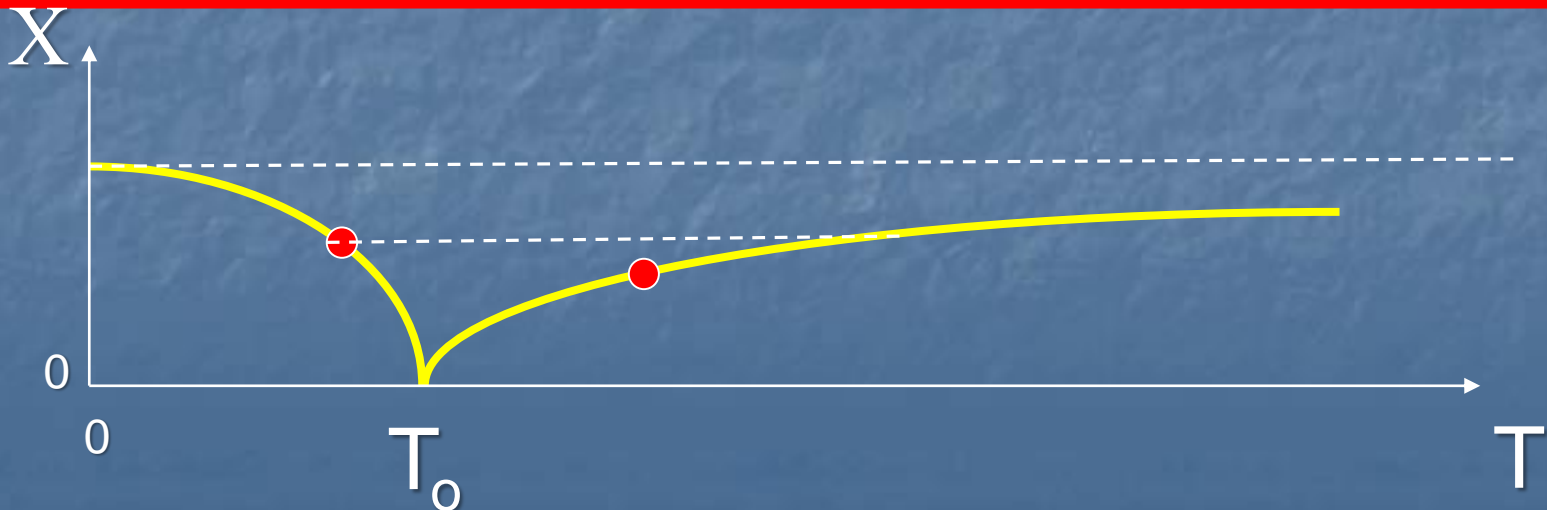
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# Remember

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- 
- Any system out of equilibrium with environment has potential to do useful work.

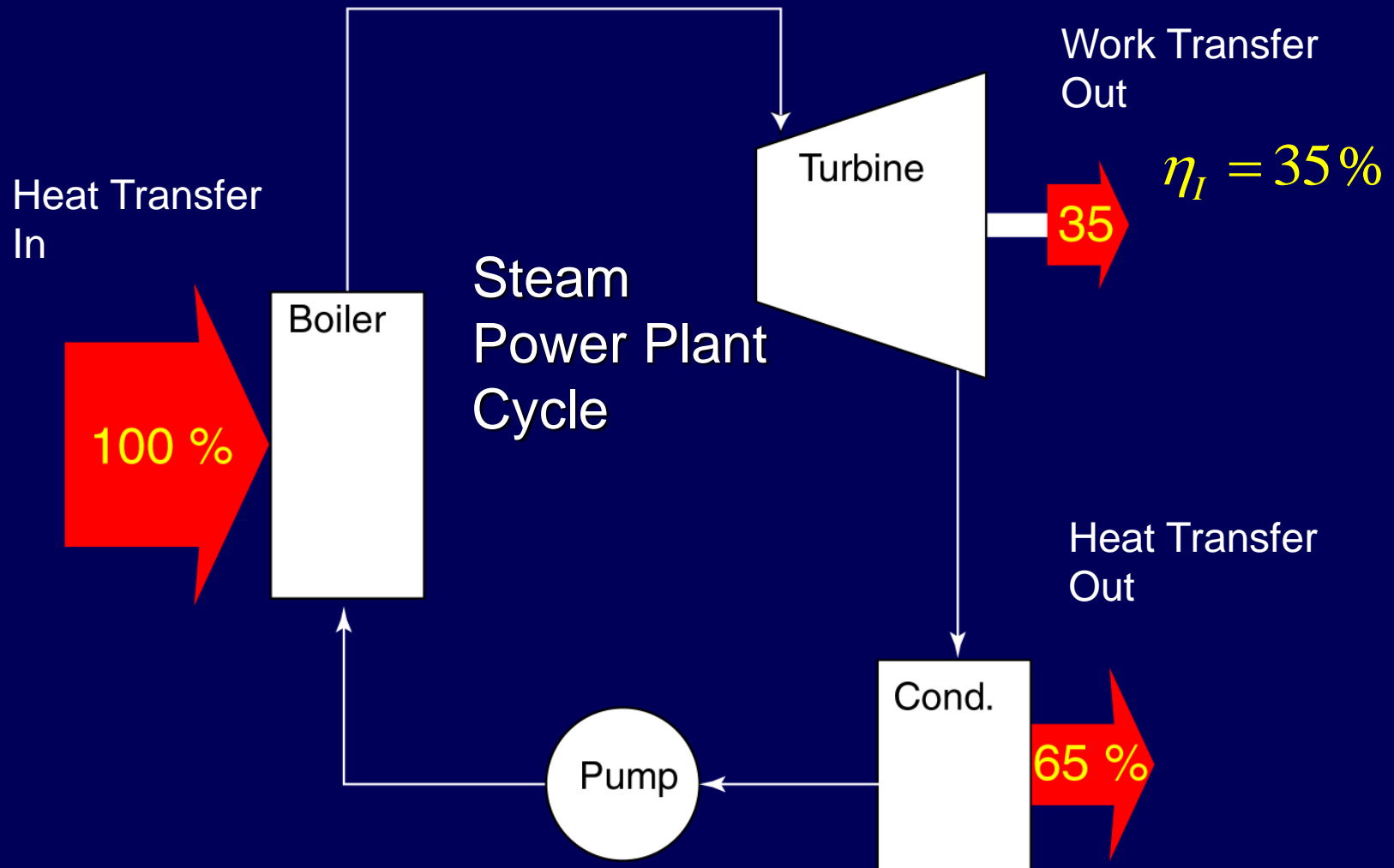
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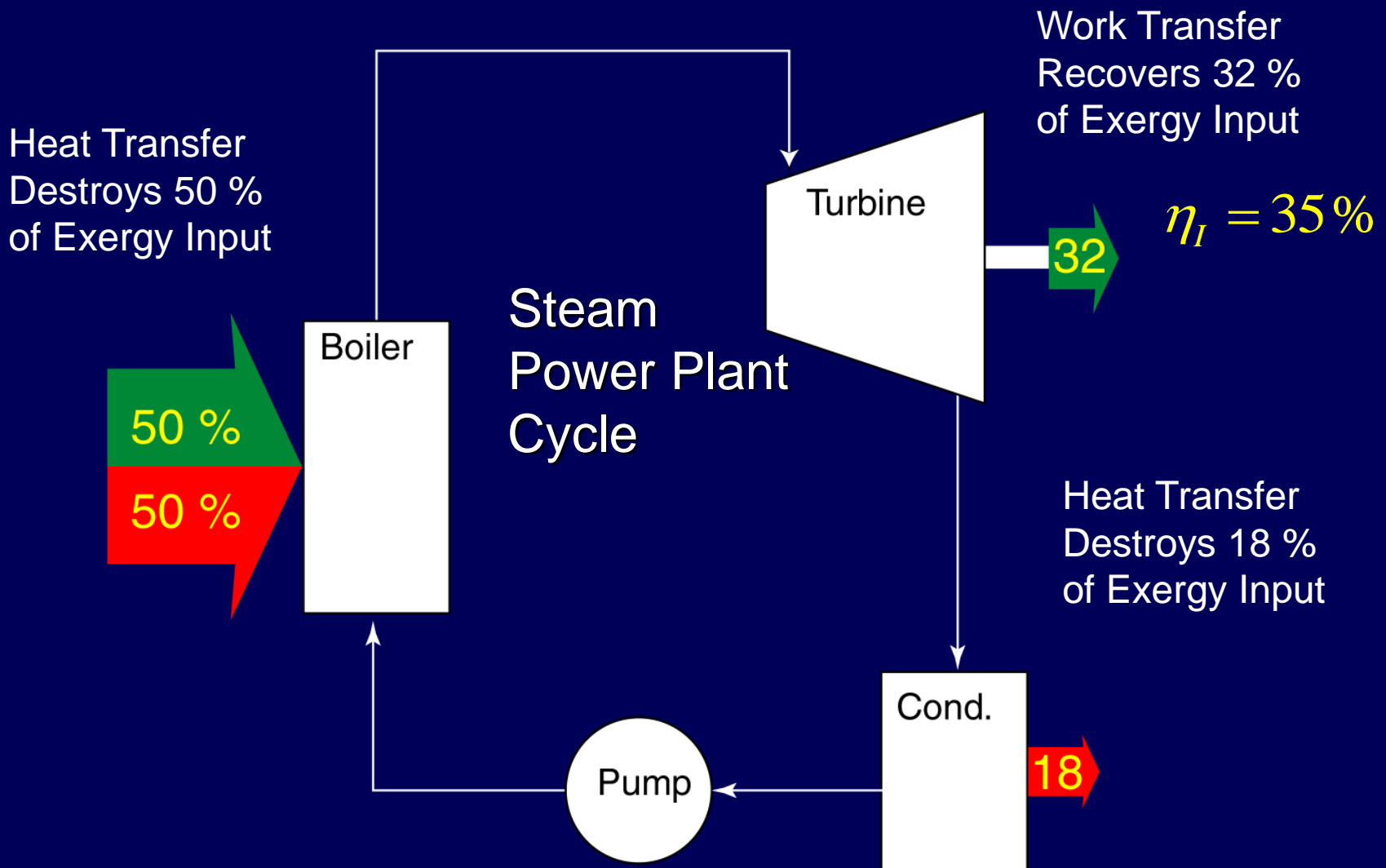




# Decision Making by Energy

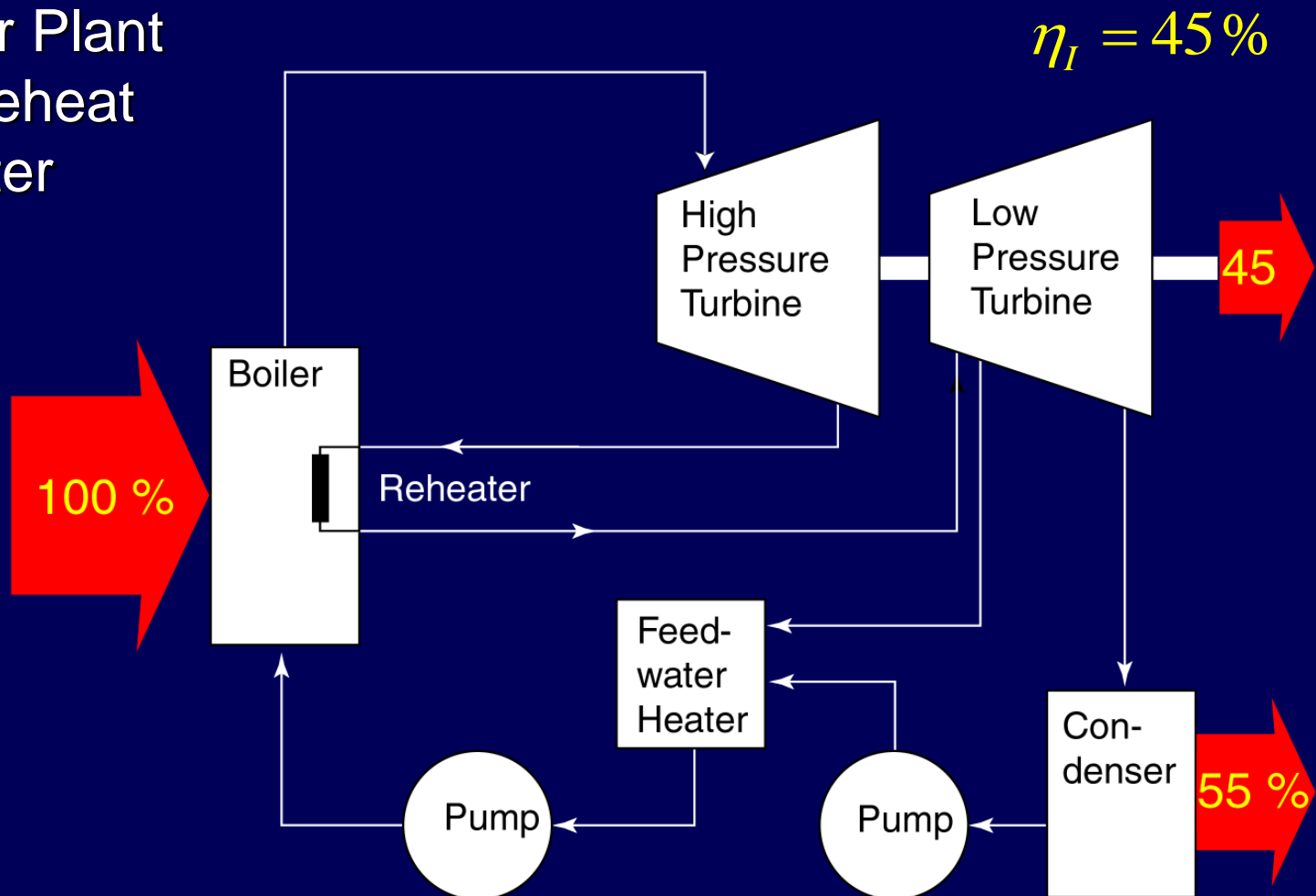


# Decision Making by Exergy



# Decision Making by Exergy

Steam Power Plant  
Cycle with Reheat  
and Feedwater  
Heating



What is Exergy?

# Four Characteristics of Energy

- Magnitude       $E_{\text{nergy}}$       (First Law)
- Form            KE, PdV      (Phenomena)
- Direction       $P_S \geq 0$       (Second Law)
  
- Quality             $eX_{\text{ergy}}$       (First + Second Laws)

# Four Characteristics of Energy

- Magnitude       $E_{\text{nergy}}$       (First Law)
- Form            KE, PdV      (Phenomena)
- Direction       $P_S \geq 0$       (Second Law)
  
- Quality             $eX_{\text{ergy}}$       (First + Second Laws  
+ **Environment**)

# General Exergy Concept

Exergy  $\equiv$  Maximum Useful To-The-Dead-State Work  $\equiv$  Energy Quality or Usefulness

- ANY SYSTEM out of equilibrium with its environment has the potential to do useful work.
- *Intrinsic exergy* provides a measure of how far **out of equilibrium** with the environment a system happens to be.

**A**  
**BLACK BOX**  
**Principle**

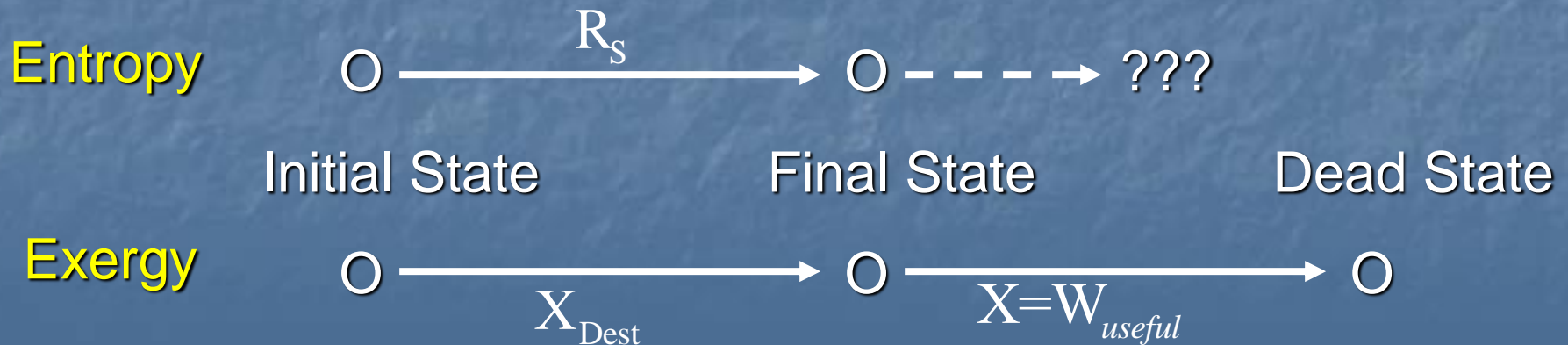


# Exergy versus Entropy

# Exergy and Entropy Intimately Linked

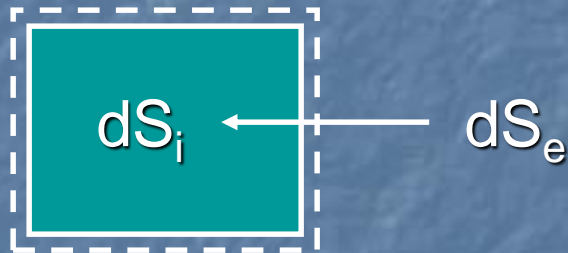
Guoy-Stodola Theorem:

$$X_{\text{Dest}} = T_0 P_S$$



“Literally” Look Outside the Box

# Prigogine's Local Entropy Production



$$dS_{\text{sys}} = dS_i + dS_e$$

A system-centric viewpoint.

# Prigogine's Local Entropy Production

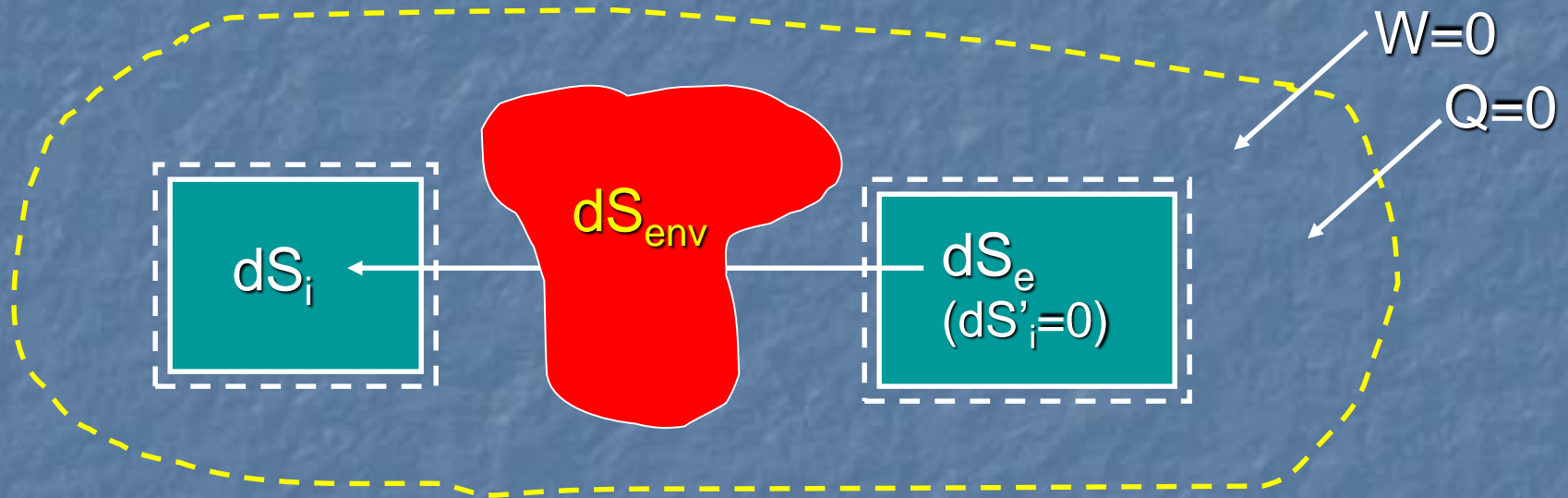


A system-centric viewpoint.

Detrimentially de-emphasises critical role of environment.

Must construct system until  $dS_e=0$  or  $dS_{env}=0$ .

# Classical Entropy Production

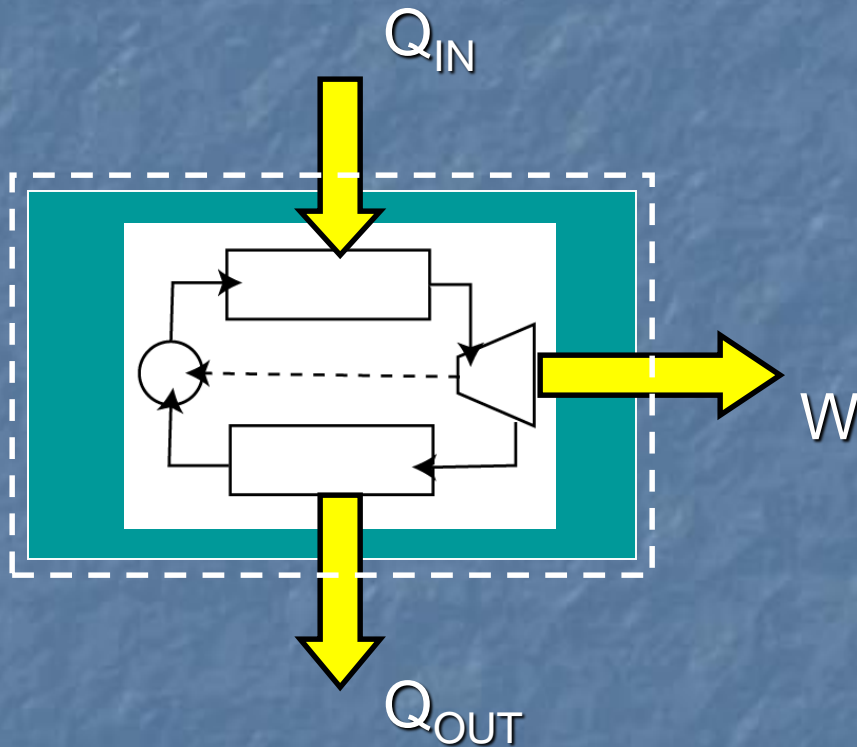


An isolated-system viewpoint.  $dS_{sys} = dS_i + dS_e + dS_{env}$

Second Law of Thermodynamics:

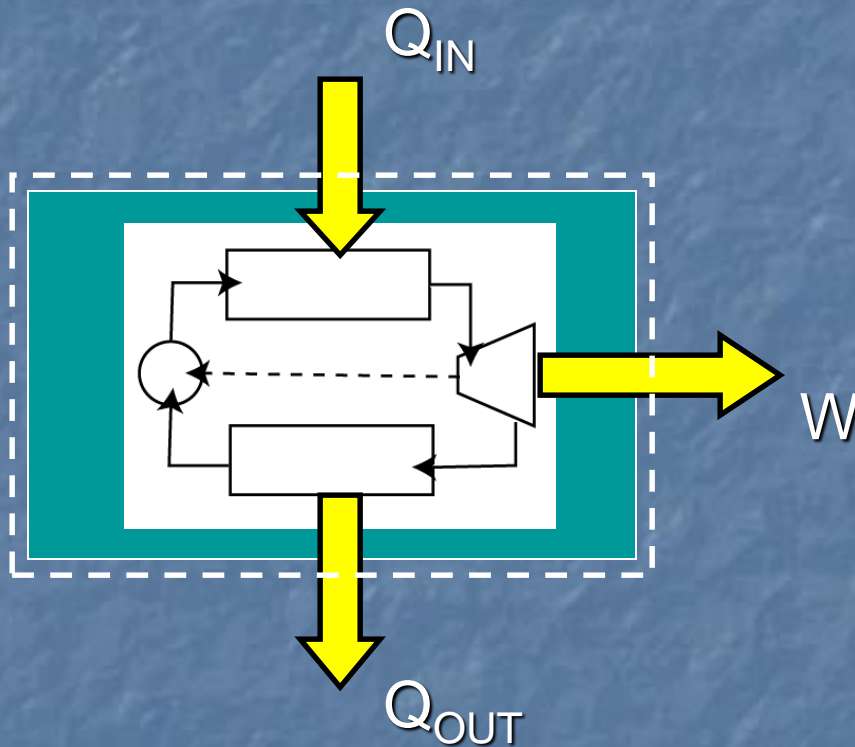
$$dS_{\text{prod, isolated system}} = dS_i + dS_{env} \geq 0$$

# Cycle Efficiency (System Centric)



Biology and Ecology tend to define the system and then look inside.

# Mechanistic Analysis of Cycle Efficiency



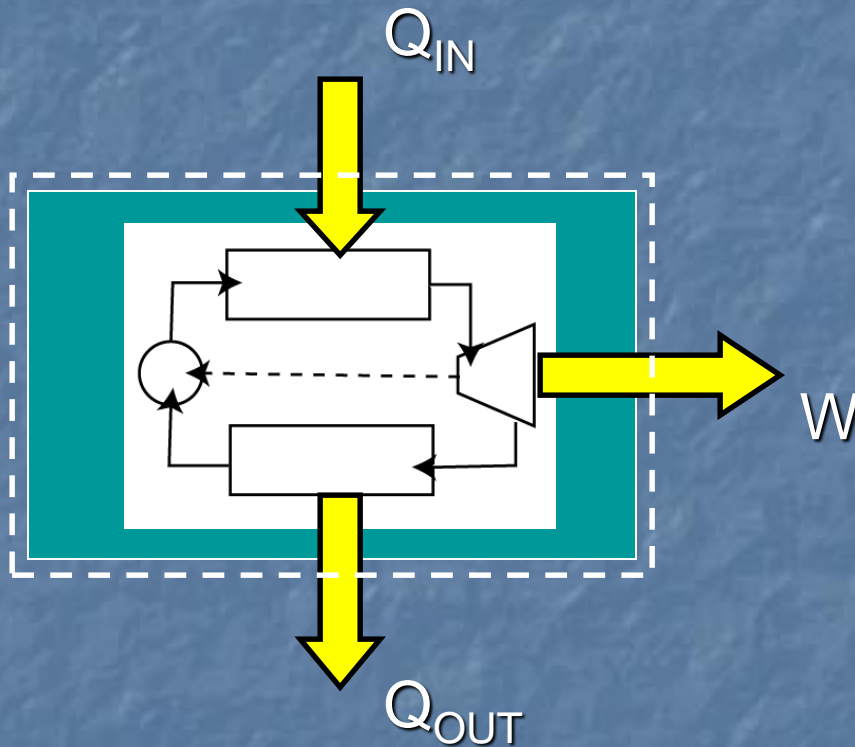
System is no longer viewed as a Black Box.

Easy to lose focus of the whole system.

$$\eta = \frac{W}{Q_{IN}} = 40\%$$



# Mechanistic Analysis of Cycle Efficiency



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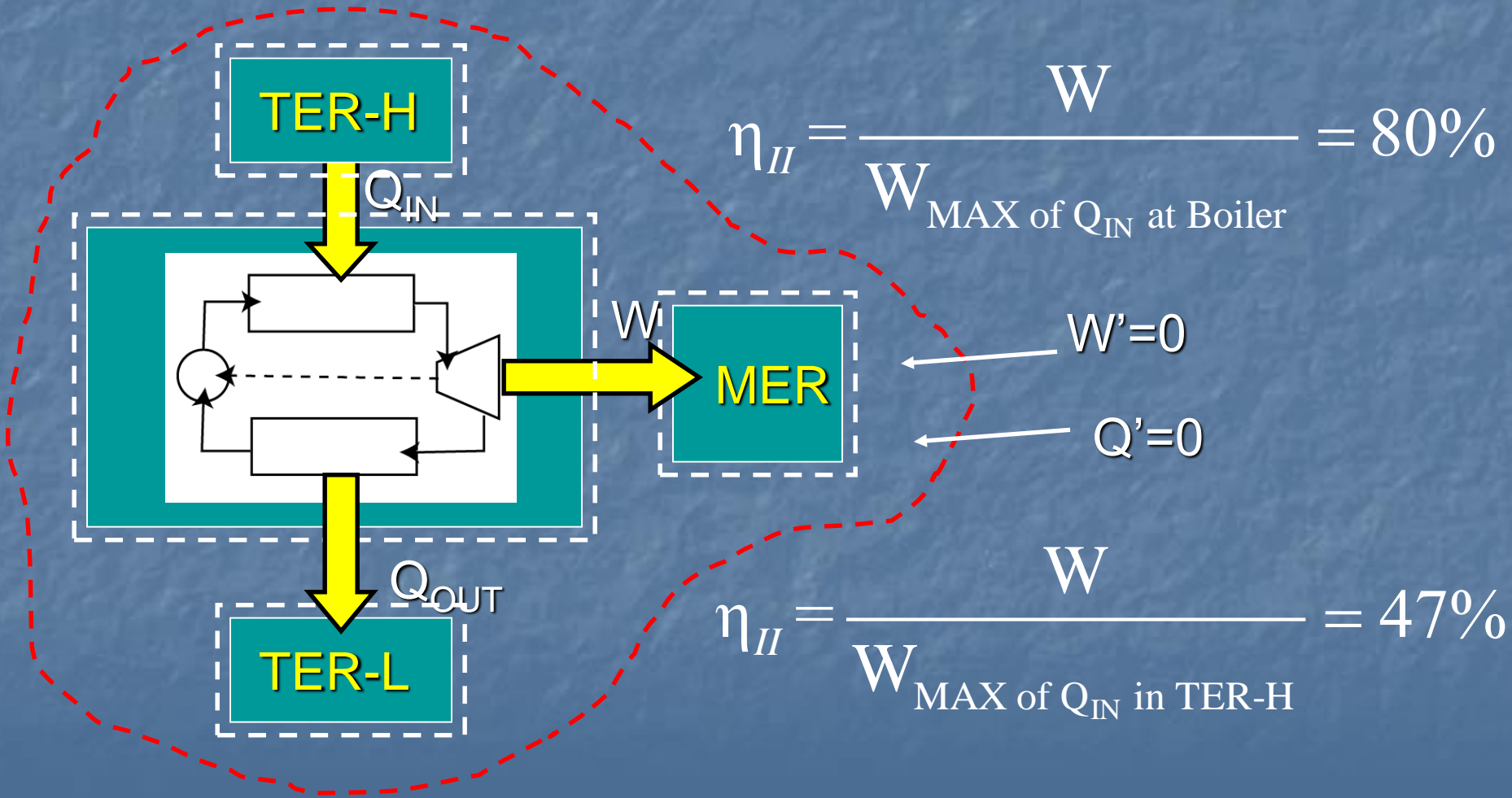
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**Bottom Up Approach**

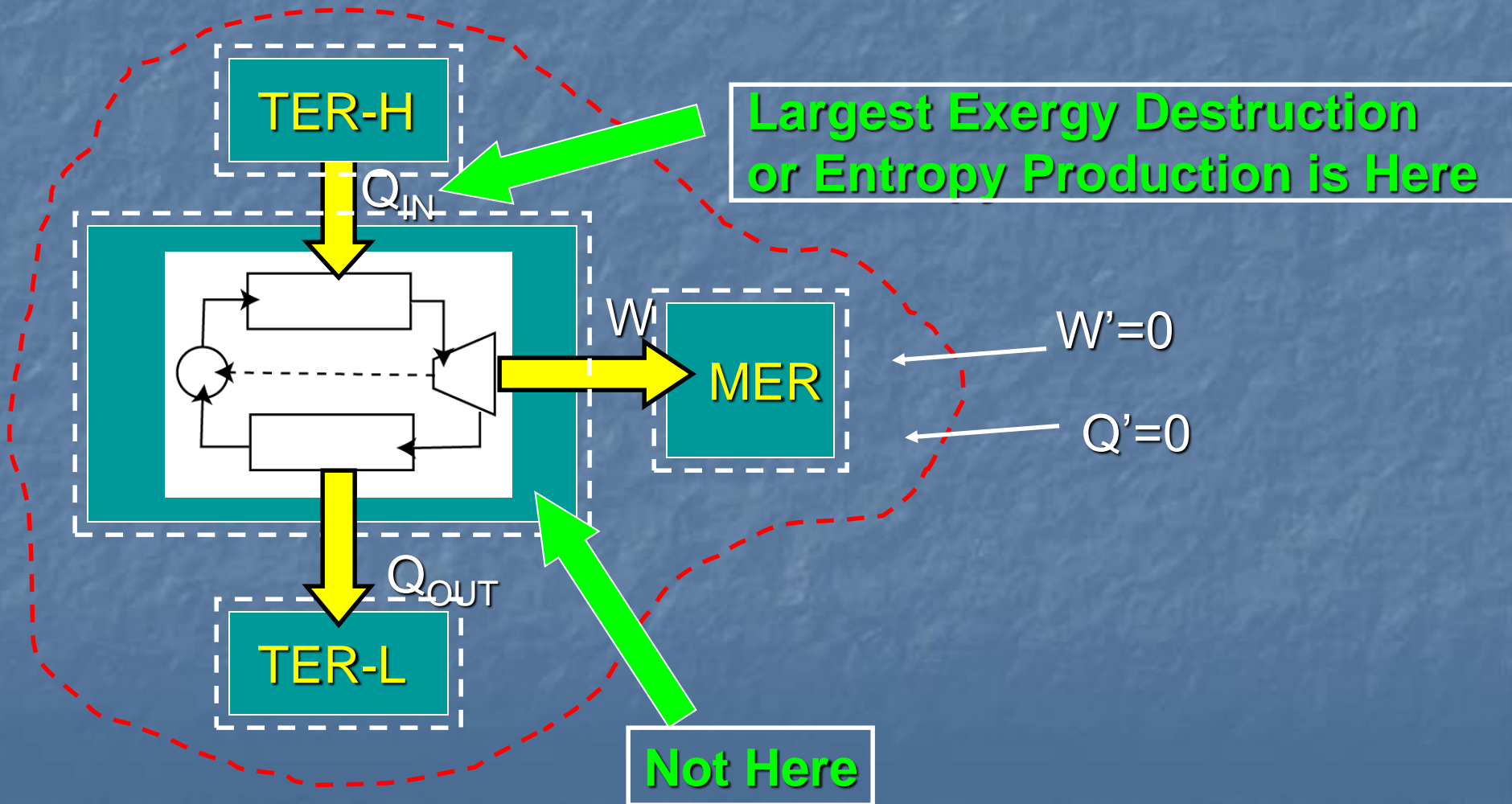
# Plant Efficiency

(Isolated-System or Exergy View)

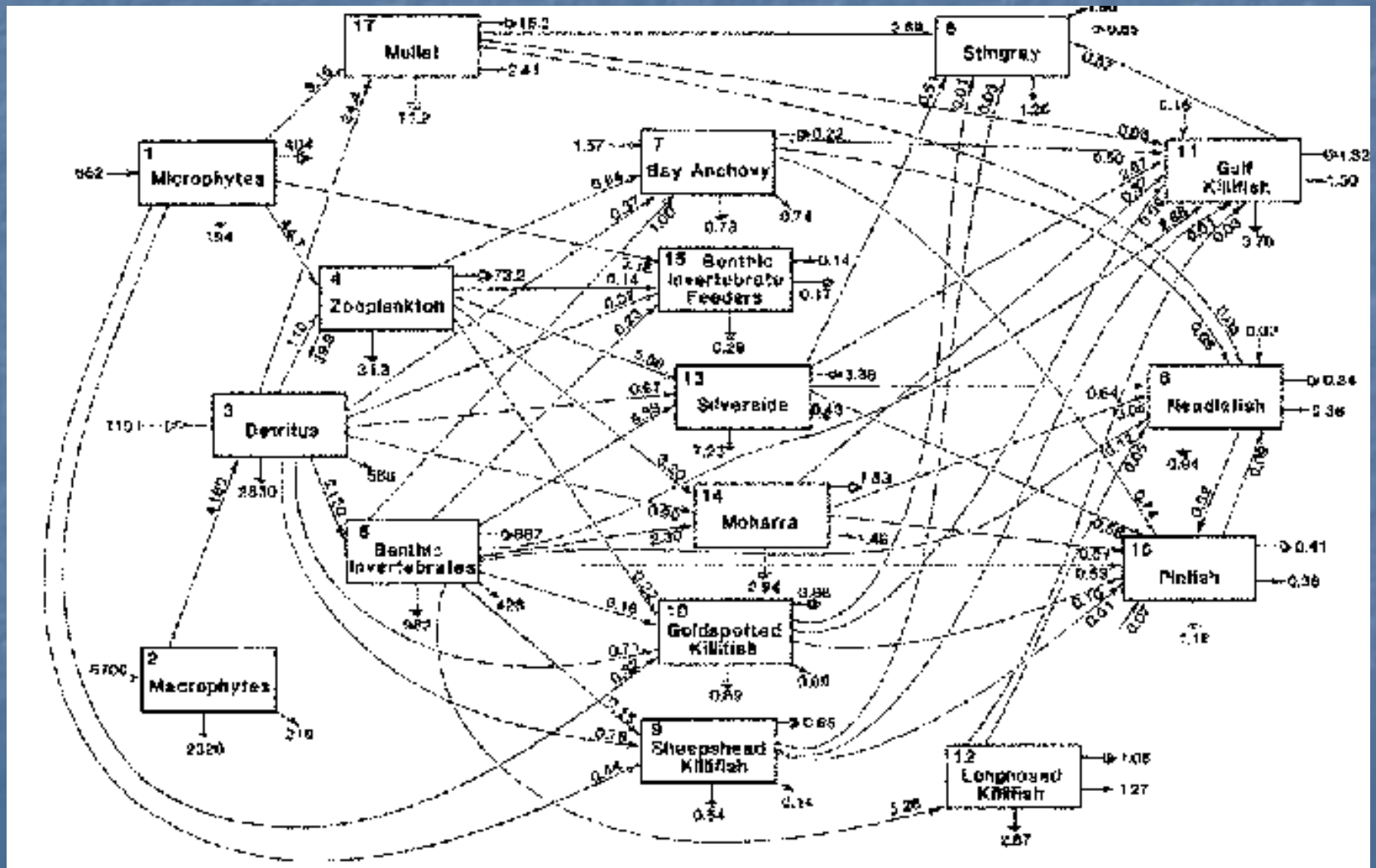


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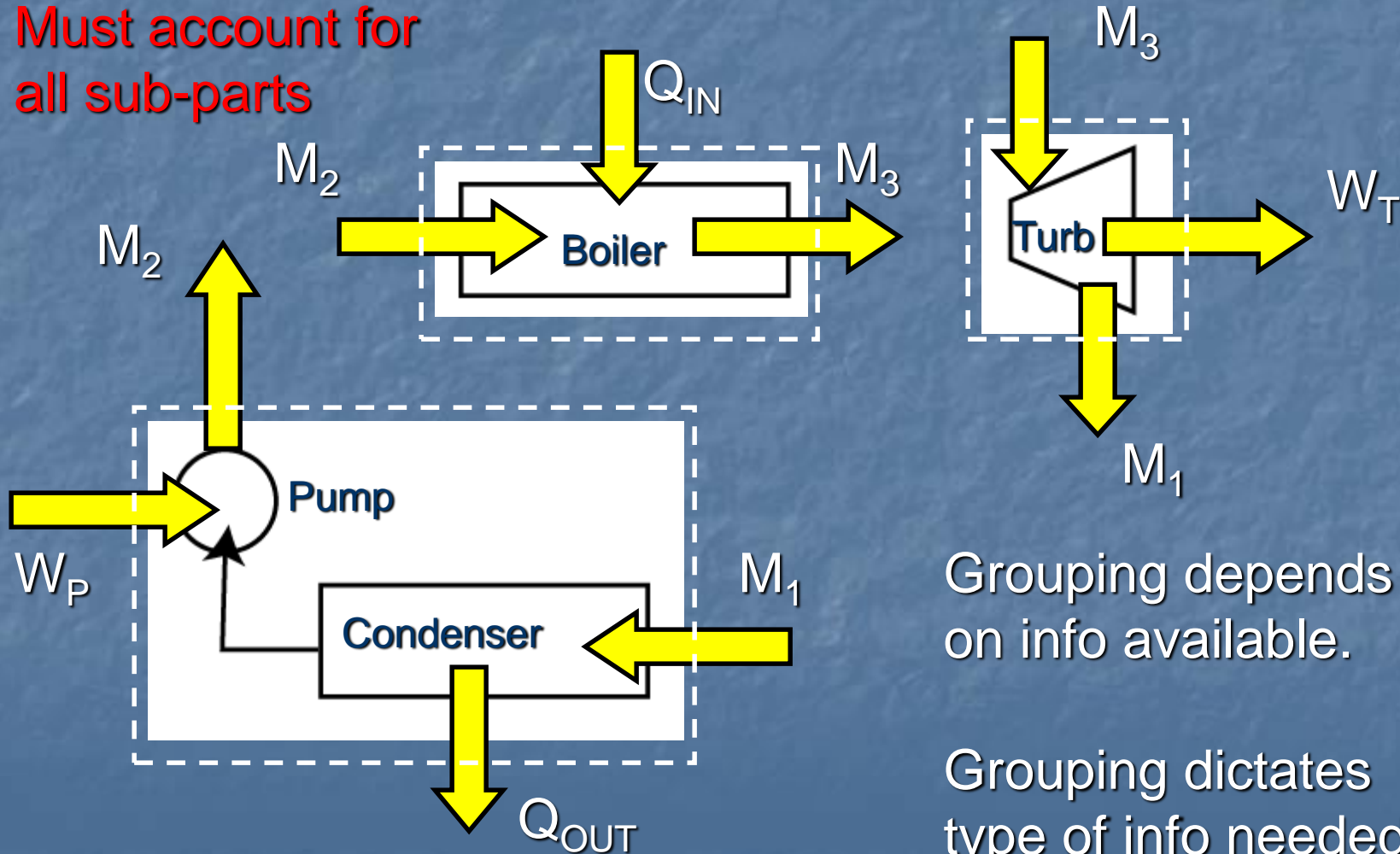


# Food Web



# Isolated-System View of Sub-Systems (Top-Down)

Must account for  
all sub-parts



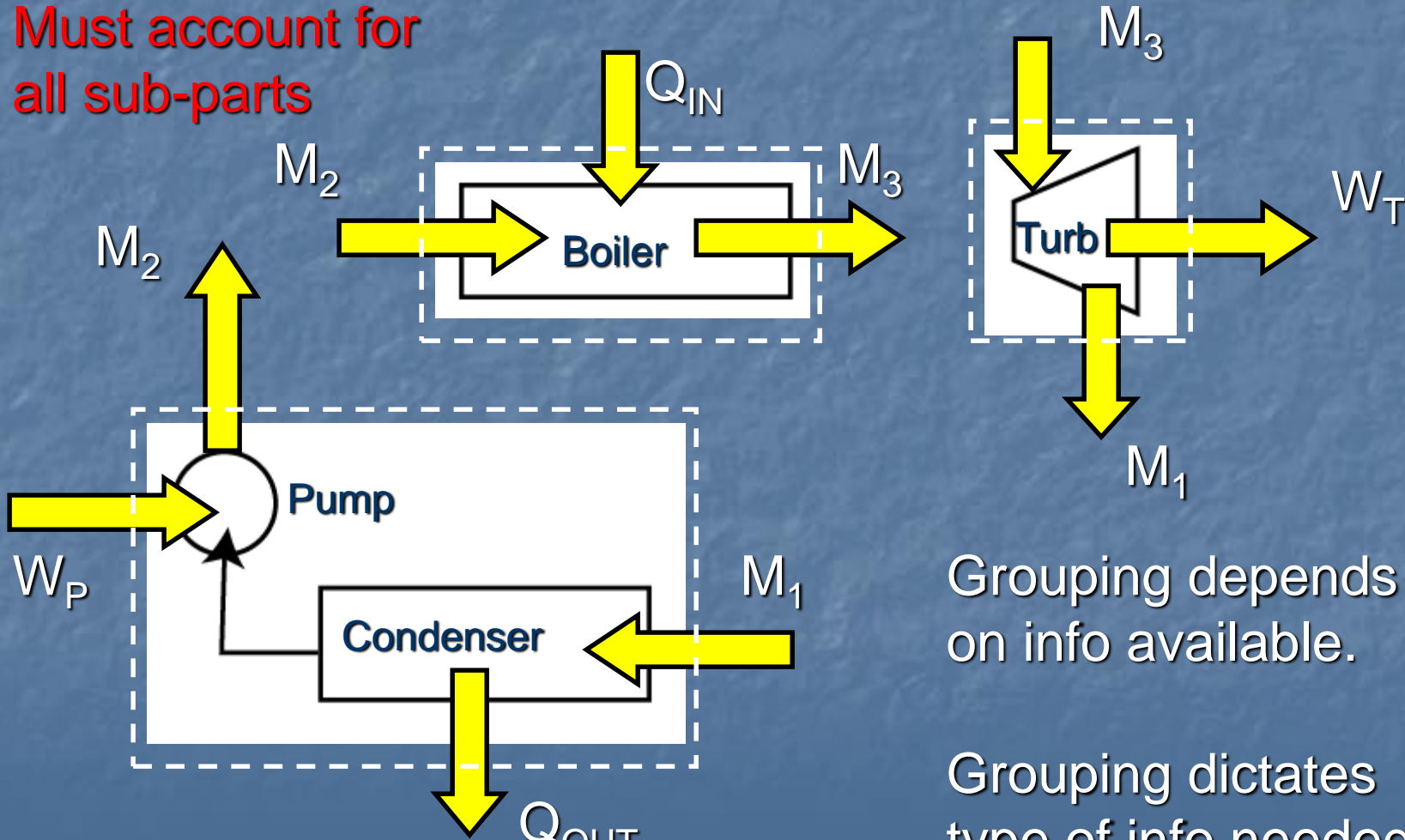
Grouping depends  
on info available.

Grouping dictates  
type of info needed.

Still Black Boxes

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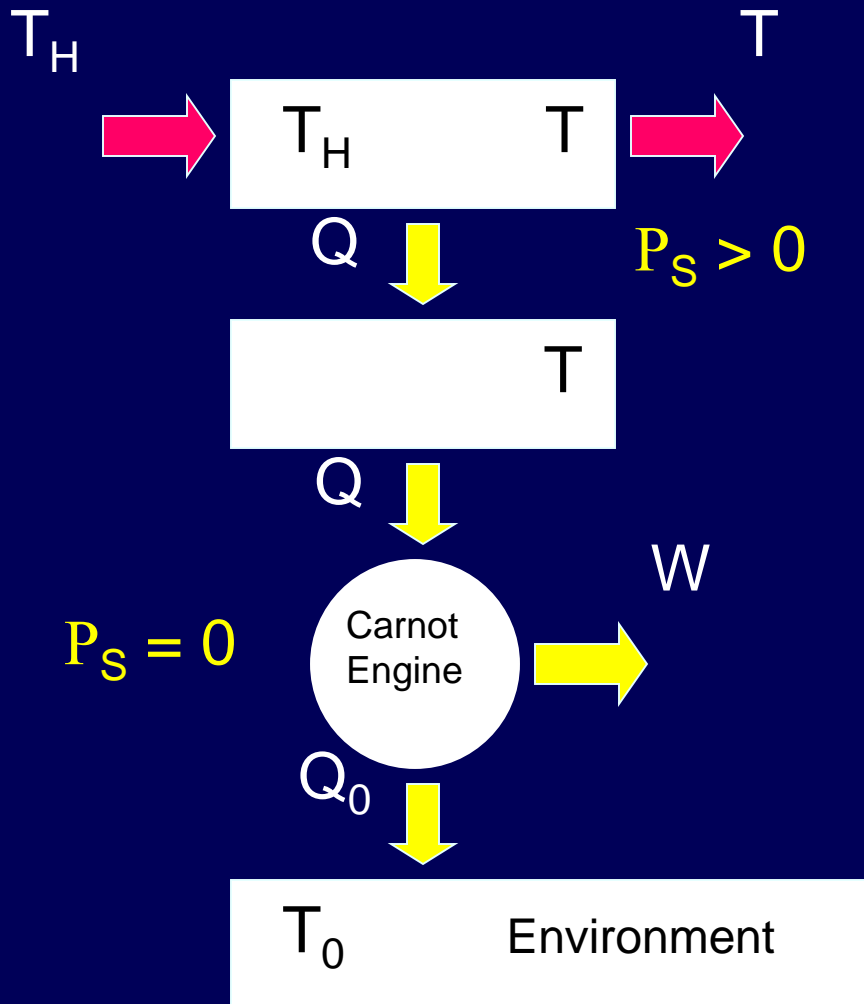
Top Down Approach

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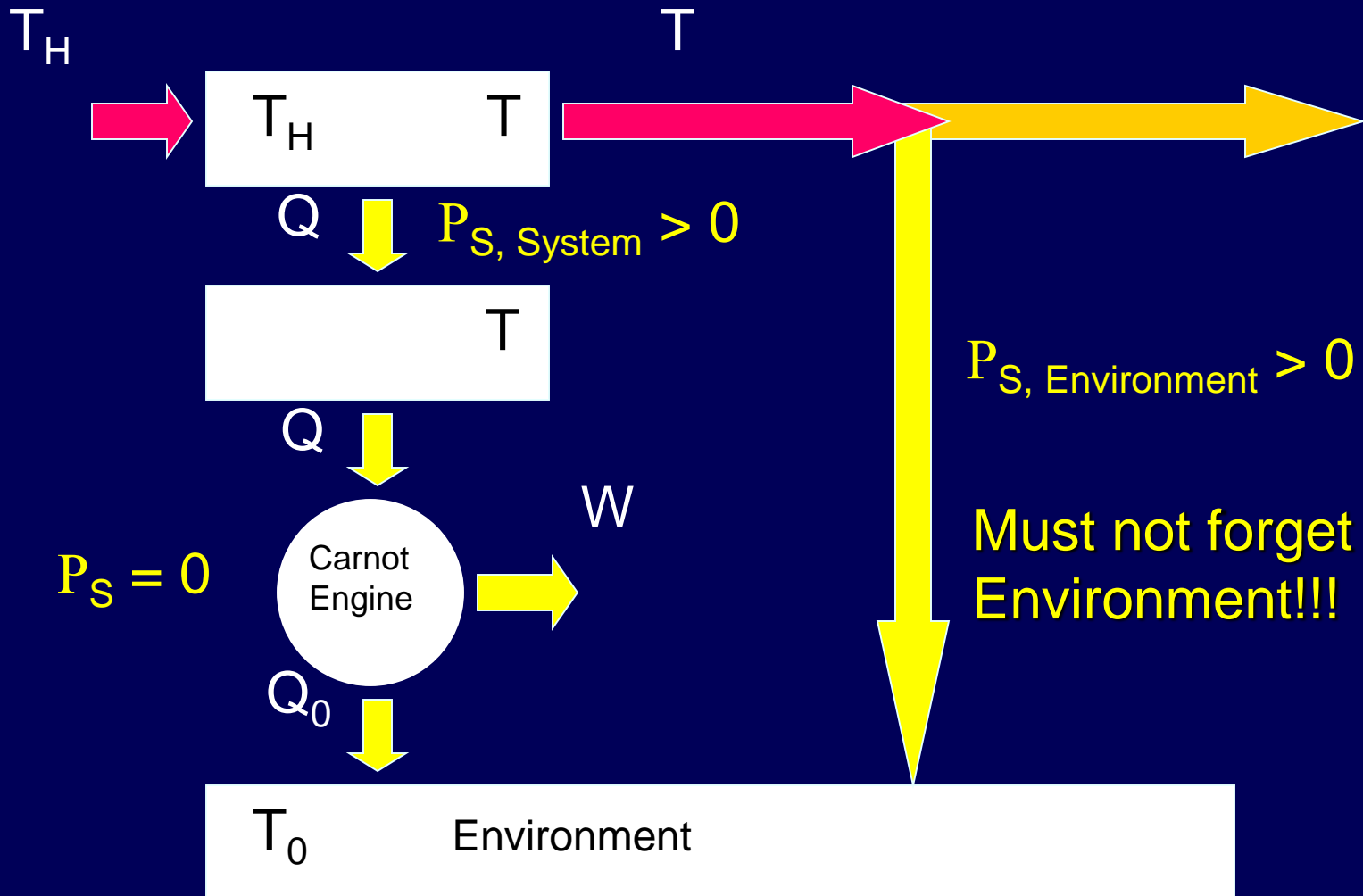
Still Black Boxes

# Chambadal's Engine



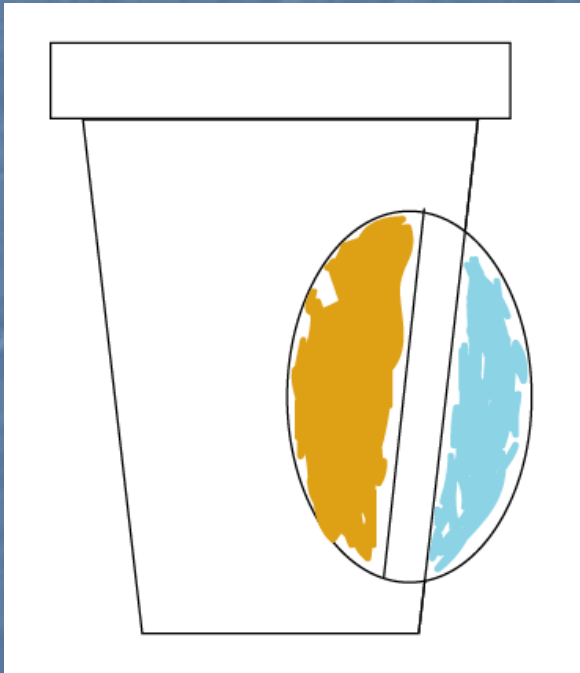
$T_{\text{Optimum}} = ?$   
for maximum  $W$

# Chambadal's Engine

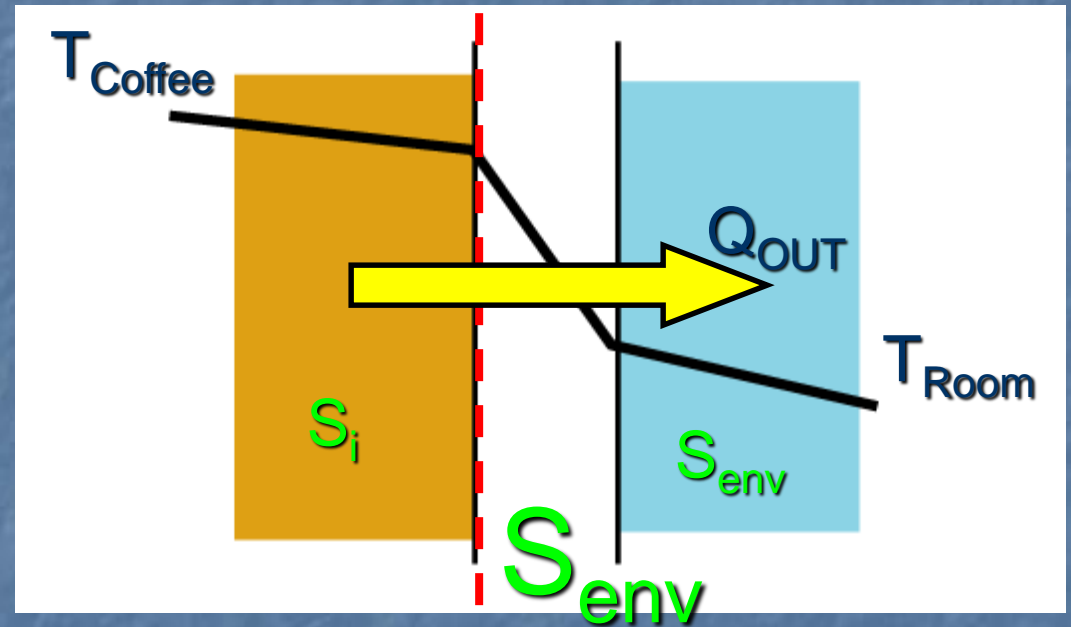
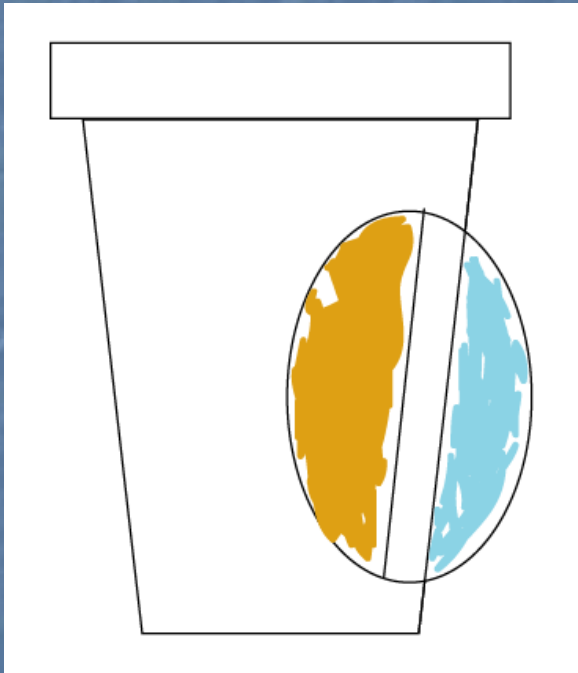




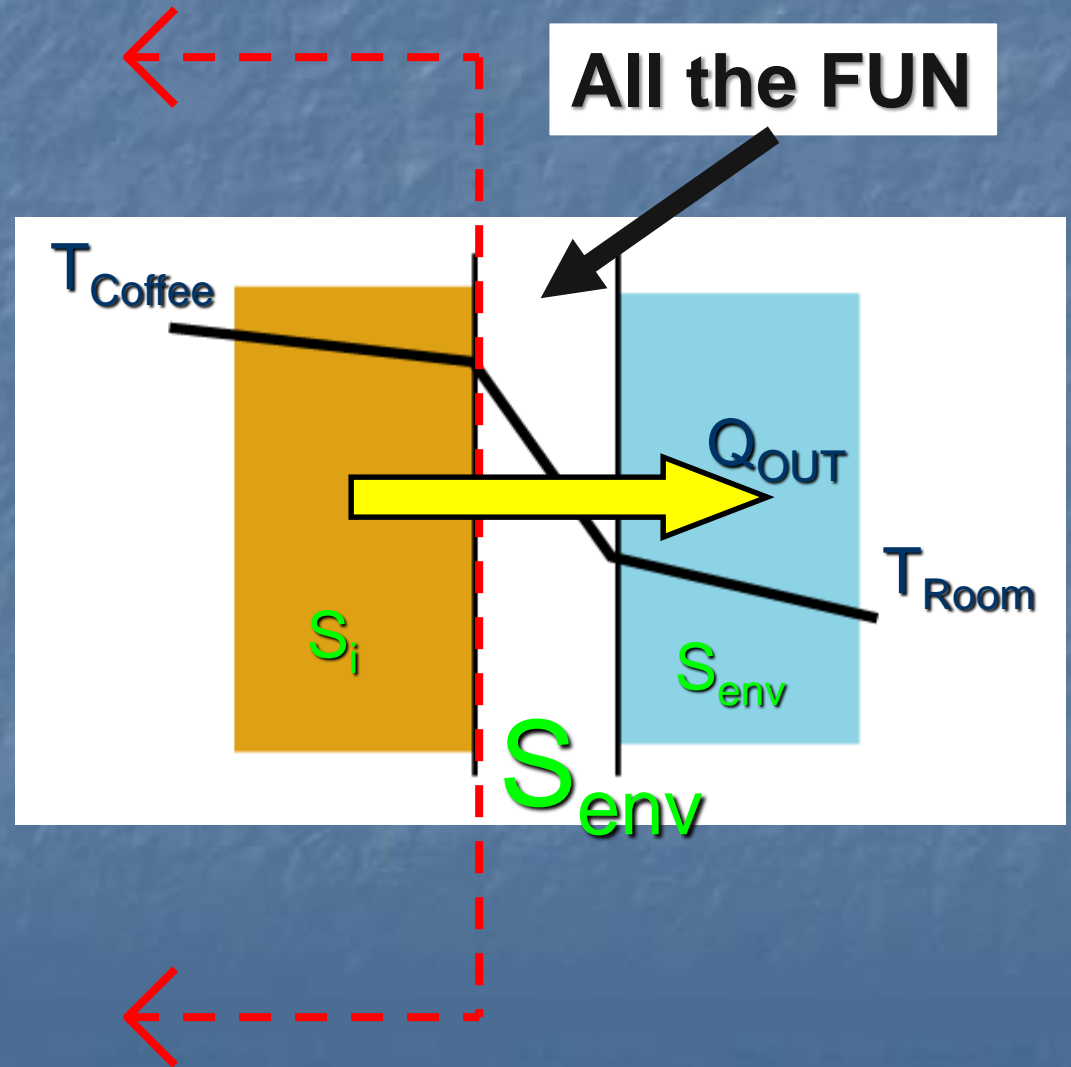
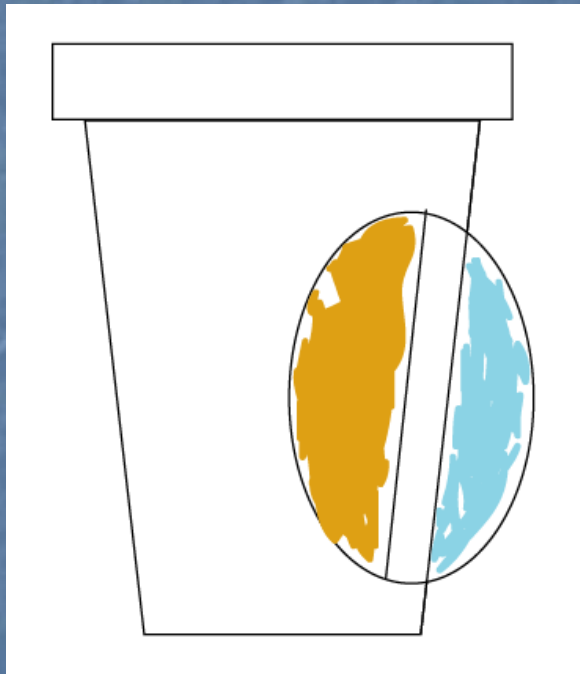
# Coffee cup: where is all the fun?



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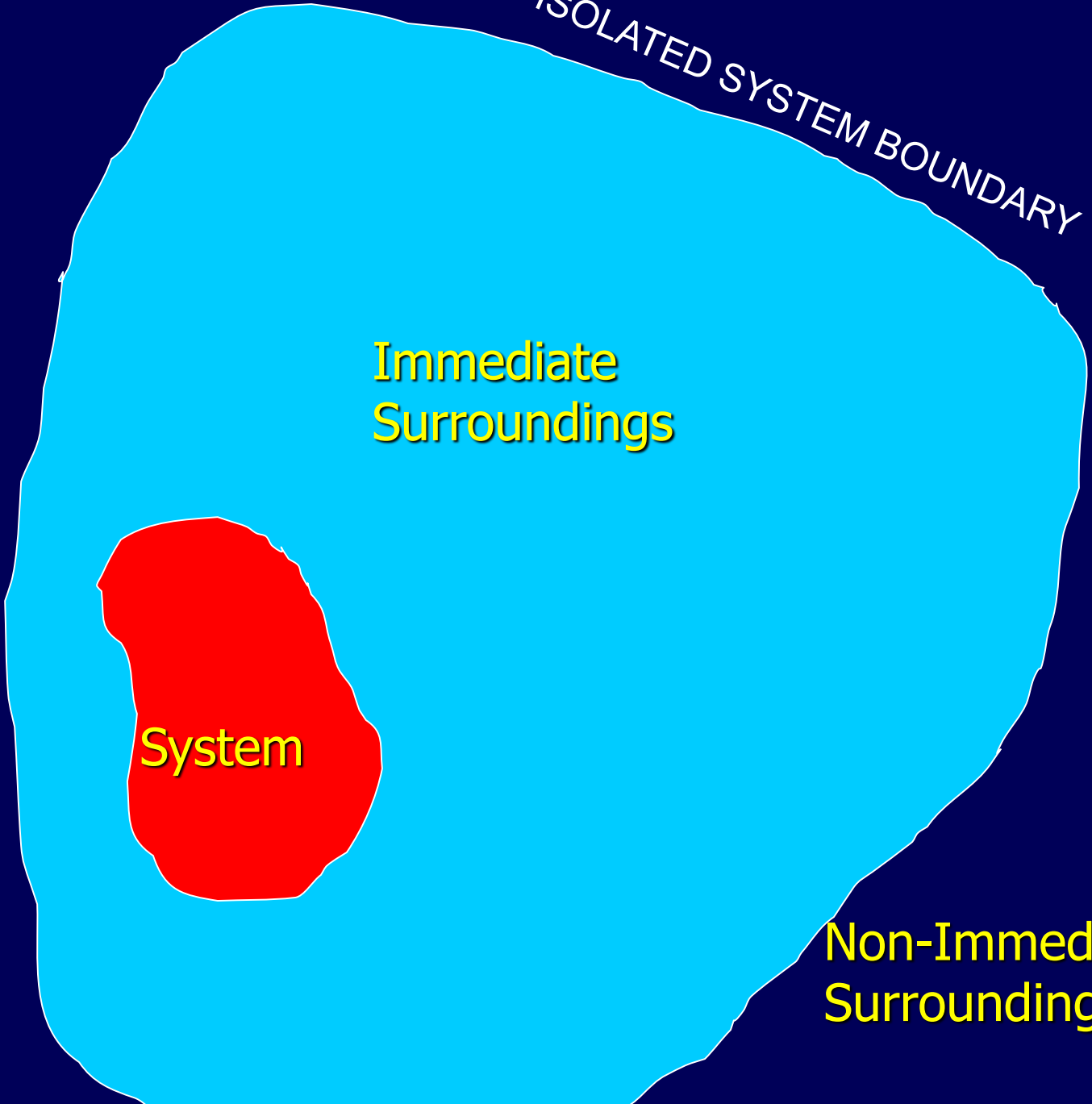


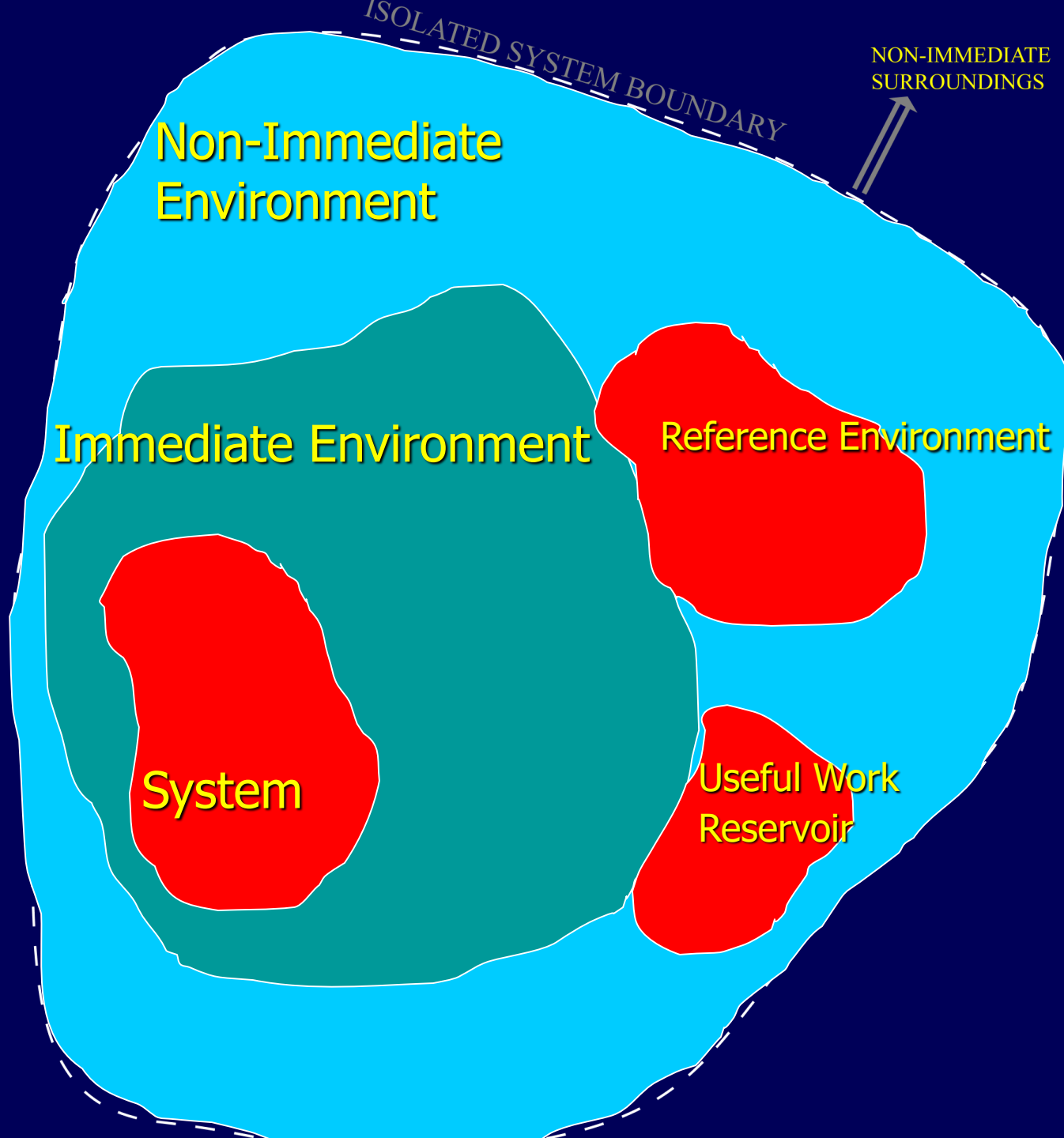
ISOLATED SYSTEM BOUNDARY

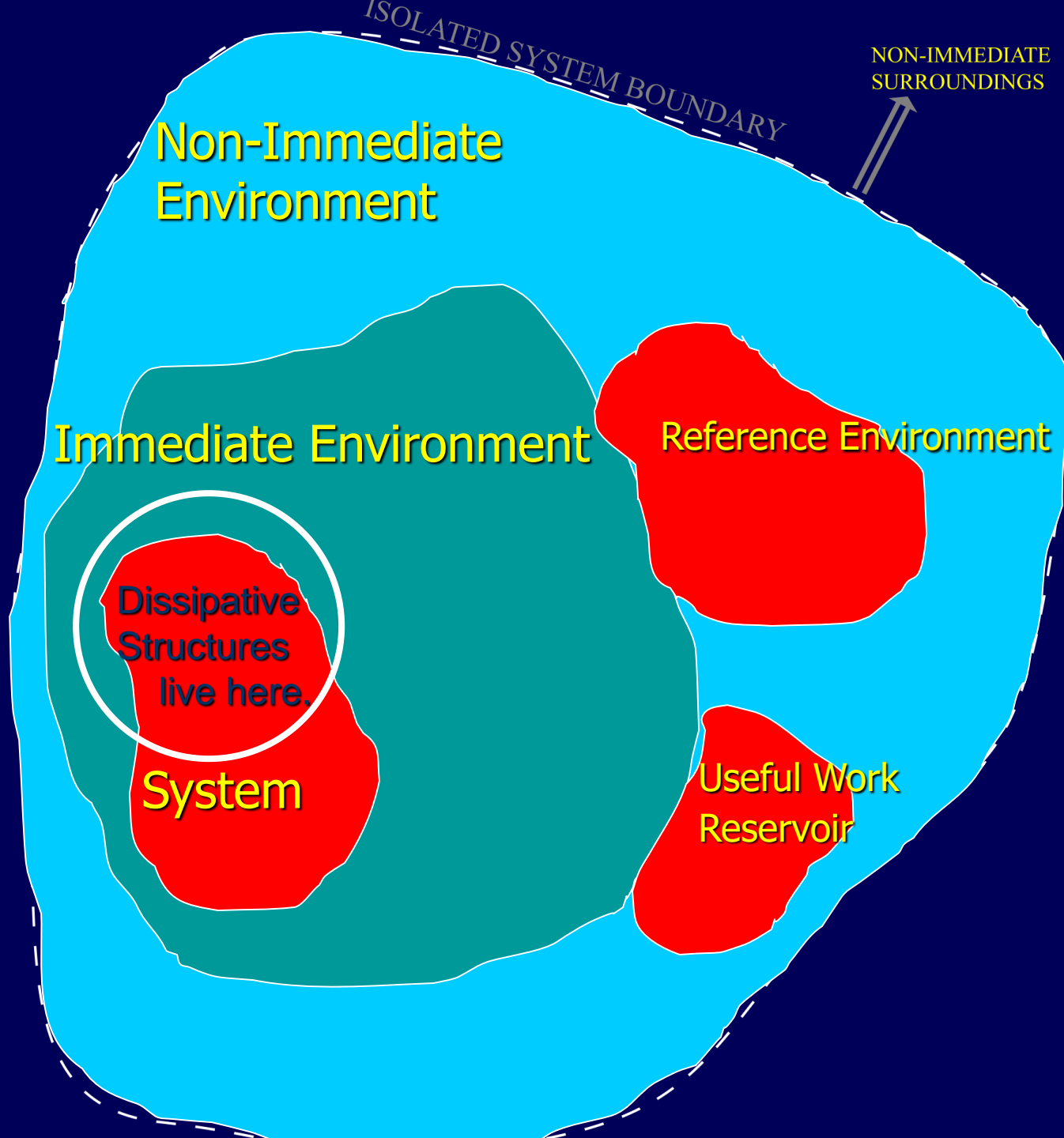
Immediate Surroundings

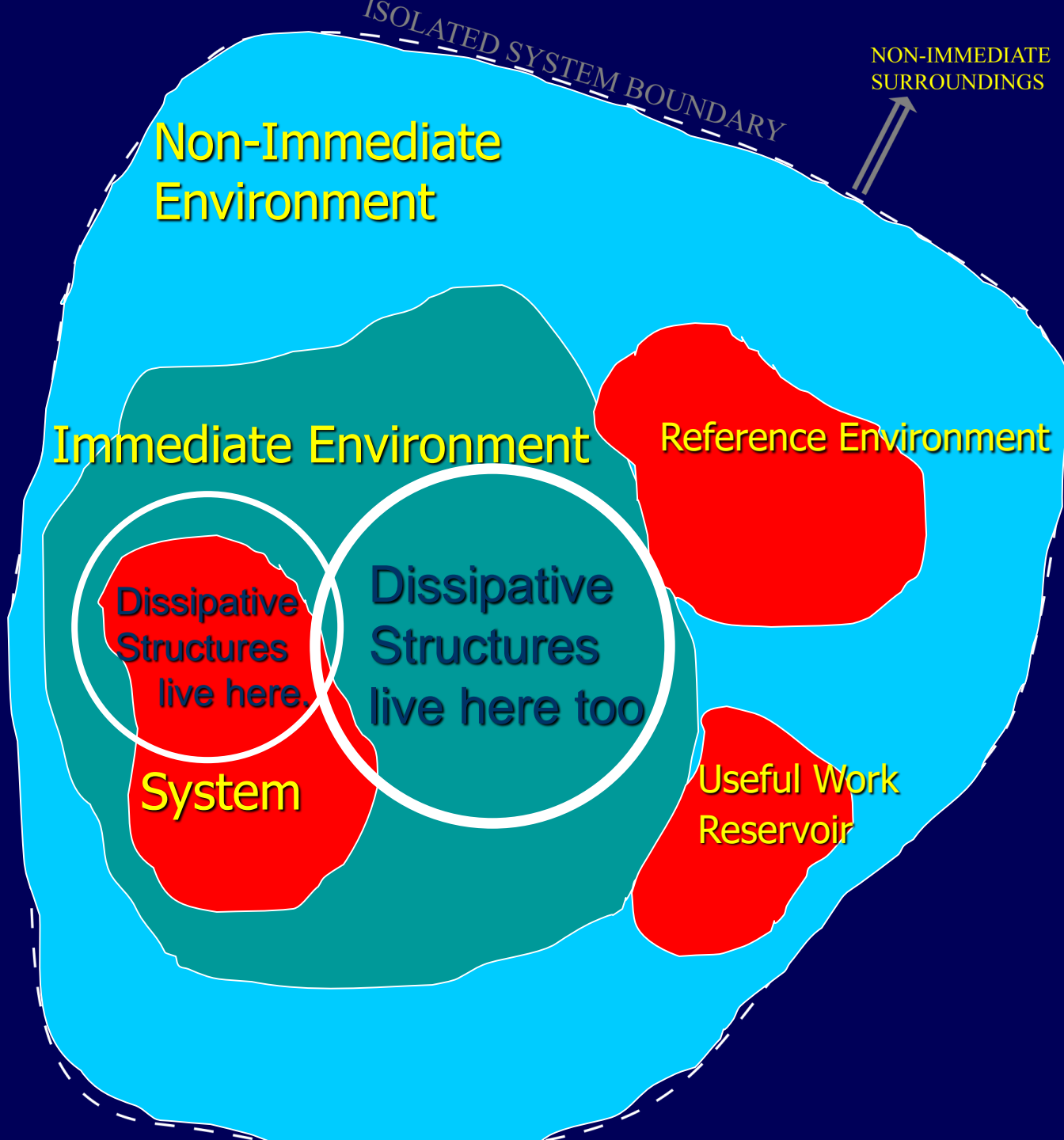
System

Non-Immediate Surroundings









# Remember

- Do not ignore the environment.
- Exergy destruction (or energy degradation) necessitates that one deals with the environment.



# New Thought

Think

Degrative Structures  
& Gradients

not

Dissipative Structures

# Generalized Exergy

# Generalized Exergy

EXERGY = Maximum Useful  
To-the-dead-state Work

Generalizations:

1. Environment properties may change.
2. Introduces exergy types.

# Exergy Types

1. **Intrinsic Exergy** Exergy within system
2. **Transport Exergy** Adds SSSF
3. **Restricted Exergy** Adds access restriction
4. **Accessible Exergy** Adds inaccessibility
5. **Restricted-Access Exergy**
6. **Extracted Exergy** Actual work
7. **Hidden Exergy** Unknown exergy

# Energy Quality Issues

The following four issues are not found in non-generalized energy analyses:

1. Existence of Different **Dead States**,
2. Ability to Change **Dead States**,
3. Time, Space, and Structure **Restrictions**, and
4. **Accessibility** to *Gradients*.

# Exergy Destruction Principle

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Ecosystems strive to maximize their utilization of exergy.

“Nature abhors a gradient”

Ecosystems, urban systems, climate systems, etc. are complex thermodynamic systems that should be influenced by the exergy destruction principle.

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Ecosystems strive to maximize their utilization of exergy.

Ecosystems are complex thermodynamic systems that degrade energy more effectively the further they are out of equilibrium (i.e., **more developed**).



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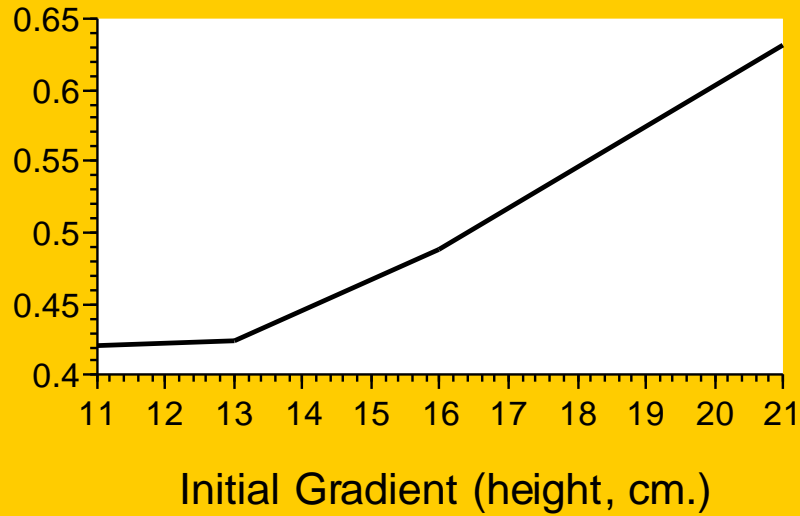
**A BLACK BOX Principle**

# Self-organizing dissipative systems

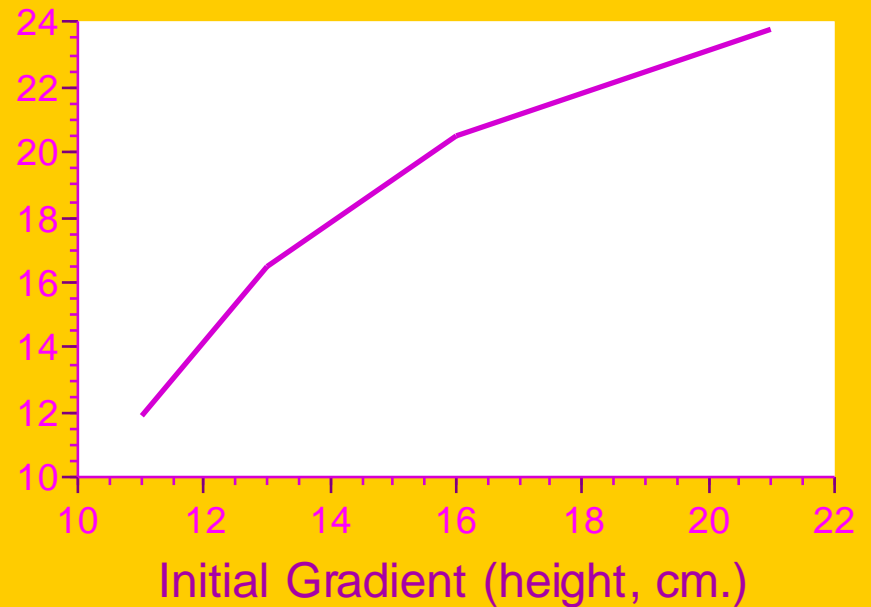
Tornado in the bottle

# Tornado in the bottle

Gradient Dissipation Rate (cm/sec)

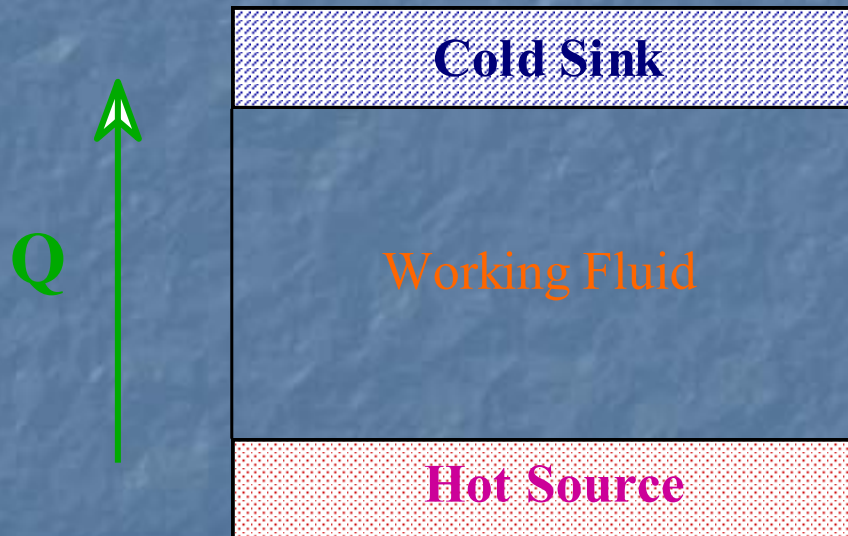


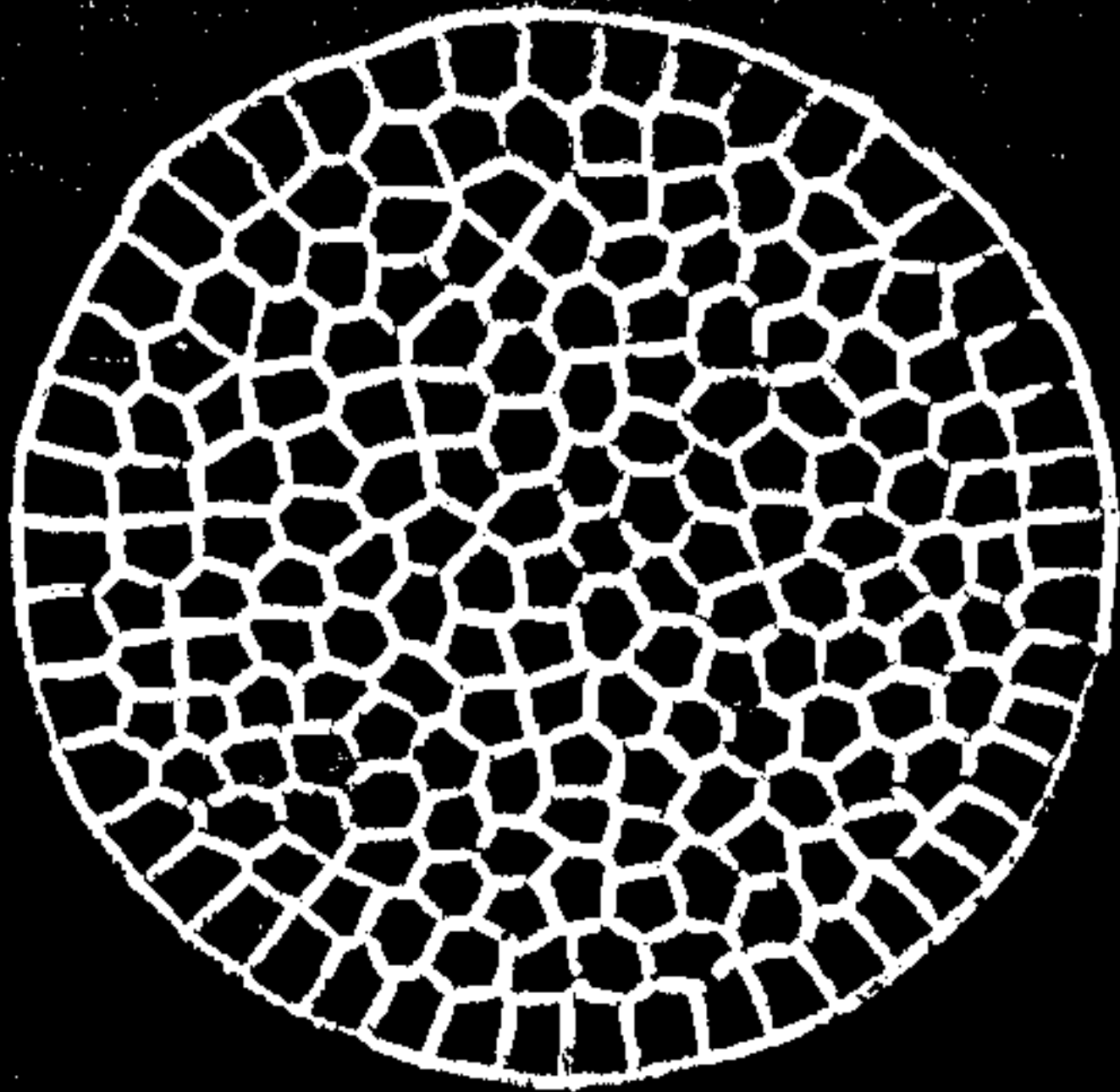
Time to Drain (secs)

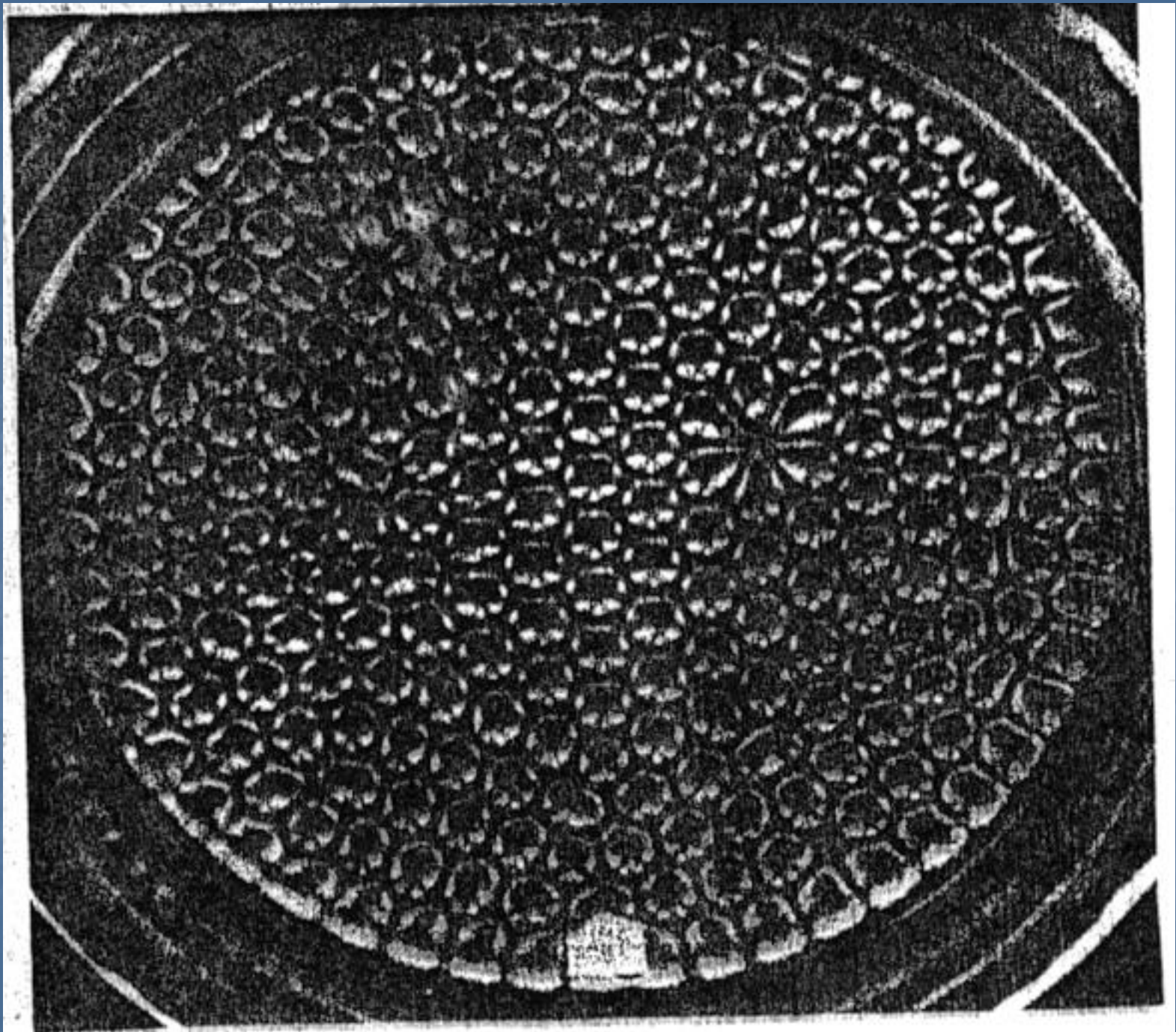


# Benard Cells

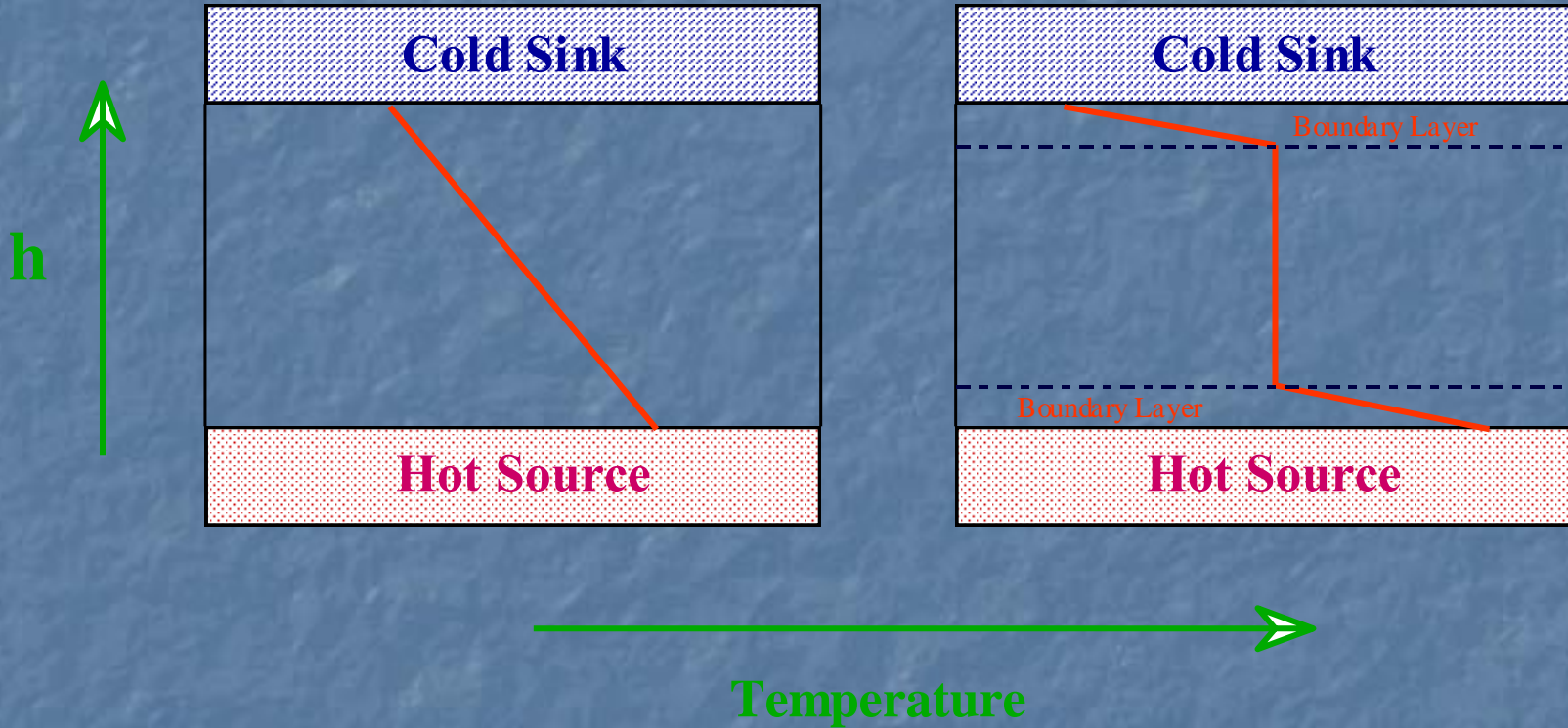
## Bénard Cells



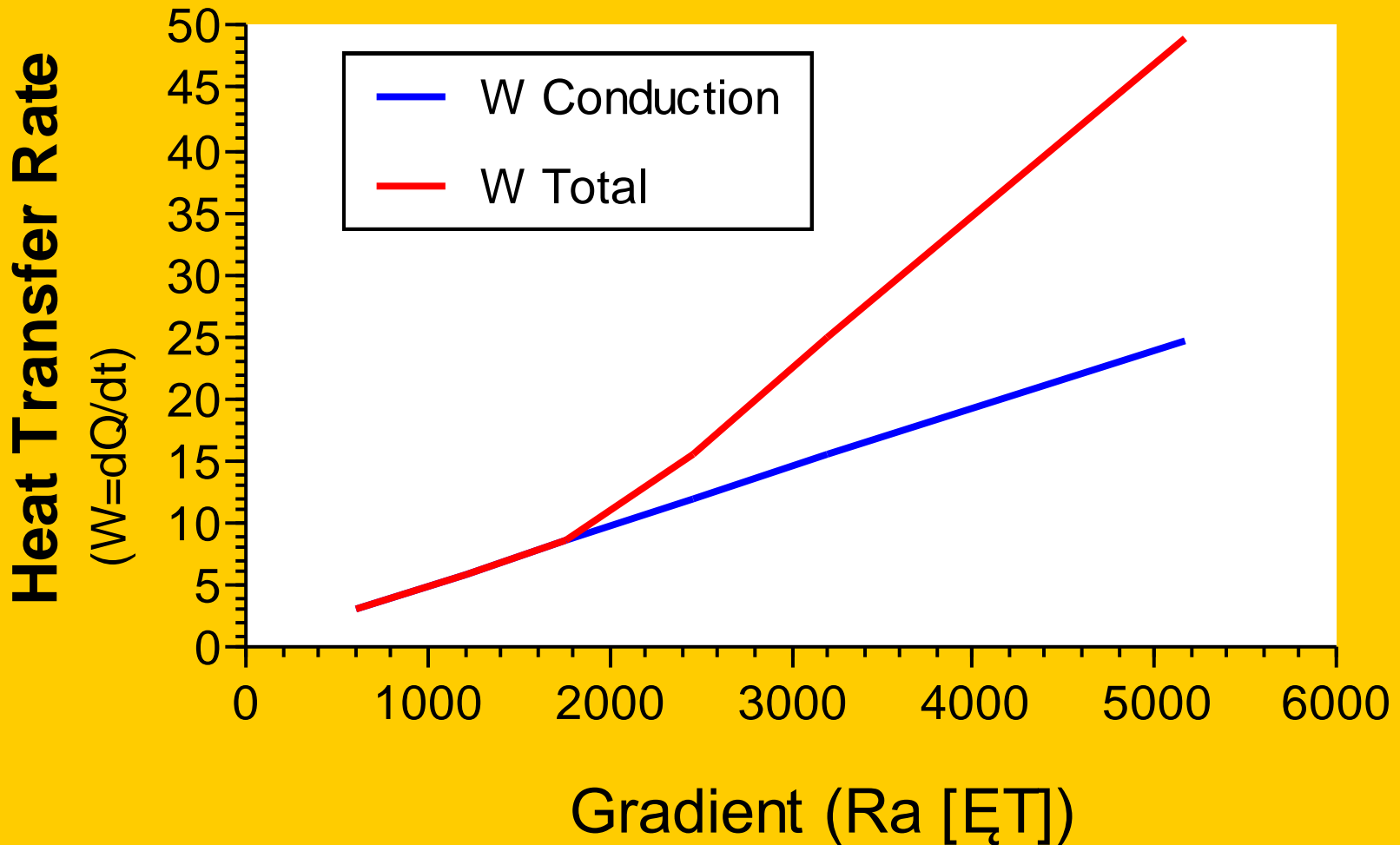




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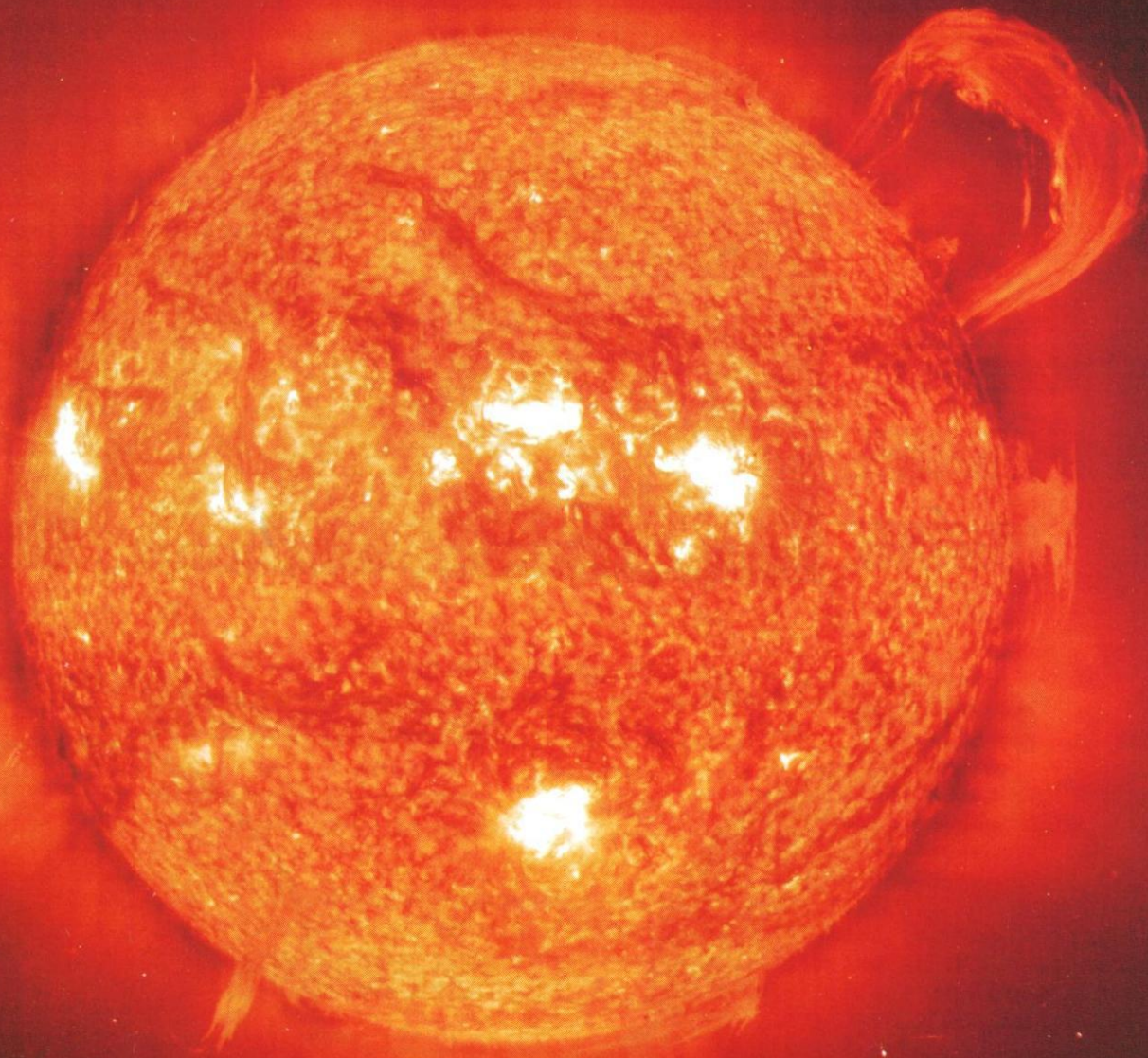


# Bénard Cells (Heat Transfer)

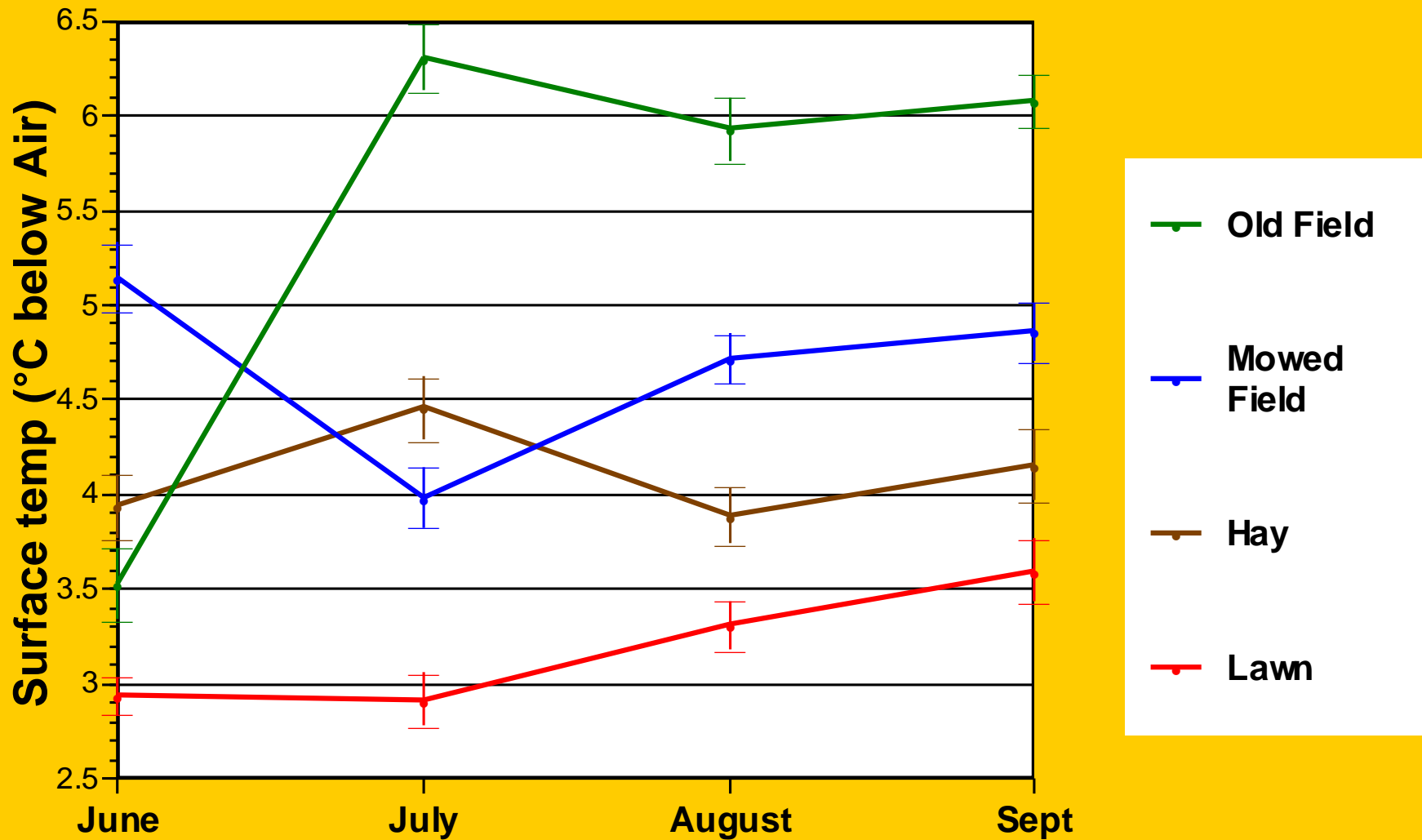


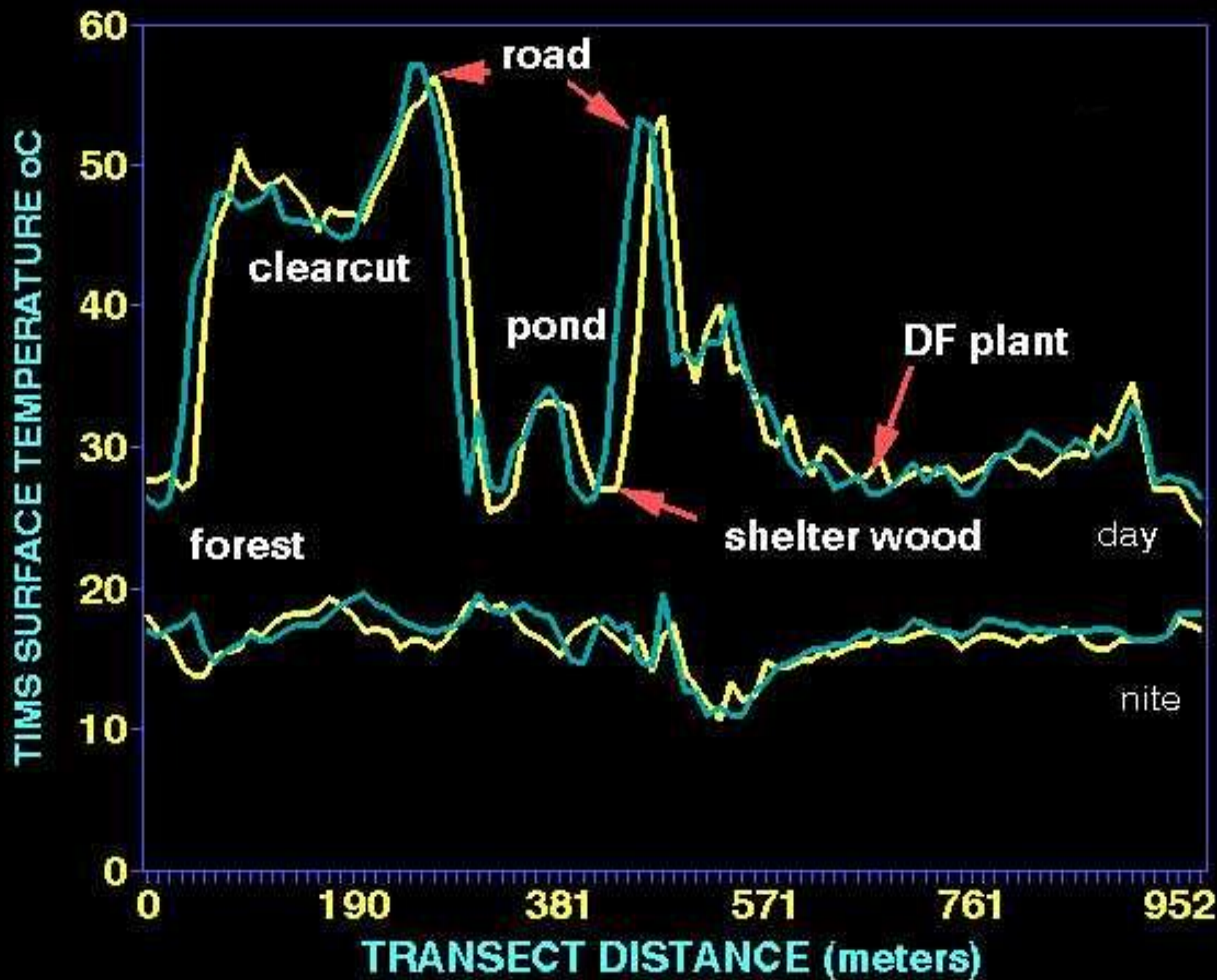


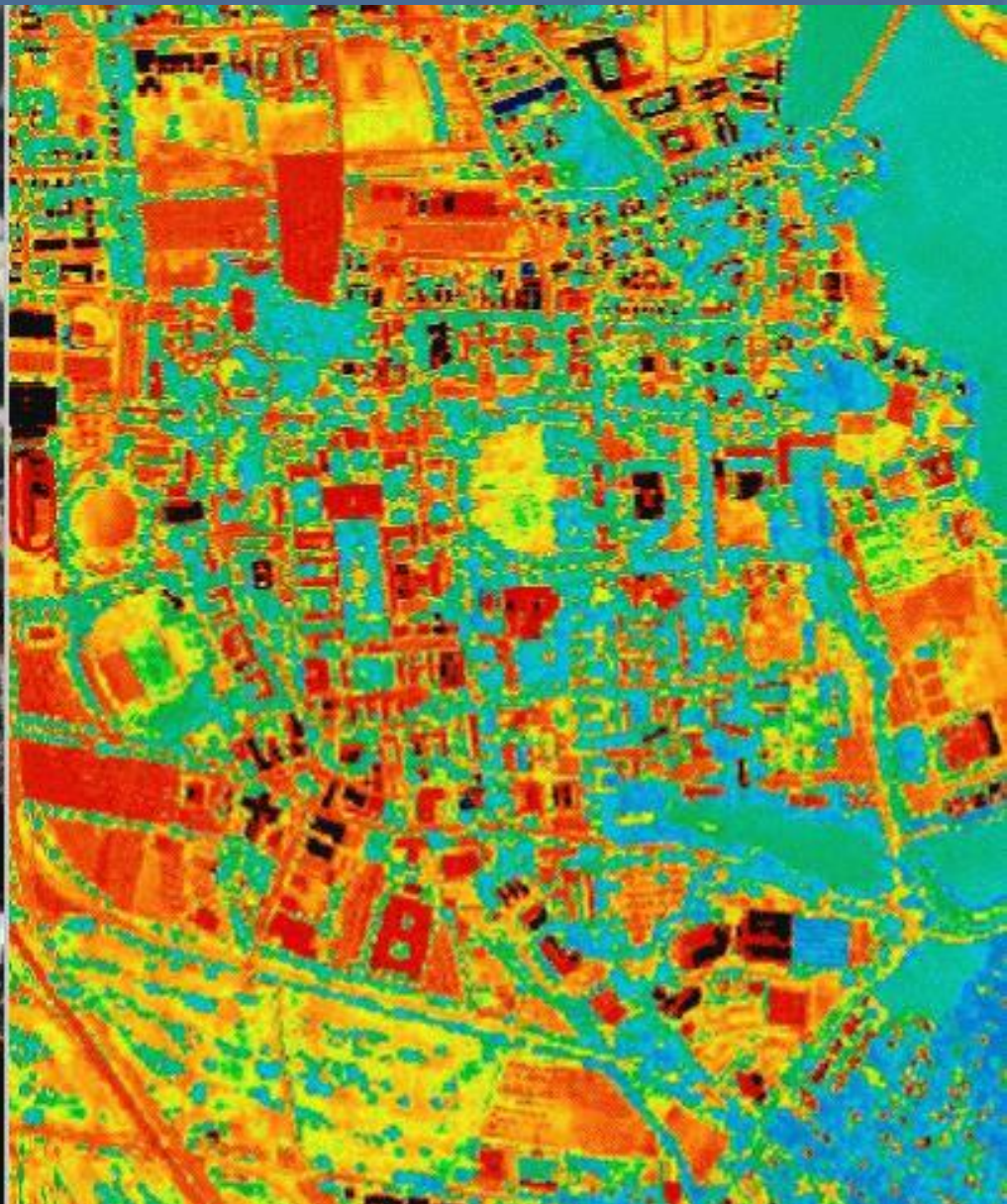
# Surface Temperature and Ecosystem Development

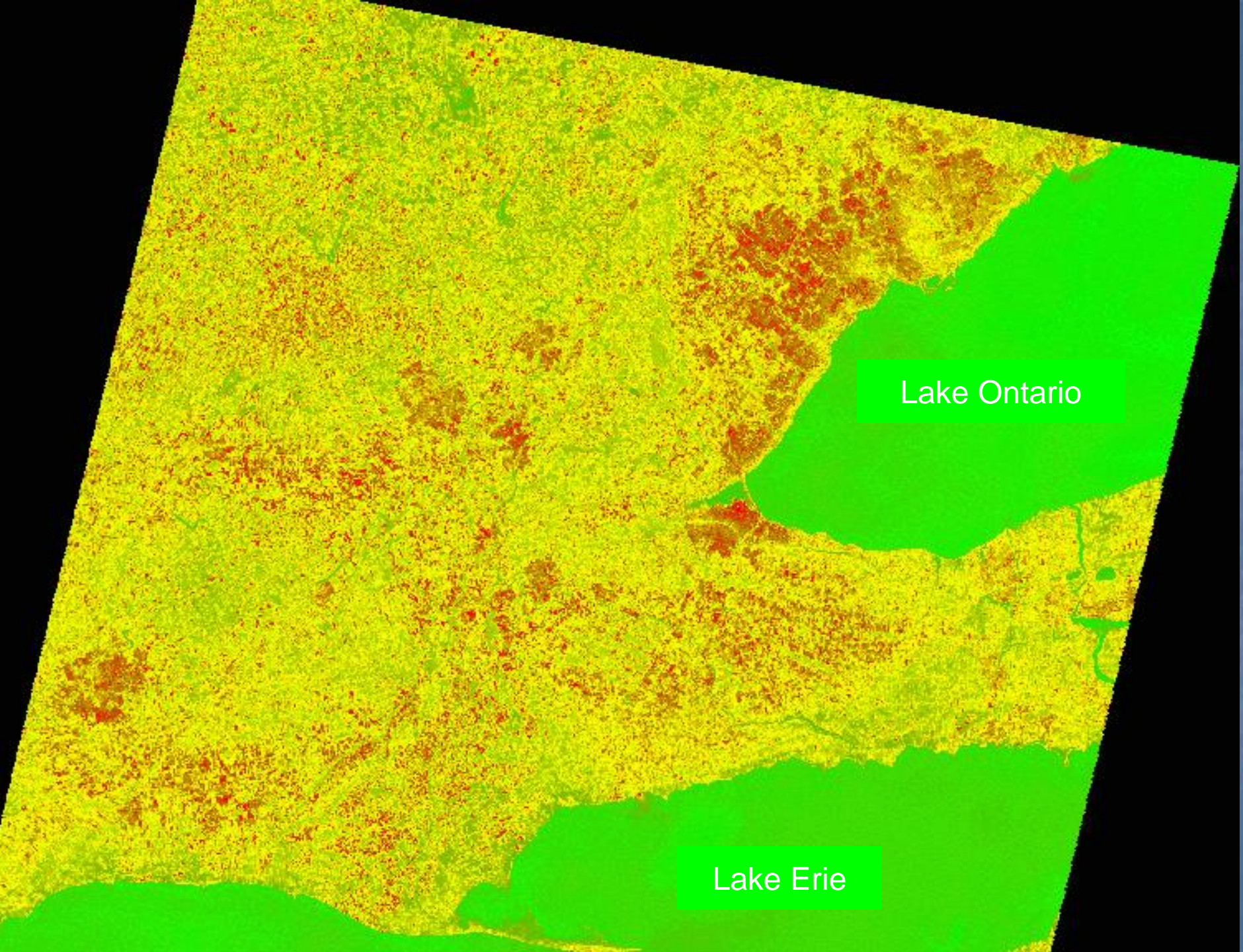


# Surface temperature and ecosystem development







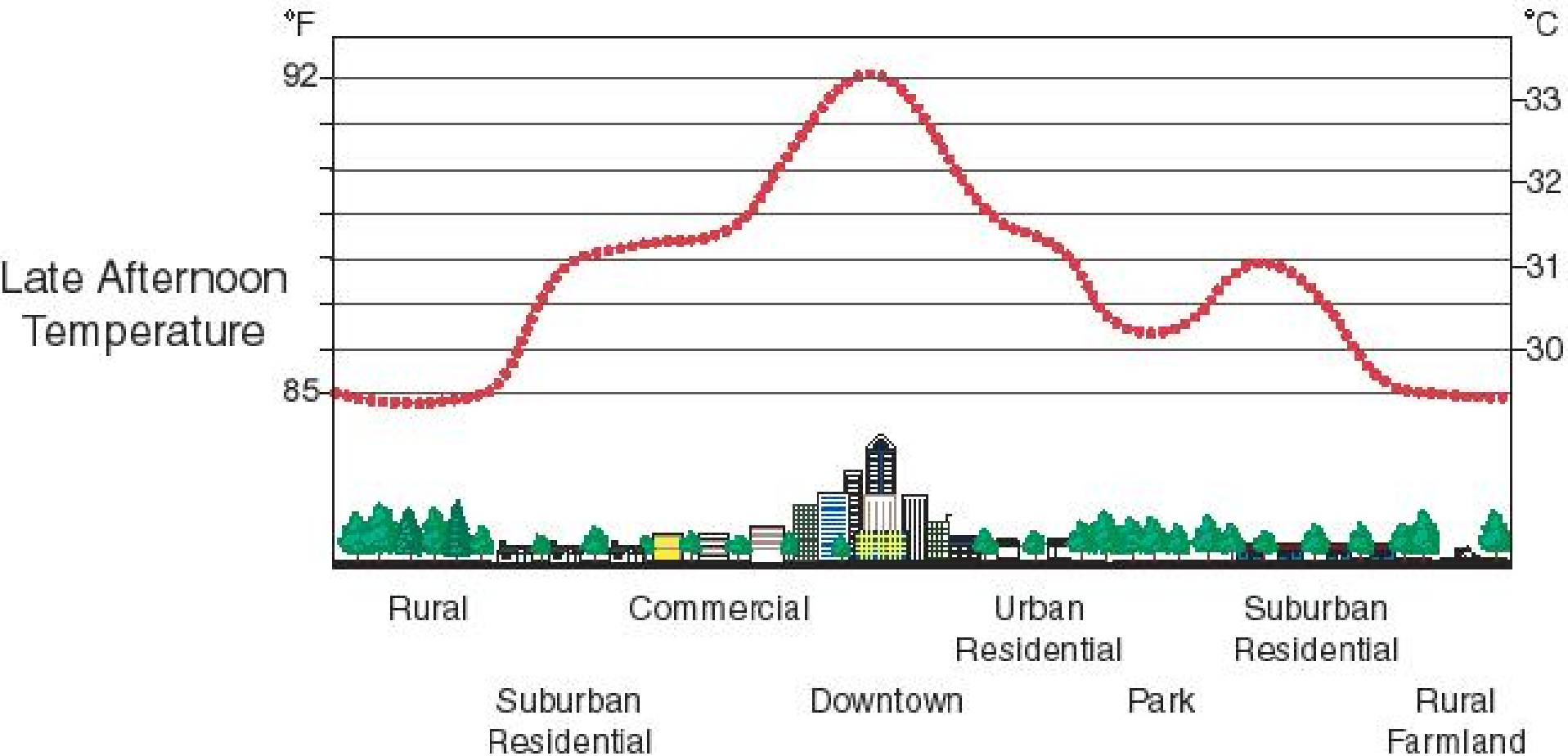


Lake Ontario

Lake Erie

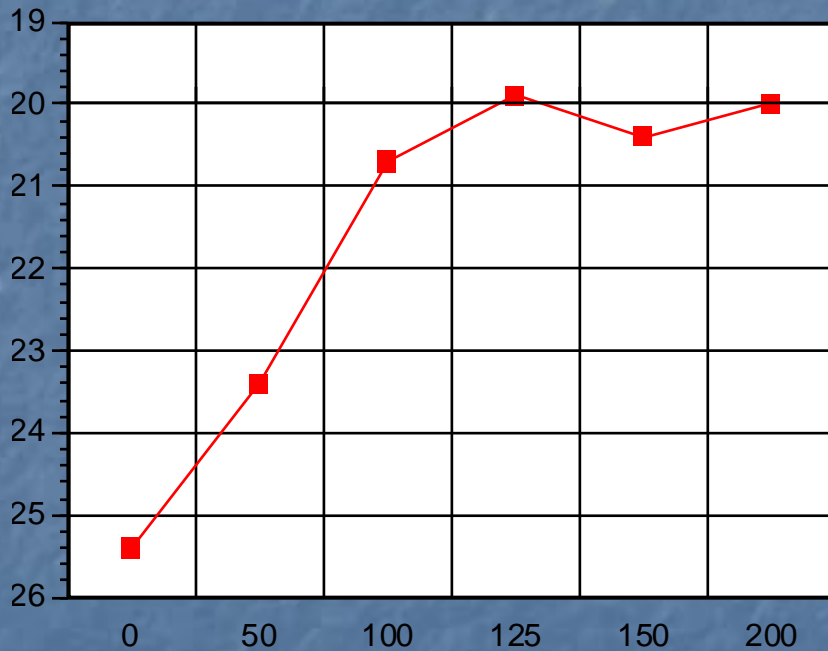
# Cooling cities

## Sketch of an Urban Heat-Island Profile

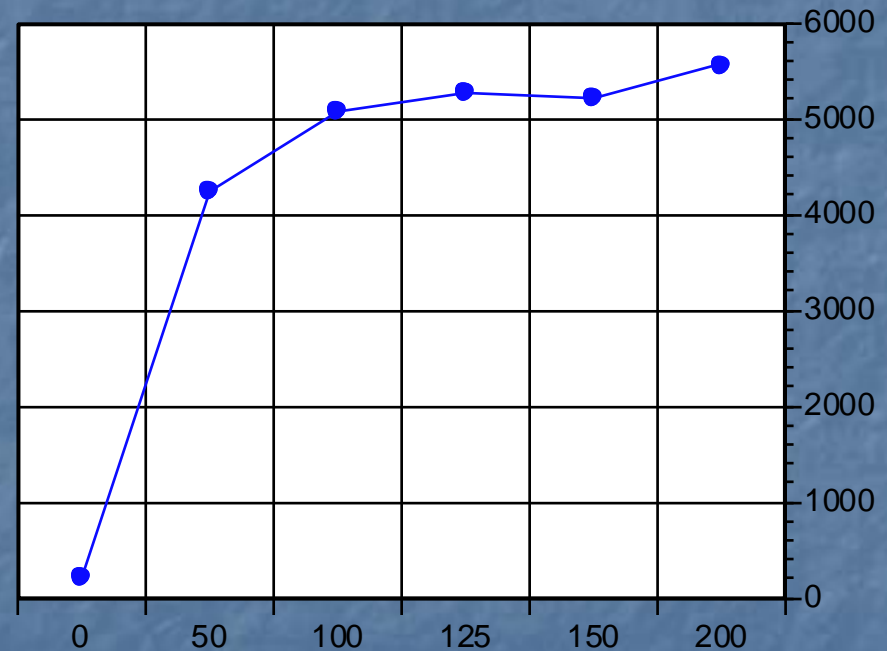


# Surface temperature vs fertilizer application (Akbari et al)

July Surface Temperature



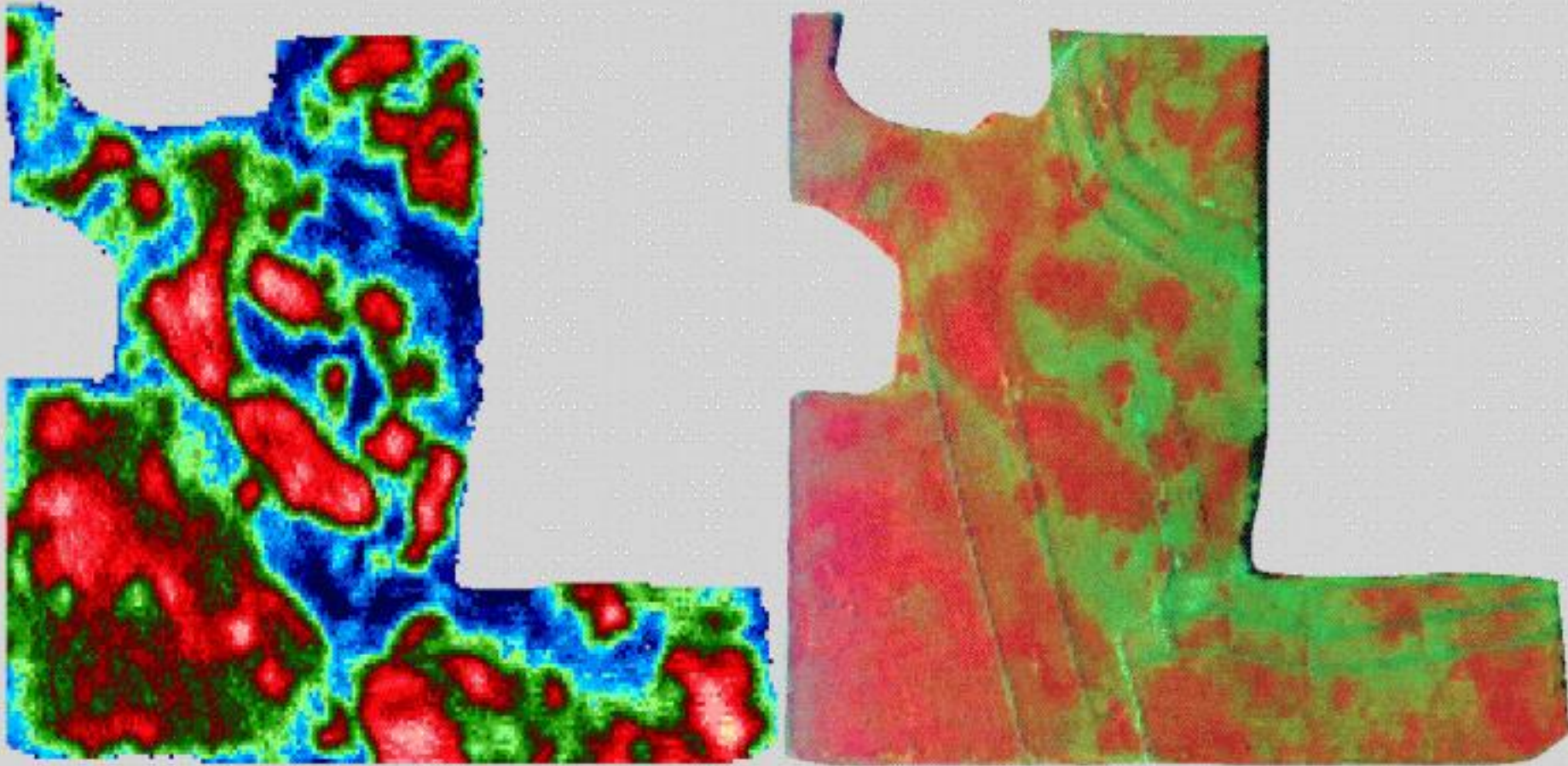
Stover Yield



Nitrogen applied kg/ha



# Corn yield from remote sensing



Harvested September, 1998

June 26, 1998

Thermal Band correlation  $> 0.86$

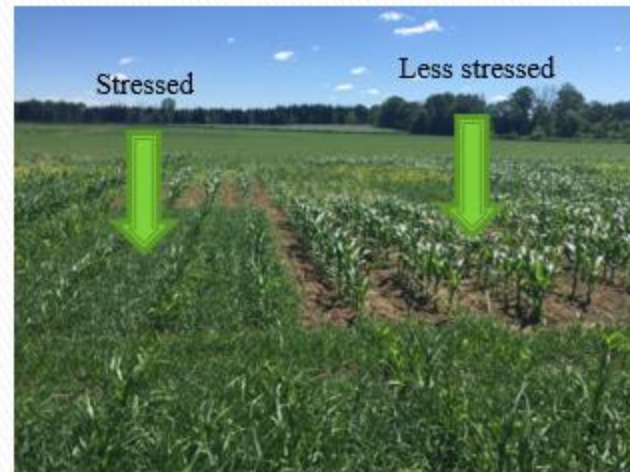
# Control & with Weeds



A visual difference between stressed and less stressed plants with weed in Woodstock (ON, Canada) weed trial



June 8<sup>th</sup> , 2016



June 22<sup>nd</sup> ,2016

### Corn vs Corn + Weed Average Surface Temperature



2015



Footer



Corn vs Corn + Weed Average Surface Temperature



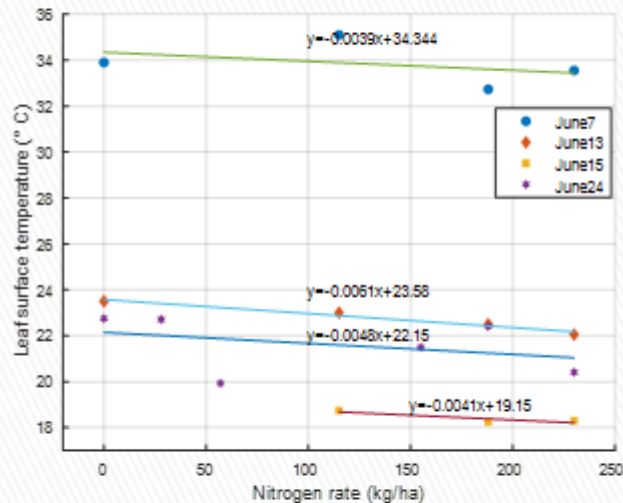
**Q: When does stress override development?**

**(crops are not natural systems)**

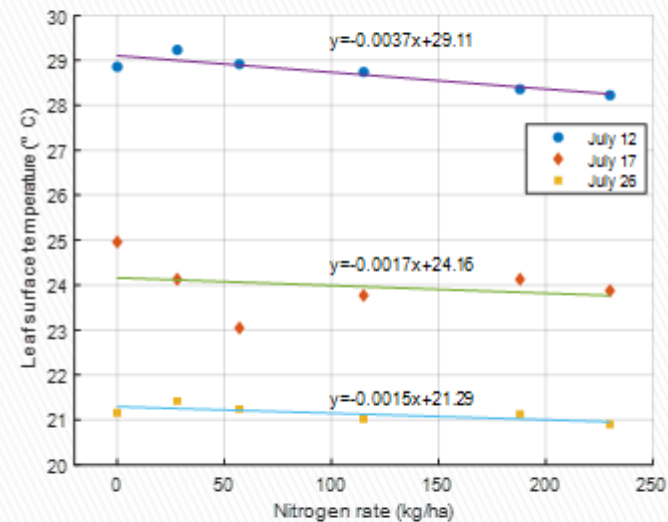
2015



## Mean Leaf Surface Temperature Different Days – Elora, 2017

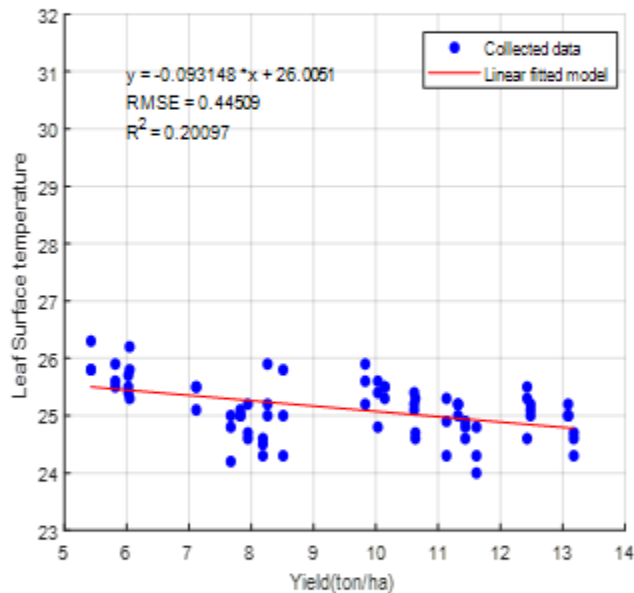


June, 2017

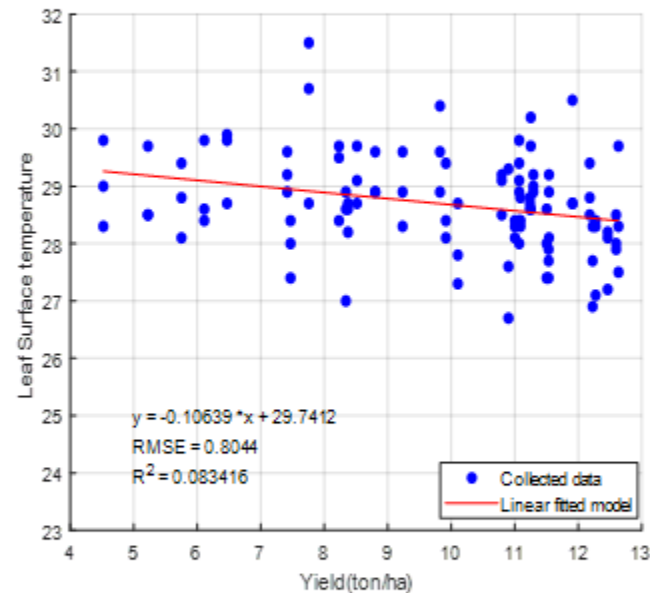


July, 2017

# Leaf Temperature Decrease as Yield Increases 2016 and 2017



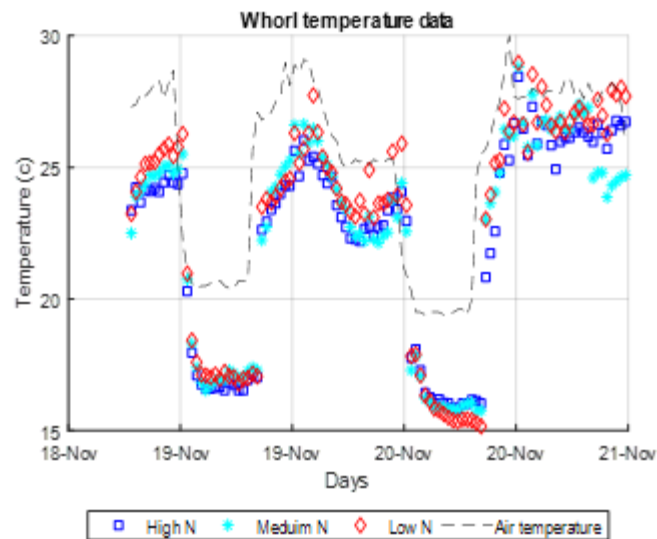
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2016



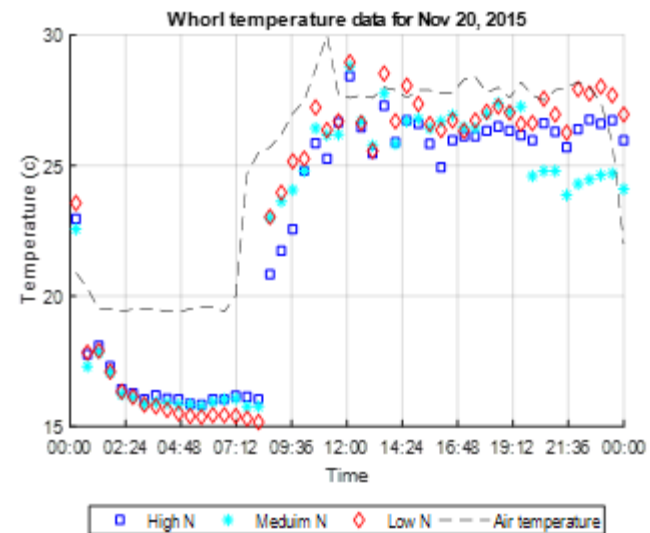
July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017



# Whorl Temperature Trend Flips with Day vs Night



3 days data

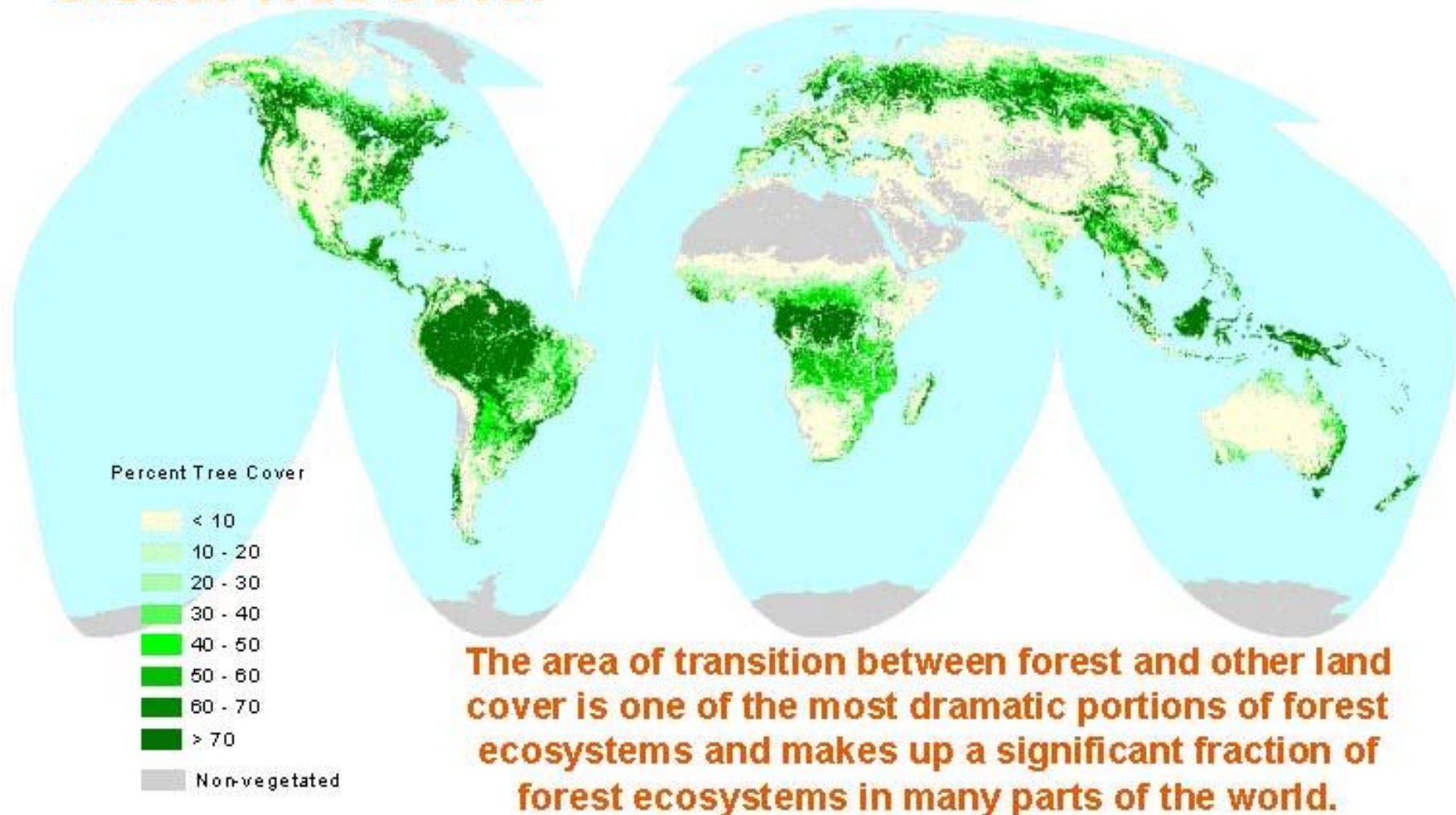


One day data





## WRI Pilot Analysis of Global Ecosystems: Global Tree Cover

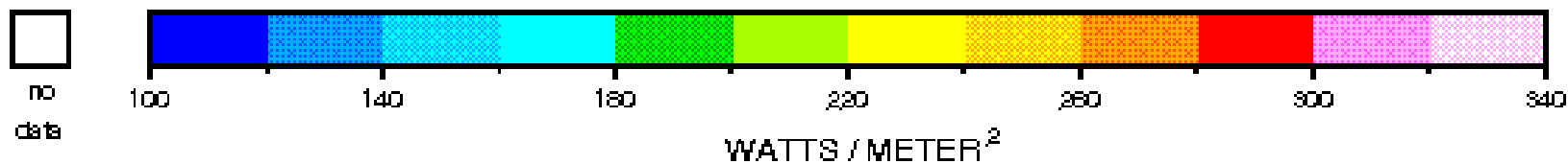
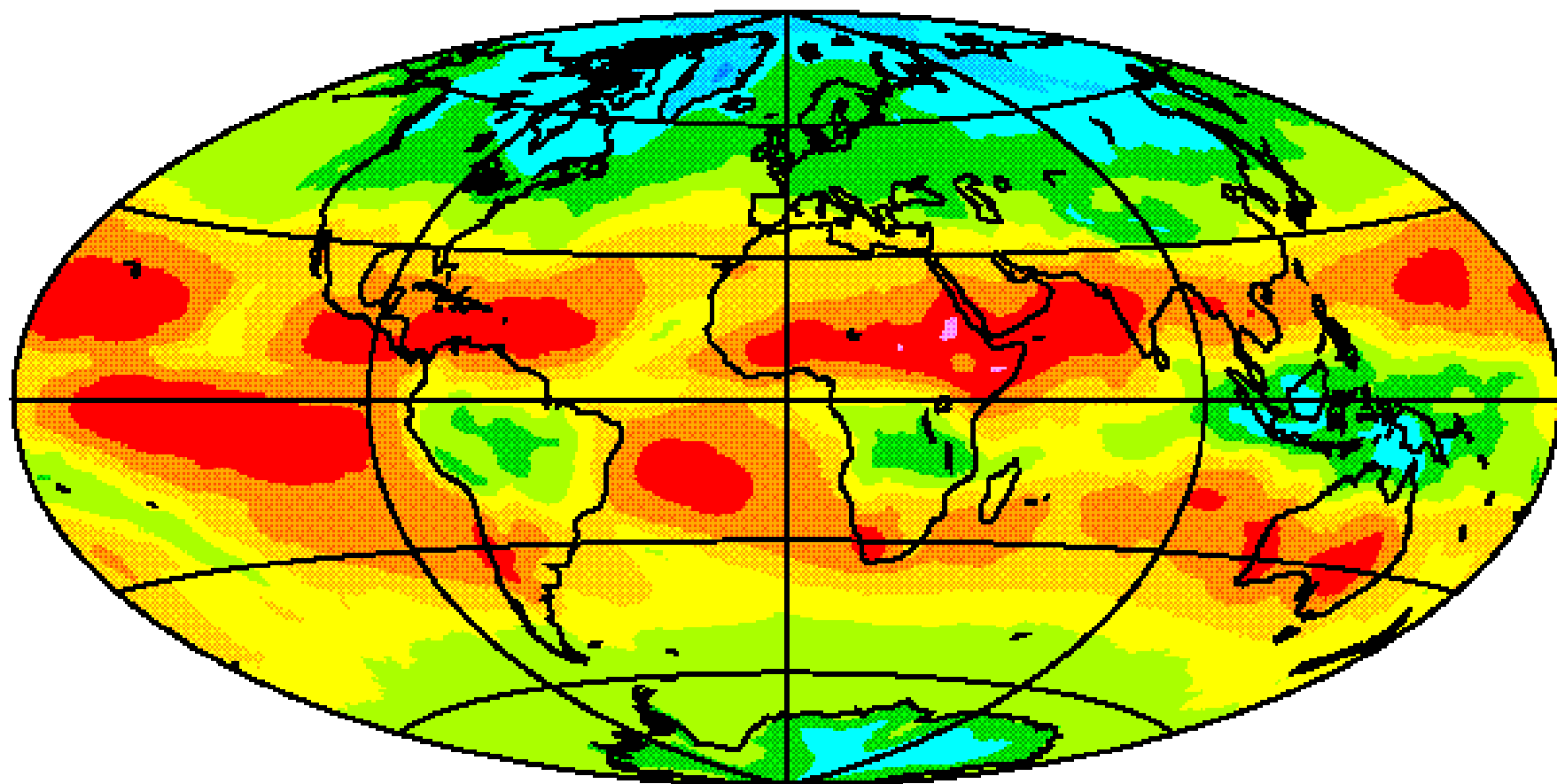


**Source:** DeFries, R., Hansen, M.C., Townshend, J.R.G., Janetos, A.C., and Loveland, T.R. 2000. A New Global 1-km Dataset of Percentage Tree Cover Derived from Remote Sensing. *Global Change Biology*, Vol. 6, pp. 247-254.

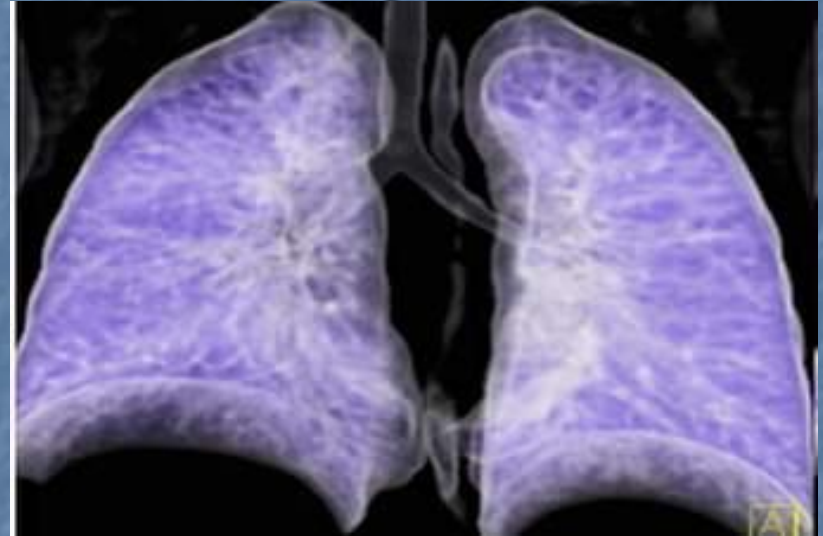
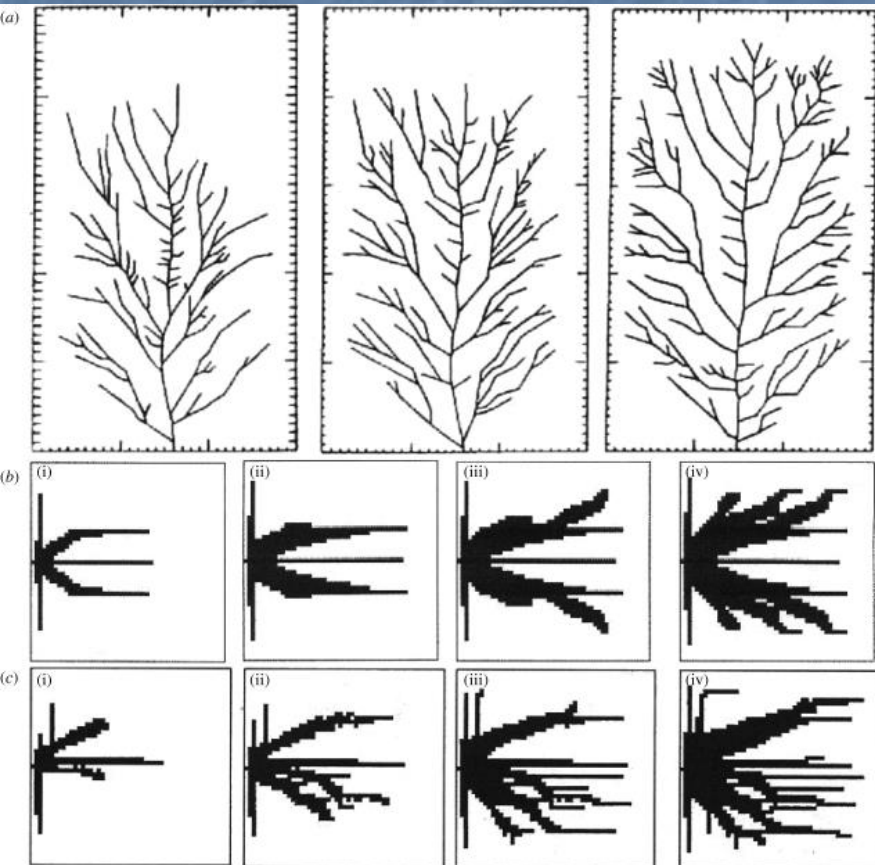
# LONGWAVE RADIATION

ERBS + NOAA9

JANUARY 1986



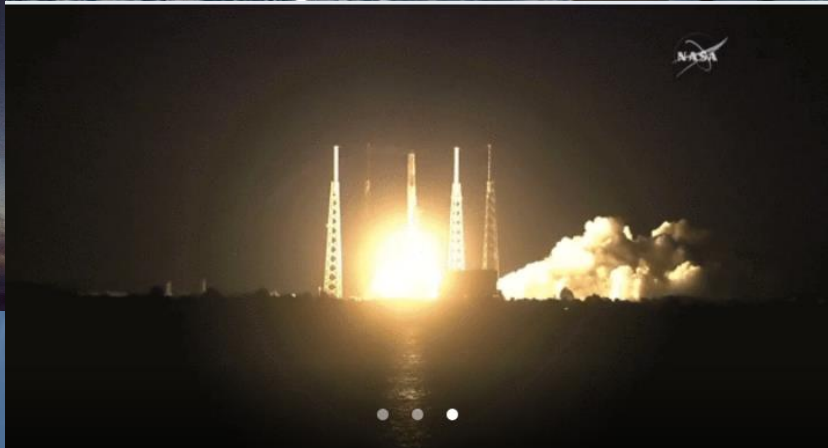
# Confructal Theory



<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2871904/>

# ECOSTRESS

## New Space Station IR Camera



<https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/news/news.php?feature=7179>

# Energy Quality Issues

The following four important issues are not found in non-exergy energy analysis:

1. Existence of Different Dead States,
2. Ability to Change Dead States,
3. Time, Space, and Structure Restrictions, and
4. Accessibility to Gradients.

# Properties of Complex Systems

- **Propensities:** As self-organizing systems are moved away from equilibrium they become organized:
  - they use more exergy
  - they build more structure
  - this happens in spurts as new attractors become accessible
  - it becomes harder to move them further away from equilibrium
- **Window of Vitality:** Must have enough complexity but not too much. Complex systems strive for **optimum** attractor, not minimum or maximum.
- **Window of Viability:** A system loses robustness if too efficient or too inefficient.

# Properties of Complex Systems

- **Hierarchical:** The system is nested within a system and is made up of systems. Such nestings cannot be understood by focusing on one hierarchical level (holon) alone. Understanding comes from the multiple perspective of different types and scale.
- **Multiple steady states:** There is not necessarily a unique preferred system state in a given situation. Multiple attractors can be possible in a given situation and the current system state may be as much a function of historical accidents as anything else.

# Properties of Complex Systems

- **Dynamically Stable?** equilibrium points may not exist for the system.
- **Catastrophic Behaviour:** The norm
  - Bifurcations: moments of unpredictable behaviour.
  - Flips: sudden discontinuities, rapid change.
  - Holling Four Box  $\infty$ : Shifting steady state mosaic
- **Chaos Theory:** our ability to forecast and predict is always limited regardless of how sophisticated our computers are and how much information we have.



# Problematique of Complexity

- Irreducible uncertainty
- Multiple attractors
- Hierarchical (scale and type)
  - Multi scale
  - Multiple perspectives
  - Nested
  
- Do not confuse **complicated** with **complex**

# Realities of Complexity

- We must deal with irreducible uncertainty, emergence and surprise, the lack of a preferential perspective, and the reality that life is a trade-off.

**Possibilities not predictions**

# Dissipation vs Destruction

- **Dissipation** is a **microscopic** 2nd Law measure involving a **system-centric** viewpoint.
- **Degradation** is a **macroscopic** 2nd Law measure involving **environment** information.

# New Thought

Think

Degrative Structures  
& Gradients

not

Dissipative Structures

THE END

# Learning From Each Other

## ■ Engineering Learning from Ecology

- **Intrinsic** Exergy
- **Transport** Exergy
- **Restricted** Exergy
- **Accessible** Exergy
- **Restricted-Access** Exergy
- **Extracted** Exergy

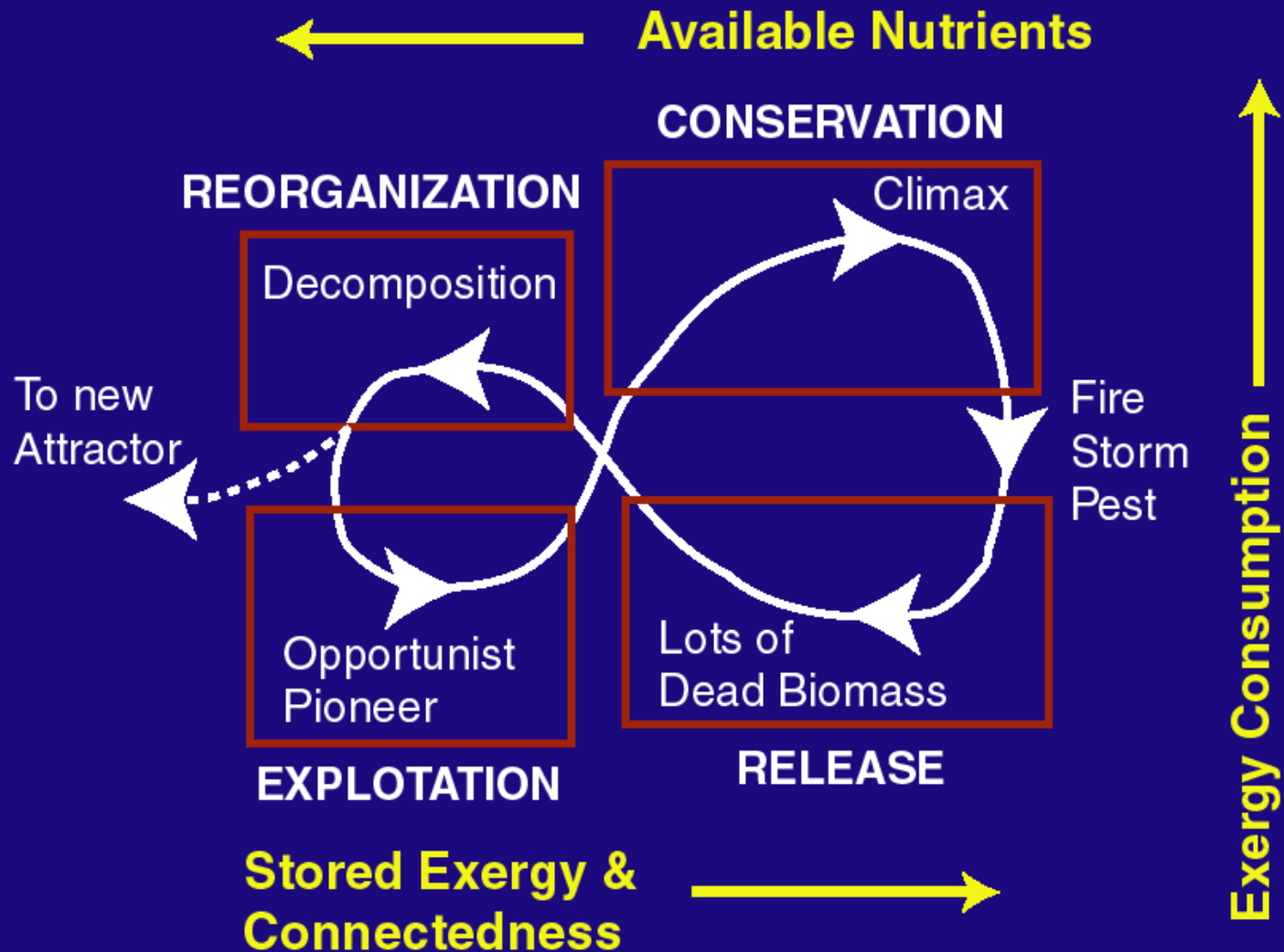
## ■ Ecology Learning from Engineering

- Energy **Dissipation**
- Energy **Degradation**
- Energy **Partitioning**

# Restrictions and Accessibility

- **Restrictions** exist when **all gradients are accessible**, but the **method for accessing these gradients is restricted**.
  - Diesel Engine vs Stirling Engine
  - Non-Flow and Flow Exergy
- **Accessibility** limitations exist when **direct access to some, but not all, gradients exists**.
  - Champagne
  - Coal Fired Power Plant

# Holling Four Box ( $\infty$ )





# Holling Four Box ( $\infty$ )

