Energy and Water in the Earth System: An Integrated Modelling Approach

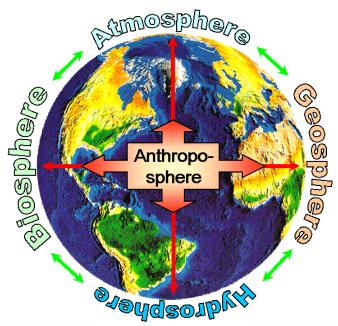


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- Human activity has the ability to influence global systems composing the *Earth system*
- Drive to understand interconnections to facilitate policy and decision making to adapt to global change



The earth system consists of positive and negative feedback loops.

Small changes caused by man such as CO₂ and other climate forcing as well as pollution impact right across all interconnected systems throughout the global commons



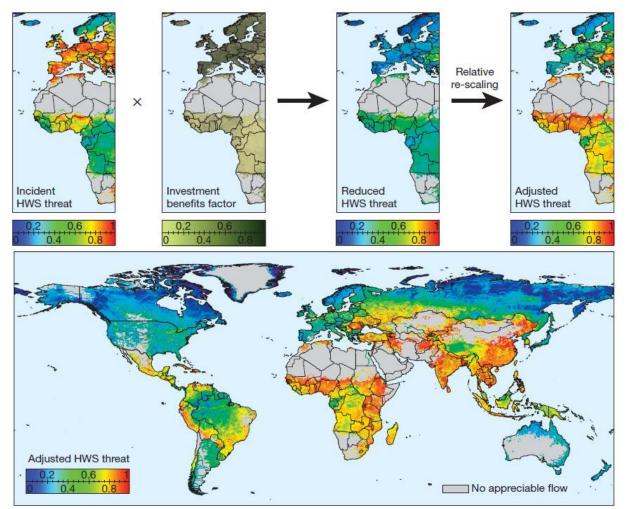
• Energy and water supply are important components as they are limiting factors for human development

 Sources of energy and water should be sustainably managed

• Alternative forms of water supply and energy production will likely play a vital role in the future

 How will the development of alternate supplies affect the dynamics of global change?





Vorösmarty et al. (2010)



- Alternative energy sources:
 - Recovered heat and bioenergy from wastewater treatment





- Alternative water sources:
 - Desalination
 - Wastewater reuse
 - Groundwater mining

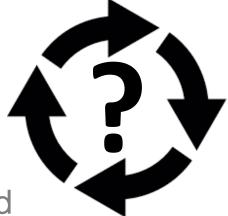




Research Questions

• How will the development of alternate supplies affect the dynamics of global change?

- Will capital resources be sufficient to adapt to:
 - Water stress as a result of population growth and climate change?
 - Depleting fossil fuel resources and increased energy demand?



• What feedbacks exist between water and energy supply development?



Modelling Approach

Build onto ANEMI Integrated Assessment Model

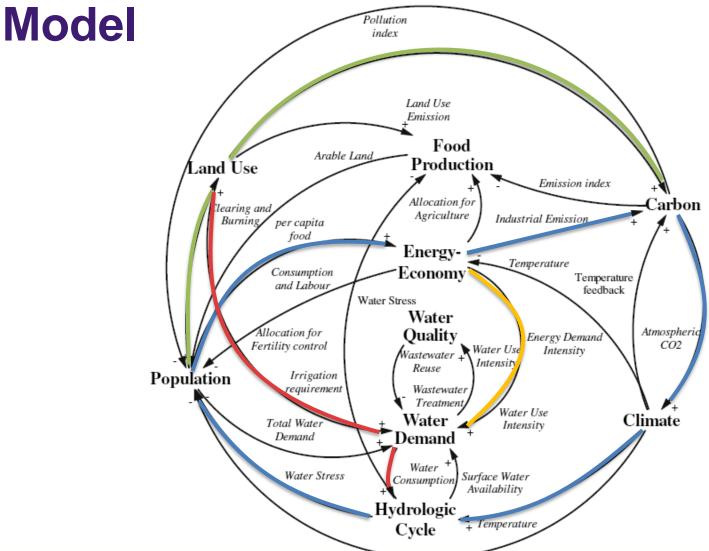
Break out capital stocks for energy and water supply infrastructures

 Determine the effect of increased energy demand and water stress on the distribution of capital

• Assess the ability to adapt in future time period



ANEMI2 Integrated Assessment





ANEMI Integrated Assessment Model

• Used in the past to assess:

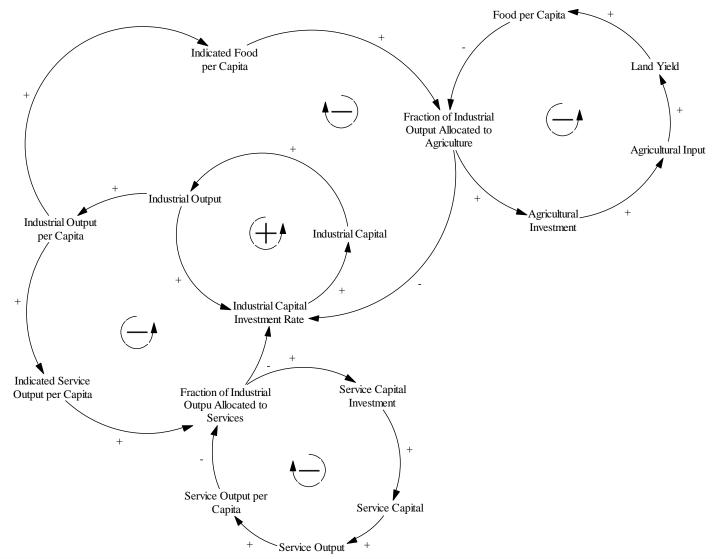
Global change from an integrated system
dynamics simulation based perspective

• Dynamics of global water stress with the inclusion of pollution effects

 Impact of carbon taxation on global energyeconomy, CO₂ emissions, and climate

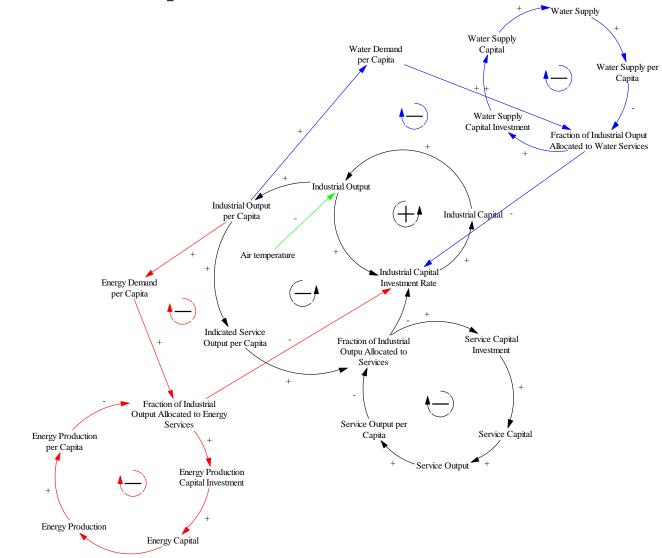


WORLD 3 Capital Sector Feedbacks



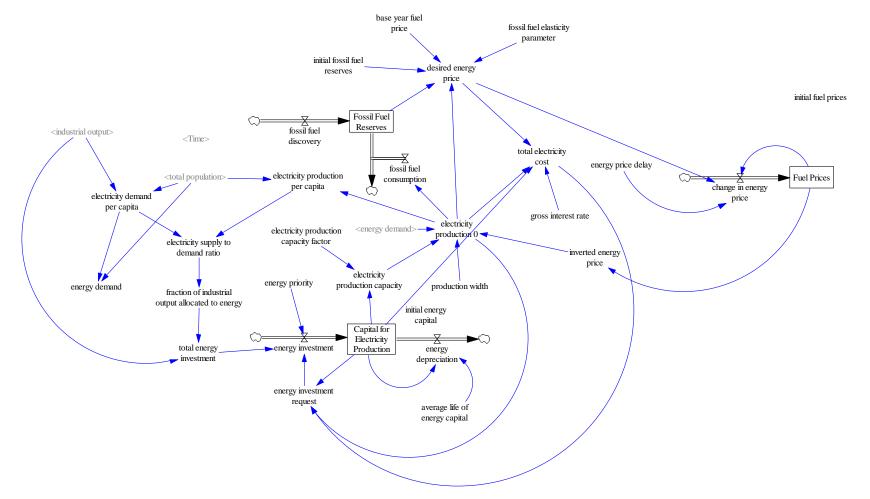


ANEMI3 Capital Sector Feedbacks



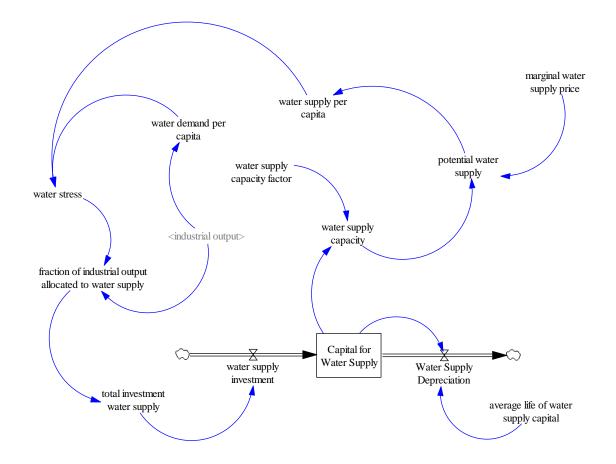


Model Structure – Energy Production



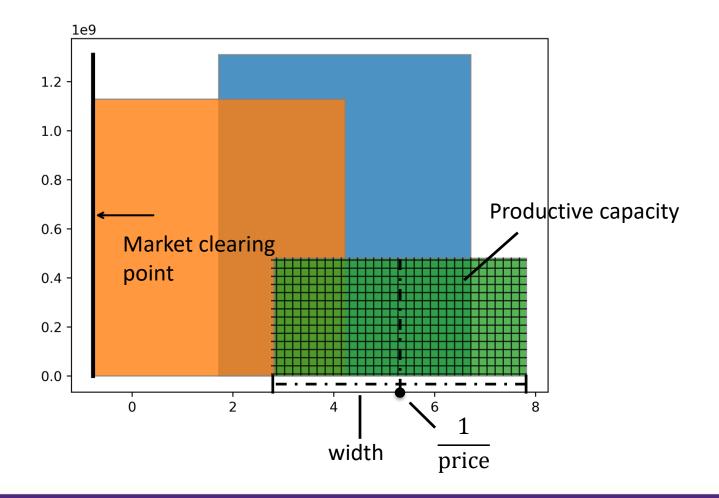


Model Structure – Water Supply



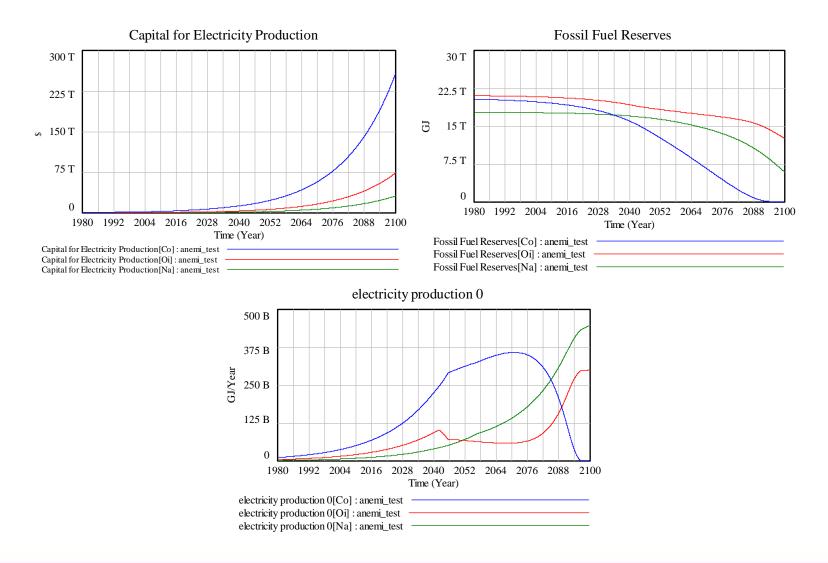


Model Structure – Wood's Algorithm



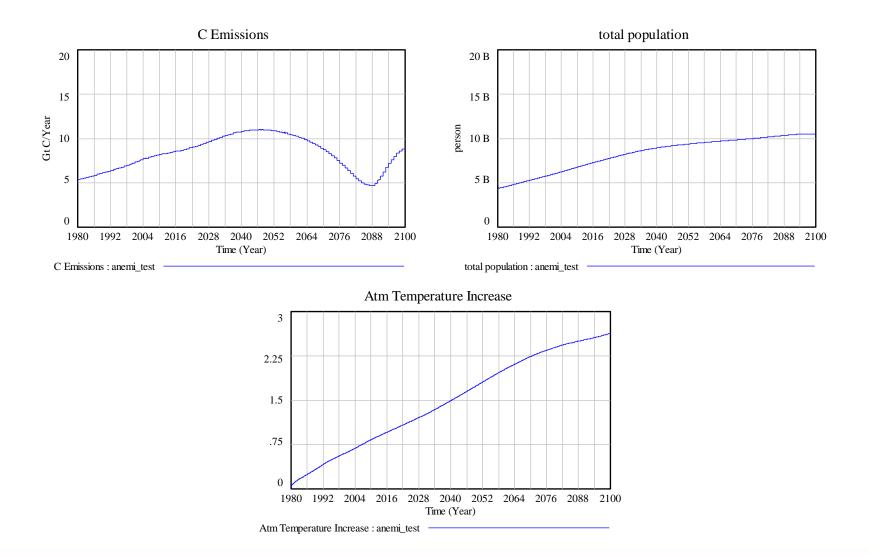


Sample Results





Preliminary Results





Spatial Disaggregation

 Modelling takes place on a globally aggregated scale to highlight feedbacks

• Spatial disaggregation could provide more meaningful results and model behaviors

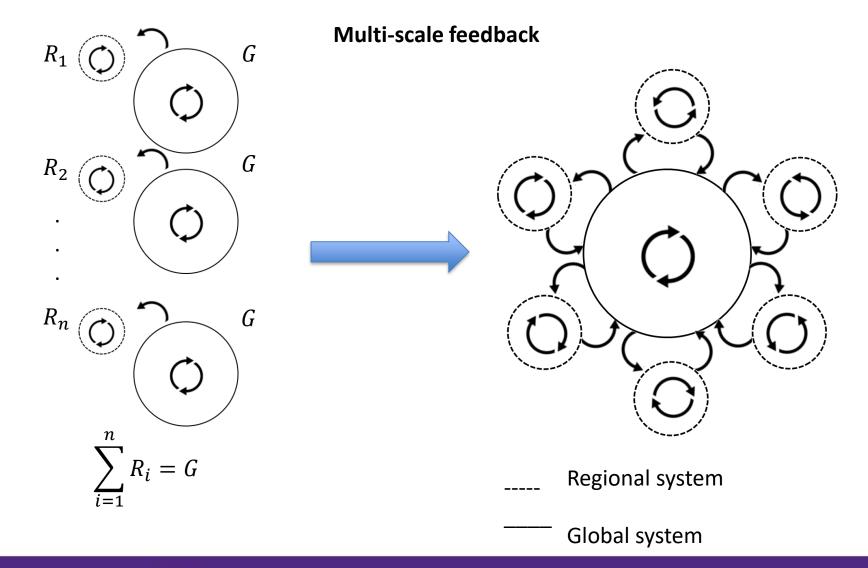


Spatial Disaggregation

- Other approaches to disaggregation in IAMs:
 - Longitudinal slicing (MIT's IGSM model)
 - Defining homogeneous economic 'zones' (IMAGE)
 - Grid based approaches



Spatial Disaggregation





Closing Remarks

 Integrated assessment of energy and water supplies can help identify the need for alternative supplies

• More work needs to be done to implement system feedbacks for energy production and water supply

Spatial disaggregation can provide more actionable regional results



