

## SSA 9 Scheldt Delta case

### Apportionment of Nitrogen in the Scheldt river basin

Hans van der Kwast, Steven Broekx (VITO) and Fritz Hellmann (IvM) PCRASTER  
Steven Broekx (VITO) Economic component  
Bert van Eck and Xavier Desmit (Deltares) Estuarine Extend model  
Bert van Eck Social component  
Jean-Luc de Kok (Joachim Maes) Extend modelling  
Jan Vermaat (IvM) reporting

## Outline

- Policy issue
- Model Concept
- Implementation of the model concept
  - Social component
  - Economic component
  - Natural component
- Presenting the model by Jean-Luc de Kok

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### ● Policy issue

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# POLICY ISSUE SCHELDT – DELTA SSA

ESE assessment of the NITRATE versus  
WATER FRAMEWORK DIRECTIVE objectives  
in the Scheldt river basin and coastal zone  
of apportionment of Nitrogen in the river basin  
with focus on social and economic analysis

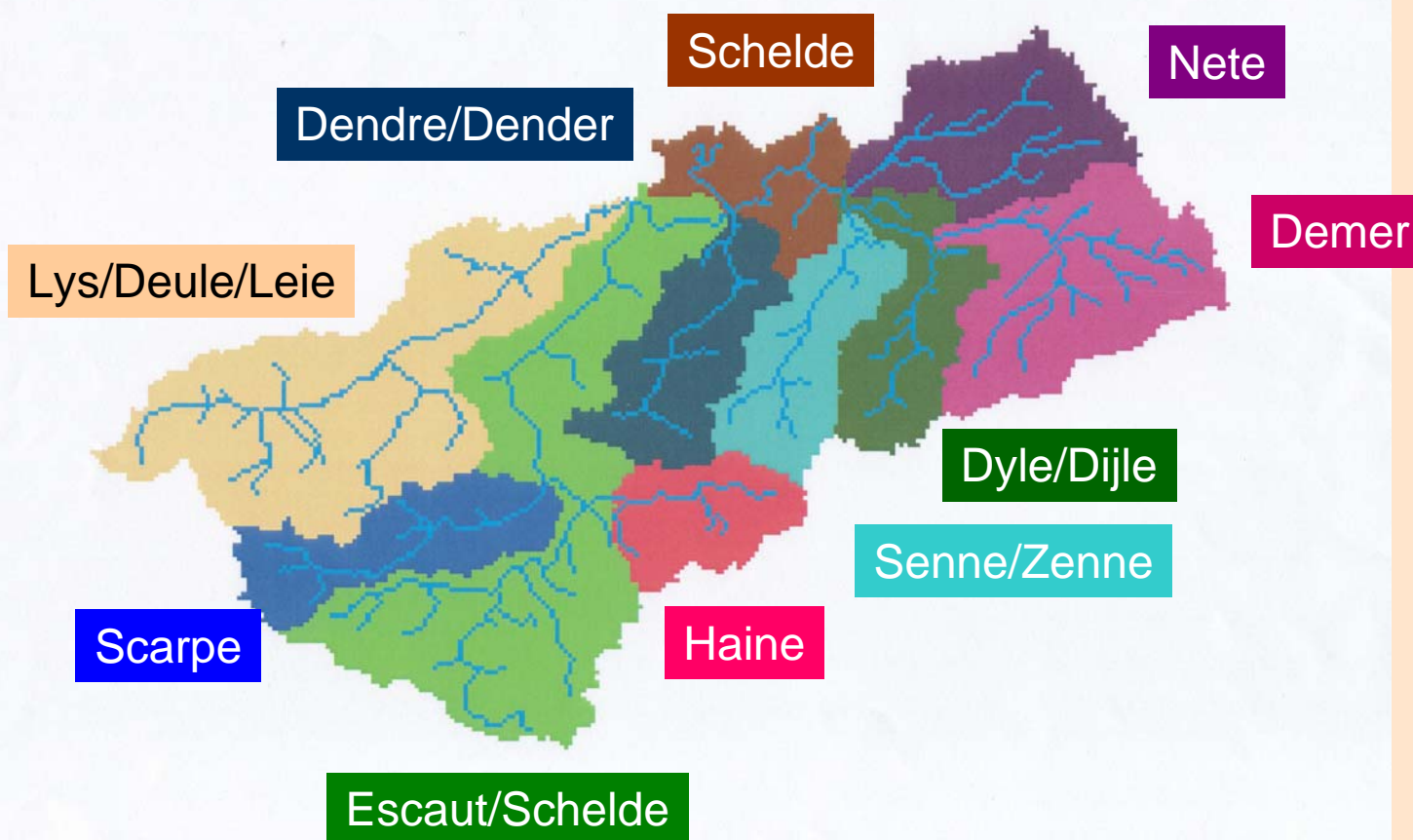


e-





# Hydrological subbasins





## “Political” subbasins

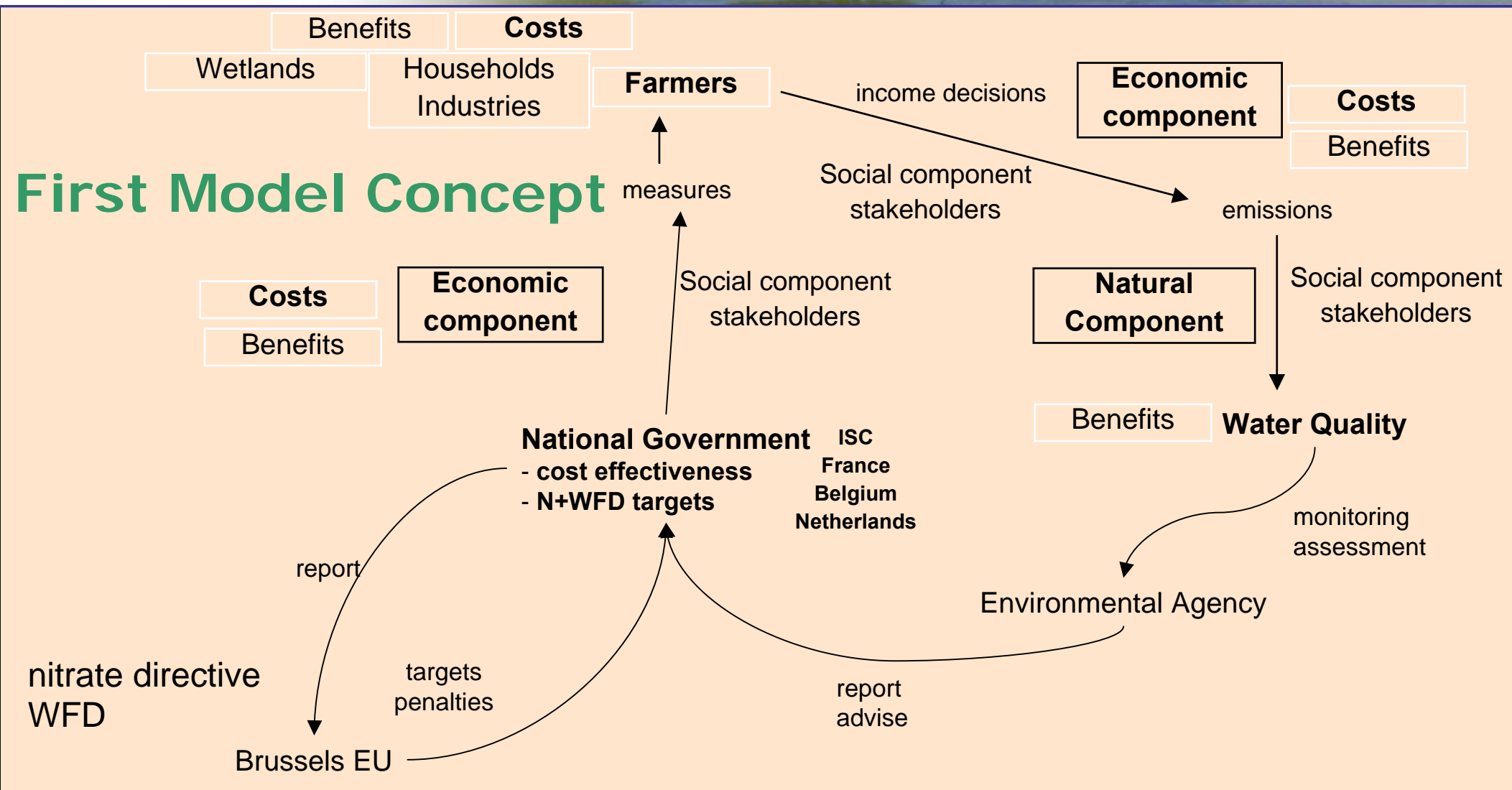


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# ESE model Scheldt-Delta



## Evolution of the Model Concept

## Social component

ALEX MINTZ, NEHEMIA GEVA~ AND KARL  
DEROUEN JR.\*

MATHEMATICAL MODELS OF FOREIGN  
POLICY DECISION-MAKING:

COMPENSATORY VS. NONCOMPENSATORY

Synthese 100: 441-460



# A Mathematical Model for the Human Decision-Making Process

S. BEZERRA

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Y. CBERRUAULT, J. FOURCADE, G. VERON

*Mathl. Comput. Modelling Vol. 24, 21-26.*

[our research...] “... confirms the hypothesis that political decision makers gather information and **do not use it**; ask for more information and **ignore it**; make decisions first and look for relevant information **afterwards**; and, collect and process a great deal of information that has little or **no direct relevance** to decisions”

*(Sager & Ravlum, 2005)*

## Economic component

cattle farming is the most important



## Natural component

- a model with a balance between scale (Scheldt watershed) and data input
- a model which uses existing easily available datasets with transboundary consistency
- a model with already successful applications

*Source: Mourad, De Wit & Van der Perk*

# Decisions concerning the model concept

## General

Balance between nitrate directive and WFD

## Social component

"Everybody" can make its own "world"/"truth"

## Economic component

choice of cattle farming/farmers,  
manure processing and cost effectiveness

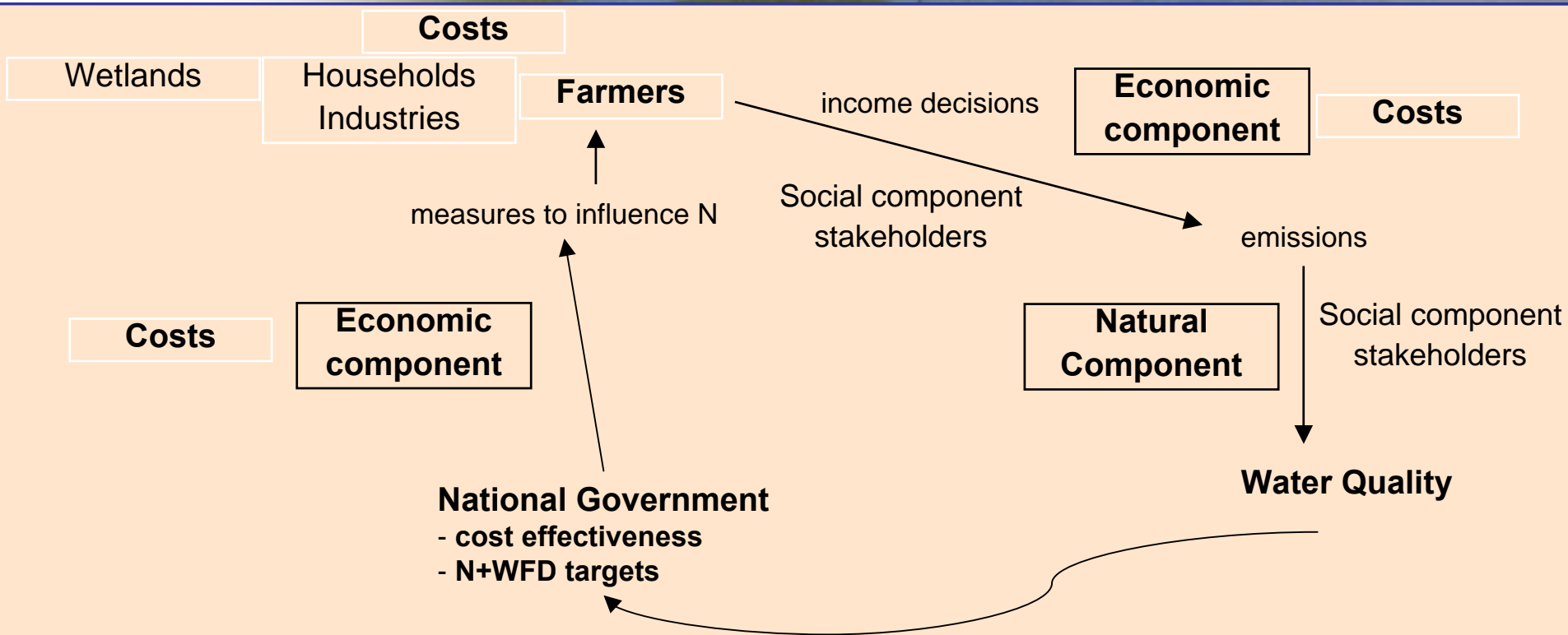
## Natural component

PCraster for watershed, 1D-box model for the estuary

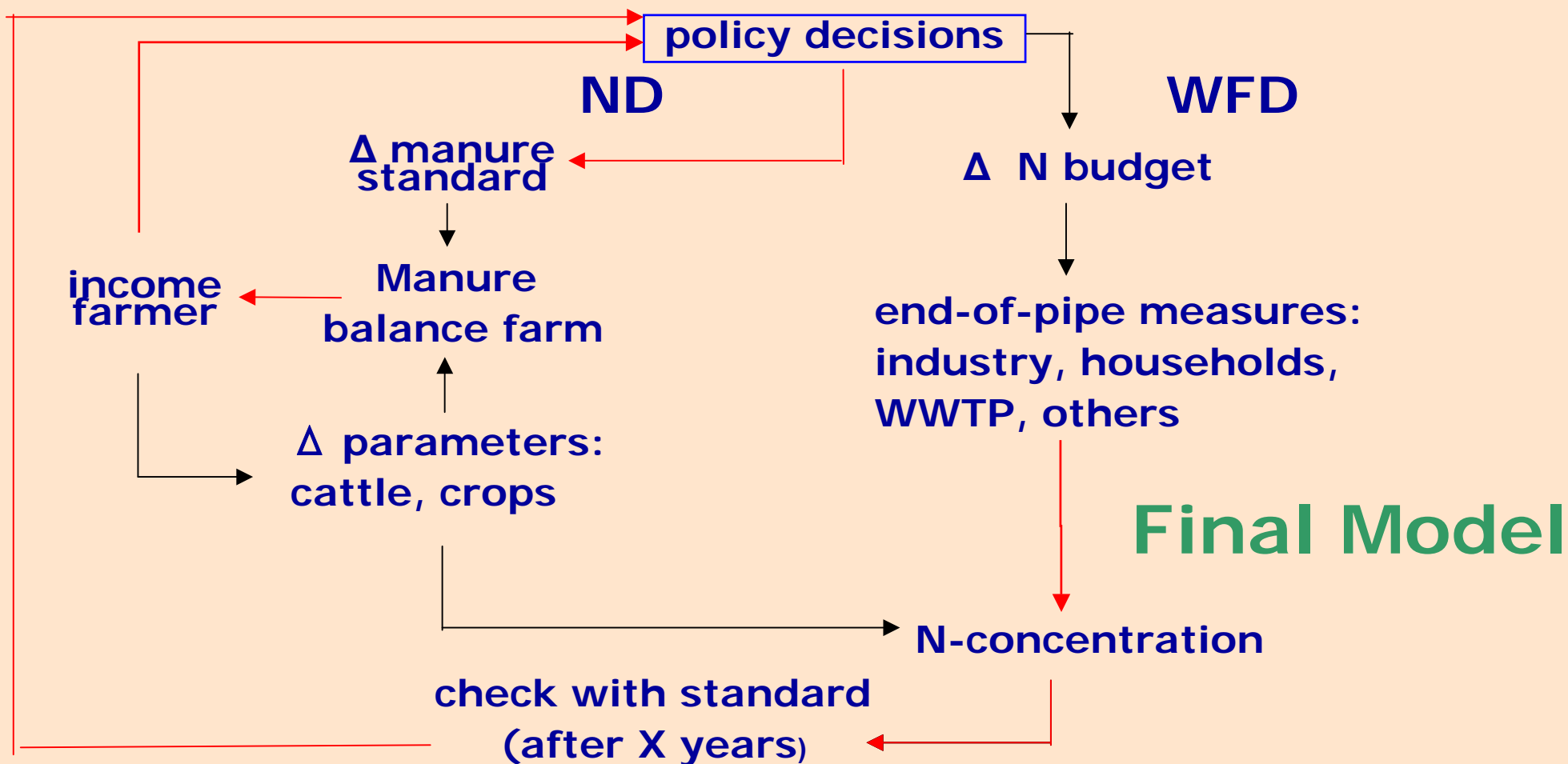




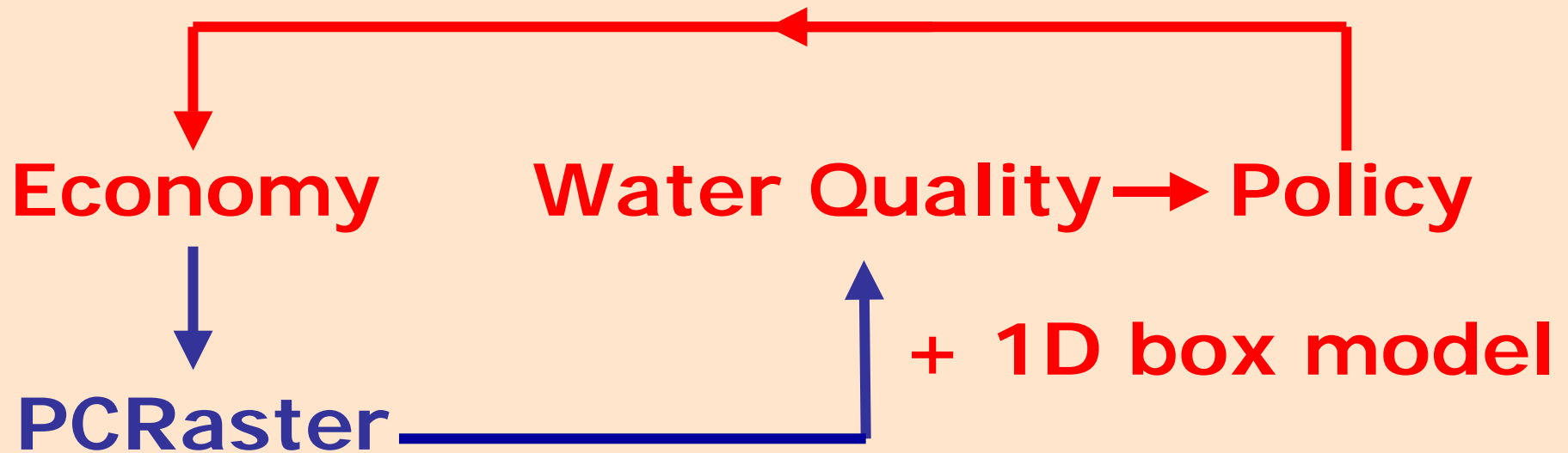
# ESE model Scheldt-Delta



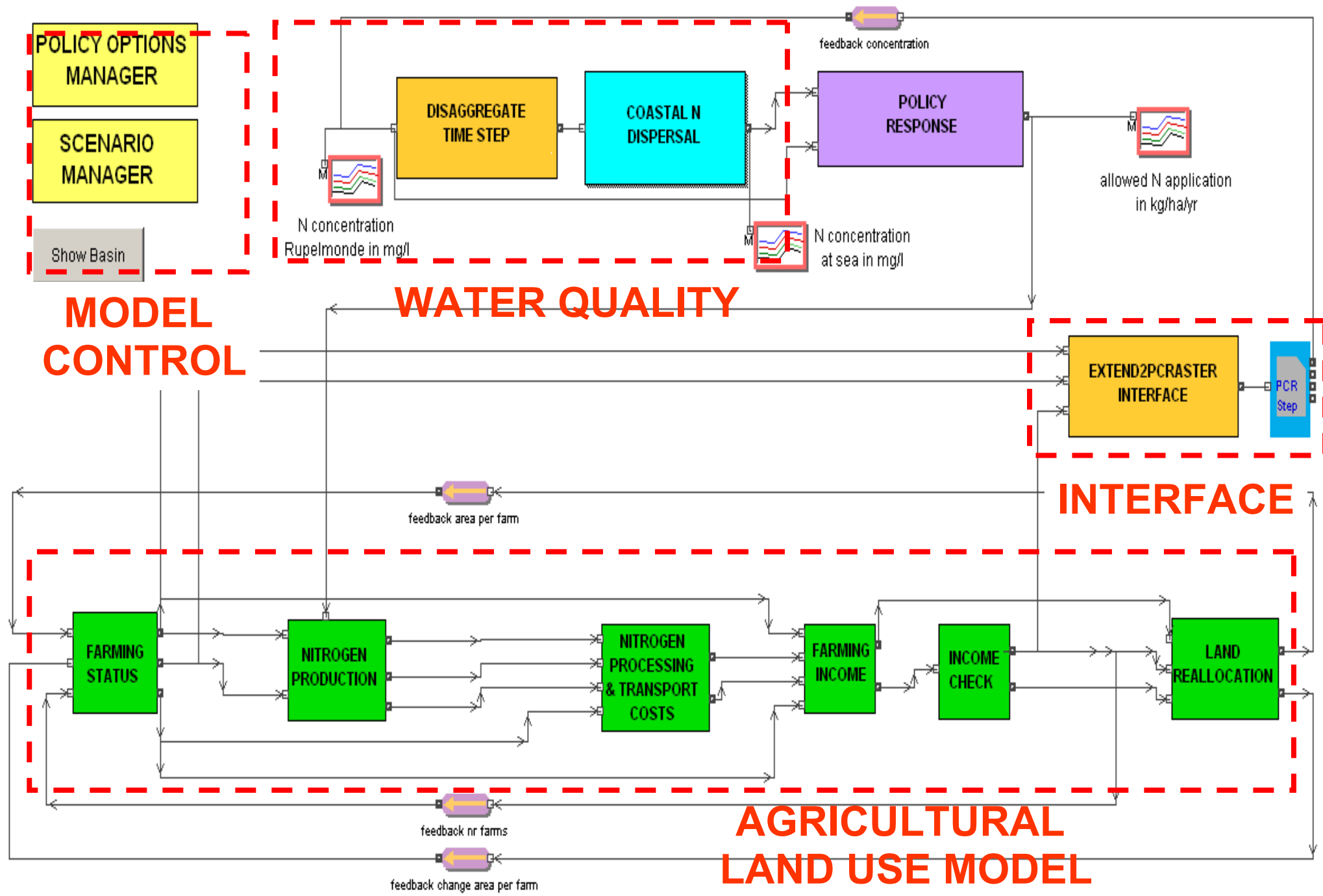
## Final Model Concept



# Extend







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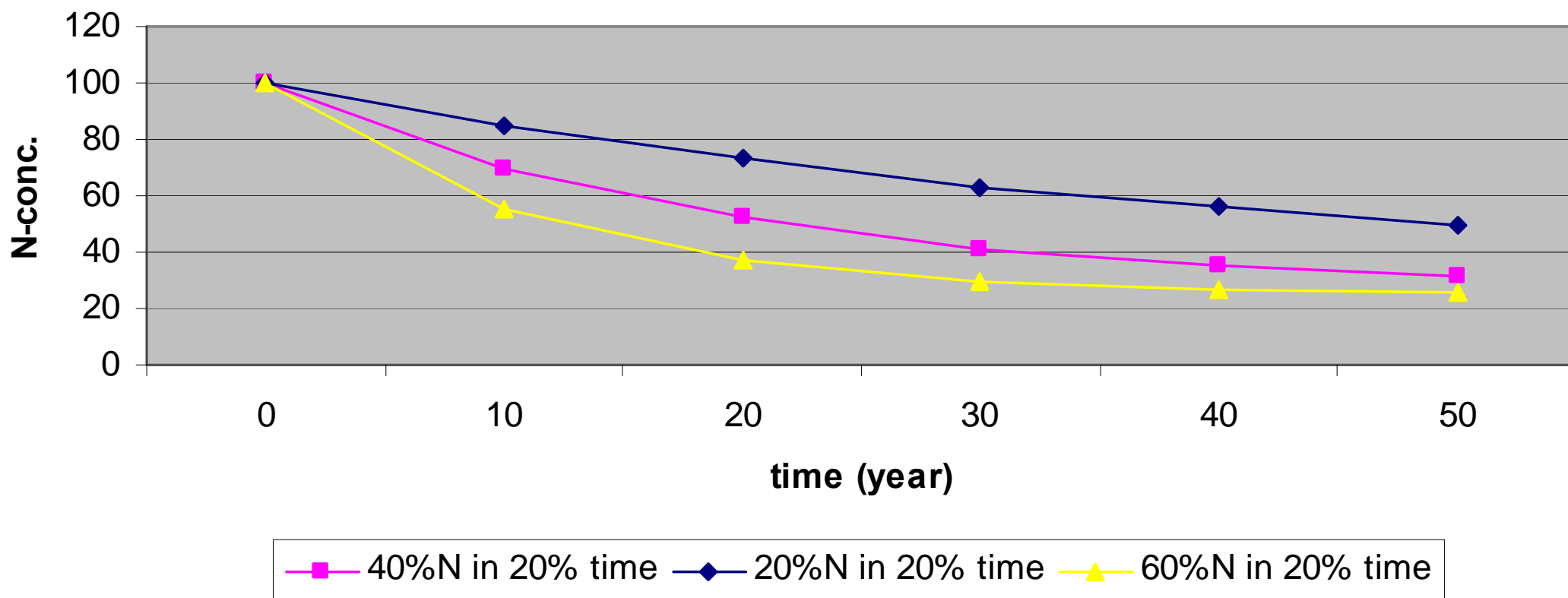
## Social component

"Everybody" can make its own "world"/"truth"

Implementation: user has

1. choice of nitrate directive or WFD
2. choice of N-goal and how fast it will be obtained
3. choice of succes of implementation
4. choice of policy feedback: 3 choices

## Various choices for obtaining the desired nitrogen standard





## Economic component

### Agriculture economic model :

8 farm types

5 animal types

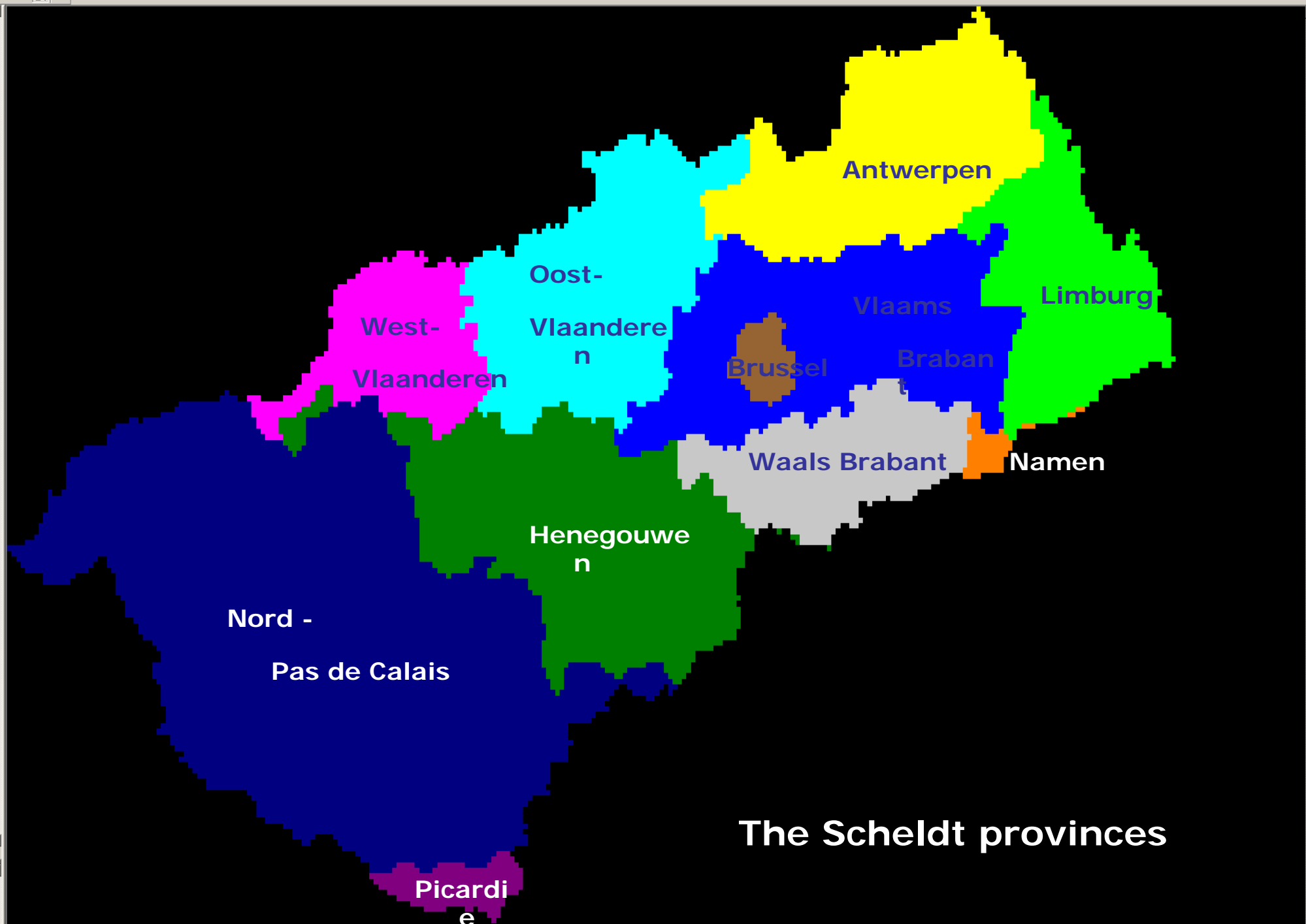
10 crop types

lumped at the level of regions in the Scheldt



prov.map

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10
- 13



prov.map

## Steps in the agriculture model

1. cattle farming → manure → N production
2. Inter-farm N transport & N processing
3. Income effect of N transport/processing
4. if below norm income farms shut down
5. land reallocation
6. passing changes in cattle stock and crop area to PCraster

## Natural component

The natural component is a Scheldt basin application of PCRaster with:

- a spatial resolution of 1 km<sup>2</sup> and
- a temporal resolution of 1 year

Step 1. Define each 1 km<sup>2</sup>

Step 2. Relate nutrient fluxes to:

- Emissions (point/diffuse sources),
- Hydrological pathways and
- Retention (decay, storage, transformation)







Step 1:  
Each 1 km<sup>2</sup> is defined with a:

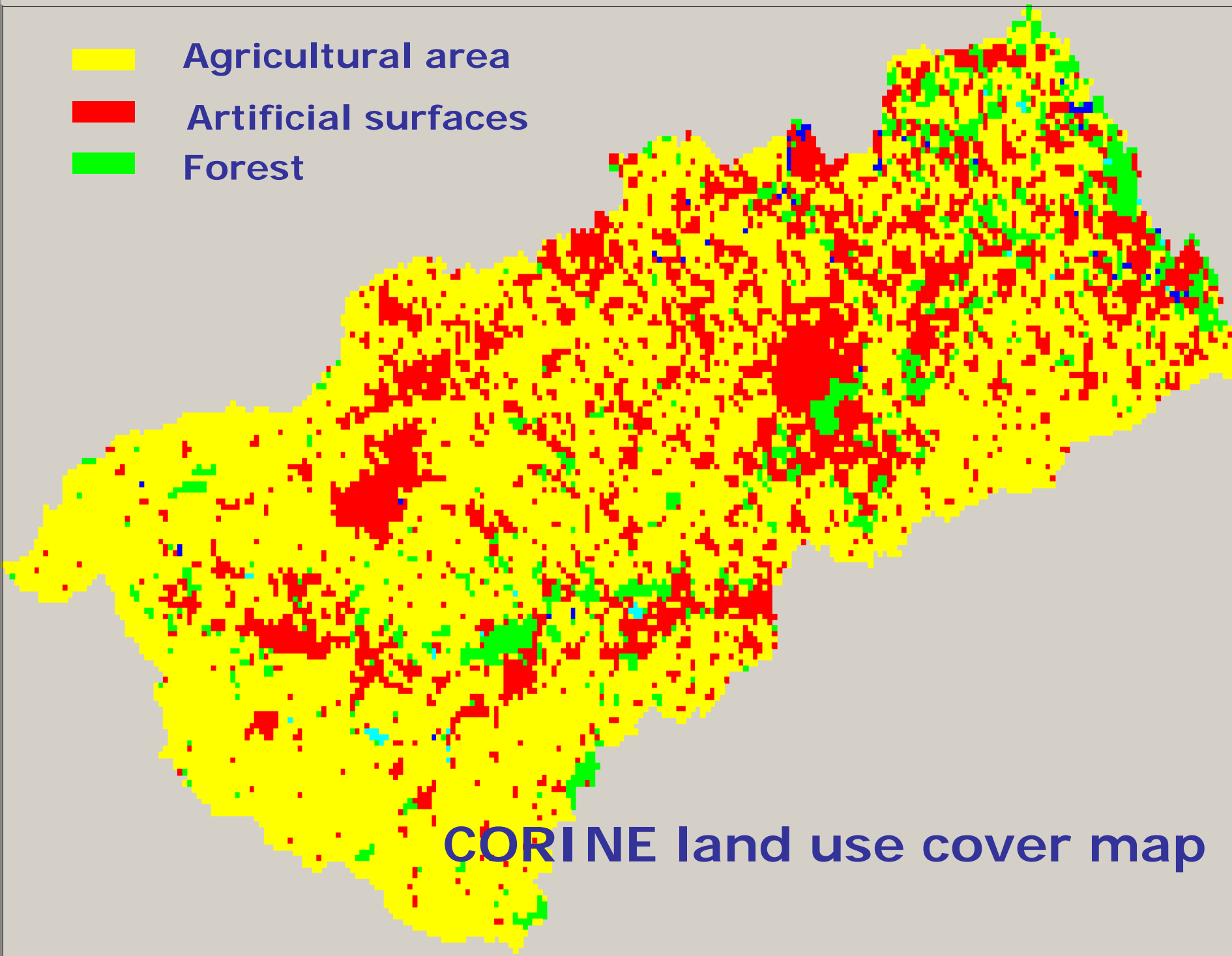
- Hydrogeological map
- Soil map
- Land use map



Legend

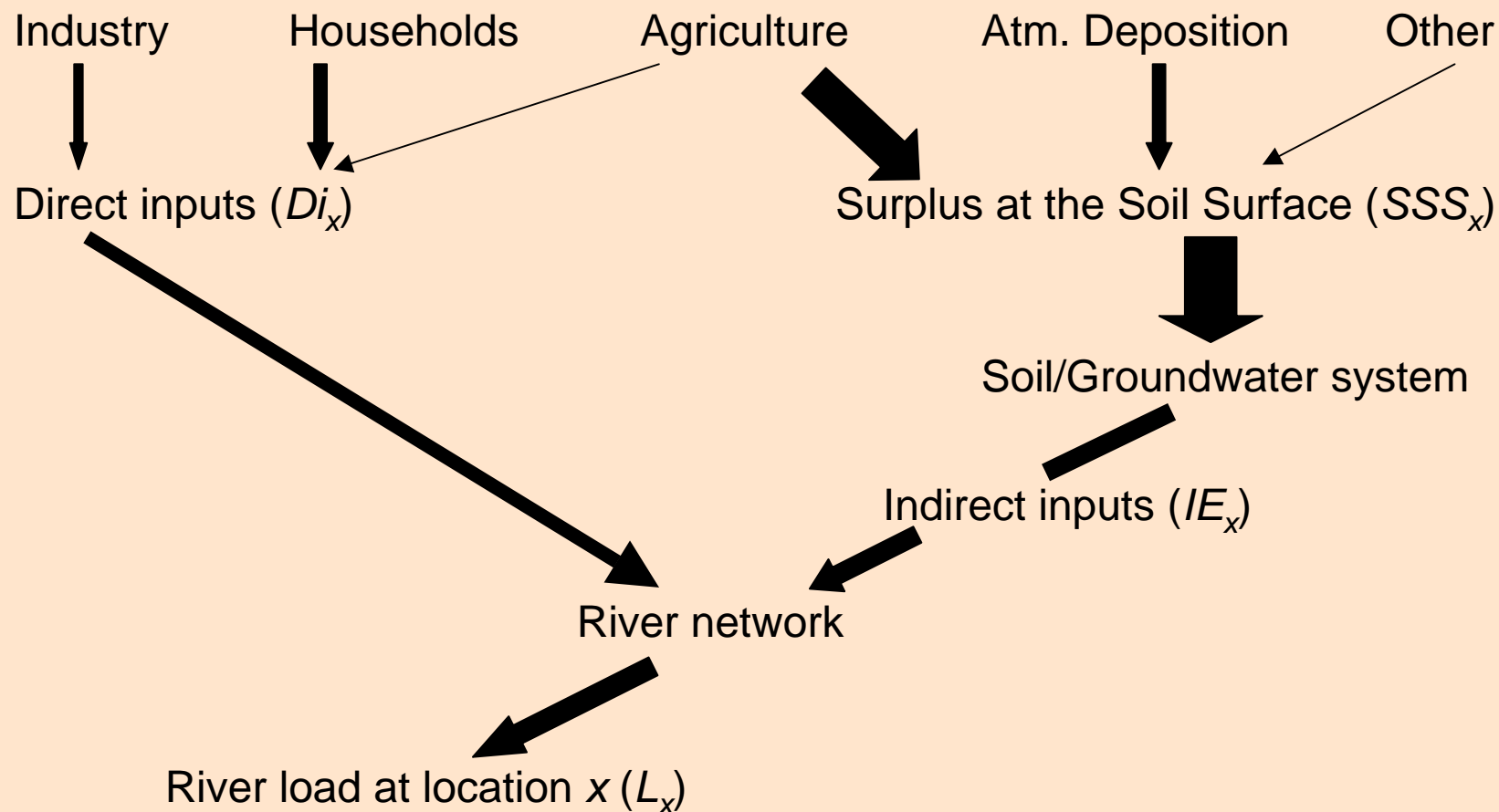
- Corine level1
- Artificial surfaces
  - Agricultural areas
  - Forest and semi-natural areas
  - Wetlands
  - Water bodies

-  Agricultural area
-  Artificial surfaces
-  Forest



CORINE land use cover map

## Step 2: transport of nitrogen



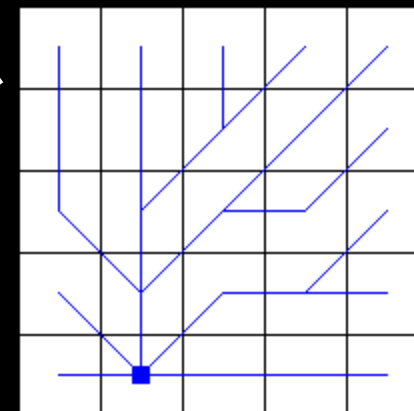
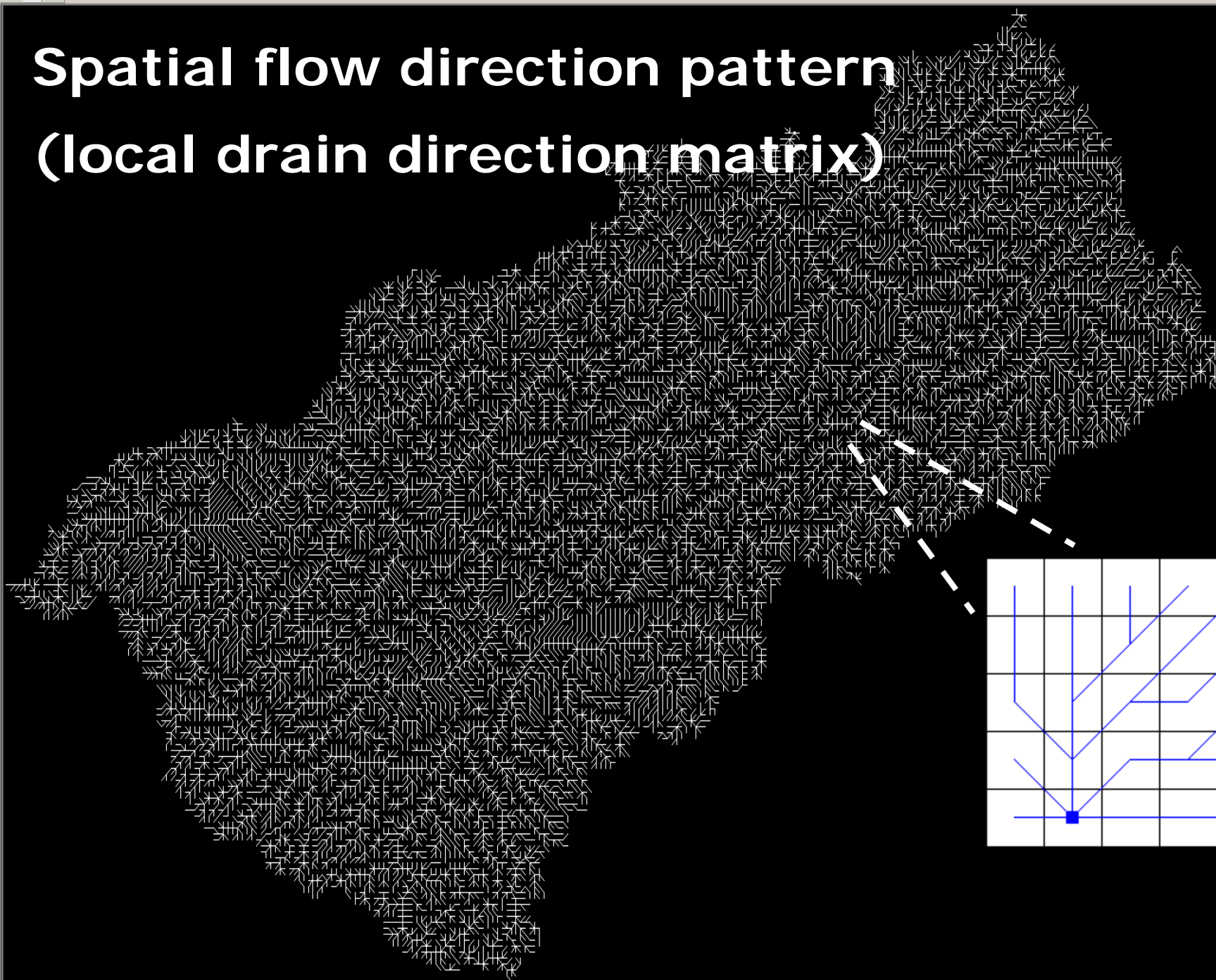
Source: De Wit (1999)



lddin.map

flow dire

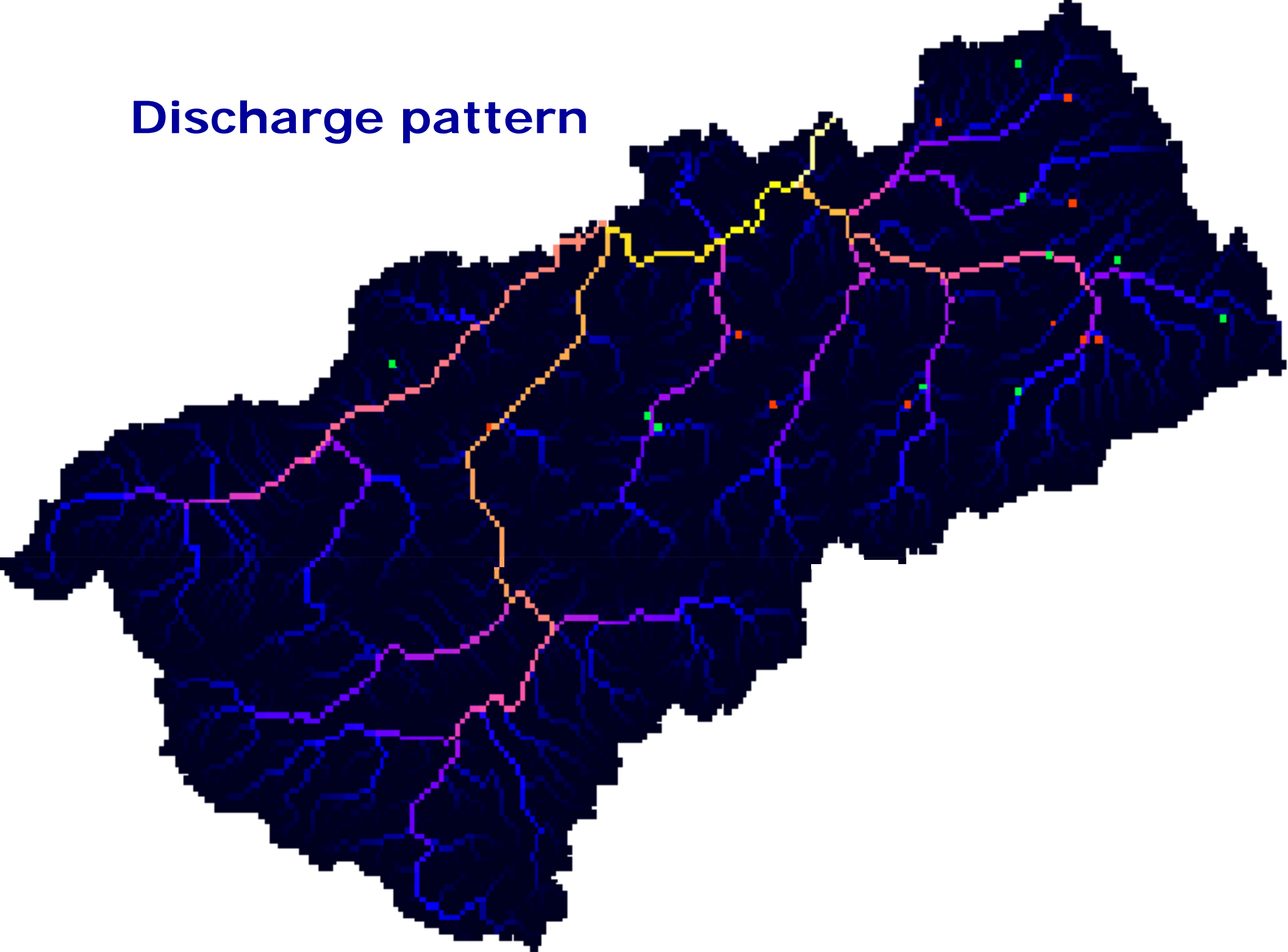
# Spatial flow direction pattern (local drain direction matrix)



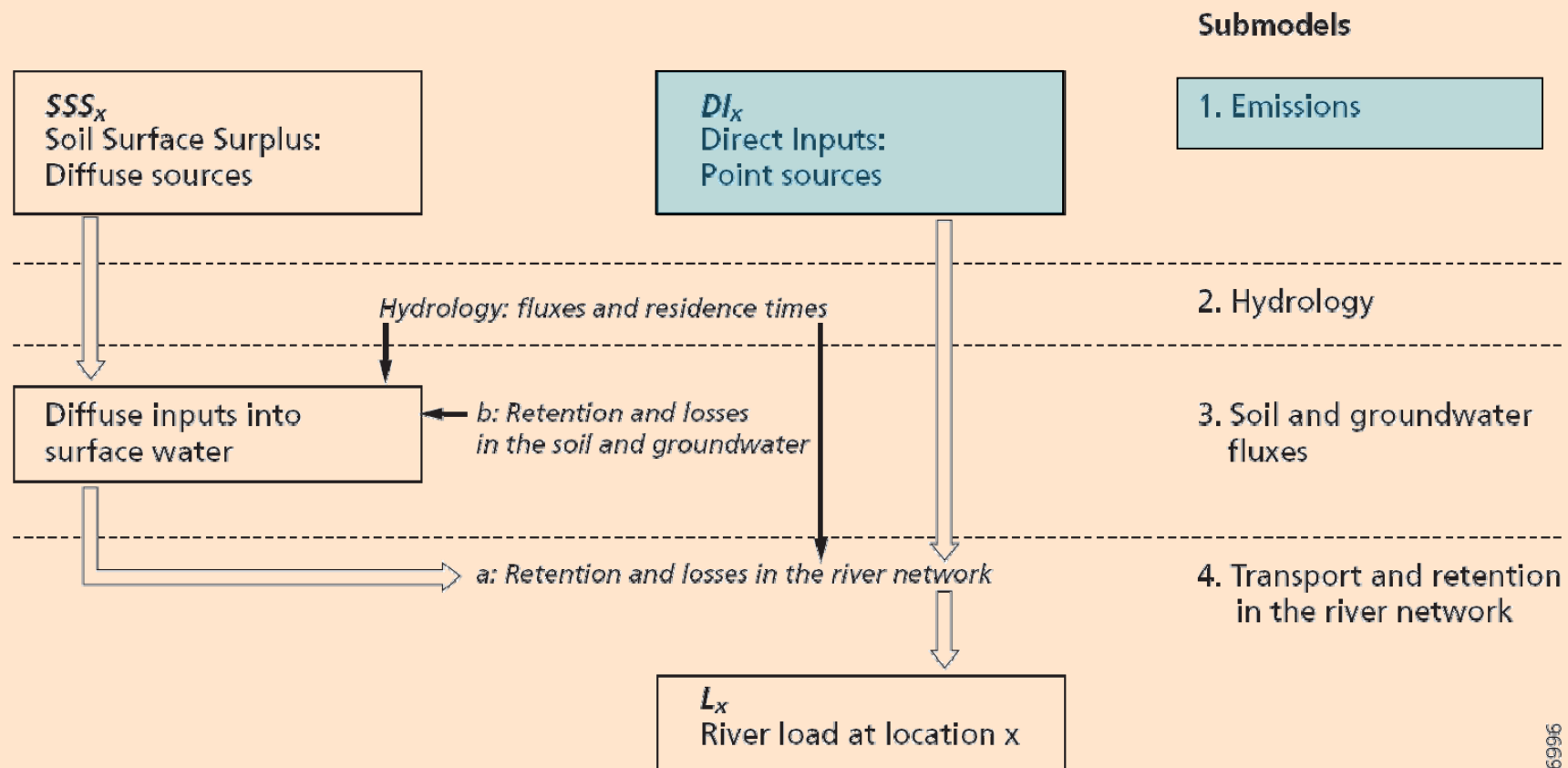
lddin.map



## Discharge pattern

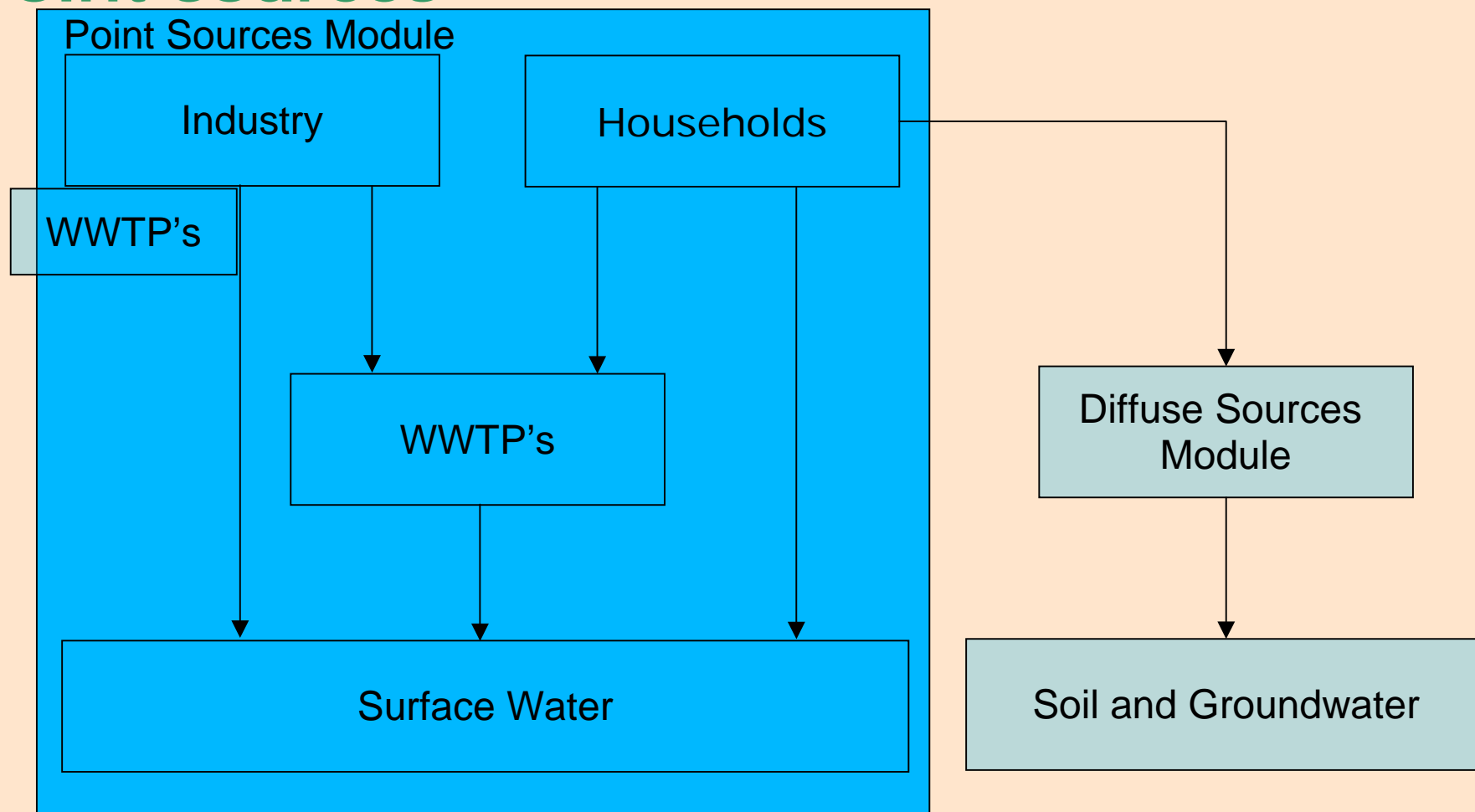


## Point sources

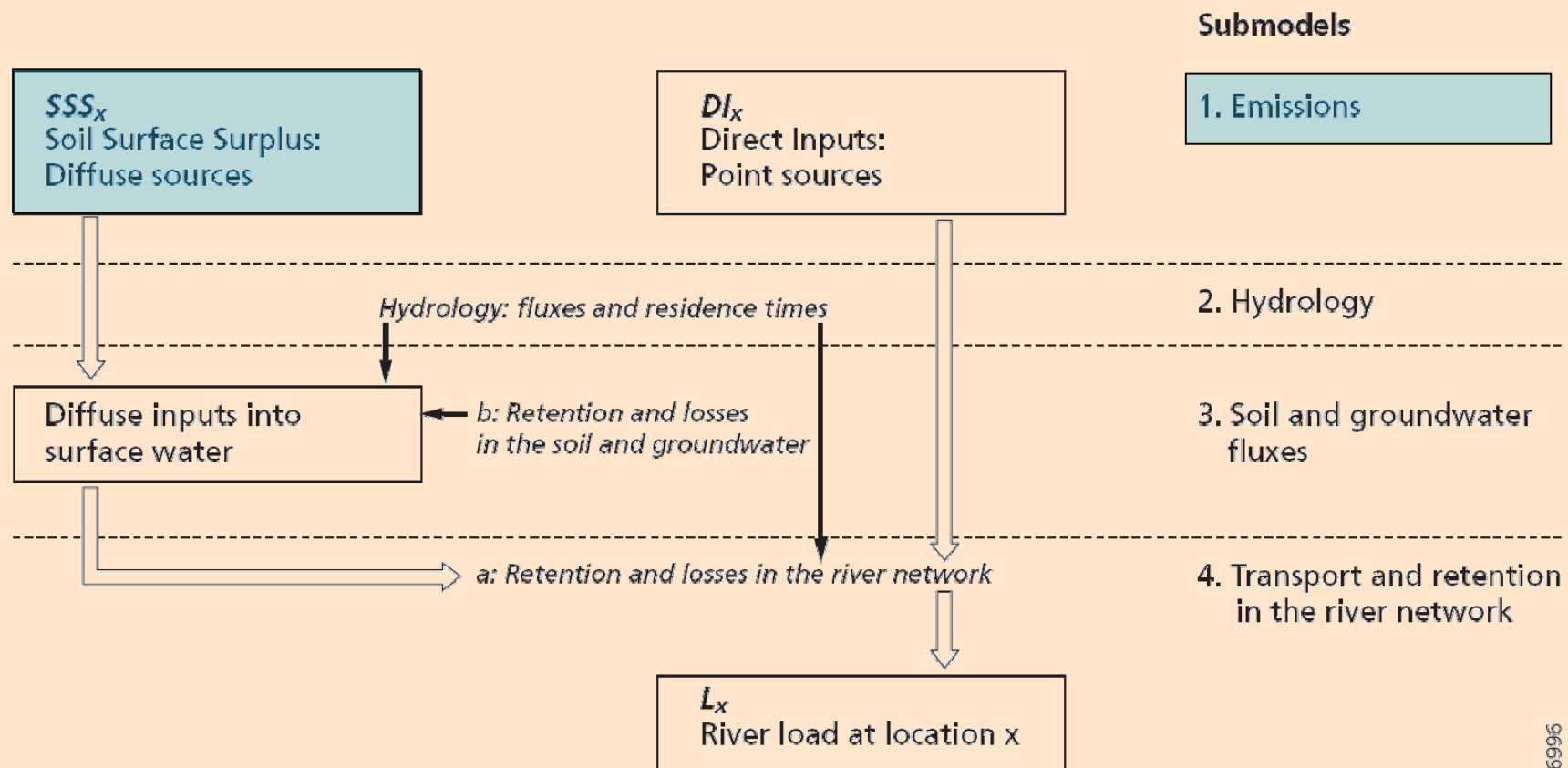


Source: Mourad (2008)

## Point sources



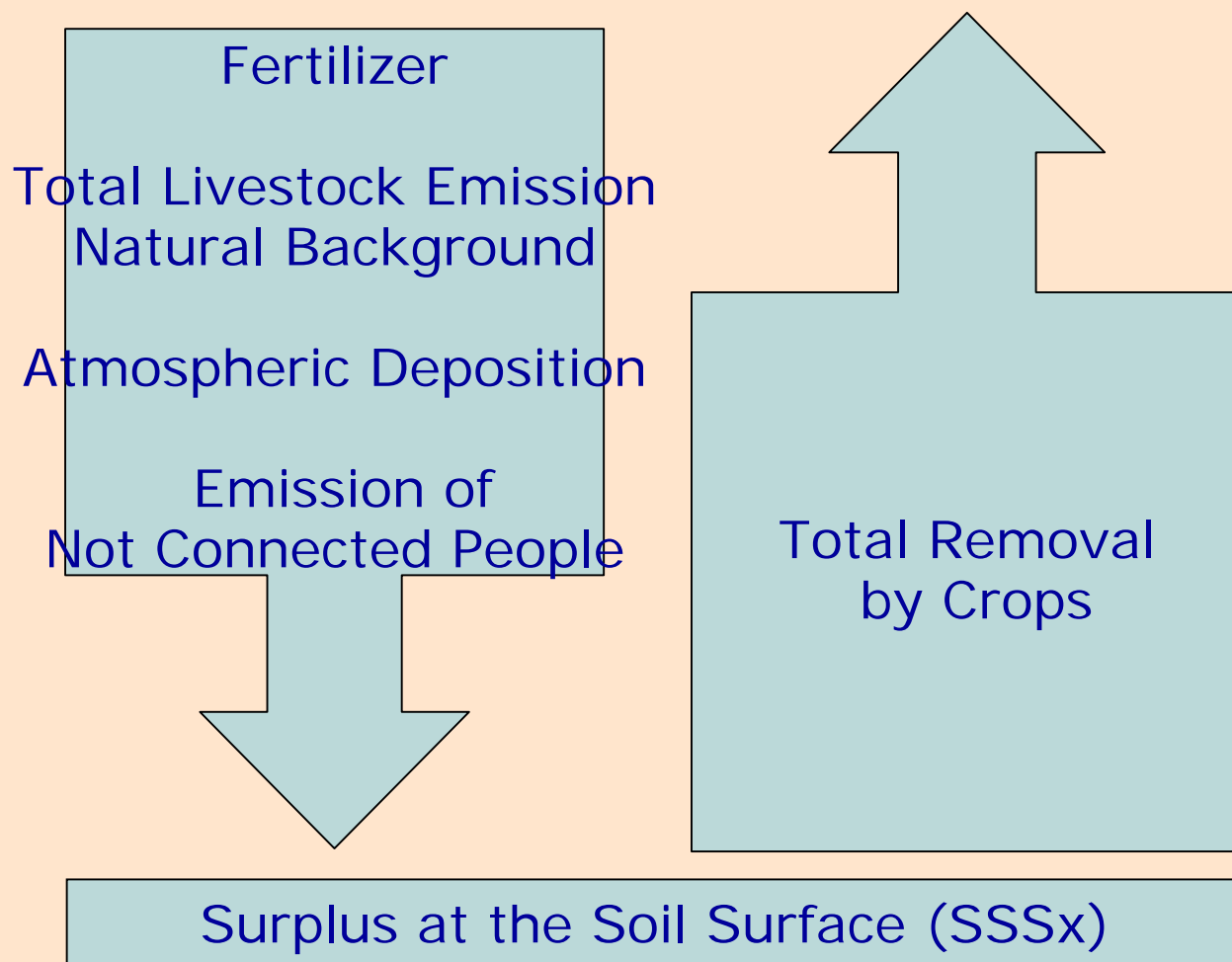
## Diffuse sources



Source: Mourad (2008)

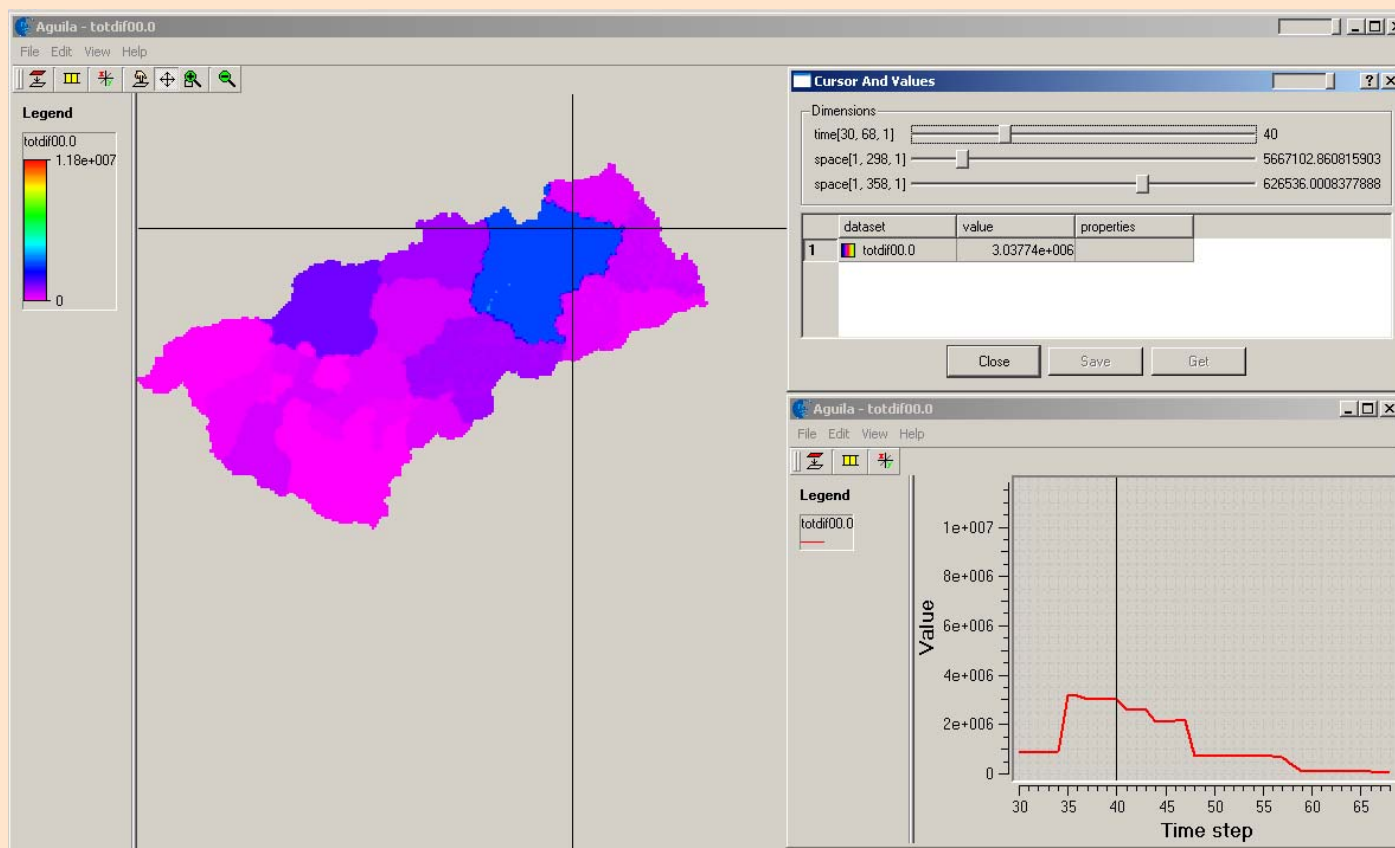


## Diffuse sources

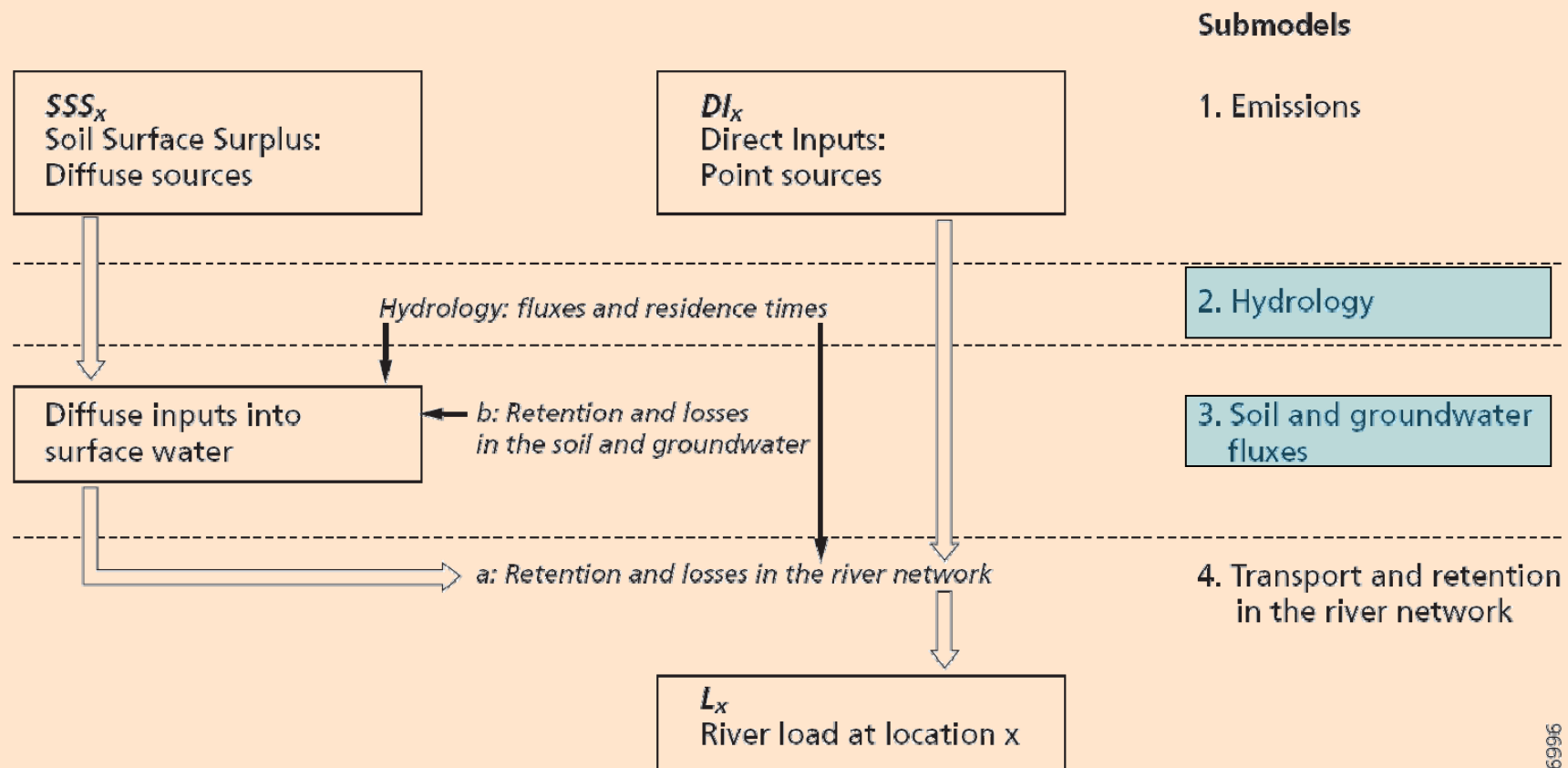


## Diffuse sources

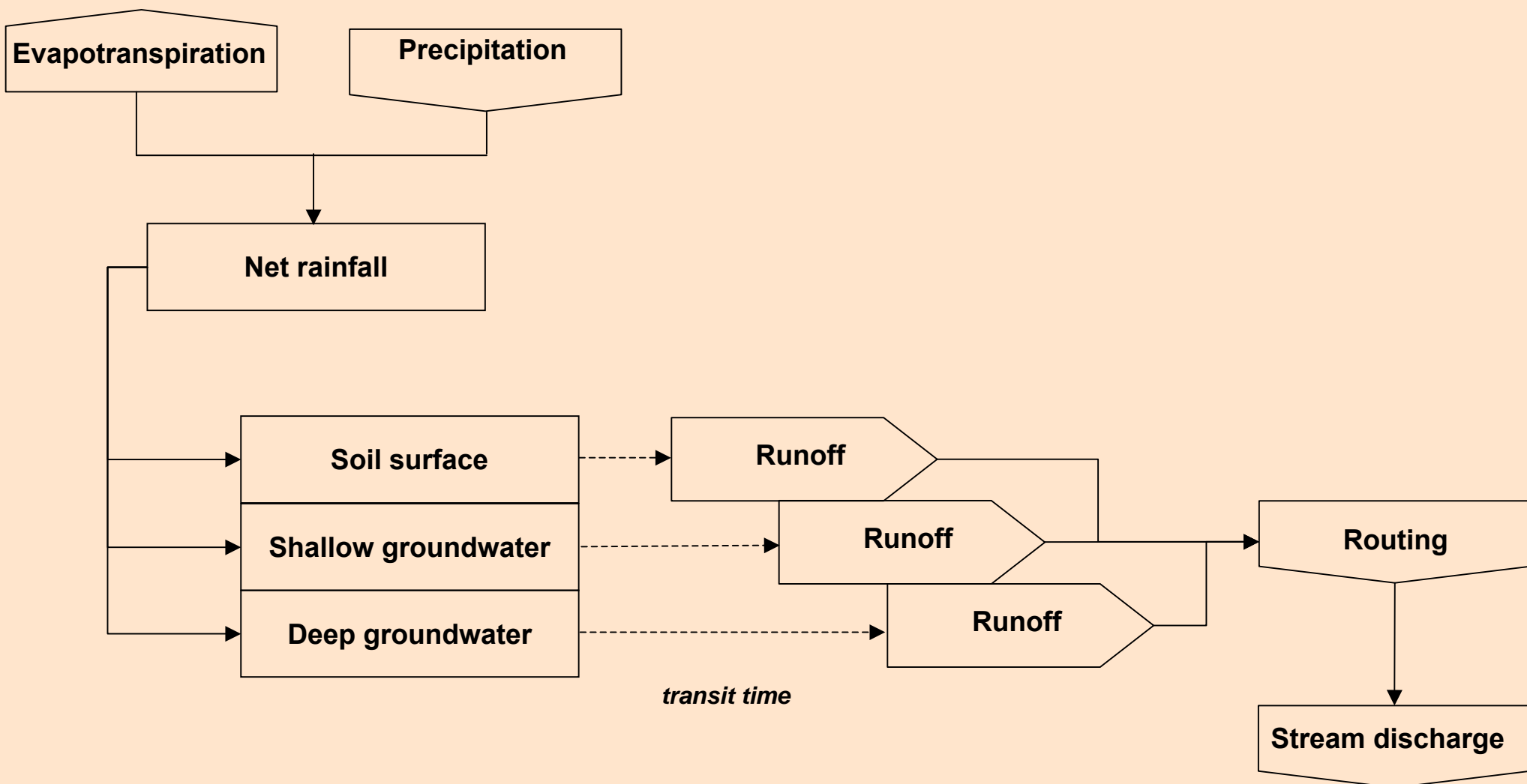
Result: total diffuse emissions [kg/year]

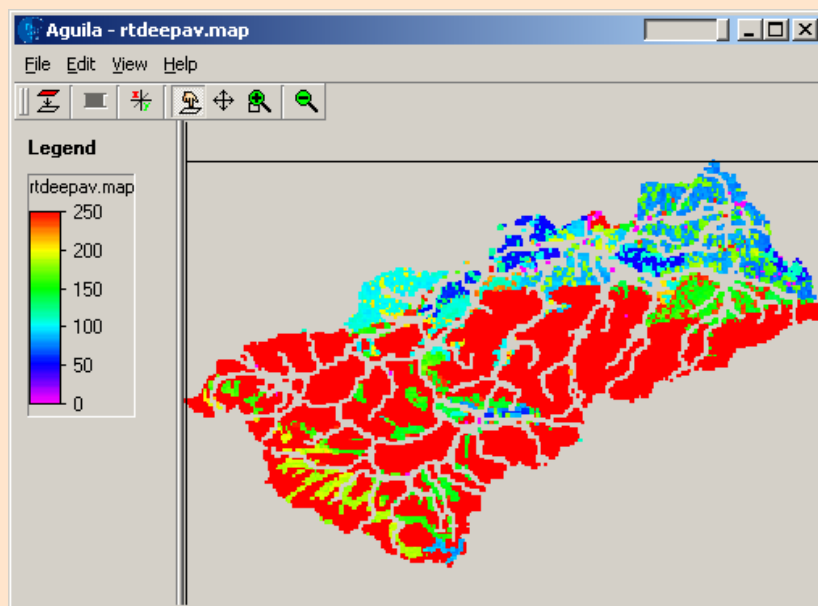


## Hydrology

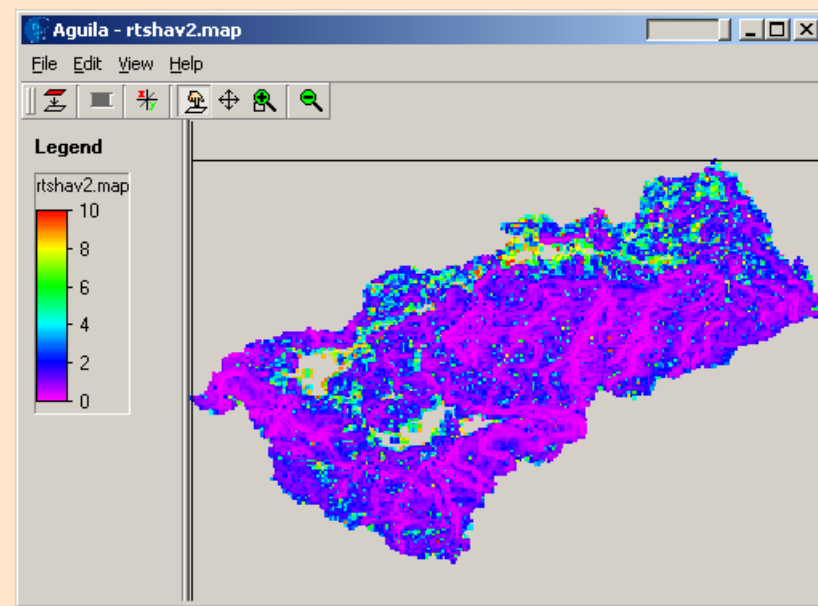


Source: Mourad (2008)





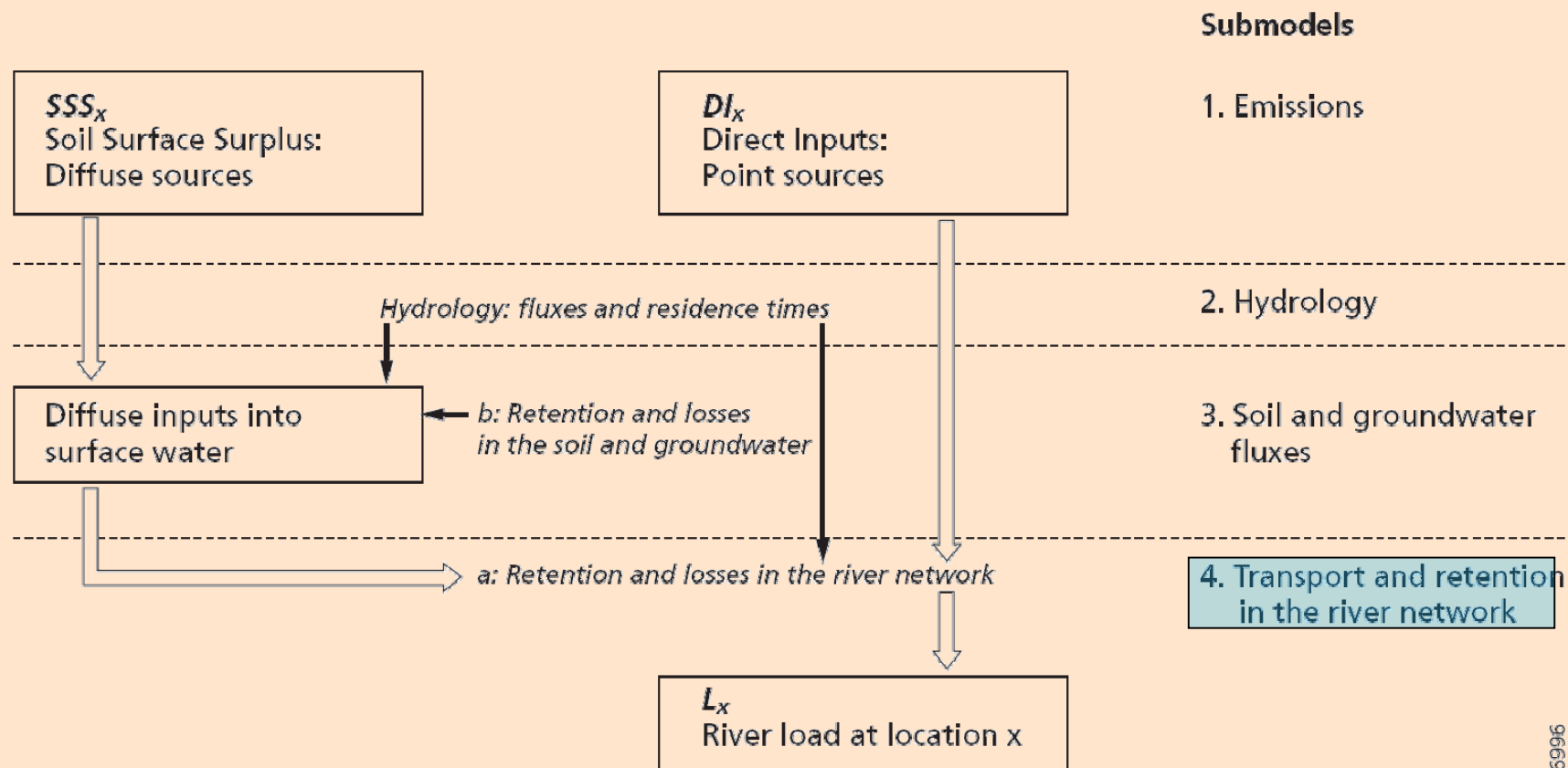
**Average residence time [years]  
Deep groundwater**



**Average residence time [years]  
Shallow groundwater**



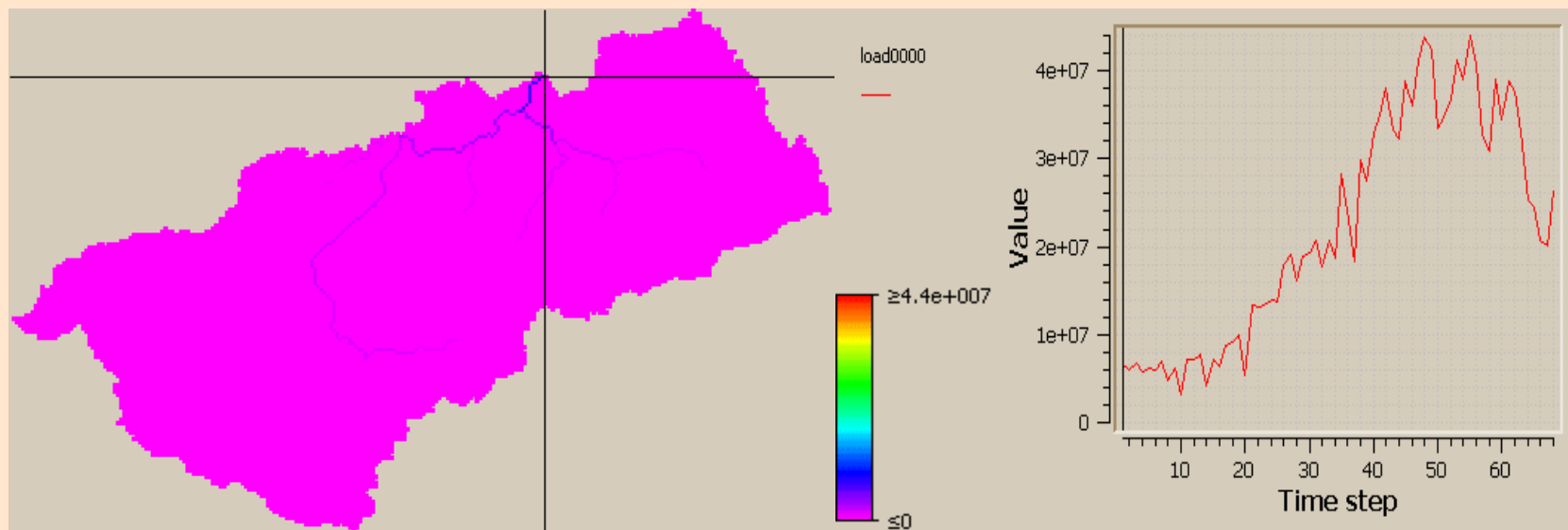
## Hydrology



Source: Mourad (2008)

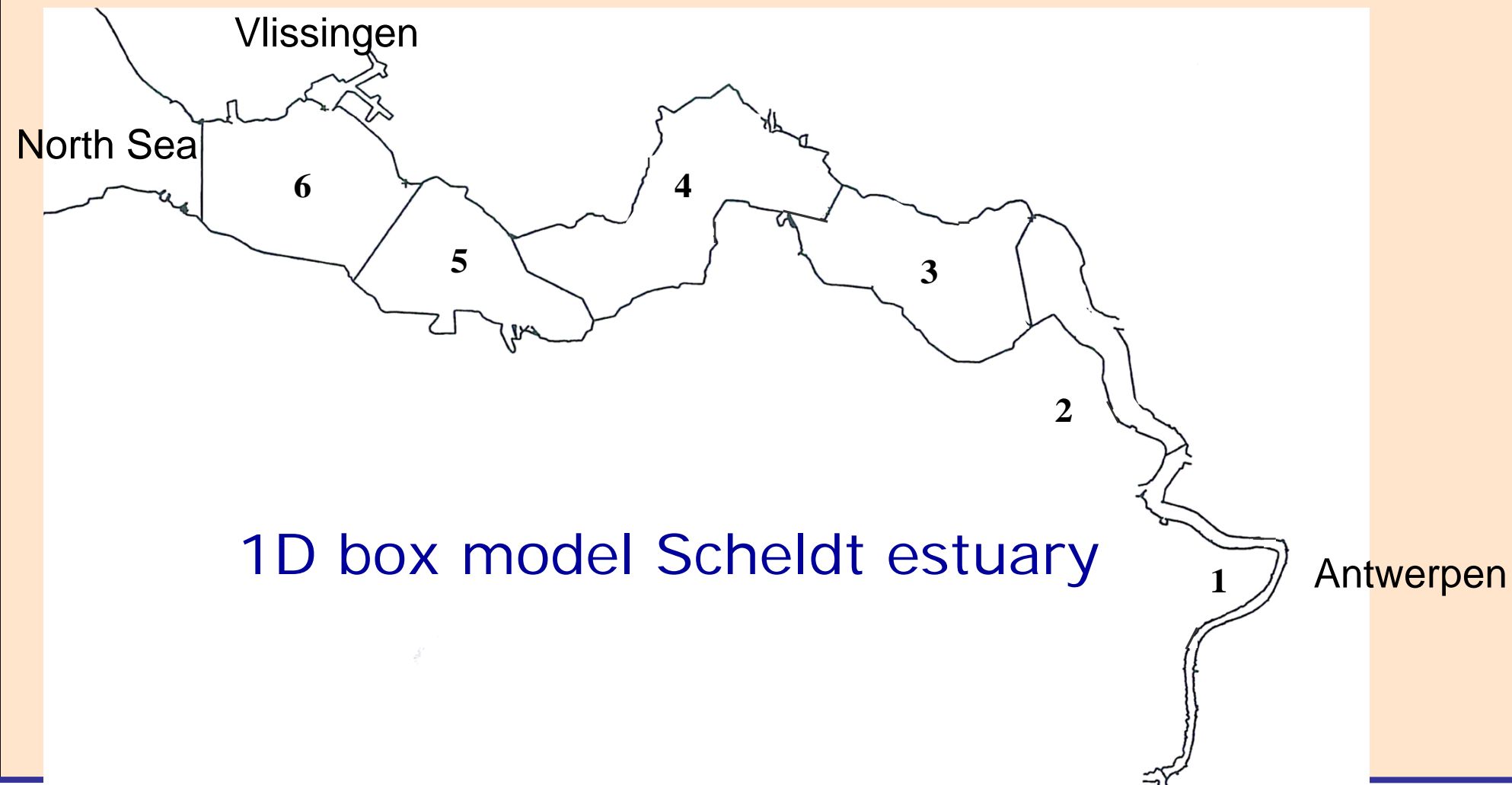
## Transport & retention in the river network

N-load [kg/year] at the outflow point of the Scheldt basin



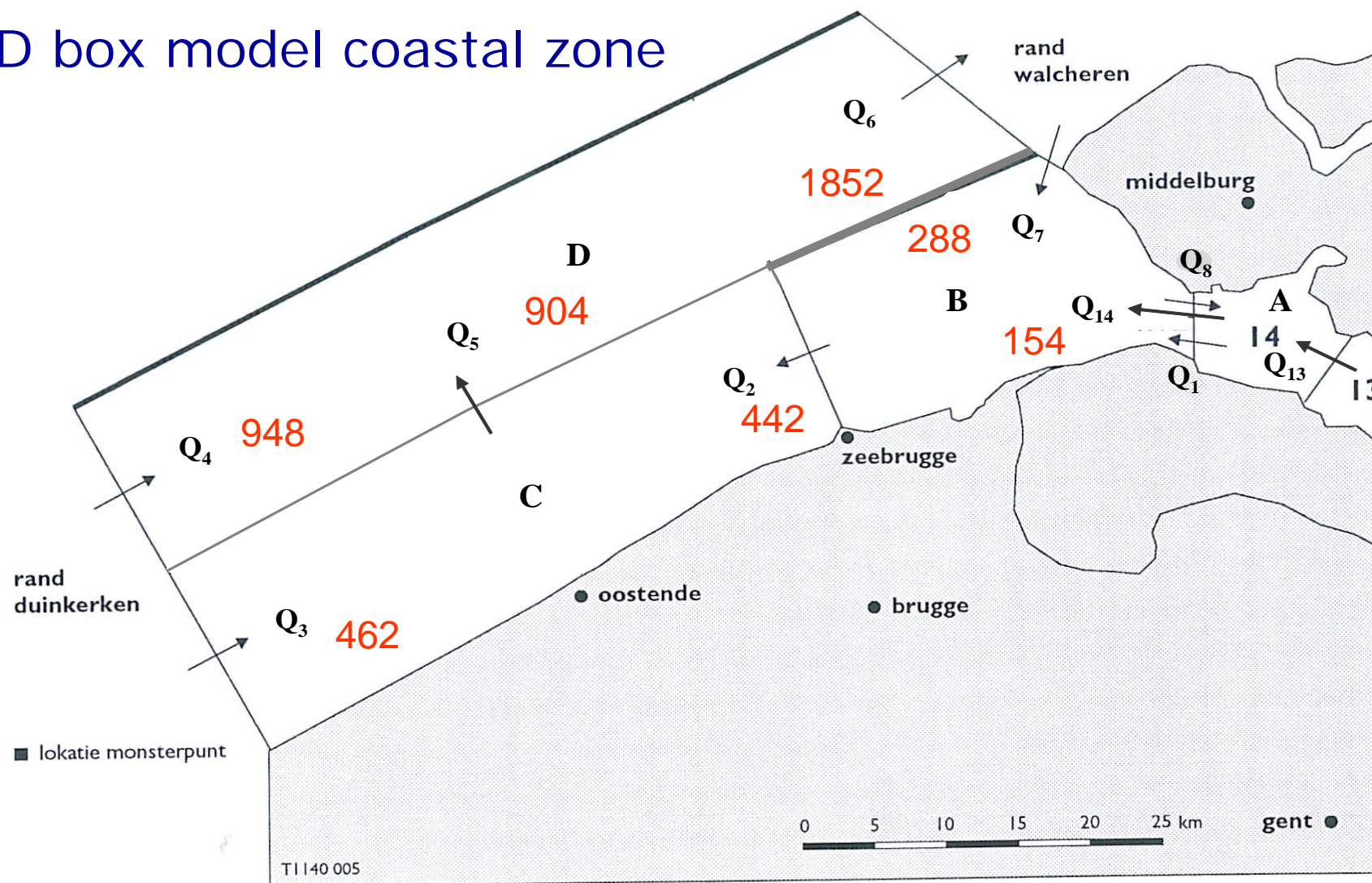
## Estuarine 1D box model

1. spatial resolution
2. waterbalance and salinity
3. nitrogen model
4. nitrogen emissions
5. coastal harmful blooms





## 1D box model coastal zone





## Formulation nitrogen retention

$$\frac{\partial(DIN)}{\partial T} = -RC_{BDEN} \cdot \frac{(DIN)}{H} \cdot f(T) \cdot g_N(O_2)$$

nitrogen concentration

nitrogen retention rate

average water depth

temperature function nitrogen retention

oxygen function denitrification (=1)



# Fuzzy-logic model *Phaeocystis* spring bloom assessment (removed)

## Assessment of a risk for *Phaeocystis* dominance during spring bloom in BCZ

	Condition			Risk
NAO index (under present N-concentrations)	-2 <	NAOi	< 2	high
NAO index (under present N-concentrations)		NAOi	> 2	low
NAO index (under present N-concentrations)		NAOi	< -2	low
Future N-reduction in Belgian coastal zone	winter $\text{NO}_3^-$	< 0.3 - 0.4	$\text{g m}^{-3}$	low

Based on Breton et al. (2006) ; see text for assumptions regarding the risk.



# Measures and Scenarios

## Measures

Sigma plan = 2000 ha extra wetlands  
(PCRaster)

GCG = controlled tidal inlet

GOG = controlled dike height





Hedwige-Prosper  
polder

Antwerpen

Sint-Niklaas  
**Kruibeke-Bazel-  
Rupelmonde**

Cluster Durme en haar vallei

Lokeren

GOG Vlassenbroekse  
polder

GOG Grote Wal-  
Kleine Wal-Zwijn

Cluster  
Dijlemondig  
Mechelen

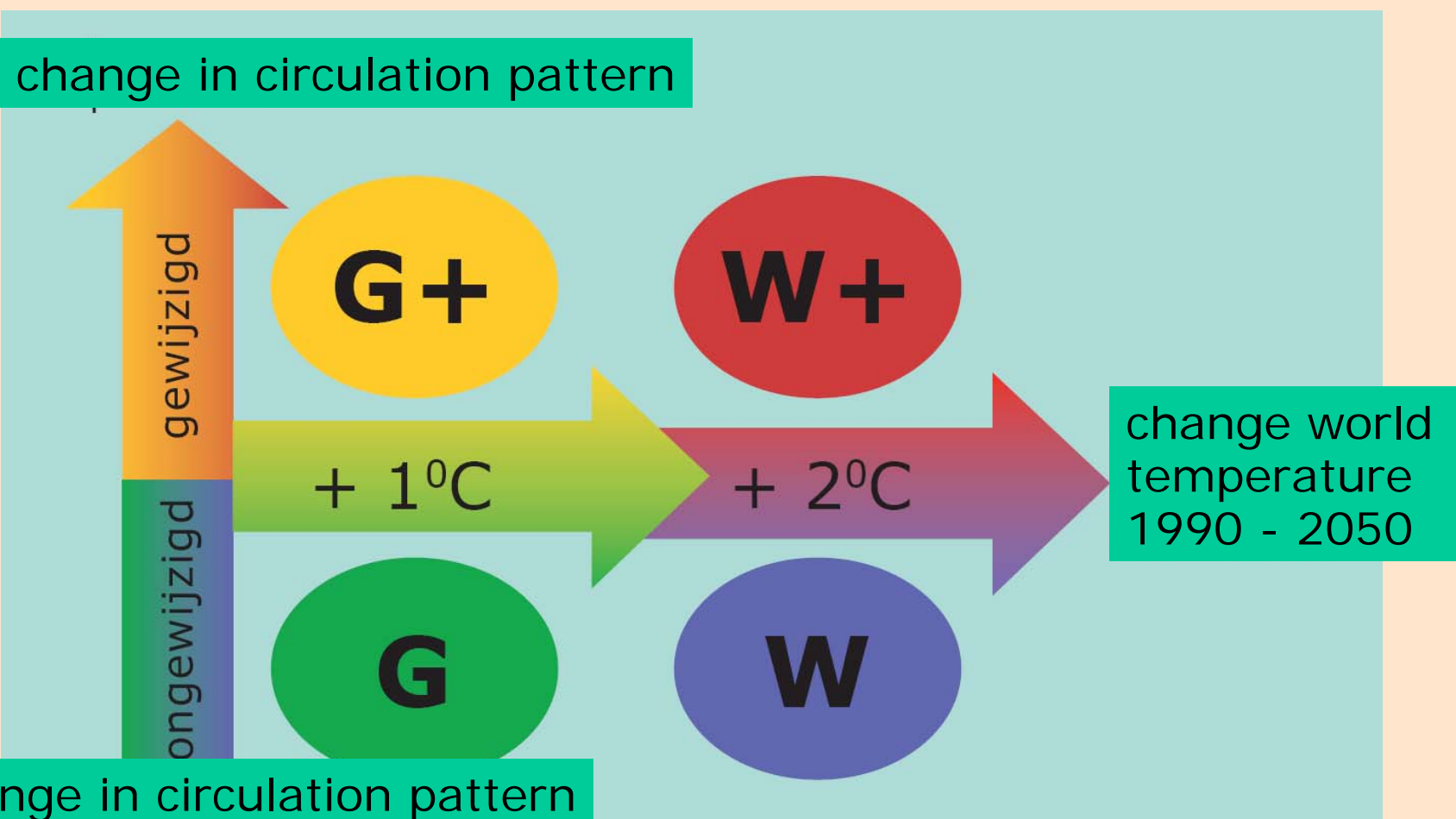
Grote Nete

Cluster Kalkense  
Meerssen

Aalst



## Scenarios



Source : Climate in the 21st century - Royal Dutch Meteorological Institute (KNMI)

[www.knmi.nl/climatescenarios](http://www.knmi.nl/climatescenarios)

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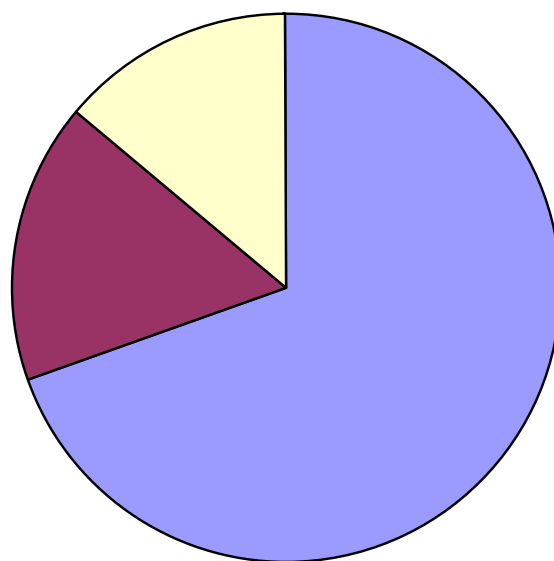


# Thank you for your attention



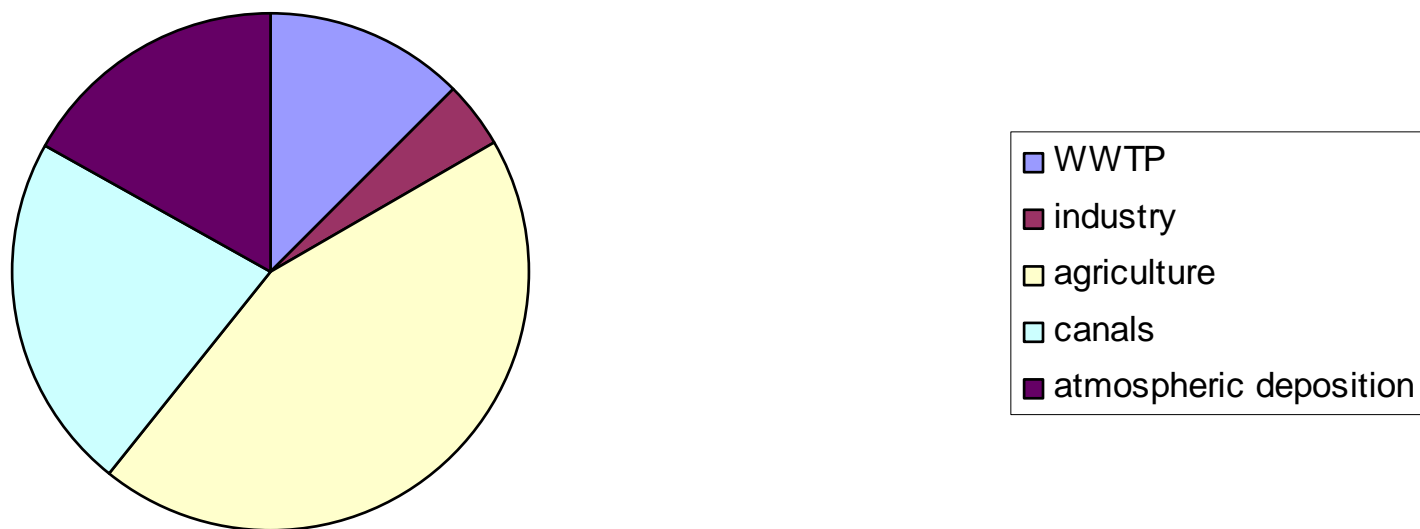






- N load from Belgium/France
- denitrification
- Dutch N load

Dutch N loads Western Scheldt



- PCraster is Based on PolFlow (De Wit, 1999) and a daptationsby Mourad (2008)
- Applied to large river basins
- Rhine, Elbe, Po
- Used for modelling of N and P fluxes
- Temporal resolution:  $\geq 1$  year
- Spatial resolution: 1 ha - 1 km<sup>2</sup>

## Natural component

- Relate nutrient fluxes to:
  - Emissions (point/diffuse sources)
  - Hydrological pathways
  - Retention (decay, storage, transformation)

*Source: Mourad, De Wit & Van der Perk*

## Natural component model

- Emissions modules
- Hydrology module
- Soil & groundwater fluxes module
- Transport & retention in the river network module



## Point sources

- Outputs:
  - Total point sources emissions ( $DI_x$  [kg/year])  
→ input to **transport and retention in the river network module**
  - Emission from not connected people considered as diffuse sources [kg/year]  
→ input to **diffuse sources module**

## Point sources

- Datasets:
  - Direct emissions from WWTP's
    - Location of WWTP's + year of construction
    - connected people and industry
    - efficiency of nutrient removal
    - startyear of WWTP's
  - Direct emissions from industry
    - Location of not connected industry

## Point sources

- Fraction not connected people considered as point sources + their excretion factor (10gN/day)

## Diffuse sources

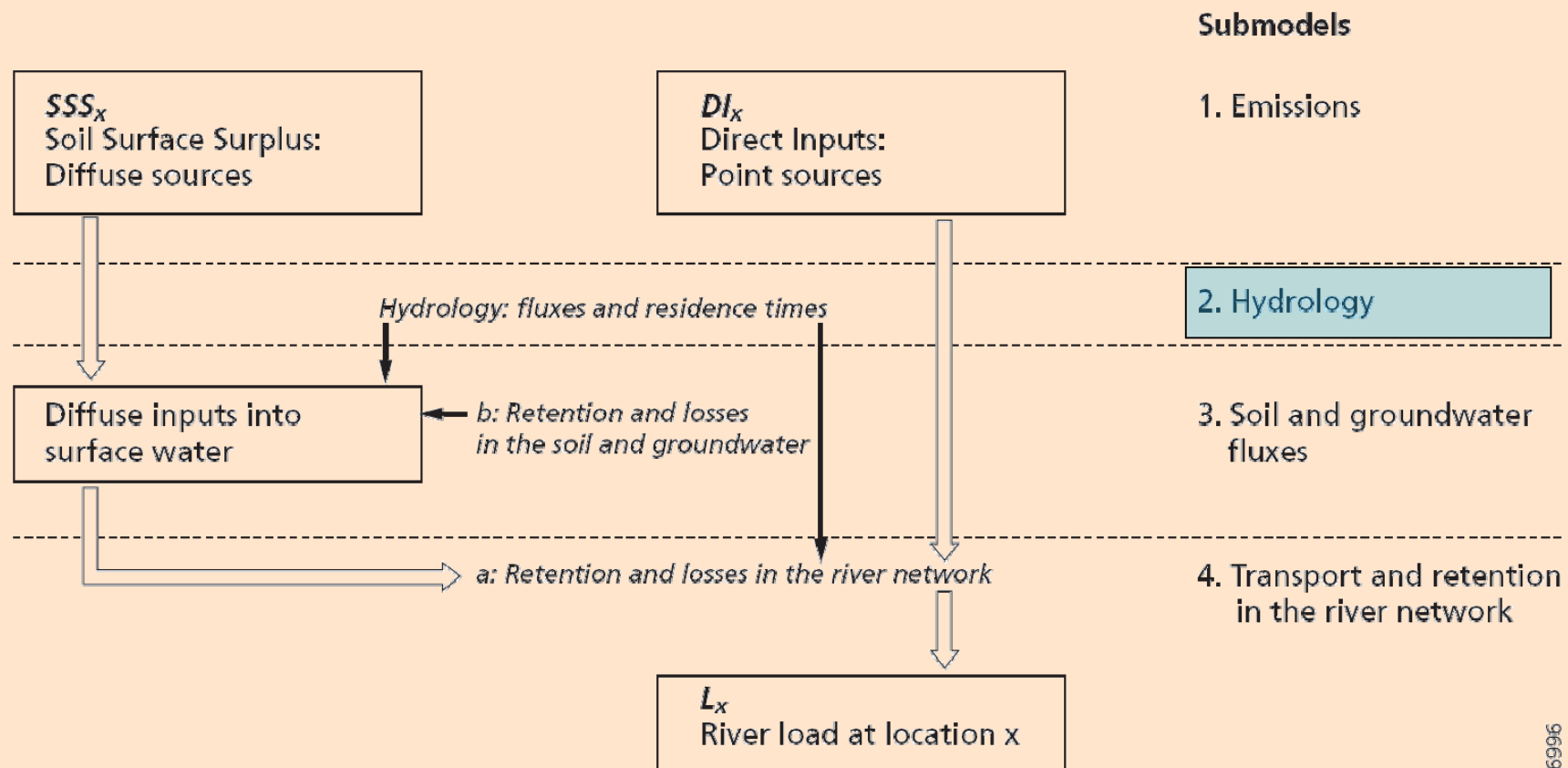
- Datasets:
  - Livestock data EUROSTAT, per province
    - Number of animals
    - Excretion factors
  - Crop data EUROSTAT, per province
    - Crop yield
    - Crop factor
  - Atmospheric deposition: EMEP
  - People not connected to WWTP: from point sources module

## Diffuse sources

- Outputs:
  - Total emission from diffuse sources ( $SSS_x$  [kg/year])  
→ input to **soil and groundwater fluxes module**



## Hydrology



Source: Mourad (2008)

## Soil & groundwater fluxes

Denitrification functions from De Wit (1999).  
Parameters (lookup tables):

- Denitrification reaction constant per aquifer
- Maximum denitrification fraction per aquifer
- Maximum denitrification rate per soil type
- Denitrification constant per soil type

## Transport & retention in the river network

### Loss in the river network

- denitrification (N)
- sedimentation (P)
- Assimilation by algae and aquatic macrophytes (N and P)

### Modelled with transport fraction ( $tf$ ):

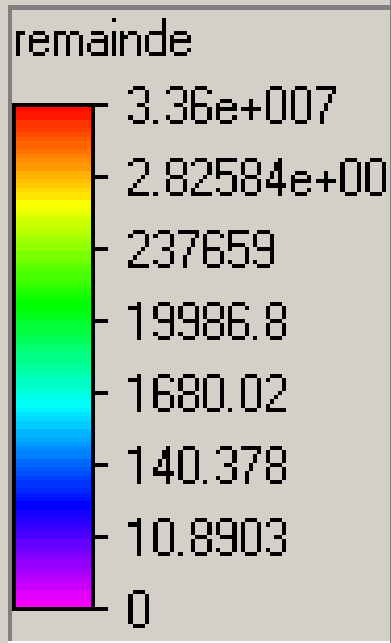
- output to downstream cell / total input to the cell
- function of slope and discharge of a cell



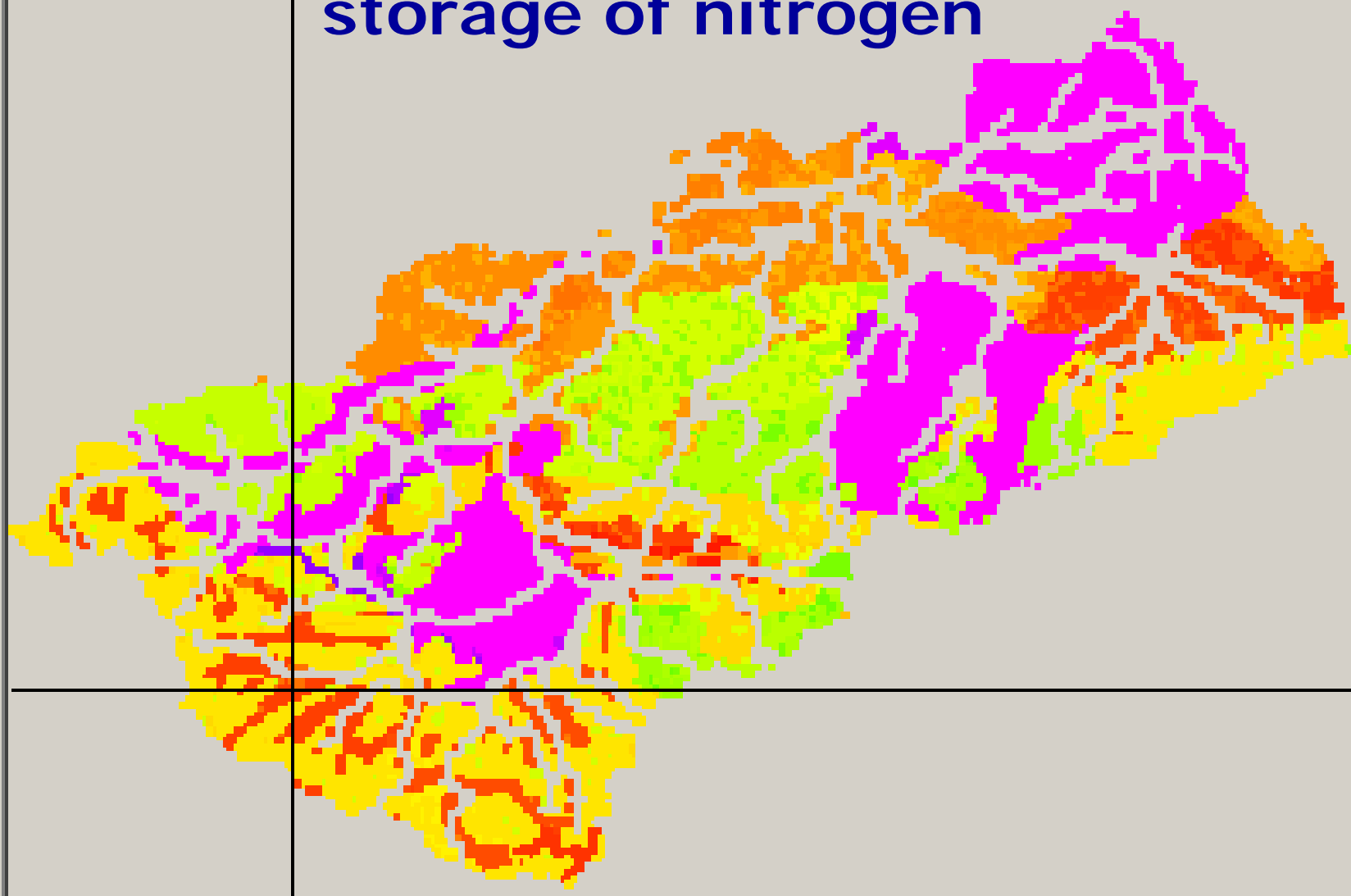
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Legend

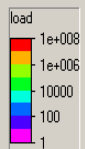


Deep groundwater storage of nitrogen

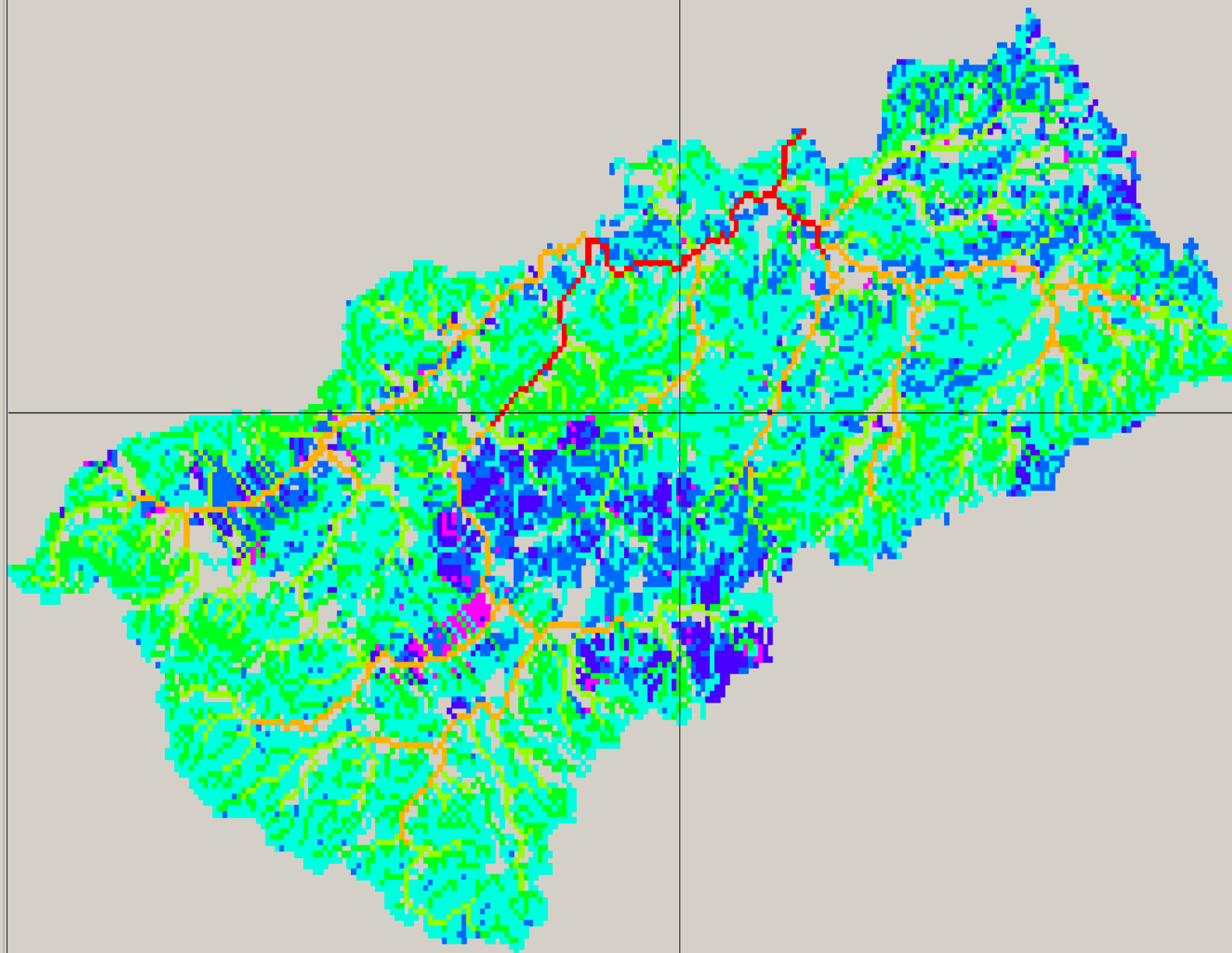




Legend



# spatial output in PCRaster: N-load [kg/yr]





## Measures

- Aim: estimate costs and effects of measures WFD
- Main measures:
  - Connection to WWTP
  - Individual treatment households
  - Reduction livestock
  - Spatially defined measures: bufferstrips, green fertilizers