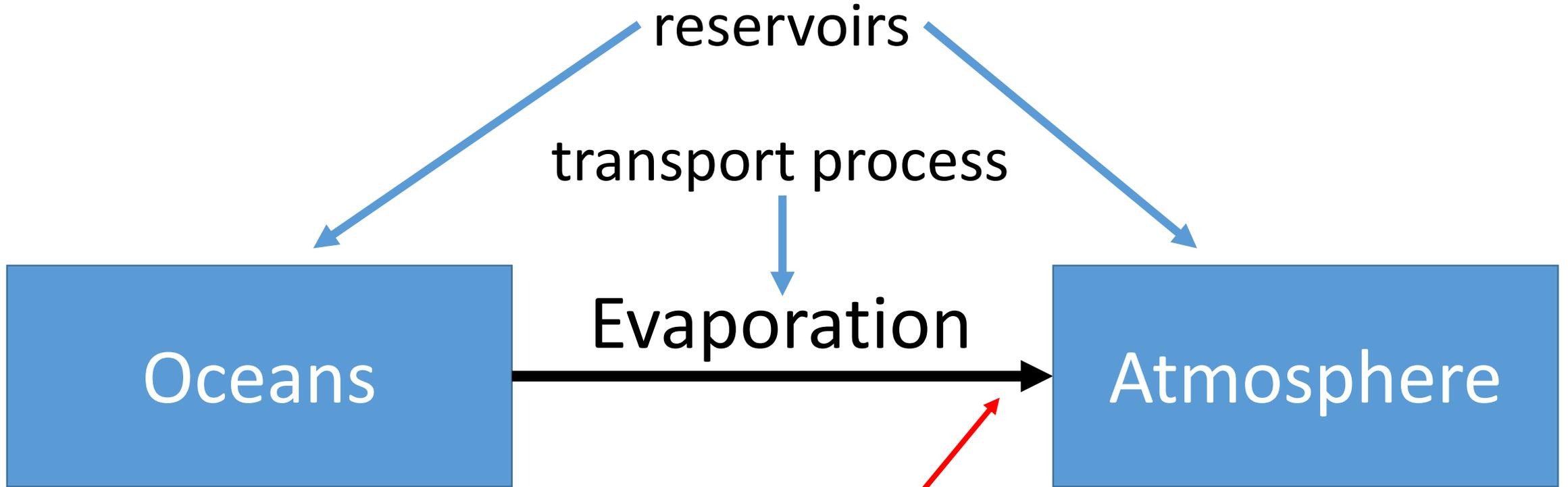


What is a Box Model?

A box model is a simplification of a connected system where a substance (like water) is held in *reservoirs* and moves between reservoirs through *transport processes* or *fluxes*

Example: water in the oceans can move to the atmosphere through evaporation



The direction of the arrow on the transport process tells us which way the water moves

## Why use box models?

- Simplifies complex processes
- Visualize processes that are difficult to observe in time and space
- Understand the distribution of a substance in the environment
- Explore the cyclic nature of many earth systems
- Can be used to track where a substance goes and how long it takes to get there