



# Data exchanges, XML, and why the exchange problem is still unsolved

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Defence Research and  
Development Canada

Recherche et développement  
pour la défense Canada

Canada



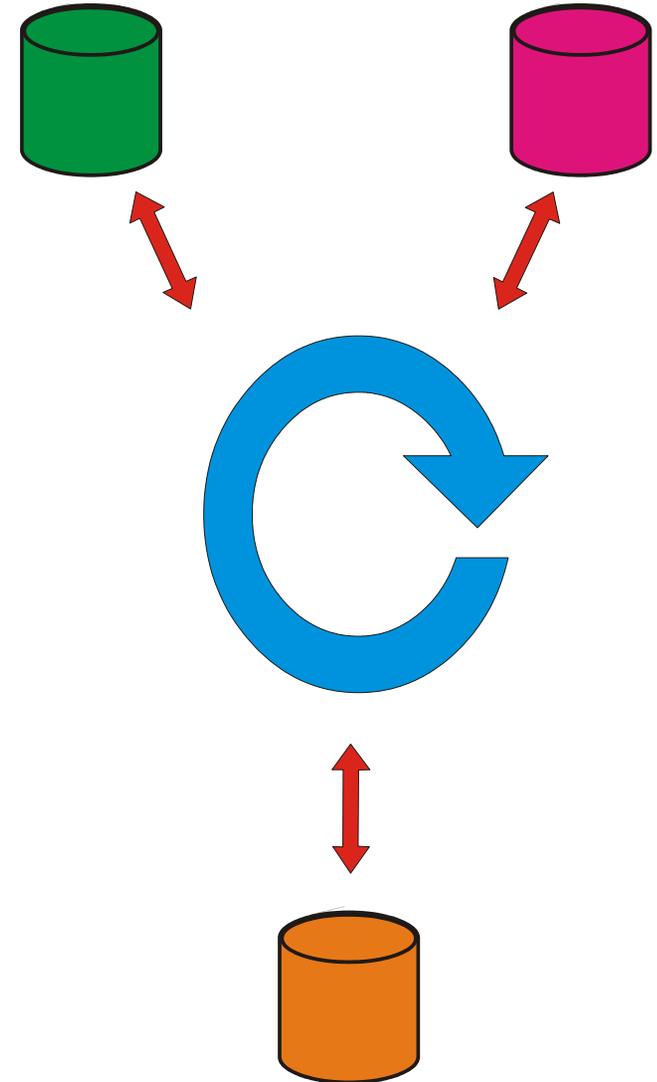
# Outline

- Models of Data Exchange
- SGXML Efforts
- GML
- JCOMM ETDMP
- Marine Metadata Interoperability (MMI)
- Why it is still unsolved



# Informal Model

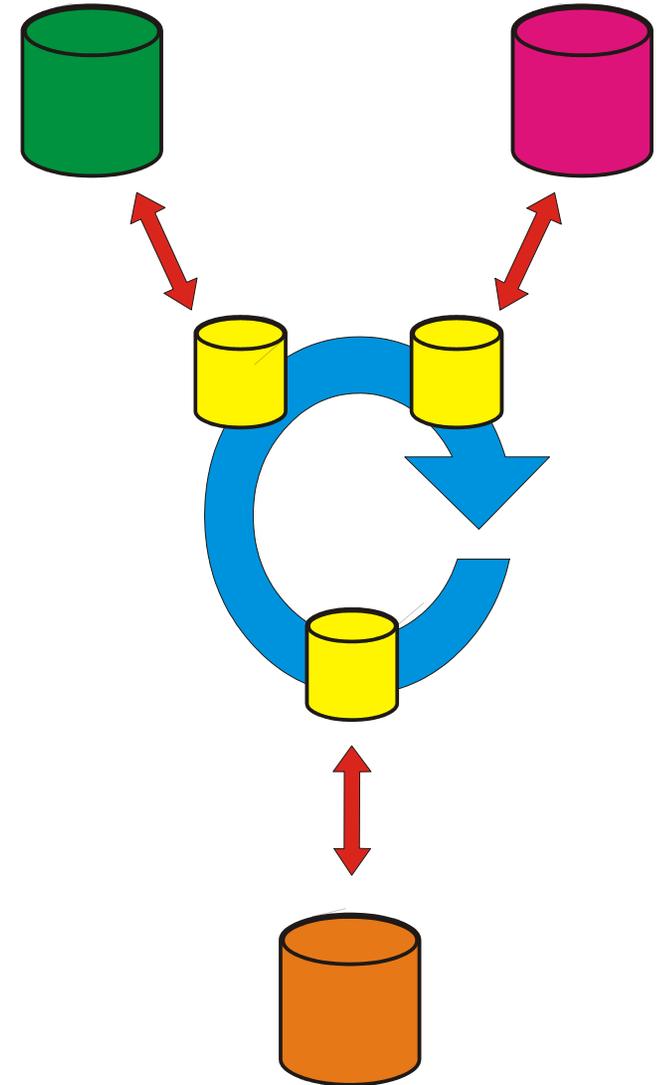
- Oceanographic Community
  - IOC, ICES, JCOMM
  - GOOS, US IOOS
- For?
  - environmental data





# Formal Model

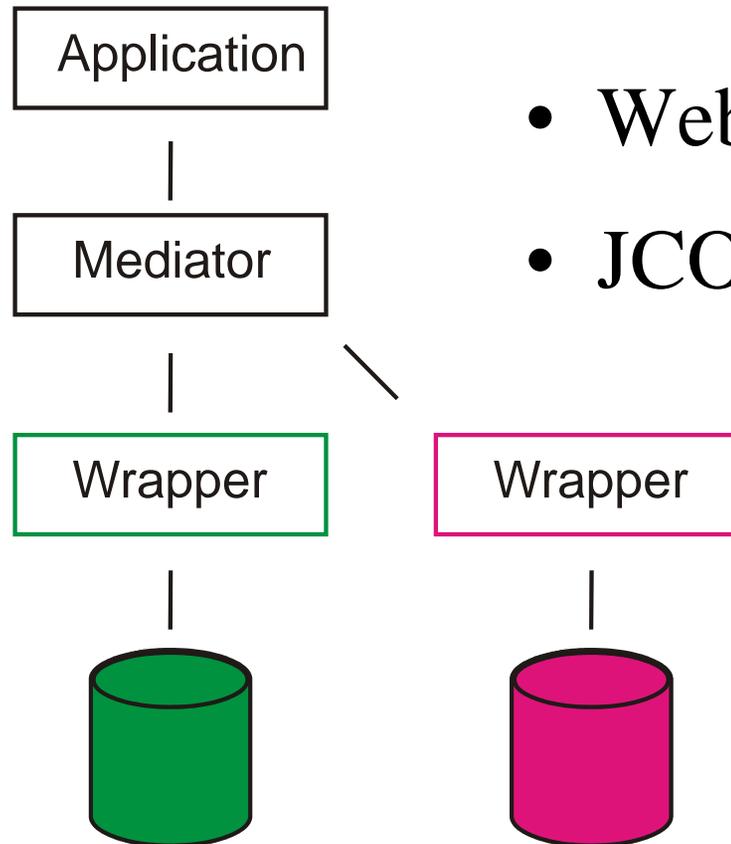
- Military Community
- For?
  - planning, execution, reporting and monitoring





# Wrapper Model

- Wrappers, Mediators, Integrators, Navigators



- Web Services
- JCOMM ETDMP



# SGXML Efforts

- Metadata
- Parameter Dictionaries
- Data in XML

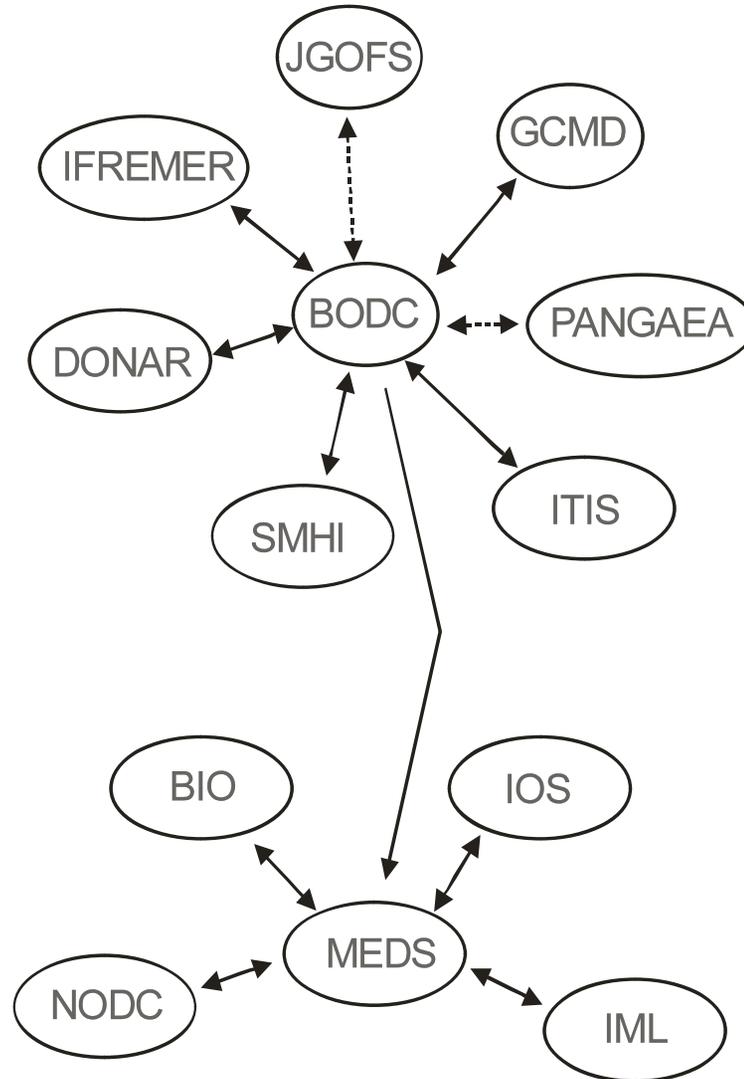


# SGXML - Metadata

- Review and mapping
  - ISO 19115, FGDC, EDMED, DIF, MARC 21 and Dublin Core
  - Mapping contribution
    - MEDI to ISO; EDMED to ISO
- Identified levels of metadata
  - unification, service, thematic, associated (ETDMP)
  - archival, browse, summary, discovery... (NDG)



# SGXML - Parameter Dictionaries





# SGXML - Data - Keeley Bricks

- Two principles
  - Exploit the natural hierarchy found in ocean data types
  - Construct different structures from these data objects
- Profile Data Study
  - 20 bricks



# SGXML - 20 Keeley Bricks

- analysis\_method
- availability
- calibration
- comment
- data\_dictionary
- data\_point
- data\_set\_id
- depth\_pressure
- history
- instrument
- latitude
- ldate
- longitude
- provenance
- quality
- quality\_testing
- sampling
- sensor
- units
- variable



# Keeley Bricks

- data\_set
  - availability
  - comment
  - data\_point 
  - data\_set\_id
  - provenance
  - quality
  - quality\_testing
  - variable\_set
  - location\_set
  - history\_set
  - data\_set



# XML Document – data\_set

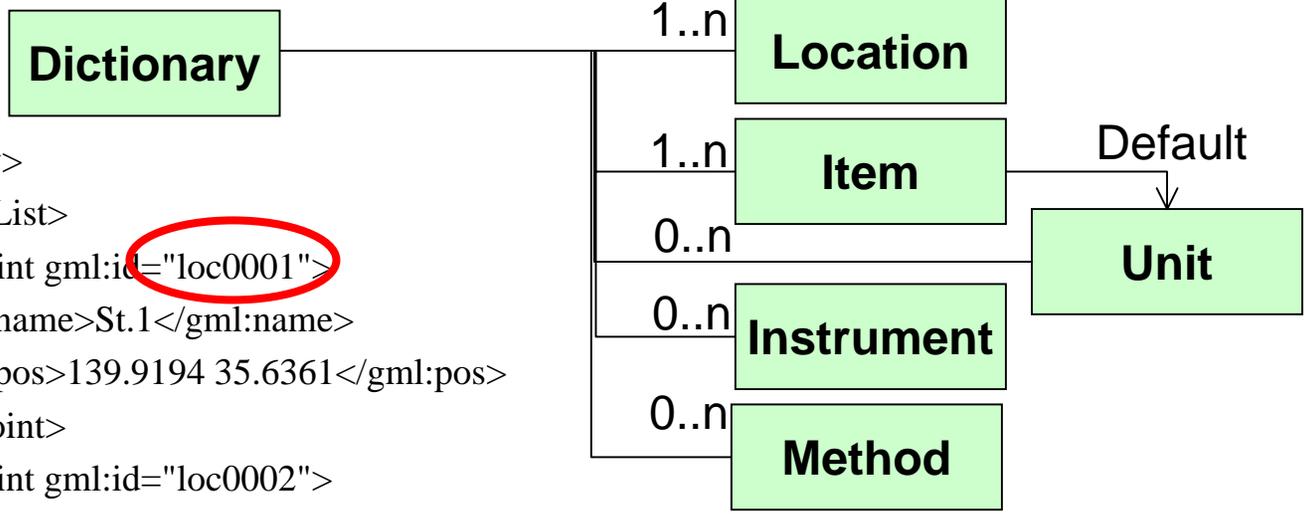
```
<data_set>
  <data_point pt_code="Species" pt_link="1">Crangon</...>
  <data_point pt_code="Stage">Postlarva</data_point>
  <data_point pt_code="number">15</data_point>
  <data_point pt_code="biomass">13</data_point>
  <data_set_id level="record"/>
  <location_set>
    <depth_pressure pt_code="DEPT">14.141</depth_p...>
  </location_set>
</data_set>
```



# SGXML - Data - Japanese Efforts

Item (ID) Definition Location (ID) Definition

```
<dictionary>
<locationList>
  <gml:Point gml:id="loc0001">
    <gml:name>St.1</gml:name>
    <gml:pos>139.9194 35.6361</gml:pos>
  </gml:Point>
  <gml:Point gml:id="loc0002">
    <gml:name>St.2</gml:name>
    <gml:pos>139.9364 35.5864</gml:pos>
  </gml:Point>
</locationList>
<itemList>
  <item itemId="item001" unitId="degC" instrumentId="ins0001" methodId="met0001">
    <name>water temperature</name>
  </item>
</itemList>
</dictionary>
```

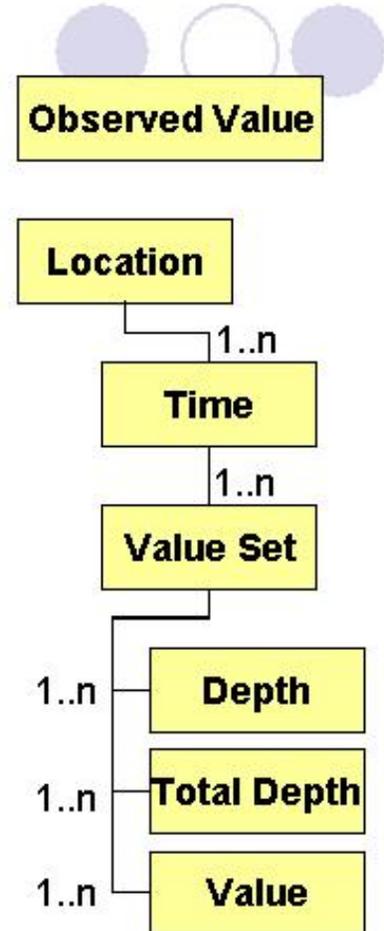


Compliments: Keita FURUKAWA  
and Tsuneki SAKAIBARA



# SGXML - Data - Japanese Efforts

```
<observationLocation locationId="loc0001">
  <time>
    <gml:TimePeriod>
      <gml:begin>
        <gml:TimeInstant>
          <gml:timePosition>2002-07-25T10:03</gml:timePosition>
        </gml:TimeInstant>
      </gml:begin>
      <gml:end>
        <gml:TimeInstant>
          <gml:timePosition>2002-07-25T10:09</gml:timePosition>
        </gml:TimeInstant>
      </gml:end>
      <gml:duration>P0DT0H0M6S</gml:duration>
    </gml:TimePeriod>
    <valueSet observationId="waterQuality">
      <depthInstant>
        <depthPosition>0.5</depthPosition>
      </depthInstant>
      <totalDepth>
        <depthPosition>6.5</depthPosition>
        <basis>water surface</basis>
      </totalDepth>
      <value itemId="item001">25.3</value>
      <value itemId="item004">27.4</value>
      <value itemId="item005">41.9</value>
      <value itemId="item006">4</value>
    </valueSet>
  </time>
</observationLocation>
```



Compliments: Keita FURUKAWA  
and Tsuneki SAKAIBARA



# GML

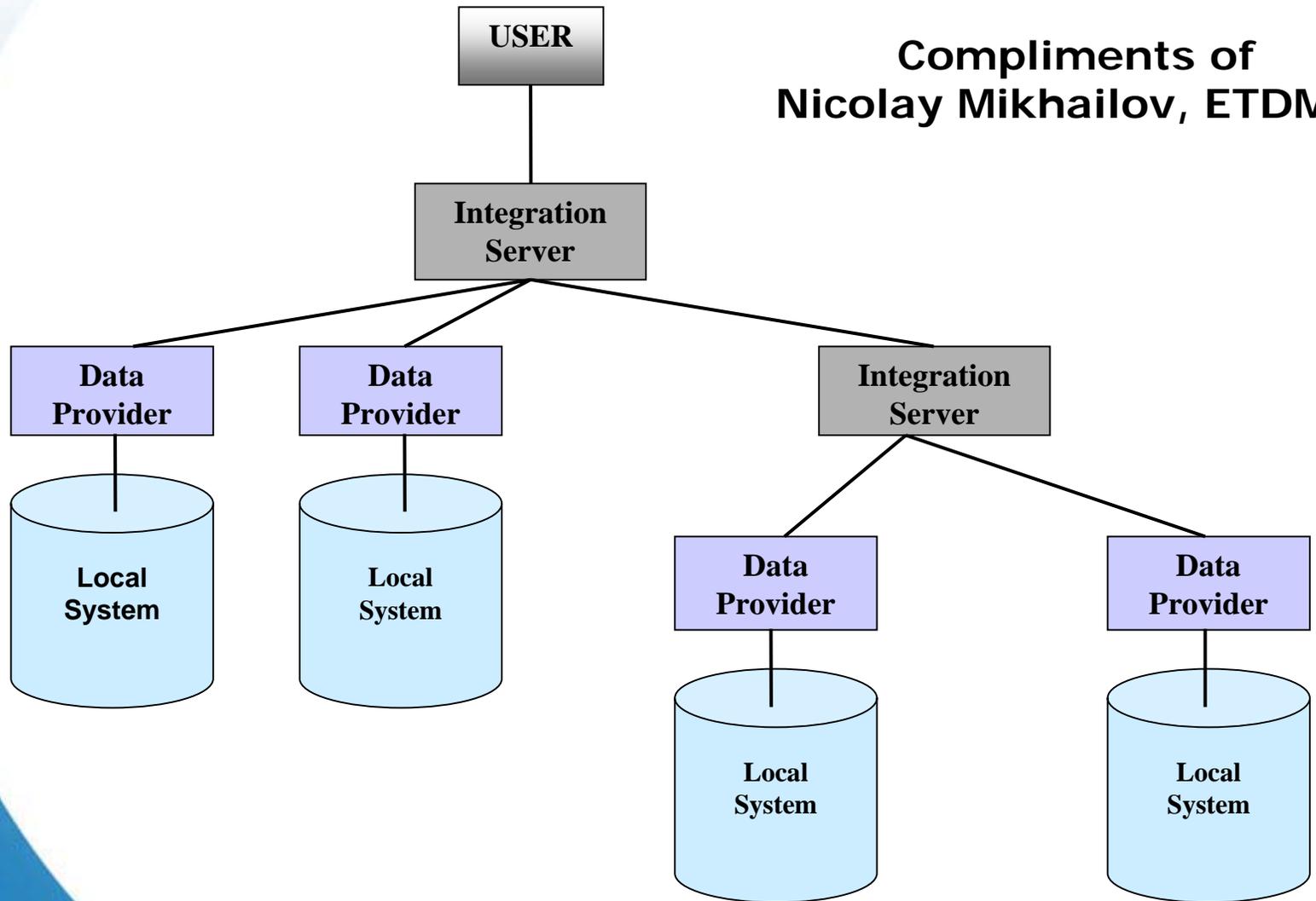
- **Intimidating – 529 pages**
- ***“... for the modelling, transport and storage of geographic data”***
- ***feature – “an abstraction of real world phenomenon; it is a geographic feature if it is associated with a location relative to the Earth”***
- **GML observation schema**





# JCOMM ETDMP Concept

Compliments of  
Nicolay Mikhailov, ETDMP.



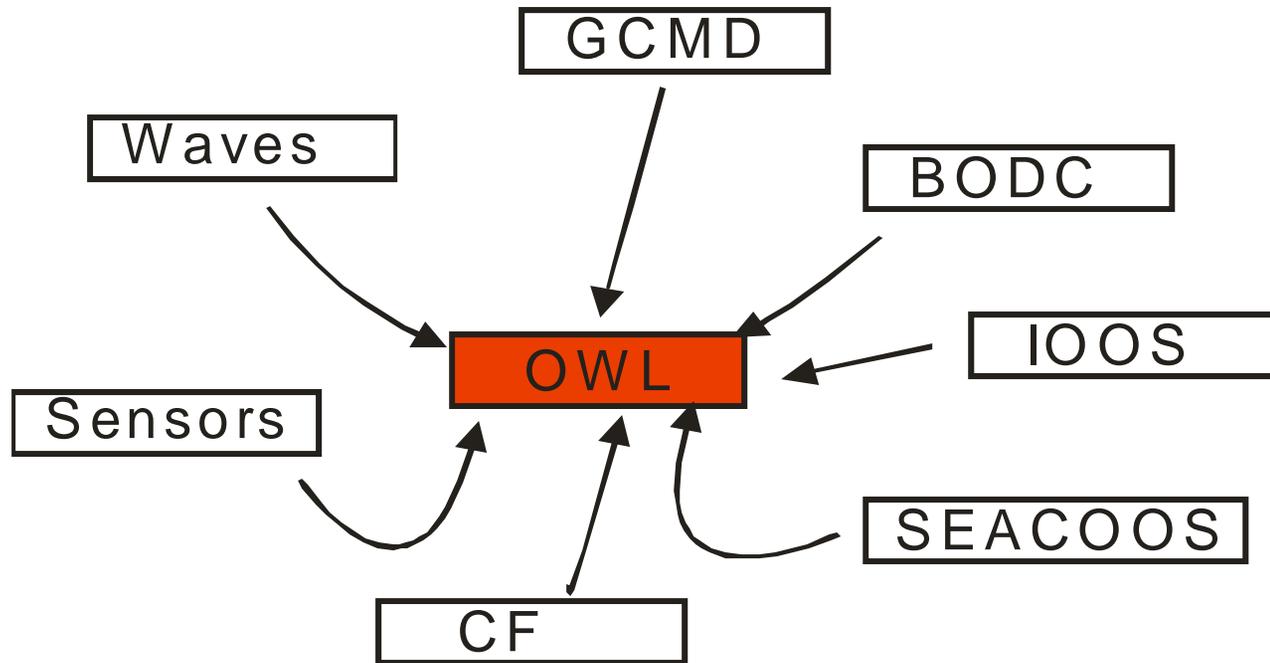


# Marine Metadata Interoperability

- Many aims, main one is:
  - Solve the “meta” part of the data interoperability problem
- Harmonizing vocabularies



# Marine Metadata Interoperability





# So, why has it not been solved?

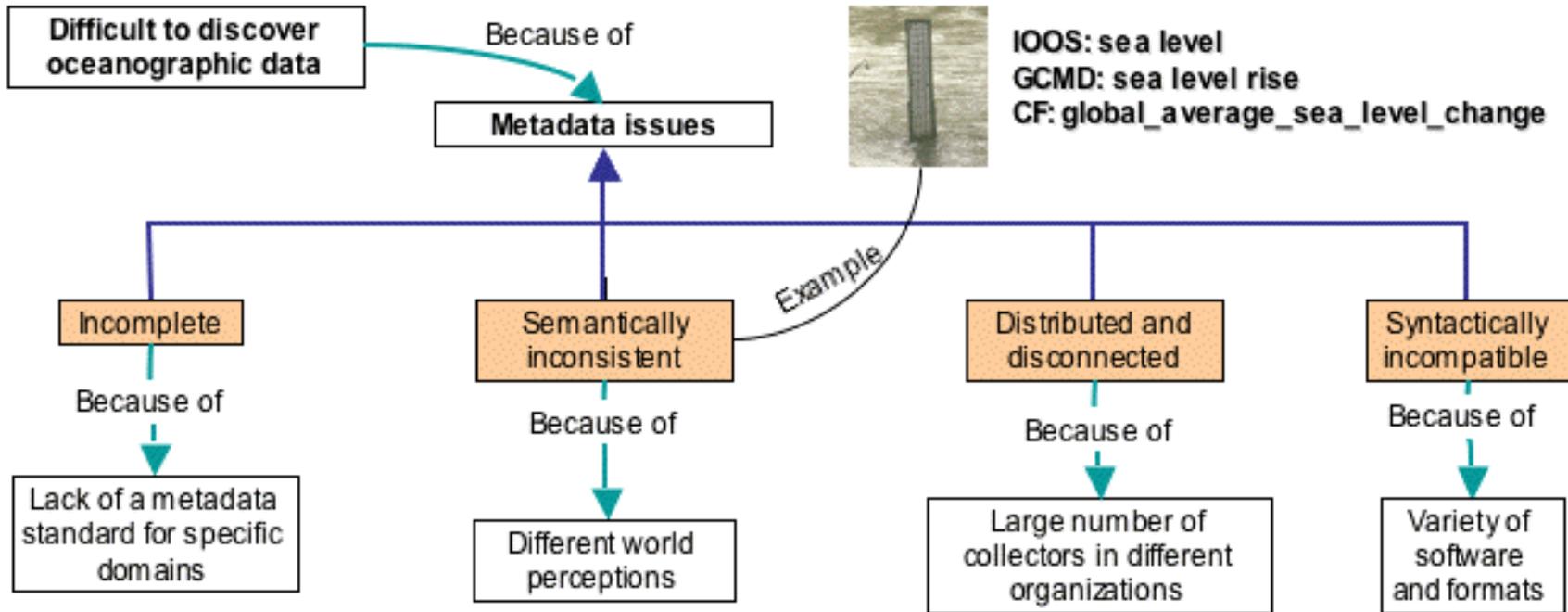


Image adapted from "HOW: Hydrologic Ontology for the Web".  
Luis Bermudez, Michael Piasecki, Dec, 2003. (AGU Poster.)



# To Conclude

- Models of Data Exchange
  - Informal, Formal, Wrapper
- SGXML Efforts
  - Metadata, Parameter Dict., Data in XML
- GML
- JCOMM ETDMP
  - Wrapper model implementation
- Marine Metadata Interoperability (MMI)
  - OWL to Harmonize vocabularies
- Why it is still unsolved

Thank you.

DEFENCE



DÉFENSE



# References

1. GML
  - <http://www.opengeospatial.org/>
  - Isenor, Describing Generic Ocean Environmental Data Objects Using the Geography Markup Language, available at [http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1\\_e.html](http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1_e.html)
2. Metadata
  - Marine Metadata Interoperability, <http://marinemetadata.org/>
  - NERC DataGrid, <http://ndg.nerc.ac.uk/>
  - Bermudez et al., Construction of Marine Vocabularies in the Marine Metadata Interoperability Project, Oceans 2005.
3. SGXML
  - <http://www.ices.dk/iceswork/wgdetail.asp?wg=SGXML>
  - [http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/meds/Prog\\_Int/ICES/web%20xml/SSF-xml.htm](http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/meds/Prog_Int/ICES/web%20xml/SSF-xml.htm)
  - Isenor and Keeley, Modeling Generic Oceanographic Data Objects in XML, Comp. in Sci. and Eng., July/Aug. 2005
  - Isenor, XML Based Manipulation of Codes Exchanged Between Data Systems, available at [http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1\\_e.html](http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1_e.html)
  - Final SGXML Report at [http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1\\_e.html](http://pubs.drdc-rddc.gc.ca/pubdocs/pcow1_e.html)
  - Canadian Parameter mappings, [http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/meds/About\\_MEDS/standards/login\\_e.asp](http://www.meds-sdmm.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/meds/About_MEDS/standards/login_e.asp)