

Overview

1. The Scenario Approach
2. A “Birds-Eye” View of 3 Scenarios
3. Discussion

Branch Points

← a time for choices →

Sources of Uncertainty

- *Ignorance*
- *Surprise*
- *Volition*

SCENARIOS



Role of Scenarios

- ◆ Scenarios=Future Images+ Possible Pathways
- ◆ Fire up imagination, inspire and motivate action
- ◆ Early warnings about imminent dangers based on current trends
- ◆ Generate knowledge to conceive and evaluate alternative pathways
- ◆ Provide social legitimacy for early action

2 Components of scenarios

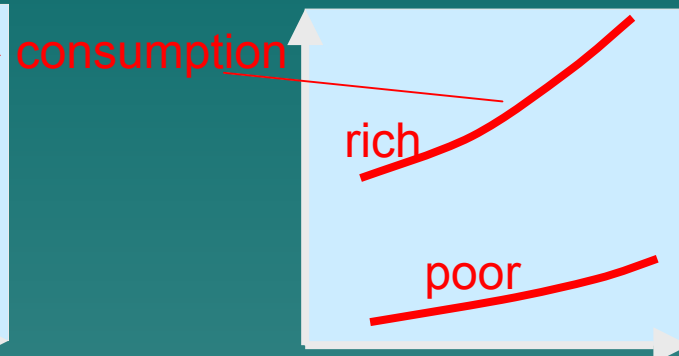
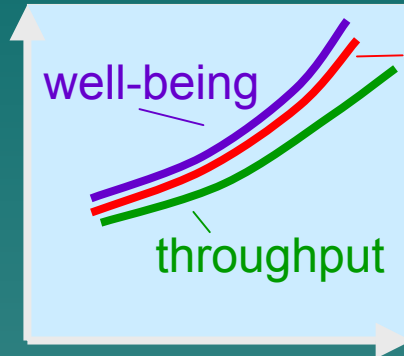
- ◆ **Where do we want to go?**
 - *Images* of economy, politics, culture and society that suggest coherent and plausible futures
- ◆ **How do we get there?**
 - *Pathways* to bridge today's conditions with the images of the future
 - *Actions*: gathering resources, motivating people

Three Archetypes

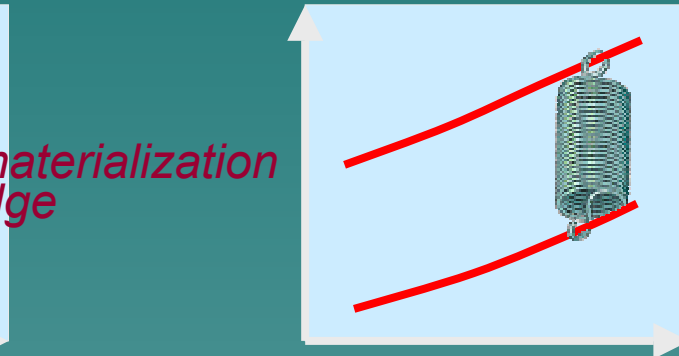
- ◆ **Business-As-Usual (BAU):** little change in production and consumption patterns; GHG emissions and ecological footprints grow; equity not addressed
- ◆ **Policy Reform:** technological and policy measures emphasized to moderate ecological destruction and social inequality
- ◆ **Deep Change:** changes in values lead to changes in lifestyles and institutions (along with technological innovations) to achieve sustainability with global responsibility

Tools for Transitions

BAU

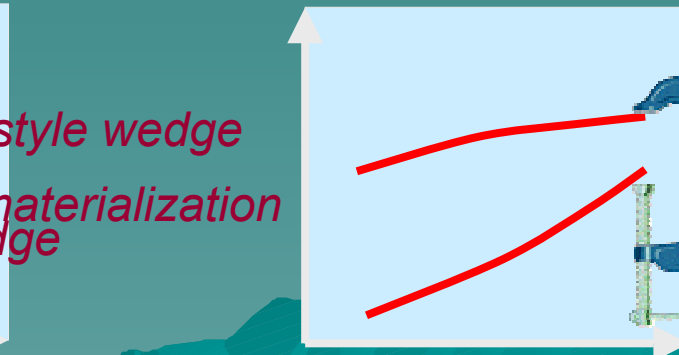
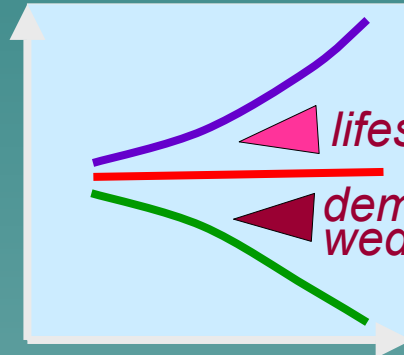


Policy Reform



poverty spring

Deep Change



equity clamp

Scenario 1: Business-As-Usual

Boston in 2050 stays the course of Boston in 2005:

- ◆ Dominant values (“the American dream”), corporate power and consumerism persist
- ◆ Income and health inequalities become deeper
- ◆ Dependence on imported raw materials increases
- ◆ Urban sprawl and car dependence grows
- ◆ Increased CO2 emissions and footprints leads to climate change with global as well as local impacts

Scenario 2: Policy Reform

Boston in 2050 has seen government-led policies and technological change to address many of the problems of the BAU scenario:

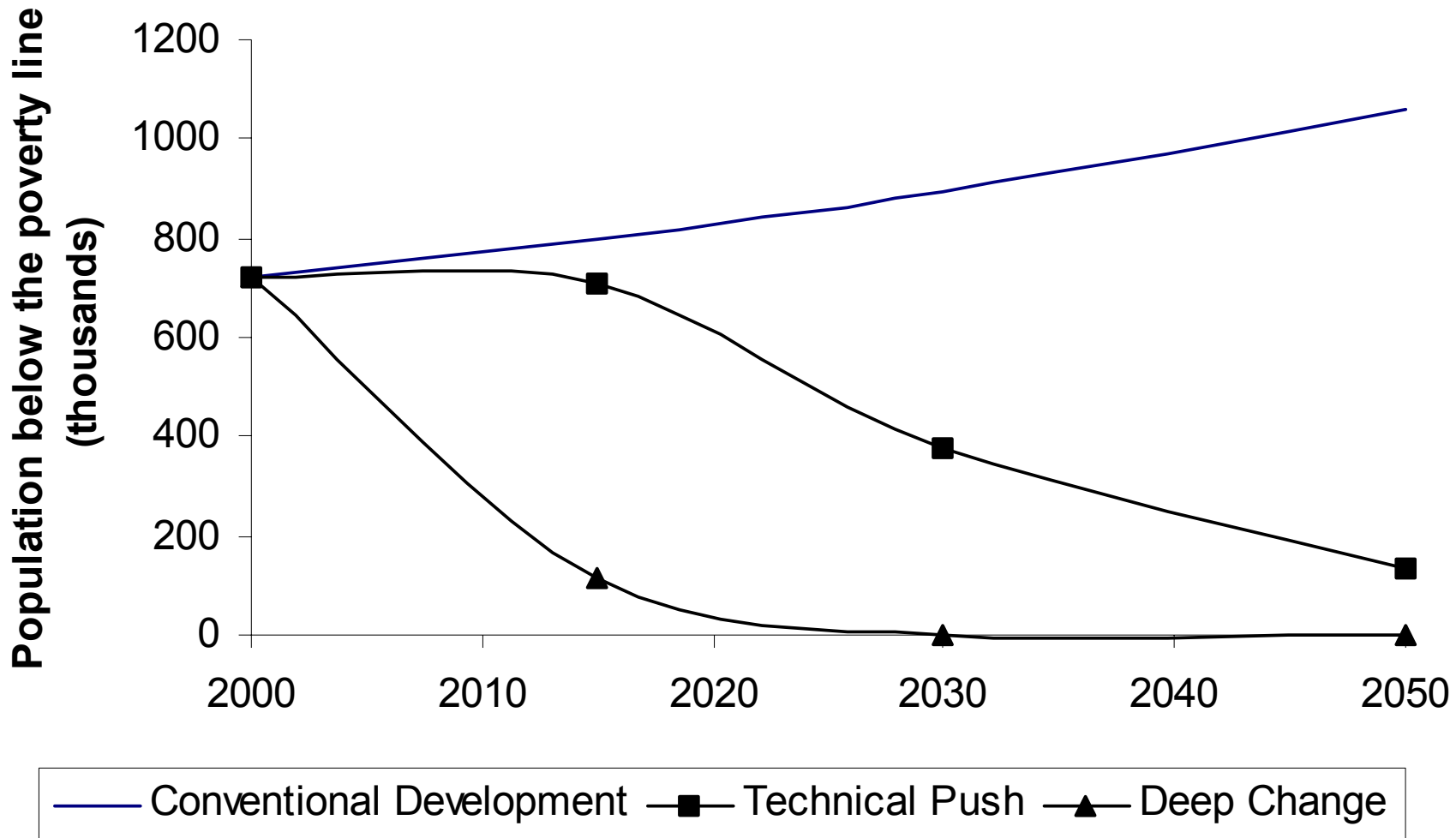
- CO2 emissions have decreased somewhat
- Income and social inequalities under check
- Resources are used more efficiently
- Sprawl mitigated to a degree
- Global resource depletion continues
- Climate change and global inequality persist

Scenario 3: Deep Change

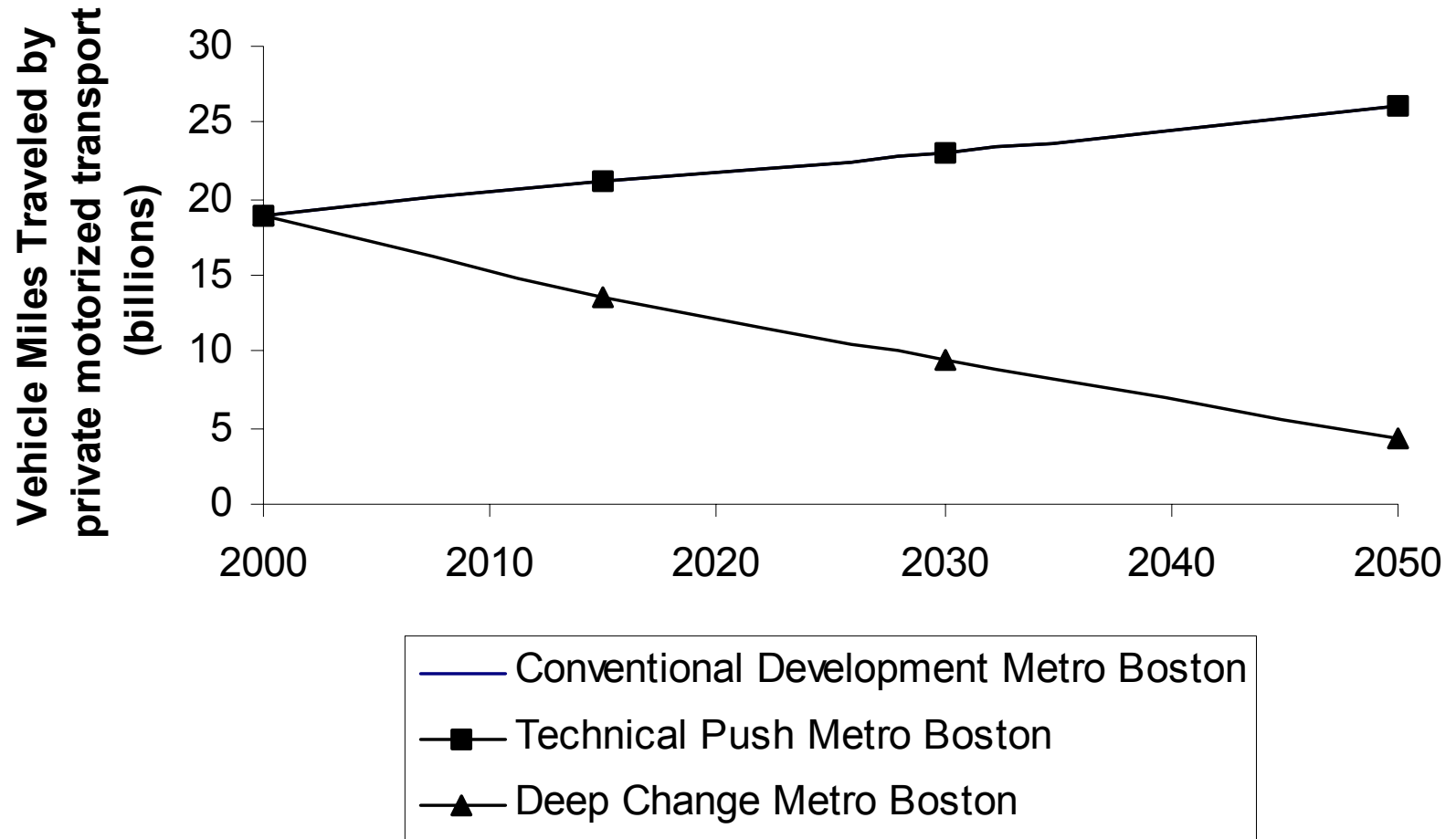
By 2050, Boston has seen active civil society movement stressing education and political engagement towards transformation of values and lifestyles

- **Growing awareness** of global connectedness and responsibility
- **Deep changes** in lifestyles, behavior, and institutions have led to huge reductions in CO2 emissions and footprint
- **Quality-of-life** (clean environment, sense of community, social equity) replaces economic growth and material consumption as key driver

Poverty in the Boston Region



Travel by Private Autos



CO2 Emissions

