Buzan and Little
Chapter 4
• What are levels of analysis, and how might they be useful?
A New Toolbox

• Levels of Analysis (LOA)
  • Where do the causes of behavior occur?
  • In what patterns of behavior are we interested?
  • Who are the key actors?

• Increasing LOA = Increasing abstraction
A New Toolbox

International Systems

International subsystems (regions)

Units (states)

Subunits (Bureaucracies, MNCs)

Individuals
Peer Discussion

• What are sectors, and how might they be useful?
A New Toolbox

• Sectors
  • Lens for viewing the world
  • Isolates different aspects of the whole

• Five sectors
  • Military
  • Political
  • Economic
  • Societal
  • Environmental
A New Toolbox

- Danger!
- Confuse sector for the whole
- Lose sight of differences between the natural and the social
# New Toolbox

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Levels/Sectors</th>
<th>military</th>
<th>political</th>
<th>economic</th>
<th>societal</th>
<th>environmental</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>system</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subsystem</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>unit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>subunit</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>individual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q & A

• What is interaction capacity?
• What is structure?
• What is process?
Sources of Explanation

• Interaction Capacity
  • Carrying capacity of the social system
    • Ability to exchange ideas, information, goods, or violence
  • Defines what units can do with respect to each other
  • Precondition for process and structure
• Three elements
  • Geography
  • Physical technology
  • Social technology
Sources of Explanation

• **Structure**
  • How the operating environment is constructed
  • Sectoral structures
    • Political/Military
      • Issues of Functional and structural differentiation
    • Economic
    • Social
Sources of Explanation

• Process
  • Patterns of interaction
    • Trade, war
  • What do units actually do to each other