

Is he stable? What keeps him from falling? How did he get there in the first place? **When** and **where to** is he going to fall?

## How will ecosystems respond to environmental stress?



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# tipping points to lake eutrophication



# shallow lake tipping points to eutrophication



Uhlmann 1980, Developments in Hydrobiology



## biomes may shift to a desert state



# climate systems can change abruptly



# understand and detect **abrupt** ecosystem responses to stress



# tipping point and alternative stable states



environmental conditions (nutrient loading)

# tipping point and alternative stable states



(nutrient loading)



# Can we detect tipping points in advance?



environmental conditions (nutrient loading)

# systems prior to tipping points slow down



# catastrophe theory and catastrophe flags



Thom 1976

Gilmore 1981



Scheffer et al 2009, Nature



Scheffer et al 2009, Nature

#### direct indicators: disturbance experiments

#### phytoplankton collapse due to photoinhibition



#### direct indicators: disturbance experiments



80<sup>0</sup>80 Light attenuation coefficient (m<sup>-1</sup>) Ο Ο Ο 

phytoplankton collapse due to photoinhibition

Incoming light intensity (µmol photons m S

-2

#### direct indicators: disturbance experiments



phytoplankton collapse due to photoinhibition

removal of 10% of standing stock through dilution





Scheffer et al 2009, Nature

## slowing down before past climate shifts

#### Shutdown of thermohaline circulation





©2004, ACIA / Map ©Clifford Grabhorn

### slowing down before past climate shifts





©2000 Tom Swanson

theoretical challenge - too generic?



There can be tipping points without warning (no alarms)

There can be warnings without tipping points (false alarms)

Boettiger et al. 2013

# practical application too difficult?

- noise, measurement error
- low resolution (gaps, irregular)
- data availability



## **Journal of Applied Ecology**

Journal of Applied Ecology 2016, 53, 666–676

doi: 10.1111/1365-2664.12519

#### QUANTIFYING RESILIENCE

Do early warning indicators consistently predict nonlinear change in long-term ecological data?

Burthe et al 2016

# methods for tipping point detection -

# in time and space

#### Method

#### Metric-based

Autocorrelation at-lag-1

Autoregressive coefficient of AR(1) model

Return rate (inverse of AR(1) coefficient)

Detrended fluctuation analysis

Spectral density

Spectral ratio (of low to high frequencies)

Spectral exponent

Standard deviation

Coefficient of variation

Skewness

Kurtosis

Conditional heteroskedasticity

BDS test

#### Model-based

Time-varying AR(p) models Nonparametric drift-diffusion-jump models Threshold AR(p) models Potential analysis (potential wells estimator)



early-warning-signals.org



github.com/earlywarningtoolbox github.com/spatial-ews/spatialwarnings

> Dakos et al 2012, PLoS One Ives & Dakos 2012, Ecosphere Boettiger & Hastings 2013, J R Soc Int Kéfi et al 2014, PLoS One Seekel & Dakos 2015, Ecology & Evolution



Litzow & Hunsicker Ecosphere 2016, Scheffer et al 2015 AREES

# Quantifying resilience

monitor changes in resilience within a system (warnings)

rank resilience across systems/sites/species (identify hotspots)

# understand and detect tipping points in a changing but evolving world



#### Ecosystem tipping points in an evolving world

Vasilis Dakos<sup>1\*</sup>, Blake Matthews<sup>2\*</sup>, Andrew P. Hendry<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan Levine<sup>4</sup>, Nicolas Loeuille<sup>5</sup>, Jon Norberg<sup>6</sup>, Patrik Nosil<sup>7</sup>, Marten Scheffer<sup>8</sup> and Luc De Meester<sup>9</sup>



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# effects of trait variation?



trait variation

# Trait variation in a shallow lake



trait variation



$$\frac{dT}{dt} = r_T T \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_o \frac{h_M}{h_M + M}}\right)$$
$$\frac{dM}{dt} = r_M M \left(1 - \frac{M}{K} \left(\frac{h_T^4 + T^4}{h_T^4}\right)\right)$$

Dakos et al Nat Ecol & Evol 2019

# Trait variation in a shallow lake



trait variation



 $\frac{dT}{dt} = r_T T \left(1 - \frac{T}{T_o \frac{h_M}{h_M + M}}\right)$  $\frac{dM}{dt} = r_M M \left( 1 - \frac{M}{K} \left( \frac{h_T^4 + T^4}{h_T^4} \right) \right)$ 

**Response** trait - Shade tolerance

Dakos et al Nat Ecol & Evol 2019

#### **Response** trait - Shade tolerance



#### **Response** trait - Shade tolerance



trait variation



 $h_T(x) = h_{T0} e^{\lambda x}$ 

#### **Response** trait - Shade tolerance







# eco-evolutionary dynamics in a shallow lake

Figure  $p(x,\bar{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{\frac{-(x-\bar{x})^2}{2\sigma^2}}$   $\overbrace{\tilde{\ell}_s}^{\sigma} \qquad \text{Trait } (\ell_s)$ 



Chaparro et al (in prep)





# macrophyte response to a strong increase in nutrient loading





# macrophyte response to a strong increase in nutrient loading



Chaparro et al (in prep)

# evolution delays ecosystem collapse ("rescue" like effect)





Chaparro et al (in prep)

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Stage M2 2020:

1. Ecological consequences of rapid evolution in ecosystems with tipping points with Nicolas Loeulle (iEES), (financed by FRB)

2. Early warning signs of the sudden origin of species with Patrik Nosil (Cefe), Montpellier

# Quantifying resilience: tipping points and evolution(?)

www.vasilisdakos.info iEES UPMC, Paris

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**EERI team** 

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early-warning-signals.org github.com/earlywarningtoolbox

Warning

Signals Toolbox