

Combined effects of multiple stressors in marine ecosystems



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Global climate change



Multiple local pressures



Biodiversity

Variety of life:
genetic, species, habitat

Ecosystem processes and functioning
(e.g. primary production and formation of biomass)



products, climate regulation

Multiple benefits



Benefit

(e.g. provision of food, shelter)

Value

(e.g. value of products, willingness to pay for protection of woodland)



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

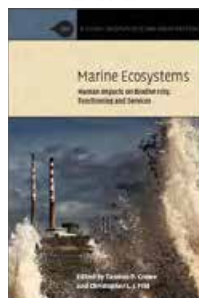
Brussels, 17 October 2013

Environment: Commission takes Bulgaria to Court for failing to protect endangered species

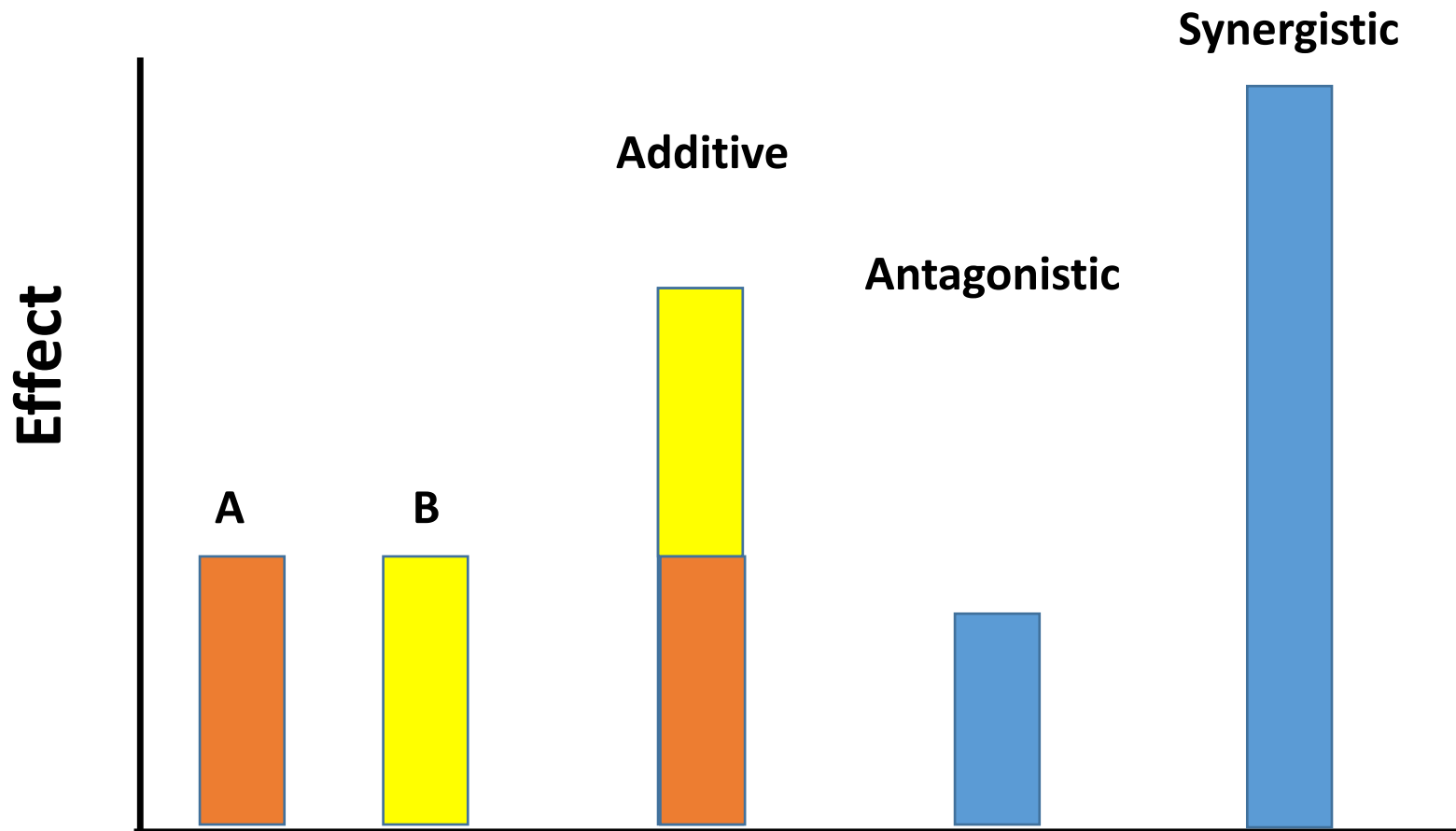
Bulgaria has authorised a high number of economic activities in the area without appropriate environmental impact assessment. Thousands of wind turbines and some 500 other projects have been authorised without adequate assessments of their effect on Kaliakra's unique habitats and species, and on the thousands of birds and bats that fly over the site each year on their way to and from Africa. Up to 100 % of the global population of the world's most endangered goose species – the red breasted goose – spends the winter in a small number of sites in and around Kaliakra. No account is being taken of the cumulative effect of the authorised projects, which is also a requirement under the Birds, Habitats and Environmental Impact Assessment Directives.

Sector/Pressure	Fisheries		Aquaculture		Sewage discharge	Agricultural discharge	Industrial discharge	Construction/development	Shipping	Leisure and tourism	Energy
	Active	Passive	Fin	Shellfish							
P Habitat loss (to land)											
P Habitat change (to another marine habitat)											
P Physical disturbance											
P Siltation rate changes											
P Temperature change											
P Salinity change											
P Water flow											
P Emergence regime											
P Wave exposure changes-local											
P Litter											
C Non-synthetic compounds											
C Synthetic compounds											
C De-oxygenation											
C Inorganic nutrients											
C Organic enrichment											
B Introduction of microbial pathogens											
B Introduction/spread of non-indigenous species											
B Removal of target and non-target species											

- no association between sector and pressure - potential association between sector and pressure



from Crowe and Frid 2015, adapted from Robinson et al 2008



Interactive and cumulative effects of multiple human stressors in marine systems

Global Change Biology (2014) 20, 3300–3312, doi: 10.1111/gcb.12619

RESEARCH REVIEW

Abstract

Humans impact natural systems multiple stressors on ecological systems. We synthesized 171 studies that ma

Identifying the interacting roles of stressors in driving the global loss of canopy-forming to mat-forming algae in marine ecosystems

ELISABETH M. A. STRAIN^{1,2}, RUSSELL J. THOMSON², FIORENZA MICHELI³, FRANCESCO P. MANCUSO¹ and LAURA AIROLDI¹

Global Change Biology (2009) 15, 2153–2162, doi: 10.1111/j.1365-2486.2009.01886.x

Synergistic effects of climate change and local stressors: CO₂ and nutrient-driven change in subtidal rocky habitats

BAYDEN D. RUSSELL, JO-ANNE I. THOMPSON, LAURA J. FALKENBERG and SEAN D. CONNELL

Multiple anthropogenic stressors and the structural properties of food webs

EON J. O'GORMAN,^{1,2,3} JAYNE E. FITCH,¹ AND TASMAN P. CROWE¹

Journal of Applied Ecology 2013, 50, 51–58

doi: 10.1111/1365-2664.12019

Disrupting the effects of synergies between stressors: improved water quality dampens the effects of future CO₂ on a marine habitat

Laura J. Falkenberg¹, Sean D. Connell^{1*} and Bayden D. Russell¹

Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

Marine Pollution Bulletin

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/marpolbul

Impacts of multiple stressors during the establishment of fouling assemblages

Silvia Saloni*, Tasman P. Crowe

School of Biology and Environmental Science, Science Centre West, University College of Dublin, Belfield, Dublin 4, Ireland

	HI	Hc	Pd	Sr	Tc	Sa	Wf	Er	We	Li	Nc	Sc	Do	Ne	Oe	Pa	In	Rs
Habitat loss (to land) (HI)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Habitat change (to another marine habitat) (Hc)	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Physical disturbance (Pd)	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Siltation rate changes (Sr)	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Temperature change (Tc)	X	↑	↑	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Salinity change (Sa)	X	X	X	X	↑	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Water flow (Wf)	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Emergence regime (Er)	X	X	X	X	X	↓	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wave exposure changes-local (We)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Litter (Li)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non-synthetic compounds (Nc)	↑	↑	↑	X	↓	↓	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Synthetic compounds (Sc)	X	X	X	X	↓	↓	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
De-oxygenation (Do)	↑	↑	↑	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-	-	-	-	-
Inorganic nutrient enrichment (Ne)	↓	X	X	↑	+	+	X	↑	X	X	↓	↓	X	-	-	-	-	-
Organic enrichment (Oe)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	↑	↓	-	-	-	-
Introduction of microbial pathogens (Pa)	X	+	+	X	X	↑	X	X	X	X	↓	X	X	X	X	-	-	-
Introduction/spread of non-indigenous species (In)	X	X	X	↓	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	-	-
Removal of target and non-target species (Rs)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	↑	X	X	X	-

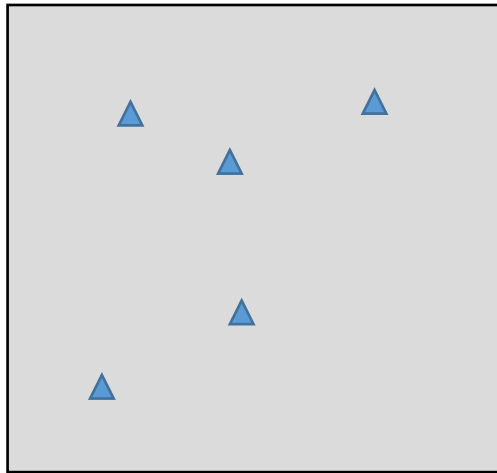
(+) additive; (↑) synergistic; (↓) antagonistic; (↓) complex; (x) insufficient evidence (--) not applicable.

Modifiers of effects

1. Characteristics of biota & receiving environment
2. Stressor regimes
 - intensity, frequency, timing, etc.

1. Receiving environment

e.g. different effects of copper and freshwater in establishing and mature fouling assemblages



Effect of copper, not freshwater

Weak interactive effects

No effect on functioning

Saloni and Crowe 2015



Effect of copper after 3 months

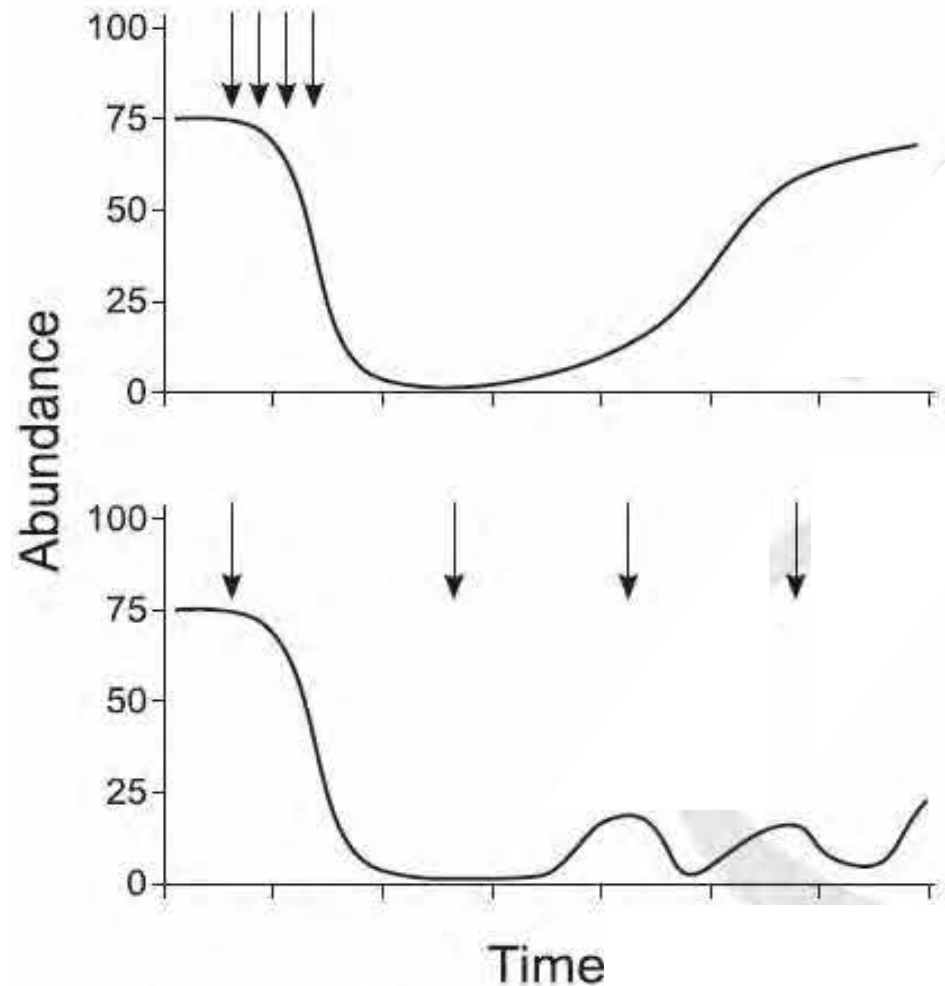
No interactive effects

Functioning affected

Kinsella and Crowe 2016

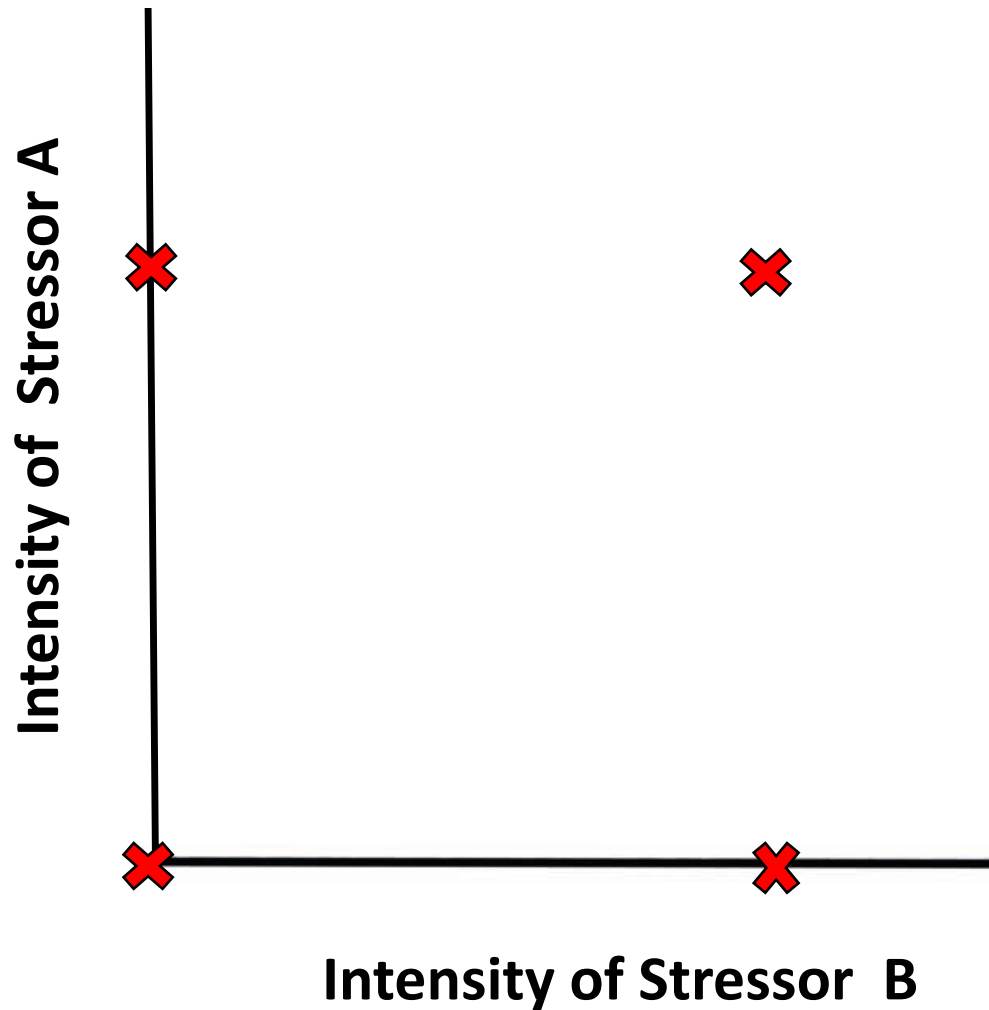
2. Stressor regimes

- Effects of stressors modified by variation in
 - Intensity
 - Extent
 - Frequency
 - Duration
 - Timing
 - Temporal pattern

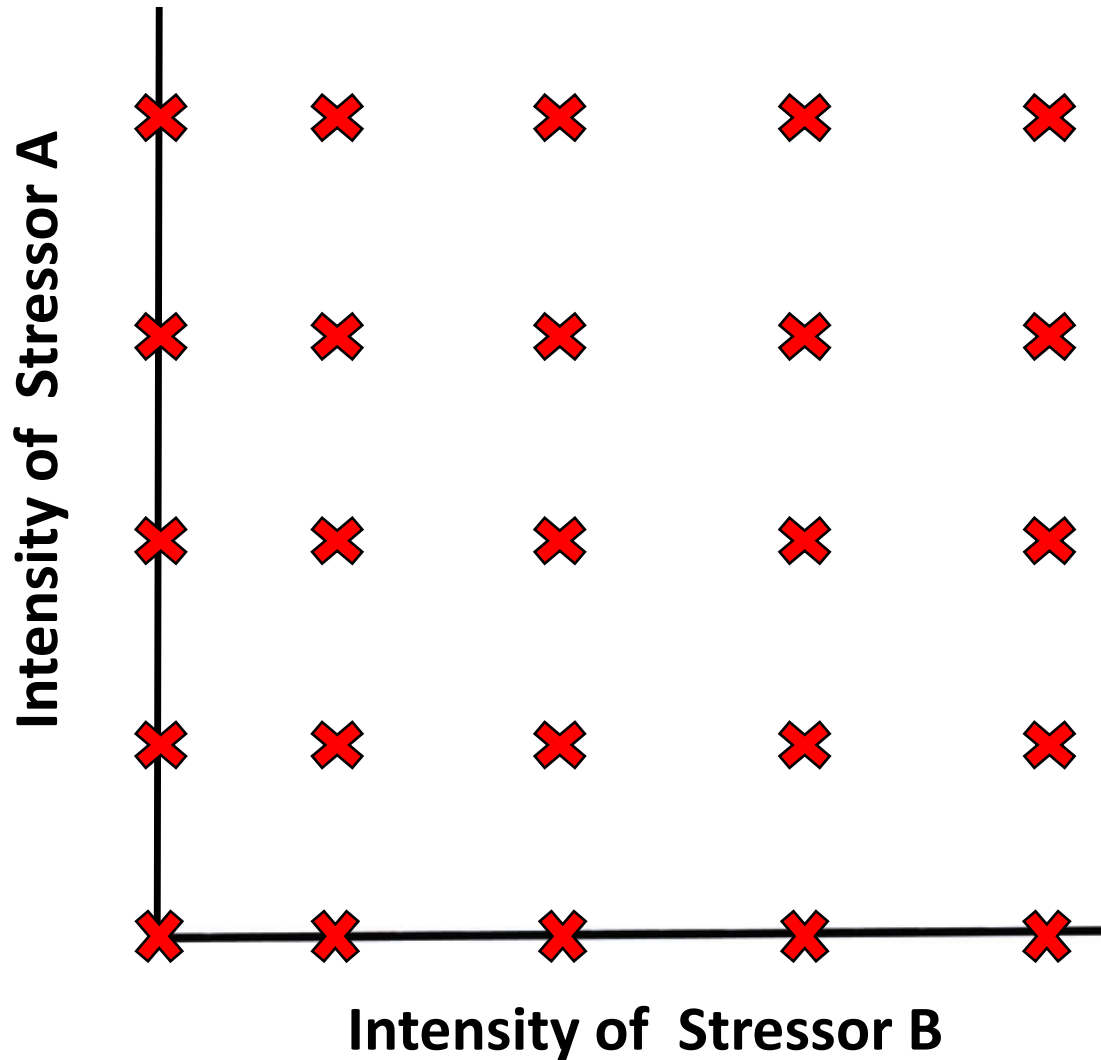


2a. Variation in intensity

Previous work – binary designs



Response-surface designs



Adapted from Inouye 2001



Mark Browne



Paul Brooks



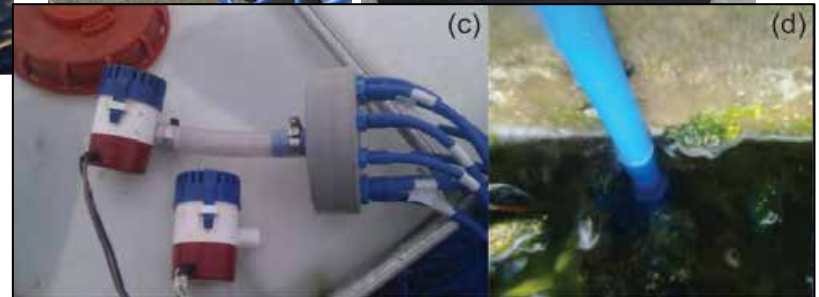
Methods in Ecology and Evolution

Methods in Ecology and Evolution 2015

doi:10.1111/2041-210X.12521

Simulating regimes of chemical disturbance and testing impacts in the ecosystem using a novel programmable dosing system

Mark Anthony Browne^{1,2,3,4*}, Paul R. Brooks¹, Robert Clough⁵, Andrew S. Fisher⁵, Mariana Mayer Pinto^{2,3} and Tasman P. Crowe¹



Copper

0

1

2

3

4

Biocide

0

1

2

3

4

0

1

2

3

4

0

1

2

3

4

0

1

2

3

4

0

1

2

3

4

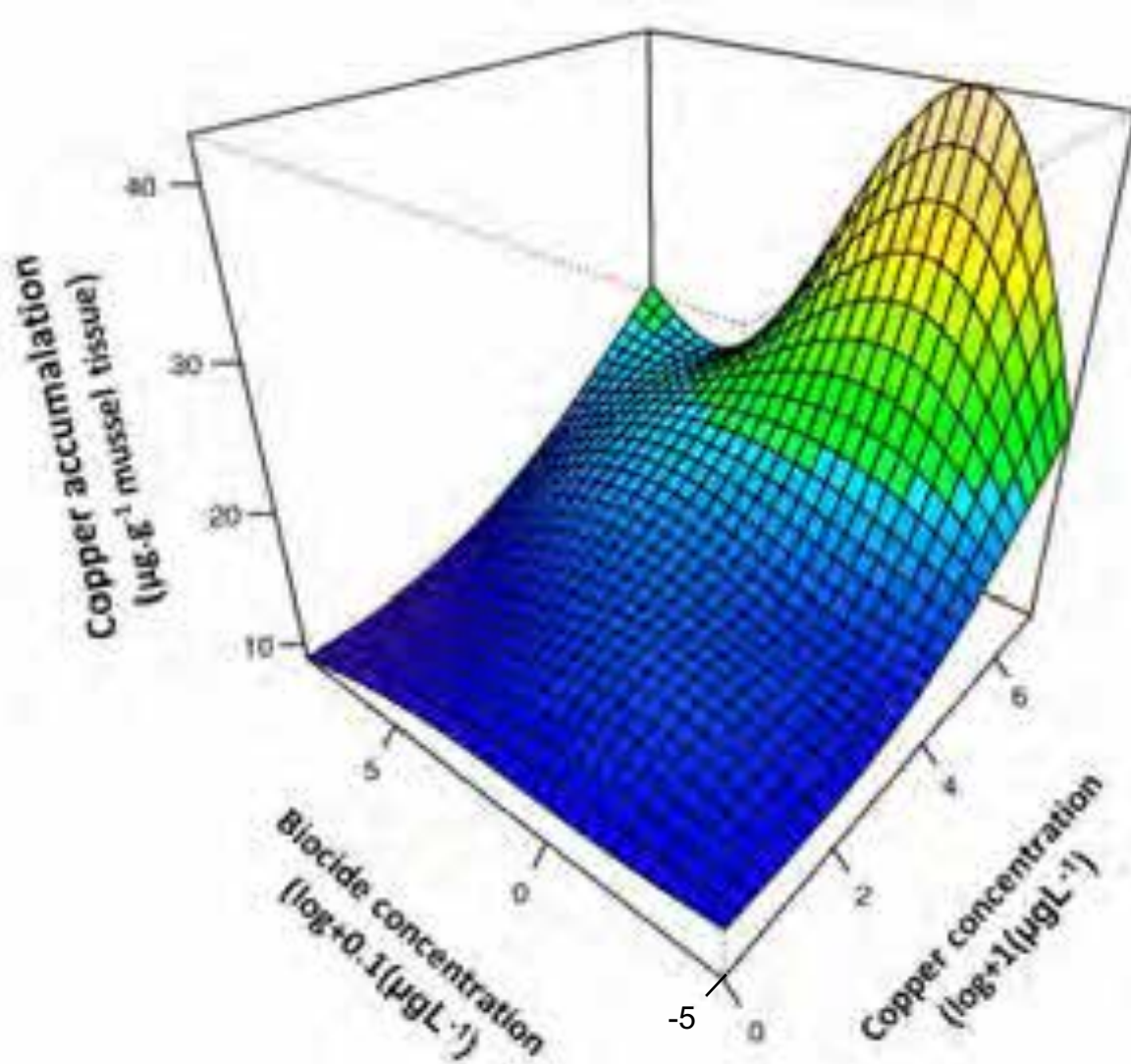


$n = 4$

25 treatments, 100 experimental units



Copper accumulation in tissue



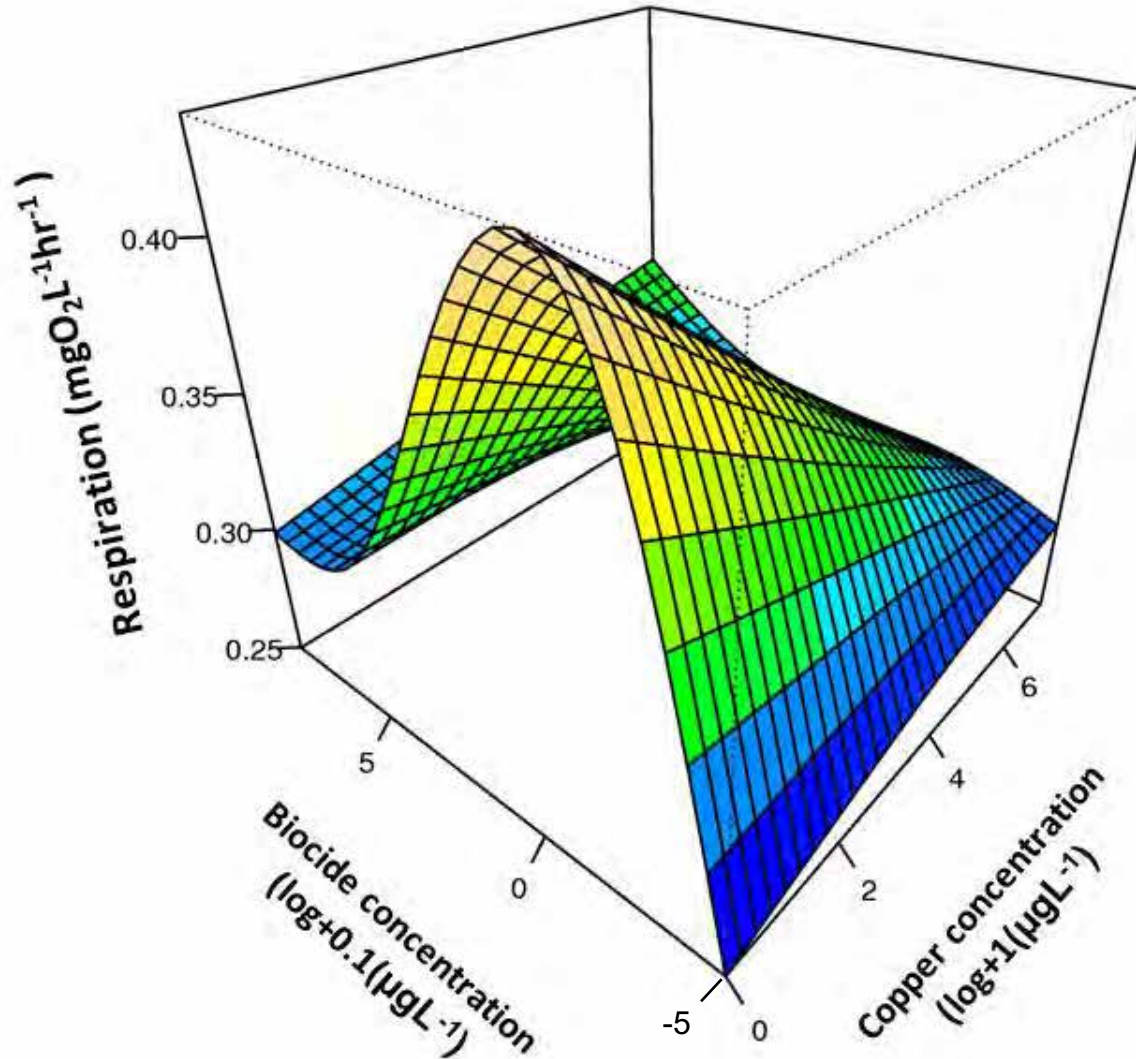
Single stressors

- As expected

Multiple stressors

- Synergistic interaction
- Peak uptake at intermediate conc. of biocide and high conc. of copper

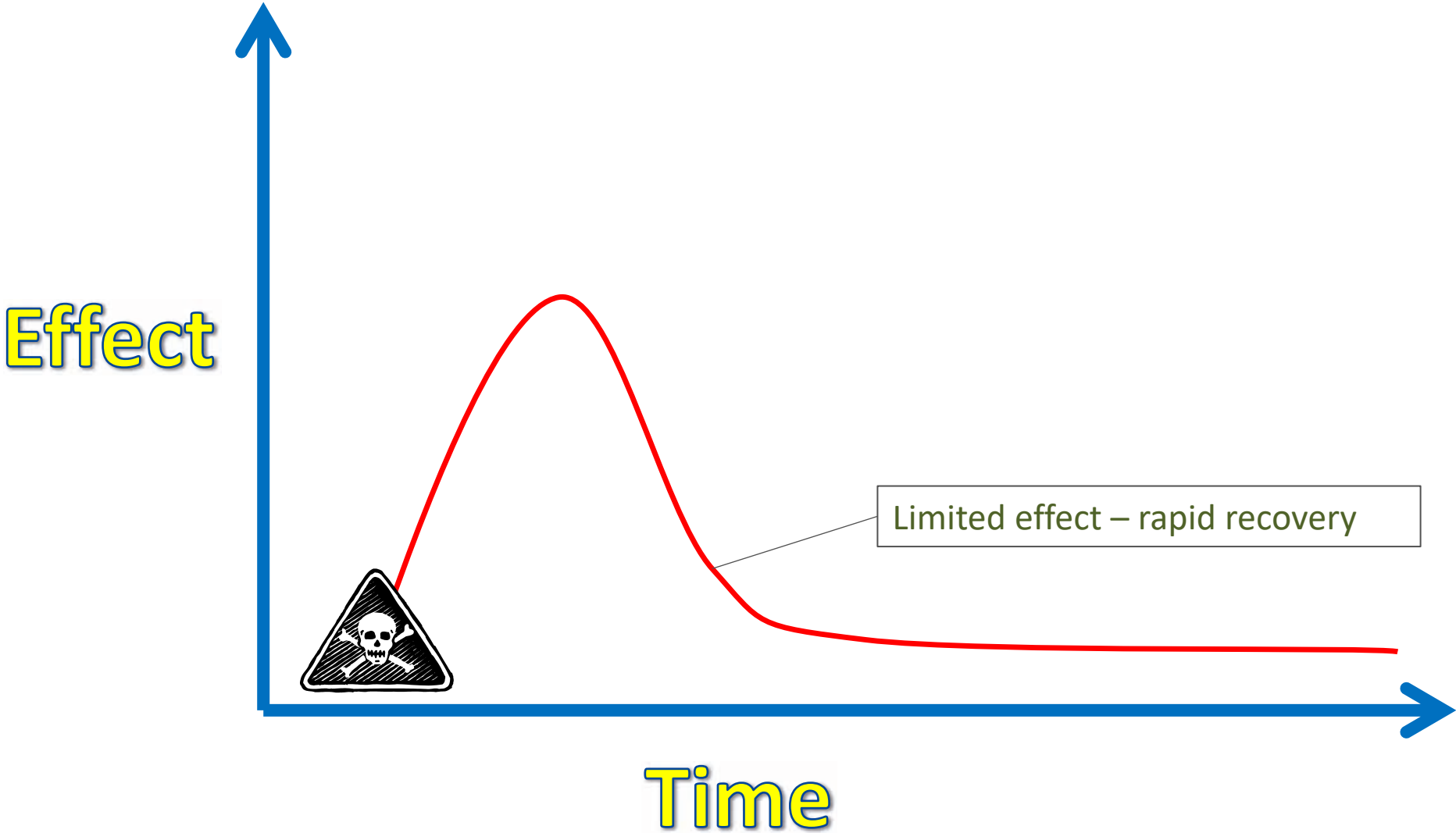
Community respiration



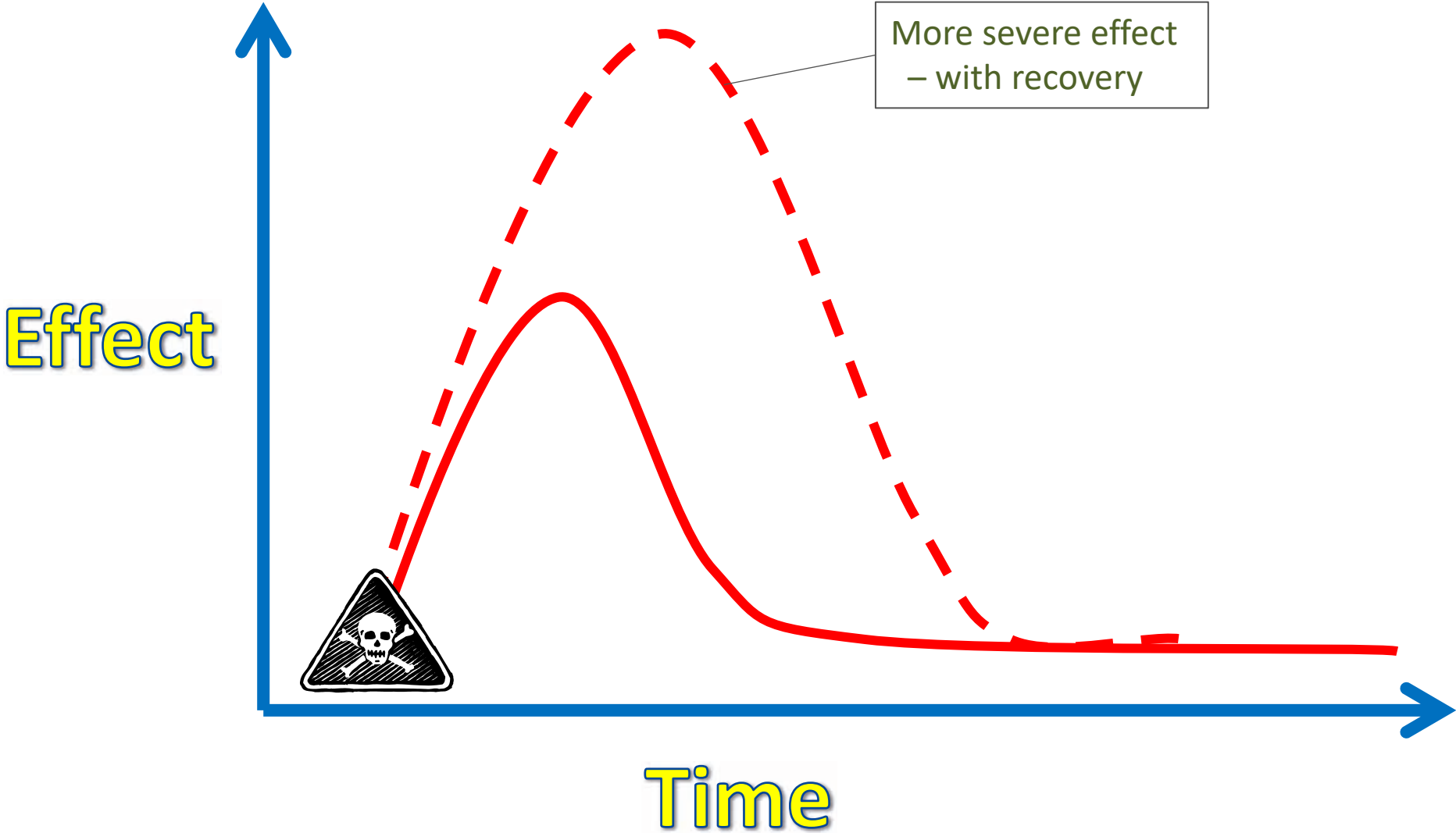
- Single stressors
 - Copper: little effect
 - Biocide: large effect peaks at intermediate conc.
- Multiple stressors
 - Antagonistic interaction – copper reduced effect of biocide

2b. Variation in timing and sequence

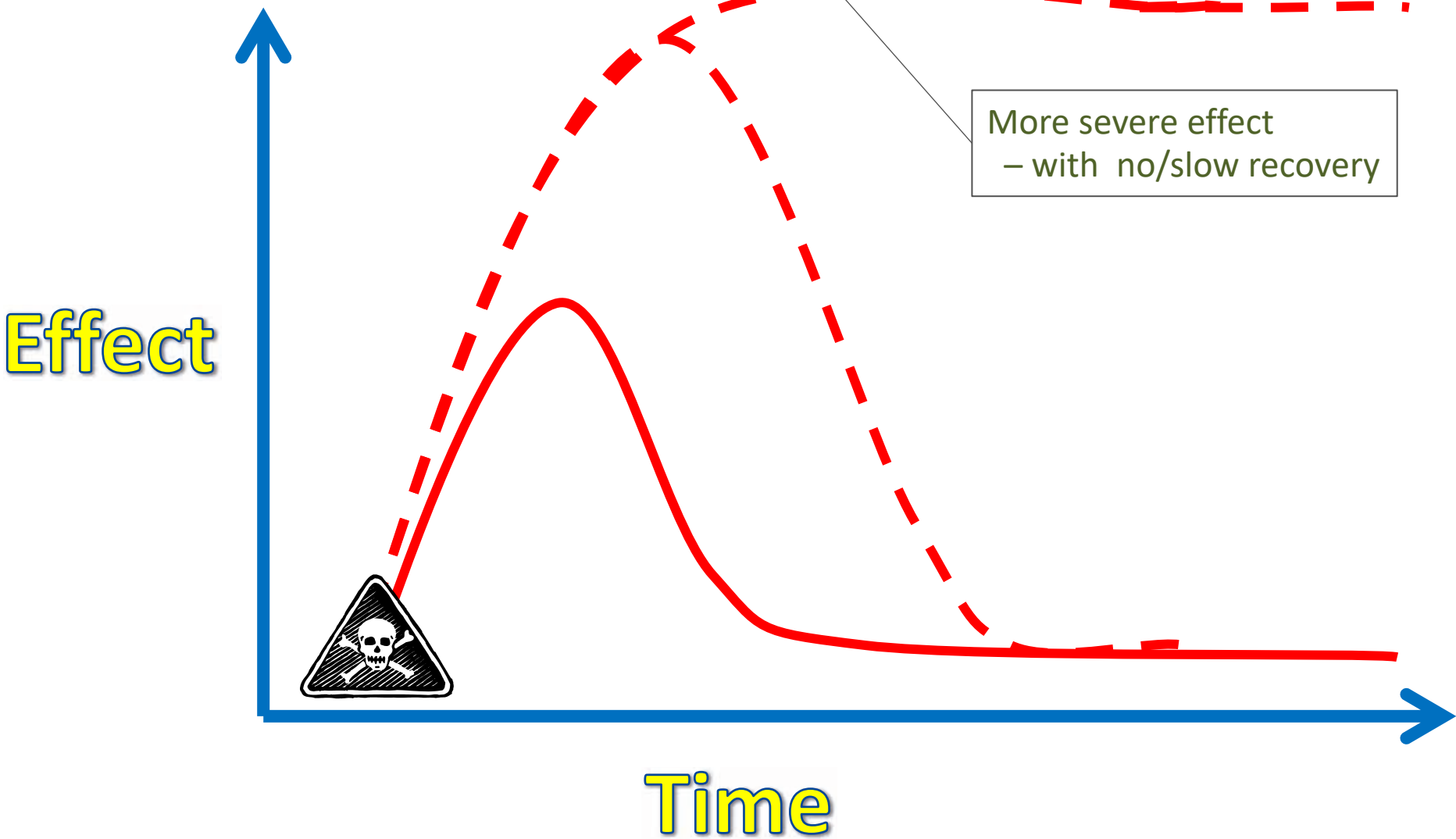
Hypothetical effects of stressors



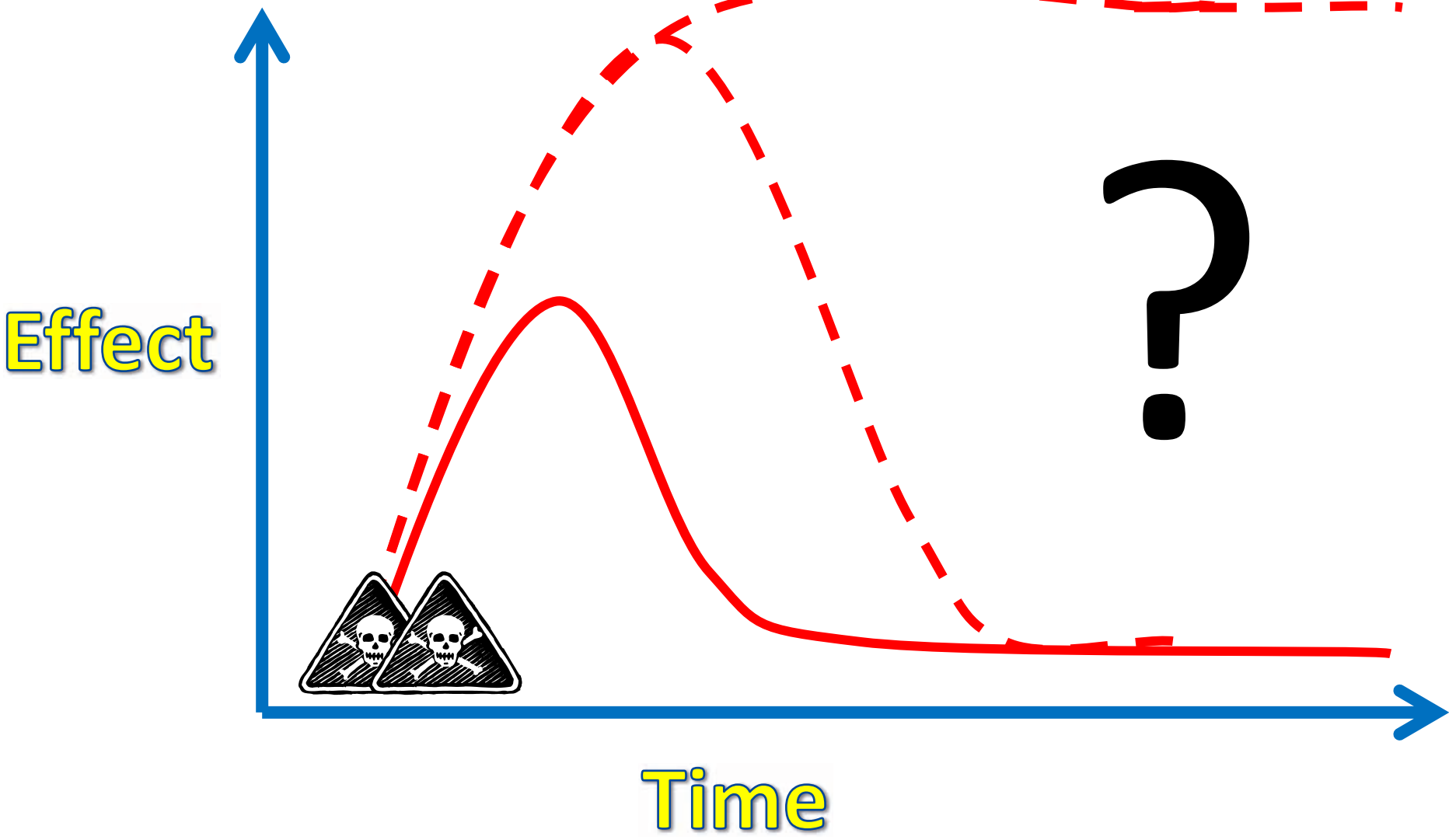
Hypothetical effects of stressors



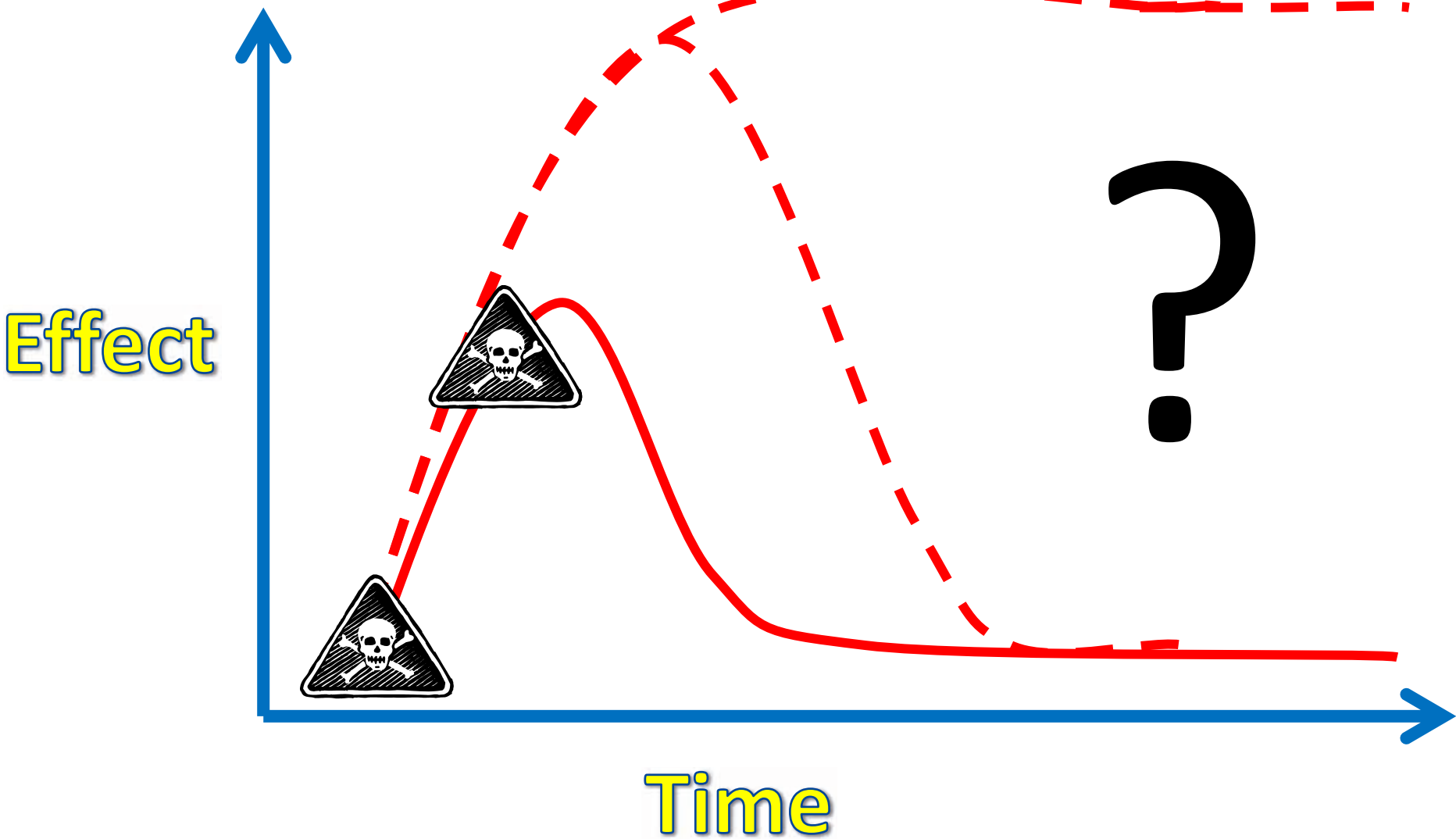
Hypothetical effects of stressors



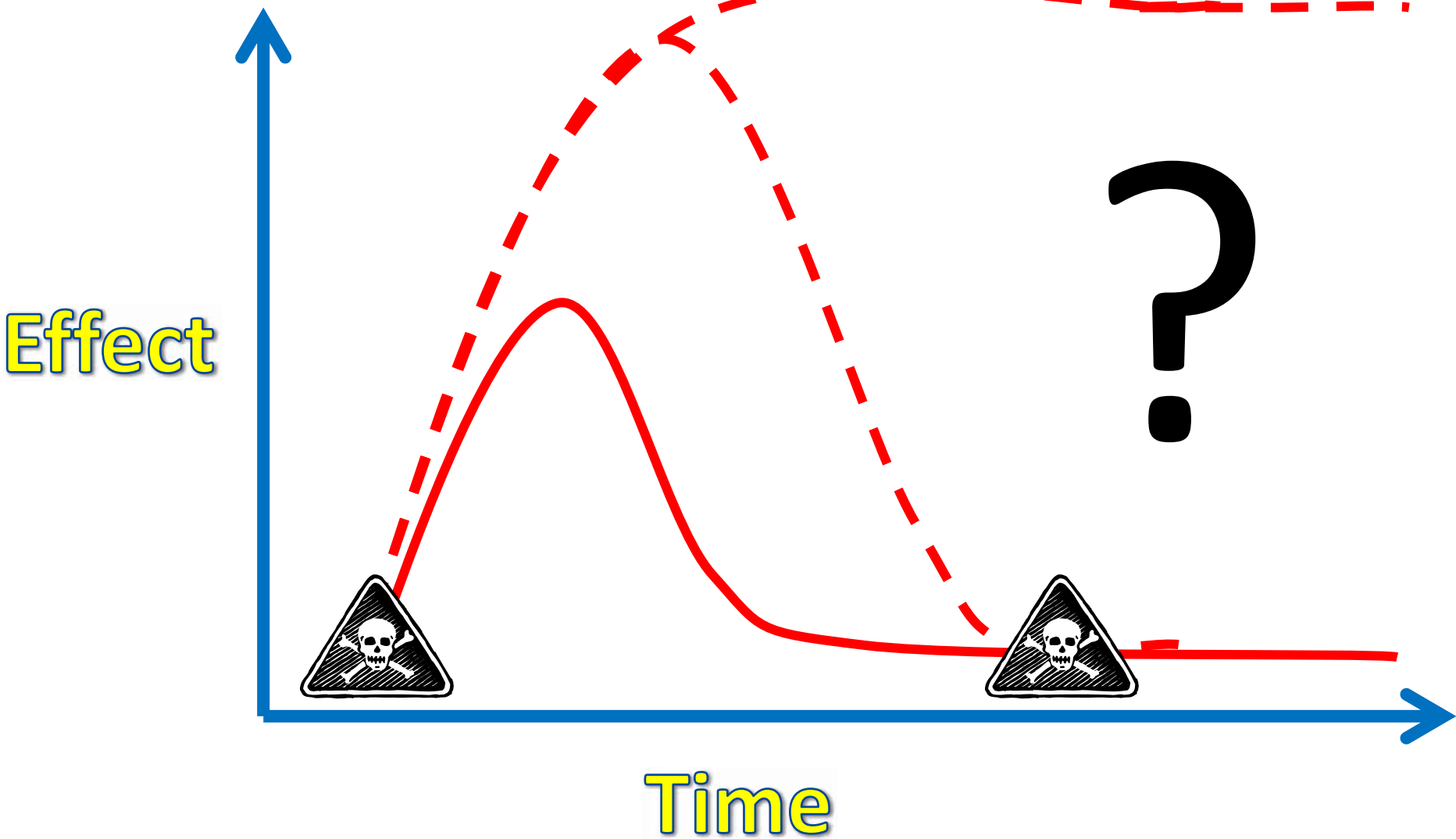
Second stress event – no time lag



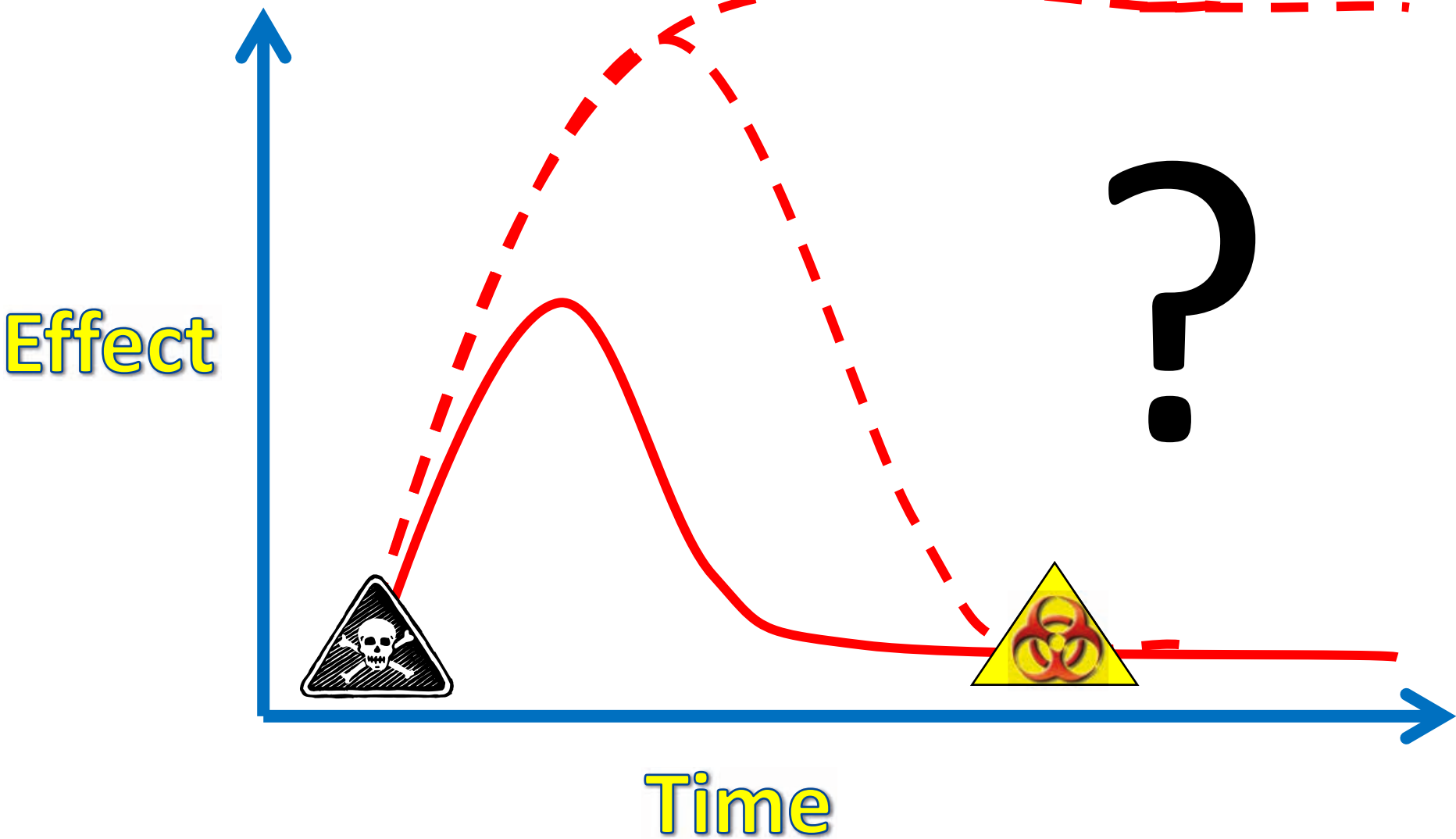
Second stress event – short time lag



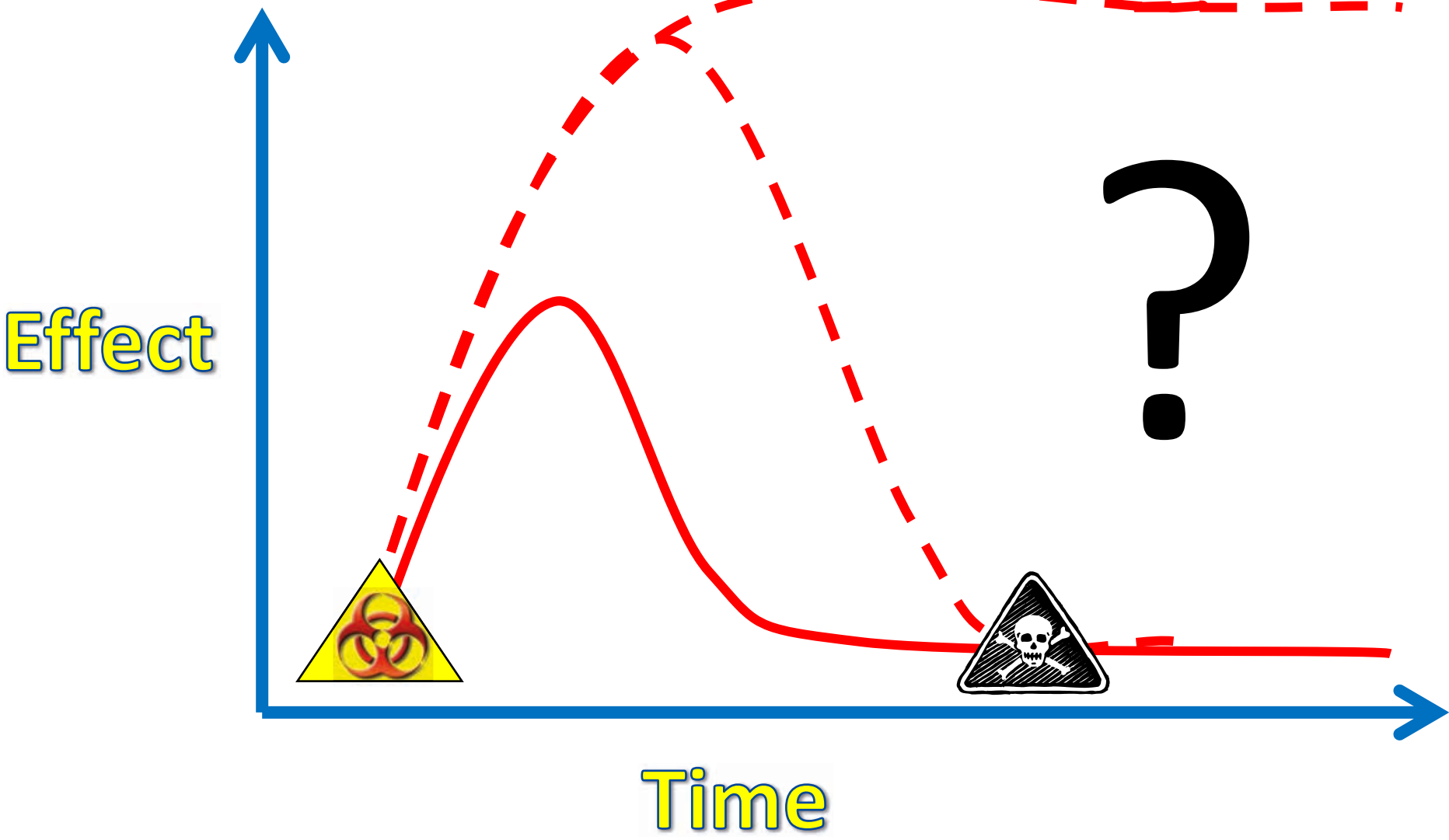
Second stress event – long time lag



Second stress event – different stressor



Second stress event – different sequence



**Primary Stressor:
Metal (copper)**

**Primary Stressor:
Biocide
(chlorpyrifos)**

**Controls:
No stressor**

Treatment

MM

MB

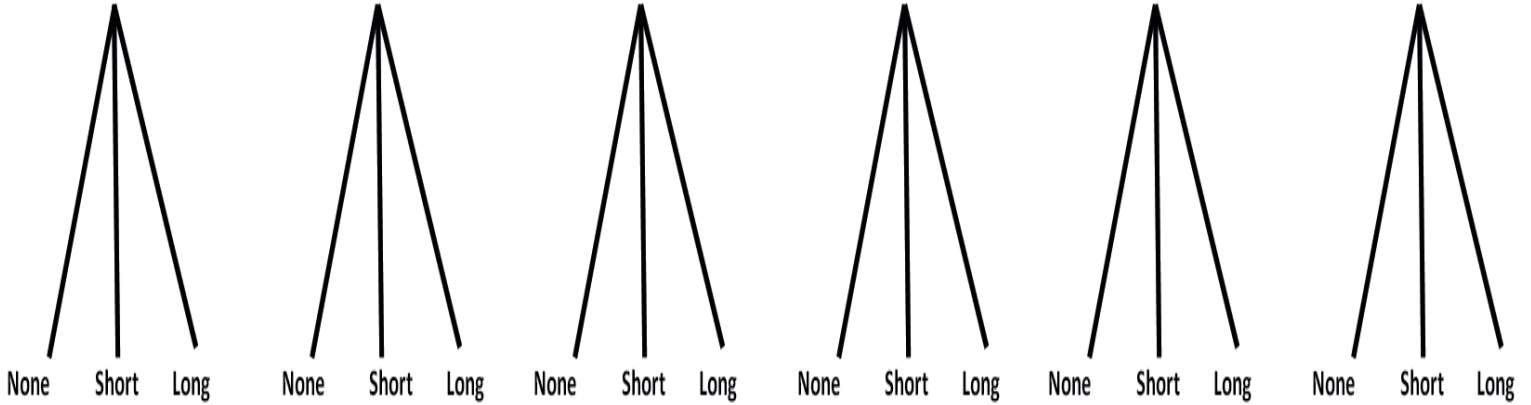
BB

BM

NoPump

Pump

Timelag



Sampling

Early Late



Early Late

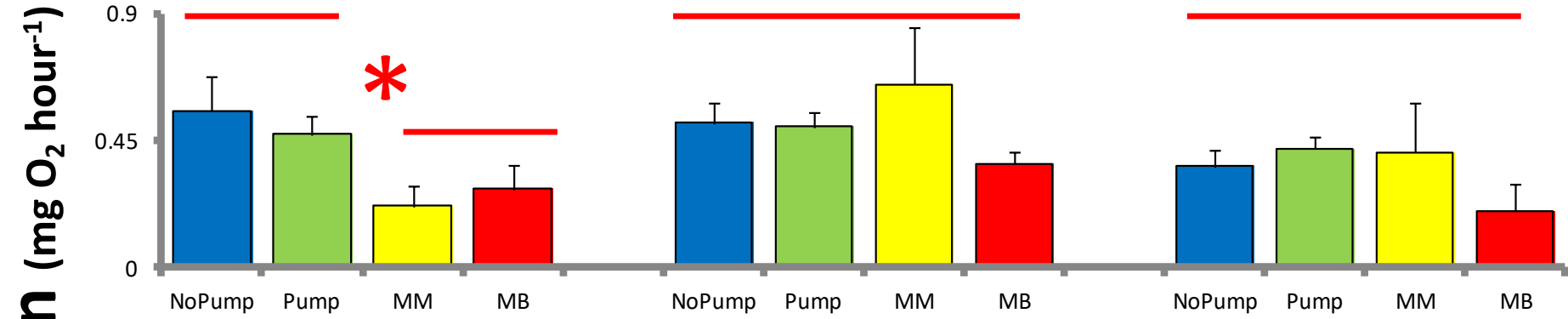


n=3

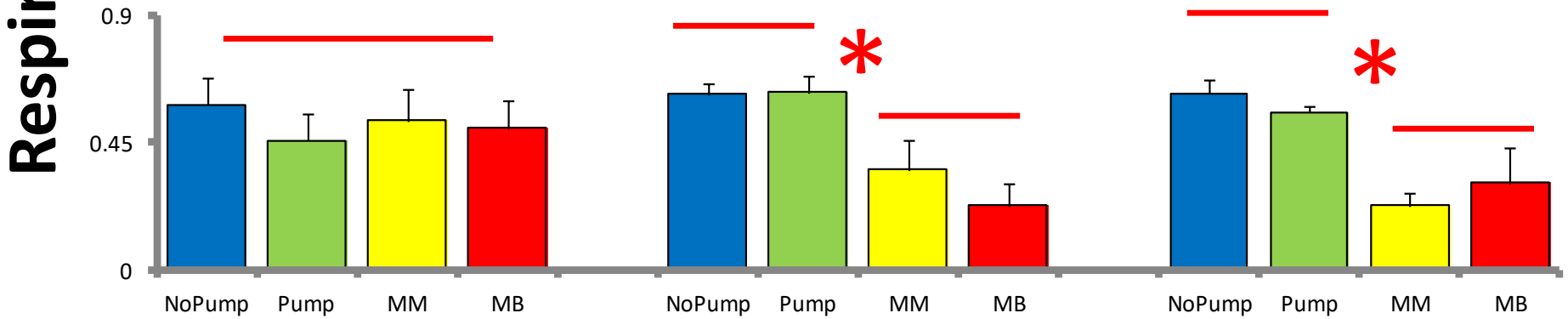


Primary stressor: metal

Early – sampled next day



Late – sampled after 2 weeks

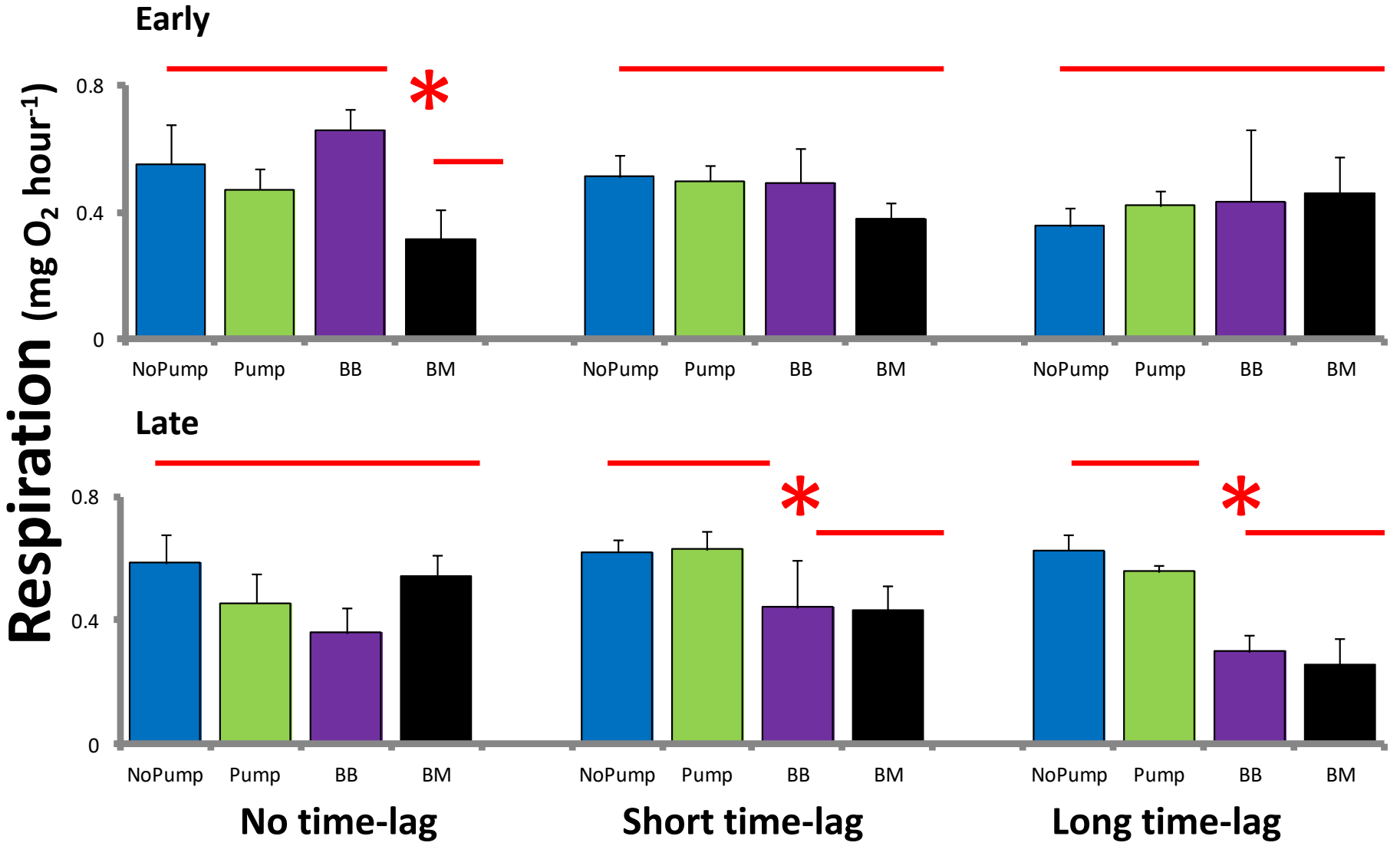


No time-lag

Short time-lag

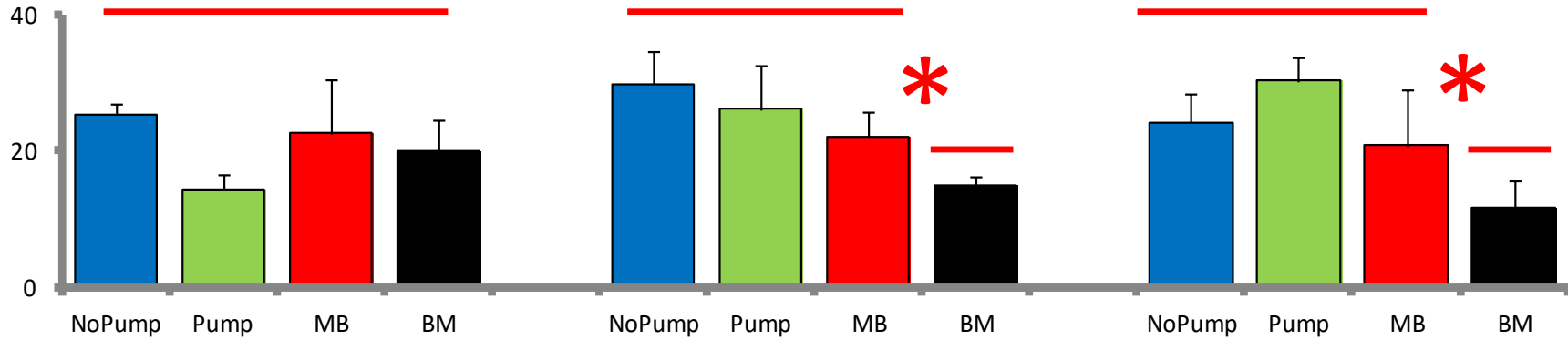
Long time-lag

Primary stressor: biocide

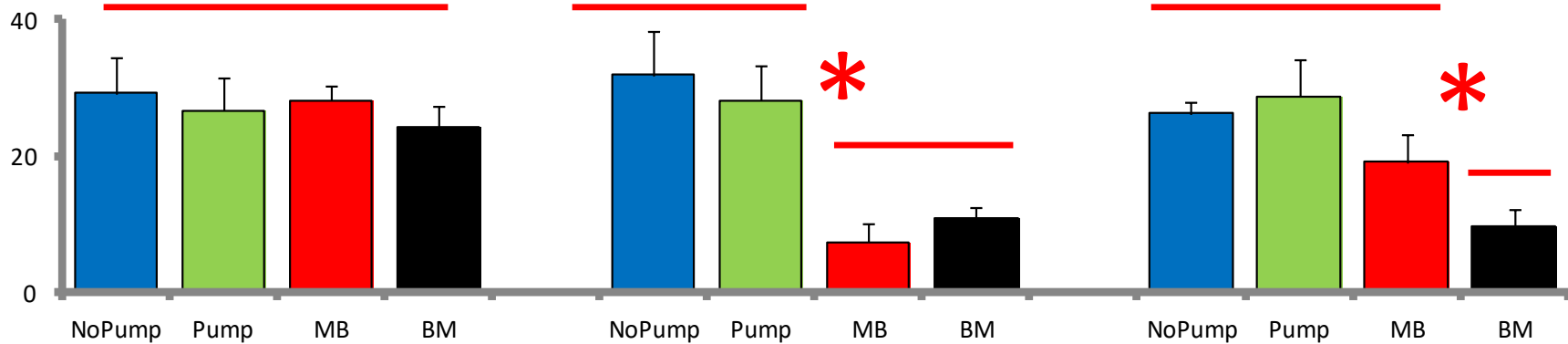


Sequential order of stressors

Early



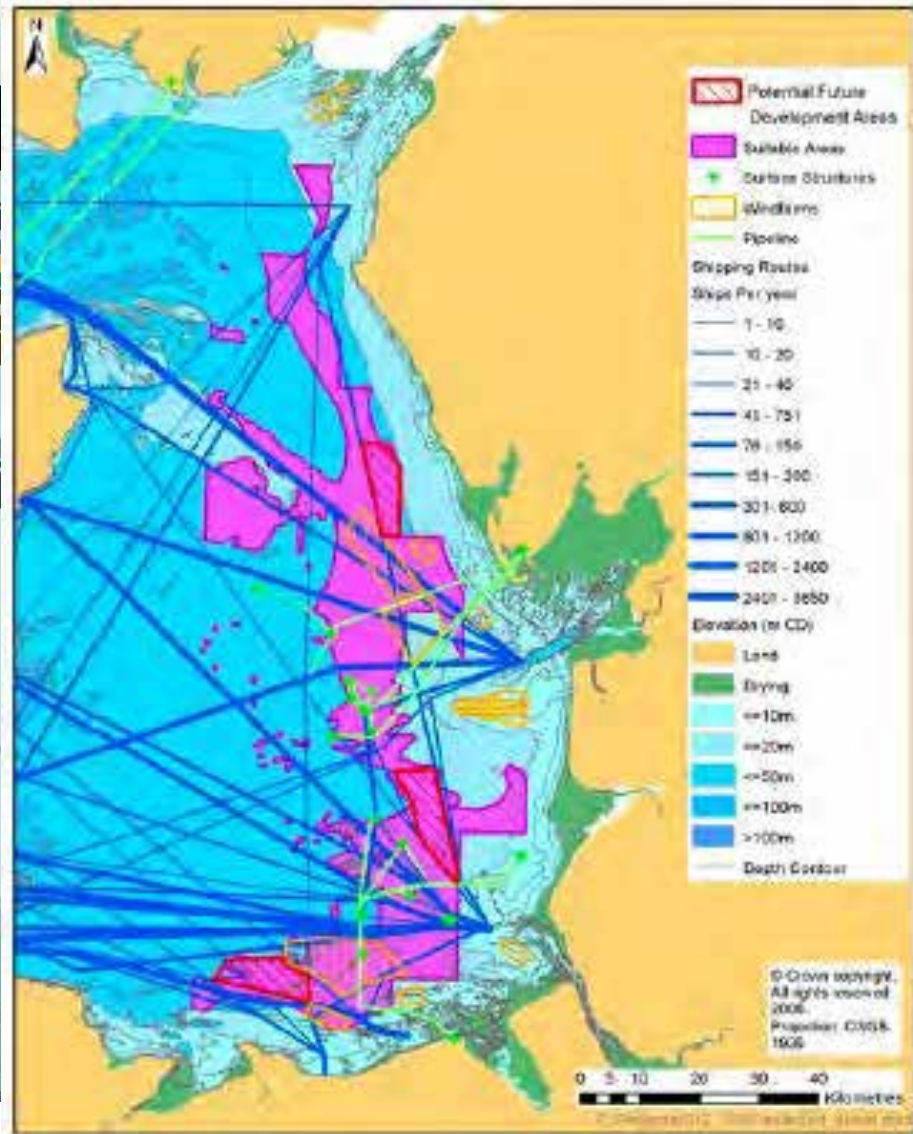
Late



No time-lag

Short time-lag

Long time-lag



Ways forward

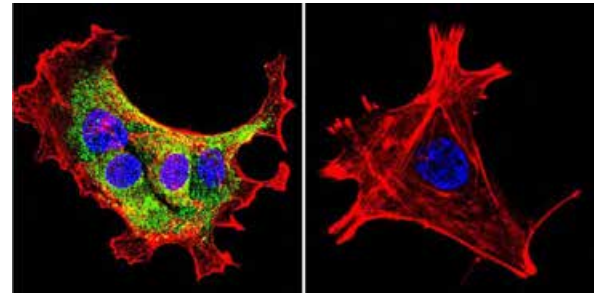
1. Focus on priority combinations of stressors, biota and receiving environments
2. Characterise mechanisms of interaction
3. Explore co-tolerance and other trait-based approaches

2. Mechanisms of interaction between stressors

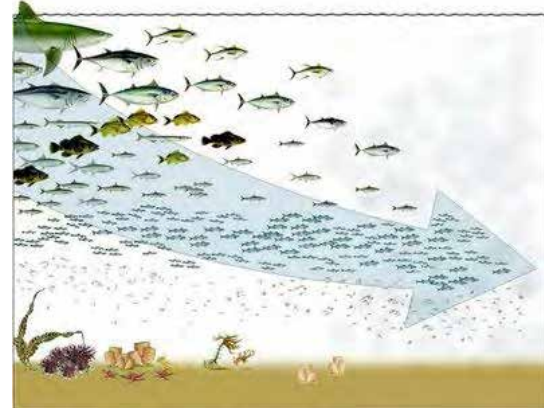
Exogenous



Endogenous



Ecological





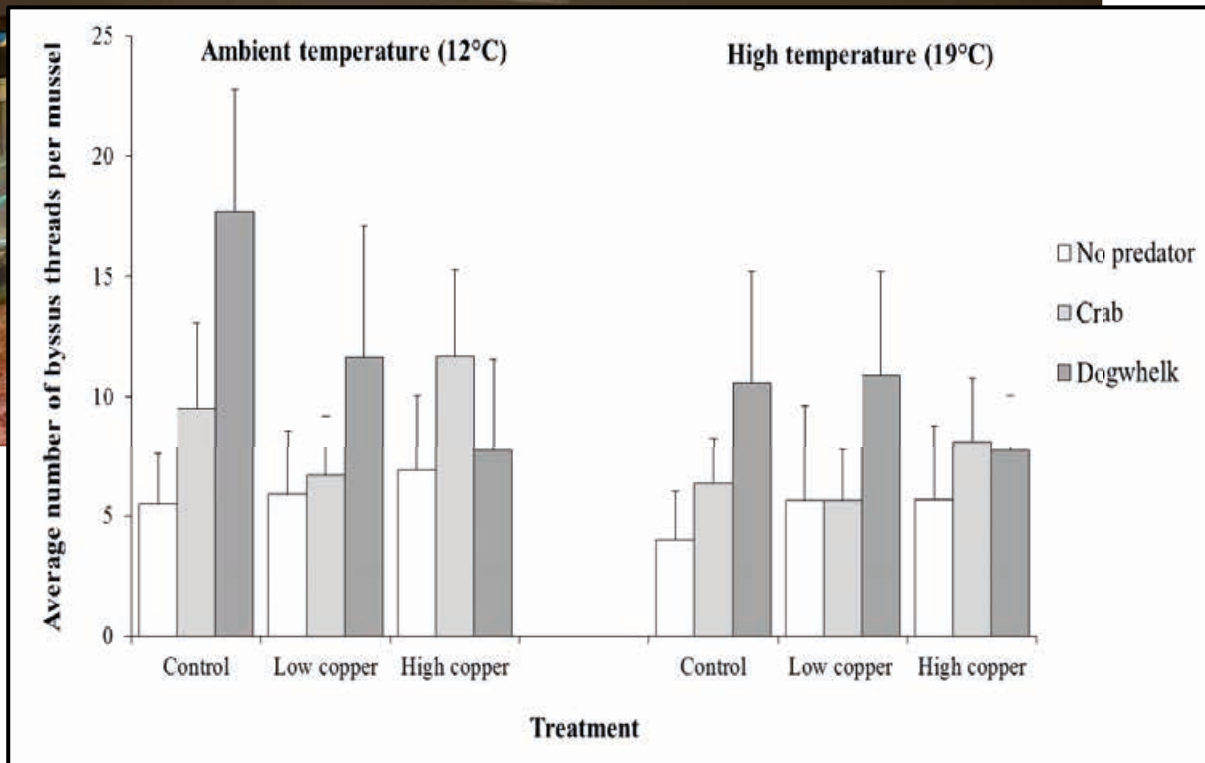
Narve Brattaborg



Côté 1995
Davenport et al 1996
Farrell & Crowe 2008



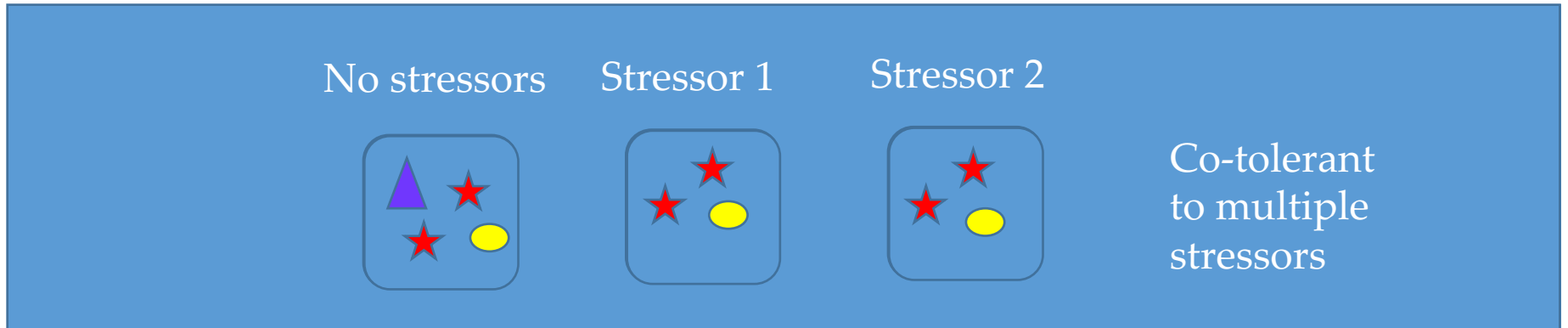
Caroline
Kerrigan



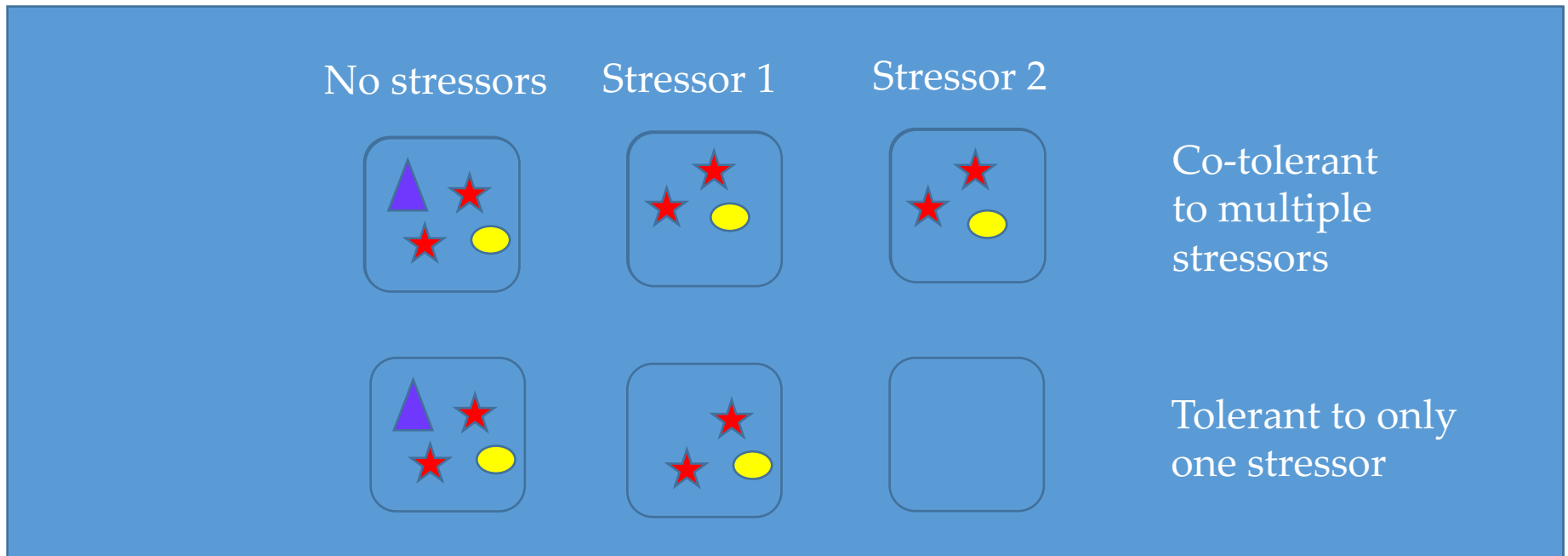
Valeria
Palmeri

and see
Wang et al. 2012

3. Co-tolerance & other trait based approaches



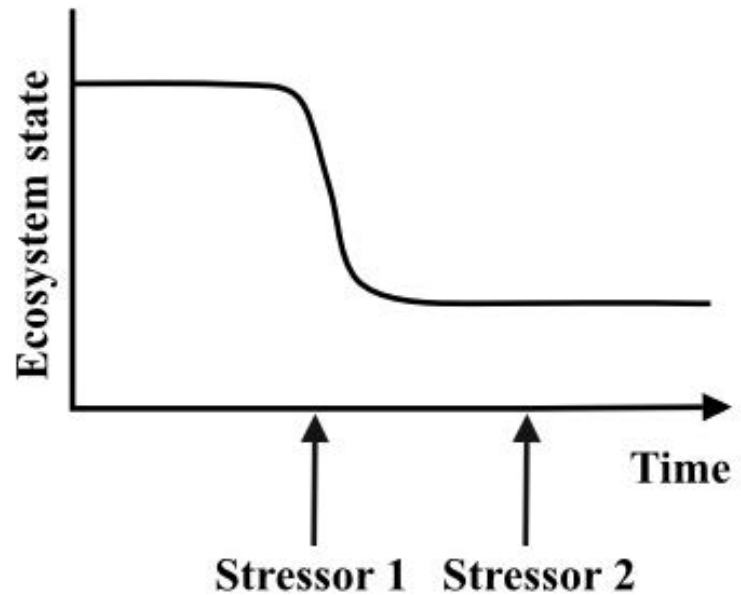
3. Co-tolerance & other trait based approaches



Most species co-tolerant

Adding stressors to a degraded system will NOT cause further change

- Partially degraded systems contain tolerant species which will also tolerate future stressors

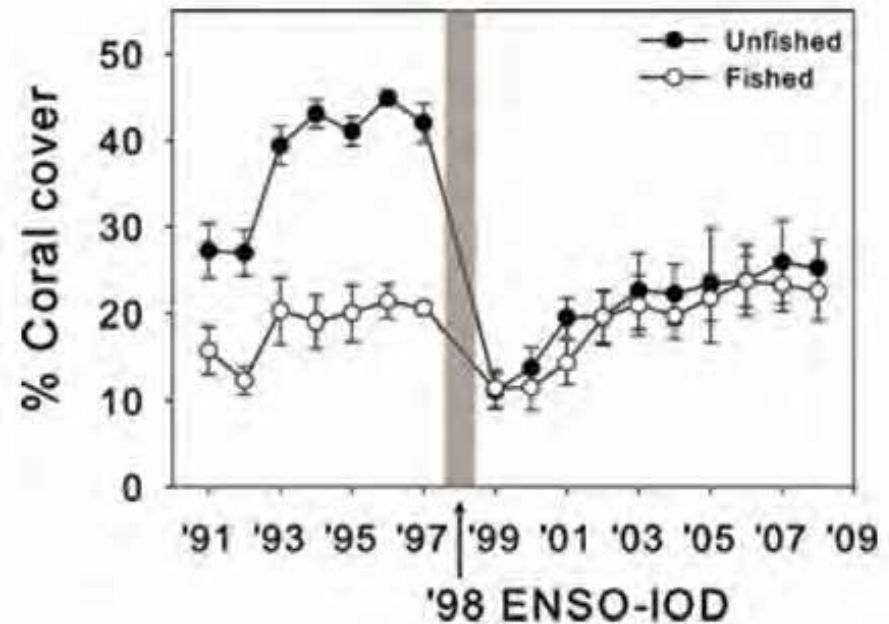


Côté & Darling (2010)

Most species co-tolerant

Adding stressors to a degraded system will NOT cause further change

- Partially degraded systems contain tolerant species which will also tolerate future stressors

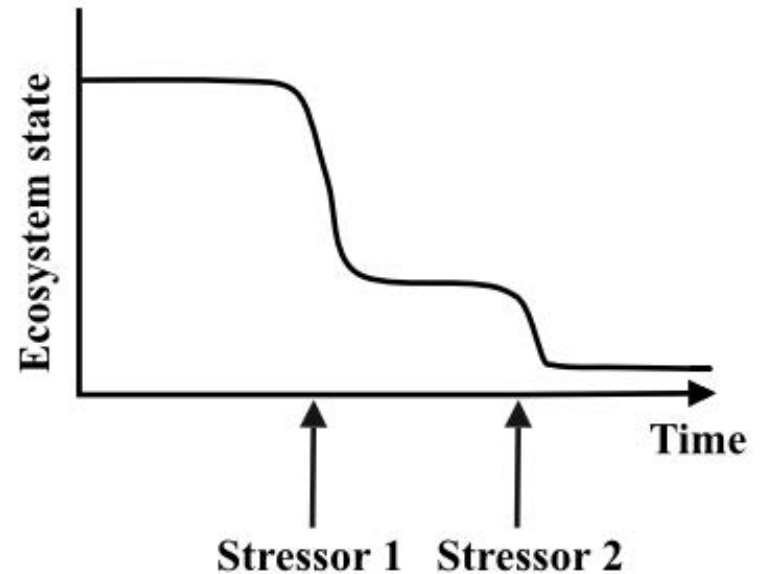


Darling *et al.* (2010)

Most species not co-tolerant

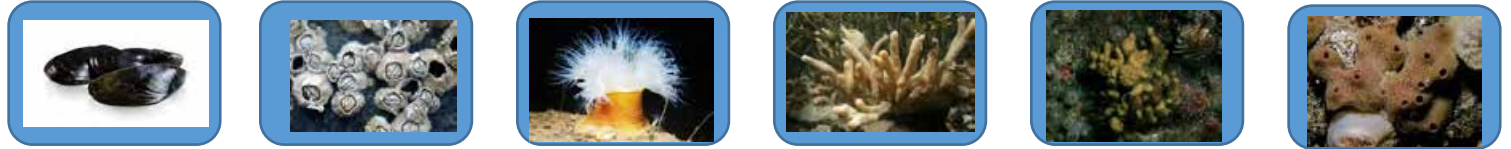
Adding stressors to a degraded system will cause further change

- Partially degraded systems contain species tolerant to one stressor but sensitive to others



Allison (2004)

Would need to improve knowledge of co-tolerances of individual species & test effectiveness



Stressor 1 0 + ++



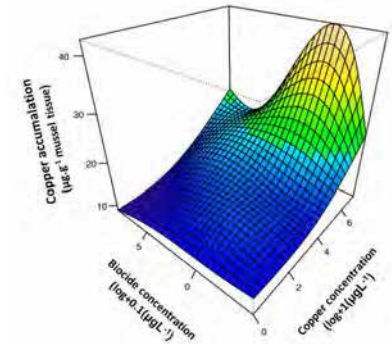
Stressor 2 0 + ++

etc.

Overall conclusions

- Effects of multiple stressors vary with biota, context, stressor regime
- Interactive effects varied at different concentrations of stressors & levels of organisation
- Timing and sequence altered effects

➤ **Non-additive effects of multiple stressors may be more complex and common than expected**



Ways forward

- Focus on priority combinations of stressors and contexts
- Use more complex designs and tools to characterise range of possible effects
- Characterise mechanisms of interaction
 - Exogenous, endogenous, ecological
- Explore co-tolerance and other trait-based approaches; collate and generate relevant trait information



Acknowledgements

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- **Co-authors:** Paul Brooks, Mark Browne, Lisandro Benedetti-Cecchi, Jayne Fitch, Chris Frid, Chloe Kinsella, Devin Lyons, Caroline Kerrigan, Martina O'Brien, Valeria Palmeri, Silvia Saloni, Paul Somerfield
- **Malahide Marina staff**, particularly Damian Offer
- **Field and technical assistance:** Jen Coughlan, Paul O'Callaghan, Ciara Murphy, Conor McGee, et al.



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54th

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THEMES

BLUE GROWTH

In this session, we will explore the potential of marine organisms and ecosystems to underpin economic and societal benefits and examine potential risks and emerging approaches to sustainability.

RAPID CHANGE

Organisms, communities and ecosystems change daily, seasonally, annually and over decades, centuries and millennia. This session focuses on temporal change and explores how and why it is accelerating during the Anthropocene.

FUNDAMENTAL BIOLOGICAL TRAITS

We still lack knowledge of the basic biology and ecological traits of many species. This session aims to capture recent research and synthesis of the fundamental biology of marine organisms.

MOVEMENT AND REDISTRIBUTION OF SPECIES

Seas and oceans are filled with species on the move over short and long distances to feed, breed or disperse. Research on any aspect of movement biology or species distribution will be captured in this session.

There will also be a **General Session** covering any aspect of marine biology.



2019 is the International Year of the Salmon, a fish that has a special place in the mythology of Ireland – look out for the salmon throughout the scientific and social programme!

