



ARC CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE  
Coral Reef Studies

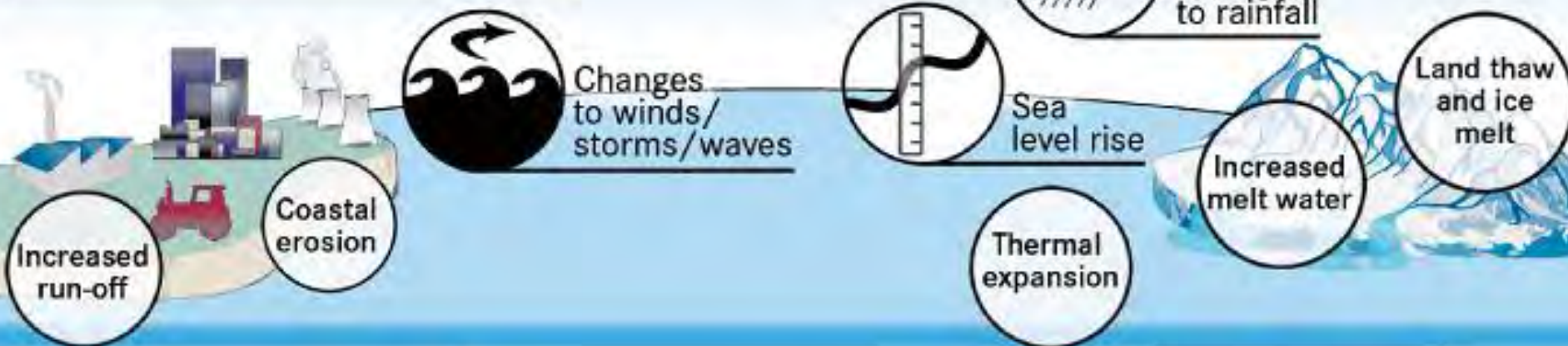
# Predicting evolutionary responses to climate change in the sea: Progress and challenges

Philip Munday, James Cook University

[www.coralcoe.org.au](http://www.coralcoe.org.au)

Increased atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations (incl. CO<sub>2</sub>)

Increased air temperature



Increased CO<sub>2</sub> level

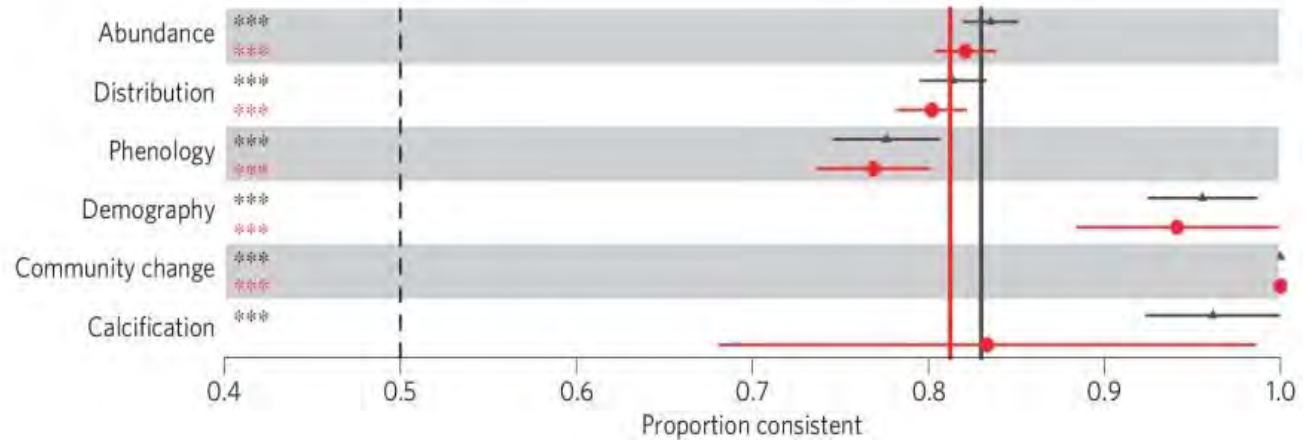
Increased sea temperature



# Biological consequences

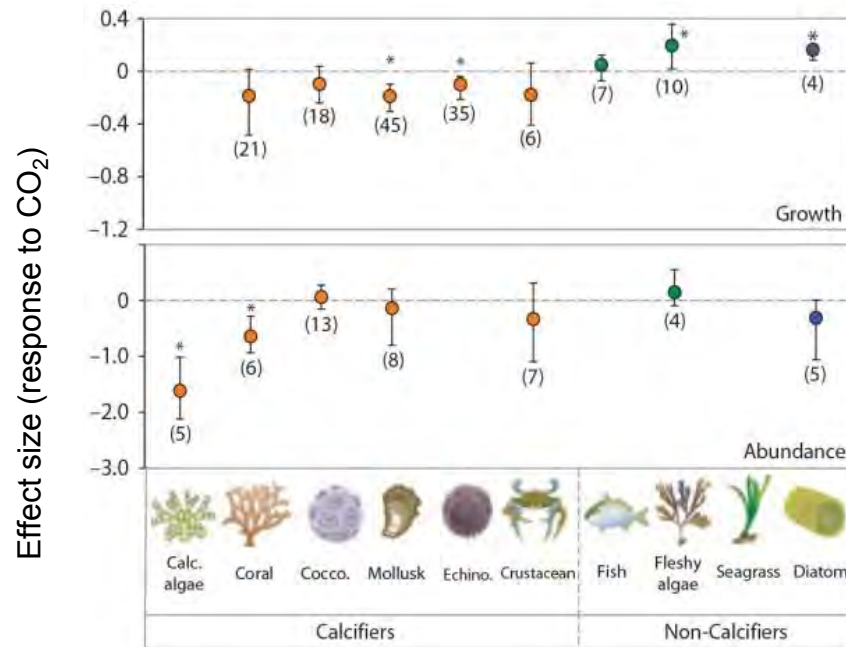
## Observations

Poloczanska et al. 2013 NCC



## Experiments

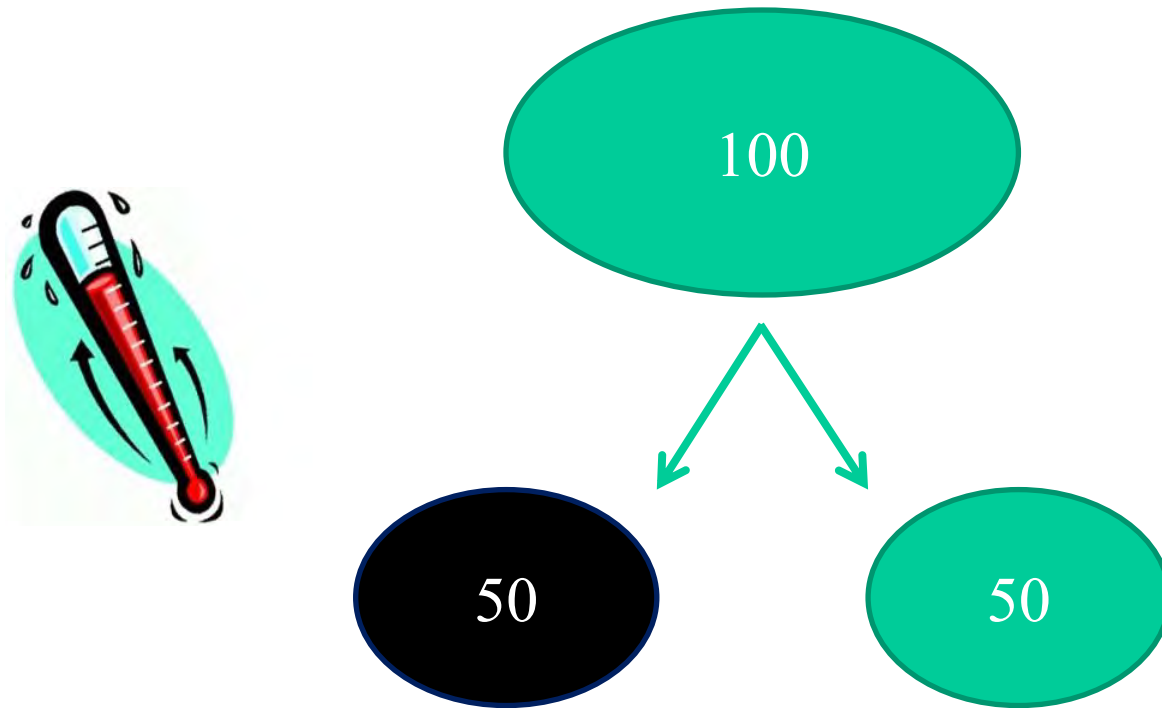
Kroeker et al. 2012 GCB





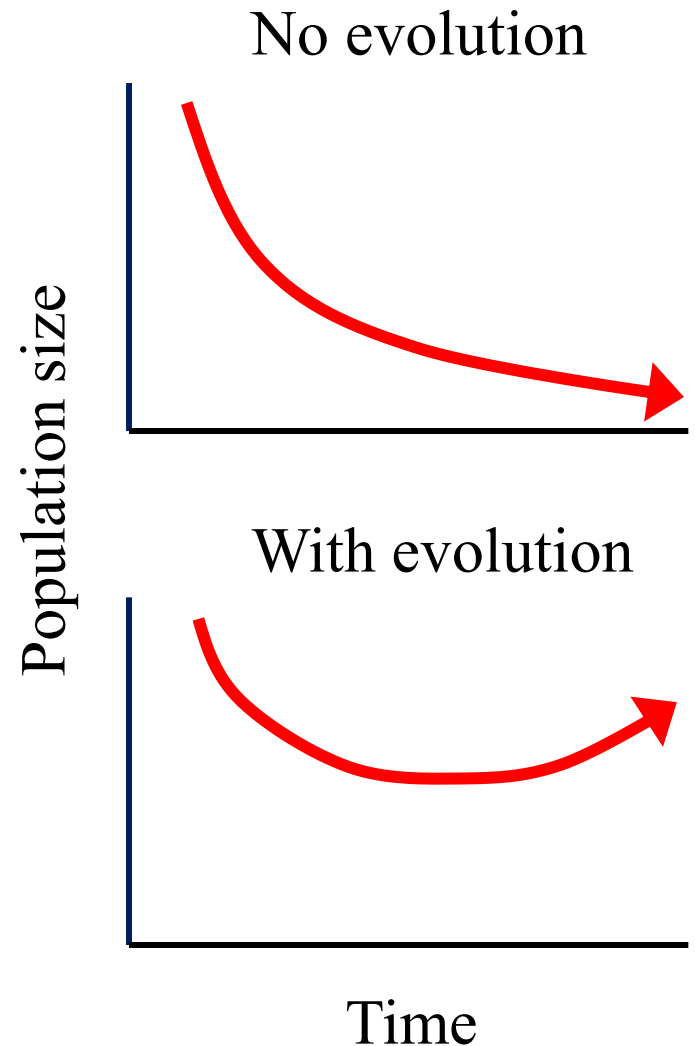
# Evolutionary perspective

Extrapolations from short-term experiments risk overestimating impacts



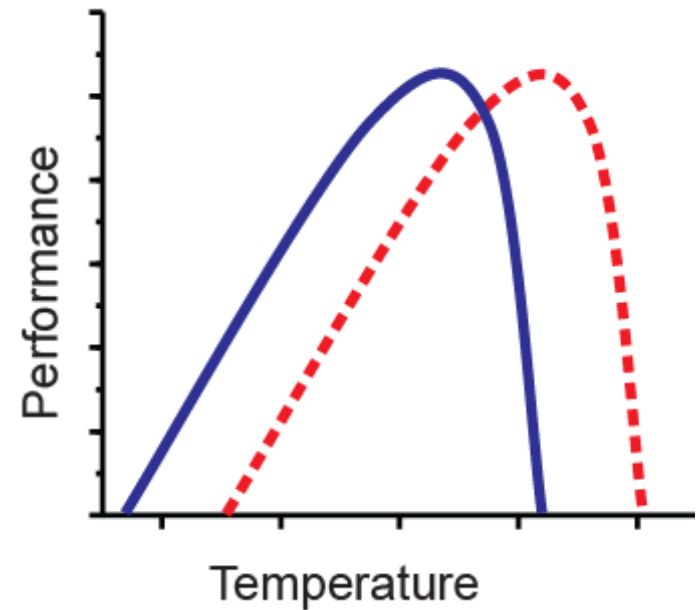
# Evolutionary perspective

- Projections that include evolutionary potential
- Models that incorporate demographic effects of climate change and adaptive potential
- Evolution and ecology



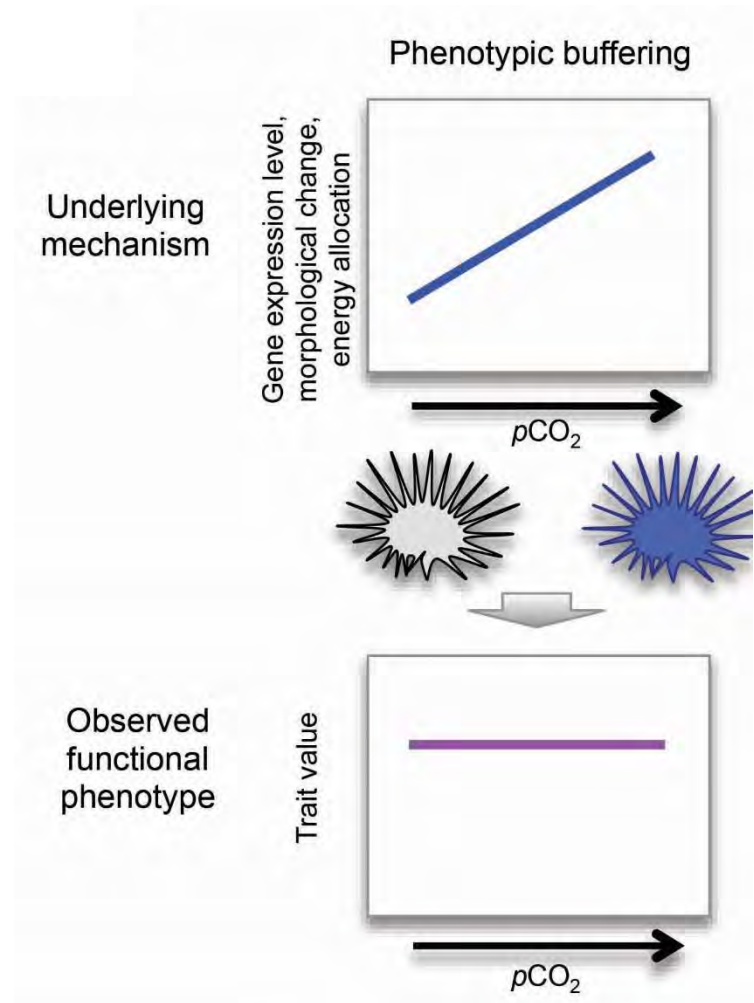
# Acclimation and adaptation

- **Acclimation** (acclimatization)
  - Physiological, behavioural or morphological adjustment without genetic selection (plasticity)
- **Genetic Adaptation** (evolution)
  - Selection on genetic variation that is inherited from one generation to the next

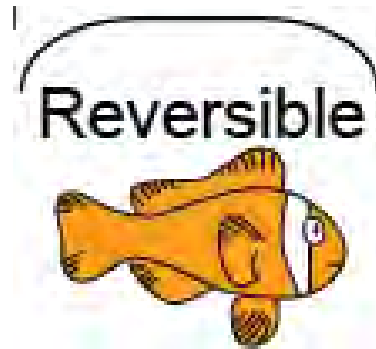


# Plasticity

- Rapid phenotypic response to environmental change
- Enable performance to be maintained in a new environment
- Time for adaptation to catch up



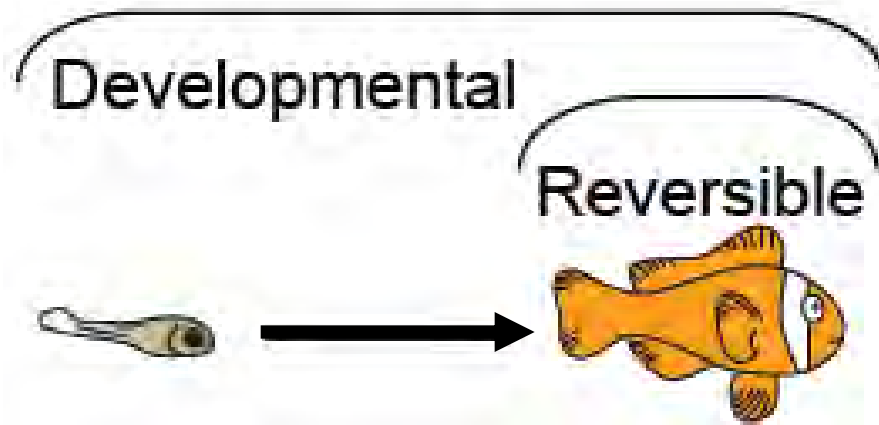
# Plasticity



- Short-term regulated responses to environmental variation: e.g. diel & seasonal variation
- Species that live in variable environments

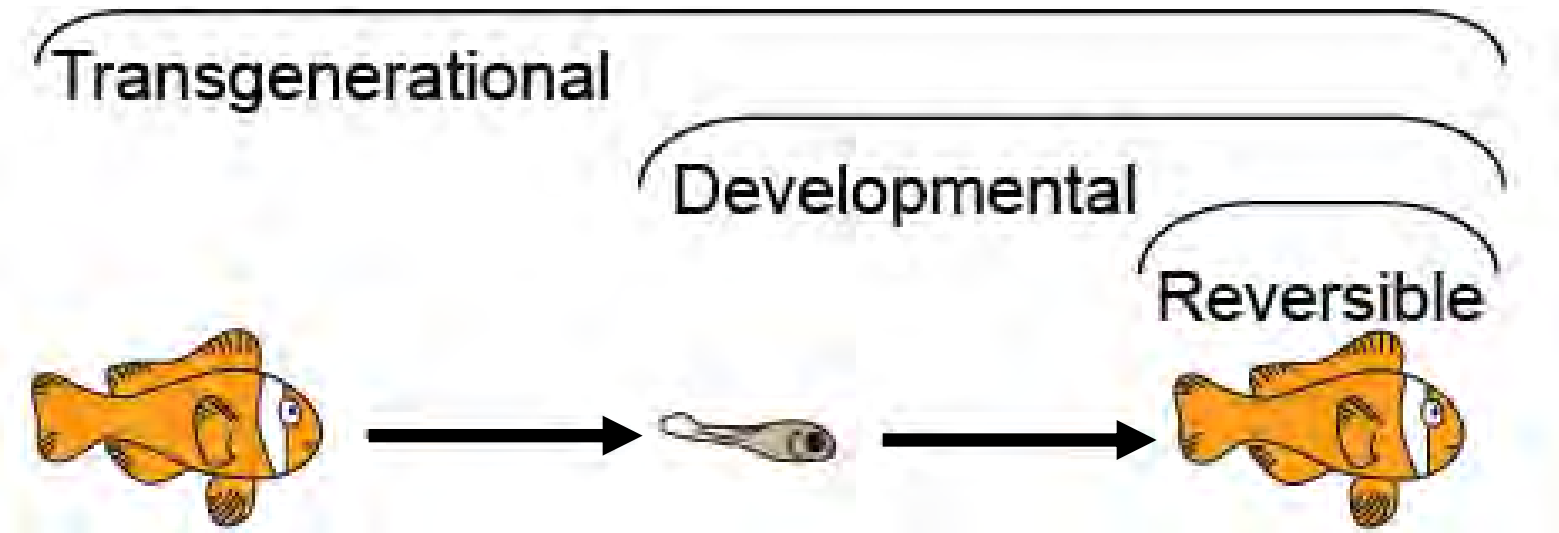


# Plasticity



- Irreversible response to environmental conditions experienced during ontogeny
- Influences response of later life stages

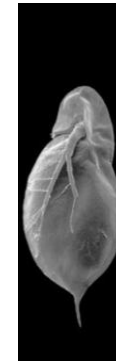
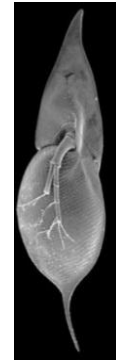
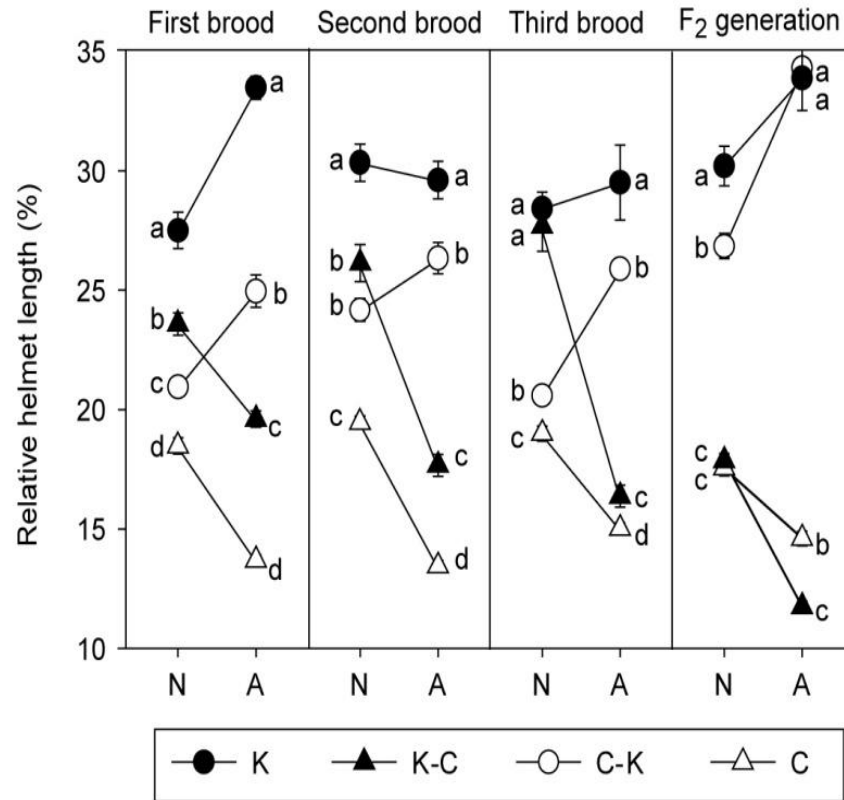
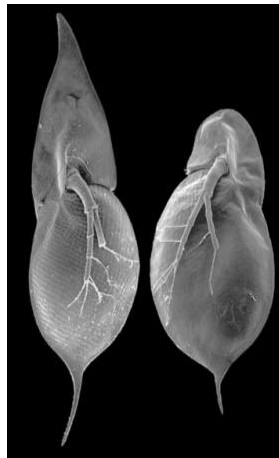
# Plasticity



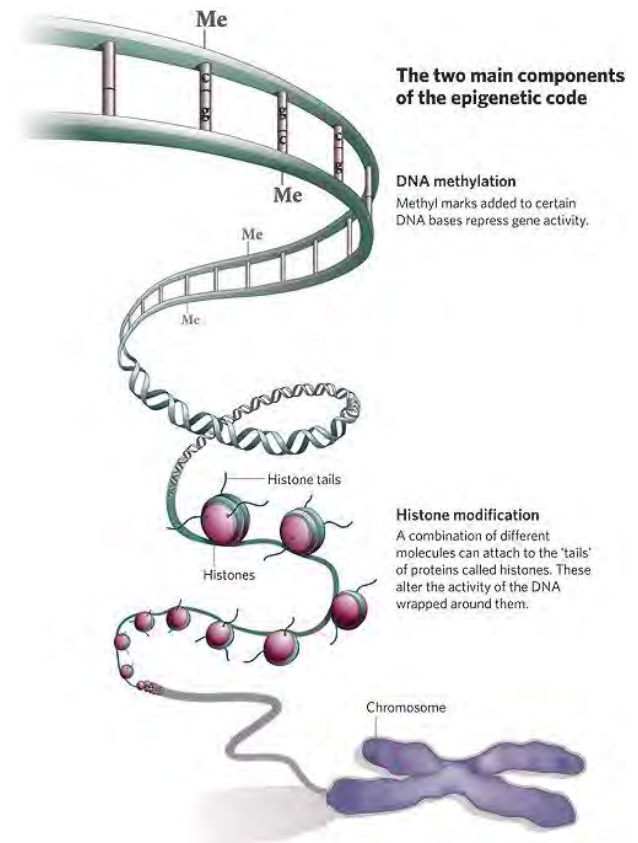
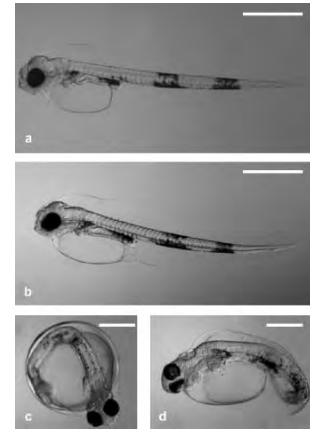
- Environment experienced by the parents (or earlier generations) influences the offsprings' response to environmental conditions
- Relevant to climate change

# Transgenerational Plasticity

Daphnia (waterflea) response to predator chemical cues



- Nutrients
  - Yolk
- Cytoplasmic factors
  - Hormones and proteins
- Epigenetic marks
  - DNA methylation
  - Chromatin structure
  - Modify the activation of genes
  - Influenced by the environment
  - Potentially heritable



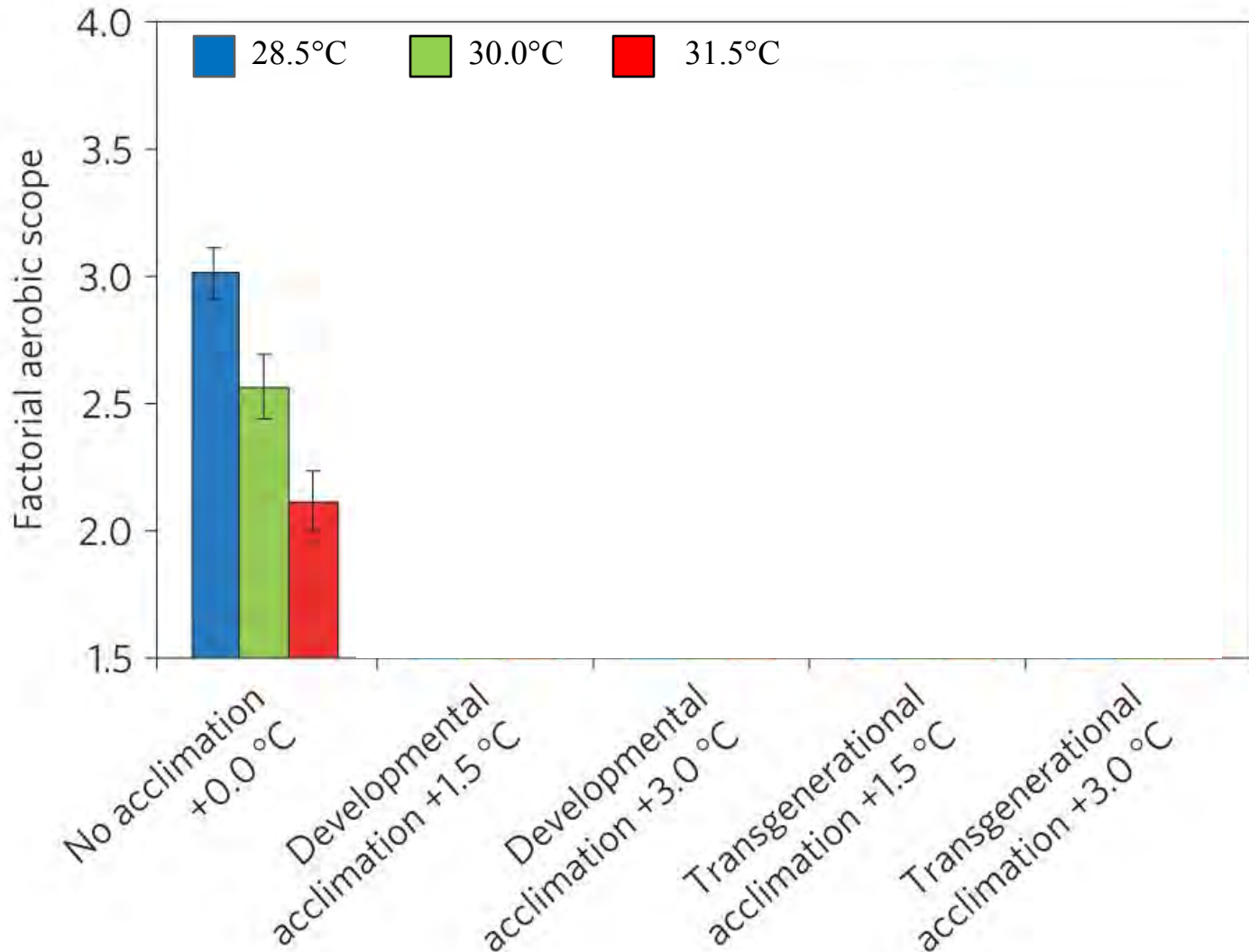
# Transgenerational Plasticity

- Limited capacity for reversible acclimation
- + 1.5- 3°C affects:
  - growth, reproduction, aerobic performance
- Rearing fish over multiple generations
  - Developmental
  - Transgenerational

Spiny damselfish

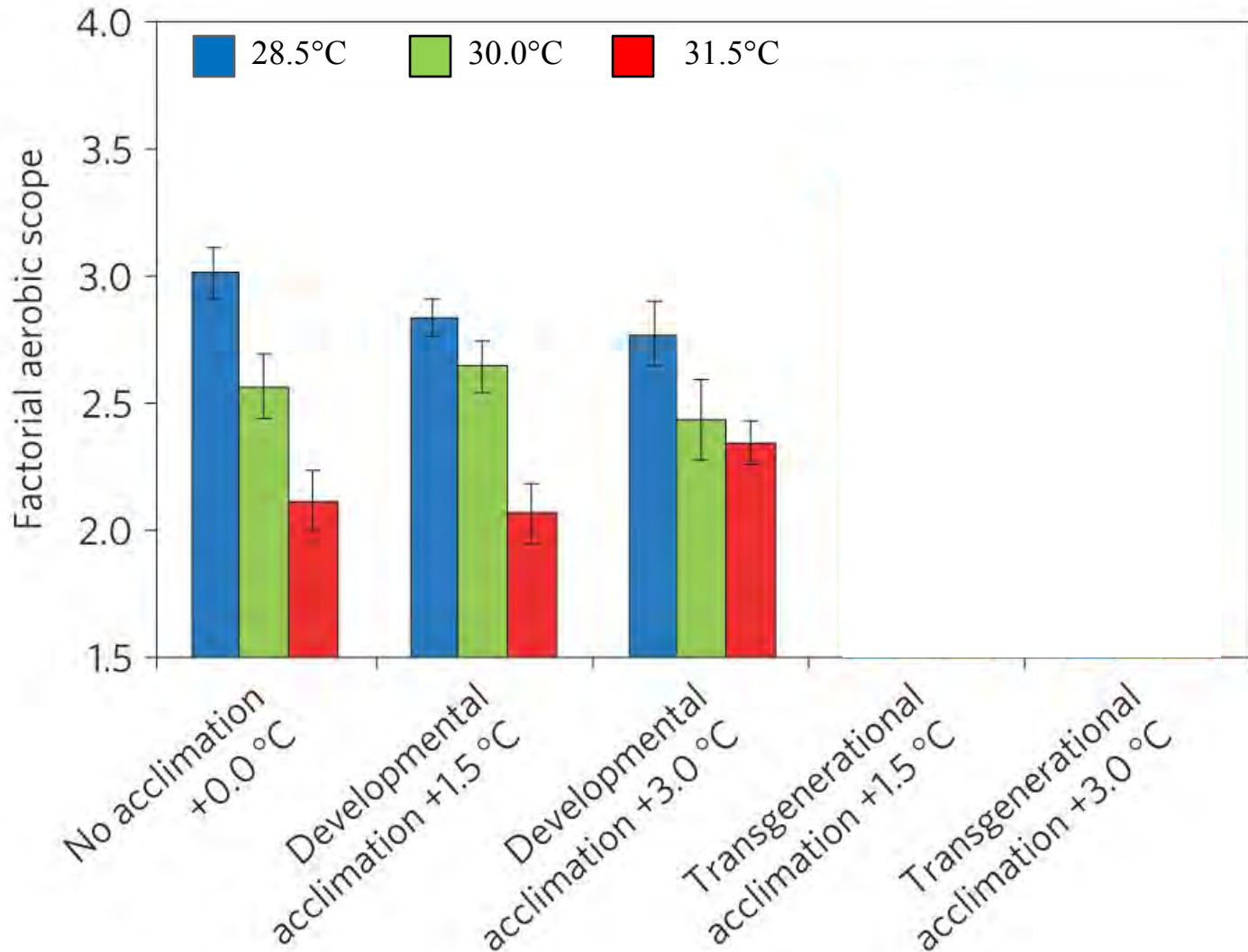


# Acute effects

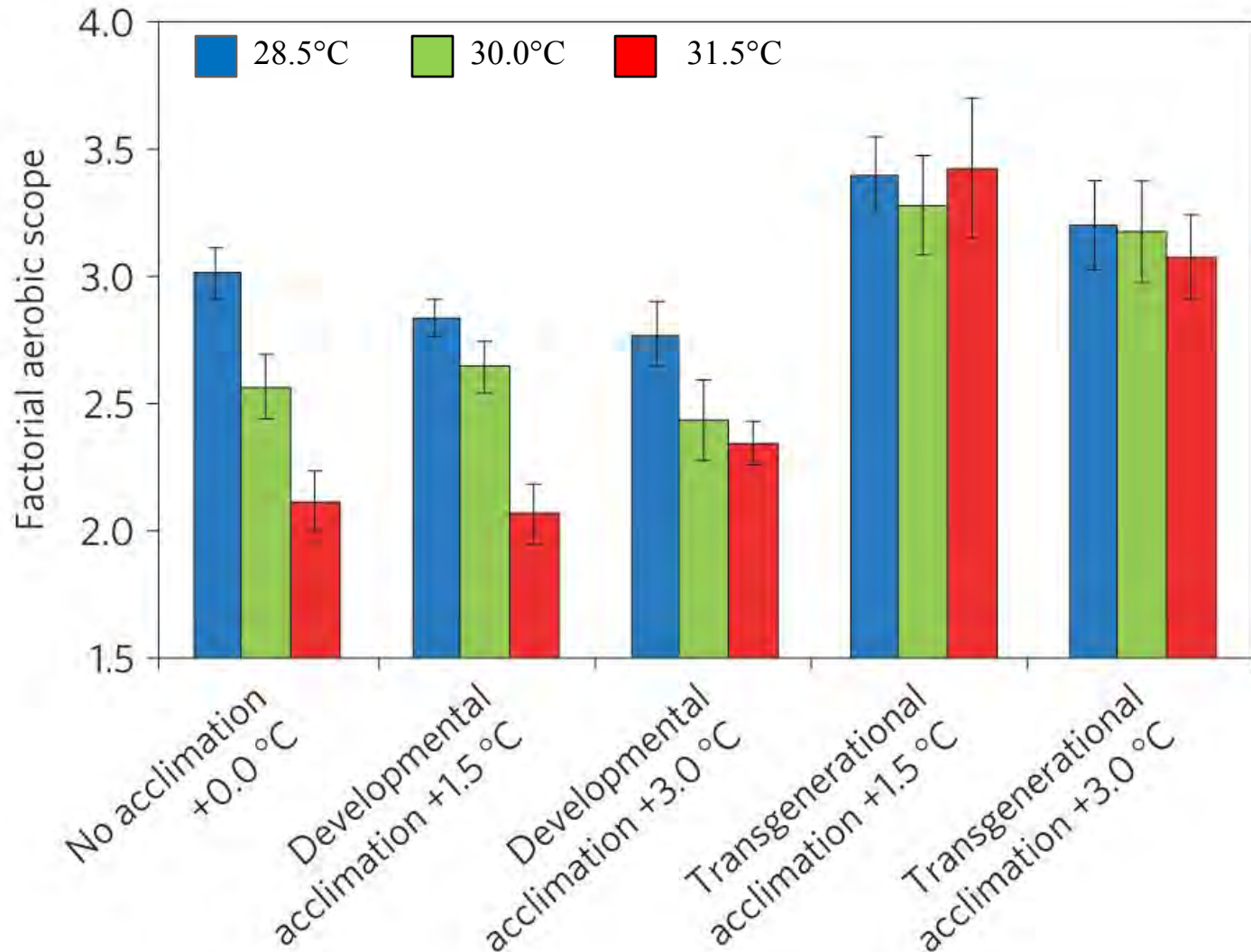




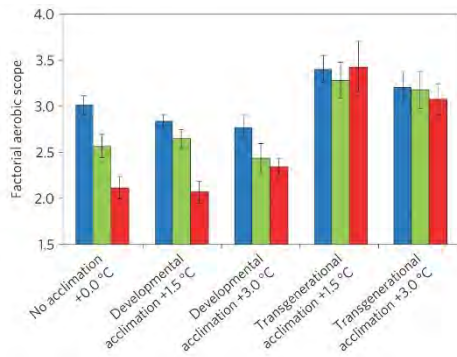
# Developmental plasticity



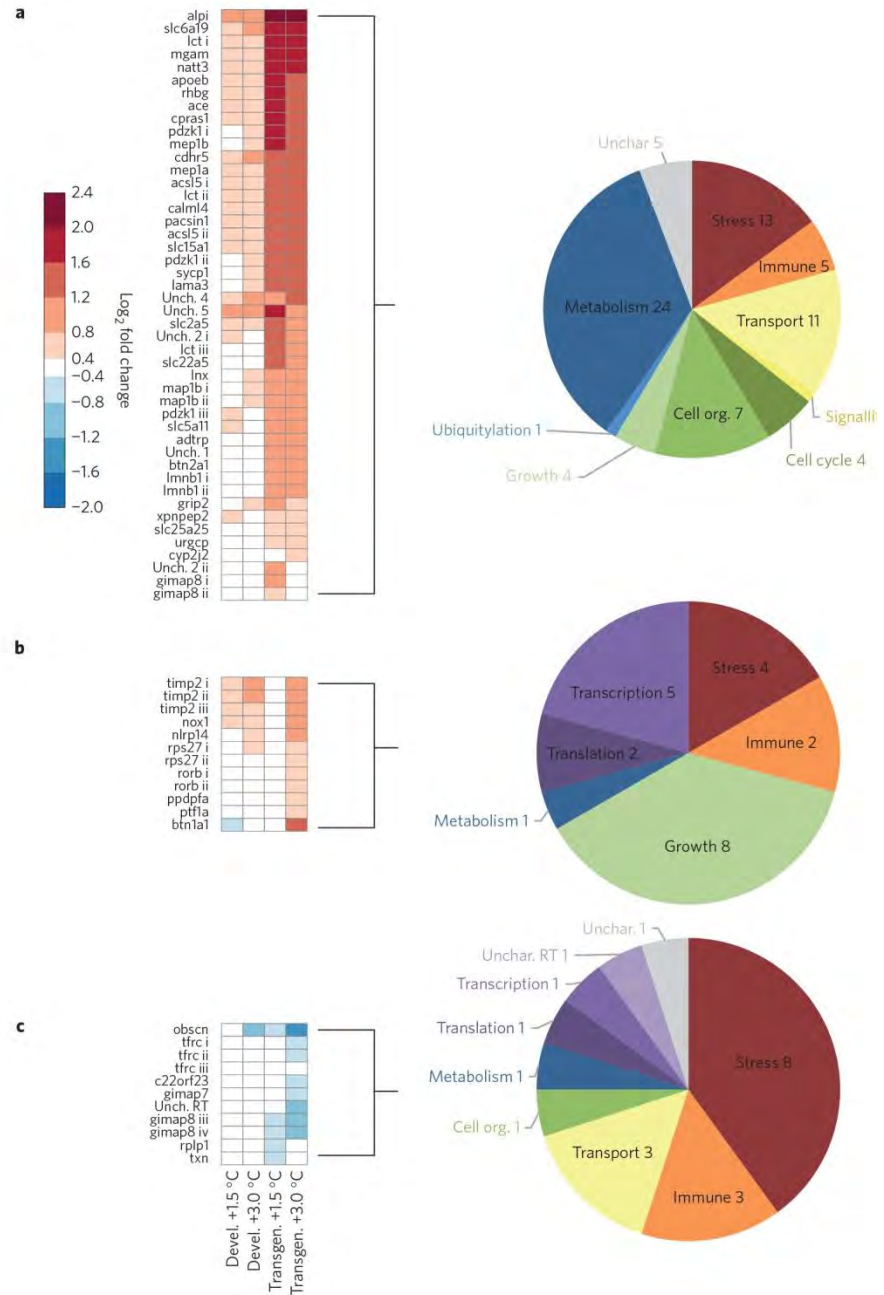
# Transgenerational plasticity



# Mechanism



- 53 key genes
- Metabolism – shifts in energy production
- Immunity and stress
- Tissue development and transcriptional regulation



# Sex ratios



Ambient



+1.5°C  
developmental



+1.5°C  
transgenerational



# Sex ratios



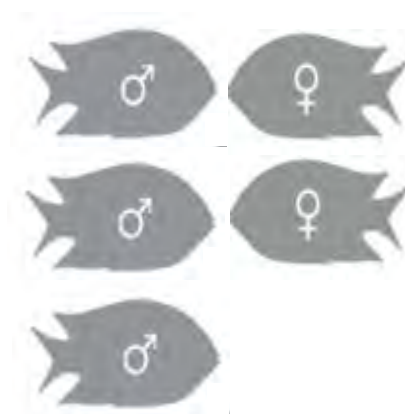
Ambient



+3°C  
developmental



+3°C  
transgenerational



- Temperature and growth

- Sheepshead minnow
- Stickleback



Salinas & Munch 2012. *Ecology Letters* 15:159



Shama et al. 2014 *Functional Ecology*, 28: 1482-1493

- High CO<sub>2</sub> and survival

- Atlantic silverside



Murray et al. 2014 *MEPS* 504:1-11

- High CO<sub>2</sub> and growth

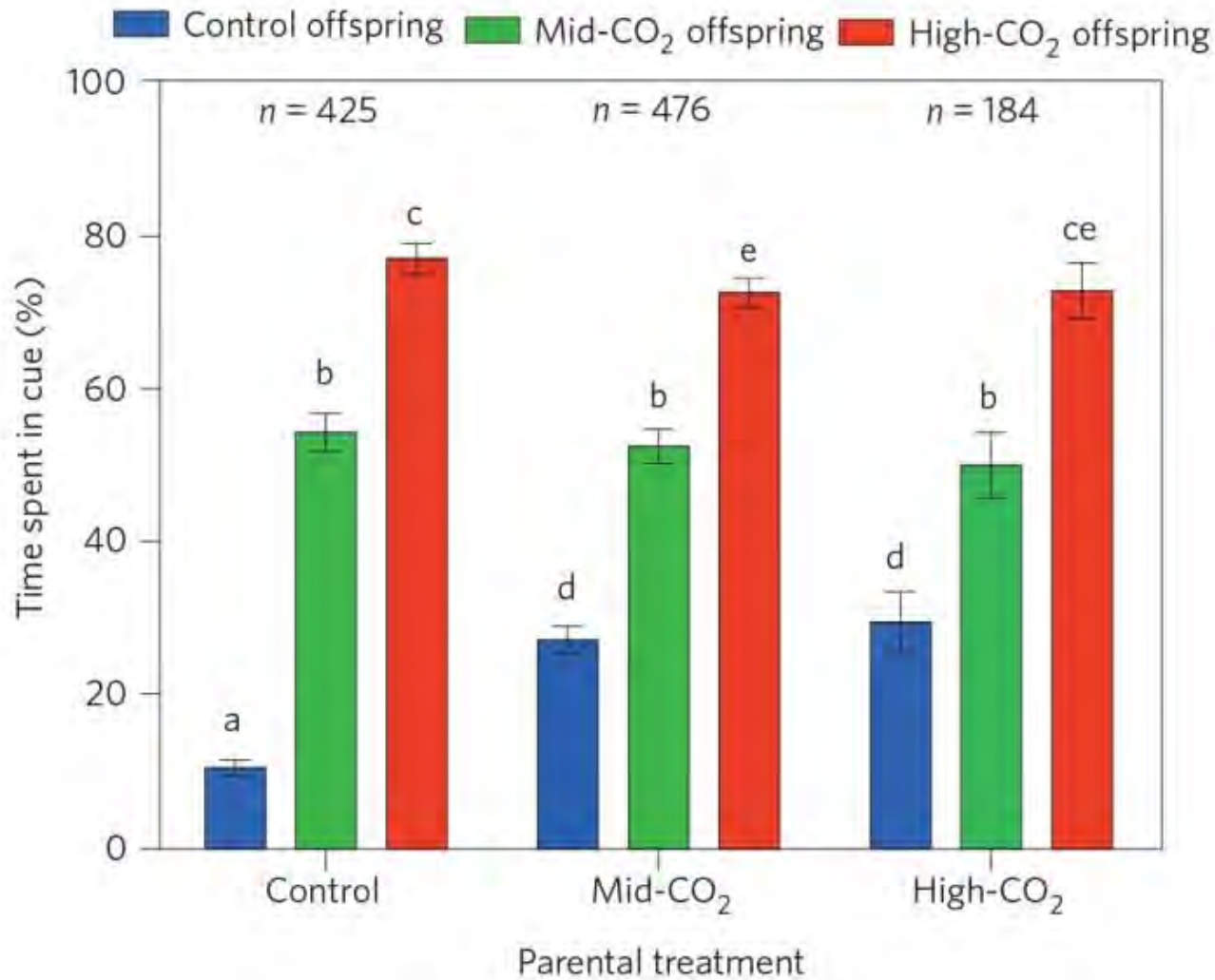
- Cinammon clownfish



Miller et al. 2012. *Nature Climate Change*, 2: 858-861



# No transgenerational plasticity

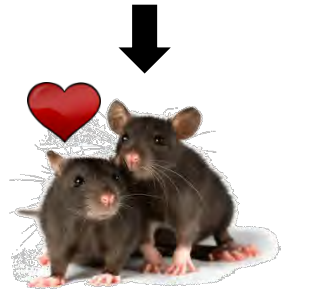


# Maladaptive effects



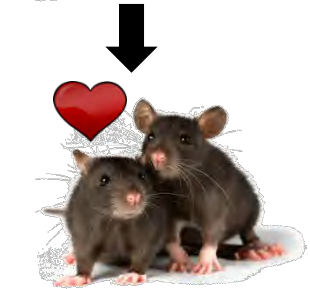
Altered DNA  
methylation in sperm

F1



Mate choice

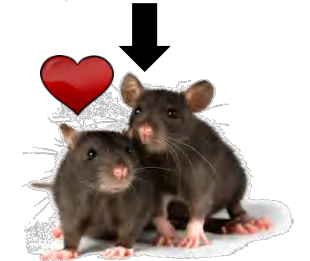
F2



Disease prevalence

Stress response

F3



Crews et al. 2007 PNAS 104: 5942

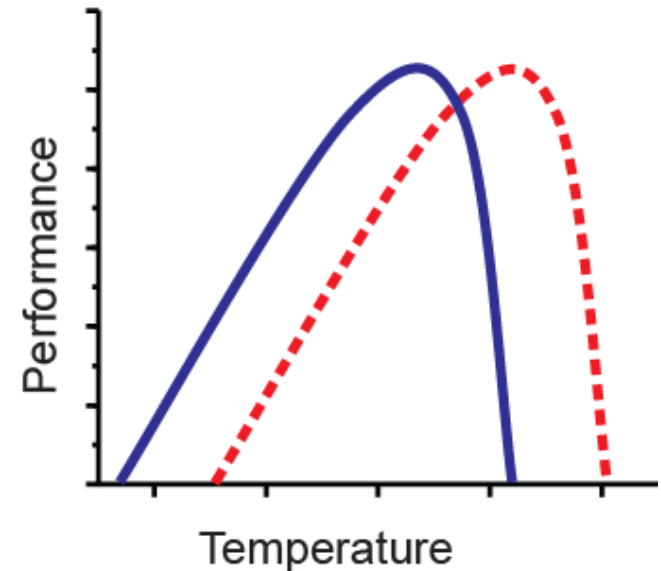
Crews et al. 2012 PNAS 109: 9143

# Future directions

- Longer-term experiments that account for plasticity within and between generations
- What are the costs or trade-offs?
- Does plasticity translate to persistence?
- Can we predict which species will exhibit TGP or other forms of plasticity?

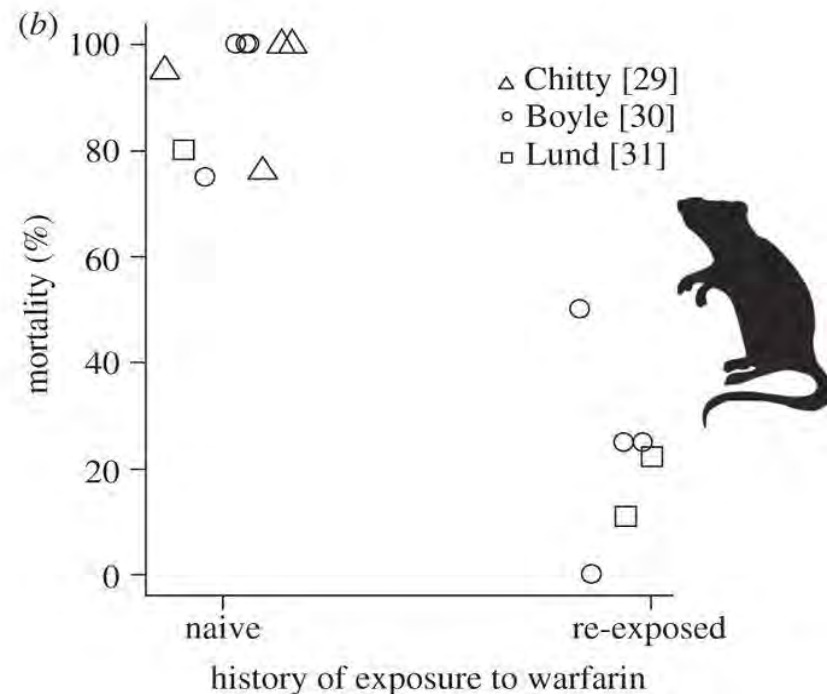
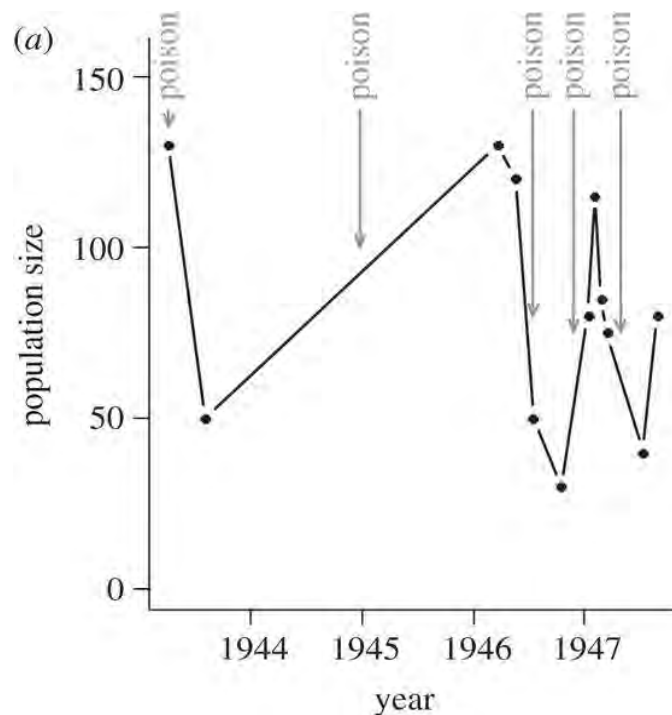
# Adaptation

- Acclimation
  - Physiological, behavioural or morphological adjustment without genetic selection (plasticity)
- Genetic Adaptation
  - Selection on genetic variation that is inherited from one generation to the next



# Adaptation

- Genetic adaptation can sometimes be surprisingly rapid



# Assessing evolutionary potential

- Field studies
- Experimental evolution
- Quantitative genetics
- Molecular approaches
- Combined
  - molecular and experimental



Philip L. Munday,<sup>1\*</sup> Robert R. Warner,<sup>2</sup> Keyne Monro,<sup>3</sup> John M. Pandolfi<sup>4</sup> and Dustin J. Marshall<sup>5</sup>

## Abstract

An increasing number of short-term experimental studies show significant effects of projected ocean warming and ocean acidification on the performance on marine organisms. Yet, it remains unclear if we can reliably predict the impact of climate change on marine populations and ecosystems, because we lack sufficient understanding of the capacity for marine organisms to adapt to rapid climate change. In this review, we emphasise why an evolutionary perspective is crucial to understanding climate change impacts in the sea and examine the approaches that may be useful for addressing this challenge. We first consider what the geological record and present-day analogues of future climate conditions can tell us about the potential for adaptation to climate change. We also examine evidence that phenotypic plasticity may assist marine species to persist in a rapidly changing climate. We then outline the various experimental approaches that can be used to estimate evolutionary potential, focusing on molecular tools, quantitative genetics, and experimental evolution, and we describe the benefits of combining different approaches to gain a deeper understanding of evolutionary potential. Our goal is to provide a platform for future research addressing the evolutionary potential for marine organisms to cope with climate change.

## Review

Cell  
PRESS  
ocean acidifica-

## Evolution in an acidifying ocean

Jennifer M. Sunday<sup>1,2</sup>, Piero Calosi<sup>3</sup>, Sam Dupont<sup>4</sup>, Philip L. Munday<sup>5,6</sup>, Jonathon H. Stillman<sup>7,8</sup>, and Thorsten B.H. Reusch<sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, British Columbia, V5A 1S6, Canada

<sup>2</sup>Biodiversity Research Centre, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, British Columbia, V6T 1Z4, Canada

<sup>3</sup>Marine Biology and Ecology Research Centre, School of Marine Science and Engineering, Drake Circus, Plymouth PL4 8AA, UK

<sup>4</sup>Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, University of Gothenburg, The Sven Lovén Centre for Marine Sciences, Kristineberg, 45178, Fiskebäckskil, Sweden

<sup>5</sup>ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland 4811, Australia

<sup>6</sup>School of Marine and Tropical Biology, James Cook University, Townsville, Queensland 4811, Australia

<sup>7</sup>Rombert Tibouron Center and Department of Biology, San Francisco State University, Tiburon, CA 94920, USA

<sup>8</sup>Department of Integrative Biology, University of California Berkeley, Valley Life Sciences Building, Berkeley, CA 94720, USA

<sup>9</sup>GEOMAR Helmholtz Centre for Ocean Research Kiel, Evolutionary Ecology of Marine Fishes, Düsternbrooker Weg 20, D-24105 Kiel, Germany

**Ocean acidification poses a global threat to biodiversity, yet species might have the capacity to adapt through evolutionary change. Here we summarize tools available to determine species' capacity for evolutionary adaptation to future ocean change and review the progress made to date with respect to ocean acidification. We focus on two key approaches: measuring standing genetic variation within populations and experimental evolution. We highlight benefits and challenges of each approach and recommend future research directions for understanding the modulating role of evolution in a changing ocean.**

### Bringing evolution into the forecast of an acidified ocean

The ocean environment is changing rapidly, with surface waters changing in temperature and acidity at geologically unprecedented rates [1]. Projecting the fate of marine biodiversity requires not only understanding how these changes will affect populations, but also how populations will respond via acclimation and adaptive evolu-

Ocean acidification – the increase in partial pressure of CO<sub>2</sub> (pCO<sub>2</sub>) and reduction in pH associated with uptake of fossil fuel-derived CO<sub>2</sub> from the atmosphere – profoundly alters the inorganic conditions of the oceans. Although increased pCO<sub>2</sub> can enhance photosynthesis and growth of photosynthetic organisms, ocean acidification is a stressor for many organisms (i.e., decreases fitness, reviewed in [4]). Because spatial gradients in pCO<sub>2</sub> are relatively low and unstructured relative to the temporal change predicted [5], species are less likely to find refuge through migration (as has been observed across thermal gradients [6]). Evolutionary adaptation could hence be a particularly important response to this widespread change.

Although the possibility for evolutionary adaptation to ocean acidification is increasingly recognized [7–9], the field is at a nascent stage. Here we summarize approaches that can be used to address the potential for evolutionary adaptation in order to guide future work with an evolutionary focus. Although we use ocean acidification as a case study, the methods reviewed are equally applicable to other aspects of ocean change and we highlight the utility

in ecology and ins *et al.* 2008; nges to phenol- rformance have e (Doney *et al.* roaches have ht respond to knowledge gaps

rmine whether and be main- today. To meet munity dynam- ance of species tions. Intense enerated a rich if future condi- dels that were ); Cheung *et al.* ies persistence and the scope ical projections de evolutionary

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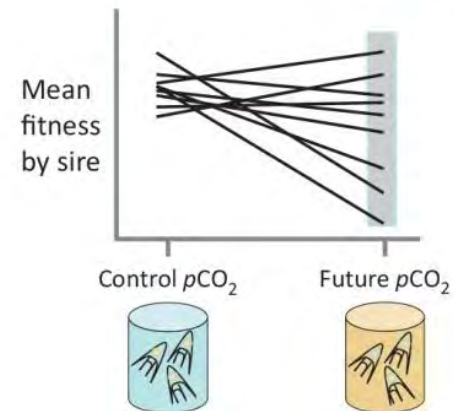
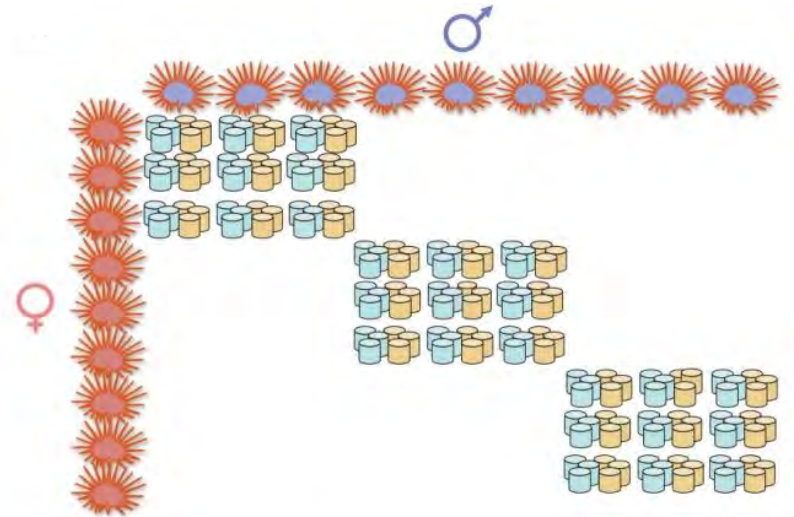
his review.

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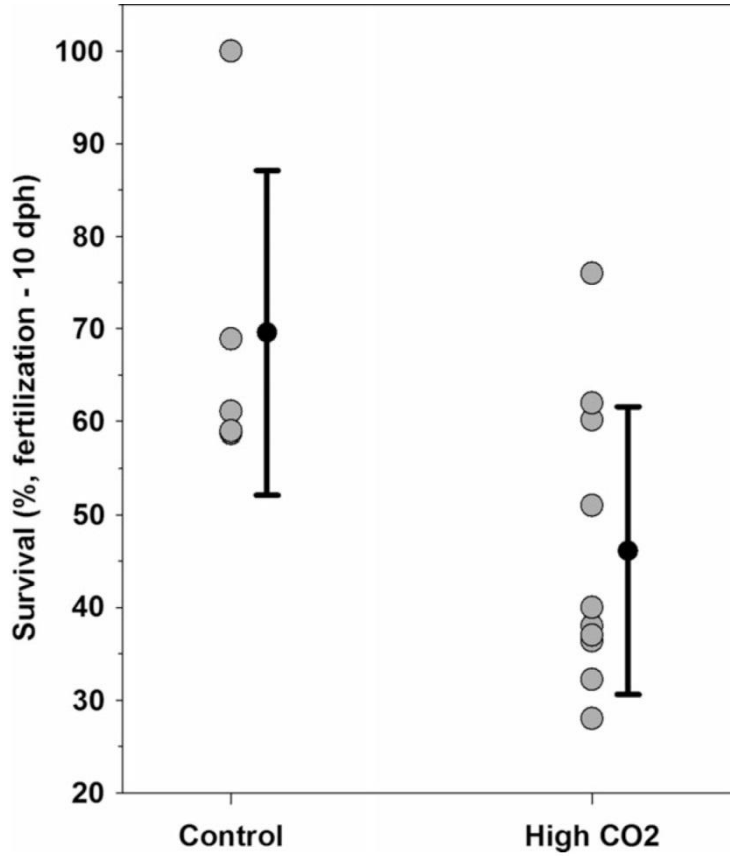


# Quantitative genetics

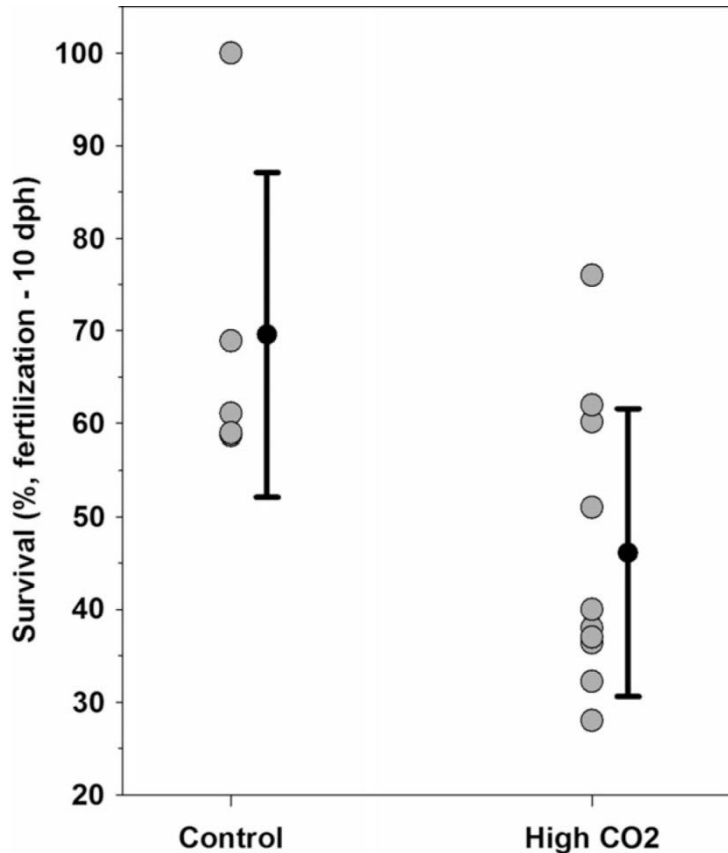
- Parent-offspring correlations
- Pedigree mapping
- Breeding designs
  - partition phenotypic variation
    - fathers
    - mothers
    - fathers\*mothers
    - environment
- Heritable genetic variation



# Quantitative genetics



# Quantitative genetics



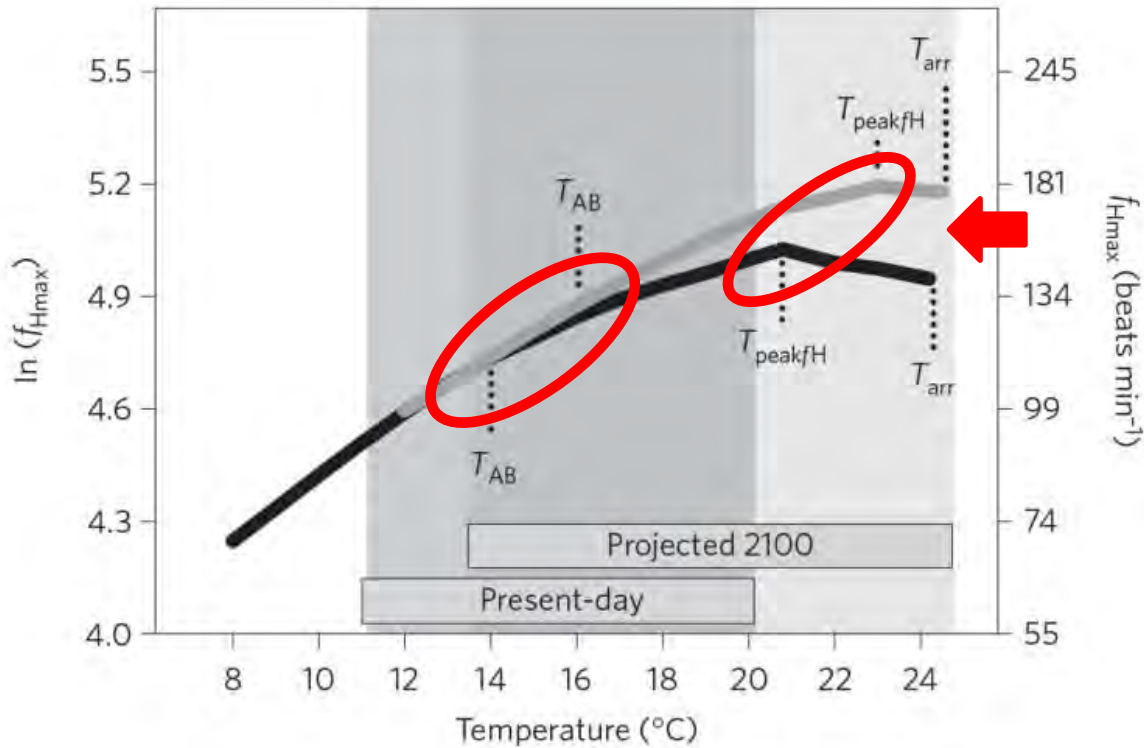
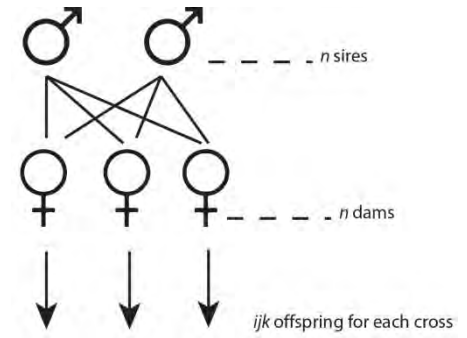
- Cross-fertilized 42 males & 29 females
- Constructed a parent-offspring pedigree using microsatellites
- The Animal Model to partition phenotypic variance

Model	Variance component	Estimate	Standard error
$DS_i = ID + \alpha_i + \varepsilon_i$	$V_{DS}$	29.145	1.685
	$V_A$	5.716	2.102
	$V_R$	23.428	1.925
Heritability	$h^2 = V_A/V_{DS}$	0.196	0.067

$V_{DS}$ , total phenotypic variance of  $DS$ ;  $V_A$ , additive genetic variance (genotype);  $V_R$ , residual variance.

Additive genetic variation  
for survival in high  $CO_2$

# Quantitative genetics



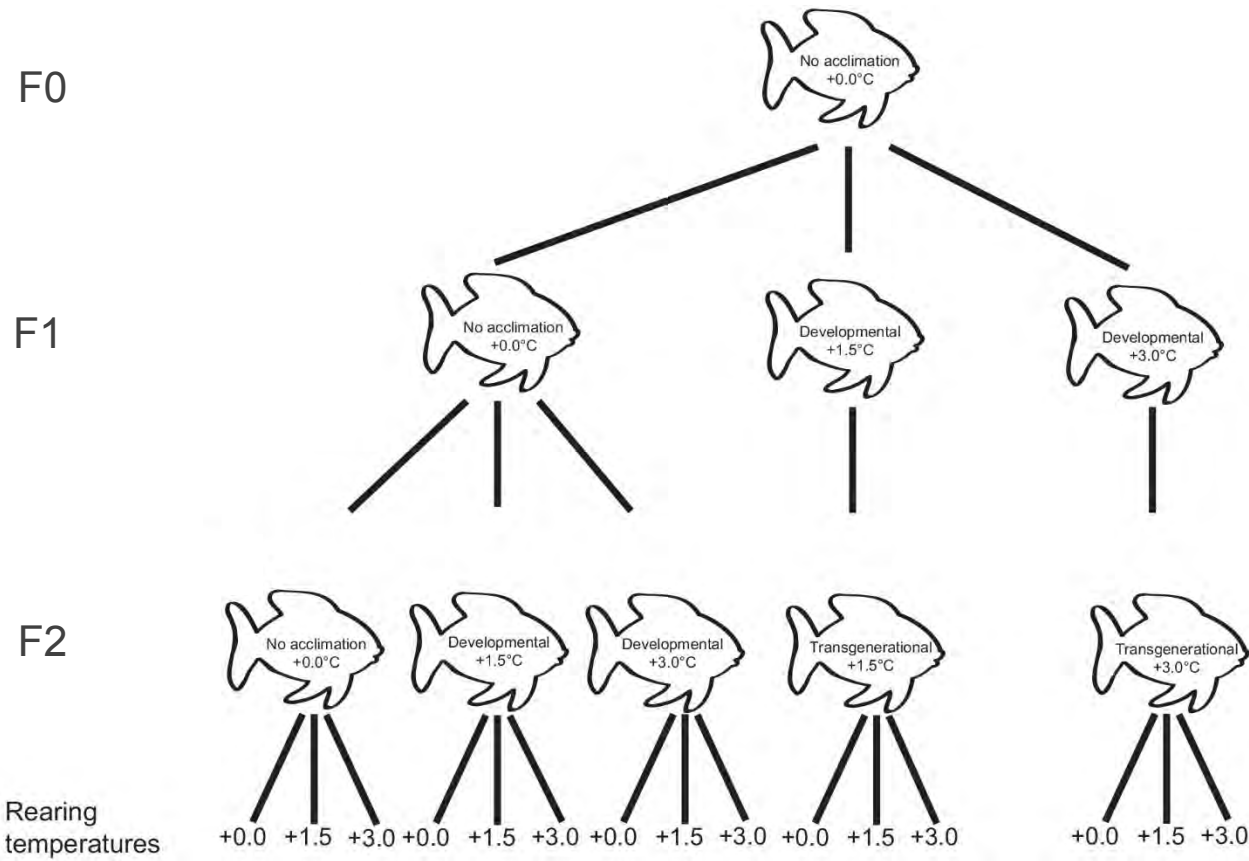
**Table 1 | The plastic and genetic effects contributing to cardiac performance and thermal tolerance in Quinsam River chinook salmon (*O. tshawytscha*).**

	DF	SS	F	P	$\sigma^2$	% phenotypic var	
<b><math>T_{AB}</math></b>							
Treatment	1	235	267	<0.001	0.84	Plastic	42
Dam	4	3.04	0.87	0.485	0.01		
Sire	4	12.3	3.49	0.009	0.04	Additive	9
Sire $\times$ Dam	4	3.99	1.14	0.340	0.01		
Treatment $\times$ Dam	4	7.26	2.07	0.086	0.03		
Treatment $\times$ Sire	4	8.19	2.33	0.057	0.03		
Residual	260	228			0.82		
<b><math>T_{peakfH}</math></b>							
Treatment	1	101.6	26.9	<0.001	0.36	Plastic	7
Dam	4	30.0	1.98	0.098	0.11		
Sire	4	23.4	1.54	0.191	0.08		
Sire $\times$ Dam	4	9.37	0.62	0.650	0.03		
Treatment $\times$ Dam	4	7.24	0.48	0.752	0.03		
Treatment $\times$ Sire	4	5.83	0.38	0.819	0.02		
Residual	260	985			3.52		
<b><math>T_{arr}</math></b>							
Treatment	1	2.30	0.68	0.411	0.01		
Dam	4	35.2	2.59	0.037	0.13	Maternal	4
Sire	4	24.1	1.77	0.134	0.09		
Sire $\times$ Dam	4	6.70	0.49	0.740	0.02		
Treatment $\times$ Dam	4	1.47	0.11	0.980	0.01		
Treatment $\times$ Sire	4	9.66	0.71	0.585	0.03		
Residual	260	882			3.15		



# Quantitative genetics

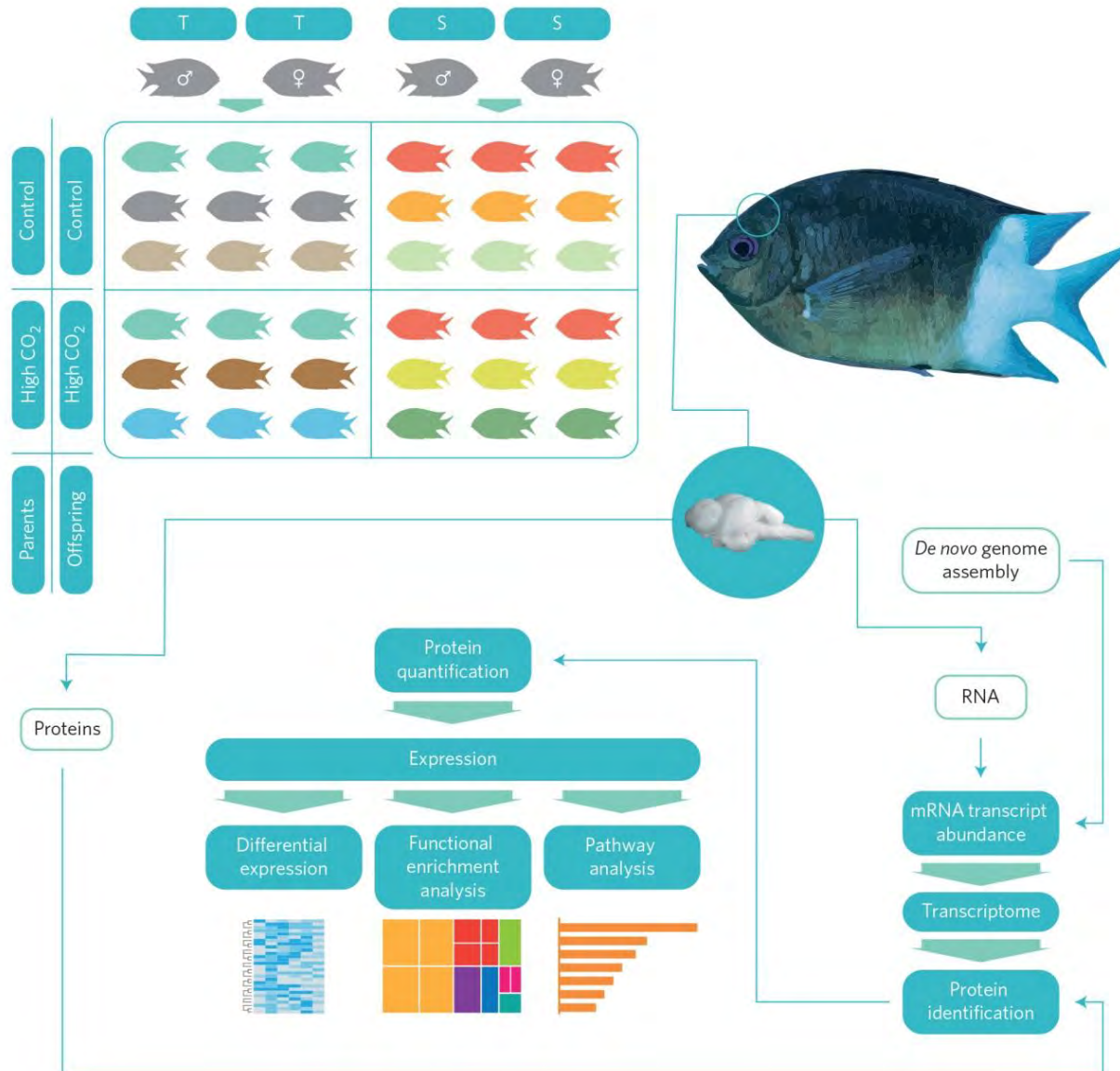
## Multigenerational pedigree



- High heritability of growth and metabolism
- G x E imply capacity for adaptation



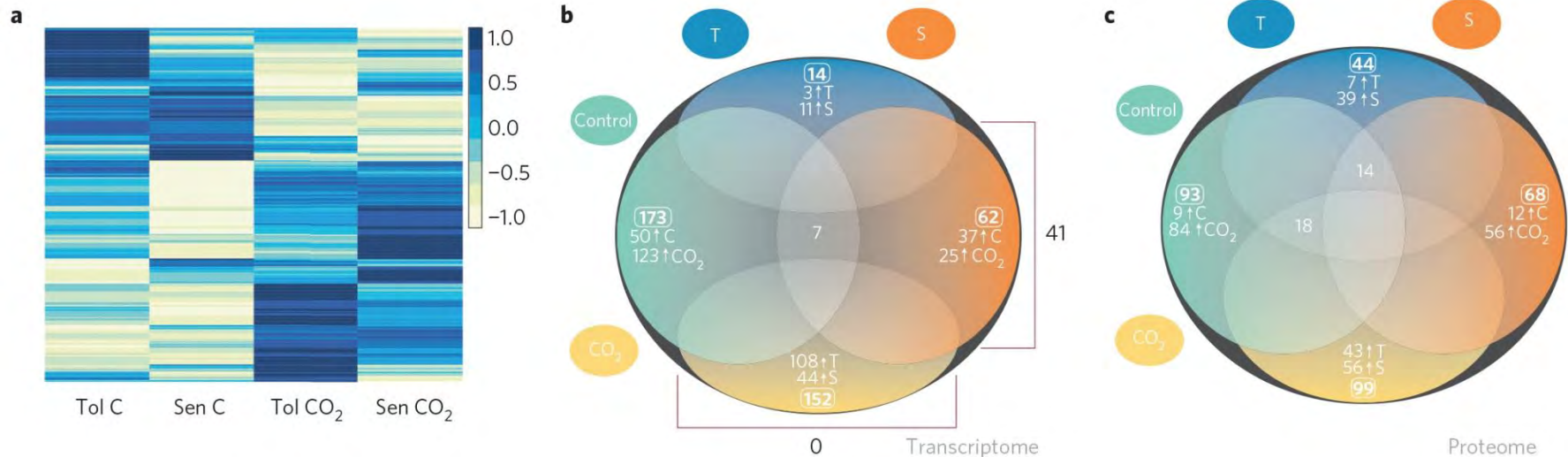
# Experimental molecular approaches





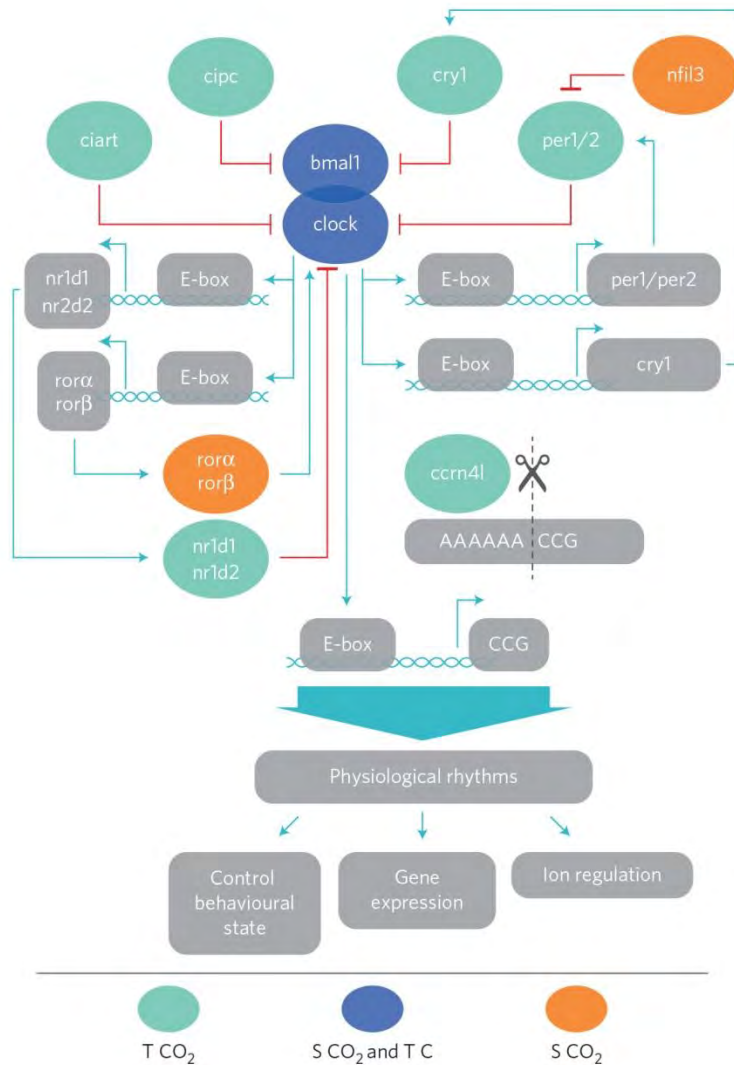
# Experimental molecular approaches

Molecular signature of parental tolerance to high CO<sub>2</sub>



Quantitative genetics to confirm and estimate heritability

# Experimental molecular approaches



## Mechanism

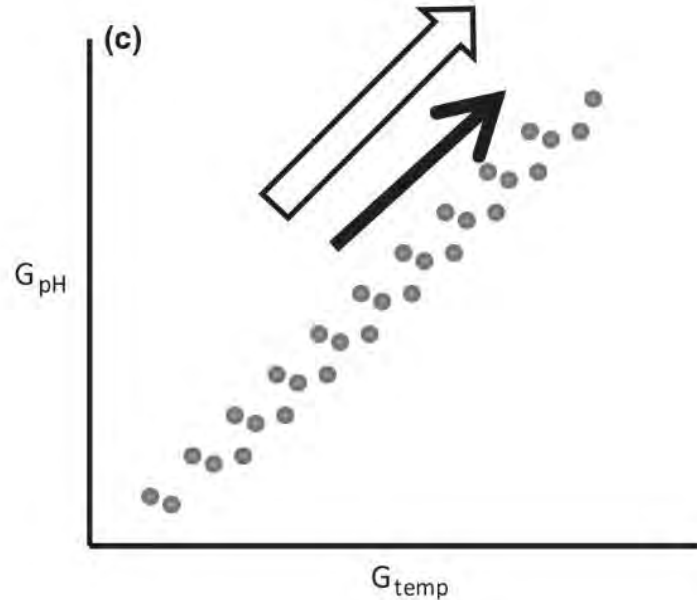
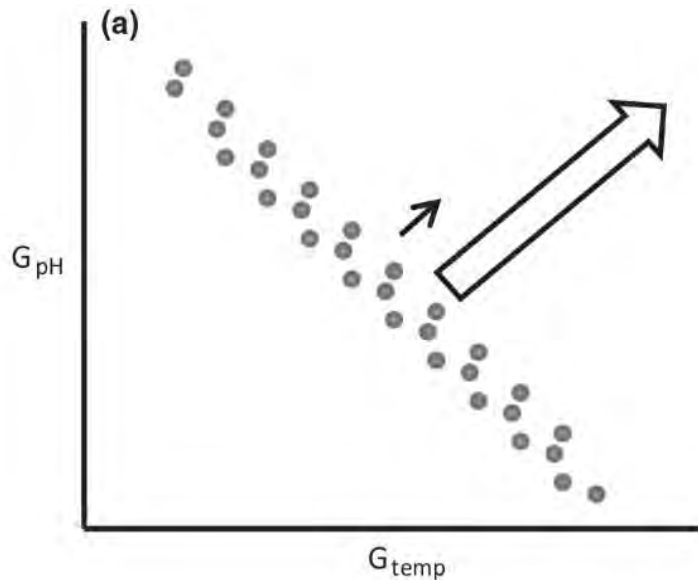
- Tolerance to high CO<sub>2</sub> defined by regulation of circadian rhythm
- Tolerant individuals less pronounced ion-regulation
- Less interference with neurotransmitter function

# Future directions

- Genetic correlations between traits

Negative correlation:  
Weak evolutionary response

Positive correlation:  
Strong evolutionary response



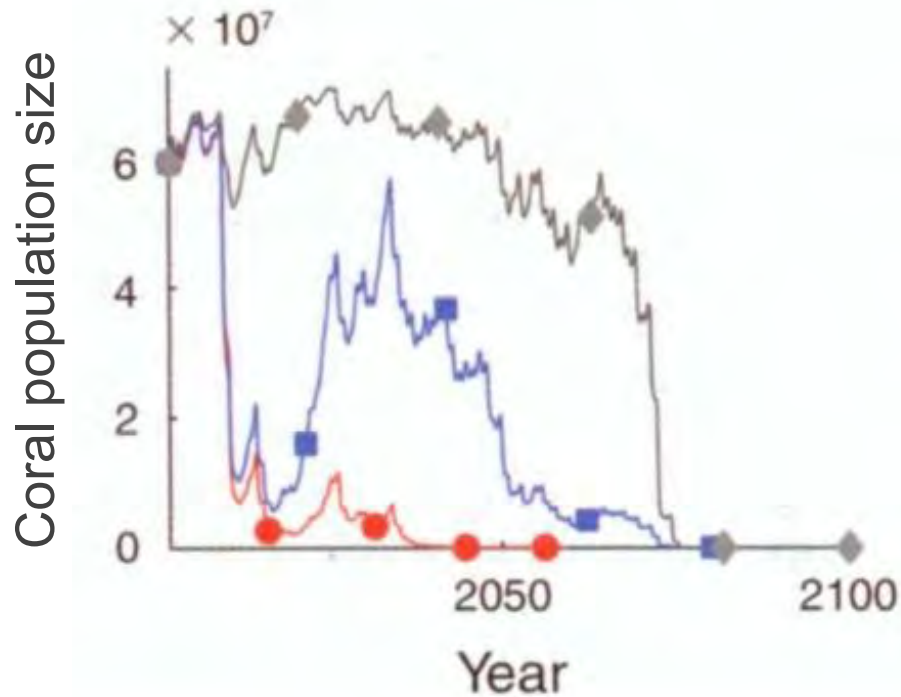
# Future directions

- Genetic correlations between traits
- Understanding the interaction between plasticity and genetic adaptation
- Does plasticity affect genetic adaptation?
  - retard by shifting phenotype without selection?
  - accelerate by genetic assimilation?

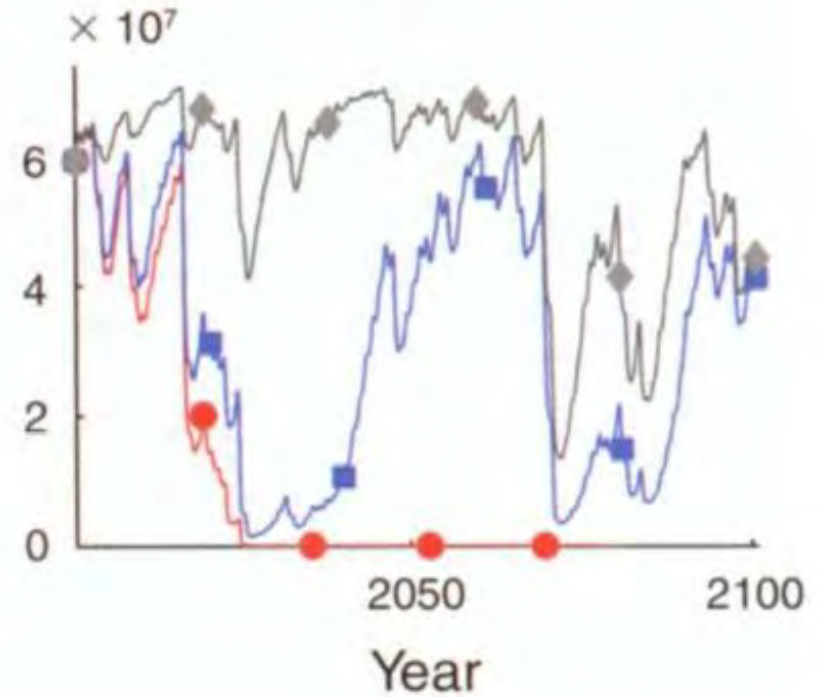
# Future directions

- Genetic correlations between traits
- Understanding the interaction between plasticity and genetic adaptation
- Does acclimation affect genetic adaptation?
- Include evolutionary potential in demographic models (evolutionary rescue)

## High emissions scenario

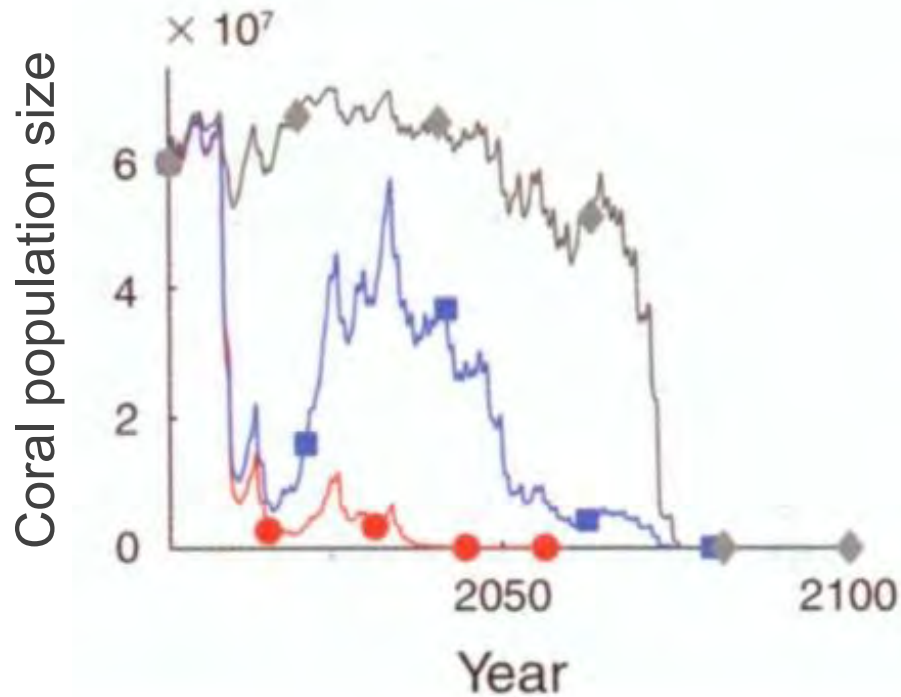


## Moderate emissions scenario



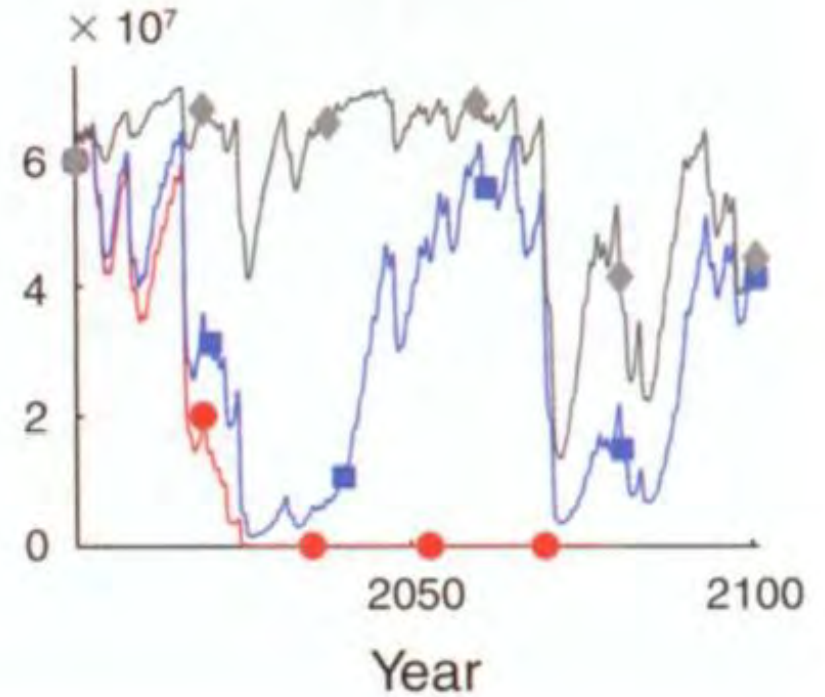
- No adaptation
- One symbiont with adaptation
- ◆ Multiple symbionts

High emissions scenario



All populations go extinct

Moderate emissions scenario



Adaptation and diversity  
promote persistence



# Thanks



- ARC Centre of Excellence for Coral Reef Studies
- Australian Research Council
- King Abdulla University of Science and Technology
- Dustin Marshall, Robert Warner, John Pandolfi, Keyne Munro, Jenn Sunday, Sue-Ann Watson, Tim Ravasi, Celia Schunter



Jennifer  
Donelson



Gabrielle  
Miller



Megan  
Welch



Heather  
Veilleux



Celia  
Schunter