

La sfida dell'Antropocene

Fabio Trincardi

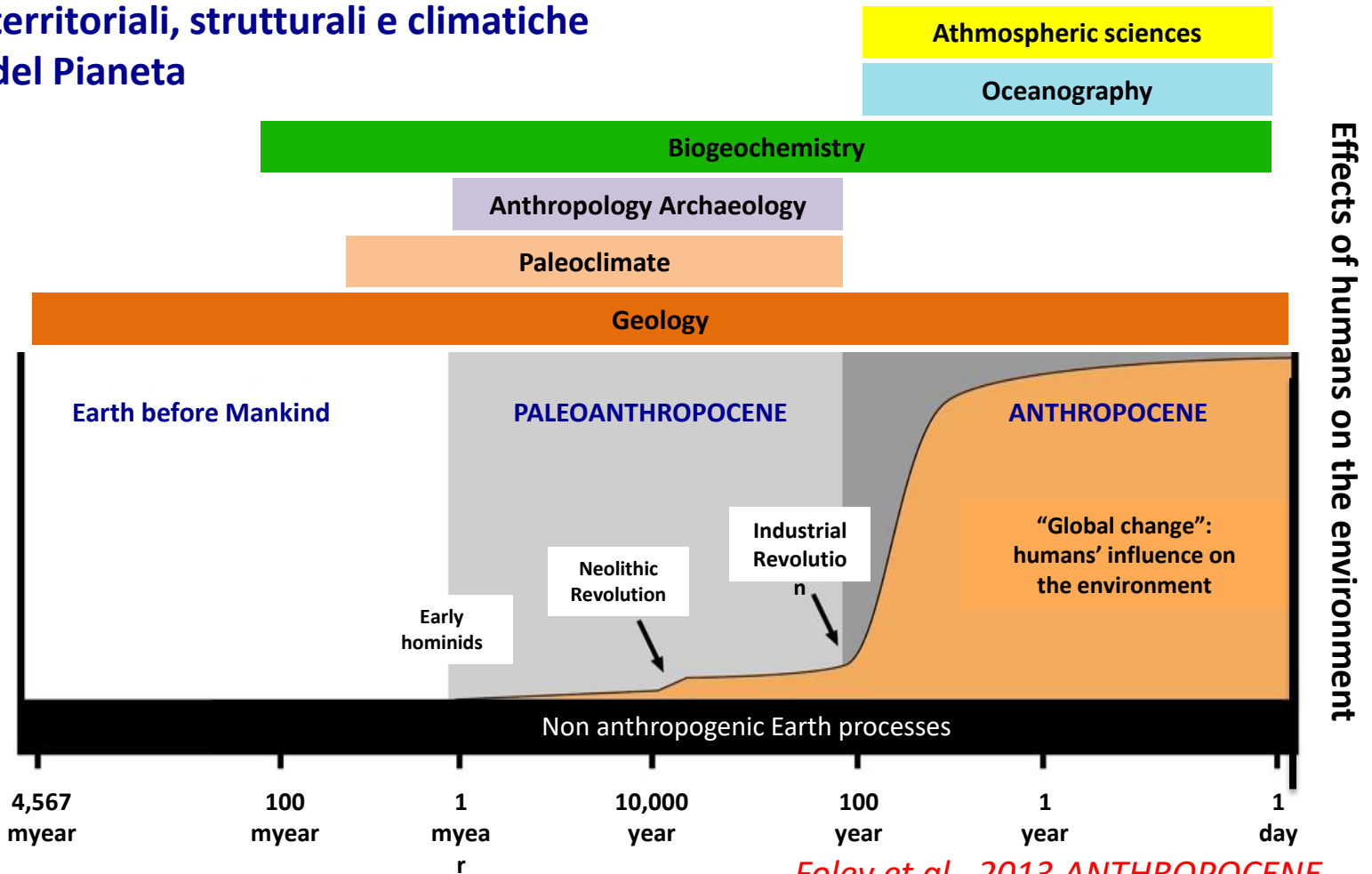
CNR

Direttore Dipartimento di Scienze del Sistema Terra e
Tecnologie per l'Ambiente

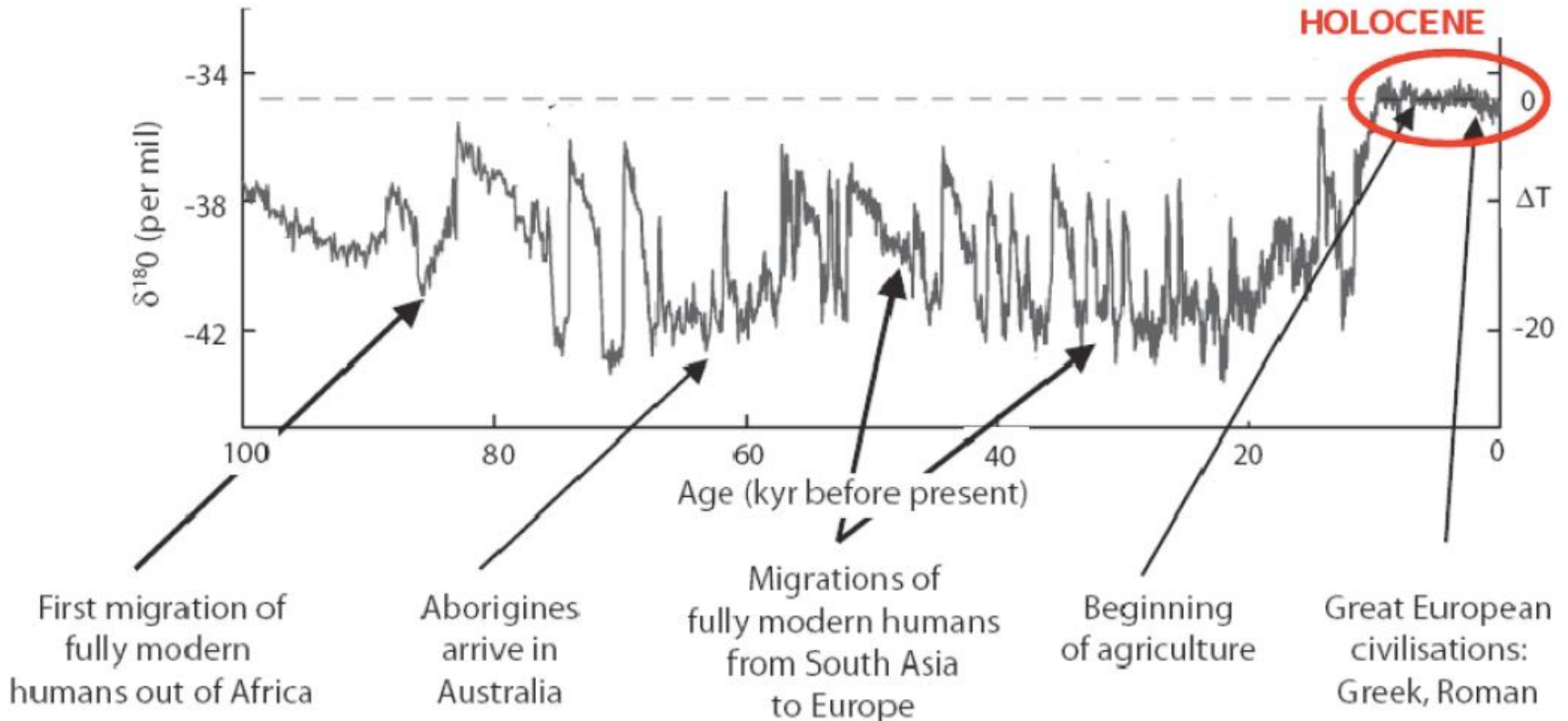
- *L'Antropocene*
- *Climate paths and stability landscapes*
- *Tipping elements*
- *Planetary/regional boundaries*
- *L'Urbanocene*
- *La Grande Accelerazione*
- *Il contributo del Dipartimento*

Viviamo nell'Antropocene

- L'Antropocene è l'Epoca in cui l'attività dell'Uomo diventa la causa principale delle modifiche territoriali, strutturali e climatiche del Pianeta



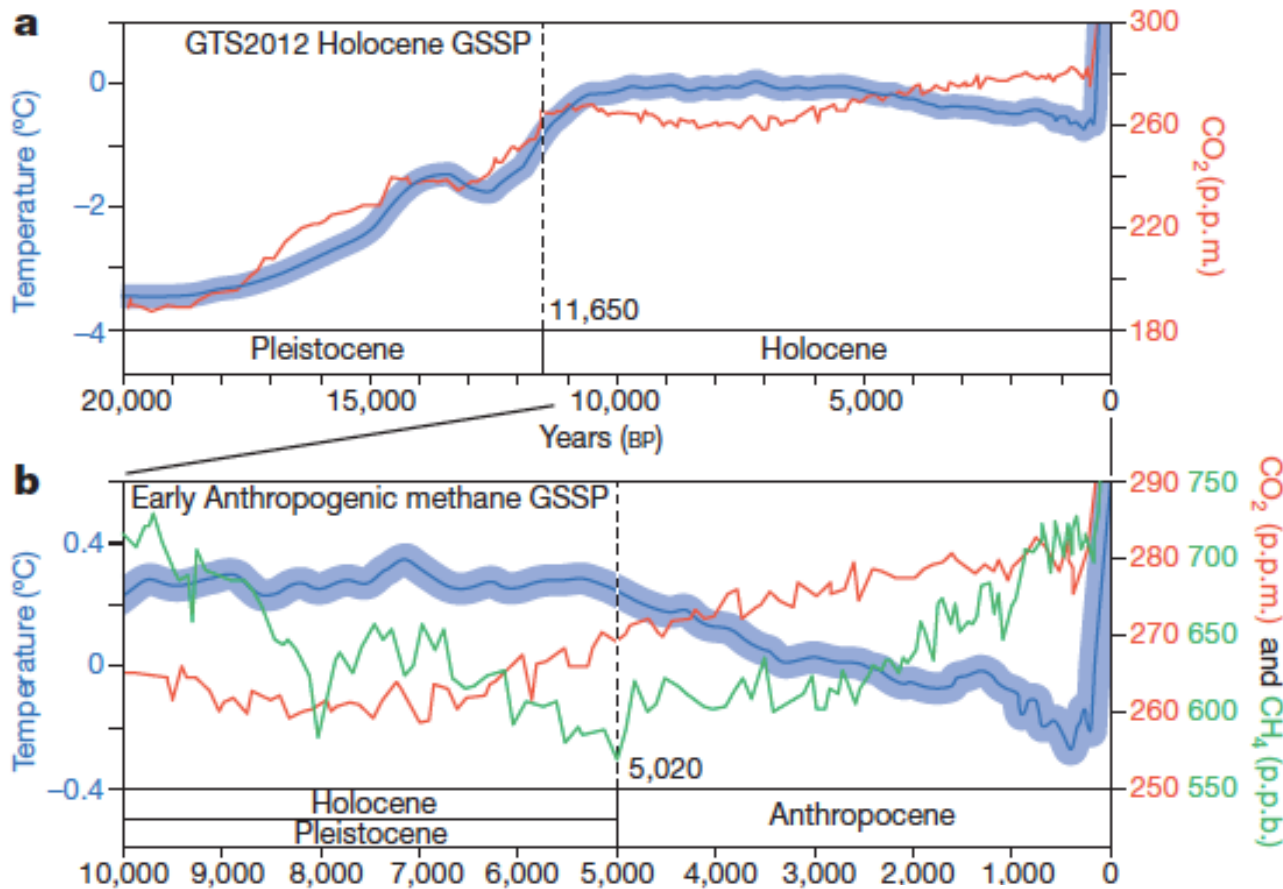
Climate change and humans



Shellhuber et al., 2016 NATURE CLIMATE CHANGE

Onset of the Anthropocene

Global but diachronic



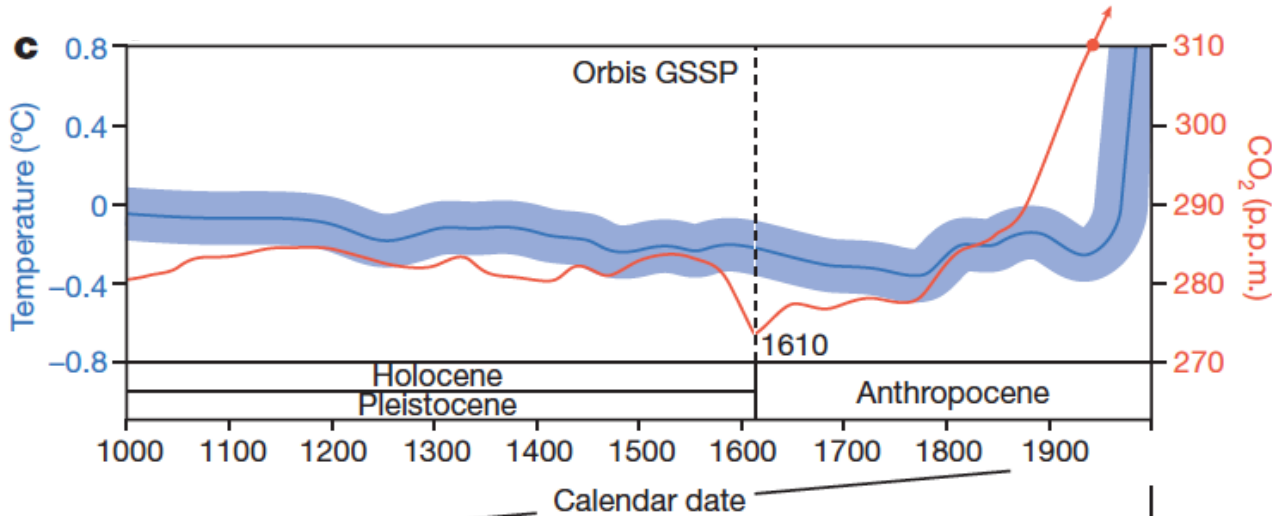
Early anthropogenic impacts

5,020 spike of CH₄ from:

- rice cultivation in Asia and
- expansion of populations of domesticated ruminants

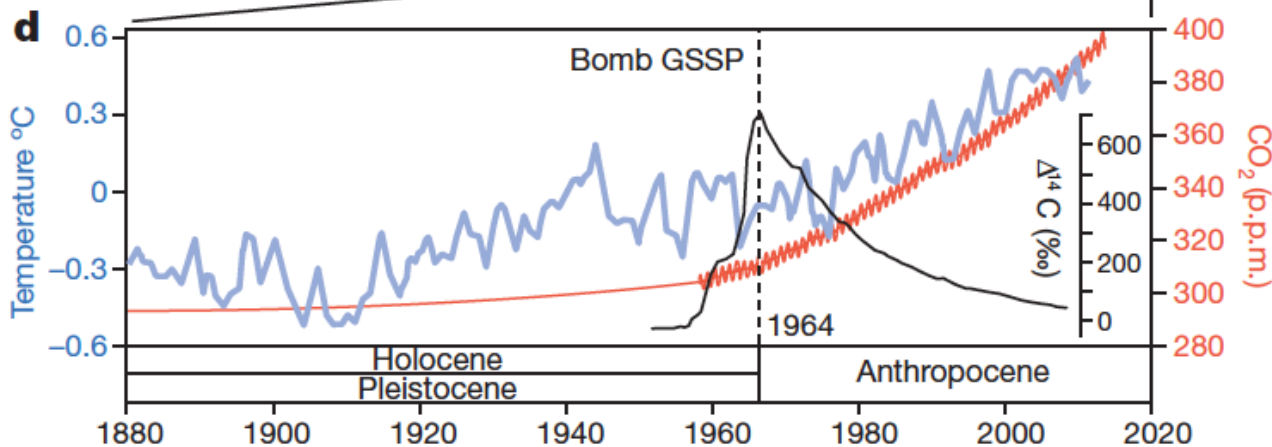
GSSP: *Global boundary Stratotype Section and Point*

Onset of the Anthropocene



Two alternative synchronous events that may mark the onset of the Anthropocene

- 1610 AD: the beginning of the modern 'world-system' CO₂ dip: humans on the two hemispheres were connected, trade became global
- 1964 AD: the bomb spike marking the year of most intense nuclear tests



GSSP: *Global boundary Stratotype Section and Point*

2053 NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS 1945-98

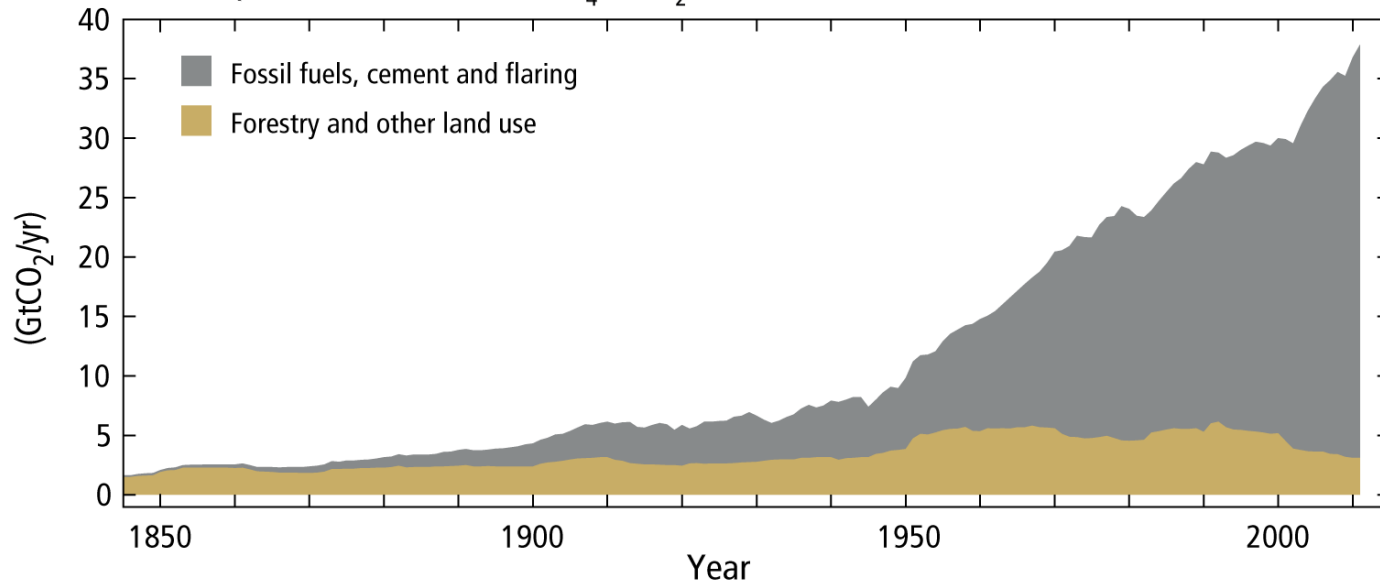
Isao Hashimoto on Youtube



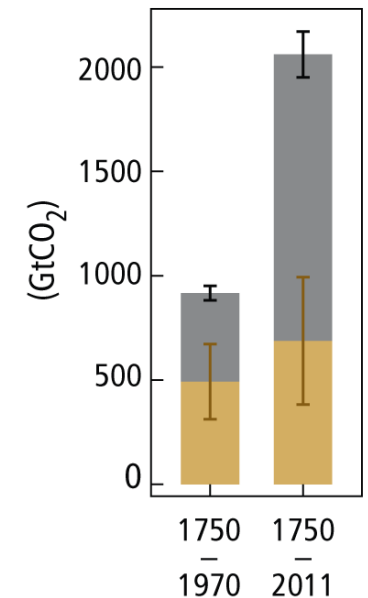
Climate paths and stability landscapes

Global anthropogenic CO₂ emissions

Quantitative information of CH₄ and N₂O emission time series from 1850 to 1970 is limited

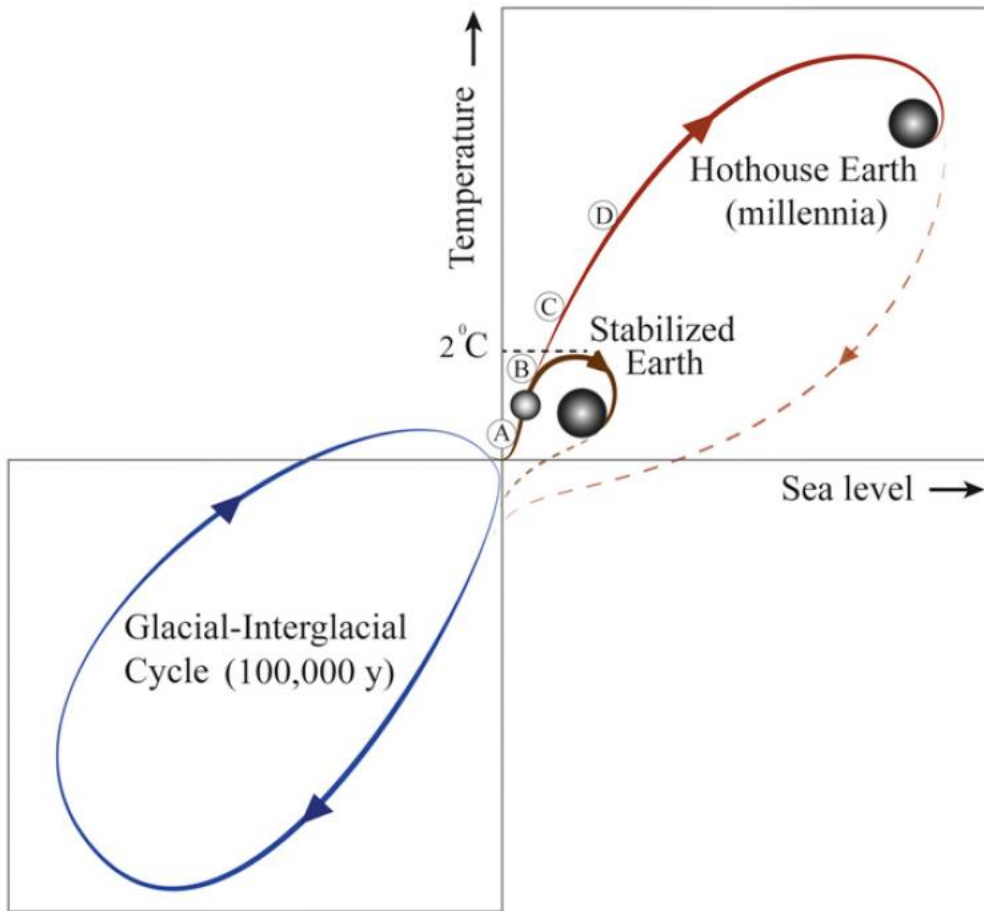


Cumulative CO₂ emissions



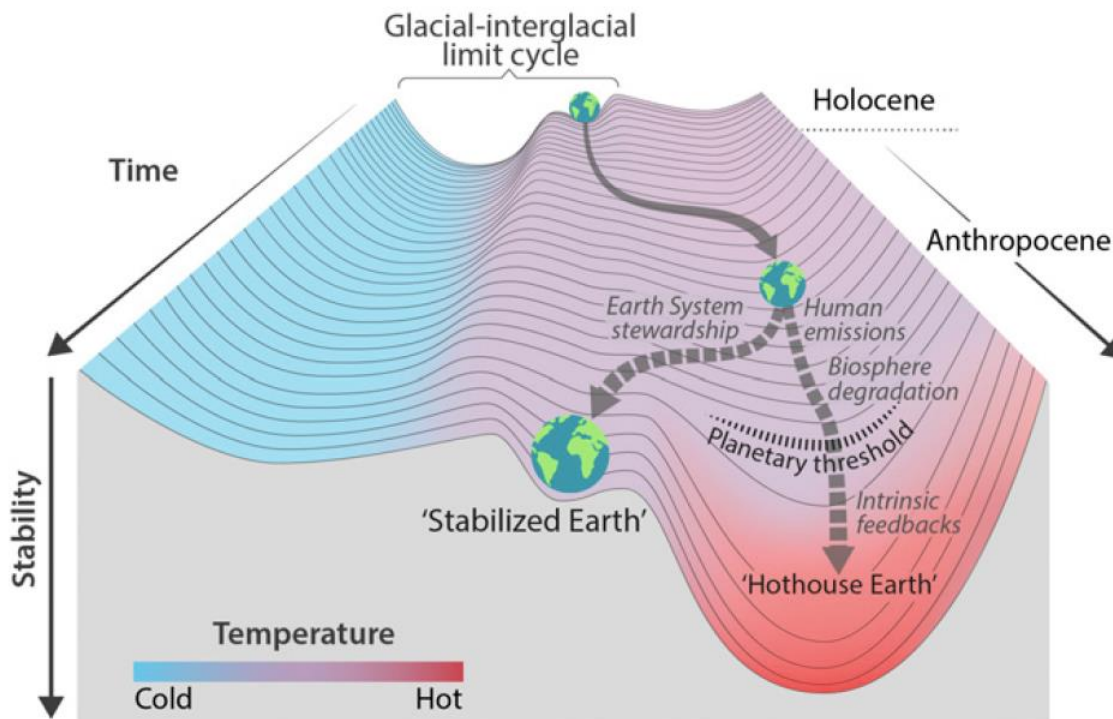
http://ar5-syr.ipcc.ch/topic_observedchanges.php

Climate paths



- Above 2°C warming likely exit from glacial-interglacial cycles of the last 800,000 years
- During the last 800,000 years Earth locked in Glacial-Interglacial Cycles

Stability landscapes

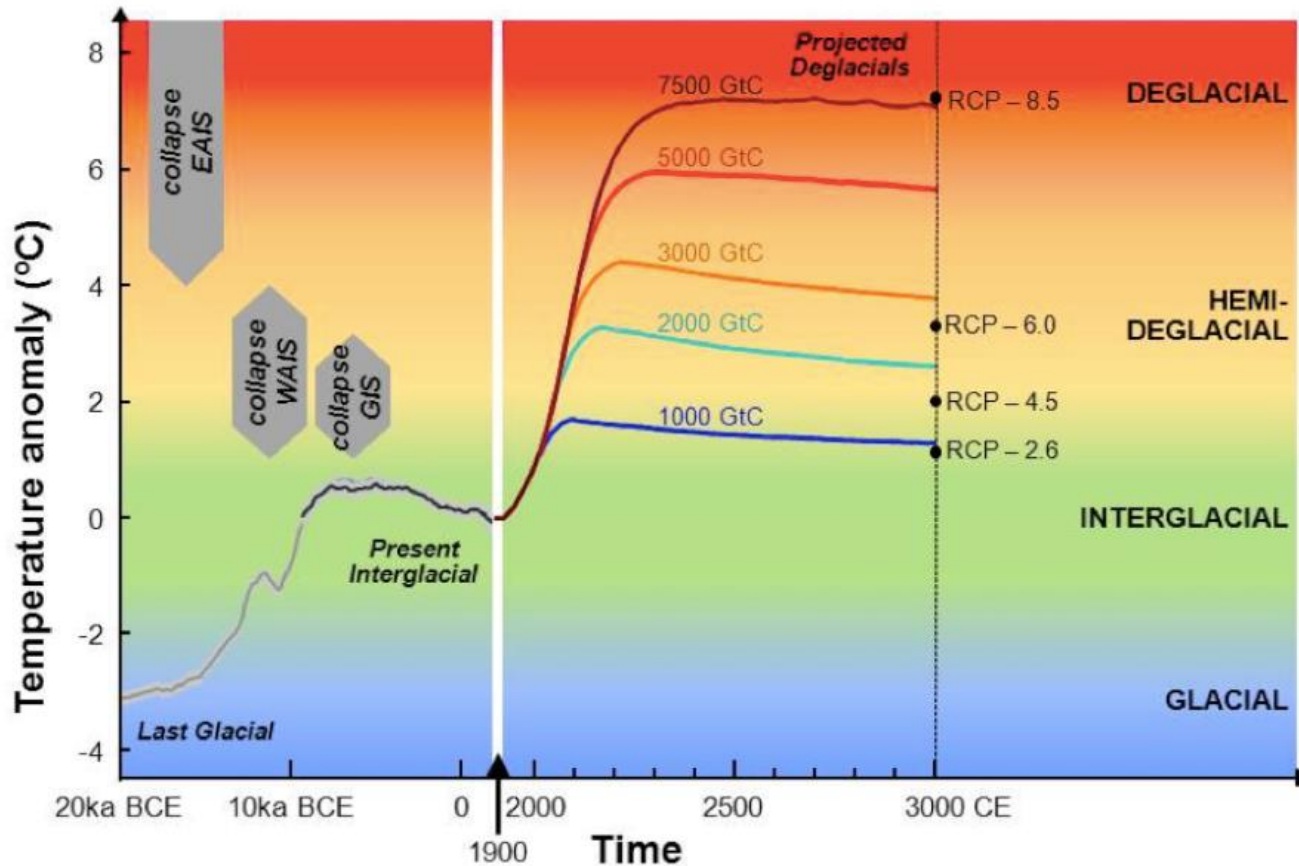


Steffen et al., 2016 AGU EARTH'S FUTURE

- ***Earth System stewardship?***
- ***E' possibile stabilizzare la Terra in modo che non "cada" in una condizione di "hothouse" definitivamente?***

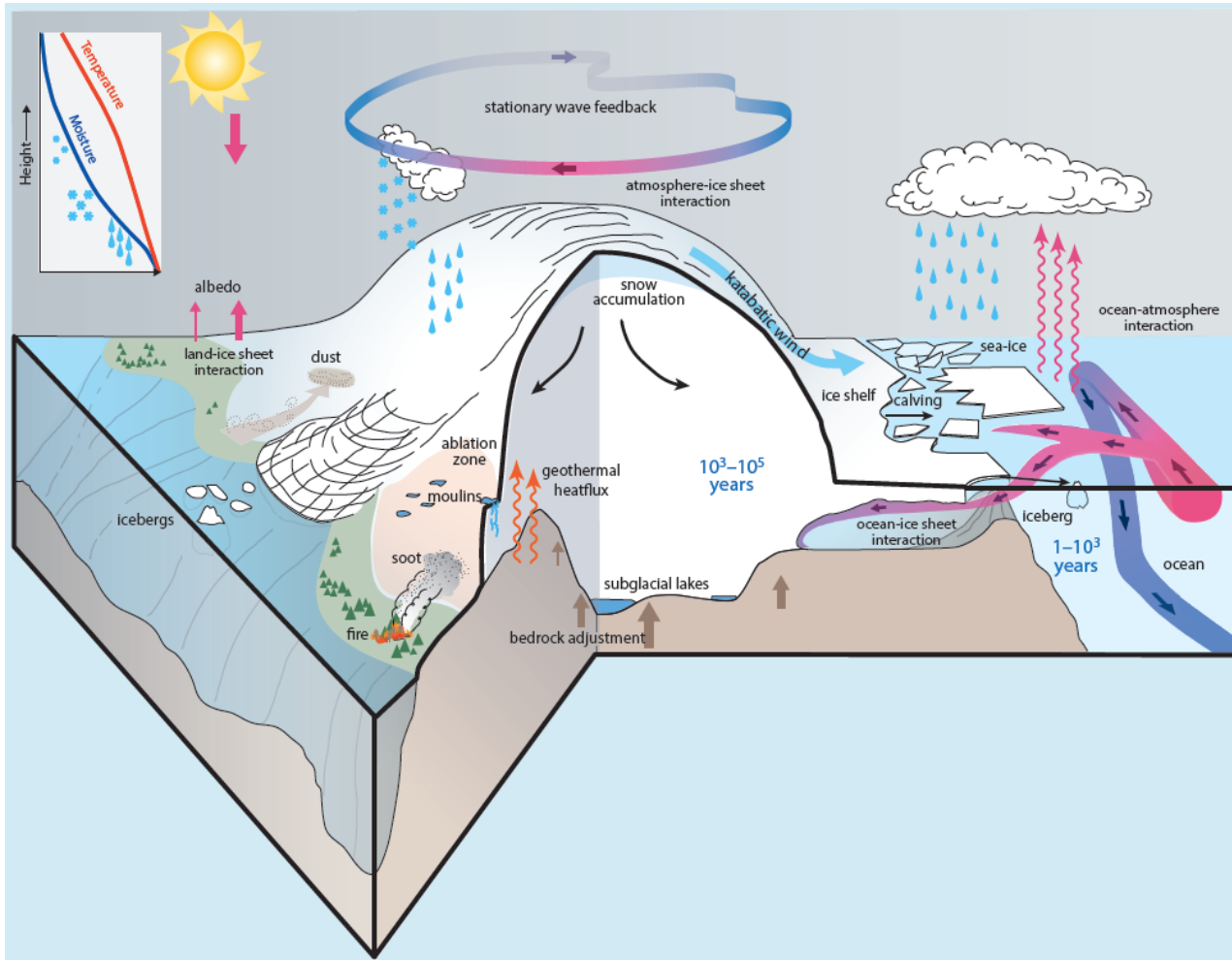
Moving away from glacial-interglacial cycles

Rushing through cryospace



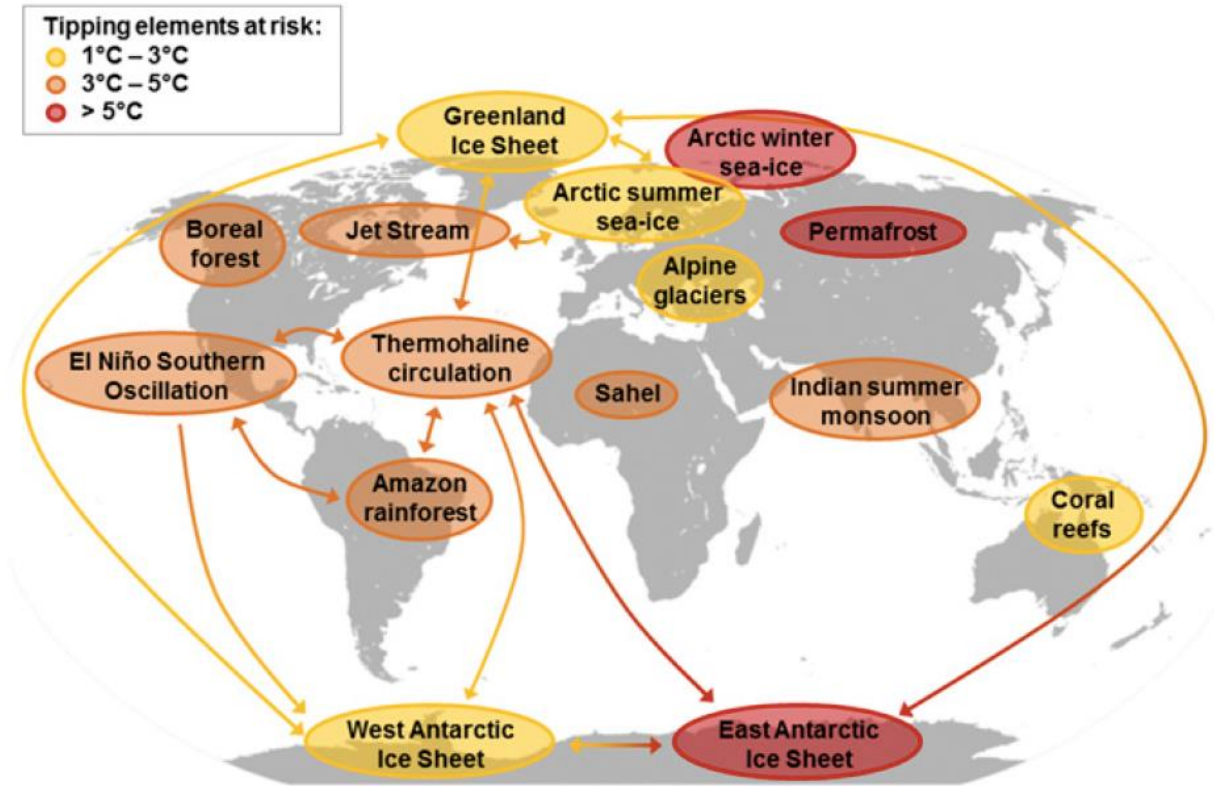
Around 2°C warming likely collapse of West Antarctica Ice Sheet and Greenland Ice Sheet

Arctic amplification



- Sea ice (and albedo) reduction
- Permafrost thawing
- Weakening of jet stream

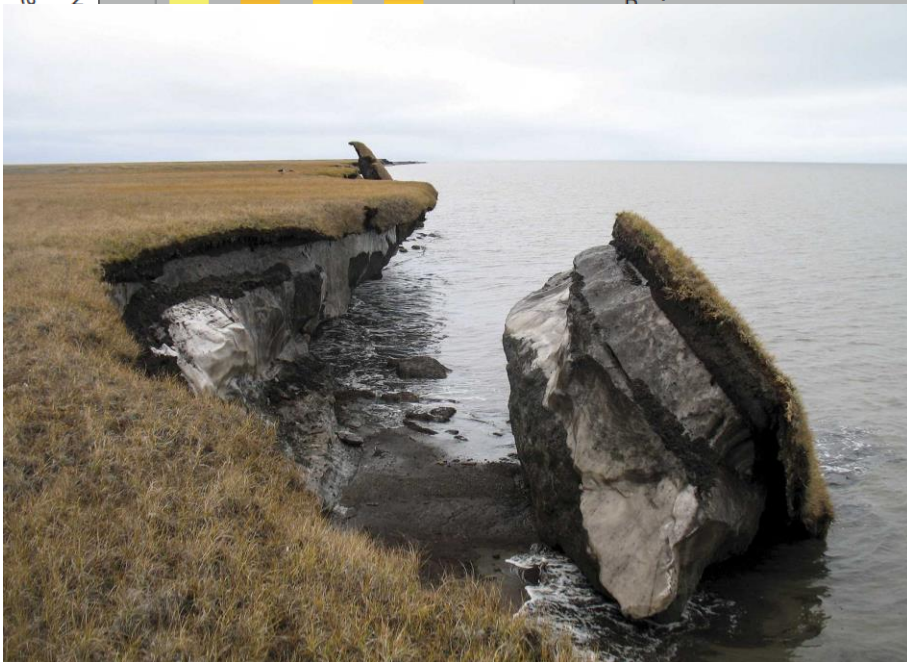
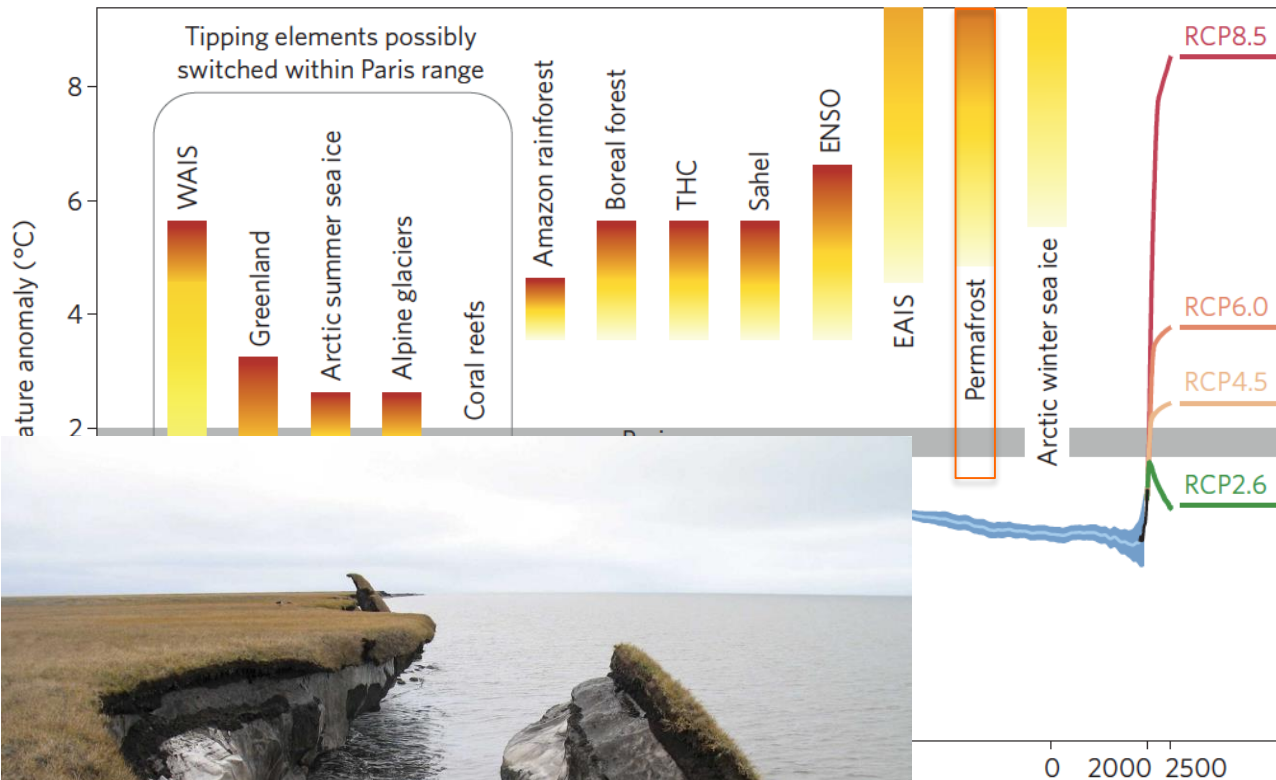
Tipping elements



Worldwide environmental risks scale with global warming (= the mean surface temperature deviation from pre-industrial levels)

Shellhuber et al., 2016 NATURE CLIMATE CHANGE

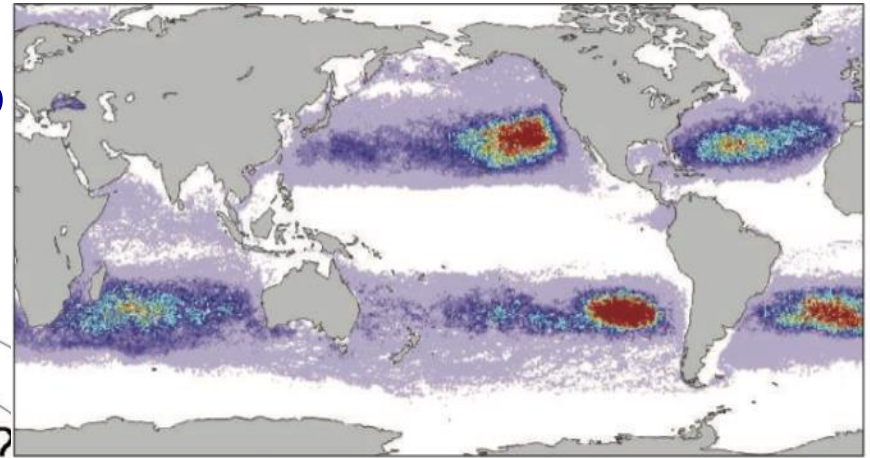
Tipping elements and Paris 2015



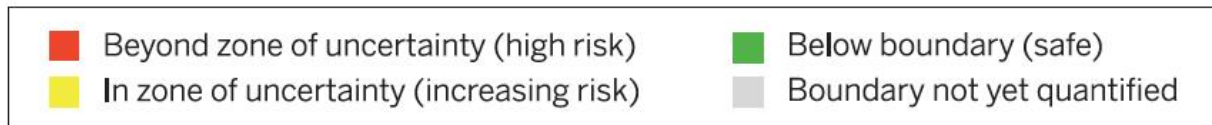
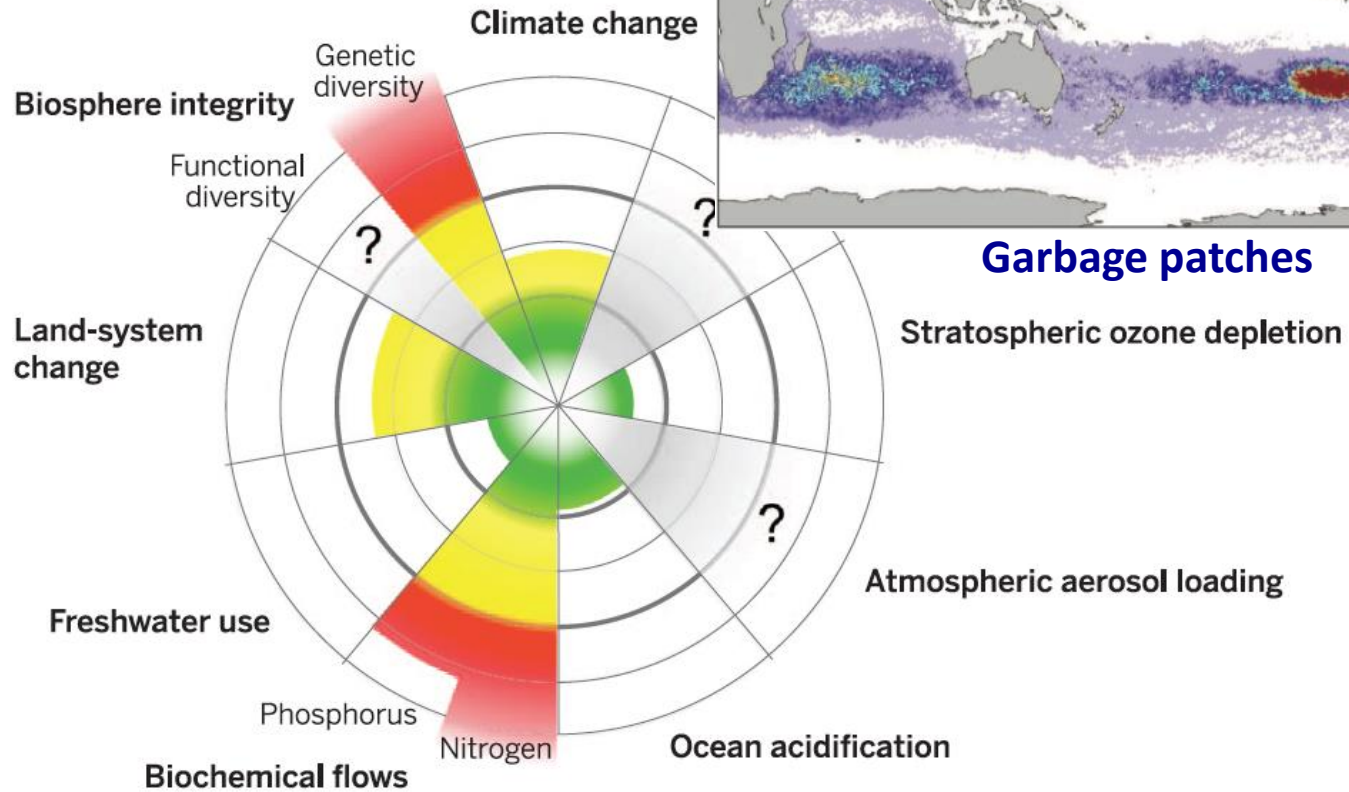
Tipping elements in context of the global mean temperature evolution

- Elements on the left may be already tipped
- Permafrost is also destabilized

Planetary B



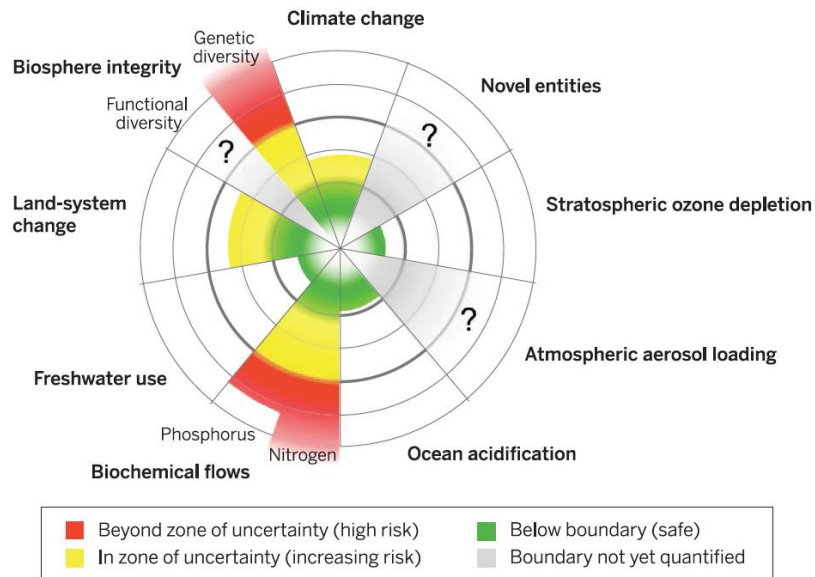
Garbage patches



Steffen et al., 2015 SCIENCE

Rockstroem et al., 2009 NATURE

Planetary Boundaries



Anthropogenic perturbation levels of four of the ES features (**climate change, biosphere integrity, biogeochemical flows, and land system change**) exceed the Planetary Boundaries

- Science-based analysis of the risk that human perturbations will destabilize the ES at the planetary scale
- The climate system is a manifestation of the amount, distribution, and net balance of energy at Earth's surface
- The biosphere regulates material and energy flows in the ES and increases its resilience to abrupt and gradual change

Dall'Antropocene all'Urbanocene?

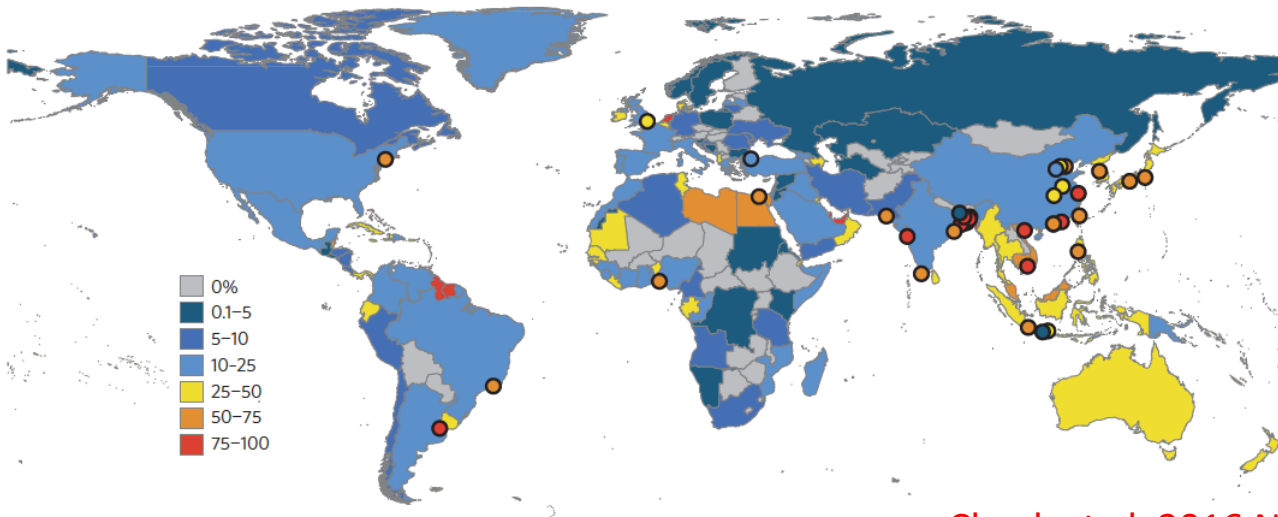
- Oggi più del 50% della popolazione globale vive nelle città
- Entro il 2050, si arriverà al 75%, con ulteriori 2 miliardi di inurbati
- E' in atto uno spostamento di 1.5 milioni di persone alla settimana per i prossimi 33 anni

Geoffrey West, 2017 SCALE



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Però ...
Molte mega city
sono in aree
impattate dall'
innalzamento del
livello del mare
antropogenico

Dall'Antropocene all'Urbanocene?

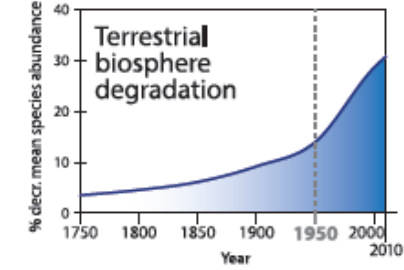
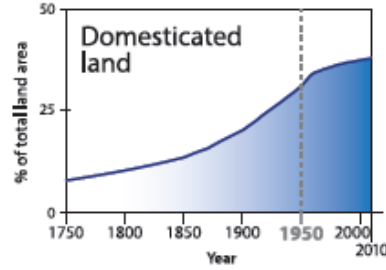
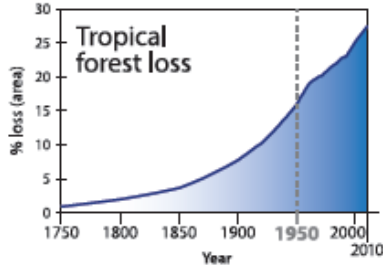
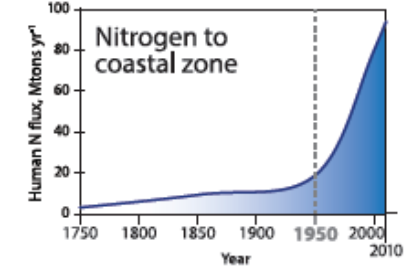
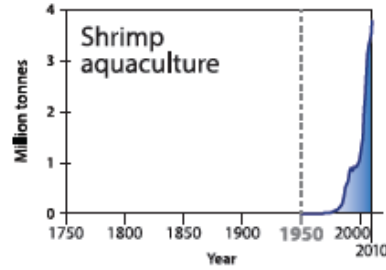
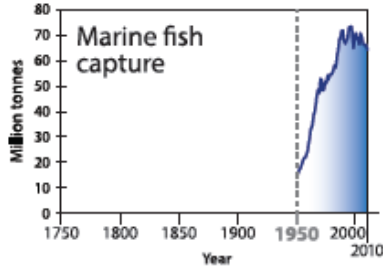
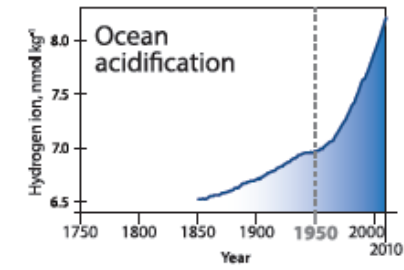
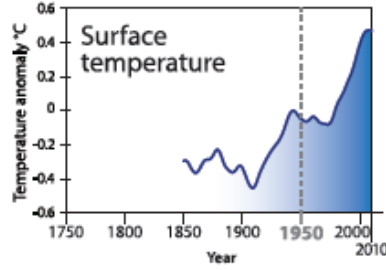
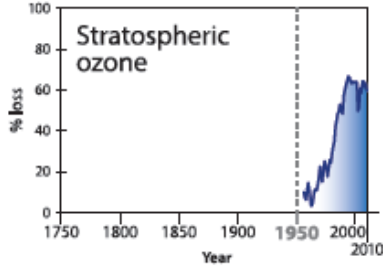
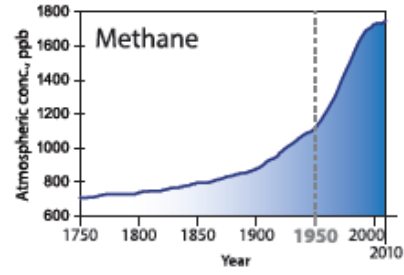
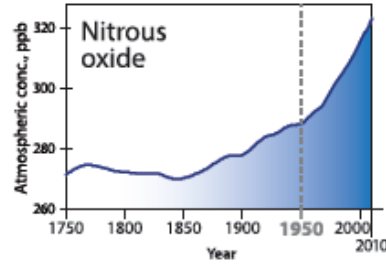
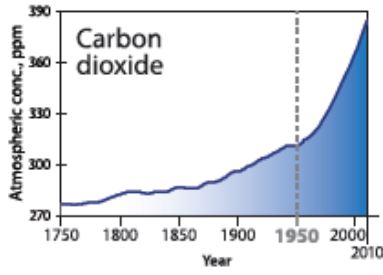
- Futuro dell'Umanità e sostenibilità a lungo termine del pianeta sono inestricabilmente legate al destino delle nostre città
- Ingrandendosi le città diventano più efficienti; questo miglioramento è quantificabile. In tutto il mondo, **se la popolazione di una città raddoppia, le sue infrastrutture** – lunghezza totale di strade, cavi elettrici, acquedotti ecc. – **umentano solo dell'85%**. C'è un 15% di risparmio efficiente
- Il contrario accade per i fattori socioeconomici: ad ogni raddoppio di popolazione, gli stipendi, la ricchezza, il numero di brevetti realizzati aumentano del **115%**

Geoffrey West, 2017 SCALE

Che cosa sostiene tutto ciò?

Crescita (super) esponenziale: la grande accelerazione

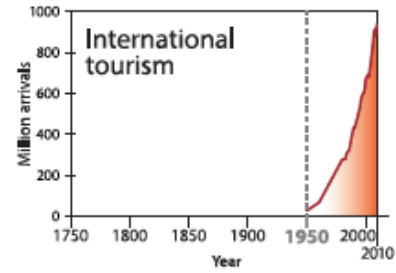
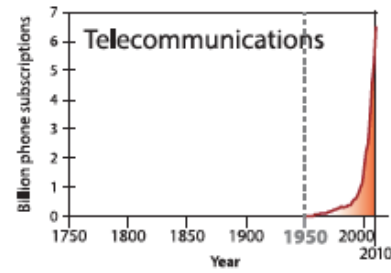
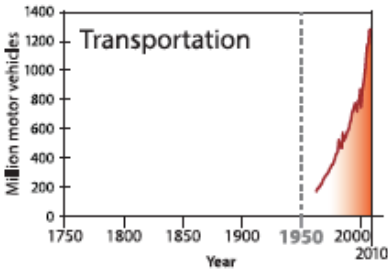
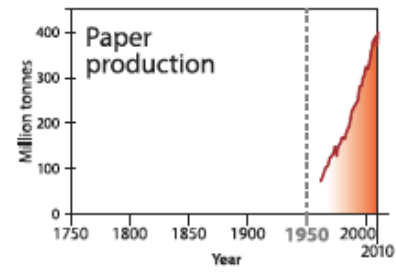
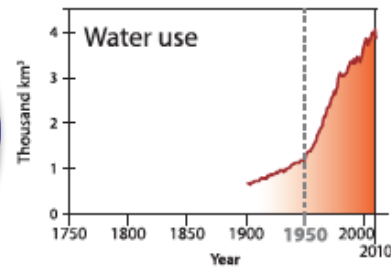
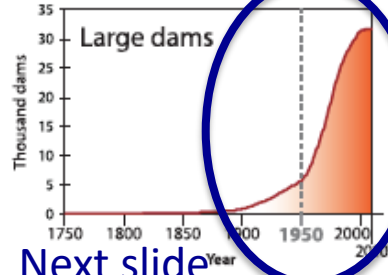
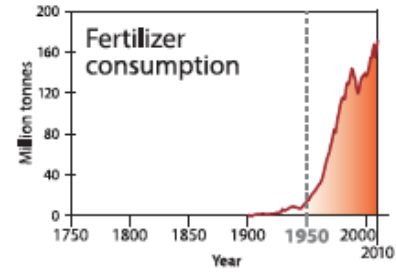
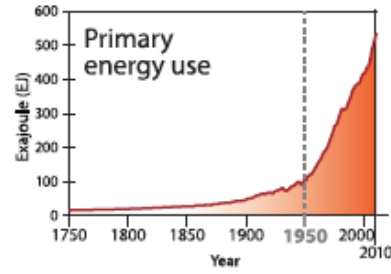
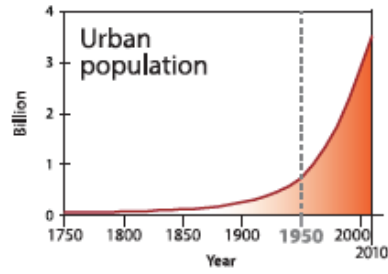
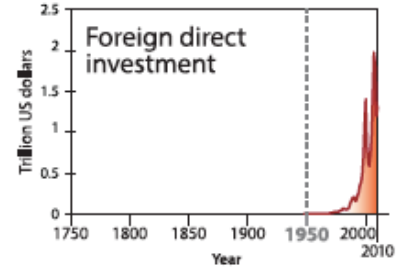
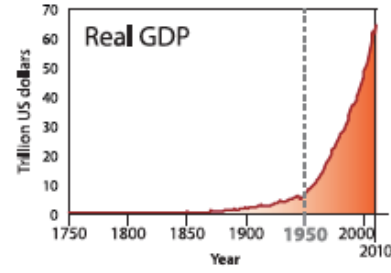
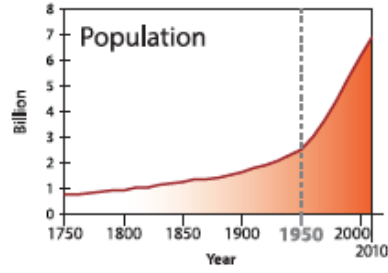
Earth system trends



Steffen et al., The Anthropocene Review (2015)
Waters et al., Science (2015).

Crescita (super) esponenziale: la grande accelerazione

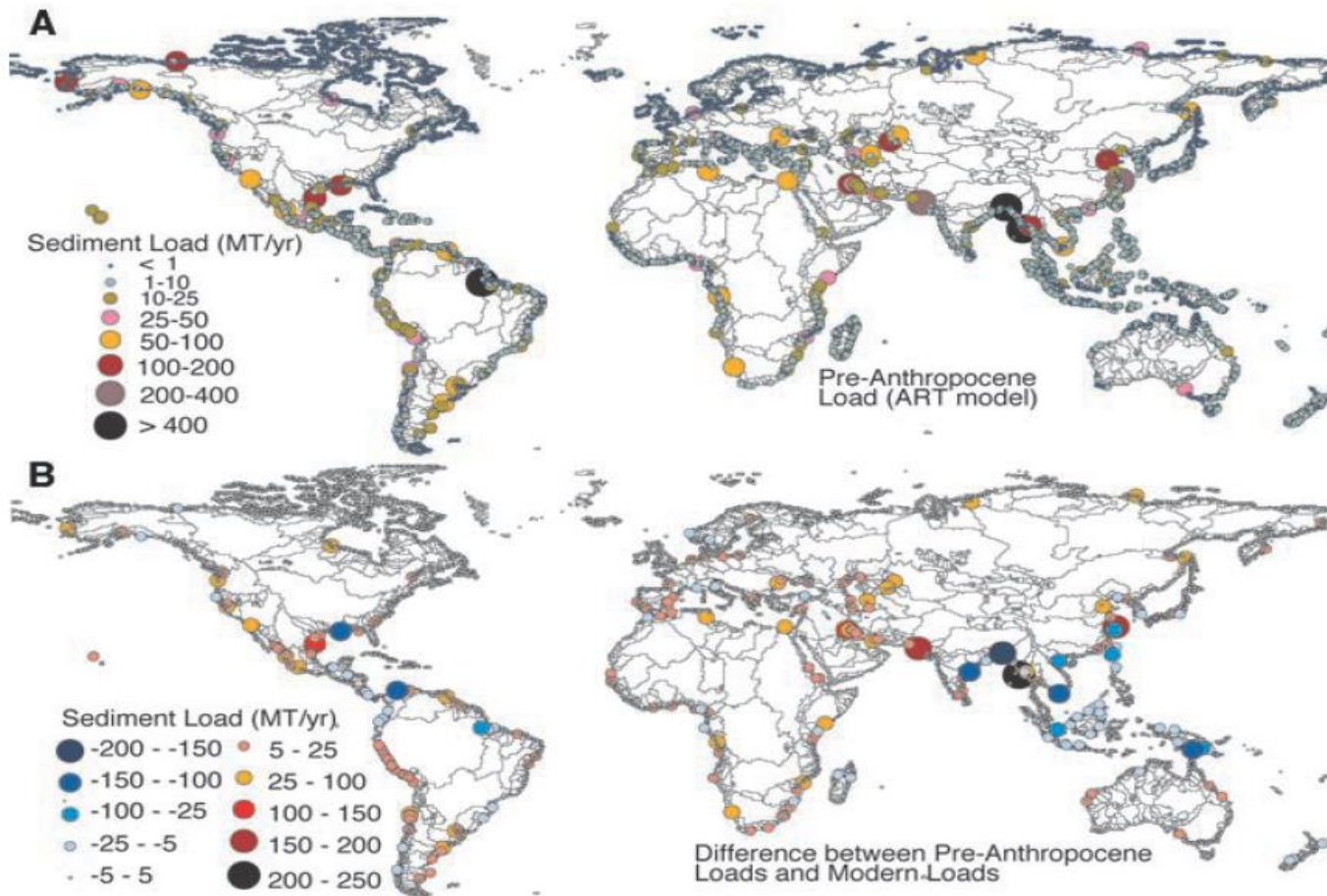
Socio-economic trends



Next slide

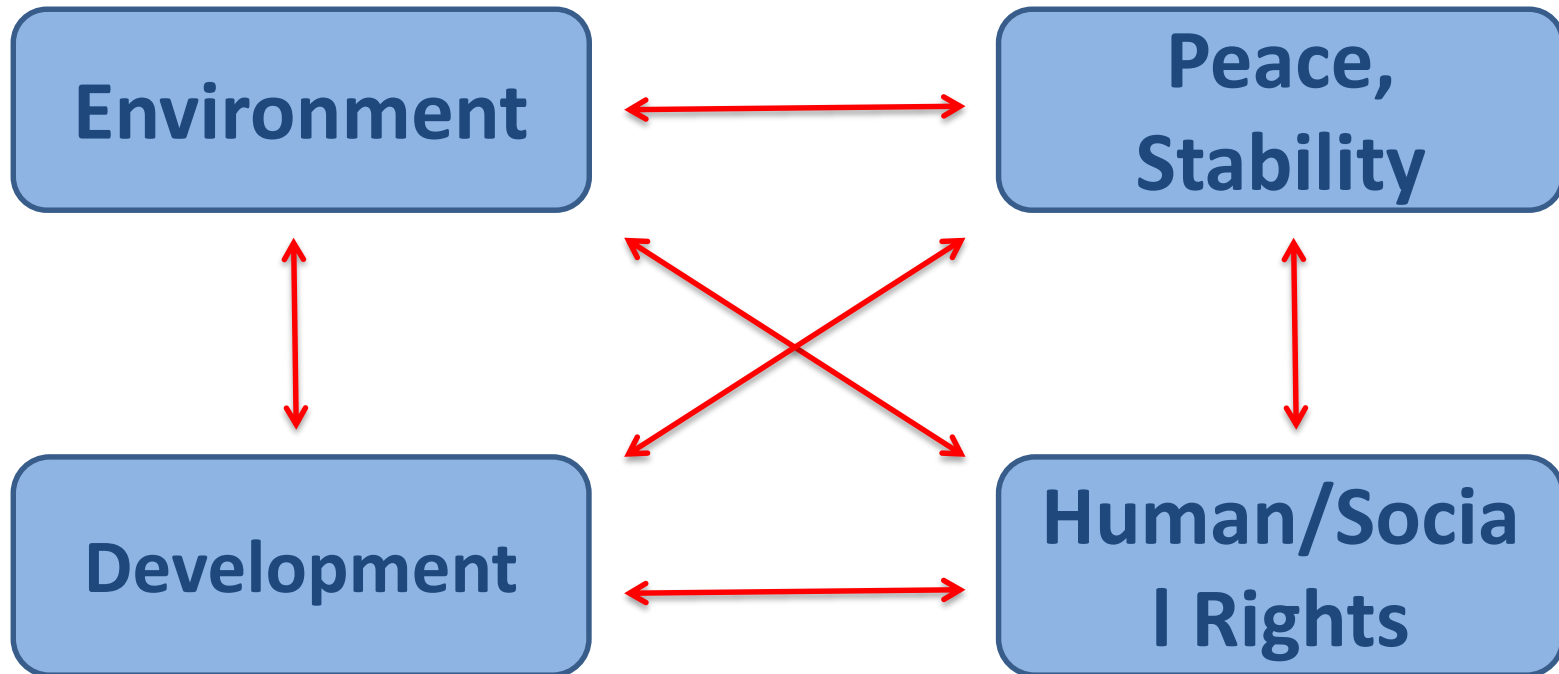
Steffen et al., The Anthropocene Review (2015)
Waters et al., Science (2015).

Over 100 billion metric tons of sediment and 1 to 3 billion metric tons of carbon are sequestered in reservoirs constructed largely within the past 50 years



Syvitski et al., 2005 SCIENCE

Global (dis)equilibrium



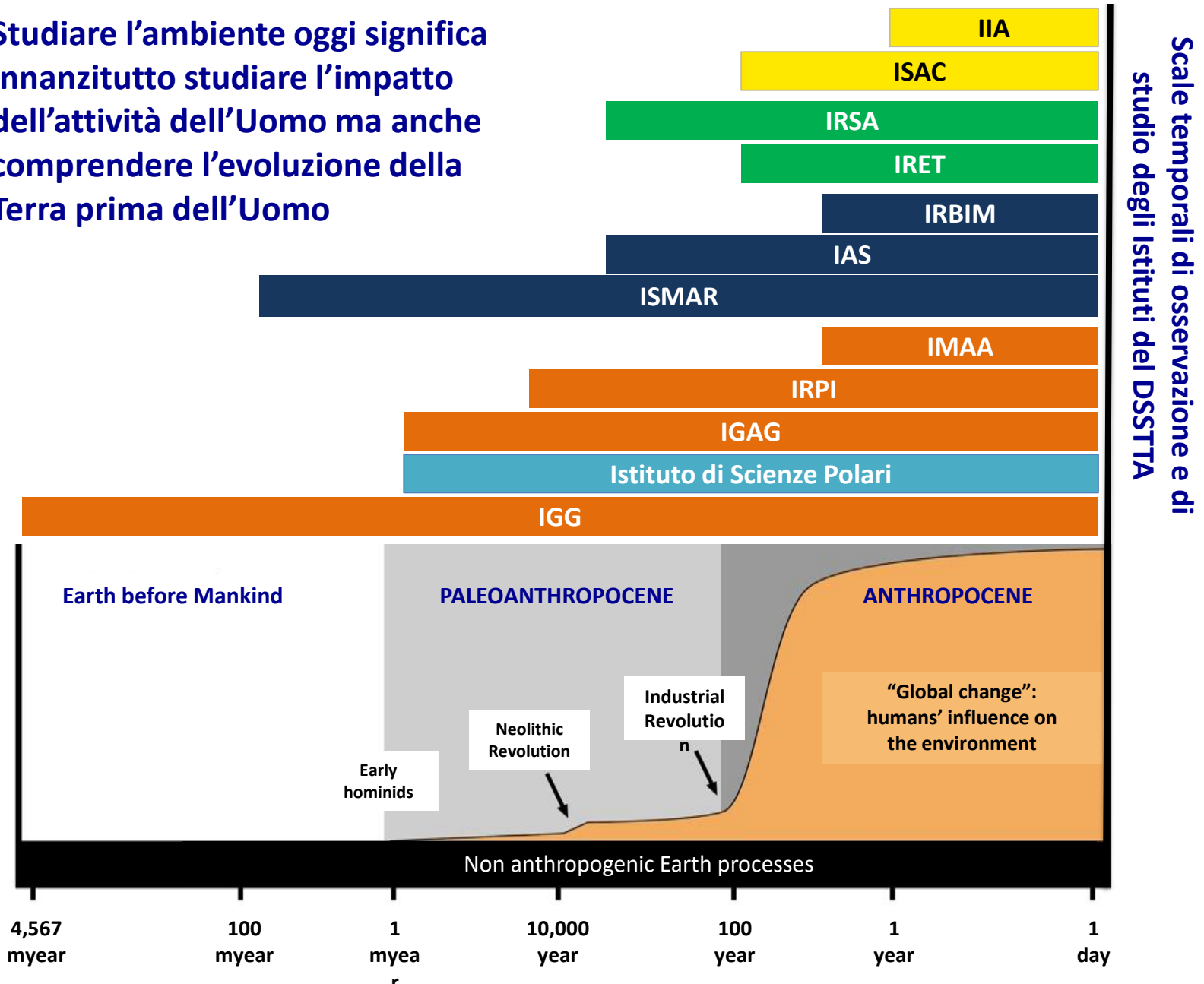
(FROM MASTROJENI AND PASINI, 2017)

Climate change and unsustainable exploitation of resources may lead to more socio-political instability, conflicts, migrations

- When a component (ex: Environment, Climate) departs from equilibrium, the effects reverberate/propagate on other components (ex: Social rights, Peace)

Il nostro Dipartimento e l'Antropocene

- Studiare l'ambiente oggi significa innanzitutto studiare l'impatto dell'attività dell'Uomo ma anche comprendere l'evoluzione della Terra prima dell'Uomo



Istituti DSSTTA: distribuzione territoriale

- 12 Istituti
- 54 Sedi sul territorio
 - Atmosfera
11 con 212 persone
 - Terra solida
16 con 390 persone
 - Ecosistemi terrestri
12 con 272 persone
 - Mare
15 con 452 persone



Gli obiettivi del DSSTTA

- Fare scienza di curiosità (i singoli ricercatori devono essere “accreditati”) ...
- ... ma soprattutto dobbiamo confrontarci con il grande tema del (quale?) **futuro del Pianeta** e della nostra Società
- Aumentare coesione tra ricercatori e tra Istituti; dobbiamo **ripensarci e chiederci:**

stiamo facendo la cosa “giusta” (= significativa, rilevante, utile al Pianeta, utile alla nostra società)?

- Continuare con quanto già facciamo e in più aprire **nuovi orizzonti di intervento**
 - Economia circolare (green, blue ecc.)
 - Supporto a Ministeri e Regioni nel recepire le Direttive Europee
 - Confrontarsi con popolazione e stakeholder (es.: Contratti di Fiume)
 - Open science (open pub., open data, open software)
 - *Science literacy*, divulgazione a tutti i livelli (tema unificante l'Antropocene)
 - Affrontare anche le domande “scomode” e fare battaglie culturali

Se la tendenza è l'Urbanocene

- La nostra risposta può essere solo pensare a *“smart”* o *“sensible” cities*?
- Dobbiamo pensare a tutto il territorio (suoli, foreste, zone umide, oceani): *“rinascimento rurale”*
- Crescita come innovazione che porti
 - a maggiore resilienza
 - minor consumo e
 - al superamento dell'idea illusoria di una crescita illimitata