# Quantifying marine ectotherms vulnerability to climate warming

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### Dissolved oxygen heterogeneity plays a key role in setting marine habitat boundaries



Long et al., 2019 Deutsch et al., 2020

### **Ocean Deoxygenation**



Long et al., 2019

#### Metabolic rates increase with temperature for Ectotherms



Water Temperature

### Metabolic theory



- $\alpha_s = rate \ of \ gass \ transfer \ between \ water \ and \ organism$
- $\alpha_D = taxon specific basal metabolic rate$
- $A_c = \frac{\alpha_s}{\alpha_p}$  (ecologoical hypoxic tolerance)
- $k_B = Boltzman \ constant$
- $E_o = E_d E_s$  (Activation energy)
- T = temperature

**Organism metabolic constraints**  $\Phi' > 1 = habitable$ pO<sub>2</sub>  $\Phi' < 1$ = uninhabitable

Temperature

Species tolerance

curve  $[pO_2 \text{ at } \Phi_{crit}]$ 

Fry,1947; Portner and knust., 2007; Deutsch et al.,2015; 2020; Penn et al., 2018; Howard et al., 2020

# Defining Organism's Thermal Safety Margin (TSM) in the context of climate change [0 – 1000 m]



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### Organismic anthropogenic TSM are set by both present climate state and net long-term changes in $pO_2$ and temp [0 – 1000 m, CESM1-LE]



Marine ectotherms vulnerability to extirpation increase the largest in the tropical regions and North Pacific [0 – 1000 m, CESM1-LE]



### Summary

- Warming and deoxygenation projected over the next several decades will yield a reduction in thermal safety margins for some organisms, curtailing the volume of viable habitat for some sensitive ecosystems.
- Our results demonstrate that in many regions, organisms will be pushed closer or beyond their physiological limits leaving the ecosystem more vulnerable to extreme events.
- We find that the fraction of habitable time for an average locally adapted ecotype decreases by over 50% in the tropical oxygen minimum zones and North Pacific basin by the end of the century.
- Long-term oxygen gain in the Arctic Ocean helps more organisms meet their metabolic demand in the future, while oxygen abundance prohibits habitat loss in the Southern Ocean.

#### **Thank You**

### Habitat loss is reduced by almost 50% in the **1.5°C warming** vs. **RCP85** scenario

[0 – 1000 m, CESM1-LE]



### Organism's physiological constraints

