Diagnosis of field impacts of chemicals from monitoring and experimental data.

SASAqS conference, 29 June 2015

Paul van den Brink

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## The use of indices to assess water quality

- The structural composition of a community can give an indication of the intensity of impact resulting from different factors or stressors on that community
- Kolkwitz and Marson 1902
  - Saprobic index
  - Oligosaprobic Polysaprobic
- Many indices nowadays
  - SASS5
  - a valid, rapid and robust assessment methodology



Specific index is the holy grail of environmental management

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### Question: what is impacting my system?



Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, Vol. 24, No. 4, pp. 954–965, 2005 © 2005 SETAC Printed in the USA 0730-7268/05 \$12.00 + .00

#### ANALYZING EFFECTS OF PESTICIDES ON INVERTEBRATE COMMUNITIES IN STREAMS

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(Received 1 December 2003; Accepted 25 September 2004)

Abstract—The aim of this investigation was to find patterns in aquatic invertebrate community composition that are related to the effects of pesticides. Investigations were carried out in 20 central European streams. To reduce the site-specific variation of community descriptors due to environmental factors other than pesticides, species were classified and grouped according to their vulnerability to pesticides. They were classified as species at risk (SPEAR) and species not at risk (SPEnotAR). Ecological traits used to define these groups were sensitivity to toxicants, generation time, migration ability, and presence of aquatic stages during time of maximum pesticide application. Results showed that measured pesticide concentrations of 1 : 10 of the acute 48-h median lethal concentration (LC50) of *Daphnia magna* led to a short- and long-term reduction of abundance and number of SPEAR and a corresponding increase in SPEnotAR. Concentrations of 1 : 100 of the acute 48-h LC50 of *D. magna* correlated with a long-term change of community composition. However, number and abundance of SPEAR in disturbed stream sections are increased greatly when undisturbed stream sections are present in upstream reaches. This positive influence compensated for the negative effect of high concentrations of pesticides through recolonization. The results emphasize the importance of considering ecological traits and recolonization processes on the landscape level for ecotoxicological risk assessment.

Keywords-Field effect Pesticides Recovery Cumulative risk assessment



### Question: what is impacting my system?

- Pesticides: SPEcies At Risk (SPEAR) index
- A taxon is regarded as 'at risk' only if it is
  - Relatively sensitive to pesticides
  - Has a low recovery potential

• SPEARpesticides = 
$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} Log(x_i+1) * y}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} Log(x_i+1)} * 100$$

- n = # of taxa
- x<sub>i</sub> is the abundance of the taxon i and
- y = 1 if taxon is 'at risk', or 0 if not



#### Pesticides reduce regional biodiversity of stream invertebrates

Mikhail A. Beketov<sup>a,1</sup>, Ben J. Kefford<sup>b</sup>, Ralf B. Schäfer<sup>c</sup>, and Matthias Liess<sup>a</sup>

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Edited by David Pimentel, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY, and accepted by the Editorial Board May 13, 2013 (received for review March 25, 2013)

The biodiversity crisis is one of the greates manity, but our understanding of the driver after decades of studies and regulation effo whether to what degree and at what conricultural pesticides cause regional-scale spec the effects of pesticides on the regional t invertebrates in Europe (Germany and Franc ern Victoria). Pesticides caused statistically both the species and family richness in both taxa up to 42% of the recorded taxonom the effects in Europe were detected at conlegislation considers environmentally prote ecological risk assessment of pesticides fa biodiversity, and new approaches linking e ogy are needed.

PNA

environmental impacts | environmental risk asses plant protection products | macroinvertebrates |



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Science of the Total Environment

www.elsevier.com/locate/scitotenv

#### Effects of pesticides on community structure and ecosystem functions in agricultural streams of three biogeographical regions in Europe

Ralf Bernhard Schäfer<sup>a,b,\*</sup>, Thierry Caquet<sup>c</sup>, Katri Siimes<sup>d</sup>, Ralf Mueller<sup>e</sup>, Laurent Lagadic<sup>c</sup>, Matthias Liess<sup>a</sup>



- Invertebrate samples taken in three countries in Europe → SPEAR<sub>pesticide</sub>
- Also pesticides measured and recalculated to TU<sub>daphnia</sub>





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	Site groups			
SI: DE and I	Uncontaminated (TU < -4)	Slightly contaminated (–4 < TU < –2)	Highly contaminated (TU > –2)	
Parameter	Mean	Mean	Mean	
TU	-4.86	-2.59	-0.94	
Temperature, °C	12.08	12.99	13.05	
рН	7.12	7.45	7.79	
Ammonium, mg/L	0.06	0.07	0.13	
Nitrite, mg/L	0.10	0.11	0.15	
Nitrate, mg/L	11.06	13.89	20.73	
Orthophosphate, mg/L	0.26	0.84	0.39	
Oxygen, %	10.15	10.24	10.62	
Velocity, m/s	0.29	0.23	0.19	
Width, m	2.07	2.01	1.48	
Wood, %	11.80	17.21	11.48	
Free substrate, %	54.08	60.35	66.49	
Allochthonous leaves, %	11.25	6.98	5.04	
Stoniness, share	0.68	0.96	0.26	
Hardness, °dH	5.64	12.37	20.87	
Conductivity, µS/cm at 25 °C	446	612	944	
Submersed plants, %	16.13	11.06	8.63	
Immersed plants, %	5.00	2.79	6.38	
Filamentous algae, %	0.25	1.60	1.98	

Mean values and SDs are given for each contamination category and for the entire dataset.



### Science of the Total Environment 505 (2015) 565-572 Contents lists available at ScienceDirect



Science of the Total Environment

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

#### Short Communication

How stressor specific are trait-based ecological indices for ecosystem management?

Nele Schuwirth \*, Mira Kattwinkel, Christian Stamm

Eawag: Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology, 8600 Dübendorf, Switzerland

#### HIGHLIGHTS

Trait-based indices can help river managers to identify relevant stressors.

· We test how stressor specific such indices are by analysing the sensitivity of taxa.

• We quantify inherent correlations between indices with Monte-Carlo simulations.

· We demonstrate how to clearly distinguish these from correlations between stressors.

· Inherent correlation of indices increases with decreasing biodiversity.

#### Indices

- SPEAR<sub>pesticides</sub>
- Temperature
- Flow velocity
- pH stress wageningen university wageningen ur



a) field samples



r = 0.6 \*\*...



#### b) "Obs\_GM" taxon pool, random sampling, n=1000

r = 0.5 \*\*\*

80

40

0

WarmT

r = 0.5 \*\*\*\*









ASTERICS (version 4.0.4)

- calculates the ecological status of rivers based on benthic invertebrate taxa lists
- Water Framework Directive
- 83 indices for general water quality + SPEAR<sub>pesticide</sub>
- 1063 species used for correlation (662 ±328)
- Correlations between indices and SPEAR<sub>pesticide</sub>
  - P < 0.001 63%
  - P < 0.01 70%
  - P < 0.05 80%





## Diagnosis of field impacts of chemicals

- Problem: correlation in field data cannot be avoided
- But a more holistic view including all possible stressors can be <u>adopted</u>



Environmental variables, pesticide pollution and meiofaunal community structure in two contrasting temporarily open/ closed False Bay estuaries





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Environmental Management (2015) 56:260–269 DOI 10.1007/s00267-015-0489-x



### Assessment of Ecological Quality of the Tajan River in Iran Using a Multimetric Macroinvertebrate Index and Species Traits

Group 1 constitutes of the habitat parameters bank vegetative protection, epifaunal substrate/available cover, embeddedness, channel flow status, channel alteration, frequency of riffles, bank stability, riparian vegetative zone width as well as the sum of all habitat parameters.







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Chem.: Chlorprofam, pirimiphos-methyl

## Diagnosis of field impacts of chemicals





Pesticides



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Environmental Toxicology

#### EVALUATING AQUATIC INVERTEBRATE VULNERABILITY TO INSECTICIDES BASED ON INTRINSIC SENSITIVITY, BIOLOGICAL TRAITS, AND TOXIC MODE OF ACTION

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(Submitted 23 January 2015; Returned for Revision 17 March 2015; Accepted 3 April 2015)



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#### Trait patterns of aquatic insects across gradients of flow-related factors: a multivariate analysis of Canadian national data

Nelli Horrigan and Donald J. Baird

Can. J. Fish. Aquat. Sci. 65: 670-680 (2008)

doi:10.1139/F07-191

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- Evaluate relationships between taxon traits and three flow-related variables (velocity, T and DO)
- 13 independently collected Canadian data sets
- To develop a flow bioassessment metric irrespective of geographical region



- Traits related to flow
  - Low crawling rate
  - Common occurrence in drift
  - Short adult life span

• Erosional rheophily

- Medium size at maturity
- Cold thermal preference

## Diagnosis of field impacts of chemicals

- The circle of diagnosis
  - Selection of species/traits and chemicals
  - Hypotheses
  - Very specific vulnerability indicators
  - Verification/validation

Prioritisation



WAGENINGEN UNIVERSITY Very specific indicators based on external data

## Diagnosis of field impacts of chemicals







Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, Vol. 26, No. 10, pp. 2226–2236, 2007 © 2007 SETAC Printed in the USA 0730-7268/07 \$12.00 + .00

#### AN INDIVIDUAL-BASED APPROACH TO MODEL SPATIAL POPULATION DYNAMICS OF INVERTEBRATES IN AQUATIC ECOSYSTEMS AFTER PESTICIDE CONTAMINATION

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(Received 10 January 2007; Accepted 30 April 2007)

- MASTEP: Metapopulation model for Assessing Spatial and Temporal Effects of Pesticides
- Asellus aquaticus, Gammarus pulex, Chironomus riparius, mayflies (Cloeon dipterum/Baetis sp.)



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### Ditch: Asellus aquaticus







### Stream: Asellus aquaticus



### Distance $\rightarrow$

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Upscaling of modelling framework to connected waterways level (beyond the ditch, stream or pond)

benchmark





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- More upscaling  $\rightarrow$  network of 137 ditches
- A: spray drift
- B: no direct input
- C: spray drift
- D: no direct input
- E: no direct input
- F: no direct input
- G: no direct input
- H: spray drift
- I: no direct input
- J: no direct input

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Drainage pump outlet catchment в D Ε 128

# Concentrations of lambda-cyhalothrin and mortality probability





### Numbers relative to untreated runs

Low sensitivity

High sensitivity





## Conclusions / outlook

### Modelling

 Increasing the complexity of the water network (functional connectivity) affects the effects and recovery times → increases realism

Indices

- Try to avoid collinearity of stress factors
- Have to be very specific (I made an attempt but is this possible?)
- More effort should be made in combining experimental and monitoring data
- Ecological modelling could be included in monitoring programmes, especially for charismatic / important species (e.g. fish)

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### Thanks!

### Questions?



