

### **SUERF Baffi Bocconi Lecture**

15. Nov. 2021

## Living in a World with Recurrent Shocks

■ Health: Pandemic — Covid-19



- Antibiotic resistance
- Financial Crises
- Cyberattacks
- Natural disaster ... better building of infrastructure
- Uncertainty with new technologies
  - Crises come typically in pairs/triplets ...
- Resistance is futile resilience will help
- Resilience discussed everywhere
  - robustness, risk avoidance, ..., redundancies

### **Robustness** ≠ **Resilience**

- Robustness
  - withstand, fault tolerant
    - block most (known/unknow) shocks
- vs. Resilience
  - Impact, but bounce back
    - React to shocks





Redeployable redundancies

Robustness barrier

"I bend, a bow, but I do not break" La Fontaine

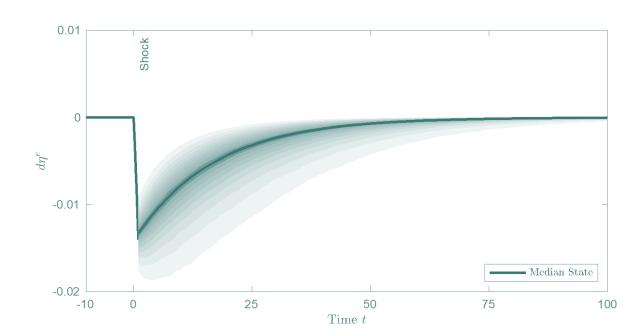
### Volatility Paradox

- Learning to be resilient via small risk exposure (human immune system)
- Re-deployable redundancies/buffers
  + rigidity is not stability flexible responses (react/adapt in way which stabilizes society)

### **Risk** avoidance ≠ **Resilience**

- Risk management static
  - Variance

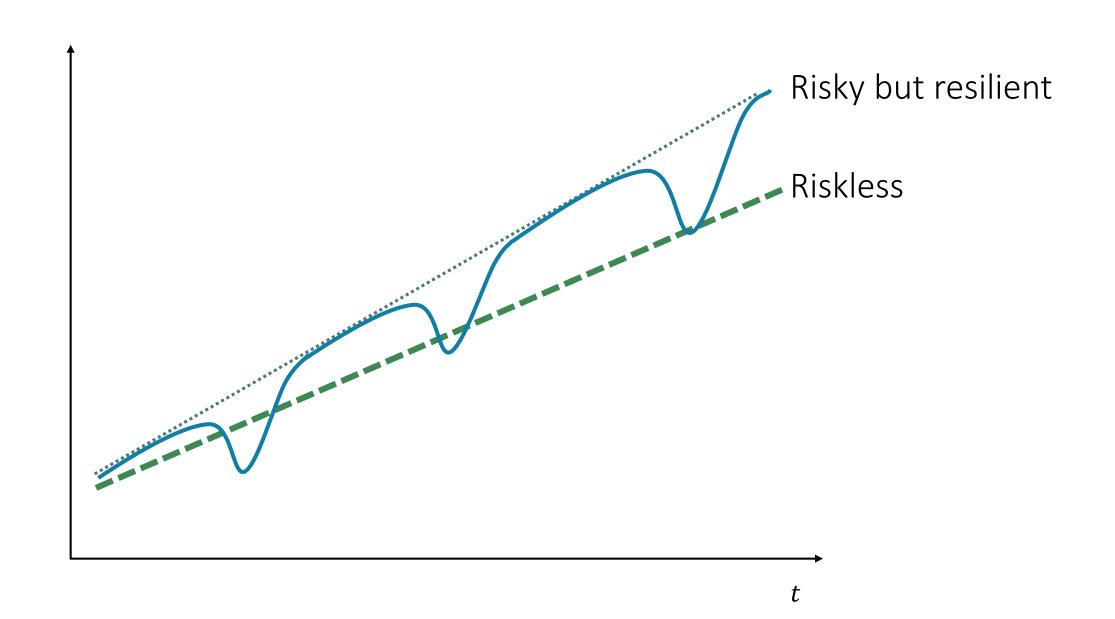
- Resilience management dynamic
  - Mean-reversion bounce "back" to new normal



Distributional impulse response (Fanchart)

# Ability to Rebound Allows to take Risk ⇒ **Growth**

Resilient path vs. risk avoidance path



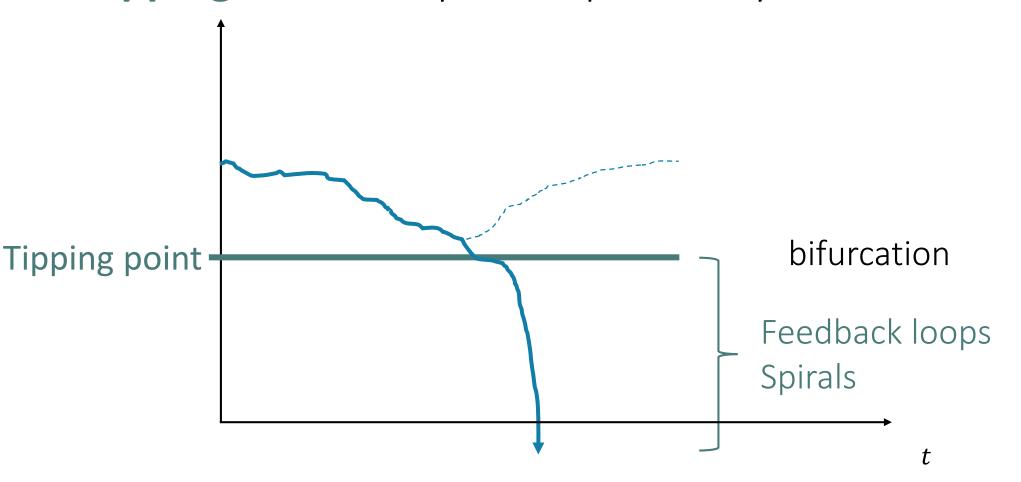
# Resilience Destroyers

If externality of others' behavior, difficult to avoid

■ Traps: "points of no return"

Feedbacks:

Tipping Points: path dependency



Climate change: Turning off the Gulf stream

### Resilience: Individual, System, Society

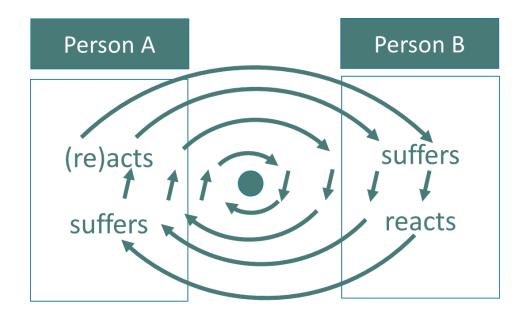
Individual: Training, human capital, freedom,

System: Redundancies (networks, global value chains)

Buffers (bank capital, ...)

### Society:

- Interaction btw individual's externalities and responses
- Key: Endogenous reaction of others



"Feedback Externalities"

Social contract: social norms, laws, and market

### **Outline of Book**

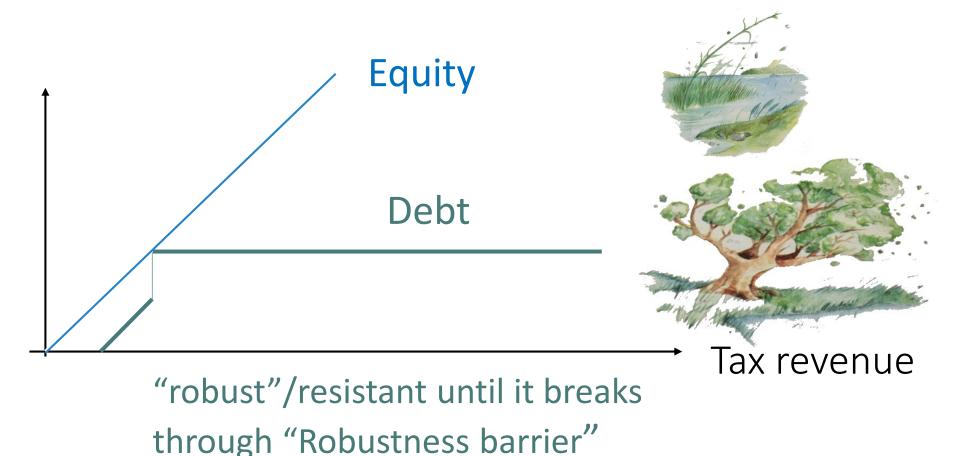
- Part I: Society and Resilience
- Part II: 4 Elements of Resilience Management: COVID
- Part III: Macro Resilience
  - Innovation boost vs. Scarring
  - Financial whipsaw
  - Public Debt
  - Inflation whipsaw
- Part IV: Global Resilience
  - EMDE
  - Geopolitics, World order, Global finance, Value chains, Climate

### Resilience and Policy Implications

- Health
  - Vaccines to return to "new normal"
- Macro
  - Low interest rate ⇒ more fiscal, less monetary resilience
- Finance
  - Efficient debt restructuring -- Capital requirements (buffers) (to avoid debt overhang)
  - Flexible exchange rate -- Foreign exchange reserves (buffers)
    + MacroPru (limited \$-debt)

# **Resilience and Policy Implications**

- Health
  - Vaccines to return to "new normal"
- Macro
  - Low interest rate ⇒ more fiscal, less monetary resilience
- Finance
  - Efficient debt restructuring -- Capital requirements (buffers) (to avoid debt overhang)



### **Resilience and Policy Implications**

#### Health

Vaccines to return to "new normal"

#### Macro

■ Low interest rate ⇒ more fiscal, less monetary resilience

#### Finance

- Efficient debt restructuring -- Capital requirements (buffers) (to avoid debt overhang)
- Flexible exchange rate -- Foreign exchange reserves (buffers)
  + MacroPru (limited \$-debt)
- Distributed Ledger Technology (DLT)

#### Global value chains

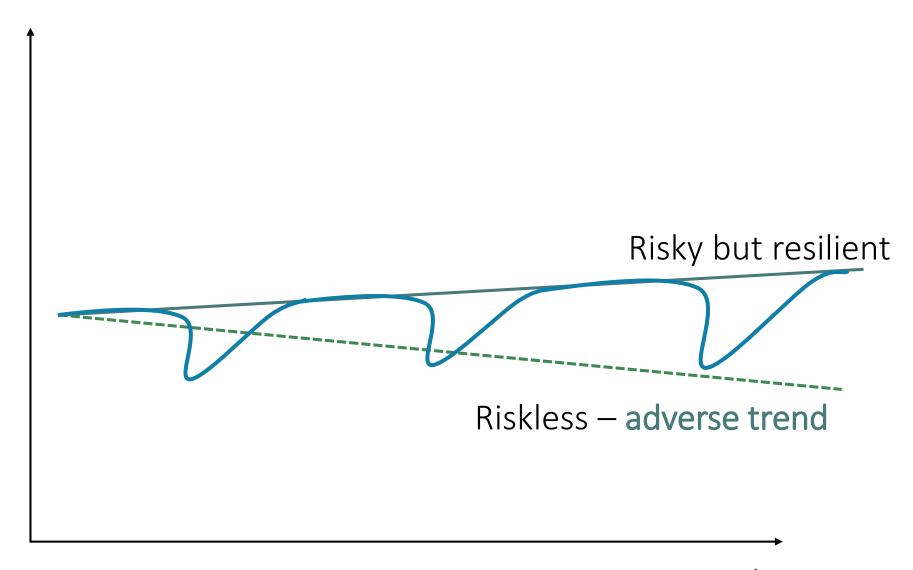
- From "just in time" to "just in case" -- stress tests for GVC (resilience lessons from GFC)
- Global geopolitics global role of the dollar

### Climate change

- Avoid tipping points
- Sustainability = resilience + no adverse trend

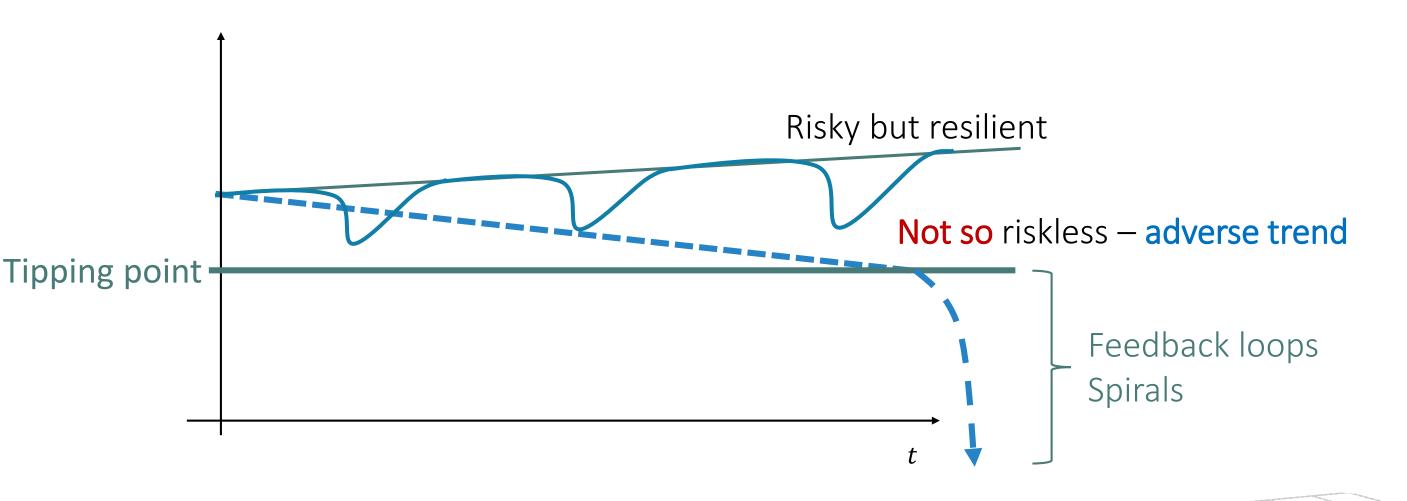
# Resilience, Risk, and Growth - Sustainability

- 1. Resilience +
- 2. No adverse trend



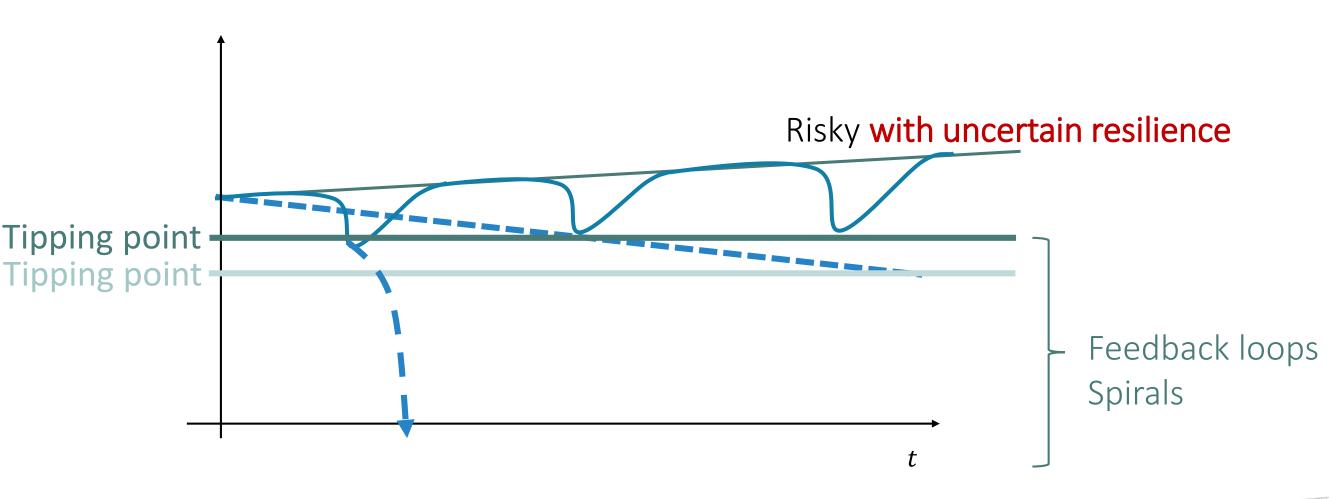
## **Tipping Points: Resilient Sustainable Path**

- Seemingly riskless part with adverse trend subject to catastrophe risk
  - Resilience path is only hope

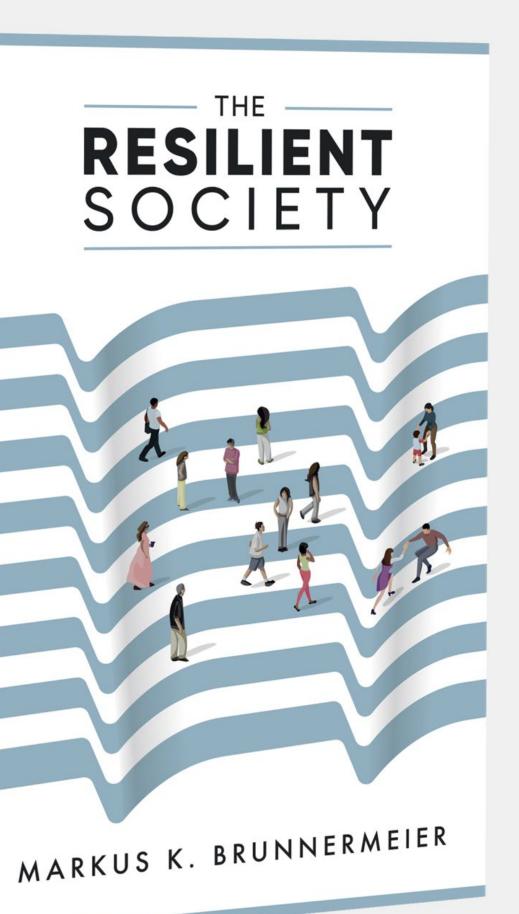


# **Tipping Points: Resilient Risky Sustainable Path**

■ Tighter tipping point — resilience strategy is more risky



Uncertain tipping point



### **Global Finance Conclave**

13. Nov. 2021

### **A Personal Conjecture**

In an increasingly complex society

#### Autocratic societies

- Seek **robustness** attractive feature after crises
- Suppression, minimize movements/disruptions
- Surveillance
- Tighten with each crisis ... no rebound

# Open/democratic society

- More resilient
- May appear wobbly when shock hits but internal mechanism allow for rebound
- Open to mavericks
- Transparency and more information flow/aggregation

#### Good in

Enforcing rules

Invented universally accepted vaccines

# **Extra Slides**

### Resilience # Risk and Growth

- Japanese GDP
  - Lack of resilience after financial crisis, resilience after Fukoshima

