

Reply to referee 3

Thank you for your careful reading of the text and we are truly sorry that it made for tedious reading. We have thoroughly re-written the text, bringing in the much needed nuances and getting rid of the irritating generalizations. The descriptive style could not be completely removed given the nature of the article. However, an argumentative style has also been included, unsubstantiated claims have been either removed or backed up by sources. The tendency towards dualism or polarization has also been corrected. We have also included a sample of the body of scholarship that mediates between 'naturalism' and 'constructivism' (in their strict or extreme senses). We have accepted most of the changes suggested by referee 3. The result is a trimmed text, without too much repetition.

As noted above, the whole text has been rewritten. More specifically, the whole introduction has been rewritten in such a manner that it is more argumentative and that the impression of polemic or dichotomy is avoided. We now speak of a dialectical field between naturalism and constructivism. Sections 2.1 (the 'naturalist' view) and 2.2 (the 'constructivist' view) have been merged and rewritten into a new whole. This means that there are many approaches and cross-fertilizations in that field, though there is still a 'naturalist' (in the strict sense) scholarship in the social sciences, that is to say, scholarship that draws on the methodology and conceptual framework common in (applied) natural sciences. We avoid speaking in terms of the 'naturalist' social scientist or the 'constructivist' social scientist.

In line 307 you may be interested in earlier origins, as Indirli 2019 reviews them: historical flight and some open questions towards a pluralistic but holistic view of resilience

Thank you for the additional reference. After line 307, we do mention other origins.

Lines 455: "Naturalist social studies are based on the cybernetic idea"

Which are those "Naturalist social studies"? How did you methodologically assess it?

And how do you know which variants exist? Why should they only follow a cybernetic approach??

These sentences have been removed.

Passages such as lines 758-762 are fine in general diction, but it is again not supported by sources, and the sources and claims in the sources following do not directly support this.

This passage has been rewritten.

Check wording in line 769, "into adaptive resilience tens to leave"

Thanks!

Typo.

Lines 849ff: How did you decide and justify to select smart urbanism and AI among many technological trends?

Why is the whole section than not about "smart urbanism" at all?

That section has been removed.

Provide sources for your claims in lines 851-852.

And again; "all" have drafted their AI strategies so? A 190 countries you have checked?

The presentation of AI is one-sided and misses all the critique from natural sciences on the failures of AI, the software crisis in the 1980s related to it already, etc. Again, this is rather an iteration of black and white stereotyping, missing structure, counterarguments and balance.

Has been removed.

Claims such as in lines 859-860 are again, worrisome; why should "Strengthening adaptive resilience to climate change through AI primarily" really only have resulted in "means that an integrated data system for circulating information (near) real time among agents needs to be developed" AI can do much more than just "circulating information"?!

That AI section still does not fit into the article. Maybe consider keeping it for a future article? Or embed it with more argumentation, as I tried to indicate.

We have removed that section.

Lines 994 following. The first sentence seems to be contradicted by the following sentence. And it would be good to see literature cited here that actually already tried to provide such mediation.

Thanks. It has been rewritten.

In section 4 it is a bit difficult to understand and find the six themes exactly. The beginnings of the sentences to each new theme could be made simpler to understand what are the main aspects of it. An example is in line 1016; it comes with.... but what do you mean? The whole section is rather long and once more, descriptive, narrative, with claims mixed with source-based review. The whole article is too much of the same in style. In 4, shorter would be better. Also, at least the first three themes, but actually, all of them simply repeat the previous sections.

The whole section has been rewritten and trimmed. However, there is bound to be some kind of continuity with rest of the article since we believe that particular ongoing or new lines of research should still be pursued. But we also make it clearer why they should be.

What is this dangling text from lines 1220 onwards?

Content-wise it is really interesting and a bit novel and would warrant a paper. But as it is it is unclear what this part of text does.

That text has also been removed.

Line 1252 please avoid such jargon as "good old notion"

Done.

Only towards the end, the article comes back to climate change. Given the job background of most authors, it seems that this is the real intention, stated in line 1281 "are all connected to the issue of the political-administrative response"

Maybe, the paper could be rewritten from the perspective of such governance; how it deals with resilience and these six fields? Or at least, be more explicit on why administrations increasingly become interested in such questions? This would be of benefit to scientific discussion. But it is also ok I think, if you keep it and only make it more balanced and avoid one-sided claims.

We have tried to avoid one-sided claims. This suggestion is interesting, but for now not the right approach given the different backgrounds of the authors. But we shall bear it in mind for a future article.

Towards the end of the conclusion, the article meanders into speculations about giant tech companies. It is alright to use a conclusion to expand the horizon of the article, but here as at other parts, it sounds a bit much like a journalistic speculative style.

Has been removed/rewritten.

In the rebuttal letter, the authors indicate to uptake some of the suggestions. I am not sure they

have met the expectations of the first reviewers. One recommendation I would like to reiterate and this time request the authors to deliver it (maybe I just did not find them): the text could well be cut on many text parts and benefit greatly from tables and maybe, framework charts that summarise the findings, find criteria for them and therefore, provide something novel to readers.

One final request; I know I generate a lot more work for you, my apologies. I generally like the overview this paper provides, it is helpful as a guidance for readers unfamiliar with the discussions. But especially for them, it is of great importance not to be guided in an unbalanced way.

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2 The general aim of the rewriting has been to bring in that needed balance. So thank you for your critical
3 comments. We trust that we have achieved that goal.

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7 Review article: Towards a context-driven research: a state-of-the-art
8 review of resilience research on climate change

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15 **Abstract**

16

17 ~~Since the 1970s, Holling's socio-ecological systems (SES) has been a popular approach has been the~~
18 ~~most predominant theoretical force in resilience research with regard to the climate crisis. An~~
19 ~~overview of the scholarship in the social sciences during the past five decades reveals two different re-~~

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20 appropriations of Holling's legacy, which can broadly be classified as naturalist and constructivist,
21 respectively. Characteristic for naturalist resilience research is its indebtedness to the concepts,
22 methods, and assumptions of the so-called "life sciences". This has resulted in the recasting of
23 Holling's SES into complex systems that are marked by non-linearity and evolutionary changes.
24 Constructivist resilience research, on the other hand, relies on the concepts, methods and assumptions
25 that are common in the "human sciences". Accordingly, resilience is studied and critically appraised
26 in its historical, social, and political context. In this paper, recent developments in resilience research
27 in the social sciences are reviewed to the end of proposing new research questions. The focus is on the
28 different approaches, models and commitments that underpin these two approaches to resilience in
29 the context of the ecological crisis. Particular attention is thereby paid to the naturalist emphasis on
30 adaptation and the constructivist emphasis on transformation.

31 The twofold aim of this paper is to provide an overview of the current state of resilience research with
32 regard to climate change in the social sciences and propose a research agenda. Resilience research
33 among social scientists is characterized by much more diversity today than a few decades ago.
34 Different definitions and understandings of resilience appear in publications during the last ten years.
35 Resilience research increasingly bears the mark of social constructivism, a relative newcomer
36 compared to the more long-standing tradition of naturalism. There are also approaches that are
37 indebted to both "naturalism" and "constructivism", which, of course, come in many varieties. Based
38 on our overview of recent scholarship, which is far from being exhaustive, we have identified six
39 research avenues that arguably deserve continuing attention. They combine naturalist and
40 constructivist insights and approaches so that human agency, reflexivity and considerations of justice
41 and equity are incorporated into system thinking research or supplement such research. Ultimately,
42 we believe that the overarching challenge for future research is to ensure that resilience to climate
43 change does not compromise sustainability and considerations of justice (including, environmental,
44 climate and energy justice).

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Keywords: adaptive resilience, climate change, just resilience, transformative resilience, transformational adaptation, wicked resilience

1. Introduction

A brief and non-exhaustive overview of resilience scholarship published in the period 1970-2020 reveals a diversification of research foci and themes, approaches and methods, and theoretical frameworks. Resilience has been a prevalent research topic among ecologists for several decades and, very soon after, among cyberneticists. Given the association of resilience with the natural sciences and engineering (cf. Indirli, 2019), it is perhaps not so surprising that most social scientists did not see the need to have recourse to the terminology or concept until much later. And if they did adopt the idea earlier, they were likely to embrace the naturalist theoretical framework that accompanied it (Holling, 1973; 2001; cf. Chandler, 2014). Other social scientists are still reluctant to accept resilience as a universal and unifying concept, pointing out that the “core concepts and principles in resilience theory that create theoretical tensions and methodological barriers between the natural and social sciences” (Olsson et al., 2015). This conceived opposition between the natural sciences and social sciences may not be experienced by all naturalists or social scientists. Even more importantly perhaps, such opposition – real or surmised – may hinder fruitful collaborations in the face of our ecological crisis. Yet, collaboration, integration or “transdisciplinarity” in the real worlds of universities and research institutes may not always reflect a genuine transcendence of disciplinary boundaries, but instead largely consists of natural sciences and engineering research in sustainability (Groß & Stauffacher, 2014). That said, there have been genuine attempts to transcend the limitations of both naturalism – in the strict, technical sense of the term (Andler, 2014) – and forms of social constructivism that border on relativism (Proctor, 1998a; 1998b; Popa

70 et al., 2015). Such “transdisciplinary” research is typically problem-oriented (Groß & Stauffacher,
71 2014).

72 Crawford Stanley Holling’s ecological notion of resilience (Holling, 1973) is considered by some
73 as a bridge between the social sciences and engineering (Ostrom, 2007; Thorén, 2014). The appeal of
74 Holling’s socio-ecological systems (SES) approach among some social scientists may be due to its
75 being a corrective to the tendency of Holling’s fellow ecologists to unconditionally embrace the
76 methods and premises inherited from classical physics (cf. Holling, 1973; Thorén, 2014; Estêvão, Calado
77 & Capucha, 2017; Davoudi, 2018). Holling corrected what he considered to be a flawed view of the
78 world and of ecosystems, namely, as closed or stable. Against the “equilibrium-centered” view, he
79 emphasized the influence of random events (natural or human-caused) on ecological systems (Holling,
80 1973, 15). Yet, even this complex systems approach does not score very highly at the level of
81 reflexivity, which is required to discover and “acknowledge overt or covert forms of dominance
82 shaping public discourse and participation (Popa et al., 2015). Slightly more positively framed, societal
83 resilience to climate change also involves political and institutional factors, lifestyles and consumer
84 habits, production patterns, and structures of power in general ~~law, economy, science, technology,~~
85 ~~governance and politics~~ (cf. Douglas & Wildavsky, 1983; Blühdorn, 2013; Kolers, 2016; Fischer,
86 2017; Dryzek & Pickering, 2019). Resilience research that takes into account such social factors
87 (which do not necessarily obey physical laws) can be broadly classified as belonging to “social
88 constructivism”.

89 The Tsunami in 2004 and Katrina in 2005 seem to have acted as catalysts for generating more
90 resilience research among social scientists (Pizzo, 2015). This increasing interest for resilience on the
91 part of certain social scientists (and other scholars from different disciplines) cannot be detached from
92 the popularity that the terminology has started to gain among national governments and global
93 governance actors, including the Rockefeller Foundation, for instance, at the beginning of the new
94 century. Such tendency became stronger with the global financial crisis of 2007-2008. The widespread
95 recourse to the language of resilience by powerful private and public actors has incited a series of

96 scholarship critical of such discourse (Chandler, 2014; Pizzo, 2015; Lockie, 2016; Derickson, 2016;
97 Hilhorst 2018). The latter, it is observed, easily hides vested political and economic interests, and
98 distracts attention from structural and institutional defects by emphasizing resilience through
99 technological innovations. Katrina and, even more recently, Covid-19, it is argued, reveal a vulnerability
100 that is not simply an unavoidable fragility in the face of natural hazards, but is also the fruit of
101 institutions and political decisions over a long period of time. Natural disasters tend to be perceived
102 as indiscriminate and indifferent as to whom they affect. Yet, as Belkhir and Charlemaine (2007, p. :
103 12) point out, “hurricanes may not single out victims by their race, or gender or class but neither do such
104 disasters occur in historical, political, social, or economic vacuums”’. In other words, social, cultural,
105 political, and economic conditions are conceived to be involved in the resilience or non-resilience of a
106 nation or of particular groups to natural calamities (Henkel et al., 2006; Tierney, 2015; Lockie, 2016).

107 The aim of this paper is to provide an overview of the current state of resilience research with
108 regard to climate change in the social sciences and propose a research agenda. Resilience research
109 among social scientists is characterized by much more diversity today than a few decades ago.
110 Different definitions and understandings of resilience appear in publications during the last ten years
111 (cf. Indirli, 2019). Resilience research increasingly bears the mark of social constructivism, a relative
112 newcomer compared to the more long-standing tradition of naturalism. Given this history, it is hardly
113 surprising that social scientists focusing on resilience to climate change should initially have borrowed
114 the research methods common to natural and applied sciences. “Social constructivist” approaches
115 gradually made their entrance, especially in reaction to both the perceived inadequacy of particular
116 naturalistic approaches and the increasing normative use of resilience in policy agendas
117 (Weichselgartner & Kelman, 2015). There are also approaches that are indebted to both
118 “naturalism” and “constructivism” (which, of course, come in many varieties). “Ecological
119 naturalism”, for instance, departing from ecological science, integrates constructivist insights about
120 power and mastery, the diversity of human knowledge, and the politics of knowledge. It thereby resists
121 the reductionistic tendencies of positivist empiricism (Code, 2005). “Critical realism” (Carolan, 2005)

122 similarly wishes to avoid the danger of reductionism while profiting from the wealth of (applied)
123 natural sciences.

124 Hence, though we acknowledge the many varieties of both “naturalism” and
125 “constructivism” and the various endeavors to transcend the limitations of both naturalism and
126 constructivism, we observe that most resilience research in the social sciences still takes place in the
127 dialectical field constituted by these two approaches, in their strict, traditional senses (cf. Andler,
128 2014). This is the theme of the next section. But first we briefly examine how resilience research in
129 the social sciences has undergone a thorough diversification. ~~he diversification of resilience research~~
130 in the social sciences is thus addressed in the first section of this paper. Such diversity, however,
131 sometimes means that research takes place in parallel worlds and that there is little cross-fertilization
132 between scholars.

133
134 ~~Naturalism and constructivism are presented as two (social) scientific approaches underpinned by~~
135 ~~different epistemological and ontological commitments.~~ It is suggested that social scientific inquiry
136 into resilience in the context of climate change could be raised to a next level if these two different
137 approaches meet and interact. To this end, we reconstruct contemporary debates in that particular
138 field of studies and distil recurrent research topics that divide social scientists. The issues of adaption
139 and transformation in the context of severe disturbances or shocks that come with climate change
140 (such as hurricanes, floods, drought, and heatwaves) appear to be such divisive topics. Finally,
141 naturalist and constructivist directions, as well as possible cross-fertilizations of these two currents,
142 for future resilience research are identified. We point out that future resilience research in the social
143 sciences – that is, the types of questions raised, theoretical frameworks and modes of analysis – will
144 also be determined by changing conditions (ecological, political, and socioeconomic).

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147 **2. The diversification of resilience research in the social sciences**

148 One of the earliest appearances of the term resilience – in European literature at least – seems to have
149 been in one of Aesop's fables, namely, that of *The Oak Tree and the Reeds*. According to one of the
150 versions of that story, the Oak Tree becomes uprooted during a storm while its fellow reeds survive it.
151 In a conversation, the Oak Tree expresses its bewilderment that the fragile reeds were able to resist
152 such a mighty storm while it succumbed. The reeds reply that it is precisely their non-resistance that
153 saved them. Through their capacity to bend, they moved with the direction of the wind (which thus
154 did not break them) and rose again when the storm was gone. They were flexible enough. The reeds
155 “bounce” back and are thus “resilient”. Indeed, the English word resilience derives from Latin
156 (*resilire*), which generally meant rebounding. This Latin word can be found in the writings of Seneca
157 the Elder, Pliny the Elder, Ovid, Cicero, and Livy; to rebound is also the sense in which *resilire* is used
158 by Cicero in his *Orations* (Alexander, 2013). The term also appears in Lucretius' *On the Nature of*
159 *Things*, where it denotes “being forced back by a resisting surface [...] with reference to the action on
160 Nature” (Pizzo, 2015). Along this line, nature compels all things to “spring off”.

161 Despite the various meanings attributed to the term, the connotation attached to *resilire* was
162 commonly that of rebounding (cf. Indirli, 2019). Up to the early nineteenth century, this was the
163 predominant understanding of resilience in common language and imagination. A slight shift appeared
164 when engineers started to use the term to refer to the properties and capacities of materials to absorb
165 tensions and release energy, and recover their original forms, without breaking or disfiguration after
166 undergoing some external shock or disturbance (such as extreme weather conditions) (Estêvão,
167 Calado & Capucha, 2017; Bergström, 2018; Davoudi, 2018). In the 1950s, psychologists re-adapted
168 the common sense of the term to mental health and used it to study the coping mechanisms of
169 concentration camp survivors. Later, the concept is used to study ~~all sorts~~ various kinds of trauma,
170 misfortune, adversity, stress, and mental recovery (Bourbeau, 2015; Estêvão, Calado & Capucha,
171 2017; Bergström, 2018; Schwartz, 2018). In the 1970s, the ecologist C.S. Holling (1973, p. 14) redefines
172 resilience as “a measure of the persistence of systems and their ability to absorb change and
173 disturbance.” Thus understood, resilience is widely conceived as the opposite of vulnerability, which

174 is defined as the inability to absorb change and disturbance (Gallopín, 2006; Miller et al., 2010). ~~For~~
175 instance, a coastal system that is vulnerable to accelerated sea-level rise is not resilient enough (Smit,
176 Goosen ~~and~~ Hulsbergen, 1998). In such accounts, greater resilience means becoming less vulnerable
177 to change and shocks. That said, a system can still be vulnerable to other changes while being resilient
178 in other respects (Gallopín, 2006). Holling incorporates resilience in a socio-ecological systems (SES)
179 approach to analyze the stability and strength of ecological systems, which are constituted by the
180 interaction between natural ecosystems and human societies (Alexander, 2013; Bergström, 2018;
181 Béné et al., 2018; Hoekstra, Bredenhoff-Bijlsma ~~and~~ Krol, 2018). Ecosystems, as noted earlier, are
182 rarely closed systems, but are instead subjected to natural and human influences.

183 ~~In the social sciences, resilience research that has emerged from Holling's SES approach has~~
184 ~~developed along two different lines, which can be called naturalist and constructivist, respectively~~
185 ~~(Miller et al., 2010). These two currents of research have different focuses, raise different questions,~~
186 ~~and have recourse to different methods. The naturalist line of research is indebted to the accepted~~
187 ~~methods and assumptions of the natural sciences. It has a predilection for~~

188 In the social sciences, resilience research has been influenced by these earlier studies. As a
189 result, some social scientists have recourse to mathematical and simulation models and ~~Social~~
190 ~~scientists dealing with resilience to climate change research questions~~ consider resilience as a property
191 of a system, which can be (made) weak or strong. In these studies, ~~S~~society is modelled as a social
192 system that consists of parts (including agents and technologies) and physical properties that can be
193 objectively studied (Aiken, 2006; Floridi, 2017). Resilience as a system property is an objective measure
194 of the dynamic equilibrium, stability, strength, or survivability of a socio-ecological system, including
195 coastal systems, urban systems, forest systems, etc. (Hoekstra, Bredenhoff-Bijlsma ~~and~~ Krol, 2018).
196 Such approaches, indebted to applied natural sciences and the complex systems theory, can be very
197 useful, especially when both the problem and the solution are primarily and solely of a technical
198 nature. That said, even an apparently purely technical process such as water purification involves

199 reckoning with various social factors (for instance, changing habits, medicine uses and particular
200 surroundings of water collection systems).

201 The story becomes even more complicated when, for instance, attempts to make communities
202 more resilient to climate change overlook the political and cultural reasons why particular groups living
203 in particular areas are more vulnerable to the effects of climate change (such as tsunami, hurricane,
204 heavy rainfall, drought, and heatwaves). These problems may not even get sufficient attention due to,
205 for instance, “cultural racism and “institutional racism” (Henkel et al., 2006, p. 102). Social
206 constructivism provides social scientists with the conceptual and analytical tools to understand social
207 realities. Historically, constructivism in the social sciences has arisen in reaction to what was
208 experienced as the narrowness of the naturalist approach (once again, in the technical/strict sense of
209 the term, according to which “the social is part of nature, social processes are natural processes, with
210 causal powers reducible to natural causation” (Andler, 2014, p. 286)). Most social constructivists do
211 not believe that reality is objective in the naturalist sense (strictly defined) and can thus be fully
212 grasped. The constructivist does not believe that reality is so objective that it can be fully grasped and
213 ~~(s)he does not try to objectify it.~~ Instead, it is conceived that natural and social phenomena can only
214 understood by taking into account diverse factors that determine and influence diverse human
215 perceptions, experiences, meanings, interests, values, identities, patterns of domination, etc.
216 ~~Constructivist social scientists thus think that it is mistake to compress the social sciences into the mold~~
217 ~~of the natural sciences.~~

218 In resilience research, ~~they~~ social constructivists typically model society as a historically
219 embedded construct that is the result of particular understandings of nature, society and the person,
220 of values, symbols and historical practices (which may not be very rational or just), and power relations.
221 ~~Constructivists tend to be more critical and politically sensitive. They~~ These social scientists are tend
222 to be more sensitive to generally more aware of the potential and actual abuse of power. When
223 addressing engaging with resilience issues in the context of climate change, they typically express
224 concern for vulnerable communities. Research topics can thus include the(un)equal distribution of

225 environmental burdens, struggles for recognition, claims to participation, and unequal impacts of
226 anthropogenic climate change (Braun, 2014; Yanarella & Levine, 2014; Skillington, 2015; Sjöstedt,
227 2015; Weichselgartner & Kelman, 2015; Pizzo, 2015; Lockie, 2016; Derickson, 2016; Lyster, 2017;
228 Schlosberg, Collins & Niemeyer, 2017; Mummery & Mummery, 2019). Davoudi (2018, p. 5), for
229 instance, problematize the very notion of “resilience”, pointing out that there are “unjust resilience
230 building programs” that do not only neglect disadvantaged communities, but also create “resilient
231 enclaves” for privileged elites”. ~~Unjust resilience refers to absorption of changes or disturbance~~
232 ~~through a systematic neglect of vulnerable groups and marginalized people. Katrina and the Covid 19~~
233 ~~crisis reveal such systematic injustice. Similarly,~~ And Glaser et al (2018, p. 3) observe that resilience
234 can be “wicked” when an undesirable status quo is being maintained. Reflexivity is arguably an
235 indispensable part of resilience research (cf. Popa et al., 2015).
236 ~~refer to “undesirable resilience”, “bad resilience” and “wicked resilience”. These are notions that~~
237 ~~emphasize how resilience may go hand in hand with the enforcement of an undesirable or unjust~~
238 ~~condition. The resilience of oppressive systems (like tyrannical regimes) that systematically~~
239 ~~marginalize, discriminate or persecute certain groups are an example of this.~~

2.1. The naturalist view on resilience

2.1. The dialectic between naturalism and constructivism

245 Social scientists focusing on resilience to climate change have inherited an enormous body of
246 scholarship on resilience stemming from the physical sciences and engineering, cybernetics,
247 evolutionary biology and psychology, among others. In the 1970s, social scientists could thus have
248 recourse to both closed-systems theories and complexity theory to think about resilience to climate
249 change (Dahlberg, 2015; Davoudi, 2018). Some of them also merged the two models so that socio-
250 ecological systems became conceptualized as adaptive complex systems (Wiese, 2016; Bergström,

251 2018). Holling's SES is an example of the integration of complexity theory in ecological science.
252 According to the adaptive complex system line of thought, the resilience of a system depends on the
253 capacity of individual agents to cope with uncertainty and complexity. They are able to interact and
254 self-organize, learn and adapt (in an incremental or transformative way), thereby making the system
255 flexible enough to absorb shocks and develop even in face of drastic changes (Jesse, Heinrichs &
256 Kuchshinrichs, 2019).

257 Social scientists drawing on complexity theory and evolution-based models tend to emphasize
258 a type of laissez-faireism, pointing out that adaptive complex systems have their own self-
259 organizational structures that should not be interfered with (Adger et al., 2011). Bureaucratic
260 interventions to address vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change are said to generate
261 unintended consequences that may well reduce a system's ability to absorb changes and
262 disturbances. In 2001, Holling introduced the notion of "panarchy" as an alternative to hierarchy, to
263 safeguard the self-organization of complex systems against the threat of bureaucratic intervention
264 (Holling, 2001). Derived from the ancient Greek god of the woods, Pan, panarchy refers to the structure
265 in which complex (ecological and social) systems are interlinked in an evolutionary process of adaptive
266 cycles of growth, accumulation, restructuring, and renewal (Berkes & Ross, 2016). Accordingly,
267 when confronted with shocks (like extreme weather events), adaptive systems stabilize with
268 supporting self-organizing structures until those structures are overstretched and can no longer absorb
269 changes and disturbances; this is when there is a transformation of the system (Allen et al., 2014).
270 Resilience is therefore conceived as a primary system property that is measured by the magnitude of
271 shocks that can be absorbed before the structures of system change (Boyer, 2020).

272 Some social scientists show a predilection for agent-based modelling (ABM) as their mode of analysis
273 in resilience research (cf. Cote & Nightingale, 2012; Patriarca et al., 2018; Pumpuni-Lens, Blackburn
274 & Garstenauer, 2017; Patriarca et al., 2018; Mirchandani, 2020)). They therefore aim at the
275 constant refinement of simulation tools that can integrate complexity, uncertainty and multiplicity of
276 agents and techniques of regulation in favor of adaptation. Since the 1970s, when it emerged from

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277 mathematical sociology, ABM has been used in complexity-theoretic research for analyzing complex
278 systems (Conte & Paolucci, 2014). ABM is a computational mode of analysis that simulates complex
279 (non-linear) systems that include diverse interacting agents that make decisions, interact and learn or
280 adapt in their ever-changing environment, according to programmable rules (Hawes & Reed, 2006;
281 Farmer & Foley, 2009; Van Duinen et al., 2015; Martin & Schlüter, 2015; Sun, Stojadinovic &
282 Sansavini, 2019). ABM computes, in probabilistic terms, the recovery process of complex (non-linear)
283 systems under stress and tracks the emergence of new stages, phases or entries into new adaptive
284 cycles (Filatova, Polhill & Van Ewijk, 2016). Resilience to climate change, as a system property, can
285 thus be calculated (Pumpuni-Lenss, Blackburn & Garstenauer, 2017). Since ABM traces feedbacks
286 between micro-macro scale explicitly, it also enables scholars to estimate the resilience of a system's
287 individual agents, communities or (sub)groups of agents.

288 The above approaches to resilience rely on what can be broadly defined as "natural" sciences
289 and their applied variants. Society and human persons are conceived according to the theories and
290 models common in these disciplines. The application of conceptual frameworks and models developed
291 to study allegedly objective and objectifiable things to the interaction between humans and their social
292 and natural environments is not without its challenges and dangers. Scientists, including social
293 scientists, may unwittingly serve political agendas if they are oblivious of their own political and
294 ideological commitments (Popa et al., 2014). The blurry line between science and politics is illustrated
295 by Holling's and Friedrich Hayek's re-appropriation of complexity theory to criticize government
296 intervention (Walker & Cooper, 2011; Davoudi, 2018). The historical context of both men, namely,
297 one marked by Keynesian policies, should arguably also be borne in mind. One of the possible
298 (side)effects of scientific models presuming resilient individual agents is that they can lend credence
299 to the idea of self-reliant and self-sufficient individuals and further the "neoliberal individualization of
300 responsibility" (Davoudi, 2018, p. 5). Such alliance, perhaps unwitting, between political agendas and
301 science is the great fear of those social constructivists whose primary commitment is to justice and the

302 protection of vulnerable individuals and groups (Fainstein, 2014; Derickson, 2016; Kolers, 2016;
303 Lockie, 2016; Lyster, 2017; Mummery & Mummery, 2019).

304 One of the major points of contention between naturalism, in the strict sense, and social
305 constructivism is that most social constructivists are unwilling to conceive resilience to climate change
306 as a system property (an intellectual attitude that does not imply that all naturalistic approaches
307 actually conceive resilience as a system property) (cf. Andler, 2014). Instead, resilience is perceived
308 as a socio-political construct created by diverse stakeholders (Walsh-Dilley & Wolford, 2015;
309 Weichselgartner & Kelman, 2015; Kythreotis & Bristow, 2017). This means that it is not a
310 neutral or technical element and, accordingly, requires constant critical scrutiny to uncover its possible
311 ideological and mythical nature (Alexander, 2013; Bourbeau, 2015; Boas & Rothe, 2016; Juncos,
312 2018; Wessel, 2019). Some scholars have pointed out the neoliberal ideology underpinning both
313 theories/models and policies that rely on the idea of adaptive cycles governed by invisible laws, which
314 make intervention undesirable (Chandler, 2014; Tierney, 2015). It is thereby overlooked that the so-
315 called self-organizing system is itself the result of political decisions over a long period of time.
316 Governments are thus accused of shifting the responsibility for vulnerable systems (which are
317 themselves the products of formal and informal institutions and political decisions, among other
318 things), floods, pollution, safety, welfare, health, etc. onto “resilient” individuals or individuals who
319 ought to become more resilient, which is another word for self-reliant (Braun, 2014; Pizzo, 2015;
320 Tierney, 2015; Howell, 2015; Anderson, 2015; Ksenia et al., 2016; Schwartz, 2018; Davoudi, 2018). In
321 some cases, such resilience discourse enables governments to avoid their public responsibility. An
322 instance of such “wicked” dynamics is governments’ shifting the responsibility for the provision of
323 access to water onto local “communities” while the latter might be absent due to strife or inadequate
324 management capacities (Katomero & Georgiadou, 2018). In such situations, vulnerable individuals
325 and groups are denied this basic human right, while other powerful groups claim sole access to water.

326 Social constructivists are generally critical of the very language of resilience. Those who point
327 out the discursive or narrative nature of resilience-based political speeches and policies are usually

328 indebted to Michel Foucault's idea of a discourse. The latter refers to systems of thoughts and beliefs
329 expressed through language and practices that systematically construct subjects and societies of which
330 they speak. In other words, both language and practices are creative acts. Through resilience
331 discourses, a particular type of subject (like resilient or self-reliant) and a particular type of society (like
332 a market-based "society") are discursively constructed and reinforced (Miller et al., 2010). Evans and
333 Reid (2013) thus argue that resilience has the character of a doctrine, according to which the resilient
334 subject must accept and constantly adapt to a dangerous and changing world. Given this doctrine,
335 vulnerability is rejected as weakness, a moral flaw (very much like a lack of character or will power)
336 (Cole, 2016). A problematic normativity is brought into existence when citizens are expected to adapt
337 to ecological and societal catastrophes by becoming self-reliant (Fainstein, 2014; Tierney, 2015; Kolars,
338 2016; Ribault, 2019). In other words, some (or most) social constructivists do not merely try to answer
339 the question of how to make societies and individuals resilient to climate change, but instead question
340 the normativity of the concept "resilience". Such a critical approach is arguably problematic and
341 counterproductive in some cases. The urgency of real problems (like rising water levels that threaten
342 millions of people) makes a dialogue between different approaches highly desirable.

343
344
345 in the social sciences, naturalist research as such arose in the context of the development of
346 cybernetics, computational power and automation (and automated decision making) (Simbirski, 2006;
347 Floridi, 2017; 2018; Davoudi, 2018). Naturalist social studies are based on the cybernetic idea that
348 machines, organisms, and societies show considerable similarity in structure and function; and can be
349 described in terms of systems. Since the 1940s, such studies have typically adopted cybernetic
350 complexity theory as their distinctive overarching theoretical outlook, within which other theories (for
351 instance, on behavior change, on decision making under risk, or on social institutions) are
352 incorporated. In complexity theory, machines, organisms, and societies are modelled as complex, non-
353 linear, evolutionary systems. Complex systems are composed of many components, including

354 properties, agents, resources, and governance systems. All components interact with each other, in
355 response to ever-changing environments and disturbance (Walsh-Dilley & Woldford, 2015; Juncos,
356 2017; 2018). From this naturalist point of view, resilience to climate change is a matter of evolution:
357 resilience is “evolutionary resilience” (Pizzo, 2015: 137; Davoudi, 2018: 4). In the 1970s, naturalist
358 social scientists incorporated Holling’s notion of resilience within their own cybernetic complexity
359 theory and cybernetic methodology (Wiese, 2016; Bergström, 2018). That is, socio-ecological systems
360 are cybernetically conceptualized as adaptive complex systems. The ability to cope with uncertainty
361 and complexity is one of the capacities of individual agents and interacting agents. The latter are able
362 to interact and self-organize, learn and adapt (in an incremental or transformative way), making the
363 system flexible in absorbing shocks and developing in face of changes (Jesse, Heinrichs &
364 Kuchshinrichs, 2019).

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365 Naturalist social scientists tend to emphasize a type of laissez-faireism, pointing out that
366 adaptive complex systems have their own self-organizational structures that should not be interfered
367 with. Bureaucratic interventions to address vulnerability and increase resilience to climate change
368 typically generate unintended consequences that may well reduce a system’s ability to absorb
369 changes and disturbances (Adger et al, 2011). In 2001, Holling introduced the notion of “panarchy,”
370 as an alternative to hierarchy, to safeguard the self-organization of complex systems against the threat
371 of bureaucratic intervention (Holling, 2001). Derived from the ancient Greek god of the woods, Pan,
372 panarchy refers to the structure in which complex (ecological and social) systems are interlinked in an
373 evolutionary process of adaptive cycles of growth, accumulation, restructuring, and renewal (Berkes
374 & Ross, 2016). Accordingly, when confronted with shocks (like extreme weather events), adaptive
375 systems stabilize with supporting self-organizing structures until those structures are overstretched
376 and can no longer absorb changes and disturbances; this is when there is a transformation of the
377 system (Allen et al, 2014). In other words, in naturalist research, the notion of panarchy (as an
378 evolutionary mode of system self-organization) complements Holling’s earlier notions of socio-
379 ecological systems and resilience (as a system property). In Holling’s naturalist theory of panarchy,

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380 resilience is a primary system property that is measured by the magnitude of shocks that can be
381 absorbed before the structures of system change (Boyer, 2020).

382 Methodologically, naturalist social scientists have typically embraced agent based modelling
383 (ABM) as their favorite mode of analysis in resilience research. They focus on the constant refinement
384 of simulation tools (that can cope with complexity, uncertainty and multiplicity of agents) and
385 techniques of regulation in favor of adaptation (cf. Cote & Nightingale, 2012; Patriarca et al, 2018).

386 Since the 1970s, when it emerged from mathematical sociology, ABM has been a much endorsed tool
387 used in complexity theoretic research for analyzing complex systems. (Conte & Paolucci, 2014).

388 ABM is a computational mode of analysis that simulates complex (non-linear) systems that include
389 diverse interacting agents that make decisions, interact and learn or adapt in their ever changing

390 environment, according to programmable rules. (Hawes & Reed, 2006; Farmer & Foley, 2009;
391 Van Duinen et al, 2015; Martin & Schlüter, 2015; Sun, Stojadinovic & Sansavini, 2019). ABM

392 computes, in probabilistic terms, the recovery process of complex (non-linear) systems under stress
393 and tracks the emergence of new stages, phases or entries into new adaptive cycles (Filatova, Polhill

394 & Van Ewijk, 2016). In the social sciences, naturalist scholars calculate resilience to climate change
395 at the system level as a system property (Pumpuni-Lenss, Blackburn & Garstenauer, 2017). Since

396 ABM traces feedbacks between micro macro scale explicitly, ABM also enables naturalist scholars to
397 estimate the resilience of a system's individual agents, communities or (sub)groups of agents.

399 2.2 The constructivist view on resilience

400
401 In the social sciences, constructivist resilience research is also inspired by Holling's SES
402 approach. Yet, for constructivists, resilience to climate change is not a system property. It is instead a

403 socio-political construct that is created by diverse stakeholders (Walsh-Dillely & Welford, 2015;
404 Weichselgartner & Kelman, 2015; Kythreotis & Bristow, 2017). Constructivist research includes

405 a variety of (typically phenomenological and discursive) scientific perspectives. Constructivist

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406 resilience research primarily focuses on the political context and socio-political implications of
407 resilience discourses. As a construct, resilience to climate change is not so much technical as political
408 and administrative in nature (Alexander, 2013; Bourbeau, 2015; Boas & Rothe, 2016; Juncos, 2018;
409 Wessel, 2019). And given its political and administrative nature, resilience is invested with ideology
410 and myth. Constructivist scholars typically stress that resilience is a neoliberal construct. That
411 neoliberal ideology manifests itself in the belief in adaptive cycles governed by invisible laws and the
412 non-interventionist stance. It is thereby overlooked that the so-called self-organizing system is itself
413 the result of political decisions over a long period of time. Constructivists thus point out that resilience
414 has become a buzzword for governments that seek to shift the responsibility for vulnerable systems,
415 floods, pollution, safety, welfare, health, etc. to “resilient” individuals. Governments, in these cases,
416 have recourse to resilience to make individuals more self-reliant (or less dependent on the
417 government) when it comes to coping with their own struggles in dealing with the challenges of
418 climate change (Braun, 2014; Pizzo, 2015; Tierney, 2015; Howell, 2015; Anderson, 2015; Ksenia et al,
419 2016; Schwartz, 2018; Davoudi, 2018). For instance, governments that fail to provide basic access to
420 water to millions of rural citizens advocate community-based water management schemes, the leading
421 paradigm for rural water access in East Africa (Katomera & Georgiadou, 2018). Such schemes
422 “work” for the state (and donors) as a means of shifting (or offloading) responsibility for public service
423 provision to the most vulnerable citizens for whom community management may not be a preferred
424 option (Katomera & Georgiadou, 2018).

425 Constructivist scholars tend to critically analyze resilience as an ideological construct. Such
426 critical studies are typically inspired by the works of Michel Foucault, in the sense that resilience is
427 analyzed as a discursive construct or ideological discourse. For Foucault, a discourse refers to systems
428 of thoughts and beliefs, expressed through language and practices that systematically construct
429 subjects and societies of which they speak. In other words, both language and practices are creative
430 acts. Language is not a neutral tool of communication. Through resilience discourses, a particular type
431 of subject (like resilient or self-reliant rather than vulnerable or dependent citizens) and a particular

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432 type of society (like a market-based “society”) are discursively constructed and reinforced (Miller et
433 al, 2010). Evans and Reid (2013) argue that as a discursive construct created by power holders,
434 resilience has the character of a doctrine, according to which the resilient subject must constantly
435 adapt to a dangerous and changing world, and is willing to accept this. Given this doctrine, vulnerability
436 is rejected as weakness, a moral flaw (like a lack of character or a lack of will power) or simply
437 illegitimate (the ability to absorb shocks being the new norm). Many critical constructivist scholars see
438 the political reactions to events like Katrina (2005), Fukushima (2011), and Covid-19 (2020) as
439 manifestations of such ideology. A problematic normativity is brought into existence when citizens are
440 told that they must adapt to ecological and societal catastrophes, and when vulnerable citizens are left
441 abandoned by their government as they are expected to be self-reliant (Fainstein, 2014; Tierney, 2015;
442 Ribault, 2019). Constructivist scientists also stress that such catastrophes present themselves as
443 “anthropological shocks” (Beck (2015: 80). Such shocks may open up counter discourses that contest
444 domination (Fazey et al, 2018). Katrina, for instance, proved to be such an anthropological shock
445 because it opened up a counter discourse that brought up the issues of colonial patterns of racism,
446 slavery, vulnerability, and abandonment (Beck, 2015). As an anthropological shock, it is a potential
447 initiator of policy transformations beyond the resilience discourse.

448 Constructivist scholars not only emphasize the role of neoliberal ideology that legitimizes
449 established power relationships and patterns of domination in resilience discourses. They also point at
450 the role of myth and myth making in the discursive construction of resilience. Constructed as a myth,
451 resilience is understood as a widely embraced narrative. Resilience is a story that connects diverging
452 ideologies, values, interests, worldviews and power relations. The “myth of resilience” (Kuhlicke,
453 2013) refers to the stories that stakeholders enact to make sense of the radically surprising discovery
454 of something entirely unknown (like Katrina or the Covid-19 crisis). As narrators, stakeholders interpret
455 their own capacities to deal with stresses and shocks, such as extreme weather events (like floods,
456 droughts, and heatwaves). In this context of making sense of an unknown phenomenon, stakeholders
457 develop the capacity to adapt and transform through mythmaking. For instance, the increasing

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458 attention on “urban climate resilience” (Tyler and Moensch, 2012) resonates with the myth that
459 cities, or “local governments”, are to lead and shape climate change adaptation as a form of bottom-
460 up self-organization for absorbing changes and disturbances (O’Hare et al., 2016; Klein et al., 2017).

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463 3. Bridging the naturalist and constructivist view on resilience

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465 In the social sciences, naturalist and constructivist resilience research are based on contrasted
466 premises, each having their own theoretical and methodological outlooks. Given such scientific
467 contrasts,

468 Given the different appraisals of the very concept resilience with respect to climate change among
469 social scientists, it has been widely questioned whether resilience can possibly operate as a theoretical
470 model or unifying paradigm – and whether such a unifying paradigm would be desirable in the first
471 place (Alexander, 2013; Thorén, 2014; Bourbeau, 2015; Fainstein, 2015; Pizzo, 2015). A unifying
472 paradigm is neither possible nor desirable. The question of whether such unifying paradigm is possible
473 or desirable need not be answered here. It can still be argued that it is desirable to bring together the
474 insights gained from naturalistic and constructivist approaches. Yet, naturalist and constructivist
475 research can be brought together to enrich and renew understandings of resilience to climate change.

476 Naturalist Resilience to climate change research that relies on naturalist and naturalistic premises may
477 be able to provide quick solutions to crises precisely because various unpredictable and apparently
478 irrelevant elements are discounted. The focus on the obvious problem without taking into account the
479 broader context – which may be problematic – has many advantages, certainly if the bigger picture is
480 taken into account after recovery from an acute crisis. In the event of a flood, for instance, the first
481 concerns should arguably be evacuation and preventing another flood. Once everyone is safe, the
482 question as to why the flood has affected a particular group can be raised. The particular choices made
483 with regard to urban and rural planning can be critically scrutinized. Answers to the various questions

484 ~~that a flood and its aftermath raise will require knowledge from many disciplines. “Resilience” to~~
485 ~~floods will mean much more than building dams. It will also involve criticism of particular social~~
486 ~~structures, institutions and decisions that have rendered some people or areas more vulnerable to~~
487 ~~natural hazards or the effects of climate change.~~

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488
489 ~~has the great merit that it may help to increase complex systems’” robustness to system~~
490 ~~failure when faced with shocks and disturbances. ABM — a mode of analysis that complexity theorists~~
491 ~~tend to prefer — may be a valuable tool for developing procedural stability, environmental risk~~
492 ~~management under conditions of uncertainty, provision of planning security, and prevention of~~
493 ~~adverse consequences from disruptive shocks (Schilling, Wyss & Binder, 2018). Constructivist~~
494 ~~resilience research provides a critical and most penetrating understanding of resilience as a construct~~
495 ~~(first of all, a discursive construct, myth or narrative) that contains political intention and direction. Its~~
496 ~~interpretation of resilience to climate change is useful for generating understanding of how resilience~~
497 ~~is mobilized, taken up in climate governance, and resisted by social movements’” counter discourses,~~
498 ~~such as the Fridays for Future, Black Lives Matter and Extinction Rebellion, that push for less~~
499 ~~unsustainable trajectories and for more protection of vulnerable citizens and communities.~~

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502 3.1 The debate on adaptive and transformative resilience

503
504 ~~In recent years, the contrast between naturalism and constructivism in resilience research has come~~
505 ~~to revolve around the issue of adaptation and transformation. Resilience research in recent years~~
506 ~~reveals divergence between social scientists when it comes to the issue of adaptation and~~
507 ~~transformation (Chandler, 2014; Redman, 2014; Fainstein, 2014; Dahlberg et al., 2015; Sjöstedt, 2015;~~
508 ~~Boas & Rothe, 2016; Duit, 2016; Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016; Clément & Rivera,~~
509 ~~2017; Lyster, 2017; Schlosberg, Collins & Niemeyer, 2017; Fazey et al., 2018; Glaser et al., 2018;~~

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510 Hoekstra, Bredenhoff-Bijlsma ~~&and~~ Krol, 2018; Jesse, Heinrichs ~~&and~~ Kuchshinrichs, 2019; Dryzek
511 ~~&and~~ Pickering, 2019). ~~Such disagreement can partly be explained by .It is an urgent issue that emerges~~
512 ~~from an particular~~ ambiguity in Holling's SES approach (Redman, 2014). In the 1970s, Holling (1973)
513 reinterpreted resilience as bouncing back or forward in terms of SES adaptation. Adaptation refers, on
514 the one hand, to the capacity of agents to influence the system (and influence or strengthen resilience
515 as a system property). And on the other hand, it alludes to panarchical adaptation to new (ecological
516 and social) environments, as an evolutionary process towards a new stage, phase, or adaptation cycle
517 (Boyd et al., 2015).

518 Yet, as Holling emphasizes, the bouncing back and bouncing forward of a system not only refers
519 to a return to some previous (dynamic) equilibrium or to the persistence and endurance of systems. It
520 also refers to socio-ecological transformation in an ongoing process of non-equilibrium and instability
521 and reinvention of systems in changing environments marked by different adaptive cycles (growth,
522 accumulation, restructuring, and renewal) (Folke, 2006). Transformation ~~means that refers to the~~
523 ~~capacity of agents are capable of to creatinge~~ a new system and a new discourse, particularly when
524 ~~conditions make~~ the existing system ~~is~~ untenable or illegitimate. ~~This focus on undesirable status quos~~
525 ~~and hence on transformation – after a crisis, for example – is characteristic of many social~~
526 ~~constructivists, but may also be important to those who have somehow combined the goods of several~~
527 ~~worlds (Carolan, 2005; Code, 2005). Scholars critical of resilience discourses propounded by national~~
528 ~~and international governance actors, therefore, do not try to find ways to increase resilience, but~~
529 ~~above all things, try to~~ Constructivist resilience research is primarily focused on transformation. Such
530 ~~research unsettles taken for granted assumptions and definitions of the situation expressed in~~
531 ~~established discourses; and it ignites_ignite_~~ new imaginations and counter-discourses ~~needed~~
532 ~~necessary~~ for realizing less unsustainable futures (Fazey et al., 2018). Recently, a middle ground
533 between adaptation and transformation has been developed, in the form of ~~“transformational~~
534 ~~adaptation”~~ (Pelling, O'Brien ~~&and~~ Matyas, 2015; Mummery ~~&and~~ Mummery, 2019). ~~Examples of~~
535 ~~t~~Transformational adaptations ~~include, such as~~ green growth or the greening of ~~the established~~

536 ~~present economies. -economy- These are refer to~~ changes that are aligned ~~to~~with the scale of
537 projected, possible and desirable changes within systems that are informed by ~~(ultimately~~
538 ~~constructivist)~~ considerations of justice.

539 ~~The naturalist emphasis on resilience as system adaptation to climate change means that~~
540 ~~resilience research focusses~~ Resilience research that emphasizes system adaption to climate change
541 ~~focusses~~ on the degree to which complex systems can build capacity for learning, as a way to respond
542 to shocks or disturbances, embrace evolutionary change, and live with complexity and uncertainty
543 (Thorén, 2014; Juncos, 2017; Warmink et al., 2017; Béné et al., 2018). Given unpredictability and
544 uncontrollability, adaptive resilience ~~is especially a matter of comes with~~ short-term planning,
545 uncertainty reductions, incremental and path-dependent changes (Borsje et al, 2011; Haasnoot et al.,
546 2013). Adaptive resilience – the system’s re-stabilizer – is ~~conceived taken~~ as inherently positive, while
547 disturbances and shocks (de-stabilizers) are ~~taken as~~ negative (Duit, 2016; Lockie, 2016). ~~It is on the~~
548 ~~basis of the premise that adaptive resilience is good that naturalist resilience research ties up with~~
549 ~~climate risk management, as a way of managing ecosystem services (critical for survival), under~~
550 ~~conditions of ecological and societal shocks and disturbances~~ Research building on the premise that
551 ~~adaptive resilience is desirable thus partners well with climate risk management~~ (Boyd et al., 2015;
552 Berbés-Blázquez et al., 2017). ~~The response of the government to the overflowing of the Meuse River~~
553 ~~in 1993 and 1995 illustrates research-based risk reduction through adaption that involves a break with~~
554 ~~the past. The government did not simply have recourse to building more dykes and strengthening~~
555 ~~existing barriers, which has been the traditional approach, but instead opted for river deepening and~~
556 ~~widening measures (Dijkman et al., 1997; Hamers et al., 2015). For instance, when confronted with the~~
557 ~~near flood events of 1993 and 1995 along the river Rhine in the Netherlands, the Dutch government~~
558 ~~responded by increasing the flood conveyance capacity of the large rivers, thereby decreasing flood~~
559 ~~water levels (Hamers et al, 2015).~~ Since its completion in 2015, the Room for the River project is
560 considered effective thus far, particularly as its secondary objective to increase ecosystem values in
561 the river appears ~~to be~~ successful. ~~However, a research completed in 2013 (Ward et al., 2013) points~~

562 out that the risk of flooding is expected to increase in the future (two- to three-fold increase by 2030
563 compared to 2010), and emphasizes the need for change at the level of land-use. Indeed, the
564 researchers found out that the impact of land-use on flood risk is likely to be greater than climate
565 change itself. This means that households, for instance, can help to reduce the risk of future floods
566 through a change of behavior. But that's easier said than done. The authors of the report note that
567 there are few means to move households to participate in such risk reduction and point out the need
568 for further research on ways to implement new measures and motivate people to change their
569 behavior (Ward et al., 2013: 45).

570 ~~Warmink et al (2017) point out that in Dutch river management, such adaptation responses~~
571 ~~are typically conservative and within safety margins. This leads to over-dimensioning and high costs of~~
572 ~~water engineering works (like flood defenses).~~

573 Research that prioritizes transformative resilience in the context of climate change looks at a
574 system's internal capacities, capabilities and relations that enable it to create a new condition marked
575 by new or different power relationships and different priorities. In such cases, constructivists typically
576 point out the undesirability and injustice of status quos (Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016; Rothe,
577 2017; Béné et al., 2018). According to this perspective, anthropological shocks open up new horizons,
578 reassessments (including of past ideas, beliefs and practices) and rediscoveries (Beck, 2015; Fazey et
579 al., 2018). There is no going back to how it was before these shocks. According to these critical voices,
580 adaptive resilience research and policies based on that research contribute to maintaining systems
581 that are unjust (Skillington, 2015; Derickson, 2016; Fazey et al., 2018; Mummery & Mummery,
582 2019). This does not mean that adaptive resilience research – which usually draws on “naturalistic”
583 methods – does not include justice in its models (Redman, 2014; Thorén, 2014; Ksenia et al., 2016;
584 Schlosberg, Collins & Niemeyer, 2017; Bergström, 2018). Yet, such models are based on, and
585 reflects, existing systems. They cannot take structures of power into account because that structural
586 power – to influence production, consumption, knowledge, and so on – is not a measurable entity
587 (Howell, 2015; Pizzo, 2015; Lockie, 2016; Derickson, 2016; Davoudi, 2018). This also means that they

588 cannot possibly integrate thoroughly unequal power relationships – such as the Global North-Global
589 South relationship – into their models (Swyngedouw, 2011; Pizzo, 2015; Clément & Rivera, 2017;
590 Davoudi, 2018; Glaser et al., 2018; Dryzek & Pickering, 2019).

591 The limitations of models need not be a problem unless they become the political tools to
592 implement adaptive measures (Fainstein, 2014; Weichselgartner and Kelman, 2015; Huang, Boranbay-
593 Akan and Huang, 2016; McGreavy, 2016; Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016; Ribault, 2019).

594
595 The constructivist emphasis on resilience to climate change as system transformation refers to
596 the emergent transformation of systems into something new beyond the status quo (Ziervogel, Cowen
597 & Ziniades, 2016; Rothe, 2017; Béné et al, 2018). Transformative resilience is defined as the
598 system's internal capacities, capabilities and relations that enables it to create a new condition
599 marked by a new discourse (and accordingly, new or different power relationships). Flood protection,
600 for instance, is typically a governmental responsibility, but, with a new myth, stakeholders can
601 transform an established situation and realize alternative scenario's in which responsibilities may be
602 distributed among different stakeholders (Warmink et al., 2017). Adaptive resilience comes with
603 evolutionary change (the definition of change that naturalist research typically endorses). By contrast,
604 transformative resilience comes with "metamorphosis". This type of change refers to a
605 transformation of systems that is triggered by anthropological shocks that open up new horizons,
606 reassessments (including of past ideas, beliefs and practices) and rediscoveries (Beck, 2015; Fazey et
607 al., 2018). The middle ground of transformational adaptation bridges evolutionary change and
608 metamorphosis, in the sense that such adaptation attends to broader socio-political processes of
609 transformations (Kates, Travis & Wilbanks, 2012; Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016). The
610 notion of transformational adaptation picks up on and challenges the transformative logic of system
611 transformation with simultaneous system adaptation, based on uncertainty regarding how fast and
612 how far disruptions will go – or whether sustainable transformations will thrive as political projects at
613 all.

614 Constructivist social scientists criticize the notion of adaptive resilience for not sufficiently
615 addressing issues of environmental and climate justice. To address issues of power abuse and
616 domination, the constructivist argument goes, system reconfiguration is needed: injustice inheres in
617 the established systems. Naturalist resilience research, however, does not exclude considerations of
618 justice from scientific analysis. Yet, it identifies justice, like resilience, as a system property. Thus,
619 enhancing adaptive resilience to climate change may entail liberal principles of equity, fairness and
620 access to resources and services, so as not to privilege or marginalize certain stakeholders (Redman,
621 2014; Thorén, 2014; Ksenia et al, 2016; Schlosberg, Collins & Niemeyer, 2017; Bergström, 2019).
622 Yet, naturalist enquiry into adaptive resilience tends to leave the status quo of systems, including the
623 problematic Global North-Global South relationship (marked by massive power inequality),
624 unquestioned (Swyngedouw, 2011; Pizzo, 2015; Clément & Rivera, 2017; Davoudi, 2018; Glaser et
625 al, 2018; Dryzek & Pickering, 2019). In constructivist resilience research, by contrast, the justice
626 question is placed in a context of broader socio-political processes of system transformation: adaptive
627 systems can be unjust and oppressive (Fainstein, 2014; Weichselgartner and Kelman, 2015; Huang,
628 Boranbay Akan and Huang, 2016; McGreavy, 2016; Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016; Ribault,
629 2019).

630
631 Adaptive responses to shocks and disturbances may blur long term sustainability visions and enable
632 powerful stakeholders to maintain their positions, while dominant (or dominating) stakeholders
633 typically reify existing climate policy efforts in their (standardized) adaptive responses (Lockie, 2016;
634 Derickson, 2016; Rothe, 2017; Estêvão, Calado and Capucha, 2017; Ribault, 2019). Kythreotis &and
635 Bristow (2017) call this phenomenon the “resilience trap” – the reinforcement of established power
636 relations (legitimized by dominant ideologies such as neoliberalism) and contemporary resilience
637 discourses (Blühdorn, 2013; Redman, 2014; Yanarella &and Levine, 2014; Lockie, 2016; VanderPlaat,
638 2016; Schilling, Wyss &and Binder, 2018; Glaser et al, 2018; Ribault, 2019). Hence, some constructivist
639 scholars tend to reject Holling’s panarchy concept, emphasizing that transformation towards more

640 sustainable worlds is not an evolutionary process of adaptive cycles but a political-administrative
641 phenomenon (cf. Boyer, 2020). ~~The middle ground of transformational adaptation, accordingly, must~~
642 ~~include a process of filtering out resilience traps that come with adaptive resilience. Transformational~~
643 ~~adaptation includes an understanding that adaptive resilience may well enforce a governance of~~
644 ~~unsustainability (cf. Van de Ven, 2017).~~

647 3.2 Transformative resilience and sustainability

648
649 ~~For constructivist scholars, transformative resilience is a post-neoliberal construct that is intertwined~~
650 ~~with the notion of sustainability. For constructivist scholars, sustainability is based on the idea that~~
651 ~~existing systems can be transformed — with respect to social, cultural, political, administrative,~~
652 ~~economic, technological and environmental factors —, with the right governance interventions and~~
653 ~~reconfigurations of the ecological and social underpinnings of SES~~

654 For some constructivist scholars, genuine sustainability presupposes transformative resilience because
655 inherently unsustainable systems cannot be made more wholesome by tweaking a few of their
656 constituents. In cases of inherent or structural defects, resilience refers to the capacity to “use” a
657 crisis to reappraise critically the social, cultural, and political choices underpinning SES, and if
658 necessary, to make new choices (Pizzo, 2015; Weichselgartner & Kelman, 2015; VanderPlaat, 2016;
659 Ziervogel, Cowen & Ziniades, 2016; Hughes, 2017; Jesse, Heinrichs & Kuchshinrichs, 2019). The
660 reconfigurations of SES do require interventions by all governance actors. Transformative resilience
661 used in this sense is thus a post-neoliberal concept. Currently, the sustainable energy transformation
662 is no doubt the best example of such a reconfiguration. When applied to the energy transition,
663 transformative resilience entails a more radical change than adaptive resilience does. In the former
664 case, this means concrete plans to phase out fossil fuels and hence to reorganize economies, where
665 the old fossil fuel industry no longer holds the reins (Alexander & Yacoumis, 2018; Stegemann &

666 Ossewaarde, 2018; Bergmann & Ossewaarde, 2020). Adaptive resilience is involved when the
667 phasing out of fossil fuels is being delayed and when certain discourses ensure that the fossil industry
668 is given carte blanche to carry on business as usual (Buschmann & Oels, 2019). Geels (2014, p. 24)
669 explains how “the coal regime has so far resisted climate change pressures through a “clean coal”
670 discourse and the innovation promise of carbon capture and storage (CCS).”;

671 It is widely agreed that non-renewable Fossil energy sources like coal, oil and gas are largely
672 responsible for landscape degradation, water pollution, as well as greenhouse gas carbon-dioxide
673 emissions and other pollutants that ,which generate have been causing global warming (Cook et al.,
674 2016). The sustainable energy transformation, accordingly, is, amongst other things, a response to
675 climate change. In a more robust sense, it is more than simply a response to climate change. Instead,
676 the latter is a symptom of the inherent unsustainability of the present socioeconomic system and is
677 therefore an additional, urgent reason to radically transform the latter (Alexander & Yacoumis,
678 2018). Hence, those who conceive an energy transition as an adaptive necessity are primarily
679 concerned with what several scholars call “energy resilience” (Béné et al., 2018, p. 120; Jesse,
680 Heinrichs & Kuchshinrichs, 2019, p. 21), that is, with the continuing supply of energy to support the
681 prevailing socioeconomic system and prevention of power outage during the transition. that is
682 potentially transformative in negating and transcending established (climate unfriendly) energy
683 systems. From the (typically naturalist) perspective of strengthening adaptive “energy resilience”
684 (Béné et al, 2018: 120; Jesse, Heinrichs & Kuchshinrichs, 2019: 21)—energy systems must adapt to
685 changing environments in which high levels of greenhouse gas emissions comes from burning fossil
686 fuels for electricity, heat and transportation. Energy resilience means that established energy systems
687 can limit the risk of power outage and continue providing. In other words, ,reliable energy supplies at
688 stable costs must be kept going to support the present socioeconomic system ,even in a turbulent
689 ecological and political environment (Wiese, 2016). Since system collapse is to be avoided at any cost,
690 The notion of energy resilience, as a form of adaptive resilience to climate change means incremental
691 changes and the increasing use of renewables without stopping the use of fossil fuels ,implies that the

692 ~~energy transition, including the use of renewables, can only go via incremental changes and greening~~
693 ~~of the established economy, to avoid system collapse~~ (Berbés-Blázquez et al., 2017; Schilling, Wyss
694 ~~& Binder, 2018; Stegemann & Ossewaarde). Adaptive resilience here means the gradual~~
695 ~~greening of energy and hence the gradual greening of the system through green technological without~~
696 ~~essentially changing the old system (Geels, 2014). In fact, important stakeholders of the “old regime”~~
697 ~~resist the transition to a new order (ibid). Such resistance takes, among other things, the form of~~
698 ~~continuing investments in fossil-fuel-based energy and greening measures – which create the~~
699 ~~impression of a transition (especially in the media) – thereby further anchoring the existing system~~
700 ~~(Alova, 2020; Gençsü et al., 2020). The incentives to “destabilize” such a flourishing economic system~~
701 ~~are thus weakened.~~

702
703 ~~The middle ground of transformational adaptation includes this adaptationist notion of energy~~
704 ~~resilience but aligns it to the scale of desirable ecological and societal changes that are informed by~~
705 ~~justice considerations and political direction towards less unsustainable futures. Given that established~~
706 ~~energy systems insufficiently respond to ecological and societal challenges of climate change,~~
707 ~~transformational adaptation may imply the metamorphosis of energy systems.~~

708 ~~From the (typically constructivist) perspective of strengthening transformative resilience,~~
709 ~~energy resilience comes with the enactment of Scholars who challenge existing social structures~~
710 ~~therefore critically point out that the primary and sole focus on “energy resilience” (that is to say,~~
711 ~~energy security) is more likely to maintain the energy system’s status quo, which further allows~~
712 ~~powerful stakeholders to promote fossil energy and keep their established positions. This is a status~~
713 ~~quo that includes powerful agents that have a vested interest in promoting fossil energy. As Simpson~~
714 ~~(2013, p. 249) notes, the “critical approach to energy security challenges the existing economic,~~
715 ~~political and technical assumptions that underpin traditional debates on energy production and~~
716 ~~consumption, but it also challenges traditional notions of security that have the nation-state as their~~
717 ~~referent object”.~~

718 ~~Such agents use all sorts of tactics (including sponsoring the climate change denial movement) to~~
719 ~~secure their established power position (Stegemann & Ossewaarde, 2018; Szablowski &~~
720 ~~Campbell, 2019). An uncritical adaptive energy resilience approach can thus reinforce “energy~~
721 ~~injustice”, that is, the “the unequal distribution of ills” throughout the energy system, whereby that~~
722 ~~system is defined as “the entire energy chain, from mining, conversion, production, transmission, and~~
723 ~~distribution, right through to energy consumption and waste” (Jenkins et al., 2016, p. 179).~~
724 ~~It enacts a condition of “energy injustice”, particularly in the Global South. The notion of energy~~
725 ~~injustice refers to~~
726 ~~current energy systems that distribute the ecological and economic benefits and burdens of~~
727 ~~established energy systems in unfair ways; dominate, degrade and devalue certain stakeholders; and~~
728 ~~exclude certain agents from processes that govern the benefits, burdens and recognitions (Jenkins et~~
729 ~~al, 2016; Heffron & McCauley, 2017).~~
730 ~~Scholars who focus on the transformative resilience of energy systems are therefore generally~~
731 ~~committed to energy justice and have a more critical approach to energy resilience (or security)~~
732 ~~because the latter presumes the socioeconomic order and unequal structures of power (Jenkins et al.,~~
733 ~~2016; Heffron & McCauley, 2017). , which is tied up with the notion of “energy justice”, refers~~
734 ~~to the resistance to and negation of a fossil based energy system and its oligarchical power structure~~
735 ~~(increasing the vulnerability of such a climate unfriendly energy system); They propose and the~~
736 ~~creation of a renewable energy-based system, energy commons and collaboratives beyond the energy~~
737 ~~establishment (VanderPlaat, 2016; Bourbeau & Ryan, 2018; Juncos, 2018; Schwartz, 2018; Acosta~~
738 ~~et al., 2018; Jesse, Heinrichs & Kuchshinrichs, 2019). The middle ground of transformational~~
739 ~~adaptation includes the long term vision of energy governance (for instance, towards 2050), but it~~
740 ~~searches for realizing such transformation through adaptations by the status quo. Transformational~~
741 ~~adaptation means that the sustainable energy transformation comes with the change of the energy~~
742 ~~establishment into agents of sustainability—a change that comes from within the power complex, for~~
743 ~~instance, via stakeholder participation (like shareholder activism).~~

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3.3 AI for resilience and sustainability

Adaptive resilience to climate change comes with short term systematic adjustments to a changing technological environment that is currently increasingly dominated by smart urbanism and artificial intelligence (AI) technologies. Governance actors like the UN, EU and national governments have all drafted their AI strategies for the making of an “AI Revolution”. Such actors present AI as a leading technology that contributes to resolving resilience and sustainability challenges (cf. Taddeo & Floridi, 2018). Particularly in naturalist resilience research, AI is identified as a new systems property that permeates systems to generate productivity gains, improve efficiency, lower costs, predict climate change stress, track carbon emissions, monitor flood risks, etc. (Rajan & Saffiotti, 2017; Khakurel et al, 2018; Vahedifard, et al, 2019; Miller, 2019; Saravi et al, 2019). Strengthening adaptive resilience to climate change through AI primarily means that an integrated data system for circulating information (near) real time among agents needs to be developed. In an AI technological environment, resilience implies close collaboration between agents (tool/model developers, data stakeholders, community level stakeholders, state level institutions, etc.) (Vahedifard, et al, 2019). AI comes in both for combining datasets into usable information, as a monitoring method (like change detection algorithms) as well as a tool for forecasting (for instance likely occurrence of a natural hazard due to extreme events). Identifying, harnessing, synthesizing, and communicating pertinent yet structured and unstructured data (weather data, cell phone GPS data, social media feeds, traffic cameras, smart city sensors, images, videos, audio data, etc.) enables agents to better forecast, prepare for, respond to, and recover from disturbances and shocks (Rajan & Saffiotti, 2017; Vahedifard et al, 2019). In urban systems, so-called “city dashboards” rely on big data and AI when it comes to ordering and visualizing data through interactive maps and graphs (Kitchen, 2018). By being able to predict (estimate or forecast) more accurately and learn from past disturbances and shocks,

770 lessons can be learned and applied in building adaptive resilience against disturbances (Saravi et al,
771 2019). AI, as for instance used in city dashboards, quantifies the probabilities of occurrence of extreme
772 events, essential in predicting and preparing for future natural hazards, such as floods or landslides.
773 For instance, with advances in machine learning, water availability, ice surfaces and melting rates,
774 saturated soils, pollution, deforestation, etc. can be more precisely or smartly monitored in space and
775 time so that changes over time can be tracked. Yet, with monitoring also learning of agents and
776 organizations is needed.

777 In the social sciences, constructivist scientists tend to have a critical view of AI. They do
778 recognize that AI may help building transformative resilience, given AI's capacity for anticipating
779 future events. AI may also play a positive role in phasing out of unsustainable yet adaptive systems.
780 Governance actors, such as the UN in its AI for good program (2017), the EU in its AI strategy (2018),
781 and various national governments in their AI programs emphasize the transformative potentials of AI.
782 Yet, strengthened adaptive resilience can also weaken the transformative resilience that is needed for
783 materializing sustainable transformations (Khakurel et al, 2018). From a critical constructivist angle, to
784 make AI serve transformative resilience requires that the domination of giant AI firms (like Google,
785 Amazon, Microsoft, Facebook, Alibaba, Tencent, etc.) is kept in check. It requires high levels of
786 transparency and stakeholder involvement in how algorithms are designed, built and applied. In
787 constructivist researches, it is frequently argued that although big data can be openly accessible (like
788 satellite imagery for geospatial and data scientists), big data and AI are often in the hands of giant tech
789 oligarchs (Miller, 2019; Ossewaarde, 2019) that have a vested interest in the further acceleration and
790 consumption of technological devices (Khakurel et al, 2018). Because of such an oligarchical power
791 structure, AI tends to obstruct transformative resilience, exerting power beyond rule of law and
792 democratic will and understanding. Such power abuse is found in the many recent privacy rights
793 violations and scandals (like the Facebook-Cambridge Analytica data scandal (2018) and the many
794 Google scandals) (cf. Taddeo & Floridi, 2018).

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4. Six upcoming themes in diversified resilience research

Current research on resilience to climate change in the social sciences reflects a diversity of focusses and commitments, ranging from climate-resilient infrastructure to issues of justice and power. Some critical scholars question the very notion of resilience and point to the “wicked” dynamics involved as “resilience” becomes a policy instrument to consolidate one particular, often established social reality at the expense of other, fairer possible alternatives. Research that unwittingly supports such political purpose has thus attracted the criticism of scholars who emphasize transformation towards new social constellations, where power (to influence the course of things), responsibility, burdens, and benefits are fairly distributed (Derickson, 2016; Jenkins et al., 2016; Heffron & McCauley, 2017; Alexander & Yacoumis, 2018; Davoudi, 2018; Glaser et al., 2018; Stegemann & Ossewaarde, 2018). Ultimately, the overarching challenge for future research is to ensure that resilience to climate change does not compromise sustainability and considerations of justice (including environmental, climate and energy justice). Based on our overview of recent scholarship, which cannot possibly be exhaustive, we have identified six research avenues that deserve continuing attention.

One of them is the further development of transdisciplinarity, which includes the collaboration between constructivist and naturalistic approaches to resilience, not only at the institutional level, but especially at the level of research itself. Such transdisciplinarity thus means that a scholar draws on different scientific traditions to approach one particular problem. In other words, transdisciplinarity does not restrict itself to “forced” collaboration between scholars from different disciplines, which is a prevalent organization of inter, multi and trans -disciplinarity (cf. Pohl, 2001). It also does not mean homogenization of science and the repression of the diversity of human thinking. It does entail an appreciation of diverse scientific vocabularies, of the variety of scientific knowledge, and the acknowledgement of clashes, which can be conducive to the advancement of human knowledge (cf.

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821 Pfeffer & Georgiadou, 2019). Bringing together various perspectives of a complex reality arguably
822 fosters our understanding of that same reality.

823 There have been several attempts to “bridge” the disciplinary divide, some more successful than
824 others. Such attempts at integration are deemed even more desirable when it comes to environmental
825 issues (Pompe & Rinehart, 2002; Mooney et al., 2013). Edward O. Wilson’s famous consilience is a
826 good example of a failed attempt since he takes the natural sciences and their methods to be hegemonic.
827 Wilson (1998, p. 11) thus notes:

828
829 Given that human action comprises events of physical causation, why should the social
830 sciences and humanities be impervious to consilience with the natural sciences? [...] Nothing
831 fundamental separates the course of human history from the course of physical history,
832 whether in the stars or in organic diversity.

833
834 Similarly, the allegedly transdisciplinary “Earth System Analysis” approach, developed at the
835 Potsdam-Institute for Climate Impact Research (Germany), makes use of mathematical modelling in
836 which the world is conceived as a cybernetic organism (Pohl, 2001, p. 40).

837 More successful integrative approaches do not allow the methodology and theoretical framework
838 of one particular scientific tradition to dominate the other. We have mentioned “ecological naturalism”
839 above as an example of such an approach. The “critical realist” (Proctor, 1998) is yet another way to
840 benefit from the realism of the naturalist approach, thereby avoiding relativism, without falling into
841 the trap of reification and determinism. With regard to energy, for instance, Jenkins et al (2016, p. 179)
842 argue that a “combination of the social science account of energy (policy) with its natural science
843 counterpart (systems)” helps us to determine where injustices lie, even more accurately than through
844 social constructivist approaches alone. Conversely, evolutionary resilience approaches that draw on
845 system thinking can be enriched by taking into account human agency, the issue “unequal power
846 relations that can disrupt feedback loops and channels of communications” (Davoudi, 2018, p. 4).

847 and more generally, the idea that we cannot simply wait for evolutionary change, or for systems to
848 explode, but instead have to realize alternatives imagined by human imagination.

849 This brings us to the second theme, which could be dubbed “critical resilience” research.
850 Critical thinking is arguably a precondition for, and characteristic of, science in general. This means that
851 reservations with regard to the very concept “resilience”, in policies and models, need to be taken
852 seriously. Research that constantly analyses the dominant and new – and often, implicit – conceptions
853 of resilience must thus be stimulated even if it does not seem to serve practical purposes. Critical
854 resilience research thus also includes the integration of reflexivity in transdisciplinary research, which
855 involves “a reflexive questioning of values, background assumptions and normative orientations”
856 (Popa et al., 2015, p. 46) of various approaches to resilience. Critical resilience research is expected
857 to pay attention to diverse conceptions of resilience and also to address the “question of outcomes
858 and who gets to define them as resilient or otherwise”, “the potential exclusions in determining
859 system “boundaries”, and “the question of the political—resilience from what, to what, and who
860 gets to decide?” (Porter & Davoudi, 2012, p. 331). Such critical resilience research can accompany
861 other resilience research, thereby preventing science from serving ideological goals.

862
863
864 In the social sciences, the bridging of naturalist and constructivist scientific approaches in theorizing
865 change as system adaptation, transformation, or transformational adaptation triggers new research
866 themes for the study of resilience to climate change. Theorizing change within and of systems has
867 become the key issue in resilience research, in the wake of changing societal, ecological, and
868 technological environments. In naturalist research, resilience to climate change is presented as
869 “evolutionary resilience” and as “adaptive resilience”. From this angle, the key issue of changing
870 environments is the survivability of established complex systems under stress. Change is, accordingly,
871 evolutionary change. In constructivist research, resilience to climate change is presented as discursive,
872 ideological, mythical (the “myth of resilience”) and as transformative resilience. The key issue of

873 ~~change is the overcoming of “resilience to change”, “resilience traps” and “unjust resilience” or~~
874 ~~“bad resilience” that the status quo that organize established systems produce. Such overcoming of~~
875 ~~the establishment is presented as an indispensable condition for enhancing change. Such change refers~~
876 ~~to metamorphosis of systems and comes with transformative politics and climate governance. The~~
877 ~~reconciliation of naturalism and constructivism in terms of change can be found in the middle ground~~
878 ~~of transformational adaptation, which ties incrementalism to long term sustainability visions. It is a~~
879 ~~notion that comes with the search for the conditions and tempo of transformations in different~~
880 ~~ecological and societal contexts and adaptative cycles. Ultimately, the overarching challenge for future~~
881 ~~research is to ensure that resilience to climate change does not compromise sustainability and~~
882 ~~considerations of justice (including, environmental, climate and energy justice).~~

883 ~~A first promising direction for future resilience research concerns the reconciliation of~~
884 ~~naturalist and constructivist scientific approaches to resilience. Given the diversification of scientific~~
885 ~~approaches, resilience cannot operate as a theoretical model or unifying paradigm (Mummery &~~
886 ~~Mummery, 2019).~~

887
888 ~~Yet, as a metaphor resilience provides a sound basis for reconciling contrasting scientific approaches,~~
889 ~~mainly because of its heterogeneity and high level of abstraction (Thorén, 2014).~~

890 ~~Intellectually, the reconciling of naturalism and constructivism implies an appreciation of diverse~~
891 ~~scientific vocabularies, many visions of what counts as scientific knowledge, other approaches”~~
892 ~~scientific worlds, a certain embracing (which includes making manifest) of the tensions between the~~
893 ~~contrasting types of science, and creating spaces for constructive contestation (Pfeffer &~~
894 ~~Georgiadou, 2019). Thereby, new resilience perspectives may develop. New questions may be posed~~
895 ~~(or new answers to long-standing questions may be provided). The resilience trap — typically marked~~
896 ~~by the promotion of adaptive strategies that reify responses and corresponding power structures in~~
897 ~~the short term — may be avoided (via challenging current assumptions underpinning resilience~~
898 ~~research). Current adaptation and transformation and transformational adaptation approaches may~~

899 ~~be further refined. And much-needed new ways of scientific thinking and possibilities may be opened~~
900 ~~in resilience research, beyond old conceptualizations and modes of analyses (cf. Fazey et al, 2018).~~
901 ~~These developments ask for new collaboration frameworks and platforms that empower stakeholders~~
902 ~~to bring both their resilience research questions and their assets to the table to collectively explore~~
903 ~~and define potential futures from the perspective of all present worldviews.~~

904 ~~A second theme for future resilience research comes with a change in political environment,~~
905 ~~in which the legitimacy of adaptive, transformative, and transformational adaptive responses to~~
906 ~~climate change is constantly contested.~~

907 ~~A third research avenue, somewhat related to the second theme, consists in the~~
908 ~~contextualization of resilience research and discourse, that is, in embedding it in its political and~~
909 ~~cultural context. By understanding the bigger picture in which both the ecological crisis and the~~
910 ~~responses to it arise, it may be possible to govern resilience research towards sustainability and justice,~~
911 ~~and to identify the factors – which may be institutional, cultural or political – that stimulate or deter~~
912 ~~such change (cf. Bahadur & Tanner, 2014). In a system thinking language, such research can identify~~
913 ~~the various agents that maintain or disrupt the system.~~

914 ~~Anthropogenic climate change comes with a political-administrative crisis, which manifests itself in the~~
915 ~~form of a legitimacy crisis, authority crisis (including the crisis of scientific authority), crisis of~~
916 ~~democracy, a crisis of human rights, a crisis of modernity (Swyngedouw, 2011; Blühdorn, 2013; Fischer,~~
917 ~~2017; Ossewaarde, 2018; Stegemann & Ossewaarde, 2018; Dryzek & Pickering, 2019). Crisis~~
918 ~~and the ability to absorb changes and shocks has been widely constructed as the new normal (Hilhorst,~~
919 ~~2018). In an increasingly toxic political environment (marked by climate change denial, anti-~~
920 ~~immigration policies, and nationalist protectionism) adaptive and transformative resilience and~~
921 ~~transformational adaptation may be expressed and contested in manifold ways.~~

922 For instance, on the one hand, environmental protest movements are stakeholders that develop a
923 leverage required to transform established systems (such as energy systems) and their governance
924 arrangements. On the other hand, agents who hold power thanks to such arrangements typically use

925 tactics of repression and criminalization, particularly in the extractive sectors of the Global South
926 (Szablowski ~~&and~~ Campbell, 2019). ~~Research focusing on the different fields of forces in various~~
927 ~~political contexts may discover how differences in system adaptation and reconfiguration relate to~~
928 ~~particular administrative capacities and governance arrangements (cf. Blühdorn, 2013; Fischer, 2017;~~
929 ~~Davoudi, 2018; Köhler et al., 2019; Mummery ~~&and~~ Mummery, 2019). It can also generate insights~~
930 ~~into the (possible) connection between particular resilience policies and models, on the one hand, and~~
931 ~~New research questions emerge on the one hand from polarization and the exercise of (il)legitimate~~
932 ~~power in the governing of and for resilience to climate change. This is the question of how the~~
933 ~~adaptation and metamorphosis of systems under pressures of climate change comes with new forms~~
934 ~~of power inequalities, polarization, injustice, ~~and~~ battle for resources, democratic deficits ~~and~~ post-~~
935 ~~democratic tendencies, on the other hand. climate change denial tactics, attacks on legal rights, and~~
936 ~~the resilient governance of unsustainability. To put it in more positive terms, urgent questions concern~~
937 ~~the meanings of transformation, the theorization of transformation in terms of just resilience, the~~
938 ~~linkage of resilience to sustainable futures, the development of a transformation agenda in~~
939 ~~participative, proactive and deliberative ways, and the comparison of different administrative~~
940 ~~capacities and new governance arrangements that explain differences in system adaptation and~~
941 ~~reconfiguration (cf. Blühdorn, 2013; Fischer, 2017; Davoudi, 2018; Köhler et al, 2019; Mummery ~~&and~~~~
942 ~~Mummery, 2019). Bierbaum and Stults (2013, p. 18) point to the “growing recognition of the need~~
943 ~~for a new model of deep and long-term stakeholder engagement”’. Such a model ensure that all (local)~~
944 ~~stakeholders are involved in determining a “vision of resilience, impediments to achieving that vision,~~
945 ~~and contextually relevant actions for achieving that vision”’ (Bierbaum ~~&and~~ Stults, 2013, p. 30). It can~~
946 ~~safeguard both the effectiveness and equitability of solutions.~~

947 A ~~fourth~~^{third} promising topic for future resilience research ~~is the interplay concerns the~~
948 ~~relationship~~ between adaptive resilience and transformative resilience and transformational
949 adaptation ~~in the reactive and proactive governance responses to anthropogenic climate change~~
950 (Clément ~~&and~~ Rivera, 2017). ~~In the coming decade, questions like how adaptive and transformative~~

951 ~~resilience to climate change is strengthened or weakened; how the current performance of systems~~
952 ~~when it comes to responding to possible disturbance (for instance, through the use of monitoring~~
953 ~~systems) can be better understood; how unjust resilience can be disabled (and therewith “positive~~
954 ~~vulnerability” can be increased to generate beneficial transformation (cf. Gallopin, 2006); and how~~
955 The focus can be on the ways in which transformational adaptation manifests itself, ~~(how multiple~~
956 adaptations may lead to transformational adaptation and ~~what are~~ the tipping points for igniting
957 transformation), ~~become urgent ones for resilience research~~ (Grove ~~&and~~ Chandler, 2017; Glaser et
958 al., 2018). The notion of ~~“tentative governance”~~ appears particularly relevant in the context of
959 transformational politics, when it comes to phasing out systems and weakening adaptive resilience.
960 Tentative governance is marked by interventions that are designed as preliminary rather than as
961 persistent, for purposes of probing and learning rather than for stipulating definite targets or fixating
962 existing systems and their underlying assumptions (Kuhlmann, Stegmaier ~~&and~~ Konrad, 2019). It is
963 likely that stakeholder engagement (including resistance) in transformational politics and tentative
964 governance varies, and manifests itself differently, across different policy fields. For instance, the
965 sustainable energy transformation may include multi-layer governance challenges, many pro-active
966 stakeholders, new investment opportunities and job opportunities. ~~Given that multiple public and~~
967 ~~private actors are responsible for the performance of different parts of a system, tentative governance~~
968 ~~comes with transformational adaptations that must be arranged. Hence arises the question which~~
969 ~~adaptations allow for transformation?~~ In contrast with the sustainable energy transformation, sea level
970 rise and the disruption and relocation of coastal cities may trigger a more limited transformative
971 politics, despite inevitable transformation of systems due to shocks and disturbances
972 (metamorphosis). Yet, in the coming decade, transformational politics and tentative governance –
973 including anthropogenic topics like population displacement, privatization of climate adaptation,
974 conflict organized around scarce resources (like water resources), intergenerational environmental
975 conflict, and the closing of old infrastructures that are too costly to maintain – becomes a more urgent
976 research topic.

977 ~~A fourth topic for future resilience research~~The fifth research theme concerns the relationship
978 between the phasing out of unsustainable systems and societal transformations. In other words, what
979 are the implications of the disintegration of old systems for societies, that is, for their cultures,
980 collective identities, traditions, economies, political-administrative power constellations, class
981 structures, etc.?; and which societal transformations promote such disintegration?

982 ~~The sustainable energy transformation is a most obvious phasing out of old systems (like coal~~
983 ~~energy systems) and change of worldviews, middle class consumerism, lifestyles, etc. towards new~~
984 ~~energy systems, given that burning fossil fuels has such a major impact on climate change. Adaptive~~
985 ~~and transformational responses to climate change are intermingled with responses to many societal~~
986 ~~and ecological developments. A response like investment in transportation systems that aims to~~
987 ~~address increasing transportation demand must accordingly include possible climate change impacts.~~
988 ~~In the Anthropocene epoch, systems typically face pressures to change, to establish new (less~~
989 ~~unsustainable) interactions between society and ecology. Pressures on existing systems not only~~
990 ~~emerge from ecological adversity, over exploitation, resource depletion, etc., but particularly from~~
991 ~~counter discourses and new ways of thinking, new lifestyles, and new contestations (like the Fridays~~
992 ~~for Future, the Anti-Mining, the Transition Towns, Black Lives Matter, and Degrowth movements) that~~
993 ~~increase the positive vulnerability of undesirable systems (Bergmann & Ossewaarde, 2020). At the~~
994 ~~same time, anthropogenic climate change comes with the development of a multi-trillion market of~~
995 ~~the emerging green economy, which proves new climate investment opportunities. Given such societal~~
996 ~~pressures and opportunities, new research topics encompass include the governing and accelerating~~
997 of the decline of existing systems and their adaptive cycles (Stegmaier, Visser & Kuhlmann, 2014;
998 Hoffmann, Weyer & Longen, 2017; Stegmaier, Visser & Kuhlmann, 2020); the particular
999 circumstances in which accelerations can manifest themselves; the identification of, and coping with,
1000 uncertainties in processes of adaptation and transformation and transformational adaptation; and the
1001 construction of new incentive structures, for accelerating sustainable transformation (cf. Clément
1002 & Rivera, 2017; Warmink et al., 2017; Köhler et al., 2019). This branch of discontinuation research

1003 assumes that technologies influence socio-ecological systems. Some technologies threaten resilience
1004 to climate change, while others enhance it (Smith & Stirling 2010), which brings us to another,
1005 related research topic, namely, the implications of the so-called “AI Revolution” and the (top down
1006 and politically steered) making of the alleged “Age of Artificial Intelligence” for resilience research
1007 and SES (Berendt, 2019).

1008 ~~Such research informs that political objectives like drastic reduction of CO2 emissions (as can~~
1009 ~~be found in the European Green Deal (2019) will hardly be achieved by using single cleaner (green)~~
1010 ~~technologies alone, but structural system metamorphosis is needed to qualitatively alter established~~
1011 ~~systems (Vögele, Kunz, Rübhelke & Stahlke 2018; Rogge & Johnston, 2017; Stegmaier 2019).~~
1012 ~~One of the challenges for the coming decade is to reverse the negative, alarmist, catastrophic,~~
1013 ~~apocalyptic or paralyzing image of climate change: transformational adaptation comes with~~
1014 ~~stakeholders taking a pro-active and positive view on climate change and on positive vulnerability, with~~
1015 ~~new opportunities emerging from responses to climate change. How can climate change and~~
1016 ~~vulnerability of established (and typically unsustainable) systems be regarded as an opportunity rather~~
1017 ~~than as a risk in the governance of transformational adaptation to climate change?~~

1018 Given worldwide investments in AI technologies and top-down AI strategies that global
1019 governance actors and national governments have recently published (Ossewaarde & Gülenç,
1020 2020), AI will most plausibly become a major force that shapes or undermines resilience to climate
1021 change. New interplays between automation, (un)sustainability, and adapting and transforming
1022 systems trigger new questions for future resilience research (cf. Köhler et al., 2019). Hoefsloot et al
1023 (2019) have expressed the concern that the total and unconditional reliance on the data generated by
1024 AI technology may lead to a flawed prediction of climate disasters. For instance, the coverage of
1025 climate disasters – satellite data, drone data, sensor data, social media data, volunteer geographic
1026 information (VGI) data, among others – may be incomplete and leave out certain geographical areas
1027 and even certain social groups (Hoefsloot et al., 2019). Other sources of information are necessary to
1028 ensure more accurate measurements (and predictions), complement data gaps and identify the needs

1029 ~~of local communities (Bierbaum & Stults, 2013; Pfeffer and Geogiadou 2019). A recent~~
1030 ~~example of the integration of different sources of knowledge is the resilient settlement program led~~
1031 ~~by UN HABITAT, which brought together a multitude of actors (policy, private, academic, community~~
1032 ~~organizations) and data and algorithms and local knowledges to identify settlements at risks~~
1033 ~~(unhabitat.org, 2019)–. This example illustrates the importance of embedding AI technologies in~~
1034 ~~particular contexts so that the needs of particular communities, for instance, are served, and fairness~~
1035 ~~and transparency are safeguarded. Resilience research and models must therefore include an~~
1036 ~~evaluation of AI technologies: how has data been acquired and by whom?; what are the implications~~
1037 ~~of particular AI technologies for the SES in question?; which new power relations are established~~
1038 ~~through the reliance on AI technologies?; which stakeholders are being included and which ones~~
1039 ~~excluded during the whole process beginning with the problem definition to the formulation of~~
1040 ~~solutions that involve an intensive application of AI? (Rajan & Saffiotti, 2017; Taddeo & Floridi,~~
1041 ~~2018; Khakurel et al., 2018; Vahedifard, et al., 2019; Miller, 2019; Saravi et al., 2019).~~

1042
1043 A ~~sixth fifth~~ theme for future resilience research concerns the role of environmental, energy
1044 and climate justice in theorizing, modeling, interpreting, and explaining resilience to climate change
1045 (cf. Skillington, 2015; Fazey et al., 2018; Mummery & Mummery, 2019). ~~What kind of research~~
1046 ~~results from the integration of –For future research,~~ theories of environmental justice, energy justice
1047 and climate justice ~~into can be conducive to helping furthering comprehension of~~ adaptive and
1048 transformative resilience and transformational adaptation ~~models? –How can justice claims be made~~
1049 ~~more responsive to newly unfolding ecological and societal circumstances and uncertainties? Future~~
1050 ~~resilience research will somehow have to confront wicked problems: given unstable political contexts,~~
1051 ~~scarcity of “resources” and struggles for survival and power, how can How can~~ principles of equity,
1052 fairness and access to resources and services be secured? ~~in a toxic political environment? And how~~
1053 ~~can –in the problematic context of climate-induced migration and a political environment marked by~~
1054 anti-immigration policies, ~~how can –the wellbeing of migrants be ensured and, in general, human~~

1055 rights be safeguarded?; how can the disparity and inequality in the distribution of risks, locally and
1056 globally, be tackled? Equity in this regard will mean much more than equality. Theories of
1057 environmental, energy and climate justice are also highly relevant for developing understanding of
1058 how adaptive and transformative resilience and transformational adaptation are perceived and
1059 experienced in everyday life by different stakeholders that face anthropogenic challenges.
1060 Constructivist enquiry into perceptions, experiences and prioritizations of resilience constructs is a
1061 promising topic for future resilience research. In this regard, insurance decisions of citizens against the
1062 risks associated with climate extremes can gain further research attention. As addressed by O'Hare
1063 et al. (2016), citizens are faced with an increasing responsibility to make decisions to "insure"
1064 themselves and their assets against the possible damages of climate change. Such decisions can have
1065 diverse justice implications in different political and economic contexts that influence how citizens
1066 perceive, experience, and prioritize climate risks. Similarly, Other challenges include the incorporation
1067 of the cross-sectional dimensions of justice, particularly gender and racial relations, is becoming
1068 increasingly relevant and yet challenging to understand and integrate into climate justice (Terry, 2009),
1069 and energy justice (Feenstra and Özerol, 2018) frameworks. And in the Global South, addressing issues
1070 of corruption, violence, poverty and lack of access to resources (and violent battles for resources) and
1071 services (like education and sanitation) may have a higher priority than global environmental
1072 considerations (Köhler et al., 2019).

1073 A sixth theme for future resilience research comes with a changing (geo)technological
1074 environment, that is, the so-called "AI revolution" in the making. Given worldwide investments and
1075 top-down AI strategies that global governance actors and national governments have recently
1076 published, AI will most plausibly become a major force that shapes resilience to climate change by
1077 means of monitoring, forecasting and learning. A relevant example of big data is the G-Earth Engine
1078 and the vast amount of satellite imagery made available by space agencies, which opens up an
1079 unprecedented dataset of satellite images for scientific research. Such extensive datasets, marked by
1080 high spatial and temporal resolution, are essential for monitoring a changing earth system. In the past

1081 ~~decade, resilience discourses have increasingly incorporated phenomena like big data, AI,~~
1082 ~~cybersecurity and smart city. In the coming decade, resilience discourses may increasingly become~~
1083 ~~algorithmic technology discourses. New interplays between automation, (un)sustainability, and~~
1084 ~~adapting and transforming systems trigger new questions for future resilience research (cf. Köhler et~~
1085 ~~al, 2019). For instance, in the near future, not only the number of climate disasters is expected to rise.~~
1086 ~~Also the data — satellite data, drone data, sensor data, social media data, volunteer geographic~~
1087 ~~information (VGI) data, Internet of Things data, etc. — available on such disasters is expected to increase~~
1088 ~~in size and resolution, amounting to vast volumes of climate disaster data. However, AI, due to the~~
1089 ~~unstructured nature or coverage of input data, may omit those phenomena, places and social groups~~
1090 ~~that are not present in the data (Hoefsloot et al. 2019). Alternative ways of knowing can refine or~~
1091 ~~contribute complementary insights to the precise measurements and data gaps (Pfeffer and~~
1092 ~~Georgiadou 2019). New research questions for naturalist and constructivist research emerge from~~
1093 ~~challenges of organizing big data and how to make it available and usable, given the variety of public~~
1094 ~~and private stakeholders, workflows and incentive structures involved in the (social) construction of~~
1095 ~~big data (Wright, 2016). How can AI be augmented with alternative ways of knowing to strengthen~~
1096 ~~adaptive/transformational resilience? How to incorporate the socio-spatial dimension in resilience~~
1097 ~~research, to pronounce the different capabilities of different groups and places? And what role can AI~~
1098 ~~play in creating a dialogue between the naturalist and constructivist resilience research? In the coming~~
1099 ~~years, AI tools — mainly tracking (for instance, tracking of deforestation tracking or energy/water~~
1100 ~~consumption) and machine learning techniques — are expected to be widely used. Among other things,~~
1101 ~~for detecting and predicting how climate disasters probably develop, for locating areas or communities~~
1102 ~~at risk, for analyzing the consequences of climate disasters, and for assisting in climate disaster~~
1103 ~~responses. Working with AI for purposes of learning from data — for instance, via the use of data mining~~
1104 ~~or deep learning techniques for dissecting patterns in satellite images — comes with the design of~~
1105 ~~procedures for data analytics, forecasting and intervention (Rodríguez González, Zanin &~~
1106 ~~Menasalvas Ruiz, 2019) and requires domain and local knowledge as well as a dialogue between~~

1107 naturalist and constructivist researchers. In contrast to the official national statistics of the past, which
1108 diffused societal controversies, big data analytics create myriad parallel realities, stand in the way of
1109 achieving a minimal consensus about basic facts and amplify controversies. A recent example where
1110 AI and alternative ways of knowledge came together is the resilient settlement program led by UN
1111 HABITAT which brought together a multitude of actors (policy, private, academic, community
1112 organizations) and data and algorithms and local knowledges to identify settlements at risks. In sum,
1113 next to technologization of resilience discourses, social processes of big data construction, the
1114 inclusion and exclusion of diverse stakeholders, the embeddedness of AI in everyday practices, the
1115 various uses of AI in the exploitation of data, fair, transparent and accountable (FAT) AI, as well as the
1116 integration and inclusion of alternative knowledges are promising fields of resilience research.

1117 In the coming decade, several AI challenges are most likely to increasingly come to the fore in
1118 resilience research. First, monitoring systems (for instance, monitoring the status and behavior of
1119 infrastructure or human settlement dynamics) that incorporate machine learning make that systems
1120 are automatically checked rather than regularly inspected by experts. When AI is integrated with
1121 knowledge of how systems work, expertise is outsourced to AI, which implies that expert knowledge
1122 may get lost or become obsolete. Moreover, AI classifications may have unintended consequences for
1123 certain places or communities. For example, by labelling areas at risks, property prices may go down
1124 or insurance agencies are not willing to provide an insurance certificate. Second, the digitalization of
1125 SES makes systems vulnerable to, for instance, breakdowns, power outages and cyberattacks — hence
1126 resilience strategies and digital strategies are intertwined (Wessel, 2019). “Digital resilience” has
1127 recently become a key concept in resilience research that refers to strengthening resilience of digital
1128 systems to potential cyberattacks, including the adaptive capacity to respond to such attacks (Wright,
1129 2016). The making of digital resilience typically implies bringing in tech firms for the protection of SES,
1130 whose algorithms are typically opaque. Third, because of the reliance on AI and associated data, other
1131 realities are neglected, excluding certain places or communities from digital resilience strategies.
1132 Fourth, AI systems facilitate governing at a distance, with governing becoming more invisible and

1133 possibly unaccountable. For instance, when disaster management (for instance, in the context of an
1134 extreme weather event) becomes “digital humanitarianism”, the distance between the saviors and
1135 survivors becomes big, with survivors becoming reified abstract entities that inspire limited empathy.
1136 In fact, survivors are confronted with the risks of AI systems, in terms of privacy breaches and identity
1137 frauds. In other words, while AI is expected to become a key theme in resilience research, a promising
1138 topic for future resilience research concerns the challenge of uncovering resilience traps and
1139 neutralizing the ecological and societal damage and injustice done through the reinforcement of AI
1140 technologies in governance processes like digitally based service provision or humanitarian
1141 interventions in the Global South.

1142

1143

1144 5. Conclusion

1145

1146 In the social sciences, resilience to climate change is a concept that is incorporated in different
1147 theoretical approaches that are linked to contrasting scientific approaches. Holling originally
1148 reinterpreted and incorporated the ~~good old~~ notion of resilience in his SES approach, which was then
1149 picked up by naturalist scientists ~~and embedded who incorporated Holling’s~~ reinterpretation of
1150 ~~resilience in their own in~~ cybernetic complexity theory, ~~for instance. The complexity theory was for a~~
1151 ~~very long time the preferred approach to resilience to climate change in the social sciences. The~~
1152 ~~naturalist complexity theoretic approach to resilience as system adaption to climate change was~~
1153 ~~dominant in the social sciences, until the ecological and political (and increasingly also the~~
1154 ~~technological) context of resilience research changed. This situation changed as resilience increasingly~~
1155 ~~became the theme of political discourses and policies some decade ago, especially. When a decade ago~~
1156 ~~actors at global, national and local governance levels drafted their resilience policies in the wake of~~
1157 socio-ecological catastrophes, financial crises, ~~and climate crises, pandemics, governance failures, and~~
1158 ~~the breakdown of infrastructures, - The instrumentalization and decontextualization of resilience by~~

1159 local and global governance actors invited the critical response of scholars who often had recourse to
1160 constructivist approaches. The diversification of resilience research and expansion of the social
1161 scientific jargon resulted from this development. The question of whether resilience should operate as
1162 a unifying paradigm is not yet settled. However, it may well facilitate interdisciplinary dialogue and
1163 even transdisciplinarity. Such cooperation or dialogue is arguably necessary given the extremely
1164 complex nature of our socio-ecological predicaments.
1165 ~~constructivist approaches developed to take resilience research far beyond complexity theory and~~
1166 ~~associated methods. And it introduced a variety of new concepts for resilience research, such as the~~
1167 ~~resilience discourse, myth of resilience, just resilience, resilience trap, transformative resilience, and~~
1168 ~~transformational adaptation. Resilience cannot operate as a unifying paradigm, but it can facilitate the~~
1169 ~~reconciliation of naturalism and constructivism. Thereby, the two contrasting scientific approaches can~~
1170 ~~provide a liberating perspective on each other (without the one repressing the other) and brought into~~
1171 ~~a theory energizing tension with each other. Such reconciling — igniting theory energizing tension — is~~
1172 ~~needed for reimagining resilience to climate change and for specifying how~~
1173 how ~~New light may be shed on~~
1174 can respond in legitimate ways (taking ~~in~~ justice and vulnerability considerations into account) to the
1175 challenges of climate change, in different ecological, political and technological contexts (cf. Johnsson
1176 et al., 2018).

1177 The six themes for future resilience research that we have identified combine naturalist and
1178 constructivist insights and approaches so that human agency, reflexivity and considerations of justice
1179 and equity are incorporated into research that predominantly involves system thinking. In fact, further
1180 cooperation is the first identified research theme. Interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary between
1181 naturalist and constructivist approaches and the many varieties of these approaches can prove to be
1182 challenging, not only because of clashing methodologies and conceptual frameworks, but also because
1183 of institutional factors. Yet, there have been attempts to reduce the gap between these approaches,
1184 without destroying a fruitful tension. The second research area could be called “critical resilience”

1185 research. It includes questioning the very concept of resilience and proposing alternatives or
1186 supplementary concepts. Such critical resilience research will most probably be a complement to, or
1187 necessary component of, other resilience research. The third theme consists in the contextualization
1188 of resilience research, which serves the multiple purposes of effectiveness (of measures), sustainability
1189 and justice. The interaction between, as well as the blurry line, between adaption (adaptive resilience)
1190 and transformation (transformative resilience) is the fourth research area. Related to the latter topic
1191 is research focusing on the two-way relationship between the phasing out of unsustainable systems
1192 and societal transformations. Given the increasing incorporation of AI technologies in resilience
1193 research and policies, a fifth research topic pertains to the implications of AI technologies for societies,
1194 and more specifically, for sustainability and justice. The final theme is the integration of various forms
1195 of justice (such as inter-racial) and theories of justice into resilience research.

1196
1197
1198 Given recent developments in the social sciences, the key resilience issue concerns the political
1199 ~~response in the form of adaptation, transformation, and transformational adaptation in newly~~
1200 ~~unfolding political, ecological, and technological environments. The six resilience themes for the~~
1201 ~~coming decade that this paper has identified are all connected to the issue of the political-~~
1202 ~~administrative response to the challenges that come with anthropogenic climate change. A first theme~~
1203 ~~concerns the reconciliation of naturalism and constructivism, to be able to move beyond established~~
1204 ~~assumptions, theories, concepts, and modes of analysis; and to trigger new imaginations to be able to~~
1205 ~~create new, theory rich, resilience perspectives. A second theme is the legitimacy of the political~~
1206 ~~response in a toxic political environment, in which top-down and bottom-up responses, including new~~
1207 ~~governance arrangements and system reconfigurations, may suffer from legitimacy deficits. A third~~
1208 ~~theme is how, in a toxic political environment, adaptation, transformation and transformational~~
1209 ~~adaptation can be materialized; and under which conditions such governance responses are sufficient~~
1210 ~~for addressing climate change challenges. A fourth theme is how systems are under pressure due to~~

1211 ~~climate change, ultimately igniting a phasing out of systems and a departure from environment-~~
1212 ~~unfriendly consumerist lifestyles, values, and assumptions. A fifth theme is how governance responses~~
1213 ~~can be made legitimate, by incorporating considerations of environmental and climate and energy~~
1214 ~~justice, thereby strictly connecting resilience to justice considerations. A sixth theme is how new~~
1215 ~~technologies (mainly AI) come to intermingle with resilience: what is the role of such technologies and~~
1216 ~~giant tech oligarchies like Google and Amazon in political-administrative responses to challenges that~~
1217 ~~come with climate change? And, correspondingly, what are the undesired consequences that come~~
1218 ~~with AI and giant tech firms, when it comes to responding to climate change. How does AI enact~~
1219 ~~existing power structures, thereby reinforcing resilience traps?~~

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