

Appendix 1. Social-ecological research over time

To examine if the increase in number of social-environmental papers over time is simply due to general increase in number of publications (based on 700 abstracts we classified as “social-ecological”), this was compared to number of publications published in the same time period in Web of Science’s research areas “Environmental Sciences & Ecology” and “Biodiversity Conservation”.

When comparing the fit of linear and exponential models to the data, we found that, while the number of “Environmental Sciences & Ecology” and “Biodiversity Conservation” publications over time is best explained by a linear model (i.e. based on AIC), the number of social-ecological publications over the same time period is best explained by an exponential model. This suggests a different growth trajectory type for social-ecological publications, which have increased considerably in the past years and are likely to keep increasing in the near future.

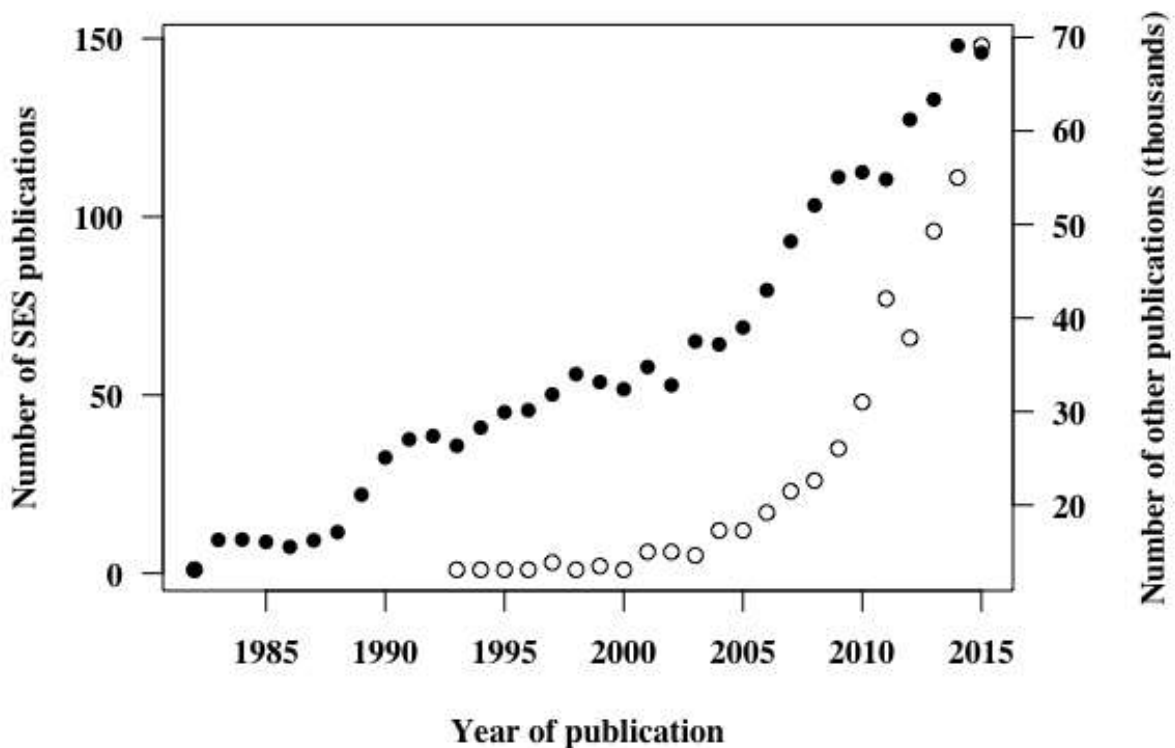


Fig. A1.1. Frequency of social-ecological (SES; o) and other (●) papers published over time.