a Successional trends in local species richness are frequently positive, but likely scale-dependent

Large plots

Mean species richness

late-successional

early-successional

Small plots
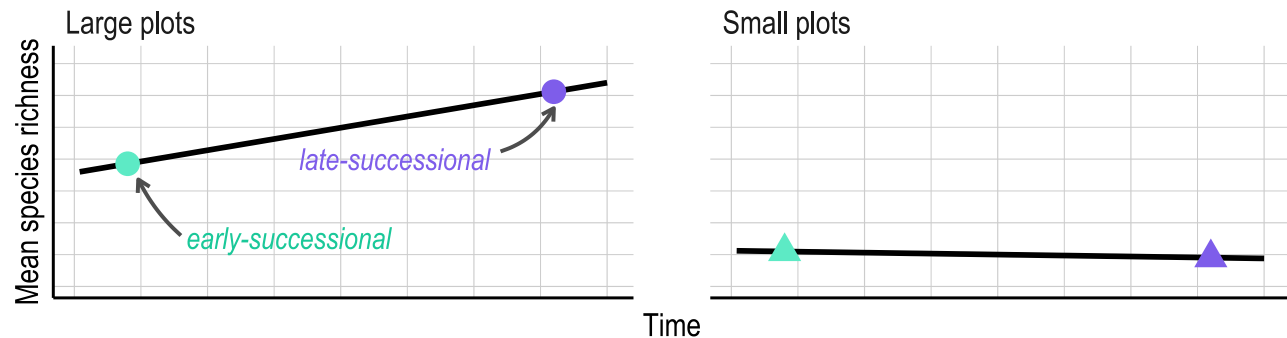
Time

b Succession predicts contrasting richness trends for temporal versus space-for-time studies

Temporal studies

Mean species richness

baseline survey   resurvey

Space-for-time studies

natural   disturbed
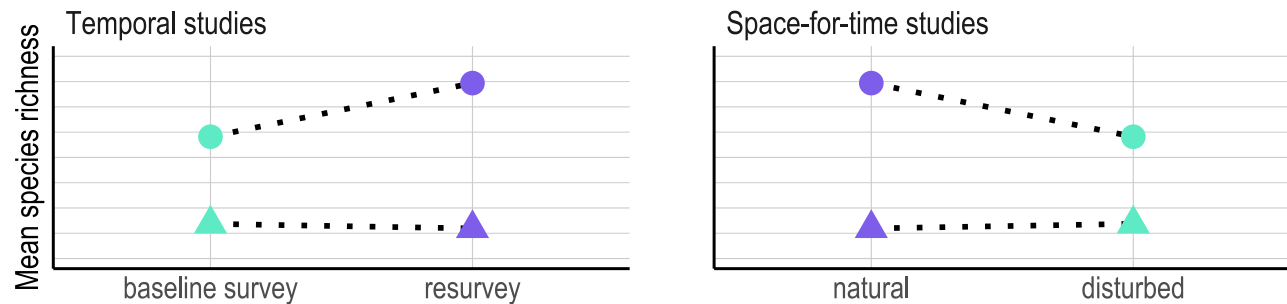
c In temporal studies, richness trends shift from negative to positive with increasing scale

Change in species richness (log-ratios)

$R^2 = 0.14$ $p < 0.001$

Plot size (sq m)