

Archaeological Complexity

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2025-05-28

Systems thinking in archaeology

Population, information flow, and energy capture are three interlocking drivers of social complexity.

Key proxies

- **Population density**

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Key proxies

- **Population density**
- **Infrastructure intensity**
- **Communication bandwidth**

A simple model

$$C = \frac{E}{N}$$

where (C) = complexity, (E) = energy captured, (N) = population.

Text(0.5, 0, 'Year')

(a) Exponential growth in tool citations

