



Supplement of

Revolutions in energy input and material cycling in Earth history and human history

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Table S1. Data and sources for Figure 1: energy capture in the biosphere and society (EJ yr⁻¹)

Revolution	Start date	Date for energy estimate	Marine	Terrestrial	Biosphere total	Biomass	Fossil	Anthroposphere total
Anoxygenic photosynthesis (R1)	3.7 Ga	3 Ga	80 ^a	1 ^b	81	0	0	0
Oxygenic photosynthesis (R2)	2.7 Ga	1.5 Ga	1260 ^c	60 ^d	1320	0	0	0
Land plants (R3)	470 Ma	350 Ma	1800 ^e	2500 ^f	4300	0	0	0
Paleolithic fire use (R4)	1500-790 Ka	10,000 BC	1800	2000	3800	0.2	0	0.2 ^j
Neolithic revolution (R5)	10000 BP	1850 CE	1800	2000 ^g	3800	60	0	60 ^k
Industrial revolution (R6)	1850 CE	2000 CE	1800 ^h	2100 ⁱ	3900	222	396	618 ^l

Notes:

All carbon to energy conversions assume 37 MJ kgC⁻¹.

^a Estimate for Fe-recycling biosphere based on corresponding carbon flux of 1.7 x10¹⁴ molC yr⁻¹ (1).

^b Maximum productivity considering that terrestrial anoxygenic photosynthesis would be competing with marine anoxygenic photosynthesis for gaseous electron donors such as H₂.

^c COPSE model (2) gives ~0.7 of present [PO₄] and marine productivity during Proterozoic.

^d From estimate for the net primary productivity of cyanobacterial desert crust today 11.7 gC m⁻² yr⁻¹ (3) multiplied by global land area, giving ~1.5 PgC yr⁻¹.

^e COPSE model (4) gives 0.7-1.4 of present [PO₄] and marine productivity over Phanerozoic time so opting for present value as best estimate.

^f COPSE model (4) gives 1-1.4 of present terrestrial NPP since establishment of vascular plants 350 Ma so taking 1.2 of present as best estimate.

^g Based on subtracting current terrestrial net carbon sink of ~2.7 PgC yr⁻¹ from 2000AD estimate.

^h From satellite-based global marine NPP estimate of 48.5 PgC yr⁻¹ (5) which is very close to mean of global models of 50.7 PgC yr⁻¹ (6).

ⁱ From satellite-based global terrestrial NPP estimate of 56.4 PgC yr⁻¹ (5), which is fairly central in the range from models of 44.4-66.3 PgC yr⁻¹ (7).

^j Based on (8)

^k Own calculation based on (8, 9) and Clio Infra (2015) (data retrieved March 1, 2015, clio-infra.eu)

^l Based on (10)

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