Macromolecular X-ray crystallography: soon to be a road less traveled?

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As a young(ish) structural biologist, I have increasingly become reflective about the longevity of macromolecular crystallography and even whether, perhaps, I might hear its swan song, rather than crystallography hearing mine. Here, I will present my current thoughts about this question and also give some insight into the use of the Protein Data Bank as a data source. The results do suggest that a change in the landscape of structural biology appears to be in progress with the rise of cryo-electron microscopy outcompeting crystallography for new labor and talent.

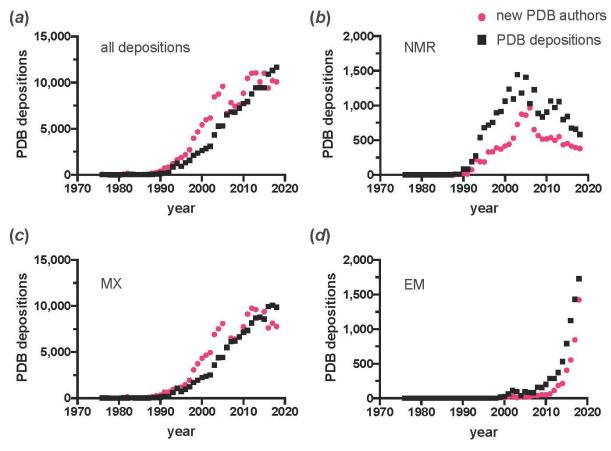


Figure 1.