

## Resource Dependence in Ecosystem Emergence and Growth: Evidence from a Norwegian Financial Ecosystem

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### Abstract:

The field of ecosystems research has grown immensely since its introduction thirty years ago. However, despite its popularity, many areas of ecosystem theory remain under-researched, most notably ecosystem emergence. I conducted an empirical longitudinal single case study of an ecosystem in the Norwegian financial sector to study the role of resource dependence theory in ecosystem emergence. I found that resource dependency plays a role in ecosystem emergence and growth by impacting the ecosystem leader and the direction of the ecosystem. Although the study took place in a unique context, my work contributes to the field of ecosystems research by providing a plausible explanation of the reasons underlying ecosystem emergence.

### Keywords:

Ecosystem, ecosystem emergence, ecosystem growth, business ecosystem, financial industry, payments industry.