Oikos

OIK-00266

Gauzens, B., Legendre, S., Lazzaro, X. and Lacroix, G. 2013. Food-web aggregation, methodological and functional issues. – Oikos 000: 000–000.

Appendix A1

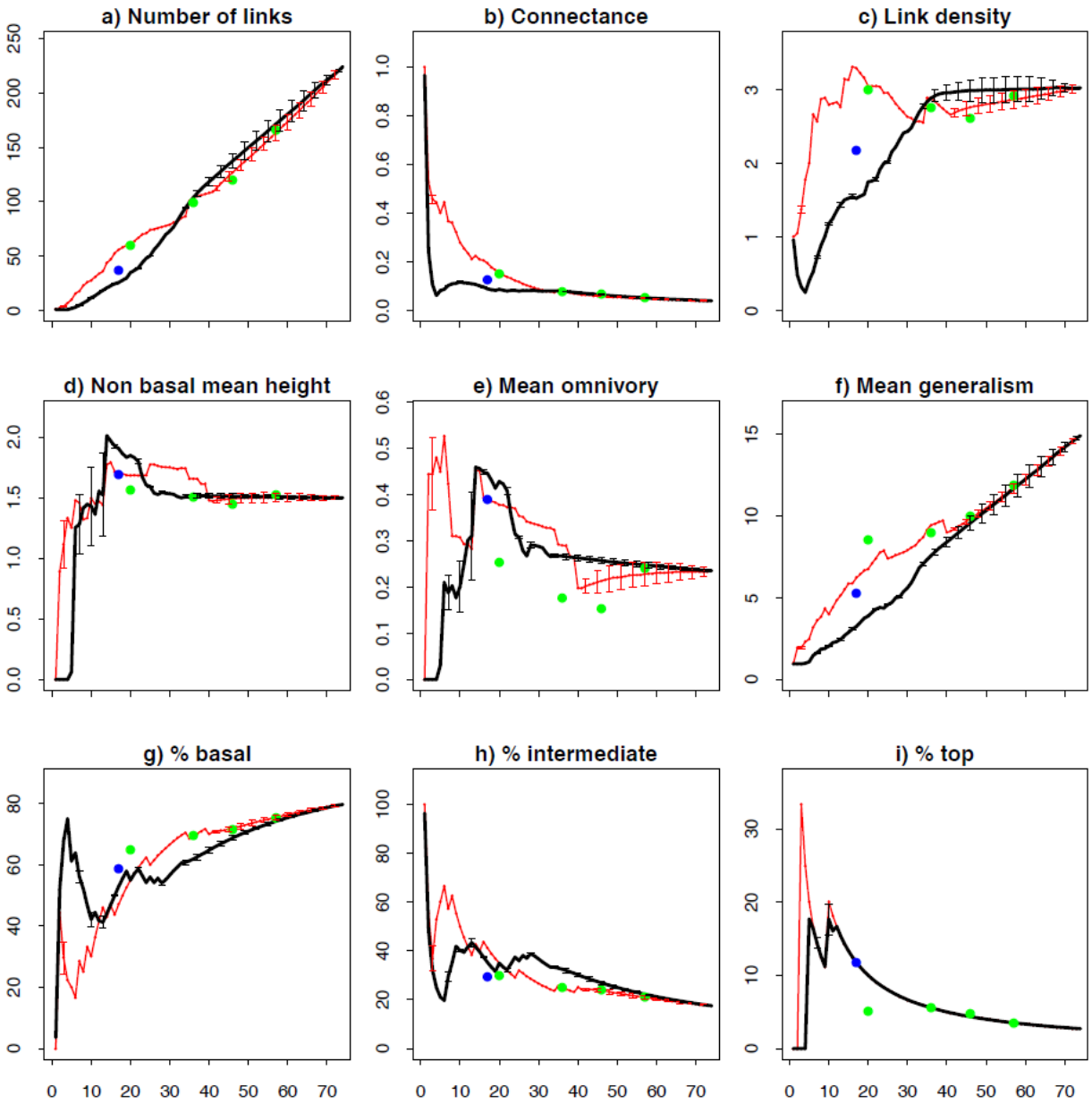

Figure A1. Food-web descriptor values along the aggregation gradient (from 74 species on the right to 1 species on the left) according to different aggregation criteria: trophic similarity (black), body size similarity (red), taxonomy (green dots), and expertise (blue dot). While some descriptors are not affected by aggregation over a large part of the aggregation gradient (for example, mean height of non basal species), others are clearly impacted. Obviously, the number of links will decrease along the aggregation gradient, and so is the case of the mean generalism. However, it can be appreciated that these descriptors vary consistently under different aggregation criteria.

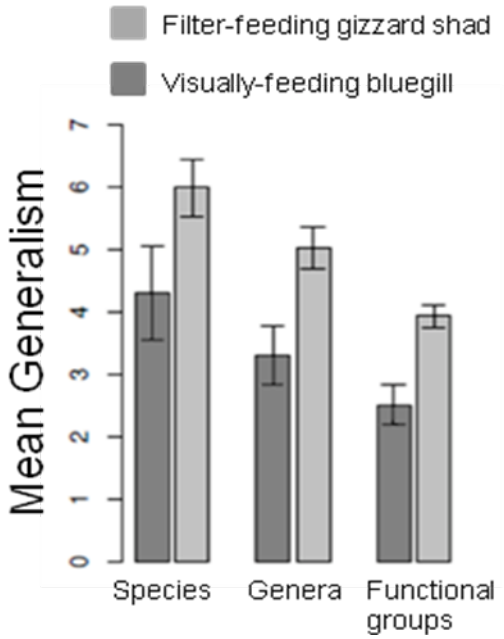

Figure A2. Variation of mean generalism values in mesocosms with the visually-feeding bluegill (dark grey) and the filter-feeding gizzard shad (light grey) when species are aggregated according to their genera (taxonomy aggregration) and to biological expertise. Despite a clear

modification of the mean generalism values, differences generated by the fish foraging behaviour are preserved.