

## ECOG-04959

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Supplementary material

| Table A1: Options for propagating micro-landscapes as stu | dy organisms deplete nutrients or |
|---|-----------------------------------|
| occupy the entire landscape.                              |                                   |

| Replenishment                     | Description   | Example                   | Benefits  | Drawbacks  |
|-----------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| No replenishmen                   | nt of food or space   |                           |   |  |
|                                   | Entire experiment occurs<br>in same micro-landscape                                       | Baym et al. (2016)        | No disturbance<br>Micro-landscape<br>can be fully<br>enclosed | Growth becomes<br>limited by food and<br>space, so larger<br>landscapes generally<br>needed                      |
| Food replenished                  | d only  |                           |   |  |
|                                   | New food added to existing landscape  | De Roissart et al. (2015) | Longer<br>experiments<br>possible                             | Potential disturbance;<br>avenue for<br>contamination  |
| Food and space                    | replenished   |                           | 1   |  |
| Treadmill                         | New patches of landscape<br>added, organisms disperse<br>into new habitat on their<br>own | Fronhofer et al. (2017)   | Can simulate a<br>long expansion<br>with minimal<br>space     | Dispersal limited to<br>few patches at a time;<br>only suitable for some<br>questions (e.g. range<br>expansions) |
| Transfer to<br>fresh<br>landscape | Individuals transferred<br>manually to new micro-<br>landscape                            | Friedenberg<br>(2003a)    | Nutrients and<br>space are<br>replenished                     | Disturbance;<br>must decide whether to<br>maintain population<br>sizes or subsample                              |

Table A2: Examples of stressors used to create variation in environmental quality in microlandscape experiments. Stressors are of three types: limitation of resources, fitness gradient imposed by researchers, or an actual negative stressor. Plural organism names indicate multiple species were used.

| Gradient         |   |                           |
|------------------|---|---------------------------|
| Organism         | Stressor details  | Example studies           |
| Resource limitat | ion   |                           |
| Virus            | Ratio of good habitat patches (infectable<br>bacteria) vs. sink habitat (bacteria that virus<br>could bind to but not infect) | Dennehy et al. (2007)     |
| Beetle           | Resource quality (ratio of wheat to corn flour)   | Hufbauer et al. (2015)    |
| Beetle           | Resource availability (amount of flour / patch)   | Govindan et al (2015)     |
| Researcher-impo  | osed fitness gradient   |                           |
| Protist          | Mortality (removal of individuals)  | Fronhofer et al. (2017b)  |
| Beetle           | Patch turnover rate (removal of occupied patches and introduction of new patches)   | Govindan et al (2015)     |
| Negative stresso | r   |                           |
| E. coli          | Antibiotic  | Baym et al. (2016)        |
| Yeast            | Salt  | Bell & Gonzalez (2011)    |
| Soil microbes    | Herbicide   | Low-Décarie et al. (2015) |
| Fruit flies      | Temperature   | Davis et al. (1998)       |

Table A3. Studies depicted in Figure 2. For each study, we estimated the organism's length in cm from the papers themselves (ideally) or internet sources. We then rounded down to the nearest decimal, e.g. an organism of 30 um = 0.003 cm = 0.01 in the table. This helped deal with organisms with variable body size (most) and studies of multiple organisms. We estimated landscape length as the maximum distance an organism could travel along a landscape during the experiment. For landscapes made of sequentially added patches this was patch length x patch number, for the Baym et al. MEGA plate this was half the MEGA plate length as the antibiotic gradient was mirrored (highest in middle of landscape). We then converted length to the units of measurement (scale). This helped deal with studies where the exact landscape length could not be calculated from the information in the paper.

|                         |      |               | L        | ength |       |
|-------------------------|------|---------------|----------|-------|-------|
| Organism                |      |               | Organism | Land  | scape |
| Authors                 | Year | Journal       | (cm)     | (cm)  | scale |
| Arthropod               |      |               |          |       |       |
| Astrom & Bengtsson      | 2011 | Oecologia     | 0.1      | 300   | m     |
| Chisholm et al.         | 2011 | Ecography     | 0.1      | 50    | dm    |
| Dallas et al.           | 2019 | J Anim Ecol   | 0.1      | 12    | dm    |
| Davis et al.            | 1998 | Nature        | 0.1      | _     | m     |
| Drake & Griffen         | 2013 | Ecol & Evol   | 0.1      | 31.5  | dm    |
| Gilarranz et al.        | 2017 | Science       | 0.1      | 50    | dm    |
| Gilbert et al.          | 1998 | Proc R Soc B  | 0.1      | 34    | dm    |
| Gonzalez et al.         | 1998 | Science       | 0.1      | 50    | dm    |
| Govindan & Swihart      | 2015 | Ecology       | 0.1      | _     | dm    |
| Govindan & Swihart      | 2012 | PLOS One      | 0.1      | 21    | dm    |
| Lomnicki                | 2006 | Evol Ecol Res | 0.1      | 20    | dm    |
| Miller & Inouye         | 2013 | Ecol Lett     | 0.1      | 410   | m     |
| Morel-Journel et al.    | 2019 | Ecol Lett     | 0.1      | 650   | m     |
| Morel-Journel et al.    | 2018 | Ecography     | 0.1      | 455   | m     |
| Ochocki & Miller        | 2017 | Nat Comm      | 0.1      | 2000  | dak   |
| Staddon et al.          | 2010 | Ecol Lett     | 0.1      | _     | dm    |
| Starzomski & Srivastava | 2007 | Oikos         | 0.1      | 34    | dm    |
| Strevens & Bonsall      | 2011 | J Anim Ecol   | 0.1      | 36.5  | dm    |
| Szucs et al.            | 2017 | PNAS          | 0.1      | _     | m     |
| Tung et al.             | 2018 | Oikos         | 0.1      | _     | m     |
| Wagner et al.           | 2017 | J Anim Ecol   | 0.1      | _     | m     |
| Weiss-Lehman et al.     | 2017 | Nat Comm      | 0.1      | 180   | m     |
| Weiss-Lehman et al.     | 2019 | Proc R Soc B  | 0.1      | 180   | m     |
| Bacteria                |      |               |          |       |       |
| Baym et al.             | 2016 | Science       | 0.0001   | 400   | m     |
| Bosshard et al.         | 2017 | Genetics      | 0.0001   | 9     | cm    |

| Goldschmidt et al.              | 2017 | ISME             | 0.0001 | 10   | dm |
|---------------------------------|------|------------------|--------|------|----|
| Hallatscheck et al.             | 2007 | PNAS             | 0.0001 | 10   | dm |
| Hol et al.                      | 2013 | PLOS One         | 0.0001 | 12.7 | dm |
| Hol et al.                      | 2016 | PNAS             | 0.0001 | 12.7 | dm |
| Hol et al.                      | 2019 | Ecol Lett        | 0.0001 | 2.6  | cm |
| Kurkjian                        | 2018 | Meth Ecol Evo    | 0.0001 | _    | cm |
| Ozgen et al.                    | 2018 | Sci Adv          | 0.0001 | 9    | cm |
| Song et al.                     | 2016 | Env Micro Bio    | 0.0001 | 100  | m  |
| Taylor & Buckling               | 2010 | Am Nat           | 0.0001 | 10   | dm |
| Taylor & Buckling               | 2011 | Evolution        | 0.0001 | 135  | m  |
| Nematode                        |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Friedenberg                     | 2003 | Ecol Lett        | 0.1    | 10   | dm |
| Friedenberg                     | 2003 | Am Nat           | 0.1    | 10   | dm |
| Plant                           |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Lustenhouwer et al.             | 2019 | J Ecol           | 10     | _    | m  |
| Williams & Levine               | 2018 | Ecology          | 10     | 453  | m  |
| Williams et al.                 | 2016 | Science          | 10     | 840  | m  |
| Protist                         |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Altermatt & Fronhofer           | 2018 | Freshwater Bio   | 0.001  | 75   | dm |
| Donahue et al.                  | 2003 | Am Nat           | 0.001  | 24.4 | dm |
| Fronhofer & Altermatt           | 2015 | Nat Comm         | 0.001  | 72   | dm |
| Fronhofer et al.                | 2017 | J Evo Biol       | 0.001  | 72   | dm |
| Fronhofer, Nitsche,             |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Altermatt                       | 2017 | Glob Ecol Biogeo | 0.001  | 84   | dm |
| Giometto et al.                 | 2014 | PNAS             | 0.001  | 200  | m  |
| Henebry & Cairns                | 1980 | Am Midland Nat   | 0.001  | 46.5 | dm |
| Holyoak & Lawler                | 1996 | J Anim Ecol      | 0.001  | 62.3 | dm |
| Jacob et al.                    | 2015 | J Anim Ecol      | 0.001  | 2.5  | cm |
| Jacob et al.                    | 2019 | Oikos            | 0.001  | 2.5  | cm |
| Protists and Animals / Bacteria |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Altermatt et al.                | 2011 | PLOS One         | 0.001  | 12.7 | dm |
| Carrara et al.                  | 2012 | PNAS             | 0.001  | —    | dm |
| Seymour & Altermatt             | 2014 | Ecol & Evol      | 0.001  | 245  | m  |
| Burkey                          | 1997 | Am Nat           | 0.001  | 15   | cm |
| Yeast                           |      |                  |        |      |    |
| Gralka et al.                   | 2016 | Ecol Lett        | 0.001  | 10   | dm |
| Korolev et al.                  | 2012 | Phys Biol        | 0.001  | 10   | cm |
| Van Dyken et al                 | 2013 | Current Biol     | 0.001  | 35   | cm |