

1 **Title page**

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3 **Building on Margalef: Testing the links between landscape structure,**  
4 **energy and information flows driven by farming and biodiversity**

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28 Ornithological Institute and the Museum of Natural Sciences of Granollers, respectively.

29 **Abstract**

30 The aim of this paper is to test two methodologies, applicable to different spatial scales (from regional  
31 to local), to predict the capacity of agroecosystems to provide habitats for the species richness of  
32 butterflies and birds, based on the ways their socio-metabolic flows change the ecological functionality  
33 of bio-cultural landscapes. First, we use the more general Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*)  
34 model to assess how different levels of human appropriation of photosynthetic production affect the  
35 landscape functional structure that hosts biodiversity. Second, we apply a more detailed Energy–  
36 Landscape Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) model that focusses on the energy storage carried out by the  
37 internal biomass loops, and the energy information held in the network of energy flows driven by  
38 farmers, in order to correlate both (the energy reinvested and redistributed) with the energy imprinted in  
39 the landscape patterns and processes that sustain biodiversity. The results obtained after applying both  
40 models in the province and the metropolitan region of Barcelona support the Margalef’s energy-  
41 information-structure hypothesis by showing positive relations between butterflies’ species richness,  
42 *IDC* and *ELIA*, and between birds’ species richness and energy information. Our findings support the  
43 view that strong relationships between farming energy flows, agroecosystem functioning and  
44 biodiversity can be detected, and highlight the importance of farmers’ knowledge and labour to maintain  
45 bio-cultural landscapes.

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47 **Keywords**

48 Landscape Agro-ecology; Land-sharing debate; Intermediate disturbance hypothesis; Human  
49 Appropriation of Net Primary Production; Energy Return on Energy Investment

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51 **Graphical abstract**

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53 Conceptual scheme of the energy-information-structure hypothesis to explain biodiversity in cultural landscapes

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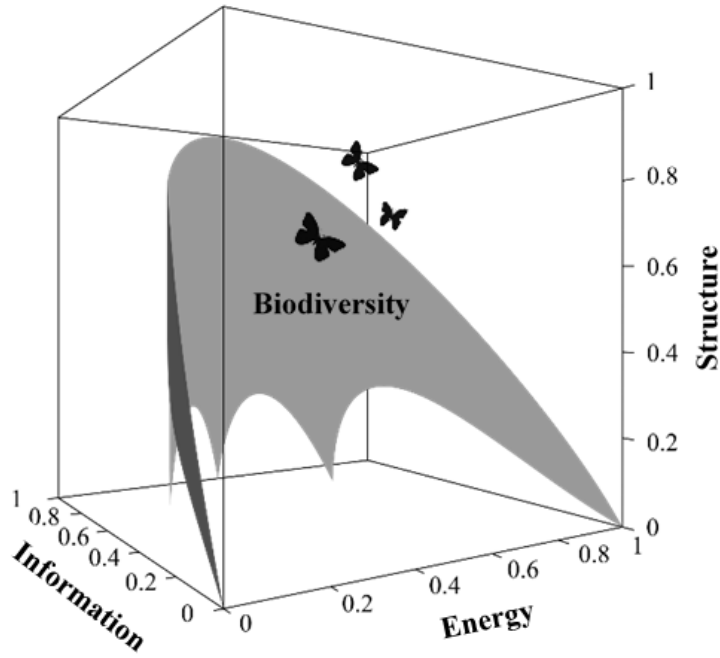
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## 64 **Highlights**

- 65 • The energy-information-structure hypothesis of bio-cultural landscapes is tested
- 66 • Two models are applied at different scales and verified using biodiversity data
- 67 • The results obtained confirm the Margalef's hypothesis using butterflies and birds
- 68 • Importance of farmers' knowledge and labour to maintain bio-cultural landscapes
- 69 • Impact of land-use policies on ecological functioning in human-modified territories

## 70 **Manuscript**

### 71 **1. Introduction**

72 *“Our civilization is constantly conducting large-scale experiments that could be used more often*  
73 *than they actually are to develop the foundations of a disturbance ecology. [...] Man creates systems to*  
74 *control and amplify flows of external energy that become more and more powerful. [...] By looking at*  
75 *energy subsidies we can gain a better understanding of the role that external energy plays in*  
76 *ecosystems”* (Margalef 1991). Ramon Margalef (1919-2004) greatly contributed to clarify that  
77 sustainability of human development is a direct function of complexity and an inverse function of energy  
78 dissipation. These ideas are still in the cutting edge of Ecology in the centennial of his birthday; however,  
79 they have been rarely tested in a proper way (Gracia 2008). During this century, there has been an  
80 unprecedented growth in global food production and its associated socio-environmental impacts  
81 stemming from industrialised farming (Mayer et al. 2015). As a result of this socio-metabolic transition  
82 (Schaffartzik et al. 2014) –i.e. the change towards sustainability in the set of material and energy flows  
83 that occur between nature and society-, farm systems are facing the challenge posed by the simultaneous  
84 growing demands of food, energy and biodiversity maintenance (Tilman et al. 2009; Godfray et al.  
85 2010). This requires halting and reversing the current loss of species richness derived from global change  
86 (Cardinale et al. 2012). Industrialisation of agriculture through the ‘green revolution’ has been a major  
87 cause of this biodiversity loss (Matson et al. 1997; Tilman et al. 2002).

88 As it is increasingly recognized, well-managed farm systems can also play a positive role in  
89 maintaining biodiversity (Tscharntke et al. 2005). From a land-sharing perspective on biological  
90 conservation (Perfecto and Vandermeer 2010), agroecosystems may either enhance or decrease  
91 biodiversity at landscape scale depending on land-use intensity (Swift et al. 2004). In turn, the  
92 environmental impacts of farming and agroforestry disturbances vary across species and biomes  
93 (Gabriel et al. 2013). Therefore, a heterogeneous and well-connected land matrix can maintain high  
94 species richness in human-transformed landscapes (Jackson et al. 2012). In order to solve the global  
95 energy-food-biodiversity challenge, trade-offs between species richness and land-use patterns need to  
96 be assessed by combining the levels and spatiotemporal patterns of ecological disturbances farmers exert

97 across the landscape (Fischer et al. 2008; Phalan et al. 2011). If society aims at maintaining ecosystem  
98 services in the future, we need operative criteria, appropriate methods, and meaningful indicators to  
99 assess when, where and why the matter-energy flows driven by farming increases or decreases the  
100 capacity of landscapes to hold biodiversity (Gliessman 1990; Pierce 2014).

101 The aim of this paper is to test the hypothesis that the complexity and information of these farming-  
102 driven energy flows can lay the foundations for sustainable land-use policy, by testing the linkages that  
103 exist between social metabolism –i.e. the flows of materials and energy that occur between nature and  
104 society-, landscape ecology and biodiversity. We carry out this test applying two complementary  
105 methodologies aimed at describing how the socio-metabolic flows generated by human activity affect  
106 the landscape functional structure which, in turn, maintains biodiversity. We adopt the Intermediate  
107 Disturbance–Complexity model (*IDC*), a spatially explicit analysis only considering energy inputs and  
108 outputs based on human appropriation of net primary production (Marull et al., 2016a); and the Energy–  
109 Landscape Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*), an improved model that goes deeper in understanding how these  
110 flows of materials and energy are reinvested and redistributed in the landscape (Marull et al., 2016b).  
111 We then test both models with species richness of two main biodiversity components of cultural  
112 landscapes, namely butterflies and birds.

## 113 **2. Methodology**

### 114 **2.1. Biodiversity components**

115 There could be many measures of efficiency of land management for biodiversity conservation.  
116 Many Essential Biodiversity Variables (EBV) can be potentially used for such purpose (Pereira et al.  
117 2013). In this context, local species richness and abundance can be considered as basic measures of  
118 interaction of species since they describe how species live together in a given area. Functional type  
119 composition of the ecosystem is often derived from species composition and abundance of observed  
120 communities and richness may provide a first indication of these processes. To test the *IDC* and *ELIA*  
121 models on real biodiversity data, we used the abundance and the species richness of two different  
122 taxonomic groups (butterflies and birds) in different transects randomly distributed in the Barcelona  
123 (Spain) province and metropolitan region (Figure 1). Both birds and butterflies are known to be

124 especially sensitive to global change drivers (Tucker and Heath 1994; Stefanescu et al. 2004; Aronson  
125 et al. 2014; Melero et al. 2016), and they account for large datasets often produced by citizen science  
126 initiatives.

127 These data were obtained during the period 2005-2015 by the Catalan Butterfly Monitoring Scheme  
128 (<http://www.catalanbms.org/>), and by the Catalan Breeding and Wintering Bird Surveys  
129 (<http://www.ornitologia.org/ca/quefem/monitoratge/seguiment/socc/index.html>). These biodiversity  
130 programmes are based on walked transects repeated several times each year. For each breeding bird  
131 species and each year, the maximum count recorded during these two censuses is retained as the best  
132 estimation of its annual abundance. Butterfly censuses are carried out on 30 consecutive weeks from  
133 March to September and the sum of the individuals recorded during the surveys for a species is retained  
134 as the estimate of its annual abundance. In this study we used data consisting of: *i*) transects monitored  
135 to get data of birds (linear buffer: 500 m) in the province (151 transects) and the region (91 transects) of  
136 Barcelona (Figure 1); and *ii*) transects monitored to obtain data of butterflies (circular buffer: 750 m) in  
137 the province (56 transects) and the region (41 transects) of Barcelona (Figure 1). We studied the  
138 dynamics of abundance and species richness of the biodiversity components (Table 1) only using  
139 transects with data for all the years considered in the period of analysis.

140 To analyse the spatial association between the values of *IDC* and *ELIA* models and these biodiversity  
141 components, we performed lineal regression analyses for the observations (a proxy of abundance) and  
142 species richness of butterflies, breeding and wintering birds, using transects with data of 2009 as  
143 biodiversity data and buffers around them as models' data (34 and 23 butterfly transects, and 96 and 69  
144 bird transects for the province and region of Barcelona, respectively). Both *IDC* and *ELIA* models are  
145 calculated over the land-cover patches of transects' buffers. The province provides a gradient of  
146 landscape transformation highly responsible for strong changes in biodiversity (Clotet et al 2016, Marull  
147 et al. 2018). In the region, the focus is located in the metropolitan context where farming transformation  
148 and its effects on biodiversity are especially intense (Guirado et al. 2007; Santos et al. 2008).

149 The regression analyses took into account all the variables included in the models: primary and  
150 secondary energy variables; composition and configuration landscape variables; *ELIA* and *IDC*; and

151 biodiversity components (Table A1). Before doing any analysis, a non-parametric contrast was  
152 conducted for each of the endogenous variables to analyse their distributions (Normal, Exponential and  
153 Poisson, to assess if it was necessary to apply ordinary least-squares model –OLS, log model or Poisson  
154 model, respectively). We performed OLS to contrast normal endogenous variables (log-lin model was  
155 required in two specific cases; Table 3). VIF<5 ensured no multi-collinearity between the exogenous  
156 variables used in the regression analyses. T-student tests were applied in all cases (only significant  
157 variables are represented in Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3).

## 158 2.2. The Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity Model (IDC)

159 The IDC model analyses how the interplay between different farming disturbances exerted across  
160 different land-uses create diverse combinations of landscape heterogeneity and ecological connectivity,  
161 and they jointly become a key mechanism for biodiversity maintenance (Loreau et al. 2010), as well as  
162 the provision of ecosystem services to society (Tschardt et al. 2005).

### 163 2.2.1. Measuring landscape complexity

164 Much of this farm-associated biodiversity is only perceived at scales larger than plot or farm level,  
165 because it depends on the landscape patterns and processes that take place in agroforest mosaics  
166 (Margalef 2006).

167 Landscape Heterogeneity ( $L$ ) was calculated as a modification of the Shannon-Wiener Index, to  
168 capture the landscape patterns (richness and evenness) of habitats.

$$169 \quad L = \left( - \sum_{i=1}^k p_i \log_k p_i \right) (1 - p_u)$$

170 Where  $k$  is the number of different land cover categories. The existence of built-up land cover  
171  $p_u$  results in a loss of potential habitats. Thus,  $p_i$  is the proportion of non-urban land covers  $i$ .

172 The assessment of landscape processes is based on the ecological connectivity model proposed by  
173 Marull and Mallarach (2005). It relies on defining a set of Ecological Functional Areas (EFA; including  
174 forests, scrublands, croplands, pastures and agroforestry mosaics) of minimum size depending on each  
175 category and a cost distance model (based on an *ad-hoc* impedance matrix), which includes the effect  
176 of anthropogenic barriers (urban areas, road and rail networks), the range of distances and the involved



177 land cover categories. The assessment defines a basic *Ecological Connectivity Index* ( $ECI_b$ ) in a  
 178 normalized scale from 0 to 10. This  $ECI_b$  emphasizes the functional role played by the land matrix:

$$179 \quad ECI_b = 10 - 9 [\ln(1 + x_i) / \ln(1 + x_t)^3]$$

180 Where  $x_i$  is the value of the sum of the cost distance by pixel and  $x_t$  the maximum theoretical cost  
 181 distance, then,  $ECI_a$  is the absolute *Ecological Connectivity Index*:

$$182 \quad ECI_a = \sum_{m=1}^{m=n} ECI_b / m$$

183 Where  $m$  is the number of *EFA* considered. This index helps to emphasize the role played by all sorts  
 184 of *EFA* in keeping up ecological connectivity (Pino and Marull 2012).

185 We then obtain an indicator of landscape complexity, the *Landscape Ecology Metric* ( $Le$ ) (Marull et  
 186 al. 2015); capturing landscape patterns ( $L$ , heterogeneity) and processes ( $ECI_a$ , connectivity).

$$187 \quad Le = \frac{\left(L + \frac{ECI_a}{10}\right)}{2}$$

188 The statistical test was based on biodiversity transects where locations of birds and butterflies have  
 189 been observed in 2009. The landscape composition and configuration of these transects was taken from  
 190 the 2009 Land Cover Map of Catalonia (www.creaf.uab.es/mesc/) reclassified in eight land cover  
 191 categories: forest, scrubland, river corridor and wetlands, pasture, cropland, unproductive, road and rail  
 192 networks and urban areas (Figure 1).

### 193 **2.2.2. Measuring farming ecological disturbance**

194 In the *IDC* model, we use the *Human Appropriation of Net Primary Production* ( $HANPP$ ) as a  
 195 measure of farming disturbance, where  $NPP$  is the net amount of phytomass produced annually by  
 196 autotrophic organisms that constitutes the nutritional basis for food chains.  $HANPP$  is calculated using  
 197 the following identities (Haberl et al. 2014):

$$198 \quad HANPP = HANPP_{luc} + HANPP_{harv}$$

$$199 \quad HANPP_{luc} = NPP_0 - NPP_{act}$$

200 Where  $HANPP_{harv}$  is the  $NPP$  appropriated through harvest, and  $HANPP_{luc}$  is the change of  $NPP$   
 201 through farming-induced land conversions.  $HANPP_{luc}$  is defined as the difference between the  $NPP$  of  
 202 the potential ( $NPP_0$ ) and actual ( $NPP_{act}$ ) vegetation.  $HANPP$  is calculated in each land unit of the study

203 area as the weighted sum of some fixed land unit coefficients ( $w_i$ ) by the proportion of surface occupied  
204 by each land unit within the sample cell:

$$205 \quad HANPP = \sum_{i=1}^k w_i p_i$$

206 Where  $w_i$  denotes the weight of land unit  $i$ , and  $p_i$  the proportion of land unit  $i$  in the study area.  
207 Variations in  $HANPP$  not only depend on the variations of  $p_i$ , but on the variations of  $w_i$  as well.

208 To estimate  $HANPP$  values in the same transects in which birds and butterflies were monitored, it  
209 was necessary to assess different levels and amounts of  $NPP$  and harvests. Harvest ratios taken from  
210 each land cover were transformed into the energy content of all biomass flows driven by farming.  
211 Conversion factors such as the residue/product ratio and weed biomass (Guzmán et al. 2014) were  
212 accounted for the harvested by-products and for the unharvested biomass left for all heterotrophic  
213 organisms in each land cover category.

### 214 **2.2.3. Calculating the IDC indicators**

215 The result is that we have one  $Le$  and  $HANPP$  value for each unit of analysis (Marull et al. 2016a).  
216  $HANPP$  expresses a  $NPP$  appropriation average number for each unit, but can be obtained with different  
217 land cover combinations; and  $L$  (or  $Le$ ) expresses a land cover pattern value (richness and evenness) for  
218 each unit, but can be obtained with different  $NPP$  combinations. The  $IDC$  model combines the landscape  
219 structure ( $L$ ) with the biomass available to other species ( $1-HANPP/100$ ) (Figure 2):

$$220 \quad IDC = L (1 - HANPP / 100)$$

221 Where  $L$  is the “energy imprint” in the landscape patterns ( $L$  can be substituted by  $Le$ , including the  
222 landscape processes).  $IDC$  ranges from 0 to 1, even though its maximum value depends on where the  
223 weights ( $w_i$ ) of  $HANPP$  are displayed (Figure 2).

224 Figure 2 shows all the possible values for the theoretical relationship between human disturbance  
225 and landscape complexity, wherever it is possible to represent the site-specific disturbance-complexity  
226 ( $IDC$ ) values of a given territory.  $1-HANPP$  expresses the average energy available for (butterflies or  
227 birds) species in each transect (our unit of analysis), but the same  $HANPP$  value can be obtained with  
228 different land cover combinations (having one or various habitats composition). Furthermore, the same

229  $L$  value can also be obtained using different land cover categories, although the contribution of each  
230 land cover to biodiversity may vary (due to the variable amount of energy available for the trophic  
231 chains). Consequently, the combination of spatially uneven disturbances and land cover heterogeneity  
232 in human-modified landscapes could greatly affect biodiversity maintenance.

233 *IDC* aims at improving our understanding of the functioning of agroecosystems, and the subsequent  
234 effects on biodiversity on a regional scale (Marull et al. 2016a), by revealing how and why different  
235 managements lead to turning points in the relationship between farming disturbance (*HANPP*) and the  
236 landscape structure in terms of land cover heterogeneity and ecological connectivity. In order to go  
237 deeper into the analysis at local level, we need to account the biomass flows moved by farming in the  
238 more precise manner performed through the *ELIA* model by accounting how the energy is reinvested  
239 and redistributed in the land matrix.

### 240 **2.3. The Energy-Landscape Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*)**

241 Through the *ELIA* model we can represent in more detail the energy flows in an agroecosystem.  
242 **Figure 3** shows how the biomass produced by solar radiation obtained from solar radiation, that accounts  
243 for the *actual Net Primary Production* ( $NPP_{act}$ ) is the energy source for consumers living there (Vitousek  
244 et al. 1986), either domesticated or not. From this starting point, we analysed the pattern adopted by  
245 energy flows subsequently carried out through the metabolic circulation of farming-driven biomass, the  
246 internal loops generated, the final product extracted, and the external inputs introduced from outside the  
247 agroecosystem. The graph shows the three subsystems of internal energy loops (“forestry” –green;  
248 “farmland” –red; and “livestock” –purple) included in a mixed farming agroecosystem.

249 In all of the sub-processes identified (**Figure 3**), the energy flows are differentiated between those  
250 that remain within the agroecosystem and those that go to other subsystems or out of the whole  
251 agroecosystem. Accordingly, there is always a pair of incoming-outgoing energy flows for each sub-  
252 process. Hence, we can account twelve coefficients ( $\beta_i$ ) along all the edges of the graph. Then we can  
253 differentiate between even and odd  $\beta_i$ 's, where the even  $\beta_i$ 's account for the energy flows looping inside  
254 the agroecosystem, and the odd ones for those that are leaving it.

255 Based on these agroecosystem's energy flows (Figure 3) and its related land matrix, *ELIA* combines  
256 the following three indicators (Marull et al., 2016b): the complexity attained through the energy storage  
257 of internal loops in an agroecosystem ( $E$ ); the information embedded in the energy network of flows ( $I$ );  
258 and energy imprinted in the landscape functional structure ( $L$ ).

259 The energy analysis is based on a flow-fund representation of agroecosystems (Tello et al. 2016;  
260 Cattaneo et al. 2018), using data from the Spanish Ministry of Agriculture and the Catalan Statistics  
261 Institute (2009) for the parameters calculation (Table A1). The landscape composition and configuration  
262 of the biodiversity transects have been calculated from the 2009 Land Cover Map of Catalonia  
263 (www.creaf.uab.es/mcsc/).

### 264 2.3.1. Measuring the energy storage

265 We understand agroecosystem complexity as the differentiation of dissipative structures (Gonzalez  
266 de Molina and Toledo 2015). The more complex the space-time differentiation is, the more energy is  
267 stored within a system (Ho and Ulanowicz 2005). Conversely, given that speciation is a result of this  
268 space-time differentiation that gives rise to habitat diversity, the maintenance of biodiversity also  
269 requires complex landscapes with different, intermingled land covers. In the *ELIA* model, higher mean  
270 values of even  $\beta_i$ 's entail that agroecosystems are increasing in complexity because the different cycles  
271 are coupled together, and the residence time of the stored energy is higher thanks to a greater number of  
272 interlinked transformations looping inside (Figure 3). Accordingly, our way of calculating the *Energy*  
273 *Storage* ( $E$ ) is as follows:

$$274 \quad E = \frac{\beta_2 + \beta_4}{2} k_1 + \frac{\beta_6 + \beta_8}{2} k_2 + \frac{\beta_{10} + \beta_{12}}{2} k_3.$$

$$275 \quad k_1 = \frac{UB}{UB + BR + LS}, k_2 = \frac{BR}{UB + BR + LS}, k_3 = \frac{LS}{UB + BR + LS}$$

276 Where the coefficients  $k_1, k_2, k_3$  account for the share of reusing energy flows that are looping  
277 through each of the three subsystems of the graph model (Figure 3).

278  $E$  assesses the amount of all the energy flows that go inside the agroecosystem, relative to the total  
279 amount of energy flowing across each one of the three subsystems of the network structure. Hence,  $E$

280 measures the proportion of energy flows stored on the land matrix, and remains within the range [0,1].  
 281  $E$  close to 0 implies low reuse of energy flows —usually corresponds to an agro-industrial management,  
 282 dependent on external inputs and with high levels of *HANPP*.  $E$  close to 1 implies more internal energy  
 283 loops, meaning that a high share of energy flows harvested are reused within the agroecosystem —  
 284 usually associated to organic farming with lower dependence on external inputs, lower biomass  
 285 extraction as final produce, and moderate *HANPP* levels.

### 286 2.3.2. Comparing $E$ and *HANPP*

287 We compare *HANPP* and  $E$  (Marull and Font 2017) to analyse two important variables of both  
 288 models, *IDC* and *ELIA*. Expanding the formula of  $E$  and assuming the spatially explicit expression of  
 289 each  $\beta_i$  (that is, the energy flows specific for each land use), we have:

$$290 \quad E = (\beta_2 + \beta_4) \frac{k_1}{2} + (\beta_6 + \beta_8) \frac{k_2}{2} + (\beta_{10} + \beta_{12}) \frac{k_3}{2}$$

$$291 \quad = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \frac{1}{2} (k_1 \beta_2^i + k_1 \beta_4^i + k_2 \beta_6^i + k_2 \beta_8^i + k_3 \beta_{10}^i + k_3 \beta_{12}^i).$$

292 Now, we can call  $\alpha_i = \frac{1}{2} (k_1 \beta_2^i + k_1 \beta_4^i + k_2 \beta_6^i + k_2 \beta_8^i + k_3 \beta_{10}^i + k_3 \beta_{12}^i)$ , so we obtain:

$$293 \quad E = \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \alpha_i.$$

294 This expression is similar to the *HANPP* formula; in fact, the two indicators have the same behaviour.  
 295 Given that  $\sum_{i=1}^n p_i = 1$ , in both cases we have a weighted sum of  $w_i$  and  $\alpha_i$ , respectively.

296 According to the new expression of  $E$ , the difference between *HANPP* and  $E$  can be compared with  
 297 the values  $w_i$  and  $\alpha_i$ . This is because  $\alpha_i$  plays the same role as  $w_i$  in *HANPP*. However, we should  
 298 remember that  $E$  and *HANPP* have opposite meaning. High values of *HANPP* indicate more human-  
 299 appropriation and so less energy available for other species, while high  $E$  denotes just the contrary, more  
 300 internal energy processes within agroecosystems (and this means more energy available to sustain  
 301 biodiversity). For this reason, it is better to compare  $E$  and  $1 - \text{HANPP}$  when it comes to assess the energy  
 302 carried through biomass flows that cycle within the land matrix and remain available to all heterotrophic  
 303 species for a while.

### 304 2.3.3. Measuring the energy information

305 Information can be interpreted as a measure of uncertainty, or the degree of freedom for the system  
306 to evolve (Prigogine 1996). This kind of information is often called structuring-information that registers  
307 the likelihood of the occurrence of a pair of events (Ulanowicz 2001). It differs from the meaningful  
308 content of the information farmers use to direct the energy flows they move according to a defined  
309 purpose. Accordingly, the *Energy Information* ( $I$ ) shows whether the  $\beta_i$ 's pairs are evenly distributed or  
310 not. This measure of  $I$  accounts for the equi-proportionality of pairwise energy flows that exit from each  
311 node in all the sub-processes of the graph (Figure 3) that represents the agroecosystem functioning:

$$312 \quad I = -\frac{1}{6} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{12} \beta_i \log_2 \beta_i \right) (\gamma_F + \gamma_L) (\alpha_F + \alpha_L),$$

$$313 \quad \gamma_F = \frac{UB + NPP_h}{2(UB + NPP_h + FW)}, \gamma_L = \frac{LS + LP}{2(LS + LP + LW)}$$

$$314 \quad \alpha_F = \frac{FEI_r}{2(FEI_r + FEI_{nr})}, \alpha_L = \frac{LS + LP}{2(LEI_r + LEI_{nr})}$$

315 Base 2 logarithms are applied as the probability is dichotomous. Sometimes some energy flows  
316 circulating inside the agroecosystem are turned into what Odum (1993) named a 'resource out of place'  
317 (i.e. waste, non-renewable). The introduction of the information-loss coefficients  $\gamma_F, \gamma_L$  ensures that  $I$   
318 remains lower than 1 when the agroecosystem presents farm and/or livestock waste. The coefficients  
319  $\alpha_F, \alpha_L$  penalize the use of non-renewable external inputs as a loss of information.

320  $I$  values close to 1 are those with an equi-distribution of incoming and outgoing flows of the  
321 agroecosystem's network structure where the structuring information-message is high, whereas values  
322 close to 0 mean patterns of probability far from equi-distribution.  $I$  values close to 0 correspond to a low  
323 site-specific information content in agroecosystem functioning, which may be related to an  
324 industrialised farm system with high  $HANPP$  and low relevance of traditional peasant knowledge  
325 embedded in the landscape; or, by contrast, to an almost 'natural' turnover with slight  $HANPP$  that may  
326 also correspond at present to rural abandoned forest or pastoral areas. Pristine spaces, with high value  
327 for biodiversity conservation, can also have  $I$  values close to 0, but they are not included in the  $ELIA$

328 agroecosystem's assessment. Conversely, agroecosystems with  $I$  equal to 1 are the ones with equi-  
329 distributed incoming and outgoing energy flows in each sub-process, as well as with intermediate levels  
330 of *HANPP*, that correspond to organic mixed farming (heterogeneous landscapes characterized by a set  
331 of land-uses possessing contrasting disturbances and low no-renewable external inputs) deeply  
332 embedded in local knowledge.

#### 333 **2.3.4. Calculating the indicators of the *ELIA* model**

334 After having defined all the *ELIA* indicators ( $E$ ,  $I$  and  $L$ ), we can analyse the relationship between  
335 variables included in the model. We surmise that the interplay between  $E$  and  $I$  jointly leads to  
336 complexity, understood as a balanced level of intermediate self-organisation (Gershenson and  
337 Fernández 2012). We also assume that the complexity of interlinked energy flows ( $E \cdot I$ ) and  $L$  values of  
338 landscape heterogeneity are related to landscape ecological processes and biodiversity. This *ELIA*  
339 modelling enables us to test the relationship we deem to exist between the simultaneous loss in energy  
340 throughput and landscape ecological efficiency (Marull et al. 2016b).

341 In order to go a step forward from previous explorations of the linkages between intermediate levels  
342 of socio-metabolic ecological disturbance, as assessed with *HANPP*, and the ecological functioning of  
343 cultural landscapes on a regional scale (Marull et al. 2018), we use *ELIA* as an operative model that  
344 combines, the landscape functional structure with the complexity of the interlinking pattern of energy  
345 flows and the information carried by them:

$$346 \quad ELIA = \frac{(E \cdot I) L}{\max\{EI\}e}$$

347 Where  $E$  is the energy storage,  $I$  is the information carried by the network of energy flows, and  $L$  is  
348 the energy imprint in the landscape patterns ( $L$  can be substituted by  $Le$ ; i.e. including landscape  
349 processes). According to the assumptions of the *ELIA* model, we have that the equilibrated  
350  $\max\{EI\}e = 0.6169$  ( $k_i = \frac{1}{3}$ ). Once we have the maximum  $E \cdot I$  (energy reinvested and  
351 redistributed), which corresponds to the highest farmer's capability to structure the land matrix, we can  
352 add the landscape energy imprint ( $L$ ). This synthetic expression of *ELIA* ranges from 0 to 1.

### 353 **3. Results and discussion**

### 354 **3.1. Analysing birds' and butterflies' biodiversity dynamics**

355 A preliminary analysis of the dynamics of the biodiversity indicators in the province of Barcelona  
356 showed that the number of bird observations (total breeding birds: mean = 13,852; standard deviation =  
357 1,696) experienced a steep decrease between 2005 and 2015 (Figure A1). This decrease was especially  
358 stronger in species associated with agriculture (Santos et al. 2008; Vallecillo et al. 2008), for both  
359 breeding (mean = 3,210; standard deviation = 449) and wintering (mean = 3,167; standard deviation =  
360 211) birds. This fits with the constant decrease in populations of common bird species related to open  
361 spaces reported at European level, which has been related to continental-wide long-term land use trends  
362 of agricultural and grassland surface reductions, while urban growth and forestland increase (Inger et al.  
363 2014).

364 Regarding butterflies, while their populations showed evident fluctuations during the period of  
365 analysis (Figure A1), probably due to external factors –e.g. climate, we could see a declining trend in  
366 the number of species, mostly specialists –i.e., related to specific plants and habitats (mean = 19.6;  
367 standard deviation = 2.8) and those associated with open spaces –such as agriculture or pasture (mean  
368 = 68.1; standard deviation = 1.4). This is in concordance with the observed declines in butterfly species  
369 associated with species' degree of habitat specialisation (Melero et al. 2016). Many studies (Brückmann  
370 et al. 2010; Verdasca et al. 2012) have showed that butterflies are particularly sensitive to climate and  
371 habitat changes, such as those that the European rural landscapes have experienced in recent decades  
372 (Stefanescu et al. 2010).

### 373 **3.2. Testing the IDC and ELIA models with birds' and butterflies' data**

374 To test the social metabolism / landscape ecology models as predictors of biodiversity, energy and  
375 landscape components were set as independent variables (Table A1), and empirical data of biodiversity  
376 from transects of birds and butterflies as dependent variables, in the province (IDC model) and the region  
377 (ELIA model) of Barcelona. Our regression analyses showed a relationship between the energy and  
378 landscape variables with the number of observations and the species richness of butterflies, breeding  
379 birds and wintering birds (Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3, respectively).



380 In the province of Barcelona, *IDC* and Edge Density (a proxy of landscape ecotony) were positively  
381 related ( $r^2=0.160$ ) with the abundance of butterflies (Table 1); and *IDC* and Polygon Density (number  
382 of land cover patches) with species richness ( $r^2=0.286$ ). Therefore, we interpret this result as a support  
383 to the intermediate disturbance of suitable habitats, with intermediate values of landscape complexity  
384 contributing to species richness and abundance of butterflies. The results confirmed others obtained in  
385 previous tests (Marull et al. 2018), relating *IDC* values with biodiversity of different taxa (vascular  
386 plants, amphibians, reptiles and mammals) in Catalonia.

387 In the region of Barcelona (Table 1), only *ELIA* was positively related with the observations of  
388 butterflies ( $r^2=0.266$ ); Shannon and Ecological Connectivity (heterogeneous and well-connected  
389 landscapes) and *I* (information-driven redistribution of biomass flows) were also positively correlated  
390 with species richness (three of the *ELIA* components), while Grassland (pasture) and *FEInr* (non-  
391 renewable external inputs –fertilizers, pesticides) correlated negatively ( $r^2=0.521$ ).

392 Other regressions showed which energy and landscape variables have statistical relation with the  
393 number of observations and species richness of breeding (Table 2) and wintering (Table 3) birds. The  
394 case of birds was more complex because, in general, this group responds better to landscape  
395 heterogeneity at larger spatial scales than butterflies. However, the results confirmed previous analyses  
396 (Marull et al., 2018) that also supported *IDC* relation with vascular plants, amphibians, reptiles and  
397 mammals, but not with birds. In this paper, we wanted further explore the specific response of birds' to  
398 the *IDC*.

399 In the province of Barcelona, Cropland and Grassland cover positively affected the distribution of  
400 breeding birds (Table 2), while Ecological Connectivity was negatively related ( $r^2=0.361$ ). Largest Path  
401 Index (size of land cover patches) increased species richness while Scrubland reduced it ( $r^2=0.206$ ). In  
402 the case of wintering birds (Table 3) *HANPP* (harvest), Cropland (arable crops) and Grove (fruit crops)  
403 were positively related ( $r^2=0.380$ ) with the abundance (birds are moving to these land-uses to find food),  
404 as well as the percentage of Open Space and Shannon with species richness ( $r^2=0.301$ ).

405 Finally, applying the *ELIA* model in the region of Barcelona, *I* (the biomass redistributed between  
406 different land-uses) was the key explaining both the number of observations and the species richness of

407 breeding ( $r^2=0.500$  and  $r^2=0.248$ , respectively) (Table 2) and wintering birds ( $r^2=0.543$  and  $r^2=0.401$ ,  
408 respectively) (Table 3). This indicator penalizes the use of non-renewable inputs, such as pesticides and  
409 synthetic fertilizers together with polluting waste.

### 410 3.3. Using the *IDC* and *ELIA* models to test Margalef's hypothesis

411 The combination of energy-flow pattern characterisation and information on the way energy is  
412 redistributed in space appears as a good starting point to model the society-environment relationships.  
413 According to Margalef (1991, 2001), to understand how human activities affect the organization of space  
414 where ecosystem functioning takes place it is necessary to clarify conceptually and formulate  
415 quantitatively "*the relationship between the external energy inputs and the dimensions that characterize*  
416 *the spatial patterns of its distribution*" –i.e. the functional structure of the land matrix. The models  
417 proposed in this paper allowed us to assess the relationships between landscape structure and energy  
418 and information flows with biodiversity in human-transformed landscapes.

419 As previously shown in other studies (e.g. Tucker and Heath 1994), the biodiversity indicators  
420 (butterflies and birds) used in statistical tests showed a special strong decrease in species associated with  
421 agroforestry mosaics (Santos et al. 2008; Melero et al. 2016). These effects are added to those of climate  
422 change (Stefanescu et al. 2010; Devictor et al. 2012). This study confirms the constant decrease in  
423 populations of common bird species related to open spaces in the Barcelona Province. The decrease of  
424 birds' populations is of increasing concern in Europe (Inger et al. 2014). The preservation of bio-cultural  
425 landscapes and of traditional mixed farming are recognized as key elements to halt the serious decline  
426 of butterfly populations in Europe (van Swaay et al. 2008). Moreover, butterflies are a proxy of  
427 biodiversity (Thomas 2005). These troubling birds' and butterflies' population dynamics justify the need  
428 for an integrated land-use planning, where organic mixed-farming agriculture may have a key role as  
429 green infrastructure guaranteeing ecosystem services provisioning.

430 The *IDC* and *ELIA* models linking social metabolism with landscape ecology here tested at different  
431 resolutions have demonstrated their capability as predictors of biodiversity locations using butterfly  
432 empirical data either at regional (*IDC*) or at local (*ELIA*) levels. In the case of birds (also butterflies),  
433 the information-driven redistribution of biomass flows within agroecosystems (*I*) appears to be a major

434 factor behind biodiversity patterns (Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3). This is an interesting result, because  
435 it points out to the role of farmers' knowledge and labour in maintaining the ecological functionality of  
436 bio-cultural landscapes by means of a subtle and historically changing human-nature dynamics (Marull  
437 et al. 2018). This is good news for addressing the energy-food-biodiversity trilemma currently posed at  
438 global scale (Tilman et al. 2009).

439 The combination of spatially and temporarily uneven disturbances with increased landscape  
440 complexity can be capable to offer more habitats and available energy resources for different species  
441 and ecological communities within and agro-ecological land matrix. As a result of this combination of  
442 intermediate disturbances in heterogeneous bio-cultural landscapes, beta-diversity (at landscape scale)  
443 increased, and overrode the inevitable fall in alpha-diversity (at plot level) in cropland, which is the  
444 typical local impact of organic farm system functioning on biodiversity (Gliessmann 1990). As long as  
445 this newly introduced farm-associated biodiversity (Altieri 1999) did not preclude the survival of former  
446 species richness, which would be sheltered in more undisturbed land-units, the whole process could  
447 even entail an increase in gamma-diversity (on a regional scale).

448 In summary, the relationship between biodiversity and agrarian metabolism shows that abundance  
449 and species richness are positively related to non-intensive farming (*IDC* and *ELIA* models with  
450 butterflies; Table 1) and the heterogeneous distribution of energy flows across the landscape with  
451 minimum use of industrial inputs (*I* with butterflies and birds; Table 1, Table 2 and Table 3). These  
452 findings are in line with a recent comprehensive review in conservation biology (Sanchez-Bayo and  
453 Wyckhuys 2019) for what concerns the worldwide decline of entomofauna.

#### 454 **4. Conclusion**

455 This paper has been the first attempt to check the Margalef's energy-information-structure hypothesis  
456 testing the links of landscape patterns and energy and information flows with biodiversity in human-  
457 transformed landscapes. We used an Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) model to assess how  
458 different levels of human appropriation of photosynthetic capacity affect the landscape structure that  
459 hosts biodiversity on a regional scale (Marull et al. 2016a). We also applied an Energy–Landscape  
460 Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) of agroecosystems to measure the “energy storage” (*E*) and “energy

461 information” (*I*) held in the whole network of agricultural socio-metabolic flows, to correlate both  
462 variables (*E·I*) with the “energy imprint” in the landscape patterns and processes that sustain biodiversity  
463 on a local scale (Marull et al. 2016b).

464 Both models can increase our capability to understand the ultimate factors that determine different  
465 components of biodiversity location (butterflies and birds) in human-transformed landscapes. The *IDC*  
466 is an energy-space input-output model (based on the human appropriation of net primary production),  
467 while *ELIA* goes deeper in opening the black box on how energy is reinvested (*E*) and redistributed (*I*)  
468 in the land matrix (assessing the complexity of the internal energy loops at local scales). As Margalef  
469 suggested (Margalef 1991), “the patterns of energy distribution”—in terms of inputs, outputs, and  
470 internal flows- have been determinant to understand species richness and abundance in Mediterranean  
471 human-transformed landscapes.

472 Confirming or rejecting the Margalef’s hypothesis requires further research applying *IDC* and *ELIA*  
473 to different case studies in diverse bioregions, and using larger biodiversity datasets in order to find out  
474 the critical thresholds in the interplay among energy throughputs and information-complexity landscape  
475 patterns. This research agenda would help to reveal how and why different agroecosystem managements  
476 can lead to key turning points in the relationship of the network of socio-metabolic energy flows of  
477 farming with landscape ecological functioning and biodiversity (Agnoletti 2014).

478 Testing these linkages between social metabolism, landscape ecology and biodiversity may also  
479 assist to appraise the wider impact of land-use policies on ecological functioning in human-modified  
480 territories (*IDC* and *ELIA* models can be potentially regionalized), thus helping to resolve the global  
481 energy-food-biodiversity trilemma (Tilman et al. 2009). The traditional sectorial policies have to be  
482 overcome by a new systemic vision of the agricultural, forestry and livestock metabolic circulation  
483 within the landscape functional structure of green infrastructures (Marull et al. 2019). This requires  
484 going ahead in an agro-ecology research useful for designing more sustainable human-transformed  
485 landscapes worldwide in the future.

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636 *Conserv.* 146:14-23. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2011.10.031>.

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638 Photosynthesis. *BioScience* 36(6):363-373. <https://doi.org/10.2307/1310258>.

639 **Table 1** Linear regression analysis taking into account all the predictor variables (energy and landscape;  
640 Table 1) and the dependent variables of biodiversity components (total butterfly species richness and  
641 abundance), applying the Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) and the Energy–Landscape  
642 Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) models at the Barcelona province and region, respectively

Total Butterflies – Abundance ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	18,724.647	0.607	
IDC	221,202.465	2.730	1.201
Edge Density	97.207	1.938	1.201
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.160	4.132	,026(b)
a) Dependent variable: TB-AB			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), IDC, Edge Density			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Butterflies – Species Richness ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	23.778	2.754	
IDC	102.183	3.830	1.066
Polygon Density	0.078	1.658	1.066
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.286	7.596	,002(b)
a) Dependent variable: TB-SR			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), IDC, Polygon Density			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Butterflies – Abundance ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	41,293.408	2.109	
ELIA	527,216.781	2.824	1.000
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.266	7.978	,010(b)
a) Dependent variable: TB-AB			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), ELIA			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Butterflies – Species Richness ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	7.623	0.561	
Ecological Connectivity	4.032	2.405	1.386
FEInr	-0.307	-4.062	1.553
I	92.206	2.758	1.314
Grassland	-189.150	-3.022	1.758
Shannon	48.194	2.493	2.003
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.521	6.005	,002(b)
a) Dependent variable: TB-SR			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), Ecological Connectivity, FEInr, I, Grassland, Shannon			
Only significant variables are represented			

643 Note: Farmland External Input no-renewable (FEInr); Energy Information (I). See [Table A1](#).

644 **Table 2** Linear regression analysis taking into account all the predictor variables (energy and landscape;  
645 Table 1) and the dependent variables of biodiversity components (breeding birds species richness and  
646 abundance), applying the Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) and the Energy–Landscape  
647 Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) models at the Barcelona province and region, respectively

Total Breeding Birds – Abundance ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	502.910	10.661	
Ecological Connectivity	-56.406	-6.753	1.009
Cropland	166.904	1.863	1.075
Grassland	779.270	1.735	1.067
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.361	19.070	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TBB-AB b) Predictor variables: (constant), Ecological Connectivity, Cropland, Grassland Only significant variables are represented			
Total Breeding Birds – Species Richness ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	113.412	16.681	
Largest Path Index	-1.251 · 10 <sup>-5</sup>	-4.700	1.116
Scrubland	-39.183	-3.597	1.116
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.206	13.459	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TBB-SR b) Predictor variables: (constant), Largest Path Index, Scrubland Only significant variables are represented			
Total Breeding Birds – Abundance ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	526.167	7.576	
Grassland	2,134.082	3.029	1.262
E	-316.791	-4.063	1.142
Le	-446.136	-3.676	1.231
I	523.249	2.125	1.353
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.500	17.273	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TBB-AB b) Predictor variables: (constant), Grassland, E, Le, I Only significant variables are represented			
Total Breeding Birds – Species Richness ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	70.962	9.144	
BEROI	-15.720	-2.060	1.090
I	69.576	2.440	1.217
Grassland	158.545	1.773	1.291
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.248	8.257	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TBB-SR b) Predictor variables: (constant), BEROI, I, Grassland Only significant variables are represented			

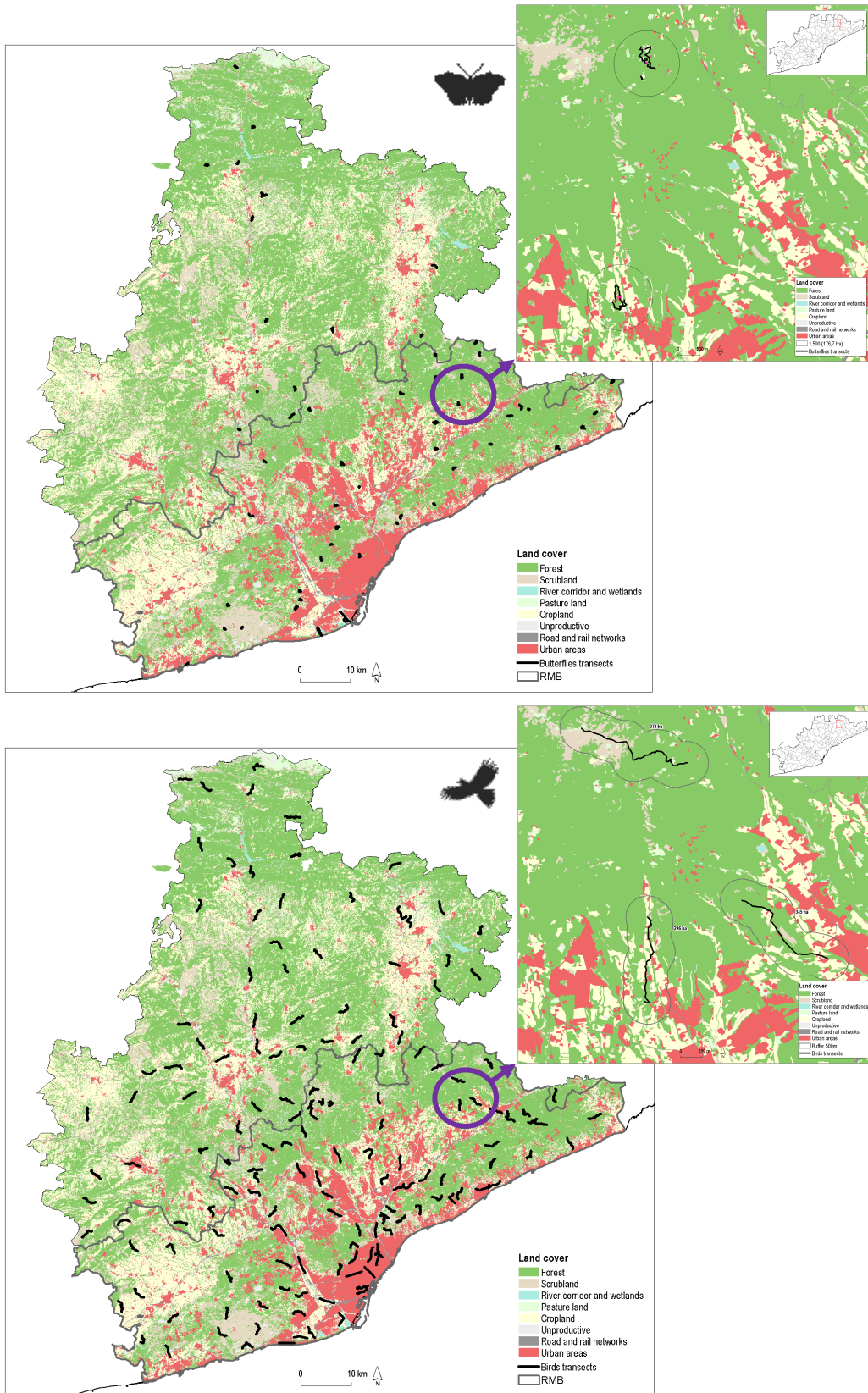
648 Note: Energy Storage (E); Energy Information (I); Landscape Complexity (Le); Biodiversity Energy Return of Investment  
649 (BEROI). See **Table A1**.

650 **Table 3** Linear regression analysis taking into account all the predictor variables (energy and landscape;  
651 Table 1) and the dependent variables of biodiversity components (wintering bird species richness and  
652 abundance), applying the Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) and the Energy–Landscape  
653 Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) models at the Barcelona province and region, respectively

Total Wintering Birds – Abundance ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	3.485	6.815	
HANPP	2.732	6.329	2.233
Scrubland	-2.262	-5.067	1.273
Open Space (%)	1.200	2.909	2.386
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.406	20.139	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: ln(TWB-AB)			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), HANPP, Scrubland, Open Space			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Wintering Birds – Species Richness ( <i>Province</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	75.439	11.161	
Ecological Connectivity	-11.614	-4.839	4.311
Open Space (%)	40.571	2.385	4.496
Shannon	50.302	3.304	1.568
Scrubland	-21.032	-1.640	1.163
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.301	10.052	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TWB-SR			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), Ecological Connectivity, Open Space, Shannon, Scrubland			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Wintering Birds – Abundance ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	5.981	14.292	
Grassland	7.808	2.568	1.267
E	-1.694	-4.264	1.235
I	3.057	2.725	1.212
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.543	22.015	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: ln(TWB-AB)			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), Grassland, E, I			
Only significant variables are represented			
Total Wintering Birds – Species Richness ( <i>Region</i> )			
	Coef.	t	VIF
(constant)	80.723	5.558	
BEROI	-24.532	-2.213	1.509
I	114.948	2.745	1.449
Ecological Connectivity	-3.950	-2.607	1.058
	Adj. R <sup>2</sup>	F	Sig
Statistics	0.401	12.811	,000(b)
a) Dependent variable: TWB-SR			
b) Predictor variables: (constant), BEROI, I, Ecological Connectivity			
Only significant variables are represented			

654 Note: Human Appropriation of Net Primary Production (HANPP); Energy Storage (E); Energy Information (I); Biodiversity  
655 Energy Return of Investment (BEROI). See **Table A1**.  
656

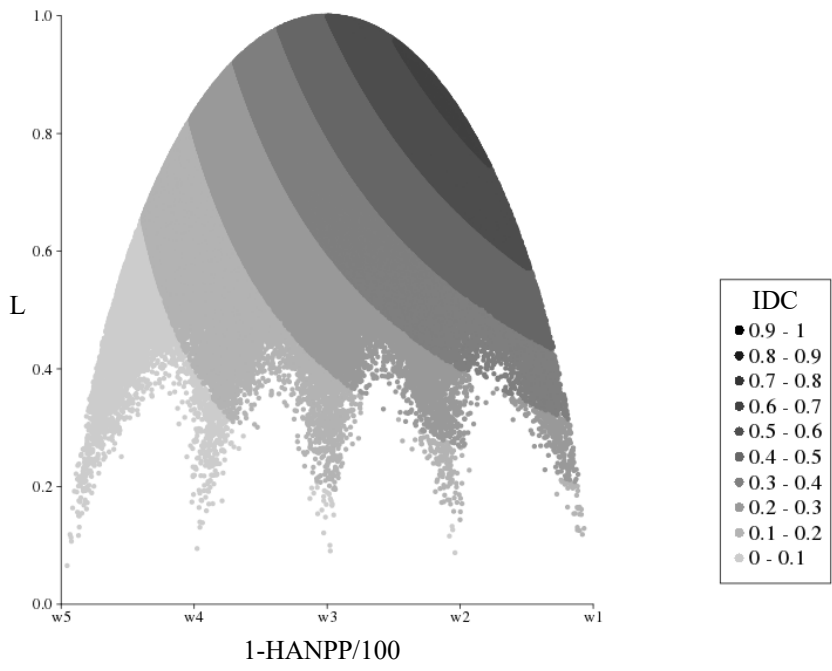
657 **Figure 1** Butterfly transects (circular buffer: 750m)\* and bird transects (longitudinal buffer: 500m)\*\*  
 658 monitored in the Barcelona province and region (RMB), represented over a land cover map (2009)



684 Source: \* Catalan Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (CBMS); \*\* Institut Català d'Ornitologia (ICO).

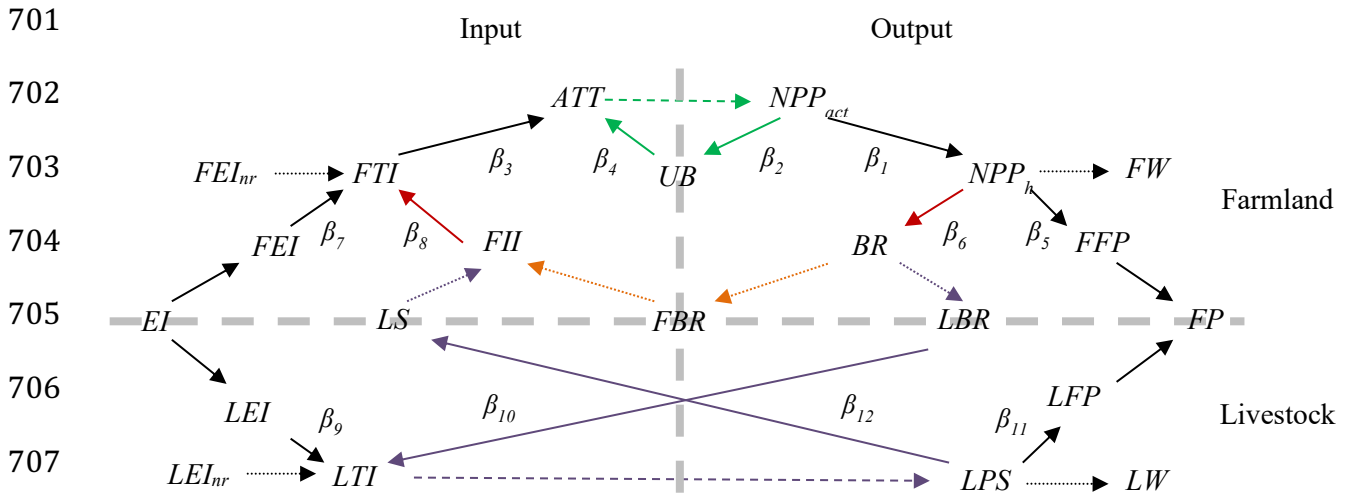
685 **Figure 2** Theoretical values of the Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) model. Relationship  
686 between Landscape Heterogeneity (*L*) and Human Appropriation of Net Primary Production (*HANPP*)

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697 Note:  $IDC = L (1 - HANPP/100)$   
698 Source: Marull et al. 2016a.  
699

700 **Figure 3** Graph model of the energy carriers used in the Energy–Landscape Integrated Analysis (ELIA)



708 Variables: Actual Net Primary Production ( $NPP_{act}$ ); Unharvested Biomass ( $UB$ ); Harvested Net Primary Production ( $NPP_h$ );  
 709 Biomass Reused ( $BR$ ); Farmland Biomass Reused ( $FBR$ ); Livestock Biomass Reused ( $LBR$ ); Farmland Final Produce ( $FFP$ );  
 710 External Input ( $EI$ ); Farmland External Input ( $FEI$ ); Livestock External Input ( $LEI$ ); Livestock Total Input ( $LTI$ ); Livestock  
 711 Produce and Services ( $LPS$ ); Livestock Final Produce ( $LFP$ ); Livestock Services ( $LS$ ); Final Produce ( $FP$ ); Agroecosystem  
 712 Total Turnover ( $ATT$ ); Farmland Total Input ( $FTI$ ); Farmland Internal Input ( $FII$ ); Farmland Waste ( $FW$ ); Livestock Waste  
 713 ( $LW$ ). *nr* means no-renewable.  $\beta_i$ 's are the incoming-outgoing coefficients.

714 Relationships between variables:  $NPP_{act} = UB + LP$ ;  $NPP_h = BR + FFP$ ;  $BR = FBR + LBR$ ;  $EI = FEI + LEI$ ;  $LTI = LEI +$   
 715  $LBR$ ;  $LPS = LP + LS$ ;  $FP = FFP + LFP$ ;  $ATT = FTI + UB$ ;  $FTI = FII + FEI$ ;  $FII = FBR + LS$ .

716 Note: The colours of the arrows represent the 'forestry' (green), 'farmland' (red) or 'livestock' (purple) subsystems.  
 717

718 Source: Marull et al. 2016b.

719  
 720



721 **Appendix A**

722 **Figure A1** Butterfly species richness and abundance (represented as generalist / specialist, open-space /  
 723 close-space species) and bird species richness and abundance (represented as total or farmland breeding  
 724 / wintering species) in the Barcelona province, from 2005 to 2015



755 Source: \* Catalan Butterfly Monitoring Scheme (CBMS); \*\* Institut Català d'Ornitologia (ICO).

756 **Table A1** Variables used in the Intermediate Disturbance–Complexity (*IDC*) and the Energy–Landscape

757 Integrated Analysis (*ELIA*) models at the Barcelona region and province (RMB & PROV, respectively)

Typology	Code	Name	RMB	PROV	
Energy	Primary Energy Variables	FEI r	Farmland External Input renewable	*	
		FEI nr	Farmland External Input no-renewable	*	
		FEI	Farmland External Input	*	
		UB	Unharvested Biomass	*	
		FW	Farmland Waste	*	
		FBR	Farmland Biomass Reused	*	
		LBR	Livestock Biomass Reused	*	
		FFP	Farmland Final Produce	*	
		LEI R	Livestock External Input	*	
		LEI nr	Livestock External Input renewable	*	
		LEI	Livestock External Input no-renewable	*	
		LW	Livestock Waste	*	
		LS	Livestock Services	*	
	LFP	Livestock Final Produce	*		
	Secondary Energy Variables	NPPact	Actual Net Primary Production	*	
		NPPh	Harvested Net Primary Production	*	
		ATT	Agroecosystem Total Turnover	*	
		LTI	Livestock Total Input	*	
		LPS	Livestock Produce and Services	*	
		FTI	Farmland Total Input	*	
FII		Farmland Internal Input	*		
Socio-economic Indicators	EF-EROI	External - Energy Return of Investment	*		
	IF-EROI	Internal - Energy Return of Investment	*		
	F-EROI	Final - Energy Return of Investment	*		
Agro-ecological Indicators	NPP-EROI	Net Primary Production - Energy Return of Investment	*		
	AF-EROI	Agro-ecological - Energy Return of Investment	*		
	B-EROI	Biodiversity - Energy Return of Investment	*		
Energy Indicators	E	Energy Storage	*		
	I	Energy Information	*		
	HANPP	Human Appropriation of Net Primary Production		*	
Landscape	Landscape Composition	CR-LC	Cropland	*	*
		GR-LC	Grove	*	*
		VN-LC	Vineyard	*	*
		GS-LC	Grassland	*	*
		SC-LC	Scrubland	*	*
		FR-LC	Forest	*	*
		WT-LC	Wetland	*	*
		UN-LC	Unproductive	*	*
	UR-LC	Urban	*	*	
	Landscape Configuration	LPI	Largest Path Index	*	*
		PD	Polygon Density	*	*
		ED	Edge Density	*	*
		EMS	Effective Mesh Size	*	*
		L	Landscape Heterogeneity	*	*
ECI		Landscape Connectivity	*	*	
Le	Landscape Complexity	*	*		
Energy - Landscape	ELIA / IDC	ELIA IDC	Energy - Landscape Integrated Analysis Intermediate Disturbance Complexity	*	*
Biodiversity (transects)	Birds	TBB-SR	Total Breeding Bird Species Richness		
		FBB-SR	Farmland Breeding Bird Species Richness		
		TBB-AB	Total Breeding Bird Abundance		
		FBB-AB	Farmland Breeding Bird Abundance		
		TWB-SR	Total Wintering Bird Species Richness	69	96
		FWB-SR	Farmland Wintering Bird Species Richness		
		TWB-AB	Total Wintering Bird Abundance		
	FWB-AB	Farmland Wintering Birds Abundance			
	Butterflies	TB-SR	Total Butterfly Species Richness		
		TB-AB	Total Butterfly Abundance		
		OPE-SR	Open-space Butterfly Species Richness		
		OPE-AB	Open-space Butterfly Species Abundance		
		CLOS-SR	Close-space Butterfly Species Richness		
		CLOS-AB	Close-space Butterfly Species Abundance	23	34
GEN-SR		Generalist Butterfly Species Richness			
GEN-AB	Generalist Butterfly Species Abundance				
SPE-SR	Specialist Butterfly Species Richness				
SPE-AB	Specialist Butterfly Species Abundance				

758