

## Appendix

**Table A1:** ratio between the average robustness obtained by  $I=1$  in Eq. (5) and the average robustness using the intentional attack strategy.

<b>Food web</b>	$\bar{R}_{50}$	$\bar{R}_{100}$
Bridge Brook Lake	1.10	1.23
Coachella Valley	1.17	1.36
Cheasepeake Bay	1.54	1.48
St Martin Island	1.45	1.57
St Marks Seagrass	1.62	1.55
Grassland	1.73	1.48
Ythan Estuary 91	4.16	3.22
Scotch Broom	12.72	15.23
Stony Stream	1.18	1.62
Little Rock Lake	1.42	1.45
Canton Creek	1.14	1.85
Ythan Estuary 96	4.06	3.52
El Verde Rainforest	1.58	1.56
Mirror Lake	1.07	1.44

**Table A2:** Parameters of the regression models on the linear scale for the relationship between It and a) connectance, b) species richness.

	Breakpoint $\bar{R}_{50}$			Breakpoint $\bar{R}_{100}$		
	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>Slope</i>	<i>Intercept</i>	<i>p</i>
<b>Connectance</b>	1.1412±0.832	0.0150±0.102	0.20	0.7262±0.291	0.0113±0.035	<0.01
<b>Species richness</b>	-0.0027±0.001	0.352066±0.11	<0.05	-0.0013±0.0004	0.1953±0.04	<0.01

Figure A1:  $\bar{R}_{50}$  two-phase regressions for each food web.

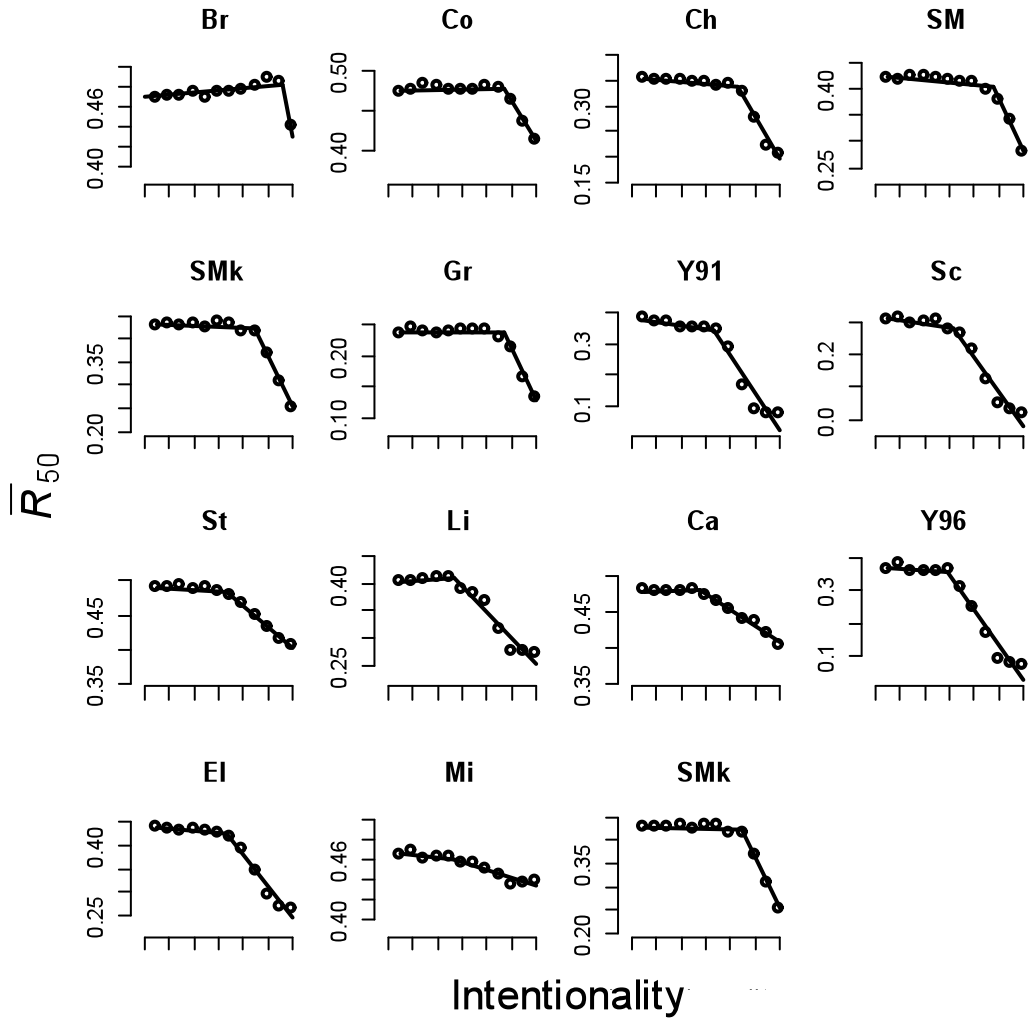
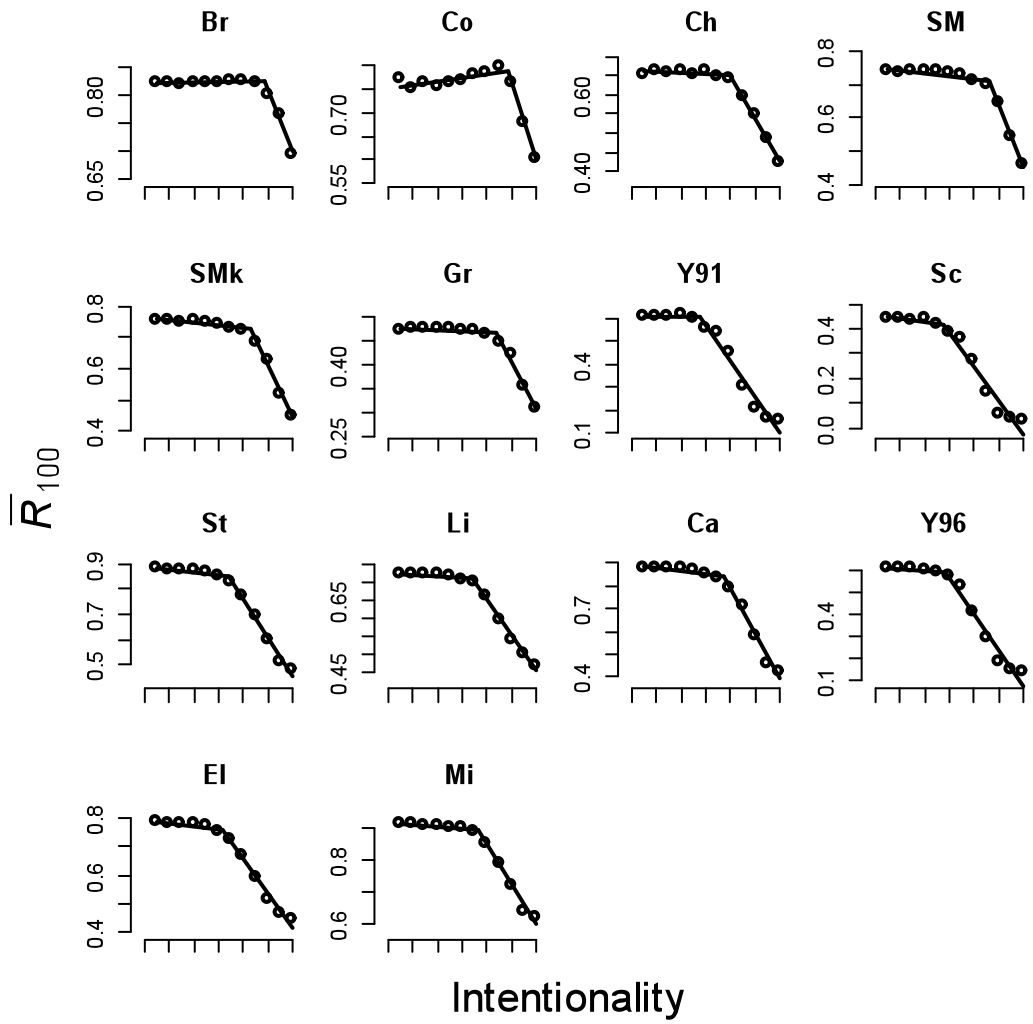
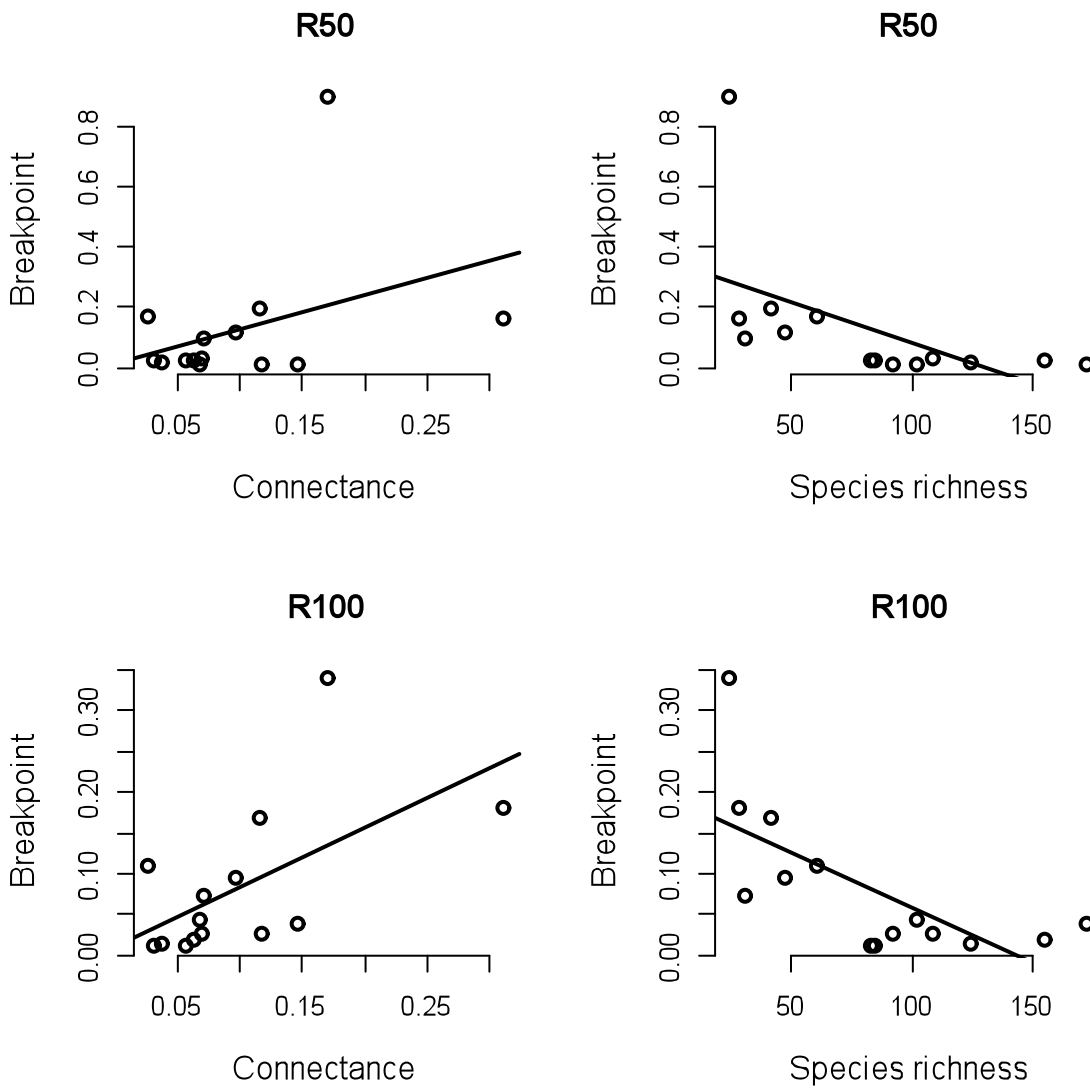


Figure A2:  $\bar{R}_{100}$  two-phase regressions for each food web.



**Figure A3:** Relationship between breakpoint  $It$  and measures of food web complexity, namely connectance and species richness.



**Figure A4:** Diagram showing how we performed simulations for every food web included in our data set.

