

COMMENTARY ON "KEY ECOLOGICAL PARAMETERS OF IMMOTILE VERSUS LOCOMOTIVE LIFE" BY V. G. GORSHKOV AND A. M. MAKARIEVA

I. Hatton¹, E. Galbraith²

¹ Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals (ICTA), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain;
Max Plank Institute for Mathematics in the Sciences, Leipzig 04103, Germany
E-mail: i.a.hatton@gmail.com

² Institut de Ciència i Tecnologia Ambientals (ICTA), Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain;
Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, McGill University, Montreal, Canada

Abstract. The stability and regulatory capacity of the Earth system to human induced change is an overarching present-day concern. The associated problems are of such large scale, spanning many scientific disciplines, that established methods in traditional fields are frequently proving inadequate. Professors Gorshkov and Makarieva have long taken unconventional approaches to large-scale ecological questions, and it was thus with enthusiasm that we greeted the request to comment on the collaboration published here [1].

Keywords: metabolic rate, population density, biotic regulation, biomass.

Acknowledgments. We are grateful for comments on an earlier draft from A. M. Makarieva and A. Aleinikov, and for funding from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation to IH, and from the European Research Council (ERC) under the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme to EG (grant agreement No. 682602).