Table 1

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| Dataset | High dissimilarity | High proportion of rare species | High skew | Low Simpson | Low Shannon |
| Breeding Bird Survey | 23%; n = 2773 | 4.5%; n = 2773 | 9%; n = 2773 | 21%; n = 2773 | 23%; n = 2773 |
| FIA | 7.2%; n = 18447 | 1.4%; n = 17410 | 2.8%; n = 17410 | 5.8%; n = 17410 | 5.5%; n = 17410 |
| Gentry | 34%; n = 224 | 0.9%; n = 223 | 11%; n = 223 | 9.9%; n = 223 | 7.6%; n = 223 |
| Mammal Communities | 32%; n = 552 | 13%; n = 511 | 12%; n = 505 | 28%; n = 511 | 30%; n = 511 |
| Misc. Abundance | 59%; n = 494 | 27%; n = 486 | 27%; n = 484 | 53%; n = 486 | 56%; n = 486 |

**Table 1.** Proportions of extreme values for percentile scores for observed SADs compared to samples from the feasible set. For dissimilarity, this is the proportion of percentile scores >95; by chance, ~5% of scores should be in this extreme. For all other metrics, this is the proportion <2.5 or >97.5; by chance ~2.5% of scores should be in either extreme. n refers to the number of communities included for each dataset for each metric. The proportions shown are for the directions of effects observed for most datasets; for the opposite-direction effects, see Table S5.