## Appendix 2 Equivalence with formula from Shipley (2014)

For a Poisson model without offset, the Kullback-Leibler R<sup>2</sup> is (Table 1):

$$R_{KL}^{2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{s} y_{i} \ln\left(\frac{y_{i}}{\mu_{i}}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{s} y_{i} \ln\left(\frac{y_{i}}{\overline{y}}\right)}$$
(1)

It can be re-written in the form of equation (4) from Shipley (2014) using the observed and expected relative abundance ( $o_i = y_i/y_{tot}$  and  $p_i = \mu_i/y_{tot}$ , respectively) and number of species:

$$R_{KL}^{2} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{s} \frac{y_{i}}{y_{tot}} \ln\left(\frac{y_{i}/y_{tot}}{\mu_{i}/y_{tot}}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{s} \frac{y_{i}}{y_{tot}} \ln\left(\frac{y_{i}/y_{tot}}{\bar{y}/y_{tot}}\right)} = 1 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{s} o_{i} \ln\left(\frac{o_{i}}{p_{i}}\right)}{\sum_{i=1}^{s} o_{i} \ln\left(\frac{o_{i}}{1/S}\right)}$$
(2)