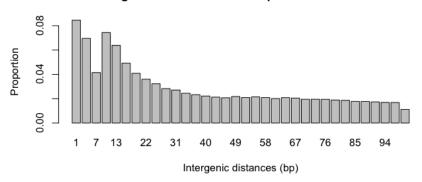
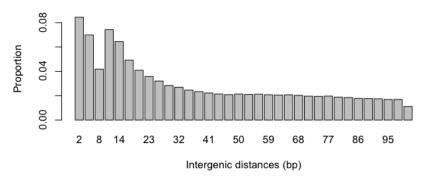
## Intergenic distances used in phase 1 simulations



## Intergenic distances used in phase 2 simulations



**Figure S3** Intergenic Distances used in phase 1 and phase 2 simulations (scenarios 2 and 3). The values presented in these barplots were retrieved from the prokaryotic empirical intergenic distances distribution (figure S1). We have limited the distance up to 99 + phase bp for practical reasons.