



Vocational Aqualabs - Vocational Generic Skills for Researchers

**Experimental Design
Introduction to multivariate analysis**

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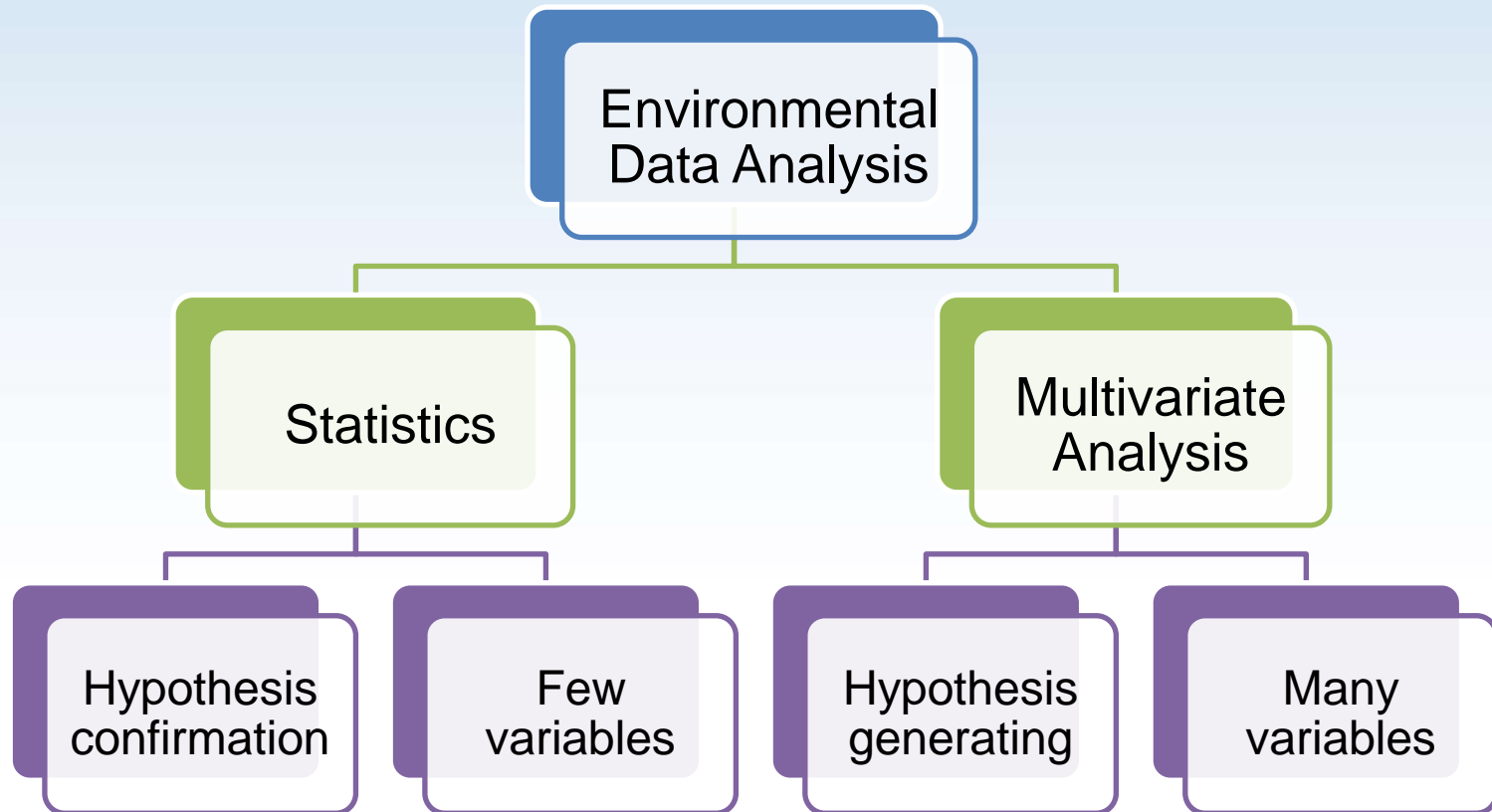


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Lifelong Learning Programme

Multivariate analysis

- Community level data is important for interpretation of ecological effects from properly constructed field studies (see unit 4), though can be used for a variety of lab-derived multivariate datasets
- Community level data is multivariate (many variables) as each sample site is described by the abundances of a number of species or environmental factors
- **What is Multivariate Analysis?**
- **Why use it for analysing environmental data?**
- **What are the main techniques of MVA?**

Multivariate analysis



Multivariate analysis

There are three main advantages of using MVA

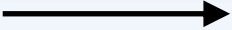

1. user appreciates the problem and foresees data type, sampling design and analysis method
2. there is a consistency of implementation
3. detects smaller differences and more subtle changes in community structure

Multivariate analysis – main types

- **Classification**
- **Ordination**
- **Data input**

Multivariate analysis – data input

Data matrix (two way table):

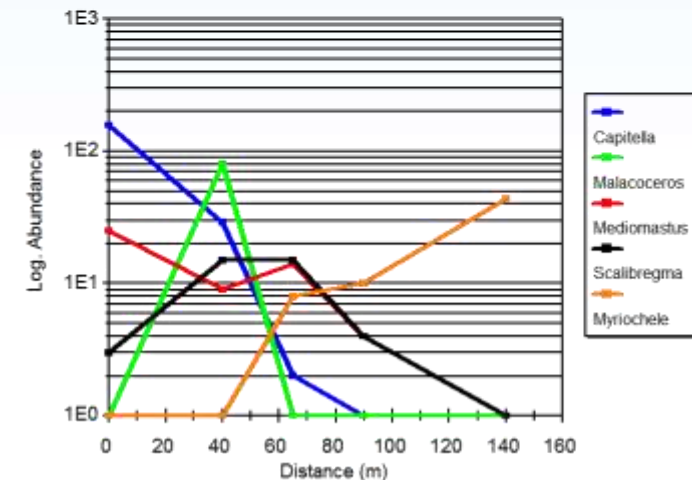
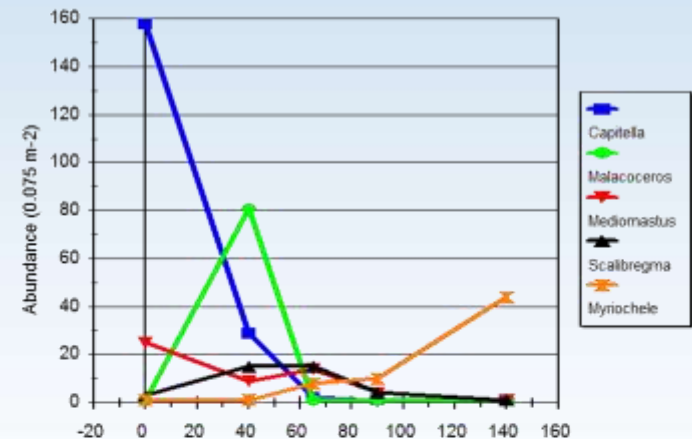
	Stations 		
Species 			

Multivariate analysis - transformations

- for MVA is primarily used to weight the data in order to even out the contribution made by all variables, e.g. species, environmental factors
- Commonly used transforms:
 - square root (sq rt)
 - log transform (lg)
 - fourth root (4rt)
 - binary or presence/absence
- Strength: **sq rt < lg < 4rt < +/-**

Multivariate analysis - transformations

- **log transformation**
 - downweights abundant species
 - increases importance of rare species
- **$\log(x + 1)$**
 - 1000 ind > 3.0004
 - 100 ind > 2.0043
 - 10 ind > 1.0413
 - 1 ind > 0.3010



Multivariate analysis – main types

- Classification
- Ordination

Multivariate analysis - classification

- **Groups similar entities together in clusters or groups**
- **Two basic kinds:**
 - Non-hierarchical classification, e.g. twoway table
 - Hierarchical classification, e.g. cluster analysis

Multivariate analysis - classification

- simple ordering of species and stations so their occurrences give a patterned structure along the gradient
- good for large data sets
- done “by eye” or by computer

Table 1.3. German meadow samples arranged by the Braun-Blanquet method

Species	Sample*																			
	1	1	2	1	1	2	2	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1	1	1	5	4	7
	4	0	1	9	5	3	4	2	6	8	2	0	5	2	3	9	3	7	6	1
Ia																				
<i>Bromus erectus</i>	9	7	8	8	8	8	6													
<i>Scabiosa columbaria</i>	2	1	1				3													
<i>Thymus serpyllum</i>	1	3	2			1	1													
<i>Salvia pratensis</i>		5		3	2	4	4													
<i>Koeleria pyramidata</i>	1	4	4	4																
<i>Festuca ovina</i>		3	3	2				2												
Ib																				
<i>Campanula glomerata</i>	2		1	2		2	1		1		2									
<i>Viola hirta</i>		4		3	1	1				1										
<i>Briza media</i>		2	2	3				2	3											
<i>Linum catharticum</i>	1		1	1				1												
IIb																				
<i>Geum rivale</i>								2	1	1	1		1	2	1	1	3	4	5	2
<i>Holcus lanatus</i>													2	1	1	2	3	2	3	3
<i>Melandrium diurnum</i>								2	1			1	1	1	3		1	4	2	2
<i>Alopecurus pratensis</i>								3			3	6			4		5	5	6	6
<i>Lysimachia nummularia</i>											1	1					1	1	2	1
<i>Lychnis flos-cuculi</i>								2							1	1	1	1	1	1
<i>Glechoma hederacea</i>											1	1	1				1	1		1
IIa																				
<i>Cirsium oleraceum</i>													1	1	2	1	1	3	6	4
<i>Deschampsia caespitosa</i>																3	6	7	3	5
<i>Angelica sylvestris</i>																2	1	2		1
<i>Carex acutiformis</i>																	3		4	2
<i>Filipendula ulmaria</i>																		1	4	3
<i>Pimpinella magna</i>																		2	1	
<i>Polygonum bistorta</i>																			2	1
<i>Arrhenatherum elatius</i>	3	5	1	5	6	3	7	2	6	7	6	7	4	7	7	7	6	6	4	6
<i>Poa pratensis</i>	5	5	4	6	6	6	7	9	6	6	7	5	4	6	6	2	3	5	2	5
<i>Crepis biennis</i>	1	5	2	3	2	4	5	1	2		4	4	1	2	2	1	2	2	4	1

Multivariate analysis - classification

- groups similar entities together into classes in a hierarchical manner
- single analysis may be viewed on several levels, e.g. general / detailed
- relationships are expressed among the entities classified
- poor for large datasets, good for smaller datasets
- two types:
 - **Monothetic divisive** (*all samples in a single cluster then progressively divide into smaller ones*)
 - **Polythetic agglomerative** (*each sample in a single cluster then agglomerate these into larger and larger clusters*)

Multivariate analysis – assoc. matrix

- comparison of sample pairs or species pairs
- many different techniques, e.g. percentage similarity

PERCENT SIMILARITY						
	MID	A0	A15	A30	A50	A75
MID	100	75.794	52.241	17.121	2.006	4.839
A0	75.794	100	60.171	20.701	0	0
A15	52.241	60.171	100	43.164	17.844	24.758
A30	17.121	20.701	43.164	100.000	54.561	57.640
A50	2.006	0	17.844	54.561	100	49.979
A75	4.839	0	24.758	57.640	49.979	100
A100	1.956	0	20.994	49.447	65.520	56.377
B0	73.289	73.947	49.904	20.060	0	4.901
B15	16.673	14.291	36.491	68.575	53.796	56.250
B30	2.139	0	21.585	53.373	61.295	55.675
C0	75.601	74.378	46.425	17.878	1.993	0
C15	40.886	48.576	59.823	45.219	21.957	27.091
C30	27.396	32.810	53.496	64.443	37.842	45.030
C50	16.729	15.864	35.951	69.550	56.097	59.998
C75	11.721	11.107	28.022	67.388	58.387	48.990
C100	1.545	0	17.747	56.802	63.073	52.641
D0	79.475	73.622	47.078	21.461	1.979	7.139
D15	17.582	14.976	37.532	62.970	7.407	59.444
D30	2.052	2.024	26.919	62.486	62.275	61.908
REF2	4.729	2.328	27.201	52.518	56.907	51.905
REF3	4.417	0	23.599	53.562	54.597	64.218

Multivariate analysis – sorting methods

- Agglomeration procedures

- e.g.

Nearest neighbour

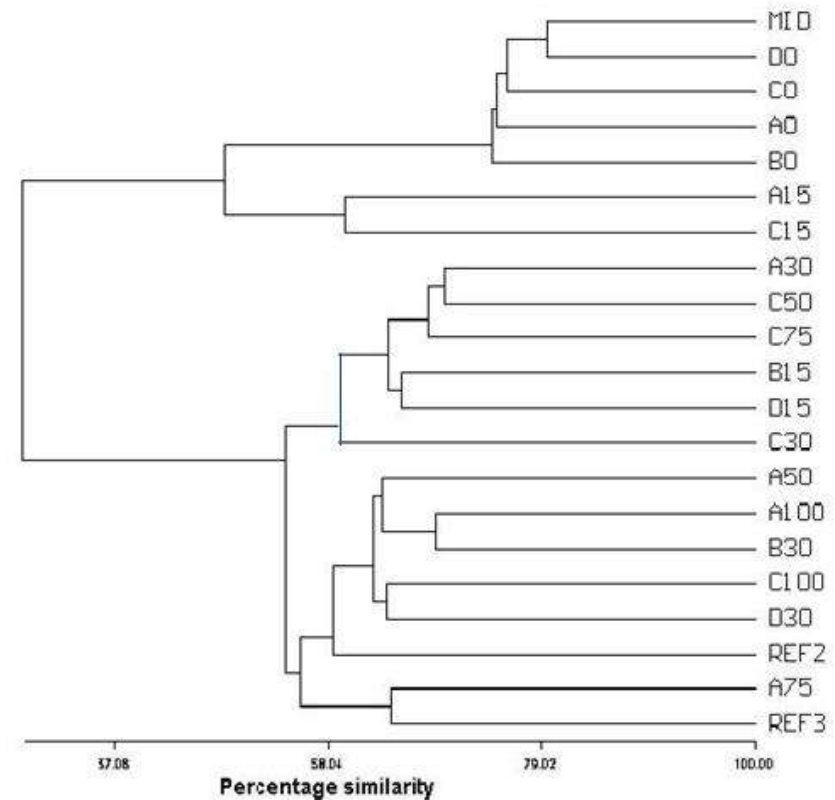
(lowest similarity measure)

Furthest neighbour

(highest similarity measure)

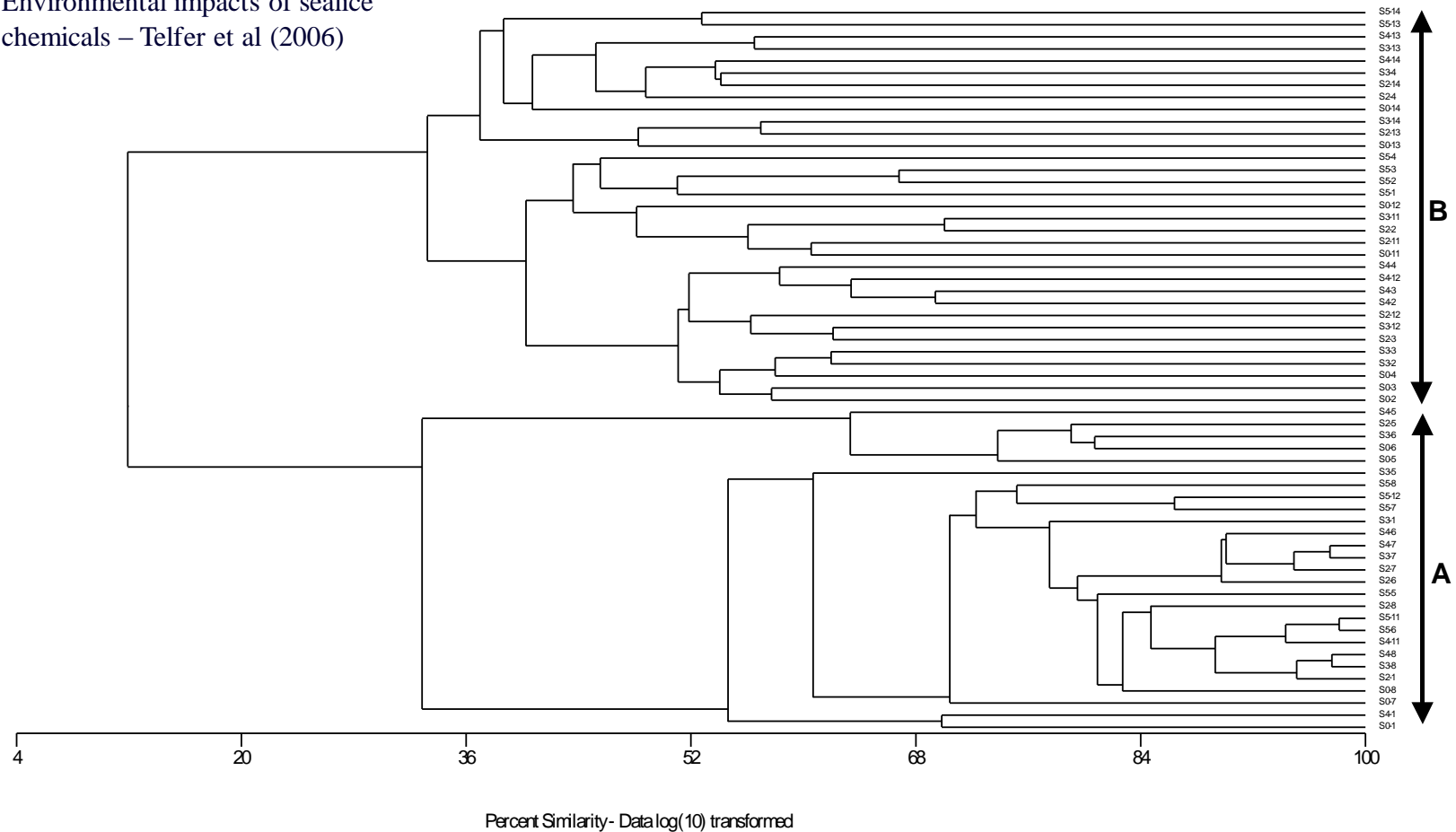
UPGMA

(average similarity measure)



Multivariate analysis – dendrogram

Environmental impacts of sealice chemicals – Telfer et al (2006)

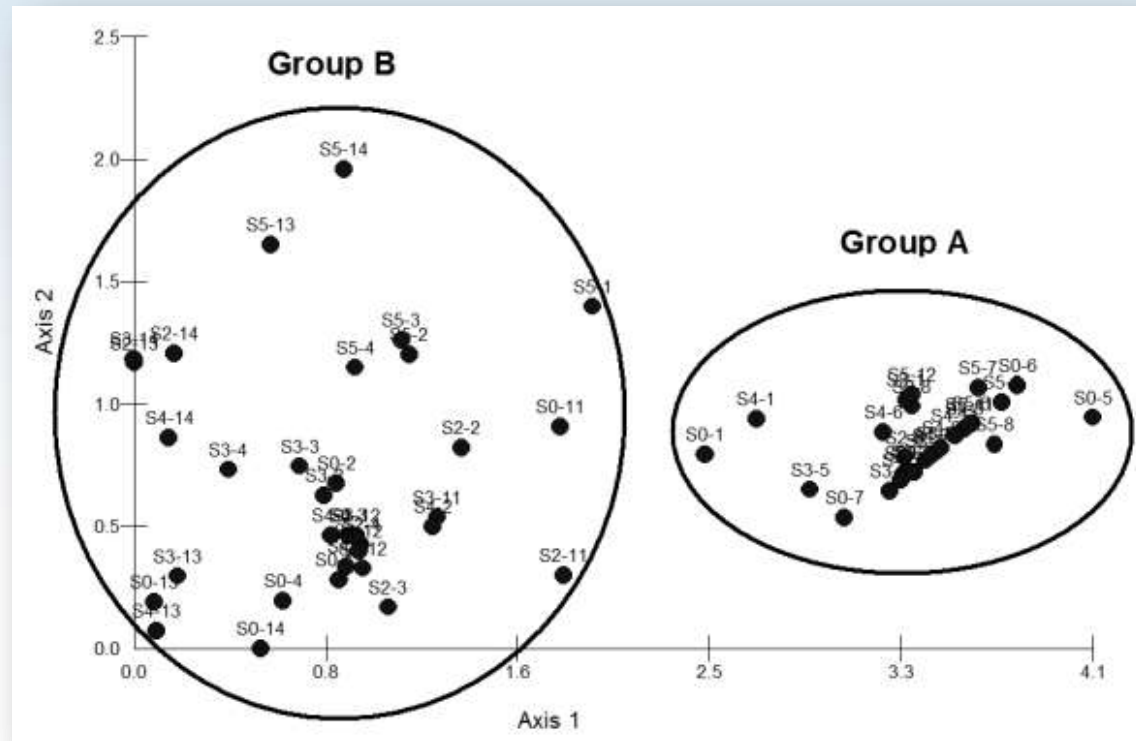


Multivariate analysis – main types

- **Classification**
- **Ordination**

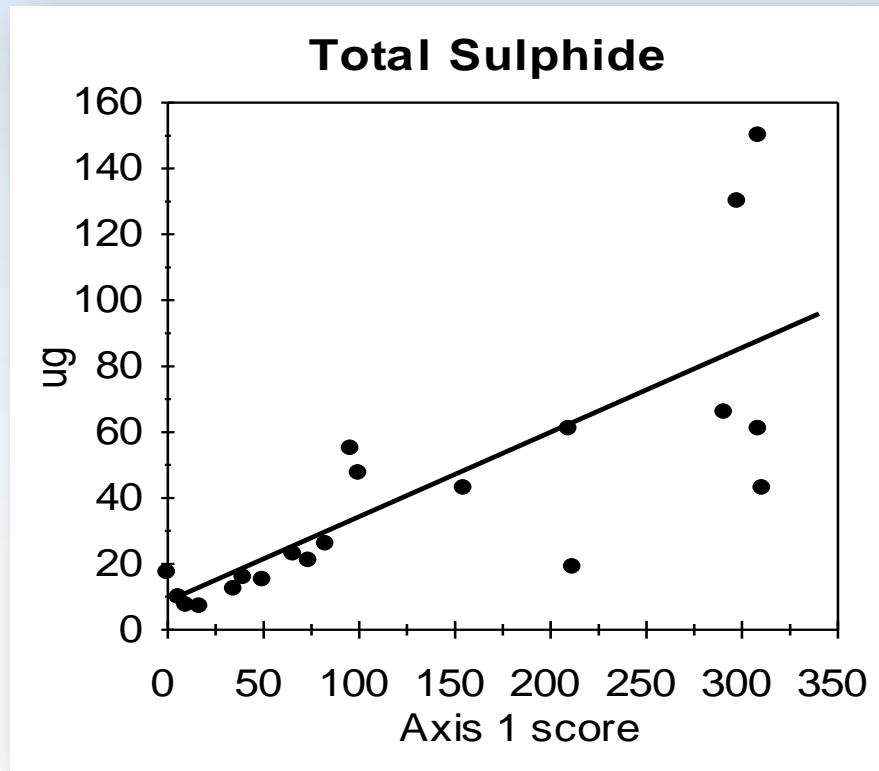
Multivariate analysis - ordination

- represents samples and species relationships in a low dimensional space
- plot where similar samples/species situated near to each other
- arrangement of samples or species related to environmental factors
 - graphically
 - statistically



Environmental impacts of sealice chemicals –
Telfer et al (2006)

Multivariate analysis - ordination



Regression analysis

Graph - Regression analysis

Multivariate analysis - ordination

Spearman Rank Correlation

Variable	Axis 1	Axis 2	n
Carbon	0.513*	0.428	20 *
Total S	0.847**	0.288	20
Free S	0.764**	0.185	19

* correlation at p<0.05

** correlation at p<0.01

n represents the number of stations used for the correlation as the chemical parameters were not done at all stations

$$r_s = 1 - \frac{6 \sum d^2}{n(n^2 - 1)}$$

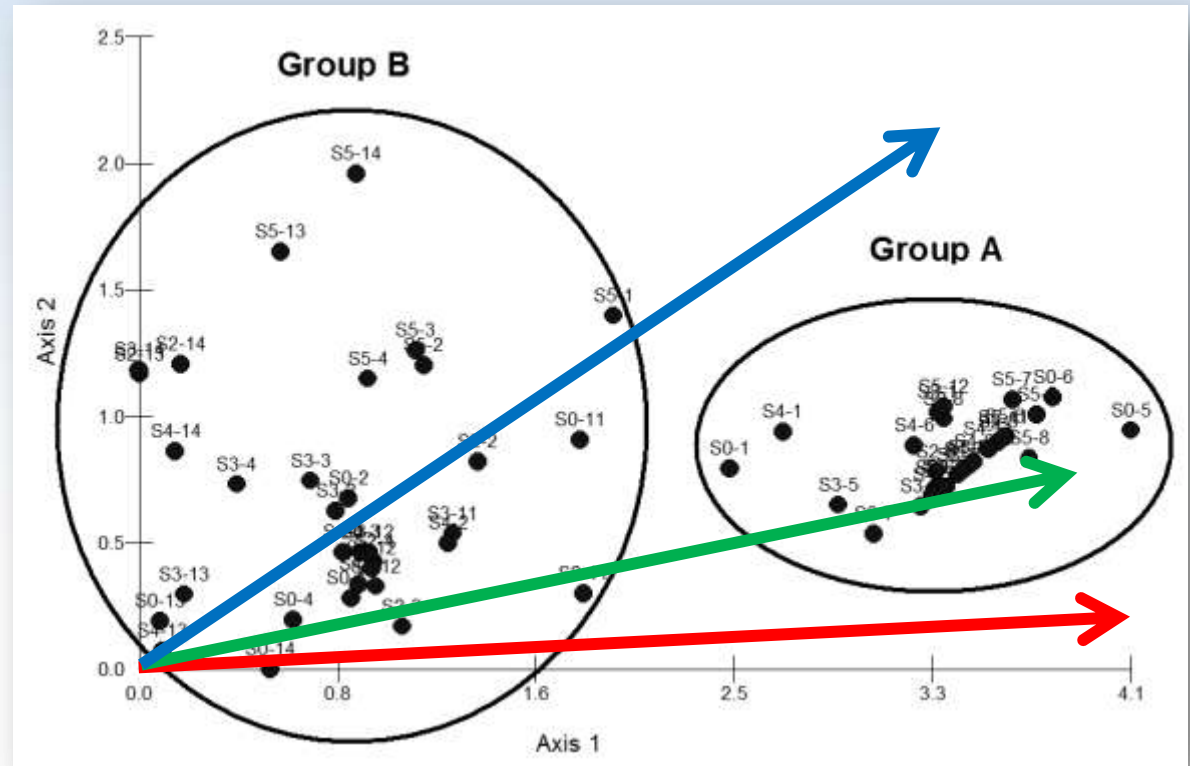
Multivariate analysis - ordination

- The real relationship between the environmental factors and the positions of the sampling stations would be:

Free Sulphide

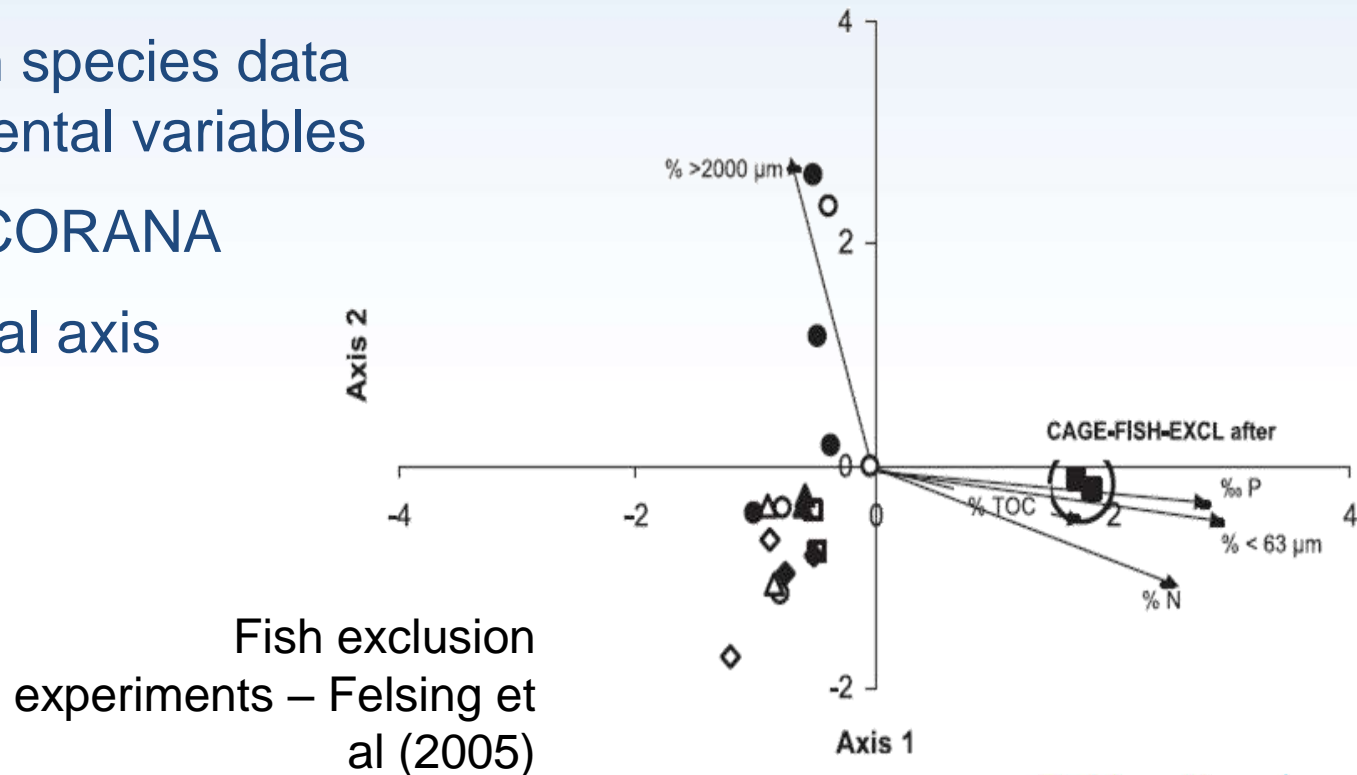
Total Sulphide

Total Carbon



Multivariate analysis - ordination

- **Canonical Correspondence Analysis**
- ordines both species data and environmental variables
- based on DECORANA
- gives the actual axis directions



Multivariate analysis – useful refs

Greig-Smith, P. (1982) *Quantitative plant ecology. Third edition.* Studies in Ecology Volume 9. Blackwell Scientific Publications, Oxford.

Gauch, H.G. (1982) *Multivariate analysis in community ecology.* Cambridge Studies in Ecology. Cambridge University Press. Cambridge.

Kent, M & Coker, P (1994) *Vegetation description and analysis. A practical approach.* John Wiley & Sons, Chichester. 363pp.

Thank you

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