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SOME ASPECTS OF CLASSIFICATION AND ORDINATION OF VEGETATION DATA IN PERSPECTIVE

Enrico FEOLI

Keywords: Classification, Hierarchy, Ordination, Processes, Vegetation

Abstract: A discussion on the complementarity of classification and ordination methods in vegetation ecology is given. The need to work with different vegetation spaces and hierarchical processes is stressed.

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UN PUNTO DI VISTA SULLA CLASSIFICAZIONE DELLA VEGETAZIONE

Giovanni CRISTOFOLINI

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EVALUATION OF VEGETATION CLASSIFICATIONS FROM PEATLANDS IN THE DOLOMITES (S-ALPS)

Renato GERDOL, Marcello TOMASELLI

Keywords: Ecology, Information Theory, Numerical classification, Peatland vegetation, phytosociology

Abstract: Numerical classifications of peatland communities from the Dolomites are compared by means of information functions. Classifications were evaluated considering both the structure of contingency tables (species groups x relevé groups) and the correlation between vegetation types and peat chemistry. A remarkable result is the coincidence of the results obtained by internal and external criteria.

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ECOLOGICAL INFERENCES FROM PHYTOSOCIOLOGICAL DATA IN AN ALLUVIAL FOREST ON THE PO PLAIN (NORTHERN ITALY)

Carlo FERRARI, Maria SPERANZA

Keywords: Ecology, Alluvial forest, Numerical classification, Phytosociology, Po plain

Abstract: *TITOLO IN INGLESE.* The vegetation of an alluvial forest of the Po plain, known as the Forest of S. Agostino, has been surveyed using the Braun-Blanquet method. Analysis of the data revealed two main ecological situations characterized chiefly by differences in pedological factors identified by the cover values of *Carex pendula* and *Brachypodium sylvaticum*.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO QUANTITATIVE PHYTOGEOGRAPHY OF SICILY II: CORRELATION BETWEEN PHYTOGEOGRAPHICAL CATEGORIES AND ELEVATION

Pier Luigi NIMIS

Keywords: Phytogeography, Flora, Sicily

Abstract: Data source: Central Databank of the Italian flora and vegetation. Database: phanerogamic flora of Sicily; percents of species with similar distribution patterns, subdivided into 49 phytogeographical categories, in 23 elevation intervals of 100m each. Methods: Complete Linkage Clustering with Correlation Coefficient for the classification of categories and of elevation intervals; Concentration Analysis for the ordination. Results: species with similar distribution tend to be most frequent along given sections of the elevation gradient. The degree of correlation between phytogeographical categories and elevation has been quantified.

SPAGHET: A COENOCLINE SIMULATOR USEFUL TO CALIBRATE SOFTWARE DETECTORS

M. LAGONEGRO

Keywords: calibration, simulation, software

Abstract: A coenocline simulator is described, which allows one to calibrate programs or chains of programs before using them on survey data. An example is given, and the listings of two versions of the simulator, in BASIC and FORTRAN respectively.

EFFECTS OF SAMPLING INTENSITY AND RANDOM NOISE ON DETECTION OF SPECIES GROUPS BY INTERSECTION ANALYSIS

Enrico FEOLI, Mario LAGONEGRO

Keywords: intersection, noise, sampling, simulation, vegetation

Abstract: The efficiency of Intersection Analysis in producing species groups at different noise and sampling intensity levels has been tested on the basis of a simulated coenocline. The results suggest that Intersection Analysis is a robust method for detecting species groups and that it could be used in field surveys to find out the sampling intensity sufficient to describe the vegetation under study.

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PHYTOSOCIOLOGY, ECOLOGY AND PHYTOGEOGRAPHY OF EPIPHYTIC LICHENVEGETATION IN THE CALAMONE LAKE AREA (N-APENNINES, ITALY)

Pier Luigi NIMIS

Keywords: Lichens, Epiphytes, Apennines, Vegetation

Abstract: Six community types of epiphytic lichen vegetation are reported from the Calamone Lake area (N-Apennines). Data analysis is based on multivariate methods. The ecological interpretation of the compositional variation was based on indirect gradient analysis. Each of the communities is well characterized in floristical, ecological and phytogeographical terms.

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TWO EXAMPLES OF THE USE OF NUMERICAL CLASSIFICATION AND ORDINATION METHODS IN THE ANALYSIS OF STRUCTURE AND CHOROLOGY OF VEGETATION TYPES

Carlo BLASI

Keywords: classification, chorology, ordination, texture, vegetation types

Abstract: Two examples of application of numerical classification and ordination methods to textural and chorological data of vegetation types defined with the Braun-Blanquet approach are presented.

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COMPARISON OF ORDINATIONS OF SOME APENNINE FOREST COMMUNITIES BASED ON DIFFERENT CHARACTERS AND METHODS

E. FEOLI, L. ORLOCI, M. SCIMONE

Keywords character sets, comparisons, cluster analysis, methodology, ordination

Abstract: In the course of numerical ordinations of Apennines woodlands, the problem arose of different performance of ordination methods, using different character sets and methods. To reveal underlying trends and relationships, 47 ordinations are jointly examined, corresponding to combinations of 6 methods and 8 character types. The Spearman formula has been used to measure the similarity between different ordinations. The ordinations based on families are, on the average, the most similar to the other ones irrespective to the method used. The ordination based on detailed life forms (growth forms) are the least similar to the other ordinations. Ordinations based on the same character set and different methods could be different as well as ordinations based on different character sets and the same method. The suggested procedure can be the basis to select among different ordinations those explaining complementary informations.