

# Navigation in the Ecological Space

## 2 – Assessing Explanatory Variables

Miguel Alvarez & Ildikó Orbán

# About this Workshop

## Timeslots

2<sup>nd</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2024

- 09:00 – 12:00 Morning Session
- 13:30 – 16:30 Afternoon Session

10 – 15 min break

## Trainers



Miguel Alvarez

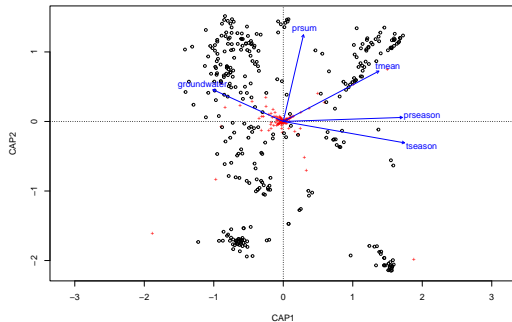


Ildikó Orbán

# About this Workshop

## Content

- Constrained Ordination
  - Linear
  - Unimodal
  - Distance-Based
- Permutation Analysis



# About this Workshop

## Disclaimer

- Licenced by Creative Commons 4.0 [CC BY-SA](#)
- It may contain a pinch of AI



# About this Workshop

## Navigation in the Ecological Space

<https://kamapu.gitlab.io/multivar/>



## Welcome to our Workshop!

Plant species composition as a response to environmental factors and anthropogenic disturbance is a central principle in vegetation science and biogeography. Assessing vegetation species composition as a response to environmental factors is not trivial, as most common modelling approaches are restricted to a single response variable and not multiple responses. Multivariate statistics, including indirect (unconstrained) and direct (constrained) ordination analysis, are tools to address this problem.



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# Gradient Analysis

## Response Variables and Factors

$$\hat{y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_n x_{in} + \epsilon_i$$

- Response (dependent variable)
- Factors (explanatory variables)

# Gradient Analysis

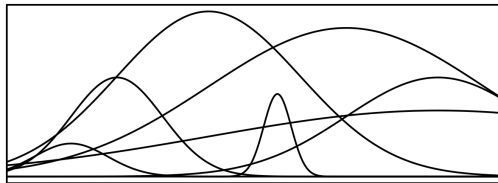
Henry A. Gleason

(1882–1975)

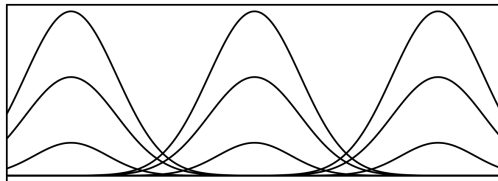


- Gleasonian Approach
  - Continuum Concept
  - Individualistic Behaviour of Plants
  - **Ecosystem**

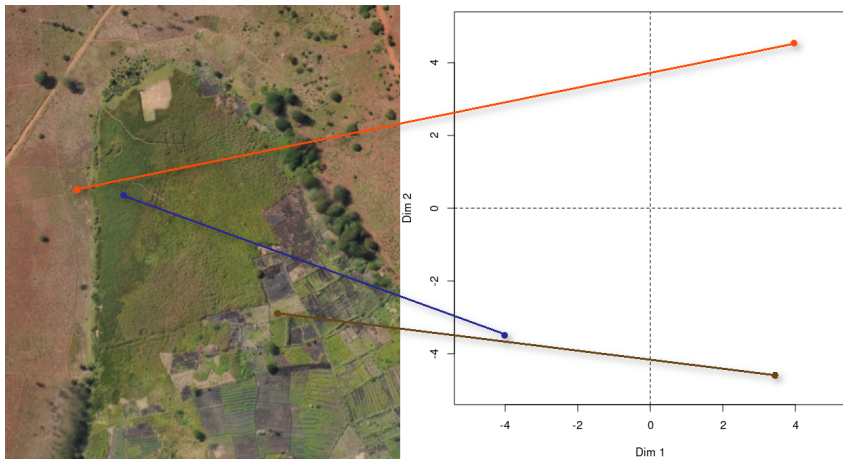
**Continuum**



**Superorganismus**



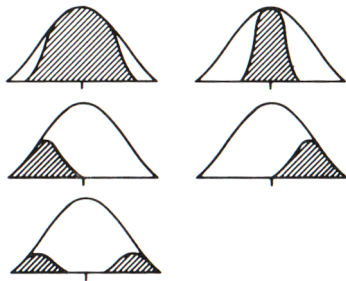
# Gradient Analysis





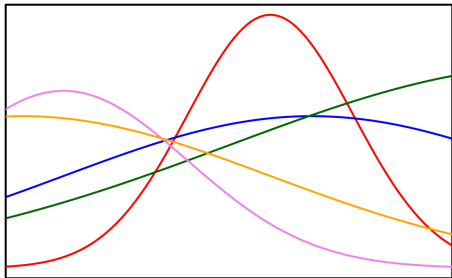
# Gradient Analysis

- Physiological vs. Ecological Optimum
  - Tolerance
  - Competition (intra and interspecific)



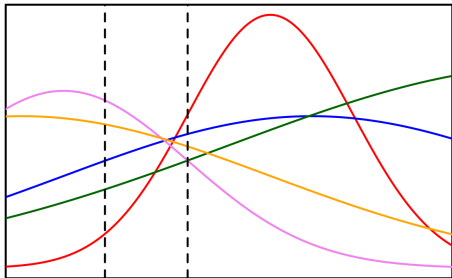
# Ordination Analysis

## Unimodal Response

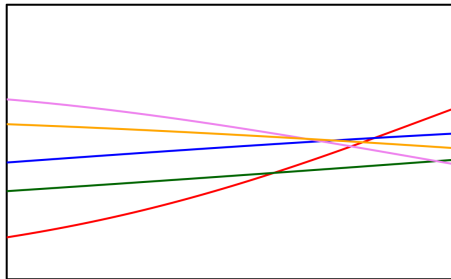


# Ordination Analysis

## Unimodal Response



## Linear (Monotonic) Model



# Constrained Ordination

	Indirect / Unconstrained Ordination	Direct / Constrained / Canonical Ordination
Linear Response	Principal Component Analysis (PCA)	Redundancy Analysis (RDA)
Unimodal Response	Correspondence Analysis (CA) Detrended Correspondence Analysis (DCA)	Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA)
Distance-Based	Principal Coordinates Analysis (PCoA) Non-Metric Multidimensional Scaling (NMDS)	Canonical Analysis on Principal Coordinates (CAP) Distance-Based Redundance Analysis (db-RDA)

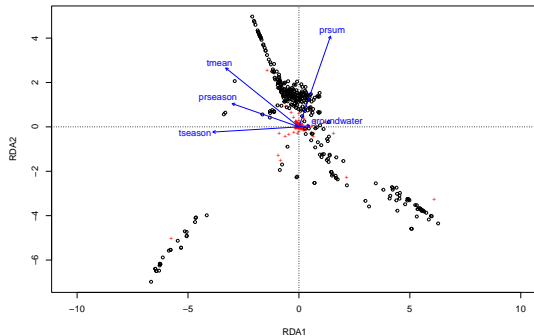
## Constrained Ordination

$$\hat{y}_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_n x_{in} + \epsilon_i$$

- Response Variable (Species Composition)
- Explanatory variables (Environment)
  - Multiple Linear Regression on scores

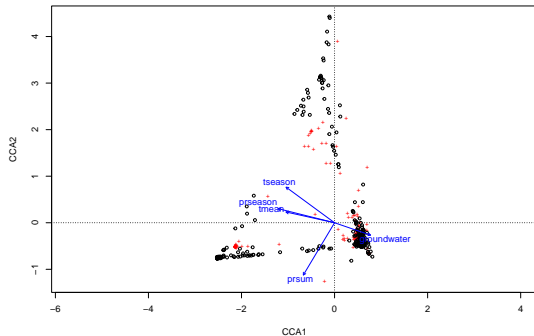
# Redundancy Analysis (RDA)

```
rda_ord <- rda(cross_tab ~ groundwater +  
  tmean + tseason + prsum + prseason,  
  data = wetlands$env)  
plot(rda_ord)
```



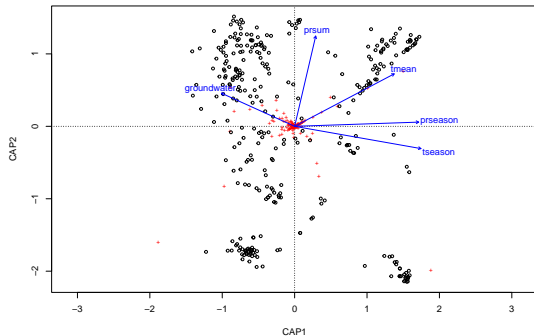
# Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA)

```
cca_ord <- cca(cross_tab ~ groundwater +  
  tmean + tseason + prsum + prseason,  
  data = wetlands$env)  
plot(cca_ord)
```



# Canonical Analysis on Principal Coordinates (CAP)

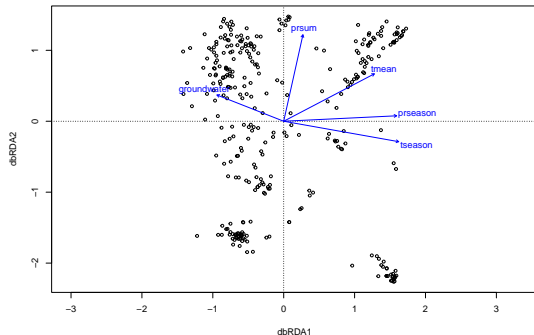
```
cap_ord <- capscale(cross_tab ~ groundwater +  
  tmean + tseason + prsum + prseason,  
  data = wetlands$env, dist = "bray")  
plot(cap_ord)
```





# Distance-Based Redundancy Analysis (db-RDA)

```
dbrda_ord <- dbrda(cross_tab ~ groundwater +  
  tmean + tseason + prsum + prseason,  
  data = wetlands$env, dist = "bray")  
plot(dbrda_ord)
```



**Thank You!**

