Contents

	Introduction		
1.	Starting to look at communities		
	1.1 A scientific approach	1	
	1.2 The topics of community ecology	2	
	1.3 Getting data – using a spreadsheet	4	
	1.4 Aims and hypotheses	5	
	1.5 Summary	5	
	1.6 Exercises	7	
2.	Software tools for community ecology	8	
	2.1 Excel	8	
	2.2 Other spreadsheets	9	
	2.3 The R program	10	
	2.4 Summary	15	
	2.5 Exercises	15	
3.	Recording your data	16	
	3.1 Biological data	16	
	3.2 Arranging your data	18	
	3.3 Summary	19	
	3.4 Exercises	19	
4.	Beginning data exploration: using software tools	20	
	4.1 Beginning to use R	20	
	4.2 Manipulating data in a spreadsheet	28	
	4.3 Getting data from Excel into R	60	
	4.4 Summary	62	
	4.5 Exercises	63	
5.	Exploring data: choosing your analytical method	64	
	5.1 Categories of study	64	
	5.2 How 'classic' hypothesis testing can be used in community studies	66	

	5.4	Analytical methods for community studies Summary	70 73			
	5.5	Exercises	74			
6.	6. Exploring data: getting insights					
		Error checking	75			
	6.2 6.3	Adding extra information Getting an overview of your data	78 80			
	6.4	Summary	104			
	6.5		105			
7.	Dive	rsity: species richness	106			
	7.1	Comparing species richness	108			
	7.2	Correlating species richness over time or against an environmental variable	110			
	7.3	Species richness and sampling effort	119 123			
	7.4		148			
	7.5	Exercises	149			
8.	Dive	rsity: indices	151			
	8.1	Simpson's index	151			
	8.2	Shannon index	160			
	8.3 8.4	Other diversity indices Summary	168 194			
	8.5	Exercises	194			
9.	Dive	rsity: comparing	196			
	9.1	Graphical comparison of diversity profiles	197			
	9.2	A test for differences in diversity based on the <i>t</i> -test	199			
	9.3	Graphical summary of the <i>t</i> -test for Shannon and Simpson indices	212			
	9.4 9.5	Bootstrap comparisons for unreplicated samples	227 252			
	9.5 9.6	Comparisons using replicated samples Summary	269			
	9.7	Exercises	270			
10.	Dive	ersity: sampling scale	272			
	10.1	Calculating <i>beta</i> diversity	272			
	10.2	Additive diversity partitioning	299			
	10.3	Hierarchical partitioning	303			
	10.4 10.5	Group dispersion Permutation methods	306 309			
	10.5		309			
	10.0	Beta diversity using alternative dissimilarity measures	325			
	10.8	Beta diversity compared to other variables	327			
	10.9	Summary	331			
	10.10	Exercises	333			

11.	Ranl	k abundance or dominance models	334
	11.1 11.2 11.3 11.4 11.5	Dominance models Fisher's log-series Preston's lognormal model Summary Exercises	334 358 360 363 365
12.	Simi	larity and cluster analysis	366
	12.1 12.2 12.3 12.4	Similarity and dissimilarity Cluster analysis Summary Exercises	366 382 416 418
13.	Asso	ociation analysis: identifying communities	419
	13.1 13.2 13.3 13.4 13.5 13.6	Area approach to identifying communities Transect approach to identifying communities Using alternative dissimilarity measures for identifying communities Indicator species Summary Exercises	420 428 431 436 444 445
14.	Ordi	nation	446
	14.1 14.2 14.3 14.4 14.5 14.6	Methods of ordination Indirect gradient analysis Direct gradient analysis Using ordination results Summary Exercises	447 449 490 505 520 522
Appendices Bibliography Index			