

Table of Contents

Chapter 1	Introduction	10
1.1)	Putting things in order	10
1.2)	Who should read this book?	16
1.3)	The R statistical language and program	16
Chapter 2	Principal components analysis.....	20
2.1	The goals of PCA	20
2.2)	Visualizing how PCA works	26
2.3)	Preparing your data.....	39
2.4)	Dealing with proportions in PCA	46
2.5)	A covariance matrix or a correlation matrix?	48
2.6)	Conducting a PCA and interpreting the output	56
2.7)	The “importance” of each principal component.....	64
2.8)	From original variables to principal components.....	66
2.9)	Putting observations on principal component axes	72
2.10)	How to choose the principal components.....	75
2.11)	Biplots for visualizing a PCA.....	81
2.12)	Dealing with categorical variables	97
Chapter 3	Correspondence analysis and detrending	109
3.1)	siteXspecies data in community ecology.....	111

3.2)	Direct gradient analysis.....	113
3.3)	Correspondence analysis or “reciprocal averaging”	129
3.4)	Performing correspondence analysis in R.....	143
3.5)	Detrended correspondence analysis.....	146
3.6)	An empirical example of DCA	159
3.7)	Interpreting site scores	164
Chapter 4	Principal coordinates and multidimensional scaling.....	187
4.1)	Distance and (dis)similarity measures	188
4.2)	Measures for categorical nominal variables.....	195
4.3)	Measures for binary variables	198
4.4)	Measures for categorical multistate ordinal variables.....	204
4.5)	Measures for quantitative variables	206
4.6)	Gower’s distance.....	215
4.7)	Multidimensional scaling.....	222
4.8)	Principal coordinates analysis.....	226
4.9)	(Non-metric) multidimensional scaling	237
4.10)	Procrustes analysis	262
4.11)	The Wisconsin understory plant communities.....	266
Chapter 5	Constrained ordination techniques.....	281
5.1)	Exploratory vs. inferential statistical methods.....	281

5.2)	Setting the scene	285
5.3)	Redundancy Analysis (RDA)	292
5.4)	Obtaining output from rda()	299
5.5)	Hypothesis testing with rda().....	307
5.6)	Graphical output of rda() via triplots.....	320
5.7)	An empirical example of rda().....	329
5.8)	Partial Redundancy Analysis.....	342
5.9)	Canonical Correspondence Analysis (CCA)	348
5.10)	Partial canonical correspondence analysis	367
5.11)	Hypothesis testing with CCA	370
5.12)	Distance-based redundancy analysis (db-RDA).....	377
Chapter 6	Gradient analysis using siteXspecies data	382
6.1)	What is an environmental gradient?	382
6.2)	Simulating environmental gradients	387
6.3)	Using simulations to compare ordination methods	396
6.4)	The “horseshoe” or “arch” effect.....	399
6.5)	Flexible shortest path adjustments.....	410
6.6)	Recommendations for siteXspecies ordinations.....	422
6.7)	Implications for constrained ordination methods	430
6.8)	Putting it all together	432

Chapter 7	Cheat sheet of major R functions.....	444
Bibliography		486