

to the differences in temperature between summer and winter months. Autumn and spring are spread out between the extremes, reflecting the intermediate temperatures that characterise these seasons.

### Discussion

Both examples have successfully applied canonical correlations analysis to a research problem. The first example related the abundances of plant species to the presence/absence lists of fungi, and the second example related weather variables to presence/absence lists. In each example, permutation tests indicated a highly significant relationship between the macrofungal species lists and other variables that may aid in explaining the fungal communities present. These examples prove that CCorA can be useful for understanding the complex interactions of fungi in forest ecosystems. This gives ecologists another tool at their disposal for analysing complex multivariate data sets without having to satisfy the restricted assumption of multivariate normality. Although the canonical correlations analysis option of CAP has not been used as frequently as the canonical discriminant analysis option, it should not be overlooked as a technique for interpreting multivariate ecological data.

### REFEREES FOR VOLUME 26

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