

Biodiversity measures and the role of species similarity





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Quantifying diversity





- Richness: How many species?

Species	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
	1	1	10000
	1	10	1
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- All sites have 4 species – how do we distinguish them?

Quantifying diversity

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- All sites have 4 species – how do we distinguish them?
- Answer:* Include relative contribution of a species to the community
- Diversity** captures **richness**, **evenness** and **dominance**

Hill numbers and the spectrum of view points

- Let p_i be the relative abundance of the i th species. $\mathbf{p}=(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_s)$. The **diversity of order q** of the community is **exp (Rényi entropy)**:

$${}^q D(\mathbf{p}) = \begin{cases} \left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i^q \right)^{1/(1-q)} & \text{if } q \neq 1, \infty \\ 1 / (p_1^{p_1} p_2^{p_2} \cdots p_S^{p_S}) & \text{if } q = 1 \\ 1 / \max_{1 \leq i \leq S} p_i & \text{if } q = \infty \end{cases}$$

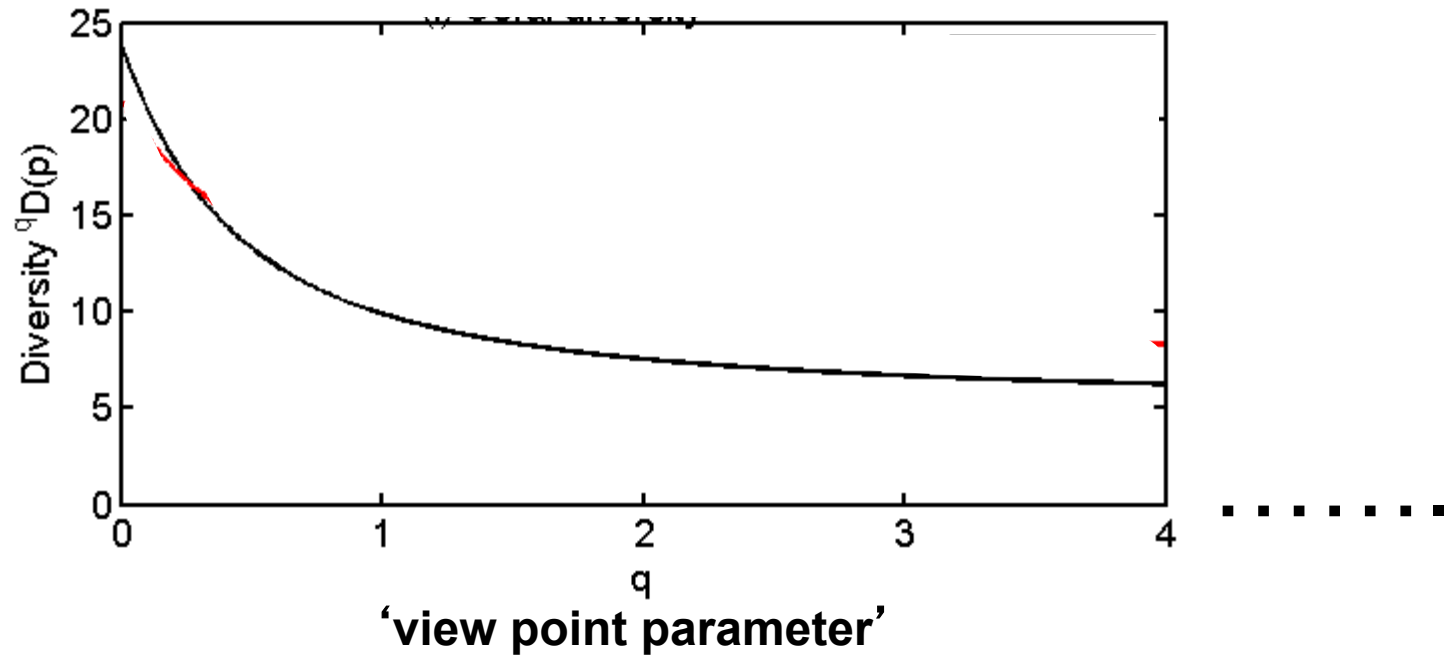
Why take the exponential of entropy?

- Consider a continent of 1 million equally abundant species. A meteorite hits the continent wiping out 50% of the species. What happens to diversity?
- *Expected answer:* Diversity drops by 50%

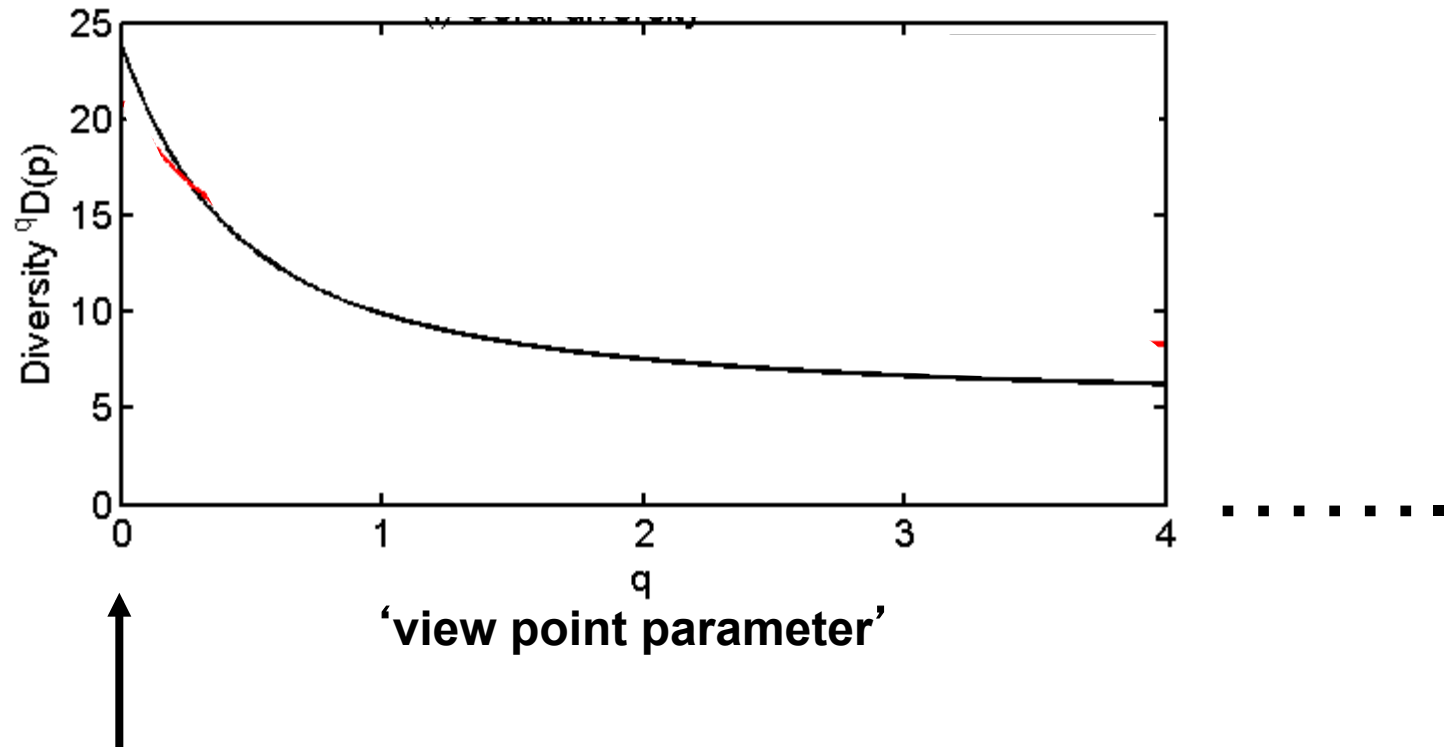
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- *Expected answer:* Diversity drops by 50%
- BUT... Shannon entropy – drops by just 5%!
- Entropies are not **effective numbers**, Hill numbers are.

What is the role of q ? Diversity profile

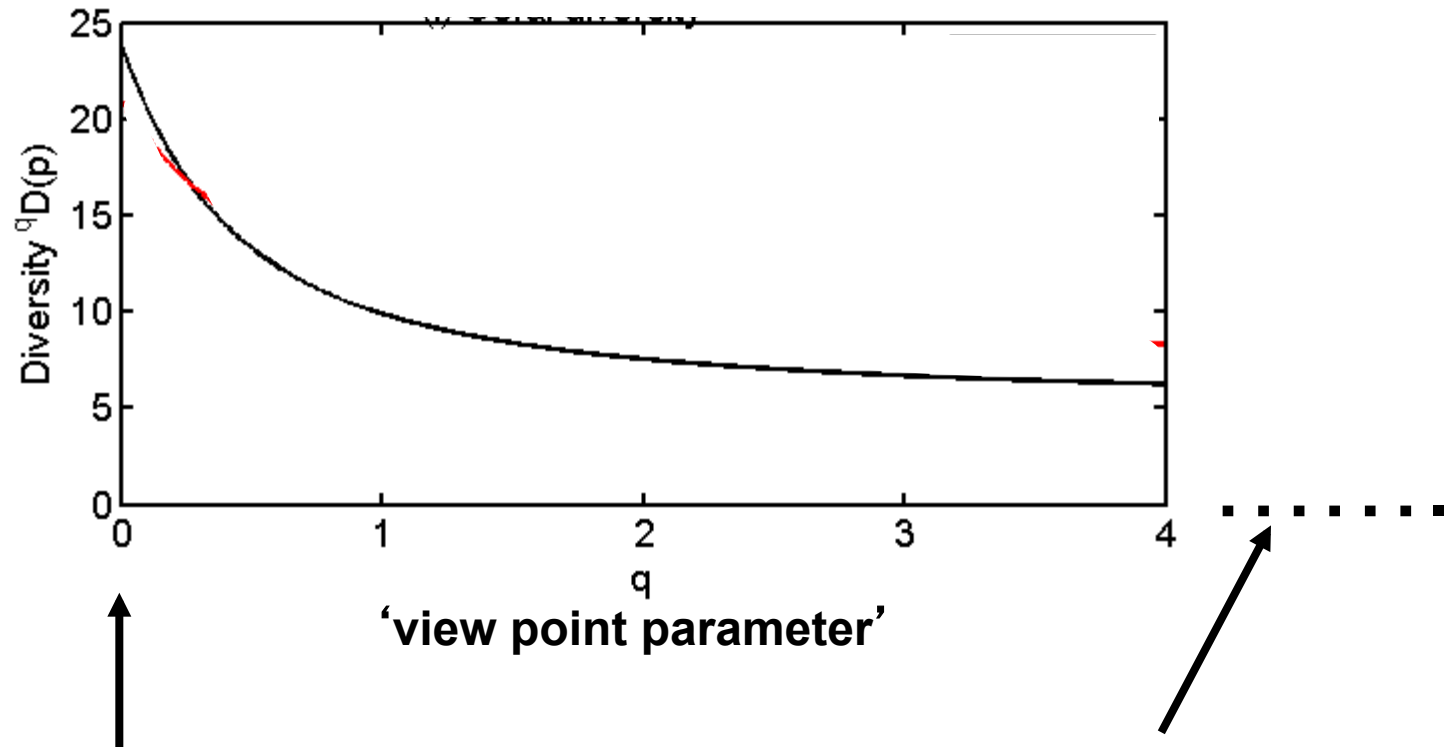


What is the role of q ? Diversity profile



$q=0$, species richness
rare species are important

What is the role of q ? Diversity profile



$q=0$, species richness
rare species are important

$q=\text{infinity}$, 1/Berger-Parker
rare species are unimportant

‘Importance of evenness’

What are some of the limitations of Hill numbers

- “...associated with the idea of diversity is the concept of ‘distance’ i.e. some measure of the dissimilarity of the resources in question”

OECD Handbook on biodiversity valuation: A guide for policy makers

- “A community of ten species of barnacle should clearly be less diverse than a community of ten very different species”

The essence of a point made by E.C. Pielou, Ecological Diversity

- There is not always a good notion of what constitutes a species e.g. microbial communities

Including species similarity

model of community

Similarity data, **Z**

Abundance data, **p**

$S \times S$ matrix (S = number of species)

Z_{ij} = similarity between i th and j th species

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \textit{totally} & \longrightarrow & 0 \leq Z_{i,j} \leq 1 \\ \textit{dissimilar} & & \longleftarrow \textit{identical} \end{array}$$

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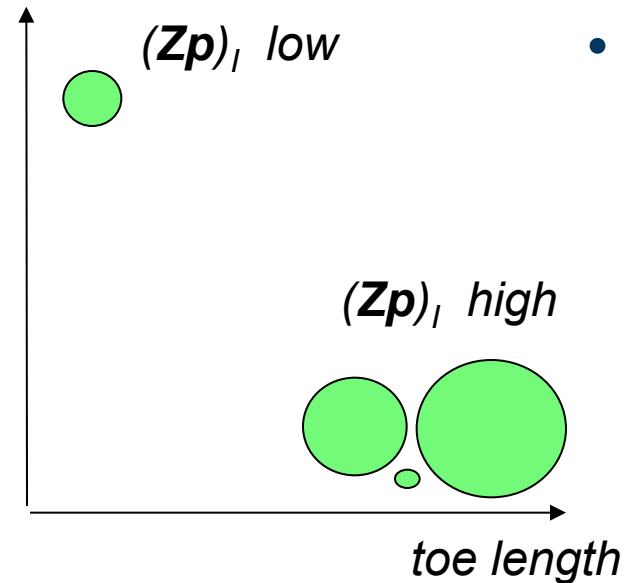
Example

This model assumes that distinct species are totally dissimilar

$$\mathbf{Z} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

Similarity-sensitive diversity measures

beak
length

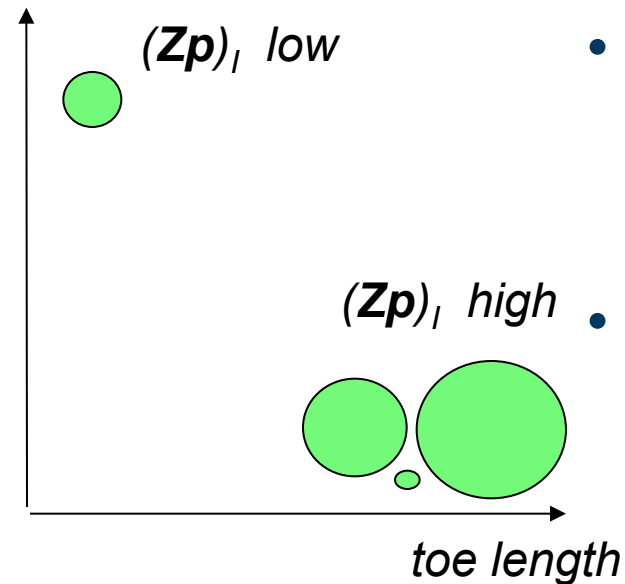


- The ordinariness of the i -th species is

$$(Zp)_i = \sum_{j=1}^S Z_{ij} P_j$$

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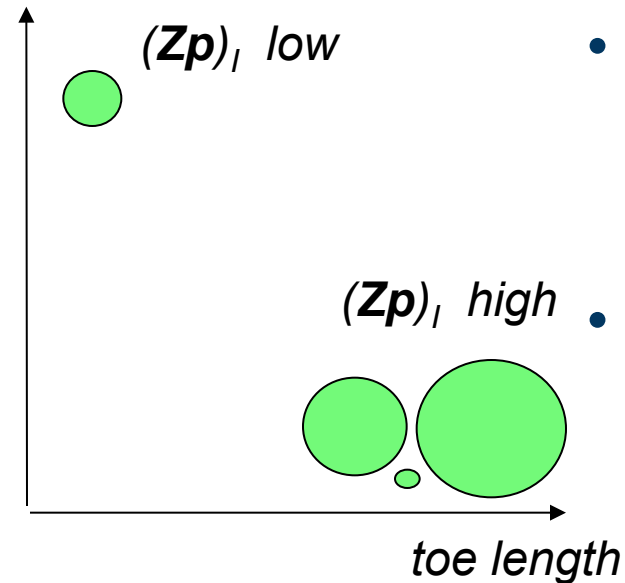
- Average ordinariness of an individual within the community

$$\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zp)_i$$

which measures lack of diversity.

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- So one measure of diversity is

$$1 / \sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zp)_i$$

Spectrum of view points: general q

- Generalised weighted power mean of $x=(x_1\dots x_S)$ has the form

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i x_i^{q-1} \right)^{1/(q-1)}$$

- So the generalised power mean of ordinariness is

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- Diversity of order q is $1/$ generalised power mean

$${}^q D^Z(p) = \left(\sum_{i:p_i>0} p_i (Zp)_i^{q-1} \right)^{\frac{1}{1-q}}$$

Example: Butterfly data in the Ecuadorian rainforest

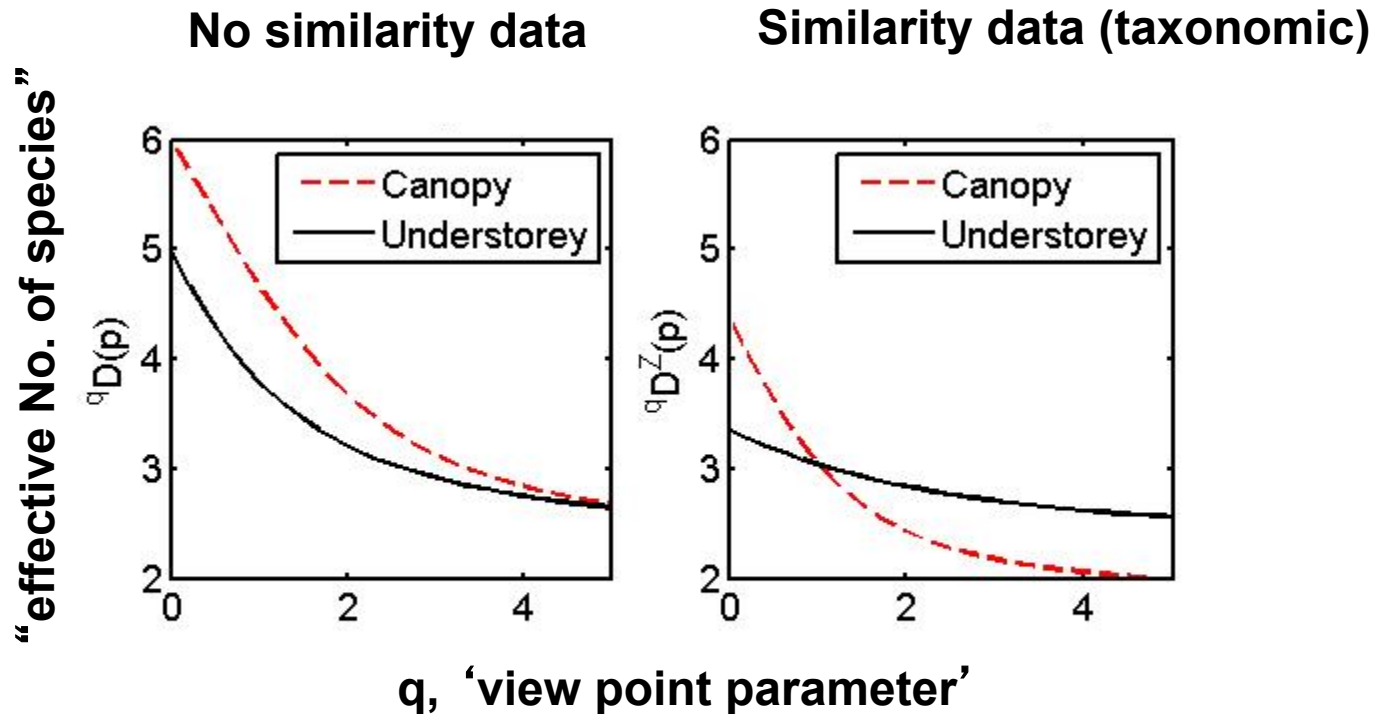
**Abundance data of Charaxinae
Butterflies at a rainforest site
in Ecuador**

Species	Canopy	Understorey
<i>Prepona laertes</i>	15	0
<i>Archaeoprepona demophon</i>	14	37
<i>Zaretis itys</i>	25	11
<i>Memphis arachne</i>	89	23
<i>Memphis offa</i>	21	3
<i>Memphis xenocles</i>	32	8

Taxonomic similarity matrix

$$Z_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if of different genera} \\ 0.5 & \text{if different but congeneric} \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j, \end{cases}$$

Butterfly data in the Ecuadorian rainforest



Comparing sites:

	Site 1	...	Site k	Ecosystem
Species 1			p_1		g_1
Species 2			p_2		g_2
Species 3			p_3		g_3
Species 4			p_4		g_4
...		
Species S			p_S		g_S

- *How does diversity of site k contribute to the ecosystem diversity?*
- *Is site k typical or distinct in some way?*

Average ordinariness of site j from the ecosystem point of view

- The ordinariness of the i -th species in the ecosystem $(Zg)_i = \sum_{j=1}^S Z_{ij} g_j$

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- Generalised power mean of ordinariness of species in site k when viewed from the ecosystem perspective:

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- Renyi's cross entropy

$$(1-q)^{-1} \ln \left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zg)_i^{q-1} \right)$$





“Cross diversity” – exp (cross entropy)

- Which site/s has highest cross diversity?

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Relationship between entropy and cross entropy

- For $Z=I$ and $q=1$

Relative entropy = Cross entropy – Entropy

$$(1-q)^{-1} \ln \left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zp / Zg)_i^{q-1} \right) = (1-q)^{-1} \ln \left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zg)_i^{q-1} \right) - (1-q)^{-1} \ln \left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zp)_i^{q-1} \right)$$

Relationship between entropy and cross entropy

- For $Z=1$ and $q=1$

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- This does not hold for general q and Z , but does relative entropy tell us something about diversity?

Relative entropy and ordinariness

- The ordinariness of the i -th species at *site* j compared to the ordinariness of the i -th species in the *ecosystem*

$$(Z_p / Z_g)_i = \sum_{j=1}^S Z_{ij} p_j / \sum_{j=1}^S Z_{ij} g_j$$

Relative entropy and ordinariness

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- *Averaging relative ordinariness* weighted by relative abundance of species i at site j

$$\left(\sum_{i=1}^S p_i (Zp / Zg)_i^{q-1} \right)^{1/(q-1)}$$

- Relative diversity = $1 / A_v$ relative ordinariness





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“Relative diversity” – $\exp(\text{relative entropy})$

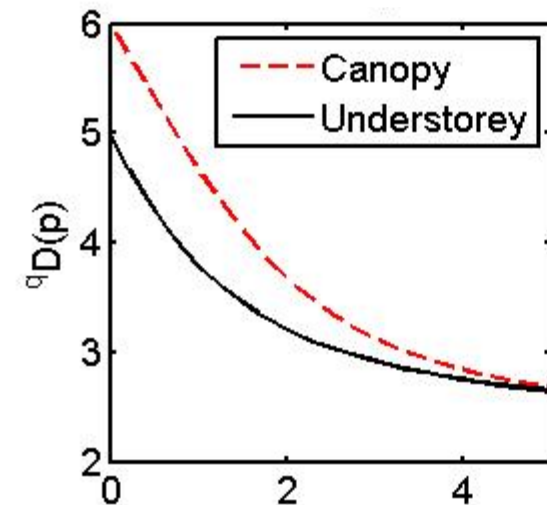
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Summary

- Generalised entropy allows us to consider evenness and dominance

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- Similarity sensitive diversity – functional diversity, genetic diversity etc
- Cross entropy allows us to consider sites containing “rarity”
- Relative entropy allows to consider “distinctness” of sites

Acknowledgements to....



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Microbe communities: notion of a species is problematic

- Expected similarity between a randomly chosen pair of individuals:

$$1/2 D^Z(p) = \mu_2$$

- Now consider $q > 2$ (whole number). Given q individuals of species i_1, i_2, \dots, i_q then a measure of group similarity is:

$$Z_{i_1 i_2} Z_{i_1 i_3} \cdots Z_{i_1 i_q}$$

- Let μ_q be the expected similarity of a randomly chosen group of q individuals (sampled with replacement).
Then

$${}^q D^Z(p) = \mu_q^{1/(1-q)}$$

Properties of diversity of order q

Elementary properties:

1. If two species are **nearly identical**, then merging them into one leaves the diversity nearly unchanged.
2. Diversity is unchanged by adding a new species of abundance 0
3. The order we list species in does not change diversity.

Properties of diversity of order q

Partitioning properties:

4. It is an **effective number**: diversity of a community of S equally abundant, totally dissimilar species is S .

5. Replication: If m islands of equal size each have diversity d , and species on different islands are totally dissimilar, the the diversity of the whole is md

6. Modularity: If the m islands have different sizes and diversities (species on different islands totally dissimilar), the diversity of the whole is determined by the sizes and diversities of the islands

Properties of diversity of order q

Similarity properties:

7. Monotonicity: increasing species similarity decreases diversity

8. Naïve model: ignoring species similarity increases diversity.

9. Range: The diversity of a community of S species is between 1 and S