WP5: Preliminary analysis of the Aquavalens matrix with the ICHNAEA[®] software for Microbial Source Tracking

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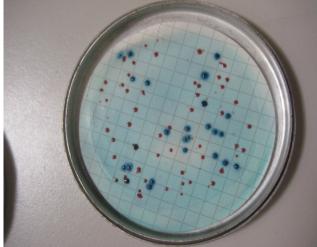




Challenges in MST

- Independence of geographical location
- Discriminating ability of different subsets of indicators
- Persistence of indicators in time (including seasonality effects)
- Effects of dilution in watersheds
- Small sample sizes
- Presence of compound mixtures from several distinct animal species





What is ICHNAEA?

 Integrated computer-based prediction system for Microbial Source Tracking studies.

- Accepts microbiological measurements:
 - showing different concentration levels
 - showing different *environmental persistences*
 - from different *origins* and *geographic areas*
 - from different users

WP5 data matrix for MST (1)

118 observations:

Site

DVGW	25
IST	25
TU WIEN	24
UB	26
UH	18



HM	33
PG	24
PL	24
CW	23
(other)	14

Season

Summer 63 (April to September) Winter 55 (October to March)

WP5 data matrix for MST (2)

Examples in the data matrix are expressed at the **point of source** (non-diluted) and at **zero-time** (fresh)

The data matrix is a **maximal** one:

- only a **fraction** of indicators should be used
- there is an interest to consider **ratios**

WP5 data matrix for MST (3)

Indicators

- EC FE CP FeqPCR SomPhg BifTot TLBif AllBac
- HMBactPhg CWBactPhg PGBactPhg PLBactPhg
- BifSorb HMBif CWBif PGNeo PLBif
- BacR Pig2Bac HF183TaqMan
- HMMit CWMit PGMit PLMit
- Acesulfame Cyclamate Saccharain Sucralose

Adeno Norav

WP5 data matrix for MST (4)

Ratios

```
SomPhg / HMBactPhg
SomPhg / CWBactPhg
SomPhg / PGBactPhg
SomPhg / PLBactPhg
BifTot / BifSorb
TLBif / HMBif
TLBif / CWBif
TLBif / PGNeo
TLBif / PLBif
AllBac / BacR
AllBac / Pig2Bac
AllBac / HF183Taqman
```

Pre-processing of the data matrix

* Identification of observations (104), starting predictive indicators (30), target sources (4), seasons (2), sites (5)

* Harmonization of **volumes**, and **detection limits**

* Dealing with troublesome **special values**: "lower than" (lots of), "higher than" (some), NAs, dnq, nds (some), ...

* Calculation of **slopes** for persistences (regression lines, T90, T99, K, %), one for each season (SUMMER/WINTER)

* Creation of **ratios** (12) and log10 of everything:

104 observations, 4 sources, 30+12 indicators

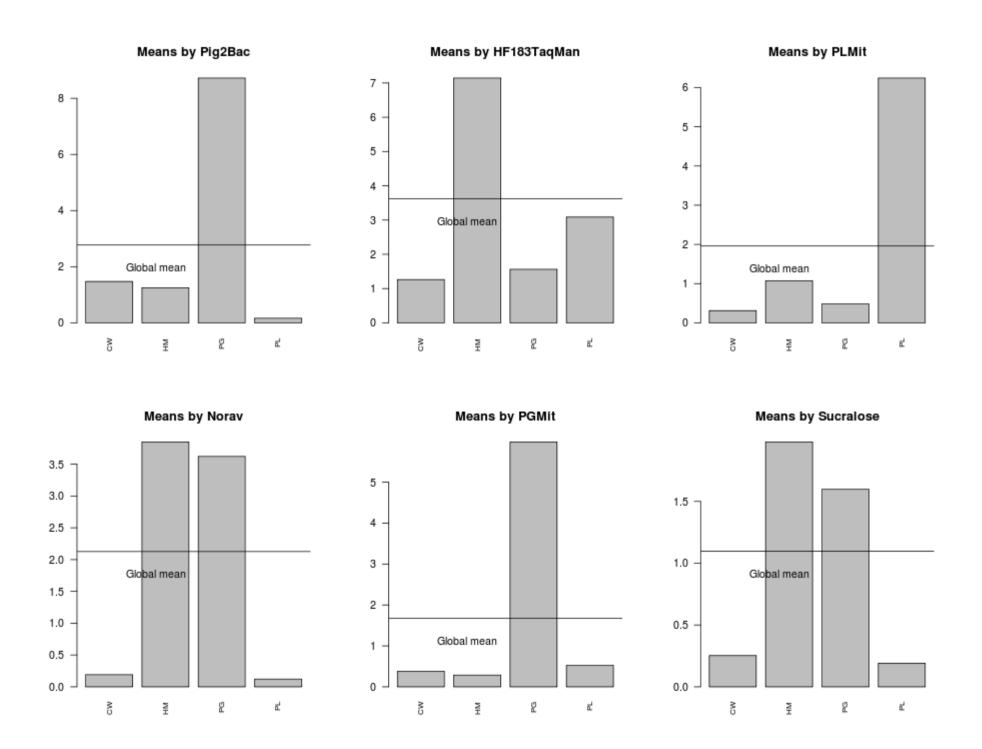
Determining indicator importance (1)

Identification of strongest univariate relationships between **indicators** and **source**

Fisher's F shows that **first 6** are:

Pig2Bac HF183TaqMan PLMit Norav PGMit Sucralose

last 3 are FeqPCR, BifTot and CWBactPhg

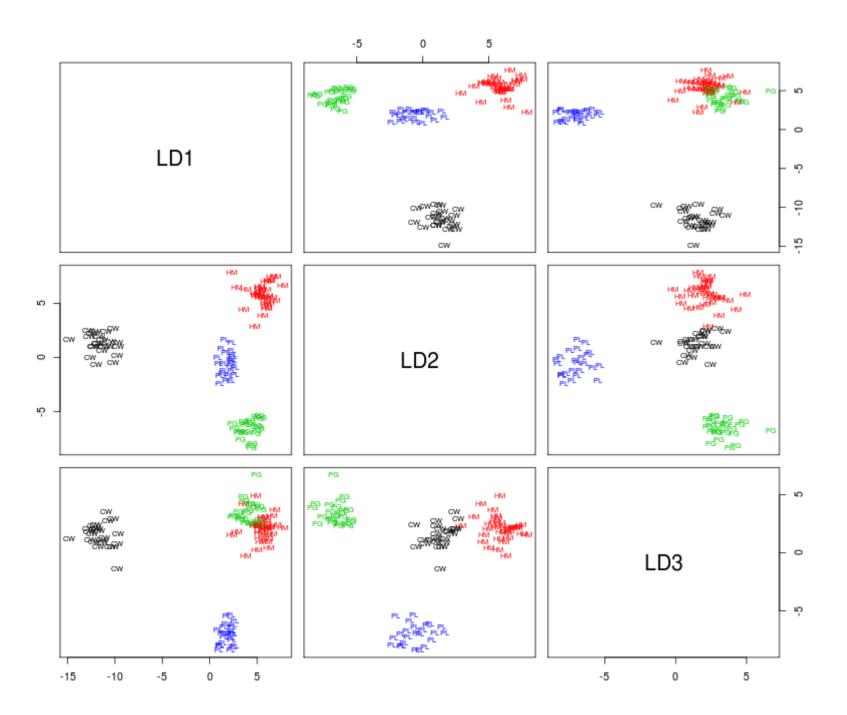


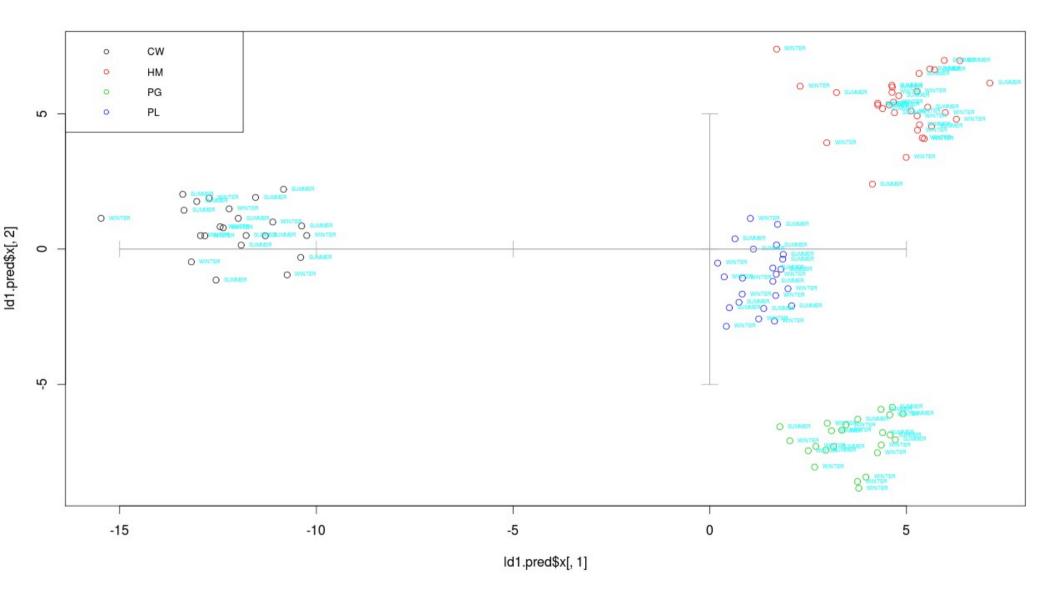
Determining indicator importance (2)

Identification of strongest univariate relationships between indicators and individual sources

- CW: BacR, CWMit, CWBif
- HM: HMBactPhg, Acesulfame, HF183Taqman, Cyclamate
- PG: Pig2Bac, PGMit
- PL: PLBif, PLMit

(acc. to p-value of test comparing the mean of the group with the global mean)



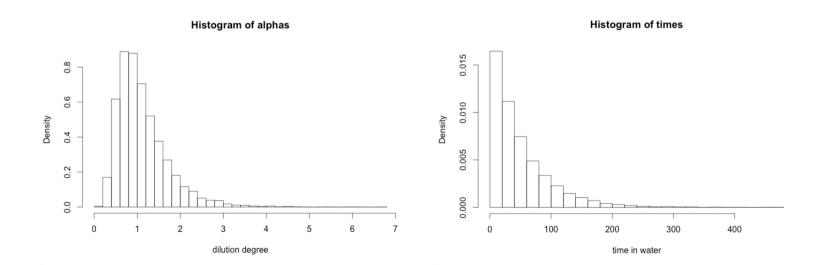


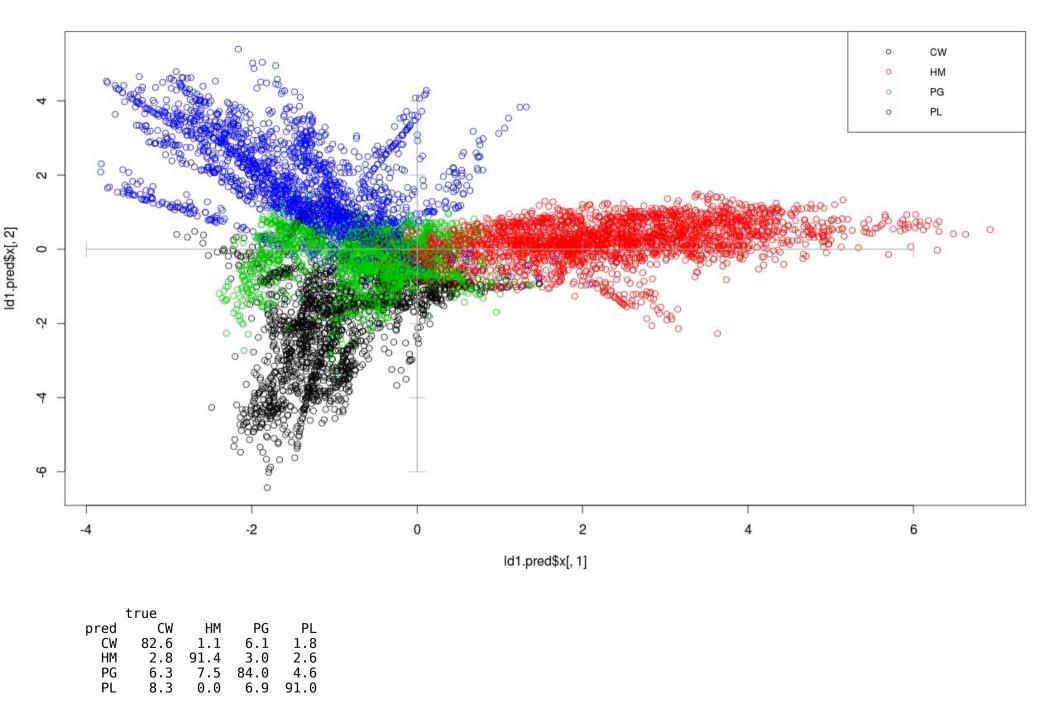
It turns out that {HMBif, BacR, Pig2Bac} suffice to get 100% LOOCV

Extended data matrix

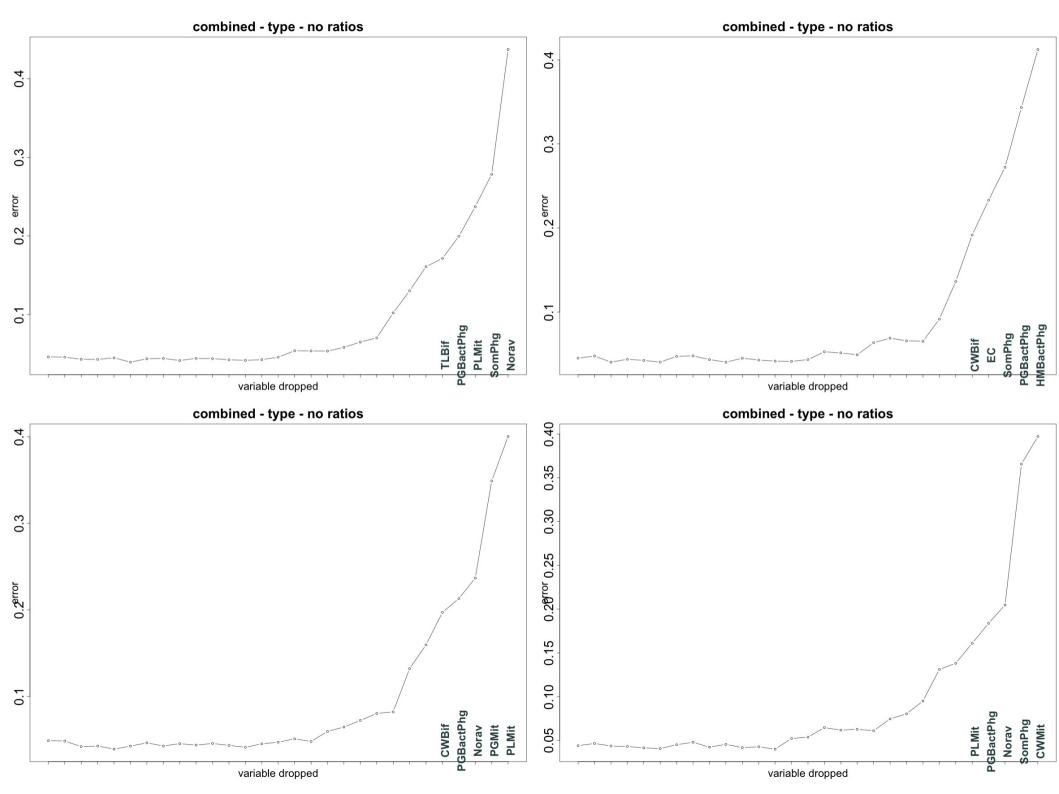
We create a realistic scenario of dilution/aging:

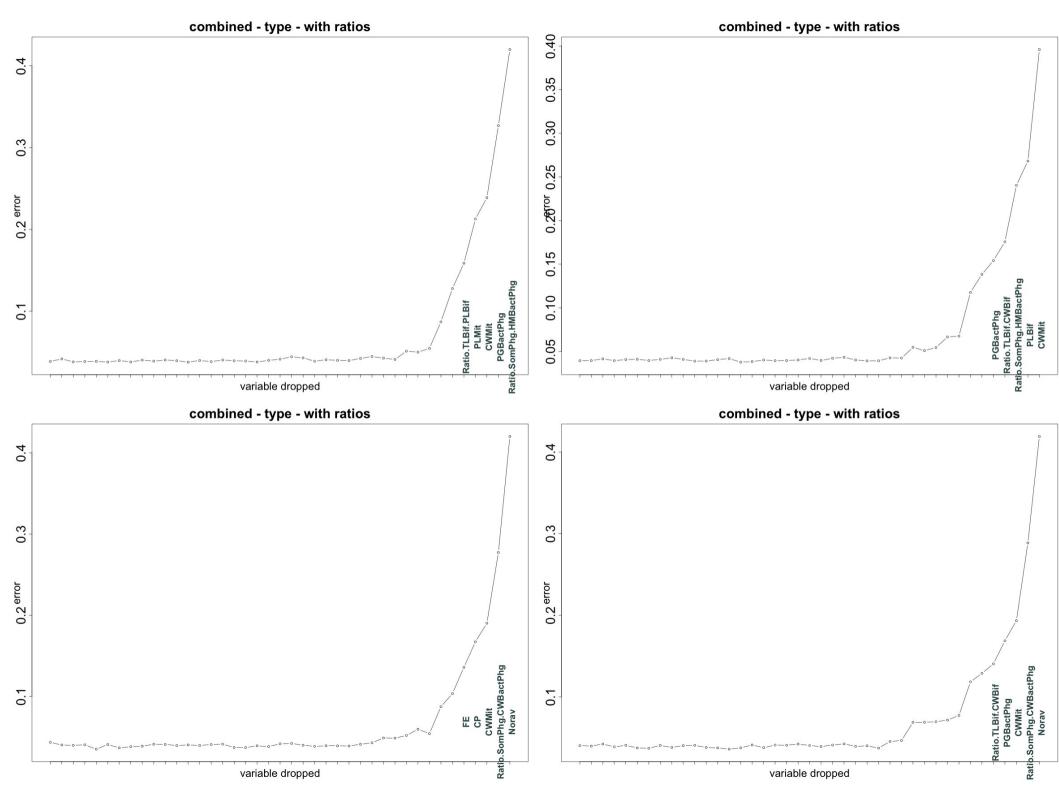
- 10.000 observations are created by sampling the data matrix randomly
- Dilution degree is *lognormal*
- Time in water is *exponential*





Full set: 87.7%; SomPhg HMBactPhg Norav CWMit PGMit PLMit: 80.4% (the use of ratios does not make this any better)





Preliminary assessment

SomPhg / HMBactPhg SomPhg / PGBactPhg

CWMit PGMit PLMit

HMBactPhg Norav

Estimated prediction error around 5%

WP5 Scenario

Next goal is to provide the final subset of indicators **Final goal** is to provide WP5 with the software:

- Estimation of **dilution degree** (concentration level)
- Estimation of **age** (*time since contamination*)
- **Origin** of the sample (*prediction of source*) + probabilities for all 4 sources (*confidence in the prediction*)

