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Jérôme Dupuis. On the Bayesian estimation of species richness and related quantities: the homogeneous case.. 2008. hal-00281829v2

# HAL Id: hal-00281829 https://hal.science/hal-00281829v2

Preprint submitted on 5 Jul 2008 (v2), last revised 10 Jul 2008 (v3)

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# On the Bayesian estimation of species richness and related quantities: the homogeneous case.

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SUMMARY. We consider the problem of estimating the number of species of a biological community located in a region R divided in J quadrats. Recently, two approaches have been developed which both take into account in a same modeling framework the detectability and the occurrence of species in the quadrats. One assumes that a list of species liable to be present in this community is available. The other, developed by Dorazio and Royle (2005, J.A.S.A. 100, 389-398) ignores the unsampled part of R (and thus also J), and models the occurrence of species in the sampled quadrats by independent Bernoulli outcomes. We show that this independence assumption is not correct, and we propose a new approach which models the occurrence of species in the J quadrats and does not require the above list. We develop our approach within a simple model which assumes that the species population is homogeneous. We prove that this model is identifiable and a specific missing data structure is exhibited. The Bayesian estimates of the species richness and related quantities, such as the number of species located in some subregion of R, are obtained by implementing a MCMC algorithm which uses a suitable partitioning of the missing data. We show that the approach of Dorazio and Royle is valid only asymptotically (with respect to J), and generates an error for finite J. A simulation study shows that this can be important when species are spatially rare or hard to detect.

KEY WORDS: Bayesian estimate; Biodiversity, Identifiability, Jeffreys prior, Missing data; Quadrat sampling; Species richness.

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# 1. Introduction

The species richness of a community of animal or plants - that is the number of species present within this community - is a basic and fundamental measure of its bio-diversity (Huston, 1994). Estimating the species richness of a biological community located in some specified region, called afterwards R, often relies on a quadrat sampling. The region R is first divided into J quadrats and, then a random sample of T quadrats from J is taken. Non parametric methods have been proposed for estimating the species richness (denoted by S) when quadrat sampling is used, including the Jacknife and the boostrap estimates; for a complete review see Bunge and Fitzpatrick (1993), and Chao (2005).

As far as parametric approaches are concerned, the use of closed capture-recapture models was the most popular approach (eg Williams et al., 2001), until the paper of Dorazio and Royle (2005) which has pointed out that these models were relevant only for communities composed of species which are present (with probability one) in the quadrats. Since this assumption is not tenable in most of biological communities, these authors have thus proposed a new approach of which the main feature is to model the occurrence and the detection of species in the T sampled quadrats. However we consider that the modelling developed in Dorazio and Royle (2005) is debatable on three points. First, the number of quadrats in which R has been divided - namely J in our notation - plays no part in their approach, while it is expected that the estimation of S depend both on T and J(eg Mingoti and Meeden, 1992). Second, Dorazio and Royle (2005) model the occurrence of species in the sampled quadrats, by T independent Bernoulli outcomes. We show in this paper that this assumption of independence is not consistent with the fact that their approach is conditional, which means that they model the occurrence of species effectively present in R. Third, their approach is not fully Bayesian but rather ad hoc: indeed, credible posterior intervals are provided for S, but no prior distribution is actually put on S. Dupuis and Joachim (2003, 2006) have developed a Bayesian model with takes into account both the detection of species in the T sampled quadrats and the occurence of species in the J quadrats (not only in the T quadrats). Contrary to Dorazio and Royle (2005), their approach is unconditional, in that it models the occurence of species liable to be present in the region R. Moreover, it does not exhibit the limitation of the capture-recapture approach (above mentioned); but it only applies to situations where a list  $\mathcal{L}$  of species liable to be present in the region R can be drawn up, and requires prior information on the probabilities of presence of each species of  $\mathcal{L}$  not detected, which consequently limits the use of this approach.

In this paper, we build a statistical model which does not require the above list  $\mathcal{L}$ , while providing answers to the reservations formulated regarding the approach adopted by Dorazio and Royle (2005). Furthermore, our modelling allows us to obtain easily the Bayesian estimates of some quantities closely related to the species richness, such as the number  $S_a$  of species present in any subregion  $R_a$  of R; see eg Chao (2000) for biological motivation. We observe that Dorazio and Royle (2005) have tackled this question; but, ignoring the unsampled part of R, theses authors have to limit themselves to subregions  $R_a$  composed of sampled quadrats. Besides, we pay particular attention to the prior adopted for the parameter of main interest, namely S. In particular, we provide a theoretical argument for adopting the Jeffreys prior, which is usually adopted in the absence of prior information - eg George and Robert (1992) or King and Brooks (2001) - but for which, there is no theoretical motivation (at our knowledge), as already pointed out by Kass and Wasserman (1996).

We focus on a simple model, called  $M_0$ , which assumes that the species population is homogeneous; it can be viewed as the correct version of the Dorazio and Royle's model (in its homogeneous version). We emphasize that the methodology developed in this paper also applies to heterogeneous populations. (However, the heteregeneous case which requires some specific and rather lengthy developments, is beyond the scope of this paper.) The model  $M_0$ , which includes a small number of parameters, is actually the suitable framework to understand the extent to which the error entailed by the use of the Dorazio and Royle's model (instead of  $M_0$ ) is liable to affect the Bayesian estimation of S. However, the model  $M_0$  exhibits some statistical difficulties which have to be overcome before undertaking this analysis. They are due to the presence of randomly missing data: indeed, a species can be both present in R and, for practical reasons, not have been detected. There are two types of statistical difficulties. First, obtaining the Bayesian estimates of S and  $S_a$  involves computational difficulties. Second, some parameters can be non identifiable (as it is often the case in missing data models). In our context, this is effectively the case, if each sampled quadrat is visited only once; but we prove that all the parameters are identifiable if repeated observations are made in sampled quadrats.

The paper is organized as follows. The protocol experimental and the missing data structure are described in Section 2. Section 3 is devoted to the model  $M_0$ . The modelling of Dorazio and Royle is discussed in Section 4. We conclude in Section 5.

# 2. The experimental protocol and the missing data structure

#### 2.1 The experimental protocol

The experimental protocol is standard (eg, Krebs, 1989). The region R under investigation is divided into J quadrats of equal area, though these spatial units may have different shapes. Note that they are also called sites in the literature. A sample of T quadrats is then taken, and the sampled quadrats are numbered from 1 to T. The draw is usually performed at random so as to have a sample representative of the whole region R, but other alternatives are possible. Finally, an experimenter visits K times each sampled quadrat and records the species detected in each. As in Dorazio and Royle (2005), we assume that

 $K \geq 2$ . Detections are typically based on visual or aural recognitions; we assume that species are correctly identified.

When K = 4 and T = 6, a possible record (or history) for a species s present in R is:  $y_s = (3\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 4\ 0)$ . Such a record means that species s has been detected in quadrat 1 during three visits, and detected in quadrat 5 during each visit. Moreover, its presence has not been detected in quadrat 2, 3, 4, 6.

The problem is to estimate the number S of species present in R, from the data formed by the records of species whose the presence has been detected at least once. Sometimes, all the J quadrats are explored (thus T = J). Although the methodology developed in this paper focuses on the case J < T, we emphasize that it also applies to the case T = J, with straightforward changes.

In some studies, an experimental protocol which slightly differs from the one above described is adopted. T quadrats of equal area, say  $\mathcal{A}$ , are placed at random in the region R; then, they are explored as above indicated (eg Mingoti and Meeden, 1992). Contrary to the previous protocol, the region R is not beforehand divided in quadrats. The model  $M_0$  also applies to this procotcol, provided the unsampled part of R can be divided (even virtually) in quadrats of area  $\mathcal{A}$ , which is generally the case, in practice.

#### 2.2 A specific missing data structure.

To specify the missing data structure inherent in quadrat sampling data, we view the record  $y_s = (y_{sj}; j = 1, ..., T)$  as the result of two processes: one is related to the presence-absence process, and the other is related to the detection process. Such a formalism also allows us to formulate rigorously the biological assumptions made and to introduce, in a natural way, the parameters of biological interest.

- For s = 1, ..., S and j = 1, ..., J, we denote by  $z_{sj}$  the indicator of presence of species s in quadrat j. The vector  $(z_{sj}; j = 1, ..., J)$  is denoted by  $z_s$ .

- For a species s present in a sampled quadrat j, we denote by  $x_{sj}$  the number of times that species s has been detected in quadrat j during the K visits. Note that  $x_{sj}$  is thus defined only conditionally on  $z_{sj} = 1$ ; the vector formed by the  $x_{sj}$ 's is denoted by  $x_s$ . Note also that  $x_{sj} = 0$  and  $y_{sj} = 0$  do not have the same meaning (see below).

Missing data can occur in different circumstances. First, when a species s has not been detected in quadrat j, it is clear that  $z_{sj}$  is missing; this event covers in fact two exclusive situations: either species s is present in quadrat j but has not been detected, or it is not present in quadrat j (and cannot have been detected). Formally, one has the equivalence  $(y_{sj} = 0) \iff (z_{sj} = 1 \text{ and } x_{sj} = 0)$  or  $(z_{sj} = 0)$ . Conversely, when  $1 \le k \le K$ , one has  $(y_{sj} = k) \iff (z_{sj} = 1 \text{ and } x_{sj} = k)$ . Secondly,  $z_{sj}$  is missing, when quadrat j is not a part of the sampled quadrats. Thirdly, a species s present in k and undetected is such that the whole vector  $z_s$  is missing.

The set of the missing  $z_{sj}$ 's is denoted by  $\mathbf{z}_m$ . The above observations lead to partitioning  $\mathbf{z}_m$  into four blocks, according to the status of quadrat j (sampled or not) and the status of species s (detected or not); these blocks are denoted by  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[i]}$ ; i=1,...,4 and defined as follows. The blocks  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[1]}$  and  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[2]}$  are formed by the missing  $z_{sj}$ 's where s designates any detected species, and j denotes either a sampled quadrat (i=1) or an unsampled quadrat (i=2). The blocks  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[3]}$  and  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[4]}$  are formed by the missing  $z_{sj}$ 's where s designates any undetected species, and j denotes either a sampled quadrat (i=3) or an unsampled quadrat (i=4).

Let us clarify that the missing data structure above described differs from the one associated with the model considered in Dupuis and Joachim (2006). Indeed, if we denote by  $\xi_s$  the indicator of presence of a species  $s \in \mathcal{L}$ ,  $\xi_s$  is missing if  $y_s = (0, ..., 0)$ ; for a description of this missing data structure, see Dupuis and Joachim (2003).

# 3. The homogeneous model: $M_0$

#### 3.1 Notation, assumptions and parameters.

Notation is basically the one adopted in Dupuis and Joachim (2003, 2006). p(.) denotes a probability mass function, and  $\pi(.)$  the density of any prior distribution. The null vector is denoted by  $\vec{0}$ , and the vector which has all its components equal to 1, by  $\vec{1}$ . We denote by  $\mathcal{Z}$  the set  $E^J$  where  $E=\{0,1\}$ , and by  $\mathcal{Z}^*$  the set  $\mathcal{Z}\setminus\{\vec{0}\}$ . We denote by  $\overline{z}_{sj}$  the vector  $z_s$  from which the j-th component has been removed. Let v be a vector; we denote by |v| the sum of all its components.  $\mathbb{I}_{(C)}$  denotes an indicator function that takes the value 1 when the condition C is true and zero otherwise. We denote by  $z_s^*$  the vector  $(z_{sj}; j=1,\ldots,T)$ , by  $z_s^\circ$ , the vector  $(z_{sj}; j=T+1,\ldots,J)$ , and we set  $\mathbf{x}=(x_s; s=1,\ldots,S)$  and  $\mathbf{z}=(x_s; s=1,\ldots,S)$ . The Bayesian estimate of S is denoted by  $\widehat{S}_0$ .

We assume that the species population is closed, in that the number of species present in R is constant throughout the quadrat sampling experiment. Biological assumptions related to the occurrence of species in the J quadrats are supported by the  $z_s$ 's, and those related to the detections in the T quadrats by the  $x_s$ 's.

Assumption A1. We assume that:

$$p(\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{s=1}^{S} p(z_s)$$
 and  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}) = \prod_{s=1}^{S} p(x_s|z_s)$ .

Assumption A2. We assume that the probability of detecting species s in quadrat j does not depend on its (possible) detections in the other quadrats.

Assumption A3. We assume that  $x_{sj}|z_{sj}=1\sim \text{Binomial}(K,q)$ .

Assumptions A1, A2 and A3 are standard. A1 means that the species present in R do not interact relative to their detectability and their presence (in the quadrats). We thus exclude predator-prey relationships between species. A3 means that, s and j being fixed, the detections of species s during the K visits in quadrat j are independent. Note that q

represents the probability of detecting species s in quadrat j during any visit, given that it is present in quadrat j.

Assumption A4. For any species s present in R, we assume that:

$$p(z_s|\varphi) = \frac{\varphi^{|z_s|} (1-\varphi)^{J-|z_s|}}{1 - (1-\varphi)^J}$$
(3.1)

where  $\varphi \in ]0,1[$ , and  $|z_s|$  represents the number of quadrats in which species s is present. Note that  $z_s$  takes its values in  $\mathbb{Z}^*$  since  $z_s$  cannot take the value  $\vec{0}$  (recall that s designates a species present in R) and that p(.) given by (3.1) effectively defines a probability mass function on  $\mathbb{Z}^*$ . We now provide two results concerning the distribution of  $z_s$ , subsequently useful to establish the distribution of the missing data conditionally on the (observed) data.

Proposition 3.1. Let  $z_s(a)$  be a vector extracted from  $z_s$  of length  $J_a$ . We have:

$$p(z_s(a)|\varphi) = \frac{\varphi^{|z_s(a)|} (1 - \varphi)^{J_a - |z_s(a)|}}{1 - (1 - \varphi)^J}$$

if  $z_s(a) \neq \vec{0}$ , and  $p(z_s(a)) = [(1 - \varphi_s)^{J_a} - (1 - \varphi)^J] / [1 - (1 - \varphi)^J]$  otherwise. Let  $z_s(a)$ ,  $z_s(b)$ ,  $z_s(c)$  denote three vectors extracted from  $z_s$  and pairwise disjoint. If  $z_s(c) \neq \vec{0}$ , thus  $z_s(a)$  and  $z_s(b)$  are independent, conditionally on  $z_s(c)$ .

*Proof.* See Appendix A1.

By using the proposition (3.1) above, it is easy to verify that  $\Pr(z_{sj} = 1 | \overline{z}_{sj} \neq \vec{0}) = \varphi$ ; therefore,  $\varphi$  represents the probability that species s is present in quadrat j, given that it is present in at least one other quadrat. Note that the  $z_{sj}$ 's are not independent, although a certain form of conditional independence between the  $z_{sj}$ 's holds. Indeed, from the Proposition (3.1), one deduces that if i, j, l denote three distinct quadrats,  $z_{s,i}$  and  $z_{s,j}$  are independent, conditionally on  $z_{s,l} = 1$ . In other words, the presence of species s in quadrat i does not affect its presence in quadrat j (on condition that it is present in a third quadrat). This biological assumption is standard; it has been discussed in Dupuis and Joachim (2006, 2003).

Note that we do not make the parameters q and  $\varphi$  depend on s and j, which constitutes the characteristics of the homogeneous model  $M_0$ . We stress that the model  $M_0$  deals only with species s present in R; the approach adopted in this paper is thus conditional, in contrast to the one adopted in Dupuis and Joachim (2003, 2006). To avoid needless discussions, we assume that at least one species has been detected by the quadrat sampling, so that the data set is not empty. Concerning S, this implies that we assume that  $S \geq 1$ .

3.2 Likelihood under the model  $M_0$ .

Recall that each record (or history) is described by a vector of length T and having all its components in  $\{0, 1, ..., K\}$  (cf Section 2.1). Histories are numbered from h = 0 to  $H = K^T - 1$ ; the history numbered 0 being associated with the record  $\vec{0}$ . For convenience, the history numbered h is afterwards referred as the history h. For h = 0 to  $H = K^T - 1$ , we denote by  $n_h$  the number of species having the history h. Moreover we denote by d the number of detected species; note that  $n_0 = S - d$ . Data are denoted by  $\mathbf{y}$  and formed by the H counts  $\{n_1, ..., n_H\}$  which clearly constitutes a sufficient statistic. The probability  $\Pr(y_s = h)$  is denoted by  $\lambda_h$ . Let s be any species having  $h \neq 0$  as its history, we denote by  $v_h$  the number of quadrats in which species s is detected, and by  $w_h$  the total number of visits during which it is detected. Let  $h \in \{1, ..., H\}$  and  $(b_1, ..., b_j, ..., b_T)$  be the history h, thus we set

$$\rho_h = \prod_{j=1}^T \left( \begin{array}{c} K \\ b_j \end{array} \right).$$

Due to the presence of missing data, writing down the likelihood in a closed form is not immediate, but performing this task is greatly facilitated by the formalism introduced in Section 2.2.

Proposition 3.2. The likelihood of the data y under the model  $M_0$  is:

$$L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y}) = \frac{S!}{(S-d)! \prod_{h=1}^{H} n_h!} \lambda_0^{S-d} \prod_{h=1}^{H} \lambda_h^{n_h}$$
(3.2)

where

$$\lambda_h = \frac{\varphi^{v_h} \, \rho_h \, q^{w_h} (1 - q)^{K v_h - w_h} \left[ (1 - q)^K \varphi + 1 - \varphi \right]^{T - v_h}}{1 - (1 - \varphi)^J} \tag{3.3}$$

if  $h \neq 0$ , and

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{[(1-q)^K \varphi + 1 - \varphi]^T - (1-\varphi)^J}{1 - (1-\varphi)^J}.$$
 (3.4)

*Proof.* See Appendix A2.

We set  $V = \sum_{h=1}^{H} v_h$  and  $W = \sum_{h=1}^{H} v_h$ . From the above proposition, we deduce that:

$$L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y}) \propto \frac{S!}{(S-d)!} \frac{\varphi^V q^W (1-q)^{KV-W} F(\varphi, q)^{dT-V} [F(\varphi, q)^T - (1-\varphi)^J]^{S-d}}{[1 - (1-\varphi)^J]^d}$$

where  $F(\varphi,q) = (1-q)^K \varphi + 1 - \varphi$  and the constant of proportionality depends only on  $\mathbf{y}$ . It is thus clear that  $\mathcal{Y} = (d,V,W)$  is a sufficient statistic. This remark is used later, in Section 4.3. Moreover, we emphasize that the expressions (3.3) and (3.4) also hold when T = J (for brevity, details are omitted).

# 3.3 The prior distributions.

We assume that S,  $\varphi$ , q are a priori independent; thus,  $\pi(\theta) = \pi(S)\pi(\varphi)\pi(q)$ . Uniform distributions are placed on q and  $\varphi$ . Of course, beta distribution can be used if some prior information is available. The negative binomial distribution is usually the distribution adopted in practice for incorporating some prior information on an integer parameter; see, eg King and Brooks (2001), in a capture-recapture set-up where the parameter of interest is the size of the animal population. When no prior information on an integer parameter is available, the improper Jeffreys prior distribution, is usually adopted: that is  $\pi(S) \propto \frac{1}{S}$  in our context. Now, to our knowledge, no theoretical motivation exists in the literature concerning the Jeffreys prior, as already pointed out by Kass and Wasserman (1996); these authors simply note that its extends the standard non informative prior put for a real parameter  $\beta > 0$  (namely,  $\pi(\beta) \propto 1/\beta$ ) to the case of an integer parameter. Our

motivation for the use of the Jeffreys prior as a non informative prior is provided by the following proposition.

Proposition 3.3. The Jeffreys prior coincides with the limiting case of a negative binomial distribution in which the prior variance tends to  $\infty$  (the prior mean being fixed).

*Proof.* See Appendix A3.

The main alternative to the Jeffreys prior is to take  $\pi(S) \propto 1$  (eg Casteldine, 1981). In the next Section, we explain why these two non informative priors should give, in practice, very similar estimations of S. Note finally, that the formula (2) appearing in the proof of the Proposition 3.3 allows us to incorporate (via a negative binomial distribution) some prior information on S consisting of E(S) and Var(S), when Var(S) > E(S).

# 3.4 Identifiability issues.

As mentioned in the introduction, the parameter  $\theta$  of the model  $M_0$  is not identifiable if each sampled quadrat is visited only once (that is when K = 1); for brevity, the proof is omitted. When  $K \geq 2$ , we have established an identifiability result which holds under a very slight restriction.

Theorem 3.4. We assume that  $S \geq 2$ . The parameters S,  $\varphi$  and q are all identifiable. Proof. See Appendix A4.

# $3.5 \quad MCMC \ algorithms \ for \ estimating \ S \ and \ related \ quantities$

This Section is organized as follows. At first, we consider the problem of estimating S alone. To obtain  $E[S|\mathbf{y}]$ , two MCMC algorithms are considered: one uses the missing data structure exhibited in Section 2.2, the other uses only the likelihood of the observed data (3.2). The first algorithm is called Alg01, and the second one Algo2. Both are described in the next Section. Next, we show how to obtain the Bayesian estimates of some quantities related to S; only Alg01 is able to do this (with slight modifications according to which quantity we aim to estimate).

#### 3.5.1 Estimating S alone.

We first describe the MCMC algorithm Algo1. It is implemented on  $(\theta, \mathbf{z}_m)$ ; such a strategy is actually standard in missing data models (see eg Robert and Casella, 2004). Algo1 is a Metropolized Gibbs sampling algorithm. The parameter  $\varphi$  is up-dated via a Hastings-Metropolis step. We up-date q and  $\xi = (S, \mathbf{z}_m)$  via Gibbs steps, as follows:

$$q \sim \pi(q|\xi, \varphi, \mathbf{y})$$
 and  $\xi \sim p(\xi|\varphi, q, \mathbf{y}),$ 

where  $\xi = (S, \mathbf{z}_m)$  is simulated as follows:

$$S \sim \pi(S|\varphi, q, \mathbf{y})$$
 and  $\mathbf{z}_m \sim p(\mathbf{z}_m|S, \varphi, q, \mathbf{y})$ .

Before indicating how to implement each step, we provide the expression of the complete data likelihood denoted by  $L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}_m)$ . By using assumptions A1, A2, A3 and A4, and by observing that  $(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}_m)$  and  $(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z})$  provide the same information on  $\theta$ , it is easy to check that:

$$L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}_m) \propto \frac{\varphi^{V'} (1 - \varphi)^{JS - V'}}{[1 - (1 - \varphi)^{J]S}} q^W (1 - q)^{K(V_m^{[1]} + V_m^{[3]})}$$
(3.7)

where  $V' = V + V_m$ ,  $V_m = V_m^{[1]} + V_m^{[2]} + V_m^{[3]} + V_m^{[4]}$ , and  $V_m^{[i]}$  denotes the sum of the  $z_{sj}$ 's belonging to  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[i]}$ .

**Updating** S. S is simulated according to the distribution of  $S|q, \varphi, \mathbf{y}$ . Let  $\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y})$  denote the density of the posterior distribution. We have  $\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}) \propto L_0(\theta;\mathbf{y})\pi(\theta)$ . Taking into account the expression of  $L_0(\theta;\mathbf{y})$ , we have:

$$\pi(S|q,\varphi,\mathbf{y}) \propto \frac{S!}{(S-d)!} \lambda_0^{S-d} \pi(S) \, \mathbb{I}_{(S\geq d)}$$
(3.8)

where  $\lambda_0$  is given by (3.4). The indicator  $\mathbb{I}_{(S \geq d)}$  expresses the fact that, conditionnally on  $\mathbf{y}$ , S is necessarily greater than d. From (3.8), it is straightforward to deduce that,  $S - d|q, \varphi, \mathbf{y}$  follows a NegBin $(d, 1 - \lambda_0)$  distribution if  $\pi(S) \propto 1/S$ , a NegBin $(d+1, 1-\lambda_0)$ 

distribution if  $\pi(S) = 1$ . Therefore, these two non informative priors should give very close estimates of S, as long as 1 is small compared with d (which is the case in most studies). Finally,  $S - d|q, \varphi, \mathbf{y}$  follows a NegBin $(d + r, 1 - (1 - \alpha)\lambda_0)$  if  $S \sim \text{NegBin}(r, \alpha)$ .

**Updating z**<sub>m</sub>. Due to the form of the complete data likelihood we simply have to simulate the  $V_m^{[i]}$ 's. Simulating  $V_m^{[1]}$  and  $V_m^{[2]}$  directly uses the proposition 3.5

Proposition 3.5. Conditionally on  $(\theta, \mathbf{y})$ , the two blocks  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[1]}$  and  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[2]}$  are independent.  $V_m^{[1]}|\mathbf{y}, \varphi, q \sim \text{Binomial}(dT - V, \gamma)$  where  $\gamma = [\varphi(1-q)^K]/[\varphi(1-q)^K + (1-\varphi)]$ , and  $V_m^{[2]}|\mathbf{y}, \varphi, q \sim \text{Binomial}((J-T)d, \varphi)$ . For any undetected species s we have:

$$p(z_s|y_s = \vec{0}, \varphi, q) = \frac{(1-q)^{K|z_s^*|} \varphi^{|z_s|} (1-\varphi)^{J-|z_s|}}{[(1-q)^K \varphi + 1 - \varphi]^T - (1-\varphi)^J}$$
(3.9)

*Proof.* See Appendix A5.

Simulating  $V_m^{[3]}$  and  $V_m^{[4]}$  needs special attention, because these two blocks are not, conditionally on  $(\theta, \mathbf{y})$ , independent, due to the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ . Recall also that the species s involved in the simulation of  $V_m^{[3]}$  and  $V_m^{[4]}$  are those which have not been detected (that is such that  $y_s = \vec{0}$ ), and for which the whole vector  $z_s$  is missing and has to be simulated according to (3.9). Simulating  $V_m^{[3]}$  and  $V_m^{[4]}$  proceeds as follows. Set  $V_m^{[3]} = 0$  and  $V_m^{[4]} = 0$ , and repeat S - d times the two following steps:

- 1. Simulate  $z_s$  according to (3.9).
- **2**. Set  $V_m^{[3]} = V_m^{[3]} + |z_s^*|$  and  $V_m^{[4]} = V_m^{[4]} + |z_s^{\circ}|$ .

**Updating** q. Simulate q according to a Beta  $(1 + W, 1 + K(V_m^{[1]} + V_m^{[3]}))$ .

**Updating**  $\varphi$ . This is done via a Hastings-Metropolis step, as follows. The proposal  $\varphi'$  is accepted with probability:

$$\min \left\{ 1, \frac{\pi(\varphi'|S, q, \mathbf{z}_m, \mathbf{y})}{\pi(\varphi|S, q, \mathbf{z}_m, \mathbf{y})} \times \frac{g(\varphi|\varphi')}{g(\varphi'|\varphi)} \right\}$$

where  $\varphi, q, S, \mathbf{z}_m$  represent the current values, and g(.|.) denotes the density of the instrumental distribution (typically an uniform distribution). Note that  $\pi(\varphi|S, q, \mathbf{z}_m, \mathbf{y}) \propto L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}_m)$  which is given by (3.7).

The other algorithm Algo2 does not use the missing data structure of quadrat sampling data; it only uses the observed data likelihood given by (3.2). Parameter S is updated exactly as in Algo1.  $\varphi$  and q are updated via Hastings-Metropolis steps. Details are omitted since this is straightforward.

# 3.5.1 Estimating some quantities related to S.

We denote by  $N_j$  the number of species present in the sampled quadrat j, and by N the total number of species present in the sampled part of R. More generally, we consider the quantity  $S_a$ , which represents the number of species present in some subregion  $R_a$  composed both of sampled and unsampled quadrats. Only the quantities  $N_j$  and N have been considered by Dorazio and Royle (2005). We consider that their  $ad\ hoc$  estimates of  $N_j$  and N are not correct, for two distinct reasons. First, they are based on an erroneous modelling of the problem (cf Section 4). The second reason is indicated at the end of the paragraph devoted to the estimation of  $N_j$ .

Estimating N,  $N_j$  and  $S_a$ , uses the fact that each of these quantities is a (simple) function of S and  $\mathbf{z}$ . For example,  $S_a = \sum_{s=1}^{S} \mathbb{I}_{(|z_s(a)| \geq 1)}$  where  $z_s(a)$  denotes the vector  $(z_{sj}; j \in R_a)$ . Now, recall that, once the data  $\mathbf{y}$  are available, only a part of  $\mathbf{z}$  is known, the other part being missing. Thus, conditionally on  $\mathbf{y}$ , estimating any of these quantities comes down to estimating its missing part. It is the reason why the missing data approach is particularly well suited to estimating  $N_j$ , N and  $S_a$ .

• For obtaining  $\widehat{N}$ , we use Algo1 without any modification. The Bayesian estimate of

N is obtained by applying the ergodic theorem, as follows:

$$d + \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h(S^{(l)}, \mathbf{z}_m^{(l)}) \longrightarrow E[N|\mathbf{y}] = \widehat{N} \quad (L \longrightarrow +\infty)$$

where (l) indicates the step of the algorithm, and  $h(S, \mathbf{z}_m) = \sum_{s=d+1}^{S} \mathbb{I}_{(|z_s^*| \ge 1)}$ .

• For obtaining  $\widehat{N}_j$ , in addition to simulating  $V_m^{[1]}$  as indicated in the previous Section, we simulate separately each missing  $z_{sj} \in \mathbf{z}_m^{[1]}$  (j being fixed); it is done according to the distribution of  $z_{sj}|y_s$ , that is according to a Bernoulli( $\gamma$ ) distribution, where  $\gamma$  is given by Proposition 3.5. The simulation of  $V^{[2]}$ ,  $V^{[3]}$  and  $V^{[4]}$  are without change. The Bayesian estimate of  $S_j$  is then obtained by applying the ergodic theorem:

$$d_j + \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h(S^{(l)}, \mathbf{z}_m^{(l)}) \longrightarrow E[N_j | \mathbf{y}] = \widehat{N}_j \quad (L \longrightarrow +\infty)$$

where  $d_j$  denotes the number of species detected in the sampled quadrat j, and

$$h(S, \mathbf{z}_m) = \sum_{s=1}^d \mathbb{1}_{(z_{sj}=1, y_{sj}=0)} + \sum_{s=d+1}^S \mathbb{1}_{(z_{sj}=1)}.$$

To estimate  $N_j$ , where j designates a sampled quadrat, Dorazio and Royle (2005) consider first  $E[z_{sj}|\mathbf{y}]$ , where s represents a species s not detected in quadrat j; therefore,  $z_{sj} \in \mathbf{z}_m^{[1]} \cup \mathbf{z}_m^{[3]}$ . Then, they estimate  $E[z_{sj}|\mathbf{y}]$  by  $\widehat{\varphi}$  ( $\widehat{\psi}$  with their notation), where  $\widehat{\varphi}$  represents their estimate of  $\varphi$  (cf Section 3.4, page 393, line 1 of their paper). When j designates an unsampled quadrat, and s a detected species, that is when  $z_{sj} \in \mathbf{z}_m^{[2]}$ , this ad hoc way of proceeding is conceivable, since, in such a case,  $z_{sj}|\varphi,\mathbf{y}$  follows effectively a Bernoulli( $\varphi$ ) distribution; otherwise, it is not correct (see the Proposition 3.5). For the same reasons, their estimate of N is not correct; details are omitted.

• We denote by  $J_a$  the number of quadrats (among the J quadrats) located in  $R_a$ , and by  $T_a$  the number of sampled quadrats (among the  $J_a$ ). We denote by  $\mathbf{y}_a$  the part of the data collected in these  $T_a$  quadrats, and by  $d_a$  the number of species detected in  $R_a$ . Note

that it will not be correct to perform inference on  $S_a$ , only on the basis of  $\mathbf{y}_a$ , because  $\mathbf{y}_a$  and  $\mathbf{y}_b$  (where  $\mathbf{y}_b = \mathbf{y} \setminus \mathbf{y}_a$ ) are not marginally independent (they are independent only conditionally on  $\theta$ ). For obtaining the species richness  $\hat{S}_a$  of  $R_a$ , we complete the simulation of  $(V_m^{[1]}, V_m^{[2]})$  and  $(V_m^{[3]}, V_m^{[4]})$ , as follows.

- Concerning  $(V_m^{[1]}, V_m^{[2]})$ , set  $E_a = 0$  and repeat  $d d_a$  times the two following steps:
- **1.** Simulate  $|z_s^*(a)| \sim \text{Binomial}(T_a, \gamma)$  and  $|z_s^\circ(a)| \sim \text{Binomial}(J_a T_a, \varphi)$ .
- **2**. Set  $E_a = E_a + \mathbb{I}_{(|z_s(a)| \ge 1)}$ .
- Concerning  $(V_m^{[3]}, V_m^{[4]})$ , set  $F_a = 0$  and add to the steps 1 and 2 of the paragraph untitled *Updating*  $\mathbf{z}_m$  of the Section 3.5.1, the following step:  $F_a = F_a + \mathbb{I}_{(|z_s(a)| \geq 1)}$ .

Note that  $E_a$  represents the number of species present in  $R_a$ , not detected in  $R_a$ , but detected in  $R_b$ , where  $R_b = R \backslash R_a$ .  $F_a$  represents the number of species present in  $R_a$  but undetected.  $\hat{S}_a$  is obtained by applying the ergodic theorem:

$$d_a + \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} [E_a^{(l)} + F_a^{(l)}] \longrightarrow E[S_a | \mathbf{y}] = \widehat{S}_a \quad (L \longrightarrow +\infty)$$

# 4. Discussion of the model of Dorazio and Royle.

This Section is organized as follows. In Section 4.1, we explain why the modelling adopted by Dorazio and Royle (2005) is not mathematically correct. In Section 4.2, we first provide the likelihood of the Dorazio and Royle's model in its homogeneous version (called afterwards the DR model). Then we show that the DR approach is valid only asymptotically (with respect to J). In Section 4.3, a simulation study is performed to quantify the error resulting from the use of the DR model instead of  $M_0$ .

We stress that, in Dorazio and Royle (2005), J denotes the number of sampled quadrats, while this quantity is denoted by T in this paper, as in Dupuis and Joachim (2003, 2006). 4.1 The model of Dorazio and Royle and the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ 

First recall that the approach of Dorazio and Royle (2005) is conditional; consequently, the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$  applies to their approach. It is of interest to point out that this

constraint does not exist when the unconditional approach of Dupuis and Joachim (2003, 2006) is adopted, since it models the occurrence of species liable to be present in R, and it is quite possible that  $z_s = \vec{0}$ , for some s.

Recall also that Dorazio and Royle (2005) do not model the occurrence of species s in the J quadrats, but only its occurrence in the T sampled quadrats, by assuming that  $z_{s,1}, \ldots, z_{s,T}$  are independent outcomes of a Bernoulli random variable of parameter  $\psi$  (cf line 6 of the right part of the page 391 of their paper). The J-T remaining quadrats are thus ignored in their modelling, as well as the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ . From the independence assumption of Dorazio and Royle, called afterwards the DR assumption, it follows that:

$$p(z_s^*) = \psi^{|z_s^*|} (1 - \psi)^{T - |z_s^*|}, \tag{4.1}$$

where  $|z_s^*|$  represents the number of sampled quadrats in which species s is present. The dependence of  $\psi$  on s, adopted by these authors, is without importance in this discussion, and has been removed for convenience. The dependence of  $\psi$  on j, equally adopted by these authors, is considered later. The expression of  $p(z_s^*)$  given by (4.1) has to be compared with the one calculated under the model  $M_0$ , and deduced from the proposition (3.1):

$$p(z_s^*) = \left[\varphi^{|z_s^*|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z_s^*|}\right] / \left[1 - (1 - \varphi)^J\right] \quad \text{if} \quad z_s^* \neq \vec{0}$$
(4.2)

and  $[(1-\varphi)^T - (1-\varphi)^J]/[1-(1-\varphi)^J]$  if  $z_s^* = \vec{0}$ . Note that  $p(z_s^*)$  in (4.2) depends on J and T. We suggest that the modelling adopted by Dorazio and Royle (2005) is not correct: the problem comes from the fact that the DR assumption is not consistent with the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ . We support this assertion by means of two arguments.

Argument 1. This concerns the case T=J (that is when the whole region R has been sampled). Assuming that  $z_{s,1}, \ldots, z_{s,T}$  are independent implies that  $\Pr(z_s = \vec{0}) = (1-\psi)^J$ , which is > 0 when  $\psi \in ]0, 1[$ , hence the contradiction. In fact,  $\Pr(z_s = \vec{0}) = 0$  implies  $\psi = 1$ , that is  $z_s = \vec{1}$  with probability one, which means that species s is present in all the quadrats

of R (with probability one). Now, this situation has been discarded by Dorazio and Royle (2005) as being not tenable from a biological point of view; recall that it is precisely this latter point which motivated their paper (cf the introduction).

Argument 2. The distribution of  $z_s$  should (of course) not depend on the number T of sampled quadrats. Now, this is not the case when the DR assumption is adopted, as illustrated by a simple example. We assume that J=5. When all the quadrats have been sampled (that is when T=J=5), we have  $\Pr(z_s=00001)=(1-\psi)^4\psi$ , by using (4.1). We now assume that 80% of the quadrats have been sampled (thus T=4), and that the sampled quadrats are the quadrats numbered from 1 to 4. We can write  $\Pr(z_s=00001)=\Pr(z_{s5}=1|z_{s1}=z_{s2}=z_{s3}=z_{s4}=0)\times\Pr(z_{s1}=z_{s2}=z_{s3}=z_{s4}=0)$ . Due to the constraint  $z_s\neq \vec{0}$  we have  $\Pr(z_{s5}=1|z_{s1}=z_{s2}=z_{s3}=z_{s4}=0)=1$ ; moreover due to (4.1) we have  $\Pr(z_{s1}=z_{s2}=z_{s3}=z_{s4}=0)=(1-\psi)^4$ ; hence  $\Pr(z_s=00001)=(1-\psi)^4$  which differs from the value obtained when T=5. Therefore, when one adopts the DR assumption, the distribution of  $z_s$  depends on T, which is not acceptable. Note that the two values of  $\Pr(z_s=00001)$  are in fact equal if and only if  $\psi=1$ .

If we now make  $\psi$  depend on j, that does not modify the conclusions. First, the Argument 1 still holds, due to the following remark which is parameter-free. Assume that a species s is absent from J-1 quadrats; due to the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ , it is thus necessarily present in the remaining quadrat (formally one has  $\Pr(z_{sj} = 1 | \overline{z}_{s,j} = \vec{0}) = 1$  if j designates the remaining quadrat), and the J r.v.  $z_{sj}$ 's cannot be independent. This remark shows that when the whole region R has been sampled (ie T = J), the DR assumption is not consistent with the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ . Concerning the Argument 2, see Appendix A6.

#### 4.2 The likelihood under the Dorazio and Royle's model

The model considered by Dorazio and Royle meets the Assumptions A1, A2, and A3. The model  $M_0$  and the DR model actually differ only from the way of modelling

the occurrence of species in the quadrats. In its homogeneous version, the DR model is parametrized by  $\omega = (S, \psi, q)$ , where  $\psi$  denotes the probability that  $z_{sj} = 1$ . Establishing the expression of the likelihood under the DR model, denoted afterwards by  $L_{DR}(\omega; \mathbf{y})$ , is straigthforward, contrary to  $L_0(\theta; \mathbf{y})$ . If we let  $\mu_h = \Pr(y_s = h|q, \psi)$ 

$$L_{DR}(\omega; \mathbf{y}) = \frac{S!}{(S-d)! \prod_{h=1}^{H} n_h!} \mu_0^{S-d} \prod_{h=1}^{H} \mu_h^{n_h}$$

where

$$\mu_h = \psi^{v_h} \rho_h q^{w_h} (1 - q)^{Kv_h - w_h} [(1 - q)^K \psi + 1 - \psi]^{T - v_h} \text{ if } h \neq 0,$$

where  $\rho_h$  has been defined in Section 3.2 and  $\mu_0 = [(1-q)^K \psi + 1 - \psi]^T$  (Dorazio and Royle, 2005).

If we make  $J \longrightarrow +\infty$   $(\varphi, q, T \text{ and } K \text{ being fixed})$ , we observe that the likelihood of the DR model and ours coincide. Indeed,  $(1-\psi)^J \longrightarrow 0$  when J tends to  $+\infty$ , and the two parameters  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are confounded asymptotically. To check this second point, we introduce the parameter  $\nu$  equal to the probability that  $z_{sj} = 1$  under the model  $M_0$ ; by using the proposition 3.1, we have  $\nu = \varphi/[1-(1-\varphi)^J]$ . We note that the parameters  $\psi$  and  $\nu$  do not take their values in the same space; indeed  $\psi \in ]0,1[$  while  $\nu \in ]1/J,1[$  since  $\varphi \in ]0,1[$  (the verification is immediate). But, when  $J \longrightarrow +\infty$ , it is immediate to see that the three parameters  $\varphi$ ,  $\nu$  and  $\psi$  are confounded, since  $\nu = \varphi/[1-(1-\varphi)^J] \longrightarrow \varphi$  and  $\nu$  and  $\psi$  take now their values in the same set. The approach of Dorazio and Royle is thus valid asymptotically with respect to J, and it is therefore expected that, for large J, the Bayesian estimation of S under  $M_0$  and  $M_{DR}$  should be close. The question is to know from which value of J, it is effectively the case. This issue is examined in the next Section, using a wide sample of data sets. We now propose another reading of the fact that the DR likelihood and ours coincide when  $J \longrightarrow +\infty$ . Using the DR model, and thus ignoring the number of quadrats - called  $J^*$  for this remark - in which R has been divided, comes down

actually to using the model  $M_0$  with  $J \longrightarrow \infty$ , while in fact  $J = J^*$ ; that clearly entails an error which is quantified in the next Section.

#### 4.3 A simulation study.

It is expected that, for some given data  $\mathbf{y}$ , more or less important differences appear between  $\mathrm{E}[S|\mathbf{y},M_0]$  and  $\mathrm{E}[S|\mathbf{y},M_{DR}]$ , as well as between  $\sigma[S|\mathbf{y},M_0]$  and  $\sigma[S|\mathbf{y},M_{DR}]$ , where  $\sigma[S|\mathbf{y},M] = \sqrt{\mathrm{Var}[S|\mathbf{y},M]}$ . These quantities are afterwards respectively denoted by  $\hat{S}_0$ ,  $\hat{S}_{DR}$ ,  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_{DR}$  (dropping  $\mathbf{y}$  in this notation, for convenience). The differences  $|\hat{S}_{DR} - \hat{S}_0|$  and  $|\sigma_0 - \sigma_{DR}|$  are respectively denoted by  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ . Our objective is to exhibit some examples for which some significant differences exist, and to examine when they occur (with regard to J, T, K,  $\varphi$  and q). The differences  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , both together, may be globally interpreted as the error (in a statistical sense) one makes concerning S, when one uses the incorrect DR model, instead of the correct model  $M_0$  (since the latter is in fact the correct version of the DR model). Of course, other alternatives could be taken to appreciate the proximity between the posterior distributions of S under  $M_0$  and  $M_{DR}$ .

We have chosen to examine the values taken by  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  from average data sets. To clarify what we mean by average data set, recall that the statistic  $\mathcal{Y} = (d, V, W)$  is sufficient. J, T, K and  $\theta$  being fixed, we call an average data set, any data set  $\mathbf{y}$  having  $\mathcal{Y} = (a, b, c)$  as sufficient statistic, where a is the integer closest to  $\mathrm{E}[d|\theta]$ , b the integer closest to  $\mathrm{E}[V|\theta]$ , and c the integer closest to  $\mathrm{E}[W|\theta]$ , the expectation being taken with respect to the distribution of  $\mathbf{y}$  given  $\theta$ , and under  $M_0$ . Choosing average data sets is, in a way, neutral, compared with arbitrary (or simulated) data sets. Finally, when one uses average data sets, it makes sense to compare the errors to each other (when  $q, \varphi, J, T, K$  vary).

Throughout this study S is fixed: S = 100. For different values of J, T, K,  $\varphi$  and q, we have calculated the corresponding sufficient statistics  $\mathcal{Y}$  by classical Monte Carlo

methods (by simulating 1000 data sets similar to  $\mathbf{y}$ ). The resulting average data sets have been numbered from n=1 to 18. Then, for each average data set, we have calculated  $\hat{S}_0$  by implementing the MCMC algorithm Algo2 (based on the observed likelihood  $L_0$ ). Concerning  $\hat{S}_{DR}$ , we have used the same algorithm (except that  $L_0$  has been replaced by  $L_{DR}$ ). The convergence of the Markov chain has been diagnosed by using standard techniques. Independent replications of the simulation run for five million iterations (with the first 10% discarded as burn-in) and from different starting points  $(\varphi^{(0)}, q^{(0)})$  in  $]0, 1[\times]0, 1[$  produced identical results to one unit place.

We mainly focus on small values for  $\varphi$ , namely in [0.05, 0.1], that is on populations composed of spatially rare species. It is, in fact, for this type of population that we expect to observe significant differences between  $\hat{S}_0$  and  $\hat{S}_{DR}$ , since the term  $(1-\varphi)^J$  is as less negligible as  $\varphi$  is small (J being fixed). For q, we consider values in [0.1, 0.3], which correspond to species that are relatively hard to detect during a visit. Nevertheless, we emphasize that  $q^* = 1 - (1-q)^K$  (which represents the probability of detecting a species s during the quadrat sampling experiment, given that it is present in a quadrat j) can be high even if q is small. For example,  $q^* = 0.19$  if q = 0.1 and K = 2, but  $q^* = 0.65$  if q = 0.1 and K = 10. These ranges for  $\varphi$  and q are not unusual in some animal populations, such as birds (see eg Dorazio and Royle, 2005; Dupuis and Joachim, 2006).

For each fixed value of J, T, K,  $\varphi$  and q, we provide in Table 1 above  $q^*$ ,  $\mathcal{Y}$ ,  $\widehat{S}_0$ ,  $\widehat{S}_R$ ,  $\sigma_0$ ,  $\sigma_{DR}$ ,  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ ; non informative prior distributions having been adopted (the Jeffreys prior for S, and the uniform distribution for q,  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ ).

• We make two general comments concerning the results. First, we observe that  $\hat{S}_0$  is close to 100 (for most values of K, J, T,  $\varphi$  and q); that is explained by the fact that, for these values of K, J, T,  $\varphi$  and q, the bias of  $\hat{S}_0$  is close to 0; this observation comes from an additional simulation study, not presented in this paper, for brevity. Secondly, we note

Table 1  $q^*$ , (d, V, W),  $\hat{S}_0$ ,  $\sigma_0$ ,  $\hat{S}_{DR}$ ,  $\sigma_{DR}$ ,  $e_1$ ,  $e_2$  for different values of  $J, T, K, q, \varphi$  (S = 100)

										_					
n	J	T	K	arphi	q	$q^*$	d	V	W	$\widehat{S}_0$	$\sigma_0$	$\widehat{S}_{DR}$	$\sigma_{DR}$	$e_1$	$e_2$
1	10	10	4	0.1	0.3	0.76	84	117	184	101	6	154	20	53	14
<b>2</b>	10	10	4	0.3	0.1	0.34	69	107	124	101	10	105	12	4	2
3	10	10	4	0.1	0.1	0.34	45	53	61	101	22	145	48	47	26
<b>4</b>	10	10	10	0.1	0.1	0.65	75	100	154	99	7	152	24	53	17
5	20	10	4	0.1	0.3	0.76	62	86	136	100	11	115	18	15	7
6	20	10	4	0.3	0.1	0.34	66	103	120	99	11	99	11	0	0
7	20	10	4	0.1	0.1	0.34	33	39	45	92	26	105	41	13	15
8	20	10	10	0.1	0.1	0.65	56	74	114	101	13	117	22	16	9
9	20	20	4	0.1	0.1	0.34	57	78	91	98	13	113	20	15	7
10	40	20	4	0.1	0.1	0.34	51	70	81	99	17	101	19	2	2
11	40	40	4	0.1	0.1	0.34	76	139	161	99	7	101	8	2	1
12	40	20	2	0.1	0.1	0.19	32	38	40	104	36	110	43	6	7
13	40	40	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	57	78	91	99	14	116	21	17	7
14	40	20	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	33	39	46	104	29	134	61	30	32
15	80	20	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	30	35	41	101	37	107	48	6	11
<b>16</b>	120	20	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	29	34	40	98	39	101	45	3	6
<b>17</b>	160	20	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	29	34	40	100	41	101	45	1	4
18	200	20	4	0.05	0.1	0.34	29	34	40	100	43	100	44	0	1

that  $\hat{S}_{DR}$  is systematically greater than  $\hat{S}_0$ . That is simply explained by the fact that using the DR model comes down to using the model  $M_0$  as if  $J = +\infty$ .

- Let us briefly comment qualitatively on the different values of the posterior standard deviation  $\sigma_0$  appearing in Table 1. J being fixed, we note that, not surprisingly,  $\sigma_0$  decreases with T, K,  $\varphi$  and q (the other factors remaining each time fixed). When T, K,  $\varphi$  and q are fixed, it of interest to observe that  $\sigma_0$  increases with J, which is not surprising (though that is maybe less intuitive than the previous observations); indeed, as J increases while T remains fixed the fraction of the unsampled part increases, which creates more and more uncertainty. See the cases: 3 and 7; 9 and 12; 11, 15, 16 and 17.
- We now comment on the magnitude of the errors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$ , with respect to J, T, K,  $\varphi$  and q by distinguishing two cases, according to  $J \leq 20$  or  $J \geq 40$ .

Case 1:  $J \leq 20$ . We observe that, when  $q = \varphi = 0.1$ , the error  $e_1$  is important if J = 10 (whatever T and K) and smaller if J = 20. We also note that, T, K, q and  $\varphi$  being fixed,  $\sigma_{DR}$  is markedly larger than  $\sigma_0$ . Moreover, we observe that the estimation of S produced by the DR model may exhibit surprising behaviors. So,  $e_1$  is not modified (even increases) when K increases (cf the cases 3 and 4, as well as the cases 7 and 8);  $e_1$  increases when q increases (cf the cases 1 and 3, as well as the cases 5 and 7); and  $e_1$  increases when T increases (cf the cases 7 and 9). Finally, when  $\varphi = 0.3$ , we note that the errors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are relatively small, even null (see the cases 2 and 6).

Case 2:  $J \geq 40$ . We note that, when  $\varphi = 0.1$  and K = 4, the errors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are now small, even very small: see the cases 10 and 11. But, if we now consider for  $\varphi$  values smaller than 0.1, as 0.05, the errors may be particular high: see the case 14 (which has to be compared with the case 10). Keeping the value 0.05 for  $\varphi$  and increasing J (cf the cases 15,16,17, 18), we observe that  $\hat{S}_0$  and  $\hat{S}_{DR}$ , as well as  $\sigma_{DR}$  and  $\sigma_0$ , practically coincide from about J = 200 (cf the case 18). If we now consider species both relatively spatially

rare ( $\varphi = 0.1$ ) and hard to detect (q = 0.1 and K = 2), the values  $e_1 = 6$  and  $e_2 = 7$  (cf the case 12) are not negligible; the case 12 has to be compared with the case 10 where  $e_1 = e_2 = 2$ . When J = 40, we have not observed the undesirable behaviors of  $S_{DR}$  above mentioned (that is when J = 10, 20).

- To sum up, two striking facts emerge from this simulation study. Firstly, the errors  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  due to the use of the DR model (instead of  $M_0$ ) globally decrease when J increases (as forecasted in Section 4.2); but, the value of J, beyond which  $\hat{S}_{DR}$  and  $\hat{S}_0$ , as well as  $\sigma_0$  and  $\sigma_{DR}$ , will practically coincide  $(T, K, \phi)$  and q being fixed) may be large. Furthermore, this value strongly depends on  $T, K, \varphi$ , and q, which prevents from indicating a threshold beyond which the DR approach will yield numerically acceptable results (although Table 1 gives some orders of magnitude). Secondly, we observe that, for small or moderate values of J ( $\leq 20$ ), the estimations yielded by the DR model may exhibit undesirable behaviors, with respect to K, T and q.
- Our study is limited to homogeneous species populations, but it can reasonably be expected that similar observations will be made in practically homogeneous populations (in the sense that the variability within the  $\varphi_s$ 's and the  $q_s$ 's is small); for heterogeneous populations, the situation is difficult to apprehend intuitively, and additional simulation studies out of the scope of our paper will be considered in the future.

#### 5. Conclusion

In this paper, we have developed a new conditional approach to estimate the species richness S of a biological community located in a specified region R divided in J quadrats. Our model  $M_0$  takes into account both the occurrence and the detectability of species in the quadrats, as the approach developed in the paper of Dorazio and Royle (2005). But contrary to the latter, we model the occurrence of species in the J quadrats (not only in the sampled quadrats), and we do not assume that the sampled quadrats are independent,

which is mathematically incorrect, as shown in this paper.

The model  $M_0$  can actually be viewed as the correct version of the Dorazio and Royle model (in its homogeneous version). We show that using the DR model to estimate S, and therefore ignoring the number of quadrats in which R has been divided, comes down to use the model  $M_0$  as if  $J = +\infty$ . Even for relative large values of J, the error resulting from the use of the DR's model (instead of  $M_0$ ) may be important; it is the case if the population is composed of spatially rare species and hard to detect. We note that our conclusions agree, in a way, with those of Mingoti and Meeden (1992) who observed that approaches which ignore J, as the Jacknife and the bootstrap estimators, can perform poorly. Finally, we are of the same opinion as these authors when they claim that any reasonable statistical analysis should a priori include J in the model.

Compared now with the unconditional approach of Dupuis and Joachim (2006), the one developed here has the advantage to apply, as well as to informative as to non informative set-ups, while the first one requires some prior information on not detected species, which is not always available in practice.

Being able to model the occurrence of species in the whole region R allows us to estimate quantities of biological interest which were out of reach before, such as the number of species present in any subregion of R. In fact, the MCMC algorithm implemented in this paper, which takes advantage of the missing data structure of quadrat sampling data, will allow us to tackle more complex problems, as estimating the number of species shared by two (or more) distinct subregions of R; this problem, said to be difficult, has been solved by Chao et al. (2000), but only when data consist of a sample of individuals (not of a sample of quadrats) and when the region R has been divided into two subregions.

The homogeneous model  $M_0$  is a basic one, which has turned out to be a suitable framework for showing the importance of introducing J in species richness modelling. Of

course, subsequent work will have to focus on more complex models. From this point of view, the model  $M_0$  can be taken as a starting point. For example, the methodology developed in this paper easily extends to models including heterogeneity at a species and/or spatial level. This extension is the subject of a work in progress. Other extensions of biological interest are equally possible. For example, a challenging problem would be to develop a model for estimating the species richness of an animal population within which predator-prey relationships exist.

# Appendix A1

Let  $z_s(a)$  be a vector extracted from  $z_s$  of length  $J_a$ . We partition  $z_s$  in  $z_s(a)$  and  $z_s(b)$ ; hence  $p(z_s(a)) = \sum_{z_s(b)} p(z_s(a), z_s(b))$ . By observing that this sum is over all the possible values of  $z_s(b)$  when  $z_s(a) \neq \vec{0}$ , and over all the possible values of  $z_s(b)$ , apart from  $\vec{0}$ , when  $z_s(a) = \vec{0}$  (due to the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ ), it is easy, by using (3.1), to establish that:

$$p(z_s(a)|\varphi) = \frac{\varphi^{|z_s(a)|} (1 - \varphi)^{J_a - |z_s(a)|}}{1 - (1 - \varphi)^J}$$

if  $z_s(a) \neq \vec{0}$ , and  $[(1-\varphi_s)^{J_a} - (1-\varphi)^J] / [1-(1-\varphi)^J]$  otherwise. Afterwards, the conditioning on  $\varphi$  is omitted, for convenience.

Let  $z_s(c)$  be a vector extracted from  $z_s$  of length  $J_c$  and different from  $\vec{0}$ . Starting from

$$p[z_s(a)|z_s(c)] = \frac{p(z_s(a), z_s(c))}{p(z_s(c))},$$

and by applying the above result to the vectors  $(z_s(a), z_s(c))$  and  $z_s(c)$ , we have:

$$p[z_s(a), z_s(c)] = \frac{\varphi^{|z_s(a)| + |z_s(c)|} (1 - \varphi)^{J_a - |z_s(a)| + J_c - |z_s(c)|}}{1 - (1 - \varphi)^J}$$

and  $p[z_s(c)] = \left[\varphi^{|z_s(c)|}(1-\varphi)^{J_c-|z_s(c)|}\right]/\left[1-(1-\varphi)^J\right]$  from which we deduce that:

$$p[z_s(a)|z_s(c) \neq \vec{0}] = \varphi^{|z_s(a)|} (1 - \varphi)^{J_a - |z_s(a)|}.$$

Similarly, one has  $p[z_s(b)|z_s(c) \neq \vec{0}] = \varphi^{|z_s(b)|}(1-\varphi)^{J_b-|z_s(b)|}$  and

$$p[z_s(a), z_s(b)|z_s(c) \neq \vec{0}] = \varphi^{|z_s(a)| + |z_s(b)|} (1 - \varphi)^{J_a - |z_s(a)| + J_b - |z_s(b)|},$$

from which we deduce the result.

# Appendix A2

• Due to the assumption A1, the random variables  $y_1, \ldots, y_S$  are independent (conditionally on  $\theta$ ). They are also identically distributed, since q and  $\varphi$  do not depend on s. Consequently,

$$(n_1, \ldots, n_h, \ldots, n_H)|S, \lambda \sim \text{Multinomial}(S, \lambda)$$

where  $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_h, \dots, \lambda_H)$  and  $\lambda_h = \Pr(y_s = h | \varphi, q)$ ; hence (3.2). Afterwards, the conditioning on  $(\varphi, q)$  is omitted, for convenience.

• We first calculate  $p(y_s)$ , as a function of q and  $\varphi$ , for any  $y_s \neq \vec{0}$ . We set:

$$\rho_s = \prod_{j=1}^T \left( \begin{array}{c} K \\ y_{sj} \end{array} \right).$$

Given  $y_s$ , we partition the vector  $z_s$  in  $z_s^{obs} = \{z_{sj}|y_{sj} \neq 0\}$  and  $z_s^{mis} = \{z_{sj}|y_{sj} = 0\}$ ; so, we can write:

$$p(y_s) = \sum_{z_s^{mis}} p(y_s, z_s^{mis}) = \sum_{z_s^{mis}} p(x_s | z_s^{obs}, z_s^{mis}) p(z_s^{obs}, z_s^{mis}).$$

 $z_s^{mis}$  can itself be partitioned into  $z_1^{mis}(s)$  and  $z_2^{mis}(s)$ ;  $z_1^{mis}(s)$  including the missing  $z_{sj}$ 's where j is a sampled quadrat, and  $z_2^{mis}(s)$  including those where j is an unsampled quadrat. Hence, dropping afterwards the index s (for simplicity of notation), we have:

$$p(y) = \sum_{z_1^{mis}, z_2^{mis}} p(x|z^{obs}, z_1^{mis}) \quad p(z^{obs}, z_1^{mis}, z_2^{mis})$$
 (1)

where  $z_2^{mis} \in E^{J-T}$  and  $z_1^{mis} \in E^{T-|z^{obs}|}$ . The normalizing constant which appears in the expression of p(z), namely  $[1-(1-\varphi)J]^{-1}$ , is afterwards, denoted by c. Taking into account

that:

$$p(z^{obs}, z_1^{mis}, z_2^{mis}) = c \varphi^{|z^{obs}| + |z_1^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z^{obs}| - |z_1^{mis}|} \times \varphi^{|z_2^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{J - T - |z_2^{mis}|}$$

and that

$$p(x|z^{obs}, z_1^{mis}) = \rho q^{|x|} (1 - q)^{K|z^{obs}| - |x|} \times (1 - q)^{K|z_1^{mis}|}$$

|x| represents the total number of times that the presence of species s has been detected during the experiment, we deduce that:

$$p(y) = c \rho \sum_{z_1^{mis}} \varphi^{|z^{obs}| + |z_1^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z^{obs}| - |z_1^{mis}|} q^{|x|} (1 - q)^{K [|z^{obs}| + |z_1^{mis}|] - |x|}$$

by noting that the double sum (1) over  $(z_1^{mis}, z_2^{mis})$  can be written as the product of two simple sums, one over  $z_1^{mis}$  and the other over  $z_2^{mis}$ , and that:

$$\sum_{z_2^{mis}} \varphi^{|z_2^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{J - T - |z_2^{mis}|} = 1.$$

Hence,

$$p(y) = c \rho \varphi^{|z^{obs}|} q^{|x|} (1 - q)^{K|z^{obs}| - |x|} \sum_{z_1^{mis}} [\varphi(1 - q)^K]^{|z_1^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z^{obs}| - |z_1^{mis}|}$$

from which we deduce the expression (3.3), by observing that

$$\sum_{z^{mis}} [\varphi(1-q)^K]^{|z_1^{mis}|} (1-\varphi)^{T-|z^{obs}|-|z_1^{mis}|} = [\varphi(1-q)^K + (1-\varphi)]^{T-|z^{obs}|}$$

since  $|z_1^{mis}|$  varies from 0 to  $T - |z^{obs}|$ .

• We now calculate  $p(y_s)$  for a not detected species s, that is  $\lambda_0$ . We again start from  $p(y_s) = \sum_{z_s^{mis}} p(y_s, z_s^{mis})$ . Note that now  $z_s^{obs} = \emptyset$  and that  $z_s^{mis} = z_s$ . We partition the set  $z_s^{mis}$  into two parts defined, as before. It is easy to check that:

$$p(y) = c \sum_{z_1^{mis}, z_2^{mis}} (1 - q)^{K|z_1^{mis}|} \varphi^{|z_1^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z_1^{mis}|} \varphi^{|z_2^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{J - T - |z_2^{mis}|}$$
(2)

where index s has been dropped. The previous technique used to calculate p(y) leads here to rather tedious calculations because the spaces in which  $z_1^{mis}$  and  $z_2^{mis}$  takes their values are no longer independent (since  $z_1^{mis}$  and  $z_2^{mis}$  cannot take together the value  $\vec{0}$ ). To get around that computational difficulty, we calculate the double sum appearing in (2) over  $E^T \times E^{J-T}$ , from which we remove the value of the term

$$(1-q)^{K|z_1^{mis}|}\varphi^{|z_1^{mis}|}(1-\varphi)^{T-|z_1^{mis}|}\varphi^{|z_2^{mis}|}(1-\varphi)^{J-T-|z_2^{mis}|}$$

evaluated at  $z = \vec{0}$ . Since  $z = \vec{0} \iff |z| = 0 \iff |z_1^{mis}| = |z_2^{mis}| = 0$ , this value is equal to  $(1 - \varphi)^J$ . The sum over  $E^T \times E^{J-T}$  now decomposes as the product of two independent sums:

$$\sum_{z_2^{mis} \in E^{J-T}} \varphi^{|z_2^{mis}|} (1-\varphi)^{J-T-|z_2^{mis}|}$$

which is equal to 1, and

$$\sum_{z_1^{mis} \in E^T} (1 - q)^{K|z_1^{mis}|} \varphi^{|z_1^{mis}|} (1 - \varphi)^{T - |z_1^{mis}|}$$

which is equal to  $[\varphi(1-q)^K+(1-\varphi)]^T$ . Finally, we obtain:

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{[\varphi(1-q)^K + (1-\varphi)]^T - (1-\varphi)^J}{1 - (1-\varphi)^J}.$$

# Appendix A3

If  $S \sim \text{NegBin } (r, \alpha)$ , where  $r \in ]0, +\infty[$  and  $\alpha \in ]0, 1[$ , let us first recall that its probability mass function is such that:

$$\pi(S|r,\alpha) \propto \frac{\Gamma(r+S)}{S!} (1-\alpha)^S.$$
 (1)

We now express r and  $\alpha$  in terms of E(S) and Var(S). This is easily done by using the well known formulae  $E(S) = r \frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha}$  and  $Var(S) = r \frac{1-\alpha}{\alpha^2}$ , from which we deduce that:

$$r = \frac{[E(S)]^2}{\operatorname{Var}(S) - E(S)} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha = \frac{E(S)}{\operatorname{Var}(S)}.$$
 (2)

If we let  $\operatorname{Var}(S) \longrightarrow +\infty$  in (2) it is clear that, for any fixed E(S),  $\alpha \longrightarrow 0$  and  $r \longrightarrow 0$ . If we now let  $\alpha$  and  $r \longrightarrow 0$  in the right member of (1), it is easy to verify that it tends to 1/S, since  $\Gamma(r+S) \longrightarrow \Gamma(S) = (S-1)!$  and  $(1-\alpha)^S \longrightarrow 1$ .

# Appendix A4

Let  $I\!N_2 = I\!N \setminus \{0,1\}$ . Let  $\theta_1 = (S_1, \varphi_1, q_1)$  and  $\theta_2 = (S_2, \varphi_2, q_2)$  denote any two values of  $\theta \in \Theta = I\!N_2 \times ]0, 1[\times]0, 1[$ . We have to prove the following implication:

$$p(.|\theta_1) = p(.|\theta_2) \Longrightarrow \theta_1 = \theta_2,$$

where the hyptohesis  $p(.|\theta_1) = p(.|\theta_2)$  means that:  $p(\mathbf{y}|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}|\theta_2)$  whatever the data set  $\mathbf{y}$ . We can thus choose any data set  $\mathbf{y}$  (see nevertheless the restriction below); the difficulty being to find suitable and, as far as possible, simple data sets which us allow to prove that  $\theta_1 = \theta_2$ . Let us notice, that conditionally on  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ , a data set  $\mathbf{y}$ , in which d species have been detected, has to satisfied  $d \leq \inf(S_1, S_2)$ . This remark concerns only the fourth data set denoted by  $\mathbf{y}''$  (see later).

• We first prove that the parameter q is identifiable. For that, we consider two particular data sets. In the first one, called  $\mathbf{y}^*$ , only one species has been detected, and it has been detected at each visit (therefore  $|\mathbf{y}^*| = KT$ ). In the second one, called  $\mathbf{y}^{**}$ , again only one species has been detected, and it has been detected at each visit apart from once (therefore  $|\mathbf{y}^{**}| = KT - 1$ ). Using the proposition 3.2, it is easy to check that:

$$p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1) = S_1 \frac{(\varphi_1 q_1^K)^T \left[ (\varphi_1 (1 - q_1)^K + (1 - \varphi_1))^T - (1 - \varphi_1)^J \right]^{S_1 - 1}}{[1 - (1 - \varphi_1)^J]^{S_1}}$$

and that:

$$p(\mathbf{y}^{**}|\theta_1) = S_1 \frac{K \,\varphi_1^T (1 - q_1) q_1^{KT - 1} \, \left[ [\varphi_1 (1 - q_1)^K + 1 - \varphi_1]^T - [1 - \varphi_1]^J \right]^{S_1 - 1}}{[1 - (1 - \varphi_1)^J]^{S_1}}.$$

Now, by hypothesis,  $p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_2)$  and  $p(\mathbf{y}^{**}|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}^{**}|\theta_2)$ ; hence

$$\frac{p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1)}{p(\mathbf{y}^{**}|\theta_1)} = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_2)}{p(\mathbf{y}^{**}|\theta_2)}.$$

After simplification, we obtain:

$$\frac{q_1}{1 - q_1} = \frac{q_2}{1 - q_2}$$

which implies  $q_1 = q_2$ .

• We now prove that  $\varphi$  is identifiable. We introduce a third data set, called  $\mathbf{y}'$ , in which only one species s has been detected and  $y_{sj} = K$  for all the quadrats j, except for one quadrat in which species s has not been detected; otherwise  $|\mathbf{y}'| = K(T-1)$ . Now, using the proposition 3.2, we have:

$$p(\mathbf{y}'|\theta_1) = S_1 \frac{[\varphi_1 q_1^K]^{T-1} [\varphi_1 (1-q_1)^K + 1 - \varphi_1] [[\varphi_1 (1-q_1)^K + 1 - \varphi_1]^T - [1-\varphi_1]^J]^{S_1-1}}{[1 - (1-\varphi_1)^J]^{S_1}}.$$

After simplification, we obtain:

$$\frac{p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1)}{p(\mathbf{y}'|\theta_1)} = \frac{\varphi_1}{\varphi_1(1-q_1)^K + 1 - \varphi_1}.$$

Using now the hypothesis that  $p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_2)$  and  $p(\mathbf{y}'|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}'|\theta_2)$  yields

$$\frac{\varphi_1}{\varphi_1(1-q_1)^K + 1 - \varphi_1} = \frac{\varphi_1}{\varphi_2(1-q_2)^K + 1 - \varphi_2},$$

from which we deduce that  $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2$  (since  $q_1 = q_2$ ).

• To prove that S is identifiable, we use a proof by contradiction. We assume that  $S_2 \neq S_1$ ; for example,  $S_2 > S_1$ . We introduce a new data set, called  $\mathbf{y}''$ , in which  $d = S_1$  species have been detected, and all these species have been detected during each visit. We have:

$$p(\mathbf{y}''|\theta_1) = \frac{[\varphi_1 \, q_1^K]^{TS_1}}{[1 - (1 - \varphi_1)^J]^{S_1}}.$$

and

$$p(\mathbf{y}''|\theta_2) = \begin{pmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{[\varphi_2 q_2^K]^{TS_1} \left[ [\varphi_2 (1 - q_2)^K + 1 - \varphi_2]^T - [1 - \varphi_2]^J \right]^{S_2 - S_1}}{[1 - (1 - \varphi_2)^J]^{S_2}}$$

where the presence of the terms  $[[\varphi_2(1-q_2)^K+1-\varphi_2]^T-[1-\varphi_2]^J]^{S_2-S_1}$  and  $\begin{pmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix}$  in  $p(\mathbf{y}''|\theta_2)$  is an immediate consequence of our assumption  $S_2 > S_1$ .

Considering that  $q_1 = q_2$  and  $\varphi_1 = \varphi_2$ , it is easy to verify that  $p(\mathbf{y}''|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}''|\theta_2)$  implies that

$$\begin{pmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix} = \left[ \frac{1}{\lambda_0} \right]^{S_2 - S_1} \tag{1}$$

where

$$\lambda_0 = \frac{[\varphi(1-q)^K + 1 - \varphi)]^T - (1-\varphi)^J}{1 - (1-\varphi)^J}$$

in which  $q = q_1 = q_2$  and  $\varphi = \varphi_1 = \varphi_2$ .

Moreover, it is straightforward to check that  $p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_1) = p(\mathbf{y}^*|\theta_2)$  implies that

$$\frac{S_2}{S_1} = \left[\frac{1}{\lambda_0}\right]^{S_2 - S_1}.\tag{2}$$

From (1) and (2), we deduce that:

$$\begin{pmatrix} S_2 \\ S_1 \end{pmatrix} = \frac{S_2}{S_1} \tag{3}$$

We set  $n_1 = S_1 - 1$  and  $n_2 = S_2 - 1$ ; note that  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are such that  $n_2 > n_1 \ge 1$  since  $S_2 > S_1 \ge 2$ . It is clear that (3) is equivalent to  $\binom{S_2}{S_1} = 1$ . Now,  $\binom{S_2}{S_1}$  is always > 1 whatever  $n_2 > n_1 \ge 1$  (the verification is immediate); hence the contradiction. (Note that  $\binom{S_2}{S_1}$  is not > 1 when  $n_1 = 0$ , hence the condition  $S \ge 2$  in the terms of our proposition.) It is clear that starting with  $S_2 < S_1$  leads to the same contradiction. Therefore, we conclude that our starting assumption (namely  $S_2 \ne S_1$ ) is false, and that  $S_1 = S_2$  is thus true.

# Appendix A5

- Let s be a detected species; first note that  $z_s^{obs}$  is not empty and is necessarily different from  $\vec{0}$ . Moreover, given  $y_s$ , we can partition  $z_s$  into three parts:  $z_s^{obs}$ ,  $z_s^{mis}(1) = \{z_{sj}^{mis}|j \in \mathcal{T}\}$  and  $z_s^{mis}(2) = \{z_{sj}^{mis}|j \notin \mathcal{T}\}$  where  $\mathcal{T} = \{1, \ldots, T\}$ . Due to Proposition 3.1,  $z_s^{mis}(1)$  and  $z_s^{mis}(2)$  are independent conditionally on  $(y_s, \theta)$  (since  $z_s^{obs} \neq \vec{0}$ ). By using now the first part of Assumption A1, we deduce that the two blocks  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[1]}$  and  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[2]}$  are independent conditionally on  $(\mathbf{y}, \theta)$ .
- Using the same arguments, we deduce that the  $z_{sj}$ 's of  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[2]}$  are independent conditionally on  $(\mathbf{y}, \theta)$ . Thus  $V_m^{[2]}|\mathbf{y}, \varphi, q \sim \text{Bin}((J-T)d, \varphi)$  as the sum of (J-T)d independent Bernoulli  $(\varphi)$  r.v.s.

Using again the same arguments, we deduce that the missing  $z_{sj}$ 's of  $\mathbf{z}_m^{[1]}$  are independent conditionally on  $(\mathbf{y}, \theta)$ . We now calculate the probability  $\gamma = \Pr(z_{sj} = 1 | y_s, \varphi, q)$ , where  $y_s$  is such that  $y_s \neq \vec{0}$  and  $y_{sj} = 0$  since s represents a species which has not been detected in quadrat j. By appling the Bayes formula, we have:

$$\Pr(z_{sj} = 1 | y_s) = \frac{p(y_s | z_{sj} = 1) \Pr(z_{sj} = 1)}{p(y_s | z_{sj} = 1) \Pr(z_{sj} = 1) + p(y_s | z_{sj} = 0) \Pr(z_{sj} = 0)}$$

where  $\varphi$  and q have been omitted in the conditionings (for convenience). Now, as mentioned at the end of Section 3.3, we have:  $\Pr(z_{sj}=1) = \varphi/[1-(1-\varphi)^J]$ . Moreover, it is easy to verify that:  $p(y_s|z_{sj}=1) = (1-q)^T p(y_s|z_{sj}=0)$  (recall that  $y_s \neq \vec{0}$ ). Hence, the expression of  $\gamma$  given in Proposition 3.5. Moreover,  $V_m^{[1]}|\mathbf{y}, \varphi, q \sim \text{Bin}(dT-V, \gamma)$  as the sum of dT-V independent Bernoulli  $(\gamma)$  r.v.s.

 $\bullet$  Let s be a species that is not detected. We start from:

$$p(z_s|y_s = \vec{0}) = \frac{\Pr(y_s = \vec{0}|z_s)p(z_s)}{\Pr(y_s = \vec{0})}.$$

where  $\varphi$  and q have been omitted in the conditionings (for convenience). If  $z_s = \vec{0}$  then  $\Pr(y_s = \vec{0}|z_s = \vec{0}) = 1$  else  $\Pr(y_s = \vec{0}|z_s) = (1 - q)^{K|z_s^*|}$ . Note that this formula holds when

 $z_s = \vec{0}$ . By replacing  $p(z_s)$  by its expression (cf 3.1), and  $\Pr(y_s = \vec{0}) = \lambda_0$  by its own (cf 3.4), we obtain the result.

# Appendix A6

Let us examine the Argument 2, when  $\psi$  depends on j; thus  $\Pr(z_{sj} = 1) = \psi_j$ . For any  $i \in \{1, \ldots, J\}$  we introduce the vector  $z_s^{[i]} = (z_{sj}^{[i]}; j = 1, \ldots, J)$  where  $z_{sj}^{[i]} = 1$  if j = i and zero otherwise. i being fixed, we assume that one wishes to infer on S from the sample  $\mathcal{E}_i$  which includes all the quadrats, except the quadrat i; therefore,  $\mathcal{E}_i$  includes T = J - 1 quadrats. Omitting, for convenience, the conditionings on the  $\psi_j$ 's, we can write:

$$p(z_s^{[i]}) = \Pr(z_{si} = 1|A_i) \times \Pr(A_i)$$

where  $A_i$  denotes the event:  $z_{sj} = 0$  for all  $j \neq i$ . Moreover, due to the constraint  $z_s \neq \vec{0}$ , we have  $\Pr(z_{si} = 1|A_i) = 1$ ; due to the DR assumption of independence, we have  $\Pr(A_i) = \prod_{j \neq i} (1 - \psi_j)$ , from which we deduce that:  $p(z_s^{[i]}) = \prod_{j \neq i} (1 - \psi_j)$ . We now assume that T = J; due to DR assumption of independence, we have  $p(z_s^{[i]}) = \psi_i \prod_{j \neq i} (1 - \psi_j)$  which differs from the value obtained when T = J - 1 (in fact, one has equality if and only if  $\psi_i = 1$ ).

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