Final Examination Part II

Biology 697: Introduction to Computational Data Analysis

12/09/2012

Part II of the Exam: You now have the data that is based on your design of one or more studies for this lake system. Bearing in mind that you have to answer the following two questions:
1) How strong are top down (predation) versus bottom-up (nutrient & food supply) forces in this food web. Feel free to chose any compartment.
2) How does genetics modify the outcome of top-down processes?

please use the data as best you can. Note, the data may or may not conform to your expectations. You also may find in some cases that you do not trust your analysis now that you see how things have played out.

Write-up a brief description of what exactly you did, how you analyzed the data, what you were able to learn from the data with regards to these two questions, and what you could improve for future studies. Be circumspect. Also, feel free to be flexible and change your analytic framework (with justification) as you work with the data. This write-up should be generally accessible. Assume your reader is a general Ecologist audience that will want to know the details of what you are doing and what your results say.

They will also be highly critical of unwarranted conclusions.

Good luck. And Enjoy!