



TC/50/22 Add.  
ORIGINAL : anglais  
DATE : 22 avril 2014

**UNION INTERNATIONALE POUR LA PROTECTION DES OBTENTIONS VÉGÉTALES**

Genève

**COMITE TECHNIQUE**

**Cinquantième session  
Genève, 7 – 9 avril 2014**

ADDITIF


REVISION DU DOCUMENT TGP/8 : DEUXIEME PARTIE : QUELQUES TECHNIQUES UTILISEES DANS  
L'EXAMEN DHS, SECTION 9 : ANALYSE GLOBALE DE L'HOMOGENEITE SUR PLUSIEURS ANNEES  
(METHODE D'ANALYSE COYU)

*Document établi par le Bureau de l'Union*

*Avertissement : le présent document ne représente pas les principes ou orientations de l'UPOV*

L'annexe du présent document contient une copie de la présentation sur les propositions d'amélioration de la méthode COYU (seulement en anglais).


[L'annexe suit]



## Proposed Improvements to COYU

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TWC/50/22



## COYU

**Combined-Over-Year Uniformity Method**

- Ref. TG/1/3, TGP/8, TGP/10

**For quantitative characteristics**

- Mainly for cross-pollinated crops

**Uniformity of candidate compared with comparable varieties**

- Based on standard deviations calculated from individual plant observations
- Takes into account variation between years
- Uses analysis of variance with a moving average adjustment

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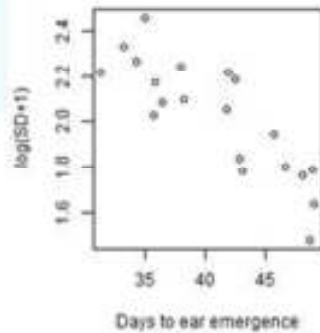
## Adjustment



Variability of measurements often depends on level of expression

- So an adjustment is used to compensate
- Currently the method used is *Moving Average*

Original



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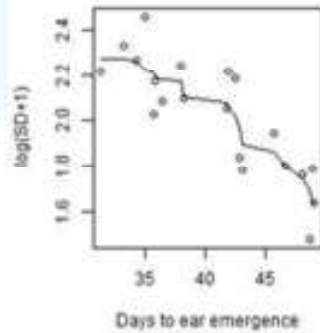
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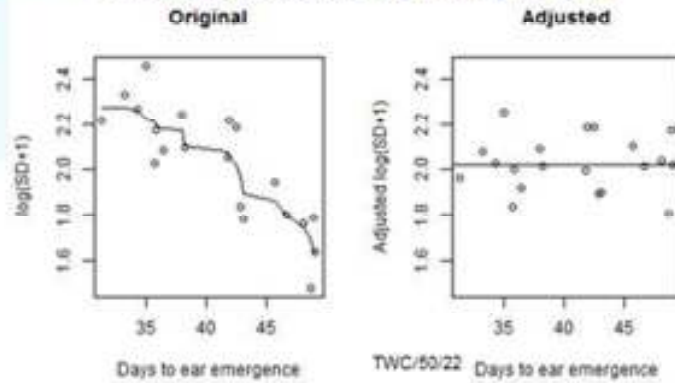
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Variability of measurements often depends on level of expression

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## Concern with current COYU method



Shown that the current method rejects more varieties than it should

- In examples in TWC/27/15, rejection rate was more than 2 times expected

This is due to the method of adjustment (moving average)

In practice, this seems to be partially compensated for by use of smaller probability levels than usual

- Typical probability level for COYD is 1%
- Typical probability level for COYU is 0.1%

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## TWC work on improving COYU



### Considered various alternative methods of adjustment

- Needs to fit relationships between variation and level of expression well
- No bias problem

### Method called "cubic smoothing spline" was found to be suitable

- Flexibility constrained to 4 effective degrees of freedom

### This was demonstrated at TWC last year

- *R* software

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## Issues arising




### Key issues to deal with:

- **Choice of probability levels**
  - Optimise to match decisions with current approach?
- **When a new variety has a level of expression outside that seen in comparable varieties**
  - Also an issue for the current COYU
- **Minimum number of varieties required for COYU**
  - Easier than with moving average

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## Current work



**Developing a demonstration module in DUST**

- Plan to demonstrate at TWC in June 2014

**Ask TWC members to try on their own data**

- Compare with current method

**Survey of use of COYU and software**

- See Annex III
- 7 members from 11 responding use COYU
- Software: DUST, SAS and GenStat
- Useful information for future guidance

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## Suggested next steps



- **Support from TC in 2014?**
- **Further consideration by TWC in 2014 and 2015**
  - Practical experience
  - Software (DUST and alternatives)
  - Technical issues
  - Consideration of implementation
- **Wider consideration by UPOV (TC etc.)**
  - Agree to replace current COYU with proposal?
  - How to do so?

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