

THE ISSUE OF WHAT IS «ECOLOGY» REVISITED

Hosilova Umida Bayotovna

INTRODUCTION

Firstly, the term "ecology" (the science of the house) turned out to be just very successful from a linguistic point of view. Secondly, a person is also a living organism in a relationship with the environment, and his behavior has a very significant impact on Nature. Therefore, from the standpoint of anthropocentrism, ecology is perceived more as a science that "serves" a Person depending on changes in his economic or social status than a natural science discipline.

Then ecology is perceived as a theoretical (biological) basis of interaction in the system "organism(s) – environment"; rational nature management – as a system of exploitation of natural resources and conditions in the most efficient mode, without drastic changes in natural resource potential and while preserving human health (applied ecology); social aspects are manifested in the range from the elementary environmental illiteracy of both the management and the population as a whole, to the perception of global processes from the point of view of the noosphere and sustainable development (socio-ecology). In many ways, these ideas are consonant with the ideas of Yu . Odum, expressed in the epilogue of the generalizing monograph "Ecology" [46, vol. 2, p. 247]: "When the "science of home" (ecology) and the science of "housekeeping" (economics) merge, and when the subject of ethics expands its boundaries and includes, along with the values produced by man, the values created by the environment, then we can actually become optimists about the future of humanity."

In fact (in recent years, many researchers have paid attention to this [3, 4, 7, 57, 59, 60]), all the definitions given fall into three groups, which is confirmed by the results of factor analysis (see Figure). To carry out the latter, each definition was "divided" into some constructions, a complete list of which was compiled by the feature space. As an example of such a "division", I will demonstrate this process on definition No. 17 [53, p. 320] "Ecology is the science of the relationship of organisms and the communities formed by them, or biocenoses, with the environment, about the adaptability of organisms and biocenoses to environmental conditions and about the contradictions of organisms and biocenoses with the environment (living and dead)". The constructions will be: doi (alive and dead)". The constructions will be:

- the relationship of organisms with the environment;
- the relationship of communities (biocenoses) with the environment;
- adaptability of organisms to the environment (abiotic);
- adaptability of organisms to the environment (biotic);
- adaptability of communities to the environment (abiotic);
- adaptability of communities to the environment (biotic);
- contradictions of organisms with the environment (abiotic);
- contradictions of organisms with the environment (biotic);
- contradictions of communities with the environment (abiotic);
- contradictions of communities with the environment (biotic).

These characteristics are present in the definition No. 17 and in the binary system get the value 1; there are no other signs from the general list, therefore, their value is 0. In the future, the matrix of correlations between all definitions is determined (80×80) and factor analysis is carried out (for example, by the method of principal components [88]).

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