



"iBOL Europe: A regional nexus for the DNA barcoding community"

Monday 28 October, 14:00 – 14:55 CET

BioDiversity Genomics Conference 2024 (BG24)





Skimming at scale
bringing historic collections
into the genomic era

Ben Price



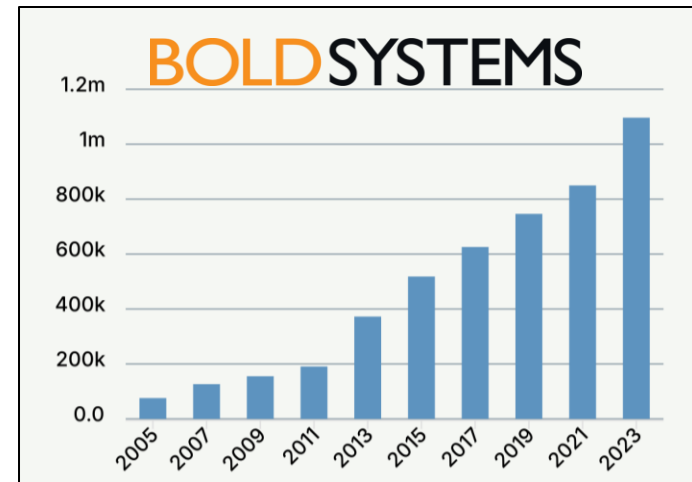
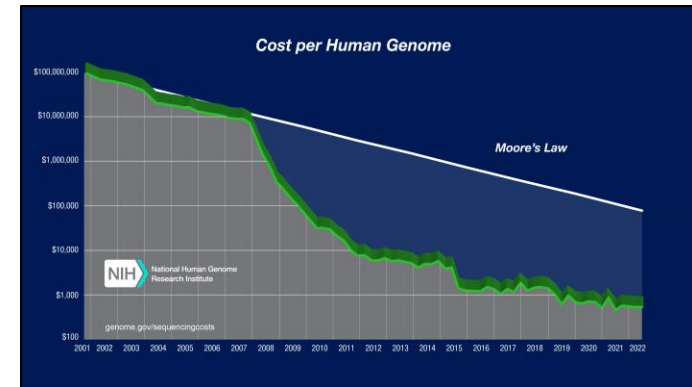
Why museums and why now?

Museums:

- Time travel
- Taxonomic completeness
- Type specimens
- Frontiers of discovery (new species)

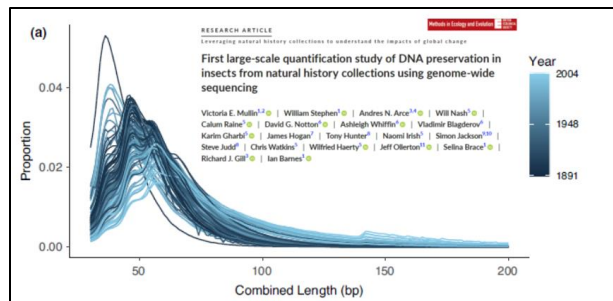
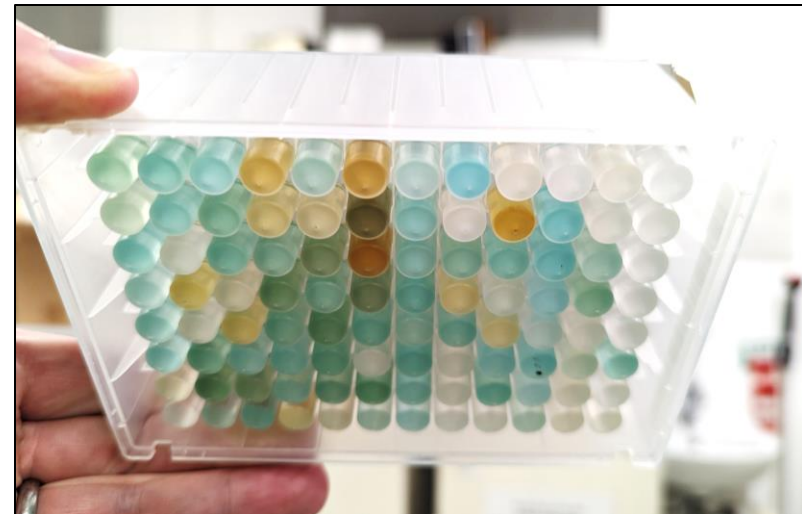
Timing:

- Technology (cost per base, automation)
- BINs will outnumber named species by 2029
- Embed BINs into the Linnean framework



Museomic challenges

- Variety in sample quality
- Very little DNA
- DNA highly fragmented
- Contaminants (human, fungal, parasitoids)
- Unknown preservation history
- Balance current vs future use
- Complex Nagoya Protocol (ABS) landscape



Approaches – amplicons

- Multiple PCRs target short fragments
- Varied success (50 – 80%)
- Costs €25 per sample (incl. lab staff)
- Recovers a single gene

A SMRT approach for targeted amplicon sequencing of museum specimens (Lepidoptera)—patterns of nucleotide misincorporation

Jacopo D'Ercole^{1,2,*}, Sean W.J. Prosser^{1,*} and Paul D.N. Hebert^{1,2}

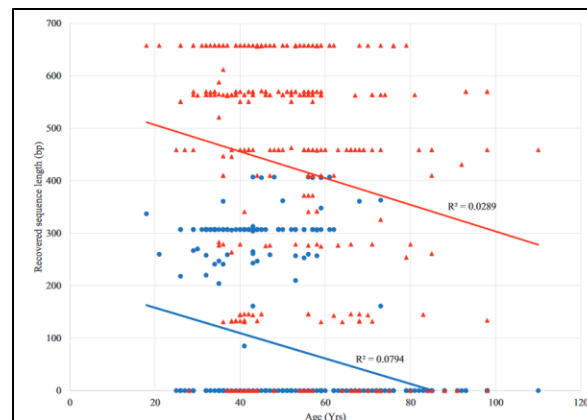
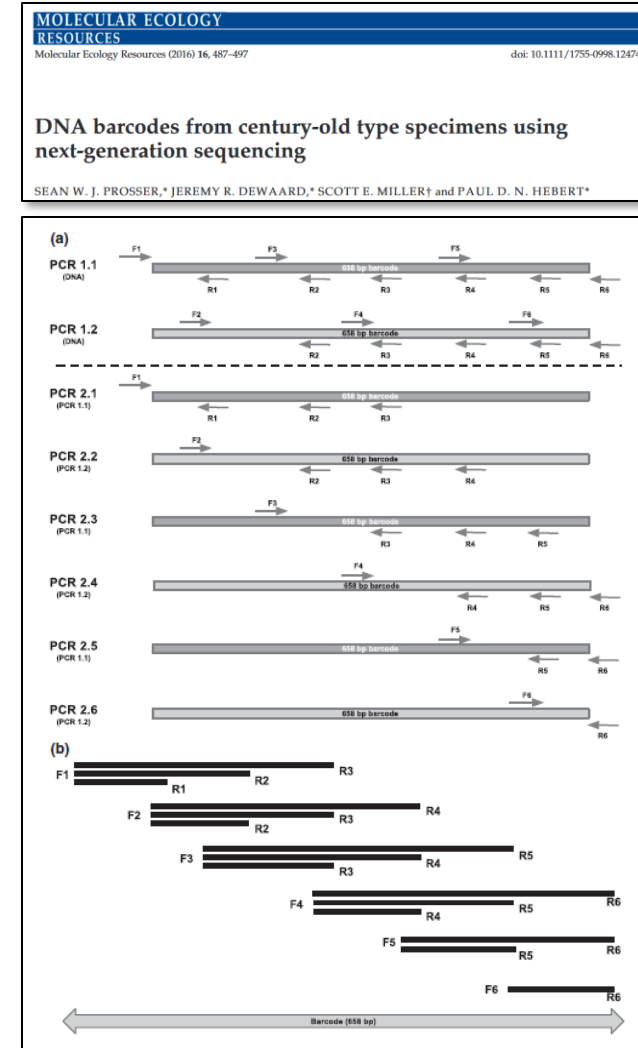
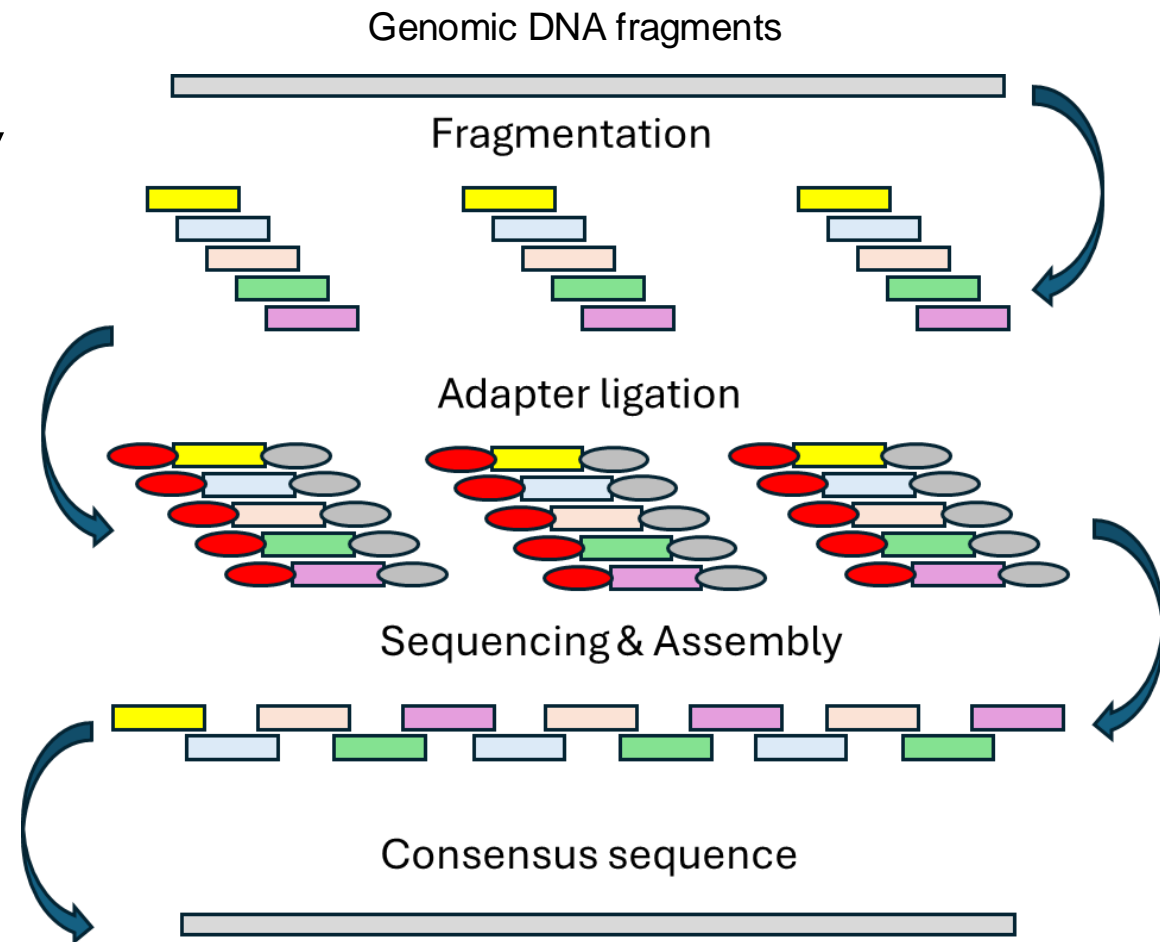


Figure 2 Relationship between length of the COI sequence recovered and age of the source specimen with Sanger (blue) and SMRT sequencing (red). Trend lines and R^2 values are shown. Full-size [DOI: 10.7717/peerj.10420/fig-2](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj.10420/fig-2)



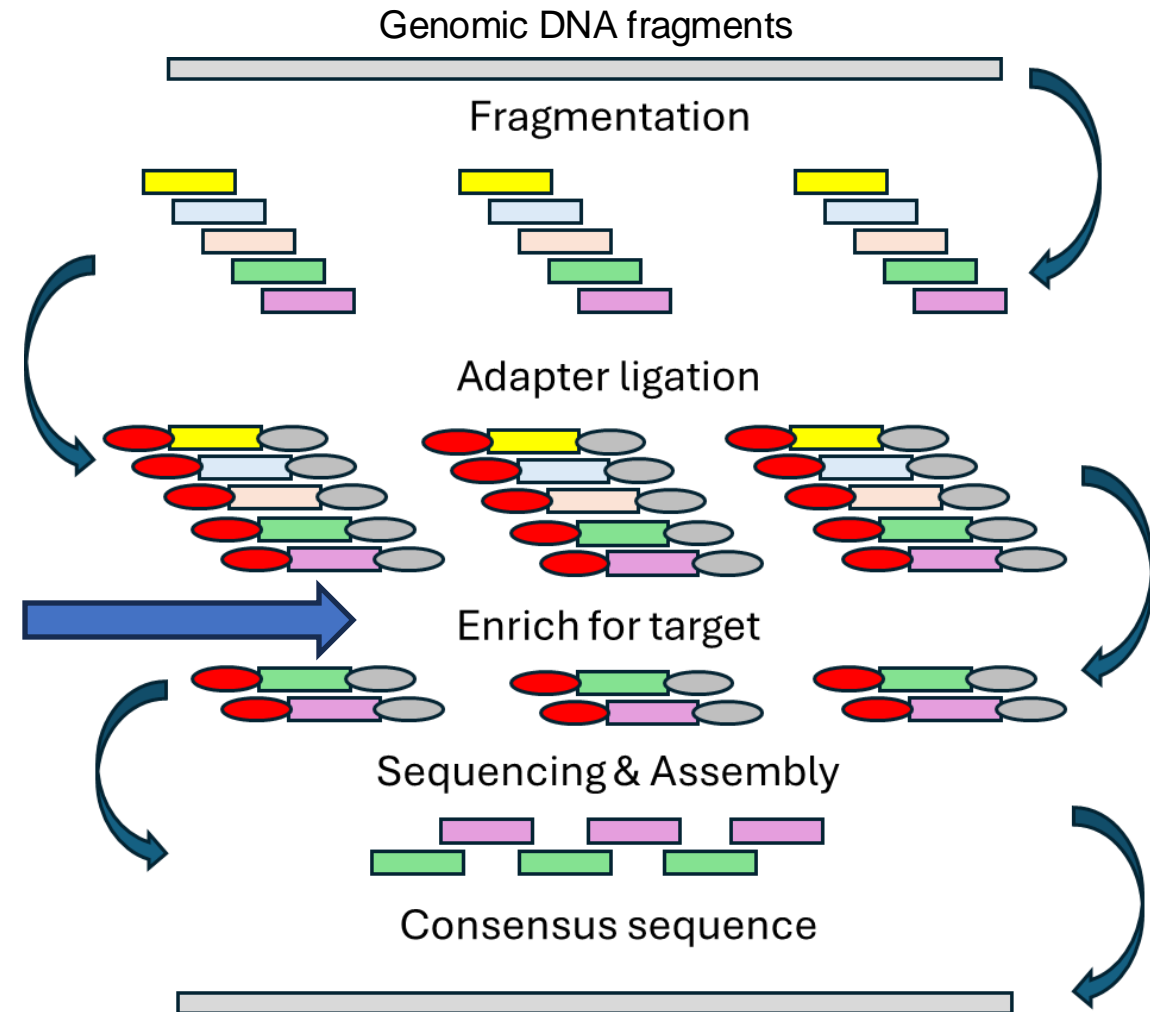
Approaches – genome skimming

- Low coverage whole genome sequencing
- €15–30 depending on genome size
- ~70% successful barcode recovery
- Sequence all DNA (good & bad)
- High copy nuclear/organelle genes
- Revisit DNA library



Approaches – target enrichment

- Targeted genome sequencing
- Similar prep cost to WGS
- Needs capture probes
- Less sequencing required
- Better target recovery
- Not representative of the genome



Current approach

Reduce reagents and increase throughput

- Tissue sampling:
 - Minimal tissue used (balance future use)
 - Prevent cross contamination
- Extraction
 - Modified aDNA (Kingfisher APEX)
 - Reduced volumes
 - Non-destructive
 - Cost = € 0.70
 - [Protocols.io](https://www.protocols.io)



Current approach

Reduce reagents and increase throughput

- Library building:

- Reduced volume kit (NEB)
- DIY forensic approach (SCR)
- Cost = €8 - 12



- Sequencing:

- Dual unique indexing
- 380 samples per NovaSeq 25B lane
- Cost = € 8 (€1.50 per M reads; aim: 5-10M)



Current approach

Reduce reagents and increase throughput



MOLECULAR ECOLOGY RESOURCES

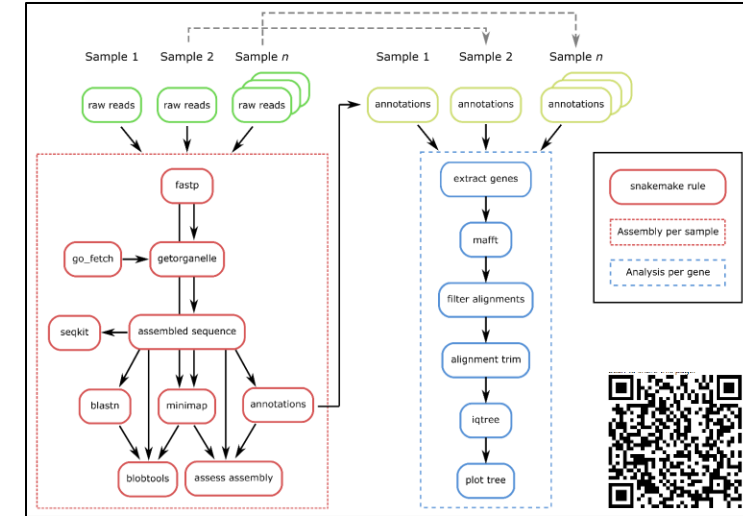
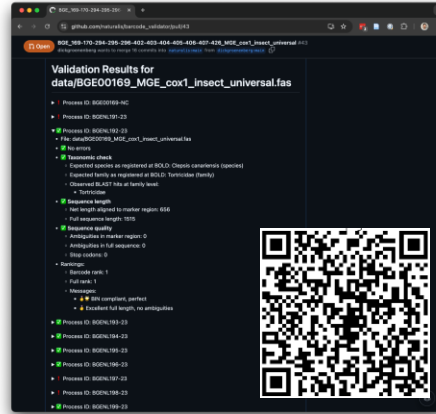
RESOURCE ARTICLE

A Snakemake Toolkit for the Batch Assembly, Annotation and Phylogenetic Analysis of Mitochondrial Genomes and Ribosomal Genes From Genome Skims of Museum Collections

Oliver W. White, Andie Hall, Ben W. Price, Suzanne T. Williams, Matthew D. Clark

- Bioinformatics:

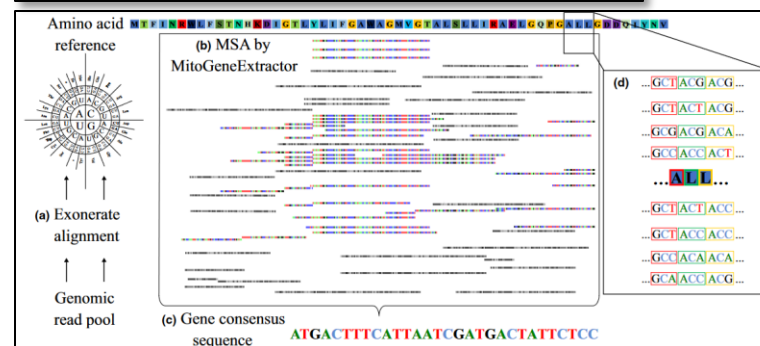
- Testing several pipelines
 - MGE
 - skim2mito
 - Barcode validator (bot for QC)
- Upscaling target references
 - “Gene Fetch” & “Go Fetch” scripts
- HPC resource & storage
 - Upscale NCBI / ENA upload



APPLICATION

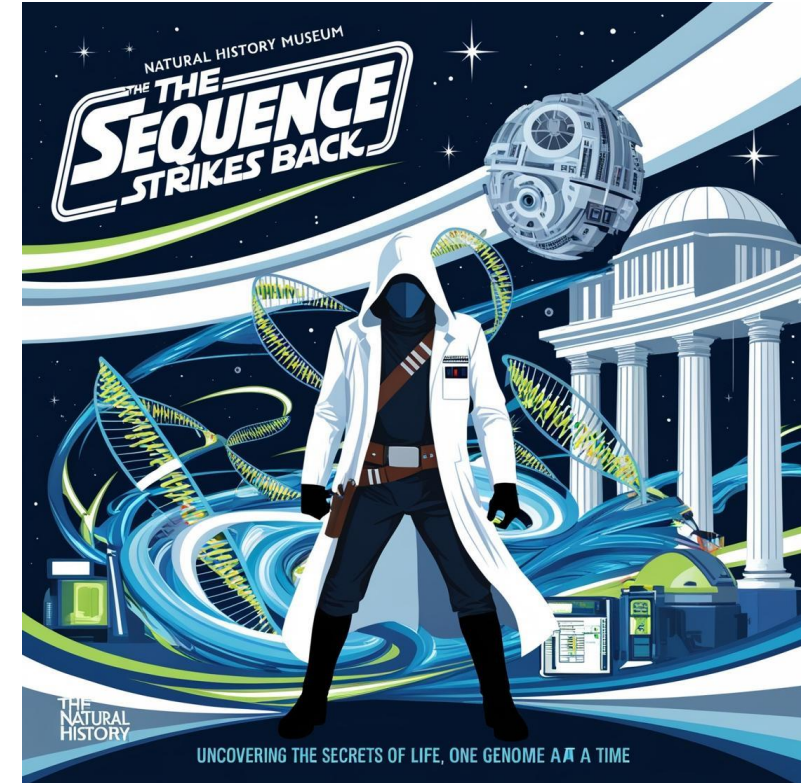
MitoGeneExtractor: Efficient extraction of mitochondrial genes from next-generation sequencing libraries

Marie V. Brasseur | Jonas J. Astrin | Matthias F. Geiger | Christoph Mayer



Lessons learnt

- Difficult to predict success
- Dedicated facilities if possible
- Robotic implementation takes time
- Don't always need robots →
- Quick wins = reduce volume / DIY
- Current cost = €20 excl. staff
- 2-person team = 8 plates per month
 - Adds €20 per sample!



Looking ahead

- Refine protocols (consumable costs)
- Reduce plastic waste (cost & environment)
- Increase throughput (reduce staff costs)
- Develop assembly / mapping pipelines
 - No single best method at the moment
- Explore the rest of the genomic data



Thanks

- Andie Hall
- Owain Powell
- Stacey Dubbeldam
- Ian Barnes
- Elza Duijm
- Joana Cristovao
- Alyssa Paul
- Carla Gustave
- Jordan Beasley
- SciLifeLab
- **All curators and BGE tissue providers**





Thank you

