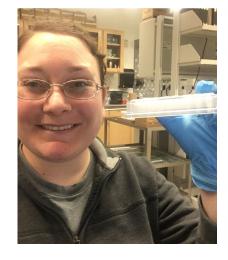


Great Lakes DNA Barcode Reference Library: Mollusca, Annelida, and Minor Phyla



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# The Potential of DNA Barcoding



DNA Barcoding is the use of a short DNA fragment as a genetic tag for species identification



Early detection of species

Including invasive species, nuisance species, rare taxa, etc.



Increase the scope of biological surveillance



Allows taxonomists to focus reference specimens for establishing reliable databases versus routine identification (Valentini, Pompanon, and Taberlet 2009)



Helps distinguish species that are: (Decaëns et al. 2013)

Morphologically similar
High in phenotypic variability
Ambiguous juvenile stages
Damaged

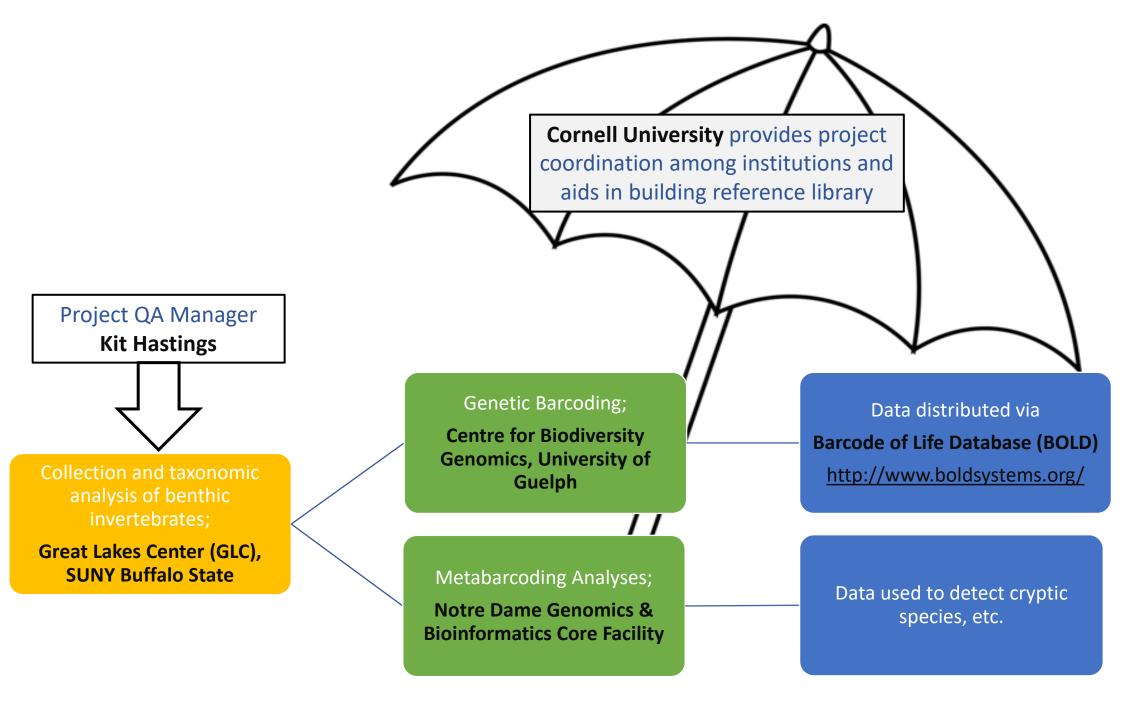


# Barcode frequency distribution (%) 20 hibians 200Ps tifers and Insects Amphibians Trebitz et al. 2015 Sci. Rep. 5:12162.

# **Project Goals**

- Generate voucher collection with high quality photos
- Clear up common taxonomic questions
- Identify locations with cryptic species to describe new species (Metabarcoding)
- Fill in the gaps of missing taxa in genetic barcode reference libraries (Genetic Barcoding)







# In the Beginning

Phylum	Total by Trebitz (2015)	Synonyms	Valid	Still need barcodes	Percentage
Annelida	130	15	115	94	3%
Mollusca	148	8	140	76	46%
Bryozoan	7	0	7	7	0%
Cnidarian	3	0	3	2	33%
Kamptozoa	1	0	1	1	0%
Nematomorpha	1	0	1	1	0%
Nemertea	1	0	1	1	0%
Platyhelminthes	8	0	8	6	25%
Porifera	3	0	3	2	33%
TOTAL	302	23	279	190	32%





- Select GLNPO Long-Term Monitoring Stations (orange, n=27)
  - Nearshore stations (green, n=83)
  - Collaborative exchange of species (yellow and red, n=83)





Field Collection/Preservation

- Collected in 2017-2019
   Spring/Summer/Fall
- Use nets, PONAR, and qualitative methods
- Live picked, preserve in 200 proof ethanol, undiluted, and place on ice
- Replace ethanol after 24 hours, and stored in freezer



## Collaboration



Dr. Valerie Brady (University of Minnesota) shared ~400 specimens of Mollusca and Annelida (Great Lakes Coastal Wetland). In return, we shared over 1000 specimens



Graduate student Adam Frankiewicz (U Minnesota Duluth) collected and sent for genetic analysis 16 of the missing 17 species from the family Pisiidae.



Cornell teams (Lindsay Schaffner, James Watkins, Chris Marshal, Beth Whitmore, Joe Connolly and Lars Rudstam) shared specimens



Mandi Ohar from U.S. FWS shared Annelida from over two years of river/embayment collections



## Taxonomic Experts

- Ronald W. Griffiths, Oregon State University
  - General Taxonomy
- Nadine Rorem, Wheaton College
  - Cnidaria
- Arthur Bogan, NC Museum of Natural Sciences
  - Unionidae
- Timothy S. Wood, Bryo Technologies LLC
  - Bryozoa







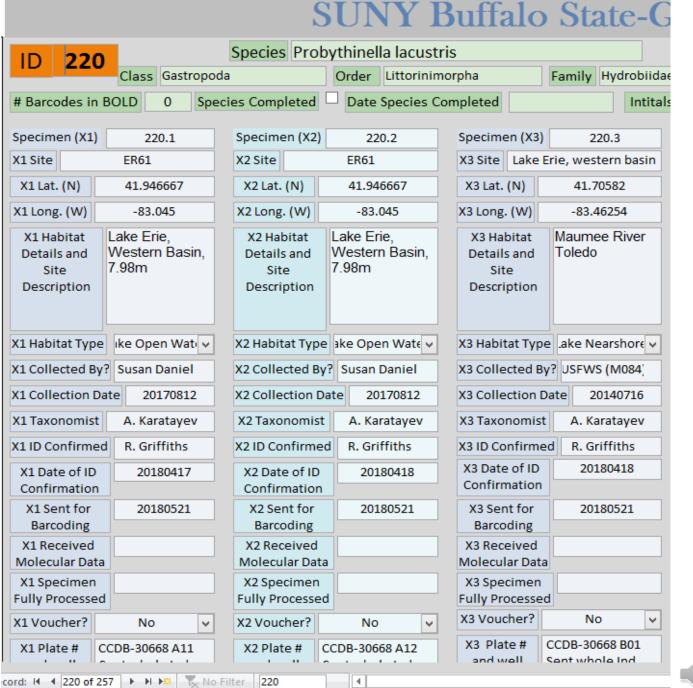
Taxonomy and Classification

- Taxonomists use standard keys widely accepted in GL region (i.e. Kathman and Brinkhurst, 1998; Clarke, 1981; Jokinen, 1992; Smith and Pennak, 2001; Klemm, 1985)
- Most species are confirmed by an external taxonomist
- Photos are taken of individuals

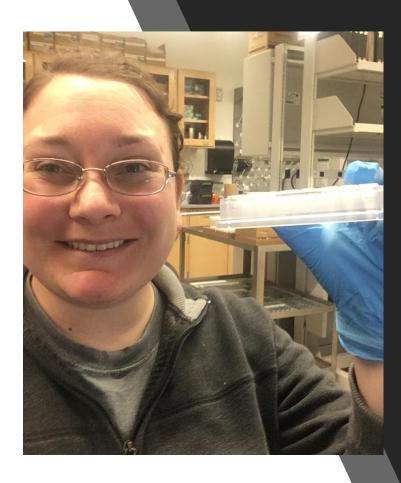


### Data Management

- Developed an Access database
- Automatically assigns species/individual number
- Contains information on species collection, identification by experts, attached photos, sample custody logs, etc.







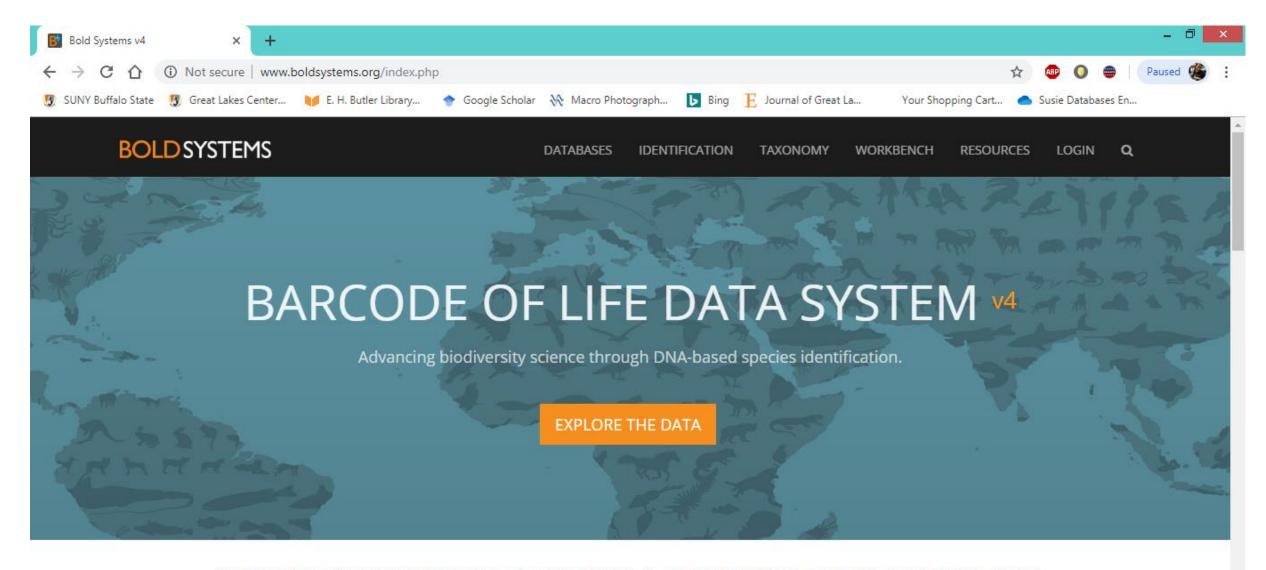
# Preparing microplate

- Taxa organized by primers and lysis buffers
- Submitting a small amount of tissue, or whole individual if < 3 mm</li>
- 96 well-plate (12x8)
- BOLD is provided with information on:
  - sample location
  - collector(s)
  - sampling protocol
  - habitat type
  - taxonomist
  - life stage
  - unique identifiers

\*Things are then shipped to BOLD, and magic happens

\*\* Sequences- Cytochrome Oxidase I (COI)





#### DESIGNED TO SUPPORT THE GENERATION & APPLICATION OF DNA BARCODE DATA

BOLD is a cloud-based data storage and analysis platform developed at the Centre for Biodiversity Genomics in Canada. It consists of four main modules, a data portal, an educational portal, a registry of BINs (putative species), and a data collection and analysis workbench.



Phylum	Beginning	% target species barcoded in BOLD to date based on BSC submission	World-wide % barcoded target taxa May 2020
Annelida	3%	43.5%	55.7%
Mollusca	46%	87.1%	87.1%
Bryozoan	0%	28.6%	71.4%
Cnidarian	33%	100%	100%
Kamptozoa	0%	0%	0%
Nematomorpha	0%	100%	100%
Nemertea	0%	100%	100%
Platyhelminthes	25%	62.5%	62.5%
Porifera	33%	33.3%	33.3%

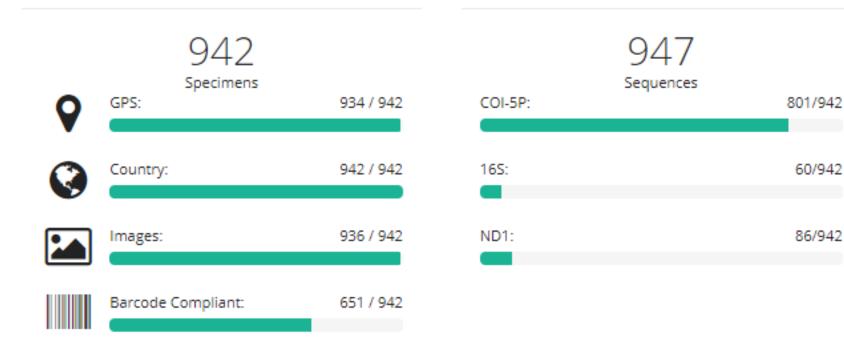
Willy,

## Specimens

### Sequences

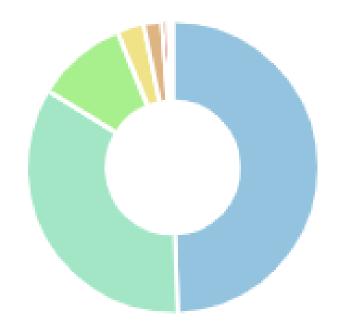
60/942

86/942



- 13 genetic microplates submitted (96 wells)
  - some partial plates
- 942 total specimens
- 801 yielded sequences (85%)
- 651 reached barcode compliance (69%)





Mollusca (phylum): 466

Annelida (phylum): 323

Cnidaria (phylum): 95

Platyhelminthes (phylum): 28

Bryozoa (phylum): 19

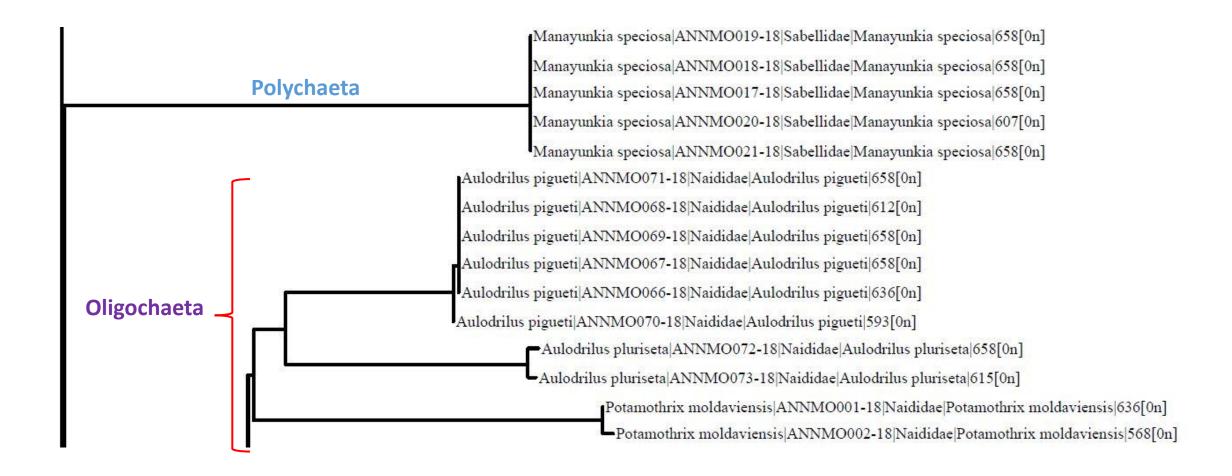
Nematomorpha (phylum): 6

Nemertea (phylum): 5

# Submitted Specimens by Phylum

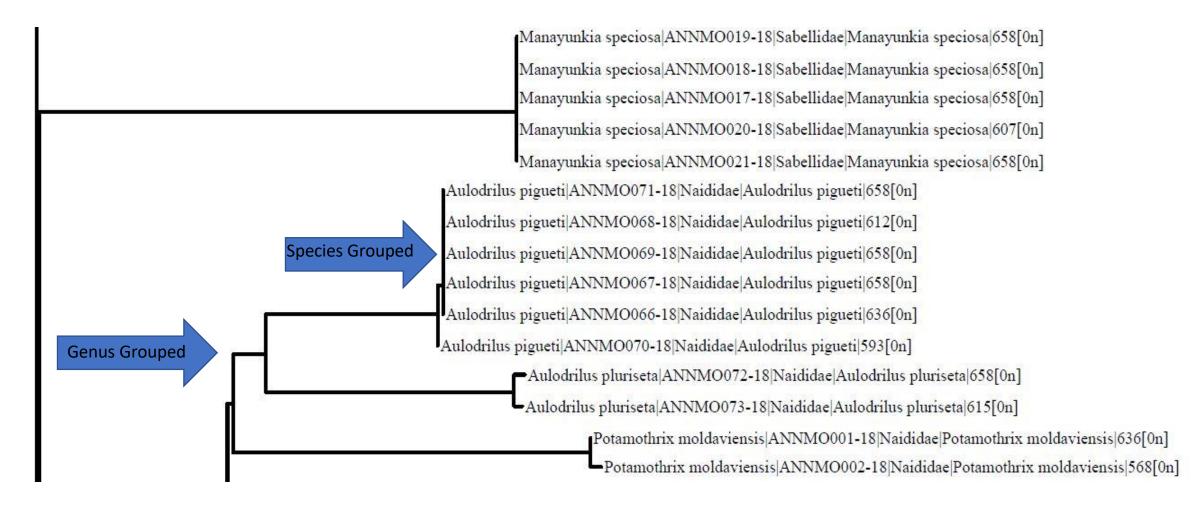


# Sequencing Results Highlight



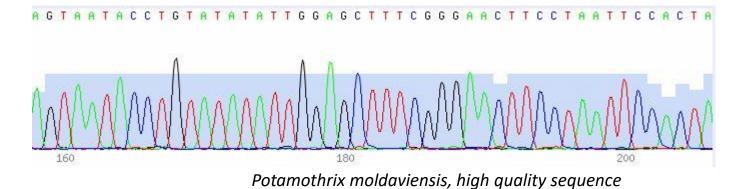


# Sequencing Results Highlight

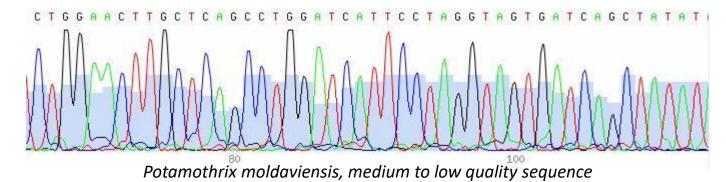




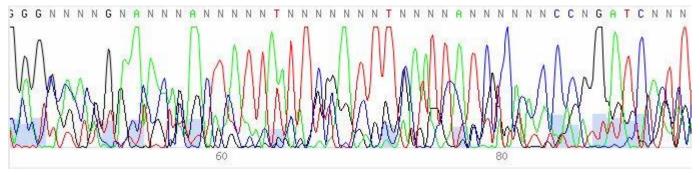
# The Good

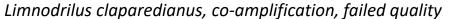


# The Bad



The Ugly





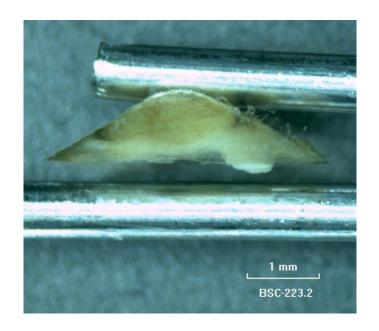


## Continued Work

- Verifying taxonomy in BOLD
- Flagging problematic taxa (see next slide)
- Finalizing Great Lakes Barcoding Reference Library
  - Including an up-to-date list of known species (aquatic invertebrates) within the basin
- Metagenomic sample processing and analysis







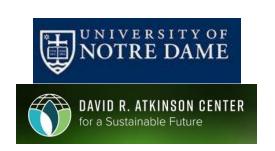


# Challenges

- Handling small, delicate specimens
- Working around the operculum
- Immature oligochaete
- Licensing information for photos
- Props to orient specimens properly... a paperclip can do wonders!

## Acknowledgements

- Funding: U.S. EPA, project "DNA Barcode Reference Library:
   Mollusca, Annelida, and minor phyla" Great Lakes National Program
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- GLC staff (Kit Hastings, Erik Hartnett, Susan Dickinson, and Brianne Tulumello) and students
- Valerie Brady, Adam Frankiewicz and their collaborators
- Mandi Ohar, U.S. FWS



















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