

# Impact of insufficient reference data on marine biodiversity assessment in Te Wāhipounamu/Fiordland (Aotearoa/New Zealand)

Paul Czechowski<sup>1,2</sup> and Michael Knapp<sup>1,3</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Department of Anatomy, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054, Aotearoa / New Zealand;

<sup>2</sup>Helmholtz Institute for Metabolic, Obesity and Vascular Research, Philipp-Rosenthal-Str. 27, 04103 Leipzig, Germany;

<sup>3</sup>Coastal People Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054, Aotearoa / New Zealand

# Thank you

Michel de Lange<sup>1,2b</sup>, Michael Heldsinger<sup>3,4</sup>, Anya Kardailsky<sup>1</sup>, Will Rayment<sup>4,5</sup>, Christopher Hepburn<sup>4,5</sup>, Monique Ladds<sup>6</sup>, + DoC for funding

<sup>1</sup>Biostatistics Centre, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054, Aotearoa / New Zealand

<sup>2</sup>Pacific Edge, 87 Saint David Street, Dunedin 9016, Aotearoa / New Zealand

<sup>3</sup>RPS Group, 27-31 Troode Street, West Perth WA 6005, Australia

<sup>4</sup>Department of Marine Science, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054, Aotearoa / New Zealand,

<sup>5</sup>Coastal People Southern Skies Centre of Research Excellence, University of Otago, PO Box 56, Dunedin 9054, Aotearoa / New Zealand

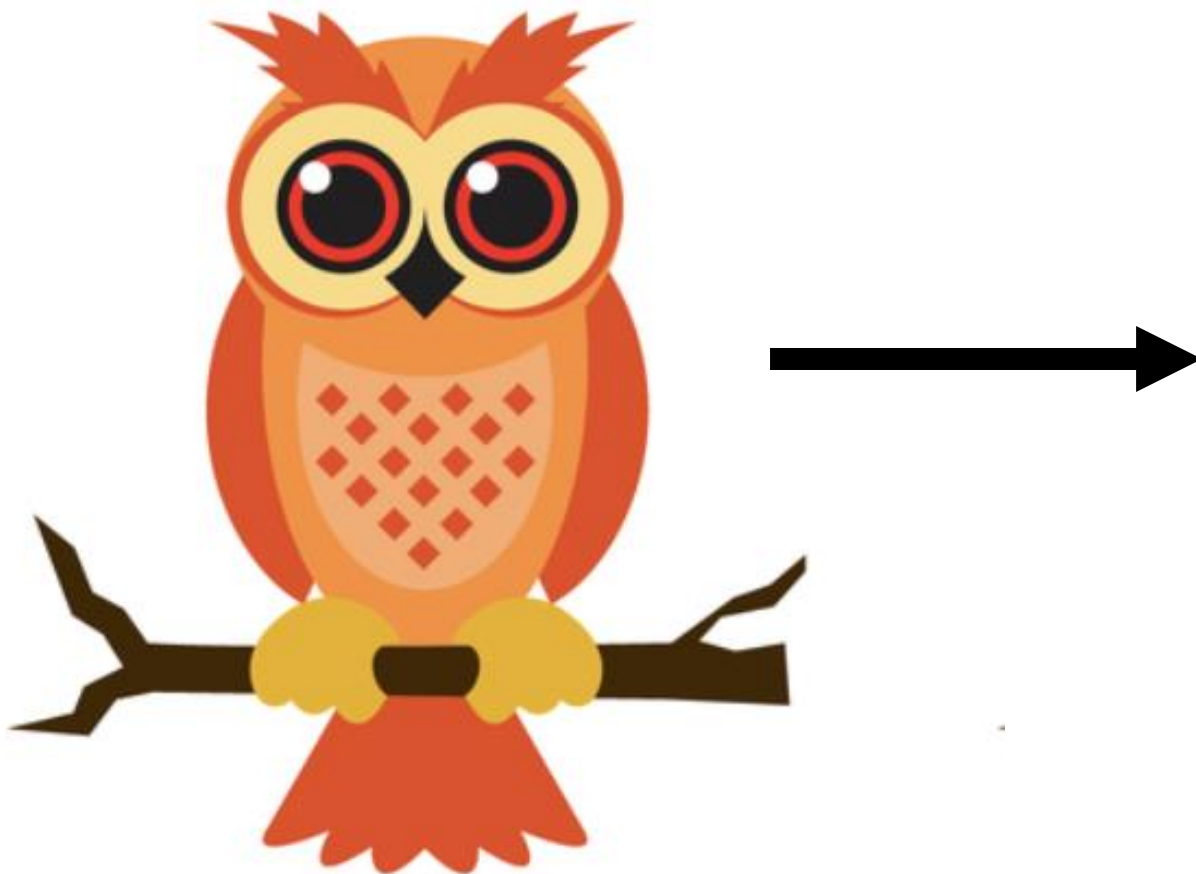
<sup>6</sup>Department of Conservation, PO Box 10 420, Wellington 6143, Aotearoa / New Zealand.



Department of Anatomy  
School of Biomedical Sciences



# Disclaimer

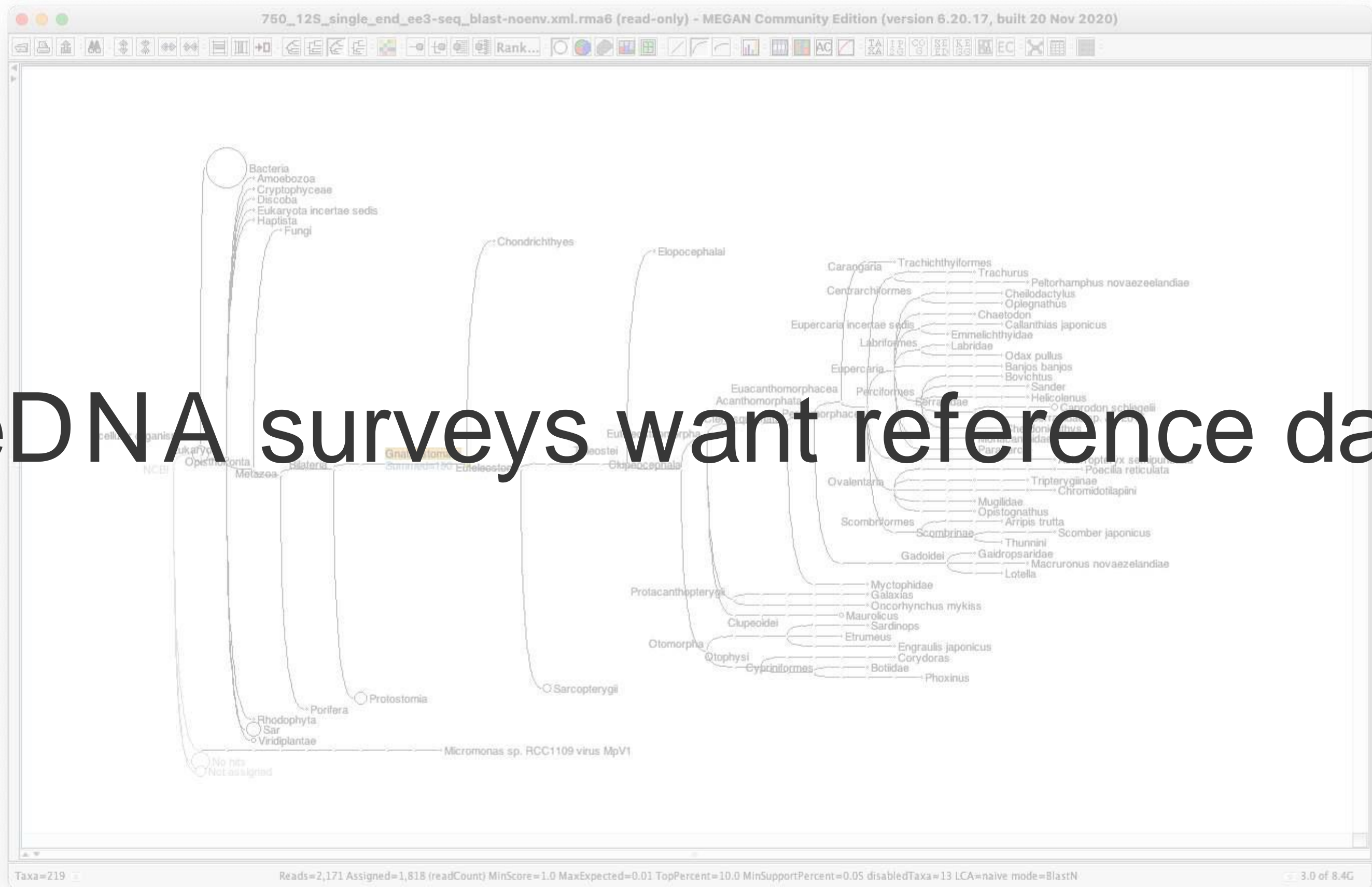


Department of Anatomy  
School of Biomedical Sciences



By Alexander Popkov  
([engineerontour.com](http://engineerontour.com)) -  
Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0,

eDNA surveys want reference data



Inspector - 750\_12S\_single\_end\_ee3-seq\_blast-noenv.xml.rma6 - MEGAN Community Edition (version 6.20.17, built 20 Nov 2020)

TA TA IP CO SE KE EC  
XA 2G G ED GG

- 750\_12S\_single\_end\_ee3-seq\_blast-noenv.xml.rma6
  - Taxonomy
    - Caprodon schlegelii [25]
      - 140db74efe483829a2d01ac61684c1b1 [length=168, matches=5]
        - DATA[length=168]
        - Caprodon schlegelii; score=282.0
          - >Caprodon schlegelii mitochondrial gene for 12S rRNA, partial sequence, specimen\_voucher: KAQ(Kyoto Aquarium)-P00033
          - >gi|906357666|dbj|AB974526.1| Caprodon schlegelii mitochondrial gene for 12S rRNA, partial sequence, specimen\_voucher: OCF(Okinawa Churashima Foundation)-P20140317-8
          - >gi|1253131597|dbj|LC327102.1| Caprodon schlegelii mitochondrial gene for 12S rRNA, partial sequence, specimen\_voucher: FRLM:39900
          - gi|906357665|dbj|AB974525.1| acc|AB974525
          - Length = 168
          - Score = 282 bits (311), Expect = 0
          - Identities = 163/168 (97%), Gaps = 0/168 (0%)
          - Strand = Plus / Plus
          - Query: 1 CACCGCGTTATACGAGAGACCCAAGTTGAAGGACATCGGCGTAAAGCGTGGTTAAGATAAAAATACAGACTAAAGCCGAACGCATGCAAAGTTGTTATACGCACTCGAAAGTAGGAAGTT 120
          - |||||
          - Sbjct: 1 CACCGCGTTATACGAGAGACCCAAGTTGAAAGACATCGGCGTAAAGCGTGGTTAAGATAAAATATAAACTAAAGCCGAACACATGCAAAGTTGTTATACGCACTCGAAAGTAAGAAGTT 120
          - Query: 121 CAATCACGAAAGTAGCTTTATACCCCTGAACCCACGAAAGCTTTGAAA 168
          - |||||
          - Sbjct: 121 CAATCACGAAAGTAGCTTTATACCCCTGAACCCACGAAAGCTTTGAAA 168
          - > Plectranthias kelloggi azumanus; score=230.0
          - > Plectranthias kelloggi azumanus; score=230.0
          - > Selenanthias analis; score=214.0
          - > Niphon spinosus; score=210.0
          - 31e8a33f3fc272901ff471cbbefd2fa2 [length=168, matches=5]

Rows: 34 2.0 of 8.4G



Department of Anatomy  
School of Biomedical Sciences







Conservation focusses on  
species



GAPeDNA v1.0.1

https://shiny.cefe.cnrs.fr/GAPeDNA/

World maps Extract sequences Infos

Choose a taxon  
Marine fish

Choose a geographic resolution  
Provinces


Choose a mitochondrial position  
12S

Choose a primer pair  
Miya\_12S

Download table

Reference database

Click on a polygon to display the list of corresponding species



A world map with a color scale indicating the percentage of species sequenced in various regions. The scale ranges from 0% (light yellow) to 100% (dark red). A tooltip for Southern New Zealand shows 24% sequenced (119 / 489 species). The map also shows Australia and other regions with varying percentages.

Southern New Zealand  
24 % sequenced  
119 / 489 sequenced species

Percentage of species sequenced  
0  
20  
40  
60  
80  
100

Laafiel | © OpenStreetMap contributors, CC-BY-SA. Tiles courtesy of OpenStreetMap Sweden — Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors

What are consequences of missing reference data?

Choose a taxon

Marine fish

Choose a geographic resolution

Provinces

Choose a mitochondrial position

12S

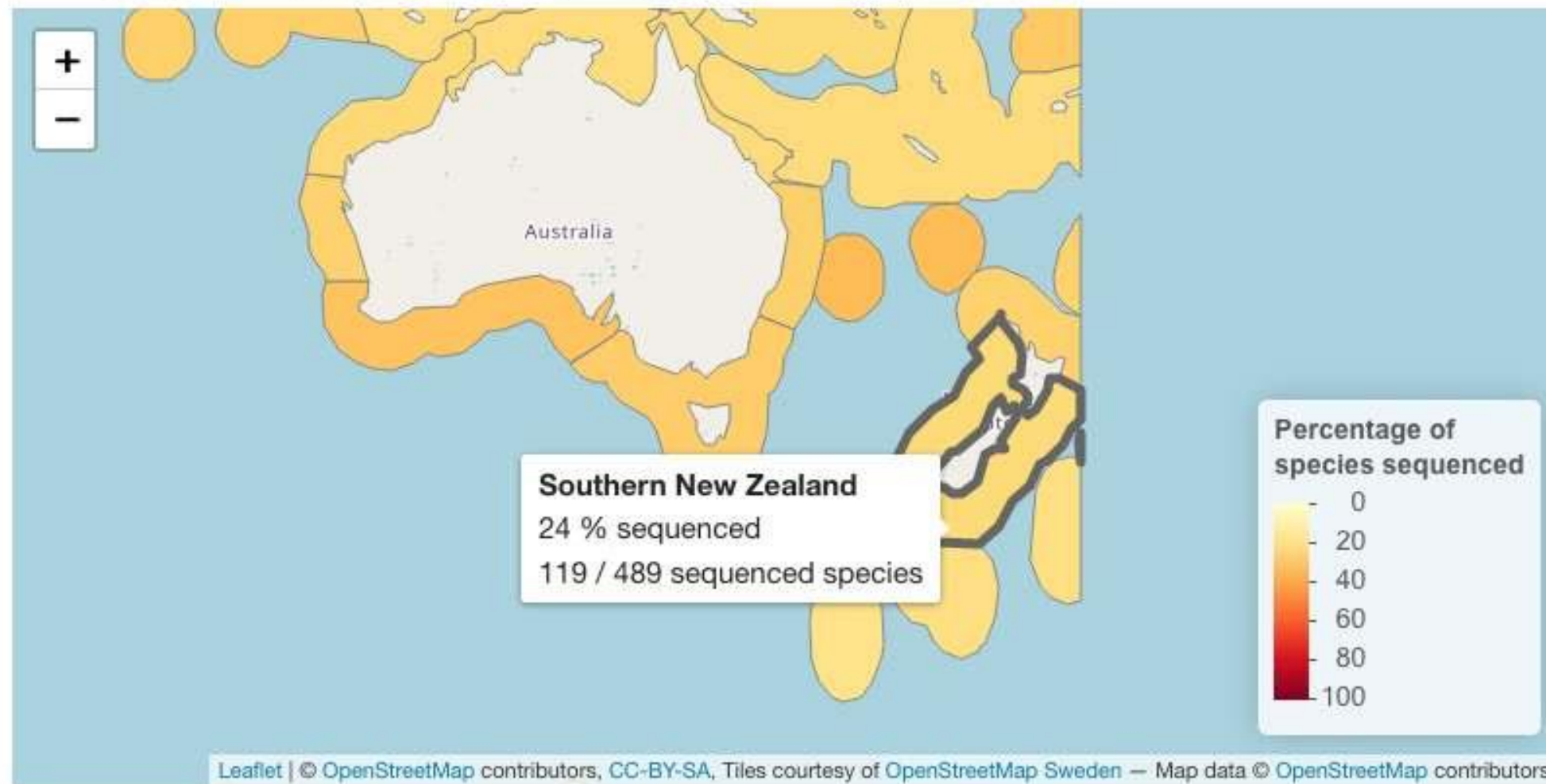
Choose a primer pair

Miya\_12S

Download table

Reference database

Click on a polygon to display the list of corresponding species



The background image is a faded, grayscale photograph of a harbor. In the foreground, the deck of a fishing boat is visible, featuring several large orange buoys and a stack of fishing traps. A crane arm with a hook hangs from the top right. In the middle ground, several fishing boats are docked at a pier. The sky is filled with clouds, and a seagull is seen flying in the upper center. The overall scene is dimly lit, suggesting an overcast day.

# Data collation

## Biodiversity information from Fiordland literature, OBIS, BRUV, eDNA

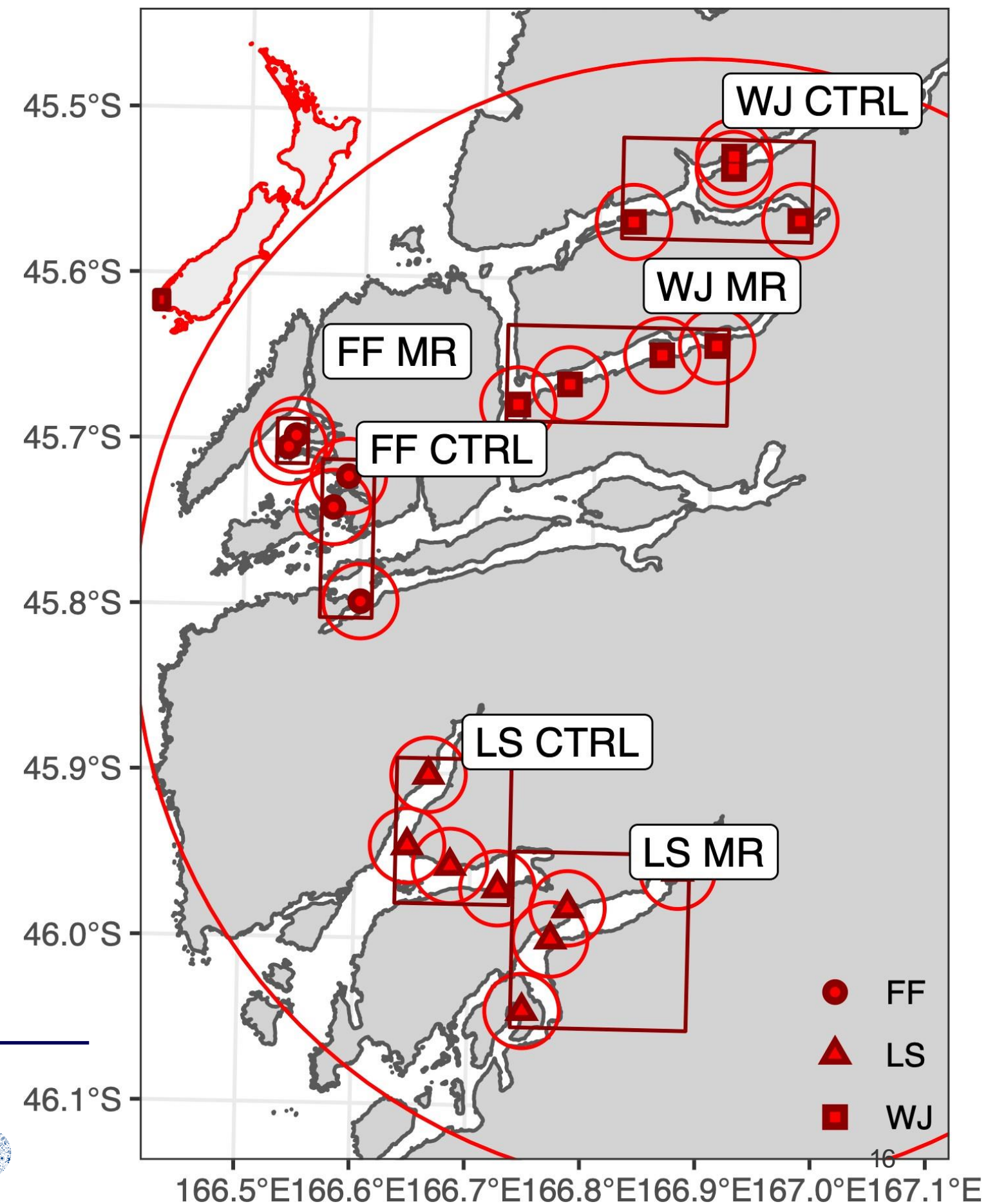
- Concordance of all data sources (order, family, genus, species)
- Sampling effort and species diversity (BRUV, eDNA)
- Good-Turing estimates

## Credibility of environmental DNA information

- Compare eDNA & BRUV assignments to literature
- eDNA alignment qualities

## Possibility of community analysis of field-based-methods

- ANOSIM of species overlap (i.e. Jaccard distances)
- Regression analysis of alignment parameters







## Biodiversity information from Fiordland literature, OBIS, BRUV, eDNA

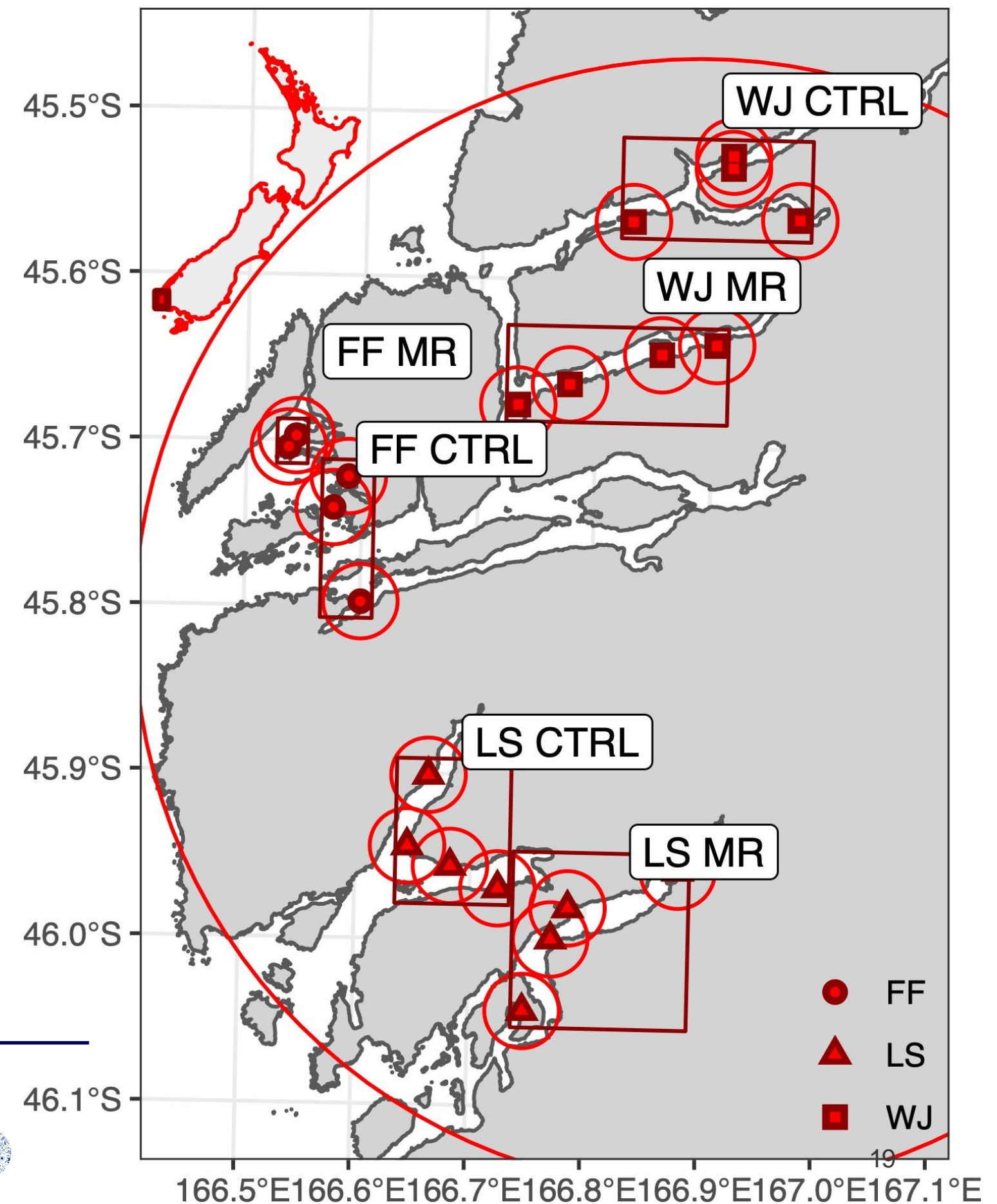
- Concordance of all data sources (order, family, genus, species)
- Sampling effort and species diversity (BRUV, eDNA)
- Good-Turing estimates

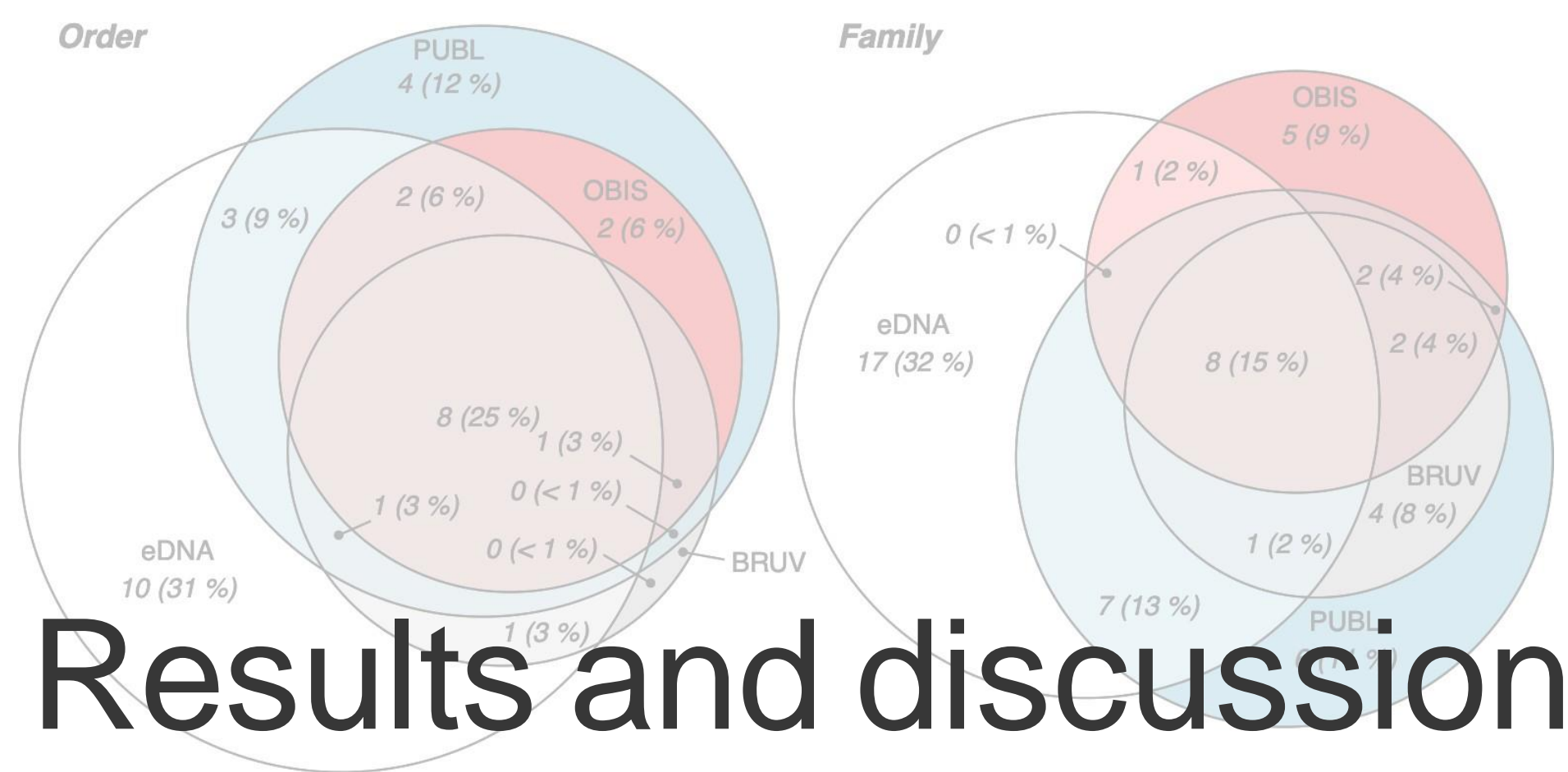
## Credibility of environmental DNA information

- Compare eDNA & BRUV assignments to literature
- eDNA alignment qualities

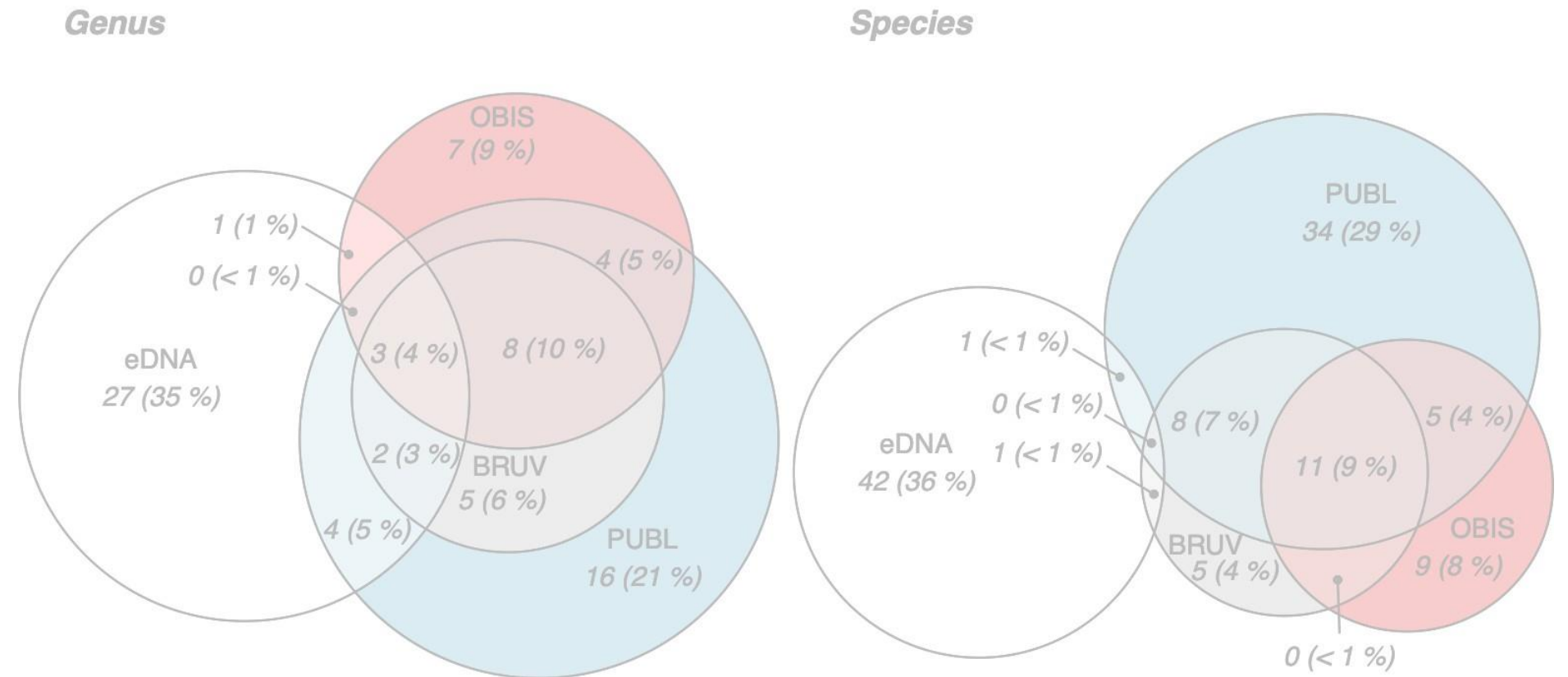
## Possibility of community analysis of field-based-methods

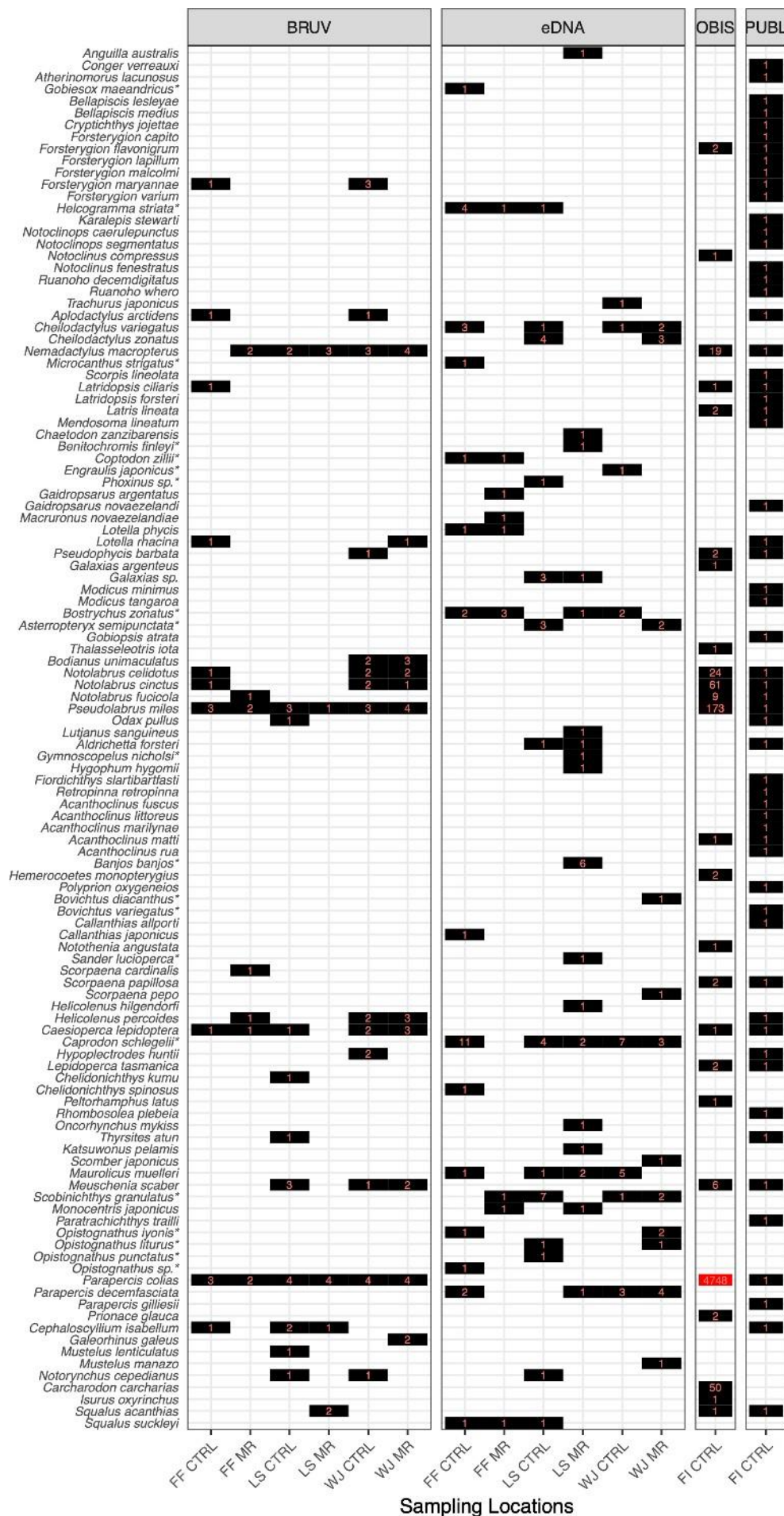
- ANOSIM of species overlap (i.e. Jaccard distances)
- Regression analysis of alignment parameters





# Results and discussion





# Biodiversity information from Fiordland literature, OBIS, BRUV, eDNA

- 59 species for the Fiordland area
- 44 species from eDNA
- 25 species from BRUV
- 25 species from OBIS

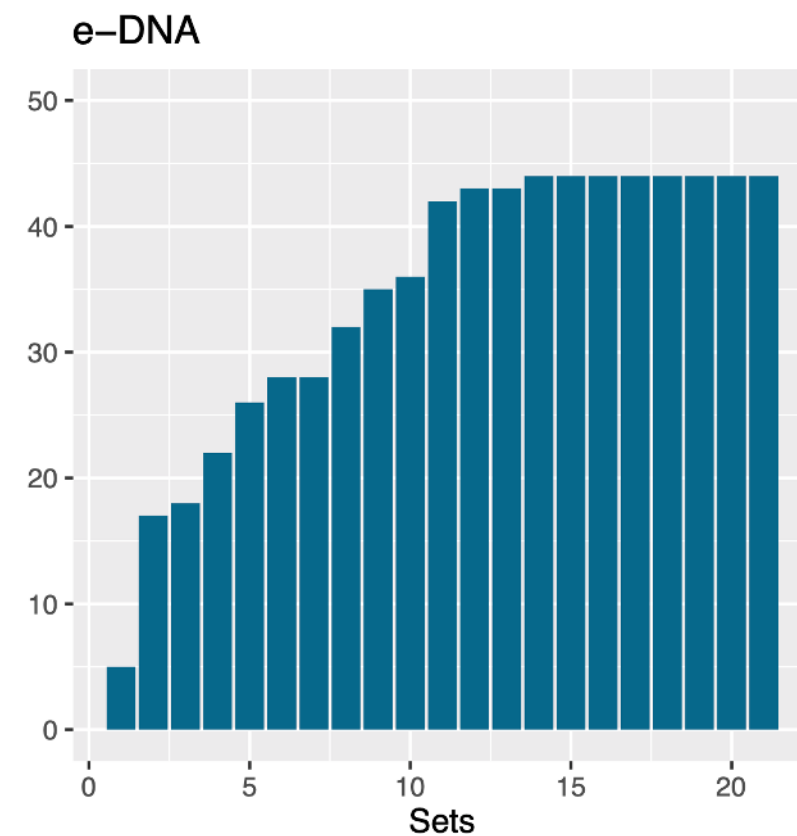
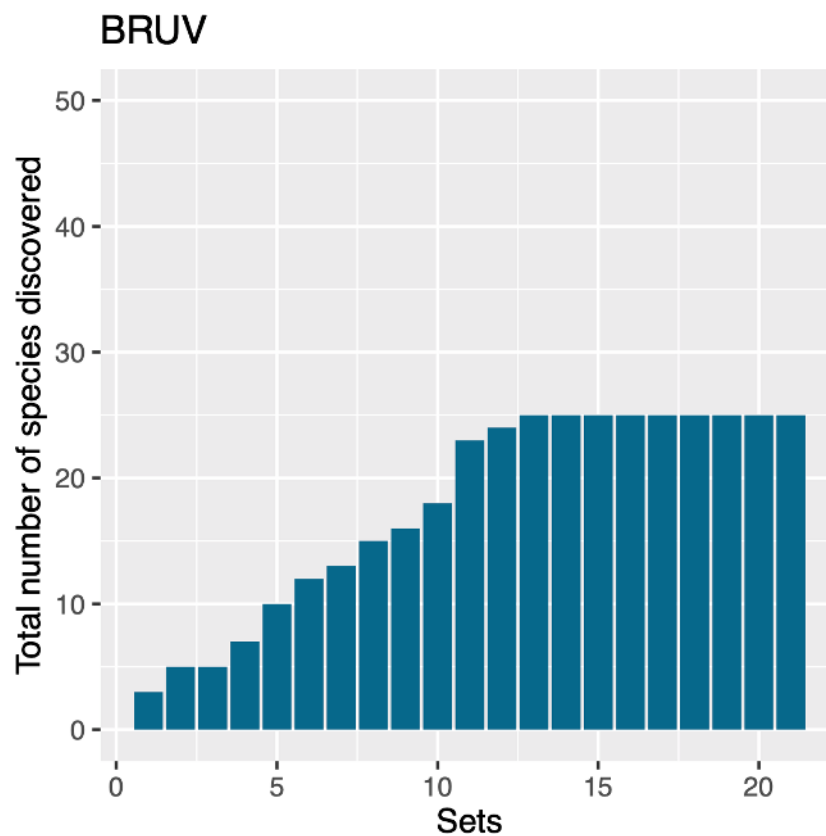


Department of Anatomy  
School of Biomedical Sciences



# Sampling effort and overall diversity

- 68 species observed across Fiordland literature and OBIS
- accumulation curves suggest exhaustive sampling
- Good - Turing estimation:
  - **eDNA: 60 species**, assuming 27% missed after 44 observations
  - **BRUV: 26 species**, assuming 7% missed after 25 observations



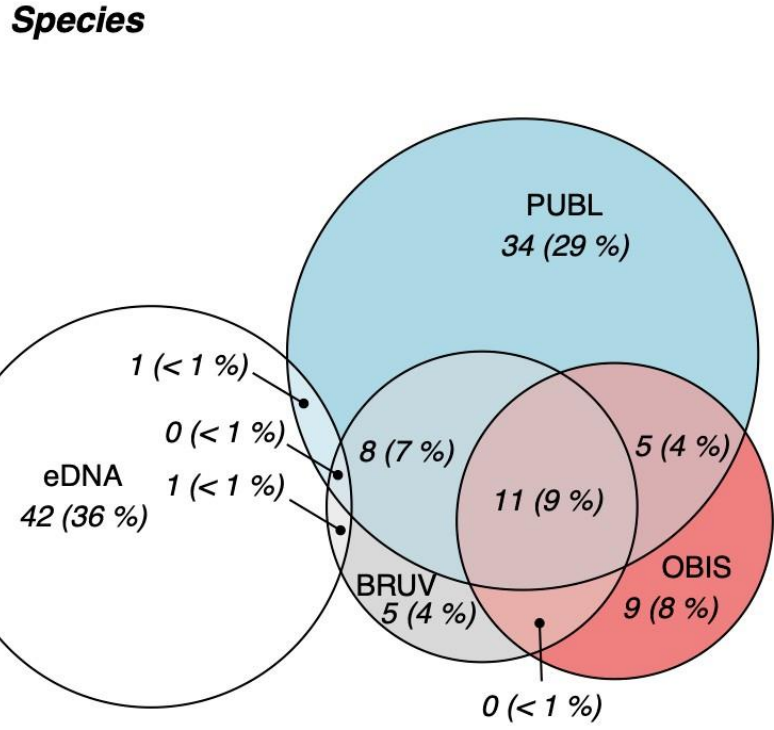
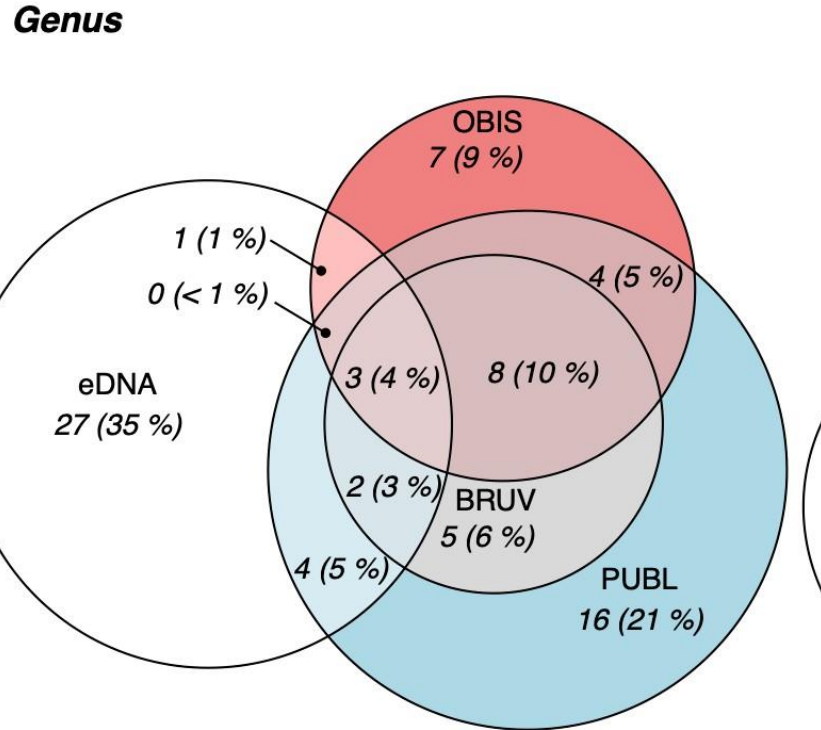
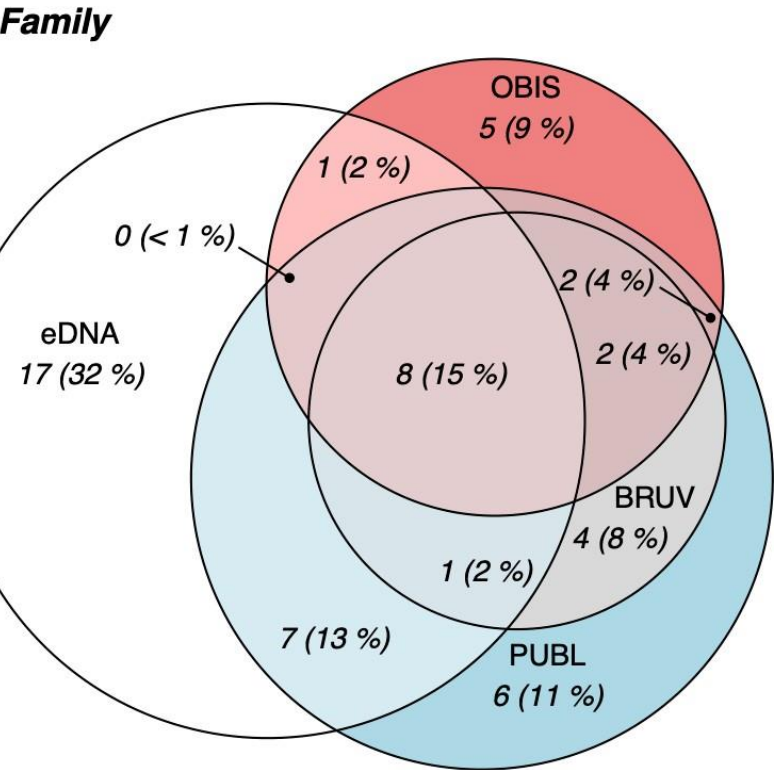
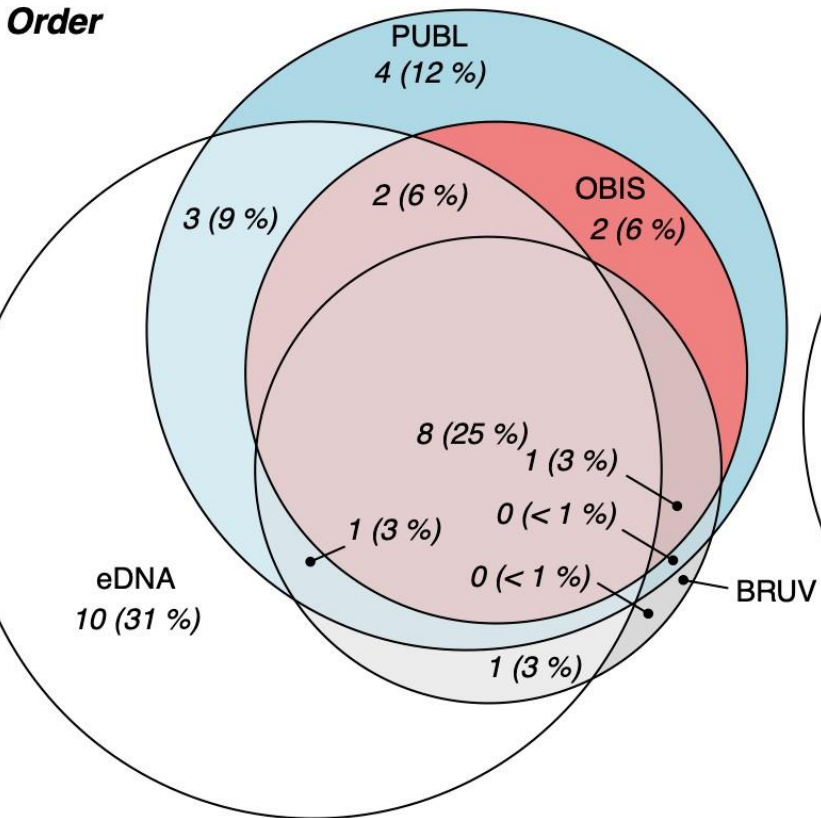
# Concordance of literature, OBIS, BRUV, eDNA

## eDNA

- *Notorynchus cepedianus* (broadnose sevengill shark) also in BRUV
- *Aldrichetta forsteri* (yellow-eye mullet) also in literature

## BRUV

- 8 species in literature
- 11 species in literature and OBIS



# Alignment qualities and indigenous taxa

- 44 species - only 6 with flawless alignments
- 19 species assignments among eDNA (43%) could not be confirmed to be of New Zealand origin
- these 19 eDNA-derived species were also not found using BRUV, in Fiordland literature, or OBIS data

210712_998_r_summarize_results__species_obs_matching_tiles.html				Open with Firefox	
			<i>spinosus</i>		
Pleuronectiformes	Rhombosoleidae	<i>Peltorhamphus</i>	<i>Peltorhamphus latus</i>	<b>speckled sole</b>	
		<i>Rhombosolea</i>	<i>Rhombosolea plebeia</i>	<b>New Zealand flounder</b>	
Salmoniformes	Salmonidae	<i>Oncorhynchus</i>	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	<b>rainbow trout</b>	100% 0
Scombriformes	Gempylidae	<i>Thyrsites</i>	<i>Thyrsites atun</i>	<b>snoek</b>	
	Scombridae	<i>Katsuwonus</i>	<i>Katsuwonus pelamis</i>	<b>skipjack tuna</b>	95.9% 0
		<i>Scomber</i>	<i>Scomber japonicus</i>	<b>chub mackerel</b>	100% 0
Stomiiformes	Sternoptychidae	<i>Maurolicus</i>	<i>Maurolicus muelleri</i>	<b>pearlsides</b>	86.3-99.4% 0-10
Tetraodontiformes	Monacanthidae	<i>Meuschenia</i>	<i>Meuschenia scaber</i>	<b>velvet leatherjacket</b>	
		<i>Scobinichthys*</i>	<i>Scobinichthys granulatus*</i>	<b>rough leatherjacket</b>	98.8-99.4% 0
Trachichthyiformes	Monocentridae	<i>Monocentris</i>	<i>Monocentris japonicus</i>		94.4-97.6% 2-3
	Trachichthyidae	<i>Paratrachichthys</i>	<i>Paratrachichthys trailli</i>	<b>sandpaper fish</b>	
undefined	Opistognathidae	<i>Opistognathus*</i>	<i>Opistognathus iyonis*</i>		89.9-90.5% 2-3
			<i>Opistognathus liturus*</i>	<b>seto-amadai</b>	89.3-90.5% 2
			<i>Opistognathus punctatus*</i>	<b>finespotted jawfish</b>	81.7% 5
			<i>Opistognathus sp.*</i>		85.7% 2
Uranoscopiformes	Pinguipedidae	<i>Parapercis</i>	<i>Parapercis colias</i>	<b>New Zealand blue cod</b>	80.9% 1
			<i>Parapercis decemfasciata</i>		
			<i>Parapercis gilliesii</i>	<b>yellow weaver</b>	
Chondrichthyes	Carcharhiniformes	Carcharhinidae	<i>Prionace</i>	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	<b>blue shark</b>
		Scyliorhinidae	<i>Cephaloscyllium</i>	<i>Cephaloscyllium isabellum</i>	

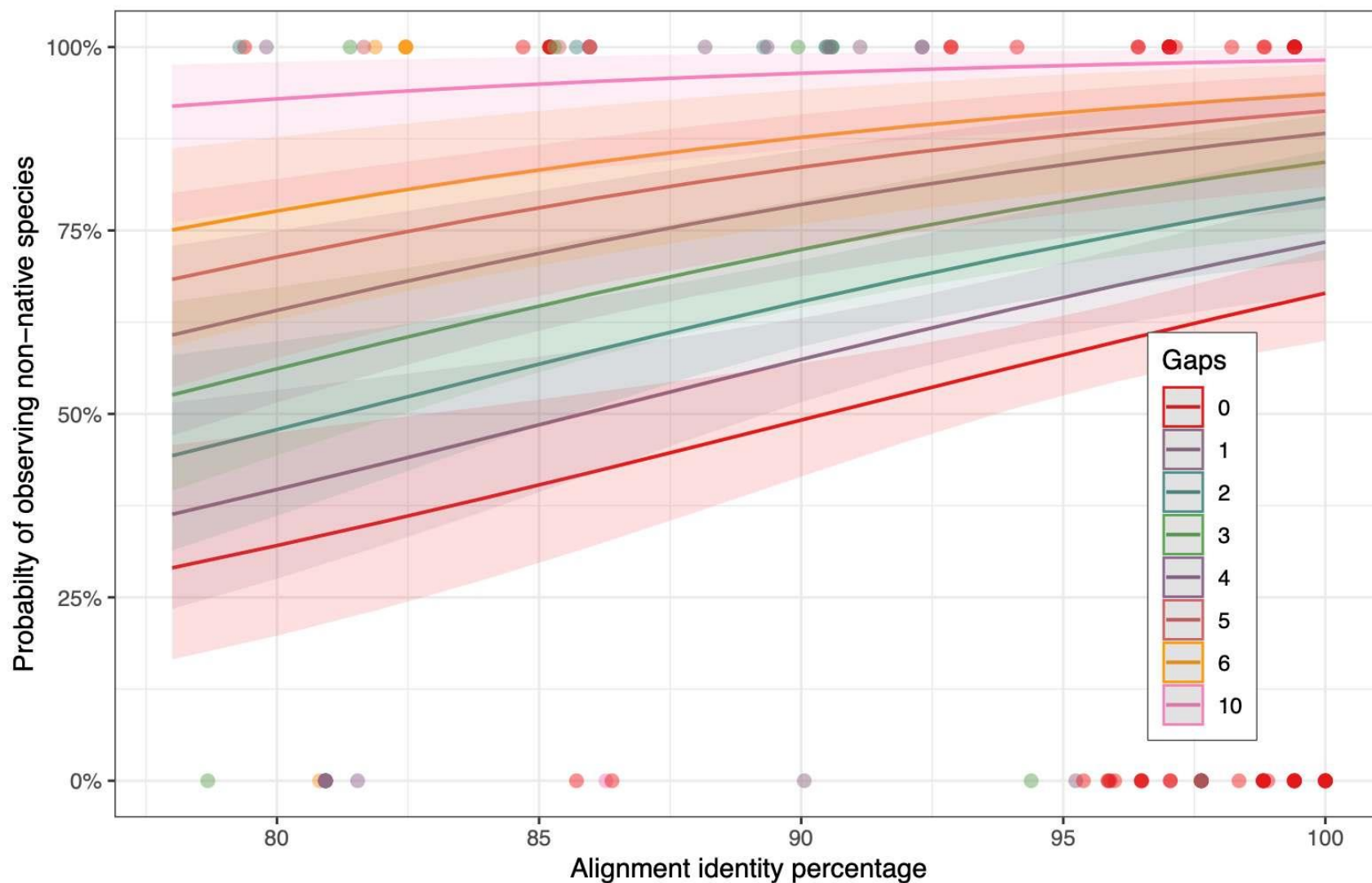


Department of Anatomy  
School of Biomedical Sciences

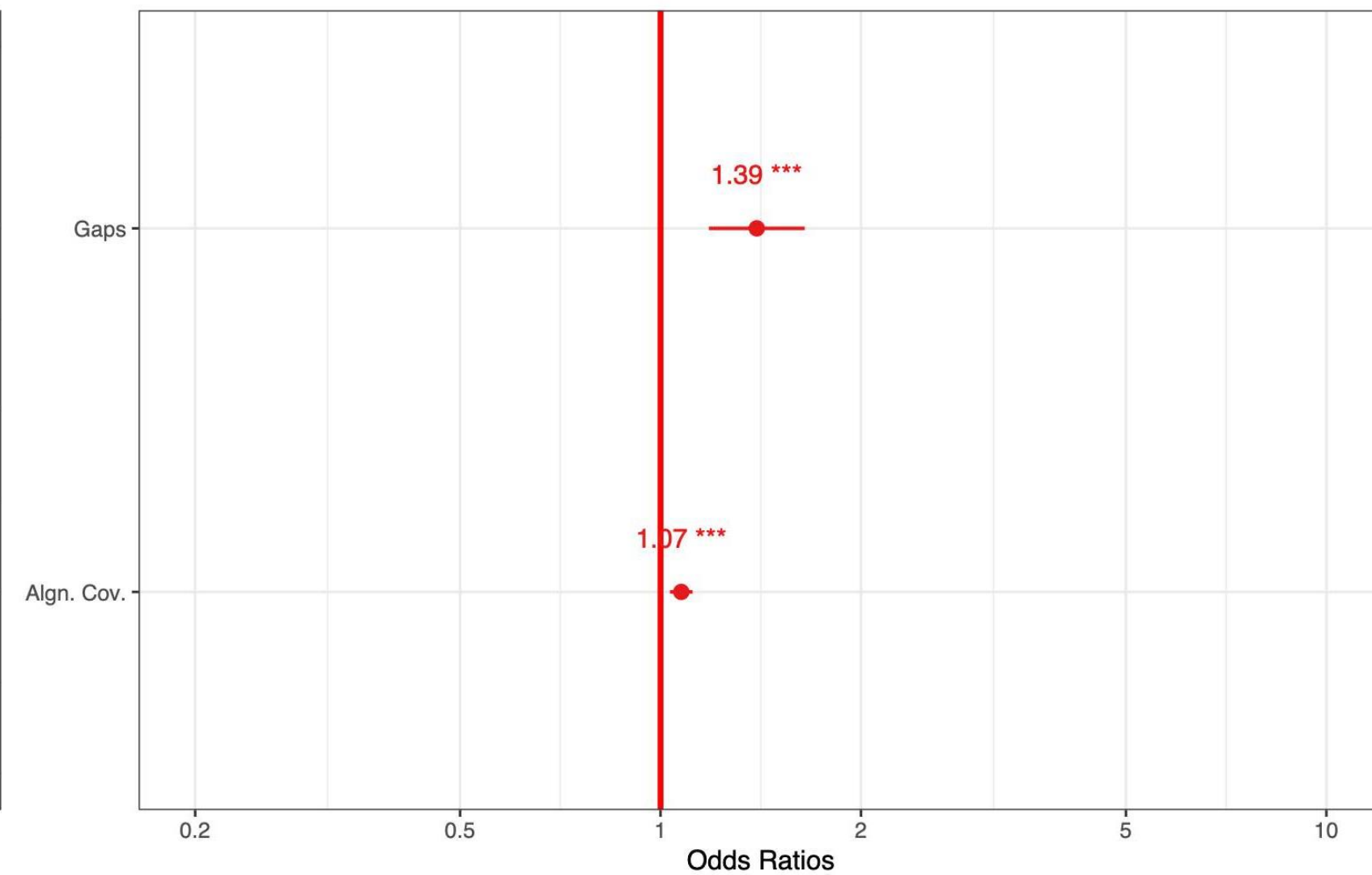


# Probabilities of observing non-native taxonomy assignments

Predicted probabilities of non-native status



Influence of alignment quality on non-native status



# Summary

1. eDNA has big potential for biodiversity surveys
2. Investment into local reference databases is essential to unlock the potential
3. Until exhaustive reference databases are available for target taxa, eDNA biodiversity surveys have to be interpreted with caution.







## Conclusions

1. Species-based community comparison based on eDNA is somewhat unreliable without already having reference data for all species.
2. If alignment matches aren't perfect, species inferences are challenging.
3. Use of eDNA for biodiversity exploration is limited to the lowest fully described taxonomy-level.
4. Accurate species annotations based on eDNA multi-species surveys require reference data for all target species.

# Possibility of Community analysis of field-based-methods

- Only BRUV data has structure in species overlap
- no difference based on zoning
- eDNA data may fare better once fully resolved

210712\_998\_r\_summarize\_results\_\_ANOSIM.html Open with Firefox

Distance	Data set	Replication over	Tax. level	Location grouping	Obs. method	ANOSIM R	Significance		
jaccard	fish_biodiv_local	SET.ID	SPECIES	RESERVE.GROUP.LOCATION	eDNA	0.113618524	0.1422		
			GENUS			0.129317111	0.1074		
			FAMILY			0.116758242	0.1405		
			ORDER			0.090266876	0.1796		
			SPECIES	RESERVE.GROUP.INSIDE			-0.075454545	0.8751	
			GENUS				-0.042090909	0.7111	
			FAMILY				-0.030363636	0.6422	
			ORDER				0.003454545	0.4353	
			SPECIES	RESERVE.GROUP.LOCATION	BRUV			0.383437991	0.0006
			GENUS					0.410518053	0.0003
			FAMILY					0.410518053	0.0001
			ORDER					0.289246468	0.0030
			SPECIES	RESERVE.GROUP.INSIDE				0.106272727	0.0766
			GENUS					0.075818182	0.1272
			FAMILY					0.095727273	0.0852
			ORDER					0.064727273	0.1463

