**BIG4 - Biosystematics, Informatics and Genetics of the big 4 insect groups**

PhD training in systematic entomology funded by EU Horizon 2020 ITN (Innovative Training Network) program, coordinated from the Natural History Museum of Denmark

- **7 institutions (5 big museums)** and **3 private companies** in Europe, + 11 support institutions globally
- **15 full scholarships/projects** and running expenses funds
- Focus on **Coleoptera, Hymenoptera, Lepidoptera** and **Diptera**
- Focus on **modernising systematic workflows**

2015-2018 (4 years)

positions will be announced soon, early in 2015
# BIG4 training providers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consortium member</th>
<th>Taxonomic specialization</th>
<th>Methodological strength</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Charles University, Prague, Czech Republic (M. Fikacek)</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
<td>Revisionary systematics, Phylogenetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. University of Turku, Finland (N. Wahlberg)</td>
<td>Lepidoptera</td>
<td>Genomics, phylogenetics</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Swedish Museum of Natural History, Sweden (F. Ronquist)</td>
<td>Hymenoptera</td>
<td>Phylogenetics, Bioinformatics, Genomics</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Naturhistorisches Museum, Vienna, Austria (N. Akkari)</td>
<td>cross-taxonomic</td>
<td>Innovative methods of morphological examination</td>
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<tr>
<td>7. PENSOFT, Bulgaria (L. Penev, P. Stoev)</td>
<td>cross-taxonomic</td>
<td>Data management, semantic publishing, dissemination</td>
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<tr>
<td>8. ERA 7, Spain (E. Pareja)</td>
<td>cross-taxonomic</td>
<td>Bioinformatics</td>
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<tr>
<td>9. DECURIA, Sweden</td>
<td>cross-taxonomic</td>
<td>IT, mobile apps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. University of Copenhagen, Denmark (A. Solodovnikov)</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
<td>Revisionary systematics, phylogenetics</td>
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</table>

+ 11 other organizations globally to support various activities, e.g. fieldwork, etc.
How does it work

- Students are attached to the main supervisor’s institution and enrolled in local PhD school, 3-4 years, good salary

- Joint supervision (1-2 co-supervisors)

- Research/Training secondments (from days to months) to other BIG4 members labs

- Thematic workshops and summer schools (2 per year) for all students

- Exposure to non-academic sector
Structure and interactions
10 hosts, 15 students = 15 projects

Akkari
NHMW
Non-destructive study of morphology

Rove beetle fossils & phylogeny

Ronquist-NRM

Phylogeny of gall wasps

Wahlberg
UTU

NGS for museum specimens

Solodovnikov
ZMUC

Lord Howe Island fauna

“Dark taxa”: New Zealand Aleocharinae

New Zealand leaf litter beetles

Fikacek
CUNI

Open biodiversity knowledge

PENSOFT
Stay tuned and apply!

Questions?
Contact Alexey Solodovnikov
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