

1 ***De novo* genome assemblies for three North American bumble bee species: *Bombus***
2 ***bifarius*, *Bombus vancouverensis*, and *Bombus vosnesenskii***

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4 Sam D. Heraghty*, John M. Sutton*, Meaghan L. Pimsler*, Janna L. Fierst*, James P. Strange†,
5 Jeffrey D. Lozier*

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7 *Department of Biological Sciences, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA

8 †Department of Entomology, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA

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10 **Available data**

11 NCBI Genome Assemblies: JAAQOX000000000.1, JAAQRE000000000.1,

12 JAAQVK000000000.1

13 NCBI Genome BioProjects: PRJNA591177, PRJNA611633, PRJNA611634

14 NCBI Transcriptome BioProjects: PRJNA614946, PRJNA612513

15 Supplemental Table S1 is available on figshare

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25 **Running Title: Three new *Bombus* genomes**

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30 Corresponding authors: Sam D. Heraghty and Jeffery D. Lozier

31 Mailing address: Box 870344, University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, 35487

32 Phone: 205-348-2754

33 Email: sdheraghty@crimson.ua.edu; jlozier@ua.edu

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48 **Abstract**

49 Bumble bees are ecologically and economically important insect pollinators. Three abundant and
50 widespread species in western North America, *Bombus bifarius*, *Bombus vancouverensis*, and
51 *Bombus vosnesenskii*, have been the focus of substantial research relating to diverse aspects of
52 bumble bee ecology and evolutionary biology. We present *de novo* genome assemblies for each
53 of the three species using hybrid assembly of Illumina and Oxford Nanopore Technologies
54 sequences. All three assemblies are of high quality with large N50s (> 2.2 Mb), BUSCO scores
55 indicating > 98% complete genes, and annotations producing 13,325 – 13,687 genes, comparing
56 favorably with other bee genomes. Analysis of synteny against the most complete bumble bee
57 genome, *Bombus terrestris*, reveals a high degree of collinearity. These genomes should provide
58 a valuable resource for addressing questions relating to functional genomics and evolutionary
59 biology in these species.

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INTRODUCTION

62

63 Bumble bees (Hymenoptera: Apidae: *Bombus*) are a widespread and iconic pollinator genus of
64 approximately 250 species globally (Cameron *et al.* 2007; Cameron and Sadd 2020). Bumble
65 bees provide economic and ecological benefits through their pollination services (Greenleaf and
66 Kremen 2006; Velthius and van Doorn 2006) and have recently generated significant public
67 interest because, like many pollinators, numerous species have undergone rapid declines across
68 the globe (Cameron *et al.* 2011; Cameron and Sadd 2020). Bumble bees also have a long history
69 of study with respect to adaptations in traits like thermoregulation, flight biomechanics, host-
70 parasite interactions, and evolution of sociality, and the advent of genomic tools has greatly
71 accelerated our understanding of their biology (Woodard *et al.* 2015; Lozier and Zayed 2016).
72 However, there remain a limited number of genetic resources to study such adaptive traits and
73 help conservation efforts, with only two annotated reference genomes available on the National
74 Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) for *B. terrestris* and *B. impatiens* (Sadd *et al.*
75 2015) and one additional genome published for *B. terricola* (Kent *et al.* 2018). Species-specific
76 reference genomes can be valuable for addressing population genetic questions about novel
77 targets of selection, comparing structural genetic variation within and between species, and more
78 accurate functional genomics studies including transcriptomics (RNAseq) or epigenetics (e.g.,
79 bisulfite sequencing) (Fuentes-Pardo and Ruzzante 2017). Additional genomic resources could
80 also prove to be useful from a conservation standpoint, including better understanding of species
81 and population-specific genetic variation (Allendorf 2017).

82

83 We present three new assemblies for species within the *Bombus* subgenus *Pyrobombus*
84 (Cameron *et al.* 2007; Williams *et al.* 2008): *B. vosnesenskii* Radowski, *B. bifarius* Cresson, and
85 the recently re-described *B. vancouverensis* Cresson (subspecies *nearcticus*) (Ghisbain *et al.*
86 2020). These species are among the most common bumble bees in western North America (Koch
87 *et al.* 2012) and have been the focus of recent research that includes studies investigating gene
88 flow, foraging range, and genetic diversity in natural and agricultural systems (Lozier *et al.* 2011,
89 2016; Rao and Strange 2012; Jha and Kremen 2013; Jha 2015; Geib *et al.* 2015; Jackson *et al.*
90 2018; Mola *et al.* 2020), climate-driven local adaptation across spatial-environmental gradients
91 (Jackson *et al.* 2020), and color pattern variation and speciation (Pimsler *et al.* 2017; Ghisbain *et*
92 *al.* 2020).

93

94 We employ a combination of long-read (Oxford Nanopore Technologies, ONT, Oxford, UK) and
95 short-read (Illumina, San Diego, CA) sequencing technologies to produce high-quality hybrid
96 assemblies for each of the three species. The assemblies produced here perform well compared
97 to other published *Bombus* genomes and will provide a valuable resource as reference genomes
98 for research into comparative and evolutionary genetics of *Bombus*.

99

100 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

101 **DNA Extraction and Sequencing**

102 Individuals used for genome sequencing include a field-collected female *B. vancouverensis*
103 *nearcticus* worker (JDL1245, diploid) from Sequoia National Park, CA, a field-collected male *B.*
104 *bifarius* (JDL3187, haploid) from Arapaho National Forest, CO, and two males from a laboratory
105 *B. vosnesenskii* colony (JDL3184-5, both haploid) reared at the USDA-ARS Pollinating Insects

106 Research Unit in Logan, UT (queen from Emigrant Lake, OR) (Table 1). Whole genomic DNA
107 was extracted from the thorax, and in some cases include abdominal tissue if additional DNA
108 was required for Illumina sequencing, using the Qiagen (Valencia, CA) MagAttract High
109 Molecular Weight kit or DNeasy Blood and Tissue kit (for Illumina sequencing only).
110 Extractions were cleaned using Ampure XP beads (Beckman-Coulter, Pasadena, CA) at a ~0.4x
111 concentration to remove small DNA fragments and improve purity.

112
113 Long read sequences were obtained using the SQK-LSK109 reaction kit on an ONT Gridion
114 instrument. Libraries were prepared following the manufacturer's protocol. One R9.4.1 flow cell
115 each was used for each specimen. Basecalling was performed with Guppy (v3.30 for *B.*
116 *vancouverensis*, v.3.0.3 for other taxa) using default system settings. ONT reads for each species
117 were concatenated into single fastq files and cleaned of adapters and chimeric reads using
118 Porechop (<https://github.com/rrwick/Porechop>), including the --discard_middle flag. Short read
119 sequence data (all 150 bp paired end reads) were generated by Illumina sequencing. Whole
120 genome library preparation and sequencing for the *B. vosnesenskii* male (only JDL3184 was used
121 for Illumina) was performed by HudsonAlpha Institute for Biotechnology (Huntsville, AL) on an
122 Illumina Hiseq X, and data for *B. bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* were generated by Psomagen,
123 Inc (Rockville, MD) using the Illumina NovaSeq6000 S4 platform.

124

125 **Assembly**

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127 Preliminary assemblies indicated that reads included common bee symbionts and other bacteria,
128 so we attempted to eliminate many such contaminants by preprocessing long and short read data

129 sets using the bbtools program bbduk (Bushnell 2020). Decontamination used k-mer filtering (k
130 = 29, although preliminary runs suggested altering this parameter made little difference in
131 filtering results) against a reference dataset. This included a default set of contaminant reference
132 fasta files provided with bbtools and supplemented with common bumble bee symbionts and
133 other bacterial genomes detected as possible contaminants in preliminary assemblies, all
134 downloaded from NCBI GenBank (Table S1). We filtered for human contaminants by mapping
135 to a masked hg19 version of the human genome as a reference with the bbtools program bbmap,
136 following recommended protocols in the manual (human contamination was minimal with
137 <0.0001% of reads removed in all data sets).

138

139 The cleaned long and short reads were assembled using the MaSuRCA hybrid assembler (Zimin
140 *et al.* 2013) with default parameters except for the Jellyfish estimate, which was set at 2.5×10^{10}
141 (estimated genome size of ~250 Mb, based on the closely related *Bombus impatiens* genome
142 length (Hines *et al* 2008, Sadd *et al* 2015), multiplied by an estimated coverage of 100x).
143 MaSuRCA v3.3.1 was used for *Bombus vosnesenskii* and version 3.3.5 was used for other taxa.

144

145 We evaluated initial assemblies for contaminants using BlobTools v1.0 (Laetsch *et al.* 2017) to
146 identify possible contaminants in the draft assembly based on scaffold taxonomic assignment
147 (family level), sequencing coverage, and GC content. To prepare data for BlobTools, the
148 Illumina and ONT reads were aligned to the draft genomes with BWA v0.7.15-r1140 (Li and
149 Durbin 2009) and minimap2 v2.10 (Li 2018), respectively, and resulting files were sorted in
150 SAMtools v1.10 (Li *et al.* 2009). A reference database for taxonomic assignment of scaffolds
151 was created with blastn v2.9.0 using the NCBI nt database (downloaded on Feb. 18, 2019), with

152 settings following the BlobTools manual (<https://blobtools.readme.io/docs/taxonomy-file>). Reads
153 not mapping to scaffolds with a BLAST assignment to Hymenoptera were filtered out of the
154 datasets. Remaining reads were used to run a second round of assembly with MaSuRCA, and
155 then re-checked with BlobTools. As a final step, we filtered likely mitochondrial contaminants or
156 other artifacts of assembly by excluding residual scaffolds < 10kb, matching families not within
157 the order Hymenoptera, or with GC < 25%.

158

159 The genome assemblies were polished using PILON v1.23 (Walker *et al.* 2014), which uses the
160 accurate Illumina data to correct for small base pair errors and small indels. Illumina reads were
161 mapped to second-round assemblies with BWA and sorted with SAMtools. PILON was run with
162 default parameters and repeated for a total of four sequential rounds of polishing.

163

164 **Quality Assessment and Species Verification**

165 Basic assembly statistics (genome length, number of scaffolds, GC content, and N50) were
166 generated using QUAST v5.0 (Gurevich *et al.* 2013). We expected assemblies to be ~250 Mb in
167 size with a 38% GC content based on other *Bombus* genomes (Sadd *et al.* 2015; Kent *et al.*
168 2018). We examine genome completeness using BUSCO v4 (Simão *et al.* 2015) to search for
169 orthologous genes using the OrthoDB v.10 (Kriventseva *et al.* 2019) Hymenopteran dataset (n =
170 5,991 genes) and using the *bombus_impatiens1* AUGUSTUS (Stanke and Morgenstern 2005)
171 species parameter to optimize gene prediction. BUSCO genes detected in the assemblies were
172 classified as single copy, duplicated, or fragmented. In the case of single or duplicated genes, this
173 indicates that the gene is present and within 95% of its expected length, whereas fragmented
174 genes fall outside of this limit (Simão *et al.* 2015). We perform basic comparisons of assembly

175 statistics against two existing *Bombus* genomes (Sadd *et al.* 2015): *Bombus impatiens* assembly
176 version 2.2 (BIMP_2.2 Assembly Accession GCF_000188095.3) and *Bombus terrestris*
177 assembly version 1.0 (Bter_1.0 Assembly Accession GCF_000214255.1).

178

179 Finally, using the completed assemblies, we tested that genomes for *B. bifarius* and *B.*
180 *vancouverensis*, two sister species in a morphologically cryptic complex (Ghisbain *et al.* 2020),
181 were representative of diversity for their respective lineages. To confirm that our new genomes
182 reflect these newly delimited species, we examined two nuclear genes (*serrate RNA effector*
183 and *sodium/potassium-exchanging ATPase subunit alpha*) that were previously determined to
184 produce diagnostic haplotypes for *B. bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* and were employed for
185 species delimitation in samples from throughout the *B. bifarius* – *B. vancouverensis* range
186 (Ghisbain *et al.* 2020). We used blast to identify the relevant regions from the assemblies before
187 aligning with GenBank sequences for the two species (NCBI PopSet 1803131478 for the RNA
188 effector; PopSet 1803131398 for the ATPase) and generated a neighbor-joining distance tree
189 (Jukes Cantor model) in Geneious Prime 2020.1.1 (Biomatters, Auckland NZ).

190

191 **Annotation**

192 Genomes were submitted to NCBI RefSeq (Rajput *et al* 2019) for annotation using the
193 Eukaryotic Genome Annotation pipeline v8.4. This method has been used in other *Bombus*
194 genomes (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/all/), and thus provides
195 standardization in the annotation methodology among members of the genus. For the
196 annotations, in addition to transcript resources already on GenBank, we provided available

197 RNAseq data generated from several individuals for each species from other prior and ongoing
198 studies (see *Data Availability* below).

199

200 **Synteny Analysis**

201

202 We assessed synteny with the D-GENIES web-based software (Cabanettes and Klopp 2018),
203 using minimap2 for alignment. We visualized synteny between our novel genomes and the
204 previously assembled *Bombus terrestris* v1.0 genome. We use *B. terrestris*, which is more
205 divergent from focal taxa than *B. impatiens* (~18-20 million years ago; Hines 2008) but is a near-
206 complete assembly with 18 linkage groups corresponding to the 18 bumble bee chromosomes
207 (Owen *et al.* 1995; Stolle *et al.* 2011; Sadd *et al.* 2015). We restricted analyses to larger scaffolds
208 (>100kb) for clearer visualization. To illustrate an example of one utility for these new
209 assemblies, we performed a more detailed analysis of synteny for one scaffold which contains a
210 high density of SNPs previously associated with signatures of selection relating to color pattern
211 and environmental adaptation (NT_176739.1 in *B. impatiens*), especially in the region of the
212 *Xanthine dehydrogenase/oxidase-like* gene in *B. bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* (Pimsler *et al.*,
213 2017; Ghisbain *et al.*, 2020; Jackson *et al.*, 2020). We had previously hypothesized that the
214 outlier behavior across this region could involve a large-scale structural mutation (Pimsler *et al.*
215 2017). We examined synteny across homologous scaffolds for our new genomes (identified with
216 blastn) and *B. impatiens* NT_176739.1 using the MAUVE (Darling *et al.* 2004) plug-in for
217 Geneious to align scaffolds and compute co-linear blocks.

218

219

220 **Data Availability**

221

222 All raw data used for assembly (Illumina and ONT) and annotation (Illumina RNAseq) are
223 available on the NCBI Sequence Read Archive (www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sra/) as BioProjects
224 PRJNA591177 for *Bombus bifarius*, PRJNA611633 for *B. vancouverensis*, and PRJNA611634
225 for *B. vosnesenskii*. RNAseq data supplied for annotation include BioProject PRJNA614946 for
226 *B. bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* and samples from PRJNA612513 for *B. vosnesenskii*. Whole
227 genome shotgun projects have been deposited on GenBank under accessions
228 JAAQOX000000000.1 for *B. bifarius*, JAAQRE000000000.1 for *B. vancouverensis*, and
229 JAAQVK000000000.1 for *B. vosnesenskii*. Annotations described are NCBI *Bombus bifarius*
230 Annotation Release 100, NCBI *Bombus vancouverensis nearcticus* Annotation Release 100, and
231 NCBI *Bombus vosnesenskii* Annotation Release 100. Supplemental Information (Table S1) is
232 available on figshare.

233

234 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

235 **Sequence Data Summary**

236 Raw output from ONT sequencing yielded 1.72×10^6 long reads (6.35 Gb; read N50 = 6.01 kb)
237 for *B. bifarius*, 2.58×10^6 reads (10.43 Gb; read N50 = 6.79 kb) for *B. vancouverensis*, and 2.08×10^6 reads (9.00 Gb; read N50 = 7.60 kb) for *B. vosnesenskii*, representing an estimated
238 coverage between ~25x and ~42x based on the assumed genome size of ~250 Mb. Illumina
239 sequencing yielded 9.00×10^7 read pairs (26.98 Gb) for *B. bifarius*, 8.97×10^7 pairs (26.92 Gb)
240 for *B. vancouverensis*, and 8.90×10^7 pairs (26.72 Gb) for *B. vosnesenskii*, producing an
241 estimated short read coverage of ~100x (Table 2). All data sets contained a small degree of
242

243 sequence from bee symbionts or other contaminants removed during pre-assembly filtering
244 (Table 2; Table S1).

245

246 **Assembly Quality**

247 After the preliminary assembly round, more than 95% of the scaffolds had BLAST hits to
248 Apidae and other Hymenoptera (Figure 2). Some scaffolds represented bacterial or other
249 genomes not removed during the pre-assembly decontamination and many small scaffolds did
250 not match any taxonomic group. Such scaffolds represented less than 5% of the total genome
251 assemblies, however (< 0.10 Gb for both Illumina and ONT reads; Figure 2, Table 2). Following
252 filtering with BlobTools, the second-round assemblies had many fewer contaminants, with
253 <0.01% of scaffolds having non-Hymenopteran BLAST hits (Figure 2).

254

255 The final assembly lengths (Table 3) were slightly larger than the closely related *Bombus*
256 genomes (Sadd et al., 2015) (266.8 Mb in 1,249 scaffolds for *B. bifarius*, 282.1 Mb in 1,162
257 scaffolds for *B. vancouverensis*, and 275.6 Mb in 1,429 scaffolds for *B. vosnesenskii*), but GC
258 contents were similar to other *Bombus* at ~38% (Sadd et al. 2015) (Figure 2, Table 3). The
259 assemblies are all highly complete, with N50's of 2.2 - 3.06 and BUSCO scores of >98% for the
260 5,991 genes in the OrthoDB v.10 Hymenoptera lineage dataset. Most of these (>97.7%) were
261 single copy, with <1% of the reference gene set duplicated or fragmented, and ~1-1.3% missing
262 (Figure 2, Table 3). Although haploid males allow sequencing of phased haplotypes, there was
263 not a clear influence of ploidy of starting material (haploid male for *B. bifarius*, diploid worker
264 for *B. vancouverensis*, two haploid males for *B. vosnesenskii*) on the final assembly quality in
265 terms of N50 or BUSCO scores (Table 3). Finally, we also confirm that sequences from *B.*

266 *bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* assemblies for two genes previously employed as diagnostic
267 evidence for species delimitation (Ghisbain, *et al.* 2020) were representative of the diversity
268 found in each species (Figure 3A, B).

269

270 **Annotation**

271 Gene predictions from the NCBI Eukaryotic Annotation Pipeline resulted in 13,325 – 13,687
272 genes for the new genomes, with statistics for numbers of genes, transcripts, and other features
273 largely consistent across assemblies and with previous *Bombus* assemblies (Table 4).

274

275 **Genome comparisons**

276 We analyzed the synteny of genomes with respect to the *B. terrestris* genome assembly. The new
277 genomes were highly collinear with the 18 *B. terrestris* linkage groups (Figure 4), although
278 several rearrangements were apparent in each species. Such patterns may reflect some true
279 rearrangements between the focal species assemblies and *B. terrestris* genome that have occurred
280 over 18-20 million years of divergence but may also be the result of a small number of assembly
281 artifacts. Our focused MAUVE analysis of the region containing a high density of putatively
282 adaptive loci from prior studies (including a possible color-associated gene *Xanthine*
283 *dehydrogenase/oxidase*-like; Pimsler *et al.*, 2017; Ghisbain *et al.*, 2020; Jackson *et al.*, 2020)
284 revealed a single colinear block (Figure 5A, B). This suggests no major rearrangements in the
285 new genomes with respect to the *B. impatiens* genome previously used as a reference genome for
286 population genomics in these species. Thus, major structural mutations may not explain unusual
287 patterns of variation in the region, although more detailed intraspecific analyses will be
288 necessary to fully rule out a role for segregating rearrangements in local adaptation.

289

290 In conclusion, the assemblies for each of the three focal species were highly complete,
291 demonstrating how Illumina and long read ONT sequences can be used to quickly and
292 inexpensively assemble high quality *de novo* genomes. The newly assembled genomes are intact,
293 with 90% of each assembly contained in scaffolds \geq 50kb and N50's $>$ 2.2 Mb, and compare
294 well to the other published bumble bee genomes in terms of overall size, GC content, BUSCO
295 scores, and numbers of predicted genes and other features. Further, the results support previous
296 observations that bumble bee genome structure tends to be conserved over relatively deep
297 timescales, with large-scale synteny over ~18-20 million years of separation (Sadd *et al.* 2015).

298 We expect these new references will quickly become useful for bumble bee biologists. For
299 example, the species included here have all recently been studied with genomic data to detect the
300 influence of climate and landscape composition on dispersal and local adaptation (Jackson *et al.*
301 2019; Jackson *et al.* 2020; Mola *et al.* 2020), however, such studies have largely been limited to
302 genome-reduction methods (e.g., RAD-seq) and have required cross-species mapping to
303 available reference genomes. These new assemblies will open the door for more extensive whole
304 genome resequencing to uncover unique genomic variation that may be shaped by environmental
305 conditions for each species (Fuentes-Pardo and Ruzzante 2017). These assemblies will also
306 provide additional data points for multi-genome comparative studies in *Bombus* and other bees
307 (e.g., Kapheim *et al.*, 2015; Lin *et al* 2019). These new resources should thus prove valuable for
308 researchers looking to answer questions relating to diverse aspects of bumble bee evolutionary
309 biology.

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425

426

FIGURE LEGENDS

427 **Figure 1.** Three focal species used for genome assembly.

428

429 **Figure 2.** Blob plots (from Illumina data) showing read depth of coverage, GC content, and size
430 for each scaffold after first (left hand column) and second round (right hand column) MaSuRCA
431 assemblies for A) *Bombus bifarius*, B) *Bombus vancouverensis*, C) *Bombus vosnesenskii*. Size of
432 the blob corresponds to size of the scaffold and color corresponds to taxonomic assignment of
433 BLAST (blue = Apidae). Inset statistics for each panel refer to [scaffold count, sum length, N50]
434 associated with BLAST assignments to each taxonomic group. The top and right histograms
435 indicate the total length of scaffolds at a given GC content or average read depth, respectively.
436 Qualitatively similar plots were produced using the ONT data.

437

438 **Figure 3.** Confirming sample identity for the *B. bifarius* and *B. vancouverensis* genomes. A-B)
439 Neighbor joining distance trees for the A) *serrate RNA effector* and B) *sodium/potassium*
440 *transporting ATPase subunit alpha* genes from *Bombus bifarius* and *Bombus vancouverensis*
441 assemblies aligned to GenBank accessions (tip labels on tree) originally used for delimitation of
442 these sister species (from NCBI PopSet 1803131478 and 1803131398; Ghisbain *et al.*, 2020).

443

444 **Figure 4.** D-GENIES dot plots (using Minimap2 aligner) indicating collinearity of scaffolds
445 (>100 kb in length) with the *Bombus terrestris* genome for A) *Bombus bifarius*, B) *Bombus*
446 *vancouverensis*, and C) *Bombus vosnesenskii*.

447

448 **Figure 5.** Analysis of *de novo* genomes in a region previously identified as a candidate target of

449 selection in these lineages. A) MAUVE alignment for a focal scaffold of interest in the new
450 genomes and in *B. impatiens*, which has repeatedly shown evidence of local adaptation in prior
451 studies using *B. impatiens* as a reference genome. The bottom track indicates gene IDs from *B.*
452 *impatiens*, with the arrow pointing to a previously discovered gene of interest in the region
453 (LOC100741462, *Xanthine dehydrogenase/oxidase-like*; Pimsler *et al.*, 2016); B) MAUVE
454 produced a single colinear orientation block across species suggesting no major structural
455 rearrangements in the region.



Bombus bifarius

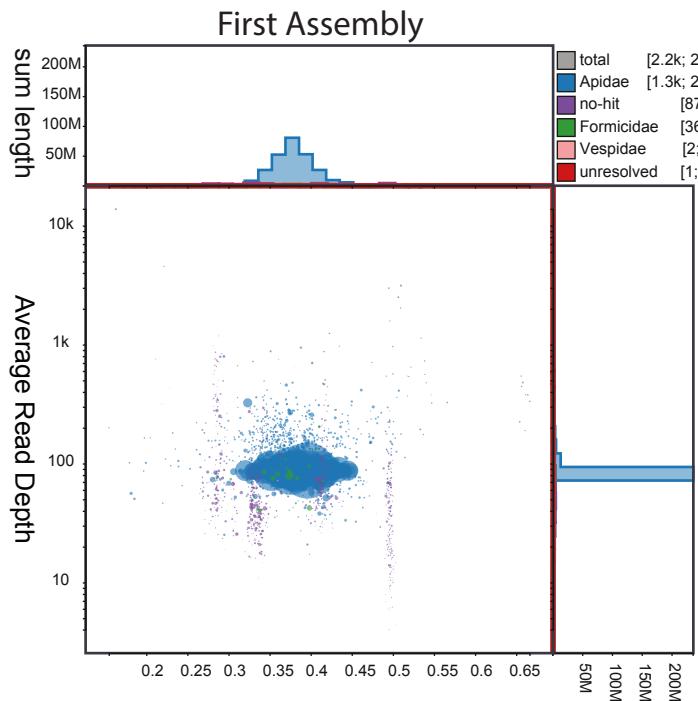
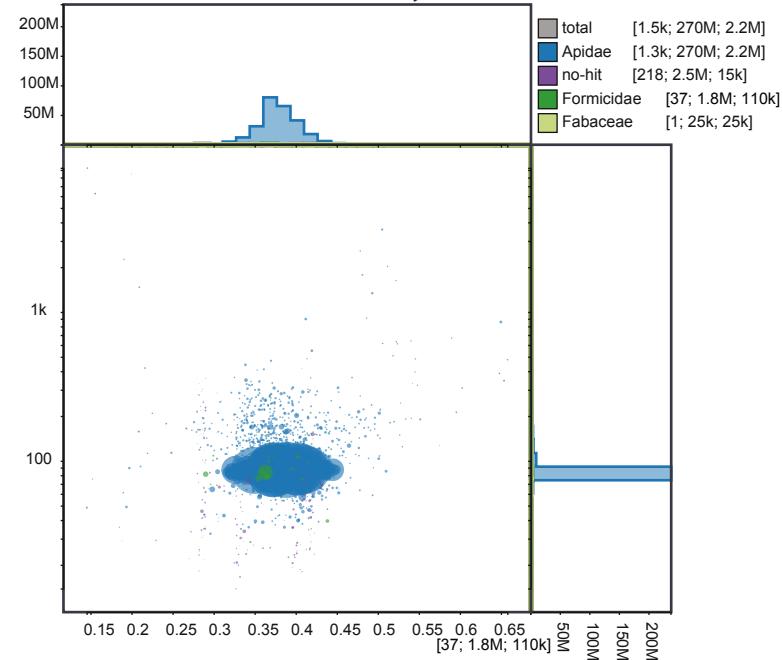


Bombus vancouverensis

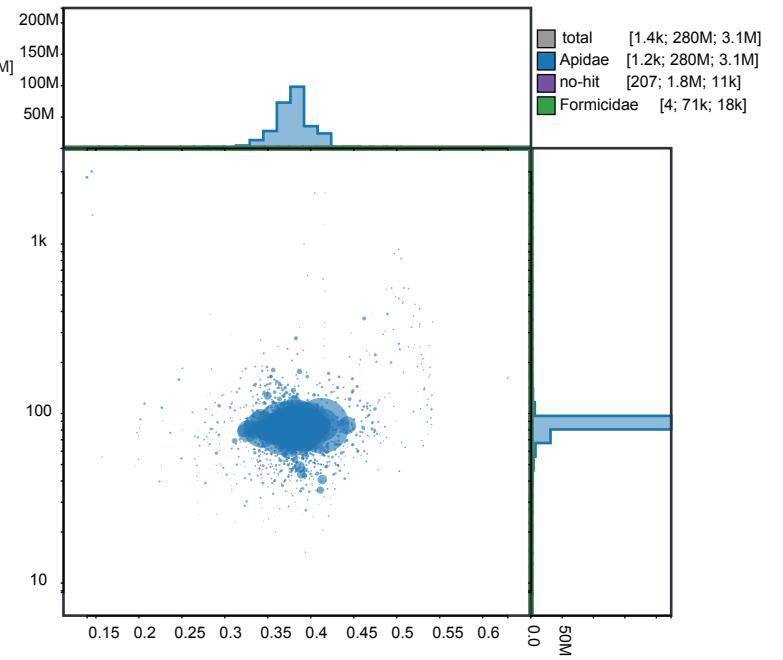
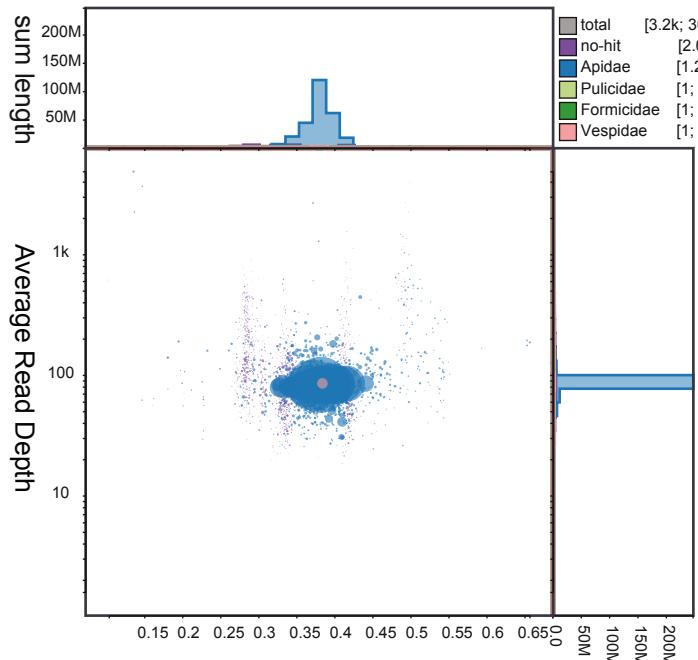


Bombus vosnesenskii

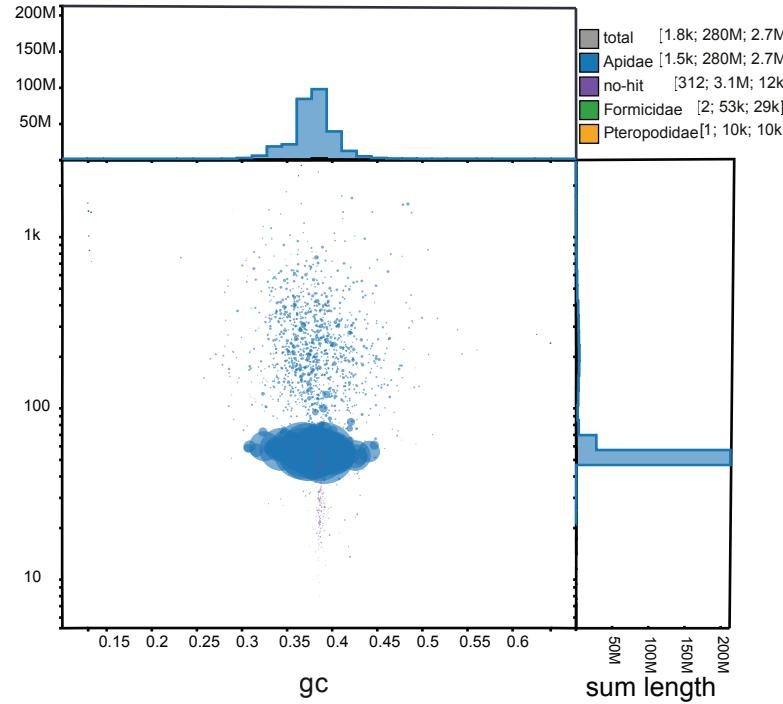
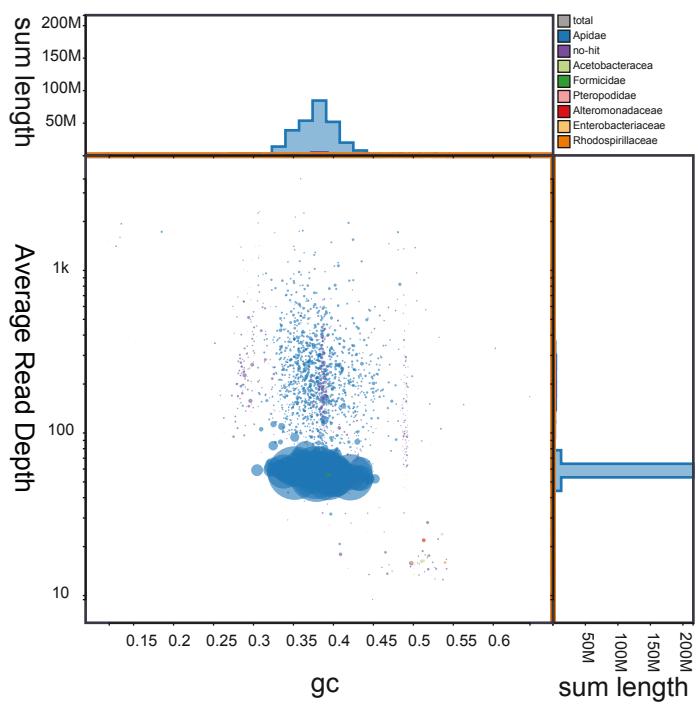
A

**Second Assembly**

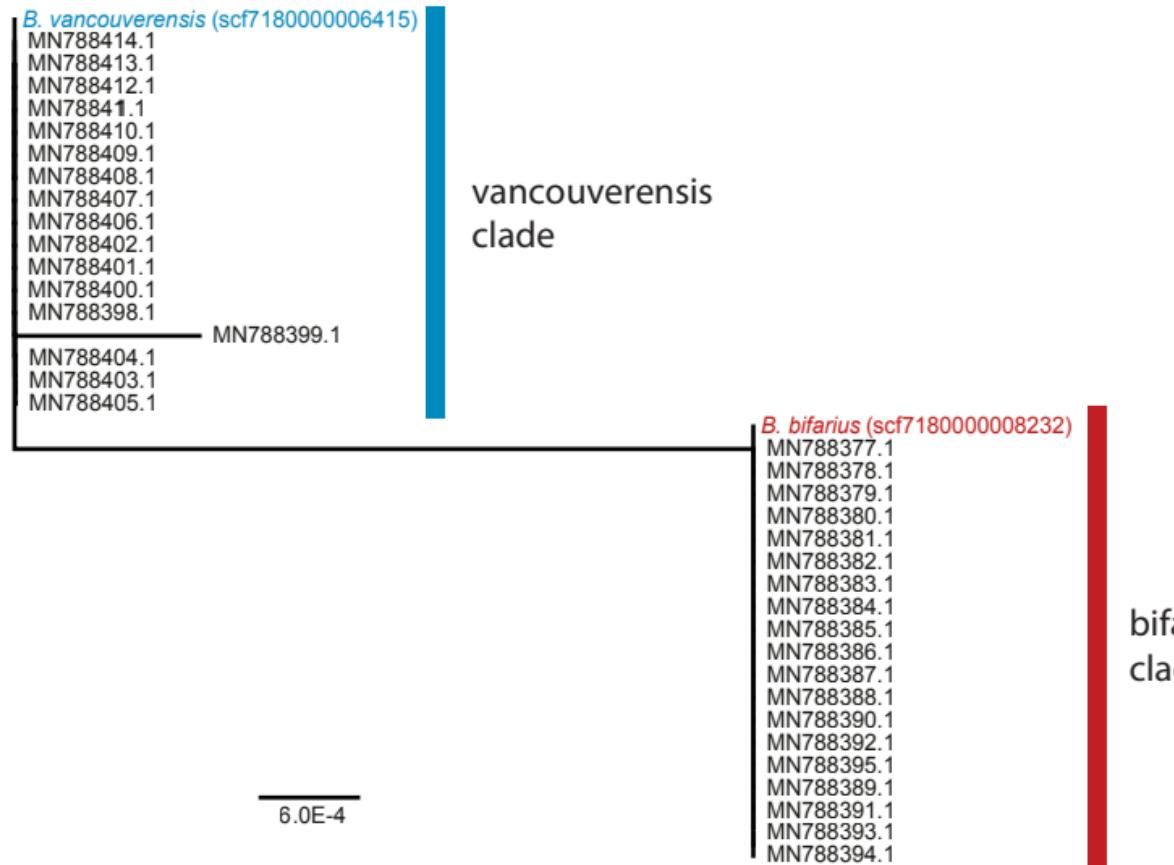
B



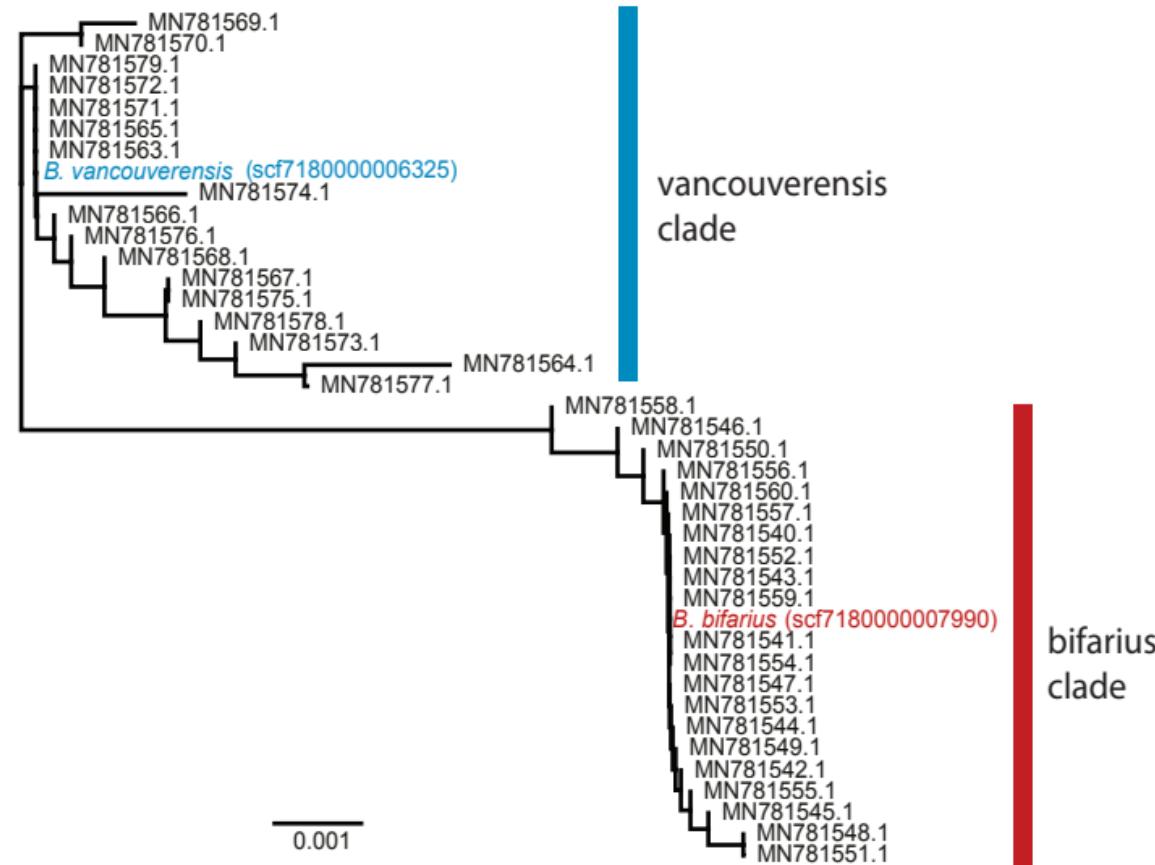
C

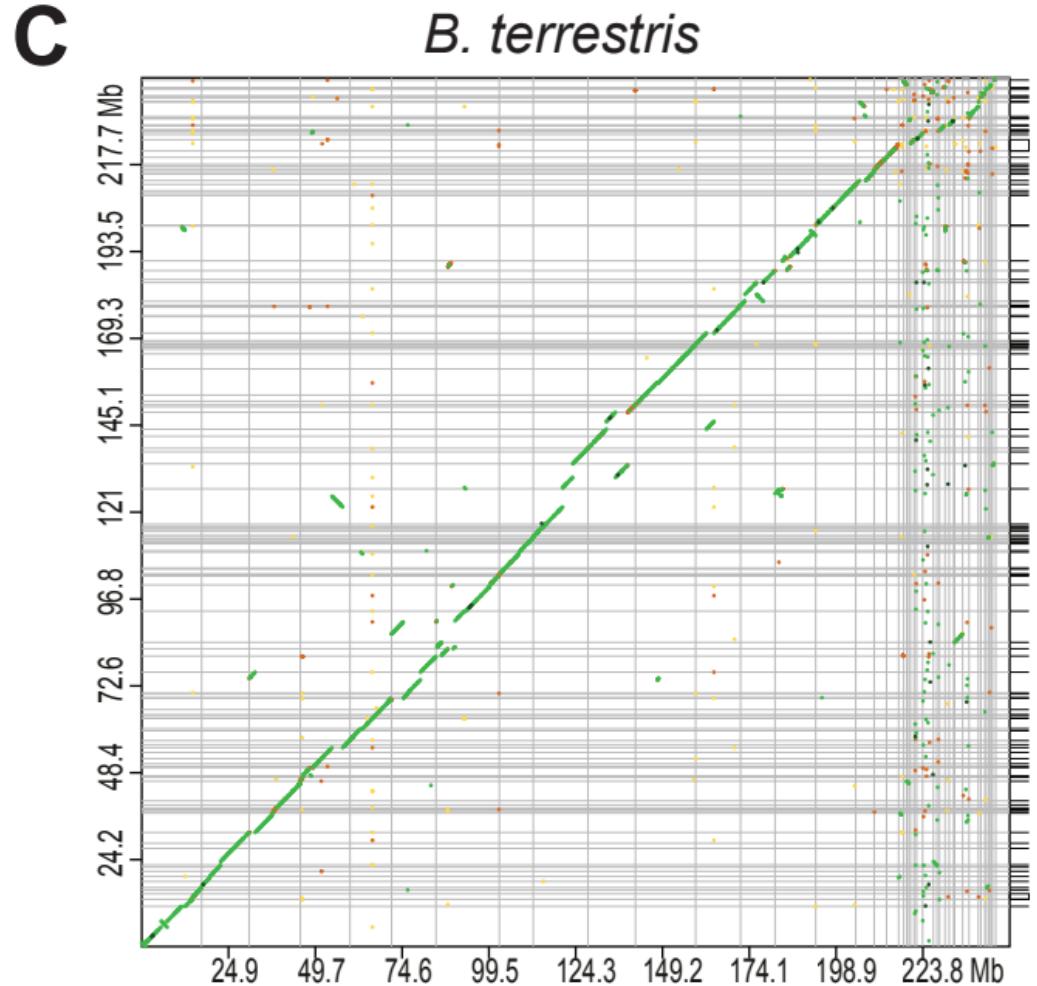
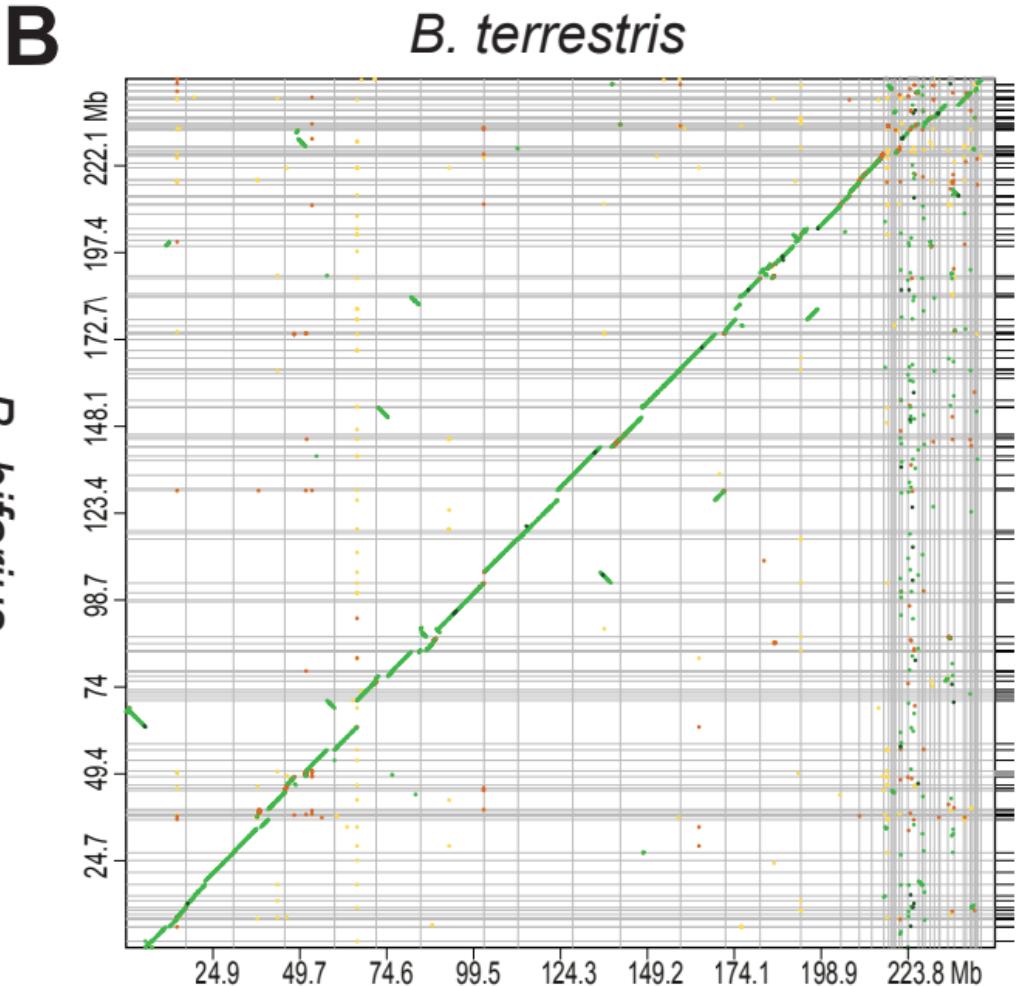
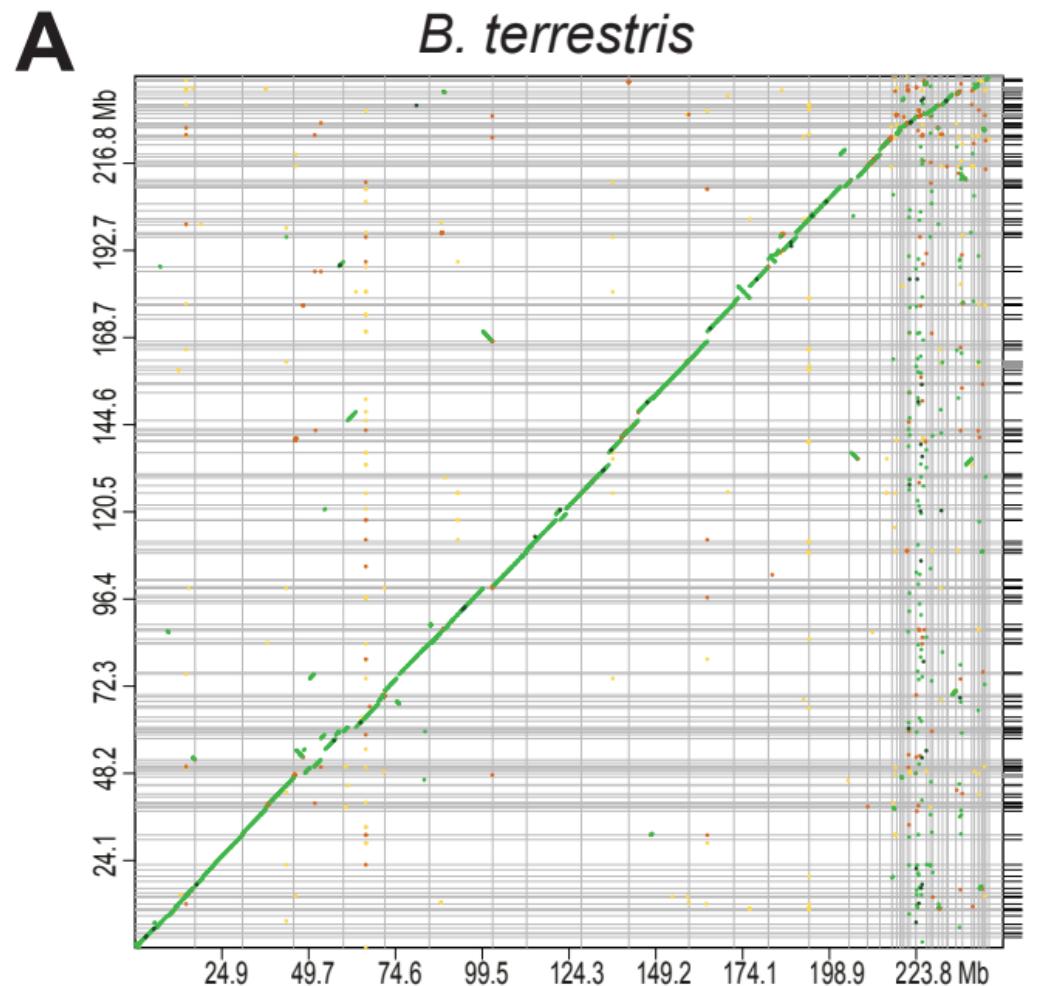


A



B

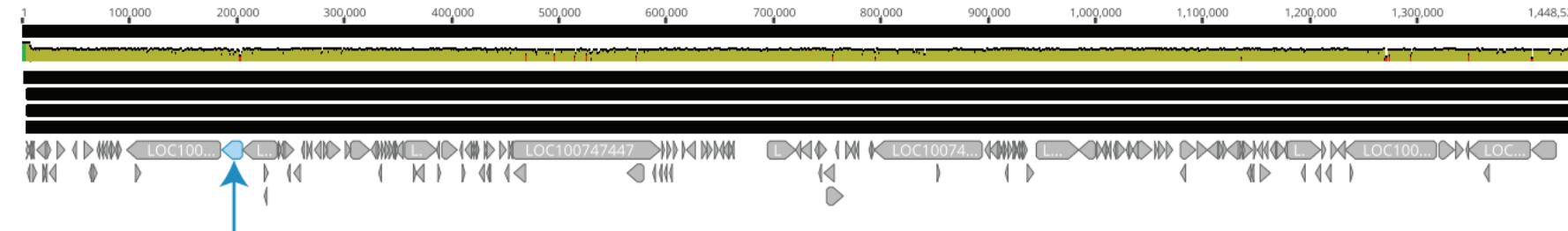




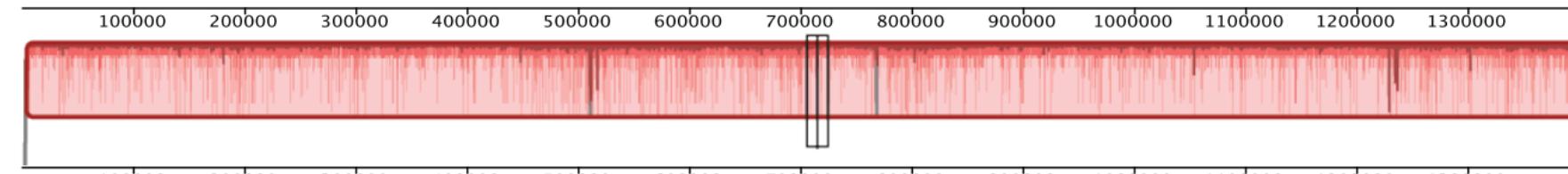
B. vosnesenskii

A

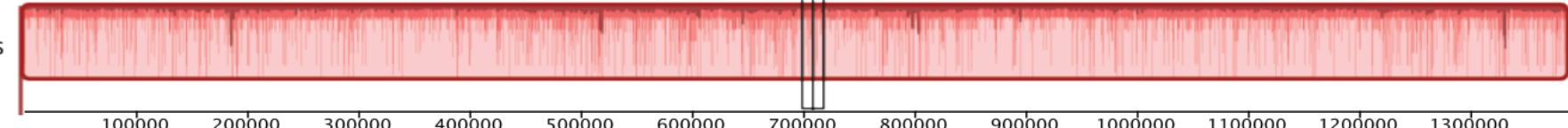
Identity
B. bifarius
B. vancouverensis
B. vosnesenskii
B. impatiens

**B**

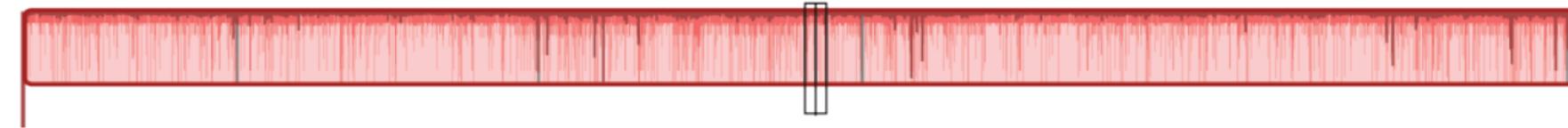
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B. vancouverensis
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B. vosnesenskii
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B. impatiens
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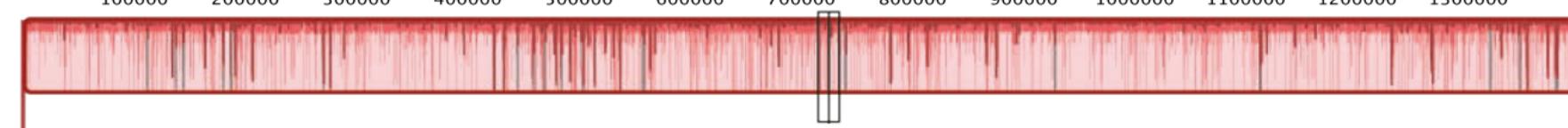


Table 1: Summary of sample collection information

Species	Sample	Source Locality	Latitude	Longitude	Elevation (m)
<i>B. bifarius</i>	JDL3187	Boulder County Colorado, US	39.940	-105.560	2,760
<i>B. vancouverensis</i>	JDL1245	Tulare County California, US	36.597	-118.736	2,214
<i>B. vosnesenskii</i>	JDL3184	Jackson County Oregon, US	42.152	-122.621	685
	JDL3185	Jackson County Oregon, US	42.152	-122.621	685

Table 2: Sequencing statistics. Number of reads (read pairs for Illumina) at each stage in data filtering, including raw data, bacteria-filtered first-assembly data, and filtered data passed to the final second-round assembly. Estimated coverage is based on the number of sequence bases provided to the final assembly and an assumed genome size similar to *B. impatiens* (245.9 Mb).

Species	Sequencing	No. raw reads (No. bases)	No. reads first assembly (No. bases)	No. reads second assembly (No. bases)	Estimated coverage
<i>B. bifarius</i>	Illumina	9.00x10 ⁷ (26.98 Gb)	8.98x10 ⁷ (26.94 Gb)	8.49x10 ⁷ (25.48 Gb)	103.6x
	ONT	1.72x10 ⁶ (6.35 Gb)	1.63x10 ⁶ (5.91 Gb)	1.46x10 ⁶ (5.57 Gb)	22.7x
<i>B. vancouverensis</i>	Illumina	8.97x10 ⁷ (26.92 Gb)	8.96x10 ⁷ (26.86 Gb)	8.06x10 ⁷ (24.18 Gb)	98.3x
	ONT	2.58x10 ⁶ (10.43 GB)	2.53x10 ⁶ (9.92 Gb)	2.27x10 ⁶ (9.19 Gb)	37.4x
<i>B. vosnesenskii</i>	Illumina	8.90x10 ⁷ (26.72 Gb)	8.88x10 ⁷ (26.66 Gb)	8.20x10 ⁷ (24.62 Gb)	100.1x
	ONT	2.08x10 ⁶ (9.00 Gb)	2.02x10 ⁶ (8.55 Gb)	1.72x10 ⁶ (7.84 Gb)	31.9x

Table 3: Assembly statistics and BUSCO analyses for the three focal species genomes in comparison to other *Bombus* genomes.

Species	Assembly statistics				BUSCO results ^a		
	Length N50 (Mb)	No. (Mb)	GC % scaffolds	Complete [single, duplicated]	Fragmented	Missing	
<i>B. bifarius</i>	266.8	2.20	1,249	37.96	98.1% [97.7%,0.4%]	0.6%	1.3%
<i>B. vancouverensis</i>	282.1	3.06	1,162	38.02	98.4% [97.9%,0.5%]	0.6%	1.0%
<i>B. vosnesenskii</i>	275.6	2.83	1,429	37.93	98.2% [98.0%, 0.2%]	0.6%	1.2%
<i>B. terrestris</i> v.1.0 ^b	248.7	12.9	5,609	37.51	96.9% [96.7%, 0.2%]	1.5%	1.6%
<i>B. impatiens</i> v.2.2 ^c	245.9	1.41	2,506	37.76	98.3% [98.1%, 0.2%]	0.7%	1.0%

^aBUSCO analysis run using the OrthoDB v.10, Hymenoptera dataset containing 5,991 genes

^b*Bombus terrestris* genome assembly version: Bter_1.0

^c*Bombus impatiens* genome assembly version: BIMP_2.2

Table 4: Annotation statistics from NCBI Eukaryotic genome annotation pipeline for the three focal species genomes in comparison to other *Bombus* genomes. In the case of the three focal genomes, all are on annotation release 100 whereas *B. impatiens* and *B. terrestris* are on 103 and 102 respectively. Details on data used for annotation and comparative statistics are available at the NCBI links given in footnotes a-c.

	<i>B. bifarius</i> ^a	<i>B. vancouverensis</i> ^b	<i>B. vosnesenskii</i> ^c	<i>B. impatiens</i> ^d	<i>B. terrestris</i> ^e
Genes: total	13,325	13,687	13,527	13,161	11,083
Protein coding genes	11,148	11,338	11,184	10,632	10,400
Non-coding genes	1,653	1,802	1,789	2,293	607
Pseudogenes	524	547	554	236	76
mRNA: total	23,896	24,385	24,067	24,471	20,321
Non-coding RNA: total	2,731	2,964	2,974	3,542	1,428

^a https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/Bombus_bifarius/100/

^b https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/Bombus_vancouverensis_nearcticus/100/

^c https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/Bombus_vosnesenskii/100/

^d https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/Bombus_impatiens/103/

^e https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/annotation_euk/Bombus_terrestris/102/