




DATA NOTE

The genome sequence of the Gold Triangle, *Hypsopygia costalis* (Fabricius, 1775) [version 1; peer review: 2 approved]

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Abstract

We present a genome assembly from an individual male *Hypsopygia costalis* (the Gold Triangle; Arthropoda; Insecta; Lepidoptera; Pyralidae). The genome sequence is 818 megabases in span. Most of the assembly is scaffolded into 31 chromosomal pseudomolecules with the Z sex chromosome assembled. The mitochondrial genome has also been assembled and is 15.3 kilobases in length. Gene annotation of this assembly on Ensembl identified 19,248 protein coding genes.

Keywords



Hypsopygia costalis, Gold Triangle, genome sequence, chromosomal, Lepidoptera




This article is included in the [Tree of Life gateway](#).

Open Peer Review

Approval Status  

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Any reports and responses or comments on the article can be found at the end of the article.

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Author roles: **Boyes D:** Investigation, Resources; **Hammond J:** Writing – Original Draft Preparation, Writing – Review & Editing;

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Species taxonomy

Eukaryota; Metazoa; Ecdysozoa; Arthropoda; Hexapoda; Insecta; Pterygota; Neoptera; Endopterygota; Lepidoptera; Glossata; Ditrysia; Pyraloidea; Pyralidae; Pyralinae; *Hypsopygia*; *Hypsopygia costalis* (Fabricius, 1775) (NCBI:txid1101110).

Background

Hypsopygia costalis (Fabricius, 1775) is a moth in the Pyralidae family, known as the Gold Triangle in the British Isles, and the Clover Hayworm in North America. Its British and Irish common name derives from the characteristic golden yellow triangular markings formed where the narrow fasciae broaden as they meet the costa. Within the British Isles, the moth is most often encountered in England and Wales, becoming scarcer as it moves north towards the extremity of its range in the Scottish Borders (Cubitt, 2021; Parsons & Davis, 2018). The species is apparently absent from Ireland, with only three records that may constitute accidental imports (Walsh *et al.*, 2009). Globally, the moth occurs in Europe and eastern North America (GBIF Secretariat, 2021).

The larva feeds on dried vegetation, most notably hay made from clover or alfalfa, of which it can be a serious pest, thus earning it its North American common name (Goater *et al.*, 1986; Parsons & Davis, 2018; Swenk, 1908). The species is also thought to feed on thatch and has even been reported feeding on vegetable matter within a squirrel's drey (Goater *et al.*, 1986). Pupation occurs within an oval cocoon in the feeding locale (Parsons & Davis, 2018). The adult moth measures 18–22 mm in wingspan and is on the wing from July to November (Goater *et al.*, 1986; Parsons & Davis, 2018). It is nocturnal, resting by day in thatch and hedgerows, or in the case of a hay infestation, can be found resting on the walls of barns (Goater *et al.*, 1986; Swenk, 1908). The adult is attracted to light, and has also been reported at sugar (Swenk, 1908).

The genome of *H. costalis* was sequenced as part of the Darwin Tree of Life Project, a collaborative effort to sequence all

named eukaryotic species in the Atlantic Archipelago of Britain and Ireland. Here we present a chromosomally complete genome sequence for *H. costalis*, based on one male specimen from Wytham Woods, Berkshire, UK.

Genome sequence report

The genome was sequenced from one male *H. costalis* (Figure 1) collected from Wytham Woods, Berkshire, UK (latitude 51.77, longitude -1.34). A total of 50-fold coverage in Pacific Biosciences single-molecule HiFi long reads and 38-fold coverage in 10X Genomics read clouds was generated. Primary assembly contigs were scaffolded with chromosome conformation Hi-C data. Manual assembly curation corrected seven missing or mis-joins and removed one haplotypic duplication, reducing the scaffold number by 7.69%.

The final assembly has a total length of 817.7 Mb in 48 sequence scaffolds with a scaffold N50 of 28.9 Mb (Table 1). Most (99.91%) of the assembly sequence was assigned to 31 chromosomal-level scaffolds, representing 30 autosomes and the Z sex chromosome. Chromosome-scale scaffolds confirmed by the Hi-C data are named in order of size (Figure 2–Figure 5; Table 2). The assembly has a BUSCO v5.3.2 (Manni *et al.*, 2021) completeness of 98.8% (single 98.2%, duplicated 0.6%) using the OrthoDB v10 lepidoptera reference set. While not fully phased, the assembly deposited is of one haplotype. Contigs corresponding to the second haplotype have also been deposited.

Genome annotation report

The GCA_937001555.1 genome assembly was annotated using the Ensembl rapid annotation pipeline (Table 1; https://rapid.ensembl.org/Hypsopygia_costalis_GCA_937001555.1/). The resulting annotation includes 19,419 transcripts from 19,248 protein-coding genes.

Methods

Sample acquisition and nucleic acid extraction

Two *H. costalis* (ilHypCost1 and ilHypCost2) specimens were collected in Wytham Woods, Berkshire, UK (latitude 51.77,



Figure 1. Photograph of the *Hypsopygia costalis* (ilHypCost1) specimen used for genome sequencing.

Table 1. Genome data for *Hypsopygia costalis*, ilHypCost1.2.

Project accession data		
Assembly identifier	ilHypCost1.2.	
Species	<i>Hypsopygia costalis</i>	
Specimen	ilHypCost1	
NCBI taxonomy ID	1101110	
BioProject	PRJEB51267	
BioSample ID	SAMEA7701325	
Isolate information	male: ilHypCost1 (PacBio, 10X sequencing), female: ilHypCost2 (Hi-C)	
Assembly metrics*		Benchmark
Consensus quality (QV)	58.2	≥ 50
k-mer completeness	100%	≥ 95%
BUSCO**	C:98.8%[S:98.2%,D:0.6%], F:0.3%,M:0.9%,n:5,286	C ≥ 95%
Percentage of assembly mapped to chromosomes	99.91%	≥ 95%
Sex chromosomes	Z chromosome	localised homologous pairs
Organelles	Mitochondrial genome assembled	complete single alleles
Raw data accessions		
PacificBiosciences SEQUEL II	ERR9127941, ERR9468770	
10X Genomics Illumina	ERR9123818-ERR9123821	
Hi-C Illumina	ERR9123822	
Genome assembly		
Assembly accession	GCA_937001555.2	
Accession of alternate haplotype	GCA_937001695.1	
Span (Mb)	817.7	
Number of contigs	75	
Contig N50 length (Mb)	2.7	
Number of scaffolds	48	
Scaffold N50 length (Mb)	28.9	
Longest scaffold (Mb)	34.4	
Genome annotation		
Number of protein-coding genes	19,248	
Number of gene transcripts	19,419	

* Assembly metric benchmarks are adapted from column VGP-2020 of “Table 1: Proposed standards and metrics for defining genome assembly quality” from (Rhie *et al.*, 2021).

** BUSCO scores based on the lepidoptera_odb10 BUSCO set using v5.3.2. C = complete [S = single copy, D = duplicated], F = fragmented, M = missing, n = number of orthologues in comparison. A full set of BUSCO scores is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/Hypsopygia%20costalis/dataset/CAKZJR01/busco>.

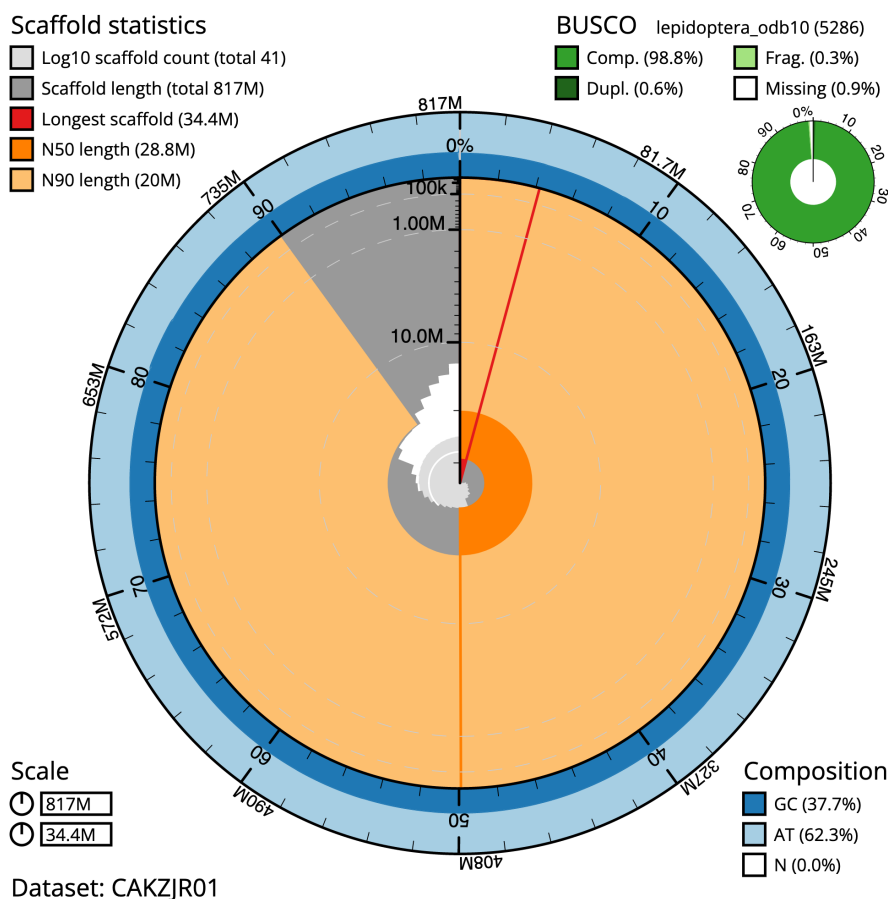


Figure 2. Genome assembly of *Hypsopygia costalis*, iHypCost1.2: metrics. The BlobToolKit Snailplot shows N50 metrics and BUSCO gene completeness. The main plot is divided into 1,000 size-ordered bins around the circumference with each bin representing 0.1% of the 816,870,447 bp assembly. The distribution of scaffold lengths is shown in dark grey with the plot radius scaled to the longest sequence present in the assembly (34,377,200 bp, shown in red). Orange and pale-orange arcs show the N50 and N90 sequence lengths (28,834,930 and 20,016,790 bp), respectively. The pale grey spiral shows the cumulative scaffold count on a log scale with white scale lines showing successive orders of magnitude. The blue and pale-blue area around the outside of the plot shows the distribution of GC, AT and N percentages in the same bins as the inner plot. A summary of complete, fragmented, duplicated and missing BUSCO genes in the lepidoptera_odb10 set is shown in the top right. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/Hypsopygia%20costalis/dataset/CAKZJR01/snail>.

longitude -1.34) using a light trap. The specimens were collected and identified by Douglas Boyes (University of Oxford) and snap-frozen on dry ice.

DNA was extracted at the Tree of Life laboratory, Wellcome Sanger Institute (WSI). The iHypCost1 sample was weighed and dissected on dry ice. Whole organism tissue was disrupted using a Nippi Powermasher fitted with a BioMasher pestle. High molecular weight (HMW) DNA was extracted using the Qiagen MagAttract HMW DNA extraction kit. Low molecular weight DNA was removed from a 20 ng aliquot of extracted DNA using 0.8X AMPure XP purification kit prior to 10X Chromium sequencing; a minimum of 50 ng DNA was submitted for 10X sequencing. HMW DNA was sheared into an average fragment size of 12–20 kb in a Megaruptor 3 system with speed setting 30. Sheared DNA was purified by solid-phase reversible immobilisation using AMPure PB beads with a 1.8X ratio of beads to sample to remove the shorter fragments and concentrate the DNA sample. The

concentration of the sheared and purified DNA was assessed using a Nanodrop spectrophotometer and Qubit Fluorometer and Qubit dsDNA High Sensitivity Assay kit. Fragment size distribution was evaluated by running the sample on the FemtoPulse system.

Sequencing

Pacific Biosciences HiFi circular consensus and 10X Genomics read cloud DNA sequencing libraries were constructed according to the manufacturers' instructions. DNA sequencing was performed by the Scientific Operations core at the WSI on Pacific Biosciences SEQUEL II (HiFi) and Illumina NovaSeq 6000 (10X) instruments. Hi-C data were also generated from iHypCost2 using the Arima v2 kit and sequenced on the Illumina NovaSeq 6000 instrument.

Genome assembly

Assembly was carried out with Hifiasm (Cheng *et al.*, 2021) and haplotypic duplication was identified and removed

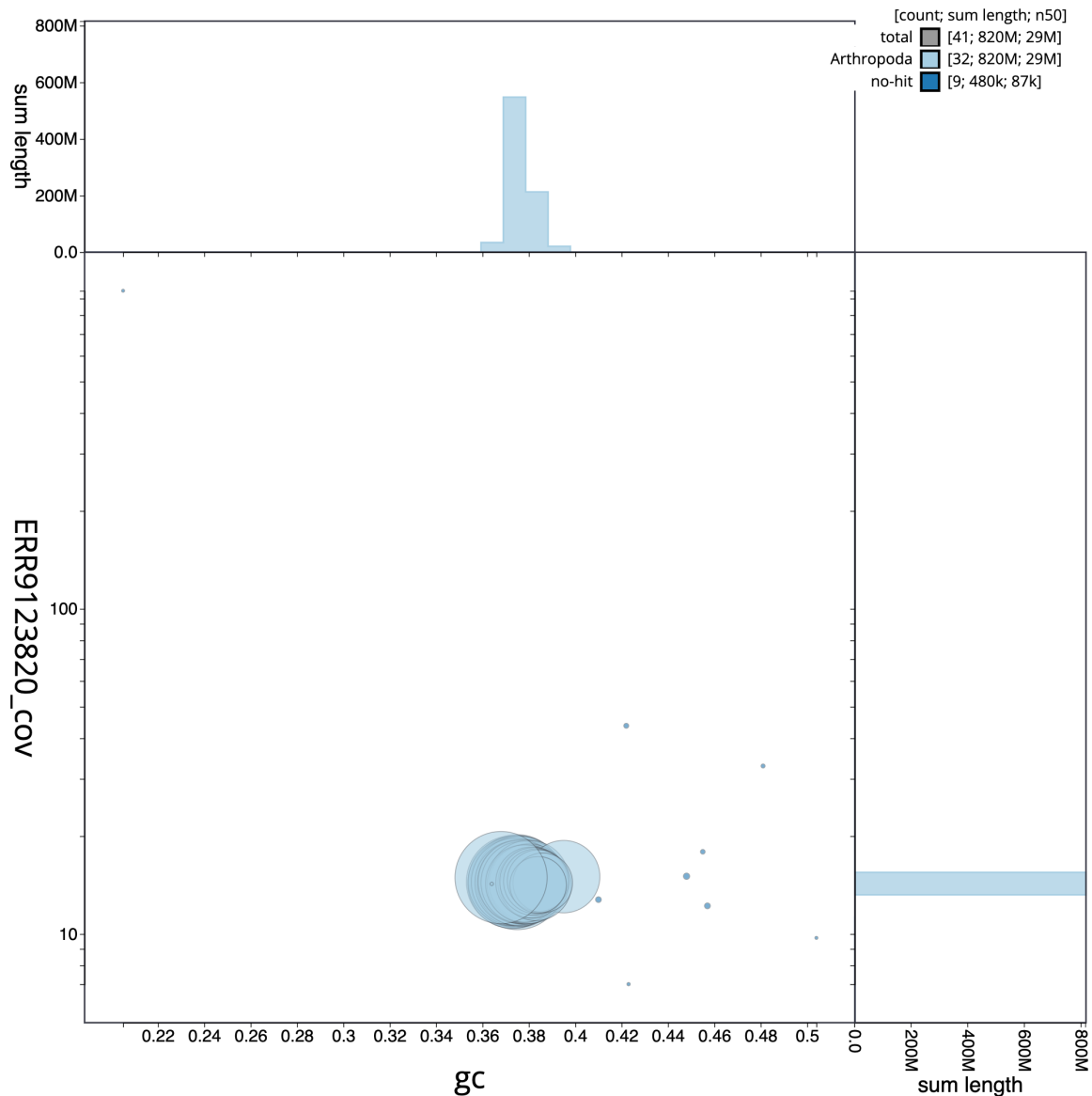


Figure 3. Genome assembly of *Hypsopygia costalis*, ilHypCost1.2: GC coverage. BlobToolKit GC-coverage plot. Scaffolds are coloured by phylum. Circles are sized in proportion to scaffold length. Histograms show the distribution of scaffold length sum along each axis. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/Hypsopygia%20costalis/dataset/CAKZJR01/blob>.

with `purge_dups` (Guan *et al.*, 2020). One round of polishing was performed by aligning 10X Genomics read data to the assembly with Long Ranger ALIGN, calling variants with freebayes (Garrison & Marth, 2012). The assembly was then scaffolded with Hi-C data (Rao *et al.*, 2014) using YaHS (Zhou *et al.*, 2022). The assembly was checked for contamination as described previously (Howe *et al.*, 2021). Manual curation was performed using HiGlass (Kerpedjiev *et al.*, 2018) and Pretext (Harry, 2022). The mitochondrial genome was assembled using MitoHiFi (Uliano-Silva *et al.*, 2021), which performed annotation using MitoFinder (Allio *et al.*, 2020).

The genome was analysed and BUSCO scores generated within the BlobToolKit environment (Challis *et al.*, 2020). Table 3 contains a list of all software tool versions used, where relevant.

Genome annotation

The BRAKER2 pipeline (Brůna *et al.*, 2021) was used to annotate the *H. costalis* genome assembly (GCA_937001555.1) in Ensembl Rapid Release. BRAKER2 performs automatic gene annotation as a draft annotation without transcriptomic data.

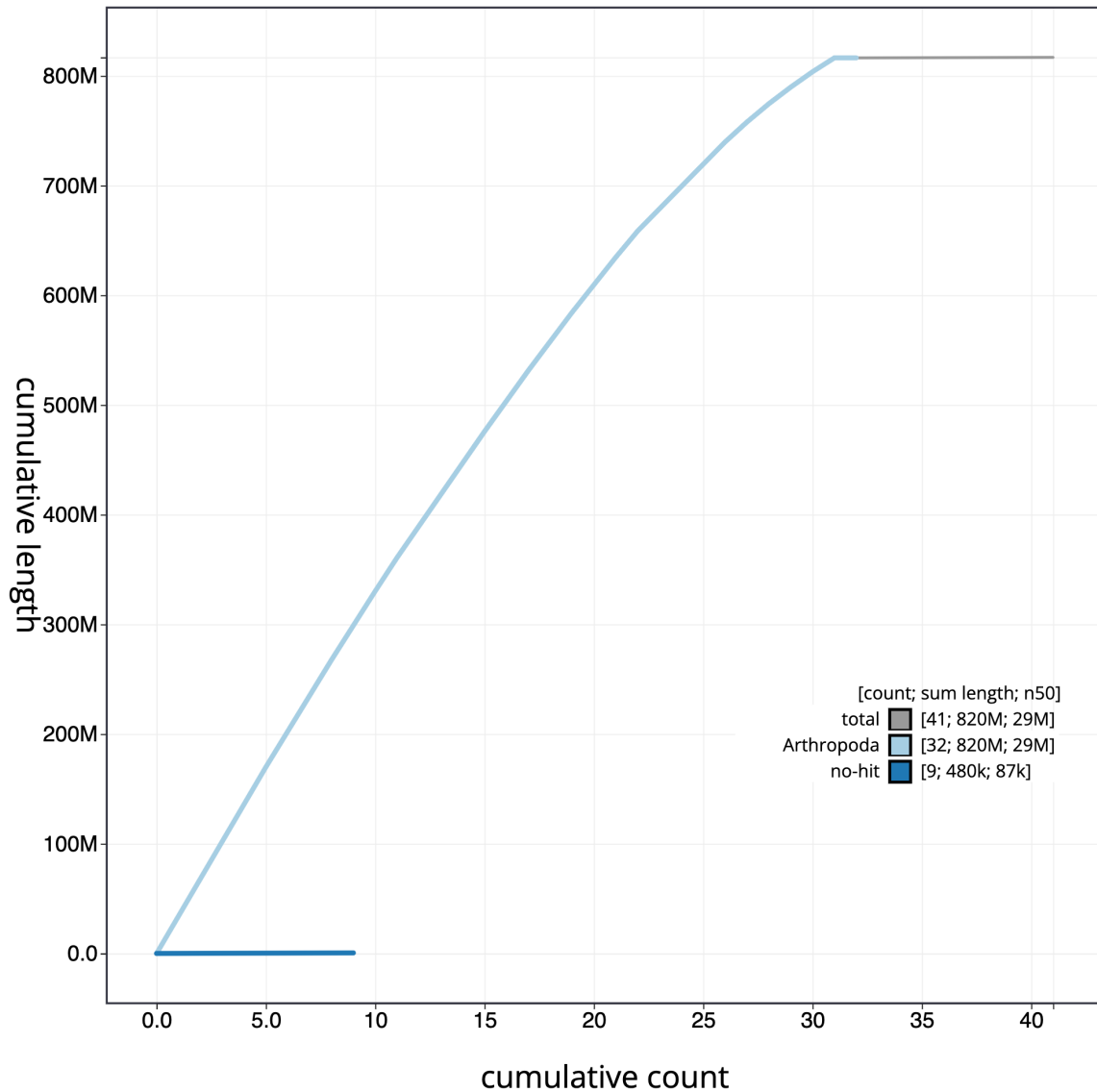


Figure 4. Genome assembly of *Hypsopygia costalis*, ilHypCost1.2: cumulative sequence. BlobToolKit cumulative sequence plot. The grey line shows cumulative length for all scaffolds. Coloured lines show cumulative lengths of scaffolds assigned to each phylum using the buscogenes taxrule. An interactive version of this figure is available at <https://blobtoolkit.genomehubs.org/view/Hypsopygia%20costalis/dataset/CAKZR01/cumulative>.

Ethics/compliance issues

The materials that have contributed to this genome note have been supplied by a Darwin Tree of Life Partner. The submission of materials by a Darwin Tree of Life Partner is subject to the [Darwin Tree of Life Project Sampling Code of Practice](#). By agreeing with and signing up to the Sampling Code of Practice, the Darwin Tree of Life Partner agrees they will meet the legal and ethical requirements and standards

set out within this document in respect of all samples acquired for, and supplied to, the Darwin Tree of Life Project. Each transfer of samples is further undertaken according to a Research Collaboration Agreement or Material Transfer Agreement entered into by the Darwin Tree of Life Partner, Genome Research Limited (operating as the Wellcome Sanger Institute), and in some circumstances other Darwin Tree of Life collaborators.

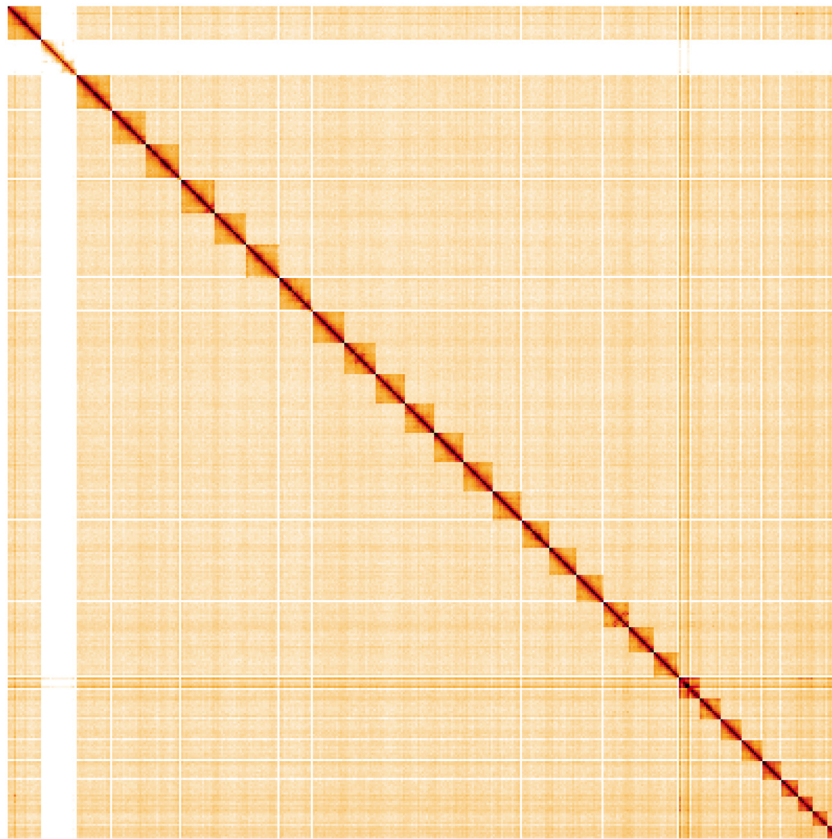


Figure 5. Genome assembly of *Hypsopygia costalis*, ilHypCost1.2: Hi-C contact map. Hi-C contact map of the ilHypCost1.2 assembly, visualised using HiGlass. The female specimen ilHypCost2 was used to generate the Hi-C library. Chromosomes are shown in order of size from left to right and top to bottom. An interactive version of this figure may be viewed at <https://genome-note-higlass.tol.sanger.ac.uk/?d=TGGC-QK7QQujf69Q2nhz8g>.

Table 2. Chromosomal pseudomolecules in the genome assembly of *Hypsopygia costalis*, ilHypCost1.

INSDC accession	Chromosome	Size (Mb)	GC content (%)
OW443325.1	1	34.38	37
OW443327.1	2	34.08	37
OW443328.1	3	33.84	37.5
OW443329.1	4	33.60	37
OW443330.1	5	32.82	37.5
OW443331.1	6	32.43	37
OW443332.1	7	32.22	37
OW443333.1	8	31.76	37
OW443334.1	9	30.97	37.5
OW443335.1	10	30.60	37
OW443336.1	11	28.89	37.5

INSDC accession	Chromosome	Size (Mb)	GC content (%)
OW443337.1	12	28.83	37.5
OW443338.1	13	28.79	37.5
OW443339.1	14	28.49	37.5
OW443340.1	15	28.07	37.5
OW443341.1	16	27.42	37.5
OW443342.1	17	26.85	37.5
OW443343.1	18	26.11	37.5
OW443344.1	19	25.31	37.5
OW443345.1	20	24.95	37.5
OW443346.1	21	23.97	37.5
OW443347.1	22	20.93	39.5
OW443348.1	23	20.17	38
OW443349.1	24	20.14	38
OW443350.1	25	20.02	38
OW443351.1	26	18.16	38
OW443352.1	27	16.62	38
OW443353.1	28	15.10	38
OW443354.1	29	14.08	38.5
OW443355.1	30	12.61	38
OW443326.1	Z	34.14	36.5
OW443356.1	MT	0.02	20.5

Table 3. Software tools and versions used.

Software tool	Version	Source
BlobToolKit	3.4.0	Challis et al., 2020
freebayes	1.3.1-17-gaa2ace8	Garrison & Marth, 2012
Hifiasm	0.16.1-r375	Cheng et al., 2021
HiGlass	1.11.6	Kerpedjiev et al., 2018
Long Ranger ALIGN	2.2.2	https://support.10xgenomics.com/genome-exome/software/pipelines/latest/advanced/other-pipelines
MitoHiFi	2	Uliano-Silva et al., 2021
PretextView	0.2	Harry, 2022
purge_dups	1.2.3	Guan et al., 2020
YaHS	yahs-1.1.91eebc2	Zhou et al., 2022

Data availability

European Nucleotide Archive: *Hypsopygia costalis* (gold triangle). Accession number PRJEB51267; <https://identifiers.org/ena.embl/PRJEB51267>.

The genome sequence is released openly for reuse. The *Hypsopygia costalis* genome sequencing initiative is part of the Darwin Tree of Life (DTOL) project. All raw sequence data and the assembly have been deposited in INSDC databases. Raw data and assembly accession identifiers are reported in Table 1.

Author information

Members of the University of Oxford and Wytham Woods Genome Acquisition Lab are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4789928>.

Members of the Darwin Tree of Life Barcoding collective are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4893703>.

Members of the Wellcome Sanger Institute Tree of Life programme are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4783585>.

Members of Wellcome Sanger Institute Scientific Operations: DNA Pipelines collective are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4790455>.

Members of the Tree of Life Core Informatics collective are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.5013541>.

Members of the Darwin Tree of Life Consortium are listed here: <https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4783558>.

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Open Peer Review

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Reviewer Report 29 November 2023

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Jeffrey Vedanayagam

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The methods are clearly described, and the protocols used are current and technically sound. Although the data is not phased, the authors have acknowledged this and provided data from two haplotypes. The figures are clear and easy to interpret, and informative. The data is publicly available and the authors have deposited it to the EMBL biobank.

Is the rationale for creating the dataset(s) clearly described?

Yes

Are the protocols appropriate and is the work technically sound?

Yes

Are sufficient details of methods and materials provided to allow replication by others?

Yes

Are the datasets clearly presented in a useable and accessible format?

Yes

Competing Interests: No competing interests were disclosed.

Reviewer Expertise: Genomics, evolutionary biology, bioinformatics.

I confirm that I have read this submission and believe that I have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard.

Reviewer Report 29 November 2023

<https://doi.org/10.21956/wellcomeopenres.20785.r62215>

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The data note titled “The genome sequence of the Gold Triangle, *Hypsopygia costalis* (Fabricius, 1775)” presents the genome assembly of the Gold Triangle moth *Hypsopygia costalis* (Lepidoptera; Pyralidae). This pest has significant agricultural implications as it has been found to be injurious on clover hay and other types of hay, causing production losses as affected hay becomes contaminated with the caterpillar webbing and frass, thus, making it unsuitable for use as feed. Furthermore, the main control strategy for this pest requires the burning of the affected hay, which leads to further loss. The potential for invasion of this moth is also a cause for concern to production regions outside Europe where the moth is yet to be reported. Therefore, this is a very good paper with impact as a potential resource for future genomic studies, including population genetics, phylogeography, invasive potential, and identification of potential biological management options of the Gold Triangle moth. The note is thorough, describing the background of the insect, the genome assembly and annotation. The methodology is sound, and the results present a comprehensive view of the study genome.

My minor suggestions are:

The authors should revise the statement in the introduction, which reads, “*The adult is attracted to light, and has also been reported at sugar*”. Is the moth attracted to sugar, or was it found in sugar? This is a bit confusing either way, the statement should be rephrased properly.

Is the rationale for creating the dataset(s) clearly described?

Yes

Are the protocols appropriate and is the work technically sound?

Yes

Are sufficient details of methods and materials provided to allow replication by others?

Yes

Are the datasets clearly presented in a useable and accessible format?

Yes

Competing Interests: No competing interests were disclosed.

Reviewer Expertise: Molecular biology

We confirm that we have read this submission and believe that we have an appropriate level of expertise to confirm that it is of an acceptable scientific standard.
