



from the  GBIF Task Force on
Accelerating Discovery of Biocollections Data
– a Malacology Point-of-View

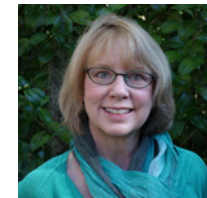
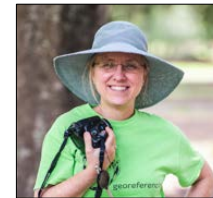
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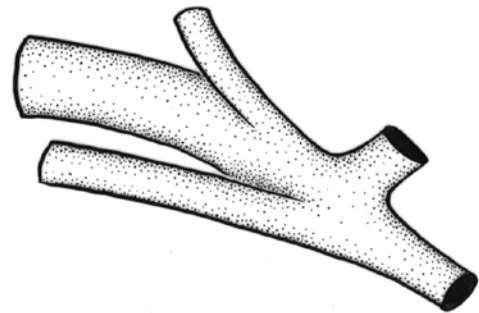
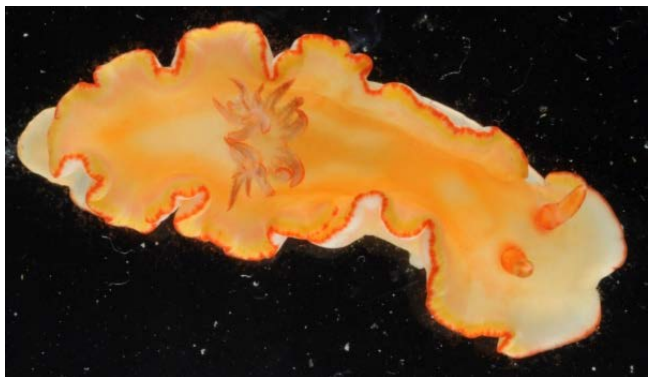
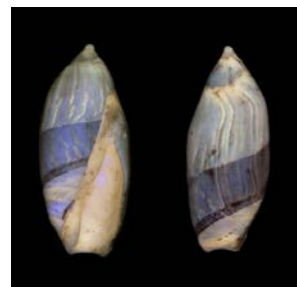
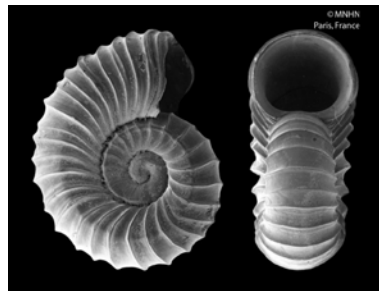
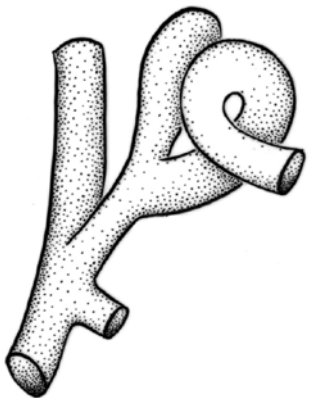
The Importance of Metadata for Discovery and
Digitization

Deborah Paul, Shari Ellis

iDigBio Mollusk Workshop July 2017, Newark, DE

tw @idbdeb @iDigBio







Digitisation Maturity?



Figure 4 Digitisation maturity model



GBIF TF: Accelerating Discovery of Biocollections Data

Why do this global survey?

- Look at *digital readiness*
- Update *current baseline*
- Identify *benefits of digitization*
- Document *key impediments*

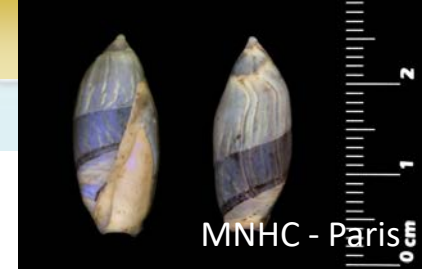
#mustGoFaster!
#needMetadata!

GBIF Task Force Members

1. Leonard Krishtalka, USA, Chair
2. Barbara Thiers, USA
3. Deborah Paul, USA
4. Eduardo Dalcin, Brazil
5. Masanori Nakae, Japan
6. Ian Owens, UK
7. Jean Ganglo, Benin
8. Marc Pignal, France
 - Siro Masinde, GBIF's TF Coordinator
 - Shari Ellis, Consultant to TF & iDigBio External

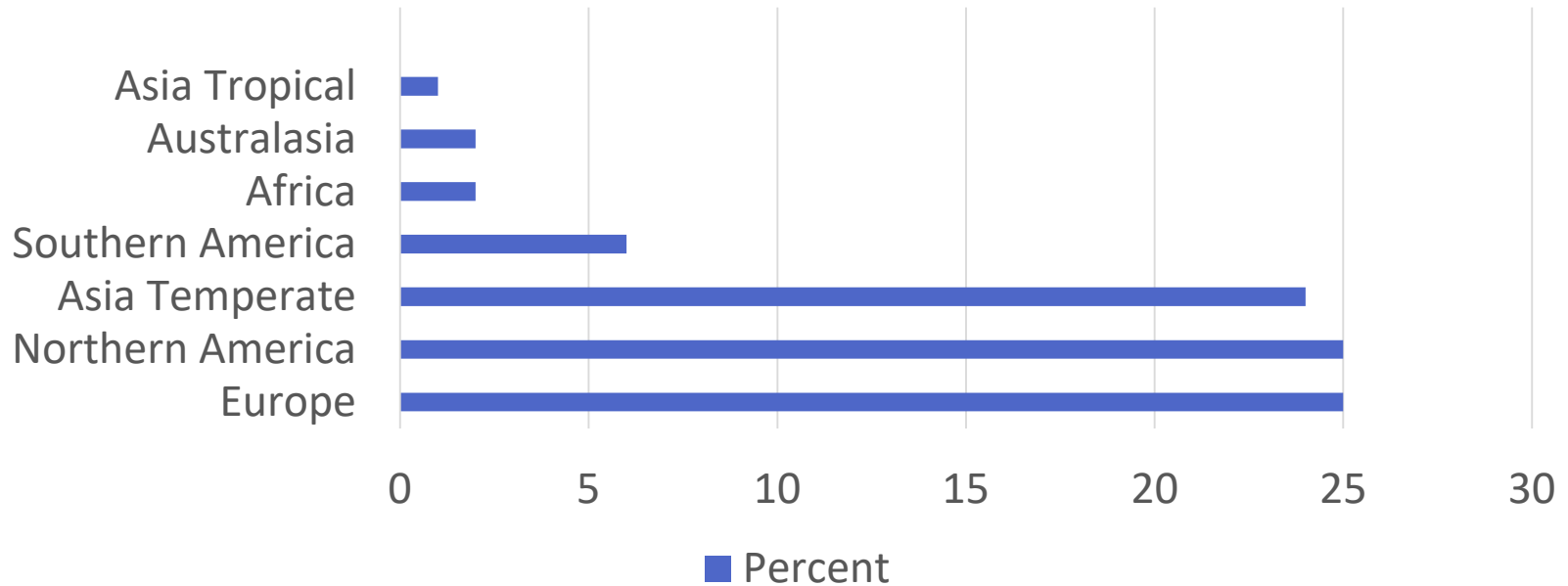


Photo by S. Masinde: GBIF TF meeting, 3 Nov 2015, Washington

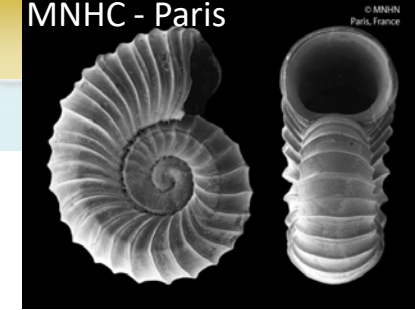


Respondents Saying They Have a Malacology Collection - by Region

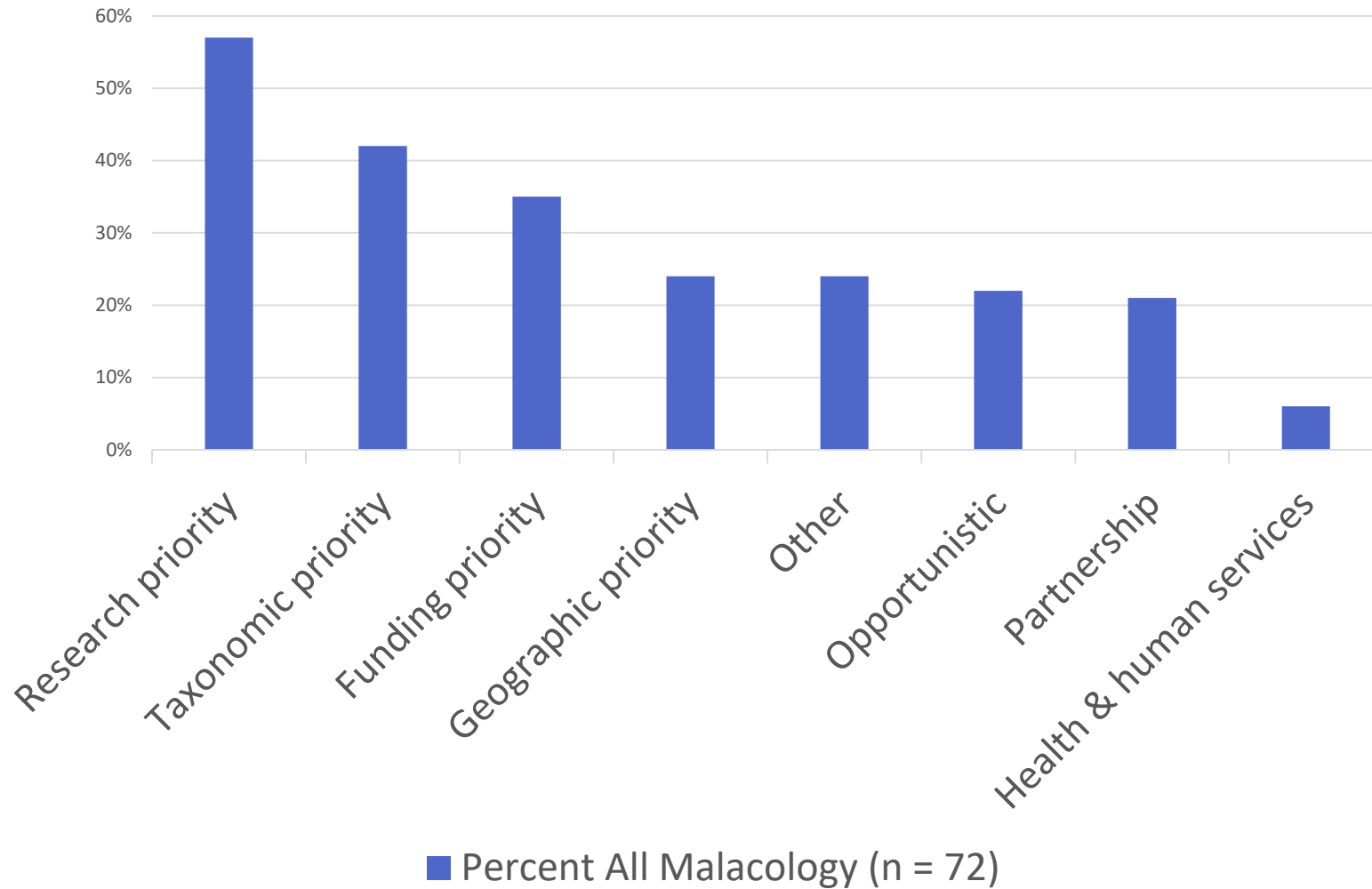
n=85/617



- 85/617 or 14% indicate they have a malacology collection.
- 20 of the 25 North American Collections responding are based in the US.

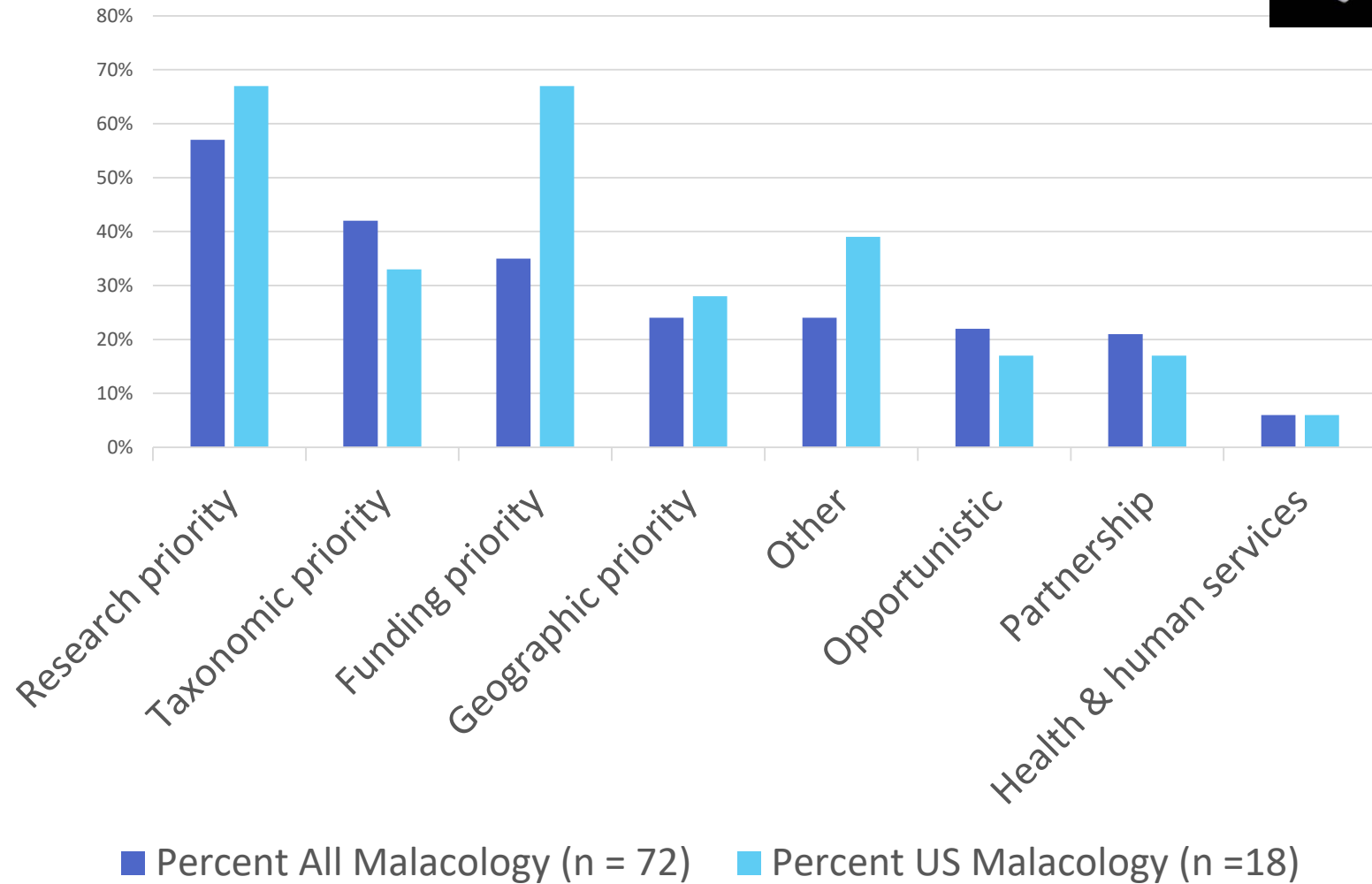


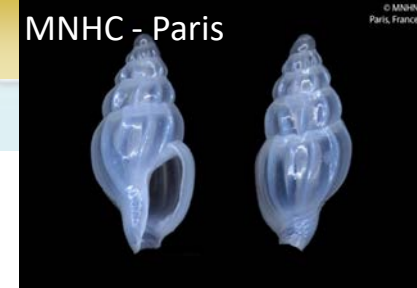
Setting Priorities for Digitization



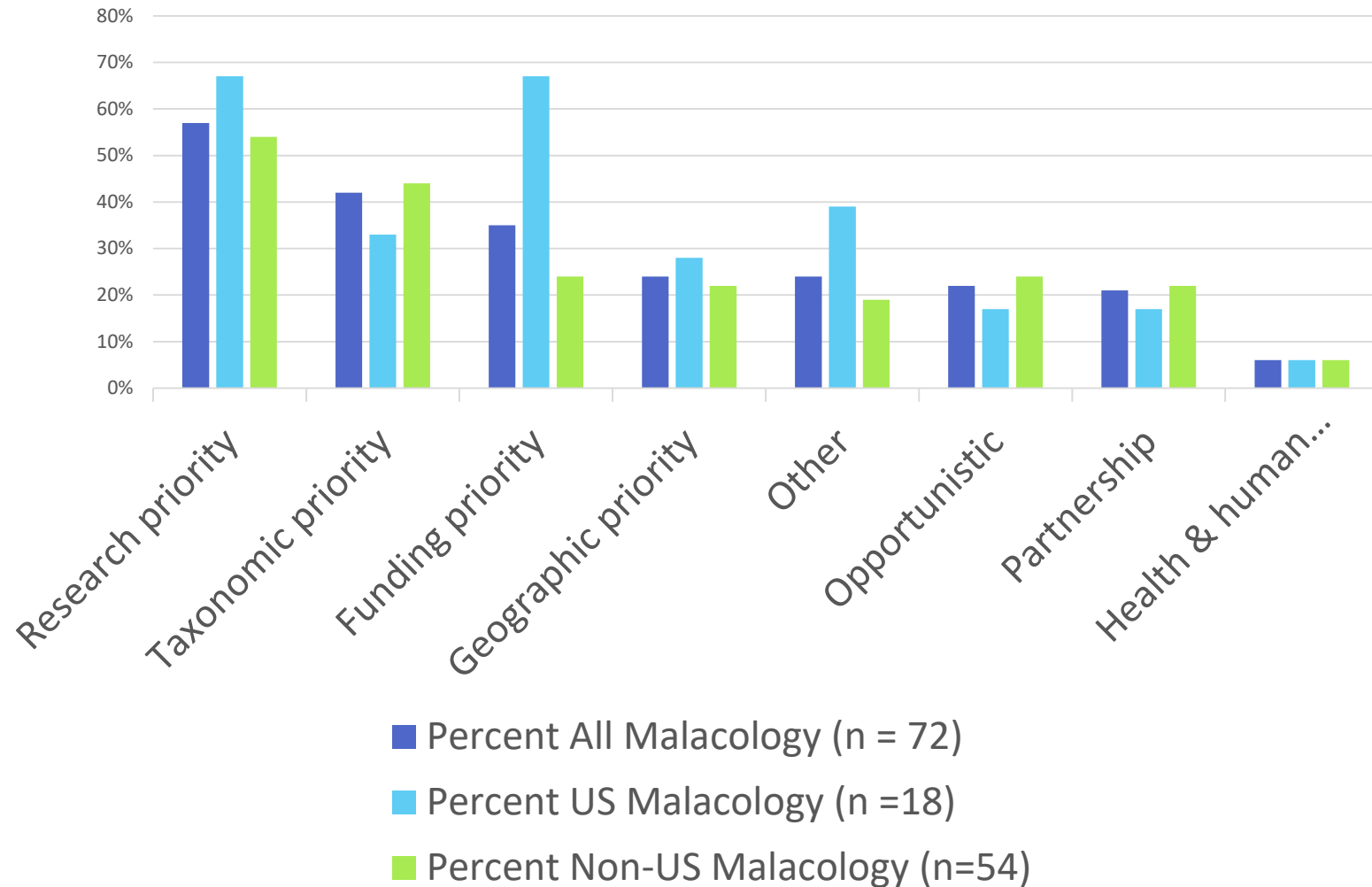


Setting Priorities for Digitization





Setting Priorities for Digitization

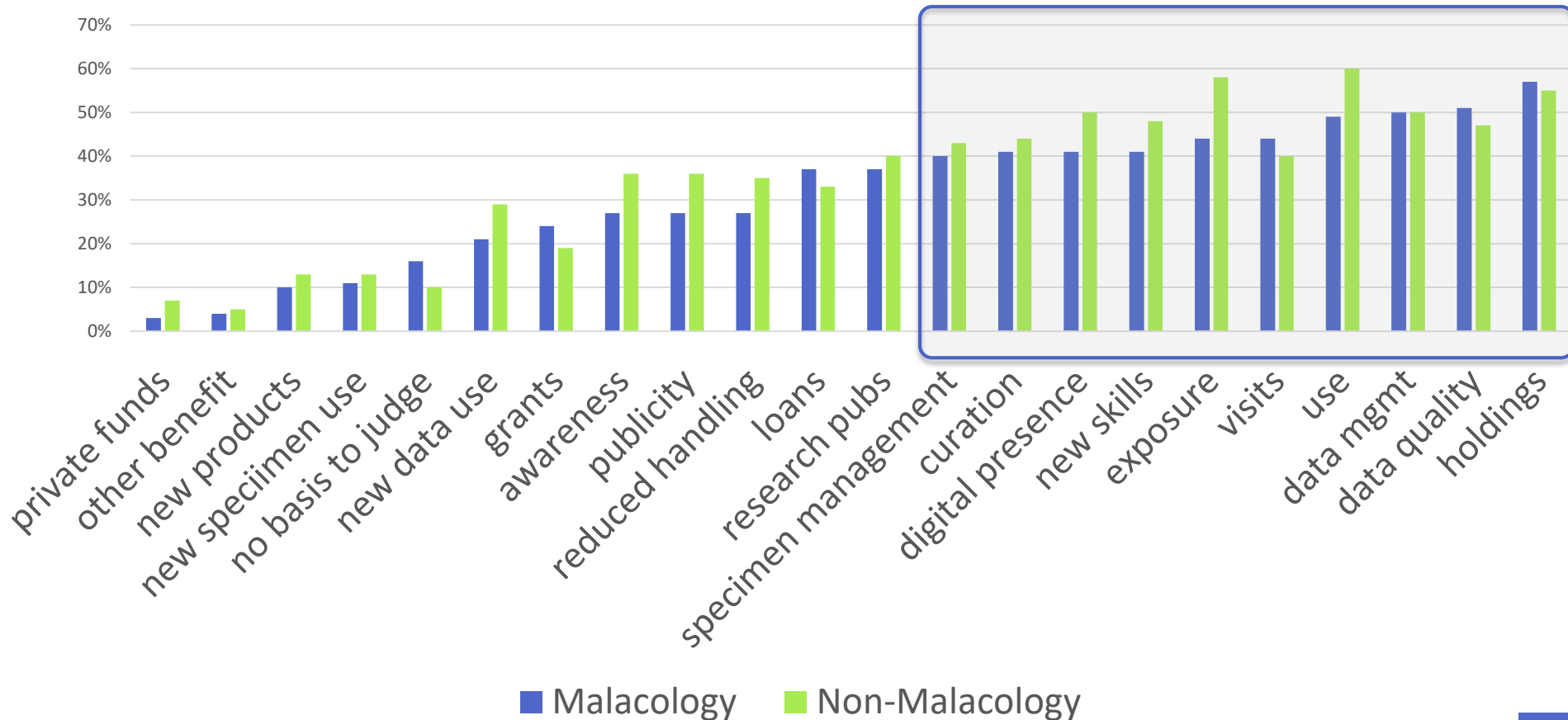




Reported benefits of digitization

Malacology / Non-malacology

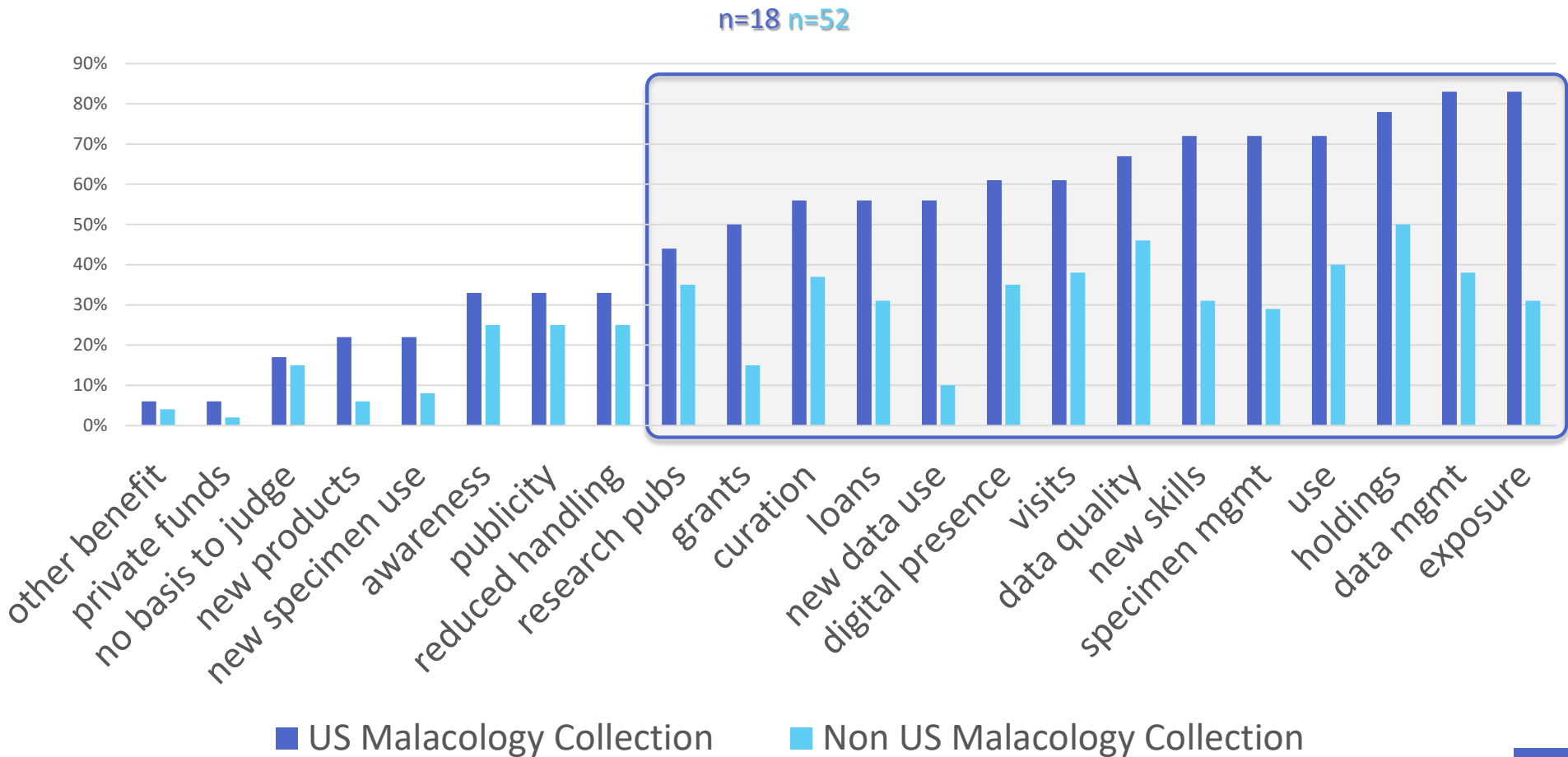
n=70 n≈445





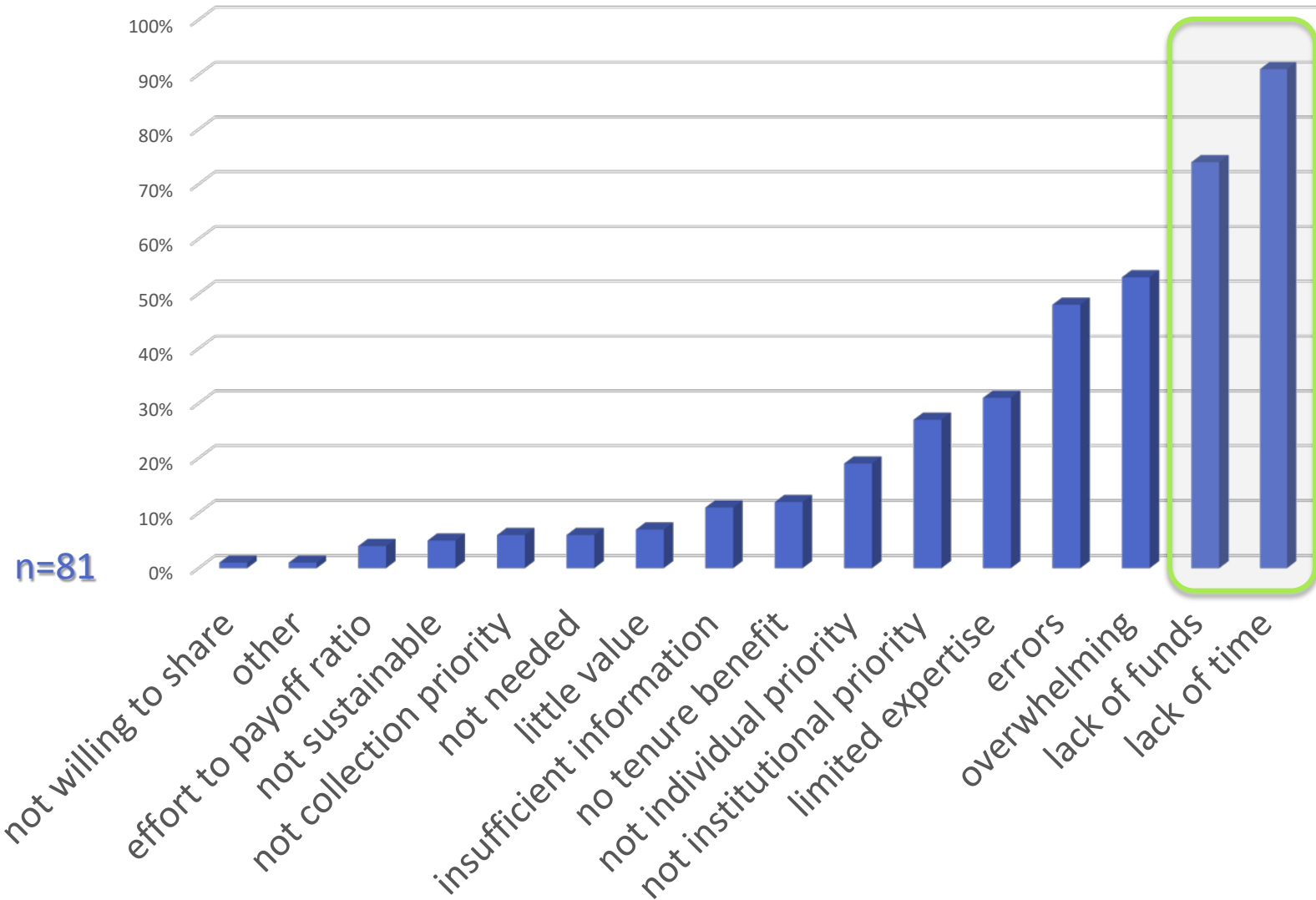
Reported benefits of digitization

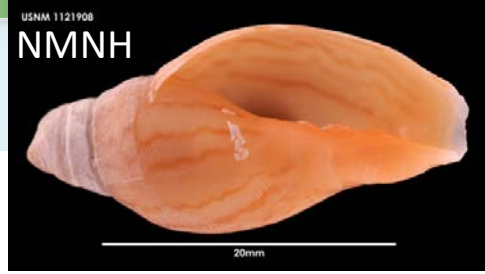
US Malacology / Non-US Malacology



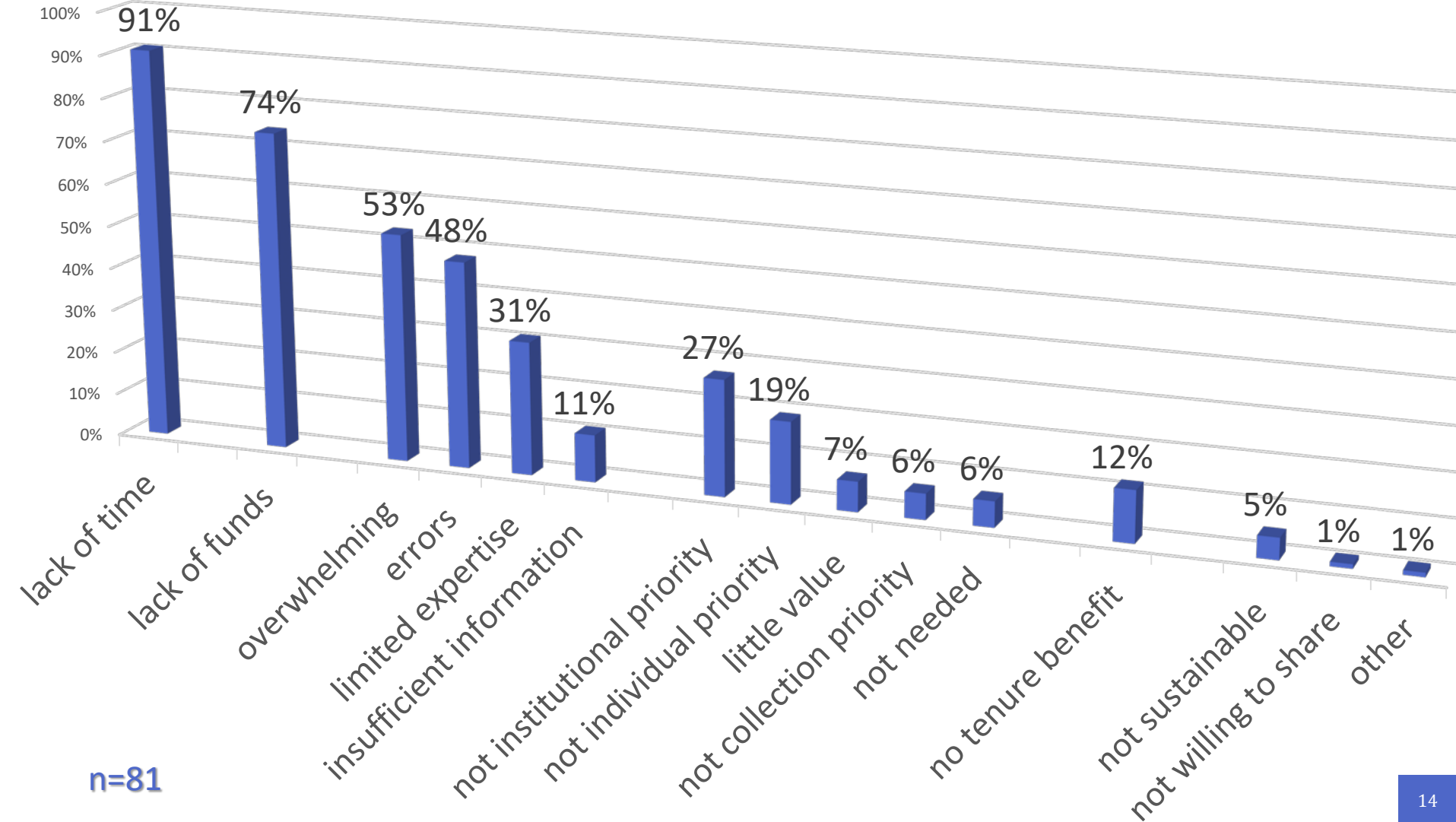


Obstacles to digitization





Grouping digitization obstacles



On overcoming obstacles - beyond lack of time and funds

Grouping obstacles to digitization

- size of task is overwhelming

- not an institutional / departmental priority, not good effort / payoff ratio, lack of perceived need, deemed not valuable or beneficial

- data has errors, limited expertise, lacking information on the digitization process

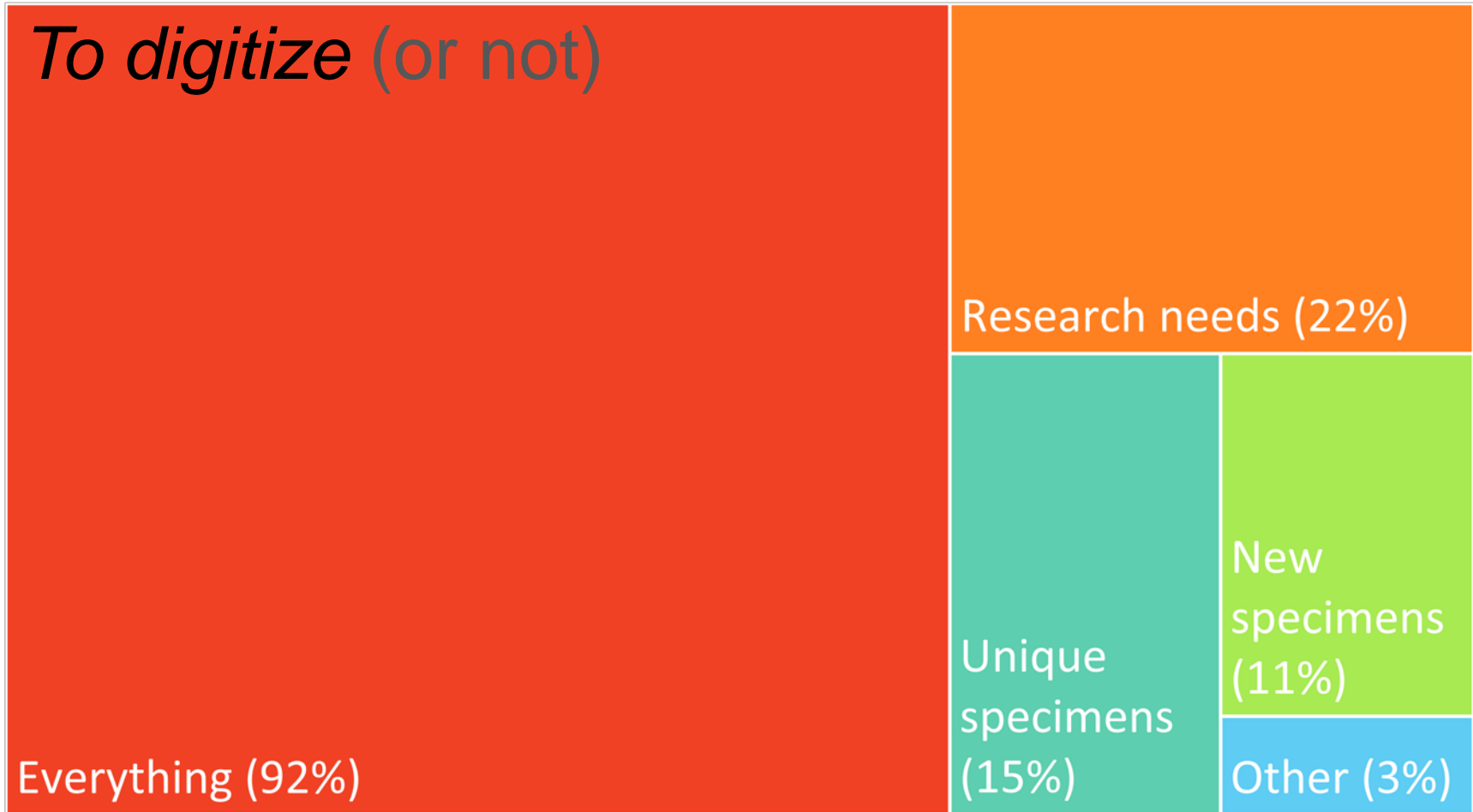
Possible responses to consider

- A given – start somewhere

- Focus on administrators and directors – provide statistics and use cases. SPNHC 2017 example.

- In year 6 of the ADBC program, at least in the USA, human and online resources are now abundant. Spread your knowledge.

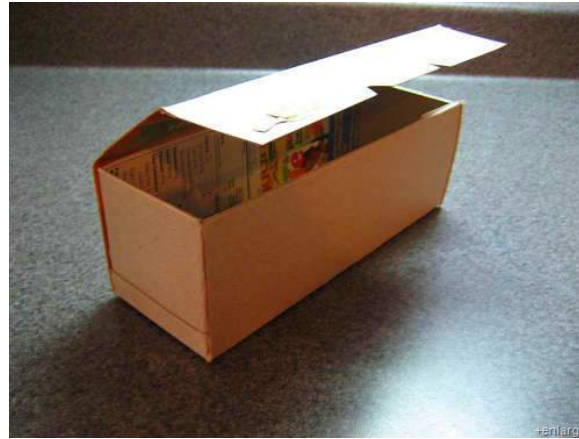
To digitize (or not)



n=72

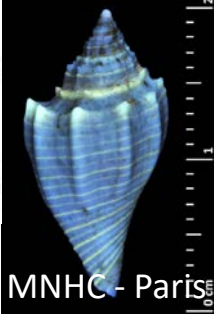
- Do not plan to digitize (n=0)
- New specimens (11%)
- Research needs (22%)
- Other (3%)
- Unique specimens (15%)
- Everything (92%)

What is Metadata? Why is it key?



*“If data are LEGO bricks, then **metadata are the shiny box and instructions**. They enable discovery of your collections, your datasets, and make it possible to assess relevance for particular needs, so it pays off investing some time providing them.”*





Instant Up-To-Date Collections Data? No more surveys!?! (well, fewer anyway)!

How? **Metadata**

- From GRBio, to GBIF, TDWG, Fantastic Fishes and Where to Find Them*
@iDigBio's US Collections List - we're working on interoperable APIs – but need Metadata to realize the dream.
- **The data you provided for this workshop!**
- fast, up-to-date information
- community will need to adopt / engage
- perhaps in your database, in the future
- See GBIF TF recommendations



* Randy Singer (iDigBio Grad Student), Kevin Love (iDigBio IT)



Let's get started



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Integrated Digitized Biocollections

