

From Bench to Big Data: What's new with MultiQC and Nextflow

Phil Ewels

Senior Product Manager for OSS @ Seqera



Background

PhD in the lab,
epigenetics



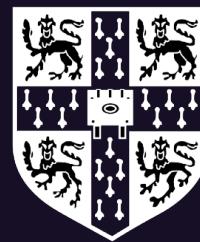
Postdoc, core
bioinformatics



Software
development



Background



UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE



LAB



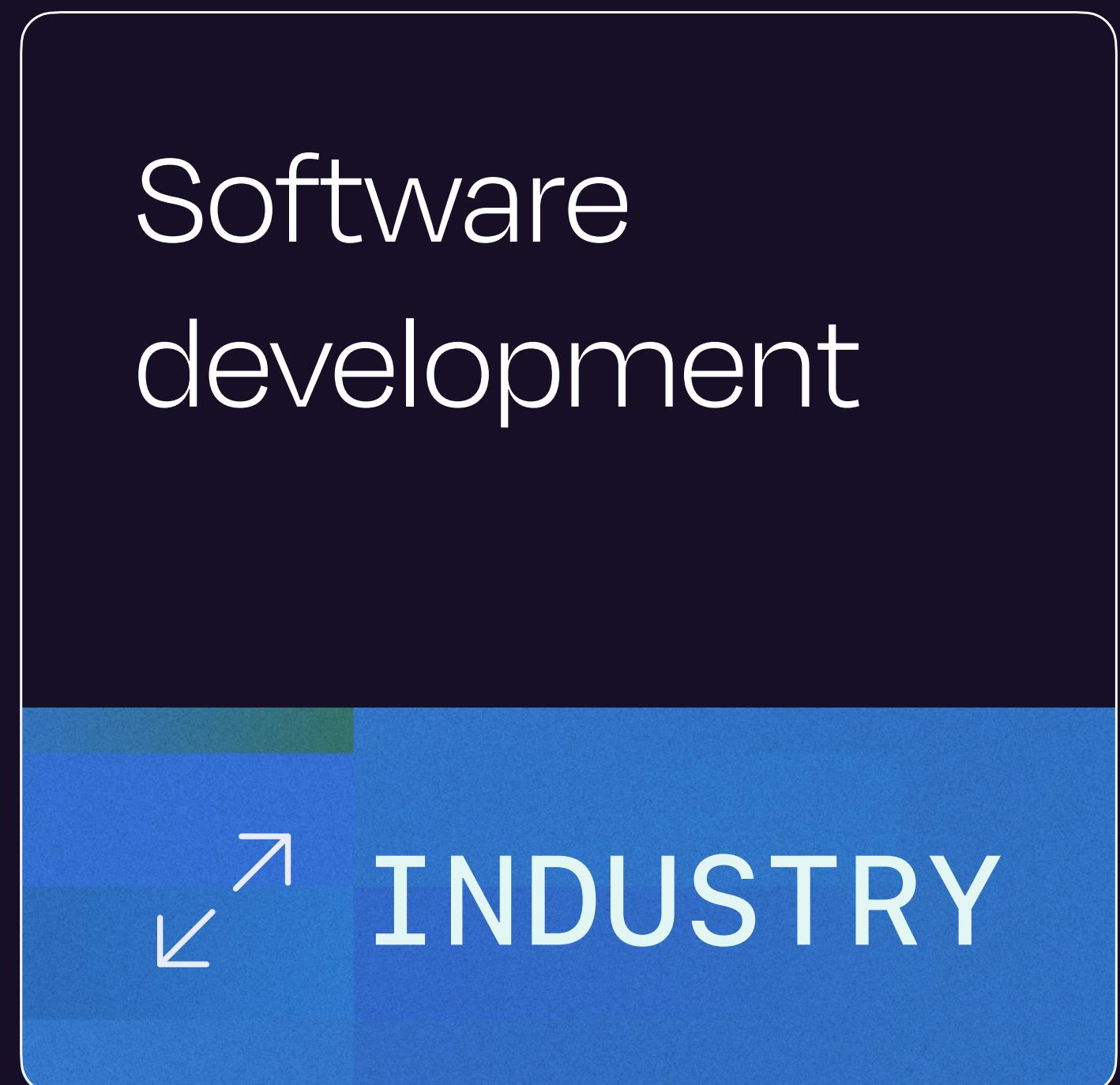
Postdoc, core
bioinformatics

</> INFRA

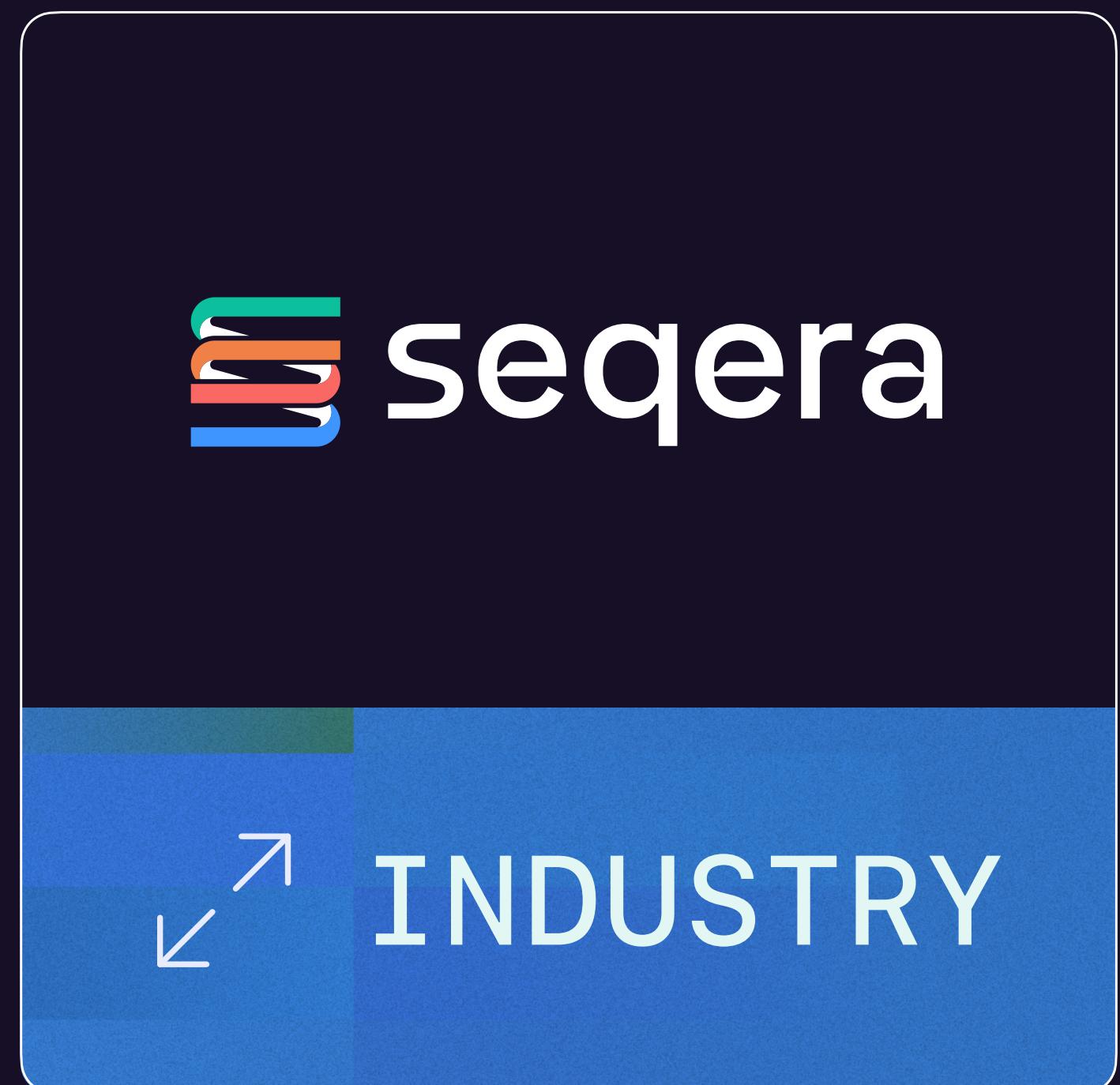
Software
development

↔ INDUSTRY

Background



Background



4×10^{16}

Storage Footprint

NCBI Sequence Read Archive

Bytes stored

3×10^{16}

2×10^{16}

1×10^{16}



06/05/2007

10/02/2011

07/05/2014

03/31/2017

12/29/2019

09/24/2022



LAB

</> INFRA

INDUSTRY



•

⋮

⋮



Advancing Science For Everyone Through Software

Open Source
Software

</> BUILD

Open Science
Resources

🔍 DISCOVER

Science
Infrastructure

↗ ↘ SCALE

Product Manager for
Open Source Software

 nextflow

 wave

 multiqc

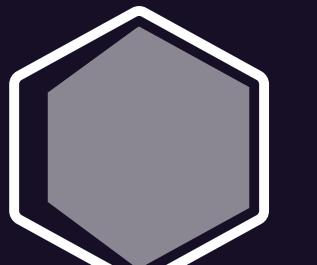
 fusion



Steering committee,
Core team

 nf-core 

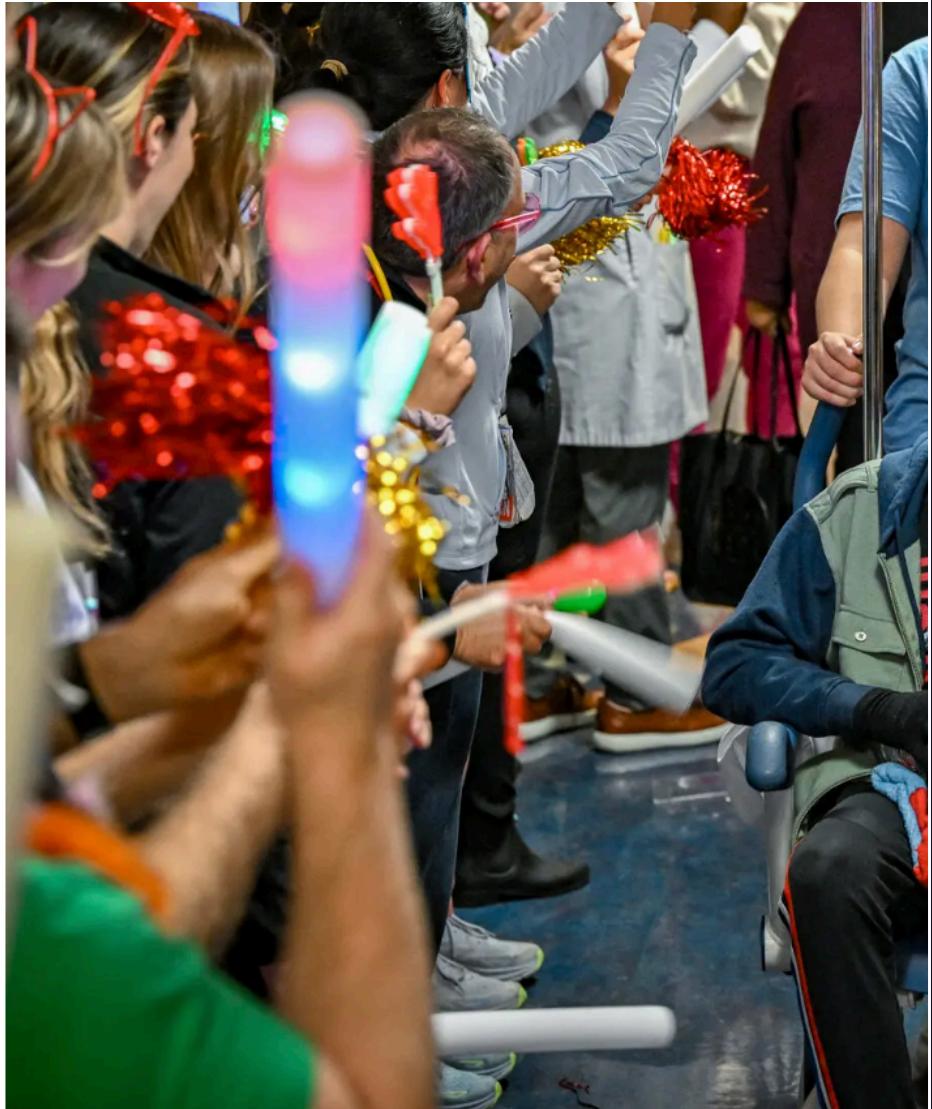
Trustee

 ossf

VERTEX®

Life Without Sickle Cell Disease Who Completed

After 44 days, Kendric Cronin's family feels fortunate that he survived their difficult experiences him



First newborns join screening for rare diseases



OUR WHY

Genomics
England

NEWS

[Home](#) | [InDepth](#) | [Israel-Gaza war](#) | [US election](#) | [Cost of Living](#) | [War in Ukraine](#) | [Climate](#)

Health

moderna

OUR WHY

'Real hope' for cancer cure as personal mRNA vaccine for melanoma trialled

Excitement among patients and researchers as custom-built jabs enter phase 3 trial



A nurse prepares to give Steve Young, one of the first patients in the trial, his first jab at UCLH in London. Photograph: Jordan Pettitt/PA



Open-source reporting and analytics





multiqc

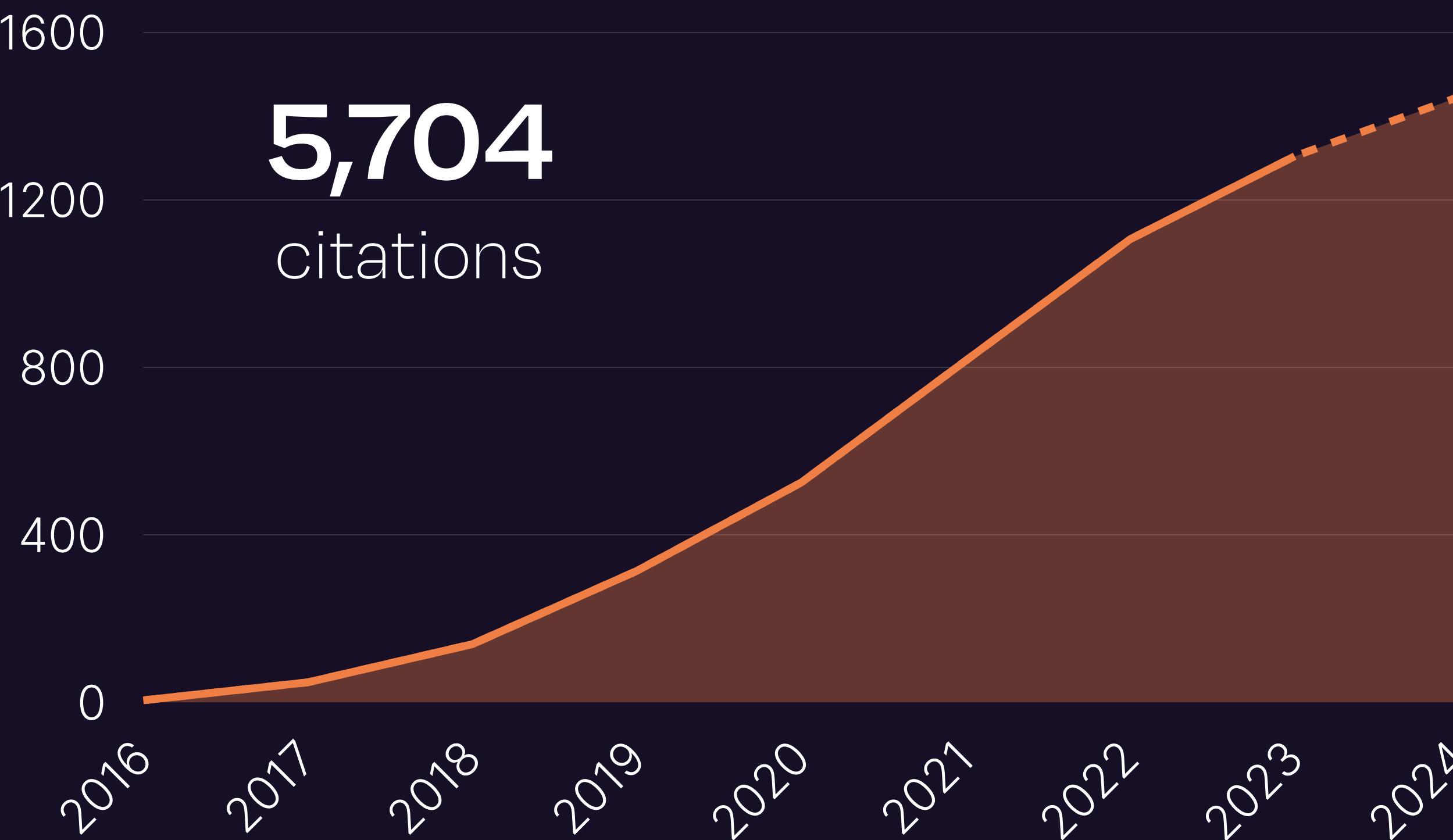
1,216
GitHub Stars

+25K
Runs per day

+1.5M
Downloads



Citations by year



Command Line Interface
Web interface



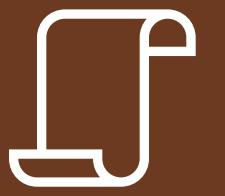
MultiQC Plugins



Custom Content



Notebooks and Scripts



Demo

<https://seqera.io/multiqc/>





```
> multiqc .
```

```
/// MultiQC 🎃 v1.26.dev0
```

```
file_search | Search pa
              searching | _____
custom_content | pct_magic. . . and 13 other statistics columns
fastp | Found 48 reports
write_results | Data : multiqc_data
write_results | Report : multiqc_report.html
multiqc | MultiQC complete
```

plot_type: generalstats
Sample % Magic
SAMPLE_01 57.99087052
SAMPLE_02 39.12145114
SAMPLE_03 36.14175885
SAMPLE_04 78.25359712
SAMPLE_05 35.47539651

pct_magic_mqc.tsv



- 📁 fastp
- 📁 fastqc
- 📄 pct_magic_mqc.tsv



custom_content | pct_magic: Found 48 General Statistics columns



pct_magic_mqc.tsv

A modular tool to aggregate results from bioinformatics analyses across many samples into a single report.

Report generated on 2024-10-27, 18:15 CET based on data in: /Users/ewels/GitHub/ewels/multiqc-demo-summit-2024/part_2

 **Welcome!** Not sure where to start?

[Watch a tutorial video](#)

(6:06)

don't show again 

General Statistics

 Copy table

 Configure columns

 Scatter plot

 Violin plot

Showing 0/48 rows and 6/8 columns.

[Export as CSV](#)

Sample Name	% Magic	% Duplication	Reads After Filtering	GC content	% PF	% Adapter
SAMPLE_01	58.0	17.2 %	1.2 M	51.9 %	57.1 %	9.0 %
SAMPLE_02	39.1	46.2 %	1.7 M	38.4 %	78.7 %	5.0 %
SAMPLE_03	36.1	48.4 %	1.7 M	39.0 %	77.2 %	5.4 %
SAMPLE_04	78.3	44.0 %	1.5 M	38.4 %	78.9 %	4.8 %
SAMPLE_05	35.5	46.0 %	1.7 M	38.5 %	78.5 %	5.0 %
SAMPLE_06	1.9	45.6 %	1.7 M	38.3 %	77.8 %	4.6 %
SAMPLE_07	53.1	48.2 %	2.0 M	38.4 %	79.2 %	5.3 %
SAMPLE_08	24.8	48.5 %	1.9 M	38.5 %	79.6 %	5.5 %
SAMPLE_09	0.2	37.6 %	1.2 M	42.4 %	66.4 %	10.5 %
SAMPLE_10	6.3	45.4 %	1.6 M	38.3 %	78.9 %	5.1 %
SAMPLE_11	40.3	49.3 %	2.1 M	38.4 %	79.4 %	5.2 %
SAMPLE_12	82.4	45.2 %	1.6 M	38.3 %	77.5 %	4.5 %
SAMPLE_13	47.3	36.9 %	0.1 M	46.0 %	62.4 %	43.7 %
SAMPLE_14	9.8	33.7 %	0.4 M	38.0 %	27.5 %	4.5 %

run_multiqc.py

```
import multiqc  
  
# Load data  
multiqc.parse_logs('./fastp')  
  
# Write the report  
multiqc.write_report()
```



› python run_multiqc.py



```
# Fetch the custom data
reads = {}
for samp, data in multiqc.get_module_data(module='fastp').items():
    reads[samp] = {
        'Reads Before Filtering': data['summary']['before_filtering']['total_reads']
    }

# Add new column to the General Stats table
fastp_module = multiqc.report.modules[0]
fastp_module.general_stats_addcols(data_by_sample=reads)
```



part_5

EXPLORER PART_5 metadata.db

fastp metadata.db prep_db.py run_multiqc.py

SELECT * FROM metadata

Find Other Tools...

Schema Query Editor Auto Reload SQLite 3.46.1

	sample_name	input_dna	origin
1	SAMPLE_01	204	Spain
2	SAMPLE_02	270	Italy
3	SAMPLE_03	294	USA
4	SAMPLE_04	114	Finland
5	SAMPLE_05	166	Thailand
6	SAMPLE_06	173	Estonia
7	SAMPLE_07	147	Germany
8	SAMPLE_08	220	Lithuania
9	SAMPLE_09	185	Netherlands
10	SAMPLE_10	260	Sweden
11	SAMPLE_11	7	Netherlands
12	SAMPLE_12	20	Poland
13	SAMPLE_13	70	Spain
14	SAMPLE_14	163	Malaysia
15	SAMPLE_15	165	Switzerland
16	SAMPLE_16	121	Taiwan

INSERT CREATE TABLE

47 records History

Formatting: X

0 0 0 Live Share

```
# Fetch from database
metadata = {}
cx = sqlite3.connect('metadata.db')
for row in cx.cursor().execute('SELECT * FROM metadata'):
    metadata[row[0]] = {
        'Input DNA (ng)': row[1],
        'Sample Origin': row[2]
    }

# Add data to report
metadata_module = multiqc.BaseMultiqcModule()
metadata_module.general_stats_addcols(data_by_sample=metadata)
multiqc.report.modules.append(metadata_module)
```

Fetch data

Add to report



A modular tool to aggregate results from bioinformatics analyses across many samples into a single report.

Report generated on 2024-10-27, 19:03 CET based on data in: /Users/ewels/GitHub/ewels/multiqc-demo-summit-2024/part_1/fastp

 Welcome! Not sure where to start?

[Watch a tutorial video](#)

(6:06)

don't show again 

General Statistics

 Copy table

 Configure columns

 Scatter plot

 Violin plot

Showing 0/48 rows and 7/9 columns.

[Export as CSV](#)

Sample Name	% Duplication	Reads After Filtering	GC content	% PF	% Adapter	Input DNA (ng)	Sample Origin
SAMPLE_01	17.2 %	1.2 M	51.9 %	57.1 %	9.0 %	204	Spain
SAMPLE_02	46.2 %	1.7 M	38.4 %	78.7 %	5.0 %	270	Italy
SAMPLE_03	48.4 %	1.7 M	39.0 %	77.2 %	5.4 %	294	USA
SAMPLE_04	44.0 %	1.5 M	38.4 %	78.9 %	4.8 %	114	Finland
SAMPLE_05	46.0 %	1.7 M	38.5 %	78.5 %	5.0 %	166	Thailand
SAMPLE_06	45.6 %	1.7 M	38.3 %	77.8 %	4.6 %	173	Estonia
SAMPLE_07	48.2 %	2.0 M	38.4 %	79.2 %	5.3 %	147	Germany
SAMPLE_08	48.5 %	1.9 M	38.5 %	79.6 %	5.5 %	220	Lithuania
SAMPLE_09	37.6 %	1.2 M	42.4 %	66.4 %	10.5 %	185	Netherlands
SAMPLE_10	45.4 %	1.6 M	38.3 %	78.9 %	5.1 %	260	Sweden
SAMPLE_11	49.3 %	2.1 M	38.4 %	79.4 %	5.2 %	7	Netherlands
SAMPLE_12	45.2 %	1.6 M	38.3 %	77.5 %	4.5 %	20	Poland
SAMPLE_13	36.9 %	0.1 M	46.0 %	62.4 %	43.7 %	70	Spain
SAMPLE_14	33.7 %	0.4 M	38.0 %	27.5 %	4.5 %	163	Malaysia



nextflow

Open-source orchestrator for deploying workflows



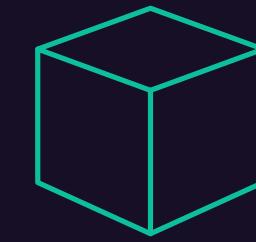
Nextflow DSL limitations



Nextflow was created as an extension of the Groovy programming language.



Missing a formal grammar and syntax parser.



Too fragile. Poor syntax error detection and reporting.
Lack of tooling.

Introducing: Language server & VS Code integration for Nextflow



Roadmap

Bring new parsers into Nextflow CLI

- Better error messages
- Improve the `nextflow inspect` command
- New commands for linting, formatting

Move beyond Groovy syntax

- Type annotations
- Static type checking
- Simpler dataflow syntax



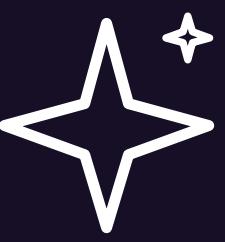
The future of code development is
AI-driven



How can we
generate code that works in
bioinformatics?



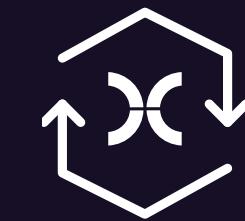




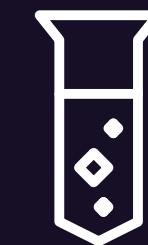
Seqera AI

Available today at

seqera.io/ask-ai



Convert any bash / language script to Nextflow



AI error debugging and code-testing



Rooted in Nextflow and best practices



Discover

Nextflow Summit 2024

(You missed it, sorry)

<https://summit.nextflow.io>

<https://youtube.com/@Nextflow>



Thank you

Phil Ewels

phil.ewels@seqera.io



XC SUMMIT 2024

<https://summit.nextflow.io>



<https://seqera.io>