

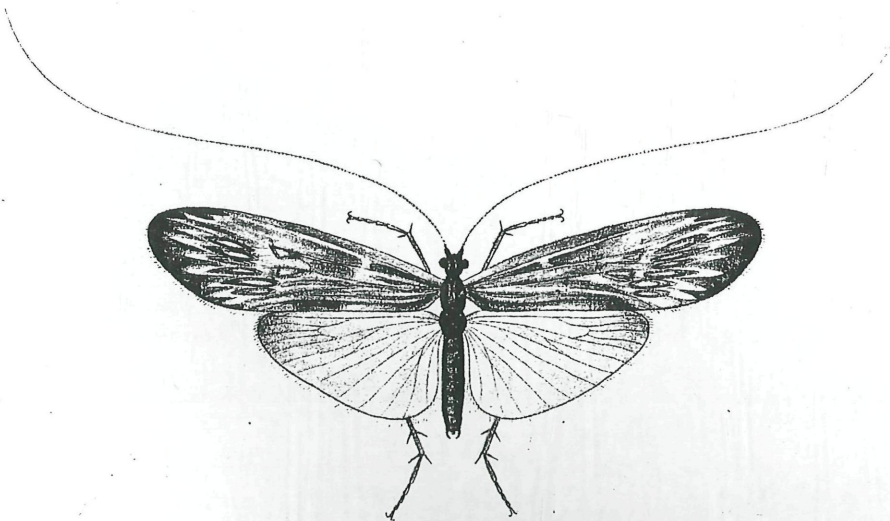
### Non-luddite recipe for a modern efficient taxonomy

[compiled from commentaries of funding agencies, editors, peer-reviewers etc.]

Collect one-one specimen of two-three (out of 100 known) species, send to a laboratory to obtain partial sequence of this or that gene, download from GenBank more or less equivalent sequences of yet three allegedly (even if uncontrollably) well determined species, put them into computer; after performing the alignment with PerhapsFit2009 choose the Abrakadabra version 3.ac, command preprapro\*xy to obtain 123456 equally parsimonious trees: apply Tratratrete 5.2a for a full consensus tree, then Hurumburum-test with Maybegood correction for Whynotthis model selected by Iknowbetter(spec) will tell you that the Makebelieve's sigma-tt is 0.73 what corresponds to 132% support for the clade Q; print it out with Hokeypokey ZW, describe the cladogram with words and call the result "classification" (don't bother with information content or predictive power: the assumedly apomorphous curvature of seta on last antennal joint is "predictable" from the cladogram, all the other characteristics of involved taxa being by definition not interesting). Don't think (thinking is subjective), don't take external evidence into consideration (this would be preconception), don't try to reconstruct ancestors (ancestors do not exist, only descendants do!), this will release you from any temptation to ponder whether these (non-reconstructed because non-existent) ancestors could have ever been viable or where they might have occurred (modern scientist does not dabble at subjective *ad hoc* conclusions), don't present any own interpretation (speculative scenarios are unscientific), don't question results disagreeing with commonsense (commonsense? – oh, how primitive...), proudly proclaim that you have just falsified the old-fashioned view (resulting from two centuries of useless archaic activity of "morphological" taxonomists) that tiger is a member of **Felidae (Mammalia)**, as your rigorous analysis has shown that it cladistically belongs to flatworms where – together with green hydra and swallowtail – it should be grouped into a new phylotaxon **Paranormalomorpha**. Now submit the paper to SkyreachingImpactFactor journal from the newest Philadelphia-list, and wait for the well deserved Nobel Prize!

From: Holynski,R.B., 2010, Munis Ent.Zool.5 (Suppl):825-829.

What do you think ?



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Autor(en)/Author(s): Anonymus

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