The background of the slide is a dark, microscopic image. It features several large, spherical virus particles with prominent, spike-like protrusions on their surface, rendered in shades of grey and blue. Interspersed among these are numerous red blood cells, which appear as bright red, biconcave discs. The overall composition is dense and scientific, suggesting a focus on infectious diseases and public health.

Preventing the Next Pandemic: Ecology, Economics, Evolution

Andy Dobson, EEB, Princeton
University,
Santa Fe Institute, New Mexico

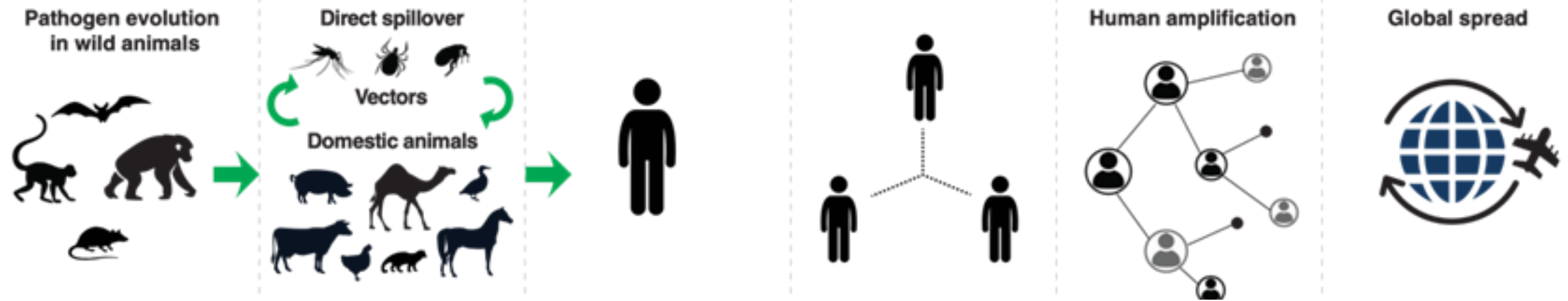
Structure of Talk

- **Ecology of Emerging Pathogens**
 - Agricultural intensification
 - Habitat fragmentation and emergence
 - The role of the wildlife trade
 - Rate of exposure and cross immunity
- **Economics of Emerging Diseases**
 - Cost-benefit at each stage of intervention
 - Overall cost-benefit
 - Missing costs and additional benefits
- **Evolution of Emerging Pathogens**
 - Will Covid-19 become more or less virulent?
 - Insights from an avian emerging pathogen

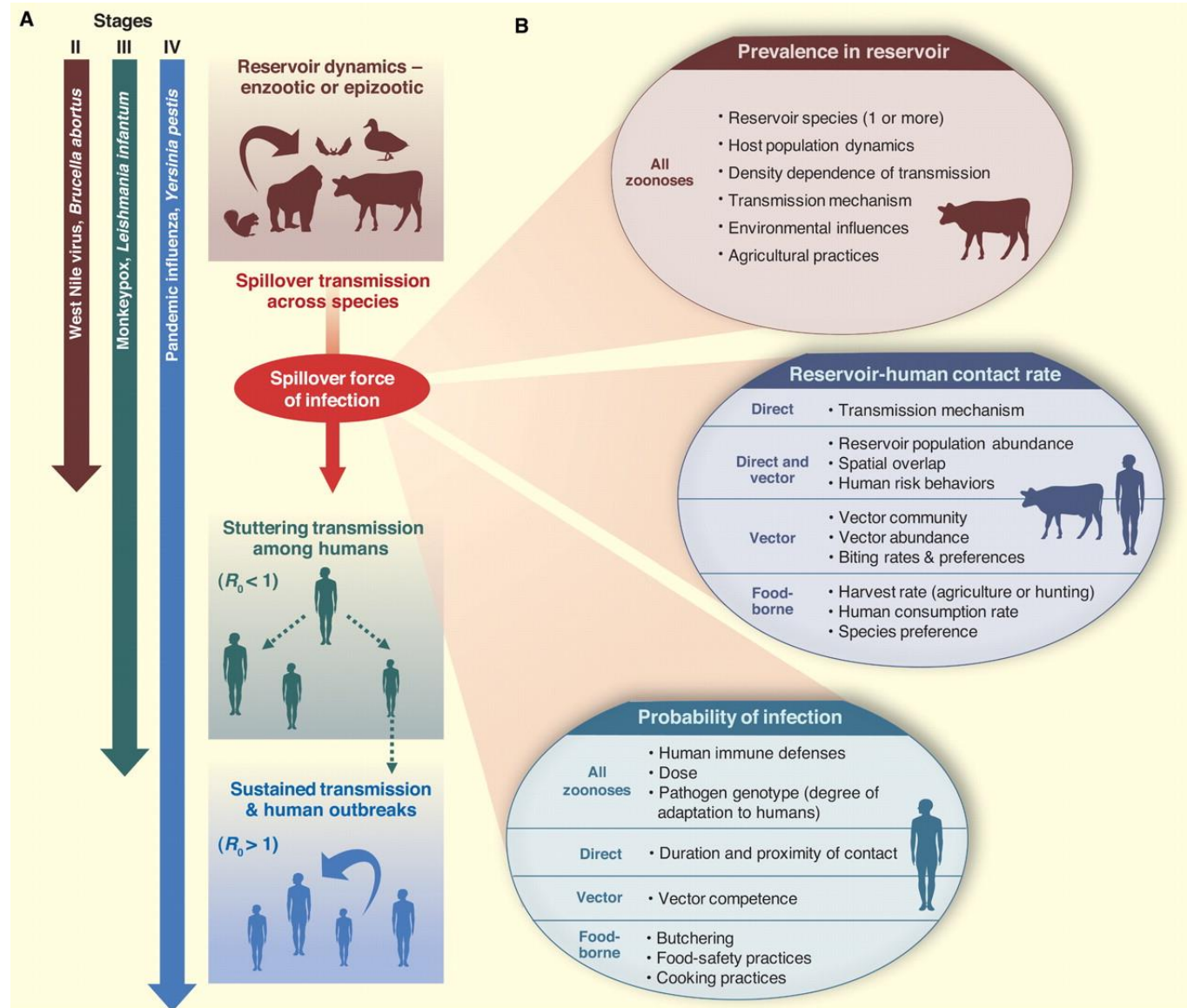
Prevention & control examples

Pre-emergence	Pathogen Spillover	Emergence	Localized Transmission	Epidemic	Pandemic
Anticipation Viral surveillance	Primary Prevention Deforestation Agriculture Wildlife trade	Early Detection Syndromic surveillance	Containment Contact tracing Isolation	Control & Mitigation Widespread testing Quarantine Scale-up healthcare School & business closure	All prior measures brought to a larger scale

Stages of pathogen spread

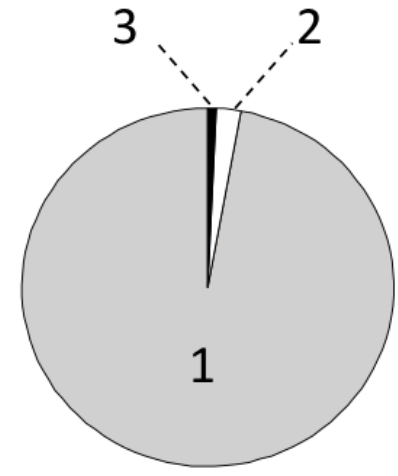
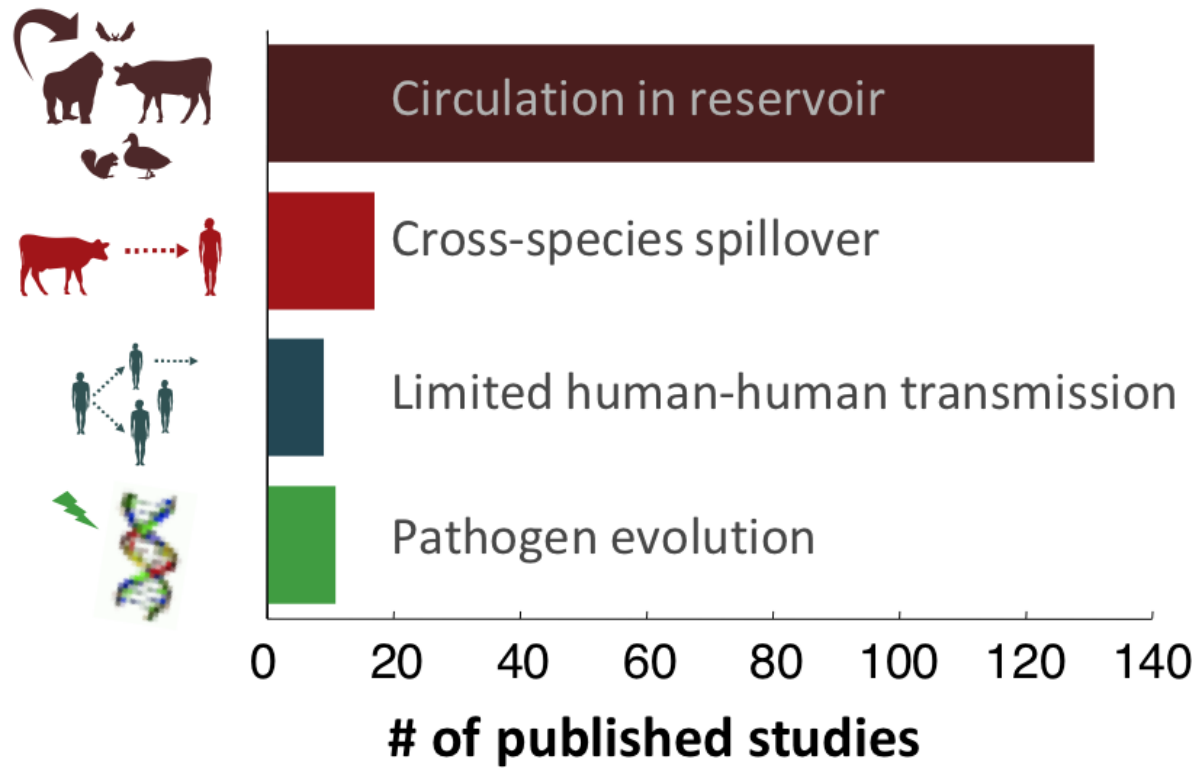


Six stages of viral emergence
(Bernstein, Dobson et al, in review)



Lloyd-Smith et al
Science, 2009.

Zoonotic phases



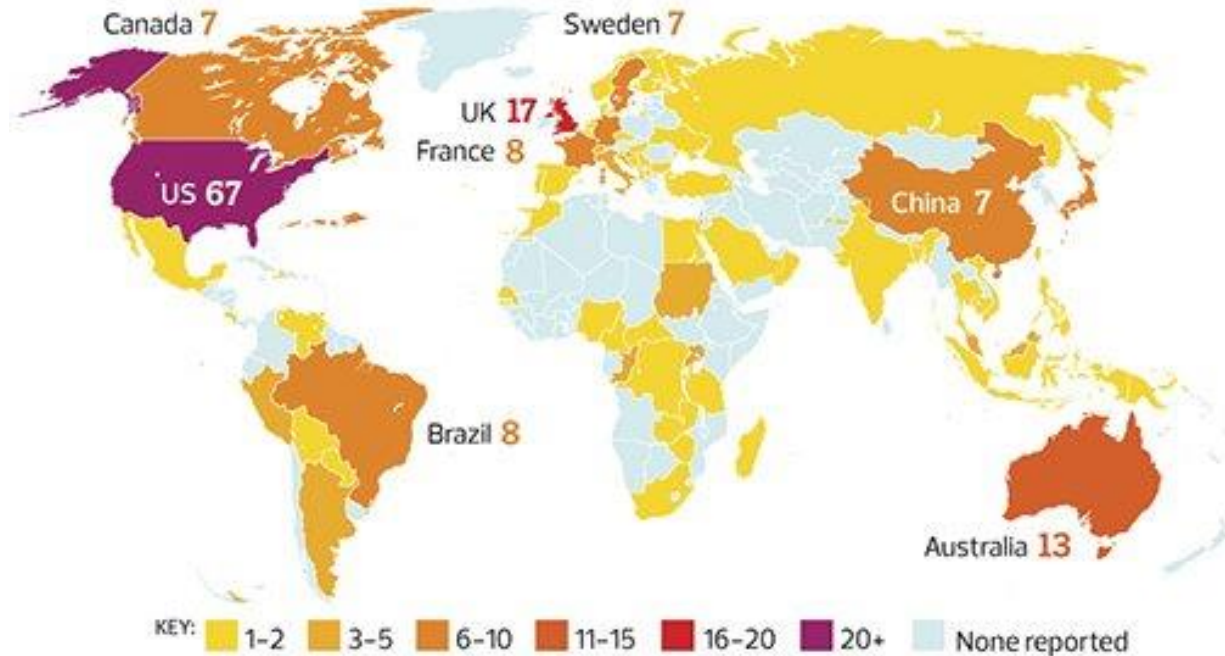
of zoonotic phases included in published studies

1 .Ecology of Emerging Pathogens

- Agricultural intensification
- Habitat fragmentation and emergence
- The role of the wildlife trade
- Rates of exposure and cross immunity

DISEASE BY NUMBERS

Global distribution of emerging zoonotic diseases (1940-2012)



Main drivers of disease emergence:

- THE REPORTING BIAS** - Well developed healthcare systems are more likely to identify and report cases
- POPULATION DENSITY** - Fewer people mean a smaller chance of a pathogen transferring from animals to humans
- ANIMAL SPECIES DENSITY** - Fewer animals mean a reduced source of potential pathogens.

SOURCES: JONES ET AL. (2008) AND ZOOSES PROJECT 4 REPORT TO DEPARTMENT FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT, UK

Death tolls

BLACK DEATH

25 million

First emergence: 1334
Transmission: Fleas
Origin: China

HIV

25 million

First emergence: 1981
Transmission: Exchange of bodily fluids
Origin: Central Africa

SMALLPOX

300 million

First emergence: Pre-1500 BC
Transmission: Airborne saliva droplets
Origin: Global

SPANISH FLU

50 million

First emergence: 1918
Transmission: Airborne droplets and small particles
Origin: China

The next big killer?

SOURCES: WHO, CDC

H7N9

First emergence: 2013
Hosts: Chickens, ducks and pigeons



Cases: 137 Deaths: 45

MERS-COV

First emergence: 2012
Hosts: Suspected bats and camels



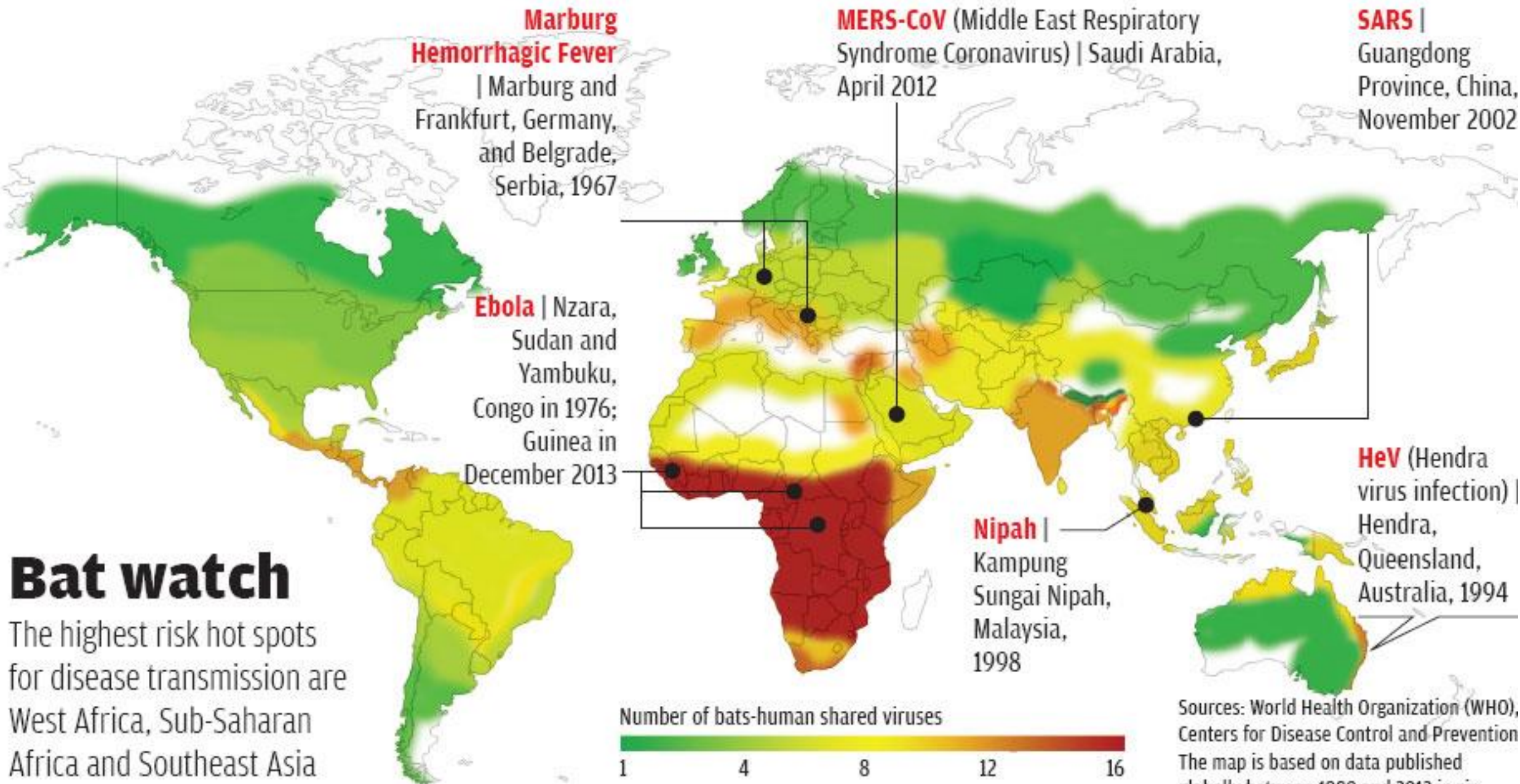
Cases: 94 Deaths: 47

NIPAH VIRUS

First emergence: 1998
Hosts: fruit bats and pigs



Cases: 280 Deaths: 211



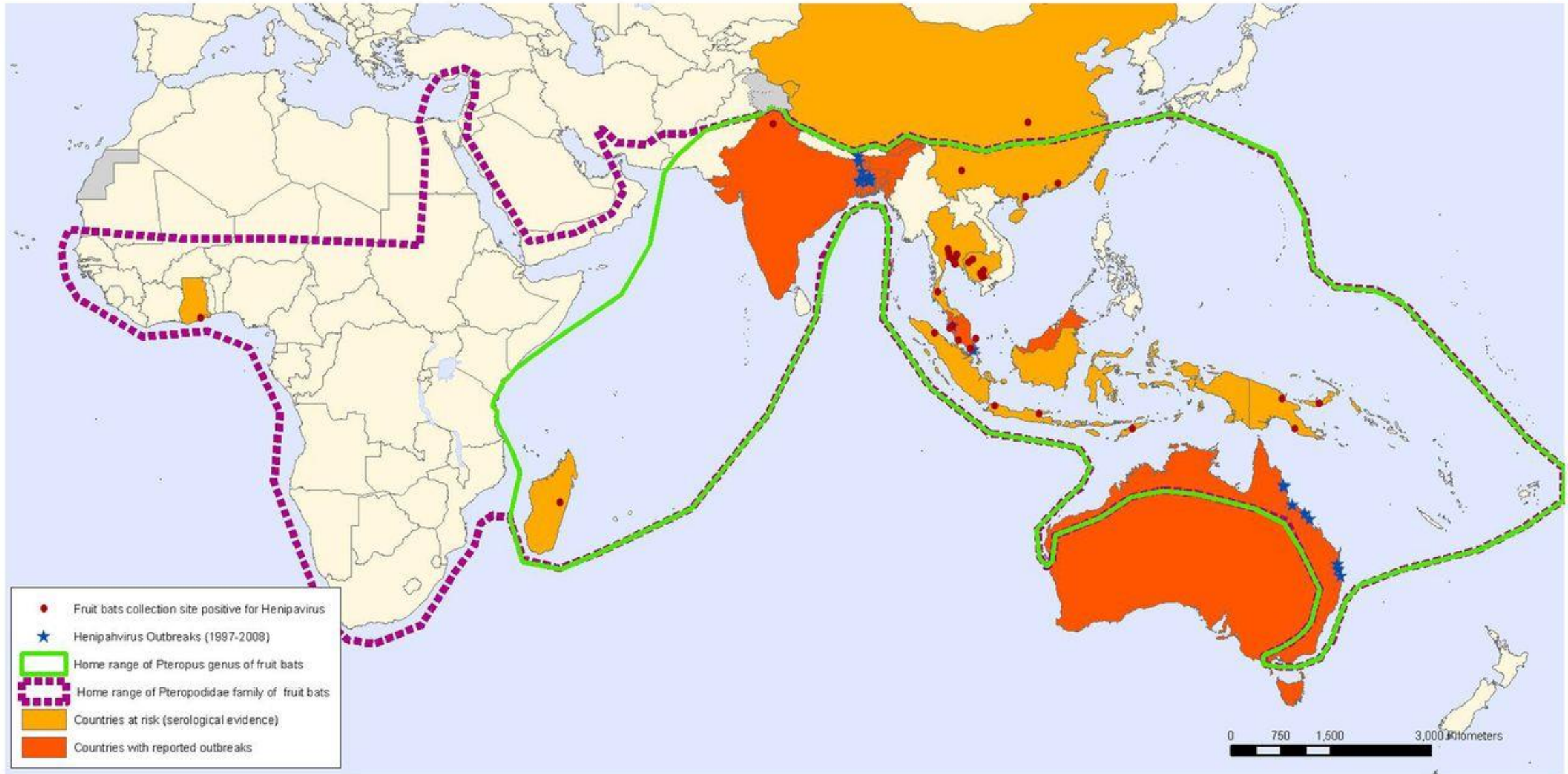
Bat watch

The highest risk hot spots for disease transmission are West Africa, Sub-Saharan Africa and Southeast Asia

Sources: World Health Organization (WHO), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 The map is based on data published globally between 1999 and 2013 in six world regions, as grouped by WHO



Geographic distribution of Henipavirus outbreaks and fruit bats of Pteropodidae Family



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of the World Health Organization concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries. Dotted lines on maps represent approximate border lines for which there may not yet be full agreement.

Data Source: Global Alert and Response Department
World Health Organization
Map Production: Public Health Information
and Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
World Health Organization



© WHO 2008. All rights reserved



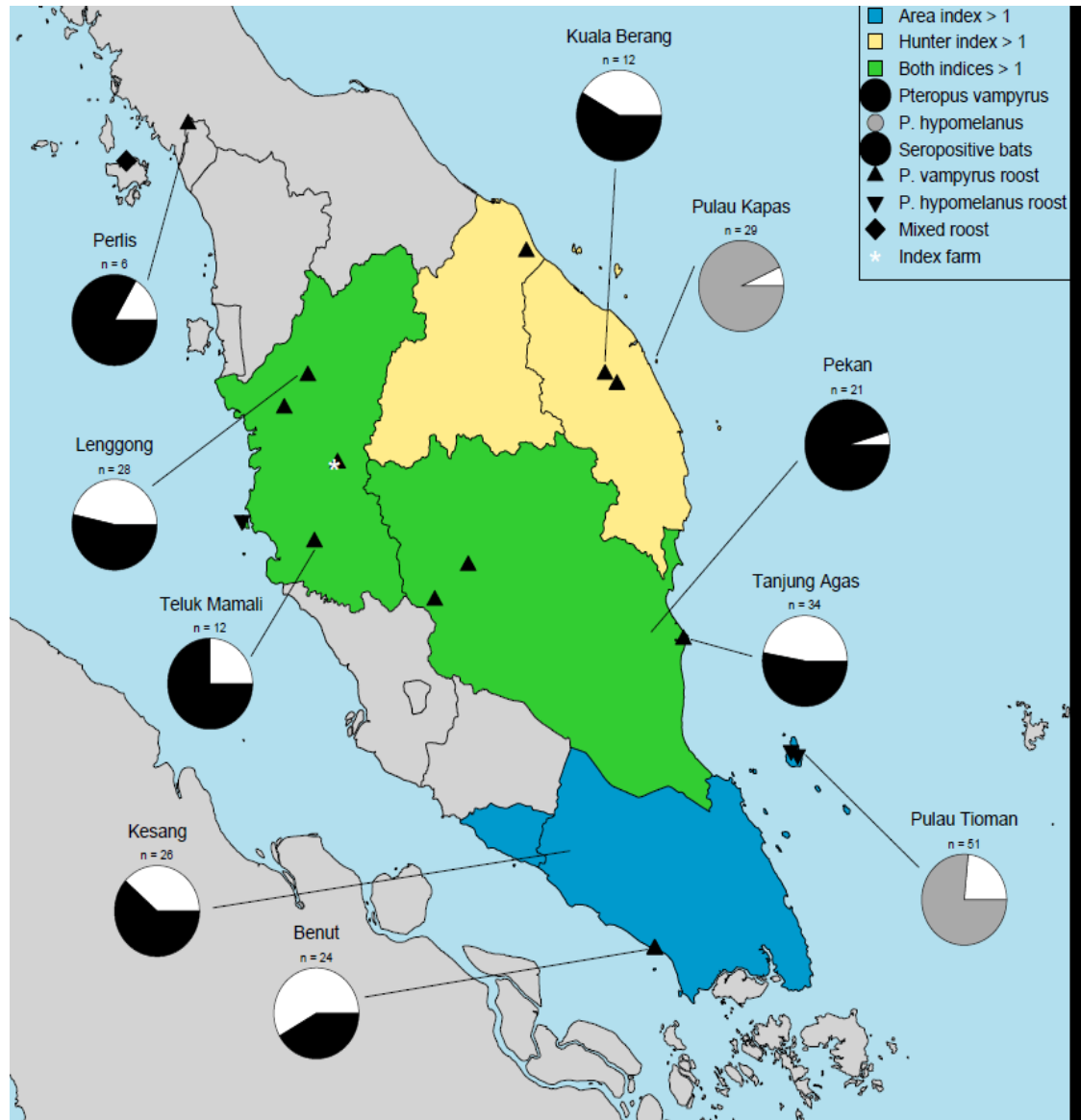
Zoom in on the farm at the center of the Nipah outbreak



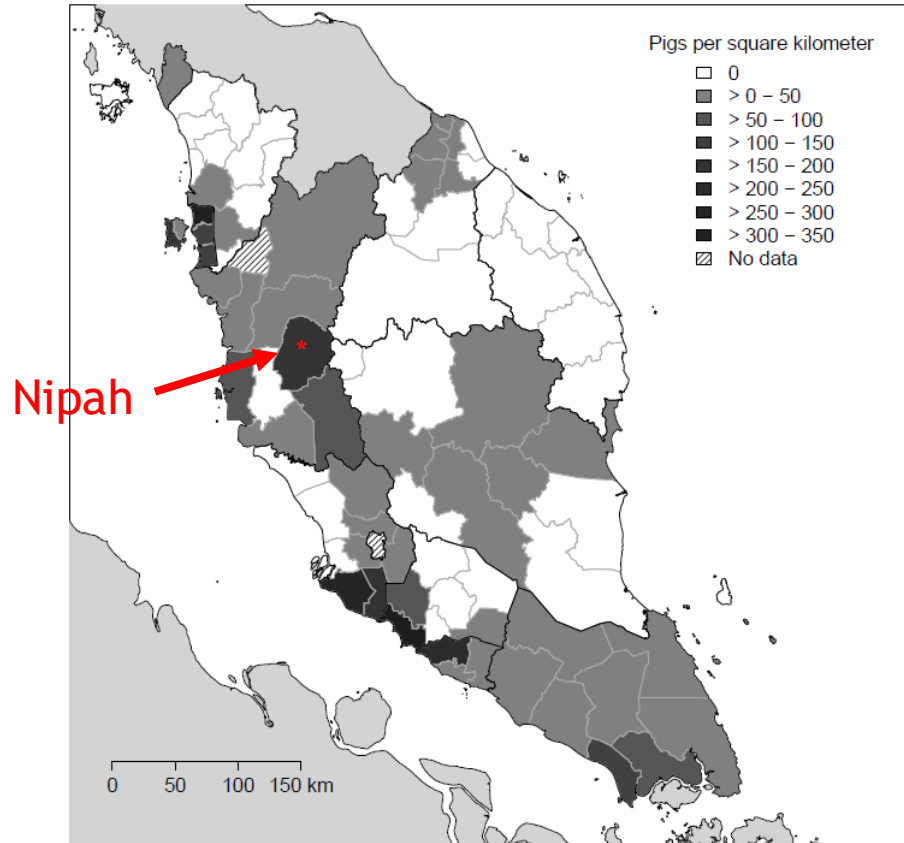


The Malaysian epidemiologist, Dr K.W.Chang, who reported and investigated the outbreak

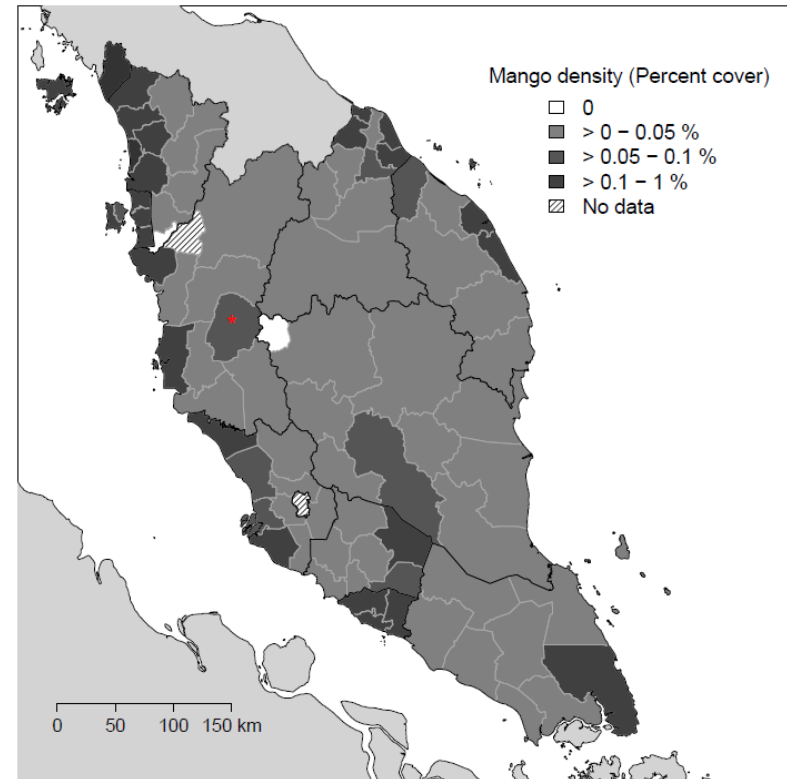
Nipah virus prevalence in bats



Pulliam et al 2008.

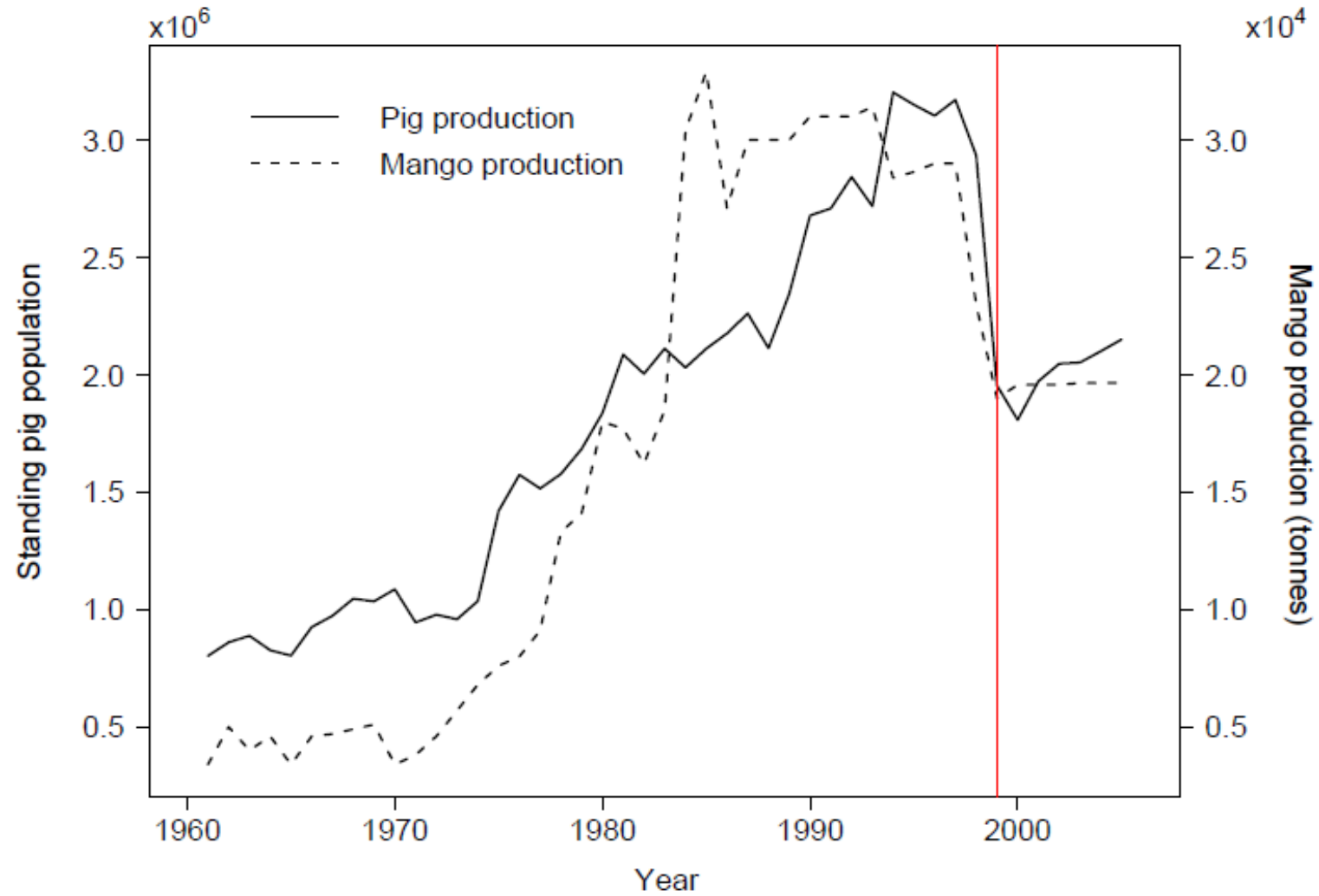


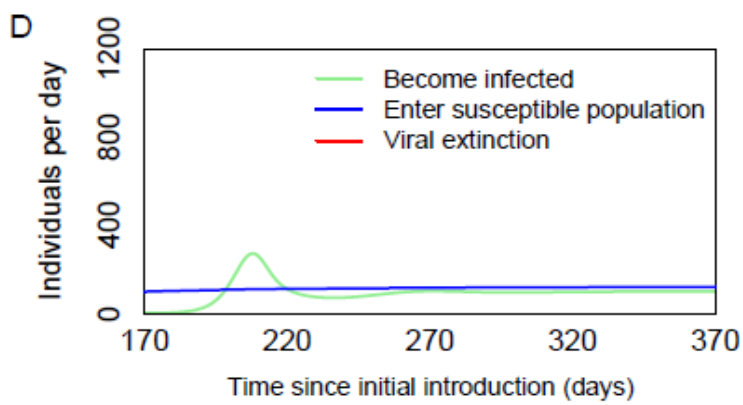
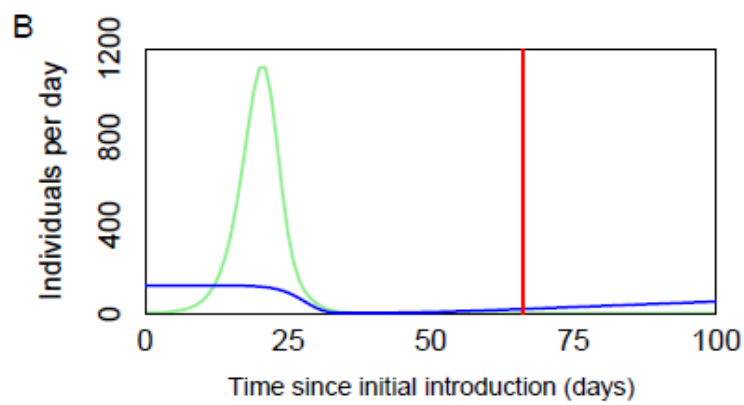
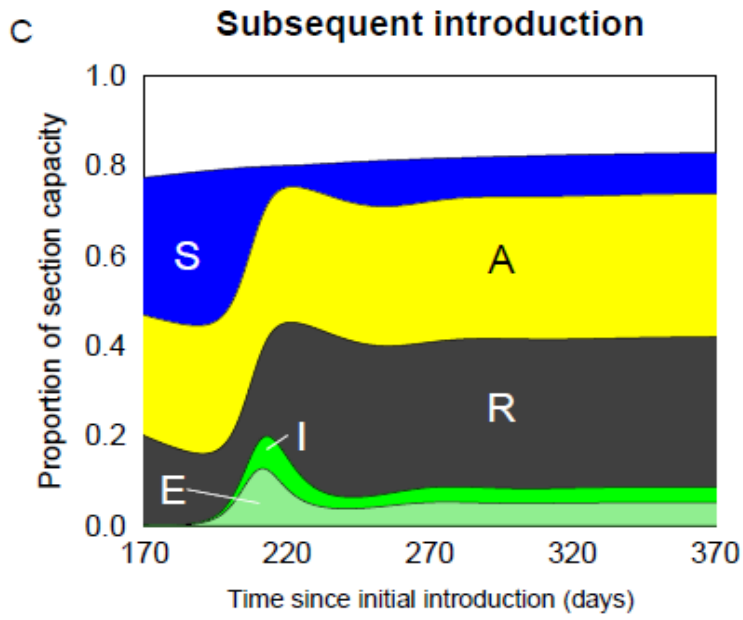
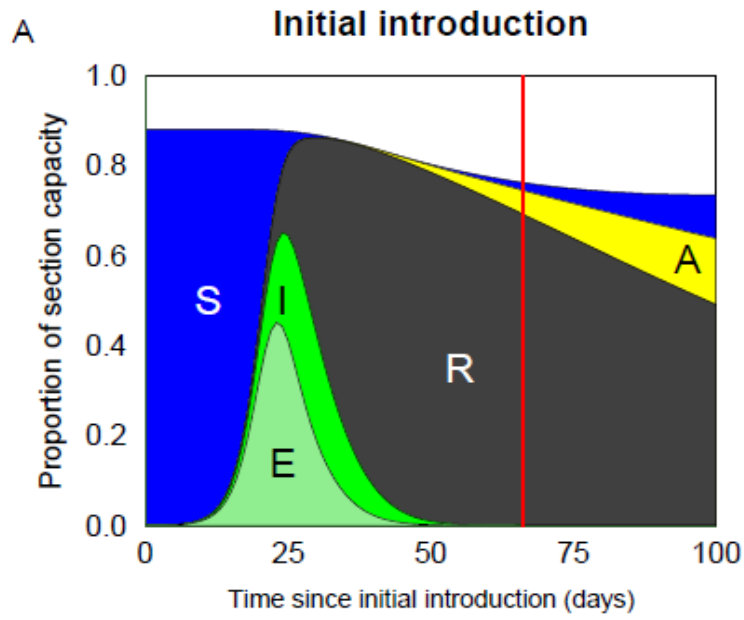
Pig density at the district level



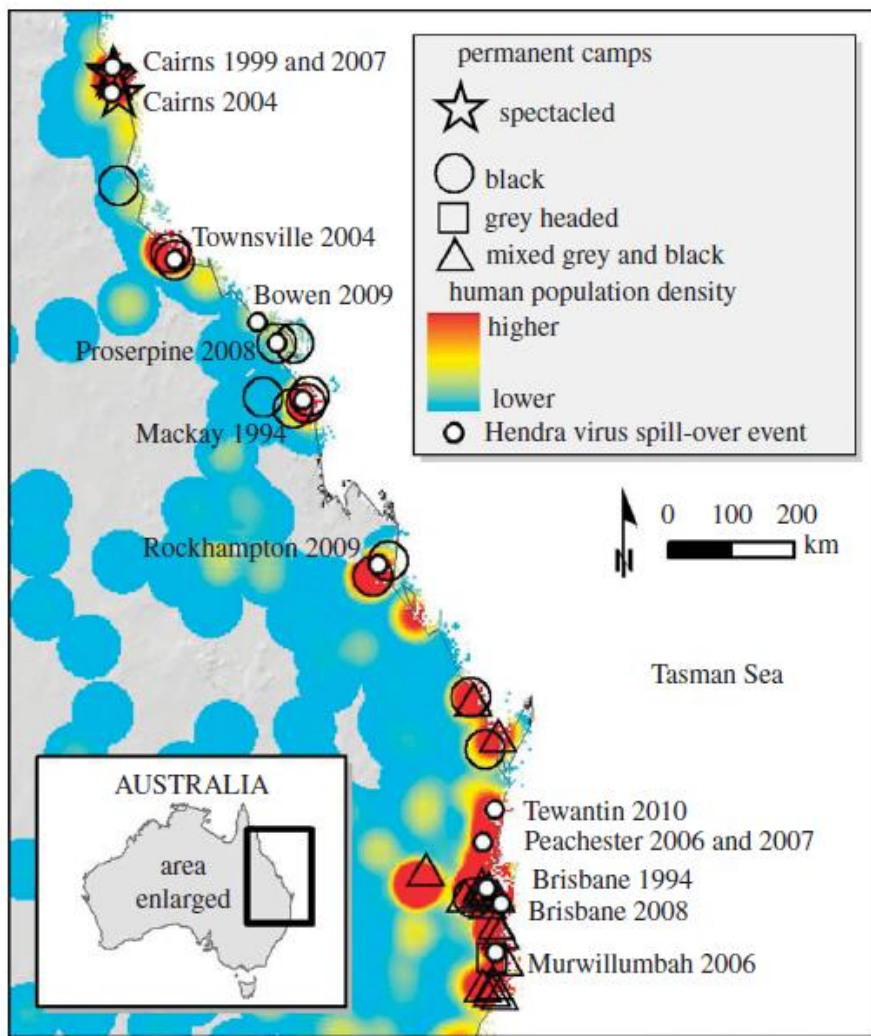
Mango density at the district level

Mango trees used to shade pig barns and provide a second crop to the farmer
.....and additional food for the pigs





Dr Juliet Pulliam
 Director, SACEMA
 Stellenbosch
 University
 South Africa



Dr Raina Plowright,
Montana State,
Bozeman.

Figure 2. Continuously occupied flying fox camps and HeV spill-over locations in relation to human population density. 'Spectacled', 'black' and 'grey headed' refer to flying fox species ([26–32]; P. Eby 2004, unpublished data; L. Shilton & D. Westcott 2009, personal communication).

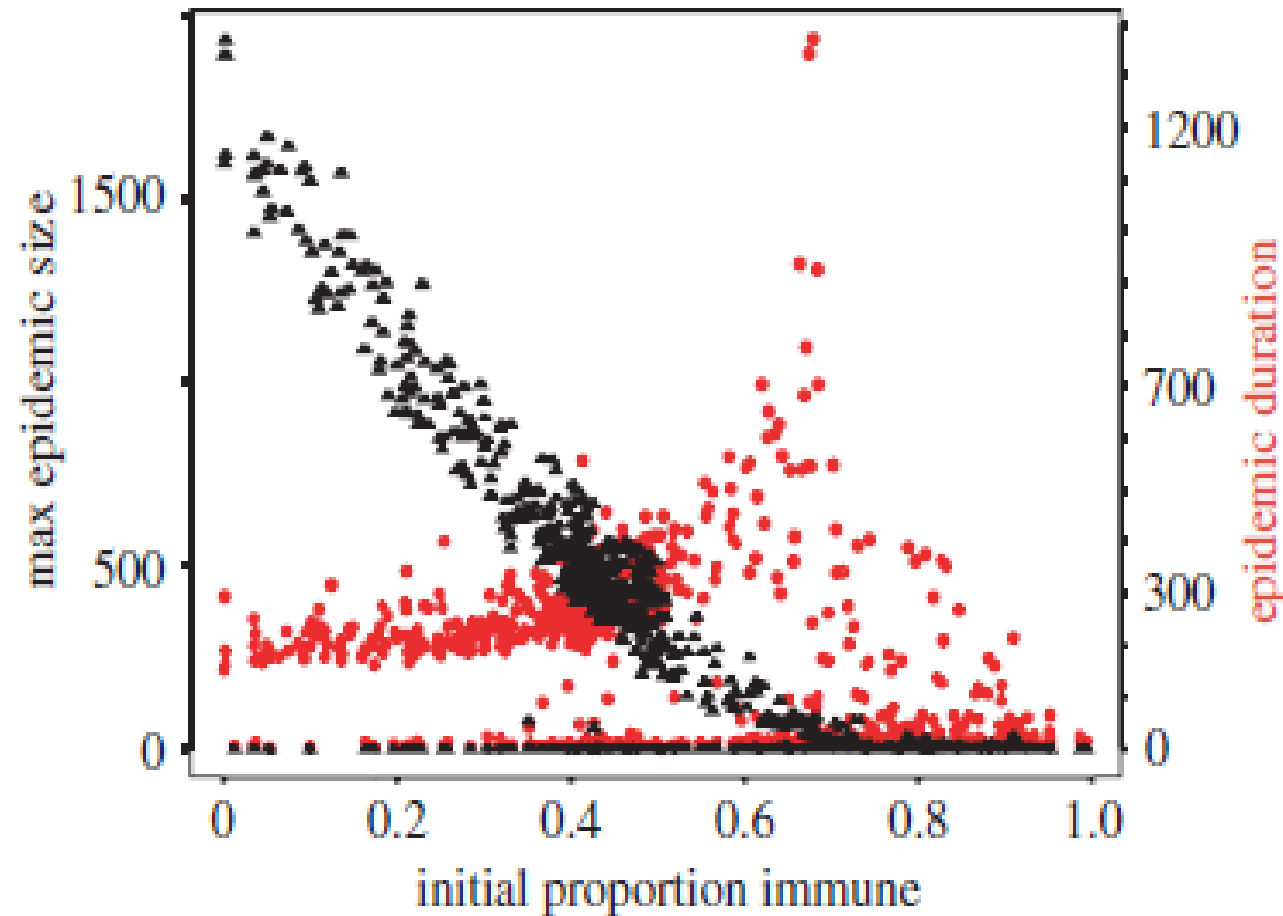
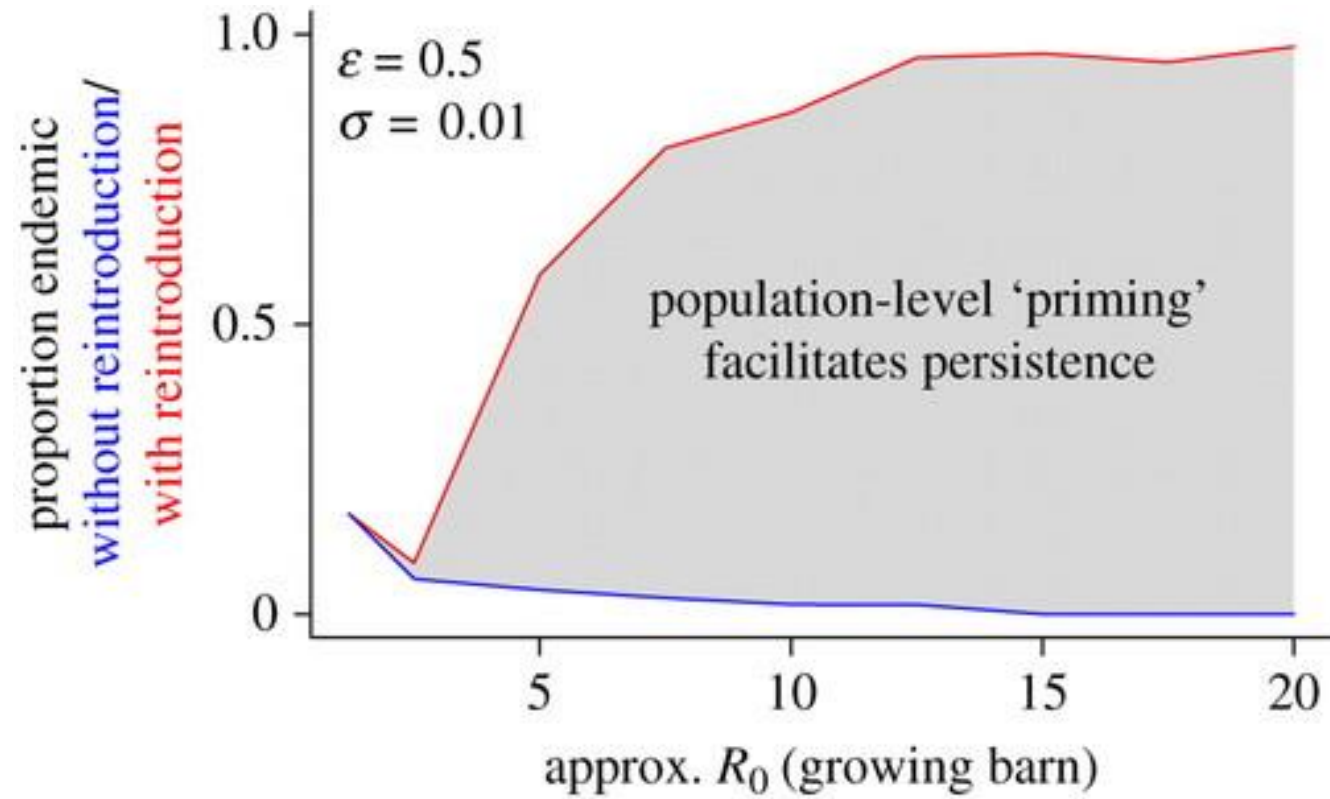


Figure 3. Herd immunity and epidemic size. Relationship between initial herd immunity, epidemic amplitude (black triangles) and epidemic duration (red circles) in a stochastic metapopulation simulation ($N_0 = 10\,000$, $\beta = 4.76\text{E} - 05$, $\gamma = 0.143$, $h = 200$, $c = 0.16$). The deterministic threshold number of susceptibles required for disease invasion in this model system is approximately 3000 (initial proportion immune = 0.7). When virus is introduced into a population with initial herd immunity approaching the threshold for invasion, low amplitude, persistent smouldering epidemics may result. When virus is introduced into a more susceptible population, high amplitude, shorter epidemics may result.



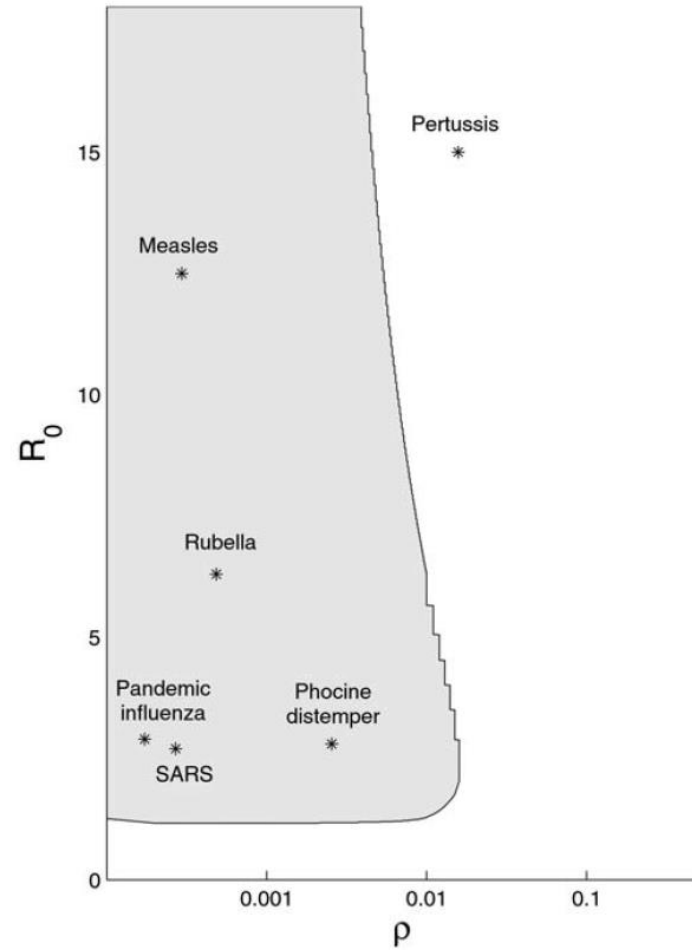
Agricultural intensification, priming for persistence and the emergence of Nipah virus: a lethal bat-borne zoonosis, Volume: 9, Issue: 66, Pages: 89-101, DOI: (10.1098/rsif.2011.0223)

Pulliam et al (2011) Royal Society Interface.

Epidemic Enhancement in Partially Immune Populations

Juliet R. C. Pulliam^{1*}, Jonathan G. Dushoff^{1,2}, Simon A. Levin¹, Andrew P. Dobson¹

¹ Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey, United States of America, ² Fogarty International Center, National Institutes of Health, Bethesda, Maryland, United States of America



ρ , is the ratio of duration of infectiousness to duration of immunity

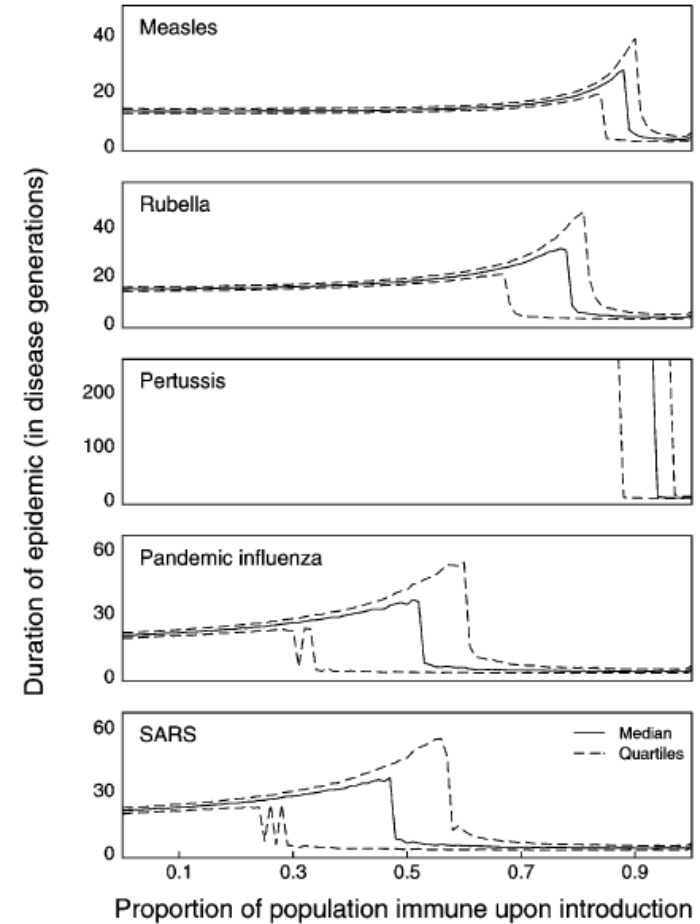


Figure 3. Enhancement of epidemic duration for diseases in human populations. Epidemic duration in a population of $N=50,000$ individuals for a variety of human pathogens as a function of population immunity at introduction. Solid lines show the median duration in disease generations for 1,000 simulation runs at each level of initial population immunity; dashed lines show quartiles. Each pathogen shows some level of enhancement of epidemic duration with increased immunity except pertussis. Enhancement of epidemic size is not observed for these pathogens for $N=50,000$. doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0000165.g003



Rondonia, Brazil, 1975 – 2010 (NASA,
Visible Earth)

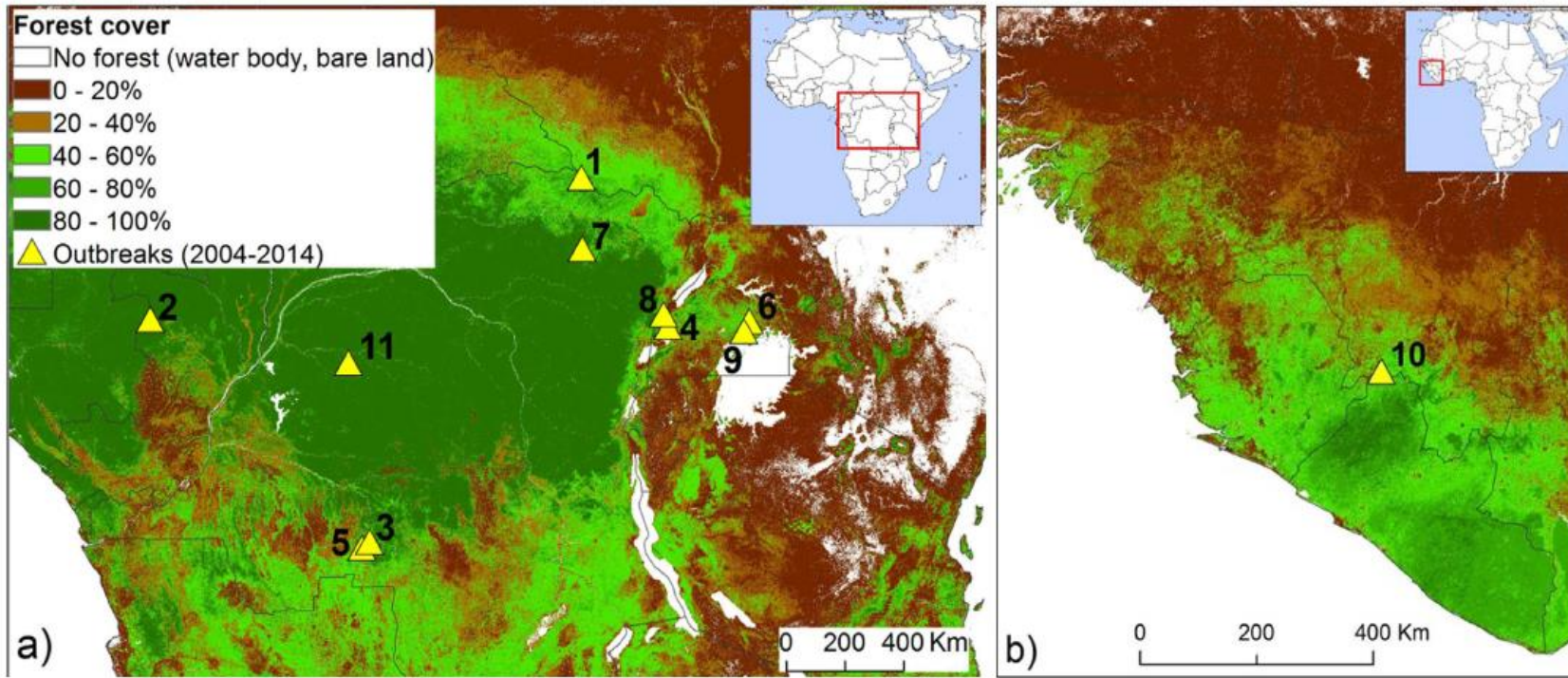


Figure 1. Forest cover maps and locations of first infection events in humans. Forest cover maps and locations of independent first infection events in humans (triangles, see Table 1) in Central (a) and West (b) Africa. The insets indicate the two African regions considered in this study. Legend in (b) is the same than in (a). Maps generated by the authors using ARCGIS 10.2-Version 10.2.0.338, licensed to Politecnico di Milano. The license term can be found on the following link: <http://www.esri.com/legal/software-license>.

SCIENTIFIC REPORTS

OPEN

The nexus between forest fragmentation in Africa and Ebola virus disease outbreaks

Received: 17 August 2016
Accepted: 22 December 2016

Maria Cristina Rulli¹, Monia Santini², David T S Hayman³ & Paolo D'Odorico^{4,5,6}

Sites of Ebola outbreaks in Central and West Africa

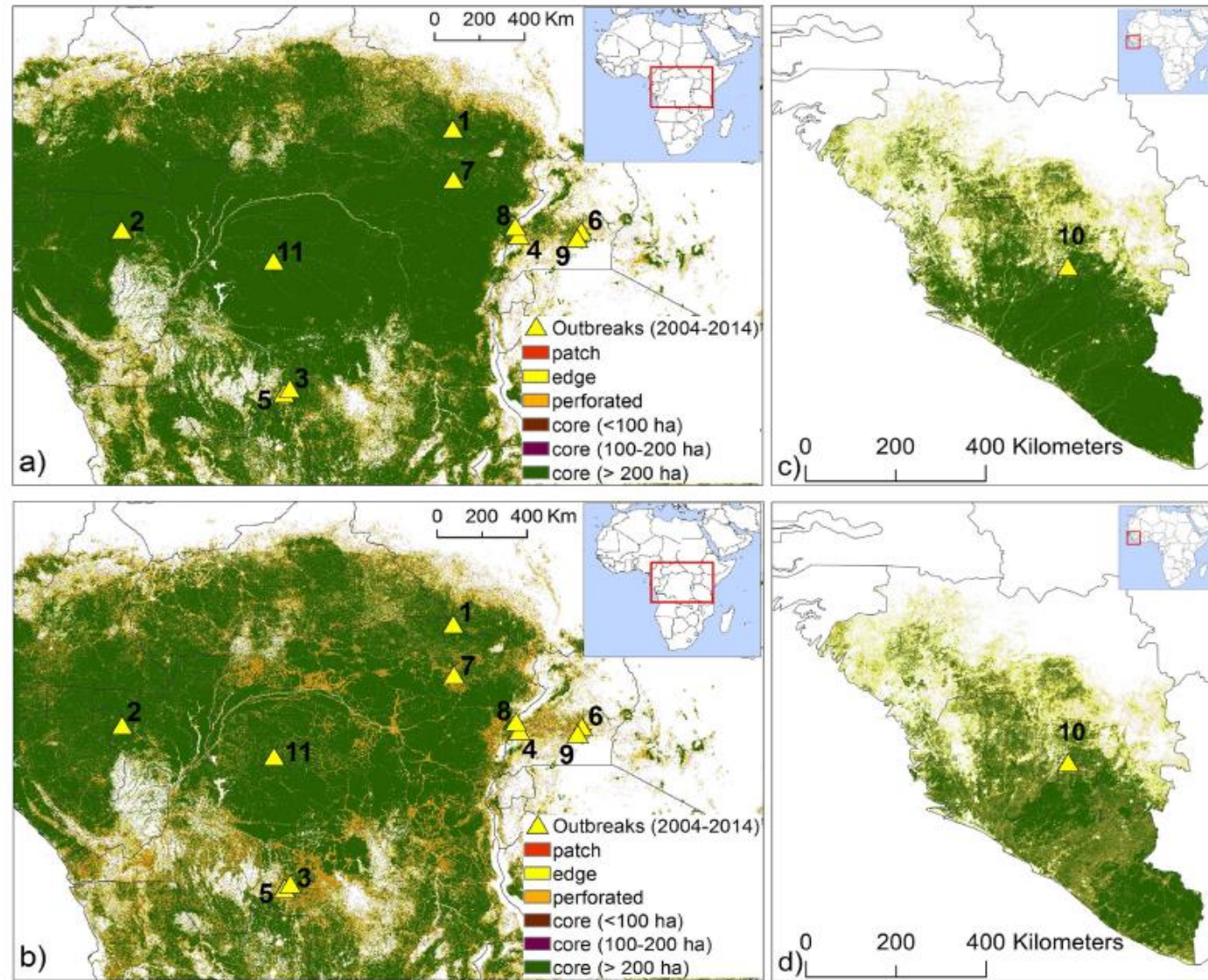
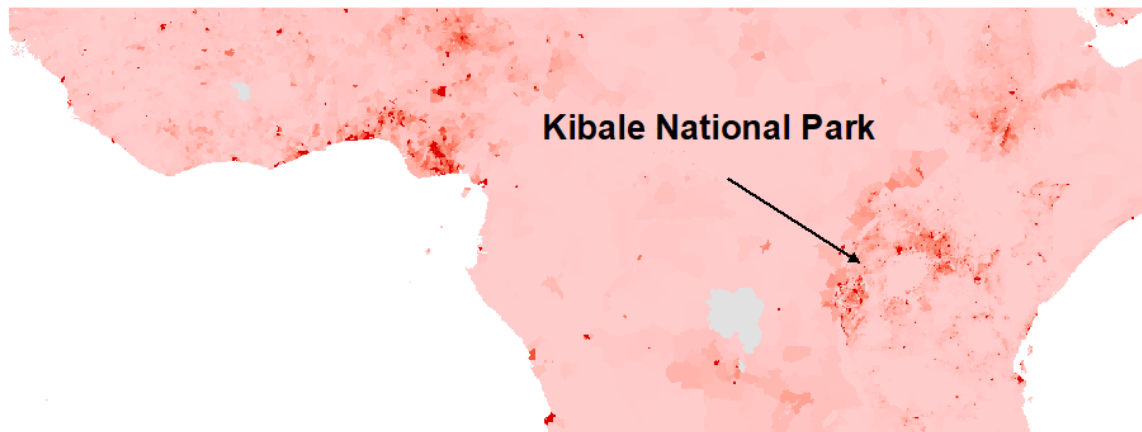
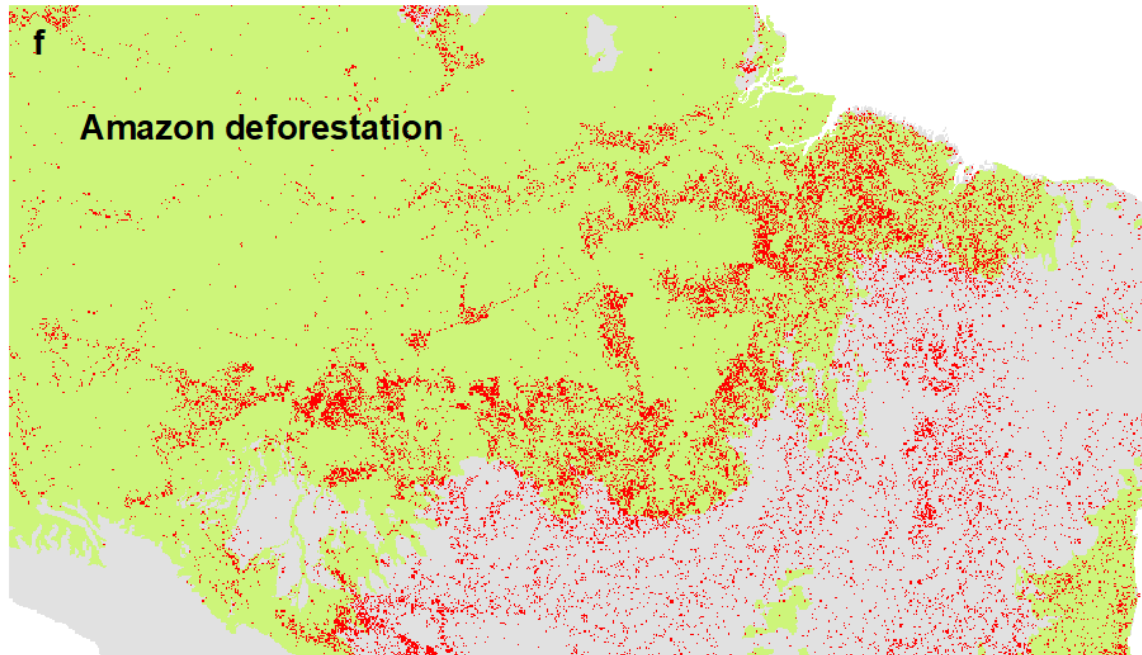


Figure 2. Forest fragmentation in Central and West Africa. Forest fragmentation in Central (panels a, and b)



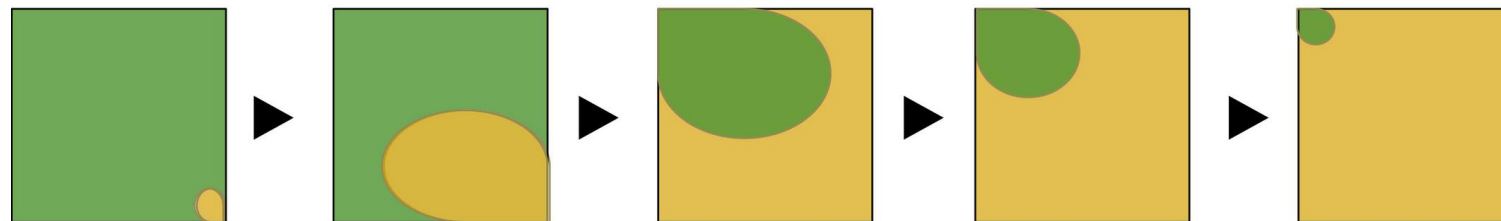
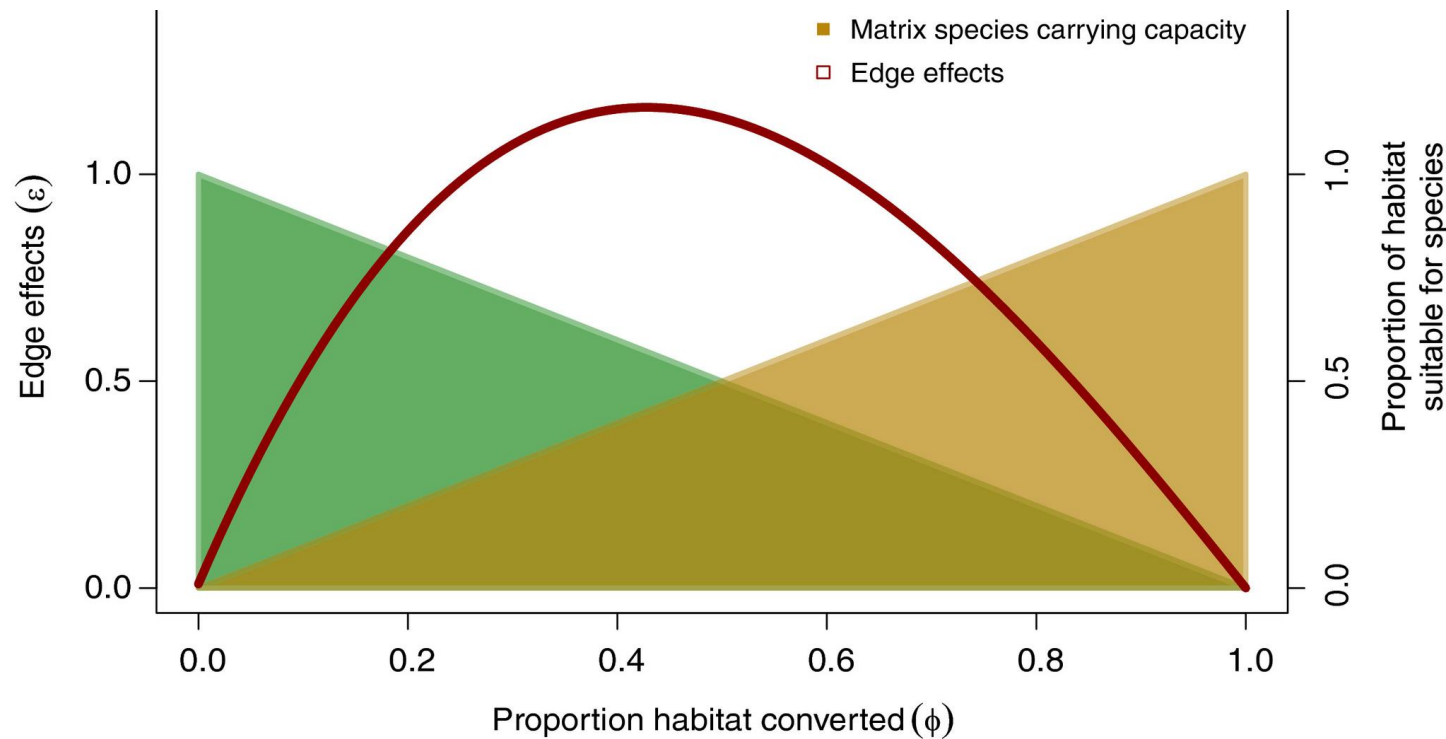
What happens to pathogens in the remaining patches of forest?

**Null expectations for disease dynamics
in shrinking habitat:
dilution or amplification?**

Christina L. Faust^{1,2}, Andrew P. Dobson¹, Nicole Gottdenker³, Laura S.P. Bloomfield⁴, Hamish I. McCallum⁵, Thomas R. Gillespie⁶, Maria Diuk-Wasser⁷, and Raina K. Plowright²

Phil Trans Roy Soc (2017)

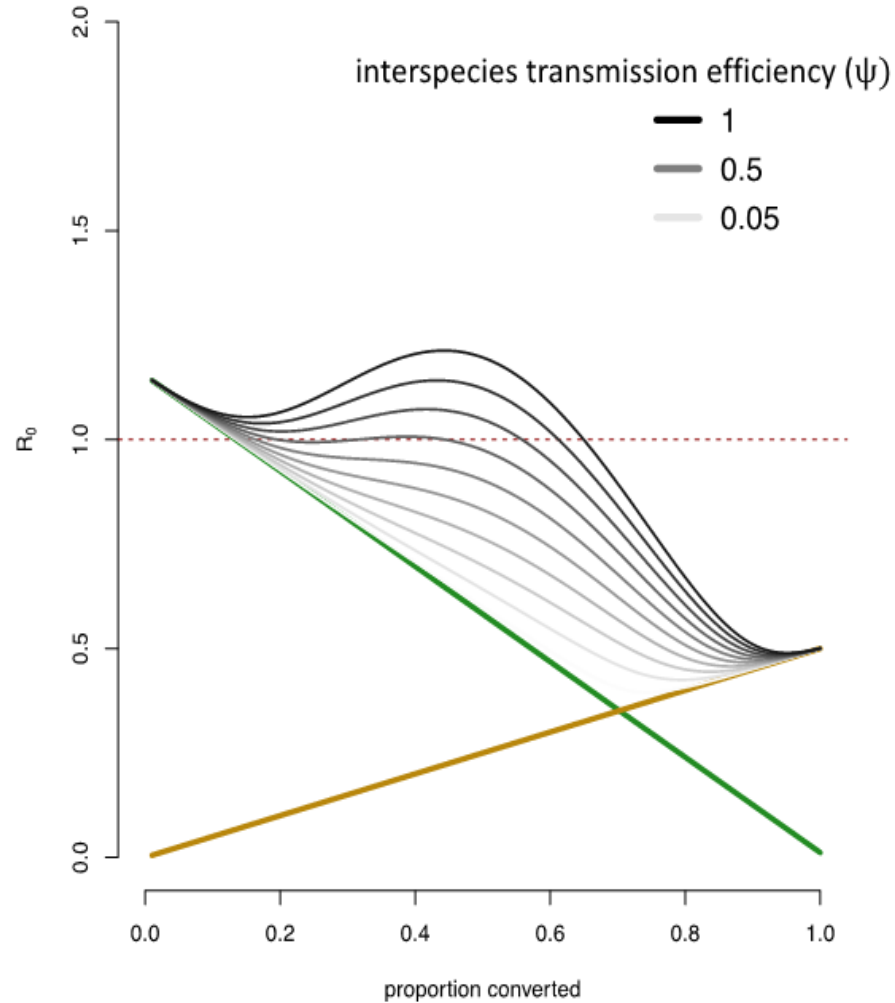
Faust,
McCallum,
Bloomfield,
Dobson ,
Plowright et al
(Ecology Letters,
2017)



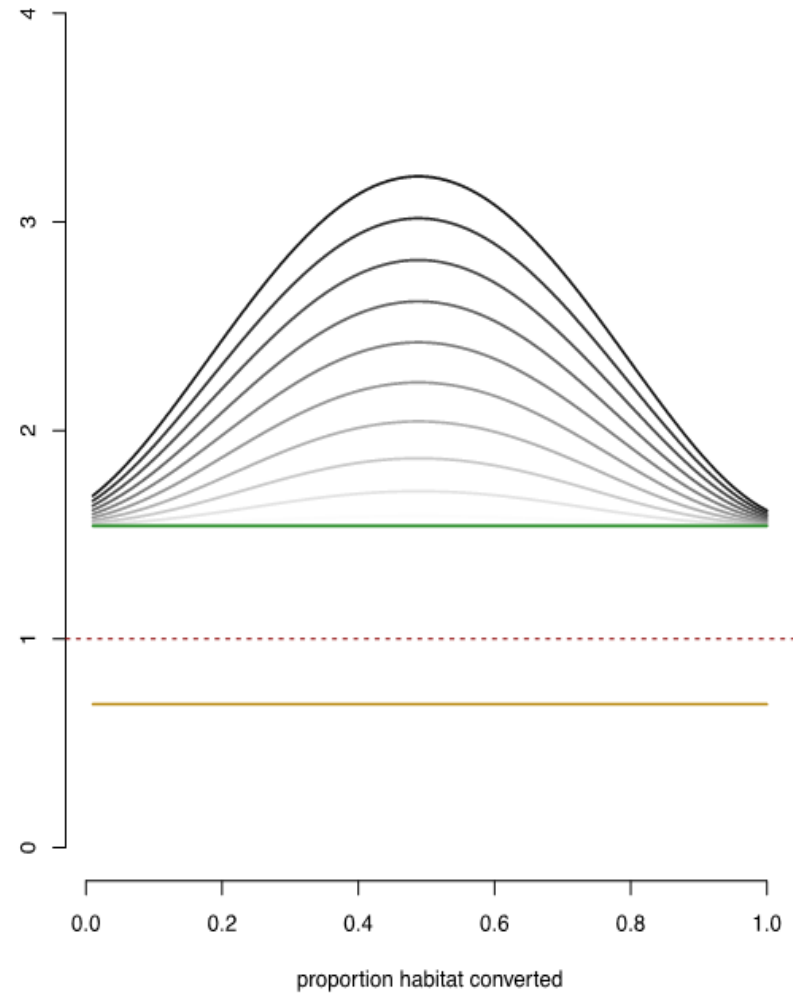
Transmission across the core-matrix boundary

Faust, McCallum, Dobson et al, Plowright, Ecology Letters (2017)

A. density-dependent transmission

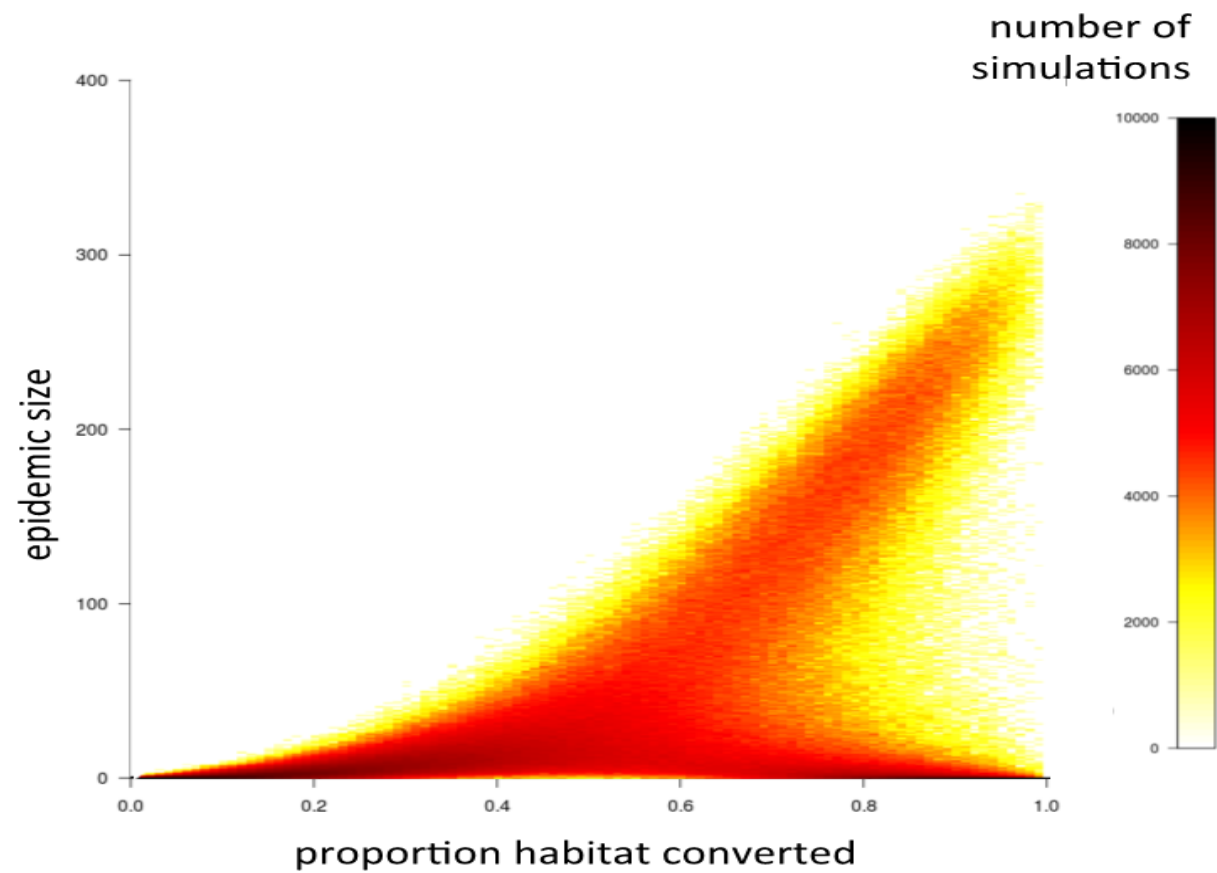
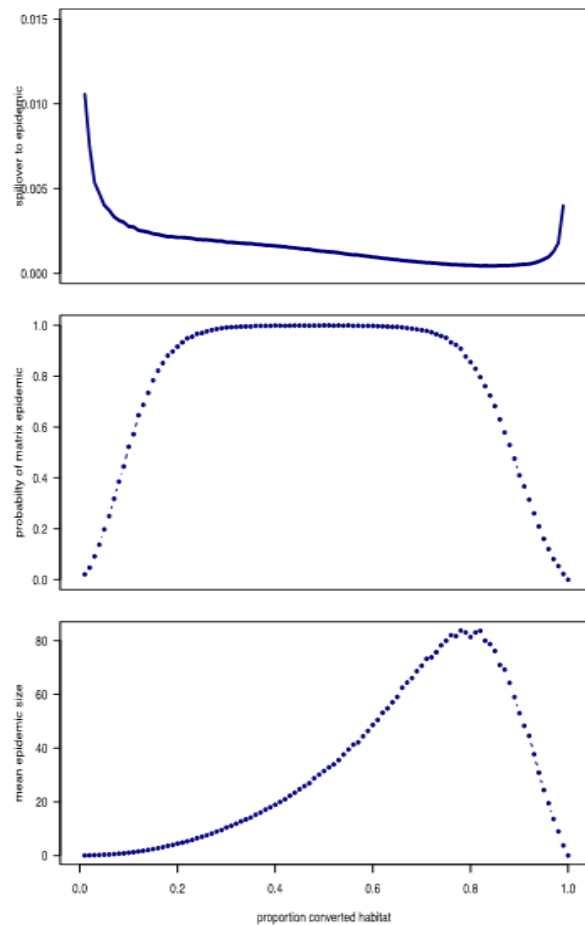


B. frequency-dependent transmission

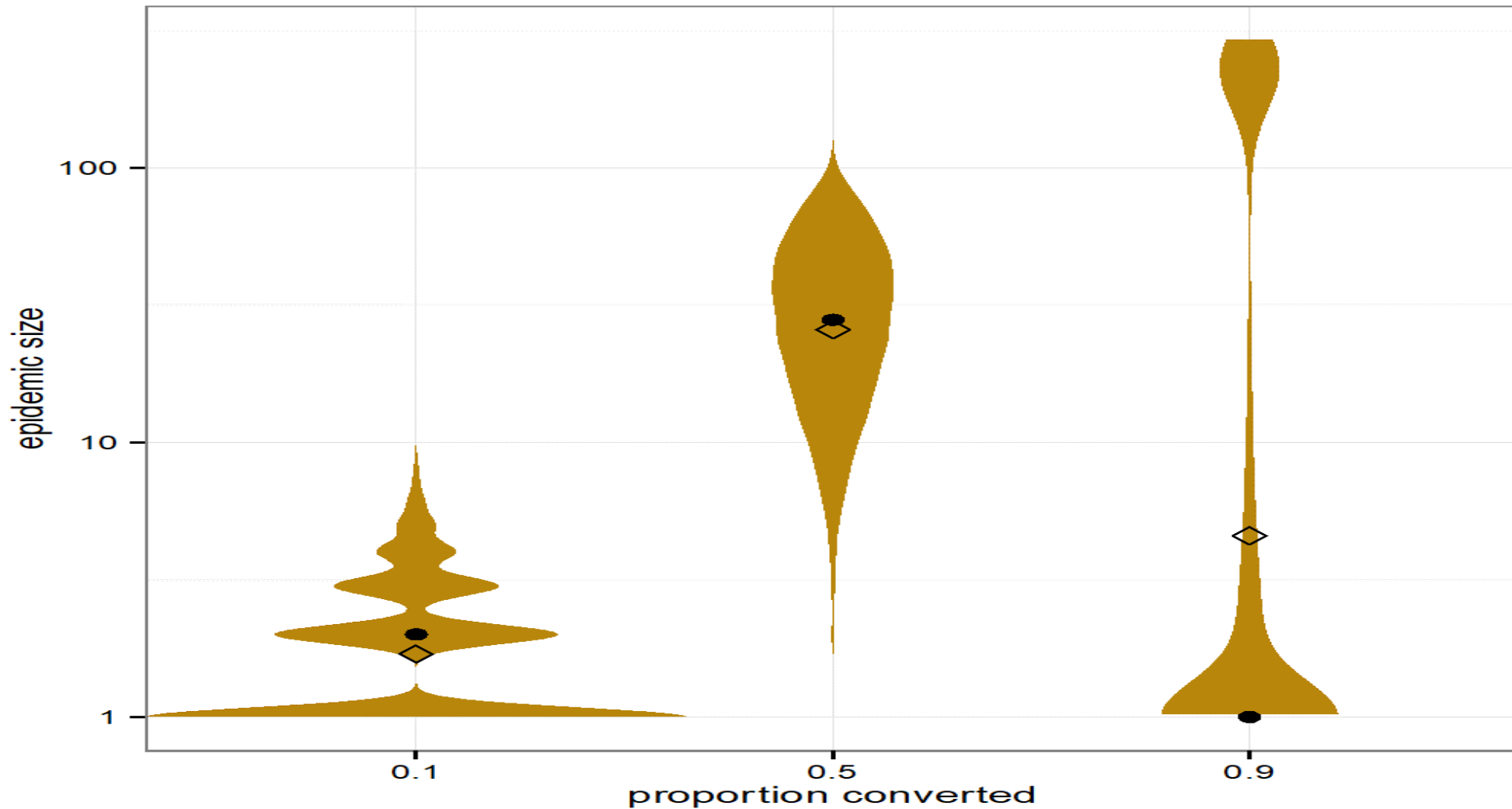


Transmission across the core-matrix boundary Gillespie stochastic case

Faust, McCallum, Dobson et al, Plowright,
Ecology Letters 2017



Transmission across the core-matrix boundary
Faust, McCallum, Dobson et al, Plowright.
Ecology Letters, 2016.



Host and viral traits predict zoonotic spillover from mammals

Kevin J. Olival¹, Parvizeh R. Hosseini¹, Carlos Zambrana-Torrel¹, Noam Ross¹, Tiffany L. Bogich¹ & Peter Daszak¹

LETTER RESEARCH

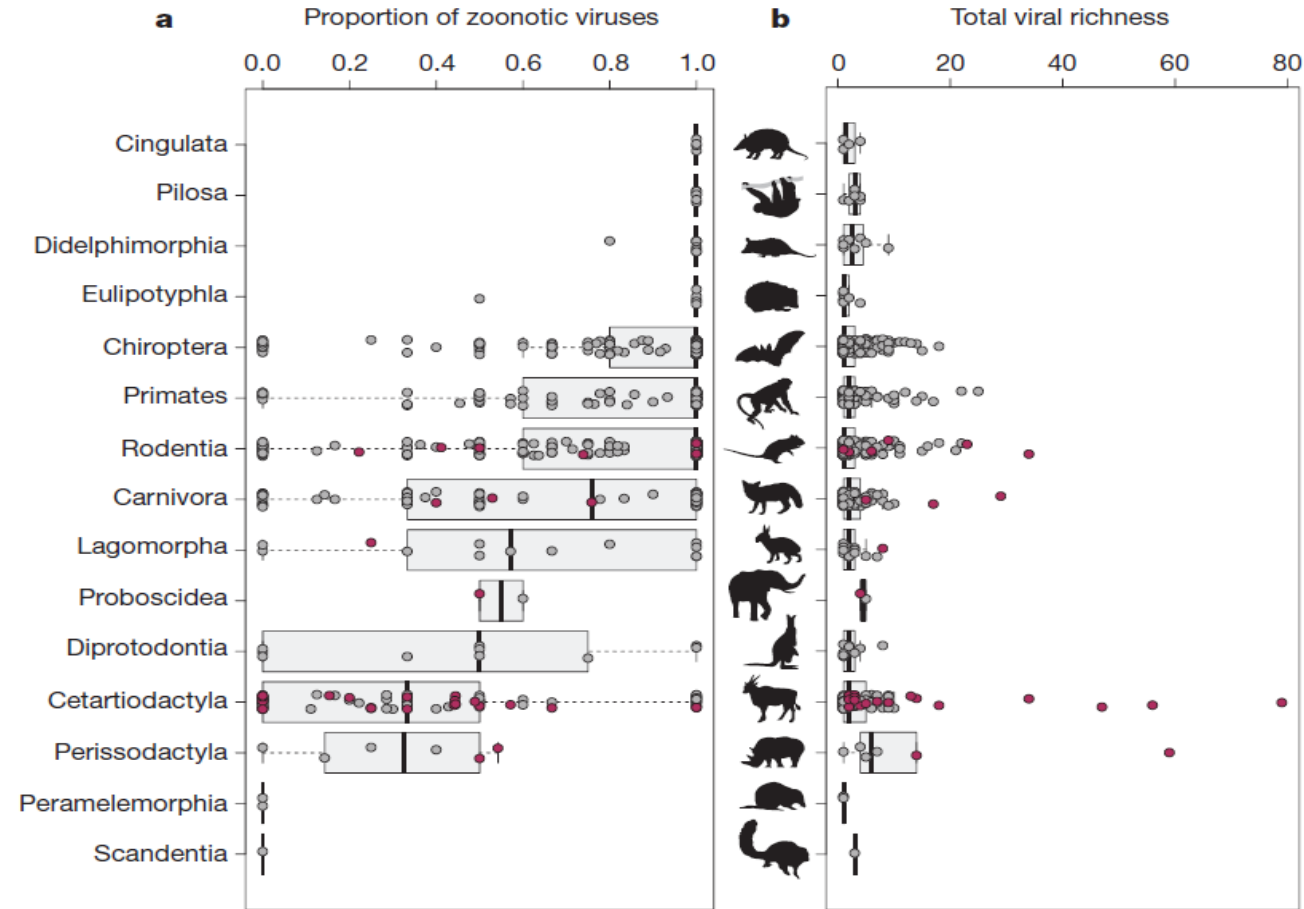
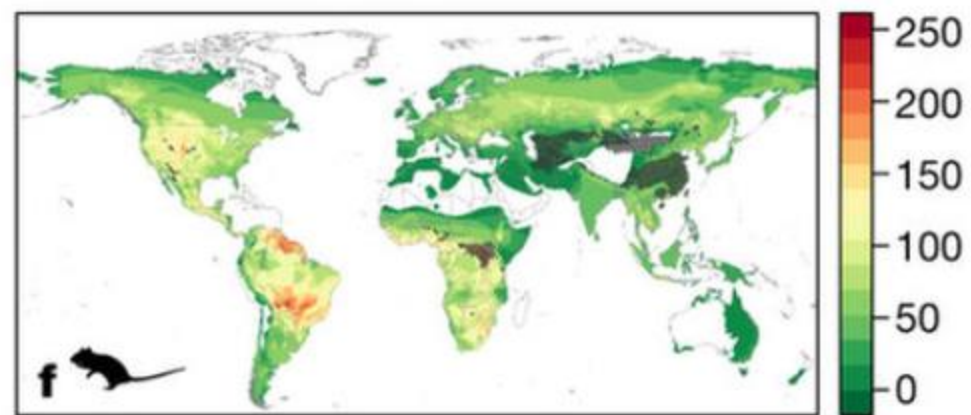
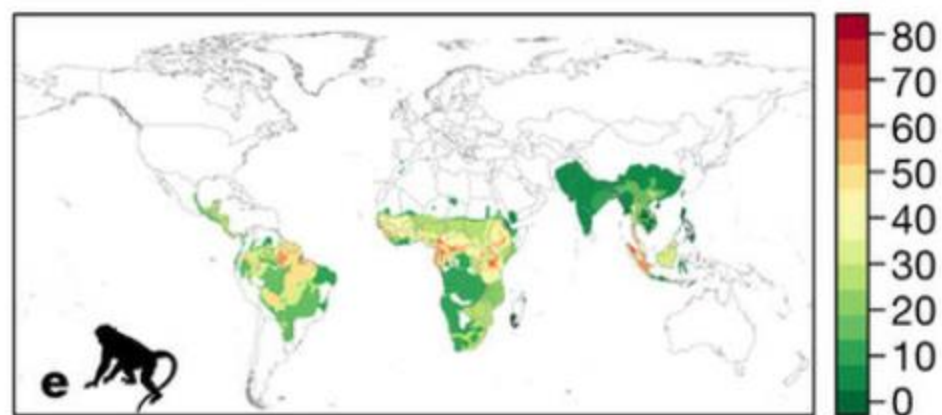
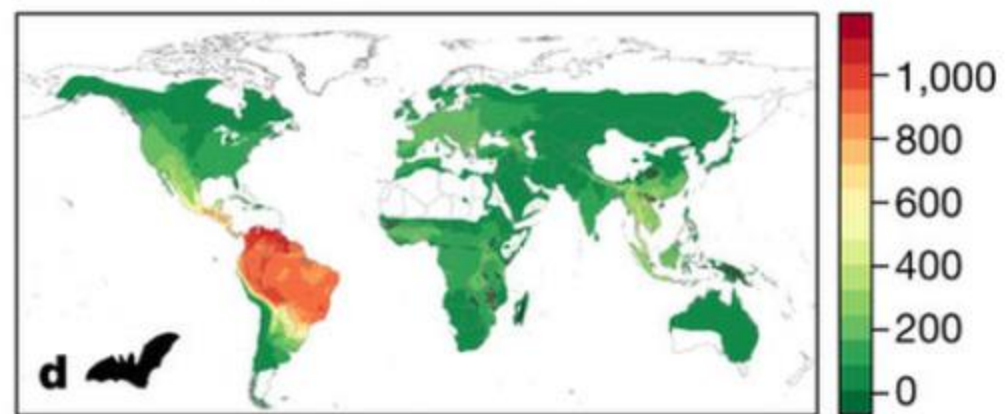
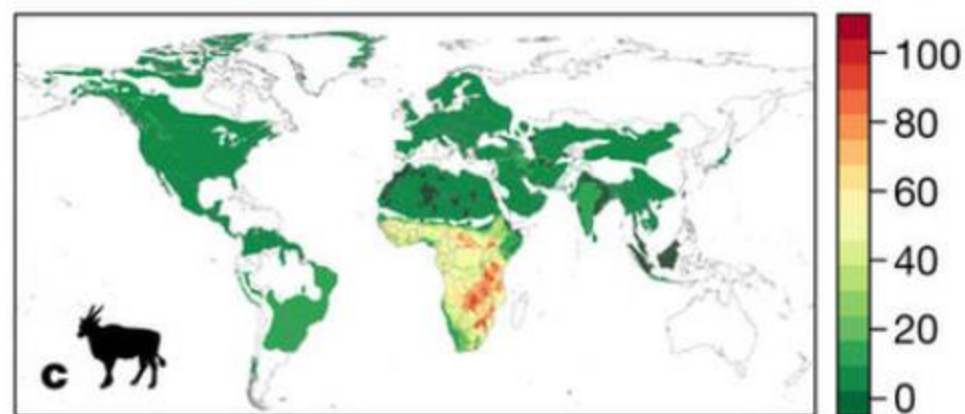
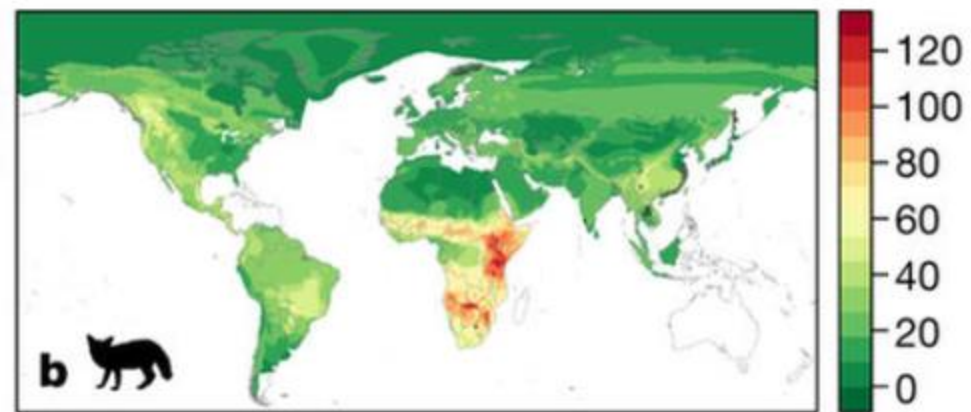
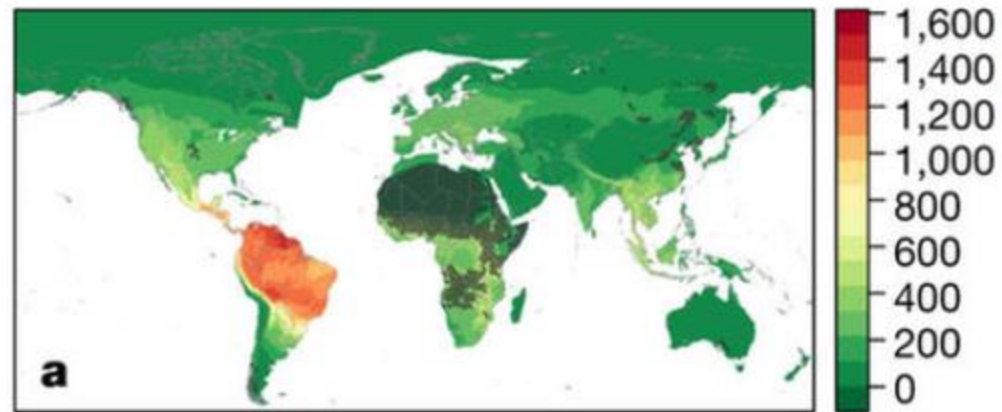


Figure 1 | Observed viral richness in mammals. **a, b,** Box plots of proportion of zoonotic viruses (**a**) and total viral richness per species (**b**), aggregated by order. Data points represent wild (light grey, $n = 721$) and domestic (dark red, $n = 32$) mammal species; lines represent median,

boxes, interquartile range. Animal silhouettes from PhyloPic. Data based on 2,805 host–virus associations. See Methods for image credits and licensing.





The Role of Trade in Wildlife

Legal registered wildlife trade through Singapore, 1976 – 2015.

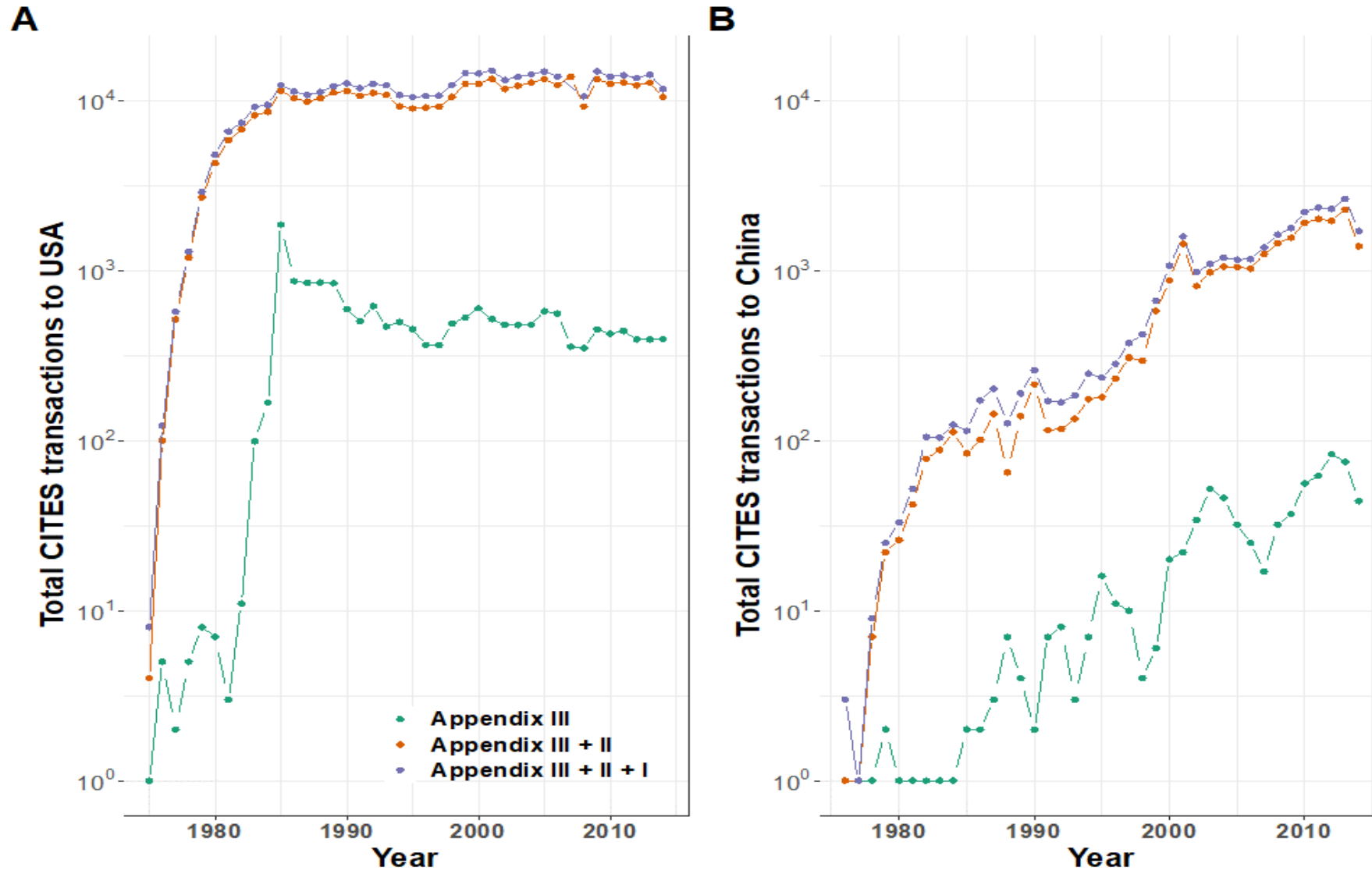


Figure 2 Annual animal imports from Singapore to the United States (A) and China (B) as recorded by CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species). The data start when CITES was first set up 1975. Data are the cumulative number of transactions (within each year), for Species listed under Appendix I, II and III. The records are predominantly for mammals, birds, fish and reptiles. They do not include fish harvested for food.

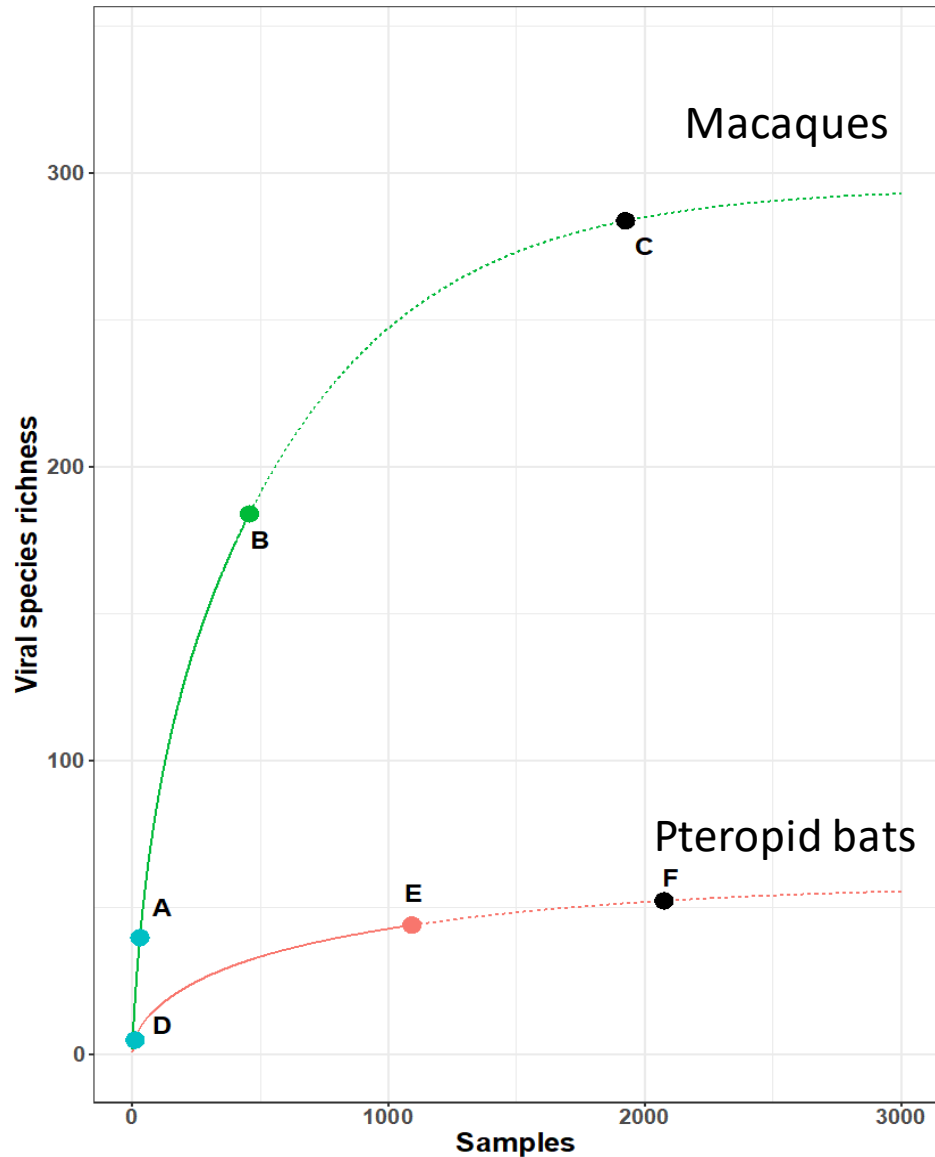
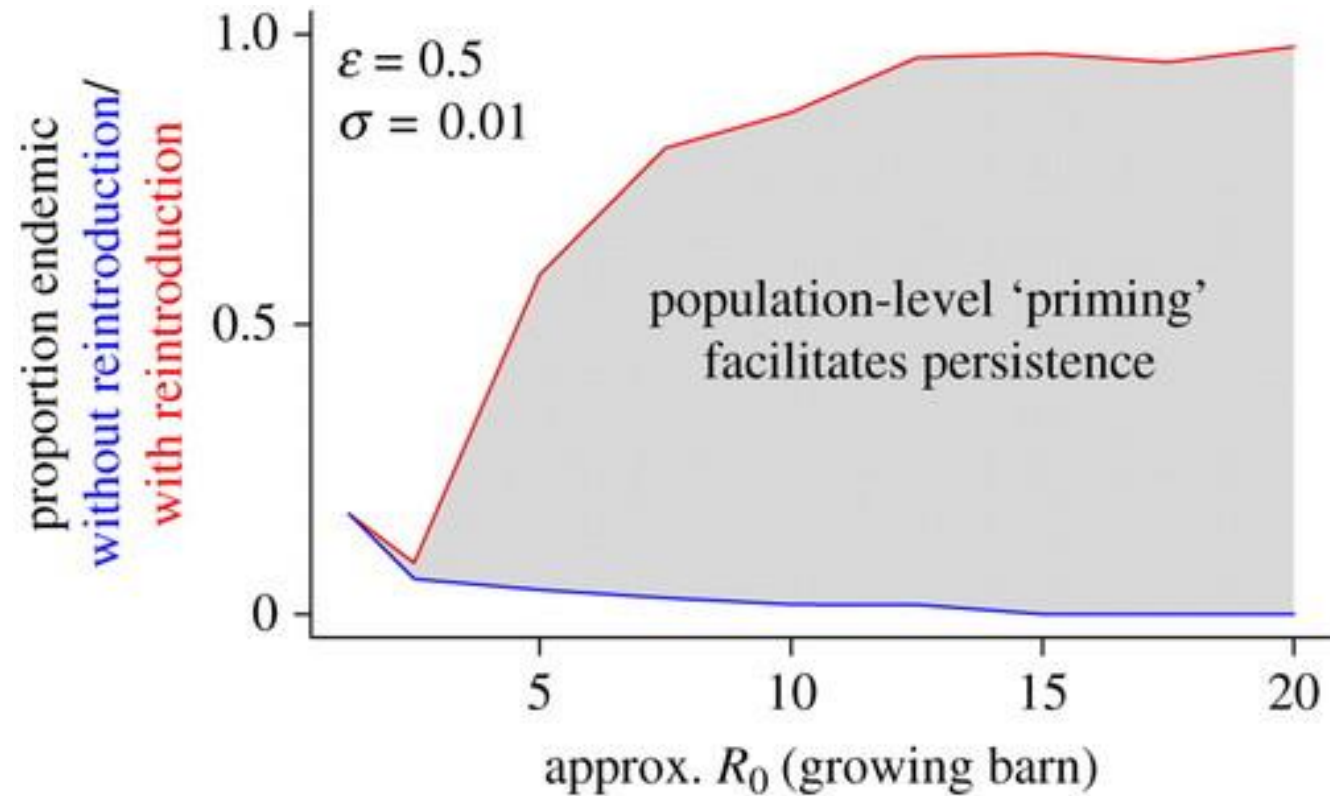


Figure 3 The amount of viral species richness discovered as the number of animals sampled increases for macaque monkeys (green) and Pteropid bats (red). Solid lines are based on rarefaction; dotted lines are extrapolations (using double sample size). Dots A (samples 31, richness 39) and D (samples 13, richness 5) represent 50% sample of sample coverage and dots C (samples 1925, richness 284) and F (samples 2075 and richness 52) represent 99% of sample coverage. Dots B and E are the observed viral species richness. Shaded areas represent 95% confidence intervals. Data used for plots obtained from (20, 21).

OPEN QUESTION: What are levels of cross-immunity Between these viruses? How many crossover and fade-out? What levels of immunity does this build-up in people working in the wildlife trade? Does this form a barrier or facilitate persistence/emergence? (sensu Pulliam et al, above and PLOS-One.)



[Agricultural intensification, priming for persistence and the emergence of Nipah virus: a lethal bat-borne zoonosis, Volume: 9, Issue: 66, Pages: 89-101, DOI: \(10.1098/rsif.2011.0223\)](#)

So is this also happening with people working in the wildlife trade..? Enhanced by cross immunity?

What Links Bats to Emerging Infectious Diseases?

Andrew P. Dobson

28 OCTOBER 2005 VOL 310 SCIENCE www.sciencemag.org

Published by AAAS



Bats, the great natural reservoir for viruses. Knowing more about bat ecology and immunology is crucial to controlling spillover of viruses and related diseases to humans.

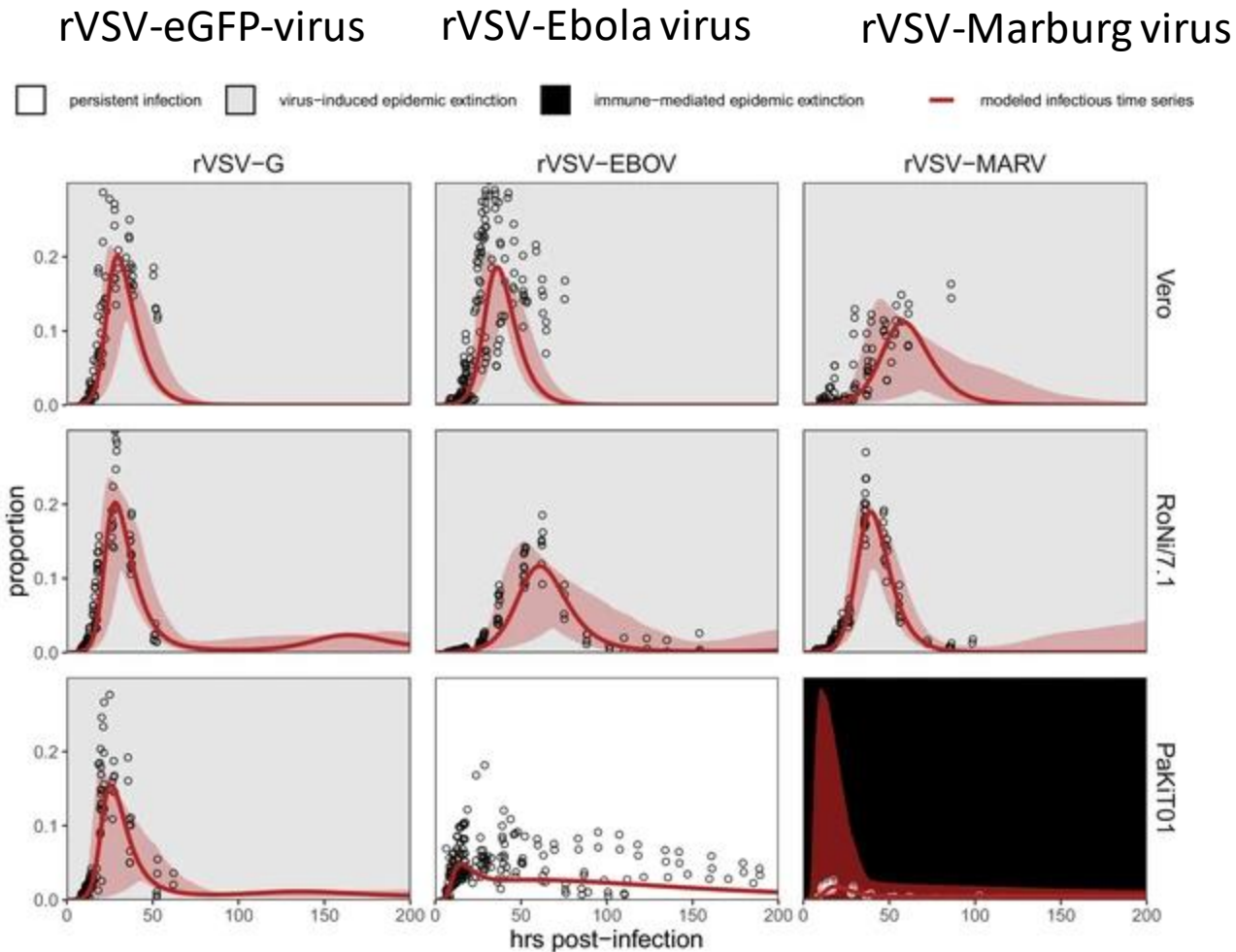
Brook, C. And Dobson, A. (2015) Trends in Microbiology.

Accelerated viral dynamics in bat cell lines, with implications for zoonotic emergence

African green monkey cells
(IFN-defective)

Rousettus aegypticus,
African fruit bat
(idiosyncratic interferon)

Pteropus alecto
S.E.Asian fruit bat
(expresses IFN- α)



Cara E Brook is a corresponding author, Mike Boots, Kartik Chandran, Andrew P Dobson, Christian Drosten, Andrea L Graham, Bryan T Grenfell, Marcel A Müller, Melinda Ng. eLife/48401. 2020

2. Economics of Emerging Diseases

- Cost-benefit at each stage of intervention
- Overall cost-benefit
- Missing costs and additional benefits

Summary of prevention costs, benefits, and break-even probability change

ITEM	VALUES (2020 \$)
Expenditures on preventive measures	
Annual funding for monitoring wildlife trade (CITES+)	\$250–\$750 M
Annual cost of programs to reduce spillovers	\$120–\$340 M
Annual cost of programs for early detection and control	\$217–\$279 M
Annual cost of programs to reduce spillover via livestock	\$476–\$852 M
Annual cost of reducing deforestation by half	\$1.53–\$9.59 B
Annual cost of ending wild meat trade in China	\$19.4 B
TOTAL GROSS PREVENTION COSTS (C)	\$22.0–\$31.2 B
Ancillary benefit of prevention	
Social cost of carbon	\$36.5/tonne
Annual CO ₂ emissions reduced from 50% less deforestation	118 Mt
Ancillary benefits from reduction in CO ₂ emissions	\$4.31 B
TOTAL PREVENTION COSTS NET OF CARBON BENEFITS (C)	\$17.7–\$26.9 B
Damages from COVID-19	
Lost GDP in world from COVID-19	\$5.6 T
Value of a statistical life (V) adjusted for COVID-19 mortality structure	\$5.34 M or \$10.0 M
Total COVID-19 world mortality (Q ₀) forecast by 28 July 2020, 50th percentile with 95% error bounds	590,643 [473,209, 1,019,078]
Value of deaths in world from COVID-19 = Q ₀ × V	
Lowest (\$5.34 M × 2.5th percentile mortality forecast)	\$2.5 T
Middle (\$10 M × 50th percentile mortality forecast)	\$5.9 T
Highest (\$10 M × 97.5th percentile mortality forecast)	\$10.2 T
TOTAL DISEASE DAMAGES (D):	
Lowest (\$5.34 M × 2.5th percentile mortality forecast)	\$8.1 T
Middle (\$10 M × 50th percentile mortality forecast)	\$11.5 T
Highest (\$10 M × 97.5th percentile mortality forecast)	\$15.8 T

The break-even change in annual probability of pandemic satisfies $C = \Delta P \times D$, where P_0 = benchmark probability of pandemic; P_1 = probability of pandemic with prevention efforts in place; $\Delta P = P_0 - P_1$; and $\% \Delta P = (\Delta P / P_0) \times 100$.

If $P_0 = 0.01$, $C = \$30.7 B$, and $D = \$11.5 T$ (most likely scenario, ignoring ancillary benefits of CO₂ reductions), prevention results in net benefits if it decreases P by 26.7% to $P_1 = 0.00733$. Using other values of C , D , and P results in $\% \Delta P$ ranging from 11.8% to 75.7%; only one scenario has a $\% \Delta P$ exceeding 50%. See supplementary materials.

Figure 1: Costs and Ancillary Benefits of Prevention (million \$)

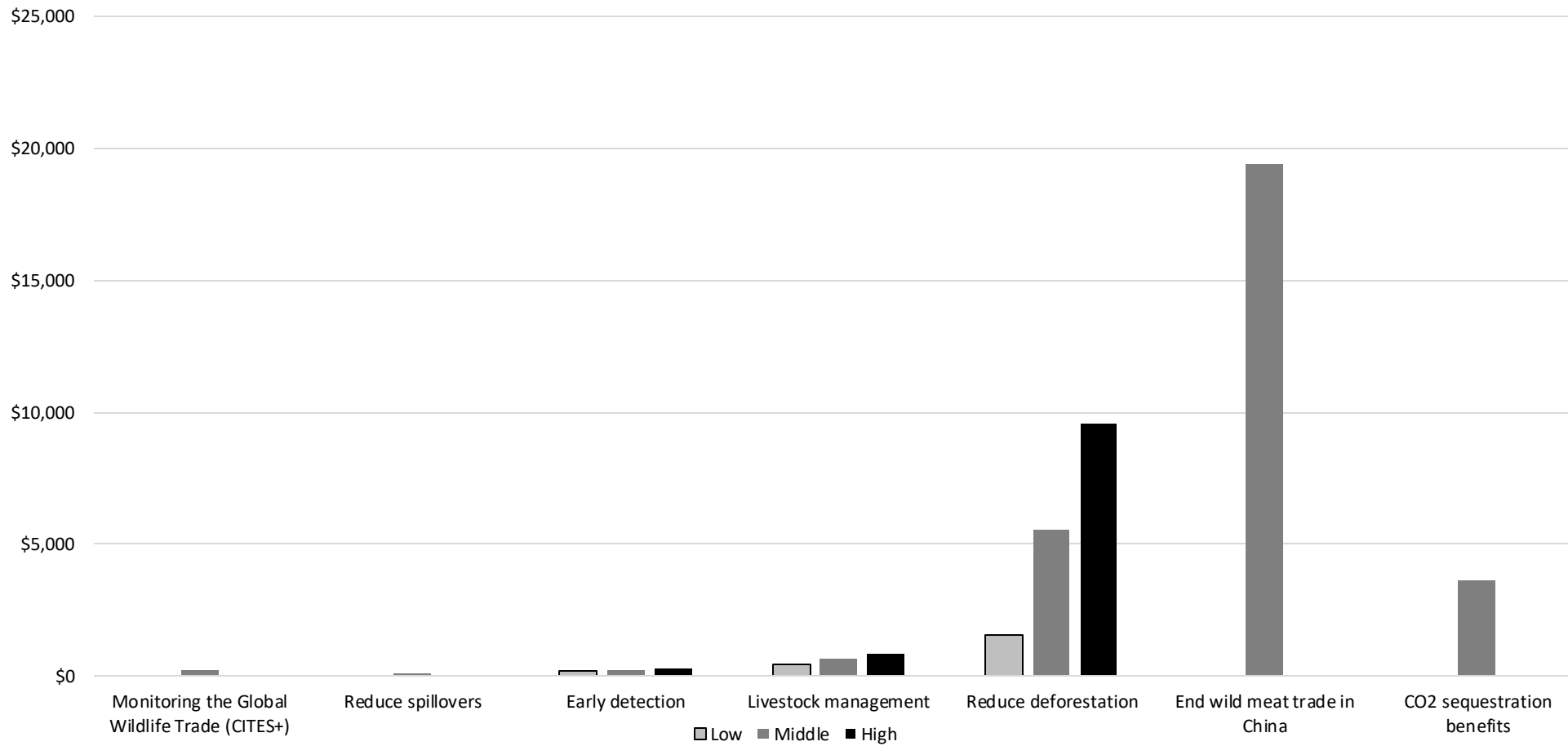
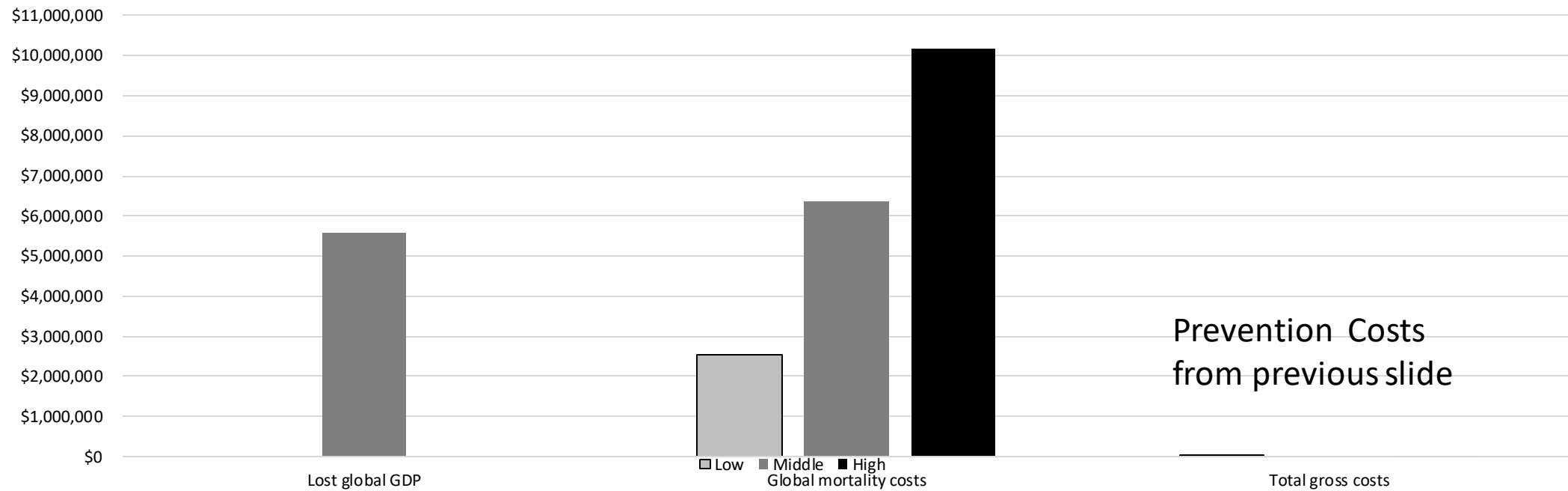
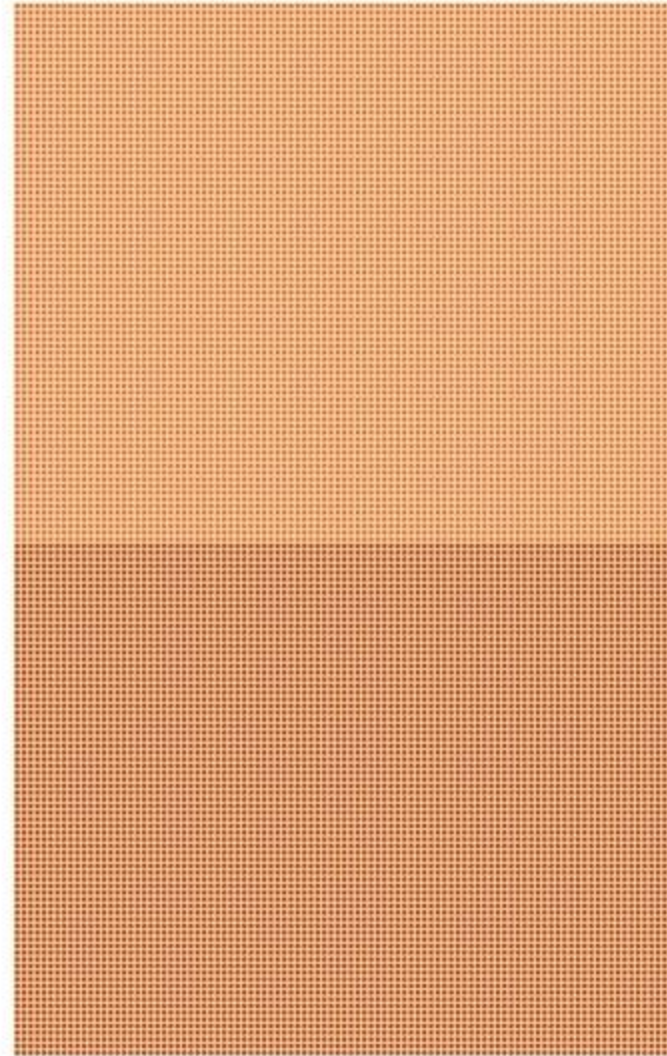


Figure 2: COVID-19 Damages and Total Gross Prevention Costs (million \$)



Annual cost of preventing zoonotic diseases → 
(low: \$22.2 billion)
(high: \$30.7 billion)



← **Damage from COVID-19**
(low: \$8.1 trillion)
(high: \$15.8 trillion)

Each cell represents \$1 billion in 2020 USD. Annual cost of preventing zoonotic diseases includes forest protection, control of wildlife trade, farmed animal biosecurity, and early detection. Damage from COVID-19 includes lost lives through July 28, 2020 and lost GDP in 2020.
Source: Dobson et al., *Science*, 2020. "Ecology and Economics for Pandemic Prevention." [sciencemag.org/links/linked-to-populated-here](https://www.sciencemag.org/links/linked-to-populated-here)
Graphic: @jonahbusch

Annual costs of preventing future pandemics from wildlife are tiny compared with costs of the Covid-19 crisis

\$26.6bn

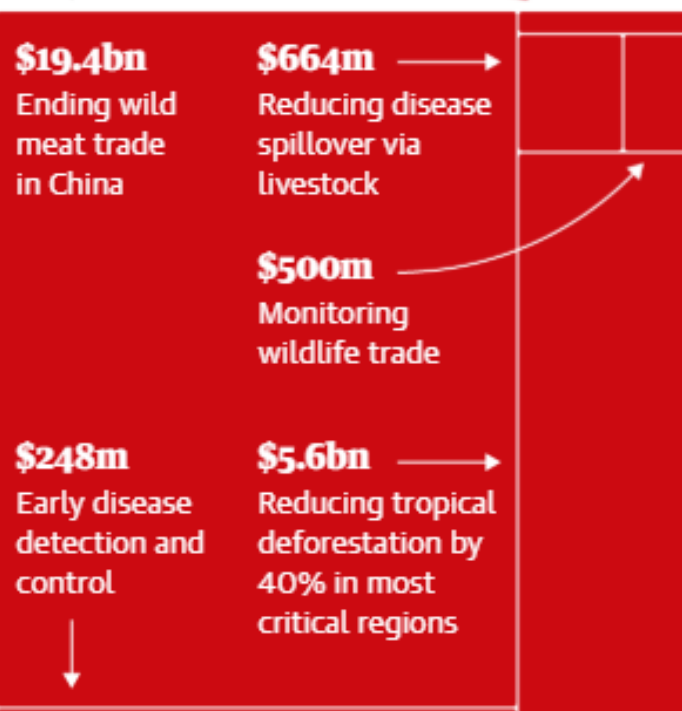
Annual prevention costs
central estimates, detail right



Enlarged
detail

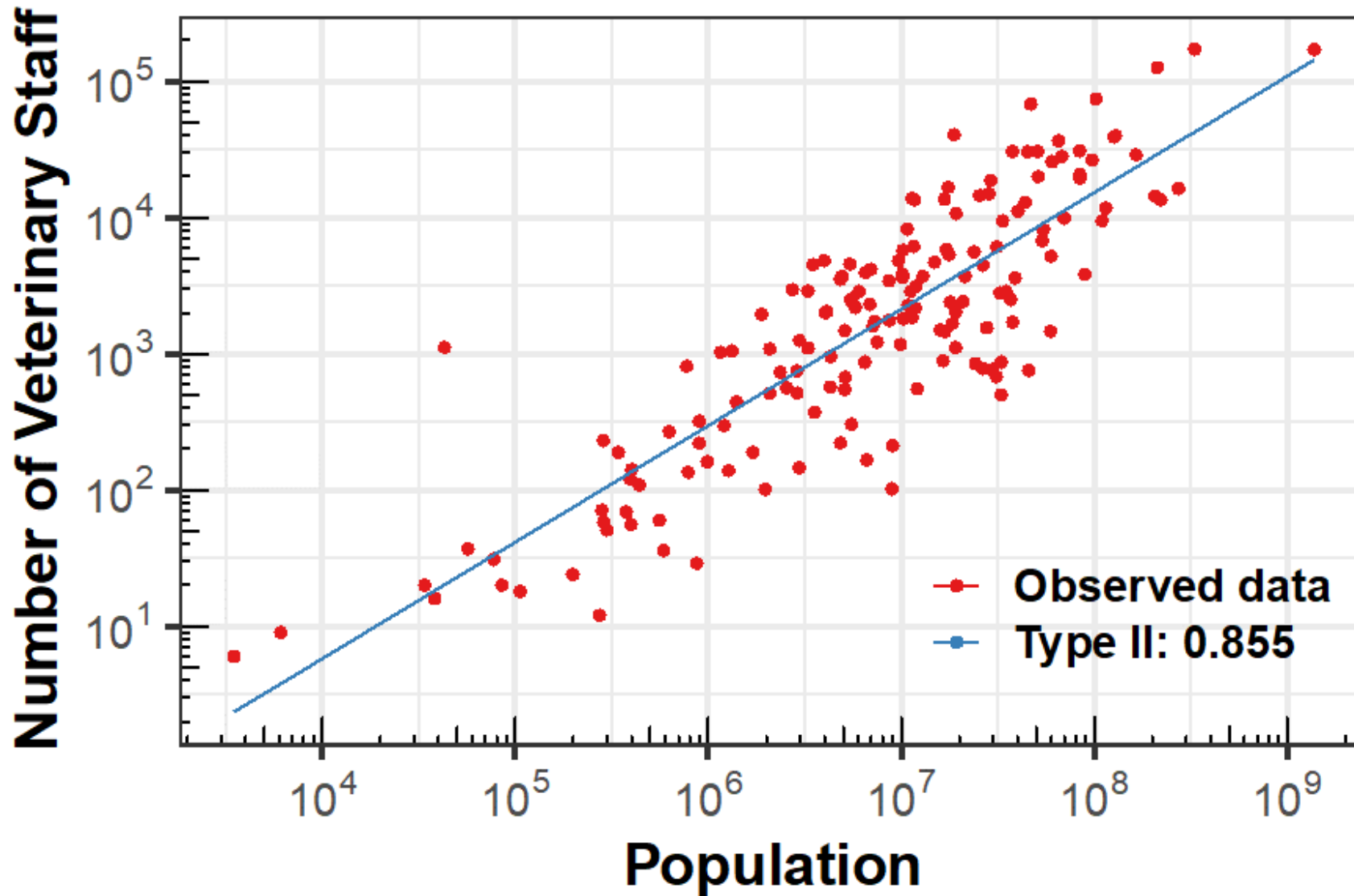
\$230m

Reducing disease spillovers
from wildlife

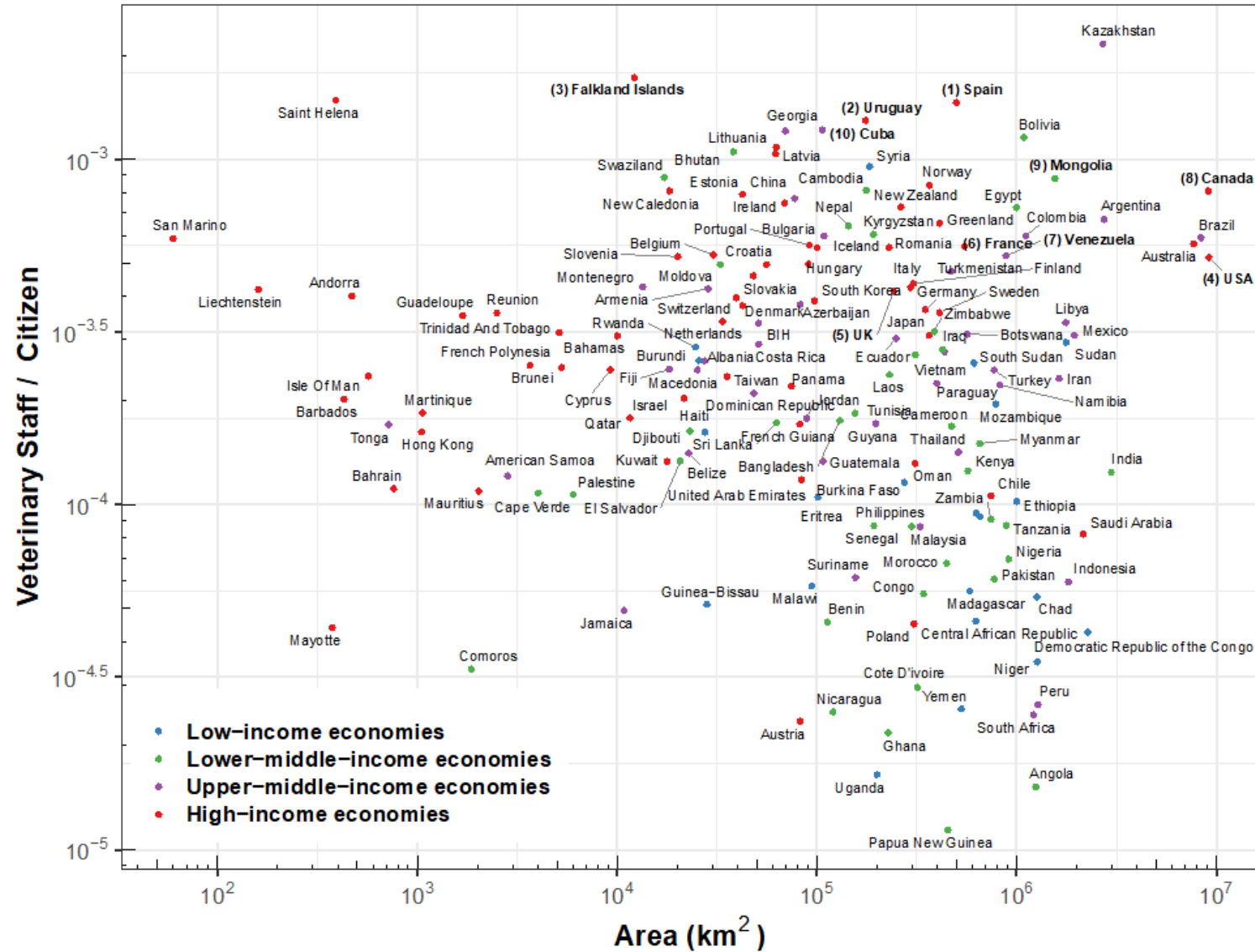


Guardian graphic. Source: Dobson et al, Science 2020

First line of defense – veterinarians!



Relative abundance of front-line defenders

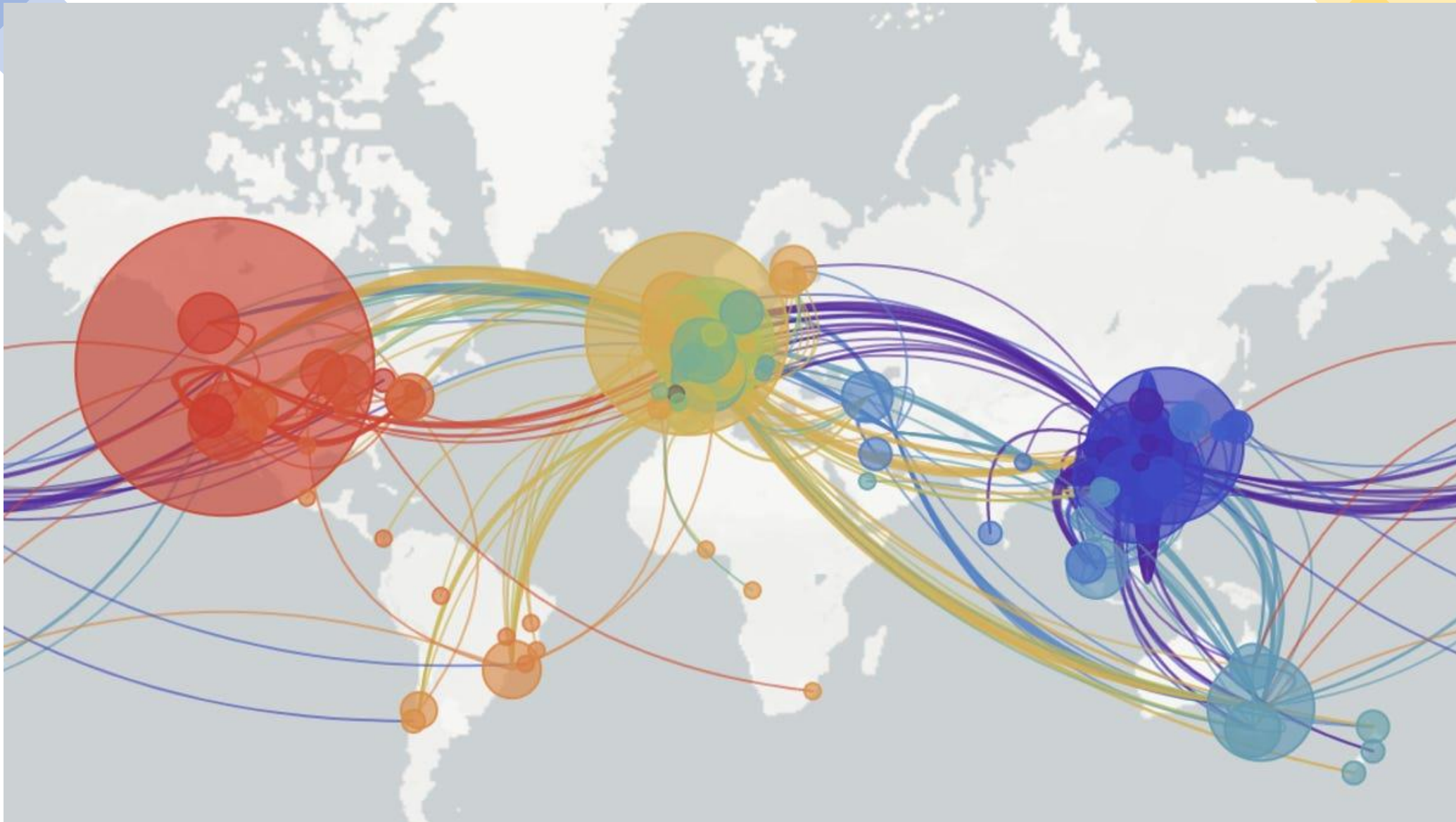


Data were absent from the OIE database for several nations (including China and Russia). The ratio of veterinarians to civilians plotted against the nation's area. Countries are color-coded based on World Bank income categories.

3. Evolution of Emerging Pathogens

- Will Covid-19 become more or less virulent?
- Insights from an avian emerging pathogen

Mutation has given rise to multiple strains that characterize cluster in different locations



When will we see selection for changes in virulence?





Natural habitats of house finches.....

House Finches were introduced on Long Island in 1940



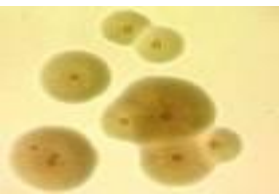
male House Finch
by Larry McQueen

1960-61

A Tractable Disease System: MG in House Finches



→
1993

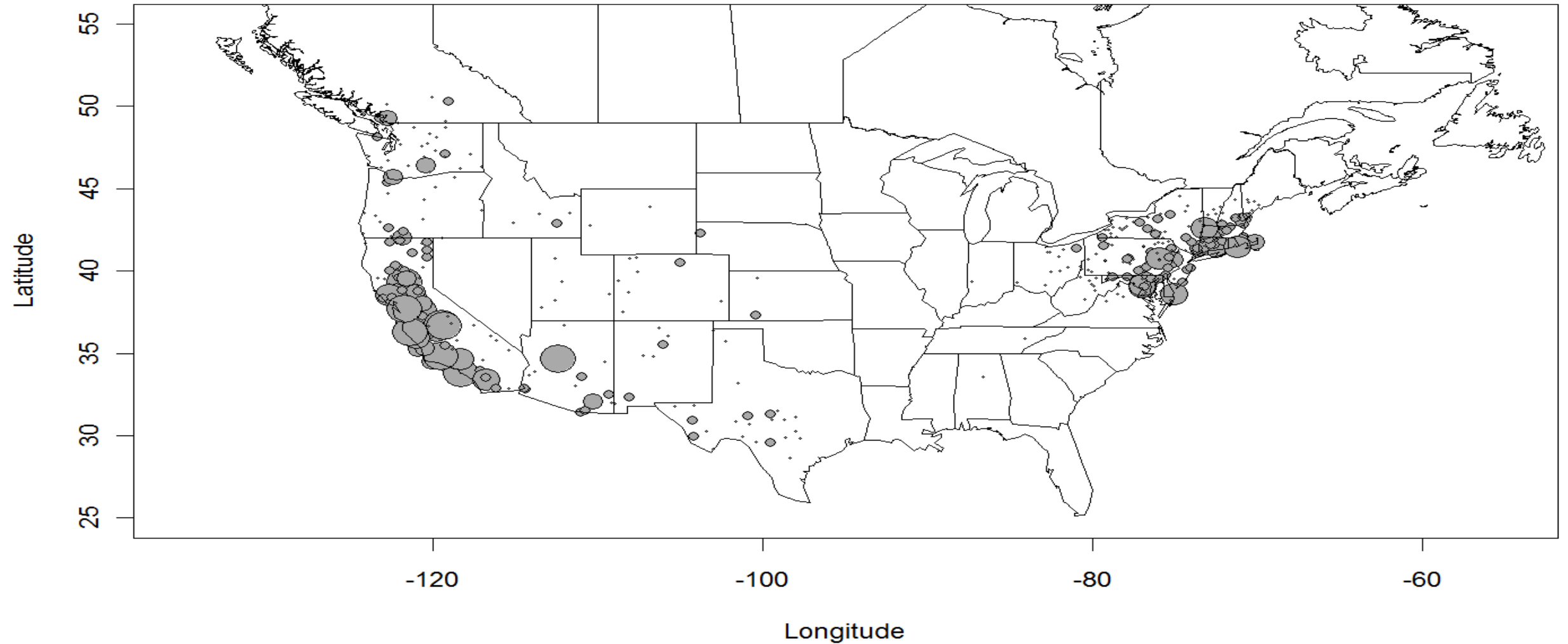


*Mycoplasma
gallisepticum*
= MG

House Finch
Carpodacus mexicanus

House finch distribution in the US

Breeding Bird Survey : HOFI (1985)



Mycoplasmal conjunctivitis

- caused by the bacterium *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*
- found in domestic poultry worldwide
- novel strain infects House Finches
- clear external clinical signs
- clinical signs are closely related to presence of pathogen



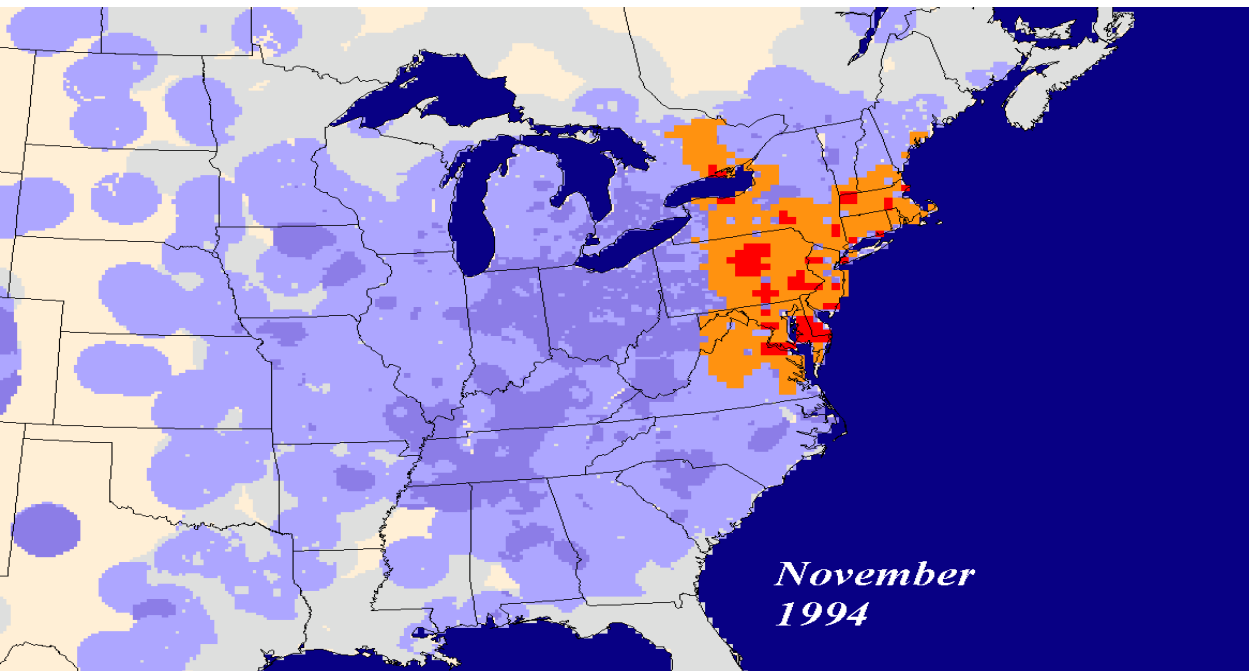
*Humans aren't only species at risk from emerging pathogens
– monitoring focuses on humans and livestock...intervene as soon as possible
model systems can provide important insights not otherwise available*

Wide Geographical Distribution of Participants

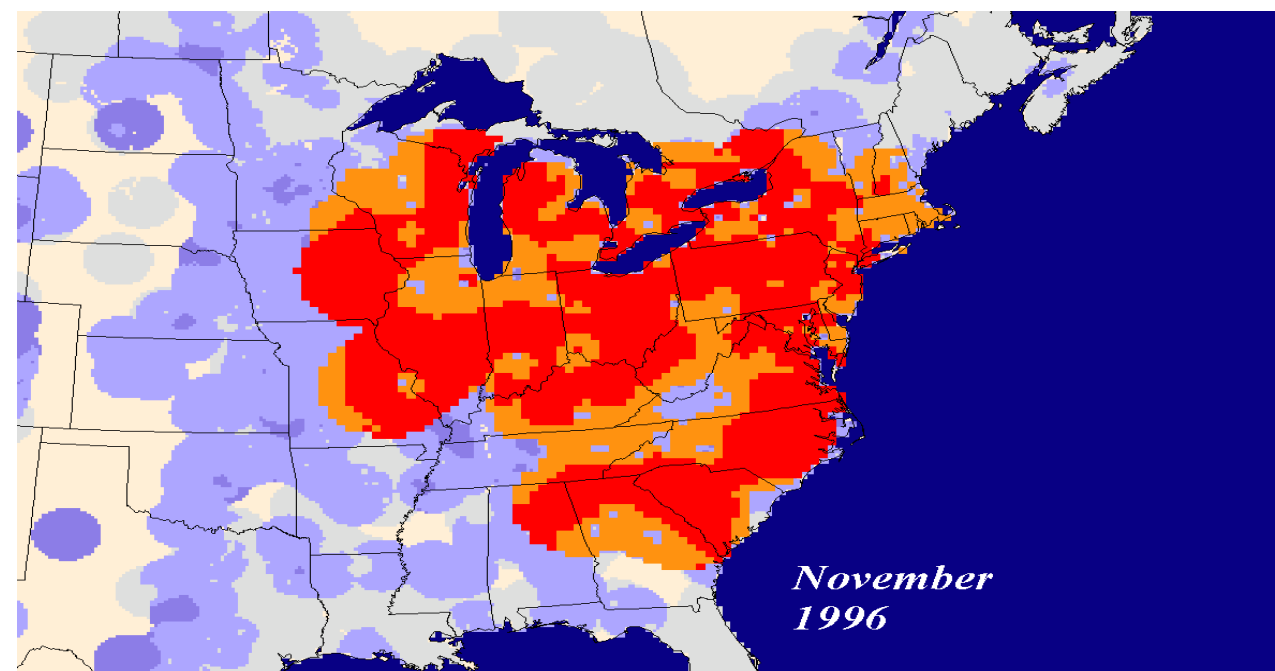
- most data from the north-eastern U.S.
- high-density regions would swamp patterns in other areas if averaged
- disease arrived at different times in different regions



Disease Spread Rapidly Through Eastern North America



After 10 month



After 2.5 Years

House finches are pest in wineries...very handy for sponsorship!

Upstate new York Wine....

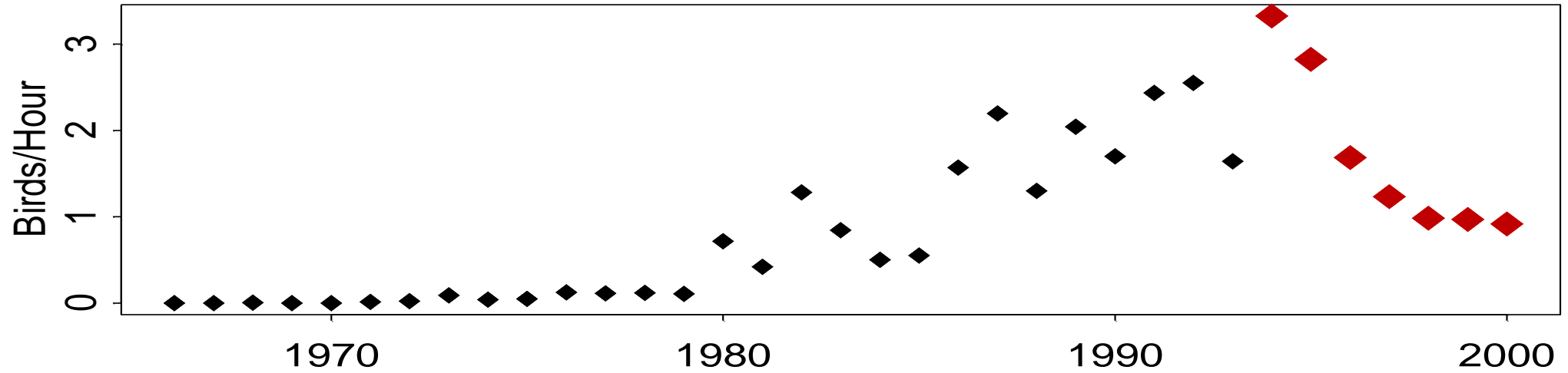


Delicious California wine!!

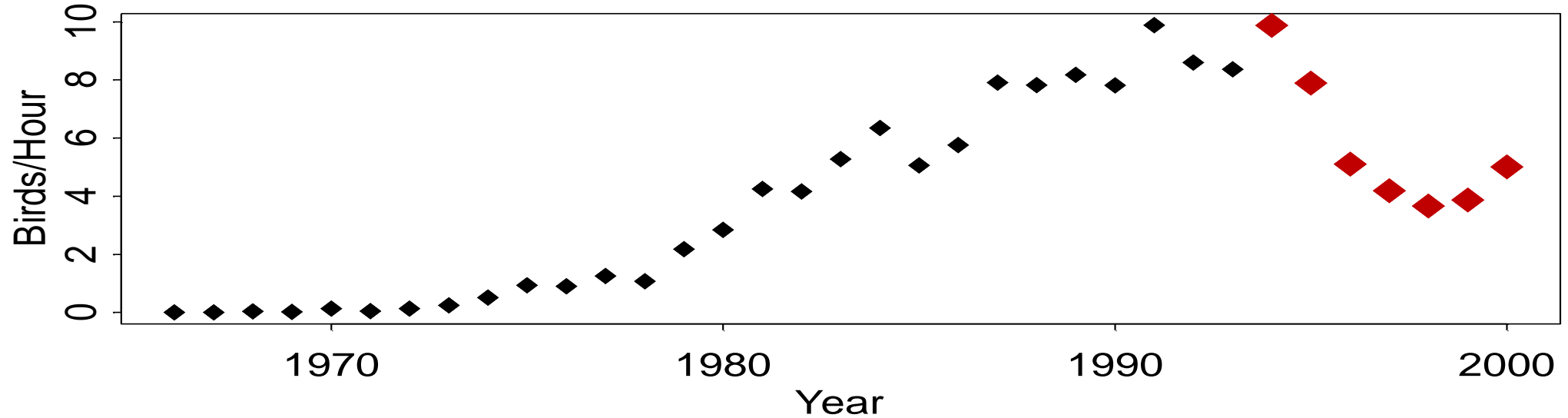


House Finch abundance decreased dramatically because of the new disease

Eastern VA, Eastern MD, DE

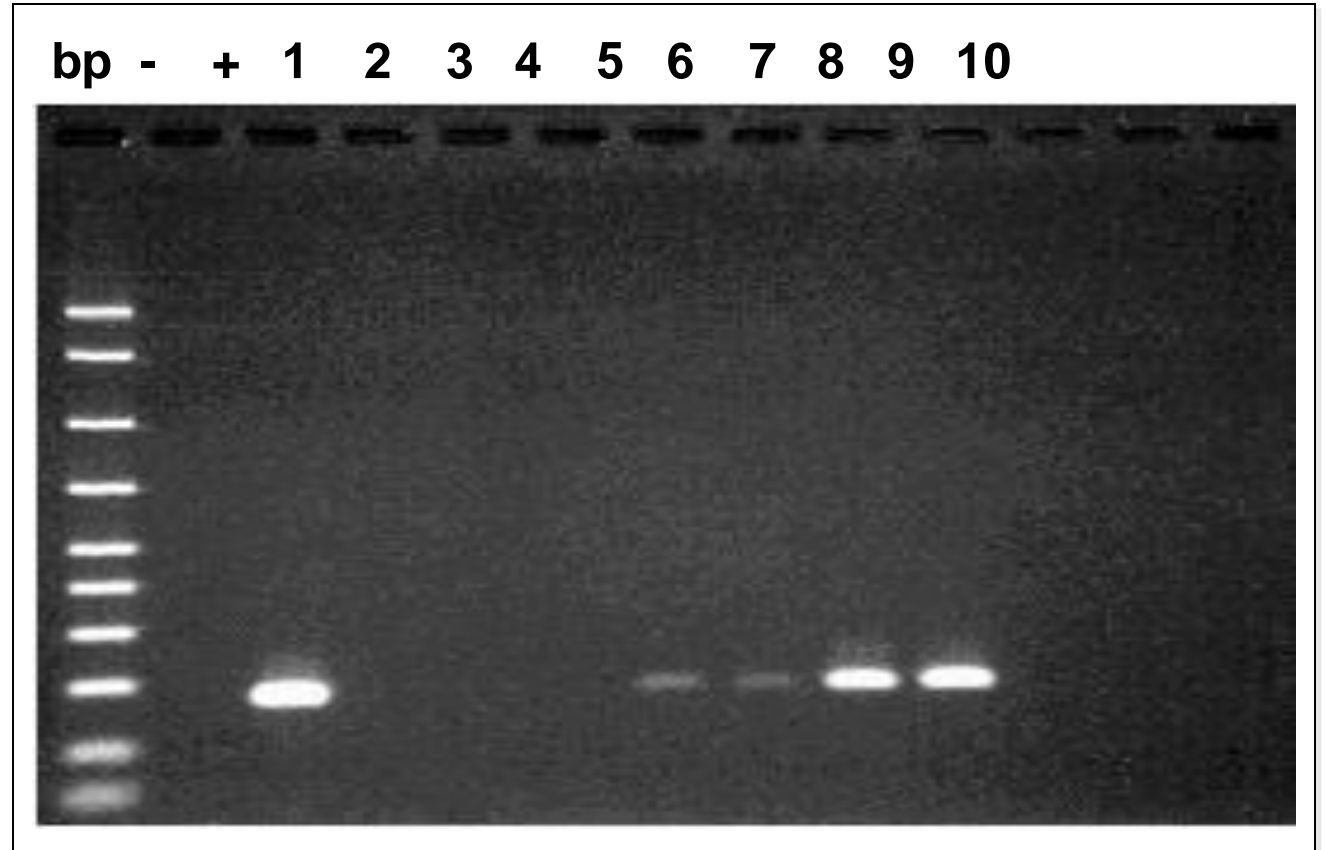


Central PA, Eastern NY



PCR to determine infection status using
MG-specific polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

David Ley, NCSU



A Tractable Disease System

-- disease response can be measured non-invasively.

Score
0



Score
2



Score
1



Score
3



Time course of infection in individual infected birds (days)

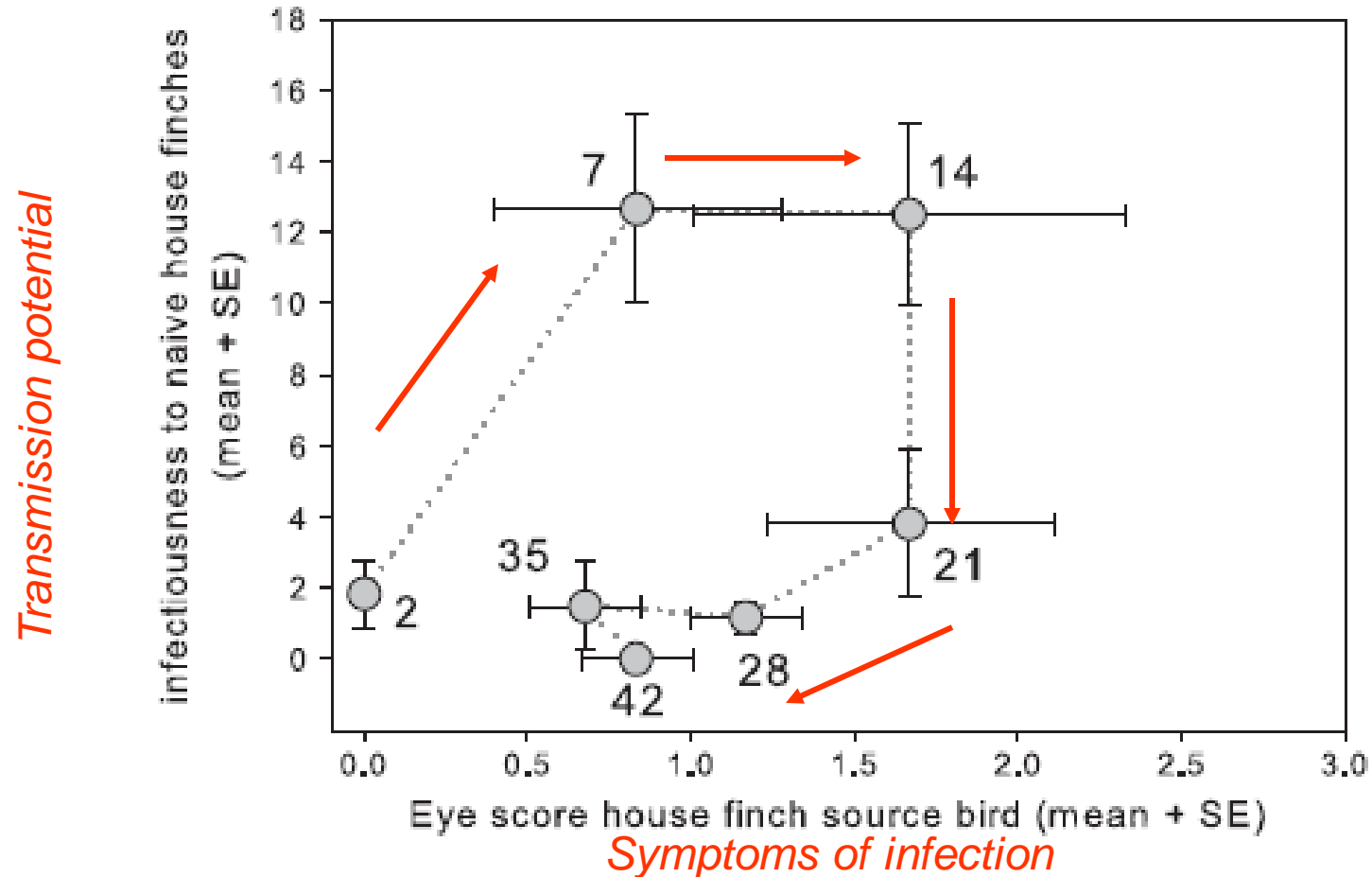
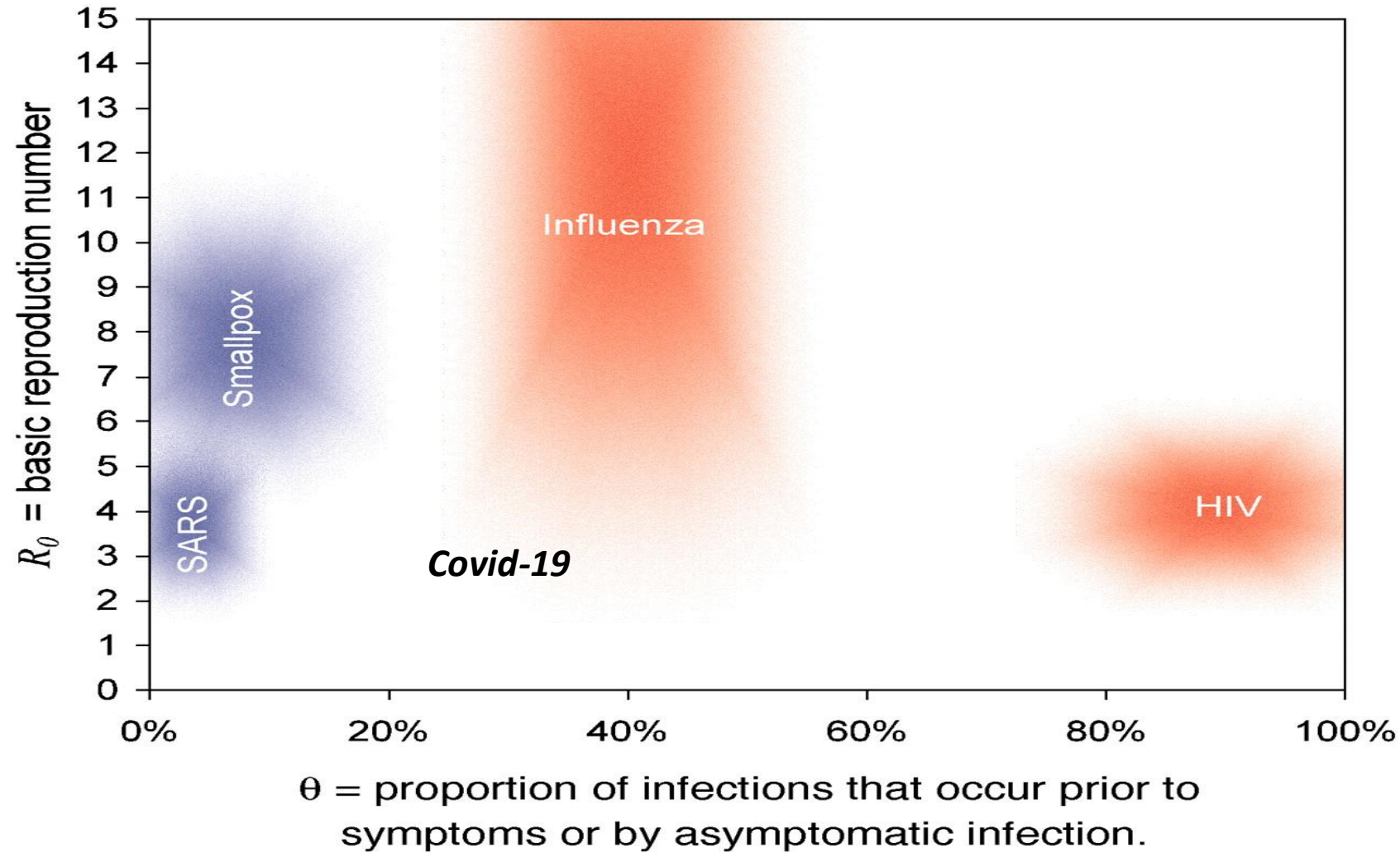


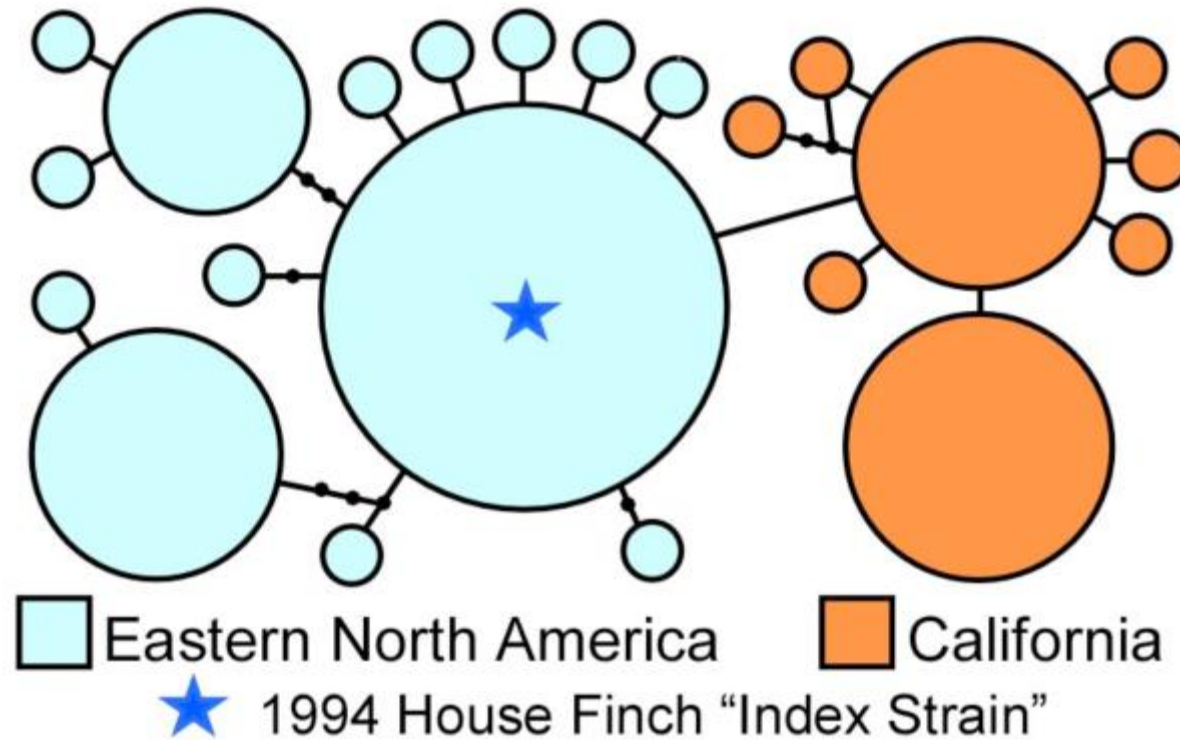
Figure 2. Relationship between clinical signs of house finches at intervals after conjunctival inoculation with the house finch strain of *M. gallisepticum* and the degree to which they were infectious to naïve house finches. The digit by each point represents the number of days post inoculation.

How do R_0 and appearance of symptoms effect ability to control outbreaks?



Eastern & Western *M. gallisepticum* lineages independent

- Evolution of spatial variation in virulence is possible because genetic variation in *M. gallisepticum* is spatially structured



Why does virulence evolve in two directions?

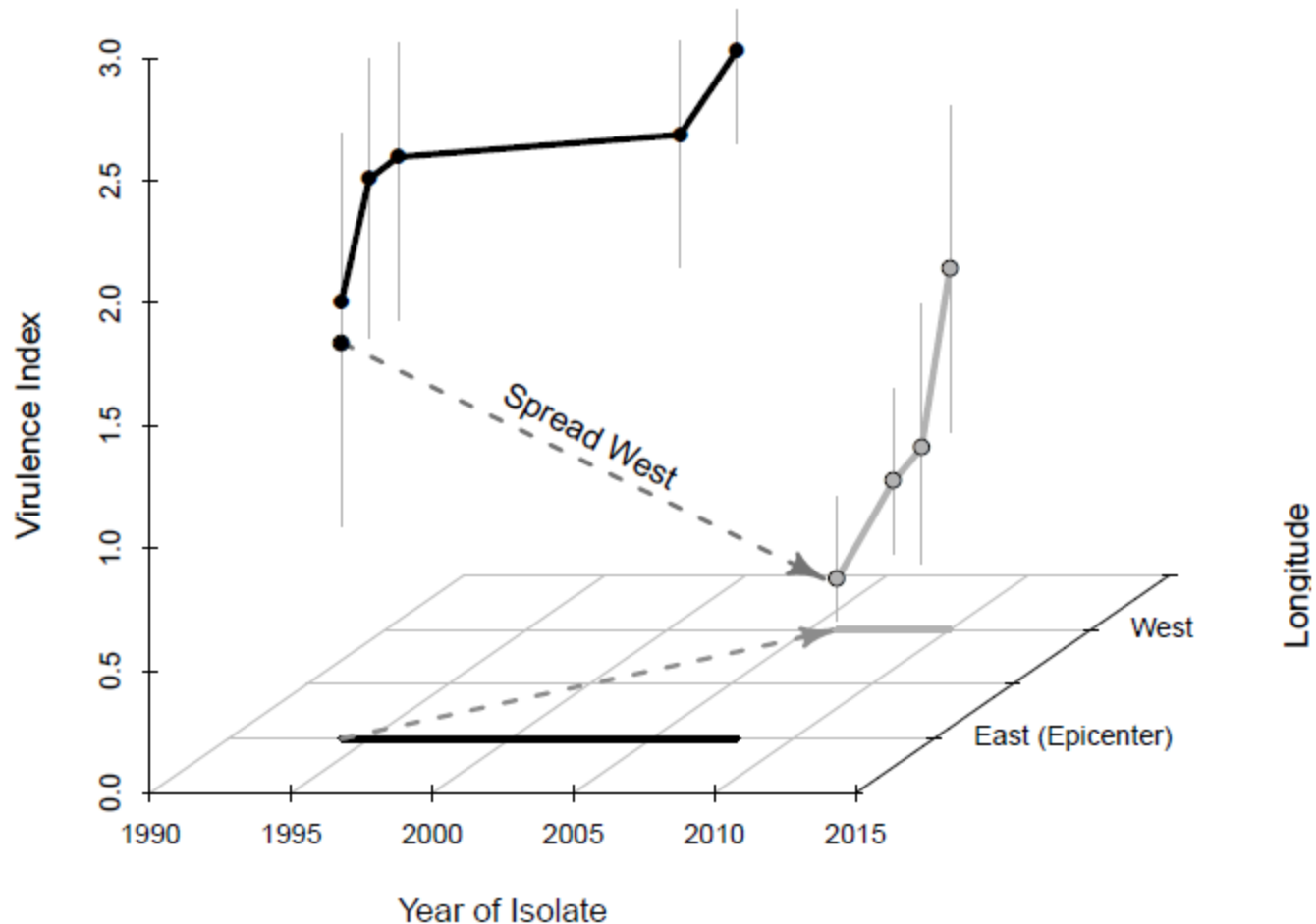


Figure 1: Virulence dynamics over time in two regions -- near the epicenter in eastern North America (black line), and the west coast (gray line) -- for the bacterium *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* after its emergence in the House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*). For perspective, the projection of

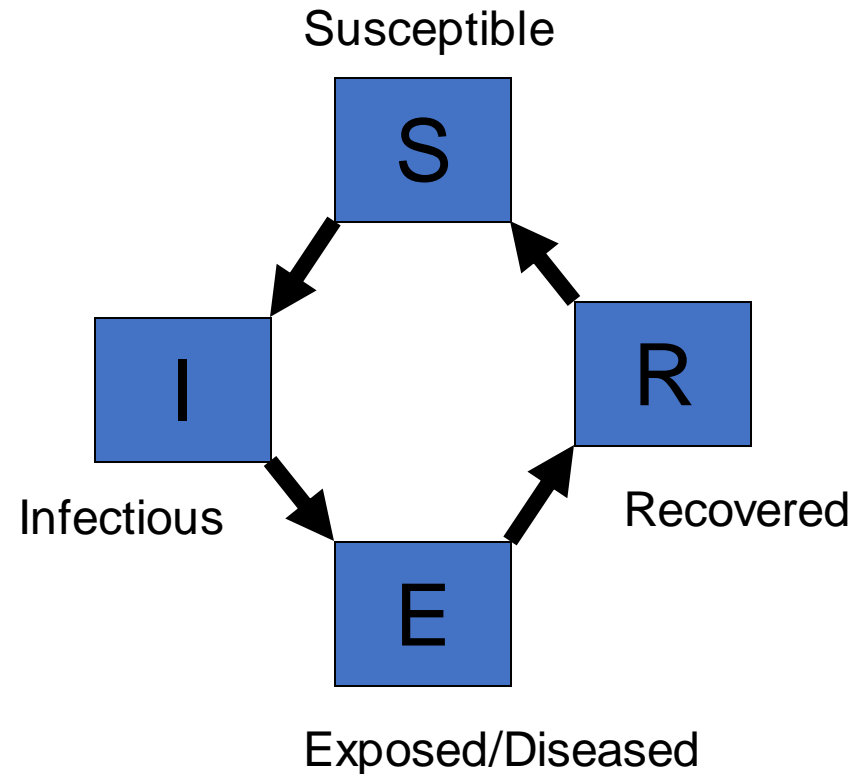
The model

$$\frac{dS}{dt} = b(1 - N/K)N - (\beta I + \phi\beta E)\frac{S}{N} - dS + \delta R$$

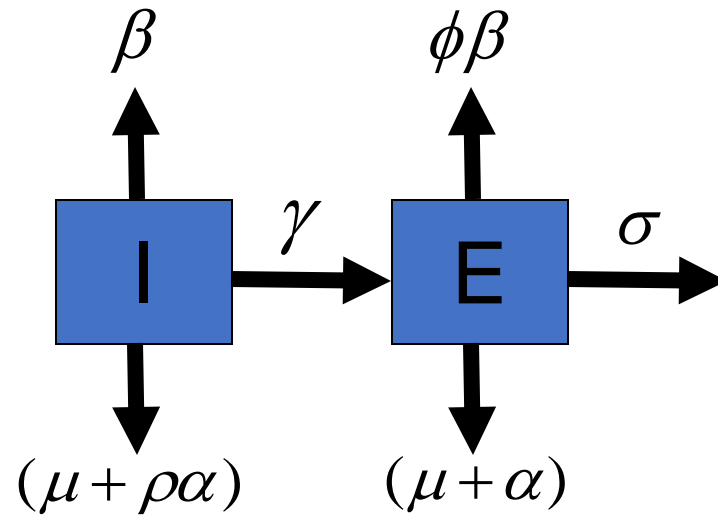
$$\frac{dI}{dt} = (\beta I + \phi\beta E)\frac{S}{N} - (d + \alpha_I + \gamma)I$$

$$\frac{dE}{dt} = \gamma I - (d + \alpha_E + \sigma)E$$

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = \sigma E - (d + \delta)R$$



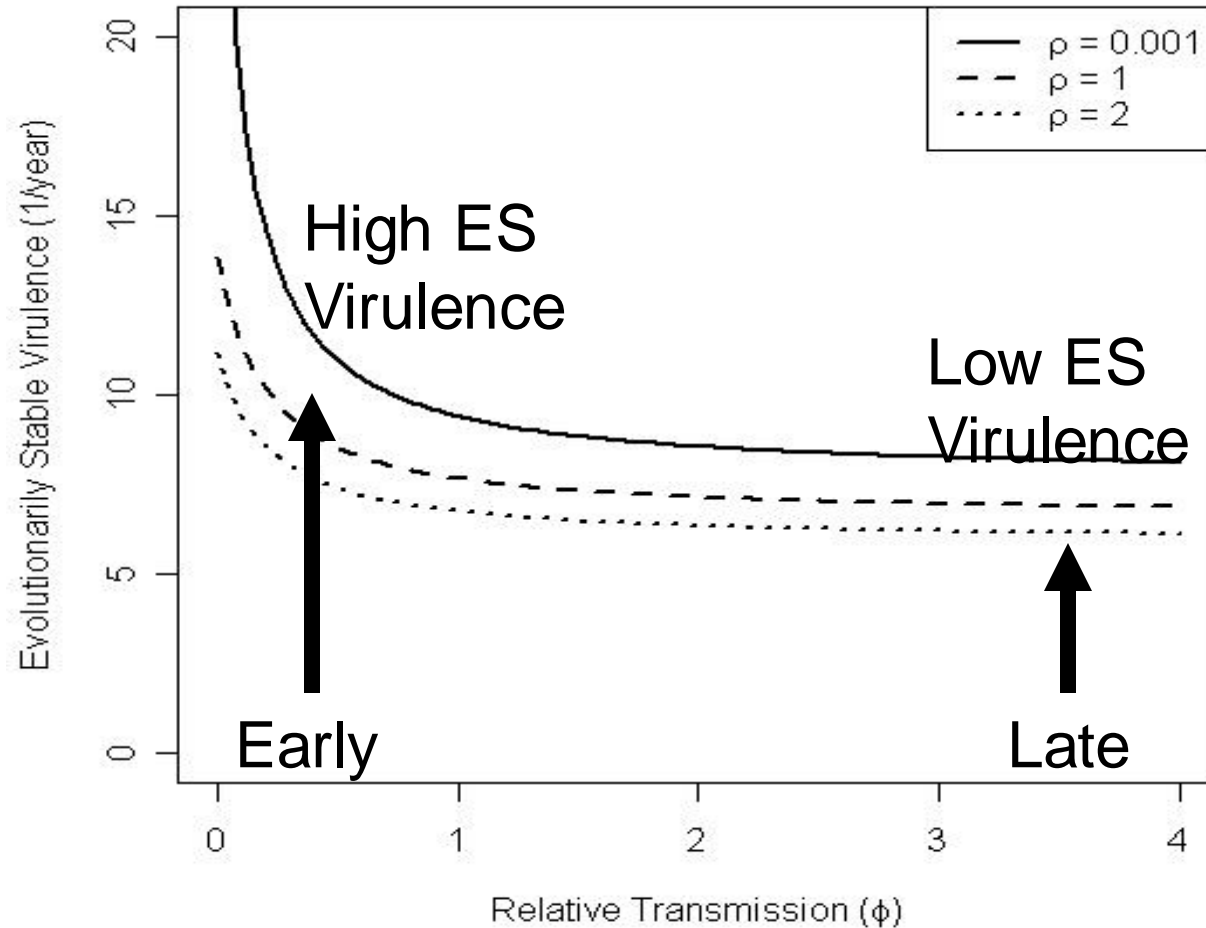
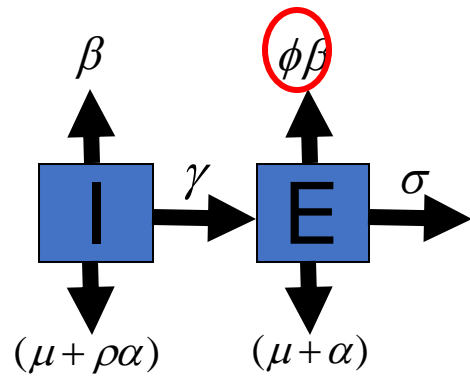
Virulence Evolution: the model



$$R_0 = \frac{\beta}{(\mu + \rho\alpha + \gamma)} + \frac{\phi\beta}{(\mu + \alpha + \sigma)} \frac{\gamma}{(\mu + \rho\alpha + \gamma)}$$



ES Virulence and Relative Timing of Transmission (ϕ)

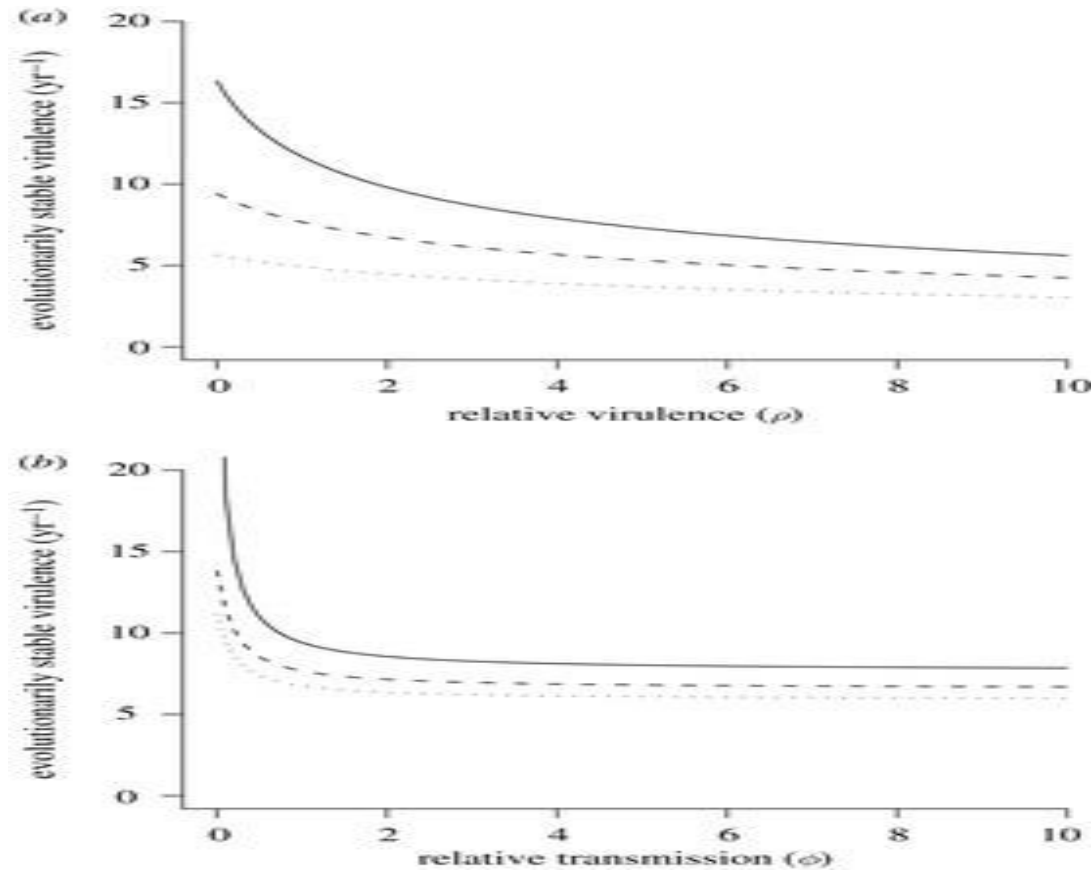


Evolution of virulence when transmission occurs before disease

[Erik E. Osnas](#) and [Andrew P. Dobson](#), *Biology Letters*

Published: 10 February 2010 <https://doi.org/10.1098/rsbl.2009.1019>

Evolutionary
stable level
of virulence
when
symptoms
appear



Relative virulence and
relative transmission in
Initial infection period
before symptoms appear.

Why does virulence evolve in two directions?

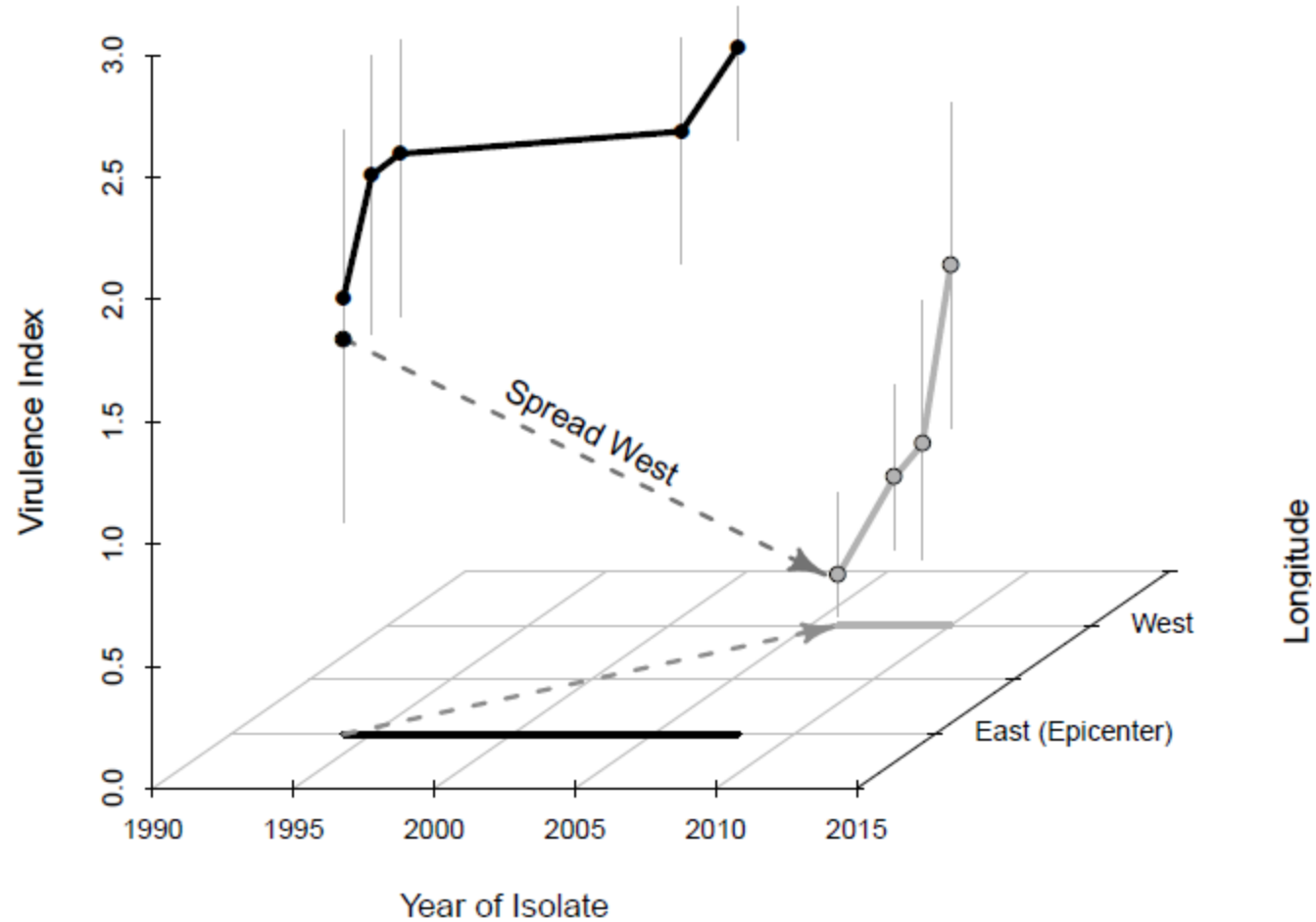
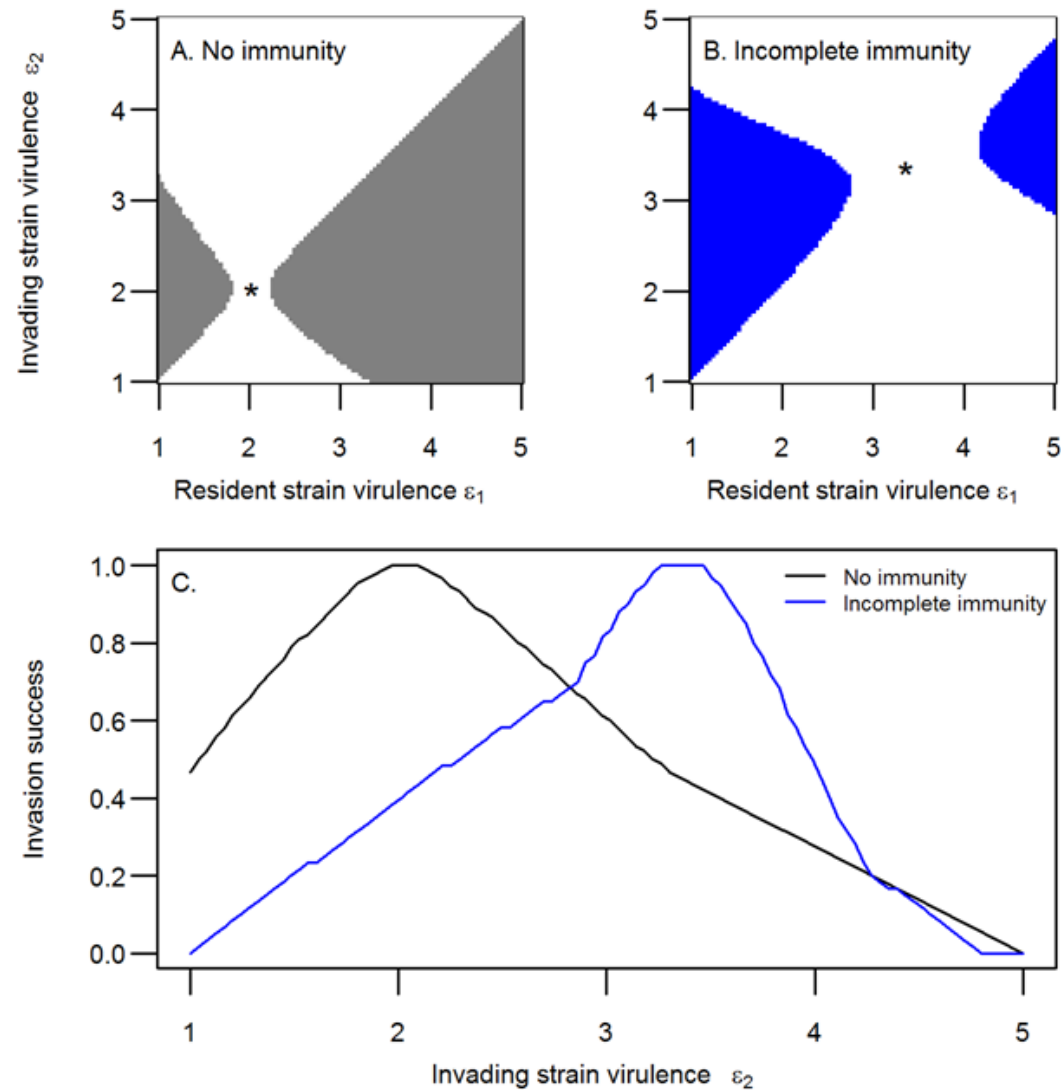


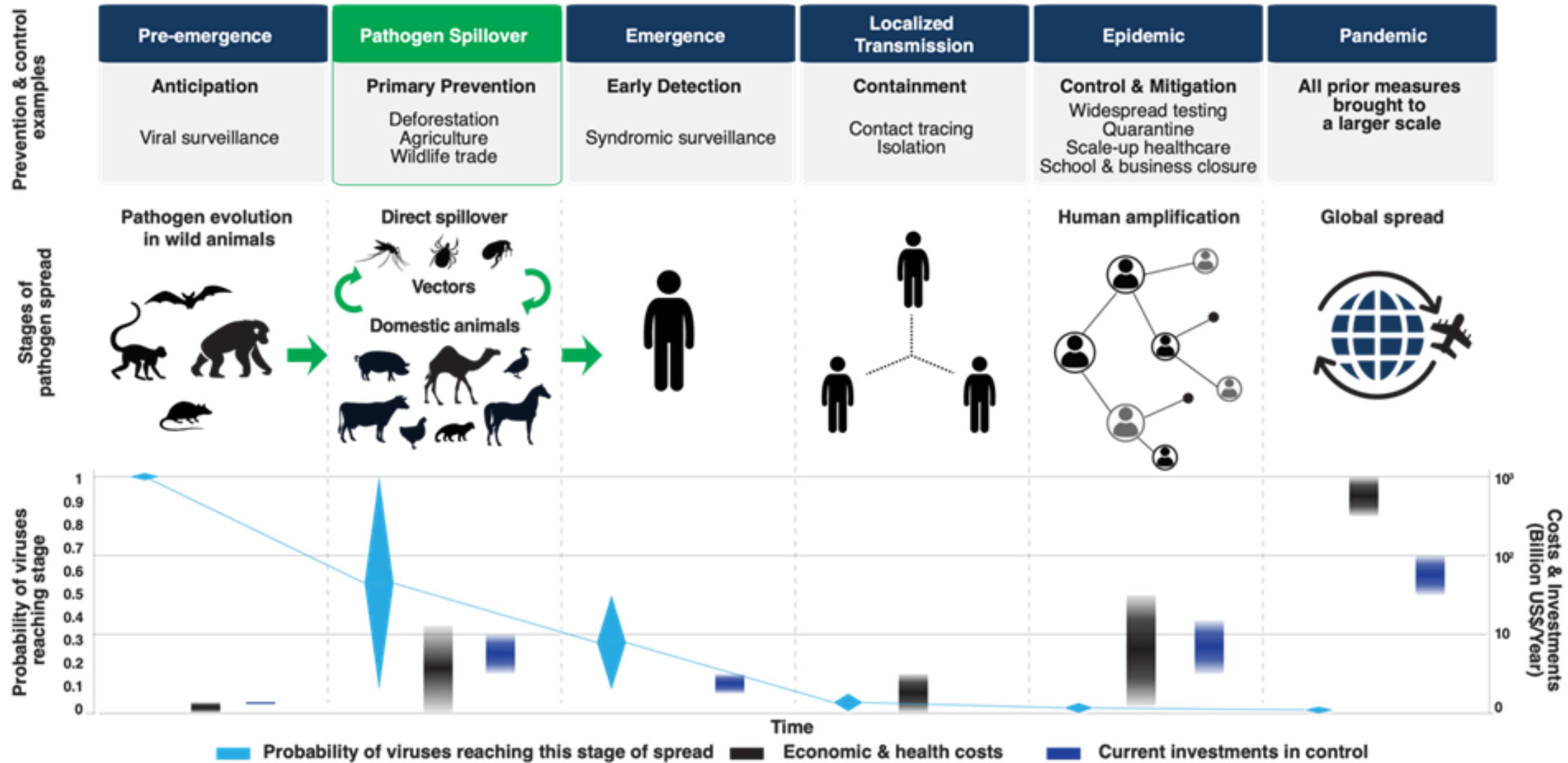
Figure 1: Virulence dynamics over time in two regions -- near the epicenter in eastern North America (black line), and the west coast (gray line) -- for the bacterium *Mycoplasma gallisepticum* after its emergence in the House Finch (*Haemorhous mexicanus*). For perspective, the projection of



Pairwise invasibility plots (PIPs) show that adding the empirically observed effects of incomplete immunity to a baseline model with no immunity effects (A) results in an almost twofold increase in optimal virulence (B). Shaded areas show parameter space for which a new mutant introduced at very low densities was able to invade a population with the resident pathogen present at equilibrium densities, and asterisks mark the Evolutionary Stable Strategy (ESS) for each model.

A message from the birds...

- Once herd immunity begins to make its presence known...
 - Covid will start competing within the immune population it has created
 - This will place selection pressure on the virus to change
 - Transmission before virulence is expressed selects for increased virulence
 - Immunity selects for asymmetrical immunity
 - Implications for vaccine development..?



Cost of Preventing The Next Pandemic Just 2% Of Covid-19 Bill

Estimated cost of containing future pandemic compared to Covid-19's economic damage

Total estimated economic damage from Covid-19



Estimated spending needed over the next 10 years to prevent a future pandemic

\$260b

Conclusions

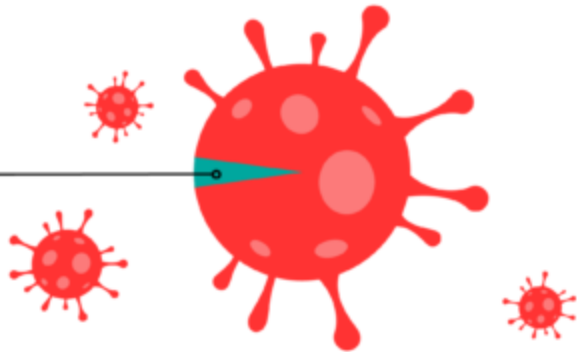
- 1) We will see future emerging pathogens
- 2) Cost of prevention is well worth the investment.
- 3) Viral evolution will speed up as herd immunity rises, it could go either way..

Source: Dobson et al, Science 2020





Pandemic Prevention – a Climate Solution



it will cost the US only **\$30 billion**

(less than 1% of what it spent
controlling COVID-19 this year)

to prevent another animal-borne pandemic.

That's great! **But HOW?**

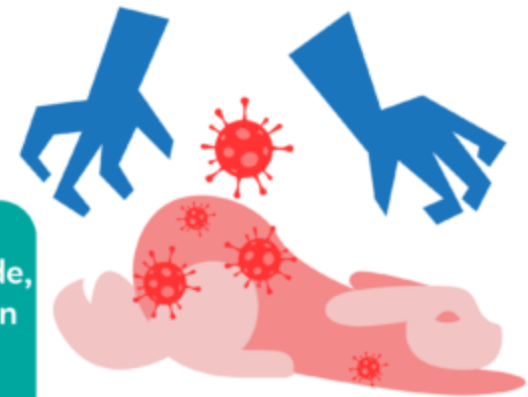
Prevention starts at the source.

Forests provide a **natural shield** that prevents people from contracting animal viruses, like **COVID-19**, MERS, and SARS. When trees are cut down, **viruses escape** with the wildlife, who come into contact with livestock and people.



Similarly, unregulated **wildlife trade** brings people into contact with animal viruses.

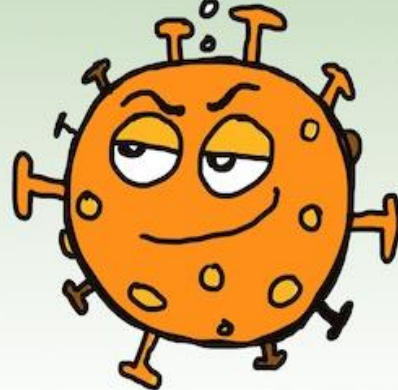
Investing \$30 billion in a 10-year plan to reduce deforestation, regulate wildlife trade, and contain viruses through early detection could prevent another global tragedy and save trillions of dollars in disease control.



GET THEE AWAY,
CORONAVIRUS!



THIS IS
GONNA BE SO
EASY...

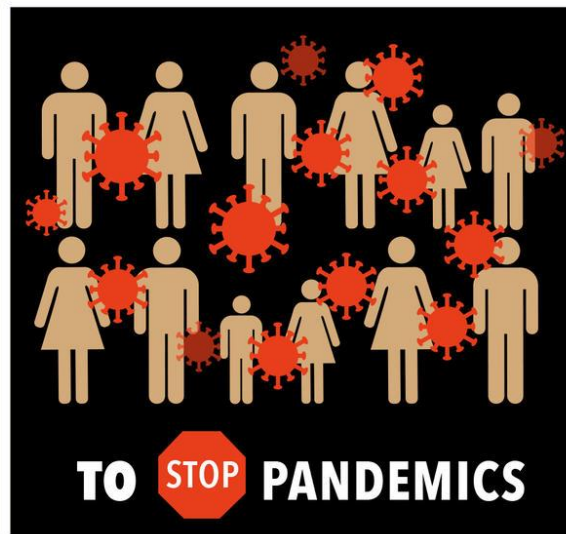


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Ariana Fleming Davies, Paul Williams
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