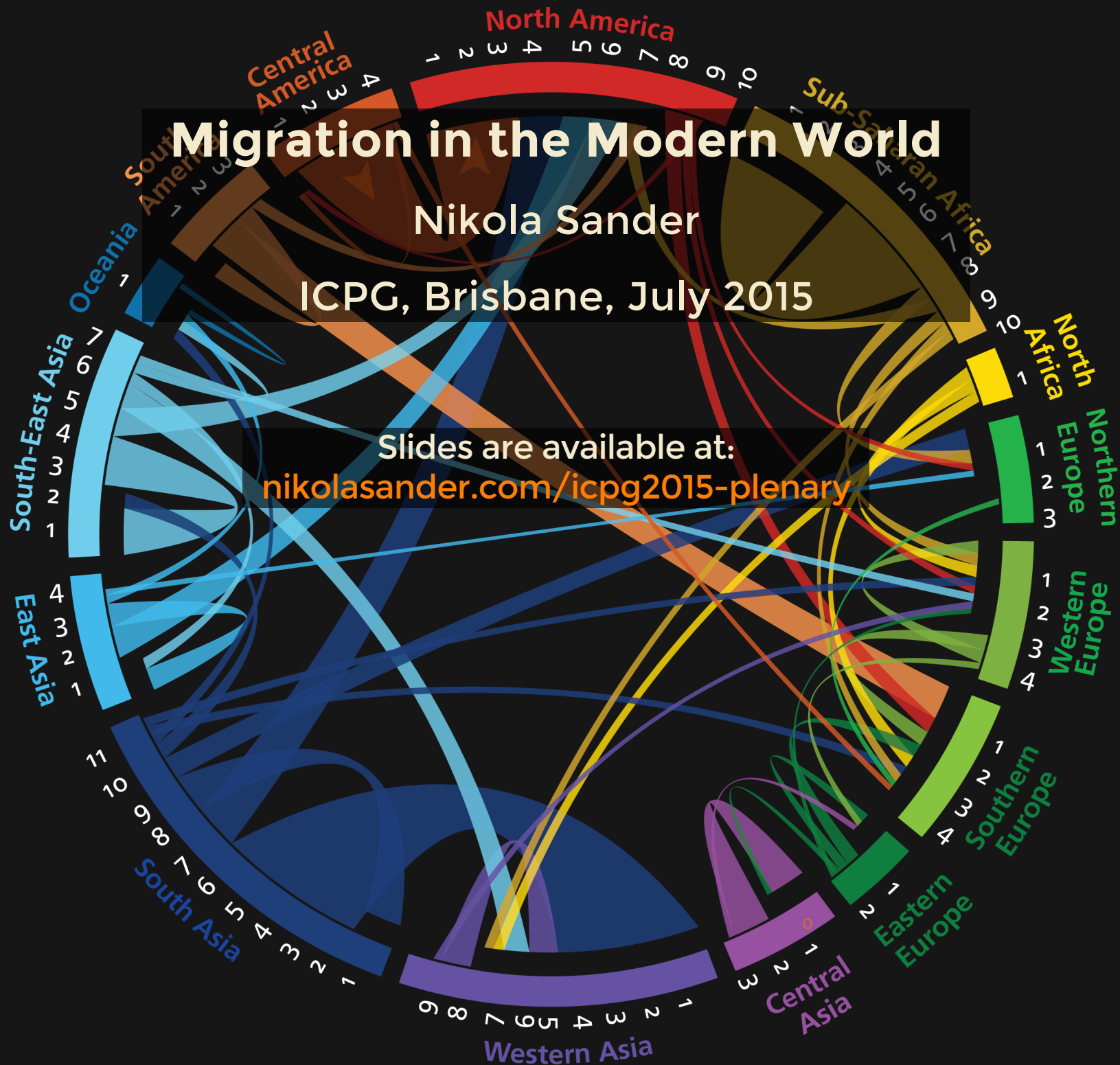# Migration in the Modern World

Nikola Sander

ICPG, Brisbane, July 2015

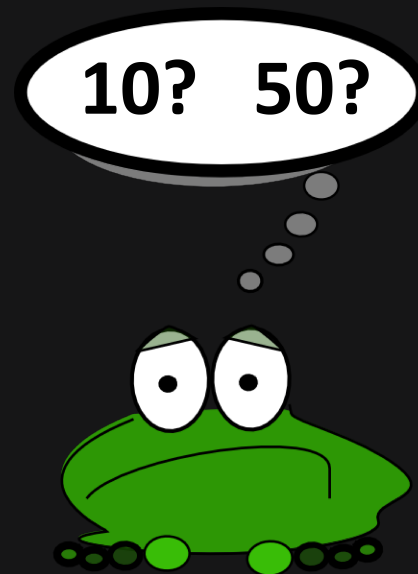Slides are available at:
nikolasander.com/icpg2015-plenary

A rising tide of mass migration?

Lack of comparable data on global migration flows.

Cross-national variation in way of measurement.

For every 1,000 people worldwide, how many move over 5-year periods?

Estimating flows from stocks

UN stock data ➡ ## New flow estimates

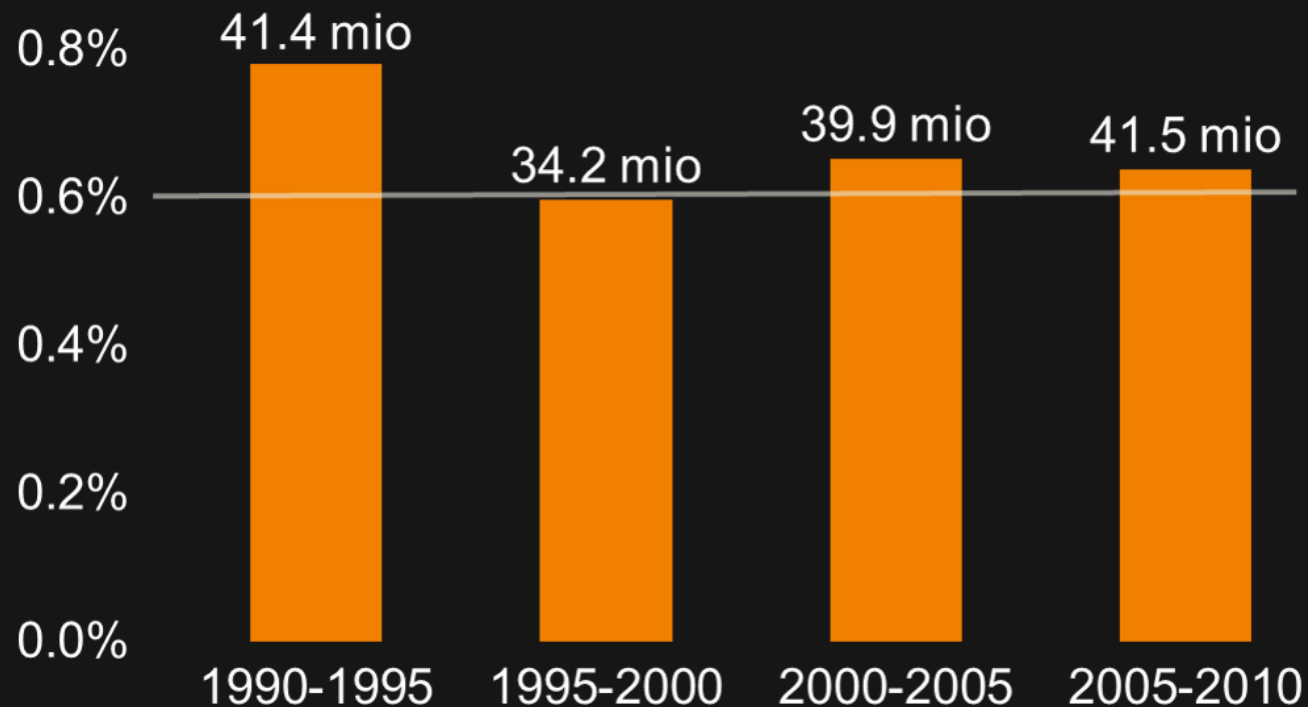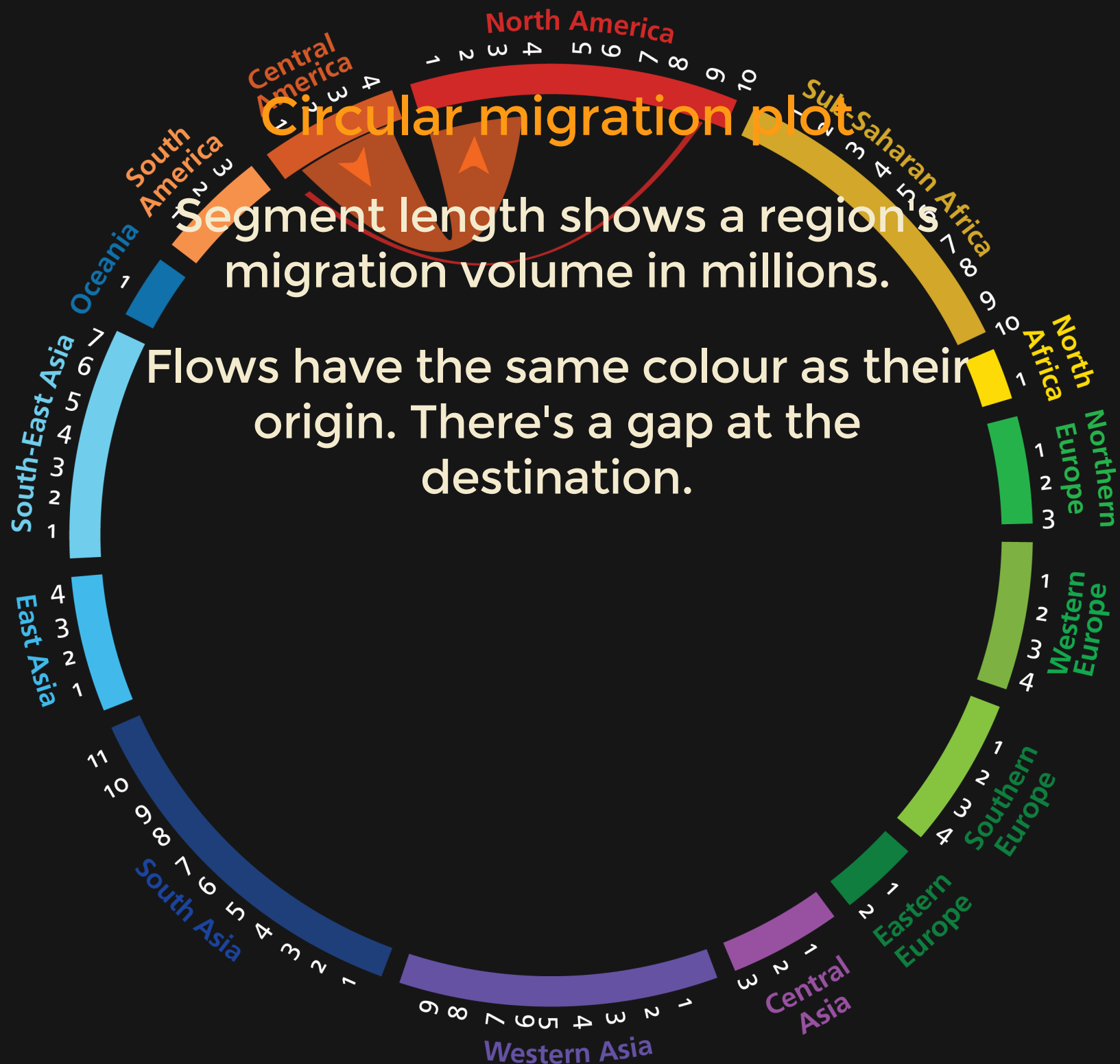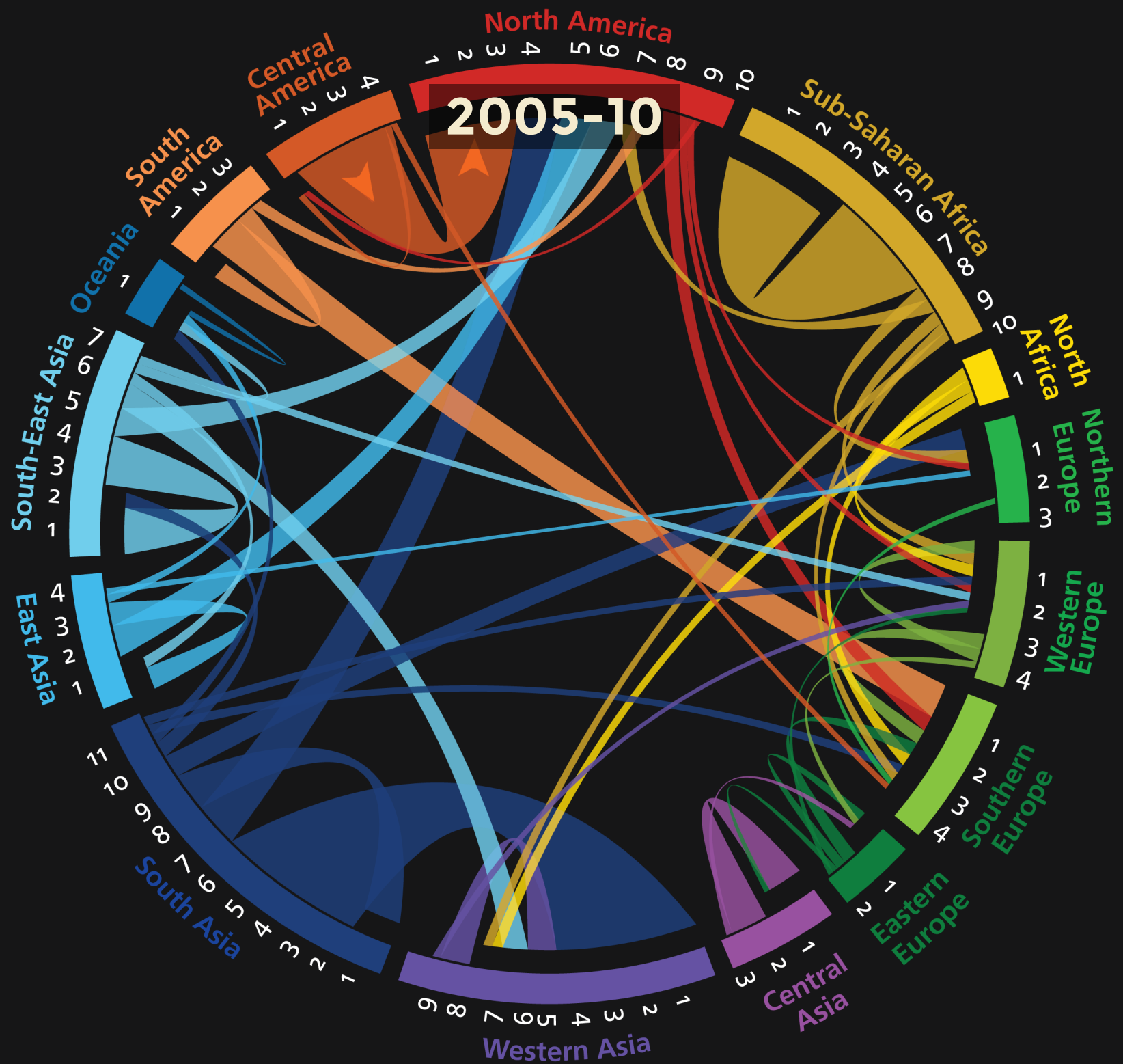| UN stock data	New flow estimates
lifetime transitions	5-year transitions
static snapshot of immigrant population	dynamic movements over time
1990, 2000, 2010	1990–95 to 2005–10
~220 countries	196 countries

Estimates include legal migration and refugee movements (UNHCR). They do not take into account recent developments in Syria, Libya and Yemen.

No rising tide of migration

For every 1,000 people, 6 move between countries.

Circular migration plot

Segment length shows a region's migration volume in millions.

Flows have the same colour as their origin. There's a gap at the destination.

North America

Central America

South America

Oceania

South-East Asia

East Asia

South Asia

Western Asia

Central Asia

Eastern Europe

Southern Europe

Western Europe

Northern Europe

North Africa

Sub-Saharan Africa

Source: Abel & Sander (2014) Quantifying Global International Migration Flows. *Science*, 343 (6178): 1520–22.

Spatial patterns

Continuing attractiveness of the US and Europe as destinations.

Most migrants move over short distances within the same region or between neighbouring regions.

Trends over time

Early 1990s: Violent conflicts in Rwanda/ Afghanistan, and the fall of the Iron Curtain triggering migration.

Early 2000s: The rise of Asia as a global migration hub.

explore at www.global-migration.info ...

Latin America   North America

Caribbean

South-East Asia

East Asia

Africa

South Asia

West Asia   Europe