

# The coevolutionary mosaic of bat-betacoronaviruses spillover risk

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Driven by the need to understand the ecological factors involved in the emergence of betacoronavirus through bat hosts, we develop an approach to the assessment of spillover risk based on the Geographic Mosaic Theory of Coevolution. In doing so, we provide a global mapping of the risk posed by viruses, reflecting the fact that this risk has many ecological and evolutionary origins. Our framework reveals that reservoir richness alone is not a sufficient predictor of risk, and offers alternative insights based on viral sharing, host compositional uniqueness, and host phylogenetic diversity. By comparing our aggregated measure of risk to a proxy for human density, namely the proportion of each pixel that is covered by urban or built land, we provide a synthetic risk map, allowing the identification of hotspots where the bat-betacoronavirus system may originate novel viruses in humans.

1 Spillover risk is not unidimensional. From the standpoint of an animal community, *i.e.* a pool of suitable  
2 hosts, it is driven by a multiplicity of factors (Plowright et al. 2017). The global richness of hosts is one  
3 such component commonly mentioned/analysed (see e.g. Anthony et al. 2017 for coronaviruses), but  
4 there is an argument to be made that species who are not competent (or know) hosts of a specific virus  
5 genus may not factor into this (Plowright et al. 2015), or that species who are assumed to share viruses at  
6 different rates should be weighted accordingly (Albery et al. 2020). In mammals, key functional traits (for  
7 which phylogeny is a reasonable proxy) are determinants of the spillover potential (Olival et al. 2017);  
8 these include, notably, body mass and affinity for urban environments (Albery et al. 2022). Finally,  
9 especially when the pool of potential hosts spans the entire globe, there may be local host pools that are  
10 highly unique; not having been observed in other locations, these can act on the overall risk either by  
11 providing novel contact opportunities, reflecting unique host-environment combinations (Engering et al.  
12 2013), or facilitating rapid evolutionary changes in specialism of their pathogens (Agosta et al. 2010). In  
13 the specific case of generalist pathogens, there is conceptual and empirical support to the idea that these  
14 community- level mechanisms are even more important in driving the overall risk (Power and Mitchell  
15 2004).

16 Bats are important reservoir hosts for different classes of microorganisms (Chu 2008, Donaldson 2010, Li  
17 2010), some of which can threaten human health. Chiropters emerged around 64 million years ago and  
18 are one of the most diverse mammalian orders, with an estimated richness of more than 14000 species  
19 (Peixoto et al. 2018, Simmons and Cirranello 2020). They exhibit a broad variety of habitat use, behaviour,  
20 and feeding strategies, resulting in their playing an essential role in the delivery of several ecosystem  
21 services tied to important ecosystem-derived benefits (Kasso and Balakrishnan 2013). For example, over  
22 two-thirds of bats are known to be either obligate or facultative insectivorous mammals, therefore playing  
23 an important role in the regulation of insect pests that can affect crops (Williams-Guillén et al. 2008, Voigt  
24 and Kingston 2016), and vectors of diseases that put a risk on human health (Gonsalves et al. 2013a, b).  
25 Because bats are globally distributed and have a long evolutionary history, phylogeographic and  
26 biogeographic approaches are required to shed light on the extant distribution of coevolutionary processes  
27 between bats and the pathogens they carry. Not all areas in which bats, viruses, and human are  
28 co-occurring are facing a risk of spillover towards human populations, and the areas in which this risk exist  
29 may not be facing risks of the same nature and magnitude.

30 In this paper, we examine the biogeographic structure of bats-betacoronaviruses associations, based on a

31 curated dataset of known and recently discovered hosts. This work is important both as a description of  
32 the bats-betacoronavirus complex, but also because more broadly, bats are known reservoirs for a variety  
33 of emerging viruses and pathogens (Calisher et al. 2006, Melaun et al. 2014), making balancing the needs  
34 for bat conservation and disease prevention a potentially difficult act and a source of human-wildlife  
35 conflicts, especially in more densely populated areas (Stone et al. 2015, Rego et al. 2015). By drawing on  
36 concepts from the Geographic Mosaic Theory of Coevolution (Thompson 2005), we turn these  
37 associations into a spatially explicit additive mapping of zoonotic risk components, which reveals extreme  
38 heterogeneity of risk at the global scale; furthermore, we identify the Amazon and South-Eastern Asia as  
39 hotspots of phylogenetic distinctiveness of betacoronaviruses (Anthony et al. 2017); surprisingly, current  
40 data suggest that viral sharing between hosts is high in the Amazon and low in South-Eastern Asia, which  
41 has the potential to result in different evolutionary dynamics between these two regions.

## 42 Methods

### 43 Known betacoronavirus hosts

44 We downloaded the data on bats hosts of betacoronaviruses assembled by Becker et al. (2022) from  
45 <https://www.viralemergence.org/betacov> on Apr. 2022, and filtered it to “known” hosts (established  
46 before the emergence of SARS-CoV-2) and “novel” hosts (confirmed through sampling since the  
47 emergence of SARS-CoV-2). The original database was assembled by a combination of data mining and  
48 literature surveys, including automated alerts on the “bats” and “coronavirus” keywords to identify novel  
49 empirical evidence of bats-betacoronaviruses associations.

### 50 Bats occurrences

51 We downloaded the rangemap of every extant bat species that was either classified as an empirically  
52 documented host of beta-coronaviruses from the previous step, according to recent IUCN data (IUCN  
53 2021). The range maps were subsequently rasterized using the rasterize function from GDAL (Rouault et  
54 al. 2022) at a resolution of approximately **TK TP**. For every pixel in the resulting raster where at least one  
55 bat host of betacoronavirus was present, we extract the species pool (list of all bat species), which was used  
56 to calculate the following risk assessment components: phylogenetic diversity, bat compositional

57 uniqueness, and predicted viral sharing risk.

## 58 **Bats phyogeography**

59 For every pixel, we measured Faith's Phylogenetic Diversity (Faith 1992) based on a recent synthetic tree  
60 with robust time calibration, covering about 6000 mammalian species (Upham et al. 2019). Faith's PD  
61 measures the sum of unique branches from an arbitrary root to a set of tips, and comparatively larger  
62 values indicate a more phylogenetic diverse species pool. We measured phylogenetic diversity starting  
63 from the root of the entire tree (and not from Chiroptera); this bears no consequences on the resulting  
64 values, since all branches leading up to Chiroptera are only counted one per species pool, and (as we  
65 explain when describing the assembly of the composite risk map), all individual risk components are  
66 ranged in [0,1]. This measure incorporates a richness component, which we chose not to correct for; the  
67 interpretation of the phylogenetic diversity is therefore a weighted species richness, that accounts for  
68 phylogenetic over/under-dispersal in some places.

## 69 **Bats compositional uniqueness**

70 For every species pool, we measured its Local Contribution to Beta-Diversity (Legendre and De Cáceres  
71 2013); LCBD works from a species-data matrix (traditionally noted as  $\mathbf{Y}$ ), where species are rows and sites  
72 are columns, and a value of 1 indicates occurrence. We extracted the  $\mathbf{Y}$  matrix assuming that every pixel  
73 represents a unique location, and following best practices (Legendre and Condit 2019) transformed it  
74 using Hellinger's distance to account for unequal bat richness at different pixels. The correction of raw  
75 community data is particularly important for two reasons: first, it prevents the artifact of richer sites  
76 having higher importance; second, it removes the effect of overall species richness, which is already  
77 incorporated in the phylogenetic diversity component. High values of LCBD indicate that the pixel has a  
78 community that is on average more dissimilar in species composition than what is expected knowing the  
79 entire matrix, i.e. a more unique community. Recent results by Dansereau et al. (2022) shows that LCBD  
80 measures are robust with regards to spatial scale, and are therefore applicable at the global scale.

81 **Viral sharing between hosts**

82 For all bat hosts of betacoronaviruses, we extracted their predicted viral sharing network (Albery et al.  
83 2020). This network stores pairwise values of viral community similarity. To project viral sharing values  
84 into a single value for every pixel, we averaged the pairwise scores. High values of the average sharing  
85 propensity means that this specific extant bat assemblage is likely to be proficient at exchanging viruses.

86 **Composite risk map**

87 To visualize the aggregated risk at the global scale, we combine the three individual risk components  
88 (phylogenetic diversity, compositional uniqueness, and viral sharing) using an additive color model  
89 (Seekell et al. 2018). In this approach, every risk component gets assigned a component in the RGB color  
90 model (phylogenetic diversity is green, compositional uniqueness is red, and viral sharing is blue). In  
91 order to achieve a valid RGB measure, all components are re-scaled to the [0,1] interval, so that a pixel  
92 with no sharing, no phylogenetic diversity, and no compositional uniqueness is black, and a pixel with  
93 maximal values for each is white. This additive model conveys both the intensity of the overall risk, but  
94 also the nature of the risk as colors diverge towards combinations of values for three risk components. Out  
95 of the possible combinations, the most risky in terms of rapid diversification and spillover potential is high  
96 phylogenetic diversity and low viral sharing (Gomulkiewicz et al. 2000, Cavender-Bares et al. 2009), in  
97 that this allows multiple independent host-virus coevolutionary dynamics to take place in the same  
98 location. In the colorimetric space, this corresponds to yellow – because the HSV space is more amenable  
99 to calculations for feature extraction (see e.g. Keke et al. 2010), we measured the risk level by calculating  
100 the angular distance of the hue of each pixel to a reference value of 60, and weighted this risk level by the  
101 value component. Specifically, given a pixel with colorimetric coordinates  $(h, s, v)$ , its ranged weighted  
102 risk value is

$$v \times \left[ 1 - \frac{|\text{atan}(\cos(\text{rad}(h)), \sin(\text{rad}(h))) - X|}{2\pi} \right],$$

103 where  $X$  is  $\text{atan}(\cos(\text{rad}(60)), \sin(\text{rad}(60)))$ , a constant approximately equal to 0.5235.

104 **Viral phylogeography and evolutionary diversification**

105 We used the following query to pull all betacoronavirus sequence data from the GenBank Nucleotide  
106 database except SARS-CoV-2; (“Betacoronavirus”[Organism] OR betacoronavirus[All Fields]) NOT  
107 (“Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2”[Organism] OR sars-cov-2[All Fields]). We added a  
108 single representative sequence for SARS-CoV-2 and manually curated to remove sequences without the  
109 RNA-dependent RNA polymerase (RdRp) sequence or that contained words indicating recombinant or  
110 laboratory strains including “patent,” “mutant,” “GFP,” and “recombinant.” We filtered over-represented  
111 taxa including betacoronavirus 1, hCoV-OC43, Middle East respiratory syndrome coronavirus, Murine  
112 hepatitis virus, and hCoV-HKU1. Curated betacoronavirus RdRp sequences were then aligned using  
113 MAFFT v 1.4.0 (**Katoh and Standley 2013**, parameters in text?) and a maximum likelihood tree  
114 reconstructed in IQ-TREE v 1.6.12 (Nguyen et al. 2015) with ModelFinder (Kalyaanamoorthy et al. 2017)  
115 ultrafast bootstrap approximation (Hoang et al. 2018) and the following parameters (**STEPH WILL ADD**,  
116 parameters in text?).

117 We first tested the hypothesis that hotspots of viral diversification would track hotspots of bat  
118 diversification. To do so, we plotted the number of known bat hosts (specifically only those included in the  
119 phylogeny, so there was a 1:1 correspondence between data sources) against the “mean evolutionary  
120 distinctiveness” of the associated viruses. To calculate this, we derived the fair proportions evolutionary  
121 distinctiveness (Isaac et al. 2007) for each of the viruses in the tree, then averaged these at the bat species  
122 level, projected these values onto their geographic distributions, and averaged across every bat found in a  
123 given pixel. As such, this can be thought of as a map of the mean evolutionary distinctiveness of the  
124 known viral community believed to be associated with a particular subset of bats present.

125 **Co-distribution of hosts and viral hotspots**

126 Subsequently, we tested the hypothesis that the biogeography of bat betacoronaviruses should track the  
127 biogeography of their hosts. To test this idea, we loosely adapted a method from (Kreft and Jetz 2007,  
128 2010), who proposed a phylogenetic method for the delineation of animal biogeographic regions. In their  
129 original method, a distance matrix - where each row or column represents a geographic raster’s grid cell,  
130 and the dissimilarity values are the “beta diversity similarity” of their community assemble - undergoes  
131 non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS); the first two axes of the NMDS are projected

132 geographically using a four-color bivariate map. Here, we build on this idea with an entirely novel  
133 methodology. First, we measure the phylogenetic distance between the different viruses in the  
134 betacoronavirus tree by using the cophenetic function in ape (Paradis and Schliep 2019); subsequently, we  
135 take a principal components analysis of that distance matrix (readily interchangeable for NMDS in this  
136 case) to project the viral tree into an n-dimensional space. We then take the first two principal  
137 components and, as with the evolutionary distinctiveness analysis, aggregated these to a mean host value  
138 and projected them using a four-color bivariate map.

## 139 Results and discussion

### 140 Host richness does not predict virus distinctiveness

141 Bats are found worldwide and are both one of the most diverse groups among mammals (**Moratelli &**  
142 **Calisher, 2015**), and one of the main animal reservoir for different strains of betacoronaviruses (Drexler et  
143 al. 2014). This has attracted attention to areas where high diversity of bats, and therefore presumably high  
144 diversity of betacoronaviruses, can be an important issue for human health (Calisher et al. 2006, Moratelli  
145 and Calisher 2015). By overlaying the IUCN rangempas for confirmed bat hosts of betacoronaviruses  
146 [fig. 1; top], we see that the the main hotspots of host richness are primarily South-Eastern Asia, parts of  
147 Southern Europe, and to a lesser extent parts of Africa in the -25-0 range of latitudes. The description of  
148 host richness is an important first step towards understanding risk, as previous research (**Anthony et al.,**  
149 **2017; Mollentze & Streicker, 2020**) states that locally diverse bat communities could maintain more  
150 viruses and hence, a higher probability of having a pathogen that could represent a risk for human health.

151 [Figure 1 about here.]

152 Nevertheless, locally diverse and virus-rich bat communities could represent an increased risk of spillover  
153 under climate change through the creation of novel interactions (**Ice ice berg berg**), and therefore the  
154 diversity of betacoronavirus strains should similarly be accounted for. In fig. 1 (bottom), we contrast the  
155 evolutionary distinctiveness of bats and viruses – this reveals a slightly different portrait than bat richness  
156 alone. Chiropterans can be classified, from a macro-evolutionary standpoint, as microchiroptera and  
157 macrochiroptera, where macrochiroptera have an older history from an evolutionary perspective

158 compared to macrochiroptera (Teeling et al. 2005, Springer 2013). Specifically, we would expect that the  
159 so-called “New World” group of bats, being more evolutionary distinct, would also have evolutionary  
160 distinct viruses. Indeed fig. 1 (bottom) reveals it to be the case, and this region harbors a distinct  
161 bat-betacoronavirus complex. By contrast, South-Eastern Asia has a lot of non-evolutionary distinct bats,  
162 but evolutionary-distinct viruses.

163 It is noteworthy that outside of South America, viral evolutionary distinctiveness does not accurately  
164 tracks host diversity, with some areas having over-distinct viruses (southern China but, oddly, not the rest  
165 of southeast Asia). There are a number of likely explanations. First, given the richness of bats in southeast  
166 Asia, many betacoronaviruses likely remain to be discovered in this region. Indeed, global predictions by  
167 (**Becker?**) highlight that southeast Asia is a likely hostpot of unconfirmed hosts of betacoronaviruses,  
168 which would likely result in additional viral discoveries. This idea is unsurprising given the growing  
169 realization, around the emergence of SARS-CoV-2, that a unique lineage of similar viruses are widespread  
170 in bats but still mostly undescribed. The most distinct bats/betacoronavirus complex is found in South  
171 America, a region with a comparatively lower number of hosts; this matches with the isolation through  
172 variance of the host group, and may highlight a different co-evolutionary dynamic. Alternatively, this  
173 distinctiveness hostpot may be a product of under-sampling: South-America is one of the places where the  
174 fewest betacoronaviruses have been discovered (Anthony et al. 2017, Olival et al. 2017, Allen et al. 2017),  
175 resulting in sparser phylogenetic tree, thereby artificially inflating distinctiveness. Adding more viruses  
176 would bring the distinctiveness of known sequences down.

## 177 **The phylogeographic regions of hosts and their viruses overlap**

178 Despite the difference in evolutionary distinctiveness globally, there are reasons to expect that the  
179 phylogeography of bats and betacoronaviruses should show some degree of congruence. High density of  
180 hosts sharing the same virus (albeit possibly different strains) can drive or result from evolution of the bat  
181 antiviral immune system, resulting in spatially distinct immunological responses, as evidenced in several  
182 bat species (Banerjee et al. 2020). Immune characteristics that allow bats to be better adapted to infection  
183 by emerging viruses (Gorbunova et al., 2020; Irving et al., 2021) may be related to a wide variety of diets  
184 (Jones et al., 2022; Moreno Santillán et al., 2021; Banerjee et al., 2020; Schneeberger et al., 2013; Muylaert  
185 et al., 2021), themselves likely to be driven by spatial effect, especially at the local scale – bats, indeed,  
186 occupy a variety of environments.

188 In fig. 2, we show a projection of the phylogeographic signal of bats (top) and viruses (bottom) in space;  
189 the distinct groupings (represented by different colors symbolizing positions in the subspace formed by  
190 the first two axes of the PCoA) are essentially equivalent between the two groups, and can be coarsely  
191 delineated as southeast Asia, Eurasia above a northing of 25, and Africa and south America. These results  
192 suggest that, although the evolutionary distinctiveness of the bat/betacoronavirus complex varies spatially,  
193 the system shows an important degree of spatial consistency, with a reduced number of bioregions.  
194 Available information describing the spillover of zoonotic betacoronaviruses of bat origin where data was  
195 available before and up through the COVID-19 pandemic puts spillover events of SARS-CoV-2 in Wuhan,  
196 China; SARS-CoV in XXX based on the presence of closest known viruses circulating in nature, and a  
197 nearby location where serological (antibody) evidence has indicated human exposure to SARS-like viruses  
198 (Wang et al. 2018 *Virologica Sinica*); MERS-CoV in XXX based on index cases available from a  
199 recently-published compendium of cases (Ramshaw et al. 2019). For the latest event, most if not all index  
200 cases are presumed to be camel-to-human transmission, and the precise origin point (if it exists) of  
201 MERS-CoV in bats is uncertain. Recent recombinant canine coronavirus spillover events in Haiti (**ref**)  
202 and Europe (**ref**) are not relevant here, as bats' involvement in these cycles of transmission have been  
203 supposed to be non-existent.

#### 204 **Coevolution-informed spillover risk is different in space**

205 As host richness, joint distinctiveness, or phylogeographic structure suggest that the bat/betacoronavirus  
206 complex is globally fragmented enough to give rise to both different levels of risk (as evidenced by the  
207 spatial location of spillover events) and different types of co-evolutionary dynamics, we turn to the  
208 Geographic Mosaic Theory of Coevolution **REF** to provide a measure of risk accounting for multiple  
209 processes. In fig. 3, we overlapped three components of spillover risk: viral sharing, *i.e.* the chance that  
210 two bats will share viruses overall; Local Contribution to Beta Diversity, *i.e.* the fact that a bat community  
211 is compositionally unique compared to the average compositional similarity across the entire system;  
212 finally, host phylogenetic diversity, *i.e.* how dispersed the bats in a location are within the tree of life. This  
213 approach leads to the definition of broad biogeographic regions of risk, where the same color represents  
214 the same type of risk. By way of contrast to figures fig. 1 and fig. 2, these regions do not necessarily

215 overlap with previous spatial partitions of the bat/betacoronavirus complex.

216 [Figure 3 about here.]

217 From the perspective of spillover risk, the most important combination of factors is a high phylogenetic  
218 diversity of hosts with low viral sharing; this, essentially, means that very different betacoronavirus could  
219 co-exist within the same place. This is particularly the case given that betacoronaviruses often evolve and  
220 even achieve host shifts through recombination, which requires the co-occurrence of sufficiently distinct  
221 viruses to be a major driver of emergence. In fig. 3, this corresponds to yellow to pale green areas, which  
222 are essentially limited to South-Eastern Asia, and to some part of Sub-Saharan Africa. Adopting a  
223 geographic mosaic theory perspective on risk, other regions of the world are of lesser concern fig. 4. Our  
224 risk decomposition does not account for viral diversity or distinctiveness. The simple rationale behind it is  
225 that the acquisition of viral data is rarely disconnected from the acquisition of host data; furthermore,  
226 there are more sources of information on hosts than on viruses, allowing to develop a host-centric  
227 perspective on risk. Areas with high bat diversity and high turnover *may* facilitate the evolutionary  
228 radiation of viruses, matching previous findings that the diversification of bat coronaviruses is driven  
229 largely by host shifts (inter-genus or higher levels of cross-species transmission) and, to a lesser degree,  
230 cospeciation and sharing (intra-genus cross-species transmission; **Anthony et al. 2017**). This  
231 diversification is not an actual risk factor for spillover itself, but acts downstream of a spillover event by  
232 increasing the random chance of the emergence of a virus with the raw genomic components required for  
233 the potential to infect humans.

234 [Figure 4 about here.]

### 235 **Human occupancy drives different levels of effective risk globally**

236 Based on the previous result, we extracted the yellow component of the risk map (TP add methods), to  
237 provide a single measure of risk varying between 0 and 1. This measure is presented in fig. 4. However,  
238 this maps the potential risk, which must be weighed by the potential for contacts with humans. As a proxy  
239 for this measure, we used the proportion of build/urban land from the EarthEnv dataset: this is a  
240 reasonable proxy for the density of humans per unit area, which increases the probability of pathogen  
241 spread more widely (Hazarie et al., 2021). Since human activity is required to amplify the frequency of

242 virus encounters and thus create areas of viral amplification, mapping the potential risk against measures  
243 of land use is required to generate a more actionable assessment of risk. This map is presented in fig. 5.  
244 Most of South America and Europe are at low risk, as although densely populated, settlements tend to be  
245 in areas with lower potential risk. However, this mapping reveals that South-East Asia, the Indian  
246 subcontinent, and parts of sub-Saharan Africa, are at high risk due to the overlap between built areas and  
247 bat communities representing more opportunities for cross-species transmission of betacoronaviruses.

248 [Figure 5 about here.]

## 249 Conclusion

250 Our study focuses largely on the biogeography of hosts. Yet, we know that viruses with high host  
251 plasticity, that is, the ability of a given virus to adapt to various taxonomic orders and ecological groups  
252 (Kreuder Johnson et al., 2015); are more likely to amplify viral spillover, followed by secondary  
253 human-to-human transmission, and geographical spread (Hazarie et al., 2021). High viral host plasticity is  
254 an especially important trait for RNA viruses such as betacov (Kreuder Johnson et al., 2015; Haddad et al.,  
255 2021). Indeed, our analysis of viral sequences reveals that Latin America is a hotspot of viral  
256 distinctiveness, suggesting that this part of the bats-betacov system may be undergoing independent  
257 evolutionary dynamics (related species sharing viruses that are different from the rest of the global pool).  
258 The other hotspot of viral distinctiveness is S.E. Asia, in which richness is high but sharing is low; this  
259 suggests a different type of evolutionary dynamics (unrelated viruses coevolving with evolutionarily  
260 distinct hosts, generating high diversity locally). Both of these areas should be priority areas for sampling,  
261 especially since (**Becker?**) advance that they harbor undiscovered hosts of beta-coronaviruses. This  
262 diversity of hosts, and the mechanisms by which the exchange of viruses occurs between species, is largely  
263 affected by the local environmental conditions and environmental change.  
264 There are several factors that drive changes in the diversity of bats (Alves et al., 2018), but human  
265 activities' effects on the ecosystem (like modifications of land use) could significantly decrease it.  
266 Therefore, it can be suggested that changes in the diversity of betacovs in bats are linked to their  
267 biogeographic variation, and human population density and other anthropogenic factors are decisive  
268 moderators for its implications in public health. With the increase of contact between humans and

269 potential hosts, we also increase the risk of emergence of novel diseases (Johnson et al., 2020), as previous  
270 studies on RNA viruses suggest the importance of host phylogeography at the time of virus dispersal  
271 (Gryseels et al., 2017). One of these scenarios where interaction between bats and humans can occur can  
272 be seed dispersal in tropical agroecosystems. It opens the discussion of whether the fruits thrown by bats  
273 not only disperse seeds but could also be a source of indirect interaction between viruses of bat origin and  
274 humans (Deshpande et al., XX). This represents a challenge for conservation strategies and disease  
275 ecology since we have areas with both potential for the acquisition of zoonotic viruses and bat-human  
276 interaction; in particular, the challenge lies in the fact that actual exposure must be quantified from  
277 several scenarios, including both direct and indirect bat - human interaction.

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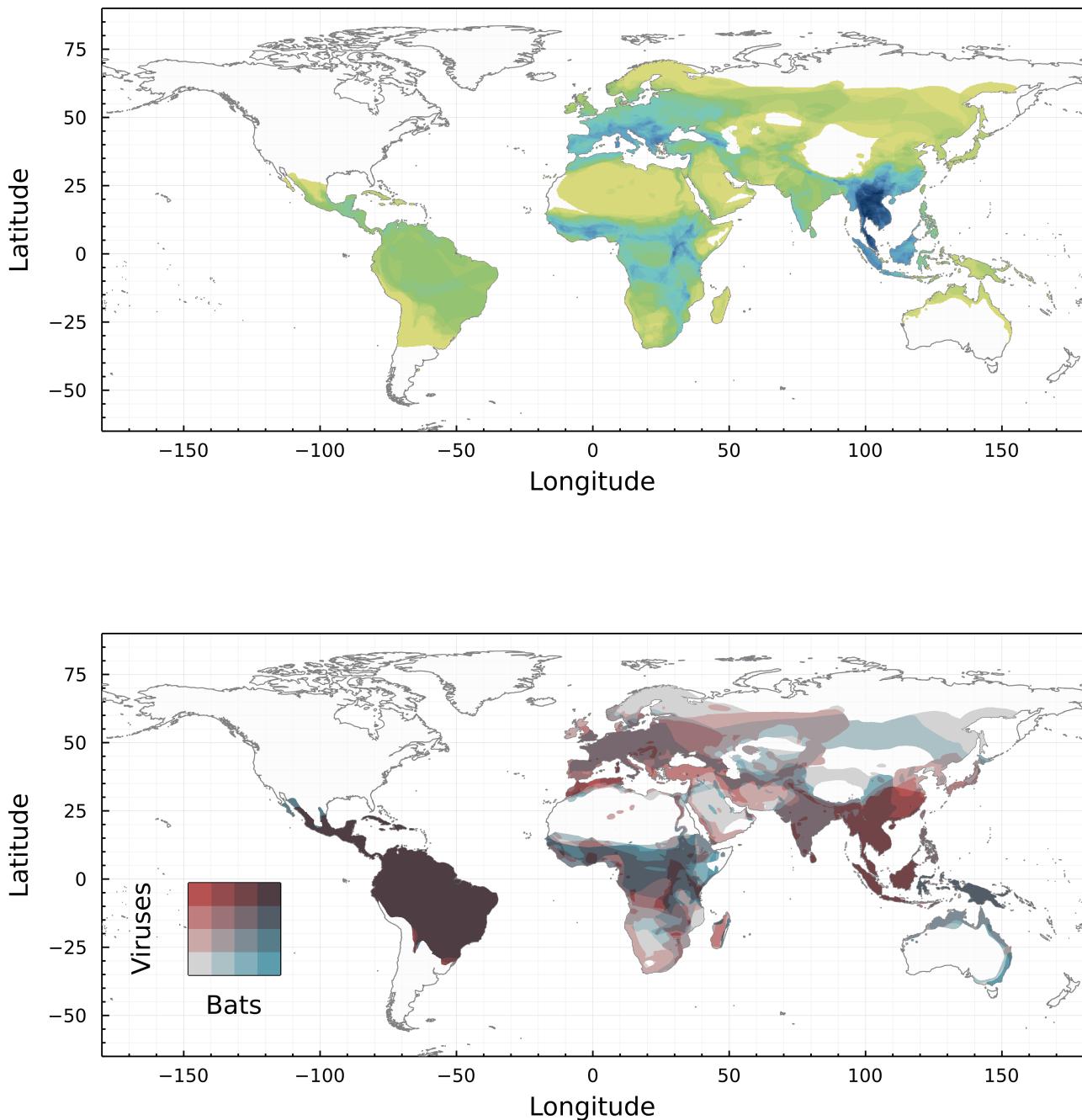


Figure 1: Top panel: relative diversity of known bat hosts of betacoronaviruses. This map shows that the region with the largest number of possible hosts is South-Eastern Asia. Bottom panel: congruence between the evolutionary distinctiveness of the hosts (grey to blue) and the viruses (grey to red). By contrast to the richness map, this reveals that South America has the most evolutionary distinct hosts *and* viruses, whereas South-Eastern Asia has mostly distinct viruses. This is congruent with known results about New World bats being evolutionary distinct, and suggests that they similarly have distinct viruses.

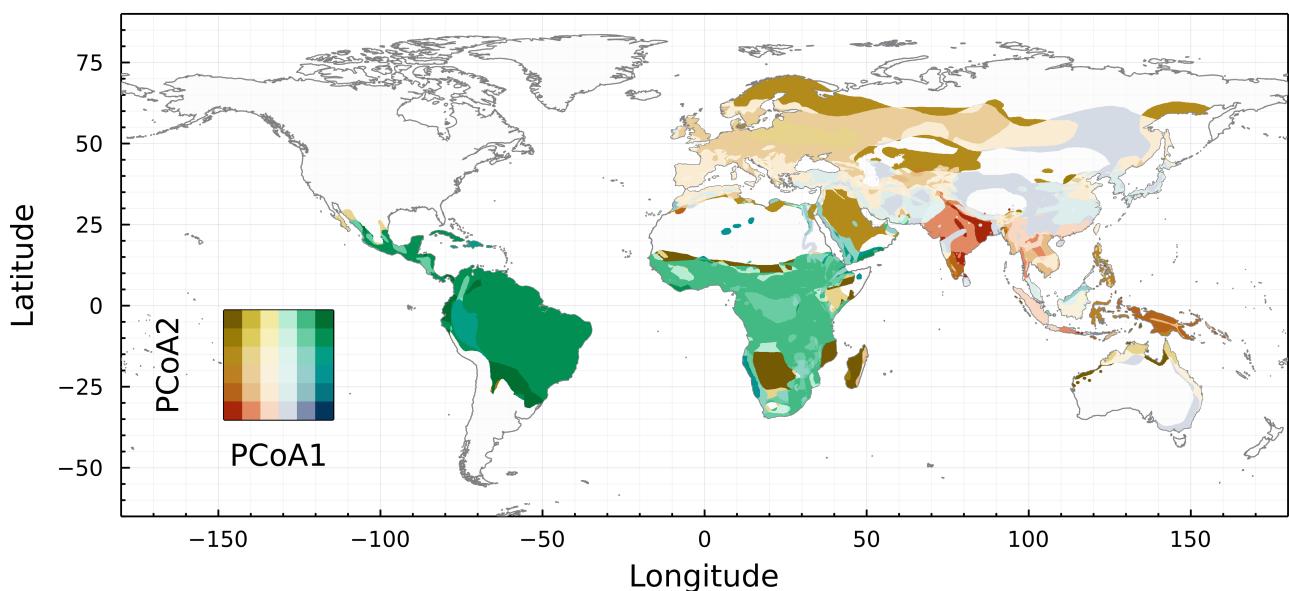
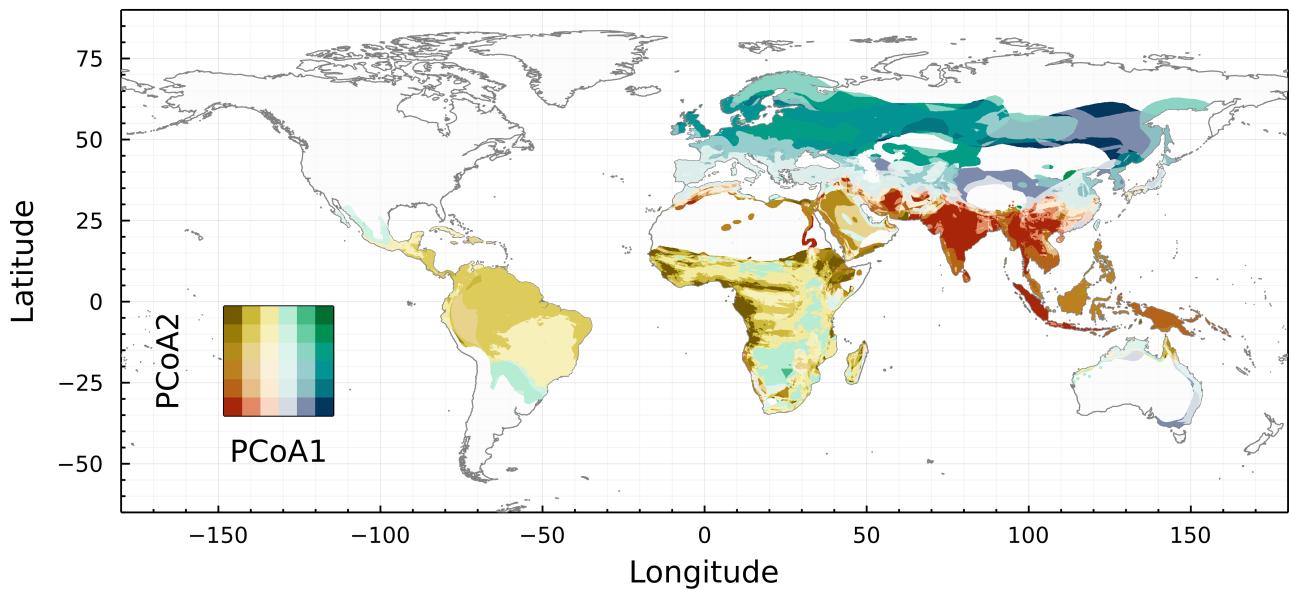


Figure 2: This is the legend of the figure...

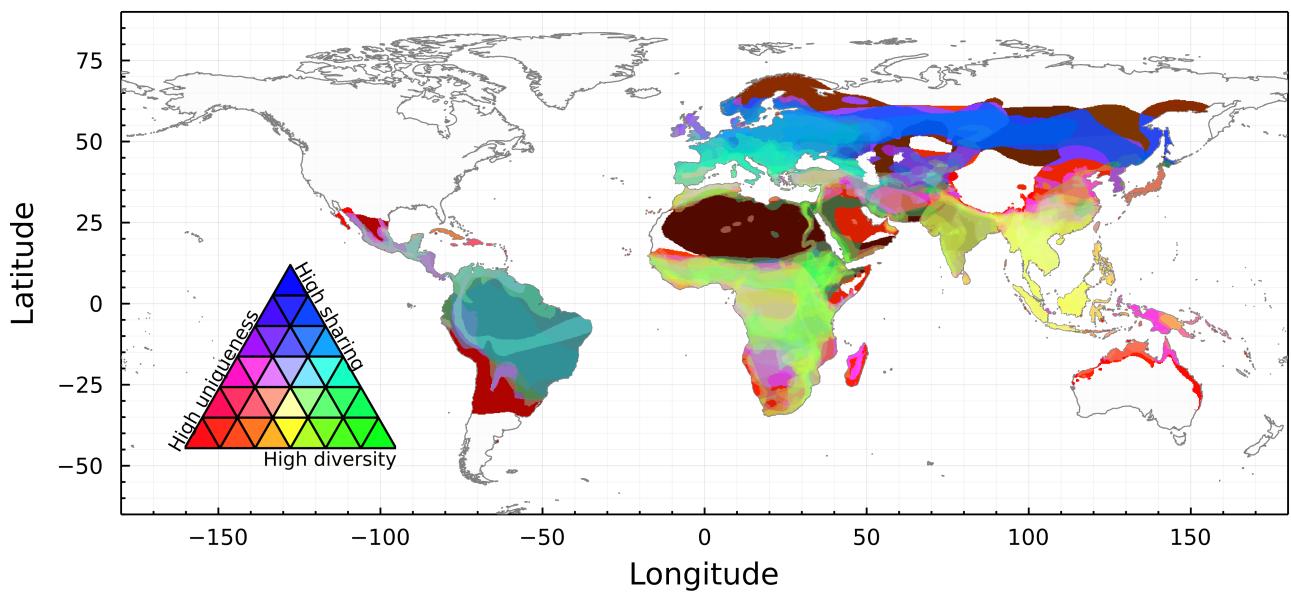


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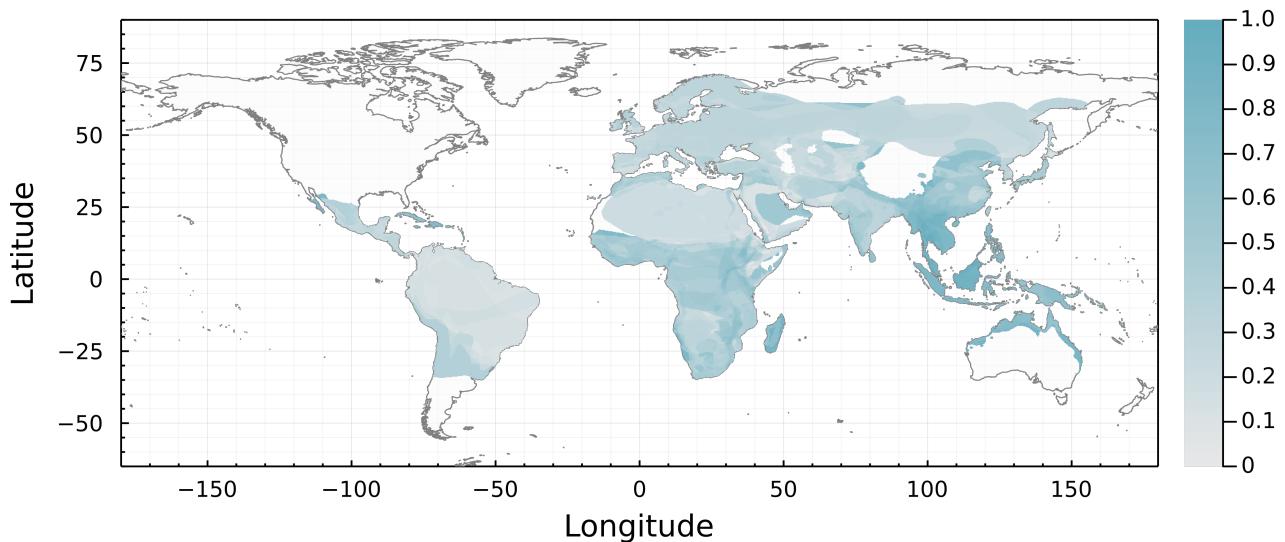


Figure 4: Extraction of a measure of risk based on the colorimetric space from fig. 3. The risk is a composite measure of the color value and angular distance to the yellow hue, as defined in the methods, ranged in the unit space. Based on this analyses, regions at high risk of spillover are southeast Asia and Madagascar.

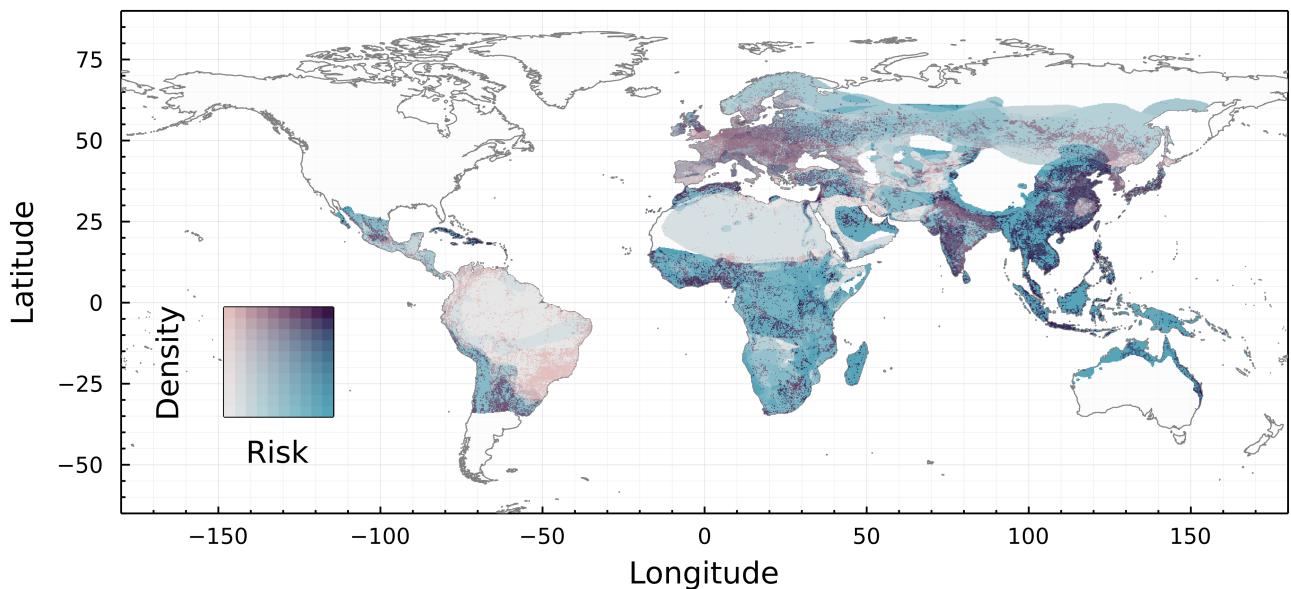


Figure 5: Overlap of the percent of each pixel occupied by urbanized structures, representing the degree of settlement, on the risk map. Darker pixels correspond to more risk, in that the GMTC-derived risk of fig. 4 is high *and* the pixel is densely occupied by human populations. This approach increases the relative risk of several regions in Africa, and concentrates highlights the risk in India, southeast China, and the arabic peninsula.