

**Gilles Demaneuf**[Follow @gdemaneuf](#)

Mar 24 • 36 tweets • 19 min read

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The problem with [@PhilippMarkolin](#) Bayesian analysis is the same as with the Holy Roman Empire:

It's neither Bayesian nor an Analysis.

That John Cohen, who should no better, pushes such disinformation is beyond belief.

[@sciencecohen](#) [@DavidRelman](#) [@RogerPielkeJr](#) [@NateSilver538](#)

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<https://twitter.com/sciencecohen/status/1506675614996000771>

There is just one section 'On Bayesian Reasoning' which is just a simple introduction to the approach without a single prior or posterior being discussed and no likelihood introduced.

That's it.

[@JamieMetzl](#)

One section further down his piece actually shows a total misunderstanding of likelihood and its relation to local risk factors (which is all what the origins debate is about).

Philipp tries very hard to dismiss the geographical exclusivity argument by citing Foshan.

Which shows that he does not understand that the posterior odds are all about the the local weights of the risk factors expressed in the likelihood.

[@zeynep](#) [@thackerpd](#)

And since Foshan was not the capital of BatCov research [with the specific aim of studying human-jump ready viruses at the precise time of the outbreak], it is worthless trying to compare Foshan to Wuhan.

If you want a real Bayesian analysis, you can go back to the one I did with [@RdeMaistre](#) back in summer 2020.



https://www.researchgate.net/publication/345753939_Outlines_of_a_probabilistic_evaluation_of_possible_SARS-CoV-2_origins

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One of which, by the way, is to see through the ayatollahs like [@PhilippMarkolin](#) who repackage their biases as certitudes ('dispositive' evidence I guess).

[@KatherineEban](#) [@SebViret](#)

While writing that paper and researching the risk factors, Rodolphe and I also had to come up with the most exhaustive list of P3s in China to date, well above official estimates.

It tells you something about an industry that cannot be bothered tracking its labs.

[@alisonannyoung](#)

You should also check my list of common logical mistakes in the origins debate.

[@PhilippMarkolin](#) managed to tick quite a few in the list.

(PDF) Some basic errors commonly repeated in relation to Covid-19 origins

PDF | Twenty months and an estimated 12 mln deaths after its initial outbreak in Wuhan, the origins of the Covid-19 pandemic are still undecided. Two... | Find, read and cite all the research you need...

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/354062873_Some_basic_errors_commonly_repeated_in_relation_to_Covid-19_origins

For an understanding of the relation between prior posterior probabilities and the local risk factors through the likelihood, see this too:

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https://twitter.com/gdemaneuf/status/1497698339466276865?s=20&t=c5kOMtASZHvbBix_-dxnUw

Again, that [@sciencecohen](#) gave a platform to [@PhilippMarkolin](#) disinformation piece is unacceptable.

A new low has been reached.

It must be panic time for the ayatollahs with their fake certitudes (sorry, 'dispositive evidences').

[@ydeigin](#) [@TheSeeker268](#)

Typo: know

I should further add that the mendacity of some of the arguments in that 'carefully reasoned' piece is beyond belief.

Case in point:

"Nowhere near nursing homes, restaurants, churches, theaters, or other community centers that had been superspreader events in other countries."

@mentions

have you ever been to China?

It's not Switzerland!

Stop projecting your own standards. Basic mistake.



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[@thackerpd](#) [@zeynep](#)



A US\$16 monthly pension: why so many Chinese can't afford to retire

Compared to developed countries grappling with an ageing population, China is not equipped with a comprehensive welfare system. Many older people are finding they cannot afford to retire.

<https://www.scmp.com/economy/china-economy/article/3159689/china-population-without-adequate-pensions-more-elderly-say>

👉Nursing homes? 🤔

Life is tough when you are not connected or in the wealthy upper class.

When these urban oldies get sick, if the children do not help, they are basically helpless.

In HK you see some 80 year old women collecting cardboard for 'fruit-money'.

[@ydeigin](#)

The cost of a nursing home in a major city is from 2,000 to 6,000 Yuan / month.

- If they have children, they will typically stay with them and take care of their kids. Less boring too.
- If not they are often on their own.

zhuinw.com/bkxq/64.html



<https://www.zhuinw.com/bkxq/64.html>

See also this for the complete shortage of nursing home places:

voanews.com/a/east-asia-pa...



In Fast-Aging China, Elder Care Costs Loom Large

Relatively young retirement ages, a declining birthrate and a breakdown in the traditional family care model are problems Beijing vows to tackle but doesn't say how

https://www.voanews.com/a/east-asia-pacific_voa-news-china_fast-aging-china-elder-care-costs-loom-large/6206123.html

👉Theater? 🤔

More likely for many a free community event as was planned for the new year.

finance.sina.com.cn/china/gncj/202...

And for many a daily walk and chat at the wet market.

This is for many oldies the way they both feed themselves cheaply and keep socializing (and it's fun).

(Here goes your 'Restaurants' too! 🤔)

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Some will also play a game of mah-jong after hours (>5pm), maybe with a friend managing a stall, in a cramped semi-clandestine room with poor ventilation and plenty of smoking going on.

[mahjong tiles make a lot of noise, so the hidden location is perfect]

This is attested.

The old low rise traditional residential districts are called lifen in Wuhan. Then there is a lot of messy little high rises.

In Wuhan, the area around the market and by the river has a lot of oldies in old buildings.

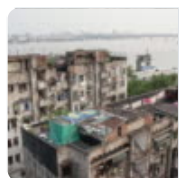
Here is Long Wang Miao in Aug 2019, just by the river.

It's straight down from the market in the old colonial area.

That's where the Dec 19 cases spread out as we can see.

Here are videos:

[gettyimages.com/detail/video/o...](https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/video/old-residential-areas-in-wuhan-stock-footage/1278252121)



Video taken in August 17th Summer time in Wuhan. This area named...

Video taken in August 17th Summer time in Wuhan. This area named "LONG WANG MIAO", means "Temple of the Dragon King", one of the oldest urban areas in Wuhan. These OLD residential buildings would.....

<https://www.gettyimages.com/detail/video/old-residential-areas-in-wuhan-stock-footage/1278252121>

There are some old buildings too with a very high density of oldies (>10,000 km²) just north-east of the market.

With cases (mostly not linked to the market).

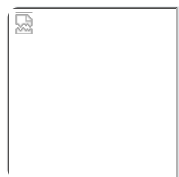
👉 Churches? 🤔

Sorry this is not an average city in Bavaria or Italy.

It's China.

The Christian/Protestant are typically in the newer more affluent generations, and many have to join underground churches.

Not many and not like a US driveway church.



In China, they're closing churches, jailing pastors – and even rewriting scripture

China's Communist party is intensifying religious persecution as Christianity's popularity grows. A new state translation of the Bible will establish a 'correct understanding' of the text

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/jan/13/china-christians-religious-persecution-translation-bible>

👉 Nowhere new the WIV? 🤔

Ok, let's check that.

First we look at the central WIV location with the Wuhan Uni ABSL-3 nearby.



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WIV.

A funny thing happened with the date her file was opened.

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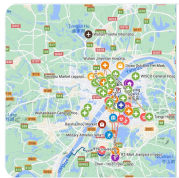
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<https://twitter.com/gdemaneuf/status/1435162332204728321?s=20&t=4WJUiLg5oUXcfaVsi9Frig>

File opened by the PLA hospital next door.

Same weird thing happened for WHO4, whose case GPS coordinates put him just next to the hospital (and not far again from the WIV):

(map: bit.ly/3q5DoSD)



Wuhan Map (street map mode) – Google My Maps

The PINS are to the street map, NOT to the satellite image. Use OpenStreetMap to check position on street map.

===== Testing Wuhan map – by Gilles READ THESE INSTRU...

<https://bit.ly/3q5DoSD>

That is also the hospital understood to have taken care of these 3 researchers in Oct or Nov 2019, via their electronic records which ended up in US hands.

Not far we have Mr Su, the Health Times suspected case of the 14th Nov which was withdrawn as soon as the CDC gag order was issued:

Going back to the PLA hospital (which is close to the WIV), there were sightings of ambulances from Jiangxia driving there on the 31st Dec, after the whistleblowing.

The funny thing about Jiangxia is that it is where Mr Chen was hospitalized before transferring to Ai Fen A&E service across the river, as his relative worked in that service.

That Mr Chen had an onset date of the 16th Dec, worked and travelled locally, never went to any market.

Mr Chen became the whistleblowing case.

He thought he was infected on local public transport or when he went to the local hospital on the 8th Dec.

There was no proper tracing of his case!

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<https://twitter.com/gdemaneuf/status/1499259324539240448?s=20&t=4WJUiLg5oUXcfaVsi9Frig>

Jiangxia is the high density residential district closest to the new WIV.

A navette takes researchers between the old and the new WIV sites.

How did the virus manage to cross the city by 16 Dec?

Who else was in that hospital and possibly moved to the PLA hospital on the 31 Dec?

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I'll just conclude like Embarek:

You have to wonder.

👉 Wonder how [@sciencecohen](#) could ever call [@PhilippMarkolin](#) piece 'carefully reasoned' when he clearly has zero idea about life in China when arguing his case.

[@thackerpd](#) [@R_H_Ebright](#) [@danwalker9999](#)

@mentions

compile

Typo: nowhere near.

...

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**Andrew Chen** @andrewchen · Dec 27

12/ One of the best things out of @ericries's Lean Startup is the concept of "vanity metrics" - unimportant, inflated metrics that don't have much to do with business value. But the effects of using them are different when you're a startup versus a big co.



1



8



52

**Andrew Chen** @andrewchen · Dec 27

13/ For big, established companies, focusing on vanity metrics is silly but not everyone's thrown up a huge number to celebrate for an offsite. I get it. But for startups who are pre-product/market fit, it can lead down a path towards

More from @gdemaneuf

**Gilles Demaneuf**

@gdemaneuf

Mar 26

There is a little crew that is desperate not to be proven wrong. And they are very vocal and getting very upset that people do not agree with the dispositive edicts. @JamieMetzl @thackerpd

Since Aug 21 they have never stopped, recycling the same ideas in multiple papers, preprints, Science or NYT pieces, etc. The same arguments, the same maps, the same story. Aug 21: cell.com/cell/fulltext/... Nov 21: science.org/doi/10.1126/sc... Feb 22: zenodo.org/record/6299600

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**Gilles Demaneuf**

@gdemaneuf

Mar 24

This is a very good Caixin article from Feb 2020 documenting how many suspected Covid-19 cases were never reported in Wuhan in January, because they were not treated in hospitals due to the shortage of beds. archive.vn/ZCYfz

This article is now unavailable. Here is what you get: In Chinese: 'Received complaints that this content violates the "Internet user public account information service management regulations", View Details' mp.weixin.qq.com/s/OQGVZlrJWID9...

If you click on the 'View Details' link, you get to the Office of the Central Cyberspace Affairs Commission, where you can guess the relevant infraction. cac.gov.cn/2021-01/22/c_1...

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@gdemaneuf



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@BiophysicsFL Which one is the most parsimonious? Version 1: - Holmes visited Wuhan in 2014, when he went to see research teams working on viruses - He visited that precise market, because it is central and holds 10 of the 17 animal stalls in the whole city of Wuhan.

@BiophysicsFL - He photographed that precise stall because it was the only one of the 10 animal stalls (out of the 620+ stalls in the market) selling raccoon dogs, some potentially wild caught, at about 20 animals sold per month.

@BiophysicsFL - Some research related accident happened in the coronavirus research capital of the world, working at that very specific time on building composite coronaviruses with human affinity (FCS) and passaging/testing them on animals.

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Gilles Demaneuf
@gdmaneuf

Mar 22

@carlzimmer, there seems to be some serious issue with what you wrote about GenBank delaying the release of the SARS-CoV-2 genome. Please check:

It is also worth reminding people of a few facts: - A near full genome of the virus had been obtained by a private lab and communicated to the authorities with a detailed analysis on the 27 Dec 19 - Another private lab sequenced it on the 30 Dec 19 @Biol4Ever @KatherineEban

As to official labs (not private ones): 1/ The Wuhan Institute of Virology got a virus sample from Jinyintan Hospital on Dec 30th, completed the sequencing of the virus on Jan 2nd, and isolated the virus strain on Jan 5th. @NateSilver538

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Gilles Demaneuf
@gdmaneuf

Mar 19

@stuartjdneil @threadreaderapp I feel for you @stuartjdneil, when your wildlife sales conspiracy theory doesn't withstand examination. Gao and the CDC suspected illegal wildlife sales and said so right from the beginning (19 Jan 20), and in an English release to make sure that everybody would get it.

@stuartjdneil @threadreaderapp The Chinese authorities accordingly sampled first the 10 wildlife stalls, around them and then non-wildlife stalls that where human cases had popped up. They did their job assuming a wildlife origin. And found nothing.

@stuartjdneil @threadreaderapp So much for your conspiracy and your complete ignorance of their sampling bias. And you are so afraid of Gao that you had to rush the two preprints out within 24 hours after he published his, when your plan was to publish them

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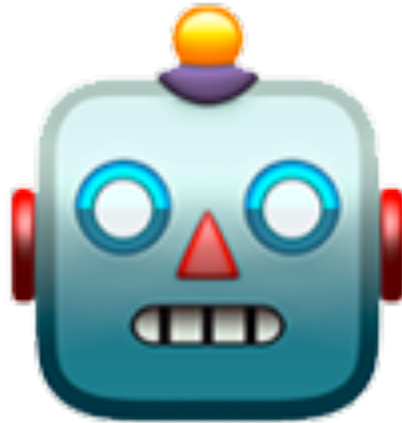
Gilles Demaneuf
@gdmaneuf

Mar 19

Interesting to see that in that CDC report of the 19th Jan 2020, Gao et al credit the CDC IVDC for first sequencing the virus on the 3rd Jan. @Ayjchan @TheSeeker268 @thedeathhandbook weekly.chinacdc.cn/en/article/doi...

Let's ignore for the time being that the virus was actually first fully sequenced on the 27 Dec 19 by Vision Medicals in Guangzhou (and Gao certainly knew it). What is interesting here is that the NIVDC had an undisclosed Lab Infection in Jan or Feb 2020.




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