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authors: Katherine Eaton

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Plague-Phylogeography:

Novel Synthesis and Geospatial Analysis

Katherine Eaton

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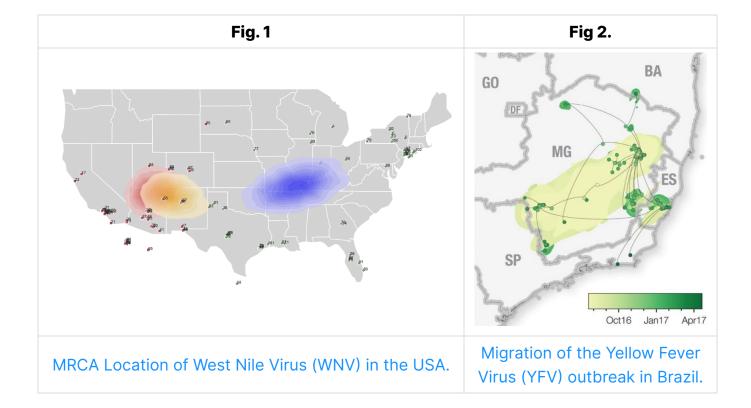
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Introduction

- The ancestral location of pathogens can be estimated using #Phylogeography.
- #Geographic-Origin (s) of an emerging disease (Fig 1).
- #Migration history of an outbreak (Fig 2).

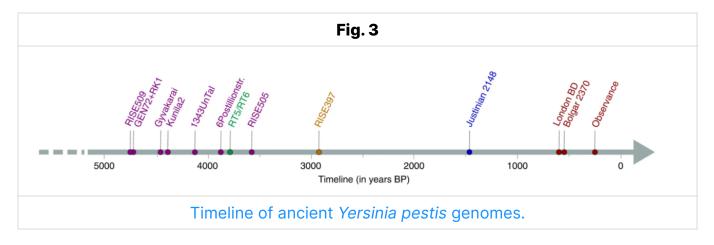
Fig. 1	Fig 2.
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Why is Plague interesting?

1. Breadth and Scope

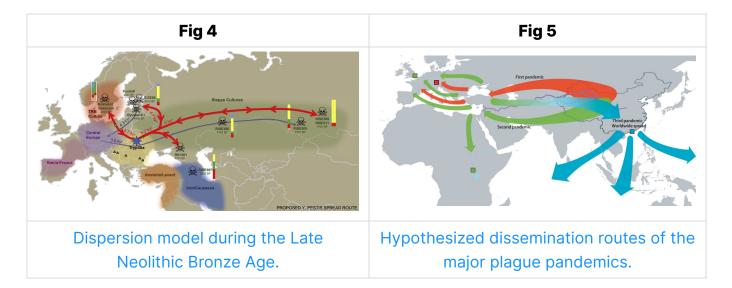
- Long history with humans (Fig 3).
- Huge geographic range (every continent except Antarctica).



2. Hot Debates!

- The #Geographic-Origin (s) are contentious (Fig 4).
- Multiple #Reemergences with distinct spatial patterns (Fig 5).

Fig 4	Fig 5



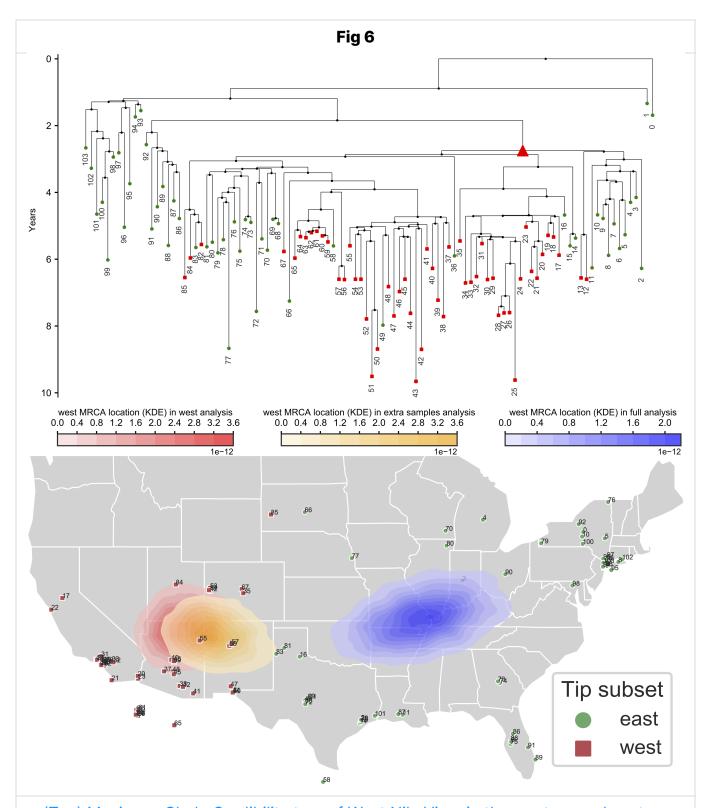
3. Potential Contributions

- MOAR data: Triple the sample size of existing #Yersinia-pestis phylogenies.
- MOAR stats: Use a statistical approach to mapping the #Geographic-Origin (s) and #Migration .

Problem

- #Phylogeography is highly sensitive to #Sampling-Bias.
- The true distribution is not evenly sampled (under/over-sampling).
- Kalkauskas et al. 2021 demonstrates this looking at West Nile Virus in the USA.





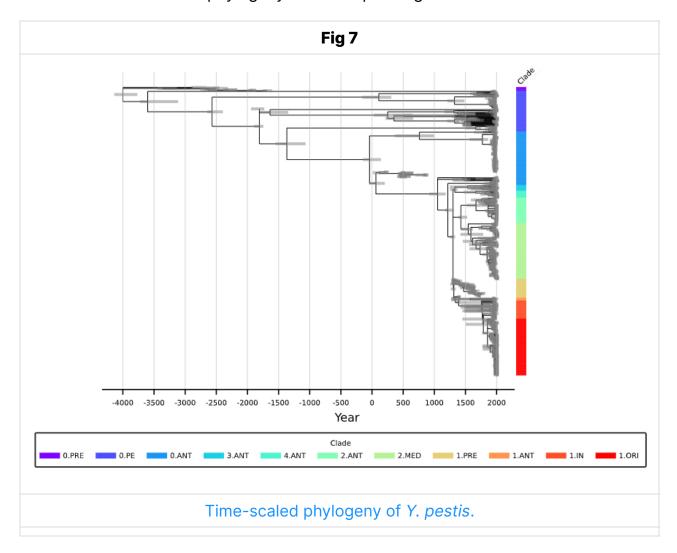
(Top) Maximum Clade Credibility tree of West Nile Virus in the western and eastern USA. (Bottom) MRCA location of all western samples. (Blue: All samples, Red: Only western samples, Orange: western samples and sequence-free eastern samples).

Questions

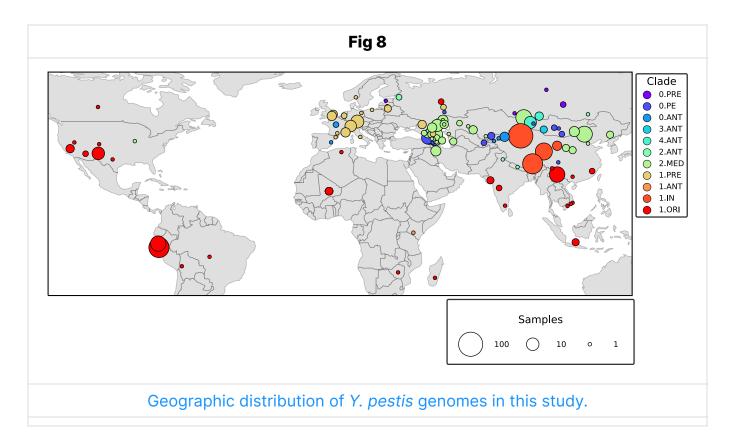
- 1. What are the #Geographic-Origin (s) and #Migration patterns of the #Medieval #Plague #Pandemic?
- 2. To what extent are the results influenced by sampling biases?
 - Over-sampling of East-Asia and the Caucasus.
 - Under-sampling of Africa and the Mediterranean.

Previous Work

1. Estimated a time-scaled phylogeny of 634 Y. pestis genomes.



2. Estimated geographic location for all internal nodes.



3. Plot the arrival of #Plague in #Medieval #Europe and subsequent #Migration (s).



4. Plot the departure of #Plague from #Medieval #Europe.

Fig 5

