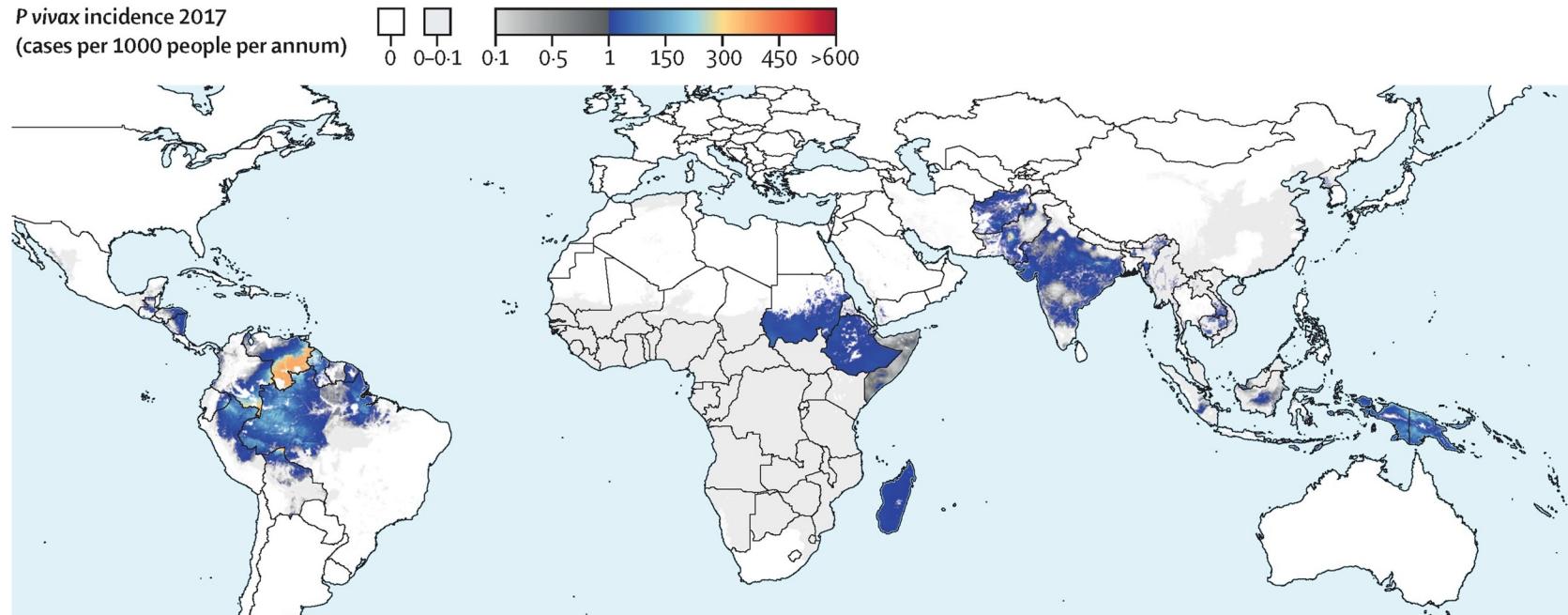


The Epidemiology of *Plasmodium vivax* among Asymptomatic Adults in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Nicholas F. Brazeau
MD/PhD Candidate, 2022

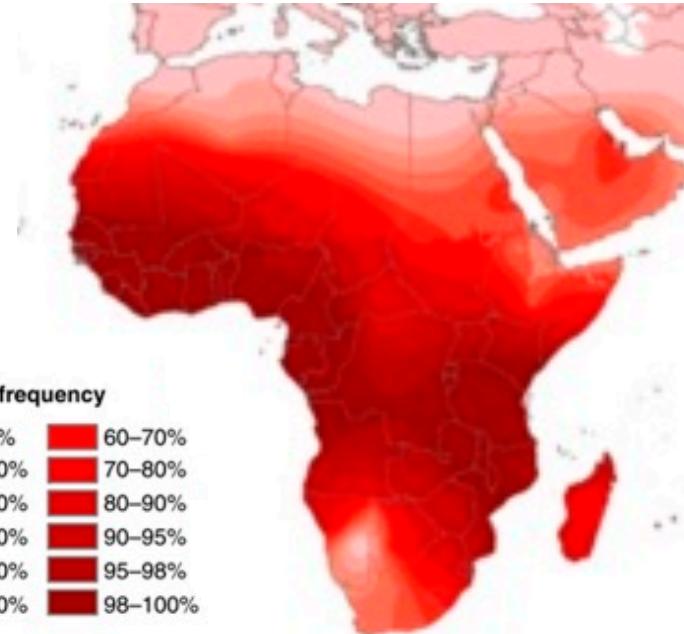
University of North Carolina School of Medicine
Gillings School of Global Public Health

P. vivax Endemicity

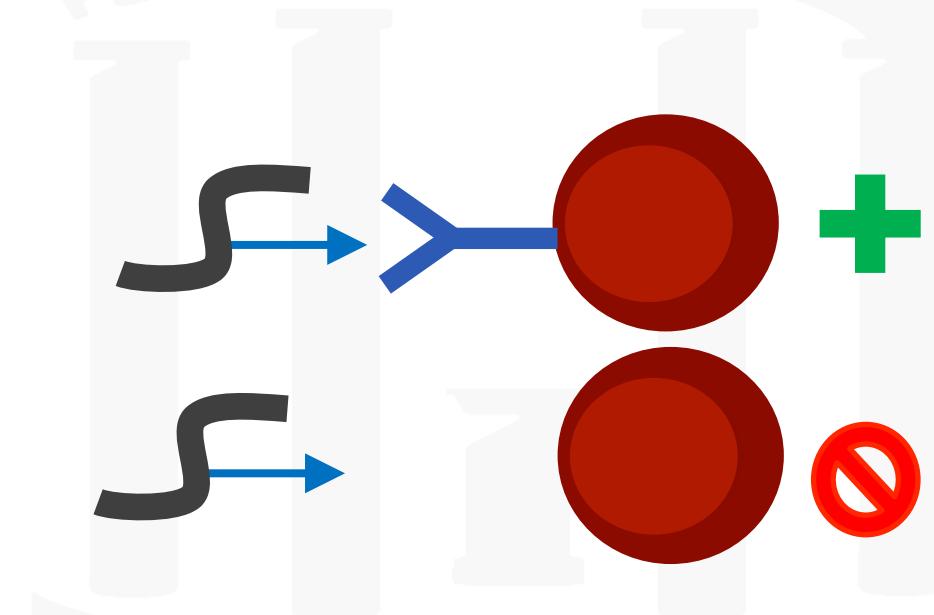


Battle et al. 2019, Lancet

The Duffy-Negative Phenotype is Common in Sub-Saharan Africa

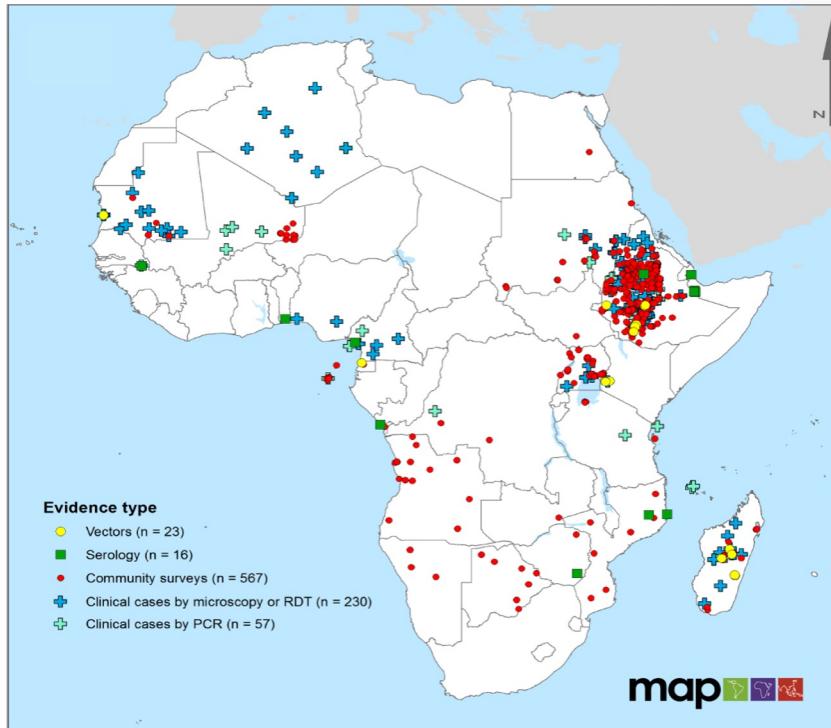


Howes et al. 2011, Nat Comms

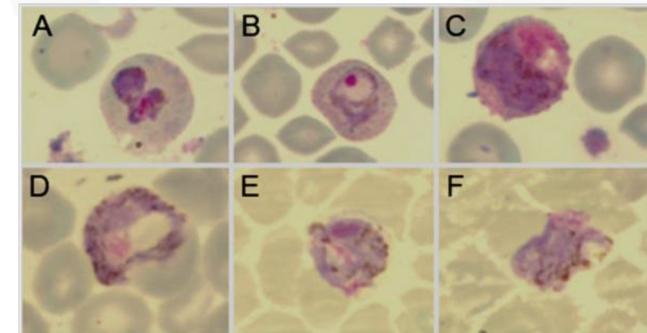


Miller, LH 1976, NEJM
Tournamille, C 1995, Nat Genet
Gunalan et al. 2016, PNAS

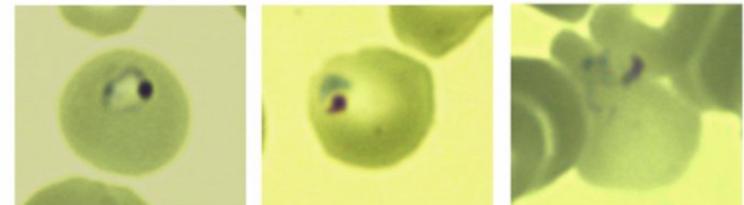
P. Vivax is Prevalent in Africa



Twohig et al. 2019, Plos NTD

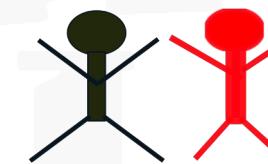
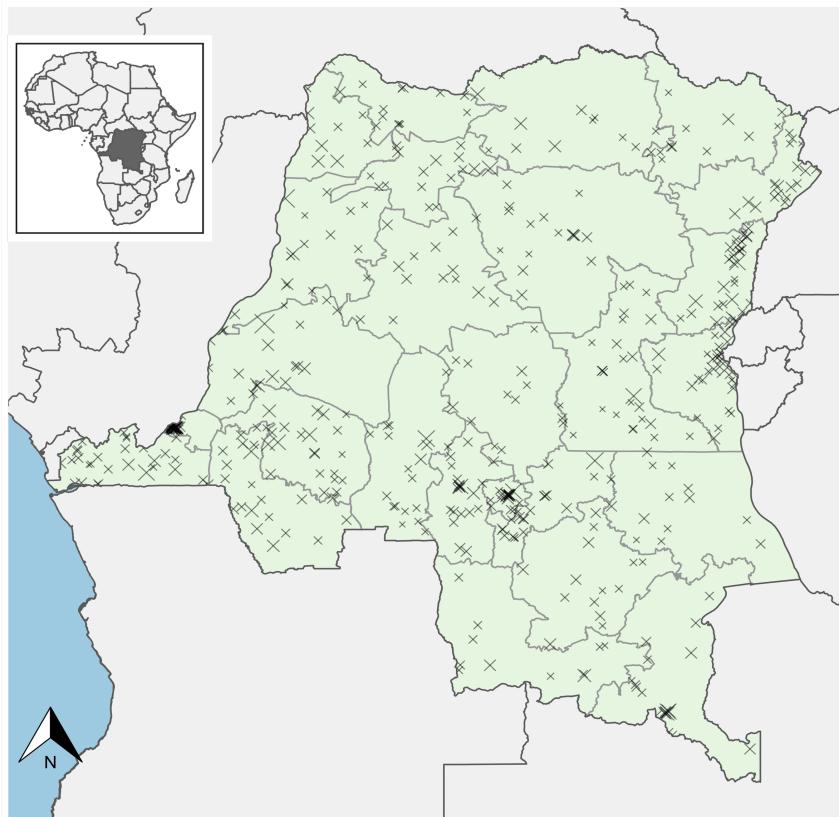


Plasmodium vivax in a Duffy null individual in Ethiopia

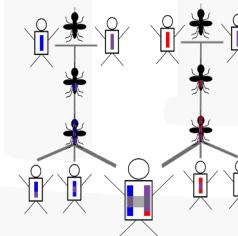
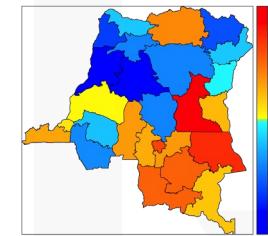


Menard et al. 2010, PNAS
Gunalan et al. 2016, PNAS

Study Design



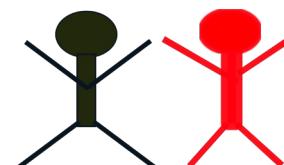
Who
Where
Origin



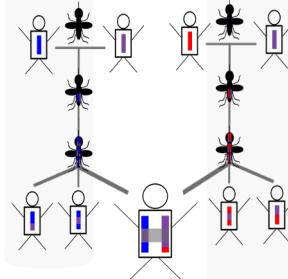
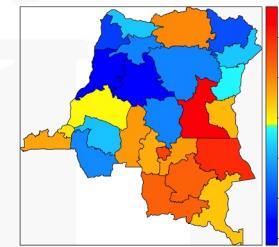
Approach



Quantitative PCR
Speciation PCR



Odds Ratios
Inverse Prob. Weights
Super Learner Algorithm
(Spatial CV)



**Bayesian Mixed
Spatial Models**
(Province & Cluster)

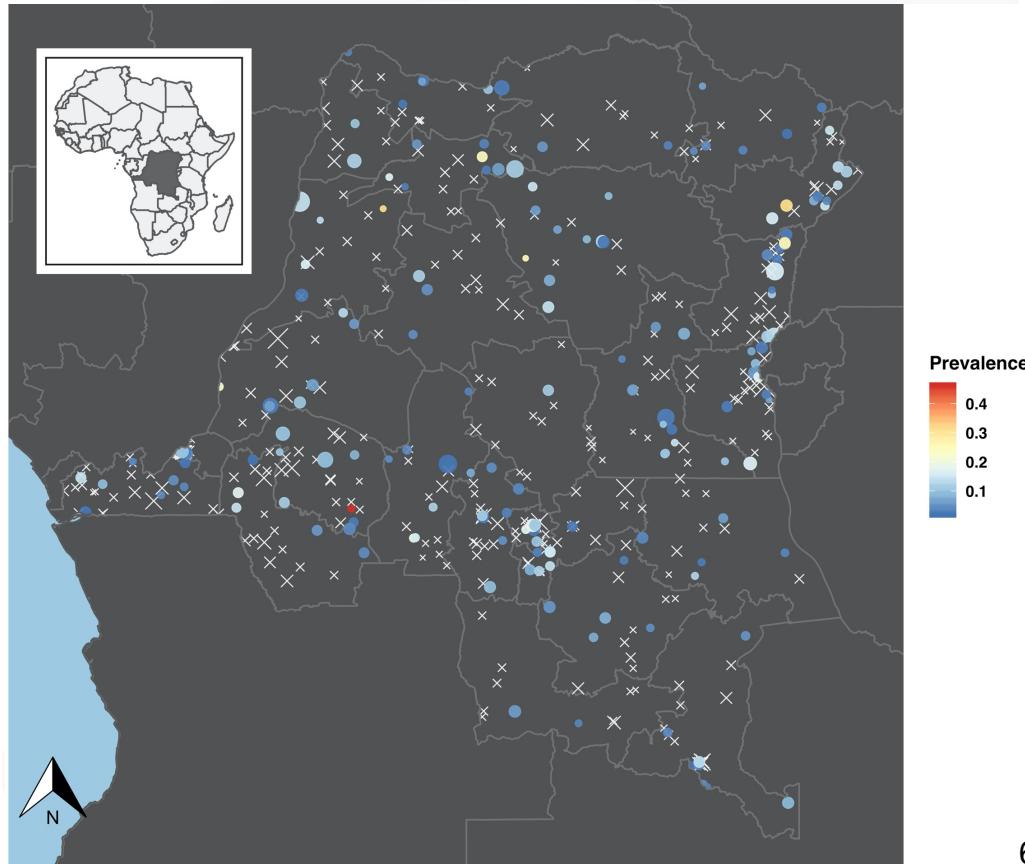
Hybrid Capture
Phylogenetics
Gen Stats



Pv in the DRC was more Common than Expected

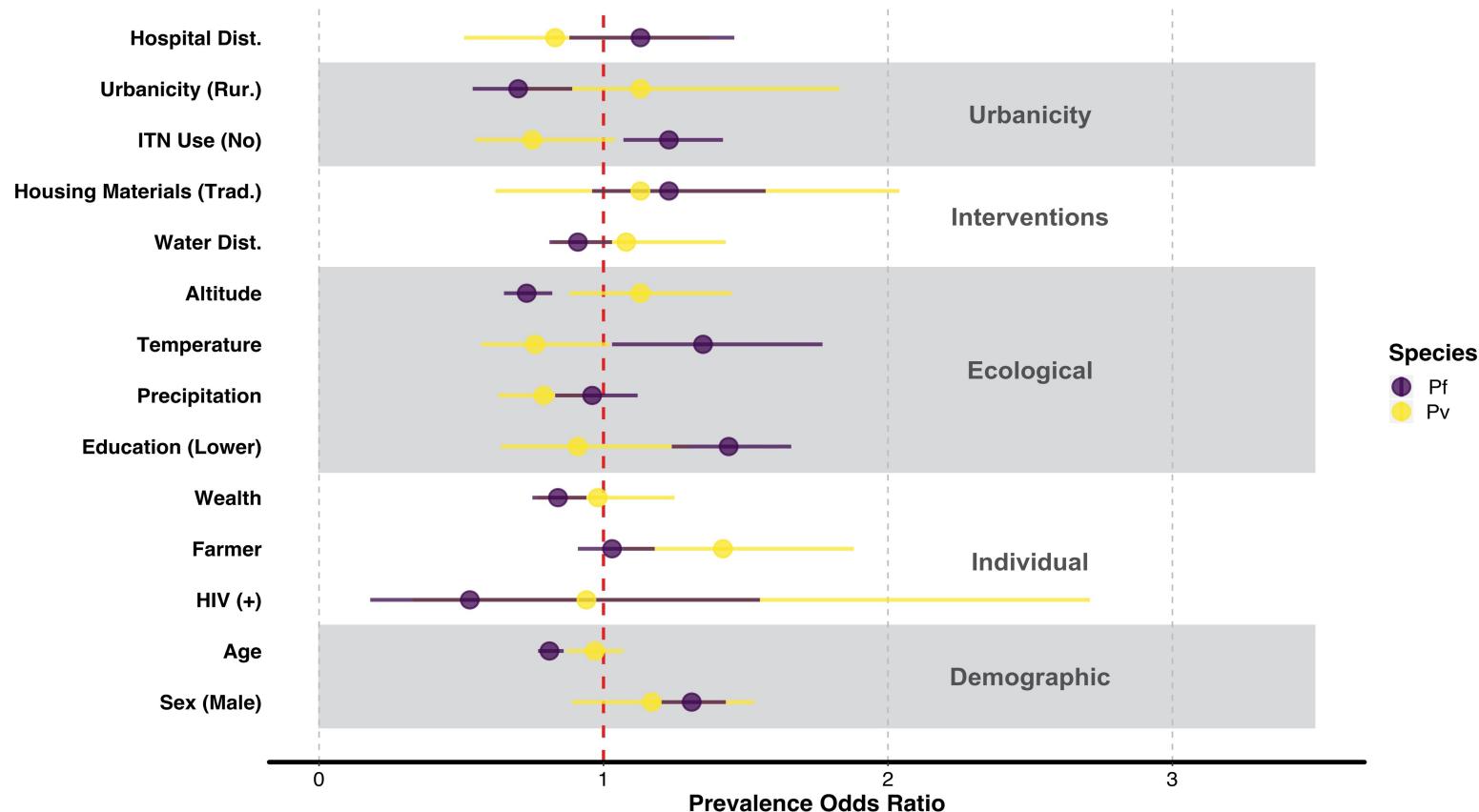
P. vivax Overview

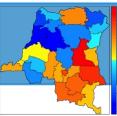
- 540 qPCR-positive samples
 - 467 Infections (included in study)
 - Prevalence: 2.96% (2.28%, 3.65%)
-
- **Among Clusters**
 - » Cluster-Prev Range: 0 - 46.15%
 - » Infection Range (weighted counts): 0 - 32.51



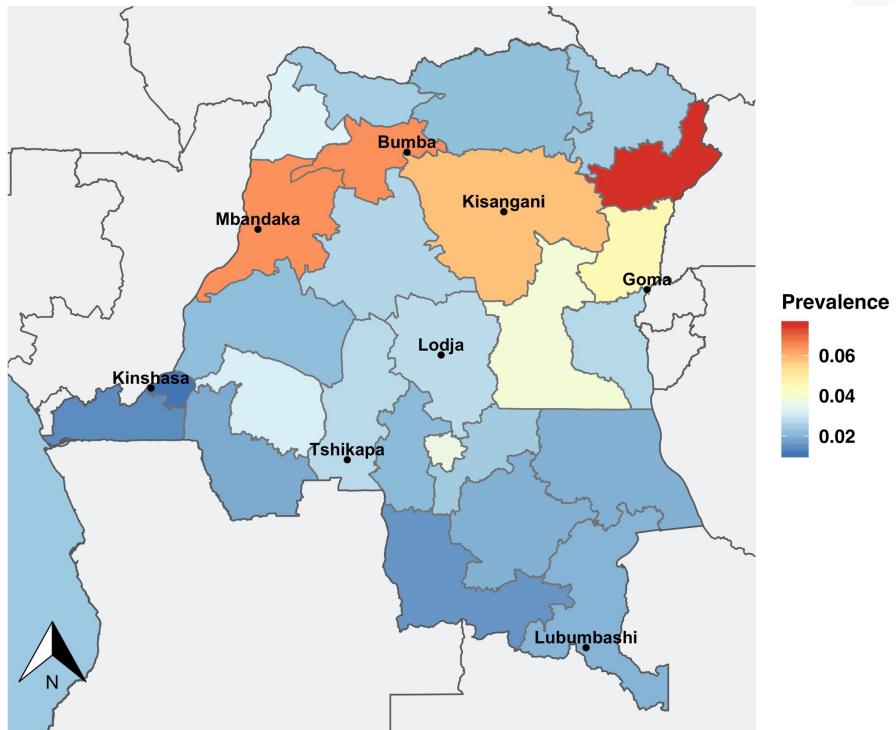


Pv is Not Associated with Many Classic Risk Factors

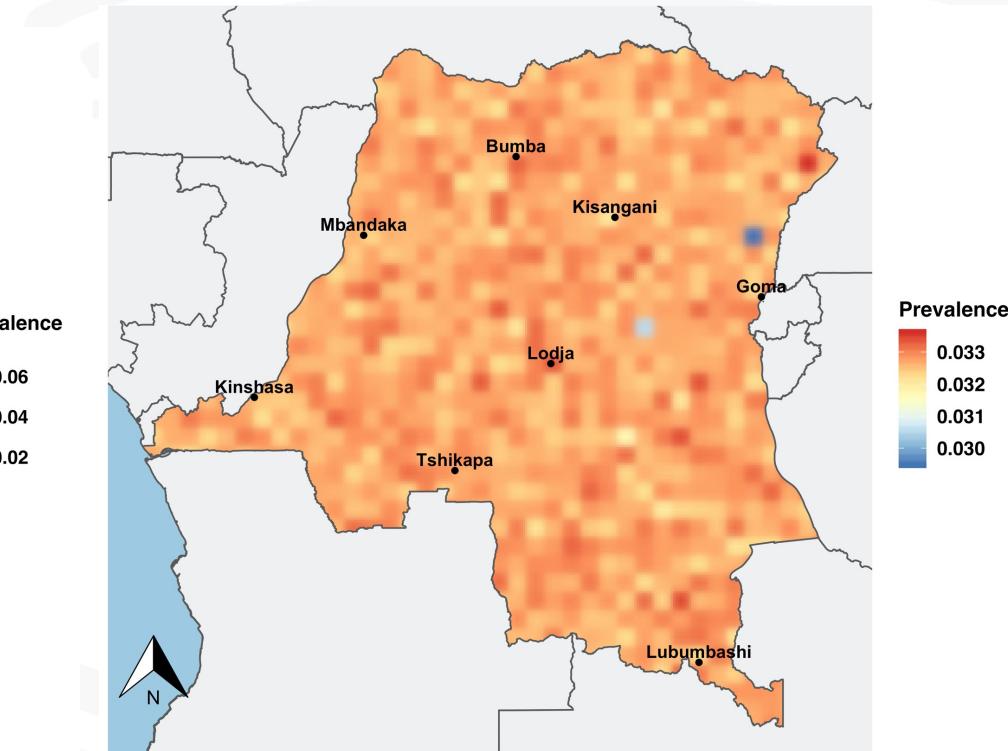




P. vivax Infections Exhibit Little Spatial Structure



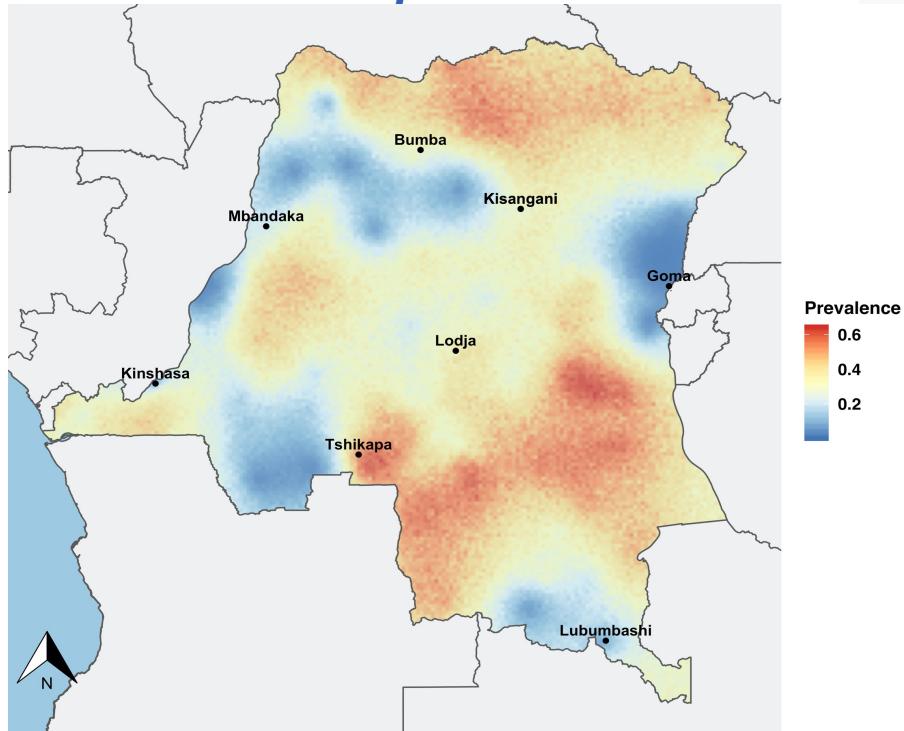
* Incorporates sig. risk factors



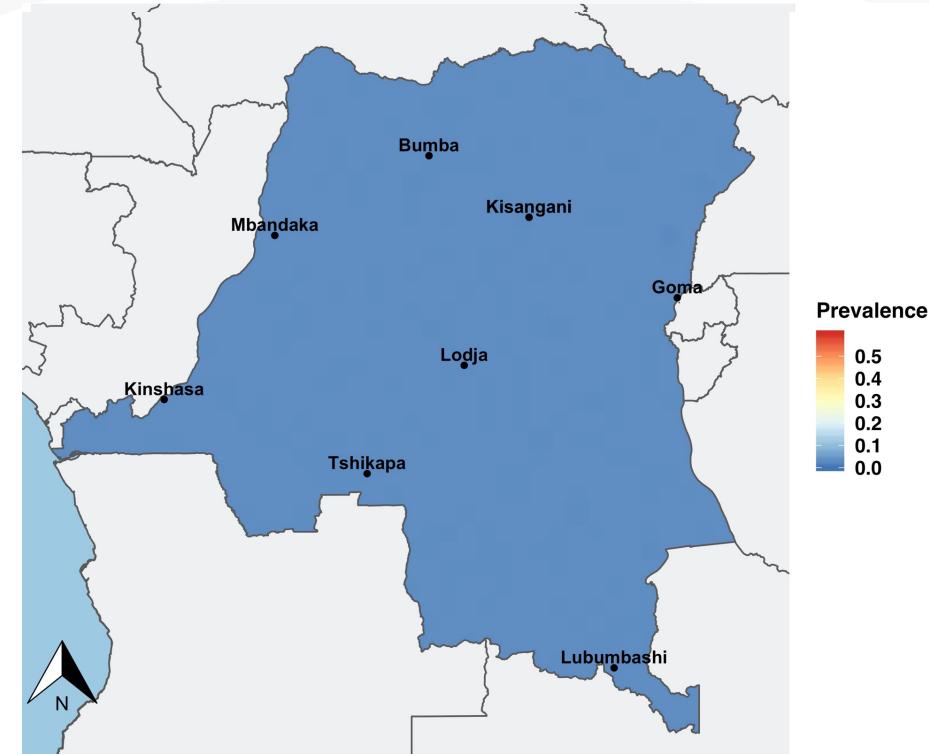


P. vivax Infections Exhibit Little Spatial Structure

P. falciparum



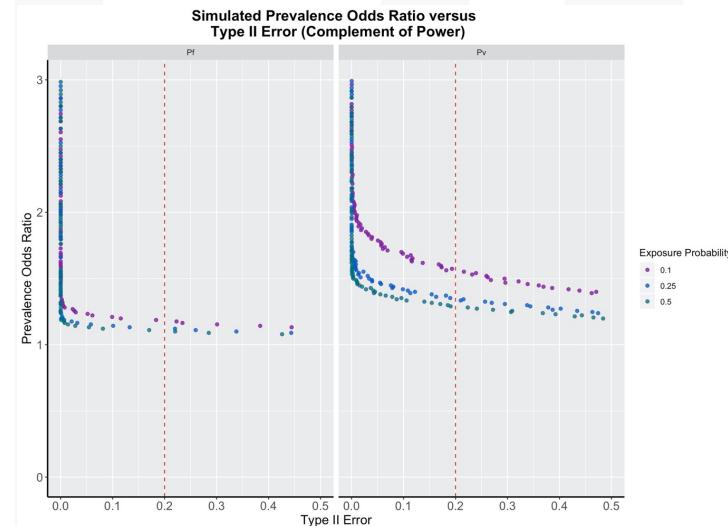
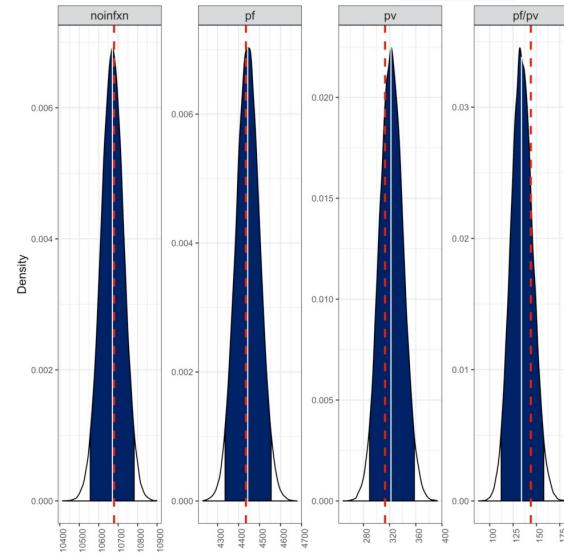
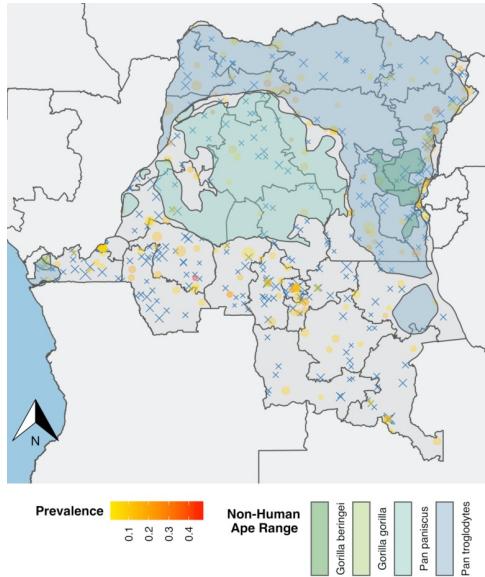
P. vivax



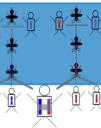
Deutsch-Feldman et al. 2019, *In Submission*
Janko et al. 2018, *Lancet Plan. Health*



Not Due to Non-Human Ape Habitats, Pv-Pf Interactions, Power, or Duffy-Negativity,



Duffy Positive: 3/467 (weighted: 1.61/459.18)



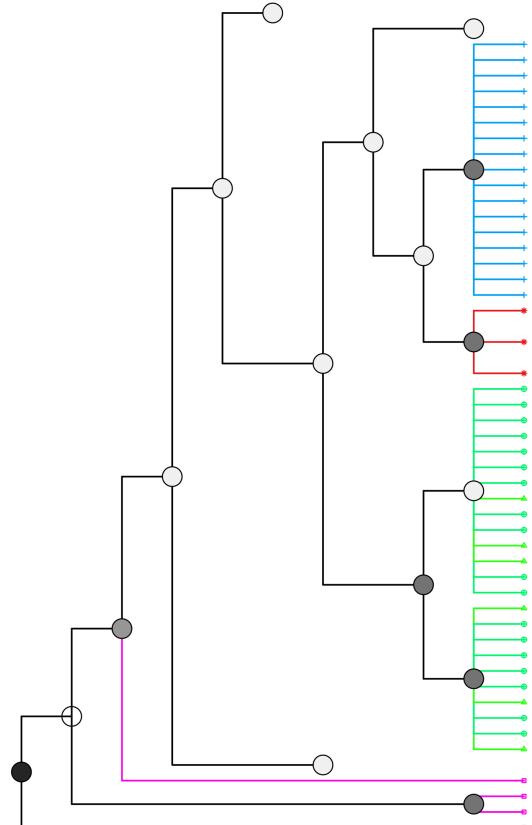
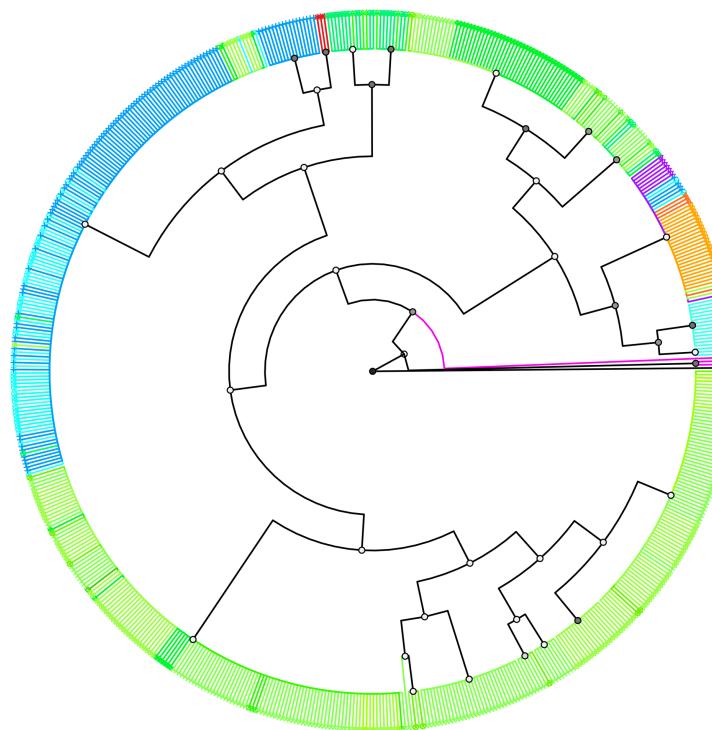
DRC *P. vivax* is Closely Related to South American *Pv*

Bootstrap Percentage(BP)

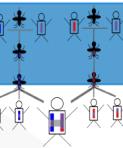
- 60 ≤ BP < 70
- 50 ≤ BP < 60
- 40 ≤ BP < 50
- BP < 40

Country

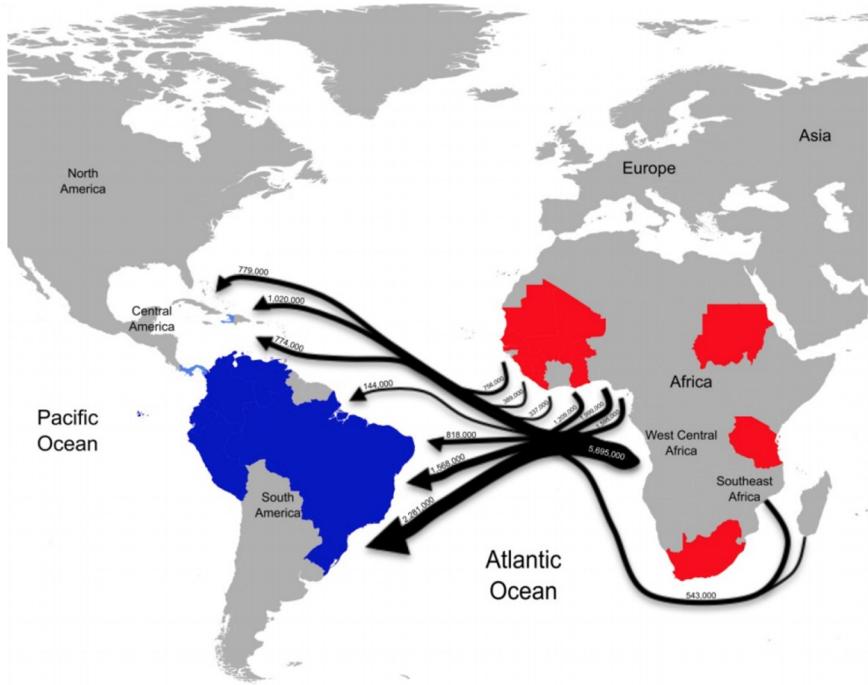
- | | |
|------|-------------|
| ○ BR | ○ MM |
| ○ CD | ○ MX |
| ○ CN | ○ MY |
| ○ CO | ○ NHA |
| ○ ET | ○ Pynomolgi |
| ○ ID | ○ PE |
| ○ IN | ○ PG |
| ○ KH | ○ TH |
| ○ LA | ○ VN |
| ○ LK | |
| ○ MG | |



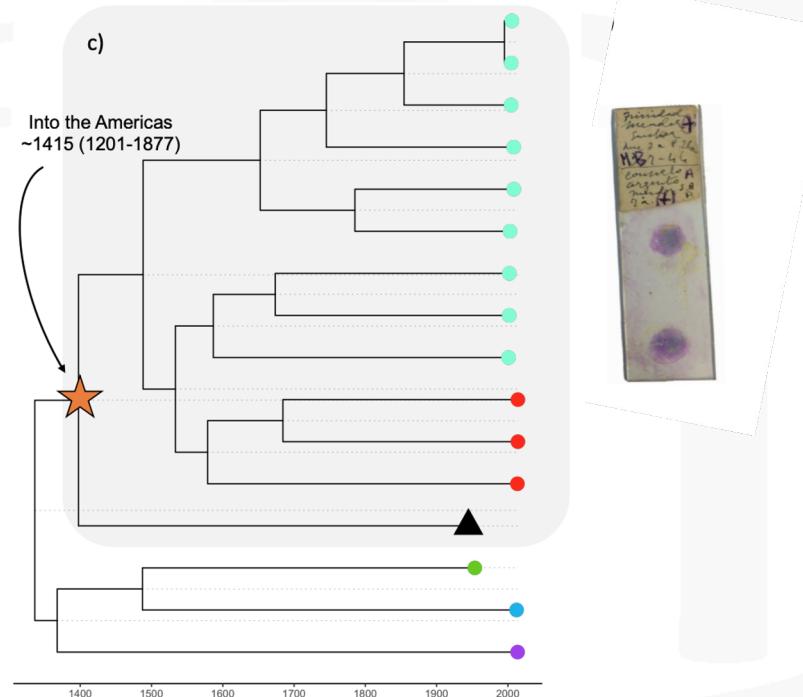
*Mitochondria



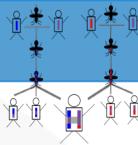
DRC *P. vivax* Part of an Older Lineage



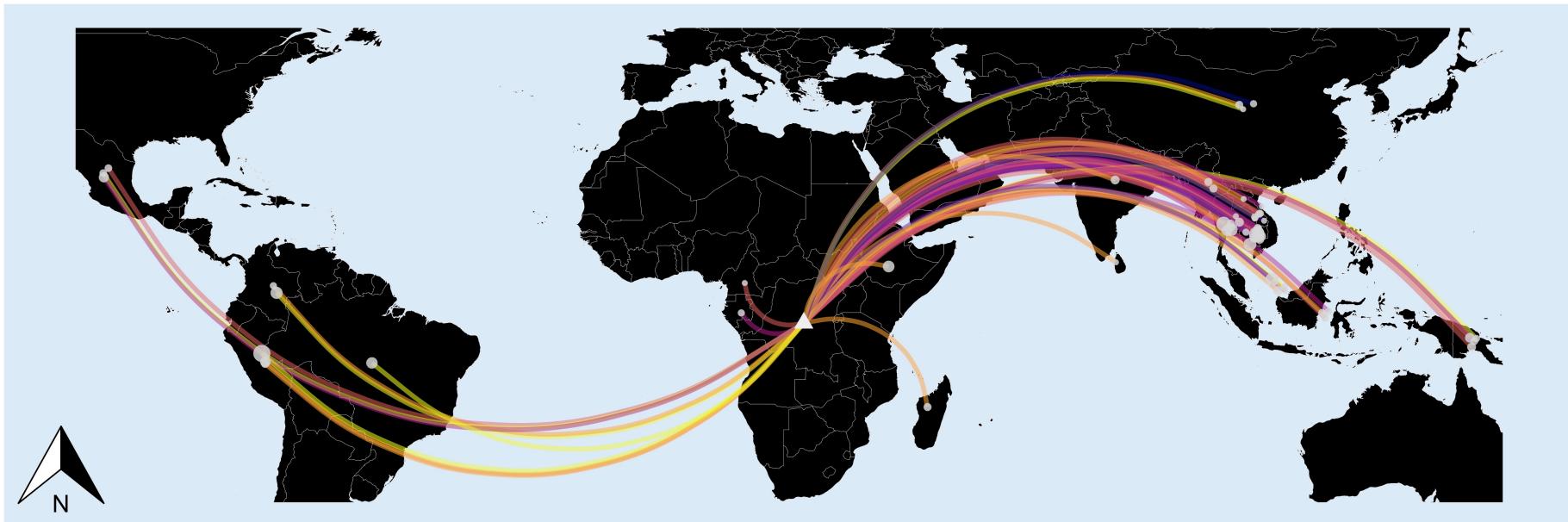
Rodrigues et al. 2018



Gelabert et al. 2016, PNAS
Dorp & Gelabert, et al. 2019, Biorxiv



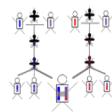
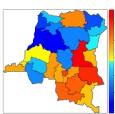
DRC *P. vivax* Shares Characteristics of New World and Old World Isolates



*Mitochondria

Takeaways

Conclusions



- *Pv* was not associated with classic risk factors
- *Pv* maps flat across the DRC (no hotspots)
- DRC *Pv* may represent an older lineage

Interpretation

- Persisted undetected
- DRC *Pv* is an innocuous threat
 - Hiding in the bone marrow?

Limitations

- Cross-sectional
- 3 DRC Mitochondrial Genomes

Strengths

- Spatially rich and large dataset
- DRC is generalizable

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- Faustin Manenga
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National Institute
of Allergy and
Infectious Diseases

Reproducibility & Data Availability

- Epi analyses: nickbrazeau/VivID_Epi
- NGS analyses: nickbrazeau/VivID_Seq
- NGS Sequences: SRA Pending
- *P. vivax* Infection Data (Upon Request)



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 **@NFBrazeau**

