

Phylodynamics of the H5Nx Clade 2.3.4.4b Avian Influenza Outbreak in Europe

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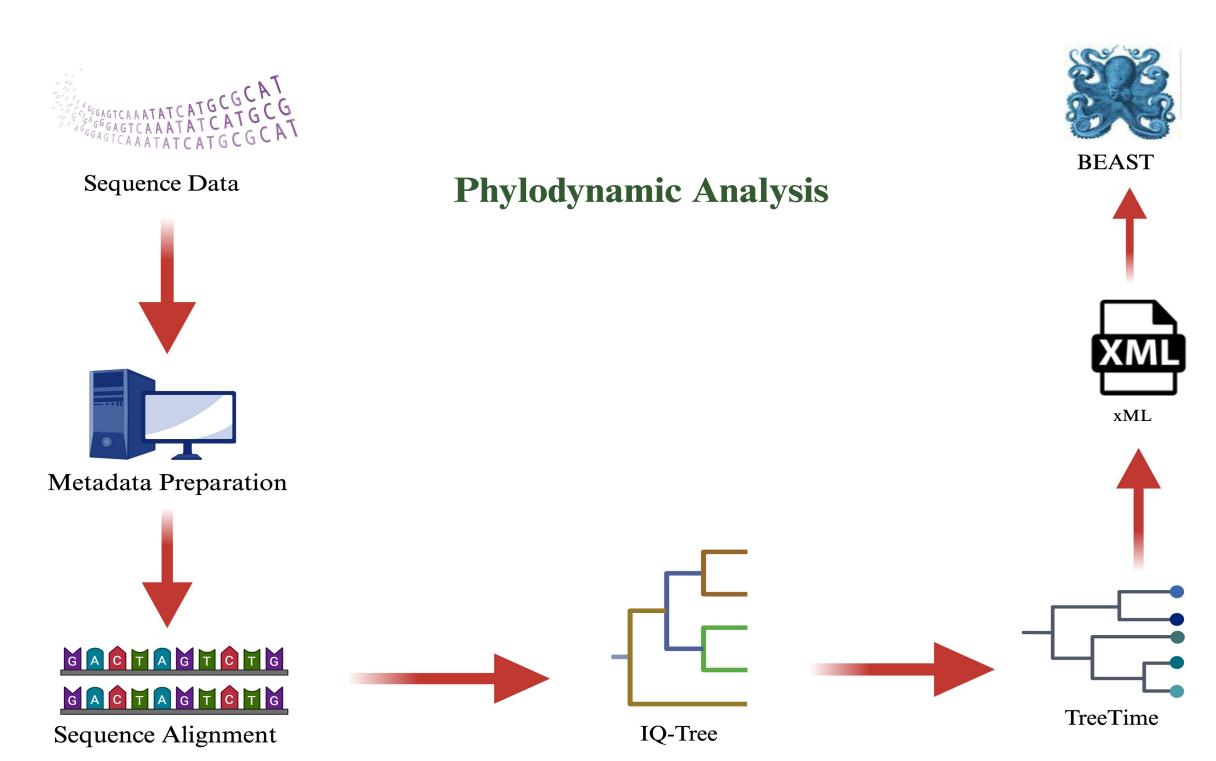
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INTRODUCTION

- ✓ The HPAI H5Nx virus, belonging to the clade 2.3.4.4b of the Gs/GD lineage, has presented significant risks to poultry enterprises and the broader community across various countries since its initial emergence.
- ✓ These viruses continue to evolve globally, and the migration of birds facilitates the spread of new strains, which may carry mutations that allow for better adaptation to mammals.
- ✓ We aim to study phylogeographic diffusion patterns of HPAI H5Nx virus 2.3.4.4b clade and perform discrete phylogeographic analysis to identify source-sink dynamics and virus diffusion in Europe.

METHODOLOGY



- ✓ Complete sequences of the HA genes from Influenza Virus A(H5Nx) belonging to clade 2.3.4.4b in Europe was retrieved from GISAID genome database.
- ✓ Sequence alignment was performed using MAFFT and Phylogeny was built using IQ-TREE.
- ✓ Time-scaled phylogenetic trees were provided by TreeTime.
- ✓ Bayesian phylogenetic analysis was conducted to generate a maximum clade credibility (MCC) tree.
- ✓ Bayesian discrete trait diffusion models were summarized using Bayesian stochastic search variable selection (BSSVS).

RESULTS

Domestic Bird

Domestic Mammal

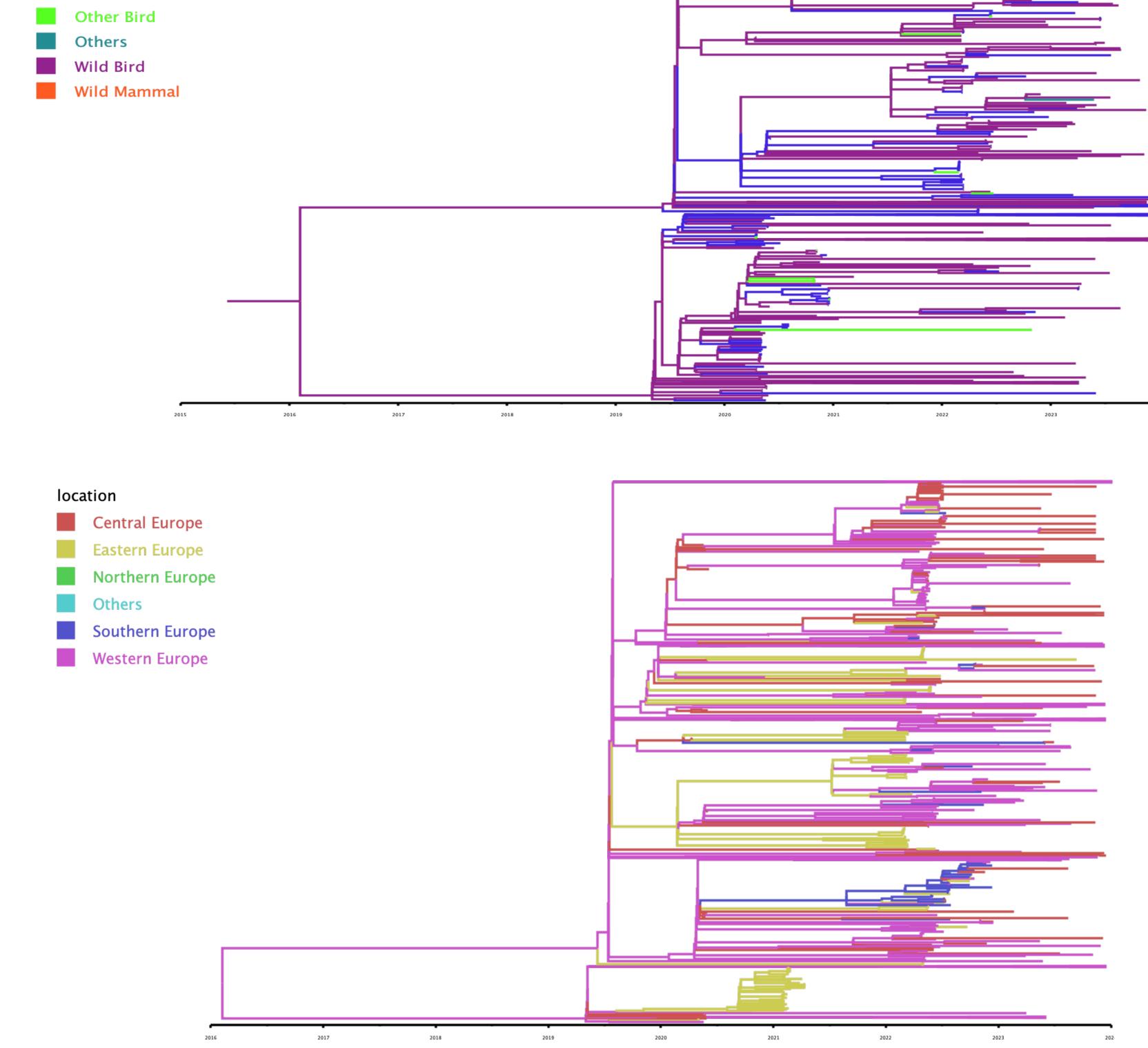


Figure 1: Maximum Clade Credibility tree of H5Nx clade 2.3.4.4b in Europe

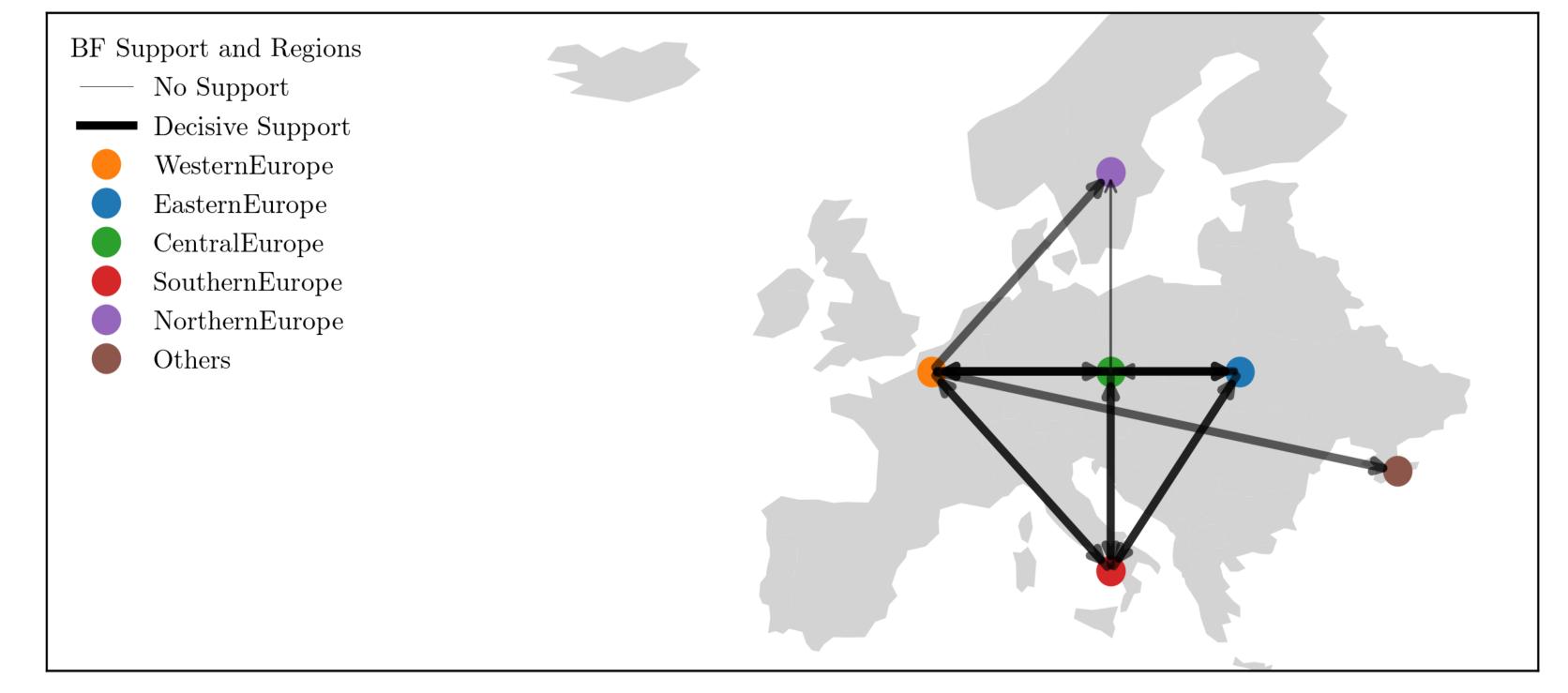


Figure 2: Network of Regional Connections in Europe Based on Bayes Factor

RESULTS

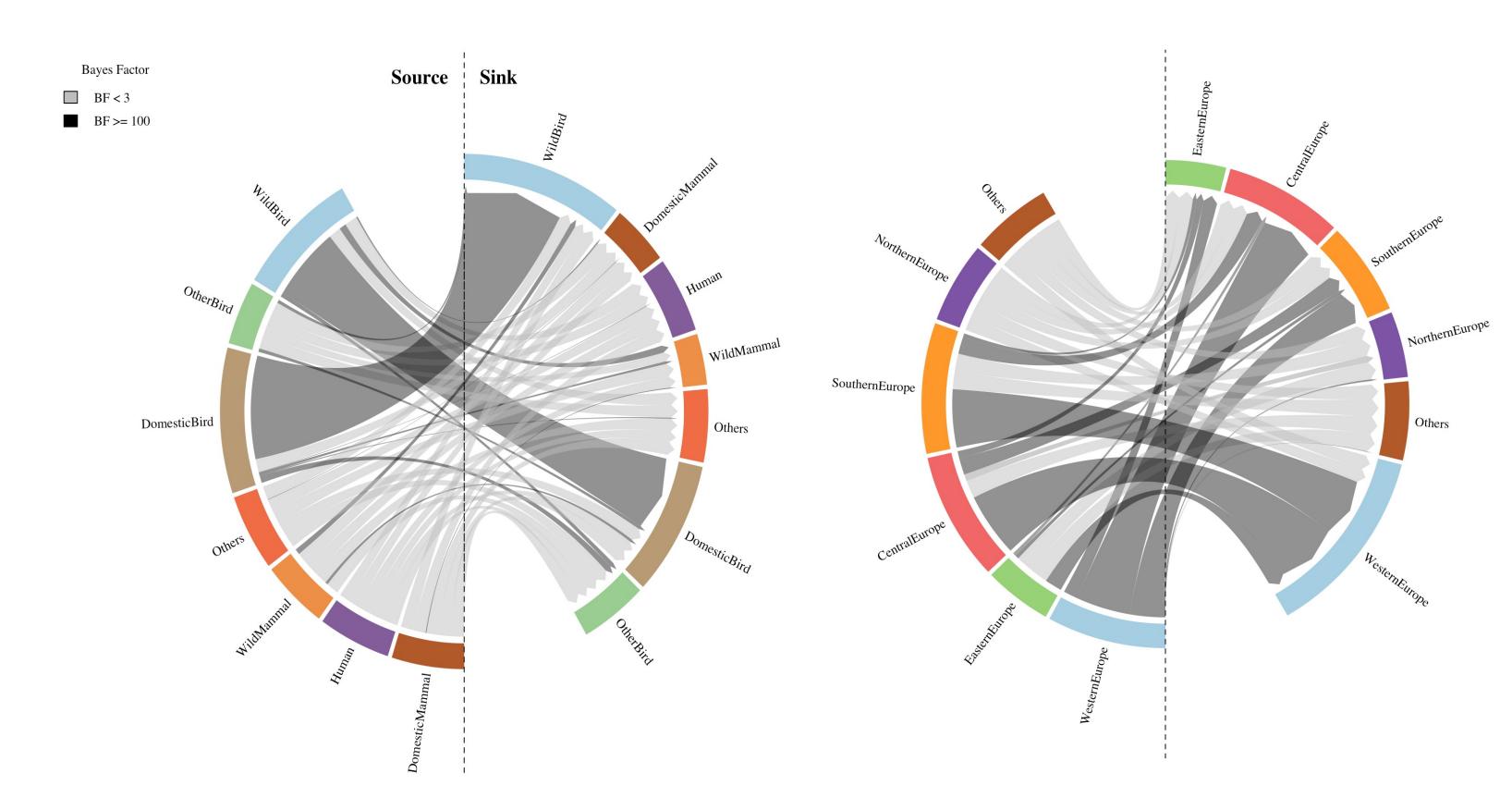


Figure 3: Host and Region models with source on the left of the chord diagrams contribute viral diversity to sink on the right

DISCUSSIONS

- Wild birds frequently transmit the virus to other bird species, domestic birds, and wild mammals, underscoring their significant role in the virus's spread.
- ✓ Our analysis also revealed decisive support for significant virus spread from Western Europe to Eastern, Northern, Southern, Central Europe, and other regions, indicating critical pathways for the virus's geographic diffusion.

CONCLUSION

- ✓ Domestic birds frequently transmit the virus to humans, highlighting the need to monitor and control interactions between domestic birds and humans to mitigate public health risks.
- ✓ We plan to incorporate European bird migration data in future studies to deepen our understanding of the virus's spread across Europe.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

