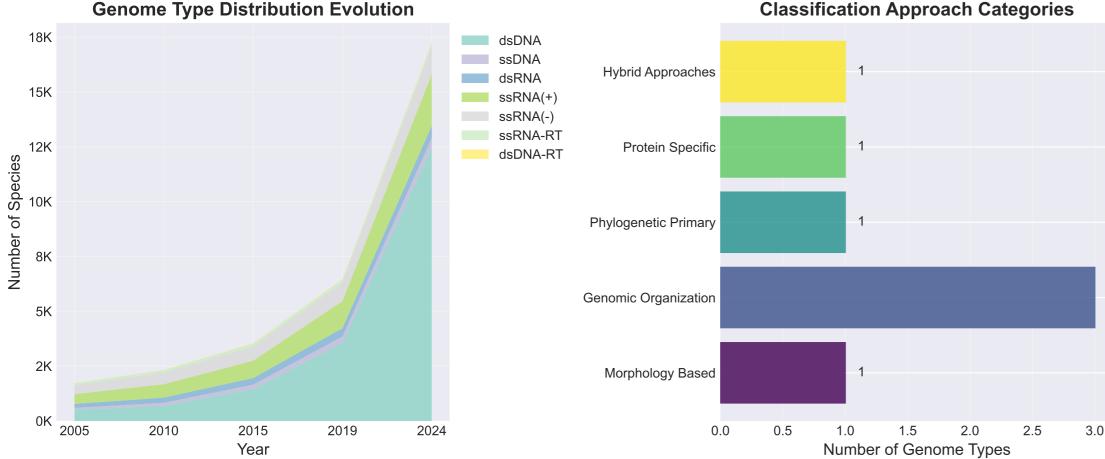
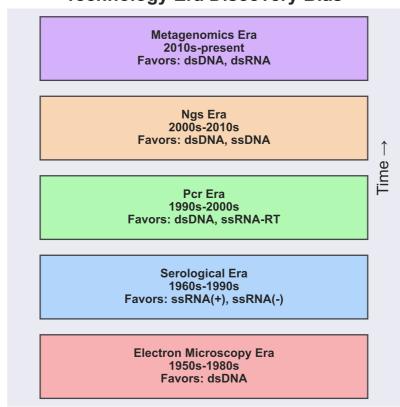
Genome Architecture Constraints: How Structure Shapes Viral Taxonomy Classification Approach Categories Family Family Size by Genome Type

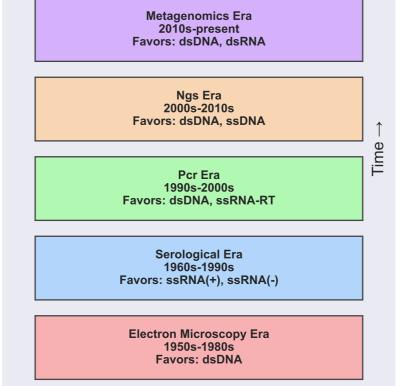




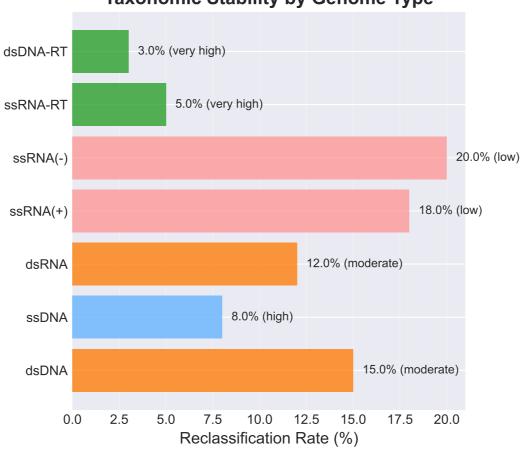
DNA Viruses

RNA Viruses



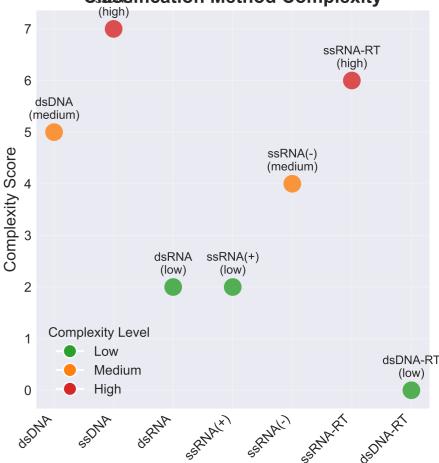


Taxonomic Stability by Genome Type



140 120 Size 100 95 Family 85 80 75 68 Average 60 45 40 28 20 ssRVA*) SSRVAL

Classification Method Complexity



Key Findings

1. dsDNA viruses dominate viral diversity

- 12,456 species (72.2%) driven by bacteriophage metagenomics
- → Environmental sampling creates strong bias toward stable DNA genomes

2. Genome architecture determines classification complexity

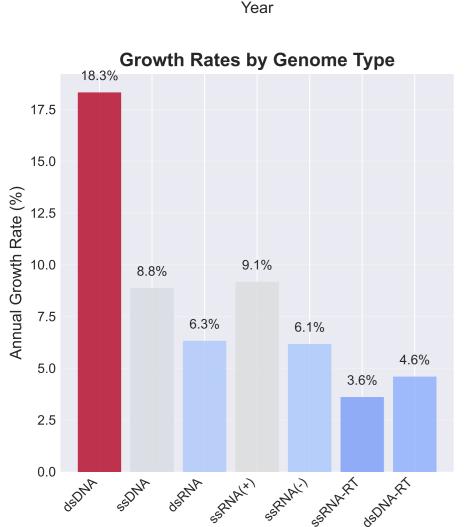
- High complexity methods required for: ssDNA, ssRNA-RT
- → Structural constraints, not just phylogeny, shape taxonomic approaches

3. Large genome types form larger, less stable families

- Average family sizes >100 species: dsDNA
- → Complex genomes enable more species diversity but require frequent reorganization

4. Technology bias drives genome type discovery rates

- Fastest growing: dsDNA (18.3% annually)
- → Current metagenomics revolution strongly favors DNA virus discovery



0 2005.0 2007.5 2010.0 2012.5 2015.0 2017.5 2020.0 2022.5

100

Proportion (%)

20