Viral genomic epidemiology at human-animal interface

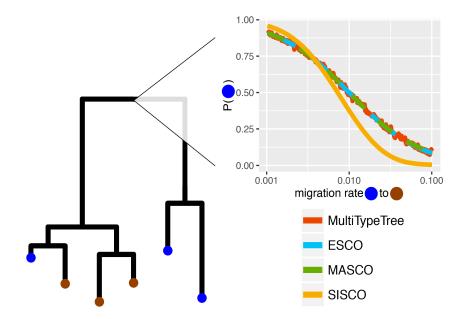
Debapriyo Chakraborty Postdoc, Roche group

### Viral genomic sequences: advantages

- Carries info on
  - spatial dynamics
  - changes in viral population size
  - immune selection
- Increasingly cheaper and faster tech
- For few viruses, already large data

Links viral genetic variation changes to epidemiological and evolutionary change

### Phylogeography—tracking viral spatial spread



(Müller et al. 2017)

# Phylogeography of HPAI H5N8 spread in French poultry

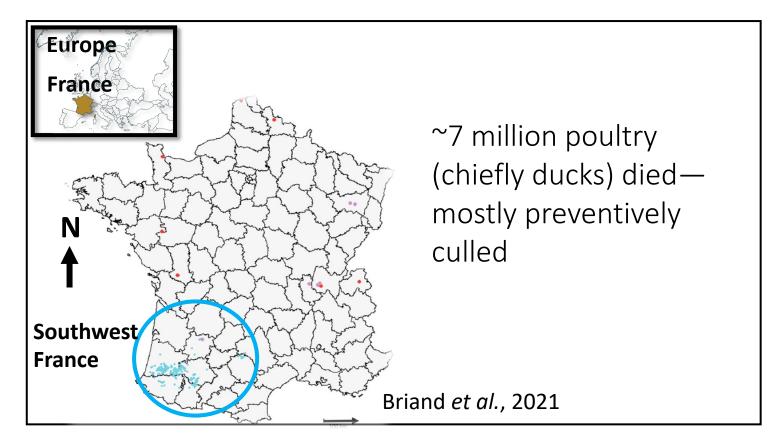
#### Chakraborty et al. 2022. Transboundary and Emerging Diseases





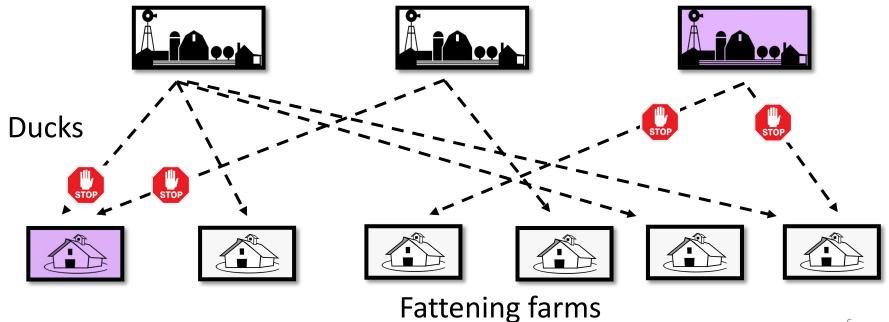
Timothée Vergne, Mathilde Paul, IHAP, Toulouse IHAP, Toulouse

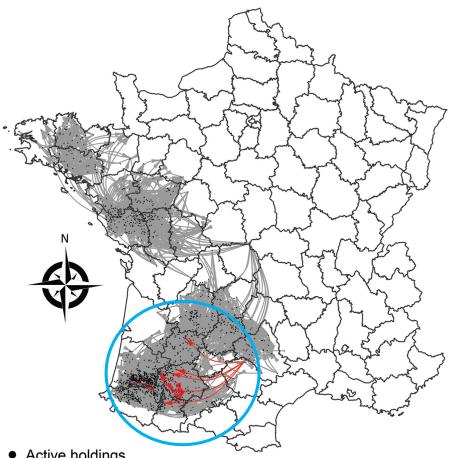
### First major HPAI H5N8 epidemic in 2016-17



# Duck movement and control measure to stop viral spread

#### Duck breeding farms





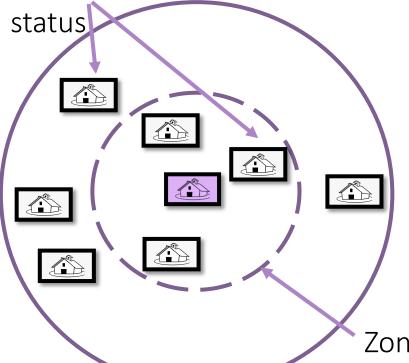
Movement network models: HPAI H5N8 spread mainly by local transmission

- Active holdings
- Movements of duck flocks between holdings
- At-risk movements of duck flocks between holdings

Guinat *et al.*, 2020

### Preventive culling (3 phases) of farms to stop viral spread

Unknown infection



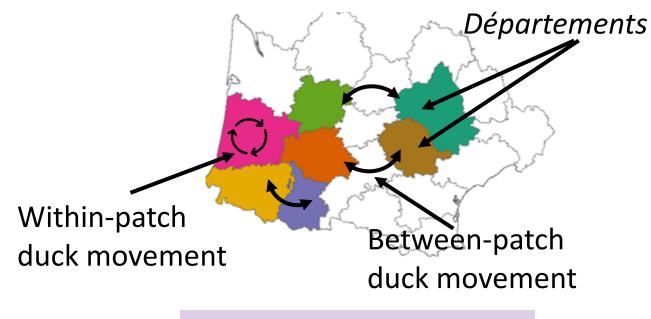
Epi simulations—modest impact of delay between detection and preventive culling

Andronico et al. 2019

Zone of preventive culling

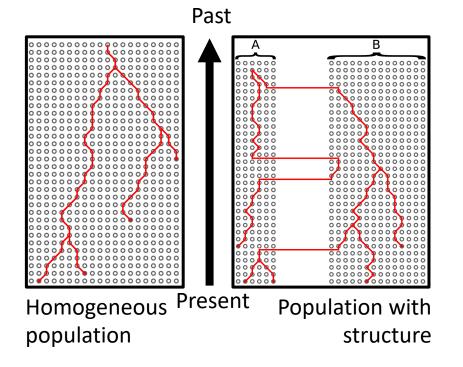
Did the control measures impact viral spread?

#### H5N8 spread spatial structure



Generalised island model

### Structured coalescent = Tree prior



Inferred parameters:

Effective population size (Ne; patch viral genetic variation)

Viral migration rates (m; spread between patches) Marginal approximation of the structured COalescenT (MASCOT)

- A recent approximation
- More efficient than exact inference
- Ne dynamic (piecewise constant) when predictor available
- Implemented in BEAST2

(Müller *et al.* 2017)

Hypothesis testing by data integration:

Use predictor data to inform temporal change across patches

m and Ne ~ Covariate 1 + Covariate 2 +...

(Müller et al. 2017, 2019)

Data

Genomic data—196 viral genomes (one seq/farm) across seven départements



Virology lab, ANSES, Ploufragan

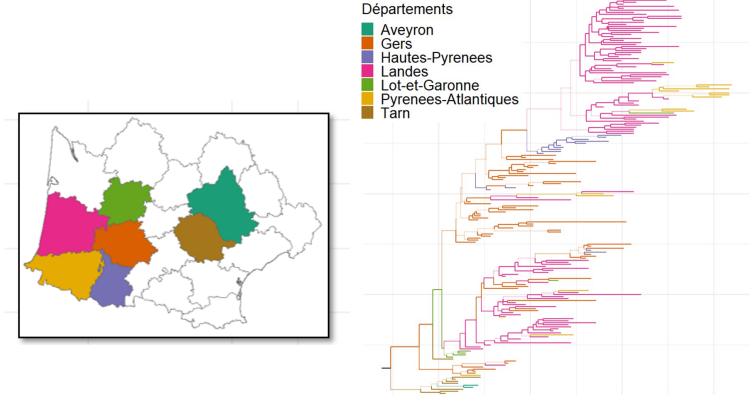
Epi. and culling data—No. of infected farms and their location

Livestock movement data—dates of culling and number of duck shipments within and between départements



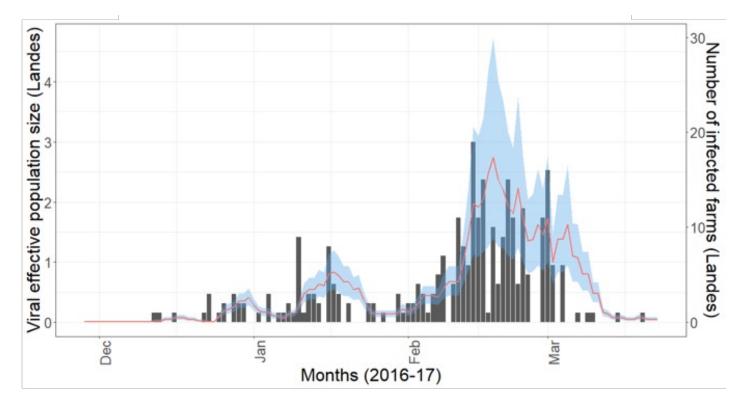
Claire Guinat IHAP ENVT, Toulouse

### Virus spread between neighbouring depts.

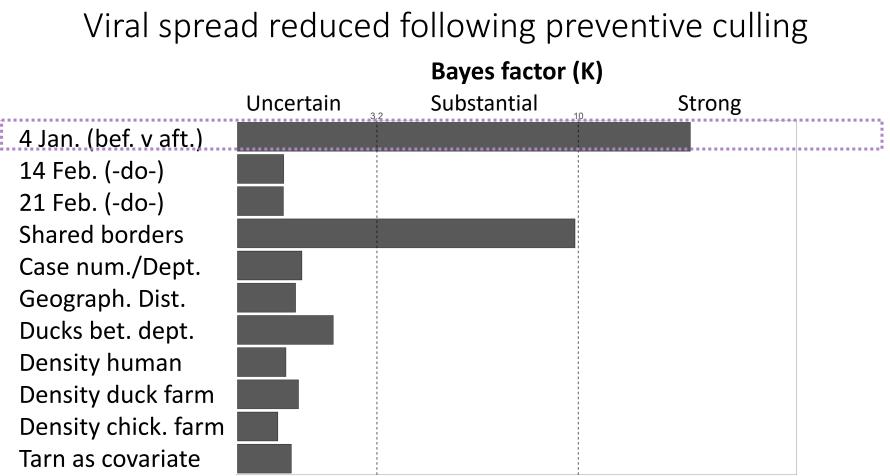


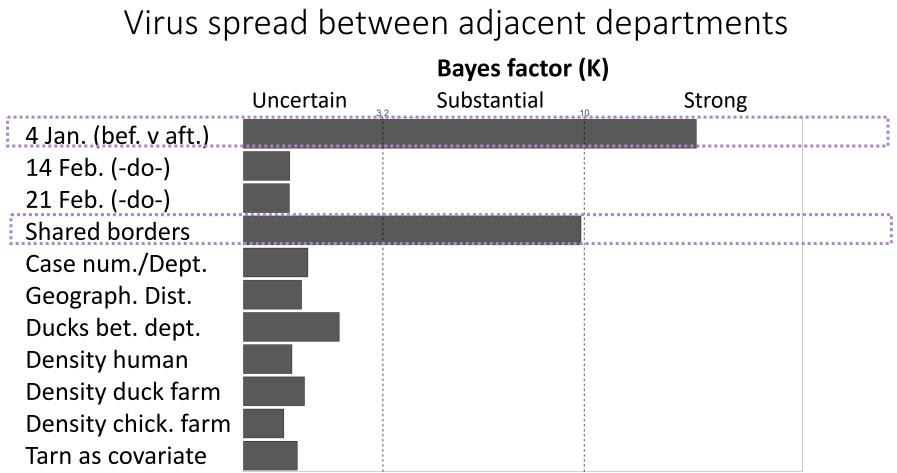
29-11-2016 01-01-2017 07-02-2017 13-03-2017

# Ne tracks within-patch case count (*Landes;* as an example)



# Hypothesis testing I — Predictors of viral migration rate





#### Virus spread not associated with duck movement **Bayes factor (K) Substantial** Uncertain Strong 4 Jan. (bef. v aft.) 14 Feb. (-do-) 21 Feb. (-do-) Shared borders Case num./Dept. Geograph. Dist. Ducks bet. dept. Density human Density duck farm Density chick. farm Tarn as covariate

### Hypothesis testing II — Predictors of viral Ne

### Increased daily cases predicted increased Ne **Bayes factor (K)** Uncertain Substantial Decisive Strong Daily case num. Move. within dept. Density duck farms Density humans Density chick. Farms Sampl. delay (1 w.)

### Within *dept*, increased duck movement (weakly) increased epidemic size **Bayes factor (K)** Uncertain Substantial Decisive Strong Daily case num. Move. within dept. Density duck farms Density humans Density chick. Farms Sampl. delay (1 w.)

## Density of duck farms not associated with Ne

### **Bayes factor (K)** Uncertain Substantial Decisive Strong Daily case num. Move. within dept. **Density duck farms** Density humans **Density chick. Farms** Sampl. delay (1 w.)

### Major takeaways

1) Early preventive culling effective in slowing down between-patch spread

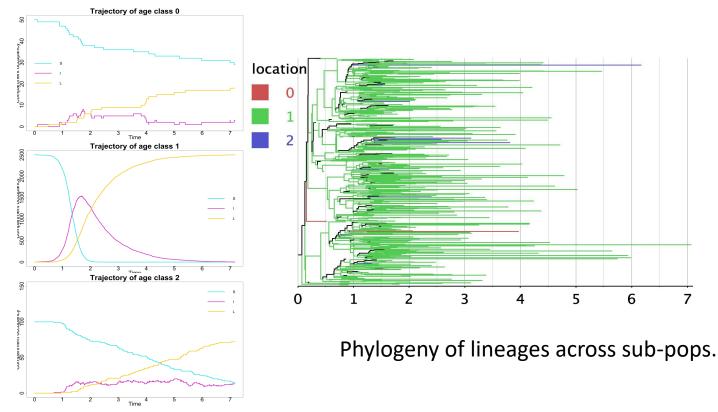
2) Duck movement increased spread locally (within-patch)

3) Virus spread across adjacent patches—but not by duck movement (Fomites? Wind?)

4) Farm density not linked to epidemic spread

Current work at MIVEGEC

### Simulation-based inference of transmission dynamics



Population traj. of diff. sub-pops.



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Thank you!

🔰 @debapriyo81

https://github.com/dc27708