

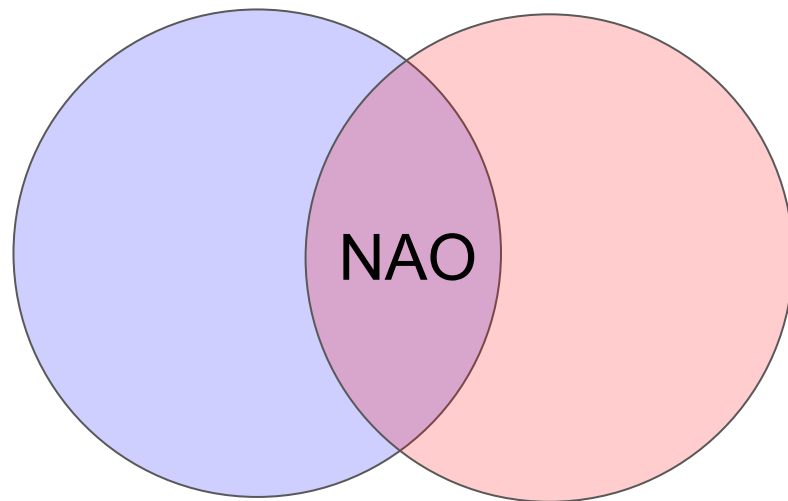
# Predicting Relative Abundance

Jeff Kaufman

2023-10-18

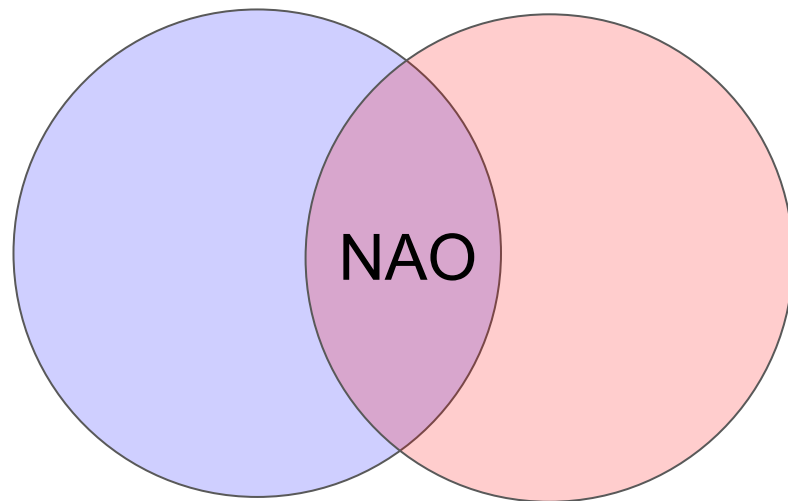
Wastewater Biosurveillance Workshop

# Background



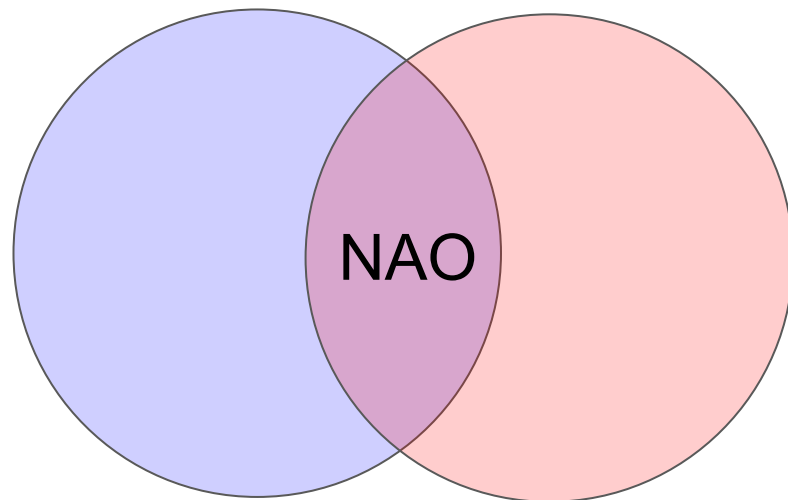
## Background

- I'm Jeff Kaufman



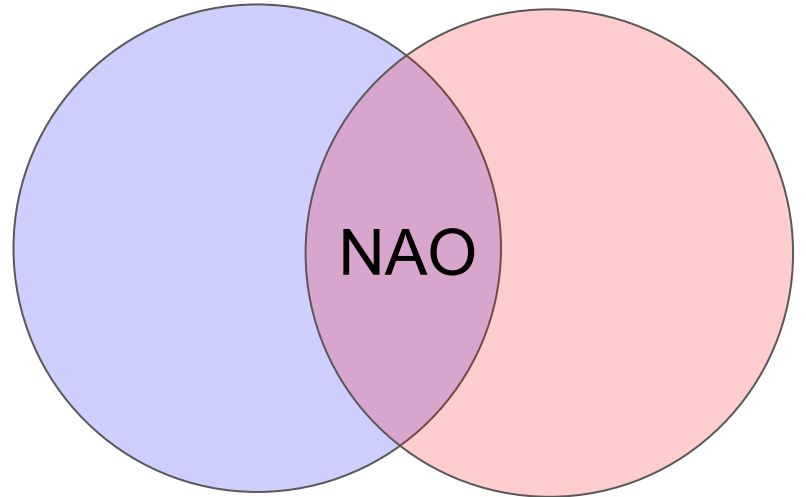
## Background

- I'm Jeff Kaufman
- From the Nucleic Acid Observatory



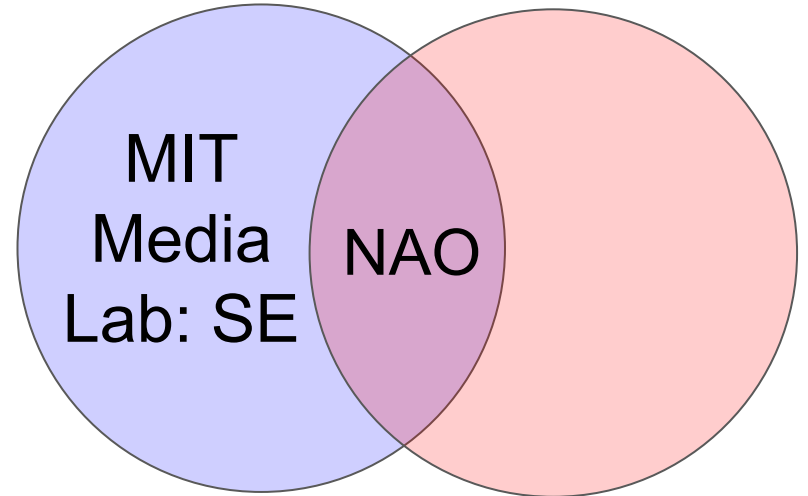
# Background

- I'm Jeff Kaufman
- From the Nucleic Acid Observatory
- Collaborative Project



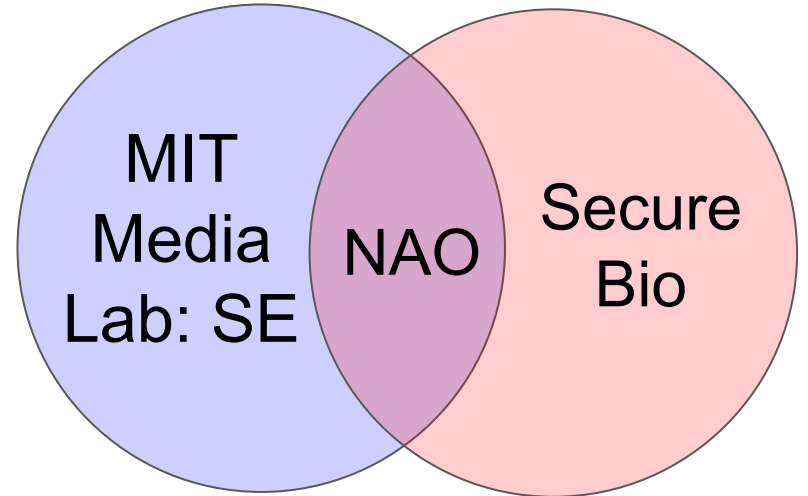
# Background

- I'm Jeff Kaufman
- From the Nucleic Acid Observatory
- Collaborative Project
  - MIT Media Lab:  
Sculpting Evolution  
(Esvelt Lab)



# Background

- I'm Jeff Kaufman
- From the Nucleic Acid Observatory
- Collaborative Project
  - MIT Media Lab:  
Sculpting Evolution  
(Esvelt Lab)
  - SecureBio



Background



# Background

- Presenting work from a team

# Background

- Presenting work from a team



Mike McLaren



Simon Grimm



Dan Rice



Jeff Kaufman

Background

## Background

- Summary of an NAO report

## Background

- Summary of an NAO report
  - 2023-08-10, "Predicting Virus Relative Abundance in Wastewater"

## Background

- Summary of an NAO report
  - 2023-08-10, "Predicting Virus Relative Abundance in Wastewater"
  - `data.securebio.org/p2ra`

Background

## Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics



## Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones

## Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"

## Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"
- Wastewater

# Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"
- Wastewater
  - Millions of people → one sample

# Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"
- Wastewater
  - Millions of people → one sample
- Metagenomic sequencing

# Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"
- Wastewater
  - Millions of people → one sample
- Metagenomic sequencing
  - Doesn't require pre-selecting pathogens

## Background

- NAO Goal: detect pandemics
  - Even if they don't look like previous ones
  - Even one that's intentionally "stealth"
- Wastewater
  - Millions of people → one sample
- Metagenomic sequencing
  - Doesn't require pre-selecting pathogens
  - But most reads won't match a pathogen

Key question



## Key question

- At a given stage of a future viral pandemic, what fraction of wastewater metagenomic sequencing reads match the virus?

## Key question

- At a given stage of a future viral pandemic, what fraction of wastewater metagenomic sequencing reads match the virus?
- RA(1%): relative abundance of virus, when:

## Key question

- At a given stage of a future viral pandemic, what fraction of wastewater metagenomic sequencing reads match the virus?
- RA(1%): relative abundance of virus, when:
  - 1% currently infected (prevalence)

## Key question

- At a given stage of a future viral pandemic, what fraction of wastewater metagenomic sequencing reads match the virus?
- RA(1%): relative abundance of virus, when:
  - 1% currently infected (prevalence), or
  - 1% became infected this week (incidence)

Key question

## Key question

- Knowing  $RA(1\%)$  for many viruses would help us estimate:

## Key question

- Knowing RA(1%) for many viruses would help us estimate:
  - How deep to sequence?

## Key question

- Knowing RA(1%) for many viruses would help us estimate:
  - How deep to sequence?
  - What would it cost?



# Approach

## Approach

- Link public health data to sequencing data

## Approach

- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data

## Approach

- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data
    - Data from published studies (via SRA)

# Approach

- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data
    - Data from published studies (via SRA)
  - Process into per-virus relative abundances

# Approach

- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data
    - Data from published studies (via SRA)
  - Process into per-virus relative abundances
  - Select target viruses

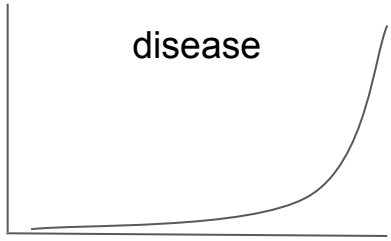
# Approach

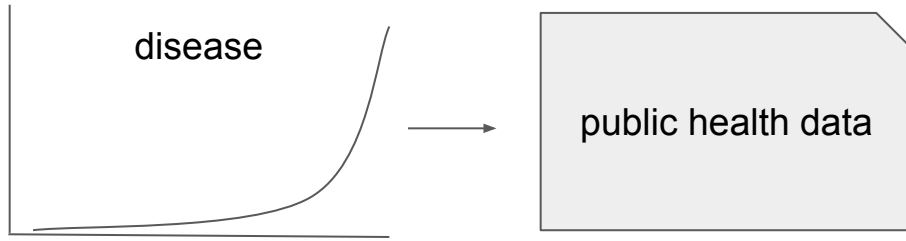
- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data
    - Data from published studies (via SRA)
  - Process into per-virus relative abundances
  - Select target viruses
  - Collect public health estimates

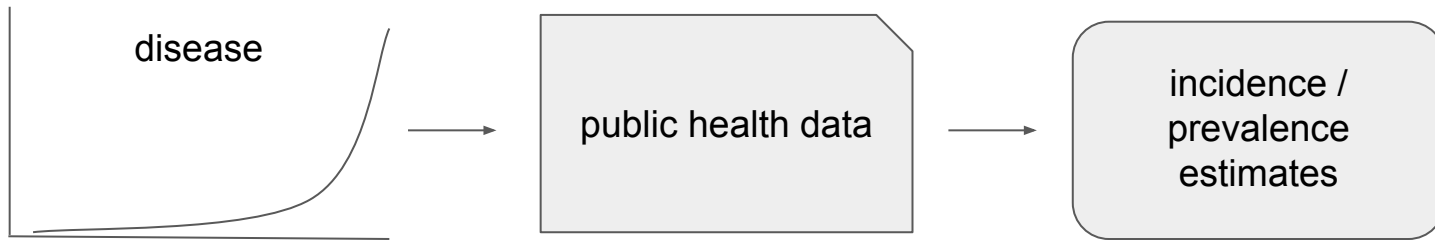
# Approach

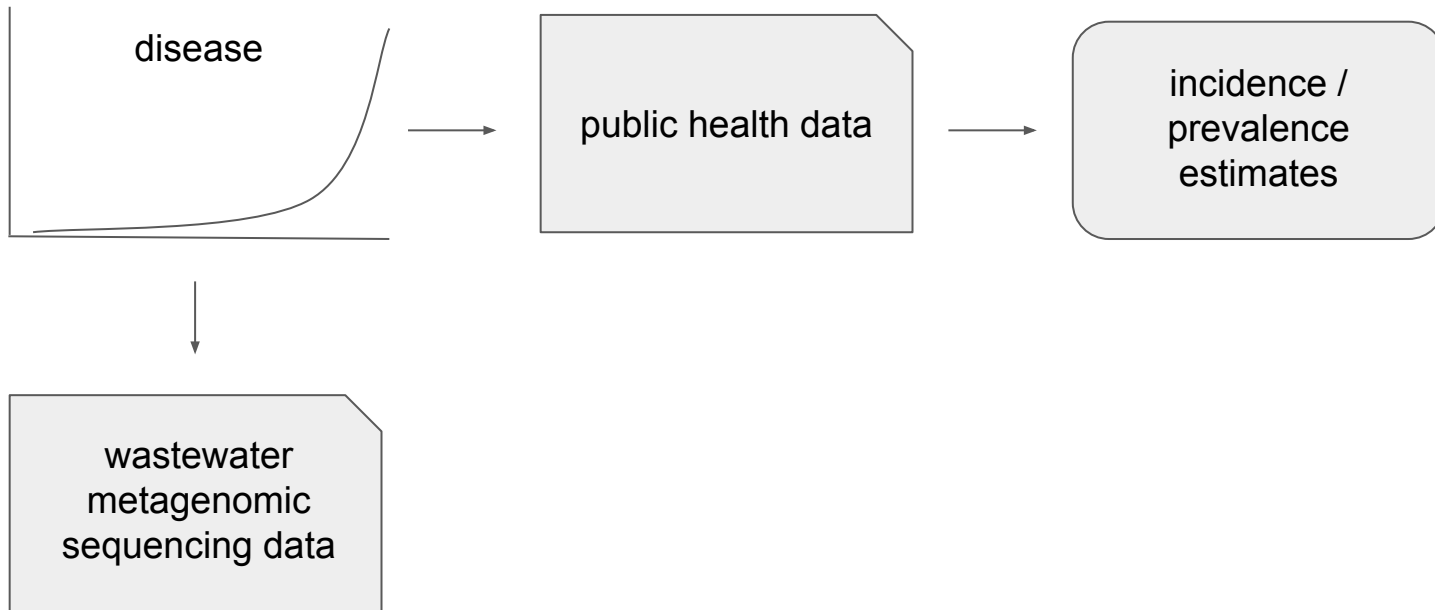
- Link public health data to sequencing data
  - Collect metagenomic wastewater data
    - Data from published studies (via SRA)
  - Process into per-virus relative abundances
  - Select target viruses
  - Collect public health estimates
  - Estimate RA(1%)

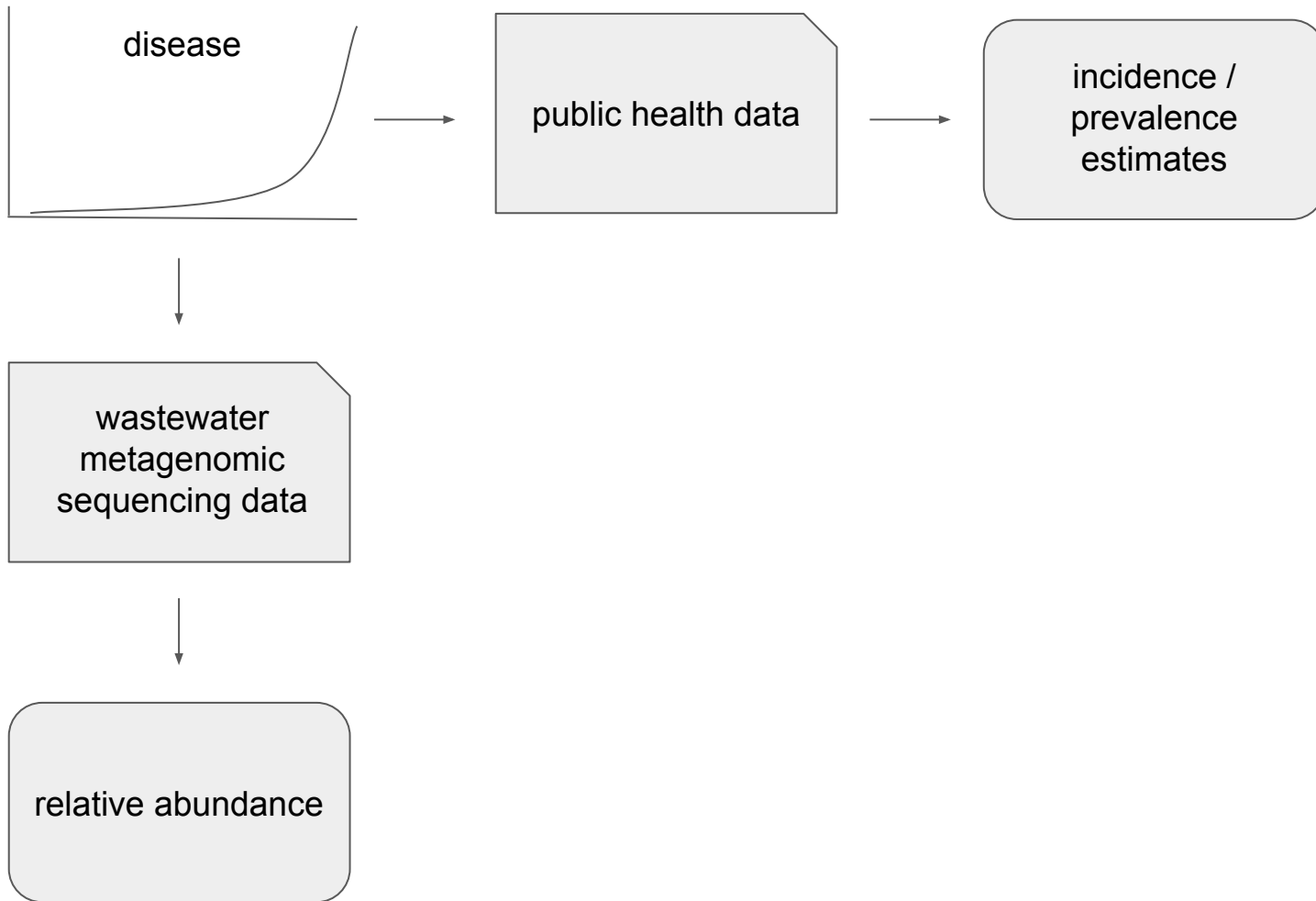


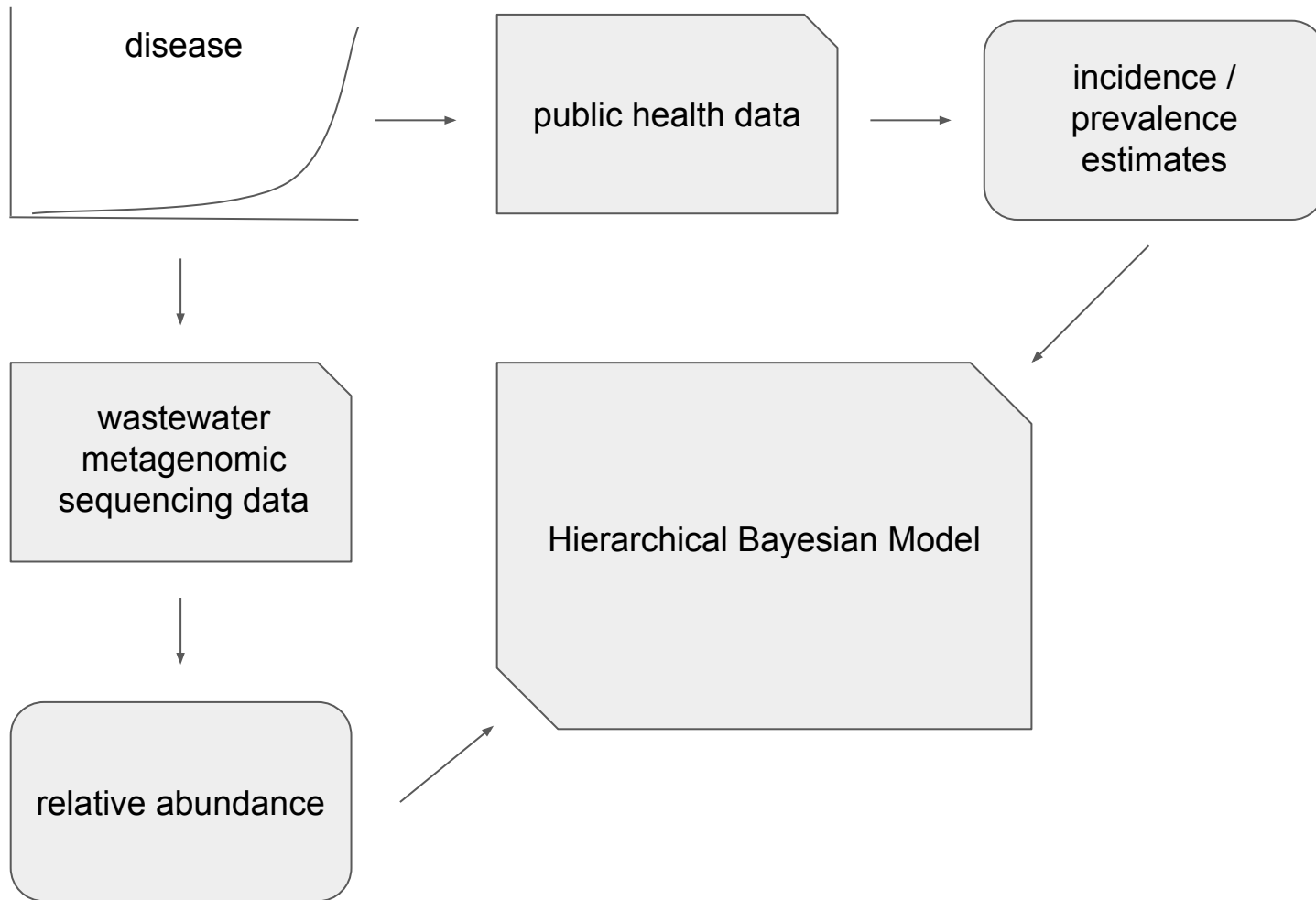


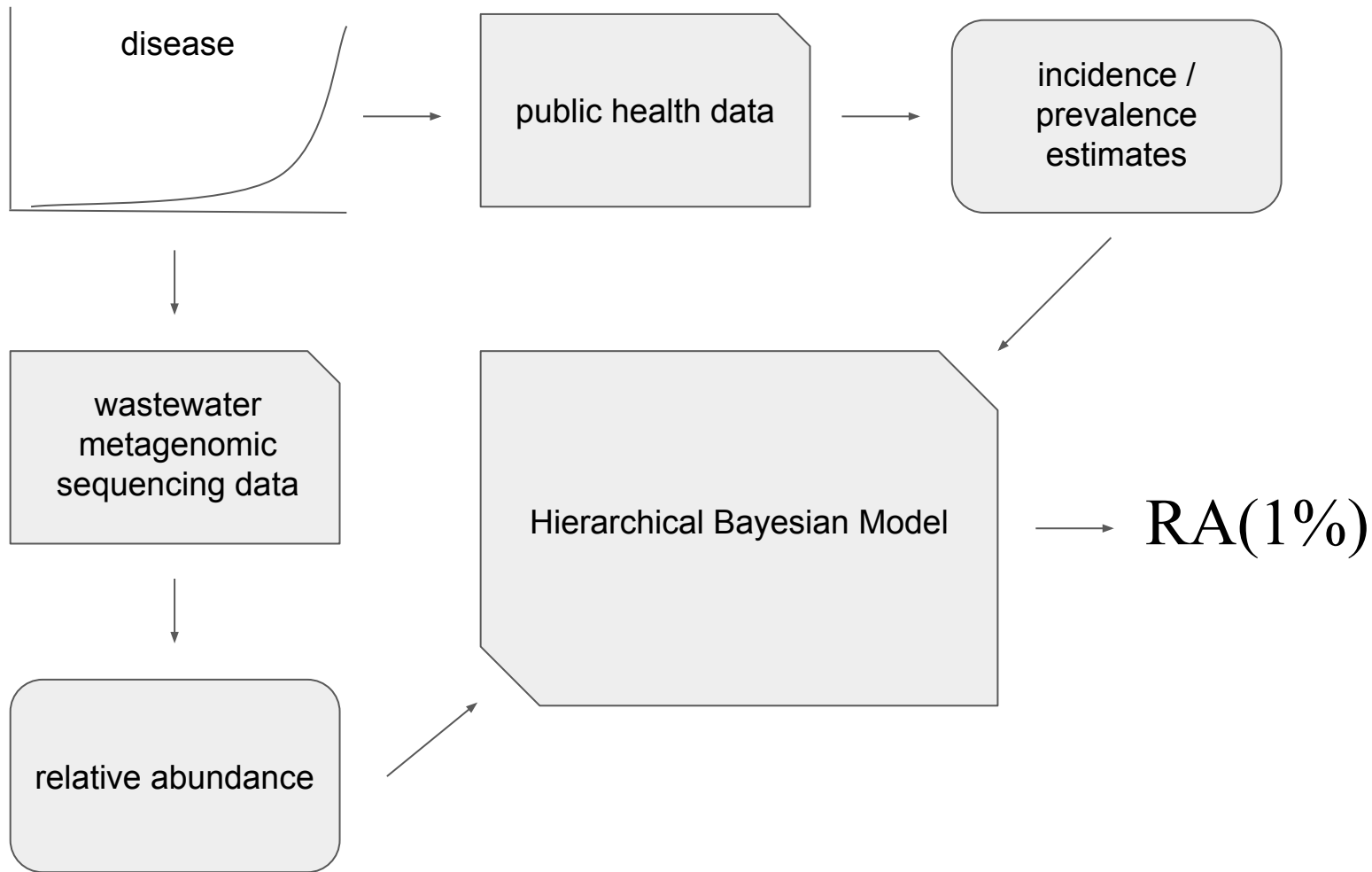




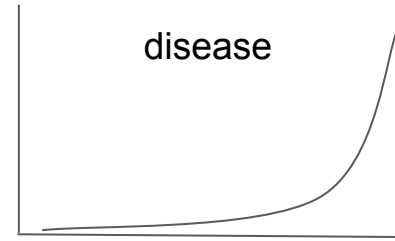








# Sequencing Data

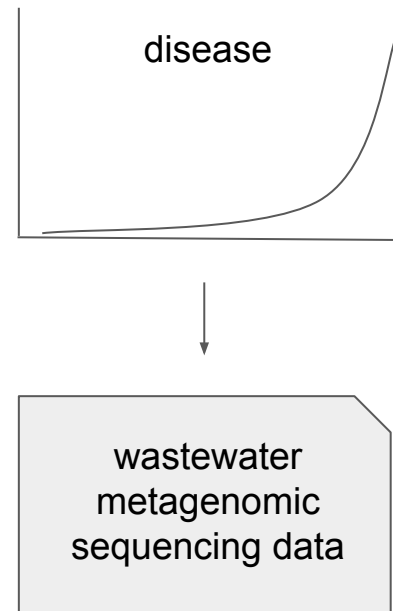


wastewater  
metagenomic  
sequencing data



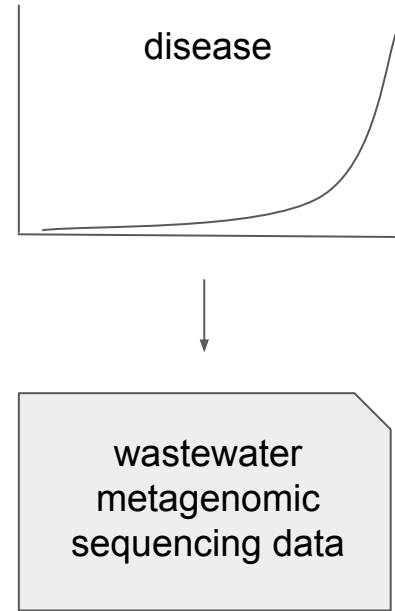
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)



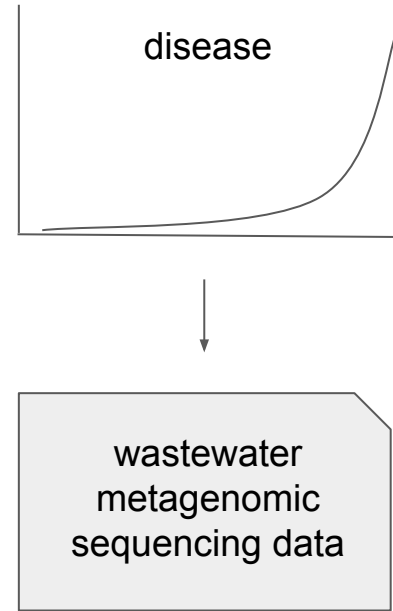
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)



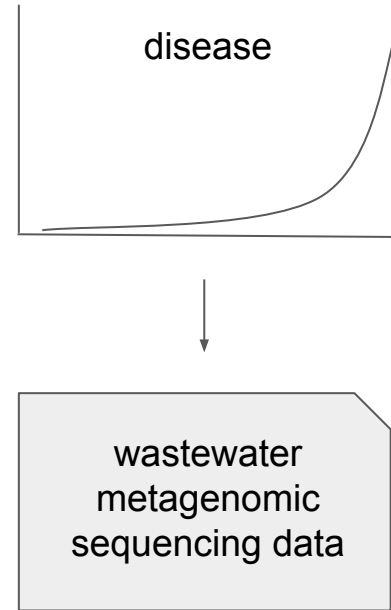
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)
  - LA: Rothman et al. (2021)



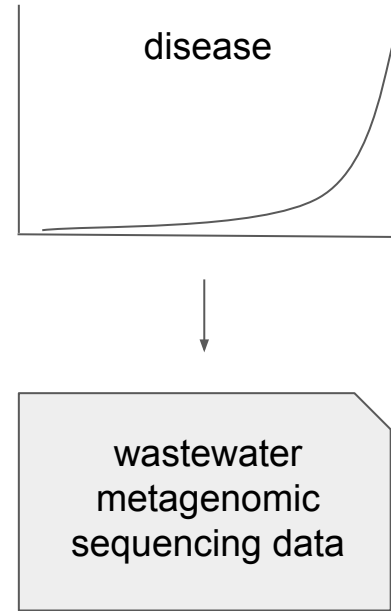
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)
  - LA: Rothman et al. (2021)
  - Ohio: Spurbeck et al. (2023)



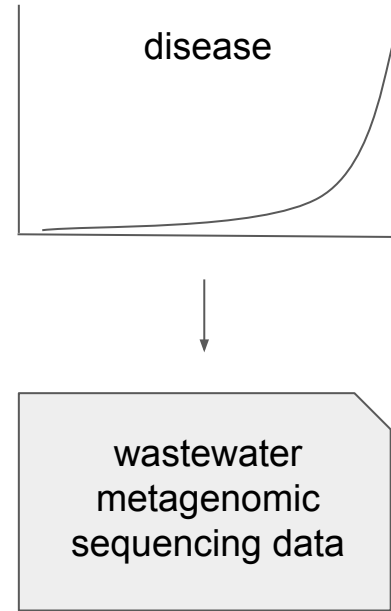
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)
  - LA: Rothman et al. (2021)
  - Ohio: Spurbeck et al. (2023)
- DNA (4.4B read pairs)



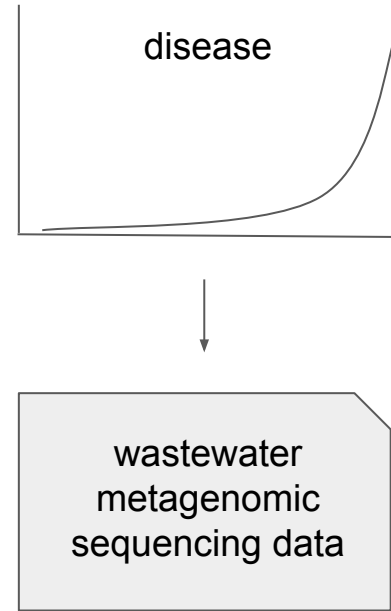
## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)
  - LA: Rothman et al. (2021)
  - Ohio: Spurbeck et al. (2023)
- DNA (4.4B read pairs)
  - Copenhagen: Brinch et al. (2020)

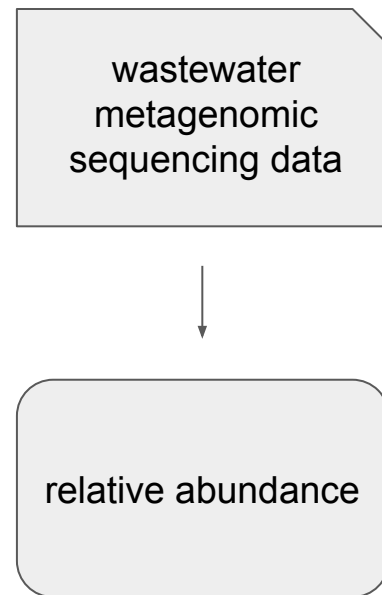


## Sequencing Data

- RNA (2.8B read pairs)
  - SF: Crits-Christoph et al. (2021)
  - LA: Rothman et al. (2021)
  - Ohio: Spurbeck et al. (2023)
  - *All during Covid-19*
- DNA (4.4B read pairs)
  - Copenhagen: Brinch et al. (2020)
  - *Pre-Covid-19*



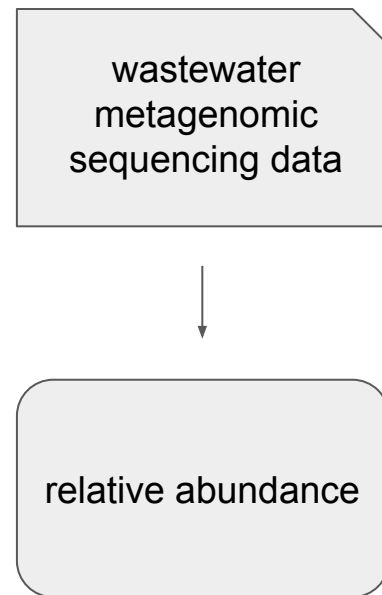
# Determine Relative Abundances





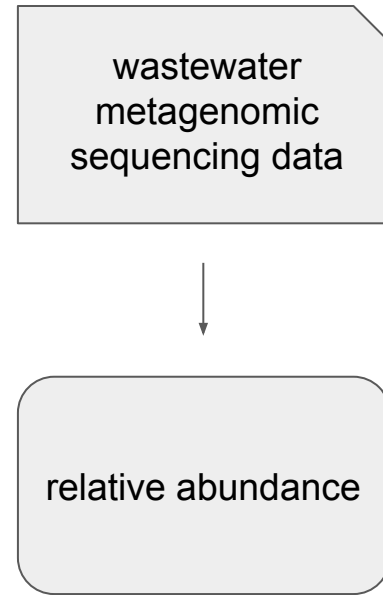
## Determine Relative Abundances

- Kraken2 to assign reads to species



## Determine Relative Abundances

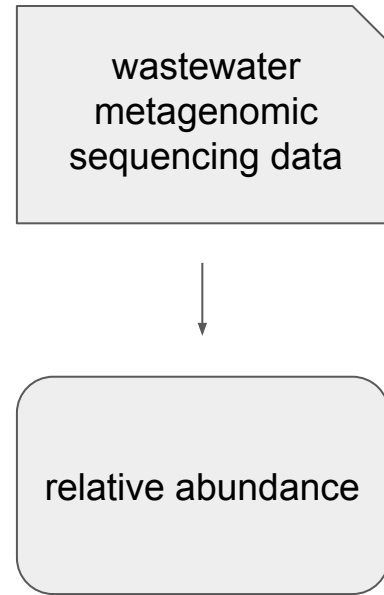
- Kraken2 to assign reads to species
- Alignment to reference genomes to remove false positives



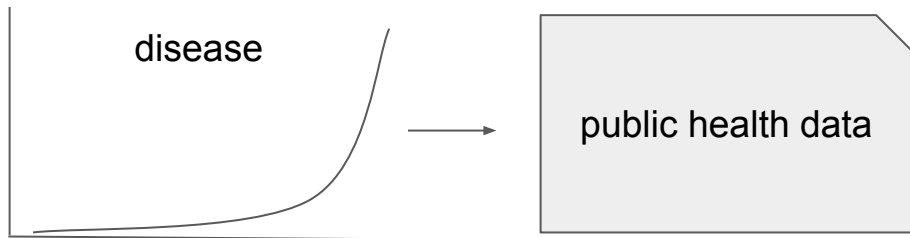
## Determine Relative Abundances

- Kraken2 to assign reads to species
- Alignment to reference genomes to remove false positives

- relative abundance = 
$$\frac{\text{reads matching virus}}{\text{reads in sample}}$$

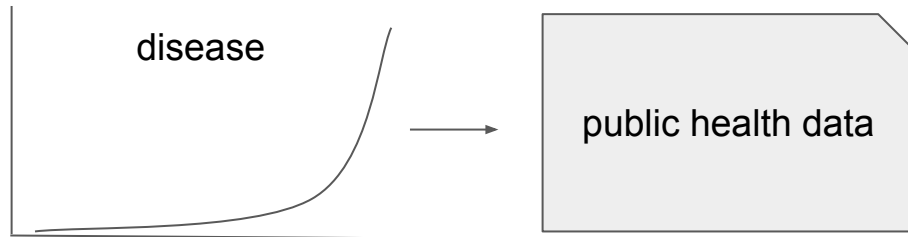


# Target Viruses



# Target Viruses

- Viruses where we can get public health estimates matching where and when sequencing samples were collected



# Target Viruses

# Target Viruses

- Acute

# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2



# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B

# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B
  - Norovirus: genogroups I and II

# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B
  - Norovirus: genogroups I and II
- Chronic

# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B
  - Norovirus: genogroups I and II
- Chronic
  - HIV

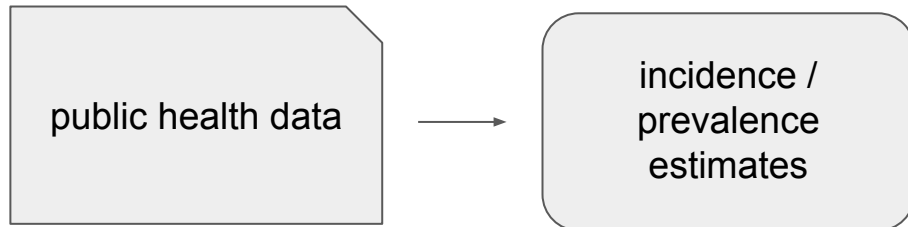
# Target Viruses

- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B
  - Norovirus: genogroups I and II
- Chronic
  - HIV
  - Herpes viruses: HSV-1, EBV, CMV

# Target Viruses

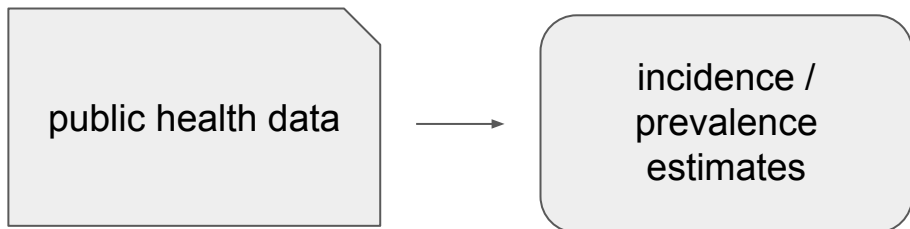
- Acute
  - Sars-CoV-2
  - Influenza A and B
  - Norovirus: genogroups I and II
- Chronic
  - HIV
  - Herpes viruses: HSV-1, EBV, CMV
  - ... eight others

# Public Health Data



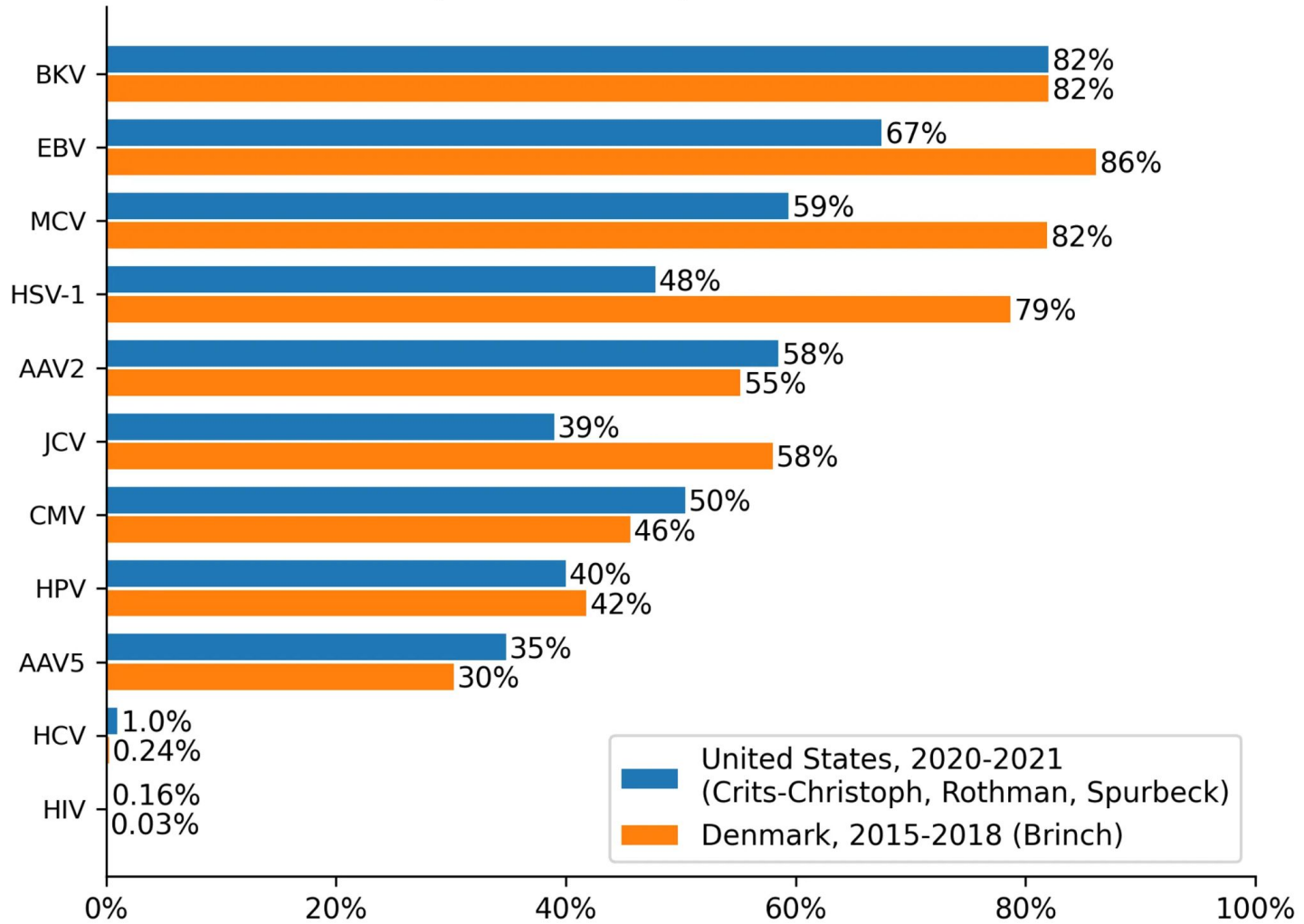
# Public Health Data

- Chronic: estimate prevalence



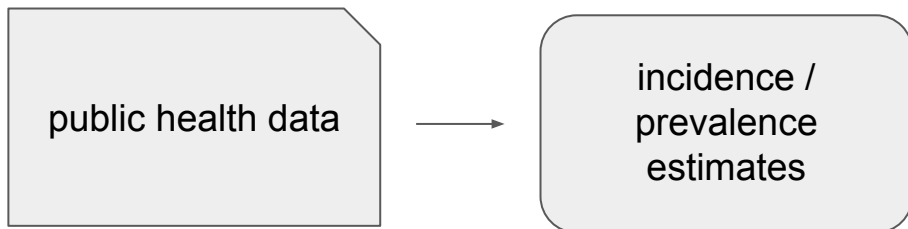


# Estimated prevalence of persistent viral infections



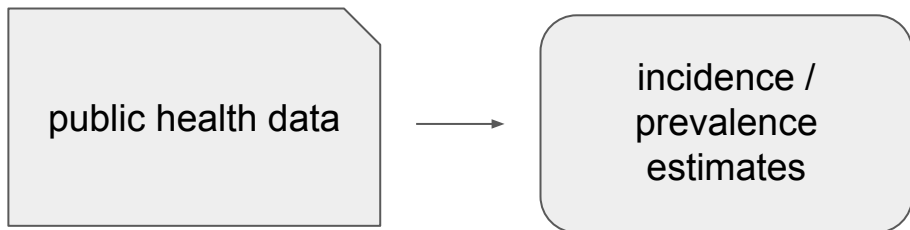
# Public Health Data

- Chronic: estimate prevalence

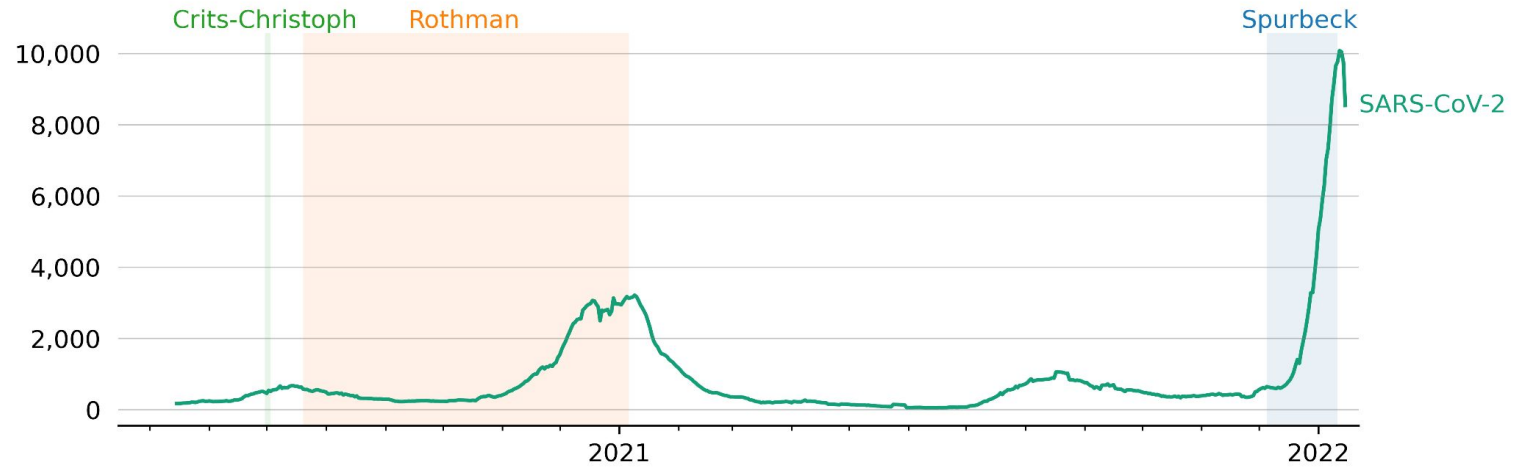


# Public Health Data

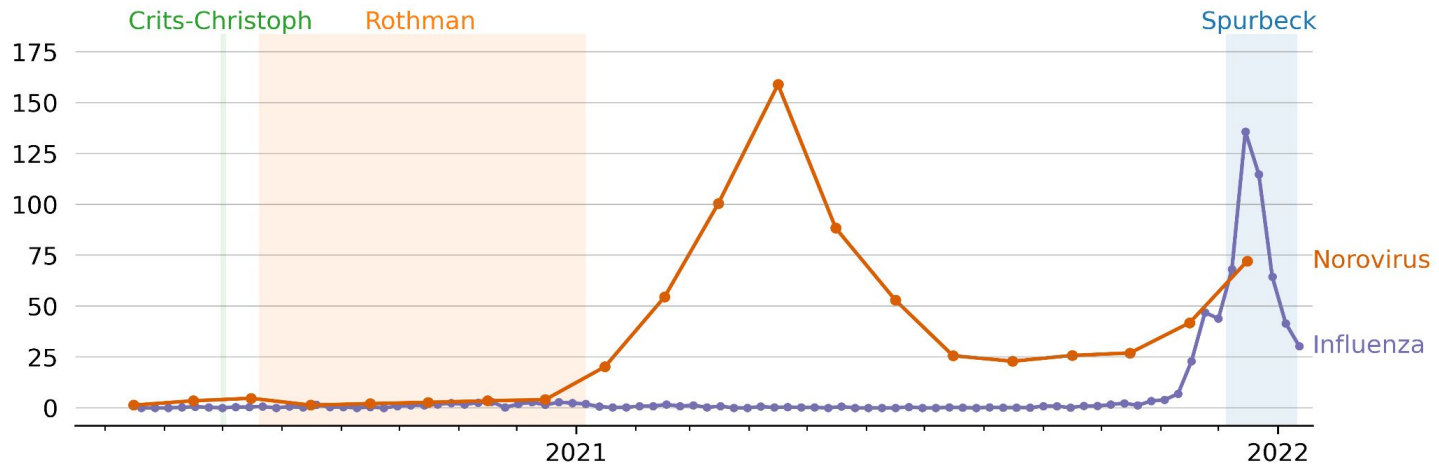
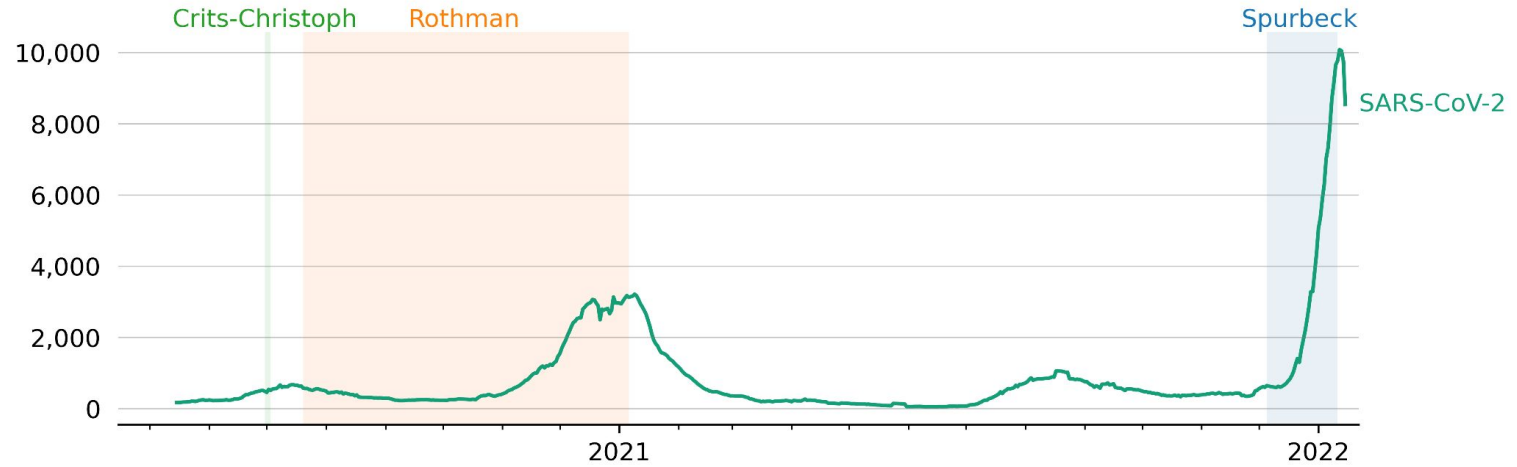
- Chronic: estimate prevalence
- Acute: estimate incidence



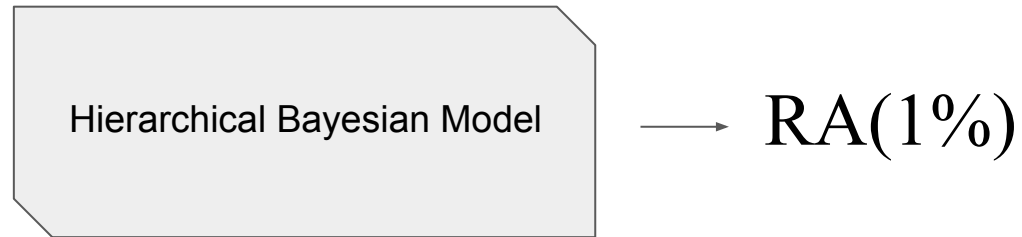
# Weekly Infections per 100,000 people



# Weekly Infections per 100,000 people

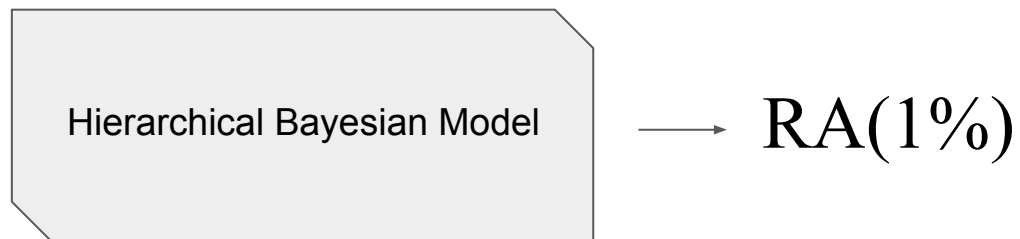


# Estimating $RA(1\%)$



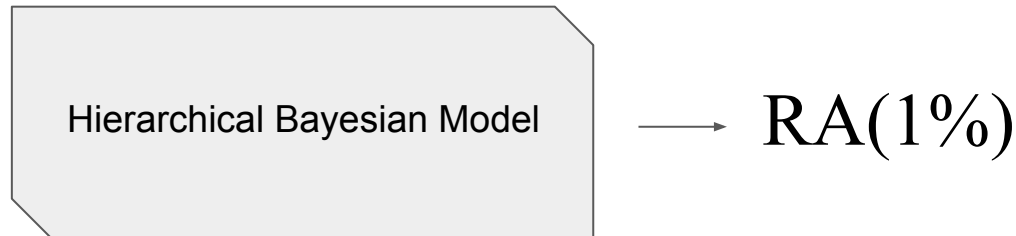
## Estimating $RA(1\%)$

- Chronic:  $RA_p(1\%)$



## Estimating $RA(1\%)$

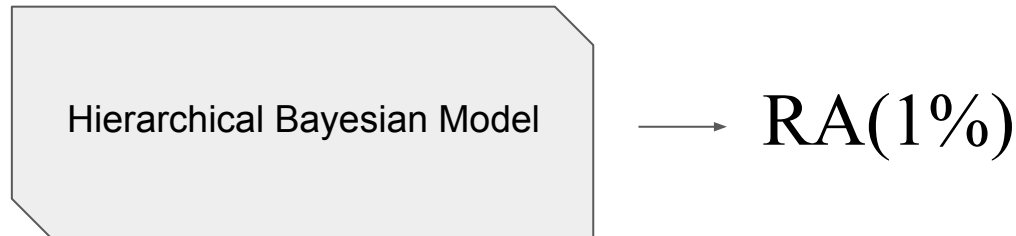
- Chronic:  $RA_p(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% prevalence





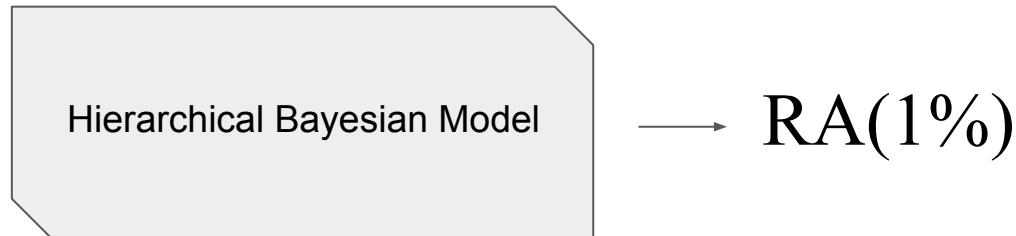
## Estimating $RA(1\%)$

- Chronic:  $RA_p(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% prevalence
- Acute:  $RA_i(1\%)$



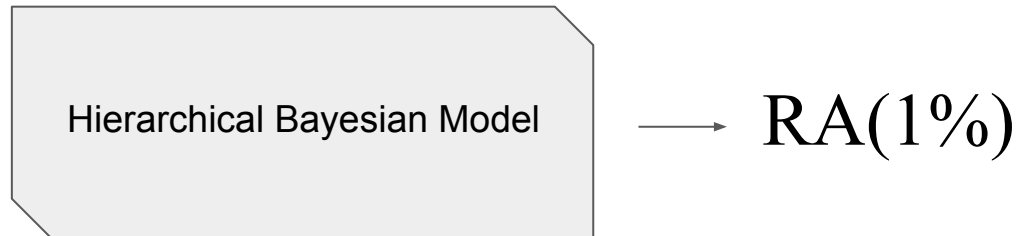
## Estimating $RA(1\%)$

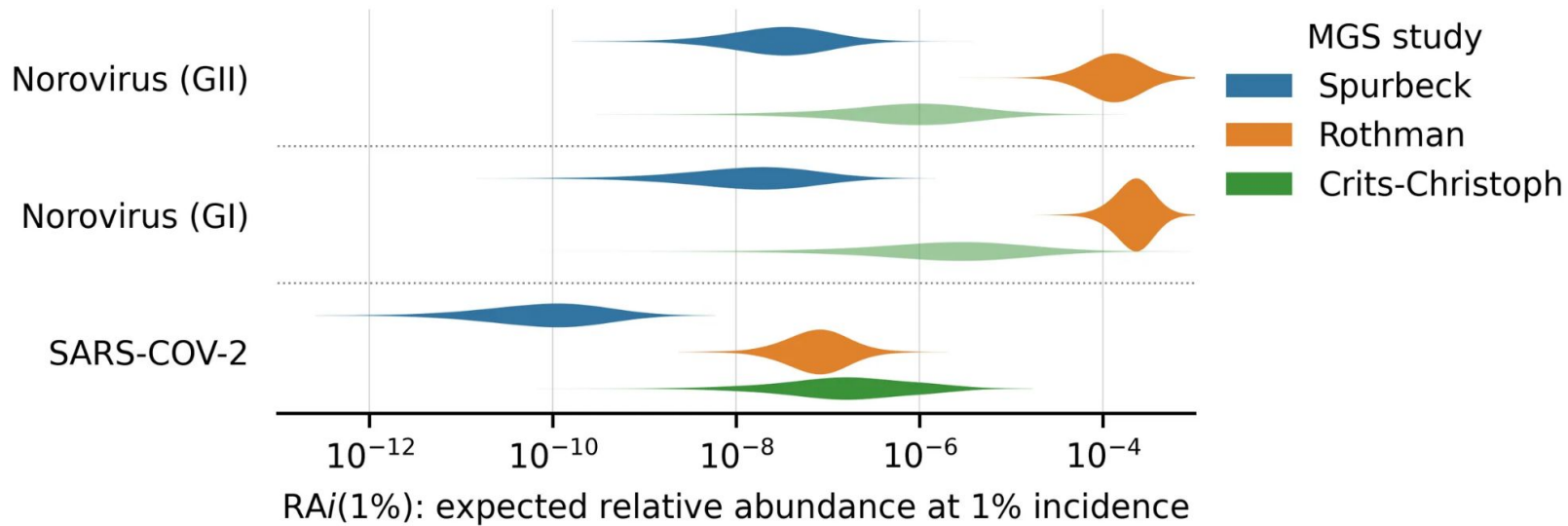
- Chronic:  $RA_p(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% prevalence
- Acute:  $RA_i(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% weekly incidence

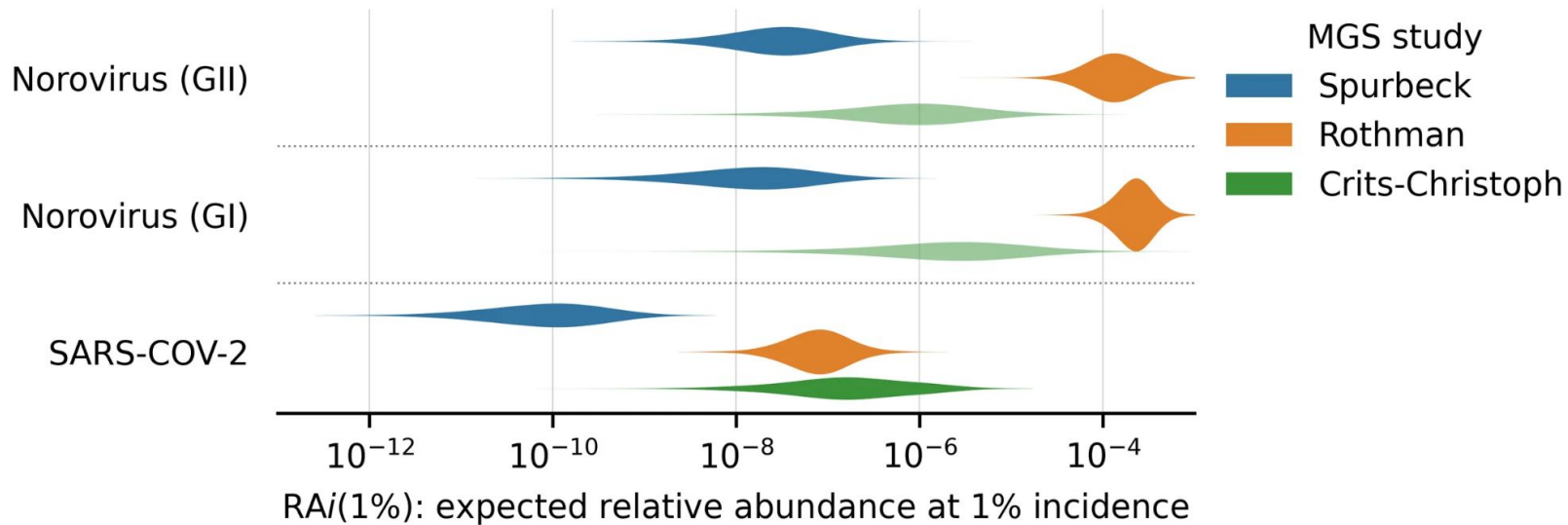


## Estimating $RA(1\%)$

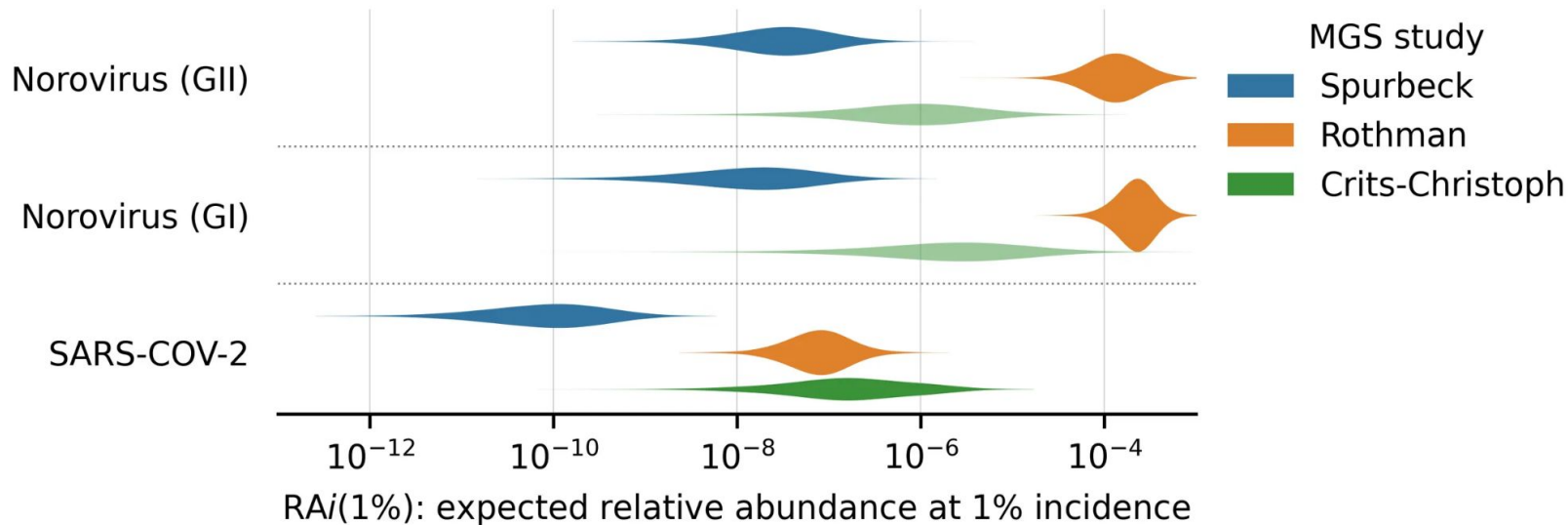
- Chronic:  $RAp(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% prevalence
- Acute:  $RAi(1\%)$ 
  - Relative abundance at 1% weekly incidence
- Hierarchical Bayesian logistic regression model



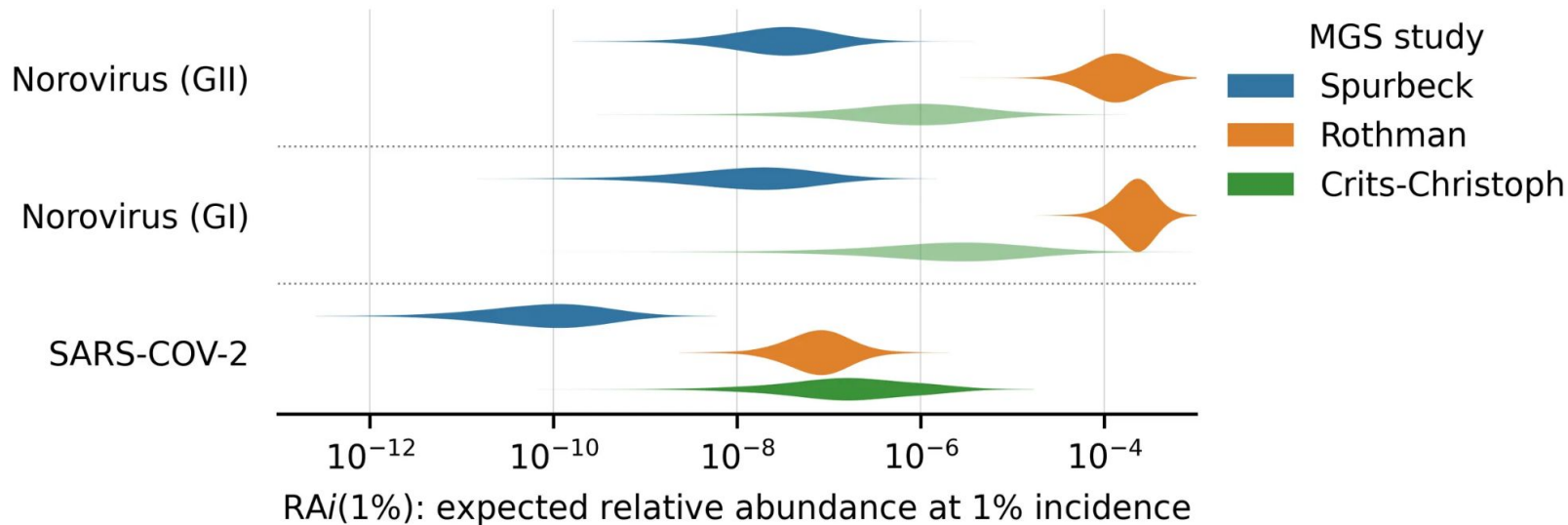




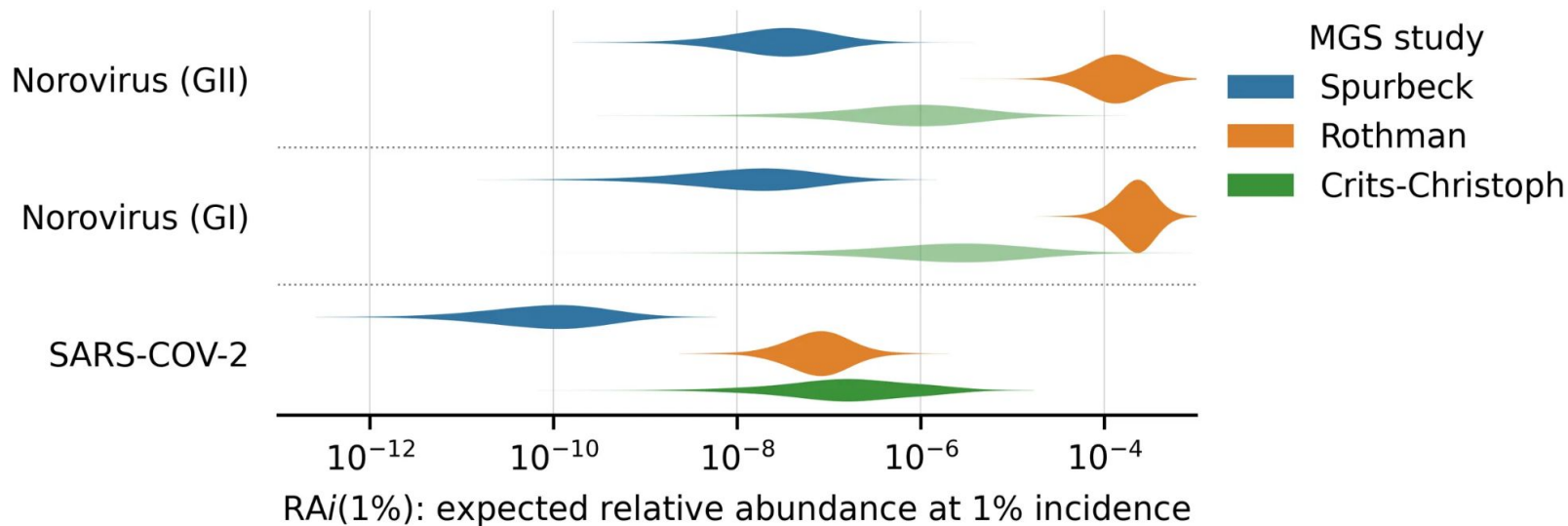
- Lots of variation by virus



- Lots of variation by virus
  - Norovirus ( $\sim 1e-4$ ) vs Sars-Cov-2 ( $\sim 1e-7$ ) in Rothman

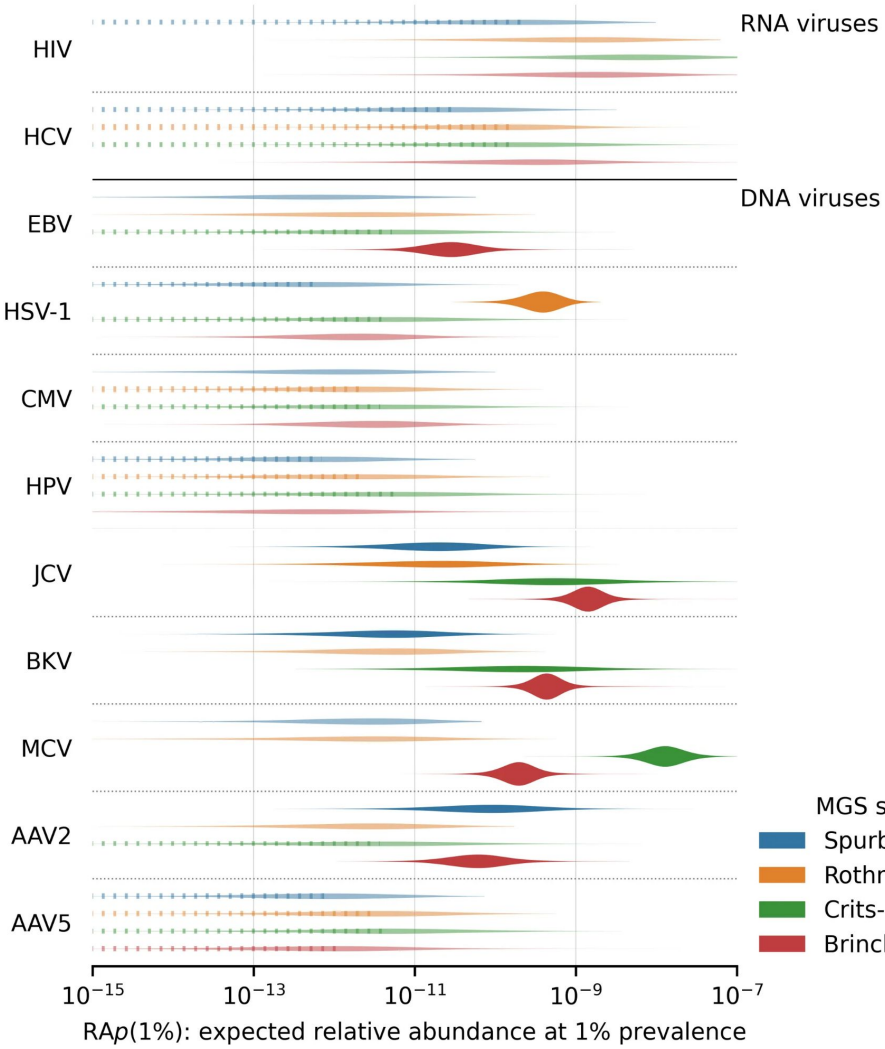


- Lots of variation by virus
  - Norovirus ( $\sim 1e-4$ ) vs Sars-Cov-2 ( $\sim 1e-7$ ) in Rothman
- And by study



- Lots of variation by virus
  - Norovirus (~1e-4) vs Sars-Cov-2 (~1e-7) in Rothman
- And by study
  - Spurbeck is consistently lower



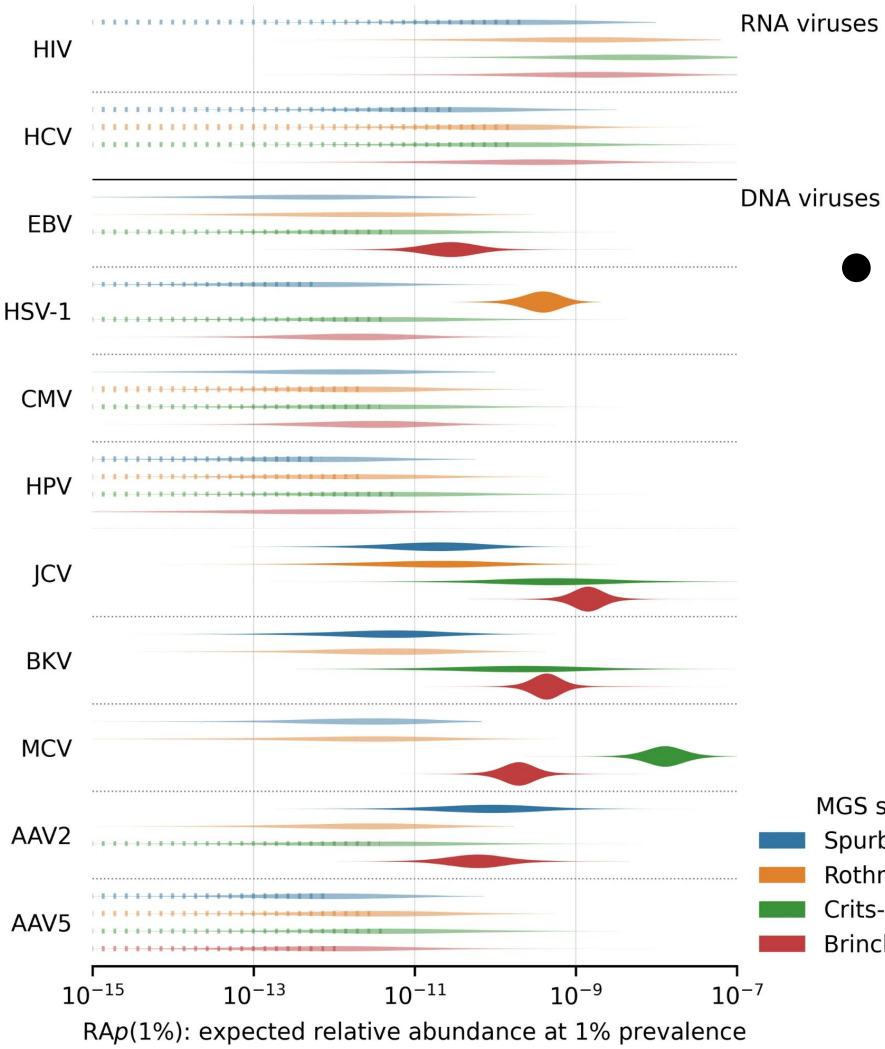


MGS study

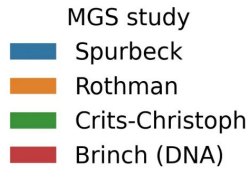
- Spurbeck
- Rothman
- Crits-Christoph
- Brinch (DNA)

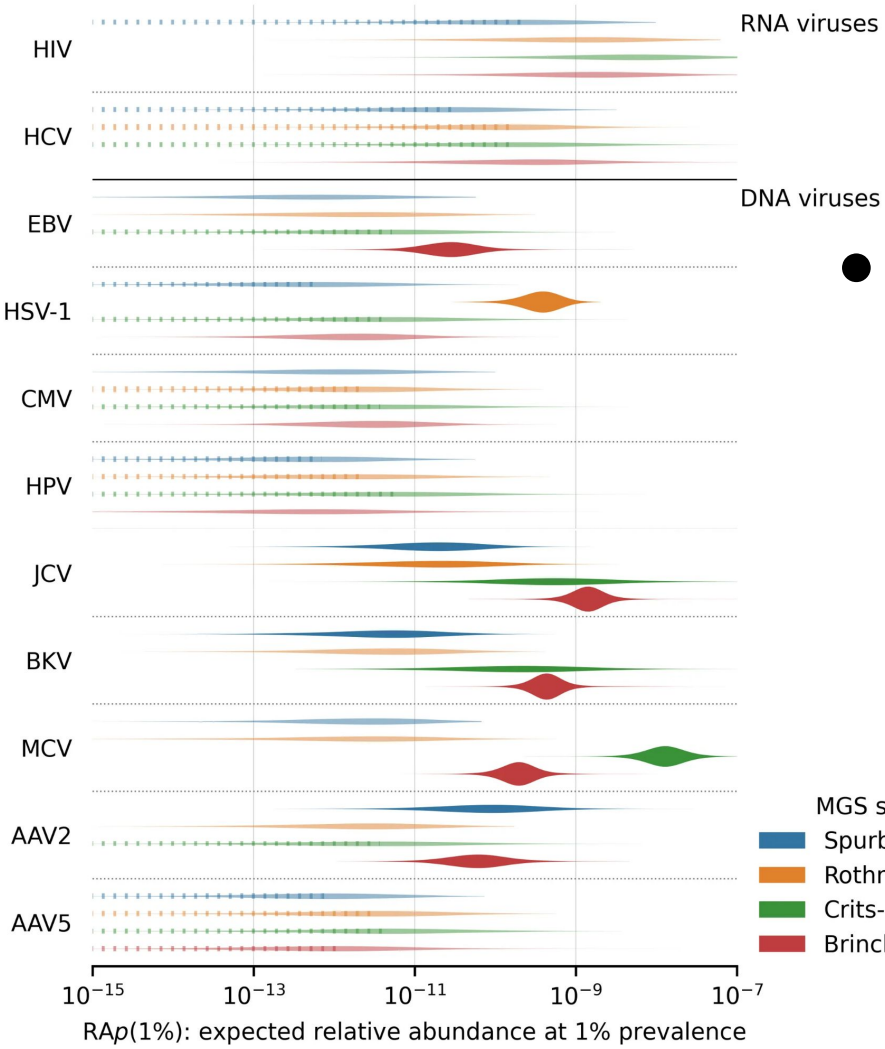
$10^{-15}$   $10^{-13}$   $10^{-11}$   $10^{-9}$   $10^{-7}$

RAP(1%): expected relative abundance at 1% prevalence



● Sharper estimates in Brinch

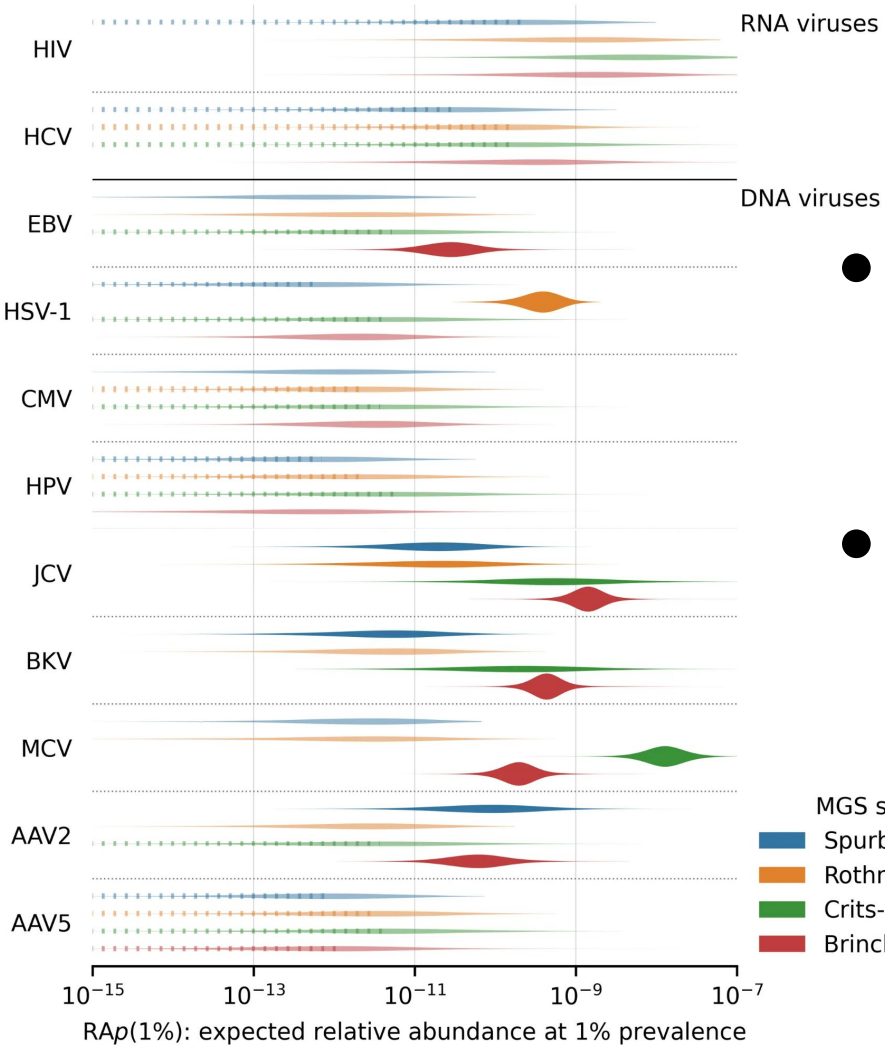




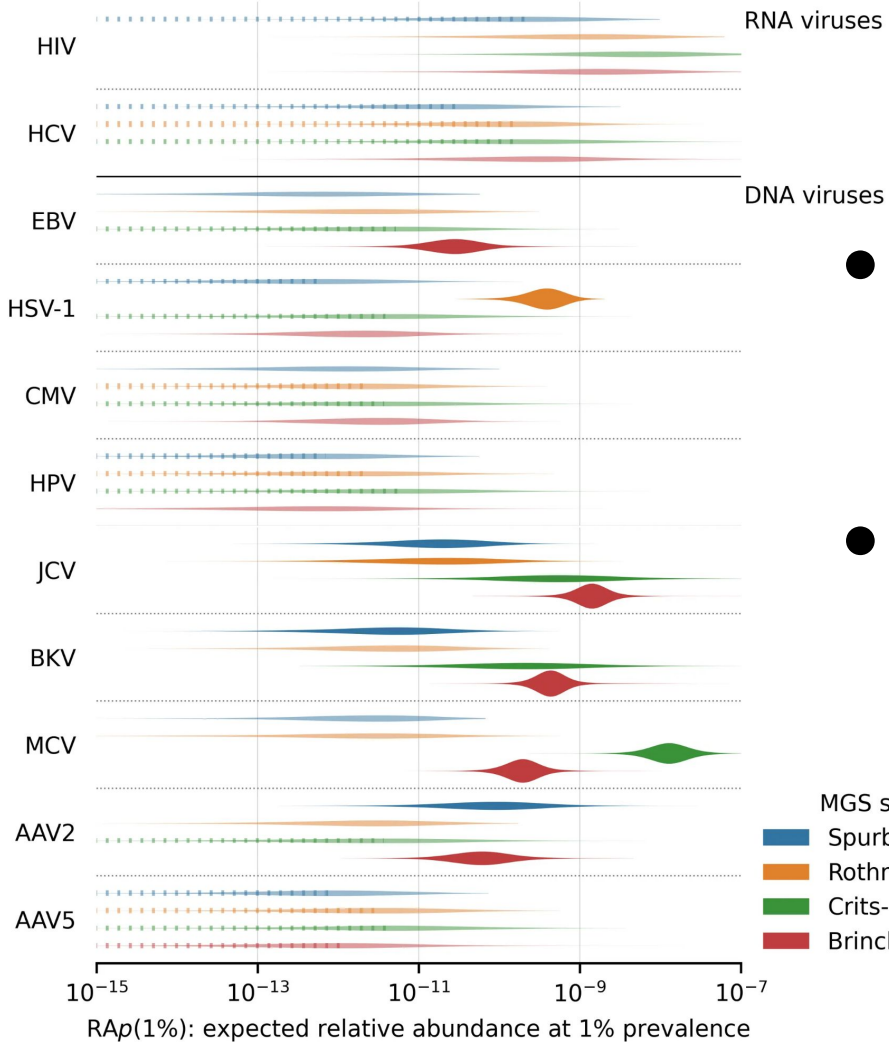
- Sharper estimates in Brinch
- Many more reads than the three other studies

MGS study

- Spurbeck
- Rothman
- Crits-Christoph
- Brinch (DNA)



- Sharper estimates in Brinch
- Many more reads than the three other studies
- DNA viruses in RNA data



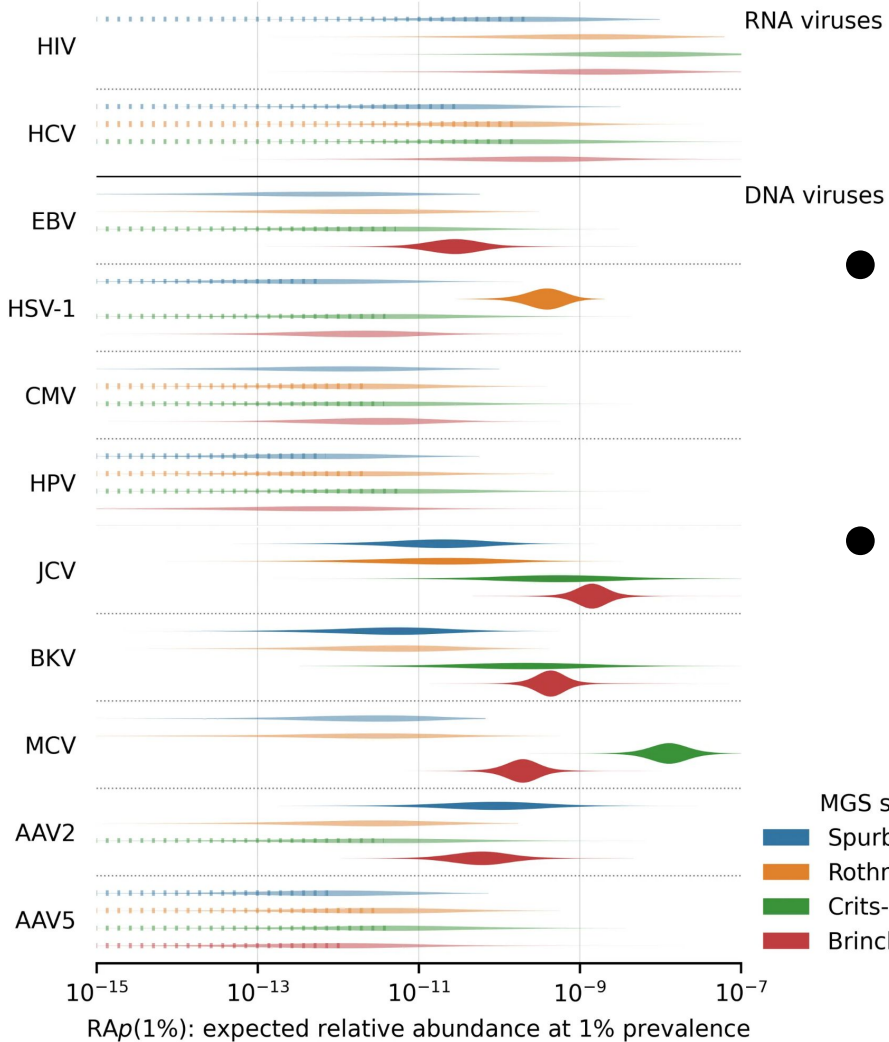
- Sharper estimates in Brinch
  - Many more reads than the three other studies
- DNA viruses in RNA data
  - Usually lower  $RAp(1\%)$

MGS study

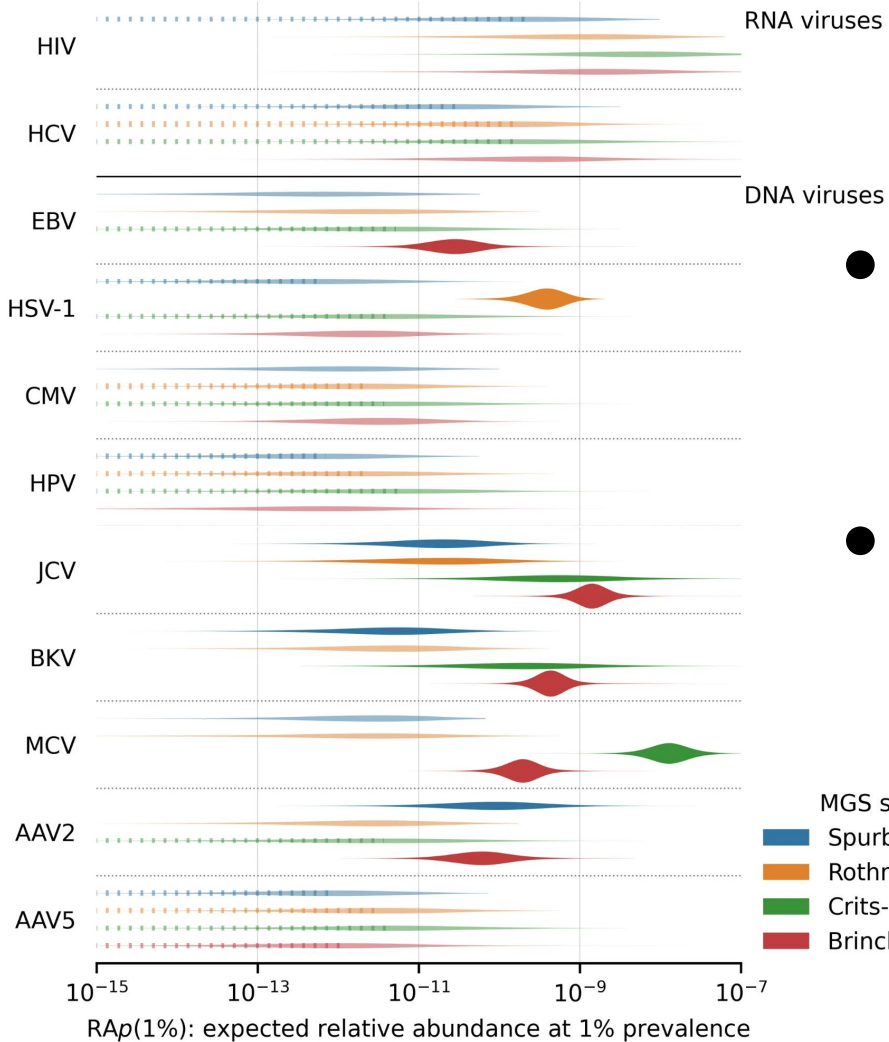
- Spurbeck
- Rothman
- Crits-Christoph
- Brinch (DNA)

$10^{-15}$   $10^{-13}$   $10^{-11}$   $10^{-9}$   $10^{-7}$

$RAp(1\%)$ : expected relative abundance at 1% prevalence



- Sharper estimates in Brinch
  - Many more reads than the three other studies
- DNA viruses in RNA data
  - Usually lower  $RA_p(1\%)$
  - But not always



- Sharper estimates in Brinch
  - Many more reads than the three other studies
- DNA viruses in RNA data
  - Usually lower  $RA_p(1\%)$
  - But not always
    - ex: MCV and HSV-1

# Limitations



## Limitations

- Public health estimates include underreporting factors, which are not very reliable

## Limitations

- Public health estimates include underreporting factors, which are not very reliable
- Seasonal viruses were suppressed by Covid-19 response

## Limitations

- Public health estimates include underreporting factors, which are not very reliable
- Seasonal viruses were suppressed by Covid-19 response
- Studies were generally underpowered for this purpose

## Limitations

- Public health estimates include underreporting factors, which are not very reliable
- Seasonal viruses were suppressed by Covid-19 response
- Studies were generally underpowered for this purpose
  - Deep sequencing (more reads) during a higher-infection time would allow better estimates

# Conclusion

## Conclusion

- Linked public health data to sequencing data to get estimates of relative abundance as a function of incidence or prevalence:  $RA(1\%)$

## Conclusion

- Linked public health data to sequencing data to get estimates of relative abundance as a function of incidence or prevalence:  $RA(1\%)$
- Useful for people modeling detection approaches

## Conclusion

- Linked public health data to sequencing data to get estimates of relative abundance as a function of incidence or prevalence:  $RA(1\%)$
- Useful for people modeling detection approaches
- Let's extend this approach and get better estimates!



## Conclusion

- Linked public health data to sequencing data to get estimates of relative abundance as a function of incidence or prevalence:  $RA(1\%)$
- Useful for people modeling detection approaches
- Let's extend this approach and get better estimates!
- Full report: `data.securebio.org/p2ra`