

Stochastic processes dominate the within and between host evolution of influenza virus

Running Title: Influenza dynamics within and between hosts

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1 **Abstract**

2 The global evolutionary dynamics of influenza virus ultimately derive from processes that take
3 place within and between infected individuals. Here we define the dynamics of influenza A virus
4 populations in human hosts through next generation sequencing of 249 specimens from 200
5 individuals collected over 6290 person-seasons of observation. Because these viruses were
6 collected over 5 seasons from individuals in a prospective community-based cohort, they are
7 broadly representative of natural human infections with seasonal viruses. We used viral
8 sequence data from 35 serially sampled individuals to estimate a within host effective population
9 size of 30-70 and an in vivo mutation rate of 4×10^{-5} per nucleotide per cellular infectious cycle.
10 These estimates are consistent across several models and robust to the models' underlying
11 assumptions. We also identified 43 epidemiologically linked and genetically validated
12 transmission pairs. Maximum likelihood optimization of multiple transmission models estimates
13 an effective transmission bottleneck of 1-2 distinct genomes. Our data suggest that positive
14 selection of novel viral variants is inefficient at the level of the individual host and that genetic
15 drift and other stochastic processes dominate the within and between host evolution of influenza
16 A viruses.

17 18 **Introduction**

19 The rapid evolution of influenza viruses has led to reduced vaccine efficacy, widespread drug
20 resistance, and the continuing emergence of novel strains. Broadly speaking, evolution is the
21 product of deterministic processes, such as selection, and stochastic processes, such as
22 genetic drift (Kouyos et al. 2006). The relative contribution of each is greatly affected by the
23 effective population size, or size of an idealized population whose dynamics are similar to that of
24 the population in question (Rouzine et al. 2001). If the effective population size of a virus is large,
25 as in quasispecies models, evolution is largely deterministic and the frequency of a mutation
26 can be predicted based on its starting frequency and selection coefficient. In small populations,

27 selection is inefficient, and changes in mutation frequency are strongly influenced by migration
28 or genetic drift.

29
30 Viral dynamics may differ across spatial and temporal scales, and a complete understanding of
31 influenza evolution requires studies at all levels (Nelson & Holmes 2007; Holmes 2009). The
32 global evolution of influenza A virus (IAV) is dominated by the positive selection of novel
33 antigenic variants that circulate in the tropics and subsequently seed annual epidemics in the
34 Northern and Southern hemisphere (Rambaut et al. 2008). Whole genome sequencing has also
35 demonstrated the importance of intrasubtype reassortment to the emergence of diverse strains
36 that differ in their antigenicity. While continual positive selection of antigenically drifted variants
37 drives global patterns, whole genome sequencing of viruses on more local scales suggests the
38 importance of stochastic processes such as strain migration and within-clade reassortment
39 (Nelson et al. 2006).

40
41 It is now feasible to efficiently sequence patient-derived isolates at sufficient depth of coverage
42 to define the diversity and dynamics of virus evolution within individual hosts (Kao et al. 2014).
43 Studies of IAV populations in animal and human systems suggest that most intrahost single
44 nucleotide variants (iSNV) are rare and that intrahost populations are subject to strong purifying
45 selection (Rogers et al. 2015; Murcia et al. 2010; Iqbal et al. 2009; Poon et al. 2016; Dinis et al.
46 2016; Debbink et al. 2017). While positive selection of adaptive variants is commonly observed
47 in cell culture (Doud et al. 2017; ARCHETTI & HORSFALL 1950; Foll et al. 2014), it has only
48 been documented within human hosts in the extreme cases of drug resistance (Gubareva et al.
49 2001; Ghedin et al. 2011; Rogers et al. 2015), long-term infection of immunocompromised hosts
50 (Xue et al. 2017) or experimental infections with attenuated viruses (Sobel Leonard et al. 2016).
51 Indeed, we and others have been unable to identify evidence for positive selection in natural

52 human infections (Debbink et al. 2017; Dinis et al. 2016), and its relevance to within host
53 processes is unclear.

54

55 Despite limited evidence for positive selection, it is clear that novel mutations do arise within
56 hosts. Their potential for subsequent spread through host populations is determined by the size
57 of the transmission bottleneck (Alizon et al. 2011; Zwart & Elena 2015). If the transmission
58 bottleneck is sufficiently wide, low frequency variants can plausibly be transmitted and spread
59 through host populations (Geoghegan et al. 2016). Because the transmission bottleneck is
60 conceptually similar to the effective population size between hosts, its size will also inform the
61 relative importance of selection and genetic drift in determining which variants are transmitted.
62 While experimental infections of ferrets suggest a very narrow transmission bottleneck (Varble
63 et al. 2014; Wilker et al. 2013), studies of equine influenza support a bottleneck wide enough to
64 allow transmission of rare iSNV (Hughes et al. 2012; Murcia et al. 2010). The only available
65 genetic study of influenza virus transmission in humans estimated a remarkably large
66 transmission bottleneck, allowing for transmission of 100-200 genomes (Poon et al. 2016; Sobel
67 Leonard et al. 2017).

68

69 Here, we use next generation sequencing of within host influenza virus populations to define the
70 evolutionary dynamics of influenza A viruses (IAV) within and between human hosts. We apply
71 a benchmarked analysis pipeline to identify iSNV and to characterize the genetic diversity of
72 H3N2 and H1N1 populations collected over five post-pandemic seasons from individuals
73 enrolled in a prospective household study of influenza. We use these data to estimate the *in*
74 *vivo* mutation rate and the within and between host effective population size. We find that
75 intrahost populations are characterized by purifying selection, a small effective population size,
76 and limited positive selection. Contrary to what has been previously reported for human
77 influenza transmission (Poon et al. 2016), but consistent with what has been observed in other

78 viruses (Zwart & Elena 2015), we identify a very tight effective transmission bottleneck that
79 limits the transmission of rare variants.

80

81 **Results**

82 We used next generation sequencing to characterize influenza virus populations collected from
83 individuals enrolled in the Household Influenza Vaccine Effectiveness (HIVE) study (Monto et al.
84 2014; Ohmit et al. 2013; Ohmit et al. 2015; Ohmit et al. 2016; Petrie et al. 2013), a community-
85 based cohort that enrolls 213-340 households of 3 or more individuals in Southeastern Michigan
86 each year (Table 1). These households are followed prospectively from October to April, with
87 symptom-triggered collection of nasal and throat swab specimens for identification of respiratory
88 viruses by RT-PCR (see Methods). In contrast to case-ascertained studies, which identify
89 households based on an index case who seeks medical care, the HIVE study identifies
90 symptomatic individuals regardless of illness severity. In the first four seasons of the study
91 (2010-2011 through 2013-2014), respiratory specimens were collected 0-7 days after illness
92 onset. Beginning in the 2014-2015 season, each individual provided two samples, a self-
93 collected specimen at the time of symptom onset and a clinic-collected specimen obtained 0-7
94 days later. Each year, 59-69% of individuals had self-reported or confirmed receipt of that
95 season's vaccine prior to local circulation of influenza virus.

96

97 Over five seasons and nearly 6,290 person-seasons of observation, we identified 77 cases of
98 influenza A/H1N1pdm09 infection and 313 cases of influenza A/H3N2 infection (Table 1).
99 Approximately half of the cases (n=166) were identified in the 2014-2015 season, in which there
100 was an antigenic mismatch between the vaccine and circulating strains (Flannery et al. 2016).
101 All other seasons were antigenically matched. Individuals within a household were considered
102 an epidemiologically linked transmission pair if they were both positive for the same subtype of

103 influenza virus within 7 days of each other. Several households had 3 or 4 symptomatic cases
104 within this one-week window, suggestive of longer chains of transmission (Table 1).

105

106 *Within host populations have low genetic diversity*

107 We processed all specimens for viral load quantification and next generation sequencing. Viral
108 load measurements (genome copies per μl) were used for quality control in variant calling,
109 which we have shown is highly sensitive to input titer (McCrone & Lauring 2016) (Figure 1A).
110 Accordingly, we report data on 249 high quality specimens from 200 individuals, which had a
111 viral load of $>10^3$ copies per microliter of transport media, adequate RT-PCR amplification of all
112 eight genomic segments, and an average read coverage of $>10^3$ across the genome (Table 1,
113 Supplementary Figure 1).

114

115 We identified intrahost single nucleotide variants (iSNV) using our empirically validated analysis
116 pipeline (McCrone & Lauring 2016). Our approach relies heavily on the variant caller DeepSNV,
117 which uses a clonal plasmid control to distinguish between true iSNV and errors introduced
118 during sample preparation and/or sequencing (Gerstung et al. 2012). Given the diversity of
119 influenza viruses that circulate locally each season, there were a number of instances in which
120 our patient-derived samples had mutations that were essentially fixed (>0.95 frequency) relative
121 to the clonal control. DeepSNV is unable to estimate an error rate for the control or reference
122 base at these positions. We therefore performed an additional benchmarking experiment to
123 identify a threshold for majority iSNV at which we could correctly infer whether or not the
124 corresponding minor allele was also present (see Methods). We found that we could correctly
125 identify a minor allele at a frequency of $\geq 2\%$ when the frequency of the major allele was $\leq 98\%$.
126 We therefore report data on iSNV present at frequencies between 2 and 98%. As expected, this
127 threshold improved the specificity of our iSNV identification and decreased our sensitivity to

128 detect variants below 5% compared to our initial validation experiment (McCrone & Lauring
129 2016), which did not employ a frequency threshold (Supplementary Table 1).
130
131 Consistent with our previous studies and those of others, we found that the within host diversity
132 of human influenza A virus (IAV) populations is low (Poon et al. 2016; Dinis et al. 2016; Debbink
133 et al. 2017; Sobel Leonard et al. 2016; McCrone & Lauring 2016). Two hundred forty-three out
134 of the 249 samples had fewer than 10 minority iSNV (median 2, IQR 1-3). There were 6
135 samples with greater than 10 minority iSNV. In 3 of these cases, the frequency of iSNVs were
136 tightly distributed about a mean suggesting that the iSNV were linked and that the samples
137 represented mixed infections. Consistent with this hypothesis, putative genomic haplotypes
138 based on these minority iSNV clustered with distinct isolates on phylogenetic trees
139 (Supplementary Figures 2 and 3). While viral shedding was well correlated with days post
140 symptom onset (Figure 1A) the number of minority iSNV identified was not affected by the day
141 of infection, viral load, subtype, or vaccination status (Figure 1B and Supplementary Figure 4).
142
143 The vast majority of minority variants were rare (frequency 0.02-0.07), and iSNV were
144 distributed evenly across the genome (Figure 1C and 1D). The ratio of nonsynonymous to
145 synonymous variants was 0.64 and was never greater than 1 in any 5% bin, which suggests
146 that within host populations were under purifying selection. We also found that minority variants
147 were rarely shared among multiple individuals. Ninety-five percent of minority iSNV were only
148 found once, 4.7% were found in 2 individuals, and no minority iSNV were found in more than 3
149 individuals. The low level of shared diversity suggests that within host populations were
150 exploring distinct regions of sequence space with little evidence for parallel evolution. Of the 31
151 minority iSNV that were found in multiple individuals (triangles in Figure 1D), 4 were
152 nonsynonymous.
153

154 Although the full range of the H3 antigenic sites have not been functionally defined, it is
155 estimated that 131 of the 329 amino acids in HA1 lie in or near these sites (Lee & Chen 2004).
156 We identified 17 minority nonsynonymous iSNV in these regions (Supplementary Table 2). Six
157 of these were in positions that differ among antigenically drifted viruses (Smith et al. 2004; Wiley
158 et al. 1981), and two (193S and 189N) lie in the “antigenic ridge” that is a major contributor to
159 drift (Koel et al. 2013). Three of these have been detected at the global level as consensus
160 variants since the time of isolation (128A, 193S and 262N) with two (193S and 262N) seemingly
161 increasing in global frequency (Neher & Bedford 2015) (Supplementary Figure 5). Additionally,
162 we identified 1 putative H1N1 antigenic variant (208K in C_a) (Caton et al. 1982; Xu et al. 2010).
163 In total, putative antigenic variants account for 1.0-2.5% of minority iSNV identified and were
164 found in 3.5-8.0% of infections. None of these iSNV were shared among multiple individuals.

165

166 *Estimation of effective population size*

167 Given the above observations, we hypothesized that within host populations of IAV are under
168 purifying selection and that variants that rise to detectable levels do so by a neutral process as
169 opposed to positive selection. Consistent with this hypothesis, we found that nonsynonymous
170 and synonymous iSNV exhibited similar changes in frequency over time in the 35 individuals
171 who provided serial specimens that contained iSNV (Figure 2A and 2B). We used a maximum
172 likelihood approach to estimate the within host effective population size (N_e) of IAV by fitting a
173 diffusion approximation of the Wright-Fisher model (Kimura 1955). This model assumes that
174 changes in iSNV frequency are due solely to random genetic drift and not selection, that iSNV
175 are independent of one another, and that the effective population is sufficiently large to justify a
176 continuous approximation to changes in allele frequency. The diffusion approximation of the
177 Wright-Fisher model assigns probabilities to frequency changes given an N_e and the number of
178 generations between sample times. In our model we fixed the within host generation time as
179 either 6 or 12 hours (Geoghegan et al. 2016) and report the findings for the 6 hour generation

180 time below. We then asked what population size makes the observed changes in frequency
181 most likely (Figure 2B). We restricted this analysis to samples taken at least 1 day apart ($n = 29$),
182 as there was very little change in iSNV frequency in populations sampled twice on the same day
183 ($R^2 = 0.986$, Figure 2B and Supplementary Figure 6). The concordance of same day samples
184 suggests that our sampling procedure is reproducible and that less than a generation had
185 passed between samplings. Maximum likelihood optimization of this diffusion model revealed a
186 within host effective population size of 35 (95% CI 26-46, Table 2).

187
188 The diffusion approximation makes several simplifying assumptions, which if violated could
189 influence our findings. To ensure our results were robust to the assumption of a large population,
190 we employed a discrete interpretation of the Wright-Fisher model which makes no assumptions
191 about population size (Williamson & Slatkin 1999). In this case we found an effective population
192 size of 32 (95% CI 28-41), very close to our original estimate (Table 2). Both models assume
193 complete independence of iSNV. To ensure this assumption did not affect our results, we fit the
194 discrete model 1000 times, each time randomly subsetting our data such that only one iSNV per
195 individual was included. This simulates a situation in which all modeled iSNV are independent
196 and our assumption is met. Under these conditions we found a median effective population size
197 of 33 (IQR 32-40), demonstrating negligible bias in the initial analysis due to correlation between
198 iSNV.

199
200 As above, most iSNV in the longitudinal samples were rare ($< 10\%$) and many became extinct
201 between samplings. To ensure that our models were capable of accurately estimating the
202 effective population size from such data, we simulated 1000 Wright-Fisher populations with
203 iSNV present at approximately the same starting frequencies as in our data set and an N_e of 30,
204 50, or 100. In these simulations, we found mean N_e of 34, 56 and 117 (Figure 2C). These

205 simulations suggest that although this method may slightly overestimate the N_e , our results are
206 not constrained by the data structure.

207

208 To this point, we have assumed that neutral processes are responsible for the observed
209 changes in iSNV frequency within hosts. Although this assumption seems justified at least in
210 part by the analysis above, we tested the robustness of our models by fitting the
211 nonsynonymous ($n = 27$) and synonymous iSNV ($n = 36$) separately. Here, we estimated an
212 effective population size of 30 using the nonsynonymous iSNV and an effective population size
213 of 37 using the synonymous iSNV (Table 2). These estimates are very close to those derived
214 from the whole dataset and suggest that nonsynonymous and synonymous mutations are
215 influenced by similar within host processes. To further ensure that our results were not driven by
216 a few outliers subject to strong selection, we ranked iSNV by their change in frequency over
217 time and consecutively removed iSNV with the most extreme changes. We estimated the
218 effective population size at each iteration and found that removing the top 50% most extreme
219 iSNV only increased the effective population size to 161 (Figure 2D). Therefore, our estimates
220 are robust to a reasonable number of non-neutral sites. Finally, we also applied a separate
221 Approximate Bayesian Computational (ABC) method, which uses a non-biased moment
222 estimator in conjunction with ABC to estimate the effective population size of a population as
223 well as selection coefficients for the iSNV present (Foll et al. 2014). This distinct approach
224 relaxes the previous assumption regarding neutrality. We applied this analysis to the 16
225 longitudinal pairs that were sampled 1 day apart and estimated an effective population of 69.
226 We were unable to reject neutrality for just 7 of the 35 iSNV in this data set (Figure 2E). These
227 seven mutations consisted of 3 nonsynonymous and 4 synonymous mutations and were split
228 between two individuals. None were putative antigenic variants.

229

230 *Identification of forty-three transmission pairs*

231 We analyzed virus populations from 85 households with concurrent infections to quantify the
232 level of shared viral diversity and to estimate the size of the IAV transmission bottleneck (Table
233 1). Because epidemiological linkage does not guarantee that concurrent cases constitute a
234 transmission pair (Petrie et al. 2017), we used a stringent rubric to eliminate individuals in a
235 household with co-incident community acquisition of distinct viruses. We considered all
236 individuals in a household with symptom onset within a 7-day window to be epidemiologically
237 linked. The donor in each putative pair was defined as the individual with the earlier onset of
238 symptoms. We discarded a transmission event if there were multiple possible donors with the
239 same day of symptom onset. Donor and recipients were not allowed to have symptom onset on
240 the same day, unless the individuals were both index cases for the household. In these 6
241 instances, we analyzed the data for both possible donor-recipient directionalities. Based on
242 these criteria, our cohort had 124 putative household transmission events over 5 seasons
243 (Table 1). Of these, 52 pairs had samples of sufficient quality for reliable identification of iSNV
244 from both individuals.

245
246 We next used sequence data to determine which of these 52 epidemiologically linked pairs
247 represented true household transmission events as opposed to coincident community-acquired
248 infections. We measured the genetic distance between influenza populations from each
249 household pair by L1-norm and compared these distances to those of randomly assigned
250 community pairs within each season (Figure 3A, see also trees in Supplementary Figures 2 and
251 3). While the L1-norm of a pair captures differences between the populations at all levels, in our
252 cohort, it was largely driven by differences at the consensus level. We only considered
253 individuals to be a true transmission pair if they had a genetic distance below the 5th percentile
254 of the community distribution of randomly assigned pairs (Figure 3A). Forty-seven household
255 transmission events met this criterion (Figure 3B). Among these 47 sequence-validated
256 transmission pairs, 3 had no iSNV in the donor and 1 additional donor appeared to have a

257 mixed infection. These four transmission events were removed from our bottleneck analysis as
258 donors without iSNV are uninformative and mixed infections violate model assumptions of site
259 independence (see Methods). We estimated the transmission bottleneck in the remaining 43
260 high-quality pairs (37 H3N2, 6 H1N1, Figure 3B).

261
262 A transmission bottleneck restricts the amount of genetic diversity that is shared by both
263 members of a pair. We found that few minority iSNV were polymorphic in both the donor and
264 recipient populations (Figure 3C). Minority iSNV in the donor were either absent or fixed in the
265 recipient (top and bottom of plot). The lack of shared polymorphic sites (which would lie in the
266 middle of the plot in Figure 3C) suggests a stringent effective bottleneck in which only one allele
267 is passed from donor to recipient.

268
269 *Estimation of the transmission bottleneck*

270 We applied a simple presence-absence model to quantify the effective transmission bottleneck
271 in our cohort. The presence-absence model considers only whether or not a donor allele is
272 present or absent in the recipient sample. Under this model, transmission is a neutral, random
273 sampling process, and the probability of transmission is simply the probability that the iSNV will
274 be included at least once in the sample given its frequency in the donor and the sample size, or
275 bottleneck. We estimated a distinct bottleneck for each transmission pair and assumed these
276 bottlenecks followed a zero-truncated Poisson distribution. This model also assumes that the
277 sensitivity for detection of transmitted iSNVs is perfect and that each genomic site is
278 independent of all others. We then used maximum likelihood optimization to determine the
279 distribution of bottleneck sizes that best fit the data. We found a zero-truncated Poisson
280 distribution with a mean of 1.66 ($\lambda = 1.12$; 0.51-1.99, 95% CI) best described the data.
281 This distribution indicates that the majority of bottlenecks are 1, and that very few are greater
282 than 5 (probability 0.2%). There were no apparent differences between H3N2 and H1N1 pairs.

283 The model fit was evaluated by simulating each transmission event 1,000 times. The presence
284 or absence of each iSNV in the recipient was noted and the probability of transmission given
285 donor frequency determined. The range of simulated outcomes matched the data well, which
286 suggests that transmission is a selectively neutral event characterized by a stringent bottleneck
287 (Figure 3D).

288
289 The majority of transmitted iSNV were fixed in the recipients. Although this trend matches the
290 expectation given a small bottleneck, these data could also be consistent with a model in which
291 the probability of transmission is determined by the frequency at which iSNV are found at the
292 community level. To ensure our bottleneck estimates were an outcome of neutral transmission
293 and not an artifact of the larger community population structure or selection for the community
294 consensus, we created a null model by randomly assigning community “recipient-donor”
295 pairings. Each community “recipient” was drawn from the pool of individuals that were infected
296 after the “donor” but in the same season and with the same subtype as the donor. We then
297 identified whether or not each donor iSNV was found in the community recipient and determined
298 the relationship between “donor” frequency and probability of “transmission” for 1,000 such
299 simulations. Given the low level of diversity in our cohort, we predicted that rare iSNV would be
300 unlikely to be found in a random sample, while the major alleles should be fixed in most random
301 pairs. This trend is clearly demonstrated in Figure 3E. It is also clear that this null model fit the
302 data much more poorly than the presence/absence model, suggesting that the observed data in
303 our bona fide transmission pairs were not a product of community metapopulation structure, but
304 rather an outcome of neutral sampling events.

305
306 Because our bottleneck estimates were much lower than what has previously been reported for
307 human influenza (Poon et al. 2016), we investigated the impact that our simplifying assumptions
308 could have on our results. In particular, the presence-absence model assumes perfect detection

309 of variants in donor and recipient, and it can therefore underestimate the size of a bottleneck in
310 the setting of donor-derived variants that are transmitted but not detected in the recipient. These
311 “false negative” variants can occur when the frequency of an iSNV drifts below the level of
312 detection (e.g. 2% frequency) or when the sensitivity of sequencing is less than perfect for
313 variants at that threshold (e.g. 15% sensitivity for variants at a frequency 2-5%). To determine
314 the impact of sequencing sensitivity and specificity on our bottleneck estimates, we re-called
315 variants using our original pipeline without the 2% frequency cut-off. As shown in
316 Supplementary Table 1, this increases the sensitivity of iSNV detection in the 1-5% frequency
317 range, and also the number of false positive variant calls (McCrone & Lauring 2016). This
318 analysis only slightly increased average transmission bottleneck to 2.10 ($\lambda = 1.67$; 0.91-
319 2.71, 95% CI), and indicates that our results are not biased by the added stringency used in the
320 initial analysis (Supplementary Figures 7A and 7B).

321
322 To further investigate the impact of sequencing accuracy on our estimates, we inferred minor
323 variants in our current pipeline (see above and methods) without a frequency cutoff. Ultimately,
324 this reduced variant calling to a count method at a number of positions and greatly increased
325 the number of shared minority iSNV in our samples (Supplementary Figure 7C). Many of these
326 presumed false positive variant calls were at similar frequencies (0.1-2%) in donor and recipient.
327 As such, the “apparent transmission” of rare variants drives an inflated estimate of the
328 transmission bottleneck (118, see Supplementary Figure 7D). Simulation showed that this
329 inflated bottleneck no longer fit the trend in the data, likely because the model is now forced to
330 accommodate shared iSNV that are biased toward sequencing error as opposed to the actual
331 transmission process.

332
333 We also estimated bottleneck size using a beta binomial model, which Leonard *et al.* have used
334 to account for the stochastic loss of transmitted variants. This model allows for a limited amount

335 of time-independent genetic drift within the recipient (Sobel Leonard et al. 2017), and we
336 modified it to also account for our benchmarked sensitivity for rare variants (Supplementary
337 Table 1, Current Pipeline). For all donor-derived iSNV that were absent in the recipient, we
338 estimated the likelihood that these variants were transmitted but either drifted below our level of
339 detection or drifted below 10% and were missed by our variant identification. Despite the
340 relaxed assumptions provided by this modified beta binomial model, maximum likelihood
341 estimation only marginally increased the average bottleneck size (mean 1.73: lambda 1.22;
342 0.57-2.17, 95%CI) relative to the simpler presence-absence model. We simulated transmission
343 and subsequent random drift using the beta binomial model and the estimated bottleneck
344 distribution as above (Figure 3F). Although the model matched the data well, the fit was not
345 better than that of the presence-absence model (AIC 83.0 for beta-binomial compared to 76.7
346 for the presence-absence model).

347

348 *The mutation rate of influenza A virus within human hosts*

349 The stringent influenza transmission bottleneck suggests that most infections are founded by
350 one lineage and develop under essentially clonal processes. The diffusion approximation to the
351 Wright-Fisher model (see above and Figure 2) can be used to predict the rate at which
352 homogenous populations diversify from a clonal ancestor as a function of mutation rate and
353 effective population size (Rouzine et al. 2001). Maximum likelihood optimization of this model
354 suggested an *in vivo* neutral mutation rate of 4×10^{-6} mutations per nucleotide per replication
355 cycle and a within host effective population size of 36 (given a generation time of 6 hours).
356 These estimates are consistent with those above (Table 2). As we have recently estimated that
357 13% of mutations in influenza A virus are neutral (Visher et al. 2016), we estimated that the true
358 *in vivo* mutation rate would be approximately 8 fold higher than our neutral rate – on the order of
359 $3-4 \times 10^{-5}$. This *in vivo* mutation rate is close to our recently published estimate of influenza A

360 mutation rates in epithelial cells by fluctuation test (Pauly et al. 2017) and within the range of
361 other estimates for IAV (Sanjuán et al. 2010).

362

363 **Discussion**

364 We find that seasonal influenza A viruses replicate within and spread among human hosts with
365 very small effective population sizes. Because we used viruses collected over five influenza
366 seasons from individuals enrolled in a prospective household cohort, these dynamics are likely
367 to be broadly representative of many seasonal influenza infections in their natural transmission
368 context. Our results are further strengthened by the use of a validated sequence analysis
369 pipeline and models that are robust to the underlying assumptions. The small effective size of
370 intrahost populations and the tight effective transmission bottleneck suggest that stochastic
371 processes, such as genetic drift, dominate influenza virus evolution at the level of individual
372 hosts. This stands in contrast to prominent role of positive selection in the global evolution of
373 seasonal influenza.

374

375 While influenza virus populations are subject to continuous natural selection, selection is an
376 inefficient driver of evolution in small populations (Rouzine et al. 2001). Despite a large viral
377 copy number, our findings demonstrate that intrahost populations of influenza behave like much
378 smaller populations. We therefore expect stochastic fluctuations to be the major force driving
379 the fixation of novel variants within human hosts. This finding contradicts previous studies,
380 which have found signatures of adaptive evolution in infected hosts (Gubareva et al. 2001;
381 Rogers et al. 2015; Ghedin et al. 2011; Sobel Leonard et al. 2016). However, these studies rely
382 on data from infections in which selective pressures are likely to be particularly strong (e.g. due
383 to drug treatment or infection with a poorly adapted virus), or in which the virus has been
384 allowed to propagate for extended periods of time (Xue et al. 2017). Under these conditions,

385 one can identify the action of positive selection on within host populations. We suggest that
386 these are important and informative exceptions to the drift regime defined here.

387
388 We used both a simple presence-absence model and a more complex beta binomial model to
389 estimate an extremely tight transmission bottleneck. The estimation of a small bottleneck size is
390 driven by low within-host diversity and very few minority iSNV shared among individuals in a
391 transmission pair. While our methods for variant calling may be more conservative than those
392 used in similar studies, we found that relaxing our variant calling criteria led to the inclusion of
393 false positive variants that inflated our estimates. Furthermore, the beta binomial model
394 accounts for false negative iSNV (i.e. variants that are transmitted but not detected in the donor),
395 which can lead to underestimated transmission bottlenecks (Sobel Leonard et al. 2017). Our
396 formulation of this model incorporates empirically determined sensitivity and specificity metrics
397 to account for both false negative iSNV and false positive iSNV (McCrone & Luring 2016).
398 Finally, if rare, undetected, iSNV were shared between linked individuals, we would expect to
399 see transmission of more common iSNV (frequency 5-10%), which we can detect with high
400 sensitivity. In our data, the transmission probability iSNVs > 5% frequency in the donor were
401 also well predicted by small bottleneck size (Figure 3D).

402
403 Although the size of our transmission bottleneck is consistent with estimates obtained for other
404 viruses and in experimental animal models of influenza (Zwart & Elena 2015; Varble et al. 2014),
405 it differs substantially from the only other study of bottlenecks in natural human infection (Poon
406 et al. 2016; Sobel Leonard et al. 2017). While there are significant differences in the design and
407 demographics of the cohorts, the influenza seasons under study, and sequencing methodology
408 (Kugelman et al. 2017), the bottleneck size estimates are fundamentally driven by the amount of
409 viral diversity shared among individuals in a household. Importantly, we used both
410 epidemiologic linkage and the genetic relatedness of viruses in households to define

411 transmission pairs and to exclude confounding from the observed background diversity in the
412 community. We find that household transmission pairs and randomly assigned community pairs
413 had distinct patterns of shared consensus and minority variant diversity. The comparison to
414 random community pairs is important, as an unexplained aspect of the work of Poon et al. is
415 that rare iSNV were frequently shared by randomly selected individuals, and more common
416 ones were not (Poon et al. 2016).

417

418 Our estimates of IAV population dynamics are consistent across three separate models and
419 partitions of the data. The measurements of shared diversity are influenced by both between
420 and within host processes, and the transmission bottleneck is entirely consistent with the small
421 within host population size derived from the longitudinal samples. We also jointly estimated the
422 *in vivo* mutation rate and effective population size based on the frequency distribution of minor
423 alleles observed in the entire cohort. This model assumed a small transmission bottleneck,
424 produced a mutation rate that is consistent with previous estimates, and independently
425 reproduced the within host population size estimate. Given the concordance among these
426 distinct approaches, it is unlikely that our findings are biased by hidden assumptions or model
427 limitations.

428

429 Accurately modeling and predicting influenza virus evolution requires a thorough understanding
430 of the virus' population structure. Some models have assumed a large intrahost population and
431 a relatively loose transmission bottleneck (Geoghegan et al. 2016; Russell et al. 2012; Peck et
432 al. 2015). Here, adaptive iSNV can rapidly rise in frequency and low frequency variants can
433 have a high probability of transmission. In such a model, it would be possible for the highly
434 pathogenic H5N1 virus to develop the requisite 4-5 mutations to become transmissible through
435 aerosols during a single acute infection of a human host (Herfst et al. 2012; Russell et al. 2012).
436 Although the dynamics of emergent avian influenza and human adapted seasonal viruses likely

437 differ (Petrova & Russell 2017), our work suggests that fixation of multiple mutations over the
438 course of a single acute infection is unlikely.

439
440 While it may seem counterintuitive that influenza evolution is dominated by drift on local scales
441 and positive selection on global scales, these models are certainly not in conflict. Within
442 individuals we have shown that the effective population is quite small, which suggests that
443 selection is inefficient. Indeed, we have deeply sequenced 332 intrahost populations from 283
444 individuals collected over more than 11,000 person-seasons of observation and only identified a
445 handful of minority antigenic variants with little evidence for positive selection (this work and
446 (Debbink et al. 2017)). However, with several million infected individuals each year, even
447 inefficient processes and rare events are likely to happen at a reasonable frequency on a global
448 scale.

449

450 **Methods**

451

452 *Description of the cohort*

453 The HIVE cohort (Monto et al. 2014; Ohmit et al. 2013; Ohmit et al. 2015; Ohmit et al. 2016;
454 Petrie et al. 2013), established at the UM School of Public Health in 2010, enrolled and followed
455 households of at least 3 individuals with at least two children <18 years of age; households
456 were then followed prospectively throughout the year for ascertainment of acute respiratory
457 illnesses. Study participants were queried weekly about the onset of illnesses meeting our
458 standard case definition (two or more of: cough, fever/feverishness, nasal congestion, sore
459 throat, body aches, chills, headache if ≥ 3 yrs old; cough, fever/feverishness, nasal
460 congestion/runny nose, trouble breathing, fussiness/irritability, decreased appetite, fatigue in <3
461 yrs old), and the symptomatic participants then attended a study visit at the research clinic on
462 site at UM School of Public Health for sample collection. For the 2010-2011 through 2013-2014

463 seasons, a combined nasal and throat swab (or nasal swab only in children < 3 years of age)
464 was collected at the onsite research clinic by the study team. Beginning with the 2014-2015
465 seasons, respiratory samples were collected at two time points in each participant meeting the
466 case definition; the first collection was a self- or parent-collected nasal swab collected at illness
467 onset. Subsequently, a combined nasal and throat swab (or nasal swab only in children < 3
468 years of age) was collected at the onsite research clinic by the study team. Families with very
469 young children (< 3 years of age) were followed using home visits by a trained medical assistant.

470

471 Active illness surveillance and sample collection for cases were conducted October through
472 May and fully captured the influenza season in Southeast Michigan in each of the study years.
473 Data on participant, family and household characteristics, and on high-risk conditions were
474 additionally collected by annual interview and review of each participant's electronic medical
475 record. In the current cohort, serum specimens were also collected twice yearly during fall
476 (November-December) and spring (May-June) for serologic testing for antibodies against
477 influenza.

478

479 This study was approved by the Institutional Review Board of the University of Michigan Medical
480 School, and all human subjects provided informed consent.

481

482 *Identification of influenza virus*

483 Respiratory specimens were processed daily to determine laboratory-confirmed influenza
484 infection. Viral RNA was extracted (Qiagen QIAamp Viral RNA Mini Kit) and tested by RT-PCR
485 for universal detection of influenza A and B. Samples with positive results by the universal
486 assay were then subtyped to determine A(H3N2), A(H1N1), A(pH1N1) subtypes and
487 B(Yamagata) and B(Victoria) lineages. We used primers, probes and amplification parameters
488 developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention Influenza Division for use on the

489 ABI 7500 Fast Real-Time PCR System platform. An RNaseP detection step was run for each
490 specimen to confirm specimen quality and successful RNA extraction.

491

492 *Quantification of viral load*

493 Quantitative reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-qPCR) was performed on 5µl
494 RNA from each sample using CDC RT-PCR primers InfA Forward, InfA Reverse, and InfA
495 probe, which bind to a portion of the influenza M gene (CDC protocol, 28 April 2009). Each
496 reaction contained 5.4µl nuclease-free water, 0.5µl each primer/probe, 0.5µl SuperScript III
497 RT/Platinum Taq mix (Invitrogen 111732) 12.5µl PCR Master Mix, 0.1µl ROX, 5µl RNA. The
498 PCR master mix was thawed and stored at 4°C, 24 hours before reaction set-up. A standard
499 curve relating copy number to Ct value was generated based on 10-fold dilutions of a control
500 plasmid run in duplicate.

501

502 *Illumina library preparation and sequencing*

503 We amplified cDNA corresponding to all 8 genomic segments from 5µl of viral RNA using the
504 SuperScript III One-Step RT-PCR Platinum Taq HiFi Kit (Invitrogen 12574). Reactions consisted
505 of 0.5µl Superscript III Platinum Taq Mix, 12.5µl 2x reaction buffer, 6µl DEPC water, and 0.2µl
506 of 10µM Uni12/Inf1, 0.3µl of 10µM Uni12/Inf3, and 0.5µl of 10µM Uni13/Inf1 universal influenza
507 A primers (Zhou et al. 2009). The thermocycler protocol was: 42°C for 60 min then 94°C for 2
508 min then 5 cycles of 94°C for 30 sec, 44°C for 30 sec, 68°C for 3 min, then 28 cycles of 94°C for
509 30 sec, 57°C for 30 sec, 68°C for 3 min. Amplification of all 8 segments was confirmed by gel
510 electrophoresis, and 750ng of each cDNA mixture were sheared to an average size of 300 to
511 400bp using a Covaris S220 focused ultrasonicator. Sequencing libraries were prepared using
512 the NEBNext Ultra DNA library prep kit (NEB E7370L), Agencourt AMPure XP beads (Beckman
513 Coulter A63881), and NEBNext multiplex oligonucleotides for Illumina (NEB E7600S). The final
514 concentration of each barcoded library was determined by Quanti PicoGreen dsDNA

515 quantification (ThermoFisher Scientific), and equal nanomolar concentrations were pooled.
516 Residual primer dimers were removed by gel isolation of a 300-500bp band, which was purified
517 using a GeneJet Gel Extraction Kit (ThermoFisher Scientific). Purified library pools were
518 sequenced on an Illumina HiSeq 2500 with 2x125 nucleotide paired end reads. All raw
519 sequence data have been deposited at the NCBI sequence read archive (BioProject submission
520 ID: SUB2951236). PCR amplicons derived from an equimolar mixture of eight clonal plasmids,
521 each containing a genomic segment of the circulating strain were processed in similar fashion
522 and sequenced on the same HiSeq flow cell as the appropriate patient derived samples. These
523 clonally derived samples served as internal controls to improve the accuracy of variant
524 identification and control for batch effects that confound sequencing experiments.

525

526 *Identification of iSNV*

527 Intrahost single nucleotide variants were identified in samples that had greater than 10^3
528 genomes/ μ l and an average coverage $>1000x$ across the genome. Variants were identified
529 using DeepSNV and scripts available at https://github.com/lauringlab/variant_pipeline as
530 described previously (McCrone & Luring 2016) with a few minor and necessary modifications.
531 Briefly, reads were aligned to the reference sequence (H3N2 2010-2011 & 2011-2012 :
532 GenBank CY121496-503, H3N2 2012-2013:GenBank KJ942680-8, H3N2 2014-2015 : Genbank
533 CY207731-8, H1N1 GenBank : CY121680-8) using Bowtie2 (35). Duplicate reads were then
534 marked and removed using Picard (<http://broadinstitute.github.io/picard/>). We identified putative
535 iSNV using DeepSNV. Bases with phred <30 were masked. Minority iSNV (frequency $<50\%$)
536 were then filtered for quality using our empirically determined quality thresholds (p-value <0.01
537 DeepSNV, average mapping quality >30 , average Phred >35 , average read position between
538 31 and 94). To control for PCR errors in samples with lower input titers, all isolates with titers
539 between 10^3 and 10^5 genomes/ μ l were processed and sequenced in duplicate. Only iSNV that
540 were found in both replicates were included in down stream analysis. The frequency of the

541 variant in the replicate with higher coverage at the iSNV location was assigned as the frequency
542 of the iSNV. Finally, any SNV with a frequency below 2% was discarded.

543
544 Given the diversity of the circulating strain in a given season, there were a number of cases in
545 which isolates contained mutations that were essentially fixed (>95%) relative to the plasmid
546 control. Often in these cases, the minor allele in the sample matched the major allele in the
547 plasmid control. We were, therefore, unable to use DeepSNV in estimating the base specific
548 error rate at this site for these minor alleles and required an alternative means of eliminating
549 true and false minority iSNV. To this end we applied stringent quality thresholds to these
550 putative iSNV and implemented a 2% frequency threshold. In order to ensure we were not
551 introducing a large number of false positive iSNV into our analysis, we performed the following
552 experiment. Perth (H3N2) samples were sequenced on the same flow cell as both the Perth and
553 Victoria (H3N2) plasmid controls. Minority iSNV were identified using both plasmid controls. This
554 allowed us to identify rare iSNV at positions in which the plasmid controls differed both with and
555 without the error rates provided by DeepSNV. We found that at a frequency threshold of 2% the
556 methods were nearly identical (NPV of 1, and PPV of 0.94 compared to DeepSNV).

557

558 *Overview of models for effective population size*

559 We estimated the effective population size using two separate interpretations of a Wright-Fisher
560 population (Ewens 2004). At its base, the Wright-Fisher model describes the expected changes
561 in allele frequency of an ideal population, which is characterized by non-overlapping generations,
562 no migration, no novel mutation, and no population structure. We then asked what size effective
563 population would make the changes in frequency observed in our dataset most likely. We
564 calculated these values using two applications of the Wright-Fisher model (i) a diffusion
565 approximation (Kimura 1955) and (ii) a maximum likelihood approach based on the discrete
566 interpretation (Williamson & Slatkin 1999).

567

568 For these estimates we restricted our analysis to longitudinal samples from a single individual
569 that were separated by at least 1 day and only used sites that were polymorphic in the initial
570 sample (29 of the 49 total serial sample pairs). We modeled only the iSNV that were the minor
571 allele at the first time point, and we assumed a within host generation time of either 6 or 12
572 hours as proposed by Geoghegan *et al.* (Geoghegan *et al.* 2016).

573

574 *Diffusion approximation*

575 The diffusion approximation was first solved by Kimura in 1955 (Kimura 1955). This
576 approximation to the discrete Wright-Fisher model has enjoyed widespread use in population
577 genetics as it allows one to treat the random time dependent probability distribution of final allele
578 frequencies as a continuous function (e.g. (Zanini *et al.* 2017; Kimura & Ohta 1969; Kimura
579 1971; Myers *et al.* 2008)). Here, we also included the limitations in our sensitivity to detect rare
580 iSNV by integrating over regions of this probability density that were either below our limit of
581 detection or within ranges where we expect less than perfect sensitivity as follows.

582

583 Let $P(p_0, p_t, t | N_e)$ be the time dependent probability of a variant drifting from an initial
584 frequency of p_0 at time 0 p_t at time t generations given an effective population size of N_e where
585 $0 < p_t < 1$.

586

587 The time dependent derivative of this probability has been defined using the Kolmogorov
588 forward equation (Kimura 1955) and for haploid populations is:

589

$$P(p_0, p_t, t | N_e) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} p_0 q_0 i(i+1)(2i+1)F(1-i, i+2, 2, p) \times F(1-i, i+2, 2, p_t) e^{-\left[\frac{i(i+1)}{2N_e}\right]t}$$

590

(1)

591

592 Where $q = 1 - p$ and F is the hypergeometric function. We approximated the infinite sum by
593 summing over the first 50 terms. When we added an additional 50 terms (100 in total) we found
594 no appreciable change in the final log likelihoods.

595

596 We denote the frequency of allele that is not observed at the second time point as $p_t \approx 0$ and
597 the probability of such an event as $P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t | N_e)$. This probability is given in equation 2 as
598 the sum of the probability that the variant is truly lost by generation t (i.e. the other allele is fixed
599 $P(q_0, q_t = 1, t | N_e)$), the probability that it is present but below the limit of detection (i.e.
600 $P(p, p_t \approx 0, t | 0 < p_t < 0.02, N_e)$) and the probability the variant is not detected due to low
601 sensitivity for rare variant detection (i.e. $P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t | 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, N_e)$). The probability of
602 not observing an allele at the second time is then

603

$$P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t | N_e) = P(q_0, 1, t | N_e) + P(p, p_t \approx 0, t | 0 < p_t < 0.02, N_e) + P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t | 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, N_e) \quad (2)$$

604

605
606
607 The first term in equation 2 is adapted from Kimura, 1955 as

608

$$P(q_0, 1, t | N_e) = q_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (2i + 1)p_0q_0(-1)^i F(1 - i, i + 2, 2, q_0)e^{-[i(i+1)/2N_e]t} \quad (3)$$

609

610 Where q is defined as above. (Note that this is simply the probability of fixation for a variant at
611 initial frequency q). As in equation 1 the infinite sum was approximated with a partial sum of 50
612 terms.

613

614 The probability of the allele drifting below our limit of detection can be found by integrating
615 equation 1 between 0 and our limit of detection, 0.02. This was done numerically using the
616 python package scipy.

617

$$P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid 0 < p_t < 0.02, N_e) = \int_0^{0.02} P(p_0, p_t, t \mid N_e) dp_t$$

618 (4)

619 Finally, the probability of an iSNV being present at the second time point, but escaping detection,
620 is given by the integral of equation 1 between our benchmarked frequencies (0.02,0.05) times
621 the false negative rate for that range. Here, we assumed the entire range had the same
622 sensitivity as the benchmarked frequency at the lower bound and rounded recipient titers down
623 to the nearest \log_{10} titer (e.g. $10^3, 10^4, 10^5$). We also assumed perfect sensitivity above 10%.

624

$$P(p_0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, N_e) = \sum_{f_i}^{[0.02, 0.05, 0.10]} (\text{FNR} \mid \text{Titer}_r, f_i) \int_{f_i}^{f_{i+1}} P(p_0, p_t, t \mid N_e) dp_t$$

625 (5)

626 Where $(\text{FNR} \mid \text{Titer}_r, f_i)$ is the false negative rate given the frequency and the sample titer (See
627 Supplemental Table 1) and $P(p_0, p_t, t \mid N_e)$ is defined in equation 1.

628

629 The log likelihood of an effective population size is the sum of the log of $P(p_0, p_t, t \mid N_e)$ for each
630 minor allele in the data set, where either the position is polymorphic at time t (i.e. equation 1) or
631 the allele is not observed at time t (i.e. equation 2).

632

633 *Discrete Wright-Fisher estimation of N_e*

634 The diffusion approximation treats changes in frequency as a continuous process because it
635 assumes sufficiently large N_e . That assumption can be relaxed, and the effective population size

636 can be determined, by applying a maximum likelihood method developed by Williamson and
637 Slatkin 1999 (Williamson & Slatkin 1999). In this model, the true allele frequencies move
638 between discrete states (i.e. the frequency must be of the form i/N_e where i is a whole number
639 in the range $[0, N_e]$. In the original application, allele counts were used, and sampling error was
640 added to the model as a binomial distribution with n determined by the sample size. Here, we
641 use the frequencies available from next generation sequencing and estimate sampling error as
642 a normal distribution with mean equal to the observed frequency and a standard deviation equal
643 to that observed in our benchmarking study for the 10^4 genomes/ μ l samples ($\sigma = 0.014$)
644 (McCrone & Lauring 2016).

645
646 In this model, the probability of observing an allele frequency shift from \hat{p}_0 to \hat{p}_t in t generations
647 provided an effective population of N_e is the probability of observing \hat{p}_0 given some initial state
648 p_0 and the probability of the population having that state, times the probability of observing \hat{p}_t
649 given some final state p_t and the probability of moving from the initial to the final state summed
650 across all possible states.

$$P(p_0, p_t | N_e) = \sum_{p_0, p_t} P(\hat{p}_0 | p_0)P(p_0 | N_e)P(\hat{p}_t | p_t)P(p_t | p_0, N_e)$$

651 (6)

652
653 Where \hat{p}_x are the observed probabilities and p_x are the real ones (of the form i/N_e discussed
654 above). The likelihood of observing a given frequency \hat{p}_x given a defined state p_x is given by the
655 likelihood of drawing \hat{p}_x from a normal distribution with mean p_x and standard deviation 0.014.

656

$$P(\hat{p}_x | p_x) = \text{Norm}(p_x, 0.014)$$

657 (7)

658 As in Williamson and Slatkin 1999, we assume a uniform prior on the initial state. Because we
 659 know that our specificity is near perfect (above 2%, Supplemental Table 1) and we restrict our
 660 analysis to only polymorphic sites, the probability of any initial state is given by

$$P(p_0 | N_e) = \frac{1}{N_e - 1}$$

662 (8)

663
 664 and finally the probability of moving from one state to another in t generations is given by

$$P(p_t, p_0 | N_e) = v_0 M^t v_t$$

666 (9)

667 Where M is a square transmission matrix with $N_e + 1$ rows and columns. Where $m_{i,j}$ is the
 668 probability of going from the i th configuration to the j th or the probability of drawing $j - 1$ out of
 669 binomial distribution with mean $(i - 1)/N_e$ and a sample size N_e . v_0 is a row vector of initial
 670 frequencies p_0 with 100% chance of initial state p_0 , and v_t is column vector of the frequencies at
 671 time point t with 100% chance of the final state. In other words v_0 is a row vector of $N_e + 1$
 672 states with 0 everywhere except in the i th position where $\frac{i-1}{N_e} = p_0$, and v_t is a column vector of
 673 $N_e + 1$ states with 0 everywhere except the j th position where $\frac{j-1}{N_e} = p_t$

674 Using the scalar and cumulative properties of matrix multiplication equation 6 reduces to
 675

$$P(p_0, p_t | N_e) = [0, P(p_0 | q_{0_2})P(q_{0_2} | N_e), \dots, P(p_0 | q_{0_{N_e-1}})P(q_{0_{N_e-1}} | N_e), 0] M^t \begin{bmatrix} P(p_t | q_{t_1}) \\ \vdots \\ P(p_t | q_{t_{N_e}}) \end{bmatrix}$$

676 (10)

677 The first and last entries in v_0 are 0 because we assume all measured sites represent
678 polymorphisms at the first time of sampling. As above, the log likelihood of a given population
679 size is then simply the sum of the log of $P(\hat{p}_0, \hat{p}_t, t | N_e)$ for each minor allele in the data set.

680

681 *Simulations*

682 To simulate within host evolution we set N_e in equation 10 to either 30, 50 or 100. For each
683 minor allele we used the closest available non-zero state given the effective population size as
684 the starting state. We then calculated the probability of moving to any other state and selected a
685 final state from this distribution. We then drew a final measured frequency from the normal
686 distribution to account for measurement errors.

687

688 *ABC model*

689 We estimated both the effective population size and selection coefficients using the approximate
690 Bayesian computation (ABC) described in (Foll et al. 2014) with the WFACB_v1.1 software
691 provided in (Foll et al. 2015). In its current implementation, this analysis requires the same time
692 points for each sample, and we restricted this analysis to longitudinal samples taken 1 day apart.
693 This subset constitutes 16 of the 29 modeled longitudinal samples. Briefly, we subsampled
694 polymorphic sites to 1,000x coverage to estimate allele counts from frequency data as in (Foll et
695 al. 2014). We then estimated the prior distribution of the effective population size using 10,000
696 bootstrap replicates. We selected a uniform distribution on the range [-0.5,0.5] as the prior
697 distribution for the selection coefficients. The posterior distributions were determined from
698 accepting the top 0.01% of 100,000 simulations.

699

700 *Overview of models used for estimating the transmission bottleneck*

701 We model transmission as a simple binomial sampling process (Sobel Leonard et al. 2017). In
702 our first model, we assume any transmitted iSNV, no matter the frequency, will be detected in

703 the recipient. In the second, we relax this assumption and account for false negative iSNV in the
704 recipient. To include the variance in the transmission bottlenecks between pairs we use
705 maximum likelihood optimization to fit the average bottleneck size assuming the distribution
706 follows a zero-truncated Poisson distribution.

707

708 *Presence/Absence model*

709 The presence/absence model makes several assumptions. We assume perfect detection of all
710 transmitted iSNV in the recipient. For each donor iSNV, we measure only whether or not the
711 variant is present in the recipient. Any iSNV that is not found in the recipient is assumed to have
712 not been transmitted. We also assume the probability of transmission is determined only by the
713 frequency of the iSNV in the donor at the time of sampling (regardless of how much time passes
714 between sampling and transmission). The probability of transmission is simply the probability
715 that the iSNV is included at least once in a sample size equal to the bottleneck. Finally, we
716 assume all genomic sites are independent of one another. For this reason, we discarded the
717 one case where the donor was likely infected by two strains, as the iSNV were certainly linked.

718

719 In our within host models, we only tracked minor alleles as in our data set we only ever find 2
720 alleles at each polymorphic site. In this case, the frequency of the major allele is simply one
721 minus the frequency of the minor allele. Because the presence/absence model is unaware of
722 the frequency of alleles in the recipient we must track both alleles at each donor polymorphic
723 site.

724

725 Let A_1 and A_2 be alleles in donor j at genomic site i . Let $P(A_1)$ be the probability that A_1 is the
726 only transmitted allele. There are three possible outcomes for each site. Either only A_1 is
727 transmitted, only A_2 is transmitted, or both A_1 and A_2 are transmitted. The probability of only A_1
728 being transmitted given a bottleneck size of N_b is

729

$$P_{i,j}(A_1 | N_b) = p_1^{N_b}$$

730 (11)

731 where p_1 is the frequency of A_1 in the donor. In other words, this is simply the probability of only

732 drawing A_1 in N_b draws. The probability that only A_2 is transmitted is similarly defined.

733

734 The probability of both alleles being transmitted is given by

735

$$P_{i,j}(A_1, A_2 | N_b) = 1 - (p_1^{N_b} + p_2^{N_b})$$

736 (12)

737 where p_1 and p_2 are the frequencies of the alleles respectively. This is simply the probability of

738 not picking only A_1 or only A_2 in N_b draws.

739

740 This system could easily be extended to cases where there are more than 2 alleles present at a

741 site; however, that never occurs in our data set.

742

743 For ease we will denote the likelihood of observing the data at a polymorphic site i in each

744 donor j given the bottleneck size N_b as $P_{i,j}(N_b)$ where $P_{i,j}(N_b)$ is defined by equation 11 if only

745 one allele is transmitted and equation 12 if two alleles are transmitted.

746

747 The log likelihood of a bottleneck of size N_b is given by

748

$$LL(N_b) = \sum_j \sum_i \text{Ln}(P_{i,j})$$

749 (13)

750

751 where i, j refers to the i th polymorphic site in the j th donor. This is the log of the probability of
752 observing the data summed over all polymorphic sites across all donors.

753
754 Because the bottleneck size is likely to vary across transmission events, we used maximum
755 likelihood to fit the bottleneck distribution as oppose to fitting a single bottleneck value. Under
756 this model we assumed the bottlenecks were distributed according to a zero-truncated Poisson
757 distribution parameterized by λ . The likelihood of observing the data given a polymorphic site i
758 in donor j and λ is

$$P_{i,j}(\lambda) = \sum_{N_b=1}^{\infty} P_{i,j}(N_b)P(N_b | \lambda)$$

759 (14)

760
761 where $P_{i,j}(N_b)$ is defined as above, $P(N_b | \lambda)$ is the probability of drawing a bottleneck of size N_b
762 from a zero-truncated Poisson distribution with a mean of $\frac{\lambda}{1-e^{-\lambda}}$. The sum is across all possible
763 N_b defined on $[1, \infty]$. For practical purposes, we only investigated bottleneck sizes up to 100, as
764 initial analyses suggested λ is quite small and the probability of drawing a bottleneck size of 100
765 from a zero-truncated Poisson distribution with $\lambda = 10$ is negligible. We follow this convention
766 whenever this sum appears.

767
768 The log likelihood of λ for the data set is given by

769

$$LL(\lambda) = \sum_j \sum_i \text{Ln} \left(\sum_{N_b=1}^{\infty} P_{i,j}(N_b)P(N_b | \lambda) \right)$$

770 (15)

771

772 *Beta Binomial model*

773 The Beta binomial model is explained in detail in Leonard *et al.* (Sobel Leonard et al. 2017). It is
774 similar to the presence/absence model in that transmission is modeled as a simple sampling
775 process; however, it relaxes the following assumptions. In this model, the frequencies of
776 transmitted variants are allowed to change between transmission and sampling according a
777 beta distribution. The distribution is not dependent on the amount of time that passes between
778 transmission and sampling, but rather depends on the size of the founding population (here
779 assumed to equal to N_b) and the number of variant genomes present in founding population k .
780 Note the frequency in the donor is assumed to be the same between sampling and transmission.

781
782 The equations below are very similar to those presented by Leonard *et al.* with one exception.
783 Because we know the sensitivity of our method to detect rare variants based on the expected
784 frequency and the titer, we can include the possibility that iSNV are transmitted but are missed
785 due to poor sensitivity. Because the beta binomial model is aware of the frequency of the iSNV
786 in the recipient, no information is added by tracking both alleles at a genomic site i .

787 Let p_{i,j_d} represent the frequency of the minor allele frequency at position i in the donor of some
788 transmission pair j . Similarly, let p_{i,j_r} be the frequency of that same allele in the recipient of the
789 j th transmission pair. Then, as in Leonard *et al.*, the likelihood of some bottleneck N_b for the
790 data at site i in pair j where the minor allele is transmitted is given by

791

$$L(N_b)_{i,j} = \sum_{k=1}^{N_b} p_beta(p_{i,j_r} | k, N_b - k) p_bin(k | N_b, p_{i,j_d})$$

792 (16)

793
794 Where p_beta is the probability density function for the beta distribution and p_bin is the
795 probability mass function for the binomial distribution.

796

797 This is the probability density that the transmitted allele is found in the recipient at a frequency
798 of p_{i,j_r} given that the variant was in k genomes in a founding population of size N_b times the
799 probability of drawing k variant genomes in a sample size of N_b and a variant frequency of p_{i,j_d} .

800 This is then summed for all possible k where $1 \leq k \leq N_b$.

801

802 As in equation 14 the likelihood of a zero truncated Poisson with a mean of $\frac{\lambda}{1-e^{-\lambda}}$ given this
803 transmitted variants is then given by

804

$$L(\lambda)_{i,j}^{\text{transmitted}} = \sum_{N_b=1}^{\infty} L(N_b)_{i,j} P(N_b | \lambda)$$

805 (17)

806

807 This is simply the likelihood of each N_b weighted by the probability of drawing a bottleneck size
808 of N_b from bottleneck distribution.

809

810 In this model, there are three possible mechanisms for a donor iSNV to not be detected in the
811 recipient. (i) The variant was not transmitted. (ii) The variant was transmitted but is present
812 below our level of detection (2%). (iii) The variant was transmitted and present above our level
813 of detection but represents a false negative in iSNV identification.

814

815 As in Leonard *et al.*, the likelihood of scenarios (i) and (ii) for a given N_b are expressed as

816

$$L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{lost}} = \sum_{k=0}^{N_b} \text{p_beta_cdf}(p_{i,j_r} < 0.02 | k, N_b - k) \text{p_bin}(k | N_b, p_{i,j_d})$$

817 (18)

818

819 Where `p_beta_cdf` is the cumulative distribution function for the beta distribution. Note that if
 820 $k = 0$ (i.e. the iSNV was not transmitted) then the term reduces to the probability of not drawing
 821 the variant in N_b draws.

822

823 The likelihood of the variant being transmitted but not detected in the recipient given a
 824 bottleneck of N_b is described by

825

$$L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{missed}} = \sum_{k=0}^{N_b} \sum_{f_e \in [0.02, 0.05, 0.1]} \text{p_beta_cdf}(f_e < p_{i,j_r} < f_{e+1} \mid k, N_b - k) \times \text{p_bin}(k \mid N_b, p_{i,j_d})(\text{FNR} \mid \text{Titer}_r, f_e) \quad (19)$$

826
827

828

829 This is the likelihood of the variant existing in the ranges [0.02,0.05] or [0.05,0.1] given an initial
 830 frequency of k/N_b and a bottleneck size of N_b multiplied by the expected false negative rate
 831 (FNR) given the titer of the recipient and the lower frequency bound. As in our diffusion model,
 832 we assumed perfect sensitivity for detection of iSNV present above 10%, rounded recipient
 833 titers down to the nearest \log_{10} titer (e.g. $10^3, 10^4, 10^5$) and assumed the entire range $[f_e, f_{e+1}]$
 834 has the same sensitivity as the lower bound.

835

836 The likelihood of λ for iSNV that are not observed in the recipient is then given by summing
 837 equations 18 and 19 across all possible N_b .

838

$$L(\lambda)_{i,j}^{\text{nontransmitted}} = \sum_{N_b=1}^{\infty} (L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{lost}} + L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{missed}}) P(N_b \mid \lambda) \quad (20)$$

839

840
841 The log likelihood of the total dataset is then determined by summing log of equations 17 and 20
842 (as applicable) across all polymorphic sites in each donor. (As before here we sum of N_b within
843 the range [1,100].)

844
845 *Simulation*

846 In order evaluate the fits of the two transmission models, we simulated whether or not each
847 donor iSNV was transmitted or not. This involved converting each model to a presence absence
848 model. In each simulation, we assigned a bottleneck from the bottleneck distribution for each
849 transmission pair. We then determined the probability of only transmitting one allele (A_x where
850 $x \in [1,2]$ as in the presence/absence model above) and the probability of transmitted both
851 alleles (A_1, A_2 above) for each polymorphic site.

852
853 For the presence/absence model, the probabilities for each possible outcome are given by
854 equations 11 and 12. For the beta binomial model, the probability of only observing A_x at site i
855 is given by

$$P(A_x | N_b) = L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{lost}} + L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{missed}} \quad (21)$$

856
857
858 where $L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{lost}}$ and $L(N_b)_{i,j}^{\text{missed}}$ are defined as in equations 18 and 19 respectively, but with
859 p_{i,j_d} replaced by $1 - p_{i,j_d}$. This is simply the probability of not observing the other allele in the
860 recipient.

861
862 Again, the probability of observing both alleles is

863

$$P(A_1, A_2 | N_b) = 1 - (P(A_1) + P(A_2))$$

864 (22)

865 where $P(A_1)$ and $P(A_2)$ are defined as in equation 21.

866

867 *Fitting mutation rate and N_e*

868 The diffusion approximation to the Wright - Fischer model allows us to make predictions on the

869 allele frequency spectrum of a population given a mutation rate and an effective population size.

870 The probability of observing a mutation at frequency p_t given an initial frequency of 0 can be

871 approximated as in (Rouzine et al. 2001)

872

$$P(0, p_t, t, | \mu, N_e) = \frac{2\mu N_e}{p_t} e^{-\frac{2N_e p_t}{t}}$$

873 (23)

874 Where μ is the mutation rate. In this model mutation increases an allele's frequency from 0 but

875 after that initial jump, drift is responsible for allowing the mutation to reach it's observed

876 frequency. Because the limit of equation 23 approaches infinity as p_t approaches 0 and for ease

877 in numerical integration, we assumed that any variant present at less than 0.1% was essentially

878 at 0%.

879

880 We then assumed each infection began as a clonal infection matching the consensus sequence

881 observed at the time of sampling. The likelihood of observing minor alleles at the observed

882 frequency is the given by equation 23.

883

884 As in the other within host models, we can account for nonpolymorphic sites by adding the

885 likelihood that no mutation is present $P(0, p_t \approx 0, t | p_t < 0.001, \mu, N_e)$, that a mutation is present

886 but below our level of detection $P(0, p_t \approx 0, t | p_t < 0.02, \mu, N_e)$, and that a mutation is present

887 but missed due to low sensitivity at low frequencies $P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, \mu, N_e)$. In this
 888 model we assumed 13133 mutagenic targets in each sample (the number of coding sites
 889 present in the reference strain from 2014-2015).

890

891 The probability of not observing a mutation is given by

892

$$\begin{aligned}
 893 \quad P(0, p_t \approx 0, t, \mid \mu, N_e) &= P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid p_t < 0.001, \mu, N_e) + \\
 894 \quad &P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid p_t < 0.02, \mu, N_e) + \\
 895 \quad &P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, \mu, N_e)
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{24}$$

896 Where

$$P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid p_t < 0.001, \mu, N_e) = 1 - \int_{0.001}^1 P(0, p_t, t, \mid \mu, N_e) dp_t$$

897 (25)

898 and

$$P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid p_t < 0.02, \mu, N_e) = \int_{0.001}^{0.02} P(0, p_t, t, \mid \mu, N_e) dp_t$$

899 (26)

900 and

$$P(0, p_t \approx 0, t \mid 0.02 < p_t < 0.1, \mu, N_e) = \sum_{f_i}^{[0.02, 0.05, 0.10]} (\text{FNR} \mid \text{Titer}_r, f_i) \int_{f_i}^{f_{i+1}} P(p_0, p_t, t \mid \mu, N_e) dp_t$$

901 (27)

902

903 Where we follow the same convention as in equation 5 for determining the false negative rate.
 904 The log likelihood of a given μ and N_e pair is then the sum of the log of equations 23 and 24 for
 905 all possible sites in the data set.

906

907 Annotated computer code for all analyses and for generating the figures can be accessed at
908 https://github.com/lauringlab/Host_level_IAV_evolution

909

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917

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- 1056
- 1057

1058 **Figure Legends**

1059 **Figure 1.** Within host diversity of IAV populations. (A) Boxplots (median, 25th and 75th
1060 percentiles, whiskers extend to most extreme point within median \pm 1.5 x IQR) of the number of
1061 viral genomes per microliter transport media stratified by day post symptom onset. Notches
1062 represent the approximate 95% confidence interval of the median. (B) Boxplots (median, 25th
1063 and 75th percentiles, whiskers extend to most extreme point within median \pm 1.5 x IQR) of the
1064 number of iSNV in 249 high quality samples stratified by day post symptom onset. (C)
1065 Histogram of within host iSNV frequency in 249 high quality samples. Bin width is 0.05
1066 beginning at 0.02. Mutations are colored nonsynonymous (blue) and synonymous (gold) (D)
1067 Location of all identified iSNV in the influenza A genome. Mutations are colored
1068 nonsynonymous (blue) and synonymous (gold) relative to that sample's consensus sequence.
1069 Triangles signify mutations that were found in more than one individual in a given season.

1070
1071 **Figure 2.** Within host dynamics of IAV. (A) Timing of sample collection for 35 paired longitudinal
1072 samples relative to day of symptom onset. Of the 49 total, 35 pairs had minor iSNV present in
1073 the first sample. (B) The change in frequency over time for minority nonsynonymous (blue) and
1074 synonymous (gold) iSNV identified for the paired samples in (A). (C) The distribution of effective
1075 population sizes estimated from 1,000 simulated populations. Simulations were run on
1076 populations with characteristics similar to the actual patient-derived populations and with the
1077 specified effective population size (x-axis). (D) The effect of iteratively removing iSNV with the
1078 most extreme change in frequency (fraction of iSNV removed, x-axis) on the estimated effective
1079 population size. The point represents the estimate when all iSNV are included. (E) The posterior
1080 distributions of selection coefficients estimated for the 35 iSNV present in isolates sampled one
1081 day apart. Distributions are colored according to class relative to the sample consensus
1082 sequence, nonsynonymous (blue) synonymous (gold). Variants for which the 95% highest

1083 posterior density intervals exclude 0.0 are noted in the margin.

1084

1085 **Figure 3.** Between host dynamics of IAV. (A) The distribution of pairwise L1-norm distances for
1086 household (blue) and randomly-assigned community (gold) pairs. The bar heights are
1087 normalized to the height of the highest bar for each given subset (47 for household, 1,592 for
1088 community). The red line represents the 5th percentile of the community distribution. (B) Timing
1089 of symptom onset for 52 epidemiologically linked transmission pairs. Day of symptom onset for
1090 both donor and recipient individuals is indicated by black dots. Dashed lines represent pairs that
1091 were removed due to abnormally high genetic distance between isolates, see (A). (C) The
1092 frequency of donor iSNV in both donor and recipient samples. Frequencies below 2% and
1093 above 98% were set to 0% and 100% respectively. (D) The presence-absence model fit
1094 compared with the observed data. The x-axis represents the frequency of donor iSNV with
1095 transmitted iSNV plotted along the top and nontransmitted iSNV plotted along the bottom. The
1096 black line indicates the probability of transmission for a given iSNV frequency as determined by
1097 logistic regression. Similar fits were calculated for 1,000 simulations with a mean bottleneck size
1098 of 1.66. Fifty percent of simulated outcomes lie in the darkly shaded region and 95% lie in the
1099 lightly shaded regions. (E) The outcome from 1,000 simulated “transmission” events with
1100 randomly assigned pairings. The black line represents the observed data, as in (D) the shaded
1101 regions represent the middle 50% and 95% of simulated outcomes. The results from the
1102 simulated logit models were smoothed by plotting the predicted probability of transmission at
1103 0.02 intervals. (F) The beta-binomial model fit. Similar to (D) except the simulated outcomes are
1104 the based on a beta-binomial model using a mean bottleneck of 1.73.

1105

1106 **Figure 4.** Combined estimates of within host mutation rate and effective population size.

1107 Contour plot shows the log likelihood surface for estimates of the effective population size and

1108 neutral mutation rate. The point represents the peak ($\mu = 4 \times 10^{-6}$, $N_e = 36$, log likelihood = -
1109 4,687). Log likelihoods for each contour are indicated.

1110

1111 **Supplementary Figure 1.** Sequence coverage for all samples. For each sample, the sliding
1112 window mean coverage was calculated using a window size of 200 and a step of 100. The
1113 distributions of these means are plotted as box plots (median, 25th and 75th percentiles,
1114 whiskers extend to most extreme point within median $\pm 1.5 \times$ IQR) where the y-axis represents
1115 the read depth and the x-axis indicates the position of the window in a concatenated IAV
1116 genome.

1117

1118 **Supplementary Figure 2.** Approximate maximum likelihood trees of the concatenated coding
1119 sequences for high quality H1N1 samples. The branches are colored by season; the tip
1120 identifiers are colored by household. Arrows with numbers indicate consensus and putative
1121 minor haplotypes for samples with greater than 10 iSNV. Trees were made using FastTree.

1122

1123 **Supplementary Figure 3.** Approximate maximum likelihood trees of the concatenated coding
1124 sequences for high quality H3N2 samples. The branches are colored by season; the tip
1125 identifiers are colored by household. Arrows with numbers indicate consensus and putative
1126 minor haplotypes for samples with greater than 10 iSNV. Trees were made using FastTree.

1127

1128 **Supplementary Figure 4.** The effect of titer and vaccination on the number of iSNV identified.
1129 (A) The number of iSNV identified in an isolate (y-axis) plotted against the titer (x-axis,
1130 genomes/ μ l transport media). (B) The number of iSNV identified in each isolate stratified by
1131 whether that individual was vaccinated or not. Red bars indicate the median of each distribution.

1132

1133 **Supplementary Figure 5.** Minority nonsynonymous iSNV in global circulation.

1134 The global frequencies of the amino acids that were found as minority variants in sample
1135 isolates (x-axis) plotted overtime (y-axis). Each amino acid trace is labeled according to the H3
1136 number scheme. All samples were isolated in December of 2014 (gray line).

1137

1138 **Supplementary Figure 6.** Reproducibility of iSNV identification for paired samples acquired on
1139 the same day. The x-axis represents iSNV frequencies found in the home-acquired nasal swab.
1140 The y-axis represents iSNV frequencies found the clinic-acquired combined throat and nasal
1141 swab.

1142

1143 **Supplementary Figure 7.** Estimate of effective bottleneck size with relaxed variant calling
1144 criteria. (A) The frequency of iSNV in both recipient and donor isolates. iSNV were identified
1145 using the original variant calling pipeline. (B) The presence-absence model fit compared to the
1146 observed data for iSNV identified using the original variant calling pipeline. The x-axis
1147 represents the frequency of donor iSNV with transmitted iSNV plotted along the top and
1148 nontransmitted iSNV plotted along the bottom. The black line indicates the probability of
1149 transmission for a given iSNV frequency as determined by logistic regression. Similar fits were
1150 calculated for 1,000 simulations with a mean bottleneck size of 2.10. Fifty percent of simulated
1151 outcomes lie in the darkly shaded region and 95% lie in the lightly shaded regions. (C) Similar to
1152 (A) but with minority iSNV identified using the current analytical framework without a frequency
1153 threshold. (D) Similar to B but with minority iSNV identified using the current analytical
1154 framework without a frequency threshold.

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1156 **Table 1. Influenza viruses over five seasons in a household cohort**

	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Households	328	213	321	232	340
Participants	1441	943	1426	1049	1431
Vaccinated, n (%) ^a	934 (65)	554 (59)	942 (66)	722 (69)	992 (69)
IAV Positive Individuals ^b	86	23	69	48	166
H1N1	26	1	3	47	0
H3N2	58	22	66	1	166
IAV Positive Households ^c					
Two individuals	13	2	9	7	23
Three individuals	5	2	3	3	11
Four individuals	-	-	1	2	4
High Quality NGS Pairs ^d	4	1	2	6	39

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^a Self reported or confirmed receipt of vaccine prior to the specified season.

^b RT-PCR confirmed infection.

^c Households in which two individuals were positive within 7 days of each other. In cases of trios and quartets, the putative chains could have no pair with onset >7 days apart.

^d Samples with >10³ genome copies per μ l of transport medium, adequate amplification of all 8 genomic segments, and average sequencing coverage >10³ per nucleotide.

1165 **Table 2. Within host effective population size of IAV**

Model	SNV Used	Generation Time (h)	Effective Population Size (95% CI)
Diffusion approximation	All	6	35 (26-46)
	All	12	17 (13-23)
Discrete model	All	6	32 (28-41)
	Nonsynonymous	6	30 (21-40)
	Synonymous	6	37 (27-54)
	All	12	23 (23-29)
	Nonsynonymous	12	19 (19-21)
	Synonymous	12	27 (22-33)

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1169 **Supplementary Table 1. Sensitivity and specificity of variant detection**

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Copy Number ^a	Variant Frequency	Original Pipeline ^b		Current Pipeline ^c	
		Sensitivity	Specificity	Sensitivity	Specificity
>10 ⁵	0.05	1	>0.9999	0.85	1.000
	0.02	0.85	0.9999	0.15	1.000
	0.01	0.95	0.9995	-	-
	0.005	0.35	0.9999	-	-
10 ⁴ -10 ⁵	0.05	0.95	0.9999	0.85	1.000
	0.02	0.9	0.9999	0.15	1.000
	0.01	0.8	0.9998	-	-
	0.005	0.4	0.9999	-	-
10 ³ -10 ⁴	0.05	0.8	>0.9999	0.70	1.000
	0.02	0.45	0.9999	0.15	1.000
	0.01	0.2	0.9997	-	-
	0.005	0.1	0.9999	-	-

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1172 ^a Per µl transport media

1173 ^b As described in McCrone JT and Lauring AS, J. Virol. 90(15):6884, 2016.

1174 ^c As described in Methods, benchmarked for frequencies 0.02-0.98 only

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Supplementary Table 2. Nonsynonymous substitutions in HA antigenic sites

House ID	Enrolment ID	Symptom Onset	Subtype	Frequency	Amino Acid Change	Antigenic Site	Vaccinated	Day of Symptoms
1111	300481	3-30-2011	H3N2	0.071	E62G	E*	No	0
2166	320661	2-13-2012	H3N2	0.071	V297A	C	Yes	1
1302	301355	3-20-2011	H3N2	0.088	L86I	E	Yes	1
3075	331045	12-10-2012	H3N2	0.066	I214T	D	Yes	1
5219	50935	12-5-2014	H3N2	0.175	F193S	B*†	No	3
5263	51106	12-6-2014	H3N2	0.111	T128A	B	Yes	3
5290	51225	12-15-2014	H3N2	0.405	I260V	E*	Yes	1
5302	51273	12-13-2014	H3N2	0.030	S262N	E*	Yes	0
5098	50419	12-22-2014	H3N2	0.364	G208R	D	Yes	4
5033	50141	12-3-2014	H3N2	0.032	A163T	B	Yes	2
5034	50143	1-11-2015	H3N2	0.119	I307R	C	Yes	1
5289	51220	12-13-2014	H3N2	0.038	K189N	B*†	Yes	-1
5033	50141	12-3-2014	H3N2	0.025	D53E	C*	Yes	1
5033	50141	12-3-2014	H3N2	0.023	S312G	C	Yes	1
5269	51132	12-6-2014	H3N2	0.028	I242T	D	Yes	2
5147	50630	11-18-2014	H3N2	0.164	I242L	D	Yes	1
5034	50143	1-11-2015	H3N2	0.161	I307R	C	Yes	2
4185	UM40738	12-14-2013	H1N1	0.021	R208K	Ca	No	2

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* Sites observed to vary between antigenically distinct strains in Wiley et al., 1981 and Smith DJ et al., 2004.

† Sites located in the “antigenic ridge” identified in Koel et al., 2013.

Figure 1

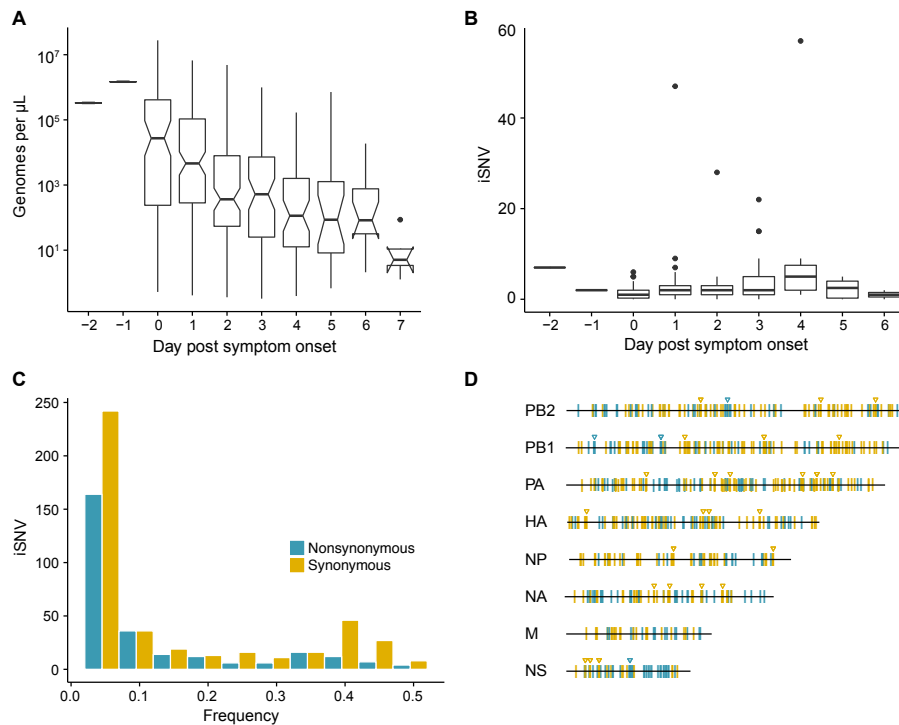


Figure 1. Within host diversity of IAV populations. (A) Boxplots (median, 25th and 75th percentiles, whiskers extend to most extreme point within median \pm 1.5 x IQR) of the number of viral genomes per microliter transport media stratified by day post symptom onset. Notches represent the approximate 95% confidence interval of the median. (B) Boxplots (median, 25th and 75th percentiles, whiskers extend to most extreme point within median \pm 1.5 x IQR) of the number of iSNV in 249 high quality samples stratified by day post symptom onset. (C) Histogram of within host iSNV frequency in 249 high quality samples. Bin width is 0.05 beginning at 0.02. Mutations are colored nonsynonymous (blue) and synonymous (gold) (D) Location of all identified iSNV in the influenza A genome. Mutations are colored nonsynonymous (blue) and synonymous (gold) relative to that sample's consensus sequence. Triangles signify mutations that were found in more than one individual in a given season.

Figure 2

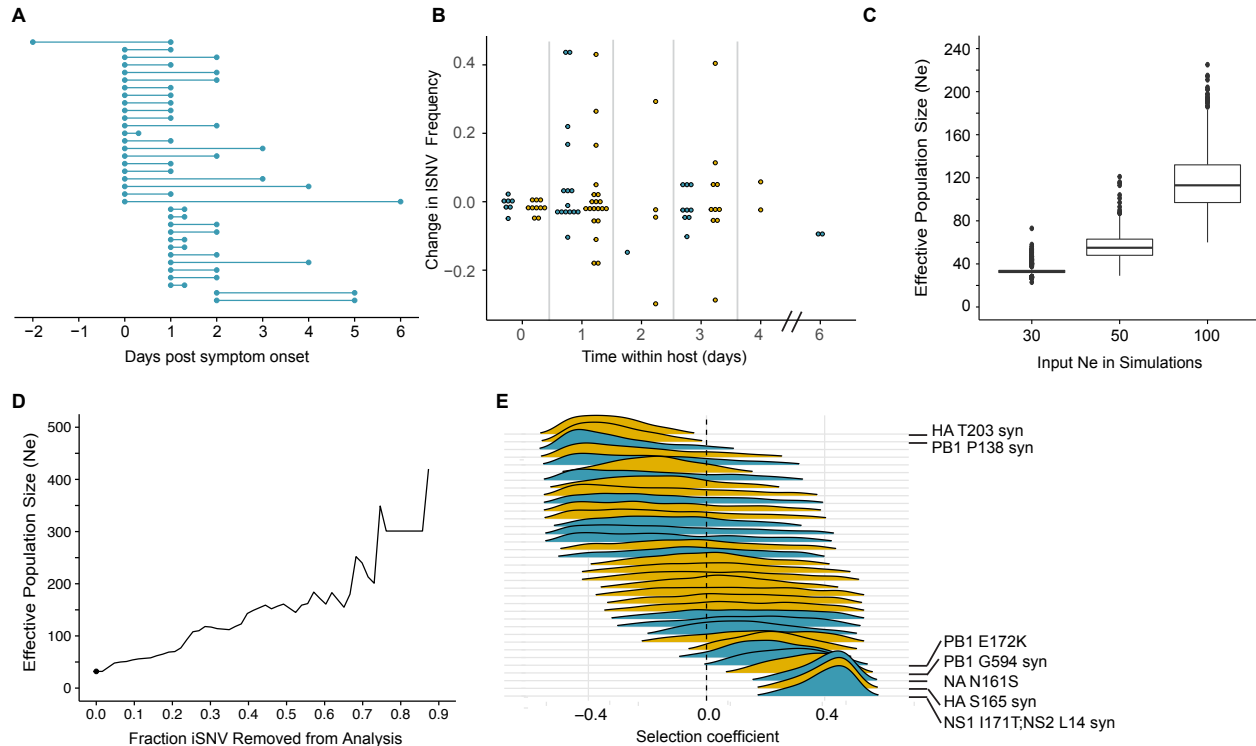


Figure 2. Within host dynamics of IAV. (A) Timing of sample collection for 35 paired longitudinal samples relative to day of symptom onset. Of the 49 total, 35 pairs had minor iSNV present in the first sample. (B) The change in frequency over time for minority nonsynonymous (blue) and synonymous (gold) iSNV identified for the paired samples in (A). (C) The distribution of effective population sizes estimated from 1,000 simulated populations. Simulations were run on populations with characteristics similar to the actual patient-derived populations and with the specified effective population size (x-axis). (D) The effect of iteratively removing iSNV with the most extreme change in frequency (fraction of iSNV removed, x-axis) on the estimated effective population size. The point represents the estimate when all iSNV are included. (E) The posterior distributions of selection coefficients estimated for the 35 iSNV present in isolates sampled one day apart. Distributions are colored according to class relative to the sample consensus sequence, nonsynonymous (blue) synonymous (gold). Variants for which the 95% highest posterior density intervals exclude 0.0 are noted in the margin.

Figure 3

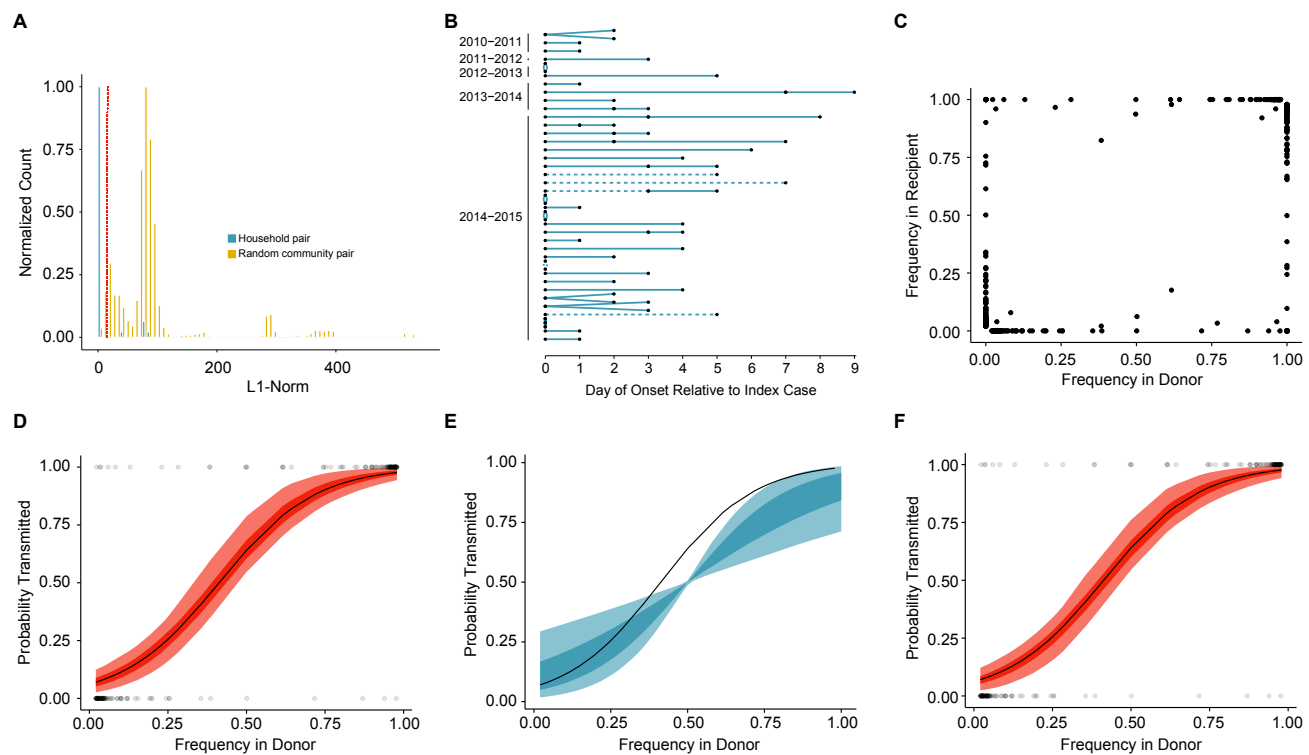


Figure 3. Between host dynamics of IAV. (A) The distribution of pairwise L1-norm distances for household (blue) and randomly-assigned community (gold) pairs. The bar heights are normalized to the height of the highest bar for each given subset (47 for household, 1,592 for community). The red line represents the 5th percentile of the community distribution. (B) Timing of symptom onset for 52 epidemiologically linked transmission pairs. Day of symptom onset for both donor and recipient individuals is indicated by black dots. Dashed lines represent pairs that were removed due to abnormally high genetic distance between isolates, see (A). (C) The frequency of donor iSNV in both donor and recipient samples. Frequencies below 2% and above 98% were set to 0% and 100% respectively. (D) The presence-absence model fit compared with the observed data. The x-axis represents the frequency of donor iSNV with transmitted iSNV plotted along the top and nontransmitted iSNV plotted along the bottom. The black line indicates the probability of transmission for a given iSNV frequency as determined by logistic regression. Similar fits were calculated for 1,000 simulations with a mean bottleneck size of 1.66. Fifty percent of simulated outcomes lie in the darkly shaded region and 95% lie in the lightly shaded regions. (E) The outcome from 1,000 simulated “transmission” events with randomly assigned pairings. The black line represents the observed data, as in (D) the shaded regions represent the middle 50% and 95% of simulated outcomes. The results from the simulated logit models were smoothed by plotting the predicted probability of transmission at 0.02 intervals. (F) The beta-binomial model fit. Similar to (D) except the simulated outcomes are the based on a beta-binomial model using a mean bottleneck of 1.73.

Figure 4

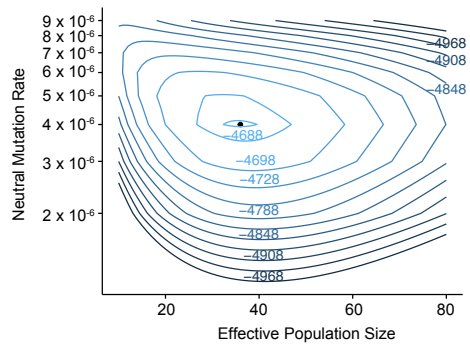
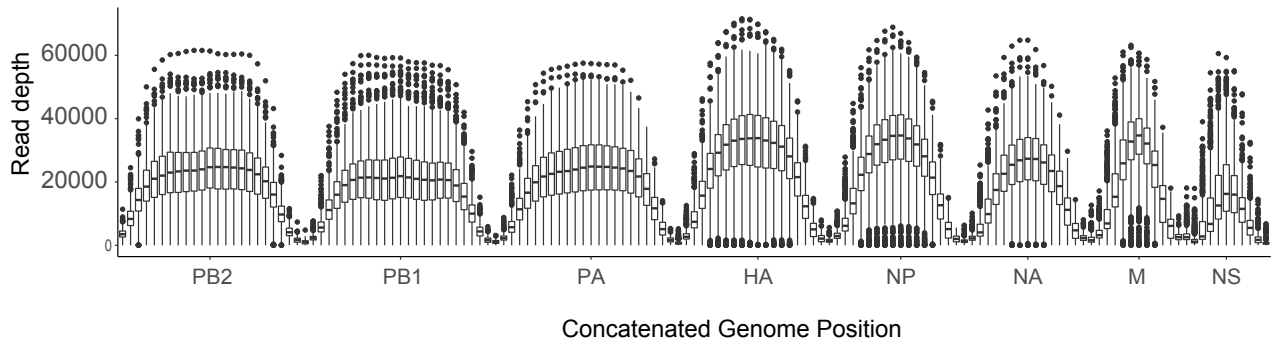


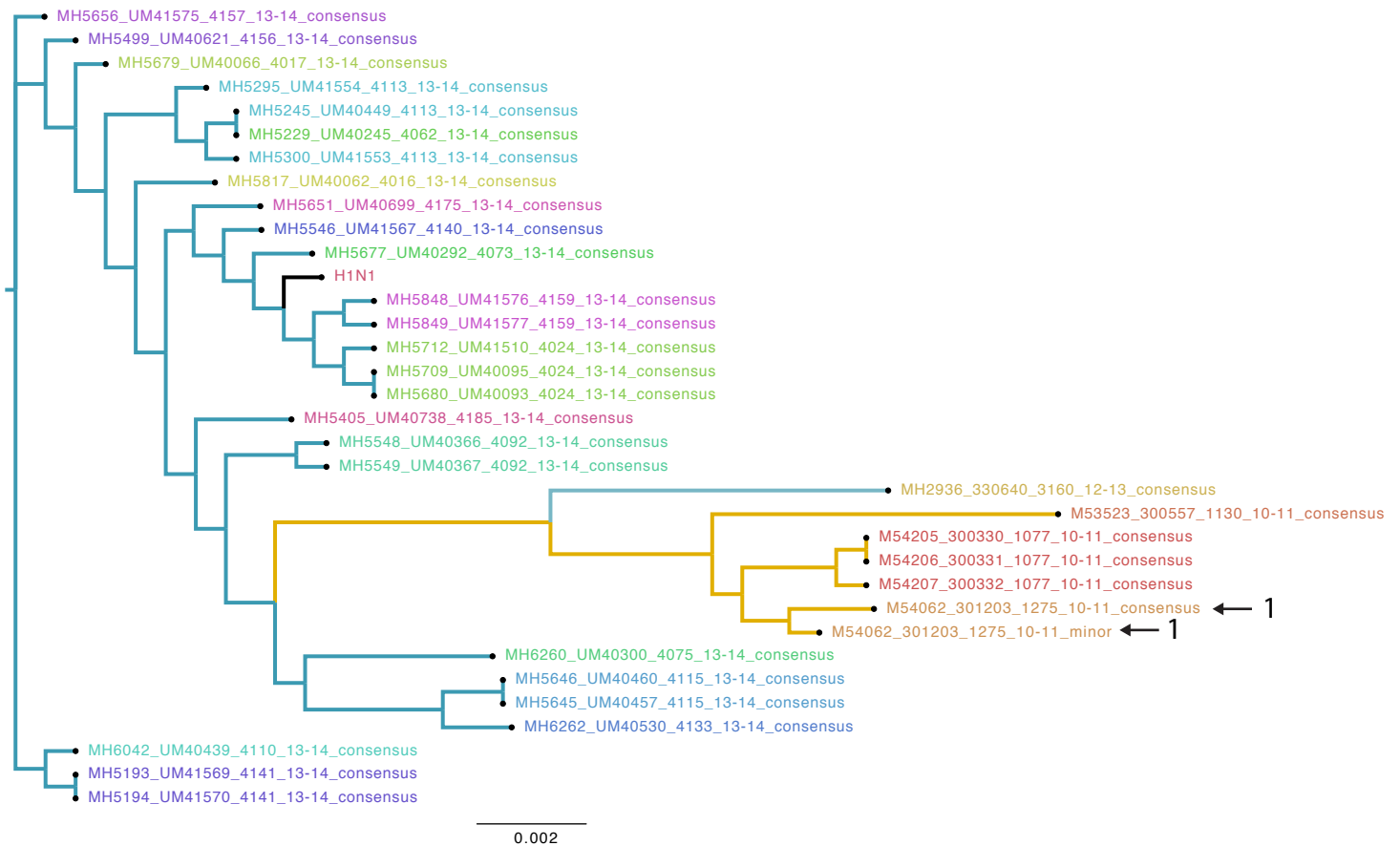
Figure 4. Combined estimates of within host mutation rate and effective population size. Contour plot shows the log likelihood surface for estimates of the effective population size and neutral mutation rate. The point represents the peak ($\mu = 4 \times 10^{-6}$, $N_e = 36$, log likelihood = -4,687). Log likelihoods for each contour are indicated.

Supplementary Figure 1



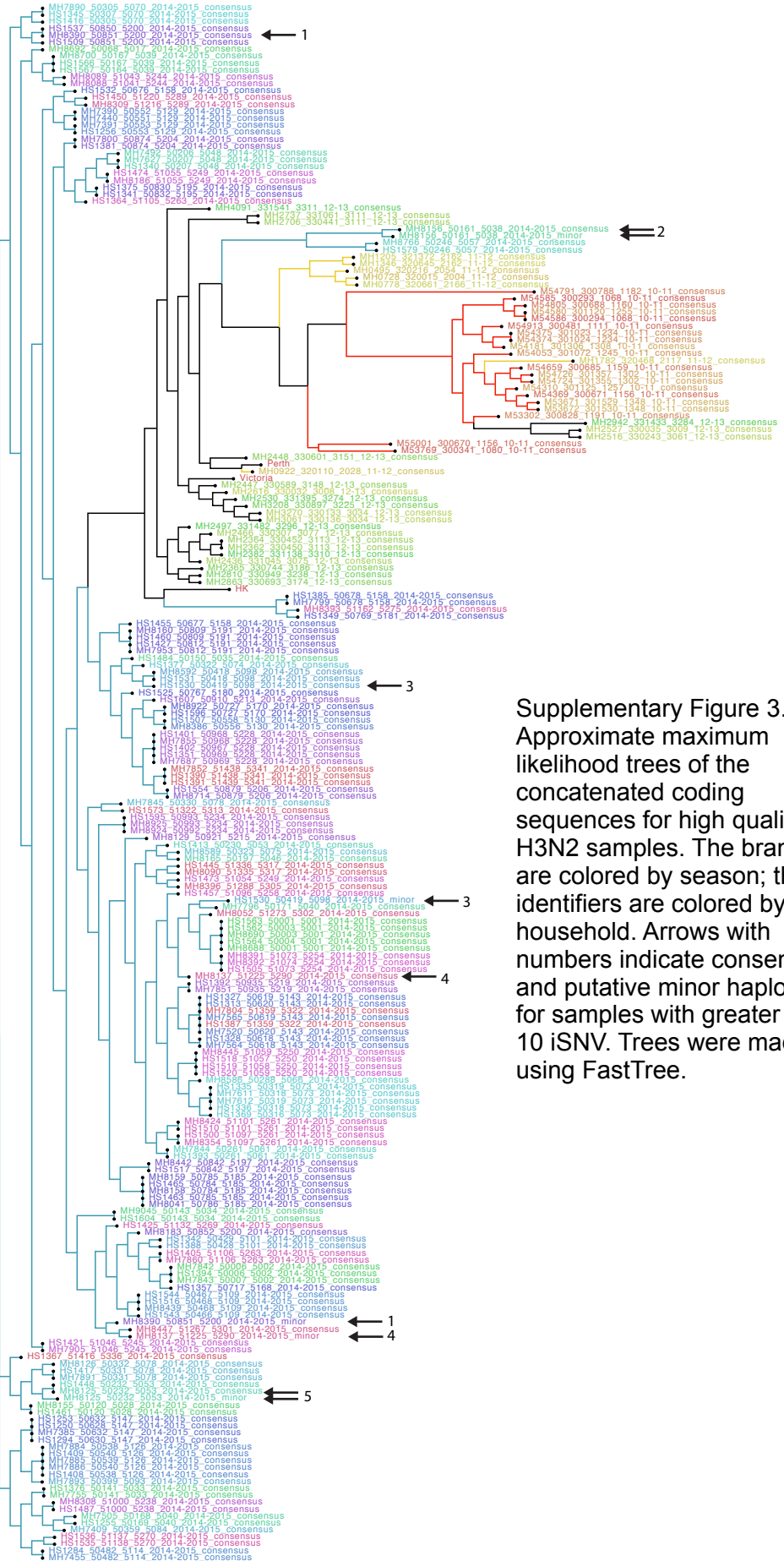
Supplementary Figure 1. Sequence coverage for all samples. For each sample, the sliding window mean coverage was calculated using a window size of 200 and a step of 100. The distributions of these means are plotted as box plots (median, 25th and 75th percentiles, whiskers extend to most extreme point within median \pm 1.5 x IQR) where the y-axis represents the read depth and the x-axis indicates the position of the window in a concatenated IAV genome.

Supplementary Figure 2



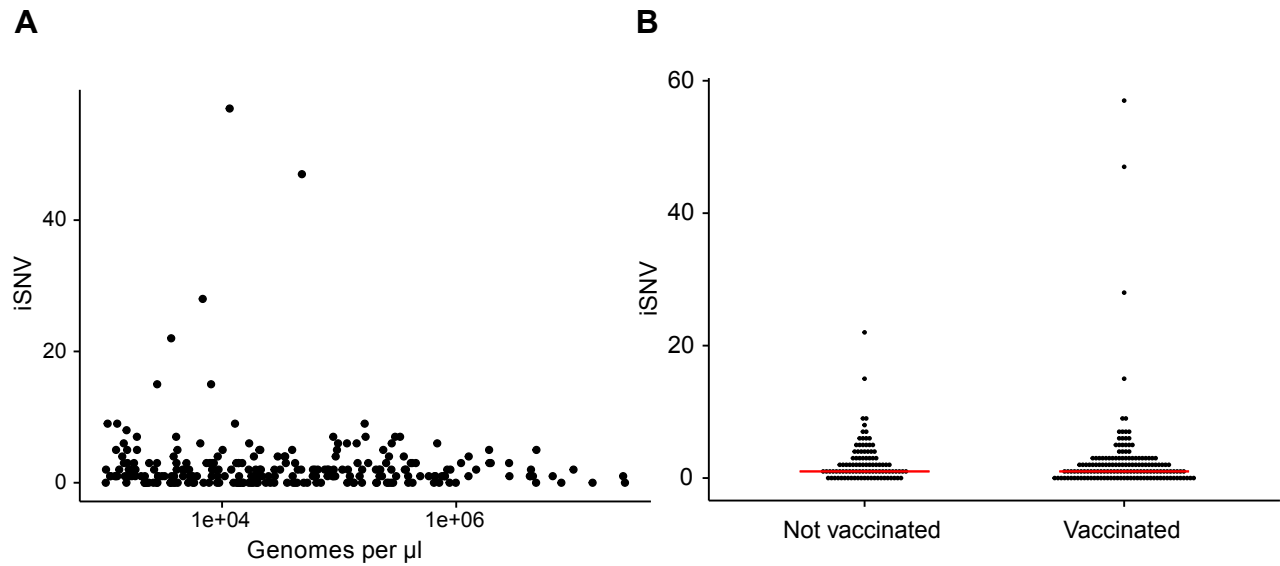
Supplementary Figure 2. Approximate maximum likelihood trees of the concatenated coding sequences for high quality H1N1 samples. The branches are colored by season; the tip identifiers are colored by household. Arrows with numbers indicate consensus and putative minor haplotypes for samples with greater than 10 iSNV. Trees were made using FastTree.

Supplementary Figure 3



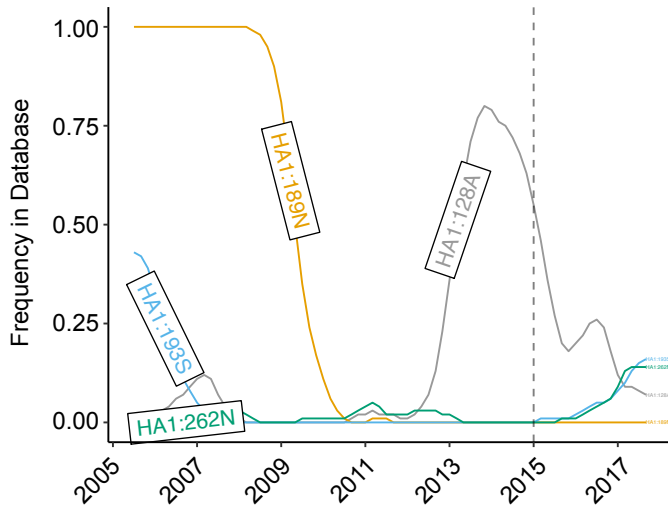
Supplementary Figure 3. Approximate maximum likelihood trees of the concatenated coding sequences for high quality H3N2 samples. The branches are colored by season; the tip identifiers are colored by household. Arrows with numbers indicate consensus and putative minor haplotypes for samples with greater than 10 iSNV. Trees were made using FastTree.

Supplementary Figure 4



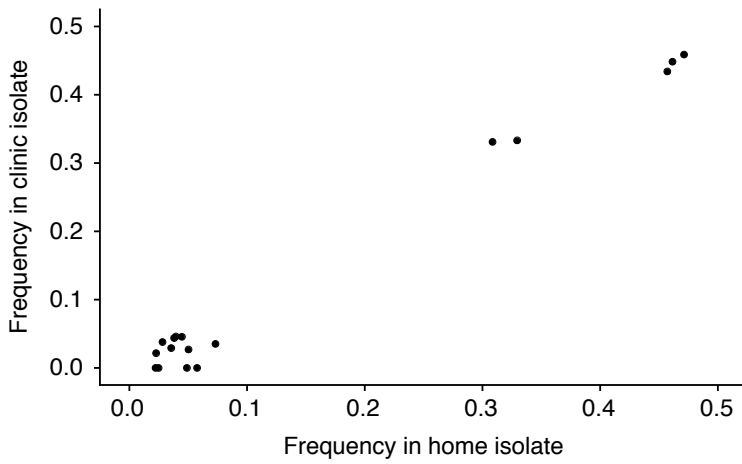
Supplementary Figure 4. The effect of titer and vaccination on the number of iSNV identified. (A) The number of iSNV identified in an isolate (y-axis) plotted against the titer (x-axis, genomes/ μ l transport media). (B) The number of iSNV identified in each isolate stratified by whether that individual was vaccinated or not. Red bars indicate the median of each distribution.

Supplementary Figure 5



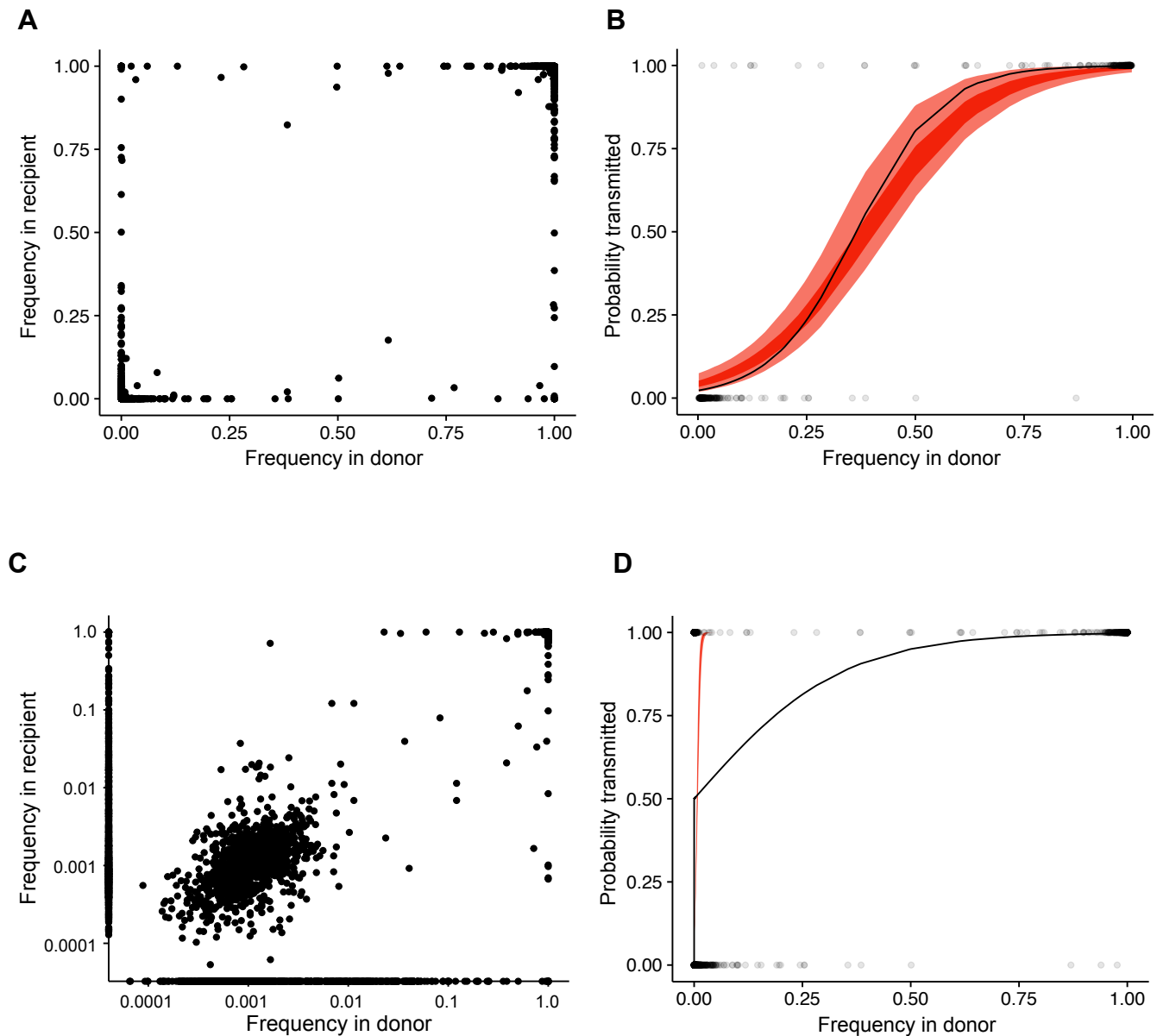
Supplementary Figure 5. Minority nonsynonymous iSNV in global circulation. The global frequencies of the amino acids that were found as minority variants in sample isolates (x-axis) plotted overtime (y-axis). Each amino acid trace is labeled according to the H3 number scheme. All samples were isolated in December of 2014 (gray line).

Supplementary Figure 6



Supplementary Figure 6. Reproducibility of iSNV identification for paired samples acquired on the same day. The x-axis represents iSNV frequencies found in the home-acquired nasal swab. The y-axis represents iSNV frequencies found the clinic-acquired combined throat and nasal swab.

Supplementary Figure 7



Supplementary Figure 7. Estimate of effective bottleneck size with relaxed variant calling criteria. (A) The frequency of iSNV in both recipient and donor isolates. iSNV were identified using the original variant calling pipeline. (B) The presence-absence model fit compared to the observed data for iSNV identified using the original variant calling pipeline. The x-axis represents the frequency of donor iSNV with transmitted iSNV plotted along the top and nontransmitted iSNV plotted along the bottom. The black line indicates the probability of transmission for a given iSNV frequency as determined by logistic regression. Similar fits were calculated for 1,000 simulations with a mean bottleneck size of 2.10. Fifty percent of simulated outcomes lie in the darkly shaded region and 95% lie in the lightly shaded regions. (C) Similar to (A) but with minority iSNV identified using the current analytical framework without a frequency threshold. (D) Similar to B but with minority iSNV identified using the current analytical framework without a frequency threshold.