

1 **Mitogenome diversity of *Aedes (Stegomyia) albopictus*: Detection of multiple**
2 **introduction events in Portugal and potential within-country dispersal**

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4 Running title: **Mitogenome diversity of *Aedes albopictus* in Portugal**

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28 **Abstract**

29 *Aedes albopictus*, along with *Ae. aegypti*, are key arbovirus vectors that have been expanding
30 their geographic range over the last decades. In 2017, *Ae. albopictus* was detected for the first
31 time at two distinct locations in Portugal. In order to understand how the *Ae. albopictus*
32 populations recently introduced in Portugal are genetically related and which is their likely route
33 of invasion, we performed an integrative cytochrome C oxidase I gene (COI)- and mitogenome-
34 based phylogeographic analysis of mosquitoes samples collected in Portugal in 2017 and 2018
35 in the context of the global *Ae. albopictus* diversity. COI-based analysis (31 partial sequences
36 obtained from 83 mosquitoes) revealed five haplotypes (1 to 5), with haplotype 1 (which is
37 widely distributed in temperate areas worldwide) being detected in both locations. Haplotypes
38 2 and 3 were exclusively found in Southern region (Algarve), while haplotype 4 and 5 were only
39 detected in the North of Portugal (Penafiel, Oporto region). Subsequent high discriminatory
40 analyses based on *Ae. albopictus* mitogenome (17 novel sequences) not only confirmed a high
41 degree of genetic variability within and between populations at both geographic locations
42 (compatible with the *Ae. albopictus* mosquito populations circulating in Europe), but also
43 revealed two mitogenome mutational signatures not previously reported at worldwide level.
44 While our results generally sustain the occurrence of multiple introduction events, fine
45 mitogenome sequence inspection further indicates a possible *Ae. albopictus* migration within
46 the country, from the Northern introduction locality to the Southern region. In summary, the
47 observed scenario of high *Ae. albopictus* genetic diversity in Portugal, together with the
48 detection of mosquitoes in successive years since 2017 in Algarve and Penafiel, points that both
49 *Ae. albopictus* populations seem to be already locally establish, as its presence has been
50 reported for three consecutive years, raising the public health awareness for future mosquito-
51 borne diseases outbreaks.

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53

54 **Author Summary**

55 In 2017, *Aedes albopictus* was reported for the first time in Portugal at two distinct locations, in
56 the premises of a tyre company in Penafiel, in the North, and nearby a golf course in Algarve, a
57 tourism destination in the southernmost country region. The geographical spread of this species
58 is boosted by larvae and desiccation-resistant eggs transport in aquatic trade goods, as tires and
59 aquatic plants, and adult anthropophilic behavior that favors passive land transportation. In
60 Portugal, especially in the Southern region, temperate climate conditions are adequate for adult
61 mosquitoes survival most of the year. In a way to understand the genetic variability of *Ae.*
62 *albopictus* populations introduced in Portugal, we analyzed 31 cytochrome C oxidase I gene
63 (COI) partial sequences and 17 mitogenome sequences, integrating them in the context of the
64 global *Ae. albopictus* phylogeographic diversity (i.e., 183 COI and 26 mitogenome sequences
65 previously reported at worldwide level). Although COI haplotype 1 predominated, four
66 additional haplotypes (2 to 5) were detected in Portugal. Subsequent in-depth mitogenome
67 analysis revealed considerable genetic diversity, including not only sequences relating to
68 mitogenomes reported mainly from Italy, Japan and China, but also two novel mitogenome
69 mutational signatures.

70 Our study indicate that *Ae. albopictus* is locally established in Portugal and intra-country
71 dispersal may have already happened, highlighting the challenges for vector surveillance and
72 control programs aiming at restraining arbovirus disease burden in the future.

73

74 **Introduction**

75 *Aedes (Stegomyia) albopictus*, originally described by Skuse in 1894 from India, is one of the most
76 invasive mosquito species that in the last 50 years has successfully colonized most of the tropical
77 and temperate regions worldwide. In the 1970s its expansion was noticed in several islands in
78 the Indian and Pacific Oceans (namely in the Hawaiian Islands) [1] and for the first time in
79 Europe, in Albania, in 1979 [2]. In the 1980s, *Ae. albopictus* was reported in the Americas,

80 becoming established in Harris County, Texas, where it became a dominant vector species in
81 Houston area [3], and in São Paulo, Brazil [4], and in Africa (first recorded in South Africa in 1989)
82 [5]. The geographic range of this species increased dramatically in the 1990s. In Central America,
83 the spread to Mexico also happened in the early 1990s [6, 7] and was confirmed by all countries
84 in 2010 [5].

85 In Italy, it was detected in 1990, in the port of Genoa where it was introduced in a shipment of
86 used tires from USA [8]. Italy is nowadays considered the most heavily-infested country in
87 Europe, since *Ae. albopictus* become established in most areas of the country (less than 600 m
88 above sea level) and is abundant in many urban areas [9].

89 Since the introduction in Italy, *Ae. albopictus* has been gradually spreading in Europe, and
90 specially into most of the Mediterranean countries (S1 Fig). More recently, in 2017, this
91 mosquito was reported in Portugal at two distinct locations, in a tyre company located in the
92 North of Portugal, Penafiel (Oporto region) [10], and nearby a golf resort in the South, Algarve
93 region [11]. Since then, its presence has been reported at the same locations continuously and
94 its establishment and dispersal raises concern for autochthonous mosquito-borne disease
95 outbreaks.

96 The worldwide successful expansion of *Ae. albopictus* has been promoted by unwilling transport
97 of eggs in artificial and natural containers (with several introductions routed by used tires and
98 Lucky bamboo trades), and to its anthropophilic behavior that promotes a close relation with
99 humans and consequent passive transport via private or public ground vehicles [12, 13].

100 This impressive invasive capacity is undoubtedly associated to this species adaptive plasticity
101 and the significant genetic population-based variation observed [14]. *Aedes albopictus* ability to
102 inhabit temperate regions with relatively cold and dry climates is related to egg diapause which
103 confers cold-hardiness, and is absent in tropical populations of this species, adapted to warm
104 and wet climates [15]. In this sense, the risk of establishment is believed to be related to the

105 origin of the mosquitoes, since mosquito populations with egg diapause of temperate origins
106 are more likely to establish in temperate latitudes [12].

107 *Aedes albopictus*, beyond being a nuisance species having considerable impact in environmental
108 health and community welfare, is a competent vector species of a wide range of arboviruses and
109 parasites, which raises the most concern in veterinary and public health. The transmission and
110 spread of pathogenic flaviviruses such as Dengue, Zika, West Nile, Yellow fever and Japanese
111 encephalitis viruses, alphaviruses like chikungunya virus, and also bunyaviruses as the La Crosse
112 and Rift Valley fever viruses makes this mosquito a major global public health issue.

113 Autochthonous transmission of dengue and chikungunya has been reported in Europe related
114 to *Ae. albopictus*, since 2007, when an outbreak of chikungunya with *circa* 330 suspected and
115 confirmed cases occurred in the region of Emilia Romagna in Italy [16, 17]. More recently,
116 chikungunya outbreaks have been reported in France in 2010 [18, 19], 2014 [20], and 2017 [21],
117 and again, in Italy in 2017 [22]. Autochthonous dengue cases caused by dengue serotypes 1 and
118 2 have also been reported in 2010 in Croatia [23] and France [24], and in France in 2013 [25],
119 2014 [26] and 2015 [27]. In 2018, 12 cases of autochthonous dengue were confirmed in the EU,
120 six in Spain (five in the region of Murcia and one in Catalonia) and six in France (five cases in
121 Saint Laurent du Var, one case in Montpellier) [28].

122 In Portugal, a National Vector Surveillance Network—REVIVE (REde de VIGilância de VEctores)—
123 is established since 2008 under the custody of the Portuguese Ministry of Health [29].
124 Nowadays, the REVIVE network includes the General Directorate of Health (DGS), the five
125 Regional Health Administrations (ARS) (namely Algarve, Alentejo, Lisboa e Vale do Tejo, Centro
126 and Norte), the National Institute of Health Doutor Ricardo Jorge (INSA), and, in the outermost
127 regions, the Institute of Health Administration of Madeira and the Regional Health Directorate
128 of Azores. REVIVE carries out the nationwide surveillance of the most significant hematophagous
129 arthropods in public health (mosquitoes, ticks, and sandflies). Surveillance of mosquito species
130 and screening of field-collected mosquitoes for arboviruses is regularly performed. At airports,

131 ports, storage areas, and specific border regions with Spain, monitoring takes place throughout
132 the year with the commitment of local and regional authorities.
133 Mitochondrial DNA genes, namely cytochrome oxidase subunit I (COI) and NADH dehydrogenase
134 subunit 5 (ND5), have been largely used to study the genetic relationships of *Ae. albopictus* [30-
135 33] producing significant sequence data from most of the countries where this species has
136 already been recorded. Mitochondrial DNA genes are ideal genetic markers to assess ancestry
137 and demographic changes in populations [34] since their inheritance is uniparental (maternal in
138 *Ae. albopictus*), recombination events are absent, they have high mutation and nucleotide
139 substitution rates and a well-defined effective population size of one-fourth nuclear genes [34-
140 36]. However, some limitations detected in COI and ND5 population studies show that the
141 variation observed may be inadequate to identify and phylogenetically link haplogroups [37-39].
142 In a way to overcome these constrains, Battaglia et al. [40] studied sequence variation in the
143 entire coding regions of 27 mitogenomes and define five haplogroups in Asia, of which only
144 three (A1a1, A1a2, and A1b) were likely to be related to the worldwide spread of the tiger
145 mosquito.
146 In order to understand how *Ae. albopictus* populations recently introduced in Portugal are
147 genetically related and which is their likely route of invasion, we performed an integrative COI-
148 and mitogenome-based phylogeographic analysis of mosquitoes collected in Portugal in 2017
149 and 2018 in the context of the global *Ae. albopictus* diversity.

150

151 **Methods**

152 **Mosquito samples and DNA extraction**

153 In order to explore the mitogenome diversity, we analyzed nine *Aedes albopictus* mosquitoes
154 from 12th September to 4th October 2017, and in 11th July 2018 in the premises of a tyre
155 company, located in the metropolitan area of Oporto, municipality of Penafiel, and 17 *Ae.*
156 *albopictus* females in Loulé municipality, Algarve region, from 12th July 2018 to 4th October 2018

157 (Table 1). All mosquito samples were collected by the national REVIVE surveillance network at
158 public and private properties with the respective accountable/owners knowledge and
159 permission. Samples for DNA extraction were selected individually and in pools (up to six
160 mosquitoes). All these mosquitoes were previously identified at morphological [41, 42] and
161 molecular (Osório et al. [10], and this work for mosquitos collected in 2018) levels. Additionally,
162 7 and 60 mosquitos, collected in Algarve and Penafiel, respectively, from 26th September to 17th
163 October 2018 were also molecularly identified using COI gene of mitochondrial DNA using
164 primers LCO 1490 and HCO 2198 [43], as previously described [10]. Mosquito samples collected
165 in 2018 were selected for mitogenome sequence using COI haplotype data.

166 Mosquitoes were grinded individually or in pools (up to 6 specimens) with a mortar and pestle
167 with liquid nitrogen and 500 µL of minimal essential medium supplied with 10% FBS,
168 streptomycin (0.1 mg/mL) and amphotericin B (1 mg/mL). An aliquot of 300 µL was preserved
169 at -80°C and the remaining volume was further grinded 300 µL of Lysis Buffer (NUCLISENS®
170 easyMAG, Biomérieux), added to the homogenizer cartridge (Invitrogen) and centrifuged at
171 12,000g for 2 min to remove cellular debris and reduce lysate viscosity. Total nucleic acid
172 extraction was performed using the prepared lysate suspensions in the automated platform
173 NUCLISENS® easyMAG (Biomérieux).

174 **Amplicon-based next-generation sequencing**

175 Mitochondrial coding regions (1-14,893 bp) were amplified according to the protocol described
176 by Battaglia et al. [40] by the amplification of two long PCR fragments using primers 274F (5'AGC
177 TAA CTC TTG ATT AGG GGC A3') and 8875R (5'TGT TGA GGC ACC TGT TTC AG3') for coding region
178 1 (8.6 Kb), and 8415F (5'TTA AAG TCG GAG GAG CAG CT3') and 14717R (5'AAA TTT GTG CCA
179 GCT ACC GC3') for coding region 2 (6.3 Kb). Long PCRs were carried out in 50 µL reaction mixtures
180 with 1x AccuPrime™ PCR Buffer II (Invitrogen), 1 U of AccuPrime™ *Taq* DNA Polymerase High
181 Fidelity (Invitrogen), 0.2 µM of each primer and 10-50 ng of template DNA. PCR conditions were
182 as follows: denaturation at 94°C for 2 min, and 35 cycles of 94°C for 30s, 59°C for 30 s and 68°C

183 for 9 min, and final extension at 68°C for 5 min. Successful amplicons were screened on a 1.5%
184 agarose gel and further purified using Agencourt AMPure XP PCR Purification kit before
185 proceeding to Nextera XT DNA Library Preparation (Illumina), according to manufacture
186 instructions. Libraries were subsequently sequenced (2 x 150 bp or 2 x 200 bp paired-end reads)
187 using a MiSeq (Illumina) equipment.

188 **Data analysis**

189 Core bioinformatics analyses were conducted using INSaFLU (<https://insaflu.insa.pt/>), a web-
190 based platform for amplicon-based NGS data analysis [44]. Briefly, the bioinformatics pipeline
191 (detailed in Borges et al. [44]) involved: i) raw NGS reads quality analysis and improvement using
192 FastQC v. 0.11.5 (<https://www.bioinformatics.babraham.ac.uk/projects/fastqc>) and
193 Trimmomatic v. 0.27 [45] (<http://www.usadellab.org/cms/index.php?page=trimmomatic>),
194 respectively; ii) reference-based mapping, consensus generation and variant detection using the
195 multisoftware tool Snippy v. 3.2-dev (<https://github.com/tseemann/snippy>) (the captured
196 sequence of the mitogenome of *Ae. albopictus* strain Rimini isolate 1#Rim1 haplogroup A1a1a1
197 was used as reference; NCBI accession number KX383916; positions 283-14702); and, iii)
198 alignment of consensus sequences using MAFFT v. 7.313 [46]
199 (<https://mafft.cbrc.jp/alignment/software/>). Mean depth of coverage *per* sample ranged from
200 ~450x to 1500x. Reads datasets generated during this study are available at the European
201 Nucleotide Archive (Project accession number PRJEB32796). Detailed ENA accession numbers
202 are described in S2 Table.

203 For the integration of mosquitos circulating in Portugal into the global *Ae. albopictus* genetic
204 diversity, nucleotide consensus sequences of both COI gene and mitogenome were aligned
205 against multiple sequences available at GenBank (183 COI and 26 mitogenome sequences
206 previously reported at worldwide level; S1 and S2 Tables respectively) using MAFFT v. 7.313 [46].
207 The obtained nucleotide alignments were manually inspected/corrected using MEGA 7.0 [47]
208 (<https://www.megasoftware.net/>) and further used to build approximately-maximum-

209 likelihood phylogenetic trees applying the double-precision mode of FastTree2 under the
210 General Time-Reversible (GTR) model (1000 bootstraps) [48]. The shared internal regions of the
211 COI gene and mitogenome subjected to comparative genetic analyses in this study correspond
212 to positions 1,511-2,080 and 283-14,653 of the reference mitogenome (Rimini isolate 1;
213 GenBank accession number KX383916), respectively. *Aedes albopictus* metrics of genetic
214 diversity including the number of polymorphic sites, haplotype diversity, and nucleotide
215 diversity for COI and mitogenome sequences, for all determined sequences and for Oporto and
216 Algarve populations were estimated using DnaSP v.5.0 [49].
217 Phylogenetic data integration and visualization was performed using GrapeTree [50] and
218 Microreact (also used for geospatial data visualization) [51].

219

220 **Results**

221 **COI haplotypes diversity in Portugal**

222 Thirty-one mtDNA COI partial sequences from 83 *Ae. albopictus* mosquitoes collected in
223 Portugal were analyzed (GenBank accession numbers MF990905, MK995303-MK995332)
224 representing five haplotypes (i.e. maternal lineages) and a total of four polymorphic sites (Table
225 1). Estimated nucleotide diversity and haplotype diversity was higher in Algarve than in Oporto
226 population ($\pi= 0.00149$, $Hd =0.6895$ vs $\pi= 0.00043$, $Hd =0.2747$).

227 Analysis of partial DNA sequences from the COI gene obtained from mosquitoes collected in
228 Algarve (Southern Portugal) in 2018 confirmed the presence of three haplotypes (1, 2 and 3),
229 and allowed the detection of two new haplotypes (4 and 5) in Penafiel (Northern Portugal) in
230 2018, besides the haplotype 1 mosquito samples previously collected in this region in 2017
231 (Table 1 and S2 Fig). Haplotype 1, which is shared in both regions, represents the most common
232 and widely distributed in temperate areas (Fig 1, S2 Fig, Table 1 and S1 Table). The observed
233 diversity detected in Portugal, considering the geospatial haplotype distribution in Europe (Fig

234 1B; S2 Fig), can be well explained by passive land-transportation from other European countries,
235 especially from the Mediterranean countries.

236 **Mitogenome-based phylogeography of *Ae. albopictus***

237 A total of 17 novel mitogenomes coding sequences, 14 almost complete (14,370 – 14,420 bp;
238 GenBank accessions MN513352-MN513359, MN513361, MN513362, MN513364-MN513366
239 and MN513368) and three partial sequences (GenBank accessions MN513360, MN513363 and
240 MN513367, for PoMo2709, PoMoF503 and PoMoF618, respectively) were determined in this
241 study, representing nine different sequences (Table 1, S3 Table). Using mitogenome sequences,
242 the estimated nucleotide diversity was higher in Algarve ($\pi= 0.00052$ vs $\pi= 0.00047$), but the
243 haplotype diversity was higher in Oporto *Ae. albopictus* population ($Hd =0.8056$ vs $Hd =0.7500$).
244 Sequence analysis confirms a high level of mitogenome diversity in both locations compatible
245 with the *Ae. albopictus* mosquito populations circulating in Europe (Fig 2, S2 and S3 Tables).
246 Overall, and as previously reported by Battaglia et al. [40] for most of mitogenomes circulating
247 in temperate regions, the Portuguese mitogenome' sequences grouped within haplogroup A1.
248 Specifically, (i) PoMo2600, PoMo2601, PoMo2604, PoMo2608 mitogenomes from Oporto
249 cluster with mitogenomes from Italy and USA (A1a1a1a, using Battaglia et al. haplogroup
250 designation), (ii) PoMo2728 and PoMoF636 mitogenomes from Algarve clusters with A1a1a
251 mitogenome from Japan (J Wa1), (iii) PoMo2602 and PoMoF505 mitogenomes from Oporto
252 clusters more closely with Chinese Foshan sequence, from a laboratory-maintained strain
253 founded in 1981 from mosquitoes from Southeast China (A1a2), and (iv) PoMo2607
254 mitogenome from Oporto clusters with Ath2 mitogenome from Greece (A1a2a) (Fig 2, S3 Table).
255 Nevertheless, besides the mitogenome-based divergence reported previously [40], two novel
256 sequence clusters were recovered represented respectively by two sequences, PoMoF506 and
257 PoMoF607 from Algarve, and three sequences, PoMo2599 (2017, Oporto) and PoMo2711 and
258 2708 (2018, Algarve) (Fig 2). The sequence variation observed in the latest group, enrolling
259 similar sequences observed in the northern region in 2017, and posteriorly in the southern

260 region in 2018, may indicate a possible migration of *Ae. albopictus* within the country,
261 compatible with the observed mutational and temporal profiles (S3 Table).

262

263 **Discussion and Conclusions**

264 Overall and as expected, the *Aedes albopictus* mosquitos collected in Portugal, in 2017 and 2018,
265 are related to populations involved in the worldwide spread of this species through temperate
266 regions. The genetic diversity observed at both locations, especially by mitogenome sequence
267 analysis, indicates that the main introduction events were distinct and unrelated. However, the
268 determination of a unique cluster of mitogenome sequences in Penafiel, Oporto in 2017
269 (PoMo2599) and in Algarve in September of 2018 (PoMo2711 and PoMo2708) may indicate
270 migration of *Ae. albopictus* in Portugal from Oporto to Algarve. Algarve region is a common
271 vacation destination for Portuguese population, with increased travel in the summer season.
272 Although in 2019, no additional collections sites for *Ae. albopictus* were, so far, reported by the
273 REVIVE, the geographic spread within the country cannot be excluded. However, further
274 mitogenome surveys enabling the access of sequences from mosquitoes collected in other
275 European countries, namely in Spain are imperative to access a clear picture of this species
276 geographic expansion.

277 In Penafiel (Northern location, Oporto region), the increased genetic diversity suggests multiple
278 introduction events via tires transport. This hypothesis is supported by the detection of new
279 distinct COI/mitogenome sequences in 2018 comparing with 2017. Despite several international
280 connections by sea and sea ports in Portugal, representing high risk entry points, the pattern of
281 genetic diversity observed in *Ae. albopictus* mosquitoes suggests that the introduction events
282 detected at both sites/regions were promoted by passive land-transportation mainly from other
283 European countries. In Penafiel, at the premises of the tyre company, the introduction event
284 was most probably by immature stages, including eggs and larvae, and in Algarve most likely of
285 adult mosquitoes by passive transport in public or private vehicles. Some tiger mosquitoes

286 mitogenome sequences detected in Penafiel in 2017 (PoMo2600, PoMo2601, PoMo2604 e
287 PoMo2608) are identical to mitogenome sequences detected in Italy (Cassino, region of Lazio
288 [40]; GenBank accession KX383921), indicating this country as the most probable origin of, at
289 least, some of the mosquitoes populations introduced in Portugal. These results are in
290 agreement with the general assumption that Italy is the geographic origin of the recent *Ae.*
291 *albopictus* spread in Europe [52] and also corroborates the report by Osório et al. [10] of an *Ae.*
292 *albopictus* Insect Specific Flavivirus (ISF) sequence detected in Penafiel in 2017 similar to ISF
293 sequences detected previously in Italy.

294 From other perspective, the high genetic diversity perceived in our results prove the coexistence
295 of different genetic sources, thus raising the hypothesis that such population plasticity can be
296 enough to difficult eventual vector control strategies. Additionally, the detection of mosquitoes
297 in successive years since 2017 in Algarve and Penafiel points that both *Ae. albopictus* populations
298 seem to be already locally establish, as its presence has been reported for three consecutive
299 years.

300 Furthermore, as vector spread is a key risk factor for arbovirus transmission, with arboviruses
301 outbreaks typically occurring 5-15 years after *Ae. aegypti* or *Ae. albopictus* detection [52], the
302 presence of *Ae. albopictus* in Portugal is a major public health threat, raising concern about the
303 introduction of several arboviruses in the continent to the same level as already recognized in
304 Madeira Island. In fact, *Ae. aegypti* present in Madeira since 2005 [53], was associated with the
305 major dengue outbreak reported in Europe in 2012 [54].

306 Considering the emerging arboviruses (namely Dengue, Zika and Chikungunya viruses) and the
307 rapid movement of viremic travelers, the risk of autochthonous cases in Europe is directly linked
308 to the presence of *Aedes* vectors (especially during the summer season when vectorial capacity
309 is sufficient to sustain transmission) and the number of travelers that arrive viremic increases
310 [55]. A recent work by Massad et al. [55] estimates that Portugal received 71 dengue-viremic air
311 passengers in 2012 (following Germany, France, United Kingdom, Italy and Spain with 167, 150,

312 148, 124 and 120 estimated dengue-viremic travelers, respectively). This estimate drops to 36
313 when considering the monthly distribution of the arrivals of Dengue infected passengers from
314 May to October (when vectorial capacity is higher in Portugal). However, in Algarve, which is the
315 southernmost country region, and where more suitable climatic conditions with higher
316 temperatures are observed, the vectorial capacity can be suitable from March-April, until
317 November, when the estimate number of dengue-viremic travelers arriving raises to 64 [55].
318 Regarding Algarve, the public health concern is thus particularly high, since this region is an
319 important tourism destination in Europe. Moreover, when considering the expected number of
320 dengue viremic air passengers arriving only from Brazil, Portugal is the third European country
321 at high risk, receiving 68 dengue-viremic travelers (closely following France and Italy that are
322 expected to receive 70 and 69 dengue-viremic travelers, respectively). In fact, this work by
323 Massada and co-authors [55] points out the high risk of arbovirus introduction and occurrence
324 of secondary autochthonous cases in Portugal, especially from Brazil.

325 In conclusion, our work, by providing an unprecedented and detailed picture of the genetic
326 diversity of *Ae. albopictus* detected in Portugal, highlights the importance of surveillance at
327 “hotspots” for mosquitoes introduction, as tires companies, and points of entry (borders, ports
328 and airports), as well as the eventual implementation of vector control methods by the
329 responsible authorities to prevent (new) introductions, establishments and dispersals within the
330 country.

331 Considering recent prediction studies, habitat suitability for *Ae. albopictus* expansion is expected
332 in Portugal from North to South [52]. In this scenario, the application of vector control measures
333 and the maintenance of national entomological surveillance programs is crucial to effectively
334 lower the risk of future autochthonous arbovirus cases (and outbreaks) in Portugal.

335

336

337

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341 sequences (Genbank accessions KU319443-KU319450). We are also grateful to REVIVE team for
342 the mosquito collection nationwide.

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1 **Table 1.** *Aedes albopictus* samples collected in Portugal.

Original Designation	COI GenBank ID	mitDNA GenBank ID	Collection Date	Collection Place	Region	Nº Mosq	Mitogenome*	COI Haplotype
PoMo1076 ^a	MF990905	ND	04/09/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1		1
PoMo2599	MK995303	MN513352	04/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	New 2	1
PoMo2600	MK995304	MN513353	02/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a1a1a)	1
PoMo2601	MK995305	MN513354	02/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a1a1a)	1
PoMo2602	MK995306	MN513355	04/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a2)	1
PoMo2604	MK995307	MN513356	04/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a1a1a)	1
PoMo2607	MK995308	MN513357	13/09/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a2a)	1
PoMo2608	MK995309	MN513358	12/09/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a1a1a)	1
PoMo2605/2609/2611 ^b	MK995310	ND	04/10/2017	Penafiel	Oporto	3		1
PoMoF502	MK995311	ND	11/07/2018	Penafiel	Oporto	1		1
PoMo2708	MK995312	MN513359	27/09/2018	Almancil	Algarve	1	New 2	1
PoMo2711	MK995313	MN513361	26/09/2018	Almancil	Algarve	4	New 2	1
PoMo2713A	MK995314	ND	08/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	2		1
PoMo2724	MK995315	ND	17/10/2018	Penafiel	Oporto	6		1
PoMo2725A	MK995316	ND	17/10/2018	Penafiel	Oporto	1		1
PoMo2727	MK995317	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	6		1
PoMoF607 ^c	NA	MN513366	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	1	New 1	2
PoMo2729B	MK995318	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	3		1
PoMoF506	MK995319	MN513365	12/07/2018	Quarteira	Algarve	1	New 1	2
PoMo2710	MK995320	ND	26/09/2018	Almancil	Algarve	1		2
PoMo2712A	MK995321	ND	08/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	5		2
PoMo2714	MK995322	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	6		2
PoMo2725B	MK995323	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	5		2
PoMo2726	MK995324	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	6		2
PoMo2729A	MK995325	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	3		2
PoMo2709	MK995326	MN513360	27/09/2018	Almancil	Algarve	3	(A1a1a)	3
PoMo2712B	MK995327	ND	08/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	5		3
PoMo2713B	MK995328	ND	08/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	2		3
PoMo2715	MK995329	ND	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	6	(A1a1a)	3
PoMoF636 ^d	NA	MN513368	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	1	(A1a1a)	3
PoMo2728	MK995330	MN513362	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	6	(A1a1a)	3
PoMoF618 ^e	NA	MN513367	04/10/2018	Almancil	Algarve	1	(A1a1a)	3
PoMoF505	MK995331	MN513364	11/07/2018	Penafiel	Oporto	1	(A1a2)	4
PoMoF503	MK995332	MN513363	11/07/2018	Penafiel	Oporto	1		5

2 *Mitogenome designation as defined by Battaglia et al. [40].

3 ^a [10]

4 ^bSequence obtained from 3 mosquitos.

5 ^cFemale mosquito analysed individually from pool PoMo2727.

6 ^dFemale mosquito analysed individually from pool PoMo2715.

7 ^eFemale mosquito analysed individually from pool PoMo2728.

8 NA – not applicable; ND – not determined.

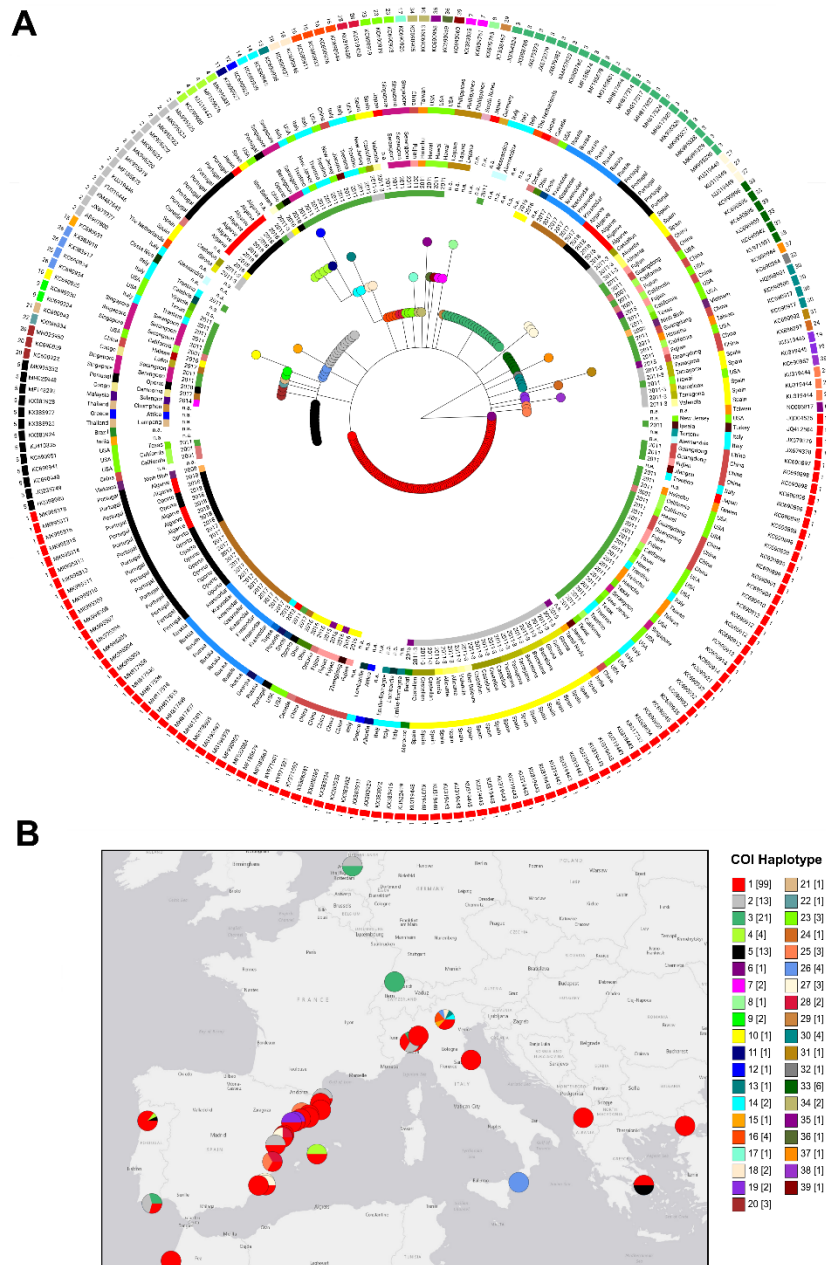


Fig 1. Integration of mosquitoes detected in Portugal into the global *A. albopictus* COI-based genetic diversity. A. Microreact Visualization of a maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree constructed based on 31 novel COI sequences obtained from mosquito circulating in Portugal plus 182 sequences available at GenBank (S1 Table). The colored external rings (from the outside in) indicate the COI haplotype/GenBank accession numbers, country, country region and year of collection. The tree nodes are colored according with the COI haplotype. For better tree visualization, the highly divergent VN103-9 strain haplotype 40 was excluded from the tree and the NC006817 sequence representative of mitogenome haplogroup A3 / COI haplotype 6 was used as root. **B.** Geospatial mapping of *A. albopictus* detected in the Portugal by COI haplotype in the context of the mosquito distribution in Europe region (plus Morocco). Of note, the geographical placement of circles (colored by haplotype distribution) in the map may not correspond to the exact location where mosquitoes were collected (refer to S1 Table for details about the used location) and the circles size does not correlate with number of sequences documented in each location. The internal region of the COI gene under comparison corresponds to positions 1511-2080 of the Rimini isolate 1 reference mitogenome (GenBank accession number KX383916). Phylogenetic and geospatial data were integrated using the freely available platform Microreact [51], with the map presented here being externally created with the open source website <https://landlook.usgs.gov/viewer.html>.

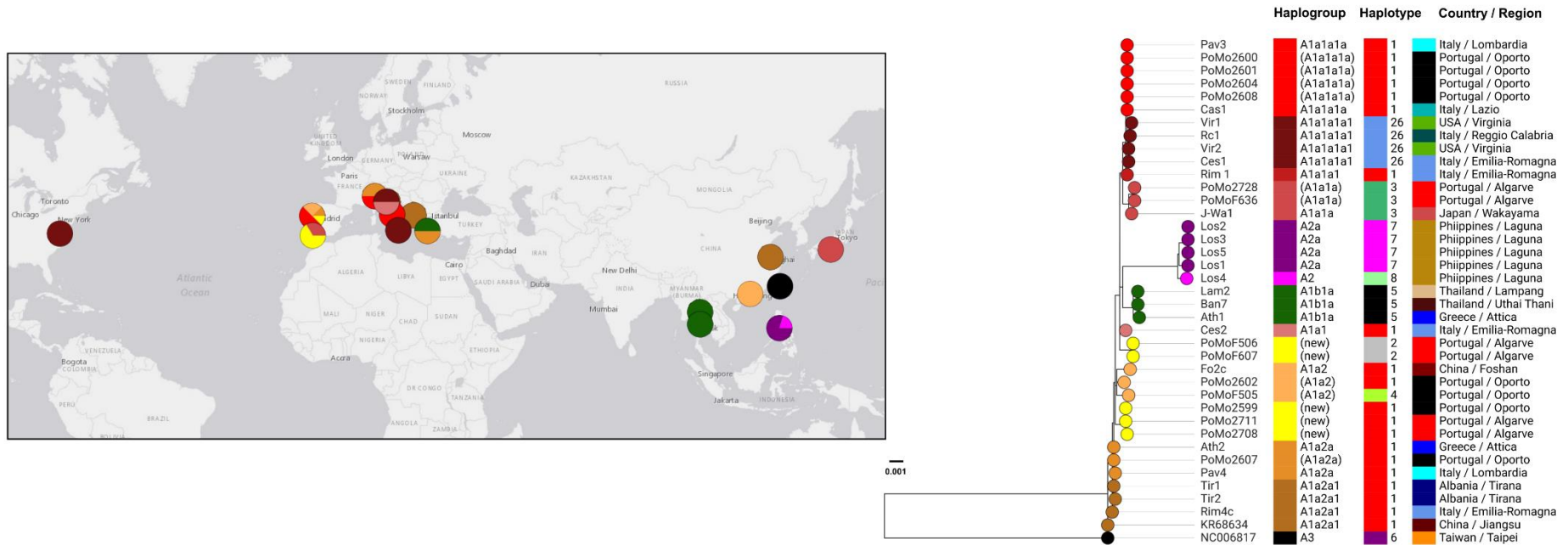


Fig 2. Mitogenome-based phylogeographic analysis of mosquitos detected in Portugal. The figure illustrates the integrative phylogenetic and geospatial analysis of 14 novel mitogenome sequences obtained from mosquito circulating in Portugal plus 25 sequences available in GenBank (S2 Table). The tree nodes are colored according with distinct mitogenome backgrounds (classified as haplogroup, according to Battaglia et al. [40] when possible). Colored blocks (from left to right) indicate the (inferred) haplogroup, COI haplotype and country / region of the 39 mitogenomes under comparison. Of note, inferred haplogroups are indicated within brackets (see details in S3 Table), where divergent sequences that do not present SNP/indel profiles of previously defined haplogroups representative are indicated as potentially “new” (in yellow) haplogroups (including one potentially novel haplogroup detected in Oporto region and another detected in both Oporto and Algarve regions). Of note, the geographical placement of circles (colored by inferred haplogroups) in the map may not correspond to the exact location where mosquitos were collected (refer to S2 Table 2 for details about the applied location). The internal region of the mitogenome sequence under comparison corresponds to positions 283-14653 of the Rimini isolate 1 reference mitogenome (GenBank accession number KX383916). The tree scale reflects the number of substitution *per* site in the 14400 bp alignment. Phylogenetic and geospatial data were integrated using the freely available platform Microreact [51], with the map presented here being externally created with the open source website <https://landlook.usgs.gov/viewer.html>.