Genome-wide data inferring the evolution and population demography of the novel pneumonia coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2)

Bin Fang[1*], Linlin Liu[1*], Xiao Yu[1*], Xiang Li[1*], Guojun Ye[1], Juan Xu[3], Ling Zhang[3] ,

Faxian Zhan[1], Guiming Liu[4], Tao Pan[2#] , Yilin Shu[2#] , Yongzhong Jiang[1#]

1. Influenza Reference Laboratory, Institute of Health Inspection and Testing, Hubei Provincial Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Wuhan 430079, China

2. Anhui Province Key Laboratory for Conservation and Exploitation of Biological Resource, College of Life Sciences, Anhui Normal University, Wuhu 241000, Anhui, China

3. Hubei Province Key Laboratory of Occupational Hazard Identification and Control, School of Public Health, Wuhan University of Science and Technology, Wuhan, Hubei, 430065, China

4. Beijing Agro-Biotechnology Research Center, Beijing Academy of Agriculture and Forestry Sciences, 100097, Beijing, China

*These authors have equal contribution to this study.

#Correspondence: Tao Pan, pantao20070778@163.com; Yilin Shu, sjshuyilin@163.com; Yongzhong Jiang, hbcdcxd@163.com.

Other Author's Email:

Bin Fang: nicolfang@163.com

Linlin Liu: mice0809@163.com

Xiao Yu: fish-yuxiao@hotmail.com

Xiang Li: li_xiang75@yeah.net

Guojun Ye: gjy0822@sina.comv

Juan Xu: xujuan9270@163.com

Ling Zhang: zhangling@wust.edu.cn

Faxian Zhan: zhanfx@163.com

Guiming Liu: mingguiliu@aliyun.com

Abstract

Since December 2019, coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) emerged in

Wuhan, Central China and rapidly spread throughout China. Up to March 3, 2020,

SARS-CoV-2 has infected more than 89,000 people in China and other 66 countries

across six continents. In this study, we used 10 new sequenced genomes of

SARS-CoV-2 and combined 136 genomes from GISAID database to investigate the

genetic variation and population demography through different analysis approaches

(e.g. Network, EBSP, Mismatch, and neutrality tests). The results showed that 80

haplotypes had 183 substitution sites, including 27 parsimony-informative and 156

singletons. Sliding window analyses of genetic diversity suggested a certain mutations

abundance in the genomes of SARS-CoV-2, which may be explaining the existing

widespread and high adaptation of the deadly virus. Phylogenetic analysis showed

that the view, pangolin acted as an intermediate host, may be controversial. The

network indicated that, in the original haplotype (H14), one patient sample lived

near the Huanan seafood market (approximate 2 km), indicating high possibility of

the patient having a history of unconscious contact with this market. However, based

on this clue, we cannot accurately concluded that   whether this market was the origin

center of SARS-CoV-2. Additionally, 16 genomes, collected from this market,

assigned to 10 haplotypes, indicated a circulating infection within the market in a

short term and then leading to the outbreak of SARS-CoV-2 in Wuhan and other areas.

The EBSP results showed that the first estimated expansion date of SARS-CoV-2

began from 7 December 2019, which may indicated that the transmission could have

begun from person to person in mid to late November.

Key words SARS-CoV-2; metagenomic next-generation sequencing; virus

evolution; population demography; phylogenetic relationship

Introduction

As the largest non-segmented genomes among all the RNA viruses (about 30 kb

in length), Coronaviruses (CoVs) own the plasticity due to the mutation and

recombination, which increased the potential risks of spread across species [1, 2]. The

COVID-19 (original named 2019-nCOV) is the seventh member of enveloped RNA

coronavirus (subgenus, Sarbecovirus; subfamily, Orthocoronavirinae) [3]. In early

December, 2019, an unexplained pneumonia associated with the severe acute

respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) emerged in Wuhan, China [4, 5].

The rapid emergence and spread of the SARS-CoV-2 between infected and healthy

people became so devastating as a large population within Wuhan was getting

infected [6, 7]. There's evidence that SARS-CoV-2 may have originated from bats, but

there is no clear information about the intermediate host that transferred it to humans

[8-10]. On 30 January 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the

outbreak of COVID-19 to be a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. Up

to March 3, 2020, SARS-CoV-2 has infected more than 89,000 people in China and

other 66 countries across the six continents (source: World Health Organization

report).

Despite the worldwide rapid spread, the genomic variation dynamics,

evolutionary rate, and virus transmission dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 are not yet well

understood. In several recent studies, phylogenetic relationships, variations,

evolutionary rates, and propagation dynamics were analyzed using limited genomic

data from the SARS-CoV-2 [5, 9-17]. As the epidemic progresses, many research

institutes around the world have obtained and submitted SARS-CoV-2 genome

sequences, increasing the number of SARS-CoV-2 genome sequences in the Data

Centers (i.e, GISAID). Given the extremely rapid spread of SARS-CoV-2, an updated

analysis with significantly larger sample sizes by incorporating cases throughout the

world is urgently needed. This would allow for more accurate identification of

SARS-CoV-2 variant dynamics, evolutionary rates, virus transmission dynamics, and

epidemic history in order to effectively implement public health measures, promote

drugs and vaccines development and to efficiently prevent similar epidemics in the

future.

Recent research findings have suggested bat and other non-bat intermediate

mammals (such as pangolin) as potential intermediate host for the SARS-CoV-2 that

have so far been widely transmitted to humans [5, 9, 18]. According to the medical

information of the first patients to be infected in Wuhan, 27 out of 41 patients were

found to be traders of wild mammals in the Huanan seafood market, which directly

suggests that the Huanan seafood market as the possible source of origin of the

SARS-CoV-2, and later got transmitted it to other areas by the infected people [4, 19].

However, due to some infected persons having no relation or access to the Huanan

food market, some researchers are skeptical of the market as the only actual origin or

the source of SARS-CoV-2 transmission to humans [4, 19, 20]. Therefore, up to date,

in the absence of key potential intermediary host, the origin and transmission pattern

of SARS-CoV-2 still need to be thoroughly probed for a more reliable and accurate

information on the origin and transmission mechanisms of the virus.

In this study, 56 full genome sequences of outgroups and 136 genomes of

SARS-CoV-2 from GISAID EpiFluTM database (access date 22 February 2020) were

collected. Ten new sequenced genomes of SARS-CoV-2 were obtained by

macrogenomic sequencing. The time origin, genetic diversity, transmission dynamics

and evolutionary history of SARS-CoV-2 were analyzed based on the genomic data to

provide understanding on the origin, transmission pathway, and evolutionary

characteristics of SARS-CoV-2 outbreak.

Materials and methods

Patients and samples

In this study, ten patients with unexplained viral pneumonia from five hospitals

in Hubei Province were included. Four samples were collected in December, four in

January as well as two samples in February. The December samples were examined

by LightCycle 480II fluorescent PCR instrument (Roche, Basel, Switzerland) for

investigating 26 respiratory pathogens and detection of the virus using SARS-Cov and

MERS-Cov primer probes. All the ten samples were detected by the SARS-CoV-2

primer probes. Two samples were used in the virus isolation. The 10 samples were

also subjected to metagenomic next-generation sequencing. Specific sample

information is presented in Table 1.

Virus isolation

Virus were isolated by HUH7 cells from one lavage fluid sample and one

pharynx swab sample. The cells were monitored daily for cytopathic effects by light

microscopy. HUH7 cells were harvested after 6 days of culturing at 37℃. The

supernatant was collected to extract the total RNA nucleic acid through EZ1 virus

mini kit v.2.0 (955134; Qiagen, Heiden, Germany), detection was performed by Light

Cycle 480II fluorescent PCR instrument (Roche, Basel, Switzerland) followed by

subsequent sequencing.

Library preparation and sequencing

Total RNA extracted from 10 samples were subjected to metagenomic next

generation sequencing testing by EZ1 virus mini kit v.2.0 (955134; Qiage, Heiden,

Germany). TruSeq Stranded Total RNA Library Prep Kit (Illumina, San Diego, CA,

USA) was used to remove rRNA, reverse transcription and synthesize the

double-stranded DNA. The fragmenting, modifying the ends, connecting the joints

and enriching of DNA were done by NexteraXT library prepkit (Illumina, San Diego,

CA, USA), then the DNA library was obtained. Iseq^{TM} 100 i1 Cartridge, Miseq v2

reagent kit, and High output Reagent Cartridge (illumina, San Diego, CA, USA) were

used for deep sequencing in Iseq100, Miseq, and Miniseq platforms (illumina, San

Diego, CA, USA), respectively. About 11.5 GB data were obtained for each sample.

Virus genome analysis

Using CLC Genomics Workbench 12 and Geneious 12.0.1 software (QIAGEN

Bioinformatics, Redwood City, CA, USA) and using reference sequence

BetaCoV/Wuhan-Hu-2019 (EPI ISL 402125), the raw sequencing data of Illumina

were analyzed. The open reading frames of the verified genome sequences were

predicted using Geneious and annotated using the Conserved Domain Database [21].

Phylogenetic reconstructions

In this study, for probing the evolutionary history of SARS-CoV-2 (Table S1),

136 complete genomes from GISAID (Table S1, access on 22 February, 2020) and

our new sequenced 10 genomes of this virus were included. In total, 56 outgroups

were collected following the previous study [5]. Mafft v.7.450 was used to align the

sequence of SARS-CoV-2 with reference sequences [22]. Phylogenetic analyses of

the genomes were done with RAxML v.8.2.9 [23] in 1000 bootstrap replicates,

employing the general time reversible nucleotide substitution model. The tree was

visualized with FigTree v.1.4.3 [24].

Population structure

On this analysis technique, to precisely decode the evolutionary history of

SARS-CoV-2, the genome EPI ISL 402131 (bat-RaTG13-CoV) from GISAID was

also included as the outgroup following the previous study [25], because it is the

closest sister betacoronavirus to SARS-CoV-2.3. The 136 complete genome

sequences of SARS-CoV-2 and an outgroup (bat-RaTG13-CoV) were aligned using

MAFFT then the alignment was manually checked using Geneious. For probing the

haplotypes relationships among localities, the Network v.4.6.1 (Fluxus Technology,

Suffolk, UK) was used to construct the minimum-spanning network based on the full

median-joining algorithm [26]. During the alignment, 10 genomes containing

ambiguous sites or "N" bases or more degenerated bases were excluded in this study

(Table S1). In addition, 4 genome sequences (EPI ISL 409067, EPI ISL 412981, EPI

ISL 407071 and EPI ISL 408489) with one degenerated base were included, which

were divided into two sequences without degenerated base. For ensuring the accuracy

of this analysis, the 5'UTR and 3'UTR contain missing and ambiguous sites of both

regions were excluded in the following alignment analyses. DnaSP v.5.10 [27] was

used to convert the relevant format. Population genetic indices in was estimated in

DnaSP, including nucleotide diversity (π) and haplotype diversity (*Hd*). F_{ST} between

haplotypes was calculated in Mega 6.0 based on haplotype frequency differences with

10,000 permutations [28]. Additionally, a sliding window of 500 bp and steps of 50

bp were used to show nucleotide diversity (π) for the entire alignment this data.

Nucleotide diversity for the entire alignment was plotted against midpoint positions of

each window. To indicate the relative position of the mutations in the genome, we

selected the EPI ISL 402124 sequence as the reference genome.

Population demography

The alignment was then imported into DnaSP for haplotype analyses. Population

size changes were estimated based on a constant population size hypothesis using

DnaSP, in combination with neutrality tests (Tajima's *D* and *Fu*'s Fs). The mismatch

distribution was estimated based on the genomes of SARS-CoV-2 in Arlequin to test

the hypothesis of recent population growth. The Harpending's raggedness index (Rag)

and the sum of squares deviation (SSD) were used to determine the smoothness of

observed mismatch distribution and the degree of fit between observed and simulated

data [29]. Because of the sensitivity to demographic changes of neutral tests, Tajima's

D [30] and *Fu*'s Fs [31] were estimated using 10,000 coalescent simulations to assess

the significance in Arlequin. In addition, the Extended Bayesian skyline plot (EBSP)

analysis was conducted to examine past population dynamics of SARS-CoV-2 based

on 146 genomes by BEAST v.1.8 [32]. The divergence times were estimated in

BEAST using a Bayesian Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) method with a strict

clock. In this study, the substitution rate was set as 0.92×10^{-3} (95% CI,

0.33×10^{-3}-1.46×10^{-3}) substitution/site/year based on the most recent estimation for

SARS-CoV-2 [25]. The other parameters were set as follows: extended Bayesian

skyline process, 10 million MCMC generations, sampling every 1,000th iteration, the

initial 25% burn-in. Tracer was used to check the convergence of the MCMC analyses

(effective sample size [ESS] values >200). Convergence of the two independent

MCMC runs was assessed in Tracer, as was convergence of model parameter values

(ESS) to ensure ESS values >200.

Results and discussion

Genomic variations of SARS-CoV-2

According to the database, the genome size of SARS-CoV-2 varied from 29,409

bp to 29,911 bp. In the network dataset, the aligned matrix was 29,130 bp in length

including 183 variable sites, of which 27 were parsimony-informative and 156 were

singletons, which were classified as 80 haplotypes (Table S2). Nucleotide diversity (π)

was $0.16\times10^{-3} \pm 0.02\times10^{-3}$ (Standard Deviation, SD) and haplotype diversity (*Hd*) was

0.954 ± 0.013 (SD) and variance of *Hd* was 0.16×10^{-3} (Table S3). In this study, our

new sequenced 10 genomes of SARS-CoV-2 represented 10 haplotypes (H3, H8, H10,

H14, H16, H28, H29, H30, H76 and H78; Table S1). Among these 10 genomes, four

samples were collected from those patients who had been exposed to the Huanan

seafood market in Wuhan. Additionally, the HBCDC-HB-03/2019 belonged to the

core H3 haplotype and most of them represented new haplotype. Sliding window

analysis of SARS-CoV-2 revealed significant regional variation across the alignment

(Fig. 1). The plot readily showed a relative high degree of nucleotide variation

amongst the aligned SARS-CoV-2 genomes for any given window of 500 bp and

steps of 50 bp, with the π ranging from 0.00005 to 0.0014. Additionally, based on the

curve, there were several relative high variation area, compared with other fragments

(Fig. 1). The F_{ST} analyses among 80 haplotypes ranged from 0.00003 (e.g, H3 and H9;

H14 and H15; H3 and H20) to 0.00134 (H19 and H80), which indicated genetic

differentiation among these haplotypes (Fig. 2, Table S4). Overall, the H19 showed

relatively large genetic distance with other haplotypes, while the H3 showed opposite

pattern, and was also confirmed by the network figure (Fig. 2, Table S4). Overall,

SARS-CoV-2 maintain the relatively rich mutations that has occurred across the world,

which may be the main reason of the numerous subgenomic RNAs generated during

the viral replication [3, 9]. This phenomenon also provides the possibility of

widespread and adaptation for this virus. Fortunately, under the strict quarantine

policy in China since 23 January 2020, the circulation and spreading of some

haplotypes may have relatively reduced in circulation frequency relatively, compared

with the early stage of COVID-19.

Phylogenetic relationship of SARS-CoV-2

The virus's popularity and its intermediate host has been a topic of great concern.

Some researchers have suggested that the SARS-CoV-2 originated from the bats [5,9].

However, some other researchers have proposed that the non-bat intermediate

mammals (e.g. pangolins) may be the transmission path of this genus [18]. However,

other studies have also failed to confirm the pangolins as the intermediate host to this

viral genus [33]. In this study, based on the phylogenetic tree, bat-RaTG13-CoV was

the sister group to the SARS-CoV-2 and the two pangolin samples collected from

Guangdong which showed a relatively large genetic distance from the SARS-CoV-2

(Fig. 3 and S1). Based on this finding, , the study suggested that pangolin may not be

the intermediate host, as had been reiterated by other previous study [33]. As the

Huanan seafood market was closed on 1 January 2020, this created many challenges

in identifying the first intermediate hosts (whether people or animal) of SARS-CoV-2.

Therefore, more sampling and analysis of the sample from this area may suggest

clearer results for more concrete conclusions in future studies.

Evolutionary relationships of SARS-CoV-2 haplotypes

The evolutionary network of 80 haplotypes of SARS-CoV-2, with bat-RaTG13-CoV

as the outgroup, is shown in Figure 4. The network analysis showed typical star

network, with several core haplotype node (H3, H14, H15) and edge haplotype nodes.

In the network, fifty-five satellite haplotypes and H14 connected to the H3 haplotype;

eighteen satellite haplotypes and H15+H3 connected to the H14 haplotype; and five

satellite haplotypes and H14 connected to H15. Most of these haplogroups were

separated by one to six mutations, except two haplotypes (H19 and H80, Fig. 4). The

evolutionary network showed that bat-RaTG13-CoV to be connected through a

hypothesized haplotype (mv6) to the H15 and H31 haplotypes by single mutations

(Fig. 4). However, the mutations between mv6 and bat-RaTG13-CoV was more than

1,000, which indicated that SARS-CoV-2 still has a relative distant kinship with the

outgroup (bat-RaTG13-CoV).

As the most abundant haplotype, H3 included 28 samples, while 55 satellite

haplotypes are directly derived from the H3 haplotype (Fig. 4 and Table S1).

Moreover, many haplotypes from other countries should also be derived from the H3

haplotype. The current samplings showed that the H3 haplotype has been found to be

in 28 samples, but 12 of 28 samples were collected from Wuhan in Hubei Province.

Fifteen of the 55 satellite haplotypes were also collected from Hubei Province (Fig. 4).

One possible explanation was that a common haplotype from the Huanan seafood

market (Fig. 4) was rapidly circulated at an early stage of human-to-human

transmissions. It is worth noting that in the H14, there are two samples (EPI ISL

406801 and EPI ISL 412979) from Wuhan. Although these two hosts didn't directly

link with the Huanan market, one of the host (EPI ISL 412979) having lived in a

residential area about 2 kilometers from the Huanan seafood market. This also

provides the possibility of them having indirect possible contact with the Huanan

seafood market.

Additionally, the networks of 24th December, 2019 - 30th December, 2019 and

24th December, 2019 - 6th January, 2020 also suggested that the most frequent

haplotype (H3) occurred. All the haplotypes were collected from Wuhan, which

indicated that Wuhan may have acted as the important origin center (Fig. 4). On the

other hand, in this study, 16 sequences of Huanan seafood market (4 new sequenced

and 12 GISAID data) were collected. Fifteen of out of the sixteen samples were

collected before 1st Januray, 2020 and one samples was collected on 8th Januray, 2020.

These samples were represented ten haplotypes (H2, H3, H4, H5, H6, H7, H8, H10,

H11, H16), which indicated the high proportion of haplotype diversity in Huanan

seafood market. Among those haplotypes, the H3 haplotype, the most abundant, was

present in 6 samples from Huanan seafood market, while the other haplotypes were

directly derived from the H3 haplotype. All the samples from the Huanan seafood

market had the H3 haplotype and other 9 derived haplotypes (Fig. 4), indicating that

there were circulated infections within the market in a short term. Noteworthy, in the

network, a total of 65 virus samples from 15 other countries were assigned to 43

haplotypes. Among them, 27 haplotypes were satellite haplotypes of H3 haplotype, 11

haplotypes were satellite haplotypes of H14 haplotype, and 3 haplotypes were satellite

haplotype of H15 haplotype. Indeed, most of haplotypes originated from the H3,

which may hint the phenomenon was related to the input of virus carriers from

Wuhan.

Based on the outgroup (bat-RaTG13-CoV) having a possible direct connection

with outgroup H15 and H31, it indicates that both the H15 and H31 were the

suggested ancestral haplotypes (Fig. 4), as had also been suggested by other previous

study [25]. The H15 was only recovered from five Shenzhen (Guangdong) samples,

while H31 included 3 United States samples and 1 Fujian sample from China (Fig. 4).

Based on the epidemiological statistics, all the patients from the H15 were ever

traveled to Wuhan [16]. As to the H31, three genomes from the same patient in Unite

State [34] and 1 genome from Fujian of China (Table S1) were included. For the

patient in Unite State, He may have infected during the period of visiting his family in

China [25]. The travel history of Fujian sample was unclear, but we cannot deny that

it has a history of unconscious Wuhan contacts. Based on the theory in the previous

study [25], this current study also supported two main evolutionary paths, that the

available haplotypes could be from H15 through H14 to H3, or from H31 through

H14 to H3 (Fig. 4). Both these two path demonstrate that H14 was the key connection

from an ancestral haplotype to H3. However, unlike the previous research, in H14,

two individuals (EPI ISL 406801 and EPI ISL 412979) were collected from Wuhan.

Additionally, there was another new haplotype (H28, EPI ISL 412980), which

originated from the H14, and was also collected from Wuhan. Although the three

hosts of these two haplotypes didn't directly link with the Huanan seafood market,

one of the hosts (EPI ISL 412979) lived in a residential area about 2 kilometers from

the Huanan seafood market. This also provides the possibility for that host to have

unconsciously indirect contact with the Huanan seafood market. Overall, it cannot

further be proved the SARS-CoV-2 in the Huanan seafood market had been

transmitted from other places or that Huanan seafood market did not host the original

source of SARS-CoV-2. Due to the closing up of the Huanan seafood market on 1st of

January, 2020, it made it difficult to determine whether there were intermediate hosts

in the market. To accurately determine whether this market was the central origin,

further collection of early SARS-CoV-2 samples within/around the Huanan seafood

market is needed to provide genomic information and epidemiological survey data

needed in integration analysis. However, based on the facts provided in the current

study undertaken in the early days of the outbreak of the pneumonia infection in

Wuhan, the Huanan seafood market promoted the spread of SARS-CoV-2, and since

then, infected travelers have spread to throughout China and other countries.

Population size expansion of SARS-CoV-2

As to population demography of SARS-CoV-2, the EBSP results revealed that it

experienced an expansion of effective population size for the last 66 days prior to 11th

of February, 2020 (Fig. 5). With the latest one being sampled on 11th February 2020,

the first expansion date is estimated to had begun from 7th December 2019. The

mismatch in the distribution of the total populations was also clearly shown through

unimodal (Fig. 6) and the neutral tests (Tajima's D and Fu's Fs) revealed statistically

significant population expansion of SARS-CoV-2 (Table S3), which also supported

the EBSP results. In addition, with the change of time, multiple evidence (i.e.

haplotype number, Tajima's D, Fu's FS) indicated a relatively highest population

growth at around 21st - 27th of January (Table S3). The demographic expansion of

SARS-CoV-2 during this period was consistent with the patients first diagnosed on 8th

December, 2019 [4,19] and the previously suggested most recent common ancestor

(TMRCA) dates for SARS-CoV-2 at 6th December, 2019) [17]. Additionally,

considering that the virus has longest reported incubation period of up to 24 days [6],

the virus may had first infected humans in mid to late November, which is basically

consistent with the results of previous studies [25]. Therefore, in this study, EBSP

revealed that SARS-CoV-2 experienced an effective population size expansion since

7th December 2019, which was also supported by a star-like network, EBSP, the

neutral tests (Fu's and Tajima's D test) and mismatch analysis.

Contributors

Yilin Shu, Tao Pan, and Yongzhong Jiang conceived the research, analyzed the data,

interpreted the results, and wrote the draft manuscript; Bin Fang, Linlin Liu, Xiao Yu

and Xiang Li performed macrogenome sequencing experiments. Xiao Yu and Xiang

Li performed virus isolation experiments. Guojun Ye, Bin Fang, Juan Xu, Ling,

Zhang, Yilin Shu and Faxian Zhan collected data. All authors reviewed and approved

the final version of the manuscript.

Declaration of interests

We declare no competing interests.

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Table 1. Sample information for 10 SARS-Cov-2 infected patients.

Sample name	Sample type	Collection date	Collection site	Exposure to huanan seafood marke
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-02/2019	Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	30th Dec,2019	Wuhan, Hubei Province	Yes
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-01/2019	Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	30th Dec,2019	Wuhan, Hubei Province	Yes
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-03/2019	Bronchial scraping	30th Dec,2019	Wuhan, Hubei Province	Yes
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-04/2019	Sputum	30th Dec,2019	Wuhan, Hubei Province	No
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-04/2020	Throat swab	18th Jan,2020	Wuhan, Hubei Province	No
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-03/2020	Throat swab	18th Jan,2020	Wuhan, Hubei Province	No
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-02/2020	Throat swab	17th Jan,2020	Wuhan, Hubei Province	No
BetaCoV/Jingzhou/HBCDC-HB-01/2020	Throat swab and cultured virus	8th Jan,2020	Jingzhou,Hubei Province	Yes
BetaCoV/Wuhan/HBCDC-HB-06/2020	Faeces	7th Feb,2020	Wuhan, Hubei Province	No
BetaCoV/Tianmen/HBCDC-HB-07/2020	Throat swab	8th Feb,2020	Tianmen, Hubei Province	No

Figure Legend

Fig. 1. Sliding window analyses showing the nucleotide diversity based on

alignment of genomes of SARS-CoV-2. The red line shows the value of nucleotide

diversity (π) in a sliding window analysis of window size 500 bp with step size 50, the

value is inserted at its mid-point. EPI ISL 402124 sequence was selected as the

reference genome to indicate the mutation position.

Fig. 2. Pairwise F_{ST} among 80 haplotypes of SARS-CoV-2. Consistent with the

Table S4.

Fig. 3. Simplify phylogenetic tree of SARS-CoV-2 form Fig. S1. The nodal

numbers are ML bootstrap values.

Fig. 4. Median-joining network with node sizes proportional to the frequencies of

haplotypes in SARS-CoV-2 (A, B and C). (A)All the individuals collected during

24th December to 30th December in 2019; (B) All the individuals collected during 24th

December in 2019 to 6th January in 2020; (C) All the individuals collected before 11th

February in 2019. The numbers of mutations separating the haplotypes are shown on

the branches, except for the lower than seven-step mutations. The little red diamond

nodes indicate undetected haplotypes. The sampling areas are indicated by different

colors.

Fig. 5. Population fluctuation infered by Extended bayesian skyline plot (EBSP)

of SARS-CoV-2. The x-axis indicates time in days BP, and the y-axis indicates the

effective population size divided by generation time in units of $N_{e\tau}$ (the product of

effective population size and generation time in days). The blue areas represent 95 %

highest posterior density. Time is expressed in days.

Fig. 6: Mismatch distributions analyses for SARS-CoV-2 in different period (A,

B, C, D, E, F, G). (A) All the individuals collected during 24th December to 30th

December, 2019; (B) 24th December in 2019 to 6th January in 2020; (C) 24th

December in 2019 to 13th January in 2020; (D) 24th December in 2019 to 20th

January in 2020; (E) 24th December in 2019 to 27th January in 2020; (F) 24th

December in 2019 to 3th February in 2020; (G) 24th December in 2019 to 11th

February in 2020. The x coordinate represents the number of differences in each pair

of sequence comparisons; the y coordinate represents the frequencies of pairwise

differences. The blue histogram are the observed frequencies of pairwise divergences

among sequences and the red line refers to the expectation under the model of

population expansion.

Fig. S1. Phylogenetic tree of SARS-CoV-2**.** The nodal numbers are ML bootstrap

values.