<u>Phylogeny and disease links of a widespread and ancient gut phage lineage</u>

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<u>Abstract</u>

Viruses are a core component of the human microbiome, impacting health and disease

through interactions with gut bacteria[1] and the immune system[2]. Most viruses in the human

microbiome are bacteriophages, which exclusively infect bacteria. Individual gut

bacteriophages can affect bacterial bile acid deconjugation[3], and can alter their infection

strategy based on dietary content[4]. Up to recently, most studies of the gut virome have

focused on low taxonomic scales (e.g., viral operational taxonomic units), hampering

population-level analyses. We previously identified the expansive and widespread

Candidatus *Heliusviridae* bacteriophage family in a cohort with inhabitants of Amsterdam,

the Netherlands. Here, we study their biodiversity and evolution in a wide variety of human

populations. With a detailed phylogeny based on sequences from six viral genome

databases, we now propose the Candidatus order *Heliusvirales* to accommodate these

viruses. We identify *Ca. Heliusvirales* viruses in 80% of 5,441 individuals across 39 studies,

and also in nine out of thirteen analyzed metagenomes from ancient humans that lived in

Europe and North America between 1,000 and 5,000 years ago. We show that a large *Ca.*

Heliusvirales lineage has diversified starting at the appearance of *Homo sapiens* some

200,000-300,000 years ago. Ancient peoples and modern hunter-gatherers further have

distinct *Ca. Heliusvirales* populations that are characterized by lower richness than modern

urbanized people. Within urbanized people, those suffering from type 1 and type 2 diabetes,

as well as inflammatory bowel disease, have higher *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness than healthy

controls. We thus conclude that these ancient core members of the human gut virome have

thrived with increasingly westernized lifestyles of the human population.

Introduction

Bacteriophages are the second most common biological entities in the human gut

microbiome, after their bacterial targets[5]. As obligate parasites of bacteria, phages play a

key role in regulating the structure and function of the gut microbiome in health and

disease[6]. For example, phage community alterations have been linked to diseases such as

inflammatory bowel disease[1,7], metabolic syndrome[8], and malnutrition[9]. Individual human gut

phages have further been found to mediate diet-induced bacterial lysis[4], bacterial bile acid

metabolism[3], and gut colonization[10]. But while phages are evidently crucial to the functioning

of the gut microbiome, their study at higher taxonomic levels was long restricted to

morphology- rather than phylogeny-based taxonomy.

This knowledge gap is partly due to the absence of a universal viral marker gene akin

to ribosomal RNA in cellular organisms. Bacteriophage taxonomy was originally based on

nucleic acid composition (with the majority being dsDNA viruses) and viral particle

morphology[11], with the bulk of known bacteriophage diversity being classified as

Siphoviridae, Myoviridae, or *Podoviridae*. These families, as well as the order *Caudovirales*,

proved to be so genomically diverse that they were recently abolished and reclassified in the

class *Caudoviricetes*[12,13]. A striking example of the discovery of higher taxonomic lineage

was the highly prevalent and abundant human gut phage crAssphage[14] and its relatives[15] in

metagenomics data. These viruses are now accepted as the phylogenetics-based

Crassvirales order by the International Committee for the Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV). But

while the description of the *Crassvirales* is a step forward in the taxonomy of the human gut

virome, many other important lineages remain unclassified.

We recently identified the putative phage family *Ca. Heliusviridae* in a study of gut

virome perturbations associated with metabolic syndrome, a collection of risk factors for

cardiometabolic disease[8]. The expansive family was detected in over 90% of 196 study

participants and may thus be part of a persistent core of human gut bacteriophage

lineages[16,17]. But as our previous study focused on a single cohort, it remains unknown how

widespread these phages are in the general population, as well as in other environments.

Furthermore, their relation to human health beyond metabolic syndrome is yet to be

elucidated. Their further adoption in virome studies necessitates a robust taxonomic

classification based on comprehensive phylogenetic analysis of sequences from diverse

sources[18–21].

Here, we present a comprehensive study of *Ca. Heliusviridae* genomic and

phylogenetic diversity. Comparisons of member phages derived from several large

metagenomic databases show both the distinctness of this family from known ICTV

taxonomic lineages, and their phylogenetic structure. We further provide evidence that

increasing ecological richness of this phage family in the gut is linked to both urbanized

lifestyles and several (cardiometabolic) diseases.

Results

Helius-phages are ubiquitous in bacteriophage databases

We previously reported an expansive and widespread clade of human gut phages,

tentatively named as the family *Ca. Heliusviridae*, after the HELIUS (Healthy Life In an

Urban Setting) cohort that we studied[8]. These phages shared nine marker genes: four

structural proteins (terminase large subunit or TerL, portal protein, major capsid protein, and

a head maturation protease), three replication-related ones (DNA polymerase I, helicase,

and nuclease), and two proteins of unknown function (**Figure 1a**)[8]. To study these phages

more extensively, we analyzed 842,163 contigs of over 30 kbp from seven phage databases

with profile hidden Markov models (HMMs) of all nine marker genes (**Figure 1b**). Among the

249,366 contigs that were deemed complete by checkv[22], 33,356 had a hit against the

terminase large subunit (TerL) marker gene. The TerL, which encodes an ATP-driven

molecular motor involved in genome translocation into the viral capsid, is highly conserved

among *Caudoviricetes* phages and consequently frequently used as marker gene[13,15].

Contigs with a bit-score of over 700 against the TerL tended to have a hit against at least

four other marker genes, and those with a hit against all marker genes always had a TerL

bit-score of over 700 (**Figure 1c**). We hypothesized that a bit-score cutoff of 700 against the

TerL separates *Ca. Heliusviridae* from other phages. To test this, we built a tree of TerL

genes from all 1,290 contigs that passed this threshold and representative genomes from

International Committee on the Taxonomy of Viruses (ICTV)-recognized virus lineages with

a TerL bit-score of ≥50. The highest TerL bit-score of an ICTV-recognized virus was 515.4

against *Dragolirvirus dragolir* (*Gochnauervirinae,* MG727697). The resulting maximum-

likelihood tree clearly showed a separation between ICTV-recognized viral lineages and the

prospective *Ca. Heliusviridae* (**Figure 1d**). The exception were five sequences that had TerL

bit-scores of between 700 and 760, and further only carried the portal protein and major

capsid protein. This might have resulted from transferal of capsid proteins between phages.

For further study, we selected the 1,285 complete viral genomes that comprised the distinct

branch in the tree. Phage-specific gene annotation with pharokka[24] refined the function of

several marker genes: the DNA polymerase I was revealed to instead be an exonuclease,

while the ones of unknown function encode a DNA polymerase and ssDNA-binding protein

(**Figure 1a**). We next determined which genes were most common among these phages by

forming clusters of homologous proteins (i.e., protein clusters). The only universal protein

cluster was the TerL, and the next eight most common protein clusters represented the other

marker genes (**Figure 1e**, **Supplementary Table 2**). Genes with hits against the HMMs of

the major capsid protein, head maturation protease, helicase, and DNA polymerase genes

were spread out over multiple protein clusters, indicating some heterogeneity in their

sequences. Overall, all nine marker genes were found in at least 1000 of the genomes

(**Supplementary Table 3**). Thus, the nine originally identified marker genes are extremely

common, though not universal, among *Ca. Heliusviridae*.

Sub-taxa with distinct genomic characteristics reflect ecologically divergent Helius-virus

lineages

We next sought to establish more detailed phylogenies of these phages. We previously

divided the *Ca. Heliusviridae* into three groups: *alpha, beta,* and *gamma*. In an approximate

maximum-likelihood tree of TerL genes, we again discerned three large well-supported

clades (Shimodaira–Hasegawa-like approximate likelihood ratio test[25] ≥80 and ultrafast

bootstrap approximation[26] ≥95, **Figure 2a**), but these did not completely equate to the

previous putative groups. The largest clade contained all but one of the partial genomes

from the previously proposed *gamma*-group, but groups *alpha* and *beta* were spread out

across the other two clades. This reflects the two main clades in group *beta* that were

evident in the earlier analysis[8], while their different architecture in the TerL-based tree

versus the earlier concatenated tree likely reflects horizontal gene transfer of at least some

of the core genes among these groups. Furthermore, large subclades in all three clades

contained no representative of the earlier groups, and neither did a number of smaller clades

across the tree which were not part of the three main clades. In the face of this expanded

biodiversity, we set out to draw more detailed taxonomic boundaries to combine related

Helius-virus lineages, allowing for ecological and evolutionary interpretations.

The TerL tree also made it evident that these phages are better classified at the

order-level. The reasoning behind this is as follows: the three largest clades were divisible

into smaller clades that at minimum shared 5-57% of their protein content, too low for them

to be considered different viral genera (**Figure 2b, Supplementary Figure 1**)[27]. In line with

the viral taxonomic hierarchy[28], we classify these clades as subfamilies. The higher-level

clades are then necessarily families, and the entirety of the tree an order or suborder. Since

suborders are strictly optional levels, and there is no clear distinction between them and

orders[28], we tentatively reclassify the phages studied here at the order level. Consequently,

we renamed the Ca. *Heliusviridae* as the Candidatus viral order *Heliusvirales.* Because

Helios was the ancient Greek solar deity, we named families after various solar deities. The

three largest families are the *Ca. Utuviridae* (Mesopotamian), *Ca. Aineviridae* (Irish), and *Ca.*

Hathorviridae (Egyptian). Several smaller well-supported and high-level clades were also

placed at the family rank due to their very low (<15%) shared protein content

(**Supplementary Figure 1**). The subfamilies within the three largest families, mostly had a

median shared protein content of 25% (**Figure 2b**). All subfamilies were named after words

for sun in languages from around the world (**Figure 2a, Supplementary Table 4**).

In order for a group of phages to be deemed a defined lineage, they need to be a

monophyletic group that is distinct from established taxonomy[27]. To establish this, we

performed proteomic-based analyses on the 1,237 complete genomes against phages

classified by the ICTV. In a genomic protein-sharing network, our genomes formed a cluster

separate from RefSeq phages (**Supplementary Figure 2a**). This was confirmed in a phage

proteomic tree, were they also formed a separate monophyletic clade distinct from ICTV-

recognized sequences (**Supplementary Figure 2b**). Together, these results show that the

Ca. Heliusviriales are a cohesive lineage that is distinct from the current ICTV-ratified

families.

A genomic network of the *Ca. Heliusvirales* showed that most subfamilies are highly

similar in protein content, a notion supported by conservation of the marker genes and gene

synteny, as well as further shared genes between subfamilies, from pairwise comparison

between the proposed families and subfamilies (**Figure 3**). Nevertheless, several

subfamilies formed distinct clusters in the genomic network, most evidently the *Ca.*

Mehrvirinae (*Ca. Aineviridae)* and *Ca. Nitavirinae* (*Ca. Utuviridae)*, and to a lesser extent the

Ca. Mataharivirinae (*Ca. Hathorviridae*) (**Figure 2c**). This indicates that they are distinct in

protein content, which is reflected by the environments in which they were found and their

predicted bacterial hosts (**Figure 4a and b**), as well as their divergent GC content when

compared to other members of their family (**Supplementary Figure 3**).

Several subfamilies were distinct in their environmental origins or predicted hosts.

The *Ca. Mehrvirinae* were enriched in phages from the human oral cavity (hypergeometric

test, $p = 1.5 \times 10^{-17}$) an environmental preference also reflected in their most commonly

predicted hosts: the facultatively anaerobic genus *Streptococcus* (family *Streptococcaceae*).

The distinctness of the *Ca. Nitavirinae* similarly reflect their predicted hosts in the

Actinomycetaceae rather than the *Firmicutes* infected by other *Ca. Heliusvirales*. The

Lachnospiraceae phages in the *Ca. Mataharivirinae* were enriched in human gut-derived

phages (hypergeometric test, $p = 2.8 \times 10^{-21}$). Within the *Lachnospiraceae*, the most

commonly predicted *Ca. Matahrivirinae* hosts were the genera *Coprococcus*, *Agathobacter,*

Dorea_A, and *Ruminococcus_B*, which are all common human gut bacteria

(**Supplementary Figure 4**). Finally, the *Ca. Zonviridae*, although less distinct in the genomic

network (**Figure 2c**), were peculiar in their predicted hosts. These were in the *Negativicutes*,

with their mostly predicted hosts being in the *Acidaminococcaceae* and *Megasphaeraceae*

families, which unlike other *Firmicutes* possess diderm cell envelopes[30]. Unlike the recently

defined *Crassvirales*, which are all thought to infect hosts within the *Bacteroidetes* phylum[31],

the *Ca. Heliusvirales* thus seem to infect a wide variety of hosts across multiple phyla.

Almost all complete *Ca. Heliusvirales* genomes (92.4%) carried identifiable genes

involved with integration and excision, meaning they were temperate phages

(**Supplementary Figure 5**). While the remainder of the complete genomes might belong to

obligately virulent phages, it might also be that they contain divergent integration genes that

evaded annotation or have other chronic lifestyles. The only lineages of which less than 75%

or genomes was identifiably temperate contained less than 40 genomes: the *Willkavirinae* (5

genomes), *Xiheviridae* (35 genomes), and *Uternevirinae* (8 genomes), indicating that they

are rare. Thus, while *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages are predominantly temperate, eco-

evolutionary pressures on phage lifestyle contributed to the divergence of some lineages

contained within it.

Putative auxiliary metabolic genes were common among *Ca. Heliusvirales*, being

present in 78.1% of genomes (**Figure 4c**), although we found no clear family- or subfamily

specific auxiliary metabolic genes. Many were part of cysteine and methionine metabolism,

with the most common genes being DNA (cytosine-5)-methyltransferase 1 (K00558, present

in 67% of genomes) and S-adenosylmethionine synthetase (K00789, present in 58.9% of

genomes). Both of these genes likely aid the phage in defending against bacterial restriction-

modification defenses[32,33]. After cysteine and methionine metabolism, sulfur metabolism-

associated genes were most commonly found, which could be involved in reprogramming

bacterial sulfur metabolism for additional energy production during phage particle

formation[34].

Helius-phages have been associated with humans since ancient times

Across our datasets, we found *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes on every continent (**Figure 5a**),

indicating that they are widespread. Only one country had human gut-associated samples

without any detected *Ca. Heliusvirales*: El Salvador (n=1 sample). Indeed, analysis of 7,166

human gut metagenomes of 5,441 individuals from 38 studies[35] found *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL

genes in 4,491 individuals (80%, **Figure 5b**). Outside the gut, prevalence of *Ca.*

Heliusvirales was markedly lower: we detected their presence in 18/54 skin samples, 17/61

vaginal samples, and 115/312 oral samples. While the *Ca. Heliusvirales* thus occur in

various body sites, they are especially prevalent in the gut. This is in line with the finding that

their most commonly predicted hosts are in the *Firmicutes* (e.g., the *Lachnospiraceae*),

which is one of the main bacterial phyla in the human gut.

We hypothesized that the high *Ca. Heliusvirales* prevalence reflects its ancient

association to the human lineage. To explore this, we re-analyzed whole metagenome

shotgun sequencing datasets from paleofeces in Austria[36] and North America[37]. Among the

North-American samples, which were from three different locations across the USA and

Mexico, and were dated between 10-920 CE, we found 36 *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes

across all eight of the studied samples (**Figure 5a**). In the Austrian samples, we found four

TerL sequences in one of the four Austrian samples, which was dated at between 652-544

BCE. We furthermore analyzed gut and small-intestinal samples from an ancient European

individual who lived around 3,200 BCE[38], but found no clear *Ca. Heliusvirales* sequences,

although four genes with hmmsearch bit-scores of between 600 and 700 against the TerL

were present. These samples may thus contain distant relatives of the *Ca. Heliusvirales*. The

greater absence of *Ca. Heliusvirales* among the European samples may reflect higher levels

of degradation or fragmentation of these samples.

The presence of *Ca. Heliusvirales* in multiple pre-colonial North Americans implies

that they were part of the human gut microbiome before human migration to the Americas

(about 15,000 years ago[39]). We confirmed this hypothesis with a time-measured

phylogenetic tree of the two main *Ca. Hathorviridae* subfamilies, which contains the strongly

human-gut associated *Ca. Mataharivirinae*. A tree built with an optimized relaxed clock of

ancient North-American sequences and a selection of modern human gut sequences

showed that both the *Ca. Mataharivirinae* and *Ca. Ravirinae* started diversifying about

between 210,000 and 250,000 years ago, though with large 95% highest posterior density

(HPD) intervals (*Ca. Mataharivirinae*:244,143 years ago (95% HPD 15,000-981,000), *Ca.*

Ravirinae: 209,075 years ago (95% HPD 9,200-894,000), **Figure 5c**) This is around the time

that *Homo sapiens* first emerged[40], clearly indicating that these phages have been a part of

the human gut ecosystem since our distant past.

Ancient gut microbiomes have similar levels of bacterial diversity to those of modern

populations consuming non-urbanized diets[37], which are more diverse than those consuming

urbanized diets[41,42]. By extension, this is likely true for the gut viruses as well. To further

explore the relation between ancient, non-urbanized and urbanized *Ca. Heliusvirales*, we

compared them to samples derived from urbanized and non-urbanized populations. To

minimize inter-study batch effects, we selected two studies that included both hunter-

gatherers (from Tanzania or Peru) and urbanized people (from Italy or the USA)[41,42]. Within

both studies, we observed a significantly higher *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness among urbanized

people (Wilcoxon signed-rank test, Benjamini-Hochberg-adjusted p=0.026 and 0.01,

Supplementary Figure 7a). Combining the values of modern urbanized and hunter-gatherer

populations with ancient ones showed significantly higher *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness in

urbanized people than both hunter-gatherers (linear mixed-effect model, Benjamini-

Hochberg-adjusted p=4.5x10^{-5}) and ancients (linear mixed-effect model, Benjamini-

Hochberg-adjusted p=1.2x10^{-5}), but not between hunter-gatherers and ancients (linear

mixed-effect model, Benjamini-Hochberg-adjusted p=0.076, **Figure 5d**). This interestingly is

the reverse of overall gut bacterial richness, which decreases with urbanization[43].

Abundance, measured as the fraction of reads that mapped to *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes,

was not significantly different between the three populations (**Supplementary Figure 7b**).

Ca. Heliusvirales thus seem to diversify in tandem with urbanization.

We next analyzed *Ca. Heliusvirales* β-diversity among urbanized, hunter-gatherer,

and ancient samples with a phylogenetic tree of TerL genes from these samples and those

from complete genomes as depicted in Figure 2a. Non-metric multidimensional scales

(NMDS) on unweighted UniFrac distances intriguingly showed that all three populations

(urban, hunter-gatherers, ancients) had distinct *Ca. Heliusvirales* populations (permanova

q=0.001, **Figure 5e**). Among ancient samples the small *Ca. Xiheviridae* family were

particularly more prevalent than both modern hunter-gatherers and urban populations

(Fisher's exact test, Benjamini-Hochberg-adjusted p<0.05, **Figure 5f**). The *Ca. Ghrianvirinae*

(*Ca. Utuviridae*) were meanwhile much more prevalent among both ancient and modern

hunter-gatherers than urbanized populations. In general, the number of observed

Heliusvirales subfamilies per billion sequenced bases was the lowest among ancient

samples, with no discernable difference between modern hunter-gatherers and urban

populations (**Supplementary Figure 7c**). This indicates that modernity has led to an

expansion of *Ca. Heliusvirales* that is not only explained by life style. Our results could

reflect that *Ca. Heliusvirales* hosts in the *Lachnospiraceae* thrive in the urbanized gut

microbiome.

Helius-phage richness is associated with disease

Our previous research[8] focused on gut virome alterations in metabolic syndrome (MetS),

and found an association between members of the *Ca. Heliusvirales* and this set of

cardiometabolic risk factors. To study a wider range of illnesses, we now identified *Ca.*

Heliusvirales sequences in fourteen studies of diverse human-derived samples[35] by

searching for the TerL marker gene. Within-study analyses identified significantly altered *Ca.*

Heliusvirales richness in four out of twelve illnesses (Wilcoxon signed-rank test Benjamini-

Hochberg adjusted $p<0.05$): type 1 diabetes (T1D), type 2 diabetes (T2D), inflammatory

bowel disease (IBD), and liver cirrhosis (**Figure 6a).** In the former three, richness was

elevated when compared to healthy controls, while in liver cirrhosis it was decreased. These

disease linkages are interesting in light of the predicted *Lachnospiraceae* hosts of many *Ca.*

Heliusvirales, because this bacterial family includes species involved in short-chained fatty

acid production (e.g., *Roseburia intestinalis, Anaerobutyricum hallii, Coprococcus eutactus,*

and *Blautia wexlerae* **Supplementary Figure 4**)[44], which are often associated with the

healthy gut. Indeed, increased *Lachnospiraceae* abundance in T1D-[45] and T2D-patients[46]

has been reported, though a study of *in vitro* incubations in a relatively small cohort size

(n=26) linked IBD to decreased *Lachnospiraceae* abundance[47]. For the former two diseases,

this could explain the greater richness and prevalence in *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages among

such patients. The alterations in the *Ca. Heliusvirales* order are notably counter to ASV-level

analysis of the entire gut virome, which was found to be unchanged in T1D[48], T2D[49], and

IBD[1]. This underscores the value of analyzing higher taxonomic ranks in the context of the

gut virome.

Besides differences in *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness, the populations of these phages

also differed in each of the four studies (unweighted UniFrac, PERMANOVA Benjamini-

Hochberg adjusted $p<0.05$, **Figure 6b**). These population-wide differences between healthy

controls and people with T1D, T2D, IBD, and cirrhosis expressed themselves in distinct

patterns of prevalence at the subfamily level (**Figure 6c**). Similar to differences between

ancient, modern hunter-gatherer, and modern urbanized populations (**Figure 5f**), the *Ca.*

Xiheviridae phages were more prevalent in T1D- and T2D-patients than the corresponding

healthy individuals (Fisher's exact test, Benjamini-Hochberg adjusted $p<0.05$), though not in

IBD or cirrhosis. The *Ca. Ghrianvirinae*, which was less prevalent in modern urbanized

populations than either modern hunter gatherer or ancient ones, was more prevalent in T2D

patients than controls, but not in the other diseases. Besides these two, the *Ca. Tilevirinae*,

was significantly more present in T1D and T2D than controls, and significantly less so in IBD

and cirrhosis. The fact that similar *Ca. Heliusvirales* were depleted in both urbanized versus

non-urbanized populations and T1D/T2D patients versus healthy controls perhaps indicates

that they are the viral component of VANISH (volatile and/or associated negatively with

industrialized societies of humans) gut microbiome taxa[50].

<u>Discussion</u>

Elucidating higher-order structures among gut phage lineages is essential for gaining a

deeper understanding of the viromes in the human gut and beyond. This process is

underway with the re-evaluation of viral taxonomy along genomic lines[27]. Recently, the

prevalent *Crassvirales* phage order has undergone the arduous process of classification[31,51],

and here we add the *Ca. Heliusvirales* order as a second genome-based classification of

phages that are widespread in the human gut. For this, we used a combination of marker

gene phylogenies, genomic analyses, and proteomics-based approaches. As the TerL

marker gene is conserved among the *Duplodnaviria*, to which dsDNA bacteriophages

belong[52], we considered the phylogeny built with this gene is the most reliable method for

defining *Ca. Heliusvirales* taxonomy. Our usage of the TerL gene to define taxonomy is akin

to the *Crassvirales*[12], but unlike the concatenated phylogeny of marker genes used to define

the *Herelleviridae*[13]. The absence of any other universal marker gene beside the TerL gene

among the *Ca. Heliusvirales* invalidates a concatenated phylogeny approach. This absence

of universal marker genes also indicates high levels of genomic mosaicism in the *Ca.*

Heliusvirales, making them interesting targets to study evolutionary dynamics of human gut

viruses.

The *Ca. Heliusvirales* order is highly diverse in environmental origin, geographic

distribution, and bacterial hosts. While we found *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages in terrestrial,

marine, and gut microbiomes of both cattle and wild animals, the majority of genomes

derived from human gut samples. While at face-value this may be assigned to

anthropocentric sampling bias, this is unlikely because the IMG/VR database included in our

analysis contains about six times more aquatic and terrestrial phages than human-derived

ones[53]. Furthermore, non-animal-associated *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages are largely

constrained to specific families, indicating environmental differentiation.

Ca. Heliusvirales phages associated with the human gut were identified in countries

from every permanently inhabited continent, and in about 80% of the population. This

percentage could well be an underestimation, as shallower sequencing depths may lead to

false negatives. In either case, this order is clearly a core component of the human gut

virome. This has been the case since the deep past of modern humans, as evidenced by the

presence of these phages in palaeofaeces and our accompanying evolutionary studies. We

dated the diversification of the *Ca. Mataharivirinae* and *Ca. Ravirinae* subfamilies roughly to

the emergence of *Homo sapiens* in Africa between 200,000 and 300,000 years ago[40]. This

dating is notably more ancient than the previously studied diversification of the human-

associated bacterial species *Methanobrevibacter smithii*[37] and *M. oralis*[54] at respectively

85,000 and 126,000 years ago. This is likely due to the differing taxonomic levels at which

analyses where done, which we were forced to do due to the relative sparce number of

phages from the same species among the ancient samples. Additional ancient samples

might quell these issues and allow for an analysis at lower taxonomic levels. Furthermore,

due to the high sequence diversity in our timed phylogenetic tree, we obtained rather large

95% confidence intervals, which are also likely to shrink as further ancient microbiome data

becomes available. During their rapid evolution, these phages perhaps diversified in

response to microbiome alterations influenced by changing human geography and diet, both

main drivers of human microbiome composition[55,56]. Earlier studies showed co-linearity of

Crassvirales between humans and great apes[57], and estimated a diversification of these

phages in the past several centuries[58]. This estimate of much more recent diversification

was, however, noted for its uncertainty and focused only on *crAssphage* rather than the

subfamily-level analysis presented here.

We also found that higher *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness is associated with increased

urbanization. This is remarkable, as microbiome diversity as a whole is lower with increasing

urbanization[41,42]. The opposite observations in *Ca. Heliusvirales* could reflect the success of

their bacterial hosts to replicate in urbanized microbiomes: indeed, Hadza hunter-gatherers

from Tanzania and Matses hunter-gatherers from Peru have lower levels of

Lachnospiraceae bacteria such as *Blautia* and *Ruminococcus* than people in urbanized

environments[42,59].

While the *Ca. Heliusvirales* as a whole are near universally present in the human gut,

no single viral genome in this putative order is. The linkages to lifestyle and disease

demonstrated here are thus only evident when studying higher viral taxonomic levels. In line

with the recent reassessment of viral taxonomy along genomic lines[12], this study thus shows

how future definition of additional viral orders and classes can provide key insights into the

ecology and disease-associations of the gut virome.

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Methods

Data

All bioinformatic tools were used with default settings, unless explicitly stated otherwise.

Statistical analyses were done in R v4.2.1. All p-values were adjusted for multiple testing

with the Benjamini-Hochberg method.

The primary dataset of *Heliusviridae* marker genes were derived from 298 contigs

that were used in our earlier study[8], which studied the gut virome in the general population-

based multi-ethnic Healthy Life in an Urban Setting (HELIUS) cohort[60]. Contig datasets that

were used to identify *Heliusviridae* consisted of 63,481 genomes from this previous study.

This included all viral contigs before removing redundant ones. Further data sources

consisted of four recently constructed databases of gut bacteriophages: the gut phage

database (GPD, 142,809 genomes)[18], cenote-taker 2 human virome database (CHVD,

93,860 genomes)[20], gut virome database (GVD, 33,242 genomes)[19], and metagenomic gut

virus catalogue (MGV, 189,680 genomes)[61]. Further contigs were derived from fourth

version of the integrated microbial genomes viral dataset (IMG/VR, 15,722,824 genomes)[21]

and bacterial viruses from the NCBI viral reference sequence dataset (RefSeq, 4,220

genomes) release 216. For studies of urbanization- and disease-links, metagenome

assemblies were obtained from Pasolli *et al*[35]. of 7,166 human gut metagenomes of 5,441

individuals from 38 studies.

Identification of putative Heliusviridae sequences

Since previous findings showed *Heliusviridae* genomes to be around 50,000-100,000 bp

long, we first selected contigs of at least 25,000 bp without any ambiguous bases from all

datasets. This resulted in an effective search space of 1,314,988 contigs. Open reading

frames (ORFs) were then predicted using prodigal v2.6.3[62] (option --meta).

For each of the nine *Heliusviridae* marker genes, a profile hidden Markov model

(HMM) was constructed from protein sequences derived from our previous study using

hmmbuild v3.3[63]. The resulting profile HMMs were used to search against predicted ORFs

using hmmsearch v3.3[63]. For phylogenetic studies, we selected contigs with an hmmsearch

hit (bit-score ≥600) against the *Heliusviridae* terminase large subunit (TerL). Duplicates were

removed with dedupe from BBTools v38.84 (option minidentity=100), resulting in a non-

redundant dataset of 6,359 contigs. These were then analyzed for completeness with checkv

v1.0.1[22] (using database version 1.4), and we selected contigs that had 100% completeness,

no warnings, and were not recognized as prophages. These genomes were fully annotated

with pharokka v1.2.1[24] (options -m, -g prodigal), and their ORFs were grouped in protein

clusters using mmseqs2 v14.7e284[64]. GC contents were derived from pharokka output, and

temperate phages were defined as those with at least one ORF with a predicted function in

the "integration and excision" category. Potential auxiliary metabolic genes encoded by the

genomes were identified with VIBRANT v1.2.1[65].

Viral sequence clustering and proteomic analysis

Separation between our phages and those in the NCBI refseq database was analyzed with

both ViPTreeGen v1.1.3[66] and vContact2 v0.11.3[67]. The vContact2 network was visualized

with Cytoscape v3.9.1[68], while the ViPTreeGen tree was visualized with the interactive tree

of life (iTOL) webtool[69]. To analyze the grouping of genomes among the high quality contigs,

we used them to constructed a second vContact2 network.

Phylogenetic tree construction

Before phylogenetic tree construction, incomplete protein sequences were removed by

selecting only sequences that were longer than the 25th percentile minus 1.5 times the inter-

quantile ranges of all lengths. As outgroup, the homologous TerL sequence from

Staphylococcus phage LH1 (NC055041) was added. Marker genes were aligned using

MAFFT v4.753 (options --maxiterate, --localpair), after which positions with more than 90%

gaps were trimmed with trimal v1.4.rev15[70] (option -gt 0.1). Finally, a tree was built using

IQTree v2.2.0.3[71], using model finder[72] and 1000 iterations of the ultrafast bootstrap

approximation[26] and SH-like approximate likelihood ratio test. IQTree performed ten

separate tree iterations and selected the one with the best log likelihood score (options -B

1000 -alrt 1000 --runs 10). The tree was visualized with the interactive tree of life (iTOL)

webtool[69].

Heliusvirales hosts

We predicted the hosts infected by the *Heliusvirales* with iPHoP v1.3.2[73], where host

predictions with a score of at least 90 were considered valid. This resulted in genus-level

host predictions for 761 *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages.

Analysis of ancient samples

For analysis of ancient metagenomes, reads were downloaded from two separate studies[36,37]. These were trimmed with fastp v.0.23.2[74] (options --detect_adapter_for_pe) and error-corrected with tadpole from the bbmap package v38.90 (https://jgi.doe.gov/data-and-tools/bbtools, options mode=correct, ecc=t, prefilter=2). Error corrected reads were assembled with metaSPAdes v3.15.5[75]. The ancient origins of assembled contigs were determined by mapping reads to contigs of ≥1,000 bp with bowtie2 v2.4.2[76], and determining C-to-T degradation at the 5' end of sequencing reads with PyDamage v0.70[77]. Contigs with a predicted accuracy of over 0.5 were considered of ancient origins.

Heliusvirales prevalence and relation to urbanization

To determine *Heliusvirales* prevalence, we firstly gathered geographic and environmental metadata from all genomes used to build the main phylogenetic tree. Second, contigs obtained from Pasolli et al[35] were analyzed for the presence of *Heliusvirales* TerL genes. To do this, ORFs were predicted with Prodigal v2.6.3[62] (option –meta), and used for an hmmsearch with the profile hmm of the TerL constructed from sequences identified in our previous study. Hits with bit-scores of over 600 were selected. The same approach was used to identify *Heliusvirales* TerL genes among ancient populations. Enrichment of phages from certain environments among selected subfamilies was calculated with the phyper function from base R.

To analyze the relation of *Heliusvirales* richness to urbanization, richness was calculated by dividing the number of identified TerL genes by the number of reads in billions. Significance testing of richness differences after combining studies was done with linear mixed effects models where the study was entered as a random effect, using the lme function from the nlme R package v3.1-162 and Anova function from the rstatix R package

v0.7.2. The same approach was used to calculate significant richness differences among

pooled disease-related cohorts.

Assignment of TerL sequences from ancient- and disease-related samples was done

by constructing a phylogenetic tree with TerL genes from all high-quality *Heliusvirales*

genomes that had been used in the main phylogeny. For the ancient, hunter-gatherers, and

urban populations, a single such tree was built, while for the disease-related datasets one

tree was constructed per project. Trees were constructed with IQTree v2.2.0.3 as described

above, and pairwise cophenetic distances were calculated from them with the ape R

package v5.7-1. Each sequence was then assigned to the same taxonomy as its closest

neighbor of which the taxonomy was known.

For the ancient, hunter-gatherers, and urban populations, taxonomic assignment at

the family level was used to calculate UniFrac distances, from which a non-metric

multidimensional scaling (NMDS) was constructed. Permutated ANOVA significance levels

were calculated with the adonis2 function in the vegan R package v2.6-4. To determine

significant differences in subfamily prevalence between populations with different lifestyles,

Fisher exact tests were calculated using the fisher.test function from base R.

Timed tree construction

To reconstruct an evolutionary timed tree of the *Ca. Hathorviridae*, we first constructed a

regular tree on members of this family. For this, we selected the TerL genes of all *Ca.*

Hathorviridae from both the complete genomes and the ancient samples. This was used to

build a phylogenetic tree with IQTree as described above. From this tree, we selected

thirteen complete genomes and all three ancient genome fragments that combined reflected

the architecture of the *Ca. Hathorviridae*. All ORFs from these genomes were then clustered

with mmseqs2 v14.7e284[64], after which the six protein clusters that were universally present

were selected. This number was relatively low because the ancient sequences were genome

fragments of 15,076, 19,664, and 67,881 bp long. The six universal PCs were a TerL, head

maturation protease, major head protein, portal protein, a hypothetical protein, and

terminase small subunit. For each protein, an alignment was made with MAFFT v4.753

(options --maxiterate, --localpair)[78], from which a timed tree was inferred using BEAST

v2.7.3[79]. BEAST was run with the following models: Birth death model, Coalescent constant

population, Coalescent exponential population, Coalescent bayesian skyline, Coalescent

extended bayesian skyline, each with both strict and optimized relaxed clock models.

Analyses were run for 30 million iterations, at which point all models had converged and

estimated sample sized were above 200. The coalescent constant population model with a

relaxed clock was the best-fitting model. A full accounting of tree construction with the

various evolutionary models is in **Supplementary Table 6**. BEAST was run with OBAMA

v1.1.1[80] for amino-acid model averaging.

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<u>Author contributions</u>

P.A.d.J. conducted data analysis and wrote the manuscript; B.J.v.d.B., A.H.Z., and M.N.

assisted with experimental design and data interpretation; P.A.d.J., B.E.D., and H.H.

designed the study. All authors read and provided input on the manuscript.

<u>Competing interests</u>

M.N. owns stock in, consults for, and has intellectual property rights in Caelus Health. He

consults for Kaleido. None of these are directly relevant to the current paper. The remaining

authors declare no competing interests.

<u>Figure legends</u>

Figure 1: Presence of near-universal marker genes is linked to TerL homology. **a:** Annotation

of NatCom_15117, a complete genome with inverse terminal repeats. The nine marker

genes are denoted above the genome line, with re-annotated functions in parentheses.

Other annotated genes are below the genome line. Full annotation is reported in

Supplementary table 1. b: Overview of the procedure by which genomes were selected

from seven phage databases. **c:** density plots of bit-scores from a search with the TerL

HMM, separated by the total amount of marker genes found in the genome. Dots are

individual complete genomes. **c:** a rooted approximate maximum-likelihood tree of TerL

genes with hmm bit-scores over 700 and members of all ICTV lineages with similar TerL

genes (hmm bit-score ≥50). Groups are collapsed, for un-collapsed version of the tree, see

Figure 2a. **e:** prevalence of the most common protein clusters. Red denotes marker genes,

grey others.

Figure 2: The *Ca. Heliusvirales* are a large order of gut phages with distinct subgroups. **a:** a

rooted approximate maximum-likelihood tree of *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes. The outgroup

at the extreme left of the tree are the ICTV-sequences depicted in **Figure 1d**. The symbols

for the presence of the marker genes are, from inside to outside: the exonuclease, ssDNA

binding protein, DNA polymerase, endonuclease, helicase, TerL, portal protein, head

maturation protease, and major capsid protein. **b:** chart depicting the pairwise percent of

shared genes among the three main families (top) and their subfamilies (bottom). The n

reflects the number of genomes in the lineage. For an overview of all families, see

Supplementary Figure 1. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th, and 75th

percentile (box), with the 25th percentile minus and the 75th percentile plus 1.5 times the

interquartile range (whiskers), and outliers (single points). **c:** vContact2 protein-sharing

network of all sequences in **a**. Node edge color denotes family, while fill denote subfamilies,

both according to the same colors as use in **a**.

Figure 3: Pairwise whole-genome comparisons of genomes from each of the families and

subfamilies, with vertical lines showing tBLASTx similarity. The tree on the left is a collapsed

version of the one in **Figure 2a**, with the outgroup pruned to a single branch (*Rowavirus*

rowa). Genes are colored according to their function, and homologs of the nine originally

identified marker genes have dashed red outlines. For the names of the genomes depicted,

see **Supplementary Table 4**.

Figure 4: high *Ca. Heliusvirales* diversity in environmental origin and host species. **a:**

environmental origins of the *Ca. Heliusvirales* subfamilies. **b:** Iphop-based bacterial host

predictions of *Ca. Heliusvirales* lineages. Detailed results can be found in **Supplementary**

Figure 4 and **Supplementary Table 5. c:** pathway assignment of putative auxiliary

metabolic genes (AMGs) and morons encoded by the *Ca. Heliusvirales*. For brevity, the 20

pathways that were most commonly found were selected.

Figure 5: the *Ca. Heliusvirales* are widespread and ancient. **a:** map showing in which

countries *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL-containing sequences were found. Data pertains to the

seven bacteriophage databases described in the methods and samples assembled earlier

by Pasolli *et al*[35]. Red dots show the locations of ancient gut microbiomes that were

analyzed for *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL presence, with their dates, gene-, and sample-counts. **b:**

prevalence of *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes among individuals of 39 gut metagenome

studies. The red bar is the prevalence among the totality of all studies. **c:** tip-dated

phylogenetic tree of selected *Ca. Hathorviridae* sequences from modern and ancient

samples. Bold sequences are from ancient samples. Bar plots denote 95% confidence,

values denote median and 95% confidence intervals. A phylogenetic tree of all *Ca.*

Hathorviridae sequences is shown in **Supplementary Figure 6**. **d:** boxplots of the number of

Ca. Heliusvirales TerL genes found per person, per billion sequenced bases, with jittered

points per study. Significance is according to nested linear mixed-effect models where the

study was used as a random effect. Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th, and 75th

percentile (box), with the 25th percentile minus and the 75th percentile plus 1.5 times the

interquartile range (whiskers). Comparisons of richness in urbanized vs hunter-gatherer

populations within each study can be found in **Supplementary Figure 7a**. **e:** non-metric

multidimensional scaling (NMDS) on unweighted UniFrac distances, colored by lifestyle of

the human host. **f:** Prevalence of *Ca. Heliusvirales* subfamilies in ancient peoples, hunter-

gatherers, and urbanized peoples, with significance according to Fisher exact tests for

subfamilies with significant values. All p-values were adjusted for multiple testing with the

Benjamini-Hochberg procedure, and are denoted as follows * ≤0.05, ** ≤0.01, *** ≤0.001.

Figure 5: *Ca. Heliusvirales* phages are associated with a number of diseases. **a:** four studies

in which a significant difference was found in the number of *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL genes per

person per billion sequenced bases. Significance is according to Wilcoxon signed-rank tests.

Box plots show the median (middle line), 25th, and 75th percentile (box), with the 25th

percentile minus and the 75th percentile plus 1.5 times the interquartile range (whiskers). **b:**

non-metric multidimensional scaling (NMDS) on unweighted UniFrac distances, colored by

disease status. **c:** The difference in prevalence between controls and people with disease.

All p-values were adjusted for multiple testing with the Benjamini-Hochberg procedure.

Supplementary Figure 1: shared gene content for all families.

Supplementary Figure 2: **a**: vContact2 genome network of the *Ca. Heliusvirales* and all

genomes in the ICTV database. ICTV lineages that are in **Figure 1d** are colored **b:** VipTree

proteome tree of the same sequences in **a**. Unassigned viruses have no classification above

the genus level.

Supplementary Figure 3: GC-content of the *Ca. Heliusvirales* by lineage.

Supplementary Figure 4: A heatmap of genus-level predictions at the *Ca. Heliusvirales*

subfamily-level.

Supplementary Figure 5: the percentage of temperate phages across the subfamilies, as

determined by the presence of integration and excision genes in pharokka annotations. The

dashed red line is the average for all *Ca. Heliusvirales*

Supplementary Figure 6: An approximate maximum-likelihood tree of *Ca. Hathorviridae* TerL

genes, with color coding showing subfamily. Dots show branches with SH-like approximate

likelihood ratio test ≥80 and ultrafast bootstrap approximation ≥95.

Supplementary Figure 7: **a**: comparisons of *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness between urban and

hunter-gatherer populations in two studies. Benjamini-Hochberg-adjusted p-values are

according to Wilcoxon signed-rank tests. **b:** comparison of *Ca. Heliusvirales* TerL

abundance between lifestyles. **c:** taxonomic *Ca. Heliusvirales* richness comparison between

ancient, hunter-gatherer, and urban populations. Benjamini-Hochberg-adjusted p-values in b

and c are according to linear mixed-effect models with the study as a random effect.

a

Ghrianvirinae *Gunesvirinae*
Sontsevirinae
Utenevirinae
Matahativirinae
Nitavirinae
Oorunvirinae
Ravirinae
Ilangavirinae
Antuvirinae
Kuarahyvirinae
Siqiniqvirinae
Dzuwavirinae

Mehrvirinae
Aurinkovirinae

Hathorviridae

Zonvirinae
Utuviridae

Intivirinae
Iavirinae
Haulvirinae
Aineviridae
Tilevirinae
Willkavirinae

Taiyangvirinae

subfamily
family
markers

de Jonge 2022
★ alpha
★ beta
★ gamma

family
Aineviridae
Atenviridae
Auroraviridae
Hathorviridae
Hunahpuviridae
Tonatiuhviridae
Utuviridae
Xiheviridae
unclassified

0.1

● SH-aLRT ≥80 &
UFboot ≥95

b

family
Utuviridae (n=677)
Hathorviridae (n=197)
Aineviridae (n=304)

subfamily
Utenevirinae (n = 8)
Tilevirinae (n = 68)
Taiyangvirinae (n = 115)
Sontsevirinae (n = 10)
Oorunvirinae (n = 66)
Nitavirinae (n = 48)
Iavirinae (n = 26)
Gunesvirinae (n = 54)
Ghrianvirinae (n = 14)
Dzuwavirinae (n = 19)
Aurinkovirinae (n = 188)
Antuvirinae (n = 59)
Siqiniqvirinae (n = 10)
Ravirinae (n = 30)
Matahativirinae (n = 134)
Kuarahyvirinae (n = 16)
Ilangavirinae (n = 4)
Zonvirinae (n = 78)
Willkavirinae (n = 5)
Mehrvirinae (n = 114)
Intivirinae (n = 11)
Haulvirinae (n = 96)

homologous proteins (%)

c

family
subfamily

Nitavirinae

Mehrvirinae

Matahativirinae

Tonatiuhviridae	
Hunahpuviridae	
Willkavirinae	
Haulvirinae	
Intivirinae	
Zonvirinae	
Mehrvirinae	
Xiheviridae	
Auroraviridae	
Siqiniqvirinae	
Kuarahyvirinae	
Ilangavirinae	
Mataharivirinae	
Ravirinae	
Atenviridae	
Sontsevirinae	
Ghrianvirinae	
Gunesvirinae	
Uternevirinae	
Oorunvirinae	
Nitavirinae	
Antuvirinae	
Dzuwavirinae	
Aurinkovirinae	
Iavirinae	
Taiyangvirinae	
Tilevirinae	

0.1

DNA, RNA and nucleotide metabolism

transcription regulation

moron, auxiliary metabolic gene and host takeover

tail

head and packaging

connector

integration and excision

lysis

others/unknown

tBLASTx
similarity

100%

16%

a environmental origin
- human blood
- human gut
- human oral
- human urogenital
- human other
- other animal
- other mammal
- environmental
- other/unknown

b predicted host taxonomy
- *Actinobacteriota*
- *Actinomycetaceae*
- *Firmicutes*
- *Streptococcaceae*
- *Enterococcaceae*
- *Firmicutes_C*
- *Acidaminococcaceae*
- others
- *Firmicutes_A*
- *Acutalibacteraceae*
- CAG-74
- *Clostridiaceae*
- *Lachnospiraceae*
- *Oscillospiraceae*
- *Ruminococcaceae*
- *Proteobacteria*
- unknown

Tonatiuhviridae
Hunahpuviridae
Willkavirinae
Haulvirinae
Intivirinae
Zonvirinae
Mehrvirinae
Xiheviridae
Auroraviridae
Siqiniqvirinae
Kuarahyvirinae
Ilangavirinae
Mataharivirinae
Ravirinae
Atenviridae
Sontsevirinae
Ghrianvirinae
Gunesvirinae
Utervirinae
Oorunvirinae
Nitavirinae
Antuvirinae
Dzuwavirinae
Aurinkovirinae
Iavirinae
Taiyangvirinae
Tilevirinae

0.1

number of genomes
number of genomes

c
pathway:
- cysteine & methionine metabolism
- sulfur metabolism
- riboflavin metabolism
- amino sugar & nucleotide sugar metabolism
- nicotinate & nicotinamide metabolism
- biosynthesis of type II polyketide products
- streptomycin biosynthesis
- polyketide sugar unit biosynthesis
- pyruvate metabolism
- ascorbate & aldarate metabolism
- pentose & glucuronate interconversions
- phenylalanine metabolism
- galactose metabolism
- porphyrin & chlorophyll metabolism
- sulfur relay system
- acarbose & validamycin biosynthesis
- alanine, aspartate & glutamate metabolism
- benzoate degradation
- ubiquinone & other terpenoid-quinone biosynthesis
- lipopolysaccharide biosynthesis

total AMGs

metabolism
- amino acid met.
- carbohydrate met.
- cofactor & vitamin met.
- energy met.
- folding, sorting & degrad.
- glycan biosynthesis & met.
- lipid met.
- terpenoids & polyketide met.
- second. metab. biosynth.
- xenobiotics biodeg. & met.

a

Arid West cave
595–635 CE
12 TerL in 3/3 individuals

Boomerang shelter
10–60 CE
10 TerL in 2/2 individuals

Zape
725–920 CE
14 TerL in 3/3 individuals

Hallstatt
1040 BCE
2 TerL in 1/4 individuals

Ötzal Alps
3230 BCE
0 TerL in 1 individual

Ca. Heliusvirales
TerL found in:
- both humans and non-human
- only humans
- only non-human
- none detected/no data

b

DavidLA 2015
SmitsSA 2017
VatanenT 2016
HanniganGD 2017
ÖlmMR 2017
RampelliS 2015
LomanNJ 2013
AsnicarF 2017
FerrettiP 2018
QinN 2014
VincentC 2016
LiJ 2014
ChengpingW 2017
LiuW 2016
QinJ 2012
SchirmerM 2016
NielsenHB 2014
ZeeviD 2015
Overall
LoombaR 2017
HMP 2012
LeChatelierE 2013
BackhedF 2015
KosticAD 2015
Obregon-TitoAJ 2015
BritoIL 2016
YuJ 2015
ZellerG 2014
KarlssonFH 2013
IjazUZ 2017
CosteaPI 2017
LiJ 2017
FengQ 2015
VogtmannE 2016
XieH 2016
RaymondF 2016
LouisS 2016
LiSS 2016
Bengtsson-PalmeJ 2015

Study

individuals with *Ca. Heliusvirales* (%)

c

0.67
[0.05–2.76]
1.84
[0.11–7.50]
2.44
[0.16–9.82]
4.56
[0.28–18.32]
1.88
[0.11–7.77]
2.09
[0.09–8.94]
8.82
[0.52–35.99]

IMGVR_15660478
IMGVR_15563120
SRR12557711_NODE_2296 (635 CE)
CHVD_2900
IMGVR_15378578
NatCom_59770
SRR12557733_NODE_95 (10 CE)
IMGVR_15563536
IMGVR_16657398
IMGVR_15355857
SRR12557705_NODE_1404 (850 CE)
IMGVR_516834
IMGVR_15357124

Ca. Matahariviridae
Ca. Matahariviridae
Ca. Raviviridae

time (x 100,000 years)

d

4.48x10⁻⁵
1.27x10⁻⁵
0.076

TerL/1B bases

ancient   h.-g.   urban

e

NMDS2

NMDS1

- ancient
- hunter-gatherer
- urban

PERMANOVA	R²	q
urban vs. h.-g.	0.087	0.001
urban vs. ancient	0.129	0.001
ancient vs. h.-g.	0.064	0.003

f

present
- yes
- no

ancient   hunter-gatherer   urban   a./h.-g.   a./u.   u./h.-g.

Tonatiuhviridae
Hunahpuviridae
Willkavirinae
Haulvirinae   *
Intivirinae
Zonvirinae   *
Mehrvirinae
Xiheviridae   **   **
Auroraviridae
Siqiniqivirinae
Kuarahyvirinae   *   *
Ilangavirinae
Matahariviridae
Ravirinae
Atenviridae
Sontsevirinae   **
Ghrianvirinae   ***   **
Gunesvirinae   **
Utemevirinae
Oorunvirinae
Nitavirinae
Antuvirinae
Dzuwavirinae   *
Aurinkovirinae
Iavirinae
Taiyangvirinae   **   *
Tilevirinae

a

LiJ 2014 — 0.022 — control, T1D

NielsenHB 2014 — 6.1x10^{-16} — control, IBD

QinJ 2012 — 0.003 — control, T2D

QinN 2014 — 0.006 — control, cirrhosis

Heliusvirales TerL/1B bases

b

LiJ 2014 — PERMANOVA 0.0194

NielsenHB 2014 — PERMANOVA 0.0001

QinJ 2012 — PERMANOVA 0.0364

QinN 2014 — PERMANOVA 0.0173

NMDS2

NMDS1

c

	LiJ 2014 (T1D)	NielsenHB 2014 (IBD)	QinJ 2012 (T2D)	QinN 2014 (cirrhosis)
Tonatiuhviridae				
Hunahpuviridae				
Willkavirinae				
Haulvirinae	*			*
Intivirinae				
Zonvirinae				
Mehrvirinae				
Xiheviridae	*		*	
Auroraviridae				
Siqiniqvirinae		*		
Kuarahyvirinae				
Ilangavirinae				
Mataharivirinae	***			
Ravirinae				
Atenviridae		***		*
Sontsevirinae		**		
Ghrianvirinae			*	
Gunesvirinae				
Uternevirinae				
Oorunvirinae	*		**	**
Nitavirinae				
Antuvirinae	*			
Dzuwavirinae				
Aurinkovirinae	**			*
Iavirinae				
Taiyangvirinae	**		*	
Tilevirinae	**	***	**	*

prevalence difference
diseased 1.0 / control -1.0

a

Nymbaxtervirinae

Hendrixvirinae

Tybeckvirinae

Andrewesvirinae

other ICTV lineages

unassigned viruses

Ca. Heliusvirales

Aliceevansviridae

Deejayvirinae

Gochnauervirinae

Trabyvirinae

Bronfenbrennervirinae

Mccleskeyvirinae

Orlajensensviridae

b

Lineage

■ (red)	*Ca. Heliusvirales*
■ (orange)	*Andrewesvirinae*
■ (dark red)	*Tybeckvirinae*
■ (magenta)	*Trabyvirinae*
■ (blue)	*Bronfenbrennervirinae*
■ (dark red)	*Aliceevansviridae*
■ (light blue)	*Mccleskeyvirinae*
■ (pink)	*Deejayvirinae*
■ (green)	*Hendrixvirinae*
■ (light green)	*Nymbaxtervirinae*
■ (blue)	*Orlajensenviridae*
■ (dark gray)	other ICTV lineages
■ (light gray)	unassigned viruses

Lineage

0.1

Subfamily

Sikinikvirinae

Kuarahyvirinae

Ilangavirinae

Ravirinae

Mataharivirinae

unclassified *Hathorviridae*