# NCBI Virus: Accessing sequence data and virus information Eneida Hatcher, PhD

National Library of Medicine
National Center for Biotechnology Information

## More data, more problems?

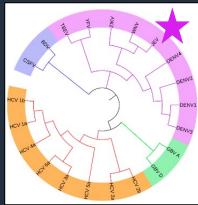
- How do you find data for viruses that have certain characteristics?
- From a geographic location, or collected recently?
- Which name do you search with?
- Part of a lineage or subtype?

### NCBI Virus





RefSeq & Taxonomy



#### **NCBI Virus Curation**

Submission to GenBank (or DDBJ or ENA)



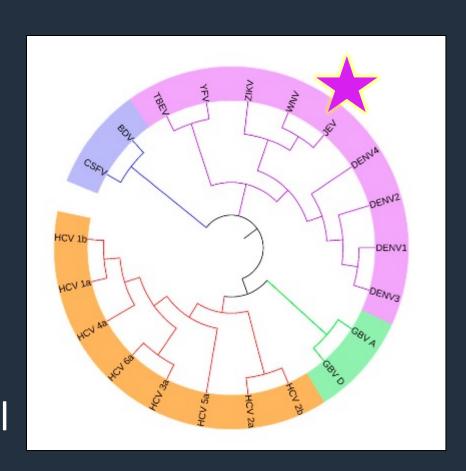
"blood"

Host
Sample location in host
Collection date
Geographic regions
Lab or vaccine strain
Environmental strain



## RefSeq records

- Representatives of a species or unclassified group
- Based on GenBank record
- Usually, 1 per species
- ICTV exemplars and "new" viruses
- Standard gene & protein annotation for well characterized viruses

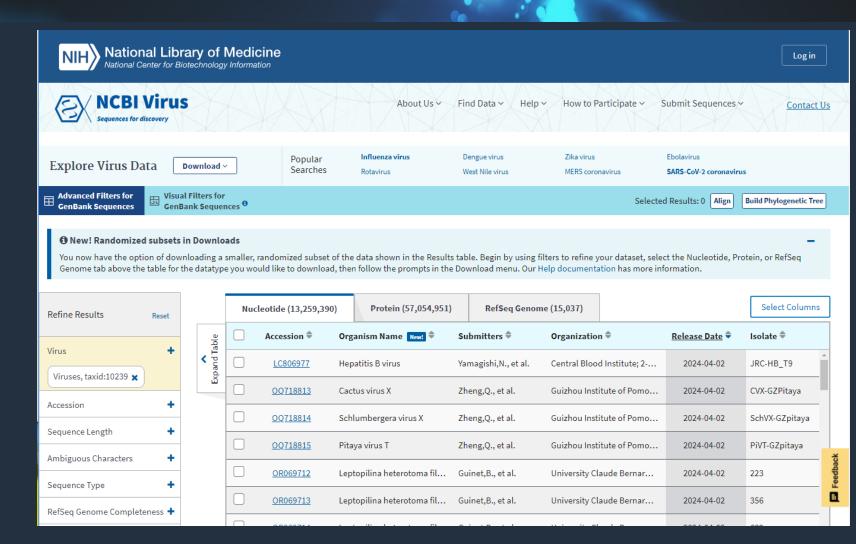


## Role of RefSeqs in Public Health Response

- GenBank team + NCBI Virus team
- 24 hrs RefSeq with improved annotation
- Standardized annotation protein coding regions & names
- Demonstrated SARS-CoV-2 taxonomy
- RefSeq was used to create VADR models
  - Submissions are normally manually reviewed Automated submission of sequences
- Provides widely available sequence coordinates, S:D614G

#### NCBI Virus Results Table

- Accession: GenBank,
   SRA, BioProject,
   BioSample
- Geographic region (North America; USA; GA)
- Submitting author, organization, location
- Several more



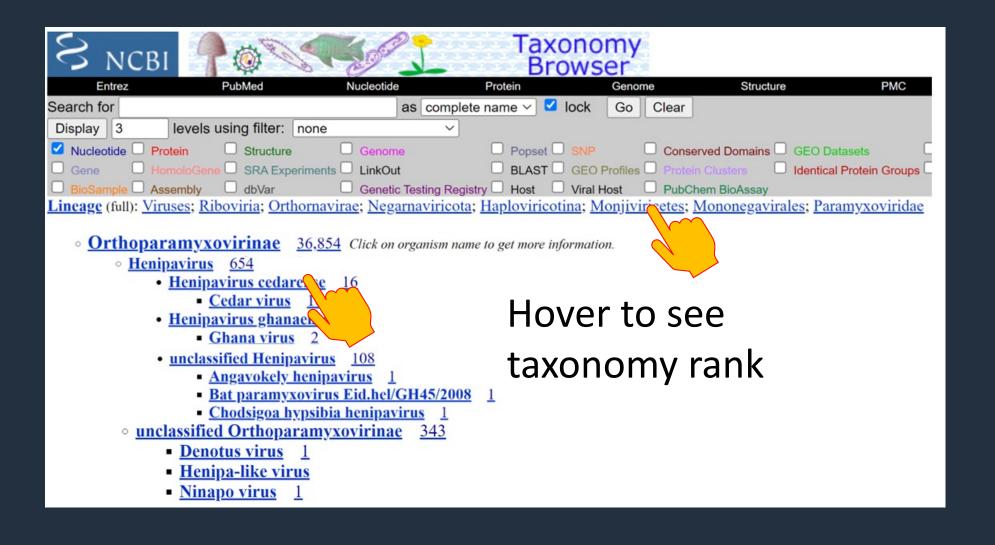
## Pango Lineages in NCBI Virus

- Automated tool ©
- Each evening: Check for updates to the tools, Run on all SARS-CoV-2 sequences
- Filter by lineage
- Include lineage in Results Table download, or defline in downloads
  - Versions are also included in Results Table download:
  - 4.3.1/1.26/v0.1.12/0.3.19/0.6.2
  - pangolin 4.3.1 / pangolin-data 1.24 / constellations v0.1.12 / scorpio 0.3.19 / UShER 0.6.2

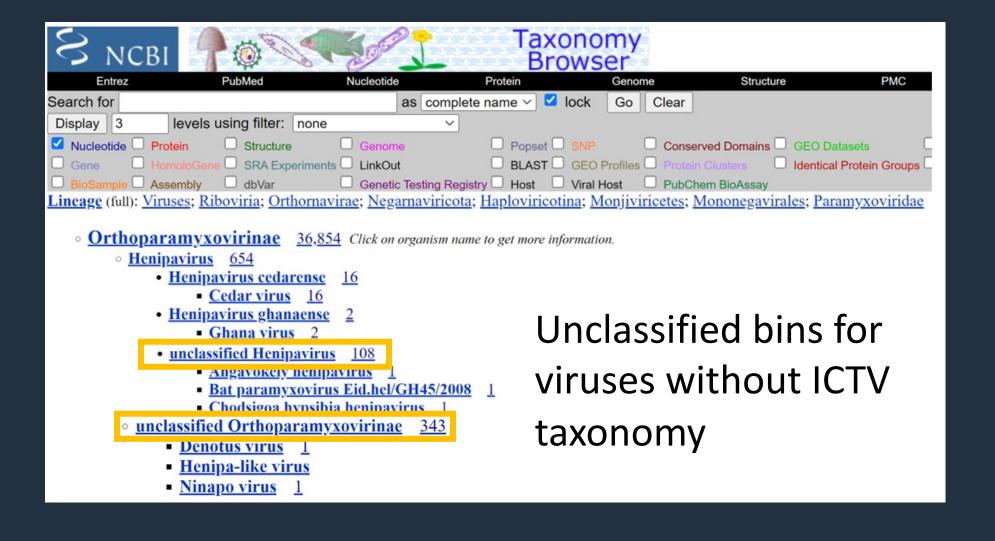
## NCBI Taxonomy

- Virus species: ICTV
  - Gives us a <u>formalized</u> way to talk about virus groups
- Virus name, common names: Nipah virus, SARS-CoV-2
- When no official taxonomy is available yet, NCBI places sequence records into "unclassified" bins
- NCBI taxonomy also includes synonyms, virus names, common names, etc. to make data searches easier
  - Nipah-virus, 2019-nCoV, Newcastle disease virus
- Includes nodes below the species level

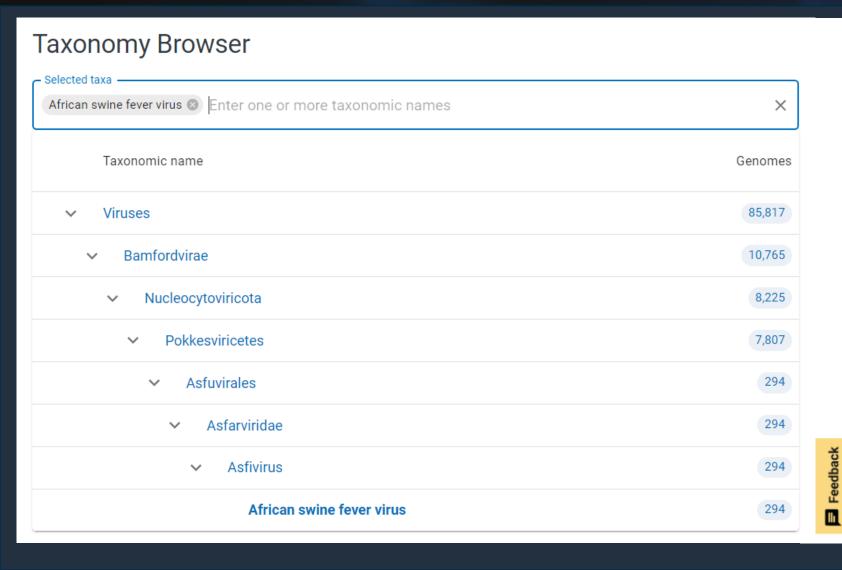
## NCBI Taxonomy Bowser



## NCBI Taxonomy Bowser



## NCBI Taxonomy Bowser - New!

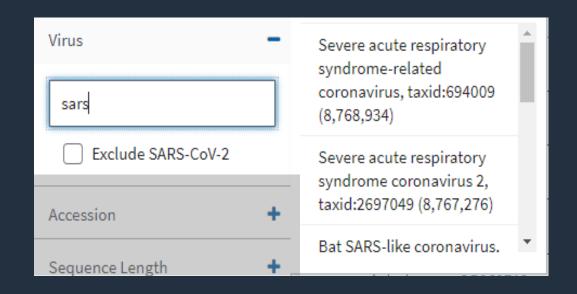


Search "NCBI Datasets" → Taxonomy

Genomes #
Nucleotide
records

Please share your feedback

### NCBI Virus = NCBI Taxonomy



Virus

Measles morbillivirus, taxid:11234 (22,962)

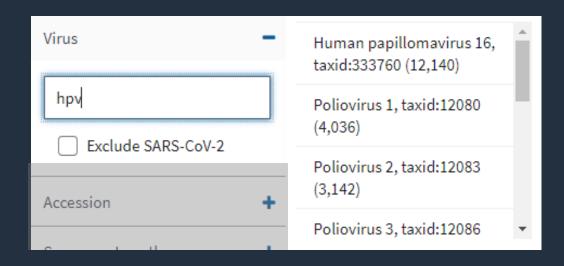
Measles virus genotypes and isolates, taxid:351680 (16,344)

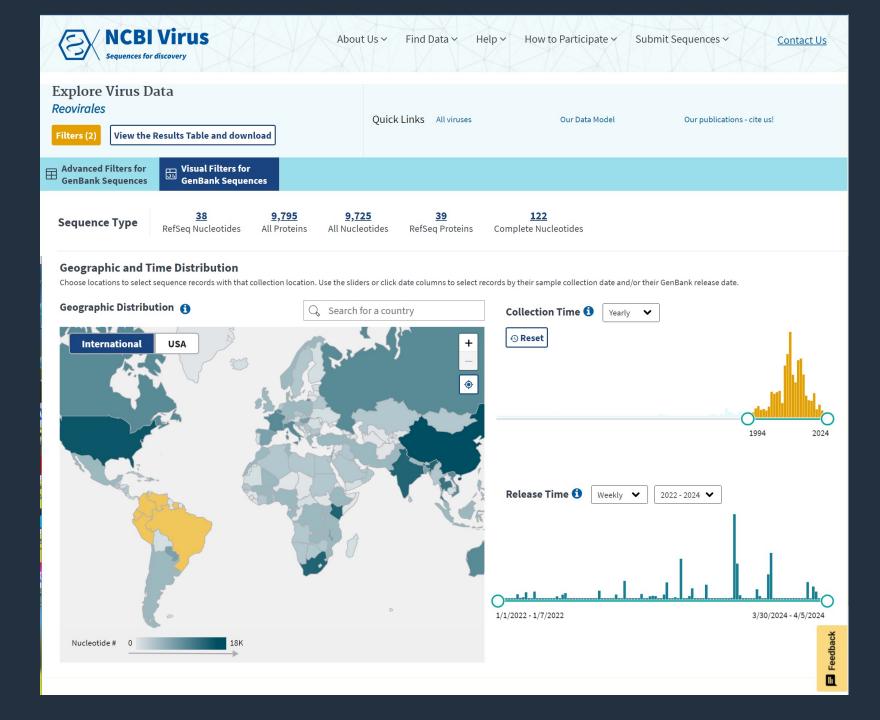
Accession

Measles virus genotype D8, taxid:170528 (6,613)

▼

Search with <u>any</u> level of taxonomy, common name, many abbreviations, etc





Interactive dashboard for exploring sequence data, understanding biases, and refining selections

#### Flexible download formats

FASTA: nucleotide, coding regions, or proteins

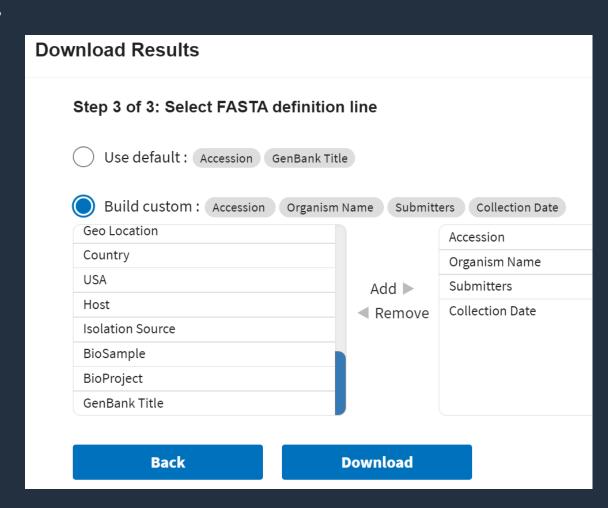
Customize the defline/header

**Accessions lists** 

#### Results table

Choose which fields to include in the table

Randomized subsets, stratified by country, collection year, release year, or host

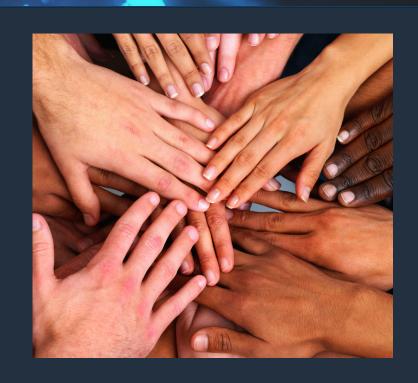


#### NCBI Datasets – Command line or API

- Programmatically access virus data
- Nucleotide & Protein sequences, annotation, and metadata report
- Same normalized metadata as NCBI Virus
- Great for large data downloads
- https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/datasets/docs/how-tos/virus/

## Help us help you.

- Lineages can change over time but data provided during submission is archival
- NCBI Virus can associate sequence records with up-to-date lineages
- & help distribute lineage references
- We need:
  - Community-accepted classification schemes
  - Automated classification tools with long-term support



## Acknowledgements

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Ryan Connor – former

J. Rodney Brister - former

NCBI & NLM colleagues

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