

TITLE- Complete assembly of a dengue virus type 3 genome from a recent genotype III clade by metagenomic sequencing of serum

Authors, email id and affiliations

1.# Chitra Pattabiraman (email: pattabiraman.chitra@gmail.com)

National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bangalore- 560029, India

2. # Mary Dias (email: soniamarydias@hotmail.com)

St. John's Medical College and Hospital, Bangalore - 560034, India.

3. Shilpa Siddappa (email: shilpanggl@gmail.com)

Centre for Cellular And Molecular Platforms, Bangalore – 560065, India.

4. Malali Gowda (email: mg.nggl@gmail.com)

Trans-disciplinary University, Foundation for Revitalization of Local Health Traditions (FRLHT), Bangalore- 560064, India

5. Anita Shet (email: ashet1@jhu.edu)

Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, Baltimore, MD 21205, USA.

6. Derek Smith (email: djs200@cam.ac.uk)

Center for Pathogen Evolution, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, UK. World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Modeling, Evolution, and Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, UK.

7. Barbara Muehlemann (email: barbara.muehlemann@bluewin.ch)

Center for Pathogen Evolution, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2
3EJ, UK. World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Modeling, Evolution, and
Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, UK.

8. Krishnapriya Tamma (email: priya.tamma@gmail.com)

Indian Institute of Sciences, Bangalore, India

9. Tom Solomon (email: Tsolomon@liverpool.ac.uk)

Institute of Infection and Global Health, and National Institute for Health Research, Health
Protection Research Unit in Emerging and Zoonotic Infections, University of Liverpool -L69 7BE,
UK

10. Terry Jones (email: tcj25@cam.ac.uk)

Center for Pathogen Evolution, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB2
3EJ, UK. World Health Organization (WHO) Collaborating Center for Modeling, Evolution, and
Control of Emerging Infectious Diseases, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, UK.

11. Sudhir Krishna (email: skrishna@ncbs.res.in)

National Centre for Biological Sciences, TIFR, Bangalore – 560065, India

These authors contributed equally to the work

Corresponding author : Chitra Pattabiraman (email: pattabiraman.chitra@gmail.com)

ABSTRACT (340 words)

Background Mosquito-borne flaviviruses causing diseases such as dengue and Japanese encephalitis are devastating, particularly in the tropics. Although, multiple flaviviruses are known to co-circulate in India, when a patient presents with febrile illness, testing is usually limited to specific pathogens. Unbiased metagenomic sequencing of febrile cases can reveal the presence of multiple pathogens and provide complete genome information. Sequence information, a cornerstone for tracing virus evolution, is relevant for the design of vaccines and therapeutics. In order to assess the usefulness of unbiased metagenomic sequencing for the identification of viruses associated with febrile illness, we sequenced serum from four individuals and plasma from one individual, all hospitalized at a tertiary care centre in South India with severe or prolonged febrile illnesses, together with one healthy control in 2014.

Results We identified and assembled a complete dengue virus type 3 (DENV3) sequence from the serum of a case classified as severe dengue. We also found a small number of Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) sequences in the serum of two adults with febrile illness, including the one who had dengue. Phylogenetic analysis of the dengue sequence indicates that it belongs to a predominantly Asian, DENV3, genotype III clade. It had an estimated divergence time of 13.86 years (95% Highest Posterior Densities 12.94 - 14.83 years) with the closest Indian strain. Amino acid substitutions were present throughout the sequenced genome, including 11 substitutions in the antigenic envelope protein compared to the strain used for the development of the first commercial dengue vaccine. Of these one substitution (E361D) was unique and six were in critical antigenic sites.

Conclusions We demonstrate that both genome assembly and detection of a low number of viral sequences are possible by unbiased sequencing of clinical material. Complete dengue virus sequence analysis places the sequenced genome in a recent, predominantly Asian clade within genotype III of DENV3. The detection of JEV, an agent not routinely tested in febrile illness in

India, warrants further analysis and highlights the need to study co-circulating flaviviruses in parallel.

KEYWORDS – acute febrile illness, metagenomics, dengue virus type 3, India, dengue virus sequence

BACKGROUND

Acute undifferentiated febrile illness refers to a sudden onset of high fever without localized organ specific clinical features [1]. Although majority of the cases recover over a few days, some can develop severe illness resulting in high morbidity and even death in many parts of the world. Among the many causes of febrile illness, some of the most important across Asia are mosquito-borne viruses such as dengue virus [1–6]. In addition, novel agents associated with acute febrile illness continue to be discovered [7–9].

Current molecular diagnostics, such as polymerase chain reaction are pathogen specific, and therefore pose limitations, as they may fail to detect co-infections and novel agents, not commonly associated with the disease syndrome [10]. Unbiased metagenomic sequencing of clinical material from patients with acute fever can overcome these limitations [3, 11].

Mosquito-borne viruses of the family *Flaviviridae* which include dengue and Japanese encephalitis viruses are known to co-circulate in India and other parts of Asia [12]. Dengue viruses are a major cause of acute febrile illness in Asia with recurrent outbreaks [13]. Japanese encephalitis virus on the other hand, is better known as a cause of acute encephalitis [14]. Although it has been noted as an agent causing acute fever in southeast Asia, it is not routinely tested as a cause of fevers in India [5, 6]. There are four distinct serotypes of dengue viruses (dengue virus 1-4), with small RNA genomes (approximately 10.8 kilo base pairs), making them amenable for characterization by deep sequencing of infected mosquitoes or clinical material from infected individuals [15]. Sequencing dengue genomes is important for tracking virus evolution, given that they frequently mutate [15, 16]. Outbreaks of severe dengue disease associated with serotype switches or introduction of a novel strain into the population have been reported from different countries, including Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Singapore [17–22]. Recent analysis suggests an Influenza virus like pattern for dengue virus evolution, where strain-specific differences underlie antibody neutralization [23].

Preexisting antibodies to circulating dengue strains can therefore contribute to disease severity by inadequate neutralization of the virus or by antibody mediated enhancement which facilitates virus infection [24–28]. This is supported by in vitro studies in which changes to the envelope protein of dengue virus type 3 (DENV3) were sufficient to alter antibody binding [26]. Multiple dengue vaccines are currently in various stages of development and a tetravalent vaccine (CYD-TDV; Dengvaxia®, Sanofi Pasteur) has been approved for use in several countries [29, 30]. This vaccine has been shown to induce broadly neutralizing antibodies to multiple strains and all serotypes of dengue viruses[31]. The results of the phase III trial of this vaccine suggest that both the immune state (with respect to dengue viruses) and circulating viruses may influence vaccine effectiveness [29]. This underscores the need to characterize both the sequence evolution and antibody response of circulating dengue strains.

We hypothesized that the unbiased sequencing or metagenomic approach would help us determine both the identity and the sequences of viruses in febrile illness. In particular, based on previous studies of sequencing data from the serum of febrile individuals, we expected that medium depth sequencing (about 10-20 million sequence reads per sample) was necessary and sufficient for providing complete sequences of small viral genomes from clinical material [2, 9]. In order to test this, we sequenced serum from four individuals and plasma from one individual presenting with febrile illness at a tertiary care hospital in Bangalore, India and one healthy control, during the dengue season of 2014. We recovered the complete coding sequence of DENV3 clustering into a recent genotype III clade.

RESULTS

We sequenced RNA extracted from the serum of four patients hospitalized with severe febrile illness, and one plasma sample from a patient hospitalized with prolonged febrile illness (Table 1). We included serum from a healthy individual, and water as controls. Approximately 10×10^6

158 sequence reads were recovered from each sample, with the water control yielding lower number of
159 reads (Figure 1 A).

160

161 A BLAST [32] similarity search mapping of all sequenced reads to a database of NCBI reference
162 viral sequences (Table 1) identified 19,120 DENV3 sequence reads and 14 Japanese encephalitis
163 virus (JEV) sequence reads in sample F2, and 12 JEV sequence reads in sample F5. A single
164 DENV3 read was detected in sample F3. No viruses of animals were confirmed by BLAST in the
165 controls or in other samples (Table 1 and Figure 1B).

166

167 Based on the World Health Organization guidelines for classification of dengue cases [33], F2 was
168 classified as a case of severe dengue as the presenting symptoms included respiratory distress
169 (bilateral pleural effusions in chest X-ray) hypotension and elevated liver enzymes (Table 1).

170

171 The serum sample from this individual was positive for both the NS1 antigen and dengue IgM, and
172 we were able to obtain complete DENV3 genome sequence from this sample. Genomes were
173 assembled both by de novo assembly (87.05% coverage) and mapping based assembly (99%
174 coverage) (Table 2-3, Additional File 1) and found to be identical (Additional File 2). Mapping
175 revealed good coverage across the genome with an average depth of 231.45 (Figure 1, Table 2).
176 The genome is missing 76 bp at the 5' UTR and 28 bp at the 3'UTR compared to the NCBI RefSeq
177 (NC_001475.2) DENV3 genome.

178

179 The mapping-based assembly was used for phylogenetic analysis and submitted to GenBank as
180 KX855927. Percentage nucleotide identity between this strain and the reference DENV3 genome
181 (NC_001475.2) was 96.32% and with the closest DENV3 strain from India, 98.75%.

182

183 Phylogenetic analysis was carried out with BEAST2 using the coding sequence of KX855927 and

79 sequences selected as being similar to KX855927 using BLAST search against dengue genomes in the Virus Pathogen Database and Analysis Resource [34] (Additional File 3). The strain clusters with recent DENV3 sequences from India, China, and Singapore (Figure 2). This clade split from other DENV3 and other DENV3 genotype III strains around 15 years ago. The branch length of KX855927 is longer than most others in the tree, with an estimated divergence time of 13.86 years (with 95% Highest Posterior Densities between 12.94 and 14.83 years) from the closest Indian strain (Figure2). A maximum likelihood tree showed the same topology as the consensus tree from BEAST, although many clades had low bootstrap support (Additional File 4).

Both synonymous and non-synonymous substitutions were predicted throughout the genome as compared to the DENV3 reference sequence (Additional File 5). We aligned the envelope protein (E), of all the complete genomes from Indian strains against the parent strain used to derive the tetravalent dengue vaccine (CYD-TDV; Dengvaxia®, Sanofi Pasteur) (Figure 3). Multiple amino acid substitutions were predicted throughout the envelope protein and two additional stop codons (at amino acid positions 58 and 168) were observed in the DENV3 KX855927. Most of the amino acid substitutions were shared among all the Indian strains, while a D361E substitution was unique to the DENV3 strain reported here (Figure 3A). Nine out of 11 of the substitutions were mapped onto the surface of the envelope protein. Of these, six are in key antigenic sites, with three sites known to influence antibody binding (Figure 3B).

The sequencing reads mapping to JEV from Sample F2 and F5 were assembled into contigs and used to check for potential alignment to other genomes in the NCBI nucleotide (NT) sequence database. The JEV sequences we identified, were specific to JEV (100% identity, 100% coverage of read) from a BLAST search (Additional File 6). The sequences were found to match non-structural protein 5 of JEV. Specific search against the dengue database for the contigs from the sample containing DENV3 sequences showed no similarity for contig 1 and some similarity to a

210 dengue virus 2 sequence for contig 2 (83% identity, 97% coverage, Additional File 6).

211

212 The single DENV3 sequencing read found in sample F3 was identical to a sequencing read
213 occurring with high frequency in sample F2. Therefore, we did not carry out any further analysis
214 with this sequence read and suspect it to be a contamination.

215

216 **DISCUSSION**

217 Here we sequenced a complete dengue genome from a clinical case of severe dengue fever,
218 without the need to culture the virus, and in an unbiased manner. We believe that sequence based
219 enrichment of viral sequences will enable recovery of complete genomes by lower depth
220 sequencing from routine clinical samples [35].

221

222 We identified a low number of reads mapping specifically to Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV).
223 JEV is known to cause fevers [5, 6, 36]. Further systematic analysis using a combination of
224 polymerase chain reaction and IgM testing is required to ascertain how much JEV contributes to
225 the acute fever burden in India. The low number of JEV reads obtained in both samples in which
226 reads mapping to JEV were found, suggests there was not much active viral replication occurring.
227 There are previous reports of detection of JEV sequences many months after infection [37]. The
228 sequences we found could therefore be remnants of previous infection or may be the result of a
229 infection from a mosquito bite which was checked by the immune system. The low number of
230 reads in these cases mapped to the same gene (non-structural protein 5) (Additional File 6). This
231 could reflect higher stability of some parts of the JEV RNA genome.

232

233 The results of metagenomic sequencing however do need to be interpreted with caution due to
234 issues related to contamination [10, 11]. Contamination can occur in every step of the procedure,
235 starting from sample collection, processing, sequencing and when multiple indexed samples are

sequenced together, de-multiplexing (the process in which reads get assigned to a sample). This needs to be taken into consideration particularly when the number of sequences supporting the presence of a pathogen are low, when there is incomplete genome information, or the same sequence is present in all the samples including the controls. We have tried to mitigate this partially by use of controls – serum from a healthy individual collected at the same time and place, and a water sample processed in the same way as the clinical samples. However, we believe that independent methods are required to confirm novel/ unexpected findings by this method.

DENV3 has been shown to be re-emerging in India and has been responsible for severe outbreaks in different geographic regions, including in South America and Cuba [27, 38, 39]. The full-length DENV3 (KX855927) we describe here clusters into a clade containing DENV3 viruses from India and is related to an Indo - China - Singapore clade. We observed a longer branch length for this particular strain which could be the result of incomplete sampling of this clade or could indicate that this lineage is showing accelerated rates of molecular evolution [40]. This can be resolved in future studies by the addition of more sequence information, as more full-length dengue sequences from India become available in the databases.

While both synonymous and non-synonymous changes were observed throughout the DENV3 (KX855927) genome compared to the DENV3 reference sequence (NC_001475.2), the changes in the antigenic envelope protein are of particular interest. Neutralizing antibodies have been described against the envelope protein that target particular epitopes [26,41]. Critical amino acid residues that change antibody binding have also been described by others [26]. The results from our phylogenetic analyses are consistent with previous work tracing the emergence of new clade of DENV3 genotype III strains in India [39]. The ability of a dengue vaccine to elicit neutralizing antibodies against locally circulating DENV3 strains therefore needs to be evaluated in this light.

CONCLUSION

Our work demonstrates the usefulness of a metagenomic approach to pathogen characterization starting with clinical sample. Currently this method is more expensive than routine molecular diagnostics, however we believe that the costs will decrease as the technology becomes more widely available, enabling its use in diagnostics. Our findings with dengue virus type 3 encourage the use of sequencing to track viral evolution and its relationship to the dengue disease landscape in India.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Description of samples - 5 patients (2 diagnosed as dengue fever (serum, F1-F2), 2 Rickettsial fever (Serum, F3, F5), 1 unknown fever (plasma, F4) presenting with febrile illness (Table 1: provides clinical characterization, treatment and outcomes) and 1 healthy control (serum, C1) sample were used in the study. The study was done after obtaining approval from the Institutional Ethics Committee of St. John's Medical College and Hospital(IEC Study Ref.No.5/2016). A waiver of consent was sought and obtained for the analysis as it was done on samples remaining after routine diagnostic testing and de-linked from identity of the patients .

Isolation of RNA - RNA was extracted using the Qiagen All-Prep kit, using 300-500 microliteres of serum/Plasma and lysed using 1 ml of lysis buffer. The remaining protocol was performed as recommended by the manufacturer. Eluted RNA was concentrated and used for sequencing reactions.

Sequencing - Sequencing libraries were prepared using the Ion Proton library preparation protocol. Indexing was performed using the IonXpress RNA Seq Barcode kit. Samples F1-4 and C1 were run on the same chip. F5 was run on a separate chip. Libraries were pooled to give equimolar concentrations of 10 pico molar. This was used in template preparation steps and RNA sequencing was performed using the Ion PI sequencing kit on the Ion Proton platform using the Ion PI™ ChipV2 and Ion PI™ Sequencing Kit V3.

Analysis of sequences - We aligned the sequencing reads to a database of all known viruses using the SNAP alignment tool [42]. All hits were verified using nucleotide BLAST sequence search and visualized using tools from the Dark Matter project (<https://github.com/acorg/dark-matter.git>). Reads aligning to human genome, human mRNA, rRNA large subunit and rRNA small subunit from the SILVA database were removed [43]. The aligned sequences were used as the input for assembly. De novo assembly was performed using the SPAdes (version 3.10.1) tool [44]. Quality assessment of the assembly was performed using the QUAST tool [45]. MIRA 4.0.2 was used for mapping based assembly, with the Genbank sequence NC_001475.2 for dengue virus 3 as the backbone for assembly and NC_001437 as the backbone for Japanese encephalitis virus [46]. Contigs were subjected to nucleotide BLAST using the online BLAST tool (<https://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi>). The mapping based assembly of dengue 3 resulting from MIRA was manually checked for regions with low confidence using Gap5 [47]. Less than 30 nucleotides were found to have low confidence, of which 22 were in the 3'UTR end region. The files from the MIRA assembly together with the contributing reads are provided as Additional File 1. This sequence was submitted to GenBank as KX855927.

Phylogenetic Analysis - Phylogenetic analysis was performed with BLAST search hits to KX855927 in the VipR dengue virus database [34]. Only the coding sequence was used for the analyses. The alignment was visualized using the AliView software [48]. Nucleotide distances of KX855927 from other dengue viruses – reference sequence and the closest BLAST hit from India, were estimated using the MUSCLE alignment tool to create a percentage identity matrix [49]. The Generalized Time Reversible Model, namely GTR+I+G, GTR+I+G, GTR+G were found to be the best evolutionary models for codon positions 1, 2, and 3 respectively using PartitionFinder [50] where I represents invariant and G represents gamma, a shape parameter for the model. A previously estimated rate of substitution for dengue virus 3 = 7.48×10^{-4} subs/site/year ($4.47\text{E-}4$; $10.72\text{E-}4$) was used to set a strict molecular clock [51]. The input XML file to BEAST (Version 2.4.6) [52] is

provided in Additional File 3. Tracer was used to confirm sufficient sampling (ESS > 200 for all parameters). TreeAnnotator was used to generate the maximum clade credibility tree, where the node heights represent median height. Posterior probabilities for both the split of Clade I and II and the clade containing KX855927 were >95%. The tree was visualized using FigTree (<http://tree.bio.ed.ac.uk/software/figtree/>). The Maximum Likelihood tree was generated using thorough search and 1000 bootstraps using RaXML (Additional File 4) [53].

Analysis of envelope protein – Envelope (E) protein alignments for the DENV3 complete genomes from India were performed in AliView. Homology modeling was performed for the E protein of KX855927 using SWISS-MODEL and the best model was chosen for showing the substitutions. The protein surfaces as visualized by PyMOL (The PyMOL Molecular Graphics System, Version 1.8 Schrödinger, LLC) are shown in light brown, amino acids found to be different in the KX855927 strain are colored by elements CHNOS.

The datasets supporting the conclusions of this article are included within the article and its additional files (1-6).

DECLARATIONS

Ethics, consent and permissions

The study was done after obtaining approval from the Institutional Ethics Committee of St. John's Medical College and Hospital (IEC Study Ref.No.5/2016). A waiver of consent was sought and obtained for the analysis as it was done on samples remaining after routine diagnostic testing and de-linked from identity of the patients .

Consent for publication

Not applicable

340 **Availability of data and materials**

341 The data sets supporting the conclusions of this article are included within the article and its
342 additional files (1-6). The raw files from sequencing are not provided as these are metagenomic
343 data sets with host information.

344 **Competing interests**

345 The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

346 **Acknowledgements**

347 Dr. Lisa Ng and Dr. Julian Hiscox for critical input and helpful discussions. Sreejayan Nambiar,
348 Field application specialist, Thermo Scientific, for technical support during the sequencing.

349 **Author contributions**

350 PC designed and performed the experiments, carried out the analysis and wrote the paper. MD
351 designed the experiments, provided clinical material, carried out the experiments, contributed to
352 interpretation of the data and wrote the manuscript. AS provided clinical material and designed the
353 experiments. MG and SS designed the experiment and performed the library preparation and
354 sequencing. DS, BM, TJ designed and performed the computational analysis. KT performed
355 phylogenetic analysis and interpreted the data. TS interpreted the results and wrote the
356 manuscript. SK designed the experiments and wrote the manuscript.

357 **Disclaimer**

358 The funders had no role in the in any steps of experimental design, data collection or analysis or
359 the decision to publish.

360 **Financial Support**

361 This study was supported by the Department of Biotechnology, Glue Grant to SK. PC was
362 supported by the Department of Biotechnology Research Associate fellowship, Royal Society -
363 SERB Newton International fellowship and the India Alliance (DBT-Wellcome Trust) Early Career

Fellowship. TS is supported by the NIHR Health Protection Research Unit in Emerging and Zoonotic Infections and the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program ZikaPLAN (Preparedness Latin America Network), grant agreement No. 734584. DS, BM, and TJ were supported by the European Union FP7 programme ANTIGONE (grant agreement No. 278976).

REFERENCES

1. Susilawati TN, McBride WJH. Acute undifferentiated fever in Asia: a review of the literature. *Southeast Asian J Trop Med Public Health*. 2014;45:719–26.
2. Mueller TC, Siv S, Khim N, Kim S, Fleischmann E, Ariey F, et al. Acute undifferentiated febrile illness in rural Cambodia: a 3-year prospective observational study. *PLoS One*. 2014;9:e95868.
3. Wylie KM, Mihindukulasuriya KA, Sodergren E, Weinstock GM, Storch GA. Sequence analysis of the human virome in febrile and afebrile children. *PLoS One*. 2012;7:e27735.
4. Capeding MR, Chua MN, Hadinegoro SR, Hussain IHM, Nallusamy R, Pitisuttithum P, et al. Dengue and Other Common Causes of Acute Febrile Illness in Asia: An Active Surveillance Study in Children. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2013;7:e2331.
5. Mayxay M, Castonguay-Vanier J, Chansamouth V, Dubot-Pérès A, Paris DH, Phetsouvanh R, et al. Causes of non-malarial fever in Laos: a prospective study. *Lancet Glob Heal*. 2013;1:e46–54.
6. Chheng K, Carter MJ, Emary K, Chanpheaktra N, Moore CE, Stoesser N, et al. A Prospective Study of the Causes of Febrile Illness Requiring Hospitalization in Children in Cambodia. *PLoS One*. 2013;8:e60634.
7. McMullan LK, Folk SM, Kelly AJ, MacNeil A, Goldsmith CS, Metcalfe MG, et al. A new phlebovirus associated with severe febrile illness in Missouri. *N Engl J Med*. 2012;367:834–41.
8. Yu X-J, Liang M-F, Zhang S-Y, Liu Y, Li J-D, Sun Y-L, et al. Fever with thrombocytopenia associated with a novel bunyavirus in China. *N Engl J Med*. 2011;364:1523–32.
9. Yozwiak NL, Skewes-Cox P, Stenglein MD, Balmaseda A, Harris E, DeRisi JL. Virus identification in unknown tropical febrile illness cases using deep sequencing. *PLoS Negl Trop Dis*. 2012;6:e1485.
10. Firth C, Lipkin WI. The genomics of emerging pathogens. *Annu Rev Genomics Hum Genet*. 2013;14:281–300.
11. Barzon L, Lavezzo E, Costanzi G, Franchin E, Toppo S, Palù G. Next-generation sequencing technologies in diagnostic virology. *J Clin Virol*. 2013;58:346–50.
12. Dash AP, Bhatia R, Sunyoto T, Mourya DT. Emerging and re-emerging arboviral diseases in

397 Southeast Asia. *J Vector Borne Dis.* 2013;50:77–84.

398 13. Shepard DS, Halasa YA, Tyagi BK, Adhish SV, Nandan D, Karthiga KS, et al. Economic and
399 disease burden of dengue illness in India. *Am J Trop Med Hyg.* 2014;91:1235–42.

400 14. Turtle L, Griffiths MJ, Solomon T. Encephalitis caused by flaviviruses. *QJM.* 2012;105:219–23.

401 15. Sim S, Hibberd ML. Genomic approaches for understanding dengue: insights from the virus,
402 vector, and host. *Genome Biol.* 2016;17:38.

403 16. Drake JW, Holland JJ. Mutation rates among RNA viruses. *Proc Natl Acad Sci.*
404 1999;96:13910–3.

405 17. Akram M, Fatima Z, Purdy MA, Sue A, Saleem S, Amin I, et al. Introduction and evolution of
406 dengue virus type 2 in Pakistan: a phylogeographic analysis. *Viol J.* 2015;12:148.

407 18. Tissera HA, Ooi EE, Gubler DJ, Tan Y, Logendra B, Wahala WMPB, et al. New dengue virus
408 type 1 genotype in Colombo, Sri Lanka. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2011;17:2053–5.

409 19. Kanakaratne N, Wahala WMPB, Messer WB, Tissera HA, Shahani A, Abeysinghe N, et al.
410 Severe dengue epidemics in Sri Lanka, 2003–2006. *Emerg Infect Dis.* 2009;15:192–9.

411 20. Kotaki T, Yamanaka A, Mulyatno KC, Churrotin S, Sucipto TH, Labiqah A, et al. Divergence of
412 the dengue virus type 2 Cosmopolitan genotype associated with two predominant serotype shifts
413 between 1 and 2 in Surabaya, Indonesia, 2008–2014. *Infect Genet Evol.* 2016;37:88–93.

414 21. Manokaran G, Finol E, Wang C, Gunaratne J, Bahl J, Ong EZ, et al. Dengue subgenomic RNA
415 binds TRIM25 to inhibit interferon expression for epidemiological fitness. *Science.* 2015;350:217–
416 21.

417 22. Manakkadan A, Joseph I, Prasanna RR, Kunju RI, Kailas L, Sreekumar E. Lineage shift in
418 Indian strains of Dengue virus serotype-3 (Genotype III), evidenced by detection of lineage IV
419 strains in clinical cases from Kerala. *Viol J.* 2013;10:37.

420 23. Katzelnick LC, Fonville JM, Gromowski GD, Arriaga JB, Green A, James SL, et al. Dengue
421 viruses cluster antigenically but not as discrete serotypes. *Science.* 2015;349:1338–43.

422 24. Yacoub S, Mongkolsapaya J, Screaton G. Recent advances in understanding dengue.
423 *F1000Research.* 2016;5.

424 25. Dejnirattisai W, Jumnainsong A, Onsirisakul N, Fitton P, Vasanawathana S, Limpitikul W, et al.
425 Cross-reacting antibodies enhance dengue virus infection in humans. *Science.* 2010;328:745–8.

426 26. Wahala WMPB, Donaldson EF, de Alwis R, Accavitti-Loper MA, Baric RS, de Silva AM. Natural
427 strain variation and antibody neutralization of dengue serotype 3 viruses. *PLoS Pathog.*
428 2010;6:e1000821.

429 27. Beltramello M, Williams KL, Simmons CP, Macagno A, Simonelli L, Quyen NTH, et al. The
430 Human Immune Response to Dengue Virus Is Dominated by Highly Cross-Reactive Antibodies
431 Endowed with Neutralizing and Enhancing Activity. *Cell Host Microbe.* 2010;8:271–83.

432 28. Guzman MG, Alvarez M, Halstead SB. Secondary infection as a risk factor for dengue
433 hemorrhagic fever/dengue shock syndrome: an historical perspective and role of antibody-

434 dependent enhancement of infection. *Arch Virol.* 2013;158:1445–59.

435 29. Guy B, Lang J, Saville M, Jackson N. Vaccination Against Dengue: Challenges and Current
436 Developments. *Annu Rev Med.* 2015.

437 30. Guy B, Briand O, Lang J, Saville M, Jackson N. Development of the Sanofi Pasteur tetravalent
438 dengue vaccine: One more step forward. *Vaccine.* 2015;33:7100–11.

439 31. Barban V, Munoz-Jordan JL, Santiago GA, Mantel N, Girerd Y, Gulia S, et al. Broad
440 neutralization of wild-type dengue virus isolates following immunization in monkeys with a
441 tetravalent dengue vaccine based on chimeric Yellow Fever 17D/Dengue viruses. *Virology.*
442 2012;429:91–8.

443 32. Altschul SF, Gish W, Miller W, Myers EW, Lipman DJ. Basic local alignment search tool. *J Mol*
444 *Biol.* 1990;215:403–10.

445 33. World Health Organization and the Special Programme for Research and Training in Tropical
446 Diseases, Dengue Guidelines for diagnosis, treatment, prevention and control GUIDELINES FOR
447 DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, PREVENTION AND CONTROL. 2009.

448 34. Pickett BE, Sadat EL, Zhang Y, Noronha JM, Squires RB, Hunt V, et al. ViPR: an open
449 bioinformatics database and analysis resource for virology research. *Nucleic Acids Res.* 2012;40
450 Database issue:D593-8.

451 35. Briese T, Kapoor A, Mishra N, Jain K, Kumar A, Jabado OJ, et al. Virome Capture Sequencing
452 Enables Sensitive Viral Diagnosis and Comprehensive Virome Analysis. *MBio.* 2015;6:e01491-15-.

453 36. Solomon T, Dung NM, Kneen R, Gainsborough M, Vaughn DW, Khanh VT. Japanese
454 encephalitis. *J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry.* 2000;68:405–15.

455 37. Ravi V, Desai AS, Shenoy PK, Satishchandra P, Chandramuki A, Gourie-Devi M. Persistence of
456 Japanese encephalitis virus in the human nervous system. *J Med Virol.* 1993;40:326–9.

457 38. Rodriguez-Roche R, Blanc H, Bordería A V, Díaz G, Henningsson R, Gonzalez D, et al.
458 Increasing Clinical Severity during a Dengue Virus Type 3 Cuban Epidemic: Deep Sequencing of
459 Evolving Viral Populations. *J Virol.* 2016;90:4320–33.

460 39. Dash P, Parida M, Saxena P, Abhyankar A, Singh C, Tewari K, et al. Reemergence of dengue
461 virus type-3 (subtype-III) in India: Implications for increased incidence of DHF & DSS. *Virol J.*
462 2006;3:55.

463 40. Schuettelpelz E, Pryer KM, Buckley T. Reconciling Extreme Branch Length Differences:
464 Decoupling Time and Rate through the Evolutionary History of Filmy Ferns. *Syst Biol.*
465 2006;55:485–502.

466 41. Wahala WMPB, de Silva AM. The Human Antibody Response to Dengue Virus Infection.
467 *Viruses.* 2011;3:2374–95.

468 42. Zaharia M, Bolosky WJ, Curtis K, Fox A, Patterson D, Shenker S, et al. Faster and More
469 Accurate Sequence Alignment with SNAP. *arXiv:11115572v1.* 2011.

470 43. Quast C, Pruesse E, Yilmaz P, Gerken J, Schweer T, Yarza P, et al. The SILVA ribosomal RNA

471 gene database project: improved data processing and web-based tools. *Nucleic Acids Res.*
472 2013;41 Database issue:D590-6.

473 44. Nurk S, Bankevich A, Antipov D, Gurevich A, Korobeynikov A, Lapidus A, et al. Assembling
474 Genomes and Mini-metagenomes from Highly Chimeric Reads. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg; 2013.
475 p. 158–70.

476 45. Gurevich A, Saveliev V, Vyahhi N, Tesler G. QUASt: quality assessment tool for genome
477 assemblies. *Bioinformatics.* 2013;29:1072–5.

478 46. Chevreux B, Pfisterer T, Drescher B, Driesel AJ, Müller WEG, Wetter T, et al. Using the
479 miraEST assembler for reliable and automated mRNA transcript assembly and SNP detection in
480 sequenced ESTs. *Genome Res.* 2004;14:1147–59.

481 47. Bonfield JK, Whitwham A. Gap5 -editing the billion fragment sequence assembly.
482 *Bioinformatics.* 2010;26:1699–703.

483 48. Larsson A. AliView: a fast and lightweight alignment viewer and editor for large datasets.
484 *Bioinformatics.* 2014;30:3276–8.

485 49. Edgar RC. MUSCLE: multiple sequence alignment with high accuracy and high throughput.
486 *Nucleic Acids Res.* 2004;32:1792–7.

487 50. Lanfear R, Calcott B, Ho SYW, Guindon S. PartitionFinder: Combined Selection of Partitioning
488 Schemes and Substitution Models for Phylogenetic Analyses. *Mol Biol Evol.* 2012;29:1695–701.

489 51. Twiddy SS, Holmes EC, Rambaut A. Inferring the Rate and Time-Scale of Dengue Virus
490 Evolution. *Mol Biol Evol.* 2003;20:122–9.

491 52. Bouckaert R, Heled J, Kühnert D, Vaughan T, Wu C-H, Xie D, et al. BEAST 2: A Software
492 Platform for Bayesian Evolutionary Analysis. *PLoS Comput Biol.* 2014;10:e1003537.

493 53. Stamatakis A. RAxML version 8: a tool for phylogenetic analysis and post-analysis of large
494 phylogenies. *Bioinformatics.* 2014;30:1312–3.

495
496

497

498

499

500

501

502

503

504

505

Table 1: Clinical Profile of the sequenced cases

	Age Sex	Presentation	Investigations	Diagnosis	Management	Animal viruses (sequencing+ BLAST)
F1	34F	Fever, vomiting, loose stools. Hypotension	dengue IgM + Serial Platelet Count * 57000-12000- 37000-60000 BP 106/72 mmHg	dengue	Platelet transfusion, antiemetics, IV fluid recovered and discharged after 5 days	-
F2	28F	Fever severe myalgia for 4 days. Hypotension	dengue IgM + dengue NS1 + LFT –AST 370 U/L ,ALT 170U/L, GGT 272 U/L Chest X ray - Bilateral pleural effusion Serial Platelet Count* -7000- 16000-43000 BP 80/60mmHg	dengue	Platelet transfusion IV fluids Improved and discharged	dengue virus 3 (19120 reads) Japanese encephalitis virus (14 reads)
F3	36F	Fever and severe myalgia for 15 days	Weil-Felix border line positive (OX-K 1:80) for Rickettsial fever	Rickettsial fever	Doxycycline 200mg for 7 days patient recovered	-
F4	10M	Prolonged fever (>20 days)	No known cause	Provisional diagnosis Rickettsial or partially treated enteric/mala ria		dengue virus 3 (1 read)
F5	42F	Fever 13 days Chills and rigors known diabetic	Weil-Felix suggestive of Rickettsial Fever (OX K 1:320)	Rickettsial fever	Doxycycline 200mg for 5 days, patient improved	Japanese encephalitis virus sequences (12 reads)

506

507

508 Table1 - Clinical Profile of sequenced cases – Table shows the clinical presentation, key
 509 diagnostics tests, provisional diagnosis, treatment followed and results from sequencing (SNAP
 510 alignment against viral databases) . Abbreviations used - M – Male, F -Female, IgM – dengue
 511 Immunoglobulin M, NS1 – dengue Non-Structural protein 1 test, LFT- Liver function test, AST-
 512 Aspartate amino transferase, ALT- Alanine amino transferase, GGT- Gama Glutamyl transferase,
 513 *cells/mm³. “-” in column 7 indicates that no sequences mapping to viruses of animals (Animal
 514 Viruses) were confirmed by nucleotide BLAST in that sample. Numbers in brackets represent the
 515 number of sequence read that aligned to that virus using the SNAP alignment tool .

516

517

518

519

520

521

522

523

524

525

526

527

528

529

530

531

532

533

534

535

536

537

538

539

TABLE 2: Assembly characteristics for mapping based assembly

Criteria	Backbone	av.qual	#-reads	mx.cov.	av.cov	GC%	CnNoCov
All Reads from F2 against all 4 Refseq of dengue viruses	DENV3	41	2009	96	26.27	46.67	145
	DENV1	30	2	3	1.01	46.67	10587
	DENV2	30	1	1	1	45.82	10723
	DENV4	30	1	1	1	47.12	10649
"virus reads" from F2 against all 4 Refseq of dengue viruses	DENV3	42	18180	788	231.53	46.66	104
	DENV1	30	3	4	1.02	46.67	10587
	DENV2	30	1	1	1	45.82	10723
	DENV4	30	1	1	1	47.12	10649
"virus reads" from F2 against DENV3 and an Indian strain	DENV3	42	18178	793	231.51	46.66	104
	AY770511.2	43	18696	792	236.58	46.65	104

Table 2 - Table shows the quality, coverage and percentage nucleotide identity of the assembled DENV3 genome using different back bones and sequences for mapping using MIRA assembler. Backbone = Reference genome used for assembly, av.qual = Average quality of assembly, #-reads = Number of reads in assembly, mx.cov = maximum coverage of assembled genome by reads, av.cov=average coverage of assembled genome by reads, GC% = Percentage GC content of assembly, No cov = number of nucleotides of reference not covered in assembly.

TABLE 3: Assembly characteristics for de novo assembly

# contigs	Fraction of genome covered	Largest alignment	Total aligned length	% nucleotide identity with mapping assembly	Reference for quality
7	87.05%	3127	9403	100.00%	Refseq DENV3

Table 3 – table shows the assembly characteristics by de novo assembly of sequences from sample F2 after quality assessment was performed using the QUAST tool. # contigs = No. of contigs.

617 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

618 Figure 1 : Dengue virus type 3 (DENV3) and Japanese encephalitis virus sequences identified
619 from febrile serum

620 1a. Shows number of sequence reads generated per sample. 1b. Bar graph shows number of
621 reads that aligned to a particular virus as a fraction of the total number of reads (Y axis, log scale)
622 from that sample (X axis) using the SNAP alignment. 1c. Shows the alignment of sequences
623 mapping only to DENV3 by nucleotide BLAST. Each rectangle shows sequencing reads (blue
624 lines), their alignment to the genome (X axis) and their blast bit-score (Y axis). Numbers below the
625 title represents number of reads that mapped to the title. 1d. Shows the percentage identity of
626 KX855927 with all 4 dengue viruses and the closest Indian strain.

627

628 Figure 2: The sequenced strain KX855927 (2014) belongs to a recent Asian clade within genotype
629 III.

630 Figure shows the BEAST maximum clade credibility tree of top 79 BLAST matches to KX855927
631 The Indo - China - Singapore strain to which KX855927 (2014) is shown in red. All strains are
632 represented by their GenBank IDs and coloured by country. For ease of visualization, a clade
633 containing viruses from USA, Venezuela and Puerto Rico in Clade I has been collapsed (pyramids
634 colored by country). The X axis represents time in years.

635

636 Figure 3: Shared amino acid substitutions in the envelope protein of Indian DENV3 strains differ
637 from PaH881/8

638 a. Multiple sequence alignment of region coding for envelope (E) protein of dengue virus 3 from
639 India were aligned to gi|13310784|gb|AF349753.1| DENV3 strainPaH881/88 polyprotein precursor,
640 translated E genes. Numbers in the bracket represent year of sampling. Predicted amino acid
641 changes compared to PaH881/88 are shown in colour. Position of substitutions present in the
642 sequenced KX855927 strain are shown in blue. b. i) Cartoon structure of E protein KX855927

643 (2014)- dimer, homology modeled in SWISS-PROT with the domains shaded EDI (green), EDII
644 (pink), EDIII (yellow), and labeled in red. ii) Cartoon structure of E protein KX855927 (2014)- dimer,
645 homology modeled in SWISS-PROT showing the amino acid substitutions in KX855927 (2014)
646 compared to the PaH881/8 in one of the dimers. In both cartoons, predicted substitutions are
647 shown in blue (side-chains colored). Amino acid substitutions in violet are positions known to
648 influence mouse monoclonal antibody binding. Positions in red are among 32 positions in the E
649 protein predicted to be important for antigenicity.

650 **ADDITIONAL FILES**

651 Additional File 1- File format - .maf (MIRA assembly format, can be converted to compatible file
652 formats for viewing with Gap5, Consed and other genome editors)

653 Title of Data - dengue virus 3 assembly with contributing reads

654 Description – File contains consensus sequence and reads contributing to the assembly, it
655 contains regions/ bases flagged by MIRA including 30 base positions which have low confidence.

656

657 Additional File 2 - File format – Document File (.doc)

658 Title of data – Percentage identity of DENV3 sequence assembled by different methods

659 Description - Table shows the percentage similarity between the de novo and mapping assemblies
660 compared to NCBI reference sequences of dengue virus 1-4 and the closest Indian strain.

661

662 Additional File 3 - File format (.xml)

663 Title of Data : Template for BEAST

664 Description: The input file used for phylogenetic analysis using the BEAST program

665

666 Additional File 4 - File Format (.png)

667 Title of Data – Maximum Likelihood Tree from RaxML

668 Description of Data – Figure shows the maximum likelihood trees with bootstrap values, Genbank

669 Ids and year of sequencing are shown on the tips. The data is coloured by country and some of the
670 clades have been collapsed for ease of viewing.

671

672 Additional File 5 - File format – excel sheet (.xls)

673 Title of data - Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in KX855927 with respect to NC_001475

674 Description – Description of the Single Nucleotide Polymorphisms in KX855927 with respect to
675 NC_001475 as detected by the MIRA assembly program.

676

677 Additional File 6 - File format - excel sheet (.xls)

678 Title of data : BLAST results of Japanese encephalitis virus contigs from sample F2 and F5

679 Description- Contains the Top 5 nucleotide BLAST lists for the Japanese encephalitis virus contigs
680 assembled from samples F2 and F5, against the nucleotide database, Flavivirus database and
681 dengue virus database.

682

683

684

Figure 1 : Dengue virus 3 and Japanese encephalitis virus sequences identified from febrile serum

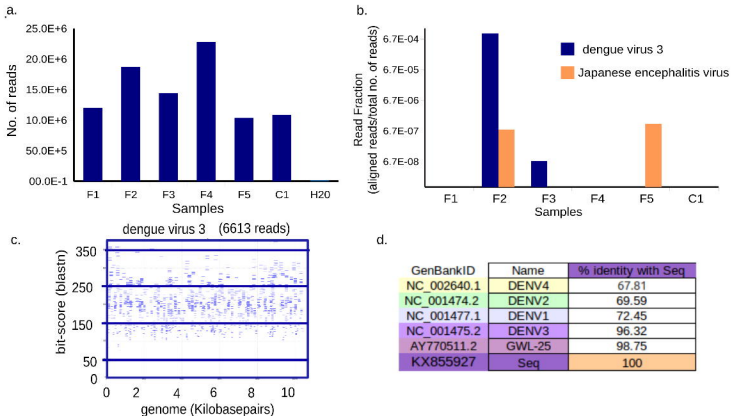


Figure 2 - KX855927 (2014) belongs to a recent Asian clade within Genotype III

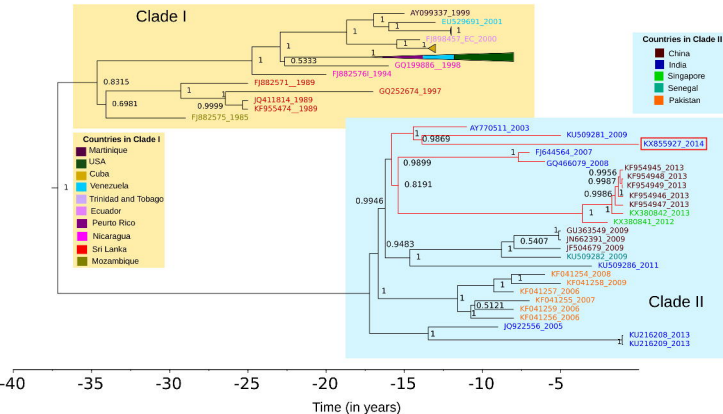


Figure 3: Shared amino acid substitutions in the envelope protein of Indian DENV3 strains differ from PaH881/8

