

Funding Acknowledgements

wellcometrust



A synergistic convergence

Next Generation Sequencing and Mathematical
Modelling of *Mycobacterium bovis* transmission in British Cattle
and Badgers

Rowland Kao

Boyd Orr Centre for Population and
Ecosystem Health

From the questionnaire

- Mathematical Modelling
- Bayesian Statistics
- Whole Genome Sequencing
- Ecological Perspectives
- (Farmer attitudes/social factors)

100+ years

60 years

25 years

10 years

Now

POPULATION MODELS WITH CONTACT HETEROGENEITY

Ross' Malaria Model (1911)

Hethcote and Anderson & May

Social Network Models

COMPUTING POWER

Babbage Engine (1822)

Transistor

Microcomputers

High Performance Computing Clusters

POPULATION DATA

Cholera Map 1854 (John Snow)

MeaslesSatellite data/Livestock dataset GIS movements Electronic tagging

GENETIC DATA

Theory of Evolution (1859)

Discovery of DNA structure

PCR

Human Genome Project

Next Generation Sequencing

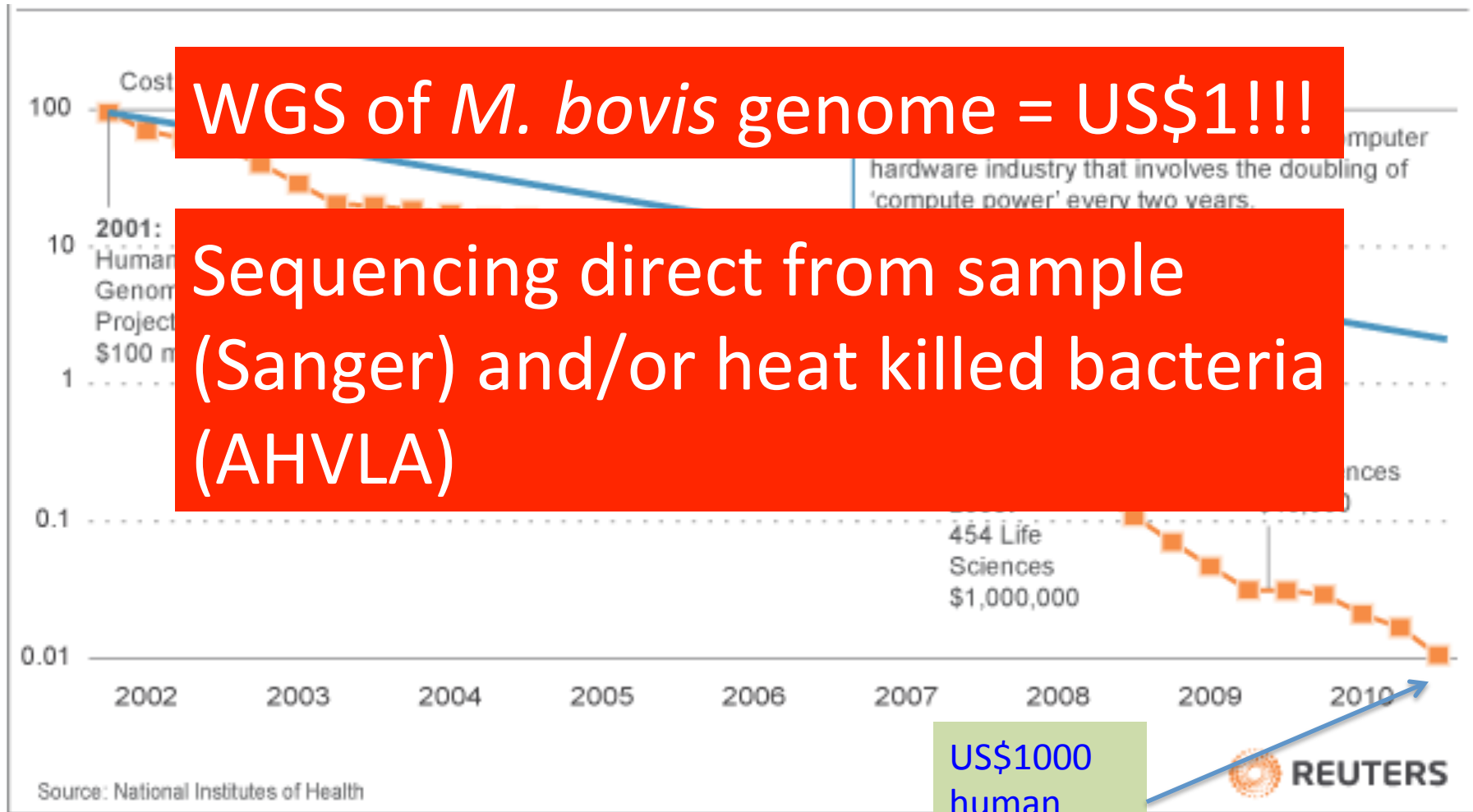
STATISTICAL INFERENCE

Bayes Theorem (1740s)

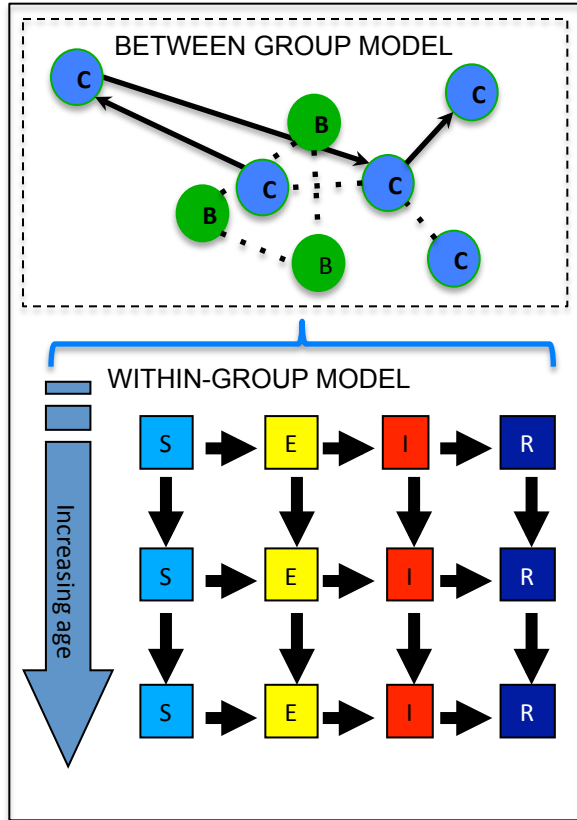
Growth in applied biostatistics (regression models)

Bayesian Statistical Inference

Decline in sequencing costs

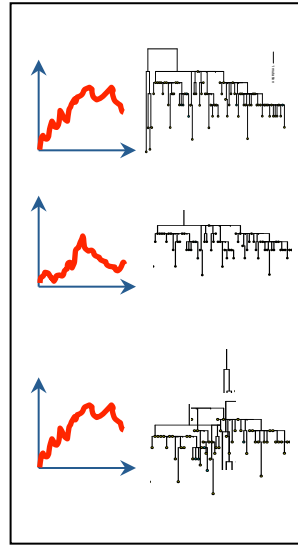


Phylodynamic approaches

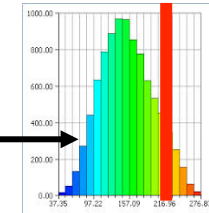
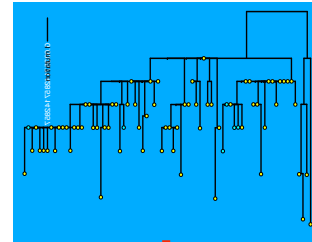


Mathematical Models

Simulated 'data'



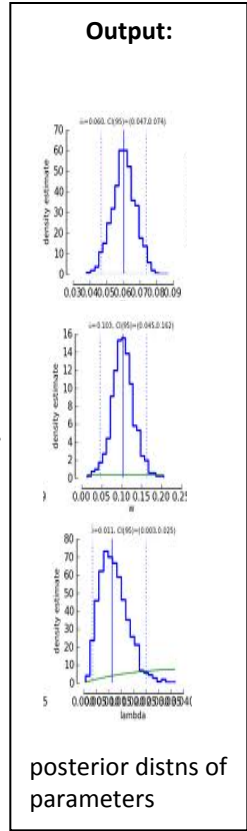
inferred phylogeny



Compare summary measure(s) to aggregated simulations

Accepted proposals

Whole Genome Sequences



Integrated Datasets

Prior epidemiological and genetic parameter estimates

Proposed parameter values



Update proposals



Bayesian Likelihood Inference

Whole Genome Sequencing + Mathematical Modelling

- Expanding datasets detailing contact structure
- Computational power expanding rapidly
- Epidemiological (mathematical & statistical) modelling identifies how the PATTERN in the population structure influences the PROCESS of how, when and where disease transmission occurs
- Tracing mutations of pathogens (WGS) from individual-to-individual reveals the transmission PROCESS

Whole Genome Sequencing of *M. bovis*

- Entirely new technological approach
- Increasingly inexpensive
- Obvious uses retain challenges of interpretation
- Are there any 'un-obvious' uses?
- It isn't the solution but it unifies disparate datasets

Most of us see this

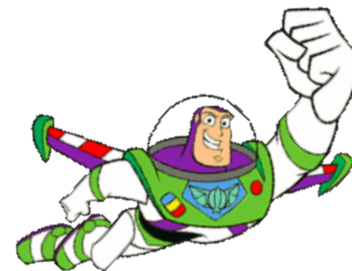


But we should (sometimes) look for this



Things to think about

- What are the scientific questions that WGS can be used to address in different ways?
 - And what are the limitations?
- What can it do to change our understanding of the epidemiology
- What can it do to change our disease control paradigms?



To infinity
and
beyond!