Supplementary material

Methods for Figure 2

We generated figure 2 with a spatially structured susceptible-exposed-infectious-recovered (SEIR) model that incorporated realistic features such as seasonal, density-dependent births and demographic stochasticity (for full details see [1]). We implemented the models in R [2]. We assumed that the host was structured as a metapopulation of *h* local populations and that the state of the metapopulation was described by seven vectors, N, S, E, I, I_{super-high}, I_{super-long}, and R, each of length *h*, with a daily time-step. N is local population size, I_{super-high} are super shedders, and I_{super-long} are super-long-shedders. To consistently display results in two or three dimensions, we simulated dynamics within a linear array of host populations.

Pathogen transmission β_{ij} from individuals in patch *j* to individuals in patch *i* declines exponentially (Hanski, 1999), $\beta_{ij} = \beta e^{-cD_{ij}}$ (1), where D_{ij} is the distance between the two populations and *c* is a constant that is inversely related to the connectivity between populations. Pathogen transmission within a local population β_{ii} is β . We used a Nicholson-Bailey approach [3] to model the number of surviving susceptible hosts. The force of infection on individuals of subpopulation i is *forceH_i*= $\sum_{j}\beta_{ij}I_i$; S_i succeptible hosts. The force of infection on individuals of subpopulation is *forceH_i*= $\sum_{j}\beta_{ij}I_i$; S_i succeptible hosts.

Methods for Figure 3

We produced an extrapolated grid of 10 locations and 12 months to represent a hypothetical spatial gradient (e.g., latitude, temperature, urbanization) over the annual cycle. We used the *spatstat* package in R to generate a random realization of a binomial point process [4]. Our random realization generated a small number of points (n=6) within this grid using the runifpoint() function and then computed the kernel smoothed intensity using the density.ppp() function. We note the spatial and temporal dependencies of infection dynamics violate the assumption of independence for random points generated from a binomial point process; however, this simple simulation serves as only a heuristic tool to illustrate the variation in inference from different spatiotemporal sampling designs. In a supplementary file, we have provided R code for this simple simulation and to generate figure 3.

References

[1] Plowright, R. K., Foley, P., Field, H. E., Dobson, A. P., Foley, J. E., Eby, P. & Daszak, P. 2011 Urban habituation, ecological connectivity and epidemic dampening: the emergence of Hendra virus from flying foxes (*Pteropus spp.*). *Proceedings. Biological sciences / The Royal Society* **278**, 3703-3712. (DOI:10.1098/rspb.2011.0522).

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[3] Nicholson, A. J. & Bailey, V. A. 1935 The balance of animal populations. Part I. Proceedings of the Zooogical Society of London 105, 551-598.

[4] Baddeley, A., Rubak, E. & Turner, R. 2015 Spatial point patterns: methodology and applications with R, CRC Press.