

the low prevalence of SARS-CoV-2 infection. We do not have a clear explanation for how the 2 residents became infected after the introduction of these measures; we were unable to determine whether surveys were useful tools. It is possible that routine testing discouraged persons with symptoms from visiting. We observed a very low rate of positive tests in the LTCF staff; only 1 staff member tested positive. Potential explanations for this low rate could be that testing had an impact on behavior, symptom screening kept ill staff home, or the virus was less prevalent in the community surrounding the LTCF. Although symptom surveys were used and absentee rates were normal, staff did not report symptoms as a reason for missed work. Despite these limitations, this study suggests that a proper testing strategy coupled with other measures may result in protection of vulnerable populations.

About the Author

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Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Outbreak Related to a Nightclub, Germany, 2020

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We report an outbreak of coronavirus disease with 74 cases related to a nightclub in Germany in March 2020. Staff members were particularly affected (attack rate 56%) and likely caused sustained viral transmission after an event at the club. This outbreak illustrates the potential for superspreader events and corroborates current club closures.

Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) superspreading events are particularly linked to indoor settings, such as religious venues (1), restaurants (2), and bars or nightclubs (3–6). To provide further details on the extent and transmission dynamics in nightclubs, we describe a SARS-CoV-2 outbreak related to a Berlin, Germany, nightclub during the early phase of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, before infection prevention measures were applied.

On March 5, 2020, contact tracing activities in Berlin revealed several COVID-19 cases linked by visiting the same nightclub, club X, on February 29, 2020 (event 1). Estimates suggest ≈300 guests attended event 1. Club X then held other events: event 2 with ≈150 guests on March 2 and event 3 with ≈200 guests on March 5. On March 6, the local health

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authority of Mitte district, Berlin, published announcements in local newspapers and on social media to identify other attendees of the events. Everyone attending ≥ 1 event was categorized as a high-risk contact person and ordered to self-quarantine for 14 days. If symptoms occurred, laboratory testing was recommended. Mandatory case notification occurred from the laboratory to the local health authority based on Germany's Protection against Infection Act (7). Due to the increasing spread of COVID-19, on March 16, 2020, government authorities in Germany prohibited social gatherings, including events in nightclubs, until further notice.

Confirmed cases in the outbreak were defined as persons with laboratory-confirmed SARS-CoV-2 (Appendix, <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/EID/article/27/2/20-4443-App1.pdf>). We retrieved dates of symptom onset and sociodemographic data of 64 outbreak cases from the national infectious diseases notification database. We considered staff and persons who attended any event at club X to have first-generation cases and their contacts to have second-generation cases.

We interviewed 44 persons with first-generation cases whose contact information was available and with all 16 club X staff members who

worked any of the 3 events. For staff members who were not tested after the events or who tested negative despite reporting symptoms, we offered SARS-CoV-2 antibody testing 3 months after the outbreak to ascertain their infection status. We also mapped the space inside club X (Appendix Figure 1).

In total, 74 reported cases were linked to the outbreak. Median age was 30 (range 2–63) years; cases were equally distributed by sex, 37 female (50%) and 37 male (50%). Among 41 first-generation cases with known date of symptom onset and only 1 exposure, the median incubation period was 4 days (interquartile range 3–6 days). The calculated attack rates (ARs) show that guests attending event 1 were particularly affected. Staff pooled over all events had the highest risk for infection (AR 56%) (Table).

Among guests, 1 PCR-confirmed case had self-reported initial symptoms 1 day before attending event 1 and could be a potential source of the outbreak. The most probable source for continued viral transmission at event 3 was a PCR-confirmed case in a staff member working event 1 and event 3, with symptom onset 1 day before event 3. Overall, staff members reported symptom onset at a later stage of the outbreak than guests (Figure).

Table. Calculated attack rates for identified coronavirus disease outbreak cases among staff members and guests attending events in a nightclub, Berlin, Germany, March 2020*

| Characteristics | Cases, no. (%) | No. attending | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | | Event 1 | Event 2 | Event 3 |
| Estimated guests† | – | 300 | 150 | 200 |
| Staff members, n = 16‡ | – | 11 | 6 | 11 |
| Total cases | 74 (100) | | | |
| Cases by generation§ | | | | |
| First-generation, n = 55 | 55 (74.3) | | | |
| Guests¶ | 46 (83.6) | 39 | 0 | 3 |
| Staff | 9 (16.4) | – | – | – |
| Second-generation, n = 10 | 10 (13.5) | – | – | – |
| Generation unknown, n = 9 | 9 (12.2) | – | – | – |
| Cases by case definition# | | | | |
| Confirmed cases, n = 72 | 72 (97.3) | – | – | – |
| PCR-confirmed | 70 (97.2) | – | – | – |
| Antibody testing-confirmed | 2 (2.8) | – | – | – |
| Probable cases | 2 (2.7) | – | – | – |
| Attack rate, %** | Pooled over all events | Event 1 | Event 2 | Event 3 |
| Guests | – | 13 | – | 2 |
| Staff | 56 | – | – | – |

*Event-related case numbers are shown only for first-generation guest cases as all of them confirmed to only have attended 1 of the 3 events. –, value not calculated.

†The exact number of guests attending the events is unknown. For event 1, an estimate of attending guests was based on the maximum capacity of the club; staff and contacted guests confirmed that the club was running at full capacity. For events 2 and 3, the club owner provided estimates listed here.

‡Most staff members attended ≥ 2 of the events.

§First-generation cases were defined as cases exposed during event 1, 2, or 3. Second-generation cases were defined as cases without exposure at club X but with exposure to first-generation cases. Cases of unknown generation were confirmed cases of the outbreak but without contact information to reveal whether they were first- or second-generation cases.

¶All guests contacted confirmed they attended only 1 of the 3 events. Information on the event of exposure was available for 42 first-generation cases among guests. No guest case reported visiting club X for event 2.

#The outbreak case definition is described in the Appendix (<https://www.nc.cdc.gov/EID/article/27/2/20-4443-App1.pdf>). All cases confirmed by antibody testing were otherwise probable cases.

**Calculation of primary attack rates for guests was based on approximations for the denominator, the number of guests attending. Because most staff members were exposed repeatedly while working at ≥ 1 event we separately calculated attack rates for staff pooled over all events.

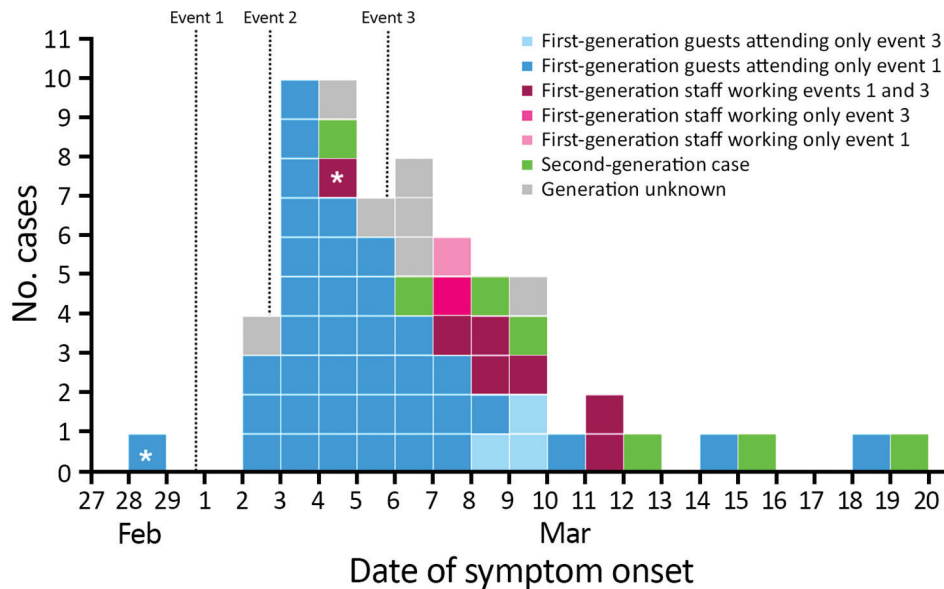


Figure. Date of symptom onset among 64 coronavirus disease cases linked to an outbreak in a nightclub, Berlin, Germany, March 2020. The asterisks indicate cases with symptom onset prior attending event 1 (symptom onset on February 28, 2020) and event 3 (symptom onset on March 4, 2020). No guests among cases reported attending event 2, but all attended either event 1 or event 3. No staff among cases attended only event 2; all attended event 1, event 3, or both events.

SARS-CoV-2 whole-genome sequencing was performed on 17 available patient samples to assess clustering of sequences. Sequencing revealed that 10 cases among event 1 guests, 2 second-generation cases, and 5 cases of unknown generation all grouped within clade G (GISAID, <https://www.gisaid.org>) and B.1 (Pangolin clade naming) (Appendix Figure 2). This clade also was observed in the SARS-CoV-2 outbreak in Italy and many later outbreaks in Europe (8). Sequences from 11 samples were identical. The other 6 samples were otherwise identical, but had slight differences; 1 sequence had 1 position with ambiguous nucleotides; 3 other sequences had 3 positions with ambiguous nucleotides; 1 sequence had a substitution in the 3' untranslated region; and sequences from 2 cases, in a couple who attended event 1, had an identical substitution in the N gene (Appendix Table 1). This substitution could hint to a second independent transmission cluster comprising these 2 cases, but all observed sequence variants also can be explained by sporadic mutation events. Thus, the sequence data do not provide evidence against a single person as the outbreak source (Appendix Figure 2).

The large number of cases from event 1, the relatively low median incubation period (4 days) for first-generation cases, and the close genetic relatedness of the sequenced viruses corroborate the theory of transmission from a single person and the potential for superspreading in a nightclub when no social distancing measures are applied. This outbreak further illustrates the potential role of nightclub staff members in transmission. AR among staff was particularly high (56%), showing they had a particularly high risk

for infection. Because 1 staff member appears to have been infected at event 1, then worked with symptoms at event 3, continued viral transmission could have been caused by staff. However, without sequencing data for all cases, staff contribution to viral transmission cannot be confirmed. Nonetheless, once ease of restrictions is considered, our study suggests that infection protection should be targeted particularly toward staff in nightclubs and bars.

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Evidence of SARS-CoV-2 RNA in an Oropharyngeal Swab Specimen, Milan, Italy, Early December 2019

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We identified severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 RNA in an oropharyngeal swab specimen collected from a child with suspected measles in early December 2019, ≈3 months before the first identified coronavirus disease case in Italy. This finding expands our knowledge on timing and mapping of novel coronavirus transmission pathways.

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) symptoms can encompass a Kawasaki disease-like multisystem inflammatory syndrome and skin manifestations that accompany common viral infections such as chickenpox and measles (1,2). Some of the earliest reports of COVID-19 cutaneous manifestations came from dermatologists in Italy. In fact, Italy was the first Western country severely hit by the COVID-19 epidemic. The first known COVID-19 case in Italy was reported in the town of Codogno in the Lombardy region on February 21, 2020. However, some evidence suggests that severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) had been circulating unnoticed for several weeks in Lombardy before the first official detection (3). Phylogenetic studies highlighted an early circulation of SARS-CoV-2 in Italy and suggest multiple introductions of the virus from China and Germany, followed by an autochthonous transmission (4,5). Furthermore, environmental surveillance has unequivocally demonstrated the presence of the virus, at concentrations comparable to those obtained from samples collected at later stages of the pandemic, in the untreated wastewater of the Milan area as early as mid-December 2019 (6).

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Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus 2 Outbreak in a Nightclub, Germany, 2020

Appendix

Outbreak Case Definition

A confirmed case in the outbreak was defined as any person with laboratory-confirmed severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) infection who attended club X between February 29 and March 5, 2020; had an epidemiologic link to a case that attended club X between February 29 and March 5, 2020; or both. A probable case was defined as any person with clinical symptoms of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) (*I*) who attended club X between February 29 and March 5, 2020; had an epidemiologic link to a case that attended club X between February 29 and March 5, 2020; or both.

Laboratory confirmation of SARS-CoV-2 was defined by the detection of SARS-CoV-2 nucleic acid via PCR in a clinical specimen or by detection of SARS-CoV-2–specific IgG antibodies. Because club X was closed on March 6, 2020 until further notice, no cases linked to the outbreak were reported after March 2020.

Cases were assigned to the outbreak if they fulfilled the case definition and confirmation of positive case status was given by the person or by the local health authority of their place of residence.

Epidemiologic Outbreak Investigation

Data on the day of symptom onset was retrieved from the national infectious diseases notification database, which was collected and notified by public health officials from local public health authorities. Among all cases linked to the outbreak, dates of symptom onset were available for 64 cases.

We conducted semistructured telephone interviews with first-generation cases to gather information related to their exposure in the club, prior travel history, and characteristics of clinical symptoms. Among all first-generation cases linked to the outbreak, contact information was available for 44 cases and the study team interviewed them. We performed analysis by time, generation, symptoms, sex, and age. For analysis by time, we stratified cases by guests, staff members, and generation. For continuous variables, if not normally distributed, we calculated medians and interquartile ranges (IQR). In addition, members of the outbreak investigation team performed a site visit of club X to gain insight into the outbreak setting (Appendix Figure 1).

Virological Outbreak Investigation

SARS-CoV-2 Antibody Screening of Staff Members

For laboratory-confirmation of cases, qualitative real-time RT-PCR for SARS-CoV-2 was performed on purified RNA from swabs as described (2), or the Cobas SARS-CoV-2 test (Roche, <https://www.roche.com>), both of which target the SARS-CoV-2 E gene.

For nightclub staff members who had negative PCR tests for SARS-CoV-2 or who were not tested after the exposure, we performed SARS-CoV-2 antibody screening during June 2–24, 2020, approximately 3 months after the outbreak, by using a 2-step approach. First, we screened samples by using Anti-SARS-CoV-2 S1 IgG and IgA ELISAs (Euroimmun, <https://www.euroimmun.com>) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Second, we performed a plaque reduction neutralization test (PRNT), as previously described (3,4). In the PRNT, we tested all dilutions in duplicate. Only serum samples showing an optical density ratio >0.8 in the IgA or IgG ELISA were considered reactive and tested in the PRNT.

Whole-Genome Sequencing

To investigate the sequence diversity of the outbreak, we performed whole-genome sequencing (WGS) on available samples from initial diagnostic testing that had sufficient sample material. For WGS we followed two approaches. First, we performed direct sequencing of native samples with a high viral load (cycle threshold [C_t] value <25); then, for samples with lower SARS-CoV-2 concentration, we used a PCR amplicon-based sequencing approach.

For sequencing of native samples with a high viral load (C_t value <25), we used ≤ 100 ng in 5 μ L of extracted RNA for library preparation by using the KAPA RNA Hyper Prep Kit

(Roche Molecular Diagnostics, <https://diagnostics.roche.com>) according to manufacturer's instructions. The RNA was fragmented for 6 min at 85°C. Indexed libraries were then amplified for 8–13 PCR cycles. All DNA libraries were measured by Qubit dsDNA HS Assay kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific, <https://www.thermofisher.com>), pooled together at equimolar ratios, and normalized.

For amplicon-based complete genome sequencing of samples with a lower viral load (C_t value ≥ 25) we followed 2 approaches. First, we used 108 SARS-CoV-2 whole genomes, available in early February 2020 to design 48 overlapping heminested PCR fragment primers. Fragment size ranged between 507 bp and 950 bp for first-round products and 414–877 bp for second-round products. Primer names including “i” were modified versions (Appendix Table 2). For the first-round PCR, a 25 μ L reaction was performed by using the SuperScript III One-Step RT-PCR System with Platinum Taq DNA (Invitrogen, <https://www.thermofisher.com>) with 5 μ L of RNA, 12.5 μ L of 2 \times reaction buffer (provided with the kit), 1 μ L of enzyme mixture from the kit, additional 0.4 μ L of a 50 mmol magnesium sulfate solution, 400 nmol concentrations of each first-round primer, and 1 μ g of bovine serum albumin (Roche). For the second-round, 50 μ L reactions were carried out by using the Platinum Taq Polymerase Kit (Invitrogen), with 1 μ L of the first-round PCR product, 5 μ L of 10 \times reaction buffer provided with the kit, 2.5 mmol MgCl₂, 200 μ M of each dNTP, 0.2 μ L of Platinum Taq, and 400 nmol of each second-round primer. First-round RT-PCRs were carried out by using a thermocycling protocol with reverse transcription at 55°C for 20 min and subsequent PCR at 95°C for 3 min, followed by 45 cycles of 95°C for 15 s, 56°C for 15 s, and 72°C for 55 s, followed by a final 2-min extension step at 72°C. Second-round reactions used the same cycling protocol but without the RT step. Second, for amplicon-based WGS we used random hexamers and the SuperScript III Reverse transcription kit (Invitrogen) according to manufacturer's instructions, then amplified the SARS-CoV-2 genome by using the primer sets (V1) published by the Artic Network ([dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdbfi2jn](https://doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.bdbfi2jn)). A 25 μ L PCR master mix was set up by using the Q5 High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase kit (New England Biolabs, <https://www.neb.com>) with 5 μ L 5 \times Q5 Reaction Buffer (New England Biolabs), 13.15 μ L RNase-free water, 0.5 10 mmol dNTPs, 3.6 μ L of either 10 μ mol primer pool 1 or 2, 2.5 μ L cDNA and 0.25 μ L Q5 High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase (New England Biolabs). PCR was carried out by using a thermocycling protocol with initial denaturation at 98°C for 30 sec, followed by 35 cycles of

98°C for 15 s, 65°C for 2 min 30 sec, followed by a final 2-min extension step at 72°C. PCR products were pooled and purified by using KAPA Pure Beads (Roche Molecular Diagnostics) according to manufacturer's instructions.

For DNA library preparation of the purified PCR amplicons, we used ≤ 5 ng DNA and the KAPA Hyper Prep Kit (Roche Molecular Diagnostics). All pooled PCR amplicons and DNA libraries were measured by Qubit dsDNA HS Assay kit (Thermo Fisher Scientific).

Sequencing was performed by using the 600-cycle MiSeq reagent v3 cartridge (Illumina, <https://www.illumina.com>), the 150/300-cycle NextSeq, and 100-cycle NovaSeq (Illumina) according to manufacturer's instructions (Appendix Table 3).

Bioinformatic Sequence Analysis

For each sample, data from the individual sequencing runs were mapped to a reference sequence (GISAID accession no. EPI_ISL_402125, GenBank accession no. NC_045512.2) by using bowtie2 version 2.3.5.1 and the sensitive-local option (5). Duplicates were removed using GATK MarkDuplicatesSpark version 4.1.4.1 (6), and the consensus reads were called at positions with coverage ≥ 3 reads by using bcftools version 1.10.2–31-gffa7016 and bcftools call–ploidy 1-mv-Oz-o (<https://samtools.github.io/bcftools/bcftools.html>). We included the following sequences in the phylogenetic tree: 1 sequence from each clade assigned by Pangolin; all sequences from Germany sampled before April 16, 2020 and available in GISAID on July 22, 2020; and representative sequences from GISAID clade G sampled by April 15, 2020 and available in GISAID on July 22, 2020. Sequences from each country were clustered by using CD-HIT version 4.8.1 by using a sequence identity threshold of 0.99 (7) and we picked 1 sequence from each cluster. Then we included 4 sequences from the U.S. and 1 from Canada that have the same additional SNP as sequences ChVir-W1248–16 and ChVir-D715-D799–17 from this outbreak. The phylogenetic tree was inferred by using RAxML-ng version 0.7.0 BETA (8) and an HKY substitution model, with gamma distribution rate heterogeneity among sites and invariant sites. We performed 100 bootstrap replicates and created a phylogenetic tree by using baltic (9) (Appendix Figure 2).

Ethics Approval

The outbreak investigation was conducted within the framework of the German Infection Protection Act (10) as part of an outbreak response and public health practice. Mandatory

regulations were respected, and thus review by an ethics committee was not required. Support by the Robert Koch Institute was provided after official request. Participation in the questionnaire and blood specimen collection for antibody testing was voluntary, for which verbal consent was obtained. For antibody testing, additional written informed consent was obtained.

Description of the Outbreak Setting

Club X is located in a basement. The area accessible to guests is $\approx 150 \text{ m}^2$ with a height of $\approx 3 \text{ m}$ (Appendix Figure 1). Ventilation of the space is ensured by a mechanical air exhaust and supply system and maintenance was performed according to the manufacturer's instructions. To avoid noise pollution in the surrounding neighborhood, windows are usually closed during events.

Clinical Symptoms of Cases

Among a total of 74 cases linked to the outbreak, dates of symptom onset were available for 64 cases. Of those, 44 cases could be interviewed on clinical symptoms during their COVID-19 infection. All 44 cases reported having ≥ 1 symptom. The most common symptoms experienced were dysgeusia (65%), cough (61%), headache (58%), and dysosmia (58%) (Appendix Table 4).

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Appendix Table 1. Mapping statistics and single nucleotide polymorphisms of severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 from an outbreak associated with a nightclub, Berlin, Germany, March 2020*

| ID | Coverage depth† | Genome coverage, % | Ambiguous positions* | SNPs relative to the majority* | Sampling date, 2020 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---|--|---------------------|
| ChVir-D712-1 | 971.6 (3-6,636) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D666-2 | 85.8 (4-307) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D718-3 | 482.9 (3-6,898) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D672-4 | 214 (3-487) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D658-5 | 58.9 (3-206) | 100 | None | None | Mar 8 |
| ChVir-D665-6 | 2,342.1 (3-5,966) | 100 | None | None | Mar 6 |
| ChVir-D667-7 | 294.9 (3-773) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D671-8 | 41.3 (2-107) | 100 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D670-9 | 13.3 (0-51) | 99.8 | None | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D710-10 | 2,273.3 (34-4,992) | 100 | Position 20469 R, 2,144 reads have A, 1,573 reads have G. Confirmed by Sanger sequencing. 3rd codon position, synonymous. | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D711-11 | 2,924.1 (0-6,965) | 99.8 | Position 16570 K, 7,031 reads have G, 156 reads have T, but Sanger suggests T. 1st codon position, non-synonymous, C>G; Position 21515 R, 856 reads have A, 864 reads have G, 2nd codon position, non-synonymous, N > S; Position 25419 R; 4,657 reads have A, 6,708 reads have G, 3rd codon position, synonymous | Position 29780 A>G, 3' UTR | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D717-D761-12 | 3,645.9 (3-5,927) | 100 | Position 14801 R (reference has A), 93 reads have G, 122 reads have A. 2nd codon position, D>G change. | None | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-W1191-13 | 96.6 (3-427) | 100 | None | None | Mar 8 |
| ChVir-D679-14 | 52.6 (3-225) | 100 | None | None | Mar 4 |
| ChVir-D929-15 | 3,791.3 (0-427) | 98 | Position 545 K, 4,591 reads have G, 7,074 have T confirmed by Sanger, 1st codon position, non-synonymous, G>C | None | Mar 5 |
| ChVir-W1248-16 | 132.2 (0-422) | 99 | None | Position 29254 G>T, 3rd codon position, synonymous | Mar 7 |
| ChVir-D715-D799-17 | 4,553.4 (3-6646) | 100 | None | Position 29254 G>T, 3rd codon position, synonymous | Mar 6 |

*Positions are given relative to the reference genome, EPI_ISL402125 (Wuhan-1).

†Coverage depth indicates the mean number of reads covering each position in the genome. Numbers in parentheses show the minimum and maximum number of reads.

Appendix Table 2. Oligonucleotide used for amplification and sequencing of SARS-CoV-2 genome fragments

| Primer ID | Sequence (5'→3') | Use |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SARS2_1_F | CAACTTTCGATCTCTTGTAGATCTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_1_Fnest | GTCACCTCGGCTGCATGCTTAGTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_1_R | GTTATCGACATAGCGAGTGTATGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_2_F | GGAGCTGGTGGCCATAGTTACG | 1st round |
| SARS2_2_Fnest | CATTTGACTTAGGCCAGCAGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_2_R | TCCAAAGGCAATAGTGCAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_3_F | AAGTAGGACCTGAGCATAGTCTTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_3_Fnest | CTTGCCGAATACCATAATGAATCTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_3_R | GTCTCTAAGAACTCTACACCTTCT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_4_F | ATCTAGTTGTAATGGCCTACATTACAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_4_iF | TTCAGTTGAYTTCGCAGTGCC | 1st round |
| SARS2_4_Fnest | GGCTAACTAACATCTTTGGCACTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_4_R | CGAACTCATTTACTTCTGTACCGAG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_5_F | TGCCCTTGACCTAATATGATGG | 1st round |
| SARS2_5_Fnest | ATAGAAGTGAAGTTCACAGAGTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_5_R | TGTTAGCAAGATTGTGTCCGCT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_6_F | AGGAGGTGTTGCAGGAGCCT | 1st round |
| SARS2_6_Fnest | ATAAGGCTACTAACAAATGCCATGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_6_R | CTTTGCCTCCTCTACAGTGTAAACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_7_F | CAGATTCTGCCACTCTTGTTAGTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_7_Fnest | CACTCTTGTTAGTGACATTGACATCAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_7_iFnest | TGGCACTACTGAAATGCTAGCGA | 1st round |
| SARS2_7_R | AAGGTGATAACTTCACCATTAGGTG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_8_F | CACCTGATGCTGTTACAGCGT | 1st round |
| SARS2_8_iF | GATCTCTCAAAGTGCCAGCTACAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_8_Fnest | ACCATCTCACTTGCTGGTTCCCT | 2nd round |
| SARS2_8_R | AAAGTGTGCCCATGTACATAACAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_9_F | CTGCTCTACAAGATGCTTATTACAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_9_Fnest | AAGACAGTAGGTGAGTTAGGTGATG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_9_R | TCTCTTGAAGCAGGTTTCTTATAACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_10_F | GTACAGAAATTGACCCTAAGTTGGACA | 1st round |
| SARS2_10_Fnest | CCATATCCAACCGCAAGCTTCG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_10_R | AACAGTATTCTTTGCTATAGTAGTCGG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_11_F | GCTACTCATGGTTAGCTGCTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_11_Fnest | GCTGCTGTTAATAGTGTCCCTTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_11_R | TACATTCTAACCATAGCTGAAATCGG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_12_F | TGAACTCTACTAATGCTACTATTGCAAC | 1st round |
| SARS2_12_Fnest | GCTTTTGGCTTAGTTGCAGAGT | 2nd round |
| SARS2_12_R | TGCAACTTCCGCACTATCACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_13_F | GAGCTAATAACACTAAAGKTTCAATTGC | 1st round |
| SARS2_13_Fnest | AGCGTCTGTTTACTACAGTCAGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_13_R | GCGCACTACAGTCAATACAAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_14_F | GCAAGGGTTTGTGATTGATGATGTAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_14_Fnest | ATCTGACATAGAAGTTACTGGCGATAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_14_R | CTGATGTTGCAAAGTCAAGTACTC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_15_F | TGCTGCAGTCATAACAAGAGAAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_15_iF | AAGCTTGCCATTGATTGCTGC | 1st round |
| SARS2_15_Fnest | GCCTGGCAGATATTACGCA | 2nd round |
| SARS2_15_R | AAAGGTGTGAACATAACCATCCACTG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_16_F | GCTTTTGGTGAATACAGTYATGTAGTTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_16_Fnest | CATTCACTGACTCTGTTAAACACCAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_16_R | CTTATACTTAGGTGTCTTAGGATTGGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_17_F | CACCTCTGAAGACATGCTTAACC | 1st round |
| SARS2_17_Fnest | ACAGGCTGGTAATGTTCAACTCAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_17_R | GAACAAAGACCATTGAGTACTCTGGAC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_18_F | AGGACCTCTTCTGCTCAAACCTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_18_iF | TTCTGCTCAAACCTGGAATTGCCG | 1st round |
| SARS2_18_Fnest | TGCAAAATGGTATGAATGGACGTAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_18_iFnest | ACTGCAAAATGGTATGAATGGACGTAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_18_R | CCAAGAGTCAGTCTAAAGTAGCG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_19_F | GAGTATTGCCCTATTTTCTTCAACTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_19_Fnest | TTCTTCAACTGGTAAATACACTTCAGTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_19_R | TCTAAGCATAGTGAAAAGCATTGTCTG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_20_F | TGAATGTGGCTAAATCTGAATTTGACC | 1st round |
| SARS2_20_Fnest | CAGCCATGCAACGTAAGTTGG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_20_R | CTTGTAGACGTACTGTGGCAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_21_F | GCACTGATGACAATGCGTTAGC | 1st round |
| SARS2_21_Fnest | CTTGCACTGTTATCCGATTACAGG | 2nd round |

| Primer ID | Sequence (5'→3') | Use |
|-----------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SARS2_21_R | AGACGGGCTGCACTTACACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_22_F | CAAATACCTACAACCTTGTGCTAATGACC | 1st round |
| SARS2_22_iF | TGCCGTTGCCACATAGATCATC | 1st round |
| SARS2_22_Fnest | GGTTATGGCTGTAGTTGTGATCAAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_22_R | GCAGTTAAAGCCCTGGTCAAGGT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_22_iR | CCGAAATCATACCAGTTACCATTGAG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_23_F | TACGCCAACTTAGTGAACGTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_23_Fnest | TGATGCCATGCGAAATGCTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_23_R | CTGATAGCAGCATTACCATCCTG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_24_F | ACTAGATAAACGCACTACGTGCT | 1st round |
| SARS2_24_iF | TAAGGAATTACTTGTGTGCTGCTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_24_Fnest | TAGCTGCACTTACTAACAATGTTGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_24_iFnest | TTCTATGACTTTGCTGTGCTAAGG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_24_R | GAGCAAGAACAAGTGAGGCCAT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_25_F | AATAGCCGCCACTAGAGGAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_25_Fnest | GATTATCCTAAATGTGATAGCCATGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_25_R | CTATAGCTAAAGACACGAACCGTTC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_26_F | GCAAAATGTTGGACTGAGACTGACC | 1st round |
| SARS2_26_Fnest | CTCAACATAACAATGCTAGTTAAACAGG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_26_R | TGAGTCTTTTCAGTACAGGTGTTAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_27_F | TCAACTTTACTTAGGAGGTATGAGCT | 1st round |
| SARS2_27_Fnest | CACCCATTAGTTTTCCATTGTGTGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_27_R | AAAGACATACTGTTCTAATGTTGAATTCAC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_28_F | AAGTATTCTACACTCAGGGACCAC | 1st round |
| SARS2_28_iF | GAGCACTATGTTAGAATTACTGGCT | 1st round |
| SARS2_28_Fnest | TACTACCCTTCTGCTCGCATAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_28_R | GAGCCCTGTGATGAATCAACAGT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_29_F | CAGGCCACAAATAGGCGTGG | 1st round |
| SARS2_29_Fnest | CTTACACGTAACCCTGCTTGGAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_29_R | TCTCCAGGCGGTGGTTTAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_30_F | CCCGCGAAGAAGCTATAAGAC | 1st round |
| SARS2_30_Fnest | CATGGATTGGCTTCGATGTCG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_30_R | GGTTACCAATGTCGTGAAGAACTGG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_31_F | CCATGATCTGTATTGTCAAGTCCATG | 1st round |
| SARS2_31_Fnest | TCTAGCTGTCCACGAGTGCT | 2nd round |
| SARS2_31_R | CCACAAGCTAAAGCCAGCTGA | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_32_F | GATTTGACACTAGAGTGCTATCTAACC | 1st round |
| SARS2_32_Fnest | TAGAGTGCTATCTAACCTTAACTTGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_32_R | CAGTGAGTGGTGCACAAATCGT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_33_F | GCGCAACATTAACCAGTACCAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_33_Fnest | ACATTGCTGCTAATACTGTGATCTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_33_R | CCTTAGAAACTACAGATAAATCTTGGGA | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_34_F | TGGTTTACATCTACTGATTGGACTAGC | 1st round |
| SARS2_34_Fnest | ATAACAGATGCGCAACAGGTTT | 2nd round |
| SARS2_34_R | TTATCTTTATAGCCACGGAACCTCC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_35_F | TTTGATTGGTGATTGTGCAACTGTAC | 1st round |
| SARS2_35_Fnest | GGATCTCATTATTAGTGATATGTACGACC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_35_R | TGGGTCTTCAATCTAAAGTAGTACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_36_F | CTCAGTTTTACATTTCAACTCAGGACT | 1st round |
| SARS2_36_Fnest | TAACCCTGTCCCTACCATTTAATGATGG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_36_R | GGTCAAGTGCACAGTCTACAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_37_F | AGTGCCTGATCTCCCTCAGG | 1st round |
| SARS2_37_Fnest | AGGTTGGACAGCTGGTGCTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_37_R | AAGGTGTGCTACCGGCCTG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_37_iR | GTCCACAAACAGTTGCTGGTGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_38_F | GAAGTCAGACAAATCGCTCCAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_38_Fnest | CCAGATGATTTTACAGGCTGCG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_38_R | ACTAGCGCATATRCCTGCACC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_39_F | CAGGAACAAATACTTCTAACCAGGTTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_39_Fnest | GAAGTCCCTGTTGCTATTCATGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_39_R | TAACAGTGCAGAAAGTGTATTGAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_40_F | AGATCCATCAAACCAAGCAAGAG | 1st round |
| SARS2_40_Fnest | GACACTTGCAGATGCTGGCT | 2nd round |
| SARS2_40_R | CCATGAGGTGCTGACTGAGG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_41_F | AGGCTGAAGTGCAAATTTGATAGGT | 1st round |
| SARS2_41_Fnest | TAGAGCTGCAGAAATCAGAGC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_41_R | GACTCCTTTGAGCACTGGCT | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_42_F | CTCATCGATCTCCAAGAACTTGG | 1st round |
| SARS2_42_Fnest | GCTTGATTGCCATAGTAATGGTGAC | 2nd round |

| Primer ID | Sequence (5'→3') | Use |
|----------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| SARS2_42_R | TGAGTACAGCTGGTAATAGTCTGAAG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_43_F | TTTGCTGGAAATGCCGTCCA | 1st round |
| SARS2_43_Fnest | CTTTGCTGGCATACTAATTGTTACG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_43_R | TGTAGAAGACAATCCATGTAAGGAATAG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_44_F | CTTCTAGAGTTCTGATCTTCTGG | 1st round |
| SARS2_44_Fnest | CCATGGCAGATTCCAACGGTAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_44_R | GCTATAGTAACCTGAAAGTCAACGAG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_45_F | CAGTCGCTACAGGATTGGCA | 1st round |
| SARS2_45_Fnest | CACAGACCATTCCAGTAGCAGTG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_45_R | GACACGGGTCACTCAACTACATATGG | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_46_F | TTAGGAATCATCACAACTGATAGCTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_46_Fnest | TAGCTGCATTTCCACCAAGAATGTAG | 2nd round |
| SARS2_46_R | TGGTAGCTCTTCGGTAGTAGCC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_46_iR | GAAGTTGTAGCAGGATTGCAGC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_47_F | TAACCAGAATGGAGAACGCAGTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_47_Fnest | GGTTCACCGCTCTCACTCAAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_47_R | CGGCCAATGTTTGTAAATCAGTTCC | 1st round and 2nd round |
| SARS2_48_F | CTGCTGAGGCTTCTAAGAAGC | 1st round |
| SARS2_48_iF | GCTTGACAGATTGAACCAGCTTG | 1st round |
| SARS2_48_Fnest | TGGCAGACGTGGTCCAGAAC | 2nd round |
| SARS2_48_R | CTCCTRAGAAGCTATTAATCACATGG | 1st round and 2nd round |

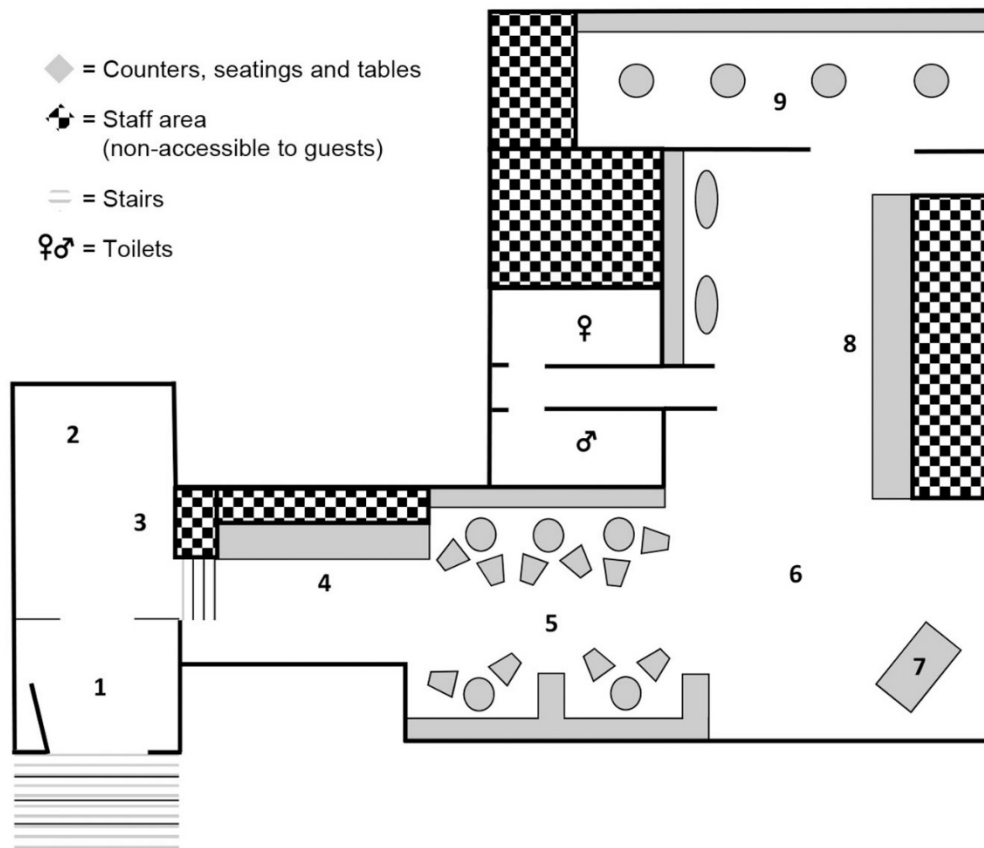
Appendix Table 3. Coverage depth and number of reads mapped against the reference (GenBank accession no. NC_045512.2) for each sequencing run*

| ID | Total reads mapped against SARS-CoV-2 | Mean coverage depth (range) |
|--------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ChVir-D712-1 | 102,968 | 971.6 (3–6,636) |
| ChVir-D666-2 | 21,192 | 85.8 (4–307) |
| ChVir-D718-3 | 482,720 | 482.9 (3–6,898) |
| ChVir-D672-4 | 52,215 | 214 (3–487) |
| ChVir-D658-5 | 14,485 | 58.9 (3–206) |
| ChVir-D665-6 | 569,265 | 2,342.1 (3–5,966) |
| ChVir-D667-7 | 71,902 | 294.9 (3–773) |
| ChVir-D671-8 | 10,051 | 41.3 (2–107) |
| ChVir-D670-9 | 2,561 | 13.3 (0–51) |
| ChVir-D710-10 | 212,223 | 2,273.3 (34–4,992) |
| ChVir-D711-11 | 301,653 | 2,924.1 (0–6,965) |
| ChVir-D717-D761-12 | 333,782 | 3,645.9 (3–5,927) |
| ChVir-W1191-13 | 9,892 | 96.6 (3–427) |
| ChVir-D679-14 | 15,850 | 52.6 (3–225) |
| ChVir-D929-15 | 447,129 | 3,791.3 (0–427) |
| ChVir-W1248-16 | 12,763 | 132.2 (0–422) |
| ChVir-D715-D799-17 | 444,374 | 4,553.4 (3–6,646) |

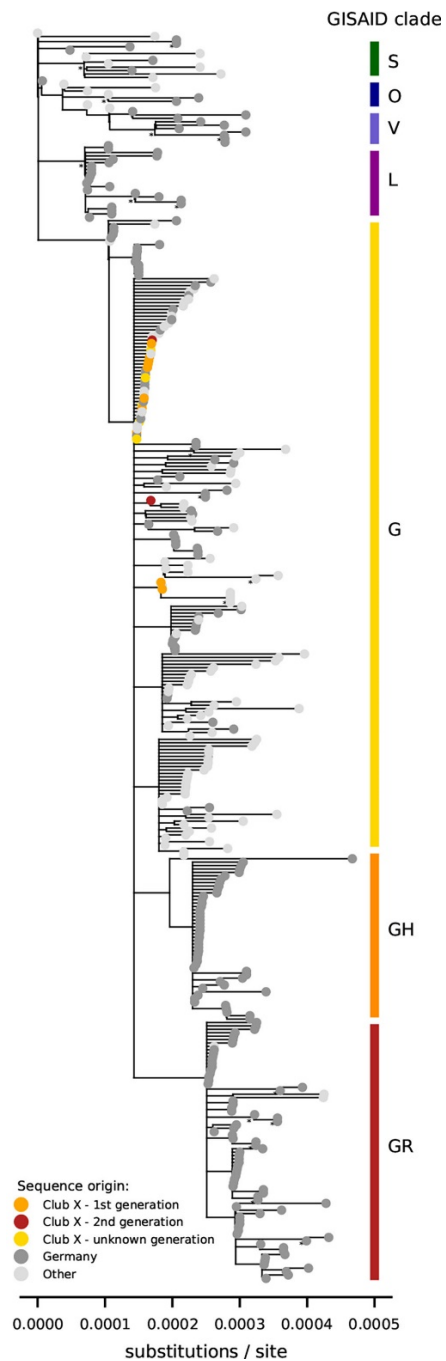
*Coverage depth indicates the mean number of reads covering each base. Minimum and maximum number of reads are given in parentheses.

Appendix Table 4. Demographics and clinical symptoms of cases in a coronavirus disease outbreak in a nightclub, Berlin, Germany, March 2020

| Demographics | No. (%) |
|---------------------------------|----------|
| No. total cases | 74 (100) |
| Median age, y | 30 |
| Sex | |
| F | 37 (50) |
| M | 37 (50) |
| Clinical symptoms (no. queried) | |
| Dysgeusia (n = 43) | 28 (65) |
| Cough (n = 44) | 27 (61) |
| Headache (n = 43) | 25 (58) |
| Dysosmia (n = 43) | 25 (58) |
| Shivering, shaking (n = 43) | 21 (49) |
| Myalgia (n = 43) | 20 (47) |
| Rhinitis (n = 44) | 20 (45) |
| Fever (n = 42) | 18 (43) |
| Sore throat (n = 42) | 12 (29) |
| Vertigo (n = 39) | 5 (13) |
| Nausea (n = 42) | 4 (9) |



Appendix Figure 1. Illustration of the floorplan of nightclub involved in a coronavirus disease outbreak, Berlin, Germany, March 2020. Numerals represent the following: 1) entry area; 2) coat check area; 3) cashier; 4) bar counter 1; 5) lounge; 6) dance floor; 7) DJ booth; 8) bar counter 2; and 9) smoking lounge. This figure is not true to scale.



Appendix Figure 2. Maximum likelihood phylogenetic tree showing the positions of the sequences associated with a coronavirus disease outbreak in a nightclub, Berlin, Germany, March 2020. Orange circles indicate cases in the nightclub outbreak. Blue circles indicate available sequences from Germany sampled before April 15, 2020. Gray circles indicate a subset of sequences from additional countries. The x-axis shows substitutions per site. Asterisks indicate nodes with bootstrap support >70. Nodes with bootstrap support <5 are shown as polytomies. To view the sequences from club X in a wider context of currently unpublished sequences from Germany, see <https://civnb.info/sequences>.