

DRASTIC KEY BREAKTHROUGHS, RESEARCH and ACHIEVEMENTS

1. In March 2020, @Rossana38510044 made the first public connection of [RaTG13 and BtCoV4991/](#) and published in April 2020 a [preprint](#) about the possibility they might be the same virus
2. In April 2020, @ydeigin published the first [in-depth analysis](#) of gain-of-function work done at WIV and how it could have led to SARS2 leaking from their lab:
3. In May 2020, independent researcher Charles Small discovered the deletion of WIV virus databases and contacted Miranda Devine at the New York Post.
4. In April 2020, @TheSeeker268 discovered a Master's thesis and a PhD thesis on an unusual case of pneumonia in the same mineshaft where RaTG13, the closest relative to SARS-COV-2 was found. We translated all the important parts into English. Mona and Rahul Bahulikar later published a paper on these Mojiang miners' cases.
5. Dan (a former member of DRASTIC*) and his father Karl Sirotkin published the [first peer reviewed paper](#) suggesting gain-of-function techniques were used at WIV, focusing on the possible role of serial passage in a lab leak of SARS-COV-2.
6. Dan Sirotkin (former member of DRASTIC*) published a ground-breaking [early analysis here](#):
7. Francisco de Asis found that RaTG13 was sequenced long before the pandemic rather than after as was implied in WIV's February 2020 Nature paper.

8. Charles Small, an independent investigator discovered that RaTG13 amplicon fasta headers showed dates back to 2017 and 2018,
9. In June 2020 we compiled a list of all published live isolates of the WIV which followed a correlative numbering. We noted that two of them were missing: WIV6 and WIV15. WIV6 appeared in a student thesis, but WIV15 is still missing.
10. DRASTIC tracked all WIV and other Chinese Bat sampling expeditions, with one member, “Francisco de Asis” collating a vast amount of information via Excel Sheets.
11. Daoyu Zhang @daoyu15 and Rahul and Mona Bahulikar identified anomalies in the RaTG13 published genome sequences and its origin which they published in papers.
[Anomalies in BatCoV/RaTG13 sequencing and provenance](#) by Daoyu Zhang
12. Daoyu Zhang identified evidence of contamination in published sequences and anomalies in amplicon sequence data of RaTG13 and Pangolin Coronavirus Sequences.
[The Pan-SL-CoV/GD sequences may be from contamination](#) by Daoyu Zhang.
13. We later found that one of the largest sample collectors for WIV worked in the very same lab of the pangolins. In October 2020 we also found that some early patients' samples were also contaminated (Nipah, etc..)
14. Billy Bostickson collated over 260 science based questions on the origins of SARS-COV-2, most of which have not been answered by experts to date ([Part 1](#), [Part 2](#), [Part 3](#)).

15. Subsequently we “gate crashed” online webinars and zoom meetings in which Scientists like Shi Zhengli, Peter Daszak and George Gao were participating, to demand answers to some of these questions.
16. We have constantly challenged on Twitter and elsewhere, scientists like Kristian Andersen, Eddie Holmes, and Peter Daszak, Jonna Mazet, Angie Rasmussen, Trevor Bedford and others who were the main proponents of the “natural origin narrative”.
17. We identified anomalies in scientific papers related to pangolin sequences which the US Right to Know organisation pursued through FOIA requests. [Cloning vectors and contamination in metagenomic datasets raise concerns over pangolin CoV genome authenticity](#) By Adrian Jones, Daoyu Zhang, Yuri Deigin, Steven C. Quay
18. We tracked and investigated experiments by WIV on humanised mice using chimeric bat coronaviruses. Our work was detailed in “[Wuhan lab infected 'humanized mice' with bat coronaviruses in 2019](#)” on 11th January 2021
19. We found the exact location of the Tongguan mine in Mojiang and served as a guide for the 10 teams of journalists that tried to reach that location.
20. In November 2020, @ydeigin and @Rossana38510044 published their paper “[The genetic structure of SARS-CoV-2 does not rule out a laboratory origin](#)” which showed that SARS2’s RBM and FCS could have been the product of genetic manipulation. Their paper was mentioned by several mainstream media, as one of the first peer reviewed articles considering possible SARS2’s lab origin. It has since become the most widely cited lab leak hypothesis paper, as well as one with the highest Altmetric score.
21. In May 2021 we published 3 more WIV students theses with several new findings.

22. In July 2021, @ydeigin and @Rossana38510044 published “SARS-CoV-2’s claimed natural origin is undermined by issues with genome sequences of its relative strains” <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/34046923/>, which showed that the claimed insertion in RmYN02 is highly doubtful and the other sequences used to support SARS2’s natural origin (RaTG13, MP789) exhibit several issues.
23. @ydeigin and @Rossana38510044 published other peer-reviewed papers calling for an open debate on the laboratory leak theory: “[Should we discount the laboratory origin of COVID-19?](#)” (with @Daoyu15 and @jjcouey, March 2021) and “[The genetic structure of SARS-CoV-2 is consistent with both natural or laboratory origin: Response to Tyshkovskiy and Panchin](#)” (July 2021).
24. Francisco and @Rossana38510044 identified the [7896 clade of viruses](#) collected in the abandoned mineshaft as being highly significant and we [demanded](#) the publication of the sequences. They were finally published in May 2021.
25. @Daoyu15, @CZilcho and @Rossana38510044 were the first researchers to scientifically assess the possibility that SARS-COV-2 is the result of “[vaccine research gone wrong](#)”.
26. In Aug 20 Gilles Demaneuf produced a very [detailed probability study](#) that showed that the research-related accident hypothesis was fully viable, with clearly delineated scenarios (inc. sampling accident). While doing so he wrote about China’s own concerns at the biosafety of its labs and drew the [most extensive count of BSL-3 labs in China](#) with Rodolphe de Maistre.

27. Gilles Demaneuf then wrote the [most detailed investigative paper](#) to date on the 2003-04 SARS lab-leaks, including the partial cover-up of the Beijing ones.
28. Gilles also produced a [timely analysis of the Terms-of-Reference](#) of the WHO-China mission, correctly predicting the way China would avoid sharing data and limit any investigation.
29. Gilles published papers and articles on the [Mojiang mine sampling trip](#), the [US intelligence in Q4 19](#), the Nov. 19 “[Patient Su](#)” (whom he discovered). He also researched the [patterns of ‘missing’ early cases](#) dating back to Oct 19.
30. More recently he [debunked the claims](#) of ‘all-negative’ serology tests of Wuhan lab employees/students and published a [detailed list of factual, logical and probabilistic mistakes](#) in the official zoonotic narrative.
31. In collaboration with other DRASTIC members, he wrote an [authoritative monogram on the deleted DBs](#) of the WIV. He also co-authored [4 open-letters](#) asking for a proper investigation of the origins, signed by world-wide scientists and DRASTIC members.
32. Following the release of the DEFUSE documents by DRASTIC, Gilles Demaneuf co-organized an [open-letter asking for his removal from any position at EcoHealth Alliance](#) with 4 other DRASTIC members.
33. Charles Rixey compiled more than 100 sources related to the epidemiology of the Wuhan outbreak. The first finding from this analysis was a clear anomaly concerning the location of pre-2020 COVID-19 cases in Wuhan compared with later peer-reviewed studies. The WHO report’s data heavily distorts the proportion of cases on each side of the river in Wuhan.

34. [@uacjess](#) collated and tracked hundreds of scrubbed webpages from Wuhan Laboratories.
1. May 4th - July 21st 2019
<https://archive.is/BLQTq>
 2. July 21st - Sep 1st 2019
<https://archive.vn/UcdUT>
 3. Sep 2nd - Nov 24th 2019
<https://archive.is/1V3RJ>
35. [Rodolphe de Maistre](#) (@RdeMaistre) researched Chinese funding and influence on Academic Journals and Chinese Biosafety which was [published here](#).
36. WIV [Bat cage and bat breeding patents](#) were discovered by [@internetperson](#) in July 2020, which proved that Peter Daszak had lied about WIV not keeping live bats. Our work was published [here](#) and [here](#) and [here](#).
37. Billy Bostickson recently discovered details about PLA involvement with isolation and sharing of Pangolin Coronaviruses (GX_P2) with BSL2 Labs that will be published shortly.
38. [The Seeker](#) unearthed 20 more [Chinese Theses](#) written by WIV researchers which we are busy analysing for clues and evidence.
39. Collectively we have one of the largest databases (if not the largest) of saved documents from relevant Chinese websites, many of which have now disappeared from the Internet.
40. Our members have published many papers, some peer reviewed and published in journals, which have been widely read and have helped raise awareness of the likelihood of a laboratory leak in the academic community.

(Daoyu Zhang, [Yuri Deigin](#), [Rossana Segreto](#), Rahul and Mona Bahulikar, [Gilles Demaneuf](#), [Rodolphe DeMaistre](#), [Billy Bostickson](#))

41. [Billy Bostickson](#) and [Gilles Demaneuf](#) organised an [online petition](#) and the first [open letter](#) to the WHO investigation team with 50 science based questions, some of which were asked during their visit to Wuhan.
42. Our discoveries and investigations have formed the basis for hundreds of news stories exploring lab leak theories, in print and on TV worldwide. See full list below.
43. Some of our members helped draft and organise the Open Letters from the “Paris Group” in collaboration with Jamie Metzl and others outside our group
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/03/04/us/covid-origins-letter.html>
<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2021/04/07/science/virus-inquiries-pandemic-origins.html>
<https://jamiemetzl.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Open-Letter-to-the-World-Health-Organization-and-the-Members-of-its-Executive-Board-1.pdf>
<https://jamiemetzl.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Letter-4-Draft-1.pdf>
44. We constantly communicate with international scientists who support the possibility of a laboratory leak and discuss findings with them.
45. We exposed Peter Daszak’s deception about live bats not being kept at WIV, the failure of the WHO to ask about that, and the failure of WIV to inform the WHO. Our research went worldwide with sky news and other outlets showing live bats in cages at WIV, based on a year long investigation involving patents, anecdotal accounts and other research.
46. Billy Bostickson and Dr. Yvette Ghannam (a US based forensic microbiologist) have published 4 papers on the investigation into the origins of SARS-COV-2, sections taken from a lengthy report prepared informally for a US Agency.

After getting the go ahead to publish, many new discoveries have been made, so the new sections are in fact more thorough and detailed than the original. Itemised below:

[Investigation into WIV Databases taken offline](#) February 2021 (Anon, Bostickson & Demaneuf)

[Proposed Forensic Investigation of Wuhan Laboratories](#) March 2021 (Bostickson & Ghannam)

[Investigation of RaTG13 and the 7896 Clade](#) March 2021 (Bostickson & Ghannam)

[Wuhan Laboratories, Bat Research and Biosafety](#) April 2021 (Bostickson & Ghannam)

[Wuhan Institute of Biological Products](#) March 2021 (De Maistre, co-authors Demaneuf & Bostickson)

47. Billy Bostickson and co-authors will publish 6 more reports over the coming months:

- A review of WIV BSL4 Engineering flaws, patents and biosafety issues,
- A review of SARS-COV-2 Lab Leak Scenarios
- Early SARS_COV-2 cases in Wuhan (DRASTIC team report)
- Anomalies in the SARS-COV-2 Genome and its behaviour
- Technical Report on the Chinese Biosafety Industry
- US and International Scientific Collaboration with Chinese BSL Laboratories and Bat Research (EcoHealth Alliance, Duke University, Atlanta CDC BSL4, NIH, DTRA, DARPA, UC Davis, Galveston UTMB, John Hopkins University, UNC, France, Pakistan)

48. @Rossana38510044 published with members of the Paris group “[An appeal for an objective, open, and transparent scientific debate about the origin of SARS-CoV-2](#)” in The Lancet (September 2021).

49. DRASTIC published the [DARPA PREEMPT project documents](#) exposing Peter Daszak and EHA’s proposed collaboration (DEFUSE) with the Wuhan Institute of Virology. We analyzed its 150 pages and produced a [20-page analysis](#) on 9/21/21.

50. In May 2021, Charles Rixy) analyzed nearly 500 sources and provided statistical evidence that showed the impact of scientific censorship upon the COVID-19 origin debate over the first 15 months of the pandemic.

51. We published an analysis of 2019 readership and download patterns of FCS and Coronavirus related papers:
[The "Second Peak" Papers - Part 1 Findings](#)
[2nd Peak Papers Part 2 Overview and Analysis](#)

52. The “[October Surprise in Wuhan](#)” Report was published by @billybostickson, Yvette Ghannam and @GillesDemaneuf

53. We published [83 questions for Dr. Ralph Baric](#).

DRASTIC IN THE NEWS

Our discoveries and my investigations have formed the basis for hundreds of news stories exploring lab leak theories, in print and on TV worldwide: USA ([New York Magazine](#) , [Washington Post](#) , [Newsweek](#) , [Vanity Fair](#) , New York Times, The Intercept, [The Epoch Times](#)), UK ([The Spectator](#) 1 [and 2](#), the Times, The Telegraph, The Daily Mail, The Mirror, [The Sun](#)), Spain ([El Pais](#) , La Razon, [La Nacion](#)), France ([Le Monde](#) , L'Expres, France-Soir, NouvelObs, Le Pointe), Italy (RAI TV, Presa Diretta, [AGI](#) , [Atlantico quotidiano](#)), India (Times of India, The Print, [1](#) , [2](#) and [3](#)), Germany ([Der Spiegel](#) , [Heise online](#) , [Welt am Sonntag](#) , [MSN](#) , [der Tagesspiegel](#), [NDR](#), [N-TV](#)), Austria ([ORF.at](#) , [APA](#) , der [Standard 1 and 2](#) , [OE24](#) , [Kurier](#)), Switzerland ([NZZ](#)), Australia (Sky News, The Australian, [CNET](#)) , Romania (Antena 3 TV), Greece, Taiwan (Taiwan News), Brazil ([Gazeta do Povo](#)), Turkey, Argentina, Mexico, as well as several documentaries ([Channel 4](#) , [Radio Canada](#) , [What Happened in Wuhan- Sky News](#)).

Here are a few examples:

Who are DRASTIC?

DRASTIC is an independent team of scientists, analysts and sleuths who have come together to investigate the origins of Covid-19.

Their work has been referenced in the [New York Post](#), [The Washington Post](#), [The Telegraph](#), [The Mail on Sunday](#) and on [Sky News](#) in Australia.

Many of its members opt to remain anonymous to protect themselves from possible reprisals and so they can carry out the potentially controversial research without impacting their careers.

It is said to include specialists in engineering, mathematics, biology, open source intelligence and data - and was brought together via Twitter.

Over one year on questions still loom over the origins of Covid, in what is becoming an increasingly political fight amid questions of bias on both sides.

Gilles Demaneuf, a data scientist, from New Zealand, told The Sun Online: "As nobody else was researching SARS-CoV-2 in such a way, especially back in early 2020, we basically did it ourselves.

"We are science-based and do not bend to any pressure.

"We are not hierarchical, we challenge each other regularly and can be irreverent at times, especially with scientists who for some reason seem particularly certain about a specific origin but cannot line up proper arguments."

And while he admits their work can only go so far using the tools at their disposal, it is hoped their efforts can shine a light on the real origins of Covid-19.

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/14147270/wuhan-lab-database-hidden-china-covid-smoking-gun/amp/>


Our Mission UnHerd Log in The Post

Spotlight

The Covid dissidents taking on China

Beijing's science stooges are being unmasked by an international team of online sleuths

BY IAN BIRRELL



Feng Zijian played a central role in the World Health Organisation's inquiry into the origins of Covid-19. The Chinese

<https://unherd.com/2021/04/the-covid-dissidents-taking-on-china/>

QUOTES FROM THE [DRASTIC "UNHERD" STORY](#) by Ian Birrell

"It has been fascinating to see, in the course of my investigations over the past year, how this group of activists — in tandem with a few brave scientists — has forced the lab leak hypothesis from the shadows."

"Drastic has 26 core members divided into sub-groups exploring aspects such as biosafety, missing databases, coronavirus vaccine development, tracing and translating deleted documents, along with its own website. The co-ordinator, who adopts a mischievous style on social media, calls himself "Billy Bostickson". He admits to feeling a duty to carry out the investigations, "out of respect for so many old folks who died and the terrible effect on local economies"."

"Drastic's members have also found evidence of virus databases being deleted, anomalies in scientific papers and published statements, details of pathogenic experiments on humanised mice with modified coronaviruses, scrubbed lab website pages, even details about patents for bat breeding cages at Wuhan Institute of Virology."

“Yet the significance of these sleuths goes beyond even the task of unravelling the origins of a new virus that has killed almost 3 million people worldwide and raising uncomfortable questions over closed minds, let alone posing the question of whether scientists themselves might have accidentally sparked this global disaster. Ultimately, their digging is a reminder that in the digital age even the most powerful states, even an Orwellian dictatorship such as China under Xi Jinping, cannot erase everything from the past and hide all truths, however hard it tries.”

Video Report on DRASTIC mentioning my work by Sharri Markson on Sky News

World 'not impressed' by the WHO's COVID-19 origins report

https://www.skynews.com.au/details/_6232101866001

How the coronavirus origin story is being rewritten by a guerrilla Twitter group

By Jackson Ryan - April 15, 2021 - CNET

“The group, known as Drastic, has investigated, corrected, uncovered and agitated in a quest to uncover the pandemic's starting point.”

<https://www.cnet.com/features/how-the-coronavirus-origin-story-is-being-rewritten-by-a-guerrilla-twitter-group/>

Quotes from the CNET Article

Anonymous threads

“Spend long enough in the Twitterverse looking into the lab origins debate, and you'll start to see a few familiar profiles. The most prolific appears to be helmed by a one-eyed, cartoon lab monkey: Twitter user @BillyBostickson

Bostickson, whose profile picture shows the aforementioned monocular primate, says they have been using a pseudonym for 10 years for professional reasons in "a country with vicious state subversion laws." Since February, they've been working 15-hour days, spending a majority of their time neck-deep in SARS-CoV-2 research. "I feel burnt out," they recently tweeted."

"Bostickson conceived and named Drastic, was one of the first people to bring members together in early 2020, and often collates the team's findings and outstanding questions in extensive Twitter threads. Before 2020, Bostickson says they hardly knew how to even compose a thread on the site, but the social media network has become invaluable. "Twitter serves as a very intuitive searchable database," they say."

"Since early 2020, Drastic has swelled to 28 members. While Bostickson and others have organized the group and built a website, there's no overarching, obvious hierarchy. Members work in subgroups on specific questions related to the origins of SARS-CoV-2 but there are "very few rules," according to Gilles Demaneuf, a New Zealand-based data scientist who is part of the group. "I think the only rule we have is to respect people, and we're not pressing people to tell us who they are," he notes."

"About half of the members prefer to remain anonymous, citing safety concerns, fear of losing their jobs and a constant stream of hacking attempts, according to Demaneuf. Drastic is only interested in telling the public enough about themselves to convince people they're "not a bunch of wackos hiding behind the internet," he says."

"Working under pseudonyms has allowed for mudslinging and vitriol to fly. "It's nasty because people hide behind anonymity," says Mary-Louise McLaws, an epidemiologist from the University of New South Wales and WHO adviser. You don't have to search for very long to run into Drastic members clashing with prominent

virologists. Many members have been blocked by those who have vocally supported a natural origin of SARS-CoV-2.”

DOCUMENTARIES ABOUT DRASTIC:

[UK CHANNEL 4,](#)

[DD INDIA,](#)

[RADIO CANADA,](#)

BOOKS ABOUT DRASTIC

[BRICE PERRIER,](#)

[ELAINE DWYER,](#)

[SHARRI MARKSON,](#)

[ALINA CHAN & MATT RIDLEY](#)

QUESTIONS ABOUT DRASTIC (asked by Ian Birrell - UK daily Mail)

Can you tell me about the team members of DRASTIC?

We started with about 5 people and now have about 26 core members who are listed on our website located in many different countries. Other members prefer to remain anonymous, for example some Scientists and especially China experts who we collaborate with informally (Dr. Quay, etc.).

How do you communicate internally?

On Twitter in closed message groups and by secure email and for example by sharing documents on drives for collaborative research work.

What was it like taking on both China and the scientific establishment?

It's been a pleasure for me personally. As I am anonymous I am happy to go on the attack, although other members of DRASTIC have experienced workplace harassment and one member lost his job due to his constant questioning of the official narrative (JJ Couey)

How about the Academic Struggle?

There is still a long uphill struggle especially in the scientific journal environment where papers challenging the official "Natural Origin" narrative often get delayed or rejected. We have been obliged to publish many papers on platforms like Zenodo & Researchgate to bypass this relentless academic gatekeeping. For example, 2 members of our team, Segreto and Deigin, have 3 papers, 1 published, 1 possibly blocked right before publication and one under review since January.

"Our first article was rejected by 7 journals before to find one which was open to discuss a lab origin. This shows how difficult it is to publish on this subject. I think also Mona had problems with her article (she had to wait 5 months)"

Tell me something about your Sub Groups/Working Groups?

We have many sub groups working on different issues, such as

- Specific laboratories in Wuhan and Beijing
- Biosafety issues
- Conflicts of Interest (Journals and Western Academics)
- Chinese Cover Up
- Early Cases in Wuhan (October Surprise)
- Missing databases
- Infected Bat researchers & Lack of PPE by Bat Researchers
- Investigating People of Interest (Chinese and Western Scientists)
- Communicating with the media
- Translating Chinese documents
- Tracking "scrubbed" documents
- Discussing our research papers and those of others
- Investigation into vaccine development by China pre-2020
- Communicating with Chinese sources
- Counter Intelligence and Strategy

An example of other work shared in our team:

The screenshot shows the JustPaste.it website interface. At the top, there is a yellow header with the logo and the tagline "share text and images the easy way". Below the header, there is a navigation menu with options like "Add note" and "DRASTIC2020". The main content area is divided into a left sidebar with navigation options (Manage notes, Messages, Notes statistics, Subscribed, Favourite notes, Shared with you, Trash, Edit settings) and a main area with a search bar and a list of notes. The notes list includes titles like "BART QUESTIONS", "Eddie Holmes and SCAU Pangolin related documents", and "DRASTIC WORKING GROUPS 2020-2021", along with dates and status indicators (Private, Profile). A footer contains copyright information and links to Account, Terms, Privacy, Cookies, Blog, and About.

The name "DRASTIC" as an acronym was proposed by me on May 21st 2020:

<https://twitter.com/BillyBostickson/status/1263503962046521345>

The screenshot shows a Twitter tweet from Billy Bostickson (@BillyBostickson). The tweet is a reply to @absolutelyabso5 @schnufi666 and 7 others. The text of the tweet reads: "The more the merrier, each person with their own unique perspective, obsessions and skills, following their noses down multiple proverbial rabbit holes 🐰". Below this, it says: "Decentralised Research via Autonomous Self-motivated Teams for Investigative Collaboration" and "DRASTIC". The tweet is dated 11:16 PM · May 21, 2020 · Twitter Web App. At the bottom, it shows 4 Retweets, 1 Quote Tweet, and 15 Likes.

The acronym evolved from May to June 29th when it became fixed as it is now:

1. "Decentralised Research via Autonomous Self-motivated Teams for Investigative Collaboration"
2. Decentralised research by autonomous search teams investigative collaboration (May 31st 2020)



3. Decentralised radical autonomous search team to investigate covid-19
4. Decentralised Radical Autonomous Search Team Investigating Covid-19 (July 2020)

*Note: Dan Sirotkin was asked to leave DRASTIC on (date) after a vote was taken concerning his constant aggressive attacks on other researchers and members of DRASTIC