



**Figure S1.** Histogram and the distribution of serial intervals in Period 2. Red line shows the fitted probability density function.

**Table S1.** The fitted probability density functions, with the estimated mean, variance, and other parameters of the probability density functions.

Period	Distribution	Mean (days)	Standard deviation (days)	Model	$p_1$ (95% CI)	$p_2$ (95% CI)	Reference
Period 1	Serial interval	6.36	0.59	Log-normal	6.45 (4.32-9.65)	4.16 (1.67-8.87)	[1]
	Incubation period	5.53	0.50		5.53 (3.98-8.09)	2.96 (1.28-6.09)	
Period 2	Serial interval	3.15	4.44	Normal	3.15 (3.10-3.20)	4.44 (4.41-4.48)	-
	Incubation period	4.38	0.42	Log-normal	4.4 (3.9-5.0)	1.9	[2]

The parameters  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  for the fitted PDFs normal and log-normal are expressed in the form  $normal(x|p_1, p_2) = normal(\mu, \sigma)$  and  $lognormal(x|p_1, p_2) = lognormal(\mu, \sigma)$ , respectively.

Pseudo code for estimating the proportion of pre-symptomatic transmission in Period 1, assuming no correlation

$n \leftarrow 10000$  # initialize the number of samples

$m \leftarrow 1000$  # initialize index

Randomly draw  $n$  samples from the reported distribution of serial interval to produce  $S$

Randomly draw  $n$  samples from the reported distribution of incubation period to produce  $I$

**for**  $j=1$  to  $m$  **Do**

    Randomly sample  $S$  with replacement to produce  $a$

    Randomly sample  $I$  with replacement to produce  $b$

**for**  $x=1$  to  $n$  **Do**

$tmp1 \leftarrow a[x]$

$tmp2 \leftarrow b[x]$

$point[x] \leftarrow$  "pre-symptomatic" if  $tmp2 > tmp1$ ; "symptomatic" otherwise

$random\_diff[j][x] \leftarrow tmp1 - tmp2$

**end for**

$Y[j] \leftarrow$  proportion of pre-symptomatic transmission

**end for**

Output: mean of  $Y$

Pseudo code for estimating the proportion of pre-symptomatic transmission in Period 2, assuming no correlation

```
 $n$  <- 10000 # initialize the number of samples  
 $m$  <- 1000 # initialize index
```

Perform the normal distribution fit to empirical serial interval distributions in Period 2  
Store its mean and standard deviation from the fitted model

Randomly draw  $n$  samples from the fitted distribution of serial interval to produce  $S$   
Randomly draw  $n$  samples from the reported distribution of incubation period to produce  $I$

**for**  $j=1$  to  $m$  **Do**

Randomly sample  $S$  with replacement to produce  $a$

Randomly sample  $I$  with replacement to produce  $b$

**for**  $x=1$  to  $m$  **Do**

tmp1 <-  $a[x]$

tmp2 <-  $b[x]$

point[ $x$ ] <- "pre-symptomatic" if tmp2 > tmp1; "symptomatic" otherwise

random\_diff[ $j$ ][ $x$ ] <- tmp1 - tmp2

**end for**

$Y[j]$  <- proportion of pre-symptomatic transmission

**end for**

Output: mean of  $Y$

**Remark:** For the scenario with fully correlated incubation period and serial interval, align  $S$  and  $I$  in ascending order before storing their values in  $a$  and  $b$ . For the scenario with fully correlated incubation period and serial interval, align  $S$  in ascending order and  $I$  in descending order before storing their values in  $a$  and  $b$ .

## Reference

1. Won, Y.S.; Kim, J.-H.; Ahn, C.Y.; Lee, H. Subcritical Transmission in the Early Stage of COVID-19 in Korea. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health* **2021**, *18*, 1265.
2. Zhang, M.; Xiao, J.; Deng, A.; Zhang, Y.; Zhuang, Y.; Hu, T.; Li, J.; Tu, H.; Li, B.; Zhou, Y. Transmission dynamics of an outbreak of the COVID-19 Delta variant B. 1.617. 2—Guangdong Province, China, May–June 2021. *China CDC Weekly* **2021**, *3*, 584.