What, Where and When to Publish

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Publication of scientific work

- **What to publish: your work**
- **where to publish: Bioinformatics *obviously***
- **and when to publish: not before my holidays**

- www impact in music, movies, books, newspapers **industry**
  - *But not in the industry in the **production** of music, movies, books, news*
- www in science is not only affecting **science publishing industry** but **science production**

- Positive: Tremendous risk and opportunity.

- Negative: Other areas (the one above) do not know what to do.

What to publish

- **Not all the papers are equal. From Application Notes, to Full scientific papers, including Discovery Notes … (and papers in bioinformatics are scientific publications!)**

- **Scientific publications are not a collection of facts. They are the interpretation of observations with a lot of conditions and details.**

- **Scientific (and biological) publications present hypothesds for follow-up work.**

  - ***As a field I think that it is more important to put effort in thinking what to do next than in storing and assessing what has been done and how.***

Where to publish

- **Reality: Publications `re an essential instrument not only for knowledge distribution but for scholar organization: evaluation of institutions, grants, fellowships and positions. Particularly important for Young Scientist.**
  - *Before replacing the journal impact factor think witg what*
- **Find the right public`shnm for your papers. Think of the readers more than of the referees.**
  - *Do not get obsessed with Impact Factors*
- **Explore many journals. Talk to Editors and conference chairs. Read papers.**
- **You do not have to do all of what the referees/editors ask for (even if your paper gets rejected).**

When to publish

- Final work but not to completely finish. Leaving questions open is good and trying to answer all the questions is bad (and takes too much time)
- Do not wait to finish the work to write the paper. Organize the work thinking of the paper.
  - Build on other people's work (quoting them fairly and nicely)
- Discuss your results in meetings and with colleagues before publishing them. The risk of being scooped is minimal (even less in bioinformatics)