

Valentina Peona

valentina.peona@ebc.uu.se | +39 3341592185

ResearchGate Profile

EDUCATION

PHD CANDIDATE | SPECIATION GENOMICS

University of Uppsala, Evolutionary Biology Centre, Jun. 2017 - Present
Role of transposable elements in speciation in Birds-of-Paradise

MASTER DEGREE | BIODIVERSITY AND EVOLUTION | 110

University of Bologna, Oct. 2012 - Jul. 2014
Population genetics and breeding system of *Reticulitermes lucifugus* (Rhinotermitidae)

BACHERLOR DEGREE | LIFE SCIENCES | 110 CUM LAUDE

University of Bologna, Oct. 2009 - Oct. 2012
Study on the demography and reproductive fitness of *Dictamnus albus* L.

WINTER SCHOOL | WORKSHOP ON POPULATION AND SPECIATION GENOMICS

Cesky Krumlov, Jan 2018

WINTER SCHOOL | NGS FOR EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGISTS

Cineca and University of La Sapienza, Nov. 2015
NGS for evolutionary biologists: from basics to variant calling

SUMMER SCHOOL | RAD-SEQ DATA ANALYSIS

University of Milano, Jun. 2015
Introduction to RAD-seq data analysis

SUMMER SCHOOL | ECO-EVO-DEVO

University of Oxford Brookes, Aug. 2014

WINTER SCHOOL | 1ST WINTER SCHOOL ON EVOLUTION

University of Lisbon, Mar. 2013
Preparing a future generation to interdisciplinary evolution research

EXPERIENCE

TEACHING ASSISTANT

University of Uppsala | Feb. 2018
I taught in "Population Genomics" course about Speciation Genomics

TEACHING ASSISTANT

University of Bologna | Feb. 2017 - Jun. 2017
I assisted PhD Alessio Boattini in his course "Laboratory of bioinformatics applied to evolutionary biology"

RESEARCH COLLABORATOR

University of Modena and Reggio Emilia | Feb. 2016 - Jun. 2016
I developed the bioinformatic tool "Afit tool" to infer fitness and invasiveness of aphid insects entirely in Python. I worked with Professor Mauro Mandrioli (mauro.mandrioli@unimore.it)

RESEARCH COLLABORATOR

University of Bologna | Jan. 2015 - Jun. 2017
I work at the Anthropology Lab with Prof. Alessio Boattini (alessio.boattini2@unibo.it) and PhD Marco Ricci where we are investigating the pattern and evolution of transposable elements insertions specific of the human genome in respect to chimp, bonobo and ancient human genomes.

MASTER INTERNSHIP

University of Bologna | Sep. 2013 - Jul. 2014
I completed my master internship at the Molecular Zoology Lab (MoZoo Lab) with PhD Andrea Luchetti (andrea.luchetti@unibo.it) where I investigated the population structure and genetics of *Reticulitermes lucifugus* termites and its link to their peculiar breeding system.

BACHELOR INTERNSHIP

University of Bologna | Dec. 2011 - Oct. 2012
I completed my bachelor internship with Prof. Marta Galloni (marta.galloni@unibo.it) within the European project Life+ Plant-Pollinator Integrated CONservation (PP-ICON; www.pp-icon.eu; LIFE09/NAT/IT000212). I investigated the biological and abiotic factors that could affect the reproductive fitness of *Dictamnus albus* L.

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLICATIONS

- **Peona, V.**, Weissesteiner M., Suh A. (2018) How complete are 'complete' avian genome assemblies? [Submitted to Journal of Avian Biology]
- Guichard E. & **Peona, V.**, Malagoli Tagliazucchi G., Abitante, L., Jagoda E., Musella M., Ricci M., Rubio-Roldan A., Sarno S., Luiselli D., Pettener D., Taccioli C., Pagani L., Garcia Perez J.L., Boattini A. (2017) Impact of non-LTR retrotransposons in the differentiation and evolution of Anatomically Modern Humans, BioRxiv, **doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/207241>
- Nardelli A., **Peona, V.**, Toschi A., Mandrioli M. and Manicardi G.C. (2016) Afit: a bioinformatic tool for measuring aphid fitness and invasiveness, Bulletin of Entomological Research, pp. 1–8
- Ricci M. & **Peona V.**, Guichard E., Taccioli C. & Boattini A. (2017) Transposable elements activity reveals punctuated patterns of speciation in Mammals, BioRxiv, **doi:** <https://doi.org/10.1101/082248>

POSTERS AND TALKS

- **Poster** | 27th International Ornithological Congress | Vancouver, Canada, August. 2018 | Intergeneric gene flow and genomic modifications in birds-of-paradise
- **Poster** | EMBO "The mobile genome" | Heidelberg, Germany, Oct. 2017 | Not stable at all – a close look at highly repetitive regions of bird genomes
- **Invited talk** | Uppsala Transposon Symposium | Uppsala, Sweden, Oct. 2017 | Not stable at all – a close look at highly repetitive regions of bird genomes
- **Poster** | Congress of the Italian Anthropology Association | Roma, Italy, Sept. 2017 | Comparison of the recent retrotransposable activity in human and chimp
- **Poster** | From star and planet formation to early life | Vilnius, Lithuania, Apr. 2016 | The sporulation hypothesis
- **Poster** | SMBE 2015 | Vienna, Austria, Jul. 2015 | Comparison of transposable elements dynamics among taxa with different rates of speciation
- **Poster** | Italian Society of Evolutionary Biology Congress 2015 | Bologna, Italy, Sep. 2015 | Comparison of transposable elements dynamics among taxa with different rates of speciation
- **Talk** | AISASP 2015 | Bologna, Italy, Jun. 2015 | Early results of the project "Modification of *Reticulitermes lucifugus* life cycle with the use of ecdysone" (Sbrenna Prize)
- **Talk** | AISASP 2014 | Reggio Emilia, Italy, Sep. 2014 | Population genetics and breeding system of *Reticulitermes lucifugus* (results of the master thesis)

GRANTS AND AWARDS

EVODIAMOND | 1ST AND 3RD PLACE

University of Pisa, Feb. 2016

Contest for the popularization of evolution. The winning projects are attached

SBRENNA PRIZE | RESEARCH GRANT

AISASP, Gen. 2015

The certificate is attached

LANGUAGES

PROGRAMMING

Advanced

Unix • R • Python • Bash

Intermediate

Java • SQLite • \LaTeX

Familiar:

PHP • MySQL • Perl

SPOKEN & WRITTEN

Italian:

mother-tongue

English

Proficiency 110/120 Toefl iBT

Sweden:

beginner

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

PINT OF SCIENCE ITALY

Bologna, May 2017, May 2018

I've been one of the main organizers for the first event of Pint of Science in Bologna (italian edition: <https://pintofscience.it>; international website: <https://pintofscience.com>) and I'm organizing the second edition as well.

SCIENTIFIC DIVULGATION

Minerva Scientific Association, Oct. 2015 - present

I collaborate with this association for the popularization of science and evolution. In particular, I handle projects about the correct information about vaccines. <http://noidiminerva.it>