

CV SUMMARY – ANNA BERNASCONI (UPDATED 03/01/2025)

Personal home page: <https://annabernasconi.faculty.polimi.it/>

1. GENERAL INFORMATION

DATE OF BIRTH 08/07/1990

EDUCATION

- 2021 **PhD Degree** (*cum Laude*) in Information Technology, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- 2016 **Master of Science Degree** in Computer Science, University of Illinois at Chicago, USA
(Final Grade 3.85/4.00)
- 2015 **Master of Science Degree** in Computer Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
(Final Grade 110/110)
- 2012 **Bachelor Degree** in Mathematical Engineering, Politecnico di Milano, Italy (Final Grade 100/110)

CAREER

- May 2024 – present **Tenured-track Researcher – RTT** at Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Oct 2022 – Apr 2024 **Research Fellow (RTDA)**, 0.4 university-funded units, at Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Jan 2022 – June 2022 **Visiting Researcher** at Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain (6-month)
- Apr 2021 – Dec 2021 **Visiting Researcher** (remote) at Universitat Politècnica de València, Spain (9-month)
- Nov 2020 – Sept 2022 **Post-Doctoral Researcher** (“assegnista di ricerca”), Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Nov 2016 – Oct 2020 **PhD Student**, Politecnico di Milano, Italy
- Nov 2014 – Feb 2016 **Junior Business Intelligence Consultant and Data Warehouse Architect**, Quanyca S.R.L., Monza, Italy

SCIENTIFIC NATIONAL HABILITATION

Type of habilitation	Country	SSD (if Italian habilitation) or topic area	Date of achievement
Associate Professor (II Fascia)	Italy	09/H1 (SISTEMI DI ELABORAZIONE DELLE INFORMAZIONI)	15/06/2023
Associate Professor (II Fascia)	Italy	01/B1 (INFORMATICA)	12/12/2023

RESEARCH INTERESTS

- **Research area 1: Databases**, conceptual modeling, data integration, knowledge management.
- **Research area 2: Bioinformatics**, human genomics, viral genomics, integrative data analysis.
- **Research area 3: Data science**, data mining, big data analysis, natural language processing.

2. QUALITY OF SCIENTIFIC AND/OR PROJECT PRODUCTION

PRODUCTIVITY AND IMPACT METRICS

- **Scientific Productivity: 90 publications (86 entries and 3,629* co-authors according to Scopus):**
 - Author/Co-author of **35** international journal papers (**25** top ranked **Q1** journal papers based on WoS and Scimago), **1** Editorial article, **2** Consortia papers, and **1** National journal article.
 - Author/Co-author of **24** scientific publications on peer-reviewed conferences, including **3** top-level **A++/A+ Class 1** conference papers (SIGMOD, ICDE and PKDD-ECML), **9 A (Class 2)** conferences papers (according to GII-GRIN-SCIE conf. ranking), and **14** workshops papers/posters.
- **Publication Impact (on Jan 3rd, 2025):**
 - Google Scholar: h-index **18**; citations **1,755**; <https://scholar.google.com/citations?user=rCnI9L4AAAAJ>
 - Scopus: h-index **14**; citations **1,118**; <https://www.scopus.com/authid/detail.uri?authorId=57195587336>

*About 3,500 co-authors on Scopus are due to participation to consortia papers with the COVID-19 Host Genetics Initiative

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

- 2024 Member of the team (Politecnico di Milano + Istituto Einaudi per l'economia e la finanza) **awarded by the Italian Chamber of Deputies**, XIX Legislature, for the LegisLab application, in the context of the “Manifestazione di interesse per la raccolta di proposte per l'utilizzo dell'intelligenza artificiale generativa per la Camera dei deputati”, July 2024
- 2023 Recipient of the **CAISE PhD Award 2023**, 35th International Conference on Advanced Information Systems Engineering, granted to an outstanding Ph.D. thesis in the field of Information Systems Engineering
- 2022 **'Runner Up Paper' Award**, 41st International Conference on Conceptual Modeling, **ER 2022**
- 2022 Recipient of the **Award for the Best Ph.D. Thesis on Big Data & Data Science 2022, CINI Lab on Big Data**, granted to excellent PhD theses based on originality and potential impact on the Big Data e Data Science community
- 2021 Recipient of **Dimitris N. Chorafas Foundation 2021 Prize**, from Weizmann Institute of Science and Feinberg Graduate School, in recognition of results obtained during the research activity pursued during my PhD – the foundation awards prizes in engineering/medicine/natural sciences where results can have a significant impact on future research and practical applications

TALKS AND SEMINARS AT NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

- 2024 **Speaker.** *The Horizon Europe BETTER project: brief remarks on a success story.* Presentation at the Shift-Hub open innovation Workshop, with Dr Bregonzio, M. and Dr. Gronke, A. (Cologne, Germany, December 2024)
- 2024 **Panel Speaker.** *AI Ink: Should we let generative technology transform academic writing?* Panel discussion at the CAISE 2024 (Limassol, Cyprus, June 2024)
- 2024 **Lightning Talk.** *Building Integrated and FAIR Repositories for Genomic Data.* For the Research Data Alliance 22nd Plenary meeting (VP22), Working Group: FAIRification of Genomic Annotations – metadata harmonisation at scale (May 2024, online)
- 2023 **Interview.** *Building a metadata model for COVID-19.* For CSC — IT Center for Science Ltd, administered by the Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture (Oct 2023, online)
- 2022 **Invited seminar.** *Data-driven SARS-CoV-2 understanding and hunting.* At Information Sciences Institute - University of Southern California (Sep 2022, online)
- 2022 **Award talk.** *Model, Integrate, Search... Repeat: a Sound Approach to Building Integrated Repositories of Genomic Data.* At the 1st Italian Conference on Big Data and Data Science (ITADATA2022) (Sep 2022, Milan, Italy)
- 2022 **Invited seminar.** *Data analysis for unveiling the SARS-CoV-2 evolution.* At the First International Workshop on Data Analysis for Life Science (DAL@ECML-PKDD2022) (Sep 2022, online)
- 2022 **Invited seminar.** *Data-bases-driven research on viral genomes and SARS-CoV-2.* At Universidade Eduardo Mondlane, Maputo, Mozambique (July 2022, online)
- 2022 **Seminar.** *Data-driven SARS-CoV-2 understanding and hunting (searching for the new Omicron).* At Politecnico di Milano and Universitat Politècnica de València (Jan 2022, UPV)
- 2021 **Invited Talk.** *Modeling, integrating, and searching processed genomic datasets.* At “Integrating Diverse Datasets Webinar Series” by Front Line Genomics (Nov 2021, online)
- 2019 **Invited Talk.** *Metadata Integration Framework for Genomic Datasets.* At “Challenges in Data-Driven Genomic Computing” Workshop (Mar 2019, Como, Villa del Grumello, Italy)
- 2019 **Seminar.** *Metadata Integration Framework for Genomic Datasets.* At EPFL (Feb 2019, Lausanne, Switzerland)
- 2017 **Seminar.** *Data-Driven Genomic Computing: Making Sense of the Signals from the Genome through systematic application design and open data repository.* At ETH and IBM (Jul 2019, Zurich, Switzerland)

Additionally, I gave **2 tutorials** on “*Conceptual models and databases for searching the genome*” at the ER 2021 and the EDBT 2022 conferences, and **19 paper presentations** (2017—2024) at the conferences CAISE 2024, SWAT4HCLS2024, SIGMOD 2024, ICDE 2024, ER 2023, IEEE SOSE 2023, CAISE 2023, ER 2022, SWAT4HCLS 2022, ICC 2022, ER 2021, REFSQ 2021, ER 2020, ER 2019, SWAT4HCLS 2018, ER 2017, and at the workshops EmpER@ER2019, DTMbio@CIKM2018.

INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES

- 2022 – present Member of the Interuniversity Teaching Board for the Master “Bioinformatics for Computational Genomics” as Professor, Politecnico di Milano & University of Milan

- 2023 – present Member of the Scientific Committee of the Honours Program, Computer Science and Engineering Track (Data, web, and society), Politecnico di Milano
- 2022 – present Graduate committee member for 4 Master level sessions (PoliMi), 2 Bachelor level sessions (Polimi), and 5 Master level sessions (BCG interuniversity Master)

ORGANIZATION OF SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

- 2025 **Workshops co-chair**, 44th edition (ER 2025, Poitiers, France) of the International Conference on Conceptual Modeling
- 2025 **Chair and co-organizer**, International Workshop on Information Systems and AI for Life Sciences (iSAILS), co-located with the CAiSE conference (Vienna, Austria in 2025)
- 2024 **Co-organizer**, The first girls@CSE event, held at Department of Electronics, Information, and Bioengineering, Politecnico di Milano (Milano, Italy, Sep 2024)
- 2022—2024 **Chair and co-organizer**, International Workshop on Web Applications for Life Sciences (WALS) for **three editions**, co-located with the ICWE conference (Bari, Italy in 2022, Alicante, Spain in 2023, Tampere, Finland in 2024)
- 2020—2024 **Chair and co-organizer**, International Workshop on Conceptual Modeling for Life Sciences (CMLS) for **five editions**, co-located with the ER conference (online 2020—2022; Lisbon, Portugal in 2023; Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, US in 2024)
- 2023—2024 **Publicity Chair**, 42nd edition (ER 2023, Lisbon, Portugal) and 43rd edition (ER 2024, Pittsburgh, US) of the International Conference on Conceptual Modeling
- 2023 **Program Chair**, 9th IEEE International Conference on Big Data Computing Service and Machine Learning Applications (IEEE BigDataService 2023) (July 2023, Athens, Greece)
- 2022 **Track Chair** (Big Data and Analytics for Healthcare) and **Proceedings Chair**, 8th IEEE International Conference on Big Data Computing Service and Machine Learning Applications (IEEE BigDataService 2022) (August 2022, San Francisco Bay Area, USA)
- 2019 **Organization Member**, “Challenges in Data-Driven Genomic Computing” ERC AdG GeCo Workshop (March 2019, Como, Italy)

Additionally, I served (or I am currently serving) as **Review Board Member** for PVLDB Volume 18 and **Program Committee Member** for CAiSE 2025, RCIS 2025, CIKM 2024, ER 2024, CAiSE 2024, Demo Track SIGMOD/PODS 2024 and 2025, FNA@BIBM 2023, KDIR 2023/2024, KEOD 2023/2024, ER 2023, ER Forum 2023, EmpER@ER 2023, CIBB 2023, HiDA@ADBIS 2023, IWWBIO 2023, NPAHI@IEEE ICHI 2023, CAiSE 2023 Project Exhibitions, FNA@BIBM 2022, DAL@ECML-PKDD 2022, IWBBIO 2022, CIBB 2021.

PARTICIPATION IN EDITORIAL BOARDS

In 2024 I was reviewer for funding proposals for 1) the Research Infrastructure - National consortia (RI programme) by the Dutch Research Council (NWO); 2) the UK Research and Innovation (UKRI), Medical Research Council.

Since Apr 2024: **Editorial Review Board Member** for ACM Journal of Data and Information Quality

Since Feb 2023: **Academic Editor** for Plos One (ISSN 1932-6203, Public Library of Science)

Since May 2022: **Editorial Board Member** of BMC Bioinformatics (ISSN 1471-2105, Springer Nature)

- 2024 **Guest Editor** for the Journal of Data and Information Quality, for the Special Issue “[Special Issue on Data quality dimensions in Data FAIRification design and processes](#) (ISSN: 19361963, Publisher: ACM)
- 2023 **Guest Editor** for the BMC Bioinformatics Collection “[Big data management in biological domains](#)”
- 2023 **Guest Editor** for the Journal Future Generation Computer Systems (ISSN: 0167-739X, Publisher: Elsevier), for the Special Issue “[Special Issue on Big Data Computing Service and Machine Learning Applications](#)”
- 2023 **Supplement Editor** for the BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making (ISSN: 1472-6947) Journals, for the suppl. “[Selected articles on Web Applications and Conceptual Modeling for Life Sciences \(WALS 2022 and CMLS 2022 workshops\)](#)”
- 2022 **Guest Associate Editor** for Research Topic “[Identification of phenotypically important genomic variants](#)” on Frontiers in Bioinformatics (ISSN: 2673-7647, Publisher: Frontiers Media S.A.)
- 2022 **Guest Editor** for the BioTech Journal (EISSN 2673-6284, Publisher: MDPI), Special Issue “[Bioinformatics: Present and Future challenges](#)”
- 2022 **Supplement Editor** for the BMC Bioinformatics/BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making Journals, for the joint supplement “[Selected articles from the 17th International Conference on Computational Intelligence Methods for Bioinformatics and Biostatistics \(CIBB 2021\)](#)”

- 2022 **Supplement Editor** for the BMC Bioinformatics / BMC Medical Informatics and Decision Making / Genomic Data Journals, for the joint supplement “[Selected articles on Conceptual Modeling for Life Sciences \(CMLS/ER 2021\)](#)”
- 2021 **Supplement Editor** for the BMC Bioinformatics Journal, for the supplement “[Selected articles from the 1st International Workshop on Conceptual Modeling for Life Sciences \(CMLS 2020\)](#)”

I also acted as Volume Editor for three Springer Proceedings volume (linked to the ER 2024, ICWE 2022, and CIBB 2021 conferences). Overall, I acted as **editor for more than 35 journal manuscripts** and as a **reviewer for more than 60 journal manuscripts from 30 different journals** (including Applied Clinical Informatics Journal; Briefings in Bioinformatics; Genomics, Proteomics & Bioinformatics; GigaScience; ACM Journal of Data and Information Quality; International Journal of Medical Informatics; Machine Learning; npj Digital Medicine, and Scientific Data) – see WoS profile <https://www.webofscience.com/wos/author/rid/AAF-2594-2019>.

3. TEACHING ACTIVITIES

COURSES WITH A PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY

Institution name	Course name	CFU	No. of students	Reference Study Course	Time period	Students Evaluation
Politecnico di Milano	Data management and analysis for computational biology	5	18	Doctoral Program in Information Technology	AA 2022-2023	N/A
Politecnico di Milano	Programming	6	53 (22/23) 38 (23/24) 55 (24/25)	Bioinf. for Computational Genomics – Master Level	AA 2022-2023 AA 2023-2024 AA 2024-2025	8.21/10 (interuniversity course)
Politecnico di Milano	Basi di Dati 1	5	268	Computer Engineering	AA 2024-2025	N/A

OTHER TEACHING ACTIVITY

Institution name	Course name	Credits	Role	Reference Study Course	Time period	Students Evaluation
Politecnico di Milano	Informatica A	10	Teaching assistant	Mathematical Eng. – Bachelor Level	AA 2016-2017 AA 2017-2018 AA 2021-2022	High 3.4/4.0 3.4/4.0
Politecnico di Milano	Basi di Dati 1	5	Teaching assistant	Computer Science Eng – Bachelor Level	AA 2021-2022 AA 2022-2023 AA 2023-2024	3.3/4.0 2.9/4.0 N/A
Politecnico di Milano	Data Bases	6	Teaching assistant	Bioinf. for Computational Genomics – Master Level	AA 2021-2022 AA 2022-2023 AA 2023-2024	8.21/10 (interuniversity course)
Universitat Politècnica de Valencia	Guest Lectures on Modeling Languages	Guest lectures (10h+5h)	Guest lecturer	Computer Science courses (Bachelor and Master's levels)	April 2022	N/A

SUPERVISION OF MASTER, DOCTORAL STUDENTS

- 2017 – present **Co-advisor** of 8, **advisor** of 5 successfully defended Master Theses (two students started their PhD under my supervision) and 7 bachelor/post-graduate projects in Computer Engineering degree, Politecnico di Milano, Italy. **Advisor** of 4 ongoing Master Theses.
- 2021 – present **Co-supervisor** of 3 current, 2 former Doctoral Students in Information Technology, and 3 postdoctoral researchers at Politecnico di Milano, Italy, 1 former PhD at UPV, Spain.

4. PARTICIPATION/RESPONSIBILITY FOR FUNDED PROJECTS

PARTICIPATION IN COMPETITIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS

Project Acronym	Time Period	Funding Research Institution	Role of the applicant	Funding Scheme	Budget for applicant's institution
SENSIBLE (Small-data Early warNing System for	Dec 2023 –	MUR	Principal Investigator	PRIN PNRR 2022	186K EUR

viral pathogens In puBLic hEalth), <i>project n. P2022CNN2J</i>	Nov 2025				
BETTER (Better rEal-world healTh-daTa distribUTed analytics Research platform), <i>grant n. 101136262</i>	Dec 2023 – May 2027	EU	Task Leader in WP4: “Health datasets FAIRification and preprocessing”	Horizon Europe Framework Programme	639K EUR
TETYS (Topics Evolution That You See), <i>project n. SEARCH OC2_18</i>	Sep 2023 – Aug 2024	EU	Principal Investigator	NGI Initiative (NGI Search Project)	150K EUR
Future Artificial Intelligence Research (FAIR)	Jan 2023 – Dec 2025	EU	Task Leader: “Graph-based ML for Network Medicine”	NextGenerationEU program, PNRR-PE-AI scheme	4.9M EUR
Innovation Activity ‘Virusurf’, <i>project n. 20663</i>	Jul 2021– Dec 2021	EIT	Task leader: “User experience and interfaces”	EIT Digital, “Data against COVID-19” program	172K EUR
Data-Driven Genomic Computing (GeCo), ERC Advanced grant <i>grant n. 693174</i>	Sep 2016 – Aug 2021	EU	WP leader: “WP4: Integrated access to large data sources”	H2020	2.5M EUR

5. TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

DEVELOPMENT OF PRODUCTS / OPEN-SOURCE TOOLS / APPLICATIONS / SYSTEMS / SERVICES

Contribution to open-source tools, which aim to facilitate the work of cancer genomics researchers, clinicians, geneticists, molecular biologists:

- OpenGDC (<http://www.bioinformatics.deib.polimi.it/opengdc/>): extraction and integration tool for cancer genomics data;
- GenoSurf (<http://gmql.eu/genosurf/>): multi-ontology semantic search system providing access to a consolidated collection of human genome datasets for bioinformatic tertiary analysis;
- GeMI (<http://gmql.eu/gemi/>): interactive interface to annotate genomic samples exploiting a deep-learning-based prediction model, accelerating genomic metadata extraction into structured formats;
- VarSum (<http://gmql.eu/popstudy/>): API computing summary statistics on user-defined populations and their variants, using a large genomic data repository;
- META-BASE (<https://github.com/DEIB-GECO/Metadata-Manager>): tool that integrates and enriches heterogeneous biological and clinical data sources, exploiting several configurations to build a repository.

Contribution to open-source tools, which aim to facilitate the work of experts in virology, phylogenetics, epidemiology, pathogenesis, immunology, focusing on SARS-CoV-2 and other viral species:

- Virusurf (<http://gmql.eu/virusurf/>): search system for public viral sequences described by their metadata and exhibiting nucleotide and amino acid mutational patterns;
- EpiSurf (<http://gmql.eu/epivirusurf/>): search system for evaluating the impact of viral mutational patterns on epitopes, i.e., areas of the virus recognized by the human immune system;
- VirusViz (<http://gmql.eu/virusviz/>): visualization tool for the comparison of the mutational distributions of user-selected viral populations;
- ViruClust (<http://gmql.eu/viruclust/>): data analysis tool to perform temporal and spatial comparison of mutational patterns of SARS-CoV-2 sequences;
- VariantHunter (http://gmql.eu/variant_hunter/): tool for fast detection of emerging SARS-CoV-2 variants and sub-variants;
- CoV2K API (<http://gmql.eu/cov2k/api/>): knowledge base of SARS-CoV-2 sequence mutations, variants, and their effects;

- CoVEffect (<http://gmql.eu/coveffect>): interactive web interface for deep learning-assisted scientific text annotation with effects of SARS-CoV-2 mutations and variants.

Contribution to open-source tools for the exploration of COVID-19-related research literature:

- GRAPH-SEARCH (<http://gmql.eu/graph-search>): explorer of COVID-19-related literature using graph-based queries with shortest paths and sophisticated ranking;
- CORToViz (<http://gmql.eu/cortoviz>): user-friendly visualizer for trends of topics extracted from COVID-19 scientific research abstracts, with easy-to-drive statistical testing. *This is the first prototype developed in the context of the NGI Search Program (TETYS project);*
- TETYS (<http://gmql/tetys>): Explorer of Sustainability Development Goals-related literature using a topic modeling pipeline and user-centered interfaces. *Mature product developed within NGI Search Program.*

PARTICIPATION OR LEADERSHIP IN INDUSTRY-RELEVANT EXPLOITATION OR STANDARDIZATION INITIATIVES

Participation in the **COVID-19 Host Genetics Initiative** for designing the COVID-19 clinical data dictionary for describing COVID-19 patients' phenotype; our work was used in the publication <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03767-x> on Nature and adopted within ELIXIR-CONVERGE, as deemed appropriate as standardization guidelines (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.4893222>)

Co-chair of the Research Data Alliance “**FAIRification of Genomic Annotations Working Group**”, for the standardization of Genomic Annotations and FAIRification data processing pipelines (<https://www.rd-alliance.org/groups/fairification-genomic-annotations-wg>).

6. TWELVE MOST RELEVANT PUBLICATIONS

*Symbol * = I am corresponding author. Classifications are from Scimago; IFs are from Web of Science, 2023.*

1. Canakoglu, A., **Bernasconi, A.**, Colombo, A., Masseroli, M., & Ceri, S. (2019). GenoSurf: metadata driven semantic search system for integrated genomic datasets. *Database*, 2019. <https://doi.org/10.1093/database/baz132>
[Classification: Q1; Impact Factor: 3.4] [Role: Co-Leading Author; Concept Co-Design; Database Architecture & Implementation; Data Provisioning; Use Cases; Software Testing & Documentation; Manuscript Writing] [Importance: semantic browser of genomic datasets, based on conceptually curated/original metadata]
2. **Bernasconi, A.***, Canakoglu, A., Masseroli, M., & Ceri, S. (2021). The road towards data integration in human genomics: players, steps and interactions. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, 22(1), 30-44. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbaa080>
[Classification: Q1; Impact Factor: 6.8] [Role: Leader Author; Conceptualization; Investigation; Manuscript Writing] [Importance: fine-grain analysis of current genomics data producers, collectors, integrators, and users, with their roles and provided services]
3. **Bernasconi, A.***, Canakoglu, A., Masseroli, M., Pinoli, P., & Ceri, S. (2021). A review on viral data sources and search systems for perspective mitigation of COVID-19. *Briefings in Bioinformatics*, 22(2), 664-675. <https://doi.org/10.1093/bib/bbaa359>
[Classification: Q1; Impact Factor: 6.8] [Role: Leader Author; Conceptualization; Investigation; Manuscript Writing] [Importance: overview of the search systems for SARS-CoV-2 and COVID-19 host genetics data, analyzing issues of COVID-19 data explosion, with proposal of patients' phenotype conceptual model]
4. Canakoglu, A., Pinoli, P., **Bernasconi, A.**, Alfonsi, T., Melidis, D. P., & Ceri, S. (2021). ViruSurf: an integrated database to investigate viral sequences. *Nucleic Acids Research*, 49(D1), D817-D824. <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkaa846>
[Classification: Q1; Impact Factor: 16.6] [Role: Requirements Analysis; Concept Co-Design; Data Architecture; Interface Configuration; Testing & Documentation; Applications Investigation; Manuscript Writing] [Importance: the first integrated database and connected search engine for viral sequences, which can be browsed by metadata and mutational patterns]
5. **Bernasconi, A.**, Gulino, A., Alfonsi, T., Canakoglu, A., Pinoli, P., Sandionigi, A., & Ceri, S. (2021) VirusViz: Comparative analysis and effective visualization of viral nucleotide and amino acid variants. *Nucleic Acids Research*, 49(15), e90. <https://doi.org/10.1093/nar/gkab478>
[Classification: Q1; Impact Factor: 16.6] [Role: Leader Author; Concept Design; User Interaction Design; Applications Investigation; Testing & Documentation; Manuscript Writing] [Importance: application that provides a user-friendly interactive workflow to compare mutation distributions of viral populations, allowing us to spot the initial spreading of SARS-CoV-2 variants]
6. **Bernasconi, A.***, Cilibrasi, L., Al Khalaf, R., Alfonsi, T., Ceri, S., Pinoli, P., & Canakoglu, A. (2021) EpiSurf: metadata-driven search server for analyzing amino acid changes on epitopes of SARS-CoV-2 and other viral species. *Database*, 2021. <https://doi.org/10.1093/database/baab059>

- [**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 3.4] [**Role:** Leader Author; Concept Design; System Configuration; Applications Investigation; Testing & Documentation; Manuscript Writing] [**Importance:** innovative method and interface to detect the impact of mutations (exhibited by sets of viral sequences) in the context of epitopes, i.e., specific areas of the virus recognized by the immune system, employed in many applications, such as vaccines, serological tests and treatments]
7. **Bernasconi, A.***, Mari, L., Casagrandi, R., & Ceri, S. (2021). Data-driven analysis of amino acid change dynamics timely reveals SARS-CoV-2 variant emergence. *Scientific Reports*, 11(1), 21068. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41598-021-00496-z>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 3.8] [**Role:** Leader Author; Study Conception and Co-Design; Data Extraction Methods Implementation; Literature Mining; Manuscript Co-Writing] [**Importance:** the first purely data-driven method that allows to detect SARS-CoV-2 variants' emergence, rise, peak, and eventual decline, being in fact applied to an early warning system]
 8. Alfonsi, T., Al Khalaf, R., Ceri, S., & **Bernasconi, A.*** (2022) CoV2K model, a comprehensive representation of SARS-CoV-2 knowledge and data interplay. *Scientific Data*, 9, 260. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41597-022-01348-9>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 5.8] [**Role:** Research Supervision + Corresponding Author; Research Co-Design; Model Co-Design; Testing & Documentation; Applications Investigation; Manuscript Writing] [**Importance:** the first abstract model for explaining the relation between SARS-CoV-2 data (sequences and epitopes) and their interactions with knowledge acquired from literature]
 9. Serna Garcia, G., Al Khalaf, R., Invernici, F., Ceri, S., & **Bernasconi, A.*** (2023). CoVEffect: Interactive Deep Learning-based SARS-CoV-2 Mutations and Variants Effect Extraction. *GigaScience*, 12, giad036. <https://doi.org/10.1093/gigascience/giad036>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 11.8] [**Role:** Research Supervision + Corresponding Author; Conceptualization; Visualization; Software Testing; Manuscript Writing] [**Importance:** first successful experiment of expert-centered SARS-CoV-2 scientific text annotation driven by deep-learning-based predictions and interactive interface for active learning]
 10. García S., A., **Bernasconi, A.**, Guizzardi, G., Pastor, O., Storey, V.C. & Panach, I. (2023) Assessing the value of ontologically unpacking a conceptual model for human genomics. *Information Systems*, 118, 102242. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.is.2023.102242>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 3.0] [**Role:** Co-Leading Author; Conceptualization of Ontological Unpacking Method; Empirical Evaluation; Manuscript Writing] [**Importance:** novel use and interpretation of ontologies as artifacts to guide explanation and understanding of complex domains, validated with broad user evaluation]
 11. Alfonsi, T., **Bernasconi, A.***, Chiara, M., Ceri, S. (2024). Data-driven recombination detection in viral genomes. *Nature Communications*, 15, 3313. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41467-024-47464-5>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 14.7] [**Role:** Conception; Algorithm Conceptualization and Design; State-of-the-art Positioning; Figures; Manuscript Writing] [**Importance:** RecombinHunt – a breakthrough computational method based on big data analysis – overcomes competing methods and enhances community-based detection of recombinant viral lineages during pandemics/epidemics.]
 12. Invernici, F., **Bernasconi, A.***, Ceri, S. (2024) Exploring the evolution of research topics during the COVID-19 pandemic. *Expert Systems with Applications* 252, 124028. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2024.124028>
[**Classification:** Q1; **Impact Factor:** 7.5] [**Role:** Conception; Conceptualization; Framework design; User experience; Manuscript revision] [**Importance:** the first research topics' explorer on the entire corpus of 2.5 years of COVID-19-related literature, a general framework applicable to any other text corpus, as proposed in the TETYS project]