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Yaniv Erlich

Dr. Yaniv Erlich, Ph.D, has been Chief Science Officer of MyHeritage Ltd., since February 9, 2017. Dr. Erlich is a DNA scientist of world renown and led scientific development and strategy for MyHeritage DNA. Dr. Erlich serves as an Assistant Professor of Computer Science and Computational Biology at Columbia University and as a Core Member at the New York Genome Center. Dr. Erlich's research interests are computational human genetics. He has extensive experience in developing new algorithms for high throughputs sequencing and to detect disease genes. In two of his studies, he identified the genetic basis of devastating genetic disorders. His lab works on a wide range of topics including developing compressed sensing approach to identify rare genetic variations, devising new algorithms for personal genomics and using Web 2.0 information for genetic studies. He has been a Member of Advisory Board at Solve, Inc. since June 23, 2016. He has been a Member of Scientific Advisory Board at Knome, Inc. since January 9, 2012. He serves as Member of Scientific Advisor Board of Kailos Genetics, Inc. He is Andria and Paul Heady Family Fellow and Principal Investigator at the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He is the recipient of the Harold M. Weintraub award, the IEEE/ACM-CS HPC award, Goldberg-Lindsay Fellowship, Wolf foundation scholarship for Excellence in exact science and Emmanuel Ax scholarship and he was selected as one of 2010 Tomorrow's PIs team of Genome Technology. He received several awards for his work, including the Harold M. Weintraub in 2010 and IEEE-CS/ACM High Performance Computing in 2008, PhD awards. During his Ph.D. studies he worked on developing algorithms for next generation sequencing in respect to human genetics, devising a new sequencing strategy called DNA Sudoku. He has published many peer-reviewed manuscripts in publications such as Genome Research, Nature Methods and American Journal of Human Genetics. Dr. Erlich holds B.Sc. in computational neuroscience from Tel-Aviv University and his Ph.D. in genomics and bioinformatics from Watson School of Biological Sciences, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in New York.