

So you want to be a postdoc...

- Pro-active choice or default option?
  - academia is not necessarily the 'smart' choice
  - do you want to spend your life doing research and teaching?
- Are you good enough, mature enough?
  - science is a social enterprise

How to succeed/survive as a post doc...

3 - Go to conferences, communicate, schmooze

- people only remember the best talks... *and* the worst
- get to know people in your field
  - meetings, send/read papers for comment, e-mail

How to succeed/survive as a post doc...

1 - Begin to develop your own research program

- address most important questions with novel methods
  - theory, math, modelling
  - new ideas
  - emperical work (field, lab)

★ Successful people are good at two, or *brilliant* at one

How to succeed/survive as a post doc...

4 - Grants and fellowships

- show me the money

In summary...

Papers + meetings + correspondence + grants + fellowships + reviewing papers = reputation

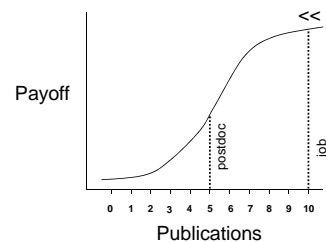
How to succeed/survive as a post doc...

2 - Write your own papers

- know your field - absolutely
  - read 'a paper a day, a book a week'
- use TOC and WOS

Career demography

- success breeds success
  - i.e. the rich get richer



★ work harder, sooner

Finding a post-doc

- 1- create your own, or apply for advertised positions
- 2- work with the best
  - move institutions, countries even!
  - plan far ahead