Author's response to reviews

Title: No-Boundary Thinking in Bioinformatics Research

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Dear Editors,

This is the cover letter accompanying our revised manuscript entitled “No-boundary Thinking in Bioinformatics Research”, submitted to the thematic series in BMC BioData Mining: “Data science in the biological and biomedical sciences: No boundary problem-solving”.

In this paper we present and discuss the notion of No-boundary thinking in bioinformatics research. In particular, the paper promotes the idea of supporting human-infrastructure (HI) with no-boundary thinking (NT) in bioinformatics (HINT).

The goal is to present the idea to the bioinformatics community, in the hope that it will increase the awareness of the community to the notion of no-boundary thinking in bioinformatics. In this light, the paper is not intended to be a waterproof technical report, nor is the intention to present arguments leading to any definite conclusions. Indeed, an effort is made to bring up issues with the current practices, and to present the thoughts behind the new idea of no-boundary thinking. We hope this paper will stimulate more discussions and even further refinements related to the exact definition of no-boundary thinking in bioinformatics, why it is important to the bioinformatics community, and how to implement the idea to benefit the area of bioinformatics. We will be very happy if the paper can play the role as one of the first articles to kick off the debates and discussions around this very important topic concerning many of us. Following this line, a minor revision has been conducted, taking into account some of the comments from the referees.

Please let me know if there is any question. Thanks very much!

Best Regards,
Xiuzhen

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