

Reviewer Report

Title: **Experimenting with Reproducibility: a case study of Robustness in Bioinformatics**

Version: **Revision 1** Date 28-April-2018

Reviewer name: Yi Zhang

Reviewer Comments to Author: I see the improvement in abstract and Table 1, but I still feel it is a little tedious,

(1)"2.2 Robustness: from MATLAB to Python" and "2.3 Reproducibility of Robustness: from Python to Python" seem have a little overlap, because in Background they were parallel concept. Please reorganize the contents in these two parts.

(2) The subtitles need to be more logical, for example, 2.2.1 Metadata and File formats, and 2.2.2 Codes and parameters, but 2.2.3 Jupyter/IPython. The first two subtitles are describing the effect of data, format and code, parameter on the robustness, but the "Jupyter/IPython" is not a parallel concept with the first two subtitles on the robustness, they are only platform or shell environment. Please well design the subtitles or this subsection "Jupyter/IPython" can be integrated into the 2.2.2, in brief, please make it more logical for reading. In fact, in this paper, similar problems exist several places.

(3)Please pay attention to the first sentence of a paragraph, it should give the main spirit of the paragraph instead of just starting a new talking. For example, "Once the environment, file format and data issues were resolved, the code was finally executed"... For another example, "Given the observed difficulties, in this section we draw some conclusions on this reproducibility case study experiment and suggest some tools and best practices.", why always "some conclusion"? why cannot directly summarize the conclusion here? Another example, "3.1.1 Environment In 1995, Buckheit and Donoho were already thinking about reproducible research in computer science", this is a composition or fiction genre instead of a scientific paper.

(4)After rewriting all first sentences for each paragraphs, please reorganize the content of their following sentences referring to other published scientific articles.

(5)Based on the size of core content of this article, please cut it down.

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