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## SÉMINAIRE

# Comparative analysis of cell cycle regulation in alpha-proteobacteria

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Emanuele Biondi received the master degree in Biology and the PhD in genetic sciences in Florence working on *Sinorhizobium meliloti*. From 2003 to 2007 he worked at Harvard University and then at MIT (Cambridge, USA) studying signal transduction with a particular focus on systems controlling cell cycle progression in *Caulobacter crescentus*. In 2007 he came back to Florence where he started the investigation of *S. meliloti* cell cycle. E. Biondi is coordinator of a sequencing project of two *S. meliloti* natural strains with the Joint Genome Institute (DOE, USA) in the initiative "super-rhizobium" for the improvement of alfalfa production.