Co-authorship - some personal reflections

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Some background

- In my research fields the norm is to
  - co-publish with ones PhD students regularly as a part of contributing to their research education and technical writing
  - publishing in collaboration with colleagues, where people contribute in very different ways to the final paper
  - publish most significant work in highly ranked conferences with short review to publication delays
  - collect data in consortia where data is often collected in multiple institutions by many participants in the project.
Some reflections

• Agree on authorship invitations based on data collection and usage in publication at the start of the project
  - Discussing who to include after data is collected and when a paper is proposed tends to lead to conflicts - get the ground-rules established early.
• Disciplinary norms for co-authorship differ between disciplines
  - Don’t assume everyone shares your norms
• Be generous, but ethical…
  - even peripheral actors might like to make a contribution to the publication
• Co-authors can make many types of contribution,
  - I use “Would this paper have been as good without their participation?” as a basic “rule of thumb”.

Something to read