

# Giacomo Dell’Omo

## *Curriculum vitae et studiorum*

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### Personal data

- Place and date of birth: Rome, Feb 25th, 1963
- Nationality: Italian
- Personal: married, three daughters
- Home address: Via Nicola Marchese 10, 00141 Rome
- E-mail: giacomo.dellomo@omail.com
- Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian, Italian.

### Education, previous research experience:

-1988: university degree in Natural Sciences, Rome University “La Sapienza”, master thesis [*The role of the modern zoo*], (110/110);

-1988-1990: teaching of biology and geology in high school;

-1990 to 1994: research assistant in the *Section of Behavioural Pathophysiology*, Istituto Superiore di Sanità’ (ISS), Rome, Italy; specifically, the research activity has been carried out in the context of projects funded in

-1990-1992: by the Italian National Council for Research (CNR) on “*Experimental models on benzodiazepine-induced behavioural alterations*”;

-1992-1993: by the Italian Electric Power Company (ENEL) on “*Neurobehavioural effects and physio-biochemical alterations of the immunity reactivity in mice perinatally exposed to atmospheric pollutants (O<sub>2</sub>, SO<sub>2</sub>)*”;

-1994: by ENEL/CNR on “*Behavioural effects of early exposure to toxicants affecting ontogenetic processes*”.

-February 1995-June 1996: 15-months EERO (European Environmental Research Organisation) fellowship on “*Ecotoxicology of wild mammals*”, spent at Natural Environment Research Council, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Monks Wood, Cambridge, UK;

-1997: grant from the Council of Rome for a “*Sanitary survey and ecological monitoring of feral pigeons in the city of Rome*”, work carried out at the lab of Veterinary Medicine, Istituto Superiore di Sanità;

-1997-98: project study funded by ENEL (the main Italian power company): on the “*Effects of electromagnetic fields produced by power lines on birds*”, work carried out at the lab FOS, Istituto Superiore di Sanità;

-1997-2006: appointed as senior researcher on various projects at the Institute of Anatomy, University of Zurich; specifically:

- 1999, SNSF grant n. 438+50333.97 (*Normal function of the prion protein and new ecologically-oriented rodent models for scrapie*);
- 2000, SNSF grant n. 3157139.99 (*Micro- and macro evolution of the hippocampal mossy fiber system*) participation as co-applicant;

- 2001, SNSF grant n. 3158822.99 (*Behavioral and neurophysiological analysis of pigeon homing using the global positioning system –GPS- and micro-telemetry*).
- 2002-2006, Scientific responsible of a four-year European project: *Development of improved bioassays for the detection and characterisation of TSE agents based on the wild rodent species*.

-2005-now: leading the scientific Association *Ornis italica* and various projects on birds in collaborations with colleagues from several scientific foreign institutions.

### **Recent work experience:**

- 2001, co-founder of the company Newbehavior, based in Zurich from which I resigned in 2006.
- 2005, founder of the scientific Association *Ornis italica*
- 2006, founder of the company Technosmart srl;
- 2013, founder and technical director of the company Technosmart Europe srl.

### **Field studies :**

- 1994: Guinea Bissau, chimpanzee
- 1996-2005: every year during the summer months in the field station “Chisti Lec”, Toropez, Tver region, Russia, in the context of the above-mentioned grants issued by Zurich University.
- 2002: GPS tracking of dogs in Russia
- 1999-2007: GPS tracking of homing pigeons
- 2002: South Africa: GPS tracking of Cape gannets
- 2004, 2005, 2006: Ecuador: Galapagos on land and marine iguanas
- 2005: Mongolia on Saker falcon
- 2006: Benin: bat trapping
- 2006-2007: Peru, islas de lobo de tierra: GPS tracking of blue-footed and Peruvian boobies
- 2007: Panama, iguana island: GPS of frigate birds  
Cape Verde: tracking tropic birds, shearwaters and brown boobies  
Linosa (IT): GPS tracking of shearwaters  
Peru, various islands: tracking marine birds
- 2008: Eritrea, Dalak islands: tracking crab plovers  
Linosa (IT): GPS tracking of shearwaters
- 2009: Linosa (IT): GPS tracking of shearwaters  
Peru: isla Vieja: tracking of diving petrels and inca terns
- 2010-2013: North Pole: Ny-Alesund, tracking kittiwakes  
Ecuador: isla La Plata: tracking of Nazca boobies  
Linosa (IT): GPS tracking of shearwaters  
Greece: Eleonora’s falcons  
French Guyane: frigate birds  
Peru, mangroves of Tumbes: tracking frigate birds
- 2014: Japan, Awashima island: field work on streaked shearwaters  
Peru, several guano islands: birds counts  
Argentina, Valdez Peninsula: tracking cormorant and penguins

**Countries visited for scientific purposes:**

All European countries, Russia, Morocco, Egypt, Tunisia, Turkey, Canada, USA, Mexico, China, Mongolia, Emirates, Australia, Japan, Argentina, Ecuador, Peru, Guinea Bissau, Eritrea, Benin, South Africa.

**Major fields of training and interest:**

- behavioural ecology;
- conservation biology;
- developmental behaviour of altricial rodents;
- drug effects and abuse;
- behavioural effects of pesticides on wild animals;
- behavioural ecotoxicology;
- behavioral ecology of marine birds;
- spongiform diseases in mammals;
- GIS and GPS technology;
- since 1995 design and development of automated and electronic systems for behavioural analysis and the detection of behavioural alterations indicative of brain disfunctions in lab rodents;
- since 2000 development and deployment of GPS technology for animal tracking;
- since 2009 development and deployment of radar systems for tracking birds.

**Web sites and youtube channels:**

- [www.ornisitalica.com](http://www.ornisitalica.com)
- [www.birdcam.it](http://www.birdcam.it)
- [www.technosmart.eu](http://www.technosmart.eu)
- [www.technosmart.it](http://www.technosmart.it)
- [http://www.youtube.com/user/ornisitalica?feature=results\\_main](http://www.youtube.com/user/ornisitalica?feature=results_main)
- [http://www.youtube.com/user/birdcamit?feature=results\\_main](http://www.youtube.com/user/birdcamit?feature=results_main)

**Publications**Books

- Morosetti G., Piccini L., Bagnoli C., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Alessandrini P (eds). *Management of wildlife in urban areas. Veterinary public health reports- Guidelines for veterinary urban hygiene*, 224 pp. ISS/WHO/FAO-CC/IZSTe/93-22, 1994.
- **Dell'Omo G** (ed.) Behavioural ecotoxicology. John Wiley & Sons, 463 p, 2002.

Refereed journal papers

- Laviola G., **Dell'Omo G.**, Alleva E., and Bignami G. Ontogeny of cocaine hyperactivity and conditioned place preference in mice. *Psychopharmacology*, **107**: 221-228, 1992.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Laviola G., Chiarotti F., Alleva E., and Bignami G. Prenatal oxazepam effects on cocaine conditioned place preference in developing mice. *Neurotoxicology and Teratology*, **15**: 207-210, 1993.

- **Dell'Omo G**, Wolfer D., Alleva E., and Lipp H-P. Impaired acquisition of swimming navigation in adult mice exposed prenatally to oxazepam. *Psychopharmacology*, **111**: 33-38, 1993.
- **Dell'Omo G.** and Alleva E. Snake odor alters behavior, but not pain sensitivity in mice. *Physiology and Behavior*, **55**: 125-128, 1994.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Fiore M., and Alleva E. Strain differences in mouse response to odours of predators. *Behavioural Processes*, **32**: 105-116, 1994.
- Laviola G., **Dell'Omo G.**, Chiarotti F., and Bignami G. D-amphetamine conditioned place preference in developing mice: relations with changes in activity and stereotypes. *Behavioral Neuroscience*, **108**: 514-524, 1994.
- De Vita R., Cavallo D., Eleuteri P., and **Dell'Omo G.** Evaluation of interspecific DNA content variations and sex identification in falconiformes and strigiformes by flow cytometric analysis. *Cytometry* **16**: 346-350, 1994.
- Musi B., **Dell'Omo G.**, Ricceri L., Santucci D., Laviola G., Bignami G., and Alleva E. Effect of acute and continuous ozone (O<sub>3</sub>) exposure on activity/exploration and social behavior of CD-1 mice. *Neurotoxicology*, **15**: 827-836, 1994.
- Bignami G., Musi B., **Dell'Omo G.**, Laviola G., and Alleva E. Limited effects of ozone exposure during pregnancy on physical and neurobehavioral development of CD-1 mice. *Toxicology and Applied Pharmacology*, **129**: 264-271, 1994.
- Betancur C., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Alleva E. Magnetic field effects on stress-induced analgesia in mice: modulation by light. *Neuroscience Letters*, **182**: 147-150, 1994.
- Bignami G., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Alleva E. Species specificity of organ toxicity: Behavioral differences. *Archives of Toxicology*, suppl **17**: 375-394, 1995.
- Fiore M., **Dell'Omo G.**, Alleva E., and H-P Lipp. A comparison of behavioral effects of prenatally administered oxazepam in mice exposed to open-fields in the laboratory and the real world. *Psychopharmacology* **122**: 72-77, 1995.
- Petruzzi S., Fiore M., **Dell'Omo G.**, Bignami G., and Alleva E. Medium and long-term effects in mice of extended gestational exposure to ozone. *Neurotoxicology and Teratology*, **17**: 463-470, 1995.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Fiore M., Petruzzi S., Alleva E., and Bignami G. Neurobehavioral development of CD-1 mice after combined gestational and postnatal exposure to ozone. *Archives of Toxicology*, **69**: 608-616, 1995.
- Petruzzi S., Fiore M., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Alleva E. Exposure to ozone inhibits isolation-induced aggressive behavior of adult CD-1 male mice. *Aggressive Behavior*, **21**: 387-396, 1995.
- Gippoliti S. and **Dell'Omo G.** Status and conservation of the western chimpanzee, *Pan troglodytes verus*, in Guinea-Bissau. *African Primates* **1**: 3-5, 1995.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Wolfer D., Alleva E., and Lipp H-P. Developmental exposure to ozone induces subtle changes in swimming navigation of adult mice. *Toxicology Letters*, **81**:91-95, 1995.
- Gippoliti S. and **Dell'Omo G.** Primates of the Cantanhez forest and the Cacine basin, Guinea-Bissau (West-Africa). *Oryx* **30**: 74-80, 1996.
- Petruzzi S., **Dell'Omo G.**, Fiore M., Bignami G., and Alleva E. Behavioral disturbances in adult CD-1 mice and absence of effects on their offspring upon SO<sub>2</sub> exposure. *Archives of Toxicology*, **70**:756-766, 1996.
- Loggi G., **Dell'Omo G.** and Laviola G. Individual differences in response to psychological stress and chlordiazepoxide in adult mice: Relations with changes in early social milieu. *Psychobiology*, **24**:147-153, 1996.
- Laviola G. and **Dell'Omo G.** Precocious weaning and changes in social variables during prepuberty affect cocaina reinforcing properties in adult mice. *Psychobiology*, **25**: 163-170, 1996.
- **Dell'Omo G.** and Cavallina R. Blood chemistry and hematological values of captive Egyptian vultures (*Neophron percnopterus*). *Avian Pathology*, **25**: 613-618, 1996.

- **Dell'Omo G.** and Shore R.F. Behavioral and physiological effects of acute sublethal exposure to dimethoate on wood mice, *Apodemus sylvaticus* [I-Laboratory studies]. *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, **31**: 202-207, 1996.
- **Dell'Omo G.** and Shore R.F. Behavioral effects of acute sublethal exposure to dimethoate on wood mice, *Apodemus sylvaticus*, [II-Field studies on radio-tagged mice in a cereal ecosystem]. *Archives of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, **31**: 538-542, 1996.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Shore R.F., and Fishwick S.K. The relationships between brain, serum, and whole blood ChE activity in the wood mouse (*Apodemus sylvaticus*) and the common shrew (*Sorex araneus*) after acute sublethal exposure to dimethoate. *Biomarkers*, **1**: 202-207, 1996.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Bryenton R., and Shore R.F. Effects of exposure to an organophosphate pesticide on behavior and acetylcholinesterase activity in the common shrew, *Sorex araneus*. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, **16**: 272-276, 1997.
- Cavallo D., De Vita R., Eleuteri P., Belterman R.H.R., and **Dell'Omo G.** Sex identification in the Egyptian vulture *Neophron percnopterus* by flow cytometry and cytogenetics. *The Condor*, **99**: 829-832, 1997.
- Shore R.F. and **Dell'Omo G.** Does sub-lethal exposure to organophosphate pesticide affect capture rates in free-living rodents? *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, **61**: 440-447, 1998.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Shore R.F. and Lipp H-P. An automated system, based on microchips, for monitoring individual activity in wild small mammals. *The Journal of Experimental Zoology* **280**: 97-99, 1998.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Alleva E., and Carere C. Parental recycling of nestling faeces in the common swift. *Animal Behaviour* **56**: 631-637, 1998.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Morabito S., Quondam R., Agrimi U., Ciuchini F., Macrì A., and Caprioli A. Feral pigeons as a source of verocytotoxin-producing *Escherichia coli*. *Veterinary Record* **142**: 309-310, 1998.
- Fiore M., Petruzzi S., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Alleva E. Prenatal sulfur dioxide exposure induces changes in the behaviour of adult male mice during agonistic encounters. *Neurotoxicology and Teratology* **20**: 543-548, 1998.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Turk T., and Shore R.F. Secondary poisoning in shrews fed OP-contaminated earthworms. *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry*, **18**: 237-240, 1999.
- **Dell'Omo G.**, Ricceri L., Wolfer D.P., Poletaeva I.I., and Lipp H-P. Temporal and spatial adaptation to food restriction in mice under naturalistic conditions. *Behavioral Brain Research*, **115**(1): 1-8, 2000.
- Pleskacheva M.G., Wolfer D.P., Kuprianova I.F., Nikolenko D.L., Scheffran H., **Dell'Omo G.**, and Lipp H-P. Hippocampal mossy fibers and swimming navigation learning in two vole species occupying different habitats. *Hippocampus*, **10**(1): 17-30, 2000.
- Steiner I., Bürgi C., Werffeli S., **Dell'Omo G.**, Valenti P., Tröster G., Wolfer D.P. and Lipp H-P. A GPS logger and software for analysis of homing in pigeons and small mammals. *Physiology and Behavior* **71**: 589-596, 2000.
- Shore R.F, Casulli A., Bologov V., Wienburg C.L., Afsar A., Toyne P., and **Dell'Omo G.** Organochlorine pesticide, polychlorinated biphenyl and heavy metal concentrations in wolves (*Canis lupus* L. 1758) from north-west Russia. *The Science of the Total Environment* **280** (1-3): 45-54, 2001.
- Morabito S., **Dell'Omo G.**, Agrimi U., Schmidt H., Karch H., Cheasty T., and Caprioli A. Detection and characterization of Shiga toxin-producing *Escherichia coli* in feral pigeons. *Veterinary Microbiology*, **2181**: 1-9, 2001.
- Lipp H-P., Pleskacheva M.G., Gossweiler H., Ricceri L., Perepiolkina O., Garin N.N., Voronkov D., Kupstov P., Smirnova A.A., and **Dell'Omo G.** A large outdoor radial maze for comparative studies in birds and mammals. *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, **25**: 83-99, 2001.

- Weimerskirch H., Bonadonna F., Bailleul F., Mabile G., **Dell’Omo G.**, and H-P Lipp. GPS tracking of foraging albatrosses. *Science*, **295**: 1259, 2002.
- **Dell’Omo G.** and Palmery M. Fertility control in vertebrate pest species. *Contraception*, **65**: 273-275, 2002.
- Vyssotski A. L., **Dell’Omo G.**, Poletaeva I. I., Vyssotski D. L., Minichiello L., Klein R., Wolfer D. P., and Lipp H-P. Long-term monitoring of hippocampus-dependent behavior in naturalistic settings: mutant mice lacking neurotrophin receptor TrkB in the forebrain show spatial learning but impaired behavioral flexibility. *Hippocampus* **12**: 27-38, 2002.
- **Dell’Omo G.**, Vannoni E., Vyssotski A., Di Bari M.A., Nonno R., Agrimi U., and Lipp H.-P. Automated home cage monitoring of mice infected with BSE and scrapie differentiates early behavioural changes according to prion strain. *European Journal of Neuroscience*, **16**: 735-742, 2002.
- Biro D., Guilford T., **Dell’Omo G.**, and Lipp H.-P. How the viewing of familiar landscapes prior to release allows pigeons to home faster: Evidence from GPS tracking. *The Journal of Experimental Biology*, **205**: 3833-3844, 2002.
- Gippoliti S. and **Dell’Omo G.** Primates of Guinea-Bissau, West Africa: distribution and conservation status. *Primate Conservation*, **19**: 73-77, 2003.
- **Dell’Omo G.**, Plescachewa M., Wolfer D.P., Lipp H-P., and Shore R.F. Comparative effects of exposure to an organophosphate pesticide on locomotor activity of laboratory mice and five species of wild rodents. *Bulletin of Environmental Contamination and Toxicology*, **70**: 138-145, 2003.
- Grémillet D., **Dell’Omo G.**, Ryan P.G., Peters G., Yan Ropert-Coudert Y. and Weeks S.J. Offshore diplomacy, or how seabirds mitigate intra-specific competition: A case study based on GPS tracking of cape gannets from neighbouring colonies. *Marine Ecology Progress Series*, **268**: 265-279, 2004.
- Lipp H-P, Vyssotski AL, Wolfer DP, Renaudineau S, Savini M, Troster G, **Dell’Omo G.** Pigeon homing along highways and exits. *Current Biology*, **14**: 1239-1249, 2004.
- Lewejohann L, Skryabin BV, Sachser N, Prehn C, Heiduschka P, Thanos S, Jordan U, **Dell’Omo G.**, Vyssotski AL, Pleskacheva MG, Lipp HP, Tiedge H, Brosius J, Prior H. Role of a neuronal small non-messenger RNA: behavioural alterations in BC1 RNA-deleted mice. *Behavioural Brain Research* **154**: 273-289, 2004.
- Bonadonna F., Bajzak C., Benhamou S., Iglói K., Jouventin P., Lipp H-P and **Dell’Omo G.** Orientation in the wandering albatross: interfering with magnetic perception does not affect orientation performance. *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, **272**: 489-495, 2005.
- Costantini D., Casagrande S., Di Lieto G., Fanfani A. & **Dell’Omo G.** Consistent differences in feeding habits between neighbouring breeding kestrels. *Behaviour*, **142**: 1409-1421, 2005.
- Costantini D., **Dell’Omo G.**, Casagrande S., Fabiani A., Carosi M., Bertacche V., Marquez C., Snell H., Snell H., Tapia W. & Gentile G. Inter-population variation of carotenoids in Galápagos land iguanas (*Conolophus subcristatus*). *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology Part B*, **142**: 239-244, 2005.
- Bruner E., Costantini D., Fanfani A. & **Dell’Omo G.** Morphological variation and sexual dimorphism of the cephalic scales in *Lacerta bilineata*. *Acta Zoologica*, **86**: 245-254, 2005.
- Dell’Araccia G., Lipp H-P, and **Dell’Omo G.** [Movements of GPS tracked feral pigeons in Rome]. *Alula*, **12**: 96-103, 2006.
- **Dell’Omo G.**, Costantini D., Di Lieto G. & Casagrande S. [Birds and power lines]. *Alula*, **12**: 104-114, 2006.
- Costantini D., Casagrande S., De Filippis S., Brambilla G., Fanfani A., Tagliavini J. & **Dell’Omo G.** Correlates of oxidative stress in wild kestrel nestlings (*Falco tinnunculus*). *Journal of Comparative Physiology B*, **176**: 329-337, 2006.
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- Bartolomucci A., La Corte G., Possenti R., Locatelli V., Rigamonti A. E., Torsello A., Bresciani E., Bulgarelli I., Rizzi R., Pavone F., D'Amato F. R., Severini C., Mignogna G., Giorgi A., Schininà M. E., Elia G., Brancia C., Ferri G.-L., Conti R., Ciani B., Pascucci T., **Dell'Omo G.**, Muller E. E., Levi A., and Moles A. QP-21, a VGF-derived peptide, increases energy expenditure and prevents the early phase of diet-induced obesity. *PNAS*, **39**: 14584-14589, 2006.
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- Vyssotski A. L., Serkov A. N., Itskov P. M., **Dell'Omo G.**, Latanov A. V., Wolfer D. P., Lipp H-P. Miniature neurologgers for flying pigeons: multichannel EEG and action and field potentials in combination with GPS recording. *Journal of Neurophysiology* **95**: 1263–1273, 2006.
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- Costantini D. & **Dell'Omo G.** Environmental and genetic components of oxidative stress in wild kestrel nestlings (*Falco tinnunculus*). *Journal of Comparative Physiology B*, **176**: 575-579, 2006.
- Casagrande S., Costantini D., Fanfani A., Tagliavini J. and **Dell'Omo G.** Patterns of serum carotenoid accumulation and skin colour variation in nestling kestrels in relation to breeding conditions and different terms of carotenoid supplementation. *Journal of Comparative Physiology B*, **177**: 237-245, 2007.
- Gagliardo A., Ioalè P., Savini M., Lipp H-P, and **Dell'Omo G.** Finding home: the final step of the pigeons' homing process studied with a GPS data logger. *The Journal of Experimental Biology*, **210**: 1132-1138, 2007.
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