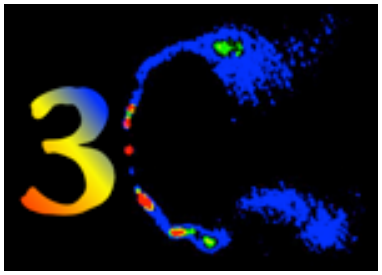

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# The sequence of events that led to the 1963 publication in Nature of 3C273, the first Quasar and the first extragalactic radio jet

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Abstract
The pages of Nature for March 16 1963 carried two short publications which announced the precise radio position, structure, and the optical identification and redshift measurement of the radio source 3C 273, the first quasar (Hazard et. al., 1963; Schmidt, 1963). These discoveries irreversibly changed our understanding of the Universe, and at the same time gave 3C 273 an iconic place in extragalactic astronomy. Fifty plus years later we present here our detailed examination, based on the available evidence, of the circumstances surrounding the observations that led to the these publications in Nature in 1963.

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