

Dear Mozilla Science Team,

I am eager to submit my application to be a Mozilla Science Fellow. Coming from a background in electrical engineering and biomedical engineering, and work in computational neuroscience, I feel as though I share my core scientific values with the Mozilla Science mission. Throughout my continuing education I have learned to appreciate the need for reliability, reproducibility, accessibility, sustainability, and openness in science and technology. Beginning in my Master's I first cultivated my passion for accessible science, and developed tools that aimed to minimize the barrier to entry for performing big-data neuroscience. Extending my work on a scalable turn-key structural connectome estimation pipeline, I developed a framework for performing science in the cloud that allowed researchers to perform analyses at an unprecedented scale in neuroscience, launching the parallel processing of thousands of open-access brains on the cloud from a computer with no dependencies or installed software, and publishing the results online, all in a single "click."

Using this work, experience, and purpose as fuel, I wish to lower the barrier to entry to neuroinformatics, neuroscience, and neuroscientific engagement in general. The brain is undoubtedly the most complex system known to mankind, and plays a dominant role in every aspect of our lives. Better understanding how the brain should properly function as well as the way it functions under disease models will enable scientists and clinicians to develop and adapt treatments to reduce the burden of mental illness on individuals, their families, and society. My goal is to develop and extend the availability and reliability of infrastructure, computational tools, statistical resources, biomedical models, and data, thereby democratizing neuroscience.

Receiving the Mozilla Science Fellowship will be a cornerstone in this mission. Mozilla will provide me access to gaining valuable technical skills, leadership experience, and foster my ability to cultivate and nurture relationships with scientists, developers, and industry leaders around the globe with similar aims. This multinational and multidisciplinary collaboration encourages the exaptation of domain-specific practices and knowledge across boundaries, and increases the density and strength of connections between pioneers in open and accessible science. I will bring my experience and position within the open neuroscience community to the Mozilla Science family, not only extending Mozilla's scientific reach to my

network, but also contributing to the acceleration of neuroscience research, development, and discovery.

I believe that grand challenges in neuroscience can only be solved through collaboration. My strong background in data and code sharing makes me a uniquely qualified candidate for acting as an ambassador of this initiative, and I am eager to learn, grow, and contribute, if given this privilege.

Warm Regards,

Greg Kiar