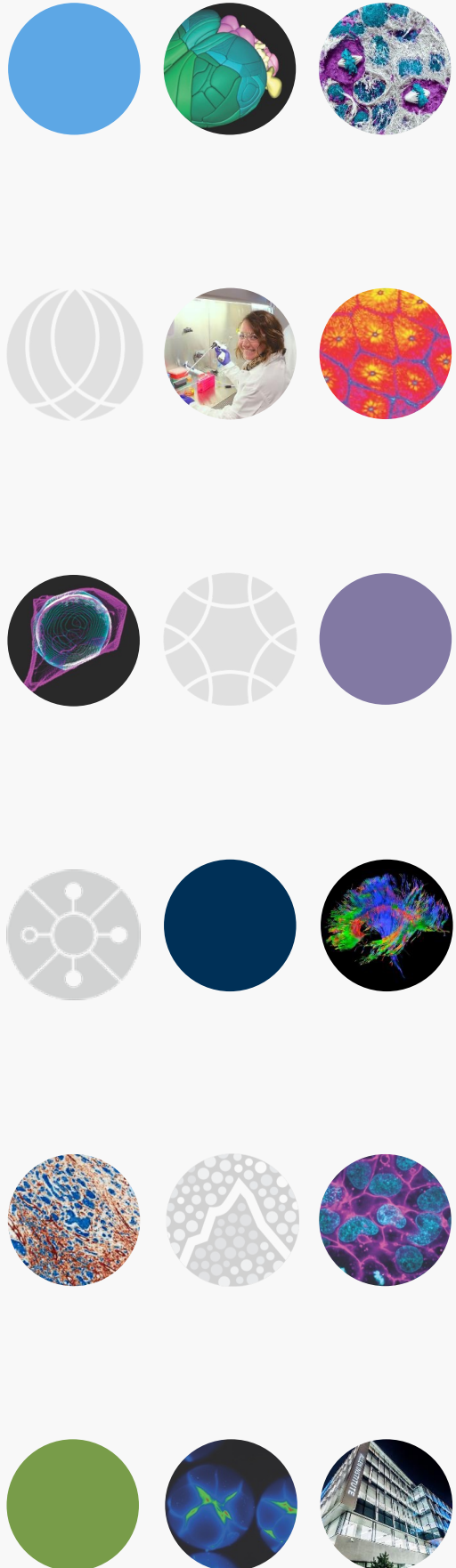




OpenScope 2023-2024 Annual Report

Principal Investigators
Jerome Lecoq
Christof Koch



About OpenScope



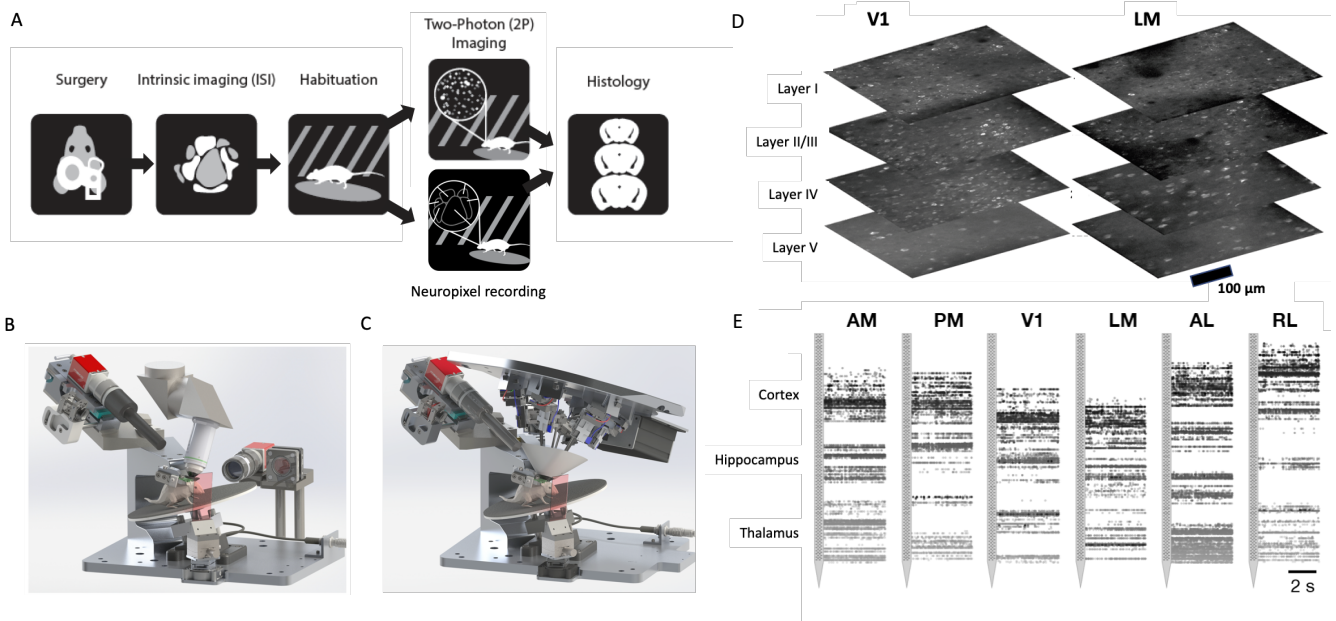


OpenScope

OpenScope opens the Allen Brain Observatory pipeline to the community—enabling theoretical, computational, and experimental scientists to test sophisticated hypotheses on brain function in a program analogous to astronomical observatories that survey the night sky.

Once a year, OpenScope invites external scientists to propose experiments to be run on the Allen Institute pipeline. These proposals are competitively reviewed for scientific merit and feasibility by a panel of leading experts from the international community. If selected, the proposed experiments are performed with the Allen Institute's verified, reproducible, and open protocols for *in vivo* Neuropixels electrophysiology or two-photon calcium imaging. Any resulting data is made freely available to the selected applicants and to the broader community. The goal is to lower barriers to testing new hypotheses about brain function, bring new computational and theoretical talents to the field, and enhance the reproducibility of results in brain research—thereby accelerating progress toward an integrated understanding of neural activity in health and disease.

The OpenScope Program is supported by the National Institute Of Neurological Disorders And Stroke of the National Institutes of Health under Award Number U24NS113646. (This content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health)



Two End-to-End data pipelines

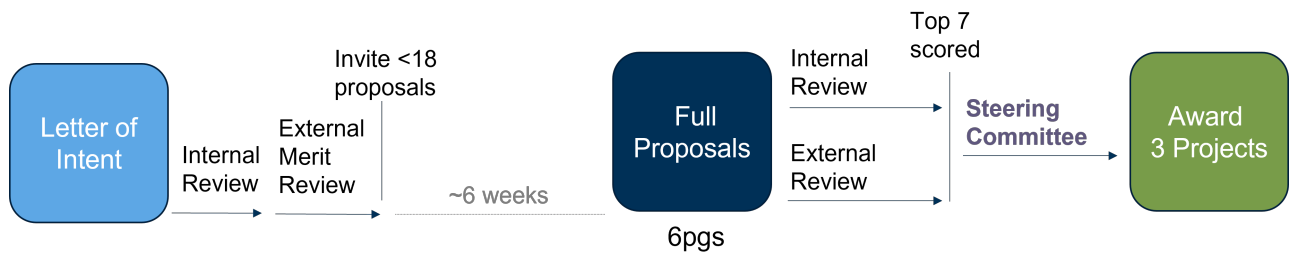
The OpenScope platform tests novel hypotheses on brain function using an established data collection pipeline. The platform utilizes cutting-edge behavioral training, Neuropixels recordings, and two-photon calcium imaging. The resulting data is curated, standardized, and disseminated with open standards and is eventually released to the public after a one-year embargo.

The OpenScope program provides the community access to:

- End-to-end standardized experimental platform including brain surgery, animal training, neuronal recordings (*in vivo* Neuropixels electrophysiology or two-photon calcium imaging), and brain reconstruction.
- Animal behavior training to test novel hypotheses of brain function.
- Data standardization and sharing via NWB files in the cloud.
- Datasets that are cross-referenced through shared standards and data access, allowing further meta-analysis by the community.
- Dissemination of results as selected teams analyze and submit their outcomes to bioRxiv and peer-reviewed journals.

Selection process





A double-blinded selection process

We established a two-stage selection process under the guidance of the OpenScope Scientific Steering Group. Applicants first submit a 2-page Letter Of Intent (LOI) that is screened for feasibility by internal Allen Institute reviewers. The top-scored (up to 18) feasible LOIs are then invited to submit 6-page full proposals, which are again scored by blinded internal and external scientific reviewers.

The top projects are discussed by the Scientific Steering Group, where the committee considers overarching programmatic goals and portfolio balance to make the final selection. The external reviewers include neuroscientists from across the community, and the entire process is blinded.

In July 2023, we posted our Request for Proposals (RFP) detailing the types of projects allowed, the application format, and upcoming due dates. For this application cycle, we received 23 LOIs in early September 2023. The entire selection process (submission, reviews, and private communications) was managed online via a secured platform (<https://www.submittable.com>).

18 teams were invited to submit full proposals. On Nov 21st, we received 14 full proposals that were distributed across 6 external reviewers who kindly volunteered to help this community effort. All reviewers signed Confidentiality Agreements and were blinded to the applicants' identity. The top-scored 8 proposals were sent forward to the OpenScope Scientific Steering Group along with the reviewer ranking and notes. The selected 4 projects for 2024 were approved and selected on January 31st by the Scientific Steering Committee.

Projects Recommended for Award in 2023-2024

Neuropixels project 1:

“Psychedelic Coding”

The Charité and University of Berlin

Roberto De Filippa, Dietmar Schmitz, Torben Ott

Neuropixels project 2:

” Elucidating the role of prior experience in shaping the representations of natural stimuli”

Weizmann Institute of Science

Yaniv Ziv, Alon Rubin, Itay Talpir, Daniel Deitch

Two-photon project 1:

“From Pixels to Percepts: Understanding Texture Discrimination in the Mouse Visual Cortex”

University of Calgary, University of British Columbia

Javier Orlandi, Federico Bolanos, Tim Murphy

Two-photon project 2:

“Probing center-surround interactions through local and global visual motion”

University of Freiburg, Berlin

Julia Veit, Henning Sprekeler

Non-selected teams’ identities and projects remain blinded and confidential. Applications included individuals from North America (20), Europe (20), Middle East (3), Asia (2), and Australia (2) and included applicants from both the theoretical and experimental neuroscience community.

Scientific outcomes



Scientific highlights from 2022 project

“Global Local Oddballs (GLO)”

Neural Circuitry Underlying Detection of Local and Global Prediction Errors

Vanderbilt University: Alex Maier, Andre Bastos, Jacob Westerberg

Poster at SFN
[PSTR025 - Visual Cortex: The Function of Neuronal Ensembles and Circuits](#)

PSTR025.15 / X25 -
Global and local oddball detection across the mouse visual cortical hierarchy



“Illusion”

Utilizing Illusory Contours to Elucidate the Neural Mechanism of Binding

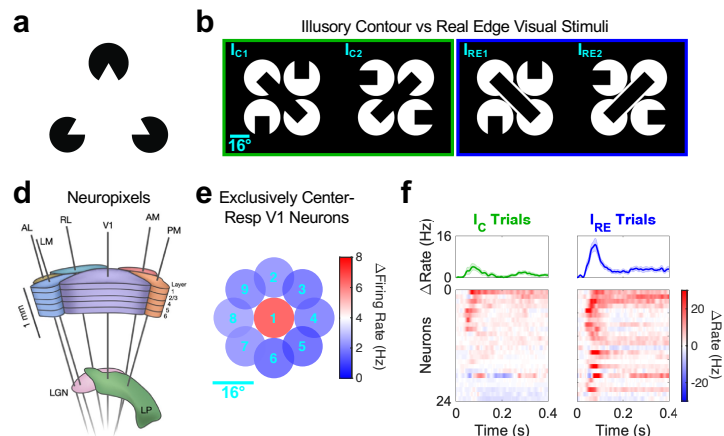
UC Berkeley: Hyeyoung Shin, Hillel Adesnik

Publication

Recurrent pattern completion drives the neocortical representation of sensory inference

bioRxiv, currently in review

<https://doi.org/10.1101/2023.06.05.543698>

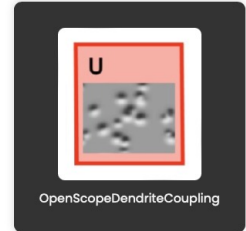
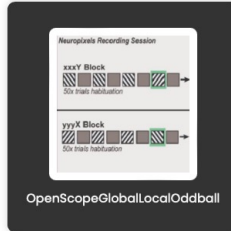


Publications and peer-reviewed posters linked to OpenScope projects

- **Next-generation brain observatories.** Koch, Christof; Svoboda, Karel; Bernard, Amy; Basso, Michele A; Churchland, Anne K; Fairhall, Adrienne L; Groblewski, Peter A; Lecoq, Jérôme A; Mainen, Zachary F; Mathis, Mackenzie W, *Neuron*, 110, 22, 3661-3666, 2022
- **L2/3 and L5 pyramidal neuron somata and apical dendrites exhibit distinct responses to unexpected violations of visual flow.** Gillon et al., COSYNE 2020
- **Learning from unexpected events in the neocortical microcircuit,** Pina, Gillon et al., COSYNE 2021
- **Differential encoding of temporal context and expectation across the visual hierarchy,** Wyrick et al., COSYNE 2022
- **Parallel inference of hierarchical latent dynamics in two-photon calcium imaging of neuronal populations,** Prince et al., bioRxiv 2021
- **Measuring Stimulus-Evoked Neurophysiological Differentiation in Distinct Populations of Neurons in Mouse Visual Cortex,** Mayner et al., eNeuro. 2021
- **Differential encoding of temporal context and expectation under representational drift across hierarchically connected areas,** Wyrick et al., bioRxiv. 2023
- **Responses to pattern-violating visual stimuli evolve differently over days in somata and distal apical dendrites,** CJ Gillon, JE Pina et al, *Journal of Neuroscience* 2024
- **Recurrent pattern completion drives the neocortical representation of sensory inference,** H Shin, et al, bioRxiv. 2023



Select the project you'd like to see the data of:



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Data releases

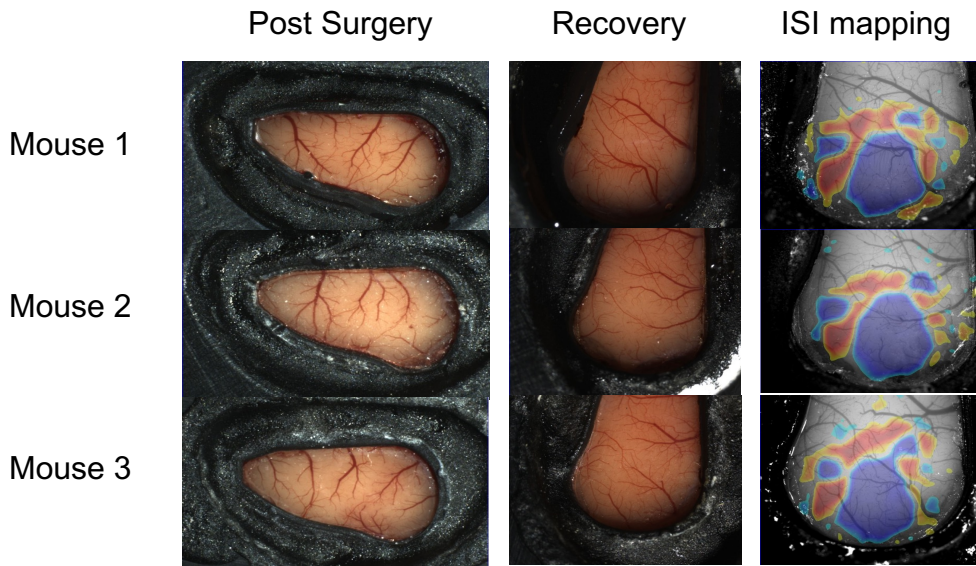
In January and February 2024, following our one-year embargoed policy we released 3 datasets on Dandi Archive.

- **Dataset 248:** Allen Institute OpenScope - Illusion project
- **Dataset 253:** Allen Institute OpenScope - Global/Local Oddball project
- **Dataset 871:** Allen Institute OpenScope - Predictive Learning and Somato-dendritic Coupling

In addition to the detailed description on Dandi Archive, we created the OpenScope DataPortal (<https://openscopedatafront.web.app/>) to share detailed meta-data for all recorded sessions, along with additional project descriptions and comprehensive Jupyter notebooks. Those resources were created in collaboration with the 2022 OpenScope teams and extensively described during our Data Release Webinar (see **Outreach** section).

Ongoing developments





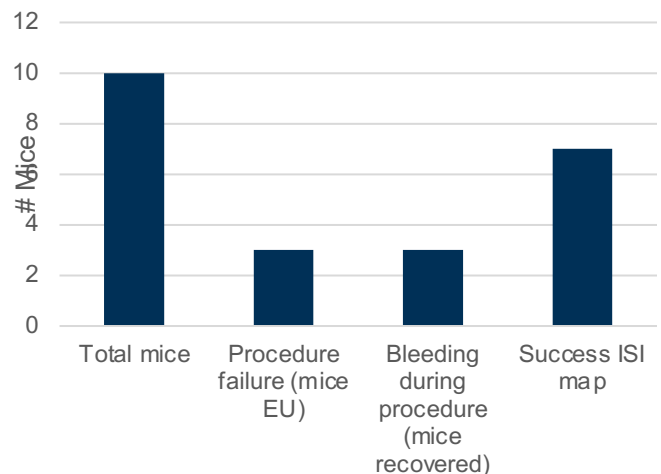
Ophys Surgical developments

In 2022, we had performed surgical and hardware developments on the two-photon platform to deploy a custom-shape glass implant that would allow to record broadly across the dorsal cortex in the same mouse. This work has proved that we could implant and record with two photon imaging with our chosen implant strategy.

In 2023, we standardized our implant. To that end, we designed a custom 3d printed plastic lip to go all around the border of the implant. This lip allowed to securely hold the glass on top of the mouse skull. This allowed us to scale this procedure up and train our surgeon using standardized operating procedures.

We quantified the success of this procedure (see figure with surgical statistics). Notably we found that the added lip allowed for a reproducible procedure (see top figure). As a result, we offered this new capability for proposals in 2023 RFP.

Surgical statistics





OpenScope

Q Search

R | K

OpenScope Databook

Basics

- Background
- Downloading an NWB File
- Reading an NWB File
- Exploring an NWB File
- Streaming an NWB File with fsspec
- Getting Experimental Metadata from DANDI

Visualizing NWB Files

- Visualizing Raw 2-Photon Images
- Visualizing Neuropixel Probe Locations
- Visualizing Unit Quality Metrics
- Visualizing LFP Responses to Stimulus
- Visualizing Neuronal Unit Responses
- Visualizing 2P Responses to Stimulus
- Visualizing Unit Spikes

First-Order Analysis

- Showing Receptive Fields
- Identifying Optotagged Units
- Current Source Density Analysis
- Classifying Fast-Spiking and Regular-Spiking Neurons
- Statistically Testing 2P Responses to Stimulus

OpenScope Databook

The OpenScope Databook: Reproducible System Neuroscience Notebooks to Facilitate Data Sharing and Collaborative Reuse with Open Science Datasets

v1.0.0

All Contributors Management Conceptualization Processing Commits

Review Funding

Supplied any substantial contribution to the project

Katrina Ager, Ahad Bawany, Corbett Bennett, Benjamin Dichter, Satrajit Ghosh, Colleen J. Gillon, Carly Kiselycznyk, Jerome Lecoq, Mackenzie Mathis, NIH, R. Carter Peene, Jason Pina, Hyeyoung Shin, Josh Siegle, Jacob Westerberg, Alex Williams

Abstract

Reproducibility is a significant challenge in neuroscience, as analysis and visualization methods are often difficult to replicate due to a lack of accessible code, separation of code from published figures, or unavailability of code altogether. This issue may arise from the complex nature of neuroscience research, the use of diverse data formats and analysis techniques, and insufficient emphasis on open-source, collaborative practices. In addition, key neuroscience analyses are typically rewritten at the start of new scientific projects, slowing down the initiation of research efforts.

Four key components are essential for reproducible analysis: accessible data, accessible computational resources, a reproducible environment, and usage documentation. The OpenScope Databook, provided by the Allen Institute's OpenScope Project, offers a solution to these challenges by facilitating the analysis and visualization of brain data, primarily using NWB files and the DANDI archive. Hosted on GitHub, the entire publication – including code, data access, text, references, and revisions from reviewers and contributors – is readily available for collaboration and version control, promoting transparency and collective knowledge growth. The OpenScope Databook addresses these components by leveraging a combination of open-source Python libraries, such as DANDI, Binder, Jupyter Book, Google Colab, LaTeX references, Python scripts, Git versioning, and scientific revision through approved pull requests. The entire publication can be recreated by running the code locally, on distributed servers such as Binder, DandiHub, or Google Colab, or on any host running Jupyter notebooks.

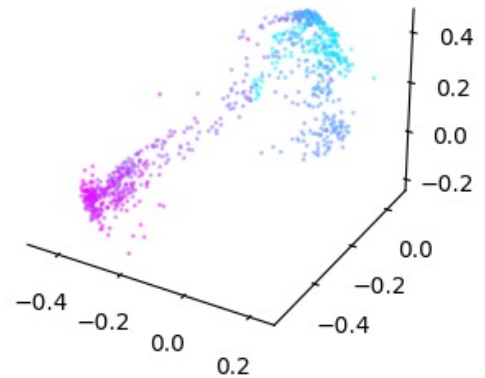
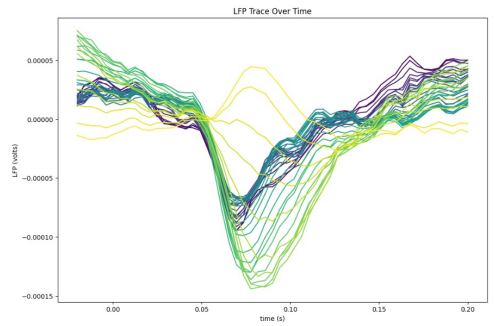
We cover several broadly used analyses across the community, providing a missing component for system neuroscience. Our key analyses are organized into chapters, including NWB basics such as downloading, streaming, and visualizing NWB files from data archives. We document essential analyses typically performed in all neuroscience laboratories, such as temporal alignment, alignment to sensory stimuli, and association with experimental metadata. We cover the two leading neuronal recording techniques: two-photon calcium imaging and electrophysiological recordings, and share example analyses of stimulus-averaged responses. Advanced first-order analyses include showing receptive fields, identifying optotagged units, current source density analysis, and cell matching across days.

This resource is actively maintained and can be updated by the community, providing a living document that will grow over time.

Contents

The OpenScope Databook: Reproducible System Neuroscience Notebooks to Facilitate Data Sharing and Collaborative Reuse with Open Science Datasets

Abstract
Statement of Support
How Does It Work?
How Can I Use It?



OpenScope DataBook

In 2022, we built the capability to convert and push NWB files to the Dandi archive, as stored on this public repository (<https://github.com/AllenInstitute/OpenScopeNWB>). This development proved to be instrumental in 2023 as we used this capability to push datasets to DANDI archive almost immediately following data collection.

In 2023, having developed the ability to upload datasets to the cloud, we focused our attention on enabling reproducible analysis from DANDI cloud-storage. In collaboration with the DANDI team, we developed a Jupyter DataBook called “OpenScope DataBook” (https://github.com/AllenInstitute/openscope_databook) connected both to DandiHub cloud deployment (<https://hub.dandiarchive.org/hub/>) and linked to <https://mybinder.org>. This DataBook contains Jupyter notebooks describing how to access datasets on DANDI, both locally and in streaming mode. Throughout 2023, we greatly increased the coding resources available through the openscope databook. We added notebooks to explain how to access electrophysiology files, Optical physiology files, behavior data as well as perform a range of essential analysis. For example, the databook now contains example code to select responsive neurons, code to leverage CEBRA (<https://cebra.ai>) or TCA (<https://github.com/neurostatslab/tensortools>) to create embedding based on the neuronal activity. Importantly, we developed those notebooks in collaboration with each package developer.

In 2024, we released the first 1.0 release of the OpenScope Databook at the Data Release webinar (see Scientific Workshop) with a comprehensive walkthrough to the Databook.



Outreach

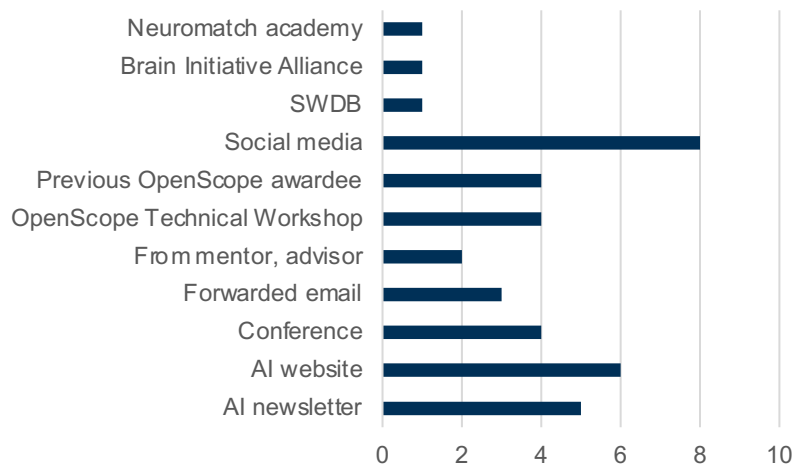


OpenScope brand

In 2023, to improve awareness of the OpenScope program and its unique identity in the neuroscience ecosystem, we **created an entirely new custom Logo**. This logo was leveraged at SFN 2023, on all social media posts and presentations. We purchased the domain <http://openscope.ai> and redirected it to our web portal. We also performed surveys to better understand how to spread our initiative (see Figure for applicants).



Where applicants heard of OpenScope



Schedule for Today

- **OpenScope team:** Jay Pina
 - [Dendritic Coupling project](#): first Data released now, more data in July.
- **OpenScope team:** Andre Bastos, Alex Maier and Jacob Westerberg
 - [Global/Local Oddball project "Glow"](#) : full data released on February 1st.
- **Data Reuse with NWBs, the OpenScope DataPortal and the OpenScope DataBook :** Ahad Bawany and Carter Peene
- **OpenScope team:** Hyeyoung Shin
 - [Illusion project](#): full data released today.

2024 OpenScope Data Release Webinar



Allen Institute
21.2K subscribers

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Scientific workshop

We organized an online webinar on January 24th 2024 to showcase the datasets created by the OpenScope program, At this 2 hours long webinar, attendees could listen to three previous OpenScope awardees about their experimental design and the collected data sets that were released to the community. Attendees also learned about the OpenScope Databook, which supports data re-use within and between DANDI projects.

Program:

- 1:00pm PT: Intro to OpenScope program: Jerome Lecoq
- 1:15pm PT: Past OpenScope Awardee: Jay Pina
- 1:45pm PT: Past OpenScope Awardee: Andre Bastos & Jacob Westerberg
- 2:15pm PT: Past Overview of the OpenScope Databook (Carter Peene and Ahad Bawany)
- 3:00pm PT: OpenScope Awardee: Hyeyoung Shin

The webinar had 66 registered attendees from diverse institutions and career levels, and 357 views on [YouTube](#).

It can still be watched at this address: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tXj-fPi4Sgs>



Technical workshop

We held our third 3-day technical workshop on June 21-23, 2023. As previously, this workshop was co-organized with the Allen Institute for Neural Dynamics, the Allen Institute Neural Dynamic Program, and the University of Washington.

In this workshop, participants from around the world had the opportunity to tour our *in vivo* electrophysiology and imaging facilities and learn the details of these methods from Allen Institute and UW scientists and staff. Lectures and demonstrations covered all aspects of generating high-quality physiology datasets, from surgery to behavior training to neural recordings. Participants also learned how to access data from the Allen Brain Observatory and about the OpenScope program. The workshop was advertised on social medias and a dedicated [web portal](#).

The workshop was geared towards graduate students, postdocs, staff scientists, and PIs with some experience with *in vivo* recordings. We received 104 applications and selected 40 final participants. The selection process prioritized wide distribution of attendees, aiming to avoid selecting applicants from the same institutions. In the end, attendees came from 40 different institutions. The workshop ended with a group discussion where attendees could give their feedback on the workshop and on the OpenScope program.

**Submit a project to
OpenScope**

HOW TO APPLY? →

Request for Proposals in 2023-2024

We plan to release our yearly RFP in the early summer of 2024. It will be communicated on our web portal <http://openscope.ai> as well as through the Allen Institute social media accounts.

In 2023, we considerably extended the description of the call on our web portal and added a detailed FAQ

This call will be the last supported call under current U24 support.

OpenScope Scientific Steering Committee

External Steering Committee Members



Natalie Trzcinski
Program Director at
National Institute of
Neurological Disorders
and Stroke (NINDS)



Satrajit S Ghosh
Principal Research Scientist
MIT
Assistant Professor
Harvard Medical School



Mackenzie Mathis
Assistant Professor
EPFL
Bertarelli Foundation
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Neuroscience
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Joel Zylberberg
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Adrienne Fairhall
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Adjunct Professor
Department of Physics
Adjunct Professor
Department of Applied Mathematics
Co-Director
UW Computational Neuroscience Center
University of Washington

Allen Institute OpenScope Leadership



Christof Koch
Meritorious Investigator
Brain & Consciousness
The Allen Institute

Co-PI on OpenScope
Award



Jerome Lecoq
Associate Investigator
Neural Dynamics Program
The Allen Institute

Co-PI on OpenScope award



John Phillips
Executive Director
Strategy & Partnership
The Allen Institute



THANK YOU

We wish to thank the Allen Institute founder, Paul G. Allen, for his vision, encouragement, and support.

brain-map.org
alleninstitute.org



ALLEN INSTITUTE *for*
NEURAL DYNAMICS

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