NeuroFedora

FOSS and Free and Open (Neuro)Science

NeuroFedora contributors
neuro.fedoraproject.org

Notes

Open Science

Everyone should have the freedom to study, modify, and share scientific material[1].

Scientists, academics, students, researchers, non-scientists, and non-academics should all have access to scientific material—irrespective of social status, location, age, nationality ....

[1] http://opensourceforneuroscience.org/

Notes

Neuro Science

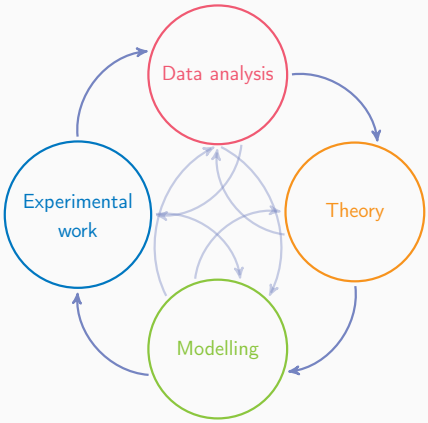
- How the brain functions (physiology)
- How it is structured (anatomy)
- About its chemicals (pharmacology, biochemistry)
- How it processes information (computational)
- About behaviours, and cognition (behavioural, cognitive)

Notes

How: Research Pipeline

Notes

Basic Workflow



Notes

Tools of the trade

Experimental:

- EEG, ECoG, intracellular and extracellular single and multi neuron recording,
- CT, DOI, MRI, f-MRI, MEG, PET,

Data analysis:

- Statistics,
- Machine Learning, Big Data, Deep learning,

Theory and modelling:

- Simulators of all kinds,

Notes

Free/Open (neuro) Science

Notes

The ideal, in short:

Free/Open Science:
Everyone should have the freedom to share, study, and modify scientific material.

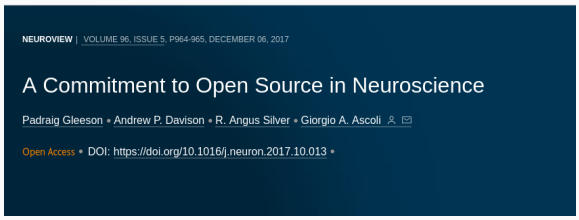
FOSS:
Everyone should have the freedom to share, study, and modify software[5].

Free/Open Science includes and relies heavily on Free/Open Source Software (FOSS).

[2] Free software foundation

Notes

So we strive to use more and more FOSS



[6] Open source for neuroscience

Notes

NeuroFedora: why, how, what?

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Neuroscience community: highly multidisciplinary

- various specialities: biologists, mathematicians, physicists, chemists, psychologists, . . . ,
- small proportion of trained software developers

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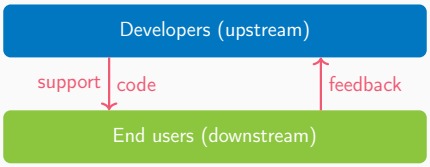
FOSS: Developers and users



Notes

(Anecdotal) notes on development of research software

- often single developer, or small development teams
- limited maintenance, short-lived projects
- limited access to hardware/resources
- limited code quality
- limited use of established best practices
- limited testing for correctness (!)
- complex dependency chains
- lack of documentation and support
- lack of community development know-how

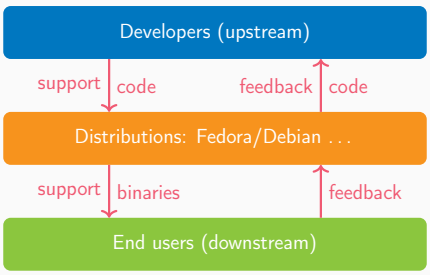
Notes

(Anecdotal) notes on users of research software

- waste time and effort installing (and reinstalling) their software stacks
- rarely run test suites (!)
- rarely report bugs upstream
- rarely send improvements upstream
- are unaware of helpful development tools

Notes

Distributions liaison between developers and users



Notes

Distributions, like Fedora, are in a unique position:

- liaison between upstream and users
- have the infrastructure
- follow best practices in software development
- constantly work on community development
- learn from one another—train while working
- disseminate information to end-users

Notes

NeuroFedora:

Primary goal:

- Provide a ready to use, integrated FOSS platform for neuroscientists[7].

Secondary/collateral goals:

- help improve the standard and maintenance of tools
- help users develop software development skills
- make neuroscience accessible to non-specialists

[7] Researchers, academics, hobbyists, anyone!

Notes

NeuroFedora: What we offer?

Notes

Comp-Neuro Lab

- An OS to enable neuroscience
- Contains a plethora of computational neuroscience tools
- Packed with analysis and general productivity tools
- Integrated with GNOME

https://labs.fedoraproject.org/en/comp-neuro/

Notes

Comp-Neuro Container

- A ready-to-use comp-neuro container
- Can be used with Podman/Docker
- Can be obtained from standard public container image registries like Docker Hub

https://docs.fedoraproject.org/en-US/neurofedora/containers/
https://podman.io/
https://www.docker.com/

Notes

NeuroFedora: current metrics

- Will be 3 years old, in September 2021![8],
- 30 volunteer contributors
- software:
  - ~200 tools (packages) ready to install[9]:
    - NeuroMLlite, pyNeuroML, NetPyNE, Neuron, InterViews, NEST, Genesis, Brian (v1 and v2), Moose, python-libNeuroML, PyLEMS, PyNWB, ...
  - ~200 in queue[10].
    - EDEN, NeuroMynerva, FlyBrainLab, GeNN, ...

[8] in its second iteration
[9] src.fedoraproject.org: Neuro-SIG
[10] Pagure.io: Neuro-SIG: issues

Notes

Search: "NeuroFedora"

Mailing list: neuro-sig@lists.fedoraproject.org
IRC: #fedora-neuro on LiberaChat
Telegram: t.me/NeuroFedora
Documentation neuro.fedoraproject.org
Blog: neuroblog.fedoraproject.org
Pagure.io (FOSS Git forge): neuro-sig/NeuroFedora

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