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Director,
Informatics & Computational Biology

Dear Dr. Xiaojun Li,

We met briefly at the 2025 Allen Institute for Immunology Seminar featuring Dr. Jenny Ting. I am writing to express my strong interest in the Bioinformatics Scientist I – Inflammation position.

I bring extensive experience in computational biology, statistics, and multi-omic analyses, including Olink proteomics, metabolomics, and single-cell RNA sequencing. Although I have not directly analyzed spatial transcriptomics data, I have completed relevant training and developed directly transferable skills, such as normalization, data integration, batch-effect correction, clustering, pseudobulking, feature selection, and hypothesis testing using mixed models.

In my current postdoc at the Institute for Systems Biology, as part of a collaborative research team, I discovered an unexpected immune compartmentalization in Lyme disease patients, where the immune response remains restricted to the skin despite systemic symptoms. Through multi-omic analysis, I identified key factors driving this immune barrier, with our findings expected in a high-impact publication.

In my role as the statistical editor for the medical journal Cureus, I communicated complex statistical concepts to other non-STEM editors in a clear, intuitive way. Reviewing the experimental design and statistical analyses of over 700

manuscripts, has also reinforced my skill at translating conceptual hypotheses into clear, quantitatively testable questions.

I am particularly interested in exploring how interactions with the adaptive immune system following an infection may dysregulate the innate immune system. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this or related scientific questions with you further.

Best Regards,

Ameek Bhalla

Third-year Postdoctoral Fellow, Subramanian Lab