February 9, 2015

Dear Editors of Frontiers in Neuroinformatics,

It is my pleasure to submit the paper “A Multi-facetted Visual Analytics Tool for Exploratory Analysis of Human Brain and Function Datasets” by Diego Angulo, Cyril Schneider, Nathalie Charpak, James Oliver and Jose Tiberio Hernández. This paper is a technology report, contains original research that has not been published or submitted elsewhere; all the authors have read and agreed to the publication of this manuscript.

This work introduces BRAVIZ, a platform for interactive visual analysis of brain data, particularly data derived from MRI images (structural, functional and diffusion) as well as clinical data encoded into numerical and nominal variables. The system allow researchers to efficiently explore data from multiple subjects in order to discover new hypotheses. Currently the neuro-image analysis ecosystem is rich with powerful processing software packages, as well as software built for traditional hypothesis testing applications. However current packages do not efficiently support open ended data exploration. BRAVIZ tries to close this gap and is meant to complement existing tools by providing an environment for visual data exploration.

The paper describes the software as it would appear to an end user, describes its architecture and illustrates its functioning with two use cases. It is written in python and is freely available under a LGLP license. As neuro science data becomes increasingly available, new tools for making sense of it will be required.

On behalf of all the coauthors, I thank you for your time and consideration, and look forward to solving any additional questions that you may have.

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