# BroadBox Hackathon

*Expand the frontier of AI's scientific capability*

December 1–2, 2026 | Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard, Cambridge, MA

## Science sandboxes

What would it take for an AI agent to make a scientific discovery? It would need to do more than find the right answer: it would need to design informative experiments, learn from unexpected results, and develop an understanding of how a biological system works. As AI agents begin conducting experiments, we need ways to measure and develop these capabilities.

Science sandboxes make that process observable. Each sandbox gives an agent an unfamiliar scientific system to investigate, with tools to intervene, collect evidence, and revise its understanding. Feedback can come from simulated systems with known rules, computational models grounded in experimental data, or physical laboratory assays. Through BroadBox, we are building these environments across biology to measure, develop, and ultimately expand AI's capacity for scientific discovery.

The Broad Institute offers a uniquely powerful environment for advancing this vision. A global leader in genomics and biomedical research, Broad has spent decades generating large-scale datasets, developing experimental platforms, and making scientific resources accessible worldwide. Bringing these strengths together with deep biological expertise and frontier AI makes BroadBox a powerful foundation for shared scientific infrastructure and the next era of discovery. We introduced science sandboxes in a recent preprint and launched BroadBox to advance this vision.

## About the hackathon

We will convene approximately 150 scientists, AI researchers, and engineers from Broad, MIT, Harvard, and industry. Teams will turn consequential biological questions into executable scientific environments, then build AI agents to investigate them.

**DECEMBER 1 — BUILD THE SANDBOX.** Teams define a biological question, experimental interface, available feedback, and how an agent's investigation can be evaluated.

**DECEMBER 2 — BUILD THE AI SCIENTIST.** Teams develop agents, run investigations in their own sandboxes, and present what the agents learned and where they failed. The program concludes by 2 p.m. ET.

## Sponsorship opportunities

Partner with BroadBox to advance rigorous scientific AI and engage researchers building new experimental environments for AI agents.

**$2,000 | BRONZE PARTNER.** Logo/name on the event website and sponsor acknowledgment slides; recognition during opening remarks.

**$5,000 | SILVER PARTNER. All Bronze Partner benefits, plus featured recognition in event materials and the opportunity to contribute technical mentors or host office hours.**

**$10,000 | GOLD PARTNER. All Silver Partner benefits, plus prominent lead-partner acknowledgment, the option to propose a brief Day 1 technical session, and a post-event conversation with organizers about publicly shareable outcomes and future scientific challenges.**

**IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS.** We also welcome model/API credits, GPU or cloud resources, developer tools, hardware prizes, and scientific or technical mentors. Sponsor representatives may be considered for judging roles based on relevant expertise and organizer approval. Cash and in-kind support can be combined.

## Get involved

**Logan Blaine | lblaine@broadinstitute.org**

Sponsors can donate directly to the Sabeti Lab at sabetilab.org/giving (designate "Sabeti Lab"). We will coordinate sponsorship recognition and other details. In-kind contributions are also welcome.

Event details and registration | Request sandbox access | Science Sandboxes preprint | Read the launch essay