



# Investigating the canonical organization of neocortical circuits for sensory integration

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#### The organizational principles of the brain







#### Circuit organization across the cortical column







**Canonical Microcircuit** 

#### **Cortical Microcircuit**

Columnar microcircuits convey adaptive advantages to perform several neuronal computations



## This circuit organization increases the efficiency of cortical computations



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Neuronal subtypes are functionally organized across layers and specific neuronal subtypes exert specific computations Circuit microarchitecture promotes oscillatory compartmentalization

The mechanisms underlying cortical microcircuits functionality are not yet fully understood

> Olcese et al. (2013) *Neuron* 79: 593 van Kekoerle et al. (2014) *PNAS* 111: 14332



## CANON aims to reveal the functional micro-architecture governing cortico-cortical integration

#### **Questions to answer:**

- 1. How are the different forms of cortical communication (e.g feedforward, feedback) performed at the level of distinct layers and neuronal subtypes?
- 2. How do the feedforward and feedback forms of cortical oscillatory activity relate to the function of individual neurons and to specific computations?
- 3. Do different mammals share the same micro-architecture for cortical integration? Can we observe traces of a similar architecture in intracranial recordings in humans?

**CANON** Circuit architectures for multisensory integration







#### 2. Multi-level approach



Two-photon targeted patch clamp recordings of pyramidal cells and parvalbumin-expressing interneurons, combined with Local Field Potentials (LFPs)

#### Contribution of different neuronal subtypes





#### 2. Multi-level approach



Laminar recordings in awake mice and ferrets using the same experimental paradigm

Neuronal population features in cortical computations. Species comparison





#### 3. Model of Cortical Computations



spike Current Source Density, (sCSD) is a method able to reconstruct full spatio-temporal CSD dynamics of single neurons

## Cell type specific laminar distribution of synaptic currents



**Figure 4.** Demonstration of two different identified laminar input patterns on the same CA1 neurous rat hippocampus. Warm colors denote the negative values in the spike-triggered extracellular por caused by current sinks, corresponding to excitatory synaptic currents. Green corresponds to zero cold colors denote the effects of the counter currents. The same neuron (denoted by a star, up activated by two different pathways and emits action potentials during theta (left) and sharp-wave (right) oscillations. (Work of Z. Somogyvári and A. Berényi) Image from .







#### 4. Comparative functional architectures in mice, ferrets and humans



Macro-contact Electrode track CE6/E7



Test the predictions derived from the model about computational architecture in electrophysiological data obtained from humans (collaboration with Matthew Self and Pieter Roelfsema from NIN, NL).



#### **Work Plan**







#### **Expected Synergies with HBP**



- SP1-SP2: Comparison between species
- SP3: Unveiling Neuronal Circuits for Cognitive Architectures
- SP5: New Neuroinformatics tools
- Other FLAG-ERA projects:
  - FIIND
  - SloW-Dyn
  - CHAMP-Mouse





Human Brain Project



# Thanks!!







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