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Neuromorphic Electronics

Neurophysiology in a Nutshell

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Overview

method	test subjects	observation area	temp. res.	spat. res.
Psycho-physics	alert humans			
EEG	alert humans	patches of brain surface	ms	cm ²
fMRI and PET	alert humans	brain cross-sections	40ms	5mm ³
Extra Cellular Electr.	alert test animals	neighbourhood of neurons	μs	0.1 ³ mm ³
Intra Cellular Electr.	anesthetized test animals, slice preparations	one neuron	μs	10 ³ μm ³
Fluorescent Tracers	anesthetized test animals, slice preparations	a dendritic tree	?	< μm



Psychophysics

Measuring human performance in special tasks in order to make conclusions on physiology.

Examples:

- reaction times in deciding whether there is food in a picture.
- optical illusions
- attention tasks: <http://viscog.beckman.uiuc.edu/grafs/demos/15.html>



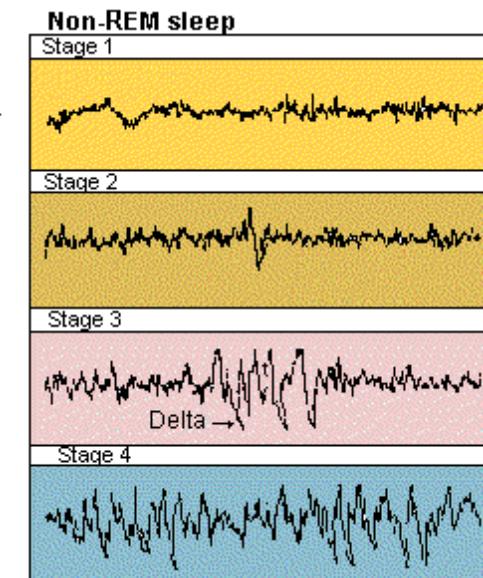
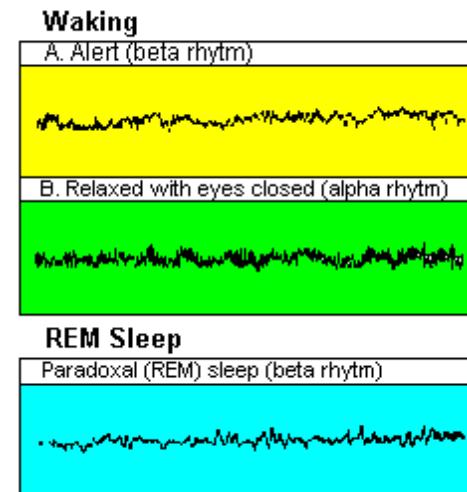
EEG (1/2)

Electro-encephalogram: Surface electrodes on skin, measuring correlated activity of a population of neurons.



EEG (2/2)

256 A



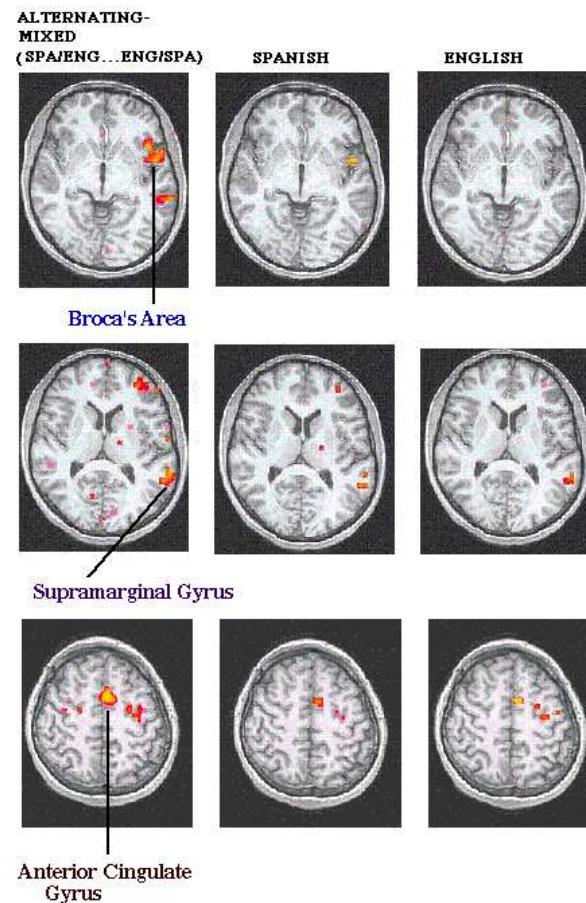


fMRI and PET (1/2)

fMRI (functional magnet resonance imaging) and PET (positron emission tomography) measure indicators of neuron activity like increased bloodflow and oxygen consumption



fMRI and PET (2/2)





Extra Cellular Electrodes/Field Potentials

Electrodes in the brain tissue that record field potentials caused by the surrounding neurons. Reconstruction methods are sometimes able to isolate activity of individual neurons.



Intra Cellular Electrodes (1/2)

Sharp electrodes and patch clamp electrodes observe activity inside a neuron



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Methods



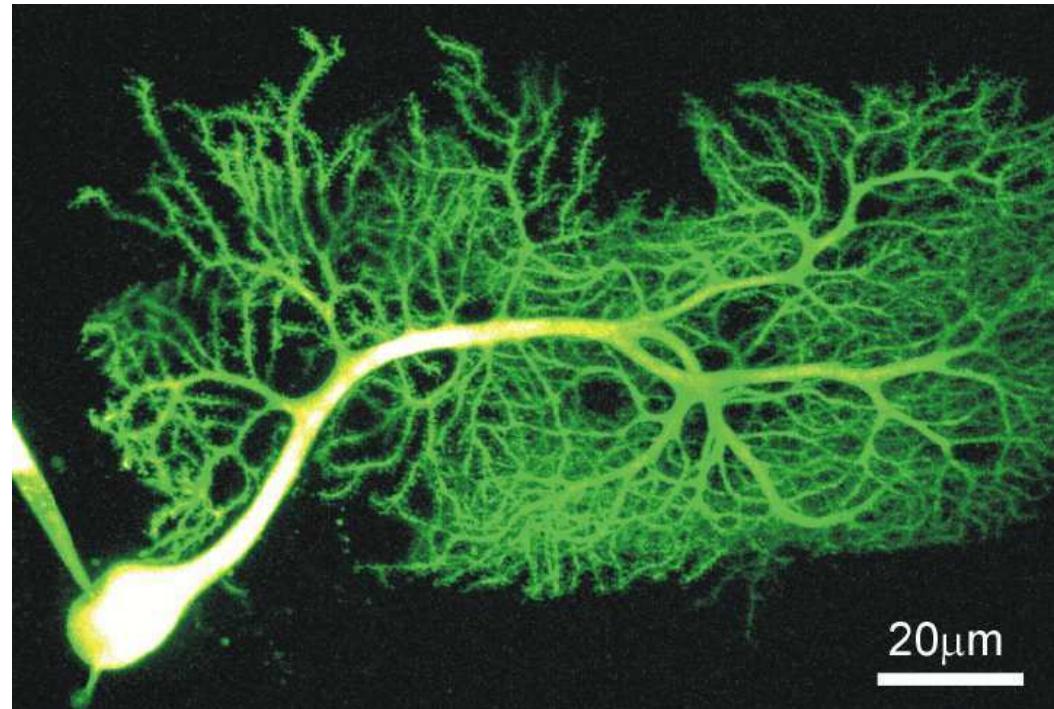
Intra Cellular Electrodes (2/2)





Imaging with Fluorescent Tracers

For example two photon microscopy to observe dynamics of chemicals, e.g. calcium

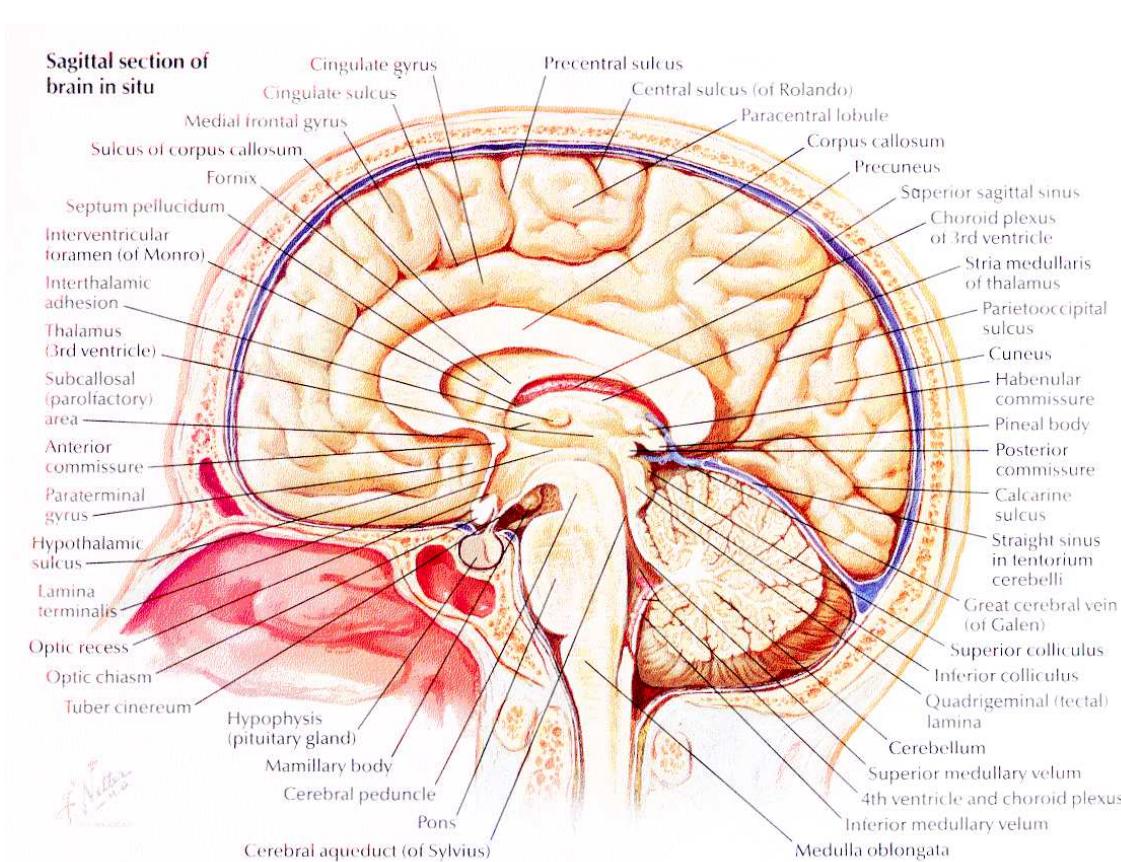




Left out here: Methods in Neuroanatomy



Brain Parts





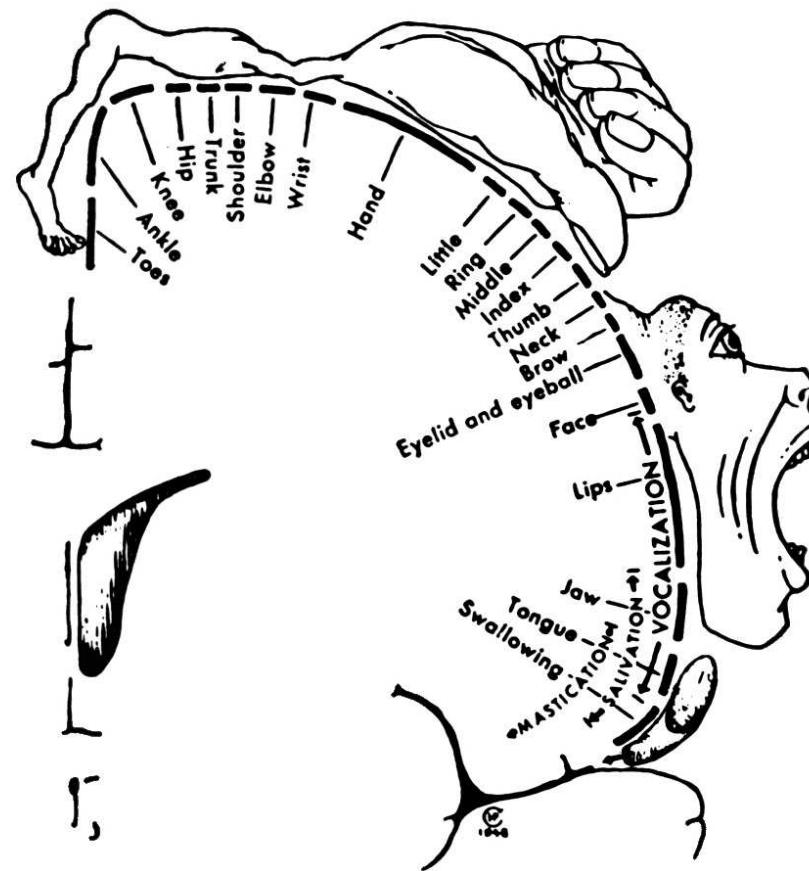
Cortical Regions (1/3)



"Whoa! That was a good one! Try it, Hobbs — just poke his brain right where my finger is."

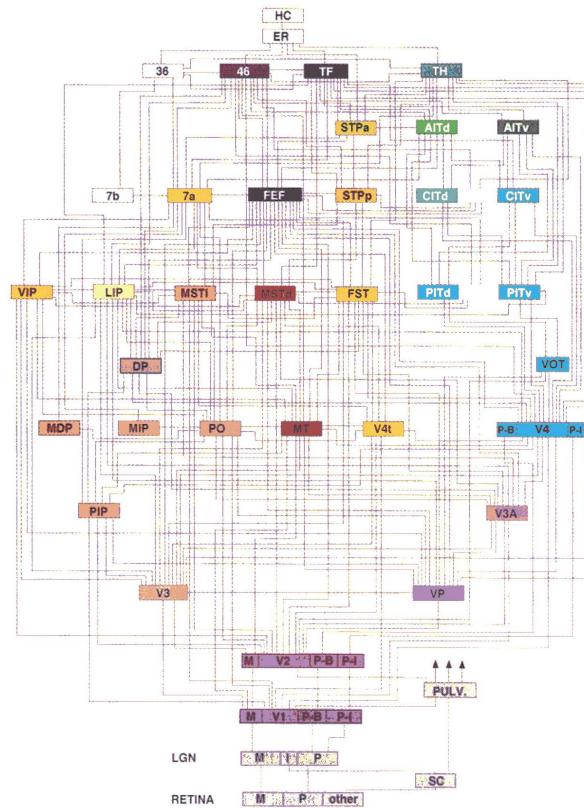
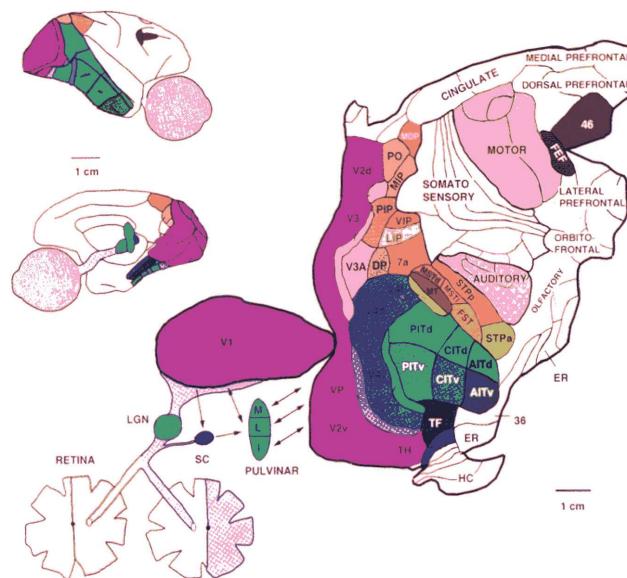


Cortical Regions (2/3)





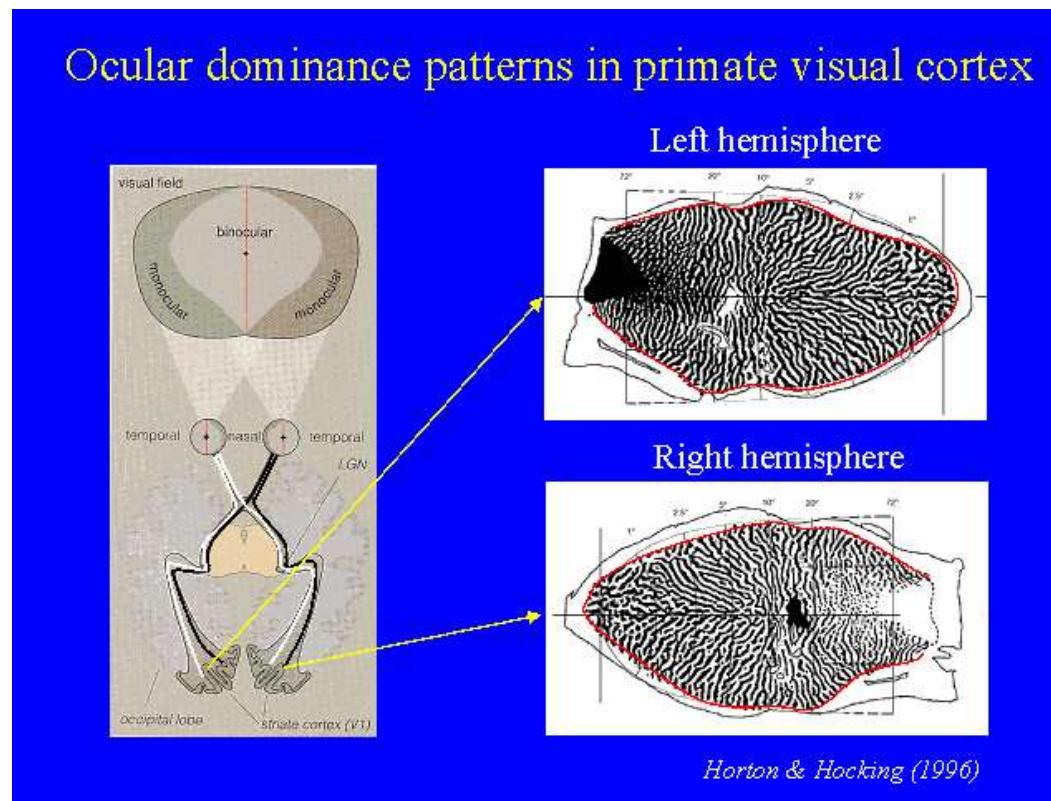
Cortical Regions (3/3)





Organization within cortical regions (1/3)

Ocular dominance patterns





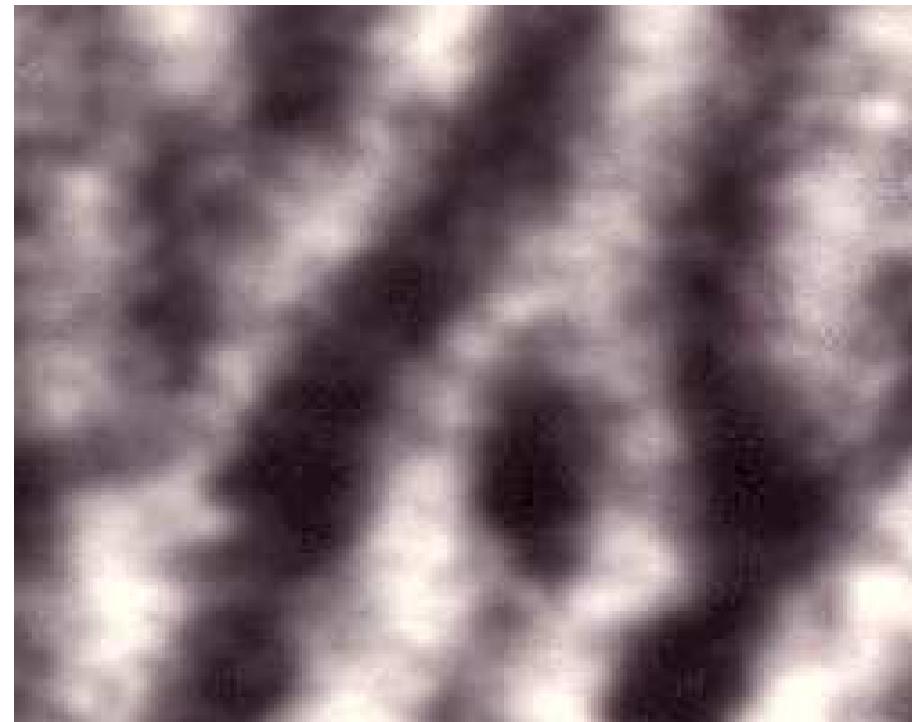
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Knowledge



Organization within cortical regions (2/3)

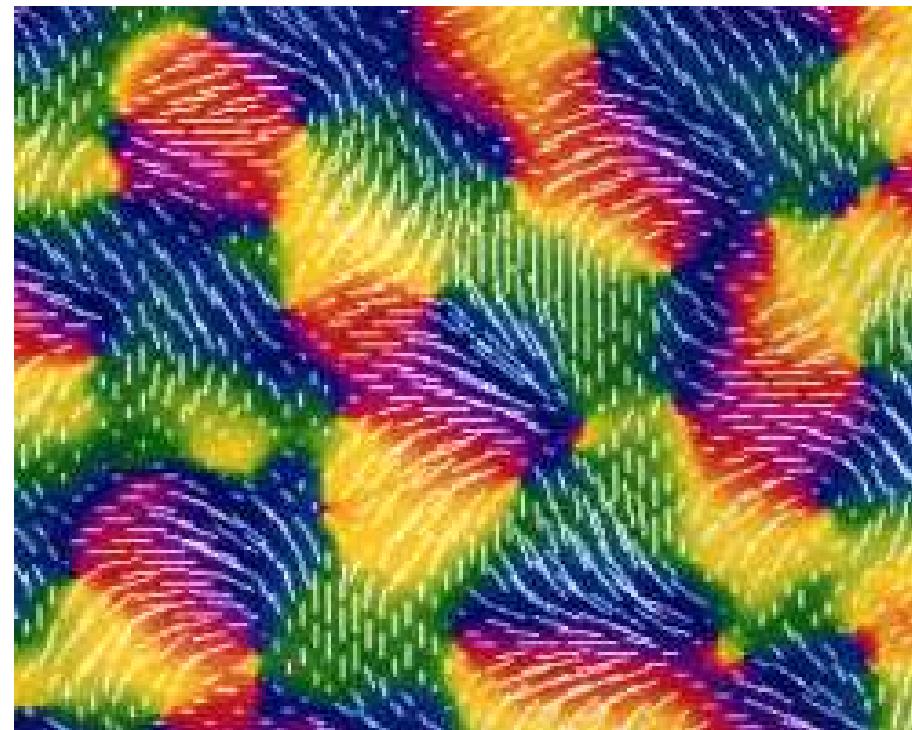
Ocular dominance patterns





Organization within cortical regions (3/3)

Orientation selection patterns





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Knowledge

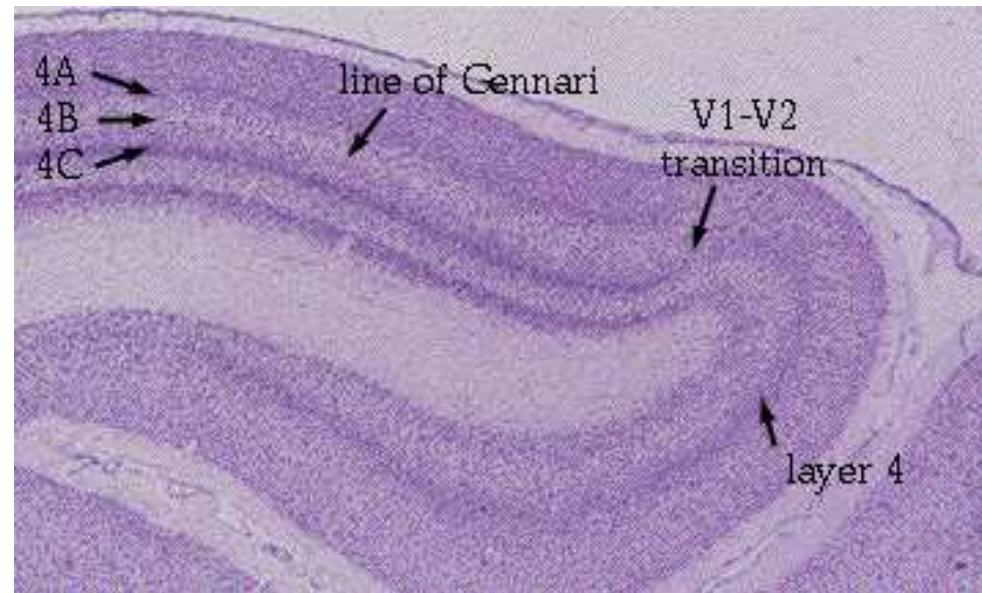


Cortical Layers and Microcolumns(1/3)



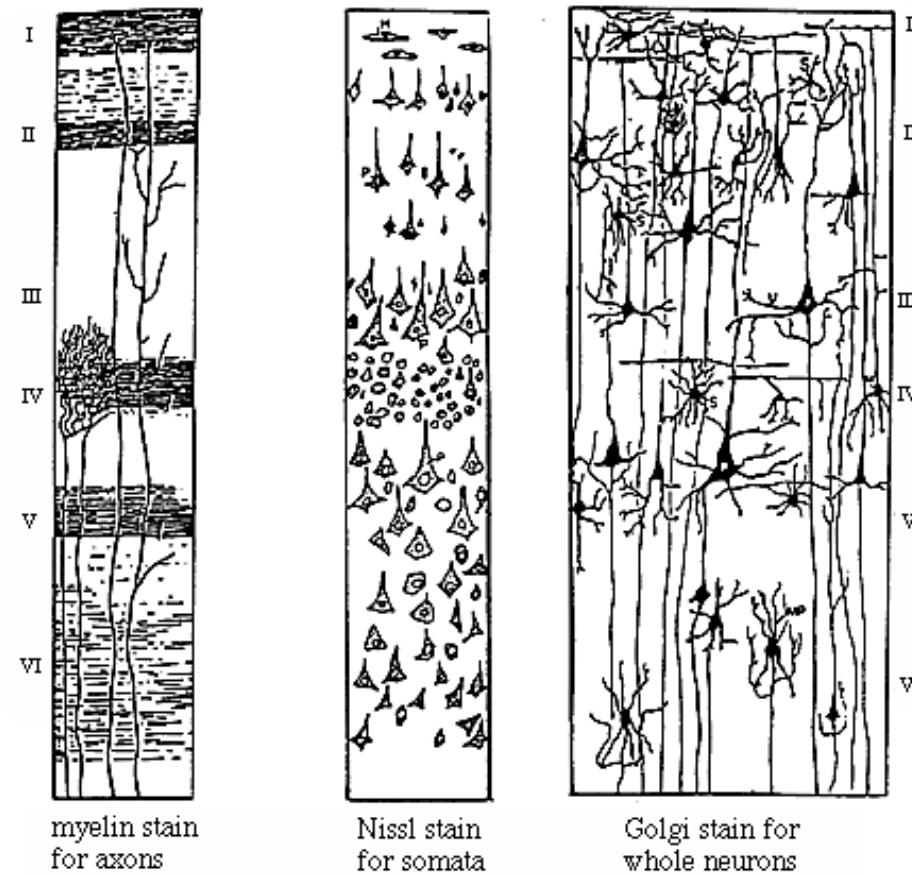


Cortical Layers and Microcolumns(2/3)





Cortical Layers and Microcolumns(3/3)





Neurons and Synapses

More about those in dedicated lectures

