

## THE BRAIN IN TWO PAGES

## NEOCORTEX

- 1) excitatory cells (spiny--long range axons)
  - pyramidal (many subclasses)
  - spin stellate (only in layer 4)
- 2) inhibitory cells (no spines--local axons)
  - basket (large)
  - chandelier (small, synapse on pyramidal axons' initial seg)
  - double bouquet (very small, vertical)
  - clutch (very small)
- 3) layers of the cortex
  - layer 1 (feedback input layer)
  - layers 2/3 (feedforward cortical output layer)
  - layer 4 (feedforward input)
  - layer 5 (descending output => striatum, SC, pontine nuc., spinal crd)
  - layer 6 (feedback output layer)

## CEREBELLAR CORTEX

- 1) input axons (excitatory)
  - mossy fibers from many sources
  - climbing fibers from inferior olive
- 2) inhibitory
  - Purkinje (output cells => three deep cereb. nuc.)
  - basket, Golgi, stellate
- 3) excitatory
  - granule cells (give off parallel fibers)

## BASIC PARTS OF THE BRAIN

- 1) spinal cord
  - dorsal horn (sensory)
  - ventral horn (motor)
- 2) medulla
  - lateral half (sensory)
  - medial half (motor)
- 3) pons
  - ditto

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- the pons-midbrain junction  
(relative to body: crossed above, uncrossed below)

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- 4) midbrain
  - tectum ('roof': superior & inferior colliculus)
  - tegmentum ('floor': red nucleus, substantia nigra, midbrain retic. fm.)
- 5) thalamus
  - epithalamus (e.g., habenula)
  - dorsal thalamus (e.g., dLGN)
  - ventral thalamus (e.g., subthalamic nucleus)
  - hypothalamus
- 6) forebrain
  - pallium (neocortex, hippocampus, amygdala)
  - septum
  - basal forebrain (caudate/putamen, globus pallidus)

## SOMATOSENSORY SYSTEM

- 1) receptors
  - specialized distal ends of dorsal root ganglion cells
  - pain, cold, heat (free endings)
  - slowly adapting touch (Merkel, Ruffini)
  - rapidly adapting touch (Meissner, Pacinian)

- muscle length (muscle spindles)
- force exerted by muscle (golgi tendon organs)
- 2) dorsal root ganglion cells => spinal cord, dorsal column nuclei
- 3) spinal cord (dorsal horn)
  - spinocervical: spinal cord => lateral cervical nucleus
  - spinothalamic: spinal cord => posterior nuclei, intralaminar nuclei
- 4) spinal cord (ventral horn)
  - pattern generators
  - motor neurons (synapse on muscles)
- 5) dorsal column nuclei
  - cuneate nucleus (hand and upper body) => ventrobasal thalamus
  - gracile nucleus (foot and lower body) => ventrobasal thalamus
- 6) principal sensory nucleus of the trigeminal (face)
  - also => ventrobasal thalamus
- 7) ventrobasal thalamus (= VPL + VPM)
  - entire body reprentation
  - projects to cortical areas 3b, 1, and 2
- 8) intralaminar nuclei (in dorsal thalamus)
- 9) cortical areas list
  - 3a, 3b, 1, 2, 5, 7b, S-II, Ig, VS

## AUDITORY SYSTEM--MAMMALS

- 1) hair cells
  - separate receptor cells synapse on distal end of ganglion cells
- 2) cochlear ganglion cells
- 3) cochlear nuclei
  - posterior ventral (PVCN; branched endings)
  - anterior ventral (AVCN; calyces of Held)
  - dorsal (DCN)
- 4) lateral superior olive (LSO)
- 5) medial superior olive (MSO)
- 6) dorsal and ventral periolivary nuclei
- 7) medial nucleus of the trapezoid body (MNTB)
- 8) nuclei of lateral lemniscus
  - dorsal (nLLd)
  - intermediate (nLLi)
  - ventral (nLLv)
- 9) inferior colliculus
  - central nucleus (ICc)
  - external nucleus (ICx)
  - dorsal nucleus (ICd)
  - medial nucleus (ICm)
- 10) medial geniculate complex
  - dorsal anterior (MGDA)
  - dorsal posterior (MGDP)
  - principal (MGP)
  - magnocellular (MGM--only non-tonotopic nucleus)
- 11) cortical areas list
  - A-I, RL, CM, paAlt, A-II, Tpt, T1, T2, T3

## AUDITORY BRAINSTEM--OWLS

- 1) cochlear nuclei
  - nucleus angularis (NA; amplitude path--like mammalian PVCN)
  - nucleus magnocellularis (NM; time path--like mammalian AVCN)
  - there is nothing like DCN in birds
- 2) nucleus laminaris (NL; time path--like mammalian MSO)
  - first binaural nucleus
  - detects interaural time differences; phase ambiguity

## THE BRAIN IN TWO PAGES

3) nuclei of the lateral lemniscus (VLVA, VLVP)

4) inferior colliculus

--ICc core (time pathway--characteristic delay columns; input from NL)

--ICc medial shell (amplitude pathway; input from VLVP)

--ICx (space map-time, amplitude converge; input from both parts of ICc)

## AUDITORY CORTEX--BATS

1) DSCF area (doppler shift constant frequency)--in area A-I

--expanded representation around 60 kHz

--amplitude vs. frequency map

--detect size, texture of object

2) CF/CF area (const. freq./const. freq.)

--map of CF1 of outgoing vs. CF2,3 of echo

--detect relative velocity of target

--possible relation to formant perception in human speech

3) FM-FM area (freq. modulated-freq. modulated)

--map of monaural delays between FM1 of outgoing & FM2,3,4 of echo

--detect distance of object

## VISUAL SYSTEM

1) retina

--photoreceptors (red, green, blue cones, rods)

--bipolar cells (ON, OFF, rod)

--ganglion cells

    midget or X-cells (ON and OFF types) => LGN parvo

    parasol or Y-cells (ON and OFF types) => LGN magno

    W cells => LGN, superior colliculus

    direction selective => pretectum

    thorn cells => superior colliculus

--horizontal cells (synapses with photoreceptors and bipolars)

--amacrine cells (synapses with bipolars and ganglion cells)

2) dorsal lateral geniculate nucleus (dLGN)

--magnocellular layers (Y input)

--parvocellular layers (X input)

3) input layers in area V1

--layer 4C-alpha (magno/Y input layer)

--layer 4C-beta (parvo/X input layer)

4) secondary stage layers in V1

--layer 4B (magno pathway)

--layer 3 blobs (parvo blob pathway)

--layer 3 interblobs (parvo interblob pathway)

5) area V2

--thick stripes (magno)

--thin stripes (parvo blob)

--interstripes (parvo interblob)

6) higher areas in magno pathways

--thick stripes => MT => MST => 7a

--other areas in magno pathway: V3, VIP, PO

7) higher areas in parvo pathways

--thin and interstripes => V4 => PIT => AIT

--other areas in parvo pathway: VP, CIT, TF

8) visual areas list

--main input areas: V1, V2

--'parietal' areas: V4t, V3A, MT, MST, FST, DP, PO, PIP, LIP, VIP, MDP

--'temporal' areas: VP, VOT, PITv, PITd, CITv, CITd, AIT, TF, TH

## MOTOR SYSTEM

1) four main descending pathways

--reticulospinal

--vestibulospinal

--rubrospinal (crossed)

--corticospinal (crossed)

2) sensory info affecting motor outputs via the cerebellum

--sensory cortex => pontine nuclei

--pontine nuclei => (crossed) cerebellar cortex

--cerebellar cortex => deep cerebellar nuclei

--deep cerebellar nuclei => (crossed) red nucleus

--red nucleus => (crossed) spinal cord

also

--deep cerebellar nuclei => ventrolateral thalamus (VL; not VPL!)

--ventrolateral thalamus => motor cortex

--motor cortex => (crossed) spinal cord

3) sensory info affecting motor outputs via the basal forebrain

--sensory cortex => caudate and putamen

--caudate and putamen => globus pallidus

    also: caudate and putamen <=> substantia nigra

--globus pallidus => ventrolateral thalamus

    also: globus pallidus <=> subthalamic nucleus

--ventrolateral thalamus => motor cortex

--motor cortex => (crossed) spinal cord

4) vestibulo-ocular reflex

--vestibular canals => vestibular nuclei => oculomotor neurons

5) optokinetic nystagmus

--retina => prectal nuc. => vestibular nuclei => oculomotor nuc.

6) pursuit eye movements

--retina => LGN => visual cortex

--visual cortex => pontine nuclei

--pontine nuclei => flocculus

--flocculus => vestibular nuclei

--vestibular nuclei => oculomotor neurons

7) orienting eye movements (subcortical pathway)

--retina => superficial superior colliculus

--superficial superior colliculus => deep superior colliculus

--deep sup. colliculus, frontal eye fields => saccade patt. generators

--saccade pattern generators => oculomotor neurons

(horizontal movement pattern generator is PPRF)

(vertical movement pattern generator is riMLF)

8) orienting eye movements (parallel cortical pathway)

--retina => LGN => visual cortex

--visual cortex => frontal eye fields

--frontal eye fields => saccade pattern generators

## LIMBIC SYSTEM

1) medial forebrain bundle axis

--septum <=> hypothalamus <=> limbic midbrain

2) hippocampus

--dentate gyrus (input from entorhinal)

--CA3 and CA1 (place cells; input from dentate gyrus)

--subiculum (connections with entorhinal and hypothalamus)

--entorhinal cortex (connections with tertiary cortex)

--postsubiculum (head direction cells; vestibular & visual input)

3) amygdala

--central nucleus (taste input)

--corticomedial amygdala (limbic connections)

--basolateral amygdala (tertiary sensory cortex connections)