Building the Functional Map of the Fruit Fly Brain

Aurel A. Lazar

Columbia University Department of Electrical Engineering

June 22, 2019

Part I

From Brain Structure to Function

The Neuropils of the Fruit Fly Brain



The Neuropils of the Fruit Fly Brain (cont'd)





The Neuropils of the Fruit Fly Brain (cont'd) Mid View



The Neuropils of the Fruit Fly Brain (cont'd) Back View



From Brain Structure to Function

Modeling Computational Units of the Fruit Fly Brain



The functional map of the fruit fly brain is the collection of canonical circuits and their I/O behavior evaluated at different levels of abstraction.

Characterizing the functional map is a central goal of three key stakeholders:

- neurogeneticists and neurobiologists exploring the state of the art of *Drosophila* genetics, anatomical and neurophysiological data as it pertains to classes of neurons, neural circuits, and behavior,
- computational/theoretical neuroscientists interested in executable models of neural circuits in health and disease and, more broadly, in the logic of computation with neural circuits, and
- computer scientists/engineers interested in using biological networks to improve machine learning and deep learning models and algorithms.

Building the Functional Map of the Fruit Fly Brain: Key Stakeholders (cont'd)

Fruit Fly Brain Observatory (FFBO): An Open Collaborative Ecosystem



FFBO provides a

- hub for storing & integrating fruit fly brain research data from worldwide data sources,
- unified repository of tools and methods to build, emulate and compare fruit fly brain models in health and disease,
- an open framework for fruit fly brain data processing and model execution.

FlyBrainLab: Interactive Computing Platform for Evaluating Executable Brain Circuits Think of "Matlab" for Fruit Fly Brains



FlyBrainLab (FBL) systems architecture.

Underlying the FBL architecture are 3 key building blocks.

- NeuroArch Database: hosts both biological data and computational models of fly brain circuits.
- Neurokernel Engine: supports massively parallel execution of fly brain circuits on GPUs.
- NeuroMinerva: interactive computing interface based on JupyterLab with a suite of highly integrated applications for data query, visualization and circuit execution.

FlyBrainLab: Interactive Computing Platform for Evaluating Executable Brain Circuits Think of "Matlab" for Fruit Fly Brains



FlyBrainLab (FBL) systems architecture.

Underlying the FBL architecture are 3 key building blocks.

- NeuroArch Database: hosts both biological data and computational models of fly brain circuits.
- Neurokernel Engine: supports massively parallel execution of fly brain circuits on GPUs.
- NeuroMinerva: interactive computing interface based on JupyterLab with a suite of highly integrated applications for data query, visualization and circuit execution.

Part II

Exploring Fruit Fly Brain Circuits with NeuroNLP

NeuroNLP is a unique natural language user interface for querying the NeuroArch fly brain database that

- enables in-depth exploration and investigation of brain structure, using intuitive plain English queries,
- provides powerful interactive visualization of neural circuits functionality,
- integrates neural circuits data from multiple sources,
- provides a modern web-based portal for navigating fruit fly brain circuit data,
- can be accessed from any browser supporting WebGL on laptops and smartphones (https://neuronlp.fruitflybrain.org).

Here, we provide examples outlining capabilities of NeuroNLP to:

- Visualize the early olfactory system of *Drosophila* larvae, showing OSNs, PNs, MBONs and DANs;
- Display the early visual system of adult *Drosophila* and focus on the motion detection pathway, starting with the L1 neurons and following up to Mi1 and T4 neurons;

Visualization of the Larva Early Olfactory System

🛞 NeuroNLP .Larva		
rannan i	n n	
Presynaptic Partners		
Neuron	Number of Synapses	
Filter by name	N greater than	
85c ORN left	144	
broad D1 left	44	
broad D2 left	22	
broad T1 left	16	
47a & 33b ORN left		
Postsynaptic Partners		(Click to start video)
Neuron	Number of Synapses	
Filter by name	N greater than	
broad T1 left	56	
broad T3 left	42	
broad T2 left	42	
KC21 8262302	39	
mPN iACT A1 left	22	
KC54 6704232	13	
KC no pair 14460113	12	
KC no pair 16627773		
KC no pair 8865199		
KC no pair 16629757		
Copyright © 2017 FFBO		enter query here, ex. show KC in mushroom body

Visualization of the Lamina Cartridge > Medulla Column L1 > Mi1 > T4 Neurons

🛞 NeuroNLP ,Ad	ult		Get Started	Tags	Neurons/Synapses Neuropils	
Postsynaptic Partners 🕄			Number of Neurons: 7 L 11 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1			
Neuron	Number of Synapses	+/- Neuron +/- Synapses				
Filter by name T4	N greater than 5					
T4b-home	41	E •			A Harris	
		-				
T4a-home			o start video)			
T4d-home						
T4a-A						
T4d-F		•				
Т4с-В						
T4d-B			l			
			nter query here, ex. show gabaergic	local neuro	ons in ellipsoid body	

Part III

FlyBrainLab: Building the Functional Map One Circuit at a Time

FlyBrainLab Think of "Matlab" for Fruit Fly Brains



Building the Functional Map of the Fruit Fly Brain

Exploring the Functionality of the Central Complex



Exploring the Functionality of the Central Complex (cont'd)

0	File Edit View Run Kernel Neuro Tobs Settings Help 👝			
82	[Master] Untitled88.jpynb 🛛 🗙	📕 Untitled88.jpynb 🗙		-
T.	4 0 日 く 田 日 2 ① 第 C Python 3 〇	• 🔁 + % 🖸 🗂 ▶ ≡ C' Code ∨ P	ython 3 🔿	fo] U
Running Running	Enter N.P. query.	In [27]: free coditor import * neuron * "P\$/L/2-la/LHB/b' generate.vs([convo], fourt-cx_ex_LHB.svg') nm[3].eed050("cx_ex_LHB"; *cx_ex_LHB:svg!) nm[3].lod050("cx_ex_LHB"; *cx_ex_LHB"; *cx_ex_LHB:svg!)		1011edBB
Dum	÷÷ 00 🔎 💌			
8	Select a node			
Tools	▼ array [66] ▲ □ 0 : TH-F-300013 ▲			
Cel	1 : Gad1-F-700098			
~	2 : Tdc2-F-100014			
Tob	3 : VGlut-F-200478			
	4 : Gad1-F-200210			
	5 : VGlut-F-300342			
	6 : Trh-F-500196			
	🗄 🔲 7 : SHT1A-F-300018			
	Click to	start video)		
	(Neu30) Untibled88 ×	(GFX) Untitled88 ×		
	Party of the second sec	Whole Brain >> Central Complex		

The Columbia University Team:

- Aurel A. Lazar (PI)
- Tingkai Liu
- Nikul H. Ukani
- Mehmet Kerem Turkcan
- Chung-Heng Yeh
- Yiyin Zhou

The National Tsing Hua University Team:

- Ann-Shyn Chiang (PI)
- Yu-Chi Huang
- Chung-Chuan Lo (PI)
- Cheng-Te Wang

The University of Sheffield Team:

- Daniel Coca (PI)
- Dorian Florescu
- Carlos Luna Ortiz
- Paul Richmond
- Adam Tomkins

The Columbia University Team:

- Aurel A. Lazar (PI)
- Tingkai Liu
- Mehmet Kerem Turkcan
- Chung-Heng Yeh
- Yiyin Zhou