

1 **Cell-Type Specific Connectivity of Whisker-Related Sensory and Motor Cortical Input to**
2 **Dorsal Striatum**

3 **Abbreviated Title: Differential connectivity of sensory and motor corticostriatal inputs**

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18 **Conflicts of interest statement**

19 The authors declare no competing financial interest.

20 **Abstract:**

21 The anterior dorsolateral striatum (DLS) is heavily innervated by convergent excitatory
22 projections from the primary motor (M1) and sensory cortex (S1) and is considered an important
23 site of sensorimotor integration. M1 and S1 corticostriatal synapses have functional differences in
24 the strength of their connections with striatal spiny projection neurons (SPNs) and fast-spiking
25 interneurons (FSIs) in the DLS, and as a result exert an opposing influence on sensory-guided
26 behaviors. In the present study, we tested whether M1 and S1 inputs exhibit differences in the
27 subcellular anatomical distribution onto striatal neurons. We injected adeno-associated viral
28 vectors encoding spaghetti monster fluorescent proteins (sm.FPs) into M1 and S1, and used
29 confocal microscopy to generate 3D reconstructions of corticostriatal inputs to single identified
30 SPNs and FSIs obtained through ex-vivo patch-clamp electrophysiology. We found that SPNs are
31 less innervated by S1 compared to M1, but FSIs receive a similar number of inputs from both M1
32 and S1. In addition, M1 and S1 inputs were distributed similarly across the proximal, medial, and
33 distal regions of SPNs and FSIs. Notably, clusters of inputs were prevalent in SPNs but not FSIs.
34 Our results suggest that SPNs have stronger functional connectivity to M1 compared to S1 due to
35 a higher density of synaptic inputs. The clustering of M1 and S1 inputs onto SPNs but not FSIs
36 suggest that cortical inputs are integrated through cell-type specific mechanisms and more
37 generally have implications for how sensorimotor integration is performed in the striatum.

38 **Significance Statement:**

39 The dorsolateral striatum (DLS) is a key brain area involved in sensorimotor integration
40 due to its dense innervation by the primary motor (M1) and sensory cortex (S1). However, the
41 quantity and anatomical distribution of these inputs to the striatal cell population has not been well
42 characterized. In this study we demonstrate that corticostriatal projections from M1 and S1

43 differentially innervate spiny projection neurons (SPNs) and fast-spiking interneurons (FSIs) in
44 the DLS. S1 inputs innervate SPNs less than M1 and are likely to form synaptic clusters in SPNs
45 but not in FSIs. These findings suggest that sensorimotor integration is partly achieved by
46 differences in the synaptic organization of corticostriatal inputs to local striatal microcircuits.

47 **Introduction**

48 Sensorimotor integration is the ability to identify important stimuli from the environment
49 and use this information to guide behaviors essential for survival (Machado et al, 2010). Neurons
50 in the primary motor (M1) and primary sensory (S1) cortices play a role in this process by sending
51 excitatory glutamatergic projections to the striatum, a subcortical region, and the main input
52 nucleus of the basal ganglia network (Hoffer & Alloway, 2001). Generally, cortical projections
53 from functionally related brain regions show higher density and significant overlap amongst their
54 projection fields in the striatum (Bolam et al, 2002; Hintiryan et al, 2016; Hunnicutt et al, 2016).
55 Notably, the dorsolateral striatum (DLS) is a site of overlap between inputs from M1 and S1 and
56 plays a critical role in sensorimotor integration (Hoffer & Alloway, 2001; Hunnicutt et al, 2016;
57 Makino et al, 2016; Hooks et al, 2018; Smith et al, 2022), but how these inputs are integrated by
58 different cell types in DLS is still unclear.

59 The DLS mostly contains inhibitory GABAergic spiny projection neurons (SPNs) and a
60 sparse population of various interneurons (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Tepper et al, 2018).
61 Activation of SPNs that express the D1 dopamine receptor constitute the “direct” pathway and
62 promote selected motor actions, while SPNs that express the D2 dopamine receptor constitute the
63 “indirect” pathway and inhibit non selected motor actions (Kreitzer & Malenka, 2008). One major
64 interneuron type, the parvalbumin-positive fast spiking interneuron (FSI), is a potent inhibitor of
65 striatal SPNs and involved in sensorimotor transformation of behavior (Lee et al, 2019; Gritton et

66 al, 2019; Martiros et al, 2019). For example, stimulation of S1 inputs to FSIs in the DLS suppresses
67 responding to both rewarded and unrewarded cues in a whisker-based texture discrimination task.
68 In contrast, stimulation of the M1 inputs, which has a different balance of functional innervation
69 to SPNs compared to S1, promotes behavioral responses in the same task (Lee et al, 2019). SPNs
70 and FSIs rely on excitatory inputs along the extent of their elaborate dendrites to drive action
71 potential discharge (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Stern et al, 1998; Tepper et al, 2018). Therefore,
72 both the local connectivity and external synaptic inputs are important factors of integration in the
73 DLS (Straub et al, 2016; Hjorth et al, 2020).

74 While M1 and S1 inputs are capable of evoking excitatory postsynaptic potentials (EPSPs)
75 in SPNs and FSIs, recent reports have found that S1 inputs generate larger responses in FSIs
76 compared to SPNs (Lee et al, 2019; Johansson & Silberberg, 2020). Conversely, Lee et al. (2019)
77 found that the response to stimulation of M1 inputs was similar for SPNs and FSIs. Potential
78 differences in synaptic efficacy of M1 and S1 corticostriatal inputs to striatal neurons could reflect
79 presynaptic, postsynaptic, or structural differences (Fino et al, 2005; Perrin & Venance, 2019;
80 Badreddine et al, 2022), mechanisms that could interact to produce differences in functional
81 innervation. Two properties that have been associated with the efficacy of total synaptic input that
82 a cell receives are the number of synaptic inputs and the distribution of synapses along the dendritic
83 arbor (Rall, 1967; Magee, 2000). Understanding how M1 and S1 inputs are organized onto SPNs
84 and FSIs can reveal how the DLS integrates functionally related signals and commands
85 downstream basal ganglia nuclei, which ultimately affect behavior. Here, we investigate the
86 structural input to SPNs and FSIs and provide evidence for the differential innervation of striatal
87 neurons by M1 and S1.

88

89 **Materials and Methods:**

90 **Animals**

91 All procedures involving animals were approved by the Rutgers University Institutional
92 Animal Care and Use Committee (Protocol #: 999900197). Experiments were performed on wild-
93 type male and female mice on a C57BL/6J background of at least 3 months of age at the time of
94 the first surgical procedures. Mice were housed in a reverse light cycle room (lights off from 08:00
95 to 20:00) with food and water available *ad libitum*. All mice underwent two simultaneous unilateral
96 Adeno Associated Virus (AAV) injections between 35 and 104 days old and all mice were
97 euthanized after at least three weeks post injection.

98 **Viral injection**

99 Briefly, mice were anesthetized with isoflurane (4% induction, 0.8%–1.5% maintenance)
100 and placed onto a stereotaxic frame (Kopf) with a feedback-controlled heating blanket maintained
101 at ~36°C (FHC). Rimadyl (5 mg/kg; Hospira) and Bupivacaine (0.25%, 0.1 mL; Fresenius Kabi)
102 were injected subcutaneously into the left flank and scalp, respectively. The scalp was cleaned
103 with Betadine (Purdue Products) followed by 70% ethanol three times. A midline incision was
104 made, and the skull was exposed and leveled relative to bregma and lambda in the dorsoventral
105 plane. A craniotomy was made above both injection sites, and ~270 nL of
106 pAAV.CAG.Flex.Ruby2sm-Flag.WPRE.SV40 (#98928; Addgene),
107 pENN.AAV.CAG.Flex.GFPsm_myc.WPRE.SV40 (#98927; Addgene) mixed 1:1 with
108 pAAV.CAMKII.Cre.SV40 (#105558; Addgene), or pAAV.CAG.GFPsm-myc.WPRE.SV40
109 (#98926; Addgene) diluted 1:1 in 0.1M PBS were pressure injected into either left whisker M1
110 (anteroposterior (AP): +1.6mm, mediolateral (ML): +1.5mm, dorsoventral (DV): -0.6mm) or left
111 whisker S1 (AP: -1.0mm, ML: +3.3mm, DV: -0.6mm) via a glass micropipette (BlueBrand
112 IntraMark) over the course of 5 minutes followed by another 5 minute delay to permit viral

113 diffusion. After the micropipette was slowly raised, the scalp was closed and secured with sutures
114 and tissue glue. After surgery, mice were placed in clean, temporary housing and monitored for 72
115 hours. After this monitoring period, mice were transferred to their home cages and allowed to
116 recover for at least 3 weeks to allow for viral expression to fully label neuronal processes.

117 **Whole cell patch clamp recordings**

118 Mice were induced with 3% isoflurane, deeply anesthetized with ketamine-xylazine
119 (300/30 mg/kg), and transcardially perfused with recovery artificial cerebrospinal fluid (ACSF)
120 containing 103mM NMDG, 2.5mM KCl, 1.2mM NaH₂PO₄, 30mM NaHCO₃, 20mM HEPES,
121 25mM Glucose, 101mM HCl (1N), 10mM MgSO₄, 2mM Thiourea, 3mM Sodium Pyruvate,
122 12mM N-Acetyl-L-Cysteine, and 0.5mM CaCl₂ (saturated with 95% O₂ and 5% CO₂). After
123 decapitation and extraction, the brain was glued to a vibratome stage, immersed in RT oxygenated
124 recovery ACSF, and 300µm coronal sections were cut using a Leica VT1200S vibratome. Sections
125 were immediately transferred to the same oxygenated medium at 35°C for ~5 min, after which
126 they were transferred to oxygenated external ACSF containing 124mM NaCl, 2.5mM KCl, 26mM
127 NaHCO₃, 1.2mM NaH₂PO₄, 10mM Glucose, 3mM Sodium Pyruvate, 1mM MgCl₂, and 2mM
128 CaCl₂ at RT for at least 1 hour before use.

129 Whole-cell patch clamp recordings were obtained in a chamber that was constantly
130 perfused (2-4 ml/min) with oxygenated external ACSF at 34°C. Sections and neurons were
131 visualized using infrared differential interference contrast (IR-DIC) microscopy with a IR1000
132 CCD camera (Dage-MTI) mounted onto an BX51-WI upright microscope (Olympus) fitted with
133 two switchable lenses: a 4X air lens and a 40X water-immersion lens. Patch pipettes (2-5MΩ)
134 were fabricated by pulling borosilicate glass micropipettes (2mm o.d., Warner Instruments) via a
135 P-1000 horizontal puller (Sutter Instruments). The internal pipette solution contained 130mM K

136 methanesulfonate, 10mM KCl, 10mM HEPES, 2mM MgCl₂, 4mM Na₂ATP, 0.4mM Na₂GTP at
137 pH 7.25 and 290-295mOsm/L. In addition, 2% biocytin was freshly dissolved in the internal
138 solution on each recording day. Current clamp recordings were obtained from neurons within the
139 anterior dorsal striatum (approximately 1.4 to 0.4mm relative to bregma). Once a selected cell was
140 patched, it was subjected to hyperpolarizing and depolarizing current steps (-500pA to 500pA,
141 100pA steps, 500ms, 11 sweeps) for post-hoc electrophysiological analysis and identification.
142 Additionally, patched neurons were held for at least 15 minutes to permit biocytin filling for post-
143 hoc morphological analysis and identification. Data were acquired via a HEKA EPC10USB
144 amplifier and digitized at 20kHz in Patchmaster Next (HEKA). We did not correct for the liquid
145 junction potential.

146 **Analysis of patch clamp recordings**

147 Analysis of electrophysiological responses to hyperpolarizing and depolarizing current
148 injections were performed using MATLAB and Python. In MATLAB, a custom script was used
149 to import (Keine, 2022), standardize, and save the data as a .mat variable. A custom python script
150 was used to import and analyze the data stored in the mat variable, partly using the
151 electrophysiology feature extraction library (eFEL) (Van Geit et al., 2016) of the Blue Brain
152 Project (Blue Brain Project, 2015). Briefly, eFEL was used to mark specific sweep events
153 including the values and indices of action potential (AP) thresholds, peaks, and after
154 hyperpolarizations (AHP) to calculate physiological parameters including half-height width,
155 interspike interval, instantaneous firing frequency, and max firing frequency. The half-height
156 width (HHW) of each AP (from AP threshold to AHP) was calculated by setting half the maximum
157 amplitude ((Peak value - AP threshold value) / 2) as a horizontal threshold, interpolating a line
158 containing 1000 points over the AP, identifying when the interpolated line crossed the threshold

159 during the rising and falling phases, and subtracting the values from each other. The interspike
160 interval (ISI) was calculated by subtracting the latter AP threshold value from the former (e.g.,
161 $ISI[i] = AP_{thres}[i+1] - AP_{thres}[i]$). The instantaneous firing frequency (IFF) was calculated by
162 dividing the interspike interval values by 1 (e.g., $IFF = 1/ISI$). The max firing frequency was
163 calculated by selecting the maximum frequency value (e.g., $MFF = \max (IFF)$).

164 **Immunohistochemistry**

165 After patch clamp recordings, ex vivo slices were stored in 4% PFA overnight. Free-
166 floating sections were washed in 0.1M PBS and incubated with 1% NaBH₄ for 20 minutes, washed
167 again, and then incubated with 10% MeOH + 3% H₂O₂ for 15 minutes. Slices were then incubated
168 in blocking buffer (5% NGS + 2% BSA + 0.5% triton X-100) for 1 hour at RT followed by
169 overnight incubations of 1^o antibodies (Chk α -GFP (1:1000) Rockland 600-901-215; Rb α -FLAG
170 (1:1000) Sigma F7425) diluted in blocking buffer at RT. The following day, slices were washed
171 with 0.1M PBS and incubated with 2^o antibodies (Streptavidin-Cy5 (1:300) Jackson
172 Immunoresearch 016-170-084; Goat α -Chk 488 (1:500) ThermoFisher Scientific A-11039; Goat
173 α -Rb 594 (1:500) ThermoFisher Scientific A-11037) for 4 hours at RT. Slices were washed with
174 PBS, mounted onto slides (ThermoFisher Scientific 12-550-15) via Aquamount (ThermoFisher
175 Scientific, 13800) and cover-slipped (ThermoFisher Scientific 12-540-B) before imaging. For one
176 FSI slice, we tested a fast-optical clearing method (FOCM) because it has been shown to enhance
177 the imaging of fine structures, such as synaptic contacts, in thick sections with minimal loss of
178 endogenous fluorescence and tissue distortion in mice (Zhu et al, 2019). We did not observe any
179 significant distortion to the tissue or morphology of our biocytin filled neuron using this method
180 and this cell was included in the analysis.

181 **Confocal imaging**

182 Confocal Z-stack images were obtained using a Zeiss LSM 800 confocal microscope. Fixed
183 slices containing filled neurons from ex vivo recordings were imaged using a 40x oil immersion
184 objective (Plan-Apochromat 40x/1.4 Oil DIC (UV) VIS-IR M27) set at 1.0 airy disk unit. The
185 biocytin filled cell was centered in the field of view, and the zoom factor was set to a minimum of
186 0.5x or adjusted to capture the entirety of the dendritic field. Images acquired at either 1024 x 1024
187 or 2048 x 2048 pixels with a 0.5x zoom factor corresponded to a minimum voxel dimension of
188 0.312 x 0.312 x 0.530 μm or 0.156 x 0.156 x 0.530 μm respectively in the X, Y, and Z dimensions.
189 Fluorescence acquisition settings were as follows: Alexa Fluor 488 (excitation 493 λ , emission
190 517 λ , detection 490–550 λ), Alexa Fluor 568 (excitation 577 λ , emission 603 λ , detection 565–
191 642 λ), Alexa Fluor 647 (excitation 653 λ , emission 668 λ , detection 645–700 λ). The pinhole size of
192 the objective was set to 1.0 airy disk unit when capturing the longest wavelength fluorophore
193 (Alexa Fluor 647). When imaging the other fluorophores (Alexa Fluor 405, 488, and 568), the
194 pinhole size was adjusted to match the airy disk size of the 647 laser. This ensured that the scan
195 with each laser excited fluorophores in the same sized area. Optical laser intensities were set
196 individually for each channel and optimized throughout the Z-stack using the Z-stack auto-
197 brightness correction tool. Z-stack ranges were set manually by tracking the range of the entire
198 labeled cell.

199 **Morphological measurements**

200 For each neuron in our dataset, we obtained the position along the AP, ML, and DV axes
201 by manually aligning the coronal field view of the recorded slice with the corresponding Allen
202 brain atlas figure (Allen Reference Atlas). We were not able to obtain the ML and AP position for
203 one SPN and one FSI. Dendritic field measurements were obtained by creating a 2D orthogonal
204 projection of the confocal Z-stack and then measuring the largest diameter of an elliptical sphere

205 encompassing the neuron using ImageJ (Fiji) software. The range along the Z-axis for each cell
206 was calculated as the distance between the first and last appearance of neuronal processes in the
207 Z-stack.

208 **Imaris 3D-reconstructions of single neurons**

209 Carl Zeiss image files were imported into Imaris version 9.7 equipped with the Filament
210 Tracer plugin (Bitplane). Biocytin filled neurons were first reconstructed into 3D-surface objects
211 using the “surfaces” tool. For our surface reconstructions, the “background subtraction” option
212 was enabled and the “smoothing” option was disabled to avoid adding artificial curvature to the
213 cell (Fogarty et al, 2013). We determined the largest diameter setting by measuring the largest
214 cross-sectional diameter of the soma in the “slice view” mode. Using an interactive histogram of
215 volumetric pixels, we manually adjusted the threshold to include as much of the neuron as possible
216 while aiming to exclude any extraneous background fluorescence. Neurons were then
217 reconstructed using the “filament tracer” plugin using a semi-automated tracing method.
218 Reconstructing the neuron as a filament allowed us to segment the neuron into separate branch
219 levels and dendrites, as well as obtain distance measurements for M1 and S1 inputs from the
220 beginning of the filament (soma). To construct the neuron as a “filament” we manually traced the
221 dendrites using the “autopath” tool. Once the final outline of the neuron was created, the diameter
222 of the dendrites was adjusted using an automatic threshold. For SPNs, we used the automatic spine
223 detection tool in the “filament” tab to detect and reconstruct dendritic spines. The diameter and
224 length of spines were measured in “slice viewer” using min/max diameters of 0.6 μm and 2.5 μm
225 for automatic spine detection thresholds. This step was excluded for our FSI dataset due to the lack
226 of spines on their dendrites. We verified that there was a single filament for each reconstruction

227 and that all the branch points and dendrites were accurately represented in comparison to the raw
228 fluorescence images.

229 **M1 and S1 corticostriatal synaptic puncta identification and quantification**

230 The Imaris “surface” reconstruction enabled us to mask the raw fluorescence from M1 and
231 S1 channels onto the neuron. Using the “edit” tab within the surface reconstructed neuron, we
232 masked putative presynaptic contacts from M1 and S1 corticostriatal projections by setting the
233 intensity of voxels outside of the surface to 0. This allowed us to filter putative presynaptic contacts
234 so that only fluorescence from M1 and S1 that colocalized with the surface reconstruction
235 remained. This step resulted in two new fluorescent channels representing masked fluorescence
236 from M1 and S1 onto the neuron.

237 Fluorescence from masked M1 and S1 inputs were made into 3-D spots using the “spots”
238 tool. First, the cross-sectional diameter of putative presynaptic puncta from cortical projections
239 was measured in “slice viewer”. The “different spot sizes” option was checked because fluorescent
240 puncta from M1 and S1 varied in size. We chose a minimum diameter of 1 μm and the “background
241 subtraction” option was disabled. Spots were manually thresholded using an interactive histogram
242 and then validated by verifying that the new spot object was representing masked fluorescence
243 from a corticostriatal projection and not from extraneous background fluorescence. The “spots
244 region type” was set to “local contrast” and the “spots regions” diameter threshold was set to
245 “region border”. We used automatic thresholds for these two parameters and found that they gave
246 us the best representation of our puncta as 3D-objects.

247 In Imaris, the default “spots close to filament” function is capable of filtering and
248 quantifying M1 and S1 spots whose center lies within a specified distance from the edge of a
249 neuron reconstructed as a filament object. However, it was limited in that it provided us with the

250 absolute distance of each spot from the soma instead of considering the length of the dendrites. To
251 circumvent this issue, we used a publicly available custom python script provided by Dr. Matthew
252 Gastinger (Gastinger, 2022). Using the “spots close to filament” function provided by this script,
253 we filtered S1 and M1 spots so that only those with edges were within 0.5 μm from the edge of
254 the filament-constructed neuron remained, and we identified these spots as putative M1 and S1
255 inputs. This custom script also provided us with the quantity of inputs and the distance from the
256 soma measured along the dendrite for each spot object.

257 **Statistical analyses**

258 All statistical analyses were performed using GraphPad Prism software. For each metric,
259 we first tested if the data was normally distributed using the Shapiro-Wilk test (Ghasemi &
260 Zahediasl, 2012; Mishra et al, 2019). For normally distributed data, parametric comparative t-tests
261 were used. A statistical F-test was first used to compare variances between groups. If the standard
262 deviation between two normally distributed data sets was significantly different, the unequal
263 variance Welch’s t-test was used. For unpaired samples that were not normally distributed the
264 nonparametric Mann-Whitney U test was used. For paired data that was not normally distributed
265 we used the Wilcoxon matched pairs signed rank test. For multiple group comparisons, we used
266 the analysis of variance (ANOVA) statistical test. All data are presented as the mean +/- SEM.

267 **Code accessibility**

268 A custom Imaris extension written and provided by Dr. Matthew Gastinger is publicly
269 available through Github (Gastinger, 2022). Scripts used for the analysis of the
270 electrophysiological recordings are available through the Margolis Github.
271 (<https://github.com/margolislab>)

272

273 **Results:**

274 **M1 and S1 corticostriatal projections converge in the dorsolateral striatum**

275 We injected adeno associated viruses (AAVs) encoding spaghetti monster fluorescent
276 proteins (sm.FPs) GFP or Ruby into whisker M1 and whisker S1 to observe putative synaptic
277 contacts onto striatal neurons via confocal light microscopy. We used sm.FPs because of their
278 utility in multicolor experiments, enhanced fluorescence, and better resolution when imaging fine
279 structures such as synaptic terminals (Viswanathan et al, 2015). To ensure there was no bias in the
280 expression of sm.FPs due to the injection site, we counterbalanced the injection of sm.FPs in M1
281 and S1 throughout the experiments. In total, 7 mice were injected with sm.FP-GFP in S1 and
282 sm.FP-Ruby in M1, and 3 mice were injected with sm.FP-GFP in M1 and sm.FP-Ruby in S1.

283 After waiting at least 3 weeks to permit viral expression, coronal slices containing the
284 anterior striatum were obtained. Ex-vivo whole-cell patch clamp recordings were performed
285 ipsilateral to the injection site to characterize the electrophysiological properties and fill individual
286 neurons with biocytin (Fig 1A). Recorded and filled neurons were located within extensively
287 overlapping sm.FP-labeled M1 and S1 corticostriatal projections in the dorsolateral region of the
288 striatum (DLS) (Fig. 1B). Our final data set includes 14 striatal neurons from 10 mice (2 males, 8
289 females). 13 additional cells from 6 mice were excluded from reconstruction and analysis due to
290 incomplete biocytin cell fills, inconclusive immunohistochemistry containing artifacts, excessive
291 background fluorescence, or the inability to be identified as an SPN or FSI via their morphology
292 or electrophysiology.

293

294 **Patched SPNs and FSIs are identified by their distinct morphological and**
295 **electrophysiological properties**

296 Striatal neurons were patched without the use of genetic cell identification due to the
297 expression of sm.FPs GFP and Ruby in cortical inputs, which limited our ability to record from
298 SPNs or FSIs labeled with fluorescent markers such as GFP or TdTomato. Instead, patched striatal
299 neurons were identified by their morphological and electrophysiological features, as in previous
300 studies (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Tepper et al, 2018). We identified two distinct populations of
301 striatal neurons in our dataset. Since 95% of the striatal population consist of SPNs, there was a
302 high probability of patching them relative to FSIs (Hjorth et al, 2020). These experiments did not
303 distinguish between D1- and D2-SPNs.

304 Most of the population (N= 9 cells) was identified as SPNs primarily based on the presence
305 of prominent spines embedded along the dendrites (Fig. 1C). In comparison, a second population
306 (N= 5 cells), identified as FSIs, often contained a fusiform-shaped soma, frequently branched,
307 varicose aspiny dendrites, and dense axonal arborizations surrounding the dendritic field (Fig. 1C).
308 We found no significant differences in the maximum size of the dendritic field (SPN = $284.6 \pm$
309 $12.39\mu\text{m}$, N = 9 vs FSI = $269.1 \pm 24.52\mu\text{m}$, N = 5, $p = 0.539$, $t = 0.6323$, $df = 12$, unpaired two
310 tailed t-test) (Fig. 1-1a) or the range of the dendrites along the Z-axis between the two groups of
311 neurons (SPN = $73.81 \pm 8.974\mu\text{m}$, N = 9 vs FSI = $80.34 \pm 12.38\mu\text{m}$, N = 5 $p = 0.6748$, $t =$
312 0.4301 , $df = 12$, unpaired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 1-1b). However, SPNs had significantly fewer
313 primary dendritic branches (SPN = 4.88 ± 0.3889 , N = 9 vs FSI = 7.6 ± 1.166 , N = 5, $p =$
314 0.0183 , $t = 2.728$, $df = 12$, unpaired two tailed t-test) and slightly smaller soma diameter compared
315 to FSIs (SPN = $14.26 \pm 0.4528\mu\text{m}$, N = 9 vs FSI = $16.98 \pm 1.389\mu\text{m}$, N = 5, $p = 0.1228$, $t =$
316 1.865 , $df = 7.206$, unequal variance Welch's t-test) (Fig. 1D), which is similar to what has been
317 previously reported (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Fino & Venance, 2011; Tepper et al, 2018).

318 FSIIs are characterized by their higher frequency (up to 100 Hz) action potential firing and
319 shorter action potential duration, thus we could compare the mean instantaneous frequency and
320 the mean half-height width of action potentials evoked in current clamp recordings to distinguish
321 them from other types of aspiny neurons in the striatum (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Tepper et al,
322 2018) (Fig. 1E). The subpopulation of aspiny neurons identified as FSIIs had shorter mean half-
323 height widths ($FSI_{HHW} = 0.40 \pm 0.04$ ms, $N = 5$ vs $SPN_{HHW} = 1.21 \pm 0.13$ ms, $n = 8$, $p = 0.0016$,
324 Mann-Whitney $U = 0$) (Fig. 1E, 1-1c), faster mean instantaneous firing frequencies ($FSI_{IFF} = 76.84$
325 ± 3.56 Hz, $N = 5$ vs $SPN_{IFF} = 26.99 \pm 3.07$ Hz, $n = 8$, $p < 0.0001$, $t = 10.38$, $df = 11$, unpaired
326 two tailed t-test) (Fig. 1E, 1-1d), more depolarized resting membrane potentials ($FSI_{RMP} = -64.69$
327 ± 0.960 mV, $N = 5$ vs $SPN_{RMP} = -74.16 \pm 1.787$ mV, $n = 8$ vs, $p = 0.0024$, $t = 3.924$, $df = 11$,
328 unpaired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 1-1e), faster maximal firing frequencies ($FSI_{MFF} = 102.3 \pm 7.348$
329 Hz, $N = 5$ vs $SPN_{MFF} = 37.02 \pm 5.146$ Hz, $n = 8$, $p < 0.0001$, $t = 7.505$, $df = 11$, unpaired two
330 tailed t-test) (Fig. 1F), and shorter interspike intervals ($FSI_{ISI} = 13.27 \pm 0.6246$ ms, $N = 5$ vs
331 $SPN = 41.68 \pm 5.137$ Hz, $n = 8$, $p = 0.0008$, $t = 5.490$, $df = 7.206$, unequal variance Welch's t-
332 test) (Fig. 1F) compared to SPNs.

333 SPNs and FSIIs had similar input resistances ($FSI_{Input\ Resistance} = 114.0 \pm 8.513$ M Ω , $N = 5$
334 vs $SPN_{Input\ Resistance} = 126.6 \pm 18.65$ M Ω , $n = 8$, $p = 0.6217$, $t = 0.5077$, $df = 11$, unpaired two
335 tailed t-test) (Fig. 1-1f). One neuron did not reach steady state firing during patch clamp recordings
336 and was excluded from the analysis of ephys parameters but was still included in the SPN group
337 based on its dendritic morphology.

338 To verify that there were no differences in the recording site within the striatum for SPNs
339 and FSIIs, we determined the position of the recorded cell relative to the anatomical features of the
340 slice for a subset of neurons. Most neurons were obtained in the dorsal aspect of the striatum where

341 M1 and S1 corticostriatal projections were concentrated and there were no significant differences
342 in the recording location for both types of neurons ($SPN_{ML} = + 1.738 \pm 0.059$, $n = 8$ vs $FSI_{ML} =$
343 $+1.700 \pm 0.2245$ mm, $n = 4$, $p = 0.8808$, $t = 0.1614$, $df = 3.430$, unequal variance Welch's t-test;
344 $SPN_{AP} = + 1.120 \pm 0.0414$, $n = 8$ vs $FSI_{AP} = + 1.040 \pm 0.1249$, $n = 4$, $p = 0.4555$, $t = 0.7763$,
345 $df = 10$, unpaired two tailed t-test; $SPN_{DV} = -2.265 \pm 0.1101$, $n = 8$ vs $FSI_{DV} = -2.125 \pm 0.1199$,
346 $n = 4$, $p = 0.4516$, $t = 0.7833$, $df = 10$, unpaired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 1G) (Table 1).

347 Overall, the neurons in our dataset have morphological and electrophysiological properties
348 that are consistent with the well-documented differences between SPNs and FSIs. Using the
349 absence of spines on the dendrites and the presence of fast spiking enabled us to differentiate
350 between FSIs and SPNs without the use of genetically encoded fluorescent markers, such as
351 parvalbumin, which is commonly used to label FSIs (Kawaguchi, 1993; Tepper et al, 2018).

352

353 **Corticostriatal inputs to SPNs and FSIs reconstructed in 3D using Imaris**

354 The strength of synaptic connectivity from M1 and S1 to striatal SPNs and FSIs may derive
355 from differences in the quantity and distribution of synaptic inputs. Based on our previous work
356 (Lee et al. 2019), we hypothesized that SPNs have significantly more synaptic inputs from M1
357 compared to S1, but FSIs have a similar number of synaptic inputs from M1 and S1. To test for
358 this, we quantified M1 and S1 inputs onto SPNs and FSIs from confocal 3D reconstructions using
359 Imaris, similar to previous methods (Fogarty et al, 2013; Kuljis et al, 2019).

360 In brain slices from mice with M1 and S1 already labeled with sm.FPs, we patched and
361 filled striatal neurons with biocytin for anatomical analysis. Raw fluorescence from single cell
362 filled SPNs and FSIs was first converted into 3D "surface" objects using the surface tool in Imaris.

363 Then, we constructed our neurons as “filament” objects because this enabled us to segment the
364 dendritic spines, branch points, terminals, and reduce the inclusion of background fluorescence in
365 the reconstruction (Fig. 2A).

366 The dual labeling of M1 and S1 permitted visualization of both cortical inputs
367 simultaneously, but the distance between the pre and postsynaptic membrane is beyond the
368 limitations of confocal light microscopy (Maidorn et al, 2016). To verify that sm.FPs from M1 and
369 S1 represent putative synaptic inputs, we captured fluorescence from M1 and S1 axons along with
370 a marker for the presynaptic scaffolding protein, bassoon, in a subset of patched neurons. Puncta
371 from sm.FPs that labeled M1 and S1, colocalized with bassoon along the dendrites and spines of
372 filled neurons for both SPNs and FSIs (Fig. 2B,C). However, the small size of presynaptic puncta
373 ($<0.5\mu\text{m}$), combined with the large depth of our Z-stack ($>50\mu\text{m}$), limited our ability to capture
374 inputs colocalized with bassoon in deeper parts of the Z-stack because of significant
375 photobleaching of bassoon.

376 Therefore, to reconstruct M1 and S1 inputs onto striatal neurons, raw fluorescence from
377 corticostriatal puncta was first masked onto the surface of the reconstructed neuron and then
378 converted into 3D “spot” objects. We quantified the number and distribution of spots whose edge
379 was within $\leq 0.5\mu\text{m}$ from the edge of the filament construction and identified them as putative
380 presynaptic inputs (Fig 3A). To ensure that our counts were not limited to one side of the Z-stack
381 or confounded by limited light penetration, the Z positions of the first and last appearance of a
382 dendrite, the soma, as well as the Z positions of identified M1 and S1 inputs were obtained
383 throughout the stack. We confirmed that there were no inputs counted outside the range of the
384 neuron within the Z-stack and that M1 and S1 fluorescence penetrated equally throughout the stack
385 for both cell types (Fig. 3-1a).

386

387 **Preferential anatomical innervation of SPNs by M1 compared to S1 corticostriatal inputs**

388 On average, the total number of combined M1 and S1 inputs onto SPNs was greater than
389 FSIs but not significantly different (SPN = 418.55 +/- 52.97, N = 9 vs FSI = 306.2 +/- 78.11, N =
390 5, P = 0.2797, t = 1.132, df = 12, unpaired two tailed t-test), suggesting that we counted a similar
391 number of inputs within a given Z-stack for both cell types (Fig. 3-1b). However, there were
392 significantly more M1 than S1 inputs onto SPNs (SPN_{M1} = 244.44 +/- 29.10 vs SPN_{S1} = 174.111
393 +/- 32.53, N = 9, p = 0.0025, t = 4.339, df = 8, paired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 3-1c), resulting in a
394 considerably larger proportion of M1 than S1 inputs to SPNs (SPN_{M1} = 58.89 +/- 1.61% vs SPN_{S1}
395 = 41.11 +/- 1.61%, N = 9, p = 0.0008, t = 5.222, df = 8, paired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 3B). The
396 ratio of M1 inputs to S1 inputs on SPNs was significantly greater than a value of 1, indicating a
397 stronger preference for the M1 input (SPN_{M1/S1} = 1.467 +/- 0.102, N = 9, p = 0.0025, t = 4.338, df
398 = 8, one sample t-test) (Fig. 3-1d).

399 In comparison, there were no substantial difference between the number and proportion of
400 M1 and S1 inputs onto FSIs (FSI_{M1} = 153.6 +/- 42.17 vs FSI_{S1} = 152.6 +/- 35.39, N = 5, p = 0.9849,
401 t = 0.02018, df = 4, paired two tailed t-test) (FSI_{M1} = 54.19 +/- 10.25% vs FSI_{S1} = 45.81 +/- 10.25%
402 , N = 5, p = 0.7332, t = 0.3656, df = 4, paired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 3B, 3-1c). Similarly, the ratio
403 of M1 to S1 inputs was not significantly different from a value of 1, suggesting no overall bias for
404 M1 or S1 (FSI_{M1/S1} = 2.013 +/- 0.766, N = 5, p = 0.302, t = 1.183, df = 4, one sample t-test) (Fig.
405 3-1d).

406 Neither the cell type (F (1,12) = 1.282, p = 0.2797, two-way repeated measures ANOVA)
407 nor the origin of the cortical input (F (1,12) = 2.884, p = 0.1152, two-way repeated measures
408 ANOVA) had a significant effect on the variability of the number of inputs counted from M1 or

409 S1. In addition, there was no significant interaction between the effects of cortical input and cell
410 type on the number of inputs counted ($F(1,12) = 2.725$, $p = 0.1247$, two-way repeated measures
411 ANOVA). However, a significant source of variability on counts stemmed from individual subject
412 variability ($F(12,12) = 5.582$, $p = 0.0028$, two-way repeated measures ANOVA) (Fig 3C). M1
413 and S1 projection fields can vary along the mediolateral axis of the striatum, however we found
414 no significant correlation between the ratio of M1 to S1 inputs and the mediolateral position of
415 recorded neurons within the DLS (Fig 3-1e), leaving the source of individual variability unknown.

416 Altogether, although M1 and S1 inputs dually innervate SPNs and FSIs, M1 provides a
417 greater number of synaptic inputs than S1 to SPNs, whereas M1 and S1 provide overall equal input
418 to FSIs. These results complement previous measures of the functional synaptic strength of these
419 inputs (Lee et al, 2019).

420

421 **M1 and S1 inputs are similarly distributed in the proximal, medial, and distal regions of** 422 **SPNs and FSIs**

423 The spatial organization of synaptic inputs along the dendritic tree, in addition to the total
424 number of inputs, is an important factor that can influence synaptic integration. To test if there are
425 differences in the spatial distribution of M1 and S1 inputs to SPNs and FSIs, inputs were
426 segmented based on their distance along the dendrites relative to the soma into 10 μ m bins. In both
427 SPNs and FSIs, the distribution of M1 and S1 inputs closely followed each other and were found
428 in proximal ($0 < 30\mu\text{m}$), medial ($30 < 100\mu\text{m}$), and distal regions ($>100\mu\text{m}$) of the neuron.
429 Interestingly, the largest concentration of inputs was found near the soma for both SPNs and FSIs
430 ($\text{SPN}_{\text{M1 } 0-10\mu\text{m}} = 10.50 \pm 2.453\%$, $\text{SPN}_{\text{S1 } 0-10\mu\text{m}} = 9.433 \pm 2.181\%$ $N = 9$; $\text{FSI}_{\text{M1 } 0-10\mu\text{m}} = 14.31 \pm$
431 4.473% , $\text{FSI}_{\text{S1 } 0-10\mu\text{m}} = 10.88 \pm 2.981\%$, $N = 5$) (Fig. 3C). This was followed by a sharp dip in the

432 number of inputs synapsing 20-30 μm away from the soma of the SPNs, but this was not as
433 prominent in FSIs. The number of M1 and S1 inputs peaked again at distances 70-80 μm from the
434 soma in SPNs but not in FSIs, and then decreased to near zero values at distal dendritic locations
435 >100 μm from the soma in both cell types (Fig. 3C).

436 Overall, M1 and S1 inputs were distributed similarly with no significant differences in the
437 mean distance of M1 and S1 inputs from the soma in both SPNs and FSIs ($\text{SPN}_{\text{M1-Soma}} = 76.38 \pm$
438 $9.586\mu\text{m}$ vs $\text{SPN}_{\text{S1-Soma}} = 82.36 \pm 8.527\mu\text{m}$, $N = 9$, $p = 0.2031$, Wilcoxon matched pairs signed
439 rank test; $\text{FSI}_{\text{M1-Soma}} = 59.44 \pm 7.555\mu\text{m}$ vs $\text{FSI}_{\text{S1-Soma}} = 65.97 \pm 6.427\mu\text{m}$, $N = 5$, $p = 0.2682$,
440 paired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 3-1f).

441

442 **M1 and S1 inputs cluster onto SPNs but not FSIs**

443 Since individual striatal neurons receive both M1 and S1 inputs, we wanted to know
444 whether these inputs are localized near each other. To determine if M1 and S1 inputs form synaptic
445 clusters, we measured the distance between inputs of the same type (M1-M1 or S1-S1) or inputs
446 of different types (M1-S1). In SPNs, M1 inputs were found in proximity ($\sim 5\mu\text{m}$) to other M1
447 inputs, and S1 inputs were also near other S1 inputs ($\text{SPN}_{\text{M1-M1}} = 4.390 \pm 0.5693\mu\text{m}$ vs $\text{SPN}_{\text{S1-S1}}$
448 $= 4.532 \pm 0.4742\mu\text{m}$, $N = 9$, $p = 0.6728$, $t = 0.4383$, $df = 8$, paired two tailed t-test). In FSIs, the
449 shortest distance between M1-M1 inputs or S1-S1 inputs was similar to each other, but slightly
450 larger than SPNs ($\text{FSI}_{\text{M1-M1}} = 6.680 \pm 1.220\mu\text{m}$ vs $\text{FSI}_{\text{S1-S1}} = 7.794 \pm 1.692\mu\text{m}$, $N = 5$, $p =$
451 0.5832 , $t = 0.5961$, $df = 4$ paired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 4A-C).

452 The cell type had a statistically significant effect on the variability of the distance between
453 inputs from the same cortical region ($F(1,12) = 6.768$, $p = 0.0232$, two-way repeated measures

454 ANOVA). Therefore, we compared between cell types and found that S1 inputs in SPNs were
455 significantly closer together than in FSIs ($SPN_{S1-S1} = 4.532 \pm 0.4742 \mu\text{m}$, $N = 9$ vs $FSI_{S1-S1} =$
456 $7.794 \pm 1.692 \mu\text{m}$, $N = 5$, $p = 0.0358$, $t = 2.364$, $df = 12$ unpaired two tailed t-test) (Fig. 4B). A
457 similar trend was observed for M1 inputs but was not significant ($SPN_{M1-M1} = 4.390 \pm 0.5693 \mu\text{m}$,
458 $N = 9$ vs $FSI_{M1-M1} = 6.680 \pm 1.220 \mu\text{m}$, $N = 5$, $p = 0.0747$, $t = 1.592$, $df = 12$ unpaired two tailed
459 t-test) (Fig 4B). These results indicate that inputs from the same cortical region tend to cluster
460 more on SPN dendrites compared to FSI dendrites.

461 We next asked whether inputs from different cortical regions were more clustered in SPNs
462 than FSIs. We found that the mean distance between an M1 and S1 input was significantly smaller
463 in SPNs than in FSIs ($SPN_{S1-M1} = 4.727 \pm 0.6643 \mu\text{m}$, $N = 9$ vs $FSI_{S1-M1} = 8.609 \pm 1.023 \mu\text{m}$, N
464 $= 5$, $p = 0.0061$, $t = 3.321$, $df = 12$, unpaired two- tailed t-test; $SPN_{M1-S1} = 7.156 \pm 1.565 \mu\text{m}$, $N =$
465 9 vs $FSI_{M1-S1} = 8.605 \pm 1.906 \mu\text{m}$, $N = 5$, $p = 0.6309$, Mann-Whitney $U = 18.50$) (Fig. 4D). There
466 was a greater chance of S1 inputs being found within $5 \mu\text{m}$ of an M1 input in SPNs ($SPN_{S1-5\mu\text{m}} =$
467 $73.92 \pm 5.86\%$, $p = 0.0049$, $t = 3.847$, $df = 8$, $SPN_{M1-5\mu\text{m}} = 59.44 \pm 6.23\%$, $p = 0.1912$, $t = 1.428$,
468 $df = 8$, $N = 9$, one sample t-test) (Fig. 4E). This was not the case for FSIs, as less than 50% of the
469 S1 input colocalized within $5 \mu\text{m}$ of an M1 input ($FSI_{M1-5\mu\text{m}} = 51.18 \pm 15.33 \%$, $p = 0.9483$, $t =$
470 0.0689 , $df = 4$, $FSI_{S1-5\mu\text{m}} = 39.86 \pm 6.71\%$, $p = 0.2478$, $t = 1.352$, $df = 4$, $N = 5$, one sample t-test)
471 (Fig. 4E). These results indicate that the majority of S1 inputs onto SPNs form synaptic clusters
472 with M1, and that clustering is more prominent in SPNs compared to FSIs.

473 These results led us to examine the spatial distribution of M1 and S1 inputs that form
474 clusters within $5 \mu\text{m}$ of each other. We observed that clustered M1-S1 inputs were distributed
475 across the proximal, medial, and distal regions for both cell types and there was no differences in
476 the mean distance from the soma for inputs that were part of a cluster ($SPN_{M1-S1} = 77.04 \pm$

477 9.943 μ m, $SPN_{S1-M1} = 78.76 \pm 8.807\mu$ m, $N = 9$; $FSI_{M1-S1} = 52.11 \pm 10.37\mu$ m, $FSI_{S1-M1} = 54.37$
478 $\pm 11.15\mu$ m, $N = 5$) (Fig. 4F). Similar to the distribution of individual M1 and S1 inputs, the
479 highest concentration of clustered inputs was found 0-10 μ m from the soma ($SPN_{M1\ 0-10\mu m} = 12.71$
480 ± 3.572 , $SPN_{S1\ 0-10\mu m} = 10.99 \pm 2.747$, $N = 9$; $FSI_{M1\ 0-10\mu m} = 22.51 \pm 7.452\%$, $FSI_{S1\ 0-10\mu m} =$
481 $21.32 \pm 7.298\%$, $N = 5$) (Fig. 4G), with a second peak 60-70 μ m from the soma. The second peak
482 was less prominent in FSIs compared to SPNs. Altogether, our results indicate that clustered M1
483 and S1 inputs are distributed across all regions of SPNs and FSIs but are located less densely at
484 distal dendrites.

485

486 **Discussion:**

487 In this study, using dual fluorescent tracing, we measured the extent of corticostriatal
488 projections from M1 and S1 to individual neurons in the DLS and identified cell-specific
489 differences in the quantity and distribution of M1 and S1 inputs onto SPNs and FSIs. Our findings
490 indicate that SPNs receive significantly more inputs from M1 compared to S1, while FSIs show
491 no overall bias in the number of M1 or S1 inputs (Fig. 3). In addition, we found that M1 and S1
492 inputs have similar distributions across proximal, medial, and distal regions of SPNs and FSIs, but
493 in SPNs, they are found near each other, forming synaptic clusters (Fig. 4). These results have
494 implications for how M1 and S1 corticostriatal inputs modulate striatal circuitry and behavior.

495

496 **Cell-specific differences in the number of inputs from M1 and S1 suggest stronger S1** 497 **connectivity to FSIs in the DLS**

498 The convergence of M1 and S1 inputs to the DLS reflects its important role in sensorimotor
499 integration (Makino et al, 2016; Gritton et al, 2019; Lipton et al, 2019; Matiros et al 2019). We
500 observed extensive overlap of M1 and S1 projections onto individual neurons in the DLS, in

501 agreement with previous experiments (Fig. 1B, Fig. 2B, C) (Hoffer & Alloway, 2001; Hunnicutt
502 et al, 2016; Hooks et al, 2018).

503 Due to our use of biocytin to label patched neurons, we did not use genetic labels for D1
504 and D2 SPNs, or parvalbumin for FSIs. However, in our study the proportion of inputs from M1
505 and S1 to SPNs had low variability (Fig 3C), suggesting that D1 and D2 SPNs have a similar
506 distribution of M1 and S1 inputs, which we previously demonstrated through optogenetic
507 stimulation of M1 and S1 inputs (Lee et al, 2019). The more notable differences in M1 and S1
508 innervation were found between SPNs and FSIs, and we distinguished patched FSIs from SPNs
509 by their larger soma size, varicose aspiny dendrites, and high frequency spiking compared to SPNs,
510 which has been reported in previous studies (Fig 1C-F, Fig. 1-1) (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997;
511 Tepper et al, 2018). While most parvalbumin interneurons in the striatum are FSIs, there are likely
512 regional subtypes of FSIs with distinct responses and connectivity to cortical brain regions
513 (Monteiro et al, 2018; Tokarska & Silberberg, 2022). Future experiments could use further genetic
514 cell typing, which could help clarify the variability we observed between individual cells.

515 SPNs and FSIs require many excitatory inputs to generate action potentials due to their
516 hyperpolarized resting membrane voltages seen in Fig. 1-1e (Kawaguchi, 1993 & 1997; Tepper et
517 al, 2018). A greater quantity of inputs leads to increased EPSPs because inputs can spatially
518 summate on dendrites (Magee, 2000). M1 and S1 can form synaptic contacts onto the same SPN
519 or FSI (Fig. 2B) (Ramanathan et al, 2002; Johansson & Silberberg, 2020; Charpier et al, 2020),
520 but DLS SPNs have weak responses to sensory stimuli and strong responses to motor activity (Lee
521 et al, 2019; Matiros et al, 2018, Charpier et al, 2020). In contrast, FSIs respond to M1 and S1
522 stimulation with EPSPs of similar amplitude (Lee et al, 2019; Johansson & Silberberg, 2020).
523 Directly comparing the number of inputs from M1 or S1 revealed no significant differences

524 between SPNs and FSIs, however we found that SPNs had significantly fewer inputs from S1
525 compared to M1, and that number of inputs between M1 and S1 was similar in FSIs (Fig 3-1c).
526 The reduced innervation by S1 compared to M1 in SPNs, but equal innervation compared to M1
527 in FSIs suggest that S1 promotes the feedforward inhibition of SPNs by preferentially activating
528 FSIs over SPNs (Lee et al 2019, Johansson and Silberberg 2020).

529 A large source of variability in the counts stemmed from our group of FSIs (Fig 3-1c, see
530 Anova results). However, this is not due to differences in the penetration of light from our sm.FP
531 constructs during imaging (Fig. 3-1a), or the total number of inputs counted between SPNs and
532 FSIs (Fig. 3-1b). Moreover, despite a denser overlap of M1 and S1 in the more lateral aspects of
533 the striatum we found no major correlation between lateral position and the ratio of M1/S1 inputs.
534 This might indicate that ratio of M1 to S1 inputs to SPN and FSIs is consistent across the DLS
535 (Fig. 1G, Fig. 3-1e) instead of the possibility that the mediolateral position of a patched neuron
536 biased innervation patterns towards M1 or S1.

537

538 **The location of M1 and S1 inputs onto SPNs and FSIs suggest integration through** 539 **spatiotemporal mechanisms**

540 The anatomical measures indicate that the quantity of synapses partly account for
541 differences between cell types. The distance between the input from the soma is also important
542 because distal inputs undergo electrotonic decay and result in smaller EPSPs recorded at the soma
543 when compared to proximal inputs (Rall, 1967; Magee, 2000; Straub et al, 2016). We found that
544 M1 and S1 inputs had similar distributions across regions of the neuron for both SPNs and FSIs.
545 A large proportion of apparent inputs were observed closer to the soma for SPNs (Fig. 3C).
546 However, reports using correlative light and electron microscopy (CLEM) with VGLUT1, a

547 synaptic marker expressed in corticostriatal terminals, have also observed cortical terminals near
548 the cell body but demonstrated that true asymmetric synapses form at the dendritic spines of SPNs,
549 with few inputs to the dendritic shafts and cell body (Reiner et al, 2010; Lei et al, 2013, Deng et
550 al, 2015).

551 In SPNs, spines are prominent on the primary dendrites distal to the first dendritic
552 ramifications (Fig. 1C, 2A) (Wilson & Groves, 1980), likely explaining why we observed a drop
553 in counts in more proximal regions (Fig. 3C). Interestingly, the number of M1 and S1 inputs
554 peaked again at medial dendritic distances (70-80 μ m) (Fig. 3C), where SPNs have active calcium
555 conductances that contribute to the generation of “up-states” and increased excitability (Plotkin et
556 al, 2011). Other reports have shown stronger synaptic responses in SPNs and the presence of
557 synaptic clusters at similar dendritic locations (Straub et al, 2016; Hwang et al, 2022). In contrast,
558 “up-states” have not been demonstrated in FSIs, suggesting that they integrate inputs passively
559 (Plenz and Kitai, 1998); Our data is consistent with reports that corticostriatal synapses are broadly
560 distributed onto the dendrites of FSIs (Ramanathan et al, 2002; Nakano et al, 2018; Zheng et al,
561 2021).

562 SPNs can perform sublinear, linear, and supralinear integration of excitatory inputs
563 depending on the timing and location of the input (Carter et al, 2007, Straub et al, 2016). The
564 clustering of synapses is optimized for long-term plasticity because the coincident activation of
565 multiple synapses in spines that are in close together on a dendrite can produce a self-regenerating
566 dendritic spike, which is stronger and longer lasting than an EPSP. (Losonczy & Magee, 2006;
567 Carter et al, 2007; Kastellakis & Poirazi, 2019, Du et al, 2017). Although we observed less S1
568 inputs compared to M1 in SPNs (Fig. 3A, B), the majority (> 50%) of S1 inputs were in proximity
569 (< 5 μ m) to a neighboring S1 input or M1 input, and this was not the case for FSIs (Fig. 4A-D).

570 These results support the theory that SPNs can act as coincidence detectors for M1 and S1 and
571 integrate signals from these cortical regions through temporal and spatial summation by clustering
572 sensorimotor inputs. Critically, it has been observed that stimulation of M1 inputs induces an initial
573 membrane depolarization in SPNs that is quickly enhanced by activity generated from S1
574 (Charpier et al, 2020), and M1 inputs from mice trained on motor tasks form active clusters on the
575 spines of SPNs in the DLS (Hwang et al, 2022).

576

577 **Implications of findings on sensorimotor integration by SPNs and FSIs in the DLS**

578 In vivo, during sensorimotor learning, SPNs form ensembles that are highly active during
579 the initiation and termination of task-related movements associated with reward (Matiros et al,
580 2018; Gritton et al, 2019). PV-FSIs have an important contribution to SPN ensemble formation in
581 the DLS (Matiros et al, 2018; Gritton et al, 2019). The cell specific distribution of M1 and S1 to
582 the DLS that is seen in our results likely contributes to organizing which cells are active during
583 this process.

584 Synaptic clustering greatly increases the likelihood that activity from M1 and S1 is
585 coincidentally detected on short sections of the dendritic membrane, leading to large
586 depolarizations and changes in plasticity (Carter et al, 2007; Kastellakis & Poirazi, 2019). This
587 increases the chance that these inputs become associated with other cortical and thalamic regions
588 when there is convergent activity (Carter et al, 2007; Huerta-Ocampo et al, 2014, Makino et al,
589 2016). Therefore, it is likely that while S1 alone does not evoke strong responses in SPNs, SPNs
590 that receive convergent activity from task related M1 and S1 neurons will overcome local
591 inhibition by FSIs and increase the probability of firing an action potential. As a result, they

592 become part of task related circuits in the DLS that underlie habitual responses to sensory stimuli
593 (Matiros et al, 2018; Lipton et al, 2019).

594 In conclusion, the organization of M1 and S1 inputs to the DLS suggest that activity from
595 S1 will preferentially excite the striatal FSI population, leading to feed forward inhibition of SPNs
596 during sensorimotor integration. Our findings have significant implications for how corticostriatal
597 circuits encode learned movements. Future investigations should examine if there are cell-specific
598 requirements for plasticity in corticostriatal inputs to SPNs and FSIs.

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618 **Figure Legends:**

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620 **Figure 1. Viral circuit mapping of M1 and S1 corticostriatal projections to dorsal striatal**

621 **SPNs and FSIs. (A)** Viral circuit mapping strategy highlighting spaghetti monster injections into

622 M1 and S1 from a top-down view (left) and the corticostriatal projection pattern onto biocytin

623 filled striatal cells from a sagittal view (right). **(B) Top-left:** Low magnification view of a coronal

624 striatal section containing the M1 sm.FP injection site and corticostriatal projections to the

625 dorsolateral striatum. *CC* = corpus callosum, *DLS* = dorsolateral striatum. *Top-Right:* Low

626 magnification view of a coronal striatal section with S1 corticostriatal projections labeled with

627 sm.FPs. *Bottom-Left:* Low magnification view of merged fluorescence from S1 and M1

628 corticostriatal projections innervating a striatal SPN filled with biocytin (white box). *Bottom-*

629 *Right:* High magnification inset bottom-left image with corticostriatal innervation by M1 and S1

630 onto a biocytin filled SPN. **(C) Left:** Pseudo colored representative image of a biocytin filled SPN

631 with spiny dendrites (inset). *Right:* Pseudo colored representative image of a biocytin filled FSI

632 with aspiny dendrites (inset). **(D) Left:** Average number of primary dendrites (note that FSIs have

633 more primary dendrites extending from the soma compared to SPNs). *Right:* Average cross-

634 sectional diameter of the soma **(E)** Comparison of mean instantaneous firing frequency and mean

635 half-height width at steady state permits differentiation of FSIs from SPNs due to their fast firing

636 rates. **(F) Left:** Average max firing frequency. *Right:* Average interspike interval. **(G)** Schematic

637 representation of the recording location of the SPNs and FSIs in our dataset (note that all cells

638 were recorded in the anterior dorsal striatum where M1 and S1 innervation was dense).

639

640 **Figure 1-1. Morphological and electrophysiological properties of SPNs and FSIs. (a)** Mean

641 cross sectional diameter of the dendritic field. **(b)** Mean depth of the dendritic field along the z-

642 axis. **(c)** Mean half height width (HWH) amplitude. **(d)** Mean instantaneous firing frequency. **(e)**
643 Mean resting membrane potential voltage. **(f)** Mean input resistance.

644

645 **Figure 2. 3D reconstructions of striatal neurons and confirmation of S1 and M1 synaptic**
646 **puncta. (A)** 3D-reconstruction of biocytin filled SPNs and FSIs into a “surface” and “filament”
647 object in Imaris. **(B)** Representative raw fluorescence from biocytin, the presynaptic protein
648 bassoon, M1, and S. **(C)** Merged image from **B** demonstrating S1 and M1 presynaptic inputs dually
649 innervating an SPN (top) and FSI (bottom).

650

651 **Figure 3. Differential innervation by S1 and M1 to SPNs and FSIs. (A)** Magnified view of raw
652 fluorescence (left) from S1 and M1 corticostriatal projections onto a biocytin filled SPN (top) and
653 FSI (bottom) with their associated 3D-reconstructions (right). **(B)** Average percent innervation by
654 M1 and S1. **(C)** Mean distribution of S1 and M1 inputs across the neuron when measuring the
655 distance from the soma along the length of a dendrite.

656

657 **Figure 3-1. Distribution properties of S1 and M1 inputs to SPNs and FSIs. (A)** Z-positions of
658 the first and last appearance of a dendrite, and the soma of reconstructed SPNs (Left) and FSIs
659 (Right) compared with the Z positions of their associated S1 and M1 inputs **(B)** Mean total number
660 of combined S1 and M1 spots counted within 0.5 μ m of the filament constructed SPN or FSI **(C)**
661 Mean number of spots counted from S1 and M1 within 0.5 μ m of the filament edge **(D)** Mean ratio
662 of M1 spots to S1 spots counted within 0.5 μ m of the filament edge **(E)** Comparison of M1/S1
663 ratio with the mediolateral position of the neuron it was recorded from; black dots = SPNs (n=8),

664 gray dots = FSIs (n=4). **(F)** Mean distance of an S1 and M1 input from the soma when measured
665 along the length of the dendrite.

666 **Figure 4. S1 and M1 input cluster on SPNs but not in FSIs.** **(A)** Representative image of
667 fluorescence from M1 (red) and S1 (green) masked onto the dendrites of an SPN (Left) and an FSI
668 (Right). **(B)** Mean distance between the nearest input from the same cortical region. **(C)** Mean
669 distribution of the shortest distance to the nearest input from the same cortical region. **(D)** Mean
670 distance between inputs from different cortical regions. **(E)** Mean percent of S1 and M1 Inputs
671 that colocalized with an increasing distance threshold for SPNs (Right) and FSIs (Left). **(F)** Mean
672 distance from the soma when measured along the length of the dendrite for S1 and M1 spots that
673 colocalized within 5µm of each other. **(G)** Distribution of colocalized spots from **F**.

674

675

	ML	AP	DV
SPN, <i>n</i> = 8	1.738 +/- 0.06mm	1.12 +/- 0.04mm	-2.265 +/- 0.10mm
FSI, <i>n</i> = 4	1.70 +/- 0.19mm	1.04 +/- 0.11mm	-2.125 +/- 0.10mm.

676

677 **Table 1. Position of recorded striatal neurons from ex-vivo slices relative to bregma.** The
678 medial lateral (ML), anterior posterior (AP), and dorsal ventral (DV) position of the recorded
679 neuron within the striatum relative to bregma.

680

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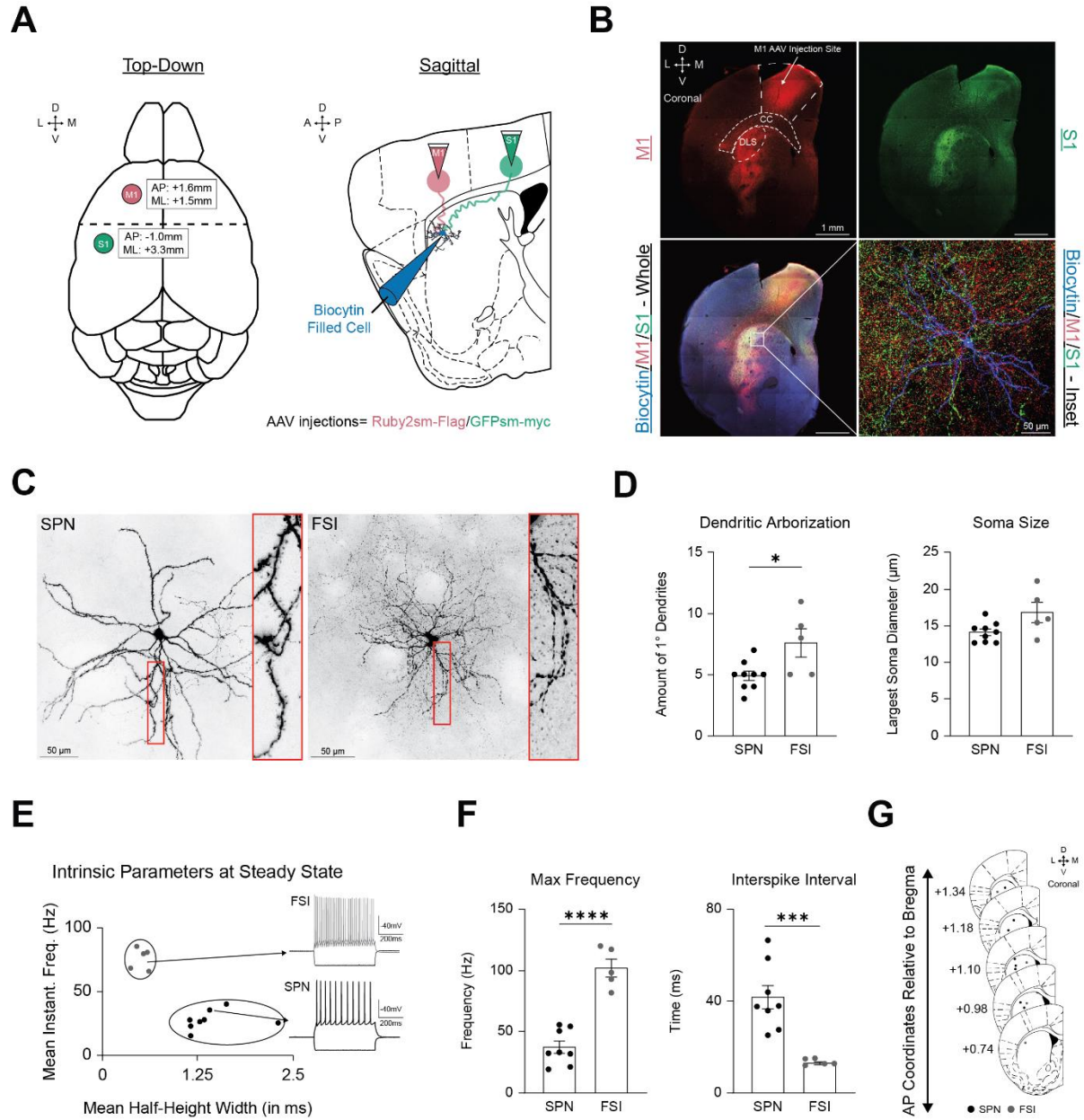
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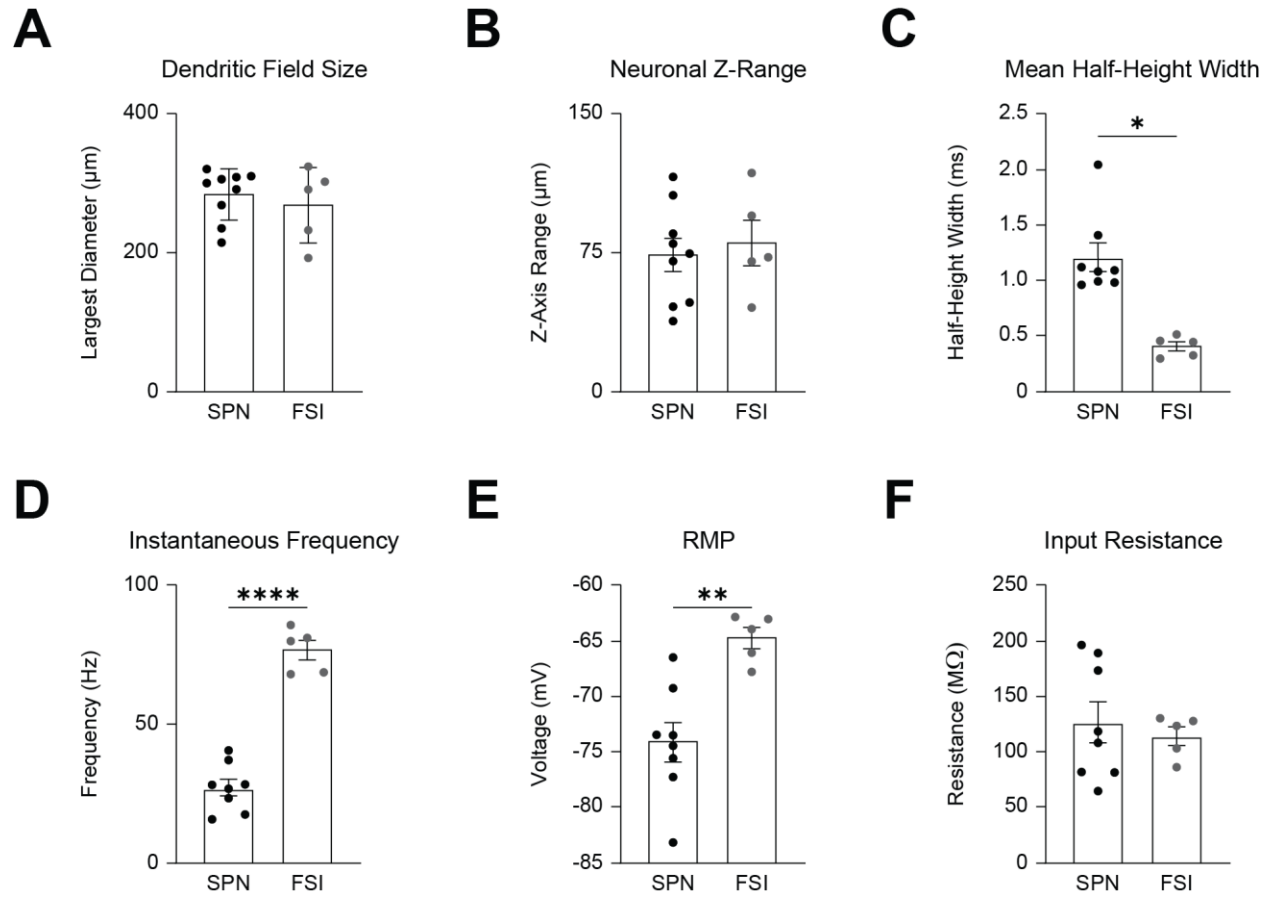
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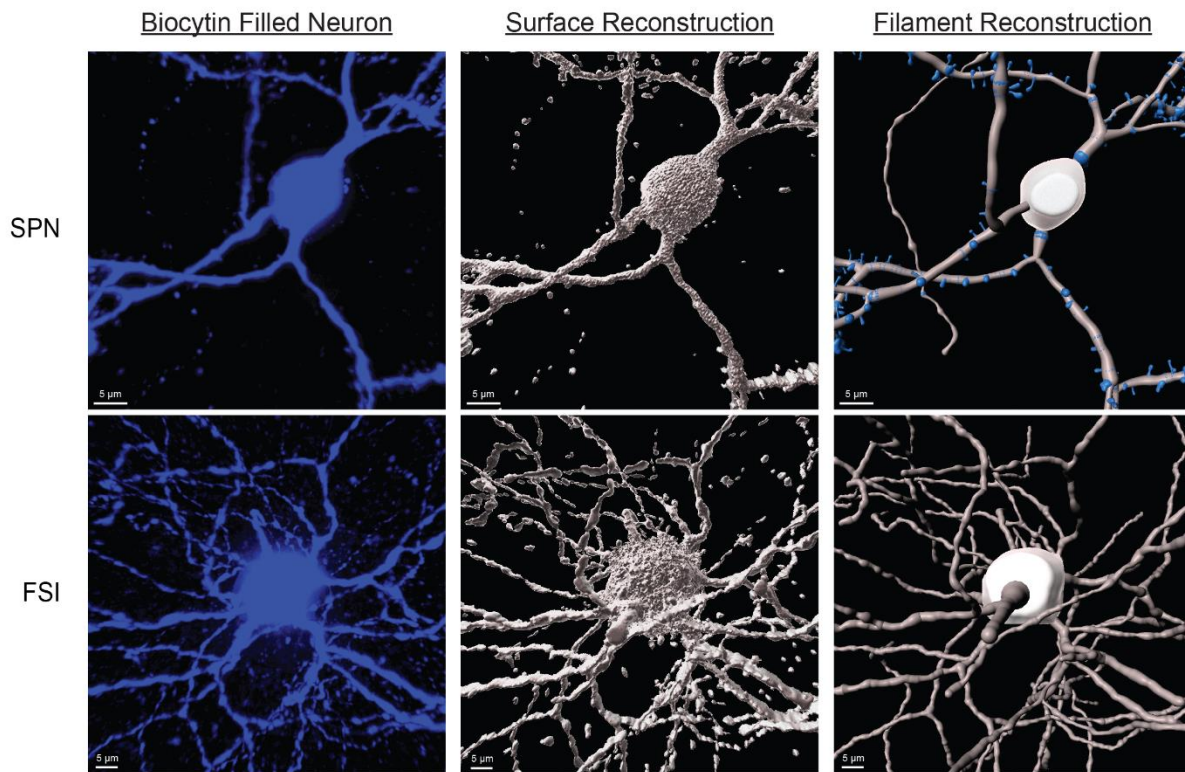
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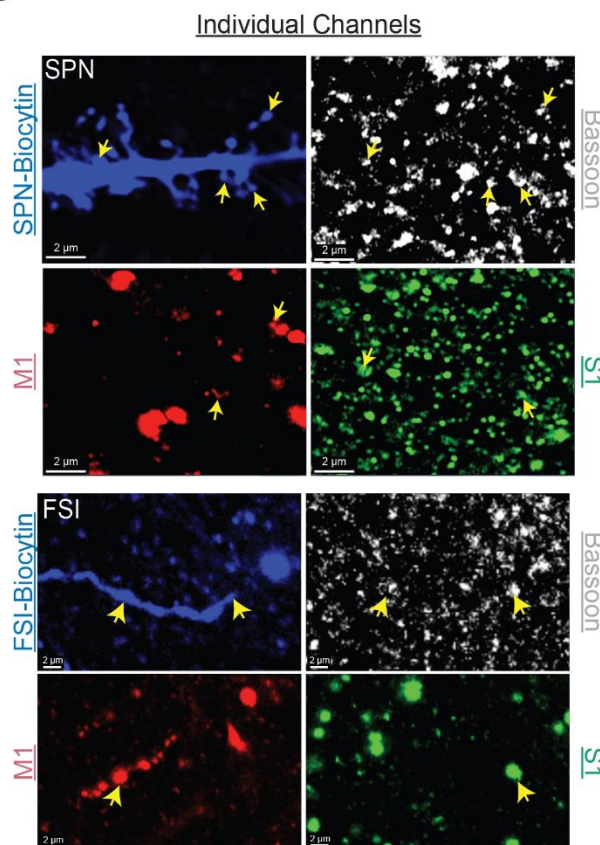




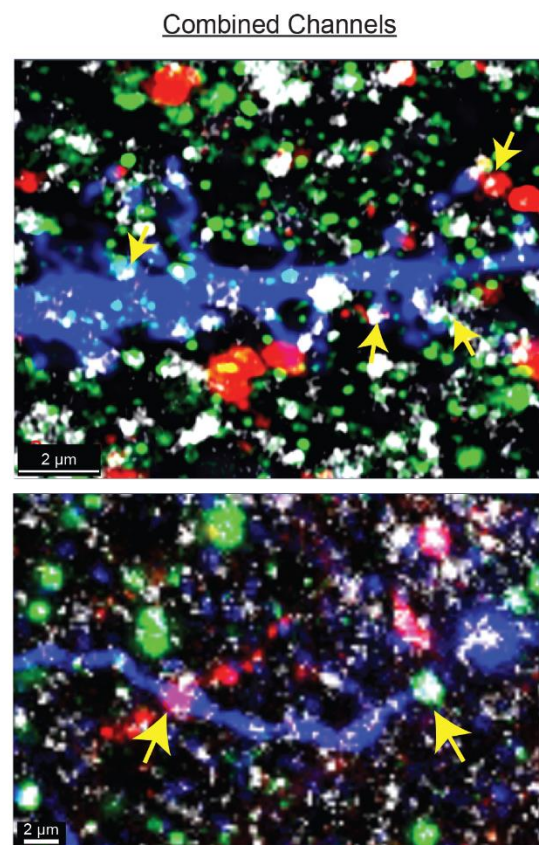
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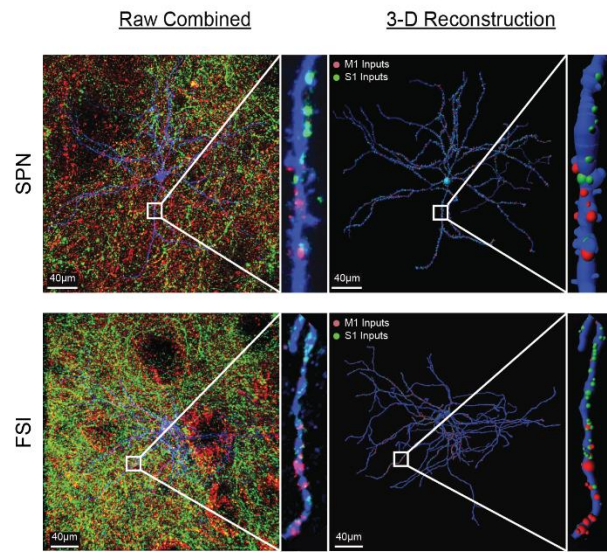
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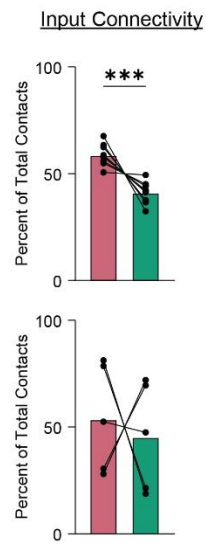
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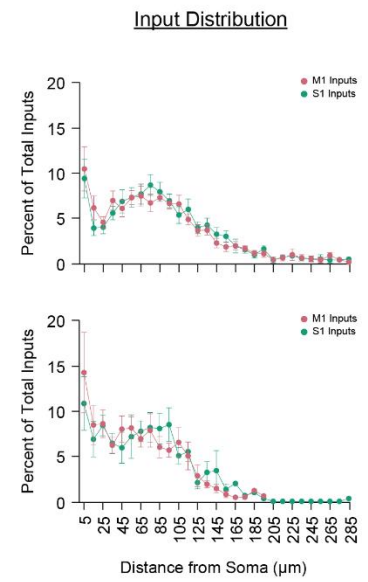
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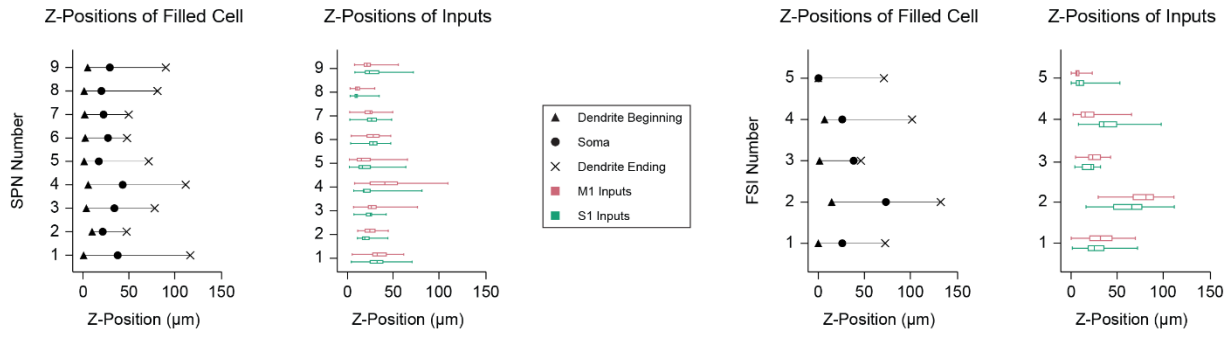
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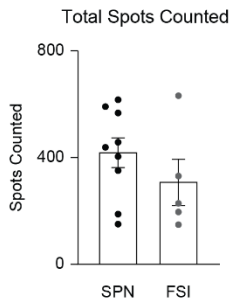
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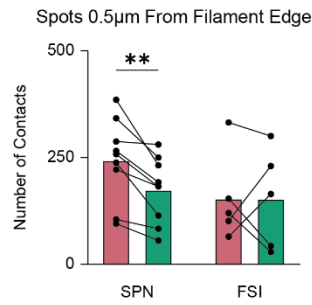
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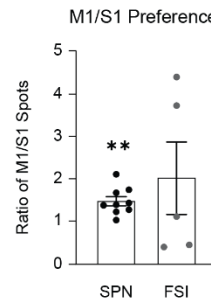
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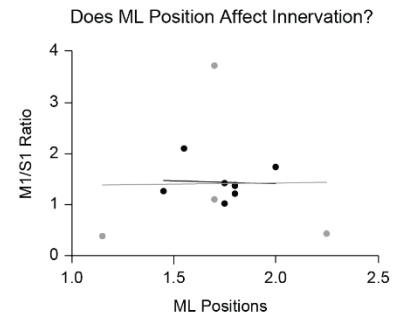
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