

Non-Canonical Odor Coding in the Mosquito

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Key words: *Aedes aegypti*; mosquito; odor coding; olfaction; snRNA-seq

SUMMARY

Female *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes are a persistent human foe, transmitting arboviruses including dengue and yellow fever when they bite us to obtain a blood meal. Mosquitoes are intensely attracted to human-emitted body odor, heat, and carbon dioxide, which they detect using three different large multi-gene families encoding odor-gated ion channels. Genetic mutations that cause profound disruptions to the olfactory system have modest effects on human attraction, suggesting significant redundancy in odor coding. The canonical view is that olfactory sensory neurons each express a single chemosensory receptor that defines its ligand selectivity. Using immunostaining, RNA *in situ* hybridization, and single nucleus RNA sequencing, we discovered that *Aedes aegypti* uses an entirely different organizational principle, with many neurons co-expressing multiple chemosensory receptor genes. *In vivo* electrophysiology demonstrates that the broad ligand-sensitivity of mosquito olfactory neurons is due to this non-canonical co-expression. The redundancy afforded by an olfactory system in which many neurons co-express multiple receptors with different chemical sensitivity may greatly increase the robustness of the mosquito olfactory system and explain our longstanding inability to engineer new compounds that disrupt the detection of human body odor by mosquitoes.

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INTRODUCTION

Increased global travel, a growing world population, and rising temperatures increase the emergence and transmission of novel disease-causing pathogens spread by “vector” organisms such as mosquitoes, ticks, sandflies, and fleas. Diseases spread by these arthropods collectively account for more than 700,000 deaths every year (WHO, 2020). Female *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes spread arboviruses including dengue, Zika, yellow fever, and chikungunya. Only female mosquitoes bite, and they do so because they require a blood-meal for reproduction (Allan et al., 1987). *Aedes aegypti* prefer to bite human hosts, which contributes to their effectiveness as a disease vector (Brown et al., 2014; Gouck, 1972; McBride et al., 2014). To identify human hosts, mosquitoes rely heavily on chemosensory cues, including carbon dioxide (CO₂) emitted from breath, and human body odor, which is a mixture of hundreds of different individual odorants including alcohols such as 1-octen-3-ol and volatile amines such as ammonia (Acree et al., 1968; Bernier et al., 2000; Cook et al., 2011; Davis, 1984; Gallagher et al., 2008; Geier et al., 1999; Kline, 1994; Smallegange et al., 2005; Smith et al., 1970). Insects detect such chemosensory cues using receptors encoded by three large multi-gene families, Odorant Receptors (ORs), Ionotropic Receptors (IRs), and Gustatory Receptors (GRs). All three gene families encode ionotropic ligand-gated ion channels, in contrast to the metabotropic seven transmembrane domain G protein-coupled odorant receptors utilized by vertebrates and *Caenorhabditis elegans* nematodes (Ihara et al., 2013). ORs are odorant-gated ion channels (Butterwick et al., 2018; Del Marmol et al., 2021; Sato et al., 2008; Wicher et al., 2008) that are formed by a heteromultimeric complex of the conserved co-receptor Orco and a ligand-selective OR (Benton et al., 2006; Larsson et al., 2004; Neuhaus et al., 2005; Sato et al., 2008). IRs are variant ionotropic glutamate receptors that are formed by one or more of three conserved co-receptors, Ir25a, Ir8a, and Ir76b, and ligand-selective subunits that determine the range of odorants detected by the receptor complex (Abuin et al., 2011; Benton et al., 2009; Silbering et al., 2011). Although GRs are primarily taste receptors (Clyne et al., 2000; Montell, 2009; Scott et al., 2001), some GRs detect temperature (Ni et al., 2016), and several GRs form a complex that detects carbon dioxide (CO₂) in a variety of insects (Jones et al., 2007; Kwon et al., 2007). CO₂ is an important volatile human host cue that activates and attracts mosquitoes (Gillies, 1980). In *Aedes aegypti*, *Gustatory Receptor 3 (Gr3)* encodes an essential subunit of the CO₂ receptor, and *Gr3* mutant mosquitoes lose all sensitivity to CO₂ (McMeniman et al., 2014).

Because mosquitoes specialize on humans and require blood to reproduce, the drive to find humans is strong and innate. Indeed, even mosquitoes genetically engineered to eliminate genes critical for peripheral detection of host sensory cues can find and bite people. Animals lacking the Odorant receptor co-receptor (*Orco*), the obligate co-receptor required for the function of the entire family of ORs, show strong attraction to humans (DeGennaro et al., 2013). Deleting *Ir8a*, *Ir76b*, or *Ir25a* co-receptors reduces but does not eliminate attraction to humans (De Obaldia et al., 2022; Raji et al., 2019). Similarly, while mosquitoes lacking the obligate CO₂ receptor subunit *Gr3* do not respond to CO₂ and show impaired behavioral responses in laboratory assays, they are highly effective in finding humans in a more naturalistic semi-field setting (McMeniman et al., 2014). Although the exact odor profile of people varies considerably, *Aedes aegypti* are highly effective in finding humans to bite, despite widespread efforts by humans to mask our odor with chemical repellents (Tawatsin et al., 2006; Travis et al., 1949). We have yet to identify long-lasting interventions to prevent this deadly biting behavior, and it is not known how the mosquito olfactory system is seemingly infallible in its ability to detect humans.

91 The cloning of the first odorant receptors in 1991 (Buck and Axel, 1991) led to the subsequent
92 discovery that each vertebrate olfactory sensory neuron expresses a single odorant receptor
93 that specifies its functional properties. With few exceptions, the well-studied olfactory system of
94 *Mus musculus* mice features olfactory sensory neurons that are thought to express a single
95 olfactory receptor (Bashkirova and Lomvardas, 2019; Chess et al., 1994). The same
96 organization was reported in *Drosophila melanogaster* flies (Clyne et al., 1999; Gao and
97 Chess, 1999; Vosshall et al., 1999), although recent work challenges this model (McLaughlin
98 et al., 2021; Task et al., 2021). In both species, decades of evidence has supported the model
99 that neurons expressing a given receptor project axons to dedicated olfactory glomeruli in the
100 first sensory processing center in the brain, the antennal lobe in insects (Couto et al., 2005;
101 Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005; Vosshall et al., 2000) and the olfactory bulb in vertebrates
102 (Mombaerts et al., 1996; Ressler et al., 1994; Vassar et al., 1994). This “one-receptor-to-one-
103 neuron-to-one-glomerulus” organization is believed to be a widespread motif in insect olfactory
104 systems, and the convergence onto discrete glomeruli is hypothesized to permit the brain to
105 utilize combinatorial coding and parse which subpopulation of olfactory neurons is activated by
106 a given odorant (Bisch-Knaden et al., 2018; Semmelhack and Wang, 2009; Wang et al., 2003).

107
108 Consistent with this “one-receptor-to-one-neuron-to-one-glomerulus” organization in insects,
109 the number of expressed chemosensory receptors in the OR and IR gene families in many
110 insects roughly correlates to the number of olfactory glomeruli. This holds true in the honey
111 bee *Apis mellifera* (~180 receptors/~160 glomeruli) (Flanagan and Mercer, 1989; Robertson et
112 al., 2010), the tobacco hornworm *Manduca sexta* (~60 receptors/~70 glomeruli) (Grosse-Wilde
113 et al., 2011), and *Drosophila melanogaster* flies (~60 receptors/~55 glomeruli) (Benton et al.,
114 2009; Laissue et al., 1999; Robertson et al., 2003). Based on these studies, it is widely thought
115 that merely counting the number of antennal lobe glomeruli in a new species would be
116 reasonably predictive of the number of chemosensory receptors found in its genome. In *Aedes*
117 *aegypti*, however, there is a striking mismatch between the number of expressed
118 chemosensory receptors and the number of antennal lobe glomeruli, with at least twice as
119 many receptors as available glomeruli (Bohbot et al., 2007; Ignell et al., 2005; Matthews et al.,
120 2018; Shankar and McMeniman, 2020; Zhao et al., 2020). This leads to the question of how
121 the mosquito olfactory system is organized to accommodate so many receptors and whether
122 this deviation from rules established in other species explains their exquisite ability to locate
123 human hosts.

124
125 In this study, we developed a CRISPR-Cas9-based genetic knock-in strategy in *Aedes aegypti*
126 to generate genetically-modified mosquito strains that label molecularly distinct populations of
127 olfactory sensory neurons. We used these strains to understand how the mosquito olfactory
128 system is organized and discovered that OR- and IR-expressing olfactory sensory neurons
129 frequently innervated the same antennal lobe glomeruli. To ask if this was a feature of
130 individual olfactory neurons expressing multiple chemosensory receptors, we profiled receptor
131 expression in peripheral sensory organs using RNA *in situ* hybridization and by
132 immunostaining with antibodies that recognize endogenous OR and IR co-receptors. To
133 complement these studies, we carried out single nucleus RNA sequencing to profile gene
134 expression in the antennae and maxillary palps. Through these experiments, we found that the
135 olfactory system of *Aedes aegypti* does not have the expected “one-receptor-to-one-neuron-to-
136 one-glomerulus” organization seen in other organisms. We frequently observed co-expression
137 of multiple chemosensory receptors from at least two of the three receptor gene superfamilies
138 within individual olfactory sensory neurons. We also saw expression of multiple receptors from

139 a single family within the same olfactory sensory neuron. To test if multiple receptors function
140 to detect different ligands within the same olfactory sensory neuron, we used *in vivo*
141 electrophysiology to examine odorant responses in the maxillary palp. We discovered a class
142 of neurons that expresses members of both the OR and IR gene family and that responds to
143 odorants that activate either OR or IR pathways. When we mutated either the OR or IR
144 pathway by deleting the major co-receptors, neurons retained responsiveness to the odorant
145 sensed by the pathway that was still intact. Therefore, both ORs and IRs are required to detect
146 different classes of odorants in the same sensory neuron. This sensory organization, in which
147 multiple receptors responding to different chemosensory stimuli are co-expressed, suggests a
148 redundancy in the code for human odor. We speculate that this unconventional organization
149 underlies the robust, seemingly unbreakable properties of the *Aedes aegypti* olfactory system
150 in detecting human odor and driving human host-seeking in this olfactory specialist.
151

152 RESULTS

153 Mismatch in chemosensory receptor and olfactory glomerulus number suggests a novel 154 olfactory organization

155 In the mosquito, olfactory cues are sensed by olfactory sensory neurons in the antenna and
156 the maxillary palp, whose axons project to the ipsilateral antennal lobe of the brain (Distler and
157 Boeckh, 1997; Ignell et al., 2005) (Figure 1A-D, Figure S1A-C). The antennal lobe, the insect
158 equivalent of the vertebrate olfactory bulb, is organized into discrete olfactory glomeruli in
159 which axons from peripheral olfactory sensory neurons terminate and synapse with local
160 interneurons and projection neurons that relay olfactory information to the higher brain
161 (Stocker, 1994). Previous studies used morphological criteria to define 50 (Ignell et al., 2005),
162 60 (Zhao et al., 2020), or 81 (Shankar and McMeniman, 2020) discrete olfactory glomeruli in
163 the female *Aedes aegypti* antennal lobe. In this study, we define approximately 65 olfactory
164 glomeruli (64.9 ± 0.9 , mean \pm SEM), obtained by counting antennal lobe glomeruli in the left
165 hemisphere of 12 female *Aedes aegypti* brains stained to reveal synaptic neuropil (Figure
166 1B,I,K, Figure S2-5). The glomerulus count ranged from 60-72 glomeruli per antennal lobe,
167 indicating a high level of variability in the organization of the antennal lobe. We generated 3-D
168 reconstructions of complete antennal lobes and saw considerable variability in the size and
169 shape of the glomeruli (Figure S1). We were able to consistently identify certain landmark
170 glomeruli, most notably the three glomeruli that are innervated by the maxillary palp (Ignell et
171 al., 2005; Shankar and McMeniman, 2020) (Figure S1D-K).

172
173 The canonical “one-receptor-to-one-neuron-to-one glomerulus” organization posits that the
174 number of chemosensory receptors should roughly match the number of glomeruli in the
175 antennal lobe (Figure 1D). While there is not yet a clear consensus on the number of olfactory
176 glomeruli in *Aedes aegypti*, it ranges from 50 to 81. How does this relate to the number of
177 chemosensory receptors expressed? In the updated *Aedes aegypti* L5 genome (Matthews et
178 al., 2018), there are 117 OR, 135 IR, and 72 GR genes for a total of 324 structural genes that
179 could function in the olfactory system (Figure 1E). Reanalysis of previously published antennal
180 and maxillary palp RNA-sequencing data (Matthews et al., 2016) using multiple expression
181 thresholds demonstrates that even at the conservative threshold of 5 transcripts per million
182 (TPM), the mosquito olfactory system expresses 102 chemosensory receptors, and adjusting
183 the threshold to 2, 1, or 0.5 TPM increases the number of receptors plausibly expressed to
184 134, 156, and 178, respectively (Figure 1F,G). Thus, there are many more chemosensory
185 receptors expressed in the olfactory system than available antennal lobe glomeruli, suggesting
186 that the organization of the *Aedes aegypti* olfactory system must differ from the canonical

187 scheme. We speculate that the mismatch can be resolved by expressing multiple receptors per
188 neuron or having multiple molecularly distinct neurons co-converge on a single glomerulus or
189 both (Figure 1H).

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191 To begin to distinguish between these two organizational principles, we generated a collection
192 of CRISPR-Cas9 gene-targeted strains that label subpopulations of olfactory neurons using
193 the Q-system, a binary expression system similar to Gal4/UAS (Brand and Perrimon, 1993)
194 that uses cell type-specific expression of the QF2 transcription factor to induce expression of
195 an effector from the QF2 binding QUAS enhancer (Potter et al., 2010; Riabinina et al., 2015;
196 Riabinina et al., 2016). We introduced an in-frame insertion that replaced the stop codon of
197 each of the co-receptors *Orco*, *Ir25a*, *Ir8a*, and *Ir76b*, as well as the CO₂ receptor subunit *Gr3*
198 with the transcription factor QF2 (Figure 1I, Figure S2-S6. See Data File 1 for a full description
199 of all genotypes by figure) (Matthews et al., 2019; Potter et al., 2010; Riabinina et al., 2016).
200 These gene-sparing knock-in strains were designed to cause minimal disruption to the locus to
201 increase the likelihood that they would faithfully report expression of the endogenous gene. We
202 crossed these QF2 driver lines individually to a QUAS-CD8:GFP reporter to label neuronal
203 membranes and visualized axonal projection patterns in the antennal lobe.

204

205 *Orco*, *Ir25a*, *Ir8a*, and *Ir76b* co-receptor driver lines were expressed in olfactory sensory
206 neurons with distinct projection patterns in the antennal lobe (Figure 1I-K). Unexpectedly,
207 neurons that expressed *Ir25a* projected to almost all glomeruli in the antennal lobe ($89.9 \pm$
208 1.4% , mean \pm SEM, n=3) (Figure 1I-K, Figure S3), and expression overlapped extensively with
209 glomeruli labeled by *Orco* (Figure 1I-K, Figure S2, Figure S3). While these co-receptor driver
210 lines labeled glomeruli in the same regions from brain to brain, the interindividual expression
211 patterns were not identical, consistent with the variability in glomerular arrangement that we
212 have observed. Neurons that detect CO₂ are located in the maxillary palp (Grant et al., 1995;
213 Lu et al., 2007; Omer and Gillies, 1971) and we saw that *Gr3*-expressing neurons projected to
214 a large glomerulus in the posterior antennal lobe, Glomerulus 1 (Figure 1I-K) which is also
215 innervated by *Ir25a*-expressing neurons. We also noted the presence of a second small
216 glomerulus that was often innervated by *Gr3*-expressing neurons in the antenna (Figure S6B).
217 These initial findings point to the overlap of OR-, IR-, and GR-expressing neurons in the
218 antennal lobe of *Aedes aegypti*, consistent with recent observations in *Drosophila*
219 *melanogaster* (Task et al., 2021).

220

221 Co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* in the mosquito olfactory system

222 The high degree of overlap between glomeruli labeled by *Orco*- and *Ir25a*-expressing olfactory
223 sensory neurons suggests that there is either widespread *Orco* and *Ir25a* co-expression within
224 individual sensory neurons or that *Orco* and *Ir25a* are expressed in different neurons whose
225 axons co-converge onto individual antennal lobe glomeruli or both (Figure 1H). To determine if
226 *Orco* and *Ir25a* are co-expressed, we adapted the Split-QF2 system (Riabinina et al., 2019) for
227 use in the mosquito. This system “splits” the transcription factor QF2 into two components, the
228 DNA binding domain (QF2-DBD) and the activation domain (QF2-AD) each tagged with a
229 synthetic leucine zipper (Figure 2A,B). When both the QF2-DBD and QF2-AD are co-
230 expressed in the same cell, the two domains associate via the leucine zipper, reconstitute a
231 functional QF2 protein, initiate transcription at the QUAS enhancer, and drive expression of a
232 reporter gene (Figure 2C).

233

234 Using the same stop-codon replacement approach that we used to generate the *QF2*-lines, we
235 inserted the *QF2-AD* into the *Ir25a* locus to generate *IR25a-QF2-AD* and the *QF2-DBD* into
236 the *Orco* locus to generate *Orco-QF2-DBD*. When either *IR25a-QF2-AD* or *Orco-QF2-DBD*
237 was used to drive expression of *dTomato* (Shaner et al., 2004), we did not see fluorescence in
238 the female antenna, maxillary palp, or the antennal lobe (Figure 2D-F, Figure S7). Therefore,
239 neither *QF2-DBD* nor *QF2-AD* alone can activate expression from the *QUAS* enhancer.
240 However, when *Orco-QF2-DBD* and *IR25a-QF2-AD* were crossed into the same animal, we
241 saw expression of *dTomato* in antennal and maxillary palp neurons of female mosquitoes, as
242 well as axonal projections in the antennal lobe (Figure 2D-F, Figure S7, Figure S8). Nearly half
243 of the glomeruli in the antennal lobe were labelled with *dTomato* (Figure 2G-I, Figure S7,
244 Figure S8). This points to widespread *Orco* and *Ir25a* co-expression within *Aedes aegypti*
245 olfactory sensory neurons, although we note that these findings do not rule out the possibility
246 that co-convergence may be present as well.

247
248 We then examined the olfactory system of male mosquitoes (Figure 2J-U). We observed
249 extensive expression of *dTomato* throughout the antenna and in axons that terminate in the
250 antennal lobe when we drove expression with either the *Orco-QF2* or *IR25a-QF2* driver lines
251 (Figure 2N,O,R,S). We again saw no expression of *dTomato* when driven by either the *IR25a-*
252 *QF2-AD* or *Orco-QF2-DBD* control lines (Figure 2L,M,P,Q). However, when *Orco-QF2-DBD*
253 and *IR25a-QF2-AD* were crossed into the same animal, we observed widespread *dTomato*
254 expression in the male antenna and antennal lobe, indicating co-expression of *Ir25a* and *Orco*
255 in male olfactory sensory neurons (Figure 2T-U). It is not currently possible to compare male
256 and female glomerular position due to differences in antennal lobe volume and shape and lack
257 of glomerulus-specific driver lines, however, the general expression pattern was similar
258 between males and females, with innervation predominant in the anterior-medial antennal
259 lobes (Figure 2F,G,U).

260 **Co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* in the mosquito taste system**

261 Another source of olfactory information in *Aedes aegypti* may derive from olfactory neurons on
262 the proboscis, the mouthpart of the mosquito that engages in taste and food ingestion.
263 *Drosophila melanogaster* flies express IRs and GRs in the proboscis, but not ORs (Larsson et al.
264 al., 2004). In contrast, *Orco* neurons are widespread in both the proboscises of *Anopheles*
265 *gambiae* and *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes, and RNA-sequencing data from *Aedes aegypti* has
266 shown there are many ligand-selective ORs expressed in this taste tissue (Matthews et al.,
267 2016; Riabinina et al., 2016). Cells in the proboscis have been shown to respond to volatile
268 odorants in *Anopheles gambiae*. However, projections from these neurons in *Anopheles*
269 *gambiae* and *Aedes aegypti* extend to the subesophageal zone, the taste processing center of
270 the brain, and not to the antennal lobe (Ghaninia et al., 2007; Jové et al., 2020; Kwon et al.,
271 2006; Riabinina et al., 2016). It remains unknown if the brain interprets these cues as olfactory
272 or gustatory.

273 We used our *QF2* and *Split-QF2* reagents to reveal the expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* in
274 proboscis neurons and examined how these cells innervate the subesophageal zone. There
275 was extensive expression of both *Orco* and *Ir25a* alone in the proboscis (Figure 3A) as well as
276 co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* as defined by *dTomato* expression in the *Split-QF2* animals
277 (Figure 3C). *Ir25a*-expressing neurons send extensive projections to the subesophageal zone,
278 with axons terminating in the anterior and posterior regions of the subesophageal zone. There
279 is a small cluster of glomeruli in the central subesophageal zone that receives dense
280 innervation as well (Figure 3B). *Orco*-expressing neurons do not project to the anterior region

281 and send sparse projections to the posterior subesophageal zone and subesophageal zone
282 glomeruli (Figure 3B). Innervation by the neurons that co-express both *Orco* and *Ir25a* send
283 projections only to the posterior-ventral subesophageal zone, with the densest innervation in
284 the medial region and sparser lateral arborizations (Figure 3D).

285 Since *Ir25a* complexes mediate not only detection of volatile odorants but also gustatory cues,
286 it is possible that sensory afferents in the *Aedes aegypti* proboscis are able to detect olfactory
287 as well as gustatory information within the same neurons. Alternatively, IRs and ORs in these
288 neurons may function as olfactory receptors that relay olfactory information to the taste center
289 of the mosquito brain.

290

291 **Extensive co-expression of chemosensory co-receptors in the antenna**

292 The observation that nearly half of antennal lobe glomeruli receive projections from neurons
293 co-expressing *Ir25a* and *Orco* suggested that there is extensive co-expression of IRs and ORs
294 throughout the antenna. To determine if neurons co-express *Orco* and *Ir25a* protein we
295 generated an antibody to *Ir25a* and conducted whole mount antennal immunostaining with this
296 antibody and a previously characterized *Orco* antibody (Basrur et al., 2020) to label
297 endogenous *Orco* and *Ir25a* proteins in wild-type mosquitoes (Figure 4A-D). We observed
298 extensive co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* (Figure 4A-D), confirming the co-expression of
299 these distinct chemosensory genes seen using our QF2 and Split-QF2 driver lines. In addition
300 to neurons that contain both *Orco* and *Ir25a* protein, we also observed neurons that express
301 either *Orco* or *Ir25a* alone (Figure 4A-D), indicating that OR cells, IR cells, and mixed OR+IR
302 cells exist. We validated the specificity of the *Orco* and *Ir25a* antibodies by performing whole-
303 mount immunostaining on antennae from *Orco* and *Ir25a* mutants (Figure 4E-H). To confirm
304 and extend these results, we performed RNA *in situ* hybridization on wild-type antennae with
305 probes designed to target endogenous *Orco*, *Ir76b*, and *Ir25a* RNAs (Figure 4I-K). These
306 experiments replicated patterns of co-expression observed in immunostained antennae (Figure
307 4A-D), with almost half of the *Orco* cells co-expressing *Ir25a*, and vice versa. In contrast we
308 saw that few *Orco* cells co-express *Ir76b* by RNA *in situ* hybridization. Both the RNA *in situ*
309 hybridization and immunostaining data indicated that widespread co-expression is not an
310 artifact of the QF2 and split-QF2 driver lines.

311 To gain additional resolution on the degree of overlap between *Orco* and the three major IR
312 family co-receptors, we carried out whole-mount antennal immunostaining with an antibody to
313 the endogenous *Orco* protein and to GFP expressed from each sensory neuron QF2 driver.
314 We confirmed extensive co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* (Figure 4L-N) and found that
315 substantially fewer cells co-express either *Orco* and *Ir8a* or *Orco* and *Ir76b*, even after
316 accounting for fewer total *Ir76b* and *Ir8a* cells (Figure 4L-N). We also note that in addition to
317 widespread co-receptor co-expression, some mosquito olfactory neurons express just one co-
318 receptor (Figure 4O), highlighting the complexity in the rules that govern receptor co-
319 expression in *Aedes aegypti* antennal olfactory sensory neurons.

320

321 **Single nucleus RNA sequencing reveals that many antennal neurons co-express 322 multiple ligand-selective receptor subunits**

323 Functional ORs and IRs are composed of a complex of co-receptor and ligand-selective
324 receptor subunits. Because there are hundreds of ligand-selective OR and IR genes, it was not
325 feasible to examine combinatorial co-expression of the full complement of receptors by RNA *in*
326 *situ* hybridization or immunostaining. Instead, we developed a method for single nucleus RNA
327 sequencing (snRNA-seq) in mosquito antennae based on previously described nucleus

328 extraction protocols from *Drosophila melanogaster* antennae (Li et al., 2021; McLaughlin et al.,
329 2021). We isolated antennae from female mosquitoes, extracted nuclei, performed droplet
330 microfluidics to barcode reads from each cell, and performed droplet-based snRNA-seq using
331 the 10x Genomics platform. For clarity of presentation, we use “cell” as the unit of analysis to
332 refer to expression profiling of single nuclei. These experiments were carried out in two
333 batches, Batch 1 at Rockefeller University and Batch 2 at Baylor College of Medicine (see
334 Methods). We filtered for cells based on quality control parameters and combined data from
335 two batches, to capture a total of 14,161 cells (Figure 5A, Figure S9A-G). Unsupervised
336 clustering was used to categorize cells into broad subtypes, which revealed cells that express
337 epithelial or glial markers (Figure 5B, Figure S9H). This analysis also yielded 19 neuron
338 clusters based on expression of at least 3 of 4 neural markers (*CadN*, *brp*, *syt1*, and *elav*) in
339 50% or more of the cells within that cluster (Figure S9I). A total of 6,645 cells were classified
340 as neurons. We then used unsupervised clustering on this population of neurons and identified
341 54 clusters of antennal neurons (Figure 5C).

342
343 To examine the distribution of chemosensory receptors, we averaged expression among cells
344 within an entire cluster and saw cases where multiple receptors were co-expressed (Figure
345 5D, Figure S10A). Among mean expression levels in the cluster, highly-expressed
346 chemosensory receptors generally belonged to only 1 cluster. Because highly-expressed
347 ligand-selective receptors displayed a strong relationship to individual clusters, we
348 hypothesized that more complex co-expression patterns could be obscured when looking at
349 cluster-level expression patterns. For instance, if a lower-expressed receptor subunit was co-
350 expressed with several different highly expressed receptor subunits, cells exhibiting these
351 combinations might be distributed among several clusters and might not be apparent at this
352 level of analysis. We therefore investigated co-expression within individual cells.

353
354 We first looked at the most highly-expressed receptor subunit pairs in a chord plot and saw
355 several co-expression patterns that were not apparent in the cluster-based analyses (Figure
356 5E). By replotting the expression of individual cells within clusters using heatmaps, we
357 observed many cases of cells co-clustering that expressed discrete combinations of
358 chemosensory receptors. This indicates that clusters are not a faithful representation of all
359 chemosensory receptor combinations with a given cell (Figure S10C). This prompted us to
360 investigate other ways of categorizing cells besides clustering to look more broadly at receptor
361 co-expression patterns.

362
363 To analyze the co-expression partners of a given receptor, we filtered our population of
364 neurons for cells that express a receptor gene above a normalized expression threshold of 0.5
365 $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$ (Figure S11A). We then visualized co-expression
366 using heatmaps. Because receptor expression has a bearing on clustering, we performed
367 unsupervised clustering on these cells as a sorting mechanism to group cells by similarity to
368 visualize patterns on heatmaps. Again, cells often grouped into clusters with clearly identifiable
369 receptor expression patterns, including some that contained multiple receptor subunits (Figure
370 S11B). Simplified heatmaps of groups of cells with distinct receptor co-expression patterns are
371 illustrated in Figure 5F-I and S11C-F. This analysis revealed extensive co-expression that
372 points to a far greater variety of cell types than previously anticipated. For instance, *Or82*
373 marks at least 6 different cell types, some that appear to be *Or82*-specific and others that
374 express an additional one, two, four, or five different ligand-selective receptors. Several of
375 these OR-expressing cell types include one or more ligand-selective IR gene. *Ir64a* marks at

376 least 6 different cell types that each expresses one or more ligand-selective OR genes (Figure
377 5F-I, S11C-F). These results reveal extensive and unexpected chemosensory receptor co-
378 expression in the mosquito antenna.

379

380 **Coordinated co-expression of chemosensory receptors in the maxillary palp**

381 We next examined receptor co-expression in the maxillary palp, a smaller and simpler olfactory
382 organ than the antenna that detects important host cues including CO₂ and 1-octen-3-ol, as
383 well as other host odorants (Grant et al., 1995; Lu et al., 2007; McMeniman et al., 2014; Omer
384 and Gillies, 1971). Each female *Aedes aegypti* maxillary palp contains approximately 35
385 capitata-peg sensilla that each house three chemosensory neurons (McIver, 1982). Based on
386 prior work that examined the morphology and function of the maxillary palp, the neurons within
387 each sensillum are termed the “A”, “B”, and “C” cells based on their size, from largest to
388 smallest respectively (Figure 6A-C). The A cell responds to the important host cue CO₂ and
389 houses the Gr3 CO₂ receptor. The B and C cells both express *Orco*. The B cell is believed to
390 express *Or8*, which detects 1-octen-3-ol, while the C cell expresses *Or49*, which has a less
391 well-defined odorant response profile (Figure 6A).

392

393 We hypothesized that these three cell types project to three glomeruli in the antennal lobe. To
394 delineate the organization of maxillary palp projections in the brain, we used our QF2 and
395 Split-QF2 driver lines to examine maxillary palp sensory innervation of antennal lobe glomeruli
396 (Figure 6C-K). We discovered that Glomerulus 1, which is the largest glomerulus in the
397 antennal lobe (Shankar and McMeniman, 2020), received input from *Gr3*-expressing sensory
398 afferents. Glomerulus 1 was also innervated by *Ir25a*-expressing sensory neurons (Figure 6F-
399 K). Glomerulus 2 and Glomerulus 3 received input from *Orco*-, *Ir25a*-, and *Ir76b*-expressing
400 neurons (Figure 6F-K). Co-expression of *Orco* and *Ir25a* in neurons that project to these two
401 glomeruli was confirmed using the Split-QF2 system. In *Orco-QF2-DBD*, *Ir25a-QF2-AD*
402 animals, Glomerulus 2 and Glomerulus 3 were labeled, but Glomerulus 1 was not (Figure 6E).
403 These findings suggest that the A, B, and C cells express multiple co-receptors, spanning IR-
404 OR and IR-GR classes.

405

406 To form functional odorant-gated IR or OR complexes, olfactory sensory neurons must
407 express both co-receptors and ligand-selective receptors (Abuin et al., 2011; Benton et al.,
408 2009; Larsson et al., 2004; Neuhaus et al., 2005). To simultaneously monitor the extent of co-
409 expression of both co-receptors and ligand-selective receptors in the A, B, and C cells, we
410 carried out multiplexed whole mount RNA *in situ* hybridization (Choi et al., 2018) in the
411 maxillary palp (Figure 6L-P, Figure S12). The maxillary palp expresses many fewer
412 chemosensory receptor genes than the antenna, with 18 receptors detected at the 1 TPM
413 threshold in the maxillary palp compared to 138 in the antenna at the same threshold (Figure
414 1F,G), simplifying the task of selecting genes for expression analysis. We performed RNA *in*
415 *situ* hybridization with probes for 10 of the 18 chemosensory co-receptors and ligand-selective
416 receptors that were present in maxillary palp RNA-seq at a threshold of TPM>1. This technique
417 visualized gene expression with sufficient sensitivity that even *Or71* and *Ir75g* (present at 1.93
418 and 1.67 TPM, respectively) were readily detected (Figure S12O,P).

419

420 We found no overlap in expression of *Orco* and *Gr3* in the maxillary palp, but *Ir25a* was
421 expressed in all *Orco* and all *Gr3* cells (Figure 6L), consistent with our observation that *Ir25a*-
422 expressing neurons project to all three antennal lobe glomeruli. Previous work in *Anopheles*
423 *gambiae* suggested that *Orco*-expressing neurons in the maxillary palp can be evenly divided

424 into two non-overlapping groups: an *Or8* population and an *Or49* population (Lu et al., 2007). It
425 is widely thought that the same is true in *Aedes aegypti*. We show definitively that *Or8* and
426 *Or49* are expressed in segregated populations of *Orco*-expressing neurons in *Aedes aegypti*
427 (Figure 6M) and, when combined with the results of the previous experiment (Figure 6L), that
428 these cells are also all *Ir25a*-positive. Additional RNA *in situ* hybridization experiments
429 revealed that *Or8*- and *Or49*-expressing cells also often express *Ir76b*, with a bias towards
430 expression in *Or8*-expressing cells (Figure 6N, Figure S12I-O, Data File 1). Taken together
431 these data show that *Orco*-expressing olfactory sensory neurons co-express the co-receptor
432 *Ir25a* and either of the ligand-selective subunits *Or49* or *Or8*, and often co-express the co-
433 receptor *Ir76b* as well.

434
435 When we analyzed IR ligand-selective subunit expression, we found that *Ir100a* and *Ir93a* are
436 selectively expressed in a subset of *Or49*-expressing neurons (Figure 6O,P, Figure S12L,M),
437 suggesting that these cells can form functional OR and IR complexes with their respective co-
438 receptors in the same neuron and that co-expression of ORs and IRs may be transcriptionally
439 coordinated. *Or71* and *Or49* were found to be co-expressed, further supporting the idea that
440 multiple ligand-selective ORs can be expressed in an olfactory sensory neuron in *Aedes*
441 *aegypti* (Figure S12O). We also discovered that the ligand-selective receptor *Ir75g* was
442 expressed in some but not all *Gr3*-expressing cells, which also express *Ir25a* (Figure S12P).
443 Therefore, it is plausible that *Gr3* neurons can functionally express both GRs and IRs.

444 445 **Single nucleus RNA sequencing of maxillary palp reveals unanticipated neuronal** 446 **complexity**

447 As mentioned above, the current view in the field is that the *Aedes aegypti* maxillary palp has a
448 simple organization in which all 35 capitata-peg sensilla are molecularly and functionally
449 identical, each containing the same A, B, and C cells (Figure 6A). Our RNA *in situ* hybridization
450 results called this model into question. To examine receptor co-expression in the maxillary palp
451 in greater detail, we carried out snRNA-seq using similar tissue collection and analysis
452 pipelines used for the antenna (Figure 7A, Figure S13, Figure S14A-C), yielding data from
453 2,298 cells. Using unsupervised clustering, we categorized these cells into epithelia, muscle,
454 glia, and neurons (Figure 7B-C, Figure S13F). The neuron cluster comprised 630 cells that
455 were further subdivided into four classes that showed remarkable correspondence to cell types
456 previously described in the maxillary palp (Figure 7C-D, Figure S13G-H). Cluster 4 consists of
457 putative mechanosensory neurons marked by expression of *nompC* and *hamlet*. Clusters 1, 2,
458 and 3 were enriched for *Gr3*, *Or8*, or *Or49*, and likely correspond to A, B, and C cells,
459 respectively (Figure 7D,F,J,K, Figure S14D-G).

460
461 To investigate co-expression patterns of receptor genes within these clusters, we generated
462 chord plots and found that *Or49* was co-expressed with *Ir93a* (Figure 7E), confirming our RNA
463 *in situ* hybridization results. Two ligand-selective IR subunits, *Ir41a* and *Ir161*, were co-
464 expressed in both the B cell and C cell. We used feature plots to further visualize the
465 expression of individual receptor subunits within the clusters of maxillary palp neurons. A
466 number of ligand-selective receptor genes were present in discrete clusters (Figure 7F-P,
467 Figure S14H). Confirming our RNA *in situ* hybridization findings, both the *Gr3* cluster and *Orco*
468 clusters also expressed the *Ir25a* co-receptor, and many *Ir76b*-expressing neurons were found
469 in both the B and C cell clusters (Figure 7F-I, Figure S14D-E).

470

471 Consistent with RNA *in situ* hybridization data, *Ir93a* and *Ir100a* were expressed in the C cell
472 cluster (Figure 7L-M). *Ir161* was expressed in both B and C cells (Figure 7O-P), and *Or44*,
473 *Ir41a*, and *Ir41o* were found in all three chemosensory clusters (Figure 7N, Figure S14H).
474 We did detect low levels of *Orco* expression in the *Gr3* cluster (Figure 7G) in these snRNA-seq
475 experiments, an observation at odds with results from the three other methods used in the
476 paper and one that we do not currently understand but could be due to differences in the
477 sensitivity of detection methods. We also observed significant variability in expression of
478 ligand-selective and co-receptor subunits across cells (Figure 7F-P), consistent with RNA *in*
479 *situ* hybridization data (Figure 6L-P). Exploration of the effect of expression level on *in vivo*
480 receptor function in individual neurons will be an interesting direction of future study.

481
482 A summary of maxillary palp chemosensory receptor gene expression based on all the data in
483 this study is presented in Figure 7Q. This represents a significant departure from the current
484 view of this sensory system (Figure 6A). Notably, these data suggest that many B and C cells
485 have all the necessary ligand-selective and co-receptor subunits to form both functional OR
486 and IR receptors.

487 **Receptor co-expression expands the functional responses of olfactory neurons**

488 We next asked whether this extensive chemosensory receptor co-expression would allow
489 maxillary palp neurons to respond to odorants detected by both ORs and IRs. We used single
490 sensillum recording to measure odorant responses of the olfactory sensory neurons housed in
491 maxillary palp-associated capitata-peg sensilla. This method of *in vivo* extracellular
492 electrophysiology enables the simultaneous recordings of A, B, and C cells in response to
493 odorant stimuli in an intact preparation of the female mosquito. Spike sorting is used to
494 discriminate activity of these three neurons based on the amplitude and waveform of their
495 responses. The physical size of the cell positively correlates with the amplitude of the response
496 (Zhang et al., 2019). The largest A cell responds to CO₂, while the smaller B cell responds to
497 the host odorant 1-octen-3-ol (Bohbot and Dickens, 2009; Cook et al., 2011; Grant et al., 1995;
498 Majeed et al., 2017 ; Syed and Leal, 2007). The smallest C cell has no consistent
499 characteristic ligands in *Aedes aegypti*. We therefore focused our analysis on stimulus-evoked
500 activity of the A cell and B cell while the mosquito was exposed to CO₂ or odorants likely to
501 stimulate either the OR or IR pathway (Figure 8A-E).
502
503

504 To determine which family of receptors – GRs, ORs, or IRs – detects a given ligand we
505 recorded odorant responses in wild-type mosquitoes as well as mosquitoes with mutations in
506 *Gr3*, *Orco*, or *Ir25a*. Because the *Gr3* and *Orco* receptor mutants were generated in a different
507 wild-type strain (+/+^{ORL}) than the *Ir25a* mutant (+/+^{LVP}) (De Obaldia et al., 2022), all analyses
508 were conducted in two different wild-type background strains. Both wild-type strains showed
509 similar odorant responses in all recordings (Figure 8A-E).
510

511 Consistent with previous findings (McMeniman et al., 2014), the A cell responded to CO₂ in a
512 dose-dependent manner but the B cell did not. The A cell response to CO₂ was abolished in
513 *Gr3* mutants (Figure 8A). CO₂-sensing neurons in the maxillary palp respond to multiple
514 odorants in *Aedes*, *Culex*, and *Anopheles* mosquitoes (Lu et al., 2007; Tauxe et al., 2013;
515 Turner et al., 2011) and it has been proposed that *Gr3* is a broadly-tuned receptor that
516 responds to many odorants. We examined the response to a recently identified CO₂-neuron
517 activator, acetone (Ghaninia et al., 2019), which like CO₂ also activated the A cell but not the B

518 cell (Figure 8B). The response to acetone was abolished in the *Gr3* mutant (Figure 8B), which
519 suggests that the CO₂ receptor can interact with non-CO₂ ligands.

520

521 The host-emitted odorant 1-octen-3-ol has been shown to activate the B cell. Both *Aedes*
522 *aegypti* and *Anopheles gambiae* Or8-Orco, which are expressed in the B cell, respond to 1-
523 octen-3-ol when expressed in heterologous cells (Bohbot and Dickens, 2009; Lu et al., 2007).
524 We found that firing of the B-cell, but not the A cell, increased in the presence of 1-octen-3-ol
525 (Figure 8C). The B cell response to 1-octen-3-ol was abolished in the *Orco* mutant, but not in
526 *Gr3* or *Ir25a* mutants (Figure 8C), consistent with the role of Or8-Orco in detecting this
527 compound.

528

529 Volatile amines, including polyamines, have been proposed to be IR ligands in *Drosophila*
530 *melanogaster* (Geier et al., 1999; Hussain et al., 2016; Min et al., 2013; Silbering et al., 2011).
531 We therefore examined the response of maxillary palp neurons to two volatile amines, hexyl
532 amine and triethyl amine. We found that both amines activated the B cell in wild type, *Gr3*
533 mutants, and *Orco* mutants (Figure 8D-F). Average responses to hexyl amine and triethyl
534 amine were strongly reduced but not abolished in the *Ir25a* mutant. When we scrutinized the
535 raw data carefully, we noted that responses to both stimuli in *Ir25a* mutants fell into two clear
536 types of neurons. The majority of *Ir25a* mutant neurons did not respond to these stimuli at all,
537 but a few responded even more robustly than wild type (Data File 1).

538

539 To determine if there are two different functional types of B neurons, we generated a second
540 independent dataset using these stimuli to examine responses in an additional 17 wild-type
541 (+/+^{LVP}) neurons and 23 additional *Ir25a* mutant neurons. The response to the water control
542 stimulus never exceeded 30 spikes/sec firing frequency in either genotype, and we used this
543 as a threshold to classify neurons as “responders” or “non-responders” (Figure 8H-I). We
544 found that all +/+^{LVP} neurons responded to triethyl amine, and 16 out of 17 +/+^{LVP} neurons
545 responded to hexyl amine (Figure 8H-I). Responses to both stimuli were significantly higher
546 than the water control in wild-type (+/+^{LVP}) neurons. In contrast, most neurons in the *Ir25a*
547 mutant did not respond to either triethyl amine or hexyl amine (78.3% n = 23) and neither
548 stimulus elicited significantly different responses from the water control when taking the entire
549 population of 23 recorded neurons into account.

550

551 We noted that 5 out of 23 neurons (21.7%) showed strong responses to both amines that
552 exceeded the corresponding response in +/+^{LVP} neurons (Figure 8G-I). These neurons were
553 considered outliers by a ROUT analysis (Q=1%), consistent with the classification system that
554 we used to categorize neurons as responders or non-responders. Given our discovery of
555 multiple additional IRs and ORs co-expressed along with *Or8* in the B cells (Figure 7Q), we
556 speculate that there are at least two distinct types of B neurons, one that requires *Ir25a* to
557 respond to amines and the other that does not. We hypothesize that this second type of B
558 neuron expresses the *Ir76b* co-receptor, which could form functional amine receptors with one
559 or more of the ligand-selective IRs expressed in the B cell. Our findings that the B cell
560 responds to 1-octen-3-ol in an *Orco*-dependent manner and to triethyl amine and hexyl amine
561 in an *Ir25a*-dependent manner is consistent with the hypothesis that ORs and IRs are
562 functionally co-expressed in the same neurons and that co-expression enables these cells to
563 respond to ligands that activate both classes of receptors.

DISCUSSION

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Combinatorial chemosensory receptor co-expression in *Aedes aegypti*

The mismatch between the number of receptors in the *Aedes aegypti* genome and the number of glomeruli in the antennal lobe is resolved in part by co-expression of multiple odorant receptors in individual olfactory sensory neurons. We found that co-expression is extremely widespread, both between and within OR and IR receptor families, and that the number of receptors expressed in a neuron can vary substantially. While some neurons express only an individual co-receptor and ligand-selective receptor pair, others express “sets” of frequently co-expressed receptor subunits. We were surprised to find that a single receptor subunit could be co-expressed with completely different combinations of receptor subunits. The biological significance of this finding remains to be seen and the exact number of receptor groupings will require extensive additional study.

We found that many commonly co-expressed IRs and ORs belong to mosquito gene family expansions. The *Ir41* clade of IRs was among the most common IRs to be co-expressed with ORs. This clade is greatly expanded in *Aedes aegypti* relative to *Drosophila melanogaster*, with 16 members compared to only 3 orthologous genes, respectively (Matthews et al., 2018). The *Drosophila melanogaster* orthologues, *Ir41a*, *Ir76a*, and *Ir92a*, have all been shown to compose channels that respond to amines (Hussain et al., 2016; Min et al., 2013; Silbering et al., 2011). Volatile amines are enriched in human odor and are known to play an important role in the detection of humans by mosquitoes (Bernier et al., 2000; de Lacy Costello et al., 2014; De Obaldia et al., 2022). It is tempting to speculate that the expansion of the *Ir41* clade in *Aedes aegypti* enhances the ability of these mosquitoes to detect amines present in human odor, although this remains to be tested. Similarly, many of the commonly co-expressed ORs are also members of gene expansions in *Aedes aegypti* as well as *Anopheles gambiae* but have no direct orthologues in *Drosophila melanogaster* (Matthews et al., 2018). Because these mosquito olfactory specialists maintain a very different diet than *Drosophila melanogaster*, it will be fascinating to examine if the ligands for these receptors are enriched in human body odor.

Among the OR subunits found to be co-expressed with other ORs, *Or4* was notable. Subspecies of *Aedes aegypti*, *Aedes aegypti aegypti* and *Aedes aegypti formosus*, have evolved different host preferences, either for humans or non-human mammals respectively. *Or4* responds to the host odorant sulcatone and variation in its coding sequence corresponds strongly with human host preference (McBride et al., 2014; Rose et al., 2020). We observed co-expression of *Or4* in at least three molecularly distinct groups of sensory neurons that each contain 3, 4, or 5 non-overlapping ligand-selective OR subunits in addition to *Or4*. The ligand response profiles of these receptors, which all belong to the families of ORs that are expanded in *Aedes aegypti*, are unknown but we hypothesize that they respond to additional human host odorants. Our experiments used strains of mosquitoes that belong to the *Aedes aegypti aegypti* subspecies and show a preference for human over non-human animal odor (McBride et al., 2014; Rose et al., 2020). It will be interesting to see if co-expression of these OR subunits with *Or4* is altered in *Aedes aegypti formosus*, which prefer non-human animals.

The possibility of neuronal co-convergence in antennal lobe glomeruli

The mismatch between the number of chemosensory receptors in the genome and the number of glomeruli in the antennal lobe originally pointed to two simple models: co-expression or co-convergence. In this study we presented extensive evidence for widespread co-expression in

612 the *Aedes aegypti* olfactory system. However, our findings also point to the likelihood that co-
613 convergence exists in this olfactory system as well. Previous work in *Drosophila melanogaster*
614 and *Mus musculus* has shown that the identity of an olfactory neuron is defined by the
615 chemosensory receptor it expresses. However, our snRNA-seq results identify a wide variety
616 of cell types that cannot be defined by expression of a single chemosensory receptor in a
617 given neuron. Rather *Aedes aegypti* chemosensory cell types are defined by the entire
618 complement of odorant receptors they express. For example, we identified 7 types of *Ir64a*
619 neurons and 4 types of *Or4* neurons each co-expressed with many different types of ORs and
620 IRs. Given this revised view of olfactory sensory neuron types, the number of cell types in the
621 antenna far exceeds the number of glomeruli in the antennal lobe. The most likely solution to
622 this problem is co-convergence of neurons in the antennal lobe, although this remains to be
623 tested directly.

624
625 What rules govern co-convergence in the mosquito? Do neurons that express the same
626 dominant ligand-selective receptor subunit but also co-express different combinations of
627 ligand-selective receptors project to the same glomerulus or separate glomeruli? These
628 contrasting organizational principles would result in very different models of odor coding. We
629 demonstrate that *Aedes aegypti* mosquitoes express many receptors in some neurons but only
630 a single receptor in others. The presence of multiple receptors in a given neuron could serve
631 as a mechanism to integrate odorant information in the primary sensory neuron itself rather
632 than at the first synapse in the antennal lobe. Co-convergence of olfactory sensory neurons
633 onto the antennal lobe could allow for the early integration of olfactory cues while still retaining
634 discrete input channels that could be selectively modulated during changes in behavioral state,
635 such as the suppression of host-seeking after a blood meal. Exploring the organization of this
636 sensory system and the downstream circuitry will be essential, including the question how
637 projection neurons encode olfactory information given such extreme diversity in sensory
638 afferent types.

639 **Coordinated co-expression between *IR*, *OR*, and *GR* ligand-selective receptors**

640 We identified co-expression of co-receptors and ligand-selective receptors belonging to distinct
641 chemosensory families in single neurons in both the antenna and the maxillary palp. This co-
642 expression poses a gene regulatory problem for an olfactory neuron. For ORs and IRs to form
643 functional chemosensory receptors, at least one co-receptor and one ligand-selective receptor
644 must be expressed in a cell. We have demonstrated that multiple ORs and IRs are expressed
645 in specific receptor “sets”. Thus, the transcriptional landscape in *Aedes aegypti* olfactory
646 neurons is not only permissive to co-expression, but ensures certain receptors are expressed
647 with others.
648

649
650 How might this complex code of chemosensory receptor co-expression be regulated? In
651 vertebrates, an elaborate epigenetic silencing mechanism ensures that each olfactory neuron
652 stochastically expresses only a single allele of a single odorant receptor (Bashkirova and
653 Lomvardas, 2019). In contrast, *Drosophila melanogaster* is thought to use a more conventional
654 transcription factor code in which the specification of a neuron and the expression of its
655 chemosensory receptor is tightly regulated (Jafari and Alenius, 2015; Li et al., 2016; Ray et al.,
656 2008). Single-cell sequencing data generated from developing *Drosophila melanogaster*
657 olfactory neurons demonstrate a complex regulatory landscape in which a set of transcription
658 factors govern receptor expression, axon targeting, or both (Li et al., 2020). Two recent studies
659 documented extensive co-expression of co-receptors in *Drosophila melanogaster*, calling into

660 question the rules that regulate olfactory organization in this insect (McLaughlin et al., 2021;
661 Task et al., 2021). It is yet to be determined if mosquito orthologues of these transcription
662 factors have been co-opted to regulate the co-expression we observe or if this novel olfactory
663 organization demands a distinct transcriptional mechanism.

664
665 There are other examples of receptor co-expression within a single class of chemosensory
666 receptor. Polycistronic expression of multiple odorant receptors in *Anopheles gambiae* sensory
667 neurons has been reported (Karner et al., 2015). This differs from co-expressed receptors in
668 *Aedes aegypti*, which are often not closely associated genes within the genome and suggests
669 that other mechanisms of gene regulation must account for the co-expression we observe. A
670 recent study also identified neurons in *Anopheles gambiae* that co-express *Orco* and *Ir76b*, but
671 the extent of OR-IR co-expression in this species remains to be seen (Ye et al., 2021). In
672 *Drosophila melanogaster* there are rare cases of OR-OR or OR-IR co-expression, which have
673 been thought the exceptions rather than the rule. *Or35a* is co-expressed with *Ir76b* (Silbering
674 et al., 2011), and while these neurons respond to many odorants (Silbering et al., 2011; Yao et
675 al., 2005), the functional role of co-expression remains unknown. In *Drosophila melanogaster*,
676 *Or49a* and *Or85f* are co-expressed in a specific olfactory sensory neuron population where
677 they play redundant roles in predator avoidance (Ebrahim et al., 2015). Recent work suggests
678 that there may be more examples to be discovered (McLaughlin et al., 2021; Task et al.,
679 2021).

680
681 Our findings are reminiscent of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, which copes with a very
682 large number of chemosensory receptor genes and a very small number of sensory neurons
683 by extensive receptor co-expression (Troemel et al., 1995; Vidal et al., 2018). *Aedes aegypti*
684 mosquitoes have many more olfactory sensory neurons than *Caenorhabditis elegans*
685 nematodes and the circuit organization also differs dramatically between the two. Another
686 example of extensive olfactory receptor co-expression is seen in mice, where a subpopulation
687 of olfactory sensory neurons each express multiple MS4a chemosensory receptors and project
688 to the so-called necklace glomeruli that surround the main olfactory bulb (Greer et al., 2016).
689 Interestingly these neurons respond to a number of cues that regulate innate behaviors, such
690 as food odors and pheromones. Perhaps chemosensory receptor co-expression is more
691 conducive to sensory systems that drive innate rather than learned behaviors.

692 693 **Maxillary palp chemosensory neurons go beyond a simple A, B, and C organization**

694 The maxillary palp is a multi-modal sensory organ that responds to CO₂ (Acree et al., 1968;
695 Gillies, 1980; Grant et al., 1995), temperature (Roth, 1951), mechanical stimuli (Bohbot et al.,
696 2014), attractive monomolecular odorants such as 1-octen-3-ol (Syed and Leal, 2007; Takken
697 and Kline, 1989; Vythilingam et al., 1992), as well as blends of odorants extracted from human
698 hosts (Tauxe et al., 2013). The prior view of the organization of the maxillary palp is that all
699 volatile odorant-detecting capitate-peg sensilla house the sensory dendrites of three neurons
700 that form identical repeating units: one large CO₂-sensitive neuron that expresses *Gr3* (A cell),
701 and two smaller neurons that express either *Or8-Orco* (B cell) or *Or49-Orco* (C cell) (Lu et al.,
702 2007; McIver, 1972). It is difficult to reconcile the functional diversity of responses with this
703 simple cellular organization. We demonstrate through multiplexed RNA *in situ* hybridization
704 and snRNA-seq that the receptor composition of these neurons is far more complex, and they
705 can be subdivided into many more than three cell types. Consistent with this idea, we found
706 that B cells can be separated into different types based on their physiological response to
707 volatile amines. This is revealed in *Ir25a* mutant animals, where the response to triethyl amine

708 and hexyl amine is abolished in most B cells, but a subset of neurons retains their responses
709 to this compound. We found that *Ir76b* is expressed in a subset of the *Or8*-expressing B cells,
710 as are *Ir161*, *Ir41a*, and *Ir41o*. It is possible that these IRs mediate amine responses in the
711 subset of *Ir25a* mutant neurons that retain amine responses. It will be interesting to examine
712 this possibility and to explore the heterogeneity of odorant responses across all maxillary palp
713 neuron types.

714

715 **Receptor co-expression as a possible mechanism for robust mosquito attraction to** 716 **humans**

717 We hypothesize that receptor co-expression is used broadly to detect redundant cues that are
718 present in human odor, a blend that can vary from individual to individual and contains
719 hundreds of different chemicals (Bernier et al., 1999; Bernier et al., 2000; De Obaldia et al.,
720 2022). Both volatile amines and 1-octen-3-ol are emitted from human skin (Bernier et al., 2000;
721 Cork and Park, 1996 ; de Lacy Costello et al., 2014). It is possible that receptor co-expression
722 is used to form a highly redundant detection system for different cues that represent the same
723 ecological target: humans. This motif has the benefit of limiting the number of neurons needed
724 to detect varied odorants with the same meaning. However, in exchange it may sacrifice the
725 ability to distinguish between cues detected by receptors expressed in the same sensory
726 neurons. In summary, our study reveals unexpected complexity in the gene expression and
727 functional organization of the mosquito olfactory system that may explain the persistence of
728 mosquitoes in hunting humans. Future attempts to refine the design of repellents to ward off
729 mosquitoes or attractant traps to lure them will have to have to reckon with the complexity of
730 this system.

731

732 **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

733 We thank Emily Dennis, Laura Duvall, Itzel Ishida, Philip Kidd, Erica Korb, Carolyn McBride,
734 Christopher Potter, Darya Task, Zhilei Zhao, and members of the Vosshall Lab for comments
735 on the manuscript; Gloria Gordon and Libby Mejia for expert mosquito rearing at Rockefeller
736 and Mengistu Dawit Bulo for rearing strains at SLU; Javier Marquina-Solis for assistance with
737 antennal lobe tracing; Priyanka Lakhiani and Julia Deere for participation in troubleshooting
738 mosquito nuclei extraction; Christina Pyrgaki, Carlos Rico, Katarzyna Cialowicz, and Alison
739 North at the Rockefeller Bio-Imaging Resource Center (RRID:SCR_017791) for assistance
740 with confocal imaging; Helen Duan, Bin Zhang, and Connie Zhao at the Rockefeller Genomics
741 Core for quality control for snRNA-seq samples and 10X Genomics sequencing; Daniel Gross,
742 James Petrillo, and Peer Strogies at the Rockefeller Precision Instrumental Technologies (PIT)
743 Resource Center for advice and fabrication of custom equipment; Olena Riabinina and
744 Christopher Potter for advice and for providing Q-system reagents prior to publication; Carolyn
745 McBride, Matthew DeGennaro, and members of the *Aedes* Toolkit Group for advice and
746 discussion; Caroline Jiang for advice on statistical analysis; Nipun Basrur, Priya
747 Rajasethupathy, Andrea Terceros, Harry Choi, and Molecular Instruments for advice on RNA
748 *in situ* hybridization experiments; Andrea Terceros, Andras Sziraki, Junyue Cao, and 10X
749 Genomics for advice on mosquito nuclei extraction and analysis; Rob A. Harrell II at the Insect
750 Transgenesis Facility at the University of Maryland for embryo injections; Raphael Cohn, Gaby
751 Maimon, Cory Root, Vanessa Ruta, and Ari Zolin for useful discussions; and Frances Weis-
752 Garcia and the members of the MSKCC Antibody and Bioresource Core Facility for
753 preparation of the nc82/Brp monoclonal antibody.

754 **FUNDING**

755 This work was supported in part by grant # UL1 TR000043 from the National Center for
756 Advancing Translational Sciences (NCATS) National Institutes of Health (NIH) Clinical and
757 Translational Science Award (CTSA) program. Funding for this study was provided by Jane
758 Coffin Childs Postdoctoral Fellowships (M.A.Y., B.J.M), The Grass Foundation Grass Fellows
759 Program (M.A.Y.), a Leon Levy Neuroscience Fellowship (M.A.Y.), a Quadrivium Award for
760 Innovative Research in Epigenetics (M.H., L.B.V.) and by a pilot grant (M.A.Y.) and
761 postdoctoral (M.A.Y.) and graduate (M.H., O.V.G.) fellowships from the Kavli Neural Systems
762 Institute, and NIH NIDCD grant F30DC017658 (M.H.). This material is based upon work
763 supported by the National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship under Grant No.
764 1946429 to O.V.G. B.J.M. received support from National Sciences and Engineering Research
765 Council (NSERC) under award RGPIN-2020-05423. M.H. is supported by a Medical Scientist
766 Training Program grant from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences of the NIH
767 under award number T32GM007739 to the Weill Cornell/Rockefeller/Sloan Kettering Tri-
768 Institutional MD-PhD Program. Hongjie Li is a CPRIT Scholar in Cancer Research (RR200063)
769 and supported by National Institutes of Health (R00AG062746). Rickard Ignell is the recipient
770 of a SLU Vice-Chancellor's Senior Career Grant. Antibody purification carried out at the
771 MSKCC Antibody and Bioresource Core Facility was supported by a Cancer Center Core
772 Grant 5 P30 CA008748-54. L.B.V. is an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

773
774 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

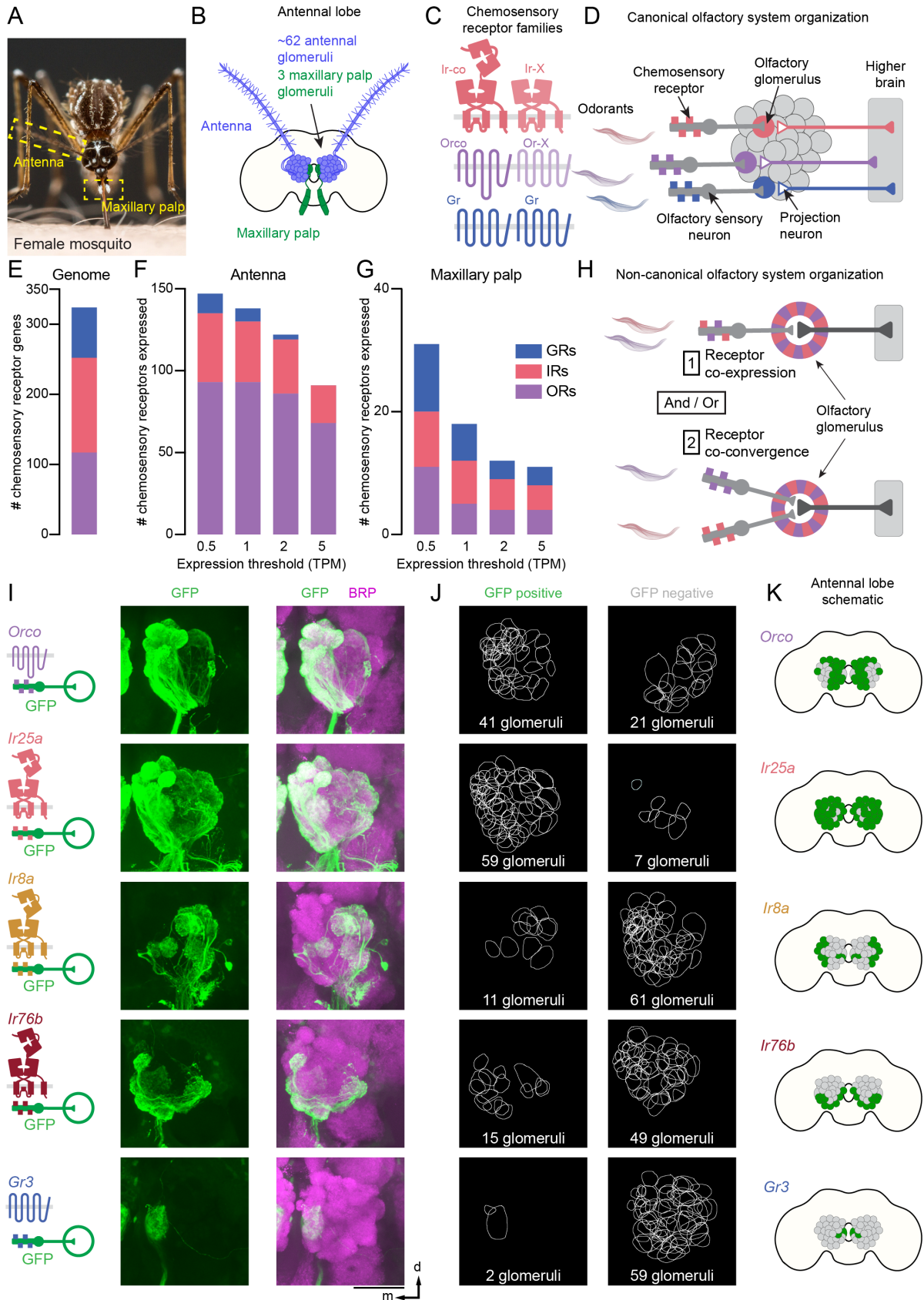
775 M.A.Y. carried out all central tissue immunostaining. M.H. carried out all peripheral tissue
776 immunostaining and RNA *in situ* hybridization experiments. B.J.M. provided chemosensory
777 gene and transcript analysis. Z.G. cloned and isolated Split-QF2 lines with M.H. Z.N.G. cloned
778 and isolated QF2 stop codon replacement lines with B.J.M. and M.A.Y. S.R. worked with M.H.
779 to generate RNA *in situ* hybridization data. O.V.G. collected all tissue for snRNA-seq together
780 with M.H. and M.A.Y. O.V.G. processed tissue for snRNA-seq experiments at Rockefeller. At
781 Baylor, Y.Q. carried out sample preparation, flow cytometry, and 10X Genomics library
782 preparation. T.-C.L. carried out snRNA-seq data analysis including read alignment, quality
783 checking, and cell and gene filtering. O.V.G. carried out additional downstream analysis. T.-
784 C.L. together with O.V.G. generated the figure panels for [Figure 5](#) and [Figure 7](#). H.L.
785 supervised Y.Q and T.-C.L. and oversaw snRNA-seq experimental design and data analysis.
786 The single sensillum recordings in [Figure 8A-E](#) were carried out by M.G. and those in [Figure](#)
787 [8F-I](#) were carried out by G.C.-V. R.I. supervised M.G. and G.C.-V. and analyzed all of the data
788 in [Figure 8](#) together with M.G. and G.C.-V. M.A.Y., M.H., and L.B.V. together conceived the
789 study, designed the figures, and wrote the paper with input from all authors.

790
791 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

792 The authors declare no competing interests.

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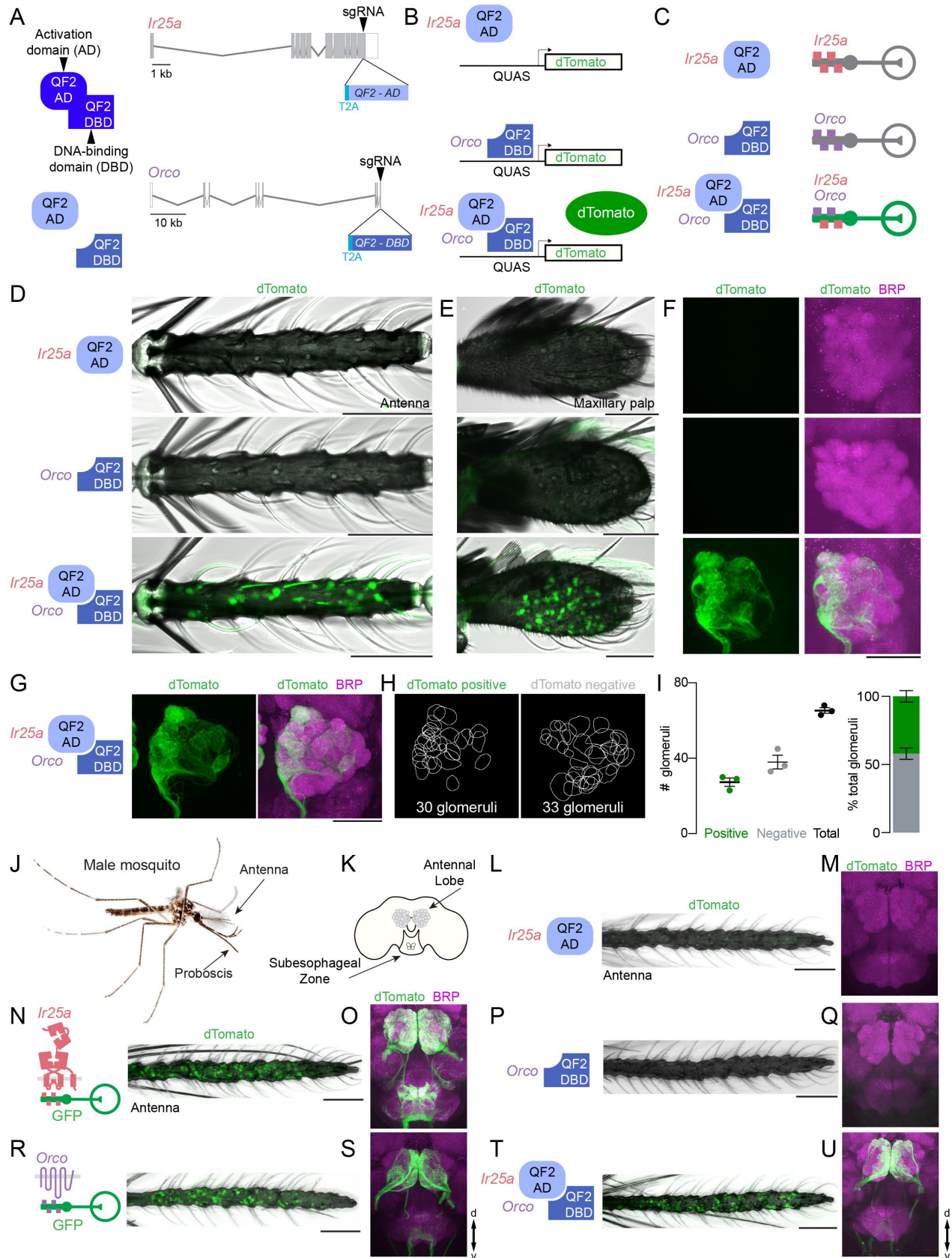
Figure 1



796 **Figure 1: Mismatch in chemosensory receptor and olfactory glomerulus number**
797 **(A)** *Aedes aegypti* female with sensory structures (yellow boxes). **(B)** Approximate number of
798 antennal lobe glomeruli per brain hemisphere innervated by the indicated sensory structure,
799 derived from quantification of the left antennal lobe in 12 brains presented in (I-J) and **Figure**
800 **S2-S5**. See also **Figure S1**. **(C)** Cartoons of insect chemosensory gene families.
801 **(D)** Cartoon of canonical olfactory system organization. **(E-G)** Stacked bar plots of the number
802 of chemosensory genes in the *Aedes aegypti* genome (E), and the number expressed above
803 the indicated TPM thresholds in the antenna (F) and maxillary palp (G). **(H)** Two models of
804 non-canonical olfactory system organization. **(I)** Maximum-intensity projections of confocal Z-
805 stacks of antennal lobes in the left brain hemisphere of the indicated genotype with
806 immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and the nc82 monoclonal antibody, which
807 recognizes Brp (magenta). Brp is used throughout this paper as a synaptic marker (Wagh et
808 al., 2006). Scale bar: 50 μm . Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial. **(J)** 2-D representation of the
809 boundary of each glomerulus in (I) that is GFP positive or GFP negative. See also **Figure S2-**
810 **S6**. **(K)** Cartoon schematic of the antennal lobe regions receiving projections from olfactory
811 sensory neurons expressing the indicated chemosensory receptor.

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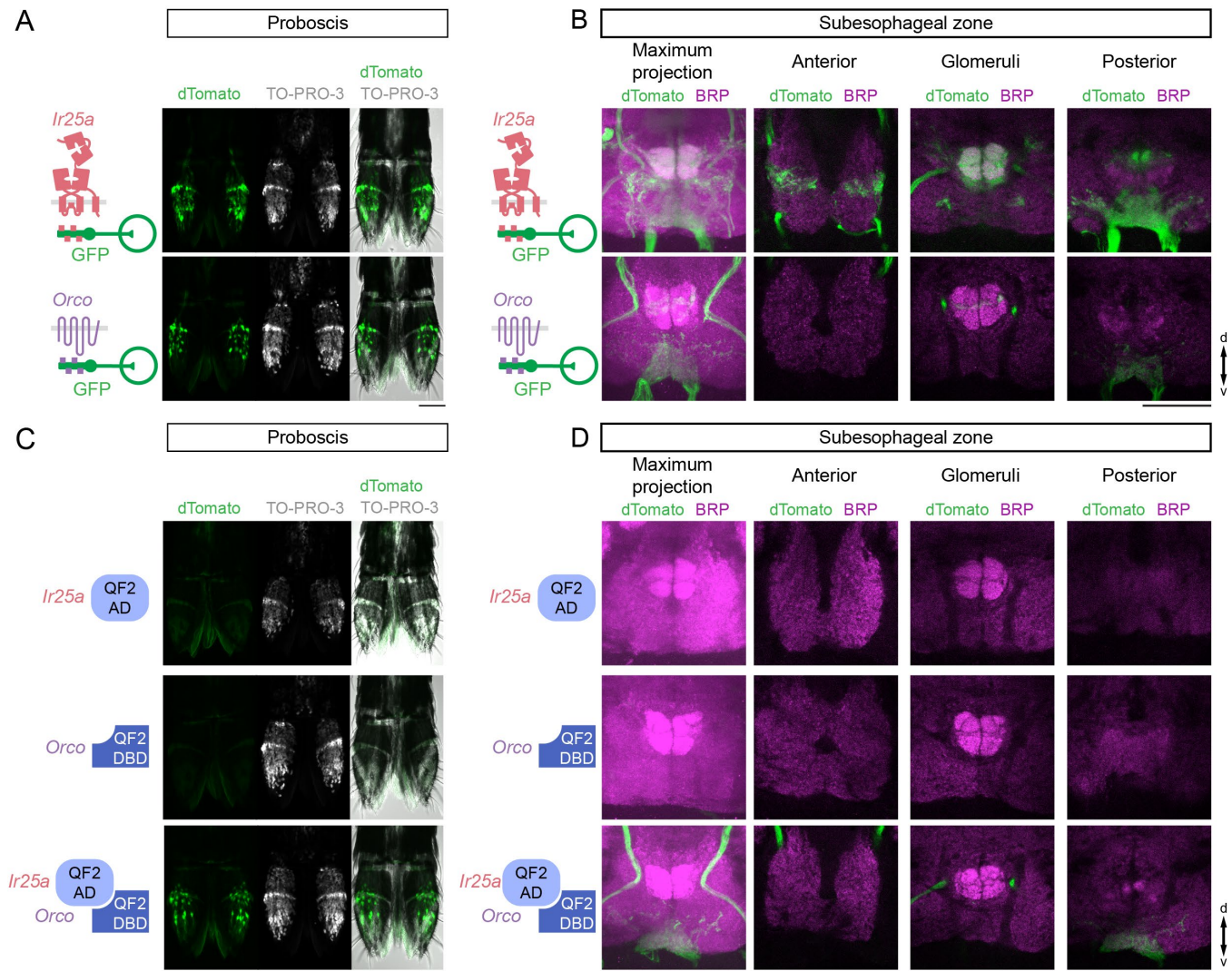
Figure 2



815 **Figure 2. Genetic evidence for widespread *Orco* and *Ir25a* co-expression**
816 (A) Schematic of the Split-QF2 system (left) and diagrams of *Orco* and *Ir25a* gene loci with
817 exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9 gRNA site (arrowhead) used to
818 insert *T2A-QF2-AD* (light blue) and *T2A-QF2-DBD* (medium blue). AD and DBD gene maps
819 are not to scale. (B-C) Schematic of the Split-QF2 system (B) and outcome of gene expression
820 in olfactory sensory neurons of the indicated genotypes (C). (D-E) Maximum-intensity
821 projections of confocal Z-stacks of female antennae (D) and female maxillary palps (E) of the
822 indicated genotypes showing intrinsic dTomato fluorescence, with transmitted light overlay.
823 See also [Figure S7A,B](#). (F-G) Maximum-intensity projections of confocal Z-stacks of antennal
824 lobes from the left brain hemisphere of the indicated genotype with immunofluorescent labeling
825 of dTomato (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). See also [Figure S8](#). (H-I) 2-D
826 representation of the boundary of each glomerulus in (G) that is GFP positive or GFP negative
827 (H) and quantification (I). Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=3. See also [Figure S7C](#). (J)
828 *Aedes aegypti* male with sensory structures (arrows). (K) Cartoon schematic of the brain
829 including the antennal lobe glomeruli and the suboesophageal zone. (L-U) Maximum-intensity
830 projections of confocal Z-stacks of male antennae (L,N,P,R,T) and male brains (M,O,Q,S,U) of
831 the indicated genotype with immunofluorescent labeling of dTomato (green) and Brp (synaptic
832 marker, magenta). Scale bars: 50 µm. Orientation: proximal left (D, E, L, N, P, R, T), medial left
833 (F,G); d=dorsal, v=ventral, m=medial.

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Figure 3



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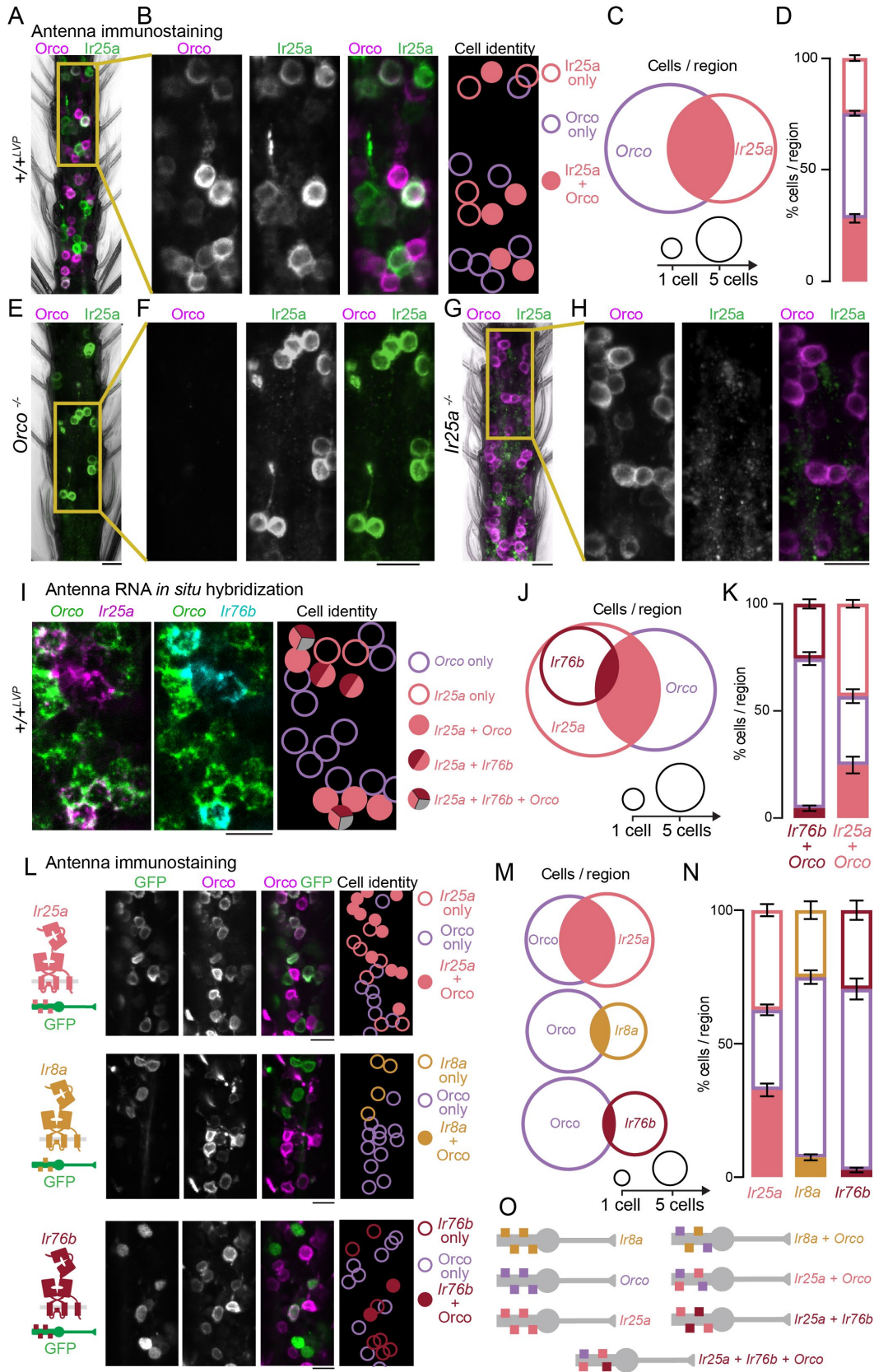
845

Figure 3. *Orco* and *Ir25a* co-expression in the mosquito proboscis

(A, C) Maximum-intensity projection of whole-mount dTomato (green) expression and TO-PRO-3 nuclear stain (white) in female proboscises of the indicated genotypes. (B, D) Left panel, maximum-intensity projections of confocal Z-stacks of subesophageal zone from the indicated genotypes with immunofluorescent labeling of dTomato (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). Right three panels, single confocal sections through indicated areas of the subesophageal zone. Orientation: proximal up (A,C); d=dorsal, v=ventral (B,D). Scale bars: 50 μ m.

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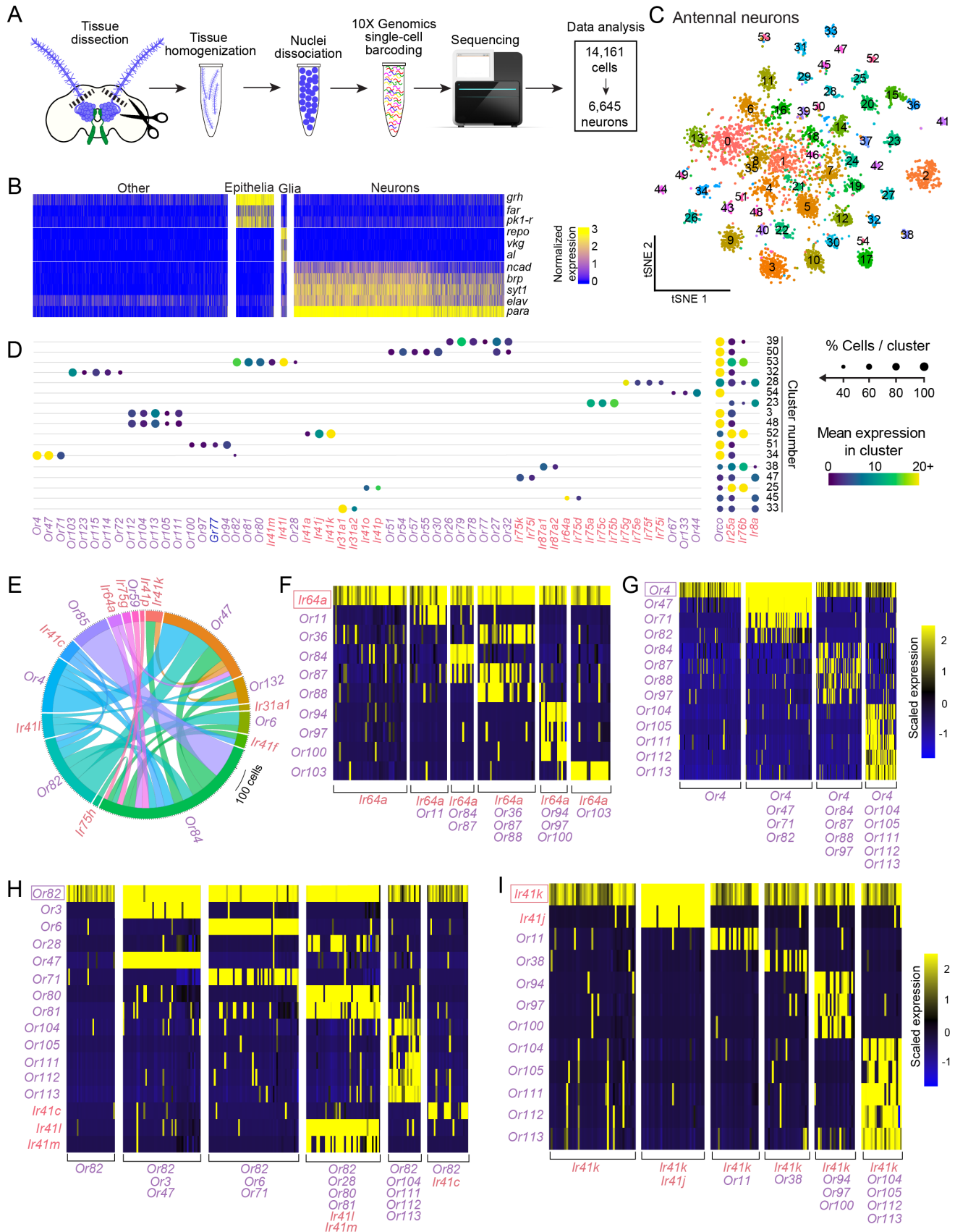
Figure 4



849 **Figure 4. Extensive chemosensory co-receptor co-expression in the antenna**
850 **(A)** Maximum-intensity projection of whole-mount Orco and Ir25a immunostaining in wild-type
851 female antennae. **(B)** Enlarged view of the yellow rectangle in (A) with cartoon schematic
852 indicating cell identity at the right. **(C,D)** Quantification of antennal cells in the indicated
853 genotypes co-expressing Orco and Ir25a presented as Euler diagrams with area scaled to
854 mean cells/region (C) and stacked bar plots (D). Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=7
855 antennal segments, 48-61 cells/region. **(E,G)** Maximum-intensity projection of whole-mount
856 Orco and Ir25a immunostaining in *Orco*^{16/16} mutant **(E)** and Ir25a^{BamHI/BamHI} mutant **(G)** female
857 antennae. **(F,H)** Enlarged view of the yellow rectangles in (E,G). **(I)** RNA *in situ* hybridization in
858 wild-type antennae with the indicated probes. **(J,K)** Quantification of wild-type antennal cells
859 expressing the indicated genes as Euler diagrams with area scaled to mean cells/region (J),
860 and stacked bar plots (K). Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=4 antennal segments, 45-63
861 cells/region. **(L)** Maximum-intensity projection of whole-mount Orco and GFP immunostaining
862 in female antennae of the indicated genotypes with cartoon schematic indicating cell identity at
863 the right. **(M,N)** Quantification of antennal cells in the indicated genotypes co-expressing Orco
864 protein and GFP presented as Euler diagrams with area scaled to mean cells/region (M) and
865 stacked bar plots (N). Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=6-8 antennal segments, 34-68
866 cells/region. **(O)** Cartoon schematic of olfactory sensory neuron populations identified in this
867 figure. Scale bars: 10 μm.

868
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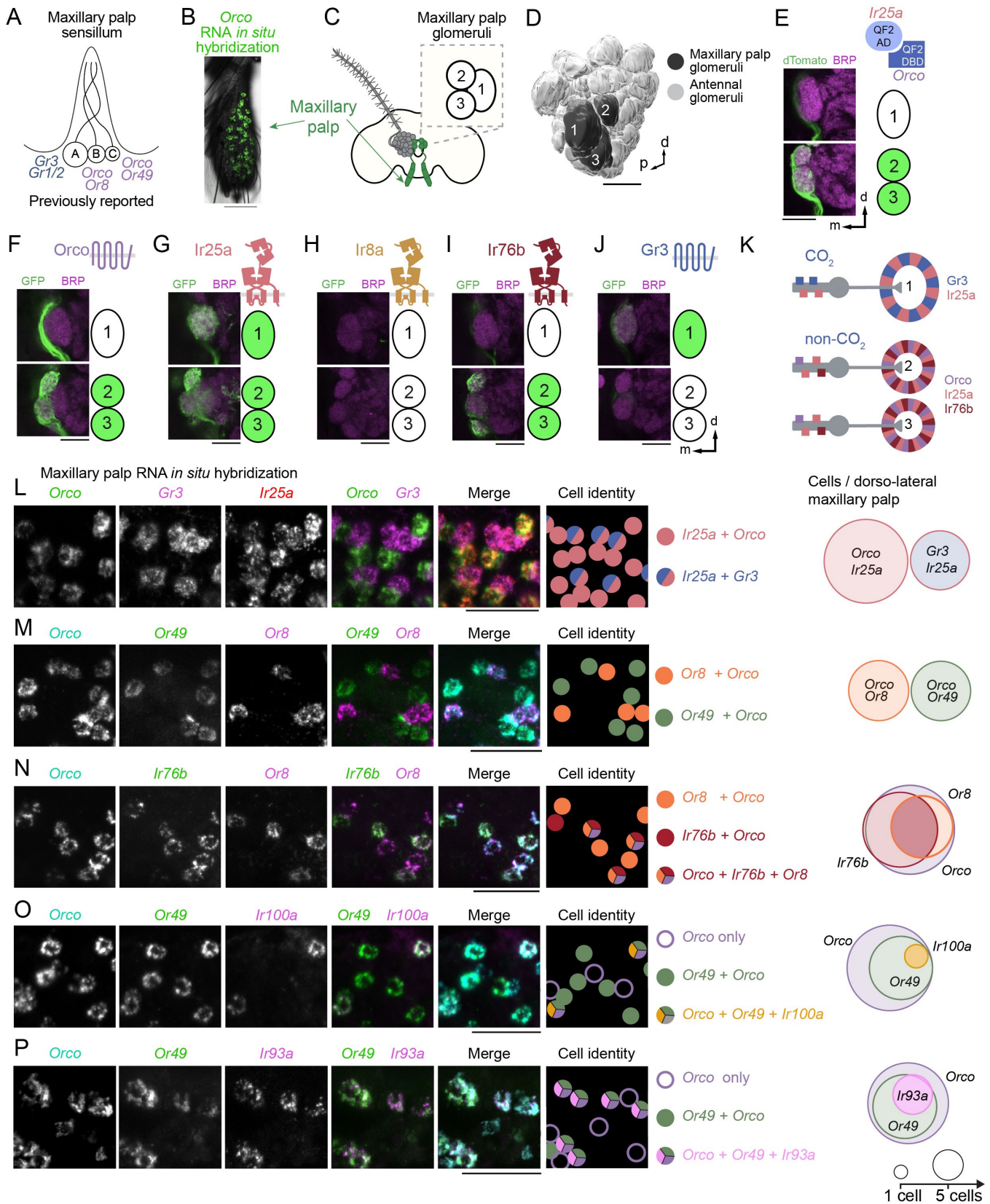
Figure 5



871 **Figure 5: Antennal snRNA-seq reveals complex chemosensory receptor co-expression**
872 (A) Schematic of female antenna snRNA-seq workflow. (B) Heat map of cells in the antenna
873 grouped according to normalized expression [$\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$] of
874 cell type marker. (C) t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (t-SNE) plot of antennal
875 neurons annotated by cluster (See [Figure S9I](#)). (D) Dot plot summarizing chemosensory
876 receptor expression in selected clusters (see [Figure S10A](#) for full dot plot). Circle size
877 represents % of cells in each cluster that express a given gene above a normalized expression
878 threshold of 1 UMI of gene*10,000/total UMI of cell. Scale indicates mean expression within a
879 cluster. All circles representing a mean expression value greater than 20 have the same color.
880 Circles for clusters with below 35% of cells expressing the indicated chemoreceptor gene are
881 not included in plot (See [Figure S10B](#)). (E) Chord plot of co-expressed pairs of chemosensory
882 receptors taken from within the 20 highest-expressed ligand-selective receptors. Genes
883 depicted were above a normalized expression threshold of 1 $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI}$
884 $\text{of cell} + 1)$ and all pairs shown were co-expressed in more than 20 nuclei. (F-I) Simplified
885 heatmaps of selected cells, chemosensory receptors, and co-expression patterns using *Ir64a*
886 (F), *Or4* (G), *Or82* (H), or (I) *Ir41k* to select cell types. Scaled expression: Z-score. Receptors
887 are indicated in rows, and cells in columns. Visually-identified cell types are offset with
888 brackets listing the chemosensory receptors expressed in that cell type. See also [Figure S11](#).

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Figure 6

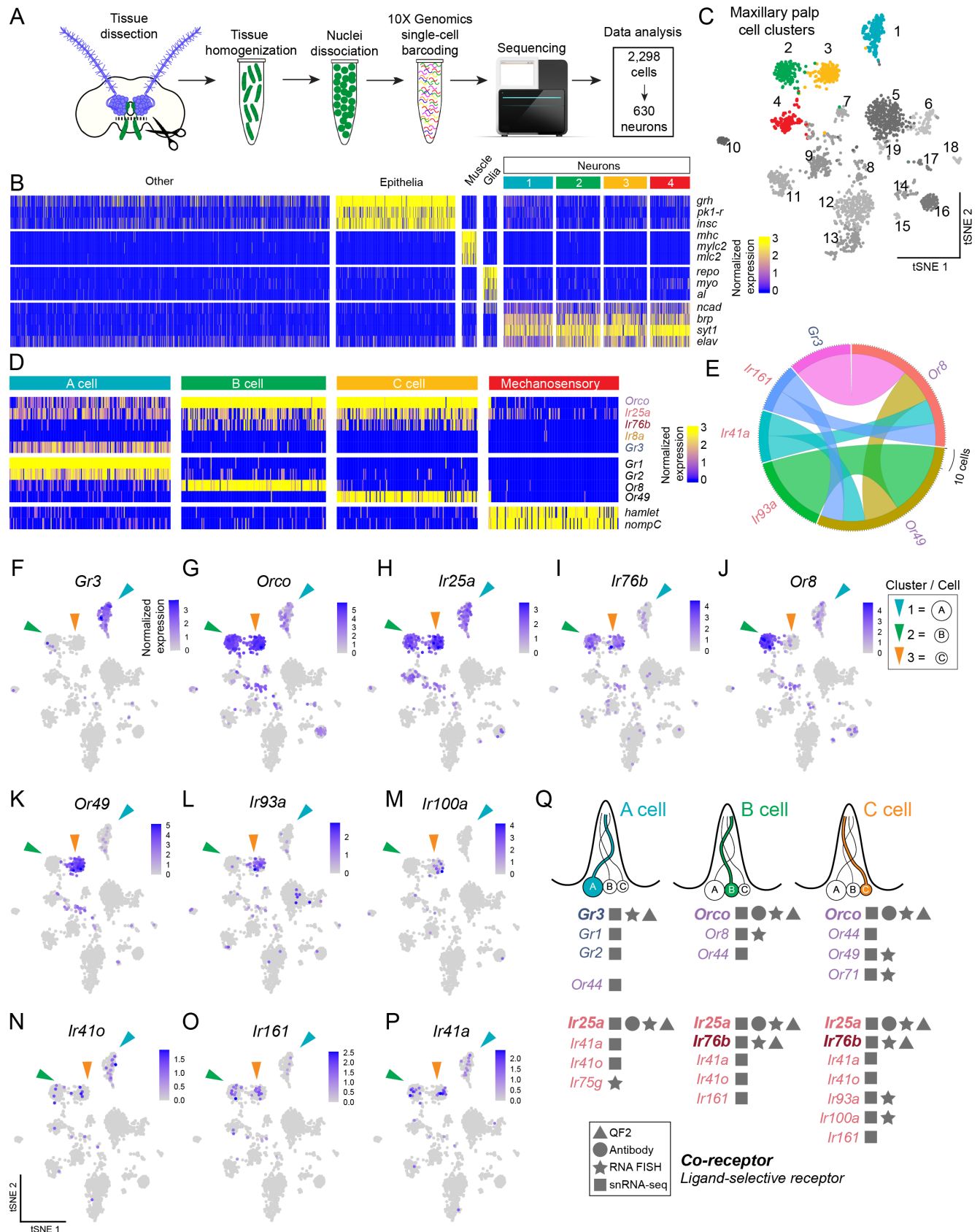


892

893 **Figure 6. Coordinated co-expression of chemosensory receptors in the maxillary palp**
894 **(A)** Schematic of a single capitata-peg sensillum in the maxillary palp, with A, B, and C cells
895 and the previously reported chemosensory receptor expression. **(B)** Maxillary palp expression
896 of *Orco* in the fourth segment of the maxillary palp revealed by whole-mount RNA *in situ*
897 hybridization. Orientation: proximal up. **(C)** Cartoon indicating maxillary palp (green) and 3
898 glomeruli that are innervated by the maxillary palp. **(D)** 3-D antennal lobe reconstruction
899 showing 3 glomeruli that are innervated by the maxillary palp. **(E-J)** Single confocal sections
900 through the center of Glomerulus 1 (top) or Glomerulus 2 and Glomerulus 3 (bottom) in left
901 antennal lobes of the indicated genotypes. Sections are taken from Z-stacks presented in
902 **Figure 2G** (E) and **Figure 1I** (F-J). **(K)** Schematic of sensory neuron gene expression and
903 glomerular convergence based on (E-J). **(L-P)** Whole-mount maxillary palp RNA *in situ*
904 hybridization with the indicated probes, cartoon schematic indicating cell identity, and
905 quantification of co-expression shown as Euler diagrams, area scaled to mean. n=5 maxillary
906 palps, 26-65 cells/dorso-lateral maxillary palp. See also **Figure S12**. Scale bars: 50 μm (B), 25
907 μm (E-J, L-P). Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial, p=posterior.

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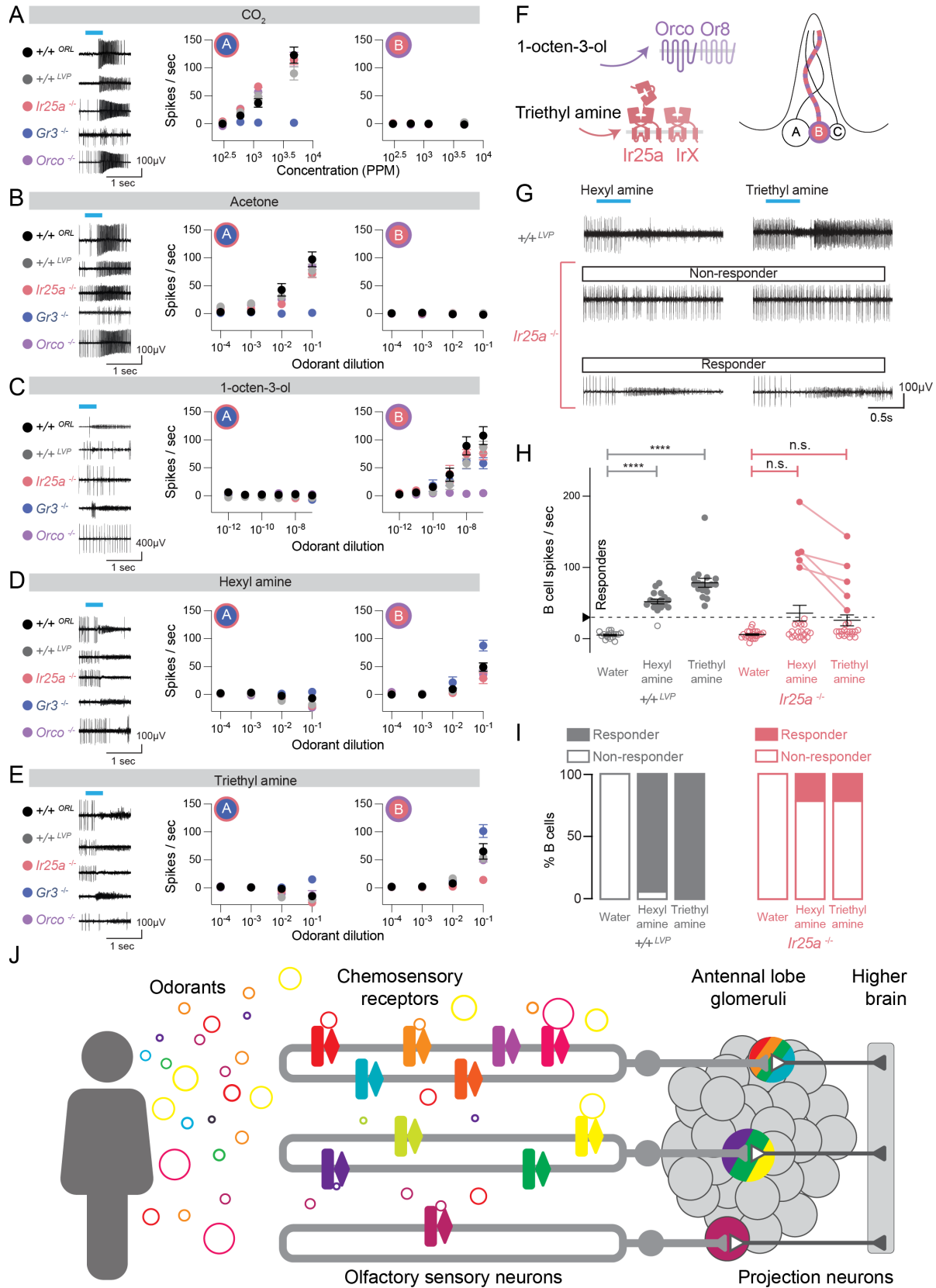
Figure 7



911 **Figure 7: Maxillary palp snRNA-seq reveals unanticipated neuronal complexity**
912 (A) Schematic of female maxillary palp snRNA-seq workflow. (B) Heat map of nuclei in the
913 maxillary palp grouped according to cell type marker expression. (C) tSNE plot of maxillary
914 palp nuclei. (D) Heat map of normalized expression of selected genes in 4 identified neuron
915 clusters. See also [Figure S13G-H](#). (E) Chord plot of co-expressed pairs of ligand-selective
916 receptors that are present in more than 10 cells. To be considered positively expressed within
917 a cell, gene must meet a normalized expression threshold of $1 \log(\text{UMI of gene} * 10,000 / \text{total}$
918 $\text{UMI of cell} + 1)$. (F-P) Feature plots illustrating normalized expression [$\log(\text{UMI of gene} * 10,000 /$
919 $\text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$] of indicated genes visualized on tSNE plot (see [Figure S14](#)). (Q)
920 Summary of chemosensory receptor expression in the maxillary palp based on all
921 experimental data in this study (RNA FISH: fluorescent RNA *in situ* hybridization).

922
923

Figure 8



925 **Figure 8: Functional consequences of chemosensory receptor co-expression**
926 (A-E) Left, sample traces from maxillary palp single sensillum recordings in each indicated
927 genotype for (A) CO₂, (B) acetone, (C) 1-octen-3-ol, (D) hexyl amine, and (E) triethyl amine.
928 Stimulus delivery window is indicated by the cyan bar. Middle and right, the number of
929 spikes/sec in the A cell (middle) and B cell (right) for each indicated concentration of the
930 stimulus. Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=4-16 recordings from separate sensilla. (F)
931 Schematic of an individual sensillum containing 3 neurons, A, B, and C. Receptor odorant
932 parings for the B neuron are schematized. The identity of the ligand-selective IrX subunit is
933 unknown. (G) Sample traces for +/+^{LVP} (top) and *Ir25a*^{BamHI/BamHI} (bottom) with each indicated
934 stimulus. Stimulus delivery window is indicated by the cyan bar. (H,I) Quantification of
935 recordings from indicated genotypes shown as dot plots (H) and the stacked bar plots (I)
936 showing the percent of total recordings from each genotype that responded to the stimulus
937 (filled circles) and those that did not (open circles), with 30 spikes/sec defined as response
938 threshold. Data are presented as mean±SEM, n=17 (+/+^{LVP}) and n=23 *Ir25a*^{BamHI/BamHI}
939 recordings from separate sensilla, n.s., not significant (p=0.1453 for hexyl amine and p=0.1642
940 for triethyl amine), ****p<0.0001, one-way ANOVA with Kruskal-Wallis test for multiple
941 comparisons. (J) A revised model of chemosensory coding in *Aedes aegypti* based on this
942 study.

943 **Materials and Methods**

944

945 **Human and animal ethics statement**

946 Blood-feeding procedures and behavioral experiments with live hosts were approved and
947 monitored by The Rockefeller University Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC
948 protocol 17018) and Institutional Review Board (IRB protocol LV-0652), respectively. Human
949 volunteers gave their written informed consent to participate.

950

951 **Mosquito rearing and maintenance**

952 *Aedes aegypti* wild-type laboratory strains (Liverpool and Orlando), CRISPR-Cas9 knock-in,
953 and piggyBAC *QUAS* transgenic strains were maintained and reared at 25 – 28°C, 70-80%
954 relative humidity with a photoperiod of 14 hr light: 10 hr dark as previously described
955 (DeGennaro et al., 2013). Adult mosquitoes were provided constant access to 10% sucrose.
956 For routine strain maintenance, animals were primarily blood-fed on live mice and occasionally
957 on live human volunteers. Newly generated strains were blood-fed on human volunteers until
958 they were established. All experiments except those in [Figure 2J-T](#) were conducted on adult
959 female mosquitoes. Detailed genotypes used in each figure can be found in [Data File 1](#).

960

961 **Generation of chemosensory receptor *QF2* and Split-*QF2* knock-in strains**

962 *T2A-QF2* gene-sparing stop codon replacement lines were generated using the strategy
963 outlined in Matthews et al. (Matthews et al., 2019). sgRNAs were placed as close to the stop
964 codon as possible and donor constructs were designed to remove the stop codon and replace
965 it with an in-frame cassette containing the *T2A* ribosomal skipping sequence and the *QF2*
966 transcription factor or Split-*QF2* domains, comprising the *QF2* activation domain *QF2-AD*, or
967 the *QF2* DNA-binding domain *QF2-DBD*. This strategy spares the function of the gene at the
968 locus being targeted, expresses *QF2* or Split-*QF2* domains in the cells specified by enhancers
969 at the locus. Insertions were marked by the *3xP3* enhancer expressing a fluorescent protein.
970 To identify effective sgRNAs, 5 candidate sgRNAs per gene were first injected into separate
971 pools of 500 Liverpool embryos and CRISPR-Cas9-mediated cut rate was evaluated as
972 previously described (Kistler et al., 2015). Either a single sgRNA or 2 sgRNAs with the highest
973 cut rates were then chosen to be injected with donor plasmids to target chemosensory gene
974 loci using homology-directed repair. sgRNAs targeted the respective gene near the stop
975 codon, target sequence with protospacer adjacent motif (PAM) underlined:

976 *Ir25a*: GTTTGTGTGCGTGTCCGTA TGG

977 *Ir76b*: GTATTACACTTATCTAAATA TGG

978 *Ir8a*: GTCACGCTTGTGTACAGGG CGG, GAACAATTTGAACAAGGTCG TGG

979 *Gr3*: GTTAGTGATGCATAATATGA CGG

980 *Orco*: GTCACCTACTTCATGGTGT TGG

981 sgRNA DNA template was prepared by annealing oligonucleotides as described (Kistler et al.,
982 2015). *In vitro* transcription was performed using HiScribe Quick T7 kit (NEB E2050S)
983 following the manufacturer's directions. Following transcription and DNase treatment for 15
984 min at 37°C, sgRNA was purified using RNase-free SPRI beads (Ampure RNAClean,
985 Beckman-Coulter A63987), and eluted in Ultrapure water (Invitrogen, 10977-015).

986 Donor plasmids were constructed by Gibson assembly using the following fragments for *QF2*
987 lines:

988 1) *pUC19* digested with XbaI and BamHI

989 2) Left and right homology arms: *Gr3* (left: 1.9 kb, right: 1.6 kb), *Ir25a* (left: 1.8 kb, right: 1.6
990 kb), *Ir76b* (left: 1.2 kb, right: 2.2 kb), *Ir8a* (left: 1.7 kb, right: 1.7 kb), *Orco* (left: 1.2 kb, right: 1.3

991 kb) generated by polymerase chain reaction (PCR) using Liverpool genomic DNA as a
992 template

993 3) A 2.6 kb fragment containing *T2A-QF2-SV40*, *3xP3-dsRed*, PCR-amplified from a
994 previously assembled vector (*ppk10779-T2A-QF2-SV40*, *3xP3-dsRed*, Addgene accession
995 #130667)

996 For Split-QF2 lines, donor plasmids were constructed by generating fragments using PCR from
997 the indicated template with indicated primers in [Data File 1](#) and assembled using NEBuilder
998 HiFi DNA Assembly (NEB E5520S):

999 *Ir25a-T2A-QFAD::Zip+-SV40-3xP3-eYFP-SV40* was composed of:

1000 1. Plasmid backbone with *Ir25* homology arms from *Ir25a-T2A-QF2* plasmid (6 kb)

1001 2. *T2A-QFAD::Zip+-SV40* sequence from (Riabinina et al., 2019), fragment synthesized by
1002 Genewiz, sequence in [Data File 1](#) (1.5 kb)

1003 3. *3xP3-EYFP-SV40* from *pDSAY* (Addgene, #62291) (1.2 kb)

1004 *Orco-T2A-Zip--::QFDBD-SV40-3xP3-dsRED-SV40* was composed of:

1005 1. Plasmid backbone with *Orco* homology arms and *3xP3-dsRED-SV40* from *Orco-T2A-QF2*
1006 plasmid (6.3 kb)

1007 2. *T2A-Zip--::QFDBD-SV40* synthesized by Genewiz, sequence in [Data File 1](#) (1.5 kb)

1008 For all QF2 and Split-QF2 constructs, the stop codon of the endogenous gene was removed
1009 and the PAM sequences corresponding to the sgRNAs used for injection were modified by
1010 PCR mutagenesis during Gibson assembly by introducing synonymous codon substitutions to
1011 protect the sequence from Cas9 cleavage while retaining the amino acid identity. Plasmids
1012 were isolated using an endotoxin-free plasmid midiprep kit (Macherey-Nagel) for QF2 lines and
1013 NucleoBond Xtra Midi Endotoxin-Free plasmid kit (Clontech 740420.50) for Split-QF2 lines and
1014 eluted in ultrapure water prior to injection. Donor plasmids are available at Addgene (accession
1015 numbers #162520-162526). Approximately 2,000 wild-type Liverpool strain *Aedes aegypti*
1016 embryos were injected with a mix containing recombinant Cas9 protein (PNA Bio, CP01) at
1017 300 ng/μL, sgRNAs at 40 ng/μL and donor DNA plasmid (300 ng/μL for QF2 lines, 600 ng/μL
1018 for Split-QF2 lines) at the Insect Transformation Facility at the University of Maryland Institute
1019 for Bioscience & Biotechnology Research. Embryos were hatched and surviving G0 males and
1020 females were crossed to wild-type Liverpool mosquitoes and their G1 offspring were screened
1021 for fluorescence indicating positive stable germ line transformants. For QF2 lines, the fidelity of
1022 insertion was verified by PCR and Sanger sequencing. One representative line for each
1023 chemosensory receptor QF2 knock-in was selected for further study. QF2-driven expression
1024 patterns were examined by crossing to *QUAS-CD8:GFP-3xP3-ECFP* and/or *QUAS-dTomato-*
1025 *T2A-GCaMP6s-3xP3-ECFP*.

1026

1027 A technical problem arose in the construction of the *QUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s-3xP3-*
1028 *ECFP* plasmid that caused only a single copy of dTomato to be introduced into the mosquito,
1029 rather than the brighter tandem dTomato or tdTomato that is more conventionally used.
1030 Nevertheless we found that dTomato is sufficiently bright for our experiments (Shaner et al.,
1031 2004).

1032

1033 All lines were outcrossed to wild-type Liverpool mosquitoes for at least 3 generations prior to
1034 being used in experiments. For Split-QF2 lines, a single family with the correct insertion was
1035 confirmed by PCR and Sanger sequencing for *Ir25a-QF2-AD* and *Orco-QF2-DBD*. To
1036 propagate these lines, a male founder was chosen to cross to wild-type Liverpool females.
1037 Animals were then back-crossed to Liverpool for at least 2 additional generations. To evaluate
1038 if the Split-QF2 system was functional in *Aedes aegypti*, *Ir25a-QF2-AD* was crossed to *QUAS-*

1039 *dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s*. The resulting *Ir25a-QF2-AD*, *QUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s*
1040 animals were then crossed to *Orco-QF2-DBD*. Expression of the *dTomato* reporter was
1041 observed in larval antennae and subsequently confirmed in adult antennae and brains.
1042

1043 **QUAS transgenic strains**

1044 *QUAS-CD8:GFP-3xP3-ECFP* and *QUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s-3xP3-ECFP* transgenic
1045 strains were described previously (Matthews et al., 2019). Two independent insertions of the
1046 *QUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s-3xP3-ECFP* reporter line (Jové et al., 2020; Matthews et al.,
1047 2019) were used in this study. These are located on different chromosomes and were used
1048 according to the crossing scheme needed for a given experiment. See [Data File 1](#) for details.
1049

1050 **Chemosensory receptor mutant strains**

1051 The three chemosensory receptor mutant strains used in this study was previously described:
1052 *Ir25a^{BamHI/BamHI}* (De Obaldia et al., 2022), *Gr3^{4/4}* (McMeniman et al., 2014), *Orco^{16/16}*
1053 (DeGennaro et al., 2013). *Gr3^{4/4}* and *Orco^{16/16}* were generated in the *Orlando* background
1054 (here referred to as *+/+^{ORL}*) and the *Ir25a^{BamHI/BamHI}* mutant was generated in the *Liverpool*
1055 background (here referred to as *+/+^{LVP}*). To account for possible difference in genetic
1056 background the *+/+^{ORL}* strain was used as the controls in all experiments where the *Gr3^{4/4}* and
1057 *Orco^{16/16}* mutants were used, and the *+/+^{LVP}* strain was used as the control in experiments
1058 where the *Ir25a^{BamHI/BamHI}* mutant was used.
1059

1060 **Transcript abundance estimates of *Aedes aegypti* OR, IR, and GR genes**

1061 Expression values for adult sugar-fed, non-blood-fed female sensory tissues were retrieved
1062 from the *Aedes aegypti* L5 genome GitHub repository ([https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-](https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-AaegL5)
1063 [AaegL5](https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-AaegL5)) at this link: [https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-](https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-AaegL5/raw/master/AGWG%20AaegL5%20Chemoreceptor%20TPM.xlsx)
1064 [AaegL5/raw/master/AGWG%20AaegL5%20Chemoreceptor%20TPM.xlsx](https://github.com/VosshallLab/AGWG-AaegL5/raw/master/AGWG%20AaegL5%20Chemoreceptor%20TPM.xlsx). These expression
1065 values reflect libraries from a previous transcriptome study (Matthews et al., 2016) that had
1066 been aligned to the *Aedes aegypti* genome (AaegL5) and chemosensory receptor geneset
1067 annotation reported in units of Transcripts Per Million (TPM) (Matthews et al., 2018). The
1068 number of genes from each of three gene families (ORs, IRs, and GRs) with expression values
1069 above the indicated threshold were plotted in [Figure 1F,G](#) and are available in [Data File 1](#).
1070

1071 **Whole brain fixation and immunostaining**

1072 Dissection of adult brains and immunostaining was done as previously described (Matthews et
1073 al., 2019). 6-14 day-old mosquitoes were anesthetized on wet ice. Heads were carefully
1074 removed from the body by pinching at the neck with sharp forceps. Heads were placed in a 1.5
1075 mL tube for fixation with 4% paraformaldehyde, 0.1 M Millonig's Phosphate Buffer (pH 7.4),
1076 0.25% Triton X-100, and nutated for 3 hr. Brains were then dissected out of the head capsule
1077 in ice-cold Ca^{+2} -, Mg^{+2} -free phosphate buffered saline (PBS, Lonza 17-517Q) and transferred
1078 to a 24-well plate. All subsequent steps were done on a low-speed orbital shaker. Brains were
1079 washed in PBS containing 0.25% Triton X-100 (PBT) at room temperature 6 times for 15 min.
1080 Brains were permeabilized with PBS, 4% Triton X-100, 2% normal goat serum (Jackson
1081 ImmunoResearch #005-000-121) for ~48 hr (2 nights) at 4°C. Brains were rinsed once and
1082 then washed with PBT at room temperature 6 times for 15 min. Primary antibodies were
1083 diluted in PBS, 0.25% Triton X-100, 2% normal goat serum for ~48 hr (2 nights) at 4°C. Brains
1084 were rinsed once then washed in PBT at room temperature 6 times for 15 min. Secondary
1085 antibodies were diluted in PBS, 0.25% Triton X-100, 2% normal goat serum for ~48 hr (2
1086 nights) at 4°C. Brains were rinsed once then washed in PBT at room temperature 6 times for

1087 15 min. Brains were equilibrated overnight in Vectashield (Vector Laboratories H-1000) and
1088 were mounted in Vectashield. The following primary antibodies were used: anti-Brp/nc82
1089 (mouse; 1:50, Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank – see below) and/or anti-GFP (rabbit:
1090 1:10,000; Life Technologies A-11122). The secondary antibodies used in all experiments
1091 except **Figure S1** and **Figure S6** were anti-mouse-Cy5 (1:250; Life Technologies A-10524) and
1092 anti-rabbit-Alexa Fluor 488 (1:500; Life Technologies A-11034). In **Figure S1**, the secondary
1093 antibody was anti-mouse-Alexa Fluor 488 (1:500; Life Technologies A-11001) and in **Figure**
1094 **S6**, the secondary antibodies were anti-mouse-Alexa Fluor 594 (1:500; Life Technologies A-
1095 11005) and anti-rabbit-Alexa Fluor 488 (1:500; Life Technologies A-11034).

1096

1097 **Purification of nc82/Brp monoclonal antibody**

1098 Hybridoma cells expressing monoclonal antibody nc82 (Antibody Registry ID: AB_2314866),
1099 which recognizes the *Drosophila melanogaster* Brp protein (Wagh et al., 2006)
1100 developed by Erich Buchner were obtained from the Developmental Studies Hybridoma Bank,
1101 created by the NICHD of the NIH and maintained at The University of Iowa, Department of
1102 Biology, Iowa City, IA 52242. Frances Weis-Garcia and the members of the MSKCC Antibody
1103 and Bioresource Core Facility subsequently used these hybridoma cells to purify this
1104 monoclonal antibody. The hybridoma was adapted to Gibco™ Hybridoma-SFM (Cat #
1105 12045084) and 1% fetal bovine serum prescreened for ultra-low levels of bovine Ig. Antibody
1106 expression was confirmed and the adapted hybridoma was inoculated into the cell
1107 compartment of the Corning™ CELLine Disposable Bioreactor (Cat # 353137) in 15 ml of
1108 Hybridoma-SFM + 0.5% fetal bovine serum (production media) at 3 million viable cells / ml.
1109 The media compartment of the flask contained 350 ml of production media. The bioreactor was
1110 incubated at 37°C with 7% CO₂ for 3 days, at which time the cells and media containing nc82
1111 were harvested. 30 million viable cells from the harvest were re-inoculated back into the cell
1112 compartment in 30 ml fresh production media. The media in the media compartment was
1113 replaced the following day with 650 ml production media. Three days later, the media in the
1114 media compartment was replaced with 1,000 ml production media, with the next harvest 3
1115 days later (7 days after the previous harvest). Cells were harvested weekly and fed bi-weekly
1116 until the desired amount of monoclonal antibody was reached. After the first harvest, each one
1117 contained about 3 mg of monoclonal antibody nc82/ml production media. The harvests to be
1118 purified were pooled, centrifuged at 12,855 x g for 15 min. 6.5 mg / run were loaded onto a
1119 Cytiva (formerly GE Life Sciences) 1 ml HiTrap Protein G HP antibody purification column (Cat
1120 # 29048581) at 1 ml / min. The column was then washed with 0.02 M Sodium Phosphate (pH
1121 7.0) before the monoclonal antibody was eluted with 0.1 M Glycine-HCl (pH 2.7). One ml
1122 fractions were collected and immediately neutralized with 60 ml of 1.0 M Tris-HCl (pH 9.0). The
1123 harvest, flow through and fractions from the peak were run on an a 10% SDS-PAGE (Bio-Rad
1124 Cat # 345-0010) to confirm purity and determine which should be pooled. The pooled fractions
1125 of monoclonal antibody were dialyzed into PBS overnight using dialysis tubing (Spectrum™
1126 132544) with a 50 kDa MWCO. Another 10% SDS-PAGE was run, and the concentration
1127 determined using the absorbance at 280 using an extinction coefficient of 1.43.

1128

1129 **Generation of the IR25a polyclonal antibody**

1130 Rabbit polyclonal antibodies were raised against IR25a by Proteintech Group Inc. Antibodies
1131 were raised against a protein fusion of the 67 C-terminal amino acids of IR25a and glutathione
1132 S-transferase. cDNA corresponding to the C-terminal region was inserted into the expression
1133 vector PGEX-4T using primers TTTTGGATCCAAATACCGCAAGAACGTAAAG and
1134 TTTTCTCGAGTTAGAAACGAGATTTAAAGTTG and expressed in bacterial strain BL21. A

1135 purified 31 kDa fusion protein was used to immunize 2 rabbits. Serum was affinity purified to a
1136 final concentration of 450 µg/mL and tested by whole mount antenna immunostaining
1137 comparing $+/+^{LVP}$ to $IR25a^{BamHI/BamHI}$. Antibodies from one of the two rabbits were found to
1138 selectively label $+/+^{LVP}$ antennae, and only this antibody was used in all further studies.
1139

1139

1140 **Female Antennal lobe confocal imaging**

1141 All brains were imaged using a Zeiss Inverted LSM 880 laser scanning confocal microscope
1142 with a 25x / 0.8 NA immersion-corrected objective unless otherwise noted. Glycerol was used
1143 as the immersion medium to most closely match the refractive index of the mounting medium
1144 Vectashield. Antennal lobes in [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#), [Figure 6](#), [Figure S2-S8](#) were imaged at
1145 either 1024 x 1024 or 2048 x 2048 pixel resolution in X and Y with 0.5 µm Z-steps for a final
1146 voxel size of either 0.0615 x 0.0615 x 0.5 µm³ or 0.1230 x 0.1230 x 0.5 µm³. Both conditions
1147 oversampled relative to the objective resolution and no differences were noted between
1148 imaging conditions. The laser intensity and gain were adjusted along the Z-axis to account for
1149 a loss of intensity due to depth and care was taken to avoid saturation and ensure that the
1150 deepest glomeruli were visible for segmentation. We note that all confocal imaging was
1151 conducted in a manner that would maximize our ability to visualize the boundaries between
1152 glomeruli and to determine the presence or absence of a given fluorophore in each
1153 glomerulus, and was not intended as a quantitative measure of fluorescence intensity. $3xP3$
1154 was used as a promoter to express fluorescent proteins as markers for the knock-ins and
1155 *QUAS* transgenes used in this study, and care was taken to distinguish expression derived
1156 from the $3XP3$ promoter from the expression of the QF2 driver and *QUAS* effector lines under
1157 investigation. $3xP3$ drives expression in the optic lobes, as well as some cells in the dorsal
1158 brain. Neither area overlaps with the antennal lobes. As reported previously (Matthews et al.,
1159 2019), we saw no $3xP3$ -driven expression in the antennal lobes in the reporter lines alone
1160 (data not shown). Representative antennal lobe images presented in the figures were cropped
1161 to remove $3xP3$ -driven expression elsewhere in the brain.
1162

1162

1163 **Male brain confocal imaging**

1164 All male brains ([Figure 2M,O,Q,S,U](#)) were imaged using a Zeiss Inverted LSM 880 laser
1165 scanning confocal microscope with a 25x / 0.8 NA immersion-corrected objective. Glycerol was
1166 used as the immersion medium to most closely match the refractive index of the mounting
1167 medium Vectashield. Brains were imaged at 1024 x 1024 pixel resolution in X and Y with 0.5
1168 µm Z-steps for a final voxel size of 0.2372 x 0.2372 x 0.5 µm³. The laser intensity and gain
1169 were adjusted along the Z-axis to account for a loss of intensity due to depth and care was
1170 taken to avoid saturation and ensure that the deepest regions of the brain were visible.
1171 Confocal images of the brain were processed in ImageJ/FIJI (NIH).
1172

1172

1173 **Female subesophageal zone confocal imaging**

1174 All female subesophageal zones ([Figure 3B,D](#)) were imaged using a Zeiss Inverted LSM 880
1175 laser scanning confocal microscope with a 25x / 0.8 NA immersion-corrected objective.
1176 Glycerol was used as the immersion medium to most closely match the refractive index of the
1177 mounting medium Vectashield. Brains were imaged at 1024 x 1024 pixel resolution in X and Y
1178 with 0.5 µm Z-steps for a final voxel size of 0.2076 x 0.2076 x 0.5 µm³. The laser intensity and
1179 gain were adjusted along the Z-axis to account for a loss of intensity due to depth and care
1180 was taken to avoid saturation and ensure that the deepest regions of the subesophageal zone
1181 were visible. Confocal images of the subesophageal zone were processed in ImageJ/FIJI
1182 (NIH).

1182

1183 **Antennal lobe glomerulus quantification**

1184 Confocal images of the antennal lobes in [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#), [Figure 6](#), [Figure S2-S8](#) were
1185 processed in ImageJ/FIJI (NIH). The number of glomeruli was quantified as follows: a single
1186 region of interest (ROI) was manually drawn around each glomerulus at a section
1187 approximately central along the Z-axis. Every glomerulus was outlined and an ROI set was
1188 collected that contained the outlines of all glomeruli. Glomeruli were then separated into two
1189 groups, GFP-positive and GFP-negative glomeruli. A count of each was made to determine the
1190 number of glomeruli labeled by each line as well as the total number of glomeruli. The ROIs
1191 were flattened along the Z-axis to enable representation of the data in two dimensions in
1192 [Figure 1](#), [Figure 2](#), [Figure S2-S5](#), [Figure S7](#). The left antennal lobe in 3 brains was analyzed
1193 for each genotype in [Figure 1](#) except for *Gr3*, for which the left antennal lobe was analyzed in 1
1194 brain, and both left and right antennal lobes were analyzed in an additional 4 brains in [Figure](#)
1195 [S6](#). Although we were able to recognize general regions of the antennal lobe, the
1196 interindividual variability made it impossible to identify most glomeruli by shape alone. We
1197 therefore have not attempted to name and number every glomerulus in *Aedes aegypti* as has
1198 been done in previous studies (Ignell et al., 2005; Shankar and McMeniman, 2020). As noted
1199 by Ito et al. (Ito et al., 2014), there is considerable confusion about the use of coordinate axes
1200 in the brains of animals in general and insects in particular. The glomeruli in the antennal lobe
1201 of *Aedes aegypti* were originally named by Ignell et al. (Ignell et al., 2005) using a set of
1202 coordinate axes that differ from those consistently used in *Drosophila melanogaster* (Couto et
1203 al., 2005; Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005; Grabe et al., 2015; Laissue et al., 1999; Stocker et
1204 al., 1990). A recent study of the antennal lobe of *Aedes aegypti* renamed glomeruli to account
1205 for this discrepancy in coordinate axes (Shankar and McMeniman, 2020), and throughout this
1206 paper we use the same coordinate axes they have implemented. While Shankar and
1207 McMeniman renamed most antennal lobe regions and glomeruli, they chose not to rename the
1208 MD (Medio-Dorsal) cluster of glomeruli comprising MD1, MD2, and MD3 whose sensory input
1209 derives from the maxillary palp. We have observed in our study that the MD glomeruli are
1210 medial, but they are not notably dorsal, and therefore refer to them as Glomerulus 1,
1211 Glomerulus 2, and Glomerulus 3 in this paper for simplicity. While there is utility in naming
1212 glomeruli, we suspect that the *Aedes aegypti* mosquito antennal lobe atlas will be refined in the
1213 future with the advent of new genetic tools that will unambiguously allow the field to distinguish
1214 and name genetically identifiable glomeruli. We found that the size, shape, and number of
1215 antennal lobe glomeruli in *Aedes aegypti* was variable from animal to animal. It is possible that
1216 the boundaries between glomeruli are not easily distinguished by synaptic staining and that
1217 specific glomeruli will become identifiable once there are genetic tools available that label
1218 smaller populations of olfactory sensory neurons. The anatomical variability we see is
1219 consistent with both the original map that identified 50 glomeruli (Ignell et al., 2005), which
1220 divided glomeruli into 3 classes based on their variability in location, as well as a recent study
1221 that looked specifically at the size and shape of glomeruli across animals (Shankar and
1222 McMeniman, 2020) and revised the original map to a count of ~80 glomeruli. Shankar and
1223 McMeniman named and numbered these glomeruli across animals, but they noted that they
1224 were only able to consistently identify 63 glomeruli. This is similar to the ~65 glomeruli we
1225 observed in our work. While there is not yet a clear consensus on the exact number of
1226 antennal lobe glomeruli in *Aedes aegypti*, the number of chemosensory receptors expressed in
1227 the antenna and maxillary palp is at least twice as large as any of the estimates of glomerulus
1228 number. The variability in antennal lobe structure appears at first to contrast with *Drosophila*
1229 *melanogaster*, where each glomerulus can be clearly identified and named. However, we note
1230 that the antennal lobe map in *Drosophila melanogaster* has been refined with the advent of

1231 new genetic techniques, starting with 35 glomeruli in the original atlas (Stocker et al., 1990),
1232 then modified to 40 glomeruli (Laissue et al., 1999), and further refined in numerous studies
1233 (Couto et al., 2005; Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005; Tanaka et al., 2012) including a recent
1234 count of 54 (Grabe et al., 2015) and 58 (Task et al., 2021) glomeruli. We have refrained from
1235 naming glomeruli in *Aedes aegypti* at this time because we believe that a more stereotyped
1236 arrangement will emerge as new genetic lines are generated that allow cell-type-specific
1237 labelling. A recent study in the mosquito *Anopheles gambiae* using mosquitoes that label *Orco*-
1238 expressing olfactory neurons also noted that the antennal lobe was variable between animals
1239 relative to *Drosophila melanogaster* (Riabinina et al., 2016). It is therefore possible that
1240 mosquito antennal lobes are more variable than Drosophilids (Grabe et al., 2015; Prieto-
1241 Godino et al., 2017). Variability in olfactory bulb structure is seen even in the mouse, *Mus*
1242 *musculus*, where the principles of olfactory organization were first established (Schaefer et al.,
1243 2001; Strotmann et al., 2000; Zou et al., 2009). The exact size and location of glomeruli can
1244 vary between animals more than initially appreciated and appears to be determined by both
1245 genetic factors and activity in olfactory sensory neurons during the early life of the animal. In
1246 *Drosophila melanogaster*, glomerulus size is highly genetically determined and correlates
1247 strongly with the number of olfactory sensory neurons that innervates each glomerulus (Grabe
1248 et al., 2015). Whether the variability in glomerulus size in the mosquito is due to activity-
1249 dependent changes in structure or other factors remains to be seen.

1250

1251 **Additional technical notes on expression and projection patterns of chemosensory** 1252 **receptor knock-in strains**

1253 *Orco-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP*: We noted that the intensity of GFP varies between glomeruli in
1254 this driver line, with some bright and others comparably dim. We speculate that this is due to a
1255 combination of the variability in *Orco* expression levels in individual neurons and variability in
1256 the density of innervation in individual glomeruli. A large region of the anterior ventral antennal
1257 lobe was previously referred to as the Johnston's organ center and was thought to comprise a
1258 single large glomerulus (Ignell et al., 2005). In other insect species, Johnston's organ mediates
1259 detection of auditory cues. Consistent with a recent study (Shankar and McMeniman, 2020),
1260 we segmented this region into multiple glomeruli based on anatomical boundaries revealed
1261 with Brp immunofluorescence. Glomeruli in this region are innervated by *Orco*-expressing
1262 neurons, calling into doubt the original report that these glomeruli process auditory stimuli and
1263 suggesting instead that they serve an olfactory function. In support of this hypothesis, the
1264 analogous area of the *Anopheles coluzzii* antennal lobe has been shown to receive projections
1265 from *Orco*-expressing olfactory sensory neurons (Riabinina et al., 2016). We also observed
1266 GFP projections into the subesophageal zone in *Orco-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP* animals, which
1267 appear to derive from expression in the proboscis, the primary taste organ in insects. This is
1268 consistent with similar expression in *Anopheles coluzzii* (Riabinina et al., 2016) and functional
1269 data in *Anopheles gambiae* showing that olfactory responses are detected in this gustatory
1270 organ (Kwon et al., 2006).

1271

1272 *Ir25a-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP*: The intensity of GFP projections varies between glomeruli in
1273 this driver line, with some bright and other comparably dim, as noted for *Orco-QF2*. The
1274 brightest glomeruli are primarily medial and anterior. We see the dimmest innervation in the
1275 area previously described as Johnston's organ center as well as in the central antennal lobe.
1276 Labeling was also seen in other areas of the brain, most notably the subesophageal zone and
1277 anterior mechanosensory motor center.

1278

1279 *Ir8a-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP*: Depending on the brain being analyzed there were either 2 or 3
1280 medial glomeruli labelled in this line. In the cases where there were 3 medial glomeruli, this
1281 third medial glomerulus was innervated by a few large-diameter axons. These were larger and
1282 sparser than the smaller axons that densely innervated most other glomeruli in this line. We
1283 also note that there are 2-3 cell bodies that express GFP located in the cell body rind lateral to
1284 the antennal lobe (rALI). We are unable to definitively describe where these cells project
1285 without genetic reagents that selectively label these cells, but they appear to send bilateral
1286 processes that cross the midline within what appears to be the saddle to innervate the anterior
1287 mechanosensory motor center outside the antennal lobe. All naming is in accordance with the
1288 new insect brain nomenclature presented in Ito et al. (Ito et al., 2014).

1289
1290 *Ir76b-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP*: In addition to projections to the antennal lobe, this line shows
1291 innervation of the subesophageal zone of the brain.

1292
1293 *Gr3-QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP*: All antennal lobes in this line show innervation of a single
1294 glomerulus (also referred to as "MD1" and here referred to as "Glomerulus 1"; (Ignell et al.,
1295 2005; Shankar and McMeniman, 2020). In several brains, we saw a second small medial
1296 glomerulus that derives its innervation from the antenna and is in a small medial cluster of
1297 landmark glomeruli midway down the anterior-posterior axis closest to the center of the brain.
1298 Innervation appears to come from only a few axons. This low and variable reporter expression
1299 is consistent with the low level of expression of *Gr3* in the antennal transcriptome (Matthews et
1300 al., 2016). Because this line only shows innervation of these 1-2 glomeruli, we analyzed all
1301 glomeruli only in the single brain in [Figure 11](#), and additionally analyzed 8 more antennal lobes
1302 in 4 brains for the presence or absence of labelling in these two glomeruli. We analyzed both
1303 left and right antennal lobes from 4 brains and found that in 3 of the 4 brains there was a
1304 second glomerulus in one or both antennal lobes ([Figure S6](#)). The presence of the second
1305 glomerulus was not specific within a single animal as we found all variations of presence and
1306 absence of this glomerulus across both antennal lobes in these 4 animals. In some *Gr3-*
1307 *QF2>QUAS-mCD8:GFP* animals, we detected a small number of processes that extended
1308 beyond the antennal lobe and into the higher brain, although the exact termination site varied.
1309 We never saw CO₂-evoked activity in the variable second glomerulus or these projections
1310 outside the antennal lobe. Images in [Figure S6](#) were taken as described above with the
1311 following changes: Secondary antibodies used were anti-mouse-Alexa Fluor 594 (1:500; Life
1312 Technologies A-11005) and anti-Rabbit-Alexa Fluor 488 (1:500; Life Technologies A-11034).
1313 Images were taken using a Zeiss Inverted LSM 880 laser scanning confocal microscope with a
1314 Plan-Apochromat 40x/1.4 Oil DIC objective. Images were taken at 1024 x 1024 in XY to
1315 generate images with a final voxel size of 0.1384 x 0.1384 x 0.5 μm³. Images were scored as
1316 containing GFP in one or two glomeruli.

1317
1318 **Additional technical notes on expression and projection patterns of Split-QF2 strains**
1319 All antennal lobe immunostaining in [Figure 2](#), [Figure 6](#), [Figure S7](#), [Figure S8](#) was carried out
1320 as described above with slight modifications to utilize the *15xQUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s*
1321 effector line. The same primary antibodies were used because of the structural similarity
1322 between GCaMP6s and GFP. Intrinsic dTomato was detected without antibody amplification,
1323 as it retained fluorescence after fixation and staining. Brp (Cy5), dTomato, and GCaMP6s
1324 (Alexa Fluor 488) were imaged as three separate confocal channels as described above.
1325 Glomeruli labelled by dTomato completely overlapped with those labelled by GCaMP6s
1326 immunofluorescence, so both channels were used during the quantification of positive and

1327 negative glomeruli. dTomato labeling was used to generate sample images. There was no
1328 staining in the antennal lobes of the individual split effector lines crossed to *15xQUAS-*
1329 *dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s* (n=3 per genotype) (Figure 2, Figure S7).
1330

1331 **Antennal lobe anterograde dye fill**

1332 For images in Figure S1, mosquitoes were anesthetized on wet ice until immobile and then
1333 transferred to a cold dissection dish. A single antenna or maxillary palp was loaded with
1334 Texas-red conjugated dextran (Molecular Probes D3328) diluted 10 mg in 100 μ L external
1335 saline (103 mM NaCl, 3 mM KCl, 5 mM 2-[Tris(hydroxymethyl)methyl]-2-aminoethanesulfonic
1336 acid (TES), 1.5 mM CaCl₂, 4 mM MgCl₂, 26 mM NaHCO₃, 1 mM NaH₂PO₄, 10 mM trehalose,
1337 10 mM glucose, pH 7.3, osmolality adjusted to 275 mOsm/kg). To load the dye a small drop
1338 (approximately 0.5-1 μ L) of dye was placed onto the surface of the dish and the animal was
1339 moved such that the intended cut-site on a single antenna or maxillary palp was placed in the
1340 drop of dye. The antenna or maxillary palp was then removed with sharp forceps and a fine
1341 scalpel (F.S.T 10315-12) while it was submerged in the dye. Care was taken to remove the
1342 maxillary palp proximal to the fourth segment, to include all the capitata-peg sensilla, and to
1343 remove the antenna near the base but to leave the antennal pedicel completely intact. The
1344 animal remained immobile on ice with the antenna or maxillary palp submerged and the dye
1345 was loaded for 2-5 min. After this time the animal was placed in a small soup cup with access
1346 to 10% sucrose and returned to standard rearing conditions overnight to give the dye time to
1347 diffuse throughout the neurons and fill the length of the axon. The next morning dissection of
1348 adult brains and immunostaining was carried out as described above.
1349

1350 **Antennal lobe 3-D reconstructions**

1351 In an attempt to develop a map of the *Aedes aegypti* antennal lobe, 3 brains from the *+/+^{LVP}*
1352 strain were immunolabeled with Brp to identify the boundaries between antennal lobe
1353 glomeruli. The left antennal lobe in each brain was independently reconstructed from confocal
1354 sections taken with a Plan-Apochromat 63x/1.40NA oil immersion objective, at 1024 x 1024
1355 pixel resolution in X and Y with 0.5 μ m Z-steps for a final voxel size of either 0.1318 x 0.1318 x
1356 0.5 μ m³ using the software Imaris (Bitplane). Although the area previously termed Johnston's
1357 organ center was considered a single glomerulus in a previous study (Ignell et al., 2005), we
1358 noted anatomical boundaries in this region, suggesting that it contains multiple glomeruli. This
1359 observation is consistent with recently published work (Shankar and McMeniman, 2020) and
1360 this area was segmented by an individual researcher to generate the final reconstructions. Two
1361 of these are shown in Figure S1. Each glomerulus was manually segmented into an individual
1362 surface using Surpass View. We were consistently able to identify the three glomeruli
1363 innervated by the maxillary palp, previously termed MD1, MD2 and MD3 (Ignell et al., 2005)
1364 which we refer to in this study as Glomerulus 1, Glomerulus 2, and Glomerulus 3 (Figure 1,
1365 Figure 6). The overall structure of the antennal lobe varied considerably from animal to animal
1366 and although we were able to identify certain regions and certain landmark glomeruli including
1367 those that are targeted by the maxillary palp, we were unable to assign an unambiguous
1368 identity to every glomerulus, as is possible in *Drosophila melanogaster* (Couto et al., 2005;
1369 Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005). This variability makes it essentially impossible to identify a
1370 given glomerulus between animals and we therefore have decided to avoid referring to
1371 glomeruli by previous naming schemes, including MD1, MD2, MD3. An authoritative atlas of
1372 the *Aedes aegypti* antennal lobe awaits genetic reagents that label subpopulations of sensory
1373 neurons that will permit the field to refer to glomeruli by their molecular identity.
1374

1375 **Antennal whole mount immunofluorescence**

1376 Whole-mount immunostaining of adult antennae was performed as described (Riabinina et al.,
1377 2016) with modifications. 7-11 day-old Liverpool mosquitoes were immobilized on ice,
1378 decapitated and heads and placed in 1 mL ZnFA fixative solution (0.25% ZnCl₂, 2%
1379 paraformaldehyde, 135 mM NaCl, 1.2% sucrose and 0.03% Triton X-100) for 20–24 h at room
1380 temperature in the dark. Next, the heads were washed three times for 30 min each with HBS
1381 buffer (150 mM NaCl, 5 mM KCl, 25 mM sucrose, 10 mM HEPES, 5 mM CaCl₂ and 0.03%
1382 Triton X-100). Antennae were carefully removed in HBS on ice and placed in 400 µL HBS in
1383 0.5 mL Eppendorf tubes. After a brief wash in HBS, the tissue was incubated in 400 µL 80%
1384 methanol/20% dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO) solution for 1 hr at room temperature, washed for
1385 5 min in 400 µL 0.1 M Tris pH 7.4, 0.03% Triton X-100 solution and incubated in 400 µL
1386 blocking solution (PBS, 5% normal goat serum (Jackson 005-000-121), 1% DMSO and 0.3%
1387 Triton X-100) for at least 3 hr at room temperature or overnight at 4°C. Next, the tissue was
1388 placed in a 0.5 mL Eppendorf tubes containing 400 µL blocking solution with primary
1389 antibodies [rabbit anti-Orco EC2 (Larsson et al., 2004), 1:50, Vosshall lab; chicken anti-
1390 GFP, 1:200, Aves GFP-1020] and submerged and held in a water bath sonicator (Branson
1391 m1800) for 30 sec at the high setting. Next, the tubes were placed on a rotator for 2 days at
1392 4°C in the dark, after which the sonication procedure was repeated. The tubes were placed on
1393 a rotator for 2 additional days (for a total of 4 days) at 4°C in the dark. Next, the tissue was
1394 washed 5X 30 min each at room temperature in PBS, 1% DMSO and 0.3% Triton X-100.
1395 Secondary antibodies (anti-rabbit Alexa Fluor 555 Plus, 1:200, Thermo Fisher A-32732, anti-
1396 chicken Alexa Fluor 488, 1:200, Thermo Fisher A-11039) and nuclear dye (TO-PRO-3 Iodide,
1397 1:400, Thermo Fisher T3605) were added to the blocking solution, and tubes were sonicated
1398 as described above and incubated for 4 days at 4°C in the dark with the sonication repeated
1399 after 2 days of incubation. The tissue was then washed 5X 30 min at room temperature in
1400 PBS, 1% DMSO and 0.3% Triton X-100, rinsed in PBS and mounted in Slow Fade Diamond
1401 for confocal imaging.

1402 1403 **Antennal whole-mount immunostaining with Ir25a antibody**

1404 This protocol was performed as previously described (Basrur et al., 2020) with modifications.
1405 Six- to 11-day-old female mosquitoes were anesthetized on wet ice, decapitated, and placed in
1406 1.5 mL 5 U/mL chitinase (Sigma C6137) and 100 U/mL chymotrypsin (Sigma CHY5S) in 119
1407 mM NaCl, 48 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl₂, 2 mM MgCl₂, 25 mM HEPES, 1% DMSO buffer on ice.
1408 Heads were incubated on a ThermoMixer (Eppendorf 5382000023) at 37°C for 5 min, followed
1409 by 55 min in a rotating hybridization oven at 37°C. Heads were then rinsed once and fixed in
1410 4% paraformaldehyde, 1X Ca⁺², Mg⁺² free PBS, and 0.03% Triton X-100 for 24 hr at 4°C on
1411 a rotator. All subsequent 4°C steps used a nutator, and room temperature steps used a rotator.
1412 Heads were washed for 30 min at room temperature at least three times in 1X PBS with 0.03%
1413 Triton X-100 (0.03% PBT). Antennae were then dissected into 0.5-mL microfuge tubes and
1414 dehydrated in 80% methanol/20% DMSO for 1 hr at room temperature. Antennae were
1415 washed in 0.03% PBT for 30 min at room temperature, and blocked/permeabilized in 1X PBS,
1416 1% DMSO (Sigma 472301), 5% normal goat serum, 4% Triton X-100 for 24 hr at 4°C.
1417 Antennae were washed for 30 min at least five times with 0.03% PBT, 1% DMSO, 5% normal
1418 goat serum at 4°C, and then moved to primary antibody in 1X PBS, 1% DMSO, 5% normal
1419 goat serum, 0.03% Triton X-100 for 72 hr at 4°C. Primary antibodies used were mouse anti-
1420 *Apocrypta bakeri* Orco monoclonal antibody #15B2 (1:50 dilution, gift of Joel Butterwick and
1421 Vanessa Ruta), and rabbit anti-Ir25a (1:50 dilution). Orco monoclonal antibody and Ir25a
1422 polyclonal antibody specificities were verified in *Aedes aegypti* by staining *orco* mutant and

1423 *Ir25a* mutant antennae, respectively (Figure 4E-H). Antennae were washed for 30 min at least
1424 five times with 0.03% PBT, 1% DMSO at room temperature, and then washed overnight in the
1425 same solution. Antennae were then moved to secondary antibody (1:200) in 1X PBS, 1%
1426 DMSO, 5% normal goat serum, 0.03% Triton X-100 for 72 hr at 4°C. Secondary antibodies
1427 used were goat anti-mouse Alexa Fluor 488 (Thermo A-11001) and goat anti-rabbit Alexa
1428 Fluor 555 Plus (Thermo A32732). Antennae were washed for 30 min at least five times with
1429 0.03% PBT, 1% DMSO at room temperature, and then washed overnight in the same solution.
1430 Antennae were rinsed in 1X PBS, rinsed three times in Slowfade Diamond (Thermo S36972),
1431 and mounted in Slowfade Diamond.

1432

1433 **Whole mount antennal and maxillary palp RNA *in situ* hybridization**

1434 RNA was detected in whole mount antenna and maxillary palp using the hybridization chain
1435 reaction (HCR) technique as previously described (Choi et al., 2018) with modifications.
1436 Probes, amplifiers, Probe Hybridization Buffer, Amplification Buffer, and Probe Wash Buffer
1437 were purchased from Molecular Instruments. Full list of probe lot numbers can be found in
1438 [Data File 1](#). 5-8 day-old Liverpool mosquitoes were anesthetized on wet ice, manually
1439 decapitated with forceps, and heads with antennae and the proboscis were digested in a
1440 chitinase-chymotrypsin solution (119 mM NaCl, 48 mM KCl, 2 mM CaCl₂, 2 mM MgCl₂, 25 mM
1441 HEPES, 5 U/mL chitinase (Sigma-Aldrich C6137-50UN), 100 U/mL alpha-chymotrypsin
1442 (Sigma-Aldrich CHY5S-10VL), 2% DMSO) (Manning and Doe, 2017) at 37°C for 30 min
1443 (antennae) or 1 hr (maxillary palps) in a Fisher Isotemp oven and subsequently fixed in 4%
1444 paraformaldehyde, 1X PBS, 0.03% Triton X-100 on a rotator at 4°C overnight. Heads were
1445 washed 4 times on ice for 10 min each in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20. Antennae or maxillary palps
1446 were dissected in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 on ice and dehydrated with a graded series of
1447 methanol/0.1% PBS-Tween: 25% methanol in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min on ice, 50%
1448 methanol in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min on ice, 75% methanol in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for
1449 10 min on ice, and two washes of 100% methanol for 10 min on ice. Tissues were incubated
1450 overnight in 100% methanol at -20°C and were subsequently rehydrated with a series of
1451 graded methanol/0.1% PBS-Tween-20: 75% methanol in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min on
1452 ice, 50% methanol in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min on ice, 25% methanol in 0.1% PBS-
1453 Tween-20 for 10 min on ice, and two washes of 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min each on ice.
1454 Tissue was digested in 20 µg/mL Proteinase-K (Thermo Fisher AM2548) in 0.1% PBS-Tween
1455 for 30 min at room temperature and washed twice with 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 10 min each at
1456 room temperature. Tissue was fixed in 4% paraformaldehyde in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 for 20
1457 min at room temperature and washed 3 times for 10 min each in 0.1% PBS-Tween-20 at room
1458 temperature. Tissue was incubated in Probe Hybridization Buffer at room temperature for 5
1459 min and then in 37°C pre-warmed Probe Hybridization Buffer rotating in a hybridization oven
1460 for 30 min. 8 pmol of each probe set was prepared in 37°C pre-warmed Probe Hybridization
1461 Buffer and tissue was incubated in probe solution at 37°C in a hybridization oven for 2 nights.
1462 Tissues were washed in 37°C pre-warmed Probe Wash Buffer 5 times for 10 min each at
1463 37°C. Tissues were washed twice in 5X SSC 0.1% Tween-20 at room temperature for 10 min
1464 each. Tissues were pre-amplified in room temperature Amplification Buffer for 10 min. 18 pmol
1465 hairpins were separately prepared by heating 6 µL of 3 µM stock of hairpins H1 and H2 at
1466 95°C for 90 sec on an Eppendorf Mastercycler and allowing to cool to room temperature in a
1467 dark drawer for 30 min. Hairpins were resuspended in 100 µL amplification buffer and tissues
1468 were incubated in this hairpin solution in the dark on a rotator at room temperature overnight.
1469 Tissues were washed 5 times for 10 min each in 5X SSC 0.1% Tween-20 and mounted in

1470 SlowFade Diamond (Thermo Fisher S36972) on glass slides with coverslips for confocal
1471 imaging.

1472

1473 **Whole mount antennal, maxillary palp, and proboscis dTomato visualization**

1474 7-14 day-old *Ir25a-QF2*, *Orco-QF2*, *Ir25a-QF2AD*, *Orco-QFDBD*, and *Ir25a-QF2AD Orco-*
1475 *QFDBD>15XQUAS-dTomato-T2A-GCaMP6s* mosquitoes were anesthetized on wet ice,
1476 manually decapitated with forceps and heads with antennae, proboscises, and maxillary palps
1477 were immediately fixed in 1 mL 4% paraformaldehyde, 1X PBS, 0.03% Triton X-100, on a
1478 rotator in the dark at 4°C overnight. Heads were washed 3X 30 min each in 1X PBS, 0.03%
1479 Triton X-100 at room temperature, then antennae, proboscises, and maxillary palps were
1480 carefully removed and placed in 1X PBS, 0.03% Triton X-100. Next, antennae, proboscises,
1481 and maxillary palps were placed in a solution of 1X PBS, 0.03% Triton X-100, 1% DMSO, and
1482 a 1:400 dilution of TO-PRO-3 (Thermo Fisher T3605) for 24 hr at 4°C in the dark. Antennae,
1483 proboscises, and maxillary palps were then washed 5X 30 min each in 1X PBS, 0.03% Triton
1484 X-100 at room temperature in the dark, washed once with 1X PBS, transferred to a well of
1485 SlowFade diamond to remove excess PBS, and mounted in SlowFade Diamond for confocal
1486 imaging.

1487

1488 **Antennal and maxillary palp confocal imaging and cell quantification**

1489 Images of peripheral tissues were acquired with a Zeiss Axio Observer Z1 Inverted LSM 880
1490 NLO laser scanning confocal microscope (Zeiss) with a 25x/0.8 NA or 63x/1.4 NA immersion-
1491 corrected objective at a resolution of 3096 x 3096 pixels or 2048 x 2048 pixels. When
1492 comparing dTomato fluorescence across genotypes, image acquisition parameters were kept
1493 consistent. When necessary, tiled images were stitched with 20% overlap. We note that all
1494 confocal imaging was conducted in a manner that would maximize our ability to visualize the
1495 presence or absence of each fluorophore and was not intended as a quantitative measure of
1496 fluorescence intensity. Confocal images were processed in ImageJ (NIH). Because the
1497 antenna is a cylindrical structure, when whole antennal segments are mounted on a slide and
1498 imaged on a confocal microscope, signal can be easily detected from the region closest to the
1499 coverslip and confocal objective, but signal is weaker when imaging the side further from the
1500 coverslip and objective. For the purposes of consistent quantification, we only quantified cell
1501 numbers from the region closest to the coverslip (red rectangle in [Figure S12A](#)). For
1502 quantifying expression in the maxillary palp, only the dorso-lateral region of the 4th maxillary
1503 palp segment was analyzed. (yellow rectangle in [Figure S12B](#)). Quantification of co-expression
1504 in antennae and maxillary palps was done in ImageJ (NIH) using the Cell Counter plugin. Cells
1505 in each channel were manually marked independently of the signal in the other channels. After
1506 cells in each channel are marked, and markers were then merged. Cells that were labeled with
1507 multiple markers (co-expressing cells) were then marked with a third marker ([Figure S12C-H](#)).
1508 Cell counts were then imported into Microsoft Excel and R for analysis.

1509

1510 **Antenna Dissection for snRNA-seq**

1511 Approximately 100-250 female *+/+^{LVP}* mosquitoes aged 6-8 days post-eclosion were
1512 anesthetized on wet ice for 10 min. Mosquitoes were then placed in a 70 µm cell strainer
1513 (Falcon 08-771-1). The cell strainer containing the anesthetized mosquitoes was placed in a
1514 60 mm Petri dish (Corning 430166), and ice-cold molecular-grade 100% ethanol was gently
1515 poured into the cell strainer for 5 sec. The cell strainer with ethanol-rinsed mosquitoes was
1516 then transferred to a new 60 mm Petri dish and ice-cold Schneider's Medium (Gibco
1517 21720024) was poured into the cell strainer to rinse. Approximately 20 mL of ice-cold

1518 Schneider's medium was poured into a 100 mm Petri dish (Corning 430293) on wet ice or
1519 reusable ice pack (Cooler Shock, mid-size freeze pack). Schneider's Medium-rinsed
1520 mosquitoes were transferred from the cell strainer to the 100 mm Petri dish. A new 70 µm cell
1521 strainer (pluriSelect 43-10070) with walls trimmed with a sterile razor blade to a height of 0.5 –
1522 0.75 cm was placed into the same 100 mm Petri dish. The antennae were then removed using
1523 forceps and placed into the cell strainer. Antennae were rinsed approximately every 10 min by
1524 agitating the cell strainer and pipetting fresh ice-cold Schneider's Medium into the cell strainer.
1525 Dissection of each sample was limited to 90 min to ensure nuclei integrity, and when 90 min
1526 elapsed or all mosquitoes dissected, antennae were transferred into a DNA LoBind 1.5 mL
1527 tube (Eppendorf 022431021) pre-wet with Schneider's Medium. The cell strainer with antennae
1528 was inverted with forceps into the tube and approximately 300 µL ice-cold Schneider's Medium
1529 was pipetted into the cell strainer to release antennae into the Eppendorf tube. The sample
1530 was then flash-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at -70°C until ready for nuclei extraction. A
1531 total of approximately 1000-1500 antennae were collected for each snRNA-seq batch,
1532 collected across four dissection sessions. Two batches of female antennae were processed for
1533 the snRNA-seq data presented in this paper. All tissue was collected at Rockefeller University.
1534 Batch 1 was processed at Rockefeller University (including nuclei extraction, 10X Genomics
1535 run, library preparation and sequencing), and Batch 2 was shipped on dry ice and processed
1536 at Baylor College of Medicine.

1537 1538 **Batch 1 (Rockefeller antenna sample) nuclei extraction**

1539 Nuclei extraction of mosquito antennae was performed as previously described (McLaughlin et
1540 al., 2021) with modifications. Dissected antennae were thawed on wet ice, and all subsequent
1541 steps were performed on wet ice unless otherwise noted. Once samples were thawed,
1542 antennae were centrifuged in a benchtop microcentrifuge for 5-10 sec, Schneider's Medium
1543 was removed and replaced with 100 µL of homogenization buffer (McLaughlin et al., 2021).
1544 Antennae from multiple dissection sessions were combined into a single DNA LoBind 1.5 mL
1545 tube using a low-retention repel polymer technology 200 µL filter tip (TipOne 11821830), with
1546 ~1 mm from the distal end trimmed using a sterilized and RNase away-treated (Thermo Fisher
1547 7000TS1) razor blade. With no more than 500 µL buffer present in the tube, tissue was ground
1548 for 30-60 sec with a pellet pestle motor (Kimble 749540-0000) and RNase-free pestle (Kimble
1549 749521-0590). The volume of buffer was brought up to 1000 µL with additional ice-cold
1550 homogenization buffer. Next, a 1 mL Dounce tissue grinder and pestle set (Wheaton 357538)
1551 that had been autoclaved at 121°C for 4 hr the previous day was pre-wetted with
1552 homogenization buffer. Using a low-retention (repel polymer technology) 1000 µL filter tip
1553 (TipOne 11821830), samples were transferred into the Dounce homogenizer. Nuclei were
1554 released by homogenizing with 20 strokes of the loose pestle, and 40 strokes of the tight
1555 pestle. Next, a low-retention 1000 µL tip was used to remove ~500 µL of the suspension. The
1556 suspension was filtered through a 40 µm Flowmi filter (Bel-Art H13680-0040) into a pre-wet 20
1557 µm PluriStrainer (pluriSelect 43-10020-40) in a 1.5 mL LoBind Eppendorf tube. The second
1558 ~500 µL antennae nuclei suspension was then filtered the same way into the same Eppendorf
1559 tube. The suspension was then divided equally into two 1.5 mL LoBind Eppendorf tubes and
1560 centrifuged for 10 min at 500xG at 4°C. The supernatant was gently discarded without
1561 disturbing the pellet. Next, pellets were resuspended in 100 µL 1X PBS, 1% bovine serum
1562 albumin, 10 µL/mL RNase inhibitor (Roche RNAINH-RO) by pipetting 5 times with a low-
1563 retention 1000 µL tip, combined and pipetted to resuspend and break up cell clumps 15 more
1564 times. The suspension was then filtered three times by running it through a Flowmi filter into a
1565 10 µm strainer (pluriSelect 43-10010-40) in a 1.5 mL LoBind Eppendorf tube. To ensure nuclei

1566 were not clumping, 10 μ L of the suspension was removed and stained with acridine orange
1567 and propidium iodide (Logos Biosystems, LGBD10012). The concentration of nuclei was
1568 determined by counting cells on a Luna FX7 automated cell counter (Logos Biosystems
1569 L70001).

1570

1571 **Batch 1 (Rockefeller antenna sample): 10X Genomics, library preparation and**
1572 **sequencing**

1573 Single cell 3' expression Libraries were generated using Chromium Single Cell 3' Library & Gel
1574 Bead kit Version 3.1 (10X Genomics PN1000269). Standard protocols from 10X Genomics
1575 were followed to generate the dual index libraries. Due to the small nucleus size (4-5 μ m in
1576 diameter), 17 cycles were used for cDNA amplification and 13 cycles for index PCR. The
1577 quality and quantity of the libraries were assessed on Agilent TapeStation, the library was
1578 sequenced on Illumina NovaSeq 6000 sequencer using 100 cycle SP flowcell and 800 million
1579 paired reads were generated (read 1 = 28 bp, read 2 = 90 bp).

1580

1581 **Batch 2 (Baylor antenna sample): nuclei extraction**

1582 Nuclei extraction from mosquito antennae were performed as previously described (Li et al.,
1583 2021) with modifications. Fresh homogenization buffer (Li et al., 2021) was prepared and kept
1584 on ice. Samples were thawed from -80°C on wet ice, spun down in 100 μ L Schneider's
1585 Medium using a bench top spinner, and as much medium as possible was discarded.
1586 Antennae from multiple dissection sessions were combined into a single 1.5 mL Eppendorf
1587 tube using a low-retention 200 μ L filter tip (Rainin 30389240) with ~1 mm from the distal end
1588 trimmed using a sterilized and RNase away-treated (Thermo Fisher 7000TS1) razor blade
1589 (VWR 10835-965) and 100 μ L Homogenization buffer was added. The sample was ground
1590 with a pestle motor (Kimble 6HAZ6) for 30 – 60 sec on wet ice. 900 μ L homogenization buffer
1591 was added, and 1000 μ L homogenized sample was transferred into the 1 mL Dounce tissue
1592 grinder set (Wheaton 357538) that had been autoclaved at 200°C for >5 hr or overnight a day
1593 in advance. Nuclei were released by 20 strokes with a loose Dounce pestle and 40 with a tight
1594 Dounce pestle on ice, taking care to avoid bubbles. 1000 μ L of the sample was filtered through
1595 a 5 mL cell strainer (35 μ m), and then filtered using 40 μ m Flowmi (BeArt, H13680-0040) into
1596 1.5 mL EP tube, centrifuged for 10 min at 1000xG at 4°C. The supernatant was discarded with
1597 care not to disturb the pellet. The nuclei were resuspended using 500 μ L 1xPBS/0.5%BSA with
1598 RNase inhibitor (9.5 mL 1x PBS, 0.5 mL 10% BSA, 50 μ L RNasin Plusby) pipetting at least 20
1599 times to completely re-suspend the nuclei. Sample were filtered using 40 μ m Flowmi into a
1600 new 5 mL fluorescence-activated cell sorting (FACS) tube and kept on wet ice.

1601

1602 **Batch 2 (Baylor antenna sample): FACS sorting, 10X Genomics, library preparation,**
1603 **sequencing**

1604 FACS sorting was done using a BD FACSAria III Cell Sorter to collect nuclei. Nuclei were
1605 stained with Hoechst-33342 (1:1000; >5 min). Hoechst-positive nuclei were collected into 1.5
1606 mL Eppendorf tube with 500 μ L 1x PBS with 0.5% BSA as the receiving buffer (RNase inhibitor
1607 added). For each 10X Genomics run, all nuclei were collected. Approximately 15,000 nuclei
1608 were collected from the antennae. Nuclei were spun for 10 min at 1000XG at 4°C, and then
1609 resuspended using 43.2 μ L 1x PBS with 0.5% BSA (RNase inhibitor added). Since the yield of
1610 nuclei was low, all nuclei were loaded onto a 10X Genomics controller. 10X Genomics
1611 sequencing libraries were prepared following the standard protocol from 10X Genomics 3' v3.1
1612 kit with following settings. All PCR reactions were performed using the Biorad C1000 Touch
1613 Thermal cycler with 96-Deep Well Reaction Module. 13 cycles were used for cDNA

1614 amplification and 16 cycles were used for sample index PCR. As per 10X Genomics protocol,
1615 1:10 dilutions of amplified cDNA and final libraries were evaluated on Agilent 4200
1616 TapeStation. Single-cell RNA libraries were sequenced on Illumina NovaSeq 6000 sequencer
1617 with minimum sequencing depth of 50,000 reads/cell using the read lengths 28bp Read1, 8bp
1618 i7 Index, 91bp Read2.

1619
1620 **Maxillary palp dissection, nuclei extraction, FACS Sorting, 10X Genomics, library**
1621 **preparation, and sequencing.**

1622 Maxillary palp dissections were conducted as described for the antenna. A total of 2,908 total
1623 maxillary palps were collected across twenty dissection sessions at Rockefeller. These
1624 samples were shipped on dry ice and processed at Baylor College of Medicine. Nuclei
1625 extraction and FACS was performed at Baylor as described for the Batch 2 antenna sample
1626 with approximately 7,000 nuclei collected. 10X Genomics, library preparation, and sequencing
1627 was done as described above for the Batch 2 antenna sample.

1628
1629 **snRNA-seq analysis: cell identification, ambient RNA removal, batch combination, and**
1630 **neuron classification**

1631 The *Aedes aegypti* genome (AaegL5.0, GCF_002204515.2 on NCBI) was indexed using Cell
1632 Ranger (version 6.0.2). FASTQ files generated from 10X Genomics 3' gene expression libraries
1633 were mapped to the indexed genomes and gene counts in each cell were calculated by
1634 CellRanger (version 6.0.2). Intron signals were included by specifying the --include-introns
1635 parameter for cellranger count.

1636
1637 DecontX from the celda package (version 1.8.1) was chosen for removing the ambient RNAs
1638 that are produced during the nuclei isolation. The raw and filtered reads generated from Cell
1639 Ranger were compared by DecontX to obtain decontaminated reads (Figure S9A, Figure
1640 S13A). The decontaminated reads were rounded by the R base::round function and the
1641 decontaminated matrices were generated by the DropletUtils package (version 1.12.3).
1642 Decontaminated expression matrices were loaded into the Seurat package (version 4.0.5) and
1643 multiplets were identified by DoubletFinder (version 2.0.3). The pK with maximum AUC was
1644 chosen for DoubletFinder. The multiplet numbers were estimated by the multiplet rate table on
1645 the 10X Genomics website. DoubletFinder-defined multiplets were excluded for the
1646 downstream analysis (Figure S9B, Figure S13B). Cells with extreme gene numbers or
1647 abundant mitochondria transcripts were removed using Seurat. We excluded nuclei expressing
1648 fewer than 400 or greater than 4000 genes. Nuclei with more than 5% of mitochondrial
1649 transcripts were excluded. Genes expressed in fewer than 3 nuclei were removed (Figures
1650 S9C-E, Figure S13C-E).

1651
1652 Expression matrices of remaining nuclei were loaded into the Seurat package and processed
1653 by Seurat (version 4.0.5). The analyses applied default parameters of Seurat unless specified.
1654 Expression matrices were normalized using NormalizeData() function. Highly variable genes
1655 were selected using FindVariableFeatures(). The data were scaled using the ScaleData()
1656 function with the vars.to.regress = c('nCount_RNA') parameter to regress out the effect of the
1657 total counts. The scaled data were dimensionally reduced using the RunPCA() function. t-
1658 distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (t-SNE) was used for visualizing the non-linear
1659 dimensionality reduction with 1 to 50 dimensions. Nuclei were clustered using the Louvain
1660 algorithm (Figure S9G, Figure 7C).

1661

1662 We performed two independent snRNA-seq experiments on the antenna to collect a large
1663 number of nuclei for our analysis. The two batches of antenna snRNA-seq data were merged
1664 and split using `merge()` and `SplitObject()` functions in Seurat. Split objects were normalized and
1665 selected for highly variable genes independently. To reduce the batch effects from two
1666 samples, we first selected genes for integrating two batches using the
1667 `SelectIntegrationFeatures()` function in Seurat (Figure S9F). Two batches were then integrated
1668 using the `FindIntegrationAnchors()` and `IntegrateData()` functions. Batch-corrected samples
1669 were then analyzed following the procedures described in the previous section from scaling to
1670 clustering to identify cluster-specific genes.

1671
1672 To classify cells as neurons, we first identified genes that are orthologous to the neuronal
1673 marker genes used in *Drosophila melanogaster* using pBLAST. Four mosquito genes,
1674 LOC5565901, LOC5570204, LOC5564848, and LOC5570381, are orthologous to the
1675 *Drosophila melanogaster* neural markers, *syt1*, *elav*, *CadN*, and *brp*, respectively. We saw that
1676 expression largely overlapped with the olfactory sensory neuron co-receptors *Orco*, *Ir25a*,
1677 *Ir76b*, *Ir8a*, and *Gr3*, consistent with the idea that these are neuronal markers. We defined
1678 neural clusters based on the expression of *syt1*, *elav*, *CadN*, and *brp*, and clusters expressing
1679 at least three neuronal markers in more than 50% of cells in the corresponding cluster were
1680 defined as neural clusters (Figure S9I, Figure S13H-I). These neural clusters were then
1681 examined for ligand-selective receptor and co-receptor expression.

1682 **Antenna heat map:**

1683
1684 The normalized expressions of genes in all nuclei were utilized to plot heatmaps using the
1685 `ComplexHeatmap` package in R. Epithelia-, glia-, and neuron-enriched genes in the *Drosophila*
1686 *melanogaster* antenna were considered as references of the corresponding marker genes in
1687 *Aedes aegypti*.

1688
1689 **Antenna tSNE plot:** To generate tSNE plots in Figure 5C of all antennal nuclei and antennal
1690 neurons, expression matrices were first log-normalized, selected for highly variable genes, and
1691 scaled. Scaled data were applied to the `RunTSNE()` with 1 to 50 dimensions. All antenna
1692 nuclei and antennal neurons were clustered using the Louvain algorithm with resolutions 0.5
1693 and 3 respectively (Figure S9G, Figure 5C).

1694
1695 **Antenna dot plot:** The dot plot of cluster-enriched chemosensory receptors in Figure 5D was
1696 based on the `DotPlot()` function in Seurat and customized using the `ggplot2` package. The
1697 mean normalized expression and expression percentage of each chemosensory receptor were
1698 extracted by the `DotPlot()` function. Chemosensory receptors expressed in more than 35% of
1699 nuclei in the corresponding cluster with mean expression values (UMI of gene*10,000 / total
1700 UMI of cell +1) larger than 1 were considered cluster-dominant chemosensory receptors
1701 (Figure S10A-B). The expression percentages of all dominant chemosensory receptors were
1702 scaled and clustered. For visualizing differences lower-expressed ligand-selective receptor
1703 subunits, circles representing a mean expression value greater than 20 have the same color.
1704 The expression percentage and mean expression of each chemosensory receptor were plotted
1705 using the `geom_point()` function in `ggplot2`. The `hclust()` function was used to cluster genes.

1706
1707 **Antenna chord plot:** The chord plot of co-expressed chemosensory receptor in Figure 5E
1708 was generated using the `chorddiag` package in R. Normalized expressions of the top 20
1709 expressed chemosensory receptor were examined for the co-expression in the antenna

1710 neuron population. Receptors that express more than 1 normalization value were considered
1711 as positively expressed. Each expressed chemosensory receptor was iteratively compared to
1712 the expression of the remaining 19 chemosensory receptor in the corresponding nuclei. If more
1713 than 20 nuclei expressed two chemosensory receptors simultaneously, these two receptors
1714 were considered as co-expressed chemosensory receptors and visualized using the chorddiag
1715 package.

1716
1717 **Antenna scatter plot:** The co-expression scatter plot in [Figure S11F](#) was based on the
1718 normalization expression from each single nuclei for a pair of chemosensory receptors. The
1719 normalization values were plotted using the `geom_point()` function of the `ggplot2` package in R.

1720
1721 **Antenna simplified co-expression heatmap:** Heatmaps were generated for the purposes of
1722 visualizing examples co-expression patterns from a large dataset of 6,645 neurons and 231
1723 chemosensory receptors (106 ORs, 73 IRs, and 52 GRs). For each chemosensory receptor,
1724 cells expressing the given gene above a normalized expression level threshold of 0.5
1725 $\log(\text{UMI} \times 10,000 + 1)$ were identified and subsetted from the neural population ([Figure S11A-B](#)).
1726 Background noise of chemosensory receptor expression made it difficult to identify robust
1727 patterns of co-expression. Therefore, for the purpose of sorting cells to visualize expression
1728 patterns, we reclustered chemosensory receptor-expressing cell population using
1729 `FindNeighbors()`, `RunPCA()` with 1 to 50 dimensions and `FindClusters()` with a resolution of 3.
1730 This unsupervised clustering grouped cells based on their whole transcriptome, not solely
1731 based on chemosensory receptor expression. In many cases, cells in a cluster exhibited the
1732 same co-expression patterns. In heatmaps illustrating all the chemosensory receptors using
1733 scaled expression levels, these expression patterns were visible by eye ([Figure S11B](#)).
1734 Clusters exhibiting representative patterns were selected from the population, and heatmaps
1735 were re-generated for simplified co-expression heatmaps in [Figure 5F-I](#) and [Figure S11C-](#)
1736 [F](#). For example, for analysis of *Ir41k* co-expression patterns: 412 cells were selected from the
1737 population with a normalized expression threshold above 0.5 $\log(\text{UMI} \times 10,000 + 1)$, and
1738 clustered using 50 principle components and a cluster resolution of 3 ([Figure S11B](#)). 6 clusters
1739 were identified (2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8) as examples to illustrate co-expression patterns. In the
1740 simplified heatmap for *Ir41k* only, cells were reclustered using 9 principal components and a
1741 1.9 clustering resolution ([Figure 5F](#)). In all other simplified heatmaps, the same clusters were
1742 used as identified in the larger co-expression heatmap.

1743
1744 **Maxillary palp: tSNE, heatmap, chord plot, expression feature plot**

1745 The tSNE of maxillary palp nuclei in [Figure 7C](#) was generated similarly to the antenna tSNE,
1746 with cluster resolution adjusted to 2.5. The heatmap of all maxillary palp nuclei in [Figure 7B,D](#)
1747 was plotted as described for the antenna heatmap. The maxillary palp chord plot in [Figure 7E](#)
1748 was processed similarly to the antenna one. The top 20 most highly expressed chemosensory
1749 receptors except for *Gr1* and *Gr2*, together with *Gr3*, were examined for the co-expression at
1750 single-nuclei resolution. Co-expressed pairs of receptors found in more than 10 cells were
1751 included. Maxillary palp gene expression feature plots were made using the command
1752 `FeaturePlot` on normalized expression values.

1753
1754 **Mosquito preparation for single-sensillum recordings**

1755 Female mosquitoes from two wild-type and 3 mutant strains ($+/+^{ORL}$, $+/+^{LVP}$, *Ir25a*^{BamHI/BamHI},
1756 *Gr3*^{4/4} and *Orco*^{16/16}) five to seven days post-emergence, were anesthetized on wet ice for 1-2
1757 min. An individual mosquito was then glued onto a piece of double-sided sticky tape on a

1758 microscope slide (76 × 26 mm) and secured by a piece of tape covering the thorax and
1759 abdomen. The maxillary palps were immobilized using a short segment of human hair placed
1760 over the basal part of the maxillary palps. The sensilla of the maxillary palps were
1761 subsequently visualized using an Olympus light microscope (BX51WI; LRI Instrument AB,
1762 Lund, Sweden) at 750×. A continuous humidified stream of synthetic air (Strandmöllen AB,
1763 Ljungby, Sweden) was passed over the maxillary palp (2 L min⁻¹) via a glass tube (7 mm i.d.),
1764 terminating 10 mm from the maxillary palps, to avoid desiccation.

1765 1766 **Single-sensillum recordings from maxillary palp capitae peg sensilla**

1767 Electrophysiological recordings from capitae peg sensilla were made and analyzed according
1768 to previously described protocols (Ghaninia et al., 2019; Majeed et al., 2016). In brief, two
1769 tungsten microelectrodes, electrolytically sharpened in 10% KNO₂ solution, were used as
1770 reference and recording electrodes. The reference electrode was inserted into the eye and the
1771 recording electrode was positioned at the base or shaft of the sensillum using a piezo
1772 motorized micromanipulator (Märzhäuser Wetzlar GmbH & Co. KG, Wetzlar Germany) until
1773 electrical contact was established. Extracellular signals from the olfactory sensory neurons
1774 housed in the capitae peg sensilla were amplified and recorded using a high-impedance probe
1775 (universal single ended probe) and a USB-acquisition controller (IDAC-4) (Ockenfels Syntech
1776 GmbH, Buchenbach, Germany). Extracellular spikes were differentiated based on amplitude
1777 as A, B, and C, according to standard nomenclature (Ghaninia et al., 2019; Majeed et al.,
1778 2016), and manually counted using Autospike 3.7 (Ockenfels Syntech GmbH). The response
1779 to odorant stimuli were analyzed by subtracting the number of spikes 0.5 sec post-stimulus
1780 from the number of spikes 0.5 sec pre-stimulus, and the outcome was multiplied by two to
1781 obtain a spike/sec measurement. In cases where the neuronal response was high enough to
1782 result in pinching of the spike train (>150 spikes/sec), the number of spikes post-stimulus were
1783 counted for the first 100 msec and then multiplied by 5, as the inter-spike frequency is constant
1784 once the neuron is activated maximally. Neurons were classified as responders or non-
1785 responders based upon whether their odorant response was above or below a 30 spikes/sec
1786 threshold, respectively.

1787 1788 **Odorant stimulus delivery for single-sensillum recordings**

1789 Odorants used in [Figure 8](#) were selected for the highest purity available (>98%): R(-)-1-octen-
1790 3-ol (PubChem CID: 6992244, Penta Manufacturing 15-18900); acetone (PubChem CID: 180
1791 Sigma A4206); hexyl amine (PubChem CID: 8102, Sigma 219703); triethyl amine (PubChem
1792 CID: 1146, Sigma T0886). All odorants were diluted into a large stock solution that was used
1793 throughout each entire experiment to avoid variability in concentrations. Serial decadic
1794 dilutions of acetone, hexyl amine, and triethyl amine were made in MilliQ ultrapure water (18
1795 megaohm resistance) and 1-octen-3-ol was diluted in paraffin oil (EMD Millipore #PX0045-3).
1796 Aliquots of 10 µL of each compound and dilution was pipetted onto a piece of filter paper (5 ×
1797 20 mm) placed inside a Pasteur pipette. Similar volumes of MilliQ ultrapure water and paraffin
1798 oil were used as controls. Stimulus cartridges were used within 5 min after loading, and only
1799 used once. For dose-response analysis using CO₂, gas cylinders containing metered amounts
1800 of CO₂ (300, 600, 1200, 4800 ppm) and oxygen (20%), balanced by nitrogen (Strandmöllen
1801 AB, Ljungby, Sweden) were used as previously described (Ghaninia et al. 2019). Odorants
1802 were introduced by passing a 0.5 sec air puff through the Pasteur pipette using a stimulus
1803 controller (Ockenfels Syntech GmbH) into the airstream passing over the maxillary palps
1804 through a hole in the glass tube, 10 cm upstream from the preparation.

1805

1806 **Statistical analysis**

1807 All statistical analyses were performed using Prism (GraphPad), Excel (Microsoft) or R version
1808 3.6.3 (R Development CoreTeam, 2017). Data are shown as mean±SEM unless otherwise
1809 noted. Details of statistical methods are reported in the figure legends.

1810

1811 **DATA AND RESOURCE AVAILABILITY**

1812 Supplementary [Figures S1-S14](#) accompany the paper. Raw data are provided in [Data File 1](#),
1813 and additional raw data, plots and analysis, and custom scripts are available at
1814 https://github.com/VosshallLab/Younger_Herre_Vosshall2020. Additional raw data and
1815 analysis of the snRNA-seq data are on Github at
1816 https://github.com/VosshallLab/Younger_Herre_Vosshall2020. These include processed data
1817 (Seurat files) and scripts, in addition to descriptive statistics and analysis, including a pseudo-
1818 bulk table of gene counts and cell number distribution, violin plots, feature plots, and broad co-
1819 expression heatmaps. snRNA-seq sequencing reads are freely available from the Gene
1820 Expression Omnibus (accession number GEO: GSE192978). Additional files related to
1821 snRNA-seq data analysis and visualization are available at Zenodo (antenna:
1822 <https://zenodo.org/record/5818543#.YdX7VWjMluU>; maxillary palp:
1823 <https://zenodo.org/record/5818952#.YdX7KWjMluU>, Plasmids are available from Addgene
1824 (accession #162520-162526).

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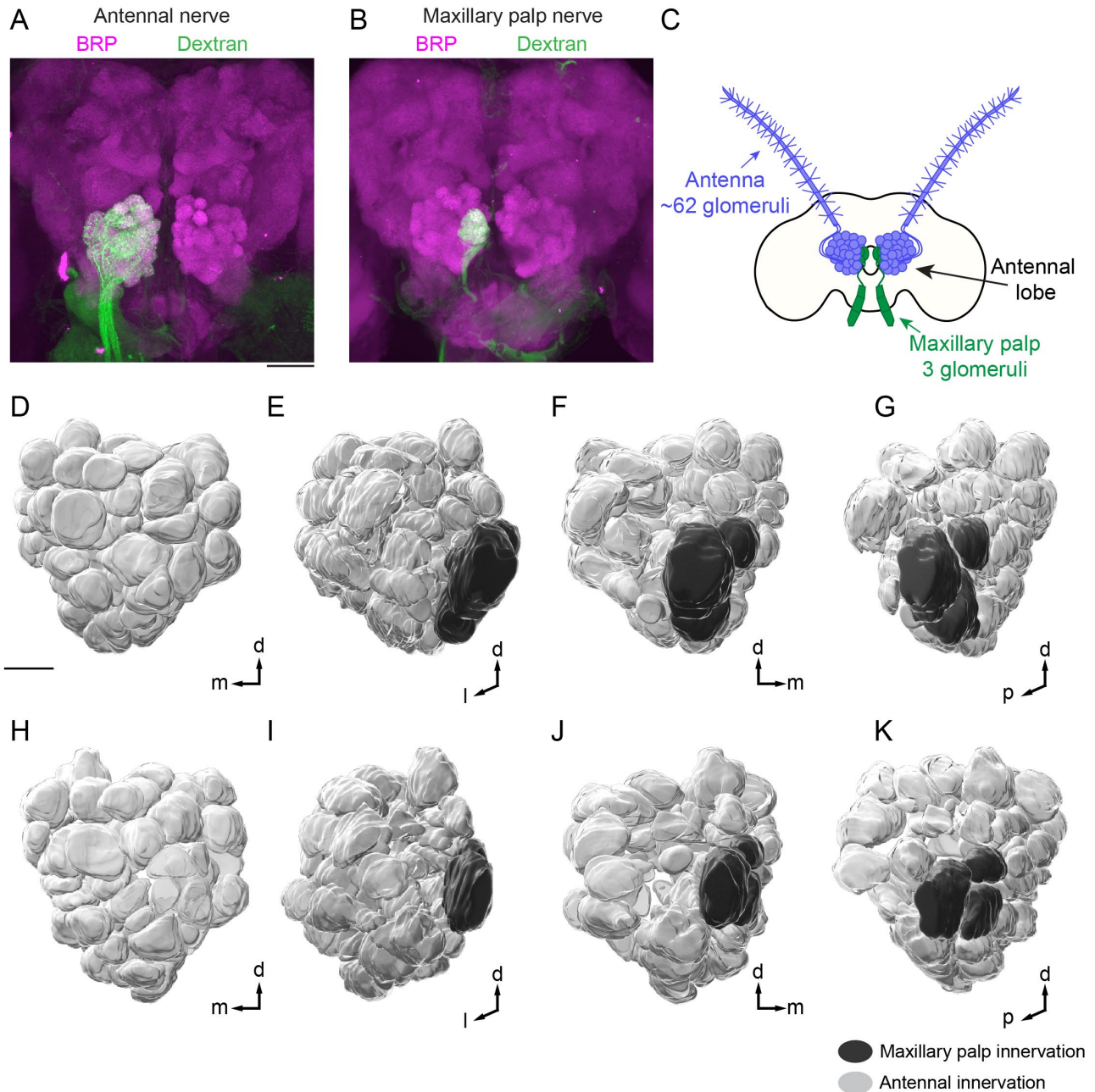
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Figure S1

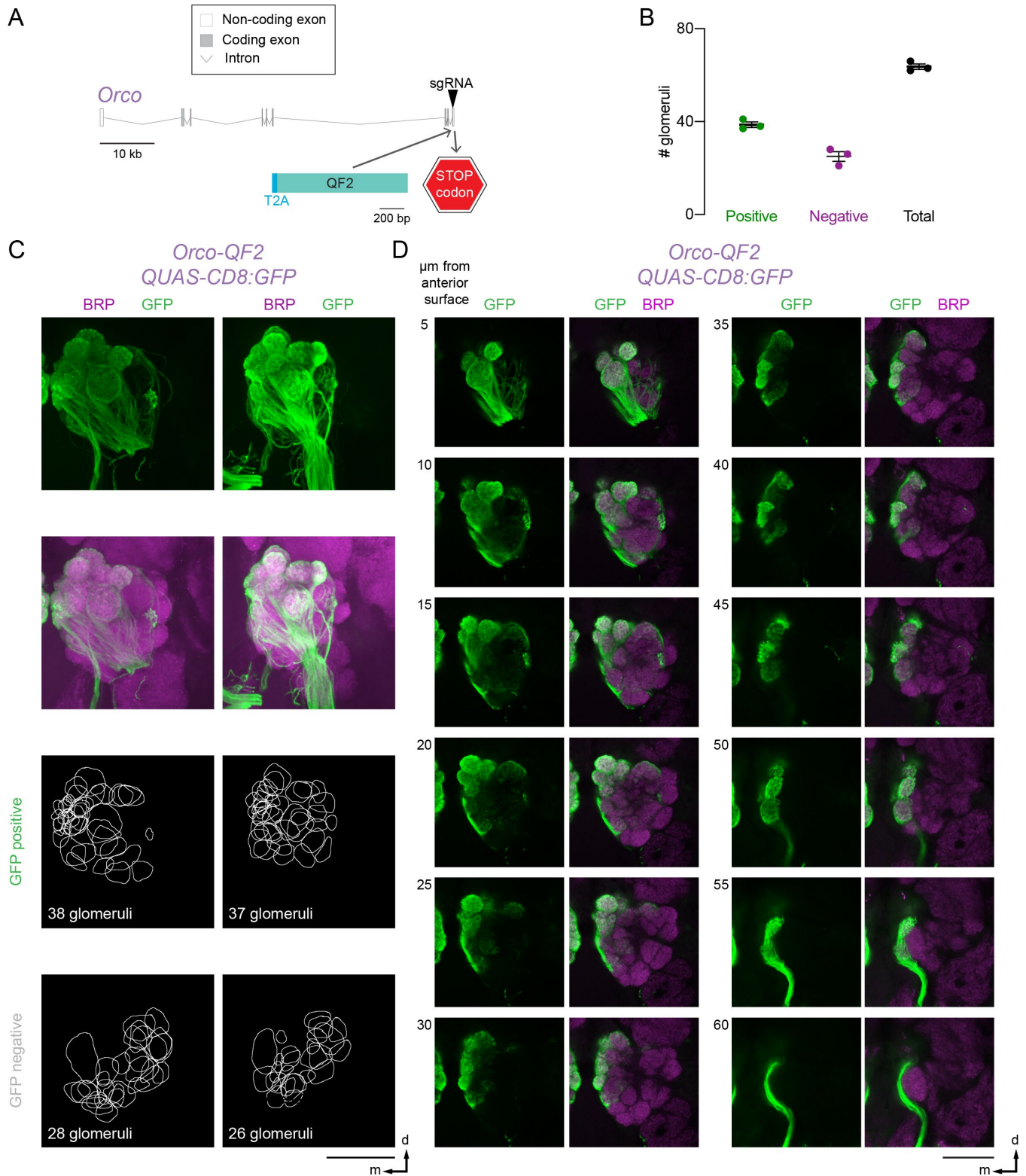


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Figure S1. Organization of *Aedes aegypti* antennal lobe glomeruli (Related to Figure 1)
(A-B) Maximum-intensity projections of confocal Z-stacks of a brain after anterograde dye fill of a single ipsilateral antenna (A) or ipsilateral maxillary palp (B) using a dextran-conjugated fluorophore (green) with immunofluorescent labeling of Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). (C) Approximate number of antennal lobe glomeruli per brain hemisphere innervated by the indicated sensory structure, derived from quantification of the left antennal lobe in 12 brains presented in Figure 11-J, Figure S2-S5. (D-K) 3-D reconstruction of a single left antennal lobe with 61 (D-G) or 66 (H-K) glomeruli shown at 4 different angles. Glomeruli are colored according to innervation by the indicated sensory appendage. Panel (G) is reprinted in Figure 5B. Scale bars: 50 μm (A-B), 20 μm (D-K). Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial, p=posterior.

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Figure S2

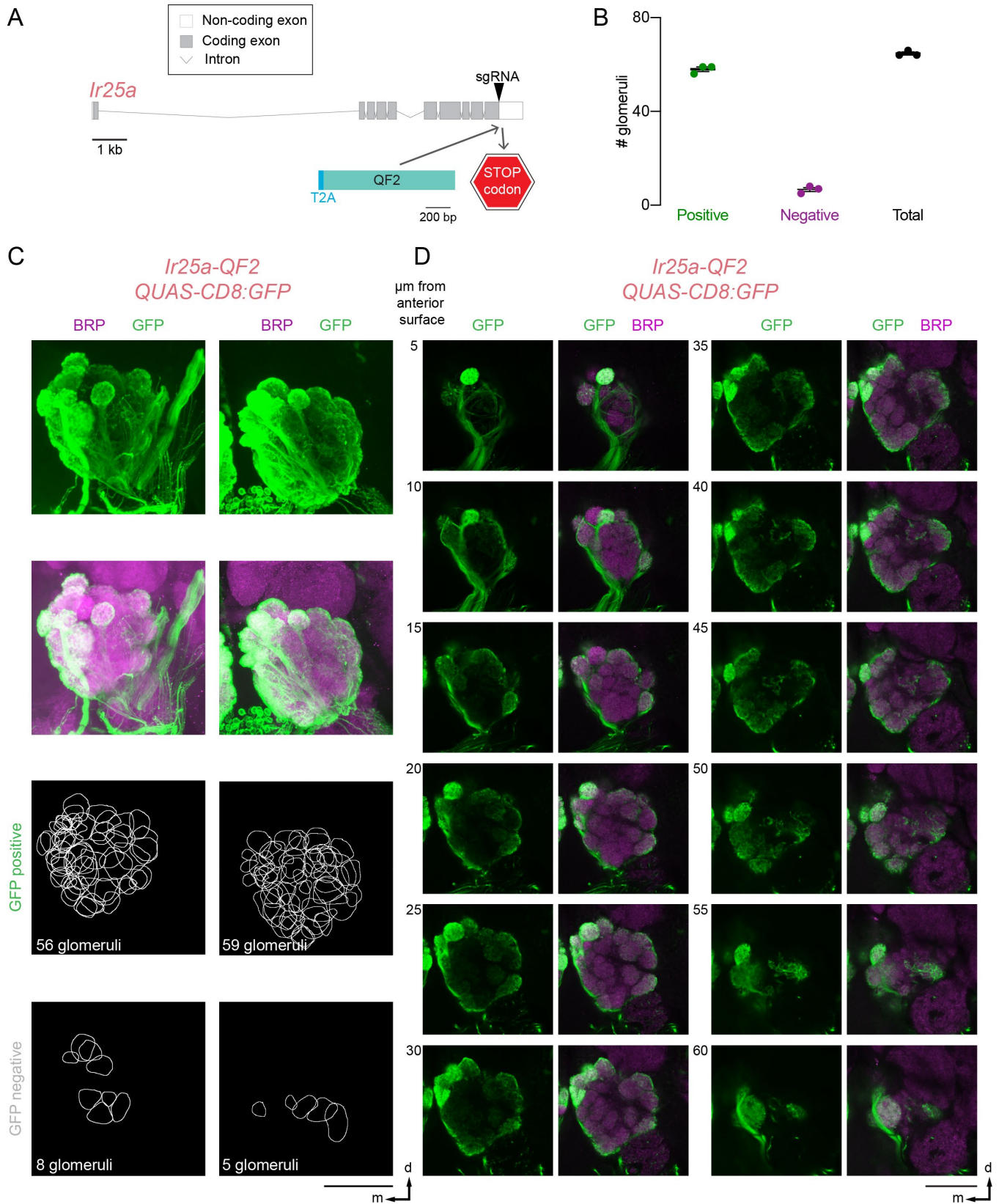


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2168 **Figure S2. Projections of *Orco-QF2*-expressing neurons in the antennal lobe (Related to**
2169 **Figure 1)**
2170 **(A)** *Orco* locus with exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9 gRNA site
2171 (arrowhead) used to insert T2A-QF2 (light blue). **(B)** Quantification of the number of glomeruli
2172 that are GFP positive (green), GFP negative (magenta), and total number of glomeruli (black).
2173 Analysis based on brains in (C-D) and **Figure 1I,J**. **(C)** Maximum-intensity projections of
2174 confocal Z-stacks of left antennal lobes from two different brains of the indicated genotype with
2175 immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta) (top) and 2-D
2176 representation of the boundary of each glomerulus that is GFP positive and GFP negative
2177 (bottom). **(D)** Single confocal sections taken from the maximum-intensity projection confocal Z-
2178 stack of the left antennal lobe shown in **Figure 1I** with immunofluorescent labeling of GFP
2179 (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). A single plane is shown every 5 μm in Z to
2180 capture each glomerulus. Scale bar (C-D): 50 μm . Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial.

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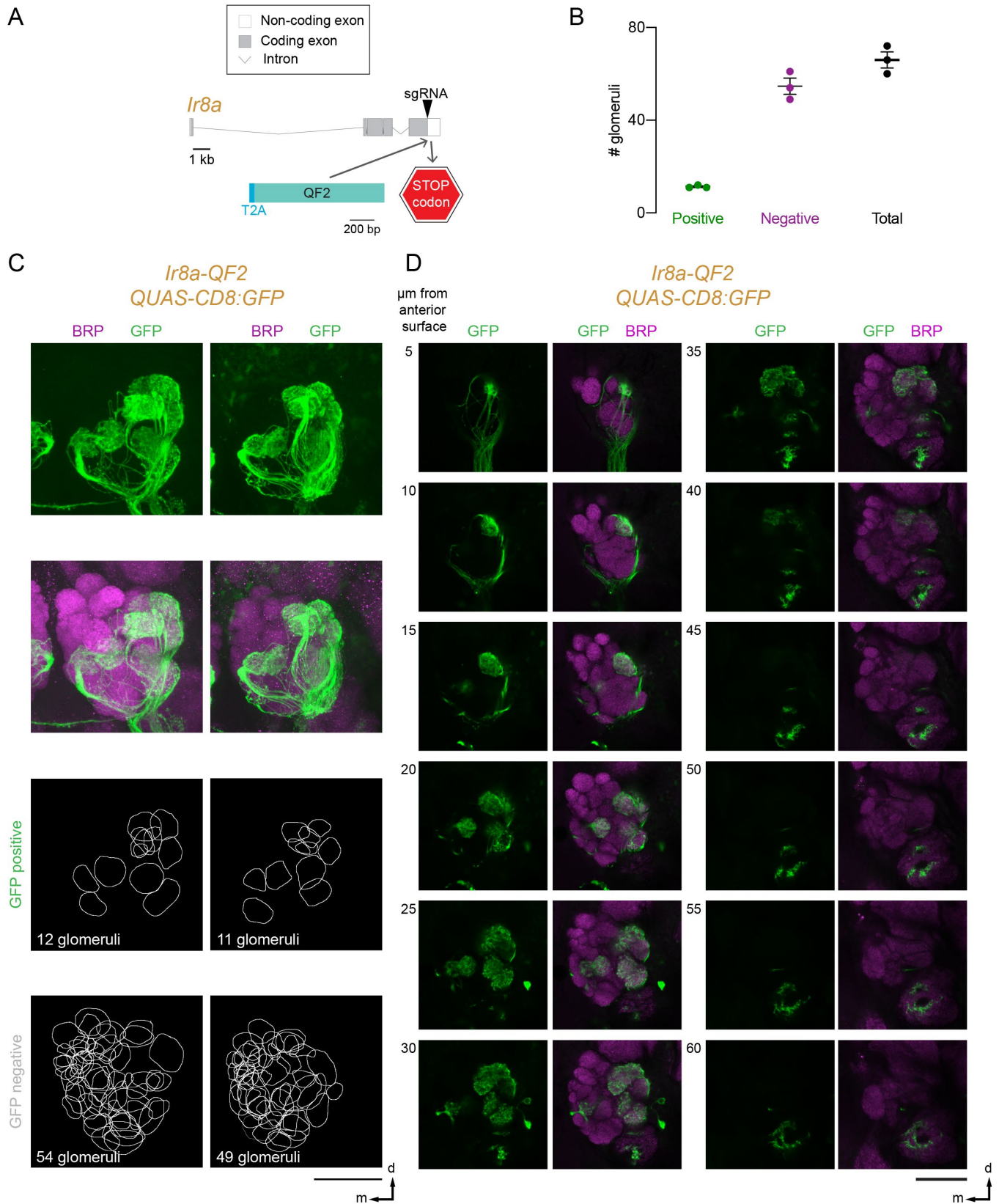
Figure S3



2184 **Figure S3: Projections of *Ir25a-QF2*-expressing neurons in the antennal lobe (Related to**
2185 **Figure 1) (A)** *Ir25a* locus with exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9
2186 gRNA site (arrowhead) used to insert T2A-QF2 (light blue). **(B)** Quantification of the number of
2187 glomeruli that are GFP positive (green), GFP negative (magenta), and total number of
2188 glomeruli (black). Analysis based on brains in (C-D) and **Figure 1I,J**. **(C)** Maximum-intensity
2189 projections of confocal Z-stacks of left antennal lobes from two different brains of the indicated
2190 genotype with immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta)
2191 (top) and 2-D representation of the boundary of each glomerulus that is GFP positive and GFP
2192 negative (bottom). **(D)** Single confocal sections taken from the maximum-intensity projection
2193 confocal Z-stack of the left antennal lobe shown in **Figure 1I** with immunofluorescent labeling
2194 of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). A single plane is shown every 5 μm in Z
2195 to capture each glomerulus. Scale bar (C-D): 50 μm . Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial.

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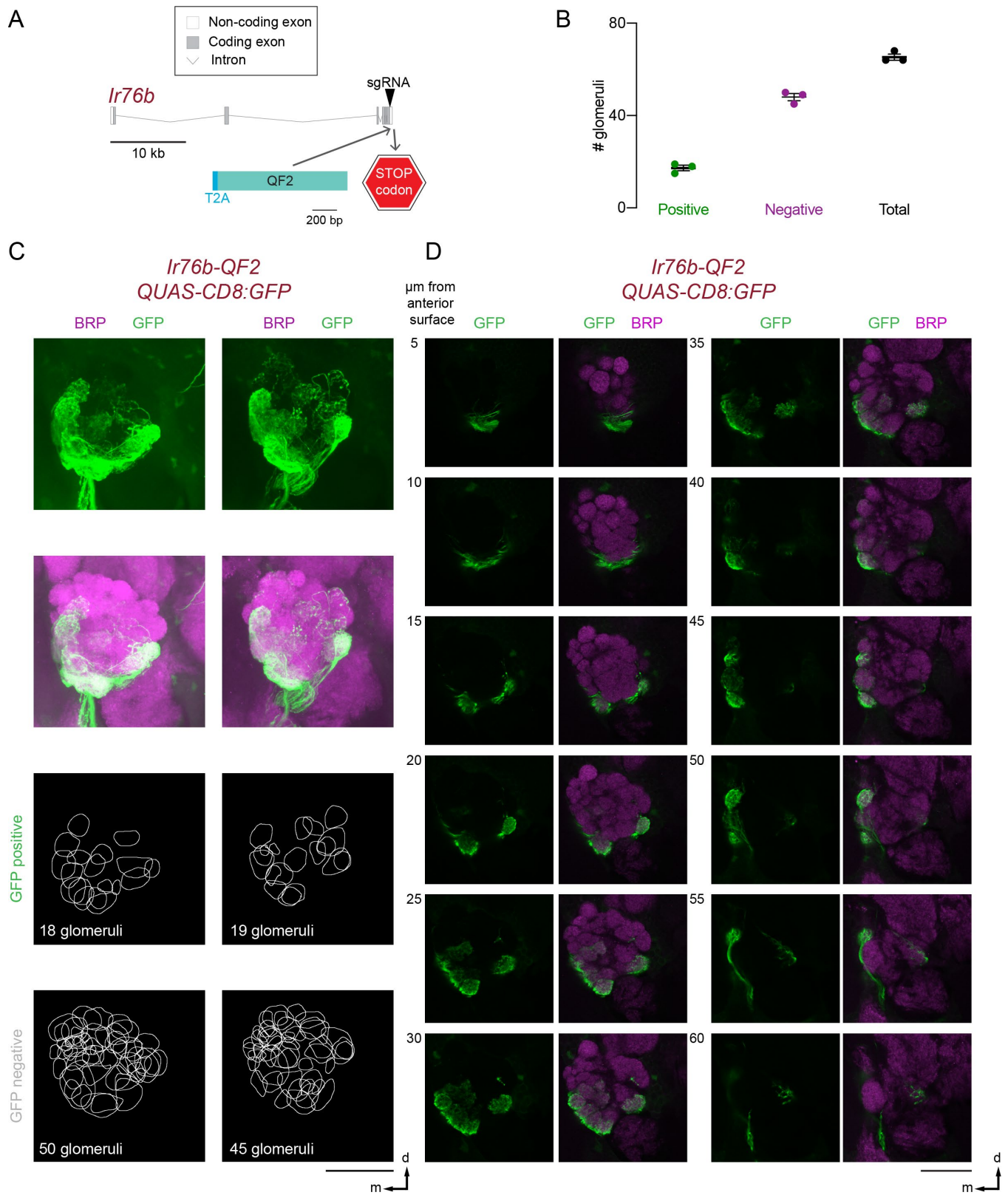
Figure S4



2199 **Figure S4: Projections of *Ir8a*-QF2-expressing neurons in the antennal lobe (Related to**
2200 **Figure 1) (A)** *Ir8a* locus with exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9 gRNA
2201 site (arrowhead) used to insert T2A-QF2 (light blue). **(B)** Quantification of the number of
2202 glomeruli that are GFP positive (green), GFP negative (magenta), and total number of
2203 glomeruli (black). Analysis based on brains in (C-D) and **Figure 1I,J**. **(C)** Maximum-intensity
2204 projections of confocal Z-stacks of left antennal lobes from two different brains of the indicated
2205 genotype with immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta)
2206 (top) and 2-D representation of the boundary of each glomerulus that is GFP positive and GFP
2207 negative (bottom). **(D)** Single confocal sections taken from the maximum-intensity projection
2208 confocal Z-stack of the left antennal lobe shown in **Figure 1I** with immunofluorescent labeling
2209 of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). A single plane is shown every 5 μm in Z
2210 to capture each glomerulus. Scale bar (C-D): 50 μm . Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial.

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Figure S5

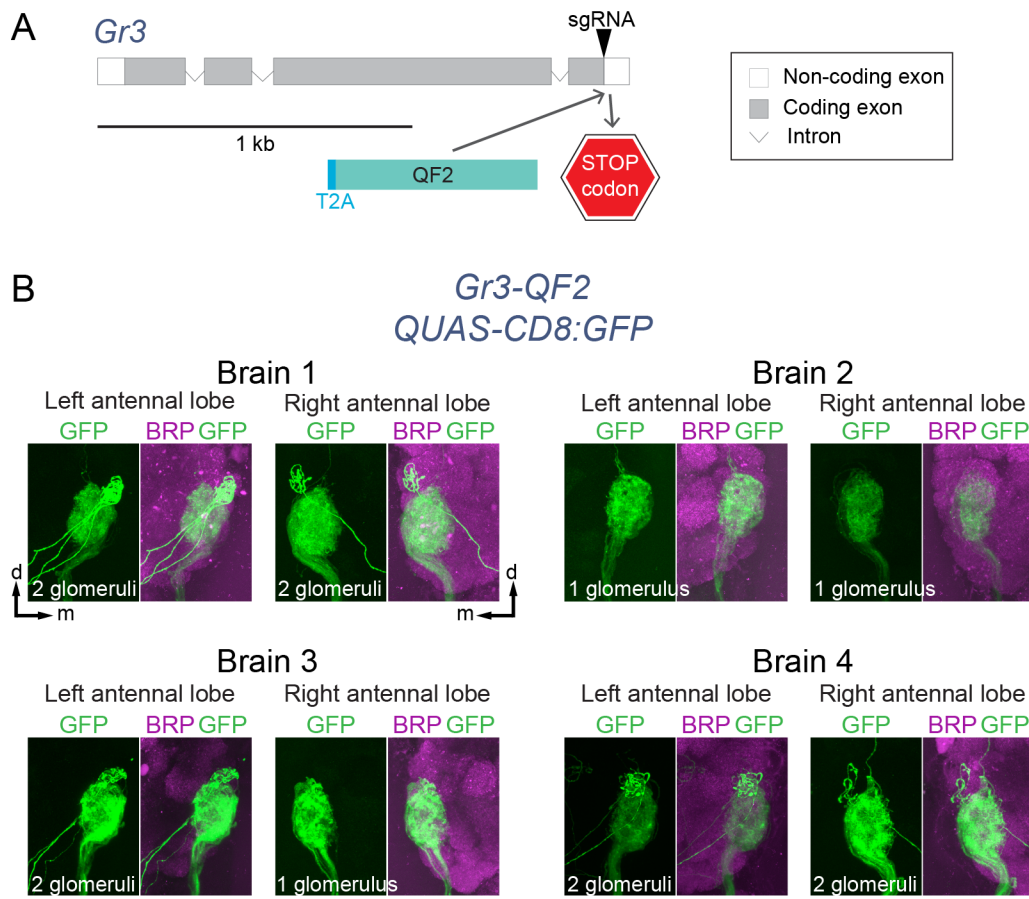


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2215 **Figure S5: Projections of *Ir76b*-QF2-expressing neurons in the antennal lobe (Related to**
2216 **Figure 1) (A)** *Ir76b* locus with exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9
2217 gRNA site (arrowhead) used to insert T2A-QF2 (light blue). **(B)** Quantification of the number of
2218 glomeruli that are GFP positive (green), GFP negative (magenta), and total number of
2219 glomeruli (black). Analysis based on brains in (C-D) and **Figure 1I,J**. **(C)** Maximum-intensity
2220 projections of confocal Z-stacks of left antennal lobes from two different brains of the indicated
2221 genotype with immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta)
2222 (top) and 2-D representation of the boundary of each glomerulus that is GFP positive and GFP
2223 negative (bottom). **(D)** Single confocal sections taken from the maximum-intensity projection
2224 confocal Z-stack of the left antennal lobe shown in **Figure 1I** with immunofluorescent labeling
2225 of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). A single plane is shown every 5 μm in Z
2226 to capture each glomerulus. Scale bar (C-D): 50 μm . Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial.

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Figure S6

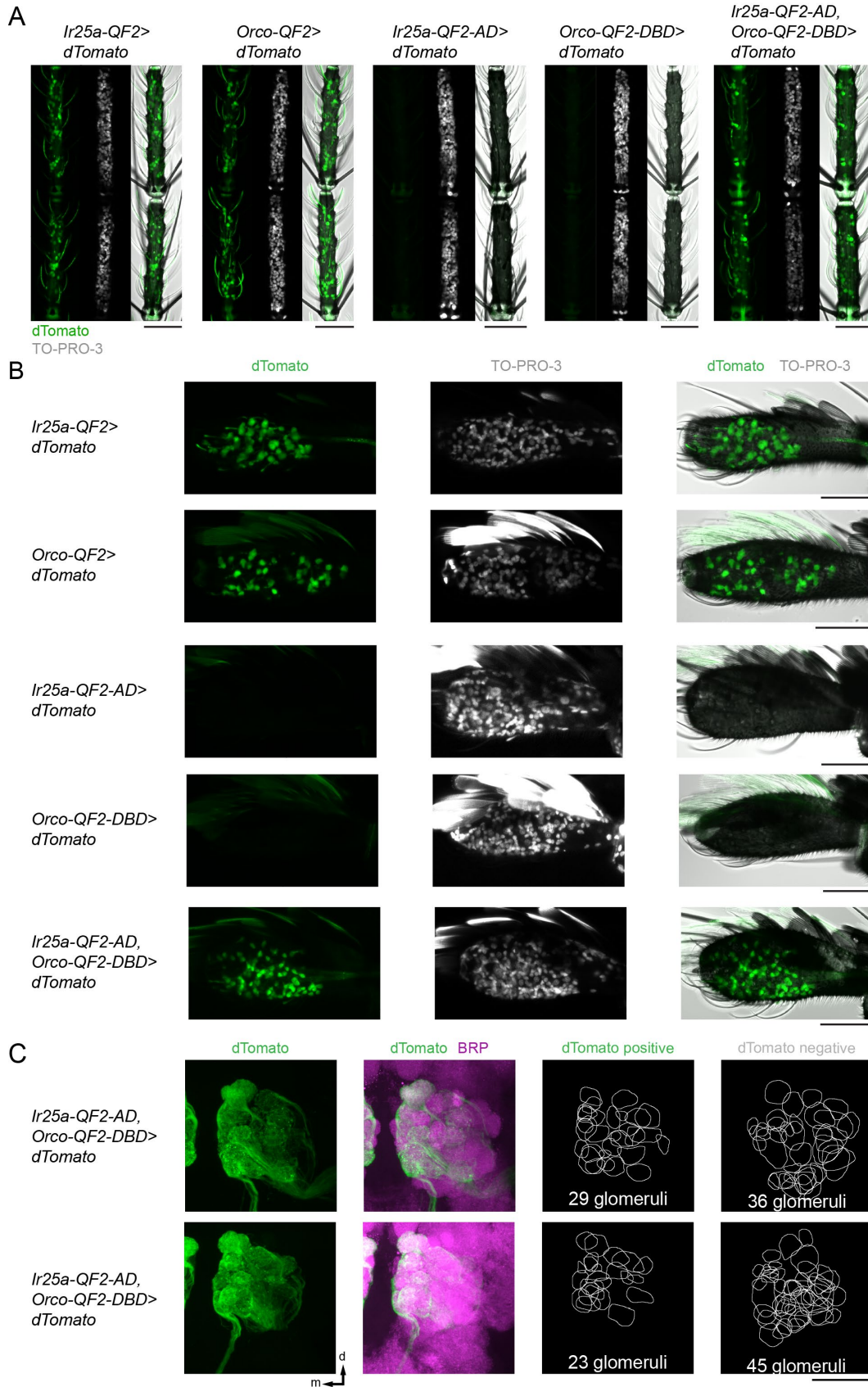


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Figure S6. Projections of *Gr3-QF2*-expressing neurons in the antennal lobe (Related to Figure 1) (A) *Gr3* locus with exons (grey boxes), introns (grey lines) and CRISPR-Cas9 gRNA site (arrowhead) used to insert T2A-QF2 (light blue). (B) Maximum-intensity projection confocal Z-stack through the medial antennal lobes of 4 brains with immunofluorescent labeling of GFP (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). Scale bar: 25 μ m. Orientation: d=dorsal, m=medial.

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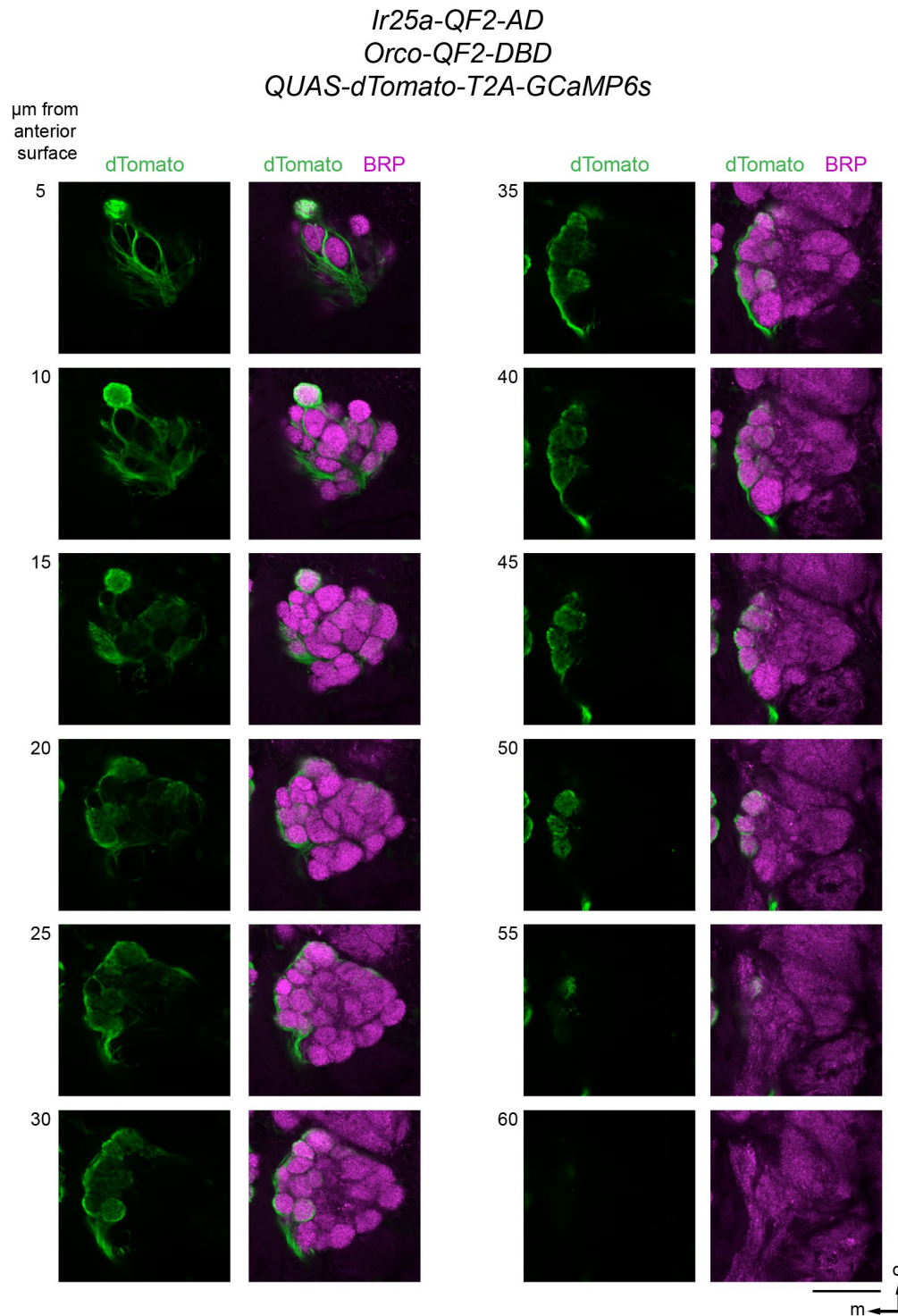
Figure S7



2240 **Figure S7. Specificity of Split-QF2 reagents (Related to Figure 2)**
2241 **(A-B)** Maximum-intensity projections of confocal Z-stacks of antennae (A) and maxillary palps
2242 (B) of the indicated genotypes showing intrinsic dTomato fluorescence and stained with the
2243 nuclear dye TO-PRO-3, with transmitted light overlay. **(C)** Maximum-intensity projections of
2244 confocal Z-stacks of left antennal lobes from two different brains of the indicated genotype with
2245 immunofluorescent labeling of dTomato (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta) (top) and
2246 2-D representation of the boundary of each glomerulus that is GFP positive and GFP negative
2247 (bottom). Scale bars: 50 μ m. Orientation (C,D): d=dorsal, m=medial.

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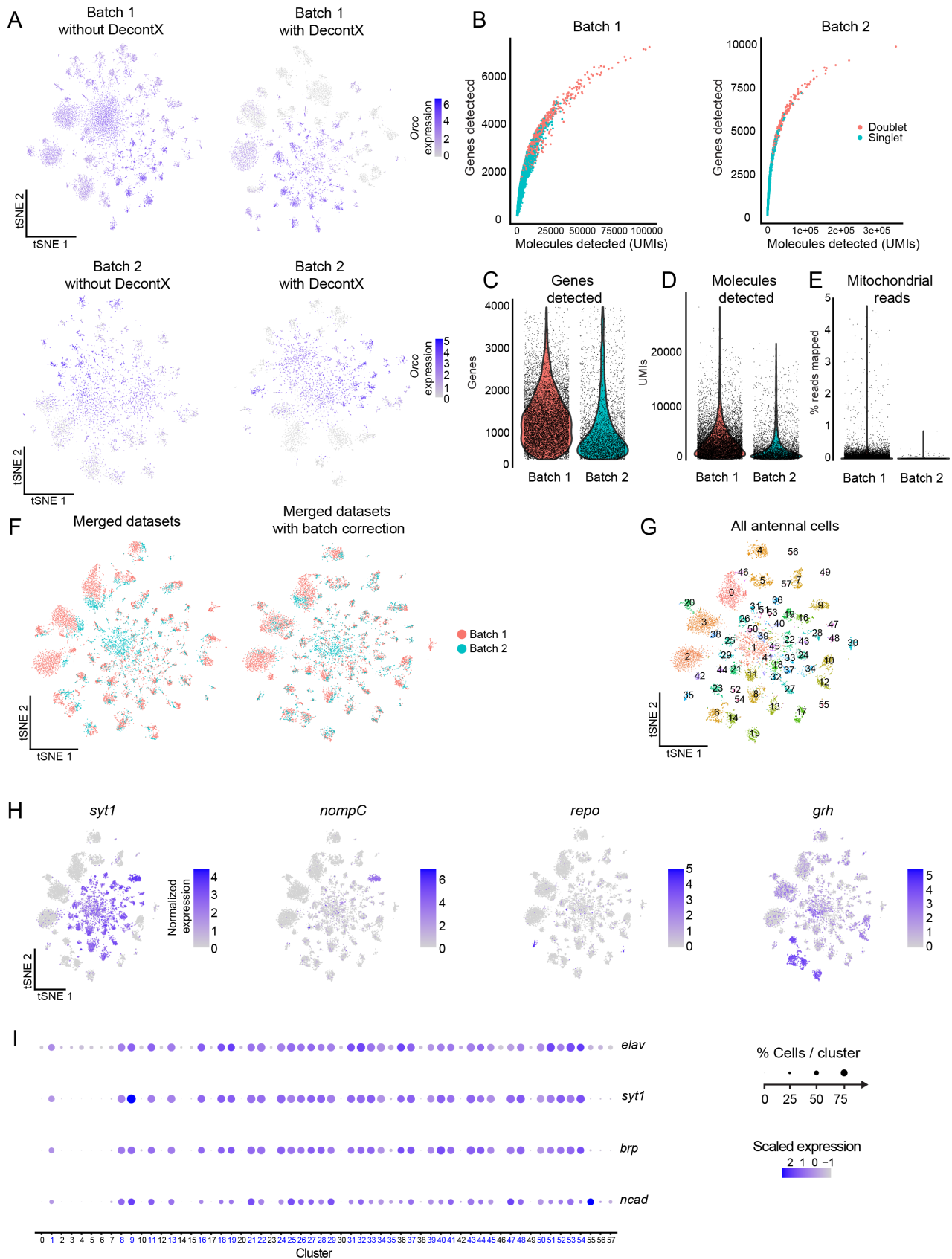
Figure S8



2251 **Figure S8. Projections of *Orco-QF2-DBD*; *Ir25a-QF2-AD*-expressing neurons in a single**
2252 **antennal lobe (Related to Figure 2)** Single confocal sections taken from the maximum-
2253 intensity projection confocal Z-stack of the left antennal lobe shown in **Figure 2G** with
2254 immunofluorescent labeling of dTomato (green) and Brp (synaptic marker, magenta). A single
2255 plane is shown every 5 µm in Z to capture each glomerulus. Scale bar: 50 µm. Orientation:
2256 d=dorsal, m=medial.

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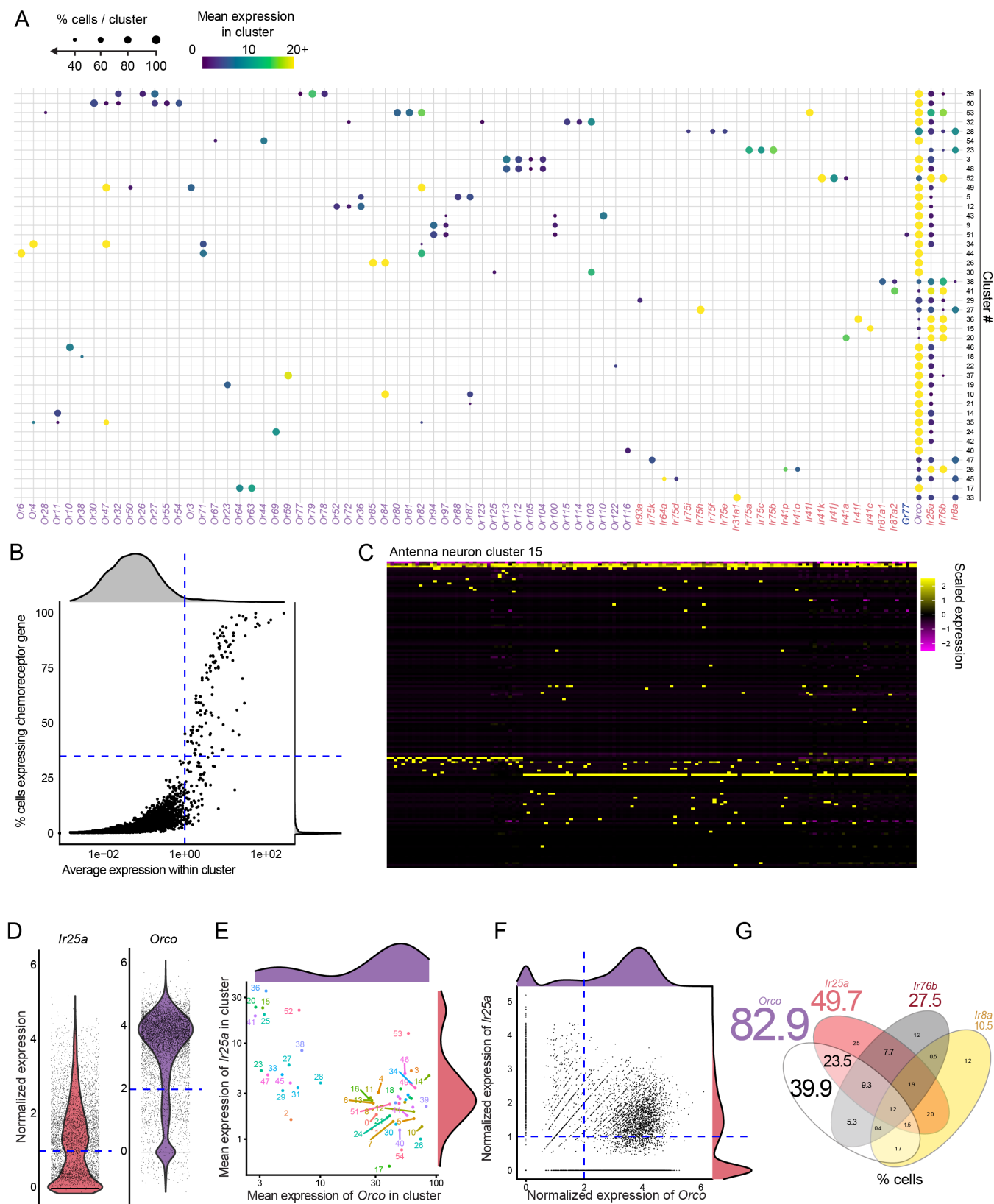
Figure S9



2260 **Figure S9: Antennal snRNA-seq ambient RNA removal, filtering, batch correction and**
2261 **neuron-identification (Related to Figure 5)**
2262 (A) Ambient RNA removal using DecontX was used independently on data from snRNA-seq
2263 experiments processed at Rockefeller (Batch 1) and Baylor (Batch 2), illustrated using
2264 normalized expression of *Orco* mapped onto t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (t-
2265 SNE) plots. Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$. (B)
2266 Identification of multiplets for removal using DoubletFinder. Pearson Correlation coefficient of
2267 genes and counts was 0.89 for Batch 1 and 0.82 for Batch 2. (C-E) Sample properties and
2268 distributions after filtering with DecontX. Nuclei that were retained expressed between 400 and
2269 40000 genes (C) and fewer than 5% mitochondrial transcripts (E). Nuclei were not additionally
2270 filtered on UMIs after multiplet removal (D). (F) Independently collected snRNA-seq
2271 experiments were merged and batch effects reduced. (G) Antennal cell clusters after batch
2272 effect reduction, visualized using t-SNE. (H) Normalized expression [$\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 /$
2273 $\text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$] mapped onto t-SNE plots for *syt1* as a marker for neurons, *nompC* for
2274 mechanosensory cells, *repo* for glial cells, and *grh* for epithelial cells. (I) Dot plot of neural
2275 markers used to identify neuron clusters. Clusters were identified as neurons if over 50% of
2276 cells within a cluster expressed 3 out of 4 neural markers (*elav*, *syt1*, *brp*, *ncad*). The 19
2277 neuron clusters that were identified are labeled in blue. Mean scaled expression in cluster: Z-
2278 score.

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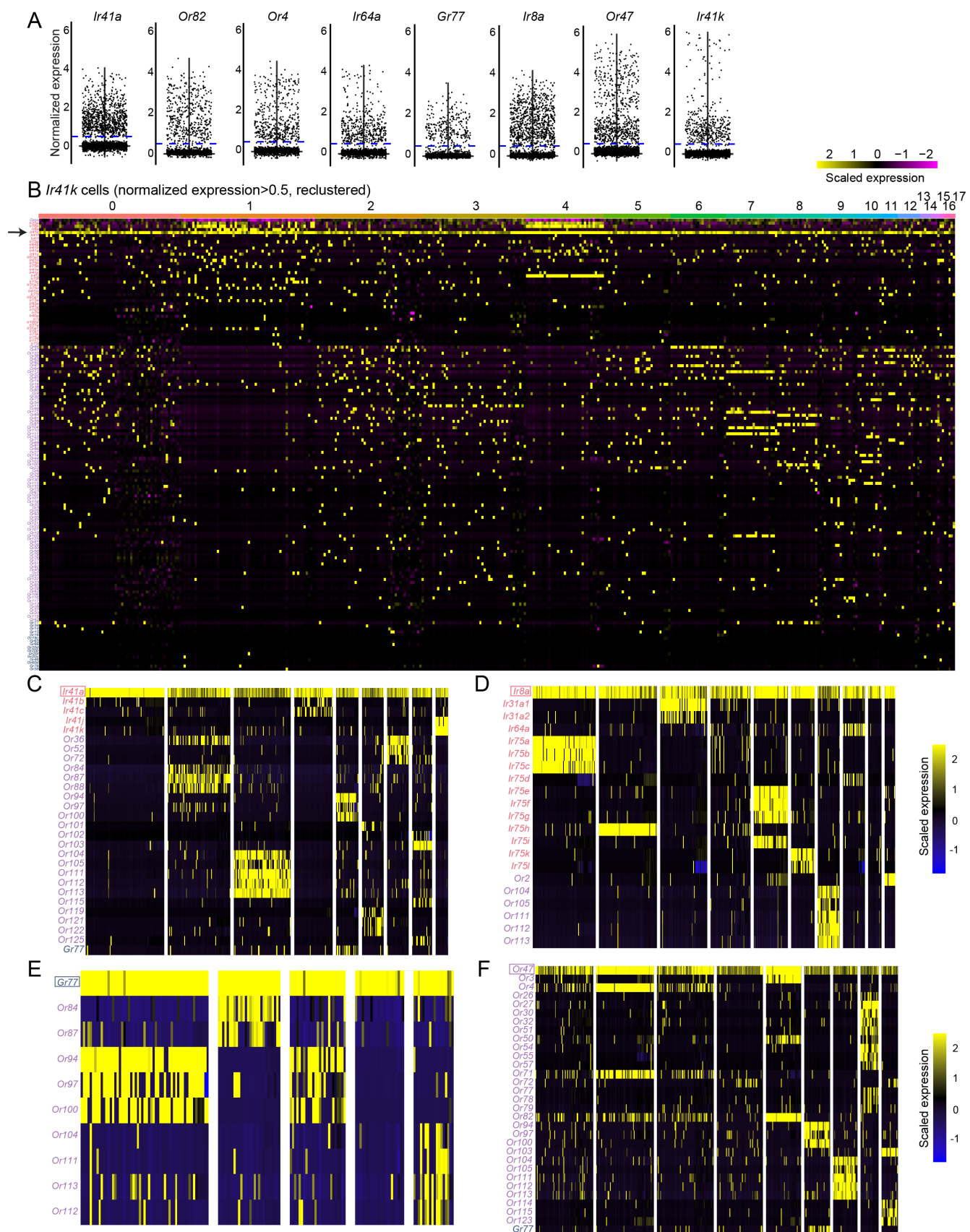
Figure S10



2282 **Figure S10: Antennal snRNA-seq cluster chemosensory receptor expression analysis**
2283 **and co-receptor analysis (Related to Figure 5)**
2284 **(A)** Dot plot summarizing chemosensory receptor expression in neuron clusters. The circle
2285 size represents the % of cells in each cluster that express a given gene above criteria
2286 illustrated in (B). **(B)** Distribution of chemosensory receptor genes within clusters used for
2287 thresholding in the dot plot in (A). Points denote expression patterns of individual
2288 chemosensory receptor genes listed on x-axis of (B) for each cluster. Lines indicate mean
2289 normalized expression level of 1 within cells of the cluster and 35% of cells expressing a
2290 chemosensory receptor gene in a cluster. Genes in upper and lower right hand-quadrant was
2291 included for depiction in the dot plot (B). **(C)** Example co-expression heatmap of 148 cells
2292 within antenna neuron cluster 15, demonstrating distinct combinations of chemosensory
2293 receptor expression in groups of cells within one cluster. Scaled expression: Z-score. **(D-G)**
2294 Co-expression of chemosensory co-receptors. To determine co-expression, a normalized
2295 expression threshold of $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$ was used for *Ir25a*,
2296 *Ir76b*, *Ir8a*. Due to higher expression levels, a threshold of $2 \log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total}$
2297 $\text{UMI of cell} + 1)$ was used for *Orco* (D). Scatter plots of *Orco* and *Ir25a* expression within
2298 neuron clusters (E) and individual cells (F). Venn diagram depicting percent of neurons co-
2299 expressing different combinations of co-receptors according to normalized expression [$\log(\text{UMI}$
2300 $\text{of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$]. Larger numbers outside of the Venn diagram indicate
2301 total percent of neurons expressing indicated co-receptor (G).

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Figure S11

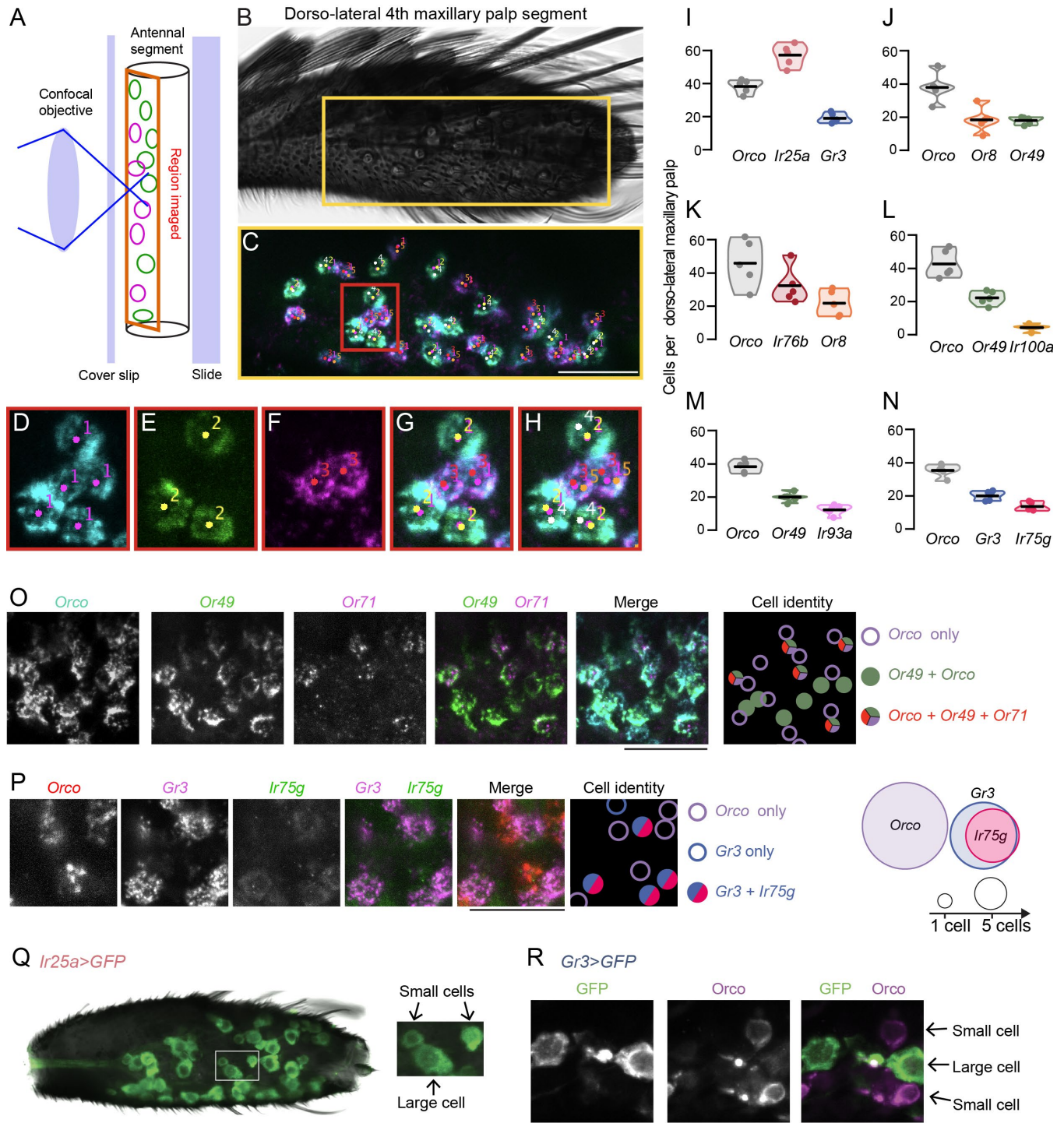


2305 **Figure S11: Antennal snRNA-seq cluster chemosensory receptor expression analysis**
2306 **and co-receptor analysis (Related to Figure 5)**

2307 (A) Violin plots illustrating the expression distribution of selected genes used for co-expression
2308 simplified heatmaps in [Figure 5F-I](#) and this figure. Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$, (C-F). A normalized expression threshold of 0.5 $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$ used to identify cells expressing a given chemosensory
2310 receptor (indicated by dotted blue line). (B) Example co-expression heatmap of 412 cells with
2311 *Ir41k* as filtered in (A). Columns represent individual cells, sorted by clustering. Rows
2312 represent chemosensory receptor genes, ordered first by chemosensory receptor family, then
2313 mean expression level in cluster 0. Cells from clusters 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 8 were selected as
2314 illustrating examples of co-expression for simplified heatmap visualization in [Figure 5F](#). Genes
2315 were selected manually based on expression level and number of cells exhibiting a given co-
2316 expression pattern. Scaled expression: Z-score. (C-F) Simplified heatmaps illustrating co-
2317 expression patterns for (C) *Ir41a*, (D) *Ir8a*, (E) *Gr77*, and (F) *Or47* using selected cells and
2318 visually-identified genes via clustering similar to (C). Scaled expression: Z-score.
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Figure S12



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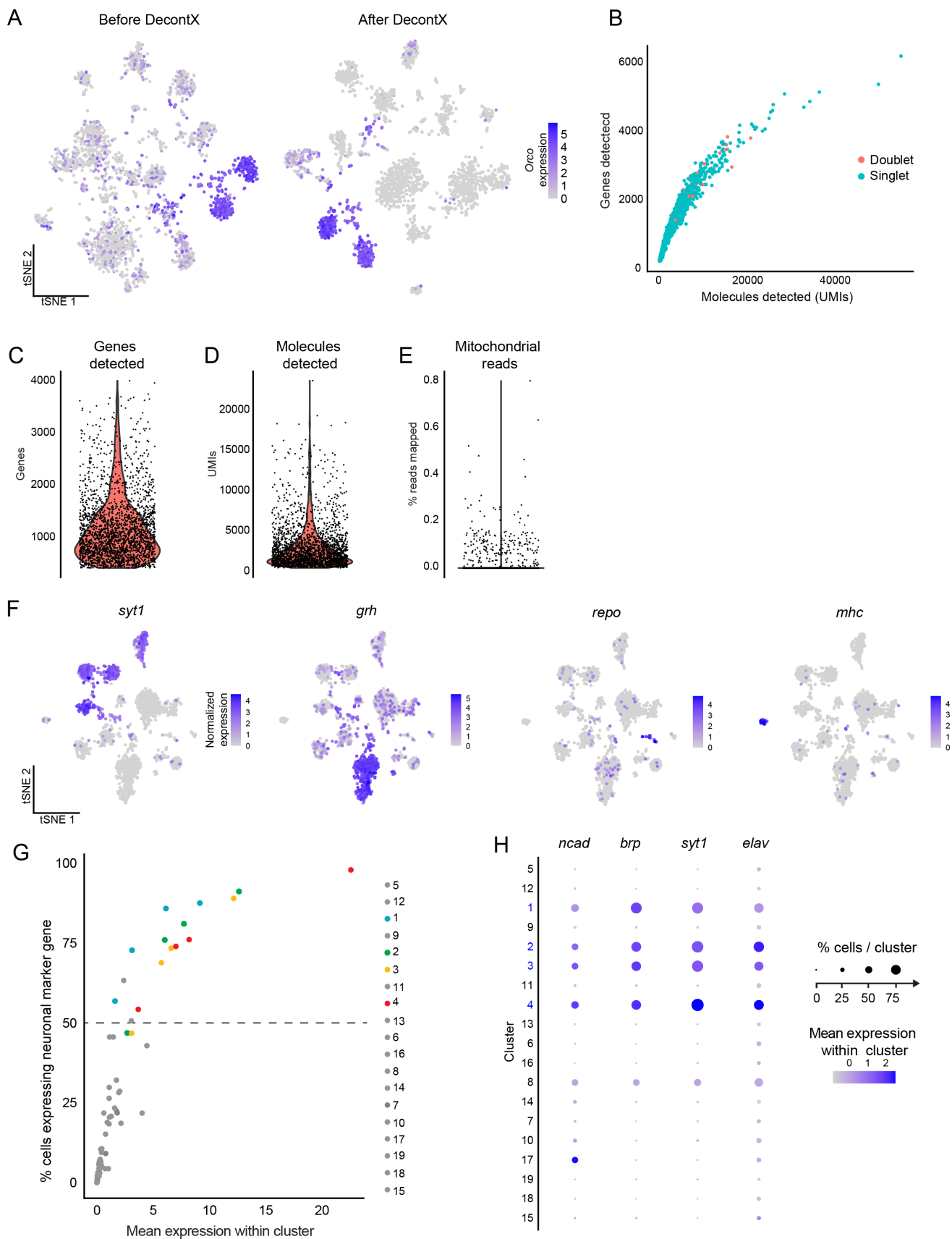
Figure S12. Quantification of maxillary palp cell populations (Related to Figure 6)

(A-H) Workflow for cell quantification. Schematic of antennal region imaged on a confocal microscope (A) and image of maxillary palp with imaged area indicated with the yellow square (B). Whole-mount maxillary palp RNA *in situ* hybridization, yellow region from (C). Cells are manually marked independently as *Orco*⁺, *Or49*⁺, or *Or8*⁺ (red inset from B) using FIJI Cell Counter (D-F) and markers from each channel are merged (G). Cells with markers 1 and 2 are

2330 then scored as *Orco+Or49+* with marker 4, and cells with markers 1 and 3 are then scored as
2331 *Orco+Or8+* with marker 5 (H). Counts from each marker for each image are exported into
2332 Excel and R for further analysis. **(I-N)** Total cell counts from whole mount maxillary palp RNA
2333 *in situ* hybridization in **Figure 6**. Mean with range, n=5. **(O-P)** RNA *in situ* hybridization of
2334 whole-mount maxillary palp with the indicated probe and cell identity schematic. **(Q-R)** Whole-
2335 mount maxillary palp immunostaining showing *Ir25a* expression in “small” and “large” cells (Q)
2336 and *Gr3* expression in “large” cells and Orco protein in “small” cells (R). Scale bars: 25 μ m
2337 except (C): 50 μ m. Orientation (B, P): proximal left.

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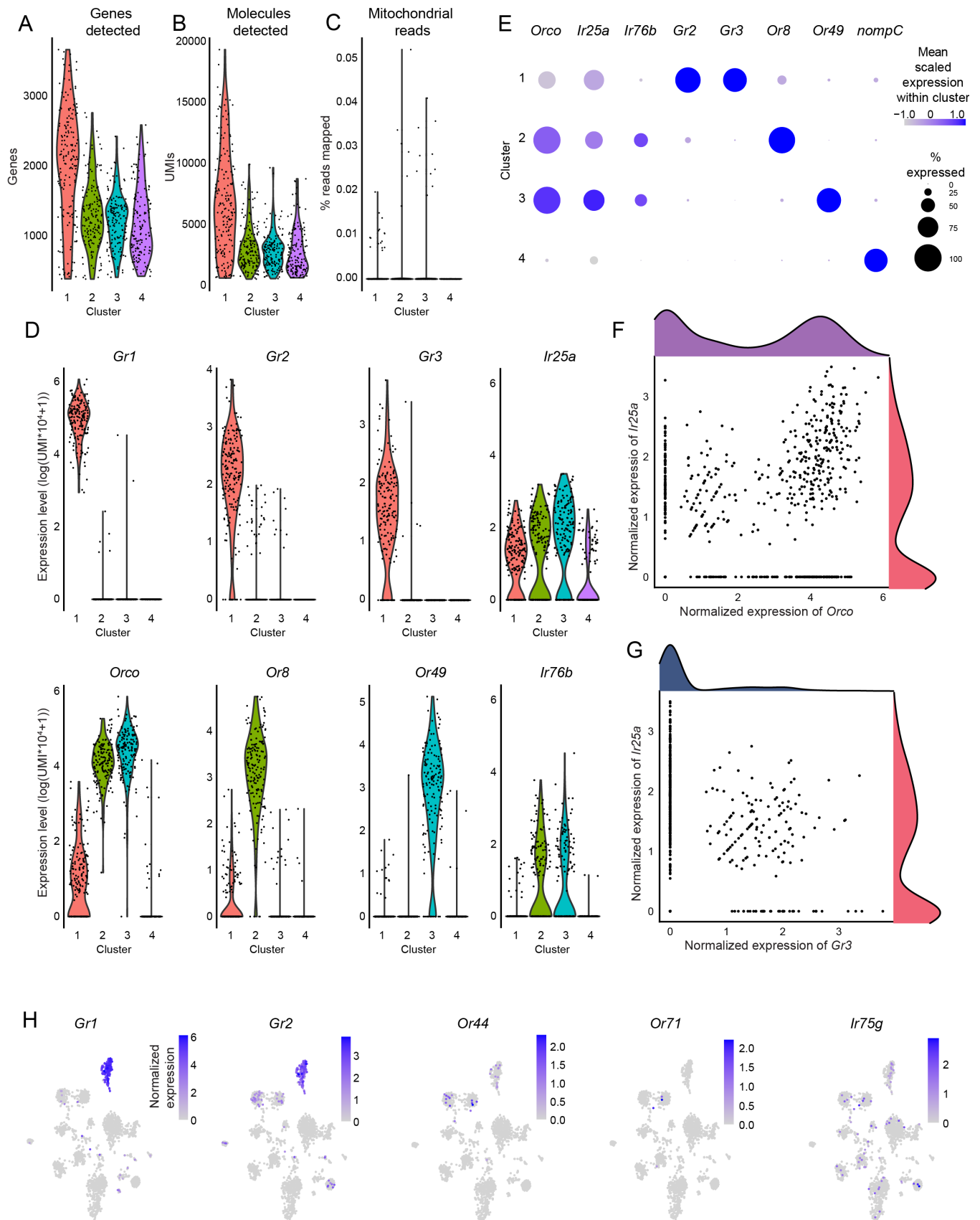
Figure S13



2341 **Figure S13: Maxillary palp snRNA-seq ambient RNA removal, filtering, and neuron-**
2342 **identification (Related to Figure 7)**
2343 (A) Ambient RNA removal using DecontX, illustrated using normalized expression of *Orco*
2344 mapped onto t-distributed stochastic neighbor embedding (t-SNE) plots for maxillary palp
2345 snRNA-seq experiment. Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell}$
2346 $+ 1)$. (B) Identification of multiplets for removal using DoubletFinder. Pearson Correlation
2347 coefficient of genes and counts was 0.93. (C-E) Sample properties and distributions after
2348 filtering. Nuclei were retained that expressed between 400 and 40000 genes (C) and fewer
2349 than 5% mitochondrial transcripts (E). Nuclei were not additionally filtered on UMIs after
2350 multiplet removal (D). (F) Normalized expression [$\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell}$
2351 $+ 1)$] mapped onto t-SNE plots for *syt1* as a marker for neurons, *grh* for epithelial cells, *repo* for
2352 glial cells, and *mhc* for muscle cells. (G) Distribution of neural marker genes (*ncad*, *brp*, *syt1*,
2353 and *elav*) within clusters. Points denote expression patterns of individual neural marker genes
2354 for each cluster. Line indicates the threshold used to identify neuron clusters, with 50% of cells
2355 within a cluster expressing a 3 out of 4 defined neural markers. Mean expression in cluster:
2356 $\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of cell} + 1$. (H) Dot plot of neural markers used to identify
2357 neuron clusters. Clusters of identified neurons are identified as clusters 1, 2, 3, and 4. Mean
2358 scaled expression in cluster: Z-score.

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Figure S14



2362 **Figure S14: Maxillary palp snRNA-seq cluster chemosensory receptor expression**
2363 **analysis and co-receptor analysis on four identified neuron cluster populations (Related**
2364 **to Figure 7)**
2365 (A) Number of genes detected per cell in neuron clusters defined in **Figure S13G-H**. (B)
2366 Number of transcripts detected per cell in neuron clusters. (C) Percent mitochondrial reads per
2367 cell in neuron clusters. (D) Distribution of normalized expression levels of the indicated genes
2368 in cells within neuronal clusters. Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of}$
2369 $\text{cell} + 1)$. (E) Dot plot illustrating mean scaled expression (Z-score) and cells expressing a given
2370 gene. (F-G) Scatter plot depicting expression levels within individual neuron-identified cells of
2371 *Orco* and *Ir25a* (F) and *Gr3* and *Ir25a* (G). Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 /$
2372 $\text{total UMI of cell} + 1)$. (H) Feature plots showing normalized expression mapped onto t-SNE
2373 plots for the indicated genes. Normalized Expression: $\log(\text{UMI of gene} \times 10,000 / \text{total UMI of}$
2374 $\text{cell} + 1)$.