TITLE

Functional maps of the primate cortex revealed by through-skull wide-field optical imaging

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ABSTRACT

The primate cerebral cortex is organized into specialized areas representing different functional

modalities (e.g., vision, audition, touch) and their associations along a continuous surface. The

functional maps of these areas, however, are often investigated in a single modality at a time.

Here, we developed and applied to awake primates a polarization-enhanced wide-field optical

imaging method for measuring cortical hemodynamics through the intact skull. Adjacent

somatosensory, auditory, and visual cortices were noninvasively localized and rapidly

parcellated in awake marmosets (*Callithrix jacchus*), a primate model featuring a smooth cortex.

Detailed somatotopy, tonotopy, and retinotopy were also mapped out on an individual-subject

basis, with a new pure-tone-responsive tonotopic gradient discovered outside the auditory core.

Moreover, the motion-sensitive extent surrounding the primate-specific MT/V5 and the location

of a face-sensitive patch were both revealed with respect to retinotopy. This approach provides a

powerful tool for mapping the functional landscape across modalities in a single non-human

primate subject, and thus opens new opportunities for probing how primate cortical system is

organized to enable real-world behaviors.

INTRODUCTION

Evolution has endowed primates with unique features in the organizations of cerebral

cortical areas that contribute to our remarkable mental abilities[1]. Information from various

sensory modalities is routed through these different areas that are located along a continuum of

cortical surface. The functional organizations of the cortical areas, however, are usually studied

one area or one modality at a time. Our ability to efficiently map primate cortex on its continuous

surface across cortical areas and modalities is still limited. Enabling such an ability would thus

lay a foundation for further systematic investigations into how different parts of the primate

cortical system are organized together to generate our real-world perceptions and behaviors.

Here we demonstrate a through-skull wide-field optical imaging strategy to enable observations

across somatosensory, auditory, and visual cortices in individual awake marmoset monkeys.

Wide-field optical imaging across multiple modalities in the cortex, although has recently

been applied through-skull in awake mice[2, 3], has so far been impractical in primates. The

imaging view and thus the modality coverage are constrained by the practical size of skull and

dura openings, which were considered necessary in primates[4, 5]. Across primate species, both

skull thickness[6] and the extent of cortical folding[7] vary substantially (Fig. 1a). Interestingly, the

common marmoset (*Callithrix jacchus*), an increasingly popular biomedical and neuroscientific

primate model[8], features a skull thickness of ~0.5mm [(6)] and a cortical folding index of ~1.2 [(7)].

Both numbers are among the lowest of commonly used non-human primate (NHP) models (Fig.

1a), indicating a possibility of imaging through the intact skull and resolving continuous

topographic organizations in the cortex. Since the marmoset cortex is mostly smooth without

folding (except for the lateral sulcus), many cortical areas are directly accessible under the skull.

Noticeably, the middle temporal visual field (MT/V5)[9], most of the auditory cortex[10], and the

lateral part of the primary somatosensory area 3b[11] are all located near but outside of the lateral

sulcus (Fig. 1b) and together provide an interesting target to image across modalities. Therefore,

we designed a chronic head cap implant with a lateral recording chamber (Fig. 1c), the bottom of

which consists of a thin layer of dental cement directly covering the un-thinned intact skull. As

activity increases in a cortical region under the skull, a hemodynamic response follows, which in

turn changes the cortical tissue's optical properties, including absorption[12, 13]. If both skull and

dura are surgically removed and the brain is illuminated, this change can be picked up by the

intensity of backscattered light and imaged by a camera (referred to as intrinsic optical signal

imaging) in a variety of species including NHPs[4, 5, 12-15] (in one case[16], through locally thinned

skull). The same imaging approach applied through the intact skull without thinning, although

has been feasible in mice[17-20], is technically challenging in other species such as marmosets. Due

to the thickness of marmoset skull, the prominent optical scattering in the bone (Extended Data

Fig. 1a) causes many photons to be backscattered before even reaching the cortex and reduces

the imaging sensitivity to map cortical functions. Furthermore, as the skull curvature varies

across the recording chamber, it is difficult to illuminate a large area homogenously without

saturating pixels from surface reflection (Fig. 1d). To address these problems, we designed a

cross-linear polarization enhanced wide-field imaging setup (termed XINTRINSIC, Extended

Data Fig. 1c). By illuminating the skull surface with linearly polarized light and recording

backscattered light only of the orthogonal (cross-linear) polarization, the surface reflection was

effectively eliminated, and the entire chamber was homogeneously illuminated (Fig. 1e).

Moreover, since only light that undergoes multiple scattering events is significantly depolarized

and therefore received by the camera, this strategy rejects the photons that only visit shallower

structures[21] (Extended Data Fig. 1d). After testing a broad range of wavelengths (470-850nm),

we found that the shorter wavelengths (e.g. blue and green) can better detect hemodynamics

through the marmoset skull (Extended Data Fig. 2). Since our green light (530 nm) is near an

isosbestic point, at which the change in total hemoglobin concentration can be measured

independently from the change in blood oxygenation[13] (Extended Data Fig. 1b), we sought to

map cortical functions through the intact marmoset skull with green light. The lateral resolution

(full width at half maximum [FWHM]) of XINTRINSIC under this condition was estimated as

0.63mm (Extended Data Fig. 1e).

RESULTS

Functional modality parcellation of marmoset cortex through-skull.

6   To functionally parcellate somatosensory, auditory, and visual cortices, we designed an

experiment in which periodic stimuli of each modality were locked to distinct repetition periods

within the same session (Fig. 1f). The somatosensory stimuli were mild air-puffs delivered to the

subject's mouth and lower face presented at the middle of each 22-second-long cycle (Fig. 1f

left). The auditory stimuli were 80 dB SPL white noise bursts presented at the middle of each

19.8-second-long cycle (Fig. 1f middle). The visual stimuli were radially outward moving dots

gradually speeding up and then slowing down within each 18-second-long cycle (Fig. 1f right).

Within a 396-second-long session, somatosensory, auditory, and visual stimuli were repeated for

18, 20, and 22 cycles, respectively. The spectrum of each pixel's response was calculated across

the entire session with compensations for estimated delay and polarity. If the signal of a pixel

followed a particular type of stimuli well, it would show an evoked amplitude at the

corresponding frequency in the spectrum with a phase near the middle of the stimulus cycle[22, 18]

(examples shown in Fig. 1g). For every type of stimuli, we plotted each pixel's response by

showing its phase at the corresponding frequency with color and the amplitude of that frequency

with intensity (from traces as those shown in Fig. 1g to colormaps in Fig. 1h). Each type of

sensory stimuli evoked responses in a distinct region within the imaging chamber. The orofacial

air-puffs activated the cortical region anterodorsal to the putative lateral sulcus (Fig. 1h left),

whereas the white noise sound activated the region posteroventral to it (Fig. 1h center).

Additionally, moving dots activated the region posterior to the auditory region (Fig. 1h right).

These locations are consistent with previous results using invasive electrophysiology methods[11,

23, 24]. Interestingly, there was a low-intensity gap between the auditory and visual regions that

cannot be effectively activated by any of the current stimuli (Fig. 1i). A large part of this location

is consistent with regions suggested for audiovisual integration of motion in macaques and

humans[25]. Although the general phenomena described above were robust across all tested

subjects, individual variance was also evident (Extended Data Fig. 3), which demonstrates the

importance of parcellating these modalities on an individual-subject basis. Data from this

experiment thus showed the ability of XINTRINSIC to quickly map such a functional landscape

consisting of multiple modalities.

Through-skull somatotopy mapping.

After functionally parcellating these modalities, we sought to map topographic

organizations within each individual modality in the same subject, starting with somatotopy. The

primary somatosensory area 3b in marmosets, similar to other primates, has a lateral-to-medial

representation of the contralateral body surface (or musculature) from head to foot[26, 11].

Moreover, part of the secondary somatosensory area (SII) and parietal ventral area (PV) are also

exposed outside the lateral sulcus[11] (Fig. 2a). Electrophysiology mapping in anesthetized

marmosets suggests that area 3b shares an orofacial representing border with both SII and PV[11],

consistent with the orofacial region located in our experiment (Fig. 1h left). However, it is less

clear whether the representations of the mouth and the face are differentiable topographically. To

test this in another experiment, we moved one air-puff nozzle closer to the teeth to target the oral

cavity and added another air-puff nozzle to target the contralateral cheek (Fig. 2b). These two

nozzles delivered air-puffs at different cycles within the same session (Fig. 2c). While both

nozzles evoked cortical activations in regions immediately anterodorsal to the putative lateral

sulcus (Fig. 2d), the oral region appeared more anteroventral to the major facial region (Fig. 2e,

f), with minimal overlap between them in all tested subjects (Extended Data Fig. 4), suggesting

that these two cortical representations are topographically differentiable and together form an

oral-facial somatotopic gradient in marmosets.

Through-skull tonotopy mapping.

Looking across the lateral sulcus, we sought to localize tonotopic maps in the auditory

cortex using pure tones. The primate auditory cortex exhibits a hierarchical progression from the

core region to belt and parabelt regions[27, 10] (Fig. 2g). The core region is suggested to have three

primary-like areas: A1, R (rostral field), and RT (rostrotemporal field) in a caudal to rostral order

(Fig. 2g), all of which are responsive to pure tones[27, 23] (Fig. 2h). Both A1 and R are clearly

tonotopically organized and share a low-frequency reversal in between[27, 23] (Fig. 2h). Although

the tonotopy in RT is less clear due to limited sampling in previous studies, a high-frequency

reversal has generally been used to identify the transition from R to RT[27-29, 23, 15]. To map pure-

tone-responsive tonotopic gradients, we utilized a phase-encoded Fourier approach[18, 30]. A pure-

tone pip sequence increasing or decreasing in frequency by discrete semitone steps was played at

a moderate sound level (50 dB SPL) for 20 cycles in each recording session (Fig. 2i). The

responses from these two sessions (Fig. 2j) were then combined to derive each pixel's tone

tuning (Fig. 2k upper) and hemodynamic delay (Fig. 2k lower). The tone tuning was visualized

with color (red: low-frequency, purple: high-frequency), while the tone responsiveness was

visualized as the intensity in the map (bright: responsive, dark: non-responsive). Clear tone

responsiveness and tonotopic gradients were found largely within the region responsive to noise

stimuli (Fig. 1h center) and abutted the putative lateral sulcus (Fig. 2k upper). A zoomed-in view

is shown in Fig. 2l (leftmost) together with those of all other tested subjects (also see Extended

Data Fig. 5). The known tonotopic gradients of A1-R-RT (Fig. 2H) were evident in every

subject. In addition, we observed a new low-to-high tonotopic gradient extending laterally and

caudally from the low-frequency part of RT (white arrows in Fig. 2L) towards a high-frequency

region outside the core region (black arrows in Fig. 2L). These gradients were further confirmed

by direct imaging of the cortex through a subsequently implanted cranial window in one of the

subjects (Extended Data Fig. 6). The existence of a pure-tone-responsive tonotopic gradient

beyond the classical tonotopic maps calls for a revision of our view on the tonotopic

organizations of primate auditory cortex (Fig. 2m).

Through-skull retinotopy and motion sensitivity mapping in MT/V5 complex.

Next, we sought to map retinotopic gradients of the moving-dots-sensitive visual region

determined in the parcellation experiment. This region presumably includes MT/V5[(31)] (Fig. 3a),

a motion-sensitive visual area[32, 33, 24] believed to be shared by all primates[1]. In fact, most neurons

within MT/V5 are clearly selective to motion direction, largely regardless of other visual features

like form[32, 24, 9]. What is less clear, is to what degree the moving-dots-sensitive region includes

areas adjacent to MT/V5, since a complex of satellite areas surrounding MT/V5 is largely

considered to be involved in motion processing as well[33, 34, 24, 9] (Fig. 3a). Nonetheless, some

features regarding retinotopic organization are generally consistent across studies in several

species including marmosets (Fig. 3b): (i) MT/V5 is retinotopically organized[31, 24, 33-36] to

represent the entire contralateral visual field in a non-mirrored image fashion[37] and shares a

common foveal representation at its ventral side with its neighboring areas; (ii) The region

anterior to MT/V5 has a crude retinotopic organization but as a mirrored image with a reversed

polar angle gradient[24, 35, 36]. Yet, the spatial relationship between these retinotopic features and

moving-dots sensitivity in the marmoset MT/V5 complex is not clear. Here, we first confirmed

the spatial extent of the motion sensitivity to moving dots was robust and replicable, by repeating

the visual stimuli used in the parcellation experiment without the stimuli of any other modality.

(Fig. 3c, d vs Fig. 1f, h right). Next, to map retinotopic eccentricity, we varied the range of

moving dot stimuli between the center and periphery of the visual field (Fig. 3f). As a result, a

periphery-preferring region was located at the anterodorsal part of the motion-sensitive region,

while a center-preferring region occupied the posteroventral side of the motion-sensitive region

(Fig. 3g). Moreover, to map retinotopic polar angle, the dots were permitted to move radially

only in a quarter-circle shaped range in the visual field that was swept either clockwise (Fig. 3i)

or counterclockwise (Fig. 3l) for 20 rounds. Similar to the tonotopy experiment, polar angle

tuning and hemodynamic delay were calculated by combining these "reversed" sessions together

(Fig. 3j, m, o). The resulting lower-upper-lower polar angle gradients for representing the

contralateral field were virtually orthogonal to the eccentricity gradient (Fig. 3o vs Fig. 3g).

Putting these together, the extent of moving-dots sensitivity occupied two retinotopic regions,

and each had a representation of the entire contralateral visual field. The more posterodorsal,

non-mirrored retinotopic region was consistent with MT/V5, and the more anteroventral region

was retinotopically organized in a mirrored image. These observations were generally consistent

in all subjects we tested (Extended Data Fig. 7). It is worth noting that we did not train our

subjects to fixate during these sessions. Nevertheless, calibrated eye-tracking results showed the

subject did actively gaze to the center, with the median gaze position of any session maximally

1.1° off the center, while the motion stimuli subtended 30° of visual angle (Fig. 3e, h, k, n). The

oculomotor range of marmosets is also more limited than macaques[38]. Thus, the effect of fixation

was possibly marginal on the data described above. However, one needs to be cautious when

directly comparing retinotopic details of our results with studies that directly controlled fixation.

Face patch mapping and a cortical landscape assembled from all through-skull maps.

Besides encoding motion, primate visual cortex also processes form and features a

specific distributed system for the face (face patches) that has been demonstrated in humans[39-41],

in macaques[39, 42, 36, 43], and recently in marmosets[44]. These face patches are located along the

ventral occipitotemporal cortex and respond to faces much more strongly than to any other object

category. Among these face patches, a functional hierarchy is suggested along the posterior-

anterior direction with an increase in identity selectivity and view tolerance[42]. A functional

specialization is also suggested along the ventral-dorsal direction with an increase in motion

preference[40, 43]. One of the face patches described in marmosets, the posterior-dorsal patch (PD),

is suggested to locate closely with MT/V5 [(44)]. This phenomenon has also been reported in

macaques[36] and in humans[41]. Resolving the relative position of this face patch within the local

functional landscape including MT/V5 would thus provide new insights into how the face-

processing network is organized and has been transformed through evolution. However, the

spatial organization of the marmoset PD patch with respect to (i) the local retinotopic map (if

any), and to (ii) the extent of motion sensitivity in MT/V5 complex, remains unclear[44]. We

sought to fill these gaps by further imaging and contrasting the responses to eight different

categories of images (Fig. 4a-c and Extended Data Fig. 8: faces, body parts, animals, fruits &

vegetables, familiar objects, unfamiliar objects, spatially scrambled faces, and phase-scrambled faces). A clear patch located at the ventral part of the motion-sensitive region showed a stronger response to faces than to any other control categories (Fig. 4d-g). Additionally, combining all maps provides evidence for a multi-modal functional landscape (Fig. 4h). The scrambling-sensitive region (contrasting faces to scrambled faces, Fig. 4f) mostly coaligned with the center-preferring retinotopic region (Fig. 4h), with a saddle at the location consistent with the foveal region of MT/V5. This saddle is also consistent with relative insensitivity to form in MT/V5 [32, 9]. Furthermore, the face patch (contrasting faces to other objects, Fig. 4g) was located within the motion-sensitive retinotopic region anteroventral to MT/V5, with a center bias and a tendency to prefer the lower visual field. These claims hold for all tested animals (Extended Data Fig. 9). Considering the sensitivity to motion, to face, and to the lower part of the visual field, this face patch may mediate processing of mouth movement. Interestingly, very close to this face patch (Fig. 4h, 2l), a part of the newly discovered tonotopic gradient represents frequencies found in marmoset vocalizations[45] (~3-11 kHz). Thus, these vicinal regions may potentially be involved in coordinating audiovisual information in vocal communication.

DISCUSSION

Together, our mapping study through the intact skull without thinning revealed the cortical functional landscape composed of multiple functional gradients and landmarks of various modalities in individual marmosets (Fig. 4h, Extended Data Fig. 9). The ability to map cross-modality landscapes opens new opportunities for examining how the primate cortical system is organized and coordinated across multiple modalities to enable our real-world perceptions and behaviors. This through-skull mapping was enabled by a wide-field,

polarization-enhanced optical imaging approach. The approach demonstrated in marmosets here

may also find applications in other species, with or without skull thinning. For example, squirrel

monkeys, owl monkeys, and some Old-World monkeys (e.g. talapoins[6]) also have skulls that are

not much thicker than marmosets (Fig. 1a). The intrinsic optical signal of the brain, however, is

inherently limited by hemodynamic change, which may not be fully predicted by local neural

signals[46]. Any significant vasculature between the brain and the imaging setup may also affect

imaging quality, such as large blood vessels in the dura, diploic veins in the skull, and tissue

growth on top of or within the skull (bone degradation). Despite these limitations, the

XINTRINSIC system developed in our study could provide data to guide subsequent

electrophysiology recordings, two photon imaging, or perturbation experiments that require skull

opening. It may yet prove powerful in concert with non-invasive viral gene delivery in primates[47]

for potential through-skull calcium imaging[2, 3] as well as minimally invasive optogenetic

perturbations[48] where targeting of causal manipulations could benefit from our non-invasive

imaging approach. We provide open access to our imaging setup design and software code for

straightforward duplication (https://x-song-x.github.io/XINTRINSIC/). With its simple

architecture, XINTRINSIC is generally affordable (<$10,000), and has potential for future

miniaturization to map cortical functions through-skull in freely roaming primates.

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METHODS

Through-skull imageability comparison across species.

The gyrification index[7, 50] (GI) and the skull thickness were compared across species

based on the data compiled from multiple sources (Fig. 1a). Human (*Homo sapiens*), rhesus

macaque (*Macaca mulatta*), common marmoset (*Callithrix jacchus*), loris (*Nycticebus coucang*),

lemur (*Cheirogaleus medius*), rabbit (*Oryctolagus cuniculus*), cat (*Felis catus*), and ferret

(*Mustela putorius furo*) were reported to have GI values of 2.56, 1.75, 1.18, 1.29, 1.11, 1.15,

1.58, and 1.63, respectively[7]. Cynomolgus monkey (*Macaca fascicularis*), squirrel monkey

(*Saimiri sciureus*), owl monkey (*Aotus trivirgatus*), galago (*Otolemur garnetti*), tree shrew

(*Tupaia glis*), guinea pig (*Cavia porcellus*), rat (*Rattus norvegicus*), and mouse (*Mus musculus*)

were reported to have GI values of 1.65, 1.57, 1.36, 1.25, 1.04, 1.04, 1.04, and 1.02,

respectively[50]. All skull thickness data were taken near the location of parietal eminence. Human,

rhesus macaque, cynomolgus monkey, common marmoset, squirrel monkey, owl monkey, and

loris data were acquired from one primate study as 5.87, 1.52, 1.24, 0.48, 0.62, 0.56, and 1.01

mm, respectively[6], whereas rabbit[51], rat[51], mouse[52], cat[53], and ferret[54] data were 1.50, 0.71, 0.21,

2.90, and 1.20 mm, respectively. Galago (http://dx.doi.org/10.17602/M2/M33809), lemur

(ark:/87602/m4/M12869), tree shrew (http://dx.doi.org/10.17602/M2/M6393), and guinea pig

(http://dx.doi.org/10.17602/M2/M47035) data were assessed based on the cranium CT scan

datasets accessed and archived on MorphoSource.org. The resulting values are 1.48, 0.43, 0.21,

and 1.01 mm. The common marmoset used in the present study has a relatively flat brain and

thin skull with a GI value of 1.18 (considered lissencephalic[8]) and a skull thickness of 0.48 mm

(considered as imageable through-skull). We further confirmed marmoset skull thickness near

the location over the auditory cortex by clamping a micrometer onto the edge of acutely prepared

bone chips (which may slightly overestimate the thickness due to the skull curvature). The

average value is 0.61 mm (n=4), very close to the value reported on the parietal location.

Marmoset head-cap implant and imaging chamber design.

Six marmosets were used in the current study (Extended Data Table 1), including one

female, five males, three left hemispheres, and three right hemispheres. The right hemisphere

view was mirrored to match the view of the left hemisphere in the figures for display purposes.

The subjects' ages ranged from 44 to 81 months old during imaging acquisition. The basic

design of the marmoset chronic head-cap implant has been described previously[55]. Marmosets

were adapted to sit calmly in a Plexiglass restraint chair through an acclimation period of two to

four weeks. Using sterile techniques, two stainless steel head posts were attached to the skull

with dental cement material while the animal was anesthetized with isoflurane (0.5-2.0%, mixed

with pure oxygen). During the implant surgery, the lateral part of the skull, presumably over the

auditory cortex, the MT complex, and the lateral part of anterior parietal cortex (Fig. 1b) was

exposed and covered with a thin layer (~1 mm) of dental cement. Before applying the dental

cement, the putative lateral sulcus was vaguely visible through-skull when the skull was still wet

and was thus marked for later reference (water may partially match the refractive index of the

skull). The rest of the exposed skull was covered with a thicker layer of dental cement and a wall

was formed around the recording chamber to increase the mechanical stability of the head-cap

and to protect the chamber. After the animal fully recovered from the implant surgery, the head

of the animal was fixed via head posts (Fig. 1c), and the surface of the recording chamber was

further polished with acrylic polishing bits (Dedeco, 7750). The dental cement at the chamber

bottom optically concealed the surface texture of the skull, presumably by matching its refractive

index. We tested two different dental cement materials (orthodontic resin from DENTSPLY

Caulk, and C&B Metabond from Parkell [clear]). We did not observe a significant difference

between these two materials in terms of imaging performance. Before each imaging experiment,

a minimal amount of petroleum jelly was applied evenly at the chamber bottom to further

augment the optical smoothness of the surface. The optical axis of the imaging setup was aligned

as perpendicular as possible to the local surface. The animal was head-fixed and kept awake

through all imaging sessions. Outside imaging, the chamber was protected and sealed with a

dental impression material (GC America, EXAMIX NDS injection). All experimental procedures

were approved by the Johns Hopkins University Animal Use and Care Committee.

Imaging setups.

The general optical design of XINTRINSIC is illustrated in Extended Data Fig. 1C. A

swappable LED (Thorlabs M470L3, M530L4, M590L4, M625L3, M730L5, and M850L3;

corresponding to nominal wavelengths [colors] of 470 nm [blue], 530 nm [green], 590 nm

[amber], 625 nm [red], 730 nm [far-red], and 850 nm [near inferred, or NIR], respectively)

passed light through a Koehler illuminator consisting of 4 lenses (Thorlabs ACL12708U-A/B,

Edmund Optics 49-793-INK, 33-923-INK, and 49-372-INK), a field stop, and an aperture stop.

The light from the Koehler illuminator was filtered by a polarizer (Thorlabs WP25L-VIS) before

being reflected by a polarizing beam splitter ([PBS] Thorlabs, WPBS254-VIS) to a 1× telecentric

objective (Thorlabs TL1X-SAP, without the accessory wave plate). The polarizer was aligned to

maximize S-polarized light throughput to the PBS. The light power under the objective was

measured as not more than 50mW before *in vivo* imaging. Backscattered light was collected by

the same objective, transmitted through and filtered by the same PBS, and then passed to another

polarizer placed to allow P-polarized (cross-linearly polarized) light to go to the coupling relay

lenses (Thorlabs, A508-080-AB-ML, ×2). The light was eventually focused by a camera lens

(Navitar, NMV-6X16, at the maximal zoom) onto a high-saturation-capacity, high-frame-rate,

mass-produced CMOS camera (FLIR, grasshopper 3, GS3-U3-23S6M-C, with a SONY IMX174

sensor). The imaging acquisition of the camera was controlled by an 80 Hz trigger pulse train

generated on a data acquisition (DAQ) card (NI, PCIe-6323). Recordings were acquired with

custom code in Matlab (Mathworks, R2018a and later), at a resolution of 1920×1200 pixels and

a speed of 80 frames/second (1920×1200@80fps). The data were binned and saved in a format

of 480×300@5fps. Based on a Poisson process assumption for incoherent photon arrivals, the

theoretical shot noise floor under the current condition over 20 repetitions was estimated as

0.08‰. Besides the Koehler illuminator built in the XINTRINSIC setup, another independent

illuminator, coupled with fiber bundles as output ports but without polarization control, was built

for control purposes (Fig. 1d). The light from one of the swappable LEDs was passed through

four coupling lenses with a diffuser in the middle (Thorlabs ACL12708U-A/B, AC254-045-A-

ML, ED1-S20, ACL5040U-A, and ACL50832U-A) to fulfill both the input aperture (4.52mm)

and the numerical aperture (NA=0.57) of a gooseneck Y-bundle light guide (Thorlabs,

OSL2YFB). The output ports were pointed from the side of the objective to illuminate the

chamber as homogenously (to the best of ability).

Stimulus delivery.

For somatosensory stimulation, air puffs were powered by a pneumatic air supply to a set

of solenoid valves (SMC, S070M-6DC-40) with a 0.38 MPa pressure at the valve inlet. The

outlets of the valves were further routed through 2-mm-inner-diameter 1.5 meters long tubing

and 10-30 cm long adjustable hoses (Loc-Line, 1/4") before spraying air out of nozzles (Loc-

Line, 1/16" round nozzle). The airflow intensity out of the nozzle was tested on the

experimenter's skin and confirmed to be appropriately mild before pointing onto the subject. An

extra nozzle was placed about 3 cm away from the animal's ear (contralateral to the imaging

chamber), with the airflow directed away from the subject. Air buffs at the same repetition rate

were delivered through this nozzle whenever there were no somatosensory puffs delivered from

the other nozzles to counterbalance the acoustic noise generated from the other somatosensory

stimulating nozzles. All solenoid valves were switched by control signals generated on the same

DAQ card that controlled the imaging acquisition.

For auditory stimulation, digital waveforms were converted into analog signals on the

same DAQ card (16-bit resolution, 100,000 samples/second conversion rate). The analog signal

was attenuated by a programmable attenuator (Tucker-Davis Technology, PA5) before feeding

into an amplifier (Crown, D75) that powered a loudspeaker (KEF, LS50), placed ~1 meter away

in front of the subject. Sound levels were calibrated by placing a microphone (Brüel & Kjær,

type 4191) at the animal's typical head position.

For visual stimulation, the display content was controlled by custom code in Matlab,

using the Psychophysics Toolbox extension[56]. An LCD monitor (LG, 32GK850F, 32-inch

nominal size, 144 Hz refreshing rate, 2560×1440 resolution, 400 cd/m^2 maximal brightness) was

placed ~75 cm away in front of the subject. An eye-tracking camera (FLIR, FMVU-03MTM-CS;

Edmund Optics, 86-410), and a collimated NIR LED (Thorlabs, M850L3 and ACL5040U-

DG15-B) were placed right above the monitor to track the animal's eyes during visual

experiments. The eye-tracking camera was controlled by a trigger sequence at 10 fps generated

also on the DAQ card.

The air nozzles, the loudspeaker, and the monitor, together with the XINTRINSIC

imaging setup and the subject were positioned inside a double-walled soundproof chamber

(Industrial Acoustics, custom model), whose interior was covered by 3-inch acoustic absorption

foam (Pinta Acoustic, Sonex). Stimulations of different modalities were all synchronized with

the imaging acquisition. The somatosensory and auditory stimulations shared the same hardware

clock and start trigger on the DAQ card, whereas the DAQ card reset the trial time clock used in

Matlab for visual stimuli generation at the beginning of every trial or cycle.

Experimental design.

For the parcellation experiment, the stimulating air nozzle was placed facing the subject

and ~5-8 mm away from the subject's mouth. The airflow direction was slightly tilted upward to

target the regions of the face and the mouth below the nasal and ocular areas. The LCD monitor

for visual stimulation was placed between the loudspeaker and the subject. The sound level was

re-calibrated to compensate for the effect of the monitor placed in between. A 396-second-long

recording session simultaneously consisted of 18 cycles of a 22-second-long somatosensory

stimulation trial, 20 cycles of a 19.8-second-long auditory stimulation trial, and 22 cycles of an

18-second-long visual stimulation trial (Fig. 1f). The somatosensory stimuli were a 6-second-

long, 10-Hz-repetition-rate air-puff train, presented at the center of each somatosensory trial

cycle (Fig. 1f left). To generate each air puff, the solenoid valve was switched on for 0.05

seconds and then off (50% duty cycle). The auditory stimuli were a 9.8-second-long, 5-Hz-

repetition-rate white noise burst sequence, presented at the center of each auditory trial cycle

(Fig. 1f middle). Each white noise burst was 0.1 seconds in duration, with 20-millisecond sine

ramps at the onset and the offset. The burst was 80 dB SPL loud when it was on. The visual

stimuli were radially outward moving dots varying in speed (Fig. 1f right). The display

background was black, and the dots were white. Each dot was 0.4° in viewing diameter. Initially,

180 dots were randomized in position within a 15°-radius display field. Whenever a dot moved

out of this field range, another replacing dot was generated in the very center of the field with a

randomized moving direction. During each 18-second-long visual trial cycle, the instantaneous

speed of all dots was 0°/second for the first 2 seconds, then linearly increased to 16°/second

during the next 5 seconds, stayed at 16°/second for the next 4 seconds, linearly decreased to

0°/second during the next 5 seconds, and stayed at 0°/second for the last 2 seconds of the cycle.

Simultaneous eye-tracking was performed to make sure the subject was alert and generally kept

the gaze in the center.

For the somatotopy mapping experiment, two stimulating nozzles were configured. The

oral nozzle was placed to approximate the subject's incisors, whereas the facial nozzle was

placed to target the cheek contralateral to the imaging side but kept ~5 to 8 mm away from the

subject (Fig. 2b). A 437-second-long recording session simultaneously consisted of 19 cycles of

a 23-second-long oral stimulation trial and 23 cycles of a 19-second-long facial stimulation trial

(Fig. 2c). The oral stimuli were a 4-second-long, 10-Hz-repetition-rate air-puff train presented at

the center of each oral trial cycle (Fig. 2c left), whereas the facial stimuli were another 4-second-

long 10-Hz-repetition-rate air-puff train but presented at the center of each facial trial cycle (Fig.

2c right). Two parallel solenoid valves were routed together to power the facial nozzle. To

generate each air puff, the corresponding solenoid valves were switched on for 0.03 seconds and

then off (30% duty cycle).

For the tonotopy mapping experiment, two sessions were recorded to derive the tonotopic

map in each subject. Each session was 400 seconds long and consisted of 20 cycles of a

repeating 20-second-long trial (Fig. 2i). The trial started with 2.7 seconds of silence, followed by

a sequence of 73 pure tone pips, and ended with another 2.7 seconds of silence. Each pure tone

pip was 0.2 seconds in duration and had 20-millisecond sine ramps at both the onset and the

offset. All pure tone pips were played at 50 dB SPL loudness. The "downward" session (Fig. 2i

left) had the trial cycle with the tone pip sequence decreasing in frequency for 6 octaves (72

semitones), starting with a pure tone pip of 28,160 Hz (music note A10), continuing with each of

the following pips descending one semitone in frequency from the previous pip, and ending with

a pure tone pip of 440 Hz (A4). The "upward" session (Fig. 2i right) was the opposite and had

the trial cycle with the pure tone pip sequence starting with a pure tone pip of 440 Hz (A4) and

ending with a pure tone pip of 28,160 Hz (A10).

For the motion sensitivity and retinotopy mapping experiment, four sessions were

recorded in each subject. All sessions were designed based on 0.4°-diameter white dots moving

radially outward within a 15°-radius display field and on a black background[57]. Each session was

400 seconds long and consisted of 20 cycles, each 20 seconds long. The first session was to re-

map the spatial extent of motion sensitivity to moving dots (Fig. 3c), and the design was very

similar to the visual part of the parcellation experiment. During each cycle, the instantaneous

speed of all dots was 0°/second for the first 2 seconds, then linearly increased to 16°/second

during the next 6 seconds, stayed at 16°/second for the next 4 seconds, linearly decreased to

0°/second during the next 6 seconds, and stayed at 0°/second for the last 2 seconds of the cycle

(Fig. 3c right). The 16°/second speed of moving dots is very close to the median of preferred

speeds to moving dots by marmoset MT neurons[58]. The second session was to map the

retinotopic eccentricity (Fig. 3f). The dots moved outward at a speed of 16°/second, within a

range determined by eccentricity, and otherwise stayed static. The inner and the outer limits of

the allowed motion range were both sinusoidally modulated and synchronized with the 20-

second-long cycles at a cosine phase. The outer limit started at a 15°-radius at the beginning of

each cycle and dropped to 5° at the middle of each cycle, whereas the inner limit started at a 5°-

radius at the beginning of each cycle and dropped to 0° at the middle of each cycle (Fig. 3f).

Thus, at the beginning of each cycle, only the periphery of the field (5°-15° radius) contained

moving dots, leaving the center of the field (0°-5° radius) with static dots (Fig. 3f left), whereas

at the middle of each cycle, only the center contained moving dots, leaving the periphery with

static dots (Fig. 3f right). The third (Fig. 3i) and the fourth (Fig. 3l) sessions were to map the

retinotopic polar angle tuning. The dots moved outward at a speed of 16°/second, only within a

range determined by polar angle, and otherwise stayed static. This motion range was a quarter

circle in shape, with its middle line pointing at the 12 o'clock polar angle at the beginning of

each cycle. The shape of this range persisted while the angle at which the range middle line

pointed was swept either clockwise (Fig. 3i) or counterclockwise (Fig. 3l) for each session. The

sweeping speed was 0.05 rounds/second and was thus synchronized with the 20-second-long

cycles. Different from the first two sessions, in which the motion range patterns at any moment

were always rotationally symmetric and thus did not carry a natural bias to drive the subject's

attention to any specific polar angle at any moment, the motion range pattern of these polar angle

testing stimuli was not rotationally symmetric at a given moment and may carry such an

attention bias. To draw the subject's attention to the center, we displayed random small

marmoset pictures (~3°×3°) in the center of the field on the top of the dots during these polar

angle testing sessions. Each marmoset picture lasted for 2 seconds. These pictures were acquired

through Google Images and further cut and scaled to the desired size. Simultaneous eye-tracking

was performed during all sessions (see below for details). Indeed, the eye-tracking results

showed the subject's gaze was kept predominantly to the center of the field in these polar angle

sessions (Fig. 3k and n), with 69.1% and 66.7% of total detected gaze positions falling in the

center 5°-radius range, compared to 63.1% and 65.8% in the first two sessions (Fig. 3e and h).

For the face-patch mapping experiment, six categories of visual objects were tested:

marmoset faces, marmoset body parts, animals, fruits and vegetables, familiar objects, and

unfamiliar objects. The images of marmoset faces were obtained from the authors of the pioneer

marmoset face-patch mapping study[44]. The images of familiar objects were taken in our colony

and laboratory at Johns Hopkins. The images of other categories were searched and selected

using Google Images. Visual objects were extracted from the original images, converted to

grayscale, and further equalized for contrast and average luminance[59]. The objects were scaled

and rotated to minimize the variation in aspect ratio and to minimize the variation across

categories for the mean value and the standard deviation of object size (defined as the area each

object covers) within each category. Two additional categories of scrambled faces were

generated. For both spatially and phase scrambled faces, the same contour mask of the

corresponding face was applied back to the scrambled faces so that the original contour edges

remained. Together, 20 exemplar objects were generated for each of the 8 categories (Fig. 4a and

Extended Data Fig. 8). To synthesize a stimulus frame for each object, the object was repeated

and tiled as a stretcher bond pattern in the frame (Fig. 4c). Each "tile" was about 10°×6° in size

(480×288 in display pixel). Considering the range of marmoset gaze is limited and is no larger

than the stimulus frame displayed[38], no matter where the subject gazed at, it could not fully avoid

the object within the 5°-radius center of its visual field. The background of the frame was set as a

randomly generated pink noise image that matches the average luminance of the objects (115 on

8-bit grayscale). To test the cortical response to a category, a 20-second-long trial was generated

online with 40 display frames (Fig. 4b). Each frame lasted for 0.5 seconds. The first 4 frames

were with pink noise background only, followed by stimulus frames of all 20 exemplar objects of

the category in a randomized order, and then ended with another 16 pink noise background only

frames. Stimulus trials of these 8 categories were presented in a randomized order for each

testing cycle. A testing block contained 2 testing cycles and was therefore 320 seconds long. A

random music selection from spotify.com was played through the loudspeaker during testing

blocks to keep the subject alert. The subjects rested between testing blocks. On the first day of

the experiment, a reference image of the imaging field of view was taken. On each following

day, this reference image was displayed simultaneously with the real-time image (through

different color channels) to align the images and maintain a consistent field of view. Testing

blocks acquired on different days were then pooled together for analysis. Simultaneous eye-

tracking was performed with the imaging acquisition.

Imaging analysis.

A phase-encoding strategy[22, 18 30] was utilized in designing all these experiments except

for the face-patch experiment. To analyze phase-encoding experiments, the trace of each pixel

across the entire recording session was Fourier transformed and then normalized to intensity

change over baseline intensity ($\Delta I/I$). Signal polarity, defined as whether a positive or negative

change in $\Delta I/I$ indicates a higher response to a stimulus, varies across wavelengths and was

empirically determined for each wavelength from the activation patterns of all three tested

modalities (Extended Data Fig. 2) as negative for 470 nm (blue), negative for 530 nm (green),

ambiguous, presumably positive for 590 nm (amber), positive for 625 nm (red), positive for 730

nm (far-red), and negative for 850 nm (NIR). This difference in polarity can be explained by the

difference in how much each wavelength emphasizes changes in oxy-hemoglobin (HbO) over

changes in deoxy-hemoglobin (HbR) during a hemodynamic response (see Extended Data Fig. 2

and Extended Data Fig. 1b). Signal polarity was compensated to calculate each pixel's phase

response to the stimulus at the corresponding frequency.

Research has suggested that hemodynamic response begins within ~0.5 seconds of

stimulus onset and peaks at 3-5 seconds after the onset[60]. To decode the preferred stimulus phase

(or tuning phase) from the raw phase in response, it is necessary to compensate for this

hemodynamic delay. For both the tonotopy mapping and the retinotopy polar angle mapping

experiments, two sessions were performed with stimuli that were reversely identical to each

other. The "upward" pure tone pip sequence was the time-reversal of the "downward" pure tone

pip sequence, whereas the clockwise polar angle sweep was the time-reversal of the

counterclockwise polar angle sweep. Thus, by assuming the hemodynamic delays of a pixel in

these two temporally "mirrored" sessions are identical[18], this delay can be numerically derived or

canceled out by reversing the response phase of one session and combining it with the response

phase of the other session (Fig. 2i and j). We considered the top 10% of pixels, ranked by their

mean response amplitudes at the corresponding frequency in these two sessions, as candidate

pixels to estimate the hemodynamic delay. These pixels were color-coded for the derived

hemodynamic delay in each subject's delay map (Fig. 2k, 3o, Extended Data Fig. 5g, 7d). The

delay values of these pixels were counted and shown in a histogram with the same color-code

(Fig. 2k, 3o, Extended Data Fig. 5h, 7e). These delay values largely fell within a range of 2.0-5.7

seconds. A peak of this range in the histogram was located within a narrowed range of 3.2-4.4

seconds. By assuming 2.0 to 5.7 seconds as the empirically acceptable delay range, we further

derived the average hemodynamic delay in each subject among qualified pixels. For the tonotopy

experiment, five tested subjects each had an average delay of 3.94, 3.61, 3.47, 4.46, and 4.12

seconds, with a group average of 3.9 seconds (Extended Data Fig. 5h). For the retinotopy polar

angle experiment, five tested subjects each had an average delay of 3.34, 3.42, 3.72, 2.96, and

3.91 seconds, with a group average of 3.5 seconds (Extended Data Fig. 7e). Thus, to decode the

tuning phase from the raw response phase for a single session, we compensated 3.9 seconds for

the hemodynamic delay in tonotopy tuning phase analysis (Extended Data Fig. 5), 3.5 seconds in

retinotopy polar angle tuning phase analysis (Extended Data Fig. 7), and 3.7 seconds in all other

single-session tuning phase analyses.

The tuning maps were drawn after compensating for signal polarity and delay at the

corresponding frequency for each pixel. The HSV (hue-saturation-value) color space was utilized

to visualize both responsiveness and tuning for each pixel. The tuning phase was encoded in the

hue (color) channel, whereas the response amplitude of the corresponding frequency was

encoded in the saturation (chroma) and value (brightness) channels. Since the saturation and

value channels can only have values between 0 and 1, for most of the maps, we encoded the

response amplitude at the 99th percentile of all pixels as the upper limit value 1 in both

saturation and value channels (Fig. 1h, 2d, 3d, 3g, 3j, 3m, 3o, Extended Data Fig. 2, 3, 4, 7),

except for the amber light in Extended Data Fig. 2 (97th percentile), the subject M117B in

Extended Data Fig. 3 (97th percentile), and Extended Data Fig. 5 (95th percentile). The upper

display limit of response amplitude was set at absolute values as indicated in Fig. 2k, 2l, and

Extended Data Fig. 6. For tonotopy visualization, pixels that had their tuning phases outside the

time range of the tone pip sequence were set to 0 in their saturation channel. To visualize the

retinotopy tuning together with the motion sensitivity, we encoded retinotopy polar angle tuning

in the hue (color) channel, retinotopy eccentricity tuning in the saturation (chroma) channel, and

motion sensitivity in the value (brightness) channel (Fig. 4h, Extended Data Fig. 7i). To generate

a summary map for a session designed with multiple stimulation frequencies (e.g. parcellation,

somatotopy experiments), the RGB (red-green-blue) color space was utilized to display maps of

different frequencies together (Fig. 1i, 2e, Extended Data Fig. 2e, 3e, 4d). For the map of each

stimulation frequency, a mask was first generated with pixels that had tuning phases falling into

the trial time range corresponding to the most intense stimuli with 1-second tolerance at either

side. Pixels included in this mask had their amplitudes in the original HSV "value" channel

further shown in the designated RGB color channel (red, green, or blue).

For the face-patch experiment, 218, 134, and 234 testing cycles were recorded in the

subjects M126D, M15E, and M117B, respectively. The pixel response trace of each trial was

normalized to the pre-stimulus baseline, defined as the average signal value of the first 2 seconds

in the trial (Fig. 4d, Extended Data Fig. 9b, 9g, 9l). A single $\Delta I/I$ response value was extracted

for each trial by averaging the normalized and polarity-compensated response within a time

window of 4 to 10 seconds after the first stimulus frame onset. Two t-value maps were drawn for

each subject. One map was to compare response values between those to the face category and

those to all other five object categories combined (Fig. 4g, Extended Data Fig. 9e, 9j, 9o). The

other map was to compare response values between those to the face category and those to the

two scrambled face categories combined (Fig. 4f, Extended Data Fig. 9d, 9i, 9n).

To put maps of different experiments together (Fig. 4h, Extended Data Fig. 9f, 9k, 9p),

somatotopy, tonotopy, and retinotopy of the same subject were co-registered to and overlaid on

top of a chamber bottom image (also dimmed and served as the display background). Maps of t-

values were also co-registered to the same map but shown as iso-t-value contour lines. Together

these maps formed a cortical functional landscape in each subject.

Eye-tracking

To determine the absolute position of the subject's gaze, calibration sessions were

performed in addition to other visual experiments performed during each day of visual

experiments. 80 marmoset images were acquired from Google Images. Each image was cut and

scaled to a size of 160×160 pixels. The screen was divided into a 15×9 location grid to display

these images without overlap and with one right in the center. Among these 15×9 locations, 37

locations had their centers within the center 23° diameter range of visual angle. An image was

displayed at one of these 37 locations for 1.5 seconds, with the rest of the monitor displaying a

gray background. 80 images were displayed in a pseudorandomized order. Eye-tracking

recording from this session (120 seconds in duration) was later used for calibrating the absolute

gaze positions in the other experimental sessions. This calibration grid generally covers the entire

marmoset oculomotor range, which is more limited than that of macaques[38].

DATA AVAILABILITY

The data that support the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon

reasonable request.

CODE AVAILABILITY

Data collection routine was performed with custom MATLAB code, available at

https://github.com/x-song-x/XINTRINSIC (the commit on Dec, 9, 2019), and

https://github.com/x-song-x/ChKshared (the commit on Dec, 7, 2019). Data analysis routine was

performed with custom MATLAB code, available at https://github.com/x-song-x/fluffy-goggles

(the commit on Aug 25, 2020).

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This research was supported by National Institute of Health grants DC003180 and DC005808 to X.W. X.S. was supported by a fellowship from the Kavli Neuroscience Discovery Insitute at JHU. We thank S. H. Park and D. Leopold for providing marmoset face images, J. Lynch, K. Schonvisky, S. Miller, and J. Izzi for assistance with animal care, Q. Fang for technical advices on the MCXLAB simulation toolbox, and E. Issa, X. Liu, L. Zhao and M. Osmanski for their comments on the earlier versions of the manuscript. Creation of datasets accessed on MorphoSource was made possible by the following funders and grant numbers: NERC NE/G001952/1 to N.S. Jeffery, NSF BCS 1304045 and a research grant from Trinity College of Arts and Sciences to C. Wall, and NSF BCS 1540421 to G.S. Yapuncich and D.M. Boyer.

AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

X.S. and X.W. designed the study. X.S., Y.G., and X.W. developed the marmoset preparation. X.S. developed the XINTRINSIC setup. Y.G. performed the Monte Carlo simulation. C.C. and X.S. designed the pilot through-skull testing. H.L. and X.S. designed the eye-tracking system and the stimuli in the face-patch mapping experiment. X.S. designed the mapping experiments and analyzed the data. X.S., Z.S., and Y.G. performed the mapping experiments. X.S., Y.G., and X.W. wrote the manuscript with input from all authors. X.W. supervised the study.

COMPETING INTERESTS STATEMENT

The authors declare no completing interests.

Fig. 1. Marmoset through-skull imaging and functional parcellation of cortical modalities.

a, Gyrification index[7] and skull thickness[6] are compared across species (more details on data

sources in Methods). Light penetrability decreases as the skull thickness increases. Increased

cortical folding (indicated by larger gyrification index) fragmentizes functional maps in the

imaging field. **b**, A sketch of key cortical areas in marmosets[9-11]. **c**, Illustration of a head-cap

implant and recording chamber. **d, e**, A view of the recording chamber imaged with (**e**) or

without (**d**) XINTRINSIC enhancement using green light. The putative lateral sulcus was

marked during implant surgery. **f**, Stimuli design for functionally parcellating somatosensory

(SOM), auditory (AUD), and visual (VIS) cortices. **g**, Intrinsic signal response to the stimuli

shown in **f** from three exemplar pixels, whose locations are labeled in **e** with the corresponding

colors of the signal traces. Each average response trace is shown as a solid line with a shade

representing the errors (standard error mean, SEM). Stimulus repetitions in each modality: 18 for

SOM (left), 20 for AUD (middle), 22 for VIS (right). For each modality, a cosine "fitting" curve

to the trace of the most responsive exemplar pixel was drawn (dotted cosine line) with the

response phase indicated by a dotted vertical line. **h**, Response maps of three modalities (left:

SOM, middle: AUD, right: VIS). For each pixel, the cosine "fitting" phase and amplitude were

encoded respectively as color and intensity on the map, according to the 2D colormap shown

above each modality map. **i**, A summary map of functional modality parcellation, with each

modality represented by a color (blue: SOM, red: AUD, green: VIS). A (anterior), P (posterior),

D (dorsal), V (ventral).

Fig. 2. Through-skull somatotopy and tonotopy mapping. a, A sketch of marmoset

somatosensory cortices[11]. **b**, The target sites for air-puff stimulation. The same colors (oral: red,

facial: green) were used in **c**, **e**, and **f** as well. **c**, Stimuli design for mapping oral and facial

representations in somatosensory cortices. **d**, Response maps evoked by oral (left) or facial

(right) stimuli. For each pixel, the response phase and amplitude are visualized respectively as

color and intensity on the map. **e**, A summary response map of the orofacial somatotopic

gradient. Oral (red) and facial (green) representations are well differentiable. **f**, An illustration of

oral and facial response areas in somatosensory cortices (estimated). **g**, A sketch of marmoset

auditory cortices[10]. **h**, The standard model of pure-tone-responsive tonotopic gradients in

marmoset auditory cortices[23, 27], LF: low frequency, HF: high frequency. **i**, Stimuli design for

mapping tonotopy using a downward (left) or an upward (right) frequency sequence in each

cycle. **j**, Intrinsic signal (solid lines: average traces, shades: SEMs, n=20) responding to the

stimuli shown in **i** from an exemplar pixel (location labeled by a pentagram in **k**). Dotted lines:

response phase extraction (same as in Fig. 1g). Arrows and equations: tone tuning and

hemodynamic delay estimation process. **k**, Tonotopy (top) and hemodynamic delay map

(bottom). The colormap (top left) shows 2D codes for visualizing each pixel's tone-tuning

frequency (color) and response amplitude (intensity). The hemodynamic delay values are color-

coded (for top 10% of most responsive pixels) and counted in the histogram (bottom left).

Rectangular gray shade: the acceptable delay range. The average delay within this range is 3.94

seconds. **l**, Tonotopy from five tested subjects. White (black) arrows: low (high) frequencies of

the newly discovered tonotopic gradient. Subject ID, hemisphere (L or R), and saturated display

amplitude are listed below each plot. Right hemispheres are mirrored to the left for display

purposes. **m**, Proposed model for pure-tone-responsive tonotopic gradients in marmoset auditory

cortex. A newly discovered pure-tone-responsive tonotopic gradient extends from the

rostrotemporal field (RT) of the auditory core to the putative parabelt region.

Fig. 3. Through-skull retinotopy and motion sensitivity mapping in MT/V5 complex. a, A

sketch of marmoset MT/V5 complex[9]. MST: medial superior temporal area, MTc/V4t: MT

crescent/transitional V4, FST(d): fundal area of the STS (dorsal). **b**, A previous model on the

retinotopy of marmoset MT/V5 complex[9, 24]. **c**, Stimuli for motion sensitivity mapping. **d**,

Motion sensitivity map. **e**, Eye-tracking results of the motion sensitivity session. **f**, Stimuli for

retinotopic eccentricity mapping. **g**, Eccentricity map (wheel: visual field color code). **h**, Eye-

tracking results of the eccentricity session. **i**, Clockwise stimuli for retinotopic polar angle

mapping. **j**, Clockwise polar angle map (wheel: visual field color code). **k**, Eye-tracking results

of the clockwise polar angle session. **l**, Counterclockwise stimuli for retinotopic polar angle

mapping. **m**, Counterclockwise polar angle map (wheel: visual field color code). **n**, Eye-tracking

results of the counterclockwise polar angle session. **o**, Combined polar angle map (wheel: visual

field color code) with a hemodynamic delay histogram. Top 10% of most responsive pixels are

outlined by dashed curves and counted in the histogram. Rectangular gray shade: the acceptable

delay range. The average delay within this range is 3.34 seconds. **p**, Proposed model for the

functional organization of marmoset MT/V5 complex, co-registering the extent of motion

sensitivity with the retinotopic map. The motion sensitivity to moving dots extends across two

retinotopically organized regions; each has a full representation of the contralateral visual field.

Response maps (**d**, **g**, **j**, **m**, and **o**) are shown with tuning phase (color) and amplitude (intensity)

separately encoded, according to the 2D colormap in **l** (colormap also transformed into visual

field color codes in **g**, **j**, **m**, and **o**). Calibrated gaze positions are definable in 84.9%, 87.3%,

95.8%, and 93.2% of all eye-tracking frames in each session (**e**, **h**, **k**, and **n**). The position of

each definable frame is color-coded for its timestamp in the cycle and overlaid in a 2D visual

field histogram (top plot). A white spot in the histogram implies the position was not or weakly

preferred by any specific time point in the cycle. For each session, the median gaze position,

shown as "+" (bottom plot), was estimated 1.1°, 0.9°, 0.8°, and 0.9° away from the very center

and 63.1%, 65.8%, 69.1% and 66.7% of gaze positions were within the center 5° radius region

(percentage within each designated region is color coded).

Fig. 4. Face patch mapping and a cortical functional landscape assembled from all

through-skull maps. a, 8 categories of visual stimuli used for face patch mapping (with an

exemplar from category shown), including faces[44], 5 other object categories (body parts, animals,

fruits & vegetables, familiar objects, and unfamiliar objects), and 2 types of scrambled faces

(spatially, and phase scrambled faces). **b**, The stimulus trial design for measuring the response to

a category. **c**, The stimulus frame design for each exemplar (using a face as an example here).

The exemplar was tiled in the frame as a stretcher bond pattern. Considering the marmoset

oculomotor range[38], the subject cannot fully avoid the object within its center 5° radius visual

field. **d**, Response to each category of a face-selective pixel (location labeled by a pentagram in

both **f** and **g**). The colors indicate categories, as shown in **a**. Each average response trace is

shown as a solid curve with a shade representing the corresponding SEM (n=218). The

rectangular background gray shade indicates an averaging time window for calculating a

response value for each trial, with signal polarity compensated. **e**, Differential response map

between the mean response to the face category and the maximum of mean responses to all other

categories (n=218 for each category). A positive value in the map indicates that pixel has a

greater response to faces than any of the other 7 stimulus categories. **f**, The t-value map for

comparing faces versus scrambled faces. A t-value is calculated for each pixel in the map by

comparing its single-trial responses between those to the faces (n=218) and those to the

scrambled faces (n=436). Scrambling sensitivity in the map (orange color: high t-values)

implicates involvement in visual form processing[49]. **g**, The t-value map for comparing the face

category (n=218) versus all other 5 object categories (n=1090). The face-over-object sensitivity

in the map (orange color: high t-values) defines the location of a face patch. **h**, The cortical

functional landscape summarized based on modality-specific maps and overlaid on a dimmed

image of the recording chamber. The motion-sensitive region is shown with retinotopy together

in the "HSV" color space (hue [color]: polar angle; saturation [chroma]: eccentricity; value

[brightness]: motion sensitivity, also see Extended Data Fig. 7i). The t-value maps are shown by

the contour lines. Pentagram: a face-sensitive pixel (same location as in **f** and **g**). The face patch

(outlined by the blue contours) is largely overlapped within both the moving-dots-sensitive

region and the retinotopic region representing the lower center of the visual field. Hexagram: a

pixel from the newly discovered tonotopic gradient (see Fig. 2m) extending from the

rostrotemporal field (RT) of the auditory core to the putative parabelt region, tuned to 5.2 kHz

(within the marmoset vocalization range of ~3-11kHz[45]).