Title: Cortical granularity shapes information flow to the amygdala and its striatal

targets in nonhuman primate

Abbreviated Title: Cortical granularity shapes information flow

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Abstract

The prefrontal cortex (PFC) and insula, amygdala, and striatum form interconnected networks that drive motivated behaviors. We previously found a connectional trend in which granularity of the ventromedial and orbital PFC/insula predicted connections to the amygdala and also the scope of amygdalo-striatal efferents, including projections beyond the 'classic' ventral striatum. To further interrogate this triad and define the 'limbic (amygdala-recipient) striatum', we conducted tract tracing studies in two cohorts of primates to define the scope of cortico-amygdalo-striatal (indirect) and cortico-'limbic' striatal (direct) paths originating in the entire PFC and insula. With larger data sets and a quantitative approach, we found that the level of cortical granularity predicts the complexity and location of projections to both the amygdala and striatum. Remarkably, 'cortical-like' basal nucleus subdivisions also followed these rules in their projections to the striatum. In both 'direct' and 'indirect' paths to the 'limbic' striatum, agranular cortices formed a 'foundational', broad projection, and were joined by inputs from progressively more differentiated cortices. In amygdalo-striatal paths, the ventral basal nucleus was the 'foundational' input, with progressively more dorsal basal nucleus regions gradually adding inputs as the 'limbic striatum' extended caudally. Together, the 'indirect' and 'direct' paths follow consistent rules dictating projection strength and complexity to their targets. In the 'indirect' path, the agranular 'interoceptive' cortices consistently dominate amygdala inputs to the striatum. In contrast, 'direct' cortical inputs to the 'limbic' (amygdala-recipient) striatum create gradual shifts in connectivity fingerprints to provide clues to functional differences in the classic versus caudal ventral 'limbic' striatum.

Significance Statement

The 'limbic system' broadly refers to brain circuits that coordinate emotional responses. Here, we investigate circuits of the amygdala, which is involved in coding the emotional value of external cues, and their influence on the striatum. Regions of prefrontal cortex and insula form gradients of overlapping inputs to basal nucleus of the amygdala, which are fed forward to the striatum. Direct cortical inputs to these 'amygdala-recipient' striatal areas are surprisingly organized according to similar principles, but subtly shift from the classic ventral striatum to the caudal ventral striatum. Together, these distinct subsystems—cortico-amygdala-striatal circuits and direct cortico-striatal circuits— provide substantial opportunity for different levels of internal, sensory, and external experiences to be integrated within the striatum, a major motor-behavioral interface.

Introduction

The prefrontal cortex (PFC) and insula, amygdala, and striatum form interconnected

networks that drive motivated behaviors (Van Hoesen et al., 1981; Yeterian et al., 2012).

Specific cortical regions project to the amygdala, modulating amygdala neural responses

(Klavir et al., 2013; Likhtik et al., 2014). At the same time, these cortical regions and the

amygdala form uni-directional inputs to the striatum to mediate goal-directed responses

(Haber and Knutson, 2010). This 'triadic' circuitry is implicated in human neuropsychiatric

diseases (Akil et al., 2018; Ressler, 2020). Yet, organizational principles of this classic

'limbic' triad are still not completely understood at the cellular level in nonhuman primate

brain.

Although they are separate lobes of cortex, the PFC and insula share a progressive

change in cortical laminar differentiation (Mesulam and Mufson, 1982; Barbas and

Pandya, 1989). The degree of 'granularity' across the cortical mantle generally refers to

the relative presence or absence of 'granular cell' layer IV (Brodmann, 1909; Carmichael

and Price, 1994; Petrides and Pandya, 1999, 2002). "Agranular" cortex lacks a granular

layer IV, "dysgranular" cortex has an incompletely developed layer IV, and "granular"

cortex has a well-differentiated layer IV. Within these broad categories, incremental

changes in laminar organization exists, leading to gradual shifts from agranular to

dysgranular to granular across the cortical mantle. Classic subdivisions of the PFC and

the insula are therefore not independent regions, but rather reflect this continuous laminar

organization (Barbas and Garcia-Cabezas, 2016).

The basal nucleus of the amygdala is a key recipient of top-down inputs from the PFC

and insula, and is a major output to the striatum (Carmichael and Price, 1995; Ghashghaei

and Barbas, 2002; Cho et al., 2013). This nucleus is expanded in primates (Stephan et

al., 1987), and has an increased cytoarchitectural complexity along its dorsal-ventral axis.

In monkey and human, three large subdivisions of the basal nucleus are recognized: the

magnocellular (Bmc), intermediate (Bi,) and parvicellular (Bpc). As their names imply,

these dorsally-to-ventrally arranged basal nucleus subdivisions are distinguished by

pyramidal cell size and packing density (Braak and Braak, 1983).

Amygdala inputs are a defining input to the 'classic' ventral striatum, which is involved in

forming goal-directed behaviors (Robbins et al., 1989; Popescu et al., 2009). Prior work

however has demonstrated amygdala projections extend past the 'classic' ventral striatum

into caudal aspects of the striatum, which we term the 'caudal ventral striatum' (Russchen

et al., 1985; Fudge et al., 2002; Cho et al., 2013).

In a previous study, examining 'cortico-amygdalo-striatal' paths limited to the

ventromedial and orbital PFC and insula, we found evidence that relatively higher levels

of laminar organization in cortico-amygdala projections governed the topography of

cortico-amygdala paths, and was also related to the extent of projections in the next limb

of the circuit, the amygdalo-striatal path (Cho et al., 2013). Findings from this study raised

subsequent questions around whether the most differentiated dorso-lateral regions of the

PFC and insula followed this topography of inputs, and how the topography of cortico-

amygdala-striatal circuits compared to the topography of direct cortico-striatal circuits in

striatal regions receiving amygdala input.

Here, we took a systems-based approach to quantitatively compare the organization of

'indirect' cortico-amygdala-striatal circuits and 'direct' cortico-striatal circuits in striatal

regions receiving amygdala inputs. We first examined the entire extent of the 'indirect'

path, using multiple small injection sites of bi-directional tracer focused on the specific

basal nucleus subregions. In the second set of experiments, we placed small injections

of retrograde tracer into territories of 'limbic' (amygdalo-recipient) striatum defined by the

first cohort, and compared whether direct cortical-'limbic' striatal paths followed similar

connectivity principles as indirect paths. Remarkably, we found that a recursive set of

hierarchically organized connections, governed by cortical granularity, dictate both the

direct and indirect cortical paths to the 'limbic' striatum. This organization resulted in

unique connectional 'fingerprints' in subregions of the basal nucleus of the amygdala and

the 'limbic' (amygdala-recipient) striatum, suggesting functional differences.

Materials and Methods

Study design. Two cohorts of *Macaca fascicularis* were used for this study (Labs of

Virginia, Three Springs Laboratories, and Worldwide Primates) (Fig. 1). In the first cohort

(Cohort 1), a bidirectional tracer injection was placed in various subdivisions of the basal

nucleus of the amygdala. Portions of these data were previously published (Cho et al.,

2013). To examine the cortico-amygdalo-striatal circuit, we charted and analyzed the

number of retrogradely labeled cells in the PFC/insula, and the distribution of

anterogradely labeled fiber terminals in the striatum. In the second cohort (Cohort 2), we

used anterograde tracing maps from Cohort 1 as a guide for placing retrograde tracer

injections into the 'limbic' striatum (defined as striatal regions receiving amygdala input).

Retrogradely labeled cells in the PFC/insula and in the amygdala were then charted,

quantified, and analyzed.

Surgical procedures and tissue preparation. All surgeries were approved by the University

of Rochester Committee on Animal Research and follow the National Institutes of Health

guidelines. To conserve animals, Cohort 1 data includes new analyses in some previously

mapped cases (Fudge et al., 2004; Fudge et al., 2005; Cho et al., 2013; Decampo and

Fudge, 2013), as well as new cases. A total of 13 animals weighing between 3.3 kg and

9.3 kg were used across both studies (Male n = 12; Female n = 1). To determine surgical

coordinates, some animals had an individualized MRI T2 scan prior to surgery; others

had intra-operative electrophysiologic mapping (Fudge et al., 2004; Fudge et al., 2005;

Cho et al., 2013; Decampo and Fudge, 2013).

Monkeys that underwent individualized MRI T2 scans were first administered an

intramuscular injection of ketamine (10 mg/kg), then intubated with isofluorane gas during

the scanning process. Three days prior to stereotactic surgery, the animals received daily

prophylactic pain control with gabapentin (oral dose), which was maintained for 3 days

post-operatively. On the day of surgery, monkeys were administered an intramuscular

injection of ketamine (10 mg/kg), intubated, and then administered either intravenous

pentobarbital (initial dose, 20 mg/kg, i.v.) (animals undergoing electrophysiologic

mapping) or isofluorane gas anesthesia. Once monkeys were placed in a stereotactic

head frame, a craniotomy was performed under sterile conditions. For some animals,

electrophysiological mapping was conducted first, and electrophysiological features of

cells were noted during several penetrations. Injection sites were then plotted for

subsequent tracer injections.

For Cohort 1, the basal nucleus was pressure-injected at various dorsoventral and

rostrocaudal sites with either 40 nl of the bidirectional tracers Lucifer yellow conjugated

to dextran amine (LY; Invitrogen), Fluorescein conjugated to dextran amine (FS;

Invitrogen), or Fluoro-Ruby (tetramethylrhodamine) conjugated to dextran amine (FR;

Invitrogen). Antibodies to these tracers do not cross-react, and have similar retrograde

and anterograde properties, making them suitable for simultaneous use within the same

animal, based on our previous work (Haber et al., 2000; Fudge et al., 2002). For Cohort

2, one striatal site per animal was pressure-injected with 40 nl of wheat germ agglutinin

conjugated to horseradish peroxidase (WGA-HRP; Sigma). Following all surgeries, the

bone flap was replaced and the overlying tissue sutured. For both cohorts, animals were

deeply anesthetized and sacrificed via intracardiac perfusion 10 to 12 days after surgery

[0.9% saline solution containing 0.5 ml of heparin sulfate followed by cold 4%

paraformaldehyde in 0.1M phosphate buffer (PB (0.1M PO_4 pH 7.2)) and 30% sucrose

solution for 1 hr)]. After overnight postfixation, brains were cryoprotected in increasing

concentrations of sucrose solution (10%, 20%, and 30%). Brains were sectioned

coronally on a freezing, sliding microtome at 40 μm, placed in 24 consecutive

compartments containing cold cryoprotectant solution (30% sucrose and 30% ethylene

glycol in PB), then stored at -20°C (Rosene et al., 1986).

Histology

Immunohistochemistry (ICC). In both Cohorts, every eighth section through the entire

brain was processed using ICC for the relevant tracer. In Cohort 1, adjacent sections

through the striatum were processed for calbindin-D28k protein (CaBP) in order to

localize the position of anterogradely labeled fibers in striatal subregions (see *Amygdalo-*

striatal path section in <u>*Cortico-amygdalo-striatal analyses*</u>; **Cohort 1**). In Cohort 2, CaBP-

immunoreactivity (IR) in adjacent sections was used to localize tracer injections within

striatal subregions (see *Amygdalo-striatal path;* **Cohort 2**). For all experiments, tissue

was rinsed in phosphate buffer with 0.3% Triton-X (PB-TX) overnight. The next day, brain

slices were treated with an endogenous peroxidase inhibitor for 5 minutes, and then

underwent more rinses in PB-TX. Sections were then pre-incubated for 30 minutes in

10% normal goat serum blocking solution with PB-TX (NGS-PB-TX). All sections were

then incubated in primary antisera to LY (1:2000; Invitrogen, rabbit), FS (1:2000;

Invitrogen, rabbit), FR (1:1000; Invitrogen, rabbit), WGA (1:2500-1:7500 depending on

dilution curve; Sigma, rabbit), or CaBP (1:10,000; Millipore Bioscience Research

Reagents, mouse) at 4°C for four nights. Sections were then thoroughly rinsed, again

blocked with 10% NGS-PB-TX, and incubated for 40 minutes in the appropriate

biotinylated secondary antibody. After more rinses, sections with bound anti-LY, anti-FR,

anti-FS, anti-WGA, or anti-CaBP antibodies were incubated in an avidin-biotin complex

(Vectastain ABC kit; Vector Laboratories), and visualized with 3,3'- Diaminobenzidine

(DAB), activated with 0.3% hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2).

Cresyl Violet. In order to localize cortical cytoarchitectonic boundaries for each animal

(both Cohorts 1 and 2), we stained 1:24 adjacent or near-adjacent sections for each case

with cresyl violet (Chroma-Gesellschaft, West Germany).

Acetylcholinesterase (AChE). In Cohort 1, AChE staining in adjacent sections was used

to identify injection site location in the basal nucleus, while in Cohort 2, AChE staining

was used to localize tracer-labeled neurons in specific basal nucleus subdivisions. For

both, we stained 1:24 adjacent or near-adjacent sections for AChE, using the Geneser-

Jensen technique (Geneser-Jensen and Blackstad, 1971).

Analysis:

Cytoarchitectural criteria for the PFC and insula (Fig. 2)

The PFC is defined as the frontal lobe anterior to the arcuate sulcus. Within the PFC, we

define the ventromedial and orbital subdivisions according to the nomenclature of

Carmichael and Price (Carmichael and Price, 1994), and the dorsomedial (dmPFC) and

dorsolateral (dlPFC) and ventrolateral (vlPFC) subdivisions according to Petrides et al.

(Petrides and Pandya, 1999, 2002). Insula subdivisions were defined according to

Carmichael and Price (Carmichael and Price, 1994). Regardless of nomenclature, all

cytoarchitectural maps of the PFC recognize the gradual transition from agranular to

granular laminar organization in the basoventral and mediodorsal direction, based on

laminar complexity and the relative development of layer IV (Brodmann, 1909; Preuss

and Goldman-Rakic, 1991; Barbas, 2007; Nieuwenhuys et al., 2007). The insula similarly

progresses from agranular to granular, but in a rostroventral to caudodorsal direction

(Mesulam and Mufson, 1982). See Supplemental Methods for detailed descriptions of

laminar characteristics of Brodmann's areas.

Categorization of cortical regions by architecture

For quantitative analysis, we categorized cortical areas into either 3 (general) or 9

(refined) categories of cortical hierarchy, based on examining layer IV thickness (for 3

category granularity) and the extent of layer V sublamination (for 9 category granularity)

under Nissl stain (Carmichael and Price, 1994) (Table 1). For 3 category granularity,

cortical regions were categorized as agranular cortex if they did not have layer IV,

dysgranular if they had incompletely developed layer IV, and granular if they had

completely developed layer IV.

Cohort 1.

Injection site placement. Relative injection site placement within the Bmc, Bi, and Bpc

was determined using adjacent AChE sections for each animal. Throughout the

rostrocaudal extent of the basal nucleus, the Bmc is darkly stained with AChE, the Bi has

intermediate AChE staining, and the Bpc is lightly stained with AChE, corresponding to

the cytoarchitectural gradients in the nucleus (Amaral and Bassett, 1989). All nuclei, and

specifically basal nucleus subdivisions, were traced along with landmarks, such as blood

vessels across sections, and aligned over tracer-labeled sections in Adobe Illustrator

Creative Suite (CS).

Cases with tracer leakage into overlying structures or white matter tracts were not

included in the analysis. To confirm our assessment of injection site placement, we also

examined the pattern of retrograde labeling in brain regions known to be a source of

afferents to each subdivision.   For example, the Bmc receives inputs from the

inferotemporal cortex (Herzog and Van Hoesen, 1976), while the Bpc does not; the Bpc

receives inputs from the hippocampus in contrast to the Bi and Bmc (Saunders et al.,

1988; Fudge et al., 2012).

Cortico-amygdalo-striatal analyses

Cortico-amygdala path. Retrogradely labeled cells in 1:24 sections were charted through

the entire rostral-caudal extent of the PFC and insula using an Olympus AX70 microscope

interfaced with Neurolucida, via a video CCD (Microbrightfield, Williston, VT).

Cytoarchitectural boundaries of cortex using traditional nomenclature were determined

on adjacent Cresyl violet-stained sections under the microscope. These labeled charts

were then aligned onto maps of retrogradely labeled cells in Adobe Illustrator CS. The

number of retrogradely labeled cells in each cortical subdivision was counted using the

Adobe Illustrator "objects" count feature. Cortical regions for each region were then

categorized into 3- and 9-category "agranular", "dysgranular", and "granular" groupings

as described above (Table 1).

After assignment of each cortical area to a cortical granularity category, we used the

"*circlize*" package in R (R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria) to

generate chord diagrams of our retrograde cortical data, using our 3 and 9 category

classifications of cortical granularity (Gu et al., 2014). Chord diagrams are an effective

way to visualize the directionality and connectivity between different nodes of a data set.

'Fragments', which represent each node, are found along the outer perimeter of the plot.

Color-coded chords display the directionality and strength of connections between

'fragments'. If the color of a chord and a 'fragment' are the same, this indicates how that

'fragment' is connected to other nodes in the data set (i.e. how the agranular cortex

'fragment' projects into various basal nucleus injection site 'fragments'). Chord thickness

indicates the relative strength or weakness of connections between nodes (i.e. chord

thickness represents the number of retrogradely labeled cells originating from a

granularity 'fragment'). The small tic marks and numbers found along the axis of each

'fragment' indicate number of cells.

Amygdalo-striatal path. Anterogradely labeled terminal fibers were hand-charted through

the rostro-caudal extent of the striatum with the aid of a drawing tube under dark-field

illumination. Labeled thick fibers that did not contain boutons were considered fibers of

passage and were therefore not included. All hand-drawn charts were then scanned at

high resolution and converted in Adobe Illustrator CS for formatting. Striatal boundaries

were then determined through comparison to adjacent or near-adjacent CaBP-labeled

sections. CaBP-labeled sections were projected onto paper maps of anterogradely

labeled fibers in the striatum. Landmarks including blood vessels and fiber tracts were

carefully aligned, and CaBP-positive and CaBP-negative areas of the striatum were

drawn in. Maps were then scanned into digital format at high resolution, and converted

in Adobe Illustrator CS.

Cohort 2.

Injection site placement. Injection sites were targeted to the rostral ventral striatum, and also to regions of the ventromedial striatum posterior to the anterior commissure, based on anterograde maps from Cohort 1. Injection site position was determined with reference to adjacent CaBP-labeled sections. CaBP-poor regions were used to identify the 'shell' (Meredith et al., 1993; Fudge and Haber, 2002). All injection sites that resulted in retrogradely labeled cells in the amygdala were used for Cortico-'limbic' striatum and Amygdalo-striatal analyses.

Amygdalostriatal path. The location and quantification of retrogradely labeled cells in basal nucleus subdivisions was mapped in 1:24 sections, with reference to adjacent AChE stained sections. All retrogradely labeled cells in the amygdala were subsequently sorted by subdivision (Bmc, Bi, and Bpc) based on levels of AChE activity and cellular features, and analyzed with respect to position of the injection within the striatum.

Cortico-'limbic' striatal path. Only injection sites resulting in significant numbers of labeled cells in the basal nucleus (>10) were used for these analyses. We quantified retrogradely labeled cells in the entire PFC and insula, and applied the same criteria for classification, analysis, and visualization described for Cohort 1.

Comparing cortico-amygdala-striatal and cortico-striatal pathways. To first address whether amygdala neuronal populations projecting to different striatal regions received a

similar balance of agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortical inputs, we used a 'ratio of

ratios' approach to examine data across Cohort 1 (cortico-amygdala) and Cohort 2

(amygdala-striatal). We first pooled the sum of all agranular, dysgranular, and granular

labeled cell counts resulting from Bmc, Bi, and Bpc injection sites (i.e. cortico-amygdala

data), and converted these sums into percentages. Only basal nucleus injection sites

that were wholly confined to one of these subdivisions were used. Once the proportion

of labeled neurons in the agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortex were determined

for Bmc, Bi, and Bpc injection groupings, we multiplied these percentage values by the

number of retrogradely labeled cells in Bmc, Bi, and Bpc resulting from each striatal

injection site in Cohort 2. We then converted this sum into a final percentage value to

assess the balance of agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortical inputs to amygdala-

striatal projecting cells for each striatal site. We finally conducted bootstrap analysis to

check the 'stability' of our final percentage values in 'indirect' pathway calculations. We

did 4 replicates of the data, and found that the average difference of full versus bootstrap

data was = 1.4%, the median was 1.0%, the SD was 0.01198, the maximum was 5.6%,

and the minimum was 0.1%. The proportion of labeled cells in the agranular, dysgranular,

and granular cortices for the indirect pathway (conjunction of Cohort 1 cortico-amygdala

data and Cohort 2 amygdalo-striatal data) were then compared to the proportion of

labeled cells in agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortices for each injection site

associated with the direct cortico-striatal pathway (Cohort 2). Results were expressed as

the proportion of labeled neurons in the agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortex

associated with each path for each striatal injection site.

Results

Cortico-amygdalo-striatal paths (Cohort 1)

Basal nucleus injection site placement (Fig. 3). In the Bmc, there were three injections placed at slightly different levels—cases J12LY, J16LY, J12FR—as well as five injections at different levels of the Bpc—cases J20LY, J15LY, and J14FR in rostral Bpc, and cases J15FS and J14FS in caudal Bpc, all reported previously (Cho et al., 2013). Three new injections at slightly different levels of the Bi—cases J47FS, J44FR, and J52LY were made and assessed for a more complete survey of the basal nucleus subdivisions. The Bi injection in J47FS was the most ventral, the injection in J52LY extended slightly more dorsally, and the injection in J44FR was most dorsal and lateral, straddling the border with the lateral Bmc.

Cortical inputs along basal nucleus subdivisions (Fig. 4). After all injections in the basal nucleus, a general pattern emerged in which injection sites placed in the Bpc resulted in many labeled cells in the PFC and insula, restricted to the agranular PFC and insula, while increasingly dorsal and rostral injections in the Bpc, Bi, and Bmc resulted in labeled cells in broader cortical regions, as detailed below.

Bpc. Injection sites in the Bpc (cases J15FS, J14FS, J14FR, J20LY, J15LY) resulted in labeled cells largely confined to agranular cortex, i.e. area 25c, 14c, and agranular insula areas (Fig. 4A). J15FS and J15LY had the most labeled cells in agranular insula subdivisions Iapm and Ial, J14FS had most labeling in Iai and Iapl, J14FR had most labeling in Iapl, and J20LY had most labeling in Ial and Iapl. Across Bpc cases, the

majority of labeled cells was in the agranular insula rather than PFC, however, the

proportion of labeled cells in the agranular PFC increased gradually as the injection sites

were positioned more laterally. Case J15LY, which is an injection in the 'transition'

between the Bpc and Bi, had additional labeling in agranular area 24a. J20LY had

relatively more labeled cells in dysgranular insula compared to other Bpc sites.

Bi. Bi injections sites (cases J47FS, J52LY, and J44FR) resulted in the majority of labeled

cells in agranular cortices, but with a relatively greater contribution of labeled cells in

dysgranular and granular cortices compared to Bpc (Fig. 4A). Similar to Bpc, high

numbers of labeled cells were found in 25c, 14c, and agranular insula. Case J47FS had

the most labeled cells in Iapm and Iai, case J52LY had the majority of labeled cells in Iai

and Ial, and case J44FR had the most labeled cell in Iapl. In contrast to Bpc sites, a

broader distribution of labeled cells occupied relatively more differentiated agranular

areas, including 32c, 24a, 24b, and 13a, as well as labeled cells in dysgranular regions

such as area 13b. J44FR, located in a 'transition' region between Bi and Bmc, had

relatively more labeled cells in agranular area 24c, dysgranular insula, and 8B, in addition

to labeled cells specifically in granular areas 12l and 8Ad.

Bmc. While the majority of labeled cells remained in the agranular regions of PFC and

insula, injections in Bmc cases (J12FR, J16LY, and J12LY) had the broadest distribution

of labeled cells. Similar to Bpc and Bi, Bmc had many labeled cells in agranular areas

25c, 14c, and agranular insula. Similar to Bi cases, Bmc cases had high levels of labeled

cells in agranular areas 24a, 24b, and 24c, but in contrast, also had moderate numbers

of labeled cells in dysgranular areas 14r, 8B, 13m, and 12o, and some labeled cells in

granular areas 45, 9, 8Ad, 8Av, and 46.

Quantitative analyses revealed that cortical granularity subtype, rather than association

with the insula or PFC, predicted inputs across, and even within, basal nucleus

subdivisions (Fig. 4B). The agranular cortices in both PFC and insula contained labeled

cells after all basal nucleus injections, but were the sole contributor when injection sites

were placed in the caudomedial Bpc. Labeled cells in dysgranular cortices appeared and

increased in numbers following injections along the rostro-dorsal axis, from the rostro-

medial Bpc to Bi to Bmc. Labeled cells in the granular cortices of the insula and PFC

formed a relatively smaller contribution, seen only after injections in dorsal Bi and Bmc.

The pattern of inputs was nested such that labeled cells in incrementally higher levels of

cortical organization only appeared in conjunction with labeled cells in less differentiated

cortical areas. Analyses using the more refined (9 category) granularity classification

showed a similar, nested pattern (Fig. 4-1). In these, subcategories of differentiation

within a general granularity 'level' were themselves overlapping in a hierarchical manner.

Basal nucleus-striatal path.   The distribution and relative density of anterogradely

labeled fibers in the striatum from each basal nucleus injection site were mapped (Fig. 5).

While all injections sites in the basal nucleus subdivisions resulted in labeled fibers in the

shell of the nucleus accumbens, the distribution of labeled fibers varied predictably,

expanding its distribution in the striatum as injection site position moved from the

caudomedial to rostro-dorsal basal nucleus.

Bpc. Caudomedial Bpc injections (Cases J14FS, J15FS) had labeled fibers largely

confined to the dorsomedial shell of the ventral striatum, while more rostral and lateral

Bpc injections (J20LY, J14FR, J15LY) resulted in additional labeled fibers in the medial

and lateral shell of the ventral striatum, interstitial nucleus of the anterior commissure

(IPAC, or fundus striatii), and a small region of the caudomedial putamen caudal to the

anterior commissure.

Bi. Bi injection sites (cases J47FS, J52LY, and J44FR) resulted in labeled fibers in the

same regions as Bpc inputs, except for the dorsomedial shell (Fig. 5). Compared to Bpc

cases, Bi injection sites had additional light distributions of labeled fibers in the central

rostral 'core' of the ventral striatum, and moderate to heavy labeled fibers in the ventral

body of the caudate nucleus, amygdalostriatal area, ventral putamen posterior to the

anterior commissure, and tail of the caudate nucleus. Anterogradely labeled fibers

continued caudally to fill the genu of the caudate nucleus.

Bmc. The broad pattern of labeled fibers (cases J12FR, J16LY, and J12LY) resembled

those in the Bi, including high densities of labeled fibers in the ventral body of the caudate

nucleus, amygdalostriatal area, ventral putamen posterior to the anterior commissure,

and tail of the caudate nucleus. Labeled fibers in the rostral ventral striatum were mainly

found in the lateral shell, and Bmc injections had more labeled fibers in central domains

of the caudate head compared with Bi injections.

Cortico-striatal and amygdalo-striatal paths (Cohort 2)

Injection site placement. 8 injections were placed into a range of rostral-caudal striatal

regions that received amygdala input based on Cohort 1 anterograde data (Fig. 6). Of

these, 6 sites had large numbers of retrogradely labeled cells in the basal nucleus, and

were used for analysis. Of these, 2 injections are located in the rostral ventral striatum;

J24WGA was placed in the CABP-negative dorsomedial shell, and J13WGA was placed

in the CaBP-positive ventral striatal core. 4 injections are located in more caudal ventral

striatal regions; J8WGA, J12WGA, and J11WGA were all placed at different levels of the

caudoventral putamen. J41WGA was placed in the ventromedial body of the caudate

nucleus posterior to the anterior commissure. 2 injections had relatively few labeled cells,

and were not included in the analysis (J35FR and J42WGA).

Amygdala inputs delineate 'limbic' striatum regions.   The basal nucleus had many

labeled cells after all injections (Figs. 7A).   Other amygdala nuclei, especially the

accessory basal nucleus (magnocellular subdivision), had labeled cells in some cases

(data not shown). In general, the total number of labeled cells in the basal nucleus was

highest following rostral ventral striatal injections, decreasing with injections in

progressively caudal sites (Fig 7B). With increasingly caudal injection sites, labeled cells

also were found in the Bi and Bmc.   The pattern of inputs from the basal nucleus

subdivisions resembled the hierarchical layering of cortical inputs to the basal nucleus

found in Cohort 1. The Bpc formed ubiquitous input to all striatal regions, with additional

inputs sequentially added from Bi and Bmc, respectively, in increasingly caudal ventral

striatal regions. We termed these caudal regions 'extended' caudal ventral striatum.

Direct cortical inputs to 'limbic' striatum regions. All 6 striatal cases contained

labeled cells in both the PFC and insula (Fig. 8A). There were labeled cells in the

agranular cortex after all injection sites. The injection site in the dorsomedial shell of the

striatum resulted in labeled cells almost exclusively in the agranular cortices, while the

injection site in the ventral striatal 'core' resulted in additional labeled cells in dysgranular

cortices. Injections in more caudal sites of the ventral striatum led to more labeled cells

in dysgranular and granular cortices. Overall, the greatest number of labeled cells from

the PFC and insula were seen following injections into the rostral ventral striatum, with

numbers tapering off following injections in more 'caudal limbic striatum'.

'Classic' ventral striatum. Agranular cortices had many labeled cells in cases J24WGA

and J13WGA, particularly areas 25c, 25r, 32c, 32r, and agranular insula (Fig. 8A). Both

J24WGA and J13WGA had many labeled cells specifically in areas 25 and Iai, but

J13WGA, placed in the ventral striatal core, had many additional labeled cells in Ial, as

well as many labeled cells in agranular areas 14c and 24b, and dysgranular area 13b.

Caudal ventral striatum. Injections into the caudoventral putamen (J8WGA, J11WGA,

and J12WGA) and the ventral body of the caudate head (J41WGA) resulted in labeled

cells in the agranular cortices, as did our rostral ventral striatal site (Fig. 8A). The number

of labeled cells from agranular cortices decreased along the rostrocaudal axis overall,

balanced by increasingly more labeled cells appearing in the dysgranular and granular

cortices. For example, cases J8WGA and J12WGA had a majority of cell labeling in

agranular insula, but in cases J11WGA and J41WGA agranular insula labeling was more

modest, with relatively more labeling in dysgranular insula. Similarly, the number of

labeled neurons in agranular area 25 declined along the rostrocaudal axis. All caudal

injection sites had many labeled cells in dysgranular insula, and moderate cell labeling in

granular insula.

Quantitative analyses revealed hierarchical, nested projections based on basic levels of

cortical differentiation (Fig. 8B). This pattern was similar to that observed in cortico-

amygdala retrograde data, with agranular regions containing retrogradely labeled cells

for all injection sites, and increasingly caudal regions containing labeled cells in

dysgranular and granular cortices of both the insula and PFC. Analyses using a more

refined (9 category) granularity classification showed similar patterns (Fig. 8-1).

Comparing granularity index for cortico-amygdala-striatal and cortico-striatal

pathways. We used a 'ratio of ratios' approach to estimate how cortical granularity

influenced amygdala projections to specific striatal regions in the 'indirect' pathway (see

Methods) and compared these results with results for the direct pathway (Fig. 9). For all

striatal injection sites, agranular cortical sources dominated in both pathways, followed

by a smaller contribution from dysgranular cortices, and the smallest from granular

cortices (Fig. 9A). For the indirect pathway, input from each type of cortex remained

relatively stable across the rostro-caudal extent of striatal injection sites. In contrast, in

the direct pathway there was a shift in the relative contribution from agranular,

dysgranular, and granular cortices along the rostrocaudal axis of the amygdala-recipient

('limbic') striatum. In this path, the contribution from agranular cortical regions was

progressively reduced, with increasing input from more differentiated cortices. Taken

together, in the 'classic' ventral striatal regions, the balance of cortical influences is similar,

whether direct, or indirectly processed through the amygdala. In more 'caudal ventral

striatum', while the balance of 'indirect' cortical influence remained constant, direct inputs

from the cortex varied. The agranular cortical inputs were less pronounced, but

maintained a presence, along with increased dysgranular and granular cortical inputs

(Fig. 9B).

Cortical granularity maps: translating to traditional cortical divisions

After analyzing data using cortical granularity criteria, we were interested in

understanding how the combinations of traditional cortical regions comprised these

patterns. It has long been known that 'agranular' cortices are associated with the 'limbic'

system, while dysgranular cortices are considered 'paralimbic' and the most granulated

cortices are associated with higher cognitive functions (Badre and D'Esposito, 2009;

Barbas, 2015). Since functional studies are typically based on Brodmann's areas and

atlas designations, we 'back-translated' the granularity index findings by converting the

data according into its original atlas designation (Table 1)(Fig. 10).

In the cortico-amygdala path, the greatest contribution to the 'agranular' cortex was from

agranular insula, where the numbers of labeled cells were greater than in all regions of

the agranular cortex of the PFC combined (anterior cingulate areas 25, 24, and 32) (Fig

10A, blue). The agranular insula was associated with all basal nucleus subdivisions. In

the Bpc, agranular insula was surprisingly dominant compared to area 25, especially in

more caudomedial regions, based on cell count criteria. Labeled cells in area 25 resulted

mainly from injection sites in the rostro-dorsal Bpc as well as the ventral Bi. In a similar

manner, the number of labeled cells in areas 24 and 32 increased mainly from Bi and

Bmc injection sites, having little association with Bpc injection sites.

Contributions from dysgranular cortices were mainly from dysgranular area 13,

dysgranular area 8 (i.e. area 8B), dysgranular area 12 (i.e. 12o), and the dysgranular

insula (Fig. 10A, aqua, green). Area 13 was associated mostly with Bmc injection sites,

area 8 associated mostly with dorsal Bi and Bmc injection sites, area 12 associated mostly

with dorsal Bi and Bmc injection sites, and dysgranular insula associated with rostral Bpc,

dorsal Bi, and Bmc injection sites. In the granular cortices there was modest numbers of

labeled cells in regions of the dorsal and lateral PFC (areas 9, 46, 45) and frontal pole

(area 10). The granular insula (Ig) had the fewest labeled cells. All of these regions were

associated mainly with the dorsal Bi and Bmc.

In the cortico-striatal path, the agranular cortex as a whole had its largest contribution

from the agranular insula, followed by area 25. Labeled cells in the agranular insula were

associated with all striatal sites, while labeled cells in area 25 were associated mainly

with rostral ventral striatal injection sites. Areas 24 and 32 contained labeled cells in all

striatal injection sites, which were prominent in the rostral striatum, but persisted in

association with every caudal ventral striatal site. Contributions from the dysgranular

component of area 13 (i.e. area 13b) (aqua) and dysgranular insula (light green) were

first seen in the core of the rostral ventral striatum, and were present through the caudal

ventral striatum. The dysgranular insula (light green) was a key contributor following all

caudal ventral striatal injection sites. The number of labeled cells in combined

dysgranular/granular (orange/red) cortices was most prominent in area 12 (specifically

area 12o), with lesser contributions from other combined dysgranular/granular and fully

granular cortices. Labeled cells in all these regions were associated with the core of the

rostro-ventral striatum, and caudal ventral striatal sites. The 'core' of the rostral ventral

striatum had the most labeled cells overall, compared to other injection sites. Labeled

cells from the PFC and insula generally declined in 'extended' caudal ventral striatal

regions.   These regions receive additional massive inputs from sensory association

cortices not examined in this study (Saint-Cyr et al., 1990; Yeterian and Pandya, 1995,

1998) (see Discussion).

Discussion

There were several important findings that emerged from these studies. The first is that

a 'cortical logic' governed by laminar structure shapes information flow in both the

'indirect' and 'direct' paths to the 'limbic' striatum (Fig. 11). Agranular cortical inputs to

both the amygdala and striatum were foundational, undergirding inputs from incrementally

more differentiated cortex in a strict progression based on laminar assignment.

Remarkably, these basic organizational principles were also present in the amygdalo-

striatal path, which emanated from cytoarchitecturally defined subregions of the basal

nucleus. While not a laminar structure, the basal nucleus is cortical-like (Carlsen and

Heimer, 1988), and appears to follow hierarchical rules found in cortical projections.

Another key result was that the amygdala-striatal paths were influenced by a consistent

proportion of agranular/dysgranular/granular cortices, overwhelmingly dominated by

agranular cortex, regardless of whether the final target was the rostral-ventral or caudal-

ventral striatum. In contrast, the ratio of cortical laminar regions in the direct cortico-

amygdala projection was more changeable, and became gradually tipped to favor of more

differentiated inputs in the caudal ventral striatum.

Finally, we concluded that the 'limbic' striatum, as defined by amygdala inputs, extends

beyond the 'classic' ventral striatum (nucleus accumbens). Different rostrocaudal levels

of the 'limbic' striatum receive shifting combinations of cortical inputs, making for unique

'connectional fingerprints' in each region.

Cortical logic.   Many individual studies have examined pathways linking cortex to

amygdala, amygdala to the striatum, and cortex to the striatum, using anterograde tracer

injections into the cortex (Mufson et al., 1981; Russchen et al., 1985; Goldman-Rakic and

Selemon, 1986; Carmichael and Price, 1995; Ferry et al., 2000; Ghashghaei and Barbas,

2002; Fudge et al., 2004).   Our work builds on these studies by taking a 'connectomics'-

type approach, examining the relationship of multiple pathways within and across

animals, and assessing rules by which top-down cortex modulates down-stream targets.

This approach is based on a basic tenet that functional specificity is determined by

ensembles of afferent projections, and that the strength of any one connection depends

on features of the afferents that arrive with it.

The principles that guide the 'logic' of cortical afferents are based in the granular

complexity of the cortical afferent source. The least differentiated cortical regions

examined form a 'foundational' base across the basal nucleus and 'limbic' (amygdala-

recipient) striatum, while inputs from more differentiated cortical regions are additive and

are always seen as co-projections with these less differentiated cortical regions.

One way to view the broad 'foundational' influence of agranular cortices versus the

relatively more restricted influence of differentiated cortices is by applying emerging ideas

about differential functions of cortical afferent systems (Sherman and Guillery, 1998).

This concept is based on Sherman and Guillery's 'driver-modulator' theory of excitatory

afferents, in which a 'driver pathway' provides the main path of information flow and a co-

projecting 'modulator pathway' regulates the output from 'driver' systems (Sherman and

Guillery, 1998). Applied to our work here, we hypothesize that the agranular cortices of

the PFC and insula are a driver system of both 'indirect' cortico-amygdala-striatal and

'direct' cortico-striatal circuits. These regions, along with the entirety of the basal nucleus

and amygdala-recipient striatum form the foundational circuits that may be responsible

for carrying salient emotional information forward. The other networks composed of

dysgranular and granular cortices, the Bi, Bmc and caudal ventral striatum may function

as modulator pathways—more restricted in their influence, with possible regulation of the

foundational pathways with which they co-project. Specific anatomic and

electrophysiologic properties define 'driver/modulator' paths, and can be tested in this

system in the future.

"Connectivity Fingerprints" in the Basal nucleus and 'Limbic' Striatum

Due to the 'logic' of cortical afferents, a predictable, yet unique set of inputs are found in

specific subregions of both the basal nucleus and the striatum. Unique connectivity

profiles ('fingerprints') are found in ventral-dorsal (basal nucleus) and rostral-caudal

(striatum) locations, and shift in a predictable, topographical manner.

Basal nucleus 'fingerprints'. Against a backdrop of broad-based agranular cortical inputs,

projections from increasingly dysgranular and granular cortical regions are added, and

overlapped in incrementally dorsal and rostral aspects of the basal nucleus. These

additions to connectivity appeared to closely follow differences in its pyramidal cell size

along the ventral (Bpc) to dorsal (Bmc) gradient of the basal nucleus. Pyramidal neurons

in the dorsal (Bmc) basal nucleus, which receive the most diverse set of cortical inputs,

are known to be the largest in the amygdala (Amaral et al., 1992), followed by decreasing

cell size in the intermediate and ventral basal nucleus. Cell soma size, along with synaptic

contact number and channel density, governs neuronal information coding (Sengupta et

al., 2013). Cell soma size is the factor most associated with a high information coding

capacity, when synaptic numbers and channel densities are held constant. Based on

size alone, neurons in the Bmc thus appear best-equipped for integrating the large

numbers of cortical afferent inputs from overlapping limbic and cognitive cortical

networks, as well as coordinating efferent outputs to vast striatal regions. This supports

our finding that the Bmc received the most diverse set of cortical inputs and projected the

most diverse set of striatal outputs.

Gradual connectional shifts in the basal nucleus may also be guided by its prenatal

developmental patterns. Bmc neurons are the 'oldest' neurons in the basal nucleus

based on birth-dating studies done in the fetal macaque (Kordower et al., 1992). By

inference, these more dorsal basal nucleus neurons can begin the simultaneous process

of somal growth and differentiation and afferentation at earlier timepoints (Purves and

Lichtman, 1980; Dalva et al., 1994) , perhaps with time for contact by more diverse

cortical inputs.

'Limbic' striatal 'fingerprints' The classic ventral striatum (also known as the nucleus

accumbens) mediates reward-driven behaviors (Haber and Knutson, 2010) based in part

on amygdala inputs (Popescu et al., 2007; Dallerac et al., 2017). In contrast, the caudal

ventral striatum has long been considered important in multimodal sensory integration

and discrimination, based on strong inputs from visual and auditory systems (Saint-Cyr

et al., 1990; Yeterian and Pandya, 1995, 1998; Amita et al., 2019). Our data expand the

connectivity profile of the caudal ventral striatum, showing it to be part of the 'limbic'

striatum based on amygdala inputs. In addition to the direct agranular cortical inputs that

are foundational in the entire 'limbic' striatum, the caudal ventral striatum receives

additional inputs from the dysgranular insula, area 12, and area 8. These cortical regions

are involved in awareness of bodily movements, and social responses (Karnath and

Baier, 2010; Jezzini et al., 2012) see review (Evrard, 2019), object identification (Wilson

et al., 1993), and eye and ear movement (Bon and Lucchetti, 1994), respectively. Taken

together with caudal ventral striatal visual/auditory inputs in primate species, this

connectional fingerprint suggests a role in motivated multisensory responses, including

complex social interactions involved in saccades, vocalizations, and head and neck

movements.

Functional network organization. Throughout the 'direct' and 'indirect' paths to the limbic

striatum, an extensive foundation is created by the agranular cortex, comprised of

structures involved in internal salience monitoring (Craig, 2002). This is coupled with the

greater specificity in dysgranular and granular cortex connectivity (regions implicated in

social interactions (Sliwa and Freiwald, 2017) and multi-modal sensory integration/the

'ventral attention network' (Fox et al., 2006), respectively). We speculate that the overlap

of these latter regions in paths involving the dorsal basal nucleus and caudal ventral

striatum may provide necessary structural organization by which social-emotional

behavior arises in primates. The hierarchical, layered connectivity profiles, which are

most expanded in these latter regions, may promote behavioral flexibility, particularly for

the emotional and cognitive integration required when engaging in complex social groups

(Chang et al., 2013).

This connectional complexity could leave the striatum, particularly the caudal striatum,

susceptible to neuropsychiatric diseases, particularly those in which auditory/visual

processing deficits interface with the limbic system. Our work shows that the caudal

striatum receives more 'limbic' inputs than previously noted which presumably project

onto, and along with, these strong visual and auditory circuit terminals (Saint-Cyr et al.,

1990; Yeterian and Pandya, 1995, 1998). Therefore, it is possible that abnormalities in

the 'connectivity fingerprint' intrinsic to the caudal striatum may be involved in perceptual

disturbances such as psychosis, as suggested by human neuroimaging studies (Hoffman

et al., 2011; Cui et al., 2016).

Conclusion

Cortical granularity rules were elucidated in a well-known triad of connections through the

'limbic' brain in monkeys. Using a connectomics-type approach, we found that the basal

nucleus and 'limbic' striatum are not homogeneous entities, and have unique, predictable,

sets of 'connectivity fingerprints' within them. These general connectivity patterns have

implications for the ways in which the emotional brain can code increasingly complex

levels of social and cognitive information in a flexible manner, such as predicting actions

and choices of others (Saez et al., 2015; Grabenhorst et al., 2019), and may help us to

better understand dynamics in complex neuroanatomic circuits associated with human

psychiatric disease.

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Figure legends

Figure 1: Study design**.** Cohort 1 animals (bi-directional tracer studies, purple) had a series of

injections placed in different subdivisions of the basal nucleus of the amygdala. Resulting retrogradely

labeled cells in the PFC and Insula were quantified; anterogradely labeled fibers in the striatum were

mapped to guide injections in Cohort 2. Cohort 2 animals (retrograde studies, orange) had a series

of injections placed in different regions of the striatum that were 'amygdala-recipient' (i.e. striatal

regions with labeled fibers in Cohort 1 animals). Retrogradely labeled cells in the amygdala, and the

PFC and Insula, were quantified.

Figure 2: Relative levels of cortical lamination in the PFC and Insula in the Macaque. *A*. Ventral view *B*. Sagittal view from the midline *C*. Lateral view, with lateral fissure 'opened' for *C'.* view of insula. Image adapted from Carmichael & Price, 1994 and Saleem & Price, 2008. The key illustrates the range of cortical differentiation; shades of blue indicate agranular cortex, shades of green indicate dysgranular cortex, and shades of red indicate granular cortex. The darker the shade within each granularity grouping indicates increased development of layer IV, layer II, and/or layer V of cortex. Insets are from cresyl violet stained sections that give examples of laminar regions in agranular, dysgranular and granular cortices. Bar = 500 um.

Abbreviations: 6, area 6 (premotor/supplementary motor area); 8Ad, dorsal area 8A; 8Av,
ventral area 8A; 8B, area 8B; 9, area 9; 9m, medial area 9; 9/46d, dorsal area 9/46; 9/46v,
ventral area 9/46; 10m, medial area 10; 10o, orbital area 10; 11l, lateral area 11; 11m, medial
area 11; 12l, lateral area 12; 12m, medial area 12; 12o, orbital area 12; 12r, rostral area 12;
13a, area 13a; 13b, area 13b; 13l, lateral area 13; 13m, medial area 13; 14c, caudal area 14;
14r, rostral area 14; 24a, area 24a; 24b, area 24b; 24c, area 24c; 25c, caudal area 25; 25r,
rostral area 25; 32c, caudal area 32; 32r, rostral area 32, 45, area 45; 46, area 46; 9/46d,
dorsal area 9/46; area 9/46v, ventral area 9/46; cc, corpus callosum; G, gustatory cortex; Iai,
intermediate agranular insula area; Ial, lateral agranular insula area; Iam, medial agranular
insula area; Iapl, posterolateral agranular insula area; Iapm, posteromedial agranular insula
area; Id, dysgranular insula; Ig, granular insula; ob, olfactory bulb; oc, optic chiasm; PrCO,
precentral opercular area.

Table 1: Laminar characteristics of the PFC and insula subdivisions, and 3- and 9-group granularity assignments. Each column indicates the main granularity grouping of every Brodmann's area examined (i.e. the relative thickness of layer IV of cortex). The darker the

shade within each sub-section within each column (i.e. 'Agranular 1' vs. 'Agranular 2') represents

the increasing degree of layer V sublamination and/or layer IV development within each

granularity assignment.

Figure 3: Schematic of injection site locations in basal nucleus. ***A***. Injection site locations (gray)

in rostro-central Bmc, Bi, and Bpc. ***B***. Injection site locations (gray) in caudal Bpc. ***C***. Dark-field

photomicrograph of injection site location for J16LY, indicated with a white arrow. ***D***. Adjacent

AChE-stained section matched to ***C.*** to localize injection to basal nucleus subdivision (Bmc). ***E***.

Dark-field photomicrograph of the injection site location for J47FS, indicated with a white arrow.

F. Adjacent AChE-stained section matched to ***E.*** to localize injection site within basal nucleus

subdivision (Bi). ***G.*** Dark-field photomicrograph of the injection site location for J15FS, indicated

with a white arrow. ***H.*** Adjacent AChE-stained section matched to ***H.*** to localize injection site

within basal nucleus subdivision (Bpc). Photos taken at 2x magnification. Scale bars = 500 μm.

Abbreviations: AB, accessory basal nucleus; Bi, intermediate basal nucleus; Bmc, magnocellular

basal nucleus; Bpc, parvicellular basal nucleus; L, lateral nucleus; P, putamen; V, ventricle.

Figure 4: Cortico-amygdala path. ***A.*** Representative charts showing the pattern of retrogradely

labeled cells in the PFC and insula resulting from 6 non-overlapping injection sites along the

dorsal-ventral extent of the basal nucleus. ***a'.*** The photomicrograph inset shows an example of

densely concentrated retrogradely labeled cells in the Ial of J15FS. Scale bar = 100 μm   ***B.***

Chord diagram showing quantitative analysis of all retrogradely labeled cells (1:24 sections)

through PFC and insula, classified by laminar differentiation. The top axis of this diagram shows

the total number of labeled cells in agranular (blue), dysgranular (green), and granular (red)

cortical areas across all cases examined. The bottom axis shows the number of labeled cells in

agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortices resulting from each basal nucleus injection site.

Injection sites are arranged counter-clockwise from the most caudal-ventral (left) to most rostral-

dorsal injection site location (right). 1 tick mark= 180 cells.

Abbreviations: AC, anterior commissure; C, caudate; cc, corpus callosum; IC, internal capsule;

oc, optic chiasm; NA, nucleus accumbens; P, putamen, V, ventricle. For cortical abbreviations,

see "Abbreviations" in Figure 2 legend.

Extended Figure 4-1: Cortico-amygdala chord diagram showing additional quantitative analysis

of retrograde labeling using 9-group granularity analysis. The top axis shows the total number of

labeled cells in agranular (3 shades of blue), dysgranular (3 shades of green), and granular (3

shades of red) cortical areas across all cases examined. The darker the shade within each

granularity grouping indicates increased development of layer IV, layer II, and/or layer V of

cortex. The bottom axis of this diagram shows the number of labeled cells from each granularity

subgroup that results from each basal nucleus injection site. The bottom axis is organized

counter-clockwise by most caudal-ventral (left) to most rostral-dorsal (right) injection site

location. Each tic mark for both the top and bottom axes represents 180 cells.

Figure 5: Representative charts showing distribution of anterogradely labeled fibers resulting

from the same 6 non-overlapping injection sites shown in Fig. 4, along the dorsal-ventral extent

of the basal nucleus. Injection sites arranged from caudo-medial (Bpc) to rostro-dorsal (Bmc)

across the top. Striatal section are organized from rostral to caudal levels under each injection

site. Photomicrograph inset shows high density patch of labeled fibers in the caudal ventral

putamen (darkfield). Bar = 500 μm.

Abbreviations: AC, anterior commissure; C, caudate; C(g), genu of the caudate nucleus; C(t),

tail of the caudate nucleus; GP, globus pallidus; GPe; external globus pallidus; GPi, internal

globus pallidus; IC, internal capsule; lAstr, lateral amygdalostriatal area; LGN, lateral geniculate

    nucleus; lIPAC, lateral interstitial nucleus of the posterior limb of the anterior commissure; mAstr,

medial amygdalostriatal area; mIPAC, medial interstitial nucleus of the posterior limb of the

anterior commissure; OT, optic tract; P, putamen; V, ventricle.

Figure 6: Striatal Injection sites in Cohort 2. **A. - D.** Schematics of retrograde injection site

locations from the rostral (A) to progressively caudal regions (B-D). Medium gray sites (solid

lines) depict injections with significant labeled cells in amygdala, included for analysis; light gray

sites (dotted lines) resulted in few labeled cells in the amygdala. **E-F.** Brightfield

photomicrographs in the classic ventral striatum. **E**. Injection site location in dorsomedial shell,

with adjacent CaBP-stained section (**E'.**) showing injection alignment in CaBP-negative shell**. F.**

Injection site in the rostral 'core', with adjacent CaBP-stained section (**F'.**) showing shell/core

boundary. **G-J**. Caudal 'limbic' striatum injection sites.   **G.** caudoventral putamen at the level of

the anterior commissure,   **H.** caudoventral putamen posterior to the anterior commissure. **I.**

ventral body of caudate nucleus **. J.** Injection site location in caudomedial putamen at the level

of the hippocampus. Scale bars = 1mm.

Abbreviations: AC, anterior commissure; C, caudate; Co, ventral striatum core; GPe; external

globus pallidus; GPi, internal globus pallidus; IC, internal capsule; P, putamen; Sh, ventral

striatum shell.

Figure 7: Amygdalo-striatal path. **A.**   Charts of retrogradely labeled cells through the

rostrocaudal basal nucleus following injections in Cohort 2. Injection sites arranged from rostral

(top) to caudal (bottom). All 6 cases resulted in many retrogradely labeled cells in the basal

nucleus. Cell labeling in other nuclei (shaded in gray) is not shown for clarity. **B.** Chord diagram

showing numbers of labeled cells in the Bpc, Bi, and Bpc by injection site placement. The top

axis of this diagram shows the total number of labeled cells in Bpc (cyan), Bi (fuchsia), and Bmc

(purple) across all cases examined. The bottom axis shows the number of labeled cells in each

basal nucleus subdivision resulting from each striatal injection site, and is arranged counter-

clockwise from the most rostral (left) to most caudal (right) injection site location. Each tick mark

for both the top and bottom axes = 60 cells.

Figure 8: Cortico-'limbic' striatal path. *A.* Representative charts depicting retrogradely labeled

cells in the PFC and insula after injections in various striatal regions along the rostral-caudal

extent of the 'limbic' striatum. Cases J24WGA and J13WGA had injections in shell and core of

the 'classic' ventral striatum, respectively. Injection sites in J8WGA, J12WGA, J41WGA, and

J11WGA were placed in different parts of the 'extended' ventral striatum. *B.* Chord diagram

showing the number of retrogradely labeled cells in agranular (blue), dysgranular (green), and

granular (red) cortical areas across all cases examined (top axis). The bottom axis shows the

number of labeled cells found in agranular, dysgranular, and granular cortices after each striatal

injection site. The bottom axis is arranged counter-clockwise from the most rostral (left) to the

most caudal (right) injection site location. Each tick mark represents 400 cells.

1003

Figure 8-1 : Cortico-striatal chord diagram showing additional quantitative analysis of retrograde

labeling using 9-group granularity analysis. The top axis of this diagram follows the same color

schema as described in **Figure 4-1.** The bottom axis of this diagram shows the number of

labeled cells from each granularity subgrouping that results from each striatal injection site. The

bottom axis is organized counter-clockwise by most rostral (left) to most caudal (right) injection

site location. Each tic mark for both the top and bottom axes represents 400 cells.

1010

Figure 9: Indirect and direct pathway analysis**.** *A.* Composite diverging bar plots of each striatal

injection showing the proportion of labeled cells in agranular (blue), dysgranular (green) and

granular (red) cortices after calculating indirect pathway and direct pathway labeled cells.   The

proportion of labeled cells associated with amygdala inputs to all striatal sites ('indirect' path) is

relatively consistent with a large percentage of cells categorized as agranular, and consistently

small percentages of labeled cells categorized as dysgranular and granular, respectively. In

contrast, the 'direct' cortico-'limbic' striatal path shows more variation with rostral ventral striatal

sites having the greatest proportion of labeled cells in agranular cortices, and relatively small

contributions from the dysgranular and granular cortices. This balance shifts at progressively

caudal ventral levels, with reductions in labeled cells in agranular cortices, and incrementally

more labeled cells in dysgranular cortices > granular cortices. *B.* Individual cases plotted for

each path.

1023

Figure 10: Brodmann's classification. *A.* Additional quantitative analysis of retrograde cortico-

amygdala cell labeling using Brodmann's classification. The top axis of this diagram shows the

total number of labeled cells in Brodmann's areas examined. Blue indicates this Brodmann's

area is exclusively agranular cortex, blue-green indicates this Brodmann's area contains a mix

of agranular and dysgranular cortex, green indicates this Brodmann's area is exclusively

dysgranular cortex, orange indicates this Brodmann's area contains a mix of dysgranular and

granular cortex, and red indicates this Brodmann's area is exclusively granular cortex. The

bottom axis of this diagram shows the number of labeled cells from each Brodmann's area that

results from each basal nucleus injection site. The bottom axis is organized counter-clockwise

by most caudal-ventral (left) to most rostral-dorsal injection (right) injection site location. Each tic

mark for both the top and bottom axes represents 180 cells. *B.* Additional quantitative analysis

of retrograde cortico-striatal cell labeling using Brodmann's classification, indicated on the top

axis. The same color schema describe in *A.* applies here. The bottom axis of this diagram shows

the number of labeled cells from each granularity subgrouping that results from each striatal

injection site. The bottom axis is organized counter-clockwise by most rostral (left) to most caudal

(right) injection site location. Each tic mark for both the top and bottom axes represents 400

cells.

1041

Figure 11: Overview of 'cortical logic' in the 'indirect' pathway (PFC/Insula → amygdala

connectivity, left + amygdala → 'limbic' striatum connectivity , bottom) and the 'direct' pathway

(PFC/Insula → 'limbic' striatum connectivity, right).

Supplemental Methods

Brodmann's areas (Fig. 2)

<u>*Ventromedial Prefrontal cortex (vmPFC) and dmPFC.*</u>   The medial prefrontal cortex

(mPFC) is comprised of the medial frontopolar cortices, the cortex of the superior frontal

gyrus, anterior cingulate, and the gyrus rectus, which gradually transition from granular

cortex in the frontal poles to agranular cortex in the ventral anterior cingulate. Behind the

frontopolar mPFC (granular area 10m), the dmPFC contains medial aspects of

dysgranular areas 9 and 8B, which continue onto the lateral convexity (Figs. 2A & 2B)

(Walker, 1940; Preuss and Goldman-Rakic, 1991; Petrides and Pandya, 1999). These

regions are dorsal to the anterior cingulate cortex. The cingulate cortex, which includes

areas 24a-c, 32, and 25, are all agranular. Out of these areas, ventral area 25 is the least

differentiated (Carmichael and Price, 1994; Nieuwenhuys et al., 2007). Areas 32 and 24

are relatively more differentiated rostrally and dorsally, respectively. Similarly, area 14

granularity changes through its rostral-caudal extent. Area 14r is dysgranular cortex,

while areas 14c is agranular cortex (Carmichael and Price, 1994).

<u>*OFC.*</u>   The OFC houses one agranular subdivision (area 13a), but is largely composed

of dysgranular and granular subdivisions (Fig. 2C). The most rostral extent of OFC is

composed of dysgranular area 12r and granular areas 10o (frontal pole), 11m, and 11l.

Posterior to these regions are granular area 12m and dysgranular areas 13b, 13m, and

13l. The most posterior reaches of the OFC, which form a continuum with the insula, are

dysgranular area 12o and agranular area 13a.

1066

vlPFC and dlPFC.   The vlPFC is composed of areas 45 and 12l (Walker, 1940; Preuss

and Goldman-Rakic, 1991; Carmichael and Price, 1994; Petrides and Pandya, 2002)

(Figs. 2A and 2C). Both areas 45 and 12l are granular, but area 45 is more differentiated

than area 12l. The dlPFC is composed of areas 8B, 8Ad, 8Av, 9, 9/46d, 9/46v, and 46

(Figs. 2A and 2B), and is contiguous with the underlying vlPFC (Fig. 2B). It is considered

isocortex, but it also contains a gradient of differentiation. Area 8B is mostly contained in

the dlPFC, but also descends into the medial wall (Fig. 2A). Area 8B and area 9 have a

poorly   distinguished   layer   IV,   and   are   the   only   dysgranular   areas   within   the

overwhelmingly   granular   dlPFC   (Preuss   and   Goldman-Rakic,   1991;   Petrides   and

Pandya, 1999); The other regions of the dlPFC (areas 46, 9/46, and 8A) are granular

cortex. Area 46 is found in the rostral-most extent of the sulcus principalis. Area 9/46 is

more caudal than area 46, and is divided into a dorsal (9/46d) and a ventral (9/46v)

component based on its relative position along the sulcus principalis. Areas 8Ad and 8Av

are generally more caudal (and lateral) than areas 46, 9/46d, & 9/46v, have a broad and

densely packed layer IV, and are the most highly differentiated PFC regions.

1082

Insula.   The anterior insula forms a continuum with the OFC, and resides on the caudal

orbital surface (Rose, 1928; Carmichael and Price, 1994; Nieuwenhuys et al., 2007) (also

known as 'proisocortex' in other studies (Barbas and Pandya, 1989)). Here, the agranular

insula is composed of several subdivisions, with the most undifferentiated being the

posteromedial insula (Iapm) and anterior medial insula (Iam), with slightly more

differentiated agranular regions (the intermediate insula (Iai), lateral insula (Ial), and

posterolateral agranular insula (Iapl)) found most laterally (Carmichael and Price, 1994)

(Figs. 2C & 2D). Progressing into the bank of the Sylvian fissure, the ventral insula is

agranular, with progressively more differentiated insula found dorsally (Fig. 2D).

Agranular (Iai)

Dysgranular (13m)

Granular (9/46d)

Key

least differentiated

agranular

granular

dysgranular

most differentiated

Table 1: Rationale for 3- and 9-group granularity assignments

Agranular		Dysgranular		Granular	
Granularity Grouping	**Reason for granularity grouping**	**Granularity Grouping**	**Reason for granularity grouping**	**Granularity Grouping**	**Reason for granularity grouping**
Agranular 1		**Dysgranular 1**		**Granular 1**	
Iam	No layer IV, and no layer V sublamination. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	32r	Is more developed than 32c and 25r and is slightly dysgranular (Carmichael & Price, 1994). No layer V sublamination.	9	Has a narrow layer IV. Layer Va has deeply pigmented cells and layer Vb blends with layer VI. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)
Iapm	No layer IV, and no layer V sublamination. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	12o	Very weakly staining layer IV, no layer V sublamination. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	Ig	Layer II has moderately advanced granularity, and layer IV has prominent granularity. Layer V and VI are not fully differentiated from each other; (Layer III is bilaminate).(Mesulam & Mufson, 1982)
25c	No layer IV, less developed compared to 32c, 32r, and 25r. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	14r	Has distinct small cells in layer II, no horizontal or vertical striations in layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	11m	Granular with bilaminate layer V. Layer V is thinner and more trilaminate than in 13m. Outer and inner sublaminae are broken into aggregates of neurons. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
24a	Has only 4 cortical layers and rudimentary lamination. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	**Dysgranular 2**		11l	Granular with bilaminate layer V containing aggregates of pyramidal cells. Layer V is thinner and more trilaminate than in 13m. Does not have outer and inner sublaminae broken up into neuron aggregates. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
14c	Has only 4 cortical layers. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	13b	Has horizontal and vertical striations in layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	**Granular 2**	
Agranular 2		12r	Has vertical striations in layer V, but it is not sublaminated. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	10o	Is more granular than 11m and 11l, but layer IV not as clear. Layer V is thinner than in 11m or 11l; contains vertical and horizontal striations in layer V, and layer V is thinner than 11l and 11m. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
32c	No layer IV; Caudal 32 resembles 25r; has horizontal striations of pyramidal cells in layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	13m	Has a sparse granular layer. Has no/less distinct sublamination of layer V (and layer III). (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	10m	Has completely developed II and IV; has horizontal and vertical striations in layer V. Layer IV is more granular than 11m and 11l but not well demarcated, thin layer V with radial striations. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
25r	No layer IV; caudal 32 resembles 25r. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	Id	Has thin layer IV with clusters of granular cells interrupted by pyramidal cells. No layer II. Almost identical in appearance to dysgranular component of caudal OFC. (Mesulam & Mufson, 1982)	12m	Has completely developed II and IV; has clearly sublaminated layer V. Is more granular than 12r, 13l, and 12o. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
24b	No layer IV; has more prominent vertical striations in layer V compared to 24c. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	**Dysgranular 3**		12l	Has completely developed layers II and IV; has prominent/sharp sublamination of layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)
Iai	No layer IV; has partially sublaminated layer V; superficial layer has row of large pyramidal cells. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	13l	Has poorly developed layer IV and has clearly sublaminated layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	45	Well developed layer IV with medium sized layer V (also has distinct and uniquely thick layer III). (Petrides & Pandya, 2001)
Agranular 3		8B	Layer II is well defined; layer IV is poorly developed and layer V blends with layer VI, but layer V is sublaminated (it has a few darkly stained cells in layer Va). (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)	**Granular 3**	
Ial	No layer IV; layer V is sublaminated. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)	9m	Has a more narrow and cell sparse layer IV than 9. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)	8Av	Layer IV is broad and densely packed with small neurons (Layer II is also developed and densely packed). Layer V is less dense, but is bilaminate. Resembles 8Ad, but layer IV is broader, and layer III pyramidal neurons are more densely packed. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)
Iapl	No layer IV; layer V is sublaminated. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)			8Ad	Layer IV is broad and densely packed with small neurons (Layer II is also developed and densely packed). Layer V is less dense, but is bilaminate. Resembles 8Av, but layer IV is less broad, and layer III pyramidal neurons are less densely packed. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)
13a	No layer IV; layer V is sublaminated. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)			46	Layer IV is well developed; layer V is sublaminated (layer Va has small number of deeply stained cells and layer Vb blends with layer VI). (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)
24c	No layer IV; Has pyramidal cell aggregates in layer V. (Carmichael & Price, 1994)			9/46d	Similar features as 46, but layer III has large and darkly stained pyramidal neurons; Located dorsally. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)
				9/46v	Similar features as 46, but layer III has large and darkly stained pyramidal neurons; Located ventrally. (Petrides & Pandya, 1999)

A.

a'.

J15FS
Bpc

J20LY

J15LY
Bi

J52LY

J44FR

Bmc

J12LY

rostral ➜ caudal

B.

Agran
Dysgran
Gran

Caudal
Bpc

Rostral
Bpc

Bi

Bmc

rostral

caudal

A.

"Classic" ventral striatum

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum

J24WGA

J13WGA

J8WGA

J12WGA

J41WGA

J11WGA

rostral ⟶ caudal

B.

"Classic" caudal striatum

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum

A.

"Classic" ventral striatum

J24WGA

J13WGA

J8WGA

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum

J12WGA

J41WGA

J11WGA

rostral → caudal

B.

Agran
Dysgran
Gran

J11WGA
J41WGA
J12WGA
J8WGA
J13WGA
J24WGA

"Classic" ventral striatum

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum

"Classic" ventral striatum

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum

A.

Caudal Bpc

Rostral Bpc

Bi

Bmc

B.

"Classic" ventral striatum

"Extended" caudal ventral striatum