Diversification of neuropil organization in specialized and broadly tuned olfactory glomerular circuits in *Drosophila melanogaster*

Lydia Gruber[1], Rafael Cantera[2], Markus William Pleijzier[3], Bill S. Hansson[1#], Jürgen Rybak [1#]

1 Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology, Department of Evolutionary Neuroethology, 07745 Jena, Germany
2 Instituto de Investigaciones Biológicas Clemente Estable, Departamento de Biología del Neurodesarrollo, 11600 Montevideo, Uruguay
3 Neurobiology Division, MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology, Cambridge, CB2 0QH, England, United Kingdom

# contributed equally

*Correspondence: Jürgen Rybak, jrybak@ice.mpg.de

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ABSTRACT

To manage the great complexity of detecting and identifying olfactory cues, the insect olfactory system has evolved two main strategies: combinatorial coding and specialized, narrowly tuned olfactory pathways. In combinatorial coding, odorants are encoded by activation of multiple, broadly tuned olfactory sensory neurons that innervate distinct sets of glomeruli. In specialized olfactory pathways, information regarding a single or a few odorants is processed in a discrete, narrowly tuned circuit within a dedicated glomerulus. Here, we compared the narrowly tuned glomerulus DA2 with the broadly tuned glomerulus DL5 at the ultrastructural level, by using volume based focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy. We provide a detailed analysis of neuronal innervation, synaptic composition as well as a circuit diagram of the major glomerular cell types: olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs), uniglomerular projection neurons (uPNs) and multiglomerular neurons (MGNs). By comparing our data with a previously mapped narrowly tuned glomerulus (VA1v), we disclose putative generic features of narrowly tuned glomerular circuits: a high density of neuronal fibers and synapses, a low degree of sensory lateralization, strong axo-axonic connections between OSNs as well as dendro-dendritic connections between uPNs, and a low degree of presynaptic inhibition at the OSN axons. We also show a unique property of the large uPN dendrite in DL5, which forms substantial amount of autapses.

INTRODUCTION

Olfaction is an anatomically shallow sensory system. In mammals and invertebrates just one synapse separates the sensory periphery from the central brain (Su et al., 2009;Liang and Luo, 2010;Shepherd, 2011;Owald and Waddell, 2015;Dolan et al., 2018). In the olfactory system of *Drosophila melanogaster*, the first relay station of synaptic transmission is the antennal lobe (AL) which has a circuit architecture homologous to that of the vertebrate olfactory bulb (Boeckh et al., 1990;Sachse and Manzini, 2021;Shepherd et al., 2021). The fly AL consists of approximately 58 spherical compartments, called glomeruli, which can be distinguished by size, shape and location (Laissue et al., 1999;Gao et al., 2000;Vosshall et al., 2000;Grabe et al., 2015;Bates et al., 2020). Each glomerulus receives stereotypic input from axon terminals of olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs), which have their cell bodies and dendrites located in the antennae or maxillary palps (de Bruyne et al., 1999;Shanbhag et al., 1999;de Bruyne et al., 2001;Hallem et al., 2004;Benton et al., 2006). All the OSNs innervating a given glomerulus express a typical repertoire of ligand-gated chemoreceptors (Couto et al., 2005;Fishilevich and Vosshall, 2005;Benton et al., 2006), which represent a wide range of specifications, binding either a single, few, or many distinct chemicals (Hallem et al., 2004;Hallem and Carlson, 2006;Knaden et al., 2012;Münch and Galizia, 2016;Seki et al., 2017;Wicher and Miazzi, 2021).

Most OSNs project bilaterally to the corresponding glomeruli in the left and right AL (Gaudry et al., 2013;Tobin et al., 2017). In the AL, OSNs convey odor signals to excitatory uniglomerular projection neurons (uPNs), which branch only within a single glomerulus, or to inhibitory multiglomerular PNs (mPNs) and (inhibitory or excitatory) interglomerular local interneurons (LNs) (Ng et al., 2002;Cuntz et al., 2007;Kazama and Wilson, 2008;Kreher et al., 2008;Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Masse et al., 2009;Tanaka et al., 2012;Ai and Hagio, 2013;Wilson, 2013;Bates et al., 2020). LNs innervate several glomeruli and are the key modulatory neurons in the AL (Chou et al., 2010;Seki et al., 2010). The highly converging OSNs-to-PN signal transmission (Chen and Shepherd, 2005;Masse et al., 2009;Jeanne and Wilson, 2015) is lateralized, activating ipsilateral uPNs more strongly than contralateral ones (Agarwal and Isacoff, 2011;Gaudry et al., 2013;Tobin et al., 2017). From the AL, uPNs and mPNs relay processed signal information to higher brain centers (Norgate et al., 2006;Fiala, 2007;Jefferis et al., 2007;Keene and Waddell, 2007;Galizia, 2014;Guven-Ozkan and Davis, 2014;Strutz et al., 2014;Bates et al., 2020).

The stereotypic activity pattern of the olfactory glomeruli by distinct odorants encodes the odor space, represented in a so-called odotopic map of the AL according to the glomerular activation by distinct chemical classes. (Couto et al., 2005;Laissue and Vosshall, 2008;Knaden and Hansson, 2014;Grabe et al., 2015;Grabe and Sachse, 2018). Some odorants induce a fixed innate behavior (aversion or attraction), activating characteristically specific glomeruli (Semmelhack and Wang, 2009;Knaden et al., 2012;Knaden and Hansson, 2014;Gao et al., 2015;Grabe and Sachse, 2018). The encoding of hedonic valence already at the level of the AL is important for a fast odor

coding. Most odorants are encoded in a combinatorial manner in the fly AL by activating multiple OSNs types expressing broadly tuned receptors and their glomerular circuits, including broadly tuned uPNs (de Bruyne et al., 2001;Silbering and Galizia, 2007;Silbering et al., 2008;Masse et al., 2009;Galizia, 2014;Szyszka and Galizia, 2015;Sachse and Hansson, 2016;Seki et al., 2017). Certain chemoreceptors and their downstream glomerular circuit, however, have evolved a very high specificity and sensitivity to single or very few chemicals (Andersson et al., 2015;Haverkamp et al., 2018;Keesey and Hansson, 2021). These narrowly tuned glomerular circuits often belong to dedicated olfactory pathways, called "labeled lines", which process information regarding single odorants of particular importance for reproduction and survival (Kurtovic et al., 2007;Datta et al., 2008;Stensmyr et al., 2012;Dweck et al., 2015;Gao et al., 2015). An extreme example is the DA2 glomerulus, which responds exclusively to geosmin, an ecologically relevant chemical that alerts flies to the presence of harmful microbes, causing the fly to avoid laying eggs at these locations (Stensmyr et al., 2012). This dedicated olfactory pathway and its receptor sequence is conserved throughout evolution (Keesey et al., 2019;Keesey and Hansson, 2021). Another example is glomerulus VA1v, which responds to methyl laurate, a pheromone that induces a strongly attractive response in female flies leading to aggregation behavior (Dweck et al., 2015). DL5, on the other hand, is an example of a broadly tuned glomerulus, innervated by OSNs activated by several aversive odorants, like E2-hexenal or benzaldehyde (Knaden et al., 2012;Münch and Galizia, 2016;Seki et al., 2017;Mohamed et al., 2019b). This functional diversity suggests differences in neuronal composition and synaptic connectivity between broadly and narrowly tuned glomeruli.

A survey of neuronal composition across glomeruli revealed great variation in the numbers of the different types of neurons innervating narrowly and broadly tuned glomeruli (Grabe et al., 2016). In general, narrowly tuned glomeruli were found to be innervated by more uPNs and fewer LNs compared to more broadly tuned glomeruli (Chou et al., 2010;Grabe et al., 2016). In addition, narrowly tuned OSNs received less global interglomerular LN inhibition than broadly tuned ones (Hong and Wilson, 2015;Grabe et al., 2020;Schlegel et al., 2021). For example, in female flies, the narrowly tuned glomerulus DA2 contains dendrites of 6-8 uPNs, whereas the broadly tuned glomerulus DL5 houses only 1 or 2 uPNs and has a higher number of innervating LNs. Interestingly, both glomeruli are innervated by the same number of OSNs (Grabe et al., 2016).

Little is known, however, about the microarchitecture of the synaptic circuitry in distinct glomeruli and, in particular, about principal ultrastructural differences between narrowly vs. broadly tuned glomerular circuits. Electron microscopy (EM) allows volume imaging with dense reconstruction of fine neurite branches and synapses in brain tissue at nanometer resolution, necessary to map synapses (Briggman and Denk, 2006;Cardona et al., 2009;Helmstaedter, 2013;Rybak, 2013;Meinertzhagen, 2018). The first ultrastructural insights into the synaptic connectivity of *Drosophila* olfactory glomeruli were obtained by studies based on serial

section transmission EM (ssTEM) (Rybak, 2016;Tobin et al., 2017). In these studies,
Rybak *et al*. (2016) showed that all 3 basic classes of AL neurons make synapses with
each other, while Tobin *et al*. (2017) revealed that the differences in number of
innervating uPNs between the left and right DM6 glomeruli are compensated by
differences in synaptic strength. With focused ion beam-scanning electron microscopy
(FIB-SEM; (Knott et al., 2008)) a complete reconstruction of all neurons in the narrowly
tuned, pheromone processing glomerulus VA1v was obtained (Horne et al., 2018).
Recent technological innovations in ssTEM, FIB-SEM and automated neuron
reconstruction have made connectome datasets of the adult *Drosophila* central nervous
system available (Saalfeld et al., 2009;Zheng et al., 2018;Li et al., 2020b;Scheffer et al.,
2020) and provided complete circuit descriptions of several brain centres (Felsenberg
et al., 2018;Dolan et al., 2019;Auer et al., 2020;Bates et al., 2020;Coates et al.,
2020;Huoviala et al., 2020;Li et al., 2020a;Marin et al., 2020;Otto et al., 2020;Hulse et al.,
2021;Schlegel et al., 2021).
In an attempt to find answers to how highly specialized olfactory glomerular
circuits of dedicated olfactory pathways differ in their signal integration from broadly
tuned glomerular circuits, we compared the microarchitecture and synaptic circuitry
of a narrowly and a broadly tuned glomerulus (DA2 and DL5). By using a correlative
workflow combining transgenic markers with FIB-SEM, in order to identify our
glomeruli of interest, we reconstructed OSNs, uPNs and multiglomerular neurons
(MGNs) and mapped all associated synapses and compared the circuit organization
of both glomeruli.
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RESULTS

Volume-based electron microscopy of two different olfactory glomeruli

To compare the synaptic circuitries of two olfactory glomeruli known to belong
to either narrowly or broadly tuned glomerular types in *Drosophila melanogaster*, we
mapped all synapses of glomeruli DA2 (right AL) and DL5 (left AL) in one female fly
(**Figure 1A-B**) with the aid of focused ion beam scanning electron microscopy (FIB-
SEM). A partial reconstruction of a second DA2 in another fly was used for neuronal
volume measurements (see Methods). The reconstructions were based on high
resolution (4x4x20 nm) datasets (**Figure 1**; **Figure 1 – video 1),** thus allowing
reconstruction of fine neuronal branches (~20 nm diameter; **Figure 1C-D**) as well as
mapping chemical synapses (example in **Figure 1E**) in the two volumes of interest
(VOI). To restrict the imaging volume to the target VOIs, we employed a correlative
approach for the first time for a *Drosophila* EM volume reconstruction. The glomeruli
of interest were identified by their size, shape and location in brains of transgenic flies
(*Orco-GAL4; UAS-GCaMP6s*) using the glomerular map of (Grabe et al., 2015). The flies
expressed the protein GCaMP6, a green fluorescent protein coupled with calmodulin
and M13 (a peptide sequence from myosin light-chain kinase; **Figure 1A-B**).
Subsequently, the identified glomeruli were marked by laser branding using a two-
photon laser (Bishop et al., 2011). These fiducial marks were apparent under both light
(Figure 1A-B) and electron microscopy **(Figure 1C-D)** and facilitated the delimitation
of the VOIs during FIB-SEM scanning. We produced two complete FIB-SEM datasets:
one for glomerulus DA2 and one for DL5 (pure imaging time for both glomeruli: ~60
h) and a partial dataset for DA2 in a second fly.
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Skeleton based neuron reconstruction and synapse identification

We reconstructed all neurons within the two VOIs (example neuron: **Figure 1F**)
and mapped all their synaptic connections using an iterative skeleton-based
reconstruction approach, similar to previously reported procedures (Berck et al.,
2016;Schneider-Mizell et al., 2016;Zheng et al., 2017) with the aid of the web-based
neuron reconstruction software CATMAID (http://www.catmaid.org;
RRID:SCR_006278; (Cardona et al., 2009;Schneider-Mizell et al., 2016); **Figure 1 –**
video 1). Synapses were identified by their presynaptic transmitter release site, which
in *Drosophila* is composed of a presynaptic density called a T-bar, surrounded by
synaptic vesicles and apposed postsynaptic elements (**Figure 1E**), as previously
described (Trujillo-Cenoz, 1969;Fröhlich, 1985;Rybak et al., 2016;Huang et al., 2018;Li
et al., 2020b). All synapses observed in our FIB-SEM data sets were polyadic, i.e. each
presynaptic site connected to multiple postsynaptic sites (See example in **Figure 1E**),
a feature of insect brain synapses (Meinertzhagen and O'Neil, 1991;Malun et al.,
1993;Prokop and Meinertzhagen, 2006;Hartenstein, 2016;Rybak et al., 2016). Some
synaptic complexes had up to 16 postsynaptic sites (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 1B**),

i.e. one T-bar to 16 single synaptic profiles (i.e. 1:1 single output-input connections).

Short neuronal fragments (<10 µm), which could not be connected to any neuronal

fiber were designated as "orphans". These fragments represented 4% of the total

length of all traced neuronal fibers in DA2 and 6% in DL5 and contained about ~12%

of all synaptic contacts in both glomeruli.

Glomerular neurons: classification, description and inventory

Previous descriptions of the ultrastructural characteristics of the AL in *Drosophila*

helped to classify AL neurons into 3 main classes (**Figure 2A**) Olfactory sensory

neurons (OSNs), uniglomerular projection neurons (uPNs) and multiglomerular

neurons (MGNs; cells that interconnect multiple glomeruli). MGNs are further

subdivided into multiglomerular projection neurons (mPNs) and local interneurons

(LNs) (Berck et al., 2016;Rybak et al., 2016;Zheng et al., 2017;Gruber et al., 2018;Horne

et al., 2018;Li et al., 2020b;Schlegel et al., 2021). Most of the neuronal profiles within

the MGN neuron class are probably inhibitory local neurons, as this cell type is the

most numerous and broadly arborizing of the multiglomerular cell types in the

antennal lobe (Chou et al., 2010;Lin et al., 2012). In addition, we observed a few

neuronal fibers with an electron-dense and vesicle-rich cytosol, which we interpreted

to be either peptidergic neurons (Nässel and Homberg, 2006;Eckstein et al., 2020) or

the contralaterally projecting, serotonin-immunoreactive deutocerebral (CSD)

neuron, (Dacks et al., 2006;Goyal and Chaudhury, 2013;Zheng et al., 2017;Coates et al.,

2020;Eckstein et al., 2020). Except for these neuronal fibers containing abundant

electron-dense vesicles, all other neuronal fibers were assigned to either OSNs, uPNs

or MGNs based on their morphologies (**Figure 2A, B;** see Methods).

OSNs formed large, elongated synaptic boutons (**Figure 2A**), had the largest

volume/length ratio of all three neuron classes (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 1A**) and

displayed the lowest degree of branching intensity of all neurons in both glomeruli

(**Figure 2B**). In agreement with what had been observed in other glomeruli (Rybak et

al., 2016), the majority of output synapses made by OSN terminals were triads (1:3)

and tetrads (1:4). The T-bars of OSN synapses exhibited a large variation in length:

some were large enough to accommodate 16 postsynaptic contacts (**Figure 2 – figure**

supplement 1B). The frequency of large T-bars was much higher in OSNs than in

other neuron classes with an average polyadicity (average number of postsynaptic

sites at each T-bar) of 6 (1:6; (**Table 1,** row 14). As OSNs had the greatest T-bar and

output density along their axons (**Table 1**, row 10-11) they also displayed the largest

synaptic ratios (both for the T-bars/input sites and output sites/input sites) of all

neuron classes (**Table 1,** row 12-13), which was in line with previous observations

(Rybak et al., 2016).

The uPNs exhibited the highest degree of branching intensity of the three neuron

classes in both glomeruli (**Figure 2A-B**). They showed numerous very fine apical

branches that frequently connected multiple times via spines to the same presynaptic

site, leading to an entangled 3D shape typical of uPNs (**Figure 2A**) (Rybak et al.,

2016;Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021). uPNs had the smallest volume/length ratio
of all neuron classes (for the DA2: **Figure 2 - supplement 1A**). In addition to having
many fine branches, uPN dendrites also had enlarged regions with almost no cytosol
that were packed with large mitochondrial profiles extending over considerable
distances. These enlarged profiles showed a larger degree of mitochondria fission
(dividing and segregating mitochondrion organelles; personal observation) than the
other neuron classes with rather round and compact mitochondria (**Figure 2A**; FIB-
SEM image; see data availability). In glomerulus DA2 we found 7 uPNs, consistent
with previous reports (Grabe et al., 2016). Two of them (PN#1, PN#2; see data
availability) branched broadly and innervated the full glomerulus, receiving more
synaptic input than the other 5 uPNs (PN#3-#7; **see Table S3**), which branched
exclusively in sub-regions of the glomerulus, with partial overlap. In addition to
abundant clear small vesicles (~20 nm in diameter) (Yasuyama et al., 2003;Strutz et al.,
2014;Bates et al., 2020), uPN dendrites also displayed small electron-dense vesicles, as
previously reported for PN axon terminals in the mushroom body calyx (Butcher et
al., 2012;Yang et al., 2022). These electron-dense vesicles are packed with different
types of neuropeptides that act as neuromodulators or co-transmitters (Gondré-Lewis
et al., 2012;Li et al., 2017;Croset et al., 2018;Eckstein et al., 2020). In both glomeruli,
uPNs had the highest neuronal synaptic input density and the lowest T-bar and
output density of the three neuron classes (**Table 1,** row 9-11; DA2 and DL5
differences: see next section). The synaptic ratios (T-bars/input sites and output
sites/input sites) were much lower for uPNs than for the other neuron classes (**Table
1,** row 12-13). The majority of uPN dendritic output synapses (feedback synapses)
were tetrads in both glomeruli, with an average polyadicity of around 5 (lower than
in OSNs; (**Figure 2 – supplement 1; Table 1,** row 14).
The majority of the neuronal fibers in both glomeruli belonged to MGNs (**Figure
2A**). MGNs exhibited variable morphology and ultrastructure, as expected, but shared
also some ultrastructural features. Their synaptic boutons were formed by thin fibers,
thus the volume/length ratio of MGNs was lower than that of OSNs but greater than
that of uPNs (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 1A**). A similar relationship was found for
the number of output sites and the T-bar density along MGN fibers, which were
smaller than in OSNs but larger than in uPNs (**Table 1,** row 10-11). In contrast,
branching intensity in MGNs was larger than in OSNs but smaller than in uPNs
(**Figure 2B**). The synaptic ratio of output-to-input sites was around one (**Table 1**, row
12-13). MGNs had the lowest polyadicity (~3) of the three neuron classes (**Table 1**, row
14) and their synapses were mainly triads (**Figure 2 – supplement 1D**). Interestingly,
besides the abundant clear small vesicles (~20 nm in diameter), some MGNs had small
electron-dense vesicles, most likely housing the neuropeptide sNPF (Nässel et al.,
2008).
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DA2 is more densely innervated and has a higher synapse density than DL5

In our FIB-SEM datasets the volume of glomerulus DA2 was 45% smaller than
that of glomerulus DL5 (1500 μm^3 vs. 2700 μm^3), which is in agreement with
measurements based on light microscopy (DA2 = 1600 μm^3, DL5 = 2900 μm^3 (Grabe et
al., 2016). We also confirmed that a similar number of OSNs (44-46 OSNs) innervated
both glomeruli (**Figure 2C**), and that each glomerulus received OSN innervation from
both the ipsilateral and contralateral antennae (Vosshall et al., 2000;Grabe et al., 2016).
Also in agreement with (Grabe et al., 2016), the DA2 glomerulus was innervated by 7
uPNs whereas DL5 had a single uPN (**Figure 2C**). MGN cell numbers could not be
counted in our study due to their multiglomerular morphology, which also prevented
us from tracing MGN fibers to their soma due to our partial volume acquisition (see
Methods).

To further investigate differences in neuronal populations we now turned our
attention to the glomerular innervation and synaptic composition of DA2 and DL5
neuronal fibers (Grabe et al., 2016). We measured the total length (sum in μm) of all
neuronal fibers of each neuron class within the DA2 and DL5 (**Figure 2C; Table 1**, row
1). In addition, we counted all T-bars and their output sites (1:1 synaptic contacts) as
well as all postsynaptic sites (input sites) for all neuron fibers together and of each
neuron class individually (**Table 1, row 2-4**). We counted in total ~ 14 000 synaptic
contacts and 2648 T-bars in DA2 and ~ 17 000 contacts and 3387 T-bars in DL5 (**Figure**
2C, Table 1, row 4). Most of these synapses were triads and tetrads (**Figure 2 – figure**
supplement 1B-D). In order to compare DA2 and DL5 we normalized neuronal length
and synaptic counts to glomerular volume. We then analyzed (**1**) the innervation
density, i.e., the length of neurons per glomerular volume ($\mu m/\mu m^3$) and (**2**) the
glomerular synaptic density (T-bar #, output site or input site #/μm^3). Data are
reported in total for all neuronal fibers of each neuron class (**Table 1, row 5-8**) and as
an average for neuronal fibers of the respective neuron class **(Figure 3)**. In addition,
we compared (**3**) the average polyadicity for each neuron class **(Figure 3)** and **(4)** the
average neuronal synaptic density (T-bar, output and input site density along each
neuronal fiber) (#/μm) (**Figure 3 – figure supplement 1B**).

We observed that the average neuron innervation density of OSNs was
significantly higher in DA2 than in DL5, with a total innervation density that was 20%
higher in DA2 (**Figure 3A**)**, Table S1**). The glomerular synaptic density of input sites,
output sites and T-bars along OSNs was significantly higher in DA2 than in DL5
(**Figure 3A**). OSNs in DA2 formed therefore more input sites, and much more T-bars
and output sites per glomerular volume than in DL5 (**Table 1**, row 7-8; relative
differences: **Table S1**). In contrast, the density of input sites distributed along the
length of OSN fibers was similar in DA2 and DL5, whereas T-bar and output site
density along the OSN axons was significantly higher in DA2 (**Figure 3 – figure**
supplement 1A).

We then asked if the DA2 glomerulus, due to its higher number of uPNs, also
had a higher uPN innervation density and synaptic density of its postsynaptic sites
and/or presynaptic sites compared to the DL5 glomerulus, which contains a single
uPN. In the DA2, the fibers of the 7 uPNs had almost the same total length as the fibers

of the single uPN in the more voluminous DL5 (4652 µm in DA2 vs. 5015 µm in DL5;
Table 1, row 1). The DA2 uPNs had in addition a similar total number of input sites
as the single uPN in the DL5 (3887 vs. 3955; **Table 1**, row 2). As such, in DA2 the total
innervation density of its 7 uPNs was higher as compared to the innervation density
of the single uPN in DL5 (**Table 1**, row 5), even though the average innervation
density of DA2-uPNs was lower (**Figure 3B**). The total glomerular input density of all
uPNs was higher in DA2 as compared to DL5 (**Table 1**, row 6). On the other hand, the
total glomerular synaptic density of the T-bars and output sites was similar in DA2
and DL5 (**Table 1**, rows 7-8). In line with these results, the neuronal density of T-bars
and output sites was less in the DA2 uPNs as compared to the DL5 uPN, whereas the
neuronal density of input sites was similar (**Figure 3 – figure supplement 1B; Table**
1, row 9-10). This caused almost twice as high synaptic ratios (T-bars-to-inputs and
outputs-to-inputs) in the DL5 uPN relative to DA2 uPNs (**Table 1**; row 12-13).
We then hypothesized that DA2 will have a lower innervation density of MGNs
(mainly LNs) than DL5 as it had been reported that DL5 is innervated by fewer LNs
(Chou et al., 2010;Grabe et al., 2016). However, we observed the opposite: the
innervation density of MGNs was significantly higher in DA2 than in DL5 (**Figure**
3C), with slightly higher total innervation density (**Table 1,** row 5**).** Interestingly, only
the glomerular input density was significantly higher for DA2 MGNs compared to
that found in DL5, not the glomerular synaptic density of output sites or of the T-bars
(**Figure 3C**). However, the total glomerular synaptic density of input sites, output sites
and T-bars were still higher in DA2 than in DL5 **(Table 1,** rows 6-8)**.** Synaptic densities
along the MGN fibers were similar in DA2 and DL5 (**Figure 3 – supplement 1**).
In summary, the DA2 glomerulus is more densely innervated than DL5 with
neuronal fibers, which results in a more densely packed DA2 neuropil with more
synaptic contacts. The DA2 has a significantly higher innervation density and higher
density of T-bars, output and input sites per volume (**Figure 3D**, **Table 1,** row 5-8)**.**
The degree of synapse polyadicity is also significantly higher in DA2 than in DL5
(**Figure 3D, Table 1,** row 14) due to a shift to higher polyadicity among OSN (**Figure**
3A) and MGN synapses (**Figure 3C**). OSNs show the strongest shift in polyadicity,
with tetrads being the most abundant synapse type in DA2 whereas triads are the
most abundant in DL5 OSNs (**Figure 2 – figure supplement 1B).**
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Lateralization of OSN glomerular connectivity

In *Drosophila melanogaster*, the majority of olfactory glomeruli receive bilateral
OSN input (Stocker et al., 1983;Stocker et al., 1990;Vosshall et al., 2000;Silbering et al.,
2011) see scheme in **Figure 4A**). Recent studies have shown that ipsi- and contralateral
OSNs are asymmetric in their synaptic connectivity to other neurons in the majority
of the glomeruli (Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021) and that ipsi- and contralateral
OSNs activate uPNs in an asymmetric way (Gaudry et al., 2013;Tobin et al., 2017).
However, not all glomeruli appear to have the same degree of lateralized OSN
connectivity (Schlegel et al., 2021). At least for one narrowly tuned glomerulus (DA1),

there is functional evidence that in female flies its uPNs are evenly activated by either
ipsi- or contralateral antennal stimulation (Agarwal and Isacoff, 2011). We
hypothesized that this lack of lateralization could be a feature of other narrowly tuned
glomeruli.

Ipsi- and contralateral OSNs in DA2 and DL5 were identified based on the
location and trajectory of their axons (**Figure 4B**). In both glomeruli, ipsilateral OSN
terminals were longer than their contralateral counterparts within the VOI, while
polyadicity was stronger in contralateral axons. Synaptic density was not consistently
higher or lower in ipsilateral OSNs compared to contralateral ones in DA2 and DL5
(**Figure 4 – figure supplement 1**).

We observed that the synaptic output of ipsi- vs. contralateral OSNs was
asymmetric, with significant differences in the ipsi- and contralateral OSN output to
either uPNs, OSNs or MGNs (**Figure 4C**, DA2 and DL5). In agreement with previous
observations in other glomeruli (Schlegel et al., 2021), the output fraction to uPNs and
OSNs was greater in ipsilateral OSNs than in contralateral ones (**Figure 4C**, DA2 and
DL5). Vice versa, the OSN output to MGNs was greater in the contralateral
glomerulus than the ipsilateral side (**Figure 4C**, DA2 and DL5). However, the
differences between the medians and means were smaller in DA2 than in DL5 (**Figure
4C**; differences between means: see data availability).

Our finding of less lateralized connections in the DA2 (**Figure 4C**, DA2 and DL5)
was also observed in another narrowly tuned glomerulus (VA1v; Dweck et al., 2015)
for which connectome data is available (Horne et al., 2018). In VA1v, the OSN output
to uPNs and MGNs was significantly asymmetric in the same manner as in DA2 and
DL5, i.e. with greater ipsilateral OSN output fractions to uPNs and OSNs and greater
contralateral OSN output fraction to MGNs (**Figure 4C**). Asymmetry in the VA1v OSN
output fractions was even less distinct than in DA2 (regarding both the difference
between the median and the mean; **Figure 4C** and data availability). In VA1v, the OSN
output fraction to OSNs was similar in ipsi- and contralateral OSNs (**Figure 4C**). In
addition, the OSN input, from either sister OSNs or MGNs, was asymmetric in DL5
but not in the narrowly tuned glomeruli (**Figure 4D**). The inputs from uPNs to ipsi-
or contralateral OSNs were not compared due to their low numbers.

In summary, our data add to the knowledge of lateralized connectivity within
olfactory glomeruli and supports the hypothesis that narrowly tuned glomeruli have
a lower degree of lateralization of OSN connectivity compared to broadly tuned
glomeruli.

Glomeruli DA2 and DL5 differ in several features of their circuitry

Next, we asked whether the synaptic circuitries of DA2 and DL5 differ from each
other. We counted each synaptic contact (**Table S2 and S3**) and categorized the
distinct connection motifs according to the neuron class the output and input neuron
belonged to (**Figure 5A; Table S2**). Each connection motif (for example OSN>uPN, i.e.,
the OSN-to-uPN feedforward connection) was then assessed for its relative synaptic

strength, i.e. how many synaptic contacts of this particular connection motif were found compared to the total number of synaptic contacts within the respective circuitry (**Figure 5A-D**; see Methods).

We found that neurons from each class made synaptic contacts with each other in DA2 and DL5, as previously reported for other glomeruli (Berck et al., 2016;Rybak et al., 2016;Tobin et al., 2017;Horne et al., 2018;Schlegel et al., 2021). In both DA2 and DL5, OSNs provided the strongest relative synaptic output, i.e. 49% of all synaptic connections in DA2 and 43% in DL5 were formed by OSNs (**Figure 5B-C**). Thus, even though DA2 and DL5 had similar numbers of OSNs (44 and 46, respectively), those in DA2 provided a stronger circuit output (14% stronger; **Table S2**) than those in DL5 (**Figure 5B-C**). In both glomeruli the main OSN output partners were MGNs and uPNs, i.e. 27% of all circuitry connections in DA2 and 24% in DL5 were OSN>MGN connections and 20% in DA2 and 18% in DL5 were OSN>uPN connections (**Figure 5B-C**). In DA2, interestingly, each of the 7 uPNs received input from almost all OSNs and so could maintain a high degree of convergent signal transmission (**Table S3**). In contrast, OSNs received the lowest relative input of all neuron classes in DA2 and DL5 (7% and 8% respectively; **Figure 5B-C**). In line with previous observations in other glomeruli (Horne et al., 2018;Schlegel et al., 2021), OSNs also made abundant axo-axonic synapses with sister OSNs (2.6% in DA2 and 1.5% in DL5; **Figure 5B-C**). Thus, the relative synaptic strength of the OSN>OSN connection was 70% stronger in DA2 than in DL5 (**Figure 5B-C; Table S2**).

The uPNs in both glomeruli had the weakest relative output of all neuron classes within their circuitry, and this was even weaker (38%) in DA2 (**Figure 5B-C; Table S2**). In contrast, the relative synaptic input onto uPNs was greater in DA2 than in DL5 (33% vs. 28%, respectively; **Figure 5B-C;** 16% stronger in DA2; **Table S2**), which is in line with our finding that in DA2, the uPNs provide more input sites per unit of glomerular volume than in the DL5 (**Figure 3B-C**). In both glomeruli, the feedback connections from uPNs (depicted in **Figure 5A**), were almost exclusively directed towards MGNs, as previously reported for the broadly tuned DM6 and the narrowly tuned glomerulus VA1v (Tobin et al., 2017;Horne et al., 2018). However, the relative synaptic strength of the uPN>MGN connection was 40% weaker in DA2 than in DL5 (uPN>MGN: 10% in DA2 and 17% in DL5). Only a few cases of uPN>OSN synaptic connections were observed (a total of 16 in DA2 and 26 in DL5) representing a synaptic strength of 0.1% in DA2 and 0.2% in DL5 (**Table S2**). Finally, uPNs in DA2 also made 71 reciprocal synaptic connections (representing a synaptic strength of 0.6%; **Table S2**; **Figure 5B**), consistent with electrophysiological evidence for reciprocal synaptic interactions between sister uPNs (Kazama and Wilson, 2009). The single uPN of the DL5 had 54 dendro-dendritic synapses (representing 0.4% of all DL5 synaptic contacts; **Figure 5C**), which were exclusively autapses, i.e. synapses formed by a neuron onto itself. Dendritic uPN autapses exist also in DA2-uPNs, but they were few: we observed only 14 autaptic uPN-uPN connections in DA2, which were mainly located at the two longest uPN dendrites (for further analysis of autapses see next section).

MGNs received the strongest input in both glomeruli (60% of the total input in
DA2 and 64% in DL5; **Figure 5B-C**). This is in line with the observation that MGNs
provided the majority of all traced neuronal fibers in each glomerulus and had the
highest innervation density of all neuron classes; **Table 1**). The relative output
strength of MGNs was similar in both glomerular circuits (~40% of the total output in
each glomerulus; **Figure 5B-C**). MGNs made many reciprocal synapses to each other,
accounting for 23% of all synapses in both glomeruli (**Figure 5B-C**). The relative
synaptic strength between MGN>uPN was stronger in DA2 (12%) than DL5 (10%)
(**Figure 5B**-C; **Table S2**). The MGN>OSN feedback connection was relatively weak in
both glomeruli (5% in DA2 vs. 6% in DL5; **Figure 5B-C**) but weaker (25%) in DA2 than
in DL5 (**Table S2**).
We then looked at the fractional output and input of each neuron class (Figure
5E′, E′′). In both glomeruli OSNs had a similar proportion of their synaptic output
onto uPNs (40%-41%), onto MGNs (55% in both) and onto sister OSNs (4%-5%)
(**Figure 5E′**). From the uPNs perspective, over 93%-96% of their recurrent synaptic
output was directed to MGNs in both DA2 and DL5, and few synapses were directed
onto OSNs (~1% of the uPN output; **Figure 5E′**). The uPN>uPN output fraction of the
7 uPNs in DA2 (reciprocal synapses) was twice the uPN output fraction (autaptic) of
the single uPN dendrite in DL5 (6% vs. 3%; **Figure 5E′**). MGNs formed synaptic output
mainly to other MGNs (58%-59% of the total MGN output in DA2 and DL5). Among
MGNs we found also rare cases of autapses. The MGN>uPN output fraction was
greater in DA2 (30%) than in DL5 (25%), whereas the MGN>OSN output fraction was
smaller in DA2 (12%) than in DL5 (16%; **Figure 5E′**).
Turning to the input fractions of each neuron class, we found that in both
glomeruli, OSNs received most of their input from MGNs (>50%). In DA2 the input
fraction onto OSNs (MGN>OSN) was smaller than in DL5 (63% vs. 78%; **Figure 5E′′**).
In contrast, the OSN input fraction from sister OSNs was greater in DA2 (35% vs. 20%;
Figure 5E′′). In both glomeruli, the OSNs received only weak uPN input (2%) (**Figure**
5E′′). The input fractions onto the 7 uPNs, formed by uPNs, MGNs and OSNs, in the
DA2 and the single uPN in DL5 were similar (**Figure 5E′′**). Most uPN input was
delivered by OSNs (~62% in both glomeruli) and less from MGNs (~36%). The uPN
input fraction from other uPNs in DA2 or the autaptic input from the single uPN in
DL5 was small (2%; **Figure 5E′′**). The MGNs in DA2 received a smaller fraction of
uPN feedback input than in DL5 (17% vs. 26%; **Figure 5E′′**) but a greater OSN input
fraction (45% vs. 38%; **Figure 5E′′**). The MGN input from other MGNs was similar in
both glomeruli.
To further explore whether differences in circuitry between DA2 and DL5 might
represent characteristic features of broad vs. narrowly tuned glomeruli, we analyzed
connectome data from another narrowly tuned glomerulus (VA1v; (Horne et al.,
2018). We calculated the relative synaptic strength between OSNs (n=107), uPNs (n=5)
and MGNs (n=74) in the VA1v (**Figure 5D; Table S2**) (**Figure 5E**). We found that the
two narrowly tuned glomeruli shared five circuit features that were different from the
broadly tuned glomerulus DL5: (**1**), OSNs in VA1v, as reported above for DA2,

displayed a stronger relative feedforward output to uPNs (22%) and to MGNs (32%)
(**Figure 5D**). The uPNs and MGNs in VA1v, received a larger fraction of OSN input
than in DL5 (**Figure 5E''**). (**2**), the OSN>OSN synaptic output was four times stronger
(6%) than in DL5 (1.5%; **Figure 5B-D, Table S1**). This was also reflected in the OSN
output fraction to sister OSNs (10%), which in VA1v was more than twice that of DL5
(4%; **Figure 5E'**) and in the much greater OSN input fraction (38%) to OSNs in the
VA1v than in DL5 (20%; **Figure 5E''**). (**3**), in the VA1v the uPN>uPN relative synaptic
output was more than twice that of DL5 (1% vs. 0.4% in DL5; **Figure 5D**), which is in
accordance with a much greater uPN output fraction to uPNs (14%) in VA1v than in
DL5 (3%) (**Figure 5E'**). (**4**), as observed before in DA2, VA1v uPNs had fewer feedback
synapses onto MGNs than in DL5 (relative synaptic strength of uPN>MGN
connection: 6% vs. 17%; **Figure 5C-D**), also reflected in a smaller output fraction from
uPNs to MGNs in VA1v than in DL5 (81% vs. 96%; **Figure 5E'**). In agreement, the
MGN input fraction from uPNs in VA1v was much smaller than in DL5 (10% vs. 26%;
Figure 5E''). (**5**), OSNs in VA1v received a smaller MGN input fraction than DL5 OSNs
(60% vs. 78%; **Figure 5E''**).
Besides relative differences (stronger or weaker) in DA2 and VA1v connection
motifs compared to DL5, two connection motifs were stronger in DA2 and DL5 but
weaker in VA1v: **(1)** the MGN>uPN connection, showing a synaptic strength of 12%
and 10% in DA2 and DL5 vs. 8% in VA1v (**Figure 5B-D, Table S2**). In agreement with
this, the MGN output fraction to uPNs (**Figure 5E'**, MGN output) and the MGN input
fraction in uPNs was greater in DA2 and DL5 than in VA1v (**Figure 5E''**, uPN input).
(2), the relative synaptic strength in MGN>MGN motifs was similar between DA2 and
DL5 (23%; **Figure 5B-C**), but weaker in VA1v (17%; **Figure 5D, Table S2**). This was
also reflected in a smaller MGN output and input fraction from or to MGNs (**Figure
5E' and E''**).
In summary, the two narrowly tuned glomerular circuits studied here shared
several circuit features when compared with the broadly tuned glomerular circuit (all
glomerular circuit features in DA2, DL5 and VA1v are shown in **Figure 6A**). These
features were (1) a stronger OSN>uPN and OSN>MGN connection, (2) a much
stronger axo-axonic communication between sister OSNs, (3) a stronger dendro-
dendritic connection between uPN dendrites, (4) less feedback from uPNs to MGNs
and (5) less feedback from MGNs to OSNs (**Figure 6B**).
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Autapses in the large DL5 uPN connect distant regions of its dendritic tree
Autapses (synapses made by a neuron upon itself) have seldomly been
reported in the *Drosophila* central nervous system (Takemura et al., 2015;Horne et al.,
2018). In the DA2 glomerulus we found few autapses in uPNs and MGNs but more in
the single DL5 uPN (**Figure 5C; Figure 7A**). In the dendritic tree of the single DL5
uPN, on the other hand, three observers registered 54 autaptic connections
independently (see Methods). This represents 3% of the output connections of this
neuron and 0.4% of all synaptic contacts in the whole glomerulus (**Figure 7A; Figure**

5C; E'). We hypothesized that these autapses could be important for connecting
distant parts of this very large dendritic tree. We thus analyzed the exact location and
distribution of autaptic presynaptic and postsynaptic sites in this neuron (**Figure 7A**)
and found that the autapses along the dendrites of the DL5 uPN were not distributed
evenly. Some dendritic branches received several autaptic inputs, whereas other had
no autaptic input (**Figure 7A**). We also discovered a difference in the distribution of
the pre- and postsynaptic elements of DL5 autapses. Whilst their presynaptic T-bars
were evenly distributed at basal (strahler order: 5) and distal regions (strahler order:
1-4), 95% of their postsynaptic sites were located at the most distal region (strahler
order 2-1; **Figure 7B-C**). We also calculated the geodesic distance (i.e., along-the-arbor
distance) from pre- and post-synaptic sites to the basal root node, which is the node
point where the uPN enters the glomerulus and is equivalent to the closest point to
the soma in our reconstruction. The geodesic distance from the presynaptic site to the
basal root node was significantly shorter than the geodesic distance from postsynaptic
sites to the basal root node (**Figure 7 – figure supplement 1B**). The pre- and
postsynaptic sites of each autapse were either close to each other along the dendritic
tree, or distant from each other (see examples in the dendrogram depicted in **Figure
7D**). Thus, the geodesic distance between pre- and postsynaptic sites, (see scheme in
Figure 7E), as well as the number of branching points between pre- and postsynaptic
partners, were bimodally distributed (**Figure 7F-G**). Autapses that connected distant
dendritic subunits were more frequent than those that connected close subunits of the
dendrite (**Figure 7E-G**). In summary, we found abundant autapses within the uPN
dendrite of DL5. These autapses were unevenly distributed, with many output sites
located in a few sub-branches connecting distal dendritic regions.
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DISCUSSION

We hypothesized that specialized, narrowly tuned glomerular circuits differ in their ultrastructure and microcircuitry from broadly tuned glomerular circuits. By comparing the connectomes of two narrowly tuned olfactory glomeruli with that of a broadly tuned glomerulus, in *Drosophila melanogaster,* we found prominent features of narrowly tuned glomeruli involving synaptic composition, lateralization of sensory input and synaptic circuitry.

Glomerular circuit analysis: a correlative approach

The small size of olfactory glomeruli in *Drosophila* gave us the opportunity to reconstruct and analyze the dense connectome of entire glomeruli with volume-based electron microscopy in a reasonable time period. Here we developed a correlative workflow that combines transgenic neuron labeling with near-infra-red-laser-branding for precise volume targeting. We then used FIB-SEM (Bishop et al., 2011) to resolve glomerular networks at the synaptic level. A similar procedure was used recently to investigate single cellular organelles (Ronchi et al., 2021). An advantage of this approach is that it facilitates localization of the volume of interest with high precision and consequently limits the image volume to a minimum and reduces scanning time. At the same time, the limitation in volume is a drawback of our workflow, as it was impossible to reconstruct neurons back to their soma. This fact prevented the identification of individual neurons as in other connectome studies (Berck et al., 2016;Eichler et al., 2017;Horne et al., 2018;Zheng et al., 2018;Bates et al., 2020;Scheffer et al., 2020;Xu et al., 2020;Schlegel et al., 2021).

We provide data on innervation and synapse density of olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs), uniglomerular projection neurons (uPNs) and multiglomerular neurons (MGNs) in the *Drosophila* antennal lobe (AL). We observed a higher innervation density of all neuron types but mainly by uPNs and MGNs and in parallel higher density of synaptic contacts along OSN terminals in the narrowly tuned DA2 compared with DL5. These results suggest that narrowly tuned glomeruli have a more densely packed neuropil, forming more numerous synaptic connections in the feedforward motifs OSN>uPN and OSN>MGN. Overall, our observations on synapse density were comparable with previous reports (Mosca and Luo, 2014;Rybak et al., 2016;Horne et al., 2018).

Specific features of narrowly tuned glomerular circuits

Our analysis revealed circuit features in the narrowly tuned glomerulus DA2 and VA1v that might be adaptations specific of such dedicated glomerular circuits. Nevertheless, future studies, analyzing precise numbers of synaptic connections in more individuals, combined with physiological studies and computational models are required to test this hypothesis.

The OSN>uPN feedforward connection is stronger in DA2 and VA1v

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OSN presynaptic terminals provide the major input to uPNs in insect olfactory
glomeruli (Hansson and Anton, 2000;Chen and Shepherd, 2005;Kazama and Wilson,
2008;Lei et al., 2010;Tobin et al., 2017;Horne et al., 2018;Rybak and Hansson,
2018;Schlegel et al., 2021). Here we showed that this connection is stronger in DA2 and
VA1v than in DL5 (**Figure 5 and 6**). A strong OSNs>uPN synaptic connection will
drive non-linear signal amplification, which improves signal detection at low odor
concentrations (Ng et al., 2002;Bhandawat et al., 2007;Kazama and Wilson, 2008;Masse
et al., 2009). Increasing the number of synapses of this type could have the potential
to improve this amplification effect, as shown by artificial increase of synaptic sites in
the AL (Acebes and Ferrus, 2001) and in lateral horn dendrites (Liu et al., 2022).
Each of the 7 uPNs in DA2 received convergent synaptic input from almost all
DA2-OSNs. This is in agreement with reports on the narrowly tuned glomeruli DA1
and VA1v (Agarwal and Isacoff, 2011;Jeanne and Wilson, 2015;Horne et al., 2018) and
for broadly tuned glomeruli (Vosshall et al., 2000;Chen and Shepherd, 2005;Kazama
and Wilson, 2009;Masse et al., 2009;Tobin et al., 2017). High OSN>uPN convergence is
the main driver of highly correlated activity among uPNs in pheromone coding
glomeruli in flies as well as moths (Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Rospars et al., 2014).
High convergence in the lateral horn improves signal transmission from uPNs to
lateral horn neurons without sacrificing speed (Jeanne and Wilson, 2015;Huoviala et
al., 2020). In the mushroom body calyces, however, the high degree of convergence is
only pursued for DA2 uPNs, which converge onto few Kenyon cells, whereas VA1v
uPNs randomly synapse onto many dispersed Kenyon cells (Caron 2013; Zheng 2020;
Li 2020), indicating diverse signal integration in the mushroom body.
From our study, we hypothesize that narrowly tuned glomerular circuits have
more uPNs, which have strong convergence onto downstream partners, to improve
signal transmission accuracy within a single glomerular circuit. Secondly, a stronger
OSN-uPN connection might compensate for the lack of OSN signal transmission sites
distributed across glomeruli that are activated by odorants activating multiple
broadly tuned OSNs.

Reciprocal connections between sister OSNs and sister uPNs are stronger in
narrowly tuned glomeruli

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The reciprocal OSN-OSN synapse is generally stronger in narrowly tuned
glomeruli DA1, DL3 and DL4, compared to broadly tuned glomeruli DL5, DM6, DM3
and DM4 (Suh et al., 2004;Knaden et al., 2012;Dweck et al., 2015;Ebrahim et al.,
2015;Grabe et al., 2016;Seki et al., 2017;Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021). A high
degree of axo-axonic synapses between sister OSNs was also found in VA1v (Horne
et al., 2018;Schlegel et al., 2021)and DA2 but not in the DL5 (this study). Hence, we
suggest that a strong OSN-OSN connection is a characteristic feature of the synaptic
circuitry of narrowly tuned olfactory glomeruli. Axo-axonic connections have also

been reported between gustatory and mechanosensory neurons in *Drosophila* larvae (Miroschnikow et al., 2018) and in the olfactory epithelium and the olfactory bulb of vertebrates (Hirata, 1964;Shepherd et al., 2021). In vertebrates axo-axonic synapses between excitatory sensory neurons are involved in correlated transmitter release (Cover and Mathur, 2021), reminiscent of correlated uPN activity due to reciprocal synaptic and electric coupling in the *Drosophila* AL and LH (Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Huoviala et al., 2020). A strong OSN-OSN connection also has the potential to increase the correlation of OSN spiking events and therefore facilitate a robust OSN signal (de la Rocha et al., 2007).

Reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses between sister uPNs of the DA2 have been reported previously also for glomeruli DM6, DM4, VA7 and VA1v (Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Rybak et al., 2016;Tobin et al., 2017;Horne et al., 2018). These types of synapses enhance uPN signal correlation (Kazama and Wilson, 2009), as reported for mitral and tufted cells of the vertebrate olfactory bulb, the circuit equivalent to PNs of insect ALs (Christie et al., 2005;McTavish et al., 2012;Shepherd et al., 2021). In *Drosophila* multiple uPNs could induce correlated PN depolarization events, which improve the signal-to-noise-ratio of PN signal transmission (Chen and Shepherd, 2005;Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Jeanne and Wilson, 2015).

In summary, our data give evidence that reciprocal OSN-OSN and uPN-uPN connections are a prominent feature of the synaptic circuit of narrowly tuned glomeruli. With stronger OSN>uPN output, we think that reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses boost signal amplification and neuronal correlation and that this will in turn enhance the signal-to-noise ratio (accuracy) and transmission probability of weak and/or irregular odorant input, increasing processing speed.

Less lateralization in the OSN bilateral connectivity in narrowly tuned glomeruli

In *Drosophila*, most OSN axons project bilaterally and form synapses in their corresponding glomerulus on both the left and right brain hemispheres (Stocker et al., 1990;Vosshall et al., 2000;Couto et al., 2005;Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Silbering et al., 2011;Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021). This is rarely observed in other insects and absent in vertebrates (Stocker et al., 1983;Masson and Mustaparta, 1990;Galizia et al., 1998;Hansson and Anton, 2000;Anton et al., 2003;Parthasarathy and Bhalla, 2013;Dalal et al., 2020). In the mammalian olfactory system, bilateral comparison of olfactory input only occurs in higher brain centers (Dalal et al., 2020). In flies, bilateral sensory input enables them to discriminate odor sources of different spatial origin through bilateral comparison of olfactory stimulation (Borst and Heisenberg, 1982;Duistermars et al., 2009;Gaudry et al., 2013;Mohamed et al., 2019a;Taisz et al., 2022). Asymmetric OSN connectivity, shown for many olfactory OSNs (Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021) seems to be the origin of a bilateral contrast in the uPN response (Agarwal and Isacoff, 2011;Gaudry et al., 2013;Tobin et al., 2017;Taisz et al., 2022), and is most likely the key to precise odor source localization (Taisz et al., 2022). Bilateral comparison is also used in the lateral horn (a higher olfactory brain center in

Drosophila) for odorant position coding (Mohamed et al., 2019a). However, not all glomeruli are similar in the magnitude of bilateral asymmetry with respect to their OSN connectivity (Schlegel et al., 2021) or their uPN responses (Agarwal and Isacoff, 2011).

We found, in agreement with observations in other olfactory glomeruli (Tobin et al., 2017;Schlegel et al., 2021), that glomeruli DL5, DA2 and VA1v (data from: (Horne et al., 2018) have ipsilaterally asymmetric OSN synaptic output to excitatory uPNs and sister OSNs and contralaterally an enhanced OSN>MGN output (**Figure 4**). We believe that, in agreement with a recent study, these asymmetric connections determine a strong left-right-contrast in the uPN response, akin to a "winner-takes-all" principle (Taisz et al., 2022).

We also observed that the degree of bilateral OSN asymmetry in DA2 and VA1v was much weaker than in DL5 (**Figure 4**). Weakly lateralized OSN connectivity is perhaps insufficient to induce an adequate bilateral contrast necessary for odor source localization. Recent work supports this idea by showing the importance of the interplay of asymmetric OSN signaling and LN inhibition to enhance the bilateral contrast of uPN activity and to facilitate navigation (Taisz et al., 2022).

Why do these narrowly tuned glomeruli have weaker bilateral contrast than broadly tuned glomeruli? The answer could lie in the ecological significance of the individual odorants. Geosmin, encoded by glomerulus DA2 (Stensmyr et al., 2012), and the pheromone methyl laurate, encoded by glomerulus VA1v (Dweck et al., 2015), act at short distances, mainly when the fly is walking and not flying, influencing either oviposition or aggregation behavior in females. Perhaps, the decision between avoiding and staying when geosmin or methyl laurate are detected does not need a precise odor source location, as is the case for food odorants. Food odor detection, which happens mainly at flying conditions, needs continuous processing of odor position and body alignment to navigate towards the odor source (Thoma et al., 2015;Demir et al., 2020). The bilateral OSN projection onto uPNs in DA2 and VA1v potentially has a distinct function other than odor position coding and could, via the enhancement of the effect of convergence of OSN>uPN signal transmission, enhance odor signal amplification (Bhandawat et al., 2007;Kazama and Wilson, 2009;Masse et al., 2009;Jeanne and Wilson, 2015)

Distinct synaptic integration of local modulatory neurons in narrowly tuned glomeruli

MGNs are composed of multiglomerular projection neurons (mPNs) that project directly to the LH (Jefferis et al., 2007;Strutz et al., 2014;Bates et al., 2020) and inhibitory and excitatory local interneurons (LNs) that interconnect the AL glomeruli (Masse et al., 2009;Okada et al., 2009;Chou et al., 2010;Seki et al., 2010;Liu and Wilson, 2013). Since LNs are the most numerous and broadly arborizing of the multiglomerular cell types in the AL (Chou et al., 2010;Lin et al., 2012), we focus our discussion on these. Multiglomerular LNs are crucial in modulation of the OSN>uPN

signal transmission (Masse et al., 2009;Chou et al., 2010;Seki et al., 2010;Galizia,
2014;Szyszka and Galizia, 2015).

Previous observations have shown that glomeruli DA2 and VA1v have a lower
number of innervating LNs (Chou et al., 2010;Grabe et al., 2016) and receive less global
interglomerular LN inhibition than broadly tuned glomeruli (Hong and Wilson, 2015).
We therefore assumed that DA2 or VA1v would have a lower LN innervation density
and less LN synaptic integration in their circuitry. However, we did not observe a
general lower synaptic integration in DA2 **(Figure 5)** and found a greater MGN
innervation density, and a higher density of input sites than in DL5. VA1v MGNs on
the other hand received less synaptic input and provided less output in its glomerular
circuit than MGNs in DL5.

Taking a closer look at particular synaptic connection motifs of MGNs we saw
that narrowly tuned glomeruli had a weak uPN>MGN feedback (**Figure 6**). uPN
feedback onto LNs and their reciprocal connection (LN>uPN) was reported in
Drosophila and other insects, such as honey bees, cockroaches and moths, but its
function is still poorly understood (Boeckh and Tolbert, 1993;Sun et al., 1997;Sachse
and Galizia, 2002). In *Apis mellifera* reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses between
excitatory and inhibitory neurons enhance signal contrast and the reliability of true
signal representations throughout the AL (Yokoi et al., 1995;Sachse and Galizia, 2002).
Here we could not differentiate the LN types involved in the uPN>MGN synaptic
motif. However, the prevailing uPN>LN synapses involve mainly widespread pan-
glomerular LNs in the adult (Horne et al., 2018) and larval AL (Berck et al., 2016),
which are important for combinatorial coding (Galizia, 2014;Sachse and Hansson,
2016). Thus, weaker uPN>MGN feedback in the narrowly tuned DA2 and VA1v
circuits might be a compensatory mechanism to lower the computational demand of
interglomerular communication for odor identity coding.

We also observed that OSNs in the narrowly tuned DA2 and VA1v received
less MGN input than the OSNs of the DL5, suggesting that the OSNs in DA2 and VA1v
receive relatively weak presynaptic inhibition. Pan-glomerular GABAergic LNs
induce presynaptic inhibition at OSN presynaptic site (Berck et al., 2016;Schlegel et al.,
2021). These inhibitory LNs are drivers of balanced glomerular gain control and are a
key player for odor identity coding, balancing incoming and alternating odor
intensities (Olsen and Wilson, 2008;Root et al., 2008;Silbering et al., 2008;Asahina et
al., 2009;Wang, 2012;Galizia, 2014;Hong and Wilson, 2015;Szyszka and Galizia,
2015;Sachse and Hansson, 2016). Our data support these observations and provide an
argument for why narrowly tuned OSNs receive much lower inhibition during AL
stimulation with odorants activating other OSN populations (Hong and Wilson, 2015).
Even though DA2 and VA1v might receive less interglomerular inhibition, their
OSN>MGN output is still strong, in agreement with studies showing that throughout
the AL, global lateral inhibition, mediated by LNs, scales with general OSN activation
(Olsen and Wilson, 2008;Hong and Wilson, 2015).

In summary, narrowly tuned circuits are probably influenced more strongly
by intraglomerular than by interglomerular modulation. Narrowly tuned circuits

perhaps have greater computational capacities in intraglomerular modulation of
signal transmission, which could be important for example for PN fine-tuning and
response adjustment (Ng et al., 2002;Assisi et al., 2012).

Above we discussed putative generic features of narrowly tuned glomerular
circuits. Besides these circuit features, we found a strong MGN>MGN connection in
the aversive glomerular circuits DA2 and DL5 in contrast to a much weaker
MGN>MGN connection in the attractive glomerulus VA1v (Knaden et al.,
2012;Stensmyr et al., 2012;Knaden and Hansson, 2014;Dweck et al., 2015;Mohamed et
al., 2019b). Why do aversive olfactory circuits have a stronger MGN-MGN connection
than attractive circuits? In the larval *Drosophila* AL, reciprocal LN-LN synapses induce
disinhibition induced by a strong connection between the pan-glomerular LNs and a
bilateral projecting LN, the Keystone LN, which synapses strongly onto pan-
glomerular LNs and selectively onto OSNs, which are activated by attractive food
odors. This is thought to be a key feature to switch from homogenous to
heterogeneous presynaptic inhibition and therefore to a selective gain control
enhancing contrast between attractive and aversive odor activation (Berck et al., 2016).
Such balanced inhibitory systems could also be present in the adult *Drosophila* AL,
reflected in the strong LN-LN connection in DA2 and DL5. Disinhibition of
interglomerular presynaptic inhibition in aversive glomeruli circuits might be
important for the fly to stay vigilant to aversive odors, while perceiving attractive
cues, for example during feeding conditions so that a fast switch in behavior can be
initiated.

Autaptic connection within the dendritic tree of a single uPN

We observed autapses along the large dendritic tree of the single DL5-uPN. To
our knowledge, this is the first report of bulk dendro-dendritic autapses in the
Drosophila olfactory system, indicating a cell-type specific occurrence of autapses in
the DL5-uPN as reported for certain cell types of the optic lobe (Takemura et al., 2015).
Autapses are also reported to be present at different frequencies in different types of
neurons in the mammalian brain (Van der Loos and Glaser, 1972;Tamás et al.,
1997;Bekkers, 1998;Bacci and Huguenard, 2006;Ikeda and Bekkers, 2006;Bekkers,
2009;Saada et al., 2009). In *Drosophila*, most uPNs are cholinergic (Yasuyama and
Salvaterra, 1999;Yasuyama et al., 2003;Kazama and Wilson, 2008;Tanaka et al.,
2012;Croset et al., 2018) and DL5-uPN autapses might activate either nicotinic or
muscarinic acetylcholine postsynaptic receptors. Muscarinic acetylcholine receptors
have an inhibitory effect in the Kenyon cells of the mushroom body (Bielopolski et al.,
2019), but mediate excitation in the AL (Rozenfeld et al., 2019).
What is the function of these autaptic feedback loops within a DL5-uPN
dendrite? Recent studies in vertebrates show that excitatory autapses enhance neuron
bursting and excitability (Guo et al., 2016;Wiles et al., 2017;Yin et al., 2018). Autaptic
inhibitory connections have been implicated in circuit synchronization, spike-timing
precision, self-stabilization of neuronal circuits and feedback inhibition (Ikeda and

Bekkers;Van der Loos and Glaser, 1972;Tamás et al., 1997;Bekkers, 1998;Bacci and Huguenard, 2006;Saada et al., 2009).

Autapses in the DL5 uPN form mainly long-distance feedback loops, connecting distinct dendritic subtrees and the basal dendrite region (closer to the soma) with distal branches. This spatial segregation is similar to the distribution of non-autaptic pre- and postsynaptic sites in *Drosophila* uPNs, where presynapses are located more frequently at basal dendrites than postsynapses (Rybak et al., 2016) and other insects, such as *Periplaneta americana* and moths (Malun, 1991;Sun et al., 1997;Lei et al., 2010). Dendro-dendritic autaptic feedback loops connecting basal to distal branches and distinct dendritic subtrees of a large dendritic tree might facilitate activity correlation between distant dendritic subunits, as described for non-autaptic, reciprocal uPN-uPN connections (Kazama and Wilson, 2009). This could be important in a large compartmentalized dendrite that receives inhomogeneous excitation by several OSNs at distinct dendritic sites, in order to enhance synchronized depolarization events along the dendrite, supporting signal integration (Graubard et al., 1980;Tran-Van-Minh et al., 2015). Clustered autapses could mediate local signal input amplification for distinct dendritic subunits (Kumar et al., 2018;Liu et al., 2022). Autaptic contacts, finally, could be able to shift the uPN membrane depolarization towards the spiking threshold, and enhance the firing probability during activation.

In conclusion, we provide a comprehensive comparative analysis of the ultrastructure and synaptic circuitry of two functionally diverse olfactory glomeruli with distinct computational demands, processing either single odorant information in a dedicated olfactory pathway (DA2) or input regarding several odorants and taking part in combinatory coding across distributed glomeruli (DL5). Our work provides an opportunity to gain insight into variations in network architecture and provides fundamental knowledge for future understanding of glomerular processing. By comparing our data with those from another narrowly tuned glomerulus (VA1v), we distilled prominent circuit features that suggest that narrowly tuned glomerular circuits encode odor signals with a weaker left-right-contrast, improved accuracy, stronger signal amplification and stronger intraglomerular signal modulation relative to broadly tuned glomeruli. Our findings reveal the existence of autapses in olfactory glomeruli and indicate that dendro-dendritic autapses play an important role in dendritic signal integration.

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MATERIAL AND METHODS

Fly line and fly rearing
Flies of the genotype *Orco-GAL4; UAS-GCaMP6s* were obtained from the Bloomington
Drosophila Stock Center (https://bdsc.indiana.edu) and reared on standard *Drosophila*
food at 25°C and 70% humidity on a 12 h:12 h day:night cycle. Seven-days old female
flies were used. In these flies, Orco-positive olfactory sensory cells emit green
fluorescence, making possible to identify individual glomeruli.

Brain dissection and fixation for Focus Ion Beam microscopy
Two 7-day old female flies were anesthetized with nitric oxide (with Sleeper TAS;
INJECT+MATIC, Switzerland) and decapitated with forceps. Heads were dipped for
one minute in 0.05% Triton X-100 in 0.1M Sorensen's phosphate buffer, pH 7.3 and
transferred to a droplet of freshly prepared ice-cooled fixative (2.5% glutaraldehyde
and 2.0% paraformaldehyde in 0.1M Sørensen's phosphate buffer, pH 7.3; as in
(Karnovsky, 1965). The proboscis was removed and the back of the head was opened
to improve fixative penetration. After 5-10 minutes, the brain was dissected out of the
head capsule and post-fixed for two hours on ice. Fixation was stopped by rinsing the
brain several times in ice-cooled 0.1M Sørensen's phosphate buffer, pH 7.3 (after
(Rybak et al., 2016)).

Laser branding of glomeruli for identification during FIB microscopy
To identify the glomeruli of interest at the ultrastructural level and to limit to a
minimum the volume of tissue to be scanned with FIB, near-infrared laser branding
(NIRB, (Bishop et al., 2011)). Glomeruli of interest were first located with light
microscopy in brains of *Orco-GAL4; UAS-GCaMP6s* flies using a confocal microscope
(ZEISS LSM 710 NLO, Carl Zeiss, Germany), a 40x water immersion objective (W Plan-
Apochromat 40x/1.0 DIC VIS-IR, Carl Zeiss, Jena, Germany), a laser wavelength of 925
nm at 30% laser power and ZEN software (Carl Zeiss, Germany). Once glomeruli DA2
or DL5 were identified by means of location, shape and size the volume of interest
(VOI) was tagged with fiducial marks ("laser-branded") close to the borders of the
glomerulus (**Figure 1A-B**), using an infrared Chameleon Ultra diode-pumped laser
(Coherent, Santa Clara, USA) at wavelength 800 nm and at 75-90% of laser
power).Two laser scan rounds were performed for each induced fiducial brand. DA2
(right AL) and DL5 (left AL) were laser-branded in the same fly. A second glomerulus
DA2 was marked in the right AL of another fly.

Transmission Electron Microscopy
Brains were rinsed with 2.5% sodium-cacodylate buffer and incubated in 1% uranyl
acetate in 50% acetone for 30 minutes in the dark for *en bloc* staining. They were then
dehydrated with a graded ascending acetone series (30%-100%) and gradually
infiltrated with Araldites (glycerol-based aromatic epoxy resins; Serva, Germany). In
the final step, the tissue was embedded in pure resin and left in a 60°C incubator to

polymerize for 48h. Resin blocks were trimmed with a Reichert UltraTrim microtome
(Leica, USA) and the fiducial laser marks were then located in semi-thin sections. To
check tissue quality before performing high-resolution volume based electron
microscopy, serial sections 50 nm in thickness were cut with a diamond knife (Ultra
45°, Diatome, Switzerland) on a Reichert Ultracut S ultramicrotome (Leica, Germany),
collected on single slot grids (2 x 1 mm), and imaged with a JEM 1400 electron
microscope (Jeol, Germany) operated at 80 kV. Digital micrographs were obtained
with a Gatan Orius SC 1000 CCD camera (Gatan Orius SC 1000; Gatan, USA)
controlled with the Gatan Microscopy Suite software Vers. 2.31.734.0.
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Focused Ion Beam-Scanning Electron Microscopy (FIB-SEM)
Before serial Focused Ion Beam Scanning Electron Microscopy imaging (FIB-SEM;
(Knott et al., 2008;Xu et al., 2017), the surface of the trimmed block was coated with a
conductive layer of carbon to prevent charging artifacts. The VOIs were imaged using
a FEI Helios NanoLab G3 UC equipment (FEI, USA). The laser marks used to
landmark the VOI were visible across the surface of the block. The VOI surface was
protected via a local electron beam and subsequently, an ion beam deposition of
platinum was applied using a gas injection system to remove surrounding material
and to reduce re-deposition. Serial images across the entire VOI were generated by
repeated cycles of milling and imaging, orthogonal to the block surface. The tissue
was milled with a focused beam of gallium ions using FEI's Tomahawk ion column
(accelerating voltage: 30 kV, beam current: 790 pA, milling steps: 20 nm). After each
milling cycle, the back-scattering electrons were detected with an in-column detector
(FEI's Elstar electron column operating at 3kV accelerating voltage; 1.6 nA beam
current; 10 µs dwell time) used to create an image of the newly exposed surface during
each scan cycle. The DA2 and DL5 volumes (DA2: 769 slices; DL5: 976 slices) in the
first fly were imaged with a pixel resolution of 4.9 x 4.9 x 20 nm/pix (pixel field: 4096
x 3536 (DA2) and 5218 x 3303 (DL5). The dataset of the DA2 volume (571 slices) in a
second fly was imaged with a pixel resolution of 4.4 x 4.4 x 20 nm/pix (pixel field: 4096
x 3536). The milling/imaging cycles were controlled with the FEI Auto Slice and View
operating 4.0 software (FEI).

Image alignment, 3D reconstruction and segmentation
FIB-SEM image stacks were aligned by maximizing the Pearson correlation coefficient
of the central part of two consecutive images using template matching from the
openCV library (https://opencv.org). Dense reconstruction of the glomeruli were
produced by manually tracing all neuronal fibers and by annotating all synapses
within the two glomeruli, using a skeleton-based reconstruction procedure similar to
previous approaches (Berck et al., 2016;Schneider-Mizell et al., 2016;Zheng et al.,
2017). Up to five independent tracers and two reviewers participated in an iterative
reconstruction process using the web-based reconstruction software CATMAID
(http://www.catmaid.org; RRID:SCR_006278; (Saalfeld et al., 2009;Schneider-Mizell et
al., 2016); **Figure 1D, Figure 1 -- video 1**), performing a dense reconstruction of a

synaptic neuropil. In a another fly, neurons of a DA2 glomerulus were manually
reconstructed with the volume-based reconstruction method TrakEM2 (Cardona et
al., 2012), an ImageJ (Fiji) plugin (https://imagej.net/TrakEM2).
932

Glomerular border definition
934 The definition of the boundary between olfactory glomeruli was based on the
935 combination of several structural features: the spatial position of pre- and
936 postsynaptic elements along OSN axons, the position of the majority of uPN
937 postsynaptic sites, the faint glial leaflets scattered at the periphery of the glomerulus,
938 and the fiducial laser marks (**Figure 1B, D**).
939

Neuron identification
Neuronal fibers were assigned to one of three pre-defined neuron classes: OSNs,
uPNs, and MGNs. The classification was based on their 3D shape (**Figure 2A**), their
branching intensity (**Figure 2B**), the average diameter of their fibers (neuronal profiles:
Figure 2A - FIB-SEM image; exemplary volume based reconstruction), the ratio of T-
bars-to-input sites and the size of their T-bars, which were either "small" (few
postsynaptic connections) or "large" (many postsynaptic connections **Figure 2 –**
supplement 1B-D). In addition, several intracellular features helped to classify neuron
classes: the shape and appearance of mitochondria, the size and electron density of
vesicles and the amount of spinules (small filopodia-like invaginations of neighboring
cells (**Figure 2A -** FIB-SEM image; (Gruber et al., 2018). OSNs and uPNs could be
counted, due to their uniglomerular character, by means of the identification of the
axons (OSNs) or main dendrites (uPNs) entering the glomerulus. The number of
MGNs could not be counted because of their pan-glomerular projection patterns in
the AL. Ipsi- and contralateral OSNs in DA2 and DL5 were identified based on the
trajectory of axonal fibers and their entry location in each glomerulus, (example
neurons: **Figure 4B).** Ipsilateral OSNs reach the glomerulus from the ipsilateral
antennal nerve and leave the glomerulus towards the antennal lobe commissure
(ALC: (Tanaka et al., 2012)). Contralateral OSNs reach the glomerulus projecting from
the ALC.
960

Data analysis
With the aid of the web-based software CATMAID (http://www.catmaid.org), we
traced neurons in each VOI and the following properties were quantified: the
glomerular volume, neuronal fiber length (in μm), number of fiber branching points,
number of synaptic input and output sites and T-bars (see data availability). In a
second fly, the volume of neurons in DA2 was measured with the aid of TrakEM2
(Cardona et al., 2012), an ImageJ (Fiji) plugin (https://imagej.net/TrakEM2). The
following calculations were performed:

1. *Innervation density* $= \frac{total\ neuron\ length\ (\mu m)}{glomerular\ volume\ (\mu m^3)}$,

a. calculated as a ratio: (1)the sum of all neuronal fibers of each neuron class or (2) all together (**Table 1**) or (3) for each neuron individually (**Figure 3**)

2. $Glomerular\ synaptic\ density = \frac{\#\ of\ synaptic\ inputs,-\ outputs\ or\ T-bars}{glomerular\ volume\ (\mu m^3)}$,

a. calculated as a ratio: (1) the sum of all neuronal fibers of each neuron class or (2) all together (**Table 1**) or (3) for each neuron individually (**Figure 3**)

3. $Neuronal\ synaptic\ density = \frac{\#\ of\ synaptic\ inputs-,outputs\ or\ T-bars}{neuronal\ fiber\ length\ (\mu m)}$ (**Table 1; Figure 3 – figure supplement 1**)

4. $Synaptic\ ratios = \frac{\#\ of\ T-bars\ or\ outputs}{inputs}$ (represents the average for each neuron class; **Table 1**)

5. $Polyadicity = \frac{\#\ of\ outputs}{T-bars}$ (represents the average number of postsynaptic sites at a T-bar of each neuron class; **Table 1 and Figure 1E**)

6. $Relative\ differences = \frac{respective\ value\ target\ glomerulus-value\ source\ glomerulus}{source\ glomerulus} \times 100$ (**Table S1; Table S2**)

7. $Relative\ synaptic\ strength = \frac{\#\ of\ synaptic\ contacts\ from\ neuron\ class\ A\ to\ B}{\#\ all\ synaptic\ contacts\ in\ corresponding\ glomerulus}$ (**Table S1; Table S2**)

8. $Fraction\ of\ output = \frac{\#\ of\ outputs\ of\ neuron\ class\ A\ directed\ to\ neuron\ class\ B}{total\ \#\ of\ outputs\ of\ neuron\ class\ A} \times 100$

9. $Fraction\ of\ input = \frac{\#\ of\ inputs\ from\ neuron\ class\ A\ from\ class\ B}{total\ \#\ of\ inputs\ of\ neuron\ class\ A} \times 100$

Graphs were made with the programming language R and RStudio (R Core Team, 2018) using the packages 'ggplot2' and 'reshape' (see data availability) or with Python (see data availability). All figures were compiled with Adobe Illustrator CS5 software (Adobe Inc.).

Statistical analysis was performed with R Studio (R Studio Team, 2016) using the packages 'ggsignif'. Differences between samples DA2 and DL5 or between ipsilateral and contralateral OSNs were tested for significance with a two-sided student's t-test if sample size was normally distributed, or with Wilcoxon two sample test if the data was not normally distributed (noted in figure legend). Data is in all cases represented as mean + standard deviation.

Analysis of autapses

The location of autapses, the measurement of their geodesic (distance along the neuronal dendrite) and the number of branching points from point A (presynaptic site) to B (postsynaptic profile) was analyzed with Python using the package 'neuroboom' https://github.com/markuspleijzier/neuroboom (see also data availability).

Data availability

Datasets will be available through the public CATMAID instance:
https://catmaid.ice.mpg.de/catmaid_2020.02.15/#. Neurons are named according to
their neuron classification. All data and source code packages used in this study are
hosted on GitHub: https://github.com/. The neuroboom Python package was used for
dendrogram analysis, available at https://github.com/markuspleijzier/neuroboom
and https://pypi.org/project/neuroboom/.

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FIGURES

Figure 1: A correlative approach to analyze the ultrastructure of identified olfactory
glomeruli
A-B: Two-photon laser scans of the antennal lobes in *Orco-Gal4; UAS-GCaMP6s* flies where
Orco-positive olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs) in the glomerular neuropils were labeled
by GCaMP (green fluorescence). Glomeruli DA2 (A) and DL5 (B) are encircled. Schematics
show their relative position in the antennal lobe. Once the glomeruli of interest were
identified, glomerular borders were marked with fiducial marks (arrowheads) via laser
branding, which enabled their identification at the ultrastructural level. **C-D**:
Representative images of the same glomeruli (DA2 in **C** and DL5 in **D**) obtained with
focused-ion-beam electron microscopy (FIB-SEM), showing their ultrastructure. Asterisks
indicate the main neurite of uniglomerular projection neurons entering the glomerulus.
White arrowhead shows a 2-photon laser mark (see also **A** and **B**). **E**: FIB-SEM image of a
polyadic synapse: the presynaptic site (red arrowhead) is composed of a T-bar shaped
presynaptic density surrounded by small vesicles and is opposed by several postsynaptic
profiles (cyan dots). Scheme of a tetrad synapse: a presynaptic site with its T-bar (red
arrowhead) forms four output connections (arrows) with four postsynaptic input sites
(cyan dots). **F:** A skeleton-based reconstruction of an OSN axon terminal (green line) with
presynaptic (red dots) and postsynaptic sites (cyan dots). The dark grey shading
surrounding the OSN trace represents the volume-based reconstruction of the same
neuron. Tracing and reconstruction were performed within the FIB-SEM dataset (light grey
area).
1620
Figure 2: Neuron classification and neuronal composition of the DA2 and DL5 glomeruli
A: Example FIB-SEM images (left column), volumetric neuronal reconstructions (middle
column), and skeleton-based neuron traces (right column) of a representative example of
each neuron class: OSNs (green), uniglomerular projection neurons (uPNs, red) and
multiglomerular neurons (MGNs, blue). The ultrastructure of neurons, including T-bars
(black arrowheads), mitochondria (asterisks) and spinules (white arrowhead) are
indicated. Exemplar volumetric reconstructions (middle column) show the general
morphology of each neuron class. Presynapses and postsynapses are indicated with red
and cyan dots on the skeleton traces (right column). **B:** Average branching intensity
(branching points per μm of neuronal-fiber length) of each neuron class OSNs, uPNs and
MGNs in DA2 and DL5. Data represent mean+ standard deviation (error bars). Data points
represent single values. Means were compared using Wilcoxon two-sample test. No
significant differences of branching points/μm in OSNs or MGNs between glomeruli were
found (significance was not tested for uPNs due to the presence of a single uPN in DL5).
C: Schematic summary indicating, for each glomerulus, its volume (in μm^3), the number of

neurons of each class (MGNs were not counted), the total fiber length of all neurons for
each neuron class and the total number of single synaptic contacts for each glomerulus.
1638

Table 1. Glomerular innervation and synaptic composition
Quantitative neuronal data comparing glomeruli DA2 and DL5, detailing glomerular
innervation and synaptic properties for each neuronal class: OSNs (green), uPNs (red) and
MGNs (blue) and the sum of all of them. **Row 1**: Total length of all neurons of each neuron
class and total length for all neurons in each glomerulus. **Row 2-4**: Synaptic counts: input
sites (inputs), output sites (outputs) and T-bars (T-bars). **Row 5**: Innervation density: total
neuron length (μm; row 1)/glomerular volume (μm^3); glomerular volume: DA2=1500 μm^3
and DL5=2700 μm^3 (see Figure 1C). **Row 6-8**: Total synaptic density per unit of glomerular
volume (μm^3): sum of all input sites (inputs), output sites (outputs) and T-bars of each
neuron class or of all neurons/glomerular volume. **Row 9-11**: Average synaptic density
along neuronal fibers (illustrated also in Figure 3 – supplement 1): number of inputs,
outputs or T-bars/neuron length (μm). **Row 12-13:** Average synaptic ratios: the ratio of T-
bars-to-inputs or outputs-to-inputs. **Row 14:** Polyadicity: the average number of
postsynaptic sites at each T-bar in DA2 and DL5. The ratios in rows 12-14 were calculated
based on synaptic counts normalized to neuron length (rows 9-11). The color shading
highlights values that have a relative difference greater than 20% (see relative differences
Table S1) between DA2 and DL5. Dark shades highlights values that are greater in DA2
than in DL5 (green (OSNs), red (uPNs), blue (MGNs)) and light colors highlight values that
are less in DA2 than in DL5.
1658

Figure 3: Innervation density and synaptic density in DA2 and DL5
A-E: The average glomerular innervation density of OSNs (**A**), uPNs (**B**), MGNs (**C**) and
collectively of all glomerular neurons (**D**); the average synaptic density of input sites
(inputs), output sites (outputs) and T-bars and the average polyadicity. Innervation
density: length (μm) of each neuronal fiber normalized to one μm^3 of glomerular (glom.)
volume. Synaptic density: number of input sites, output sites or T-bars of each neuronal
fiber normalized to one μm^3 of glomerular volume. Polyadicity: average number of single
output sites per T-bar in each neuronal fiber. Data for DA2 shown in dark colors and for
DL5 in light colors. Number of neurons in DA2: OSNs (green) n= 44; uPNs (red) n= 7;
MGNs (blue) n=180; all neurons n=231, in DL5: OSNs n=46; uPN n=1; MGNs n=221; all
neurons n=268. Data represent mean + standard deviation (error bars). Data points
represent single values. Means were compared using either Student's t-test (OSNs) or
Wilcoxon two-sample test (MGNs and all neurons). uPNs were not compared, since the
DL5 has only one. Significance value: p>0.05 (not significant, no star), p≤0.05 (*), p≤0.01 (**),
p≤0.001 (***). Values are provided at data availability; polyadicity values are listed in Table
1, row 14.
1675

Figure 4: Lateralization of OSN terminals in the antennal lobe

A: Illustration of an ipsilateral (dark green) and a contralateral (light green) OSN with

dendrites in the corresponding antennae and their axonal projections to the ipsilateral

olfactory glomerulus in the antennal lobe (AL) (dashed rectangle). **B**: Exemplary skeleton

traces of an ipsilateral (dark green) and a contralateral (light green) OSN terminal inside

glomerulus DA2. The ipsilateral OSN axons reach the glomerulus via the ipsilateral

antennal nerve (arrow down) and leave the glomerulus towards the AL commissure

(arrow up) while OSN axons originating at the contralateral antenna reach the glomerulus

via the AL commissure. Red dots: presynapses; blue dots: postsynapses. **C**: Boxplots

showing the fraction of synaptic output to uPNs (in red), - to OSNs (in green) or - toMGNs

(in blue), , for the ipsilateral OSNs (dark green boxplot) and contralateral OSNs (light

green), respectively, in the DA2, DL5 and VA1v glomeruli (VA1v data obtained from

Horne et al., 2018). **D**: Boxplots showing the fraction of synaptic input of the same

ipsilateral and contralateral OSNs that they receive from OSNs and MGNs. Connection

polarity is indicated by arrows in the schematic neuronal drawings on the left of each plot.

Dots represent single values. Means were compared using either Student's T-test.

Significance value: $p>0.05$ (not significant, no star)), $p≤0.05$ (*), $p≤0.01$ (**), $p≤0.001$ (***).

Mean and Median values are provided at data availability.

1694

Figure 5: Strength of synaptic connection between neuron classes in the circuitry of DA2,

DL5 and VA1v.

A: Schematic representation of principal connection motifs between the neuron classes

OSNs (green), uPNs (red) and MGNs (blue). The synaptic flow directed towards uPNs is a

feedforward and that directed towards OSNs or from uPNs to MGNs defined as a feedback

connection (arrows). **B-D**: Alluvial diagrams of the glomerular circuitry in DA2 (**B**), DL5

(**C**) and VA1v (**D**). Each diagram shows the relative synaptic strength calculated as the

proportion of 1:1 single synaptic contacts between each neuron class in relation to the total

number of synaptic contacts in their respective glomerulus. The synaptic strength between

each neuron class, given as percentage, is indicated by the thickness of the lines. The

proportions (as percentage) of output (left side) or input (right side) are illustrated by

colored rectangles to the left or right of each alluvial diagram. The total number of synaptic

contacts is indicated below the diagrams. Percentages of the relative synaptic strength and

synaptic counts are listed in the supplementary Table S1. **E:** Stacked bar charts depict

output (E') and input (E'') fractions (given as percentages) of each neuron class: OSNs

(green), uPNs (red), MGNs (blue), schematically illustrated next to the bar charts

respectively, to each of the other neuron classes for glomeruli DA2, DL5 and VA1v.

Fractions are color-coded according to the neuron class of the respective connecting

partner.

1714

1715

Figure 6: Differences in connectivity strength in glomeruli DA2, DL5 and VA1v

A: Schematic representation of synaptic connection motifs (arrows) between OSNs (green), uPNs (red), and MGNs (blue) in glomeruli DA2, DL5 and VA1v. The number of neurons of each class or truncated neuronal fibers (in brackets) is noted in the corresponding circle. **B**: Schematics of connection motifs (left) that are jointly stronger or weaker in DA2 and VA1v than in DL5. The relative differences (as percentage) between DA2 and DL5 as well as VA1v and DL5 are illustrated as arrows up (stronger) or arrows down (weaker) according to their intensity (see legend at the bottom) from the perspective of the target glomerulus (defined in the table header). The values of relative differences are listed in the Table S2.

Figure 7: Distribution of pre- and postsynaptic partners of autapses in the uPN dendrite of the DL5

A: Distribution of autaptic presynaptic (red dots) and postsynaptic sites (cyan dots) mapped in a dendrogram of the dendrite of the single uPN in glomerulus DL5. The basal root node (black dot) represents the entry site of the uPN dendrite into the glomerulus (closest point to its soma). Clustering of autaptic input sites along some branches are encircled. **B**: Simplified representation of the uPN's dendrogram illustrating the distinct strahler orders, at distal branches (1-4) and at basal branches (5-8); see legend on the right). **C**: Distribution of autaptic presynaptic (left) and postsynaptic input sites (right) along the dendrite, as proportions at each corresponding strahler order (color coded). Note that autaptic postsynaptic sites are located almost exclusively at the most distal dendritic branches. **D**: Dendrogram of the DL5-uPN showing the distribution of presynaptic sites (triangles) and postsynaptic sites (circles) of selected autapses (indicated by same color). Distant pairs of pre- and postsynapses (long geodesic distance) are indicated by numbers whereas closely attached synaptic sites (short geodesic distance) are encircled and labelled with letters. **E**: Schematic of the dendrogram illustrating the location of the presynaptic (red dot) and postsynaptic (cyan dot) sites of a single autapse, the geodesic distance between them, i.e. the distance along the dendrite (μm), and the number of branching points (orange dots) between the pre- and postsynaptic components of the same autapse. **F**: Number of autapses with distinct geodesic distances between their pre- and postsynapses (illustrated in E). **G**: Number of autapses with the number of branch points between their pre- and postsynapses counted along the uPN dendrite (illustrated in E).

Figure 1

Figure 2

Row	Values	Unit	OSNs		uPNs		MGNs		all neurons	
			DA2	DL5	DA2	DL5	DA2	DL5	DA2	DL5
1	Total neuronal length	μm	2012	2727	4652	5015	10705	14411	17370	22153
2		input	868	1083	3887	3955	7229	9018	11984	14056
3	Total synaptic counts	output	6671	6828	1624	3108	5659	6749	13954	16685
4		T-bars	1063	1213	322	602	1263	1572	2648	3387
5	Total innervation density (sum of length of all neuronal fibers/glom. volume)	μm/μm³	1.26	1.05	2.91	1.93	6.69	5.54	10.86	8.52
6	Total glomerular synaptic density (total synaptic counts/glomerular volume)	inputs/μm³	0.54	0.42	2.43	1.52	4.52	3.47	7.49	5.41
7		outputs/μm³	4.17	2.63	1.02	1.20	3.54	2.60	8.72	6.42
8		T-bars/μm³	0.66	0.47	0.20	0.23	0.79	0.60	1.66	1.30
9	Neuronal synaptic density (synaptic counts/neuronal length)	inputs/μm	0.42	0.39	0.83	0.79	0.62	0.59	0.59	0.56
10		outputs/μm	3.37	2.62	0.33	0.62	0.52	0.51	1.06	0.87
11		T-bars/μm	0.53	0.46	0.07	0.12	0.12	0.12	0.19	0.18
12	Synaptic ratio	T-bars/inputs	1.31	1.27	0.08	0.15	0.23	0.24	0.43	0.42
13		outputs/inputs	8.29	7.29	0.40	0.79	1.04	1.11	2.40	2.17
14	Polyadicity	outputs/T-bars	6.35	5.70	4.95	5.16	3.22	2.64	3.88	3.17

Table 1

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

Figure 6

Figure 7