Multiplexed neuromodulatory-type-annotated whole-brain EM-reconstruction of larval zebrafish

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Electron microscopy (EM)-based reconstruction of microscopic connectomes is crucial in elucidating the synaptic organization of the brain architecture[1-10]. To understand the reconstructed connectome and integrate it with functional interrogation, it is indispensable to identify neuronal types in EM datasets[11-14]. Among the vast array of neuronal types, diverse evolutionarily-conserved neuromodulatory (NM) neurons endow the hardwired brain architecture with flexible neural processing and function[15-18]. Here, we present Fish-X, a synapse-level, multiplexed NM-type-annotated reconstruction spanning the retina, brain and anterior spinal cord (SC) of a 6-day-old larval zebrafish, capturing >176,000 cells and >25 million synapses in the brain and SC. Among diverse neuronal types, NM (including noradrenergic (NE), dopaminergic (DA), serotonergic (5HT), and hypocretinergic) and glycinergic neurons are identified via subcellular localization of the enhanced ascorbate peroxidase-2[19], while excitatory (E) glutamatergic and inhibitory (I) GABAergic neurons are inferred through morphology comparison with the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas[20]. Different types of NM neurons display various synapse density and number on dendrites, with the number being positively correlated with their total projection length. By reconstructing presynaptic neurons (PNs) and identifying their E/I identity, in-depth analysis of individual locus coeruleus (LC)-NE neurons revealed that they receive brain-wide synaptic inputs, which are organized into modality- and E/I-dependent spatial patterns along dendrites. Moreover, a subset of PNs innervate multiple LC-NE neurons, and this input sharing extends across NE, DA, and 5HT systems, suggesting a co-innervation mechanism for coordinated modulation within and across diverse NM systems. Thus, our study reveals the multi-dimensional synaptic input organization of the LC-NE system. Integrated with the zebrafish mesoscopic atlases[20,21], the Fish-X offers a valuable resource for deciphering how, at the level of synaptic architecture, NM systems interact with sensorimotor pathways to shape neurocomputing in the larval zebrafish brain.

Brain function is underpinned by exquisitely organized architecture that operates across various scales, ranging from the precise spatial localization of synapses to the intricate morphologies of individual neurons and the characteristic neural connectivity among distinct regions. The synaptic-resolution connectome, representing a foundational challenge in neuroscience, offers a mechanistic framework to bridge structure and function[13,14,22-25]. While complete wiring diagrams of the nervous system have been achieved for small invertebrate animal models, including *Caenorhabditis elegans* and *Drosophila melanogaster*[1,3-5,7,8], vertebrate whole-brain connectomes remain incomplete—despite landmark achievements in mouse and human cortical reconstructions[9,10,26-30]. Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) larvae emerge now as the most tractable vertebrate model for whole-brain reconstruction, combining manageable brain scale with conserved neural architecture. Pioneering work has mapped local

circuits[22,25,31-33] or generated whole-brain datasets[2,6,34], yet existing datasets often possess

limited resolution or omit essential input-output regions—notably the retina (vision entry) and

spinal cord (SC, motor output) — limiting systems-level interrogation of sensorimotor

transformation.

The functional complexity of neural networks arises not only from their physical wiring,

but also from the molecular diversity of their constituent neurons. Molecularly defined

neuronal types serve as crucial bridges linking static structural data with functional

readouts[11-14]. Recent light-microscopy-based connectomics highlights an urgent need for

molecular annotated connectomes[35]. Traditional electron microscopy (EM)-based

connectomics primarily relies on prior structural features for neuronal identification,

including stereotyped soma locations, projection morphologies, specialized cellular features,

and synaptic ultrastructures[2,24,31,36,37]. For neuronal populations with less well-characterized

structural signatures, neuronal type identification has been achieved mainly through

correlative light-electron microscopy (CLEM)[34], genetically encoded tags for EM

(GETEM)[38-40] and immuno-EM[41]. Beyond a few well-studied excitatory and inhibitory

neuronal populations (e.g., cortical pyramidal neurons in mouse, reticulospinal neurons in

zebrafish), the majority of cell types, particularly neuromodulatory (NM) populations, lack

sufficient ground-truth data for structural feature extraction. For these challenging cases,

GETEM represents a highly feasible annotation approach, enabling precise neuronal type

identification within synaptic-resolution wiring diagrams.

Therefore, we build Fish-X, a whole-brain, synapse-level, multiplexed molecular

annotated serial-section EM (ssEM) dataset spanning from the retina to the anterior SC in

6-day post-fertilization (dpf) larval zebrafish. In the brain, soma and neuropil regions are

spatially segregated. Most brain regions display heterogeneity in synapse density, yet exhibit

comparable lognormal distributions of synapse strength. Diverse types of NM neurons,

including noradrenergic (NE), dopaminergic (DA), serotonergic (5HT), and hypocretinergic

(Hcrt) neurons, and glycinergic (Gly) neurons are identified using the enhanced ascorbate

peroxidase-2 (APEX2) targeted to distinct subcellular compartments, driven by

neuronal-type-specific promoters[11,19,42,43]. Besides, Excitatory (E) glutamatergic (Glu) and

inhibitory (I) GABAergic (GABA) neurons are inferred through the Zebrafish Mesoscopic

Atlas[20]-assisted morphology comparison. Leveraging this unique advantages of the

multiplexed molecular annotated ssEM dataset, we investigated perisomatic characteristics

across neuronal types, with focus on monoaminergic neurons, including NE, DA, and 5HT

neurons. Heterogeneous ultrastructural features extracted from genetically-labeled ground

truth enable identification of unlabeled neurons both in this study and other zebrafish

connectome datasets.

Morphologically diverse NM neurons innervate various sensory – motor brain regions.

Whereas some NM systems exhibit localized innervation for local regulation, others possess

widespread projections enabling multi-regional modulation[44-48]. Through brain-wide

synapse-level reconstruction, we tackled fundamental questions concerning the bi-pathway
brain architecture composed of NM pathways and sensorimotor pathways[15-18,49,50]: where NM
neurons receive upstream inputs and how these inputs are spatially organized at the synaptic
level. To this end, we focused on the locus coeruleus (LC)-NE system, because it serves as a
pivotal hub for brain-wide activity regulation[48,51-58]. We found that an individual LC-NE
neuron receives brain-wide synaptic inputs with modality- and strength-specific spatial
organization. Furthermore, we revealed the distinct-yet-overlapping organization of synaptic
inputs on LC-NE neurons. Intriguingly, different monoaminergic systems also share common
inputs, suggesting a modular input architecture that coordinates NE, DA, and 5HT
modulation.

Fish-X offers a valuable synapse-level, whole-brain resource featuring a variety of
precisely annotated molecularly defined neuronal types. Together with other whole-brain
zebrafish EM datasets that provide E/I annotations and calcium activity functional profiles[6,34],
Fish-X contributes to the foundational infrastructure that encompasses sample preparation,
algorithms, proofreading platforms, and public sharing. This infrastructure is essential for
future whole connectome reconstruction. Furthermore, Fish-X demonstrates synergistic
potential with multimodal zebrafish mesoscopic datasets[20,59]. It not only enhances the
annotation of neuronal types in EM connectomes but also facilitates the analysis of synaptic
connectivity among specific neurons, with their morphology traced in functional studies.
Collectively, Fish-X serves as a critical reference for deciphering the principles of synaptic
organization within the brain bi-pathway architecture.

Whole-brain ssEM of APEX2-labeled larval zebrafish
We utilized APEX2, which catalyzes hydrogen peroxide (H_2O_2)-dependent polymerization
and localized deposition of diaminobenzidine (DAB)[19], to enable EM labeling of molecularly
defined neuronal types. To achieve multiplexed labeling within a single brain preparation, we
expressed APEX2 in distinct neuronal types using cell-type-specific promoters, and targeted it
to distinct subcellular compartments via corresponding signal peptides. Thus, we generated
the   zebrafish   line,
Gt(vmat2:GAL4FF);Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;UAS:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP);Tg(hcrt:APEX2-TagRF
P-NLS);Tg(glyt2:MITO-APEX2-TagRFP), in which APEX2 conjugated with TagRFP was
specifically targeted to (i) the cytoplasm in monoaminergic neurons (including NE, DA, and
5HT neurons), (ii) the nucleus in Hcrt neurons, and (iii) the mitochondria in Gly neurons (Fig.
1a and Extended Data Fig. 1; see Methods). By immunohistochemical staining and crossing
with neuronal type-specific reporter fish lines, we confirmed that the APEX2 line successfully
labeled target neurons in specific nuclei: including NE neurons in the LC and medulla
oblongata (MO), DA neurons in the olfactory bulb (OB), posterior tuberculum (PT) and
caudal hypothalamus (Hc), 5HT neurons in the pretectum (Pr) and raphe nucleus (RN), Hcrt
neurons in the hypothalamus (Hyp), and Gly neurons across the brain and SC, with varying

labeling efficiency (Extended Data Fig. 1b-d). This labeling variability may result from
differential APEX2 expression levels caused by random insertion of genetic sequences in the
Tol2-based transgenic system.

Using the automated tape-collecting ultramicrotome – scanning electron microscopy
(ATUM-SEM) approach[2,60], we acquired a whole-brain ssEM dataset at $4 \times 4 \times 33$ nm^3 per
voxel resolution along the rostrocaudal axis, extending from the olfactory epithelium to the
anterior SC (vertebra 1) and including the right retina in a 6-dpf multiplexed APEX2-labeled
larva (Extended Data Fig. 2a; see Methods). The imaged volume, generated from 22,887
consecutive coronal-view ultrathin sections, encompassed ~3.1160×10^7 μm^3 for the entire
brain and anterior SC, ~5.5620×10^4 μm^3 for the right optic nerve, and ~6.0877×10^6 μm^3 for
the right retina (Fig. 1b).

We validated 176,810 cells in the brain and anterior SC through convolutional neural
network (CNN)-based three-dimensional (3D) automated nucleus segmentation (see
Methods), with subsequent manual proofreading. In addition, manual cell counting in the
right retina yielded 70,910 cells. Furthermore, we automatically segmented 25.25 million
postsynaptic densities (PSDs), 15.77 million synaptic vesicle (SV) clouds, and 13.73 million
mitochondria in the brain, respectively (see Methods). At the macroscopic level, the brain
exhibited a bilaterally symmetrical architecture. Among neural tracts, which serve as
highways for inter-regional signal transmission, only the reticulospinal system[2], lateral line
system[2], and optic nerve (partially) displayed significant myelination (Fig. 1b,c). Besides, the
vascular network was predominantly localized within neuropils (77.78% of the relevant
reconstructed volume) (Fig. 1c). In general, somata were predominantly localized in the
medial-dorsal regions (94.59% of the total cell population), while the lateral-ventral neuropils
contained sparse somata and provided spaces for synaptic connections (Fig. 1d,e). Using a
CNN-based approach, we generated automated 3D reconstructions of the brain and anterior
SC (Extended Data Fig. 2b,c; see Methods). Manually reconstructing morphologies of
brain-wide neurons including APEX2-labeled NM and Gly neurons, was then performed
using a custom collaborative proofreading software (see Methods). We reconstructed the
morphology of 523 neurons, encompassing 9 types: APEX2-labeld NE, DA, 5HT, Hcrt, and
Gly neurons, as well as Glu neurons, GABA neurons, retinal ganglion cells (RGCs), and a
Mauthner cell (M-cell) (Fig. 1f and Supplementary Video 1; see Methods). The identities of
the latter four types were determined through alignment with the Zebrafish Mesoscopic
Atlas[20] (see below in Fig. 2) or using their distinct morphological properties.

Neuronal type identification via multi-strategy approaches
For neuronal type identification, we first employed a CLEM approach to align the ssEM
dataset with the region-annotated brain template in the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas[20],
followed by identification via multi-strategy approaches (Fig. 2a, Extended Data Fig. 2a, and
Supplementary Table 1; see Methods). All cells in the brain and retina were mapped to their

corresponding regions. Significant variations in soma density were observed across regions
(Extended Data Fig. 3a,b and Supplementary Table 2). In the brain, the neuropil layer (NL)
and periventricular cell layer (PL) in the optic tectum exhibited the minimum and maximum
soma densities (0.51 *vs* 10.62 per 10^3 μm^3), respectively. In the retina, the outer nuclear layer
(ONL), the inner nuclear layer (INL), and retinal ganglion cell layer (RGCL) showed higher
soma densities (12.18, 21.01, and 15.63 per 10^3 μm^3, respectively; Extended Data Fig. 3a,b
and Supplementary Table 2).

We integrated distinct EM-visible labeling signatures with soma location to identify
APEX2-labeled neurons (Fig. 2a, top). As different types of monoaminergic nuclei are
discretely localized, we discriminated neurons as NE, DA, or 5HT based on their soma
location, together with *vmat2*-driven cytoplasmic APEX2 labeling. Hcrt and Gly neurons
were identified based on nuclear and mitochondrial APEX2 labeling, respectively. In total, we
identified at least five molecular types across 9 nuclei/regions (n_{LC-NE} = 12, n_{MO-NE} = 54,
n_{OB-DA} = 38, n_{PT-DA} = 22, n_{Hc-DA} = 45, n_{Pr-5HT} = 9, n_{RN-5HT} = 117, n_{Hcrt} = 12, and n_{Gly} = 4,019),
with a total number of 4,328 neurons (Fig. 2b, Extended Data Figs. 1a and 4, and
Supplementary Video 2). Due to the abundant population of Gly neurons, we trained a neural
network to automatically segment APEX2-labeled mitochondria and subsequently identified
Gly neurons based on the property and number of APEX2-labeled mitochondria within their
somata (see Methods). Other APEX2-labeled neurons were manually quantified by expert
proofreaders.

By integrating deep-learned and traditional features, we systematically investigated the
morphologies of whole-brain cellular nuclei and revealed generally continuous distributions
in clustering space, though vasculature-associated cell types (e.g., endothelial cells, EC;
pericytes, PC) tended to aggregate (Extended Data Fig. 3c). Neuronal nuclei typically
exhibited spherical or ellipsoidal morphologies, compared with the flattened, sheet-like nuclei
of vasculature-associated cells and the irregular shapes observed in some undefined cell types.
Among APEX2-labeled neurons, some types (e.g., LC-NE and PT-DA neurons) displayed
larger nuclei, and some possessed nuclei with shallow grooves (e.g., LC-NE neurons) or deep
infoldings (e.g., Gly neurons) (Extended Data Fig. 3d).

Next, we tested whether structural features extracted from APEX2-labeled neurons could
serve as ground truth to identify corresponding types of neurons without APEX2 labeling (Fig.
2a, middle). Due to the incompleteness of most cells after automated reconstruction,
identification using local structural features enables rapid targeting of specific neuronal
populations, followed by proofreading[36,37]. For instance, LC-NE neurons exhibited not only
larger nucleus volumes but also larger somata, extensive endoplasmic reticulum (ER), a
quantity of mitochondria, and a specialized cilium (Fig. 2c). Quantitative analysis revealed
that, compared with adjacent randomly selected cells, LC-NE neurons had a lower
nucleus-to-soma volume ratio (LC-NE neuron *vs* adjacent cell: 0.4123 ± 0.0808 *vs* 0.6530 ±
0.0113, *P* < 0.05, Mann Whitney test) and a higher somatic mitochondrial density (LC-NE

neuron *vs* adjacent cell: 0.5449 ± 0.0496 *vs* 0.0843 ± 0.0088 per 1 μm³, $P < 0.001$, Mann Whitney test) (Fig. 2d and Supplementary Table 3). These distinct perisomatic features enabled precise discrimination between NE and non-NE cells within the LC region. Subsequent clustering analysis integrating both nucleus and soma characteristics further validated this observation (Fig. 2e). Based on these criteria, we identified an additional unlabeled LC-NE neuron in the right hemisphere (blue arrow in Fig. 2d,e), whose morphological features closely matched those of the APEX2-labeled LC-NE neurons (Fig. 2f). We extended this analysis to other APEX2-labeled neuronal types and found that only PT-DA neurons could be identified based solely on local perisomatic features (Extended Data Fig. 3g and Supplementary Table 3). The remaining neuronal types exhibited no significant ultrastructural differences from adjacent cells (Extended Data Fig. 3e,f,h-l and Supplementary Table 3), further highlighting the value of APEX2 labeling for precise neuronal type identification.

Given that Glu and GABA neurons are fundamental elements of the brain, we investigated whether the synaptic ultrastructure and neuronal morphology can be used for E/I type identification of other neurons without APEX2 labeling in the Fish-X dataset. Glu and GABA synapses typically exhibit asymmetrical and symmetrical structures, and differ in PSD thickness in mammalian brains[61]. By using two additional EM datasets with mitochondrial labeling either in Glu or GABA neurons, we found that Glu and GABA synapses showed no significant differences in both the thickness and volume of PSDs, with only minor exceptions in rare individual cases (Extended Data Fig. 5), suggesting that synapses in zebrafish may not follow the criterion observed in mammals. Then we pursued neuronal type inference via morphology comparison with fully-reconstructed E and I neurons from the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas[20] ($n_{Glu} = 12{,}219$, $n_{GABA} = 5{,}371$, $n_{Gly} = 2{,}193$) (Fig. 2a, bottom). EM query neurons were pre-registered to the mesoscopic brain template through a CLEM pipeline (Extended Data Fig. 2a; see Methods), followed by the extraction of mesoscopically traced neurons within a 25-μm radius sphere centered at the query neuron's geometric centroid. Subsequent skeleton matching against these references yielded penalty scores (see Methods). For each EM query neuron, mesoscopic references with a lower penalty score are theoretically more similar. Top-ranked results were further manually verified to categorize all 467 EM query neurons as matched or unmatched. Among 467 queries, 389 of them were successfully matched to morphologically similar E or I counterparts (Fig. 2g,h). Meanwhile, 78 queries exhibited obvious differences in morphology with top-ranked references (Fig. 2i), calling for the needs for more complete reconstructions of these EM neurons and more coverage of the mesoscopic atlas. In general, matched queries showed a lower penalty score than unmatched ones (Fig. 2j; $P < 0.0001$, Mann Whitney test), suggesting the efficiency of morphology comparison. Among 56% (219/389) of matched queries, their top-ranked references were predominantly of a single E or I type (E/I-specific match). The remaining queries (170/389) displayed top-ranked references with mixed E/I types and could not be

specifically inferred (E/I-ambiguous match). For instance, the EM query neuron #41 exhibited similar morphology with both Glu, GABA, and Gly neurons, resulting in the uncertainty of E/I inference based on morphological comparison (Fig. 2k). However, this query was reliably identified as a Gly neuron due to its mitochondrial APEX2 labeling (Fig. 2l), again showing the critical value of APEX2 labeling in neuronal type identification.

Region- and NM type-distinctive profiles of synapse distribution

To investigate the connectivity properties of diverse neuronal types, we first systematically examined the distribution of all synapse-related components across brain regions. The results revealed highly consistent patterns of brain-region-level distributions across PSDs, SVs and mitochondria (Extended Data Fig. 6, Supplementary Tables 4,5,6, and Supplementary Video 3). To further investigate the synapse-level co-localization among these three components (Fig. 3a,b), we identified the automatically-segmented presynaptic and postsynaptic supervoxels of individual PSDs, while assigning SVs and mitochondria to their respective associated supervoxels. We found that 93.5% of PSDs co-localized with SVs, whereas only 59.2% of PSDs co-localized with presynaptic mitochondria (Fig. 3a, top). Consistently, 84.3% of SVs and 61.3% of mitochondria distributed in presynaptic sites of synapses defined by PSDs, respectively (Fig. 3a, middle and bottom).

To minimize interference from misidentified instances in automated segmentation results, we defined typical synapses by the co-occurrence of SVs at presynaptic sites and PSDs at postsynaptic sites. The density of typical synapses varied across brain regions (Fig. 3c), and was negatively correlated with soma density (Fig. 3d; R^2 = 0.7070, P < 0.0001), reinforcing their spatial segregation within the brain. Interestingly, when we incorporated features associated with synapse strength (e.g., the volumes of PSDs, SVs, and mitochondria) into analysis, we found that all three synapse strength-related characteristics followed comparable lognormal distributions across brain regions (Fig. 3e-h). Some regions, such as the epiphysis (Ep, Fig. 3f) and lobus caudalis cerebelli (LCa, Fig. 3h), exhibited sharply peaked PSD volume distributions, suggesting potential variations in synaptic organization.

Extensive research showed that the axonal innervation patterns of diverse NM systems vary in the degree of brain-wide projections[44-48]. A similar result was revealed by single-cell morphological tracing in 6-dpf larval zebrafish (Extended Data Fig. 7). Among NM systems, LC-NE neurons displayed widespread broadcasting axonal projections throughout the brain, while other types (e.g., OB-DA neurons) exhibited spatially restricted innervation. To examine the synaptic input profile at NM neurons' dendrites, a topic which remains understudied in the field, we manually reconstructed somatodendritic morphologies for multiple types of NM neurons in the right hemisphere as well as Gly neurons and validated their presynaptic input sites (Fig. 3i,j and Supplementary Video 4). We found that the soma of most NM neurons received few synaptic inputs, compared with the well-studied M-cell that received substantial synaptic inputs on its soma (Extended Data Fig. 8 and Supplementary

Video 5). In total, we verified 6,812 synaptic inputs for 44 APEX2-labeled neurons, including
5 LC-NE neurons, 3 MO-NE neurons, 3 OB-DA neurons, 4 PT-DA neurons, 3 Hc-DA
neurons, 3 Pr-5HT neurons, 4 RN-5HT neurons, 2 Hcrt neurons, as well as 17 Gly neurons
(Fig. 3i,j). Dendrites were manually identified based on synaptic input locations for the
subsequent calculation of dendritic input densities. These neuronal types displayed diverse
synapse density on dendrites (Fig. 3k). In particular, the three types of monoaminergic NM
neurons—LC-NE, PT-DA, and RN-5HT—collectively exhibited a higher average synaptic
input density. Notably, the number but not the density showed a positive correlation with their
total projection length (Fig. 3l,m).

Synaptic input organization of the LC-NE system

A fundamental question in the study of NM systems concerns the origin and spatial
organization of their presynaptic inputs at dendrites, as elucidating these principles is essential
for understanding their activity dynamics and regulatory physiology[18,62]. To address this, we
investigated the LC-NE system, a key node for regulating brain-wide neural networks. While
prior viral-genetic tracing studies in mammals mapped the diverse brain-wide origins of
inputs to LC-NE neurons, revealing convergent organization at a cellular level[45,46], a critical
question remains unanswered: how are these functionally distinct inputs spatially organized at
the dendrite of LC-NE neurons?

Therefore, we initiated our tracing from all identified synaptic input sites of the LC-NE
neuron #3, which exhibited the longest dendrites (~1.812 mm) and the highest dendritic input
indegree ($n_{synapse}$ = 560) among all five APEX2-labeled LC-NE neurons in the right
hemisphere (Fig. 4a,b, Extended Data Fig. 9a,b, and Supplementary Video 4). We
successfully traced 418 synaptic inputs back to 374 presynaptic neurons (PNs)' somata, with
182 synapses from 160 PNs in sensory- or sensory relay-related regions, and 236 synapses
from 214 PNs in motor-related regions (Fig. 4c). These PNs widely distributed across 32 out
of 52 brain regions (Fig. 4d and Supplementary Video 6). In comparison, OB-DA neurons'
PNs were spatially restricted, while PT-DA and RN-5HT neurons also received inputs from
widely distributed PNs (Extended Data Fig. 10). Combinatorial analysis of the dendritic
position of synaptic sites and the soma location of corresponding PNs showed that the LC-NE
neuron implemented modality-dependent spatial organization of synaptic inputs at their
dendrites. Specifically, sensory-related (including sensory relay) and motor-related inputs
preferentially targeted more distal or proximal dendrites of these neurons, respectively (Fig.
4e; path length to the soma: sensory-related, 122.8 ± 3.2 μm *vs* motor-related, 103.3 ± 2.5 μm;
P < 0.001, Mann Whitney test). Similar phenomena were observed in other four LC-NE
neurons (Extended Data Fig. 9c). Furthermore, both sensory- and motor-related inputs
exhibited a spatial gradient of synaptic strength, with increasing volumes of PSDs and SVs
when approaching the soma (Fig. 4f,g). Meanwhile, the strength distributions of these two
input types were comparable (Fig. 4f,g). Furthermore, based on morphology comparison and

APEX2-labeling (see Fig. 2), we inferred the E/I identity of 188 PNs among all 374 PNs

($n_{sensory-Glu}$ = 60, $n_{sensory-GABA}$ = 15, $n_{sensory-Gly}$ = 7; $n_{motor-Glu}$ = 75, $n_{motor-GABA}$ = 18, $n_{motor-Gly}$ = 13),

in which the Glu type was predominant (Fig. 4h). Furthermore, along the left-right axis, I type

of sensory-related inputs relatively preferred to distal dendritic areas in comparison with I

type of motor-related inputs ($P < 0.05$, Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test), while E type

of motor-related inputs biased to proximal dendritic areas in comparison with E type of

sensory-related inputs ($P < 0.001$) (Fig. 4i-k), accounting for the differential spatial

distributions of sensory- and motor-related synaptic inputs (see Fig. 4e).

Interestingly, among the 374 PNs of the LC-NE neuron #3, 69 of them targeted another

neurons within the five APEX2-labeled LC-NE neurons, serving as common presynaptic

neurons (CPNs) within the LC-NE system ("intra-CPN"). Intra-CPNs were also extensively

distributed across sensory-/sensory relay- and motor-related regions (Fig. 4l,m, and

Supplementary Video 7). They displayed diverse innervation numbers, with the majority

innervating 2 LC-NE neurons (Fig. 4n). Among intra-CPNs with identified E/I properties, the

majority were Glu neurons (Fig. 4o). To investigate whether intra-CPNs randomly innervate

targeted neurons, we used identical cell numbers and matched innervation number

distributions to perform theoretical simulation, revealing that the LC-NE neuron #2 shows

higher co-innervation frequency with #3 than other LC-NE neurons (Fig. 4p,q, $P < 0.05$,

Chi-square goodness-of-fit test). These results suggest the potential existence of LC-NE

subpopulations with preferential co-innervation tendencies. These intra-CPNs may function as

a neural substrate underlying synchronous activities observed in LC-NE neuronal

populations[48,63,64], serving to coordinate functional outputs of the LC system. Besides, 305 out

of the 374 (81.28%) reconstructed PNs of the LC-NE neuron #3 did not target other four

LC-NE neurons, and accounted for 330 out of 418 (78.95%) type-identified input synapses of

this neuron. In addition, we also observed that the two reconstructed Hcrt neurons only

innervated the LC-NE neuron #4 (Extended Data Fig. 11). Collectively, these results indicate

that individual LC-NE neurons receive both distinct and common synaptic inputs, aligning

with recent findings that endorse the heterogeneous and modular organization of the LC-NE

system[48,65-68].

Furthermore, among the 374 PNs of the LC-NE neuron #3, we also identified 26 CPNs

across different monoaminergic systems ("inter-CPNs", Fig. 4r,s and Supplementary Video 7).

Besides targeting the LC-NE neuron #3, these inter-CPNs co-innervated PT-DA or RN-5HT

neurons. We conducted *in vivo* calcium imaging on these monoaminergic nuclei

simultaneously and found that LC-NE neurons exhibited spontaneous activities synchronized

with PT-DA but not RN-5HT neurons (Fig. 4t). The analysis of E/I identities via morphology

comparison showed that inter-CPNs between LC-NE and PT-DA neurons predominantly

exhibited glutamatergic characteristics (Glu, 5/8; E/I-ambiguous, 3/8), whereas inter-CPNs

between LC-NE and RN-5HT neurons were inclined to exhibit a higher ratio of inhibitory

ones (Glu, 5/18; GABA, 4/18; Gly, 2/18; E/I-ambiguous, 7/18) (Fig. 4u,v). We hypothesized

that LC-NE and PT-DA neurons might receive shared feedforward driving signals, whereas
LC-NE and RN-5HT neurons could be subject to common inhibitory inputs. These
inter-CPNs may constitute the structural basis for coordinated activity across distinct
monoaminergic systems, enabling more diversified regulation. Interestingly, synaptic inputs
originating from both intra- and inter-CPNs preferentially targeted proximal dendritic regions,
whereas those from non-CPN sources exhibited a more dispersed spatial innervation (Fig.
4w).

Taken together, these results provide a multi-dimensional view of how synaptic inputs
are spatially organized on LC-NE neuronal dendrites: 1) extensive brain-wide convergence; 2)
a modality-related distribution of sensory- and motor-related inputs; 3) a strength gradient
increasing from distal-to-proximal dendrites; 4) different spatial preferences for E and I inputs;
5) shared innervation within the LC-NE system and across LC-NE, DA and 5HT systems; 6) a
proximal dendritic bias of shared innervation (Fig. 4x).

Discussion
In this study, we present a synapse-level, multiplexed molecular annotated ssEM dataset of
larval zebrafish. The dataset extends beyond the brain to include the retina, optic nerve, and
SC, providing a unique resource for investigating sensorimotor transformation, especially for
reconstructing the entire visual pathway. This is particularly valuable considering the
zebrafish as a visually dominant species, where the number of cells in a single retina is around
two-fifth (70,910/176,810) that of the entire brain. In addition, the ATUM-SEM approach has
preserved all sections, allowing for future acquisition of currently unmapped extracerebral
structures to expand this resource. While automated reconstruction of the brain has been
completed, extensive manual proofreading remains essential to achieve a fully validated
whole-brain connectome. This process depends on continuous improvement in online
collaborative proofreading systems[69-72]. Besides, this dataset provides a rich APEX2-labeled
resource with diverse NM types and a wide range of staining intensities, enabling further
optimization of semi-automated or automated reconstruction algorithms for GETEM-labeled
cells, particularly those with cytoplasmic labeling[43]. Furthermore, advancing technologies will
enable dataset re-alignment and re-segmentation, thereby enhancing the efficiency of
connectome validation. In general, we have established a feasible pipeline for molecular
annotated whole-brain EM-reconstruction in larval zebrafish, an ideal vertebrate model with
the tractable size compared to mammalian connectomes[73].

Fish-X represents the first successful implementation of multiplexed APEX2 labeling in
an intact vertebrate brain, simultaneously providing accompanying genetic materials that
include both stable zebrafish lines and plasmid constructs. To overcome potential side-effects
introduced by the use of H_2O_2 required for the APEX2-DAB reaction[74], we optimized the
procedure, including real-time quality control with targeted re-imaging, image repair, image
denoising, and multiple rounds of manual verification. Fish-X provides readily identifiable

and reliable EM-visible markers, based on which we have extracted structural signatures of corresponding NM neuronal types. Recent studies have demonstrated that local structural features, including perisomatic and synaptic characteristics, enable precise cell type identification[36,37]. The structural signatures we provide can therefore not only facilitate complementary identification of unlabeled cells within Fish-X, but also enable broader application to other zebrafish EM datasets. Recent studies have alternatively utilized CLEM approach, a method in which distinct neuronal populations were fluorescently labeled and subsequently correlated with EM datasets, to achieve neuron-type-specific information transfer from LM to EM datasets[6,10,22,25,34]. This approach directly leverages existing zebrafish transgenic lines and typically yields high-quality images, as H_2O_2 is not required for sample preparation. In comparison, the GETEM strategy exemplified by APEX2 offers distinct advantages: (i) identifiability without complex registration calculations, (ii) multiplexed molecular annotation through orthogonal multi-compartment labeling that overcomes the spectral constraints of fluorescent proteins, and (iii) suitability for long-range projecting axon labeling in local EM reconstructions where complete neuronal morphologies are unavailable. More importantly, the two strategies described above can be combined — the fluorescent signals from APEX2-fused proteins correspond precisely to the corresponding DAB products, serving as matching landmarks that simplify CLEM registration. Moreover, the mesoscopic atlas-based neuronal type identification strategy we proposed is essentially a type of CLEM approach[75]. The mesoscopic atlases enables more cost-effective acquisition of whole-brain projection profiles of more neuronal types[20]. Collectively, these complementary strategies enable comprehensive annotation of zebrafish EM connectomes.

While the NM system's regulation of neural networks has been extensively studied, the origins of its upstream inputs and the mechanisms of synaptic integration remain elusive. Investigating the spatial organization of these inputs at a synapse level will enhance our understanding of firing pattern generation[45,46,62]. Our study investigate this issue through the lens of the LC-NE system, an evolutionarily conserved hub regulating brain-wide neural activity and behavioral performance. By comprehensively reconstructing presynaptic inputs onto a single LC-NE neuron, we discovered that individual LC-NE neurons integrate brain-wide inputs with modality-specific spatial organization: inhibitory sensory-related inputs preferentially target distal dendrites, while excitatory motor-related inputs prefer to innervate proximal dendrites. The two modality-related inputs exhibit comparable synaptic strength, with an increasing gradient from distal-to-proximal dendrites. Inspired by the observation in cortical pyramidal neurons, whose somatic activity was markedly reduced when information flow from distal apical dendrites to the soma was blocked during anesthesia[76], we postulate a comparable mechanism in LC-NE neurons — their activity strongly correlates with proximal motor inputs, while sensory-related distal inputs may modulate the excitability of proximal somatodendritic areas and further affect motor-related input-evoked activities, enabling context-dependent modulation.

Besides, the LC-NE system receives convergent inputs and broadcasts signals across the brain, while accumulating evidence reveals its modular functional organization[48,65-68]. The relative prevalence of intra-CPNs targeting 2 – 3 LC-NE neurons provides synapse-level evidence for the functional modularity of the LC-NE system. Intra-CPNs with varying innervation numbers could recruit different numbers or combinations of LC-NE neurons, to generate intensity- and region-distinct NE release, especially given the heterogeneous axonal projections of individual LC-NE neurons[48]. Besides, It is of interest to investigate in the future whether this CPN-based one-to-many *versus* non-CPN-based one-to-one dichotomy corresponds to phasic *versus* tonic firing patterns, transmitting distinct presynaptic information[77,78]. Furthermore, shared innervation across NE, DA and 5HT systems suggests coordinated interactions between distinct NM systems, which may generate diverse spatiotemporal release patterns involving multi-neuromodulator release during different brain states[15-18]. This multiplexed NM-type-annotated EM dataset offers a foundational resource for delineating the input – output organization of multiple NM systems, thereby enabling the elucidation of the synaptic architecture of NM pathways, as well as sensorimotor pathways, within a vertebrate brain.

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Methods

Zebrafish husbandry

Adult Zebrafish (*Danio rerio*) were kept in a circulating system at 28℃ under a 14:10 hour light-dark cycle. All animal protocols were reviewed and approved by the Animal Care and Use Committee of the Center for Excellence in Brain Science and Intelligence Technology (CEBSIT), Chinese Academy of Sciences (NA-046-2023). Larvae were fed with *Brachionid* rotifers from 4.5 – 9.0 dpf, then switched to freshly hatched *Artemia* nauplii thereafter. The sex of embryonic and larval zebrafish was undetermined.

Zebrafish lines

All transgenic zebrafish larvae were in *nacre* background. The *vmat2*, *th1*, *dbh*, *tph2*, *hcrt*, *glyt2*, *vglut2a*, *gad1b* promoters were used to label NE/DA/5HT, NE/DA, NE, 5HT, Hcrt, Gly, Glu, and GABA neurons, respectively. Published fish lines used in this study include *Tg(slc6a5:GFP)cf3* (abbreviation: *Tg(glyt2:GFP)*)[79], *Tg(-2.0Fru.Hcrt:EGFP)zf11* (*Tg(Hcrt:EGFP)*)[80], *Tg(5×UAS:EGFP)nkuasgfp1a* (*Tg(5×UAS-TATA:EGFP)*)[81], *Tg(elavl3:Hsa.H2B-GCaMP6f)jf7* (*Tg(HuC:H2B-GCaMP6f)*)[82], *Tg(5×UAS-hsp70l:GCaMP6s)nkUAShspzGCaMP6s13a* (*Tg(UAS:GCaMP6s)*)[83], *Ki1(th:EGFP)ion27d* (*Ki1(th:EGFP)*)[84], *Ki(th:GAL4-VP16)ion32d* (*Ki(th:GAL4-VP16)*)[84], *Ki(tph2:EGFP)ion39d* (*Ki(tph2:EGFP)*)[84], *Tg(slc17a6:GAL4FF)ion177d* (*Tg(vglut2a:GAL4FF)*)[85]. The followings are unpublished fish lines. *TgBAC(gad1b:GAL4-VP16)ion19h*[20] was provided by Dr. Jie He and *gSAIzGFFM242A* (*Gt(vmat2:GAL4FF)*) was provided by Dr. Koichi Kawakami. *Ki(tph2:GAL4FF,myl7:EGFP)ion127d* (*Ki(tph2:GAL4FF,cmlc2:EGFP)*) was constructed using a CRISPR/Cas9-based knockin method[84]. *Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;5×UAS-hsp:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP)ion142d* (*Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;UAS:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP)*), *Tg(hcrt:APEX2-TagRFP-NLS)ion100d* (*Tg(hcrt:APEX2-TagRFP-NLS)*), and *Tg(slc6a5:Hsa.Cox8a-APEX2-TagRFP)ion97d* (*Tg(glyt2:MITO-APEX2-TagRFP)*) were constructed using the Tol2-based transgenic system[86]. The *APEX2* sequence was cloned from the commercial plasmid *Bact2-APEX2-GBP*[87] (Addgene, Cat# 67668). The *dbh*, *hcrt*, and *glyt2* promoter sequences were cloned from plasmids *pTol2-dbh (short)-GAL4FF-5XUAS-hsp-TRPV1-RFPT*, *pTol2-hcrt-GAL4-VP16*, and *pTol2-glyt2-P2A-ECFP*, respectively. In addition, we generated the plasmid *pTol2-5×UAS-2×Cox8a-APEX2-TagRFP* to specifically label mitochondria in Glu and GABA neurons by crossing with E/I specific GAL4 reporter lines. Signal peptide sequences below were used to target distinct subcellular compartments.

Three tandem nuclear localization sequence (*3×NLS*):

TACCTTTCTCTTCTTTTTTGGATCTACCTTTCTCTTCTTTTTTGGATCTACCTTTCTCT TCTTTTTTGG

Two tandem cytochrome c oxidase subunit 8A (*MITO*; labeled as *2×Cox8a* in plasmid):

685   ATGTCCGTCCTGACGCCGCTGCTGCTGCGGGGGCTTGACAGGCTCGGCCCGGCGGC

686   TCCCAGTGCCGCGCGCCAAGATCCATTCGTTGGGGGGATCTGTCCGTCCTGACGCCG

687   CTGCTGCTGCGGGGGCTTGACAGGCTCGGCCCGGCGGCTCCCAGTGCCGCGCGCCA

688   AGATCCATTCGTTG

Immunostaining

Larvae were fixed overnight on a shaker at 4℃ using 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA, Sigma, Cat# 158127) prepared in phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). Following three 5-min washes with PBS containing 1% Tween-20 (PBST), brains were carefully dissected using fine forceps and subjected to another three PBST washes. Samples then underwent graded dehydration and rehydration through sequential incubation in (v/v): 25% methanol/75% PBST (5 min, RT), 50% methanol/50% PBST (5 min, RT), 75% methanol/25% PBST (5 min, RT), 100% methanol (4 h, -20℃), followed by reverse gradient to 25% methanol, then three 5-min PBST washes at RT. After ddH$_2$O rinse (5 min, RT) and acetone treatment (10 min, -20℃), samples were rehydrated through ddH$_2$O and three final PBST washes. Blocking was performed overnight at 4℃ with gentle shaking, followed by incubation with primary antibodies (1:200 in blocking buffer) at 4℃ for 24 – 48 h. After primary antibody recovery and three quick PBST rinses, extended washing was performed (2 × 1 h, 1 × 20 min, 1 × 10 min). Secondary antibodies (1:500 in blocking buffer) were applied at 4℃ for 36 h, followed by removal, three quick PBST washes, and final rinses (3 × 10 min, 1 × 30 min) before light-protected storage on ice for fluorescence imaging. Commercial antibodies included Anti-Orexin-A antibody (Millipore, Cat# AB3704), Anti-Tyrosine Hydroxylase antibody (Millipore, Cat# MAB318), Alexa Fluor® 488 Goat anti-Rabbit secondary antibody (Abcam, Cat# AB150077), and Alexa Fluor® 568 Goat anti-Mouse secondary antibody (Invitrogen, Cat# A-11004).

In vivo structural and functional imaging

At 3 dpf, multiplexed APEX2-labeled larvae were initially screened using an upright fluorescence stereomicroscope. The preparations, embedded in 1.5% low-melting-point agarose (Invitrogen, Cat# 15517014), were carefully verified at 5 dpf using an upright fluorescence microscope. The labeling efficiency was evaluated to determine larvae were used for further EM sample preparation. At 6 dpf, larvae were paralyzed with 1 mg/mL α-bungarotoxin (Tocris, Cat# 2133) and dorsally embedded in 1.5% low-melting-point agarose. Morphological fluorescence imaging was performed using an upright confocal laser scanning microscope (FV3000, Olympus, Japan) equipped with a 40× water-immersion objective (NA = 0.8). Imaging parameters included a frame size of 635.9 × 635.9 μm² (0.621 × 0.621 μm² per pixel), with two-field stitching along the rostrocaudal axis to cover the SC, Z-axis intervals of 1 – 1.5 μm, and 2 – 3 line averaging. Selected brain regions were further imaged at higher zoom factors to resolve fine spatial patterns of APEX2 signals.

To simultaneously record calcium dynamics in LC-NE, PT-DA, and RN-5HT neurons, we performed *in vivo* calcium imaging on 6-dpf

Ki(th:GAL4-VP16);Ki(tph2:GAL4FF,cmlc2:EGFP);Tg(UAS:GCaMP6s) larvae, using a confocal microscope (FV3000, Olympus, Japan). Imaging parameters included a frame size of 636.4 × 636.4 μm² (1.243 × 1.243 μm² per pixel), with resonant scanning mode, imaging depth of ~200 μm, Z-axis intervals of 10 μm, volumetric imaging rate at ~0.72 Hz, and total acquisition duration of ~30 min per session.

DAB staining

The optimized DAB staining protocol was adapted from published procedures[88]. The 0.1 M Tris-HCl buffer (pH 7.4) was prepared by dissolving 0.6055 g Tris-Base (Millipore, Cat# 648311) in 50 mL of ultrapure water, with pH adjustment using concentrated HCl. A 10 mg tablet of 3,3'-diaminobenzidine tetrahydrochloride (DAB·4HCl, Sigma, Cat# D5905) was subsequently dissolved in 10 mL of this buffer through vigorous vortexing under light-protected conditions. The solution was then filtered through a 0.22-μm filter (Millipore, Millex™-GP 0.22-μm filter) to obtain a 1 mg/mL DAB stock solution, which was stored at 4℃ and protected from light. Samples were sequentially rinsed with 0.1 M phosphate buffer (3 × 10 min), Tris-HCl buffer (2 × 10 min), and DAB solution (2 × 10 min) on a shaker at 4℃ to remove residual aldehydes. For the reaction, 1 μL of 30% H_2O_2 (Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd., Cat# 10011218) was mixed with 1 mL DAB stock to prepare the working solution, and then samples were incubated for 2 h at RT in complete darkness. The reaction was terminated by washing with Tris-HCl buffer (2 × 10 min). The catalysis by APEX2 of DAB polymerization resulted in dark brown precipitates, which were clearly visible under bright-field stereomicroscope. Post-fixation with osmium tetroxide (OsO_4) was conducted immediately following DAB staining to preserve the osmiophilic reaction products.

EM sample preparation

A mixed fixative containing 2% PFA and 2% glutaraldehyde (GA) was used for effective whole-brain fixation. A 1 mL aliquot of 25% GA (Sigma, Cat# G5882, stored at -20℃) was thawed at 4℃ under light protection. Concurrently, 1 g PFA powder was dissolved in 20 mL of ultrapure water within a fume hood, with 1 – 2 drops of 1 M NaOH added. The solution was then sealed, protected from light, and heated at 65℃ with magnetic stirring until fully clarified. After cooling to RT, the solution was filtered through a 0.22 μm filter to yield 5% PFA stock. The 10-mL working fixative was prepared immediately before dissection by mixing 4 mL of 5% PFA, 0.8 mL of 25% GA, 5 mL of 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.4), and 0.2 mL of ultrapure water. Larvae were embedded in 1.5% low-melting-point agarose dissolved in extracellular solution (in mM: 134 NaCl, 2.9 KCl, 2.1 CaCl₂·2H₂O, 1.2 MgCl₂·6H₂O, 10 HEPES, 10 glucose; 290 mOsm, pH 7.8). The agarose covering dorsal epidermis and pectoral fins was removed. Using glass micropipettes, the skin was carefully dissected from the hindbrain ventricle while avoiding damage to tissues. The trunk was rapidly transected anterior to the swim bladder using ophthalmic scissors, after which the head was gently extracted with fine forceps and immediately immersed in fresh fixative.

Fixed samples were sealed and stored at 4℃ in darkness overnight.

Subsequent procedures were adapted from the rOTO protocol[89,90]. First, a 1:1 (v/v)
mixture of 0.2 M phosphate buffer and 2% OsO_4 (TED PELLA, Cat# 18451) was prepared to
obtain an OsO_4-phosphate solution, which was then used to prepare a reduced
OsO_4-phosphate solution containing 0.03 g/mL potassium hexacyanoferrate trihydrate (Sigma,
Cat# P9387). All OsO_4-containing solutions were freshly prepared within a fume hood, tightly
sealed, protected from light at 4℃, and properly collected for disposal after use. Fixed
samples were washed with 0.1 M phosphate buffer at 4℃ (4 × 10 min) and then immersed in
the OsO_4-phosphate solution (200 – 500 μL per 1.5 mL tube, 2 h, 4℃). Concurrently, a 0.01
g/mL aqueous thiocarbohydrazide (TCH, Sigma, Cat# 88535) solution was placed in a 60℃
oven and gently flipped to facilitate dissolution. The TCH solution was removed from the
oven and allowed to cool slightly above RT before use. The solution was then filtered through
a 0.22 μm filter directly into the sample tube that had been rinsed with ultrapure water (3 × 10
min, 4℃; 1 × 10 min, RT). After a 30-min light-protected TCH treatment at RT, samples were
washed with ultrapure water (4 × 10 min, 4℃). The reduced OsO_4-phosphate solution was
then added (200 – 500 μL per 1.5 mL tube, 30 min, RT). Afterward, samples were washed
with ultrapure water (4 × 10 min, 4℃). Meanwhile, a 2% aqueous uranyl acetate solution
(EMS, Cat# 22400) was centrifuged at 13,000 rpm, and the supernatant was carefully
transferred into the sample tube (200 μL per 1.5 mL tube). Samples were then sealed and
stored at 4℃ overnight, protected from light.

On the next day, the uranyl acetate waste solution was collected for proper disposal,
followed by washing samples with ultrapure water (3 × 10 min). Subsequently, a graded
dehydration series was performed on ice using ethanol solutions (30%, 50%, 70%, 80%, 90%,
95%, and 100% v/v, each for 10 min) followed by anhydrous acetone (2 × 10 min). On the
day of fixation, the resin volume was calculated, and the premix was prepared by sequentially
pipetting 10 mL of Pon-812 epoxy resin monomer (SPI, Cat# 90529-77-4), 3.36 mL of
dodecenyl succinic anhydride (DDSA, SPI, Cat# 26544-38-7), and 7.04 mL of nadic methyl
anhydride (NMA, SPI, Cat# 25134-21-8) into a pre-dried tube at RT to form a
three-component premix. This was then sealed and mixed on a rotary mixer for at least 3
hours. Resin infiltration was conducted immediately following dehydration. 400 μL DMP-30
epoxy accelerator (SPI, Cat# 90-72-2) was added to 20 mL premix, followed by 30-min rotary
mixing to prepare the final resin solution. The resin solution was either used immediately
after a 30-min bubble-settling period or kept mixing to prevent polymerization at RT. Samples
underwent graded acetone-resin infiltration at ratios of 3:1, 1:1, and 1:3 (v/v) for 8 h, 8h, and
overnight, respectively. They were then transferred to resin-filled vials, subject to negative
pressure using a 5 mL syringe, and placed on a horizontal shaker for resin infiltration.

This process was conducted over two days with resin changes occurring twice daily at
intervals of 8 – 12 h. All procedures were performed under controlled environmental
conditions (temperatures < 25℃; humidity < 30%). Following the two-day resin infiltration,

samples were transferred to pre-dried 21-well flat molds and oriented using sterile toothpicks.

The molds were then placed in a drying box containing silica gel beads and polymerized at

37℃ for 8 – 12 h. After verifying and minimally adjusting sample orientation at night, the

temperature was first increased to 45℃ overnight, then to 60℃ the following morning. Fully

polymerized blocks were removed from the oven after 48 h and stored in a dry cabinet.

X-ray tomography

X-ray tomography was conducted to rapidly and non-destructively evaluate the quality of EM

samples using the Xradia 520 Versa system (Zeiss, Germany) at the Instrumental Analysis

Center of Shanghai Jiao Tong University. Samples exhibiting uniform staining, minimal

deformation, and no apparent mechanical damage were selected for further ultrathin

sectioning and SEM imaging. Samples were scanned at 60 kV with 1 μm^3 voxel resolution

(~2 h per sample). Data processing was conducted using Dragonfly (Object Research Systems,

Canada). Sequential images were imported with resampling parameters and voxel resolution

specified. Sample orientation was interactively manipulating reference axes in the display

window. Selected views were exported as projection sequences via the "*Derive new from*

current view" function. 3D animations were created using the *Video marker* tool. The video

denoising was performed using an open-source Real-ESRGAN-General-x4v3 model.

Whole-brain ultrathin section collection

Using an ultramicrotome equipped with an automated tape-collecting system (ATUMtome,

RMC, USA), 33-nm serial sections were obtained[2]. Prior to collection, trimmed excess blank

resin around the larva using a double-edged razor blade. The front guide slot of the

ATUMtome was properly positioned, and parameters including sectioning speed (0.8 mm/s),

tape-advancing speed (0.6 mm/s), and water refilling interval (5-sec duration every 8 min)

were set. The anti-static device and intermittent water replenishment system were activated to

ensure sequential and stable section collection on hydrophilic, conductive polyimide film

strips (KAPTON-PET, DuPont, USA). If section instability was observed during collection

(e.g., incomplete sections), immediately halted sectioning and either repositioned the knife

edge or replaced the diamond knife (UltraMaxi, Diatome, Switzerland). Throughout the

process, ambient conditions were maintained at 25℃ and 60% humidity. Following collection,

section-bearing strips were segmented and mounted onto 4-inch monocrystalline silicon

wafers using 0.8-mm-wide conductive adhesive tape (SPI, USA), with careful pressing to

eliminate air bubbles. The mounted wafer was placed into a LEICA EM ACE 600

high-vacuum coater for carbon deposition (6 – 10 nm film thickness). The section surfaces

were cleaned using nitrogen gas blowing, and subsequently stored in a dry cabinet at 25℃

and 30% humidity. The entire collection process, which spent three days and utilized three

diamond knives, yielded an overall damage rate of 6.56%. Sections were numbered #2594 –

#25480 in a caudal-to-rostral order. The damaged 1,503 sections with folds, tears, and severe

contamination were algorithmically repaired to ensure that intact portions were registered to

adjacent sections[91]. The majority of defects did not occur at identical locations across adjacent

sections, thus collectively posing no substantial impact on proofreading.

SEM image acquisition

To enhance sample stability and backscattered electron (BSE) signal contrast, wafers were

pre-irradiated using a custom-built irradiation system (9 mA, 2 kV, 10 s continuous exposure).

Post-irradiation wafers were transferred to an optical microscope (Clippers FBT, China) for

the acquisition of navigation images via line-scan imaging with 7.6 μm pixel resolution.

Image acquisition was conducted simultaneously across three SEMs (Navigator

NeuroSEM100, FBT, China), each equipped with a custom-built collection software designed

to maximize efficiency in image output. The pixel resolution was set to 4 nm, the dwell time

to 43.5 ns, and the acceleration voltage to 2 kV. Auto focus and astigmatic correction were

configured to 80 s per section. To expedite acquisition efficiency and imaging success rate, a

region-specific focusing protocol coupled with photography was implemented. Each section

was divided into a grid of ~54 tiles (arranged in 9 rows × 6 columns) at $12,000 \times 12,000$

pixels per tile. The adjacent tiles were acquired with a 12% overlapping area. 16 tiles (4×4

arrangement) constituted one standard region. Edge regions containing fewer than 16 tiles

were processed equivalently. Regions were sequentially numbered and navigated in a

serpentine pattern. Prior to high-resolution scanning, a low-resolution focus was conducted to

ensure the algorithm efficacy in pinpointing the optimal focal range at the center of the

section, which was set at a resolution of 50 nm with a dwell time of 80 ns. The stage was then

oriented to the first region's center for high-resolution focusing and astigmatism correction

with a resolution of 4 nm and a dwell time of 80 ns, followed by snake-pattern tile acquisition.

After capturing all tiles within a region, the stage advanced to the next region (2.5 s/tile for

positional adjustment and data transfer). This cycle iterated until full-section coverage was

achieved, maintaining serpentine navigation between regions. The process was repeated

automatically for subsequent sections until wafer-wide imaging completion.

To enhance the accuracy and robustness of large-scale EM image processing, we

introduced an image quality assessment and tissue validity detection module prior to

algorithmic analysis. A 2D U-Net model was trained to evaluate image sharpness and

assigned a quality score to each section. Low-quality images were then reviewed using a

custom annotation tool, allowing experts to determine whether re-acquisition or replacement

was necessary. Besides, we implemented CNN-based tissue mask generation. A U-Net model

was trained on three manually annotated chunks ($8,600 \times 8,600 \times 31$ voxels at $32 \times 32 \times$

33 nm^3 per voxel) to classify voxels into brain tissues, backgrounds, and defect regions (e.g.,

folds, tears). All predicted masks were manually reviewed. The quality scores and tissue

masks were applied throughout the processing pipeline for artifact exclusion and

region-of-interest selection, supporting segmentation and agglomeration.

Image stitching and alignment

The 3D volume registration of EM images was accomplished through tile stitching and section alignment. The stitching workflow proceeded through three computational stages: 1) feature detection and matching using Scale-Invariant Feature Transform (SIFT) descriptors[92] extracted from tile overlap areas; 2) pairwise displacement estimation via coordinate transformation analysis; 3) global position optimization through linear least squares minimization. Specifically, SIFT-matched feature point pairs served as the basis for calculating local translation vectors between tiles. To mitigate error accumulation, a global optimization framework simultaneously adjusted all tile positions by minimizing the total displacement error across the entire section.

A multi-scale alignment method was implemented to register serial sections, first through coarse-scale processing followed by fine-scale refinement. To address error accumulation, the pipeline employed a sub-volume-division strategy, partitioning the original dataset into 764 spatially coherent stacks (each containing 31 consecutive sections). Continuity across stacks was established by selecting the first section of each stack as a reference section (764 total). These references underwent affine transformation to correct notable deformations while maintaining spatial invariance throughout alignment, serving as stable pivots to prevent cumulative error propagation. Alignment then proceeded within each stack, from coarse to fine scales. Sections were downsampled 32-fold during coarse-scale alignment. Correspondences between two adjacent sections were initially extracted using SIFT descriptors and subsequently filtered using the RANSAC algorithm[93]. Affine transformation was applied to align adjacent sections. Sections were downsampled 8-fold during fine-scale alignment. Damaged sections were first aligned to their neighbors using an expected affine method[91]. Subsequently, an optimized elastic method[94] generated dense correspondence fields between adjacent sections, guiding the iterative refinement of deformation meshes that balanced local adaptability with global smoothness. Finally, Thin-Plate Spline (TPS) transformations[95] extrapolated these deformations to original-resolution sections, preserving ultrastructural continuity at synaptic resolution.

Bidirectional CLEM

To match the resolution of the brain template of the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas (1 μm³ per voxel), the 764 reference sections mentioned above were further downsampled in the xy-plane to generate downsampled whole-brain EM images (992 × 992 × 990 nm³ per voxel). Multimodal image registration was accomplished through a three-stage approach. First, whole-brain nuclei were extracted from both the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas and the ssEM dataset to create nuclei point clouds, which were then rigidly aligned using the Iterative Closest Point (ICP) algorithm[96]. Manually-annotated nuclei from four 6-dpf *Tg(HuC:H2B-GCaMP6f)* larvae were used to generate the average point cloud for the LM brain template, while nuclei from the ssEM dataset were automatically segmented. Second, the EM images were globally constrained using X-ray tomography data, to correct the

distortion along the rostral-caudal axis ("banana effect"). Third, bidirectional deformation fields between LM and EM spaces were computed through 3D template matching and TPS transformations. Soma regions across the entire brain, along with other EM-identifiable regions including the pineal gland, pituitary gland, and bilateral optic tectal neuropils, were manually annotated on downsampled whole-brain EM images and registered with their counterparts in the brain template of the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas, serving as reference landmarks for joint optimization.

Chunk-based 3D reconstruction

Whole-brain 3D reconstruction was performed through an automated pipeline consisting of: (1) image enhancement and denoising, (2) local registration, (3) dense segmentation, (4) intra-chunk agglomeration, and (5) inter-chunk stitching. To efficiently process large-scale computational tasks, we implemented a distributed computing strategy based on spatial block partitioning. Specifically, the original 3D volume was divided into a series of overlapping chunks to ensure boundary continuity and consistency in prediction. These chunks were then preprocessed and spatially realigned, and subsequently treated as independent inference tasks scheduled for parallel execution. The entire computational workflow was deployed on a high-performance distributed parallel computing architecture managed by the Slurm (Simple Linux Utility for Resource Management) workload manager. All sub-tasks were automatically submitted via batch scripts to a Slurm-managed HPC (High-Performance Computing Cluster) consisting of more than 30 nodes. Based on the availability of computational resources, the scheduler dynamically distributed tasks across multiple physical nodes. Each node was equipped with a heterogeneous configuration of GPUs, including NVIDIA® A100, V100, and GeForce RTX 4090 models, thereby maximizing utilization of available hardware accelerators. Upon completion, the outputs of all sub-tasks were automatically aggregated and post-processed to reconstruct the full prediction results over the entire volume. For tasks including the segmentation of neurons, synapses, and mitochondria, the block and overlap sizes were set to $8,600 \times 8,600 \times 31$ and $600 \times 600 \times 1$ voxels, with a resolution of $4 \times 4 \times 33$ nm^3 per voxel. For tasks including the segmentation of nuclei and vessels, the block and overlap sizes were set to $1,075 \times 1,075 \times 31$ and $75 \times 75 \times 1$ voxels, with a resolution of $32 \times 32 \times 33$ nm^3 per voxel.

Preprocessing and dense segmentation

To address the Poisson and Gaussian noise inherent in EM images and to overcome the challenges of self-supervised denoising with degraded inputs, we implemented Blind2Unblind for implicit lossless self-supervised denoising[97]. This framework leveraged a mask-guided medium to enhance and denoise EM images. It consisted of a globally-aware mask mapper driven by mask-based sampling and a non-blind lossless training strategy based on re-visible loss. Next, to enhance local 3D continuity and improve inference performance, we adopted a spatial registration strategy inspired by the preprocessing pipeline of the

Flood-Filling Network (FFN)[98]. For each chunk mentioned above, a 4×4 affine transformation matrix was estimated to align it with a global reference space. Neural network inference, aggregation, and merging were then performed on the aligned chunks. After dense segmentation, inverse transformations were applied to map the results back to the original coordinate system, followed by cropping to restore the original dimensions. All affine matrices were precomputed and cached prior to processing to reduce computational overhead.

After preprocessing, we employed a boundary detection-based dense segmentation approach to process the whole-brain EM dataset. The image segmentation network adopted a U-shaped architecture with residual blocks, and was trained to predict nearest-neighbor affinity maps along all three spatial dimensions. The training dataset consisted of seven randomly selected volumes, each comprising 30 consecutive sections with a spatial size of $2,000 \times 2,000 \times 30$ voxels at a resolution of $4 \times 4 \times 33$ nm^3. All these volumes were manually annotated by experts. A composite loss function combining weighted cross-entropy and Dice loss was employed to enhance segmentation performance, particularly in the presence of class imbalance. To improve model generalization, we applied a range of data augmentation techniques during training, including basic transformations such as rotation, flipping, and elastic deformation, as well as robustness-oriented strategies such as CutBlur, CutNoise, and Mixup. In addition, we simulated common imaging artifacts including registration shifts, motion blur, and partial slice dropouts, to enhance the model's capability to handle real-world imperfections, thereby improving the stability and accuracy of the segmentation.

Intra-chunk agglomeration

To construct the signature graph, we first performed over-segmentation of the membrane probability map using a 2D watershed algorithm based on distance transform. Specifically, small connected membrane boundary components were removed through thresholding. Given the strong anisotropy of the data (with lateral resolution of 4 nm per voxel and axial resolution of 33 nm per voxel), the Euclidean distance transform was applied to each membrane probability map. The maximum distance value was then used as the seed point to execute the watershed algorithm, producing 2D watershed superpixels. These superpixels were subsequently merged to achieve the 3D reconstruction. The image could be represented using watershed superpixels, where the superpixels served as vertices and the physical connectivity between them formed the edges of a graph model. The superpixel merging problem was thus formulated as a vertex partitioning problem on the graph. In this study, the problem is modeled as the minimum cost multicut problem (MCMP) on the superpixel adjacency graph[99]. For feature extraction, three types of features were manually extracted: boundary features between superpixels, edge features within each superpixel, and inter-layer features derived from the anisotropic dataset. A feature vector of length 625 was designed for each edge between two superpixels. A random forest classifier was then trained to predict the

probability of merging each pair of superpixels. Based on maximum likelihood estimation, the
predicted probability is converted into the cost for merging the two superpixels. This resulted
in an instance of the multicut problem. Additionally, previously reconstructed and
expert-verified whole-brain nucleus and synapse segmentation results were introduced as soft
priors[100]. Superpixels belonging to the same nucleus should be merged preferentially, while
superpixels on opposite sides of the same synapse should be merged less likely. At the same
time, the aggregation range was confined to the effective tissue mask area to prevent the
merging of defect regions with other superpixels, thereby avoiding erroneous propagation.
Given that the combinatorial optimization problem defined here is NP-hard, and exact
methods are not polynomial-time solvable, this study framed the problem as a sequential
decision-making task for node aggregation on the graph. The problem was solved optimally
using the heuristic greedy additive edge contraction (GAEC) framework[101]. Finally, the results
were mapped back to the original over-segmented image obtained from the watershed
distance transform.

Inter-chunk stitching
Following the preliminary reconstruction of all individual chunks, we developed an
overlap-aware fragment agglomeration algorithm to identify and merge neuronal segments
across adjacent chunks, thereby enabling the reconstruction of globally continuous neuronal
structures. This algorithm integrated a deep learning-based candidate identification module
with a set of rule-based merging constraints. Specifically, we trained a 3D-ResNet-based
neural network classifier to evaluate fragment pairs extracted from sliding 3D windows
within overlapping regions, producing a probability score indicating whether the pair
originated from the same cell. Candidate merges were then further filtered based on multiple
criteria, including intersection-over-union (IoU) thresholds, voxel overlap chunk, and the
presence of defect masks, to ensure that the final agglomeration decisions maintained both
structural continuity and biological plausibility. By combining large-scale parallel processing
enabled by the Slurm workload manager mentioned above with this customized
post-processing pipeline, we established an efficient workflow for dense reconstruction.

Segmentation of nuclei and vessels
We annotated nuclei and vessels in every fifth section of the downsampled ssEM dataset with
a resolution of $32 \times 32 \times 165$ nm^3, generating high-quality training sets with dimensions of
$9,000 \times 6,000 \times 764$ voxels. These results were used to train a 2D segmentation network. We
employed nnU-Net[102] for training and inference, with a patch size set to $1,024 \times 1,024 \times 4$ and
a batch size of 2. To maintain training stability, we chose stochastic gradient descent (SGD)
with a momentum of 0.99 as the optimizer and applied a "poly" learning rate policy, starting
with a learning rate of 0.01 and a maximum of 1,000 epochs. Upon completion of inference,
we restored the results to the original space, resulting in a coarse reconstruction of the entire
volume. Next, we implemented a sliding window strategy along the z-axis, systematically

traversing connected instances within each window, to achieve a refined reconstruction of the

whole-brain nuclei and vessels. The window length was set to 30, with an overlap of 4. When

the number of voxels within the receptive field was less than 1000, the z-axis voxel range was

under 2, or the instance did not contact adjacent windows, we classified it as reconstruction

noise and removed it. Approximately 35% of nuclei and all vessels underwent further manual

proofreading, followed by quantitative analysis and 3D visualization.

Nucleus clustering

We developed a feature extraction pipeline, integrating both traditional handcrafted

morphological features and high-level representations learned through self-supervised

learning, to analyze whole-brain nuclei with diverse morphologies. Manually-proofread

176,789 nuclei (nuclei with incomplete structures in rostralmost and caudalmost sections

were excluded) were processed using the CloudVolume framework to compute 3D surface

meshes and then extracted 13 traditional morphological features using the Trimesh library.

These 13 features collectively characterized nucleus compactness (Φ, κ_A, κ_V), surface

irregularity (ΔA, ΔA_b), shape elongation (ρ_{max}, R_{range}), and spatial dispersion (r_{max}, r_{min}). The

following notations were adopted:

$\quad$ M: 3D triangular mesh representing a nucleus surface.

$\quad$ V: Volume of the nucleus mesh (μm^3).

$\quad$ A: Surface area of the nucleus mesh (μm^2).

$\quad$ C: Geometric centroid of the nucleus mesh.

$\quad$ M_h: Convex hull mesh of M.

$\quad$ V_h, A_h: Volume and surface area of convex hull, respectively.

$\quad$ S_b: Minimal bounding sphere of M.

$\quad$ V_b, A_b: Volume and surface area of bounding sphere, respectively.

$\quad$ v_i: i-th vertex of mesh M.

$\quad$ $\|\cdot\|$: Euclidean norm in $\mathbb{R}^3$.

$\quad$ Φ: Sphericity defined as $\Phi = \pi^{1/3}(6V)^{2/3}/A$, where $\Phi \in [0, 1]$ and $\Phi = 1$ defines a perfect

sphere.

$\quad$ κ_A: Surface convexity defined as $\kappa_A = A/A_h$

$\quad$ κ_V: Volume convexity defined as $\kappa_V = V/V_h$

$\quad$ ΔA: Surface concavity defined as $\Delta A = A - A_h$

$\quad$ ΔV: Volume concavity defined as $\Delta V = V_h - V$

$\quad$ ρ_{max}: Elongation ratio defined as $\rho_{max} = \max_i(\|v_i - C\|)/\min_i(\|v_i - C\|)$

$\quad$ R_{range}: Radial range defined as $R_{range} = \max_i(\|v_i - C\|) - \min_i(\|v_i - C\|)$

$\quad$ r_{max}: Normalized max radius defined as $r_{max} = (\max_i(\|v_i - C\|))^3/V$

$\quad$ r_{min}: Normalized min radius defined as $r_{min} = (\min_i(\|v_i - C\|))^3/V$

$\quad$ σ_A: Spherical area ratio defined as $\sigma_A = A/A_b$

$\quad$ σ_V: Spherical volume ratio defined as $\sigma_V = V/V_b$

ΔA_b: Spherical surface excess defined as $\Delta A_b = A_b - A$

ΔV_b: Spherical volume excess defined as $\Delta V_b = V_b - V$

e：Eccentricity computed based on principal component analysis of the mesh vertices as

$e = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\lambda_{min}}{\lambda_{max}}}$, where λ_{max} and λ_{min} are the largest and smallest eigenvalues of the mesh

vertex covariance matrix, respectively.

To complement these interpretable handcrafted features, a self-supervised deep learning

framework was implemented to extract high-level geometric representations of the nucleus

shape. Unlike voxel- or mesh-based formats, point clouds provide a compact and

resolution-independent representation that preserved fine morphological details. Each nucleus

surface mesh M was uniformly sampled using Poisson disk sampling in Trimesh to obtain a

point cloud $P \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 3}$, where $n = 3{,}072$ represented the number of sampled vertices. The

sampling process ensured uniform spatial distribution across the mesh surface while

preserving geometric details. The point clouds were processed using a Siamese

self-supervised architecture based on SimSiam[103] to learn transformation-invariant descriptors.

During training, each point cloud P was augmented into two distorted views P_1 and P_2 using

random rotations, Gaussian noise, and jittering. The augmented views were processed through

a three-stage neural network pipeline:

$f: \mathbb{R}^{n \times 3} \to \mathbb{R}^{d} \to g: \mathbb{R}^{d} \to \mathbb{R}^{d'} \to h: \mathbb{R}^{d'} \to \mathbb{R}^{d'}$

where $f(\cdot)$ (Encoder network, PointNet-based backbone) mapped point clouds to $d =$

$1{,}024$-dimensional embeddings, $g(\cdot)$ (Projector network, 2-layer MLP) mapped to $d' =$

256-dimensional projections, and $h(\cdot)$ (Predictor network, 2-layer MLP) with same

dimensionality. The model was trained to minimize a symmetric negative cosine similarity

loss:

$\mathscr{L} = -\tfrac{1}{2}[D(h(g(f(P1))), \underline{g(f(P2))}) + D(h(g(f(P2))), \underline{g(f(P1))})]$

where $D(x, y) = x \cdot y/(||x||_2 \, ||y||_2)$ denoted the cosine similarity function. The underlined

terms were treated as constants during backpropagation and did not contribute gradients. This

objective encouraged the network to learn rotation- and noise-invariant representations while

preventing representational collapse. Each nucleus was ultimately represented by a $d =$

$1{,}024$-dimensional embedding vector $z = f(P)$ extracted from the trained encoder. To reduce

redundancy and enable integration with handcrafted features, we applied Uniform Manifold

Approximation and Projection (UMAP)[104] with the following hyperparameters (Target

dimensionality: $d_{UMAP} = 8$; Number of neighbors: $k = 15$; Minimum distance: $d_{min} = 0.1$;

Distance metric: Euclidean). This yielded an 8-dimensional deep feature representation z_{UMAP}

$\in \mathbb{R}^{8}$ for each nucleus. The final feature representation for each nucleus was constructed by

concatenating the 8-dimensional deep feature embedding $z_{UMAP} \in \mathbb{R}^{8}$ with the

13-dimensional handcrafted morphological feature vector $f_{morph} \in \mathbb{R}^{13}$: $f_{hybrid} = [f_{morph}; z_{UMAP}]$

$\in \mathbb{R}^{21}$, where $[\cdot; \cdot]$ denoted vector concatenation. Prior to concatenation, all features were

standardized using z-score normalization: $f' = (f - \mu)/\sigma$, where μ and σ represented the mean

and standard deviation computed across the entire dataset, respectively. This hybrid descriptor

f_{hybrid} leveraged both interpretable morphological traits (providing biological insight) and

high-capacity deep embeddings (capturing complex geometric patterns), enabling robust and

scalable analysis of nucleus morphology.

Similarly, we adopted the same methodology for morphological analysis of somata.

Since somata could be characterized with the aid of associated structures such as nuclei and

mitochondria, the computation of traditional somatic features incorporated not only the

aforementioned morphological descriptors but also integrated nucleus- and

mitochondria-based features as auxiliary representations.

Segmentation of PSDs, SVs, and mitochondria

A three-class 3D U-Net network was trained to predict PSDs and SVs at the resolution of 8 ×

8 × 33 nm^3 per voxel. We annotated four regions (~12 × 12 × 1 μm^3 per volume), generating

training sets encompassing 146M voxels. We optimized the network using the multi-class

cross-entropy loss and SGD optimizer. During training, a warm-up learning rate strategy was

employed with an initial learning rate of 0.01, a linear warm-up period of 2k steps, and cosine

decay over a total of 500k training steps. Data augmentation was performed to improve the

network's robustness, including random rotation, random flipping, grayscale transformation,

elastic transformation, and blur simulation. To test the network performance, we manually

annotated another three regions as test sets (~8 × 8 × 1 μm^3 per volume). The evaluation of

these regions yielded an average precision of 85.60 ± 3.21% and an average recall of 88.37 ±

1.59%.

A 3D U-Net network was trained to detect the mitochondria at the resolution of 8 × 8 ×

33 nm^3 per voxel. We annotated five regions (~12 × 12 × 1 μm^3 per volume), generating

training sets encompassing 467M voxels. To separate adjacent mitochondria, we designed a

network to simultaneously predict both a mitochondrial mask (trained with binary

cross-entropy loss) and an instance boundary mask (optimized using a combined binary

cross-entropy and Dice loss). Training proceeded for 500k iterations with SGD optimizer,

applying a learning rate scheduling strategy identical to the synapse detection task. Data

augmentation protocols were consistently implemented as in the synapse detection framework.

For automated identification of glycinergic neurons, we annotated additional 284

soma-localized mitochondria labeled with APEX2. Neurons were classified as glycinergic if

their somata contained ≥ 4 labeled mitochondria.

Proofreading

We conducted extensive manual and semi-automated proofreading of neurons, PSDs, SVs,

mitochondria, vessels, and brain regions using a custom software Advanced Connectome

Engine (ACE) that integrated the Hadoop- and HBase-based data management, computing

modules, and collaborative tools. We used this software to coordinate proofreading tasks,

facilitate collaborative proofreading workflows, and log all user operations. Current and

immediately preceding proofreading results were compared to evaluate proofreaders'
performance. The proofreading team consisted of 30 – 40 full-time proofreaders from
commercial companies and several experts from the laboratories involved. Reconstruction
results were represented as graph structures that connected segmentation contours across all
serial sections belonging to a single supervoxel. The contours of adjacent layers were
compared to identify anomalies and guide proofreaders to target regions requiring correction.

To aid the proofreading workflow, we utilized a series of foundation models for
segmentation[105-107], including the Segment Anything Model (SAM), SAM 2 and SAEM².
Based on these models, we implemented two additional strategies to enhance ACE's
human-computer interaction. First, the SAM ViT-H model checkpoint was exported to an
ONNX (Open Neural Network Exchange) model with additional quantization and
optimization. ONNX Runtime was used to execute these models on CPU/GPU, which
supported cross-platform inference and improved software runtime. Second, the SAM
embeddings generated by encoders were precomputed and saved in CloudVolume using
kempressed format, which demonstrated higher compression ratios compared to raw and
fpzip encodings. For 2D semi-automated segmentation, we utilized manually traced neuronal
skeletons with extra positive/negative points as input prompts for the SAM model. However,
the pretrained SAM failed to accurately segment densely packed, homogeneous neuronal
processes[108]. To address this, we proposed the finetuned SAEM² with auxiliary tasks to
acquire complementary multi-head information for neuron segmentation in the ssEM dataset.
The auxiliary task involved identifying cell boundaries (plasma membranes) to complement
the original SAM that primarily focused on cell masks. For 3D segmentation, we employed
the SAM 2 augmented with two additional strategies: (1) We trained the system to predict
cross-correlation maps and subsequently computed the shifts between adjacent 2D EM
images. (2) We utilized the distance transformation maps from the previous cell masks to
sample prompt points for generating the next cell masks.

Micro-mesoscopic morphology comparison
We inferred the neuronal types of APEX2-unlabeled neurons based on morphology
comparison between the ssEM dataset and the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas[20]. A preprocessed
reference file was generated, containing the x-y-z coordinates of all E and I neurons and their
mirrored counterparts from the Zebrafish Mesoscopic Atlas (n_{Glu} = 12,219, n_{GABA} = 5,371, n_{Gly}
= 2,193). We first calculated neuronal skeletons (stored as swc files) from manually-corrected
EM supervoxels. These skeletons were then transformed into the common physical space of
the mesoscopic brain template using bidirectional CLEM approach mentioned above. Using
the soma center of each EM query neuron as the origin, we retrieved all single-neuron
morphological data within a 25 μm spherical radius based on the preprocessed reference file.
For each EM query neuron, we performed pairwise morphology comparisons with the
retrieved mesoscopic reference neurons. Cross-scale skeleton matching established

morphological correspondences between the same type of neurons across imaging modalities by quantifying spatial relationships between their reconstructed skeletons. The matching similarity was constructed by calculating the unidirectional distance (D) from EM skeletons (S_E) to LM skeletons (S_L) as follows,

$$D = \frac{1}{|S_E|} \sum_{p \in S_E} D_{min}(p, S_L)$$

where D_{min} represents the shortest distance from S_L to the point p in S_E. The distance for each point in S_E was calculated, and the average was then determined. The S_L that minimized D was chosen as the most similar skeleton corresponding to S_E. This distance-based scoring system ranked similarity (lower scores indicated closer matches), with the top-ranked matches (swc filenames and scores) exported. These results were manually verified using a custom software Brain Atlas Viewer (BrAVe)[21].

3D visualization

In accordance with open-science principles, we employed the Neuroglancer precomputed format and CloudVolume interface for data management and 3D visualization through both Neuroglancer and webKnossos[109]. For data encoding, we used JPEG compression for ssEM images and compressed_segmentation format for region silhouettes and segmentation masks. We further implemented the Igneous[110] for multiprocessed block-wise downsampling, skeletonization and meshing with the following agglomeration. For skeletonization, we used the Kimimaro implementation of the automated TEASAR algorithm[111]. We then merged the skeleton splits that might appear based on nearest Euclidean neighbors, calculated the path length of the skeleton, and determined the radius of each vertex in the skeleton. For meshing, we used the automated block-wise Zmesh to generate multi-resolution meshes. These skeletons and meshes were stored in sharded formats.

We employed mesh representations to visualize brain regions and reconstructions in Neuroglancer, while utilizing annotation points to demonstrate synaptic locations. The Neuroglancer *matrix* function served as an affine transformation tool for manipulating (translate/flip/rotate/zoom) the original image layers. We used the parallel projection during Neuroglancer rendering to generate 3D scale bars. Furthermore, we optimized two existing workflows for video creation: (1) Neuroglancer workflow using Python scripts from the *video_tool* package, and (2) the open-source computer graphics software Blender, with Python scripts and JSON descriptions from neuVid. Since we acquired high-resolution images only for the retina, optic nerve, brain and anterior SC, we processed a pre-acquired low-resolution dataset ($400 \times 400 \times \sim 1,650$ nm^3 per voxel) of the complete zebrafish head to provide comprehensive 3D rendering context used in Fig.1b and Supplementary Video 1. We first verified the section number corresponding to the whole-brain high-resolution dataset, and then generated uniformly spaced, downsampled images ($992 \times 992 \times 660$ nm^3 per voxel) along the rostral-caudal axis using linear interpolation. These images were subsequently

registered to the high-resolution dataset, ensuring alignment with multiple segmentation and reconstruction results within the same physical space. Finally, grayscale histogram equalization was performed. The ssEM dataset are accessible through the following dedicated links:

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Brain_EM_images

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Retina_EM_images

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Brain_regions

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Auto_supervoxels

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Manual_supervoxels

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Nuclei

https://ng.zebrafish.digital-brain.cn/Fish-X/Vessel

Statistical analysis

No randomization and blinding were used during data collection and analysis. The statistical analysis was performed using GraphPad Prism. Error bars represent mean ± SEM. Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used for testing normality. Two-tailed Mann Whitney U test was used in Figs. 2d,j, 3k, 4e, and Extended Data Figs. 5d, 9c. Two-tailed two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used in Fig. 4j,k,w. Linear regression analysis was used in Figs. 3d,l,m, 4f,g, and Extended Data Fig. 6d-f. Exponential fitting was performed in Fig. 4n. Chi-square goodness-of-fit test was performed in Fig. 4q. Statistical significance is defined as $P < 0.05$. The specific statistical tests, P-value ranges, and sample sizes are provided in the corresponding figures and/or figure legends.

Reporting summary

Further information on research design is available in the Nature Port-folio Reporting Summary linked to this article.

Data availability

Plasmids, zebrafish lines, and the ssEM dataset generated in this study will be available upon request.

Code availability

All source codes and algorithms are available at https://github.com/MiRA-Han-Lab/Fish-X.

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1360

Author contributions

J.L.D., H.H., and F.N.L. conceived and supervised the project. F.N.L. and J.L.D. wrote the
manuscript with input from H.H., J.Z.L., C.S., J.B.Y., J.L., Y.N.L., Y.C.Z., H.Y.Y., H.Z.,
L.L.L., L.N.Z., and X.H.D. F.N.L. generated APEX2 fish lines, prepared samples, analyzed
the LC-NE system's input organization, and coordinated proofreading and discussions. J.Z.L.
performed whole-brain automated reconstruction including nuclei and vessels. C.S. generated
and managed APEX2 fish lines, prepared samples, and summarized all manually verified
reconstructions. J.B.Y. was responsible for the data management and proofreading system
maintenance. Y.N.L. performed image registration including CLEM. J.L. performed
automated segmentation of PSDs, SVs, and mitochondria. L.N.Z. performed image
acquisition. L.L.L. collected sections. L.J.S. supported proofreading system maintenance. X.C.
supported image registration. H.Z. conducted skeletonization and 3D visualization. Y.C.Z.
executed nucleus clustering. R.K.T. and H.Y.H. generated APEX2 plasmids. F.X.Z., T.X.,
B.H.C., H.R.C., and S.C. participated in image registration. T.X. performed image repair.
B.H.C. handled image denoising and interpolation of the low-resolution EM dataset. H.T.M.
performed ion milling. H.Y.Y. and J.L.Z. carried out micro-mesoscopic morphology
comparison. J.Y.G. participated in vessel segmentation. Z.H.F. and Y.S.W. contributed to
proofreading. X.H.D. assisted in section collection. L.M.L. assisted in image acquisition.

X.H.Z. supported remote proofreading management. C.Y.Q. performed immunostaining.

S.R.J. annotated retinal regions. C.M.Z., P.S.X., and Y.X.Y. contributed to the analysis of the

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1383

1384   **Competing interests**

1385   The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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 Figure Legends

 Fig. 1 | Multiplexed NM-type-labeled whole-brain ssEM of larval Zebrafish.

 a, Schematic of multiplexed EM neuronal-type annotation in APEX2-labeled zebrafish larvae.

 Subcellular-localized APEX2 conjugated TagRFP (bottom left, red) catalyzes the conversion

 of DAB into osmiophilic substances, creating localized non-transmembrane electron densities

 (bottom right, black) within specific neuronal types and generating distinct EM-visible

 patterns.

 b, Rendering of the intact head (left, $992 \times 992 \times 660$ nm^3 per voxel) and representative EM

 images of the right retina (bottom right, 32×32 nm^2 per pixel), right optic nerve (upper center,

 8×8 nm^2 per pixel resolution), and anterior spinal cord (upper right, 32×32 nm^2 per pixel)

 in a 6-dpf larva.

 c, Rendering of manually corrected brain-wide neural tracts (yellow) and vessels (light red).

 Most vessels remained well-preserved, though some collapse was observed in the

 telencephalon. Neural tracts, identified as a bundle of parallel-oriented fibers, were manually

 traced. Vessels were automatically reconstructed, followed by manual proofreading.

 d, Grayscale-coded projected nucleus density along three axes. In the brain, 176,810 nuclei

 that were automatically segmented and subsequently manually proofread were used for

 analysis.

 e, Rendering of randomly color-coded nuclei distributed across four representative horizontal

 planes along dorsal-ventral axis (interval, 50 μm). The dorsal-ventral distance is relative to

 the epidermal surface.

 f, Rendering of the reconstruction of 523 manually-proofread brain-wide neurons. These

 include 13 NE neurons in the LC and MO (orange; $n_{LC-NE} = 10$, $n_{MO-NE} = 3$), 10 DA neurons in

 the OB, PT and Hc (light green; $n_{OB-DA} = 3$, $n_{PT-DA} = 4$, $n_{Hc-DA} = 3$), 7 5HT neurons in the Pr

 and RN (dark blue; $n_{Pr-5HT} = 3$, $n_{RN-5HT} = 4$), 2 Hcrt neurons in the hypothalamus (magenta),

 24 Gly neurons in the midbrain and hindbrain (sky blue), 178 Glu neurons (purple), 38

 GABA neurons (green), 247 unidentified neurons (light gray), 3 RGCs (red), and one M-cell

 (dark gray).

 C, caudal; L, left; V, ventral. LC, locus coeruleus; MO, medulla oblongata; OB, olfactory

 bulb; PT, posterior tuberculum; Hc, caudal hypothalamus; Pr, pretectum; RN, raphe nucleus.

 NE, noradrenergic; DA, dopaminergic; 5HT, serotonergic; Hcrt, hypocretinergic; Gly,

 glycinergic; Glu, glutamatergic; GABA, GABAergic; RGC, retinal ganglion cell; M-cell,

 Mauthner cell. See also Extended Data Figs. 1,2, and Supplementary Video 1.

 Fig. 2 | APEX2 labeling- and mesoscopic atlas-based neuronal type identification.

 a, Schematic of three strategies for neuronal type identification based on APEX2 labeling

 (top), intrinsic properties (middle), and mesoscopic atlas comparison (bottom).

 b, Representative EM images of all types of APEX2-labeled neurons (4×4 nm^2 per pixel).

Individual APEX2-labeled neurons display various degrees of staining intensity and are contoured by color-coded dashed lines. Two APEX2-labeled mitochondria in a Gly neuron are indicated by white arrows, one of which is located near the infoldings of the nucleus. The rostral-caudal locations of related sections are shown (bottom right).

c, Rendering of a single LC-NE neuron's soma, containing endoplasmic reticulum (ER, orange), Golgi apparatus (GA, pink), mitochondria (Mito, light blue), nucleus (light green), nucleolus (red), and a primary cilia. The Mito (top right) and ER (bottom right) are depicted separately.

d, Distinct relationship between the nucleus-to-soma volume ratio and somatic mitochondrial density for APEX2-labeled LC-NE neurons (orange, n = 5) and adjacent unlabeled cells (gray, n = 69). The blue arrow points to an unlabeled cell, which displays similar properties to those of LC-NE neurons and is speculated to be an unlabeled LC-NE neuron.

e, UMAP visualization of clustering of all cells in **d** using combined deep-learned and traditional features of their nuclei and somata. The blue arrow in the inset points to the same unlabeled cell indicated in **d**.

f, Rendering of the five APEX2-labeled (orange) and one unlabeled (blue) LC-NE neurons shown in **d,e**. Morphological reconstruction reveals similar axonal projection patterns between the LC-NE neuron #3 and unlabeled LC-NE neuron.

g-i, Representative examples showing partially EM-reconstructed query neurons (black) with their fully LM-reconstructed top-ranked E (Glu, magenta) or I (GABA, green; Gly, blue) counterparts, revealed by morphology comparison. Some EM queries are matched to LM neurons with similar morphology (**g,h**), whereas others exhibit substantial morphological differences from their top-ranked LM references (**i**). All EM queries are presynaptic neurons to the five LC-NE neurons in the right hemisphere and distributed in brain-wide regions (in parentheses).

j, Comparison of the normalized top penalty scores for all 467 EM queries, with lower penalty scores indicating higher degrees of matching. The penalty score was normalized by skeleton node number of EM queries. All results were manually verified after morphological matching and categorized into E/I-specific match, E/I-ambiguous match, and Un-match. In some brain regions, E and I neurons exhibit similar morphology, causing good matches between EM queries and both E/I neurons. Mann Whitney test was performed, and the error bars represent mean ± SEM.

k,l, EM query neuron #41 (black), which exhibits morphology similar to adjacent LM-reconstructed Glu, GABA, and Gly neurons (**k**; Glu, magenta; GABA, green; Gly, blue) but is identified as a Gly neuron by mitochondrial-APEX2 labeling (**l,** white arrows).

L, left; Ro, rostral; V, ventral. ER, endoplasm reticulum. See also Extended Data Figs. 3,4,5, Supplementary Video 2, and Supplementary Tables 1,2,3.

Fig. 3 | Regional- and NM type-distinct synaptic organization.

a, Co-occurrence of PSDs (25.25 million), SVs (15.77 million), and mitochondria (13.73 million, Mito) in the brain. Automatic 3D reconstructed supervoxels were utilized to assess whether identified PSDs, SVs, and mitochondria were situated within the same synaptic compartments.

b, Representative EM image (4×4 nm^2 per pixel) of a synapse with PSD (blue arrow), SV (orange dashed line), and a mitochondrion (green dashed line).

c, Synapse density distribution across 52 major brain regions. Regions are arranged primarily along a rostral-to-caudal axis and from sensory-related to motor-related areas. 23.62 million synapses exhibiting co-occurrence of PSDs and SVs were used for analysis. Multiple PSDs usually corresponded to a single SV cloud, resulting in a situation where the number of presumable synapses (23.62 millions) exceeds the number of SVs (15.77 millions).

d, Linear regression analysis of synapse density versus nucleus density across 52 brain regions. The solid line represents the fitted regression line ($Y = -173.3 \times X + 1,549$, $R^2 = 0.7070$, $P < 0.0001$), and dashed lines indicate the 95% confidence interval of the fit. Each circle represents an individual brain region.

e, Lognormal frequency distribution of the volume of synaptic components, including PSDs (blue), SVs (orange), and Mito (green), across the brain. The volume was calculated using the results of automatic segmentation in Supplementary Tables 4,5,6, and the data from all 52 regions were pooled together.

f-h, Lognormal distribution of the probability density for the volumes of PSDs (top), SVs (middle), and Mito (bottom) in the forebrain (**f**), midbrain (**g**), and hindbrain (**h**). Regions Ep (brown, **f**) and LCa (cyan, **h**) are indicated by arrows.

i,j, Rendering of EM reconstructions for APEX2-labeled NM neurons within the right hemisphere, including LC-NE and MO-NE neurons (orange), OB-DA, PT-DA and Hc-DA neurons (light green), Pr-5HT and RN-5HT neurons (blue), and Hcrt neurons (magenta). Gly neurons with APEX2 labeling, which were identified as LC-NE presynaptic neurons during reconstruction, are also shown (cyan). Presynaptic input sites are marked as small gray cycles. The dendritic arbors were fully reconstructed for LC-NE, PT-DA, and RN-5HT neurons, and partially reconstructed for the other neurons. Neuron numbers are shown in parentheses.

k, Dendritic input densities across different neuronal types. Dendritic input density (per μm): LC-NE, 0.3493 ± 0.0194; MO-NE, 0.1511 ± 0.0185; OB-DA, 0.0255 ± 0.0094; PT-DA, 0.3420 ± 0.0212; Hc-DA, 0.0415 ± 0.0249; Pr-5HT, 0.0759 ± 0.0249; RN-5HT, 0.3749 ± 0.0413; Hcrt, 0.0747 ± 0.0204; Gly, 0.1228 ± 0.0190. *$P < 0.05$ (Mann Whitney test). Error bars represent mean ± SEM.

l,m, Linear regression analysis of the total projection length versus the dendritic input density (**l**, $Y = 15,580 \times X + 898.7$, $R^2 = 0.3446$, $P = 0.0965$) and dendritic input number (**m**, $Y = 19.82 \times X + 884.4$, $R^2 = 0.6275$, $P < 0.05$). The total projection length was calculated as the average of three individual neurons from mesoscopic datasets for each neuronal type. The dendritic input density and number were calculated from the same neurons in **i-k**.

C, caudal; L, left; Ro, rostral; V, ventral. OB, olfactory bulb; P, pallium; S, subpallium; Po,

preoptic region; OTAOS, optic tract and accessory optic system; Pr, pretectum; Ep, epiphysis;

Ha, habenula; DT, dorsal thalamus; VT, ventral thalamus; PT, posterior tuberculum; M2,

migrated posterior tubercular region; Hr, rostral hypothalamus; Hi, intermediate

hypothalamus; DHi, diffuse nucleus of the intermediate hypothalamus; Hc, caudal

hypothalamus; Pit, pituitary; NL, neuropil layers (optic tectum); PL, periventricular cell layer

(optic tectum); T, tegmentum; nMLF, nucleus of medial longitudinal fascicle; nIII,

oculomotor nerve nucleus; TL, torus longitudinalis; TS, torus semicircularis; R1, rhombomere

1; nIV, trochlear nerve motor nucleus; IPN, interpeduncular nucleus; SR, superior raphe; CCe,

corpus cerebelli; Va, valvula cerebelli; EG, eminentia granularis; LCa, lobus caudalis cerebelli;

MON, medial octavolateralis nucleus; R2, rhombomere 2; nVd, dorsal motor nucleus of

trigeminal nerve; R3, rhombomere 3; nVv, ventral motor nucleus of trigeminal nerve; IR,

inferior raphe; R4, rhombomere 4; R5, rhombomere 5; MVN, medial vestibular nucleus; TVN,

tangential vestibular nucleus; nVIIr, rostral facial nerve motor nucleus and octavolateralis

efferent neurons; nVIr, rostral motor nucleus of abducens nerve; R6, rhombomere 6; nVIIc,

caudal facial nerve motor nucleus and octavolateralis efferent neurons; nVIc, caudal motor

nucleus of abducens nerve; R7, rhombomere 7; R8, rhombomere 8; nIX/X,

glossopharyngeal/vagal nerve motor nucleus; VLo, vagal lobe; IO, inferior olive. See also

Extended Data Figs. 6,7,8, Supplementary Videos 3,4,5, and Supplementary Tables 4,5,6.

1522

Fig. 4 | Spatial organization and shared mode of LC-NE neurons' synaptic input

architecture.

a, Rendering of synaptic input sites on the dendrites area of the LC-NE neuron #3. Based on

the soma locations of corresponding presynaptic neurons (PNs), input sites are empirically

classified as sensory-related (blue dots) or motor-related (magenta dots). The same color

scheme is applied to all related data below. Synapses that were traced but not yet reached their

soma are marked as gray dots. Dendritic and axonal processes are color-coded as orange and

gray, respectively. The number in parentheses represent the number of synapses.

b, 2D spatial distribution of synaptic inputs on the dendrites of LC-NE neuron #3. In

zebrafish, LC-NE neurons are pseudounipolar neurons, with both axonal and dendritic

processes emerging from a primary branch. The distance between each dot and the soma

represents the path length from each input site to the soma.

c, Rendering of all 374 EM-reconstructed PNs, which form 418 synapses on the LC-NE

neuron #3. Sensory-related (blue): 160 neurons, 182 synapses; Motor-related (magenta), 214

neurons, 236 synapses. All synapses at the LC-NE neuron #3 were traced and only those

successfully traced back to their somata were used for analysis.

d, Distribution of 374 PNs, located at 32 of all 52 brain regions. Neuron numbers are shown

at the right of each bar. R1 and R2 rank as the two predominant input sources, accounting for

20.86% (78/374) and 10.16% (38/374) of total PNs, respectively.

e, Differential probability distributions of sensory- (blue) and motor-related (magenta) synaptic inputs along dendritic path length, from the soma to distal region. The average distance to the soma are indicated by dashed lines. ****$P < 0.0001$ (Mann Whitney test).

f,g, Linear regression analysis of dendritic path length and the corresponding synaptic strength quantified by PSD volume (**f**) and SV volume (**g**). Sensory-related (blue): PSD volume *vs* path length (**f**, left), Y = -1.181e4 × X + 4.927e6, $R^2 = 0.0627$, $P < 0.001$; SV volume *vs* path length (**g**, left), Y = -3.283e4 × X + 9.356e6, $R^2 = 0.0711$, $P < 0.001$. Motor-related (magenta): PSD volume *vs* path length (**f**, middle), Y = -2.174e4 × X + 5.7e6, $R^2 = 0.1369$, $P < 0.0001$; SV volume *vs* path length (**g**, middle), Y = -3.611e4 × X + 8.414e6, $R^2 = 0.0790$, $P < 0.0001$. Right: probability distributions of PSD volume (**f**) and SV volume (**g**) for both sensory- (blue) and motor-related (magenta) inputs, with dashed lines indicating the average distance to the soma (Mann Whitney test).

h, Analysis of E/I composition ratios in both sensory- (n = 82) and motor-related (n = 106) PNs. Both Glu neurons (purple, n = 135) and GABA neurons (green, n = 33) neurons were inferred through morphological comparison, and Gly neurons (blue) were verified via mitochondrial APEX2 labeling (n = 17) or inferred through morphological comparison (n = 3). PNs with type unknown (UN, n = 186) are displayed as gray.

i, Rendering of all 374 color-coded PNs of the LC-NE neuron #3. Inset: highlighted dendritic input sites.

j,k, Differential distribution of E (left) and I (right) input sites on the dendritic area of the LC-NE neuron #3, for sensory-related (**j**) and motor-related (**k**) inputs. White circles represent the soma. The number in parentheses indicate the number of synapses analyzed. Sensory-related GABA/Gly inputs (**j**, right) and motor-related Glu inputs (**k**, left) are more clustered in distal and proximal areas, respectively. Left-right axis: $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ sensory-I}} < 0.05$, $P_{\text{motor-E }vs\text{ motor-I}} = 0.1072$, $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ motor-E}} < 0.001$, $P_{\text{sensory-I }vs\text{ motor-I}} < 0.05$, $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ motor-I}} = 0.6938$, $P_{\text{sensory-I }vs\text{ motor-E}} < 0.0001$. Dorsal-ventral axis, $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ sensory-I}} = 0.2084$, $P_{\text{motor-E }vs\text{ motor-I}} = 0.1809$, $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ motor-E}} = 0.0530$, $P_{\text{sensory-I }vs\text{ motor-I}} = 0.2053$, $P_{\text{sensory-E }vs\text{ motor-I}} = 0.6938$, $P_{\text{sensory-I }vs\text{ motor-E}} < 0.05$. Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was performed.

l, Rendering of all 69 EM-reconstructed intra-common presynaptic neurons (intra-CPNs), which form 88 synapses on the LC-NE neuron #3. Sensory-related (blue): 30 neurons, 39 synapses; Motor-related (magenta), 39 neurons, 49 synapses.

m, Regional distribution of 69 intra-CPNs. Neuron numbers are shown at the right of each bar.

n, Cell ratio of intra-CPNs with various innervation numbers. PN numbers are shown on bars. Exponential fitting: Y = 0.0255 + 28.09 × $e^{-1.816 \times X}$, $R^2 = 0.9973$.

o, Analysis of E/I composition ratios for intra-CPNs with various innervation numbers.

p,q, Cell ratio of intra-CPNs with different innervation combinations (**p**) and intra-CPNs innervating different LC-NE neurons (**q**). Neuron numbers are shown above each bar. All intra-CPNs analyzed innervated the LC-NE neuron #3, and #1, #2, #4, and #5 denote the

other four reconstructed LC-NE neurons. The red symbols represent theoretical cell ratios

obtained from 100 iterations of random combinations, using identical cell numbers and

matched innervation number distributions. Chi-square goodness-of-fit test was performed (**q**,

$\chi^2(3) = 7.8727$, $P < 0.05$). Error bars represent mean ± SEM.

r, Rendering of all 26 EM-reconstructed inter-NM system common presynaptic neurons

(inter-CPNs), which form 32 synapses on the LC-NE neuron #3. Sensory-related (blue), 12

neurons, 17 synapses; Motor-related (magenta), 14 neurons, 15 synapses.

s, Regional distribution of 26 inter-CPNs. Neuron numbers are shown at the right of each bar.

t, Heatmap depicting spontaneous calcium activities in LC-NE, PT-DA, and RN-5HT neurons,

with Z-scored relative fluorescence changes. Black arrows indicate synchronous spontaneous

activities   between   LC-NE   and   PT-DA   neurons.

Ki(th:GAL4-VP16);Ki(tph2:GAL4FF,cmlc2:EGFP);Tg(UAS:GCaMP6s) larvae at 6 dpf were

used for *in vivo* confocal calcium imaging.

u, Number of inter-CPNs with different NM-type combinations of co-innervation.

v, Analysis of E/I composition ratios for inter-CPNs with different NM-type combinations.

w, Differential distribution of non-CPN (left), intra-CPN (middle), and inter-CPN (right)

inputs on the dendrites of the LC-NE neuron #3. White circles represent the soma. The

number in parentheses indicate the number of synapses analyzed. Both intra-CPN and

inter-CPN inputs favor proximal distributions, whereas non-CPN inputs display a more

dispersive distribution. Left-right axis: $P_{\text{non-CPN } vs \text{ intra-CPN}} < 0.0001$, $P_{\text{non-CPN } vs \text{ inter-CPN}} = 0.5716$,

$P_{\text{intra-CPN } vs \text{ inter-CPN}} < 0.05$. Dorsal-ventral axis: $P_{\text{non-CPN } vs \text{ intra-CPN}} < 0.001$, $P_{\text{non-CPN } vs \text{ inter-CPN}} <$

0.01, $P_{\text{intra-CPN } vs \text{ inter-CPN}} = 0.3284$. Two-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was performed.

x, Model of dendritic input architecture of LC-NE neurons. Brain-wide inputs are spatially

organized in a modality- and strength-dependent manner. E/I inputs prefer proximal and distal

areas, respectively. And shared inputs within NE/DA/5HT systems innervate more proximal

areas.

C, caudal; D, dorsal; L, left; Ri, right; Ro, rostral; V, ventral. See also Extended Data Figs.

9,10,11, and Supplementary Videos 6,7.

1609

 Extended Data Figure Legends

 Extended Data Fig. 1 | Multiplexed APEX2-labeled fish line and validation.

 a, Summary of distinct APEX2-labeling patterns (red) in different neuronal types in the
 quadruple transgenic fish line.

 b, Validation of APEX2-labeled neuronal types in 6-dpf larvae through immunohistochemical
 staining (left) and crossing with neuronal type-specific reporter lines (right). Representative
 fluorescent images show APEX2-conjugated TagRFP signals (top), immunofluorescence or
 GFP signals in reporter fish lines (middle), and merged channels (bottom).
 Gt(vmat2:GAL4FF);Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;UAS:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP) larvae were
 immunostained with an anti-tyrosine hydroxylase antibody to validate NE and DA neurons.
 Tg(hcrt:APEX2-TagRFP-NLS) larvae were immunostained with an anti-hypocretin antibody
 to validate Hcrt neurons. *Gt(vmat2:GAL4FF);Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;UAS:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP)*
 larvae were crossed with *Ki(tph2:EGFP)* larvae to validate 5HT neurons.
 Tg(glyt2:MITO-APEX2-TagRFP) larvae were crossed with *Tg(glyt2:GFP)* larvae to validate
 Gly neurons.

 c, Z-projected whole-brain (left) and expanded (right, c1-c3) fluorescent images of the 6-dpf
 multiplexed APEX2-labeled larva used for whole-brain ssEM in this study. Cytosol- and
 nucleus-localized APEX2 signals are indicated by white arrows in DA neurons in the OB (top
 right, c1) and Hcrt neurons in the hypothalamus (middle right, c2) neurons, and
 mitochondria-localized APEX2 signals are outlined with white dashed lines in Gly neurons in
 the hindbrain (bottom right, c3).

 d, Quantification of APEX2-labeled neurons and their ratio (EM/LM) to the theoretical
 population size (labeling efficiency). Gly neurons were automatically identified based on
 somatic presence of ≥ 4 APEX2-labeled mitochondria, and other APEX2-labeled neurons
 were manually counted by experts. Theoretical neuron counts for each neuronal type were
 derived from the average of manual counts across three 6-dpf larvae of reporter fish lines. The
 number in parentheses indicates the number of identified APEX2-labeled neurons.

 C, caudal; L, left; Ri, right; Ro, rostral. LC, locus coeruleus; MO, medulla oblongata; OB,
 olfactory bulb; PT, posterior tuberculum; Hc, caudal hypothalamus; Pr, pretectum; RN, raphe
 nucleus; NE, noradrenergic; DA, dopaminergic; 5HT, serotonergic; Hcrt, hypocretinergic;
 Gly, glycinergic.

 Extended Data Fig. 2 | Workflow for whole-brain ssEM of larval zebrafish.

 a, Workflow including *in vivo* confocal fluorescence imaging, fixation, DAB reaction, rOTO
 staining, dehydration, resinification, X-ray micro-tomography, ATUM-SEM imaging,
 stitching, alignment, correlative light-electron microscopy (CLEM), 3D automatic
 reconstruction, manual proofreading, and 3D visualization (see Methods).

 b, Rendering of 46,536 automatically reconstructed supervoxels in the brain (dorsal view),
 with length ranging between $100 - 300$ μm.

 c, Magnified rendering of 1,404 automatically reconstructed periventricular cells in the optic
 tectum. The inset displays the soma layer of the optic tectum (yellow).

 C, caudal; L, left; V, ventral.

 Extended Data Fig. 3 | Regional distribution of nuclei and perisomatic features of

diverse cell types.

a,b, Nucleus density distribution across 52 regions in the brain and 7 regions in the retina (**a**).
Color-coded regions were annotated through CLEM approach, followed by manual
proofreading.

c, UMAP visualization of whole-brain nucleus clustering (176,789 cells) using combined
8-dimensional deep-learned and 13 traditional features (see Methods). All nuclei were
manually proofread after automated segmentation, resulting in optimal 3D morphological
reconstruction. Based on APEX2-labeling, 4,019 Gly neurons were automatically identified,
and 309 neurons of NM types were manually annotated by experts (n_{LC-NE} = 12, n_{MO-NE} = 54,
n_{OB-DA} = 38, n_{PT-DA} = 22, n_{Hc-DA} = 45, n_{Pr-5HT} = 9, n_{RN-5HT} = 117, n_{Hcrt} = 12). In addition, 511
vasculature-associated cells, including endothelial cells (ECs), pericytes (PCs), and red blood
cells (RBCs), were manually annotated (n_{EC} = 383, n_{PC} = 84, n_{RBC} = 44) based on their
location and perisomatic features. Inset: vasculature-associated cells tending to aggregate. 21
nuclei located at dataset boundaries were excluded from clustering due to incomplete
morphologies. Among all reconstructed nuclei, 70,114 cells, whose automatically
reconstructed supervoxels possessed at least one synapse, are presumed as neurons, and the
remaining are presumed to be glial cells, or neurons which processes were not well
automatically reconstructed.

d, Rendering of nuclei from diverse cell types. Shallow grooves and infoldings are indicated
by black arrows on the nuclei of LC-NE and Gly neurons, respectively. The irregular nuclear
morphologies of two cells with undefined types are shown, suggesting greater diversity of
nuclear morphology.

e-l, Comparisons of perisomatic features between APEX2-labeled neurons and a 10-fold
number of their adjacent unlabeled cells. Left, nucleus-to-soma volume ratio *vs* somatic
mitochondrial density. Right, UMAP visualization of cell clustering using combined
deep-learned and traditional features of their nuclei and somata. Cell numbers are shown in
parentheses.

C, caudal; L, left. See also Supplementary Tables 1,2,3.

1682

Extended Data Fig. 4 | Soma location of diverse types of APEX2-labeled NM neurons.
Corresponding 33-nm EM sections (64 × 64 nm^2 per pixel) containing representative
APEX2-labeled neurons shown in Fig. 2b. Sections are arranged left-to-right and
top-to-bottom, following the rostral-caudal axis. Exact positions along the rostral-caudal axis
are indicated in the bottom-right schematic diagram. APEX2-labeled neurons with different
types are indicated by dashed circles, color-coded according to their neuronal types. Black
asterisks denote the exact APEX2-labeled neurons shown in Fig. 2b.

L, left; V, ventral.

1691

Extended Data Fig. 5 | Comparisons of PSD thickness/volume of Glu and GABA
synapses annotated by APEX2 labeling.
a, Design of the plasmid *5×UAS-2×Cox8a-APEX2-TagRFP*, which was injected into
Tg(vglut2a:GAL4FF) and *TgBAC(gad1b:GAL4-VP16)* eggs to specifically label mitochondria
in Glu and GABA neurons, respectively.

b,c, Representative EM images of APEX2-labeld mitochondria in axon terminals of Glu (**b**)

and GABA (**c**) neurons. Red dashed lines: APEX2-labeled mitochondria; asterisks: SVs; yellow arrows: juxtaposed PSDs in postsynaptic cells.

d, Comparisons of PSD ultrastructural features between Glu (n = 90) and GABA (n = 102) synapses. PSD thickness was estimated from the diameter of its maximum inscribed sphere. Dashed lines indicate the average values of PSD thickness (horizontal) and volume (vertical). $P_{thickness}$ = 0.5365, P_{volume} = 0.0943 (Mann Whitney test).

Extended Data Fig. 6 | Comparable whole-brain distributions of PSDs, SVs and mitochondria.

a-c, Density distributions of PSDs (**a**), SVs (**b**), and mitochondria (**c**) across 52 brain regions.

d-f, Pairwise linear regression analysis among PSD density, SV density, and mitochondria density. The solid red lines represent the fitted regression line, and the dashed red lines indicate the 95% confidence interval of the fit. Each circle represents individual brain regions. SV density *vs* PSD density (**d**): Y = 0.6092 × X + 12.86, R^2 = 0.9398, $P < 0.0001$; Mitochondria density *vs* SV density (**e**): Y = 0.7542 × X + 100.9, R^2 = 0.8454, $P < 0.0001$; Mitochondria density *vs* PSD density (**f**), Y = 0.4644 × X + 107.7, R^2 = 0.8118, $P < 0.0001$.

See also Supplementary Tables 4,5,6 and Supplementary Video 3.

Extended Data Fig. 7 | Single-cell morphology of diverse types of NM neurons.

a, Workflow for reconstructing mesoscopic single-cell morphologies, adapted from Du et al.[20], with key steps including micro-injection, screening, *in vivo* confocal imaging, manual skeleton tracing, and registration with the mesoscopic brain template.

b-e, Representative examples of mesoscopic single-cell morphologies of diverse NM types, including NE (**b**), DA (**c**), 5HT (**d**), and Hcrt (**e**) neurons. Black arrows indicate somata. The predominantly innervated regions (highlighted in light blue) are shown in parentheses. Left, lateral view; middle, dorsal view; right, zoomed-in morphology (dorsal view).

D, dorsal; L, left; Ro, rostral.

Extended Data Fig. 8 | Reconstruction and synaptic input mapping of a Mauthner cell.

a, Rendering of a right M-cell's soma, lateral dendrites, ventral dendrites, and proximal axon, as well as somatodendritic synaptic input sites (small violet dots, $n_{synapse}$ = 1,966). Both the morphology and synapses were manually verified based on automatic segmentation results. The axonal branch is not fully displayed.

b, Representative EM image (4 × 4 nm^2 per pixel) of the M-cell's soma shown in **a**. The nucleus and cytosol are labeled in red and yellow, respectively.

c, Zoom-in view of the dashed rectangle region in **b**, showing synapses formed multiple presynaptic neurons (color coded) at the M-cell's soma.

L, left; Ri, right; D, dorsal; V, ventral. See also Supplementary Video 5.

Extended Data Fig. 9 | Reconstructions of dendritic synaptic inputs of the LC-NE neurons #1/2/4/5.

a, 2D spatial distribution of dendritic synaptic inputs on the LC-NE neurons #1/2/4/5. Each dot represents a single synaptic input site, color-coded by the modality of PNs (Sensory-related, blue; Motor-related, magenta). Gray dots indicate synaptic sites untraced or

traced but not yet reached soma. The distance between each dot and the soma represents the path length from each input site to the soma.

b, Numbers of dendritic synaptic inputs for individual LC-NE neurons. The number on the top indicate the number of all synapses for each neuron.

c, Differential distributions of all identified sensory- (blue, n = 104) and motor-related synaptic inputs (magenta, n = 159) of the four LC-NE neurons along dendritic path length, from the soma to distal region. The average distance to the soma are indicated by dashed lines. ****$P < 0.0001$ (Mann Whitney test).

D, dorsal; V, ventral.

Extended Data Fig. 10 | Spatial difference of PNs for diverse NM types.

a, Schematic illustrating the soma location of NM neurons displayed in **b-d**.

b-d, Rendering of representative DA (green) and 5HT (blue) neurons with their partially reconstructed PNs (gray). Only synapses successfully traced back to their PN somata are shown. PNs of the OB-DA neuron (**b**) were traced separately, whereas PNs of the PT-DA (**c**) and RN-5HT (**d**) neurons were identified during the reconstruction of the five LC-NE neurons' inputs, indicating their identity as inter-CPNs across distinct monoaminergic systems. The number of neurons are indicated by the numbers in parentheses.

C, caudal; L, left.

Extended Data Fig. 11 | Reconstructions of PNs for the LC-NE neurons #1/2/4/5.

a-d, Rendering of EM-reconstructed PNs and corresponding LC-NE neuron #1 (**a**), #2 (**b**), #4 (**c**), or #5 (**d**). The numbers of PNs with E/I composition and the numbers of corresponding synapses formed by these PNs on the targeted LC-NE neuron are shown in parentheses. Notably, two Hcrt neurons (**c**, magenta) with nuclear-localized APEX2 specifically targeted the LC-NE neuron #4, rather than other LC-NE neurons.

Ro, rostral; V, ventral.

 SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

 SUPPLMENTARY TABLES:

 Supplementary Table 1 | Standardized nomenclature of brain regions

 Supplementary Table 2 | Nucleus count and density across brain regions

 Supplementary Table 3 | Perisomatic features of multiple APEX2-labeled neurons

 Supplementary Table 4 | PSD count and density across brain regions

 Supplementary Table 5 | SV count and density across brain regions

 Supplementary Table 6 | Mitochondria count and density across brain regions

 SUPPLEMENTARY VIDEOS:

 Supplementary Video 1 | A whole-brain EM reconstruction in a 6-dpf larva with multiplexed
 neuromodulatory-type labeling, including 520 reconstructed neurons of various types,
 176,810 nuclei, neural tracts, and vessels in the brain and anterior spinal cord.

 Gt(vmat2:GAL4FF);Tg(dbh:GAL4FF;UAS:cytosol-APEX2-TagRFP);Tg(hcrt:APEX2-TagRF
 P-NLS);Tg(glyt2:MITO-APEX2-TagRFP), 6 dpf

 Supplementary Video 2 | Multiplexed APEX2-labeled neuronal types, including
 LC-NE/MO-NE neurons (cytosol-APEX2), OB-DA/PT-DA/Hc-DA neurons
 (cytosol-APEX2), Pr-5HT/RN-5HT neurons (cytosol-APEX2), Hcrt neurons
 (nuclear-APEX2), and Gly neurons (mitochondrial-APEX2).

 Supplementary Video 3 | Whole-brain density distribution of nucleus/PSD/SV/Mitochondria.
 The brain regions first appear sequentially along a rostral-to-caudal axis, followed by the
 distributions of corresponding components displayed in descending order of density.

 Supplementary Video 4 | Dendritic reconstruction and input mapping of multiple
 monoaminergic neurons.

 Supplementary Video 5 | Dendritic reconstruction and input mapping of a Mauthner cell.

 Supplementary Video 6 | Widely-distributed 374 presynaptic neurons from 32 out of 52
 brain regions converging onto a single LC-NE neuron.

 Supplementary Video 7 | Inputome organization of a single LC-NE neuron. Inputs are
 categorized as follows. (1) Sensory- *vs* Motor-related presynaptic neurons (PNs). (2)
 Excitatory (glutamatergic) *vs* Inhibitory (GABAergic/glycinergic) PNs. (3) Intra-CPNs within
 the LC-NE system. (4) Inter-CPNs among NE, DA, and 5HT systems.

 Supplementary Table 1 | Standardized nomenclature of brain regions

Region_id	Name	Abbr.	Volume (μm^3)
1	Olfactory bulb	OB	552,907.80
2	Pallium	P	1,176,906.63
3	Subpallium	S	954,796.37
4	Preoptic region	Po	759,356.45
5	Optic tract and accessory optic system	OTAOS	986,748.95
6	Pretectum	Pr	669,170.64
7	Epiphysis (Pineal gland)	Ep	110,533.43
8	Habenula	Ha	289,854.83
9	Dorsal thalamus	DT	286,673.99
10	Ventral thalamus	VT	336,431.48
11	Posterior tuberculum	PT	377,980.15
12	Migrated posterior tubercular region	M2	658,202.84
13	Rostral hypothalamus	Hr	1,204,135.20
14	Intermediate hypothalamus	Hi	1,874,093.02
15	Diffuse nucleus of the intermediate hypothalamus	DHi	250,549.79
16	Caudal hypothalamus	Hc	176,238.95
17	Pituitary	Pit	83,580.57
18	Neuropil layer (optic tectum)	NL	2,939,375.09
19	Periventricular cell layer (optic tectum)	PL	3,760,502.17
20	Tegmentum	T	536,864.29
21	Nucleus of medial longitudinal fascicle	nMLF	30,611.07
22	Oculomotor nerve nucleus	nIII	77,251.04
23	Torus longitudinalis	TL	115,042.14
24	Torus semicircularis	TS	1,105,957.84
25	Rhombomere 1	R1	1,829,045.90
26	Trochlear nerve motor nucleus	nIV	50,476.46
27	Interpeduncular nucleus	IPN	196,849.62
28	Superior Raphe	SR	122,206.58
29	Corpus cerebelli	CCe	1,345,996.74
30	Valvula cerebelli	Va	282,478.01
31	Eminentia granularis	EG	270,844.81
32	Lobus caudalis cerebelli	LCa	32,741.70
33	Medial octavolateralis nucleus	MON	274,799.18
34	Rhombomere 2	R2	1,039,406.70
35	Dorsal motor nucleus of trigeminal nerve	nVd	36,112.51
36	Rhombomere 3	R3	897,971.87
37	Ventral motor nucleus of trigeminal nerve	nVv	16,845.30
38	Inferior raphe	IR	32,603.36
39	Rhombomere 4	R4	891,197.12
40	Rhombomere 5	R5	1,038,459.75
41	Medial vestibular nucleus	MVN	35,611.76

42	Tangential vestibular nucleus	TVN	30,629.58
43	Rostral facial nerve motor nucleus and octavolateralis efferent neurons	nVIIr/OLer	68,704.18
44	Rostral motor nucleus of abducens nerve	nVIr	6,896.53
45	Rhombomere 6	R6	1,048,429.95
46	Caudal facial nerve motor nucleus and octavolateralis efferent neurons	nVIIc/OLec	22,639.00
47	Caudal motor nucleus of abducens nerve	nVIc	14,460.40
48	Rhombomere 7	R7	930,447.61
49	Rhombomere 8	R8	1,964,286.62
50	Glossopharyngeal/Vagal nerve motor nucleus	nIX/X	188,459.61
51	Vagal lobe	VLo	15,311.87
52	Inferior olive	IO	37,314.70
53	Outer nuclear layer	ONL	1,935,701.58
54	Outer plexiform layer	OPL	218,800.10
55	Inner nuclear layer	INL	1,811,315.73
56	Inner plexiform layer	IPL	642,129.04
57	Retinal ganglion cell layer	RGCL	447,158.97
58	Ciliary marginal zone	CMZ	88,195.60
59	Optic nerve	ON	8,981.38

1804

 Supplementary Table 2 | Nucleus count and density across brain regions

Region_id	Name (abbr.)	Count	Density (per 10^3 μm^3)
1	OB	2,937	5.31
2	P	6,056	5.15
3	S	5,380	5.63
4	Po	4,733	6.23
5	OTAOS	2,380	2.41
6	Pr	5,021	7.50
7	Ep	461	4.17
8	Ha	2,020	6.97
9	DT	2,347	8.19
10	VT	2,875	8.55
11	PT	2,541	6.72
12	M2	1,738	2.64
13	Hr	4,398	3.65
14	Hi	6,934	3.70
15	DHi	1,589	6.34
16	Hc	1,399	7.94
17	Pit	616	7.37
18	NL	1,489	0.51
19	PL	39,919	10.62
20	T	3,098	5.77
21	nMLF	224	7.32
22	nIII	616	7.97
23	TL	864	7.51
24	TS	6,646	6.01
25	R1	9,401	5.14
26	nIV	503	9.97
27	IPN	524	2.66
28	SR	887	7.26
29	CCe	9,287	6.90
30	Va	2,184	7.73
31	EG	2,233	8.24
32	LCa	314	9.59
33	MON	467	1.70
34	R2	5,307	5.11
35	nVd	241	6.67
36	R3	4,313	4.80
37	nVv	65	3.86
38	IR	152	4.66
39	R4	3,822	4.29
40	R5	5,856	5.64
41	MVN	155	4.35
42	TVN	70	2.29

43	nVIIr/OLer	488	7.10
44	nVIr	25	3.63
45	R6	5,376	5.13
46	nVIIc/OLec	130	5.74
47	nVIc	36	2.49
48	R7	5,031	5.41
49	R8	11,784	6.00
50	nIX/X	1,430	7.59
51	VLo	96	6.27
52	IO	267	7.16
53	ONL	23,576	12.18
54	OPL	1,122	5.13
55	INL	38,063	21.01
56	IPL	89	0.14
57	RGCL	6,988	15.63
58	CMZ	1,051	11.92
59	ON	21	2.34

1806

 Supplementary Table 3 | Perisomatic features of multiple APEX2-labeled neurons

	LC-NE neurons	MO-NE neurons	OB-DA neurons	PT-DA neurons	Hc-DA neurons	Pr-5HT neurons	RN-5HT neurons	Hcrt neurons	Gly neurons
Soma volume (μm^3)	314 (131)	116 (79.0)	106 (99.5)	303 (111)	92.8 (76.5)	104 (86.5)	139 (103)	137 (103)	82.3 (77.5)
Soma surface area (μm^2)	344 (180)	158 (126)	161 (148)	367 (169)	149 (139)	165 (147)	201 (157)	190 (165)	138 (130)
Soma volume/surface ratio (μm)	0.902 (0.710)	0.732 (0.617)	0.658 (0.675)	0.824 (0.658)	0.614 (0.552)	0.630 (0.591)	0.685 (0.652)	0.720 (0.627)	0.595 (0.598)
Soma sphericity	0.648 (0.687)	0.730 (0.701)	0.674 (0.708)	0.595 (0.669)	0.666 (0.632)	0.652 (0.647)	0.643 (0.679)	0.677 (0.652)	0.663 (0.682)
Soma/convex hull area ratio	1.05 (1.08)	1.01 (1.07)	1.01 (1.04)	1.09 (1.05)	1.04 (0.972)	1.08 (1.08)	1.01 (1.05)	1.12 (1.09)	1.04 (1.04)
Soma/convex hull volume ratio	0.686 (0.737)	0.731 (0.765)	0.694 (0.738)	0.637 (0.687)	0.681 (0.592)	0.693 (0.705)	0.650 (0.720)	0.758 (0.694)	0.712 (0.712)
Soma area minus convex hull area (μm^2)	14.8 (12.7)	1.13 (8.20)	-3.38 (3.28)	32.0 (-15.6)	3.71 (-22.1)	11.6 (9.99)	-0.776 (4.84)	20.0 (11.0)	3.41 (0.745)
Convex hull volume minus soma volume (μm^3)	148 (48.7)	45.1 (25.0)	57.0 (40.8)	171 (84.9)	49.0 (75.6)	48.3 (37.8)	75.9 (45.8)	43.9 (54.2)	35.8 (38.0)
Soma elongation ratio	4.64 (4.42)	3.00 (3.35)	3.92 (3.24)	5.68 (5.38)	3.27 (6.95)	4.15 (4.74)	5.22 (5.07)	3.33 (4.88)	4.65 (4.06)
Soma radial range (μm)	7.88 (4.48)	4.08 (3.25)	4.49 (3.60)	7.41 (5.42)	3.81 (5.66)	4.83 (4.73)	7.04 (4.52)	4.19 (4.16)	4.98 (4.41)
Soma normalized max radius	3.43 (2.25)	2.17 (1.73)	2.47 (1.89)	2.74 (1.85)	1.92 (30.0)	2.70 (3.82)	5.90 (2.80)	1.61 (2.79)	4.33 (4.55)
Soma normalized min radius	0.0337 (0.0486)	0.0723 (0.0598)	0.0354 (0.0548)	0.0140 (0.0575)	0.0544 (0.176)	0.0372 (0.0426)	0.0351 (0.0469)	0.0459 (0.0468)	0.0412 (0.0502)
Soma eccentricity	0.833 (0.742)	0.776 (0.792)	0.820 (0.777)	0.842 (0.757)	0.776 (0.801)	0.774 (0.804)	0.823 (0.787)	0.815 (0.769)	0.845 (0.806)
Nucleus volume (μm^3)	117 (79.5)	78.4 (58.4)	77.9 (71.3)	128 (77.0)	64.8 (55.3)	66.6 (63.0)	78.5 (68.0)	91.4 (71.7)	57.8 (56.7)
Nucleus surface area (μm^2)	126 (96.3)	94.3 (77.7)	96.4 (90.7)	141 (93.7)	84.6 (77.8)	90.1 (85.1)	100 (91.9)	105 (90.8)	81.1 (79.6)
Nucleus volume/surface ratio (μm)	0.920 (0.820)	0.831 (0.737)	0.808 (0.782)	0.901 (0.815)	0.762 (0.710)	0.741 (0.741)	0.779 (0.739)	0.866 (0.782)	0.711 (0.710)
Nucleus sphericity	0.913 (0.926)	0.939 (0.923)	0.915 (0.916)	0.867 (0.931)	0.921 (0.904)	0.885 (0.902)	0.881 (0.878)	0.932 (0.917)	0.890 (0.897)
Nucleus/convex hull area ratio	1.01 (1.01)	1.00 (1.00)	1.00 (1.01)	1.01 (1.00)	1.00 (1.01)	1.02 (1.01)	1.01 (1.01)	1.01 (1.00)	1.00 (1.01)

Nucleus/convex hull volume ratio	0.946 (0.961)	0.971 (0.973)	0.965 (0.965)	0.926 (0.966)	0.964 (0.952)	0.937 (0.948)	0.928 (0.928)	0.972 (0.957)	0.946 (0.942)
Nucleus area minus convex hull area (μm^2)	1.55 (0.554)	0.203 (0.279)	0.364 (0.770)	1.79 (0.326)	0.0976 (0.612)	2.06 (0.465)	0.588 (0.956)	0.521 (0.0955)	0.201 (0.621)
Convex hull volume minus nucleus volume (μm^3)	6.72 (3.32)	2.35 (1.41)	2.88 (2.58)	10.4 (2.62)	2.51 (2.91)	4.53 (3.46)	6.00 (5.38)	2.65 (3.33)	3.24 (3.61)
Nucleus elongation ratio	2.05 (1.94)	1.73 (2.02)	2.21 (2.34)	2.46 (2.20)	1.97 (2.15)	2.36 (2.40)	2.57 (3.10)	1.84 (3.37)	2.38 (2.23)
Nucleus radial range (μm)	1.93 (1.58)	1.45 (1.52)	1.98 (1.81)	2.54 (1.58)	1.61 (1.70)	1.88 (1.86)	2.28 (2.12)	1.66 (1.77)	1.90 (1.75)
Nucleus normalized max radius	0.508 (0.540)	0.521 (0.619)	0.676 (0.626)	0.649 (0.608)	0.560 (0.690)	0.606 (0.742)	0.734 (0.855)	0.538 (0.751)	0.726 (0.677)
Nucleus normalized min radius	0.0703 (0.0928)	0.102 (0.0903)	0.0697 (0.0778)	0.0473 (0.0971)	0.0778 (0.0803)	0.0618 (0.0724)	0.0491 (0.0683)	0.0856 (0.0896)	0.0691 (0.0758)
Nucleus eccentricity	0.601 (0.659)	0.697 (0.702)	0.720 (0.718)	0.714 (0.669)	0.738 (0.739)	0.700 (0.701)	0.775 (0.732)	0.671 (0.707)	0.758 (0.716)
Mitochondrial count	165 (13.1)	14.0 (6.48)	9.40 (9.02)	66.3 (5.98)	15.4 (8.06)	5.40 (6.06)	26.2 (9.02)	12.6 (7.38)	6.30 (4.38)
Mitochondrial density per 1 μm^3 soma volume	0.547 (0.0847)	0.120 (0.0803)	0.0838 (0.0912)	0.219 (0.0494)	0.181 (0.106)	0.0528 (0.0671)	0.175 (0.0784)	0.0974 (0.0704)	0.0745 (0.0555)
Mitochondrial density per 1 μm^3 nucleus volume	1.42 (1.47)	0.177 (0.109)	0.117 (0.153)	0.520 (0.0732)	0.243 (0.145)	0.0806 (0.0931)	0.318 (0.122)	0.146 (0.102)	0.107 (0.0758)
Nucleus/soma volume ratio	0.386 (0.640)	0.684 (0.750)	0.741 (0.724)	0.425 (0.712)	0.731 (0.731)	0.653 (0.733)	0.585 (0.683)	0.667 (0.703)	0.710 (0.740)

1808   Data are presented as mean values, with values in parentheses representing unlabeled cells
1809   adjacent to APEX2-labeled neurons. See Fig. 2e and Extended Data Fig. 3e-l for cell numbers,
1810   and Methods for calculation details.
1811

 Supplementary Table 4 | PSD count and density across brain regions

Region_id	Name (abbr.)	Count	Density (per 10^3 μm^3)
1	OB	168,961	305.59
2	P	619,202	526.13
3	S	570,921	597.95
4	Po	397,593	523.59
5	OTAOS	969,580	982.60
6	Pr	185,228	276.80
7	Ep	5,371	48.59
8	Ha	74,603	257.38
9	DT	51,797	180.68
10	VT	59,776	177.68
11	PT	194,962	515.80
12	M2	890,300	1,352.62
13	Hr	1,248,748	1,037.05
14	Hi	2,269,327	1,210.89
15	DHi	47,967	191.45
16	Hc	29,554	167.69
17	Pit	6,949	83.14
18	NL	6,274,593	2,134.67
19	PL	143,460	38.15
20	T	488,299	909.54
21	nMLF	4,158	135.83
22	nIII	20,325	263.10
23	TL	10,079	87.61
24	TS	997,075	901.55
25	R1	1,817,808	993.86
26	nIV	3,156	62.52
27	IPN	235,891	1,198.33
28	SR	31,382	256.79
29	CCe	543,830	404.04
30	Va	55,456	196.32
31	EG	94,508	348.94
32	LCa	256	7.82
33	MON	387,594	1,410.46
34	R2	1,024,545	985.70
35	nVd	6,723	186.17
36	R3	768,601	855.93
37	nVv	17,612	1,045.51
38	IR	11,246	344.93
39	R4	746,597	837.75
40	R5	660,500	636.04
41	MVN	15,087	423.65
42	TVN	31,957	1,043.34

43	nVIIr/OLer	10,745	156.40
44	nVIr	8,262	1,197.99
45	R6	750,372	715.71
46	nVIIc/OLec	1,141	50.40
47	nVIc	18,099	1,251.63
48	R7	864,232	928.83
49	R8	1,309,422	666.61
50	nIX/X	82,721	438.93
51	VLo	3,171	207.09
52	IO	17,618	472.15

1813

 Supplementary Table 5 | SV count and density across brain regions

Region_id	Name (abbr.)	Count	Density (per 10^3 μm^3)
1	OB	157,880	285.54
2	P	440,095	373.94
3	S	418,483	438.30
4	Po	274,409	361.37
5	OTAOS	567,745	575.37
6	Pr	107,340	160.41
7	Ep	6,561	59.36
8	Ha	38,386	132.43
9	DT	28,278	98.64
10	VT	34,647	102.98
11	PT	111,957	296.20
12	M2	578,311	878.62
13	Hr	756,460	628.22
14	Hi	1,493,329	796.83
15	DHi	28,689	114.50
16	Hc	20,016	113.57
17	Pit	11,688	139.84
18	NL	3,864,426	1,314.71
19	PL	81,328	21.63
20	T	325,770	606.80
21	nMLF	1,988	64.94
22	nIII	11,687	151.29
23	TL	6,317	54.91
24	TS	584,917	528.88
25	R1	1,091,715	596.88
26	nIV	1,351	26.76
27	IPN	223,406	1,134.91
28	SR	18,389	150.47
29	CCe	412,867	306.74
30	Va	51,639	182.81
31	EG	45,662	168.59
32	LCa	137	4.18
33	MON	179,624	653.66
34	R2	587,247	564.98
35	nVd	4,383	121.37
36	R3	439,578	489.52
37	nVv	9,836	583.90
38	IR	8,031	246.32
39	R4	447,452	502.08
40	R5	396,779	382.08
41	MVN	9,154	257.05
42	TVN	17,689	577.51

43	nVIIr/OLer	7,489	109.00
44	nVIr	5,165	748.93
45	R6	457,744	436.60
46	nVIIc/OLec	814	35.96
47	nVIc	11,255	778.33
48	R7	516,297	554.89
49	R8	809,742	412.23
50	nIX/X	50,822	269.67
51	VLo	2,377	155.24
52	IO	12,457	333.84

1815

 Supplementary Table 6 | Mitochondria count and density across brain regions

Region_id	Name (abbr.)	Count	Density (per 10^3 μm^3)
1	OB	146,644	265.22
2	P	365,682	310.71
3	S	364,324	381.57
4	Po	247,663	326.15
5	OTAOS	535,443	542.63
6	Pr	133,626	199.69
7	Ep	11,706	105.90
8	Ha	58,557	202.02
9	DT	45,091	157.29
10	VT	47,103	140.01
11	PT	107,722	284.99
12	M2	411,387	625.02
13	Hr	617,761	513.03
14	Hi	1,115,733	595.35
15	DHi	30,243	120.71
16	Hc	34,030	193.09
17	Pit	17,205	205.85
18	NL	2,582,241	878.50
19	PL	265,164	70.51
20	T	303,911	566.09
21	nMLF	3,942	128.78
22	nIII	18,408	238.29
23	TL	15,109	131.33
24	TS	509,154	460.37
25	R1	905,849	495.26
26	nIV	4,828	95.65
27	IPN	217,883	1,106.85
28	SR	27,805	227.52
29	CCe	399,534	296.83
30	Va	65,467	231.76
31	EG	73,700	272.11
32	LCa	1,190	36.35
33	MON	251,781	916.24
34	R2	490,509	471.91
35	nVd	6,031	167.01
36	R3	402,701	448.46
37	nVv	6,147	364.91
38	IR	13,723	420.91
39	R4	427,100	479.24
40	R5	413,002	397.71
41	MVN	12,173	341.83
42	TVN	25,790	842.00

43	nVIIr/OLer	14,259	207.54
44	nVIr	4,869	706.01
45	R6	497,382	474.41
46	nVIIc/OLec	5,806	256.46
47	nVIc	12,623	872.94
48	R7	487,363	523.79
49	R8	866,776	441.27
50	nIX/X	54,772	290.63
51	VLo	3,139	205.00
52	IO	15,150	406.01

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Figures

Fig.1

Fig.2

Fig.3

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1831

 Extended Data Figures

 Extended Data Fig.1

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1836   Extended Data Fig.2

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1842   Extended Data Fig.4

Section #23705
★ OB-DA neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #18724
★ Pr-5HT neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #17049
★ Hcrt neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #16243
★ PT-DA neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #10835
★ LC-NE neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #10816
★ RN-5HT neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #10627
★ Hc-DA neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #8723
★ MO-NE neuron in Fig. 2b

Section #8378
★ Gly neuron in Fig. 2b

#23705
#18724
#17049
#16243
#10835 & 10816
#10627
#8723
#8378

NE   DA   5HT   Hcrt   Gly

50 µm

1843
1844

1845   Extended Data Fig.5

a 5×UAS-2×Cox8a-APEX2-TagRFP

UAS — Mito — APEX2 — TagRFP

Fertilized eggs

Tg(vglut2a:GAL4FF) or
TgBAC(gad1b:GAL4-VP16)

b Glutamatergic synapse
with APEX2-labeled mitochondria

200 nm

c GABAergic synapse
with APEX2-labeled mitochondria

200 nm

d

P = 0.0943

Glu (90)
GABA (102)

P = 0.5365

PSD maximum inscribed sphere diamter (nm)

PSD volume (×10⁻⁴ μm³)

1846

1847

Extended Data Fig.7

1854   Extended Data Fig.8

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1857   Extended Data Fig.9

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1859

1860   Extended Data Fig.10

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1863   Extended Data Fig.11

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