

# "Challenge the Brain, Change the Future"

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P1-164	Time course changes in depressive-like behaviors in lipopolysaccharide-treated mice	177
P1-165	The responses of oxytocin depending on differences of social interaction in the menopausal women. <u>Juyeon Yi, SunAe Moon, Jisub Bae, Kwangsu Kim, Si Young Cho, Gusang Kwon, Ran Lee, Seungho Ko, Soyeon Lim, Cheil Moon</u>	177
P1-166	Systemic brain activity may represent processes of odor quality	177
P1-167	Neural representations of ensemble statistics in human visual and parietal cortices	177
P1-168	Effect of spike-timing-dependent plasticity on stochastic burst synchronization in A scale-free neural network	178
P1-169	Neuronal dynamic routing model through coherent oscillations in complex network of electrical synapses Sangyeol Kim, Iksoo Chang	178
P1-170	Structural Insight to changes of thermostability in human prion protein induced by H187 mutants	178
P1-171	Normalization of cortical thickness measurements across different T1 magnetic resonance imaging protocols by novel w-score standardization	178
	Jeong-Hyeon Shin, Joon-Kyung Seong, Yong Jeong	
P1-172	Predicting the distribution of Alzheimer's disease-associated proteins using the brain network	179
P1-173	Selective and reversible functional connectivity modulation in neuronal network using patterned thermo-plasmonic effect	179
P1-174	Cortically-projecting parvalbumin-positive neurons in basal forebrain control top-down processing mediated by prefrontal cortex-	179
	Eunjin Hwang, Hio-Been Han, Bowon Kim, Tae Kim, Robert W. McCarley, James T. McKenna, Ritchie E. Brown, Jee Hyun Choi	
	Resting-state fMRI predicts somatosensory-evoked BOLD fMRI in anesthetized mice	
P1-176	BOLD fMRI at ultrahigh magnetic fields of 9.4 T and 15.2 T	180
P1-177	The brain-state extraction algorithm based on the state transition (BEST): a dynamic functional brain networks analysis in fMRI study.	180
P1-178	Young-Beom Lee, Kwangsun Yoo, Jee Hoon Roh, Won-Jin Moon, Yong Jeong  Analysis of neuronal calcium dynamics during synaptic scaling down using MEA and GCamp6f imaging  Dongmyeong Lee, Bo Am Seo, Hee-Sup Shin, Myoung-Goo Kang	180
P1-179	Contribution analysis of lipid extraction, RI-matching and size expansion in tissue clearing techniques————————————————————————————————————	180
P1-180	Chemical exchange-sensitive MRI of cortical amide and amine signals at 9.4T and 15.2T	18
P1-181	Source dipole localization of frontal midline theta rhythm in healthy young age 7 to 18	18
P1-182	Modulation of the learning rate symmetry in spike-timing-dependent plasticity can differentially regulate the formation of flexible and stable memories	18
P1-183	Regularly structured retinal mosaics can induce structural correlation between orientation and spatial frequency maps in V1	18

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## P1-168

Effect of spike-timing-dependent plasticity on stochastic burst synchronization in A scale-free neural network

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We consider an excitatory population of subthreshold Izhikevich neurons which cannot fire spontaneously without noise. As the coupling strength passes a threshold, individual neurons exhibit noise-induced burstings. This neuronal population has adaptive dynamic synaptic strengths governed by the spike-timing-dependent plasticity (STDP). In the absence of STDP, stochastic burst synchronization (SBS) between noise-induced burstings of subthreshold neurons was previously found to occur over a large range of intermediate noise intensities through competition between the constructive and the destructive roles of noise. Here, we study the effect of additive STDP on the SBS by varying the noise intensity D in the Barabasi-Albert scale-free net-work (SFN) with symmetric preferential attachment with the same in- and out-degrees. This type of SFN exhibits a power-law degree distribution (i.e., scale-free property), and hence it becomes inhomogeneous one with a few "hubs" (i.e., super-connected nodes). Occurrence of a "Matthew effect" in synaptic plasticity is found to occur due to a positive feedback process. Good burst synchronization gets better via long-term potentiation (LTP) of synaptic weights, while bad burst synchronization gets worse via long-term depression (LTD). Consequently, a step-like rapid transition to SBS occurs by changing D, in contrast to the relatively smooth transition in the absence of STDP. Emergence of LTP and LTD of synaptic weights are investigated in details via microscopic studies based on both the distributions of time delays between the nearest burst onset times of the pre- and the post-synaptic neurons and the pair-correlations between the pre- and the post-synaptic IIBRs (instantaneous individual burst rates). We also investigate the effect of network architecture on SBS for a fixed D and a multiplicative STDP case depending on the states in comparison with the above additive STDP case (independent of the states).

Key Words: Stochastic burst synchronization, Spike-timing-dependent plasticity, Scale-Free network, Subthreshold neurons

# P1-169

Neuronal dynamic routing model through coherent oscillations in complex network of electrical synapses

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The membrane potentials of neurons propagate across electric synapses without directionality, threshold, and time delay in contrast to chemical synapses Several experimental evidences and computational models have shown that electrical synapses are required to implement not only the movement of the subthreshold oscillation but also the emergence of both the rhythmicity in the global neural network and the spiking synchrony in the mammalian interneurons. How the complex network of neurons executes the simultaneous and coherent propagation of neuronal signals is the center of fundamental issues in Connectomics, yet is still far away from our systematic understanding theoretically and computationally. Also there are still debates on another issue, called 'Dynamic routing'; how the outgoing signal of the sensory-neurons, regulated by the modulation of firing-frequency, chooses the specific propagating path in various possible ways while the synaptic network is comparatively static. In this work, we aim to suggest a physical mechanism on how 'Dynamic routing' operates with the propagation of coherent membrane potential oscillations in complex network of electrical synapses. Provided that the coherence length of oscillatory signals is longer than our system size, we employed the quantum mechanical formulation in order to describe the propagation of the subthreshold membrane potential across the complex network of electrical synapses with oscillatory incoming/outgoing signals. We could envisage the interference effect of all possible paths between input and output neurons, and investigated the propagation of coherent oscillatory signals among neurons in the complex network. We demonstrated the existence of allowed or forbidden propagation and the dynamic modulation of the propagation path depending on the wave-number of oscillatory signals in both the virtual network formed like square lattice and the real electrical synaptic network of C. elegans.

Key Words: Dynamic routing, Coherent oscillation, Complex network, Electrical synapse, Anderson's tight-binding hamiltonian

### P1-170

Structural Insight to changes of thermostability in human prion protein induced by H187 mutants

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Misfolding of prion protein (PrP) is known as one of key events in prion diseases, a group of lethal and infectious neurodegenerative diseases. It is well known that the misfolding of PrP is induced by acidic pH condition where its buried histidine employs protonation. However, despite of numerous intense studies, how the mutants of buried histidine affecting on changing PrP structure and thermostability remains unclear.

Here, we performed molecular dynamics simulations at various temperatures to investigate the changes in stability and structure of human PrP (residues 125-228) and its variants (H187F and H187R). We found that H187F (H1987R) mutant has higher (lower) thermostability comparing to wild-type. Also, the structural differences between wild-type and mutants in the pairwise interaction energy and atomic fluctuation of each amino acid were verified in this study.

Key Words: Prion protein, MD simulation, Thermostability

### P1-171

Normalization of cortical thickness measurements across different T1 magnetic resonance imaging protocols by novel w-score standardization

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Background: The use of different 3D T1-weighted magnetic resonance (T1 MR) imaging protocols induces image incompatibility across multicenter studies, negating the many advantages of multicenter studies. A few methods have been developed to address this problem, but significant image incompatibility still remains. Thus, we developed a novel method to improve image compatibility.

Methods: We developed a protocol-specific w-score standardization to control the protocol effect, which is applied to each protocol separately. We used three data sets. In dataset 1, brain T1 MR images of normal controls (NC) and patients with Alzheimer disease (AD) from two centers, acquired with different T1 MR protocols, were used (Protocols 1 and 2, n=45/group). In dataset 2, data from six subjects, who underwent MRI with two different protocols, were used with different repetition times, echo times, and slice thicknesses. In dataset 3, T1 MR images from a large number of healthy normal controls (Protocol 1: n=148, Protocol 2: n=343) were collected for w-score standardization.

Results: As expected, different protocols resulted in differing cortical thickness measurements in both NC and AD subjects. Different measurements were obtained for the same subject when imaged with different protocols. Multivariate pattern difference between measurements was observed between the protocols. Classification accuracy between two protocols was nearly 90%. After applying protocol-specific w-score standardization, the differences between the protocols substantially decreased. Most importantly, protocol-specific w-score standardization reduced both univariate and multivariate differences in the images while maintaining the AD disease effect. Compared to conventional regression methods, our method showed the best performance for in terms of controlling the protocol effect while preserving disease information. Conclusions: Protocol-specific w-score standardization effectively resolved the concerns of conventional regression methods. It showed the best performance for improving the compatibility of a T1 MR post-processed feature, cortical thickness.

Key Words: T1 MR imaging, Cortical thickness, Image compatibility, W-score standardization, Alzheimer's disease