

## Supplementary Material

### **Sparsened neuronal activity in an optogenetically activated olfactory glomerulus.**

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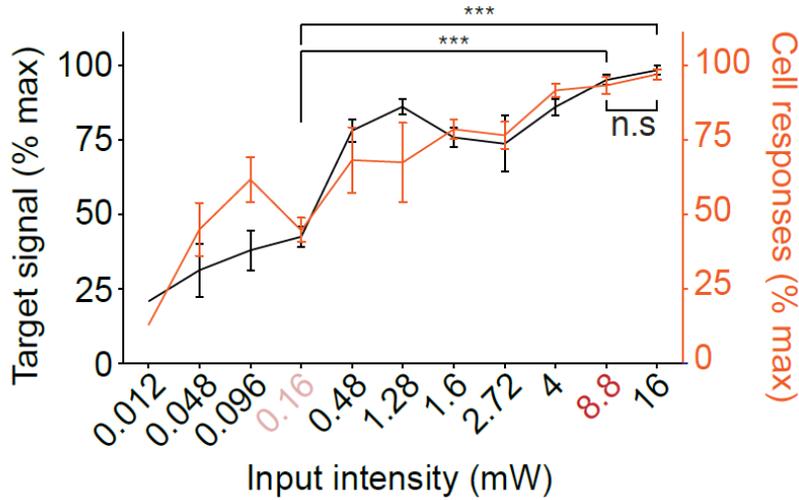
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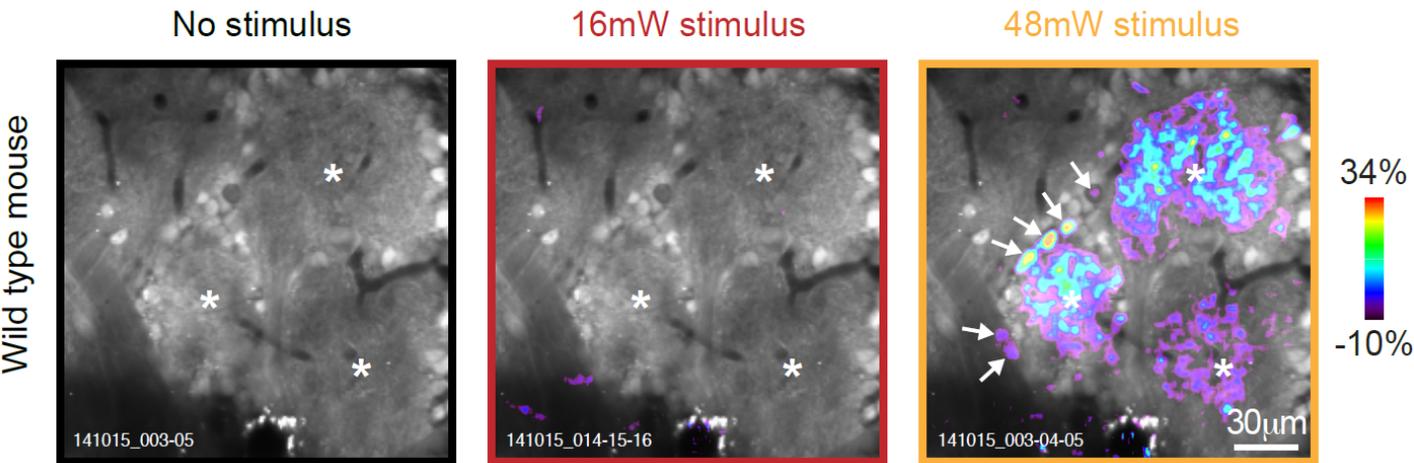
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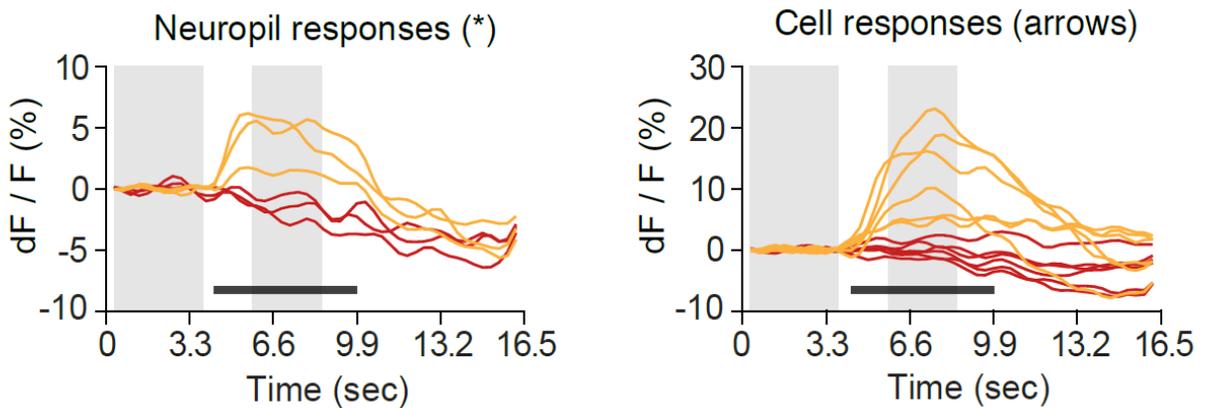
**A** Calcium signal amplitude in neuropil and number of interneuron reponses



**B<sub>1</sub>** Non-optogenetic signals in wild-type mice: frame subtractions



**B<sub>2</sub>** Non-optogenetic signals in wild-type mice: intensity vs. time traces



**Supplemental Figure 1:** Determining minimum and maximum laser stimulation intensities. Experiments in **(A)** were conducted with channelrhodopsin mice, while experiments in **(B<sub>1-2</sub>)** were performed with wild type (WT) mice. **(A)** Plot showing the signal amplitude recorded from the target glomerulus (black) and the numbers of activated glomerular layer interneurons (orange) as a function of laser stimulation intensity. Data were normalized by dividing each signal or number of responding cells by the corresponding maximum that was observed in a stimulation intensity series. The weakest stimulation intensity that produced measurable calcium signals was 0.012 mW, but signals were inconsistent and only observed in 1/5 experiments. A 0.16 mW laser stimulus produced more consistent recordings (responses in = 9/10 mice) and was generally chosen for the 'weak power' condition. The maximum 'safe' stimulation intensity was determined to be 8.8 mW to 16 mW; no difference was found in the amplitude of glomerular signals evoked by 8.8 mW or 16 mW ( $p = 0.0836$ ; paired t-tests). **(B)** The maximum 'safe' stimulation power was set at 8.8 - 16 mW because higher power stimuli elicited non-optogenetic calcium signals in wild type mice. **(B<sub>1</sub>; left)** Fura-labeled imaging region: three glomeruli are indicated with asterisks. **(B<sub>1</sub>; middle)** Frame subtraction for an experimental trial in which the olfactory epithelium was stimulated with a 16 mW average intensity laser. No activity was detected in glomeruli or cells (red traces in **B<sub>2</sub>**). **(B<sub>1</sub>; right)** Stimulation with a 48 mW laser caused visible, strong calcium signals in multiple glomeruli and surrounding cells (orange traces in **B<sub>2</sub>**). Overall, we detected calcium signals in 0% of WT glomeruli during 16 mW stimulation (52 glomeruli examined; 5 olfactory bulbs), in 16% of WT glomeruli during 32 mW stimulation (25 glomeruli examined; 1 olfactory bulb) and in 20% of WT glomeruli during 48 mW stimulation (84 glomeruli examined; 6 olfactory bulbs). These results indicate that > 16 mW laser stimuli induce non-specific neuronal activity in olfactory sensory neurons, regardless if they express channelrhodopsin or not. The scale bar in **B<sub>1</sub>** (right) applies to all three images.