

1 **Cerebral oxygenation during locomotion is modulated by respiration**

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25 **Abstract**

26 In the brain, increased neural activity is correlated with an increase of cerebral blood flow and
27 increased tissue oxygenation. However, how cerebral oxygen dynamics are controlled in the
28 behaving animals remains unclear. Here, we investigated to what extent the cerebral oxygenation
29 varies during natural behaviors that change the whole-body homeostasis, specifically exercise.
30 We measured oxygen levels in the cortex of awake, head-fixed mice during locomotion using
31 polarography, spectroscopy, and two-photon phosphorescence lifetime measurements of oxygen
32 sensors. We found that locomotion significantly and globally increases cerebral oxygenation,
33 specifically in areas involved in locomotion, as well as in the frontal cortex and the olfactory bulb.
34 The oxygenation increase persisted when neural activity and functional hyperemia were blocked,
35 occurred both in the tissue and in arteries feeding the brain, and was tightly correlated with
36 respiration rate and the phase of respiration cycle. Thus, respiration provides a dynamic pathway
37 for modulating cerebral oxygenation.

38 An adequate oxygen supply is critical for proper brain function¹, and deficiencies in tissue oxygen
39 is a noted comorbidity in human diseases² and aging³. For these reasons, there has been a great
40 deal of interest in studying dynamics of cerebral oxygenation⁴⁻⁹. However, there is a gap in our
41 understanding of how behavior, such as natural exercises like locomotion, affects cerebral
42 oxygenation. In natural environments, animals and humans have evolved to spend a substantial
43 portion of their waking hours locomoting¹⁰. As exercise is known to have a positive effect on brain
44 health^{11,12}, a better understanding of the basic brain physiology accompanying the behaviors can
45 give insight into how exercise can improve brain function. During movement, neuromodulator
46 release and neural activity in many brain regions is elevated¹³⁻²⁰, and there is an increase in
47 cardiac output and respiratory rate. How these changes in local and systemic factors interact to
48 control cerebral oxygenation is a fundamental question in brain physiology but is not well
49 understood. Most cerebral oxygenation studies are performed in anesthetized animals^{8,9,21-23} (but
50 see⁴), or non-invasively in humans. Anesthesia causes large disruptions of brain metabolism and
51 neural activity²⁴, and non-invasive human studies are impeded by technical issues, making
52 accurate determination of any aspect of brain tissue oxygenation problematic.

53 Here we investigated how and by what mechanisms voluntary exercise impacts brain
54 tissue oxygenation. We used intrinsic optical signal imaging^{13,25}, electrophysiology, Clark-type
55 polarography^{5,6,23}, and two-photon phosphorescent dye measurement^{4,8,9} to elucidate how
56 vasodilation, neural activity, and systemic factors combine to generate changes in brain
57 oxygenation. All experiments were performed in awake mice that were head-fixed on a spherical
58 treadmill^{13,14} or rotating disk⁴ that allowed them to voluntarily locomote. We found that cerebral
59 oxygenation rose during locomotion in cortical regions that did not experience vasodilation, as
60 well as when vasodilation was blocked. Oxygen levels increased in the arteries that supply the
61 cortex during exercise, consistent with an increase in systemic oxygenation. Finally, we found
62 that oxygen fluctuations were correlated with spontaneous and locomotion-evoked changes in

63 respiration rate, as well as the phase of the respiration cycle, also consistent with a dynamic
64 regulation in systemic oxygenation.

65 **Locomotion drives vasodilation in somatosensory, but not frontal cortex**

66 We first assessed the spatial extent of cortical hemodynamic responses and their relationship to
67 voluntary locomotion using intrinsic optical signal (IOS) imaging^{13,25} (**Fig. 1a**). Imaging was done
68 through a thin-skull window over the right-hemisphere (**Fig. 1b**). When the brain is illuminated
69 with 530 nm light, reflectance decreases report dilations of arteries, capillaries and veins, which
70 correspond with increases in cerebral blood volume (CBV). This reflectance change observed
71 with IOS closely tracks measurements of vessel diameter made with two-photon microscopy²⁶.
72 The consistency with microscopic measurements of vessel diameter, combined with its very high
73 signal-to-noise ratio²⁵, and spatial resolution (less than 200 μm^{27}), makes IOS suitable for
74 detecting hemodynamic responses to locomotion. While neurally-evoked dilations initiate in the
75 deeper layers of the cortex, the dilations propagate up the vascular tree to the surface arteries²⁸,
76 where they can be easily detectable with IOS. During locomotion, we observed region-specific
77 changes in reflectance. There was a pronounced decrease in the reflectance (corresponding to
78 an increase in CBV) in forelimb/hindlimb representation of the somatosensory cortex (FL/HL),
79 while in frontal cortex (FC) there was no change, or a slight increase in reflectance (n = 11 mice,
80 **Fig. 1b, d**). To better localize the area of decreased CBV, we used a smaller region of interest
81 (ROI, 2 to 4 mm rostral and 0.5 to 2.5 mm lateral from bregma, $\sim 4 \text{ mm}^2$) more rostral in FC than
82 in our previous study¹³. We also assayed cerebral blood flow (CBF) using laser Doppler flowmetry,
83 which will evaluate flow changes in a $\sim 1 \text{ mm}^2$ area. The locomotion-evoked CBF showed similar
84 spatial pattern of responses (n = 5 mice, **Fig. 1c, d**) as CBV. We quantified how locomotion
85 affected CBV and CBF in two complimentary ways. We calculated the locomotion-triggered
86 average, generated by aligning the IOS or laser Doppler signals to the onset of locomotion (see
87 Methods) using only locomotion events ≥ 5 seconds in duration (**Fig. 1d**). We also calculated the

88 hemodynamic response function (HRF)^{25,29}, which is the linear kernel relating locomotion events
89 to observed changes in CBV and CBF (**Supplementary Fig. 1**). Both measures showed a
90 decrease in CBV and CBF in the FC during locomotion (**Fig. 1d**, **Supplementary Fig. 1**). This
91 shows that locomotion and the accompanying cardiovascular changes do not drive global
92 increases in CBF/CBV, rather CBF/CBV increases are under local control. This lack of non-
93 specific flow increase in the cortex during locomotion is likely because of autoregulation of the
94 feeding arteries at the level of the circle of Willis and increased blood flow to the muscles³⁰.

95 To assess neural activity during locomotion, we measured local-field potential (LFP) and
96 multi-unit activity (MUA) in a separate group of 7 mice (6 sites in FL/HL and 4 sites in FC) using
97 multi-channel linear electrodes (**Fig. 1e**). We used electrophysiological measures of neural
98 activity, as they are more sensitive than calcium indicators (which fail to detect about half of the
99 spikes even under ideal conditions³¹), and do not disrupt normal neural activity as genetically
100 encoded calcium indicators can do³²⁻³⁴. Since gamma-band (40-100 Hz) power in the LFP has
101 been observed to be the strongest neural correlate of hemodynamic signals in rodents^{25,35},
102 primates^{5,36} and humans³⁷, and increases in gamma-band activity are also closely associated
103 with the increases metabolic demand³⁸, we quantified how locomotion affects neural activity by
104 generating locomotion-triggered averages of gamma-band (40-100 Hz) power of LFP and spiking
105 (see Methods). We observed that both the gamma-band power of LFP and spike rate increased
106 during locomotion across all the layers in both FL/HL (**Fig. 1f, h and i**) and FC (**Fig. 1g-i**). The
107 slow rise in neural activity a few hundred milliseconds before the onset of locomotion is due to
108 low-pass filtering of the MUA signal (5 Hz, see Methods) and the windowing (1 second duration)
109 required to estimate the LFP power³⁹, as well as the ramping up of neural activity due to arousal
110 changes seen before voluntary locomotion⁴⁰. As optogenetic stimulation of fast spiking inhibitory
111 neurons has been shown to induce large increases in blood oxygenation in the somatosensory
112 cortex⁴¹, we sorted recorded spikes into fast spiking (FS, putatively inhibitory) and regular spiking

113 (RS, putatively excitatory) spikes (see Methods). We found that FS and RS neurons exhibited a
114 similar degree of rate increases during locomotion in both the FL/HL and FC areas
115 (**Supplementary Fig. 2**).

116 Taken together, our results show that a short bout of locomotion increases neural activity,
117 which is followed by an increase in CBV and CBF in FL/HL, and a small decrease in CBV and
118 CBF in FC. Together with our previous work^{13,26}, these results suggest that the coupling between
119 neural activity and hemodynamics are brain region-specific (**Fig. 1j**), as seen in many other
120 neurovascular coupling studies in the cortex and other brain regions⁴²⁻⁴⁵. The lack of observed
121 vasodilation in the FC is not due to a lack of sensitivity of our IOS imaging paradigm, as if the
122 vasodilation in FC had the same relationship to neural activity as in the somatosensory cortex,
123 we would expect to see a 2% decrease in the reflectance (**Fig. 1j**), which is easily detectable with
124 our IOS setup²⁵. As tissue oxygenation reflects the balance between oxygen supply and
125 utilization⁴⁶, we would expect that in FL/HL, the increased activity of the neurons will be more than
126 matched by an increased blood supply, leading to an increase in tissue oxygenation. However,
127 the increased neural activity in FC during locomotion will not be matched by an increase in the
128 blood supply and should lead to a decrease in oxygenation in FC.

129 **Locomotion drives cortex-wide increases in brain tissue oxygenation**

130 To test if the brain region-dependent differences in neurovascular coupling drove regional
131 differences in brain oxygen dynamics during locomotion, we measured partial pressure of tissue
132 oxygen (PtO₂) in awake, behaving mice (n = 37 mice, 23 in FL/HL, and 14 in FC; 148.2 ± 28.3
133 minutes of recording per mouse) using Clark-type polarographic electrodes⁴⁷ (**Fig. 2a**). Signals
134 from these electrodes are similar to those obtained with BOLD fMRI^{5,6}, but with sub-second
135 response time (**Supplementary Fig. 3a**), long-term stability (**Supplementary Fig. 3b**) and higher
136 spatial resolution. We measured oxygen dynamics at different cortical depths by sequentially
137 advancing the probe from the cortical surface into deeper layers. We observed a laminar-

138 dependence of resting PtO₂ in awake mice, with smaller oxygenation in surface layers and greater
139 oxygenation in deeper layers in both FL/HL and FC (**Supplementary Fig. 4a, b**). Resting PtO₂
140 was similar at each cortical depth in both FL/HL and FC (**Supplementary Fig. 4a, b**). These
141 results, together with the observation that resting PtO₂ is similar in somatosensory cortex and the
142 olfactory bulb glomerular layer⁴, indicate that the spatial distribution of oxygen in the brain under
143 normal (non-anesthetized) physiological condition is homogenous. Locomotion produces large,
144 sustained dilation of arteries⁴⁸ and increases in CBF and CBV^{13,26} in the somatosensory cortex.
145 These locomotion-induced dilations were not due to systemic effects, as they have been shown
146 to be unaffected by drugs that do not cross the blood brain barrier that increase or decrease the
147 heart rate⁴⁹ and are blocked by the suppression of local neural activity⁵⁰. The locomotion-induced
148 dilations are comparable in magnitude to those elicited by episodic whisker stimulation²⁵ which is
149 known to elevate oxygenation, so one would expect increases in tissue oxygenation in FL/HL
150 during locomotion. As anticipated, we observed increases in PtO₂ during locomotion in FL/HL in
151 all layers (**Fig. 2b-d**). Because the supply of blood to FC does not increase, but the neural activity
152 does, one would expect a decline in tissue oxygenation during locomotion. Surprisingly, we also
153 observed a very similar PtO₂ increase in FC (**Fig. 2b-d**) to that observed in the FL/HL, despite
154 small decreases in CBV or CBF, and an increase in neural activity. The elevation of PtO₂ in FC
155 during locomotion suggests that other factors can increase oxygenation in the brain.

156 Polarographic probes provide measures of oxygen tension over a small region of brain
157 tissue, and the response may be affected by the vasculature type and density⁵¹⁻⁵³ surrounding the
158 probe. To distinguish compartment-specific oxygen tension in the tissue, arterial and venous
159 blood spaces, we then mapped the spatial distribution of locomotion-evoked brain oxygenation
160 response using optical imaging spectroscopy^{54,55} (**Fig. 2e**). Taking advantage of differences in the
161 optical absorption spectra of oxyhemoglobin (HbO) and deoxyhemoglobin (HbR)^{54,55}, we collected
162 reflectance images during rapid alternating green (530 nm) and blue (470 nm) illumination. Note
163 that the spectroscopic measurements report oxygen concentrations in the red blood cells, while

164 polarography reports average oxygen concentration in the tissue near the electrode. The oxygen
165 levels in the tissue will differ from that in the blood somewhat due to the constraints of oxygen
166 diffusion from the blood into the tissue and ongoing metabolic processes in the neurons and glial
167 cells. Using the cerebral oxygenation index (HbO-HbR)⁵⁶, the spectroscopic measures of
168 hemoglobin oxygenation were similar to measurements from the tissue using polarographic
169 probes: both methods yielded an increase in oxygenation during locomotion in both FC and FL/HL
170 (**Fig. 2f, g**). These oxygenation changes persisted even when the heart rate increase associated
171 with locomotion was pharmacologically blocked or occluded (**Supplementary Fig. 5b, d, e**),
172 indicating they were not driven by the increased cardiac output during locomotion.

173 Moreover, the locomotion-induced elevation in oxygenation were present in the
174 parenchyma, arterial and venous blood (**Fig. 2f**). As oxygen levels in the brain strongly depends
175 on the arterial oxygen content⁹, we made direct measurements of oxygen partial pressure in the
176 center of pial arteries (PaO₂) using two-photon phosphorescence lifetime microscopy (2PLM, **Fig.**
177 **2h**)^{4,8,9}, with a new phosphorescent probe (Oxyphor 2P) which has a very high brightness,
178 improving measurement speed and imaging depth⁵⁷. We asked if the oxygen levels increased in
179 the center of the large pial arteries that supply blood to the brain. As the blood in these arteries
180 will have minimal time to exchange oxygen in their transit through the heart and carotid artery to
181 the brain, the oxygen levels in these arteries will track systemic oxygenation levels. We measured
182 PaO₂ in cortical and olfactory bulb arteries and found that PaO₂ increased during locomotion (**Fig.**
183 **2i**). Taken together, these measurements are consistent with an increase in systemic blood
184 oxygenation that leads to a brain-wide increase of oxygenation in the tissue and vascular
185 compartments during locomotion. The increase in oxygenation accompanying the decrease in
186 CBV and CBF in FC suggests that neurovascular coupling is not the only process controlling brain
187 oxygenation⁵⁸ during locomotion.

188 **Cortical oxygenation increases during locomotion even when vasodilation is blocked**

189 Our observation that locomotion induced localized blood flow/volume increases, but cortical-wide
190 increases in brain oxygenation, led us to hypothesize that the activity-dependent vasodilation may
191 not be necessary for an increase in oxygenation. To test this, we pharmacologically blocked the
192 glutamatergic and spiking activity by infusing/superfusing a cocktail of 6-cyano-7-nitroquinoxaline-
193 2,3-dione (CNQX, 0.6 mM), (2R)-amino-5-phosphonopentanoic acid (AP5, 2.5 mM) and
194 muscimol (10 mM) to suppress local neural activity. We first infused a cocktail of
195 CNQX/AP5/muscimol via a cannula into FL/HL²⁵, while concurrently monitoring neural activity,
196 CBV and blood oxygenation (n = 4 mice, **Fig. 3a**). The cocktail infusion suppressed resting
197 gamma-band (40-100 Hz) LFP power by $80 \pm 12\%$ and spiking activity by $82 \pm 3\%$ relative to
198 vehicle infusions (**Fig. 3b**). Similarly, the standard deviation (SD) in gamma-band LFP power
199 fluctuations during resting periods, an indicator of spontaneous neural activity levels, was
200 decreased by $75 \pm 18\%$ in the gamma-band power and by $85 \pm 6\%$ in the MUA amplitude. To
201 quantify the blood volume responses, we selected a semicircular region of interest (ROI) centered
202 on the cannula and with a radius specified by the distance between the electrode and cannula
203 (**Fig. 3a**), to ensure the ROI only included suppressed cortex²⁵. Accompanying this neural activity
204 blockade, baseline reflectance from the ROI increased (indicating decreased CBV, data not
205 shown), and the locomotion-evoked decrease in reflectance (vasodilation) was almost completely
206 suppressed (**Fig. 3b-d**), consistent with our previous study²⁵ showing that intracerebral infusion
207 of a cocktail of CNQX/AP5/muscimol suppressed sensory-evoked CBV increase. However, the
208 block of neural activity was less effective during locomotion (**Fig. 3b**), likely due to the large
209 increases of neural and modulatory drive to the cortex that occur during locomotion^{17,18,59}.
210 Nevertheless, this incomplete block of neural activity and block of vasodilation during locomotion
211 is conducive for testing our hypothesis, as a complete block of vasodilation and an incomplete
212 block of neural activity increases should lead to a *decrease* in oxygenation. However, if there is
213 no oxygenation decrease, or the oxygenation increases, this would indicate that the oxygenation
214 of the inflowing blood is elevated during locomotion. When locomotion-induced vasodilation was

215 blocked, the locomotion-evoked increase in differences of oxy- and deoxygenated hemoglobin
216 concentration (HbO-HbR) persisted, though the increase was smaller (**Fig. 3b-d, Supplementary**
217 **Fig. 5b, c, e**). This increase was surprising, as we were able to completely block the locomotion-
218 induced vasodilation, and there was still a small locomotion-induced increase in neural activity,
219 which should result in a net decrease in oxygenation.

220 We further studied the effects of the suppressed vasodilation on oxygen responses in the
221 tissue in a separate set of mice using polarographic electrodes ($n = 9$ mice, 5 in FC and 4 in
222 FL/HL). We topically applied a cocktail of CNQX/AP5/muscimol to the cortex, while measuring
223 spontaneous and locomotion-evoked neural activity and PtO_2 in the superficial cortical layers
224 (100-200 μm below the pia). The efficacy of the cocktail in suppressing neural activity was
225 monitored with two electrodes spanning the oxygen measurement site^{25,35} (**Fig. 3e**). Similar to
226 intracortical infusions, superfusing the cocktail potently suppressed resting gamma-band LFP
227 power by $89 \pm 8\%$ (Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p = 0.0039$, **Fig. 3g**) and the SD by $77 \pm 21\%$
228 (paired t -test, $t(8) = 5.02$, $p = 0.0010$, **Fig. 3g**). Resting PtO_2 increased by $\sim 70\%$ following the
229 suppression of neural activity and vasodilation (before: 23.09 ± 10.60 mmHg; after: 34.64 ± 11.11
230 mmHg; paired t -test, $t(8) = 3.27$, $p = 0.011$, **Fig. 3h**), consistent with neural signaling being a
231 major component of metabolic demand⁶⁰. To quantitatively assay locomotion-evoked oxygen and
232 neural responses, we calculated the linear kernels (HRF) relating the PtO_2 and the gamma-band
233 power of LFP to locomotion. To ensure that vasodilation was blocked, we only analyzed those
234 animals ($n = 4$ mice, 3 in FC and 1 in FL/HL) that showed $>50\%$ suppression of locomotion-
235 evoked neural activity. In these animals, application of CNQX/AP5/muscimol reduced peak
236 amplitude of gamma-band LFP neural response function (NRF) by $81 \pm 8\%$ (paired t -test, one
237 sided, $t(3) = 3.4299$, $p = 0.0208$, **Fig. 3i**). If activity-dependent vasodilation is the only determinate
238 of tissue oxygenation, we would expect the HRF of PtO_2 shows profound reductions, since the
239 vasodilation was blocked by the suppression of neural activity (**Fig. 3b-d**). However, the peak

240 amplitude of PtO₂ HRF was not changed ($82 \pm 51\%$ of before cocktail application, paired *t*-test,
241 $t(3) = 0.5861$, $p = 0.599$; **Fig. 3i**). Taken together, these results show that suppressing vasodilation
242 does not block the locomotion-evoked oxygen increases.

243 **Respiration drives changes in cerebral and blood oxygenation**

244 One possible driver of the increases in cerebral oxygenation is the increase in respiration during
245 locomotion. Changes in respiration affect blood oxygen levels in the carotid artery^{61,62} in
246 anesthetized animals, and in humans, inhalation of 100% oxygen can elevate brain oxygen
247 levels⁶³. However, it is not known if normal fluctuations in respiration rate can impact cerebral
248 oxygenation during normal behaviors. We tested whether respiration was correlated with
249 oxygenation during locomotion by simultaneously measuring cortical tissue oxygenation and
250 respiration (**Fig. 4a**). Locomotion was accompanied by a robust increase in respiratory rate (**Fig.**
251 **4a, Supplementary Fig. 6**), and fluctuations in respiratory rate on the time scale of seconds were
252 linked to fluctuations in PtO₂ (**Fig. 4a**). We quantified how well the fluctuations of respiratory rate
253 and gamma-band (40-100 Hz) LFP power (which has been shown in previous studies to be the
254 LFP band most correlated with vasodilation^{25,35}) correlated with the fluctuations in PtO₂ by
255 calculating the cross-correlation. During periods of rest, increases in gamma-band LFP power
256 were correlated with decreased oxygenation (**Fig. 4d, e**), which was unexpected as gamma-band
257 power increases during rest are correlated with vasodilation^{25,35,64}. Because the decrease takes
258 place with near zero time lag (**Fig. 4d, e**), it seems as though the dilation induced by spontaneous
259 neural activity are insufficient relative to the metabolic demand. In contrast, respiration rate
260 increases were correlated with increased oxygenation with a slight delay, consistent with the
261 transit time of the blood from the lungs to the brain (**Fig. 4b, c**). When periods of locomotion were
262 included, the correlation between gamma-band power and oxygenation was positive, suggesting
263 that the coupling depends on animal's state⁶⁴ (**Fig. 4d, e**). The coupling between other frequency
264 bands of the LFP and oxygen increases was negative (**Supplementary Fig. 7**), consistent with

265 previous reports showing decreases in the power of these bands during voluntary
266 locomotion⁴⁰(also see **Supplementary Fig. 8**). Because cortical excitability and respiratory rate
267 are correlated during locomotion (likely due to the reciprocal connections between respiratory and
268 modulatory regions⁶⁵), we sought to disentangle their respective contributions to cerebral
269 oxygenation using partial coherence analysis⁶⁶. We found that the coherence between respiratory
270 rate and PtO₂ was not due to the co-varying neural component (**Supplementary Fig. 9b**), nor
271 was the coherence between gamma-band power and PtO₂ affected by removing the respiratory
272 rate contribution (**Supplementary Fig. 9c**). Thus, the partial coherence analysis indicates that
273 respiration and neural activity (and likely vasodilation) affect tissue oxygenation independent of
274 each other.

275 The correlated fluctuations in respiratory rate and PtO₂ suggests that the oxygen tension
276 of arterial blood should also track the respiratory rate. To test this, we simultaneously monitored
277 respiration and PaO₂ in the pial arteries using 2PLM. In mice with irregular respiration, where
278 respiratory rate transients of a few seconds occurred without locomotion, PaO₂ followed
279 respiration rate fluctuations (**Fig. 4f**), showing that changes in respiration rate can alter the
280 oxygenation of the arterial blood entering the cortex.

281 We then asked if PaO₂ tracked the phase of respiration, that is, whether the concentration
282 of oxygen in the blood entering the brain fluctuated in phase with the inspiration-expiration cycle.
283 This requires measuring PaO₂ at rates high enough (> 5 Hz) to capture fluctuation in PaO₂ due to
284 respiration (nominally 2.5 Hz). As measurement of PaO₂ with the 2PLM method is based on the
285 *lifetime* of the phosphorescence decay of the dye, accurate quantification of the oxygen concentration
286 requires averaging of decays⁵⁷, which amounted to ~3000 decays at our laser power
287 (corresponding to ~0.75 s of data), too slow to capture inspiration-expiration linked changes in
288 PaO₂. Therefore, we took advantage of the respiration cyclicity to collect sufficient amount of
289 data. When the respiratory rate was very regular, the phosphorescence measures can be aligned

290 and binned according to their place in the phase of the respiratory cycle (**Fig. 4g**), analogous to
291 how erythrocyte-related transients can be detected in the capillaries^{4,8}, or analyzing the signal in
292 the frequency domain. In a few animals with long bouts of highly regular respiration rate (average
293 frequency 2.5 Hz, SD \leq 0.6 Hz, average frequency/SD $>$ 4), fluctuations of PaO₂ tracked the
294 respiratory cycle [4 out of 7 arteries (3 in the cortex, and 1 in the olfactory bulb) in 4 mice] (**Fig.**
295 **4h-j**). These arteries showed oscillations in PaO₂ at the frequency of respiration that were
296 significantly larger than would be expected by chance (reshuffling test, see Methods). This shows
297 that the arterial blood flowing to the brain is not saturated at rest. It also shows that the oxygen
298 tension in the blood tracks sub-second respiration dynamics, so increase in respiration can drive
299 rapid increases in systemic blood oxygenation that will impact the brain oxygenation.

300 **Computational modeling indicates respiration contributes to tissue oxygenation**

301 Using computer simulations, we then asked what the relative contributions of increased arterial
302 oxygenation and vasodilation were to changes in PtO₂. Recent work has shown that substantial
303 oxygenation exchange occurs not only at capillaries, but also around the penetrating arteries in
304 the cortex^{7,67}. To better understand how increase in blood oxygenation impact tissue oxygenation
305 around arterioles, where the simple geometry of the vasculature allows us to better capture the
306 dynamics of oxygenation changes due to vasodilation and systemic oxygenation changes, we
307 created a Krogh cylinder model of a penetrating artery in the cortex⁶⁸ (**Fig. 5a**). For this model,
308 we used experimentally-determined quantities for the values of arterial oxygenation, and vessel
309 diameter dynamics. We used published values for the cerebral metabolic rate of oxygen (CMRO₂,
310 **Supplementary Table 1**) for these simulations (**Fig. 5b**). The free parameters were chosen such
311 that the tissue oxygenation predicted by the model matched our oxygen measurements in FC and
312 FL/HL (**Fig. 5c**). Consistent with our data (**Fig. 3h**), the model also showed an increase in tissue
313 oxygenation when neural activity (and metabolism) were suppressed (**Fig. 5c**). Moreover, using
314 this model, we were able to tease out the relative contributions of vasodilation and increased

315 arterial oxygenation to tissue oxygenation changes in both FC and FL/HL. In FL/HL, the large
316 increase in $CMRO_2$ during locomotion were counteracted by increases in arterial oxygenation due
317 to vasodilation and increase in arterial oxygenation. In FC, the small increase in $CMRO_2$ and
318 vasoconstriction was totally offset by the increase in arterial oxygenation (**Fig. 5d**). These
319 simulations show that respiration plays an important role in modulating tissue oxygenation. The
320 increase in arterial oxygenation will also increase the oxygen tension in the tissue around the
321 capillary bed⁶⁹, though the actual changes will depend on the details of the capillary geometry
322 and the movement of individual red blood cells, which is hard to capture without detailed
323 anatomical models, and will depends on the details of flow dynamics. These simulations show
324 that increased arterial oxygenation that accompanies increases in respiration can lead to
325 increases in tissue oxygenation, even in brain regions showing vasoconstriction. Taken together,
326 the experimental data and the simulation support the notion that increases in respiratory rate play
327 an important role in regulating cerebral oxygenation.

328 **Discussion**

329 We observed increases in cerebral tissue and blood oxygenation when respiration increased both
330 at rest and during bouts of voluntary exercise. We also saw increases in tissue and blood
331 oxygenation during locomotion when local neural activity was suppressed and vasodilation was
332 blocked, conditions where we would expect a decrease in oxygenation. Note that while the
333 changes in tissue and arterial oxygenation had similar dynamics (sustained increases in oxygen
334 during locomotion), the oxygen increases measured spectroscopically were largest close to the
335 onset of locomotion. This is likely because the spectroscopic imaging samples from arteries,
336 capillaries, and veins. As the veins will be deoxygenated by the increased metabolic rate during
337 periods of sustained neural activity, this will tend to reduce the measured oxygen change in the
338 spectroscopic studies as compared to the polarography measurements, which primarily report
339 tissue oxygen concentrations. Oxygen levels in the large arteries rose following increases in

340 respiration both at rest and during exercise, and tracked the inspiration-expiration phase, showing
341 that the oxygenation levels of the blood coming into the brain can be modulated by respiration
342 both during rest and locomotion.

343 Respiration is not the only physiological change that accompanies exercise, and it bears
344 considering other mechanisms that could account for the cerebral and arterial oxygenation
345 changes seen here. Exercise causes large changes in cardiac output and blood pressure, and
346 can be accompanied by changes in blood CO₂ and lactate levels, but we think they are unlikely
347 to be the cause of the nonspecific increase in cerebral oxygenation that we saw here. First, for
348 the increases in cardiac output to raise global oxygenation in the cortex (independent of any
349 changes in systemic oxygenation), it would need to drive an increase in cerebral blood flow. Our
350 laser Doppler experiments show that blood flow does not rise in the frontal cortex, as they are
351 likely buffered by autonomic regulation of the circle of Willis. Additionally, when heart rate and
352 blood pressure increases during locomotion were blocked (with the beta blocker atenolol, which
353 does not cross the blood brain barrier) or occluded (with the muscarinic receptor antagonist
354 glycopyrrolate which also does not cross the blood brain barrier), there was no change in the
355 locomotion-evoked CBV change (**Supplementary Fig. 5**, see also⁴⁹). Therefore, systemic
356 cardiac output increase cannot explain the increases in cerebral oxygenation seen during
357 locomotion. Second, while CO₂ is a strong vasodilator, and can drive increases in cerebral
358 oxygenation under hypercapnia conditions by dilating blood vessels, rodents become hypocapnic
359 during sustained exercise⁷⁰. Exercise-evoked changes in CO₂ would tend to cause cerebral
360 vasoconstriction and would tend to drive a deoxygenation. Again, this mechanism could not drive
361 the observed increase in blood and tissue oxygenation in the frontal cortex without corresponding
362 flow increases and vasodilation. Sustained, high intensity exercise can cause increases in blood
363 lactate over tens of minutes⁷¹, but there is no way that these lactate changes could drive changes
364 in cerebral oxygenation seen in our experiments on the time scale of seconds. So, while many

365 systemic variables change during voluntary locomotion, with the exception of increases in
366 respiration rate, none would be able to increase the oxygen in the arteries or in the tissue within
367 a few seconds of locomotion onset, nor could they explain the breathing cycle locked oscillations
368 in the blood oxygenation or respiration-related fluctuations at rest. Thus, unless there is some
369 heretofore unknown physiological process taking place during exercise, the most parsimonious
370 explanation is that increases in respiration are the origin of the oxygenation increase in the brain
371 observed here.

372 While our studies were performed in mice, there are respiration-driven fluctuations in the
373 arterial blood of ungulates^{61,62}, suggesting it is a general property of mammals. While it is generally
374 presumed that arterial blood is saturated in humans (but see²¹), arterial oxygen tension decreases
375 substantially with age⁷² and acutely during sleep⁷³. Respiration may play a more important role in
376 cerebral oxygenation in humans than is currently appreciated, particularly as respiration rate is
377 actively modulated during cognitive tasks^{74,75}. Respiration in humans is known to be increased
378 following auditory or visual stimulation, and patterns of respiration differ from individual to
379 individual, which might play a role in cerebral oxygen dynamics⁷⁶.

380 The role of increased respiration in increasing brain oxygenation during behavior observed
381 here is likely facilitated by the reciprocal connections between respiratory centers and the locus
382 coeruleus^{65,77} and other brain regions involved in arousal^{78,79}. Consistent with a tight interplay
383 between respiration and metabolic demand in the brain, activation of the locus coeruleus, which
384 will cause increases in alertness, and also causes concomitant increases in neural activity and
385 blood flow in the cortex⁸⁰. This tight interplay at the behavioral and anatomical levels between
386 cortical arousal and respiration may help maintaining healthy oxygenation for optimal cortical
387 function.

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605 spectroscopy, and laser Doppler. M.R. performed experiments and analyzed data using 2PLM.
606 K.W.G. performed experiments and analyzed laminar electrophysiology data. E.C. analyzed
607 2PLM data. W.D.H. implemented the computational modeling. S.C. supervised experiments and
608 data analysis using 2PLM. P.J.D. supervised experiments, modeling, data analysis, and
609 preparation of the manuscript. Q.Z. and P.J.D. wrote the manuscript, with contributions from all
610 authors.

611

612 **Materials and Methods**

613 **Experimental design.** Cerebral oxygenation, laminar electrophysiology, cerebral blood flow and
614 volume data were acquired from separate groups of awake, behaving mice during voluntary
615 locomotion. All experimental procedures were approved by the Pennsylvania State University and
616 INSERM Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee guidelines.

617 **Animals.** A total of 74 C57BL/6J mice (56 male and 18 female, 3-8 months old, 25-35 g, Jackson
618 Laboratory) and 4 Thy1-GCaMP6f mice (3 male and 1 female, 3-12 months old, 25-35 g, Jackson
619 Laboratory) were used. Recordings of laminar cortical tissue oxygenation were made from 37
620 mice [23 (13 male and 10 female) in the somatosensory cortex (FL/HL) and 14 (7 male and 7
621 female) in the frontal cortex (FC)] using Clark-type polarographic microelectrode. Simultaneous
622 measurements of cortical tissue oxygenation using polarographic electrodes, respiration and local
623 field potential were conducted in 9 mice [5 (4 male and 1 female) in FL/HL and 4 (2 male and 2
624 female) in FC]. Six of these mice were also used for laminar cortical tissue oxygenation
625 measurements. Local field potential and spiking activity of different cortical layers were measured
626 using laminar electrodes in a separate set of 7 male mice (4 in FC and 6 in FL/HL, 3 mice were
627 measured in both FL/HL and FC simultaneously). Cerebral blood volume measurements using
628 intrinsic optical signal imaging (with 530 nm illumination) were conducted in 11 male mice.
629 Cerebral blood flow measurements using laser Doppler flowmetry were performed in 5 male mice.
630 Tissue oxygenation measurements using spectroscopy (using alternating 470 nm and 530 nm
631 illumination) were conducted in 11 male mice (4 mice were implanted with cannula and electrode).
632 Oxygen measurements with 2PLM were conducted in adult Thy1-GCaMP6f (GP5.11) mice (n =
633 4). Mice were given food and water *ad libitum* and maintained on 12-hour (7:00–19:00) light/dark
634 cycles. All experiments were conducted during the light period of the cycle.

635 **Surgery.** With the exception of mice imaged with 2PLM, all surgeries were performed under
636 isoflurane anesthesia (in oxygen, 5% for induction and 1.5-2% for maintenance). A custom-
637 machined titanium head bolt was attached to the skull with cyanoacrylate glue (#32002, Vibra-
638 tite). The head bolt was positioned along the midline and just posterior to the lambda cranial
639 suture. Two self-tapping 3/32" #000 screws (J.I. Morris) were implanted into the skull contralateral
640 to the measurement sites over the frontal lobe and parietal lobe. A stainless-steel wire (#792800,
641 A-M Systems) was wrapped around the screw implanted in the frontal bone for use as an electrical
642 ground for cortical tissue oxygenation and neural recordings. For cerebral blood flow (CBF)
643 measurement using laser Doppler flowmetry (n = 5 mice), cerebral blood volume (CBV, n = 11
644 mice) measurement using intrinsic optical signal (IOS) imaging or brain oxygenation
645 measurement using spectroscopy (n = 11 mice), a polished and reinforced thin-skull (PoRTS)
646 window was made covering the right hemisphere as described previously^{13,25,26,49,81}. For
647 simultaneous measurement of tissue oxygenation and neural activity (n = 9 mice), we implanted
648 two electrodes to measure LFP signals differentially. Electrodes were made from Teflon-coated
649 tungsten wire (#795500, A-M Systems) with ~1 mm insulation striped around the tip. The
650 electrodes were inserted into the cortex to a depth of 800 μm at 45° angle along the rostral/caudal
651 axis using a micromanipulator (MP-285, Sutter Instrument) through two small burr holes made in
652 the skull. The two holes for the electrodes were made ~1-1.5 mm apart to allow insertion of the
653 oxygen probe between the two electrodes in following experiments. The holes were then sealed
654 with cyanoacrylate glue. For spectroscopy imaging experiments with intracortical infusion (n = 4
655 mice), two small craniotomies were made at the edge of the thinned area of skull, and a cannula
656 (dummy cannula: C315DCS; guide cannula: C315GS-4, Plastic One) was inserted into the upper
657 layers of cortex at a 45° angle via one craniotomy. The stereotrode was placed 1.75 ± 0.5 mm
658 away from the cannula through the other craniotomy. The screws, ground wire, electrodes and
659 cannula were connected to the head-bolt via a midline suture using cyanoacrylate glue and black
660 dental acrylic resin (#1530, Lang Dental Manufacturing Co.) to minimize skull movements. For

661 tissue oxygenation (n = 37 mice) and laminar electrophysiology (n = 8 mice) experiments, the
662 measurement sites were marked with ink and covered with a thin layer of cyanoacrylate glue. For
663 oxygenation measurements using 2PLM, we used mice chronically implanted with a cranial
664 window over FL/HL (n = 3 mice) or the olfactory bulb (n = 1 mice), using the protocol described
665 previously⁴. Following the surgery, mice were then returned to their home cage for recovery for at
666 least one week, and then started habituation on experimental apparatus.

667 **Habituation.** Animals were gradually acclimated to head-fixation on a spherical treadmill^{13,24,48} or
668 a rotating disk⁴ with one degree of freedom over at least three habituation sessions. The spherical
669 treadmill was covered with nonabrasive anti-slip tape (McMaster-Carr) and attached to an optical
670 rotary encoder (#E7PD-720-118, US Digital) to monitor locomotion. Mice were acclimated to
671 head-fixation for ~15 minutes during the first session and were head-fixed for longer durations (>
672 1 hour) in the subsequent sessions. Mice were monitored for any signs of stress during habituation.
673 In all cases, the mice exhibited normal behaviors such as exploratory whisking and occasional
674 grooming after being head-fixed. Heart-rate related fluctuations were detectable in the intrinsic
675 optical signal⁴⁹ and varied between 7 and 13 Hz for all mice after habituation, which is comparable
676 to the mean heart rate (~12 Hz) recorded telemetrically from mice in their home cage⁸². For
677 oxygen measurements using 2PLM, a rotating disk treadmill was added to the cage a week prior
678 to the surgery and restraint-habituation sessions started 3-4 days after surgery recovery. For
679 habituation for 2PLM experiments, the animals were place head-fixed below the microscope and
680 free to run on the treadmill. During each habituation session, a thermocouple (same as used for
681 imaging) was placed close to the nostril in order to acclimate the mouse with its presence.
682 Habituation sessions were performed 2-4 times per day over the course of one week, with the
683 duration increasing from 5 min to 45 min.

684 **Physiological measurements.** Data from all experiments were collected using custom software
685 written in LabVIEW (version 2014, National Instruments).

686 *Behavioral measurement.* The treadmill movements were used to quantify the locomotion events
687 of the mouse. The animal was also monitored using a webcam (Microsoft LifeCam Cinema®) as
688 an additional behavioral measurement.

689 *Cerebral tissue oxygenation measurement using polarographic electrode.* On the day of
690 measurement, the mouse was anesthetized with isoflurane (5% for induction and 2% for
691 maintenance) for a short surgical procedure (~20 min). A small (~100 x 100 μm) craniotomy was
692 made over the frontal cortex (1.0 to 3.0 mm rostral and 1.0 to 2.5 mm lateral from bregma) or the
693 forelimb/hindlimb representation in the somatosensory cortex (0.5 to 1.0 mm caudal and 1.0 to
694 2.5 mm lateral from bregma), and dura was carefully removed (**Fig. 2a**). The craniotomy was then
695 moistened with warm artificial cerebrospinal fluid (aCSF) and porcine gelatin (Vetspon). The
696 mouse was then moved to and head-fixed on the spherical treadmill. Oxygen measurements
697 started at least one hour after the mouse woke up from anesthesia to minimize the effects of
698 anesthesia^{24,83}.

699 Cerebral tissue oxygenation was recorded with a Clark-type oxygen microelectrode (OX-
700 10, Unisense A/S, Aarhus, Denmark). A total of 9 probes were used in this study, with an average
701 response time of 0.33 ± 0.11 seconds ($n = 9$ probes, **Supplementary Fig. 3a** and **b**). No
702 compensation for the delay was performed. The oxygen electrodes were calibrated in air-
703 saturated 0.9% sodium chloride (at 37°C) and oxygen-free standard solution [0.1M sodium
704 hydroxide (SX0607H-6, Sigma-Aldrich) and 0.1M sodium ascorbate (A7631, Sigma-Aldrich) in
705 0.9% sodium chloride] before and after each experiment. The linear drift of the oxygen electrode
706 signal ($1.86 \pm 1.19\%$ per hour, **Supplementary Fig. 3c** and **d**) was corrected by linearly
707 interpolating between pre- and post-experiment calibrations. The oxygen electrode was
708 connected to a high-impedance picoammeter (OXYMeter, Unisense A/S, Aarhus, Denmark),
709 whose output signals were digitalized at 1000 Hz (PCI-6259, National Instruments). Current

710 recordings were transformed to millimeters of mercury (mmHg) using the calibrations with air-
711 saturated and oxygen-free solutions.

712 For oxygen polarography measurements, the oxygen microelectrode was positioned
713 perpendicular to the brain surface and advanced into the cortex with a micromanipulator (MP-
714 285, Sutter Instrument). The depth zero was defined as when the tip of the oxygen microelectrode
715 touches the brain surface under visual inspection. The probe was then advanced to depth of 100,
716 300, 500 and 800 μm below the pia at the rate of 0.2 $\mu\text{m}/\text{step}$, and 30-40 min data were recorded
717 for each depth. The tissue was allowed to recover for at least 5 min before the start of each
718 recording.

719 In experiments investigating effects of suppressing vasodilation on cortical tissue
720 oxygenation dynamics (**Fig. 3e**), a cocktail of ionotropic glutamate receptor antagonists 6-cyano-
721 7-nitroquinoxaline-2,3-dione (CNQX, 0.6 mM), NMDA receptor antagonist (2R)-amino-5-
722 phosphonopentanoic acid (AP5, 2.5 mM) and GABA_A receptor agonist muscimol (10 mM) were
723 applied to suppress neural activity. All drugs were applied topically over the craniotomy and were
724 allowed to diffuse into the cortical tissue for at least 90 min before the oxygen measurements.
725 The efficacy of the CNQX/AP5/muscimol cocktail was monitored with simultaneously recorded
726 neural activity. Neural data were amplified 1000x and filtered (0.1 – 10k Hz, DAM80, World
727 Precision Instruments) and then sampled at 30k Hz (PCI-6259, National Instruments). The oxygen
728 signal in these experiments was recorded at a depth of ~100-200 μm .

729 At the end of the experiment, the mouse was deeply anesthetized, and a fiduciary mark
730 was made by advancing an electrode (0.005" stainless steel wire, catalog #794800, A-M systems)
731 into the brain with a micro-manipulator to mark the oxygen measurement site.

732 *Respiration measurement using thermocouple.* We conducted simultaneous respiration
733 recordings in a subset of mice (n = 28) along with cortical oxygen measurements. Measurements

734 of breathing were taken using 40-gauge K-type thermocouples (TC-TT-K-40-36, Omega
735 Engineering) placed near the mouse's nose (~ 1 mm), with care taken to not contact the whiskers.
736 Data were amplified 2000x, filtered below 30 Hz (Model 440, Brownlee Precision), and sampled
737 at 1000 Hz (PCI-6259, National Instruments). Downward and upward deflections in respiration
738 recordings correspond to inspiratory and expiratory phases of the respiratory cycle, respectively
739 (**Fig. 4a**). We identified the time of each expiratory peak in the entire record as the zero-crossing
740 point of the first derivative of the thermocouple signal.

741 *Laminar electrophysiology.* Laminar electrophysiology recordings were performed in a separate
742 set of mice (n = 7, **Fig. 1e**). On the day of measurement, the mouse was anesthetized using
743 isoflurane (in oxygen, 5% for induction and 2% for maintenance). Two small (1x1 mm²)
744 craniotomies were performed over the frontal cortex (1.0 to 2.5 mm rostral and 1.0 to 2.5 mm
745 lateral from bregma) and FL/HL representation in the somatosensory cortex (0.5 to 1.0 mm caudal
746 and 1.0 to 2.5 mm lateral from bregma) over the contralateral hemisphere (**Fig. 1e**), and the dura
747 was carefully removed. The craniotomies were then moistened with warm saline and porcine
748 gelatin (Vetspon). After this short surgical procedure (~20 minutes), the mouse was then
749 transferred to the treadmill where it was head-fixed. Measurements started at least one hour after
750 the cessation of anesthesia^{24,83}.

751 Neural activity signals were recorded using two linear microelectrode arrays (A1x16-3mm-
752 100-703-A16, NeuroNexus Technologies). The electrode array consisted of a single shank with
753 16 individual electrodes with 100 μ m inter-electrode spacing. The signals were digitalized and
754 streamed to SmartBox™ via a SmartLink headstage (NeuroNexus Technologies). The arrays
755 were positioned perpendicular to the cortical surface, one was in the forelimb/hindlimb
756 representation in the somatosensory cortex and the other one was in the frontal cortex on the
757 contralateral side. Recording depth was inferred from manipulator (MP-285, Sutter Instrument)

758 recordings. The neural signals were filtered (0.1-10k Hz bandpass), sampled at 20k Hz using
759 SmartBox 2.0 software (NeuroNexus Technologies).

760 *Cerebral blood flow measurements using laser Doppler flowmetry.* We measured cerebral blood
761 flow responses to voluntary locomotion in a separate set of mice (n = 5) using laser Doppler
762 flowmetry (OxyLab, Oxford Optronix)⁴⁹. The probe was fixed 0.3 mm above the PoRTS window
763 at a 45° angle. Data were sampled at 1000 Hz (PCI-6259, National Instruments).

764 *Brain oxygen measurement using optical imaging of spectroscopy.* We mapped the
765 spatiotemporal dynamics of oxyhemoglobin and deoxyhemoglobin concentrations using their
766 oxygen-dependent optical absorption spectra⁵⁴. Reflectance images were collected during
767 periods of green LED light illumination at 530 nm (equally absorbed by oxygenated and
768 deoxygenated hemoglobin, M530L3, Thorlabs) or blue LED light illumination at 470 nm (absorbed
769 more by oxygenated than deoxygenated hemoglobin, M470L3, Thorlabs). For these experiments,
770 a CCD camera (Dalsa 1M60) was operated at 60 Hz with 4X4 binning (256 X 256 pixels), mounted
771 with a VZM300i optical zoom lens (Edmund Optics). Green and blue reflectance data were
772 converted to changes in oxy- and deoxyhemoglobin concentrations using the modified Beer-
773 Lambert law with Monte Carlo-derived wavelength-dependent path length factors⁵⁴. We used the
774 cerebral oxygenation index⁵⁶ (i.e., HbO-HbR) to quantify the change in oxygenation, as calculating
775 the percentage change requires knowledge of the concentration of hemoglobin on a pixel-by-pixel
776 basis, which is not feasible given the wide heterogeneity in the density of the cortical vasculature⁵¹.

777 In a subset of mice (n = 4), intracortical drug infusion were conducted via a cannula. Details
778 of local infusion via a cannula were reported previously²⁵. Briefly, mice were placed in the imaging
779 setup, and we then acquired 40 min of imaging, neural and behavioral data with the dummy
780 cannula in place. The dummy cannula was then slowly removed and replaced with an infusion
781 cannula. The interface between the infusion cannula and the guide cannula was sealed with Kwik-

782 Cast (World Precision Instruments). A cocktail of CNQX (0.6 mM)/AP5 (2.5 mM)/muscimol (10
783 mM), or L-NAME (100 μ M), or aCSF was locally infused at a rate of 25 nL/min for a total volume
784 of 500 nL. Drugs and vehicle controls were infused in a counterbalanced order. The efficacy of
785 the CNQX/AP5/muscimol cocktail was monitored with simultaneously recorded neural activity
786 using two tungsten electrodes. Neural data were amplified 1000x and digitally filtered (0.1-10k Hz,
787 DAM80, World Precision Instruments) and then sampled at 30k Hz (PCI-6259, National
788 Instruments). To verify that the dynamics observed after drug infusion were not due to changes
789 of peripheral cardiovascular system^{84,85}, we also injected water, atenolol (2 mg/kg body weight)
790 and glycopyrrolate (0.5 mg/kg body weight)⁴⁹ intraparietal in the same mouse, and the
791 hemodynamic response was measured described as above (**Supplementary Fig. 5**).

792 *Brain oxygen measurement using two-photon phosphorescent lifetime microscopy.* A complete
793 description of 2PLM can be found in previous reports^{4,9,86}. In brief, the oxygen sensor Oxyphor
794 2P⁵⁷ was injected intravenously (final plasma concentration of 5 μ M) under a brief isoflurane
795 anesthesia (4%, < 3 min). The animals were allowed to recover for at least 1.5 h and then placed
796 below the objective of a custom-built microscope. An acousto-optic modulator (AOM) was placed
797 on the light path from Ti:Sapphire laser (Mira, Coherent; pulse width 250 fs, 76 MHz) to gate the
798 970 nm light excitation beam. Light was focused onto the center of pial arteries with a water-
799 immersion objective (Olympus LUMFLN 60XW, NA 1.1) and collected emission was forwarded to
800 a red-sensitive photomultiplier tube (PMT, R10699, Hamamatsu) after passing through a dichroic
801 mirror (FF560-Di01, SEMROCK) and a band-pass filter (FF01-794/160, SEMROCK). PMT signals
802 were amplified and sampled at 1.25 MHz by an acquisition card. PaO₂ was estimated from the
803 signal acquired during the AOM off-phase⁹, after discarding the first 5.6 μ s (7 bins) following the
804 end of the AOM on-phase. 200000 decays (50 s) were collected for each acquisition and 3000
805 decays were used for each lifetime measurement of PaO₂. During the whole imaging session,

806 respiration and locomotion were constantly monitored with the nasal thermocouple and a velocity
807 encoder connected to the running wheel⁸⁷.

808 *Drugs.* All drugs were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich except aCSF (#3525, Tocris) and sterile
809 water (USP). Muscimol (M1523, 10 mM), CNQX (C127, 0.6 mM), AP5 (A5282, 2.5 mM) and L-
810 NAME (N5751, 100 μ M) were diluted in aCSF. Atenolol (A7655, 2 mg/kg body weight) and
811 glycopyrrolate (SML0029, 0.5 mg/kg body weight) were diluted in sterile water. All drug solution
812 was stored at -20°C and warmed up using a water bath (WB05A12E, PolyScience) immediately
813 before application. Oxyphor 2P was kindly provided by Sergei Vinogradov.

814 ***Histology.*** At the conclusion of the experiment, mice were deeply anesthetized with 5%
815 isoflurane, transcardially perfused with heparinized saline, and then fixed with 4%
816 paraformaldehyde. The brains were extracted and sunk in a 4% paraformaldehyde with 30%
817 sucrose solution. The flattened cortices were sectioned tangentially (60 μ m/section) using a
818 freezing microtome and stained for the presence of cytochrome-oxidase^{25,52,88,89}. The anatomical
819 locations of the oxygen measurement sites were then reconstructed using a combination of
820 vascular images taken during surgery and the stained brain slices using Adobe Illustrator CS6
821 (Adobe Systems).

822 ***Data analysis.*** All data analyses were performed in Matlab (R2015b, MathWorks) using custom
823 code (by Q.Z., K.W.G. and P.J.D.).

824 *Locomotion events identification.* Locomotion events^{13,25,48} from the spherical treadmill were
825 identified by first applying a low-pass filter (10 Hz, 5th order Butterworth) to the velocity signal from
826 the optical rotary encoder, and then comparing the absolute value of acceleration (first derivative
827 of the velocity signal) to a threshold of 3 cm/s². Periods of locomotion were categorized based on
828 the binarized detection of the treadmill acceleration:

829
$$\delta(t) = H(|a_t| - a_c) = \begin{cases} 1, & |a_t| \geq a_c \\ 0, & |a_t| < a_c \end{cases}$$

830 where a_t is the acceleration at time t, and a_c is the treadmill acceleration threshold.

831 *Spontaneous and evoked activity.* To characterize spontaneous (non-locomotion-evoked) activity,
832 we defined “resting” periods as periods started 4 seconds after the end of previous locomotion
833 event and lasting more than 10 seconds. Locomotion-evoked events were defined as segments
834 with at least 3 seconds of resting prior to the onset of locomotion and followed by at least 5
835 seconds of locomotion. For oxygen measurements using polarographic electrode and two-photon
836 phosphorescence lifetime microscopy, the locomotion segments need to be at least 10 seconds
837 in duration.

838 *Oxygen data preprocessing.* Oxygen data from polarographic electrodes were first low-pass
839 filtered (1 Hz, 5th order Butterworth). The oxygen data were then down-sampled to 30 Hz to align
840 with binarized locomotion events for calculation of locomotion-triggered average and
841 hemodynamic response function.

842 *Laminar neural activity.* The neural signal was first digital filtered to obtain the local field potential
843 (LFP, 0.1-300 Hz, 5th order Butterworth) and multiunit activity (MUA, 300-3000 Hz, 5th order
844 Butterworth)^{13,25}. Time-frequency analysis of LFP signal was conducted using multi-taper
845 techniques (Chronux toolbox version 2.11, <http://chronux.org/>)⁹⁰. The power spectrum was
846 estimated on a 1 second window with ~1 Hz bandwidth averaged over nine tapers. MUA signals
847 were low-pass filtered (5 Hz, Bessel filter). The locomotion-evoked LFP power spectrum was
848 converted into relative power spectrum by normalizing to the 3 second resting period prior to the
849 onset of locomotion. Spike rate was obtained by counting the numbers of events that exceed an
850 amplitude threshold (three standard deviations above background) in each 1 millisecond bin.

851 *Spike sorting.* Sortable spike waveforms were extracted from MUA recordings using spike times
852 identified from threshold crossings at four standard deviations of the mean. Spike waveforms
853 were interpolated using a cubic spline function (MATLAB function: `interp1`) and were normalized
854 by the amplitude of the peak of the action potential. We classified waveforms as fast spiking (FS)
855 or regular spiking (RS) neurons based on the peak-to-trough-duration of the normalized waveform
856 of each spike. Peak-to-trough times of all spikes across all layers were binned at 0.05 ms intervals
857 (the minimal temporal resolution at 20kHz sampling rate). A histogram of peak-to-trough times
858 was fitted as a sum of two Gaussian distributions (**Supplementary Fig. 2a, f**), and a receiver
859 operator characteristic curve was used to segregate spikes in a given bin as either FS or RS
860 waveforms using a 95% probability of belonging to a group as the inclusion threshold. Spikes not
861 reaching the inclusion threshold for either group were not included in the analysis. Fast spiking
862 (FS) waveforms (**Supplementary Fig. 2b, g**) were characterized by short durations between
863 action potential peak and peak of hyperpolarization, peak-to-trough-duration as described
864 previously^{40,91}. We characterized the RS and FS activity across different cortical layers during
865 both resting and locomotion periods. To directly compare locomotion-related changes between
866 FS and RS neurons, we calculated the percentage change of FS (Δ FS) and RS (Δ RS) spike rates
867 (**Supplementary Fig. 2c-e and h-j**), which normalizes for absolute rate differences.

868 *Calculation of hemodynamic response function and neural response function.* We considered the
869 neurovascular relationship to be a linear, time-invariant system^{29,92,93}. To provide a model-free
870 approach to assess the relationship between laminar tissue oxygenation and laminar neural
871 activity, the hemodynamic response function (HRF) and neural response function (NRF) were
872 calculated by deconvoluting tissue oxygenation signal, neural activity signal or respiratory rate
873 signal to locomotion events, respectively, using the following equation:

874
$$H_{(k+1) \times 1} = (L^T L)^{-1} L^T V_{(m+k) \times 1}$$

875 H is the HRF or NRF, V is the tissue oxygenation signal or neural activity signal. L is a Toeplitz
876 matrix of size $(m+k) \times (k+1)$ containing measurements of locomotion events (n):

$$877 \quad L(\vec{n}) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & n_1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 1 & n_2 & n_1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & n_2 & n_1 & \cdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & n_k & \vdots & n_2 & \cdots & n_1 \\ \vdots & 0 & n_k & \vdots & \cdots & n_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & n_k & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & n_k \end{pmatrix}$$

878 *Cross-correlation analysis.* Cross-correlation analysis was performed between simultaneously
879 recorded neural/respiration and oxygen signals to quantify the relationship between fluctuations.
880 For spontaneous correlations, only periods of rest lasting more than 30 seconds were used, with
881 a four-seconds buffer at the end any locomotion event. We also calculated the correlations using
882 all the data including periods with locomotion. To check the spatiotemporal distribution of the
883 correlation, we calculated cross-correlogram between PtO₂ and LFP power in each frequency
884 band (**Supplementary Fig. 7**). Briefly, LFP signals were separated into frequency bands (~1 Hz
885 resolution with a range of 0.1-150 Hz) by calculating the spectrogram (mtspecgramc, Chronux
886 toolbox)⁹⁰, and then we calculate the temporal cross-correlation between power in each frequency
887 band and the oxygen concentration (xcorr, MATLAB). Positive delays denote the neural signal
888 lagging the oxygen signal. The oxygen tension and neural activity were both low-pass filtered
889 below 1 Hz before calculating the cross-correlation. The temporal cross-correlation between
890 respiratory rate and oxygen signals was also calculated over a similar interval (xcorr, MATLAB).
891 Statistical significance of the correlation was computed using bootstrap resampling⁹⁴ from 1000
892 reshuffled trials.

893 *Arterial oxygen tension changes during the respiration cycle.* To evaluate the arterial oxygen
894 tension change within the respiration cycle, we selected oxygen measurements during periods
895 with regular respiratory rate (average frequency 2.5 Hz, SD ≤ 0.6 Hz). The phosphorescent

896 decays were aligned according to their place in the phase of the respiratory cycle (**Fig. 4 g**). To
897 further determine whether the fluctuations of oxygen tension was induced by respiration, we
898 calculated the power spectrum of arterial oxygen tension, and determined the peak frequency in
899 the power spectrum. Statistical significance of this peak was calculated by reshuffling the arterial
900 oxygen measurements⁹⁴, and the 95% confidence interval was calculated using 10000 reshuffled
901 trials.

902 *Ordinary coherence and partial coherence.* We used coherence analysis⁹⁵ to reveal correlated
903 oscillations and deduce functional coupling among different signals. The ordinary coherence
904 between two signals x and y are defined as

$$905 \quad C_{xy}^2(f) = \frac{S_{xy}^2(f)}{S_x(f)S_y(f)},$$

906 where $S_x(f)$ and $S_y(f)$ are the auto-spectra of the signals, and $S_{xy}(f)$ is the cross-spectrum. For
907 ordinary coherence analysis between two signals (x and y), highly coherent oscillations can occur
908 if they are functionally connected or because they share a common input. To differentiate between
909 these possibilities, we also computed the partial coherence, i.e., coherence between two signals
910 (x and y) after the removal of the components from each signal that are predictable from the third
911 signal (z). The partial coherence function measuring the relationship of x and y at frequency f after
912 removal of z is defined as

$$913 \quad PC_{xy-z}^2 = \frac{S_{xy-z}S_{yx-z}}{S_{xx-z}S_{yy-z}},$$

914 where S_{xx-z} and S_{yy-z} is the auto-spectra associated with the residual part of x and y after
915 removing the part coherent with z, respectively. S_{xy-z} is the cross-spectrum between the residual
916 part of x and y after removing the part coherent with z. If all the networks are connected, partial
917 coherence will be between zero and the level of the ordinary coherence. If the connection behaves

918 in an asymmetric manner, i.e., signal z affects x and y differentially, the coherence between two
919 signals may increase after partialization (**Supplementary Fig. 9a**).

920 **Statistical analysis.** Statistical analysis was performed using Matlab (R2015b, Mathworks). All
921 summary data were reported as the mean \pm standard deviation (SD) unless stated otherwise.
922 Normality of the samples were tested before statistical testing using Anderson-Darling test
923 (adtest). For comparison of multiple populations, the assumption of equal variance for parametric
924 statistical method was also tested (vartest2 and vartestn). If criteria of normality and equal
925 variance were not met, parametric tests (t test, one-way ANOVA) were replaced with a
926 nonparametric method (Mann-Whitney U-test, Wilcoxon signed-rank test, Kruskal-Wallis
927 ANOVA). All p values were Bonferroni corrected for multiple comparisons. Significance was
928 accepted at $p < 0.05$.

929 **Computational modeling.** We simulated oxygen diffusion from a penetrating arteriole using the
930 Krogh cylinder model⁶⁸ using COMSOL (COMSOL Inc.). The concentration of oxygen([O₂]) at any
931 point in space was given by the equations:

932
$$\frac{d[O_2]}{dt} = D_{O_2} \nabla^2 [O_2] - \gamma$$

933 where D_{O_2} is the diffusion coefficient for oxygen in tissue ($2800 \mu\text{m}^2\text{s}^{-1}$) and γ is the cerebral
934 metabolic rate of oxygen consumption (CMRO₂) in the tissue. Resting arterial oxygen tension
935 (PaO₂) in the penetrating vessels was taken to be 35 mmHg⁹⁶. The arterial and tissue radius was
936 assumed to be 9 μm and 50 μm , respectively^{68,97}, with a periodic boundary condition beyond the
937 tissue cylinder with a radius R_t . The oxygen consumption rate was uniform outside the arteriole,
938 with a resting CMRO₂ of 3 $\mu\text{mole}/\text{cm}^3/\text{min}$ ⁹⁸. The model was initialized at steady state. We
939 assumed that locomotion induced a 15% increase in CMRO₂ in FL/HL and a 4% increase in FC
940 (proportionally scaled based on our neural recordings in **Fig. 1f-i**). We took the optical reflectance

941 changes in FL/HL and FC to be 10% dilation and 5% constriction in vessel diameter, respectively,
942 based on the measured relationship between reflectance and arteriole diameter in our previous
943 study²⁶. As ~75% of neural tissue oxygen consumption is activity dependent^{60,99}, we simulated
944 effects of CNQX/AP5/muscimol application by reducing the neuronally dependent portion of
945 CMRO₂ by 82%, yielding a CMRO₂ of 1.2 μmole/cm³/min. Details of the model parameters are
946 shown in **Supplementary Table 1**.

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1006 relationship with CBF. *Magn Reson Med* **60**, 380-389, doi:10.1002/mrm.21655 (2008).

1007 **Figure captions**

1008 **Fig. 1. Locomotion drives cortical region-specific hemodynamic and neural responses**
1009 **across cortex.** (a) Schematic of the experimental setup for IOS imaging. (b) Example data
1010 showing cerebral blood volume change during voluntary locomotion. Top left, an image of thin-
1011 skull window and corresponding anatomical reconstruction; scale bar = 1 mm. Top right,
1012 reflectance map before (1 s), during (49 s) and after (94 s) a voluntary locomotion event.
1013 Decreases in $\Delta R/R_0$ indicate increases in blood volume. Bottom, percentage change in reflectance
1014 ($\Delta R/R_0$) during locomotion events for each brain region. The black ticks denote locomotion events.
1015 FC, frontal cortex; FL/HL, forelimb/hindlimb representation of the somatosensory cortex; Wh,
1016 vibrissae cortex; V1, visual cortex. (c) Example trials showing locomotion-evoked changes of
1017 cerebral blood flow (CBF) in FC (top) and FL/HL (bottom) in the same animal. (d) Population
1018 average of locomotion-triggered average of CBV (n = 11 mice, left) and CBF (n = 5 mice, right)
1019 responses in both FL/HL (green) and FC (blue). (e) Top, schematic showing all laminar
1020 electrophysiology measurement sites in FC (n = 4 mice) and FL/HL (n = 6 mice). The squares
1021 indicate the measurement sites showing in (f) and (g). Bottom, schematic showing the layout of
1022 the electrodes and measurement depth. (f) Example trial showing the large increase in gamma-
1023 band power (top), raw signal (middle), and spike raster (bottom) during locomotion from a site
1024 800 μm below the pia in FL/HL. Shaded area indicates the time of locomotion. (g) As in (f) but for
1025 FC. (h) Group average of locomotion evoked spike rate responses in both FC (top, n = 4 mice)
1026 and FL/HL (bottom, n = 6 mice). (i) As in (h) but for locomotion-evoked gamma-band LFP power
1027 responses. (j) Fractional change in the intrinsic signal, $\Delta R/R_0$, 2-5 s after the onset of locomotion
1028 plotted against spike rate change 0-2 s after the onset of locomotion in FL/HL (green ellipse) and
1029 FC (blue ellipse). For each ellipse, the radius along the vertical axis is the SD of $\Delta R/R_0$ across all
1030 animals (n = 11); the radius along the horizontal axis is the SD of spike rate across all animals (n

1031 = 4 for FC and $n = 6$ for FL/HL). The black dot in the center of each ellipse represents the average
1032 value of $\Delta R/R_0$ and spike rate response. The diagonal line shows the prediction of linear coupling.

1033 **Fig. 2. Cortex-wide increases in oxygenation during locomotion.** (a) Top, a schematic
1034 showing the experimental setup. Bottom, measurement sites. (b) Example traces showing cortical
1035 tissue oxygenation (PtO_2) responses to locomotion at sites 800 μm below brain surface in FL/HL
1036 (left) and FC (right). Top, black ticks denote binarized locomotion events; Middle, PtO_2 responses
1037 to locomotion; Bottom, example of data showing spectrogram of LFP (white trace showing the
1038 gamma-band power). (c) Locomotion-evoked cortical tissue oxygenation increases (ΔPtO_2) at all
1039 measured depths in both FL/HL (left, $n = 23$ mice) and FC (right, $n = 14$ mice). Gray shaded area
1040 indicates locomotion. Solid lines and shaded area denote mean \pm standard error of the mean
1041 (SEM), respectively. (d) Hemodynamic response function (HRF) of tissue oxygenation at different
1042 depths in both FL/HL (top, $n = 23$ mice) and FC (bottom, $n = 14$ mice). Vertical black line showing
1043 the start of a brief impulse of locomotion. Data are shown as mean \pm SEM. (e) Schematic showing
1044 the optical spectroscopy setup. (f) Left, example data showing spatial distribution of locomotion-
1045 evoked response of $\Delta R/R_0$ and difference between HbO and HbR (HbO-HbR) in an example
1046 mouse. Right, locomotion triggered average of $\Delta R/R_0$ and HbO-HbR for the same mouse in FC
1047 (blue) and FL/HL (green). (g) Group average of locomotion evoked response of $\Delta R/R_0$ and HbO-
1048 HbR in FC ($n = 4$ mice) and FL/HL ($n = 4$ mice). (h) Schematic showing the measurement of
1049 oxygen partial pressure in a cortical artery (PaO_2) using two-photon phosphorescence lifetime
1050 microscopy (2PLM). (i) Locomotion induced PaO_2 increases in 5 arteries (3 in the cortex (green)
1051 and 2 in the olfactory bulb (purple)) from a total of 4 mice. Mean response of all arteries is shown
1052 as a black line.

1053 **Fig. 3. Locomotion-evoked cortical oxygenation increases persist when vasodilation is**
1054 **blocked.** (a) Top, schematic of experimental setup for optical imaging spectroscopy
1055 measurement. Either aCSF or a cocktail of CNQX/AP5/muscimol was locally infused via a

1056 cannula. Bottom, an image of a polished thin-skull window with cannula and electrode implants.
1057 The yellow shaded area indicates the area affected by the drug infusion (i.e., region of interest for
1058 analysis). **(b)** Locomotion-evoked gamma-band (40-100 Hz) LFP power (top left), MUA power
1059 (top right), $\Delta R/R_0$ (bottom left) and difference between oxygenated and deoxygenated hemoglobin
1060 concentration (HbO-HbR, bottom right) in one representative mouse following aCSF ($n = 12$
1061 locomotion events) and CNQX/AP5/muscimol ($n = 14$ locomotion events) infusion. Data was
1062 denoted as mean \pm SEM. **(c)** Locomotion-evoked spatial distribution of $\Delta R/R_0$ (top) and HbO-HbR
1063 (bottom) for the same mouse shown in **(a)** and **(b)** following aCSF ($n = 12$ locomotion events) and
1064 CNQX/AP5/muscimol ($n = 14$ locomotion events) infusion. **(d)** Group average of locomotion-
1065 triggered $\Delta R/R_0$ (top, * paired t -test, $t(3) = 7.4235$, $p = 0.0051$) and HbO-HbR (bottom, * paired t -
1066 test, $t(3) = 8.0007$, $p = 0.0041$) signals after aCSF or CNQX/AP5/muscimol infusion in 4 mice.
1067 The orange circle denotes the mouse shown in **(b)** and **(c)**. **(e)** Schematic of experimental setup
1068 for simultaneous tissue oxygenation and LFP measurements. CNQX (0.6 mM), AP5 (2.5 mM)
1069 and muscimol (10 mM) were added to aCSF bathing the craniotomy for 60-90 min, and recordings
1070 before and after the drug application were compared. **(f)** Example of resting PtO₂ fluctuations (top)
1071 and resting gamma-band (40-100 Hz) LFP fluctuations (bottom) in the somatosensory cortex in a
1072 single mouse. **(g)** Comparison of spontaneous LFP activity (left, * Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p =$
1073 0.0039) and fluctuations (SD, right, * paired t -test, $t(8) = 5.0246$, $p = 0.0010$) before (black) and
1074 after (red) application of CNQX/AP5/muscimol in FL/HL ($n = 4$ mice, black circle) and FC ($n = 5$
1075 mice, orange circle). **(h)** As **(g)** but for spontaneous PtO₂ activity (left, * paired t -test, $t(8) = 3.2712$,
1076 $p = 0.011$) and fluctuations (SD, right, * paired t -test, $t(8) = 0.7542$, $p = 0.4723$). **(i)** Suppression
1077 of locomotion-evoked neural response does not affect locomotion-evoked Δ PtO₂. Top left, neural
1078 response function (NRF) of gamma-band (40-100 Hz) power ($n = 4$ mice, 1 in FL/HL and 3 in FC)
1079 before (black) and after (red) application of CNQX/AP5/muscimol. Data are shown as mean \pm
1080 SEM. Vertical black line indicates the start of a brief impulse of locomotion. Bottom left, as in top
1081 left but for HRF of PtO₂. Top right, peak amplitude of NRF of gamma-band power before and after

1082 application of CNQX/AP5/muscimol (*paired *t*-test, one sided, $t(3) = 3.4299$, $p = 0.0208$). Bottom
1083 right, as in top right but for peak amplitude of HRF of PtO₂ (paired *t*-test, $t(3) = 0.5861$, $p = 0.599$).

1084 **Fig. 4. Respiration drives changes in cerebral tissue and arterial blood oxygenation. (a)**

1085 Measuring respiration using a thermocouple. Top, example data showing tissue oxygenation
1086 (black trace) and raw respiratory rate (orange trace), during locomotion. Middle, thermocouple
1087 signal. Bottom left, expanded thermocouple signal showing of the detection of the onset of
1088 inspiratory (magenta dot) and expiratory phase (blue dot). Bottom right, schematic showing
1089 respiration measurement using a thermocouple. (b) Cross-correlation between PtO₂ and
1090 respiratory rate signal from the thermocouple during periods of rest (top) and periods including
1091 rest and locomotion (bottom). The gray shaded region shows the population standard error of the
1092 mean. One mouse was excluded from resting correlation analysis as there were no resting
1093 segments long enough to meet the selection criteria. Blue shaded region shows 95% confidence
1094 intervals in cross-correlation obtained by shuffling the data. (c) Peak amplitude (top, Wilcoxon
1095 signed-rank test, $p = 0.3125$) and peak time delay (bottom, Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p = 0.7422$)
1096 of cross-correlation between PtO₂ and respiratory rate during periods of rest (black) and periods
1097 including rest and locomotion (red). (d) As (b) but for correlation between PtO₂ and gamma-band
1098 power. (e) As (c) but for peak time (* paired *t*-test, $t(7) = 6.1918$, $p < 0.001$) and peak time delay
1099 (* Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p = 0.0234$) of cross-correlation between PtO₂ and gamma-band
1100 power. (f) Example data showing the temporal relation between respiratory rate (black) and
1101 oxygen tension (PaO₂, blue) in the center of one artery (white arrow) in somatosensory cortex
1102 during periods of rest. The delay was due to transit time from lungs to brain. (g) Schematic
1103 showing the measurement of PaO₂ fluctuations driven by the respiration cycle. Top, respiration
1104 signal and the segments of inspiration and expiration. Bottom, phosphorescent decay events are
1105 aligned to their position in the respiration cycle before being averaged into 20 ms bins. (h) PaO₂
1106 fluctuates within the respiratory cycle. Top, PaO₂ change in one artery during the respiratory cycle

1107 at rest. PaO₂ data (15 recordings with each of 50 seconds in duration) were aligned to the offset
1108 of inspiration. Each circle denotes averaged PaO₂ over a short window (20 ms) aligned to a
1109 specific phase of respiration cycle and averaged over the 15 recordings. The solid curve shows
1110 the filtered data (first order binomial filter, 5 repetitions). T_{min} denotes the time period (40 ms) PaO₂
1111 reaches minimum. T_{max} denotes the time period (40 ms) PaO₂ reaches maximum. Bottom, power
1112 spectrum of PaO₂ (red) and 95% confidence interval (CI, black) given by randomizing the phase
1113 of the PaO₂ signal. The PaO₂ power at the respiratory frequency (~2.5 Hz) is significantly greater
1114 than the 95% CI level. (i) PaO₂ at maxima (T_{max}) and minima (T_{min}) for the 15 recordings from the
1115 artery shown in (h). ** p < 0.01, Wilcoxon signed-rank test. (j) Normalized PaO₂ at minima (T_{min})
1116 and maxima (T_{max}) for 4 vessels (3 in the cortex, and 1 in the olfactory bulb, n = 4 mice) with
1117 statistically significant PaO₂ power spectrum peaks at the respiratory frequency. A total of 7
1118 vessels were measured, and 4 out of 7 arteries showed significant peaks in the PaO₂ power
1119 spectrum at the respiratory frequency.

1120 **Fig. 5. Tissue oxygenation during locomotion depends on the interplay of arterial**
1121 **oxygenation, CMRO₂ and vasodilation.** (a) Schematic showing the Krogh cylinder model of
1122 oxygen diffusion from a penetrating arteriole. An infinite tissue cylinder with radius R_t is supplied
1123 by an arteriole with radius R_a. (b) Simulated locomotion induced changes in vessel diameters in
1124 FL/HL and FC (top left), cerebral metabolic rate of oxygen consumption (CMRO₂) in FL/HL and
1125 FC (top right), and arteriole oxygen tension (PaO₂, bottom). (c) Simulated effects of inhibiting
1126 neural activity using CNQX/AP5/muscimol on locomotion-evoked PtO₂ change (Δ PtO₂) in both
1127 FL/HL (left) and FC (right). Green and cyan shaded area denote one SEM of measured PtO₂
1128 change in FL/HL and FC, respectively. (d) Decomposition of locomotion-evoked oxygen changes
1129 in FL/HL (left) and FC (right). In both regions, changes in arterial oxygenation strongly influence
1130 tissue oxygenation.

1131

Supplemental Information

1132 Supplemental figure captions

1133 **Supplementary Fig. 1. Cerebral blood flow (CBF) and volume (CBV) hemodynamic**
1134 **response functions.** Related to **Fig. 1a-d.** **(a)** Hemodynamic response function (HRF) of
1135 reflectance change ($\Delta R/R_0$) in FL/HL (green) and FC (blue). **(b)** Integrated area under the curve
1136 (AUC) for HRF of ($\Delta R/R_0$) from 0 to 3 seconds. Each circle represents the HRF from a single
1137 mouse. The orange circle represents population median. AUC of the CBV HRF was less than
1138 zero in FL/HL (Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p < 0.0001$) and greater than zero in FC (Wilcoxon
1139 signed-rank test, $p = 0.002$), indicating a dilation and constriction, respectively. **(c)** As in **(a)** but
1140 for cerebral blood flow (CBF). **(d)** As in **(b)** but for cerebral blood flow. AUC of HRF is greater than
1141 zero in FL/HL (Wilcoxon signed-rank test, $p = 0.03$) and less than zero in FC (Wilcoxon signed-
1142 rank test, $p = 0.03$), indicating increased and decreased flow, respectively.

1143 **Supplementary Fig. 2. Classification of regular-spiking and fast-spiking neurons based on**
1144 **action potential waveforms and their rate modulations during locomotion in both frontal**
1145 **and somatosensory cortices.** Related to **Fig. 1e-i.** We performed spike sorting for neural activity
1146 signals acquired using laminar electrodes in both the forelimb/hindlimb representation of the
1147 somatosensory cortex (FL/HL, **a-e**) and the frontal cortex (FC, **f-j**). The results shown in **(a)-(c)**
1148 and **(f)-(h)** were from the same mouse shown in **Fig. 1f, g.** **(a)** and **(f)** Histogram of action potential
1149 (AP) peak-to-trough durations. **(b)** and **(g)** The waveforms of regular spiking (RS) and fast spiking
1150 (FS) neurons for an example animal. **(c)** and **(h)** Locomotion-evoked spike rate changes for fast
1151 spiking neurons (ΔFS , left) and regular spiking neurons (ΔRS , right) across different cortical layers
1152 for an example animal. Gray shaded area denotes the locomotion period. **(d)** and **(i)** Group
1153 average of locomotion-evoked spike rate changes for fast spiking neurons (ΔFS , left) and regular
1154 spiking neurons (ΔRS , right) across different cortical layers. Gray shaded area denotes

1155 locomotion. **(e)** and **(j)** Group average of locomotion-evoked spike rate changes for FS and RS
1156 neurons, as well as the difference between changes of FS and RS spike rates. Gray shaded area
1157 denotes locomotion.

1158 **Supplementary Fig. 3. Calibration and properties of oxygen-sensitive electrodes.** Related
1159 to **Fig. 2** and **Fig. 3.** **(a)** Example trace showing the oxygen electrode signal in response to a step
1160 change in oxygen concentration. The oxygen electrode response curve was measured by rapidly
1161 immersing the electrode into oxygen-free solution (0.1 M sodium hydrochloride and 0.1 M sodium
1162 ascorbate solution). The response time of oxygen electrodes was calculated from this curve. **(b)**
1163 Average response time for all electrodes used in this study ($n = 9$). The orange circle indicates
1164 the response time of the probe showing in **(a)**. **(c)** Example trace showing the oxygen signal
1165 change over a 5-hour time period. The stability of the oxygen electrode was tested by quantifying
1166 the signal drift while the electrode was immersed in room temperature water for at least 3 hours.
1167 **(d)** Average signal drift for a subset of the electrodes ($n = 7$, $1.86 \pm 1.19\%$ per hour) used in this
1168 study. The orange circle indicates the probe showing in **(c)**. **(e)** Diffusion of oxygen from the air
1169 into the cortex of a dead mouse. To verify the observed oxygen response to locomotion was
1170 driven by local perfusion, we also measured oxygen responses in a dead mouse. A similar
1171 surgical procedure was applied as described before, and mouse was sacrificed by lung puncture
1172 using a 27-gauge needle under deep anesthesia. Oxygen measurements started ~ 1 hour after
1173 the procedure. The oxygen level in the superficial cortex layers of the dead mouse brain were
1174 elevated by the oxygen dissolved in the aCSF bathing the craniotomy. **(f)** An example trace
1175 showing the oxygen response in the dead mouse brain to ball rotation at $300 \mu\text{m}$ below the pia.
1176 No noticeable changes of PtO_2 were observed during manual ball rotation, showing oxygen signal
1177 are not due to electrical noise generated by movement. **(g)** Oxygen levels in the aCSF bathing
1178 the craniotomy plotted as a function of distance from the pia in two awake mice during rest. Note
1179 that oxygen levels drop near the brain due to its metabolic activity.

1180 **Supplementary Fig. 4. Resting tissue oxygenation is cortical-depth dependent.** Related to
1181 **Fig. 2a-d. (a)** Locomotion-evoked oxygen increases at all measured depths in both FL/HL (left, n
1182 = 23 mice) and FC (right, n = 14 mice). Gray shaded area indicates locomotion. Data are shown
1183 as mean \pm standard error of the mean (SEM). **(b)** PtO₂ varies across cortical depth at rest in both
1184 the forelimb/hindlimb representation of the somatosensory cortex (FL/HL, n = 23 mice, squares)
1185 and the frontal cortex (FC, n = 14 mice, circles). Each square/circle represents data from a single
1186 mouse. In FL/HL, resting PtO₂ was lower at 100 μ m (12.41 ± 6.33 mmHg) compared to 300 μ m
1187 (20.88 ± 10.62 mmHg), 500 μ m (21.69 ± 11.29 mmHg) and 800 μ m (20.11 ± 9.26 mmHg) below
1188 the pia (Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA, $F(3, 92) = 11.41$, $p = 0.0097$). In FC, resting PtO₂ was lower at
1189 100 μ m (13.27 ± 6.94 mmHg) compared to 800 μ m (22.44 ± 9.17 mmHg, $p = 0.0226$), but not
1190 different from 300 μ m (18.77 ± 8.19 mmHg) and 500 μ m (20.24 ± 7.50 mmHg) (Kruskal-Wallis
1191 ANOVA, $F(3, 52) = 8.5$, $p = 0.0367$) below the pia. Resting PtO₂ were similar at each cortical
1192 depth between FL/HL and FC (Mann-Whitney U-test, $p > 0.4$ for all cortical depths). **(c)** As in **(b)**
1193 but for the standard deviation (SD) of resting PtO₂. In FL/HL, SD (Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA, $F(3,92)$
1194 = 14.7, $p = 0.0021$) was smaller at 100 μ m (1.08 ± 0.68 mmHg) compared to 500 μ m (1.66 ± 0.75
1195 mmHg, $p = 0.0103$) and 800 μ m (1.68 ± 0.65 mmHg, $p = 0.0034$), but not 300 μ m (1.42 ± 0.66
1196 mmHg) below the pia. In FC, the SD (Kruskal-Wallis ANOVA, $F(3, 52) = 8.99$, $p = 0.0294$) was
1197 smaller at 100 μ m (1.08 ± 0.47 mmHg) compared to 500 μ m (1.55 ± 0.43 mmHg, $p = 0.0254$) and
1198 800 μ m (1.53 ± 0.38 mmHg, $p = 0.0418$), but not layer 300 μ m (1.45 ± 0.41 mmHg) below the pia.
1199 Resting fluctuations of PtO₂ were similar at each cortical depth between FL/HL and FC (Mann-
1200 Whitney U-test, $p > 0.4$ for all cortical depths).

1201 **Supplementary Fig. 5. Locomotion-evoked hemodynamic responses depend on local**
1202 **neural activity, not cardiovascular responses.** Related to **Fig. 3a-d. (a)** An image of a polished
1203 thin-skull window with cannula and electrode implants. The yellow shaded area indicates the area
1204 affected by the drug infusion as determined from electrical recording. This area is used as the

1205 ROI for quantification of hemodynamic signals. **(b)** Locomotion-evoked spatial distribution of
1206 $\Delta R/R_0$ (left) and HbO-HbR (right) for the same mouse shown in **Fig. 3a-c**, following intracerebral
1207 infusion of aCSF (n = 12 locomotion events), CNQX/AP5/muscimol (n = 14 locomotion events)
1208 and L-NAME (n = 12 locomotion events), as well as intraparietal injection of water (n = 8
1209 locomotion events), atenolol (n = 13 locomotion events) and glycopyrrolate (n = 8 locomotion
1210 events). **(c)** Locomotion-evoked response of gamma-band power, MUA power, heart rate, $\Delta R/R_0$
1211 and HbO-HbR following intracerebral infusion of aCSF, CNQX/AP5/muscimol and L-NAME in the
1212 same animal shown in **(b)**. **(d)** As **(c)** but for responses following intraparietal injection of water,
1213 atenolol and glycopyrrolate. **(e)** Group average (n = 4 mice) of locomotion-evoked $\Delta R/R_0$ (left)
1214 and HbO-HbR (right) following different drug administration. Note that only disruption of neural
1215 activity (CNQX/AP5/muscimol infusion) caused changes in locomotion-evoked vasodilation or
1216 oxygenation, while glycopyrrolate and atenolol had large effects on heart rate. This shows that
1217 the oxygenation responses observed here are not affected by cardiovascular changes.

1218 **Supplementary Fig. 6. Measuring respiration with a thermocouple.** Related to **Fig. 4.** **(a)**
1219 Respiratory rate at rest and during locomotion (n = 28 mice) for mice running on the spherical
1220 treadmill. Each gray trace indicates the averaged respiratory rate from one mouse (~ 2 h
1221 recording), and the red trace indicates group average. Time zero indicates onset of locomotion.
1222 **(b)** As in **(a)** but for mice (n = 4) running on the rotating disk.

1223 **Supplementary Fig. 7. Suppressing vasodilation does not change the correlation between**
1224 **oxygenation and neural activity.** Related to **Fig. 4a-e.** **(a)** Group average (n = 8 mice) of cross-
1225 correlation between PtO₂ and LFP at various frequency band during periods of rest after aCSF
1226 (left) and CNQX/AP5/muscimol (right) administration. **(b)** Cross-correlation between PtO₂ and
1227 LFP at different frequency band during periods of rest after aCSF (black) and
1228 CNQX/AP5/muscimol (red) administration. The shaded region shows the population standard

1229 error of the mean (n = 8 mice). **(c)** As in **(a)** but for periods including both rest and locomotion (n
1230 = 9 mice). **(d)** As in **(b)** but for periods of both rest and locomotion (n = 9 mice).

1231 **Supplementary Fig. 8. Locomotion-evoked LFP power changes in both FL/HL and FC. (a)**

1232 Schematic of experimental setup for simultaneous tissue oxygenation and electrophysiology
1233 measurement. **(b)** Top, time-frequency representation of locomotion-evoked changes in LFP
1234 power in FL/HL (n = 4 mice). Middle, locomotion-evoked changes of gamma-band (40-100 Hz,
1235 black) and beta-band (10-30 Hz, orange) power. Data were shown as mean \pm SD. Bottom,
1236 locomotion-evoked changes of tissue oxygenation. Data were shown as mean \pm SD. **(c)** As **(b)**
1237 but for FC (n = 5 mice). The data used in **(b)** and **(c)** were from the same group of mice shown in
1238 **Fig. 3g-h** with the craniotomy superfused with aCSF.

1239 **Supplementary Fig. 9. Respiration and neural activity modulate tissue oxygenation**

1240 **independently.** Related to **Fig. 4.** **(a)** Schematic showing different patterns of coupling between
1241 three signals (x, y and z) that can be revealed by the partialization technique. Partialization with
1242 z (x-y/z) may decrease the x-y coherence if they are both connected to z, or even completely
1243 block the coherence if they are exclusively drive by signal z (left). Partialization with z may
1244 increase the x-y coherence if x and y are affected by z in an asymmetric manner (middle).
1245 Partialization with z may not affect the x-y coherence if x and y are not connected to z (right). **(b)**
1246 Group average of coherence between respiratory rate and PtO₂ before (black) and after (red)
1247 partializing the effect of neural activity. Shaded area denotes mean \pm SE. The inset denotes that
1248 group average of coherence within the frequency range of 0 to 0.5 Hz before (black) and after
1249 (red) partialization. **(c)** As in **(b)** but for coherence between gamma-band LFP power and PtO₂
1250 before (black) and after (red) partializing the effect of respiratory rate.

1251 Supplemental table caption

1252 Supplementary Table 1. Model parameters

Model parameter	Description	Value	Source
DO ₂	Oxygen diffusivity	2800 μm ² /s	100
R _{vessel}	vessel radius	9 μm	
R _t	Radius of tissue cylinder	50 μm	68,97
CMRO _{2, baseline}	Resting CMRO ₂	3 μmole/cm ³ /min	98
CMRO _{2, MAC}	CMRO ₂ after CNQX/AP5/muscimol application	1.2 μmole/cm ³ /min	
PO _{2, baseline}	Resting arterial PO ₂	35 mmHg	96
ρ	solubility coefficient for O ₂	1.39 μM/mmHg	68,96,101
Locomotion-evoked dynamics			
$PO_{2, art} = \begin{cases} PO_{2, baseline} & \text{if } t < \tau \\ PO_{2, baseline} \left(A \frac{(t - \tau)^{\alpha-1} \beta^\alpha e^{-\beta(t-\tau)}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} + 1 \right) & \text{if } t \geq \tau \end{cases}$			
A		1	
α		1.9	
β		0.3	
τ (time shift)		1 s	102
Locomotion-evoked change of vessel radius			
FL/HL		+10% (+0.9 μm)	
FC		-5% (-0.45 μm)	
CNQX/AP5/muscimol		-20% (-1.8 μm)	
Locomotion-evoked change of CMRO ₂			
FL/HL		+15% (+0.45 μmole/cm ³ /min)	103-105
FC		+4% (+0.12 μmole/cm ³ /min)	

1253

Fig.1

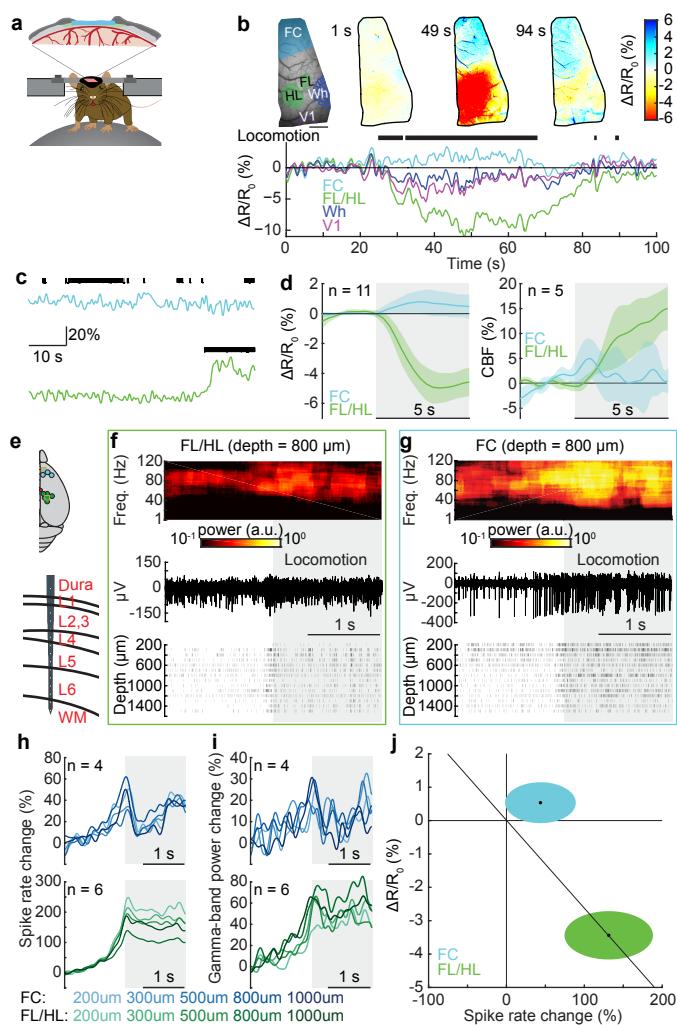


Fig.2

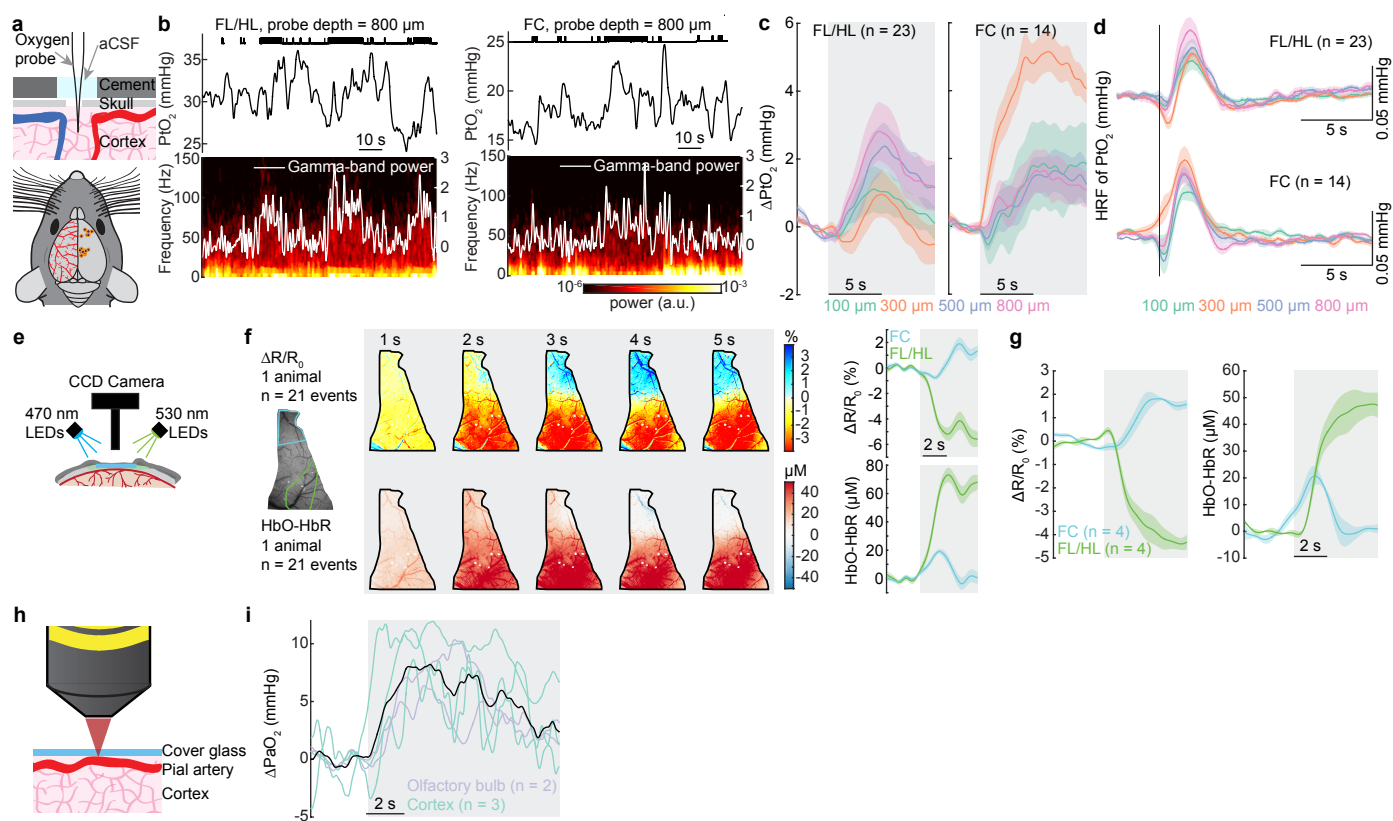


Fig.3

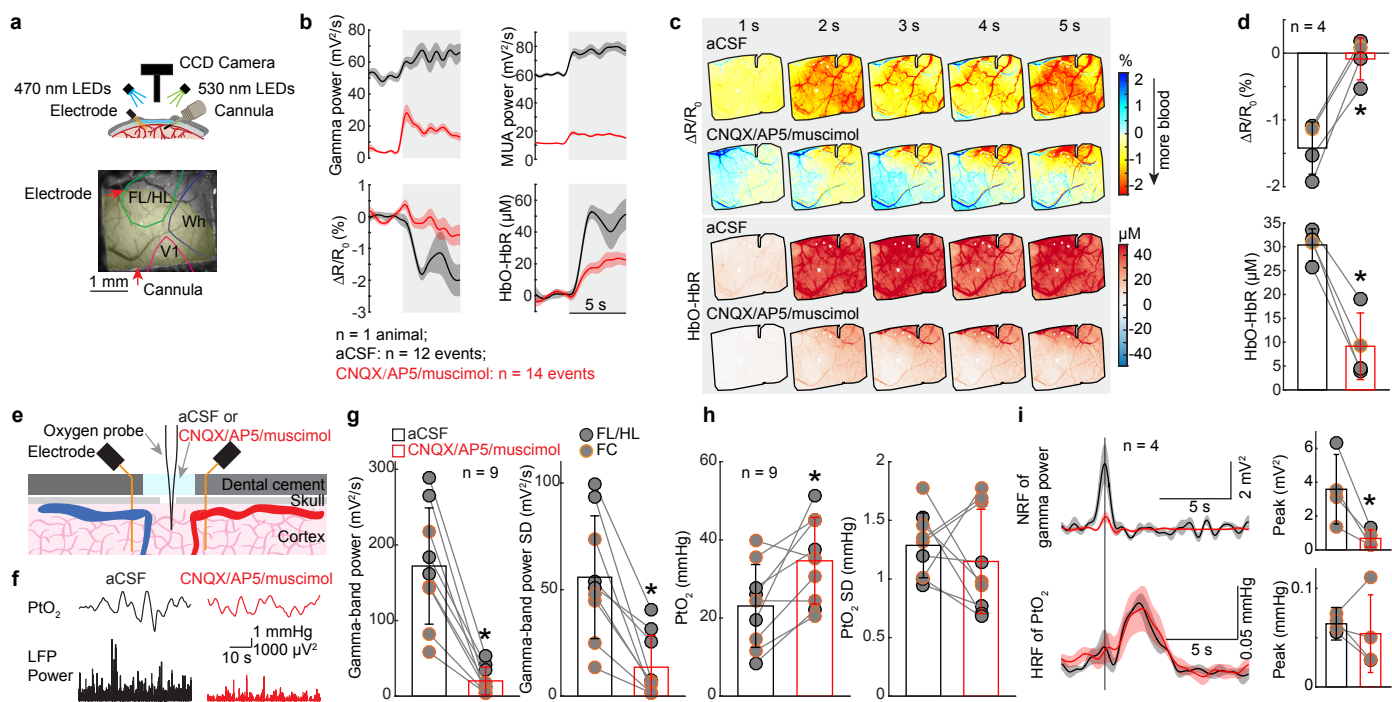


Fig.4

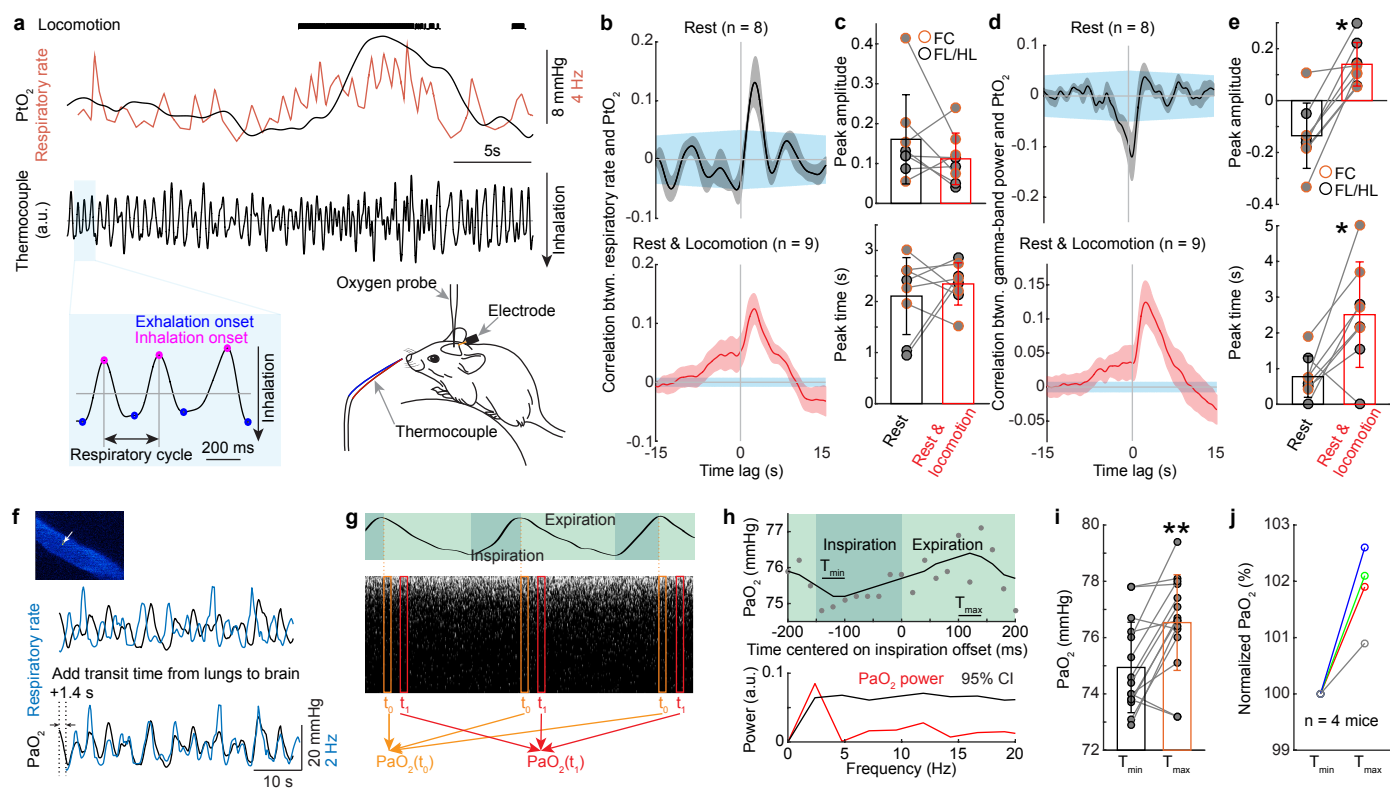
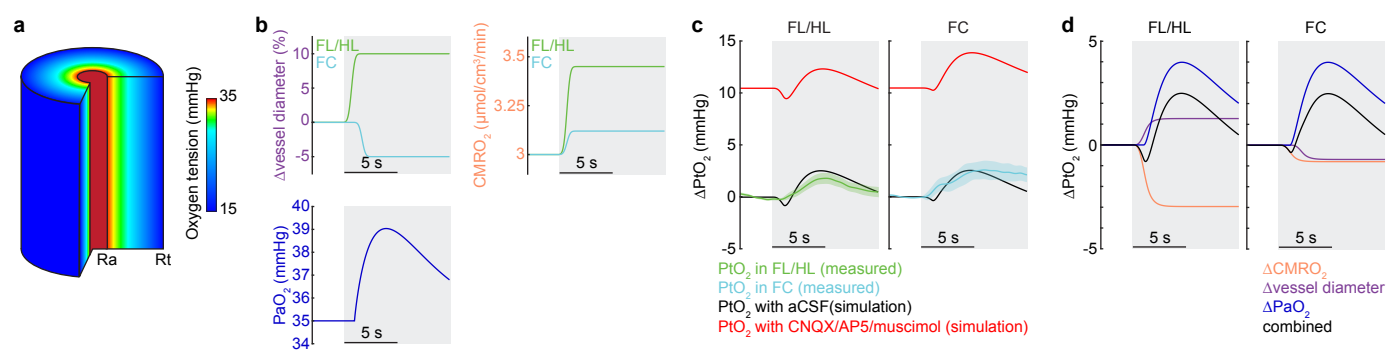
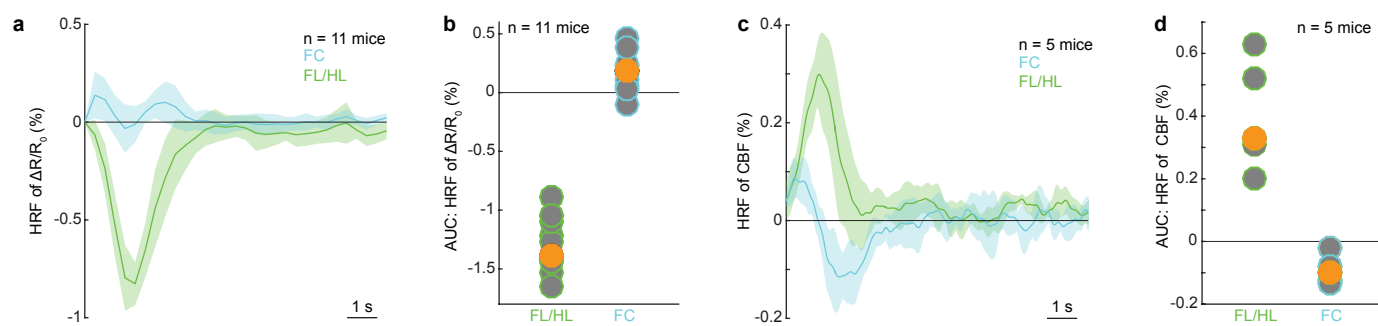


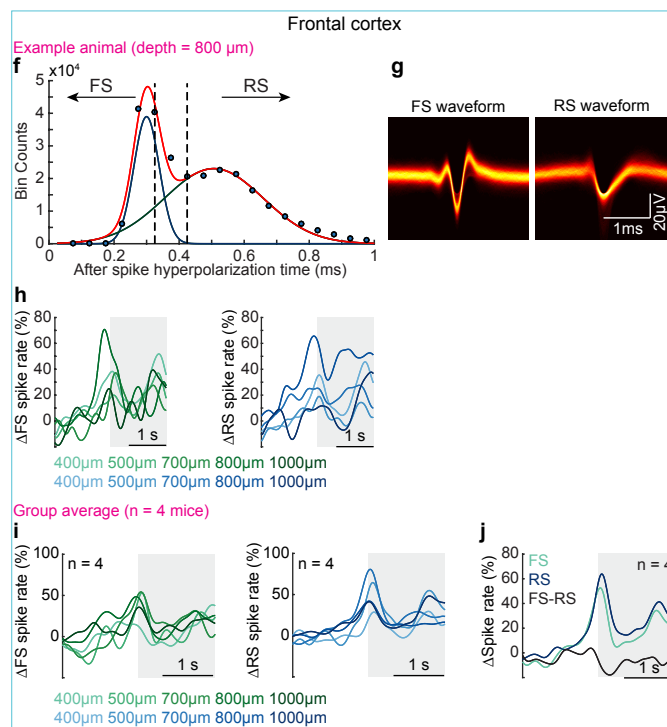
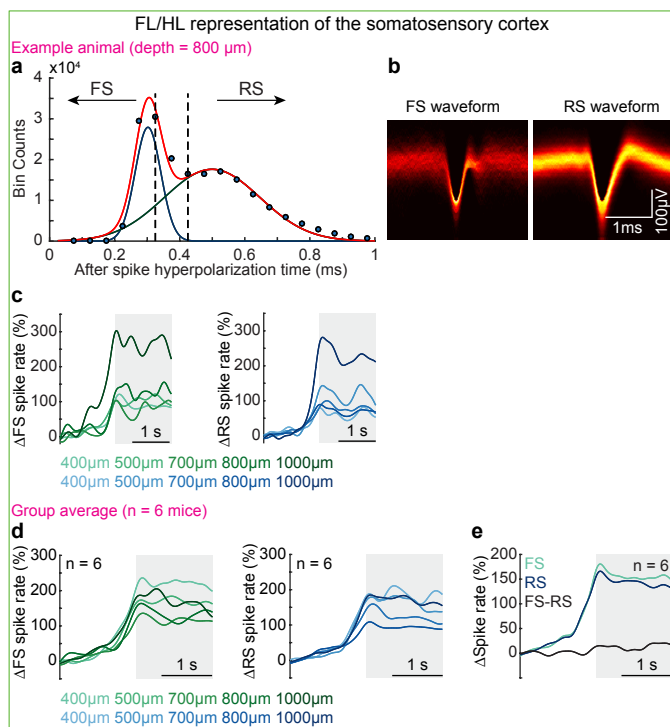
Fig.5



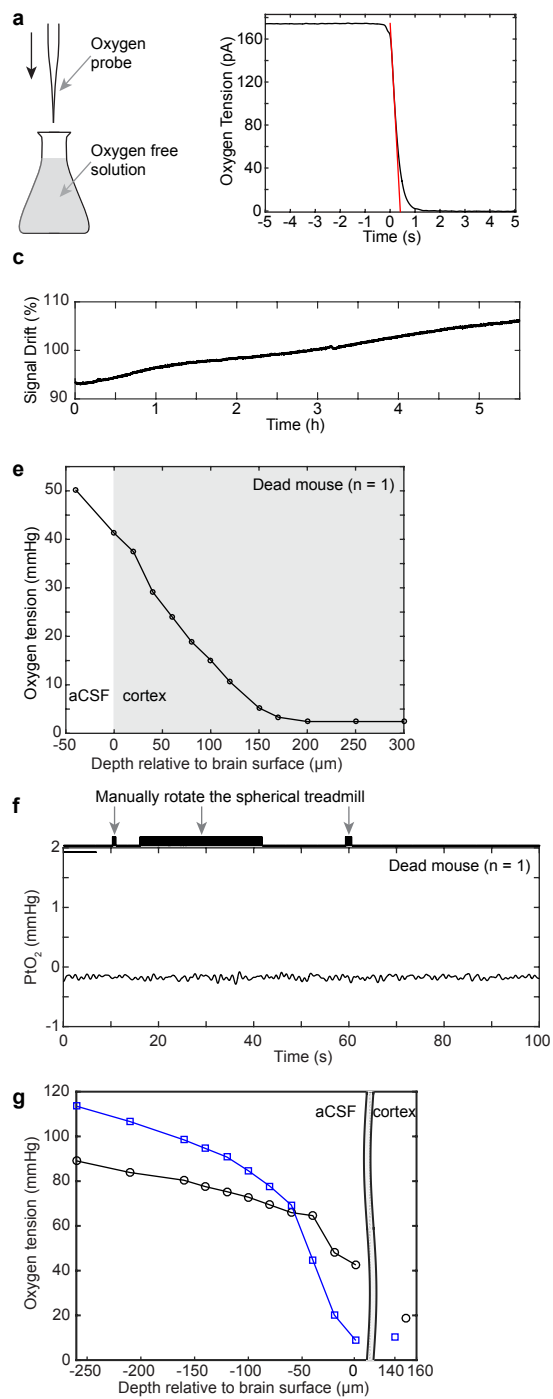
Supplementary Fig.1



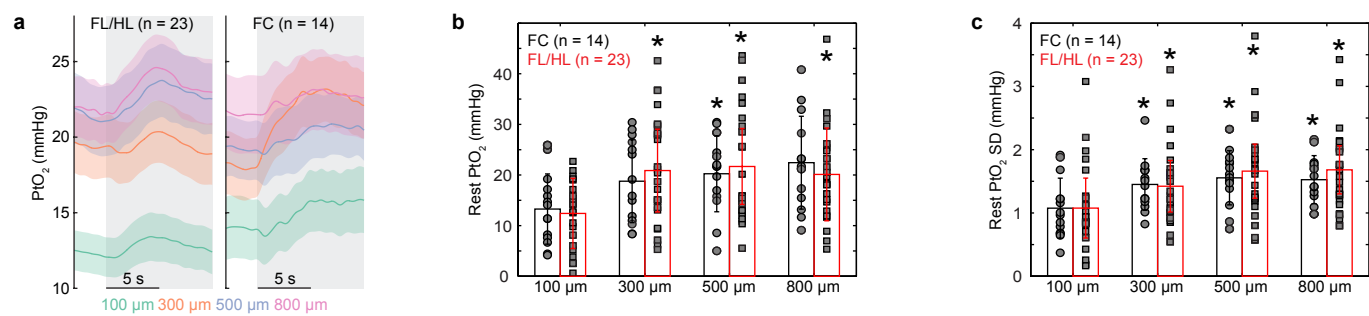
Supplementary Fig.2



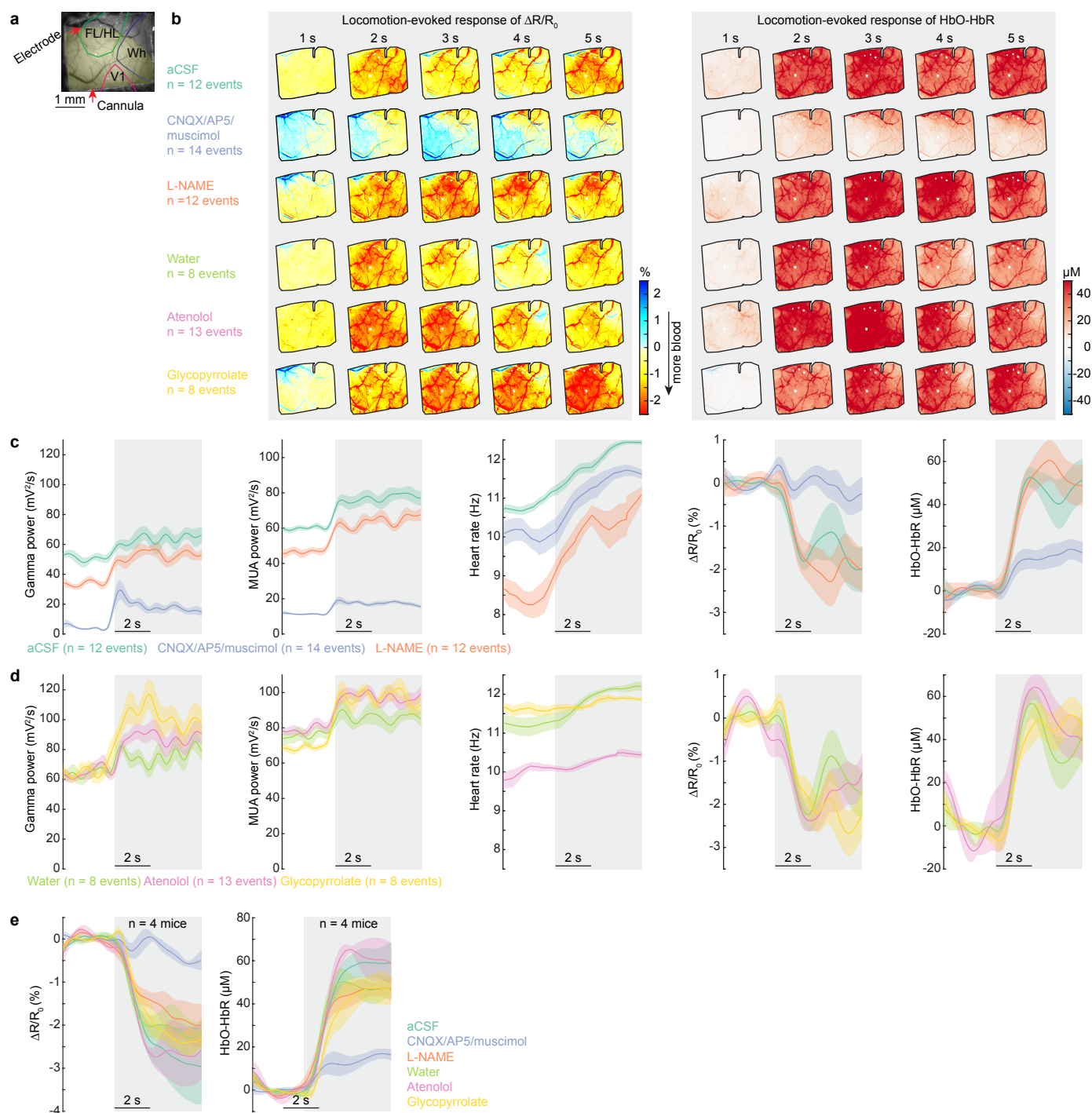
Supplementary Fig.3



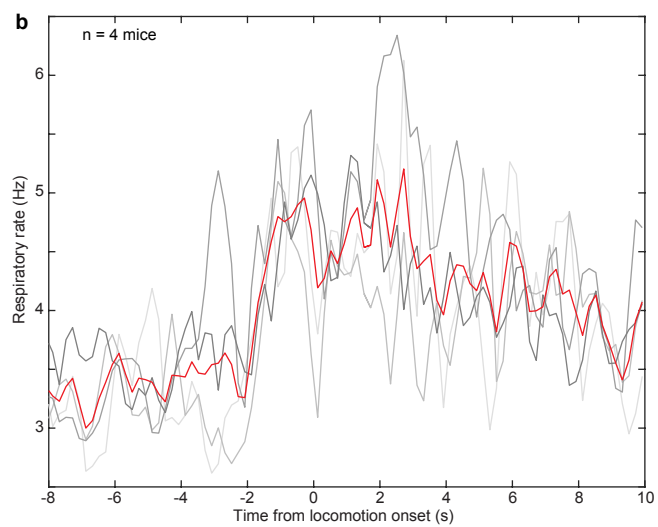
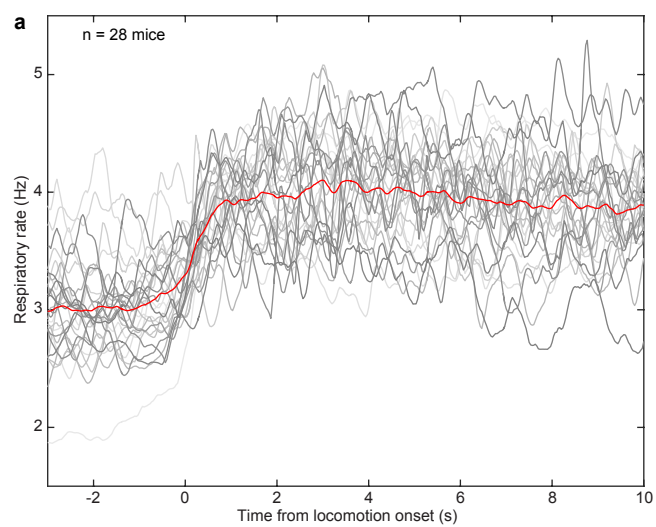
Supplementary Fig.4



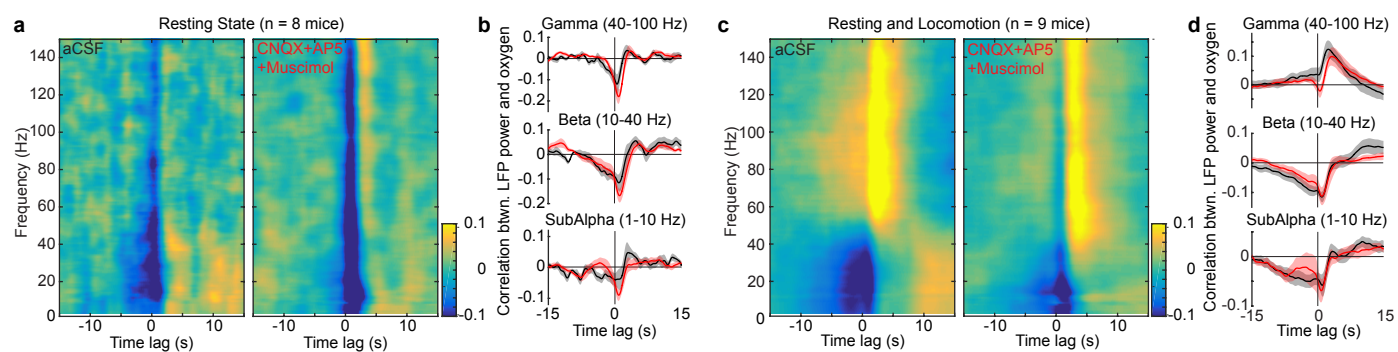
Supplementary Fig.5



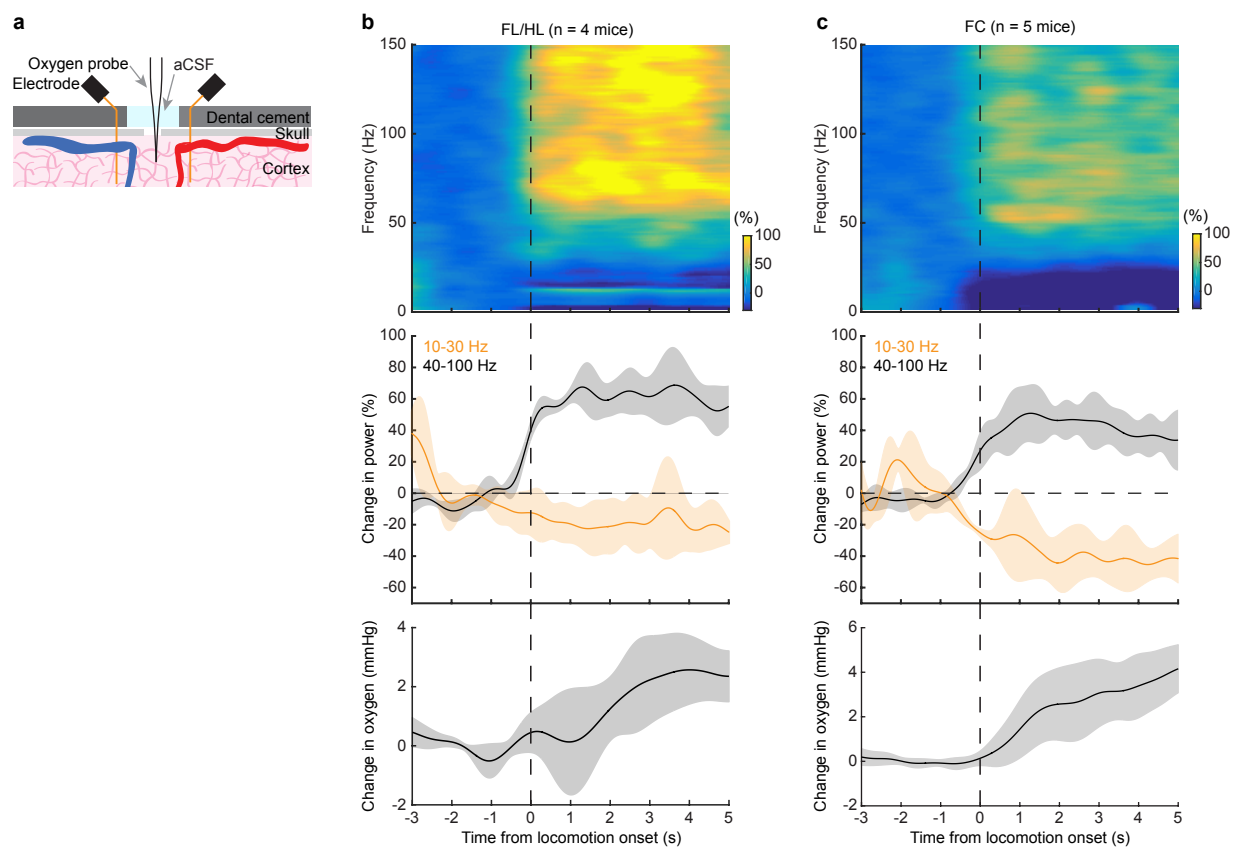
Supplementary Fig.6



Supplementary Fig.7



Supplementary Fig.8



Supplementary Fig.9

