

- Descending motor pathways
  - Corticospinal: lateral funiculus into the lateral horn of the grey matter. Control voluntary movement
  - Rubrospinal: lateral funiculus into lateral horn of grey matter. Control fine tuned movement.
  - Reticulospinal: Ventral (pontine), lateral (medullary) funiculus into the ventral horn, controls antigravity and posture
  - Vestibulospinal and tectospinal: medial funiculus to around central canal, control head movement and posture
- Motor cortex of the cerebrum: cell sorted into Brodmann areas in a cytotoxic manner. Anterior to posterior:
  - Prefrontal cortex
  - Premotor cortex (PMC): Brodmann area 6 planning of movement, receive input from VA
    - Supplementary motor area (SMA)
    - Premotor area (PMA): receive input from Brodmann area 5 & 7
  - Primary motor cortex (M1): Brodmann area 4, Precentral gyrus, initiate movement, receive input from VL
  - Central sulcus
  - Primary somatosensory cortex (S1): receive somatic sensory input
  - Posterior parietal cortex: Brodmann area 5 & 7, vision input, project to PMA
    - Brodmann area 5: perceive the positional information of the perceived object, project to PMAd
    - Brodmann area 7: perceive the property of the object. Project to PMAv

**Movement control:** signalling hierarchy in the brain:

- Prefrontal cortex: Strategic planning of further future movements, signalling into the Brodmann area 5 and 7.
- Brodmann area 5&7: Visual dorsal and ventral stream:
  - Brodmann area 5: positional information of the object to the dorsal PMA
  - Brodmann area 7: property information of the object to the ventral PMA
- PMC plan based on visual cues: PMA controls spontaneous movements, SMA control movement planning and mental rehearsal (experimental evidence: PET scan of brain when performing task/imaginary task)
- PMA and SMA and S1 input into the M1, initiate movement.

Order for threshold of producing movement:

M1 < PM < SMA < S1 < Area 5 < Area 7 < Prefrontal

**Thalamocortical pathway:** thalamus is the integrating center for sensory information

- Ventral Anterior nucleus project to the PMC
- Ventral Lateral nucleus project to the M1

**Corticospinal pathway:** M1 - internal capsule - Medulla - Spinal cord

- M1: Lower limbs are more medial (closer to the longitudinal fissure), upper limbs & face more temporal
- Internal capsule: Rostral innervations are more medial, lower limbs more lateral, some cranial nerves leave in the brainstem
- Medulla: Majority of corticospinal tract decussate at the medullary pyramids: produce lateral corticospinal tract and anterior corticospinal tract
- Spinal cord: Lateral corticospinal tract in the lateral funiculus, anterior corticospinal tract lateral to the ventral fissure
  - Lateral spinocortical tract cross at the medullary pyramid, anterior spinocortical tract crosses in the spinal cord.

## Convergence and divergence:

- Multiple pyramidal neurons in the M1 cortex can innervate a single downstream motor neuron: Convergence
- Each pyramidal neuron can innervate multiple downstream motor neuron pool / interneuron pool: divergence

## Muscle tension coding

- Some M1 neuron firing rates correlate with the force being generated (Static)
- Some M1 neuron's firing rate correspond to the differential force (rate) generated (Dynamic)
- Most neurons firing pattern comprised of both.
- Population coding: firing pattern of a group of neuron can correspond to the direction of movement

**Cerebellum:** Contain 50% of the total neurons

## Cerebellar nucleus supraspinal control:

- Pyramidal cells receive input from climbing fibres (inferior olive) and mossy fibre (afferent copy and sensory input) via granular cells:
  - Mossy fibre:
    - Spinal sensory signal: somatosensory, nociception, proprioception
    - Vestibular system: balance, head movement.
    - Pontine nuclei: auditory, visual signal from the cerebral cortex, efference copy.
  - Climbing fibre: input from inferior olive: modulate cerebellar model.
- Pyramidal cells in cortex send output signal via nucleus below the cortex in the cerebellum
  - Medial cortex - fastigial nucleus - vestibular nuclei - vestibulospinal tract - balance, posture, eye movement
  - Intermediate cortex - Globus/Erbiform interposed nucleus - Red nucleus - rubrospinal tract - ongoing movement
  - Lateral cortex - dentate nucleus - thalamus - corticospinal tract - M1 - voluntary movements.

## Cerebellar control of movement:

- Receive efference copy from the mossy fibre
- Error correction input from the climbing fibre from inferior olives
- Cerebellum act as a predictive controller, efference copy prediction of outcome is compared with input information,
- cerebellum send output signal to influence ongoing movement if actual outcome contrast with predicted movement.
- Cerebellum update model if predicted outcome differ from actual outcome.

Cerebellar lesion: Lesion results in ataxia: loss of coordination and control of agonist antagonist muscle pairs, results in slurred speech, tremor of movement, deteriorating motor skills, intention tremor.

Experiment: Monkey's ability to bring a lever back to a fixed position deteriorate after cooling the cerebellum nuclei.

## Basal Ganglia

Components: Thalamus nuclei, Striatum (Caudate + Putamen), Globus Pallidus (Medial and lateral), Substantia Nigra (Pars compacta + pars reticulata), subthalamic nucleus.

Basal ganglion circuitry: direct + indirect pathway converge on the thalamus then to the SMA.

Direct: cortex → striatum → GPi/SNr → thalamus → cortex

Indirect: cortex → striatum → GPe → subthalamic nucleus → GPi/SNr → thalamus → cortex

Substantia Nigra compacta produce dopamine, excite D1 receptor in direct striatal cells, inhibit D2-indirect striatal cells.



Putamen neurons project to the SMA

Caudate neurons project to the prefrontal cortex