1 **Bimodal dendritic processing in basket cells drives distinct memory-related** 2 **oscillations.**

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16 **Abstract**

17 Hippocampal oscillations span from slow to high-frequency bands that are linked to different 18 memory stages and behavioral states. We show that fast spiking basket cells (FSBCs) with 19 bimodal nonlinear dendritic trees modulate these oscillations. Supralinear FSBC dendritic 20 activation enhances high-frequency oscillations, while sublinear activation increases slow 21 oscillatory power, adjusting the Excitation/Inhibition balance in the network. This underscores 22 a new link between FSBCs nonlinear dendritic integration and memory-related oscillations.

23

24 **Main**

25 Hippocampal oscillations exhibit a variety of distinct frequency bands¹. For example, 26 neuronal activity often associates with a slow local field potential (LFP) component, known 27 as theta activity, which ranges from 3 to 10 Hz^{1-3} . Additionally, hippocampal activity includes 28 fast-frequency oscillations spanning from 30 to 200 Hz^{1-5} . Both experimental and 29 computational studies have linked these slow and fast components to different stages of 30 hippocampal memory formation and distinct behavioral states^{3,6,7}. Specifically, slow 3-10 Hz 31 oscillations correlate with memory encoding, spatial navigation, and sensory processing³. 32 Conversely, fast oscillations are associated with memory encoding and consolidation 36 . 33 Notably, these fast and slow components often occur together in a phenomenon known as 34 oscillation coupling^{5,8–11} which has been proposed as a signature of working memory 35 processing and various behavioral states (**Fig.1a**)^{3,5}.

36 To understand the cellular mechanisms behind these oscillatory events, significant efforts 37 have been made to delineate the effects of various subclasses of both excitatory and 38 inhibitory hippocampal populations. Among these, PV+ GABAergic interneurons play a 39 crucial role in both slow and fast oscillations as well as in coupled oscillatory activity^{10,12–17}. 40 However, the vast majority of research has traditionally focused on the activation or silencing 41 of PV+ interneurons during oscillations through optogenetic and modeling approaches.

42 Recent computational and experimental studies reveal that PV+ interneurons exhibit diverse 43 nonlinear dendritic computations, significantly enhancing their computational capabilities and 44 shaping their input-output (I/O) configurations^{18–23}. Notably, a subtype of PV+ interneurons, 45 the Fast-Spiking Basket Cells (FSBCs), possesses bimodal nonlinear dendritic 46 integration^{18,19,24}. Specifically, multicompartmental biophysical modeling has shown that 47 FSBCs have two types of co-existing nonlinear dendrites: supralinear dendrites, which can 48 generate local dendritic spikes, and sublinear dendrites, which integrate excitatory synaptic 49 input passively (**Figs.1b-c,S1a-d)**. While both types of nonlinear dendrites co-exist in the 50 same tree (Fig.1b-c, S1), and share similar active properties, they differ morphologically¹⁹. 51 Supralinear branches have higher volume, and lower input resistance, enabling local sodium 52 spikes (**Fig.S1a-e)**. Conversely, sublinear branches have lower volume, and higher input 53 resistance. Thus, coincident synaptic input induces large, fast rising EPSPs that in turn 54 activate A-type potassium channels leading to a fast repolarization of the membrane, thus 55 preventing the generation of local sodium spikes (Fig.S1a-d). These modeling predictions¹⁹ 56 are supported by recent experimental findings in PV+ interneurons across different 57 hippocampal areas $18,20,21$.

58 However, it remains unknown whether the bimodal nonlinear nature of FSBCs dendrites 59 affects network function by modulating different memory-related oscillations. Given the 60 involvement of FSBCs in both slow (e.g. theta-frequencies) and fast oscillations^{12,25,26}, we 61 hypothesized that the supralinear or sublinear branches of FSBCs would differentially 62 modulate FSBCs activity and, consequently, their impact on orchestrating the LFP during 63 mnemonic functions.

64 To test our hypothesis, we used a previously published biologically plausible hippocampal 65 microcircuit model²⁷ that includes compartmental biophysical models of pyramidal cells 66 (PCs) with reduced morphology²⁷ and FSBCs with anatomical reconstructions of bimodal 67 nonlinear dendritic trees, as in^{19,27} (TablesS1-5, Fig.1a). Upon activation with a theta-like 68 input as per 28,29 , our microcircuit exhibited a slow oscillatory component coupled with a fast 69 one (**Fig.1a,d**). In our control experiment (bimodal activation), synapses to FSBCs were 70 placed in randomly chosen both supralinear and sublinear branches (**Fig.1a,d, 2a**). We 71 investigated how the network would respond when keeping the amount of synaptic contacts 72 constant but activating either only randomly chosen supralinear branches (**Fig.1e, 2b**) or 73 only sublinear branches (**Figs.1f, 2c**) of FSBCs trees. Our model predicts that activation of 74 the supralinear branches of the FSBCs trees supports the fast oscillatory component 75 (**Fig.1e,2b**). In sharp contrast, activation of only sublinear branches enhances the power of 76 the slow LFP band (**Figs 1f, 2c**). Specifically, supralinear activation results in a higher fast 77 frequency and fast peak-frequency power compared to both bimodal and sublinear activation 78 conditions (**Fig.2d, e**). In contrast, sublinear activation massively decreases the fast peak-79 frequency power compared to both bimodal and supralinear activation (**Fig.2d**), as well as 80 the fast peak-frequency and slow power compared to supralinear activation (**Fig.2e,f**). To 81 assess the robustness of the differential impact of supralinear vs sublinear dendritic 82 activation in the LFP bands, we performed a sensitivity analysis on the synaptic parameters 83 and input features. In all cases supralinear activation enhanced the peak power and peak 84 frequency power of the fast LFP component whereas sublinear activation resulted in higher 85 slow power compared to supralinear activation (**Fig.S2**).

86

87 *Figure 1. Bimodal dendritic integration in FBCs modulate memory-related* 88 *hippocampal oscillations. Schematic Illustration of the hippocampal microcircuit model. A* 89 *population of 20 PCs and 2 FSBCs is activated by a theta (4 Hz) input for 1000 msec. An*

LFP electrode is positioned nearby the PCs somata. Upon activation the model exhibits slow (bandpassed at 3-10 Hz) and fast (bandpassed at 30-200 Hz) LFP bands. The arrow indicated the in-silico electrode position. FSBCs are equipped with bimodal nonlinear trees as per Tzilivaki et al., 2019. b-c. Representative input-output curves from supralinear (b) and sublinear (c) dendritic branches in FSBC models, in response to synaptic stimulation. Increasing numbers of synapses (from 1 to 20 with step=1) are uniformly distributed in every stimulated branch and are activated with a single pulse. The y-axis shows the amplitude of the dendritic EPSP caused by synaptic activation while the x-axis shows the expected EPSP amplitude that would result from the linear summation of synaptic EPSPs. The dashed line indicates linear summation. Insets show representative traces. Panels were adopted from Tzilivaki et al., 2019. d-f. Power Spectrum Density (PSD) plots upon bimodal (d), supralinear (e) and sublinear (f) activation. The number of activated synapses remain identical for all conditions. Synapses were placed in randomly chosen supralinear and sublinear branches (d) or in either randomly chosen supralinear (e) or sublinear (f) branches. Activation of the supralinear dendrites (e) supports the fast LFP signature while sublinear activation (f) promotes slow LFP power. Data from 30 random simulation trials.

Figure 2. LFP frequency and power are regulated by FSBC nonlinear dendritic activation. (a-c) Schematic illustration of the activation protocols and representative traces of the evoked LFP bandpassed at slow (theta 3-10 Hz) and fast (30-200 Hz) frequences. The same number of synapses targets either both types of nonlinear dendrites (bimodal activation) (a) or only supralinear (b) or only sublinear (c). (d-f) Comparison of the peak fast-frequency (d) and the peak powers of the fast (e) and slow (f) LFP components. Data from 30 random simulation trials. Synaptic activation of supralinear dendrites of the FSBCs bimodal trees results in a higher peak fast-frequency and increased fast-frequency peak power, while reducing the peak power of slow oscillations compared to sublinear dendrite activation. Statistical comparisons across multiple groups were performed using the Kruskal-Wallis test followed by a post-hoc correction for multiple comparisons, suitable for data with unequal variance.

142 Given that the number of synapses remains consistent across all three activation scenarios 143 (bimodal, supralinear, and sublinear), we sought to understand the factors driving the 144 observed LFP modulation. To achieve this, we analyzed the spiking activity of both the PC 145 and FSBC populations under these conditions. Our analysis revealed that supralinear 146 activation led to higher spike rates in FSBCs, resulting in decreased firing of the PC 147 population compared to both bimodal and sublinear activation conditions. Conversely, 148 activation of sublinear branches in FSBCs reduced their firing rates, thereby disinhibiting the

¹⁴⁹ PC population (**Fig.3**).

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Figure 3. Supralinear and Sublinear FSBC dendrites differentially modulate the E/I balance in the microcircuit. (a-c). Representative raster plots showing the spiking activity of PCs (blue) and FSBCs (brown) across indicative theta cycles under different dendritic activation conditions: bimodal (a), supralinear (b), or sublinear (c). (d) Activation of a fixed number of synapses on randomly selected supralinear dendrites significantly increases the firing frequency of FSBCs, leading to a reduction in the activity of PCs when compared to bimodal (supralinear and sublinear) or purely sublinear activation. Conversely, activation of randomly selected sublinear dendrites decreases the firing frequency of FSBCs, resulting in disinhibition of the PCs. Data are based on 30 random simulation trials. Pairwise comparisons were performed using the Mann–Whitney U test.

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162 These observations demonstrate that FSBCs can adapt their firing patterns when activated 163 through either supralinear or sublinear branches, despite receiving an equivalent synaptic 164 input. Supralinear dendritic branches are characterized by larger volumes and lower input 165 resistance¹⁹ which facilitates enhanced forward propagation of signals. In contrast, activation 166 of sublinear branches, which have smaller volumes and therefore higher input resistance¹⁹, 167 restricts forward propagation (**Fig.S1f-g**), leading to decreased firing rates of FSBCs. 168 Consequently, this modulation alters the excitation to inhibition (E/I) balance within the 169 network, thereby influencing the characteristic oscillatory activity observed in the LFP.

170 We further explored how altering the dendritic integration profile of FSBCs, specifically by 171 manipulating them to possess purely supralinear or sublinear trees, impacts network 172 behavior compared to the control (bimodal) trees (**Fig.S3a-b**). Leveraging the distinct 173 morphological features of supralinear and sublinear branches in our bimodal FSBCs 174 reconstructions, we adjusted the dendritic morphologies as per¹⁹. When FSBCs were

175 equipped with purely supralinear dendritic trees, we observed enhanced fast frequency and 176 power compared to both bimodal and sublinear tree configurations. This configuration also 177 maximized the firing response of FSBCs (**Fig.S3a,c-h**). Conversely, FSBCs with purely 178 sublinear dendritic trees present reduced spike rate which increased the PCs activity 179 (**Fig.S3h**). Sublinear FSBC trees exhibited increased slow power and decreased fast power 180 and lower fast power compared to supralinear trees (**Fig.S3b-g**).

181 These simulations underscore that FSBCs take advantage of their bimodal nonlinear 182 dendritic trees by dynamically utilizing their supralinear and sublinear dendrites to regulate 183 the E/I balance within the network, thereby orchestrating distinct oscillatory behaviors under 184 equivalent synaptic input conditions. Importantly, activating either only supralinear or only 185 sublinear branches of a bimodal tree (**Figs.1-2**) exhibits similar phenotypic responses to 186 hypothetical configurations of purely supralinear or purely sublinear trees (**Fig.S3**). This 187 further supports the notion that the bimodal nonlinear nature of FSBCs dendrites allows for 188 flexible modulation of network activity and oscillatory patterns crucial for hippocampal 189 mnemonic functions.

190 Apart from the type of dendritic integration, the spatial arrangement of synapses also 191 influences the firing characteristics³⁰. It's well-established that supralinear dendrites tend to 192 enhance clustered synaptic allocation, whereas sublinear dendrites prefer dispersed 193 activation. For FSBCs, it has been observed that dispersed synaptic activation leads to 194 higher firing frequencies compared to clustered^{18,19,31}. This phenomenon is influenced by the 195 co-existence of sublinear along with supralinear branches, coupled with their small size and 196 the presence of A-type potassium channels^{19,22,31}, which discourages preference for the presence of A-type potassium channels^{19,22,31}, which discourages preference for 197 clustered inputs. To investigate how synaptic clustering affects the oscillatory behavior of our 198 network, we simulated the activation of the same number of synapses as in our disperse 199 protocols (as in **Fig.S3**) but now clustered in a few randomly chosen dendrites (**Fig.S4**). As 200 anticipated, clustered activation of sublinear FSBC trees significantly reduced their firing
201 urates while maximizing the E/I balance in the network. Conversely, clustering synapses in 201 rates while maximizing the E/I balance in the network. Conversely, clustering synapses in
202 supralinear trees enhanced FSBC firing rates compared to both bimodal and sublinear supralinear trees enhanced FSBC firing rates compared to both bimodal and sublinear 203 clustering configurations, while also decreasing the firing rates of the PCs (**Fig.S4j**). At the 204 oscillatory level, akin to our simulations with dispersed synaptic activation, clustered 205 synapses in supralinear FSBC trees enhanced fast LFP components, whereas synaptic 206 clustering in sublinear trees boosted the slow LFP power (**Fig.S4a-i**). These findings underscore the dual impact of dendritic morphology and synaptic spatial arrangement on 208 neuronal firing patterns and network oscillatory dynamics. They highlight the intricate
209 mechanisms by which FBCs can dynamically modulate their responses and contribute to the 209 mechanisms by which FBCs can dynamically modulate their responses and contribute to the 210 regulation of network excitability and oscillatory activity crucial for hippocampal function.

211 Finally, we analyzed the Phase-Amplitude Coupling (PAC), 32 to check the slow-fast 212 oscillation coupling in the LFP across all cases (**Fig.S5**). Indeed, the LFP response aligns 213 with experimental findings, indicating that slow activity entrains hippocampal networks to 214 slow-fast coupling (Fig.S5a)^{5,9,28,33–36}. Activation of either supralinear or sublinear branches 215 did not alter the coupling between the two oscillatory components (**Fig.S5b-f**). However, 216 coupling was enhanced when synapses were clustered on fully sublinear dendritic trees of 217 FSBCs. Conversely, coupling was reduced when similar clustering occurred on supralinear 218 FSBC dendritic trees (**Fig.S5g-j**). These results indicate that as the power and frequency of 219 the fast component decrease, it becomes more synchronized with the slower component.

220 Overall, while the role of interneurons in hippocampal memory-related oscillations is 221 established^{13,16,18,26}, there remains a significant gap in understanding the cellular and 222 subcellular mechanisms that enable these neurons to flexibly control memory-related 223 rhythms. Recent studies suggest the involvement of PV+ interneuron dendrites in fast 224 oscillations^{20,37,38}, yet a direct link between interneuronal dendritic integration and their 225 impact on slow and fast hippocampal memory-related rhythms is lacking. Our biophysical 226 modeling provides novel insights showing that hippocampal FSBCs, a prominent subtype of 227 PV+-positive interneurons, exhibit distinct firing patterns that modulate the excitatory-228 inhibitory (E/I) balance in networks independent of synaptic input quantity. Specifically, 229 activation of supralinear dendritic branches in bimodal FSBCs (**Fig.1,2,S1**) reduces the E/I 230 balance (**Fig.3**), thereby promoting fast oscillatory activity associated with memory 231 consolidation (**Fig.1,2**). In contrast, activation of sublinear dendritic branches increases the 232 E/I balance (**Fig.3**), enhancing the slow LFP signature (**Figs.1,2**), linked to memory 233 encoding. To fully explore the impact of interneuron dendrites on memory-related 234 oscillations, it is crucial to investigate the diversity among hippocampal interneurons^{12,13,15,26}. 235 Beyond FSBCs, other subclasses of PV+ interneurons and different inhibitory classes (e.g. 236 SOM+ and VIP+ interneurons) are active during distinct memory-related rhythms^{12,13}, yet 237 their specific dendritic integration profiles remain poorly characterized. Future studies should 238 thus aim to dissect how dendritic nonlinear integration across different interneuron 239 types^{12,13,15,16} and PCs³⁹ modulate memory-related oscillations. Future experimental efforts 240 should aim to elucidate whether distinct hippocampal and cortical inputs selectively target 241 the supralinear or sublinear branches of bimodal FSBCs trees. Although connectivity 242 patterns between hippocampal (e.g. CA3) and extrahippocampal (e.g. entorhinal 243 cortices)populations to FSBCs are documented during fast oscillations^{12,13,31,40}, it remains 244 unclear whether neurons from the same or different regions preferentially target these two 245 types of nonlinear dendrites. Investigating the potential differential targeting of FSBCs' 246 supralinear and sublinear branches during distinct memory stages, such as encoding versus 247 consolidation, could significantly enhance our understanding of how FSBCs dynamically 248 regulate memory-related rhythms by leveraging their diverse dendritic architectures across 249 different oscillatory activity patterns. Our simulations suggest that bimodal nonlinear dendritic 250 processing in FSBCs could be critical to drive different memory stages and, therefore, 251 influence behavioral states.

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253 **Author contributions:** AT and DS conceived the study. AT designed and run the 254 simulations, analyzed the data, prepared the figures and wrote the manuscript. MEL and DS 255 provided senior conceptual input on the study and methodology. DS funded and supervised 256 the project. All authors wrote/edited the final version of the manuscript.

257 **Acknowledgements:** A.T. was supported by the DFG with the SFB1315-2 TP A01 Brenda 258 Milner Award and the Einstein Center for Neurosciences Berlin Fellowship. M.E.L. was 259 supported by the European Research Council (101055340, ERC AdG, Cortical Coupling). 260 D.S. was supported by the Einstein Foundation Berlin, the European Research Council 261 (ERC) under the Europeans Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program 262 (BrainPlay grant, agreement no. 810580), the German Research Foundation (Deutsche 263 Forschungsgemeinschaft [DFG], SFB-958 – project 184695641, project 431572356, FOR 264 3004 – project 415914819, SFB 1315 – project 327654276 and under Germany's Excellence 265 Strategy – Exc-2049-390688087 NeuroCure), and the Federal Ministry of Education and 266 Research (BMBF, SmartAge – project 01GQ1420B). We thank Michalis Pagkalos, Jeremie 267 Sibille, Nikolaus Maier, and John Tukker for helpful discussions, comments and 268 proofreading, Nelson Rebola, Yann Zerlaut, Yiota Poirazi, for comments on an earlier version 269 of the manuscript and Daniel Parthier for feedback on the statistical analyses.

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271 **Code and Data availability**

272 Scripts and datasets required to reproduce the results and figures, as well as all statistical

273 analyses, are publicly accessible in www.github.com/AlexandraTzilivaki/Tzilivakietal2024

274 **Competing interests**

275 The authors declare no competing interests.

276

277 **Methods**

278 **Model implementation and availability**

279 Simulations were conducted using NEURON $(v7.6)^{41}$ on a High-Performance Computing 280 Cluster, utilizing 111 CPU cores on a 64-bit CentOS Linux operating system. All 281 codes/scripts and datasets required to reproduce the results and figures, as well as all 282 statistical analyses, are publicly accessible in 283 www.github.com/AlexandraTzilivaki/Tzilivakietal2024

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286 **Neuronal populations**

287 1. Fast Spiking Basket Cells (FSBCs)

288 Two multi-compartmental biophysical models of CA3 FSBCs were employed, adopted 289 $\hspace{1em}$ from Tzilivaki et al. (2019)¹⁹. These FSBCs models include detailed anatomical 290 reconstructions of somata and dendritic trees taken from Neuromorpho database 291 (originally published in Tukker et al. 2007⁴²), (**Figure S1**). Both FSBCs feature bimodal 292 nonlinear dendritic branches, characterized by both supralinear and sublinear branches. 293 They are equipped with fast voltage-dependent sodium channels (gnafin), delayed 294 rectifier potassium channels (gkdrin), slow inactivation potassium channels (gslowin), 295 slow calcium-dependent potassium channels (gkcain), A-type potassium channels in 296 proximal and distal dendritic regions (gkadin, gkapin), h-currents (ghin), and L-, N-, and 297 T-type voltage-activated calcium channels (gcal, gcan, and gcat, respectively). These 298 models have been extensively validated against experimental data and accurately 299 capture the intrinsic features and electrophysiological responses of hippocampal FSBCs 300 (See original reference¹⁹ and Supplementary Information). The mean dendritic diameter 301 and total dendritic length were measured for the supralinear and sublinear dendrites of 302 the two FSBCs morphological reconstructions. Dendritic volume was calculated as per 303 Tzilivaki et al. $(2019)^{19}$ using the following formula:

$$
V = \pi * \left(\frac{diameter}{2}\right)^2 * length \ (\mu m^3)
$$

304 To causally manipulate the dendritic morphologies of FSBCs to generate fully supralinear or 305 sublinear trees (Figure S2), we performed causal manipulations according to the approach 306 described in Tzilivaki et al. $(2019)^{19}$. We fixed the diameter and length of all dendrites to 307 create trees with average supralinear or sublinear dendritic volume (**Figure S1B**), which 308 dictated the integration mode as shown in the original modeling publication. Dendritic Input 309 Resistance was calculated using the following formula:

$$
Rin = \frac{DV}{I}(\frac{mV}{nA})
$$

311 where I□=□-100□pA injected in each dendritic branch and DV is the generated
212 312 IPSP.

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314 For more detailed information about the FSBC models, please refer to the relevant publication¹⁹ 315 and **Tables S1-2, 4-5**.

317 2. Pyramidal Cells (PCs)

318 Biophysically relevant hippocampal PC models $(n = 20)$ were adopted from Hadler et al. $(2024)^{27}$. These models consist of somata and proximal, distal, and basal dendritic branches. 320 PCs include a Ca2+ pump and buffering mechanism, Ca2+ activated slow AHP and medium 321 AHP potassium (K+) currents, an HVA L-type calcium (Ca2+) current, an HVA R-type 322 Ca2+current, an LVA T-type Ca2+ current, an h-current, a fast sodium (Na+) current, a 323 delayed rectifier K+ current, a slowly inactivating K+ M-type current, and a fast inactivating 324 K+ A-type current. These current mechanisms were non-uniformly distributed along the 325 somatodendritic compartments. They were validated based on *in vitro* data to replicate the 326 electrophysiological profile and basic dendritic architecture of hippocampal CA3 $PCs^{27,43}$. 327 The PC models do not include detailed nonlinear dendritic trees, as this was beyond the 328 scope of this study. Incorporating realistic anatomical reconstructions for PCs would have 329 significantly increased computational complexity and reduced simulation speed. For more 330 information, see Hadler et al. (2024)²⁷ and **Tables S3-5**.

331 **Synaptic properties**

332 The PC models were equipped with AMPA, NMDA, and γ-aminobutyric acid type A (GABAA)
333 synapses, while the FSBCs included Ca2+ permeable AMPA (CP-AMPA), NMDA, GABAA, synapses, while the FSBCs included Ca2+ permeable AMPA (CP-AMPA), NMDA, GABAA, 334 and autaptic GABAA synapses. The synaptic conductance values for every connection type 335 were calibrated based on experimental^{44–47} and modelling studies¹⁹ and are listed in Table 336 **S5**

337 To ensure the robustness of our finding we repeated the simulations upon increased or 338 decreased synaptic conductance values (15% change) (see sensitivity analysis Figure S2)

339 **Hippocampal Microcircuit**

340 The hippocampal microcircuit configuration was adopted from Hadler et al. $(2024)^{27}$. The 341 model consists of 20 PCs and 2 FSBCs. In each random simulation trial ($n = 30$), each PC 342 contacted up to seven (7) randomly chosen PCs with one AMPA and one NMDA synapse 343 activation per contact. Each FSBC received synaptic input from fifteen (15) randomly chosen 344 PCs in each simulation trial. Additionally, each PC received thirteen (13) feedback inhibitory 345 GABAergic inputs from each FSBC per simulation trial. Each FSBC formed five (5) 346 GABAergic synapses per simulation trial and was self-inhibited through autapses. For further 347 details, see the Simulation Paradigms chapter and Hadler et al. $(2024)^{27}$.

348 **Simulation Paradigms**

349 Input

350 The microcircuit is activated by a theta entrained presynaptic population as per Turi 351 et al., 2018⁴⁸. The input was modeled as an artificial presynaptic population (N=22) 352 using NEURON's VecStim function. The spike times of the presynaptic population 353 were generated using a sinusoidal theta like filter that was applied so to account for 354 theta like modulated spike times.

355 **Thata like probability formula (as per** 48):

$$
p(t) = (\sin \left(2.0 * pi * \frac{f_{theta * spike}}{1000.0} + phi_{theta *}\right) + 1.0)/2.0
$$

356 Where:

- 357 spike = the spike time in msec (float)
- 358 f theta = theta-cycle frequency in Hz. (float)

359 For the simulations shown in Figures 1-3 and Supplementary Figures 3-5, f_theta=4 360 Hz. For the sensitivity analysis simulations as shown in Supplementary Figure 2, we 361 changed the input the theta frequency to f_theta=5Hz.

362 • phi_theta= theta cycle phase in radians.

363 For the simulations shown in Figures 1-3 and Supplementary Figures 3-5, 364 phi_theta=0 (equal to 0 radians). For the sensitivity analysis simulations as shown in 365 Supplementary Figure 2, we shifted the input phase so phi_theta=0.5 (equal to 180 366 radians).

368 If the probability p(t) is greater than 0.7 a spike is generated for the specific artificial 369 neuron (n=22). Every input neuron has its own theta modulated spike train.

371 Each PC received input from 5 artificial presynaptic neurons, while each FSBC 372 received input from 7 artificial presynaptic neurons. Although the input was sufficient 373 to activate the PC population due to its reduced morphology, 7 artificial presynaptic 374 neurons were insufficient to evoke spiking activity in the FSBC models, given their 375 realistic complex anatomical reconstructions. This subthreshold activation was 376 selected to ensure that FSBCs were primarily engaged in the network due to the 377 local inputs they received from PCs.

379 1. **Simulations**

380 The microcircuit model was simulated for approximately 12,000 milliseconds (ms) 381 with a time step of 0.1 ms. The first 200 ms were excluded from the analysis to allow 382 the model to reach an equilibrium state. For the dispersed protocols, synapses to 383 FSBCs (both input and local PC-to-FSBC synapses) were randomly assigned to 384 dendrites, meaning one randomly chosen dendrite received one pair of NMDA and 385 CP-AMPA synapses. For the clustered protocol (Supplementary Figure S4), the 386 same total amount of synapses was placed in 4 randomly chosen dendrites (cluster 387 size: 5-7 synapses (per dendrite) Data represent the results (mean and standard 388 deviation values (std)) of thirty (30) random simulation trials for each protocol. In 389 every trial, the total number of synaptic contacts and the connectivity ratios remained 390 identical, but different randomly chosen neurons (from both PC and FSBC 391 populations) were connected to different random neurons. Additionally, in each trial, 392 different dendrites from both PCs and FSBCs were randomly chosen and synapses 393 were activated at different parts of the chosen dendrites. This approach ensured that 394 the results reflected the diversity, especially of the FSBCs trees, in bimodal activation 395 protocols. Furthermore, two different anatomical reconstructions were used for our 396 FSBC models to account for FSBCs morphological variability (see relevant chapter).

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398 **2. LFP simulation and Spectral analysis**

399 To record the Local Field Potential (LFP), an *in silico* electrode was simulated based on 400 NEURON's extracellular function, following the modelling approach of Vladimirov et al. $(2013)^{49}$. The electrode was placed close to the PCs somata and remained in the exact 402 same position throughout the execution of all protocols and simulation trials. The

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403 sampling frequency was set at 10 kHz. Despite the microcircuit model's small size, it 404 efficiently generated fast and slow oscillations comparable to experimental 405 bothervations^{5,11,32,35} while maintaining low computational complexity and demands.

406 The *in silico* LFP datasets were band-passed at two respective bands: slow (3 – 10 Hz) 407 and fast (30-200 Hz). Slow and fast Peak-Frequency powers and peak Fast frequency 408 were determined using custom-made MATLAB scripts (MATLAB, The MathWorks Inc., 409 Natick, MA; Torrence and Compo 1998) utilizing the p-welch function (0.4 Hz resolution) 410 and visualized as Power-Frequency plots. Phase-Amplitude Coupling (PAC) analysis 411 was conducted using Comodulogram generation and the calculation of the modulation 412 index (MI) metric that were adopted from Tort et al. $(2008)^{50}$. Wavelet phase was 413 calculated at 15 levels from 1-15 Hz, and the amplitude at 50 levels from 30-180 Hz. The 414 MI was obtained by measuring the divergence of the observed amplitude distribution 415 from the uniform distribution.

416 **Statistical Analysis**

417 Statistical analyses for multigroup comparisons were performed using the Kruskal-Wallis 418 test, followed by a post-hoc correction for multiple comparisons (multcompare function 419 Matlab). For pairwise comparisons where data exhibited unequal variance, p-values 420 were calculated using the Mann-Whitney U test.

421 **Supplementary Information**

422 **Figure S1**. **Mechanisms of bimodal nonlinear dendritic integration in** 423 **Multicompartmental Models of Hippocampal FSBCs.**

424 **a**. Illustration of the morphological characteristics of supralinear and sublinear dendrites in 425 bimodal FSBC models. Supralinear dendrites (purple) are larger, whereas sublinear 426 dendrites (blue) are longer and thinner. **b-c**. Discriminative features between dendrite types: 427 supralinear dendrites have larger volumes (b) and lower input resistance (c) compared to 428 sublinear dendrites. Statistical significance was determined using the Mann–Whitney U test. 429 **d-e**. Supralinear dendrites (purple) are capable of generating local sodium-dependent 430 spikes, whereas sublinear dendrites (blue) cannot (d). Blocking active sodium conductances 431 in FSBC dendrites completely abolishes the supralinear mode (e). **f-g**. Forward propagation 432 efficiency in bimodal nonlinear dendrites of FSBCs: Current injection (100 pA) at randomly 433 selected dendrites and recording at the soma show that sublinear branches (f) propagate 434 signals less effectively compared to supralinear branches (g). Panels a,d,e were adopted 435 from 19

438 **Figure S2. Sensitivity Analysis on Synaptic and Input Parameters (Related to Figure** 439 **2). a-c**. 15% increase in the synaptic conductance values (applied to both input and network 440 synapses for/from both PCs and FSBCs) do not alter the enhancement of fast peak 441 frequency and power observed with supralinear activation. **d-f**. 15% reduction of the synaptic 442 conductance values (for both input and network synapses involving PCs and FSBCs) also 443 maintain the observed increase in fast peak frequency and power upon supralinear 444 activation. **g-i**. Modifications to input parameters (input phase shifted 180°, peak frequency 5 445 Hz) similarly do not affect the enhancement of fast peak frequency and power driven by 446 supralinear activation. Statistical analyses for multigroup comparisons were performed using 447 the Kruskal-Wallis test, followed by a post-hoc correction for multiple comparisons.

449 **Figure S3. Differential Modulation of Slow and Fast LFP Components by Supralinear** 450 **and Sublinear FSBC Dendritic Trees.**

451 **a**. Activation of FSBCs equipped with purely supralinear dendritic trees, showcasing 452 representative LFP traces bandpassed at slow (3-10 Hz) and high (30-200 Hz) frequencies. 453 **b**. Similar to **a** but displaying activation of FSBCs with purely sublinear dendritic trees. **c-d**. 454 Power Spectrum Density (PSD) plots of the LFP evoked when FSBCs are equipped with

455 purely supralinear (c) or purely sublinear (d) dendritic trees, highlighting differences in 456 frequency response. **e-g**. Comparative analysis of the peak fast-frequency (e) and peak 457 power of fast (f) and slow (g) oscillations for FSBCs with bimodal (grey), supralinear (purple), 458 or sublinear (blue) dendritic trees. Data are derived from 30 random simulation trials. **h**. 459 Firing activity of the PCs and FSBCs populations within the microcircuit network across 30 460 random simulation trials. Activation of supralinear FSBC dendritic trees results in a 461 decreased E/I balance compared to both bimodal (control) and sublinear trees. Statistical 462 analyses for multigroup comparisons were conducted using the Kruskal-Wallis test followed 463 by a post-hoc correction for multiple comparisons. Paired comparisons and p-values were 464 calculated using the Mann-Whitney U test for data with unequal variance.

466 **Figure S4. Impact of Clustered Synaptic Activation on LFP and E/I Balance in Bimodal,** 467 **Supralinear, and Sublinear FSBC Dendritic Configurations. a**. Activation of FSBCs with 468 bimodal nonlinear dendrites (control configuration), showing representative LFP traces for 469 slow (3-10 Hz) and fast (30-200 Hz) frequencies. Synapses are clustered in a few randomly 470 chosen supralinear or sublinear branches. **b**. Activation of FSBCs with purely supralinear 471 dendritic trees, showing LFP traces under clustered synaptic activation. **c**. Activation of 472 FSBCs with purely sublinear dendritic trees, similar to conditions in a and b, illustrating the 473 effect of clustered synaptic activation on LFP traces. **d-f**. Power Spectrum Density (PSD) 474 plots for LFPs under clustered synaptic conditions in FSBCs with bimodal (d), supralinear 475 (e), and sublinear (f) dendritic configurations. **g-i**. Comparison of peak frequency (g) and 476 peak power for the fast LFP component (30-200 Hz) (h), and peak power for the slow LFP 477 component (i), across dendritic configurations. **j**. Firing activity of PC and FSBC populations 478 in the microcircuit network from 30 random simulation trials. Clustering in supralinear FSBC 479 dendritic trees decreases the E/I balance in the network compared to bimodal (control) or 480 sublinear trees. Statistical analyses for multigroup comparisons were conducted using the 481 Kruskal-Wallis test followed by a post-hoc correction for multiple comparisons. Paired 482 comparisons and p-values were calculated using the Mann-Whitney U test for data with

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485 **Figure S5. Slow-Fast Oscillation Coupling in the Microcircuit Model Under Various** 486 **Dendritic and Synaptic Configurations in FSBCs. a-e**. Representative comodulograms 487 illustrating the slow-fast coupling for the protocols detailed in Figures 2 and S3. These 488 visualizations provide insights into the phase-amplitude coupling dynamics under different 489 synaptic and dendritic configurations. Data from 30 random simulation trials are represented. 490 **f**. Coupling analysis shows that synaptic distribution in a dispersed configuration across 491 bimodal, purely supralinear, or purely sublinear FSBC dendritic trees does not affect slow-492 fast oscillation coupling. **g-i**. Similar to a-e but showcasing comodulograms for a clustered 493 synaptic arrangement (detailed in Figure S4), using the same number of synapses as in the 494 dispersed experiments. **j.** MI indicates that slow-fast oscillation coupling decreases when 495 synapses are clustered in purely sublinear dendritic trees compared to other configurations. 496 Multigroup comparisons were performed using the Kruskal-Wallis test followed by a post-hoc 497 correction for multiple comparisons for multi-group data with unequal variance. This 498 statistical approach was chosen to accommodate the diversity in the data from 30 random 499 simulation trials.

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Table S3. Passive Parameters and Active Conductance Values of the Pyramidal Cell (PC) Model

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Table S4. Electrophysiological properties of the PCs and FSBCs models

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Table S5. Synaptic conductance weight values of the PC and FSBC models.

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