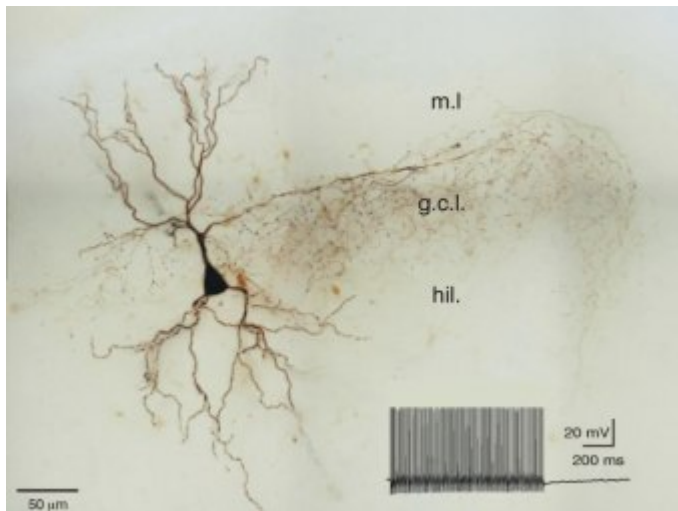


... and what is that ***i-Thing?***

- anonymous, ca. 2007



*A fast-spiking soma-inhibiting interneuron, a “basket cell” with its characteristic dense axonal arbor in the granule cell layer (g.c.l.) of the dentate gyrus.*

**iNeurons** are not another iProduct, but a class of nerve cell ("**neurons**") in the brain. iNeurons or **interneurons** (see [Scholarpedia](#)) are found throughout the central nervous system and play a major role in integrating information in neuronal circuits.

Most interneurons in the cortex produce and release the **inhibitory transmitter** gamma-aminobutyric acid (**GABA**) at their synaptic terminals and provide **inhibition** to other neurons in the network.

Although relatively low in number (~10 - 20% of cortical populations), interneurons are **highly diverse** and their heterogeneity is thought to reflect a **division of labor** among the different types. Indeed, the various interneuron types are active at different times and can produce inhibition at different locations in the network. This way, interneurons can **regulate when and where information flows** in neuronal circuits.

A major aspect of this regulatory function is the generation of rhythmic, **oscillatory activity**. **Oscillations** (often referred to as 'brain waves') come at different frequencies and can be observed in the electroencephalogram (**EEG**) and are thought to structure information processing in the brain by providing timing signals.

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