



# HHS Public Access

Author manuscript

Cell. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2023 March 31.

Published in final edited form as:

Cell. 2019 February 21; 176(5): 1174–1189.e16. doi:10.1016/j.cell.2018.12.024.

## Plasticity of the electrical connectome of *C. elegans*

Abhishek Bhattacharya<sup>1</sup>, Ulkar Aghayeva<sup>1</sup>, Emily G. Berghoff<sup>1</sup>, Oliver Hobert<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Biological Sciences, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Columbia University, New York, NY 10027, USA

### Abstract

The specific patterns and functional properties of electrical synapses of a nervous system are defined by the neuron-specific complement of electrical synapse constituents. We systematically examined the molecular composition of the electrical connectome of the nematode *C. elegans* through a genome- and nervous system-wide analysis of the expression patterns of the invertebrate electrical synapse constituents, the innexins. We observe highly complex combinatorial expression patterns throughout the nervous system and found that these patterns change in a strikingly neuron type-specific manner throughout the nervous system when animals enter an insulin-controlled diapause stage under harsh environmental conditions, the dauer stage. By analyzing several individual synapses, we demonstrate that dauer-specific electrical synapse remodeling is responsible for specific aspects of the altered locomotory and chemosensory behavior of dauers. We describe an intersectional gene regulatory mechanism, involving terminal selector and FoxO transcription factors mediating dynamic innexin expression plasticity in a neuron type- and environment-specific manner.

### Graphical Abstract

---

Correspondence: ab3697@columbia.edu and or38@columbia.edu.

<sup>2</sup>Lead Contact

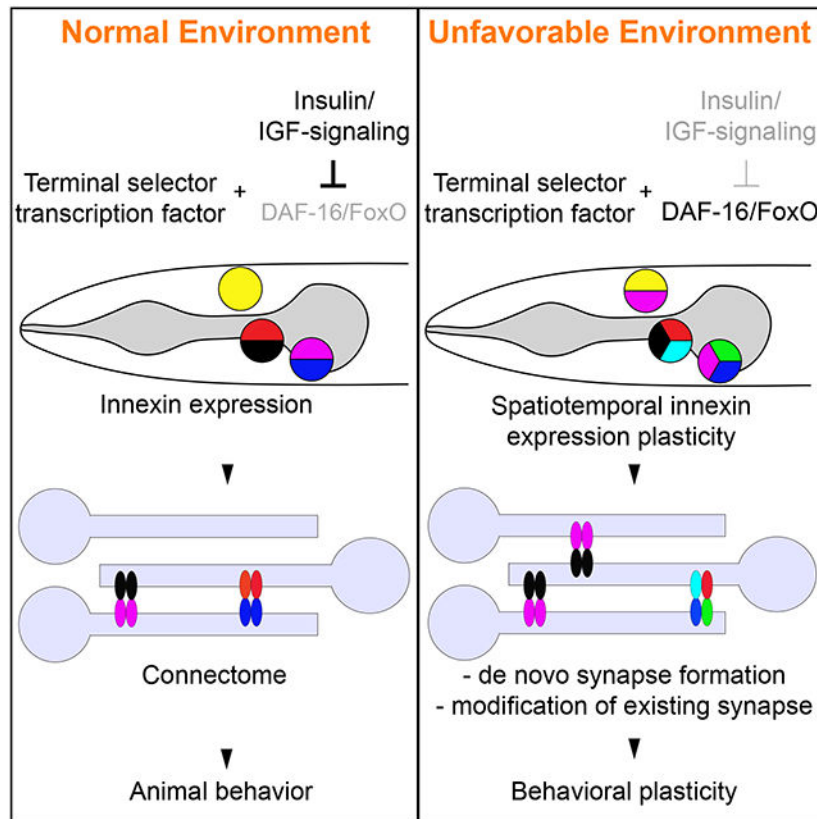
#### AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

A.B. and O.H. designed experiments and oversaw the project. A.B. designed and generated most of the strains. Some innexin fosmid-reporters were generated by E.B. and *daf-16::AID* strain was generated by U.A. A.B. performed all the experiments, except U.A. performed conditional *daf-16* experiments. A.B. and O.H. analyzed, interpreted data and wrote the paper.

**Publisher's Disclaimer:** This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final citable form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

#### DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.



## INTRODUCTION

Understanding the detailed anatomical synaptic wiring of an entire nervous system - its 'connectome' - is an essential first step to elucidate how a nervous system processes information and generates behavior. The adult *C. elegans* hermaphrodite was the first organism for which an entire connectome has been established (White et al., 1986), recently followed by that of a simple chordate, *Ciona intestinalis* (Ryan et al., 2016), and similar efforts are now underway for the *Drosophila* and mouse brains (Helmstaedter et al., 2013; Kasthuri et al., 2015; Takemura et al., 2013). However, defining connectomes by reconstruction of electron micrographs (EM) remains an exceptionally tedious process and limits the ability to analyze the plasticity of the connectome under distinct conditions, on a nervous system wide level. While many dynamic aspects of brain function, from the modulation of behavior to memory formation, are generally appreciated to rely on the alterations of synaptic circuitry (McEwen, 2010; Takeuchi et al., 2014), a nervous system-wide appreciation of the plasticity of neuronal connectomes is still lacking. This paper sets out to start addressing these shortcomings.

Connectomes are defined by two types of synapses, chemical and electrical synapses (gap junctions). While the role of chemical synapses in nervous system function has been widely studied, electrical synapses have received much less attention. The importance of electrical synapses is, however, well documented through genetic analysis in invertebrate and vertebrate nervous system, in which the loss of constituent components of electrical

synapses result in obvious dysfunctions of the nervous system (Abrams and Scherer, 2012; Hall, 2017; Hasegawa and Turnbull, 2014; Song et al., 2016). Unfortunately, since electrical synapses are difficult to detect in currently used high-throughput EM methodologies, a map of electrical synapses (“electrical connectome”) is absent from all currently available large-scale connectomes, except the *C. elegans* connectome. Within the *C. elegans* connectome, electrical synapses are wide-spread: every one of the 118 neuron classes of the *C. elegans* hermaphrodite makes electrical synapses to an average number of 9.7 synaptic partners (range: 1 to 30) (Jarrell et al., 2012; White et al., 1986). Moreover, the patterns of electrical synaptic connectivity show only weak correlation with the patterns of chemical synaptic connectivity (Varshney et al., 2011).

Electrical synapses are composed of two analogous families of transmembrane, pore-forming proteins, connexins in vertebrates (encoded by 21 distinct genes in mammals) and innexins in invertebrates (encoded by 25 genes in *C. elegans*) (Phelan and Starich, 2001; Willecke et al., 2002). Electrical synapses are formed by either homogeneous or heterogeneous combinations of connexins or innexins (Mese et al., 2007; Miller and Pereda, 2017; Phelan and Starich, 2001) (Fig. 1A). This diverse molecular composition is thought to encode: (a) synaptic specificity, i.e. the choice of synaptic partners, based on a matching assembly of innexin proteins in connected neurons; and (b) functional diversity, i.e. electrical synapses with distinct molecular compositions are thought to have different functional properties (Mese et al., 2007; Miller and Pereda, 2017; Sohl et al., 2005). The neuron-type specific patterns of innexin gene expression are therefore a likely determinant of the electrical synapse development and function.

We describe here the expression pattern of all *C. elegans* innexin genes and find that 14 innexin genes are expressed in a highly combinatorial manner in the nervous system. We discover a striking extent of plasticity of neuron-type specific expression of innexin genes in response to environmental cues, thereby predicting a substantial rewiring of the electrical connectome. The adverse environmental conditions we test here are starvation, high population density or increased temperature, which altogether trigger the entry of *C. elegans* larvae into a diapause-arrest stage, the dauer stage (Cassada and Russell, 1975; Fielenbach and Antebi, 2008; Riddle and Albert, 1997). Honing in on a single innexin in a single neuron type, we show that the dauer-specific induction of *inx-6* in the AIB interneuron class is both necessary and sufficient to form multiple *de novo* electrical synapses. We characterize alterations of the locomotory features of dauer-stage animals and demonstrate that some of these locomotory changes, as well as some altered sensory behaviors of dauers, are mediated through the rewiring of specific electrical synapses (including the novel INX-6-mediated electrical synapses of AIB). Lastly, we demonstrate a gene regulatory strategy by which these changes in electrical synaptic connectivity are orchestrated by the constitutive activity of cell type specific homeodomain transcription factors in conjunction with the stress-induced, cell autonomous activation of insulin/IGF-1 target DAF-16/FOXO. Taken together, our findings highlight both the importance and the plasticity of electrical synapses on a systems-wide level, show that this plasticity is encoded at the level of transcriptional regulation and implicate the conserved FoxO transcription factor in the plasticity of synaptic connectivity.

## RESULTS

### A nervous system-wide molecular map of the electrical connectome

Our overall strategy to investigate the plasticity of synaptic wiring was to first establish a map of molecular determinants of synaptic connectivity and to then identify conditions under which the expression of these synaptic connectivity factors are modulated, thereby predicting changes in synaptic connectivity and circuit function. In addition, our implicit approach was to exploit the relative simplicity of the *C. elegans* nervous system to undertake such an analysis on a genome- and nervous system-wide manner. Since electrical synapses are defined by the combinatorial expression of specific innexin proteins (Fig. 1A) (Mese et al., 2007; Miller and Pereda, 2017; Phelan and Starich, 2001), we sought to precisely map the expression of all neuronal innexins.

A previous study using antibody staining revealed that two innexins, INX-21 and INX-22 are exclusively expressed in the gonad and thus are not included here (Starich et al., 2014). For *inx-2* and *inx-6*, fluorescent reporter alleles were generated using CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing (see Methods). For the remaining 21 innexin family genes, we generated fosmid-based reporter constructs (see Methods; schematics of all fosmid reporters and reporter alleles are shown in Fig. 3, S2-3). Three innexin genes, *inx-1*, *inx-10* and *inx-18*, contain alternate splice-isoforms with different 3' end sequences. Independent fosmid reporter constructs were generated to avoid any potential isoform specific expression bias. Among them, expression of *inx-10b* could not be faithfully identified after examining multiple independent transgenic lines and thus deemed not expressed.

We found that 14 innexin genes are expressed in the nervous system during larval and adult stages (Fig. 1, 2, S2-3). Ten of the neuronally expressed genes, *inx-1*, *inx-2*, *che-7*, *inx-7*, *inx-10*, *inx-14*, *inx-18*, *inx-19*, *unc-7* and *unc-9*, were selectively (i.e. non-panneurally) expressed in many (>30) neuron classes, while expression of *inx-5*, *inx-11* and *inx-13* were more restricted (<10 neuron classes). One innexin, *eat-5*, was uniquely expressed in a single neuron class. We also identified distinct expression patterns for specific splice isoforms of *inx-1* and *inx-18* (Fig. 1). Both *inx-1* isoforms were co-expressed broadly in the nervous system, but 15 neuronal classes expressed only one isoform. In contrast, the expression patterns of two *inx-18* isoforms were strikingly different, where *inx-18a* was expressed broadly (in 37 neuron classes) and *inx-18b* expression was restricted to only six neuron classes.

In total, every neuron class expressed at least one innexin gene. Most of the neuron classes expressed multiple innexin genes, with the maximum number being 11 (Fig. 1B). There is very weak positive correlation between the number of innexin genes expressed in a particular neuron class and the number of unique electrical synaptic partners it has (Pearson correlation coefficient 0.126) (Fig. S1A) and very weak anti-correlation between the number of innexin genes expressed and the total electrical synaptic strength (Pearson correlation coefficient - 0.143) (Fig. S1B). Most strikingly, 98 of the 118 *C. elegans* neuron classes express distinct, unique combinations of innexins (Fig. 1B).

The expression pattern of most innexins is stable throughout larval and adult stages under non-crowded, well-fed conditions, but a subset of innexins show dynamic expression in a subset of neurons during L2 to adult development (Table S2). HSN and VC neurons start to express innexins starting at L4 stage when other neuronal features of these neurons mature. Lastly, all innexin genes were expressed in one or more non-neuronal cell types (Fig.S2,S3; Table S1). The expression patterns that we describe have very little overlap with the innexin expression previously reported using very small (1kb or smaller) promoter fusions (Altun et al., 2009), a likely testament of the complexity of *cis*-regulatory control elements of the innexin loci, not captured in the previous study.

### **Widespread changes in the neuron type-specificity of innexin gene expression in dauer stage animals**

Since entry into the dauer stage entails a substantial remodeling of behavior (Cassada and Russell, 1975; Gaglia and Kenyon, 2009; Hallem et al., 2011a; Lee et al., 2012), we reasoned that the connectome of the dauer might also be substantially distinct. Since the availability of innexins in a cell is expected to have a profound impact on synaptic specificity and properties (Mese et al., 2007; Miller and Pereda, 2017; Sohl et al., 2005), we investigated the expression patterns of innexins in dauer as proxy for the electrical synaptic connectivity. We found that 11 of the 14 innexin genes expressed in the nervous system in larval and adult stages show striking neuron-specific expression plasticity (Fig.1,2,S1). This includes one innexin gene, *eat-5*, which is exclusively expressed in AWA in non-dauer stage is turned off upon entry into the dauer stage. In striking contrast, another innexin gene, *inx-6*, is expressed only in the dauer nervous system (discussed later in detail). Overall, 86 of the 118 neuron classes show expression change in the dauer stage (Fig.1,2,S1,S2). The maximum number of changes in innexins expression in a neuron class is three (Fig.1,2,S1).

Several aspects of the innexin expression plasticity are of particular note. Firstly, expression of distinct innexin genes could be altered in an opposing manner in a particular neuron class when animals go into dauer arrest (Fig.1,2). For example, *unc-7* expression was downregulated, while *che-7* expression was simultaneously upregulated in the lateral IL2 neuron pair (Fig.2B,C). Secondly, expression of a particular innexin gene could change in opposing manner in distinct neuronal classes during dauer molt (Fig.1,2). For example, in dauer, *unc-7* expression was downregulated in pharyngeal I2 neuron, while simultaneously upregulated in another pharyngeal neuron NSM (Fig.2D). Thirdly, expression of specific splice isoforms of a particular innexin gene could be independently altered in distinct neuronal classes in dauer. For example, *inx-1a*, but not *inx-1b* expression was specifically downregulated in the lateral IL2 neurons in dauer (Fig.1).

We conclude that the nervous system of *C. elegans* undergoes a widespread remodeling of innexin expression pattern. These changes in expression may trigger changes in synaptic partner choice, prompted by the loss or gain of specific innexin genes, or changes in the signaling properties of the existing electrical synapses through changes in their molecular composition.

## Formation of INX-6-containing electrical synapses in AIB interneurons in dauer stage animals

A fosmid-based *inx-6* reporter transgene, *otIs473*, and a genome-engineered SL2-based “transcriptional” *inx-6* reporter allele, *ot804* are expressed in non-neuronal pharyngeal cells (Fig.3A), as previously reported (Li et al., 2003). We found that during the dauer molt, the *inx-6* reporter allele, *ot804*, was additionally turned on in a single pair of interneurons, AIB (Fig.3B). This dauer-specific expression of *inx-6* was reversible and disappeared from AIB when dauer animals resume development under favorable conditions (Fig.3B). *inx-6* expression was also turned on in AIB during L1-diapause (L1d), which was reversible and disappeared upon feeding (Fed-L1) (Fig.3B). This observation was confirmed using single molecule fluorescence in situ hybridization (smFISH) (Fig.3C,D).

To determine whether the *inx-6* expression in AIB during dauer resulted in punctate localization of the protein characteristic of electrical synaptic contacts, we engineered a *gfp* protein-fusion allele of *inx-6*, *ot805* (Fig.3A). Since this allele does not show the lethality associated with the loss of *inx-6* function (Li et al., 2003), *gfp*-tagging does not appear to grossly interfere with *inx-6* function. In *inx-6(ot805)* animals, punctate *gfp* expression was observed in the pharyngeal muscles in all stages, while in dauer and L1d animals distinct GFP puncta were localized along the AIB processes in positions that were stereotypic across different animals (Fig.3E,G). These results suggest that the expression of an innexin gene, *inx-6*, is dynamically regulated in the dauer nervous system and potentially leads to the formation of either novel synaptic contacts or changes the composition of already existing AIB electrical synapses (made with several distinct synaptic partners according to EM analysis) (White et al., 1986).

## INX-6 expressed in AIB functions with CHE-7 in BAG to form new electrical synapses in dauer stage animals

We next set out to analyze the INX-6 puncta formed in the AIB neurons in dauer. We first examined the large INX-6 puncta observed at the crossover points of the two bilaterally symmetric AIB processes, suggesting the formation of electrical synapses between these two neurons (such auto-synapses are not observed in non-dauer animals) (Jarrell et al., 2012; White et al., 1986). To test this hypothesis, we surgically removed one of the bilateral AIB neurons and found that such ablation leads to selective loss of the INX-6 puncta at the points where the AIB neuronal processes normally cross (Fig.3F,H). This result suggests that the bilateral AIB neurons may electrically couple selectively in dauer.

To characterize the other highly stereotyped INX-6 puncta along the AIB processes, we set out to identify innexins that may partner with INX-6 in *trans* across an electrical synapse. We based our search on two criteria: (1) the puncta formed by the partner innexin should colocalize with the INX-6 puncta and (2) formation of the INX-6 puncta should depend on the presence of such partner innexin, as shown for other heterotypic gap junctions (Starich et al., 2009). In line with these criteria, we found: (1) TagRFP-tagged CHE-7 protein expressed from a fosmid-based reporter, co-localized with the INX-6 puncta in dauer at two distinct positions along the AIBL and AIBR processes, away from the crossover points (Fig.4A,B) and (2) loss of *che-7* results in specific loss of INX-6 puncta only at these distinct positions,

but not at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points (Fig.4C,D). These results suggest that CHE-7 acts as the INX-6 partner to form electrical synapses specifically in AIB neurons in dauers. Moreover, *che-7*, although broadly expressed, is not expressed in AIB in both non-dauers and dauers (Fig.1), indicating that CHE-7 is expressed in the putative AIB synaptic partner neurons and interacts with INX-6 *in trans* across the synapse.

To identify the putative AIB synaptic partners, we reasoned that *che-7* expression in such a partner neuron should be (a) sufficient to rescue the loss of INX-6 puncta in the *che-7* mutant dauer and (b) should co-localize with the INX-6 puncta. To address this, we generated a fosmid-based bi-cistronic reporter that allowed independent visualization of the membrane-localized TagRFP-tagged CHE-7, while simultaneously allowed identification of the *che-7* expressing neurons based on the nuclear-localized YFP (Fig. 4E). Corroborating our premise, expression of this *che-7* reporter in *che-7* mutant dauers was sufficient to rescue the two CHE-7-associated INX-6 puncta and showed colocalization of the CHE-7::TagRFP with INX-6::GFP. Mimicking the transcriptional *che-7* fosmid reporter, this bi-cistronic fosmid reporter also showed broad expression in the nervous system (Fig.1B,4E,S2). To narrow down to the putative CHE-7-expressing AIB-synaptic partner, we gradually divided the *cis*-regulatory region driving the expression of the bi-cistronic *che-7* reporter cassette. A 304bp minimal *cis*-regulatory region that was expressed in five sensory neuron pairs (ASG, AWC, AFD, ASE and BAG) was sufficient to rescue the INX-6 puncta in *che-7* mutant dauers and showed colocalization of CHE-7 with INX-6 (Fig.4E). We found that the AWC and AFD axons are not in proximity to the INX-6 puncta (Fig.4F,G). Single neuron specific expression of the *che-7* reporter cassette showed that *che-7* expression in the BAG neuron alone was sufficient to rescue the INX-6 puncta in *che-7* mutant dauer and showed colocalization of CHE-7 with INX-6 (Fig.4H). Moreover, INX-6 puncta also colocalized with BAG axon marker in dauer (Fig.4I) as well as in L1d (Fig.4J). BAG and AIB projections also came into contact with each other at similar positions (Fig.4K). Furthermore, the two CHE-7-associated INX-6 puncta were lost in dauers mutant for *ets-5*, an ETS domain transcription factor required for the BAG neuron differentiation (Guillermin et al., 2011), while the INX-6 puncta at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points remained unaffected (Fig.4L).

At the adult stage AIB and BAG do not form any electrical synapses, as inferred from the serial section EM reconstruction (White et al., 1986). Analyzing existing EM serial sections of adult animals, we found that the AIB and BAG neuronal processes are directly adjacent to each other at positions similar to the site of INX-6-mediated putative electrical synapse formation in dauer (Fig.4M), indicating that the absence of AIB and BAG electrical synapses in non-dauer animals may solely be the result of the absence of INX-6 expression. We indeed found that ectopic expression of *inx-6* in AIB in non-dauer is sufficient to form CHE-7-dependent puncta at the BAG-AIB contact points (Fig.4N-P) as well as at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points Fig.4N,O). These results together suggest that the regulation of *inx-6* expression in AIB is both necessary and sufficient for the induction of potential BAG-AIB electrical synapses.

Whether CHE-7 and INX-6 are the only components of a putative BAG-AIB electrical synapse will require future *in vitro* studies, which will also be required to characterize

functional features of such a synapse. In the course of identifying CHE-7 as the likely trans-synaptic partner for INX-6, we also analyzed the localization pattern of several additional, AIB and/or BAG-expressed innexin proteins (INX-1, UNC-7, UNC-9) and found neither of them to be colocalizing with the CHE-7-INX-6 puncta. The BAG-AIB synapse may therefore be composed of a homomeric CHE-7 hemichannel in BAG and a homomeric INX-6 hemichannel in AIB.

### Dauer animals display distinctive locomotory behaviors

Having defined the system wide changes in innexin expression as well as specific changes of the electrical connectome in the dauer stage, we sought to define the physiological relevance of these changes. Several changes in the behavior of dauer animals have been described before. For example, dauers exhibit prolonged bouts of spontaneous quiescence (Gaglia and Kenyon, 2009), a strong reduction in pharyngeal pumping rate (Cassada and Russell, 1975) and nictation behavior (Cassada and Russell, 1975; Lee et al., 2012). We sought to further expand the known repertoire of altered behaviors of dauers by quantitatively assessing the locomotory patterns of dauer and non-dauer animals using an automated Wormtracker system (Yemini et al., 2013). Specifically, we compared three different stages and states: (1) Wild-type Bristol N2 strain animals in the dauer stage, induced under standardized starvation, crowding and high-temperature conditions. (2) Animals in L3 larval stage (Fed-L3), which animals enter instead of the dauer stage under favorable conditions. (3) To assess the impact of starvation alone, we also analyzed L3 animals after a 4h-8h interval with no food (starved-L3).

Principal component analysis (PCA) of 195 locomotory behavioral features revealed that the behaviors of dauer, fed- and starved-L3 animals could be clustered in distinct, separate groups (Fig.5A,B; Table S3). Three different patterns of changes could be observed (Fig.5; Table S4). In pattern #1, dauers differ from both fed-L3s and starved-L3s. Examples include head bend amplitude (Fig.5C,D) and omega turn behavior, where animals change direction by attaining an intermediate omega symbol ( $\Omega$ ) like posture, and is often associated with the initiation of backing (Fig.5C,E). Dauers performed omega turns less frequently than both fed- and starved-L3s (Fig.5E). In pattern #2, both starved-L3s and dauers differ from fed-L3s in a similar manner. Examples include coiling and backward motion behaviors (Fig.5C,F,G). We found that both starved-L3s and dauers performed coiling much less frequently and showed much less backward motion. Finally, in pattern #3, we observed both dauers and fed-L3s differ from starved-L3s in a similar manner. Examples include foraging, pausing and forward motion behaviors (Fig.5C,H-K). The behavioral differences discussed in pattern #3 indicate that the prolonged starvation-induced habituation may influence dauers to behave as fed-L3s for certain aspects of the dauer behavior, such as food search behavior.

### *inx-6* and *che-7* affect locomotory and chemotaxis behavior specifically in dauer

To assess whether formation of the dauer-specific putative *de novo* INX-6 electrical synapses attributes new functions to AIB, we first assessed the consequences of AIB removal through caspase-driven genetic ablation of AIB (Wang et al., 2017). In fed and starved non-dauers, consistent with the previous reports (Gray et al., 2005), AIB-ablation



severely affected backward locomotion and subsequently enhanced forward locomotion (Fig.S4E-J). However, AIB acquires novel functions in dauer locomotory behavior. As shown above in Fig.5, dauers showed a distinctive extent of pausing, forward and backward locomotion compared to non-dauer L3-staged animals and ablation of AIB affected all three of these behaviors (Fig.6A-C,S4A,C).

To address the role of *inx-6* in the functional plasticity of AIB, we tested the locomotion of *inx-6* mutant dauers. Since *inx-6* loss-of function mutation is L1 lethal, we used a temperature-sensitive allele of *inx-6*, *inx-6(rr5)*, for the dauer locomotion assay (Li et al., 2003). In addition, to assess the role of INX-6 specifically in AIB, we generated an *inx-6(AIB OFF)* allele that removes *inx-6* expression exclusively in the AIB neurons, leaving the pharyngeal expression intact (discussed later in detail). Dauers mutant with either of the *inx-6* alleles, showed pausing and forward locomotion defects similar to the AIB-ablated dauers, however, did not affect the backward locomotion, which was also affected by AIB-ablation (Fig.6A-F). Dauers mutant for *che-7*, the innexin partner of *inx-6*, were similarly defective for the same locomotory features (Fig.6A-F). Consistent with the observation that *inx-6* is only expressed in the nervous system in dauers, *inx-6* mutations did not affect the pausing or forward locomotion in fed or starved non-dauers (Fig.6G-I,S4E-J).

Since ectopic expression of *inx-6* in AIB was sufficient to form putative electrical synapses in non-dauer stages (Fig.4N), we next asked whether these ectopic electrical synapses were also sufficient to alter non-dauer locomotion. We indeed found that the AIB-specific ectopic *inx-6* expression reduced pausing and enhanced forward locomotion in non-dauers Fig.6G-I), indicating that the induction of an innexin gene expression in a specific neuronal class is both necessary and sufficient to modify the electrical connectome to produce a behavioral output.

We tested additional functions of *inx-6*, now in the context of processing BAG-dependent sensory responses. *C. elegans* in non-dauer stage displays a robust chemotactic avoidance response when subjected to a CO<sub>2</sub>-gradient, which is sensed mainly through BAG (Hallem et al., 2011b). In contrast, dauers are attracted to high concentrations of CO<sub>2</sub> in a BAG-dependent manner (Hallem et al., 2011a). Based on the findings described above, we asked whether the putative dauer-specific, CHE-7/INX-6 dependent BAG-AIB synapse also contribute to CO<sub>2</sub> chemotaxis of dauer. Indeed, loss of either *inx-6* or *che-7* reduced CO<sub>2</sub> attraction in dauer, but had no effect on CO<sub>2</sub> avoidance in non-dauers (Fig.6J-L). We also found that the effect of *inx-6* and *che-7* mutation was specific to CO<sub>2</sub> chemotaxis and did not affect the overall chemotactic ability of dauers (Fig.S4K-O). However, unlike locomotory behaviors, AIB-specific ectopic expression of *inx-6* in non-dauer stages had no effect on CO<sub>2</sub> chemotaxis (Fig.6K), suggesting a permissive, but not an instructive role of the putative INX-6-CHE-7 electrical synapses in the CO<sub>2</sub> chemotaxis circuit.

### **Downregulation of *unc-7* expression in AVA interneurons is required for normal dauer locomotion**

Moving beyond the paradigm of the induction of expression of an innexin (and the ensuing establishment of new electrical synapses), we assessed the physiological consequences of the dauer-specific suppression of an innexin. The innexin gene, *unc-7*, is expressed, among

many other neurons, in the AVA command interneurons of the *C. elegans* motor circuit, where it is required to control the balance of forward and backward locomotion (Fig.1B,6M) (Kawano et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2017; Starich et al., 2009). We found that *unc-7* expression was specifically downregulated in AVA in dauer (Fig.1B,6M), suggesting a remodeling of the many electrical synapses that AVA normally makes (White et al., 1986). To test the functional significance of this downregulation, we ectopically maintained *unc-7* expression in AVA in dauer and asked which of the dauer-specific locomotory behavioral alterations are potentially reverted back to a more non-dauer state. Multiple distinct parameters that measure the agility of worms are increased in dauers (Fig.5, Table S4) and we found that transgenic, dauer-stage animals force-expressing *unc-7* in AVA showed reduced agility, reminiscent of the non-dauer stage (Fig.6N,O). Taken together, remodeling of the electrical synapses of the AVA neurons predicted upon *unc-7* downregulation is partly responsible for the remodeling of locomotory behavior of dauers.

### DAF-16/FoxO intersects with terminal selector function to ensure dauer-specificity of innexin expression

To understand the regulatory logic of the condition-specific innexin expression plasticity, we returned to the *inx-6* locus, analyzing its *cis*-regulatory control elements. We generated transgenic animals carrying reporter transgenes containing various fragments of the *inx-6* *cis*-regulatory region and compared their expression with the *inx-6* reporter allele, *ot804* and the fosmid reporter, *otIs473* (Fig.7A). We identified a 144bp region containing required *cis*-regulatory information for dauer-specific AIB expression (Fig.7A). This region contains predicted homeodomain binding site that is completely conserved in multiple nematode species (TAATTA). Through a systematic analysis of homeobox gene expression using fosmid-based reporters (unpubl. data), we identified the paired-type homeodomain transcription factor *unc-42*, related to mammalian Prop1 (Baran et al., 1999), to be expressed in AIB throughout the life of the animal in both dauer and non-dauer stage animals (Fig.7C). The expression of *inx-6* reporter transgenes was lost in AIB in *unc-42* mutant background (Fig.7B). We deleted the predicted UNC-42 binding site in the genome in the context of the *inx-6* transcriptional reporter allele, *ot804* (Fig.7A). These alleles were specifically defective for *inx-6* expression in AIB in dauer and L1d, while expression in the pharyngeal muscles remained unaffected (Fig.7G), corroborating the requirement of UNC-42 in the spatial regulation of *inx-6*. This allele constitutes the *inx-6(AIB OFF)* allele described above.

*unc-42* not only affects the dauer-specific *inx-6* expression in AIB but also affects other genes expressed constitutively in both dauer and non-dauer AIB neurons, including *eat-4/VGLUT*, *odr-2* and neuropeptide receptor *npr-9* (Fig.7D-F), indicating that *unc-42* may be a terminal selector that specifies AIB identity. However, the dauer-specificity of *inx-6* induction suggests that *unc-42* alone is not sufficient to turn on *inx-6* expression but requires dauer-specific regulatory inputs. To investigate those, we turned to the insulin/IGF-1 signaling pathway, a major determinant of the dauer arrest mechanism (Fielenbach and Antebi, 2008). In non-dauer animals, the insulin/IGF-1 signaling pathway suppresses the nuclear translocation of the DAF-16/FOXO transcription factor. In dauer animals, insulin/IGF-1 signaling is downregulated leading to nuclear translocation of DAF-16, where it regulates many different target genes in diverse tissue types (Fielenbach and Antebi,

2008). To assess the involvement of *daf-16*, we examined *inx-6* expression in *daf-16* mutant animals that were forced into dauer by simultaneously mutating the *daf-7/TGF $\beta$*  endocrine signaling pathway (Lee et al., 2001). In these double mutant dauers *inx-6* expression was not induced in AIB, demonstrating that *daf-16* is required for the dauer-specific *inx-6* expression (Fig. 7H). To assess the focus of action of DAF-16, we removed DAF-16 exclusively in AIB. To this end, we engineered an Auxin-Inducible-Degron (AID)-tag (Zhang et al., 2015) and fluorescent reporter gene into the *daf-16* locus. The resulting *daf-16(ot853)* allele allowed us to follow DAF-16 localization dynamics in the nervous system and to degrade DAF-16 with spatiotemporal precision. During dauer stage, DAF-16::mNeonGreen showed the expected nuclear translocation. AIB-specific expression of TIR1 in conjunction with the auxin treatment cell-autonomously depleted DAF-16 only in AIB, but did not affect dauer formation (Fig. 7I) and at the same time prevented *inx-6* expression in dauer (Fig. 7I,J). These results demonstrate that the environmentally controlled insulin/IGF-1 signaling pathway leads to altered DAF-16 activity in AIB, where it cell-autonomously induces *inx-6* expression in dauer.

## DISCUSSION

While there is a general appreciation of the importance of establishing synaptic connectivity diagrams, much of past and present analysis of connectomes focuses on chemical synapses, even though the importance of electrical synapses in nervous system function has been made apparent by a number of genetic loss of function studies (Abrams and Scherer, 2012; Hall, 2017; Hasegawa and Turnbull, 2014; Marder et al., 2017; Song et al., 2016; White and Paul, 1999). Through the establishment of a nervous system wide map of innexin expression, as well as its dynamic modulation under specific environmental conditions, we have laid here the groundwork to understand a number of distinct features of the electrical connectome. First, it is generally thought that the formation of electrical synapses is encoded by the neuron-type-specific expression of matching homo- or heteromeric hemichannels, which recognize each other in *trans* to assemble into a functional electrical synapse. Second, the specific composition of an electrical synapse is thought to determine specific conductive properties (Mese et al., 2007; Miller and Pereda, 2017; Sohl et al., 2005). For example, the widespread electrical connectivity of neurons in the *C. elegans* nervous system clearly indicates that information flow through many of the electrical synapses must be directional and such directionality is likely encoded by the specific molecular composition of individual synapses.

As a prerequisite to address these two issues, we identified the complex innexin expression code of the *C. elegans* nervous system. 14 out of 25 innexin genes in the *C. elegans* genome are expressed in 98 distinct combinations in the 118 distinct neuron classes of the worm. Some innexins are expressed very broadly in the nervous system, some much more restrictively. Alternate splice isoforms of a single innexin can be expressed in distinct neuronal classes. Furthermore, the number of distinct innexin genes present in a particular neuronal class also varied greatly. Whereas ASK and RIM neuron classes express the maximum of 11 innexins, the I6 neuron class expresses only one innexin. We hypothesize that this distinct neuron-specific combinatorial innexin expression code may be a key underlying determinant for the establishment of the electrical connectome and may further

provide neurons with the ability to form electrical synapses with potentially synapse-specific conductance, which depends on the specific innexin composition.

We have shown that the innexin expression code of the nervous system is not static but rather subjected to widespread, substantial alteration when developing *C. elegans* larvae encounter harsh environmental conditions and enter the dauer diapause stage. In the dauer nervous system, the expression of 12 out of 14 neuronal innexins is altered in 86 out of 118 neuron classes. Additionally, one non-neuronal innexin gene, *inx-6*, is also switched on in the dauer nervous system. Often the expression of an innexin is turned on in some neuron classes while simultaneously turned off in others. Some neuron classes simultaneously upregulate one innexin and downregulate another to change their innexin expression code. Changing the expression of innexins in a given neuron class could lead to an alteration (gain and/or loss) of synaptic partners and/or it may lead to changes in the composition of existing synaptic contacts. In either case, these changes are predicted to have an impact on information flow in the nervous system. In one such example, the upregulation of *inx-6* in AIB, results in the potential generation of a novel electrical synaptic connection. It will require the EM reconstruction of the entire nervous system of dauer stage animals to assess the extent of altered synaptic partner choice. Our expression map of innexins provides the foundation to understand the molecular mechanisms of structural rewiring observed by such anatomical analysis.

To provide functional correlates to changes in the electrical connectome, we analyzed locomotory behavior of dauers and discovered specific patterns of alteration compared to developmental stage matched non-dauer animals. Notably, although we obtained dauers under prolonged starvation condition (accompanied by high population density and temperature), some aspects of dauer behavior were more similar to satiated non-dauer animals than to short-term starved non-dauer animals, suggesting long term adaptations to starvation. Several changes in locomotory behavior are, however, clearly dauer-specific and fall in line with the previously reported behavioral alteration of dauer stage animals (Cassada and Russell, 1975; Gaglia and Kenyon, 2009; Lee et al., 2012). We have linked here some these behavioral alterations to alteration of distinct innexin expressions in specific neuron types.

Our findings suggest that the plasticity of electrical synaptic connectivity is encoded on the level of transcriptional gene regulation. Electrical synapse assembly and function is known to be regulated by a number of additional mechanisms (O'Brien, 2014; Thevenin et al., 2013) and our description of gene expression changes of innexins only describes the first layer of regulation of the electrical connectome. Our characterization of such transcriptional dynamics offers a unique opportunity to study the plasticity of gene expression in mature post-mitotic neurons. We have provided here mechanistic insights into how the gene expression plasticity of innexins is controlled. For all neuronal classes studied in *C. elegans*, expression and maintenance of the neuron type specific terminal fate makers are governed by continuously expressed terminal selector type transcription factors (Hobert, 2016). Apart from controlling several invariant features of AIB identity, we found that the AIB-specific induction of *inx-6* also depends on the *unc-42* terminal selector. The condition-specific (i.e. dauer-specific) alteration in innexin expression is controlled by the cell-autonomous

inactivation of insulin/IGF-1 signaling and resultant activation of DAF-16/FOXO, a protein previously implicated in controlling other aspects of neuronal plasticity in multiple distinct organisms (McLaughlin and Broihier, 2018). An intersectional gene regulatory strategy, involving a “hardwired” neuronal identity program combined with a condition-specific program, may constitute a generalizable mechanism for how the environment can control neuronal plasticity with cellular specificity.

## STAR METHODS

### CONTACT FOR REAGENT AND RESOURCE SHARING

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Oliver Hobert (or38@columbia.edu).

### EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

***C. elegans* strains and handling**—Mutant alleles used in this study include *daf-2(e1370)*, *daf-7(e1372)*, *daf-16(mgDf50)*, *unc-42(e419)*, *inx-6(rr5)* (6x outcrossed), *che-7(ok2373)* (6x outcrossed) and *ets-5(tm1794)*. A complete list of strains and transgenes used in this study is listed in the Key Resource Table. Worms were grown at 20-22°C on nematode growth media (NGM) plates seeded with *E. coli* (OP50) bacteria as a food source (Brenner, 1974), unless otherwise mentioned. Worms were maintained according to standard protocol. Wild-type strain used is the *C. elegans* variety Bristol, strain N2. We induced dauer arrest under standardized starvation, crowding and high-temperature conditions. In detail, we put 8-10 L4-stage animals on a regular 6cm NGM-plates seeded with *E. coli* (OP50) bacteria and incubated at 25°C. Dauers start appearing after 7/8 days and after 10/11 days plates contained plenty of dauers, which were picked for experiments.

### METHOD DETAIL

#### Cloning and constructs

**Transcriptional fosmid reporter clones:** Fosmid clones typically contained ~30-40kb genomic region including the corresponding gene sequence and ~10-20kb flanking sequences on either side (see schematics in Fig.4,7,S2,S3). Fosmid clones are thought to include all the necessary *cis*-regulatory information for the endogenous gene expression. The *sl2*-based transcriptional innexin fosmid reporters was generated by recombining an *SL2* trans-splicing sequence followed by a fluorescent reporter cassette containing the *yfp*-gene sequence tagged with an NLS and a histone (H2B) at the 3' end of the respective gene locus just after the stop codon, using fosmid recombineering (Tursun et al., 2009). These so-called “transcriptional reporters” allowed nuclear localized H2B-tagged YFP reporter protein expression independent of the membrane localized innexin protein expression, facilitating neuronal identification.

***inx-19* fosmid extension:** Fosmid clone WRM0632bE10 in pCC1FOS was digested with *Apa*LI and self-ligated to get a subclone containing 30kb genomic fragment (*inx-19* locus, 2.3kb sequence 5' and 8kb sequence 3' to the *inx-19* locus). This subclone was linearized with *Bam*HI digestion (–2320 from *inx-19* ATG) and a 9944bp genomic sequence was

inserted in using Gibson assembly (NEB, Cat. # E2621S). This final fosmid clone contained *inx-19* locus, 12.3kb sequence 5' and 8kb sequence 3' to the *inx-19* locus.

**che-7 bi-cistronic fosmid reporter clone:** The fosmid-based bi-cistronic *che-7* reporter construct was generated by recombining *tagrfp*-gene sequence followed by an SL2 trans-splicing sequence separated H2B-tagged *yfp* cassette (*tagrfp::SI2::NLS::yfp::H2B* cassette) at the 3' end of the *che-7* gene locus right before the stop codon, using fosmid recombineering (Tursun et al., 2009). This reporter allowed independent visualization of the membrane-localized TagRFP-tagged CHE-7, while simultaneously allowed identification of the *che-7* expressing neurons based on the nuclear-localized H2B-tagged YFP reporter protein expression.

**Translational fosmid reporter clones:** The *inx-3*, *inx-9* and *inx-17* translational fosmid reporter constructs were kindly provided by the TransgeneOme project (Sarov et al., 2012). *gfp* was recombined right before the stop codon of the locus. A detailed list of fosmids generated is provided in *C. elegans* strains (Fig.S5).

**CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing:** Fluorescent knock-in alleles of *inx-2* and *inx-6* or mutant allele of *inx-6* was generated using CRISPR/Cas9-triggered homologous recombination based on co-CRISPR method (Kim et al., 2014). See schematics in (Fig. 3 and S2).

**Generation of *daf-16(ot853[daf-16[daf-16::mNG::3XFLAG::AID]* allele:** CRISPR/Cas9-mediated genome editing using a self-excising cassette (SEC) as previously described (Dickinson et al., 2015). We modified the pDD268 plasmid (developed in (Dickinson et al., 2015)), which contains the mNeonGreen (mNG) fluorescent reporter cassette, to include the Auxin Inducible Degron (AID)(Zhang et al., 2015) after the 3xFLAG tag. We inserted this mNG::3xFLAG::AID tag right before the stop codon of the *daf-16* gene locus to produce mNG::AID fused DAF-16 protein. This tagging captures all DAF-16 isoforms, since they have a common C-terminus.

To generate *npr-9p::tagrfp*, a 1.7kb *cis*-regulatory region (-1689 to 0) was fused with *tagrfp::unc-54 3' UTR* sequence using PCR fusion.

To generate *ets-5p::tagrfp*, a 3.3kb *cis*-regulatory region (-3276 to 0) was fused with *tagrfp::unc-54 3' UTR* sequence using PCR fusion.

**cis-regulatory analysis of *inx-6* locus:** All reporter transgenes for *cis*-regulatory analysis of *inx-6* locus were generated using a PCR fusion approach (Hobert, 2002) using *tagrfp*-coding sequence. Schematics and coordinates of reporter constructs with respect to ATG were indicated in Fig. 7A. 2 to 3 independent transgenic reporter lines with similar expressivity and penetrance were scored.

**cis-regulatory analysis of *che-7* locus:** All reporter transgenes for *cis*-regulatory analysis of *che-7* locus were generated by amplifying indicated regions from the bi-cistronic *che-7<sup>fosmid</sup>::tagrfp::SI2::NLS::yfp::H2B* fosmid clone.

For neuron specific expression of *che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B*, total cDNA was synthesized using oligo(dT)<sub>20</sub> primer and SuperScript III First-Strand Synthesis System, according to the Invitrogen protocol. *che-7* cDNA was amplified using primers: 5' ATGCCAGAAAACAACTTCAATTGG 3' and 5' CAAATCTAGAAGAGAACTGGC 3' and cloned into pMiniT 2.0 vector (NEB). *tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B* cassette was amplified from the bi-cistronic *che-7<sup>fosmid</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B* fosmid clone and introduced in the pMiniT- *che-7<sup>DNA</sup>* clone right before the *che-7* stop codon to get the pMiniT-*che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B* clone using Gibson assembly. 3311bp *flp-17p* [BAG specific], 897bp *gcy-8p* [AFD specific] and 1380bp *che-1pA* [ASE specific] was introduced right before the *che-7* ATG using Gibson assembly. *Cell specific prom::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B::che-7 3' UTR* was amplified from the final clone and injected to get transgenic animals. 2 to 3 independent transgenic reporter lines with similar expressivity and penetrance were scored.

To generate *flp-18p::unc-7::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B*, *unc-7::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B unc-7 3' UTR* cassette was amplified from the *unc-7::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B* fosmid clone using upstream primer 5' TAACACGAACCCGGGATGCTCGGCTCCTCCAGCAA 3' (this also introduces a SmaI cut site right before the *unc-7* ATG) and downstream primer 5' CCTCAAATTGAGCCCATCAG 3' and sub-cloned into pTOPO XL vector (Invitrogen). This construct was linearized using SmaI digestion and 3117bp *flp-18p* sequence was introduced before the *unc-7* coding sequence using Gibson assembly.

**Microscopy**—Worms were anesthetized using 100mM of sodium azide and mounted on 5% agarose on glass slides. Images were recorded using either Zeiss 880 confocal laser-scanning microscope or Zeiss Axio Imager Z2 wide field fluorescent microscope. Images were analyzed by scanning the full Z-stack using Zeiss Zen software. Maximum intensity projections constructed using NIH Fiji software of representative images were shown. Figures were prepared using Adobe Photoshop CS6 and Adobe Illustrator CS6. Separate channels were usually adjusted independently using Levels and Curves in Adobe Photoshop.

**Expression analysis and neuron identification**—Reporter expression analysis were determined by confocal microscopy and scored in a binary manner; if fluorescent signals were observed in a cell type at whatever brightness, the reporter was scored as “expressed”. We entirely relied on reporter-based expression analysis (either fosmid-based on CRISRP/ Cas9-mediated insertion of fluorophore into respective locus) since dauer-stage animals do not lend themselves to antibody or FISH-based mRNA detection protocols due to their cuticle structure.

Cell identification for reporter expression was done by Nomarski optics and crossing with neuronal landmark reporter strains, primarily fosmid reporters of *eat-4 (otIs518[eat-4<sup>fosmid</sup>::SL2::NLS::cherry::H2B, pha-1(+)]* and *otIs388[eat-4<sup>fosmid</sup>::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B, pha-1(+)]*, *cho-1 (otIs544[cho-1<sup>fosmid</sup>::SL2::NLS::cherry::H2B, pha-1(+)]* and *unc-47 (otIs564[unc-47<sup>fosmid</sup>::SL2::NLS::cherry::H2B, pha-1(+)]*, and promoter-fusion reporter of *rab-3 (otIs355[rab-3p::NLS::tagrfp])* (Gendrel et al., 2016; Pereira et al., 2015; Serrano-Saiz

et al., 2013; Stefanakis et al., 2015). Expression in a subset of sensory neurons was identified additionally by dye filling with DiD (Thermo Fisher Scientific) and individual IDs were confirmed with neuron-type specific drivers: for AWA: *otIs335[odr-2p::mCherry; pRF4 (rol-6)]*, for BAG: *otEx7230[ets-5p::tagrfp; pRF4 (rol-6)]* and *ynIs64[flp-17p::gfp]*, for AIB: *otIs643[npr-9p::tagrfp; pRF4 (rol-6)]*. A precise description is provided in Supplemental Fig. S5.

We ascribe the differences in gene expression patterns compared to a previous analysis (Altun et al., 2009) to the fundamentally different nature of our reporter. The previous analysis used small (1kb or less) 5' promoter fusions, while our expression patterns are based on fosmid-based reporters and/or CRISPR-mediated fluorophore insertions into innexin loci. Fosmid-based reporter typically include several up- and downstream genes and therefore contain all intergenic regions of the relevant locus (including all introns), therefore capturing more cis-regulatory elements than small 5' promoter fusions do.

**C. *elegans* electrical synapse connectome**—The electrical synapse network diagram was drawn using open source software, Cytoscape ([www.cytoscape.org](http://www.cytoscape.org)) based on synaptic connectivity data obtained from serial section reconstruction of electron micrographs (TEM) collected in MRC/LMB and rescored in Emmons and Hall lab (Jarrell et al., 2012; White et al., 1986).

**Single molecule fluorescence in situ hybridization (smFISH)**—smFISH analysis was performed as previously described (Ji and van Oudenaarden, 2012). The *inx-6* probes were designed by using the Stellaris RNA FISH probe designer. Purified probes conjugated to Quasar 670 dye were obtained from Biosearch Technologies. Briefly, probes were dissolved in RNase-free TE buffer (10 mM Tris-HCl, 1 mM EDTA, pH 8.0) to create a 250  $\mu$ M probe stock. Animals were washed with M9 buffer (3 g  $\text{KH}_2\text{PO}_4$ , 6 g  $\text{Na}_2\text{HPO}_4$ , 5 g NaCl, 1 ml 1 M  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , 0.1% Tween-20 in 1 L  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$ ) were fixed with 3.7% formaldehyde in 1X PBS with at room temperature (RT) for 45 min. After fixation, samples were washed with PBS X2 and resuspended in 70% ethanol, and stored overnight at 4°C with gentle agitation. Ethanol was removed and samples incubated in wash buffer (2X SSC, 10% deionized formamide in nuclease-free water) for 2-5 min at RT. Samples were hybridized with *inx-6* probes in hybridization solution (0.1% Dextran sulfate, 2X SSC, 10% deionized formamide in nuclease-free water) overnight at 37°C. After probe addition, samples were kept in the dark for all incubations and washes. Samples were incubated in wash buffer for 30 min at 37°C, followed by another incubation in wash buffer for 30 min at 37°C with 5 ng/mL diamidinophenylindole (DAPI) for nuclear staining. Samples were rinsed in 2X SSC followed by a quick rinse in GLOX anti-fade buffer (0.4% glucose, 10 mM Tris-HCl pH 8.0, 2X SSC, containing Glucose oxidase and Catalase) Finally, samples were mounted on slides for imaging.

**Automated worm tracking**—Automated single worm tracking was performed using Wormtracker 2.0 system (Yemini et al., 2013) at room temperature (~ 22°C). For behavioral assay involving temperature sensitive *inx-6(tr5)* strain, all genotypes including the control N2 animals were tested at 25°C. For Dauer animals, which tend to show extensive pausing, were recorded for 10 min to ensure sufficient sampling of locomotion related behavioral



features. Non-dauer animals were recorded for 5 min, except when compared to dauer animals (as in Fig. 1) were recorded for 10 min. To minimize any potential bias arising due to dauer stage-specific prolonged bouts of spontaneous pausing (Gaglia and Kenyon, 2009), we only selected animals that were actively moving at the beginning of the assay. To avoid potential variability arising due to room conditions, all strains that were compared in a single experiment were recorded simultaneously in identical room condition, along with N2 wild-type. Strains that were recorded simultaneously with temperature sensitive *inx-6(tr:5)* strain, were grown at 25°C for >24h and recorded at 25°C. Recording was randomized across multiple trackers. Dauer and starved non-dauer animals were placed on uncoated NGM plates before recording. Fed non-dauer animals were recorded on NGM plates seeded uniformly with diluted OP50 bacterial culture to avoid potentially biased locomotion at the edge of the bacterial lawn.

Dauer animals are thinner, more elongated and contain a different cuticular structure compared to fed- or starved-L3 animals (Cassada and Russell, 1975). When comparing dauers to fed- and starved-L3 stage animals, some of the behavioral differences (e.g. wavelength) that are likely to be influenced by such physical differences were ignored and we instead focused on behavioral differences that can more readily be attributed to information processing in the nervous system.

**CO<sub>2</sub> Chemotaxis assay**—CO<sub>2</sub> chemotaxis assays were performed as previously described (Hallem et al., 2011a). Assays were performed on standard 6cm NGM plates for non-dauer animals and 9cm NGM plates for dauer animals. Scoring regions were 2cm circles on each side of the plate along the diameter, with the center of the circle 1cm away from the edge of the plate (as indicated in Fig. 6J). Pumping a mixture of 10% CO<sub>2</sub>, 10% O<sub>2</sub> and balance N<sub>2</sub> wild-type from an inlet on top of one scoring circle and a mixture of 10% O<sub>2</sub> and balance N<sub>2</sub> wild-type from another inlet on top of the other scoring circle generated CO<sub>2</sub> gradient. Gas mixtures were pushed using a syringe pump at 1.5ml/min for non-dauer assays and 0.5ml/min for dauer assays. ~50 young adults or ~100-150 dauers (selected by 1% SDS treatment) were placed at the center of the assay plates. After 30 min, the number of animals inside the air and CO<sub>2</sub> circles was counted. The chemotaxis index (C.I.) was calculated as:

$$\text{C.I.} = \frac{(\text{number of worms at CO}_2 \text{ circle}) - (\text{number of worms at air circle})}{(\text{number of worms at CO}_2 \text{ circle}) + (\text{number of worms at air circle})}$$

**Odortaxis assay**—Dauer odortaxis assays were performed as previously described (Hallem et al., 2011a). Assays were performed on standard 9cm NGM plates. Scoring regions were 2cm circles on each side of the plate along the diameter, with the center of the circle 1cm away from the edge of the plate. Test circle contained 5µl of odorant at center of it, while control circle contained 5µl of ethanol. 1µl of 1M sodium azide was added to each circle as anesthetic. ~100-150 dauers were placed at the center of the assay plates and allowed to chemotax for 90min.

The chemotaxis index (C.I.) was calculated as:

$$C.I. = \frac{(\text{number of worms at odorant circle}) - (\text{number of worms at control circle})}{(\text{number of worms at odorant circle}) + (\text{number of worms at control circle})}$$

**Cell ablation**—Cell specific ablation was performed using MicroPoint Laser System Basic Unit (N<sub>2</sub> pulsed laser (dye pump), ANDOR Technology) attached to a Zeiss Axio Imager Z2 microscope (Objective EC Plan-Neofluar 63X/1.30 Oil). This laser delivers 120 μJoules of 337nm energy with a 3nsec pulse length. Ablations were done as previously described (Fang-Yen et al., 2012), with pulse repetition rates ~15 Hz. *daf-7(e1372); npr-9::tagrfp; inx-6(ot805)* strain was grown at 25°C to obtain dauer. AIB identified with TAGRFP reporter and ablated at the dauer stage. Treated animals were allowed to recover at 25°C on unseeded NGM plates for 48 hours before analysis. Control animals were treated in the same manner, but not subjected laser exposure.

**Auxin inducible degradation**—The AID system was employed as previously described (Zhang et al., 2015). The conditional *daf-16* allele *daf-16(ot853[daf-16::mNG::AID])* was crossed with *daf-2(e1370)*, neuron specific TIR1-expressing transgenic lines and *inx-6(ot804[inx-6::sl2::yfp::h2b])* reporter, to generate the experimental strains. Animals were grown (from embryo onwards) on NGM plates supplemented with OP50 and 4mM auxin in EtOH (indole-3 acetic acid, IAA, Alfa Aesar, Cat. # A10556) at 25°C to degrade DAF-16 in respective neurons and to induce dauer formation. As control, plates were supplemented with the solvent EtOH instead of auxin.

## QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Analysis of the automated wormtracking videos was performed as previously described (Yemini et al., 2013). Statistical significance between each groups were blindly calculated using Wilcoxon rank-sum test using automated algorithms included in the Wormtracker 2.0 analysis software (Yemini et al., 2013). After correcting p-values by controlling the false-discovery rate, q-values were obtained based on group significance. For the comparison of dauer locomotion with fed and starved L3 locomotion, 702 behavioral features were compared. After correcting for false-discovery rate, features shown in Fig. 5 and Table S4 emerged as the ones with most significantly different q-values among the test groups. Therefore, for the subsequent experiments we only measured these features, permitting us to use the p-value.

For chemotaxis assays statistical significance between each group was calculated using two-sided Mann-Whitney U-test.

The principle components analysis (PCA) was executed using MATLAB (Mathworks) with custom computational scripts (made available upon request).

## Supplementary Material

Refer to Web version on PubMed Central for supplementary material.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

We thank Niels Ringstad and Jung-Hwan Choi for introducing us to the CO<sub>2</sub>-assay, Esther Serrano-Saiz and Narmin Tahirova for helping with the *unc-42* mutant analysis, Adriane Otopalik for helping with the PCA, Steven Cook for helping with the EM connectome data analysis, Chi Chen for the *C. elegans* injections and members of the Hobert lab for comments on this manuscript. This work was supported by the NIH (R21NS106909) and the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

## Bibliography

- Abrams CK, and Scherer SS (2012). Gap junctions in inherited human disorders of the central nervous system. *Biochim Biophys Acta* 1818, 2030–2047. [PubMed: 21871435]
- Altun ZF, Chen B, Wang ZW, and Hall DH (2009). High resolution map of *Caenorhabditis elegans* gap junction proteins. *Dev Dyn* 238, 1936–1950. [PubMed: 19621339]
- Baran R, Aronoff R, and Garriga G (1999). The *C. elegans* homeodomain gene *unc-42* regulates chemosensory and glutamate receptor expression. *Development* 126, 2241–2251. [PubMed: 10207148]
- Brenner S (1974). The genetics of *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Genetics* 77, 71–94. [PubMed: 4366476]
- Cassada RC, and Russell RL (1975). The dauerlarva, a post-embryonic developmental variant of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Dev Biol* 46, 326–342. [PubMed: 1183723]
- Dickinson DJ, Pani AM, Heppert JK, Higgins CD, and Goldstein B (2015). Streamlined Genome Engineering with a Self-Excising Drug Selection Cassette. *Genetics* 200, 1035–1049. [PubMed: 26044593]
- Fang-Yen C, Gabel CV, Samuel AD, Bargmann CI, and Avery L (2012). Laser microsurgery in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Methods Cell Biol* 107, 177–206. [PubMed: 22226524]
- Fielenbach N, and Antebi A (2008). *C. elegans* dauer formation and the molecular basis of plasticity. *Genes Dev* 22, 2149–2165. [PubMed: 18708575]
- Gaglia MM, and Kenyon C (2009). Stimulation of movement in a quiescent, hibernation-like form of *Caenorhabditis elegans* by dopamine signaling. *J Neurosci* 29, 7302–7314. [PubMed: 19494152]
- Gendrel M, Atlas EG, and Hobert O (2016). A cellular and regulatory map of the GABAergic nervous system of *C. elegans*. *eLife* 5.
- Gray JM, Hill JJ, and Bargmann CI (2005). A circuit for navigation in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 102, 3184–3191. [PubMed: 15689400]
- Guillermin ML, Castelletto ML, and Hallem EA (2011). Differentiation of carbon dioxide-sensing neurons in *Caenorhabditis elegans* requires the ETS-5 transcription factor. *Genetics* 189, 1327–1339. [PubMed: 21954162]
- Hall DH (2017). Gap junctions in *C. elegans*: Their roles in behavior and development. *Dev Neurobiol* 77, 587–596. [PubMed: 27294317]
- Hallem EA, Dillman AR, Hong AV, Zhang Y, Yano JM, DeMarco SF, and Sternberg PW (2011a). A sensory code for host seeking in parasitic nematodes. *Curr Biol* 21, 377–383. [PubMed: 21353558]
- Hallem EA, Spencer WC, McWhirter RD, Zeller G, Henz SR, Ratsch G, Miller DM 3rd, Horvitz HR, Sternberg PW, and Ringstad N (2011b). Receptor-type guanylate cyclase is required for carbon dioxide sensation by *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Proc Natl Acad Sci U S A* 108, 254–259. [PubMed: 21173231]
- Hasegawa DK, and Turnbull MW (2014). Recent findings in evolution and function of insect innexins. *FEBS Lett* 588, 1403–1410. [PubMed: 24631533]
- Helmstaedter M, Briggman KL, Turaga SC, Jain V, Seung HS, and Denk W (2013). Connectomic reconstruction of the inner plexiform layer in the mouse retina. *Nature* 500, 168–174. [PubMed: 23925239]
- Hobert O (2002). PCR fusion-based approach to create reporter gene constructs for expression analysis in transgenic *C. elegans*. *BioTechniques* 32, 728–730. [PubMed: 11962590]
- Hobert O (2016). Terminal Selectors of Neuronal Identity. *Curr Top Dev Biol* 116, 455–475. [PubMed: 26970634]

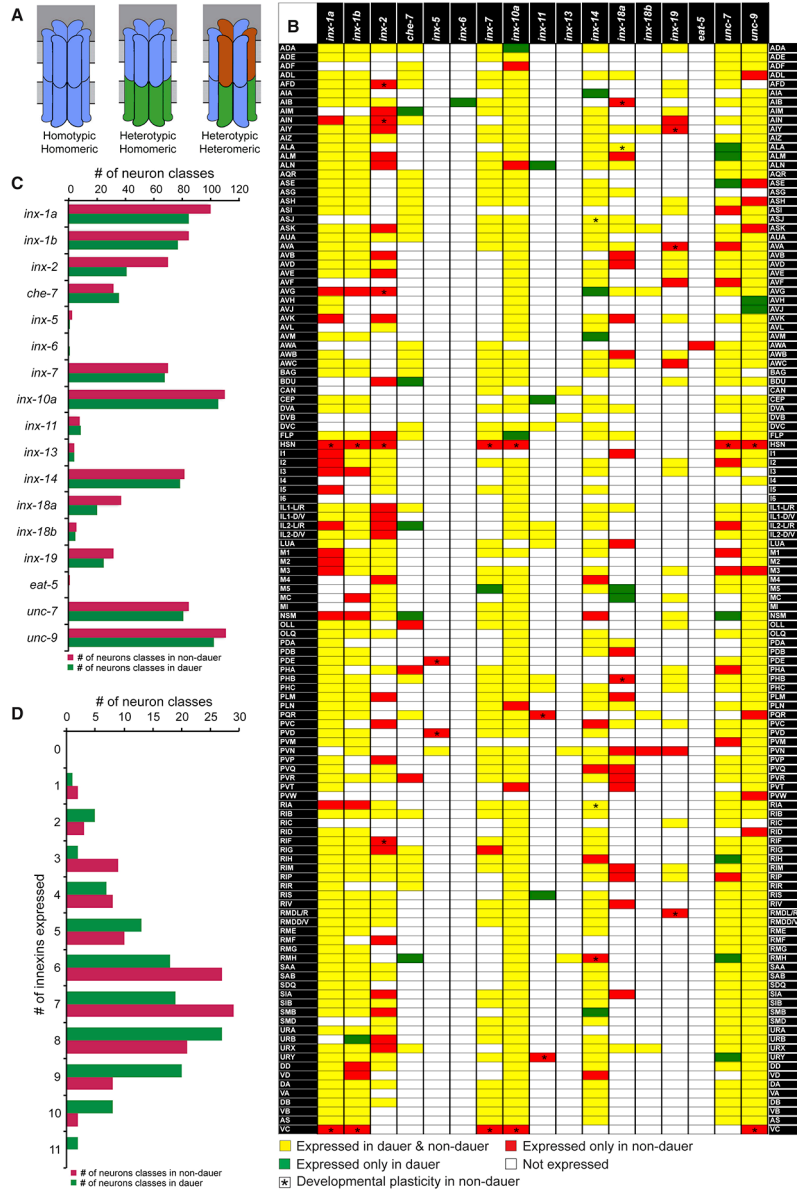
- Jarrell TA, Wang Y, Bloniarz AE, Brittin CA, Xu M, Thomson JN, Albertson DG, Hall DH, and Emmons SW (2012). The connectome of a decision-making neural network. *Science* 337, 437–444. [PubMed: 22837521]
- Ji N, and van Oudenaarden A (2012). Single molecule fluorescent in situ hybridization (smFISH) of *C. elegans* worms and embryos. *WormBook*, 1–16.
- Kasthuri N, Hayworth KJ, Berger DR, Schalek RL, Conchello JA, Knowles-Barley S, Lee D, Vazquez-Reina A, Kaynig V, Jones TR, et al. (2015). Saturated Reconstruction of a Volume of Neocortex. *Cell* 162, 648–661. [PubMed: 26232230]
- Kawano T, Po MD, Gao S, Leung G, Ryu WS, and Zhen M (2011). An imbalancing act: gap junctions reduce the backward motor circuit activity to bias *C. elegans* for forward locomotion. *Neuron* 72, 572–586. [PubMed: 22099460]
- Kim H, Ishidate T, Ghanta KS, Seth M, Conte D Jr., Shirayama M, and Mello CC (2014). A co-CRISPR strategy for efficient genome editing in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Genetics* 197, 1069–1080. [PubMed: 24879462]
- Lee H, Choi MK, Lee D, Kim HS, Hwang H, Kim H, Park S, Paik YK, and Lee J (2012). Nictation, a dispersal behavior of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*, is regulated by IL2 neurons. *Nat Neurosci* 15, 107–112.
- Lee RY, Hench J, and Ruvkun G (2001). Regulation of *C. elegans* DAF-16 and its human ortholog FKHRL1 by the *daf-2* insulin-like signaling pathway. *Curr Biol* 11, 1950–1957. [PubMed: 11747821]
- Li S, Dent JA, and Roy R (2003). Regulation of intermuscular electrical coupling by the *Caenorhabditis elegans* innexin *inx-6*. *Mol Biol Cell* 14, 2630–2644. [PubMed: 12857852]
- Liu P, Chen B, Mailler R, and Wang ZW (2017). Antidromic-rectifying gap junctions amplify chemical transmission at functionally mixed electrical-chemical synapses. *Nat Commun* 8, 14818. [PubMed: 28317880]
- Marder E, Gutierrez GJ, and Nusbaum MP (2017). Complicating connectomes: Electrical coupling creates parallel pathways and degenerate circuit mechanisms. *Dev Neurobiol* 77, 597–609. [PubMed: 27314561]
- McEwen BS (2010). Stress, sex, and neural adaptation to a changing environment: mechanisms of neuronal remodeling. *Ann N Y Acad Sci* 1204 Suppl, E38–59. [PubMed: 20840167]
- McLaughlin CN, and Broihier HT (2018). Keeping Neurons Young and Foxy: FoxOs Promote Neuronal Plasticity. *Trends Genet* 34, 65–78. [PubMed: 29102406]
- Mese G, Richard G, and White TW (2007). Gap junctions: basic structure and function. *J Invest Dermatol* 127, 2516–2524. [PubMed: 17934503]
- Miller AC, and Pereda AE (2017). The electrical synapse: Molecular complexities at the gap and beyond. *Dev Neurobiol* 77, 562–574. [PubMed: 28170151]
- O'Brien J (2014). The ever-changing electrical synapse. *Curr Opin Neurobiol* 29, 64–72. [PubMed: 24955544]
- Oshima A, Matsuzawa T, Murata K, Tani K, and Fujiyoshi Y (2016). Hexadameric structure of an invertebrate gap junction channel. *J Mol Biol* 428, 1227–1236. [PubMed: 26883891]
- Pereira L, Kratsios P, Serrano-Saiz E, Sheftel H, Mayo AE, Hall DH, White JG, LeBoeuf B, Garcia LR, Alon U, et al. (2015). A cellular and regulatory map of the cholinergic nervous system of *C. elegans*. *eLife* 4.
- Phelan P, and Starich TA (2001). Innexins get into the gap. *Bioessays* 23, 388–396. [PubMed: 11340620]
- Riddle DL, and Albert PS (1997). Genetic and Environmental Regulation of Dauer Larva Development. In *Celegans II*, Riddle DL, Blumenthal T, Meyer BJ, and Priess JR, eds. (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory Press), pp. 739–768.
- Ryan K, Lu Z, and Meinertzhagen IA (2016). The CNS connectome of a tadpole larva of *Ciona intestinalis* (L.) highlights sidedness in the brain of a chordate sibling. *eLife* 5.
- Sarov M, Murray JI, Schanze K, Pozniakovski A, Niu W, Angermann K, Hasse S, Rupprecht M, Vinis E, Tinney M, et al. (2012). A genome-scale resource for in vivo tag-based protein function exploration in *C. elegans*. *Cell* 150, 855–866. [PubMed: 22901814]

- Serrano-Saiz E, Poole RJ, Felton T, Zhang F, de la Cruz ED, and Hobert O (2013). Modular Control of Glutamatergic Neuronal Identity in *C. elegans* by Distinct Homeodomain Proteins. *Cell* 155, 659–673. [PubMed: 24243022]
- Sohl G, Maxeiner S, and Willecke K (2005). Expression and functions of neuronal gap junctions. *Nat Rev Neurosci* 6, 191–200. [PubMed: 15738956]
- Song J, Ampatzis K, Bjornfors ER, and El Manira A (2016). Motor neurons control locomotor circuit function retrogradely via gap junctions. *Nature* 529, 399–402. [PubMed: 26760208]
- Starich TA, Hall DH, and Greenstein D (2014). Two classes of gap junction channels mediate soma-germline interactions essential for germline proliferation and gametogenesis in *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Genetics* 198, 1127–1153. [PubMed: 25195067]
- Starich TA, Xu J, Skerrett IM, Nicholson BJ, and Shaw JE (2009). Interactions between innexins UNC-7 and UNC-9 mediate electrical synapse specificity in the *Caenorhabditis elegans* locomotory nervous system. *Neural Dev* 4, 16. [PubMed: 19432959]
- Stefanakis N, Carrera I, and Hobert O (2015). Regulatory Logic of Pan-Neuronal Gene Expression in *C. elegans*. *Neuron* 87, 733–750. [PubMed: 26291158]
- Takemura SY, Bharioke A, Lu Z, Nern A, Vitaladevuni S, Rivlin PK, Katz WT, Olbris DJ, Plaza SM, Winston P, et al. (2013). A visual motion detection circuit suggested by *Drosophila* connectomics. *Nature* 500, 175–181. [PubMed: 23925240]
- Takeuchi T, Duzkiewicz AJ, and Morris RG (2014). The synaptic plasticity and memory hypothesis: encoding, storage and persistence. *Philos Trans R Soc Lond B Biol Sci* 369, 20130288. [PubMed: 24298167]
- Thevenin AF, Kowal TJ, Fong JT, Kells RM, Fisher CG, and Falk MM (2013). Proteins and mechanisms regulating gap-junction assembly, internalization, and degradation. *Physiology (Bethesda)* 28, 93–116. [PubMed: 23455769]
- Tursun B, Cochella L, Carrera I, and Hobert O (2009). A toolkit and robust pipeline for the generation of fosmid-based reporter genes in *C. elegans*. *PLoS ONE* 4, e4625. [PubMed: 19259264]
- Varshney LR, Chen BL, Paniagua E, Hall DH, and Chklovskii DB (2011). Structural properties of the *Caenorhabditis elegans* neuronal network. *PLoS Comput Biol* 7, e1001066. [PubMed: 21304930]
- Wang L, Sato H, Satoh Y, Tomioka M, Kunitomo H, and Iino Y (2017). A Gustatory Neural Circuit of *Caenorhabditis elegans* Generates Memory-Dependent Behaviors in Na(+) Chemotaxis. *J Neurosci* 37, 2097–2111. [PubMed: 28126744]
- White JG, Southgate E, Thomson JN, and Brenner S (1986). The structure of the nervous system of the nematode *Caenorhabditis elegans*. *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London B Biological Sciences* 314, 1–340. [PubMed: 22462104]
- White TW, and Paul DL (1999). Genetic diseases and gene knockouts reveal diverse connexin functions. *Annu Rev Physiol* 61, 283–310. [PubMed: 10099690]
- Willecke K, Eiberger J, Degen J, Eckardt D, Romualdi A, Guldenagel M, Deutsch U, and Sohl G (2002). Structural and functional diversity of connexin genes in the mouse and human genome. *Biol Chem* 383, 725–737. [PubMed: 12108537]
- Yemini E, Jucikas T, Grundy LJ, Brown AE, and Schafer WR (2013). A database of *Caenorhabditis elegans* behavioral phenotypes. *Nat Methods* 10, 877–879. [PubMed: 23852451]
- Zhang L, Ward JD, Cheng Z, and Dernburg AF (2015). The auxin-inducible degradation (AID) system enables versatile conditional protein depletion in *C. elegans*. *Development* 142, 4374–4384. [PubMed: 26552885]

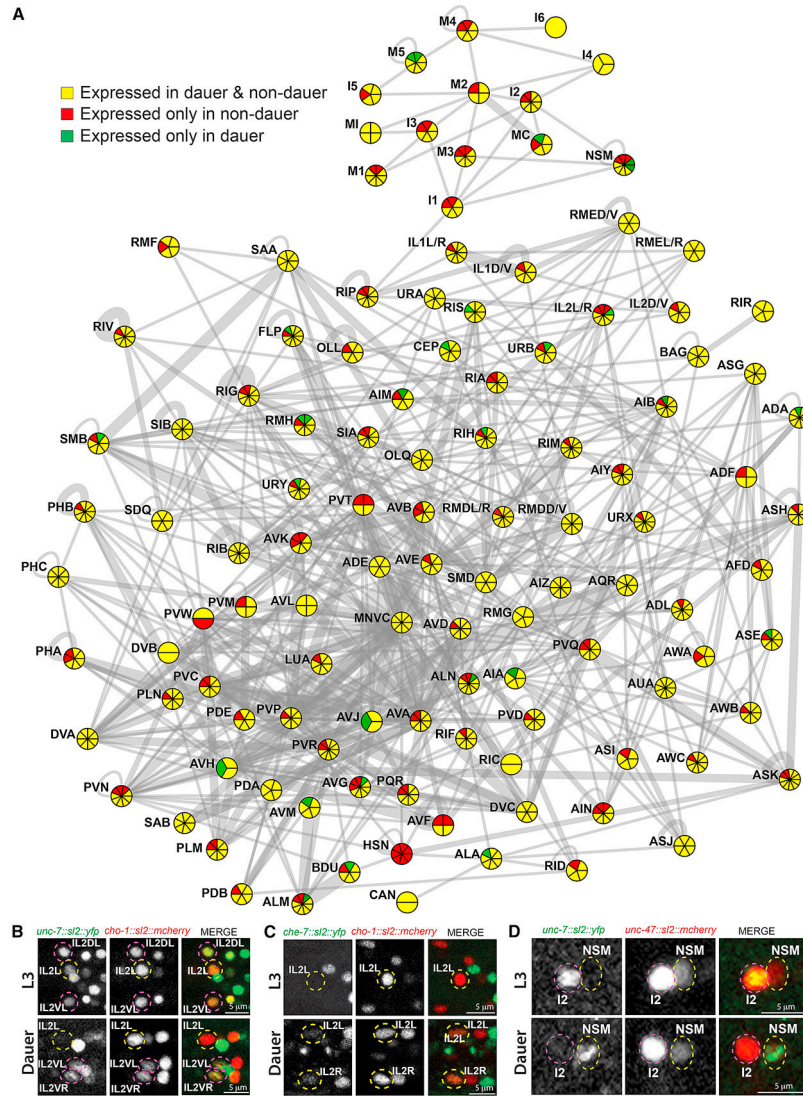
**HIGHLIGHTS**

- Mapped complex, neuron type-specific combinatorial patterns of innexin expression.
- Neuron-specific innexin expression code shows remarkable plasticity under stress.
- Altered innexin expression leads to circuit modification and behavioral plasticity.
- FoxO-dependent combinatorial mechanism controls spatiotemporal innexin plasticity.

Mapping the electrical connectome of *C. elegans* reveals the combinatorial patterns of synaptic protein expression that dictate behaviors associated with the physiological state of the animal



**Fig. 1: Innexin gene expression in non-ddauer and dauer.**  
**(A)** Schematics of subunit composition in different kinds of gap junction channels. Hemichannels formed by innexins can also be octameric (Oshima et al., 2016).  
**(B)** Expression of all neuronally expressed innexin genes in all neuronal classes. Color of each box represents whether the innexin gene is expressed in both non-ddauer and dauer (yellow), only in non-ddauer (red) or only in dauer stage (green). Asterisks indicate developmental changes in innexin expression among non-ddauer stages. See also Table S2.  
**(C)** Abundance of each innexin gene in non-ddauer and dauer nervous system.  
**(D)** Distribution of number of innexin genes in neuron classes in non-ddauer and dauer. See also Fig.S1-3, Table S1,S2.



**Fig. 2: Changes in innexin gene expression in dauer.**

(A) Electrical connectome at the adult stage, as inferred from the serial section EM reconstruction. Neuronal classes are represented as circles and electrical synapses are shown as gray lines. Thicknesses of lines were weighted according to the volume of each connection (measured by the total number of EM sections in which a particular synapse was observed; as per [www.wormwiring.org](http://www.wormwiring.org)). The number of innexin genes expressed in each neuronal class is indicated by the overlaid pie chart. Color of each pie chart section represents whether the innexin is expressed in both non-dauer and dauer (yellow), only in non-dauer (red) or only in dauer (green).

(B-D) Neuronal identities were determined by expression of either *cho-1* (*otIs544*) or *unc-47* (*otIs564*) reporters.

(B) *unc-7* fosmid reporter (*otEx7106*) is expressed in IL2DL/R, IL2VL/R and IL2L/R in non-dauer, but selectively down-regulated in IL2L/R in dauer.

(C) *che-7* fosmid reporter (*otEx7112*) is selectively turned on in lateral IL2L/R neurons in dauer.



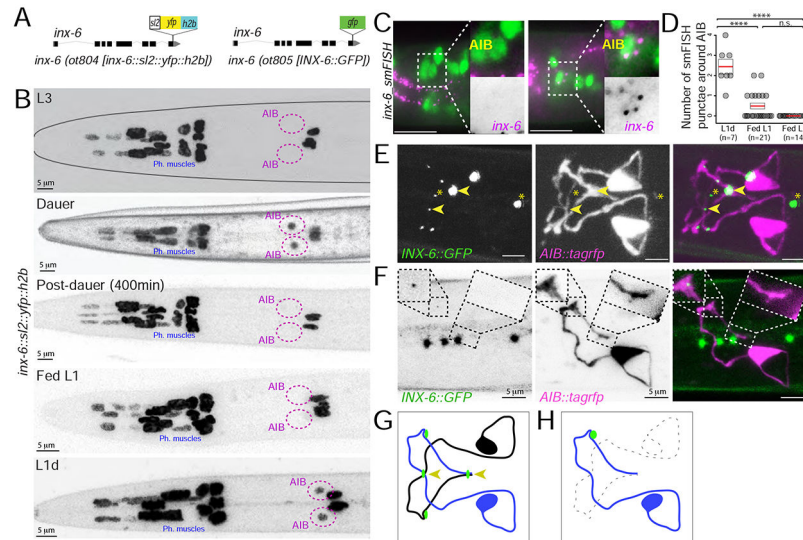
**(D)** *unc-7* fosmid reporter (*otEx7106*) is expressed in I2, but not in NSM in non-dauer. In dauer, *unc-7* expression disappeared in I2, while turned on in NSM. See also Fig. S2.

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript

Author Manuscript



**Fig. 3: Dauer-induced expression of *inx-6* in AIB generates new gap junctions with *che-7*.**

(A) Schematics of *inx-6* transcriptional reporter allele, *inx-6(ot804)* and GFP-tagged *inx-6* translational reporter allele, *inx-6(ot805)*.

(B) *inx-6* reporter allele, *inx-6(ot804)* is additionally turned on in AIB interneurons in dauer that disappears in post-dauer stage. *inx-6* allele is also expressed in AIB in L1d.

(C) smFISH against endogenous *inx-6* mRNA (magenta) in Fed-L1 and L1d. AIB was marked by *eat-4::yfp (otIs388)* expression (green). Inset shows enlargement of AIB.

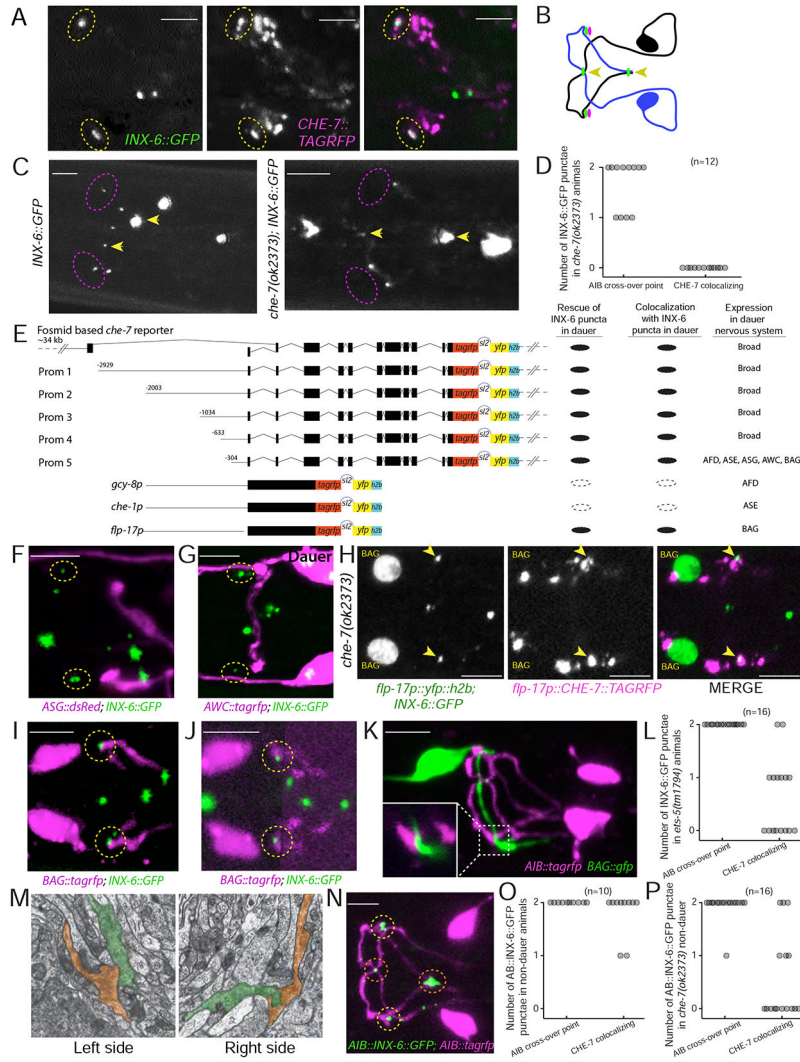
(D) Quantification of *inx-6* smFISH data. Each circle represents the number of AIB associated smFISH puncta in a single animal, red lines indicate the mean and rectangles indicate S.E.M. Wilcoxon rank-sum tests p-values (n.s. = non significant and \*\*\*\*p<0.0001).

(E) Expression of INX-6 puncta (green), in *inx-6(ot805)* dauer. *npr-9p::tagrfp (otIs643)* expression marks AIB processes (magenta). Arrowheads mark INX-6::GFP at the crossover points of AIBL and AIBR. Asterisks mark INX-6 puncta in pharyngeal muscles.

(F) Expression of INX-6 puncta (green) on AIBL (magenta) in *daf-7(e1372)* dauers (*inx-6(ot805); daf-7(e1372); otIs643*), where AIBR was ablated. In absence of AIBR, INX-6 punctum at the AIBL-AIBR crossover point (right box) disappear, while has no effect on INX-6 puncta in other region (left box). See Fig. 3E for control (pre-ablation) image. Four INX-6 puncta that do not overlap with AIB-processes are among pharyngeal muscles.

(G) Schematic of major INX-6 puncta (green circles) on AIB. Arrowheads mark INX-6 puncta at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points.

(H) Schematic of the effect of AIBR-ablation on INX-6 puncta on the remaining AIBL neuron. See Fig. 3G for control (pre-ablation) schematic.



**Fig. 4: *inx-6* and *che-7* forms gap junction between AIB and BAG.**  
**(A)** o-localization of INX-6::GFP (green) and CHE-7::TagRFP puncta (magenta) in two putative gap junctions on AIB (yellow circle) in dauer (*ot805; otEx6486*).  
**(B)** Schematic of CHE-7 puncta (magenta circles) localization with INX-6 puncta (green circles) on AIB. Arrowheads mark INX-6 puncta at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points.  
**(C)** INX-6 puncta that colocalized with CHE-7 were lost in *che-7(ok2373); inx-6(ok2373)* mutant dauers (magenta circles). INX-6 puncta at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points remained unaffected (arrowheads).  
**(D)** Quantification of INX-6 puncta on AIB in *che-7(ok2373)* dauers.  
**(E)** Schematics of 5' *cis*-regulatory element analysis of *che-7* and reporter transgenes used for cell-specific *che-7* expression. Transgenic lines were created in *che-7(ok2373); inx-6(ok2373)* background. Results show average for all transgenic lines.  
**(F-G)** INX-6 puncta (green) that co-localize with CHE-7 in dauer (dotted circles) do not colocalize with ASG (*ot805;oyIs47*) and AWC (*ot805;otIs263*) axons (magenta).  
**(H)** In *che-7(ok2373)* dauer, expression of CHE-7::TAGRFP (magenta) only in BAG (green) rescues CHE-7 associated INX-6 puncta (green) that also shows colocalization with

CHE-7::TAGRFP (arrowheads). See Fig.4C for control image showing INX-6 puncta in *che-7(ok2373)* dauer. (*inx-6(ok805); che-7(ok2373); otEx2487*)

**(I)** INX-6 puncta (green) in dauer co-localize with BAG axon (magenta). (*ot805; otEx7230*)

**(J)** INX-6 puncta (green) in L1d co-localize with BAG axon (magenta). For BAG-axon image clarity, a projection of non-continuous z-sections was shown. (*ot805; otEx7230*)

**(K)** BAG axon (green) comes in contact with AIB process (magenta) at similar positions where INX-6 puncta co-localize with BAG axon. Inset shows enlargement of the contact point. (*otIs643; otEx7230*)

**(L, O and P)** INX-6 puncta present at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points are referred as ‘AIB crossover point’ and INX-6 puncta that co-localize with CHE-7 and BAG axon are referred as ‘che-7 colocalizing’.

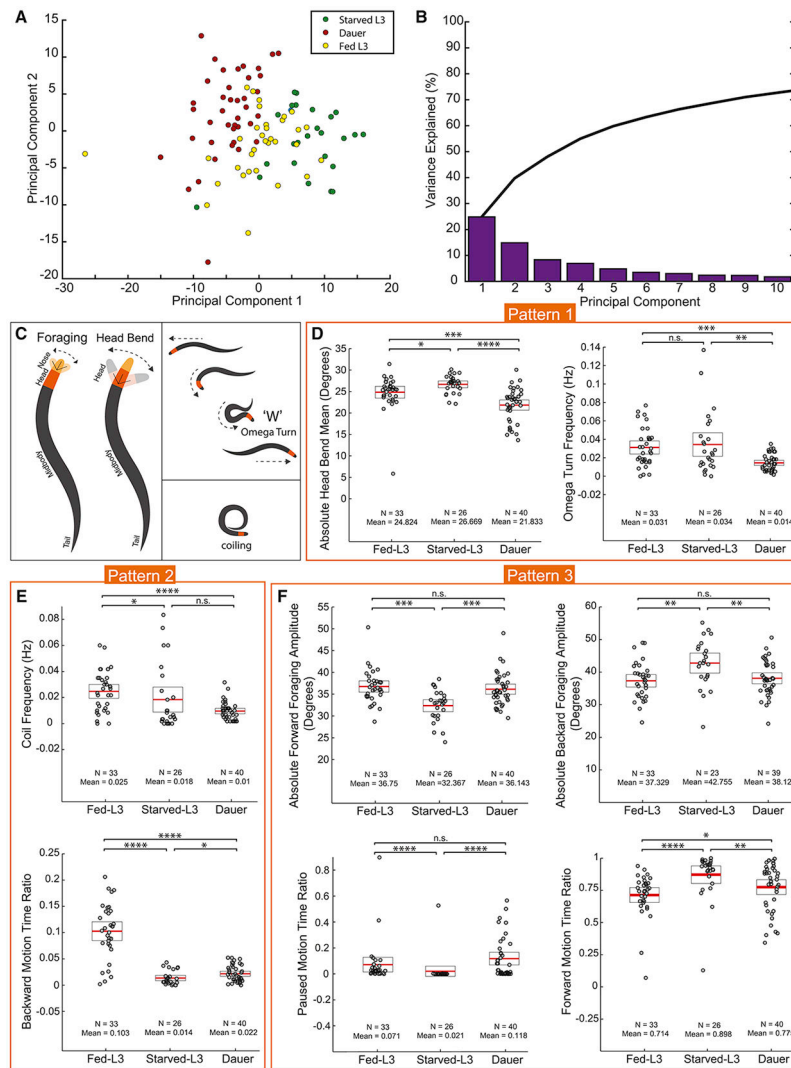
**(L)** Quantification of INX-6 puncta on AIB in *ets-5(tm1794)* mutant dauers.

**(M)** TEM prints from wild-type adult hermaphrodite ‘N2U’ showing adjacency of BAG (pseudo colored in red) and AIB (pseudo colored in green) processes at the site where dauer specific INX-6-CHE-7 putative electrical synapses are formed. These images were collected in MRC/LMB and annotated images were obtained from [www.wormimage.org](http://www.wormimage.org), courtesy of David Hall. Prints shown here are, Left: N2U\_094 and right: N2U\_116.

**(N)** AIB-specific ectopic expression of INX-6 in non-dauer stage (L3) results in INX-6 puncta (green) along the AIB (magenta). Red circles mark INX-6 at the AIBL-AIBR crossover points. - Yellow circles mark INX-6 at the site where dauer specific INX-6-CHE-7 electrical synapses are formed. (*otTi19; otIs643*)

**(O)** Quantification of ectopic INX-6 puncta in non-dauer *otTi19* animals.

**(P)** Quantification of ectopic INX-6 puncta in non-dauer *che-7(ok2373); otTi19* animals.



**Fig. 5: Locomotory behavior is remodeled in dauer.**

(A) Principal Component Analysis of dauer (red), fed-L3 (yellow) and starved-L3s (green) based on 195 locomotory behavior feature data (Listed in table S3). Circles represent individual animals ( $n^{\text{dauer}} = 40$ ,  $n^{\text{Fed-L3}} = 33$ ,  $n^{\text{starved-L3}} = 26$ ). Component 1 and 2 account for ~40% of the variation in the locomotory behaviors.

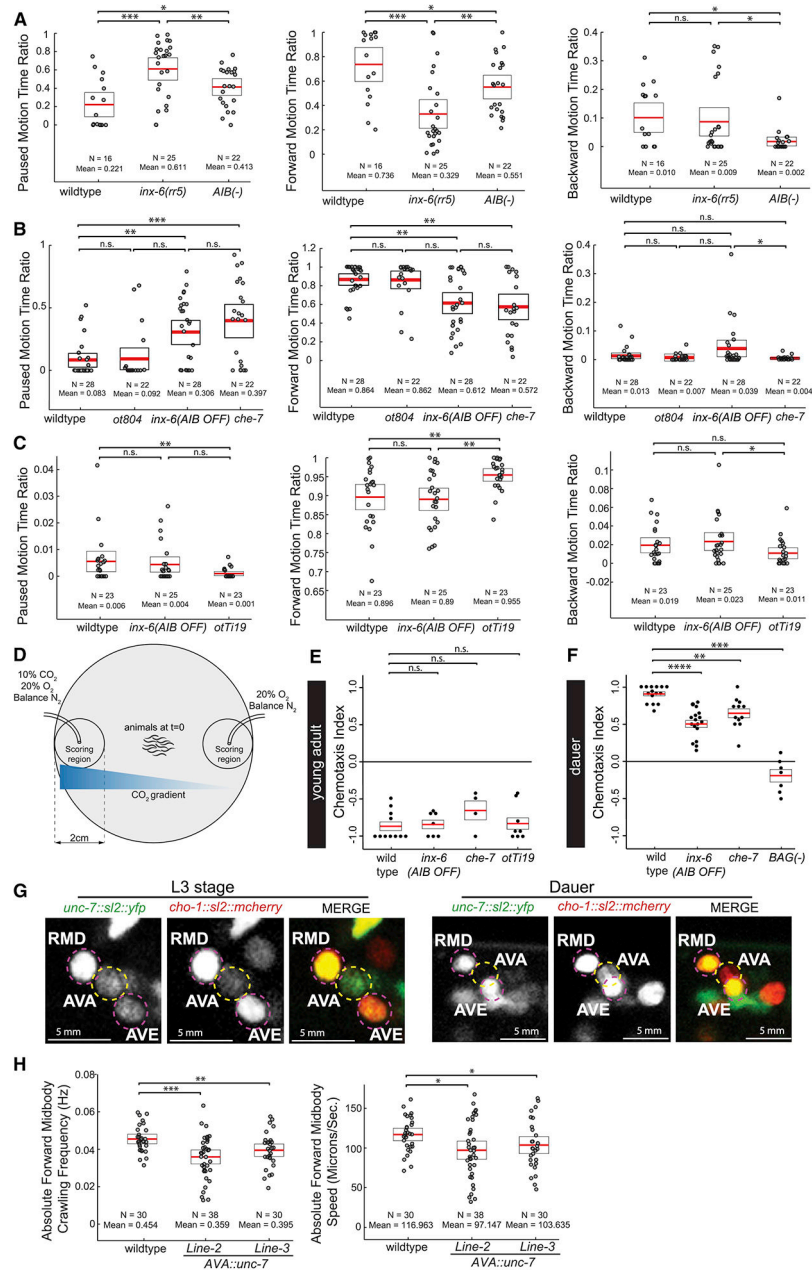
(B) Variance explained by first ten PCs. Black line represents cumulative variance explained.

(C) Schematics of foraging (nose bend), head bend, reversal through an omega turn and coiling behaviors.

(D-K) Comparison of dauer, fed- and starved-L3 locomotion using Wormtracker (see Methods for details). Each circle represents the experimental mean of a single animal. Red lines indicate the mean of means and rectangles indicate S.E.M. Wilcoxon rank-sum tests and False-Discovery Rate q-values for each comparison: n.s. = non significant, \* $q < 0.05$ , \*\* $q < 0.01$ , \*\*\* $q < 0.001$ , \*\*\*\* $q < 0.0001$ .

(Behavioral feature time ratio = total time spent performing particular behavior/total time of the assay)

See also Table S3 and S4.



**Fig. 6: Loss and gain of innexin expression in dauers affects locomotory and CO<sub>2</sub>-attraction behavior.**

(A-I) Locomotion assay using Wormtracker (see Methods for details). Each circle represents the experimental mean of a single animal. Red lines indicate the mean of means and rectangles indicate S.E.M. Wilcoxon rank-sum test p-values for each comparison: n.s. = non significant, \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001, \*\*\*\*p<0.0001. (Behavioral feature time ratio = total time spent executing particular behavior/total assay time).

(A-F) Locomotion of dauer animals.

(A-C) Dauers with *inx-6* temperature sensitive allele, *inx-6(rr5)*, at restrictive temperature and AIB-ablated dauers [*peIs578* (Wang et al., 2017)] show significant increase in pausing and decrease in forward motion.

**(D-F)** Dauers that specifically lack *inx-6* expression in AIB, *inx-6(AIB OFF)* allele (see Fig. 8) and *che-7(ok2373)* dauers show significant increase in pausing and decrease in forward motion, but show no effect in backward motion.

**(G-I)** *inx-6(AIB OFF)* starved-L3s show no significant difference in locomotion. AIB-specific ectopic expression of INX-6 in starved-L3 (*otTi19*) affects pausing and forward motion.

**(J)** Schematic of CO<sub>2</sub>-chemotaxis assay (See Methods for details).

**(K-L)** Each circle represents chemotaxis index calculated from a single assay. Red lines indicate the mean and rectangles indicate S.E.M. Wilcoxon rank-sum tests p-values for each comparison: n.s. = non significant, \*p<0.05, \*\*p<0.01, \*\*\*p<0.001, \*\*\*\*p<0.0001.

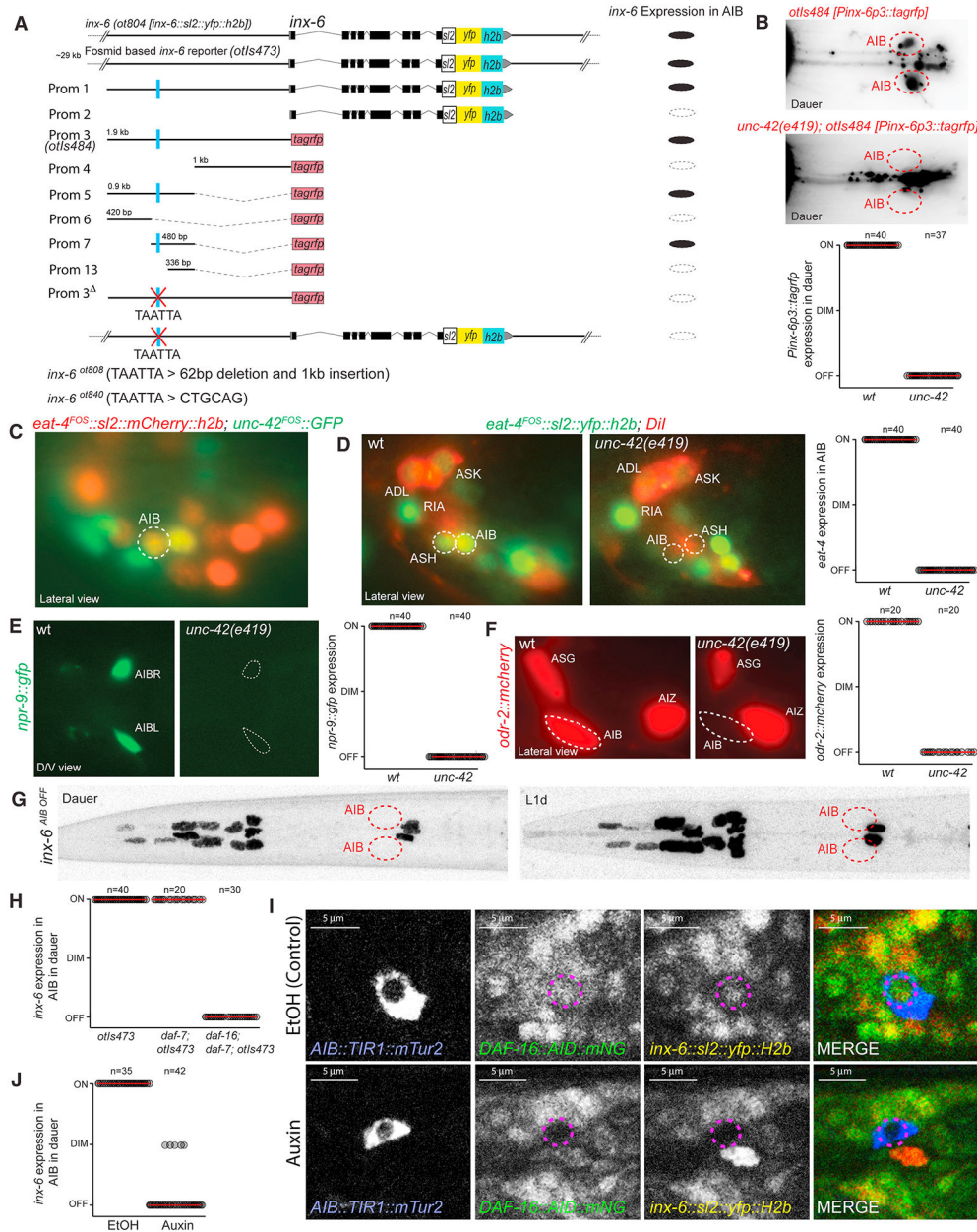
**(K)** *inx-6(AIB OFF)* or *che-7(ok2373)* mutant young adults show no effect in CO<sub>2</sub>-repulsion. Ectopic expression of INX-6 in AIB (*otTi19*) in young adults do not affect CO<sub>2</sub>-repulsion.

**(L)** *inx-6(AIB OFF)* and *che-7(ok2373)* dauers show reduced CO<sub>2</sub>-attraction. Dauers with ablated BAG neurons (*kyIs536; kyIs538*) do not chemotax to CO<sub>2</sub> gradient. See also Fig. S4.

**(M)** Expression of the *unc-7* fosmid reporter (*otEx7106*) is lost in AVA in dauer, while continue to be expressed in RMD and AVE. *cho-1 (otIs544)* expression identifies the neuron.

**(N-O)** Locomotion of two independent transgenic lines where *unc-7* is ectopically expressed in AVA in dauers (Transgenic Line-2: *otEx7250* and Line-3: *otEx7251*).

See also Fig. S4.



**Fig. 7: UNC-22 and DAF-16/FOXO regulate spatiotemporal expression of *inx-6* in AIB.** (A) Schematics of 5' *cis*-regulatory element analysis of *inx-6*. Results show average for all transgenic lines. Deletion of a putative UNC-22 binding site (TAATTA) in the 5' upstream regulatory region resulted in complete loss of *inx-6* expression in AIB. (B-J) For each graph, circles represent the expression of corresponding reporter in a single animal and red lines indicate the mean. Expression of reporters are scored as: ON = similar to control, DIM = reduced expression and OFF = no expression. (B) UNC-22 affects *inx-6* reporter (*otIs484*) expression in AIB in dauer. (C) *unc-42* fosmid reporter (*wgIs173*) (green) is expressed in AIB in all stages. *eat-4* (*otIs518*) (red) expression was used for neuronal identification.



**(D-F)** Expression of *eat-4*, *npr-9* and *odr-2* in AIB were affected in *unc-42(e419)* mutant animals.

**(G)** Deletion of a putative UNC-42 binding site in *inx-6(ot840)* animals, results in loss of *inx-6* expression specifically in AIB in dauer and L1d. See Fig.3B for control images.

**(H)** Quantification of *inx-6* fosmid reporter (*otIs473*) expression in dauer. *inx-6* expression is lost in AIB in *daf-7(e1372); daf-16(mgDf50)* double mutant dauers.

**(I)** AIB specific degradation of DAF-16 in auxin-treated dauers, results in loss of DAF-16::mNeonGreen as well as *inx-6* (yellow) expression in AIB. In EtOH-treated control dauers, expression of DAF-16, as well as *inx-6* are maintained. Due to substantial overlap of mNG and YFP emission spectra these two expressions could not be separately imaged.

[*inx-6(ot804); daf-2(e1370); daf-16(ot853); otEx7309*]

**(J)** Quantification of results shown in panel I.

## KEY RESOURCE TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<b>Chemicals</b>		
Diacetyl	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # 11038
Trimethylamine solution	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # W324108
2-Butanone	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # 34861
2-Octanone	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # 02479
2-Heptanone	Sigma-Aldrich	Cat # 537683
Auxin (Indole-3-acetic acid)	Alfa Aesar	Cat # 87-51-4
DiD	ThermoFisher	Cat # V22887
<b>Reporter DNA on transgenic array</b>		
<i>inx-1a</i> <sup>WRM0672aB09fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15285 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7116</i> ]
<i>inx-1b</i> <sup>WRM0672aB09fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15276 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7107</i> ]
<i>inx-3</i> <sup>WRM0636dA10fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15291 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7121</i> ]
<i>inx-3</i> <sup>WRM0636dA10fosmid</sup> :: <i>gfp/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11846 [ <i>otEx5393</i> ]
<i>che-7</i> <sup>WRM0640dF02 fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15281 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7112</i> ]
<i>che-7</i> <sup>WRM0640dF02fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15277 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7108</i> ]
<i>ot805</i> ; <i>che-7</i> <sup>WRM0640dF02fosmid</sup> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13967 [ <i>inx-6(ot805); otEx6486</i> ]
<i>inx-5</i> <sup>WRM0625eD05fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15270 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7101</i> ]
<i>inx-5</i> <sup>WRM0625eD05fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15271 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7102</i> ]
<i>inx-6</i> <sup>WRM0630bD03fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12042 [ <i>otIs473</i> ]
<i>inx-7</i> <sup>WRM0631dH08fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (10ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15689 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7292</i> ]
<i>inx-8</i> <sup>WRM0632dA04fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15691 [ <i>otEx7294</i> ]
<i>inx-9</i> <sup>WRM0632dA04fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15532 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7227</i> ]
<i>inx-9</i> <sup>WRM0632dA04fosmid</sup> :: <i>gfp/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11841 [ <i>otEx5388</i> ]
<i>inx-10a</i> <sup>WRM0628bH12 fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15287 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7118</i> ]
<i>inx-10a</i> <sup>WRM0628bH12fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15288 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7119</i> ]
<i>inx-11</i> <sup>WRM0621cA09fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>unc-122::gfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15242 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7090</i> ]
<i>inx-12</i> <sup>WRM0621dC07fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2::bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15282 [ <i>pha-1(e2123); otEx7113</i> ]

REAGENT or RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>inx-12</i> <sup>WRM0621dC07fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15283 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7114</i> ]
<i>inx-13</i> <sup>WRM0621dC07fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15273 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7104</i> ]
<i>inx-14</i> <sup>WRM0626aA10fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15272 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7103</i> ]
<i>inx-15</i> <sup>WRM0619cH12fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15540 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7232</i> ]
<i>inx-16</i> <sup>WRM0619cH12fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15274 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7105</i> ]
<i>inx-17</i> <sup>WRM0619cH12fosmid</sup> :: <i>gfp/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11495 [ <i>otEx5207</i> ]
<i>inx-17</i> <sup>WRM0619cH12fosmid</sup> :: <i>gfp/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11496 [ <i>otEx5208</i> ]
<i>inx-18a</i> <sup>WRM0629cH03fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15225 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7075</i> ]
<i>inx-18b</i> <sup>WRM0629cH03fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (20ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15244 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7092</i> ]
<i>inx-19</i> <sup>Extended WRM0632bE10fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (40ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15542 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7233</i> ]
<i>inx-19</i> <sup>Extended WRM0632bE10fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (40ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15543 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7234</i> ]
<i>inx-20</i> <sup>WRM066cA02fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (40ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15224 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7074</i> ]
<i>eat-5</i> <sup>WRM0621dG04fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15530 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7225</i> ]
<i>eat-5</i> <sup>WRM0621dG04fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15531 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7226</i> ]
<i>unc-7</i> <sup>WRM0627bH02fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (15ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15275 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7106</i> ]
<i>unc-9</i> <sup>WRM0611aH10fosmid</sup> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (7.5ng/ul), <i>pha-1</i> (+) (3ng/ul), <i>myo-2</i> :: <i>bfp</i> (10ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15278 [ <i>pha-1</i> (e2123); <i>otEx7109</i> ]
<i>ets-5p</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> (10ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul) [BAG axon marker]	this paper	OH15535 [ <i>otEx7230</i> ]
<i>npr-9p</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> (10ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul) [AIB axon marker]	this paper	OH13918 [ <i>otIs643</i> ]
<i>che-7prom1</i> :: <i>che-7</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15706 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7300</i> ]
<i>che-7prom1</i> :: <i>che-7</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15707 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7301</i> ]
<i>che-7prom2</i> :: <i>che-7</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15708 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7302</i> ]
<i>che-7prom2</i> :: <i>che-7</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15709 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7303</i> ]
<i>che-7prom3</i> :: <i>che-7</i> :: <i>tagrfp</i> :: <i>SL2</i> :: <i>NLS</i> :: <i>yfp</i> :: <i>H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15710 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7304</i> ]

REAGENT or RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>che-7prom3::che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15711 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7305</i> ]
<i>che-7prom4::che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15712 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7306</i> ]
<i>che-7prom4::che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15713 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7307</i> ]
<i>che-7prom5::che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13943 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx6485</i> ]
<i>che-7prom5::che-7::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15714 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7308</i> ]
<i>flp-17p::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13968 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx6487</i> ]
<i>flp-17p::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13969 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx6488</i> ]
<i>che-1p::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13970 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx6489</i> ]
<i>gcy-8p::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15704 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7298</i> ]
<i>gcy-8p::che-7<sup>DNA</sup>::tagrfp::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B/NotI</i> (6ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15705 [ <i>inx-6</i> (ot805); <i>che-7</i> (ok2373); <i>otEx7299</i> ]
<i>flp-18p::unc-7::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B</i> (2ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>unc-122::gfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15587 [ <i>otEx7250</i> [Line # 2]]
<i>flp-18p::unc-7::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B</i> (2ng/ul), <i>pha-1(+)</i> (3ng/ul), <i>unc-122::gfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15588 [ <i>otEx7251</i> [Line # 3]]
<i>inx-6prom1::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15702 [ <i>otEx7296</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom1::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15703 [ <i>otEx7297</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom2::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11832 [ <i>otEx5380</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom2::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH11833 [ <i>otEx5381</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom3::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12252 [ <i>otEx484</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom4::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13068 [ <i>otEx6031</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom4::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH13069 [ <i>otEx6032</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom5::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12118 [ <i>otEx5481</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom5::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12119 [ <i>otEx5482</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom5::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12120 [ <i>otEx5483</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom6::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12127 [ <i>otEx5487</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom6::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12128 [ <i>otEx5488</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom7::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12129 [ <i>otEx5489</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom7::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12130 [ <i>otEx5490</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom7::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50 gDNA</i> (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12131 [ <i>otEx5491</i> ]

REAGENT or RESOURCES	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
<i>inx-6prom13::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12243 [ <i>otEx5532</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom13::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12244 [ <i>otEx5533</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom13::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12245 [ <i>otEx5534</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom3<sup>Del</sup>::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12657 [ <i>otEx5776</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom3<sup>Del</sup>::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12658 [ <i>otEx5777</i> ]
<i>inx-6prom3<sup>Del</sup>::tagrfp</i> (8ng/ul), linearized pRF4 (rol-6) (4ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH12659 [ <i>otEx5778</i> ]
<i>inx-1p::TIR1::unc-54 3'UTR::rps-27p::NeoR::unc-54 3'UTR</i> (10ng/ul), <i>unc-122::gfp</i> (5ng/ul), <i>OP50</i> gDNA (100ng/ul)	this paper	OH15715 [ <i>inx-6(ot804); otEx7309</i> ]
<b>CRISPR alleles and MOS-insertions</b>		
<i>inx-2(ot906 [inx-2::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B])</i>	this paper	OH15566
<i>inx-6(ot804 [inx-6::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B])</i>	this paper	OH13525
<i>inx-6(ot805 [inx-6::gfp])</i>	this paper	OH13525
<i>inx-6(ot804 [inx-6::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B]ot808 [inx-6<sup>Del-TAATTA</sup> ::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B])</i>	this paper	OH13565
<i>inx-6(ot804 [inx-6::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B]ot840 [inx-6<sup>Del-TAATTA</sup> ::SL2::NLS::yfp::H2B])</i>	this paper	OH14014
<i>daf-16(ot853 [daf-16::linker::mNG::3xFlag::AID])</i>	this paper	OH14125
<i>otTi19 (Si[Pnpr-9::INX-6::GFP])</i>	this paper	OH14529