

Supplemental Figure 1: Comparison of the responses of the model network when different specific capacitance values are implemented. Propagation of DC signals and spikes between model cells connected by a junctional conductance (0.5 nS) between the soma of cell 1, (V_1) and mid-dendrite of cell 2 (V_2) . (A) Simulations were run using a high value (3 µF/cm²) of specific capacitance in order to compensate for the simplified structure of the model cells. Traces illustrate the propagation of DC signals generated by the sequential injection of a current step (-100 pA, 500 ms) in cell 1 and cell2, respectively. Insets show the responses in the non injected cells at magnified scale. DC coupling coefficients (CC) are shown above the response in the non-injected cells. Notice that repeating the simulation using a more traditional value of specific capacitance (1 μF/cm²) does not affect significantly the propagation of DC signals in the model, as shown in panel (B). In contrast, propagation of spikes is depressed when using higher values of specific capacitance as shown by the comparison of the simulations run in panel (C) $(3 \mu F/cm^2)$ and (D) $(1 \mu F/cm^2)$. Spikes were evoked in the model cells by the sequential injection in cell 1 and 2 of a depolarizing current step (70 pA, 500 ms). The propagation obtained by implementing higher capacitance values are more conservative and result in a better match to experimentally determined values [see Price et al., 2005] (average DC CC reported was 0.094±0.056) and Zsiros and Maccaferri, 2005 (reported spike CC was 0.005±0.001)]