

**Supplementary Figure 1**: (a) Size (pixels) probability distributions. Two mice recovering from anesthesia (A2 and A3) and one fully awake mouse (R2) shown from left to right in all panels. Colour coding as in Figure 2. (b)  $\kappa$  values as a function of time (minutes). Colour coding and mice as in (a). (c) State entropy H<sub>state</sub> (bits) as a function of time (minutes). Mice as in (a). Pink, orange and purple colours correspond to 10, 50 and 200 clusters in the k-means algorithm. (d) Transition entropy H<sub>trans</sub> (bits) from a 1<sup>st</sup> order Markov model as a function of time (minutes). Colour coding and mice as in (c).







**Supplementary Figure 2**: Results for noise data corresponding to layout and colour coding in **Figure 2** for mouse A1.



Supplementary Figure 3: (a) State entropy  $H_{state}$  (bits) as a function of  $\kappa$ . Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (c). (b) Transition entropy  $H_{trans}$  (bits) from a 1<sup>st</sup> order Markov model as a function of  $\kappa$ . Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (c). (c) Regional entropy  $H_{reg}$  (bits) as a function of time (minutes). Mice as in Supp. Fig. 1.  $H_{reg}$  is calculated for four different cortex grid definitions. Red: each square consists of 8×8 pixels for half temporal resolution data. Blue: each square consists of 8×8 pixels. Green: each square consists of 5×5 pixels for half spatial resolution data. Yellow: each square consists of 5×5 pixels. (d) Information transmission (bits), as a function of time (minutes). Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (a). а



## b





**Supplementary Figure 4**: Results for purely temporal cascade detection corresponding to layout and colour coding in **Figure 2 (a)**, **(b)**, **(e)** & **(f)** for mouse A1.



**Supplementary Figure 5**: Results for noise data corresponding to layout and colour coding in **Figure 4** for mouse A1.







b

**Supplementary Figure 6:** (a)  $H_{reg}$  (bits) within 5×5 pixel regions for anaesthetised (left) and awake (right) states. (b)  $\kappa_{reg}$  within 5×5 pixel regions for anaesthetised (left) and awake (right) states. (c) Mean values of mutual information between all regions in the motor (top left), somatosensory (top right), visual (bottom left) and retrosplenial (bottom right) cortices and the rest of the brain for anaesthetized (left) and awake (right) states.

Mouse A2

Mouse A3



Supplementary Figure 7: (a) Information transmission (bits), as a function of regional entropy  $H_{reg}$  (bits). Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (a). (b)  $\kappa_{reg}$  as a function of time (minutes). Colour coding and mice as Supp. Fig. 1 (a). (c) Regional entropy  $H_{reg}$  (bits) as a function of  $\kappa_{reg}$ . Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (a). (d) Information transmission (bits), as a function of  $\kappa_{reg}$ . Colour coding and mice as in Supp. Fig. 1 (a).