



NEUROPIXELS 2.0

High resolution fully integrated silicon neural probe for small animal recording

Key Features

- 1280 or 5120 reliable, low-impedance TiN¹ electrodes
- Dense 2 row linear electrode layout along one 10-mm long single shank or four 10-mm long shanks
- 70 x 24 μm shank cross-section
- Maximal shank bending $\leq 200 \mu\text{m}$
- 384 parallel, full-band (AP², LFP³), low-noise recording channels
- On-chip amplification, signal conditioning and digitization
- Channel-independent reference selection (internal or external)
- Small, flexible and light-weight package (0.16–0.18 g)
- Systematic quality control process to ensure low variability in performance
- Fully characterized and qualified
- Compatible with SpikeGLX and Open Ephys software
- Compatible with the Neuropixels 1.0 cabling and PXIe system or OneBox

¹ Titanium Nitride Electrode, US9384990 B2

² Action potentials

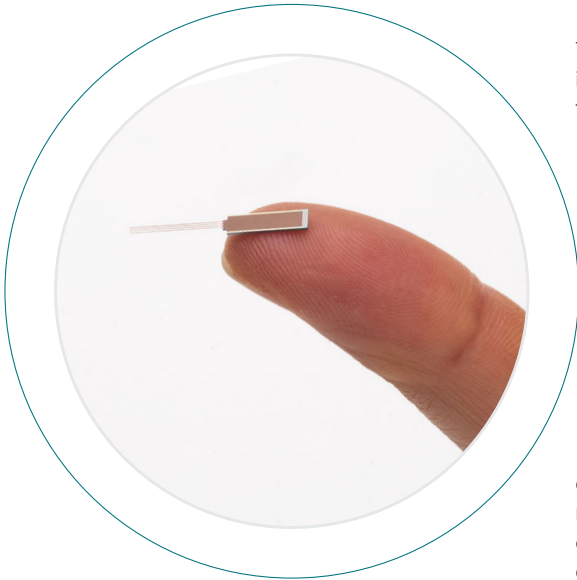
³ Local field potentials

Important Information

The Neuropixels probes are intended for RESEARCH USE ONLY ("RUO") in non-human subjects such as small animals*. These Neuropixels probes should not be used in humans and are not manufactured or approved for human use. They have no proven human efficacy and are not indicated for human use or any form of clinical use. The Neuropixels probes are provided and delivered for use only under the imec general terms and conditions of sale of Neuropixels 2.0 probes ("GTC"). [The GTC is available for download on www.neuropixels.org]



Description



The Neuropixels⁴ 2.0 neural probe is the most advanced CMOS digital integrated microsystems platform. A miniaturized package (compared to the Neuropixels 1.0 probes) and the option of a single shank or multiple shanks will allow for even higher density chronic recording in small animal models. The probe features 1280 low-impedance TiN recording sites densely tiled along one thin, 10 mm-long, straight shank, or 5120 electrodes divided over 4 shanks. The 384 parallel low-noise recording channels integrated in the base enable simultaneous full band recording of hundreds of neurons. On-chip circuitry for signal conditioning and digitization results in a small and light-weight package allowing the implantation and simultaneous use of multiple probes in close proximity.

Neuropixels probes enable long-term monitoring and dense sampling of single cell activity as well as larger neuron populations in awake and anaesthetized animals. The probes connect to the custom-made recording system via a miniature and light-weight headstage, which is an essential interface board for reliable power supply, probe configuration, data streaming and system/probe diagnostics. Each headstage can connect two probes simultaneously. The probes are compatible with the Neuropixels 1.0 cables, PXIe based Card and Control System and OneBox, and are supported by the SpikeGLX and Open Ephys software.

Key Applications

- High-density in vivo recording of neural activity in small animal models.
- Recording of large neuron populations from several brain regions in freely moving animals at high spatiotemporal resolution and large volume coverage.

4 Steinmetz et al, Science 2021, Vol 372, Issue 6539



Ordering information

ORDER CODE	DESCRIPTION
NP2013	Box of 5 Neuropixels 2.0 multishank probes
NP2014	Box of 5 Neuropixels 2.0 multishank probes with metal cap
DNP2013	Box of 6 Neuropixels 2.0 dummy multishank probes
DNP2014	Box of 6 Neuropixels 2.0 dummy multishank probes with metal cap
NP2003	Box of 5 Neuropixels 2.0 single shank probes
NP2004	Box of 5 Neuropixels 2.0 single shank probes with metal cap
DNP2003	Box of 6 Neuropixels 2.0 dummy single shank probes
DNP2004	Box of 6 Neuropixels 2.0 dummy single shank probes with metal cap
HS_2010	Neuropixels 2.0 headstage
HOLDER_2000_C	Neuropixels 2.0 metal cap probe holder pair

COMING SOON

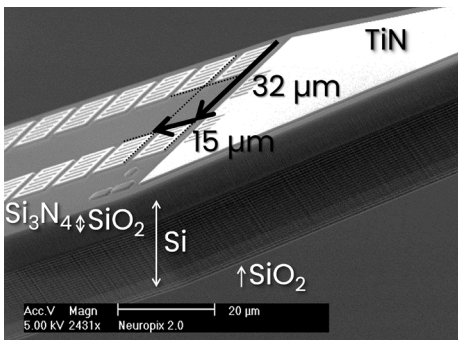


Figure 1: SEM image of the shank tip. Indicated are the electrode pitch and exposed materials.

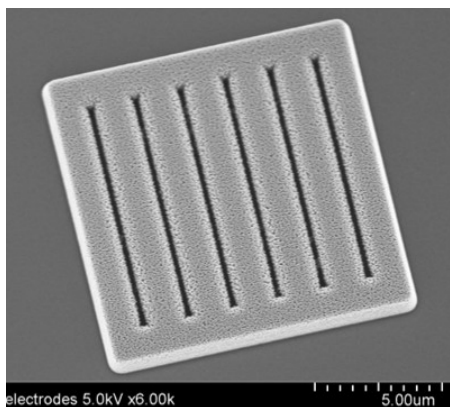


Figure 2: SEM image of a 12 x 12 μm TiN¹ electrode.

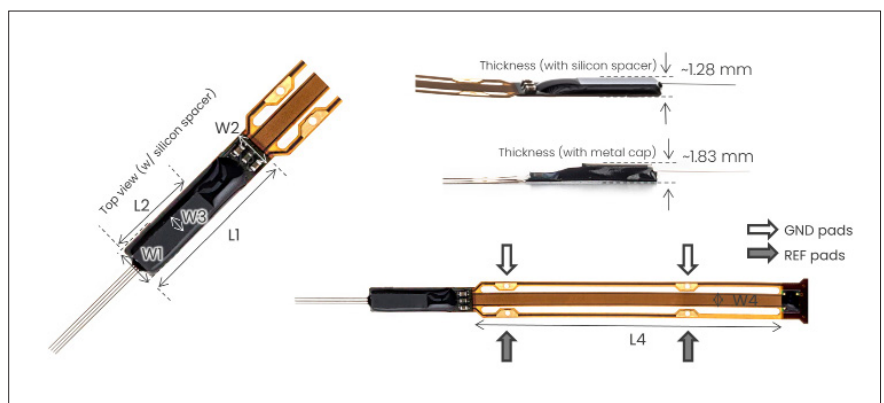


Figure 3: Dimensions of the different probe packages and locations of REF/GND input pads.



ELECTRODES

NUMBER	1280 (single shank version) or 5120 (multi shank version)
PATTERN	linear, two rows
PITCH	15 μm (column), 32 μm (row) (Figure 1)
MATERIAL	Porous TiN ⁵ (Figure 2)
SIZE	12 x 12 μm
IMPEDANCE	~150 k Ω (at 1 kHz in PBS ⁵)
SELECTIVITY	Local switch under each electrode

SHANK PROPERTIES AND MATERIALS

NUMBER	1 (single shank version) or 4 (multi shank version)
SHANK PITCH	250 μm
WIDTH	70 μm
LENGTH	10 mm
THICKNESS	24 μm
BENDING	$\leq 200 \mu\text{m}$ (base to tip)
TIP LENGTH	175 μm
TIP SHAPE	Chisel
TIP ANGLE	~20°
FRONTSIDE MATERIAL	Silicon nitride (Si_3N_4) (Figure 1)
BACKSIDE MATERIAL	Silicon dioxide (SiO_2)
SIDEWALL MATERIALS	Silicon (Si), silicon dioxide (SiO_2)

RECORDING CHANNELS AND DIGITAL INTERFACE

NUMBER	384 (full-band)
BANDWIDTH	0.5 Hz ~ 10 kHz
AP INPUT-REFERRED NOISE	~6.8 μV_{rms} (typical ⁶)
LFP INPUT-REFERRED NOISE	~5 μV_{rms} (typical)
SAMPLING FREQUENCY	30 kHz
GAIN	100
CROSSTALK	0.35% (single shank) or 1.51% (multi shank) (at 1 kHz; typical) (estimation)
INPUT VOLTAGE RANGE	10 mVpp
ADC RESOLUTION	12 bits
DATA RATE	144 Mb/s
POWER CONSUMPTION	~22 mW (in recording mode; typical)
SHANK HEATING	<1°C (in the brain)

REFERENCE SELECTION

INPUTS	Large tip electrode on each shank (Figure 1) External reference input on the probe package (Figure 3)
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⁵ Phosphate buffered saline

⁶ Process corner

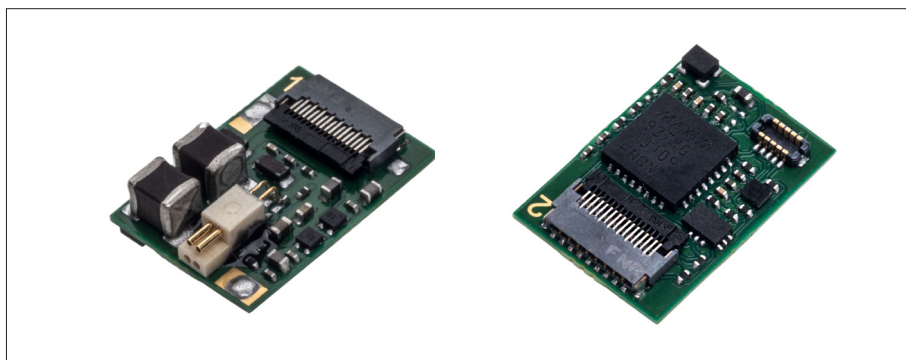


Figure 4: Headstage for Neuropixels 2.0 probe. One headstage can connect to 2 probes.



PACKAGE DESCRIPTION

WIDTH AT PROBE BASE (W1)	3.5 mm
WIDTH AT SMD ⁷ BASE (W2)	3.5 mm
WIDTH OF SILICON SPACER (W3)	2.0 mm
WIDTH OF METAL CAP (W3')	1.8 mm
WIDTH OF FLEX (W4)	2.0 mm
LENGTH OF PROBE + BASE SMD ⁷ (L1)	14 mm
LENGTH OF SILICON SPACER (L3)	7.8 mm
LENGTH OF METAL CAP (L3')	8.0 mm
LENGTH OF FLEX (L4)	42 mm
THICKNESS AT PROBE BASE	~1.28 mm (with Si spacer) ~1.83 mm (with metal cap)
THICKNESS OF FLEX	80 µm
EXTERNAL REFERENCE INPUT	REF (multiple pads along flex)
GROUND INPUT	GND (multiple pads along flex)
BLACK EPOXY	EPO-TEK / H70E
CONFORMAL COATING OF SMD ⁷	ELPEGUARD / SL 1307 FLZ-T
WEIGHT	~163 mg (with Si spacer) ~183 mg (with metal cap)

HEADSTAGE

SIZE	10 mm x 14 mm x 3.7 mm
WEIGHT	600 mg
ZIF CONNECTOR	2 x 17-pin
SOLDER PADS	GND (ELEC_TIP, CAL_SIG)
CABLE CONNECTOR	4-pin (Omnetics)
CONFORMAL COATING OF SMD ⁷	ELPEGUARD / SL 1307 FLZ-T

METAL CAP HOLDER

LENGTH	7.5 cm
DIAMETER	4 mm
MATERIAL	Aluminium 6061

⁷ Surface-mount devices: Biasing resistors, decoupling capacitors, EEPROM with probe ID, low-noise reference supply IC

About Neuropixels

The Neuropixels 2.0 neural probe is an advanced silicon CMOS digital integrated microsystem and a tool for neuroscience research. It was developed through a collaboration funded by Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), University college London (UCL), The Flemish Institute for Biotechnology (VIB), the Catholic University of Leuven (KUL), The Norwegian University for Science and Technology (NTNU), and the Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown. Probes were designed, developed and fabricated at imec, Leuven, Belgium in collaboration with Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI), University college London (UCL), The Flemish Institute for Biotechnology (VIB), the Catholic University of Leuven (KUL), The Norwegian University for Science and Technology (NTNU), and the Champalimaud Centre for the Unknown.

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* Small animals like rodents and non-human primates