

Figure S1: Illustration of the parameter finding method

(A) Dependency of metrics on the parameters of the pruning algorithm. Cell density and axonal length are experimentally provided and unaffected by pruning. Standard deviation of the number of synapses per connection  $(S_{sd})$  is assumed and serves as an additional metric. The coefficient of variation  $(S_{cv})$  is the ratio of standard deviation and mean. Green / red edges indicate that increasing the value of the parameter while keeping all else fixed, increases/decreases the metric. (B) Parameterization method:  $S_m$ ,  $S_sd$  and  $B_d$  are taken from the literature (biological parametrization) or extrapolated and generalized (generalized parametrization). As  $S_{sd}$  is determined only by  $f_1$ , we can match the biological value by choosing  $f_1$ . The only remaining parameter that determines  $S_m$  is  $\mu_2$ . Finally, we can choose  $s_3$  to match  $B_d$  leaving  $C_p$  as a prediction.