CONTENTS

Chapter 1  General Introduction 11
Chapter 2  High bandwidth synaptic transmission in human neocortex 39
Chapter 3  Human synapses show a wide temporal window for spike-timing-dependent plasticity 55
Chapter 4  Hyperconnectivity and slow synapses during early development of medial prefrontal cortex in a mouse model for mental retardation and autism 69
Chapter 5  Enhanced long-term microcircuit plasticity in the valproic acid animal model of autism 83
Chapter 6  General Discussion 95
          Summary 107
          Acknowledgements 115