# Modelling impaired and enhanced learning with enhanced plasticity

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#### Introduction

Learning requires synaptic plasticity.

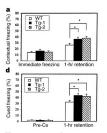


Can we enhance learning by enhancing plasticity?



## Enhanced plasticity can enhance learning

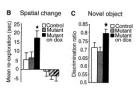
#### Overexpress NR2B



Fear conditioning

[Tang et al. (1999)]

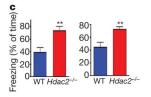
#### Inhibit CN



#### Novel object recog.

[Malleret et al. (2001)]

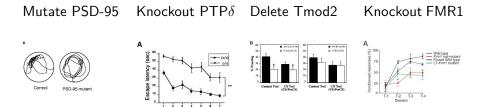
#### Knockout Hdac2



#### Fear conditioning

[Guan et al. (2009)]

## Enhanced plasticity can impair learning



Fear cond.

[Migaud et al. (1998)][Uetani et al. (2000)] [Cox et al. (2003)]

Water maze

[Koekkoek et al. (2005)

also: [Hayashi et al. (2004), Rutten et al. (2008)]

Eyeblink

Water maze

#### Overview

Sometimes enhanced plasticity  $\to$  enhanced learning. Sometimes enhanced plasticity  $\to$  impaired learning.

Why? How? When?

#### Overview

Sometimes enhanced plasticity  $\to$  enhanced learning. Sometimes enhanced plasticity  $\to$  impaired learning.



Why? How? When?

Mice with enhanced cerebellar plasticity can show both impaired and enhanced learning.

Simple synapses cannot explain behaviour. Complex synapses are required. → predictions for synaptic physiology.

#### Vestibulo-Occular Reflex



Eye movements compensate for head movements ⇒ stabilise image on retina.

Requires control of VOR gain =  $\frac{\text{eye velocity}}{\text{head velocity}}$ 

Needs to be adjusted as eye muscles age, etc.

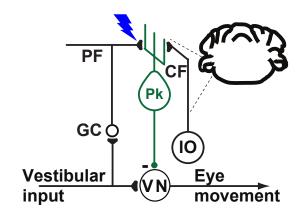
## Vestibulo-Occular Reflex training

#### **VOR Increase Training**



**VOR Decrease** Training





VOR increase: VOR decrease: LTD in PF-Pk synapses.

different mechanism,

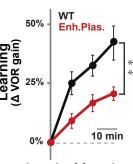
also reverses LTD in PF-Pk.

[Marr (1969), Albus (1971), Ito (1972)]

## Enhanced plasticity impairs learning

Expectation: enhanced LTD  $\rightarrow$  enhanced learning.

VOR Increase Training



Experiment: enhanced plasticity  $\rightarrow$  impaired learning.

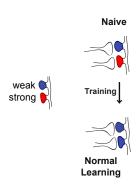
Knockout of MHC-I K<sup>b</sup>D<sup>b</sup> molecules in PF-Pk synapses

 $\rightarrow$  lower threshold for LTD

[McConnell et al. (2009)]

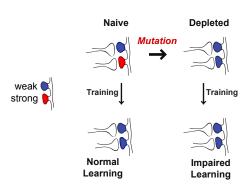
## Depletion hypothesis

Learning rate  $\sim$  intrinsic plasticity rate  $\times$  # synapses available for LTD.



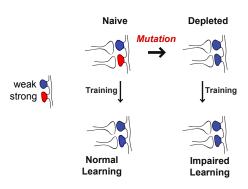
#### Depletion hypothesis

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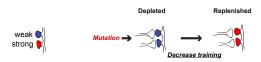


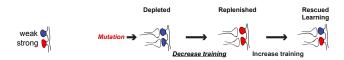
#### Depletion hypothesis

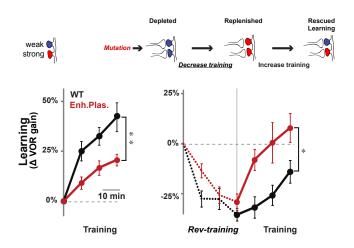
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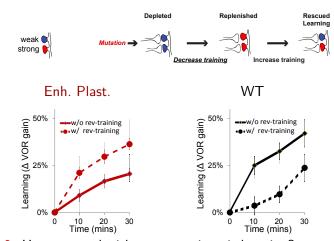






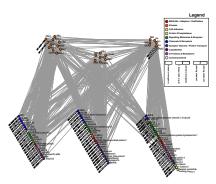




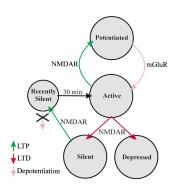


Question 2: How can replenishment ever impair learning?

## Synapses are complex



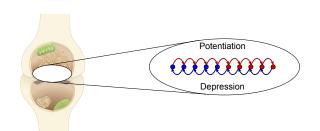
[Coba et al. (2009)]



[Montgomery and Madison (2002)]



- $\bullet \ \, \text{Internal functional state of synapse} \to \text{synaptic weight}. \\$
- weakstrong
- $\bullet \ \, \text{Candidate plasticity events} \to \text{transitions between states} \\$



States: NMDAR subunit composition, CaMK II autophosphorylation, activating PKC, p38 MAPK,...

[Fusi et al. (2005), Fusi and Abbott (2007), Barrett and van Rossum (2008)]
[Smith et al. (2006), Lahiri and Ganguli (2018)]

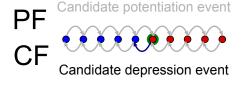
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- $\bullet \ \, \text{Candidate plasticity events} \to \text{transitions between states} \\$

Candidate potentiation event

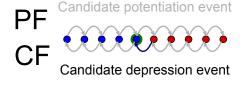
Candidate potentiation event

Candidate depression event

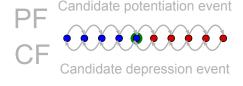
- $\bullet$  Internal functional state of synapse  $\to$  synaptic weight.
- weak
- $\bullet \ \, \text{Candidate plasticity events} \, \to \, \text{transitions between states} \\$
- strong



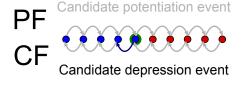
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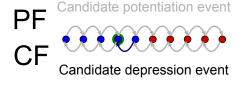
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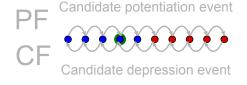
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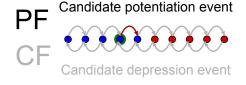
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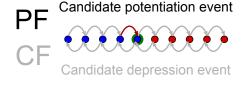
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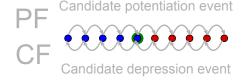
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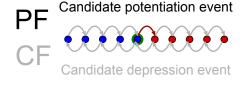
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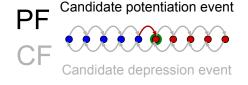
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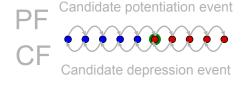
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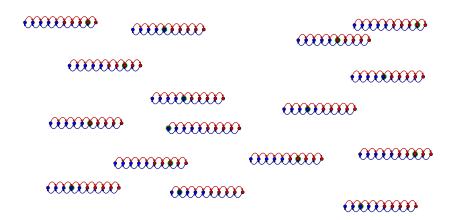
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strong

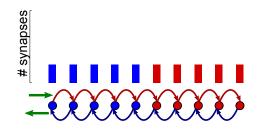
Potentiation

Depression

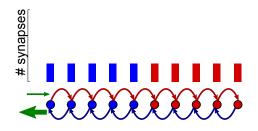
## Modelling VOR experiments



#### Modelling VOR experiments

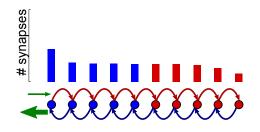


 $PF-Pk\ LTD \rightarrow VOR\ increase$ 



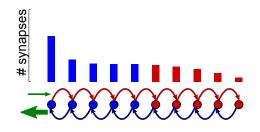
Training: different CF activity  $\implies$  change frequency of pot/dep events.

 $PF-Pk\ LTD \rightarrow VOR\ increase$ 



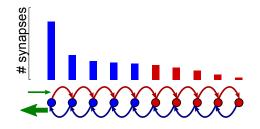
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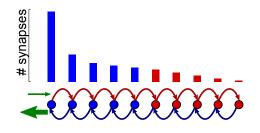
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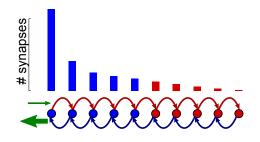
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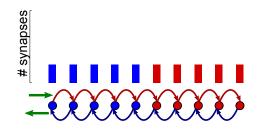
 $PF-Pk\ LTD \rightarrow VOR\ increase$ 



Training: different CF activity  $\implies$  change frequency of pot/dep events.

Learning: decrease in average synaptic weight.

 $PF-Pk\ ITD \rightarrow VOR\ increase$ 

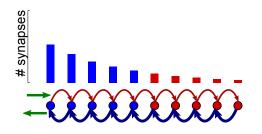


Training: different CF activity  $\Longrightarrow$ change frequency of pot/dep events.

Learning: decrease in average synaptic weight.

Mutation: lower threshold for LTD  $\Longrightarrow$ increase transition probability for depression events.

 $PF-Pk\ LTD \rightarrow VOR\ increase$ 



Training: different CF activity  $\implies$  change frequency of pot/dep events.

Learning: decrease in average synaptic weight.

Mutation: lower threshold for LTD  $\implies$  increase transition probability for depression events.

### Questions

Depletion effect competes with enhanced intrinsic plasticity.

Question 1: When is the depletion effect stronger?

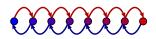
Reverse training impairs learning in wild-type.

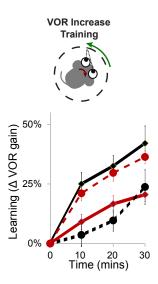
Question 2: How can replenishment ever impair learning?

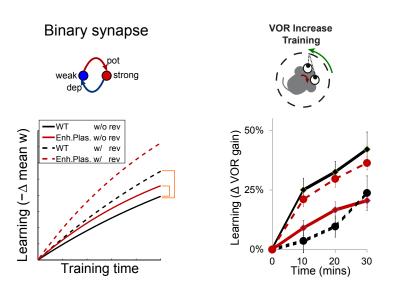
Enhanced plasticity  $\rightarrow$  enhanced/impaired learning

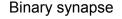
Big question: Why?

Multistate synapse

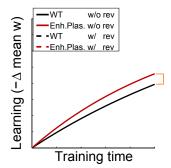


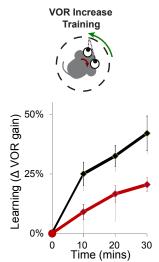




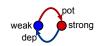




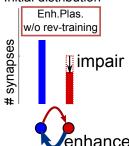




#### Binary synapse

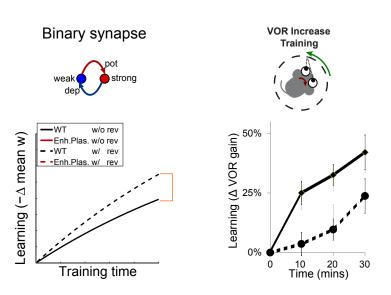


#### Initial distribution



depletion effect < enhanced plasticity

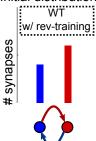
⇒ enhanced learning



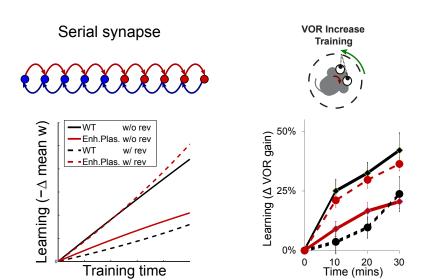
### Binary synapse

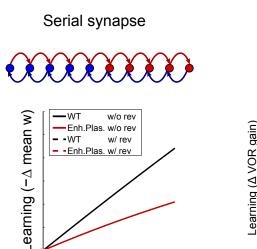


### Initial distribution

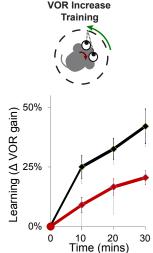


reverse training  $\Longrightarrow$  replenishment  $\Longrightarrow$  enhanced learning

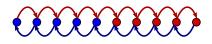


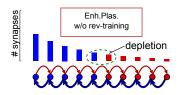


Training time



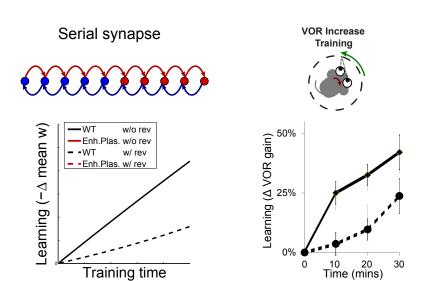
### Serial synapse



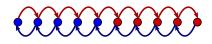


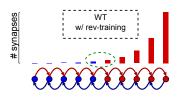
amplified depletion
>
enhanced plasticity

 $\implies$  impaired learning



### Serial synapse

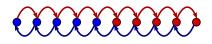


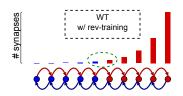


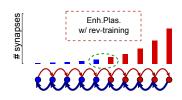
reverse training + "stubborn" metaplasticity

 $\implies$  impaired learning

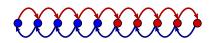
### Serial synapse







#### Serial synapse



starting point:
labile states

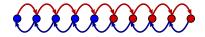
↓
enhanced plasticity

impaired learning

starting point:
stubborn states

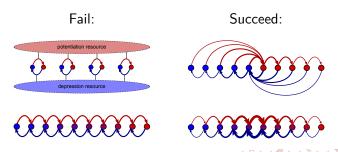
↓
enhanced plasticity
⇒ enhanced learning

### Essential features



The success of the serial model relies on two features:

- Complexity needed for depletion to dominate enhanced plasticity,
- Stubbornness repeated potentiation impairs subsequent depression.



#### Conclusions

- Diverse behavioural patterns:
   Enhanced plasticity → enhance/impair learning (prior experience).
   Reverse-training → enhance/impair learning (plasticity rates).
- ullet enhanced LTD vs. depletion o learning outcome.



- Predictions for synaptic physiology:
   Complexity: necessary to amplify depletion.
   Stubbornness: repeated potentiation impairs subsequent depression.
- We used behaviour to constrain the dynamics of synaptic plasticity.

### Acknowledgements

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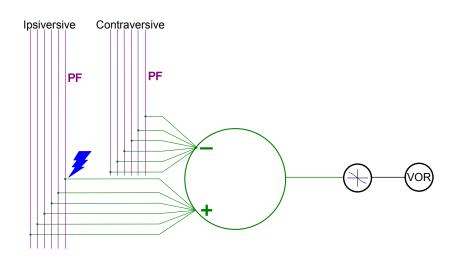
Carla Shatz Barbara Nguyen-Vu Han-Mi I ee

Grace 7hao

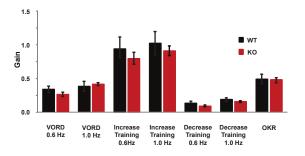
Aparna Suvrathan

Funding: Swartz Foundation, Stanford Bio-X Genentech fellowship.

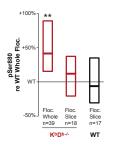
### Model of circuit

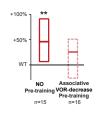


### Baseline



### Evidence: level of depression





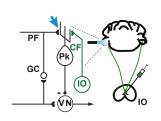
Basal level of GluR2 phosphorylation at serine 880 in AMPA receptor.

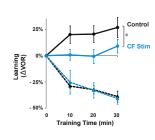
Biochemical signature of PF-Pk LTD.

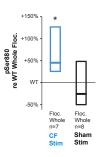
Shows that # depressed synapses in flocculus is larger in KO than WT.

### Evidence: saturation by CF stimulation

Use Channelrhodopsin to stimulate CF  $\rightarrow$ increase LTD in PF-Pk synapses  $\rightarrow$ simulate saturation in WT.

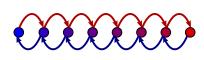




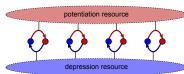


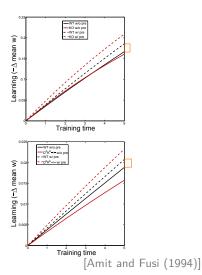
#### Other models that fail

#### Multistate synapse



Pooled resource model



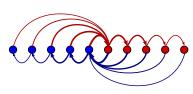


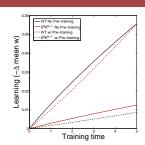
#### Other models that work

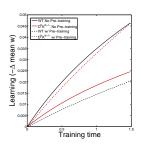
Non-uniform multistate model



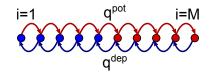
Cascade model







### Mathematical explanation



Serial synapse:  $\mathbf{p}_i^{\infty} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{q^{\mathrm{pot}}}{q^{\mathrm{dep}}}\right)^i$ .

Learning rate 
$$\sim \mathbf{p}_{M/2}^{\infty} \left( \frac{q^{\mathsf{dep}}}{q^{\mathsf{pot}}} \right) = \mathcal{N} \left( \frac{q^{\mathsf{pot}}}{q^{\mathsf{dep}}} \right)^{\frac{M}{2} - 1}$$
.

For M > 2: larger  $q^{\text{dep}} \implies$  slower learning.

For M=2: larger  $q^{\text{dep}} \implies \text{larger } \mathcal{N} \implies \text{faster learning}.$ 



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