

Understanding impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

based on work in preparation with: T.D. Barbara Nguyen-Vu, Grace Q. Zhao,
Han-Mi Lee, Surya Ganguli, Carla J. Shatz, Jennifer L. Raymond

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1. Acknowledge Barbara and Grace

Learning requires synaptic plasticity.
Expect enhanced plasticity → enhance learning.

[Tang et al. (1999), Malleret et al. (2001), Guan et al. (2009)]



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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Introduction

1. It does help in some cases
2. Want to understand when and why
3. Depends on circumstance. Rich pattern of behaviour
4. Develop understanding of when and why learning is enhanced/impaired



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[Migaud et al. (1998), Uetani et al. (2000), Hayashi et al. (2004)]

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

Analysis of models of complex synapses:

Find necessary and sufficient conditions to reproduce behaviour.

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- Cerebellar learning of mice with enhanced plasticity
- Complex synaptic models

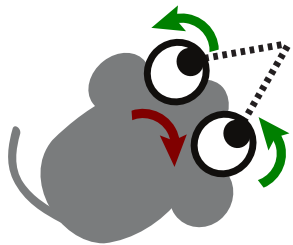
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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Outline

Outline

- Cerebellar learning of mice with enhanced plasticity
- Complex synaptic models



Eye movements compensate for head movements to maintain fixation.

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

Needs to be adjusted as eye muscles age, etc.

└ Vestibulo-Occular Reflex



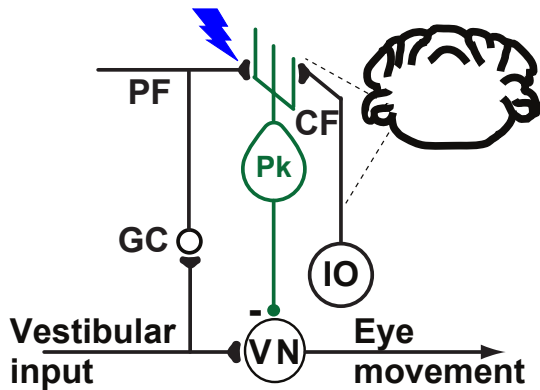
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VOR training

VOR Increase Training



VOR Decrease Training



Gain increase: LTD in PF-Pk synapses.
Gain decrease: different mechanism,
also reverses LTD in PF-Pk.

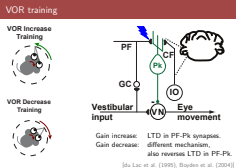
[du Lac et al. (1995), Boyden et al. (2004)]

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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ VOR training

1. trick brain into thinking VOR gain needs adjusting my moving visual stimulus
2. anti-phase → increase gain
3. in phase → decrease gain
4. Gain change involves cerebellum
5. If we enhanced plasticity here: expect enhanced learning

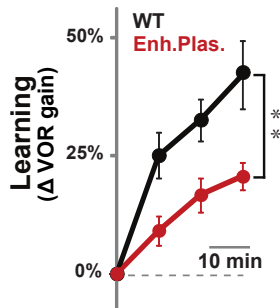


Enhanced plasticity impairs learning

Knockout of MHC-I D^bK^b molecules in PF-Pk synapses
→ lower threshold for LTD → enhanced plasticity.

[McConnell et al. (2009)]

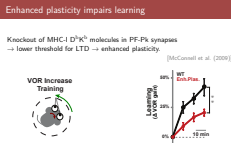
VOR Increase
Training



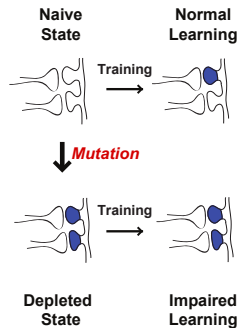
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Enhanced plasticity impairs learning

1. Major Histocompatibility Complex - involved in synaptic plasticity (Carla Shatz lab)
2. Easier LTD → expect better learning
3. Impairment of learning
4. Looking at change of VOR gain during gain-up training



Depletion hypothesis



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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

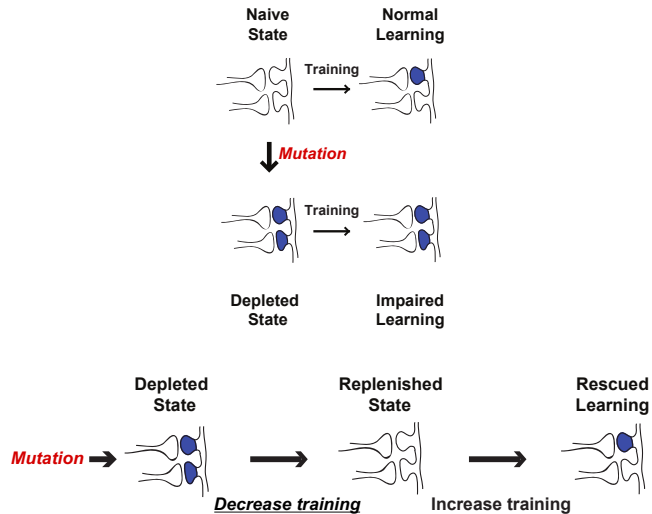
└ Depletion hypothesis

1. Our model: baseline activity → saturation → less depression possible
2. Saturation has to compete with enhanced plasticity. Which will win?

Depletion hypothesis



Depletion hypothesis

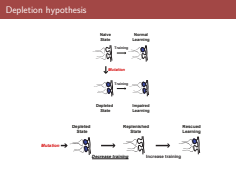


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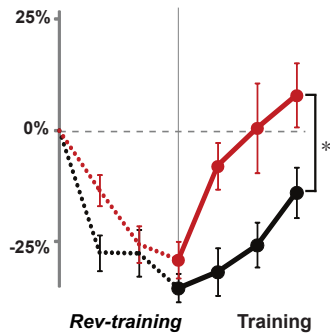
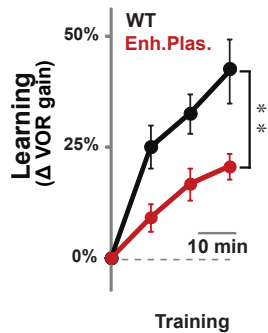
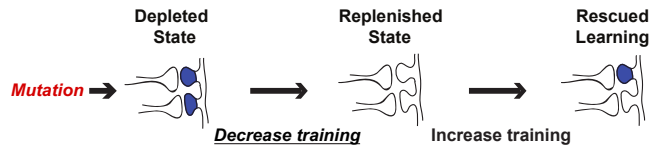
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

Depletion hypothesis

1. Our model: baseline activity \rightarrow saturation \rightarrow less depression possible
2. Saturation has to compete with enhanced plasticity. Which will win?
3. Prediction: replenish with rev-training \rightarrow rescue



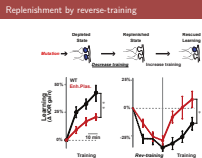
Replenishment by reverse-training



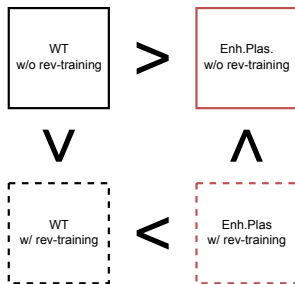
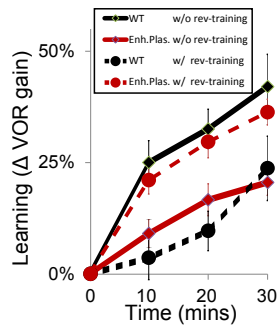
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

Replenishment by reverse-training

1. precede gain inc training w/ gain dec rev-training: reverses LTD
2. but behaviour from elsewhere → not modelled
3. Focus on gain inc part



Summary of training results



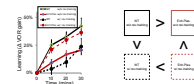
Questions:

Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

Summary of training results

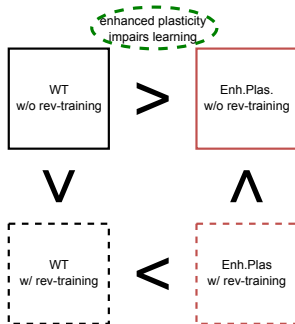
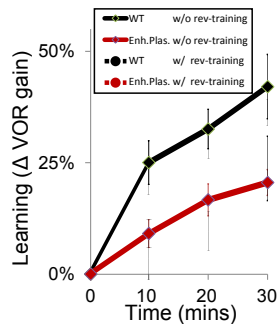
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2. Black: WT. Red: Enh.Plas
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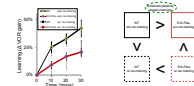
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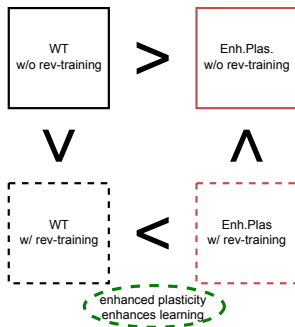
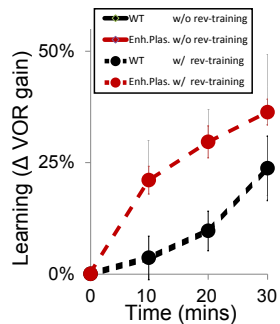
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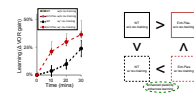
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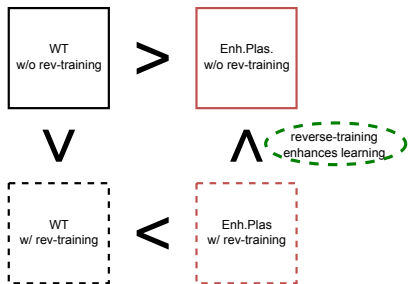
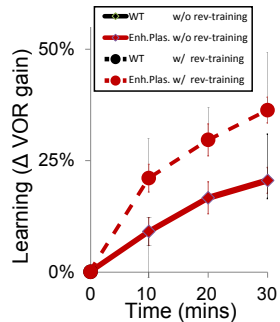
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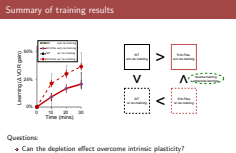
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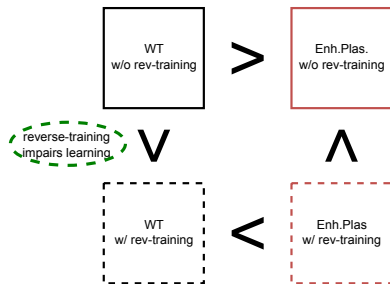
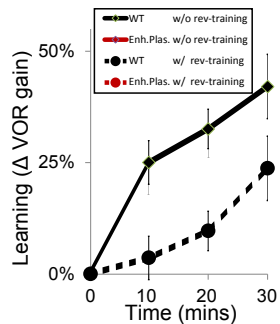
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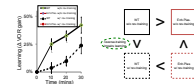
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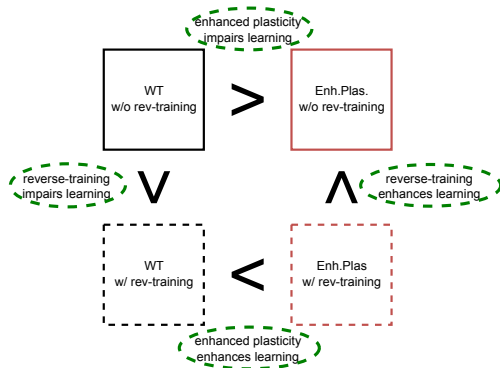
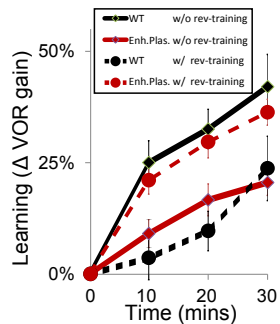


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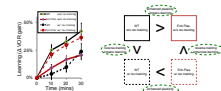
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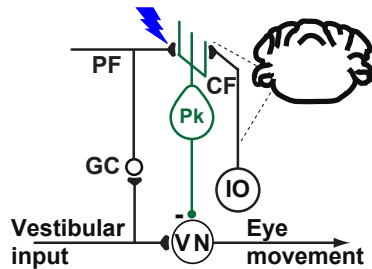


Questions:

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Behaviour to synapses

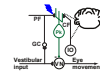
VOR Increase Training



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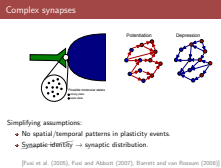
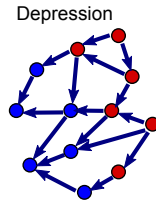
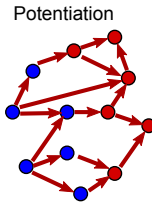
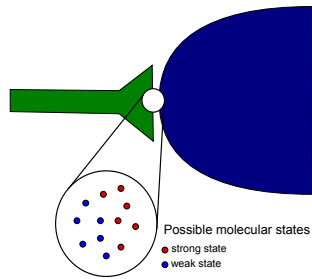
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Behaviour to synapses



1. Focus on synapses. See if we can understand this behaviour.

Complex synapses

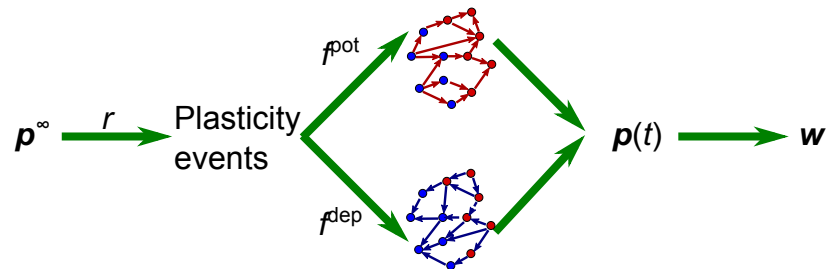


Simplifying assumptions:

- No spatial/temporal patterns in plasticity events.
- ~~Synaptic identity~~ → synaptic distribution.

[Fusi et al. (2005), Fusi and Abbott (2007), Barrett and van Rossum (2008)]

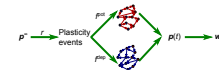
1. Not just synaptic weight, internal dynamical system
2. Important for memory: simple synapses – terrible storage, rescued by complexity
3. Multiple functional states w/ different weights
4. Stochastic transitions between states
5. pot/dep occur randomly
6. allows us to concentrate on synapse, not neuron/network
7. This is a question about synaptic populations after all.



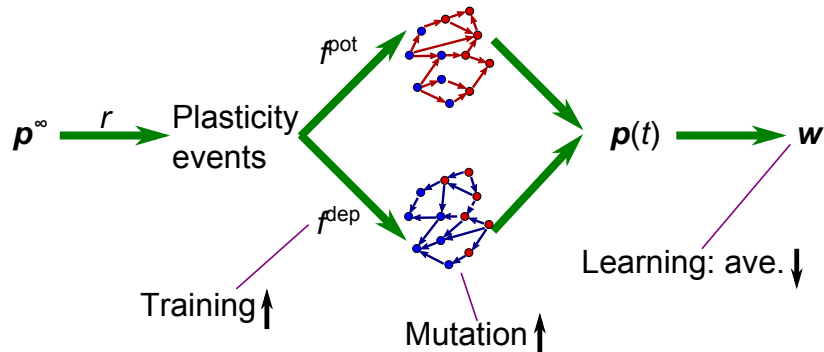
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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Synaptic dynamics



1. stoch process has steady state distribution.
2. Prior activity puts it in this state. row vec.
3. plasticity events at rate r
4. fraction pot/dep
5. probs changed by Markov matrices, prob $i \rightarrow j$
6. Readout: synaptic weight vec when in each state.



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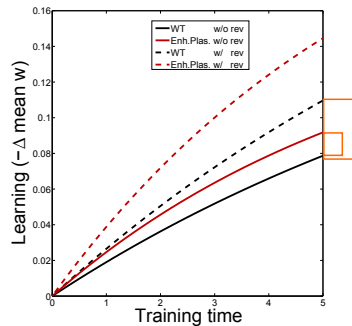
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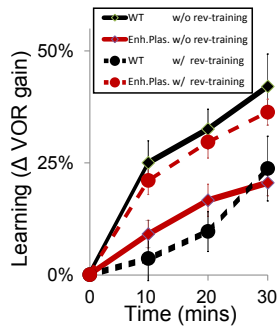
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6. Readout: synaptic weight vec when in each state.
7. Mutation: lower threshold \rightarrow increase transition probs
8. Training: Changes statistics of LTP/LTD. Only parameters we have. Don't care about r .
9. Learning: Only output we have. Don't keep track of synaptic identity.
10. Same PF+CF input \rightarrow same r, f^{pot}, f^{dep} in each case.
11. Input to Pk, some linear combination of w 's.

Simple synapses cannot explain the data

Binary synapse



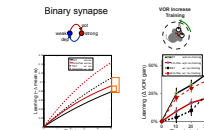
VOR Increase Training



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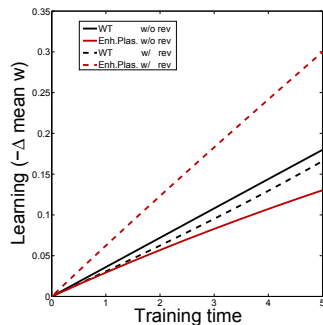
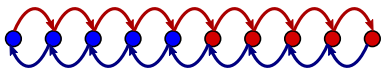
Simple synapses cannot explain the data

1. Binary fails – mathematical proof for any params
2. Enh.Plas: faster depression wins over bias
3. pre: reduces/reverses bias. always helps.

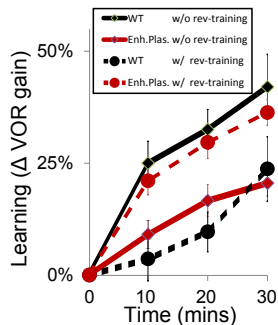


Complex synapses can explain the data

Serial synapse



VOR Increase Training



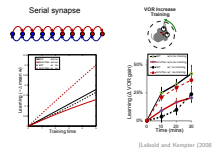
[Leibold and Kempter (2008)]

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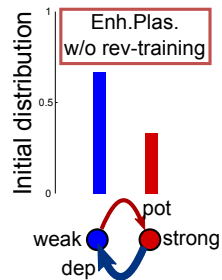
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

Complex synapses can explain the data

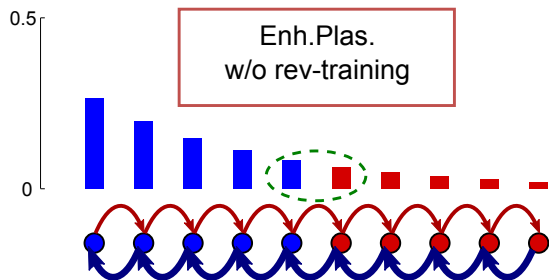
1. Serial: still only two weights. Works.
2. Understand by looking at distributions before training



Enhanced plasticity can enhance or impair learning



Intrinsic plasticity dominates depletion

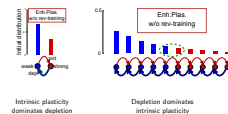


Depletion dominates intrinsic plasticity

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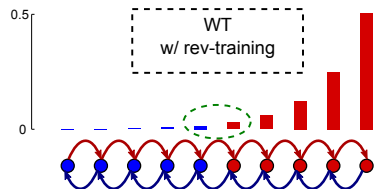
Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

Enhanced plasticity can enhance or impair learning

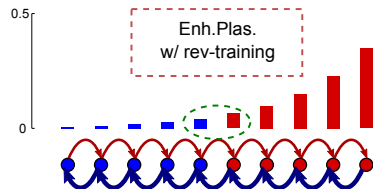


1. Binary: enhanced plasticity \rightarrow bias
2. Not enough to overcome faster depression
3. Serial: Only get signal from boundary
4. Exponential decay depopulates boundary, enhances effect of bias

Reverse-training can impair or enhance learning



reverse-training
depopulates boundary

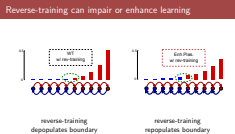


reverse-training
repopulates boundary

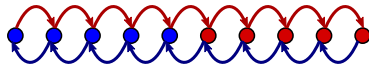
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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Reverse-training can impair or enhance learning



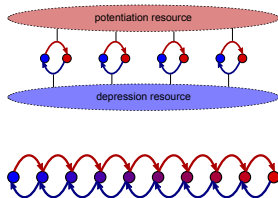
1. rev-training: little repopulates boundary
2. Too much pushes to other side, depopulates boundary
3. this effect is absent in any simple synapse



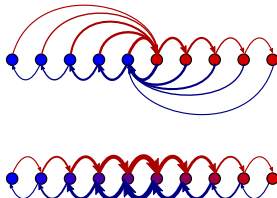
The success of the serial model relies on two features:

- Complexity - needed to amplify the effect of depletion,
- Metaplasticity – repeated potentiation makes subsequent depression harder.

Fail:



Succeed:



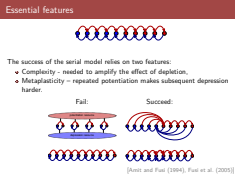
[Amit and Fusi (1994), Fusi et al. (2005)]

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Impaired learning with enhanced plasticity

└ Essential features

1. due to exponential decay
2. push away from boundary where signal generated
3. borne out by other models that fail/succeed



- We find diverse behavioural patterns:
Enhanced plasticity → enhance/impair learning depending on prior experience.
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└ Conclusions and further questions

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What about memory?

- Simple synapses have poor memory storage capacity. Synaptic complexity is needed for rescue.
- Trade-off between learning and remembering:
Too rigid \rightarrow difficult to learn new memories.
Too plastic \rightarrow new memories quickly overwrite old.
- Exploring the *entire* space of complex synaptic models
 \rightarrow upper bounds on their storage ability
& the models that saturate them.

[Lahiri and Ganguli (submitted)]

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- └ Tradeoff: learning vs. remembering

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