

1 Title: Disrupted basal ganglia output during movement preparation in hemi-parkinsonian mice
2 accounts for behavioral deficits

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4 Abbreviated title: BG output accounts for hemi-parkinsonian deficits

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28 Declarations of interest: none

29

30 **Keywords**

31

32 Parkinson's disease; Single-unit; Basal ganglia; Substantia nigra pars reticulata; Movement
33 preparation; 6-OHDA; Decision making; Internally-specified; Stimulus-guided; Rate model

34 **Abstract**

35 Parkinsonian motor deficits are associated with elevated inhibitory output from the
36 basal ganglia (BG). However, several features of Parkinson's disease (PD) have not been
37 accounted for by this simple "rate model" framework, including the observation in PD patients
38 that movements guided by external stimuli are less impaired than otherwise-identical
39 movements generated based on internal goals. Is this difference in impairment due to
40 divergent processing within the BG itself, or to the recruitment of extra-BG pathways by
41 sensory processing? In addition, surprisingly little is known about precisely when, in the
42 sequence from selecting to executing movements, BG output is altered by PD. Here, we
43 address these questions by recording activity in the SNr, a key BG output nucleus, in
44 hemiparkinsonian (hemi-PD) mice performing a well-controlled behavioral task requiring
45 stimulus-guided and internally-specified directional movements. We found that hemi-PD mice
46 exhibited a bias ipsilateral to the side of dopaminergic cell loss that was stronger when
47 movements were internally specified rather than stimulus guided, consistent with clinical
48 observations in parkinsonian patients. We further found that changes in parkinsonian SNr
49 activity during movement preparation could account for the ipsilateral behavioral bias, as well
50 as its greater magnitude for internally-specified movements, consistent with some aspects of
51 the rate model. These results suggest that parkinsonian changes in BG output underlying
52 movement preparation contribute to the greater deficit in internally-specified than stimulus-
53 guided movements.

54

55 Introduction

56

57 Parkinson’s disease (PD) is a neurodegenerative disease of the basal ganglia (BG) in
58 which motor impairments arise from disordered – typically, elevated – inhibitory BG output
59 resulting from the loss of dopaminergic tone (DeLong, 1990; Wichmann et al., 1999; Ibanez-
60 Sandoval et al., 2007; Utter and Basso, 2008; Wang et al., 2010a; Seeger-Armbruster and von
61 Ameln-Mayerhofer, 2013; Brazhnik et al., 2014; Filyushkina et al., 2019; McGregor and Nelson,
62 2019). One predominant theoretical framework for BG pathology in PD is the “rate model”,
63 which posits that motor centers downstream of the BG are over-inhibited, leading to
64 disordered movements (Albin et al., 1989; DeLong, 1990; Obeso et al., 2008; Utter and Basso,
65 2008; McGregor and Nelson, 2019; Vitek and Johnson, 2019). However, it is not clear whether
66 the rate model can account for context-dependent PD motor phenomena, including the
67 intriguing clinical observation that not all forms of movement are equally affected by PD: when
68 movements are guided by external stimuli (e.g., gait matching with a rhythmic auditory
69 stimulus or visually patterned flooring, kinematics are less impaired than for otherwise
70 identical movements made in the absence of guiding stimuli (Glickstein and Stein, 1991;
71 McIntosh et al., 1997; Ballanger et al., 2006; Daroff, 2008; McDonald et al., 2015; Distler et al.,
72 2016). The primary question raised by this observation is whether parkinsonian BG output is
73 similarly disrupted for these “stimulus-guided” and “internally-specified” movements. If so, we
74 might infer that stimulus-guided movements are protected from PD via the recruitment of
75 extra-BG pathways (Lewis et al., 2007; Hackney et al., 2015; Drucker et al., 2019; Filyushkina et
76 al., 2019; Chen et al., 2020). However, differences in parkinsonian BG output between these

77 forms of movements – particularly differences consistent with rate model predictions – would
78 implicate BG processing itself in this behavioral phenomenon. Given that understanding the
79 neural basis for this clinical observation could be leveraged to improve treatment for PD, we
80 sought to develop an experimental paradigm for examining parkinsonian BG output during
81 stimulus-guided and internally-specified movements.

82 We focused on parkinsonian BG output during movement *preparation*, a key motor
83 phase in which sensory and cognitive variables are integrated (Cisek and Kalaska, 2010), and
84 when disrupted may contribute to bradykinesia (Dick et al., 1984; Jahanshahi et al., 1992; Suri
85 et al., 1998; Berardelli et al., 2001; Cutsuridis and Perantonis, 2006; Moroney et al., 2008; Wu
86 et al., 2015; Hess and Hallett, 2017). Under normal conditions, the substantia nigra pars
87 reticulata (SNr), a BG output nucleus, is strongly engaged by the preparation of directional
88 movements (Handel and Glimcher, 1999; Sato and Hikosaka, 2002; Lintz and Felsen, 2016).
89 However, while numerous studies have examined parkinsonian changes in SNr activity under
90 passive conditions or rhythmic locomotion (Hutchison et al., 1994; Wichmann et al., 1999;
91 Galati et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2010a; Seeger-Armbruster and von Ameln-Mayerhofer, 2013;
92 Brazhnik et al., 2014; Lobb and Jaeger, 2015; Aristieta et al., 2016; Willard et al., 2019), this
93 approach is insufficient for differentiating how SNr activity during distinct motor phases,
94 including movement preparation, is affected by PD. To address this question, we recorded SNr
95 activity during a behavioral task in which mice with unilateral dopaminergic cell loss prepare,
96 and subsequently initiate, SNr-engaging directional (left or right) movements that are either
97 stimulus-guided or internally-specified (Uchida and Mainen, 2003; Thompson and Felsen, 2013;
98 Lintz and Felsen, 2016). Crucially, by requiring that mice wait for a go signal before initiating

99 their movement, movement preparation is temporally isolated from initiation, allowing the
100 dissociation of PD impact on BG output underlying these processes.

101 We found that mice exhibited a directional bias ipsilateral to the hemisphere with
102 dopaminergic cell loss that was more prominent on internally-specified than stimulus-guided
103 trials, accordant with clinical observations of context-dependent motor effects in PD.
104 Furthermore, we found that SNr activity during movement preparation was altered in a
105 manner consistent with some, but not all, rate-model predictions about the relationship
106 between BG output and behavior, suggesting that reorganization of BG processing by
107 dopaminergic cell loss contributes to the greater deficit in performance of internally-specified
108 than stimulus-guided movements. These findings inform our understanding of BG
109 pathophysiology and can contribute to refining neuromodulatory PD treatments.

110

111 **Materials and Methods**

112

113 *Animal subjects*

114 All experiments were performed according to protocols approved by the University of
115 Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Subjects
116 were male adult C57BL/6J mice (aged 7–14 months at the start of experiments; Jackson Labs)
117 housed in a vivarium with a 12-hr light/dark cycle with lights on at 5:00 am. Food (Teklad
118 Global Rodent Diet No. 2918; Harlan) was available *ad libitum*. Access to water was restricted
119 prior to the behavioral session to motivate performance; however, if mice did not obtain ~1 ml
120 of water during the behavioral session, additional water was provided for ~2–5 min following
121 the behavioral session. All mice were weighed daily and received sufficient water during
122 behavioral sessions to maintain >85% of pre-water restriction weight.

123 For behavioral analyses, only mice that completed at least 15 pre- and 15 post-surgery
124 sessions were included (hemiparkinsonian (hemi-PD), $n = 4$; control, $n = 4$). For
125 electrophysiological analyses, mice were included if well-isolated neurons were recorded
126 during the task (hemi-PD, $n = 5$; control, $n = 4$). Some data from control mice were previously
127 published using different analyses than the current study (Lintz and Felsen, 2016). For rotation
128 assay analyses, only mice that completed at least three pre- and three-post surgery rotation
129 assay sessions were included (hemi-PD, $n = 5$; control, $n = 3$).

130

131 *Behavioral task*

132 Mice were trained on a task requiring stimulus-guided (SG) and internally-specified (IS)
133 movements (Fig. 1) as previously described (Lintz and Felsen, 2016). Briefly, each mouse was
134 water-restricted and trained to interact with three ports (center: odor port; sides: reward ports;
135 Fig. 2A) along one wall of a behavioral chamber (Island Motion). All behavior was performed in
136 the dark in the absence of visual cues. On each trial, the mouse entered the odor port,
137 triggering the delivery of an odor; waited 488 ± 104 ms (mean \pm SD) for an auditory go signal;
138 exited the odor port; and entered one of the reward ports (Fig. 2A). Premature exit from the
139 odor port resulted in the unavailability of reward on that trial. Odors were comprised of binary
140 mixtures of (-)-carvone ("Odor A") and (+)-carvone ("Odor B"). On each SG trial, one of seven
141 odor mixtures was presented via an olfactometer (Island Motion): Odor A/Odor B = 95/5, 80/20,
142 60/40, 50/50, 40/60, 20/80, or 5/95. Mixtures in which Odor A > Odor B indicated reward
143 availability only at the left port, mixtures in which Odor B > Odor A indicated reward
144 availability only at the right port and for mixtures in which Odor A = Odor B (i.e., the 50/50
145 mixture) reward was equally likely (probability = 0.5) at both ports (Fig. 2B). Since we surgically
146 targeted the left hemisphere in all mice, we refer to Odor A as the "ipsilateral odor" and Odor B
147 as the "contralateral odor" (e.g., Fig. 2C). Similarly, we refer to the directions "left" and "right"
148 as "ipsilateral" and "contralateral", respectively. On trials in which Odor A = Odor B (Odor
149 A/Odor B = 50/50), the probability of reward at the ipsilateral and contralateral ports,
150 independently, was 0.5. Reward, consisting of 4 μ l of water, was delivered by transiently
151 opening a calibrated water valve 10–100 ms after reward port entry. Odor and water delivery
152 were controlled, and port entries and exits were recorded, using custom software (available at
153 <https://github.com/felsenlab>; adapted from C. D. Brody) written in MATLAB (MathWorks).

154 Mice learned to perform SG trials (Fig. 2C) within ~48 sessions (1 session/day); detailed
155 training stages are described in Stubblefield et al. (Stubblefield et al., 2013). Mice required an
156 additional ~5 sessions to learn to perform interleaved blocks of SG and IS trials. On each IS trial
157 the 50/50 mixture was presented, and reward was available only at one side throughout the
158 block (Fig. 2D). Detailed training stages for IS trials are described in Lintz & Felsen (Lintz and
159 Felsen, 2016). Mice performed 5 blocks (SG, IS, SG, IS, SG) per session (Fig. 2B); the side
160 associated with reward switched between each IS block. Upon completing training, mice
161 performed at least 15 sessions to establish pre-surgery baseline behavior, underwent surgery
162 (see below), and subsequently resumed task performance, beginning with sessions consisting
163 of SG trials only (post-surgery behavior; Fig. 1).

164

165 *Rotation assay*

166 The direction of spontaneous movement was assessed before and after surgery using a
167 standard rotation assay (Ungerstedt, 1976; Smith and Heuer, 2011). Following intraperitoneal
168 (i.p.) administration of d-amphetamine (2.5 mg/kg, Sigma), mice were placed in a transparent
169 beaker with a diameter of 11.5 cm. Mice were monitored for the next 90 minutes and behavior
170 recorded using an overhead camera. Rotations were analyzed from 10 to 30 minutes post i.p.
171 injection. A rotation score was calculated by counting the total number of complete ipsilateral
172 (left) rotations and subtracting the total number of complete contralateral (right) rotations.
173 Repeated testing was carried out with at least 1 week between d-amphetamine injections to
174 allow for recovery.

175

176 *Substantia nigra pars compacta surgery – Unilateral 6 OHDA and saline injections*

177 The mouse was anesthetized with isoflurane and secured in a stereotaxic device, the
178 skull was exposed with a midline incision, and a craniotomy targeting the left SNc (substantia
179 nigra pars compacta) was performed, centered at 3.07 mm posterior from bregma, 1.250 mm
180 lateral from the midline, and 4.35 mm deep from cortical surface (Paxinos and Franklin, 2004).
181 Injection volume totaled 2 μ L injected at target (2.43 mg 6-OHDA/mL 0.02% ascorbic acid).
182 After suturing the incision, a topical triple antibiotic ointment (Major) mixed with 2% lidocaine
183 hydrochloride jelly (Akorn) was applied to the scalp, the mouse was removed from the
184 stereotaxic device, the isoflurane was turned off, and oxygen alone was delivered to the mouse
185 to gradually alleviate anesthetic state. Mice were administered sterile isotonic saline (0.9%) for
186 rehydration and an analgesic (Ketofen; 5 mg/kg) for pain management. Analgesic and topical
187 antibiotic administration was repeated daily for up to 5 days, and mice were closely monitored
188 for any signs of distress.

189 This procedure was identical for control mice assessed on the rotation assay but with
190 saline injected instead of 6-OHDA. These mice did not undergo further surgery and were used
191 solely for rotation assay testing.

192

193 *SNr surgery – tetrode implantation*

194 Details of the surgical procedure are provided in Thompson and Felsen (Thompson and
195 Felsen, 2013). Briefly, following establishment of pre-surgery baseline behavior and (in hemi-
196 PD mice) following unilateral 6-OHDA injections (Fig. 1), the mouse was anesthetized with
197 isoflurane and secured in a stereotaxic device, the scalp was incised and retracted, 2 small

198 screws were attached to the skull, and a craniotomy targeting the left SNr was performed,
199 centered at 3.07 mm posterior from bregma and 1.25 mm lateral from the midline (Franklin
200 and Paxinos, 2004). A VersaDrive 4 microdrive (Neuralynx), containing 4 independently
201 adjustable tetrodes, was affixed to the skull via the screws, luting (3M), and dental acrylic (A-M
202 Systems). A second small craniotomy was performed in order to place the ground wire in direct
203 contact with the brain. After the acrylic hardened, a topical triple antibiotic ointment (Major)
204 mixed with 2% lidocaine hydrochloride jelly (Akorn) was applied to the scalp, the mouse was
205 removed from the stereotaxic device, the isoflurane was turned off, and oxygen alone was
206 delivered to the mouse to gradually alleviate anesthetic state. Mice were administered sterile
207 isotonic saline (0.9%) for rehydration and an analgesic (Ketofen; 5 mg/kg) for pain
208 management. Analgesic and topical antibiotic administration was repeated daily for up to 5
209 days, and mice were closely monitored for any signs of distress.

210

211 *Electrophysiology*

212 Neural recordings were collected using four tetrodes, wherein each tetrode consisted of
213 four polyimide-coated nichrome wires (Sandvik; single-wire diameter 12.5 μ m) gold plated to
214 0.2–0.4 M Ω impedance. Electrical signals were amplified and recorded using the Digital Lynx S
215 multichannel acquisition system (Neuralynx) in conjunction with Cheetah data acquisition
216 software (Neuralynx). Tetrode depths were adjusted approximately 23 hours before each
217 recording session in order to sample an independent population of neurons across sessions. To
218 estimate tetrode depths during each session we calculated distance traveled with respect to
219 the rotation fraction of the screw that was affixed to the shuttle holding the tetrode. One full

220 rotation moved the tetrode $\sim 250\ \mu\text{m}$ and tetrodes were moved $\sim 62.5\ \mu\text{m}$ between sessions.

221 The final tetrode location was confirmed through histological assessment (see below).

222 Offline spike sorting and cluster quality analysis was performed using MClust software
223 (MClust-4.3, A.D. Redish, et al.) in MATLAB. Briefly, for each tetrode, single units were isolated
224 by manual cluster identification based on spike features derived from sampled waveforms (see
225 example mean waveforms recorded in control mice in Lintz & Felsen, 2016). Identification of
226 single units through examination of spikes in high-dimensional feature space allowed us to
227 refine the delimitation of identified clusters by examining all possible two-dimensional
228 combinations of selected spike features. We used standard spike features for single unit
229 extraction: peak amplitude, energy (square root of the sum of squares of each point in the
230 waveform, divided by the number of samples in the waveform), and the first principal
231 component normalized by energy. Spike features were derived separately for individual leads.
232 To assess the quality of identified clusters we calculated two standard quantitative metrics: L-
233 ratio and isolation distance (Schmitzer-Torbert et al., 2005). Clusters with an L-ratio of less
234 than 0.75 and isolation distance greater than 6.5 were deemed single units, which resulted in
235 the exclusion of 7% of the identified clusters. Only clusters with few interspike intervals less
236 than 1.5 ms were considered for further examination. Furthermore, we excluded the possibility
237 of including data from the same neuron twice by ensuring that both the waveforms and
238 response properties sufficiently changed across sessions. If they did not, we conservatively
239 assumed that we were recording from the same neuron, and only included data from one
240 session.

241

242 *Immunohistochemistry*

243 Final tetrode locations were verified by producing electrolytic lesions (100 mA, ~1.5 min
244 per lead) after the last recording session (Lintz and Felsen, 2016). Mice were then overdosed
245 with an i.p. injection of sodium pentobarbital (100 mg/kg) and transcardially perfused with
246 saline followed by ice-cold 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in 0.1M phosphate buffer (PB). After
247 perfusion, brains were submerged in 4% PFA in 0.1M PB for 24 hours for post-fixation and
248 then cryoprotected for 24 hours by immersion in 30% sucrose in 0.1M PB. The brain was
249 encased in the same sucrose solution, and frozen rapidly on dry ice.

250 Serial coronal sections (60µm) were cut on a sliding microtome. Fluorescent Nissl
251 (NeuroTrace, Invitrogen) was used to identify cytoarchitectural features of the SNr and verify
252 tetrode tracks and lesion damage within or below the SNr, as previously described (Lintz and
253 Felsen, 2016). In addition, coronal sections were stained for tyrosine hydroxylase (TH).
254 Following repeated soaks in PBS and blocking solution, sections were exposed to primary
255 antibody overnight (Anti-Tyrosine Hydroxylase (Rabbit) Antibody, 1:1000, Rockland). Next,
256 sections were washed in carrier solution (2x10-min) and exposed to secondary antibody for 2
257 hours (Goat anti-Rabbit IgG (H+L) Secondary Antibody, 1:500). Images were captured with a
258 10x objective lens, using an LSM 5 Pascal series Axioskop 2 FS MOT confocal microscope
259 (Zeiss). For each mouse, a representative coronal section including the SNc (Paxinos &
260 Franklin) was used to quantify dopaminergic cell loss by comparing the number of TH+
261 neurons ipsilateral and contralateral to the injection.

262 Dopaminergic cell loss was quantified by calculating the percent decrease of red (TH+)
263 pixel intensity in the SNc on the injected side relative to the SNc on the non-injected side, after

264 accounting for background differences in red pixel intensity between the two sides. Hemi-PD
265 mice without verified >70% dopaminergic cell loss (5/10), were excluded from the group. Of the
266 excluded mice, 4 were due to missing or insufficient tissue without which TH+ could not be
267 confirmed while the remaining mouse was excluded for <70% loss (65%). Average TH+ loss of
268 the 5 hemi-PD mice ranged from 73% to 88%, with a median of 78%. Secondary confirmation
269 of dopaminergic cell loss was quantified in the same manner using coronal sections containing
270 the striatum (Fig. 3A).

271

272 *Behavioral directional bias*

273 Behavioral directional bias was quantified as the difference between the fraction of
274 ipsilateral choices on ipsilaterally-rewarded trials (i.e., trials for which reward was available at
275 the ipsilateral port) and the fraction of contralateral choices on contralaterally-rewarded trials
276 (i.e., trials for which reward was available at the contralateral port):

$$bias = \frac{\# \text{ correct ipsilateral choices}}{\# \text{ ipsilaterally rewarded trials}} - \frac{\# \text{ correct contralateral choices}}{\# \text{ contralaterally rewarded trials}}$$

277 Positive values reflect an ipsilateral behavioral bias and negative values reflect a contralateral
278 bias. 50/50 SG trials were evenly split between ipsilaterally-rewarded and contralaterally-
279 rewarded and either choice was considered correct. To compare directional bias between pre-
280 surgery and post-surgery sessions (Figs. 4, 5), we calculated a single pre-surgery bias for each
281 mouse based on all pre-surgery trials performed. To compare directional bias between SG and
282 IS trials within the same session (Fig. 6), to account for ceiling effects on ipsilaterally-rewarded
283 IS trials, the bias calculation was modified to quantify ipsilateral choices on contralaterally-

284 rewarded trials only. Sessions were included in this analysis if the mouse completed at least 25
285 trials of each direction (ipsilateral and contralateral) and type (SG and IS) trials.

286

287 *Neuronal direction preference*

288 We used a firing-rate-based ROC-based analysis to quantify the selectivity of single
289 neurons for movement direction (Green and Swets, 1966; Lintz and Felsen, 2016). This analysis
290 calculates the ability of an ideal observer to classify whether a given firing rate was recorded in
291 one of two conditions (i.e., preceding ipsilateral (left) or contralateral (right) movement). We
292 defined "preference" as $2(\text{ROC}_{\text{area}} - 0.5)$, a measure ranging from -1 to 1, where -1 signifies the
293 strongest possible preference for ipsilateral, 1 signifies the strongest possible preference for
294 contralateral, and 0 signifies no preference (Feierstein et al., 2006; Lintz and Felsen, 2016). For
295 example, if the firing rate of a given neuron is generally higher preceding ipsilateral than
296 contralateral movements, that neuron is assigned a preference < 0 . Statistical significance was
297 determined with a permutation test: we recalculated the preference after randomly
298 reassigning all firing rates to either of the two groups, repeating this procedure 500 times to
299 obtain a distribution of values, and calculated the fraction of random values exceeding the
300 actual value. We tested for significance at $\alpha = 0.05$. Trials in which the movement time
301 (between odor port exit and reward port entry) was > 1.5 s were excluded from all analyses.
302 Neurons with < 25 trials of each trial type under comparison (ipsilateral SG, contralateral SG,
303 ipsilateral IS, or contralateral IS) or with a firing rate < 2.5 spikes/s for either trial type under
304 comparison, were excluded from all analyses.

305

306 *Shift function*

307 We used a shift function to quantify if and how two distributions differ (Rousselet et al.,
308 2017). Briefly, using a Harrell-Davis quantile estimator (Harrell and Davis, 1982), distributions
309 were divided into 10 equal parts by 9 “deciles.” For example, the 1st decile is the value below
310 which 10% of the values lie while the 9th decile is the value below which 90% of values lie. The
311 shift function compares a given decile in distribution A with its corresponding decile in
312 distribution B. Corresponding deciles were determined to be significantly different if the
313 confidence interval of their differences, calculated by sampling the difference between
314 bootstrapped distributions 200 times, did not cross 0.

315

316 *Activity change during epoch of interest compared to baseline*

317 We calculated the normalized response (*NR*) for each neuron as $R = \frac{F_t}{F_b}$, where *F_t* is the
318 median firing rate in the “test” window (either movement preparation epoch or movement
319 initiation epoch) and *F_b* is the median firing rate in the “baseline” window. Since the structure
320 of our task does not include a natural “baseline” epoch – i.e., in which the mouse is in a
321 motionless state unaffected by task demands – our baseline window was defined as the time of
322 odor port entry to reward port exit (i.e., the duration of the whole trial; (Lintz and Felsen,
323 2016). Neurons with *F_b* < 2.5 spikes/s were excluded from analyses. Statistical significance was
324 determined using a pairwise t-test to compare *F_t* and *F_b* from the same trial. Neurons with *NR*
325 < 1 (*p* < 0.05) were defined as “Decreasing” and neurons with *NR* > 1 (*p* < 0.05) were defined as
326 “Increasing”; all other neurons were categorized as “No Δ ” (Fig. 8; Table 1). Note that, by
327 convention, a decreasing neuron that decreases more for contralateral than ipsilateral

328 movement would be considered to have an ipsilateral direction preference (as calculated
329 above), because firing rate is higher for ipsilateral movement (Sato and Hikosaka, 2002; Lintz
330 and Felsen, 2016).

331

332 *Statistical Analysis*

333 MATLAB was used for all statistical analyses except for χ^2 analyses, which were
334 performed in R. Distributions were tested for normality using the Lilliefors test (lillitest
335 MATLAB function) and unless all data sets under comparison were normally distributed, non-
336 parametric statistical tests were used for that analysis. For consistency, all graphical
337 representations of central tendency are medians, independent of whether parametric or non-
338 parametric statistical tests were used. We used two-tailed tests unless testing for a predicted
339 direction of an effect, in which case one-tailed tests were appropriate.

340

341 Results

342

343 *Effect of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on stimulus-guided and internally-specified movements*

344

345 To examine how parkinsonian conditions affect stimulus-guided (SG) and internally-
346 specified (IS) movements and their underlying BG output, we first trained mice on a behavioral
347 task designed to elicit these forms of movements (Figs. 1, 2A,B) (Lintz and Felsen, 2016).

348 Briefly, on each trial of the task, the mouse was presented with a binary mixture of Odors A
349 and B at a central port, waited for an auditory go signal, and moved to the ipsilateral (left) or
350 contralateral (right) reward port for a water reward (Fig. 2A). Each daily experimental session
351 consisted of interleaved blocks of SG and IS trials (Fig. 2B; Materials and Methods) (Lintz and
352 Felsen, 2016). On SG trials, the dominant component of the odor mixture – which varied by
353 trial – determined the side at which reward was delivered: when Odor A was dominant reward
354 was available at the left port, when Odor B was dominant reward was available at the right
355 port, and when Odor A = Odor B reward was equally likely at both ports (Fig. 2B). On IS trials,
356 only the Odor A = Odor B mixture was presented, and reward was delivered at only one port
357 (left or right) throughout the block (Fig. 2B; Materials and Methods). Consistent with previous
358 results (Lintz and Felsen, 2016), the direction of movement on SG trials was selected based on
359 the stimulus (Fig. 2C) while the direction of movement on IS trials was selected based on
360 recent trial history (Fig. 2D).

361 Upon achieving proficient performance on the task (Fig. 2C,D; Materials and Methods),
362 mice received 6-OHDA injections to one SNc to unilaterally ablate dopaminergic neurons

363 (Ungerstedt, 1976; Chang et al., 2006; Israel and Bergman, 2008; Avila et al., 2010; Smith and
364 Heuer, 2011; Brazhnik et al., 2012; Seeger-Armbruster and von Ameln-Mayerhofer, 2013;
365 Brazhnik et al., 2014) and were implanted with a chronic tetrode drive targeting the ipsilateral
366 SNr to record BG output (Fig. 1). Only mice with > 70% histologically-confirmed dopaminergic
367 cell loss (examined following all behavioral and recording experiments; Fig. 1, Fig. 3A) were
368 included in the “hemi-PD” group for subsequent analyses (5/10 mice; Materials and Methods).
369 Confirming the validity of our hemi-PD model, hemi-PD mice exhibited a greater ipsilateral
370 bias than control mice (saline delivered to SNc) on a standard rotation assay (post-surgery
371 change in net ipsilateral rotations for 5 hemi-PD mice: 16, 53, -6, 151 and 61; for 3 control mice:
372 6, -11 and -14; $p = 0.0357$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test; Materials and Methods), and
373 exhibited higher mean SNr activity ($p = 0.0157$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test; Fig. 3B),
374 consistent with previous findings in hemi-PD models (Sanderson et al., 1986; Hutchison et al.,
375 1994; Wichmann et al., 1999; Chang et al., 2006; Brazhnik et al., 2014; Lobb and Jaeger, 2015).

376 Before directly comparing the effects of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on the SG and
377 IS movements required by our task, we sought to characterize the effects on each trial type
378 individually. Given the rate-model prediction that SNr-recipient nuclei for contralateral
379 movement are over-inhibited (Albin et al., 1989; DeLong, 1990; Obeso et al., 2008; Utter and
380 Basso, 2008; McGregor and Nelson, 2019; Vitek and Johnson, 2019), and supported by our
381 findings of greater ipsilateral bias on the rotation assay and an increase in mean SNr activity
382 (Fig. 3B), we expected hemi-PD mice (as determined by the extent of dopaminergic cell loss;
383 Fig. 3A) to exhibit an ipsilateral bias for both SG and IS movements.

384 We first examined SG movements. Qualitatively, we found that the psychometric
385 functions fit to post-surgery behavioral sessions (as in Fig. 2) were shifted ipsilaterally relative
386 to pre-surgery sessions in hemi-PD (Fig. 4A), but not control (Fig. 4B), mice. To quantify how
387 bias changed following surgery, we calculated the behavioral directional bias for each post-
388 surgery session and subtracted the pre-surgery bias for that mouse (Materials and Methods). In
389 sessions performed by hemi-PD mice, despite typical levels of variability consistent with other
390 behavioral assays of this 6-OHDA model (Smith and Heuer, 2011), we found that choices after
391 surgery were biased ipsilaterally ($p = 8.87 \times 10^{-8}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test) while no
392 post-surgery bias was observed in control mice ($p = 0.3480$, 2-tailed t-test), and post-surgery
393 bias differed between hemi-PD and control mice ($p = 5.64 \times 10^{-5}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum
394 test; Fig. 4C). Hemi-PD mice also exhibited changes in reaction time (defined as the time from
395 go signal to reward port entry) consistent with their ipsilateral directional bias. Fig. 4D shows
396 the distribution of reaction times for each trial of all pre-surgery and post-surgery sessions for
397 the same example mouse shown in Fig. 4A. Reaction times are longer post-surgery, most
398 notably for contralateral trials (Fig. 4A, right panel). Control mice also exhibited longer
399 reaction times post-surgery, as expected given the additional weight of the chronic recording
400 drive, but for the example mouse the increase does not appear to be greater for contralateral
401 than ipsilateral movements (Fig. 4E). To quantify the change in reaction time across all mice,
402 we calculated the median reaction time on each post-surgery session and subtracted the
403 overall median pre-surgery reaction time for each mouse (Fig. 4F). As exhibited by the example
404 mice (Fig. 4D,E), reaction times were longer post-surgery, but hemi-PD mice exhibited larger
405 changes in reaction times than control mice (ipsilateral trials: $p = 9.90 \times 10^{-3}$, contralateral

406 trials: $p = 8.19 \times 10^{-22}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum tests; Fig. 4F), and exhibited a larger change
407 on contralateral than on ipsilateral trials ($p = 1.66 \times 10^{-12}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test).
408 This greater slowing of contralateral movements in hemi-PD mice is consistent with their
409 ipsilateral directional bias (Fig. 4C).

410 We observed similar effects of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on IS movements (Fig.
411 5). For these trials, we first examined bias separately during blocks in which reward was
412 delivered at the ipsilateral port ("ipsilateral blocks") and at the contralateral port
413 ("contralateral blocks"). Fig. 5A,B shows behavior on IS trials for all pre- and post-surgery
414 sessions for representative hemi-PD and control mice. On ipsilateral blocks, both mice
415 frequently chose the ipsilateral port. On contralateral blocks, however, the hemi-PD mouse
416 was more likely to choose the ipsilateral port post-surgery than pre-surgery (Fig. 5A), while the
417 control mouse did not exhibit this change. Across all mice, we quantified directional bias as we
418 did for SG trials (Materials and Methods), and again found that choices after surgery were
419 biased ipsilaterally in hemi-PD mice ($p = 1.49 \times 10^{-6}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test), while
420 no post-surgery bias was observed in control mice ($p = 0.3855$, 2-tailed t-test); this post-surgery
421 bias differed between hemi-PD and control mice ($p = 7.74 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum
422 test; Fig. 5C). We also found similar effects on reaction times on IS trials as we did on SG trials:
423 hemi-PD mice exhibited larger changes in reaction times than control mice (ipsilateral trials: p
424 $= 9.38 \times 10^{-5}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test, contralateral trials: $p = 3.90 \times 10^{-18}$, 2-tailed t-
425 test; Fig. 5F), and exhibited a larger change on contralateral than on ipsilateral trials ($p = 1.09 \times$
426 10^{-10} , 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test), again consistent with their ipsilateral directional bias

427 (Fig. 5C). Thus, on both SG and IS trials, unilateral dopaminergic cell loss resulted in fewer and
428 slower contralateral movements, consistent with rate-model predictions.

429 Next, we sought to examine whether this directional effect was greater in magnitude,
430 indicative of greater impairment, on SG or IS trials. To do so we directly compared, within each
431 session, directional bias on contralaterally-rewarded SG and IS trials. We found that pre-
432 surgery, hemi-PD mice were more ipsilaterally biased on IS than SG trials ($p = 1.99 \times 10^{-21}$, 2-
433 tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test; Fig. 6A), as expected since on some SG trials an ambiguous
434 stimulus cue was presented (Fig. 2C). However, after surgery, ipsilateral bias differed little
435 between IS and SG trials ($p = 0.0924$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test; Fig. 6A), resulting in a
436 shift of the distribution of within-session ipsilateral bias differences post-surgery ($p = 3.62 \times 10^{-11}$,
437 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test; Fig. 6B). In contrast, control mice exhibited a greater
438 ipsilateral bias on SG than IS trials both before ($p = 1.23 \times 10^{-8}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank
439 test) and after ($p = 4.72 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test) surgery (Fig. 6C), and the
440 magnitude of this relative bias did not differ between sessions before and after surgery ($p =$
441 0.643 , 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test; Fig. 6D). Together, these analyses demonstrate that IS
442 trials are relatively more affected than SG trials by unilateral dopaminergic cell loss.

443

444 *Effect of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on basal ganglia output*

445

446 We sought to determine whether behavioral differences between SG and IS trials could
447 be accounted for by activity in the SNr, which is known to play a role in the movements elicited
448 by this task (Lintz and Felsen, 2016). In the same mice described in the above behavioral

449 results, we used chronically implanted tetrodes to record from 183 SNr neurons in hemi-PD
450 mice (n = 5) and 285 neurons in control mice (n = 4) that met our analysis criteria (Materials and
451 Methods). We focused on activity underlying movement preparation, which has been
452 implicated in parkinsonian motor deficits (Dick et al., 1984; Jahanshahi et al., 1992; Suri et al.,
453 1998; Berardelli et al., 2001; Cutsuridis and Perantonis, 2006; Moroney et al., 2008; Wu et al.,
454 2015; Hess and Hallett, 2017). Consistent with previous results (Lintz and Felsen, 2016), we
455 observed that SNr activity recorded from hemi-PD mice was often modulated during the
456 “movement preparation epoch” (from 100 ms after the odor valve was opened until the go
457 signal) and depended on movement direction (Fig. 7A). We first asked whether firing rate
458 during this epoch differed between hemi-PD and control mice, similar to the difference we and
459 others have observed in baseline activity (Fig. 3B) (Hutchison et al., 1994; Wichmann et al.,
460 1999; Galati et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2010a; Seeger-Armbruster and von Ameln-Mayerhofer,
461 2013; Brazhnik et al., 2014; Lobb and Jaeger, 2015; Aristieta et al., 2016; Willard et al., 2019).
462 The rate model would predict elevated SNr activity in hemi-PD mice, consistent with the
463 ipsilateral bias that we observed given that SNr activity inhibits downstream motor centers
464 that primarily mediate contralateral movement. However, we found no overall difference
465 between groups for movement in either direction ($p_{\text{ipsi}} = 0.0520$; $p_{\text{contra}} = 0.0954$, 1-tailed
466 Wilcoxon rank sum tests; Fig. 7B,C). The ipsilateral bias exhibited by hemi-PD mice on SG and
467 IS trials therefore cannot be explained by an *absolute* increase in SNr activity during movement
468 preparation, as would be predicted by the simplest form of the rate model.

469 We next examined whether unilateral dopaminergic cell loss affected the *relative*
470 activity of individual neurons between ipsilateral and contralateral movements (Fig. 7A), which

471 could also potentially account for the ipsilateral behavioral bias. We therefore calculated the
472 “direction preference” of each neuron, which quantifies the difference in firing rate during a
473 specified epoch between ipsilateral and contralateral movements, and ranges from -1 (higher
474 firing rates for ipsilateral movements) to 1 (higher firing rates for contralateral movements),
475 where 0 represents no preference (Materials and Methods) (Green and Swets, 1966; Feierstein
476 et al., 2006; Lintz and Felsen, 2016). We found that the populations of neurons recorded in
477 hemi-PD and control mice each exhibited a range of preferences, with some neurons
478 preferring ipsilateral movement (Fig. 7D, cyan; $p < 0.05$, permutation test; Materials and
479 Methods) and some preferring contralateral movement (Fig. 7D, magenta; $p < 0.05$,
480 permutation test). However, the distributions of preferences exhibited by neurons recorded in
481 hemi-PD and control mice differ ($p = 7.31 \times 10^{-4}$, 2-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test) in two
482 key respects.

483 First, the population of SNr neurons in hemi-PD mice exhibited weaker direction
484 preference than the population in control mice. We quantified this difference with several
485 complementary analyses. A smaller proportion of neurons in hemi-PD mice (52/183, 28%;
486 Table 1) than control mice (199/285, 70%; Table 1) exhibited a significant direction preference
487 ($p = 2.20 \times 10^{-16}$, χ^2 -test = 147, $df = 1$). When the entire population in hemi-PD and control mice
488 is considered (i.e., including neurons with and without a significant direction preference), the
489 strength of the preference, independent of sign, was smaller in hemi-PD mice (median =
490 0.0815) than control mice (median = 0.179; $p = 1.87 \times 10^{-12}$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum tests).
491 Finally, we used a shift function analysis to identify the deciles in which the distributions
492 differed (Materials and Methods) (Rousselet et al., 2017). This analysis revealed that

493 preferences were closer to 0 in hemi-PD than control mice in the 3 deciles representing the
494 most ipsilateral preferences and in the 3 deciles representing the most contralateral
495 preferences, consistent with weaker direction preference in hemi-PD mice. Together, these
496 analyses indicate that unilateral dopaminergic cell loss results in a fundamental disruption of
497 the representation of movement direction that is normally observed in the SNr (Handel and
498 Glimcher, 1999; Berardelli et al., 2001; Lintz and Felsen, 2016).

499 Second, the population of SNr neurons in hemi-PD mice, but not control mice,
500 exhibited a slight bias towards contralateral preferences. While the entire distribution of
501 preferences in hemi-PD mice was not contralaterally skewed (median = 0.136; $p = 0.368$, 1-
502 tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test), of the neurons that exhibited a significant preference (Fig.
503 7D, magenta and cyan, Table 1), more were contralateral-preferring (32/52, magenta; Table 1)
504 than ipsilateral-preferring (20/52, cyan; $p = 0.0155$, χ^2 -test = 4.65 df = 1; Table 1). In contrast, in
505 control mice we found roughly equal proportions of contralateral-preferring (105/199,
506 magenta; Table 1) and ipsilateral-preferring (94/199, cyan; Table 1) neurons ($p = 0.158$, χ^2 -test
507 = 1.01, df = 1; Fig. 7D, Table 1). This analysis indicates that, in the population of SNr neurons in
508 which direction preference is spared, unilateral dopaminergic cell loss results in more neurons
509 exhibiting higher activity for contralateral than ipsilateral movements, consistent with the
510 ipsilateral behavioral bias that we observed (Figs. 4,5, Table 1).

511 To gain insight into the reorganization of BG output induced by unilateral dopaminergic
512 cell loss, we next examined these systematic differences in preferences between hemi-PD and
513 control mice within functional classes of SNr neurons (Fig. 8, Table 1). Separate subpopulations
514 of SNr neurons are known to exhibit increases or decreases in activity as movements are

515 prepared and initiated (Handel and Glimcher, 1999; Sato and Hikosaka, 2002; Lintz and Felsen,
516 2016); these subpopulations presumably play different functional roles. We therefore
517 categorized neurons into one of three classes based on whether their activity during
518 movement preparation increased, decreased, or did not change, relative to baseline (Table 1;
519 Materials and Methods). We first noticed a clear difference in the proportion of neurons in each
520 class between hemi-PD and control groups ($p = 1.32 \times 10^{-11}$, χ^2 -test = 50.108, $df = 2$; $n = 183$
521 neurons, 5 hemi-PD mice; $n = 285$ neurons, 4 control mice; Fig. 8A, Table 1). Specifically, we
522 found that a higher proportion of neurons recorded in hemi-PD mice (54.1%) than in control
523 mice (40.0%) exhibited decreased activity, and a corresponding lower proportion of neurons
524 recorded in hemi-PD mice (19.7%) than in control mice (44.9%) exhibited increased activity
525 (Fig. 8A, Table 1; Materials and Methods). In addition, our finding that fewer neurons in hemi-
526 PD than control mice exhibited a significant direction preference held true across all 3
527 subpopulations of neurons (Fig. 8A, Table 1). Finally, we found that the contralateral bias in the
528 hemi-PD group among neurons exhibiting a direction preference was largely due to those that
529 exhibited decreased activity during movement preparation (contralateral:ipsilateral ratio =
530 25:7, $p = 1.07 \times 10^{-5}$, χ^2 -test = 18.1, $df = 1$; Fig. 8A, Table 1); this subpopulation in the control
531 group did not show this effect (contralateral:ipsilateral ratio = 36:42; $p = 0.788$, χ^2 -test = 0.641,
532 $df = 1$; Fig. 8A, Table 1). Thus, unilateral dopaminergic cell loss resulted in a larger proportion of
533 SNr neurons that release downstream motor centers from inhibition, with a greater effect on
534 ipsilateral than contralateral movements, accounting for the relationship between SNr activity
535 and the ipsilateral behavioral bias.

536 Thus far we have focused on SNr activity during the movement preparation epoch. As
537 our task is designed to separate movement preparation from initiation, we were able to extend
538 our analyses to movement initiation. We expected to observe similar changes during
539 movement initiation, consistent with previous studies (Kravitz et al., 2010; Wang et al., 2010b;
540 Abedi et al., 2013; Freeze et al., 2013). We therefore repeated our firing rate, direction
541 preference and functional class analyses for the period from the go signal until 100 ms after
542 odor port exit, when the movement is initiated. As with the movement preparation epoch, we
543 found no overall difference in firing rate during movement initiation between the hemi-PD and
544 control groups for movement in either direction ($p_{\text{ipsi}} = 0.193$; $p_{\text{contra}} = 0.103$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon
545 rank sum tests). Next, as with movement preparation, we found that a smaller proportion of
546 neurons in hemi-PD than control mice exhibited a direction preference during movement
547 initiation ($p = 4.41 \times 10^{-5}$, χ^2 -test = 20.0, $df = 2$; Fig. 8B), but our shift function analysis
548 comparing the distributions of direction preferences in hemi-PD and control mice revealed
549 only one differing decile (8th decile). Consistent with this result, we found no difference
550 between hemi-PD and control mice in the proportion of neurons that increased or decreased
551 activity during movement initiation compared to baseline ($p = 0.459$, χ^2 -test = 1.56, $df = 2$; $n =$
552 183 neurons, 5 hemi-PD mice; $n = 285$ neurons, 4 control mice; Fig. 8B, Table 1). Thus,
553 dopaminergic cell loss appears to affect BG output more during movement preparation than
554 during movement initiation in the context of our behavioral task.

555 Finally, we examined whether the changes in SNr activity during movement
556 preparation associated with unilateral dopaminergic cell loss were consistent with the stronger
557 ipsilateral behavioral bias on IS compared to SG trials (Fig. 6). For example, the representative

558 neuron shown in Fig. 9A appears to exhibit a contralateral preference, consistent with an
559 ipsilateral behavioral bias, on IS but not SG trials. To examine this phenomenon across the
560 population, we compared direction preference during the movement preparation epoch
561 between IS and SG trials within the same session (Fig. 9B). In the hemi-PD group, we found
562 that preference was significantly greater (i.e., more contralateral) on IS than SG trials ($p =$
563 0.00390 , 1-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test, $n = 158$ neurons; Fig. 9B). We also observed a
564 significant difference in control mice ($p = 0.0180$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test; $n = 285$
565 neurons), but in the opposite direction (i.e., more ipsilateral). Together, these analyses of SNr
566 activity show that changes in BG output in hemi-PD mice are consistent with their overall
567 ipsilateral behavioral bias (Figs. 4,5), as well as their stronger bias on IS than SG trials (Fig. 6).
568

569 Discussion

570

571 In this study, we primarily sought to determine whether BG output could explain the
572 greater impairment in IS than SG movements under parkinsonian conditions. By recording SNr
573 activity in hemi-PD mice performing SG and IS movements, we found that unilateral
574 dopaminergic cell loss alters the relationship between SNr activity and movement direction as
575 movements are prepared (Figs. 7D, 8, Table 1), consistent with the ipsilateral bias in behavior
576 (Figs 4, 5). While we did not observe an absolute increase in preparation-related SNr activity in
577 hemi-PD mice (Fig. 7B,C), as predicted by the classical rate model of parkinsonian BG activity
578 (DeLong, 1990; McGregor and Nelson, 2019), our findings are consistent with a direction-
579 sensitive form of the rate model in which greater SNr output inhibits downstream motor nuclei
580 mediating contralateral movements (DeLong, 1990; McGregor and Nelson, 2019; Vitek and
581 Johnson, 2019). In contrast, neural activity during movement initiation was little changed
582 between hemi-PD and control groups (Fig. 8B), suggesting that parkinsonian conditions affect
583 BG output subserving movement preparation more than initiation, consistent with studies in
584 PD patients (Jahanshahi et al., 1992; Beiser and Houk, 1998; Suri et al., 1998; Cutsuridis and
585 Perantonis, 2006; Moroney et al., 2008; Wu et al., 2015).

586 While unilateral dopaminergic cell loss resulted in an ipsilateral bias on both SG and IS
587 trials (Figs. 4 and 5), we found that the effect was larger on IS trials (Fig. 6). This difference was
588 reflected in the activity of SNr neurons, which exhibited a stronger contralateral preference
589 (i.e., higher activity on contralateral than ipsilateral trials) on IS than SG trials (Fig. 9). This
590 finding is consistent with our previous work showing that SNr activity is more sensitive to

591 movement direction under IS than SG conditions (Lintz and Felsen, 2016), which suggests that
592 the cognitive processes associated with IS movements are more BG-dependent than those
593 associated with SG movements. One key factor that may explain the difference in BG-
594 dependence between IS and SG trials is the influence of prior choices and outcomes, which are
595 crucial for determining the correct direction of movement on IS, but not SG, trials. The SNr
596 receives direct excitatory input from the pedunclopontine tegmental nucleus (Scarnati et al.,
597 1984; Beninato and Spencer, 1987), which encodes prior choices and outcomes (Thompson and
598 Felsen, 2013); SNr activity itself reflects prior choices (Lintz and Felsen, 2016), and in general
599 the BG are thought to bias activity in downstream motor centers towards movements
600 associated with larger rewards (Hikosaka et al., 2000; Sato and Hikosaka, 2002; Watanabe et
601 al., 2003; Kawagoe et al., 2004; Hikosaka et al., 2006). The disruption of BG signaling by
602 unilateral dopaminergic cell loss may therefore affect the (adaptive) influence of priors on
603 movement selection (Perugini et al., 2016), resulting in a greater deficit on IS than SG trials.
604 The importance of the BG in representing priors is also consistent with our finding that SNr
605 activity related to movement preparation, which is influenced by priors, was more affected
606 than activity related to movement initiation, which is not.

607 In addition to the shift in the population of neurons in hemi-PD mice towards
608 contralateral preference consistent with the ipsilateral behavioral bias, a large proportion of
609 neurons exhibited no relationship between activity and movement direction (gray bars in Figs.
610 7D, 8A, Table 1). Further, we found that more neurons in hemi-PD mice exhibited a decrease
611 than an increase in activity during movement preparation compared to baseline activity, which
612 was not the case in control mice (Fig. 8A, Table 1), perhaps due to the increased baseline

613 activity in hemi-PD mice (Fig. 3B). While these finding do not directly relate to our primary
614 behavioral readout of directional bias, they suggest a profound reorganization of BG output
615 under parkinsonian conditions. How this reorganization could contribute to other features of
616 parkinsonian behavior can be examined in future studies.

617 While we have demonstrated a link between the electrophysiological and behavioral
618 effects of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss, it is worth considering potential caveats in
619 interpreting our results. First, it is possible that compensatory mechanisms unrelated to the
620 electrophysiological effects of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss are responsible for the
621 behavioral bias we observed, particularly since the hemi-PD mice included in our study all
622 exhibited a behavioral bias in the same direction (ipsilateral). While our electrophysiological
623 results are consistent with this bias, we would be able to draw stronger conclusions about the
624 relationship between BG output and behavior with a set of mice exhibiting a wider range of
625 behavioral biases. Indeed, one mouse that was excluded from our hemi-PD group due to
626 insufficient dopaminergic cell loss (< 70%) exhibited a significant *contralateral* bias on both SG
627 ($p = 3.10 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test, median bias = -0.223) and IS trials ($p = 5.41 \times$
628 10^{-4} , 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test, median bias = -0.0798). When we analyzed the SNr
629 recordings from this mouse, we found that the neurons with a significant direction preference
630 (74/83 neurons) largely exhibited an *ipsilateral* preference during the movement preparation
631 epoch (ipsilateral:contralateral ratio = 59:15, $p = 7.74 \times 10^{-13}$, χ^2 -test = 50.0, df = 1, see Fig. 8A,
632 Table 1 for comparisons). While we can only speculate about the potential compensatory
633 adaptations that emerge in the BG with relatively moderate dopaminergic cell loss, and we
634 cannot rule out contributions of additional mechanisms to the behavioral bias, the fact that the

635 direction of behavioral bias remains consistent with neural direction preference further
636 supports our finding that BG output mediates the effect of parkinsonian conditions on
637 behavior.

638 Second, olfactory deficits are a known hallmark of PD (Hawkes and Shephard, 1993;
639 Hawkes, 1995; Tarakad and Jankovic, 2017; Tekriwal et al., 2017). Given our use of an olfactory
640 task, is it possible that the behavioral effects under parkinsonian conditions are due to sensory
641 and not motor deficits. We suggest that this is unlikely for two reasons: 1) on IS trials the
642 olfactory cue was not informative about reward location, 2) and on SG trials a deficit in
643 olfactory discrimination would be reflected in a flattening, rather than a shift, in the
644 psychometric function, which we did not observe.

645 Finally, while the hemi-PD model provides a powerful approach for examining the
646 neural basis of parkinsonian movement (Ungerstedt, 1976; Avila et al., 2010; Galati et al., 2010;
647 Brazhnik et al., 2012; Brazhnik et al., 2014; Dorval and Grill, 2014), PD typically presents with
648 bilateral dopaminergic cell loss. It is possible that dopaminergic input from the spared SNc may
649 compensate for the unilateral insult, and other differences between the model and the clinical
650 condition must be considered. However, our comparison between ipsilateral and contralateral
651 movements, at the behavioral and neurophysiological levels, was well suited to the hemi-PD
652 model, and we suggest that our results can cautiously inform the reorganization of BG output
653 that occurs in PD.

654 In conclusion, we found that the behavioral effects of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss,
655 including differences between stimulus-guided and internally-specified movements, can be
656 accounted for by changes in SNr activity during movement preparation. While our results could

657 not be explained by the simplest rate-model prediction that BG output is tonically elevated by
658 dopaminergic cell loss, they were nevertheless consistent with a form of the rate model in
659 which movement direction is influenced by the rate of BG output during movement
660 preparation. Future studies can examine how the changes in SNr activity observed here affect
661 the activity of SNr-recipient structures, as well as how the BG interact with other motor
662 systems to differentially mediate stimulus-guided and internally-specified movements under
663 parkinsonian conditions.
664

665 **Acknowledgments:** Technical support was provided by the Optogenetics and Neural
666 Engineering Core at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, funded in part by the
667 National Institutes of Health (P30NS048154). We thank Quang Dang and Ben Peterson for data
668 collection, and members of the Felsen lab for comments on the manuscript.

669

670 **Funding:** This work was supported by the National Institutes of Health (R01NS079518,
671 P30NS048154); and the Boettcher Foundation (Webb-Waring Biomedical Research Award).

672

673 **Declarations of interest:** none

674

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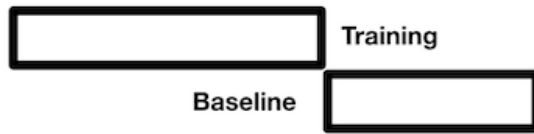
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- 853

854 **Figure legends**

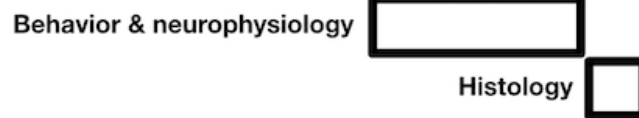
BEHAVIOR



EXPERIMENTAL MANIPULATION



OUTCOME ASSESSMENT

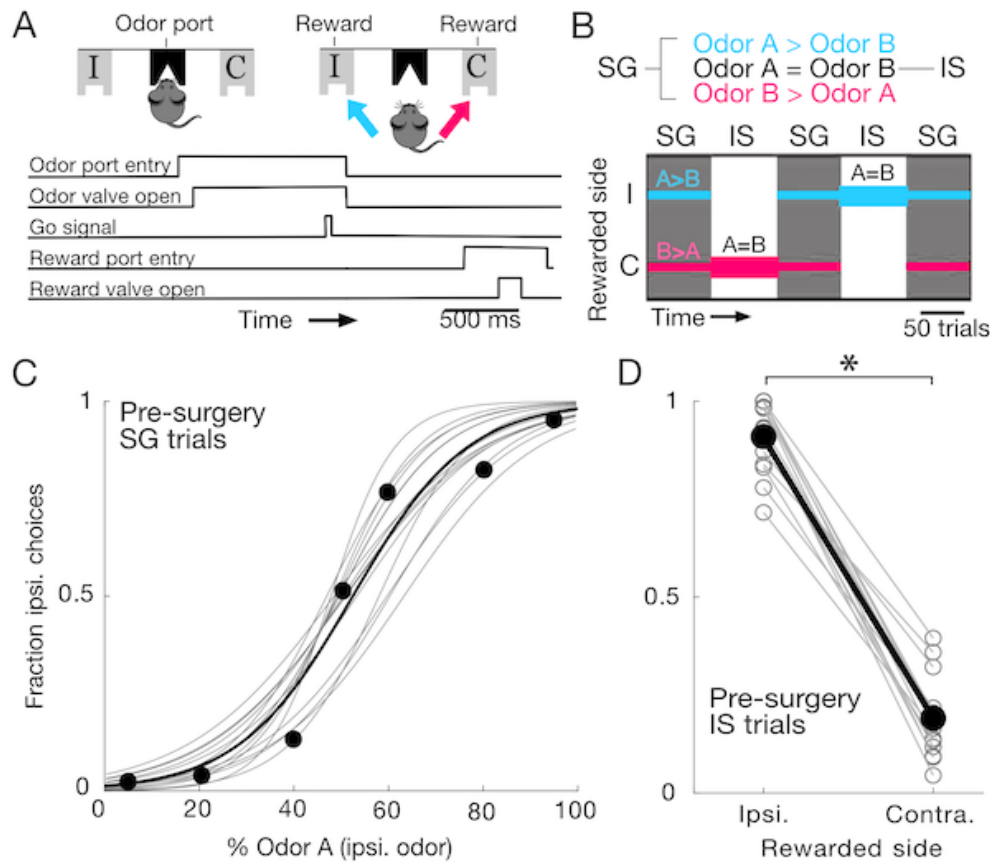


Time →

1 week

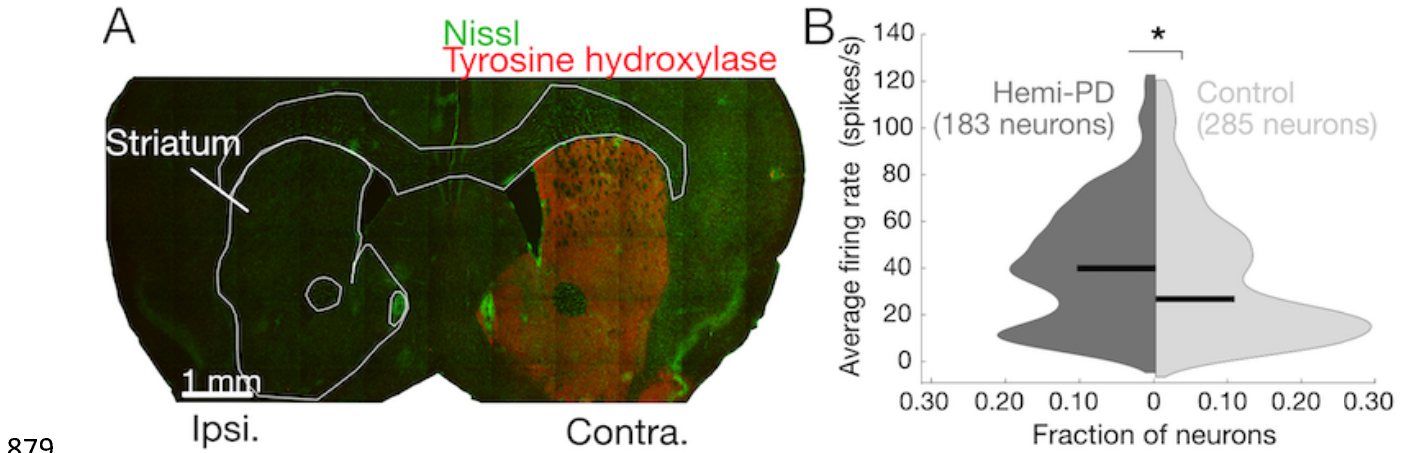
855

856 **Figure 1.** Experimental timeline.



857

858 **Figure 2.** Behavioral task and baseline performance. **A**, Port locations (top) and timing of
859 task events (bottom). Ipsilateral (I) and contralateral (C) are defined relative to the side of brain
860 targeted for surgery (always left). Cyan represents ipsilateral choices, magenta represents
861 contralateral choices. **B**, Odor mixtures on SG (stimulus-guided) and IS (internally-specified)
862 trials (top) and interleaving of SG and IS blocks within a session (bottom). On SG trials, the
863 Odor A/Odor B mixture presented was 5/95, 20/80, 40/60, 50/50, 60/40, 80/20 or 95/5. On IS
864 trials, the Odor A/Odor B mixture presented was always 50/50. Horizontal cyan and magenta
865 lines indicate which port(s) were rewarded in each block: On SG trials, ipsilateral side was
866 rewarded when Odor A > Odor B (cyan), contralateral side was rewarded when Odor B > Odor
867 A (magenta), and either side was equally likely to be rewarded when Odor A = Odor B; on all IS
868 trials, Odor A = Odor B and only one side was rewarded throughout the block. **C**, Baseline (pre-
869 surgery) performance on SG trials for representative mouse subsequently assigned to the
870 hemi-PD group. Gray lines show best-fit logistic functions ($p = 1 / (1 + e^{(-a - bx)})$, where x is the
871 proportion of Odor A, p is the fraction of ipsilateral choices, and a and b are the best-fit free
872 parameters) for each session ($n = 17$). Circles show average across sessions for the binary odor
873 mixtures presented; solid line shows best-fit logistic function to all choices across sessions.
874 **D**, Baseline (pre-surgery) performance on IS trials for representative mouse subsequently
875 assigned to hemi-PD group. Gray lines link ipsilateral- and contralateral-rewarded IS blocks
876 within the same session ($n = 15$). Black circles indicate medians. Mouse chose the ipsilateral
877 port more often on ipsilateral-rewarded blocks ($p = 3.05 \times 10^{-5}$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank
878 test).



879

880 **Figure 3.** Validation of hemi-PD mouse model. **A**, Representative coronal section (0.97

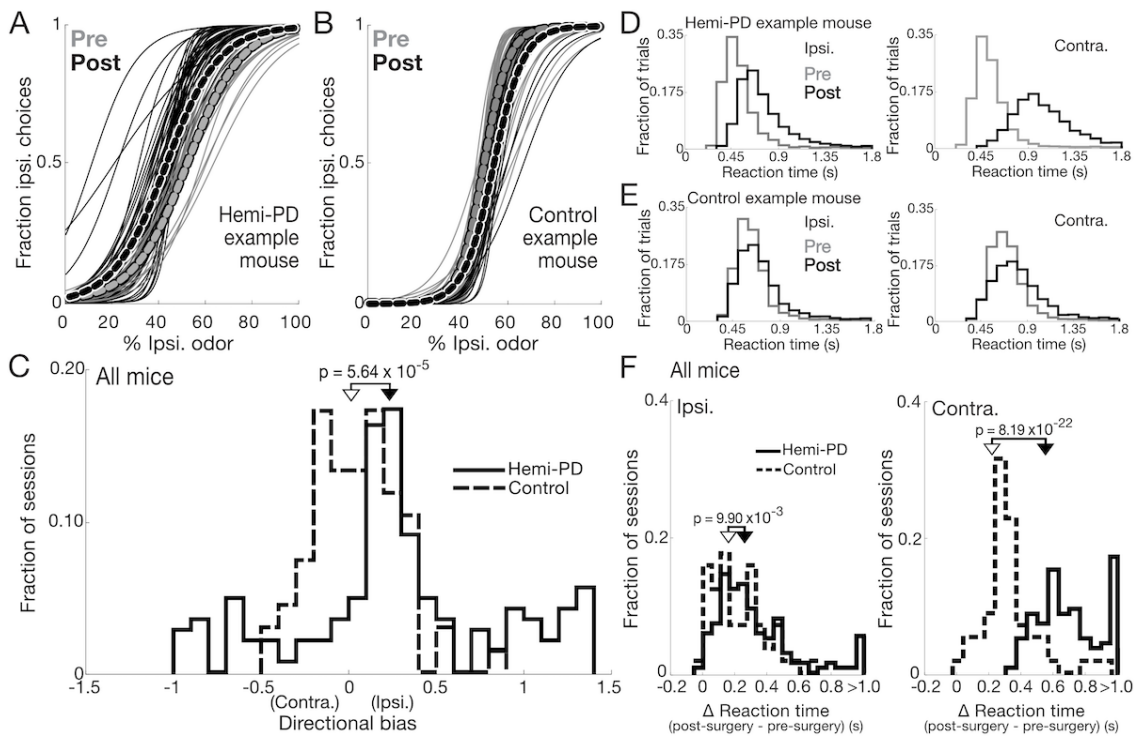
881 mm anterior to Bregma) in hemi-PD mouse. 6-OHDA was delivered to the ipsilateral SNc.

882 Green, Nissl; red, tyrosine hydroxylase. **B**, Baseline activity (odor port entry to reward port exit

883 in each trial) of SNr neurons during task performance in hemi-PD (dark gray, $n = 5$) and control

884 (light gray, $n = 4$) mice. Black lines, medians. Median baseline SNr activity was higher in hemi-

885 PD mice ($p = 0.0157$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test).



886

887 **Figure 4.** Effect of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on stimulus-guided (SG) movements.

888 **A,** Thin lines show best-fit logistic functions (as in Fig. 2C) for SG trials for each pre-surgery

889 session (gray, $n = 30$) and post-surgery session (black, $n = 42$) for a representative hemi-PD

890 mouse. Thick lines show fits for SG trials combined across all pre-surgery (grey) and post-

891 surgery (black) sessions. **B,** As in **A**, for a representative control mouse (tetrode drive implanted

892 to SNr; $n = 33$ pre-surgery and 17 post-surgery sessions). **C,** Directional bias (relative to the pre-

893 surgery baseline for each mouse) on SG trials in each post-surgery session (138 sessions in 4

894 hemi-PD mice; 57 sessions in 4 control mice). Hemi-PD mice exhibited an ipsilateral bias ($p =$

895 8.87×10^{-8} , 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test); control mice did not ($p = 0.3480$, 2-tailed t-test;

896 post-surgery bias differed between hemi-PD than control mice, $p = 5.64 \times 10^{-5}$, 2-tailed

897 Wilcoxon rank sum test; black and white arrow indicates median values for hemi-PD and

898 control mice, respectively). **D,** Reaction times (from go signal to reward port entry) on

899 ipsilateral (left panel) and contralateral (right panel) SG trials in pre-surgery (gray) and post-

900 surgery (black) trials for a representative hemi-PD mouse (ipsilateral: 1,957 trials pre-surgery,

901 5,393 trials post-surgery; contralateral: 2,193 trials pre-surgery, 3,143 trials post-surgery). **E,** As

902 in **D**, for a representative control mouse (ipsilateral: 1,386 trials pre-surgery, 2,340 trials post-

903 surgery; contralateral: 1,621 trials pre-surgery, 1,760 trials post-surgery). **F,** Change (from the

904 pre-surgery median baseline for each mouse) in median reaction time on each post-surgery

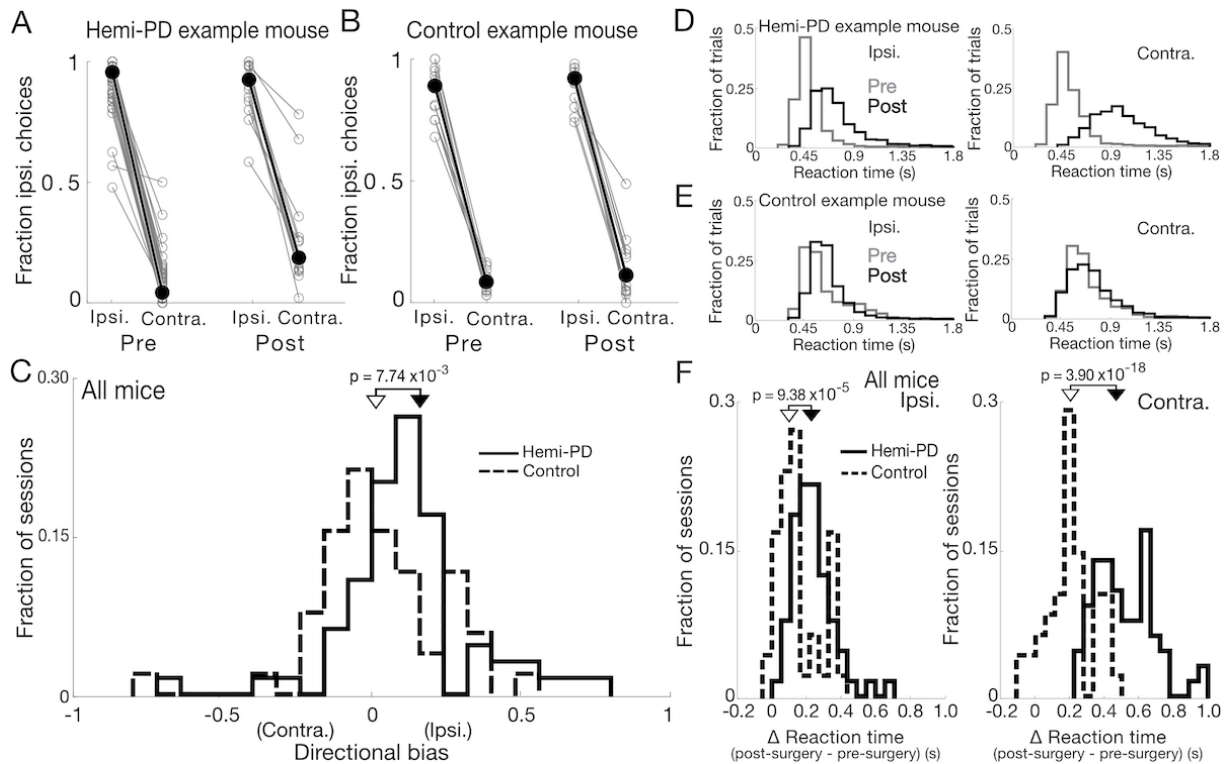
905 session (same mice and sessions as in **C**) on ipsilateral (left panel) and contralateral (right

906 panel) SG trials. Hemi-PD mice exhibited larger changes in reaction times than control mice

907 (ipsilateral trials: $p = 9.90 \times 10^{-3}$, contralateral trials: $p = 8.19 \times 10^{-22}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum

908 tests; black and white arrow indicates median values for hemi-PD and control mice,

909 respectively), and exhibited a larger change on contralateral than on ipsilateral trials ($p = 1.66 \times$
 910 10^{-12} , 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test).



911

912 **Figure 5.** Effect of unilateral dopaminergic cell loss on internally-specified (IS)

913 movements. **A**, Connected symbols show fraction of ipsilateral choices on ipsilateral and

914 contralateral blocks of IS trials for each pre-surgery session ($n = 63$ sessions) and post-surgery

915 session ($n = 16$) for a representative hemi-PD mouse. Filled symbols show means. **B**, As in **A**,

916 for a representative control mouse (tetrode drive implanted; $n = 14$ pre-surgery and 14 post-

917 surgery sessions). **C**, Directional bias (relative to the pre-surgery baseline for each mouse) on IS

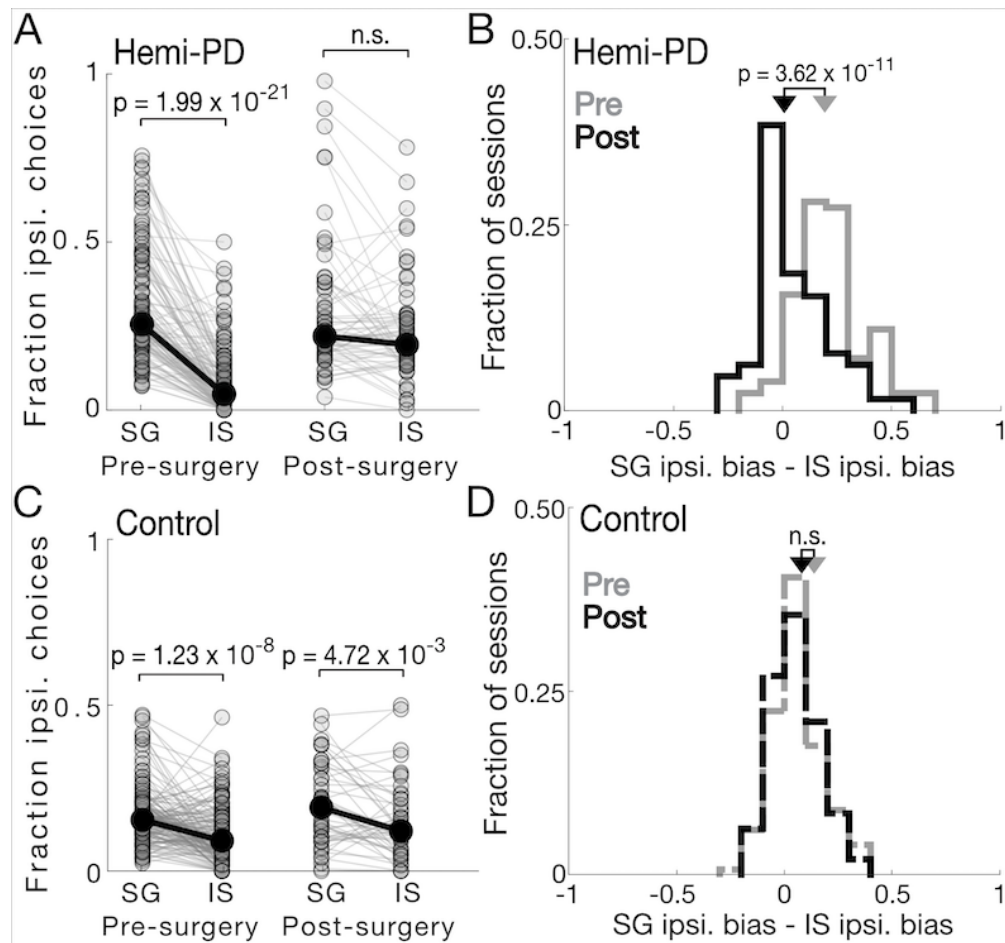
918 trials in each post-surgery session (65 sessions in 4 hemi-PD mice; 48 sessions in 4 control

919 mice). Hemi-PD mice exhibited an ipsilateral bias ($p = 1.49 \times 10^{-6}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank

920 test); control mice did not ($p = 0.3855$, 2-tailed t-test; post-surgery bias differed between hemi-

921 PD and control mice, $p = 7.74 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test; black and white arrow

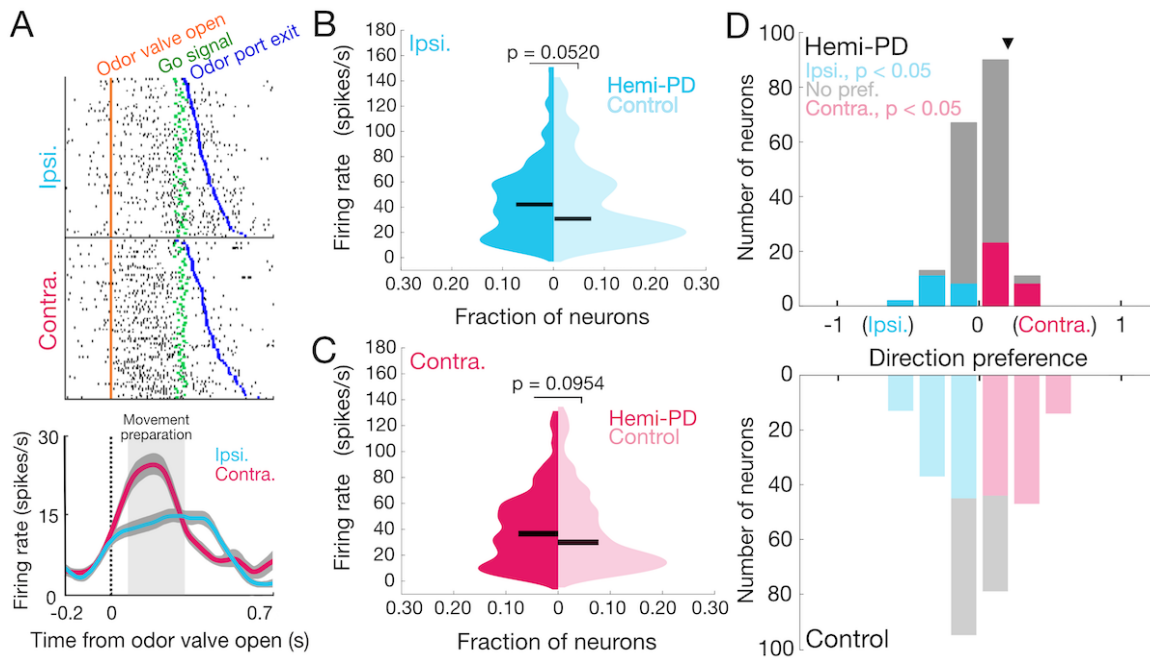
922 indicates median values for hemi-PD and control mice, respectively). **D**, Reaction times (from
923 go signal to reward port entry) on ipsilateral (left panel) and contralateral (right panel) IS trials
924 in pre-surgery (gray) and post-surgery (black) trials for a representative hemi-PD mouse
925 (ipsilateral: 874 trials pre-surgery, 2,328 trials post-surgery; contralateral: 789 trials pre-
926 surgery, 1,783 trials post-surgery). **E**, As in **D**, for a representative control mouse (ipsilateral:
927 764 trials pre-surgery, 839 trials post-surgery; contralateral: 820 trials pre-surgery, 804 trials
928 post-surgery). **F**, Change (from the pre-surgery median baseline for each mouse) in median
929 reaction time on each post-surgery session (same mice and sessions as in **C**) on ipsilateral (left
930 panel) and contralateral (right panel) IS trials. Hemi-PD mice exhibited larger changes in
931 reaction times than control mice (ipsilateral trials: $p = 9.38 \times 10^{-5}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum
932 test, contralateral trials: $p = 3.90 \times 10^{-18}$, 2-tailed t-test; black and white arrow indicates median
933 values for hemi-PD and control mice, respectively), and exhibited a larger change on
934 contralateral than on ipsilateral trials ($p = 1.09 \times 10^{-10}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test).



935

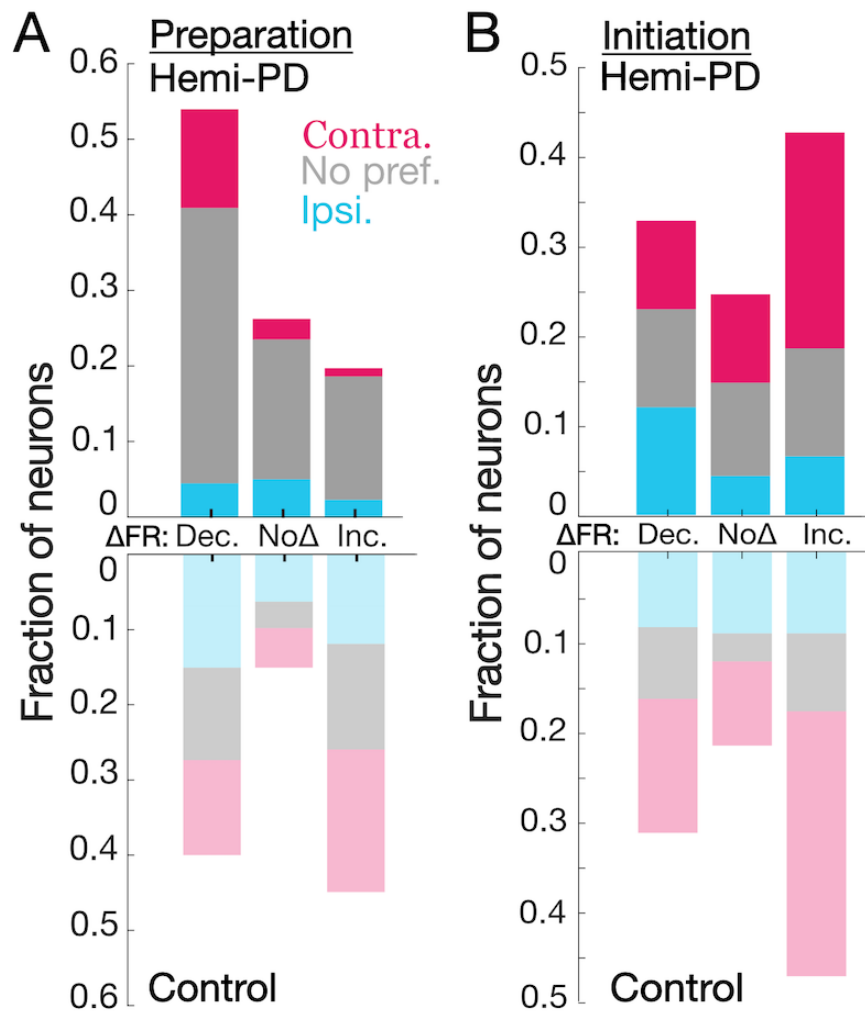
936 **Figure 6.** Direct comparison between stimulus-guided (SG) and internally-specified (IS)
937 behavior in hemi-PD mice. **A**, Connected symbols show fraction of ipsilateral choices on SG
938 and IS contralaterally-rewarded trials within each pre-surgery session ($n = 128$) and post-
939 surgery session ($n = 65$) for hemi-PD mice ($n = 4$). Hemi-PD mice were more ipsilaterally biased
940 on IS than SG trials pre-surgery ($p = 1.99 \times 10^{-21}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test), but not
941 post-surgery ($p = 0.0924$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test). **B**, Within-session ipsilateral bias
942 differences between SG and IS trials changed between pre- and post-surgery sessions ($p = 3.62$
943 $\times 10^{-11}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test). **C**, As in A, for control mice ($n = 148$ pre-surgery
944 sessions, $n = 48$ post-surgery sessions, $n = 4$ mice). Control mice were more ipsilaterally biased

945 on IS than SG trials pre-surgery ($p = 1.23 \times 10^{-8}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test) and post-
 946 surgery ($p = 4.72 \times 10^{-3}$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test). **D**, As in B, for control mice. Within-
 947 session ipsilateral bias differences between SG and IS trials did not change between pre- and
 948 post-surgery sessions ($p = 0.643$, 2-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum test).



949 **Figure 7.** SNr activity during movement preparation in behaving hemi-PD and control
 950 mice. **A**, Rasters (top) and peri-event time histograms (bottom) for an example neuron from a
 951 hemi-PD mouse aligned to odor valve open and segregated by choice. Histograms are
 952 smoothed with a Gaussian filter; shading, \pm SEM. **B,C**, Mean firing rate during movement
 953 preparation epoch (between odor valve open and go signal) did not differ between populations
 954 of neurons in hemi-PD and control mice on ipsilateral (B) or contralateral (C) trials ($p_{\text{Ipsi.}} =$
 955 0.0520 ; $p_{\text{Contra.}} = 0.0954$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon rank sum tests; $n = 183$ neurons in 5 hemi-PD mice;
 956 285 neurons in 4 control mice). Horizontal bars, medians. **D**, Distribution of direction
 957 preferences for population of neurons in hemi-PD mice (top) had a smaller range than in
 958 control mice (bottom).

959 control mice (bottom) ($p = 7.31 \times 10^{-4}$, 2-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test), and more neurons
 960 exhibited a significant preference in control than in hemi-PD mice ($p = 2.20 \times 10^{-16}$, χ^2 -test).
 961 Arrowhead, example neuron shown in A.



962

963 **Figure 8.** Functional classes of SNr neurons during movement preparation and initiation

964 in behaving hemi-PD and control mice. **A**, Fraction of neurons with a given direction

965 preference segregated by whether their average activity during the movement preparation

966 epoch (beginning 100 ms after the odor valve opens and ending with the go signal) significantly

967 increased (Inc.), decreased (Dec.) or did not change (No Δ) relative to average baseline firing

968 rate, for hemi-PD (top) and control (bottom) mice. Proportion of neurons exhibiting an

969 increase, a decrease, and no change differs between hemi-PD and control mice ($p = 1.32 \times 10^{-11}$,
 970 χ^2 -test = 50.108, df = 2). Similarly, proportion of ipsilateral, contralateral, and no direction
 971 preference neurons differed between hemi-PD and control mice ($p = 2.2 \times 10^{-16}$, χ^2 -test =
 972 149.58, df = 2). **B**, Fraction of neurons with a given direction preference segregated by whether
 973 their activity during the movement initiation epoch (beginning with the go signal and ending
 974 100 ms after odor poke out) increased, decreased or did not change relative to pre-surgery, for
 975 hemi-PD (top) and control (bottom) mice. Proportion of neurons exhibiting an increase, a
 976 decrease, and no change did not differ between hemi-PD and control mice ($p = 0.459$, χ^2 -test =
 977 1.5586, df = 2; n = 183 neurons in 5 hemi-PD mice; 285 neurons in 4 control mice); proportion of
 978 ipsilateral, contralateral, and no direction preference neurons differed between hemi-PD and
 979 control mice ($p = 4.413 \times 10^{-5}$, χ^2 -test = 20.049, df = 2).

980

981

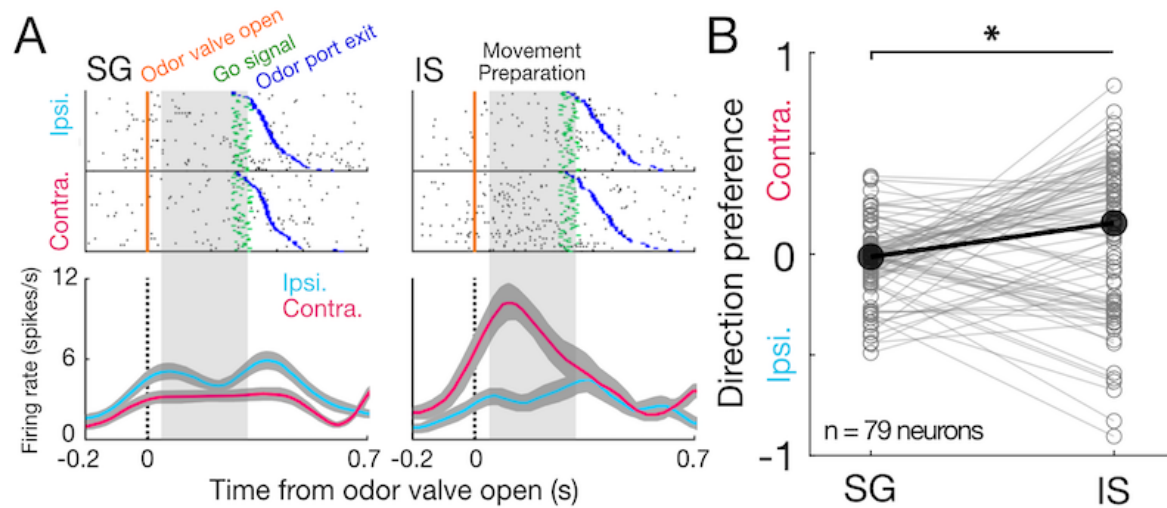
Hemi-PD	Decreased FR	No Δ FR	Increased FR	Total
Contralateral	25	5	2	32 (17.5%)
Ipsilateral	7	9	4	20 (10.9%)
Non-selective	67	34	30	131 (71.6%)
Total	99 (54.1%)	48 (26.2%)	36 (19.7%)	183 neurons

Control	Decreased FR	No Δ FR	Increased FR	Total
Contralateral	36	15	54	105 (36.8%)
Ipsilateral	42	18	34	94 (33.0%)

Non-selective	36	10	40	86 (30.2%)
Total	114 (40%)	43 (15.1%)	128 (44.9%)	285 neurons

982

983 **Table 1:** Direction preference and activity change from baseline for all SNr neurons recorded
 984 from hemi-PD (upper) and control (lower) mice.



985

986 **Figure 9.** SNr activity on stimulus-guided (SG) and internally-specified (IS) trials in hemi-
 987 PD mice. **A,** Rasters (top) and peri-event histograms (bottom), on stimulus-guided (SG, left)
 988 and internally-specified (IS, right) trials, for an example neuron from a hemi-PD mouse aligned
 989 to odor valve open and segregated by choice. Histograms are smoothed with a Gaussian filter;
 990 shading, \pm SEM. **B,** Direction preference on SG and IS trials for population of SNr neurons in
 991 hemi-PD mice. Each neuron is represented by a pair of connected gray symbols; only neurons
 992 with significant preference ($p < 0.05$) on SG and/or IS trials are shown. Preference was more
 993 contralateral on IS than SG trials ($p = 0.0132$, 1-tailed Wilcoxon signed rank test, $n = 79$). Black
 994 symbols, medians.

995