

1 **Interneuron activity-structural plasticity association is driven by context-dependent**  
2 **sensory experience**

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28 **Abstract (150 words)**

29 Neuronal dendritic spine dynamics provide a plasticity mechanism for altering brain  
30 circuit connectivity to integrate new information for learning and memory. Previous *in vivo*  
31 studies in the olfactory bulb (OB) showed that regional increases in activity caused localized  
32 spine stability, at a population level, yet how activity affects spine dynamics at an individual  
33 neuron level remains unknown. In this study, we tracked *in vivo* the correlation between an  
34 individual neuron's activity and its dendritic spine dynamics of OB granule cell (GC)  
35 interneurons. Odor experience caused a consistent correlation between individual GC activity  
36 and spine stability. Dissecting the components of the OB circuit showed that increased  
37 principal cell (MC) activity was sufficient to drive this correlation, whereas cell-  
38 autonomously driven GC activity had no effect. A mathematical model was able to replicate  
39 the GC activity-spine stability correlation and showed MC output having improved odor  
40 discriminability while retaining odor memory. These results reveal that GC spine plasticity  
41 provides a sufficient network mechanism to decorrelate odors and maintain a memory trace.

42

## 43 **Introduction**

44       Synaptic plasticity is the predominant mechanism of learning and memory in neural  
45 networks<sup>1-3</sup>. During cortical development extensive structural plasticity, driven by coincident  
46 activity of neuronal partners, causes the formation and refinement of dendritic spines<sup>4,5</sup>. This  
47 form of structural plasticity also occurs in the adult brain, albeit at a much lower level;  
48 instead, different mechanisms of potentiating or depressing synaptic strengths dominate<sup>6</sup>.  
49 Nonetheless, structural plasticity in the adult brain was shown to be modulated by sensory  
50 changes and new spine formation has been correlated with learning in the cerebral cortex<sup>7,8</sup>  
51 and olfactory bulb<sup>9</sup> of adult mice.

52       Granule cells (GCs), the predominant interneuron of the olfactory bulb (OB), undergo  
53 persistently elevated structural plasticity throughout life, with approximately 20% of each  
54 GC's spines turning over daily<sup>10</sup>. GCs inhibit the OB principal neurons, mitral and tufted cells  
55 (MCs), through reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses<sup>11</sup>. MC glutamate release onto a GC  
56 causes reciprocal GABA release from the GC and signal propagation along the GC dendrite  
57 recruits additional spines to laterally inhibit other MCs, shaping OB output to the olfactory  
58 cortex<sup>12</sup>. In the sparsely connected OB circuit, structural plasticity may provide an efficient  
59 mechanism, in addition to classical synaptic plasticity, for the network to adjust for  
60 processing new complex sensory inputs that are characteristic of the high dimensional space  
61 of odorants<sup>13</sup>.

62       Perceptual learning in the OB is an inherent form of learning where odor experience  
63 causes increased discriminability of similar experienced odor<sup>14</sup>. The circuit mechanism of  
64 this learning is still poorly understood, but evidence suggests it to be driven by GC  
65 modulation of MC output<sup>15,16</sup>. Previous studies demonstrated that continuous odor exposure  
66 stabilized GC spines in active OB regions<sup>17</sup>. Furthermore, activity-dependent glutamate and  
67 BDNF release from MCs was found to regulate GC spine head filopodia motility *in vitro* at  
68 short time-scales<sup>18</sup>. However, it is yet unknown how individual neuron activity regulates GC  
69 structural plasticity within the timespan of functional spine development.

70       To determine the potential impact activity has in driving spine dynamics, we  
71 developed an awake structural *in vivo* imaging paradigm to track GC spine dynamics in  
72 response to odor experience. We further manipulated activity within the OB circuit to  
73 determine which components are essential for driving this plasticity. Finally, we established a  
74 computational model utilizing spine transition states to replicate the *in vivo* spine stability-  
75 activity correlation. Despite spines being highly dynamic, the model network demonstrated  
76 enhanced odor discriminability, while having the ability to retain memory.

77

## 78 **Results**

### 79 **Awake *in vivo* 2-photon imaging of sparsely labelled GC neurons and reconstructing the** 80 **spines**

81 To understand the relationship between neuronal activity and dendritic spine dynamics  
82 at a single-cell resolution, we employed a viral labelling method for simultaneously detecting  
83 neuronal activity and spine dynamics of GC dendrites in awake animals. Sparse labelling of  
84 GCs was accomplished by injecting lentivirus expressing tdTomato (tdTom) and Cre-  
85 recombinase into the rostral migratory stream (RMS) to label neuroblasts<sup>19</sup> (Fig. 1a), after 3  
86 weeks, adeno-associated virus expressing floxed genetically encoded calcium indicator  
87 (GCaMP6f) was injected in the OB and a cranial window over the OB was performed as  
88 described previously<sup>10</sup>. Numerous studies tracking GC spine dynamics were exclusively  
89 performed in anaesthetized mice<sup>10,17,20</sup>, however, GCs are highly influenced by anesthesia,  
90 causing an almost complete loss of spontaneous activity while strongly reduced odor  
91 responses<sup>21</sup>. Therefore, we designed an awake protocol for imaging neuronal structure with  
92 sufficient resolution to track GC dendritic spines (Fig. 1b, Extended Data Fig. 1). The tdTom  
93 signal also provided a stable channel for detecting and removing movement artefact frames of  
94 the GCaMP signal (Extended Data Fig. 2). The details of the pre-processing steps for analysis  
95 of neuronal activity are described in the *Methods*.

96

### 97 **Odor experience drives apical dendro-dendritic spine stability**

98 The relationship between GC neuronal activity and its apical dendritic spine stability  
99 was explored with animals in normal cage conditions for 4 days with daily imaging, followed  
100 by 4 days of exposure to the odorant isoamyl acetate (IAA) in the cage with daily imaging  
101 (Fig. 1c). On the microscope stage, a mask provided the mouse with continuous air that first  
102 passed through each animal's matched cage bedding. This "cage odor" was used for all  
103 experiments to mimic the cage odor environment to avoid off-target effects on both activity  
104 and structural plasticity since there was a significant difference in GC activity between pure  
105 air and cage odor presentation (see Extended Data Figure 3f;  $p = 0.012$ ).

106 The tdTom signal was imaged daily as a z-series volume to reconstruct apical  
107 dendritic spine segments for tracking spine dynamics. A single, defined z-plane within the  
108 center of this volume was imaged daily as a time-series at high speed (15 Hz) for sufficient  
109 temporal resolution to record GCaMP6f-labeled dendritic activity (Extended Data Fig. 3a, b).  
110 In the "cage odor" condition during days 1-4, spontaneous activity was recorded for activity  
111 baseline, whereas in the "IAA" condition, during days 5-8, odor evoked activity was recorded  
112 with 2s of IAA delivery per trial.

113 Activity in the GC dendrites increased significantly with IAA exposure (Fig. 1d-f;  
114 Table 5;  $p < 0.0001$ ,  $n = 8$  animals, 51 dendrite-ROI pairs), which was sustained over  
115 subsequent days (Fig. 1g), showing no significant habituation effect. The activity of  
116 neighboring ROIs along the same dendritic branch was highly correlated (Extended Data Fig.  
117 3d-e; F-test,  $p = 0.797$ ), which allowed associating structural dynamics of individual spines  
118 with their common dendritic segment activity. Exposure to IAA increased the overall stability  
119 of spines (Fig. 1h-i;  $p = 0.02$ ;  $n = 8$  animals, 51 dendrite-ROI pairs; Extended Data Table 5),  
120 while reducing the population of new and lost spines (Fig. 1i; new  $p = 0.018$ ; lost  $p = 0.04$ ;  
121 for detailed statistics of all figures see Extended Data table 5).

122 To explore the effect of odor experience on spines, the mean of activity and spine  
123 stability with IAA for each segment, minus the mean of activity and spine stability with  
124 baseline cage odor conditions, was plotted (Fig. 1j). The upper right quadrant shift suggested  
125 a cumulative positive activity and spine stability change with IAA. The effect of odor  
126 experience on spine dynamics was assessed in more detail using a linear regression fit  
127 between the activity across days for each segment and the corresponding spine classification.  
128 With cage odor, there was no significant correlation with activity in new, lost or stable spines  
129 (Fig. 1k; stable,  $p = 0.269$ ; new,  $p = 0.11$ ; lost,  $p = 0.756$ ). IAA, however, caused a significant  
130 positive correlation between dendritic activity and spine stability (Fig. 1l; Extended Data Fig.  
131 3g;  $p = 0.0002$ ) and a significant negative correlation with new spine formation (Fig. 1l;  $p <$   
132  $0.0001$ ; Extended Data Fig. 3h) with no significant correlation in lost spines (Fig. 1l;  $p =$   
133  $0.414$ ; Extended Data Fig. 3i).

134 To determine the variability of correlation across days, the spread of the dataset was  
135 measured by taking the distance of all individual daily activity-stability points for each  
136 dendrite from their respective means across the experimental paradigms all days, segregating  
137 between cage odor and IAA (Fig. 1m). The variability of the correlation reduced significantly  
138 with IAA, as compared to cage odor (Fig. 1m; cage odor:  $0.56 \pm 0.20$ , IAA:  $0.45 \pm 0.18$ ;  $p <$   
139  $0.0001$ ), indicating odor experience leads to higher spine stability across days on individual  
140 spines/segments. Overall, these data suggest that odor experience drives sustained spine  
141 stability and is sufficient to reduce the dynamic spine pool, driving an activity-spine stability  
142 correlation, while reducing inter-day differences in this correlation.

143

#### 144 **Odor-induced activity does not drive proximal spine stability**

145 In contrast to GC apical spines which make reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses,  
146 proximal spines, those that are on the primary apical dendrite, immediately adjacent and  
147 superficial to the soma, have classical spines (Extended Data Fig. 4a-b), predominantly  
148 receiving top-down input. We explored whether the same activity-spine stability relationship  
149 rule could be extended to proximal spines. The activity and spine dynamics at the proximal  
150 dendrite compartment were measured using an identical odor experience paradigm as in Fig. 1  
151 (Fig. 2a-b). IAA exposure caused a robust increase in neuronal activity (Fig. 2c-e;  $p < 0.0001$ ;  
152  $n = 4$  animals, 55 dendrite-ROI pairs) while there was also a significant increase in overall  
153 spine stability (Fig. 2f-g;  $p < 0.0001$ ) coupled with a significant decrease in the fraction of  
154 new spines (Fig. 2g;  $p < 0.0001$ ), and no change in lost spines (Fig. 2g;  $p = 0.095$ ).

155 Although, both mean activity and mean spine stability were increased during IAA  
156 exposure (Fig. 2h), there was no significant correlation between individual segment activity  
157 and new, lost or stable spines (Fig. 2i; *new*:  $p = 0.951$ ; *lost*:  $p = 0.447$ ; *stable*:  $p = 0.647$ ;  
158 Extended Data Fig. 4c-e; Extended Data table 3). In addition, the decrease in the correlation  
159 variability across days with IAA was not significant from cage odor background (Fig. 2j *cage*  
160 *odor*:  $0.57 \pm 0.19$ , *IAA*:  $0.50 \pm 0.22$ ;  $p = 0.085$ ). Thus, proximal spines have limited or no  
161 correlation with their structural plasticity in response to direct sensory stimulation.

162

163

164

## 165 **Short-term odor exposure is incapable of driving spine stability**

166 After determining that apical spines have a unique odor-induced activity-stability  
167 relationship, we explored the effect of the duration of odor experience on spines. Instead of  
168 continuous IAA exposure in their cages, mice were presented with IAA for 40, 2s  
169 presentations per day during the imaging sessions (Fig. 3a-b; ‘short-term IAA’). Evoked IAA  
170 short-term exposure caused a significant increase in activity across days (Fig. 3c-e;  $p <$   
171  $0.0001$ ; 5 animals; 42 dendrite-ROI pairs).

172 There was a slight increase in spine stability (Fig. 3f,  $p = 0.048$ ), with significantly  
173 fewer new spines in ‘short-term IAA’ compared to ‘cage odor’ (Fig. 3f;  $p = 0.003$ ) and no  
174 significant change in lost spines (Fig. 3f;  $p = 0.299$ ). The displacement of the change in  
175 activity-stability scatter was characterized by an increase in activity (Fig. 3g). There was no  
176 significant correlation between individual dendritic activity and the percentage of stable, new  
177 or lost spines (Fig. 3h; *new*:  $p = 0.159$ ; *lost*:  $p = 0.529$ ; *stable*:  $p = 0.153$ ). Interestingly, the  
178 correlation variability across days showed a significant decrease between cage odor and short-  
179 term IAA (Fig. 3i; *cage odor*:  $0.38 \pm 0.18$ , *short-term IAA*:  $0.28 \pm 0.16$ ;  $p = 0.005$ ), but was  
180 significantly less compared to continuous IAA ( $p = 0.032$ ). These results indicate that the  
181 experience of transient odor exposure is not sufficient to drive the GC activity-spine stability  
182 correlation.

183

## 184 **Activity-dependent spine stability is driven by sensory-input**

185 GC apical spines are stabilized by long-term odor exposure, but is sensory-driven  
186 activity necessary for maintaining spine stability? Sensory deprivation by unilateral naris  
187 occlusion was used to decrease network activity, but spare spontaneous activity, to explore  
188 the effect on GC apical spine stability<sup>22</sup>. In addition to the protocol in Fig. 1, the mice  
189 underwent naris occlusion after the IAA exposure period and GC apical dendrites were  
190 imaged daily in all conditions (Fig. 4a-b).

191 Naris occlusion caused a significant decrease in apical GC dendritic activity as  
192 compared to cage odor spontaneous activity and IAA-evoked activity (Fig. 4c-e; *cage odor vs*  
193 *IAA*:  $p = 0.002$ , *cage odor vs naris*:  $p < 0.0001$ , *IAA vs naris*:  $p < 0.0001$ ; 7 animals; 53  
194 dendrite-ROI pairs; Extended Data Fig. 5a-c). As in Fig. 1, continuous IAA exposure led to a  
195 significant increase in spine stability (Fig. 4f;  $p = 0.039$ ). However, compared to the cage  
196 condition, no significant change in stability was observed with naris occlusion (Fig. 4f;  $p =$   
197  $0.135$ ), while it significantly decreased the percentage of new (Fig. 4f;  $p = 0.009$ ) and lost  
198 spines (Fig. 4f;  $p = 0.001$ ).

199 As compared to spontaneous cage odor activity, naris occlusion reduced the mean  
200 activity without strongly affecting stability. During the IAA exposure period, both activity  
201 and stability were enhanced compared to the cage-odor period (Fig. 4g;  $\Delta$ stability (IAA) =  
202  $0.219 \pm 127$ ;  $\Delta$ activity (IAA) =  $0.190 \pm 134$ ;  $\Delta$ stability (naris) =  $0.102 \pm 191$ ;  $\Delta$ activity (naris)  
203 =  $-0.152 \pm 126$ ). IAA exposure pushed the activity-stability relationship to a significant  
204 positive correlation (Fig. 4h;  $p = 0.006$ ; Extended Data Fig. 5d) with no change in new spines  
205 (Fig. 4h;  $p = 0.504$ ; Extended Data Fig. 5e), but a slightly negative correlation for the lost  
206 spines (Fig. 4h;  $p = 0.012$ ; Extended Data Fig. 5f).

207 During naris occlusion there was no significant correlation between activity and spine  
208 stability (Fig. 4i; Extended Data Fig. 5g-i). Consistent with previous observations, the

209 correlation variability across days was significantly less in IAA compared to cage odor and  
210 naris occlusion (Extended Data Fig. 5c). These results suggest that odor exposure is required  
211 for establishing stable connectivity between GCs and the principal cells with the disruption of  
212 sensory input leading to their destabilization.

213 We co-labelled the GCs with tdTom and a lentivirus expressing GFP fused to PSD-95  
214 (Extended Data Fig 6a-b)<sup>17</sup>, to track the proportion of “functional spines” (tdTom<sup>+</sup>/PSD-95<sup>+</sup>)  
215 and potential “proto-spines” (tdTom<sup>+</sup>/PSD-95<sup>-</sup>) under cage odor, IAA, and naris occlusion  
216 conditions. We observed that not all spines express PSD-95 (Extended Data Fig 6d). In  
217 addition, with naris occlusion, only the density of PSD-95<sup>+</sup> spines were reduced (Extended  
218 Data Fig 6c). The PSD-95<sup>+</sup> spine fraction was insignificantly increased with IAA and  
219 similarly decreased with sensory deprivation (Extended Data Fig 6d). Although PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and  
220 PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spines have increased stability with IAA, and reduced stability with naris occlusion  
221 (Extended Data Fig 6h; shown by the centroid distance from the origin), IAA does not lead to  
222 correlated stability in PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spines (Extended Data Fig 6e-g; Cage odor: p =  
223 0.09 (stable), p = 0.002 (new); IAA: p = 0.157 (stable), p = 0.224 (new); naris occlusion: p =  
224 0.01 (stable), p = 0.08 (new)). However, the rates of PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spine loss in both  
225 IAA and naris occlusion are highly correlated (Extended Data Fig 6e-g; Cage odor: p = 0.568  
226 (lost); IAA: p = 0.0008 (lost); naris occlusion: p = 0.008 (lost)). Given these observations, we  
227 conclude that the rates of spine formation and spine consolidation are different in the case of  
228 olfactory sensory experience. These observations provide the rational of classifying spines  
229 into “functional” and “non-functional” spines in the computational model described later.

230

### 231 **GC silencing or activating does not alter the activity-stability relationship**

232 To further dissect the OB components driving the spine activity-stability relationship,  
233 we utilized chemogenetic manipulation with Designer Receptor Exclusively Activated by  
234 Designer Drugs (DREADD) expressed in GCs to control their cell-autonomous activity<sup>23,24</sup>  
235 (Fig. 5a; Extended Data Fig. 7a-b). GC activity was modulated by adding the DREADD  
236 ligand clozapine-N-oxide (CNO) into the cage drinking water (Fig. 5b). A separate cohort of  
237 mice were viral labeled with inhibitory (hM4Di) or excitatory (hM3Dq) DREADD to silence  
238 or activate GCs with CNO administration, respectively (Fig. 5a; Extended Data Fig. 7a).

239 GCs used for analysis were selected based on their multiple-expression of tdTom (for  
240 structure), GCaMP6f (for activity) and DREADD (hM4Di/hM3Dq-mCherry, as determined  
241 by using different 2-photon wavelengths for spectral subtraction (Extended Data Fig. 7a-b).  
242 GCs expressing inhibitory DREADD (hM4Di) had significantly suppressed activity with  
243 CNO application (Fig. 5c-d; Extended Data Fig. 7c; p < 0.0001; 5 animals; 49 dendrite-ROI  
244 pairs), while GCs expressing excitatory DREADD (hM3Dq) had significantly increased  
245 activity (Fig. 5e-f; Extended Data Fig. 8a-b; p < 0.0001; 4 animals; 36 dendrite-ROI pairs).

246 Spine stability was slightly, but significantly higher in GCs inhibited by hM4Di as  
247 compared to cage odor baseline dynamics (Fig. 5g; p = 0.04; Extended Data Fig. 7d) while  
248 excitation with hM3Dq did not show any significant change in spine stability (Fig. 5i; p =  
249 0.184; Extended Data Fig. 8c). In both the cases, however, new spine formation was reduced  
250 significantly (Fig. 5g; *new* p < 0.0001; Fig. 5i; *new* p = 0.029; Extended Data Fig. 7e, 8d),  
251 while changes in spine loss were insignificant (Fig. 5g; *lost* p = 0.132; Fig. 5i; *lost* p = 0.818;  
252 Extended Data Fig. 7f, 8e).

253 Comparing continuous inhibition and excitation of GCs, there was a negative shift in  
254 the change in activity from baseline cage odor conditions in the hM4Di group (Fig. 5h) and an  
255 increase in activity in the hM3Dq group (Fig. 5j). Inhibition slightly enhanced the overall  
256 stability of the spines, while excitation had no significant influence, yet both groups had a  
257 slight reduction in the number of new spines. Inhibition of GCs caused no correlation between  
258 individual segment activity and the percentage of stable, new or lost spines (Fig. 5k; *new*:  $p =$   
259  $0.803$ ; *lost*:  $p = 0.927$ ; *stable*:  $p = 0.773$ ). A slight negative correlation in stability was found  
260 with GC excitation and conversely a slight positive correlation with lost spines while no  
261 correlation with new spines (Fig. 5l; *new*:  $p = 0.303$ ; *lost*:  $p = 0.04$ ; *stable*:  $p = 0.025$ ). The  
262 correlation variability across days also increased with inhibition (Fig. 5l; hM4Di: *cage odor*-  
263  $0.38 \pm 0.19$ ; *CNO* -  $0.58 \pm 0.19$ ;  $p < 0.0001$ ), while decreased with excitation (Fig. 5n;  
264 hM3Dq: *cage odor*-  $0.47 \pm 0.21$ ; *CNO* -  $0.28 \pm 0.16$ ;  $p < 0.0001$ ). These data indicate that cell  
265 autonomous activation of GCs is not sufficient to drive the activity-stability correlation and,  
266 even more surprisingly, cell autonomous GC excitation appears to cause loss of spines.

267

### 268 **Persistent activation of MCs is required to drive the activity-stability relationship**

269 A potential candidate for non-cell autonomous activity regulating spine stability is the  
270 primary input to GCs through MC activity. Recent *in vitro* evidence suggests that MC  
271 activity-dependent glutamate release regulates GC short-term spine motility<sup>18</sup>. We therefore  
272 targeted MCs by injecting AAV expressing floxed excitatory DREADD into the OB in Tbet-  
273 cre mice<sup>25</sup> (Fig. 6a). To mimic the continuous odor conditions for perceptual learning in  
274 Fig. 1, mice had baseline cage odor conditions with imaging followed by CNO in their cage  
275 drinking water with daily imaging (Fig. 6b).

276 GC activity increased significantly with CNO when averaged across days (Fig. 6c-e;  
277  $p = 0.0006$ ;  $n = 4$  animals, 23 dendrite-ROI pairs), with insignificant change on days 5 and 6  
278 compared to day 1 (Extended Data Fig. 9a;  $p = 0.65$ ,  $p = 0.88$  respectively), and average spine  
279 stability increased, without reaching significance (Fig. 6f;  $p = 0.51$ ). When compared across  
280 days, a significant increase in stability was seen on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of CNO application (Extended  
281 Data Fig. 9b;  $p = 0.034$ ). A positive change in mean activity and spine stability with MC  
282 activation was also observed compared to cage odor (Fig. 6g). There was a significantly  
283 positive correlation between individual dendritic segment activity and spine stability (Fig. 6h;  
284  $p = 0.009$ ; Table 3), showing that pre-synaptic activity was sufficient to drive the stability of  
285 spines. This correlation, however, was transient as prolonged CNO exposure may have caused  
286 a network adaptation/homeostatic driven decrease in GC activity (Extended Data Fig. 9a),  
287 which explains the transient nature of the correlation between activity and stability (Extended  
288 Data Fig. 9c). A statistically significant correlation was seen on day 2 after CNO application,  
289 but was lost on day 3 (Extended Data Fig. 9d; day 1,  $p = 0.28$ ; day 2,  $p = 0.009$ ; day 3,  $p =$   
290  $0.859$ ). However, the correlation variability across days did not change after the persistent  
291 activation of MCs (Fig. 6i; *cage odor*:  $0.396 \pm 0.167$ ; *CNO*:  $0.348 \pm 0.149$ ,  $p = 0.352$ ). Taken  
292 together, our data indicates that continuous pre-synaptic activation is sufficient to drive GC  
293 spine stabilization, suggesting that this component of the OB circuit primarily drives GC  
294 apical spine dynamics. These findings cannot rule out the role of feedback from the piriform  
295 cortex or other top-down inputs, therefore we pursued a computational model that was  
296 confined to the OB local circuit to determine the functional output.

297 **The activity-stability relationship, pattern separation, and persistent memory *in silico***

298 We developed a computational model to study OB network evolution resulting from  
299 spine structural plasticity. Since the *in vivo* measured correlation between spine stability and  
300 dendritic GC-activity was relatively low, but significantly positive, we tested whether such  
301 modest correlations can induce functionally relevant network connectivity and asked what  
302 function it may support. Our firing-rate model included excitatory MCs and inhibitory GCs  
303 interacting via reciprocal synapses (Fig. 7a). The MCs received steady sensory stimulation  
304 (Fig. 7a, ‘Input Pattern’), leading to steady MC activity patterns that evolved slowly due to  
305 structural plasticity-driven reorganization.

306 Our model is minimal and phenomenological in nature, motivated by various  
307 experimental observations<sup>18</sup>. Our *in vivo* experiments showed a fraction of PSD-95- spines  
308 that are presumably nonfunctional (Extended Data Fig. 6). This was modeled with a two-stage  
309 process where initially nonfunctional (unconsolidated) spines were formed on a GC dendrite  
310 at allowed locations with a probability that increased with MC activity<sup>18,26</sup>. Subsequently,  
311 they were consolidated if the GC-activity was above a certain threshold (Fig. 7b).

312 We first illustrate the model using simple model stimuli (Fig. 7c). A statistically  
313 steady state was established through repeated exposure to a first stimulus set mimicking the  
314 experimental cage-odor baseline. Since the spine consolidation has Hebbian characteristics,  
315 connections were stabilized between coactive MCs and GCs (Fig. 7d). The number of such  
316 GCs was greatly enhanced between MCs that were co-activated by the presented odors  
317 (Fig. 7c bottom panels). In a second epoch, two very similar stimuli were used (same pattern  
318 with very slight offset; Fig. 7c) that drove an entirely different set of MCs. These new stimuli  
319 primarily activated a new set of GCs, which provided mutual inhibition mainly between MCs  
320 excited by the second stimulus pair (Fig. 7c, d). Since the MCs that were stimulated during  
321 epoch 1 were not activated during epoch 2, the previously established connectivity was  
322 largely preserved.

323 Next, we used naturalistic stimuli based on glomerular activation patterns<sup>27</sup>  
324 (Extended Data Fig. 11a). A single stimulus in epoch 1 mimicked cage odor, followed by  
325 epoch 2 with two very similar stimuli to test whether network restructuring improves their  
326 discriminability. Overall, spines stabilized, decreasing the fraction of dynamic spines (Fig. 7e,  
327 Extended Data Fig. 14d). The cumulative distribution shift decreased with increasing  
328 dependence of the spine formation on MC activity (Extended Data Fig. 10). Comparison with  
329 the *in vivo* results suggested therefore that MC activity drives spine formation only to a  
330 limited degree.

331 The relative change in activity of each MC and GC over the course of epoch 2 (change  
332 index<sup>21</sup> was broadly distributed (Fig. 7f). Odors introduced in epoch 2 activated previously  
333 not activated MCs, resulting in new connections that activated numerous GCs (Fig. 7d),  
334 causing their change index to be positive. Overall, the mean of the change index was negative  
335 for MCs and less so for GCs, consistent with the *in vivo* results<sup>21</sup>.



336 We then correlated the fractions of stable and dynamic spines of each GC with that  
337 GC's activity (Fig. 7g, Extended Data Fig. 14a). Following epoch 2, the fraction of stable  
338 spines was positively correlated with activity (Fig. 7g), while the fraction of dynamic spines  
339 exhibited a negative correlation (Extended Data Fig. 14). During epoch 2 these correlations  
340 were more pronounced than in epoch 1, which was in part due to the increased stimulus  
341 intensity during the odor exposure.

342 To illustrate how the restructuring of the network reflected the training stimuli, MCs  
343 were sorted to separate the MCs that were predominantly excited by epoch 1 ('cage odor')  
344 from those of epoch 2 (Extended Data Fig. 14b). Since the odors in epoch 2 were added to the  
345 cage odor, significant connections were also established between the MCs excited by those  
346 odors and the MCs driven by the cage odor. Despite the substantial changes in the  
347 connectivity, the average number of consolidated spines per GC, as well as the fraction of  
348 consolidated spines, exhibited only a small, yet significant increase, which was consistent  
349 with our experiments (Extended Data Figs. 6, 13).

350 We used a Fisher discriminant to quantify the discriminability of very similar training  
351 odors. We found that the network restructuring significantly enhanced the discriminability of  
352 the odors driving the plasticity (Fig. 7h). Furthermore, we tested for "memory" in the learned  
353 network connectivity and the resulting odor discrimination ability. In an additional epoch 3 a  
354 new stimulus pair was presented (Extended Data Fig. 11b), while epoch 4 repeated the stimuli  
355 of epoch 2. As expected, epoch 2 led to a significant increase in the Fisher discriminant for  
356 the first, but not the second pair, while the Fisher discriminant for the second pair increased  
357 during epoch 3 (Fig. 7h). Importantly, during epoch 3, the Fisher discriminant for the first pair  
358 decreased only somewhat. Thus, despite the high dynamics of the structural plasticity that  
359 removed spines from moderately activated GCs (purple arrow in Extended Data Fig. 11c and  
360 Extended Data Fig. 12) and added spines to highly activated GCs (red and blue arrows), the  
361 network connectivity preserved the memory of the task involving the first stimulus pair, since  
362 epoch 3 did not activate the MCs involved in that task (yellow arrow).

363

364

365

366

## 367 **Discussion**

368 GC dendritic spines are amongst the most dynamic in the brain and regional activity  
369 has been correlated with relative stabilization of these spines, yet the circuit mechanism  
370 driving this stabilization was unknown. For the first time, we show a direct correlation  
371 between the activity of individual GC dendritic segments, driven by persistent sensory  
372 stimulation, and the stability of their spines *in vivo*, over multiple days, and we provide  
373 evidence that this is directly driven by MC activity. Furthermore, our computational model  
374 shows this spine structural plasticity to be sufficient to increase discriminability while  
375 retaining sensory memory.

376

### 377 **Persistent odor exposure drives GC apical spine stability within active dendrites**

378 We explored the dependence of an individual GC's activity to drive its spine stability  
379 by combining structural and Ca<sup>2+</sup> imaging *in vivo* in awake mice. Under baseline cage odor  
380 conditions, GC dendritic activity versus spine stability was uncorrelated, but increasing  
381 activity with chronic odor stimulation was sufficient to drive this correlation. This result is  
382 somewhat remarkable since spine stability was measured from ~15-20 spines per segment,  
383 causing a ~17 % increase in stable spines, indicating a change of ~3 spines on the segment  
384 measured was sufficient for this correlated activity effect. These results support previous  
385 studies that showed *regional* OB activity was sufficient to drive spine stability<sup>17,28</sup>. Since  
386 spine stability has also been shown to correlate with learning ability in the  
387 somatosensory/motor cortex<sup>7,8</sup>, it suggests the activity-stability correlation we observed could  
388 be generalized to other neuron types from brain regions, which would be of interest for future  
389 studies.

390 To understand the mechanism of this activity-stability correlation, intracellular Ca<sup>2+</sup> is  
391 important for spine formation and stability in cortical pyramidal neurons as shown in *ex-vivo*  
392 preparations<sup>29,30</sup> where spine lifetime was positively correlated with Ca<sup>2+</sup> peak frequency and  
393 duration. Chelating Ca<sup>2+</sup> resulted in lower spine formation, spinule number and cumulative  
394 lifespan per spine<sup>29</sup>. When we presented short duration odor, the activity-stability correlation  
395 was not induced, although this stimulus did shift the cumulative distributions of stable and  
396 new spines, but this did not correlate with individual dendritic activity. As to the cellular  
397 machinery of spine maintenance and formation, spine stability and lifetime are also associated  
398 with the gain of PSD-95<sup>31</sup> and its expression complexity<sup>29</sup>, respectively, whereas spine  
399 removal is often preceded by PSD-95 loss<sup>31,32</sup>. Although it has been shown that GC PSD-95  
400 puncta stabilize with odor enrichment<sup>17</sup>, suggesting an overall activity-dependence, our  
401 current results support a direct relationship between activity and stability.

402 We also explored how blocking sensory input affects the activity-stability correlation.  
403 Four days of naris occlusion greatly decreased GC activity, but, compared to the cage-odor  
404 condition, spine stability was not significantly changed, while there were fewer new spines  
405 and more lost spines. Thus, during deprivation, it is possible that some of the strong GC  
406 synaptic connections formed during continuous odor exposure may remain stable, with  
407 evident pruning in parallel. This may be a hallmark of inhibitory neurons since in the visual  
408 cortex monocular deprivation also caused increased inhibitory synapse loss and decreased  
409 synapse addition in the dendritic shafts of layer 2/3 pyramidal neurons, whereas layer 2/3  
410 pyramidal neuron spines were not affected<sup>33</sup>, but a significant increase in spine formation

411 occurred in layer 5 pyramidal neurons<sup>34</sup>. Therefore, spine changes appear to be neuron-type  
412 specific and may reflect network configuration and input differences across brain regions.

413

#### 414 **Spine activity-stability relationship depends on dendritic location**

415 We also measured the spine dynamics of GC proximal spines which receive  
416 unidirectional top-down cortical input. In contrast to the distal GC spines, which primarily  
417 make reciprocal dendro-dendritic connections with MC cells, the proximal spines did not  
418 have an activity-spine stability relationship with continuous odor exposure. This supports  
419 region-specific spine adaptability to differential types of input, as shown in other studies: For  
420 distal spines, spine density increased with simple olfactory enrichment<sup>35,36</sup> and PSD-95 spine  
421 density decreased with deprivation, whereas proximal spine density increased<sup>37</sup>. Also, a more  
422 complex input, by pairing an odorant with a reward task, caused increased proximal spine  
423 density with no effect on distal spines<sup>38</sup>. Associative learning induced an increase in GC  
424 excitatory responses, increased spine formation and stabilization, and improved odor  
425 discrimination. In parallel, an associative discrimination tasks also increase the cortical  
426 feedback to the GCs, and was suggested to provide contextual information to drive GC  
427 context dependent plasticity<sup>9</sup>. Therefore, these compartment-specific features may provide an  
428 additional level of segregation of synaptic inputs and therefore increase the adaptability of  
429 GCs.

430

#### 431 **MC activation is sufficient to drive activity-stability relationship**

432 We dissected the OB circuit to find whether intrinsic components are sufficient to  
433 drive the activity-stability relationship of GC distal spines. Cell-autonomous silencing of GCs  
434 was performed and no activity-stability relationship was found. This finding is supported by  
435 other studies showing network silencing having no effect on hippocampal excitatory and  
436 inhibitory synapse density<sup>39</sup>, spine volume fluctuations in small spines<sup>40</sup> or change in  
437 gephyrin inhibitory puncta dynamics<sup>41</sup>. Additionally, we performed cell-autonomous GC  
438 excitation which did not cause an activity-stability relationship in the distal spines. This is  
439 supported by histological analysis where GC excitatory synapses across all compartments  
440 were shown to have no change in density with intrinsic excitation<sup>37</sup>. Since increased sensory  
441 input was the only condition that drove the activity-stability relationship, this suggested that  
442 pre-synaptic activity of MC-cells may provide a critical role.

443 Previously we demonstrated that gephyrin puncta dynamics on MC cell lateral  
444 dendrites match GC spine dynamics<sup>10</sup>. We proposed a Hebbian plasticity mechanism to  
445 stabilize odor representations and facilitate pattern decorrelation between GC-MC cell  
446 synapses. In the current study we performed chronic MC-cell autonomous activation to  
447 determine if this was sufficient to drive the activity-spine stability relationship. MC-cell  
448 activation was able to drive GC activity-dependent spine stability, similar to that of sensory  
449 stimulation, albeit transiently. This is in agreement with a study showing MC-cell  
450 stimulations, mimicking odor activation, stabilized dynamic filopodia-like structures on  
451 spines by increasing their lifetime and reducing their mobility and was shown to be dependent  
452 on MC glutamate release and BDNF<sup>26</sup>. This effect was observed in 45-minute sessions with  
453 glutamate stimulation, whereas we observed spine stability persistence over 3-days with MC  
454 activation, suggesting a conserved mechanism. However, we observed the GC activity-spine

455 stability relationship in the initial days of DREADD-activation of MC cells, but the  
456 relationship was progressively lost. Further study with more temporal control methods for  
457 disrupting specific pre- and post-synaptic components *in vivo* would be interesting to  
458 determine what patterns of activity are sufficient to mimic the sensory input driving GC spine  
459 stability.

460

### 461 **Minimal computational model of spine plasticity in the MC-GC circuit: odor** 462 **discrimination memory**

463 We utilized a minimal computational model to provide insight into the *in vivo* results  
464 for spine plasticity. *In vivo* and *in silico* continuous odor presentation increased spine stability  
465 that positively correlated with the activity of the dendrite associated with the spine. Odor  
466 exposure led only to a small increase in the fraction of consolidated spines, which was  
467 consistent with our *in vivo* result showing a small decrease in PSD<sup>+</sup> -spine fraction resulting  
468 from odor deprivation. Nevertheless, in the model this small increase indicated a substantial  
469 restructuring of the network.

470 Due to the network reorganization caused by odor exposure, the MC and GC activities  
471 evolved in the model. On average, their activity decreased with odor exposure<sup>21</sup>. However,  
472 while the activity of almost all MCs decreased, a significant number of GCs were newly  
473 recruited implying an increase in their activity. The network restructuring led to the formation  
474 of new subnetworks in which GCs provided disinhibitory inhibition among MCs that were  
475 strongly activated by the odor during odor exposure. This specific inhibition enhanced the  
476 discriminability of very similar stimuli related to that odor<sup>42</sup>, consistent with previous  
477 experiments showing perceptual learning in a habituation task<sup>43</sup> that required the activation  
478 of partially overlapping regions in the OB<sup>43</sup>. This was also the case in a computational model  
479 implementing synaptic-weight plasticity<sup>43</sup>.

480 An important aspect of our model is its memory for learned odors<sup>44</sup>. In sequential  
481 exposure with multiple odors, previously learned connectivities were only compromised if the  
482 new stimuli significantly overlapped with the previous ones. Then, the bulbar odor  
483 representations of the previously learned stimuli were modified, resulting in a partial loss of  
484 the memory of the previously learned discrimination task. For a small overlap, however, odor  
485 memories persisted. For the stimulus mimicking “cage odor”, the model exhibited a  
486 significant correlation, albeit weaker than for the odor-exposure stimulus, while  
487 experimentally the correlation was not significant. This apparent discrepancy may be due to  
488 mice experiencing the same cage odor throughout their lives.

489 In our *in vivo* experiments, a large fraction of dendrites with high activity did not form  
490 new spines (Fig. 1i). The model showed that this does not imply any direct influence of GC  
491 activity on spine formation; instead, it was sufficient if high-activity GCs had a large number  
492 of consolidated spines, *relative* to which the number of new spines was small (Extended Data  
493 Fig. 12a bottom panels), therefore the consolidation of the spines depended crucially on GC  
494 activity.

495 A prominent feature of the OB circuit is the extensive top-down projections that  
496 predominantly target GCs, allowing higher brain areas to modify OB odor processing.  
497 Previous modeling suggests that GC adult neurogenesis naturally leads to a network structure  
498 enabling higher brain areas to inhibit specific MCs that allows context-dependent odor-

499 processing in the bulb<sup>45</sup>. Since the GC spine plasticity mimics neurogenesis by sharing the an  
500 almost unlimited level of plasticity, albeit local activity/plasticity versus an entirely newly  
501 integrated cell, it is expected that mature GC spines contribute by providing specific control  
502 of bulbar processing influenced by higher brain areas.

503 Our studies demonstrate a potential mechanism for perceptual learning during  
504 continuous odor exposure based on activity-dependent structural plasticity of adult-born GCs.  
505 While recent studies highlight the strong enhancement of structural spine plasticity by cortical  
506 contextual feedback during active learning, we show that presynaptic activity is necessary and  
507 sufficient to drive the correlation between individual GC activity and spine stability.  
508 Therefore, this enables the formation of stimulus-specific subnetworks within the OB to  
509 enhance stimulus discriminability, highlighting a perceptual learning role that the local OB  
510 circuit provides.

511

512

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526

527

### 528 **Author contributions**

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530 (computational model); Investigation, S.S., G.A., J.H.M. (computational model); Formal  
531 analysis, J.H.M. and H.R. (computational model); Formal analysis, S.S., G.A.; Writing –  
532 original draft, S.S., J.H.M., H.R. and K.A.S.; Writing – review and editing, K.A.S., P.M.L.  
533 and H.R; Supervision, K.A.S, P.M.L. and H.R.

534

535

536

538 **Methods**

539

540 **Animals**

541 Eight-week old C57Bl/6j (Janvier Laboratories, Le Genest-Saint-Isle, France) and Tbet-cre  
542 mice (C57Bl/6j background, 8 weeks old)<sup>25</sup> housed under standard conditions were used in  
543 the study. All experiments were performed in compliance with the French application of the  
544 European Communities Council Directive (2010/63/EEC) and approved by the local animal  
545 welfare committee of the Institut Pasteur (CETEA, project #2013-030).

546

547 **Stereotaxic injections**

548 OB granule cells (GCs) were labelled at a specific age by injecting lentivirus expressing a  
549 Cre-recombinase with a tdTom reporter under the CMV promoter (LV-CMV-tdTom-IRES-  
550 Cre)<sup>46</sup> into the rostral migratory stream (RMS) as described previously<sup>10</sup>. Mice were  
551 anesthetized (150 mg/kg ketamine, 5mg/kg xylazine; 0.02 mg/kg buprenorphine) and the head  
552 was secured to a stereotaxic frame (David Kopf) while the body temperature was maintained  
553 using a rectal temperature feedback heating pad. Using sterile technique, the skull was  
554 exposed and 0.5 mm craniotomies were drilled for bilaterally injecting viral solution into the  
555 RMS using a glass micropipette attached to a Nanoinjector system (Drummond Scientific) at  
556 the following coordinates relative to the bregma: 3.3 mm anterior,  $\pm 0.82$  mm lateral, and 2.9  
557 mm deep. The scalp was sutured and the mice were returned to their home cages with free  
558 access to food and water.

559 After 3 weeks, once the Cre-labelled neuroblasts migrated to the OB, floxed adeno-associated  
560 virus (AAV) expressing the Ca<sup>2+</sup> indicator GCaMP6f was injected in the OB (AAV-hSyn-  
561 DIO-GCaMP6f-WPRE), either alone or in combination with a floxed AAV expressing  
562 excitatory or inhibitory DREADD (Designer Drugs Exclusively Activated by Designer Drugs,  
563 AAV5-hSyn-DIO-hM3D(Gq)-mCherry- excitatory; AAV5-hSyn-DIO-hM4D(Gi)-mCherry-  
564 inhibitory). This labelling strategy permits either recording GC activity (with GCaMP6f) or to  
565 activate/suppress GCs in a temporal manner by administering the ligand for DREADD,  
566 Clozapine-N-oxide: CNO, thereby having specific action on neurons co-expressing Cre and  
567 DREADD. To label GC complete dendritic/spine structure and post-synaptic excitatory  
568 synapses, a lentivirus expressing tdTom (LV-hSyn-tdTom) and a lentivirus expressing a post-  
569 synaptic density-95 (PSD-95) GFP fusion (PSD-LV-CMV-PSD-95-GFP (Mizrahi, 2007),  
570 respectively, were injected using the same coordinates as described above. Transgenic mice  
571 with the expression of Cre under the Tbx21 promoter (Tbet-Cre) (Haddad et al., 2013) were  
572 injected with floxed GCaMP6f (AAV-hSyn-DIO-GCaMP6f-WPRE) at the same coordinates  
573 as indicated above, causing expression to be restricted to mitral/tufted cells (MCs) for  
574 recording their neuronal activity. The details of the quantity of viruses injected, brain region  
575 infected and viral titre are summarized in table 1.

576

577 **Cranial window procedure**

578 At the timepoint for OB floxed virus injections, a cranial window was implanted for chronic  
579 *in vivo* imaging. A craniotomy was performed by carefully cutting the skull with a #12 scalpel  
580 blade slightly larger than the cover glass dimension (3.0 × 1.4 mm) over the OB. The skull  
581 was removed and a custom cut glass cranial window (UW-Madison microelectronics from my

582 paper) was placed in the craniotomy and the glass-skull interface was sealed with dental  
583 cement (Metabond). A custom-made stainless-steel/brass head bar (0.40g) was secured to the  
584 skull with cyanoacrylate glue and the exposed skull surface was covered with dental cement.  
585 The mice were housed individually and placed on antibiotic-water (Avemix, 8g in 1000ml  
586 water) for 5 days after the cranial window surgery. For the duration of the imaging  
587 experiments the animals had free access to food and water.

588

### 589 ***In vivo* two-photon imaging**

#### 590 *Plane of imaging:*

591 The somas of GCs in the OB are broadly distributed in the granule cell layer (GCL; ~500  $\mu$ m  
592 thick layer) with their apical dendrites projecting to the external plexiform layer (EPL) where  
593 they make dendrodendritic synapses with the MC cells<sup>11,47</sup>. GCs were sparsely labelled as  
594 required for accurately tracing and measuring GC structural changes. With sparse labelling  
595 and random insertion of GCs in the thick GCL, it was necessary to perform calcium imaging  
596 on GC dendrites. This provided three advantages: 1) A large number of GCs can be sampled  
597 for calcium imaging in one z-plane which was not possible in the GCL with sparse labeling,  
598 2) There is no bias in imaging GCs confined to specific GCL planes and 3) Individual GC  
599 branch activity can be directly correlated with its individual spine dynamics. The EPL was  
600 imaged to capture structural and activity changes in GC apical dendrites and the internal  
601 plexiform layer (IPL)-GCL for imaging GC proximal dendrites (**Extended Data Fig. 3a,**  
602 **Extended Data Fig. 4a-b**). Only dendrites which were horizontal to the imaging plane were  
603 used for structural tracing to avoid z-spread artefacts. For recording neuronal activity in the  
604 MCs, mitral cell somas were imaged in the mitral cell layer (MCL).

#### 605 *Awake 2-photon imaging:*

606 Calcium activity in the GC dendrites were imaged using a two-photon Prairie Investigator  
607 microscope (Bruker) with a resonant galvanometer attached to a DeepSee Ti:Sapphire  
608 femtosecond pulsed laser (Mai-Tai, Spectra Physics) to excite GCaMP6f at 950 nm. Images  
609 were acquired using a 20X 1.05 NA objective (Olympus). The same region was found  
610 between days using anatomical landmarks including blood vessel and dendritic projection  
611 patterns for reference. Time series were recorded at 512 x 512 pixels at 15 Hz. Calcium  
612 activity was either recorded spontaneously (2000 frames per trial) or in odor evoked condition  
613 (300 frames per trial).

614

### 615 **Odorant delivery**

616 Iso-amyl acetate (IAA, Sigma Aldrich, Germany) odorant was used as the monomolecular  
617 odorant for odor exposure which was diluted 1:10 in mineral oil for presenting to the mice.  
618 For odor evoked calcium recordings, IAA was further diluted with humidified air (1:10) and  
619 presented to the mice directly in a mask surrounding the nose for 2s per trial using a custom-  
620 built olfactometer that was adapted for head-fixed imaging (Alonso et al., 2012). Odors were  
621 delivered with 2-3 blocks of 20 trials were recorded per day per animal.  
622 For odor exposure timepoints, IAA was absorbed on paper in tea balls and placed in the  
623 animal cage above the cage grid, as described previously (Moreno, PNAS, 2009; Mizrahi, Nat  
624 Neuro, 2011) and the odorant was present for 24 h during 4 days.

625

## 626 **Naris occlusion protocol**

627 The construction of nose plugs for unilateral naris occlusion was followed based on the  
628 method described in Cummings et al., 1997<sup>48</sup>. Polyethylene (PE-10) tubing (Becton  
629 Dickinson, Parsippany, NJ), a silk surgical suture, and human hair. The human hair was tied  
630 to an end of the suture and then threaded into the PE tubing. The suture was passed into a knot  
631 around the tied end of the hair and passed into the lumen of the tubing. Finally, after the knot  
632 was slid into the lumen, the tubing and the suture was trimmed into roughly 0.5cm, ensuring  
633 that a small part of the hair remained outside so as to allow us to remove the plugs after  
634 experimentation. One end of the plug was trimmed to make it into a sharp end to make it  
635 easier for the nose plugs to be inserted into the nose of the mice. Mice were anesthetized  
636 temporarily using isoflurane, and the plugs were placed in the nose as and when described  
637 during the course of the experiment. Animals were unable to remove the nose plugs during  
638 the time of the experiment. They were returned to their home cages with ready access to food  
639 and water, and were under constant supervision during the whole course of the deprivation  
640 study.

641

## 642 **DREADD activation and inhibition**

643 Virus expression of DREADD, as described above, was used for selective continuous  
644 activation or suppression of neuronal activity<sup>49,50</sup>. Mice either were injected with excitatory  
645 or inhibitory DREADD viruses exclusively in the GCs or in the MCs. Clozapine-N-oxide  
646 (CNO, 0.025 mg/ml in water, selective for hM4Di and hM3Dq; Sigma-Aldrich) was  
647 administered in drinking water based on daily water intake of 6 ml, providing 5 mg/kg/day of  
648 CNO.

649

## 650 **Neuronal activity analysis**

651 *Identifying z-plane of imaging between sessions:*

652 A semi-automatic method was developed to consistently find the same imaging z-  
653 plane between imaging sessions. The imaging z-plane was determined on the first day of  
654 imaging and maintained throughout all session using the tdTom channel as a structural  
655 reference (Extended Data Fig. 2a-b). For subsequent imaging sessions, the animal was  
656 positioned in the same fixed location on the imaging stage and landmarks (blood vessels,  
657 dendritic structure etc.) were used to visually estimate the target z-plane. A 31  $\mu\text{m}$  z-stack was  
658 acquired,  $\pm 15 \mu\text{m}$  above and below the estimated z-plane (Extended Data Fig. 2b). Using  
659 custom code developed in Matlab (Mathworks) the first session target z-plane was normalized  
660 and registered to the subsequent imaging session estimated z-plane (StackReg, ImageJ). A 2-  
661 dimensional cross-correlation was performed between each z-plane of the subsequent imaging  
662 session z-stack and the target normalized/registered z-plane, as the reference (Extended Data  
663 Fig. 2b). The z-plane with the highest correlation was used for the imaging session.

664

665 *Animal movement filtering and image registration:*

666 The acquired images were grouped into blocks of odor evoked trials with each block  
667 consisting of 20 trials, each containing 300 frames (22s) and spontaneous activity was  
668 grouped into blocks of 2, each containing 2000 frames (132s). Since the imaging of activity  
669 was performed in awake mice, it was necessary to correct for lateral and out-of-frame z



670 movements. For each imaging block, lateral x-y-movements were corrected on the tdTom  
671 channel using rigid registration (MultiStackReg, ImageJ,  
672 [<http://bradbusse.net/sciencedownloads.html>]) and the registration transformation was applied  
673 to the GCaMP6f channel.

674 For the elimination of frames with z-displacements out of the target z-plane, within  
675 each block, a mean image was calculated for all the tdTom frames which was used as the  
676 target z-plane reference. A 2-dimensional cross-correlation was performed on each tdTom  
677 image in the time series versus the target z-plane reference (Matlab, Mathworks; Extended  
678 Data Fig. 2c). A manually defined threshold was defined at the lower tail of the histogram  
679 distribution of the correlation coefficients (Extended Data Fig. 2d). The frames identified with  
680 out-of-frame movements on the tdTom channel were indexed and removed from the  
681 GCaMP6f channel and replaced as NaN values Extended Data Fig. 2e. The entire trial was  
682 removed if the percentage of dropped frames exceeded 25% of the total frames.

683 Each block was also x-y-registered to correct for between session/day drift. The  
684 average tdTom T-projection of each block was affine registered to the first imaging session  
685 (MultiStackReg, ImageJ; Extended Data Fig. 2f-g) and the transformation of the block was  
686 applied to each image within the block of the GCaMP6f channel.

687  
688 *Region of interest detection:*

689 For increasing the signal-to-noise ratio and diminish principal component (PC)  
690 filtering was performed using the first 25 principal components. PCs were assigned from the  
691 raw images based on how pixels in the imaging field covary in the time dimension and with  
692 an orthogonal transformation, the observations were converted into linearly uncorrelated  
693 variables. This method effectively removed static background and filtered noise since the  
694 non-varying pixels and low amplitude random signal, respectively, have low variability across  
695 time, thus the image was reconstructed using the highest variable eigen vectors (Extended  
696 Data Fig. 2H, I). The filtering used the *pca* function in Matlab from the Signal processing  
697 toolbox (Mathworks Inc.).

698 Elliptical ROIs were manually traced in FIJI (ImageJ) on the dendritic fragments of  
699 the PCA-reconstructed images (Extended Data Fig. 2I, J). The PCA-reconstructed images  
700 were concatenated across multiple blocks to aid in visualizing segments that flashed  
701 (Extended Data Fig. 2J). In parallel, a standard deviation projection was used to highlight the  
702 pixels with the highest variance. The ROI coordinates were imported with custom made code  
703 in MATLAB using the Miji interface and ReadImageJROI code  
704 (<https://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/32479-readimagejroi>). For  
705 minimizing neuropil contamination and noise from each ROI, PC filtering was applied to the  
706 pixels within each individual ROI (Extended Data Fig. 2J), using the linear combination of  
707 reconstruction as previously described, and pixels within the first PC were used to define the  
708 ROI boundary (Extended Data Fig. 2J). This filtering increased the robustness for activity  
709 quantification by eliminating pixels containing noise thereby increasing the signal-to-noise  
710 ratio by ~25% (Extended Data Fig. 2K-M). For ROIs below x threshold, thereby having no  
711 activity for a given block, the original elliptical ROI was used. The PC filtered ROI  
712 coordinates were used to extract the mean area intensity for each frame indexed dropped

713 frames, as previously determined, were filled with NaN values.

714

715 *Calcium activity normalization and significance test:*

716 For each ROI, the pixel intensity values across time were smoothed across 5 frames using the  
717 *NaNfastsmooth* function in MATLAB. The fluorescent signal was normalized using the  $\Delta F/F$   
718 ratio:

$$719 \quad \Delta F/F = \frac{F(t) - F_0}{F_0}$$

720

721  $F_0$  is the average pixel intensity over the entire trial period or the mean of the pixel intensity  
722 values before odor delivery for spontaneous and odor evoked trials, respectively, with  $F(t)$   
723 being the fluorescent intensity ( $F$ ) at time  $t$ . Significance of evoked activity for each ROI was  
724 determined by the Wilcoxon ranksum test comparing between the pre-evoked (1 to 7 s) and  
725 evoked (8 to 10 s) frames for each trial, selecting trials where  $p < 0.01$  was considered a  
726 significant response.

727

728 *Area under the curve (AUC) calculations:*

729 The magnitude of GC responses of for each ROI are represented by the area under the curve  
730 (AUC) of the  $\Delta F/F$  after the initiation of the odor presentation and in the entire trial for odor  
731 evoked and spontaneous trials, respectively. The *trapz* and *nansum* MATLAB functions were  
732 used to calculate the AUC values. A non-parametric KS test was used to compare the  
733 differences in the cumulative distribution with a p-value of less than 0.05 considered  
734 significant.

735

### 736 ***In vivo* two-photon imaging protocol of GC dendrite structure**

737 *Anaesthetized imaging of GC dendrites:*

738 The first imaging session was at least 4 weeks after the cranial window surgery to insure  
739 inflammation from the procedure had subsided<sup>10</sup>. Anaesthetized imaging was performed for  
740 the co-localization studies of PSD-95 and tdTom in dendritic spines and for short-term  
741 dynamics to compare with awake-state dynamics. Isoflurane was used for anesthesia (0.8%  
742 in oxygen) and body temperature was maintained at 37° C with a rectal thermometer  
743 feedback-heating pad. The same 2-photon setup was used, as indicated above, but for PSD-95  
744 GFP and Td tomato co-localization a 2X digital zoom was used for 0.22 x 0.22 x 2  $\mu\text{m}$  (x,y,z)  
745 resolution stacks.

746 *Awake imaging of GC dendrites:*

747 For *in vivo* imaging of GC dendrites, the same imaging setup was used. Ten Serial stacks  
748 (0.44 x 0.44 x 2  $\mu\text{m}$  [x,y,z]) of the same volume were rapidly acquired using the resonant  
749 galvanometer scanner (period 0.06595s per slice, taking into account the z-step motor). This  
750 oversampling of the same volume allowed for filtering out imaging planes with animal  
751 movement artefact (Extended Data Fig. 1).

752

### 753 **Structural reconstruction of dendrites in awake-imaged volumes**

754 A protocol was established to reconstruct awake-imaged volumes to have sufficient resolution  
755 to track dendritic spines. The main steps of this protocol are summarized in Extended Data

756 Figure 1. Structural imaging in awake animals comes with two major dimensions of  
757 movement: translational x-y movements and out-of-plane z movements (Extended Data Fig.  
758 1a). While translational full frame x-y shifts can be corrected using available registration  
759 algorithms<sup>51</sup>, out-of-plane z movements need to be discarded due to combined loss of  
760 information from the target plane and oblique warping in the z-axis (Extended Data Fig. 1b).  
761 Since mouse movement was relatively sparse and random, serial stacks were acquired to  
762 minimize movement artifact being concentrated on a particular slice within the volume. For  
763 the 10 serial acquired stacks, each frame was acquired in ~66 ms, thereby limiting within-  
764 frame movement artifacts. Two-dimensional cross-correlation of the frames was used to  
765 preserve frames without movement and discard those with artifact (Extended Data Fig. 1b).  
766 The mean of the replicate frames that were without artifact were used to reconstruct the final  
767 volume. This protocol used the following detailed steps:

- 768 1. An arbitrary assigned series of stack reference x-y-slices were defined at a 10-15  
769 frame interval (Extended Data Fig. 1b-d).
- 770 2. A 2-D cross-correlation (x-y) was calculated for every x-y-slice in the volume versus  
771 each of the reference x-y-slices (*corr2* function, MATLAB; Extended Data Fig. 1d).
- 772 3. The correlation values were smoothed (*smooth* function with 5 frames, MATLAB)  
773 and subtracted from an ideal Pearson's correlation coefficient normal distribution.
- 774 4. For z-slices with subtracted correlation values over a median threshold, indicating  
775 significant movement artifact, the x-y-slice was indexed and replaced with a nan  
776 value, thereby excluded from the final reconstruction (Extended Data Fig. 1c, e).
- 777 5. The mean of each x-y-slice that was below the subtracted correlation threshold, for  
778 each corresponding volume, was used to reconstruct the final volume (Extended Data  
779 Fig. 1e-f).

780 This method allowed reconstructing the GC structure with high fidelity to allow tracking the  
781 same spine population across multiple days (Extended Data Fig. 1h). The mean percentage of  
782 dropped frames was  $6.0\% \pm 0.6\%$  and was insignificant across trials (Extended Data Fig. 1g;  
783 ANOVA across trials,  $F_{(9, 990)} = 1.5$ ;  $p = 0.242$ ; adjusted  $p = 0.142$ ). This reconstruction  
784 allowed tracking dendrites across multiple days in awake mice with high resolution and only  
785 slight variations in noise across imaging planes (Extended Data Fig. 1h). The percentage of  
786 dropped z-slices was ~5 percent across animals (Extended Data Fig. 1d, f, g).

787

### 788 **GC spine tracking**

789 The dendritic structures of the GCs were traced in 3-D using semi-automatic filament tracing  
790 (Imaris, Bitplane) while visualizing the structure with 3D glasses (3D vision, NVIDIA) as  
791 previously published (Sailor et al., 2016). Dendritic spines were termed “spines” in a broad  
792 definition, which includes a range of morphologies from mushroom to filopodia-like spines.  
793 Due to z-spreading issues with 2-photon imaging, only non-overlapping dendritic segments  
794 that were parallel with the imaging plane were traced and spines that projected into the z-axis  
795 were not traced. To aid visualization, a “fire” heat map was used to expand the dynamic range  
796 of the images. Images were traced with the previous day's image adjacent for confirming if  
797 each spine was significant. PSD-95 puncta were marked with “spots” on the tdTom traced  
798 spines. Projected 2D images of the tracings were made, registered (StackReg, Fiji), arrayed in  
799 Illustrator (Adobe) 2D and horizontal lines were drawn to track spines across all timepoints

800 (fig. sX). The tracked images were then automatically analyzed using custom Matlab code  
801 producing a table of stable, new and lost spines at each time-point.

802 The percent total spines were calculated as stable:  $(100 \times \frac{N_{stable}}{N_{total}})$ , new:  $(100 \times \frac{N_{new}}{N_{total}})$  and  
803 lost:  $(100 \times \frac{N_{lost}}{N_{total}})$ , where  $N_{total}$  is the total number of spines at a given time

804  $(N_{new}+N_{stable}+N_{lost})$ . Data are presented as mean  $\pm$ 95% C.I. and statistical analyses across  
805 spines of different days were performed using one-way ANOVA with Prism (Graphpad  
806 Prism). For distribution estimates, cumulative frequency (as percentages) representation was  
807 used along with the KS test to determine normality. The Pearson's correlation coefficient was  
808 used as a measure of similarity between observed parameters across the experimental set-ups.  
809 A 5% confidence interval was considered for all analysis and  $p < 0.05$  was taken as  
810 statistically significant.

811

## 812 **Correlating spine turnover and activity**

### 813 Identifying dendrite-ROI pair:

814 In order to compare how activity in a dendritic segment impacted the spine turnover across  
815 the particular dendrite, the ROI map for activity was overlaid at the proper z-level in the  
816 imaged structure volume in Imaris as a separate channel. Each particular traced dendritic  
817 structure was then manually assigned to a specific ROI for all the ROIs in the plane.

### 818 Spectral separation for DREADD activation/suppression:

819 The excitatory and inhibitory DREADD AAV contains a mCherry reporter and GC structure  
820 was labeled with tdTom. To separate these red fluorescent signals in animals that had this  
821 labeling combination, z-stacks were acquired at 950 nm which excited both tdTom and  
822 mCherry and also acquired at 1020 nm which only excited mCherry. The pixel intensities of  
823 the two stacks were normalized and the 1020 nm acquired stack was subtracted from the 950  
824 nm stack to expose the tdTom signal (Extended Data Fig. 8a-b). Using these combined stacks,  
825 tdTom<sup>+</sup>/GCaMP6f<sup>+</sup> and tdTom<sup>+</sup>/GCaMP6f<sup>+</sup>/mCherry<sup>+</sup> signals were discriminated to indicate  
826 which cells express DREADD. This resulted in an attrition of data by 2-4% of the original  
827 dendrite tracing (Table 2).

### 828 Min-max normalization of the AUC values:

829 Neuronal activity is represented as under the curve (AUC) of significant calcium transients.  
830 Raw AUC values extracted from the time series were normalized by min-max normalization  
831 to scale the data from 0-1. The following formula was applied:

$$832 \quad Z_i = \frac{x_i - \min(x)}{(x) - \min(x)}$$

833 where,  $Z$  is the normalized value of the AUC raw value of  $x$  and  $i$  indicates the index of the  
834 dendrite-ROI pair. The maximum value in each animal was taken for the normalization.

### 835 Change index:

836 To normalized the change in the parameters being recorded (neuronal activity or spine  
837 dynamics), the magnitude of change in the neuronal activity and percentage stability of the  
838 spines in a given dendrite-ROI pair was determined, giving the "change index" as  
839 summarized below:

$$840 \quad C.I. = x_n - x_1$$

841 where,  $C.I.$  is the change index,  $x$  is the parameter whose change was quantified (min-max  
842 normalized neuronal activity or the percentage stability of spines) and  $n$  is the last day of the  
843 experimental condition (i.e., continuous odor exposure, passive odor exposure or  
844 chemogenetic manipulations).

845 Linear regression:

846 As a means to represent coincidental change in neuronal activity and spine stability, linear  
847 regression was performed on both parameters. For each experimental condition, the data for  
848 these parameters were pooled across experimental days and represented per condition.

849 Euclidean distance:

850 In order to account for the variability of the dendrite-ROI pairs in the activity versus stability  
851 scatter plot from the mean activity-mean stability, we used the Euclidean distance method, in  
852 Cartesian coordinates, if  $(x_2, y_2)$  and  $(x_1, y_1)$  are two points in two-dimensional Euclidean  
853 space, the distance between the two points is given by the formula:

$$854 \quad d(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{q}) = \sqrt{(x_2 - y_2)^2 + (x_1 - y_1)^2}$$

855

## 856 **Statistical analysis**

857 Test for comparison of groups:

858 Comparison of the data across groups was primarily done on the distribution of the data using  
859 the KS test. The non-parametric Wilcoxon Signed rank test was used for comparing the mean  
860 of neuronal activity or spine dynamics across two groups. For comparisons across days, the  
861 mean rank of each data per day was compared to the mean rank of every other day. For  
862 comparison across multiple groups, a non-parametric ANOVA test was used, followed by  
863 post-hoc Dunn's correction. For the determination of the normality of the data, a Shapiro-  
864 Wilk test was performed. For comparing the regression fit, the variation of the slopes of the fit  
865 were compared to the internal control for each experiment. A p-value of 0.05 was considered  
866 significant.

867 Regression and correlation:

868 As discussed previously, linear regression between activity in a small part of the traced  
869 dendrite was compared to the percentage of stable and dynamic spines of the entire dendrite.  
870 The p-value represents the validity of the null hypothesis that the existing slope of the  
871 regression varies significantly from 0. We have reported the  $r^2$  values for each of the  
872 regression plots, with the p-value computed from the slope of the fit. The Spearman's  $r$  and  
873 regression slopes for each experiment are reported in Table 3. Values in bold indicate  
874 significant observations.

875 Power test:

876 Statistical power analysis was performed using G\*Power version 3<sup>52</sup> and reported in Table 2.

877

878

## 879 **A two-stage model of structural plasticity in the OB**

880

881 The firing rates of MCs and GCs are described by the ordinary differential equations<sup>10</sup>,

882

$$883 \quad \frac{dM}{dt} = -M + [S + M_{sp} - \gamma W^{(mg)} G]_+$$

$$885 \quad \tau_G \frac{dG}{dt} = -G + (W^{(mg)})^T M,$$

884  
886 where the firing rates  $M$  and  $G$  are vectors of size  $N_{MC}$  and  $N_{GC}$ , respectively,  $[\ ]_+$  denotes the  
887 piecewise linear rectifier, and  $\gamma$  gives the inhibitory strength. The MCs receive sensory inputs  
888  $S$  and have spontaneous activity  $M_{sp}$ . For steady input and fixed connectivity  $W^{(mg)}$  the neuronal  
889 activities always converge to a steady state. In the following, neuronal activities always refer  
890 to this steady state.

891  
892 The reciprocal connectivity between the MCs and GCs is given by the connectivity matrix  $W^{(mg)}$   
893 and its transpose  $(W^{(mg)})^T$ . In the OB the connections are via dendrodendritic synapses located  
894 on the secondary dendrites of the MCs, which reach across large portions of the bulb, but only  
895 sparsely so. We mimic the resulting geometric constraint on the connectivity by allowing each  
896 GC to connect only to a randomly chosen set of MCs. The focus of this model is the structural  
897 plasticity of the synapses, which leads to an activity-dependent evolution of  $W^{(mg)}$ .

898  
899 Since not all synapses included in the experimental stability statistics contain PSD-95 (Fig.6),  
900 we consider two types of synapses: nonfunctional and functional ones. We assume that the  
901 formation of a fully functional synapse, which may be identified with the spines expressing  
902 PSD-95 in addition to Td-Tomato in Supp. Fig.6, occurs through a consolidation process of a  
903 non-functional spine that only expresses Td-Tomato. This consolidation may be related to the  
904 formation of the postsynaptic density.

905  
906 We take the formation of a nonfunctional synapse between an MC and a GC to have a  
907 probability that depends on the activity of that MC, while the removal rate is assumed to be  
908 activity-independent,

$$910 \quad P^{(add)}_{ij} = \alpha \equiv a_0 + a_1 M_i,$$

$$911 \quad P^{(rem)}_{ij} = \beta.$$

912 The activity-dependence of the formation is motivated by the dependence of the formation of  
913 filopodia on glutamate and BDNF released by stimulated MCs as reported<sup>18,26</sup>. The presence  
914 of nonfunctional synapses is stored in a matrix  $\widehat{W}_{ij}^{(mg)}$ .

915 The consolidation of a nonfunctional synapse and the deconsolidation of a functional synapse  
916 are assumed to depend on the firing rates  $M_i$  and  $G_j$  of the MC  $i$  and of the GC  $j$ , respectively,  
917 that are connected by that synapse and on the size  $P_j^{(psd)}$  of a pool of resources on the GC  
918 needed for the consolidation. We express the consolidation and deconsolidation rates in terms  
919 of a single rate function (cf. Fig.7b),

$$920 \quad R_{ij}(M_i, G_j) = M_i (R_{cons}(G_j) - R_{decons}(G_j)),$$

921 where  $R_{cons}$  and  $R_{decons}$  are two sigmoidal rate functions,

$$922 \quad R_{cons}(G_j) = \left\{ \tanh(\kappa_{cons}(G_j - G_{cons})) + 1 + R_0 \right\} \frac{P_j^{(psd)}}{P_0^{(psd)}}$$

$$R_{decons}(G_j) = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \tanh \left( \kappa_{decons} (G_j - G_{decons}) \right) + 1 \right\} + R_0 .$$

923  
924  
925 Here  $\kappa_{cons}$  and  $\kappa_{decons}$  are the slopes at the inflection points  $G_{cons}$  and  $G_{decons}$  of the  
926 sigmoidal functions respectively. Note that even for  $G_j = 0$  some consolidation and  
927 deconsolidation is going on depending on  $R_0$  and  $P_j^{(psd)}$ .

928 The consolidation rate increases with GC activity, which in turn increases with an increase in  
929 the number of consolidated synapses. To avoid a run-away formation of consolidated synapses  
930 through this positive feedback, we assume that the consolidation depletes the resource pool  
931  $P^{(psd)}$ . Performing a time step of size  $\Delta t$ , the available pool  $P_j^{(psd)}$  on GC  $j$  evolves therefore  
932 according to

$$P_j^{(psd)}(t + \Delta t) = P_j^{(psd)}(t) - \varrho_{psd} \left( m_j^+(t) - m_j^-(t) \right),$$

933 where  $m_j^+(t)$  and  $m_j^-(t)$  are the number of functional spines that are being consolidated and  
934 deconsolidated, respectively, and  $\varrho_{psd}$  is the resource amount required for each consolidation.  
935 Effectively, the depletion of the resource pool shifts the threshold for the consolidation process  
936 upward, reminiscent of the sliding threshold in the BCM model for synaptic weight plasticity  
937 <sup>53</sup>. The role of the resource pool is illustrated in Fig.7b, where synapses (red) are filled (blue)  
938 when they are consolidated. MC activity that drives the GC above threshold (red arrow)  
939 consolidates the synapse and reduces the resource pool, while MC activity that does not drive  
940 the GC sufficiently to render  $R$  positive (orange arrow), deconsolidates the synapse and refills  
941 the pool. Inputs that drive the GC very weakly (blue arrow) do not change the synapse.  
942  
943

944 Specifically, in a given time step of size  $\Delta t$ , an unconsolidated synapse becomes consolidated  
945 with probability

$$P_{ij}^{(cons)} = 1 - \exp \left( - \frac{[R_{ij}]_+ \Delta t}{\tau_R} \right) \quad \text{if } W_{ij}^{(mg)} = 0 \text{ and } \widehat{W}_{ij}^{(mg)} = 1.$$

947 Conversely, a consolidated synapse is deconsolidated with probability

$$P_{ij}^{(decons)} = 1 - \exp \left( - \frac{[-R_{ij}]_+ \Delta t}{\tau_R} \right) \quad \text{if } W_{ij}^{(mg)} = 1.$$

949 We allow heterogeneity in the plasticity parameters  $G_{cons}$  and  $G_{decons}$  across the GCs and set for  
950 each GC  $G_{cons} = G_{cons}^0 + G_{shift} + G_{gap}$  and  $G_{decons} = G_{decons}^0 + G_{shift} - G_{gap}$ , where  
951  $G_{shift}$  and  $G_{gap}$  are uniformly distributed within the ranges  $\pm \Delta G_{shift}$  and  $\pm \Delta G_{gap}$ ,  
952 respectively.  
953

954 As initial condition we start each simulation with each GC having  $N_{syn}^{non}$  nonfunctional  
955 (unconsolidated) synapses and  $N_{syn}^{con}$  functional synapses within its geometrically allowed  
956 connection set of  $N_{conn}$  synapses.  
957

958 The stimuli are based on the glomerular activity patterns of Leon/Johnson <sup>27</sup>. To speed up the  
959 computations we have down-sampled them to 236 input channels corresponding to 236 MCs.  
960 Since these activity patterns are given in terms of a z-score, their means are not included in the  
961 data. Experimentally, it is found that typically on the order of 30% of the MCs are active for a

962 given stimulus <sup>21</sup>. We therefore rescale the stimuli with a threshold  $S_{thr}$  chosen such that about  
 963 30% of the MCs are excited,  
 964

$$965 \quad S = \frac{S_{raw}^{(max)}}{S_{raw}^{(max)} - S_{thr}} [S_{raw} - S_{thr}]_+$$

966  
 967 To generate stimuli that are difficult to discriminate, we use mixtures through linear  
 968 composition of the individual components. The resulting stimulus patterns that were used in the  
 969 computations are shown in Fig.7E.

970  
 971 The model is implemented in Matlab. The parameters are given in the table.  
 972

$N_{MC}$	236	$N_{GC}$	1600 (Fig.7c), 4000 (Fig.7e)
$\tau_G$	0	$f_b$	0.25
$P_{tot}^{psd}$	36	$P_0^{(psd)}$	20
$\rho_{psd}$	1	$\gamma$	0.00375 (Fig.7c), 0.0015 (Fig.7e)
$\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_R}$	0.05	$R_0$	0.5
$\kappa_{cons}$	10	$\kappa_{decons}$	10
$N_{syn}^{non}$	5	$N_{syn}^{con}$	16
$G_{cons}^{(0)}$	1	$\Delta G_{shift}$	0.6
$G_{decons}^{(0)}$	0.8	$\Delta G_{gap}$	0.3
		$\beta$	0.4
$\alpha_0$	0.09	$\alpha_1$	0.12
$M_{sp}$	0.1	$N_{conn}$	40

973  
 974  
 975 We assessed the discriminability of pairs of activity patterns  $M^{(1,2)}$  using the Fisher  
 976 discriminant, which compares the difference in the means of the patterns with their trial-to-trial  
 977 variability. Since the firing rate model does not include such variability, we assumed that the  
 978 firing rates arise from Poisson spike trains. The variance of the spike counts is then given by  
 979 their means. Assuming a linear read-out of the activity patterns with a weight vector  $w$  that  
 980 maximizes the Fisher discriminant, the Fisher discriminant for the read-outs of the two activity  
 981 patterns is then given by

$$982 \quad F_{opt} = \sum_i \frac{(M_i^{(1)} - M_i^{(2)})^2}{M_i^{(1)} + M_i^{(2)}} .$$

982  
 984



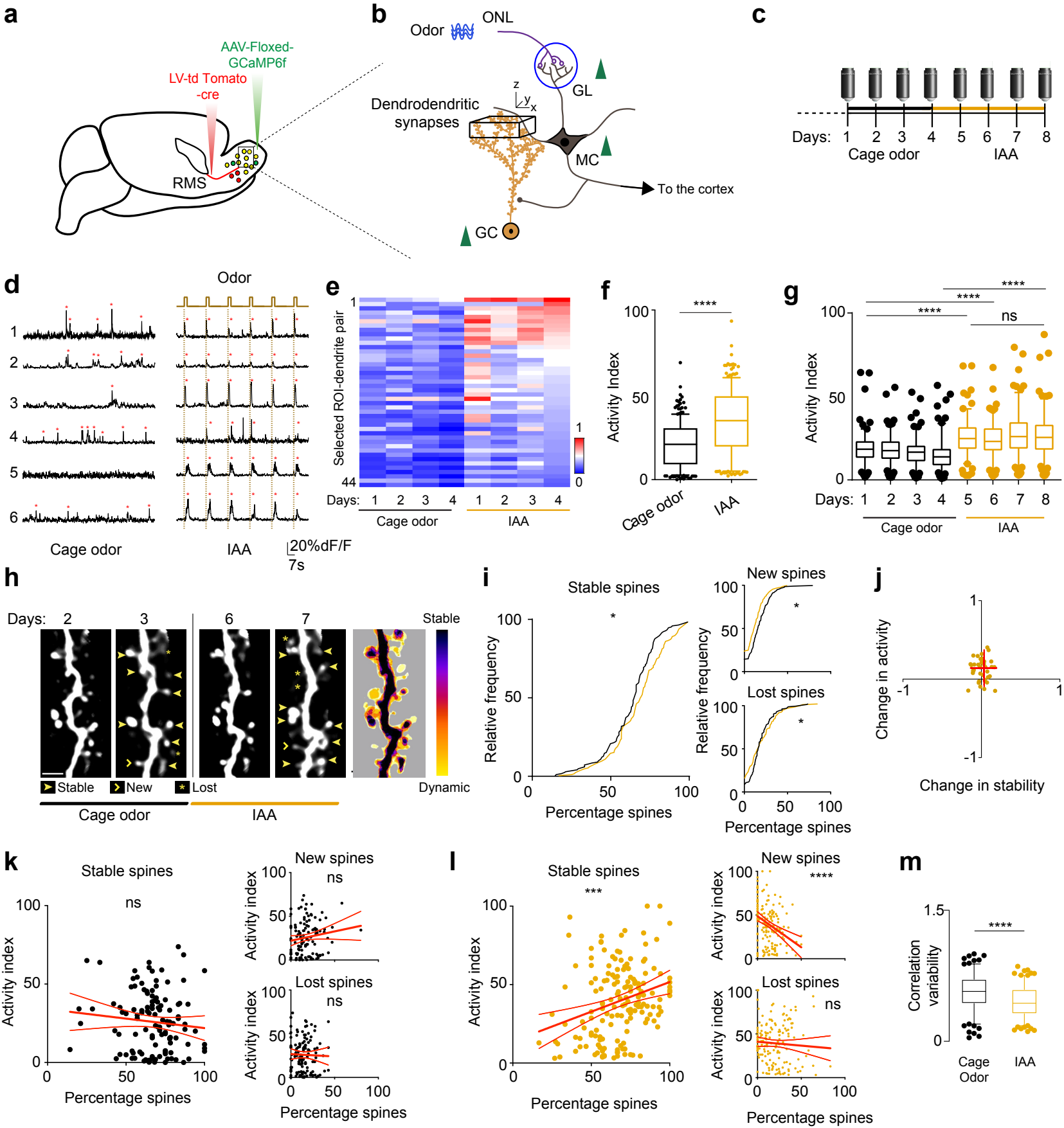
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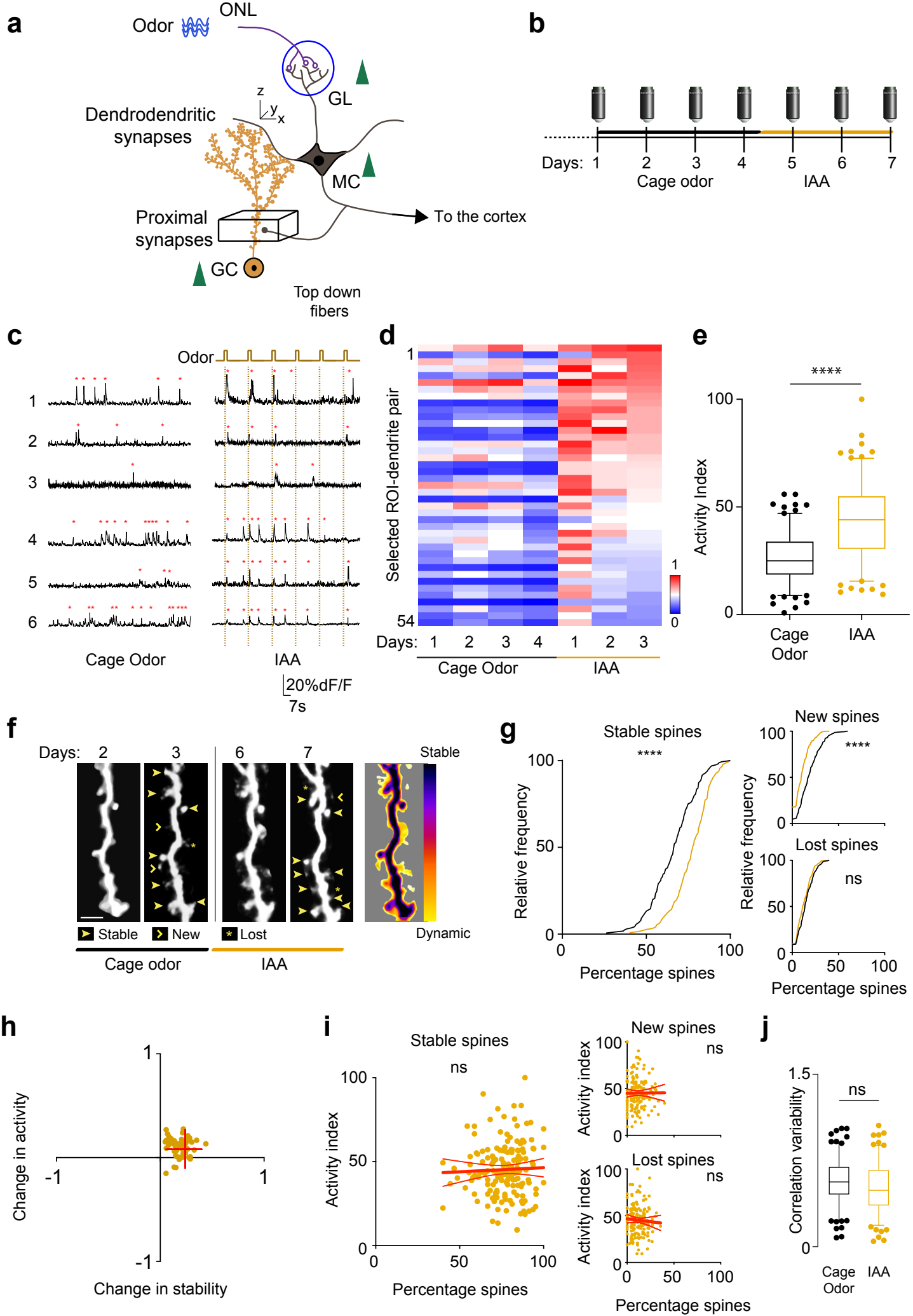
**Figure 1: GC apical spine stability is highly correlated with continuous IAA-driven activity.**

- a. Schematic representation of the viral labelling strategy to sparsely label GCs. Adult born neuroblast structure is labelled with lentivirus expressing tdTomato and Cre recombinase that is injected into the rostral migratory stream (RMS). The cells migrate to the OB, within three weeks differentiate into GCs, and AAV expressing floxed-stop GCaMP6f is injected to label tdTomato/Cre-expressing GCs for detecting calcium activity.
- b. OB circuit with mitral cells (MCs) receiving direct input from the GCs through dendrodendritic synapses. Green arrows indicate increased activity of the cells with IAA (apical part of GC dendrites). The black cube in the GC apical dendrites demarcates the chronic *in-vivo* volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a single z-plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity.
- c. Experimental timeline for the *in vivo* imaging protocol. For the first 4 days, the mice were daily imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) following which a new odor (IAA) was placed in the cage for 4 days (solid gold line) and the mice were imaged daily.
- d. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and IAA (IAA; odor evoked activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition. IAA odor delivery period is indicated at the top.
- e. Heat map showing the neuronal activity (area under the curve- AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments. The ROIs-dendrite pairs are selected based on the co-expression of tdTomato and GCaMP6f (44 dendrite-ROI pairs, 8 animals).
- f. Boxplots representing the mean of min-max normalized AUC (activity index) of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor and IAA.
- g. Boxplots representing the neuronal activity (activity index) in selected ROI-dendrite pairs (apical region of GCs) across days for different experiments (black: cage odor background, gold: IAA).
- h. Two-photon projected images from days 2 to 3 and 6 to 7, corresponding to cage odor and IAA, respectively. New, stable and lost spines for a 1-day interval as labeled in the figure. Heatmap binary overlay of days 1-8 of the same dendritic segment. Scale bar = 5  $\mu$ m.
- i. Cumulative frequency plot of stable, new and lost spines in cage odor background (black) and IAA (gold) conditions.
- j. Quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor and IAA conditions. Red cross indicates the standard deviation of the variables around the mean.
- k. Scatter plots of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable, new and lost spines in individual dendrite-ROI pairs in cage odor with linear regression fit.
- l. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable, new and lost spines in individual dendrite-ROI pairs in IAA conditions with linear regression fit.

- m. Boxplot of the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROIs in scatter plot (panel k and l) from their mean for cage odor background (black) and IAA (gold).

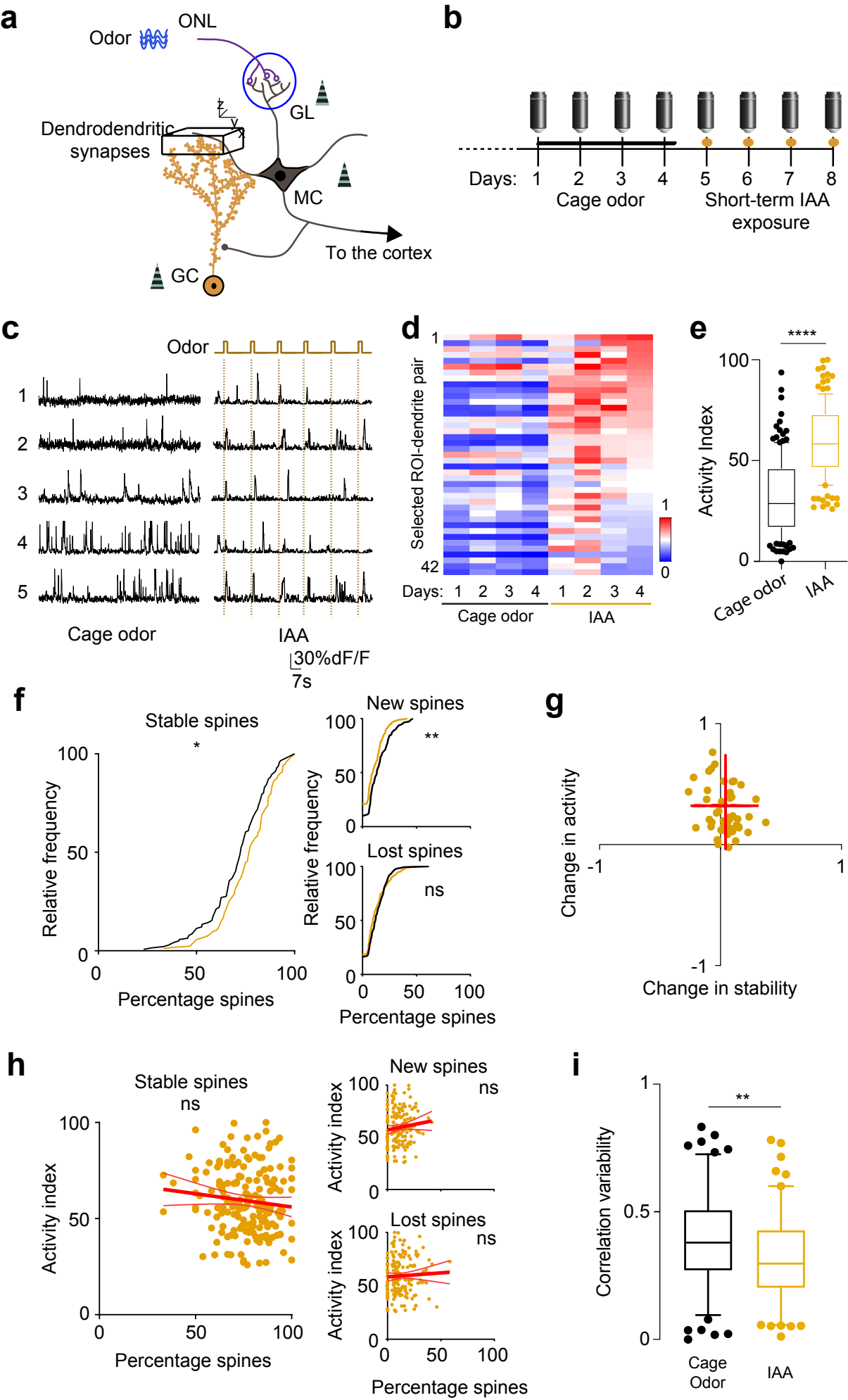
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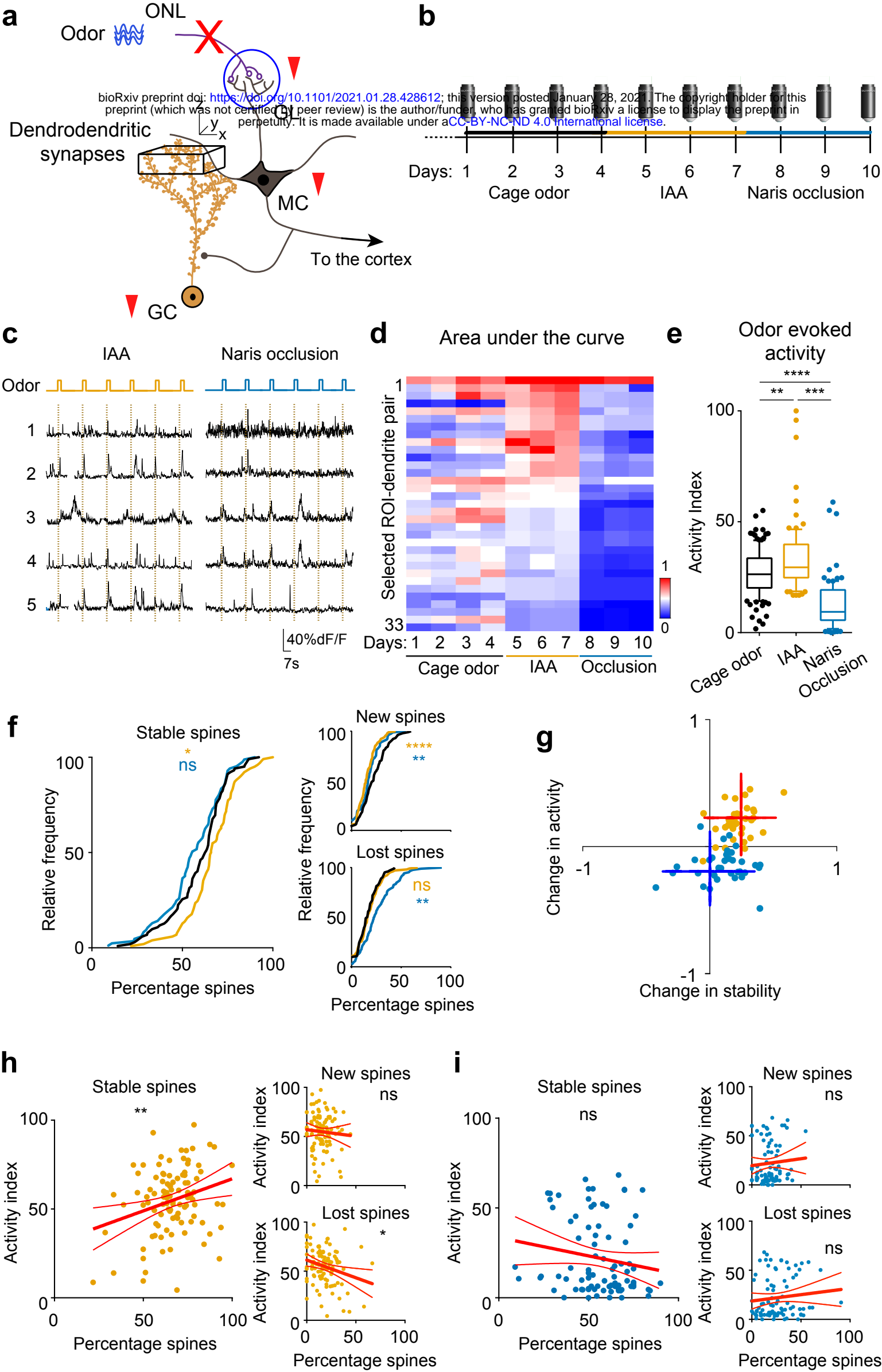
**Figure 2: GC proximal spine stability is not correlated with its individual activity.**

- a. OB circuit as outlined in figure 1. The black cube in the GC proximal dendrites demarcates the chronic *in-vivo* volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity.
- b. Experimental timeline as outlined in Fig.1. The mice were 2-photon imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) for 4 days following which a new odor was placed in the cage for 3 days (solid gold line) and the mice were imaged in the ‘IAA’ condition.
- c. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and IAA (odor evoked activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition. Odor delivery period is indicated at the top.
- d. Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (54 dendrite-ROI pairs, 4 animals).
- e. Boxplots representing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized) in selected ROI-dendrite pairs (proximal region of GCs) across days for different experiments (black: cage odor background, gold: continuous IAA).
- f. 2-photon projected images from day 2 to 3 and 6 to 7, corresponding to cage odor and continuous IAA, respectively. New, stable and lost spines for a 1-day interval as indicated in the figure. Heatmap binary overlay of all the days of the same dendritic filament with colder colors indicating more stable spines. Scale bar = 5 $\mu$ m.
- g. Cumulative frequency plot of stable (left), new and lost spines (right) in cage odor background (black) and continuous IAA (gold) showing significant increase in the percentage stable spines with continuous IAA. The new spines are significantly reduced ( $p < 0.0001$ ) which no change in lost spines are seen.
- h. A quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and IAA for each ROI. The red cross indicates Mean  $\pm$  SD of both the parameters.
- i. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable spines (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in individual dendrite-ROI pairs in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- j. Boxplot of the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROIs from their mean for cage odor background (black) and continuous IAA (gold).



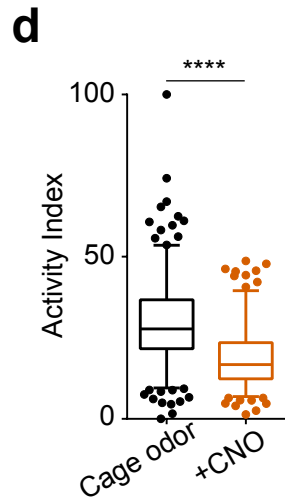
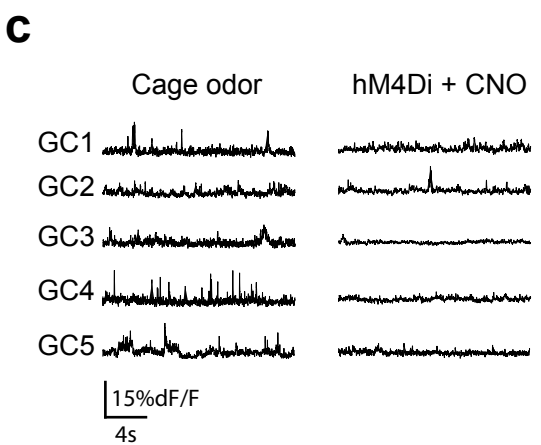
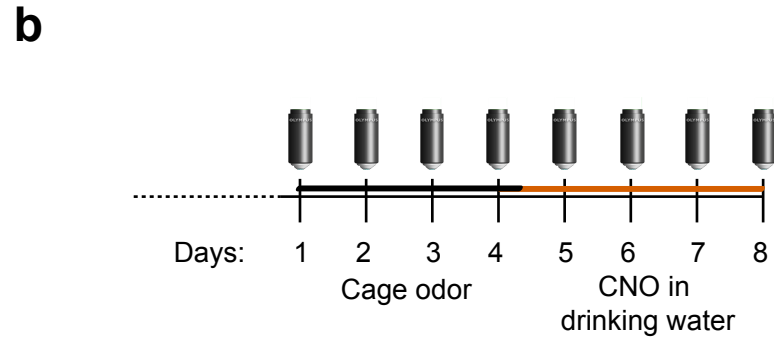
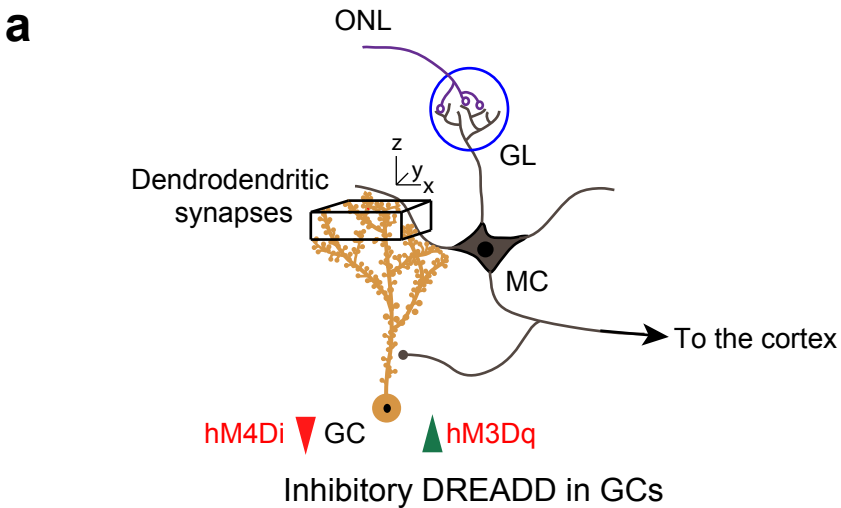
**Figure 3: Short term exposure to odor does not lead to correlated increase in activity and spine stability in apical GC dendrites.**

- a. Outline of the OB circuit. Black cube in the GC apical dendrites demarcates the chronic *in-vivo* volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity.
- b. Experimental timeline as outlined in Figure 1 & 2. The mice were 2-photon imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) for 4 days followed by short-term exposure to the same odorant as in Figure 1 passively for 15 mins for the next 4 days (gold dots on the timeline).
- c. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and short-term passive IAA (odor evoked activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition. Odor delivery period is indicated at the top.
- d. Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (42 dendrite-ROI pairs, 4 animals).
- e. Boxplots representing the mean of min-max normalized AUC of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor and short-term passive IAA.
- f. Cumulative frequency plot of stable (left), new and lost spines (right) in cage odor background (black) and short-term IAA (gold) showing significant increase in the percentage stable spines with short-term IAA.
- g. A quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and short-term IAA for each ROI. The red cross indicates Mean  $\pm$  SD of both the parameters.
- h. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable spines (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in individual dendrite-ROI pairs in short-term IAA with linear regression fit.
- i. Boxplot of the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROIs from their mean for cage odor background (black) and short-term IAA (gold).

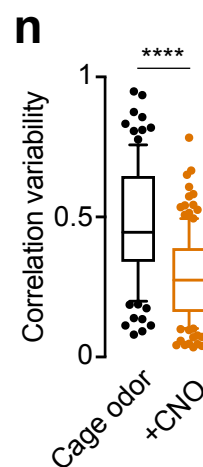
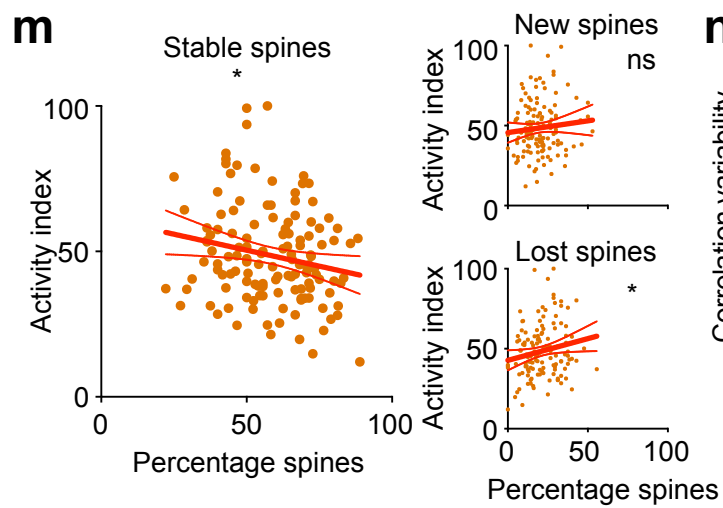
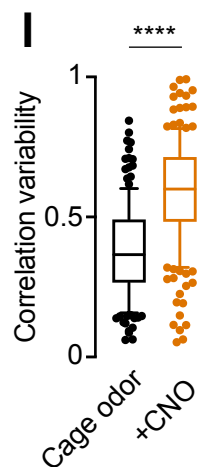
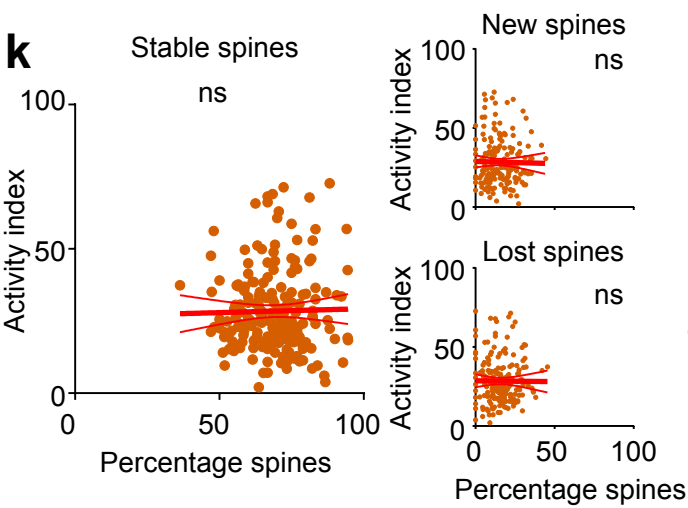
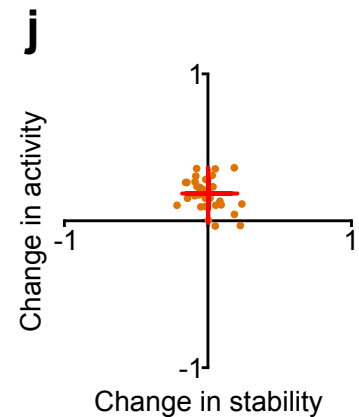
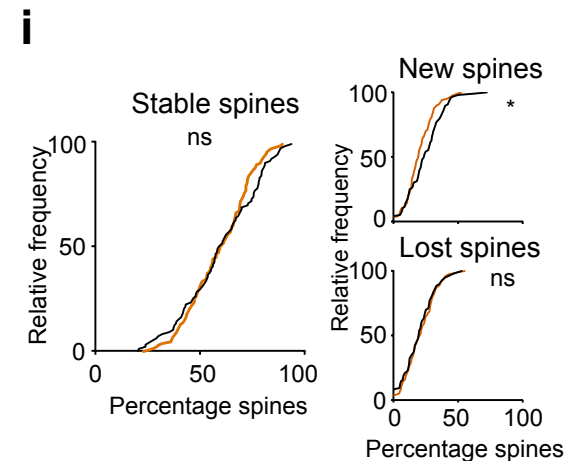
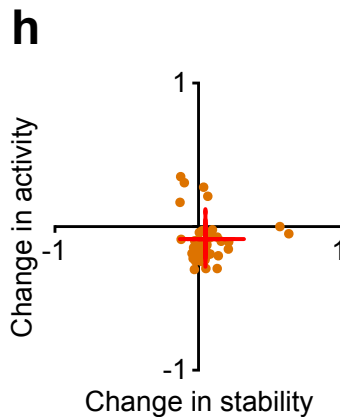
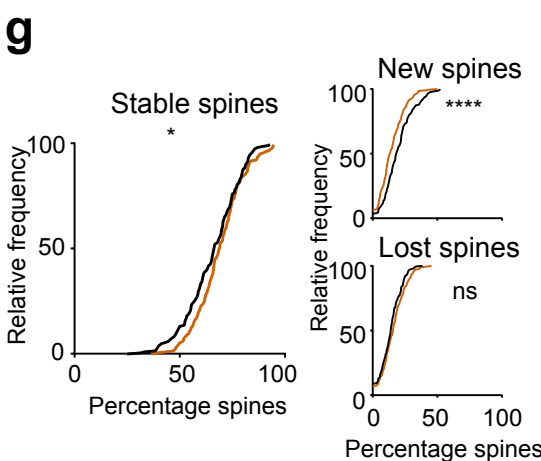
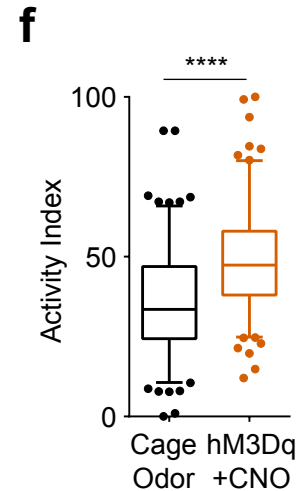
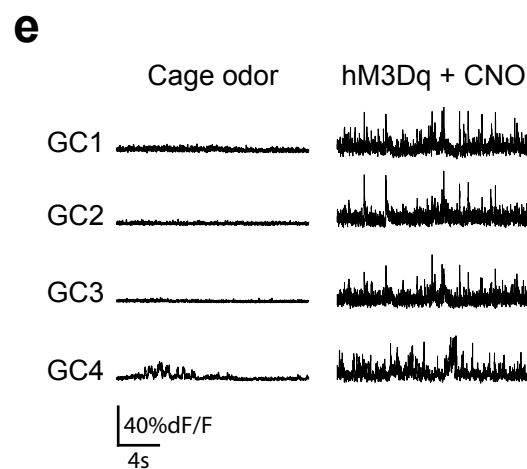


**Figure 4: Sensory deprivation disrupts the positive relationship of neuronal activity and spine stability established by continuous sensory exposure.**

- a. OB circuit as outlined previously. Black cube in the GC apical dendrites demarcates the chronic *in-vivo* volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity. Unilateral naris occlusion was used to block sensory input from the olfactory nerve layer (ONL) to the OB.
- b. Experimental timeline as outlined in Figure 1. The mice were 2-photon imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) for 4 days following where IAA was placed in the cage for 3 days (solid gold line) and the mice were imaged. Afterwards, the mice were imaged with unilateral ‘naris occlusion’ condition for the last 3 days (solid blue line).
- c. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in continuous IAA (odor evoked activity) and naris occlusion (odor evoked activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition. Odor delivery period is indicated at the top.
- d. Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (33 dendrite-ROI pairs, 6 animals).
- e. Boxplots representing the min-max normalized AUC of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor, IAA and naris occlusion.
- f. Cumulative frequency plot of stable (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in the cage odor background (black), continuous IAA (gold) and naris occlusion (blue).
- g. A quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and continuous IAA (in gold); and naris occlusion and cage odor background (in blue) for each ROI.
- h. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- i. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in naris occlusion with linear regression fit.



Excitatory DREADD in GCs



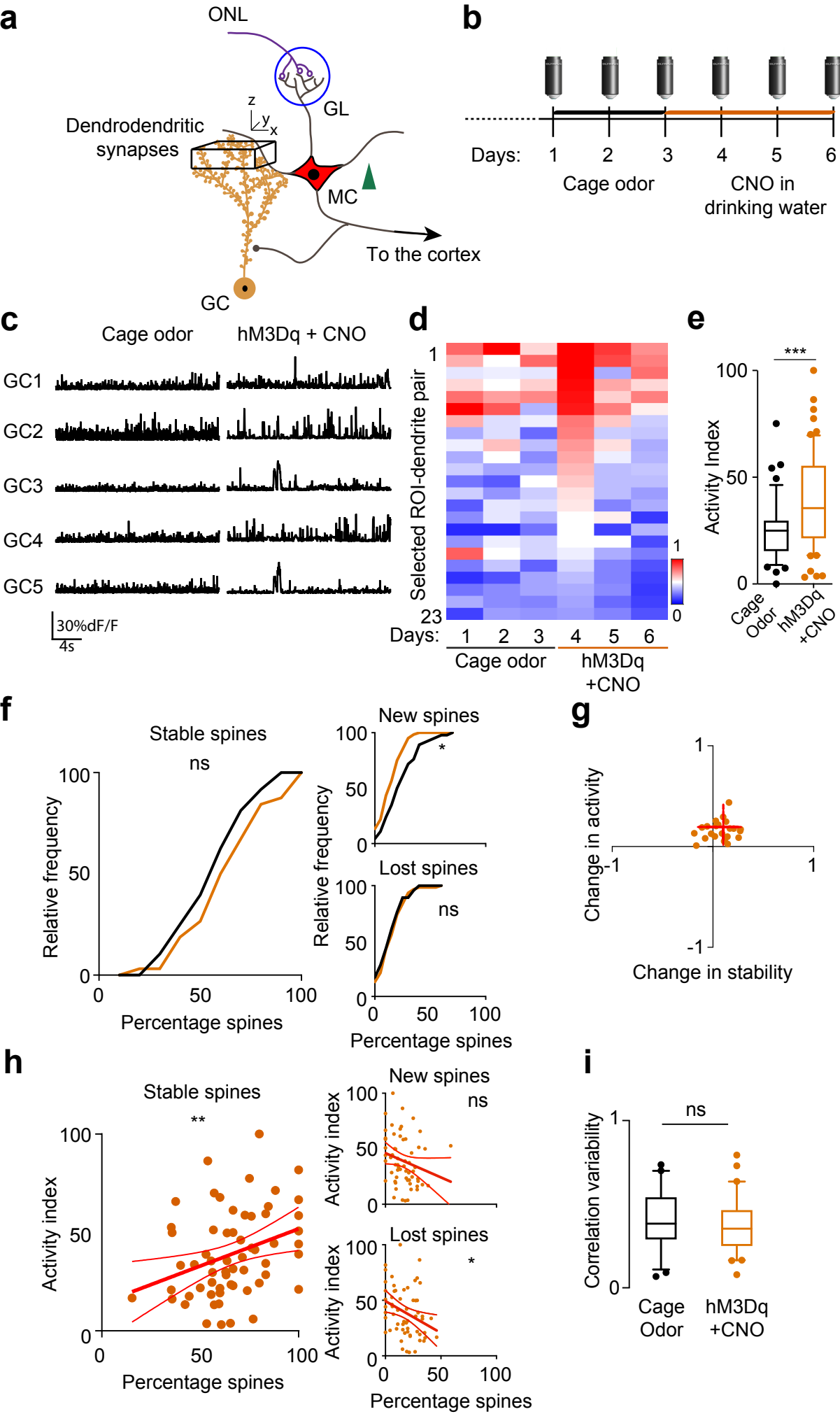
**Figure 5: Cell autonomous suppression and activation of GC activity stabilizes spines but does not lead to correlated activity-spine stability relationship.**

- a. OB circuit as outlined previously. Black cube in the GC apical dendrites demarcates the chronic *in vivo* volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity. Red arrow indicates suppression and green arrow indicates activation.
- b. Experimental timeline as outlined previously. AAV mixture expressing floxed-stop GCaMP6f and floxed-hM4Di (inhibitory DREADD)/ floxed-hM3Dq (excitatory DREADD) is injected to label tdTomato/Cre-expressing GCs for detecting calcium activity and induce inhibition/activation of the GCs in a ligand (CNO)-dependent manner. The mice were 2-photon imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) for 4 days followed by introduction of CNO in the drinking water for the next 4 days (solid orange line).
- c. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and CNO-mediated inhibition (spontaneous activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition.
- d. Boxplots representing the mean of min-max normalized AUC of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor and CNO- mediated inhibition.
- e. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and CNO-mediated excitation (spontaneous activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition.
- f. Boxplots representing the mean of min-max normalized AUC of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor and CNO- mediated excitation.
- g. Cumulative frequency plot of stable, new and lost spines in the cage odor background (black) and CNO- mediated inhibition (orange). There is an increase in the stable spines and decrease in the new spines with CNO- mediated inhibition compared to the cage odor background.
- h. A quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and CNO- mediated inhibition for each ROI. The red crosses indicate Mean  $\pm$  SD of both the parameters.
- i. Cumulative frequency plot of stable, new and spines in the cage odor background (black) and CNO- mediated excitation (orange). No significant change in the percentage stable spines with CNO- mediated excitation is observed compared to the cage odor background.
- j. A quadrant plot of the change in mean activity index versus the change in mean percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and CNO- mediated excitation for each ROI. The red crosses indicate Mean  $\pm$  SD of both the parameters.
- k. Scatter plot of neuronal activity index versus percentage of stable spines (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in CNO- mediated inhibition with linear regression fit.
- l. Boxplot showing the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROI pairs in CNO-mediated inhibition is increased compared to the cage odor background.



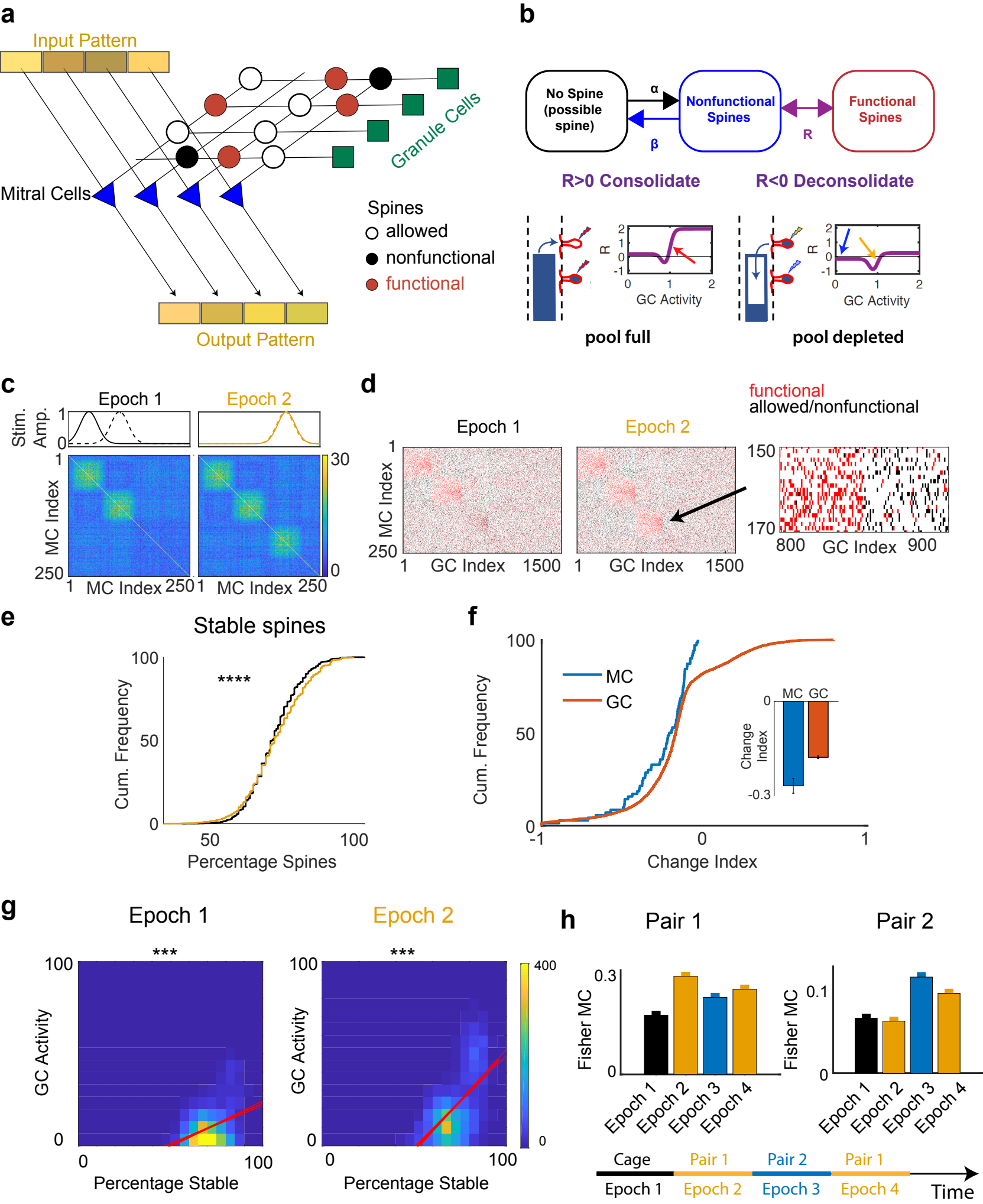
- m. Scatter plot of neuronal activity index versus percentage of stable spines (left), new and lost spines (small, right) in CNO- mediated excitation with linear regression fit.
- n. Boxplot showing the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROI pairs in CNO-mediated excitation is decreased compared to the cage odor background.

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**Figure 6: Chronic activation of MCs recapitulates the effect of odor-induced activity-dependent spine stabilization on GCs.**

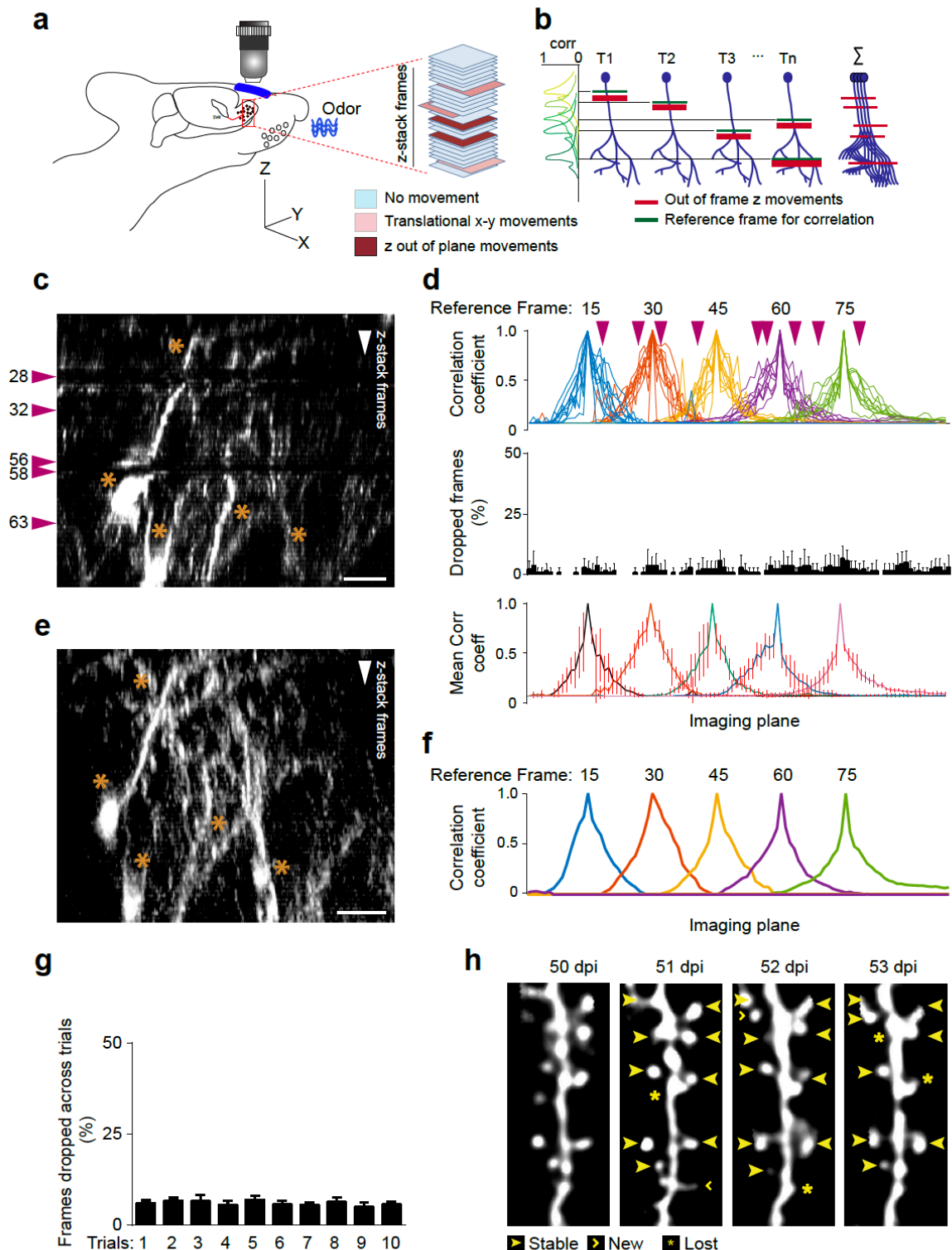
- a. OB circuit as outlined previously. Black cube in the GC apical dendrites demarcates the chronic in-vivo volume for structural 2-photon imaging and a plane within this volume was used for measuring calcium activity.
- b. Experimental timeline as outlined previously. Floxed-hM3Dq (excitatory DREADD) was injected in a Tbet-cre mouse to label the MCs specifically. The mice were 2-photon imaged in the ‘cage-odor’ condition (solid black line) for 3 days followed by introduction of CNO in the drinking water for the next 3 days (solid red line).
- c. Example calcium traces of selected GCs in cage odor (spontaneous activity) and CNO-mediated MC excitation (spontaneous activity) imaging trials with the same cells’ traces represented for each condition.
- d. Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (23 dendrite-ROI pairs, 4 animals).
- e. Boxplots representing the mean of min-max normalized AUC of all the ROI-dendrite pairs for the experimental conditions: cage odor and CNO-mediated MC excitation.
- f. Cumulative frequency plot of stable, new and lost spines in the cage odor background (black) and CNO-mediated MC excitation (orange). No significant change in the percentage stable spines with CNO-mediated MC excitation is observed compared to the cage odor background (KS test), while new spines significantly decreased.
- g. A quadrant plot of the mean change in activity index versus the mean change in percentage of stable spines between cage odor background and CNO-mediated MC excitation for each ROI. The red cross indicates Mean  $\pm$  SD of both the parameters.
- h. Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable (left panel), new and lost spines (small right panels) in CNO-mediated MC excitation (red) with linear regression fit.
- i. Boxplot of the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROIs in scatter plot from the mean scatterplot (panel I) for cage odor background (black) and CNO-mediated MC excitation (orange).



### Figure 7: Computational model of spine dynamics

- a. Sketch of the model network. Functional and nonfunctional spines are marked with red and black solid circles, respectively. Connections that are anatomically allowed but not realized, are marked with open circles.
- b. Two-stage model for spine formation. The transitions occur randomly with rates  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $R$ . Consolidation of spines requires large GC activity and a sufficiently filled resource pool (red arrow). Intermediate GC activity drives spine deconsolidation (orange arrow).
- c. Training with simple model stimuli induced disynaptic reciprocal inhibition of co-activated MCs the strength of which is given by the number of mediating GCs.
- d. Only functional MC-GC connections (red dots) mediated inhibition.
- e. Stimulus exposure increased the fraction of stable spines. The shifts in the cumulative distributions were small, but highly significant.
- f. Stimulus exposure reduced the MC activities more than those of GCs.
- g. Spine stability increased with GC activity, substantially more so after odor exposure in epoch 2 (cf. Fig.1i).
- h. Discriminability of the stimuli in pair 1 (left) and pair 2 (right). Pair 1 was used during epochs 2 and 4, pair 2 during epoch 3, as indicated on the timeline.

## Extended Data information

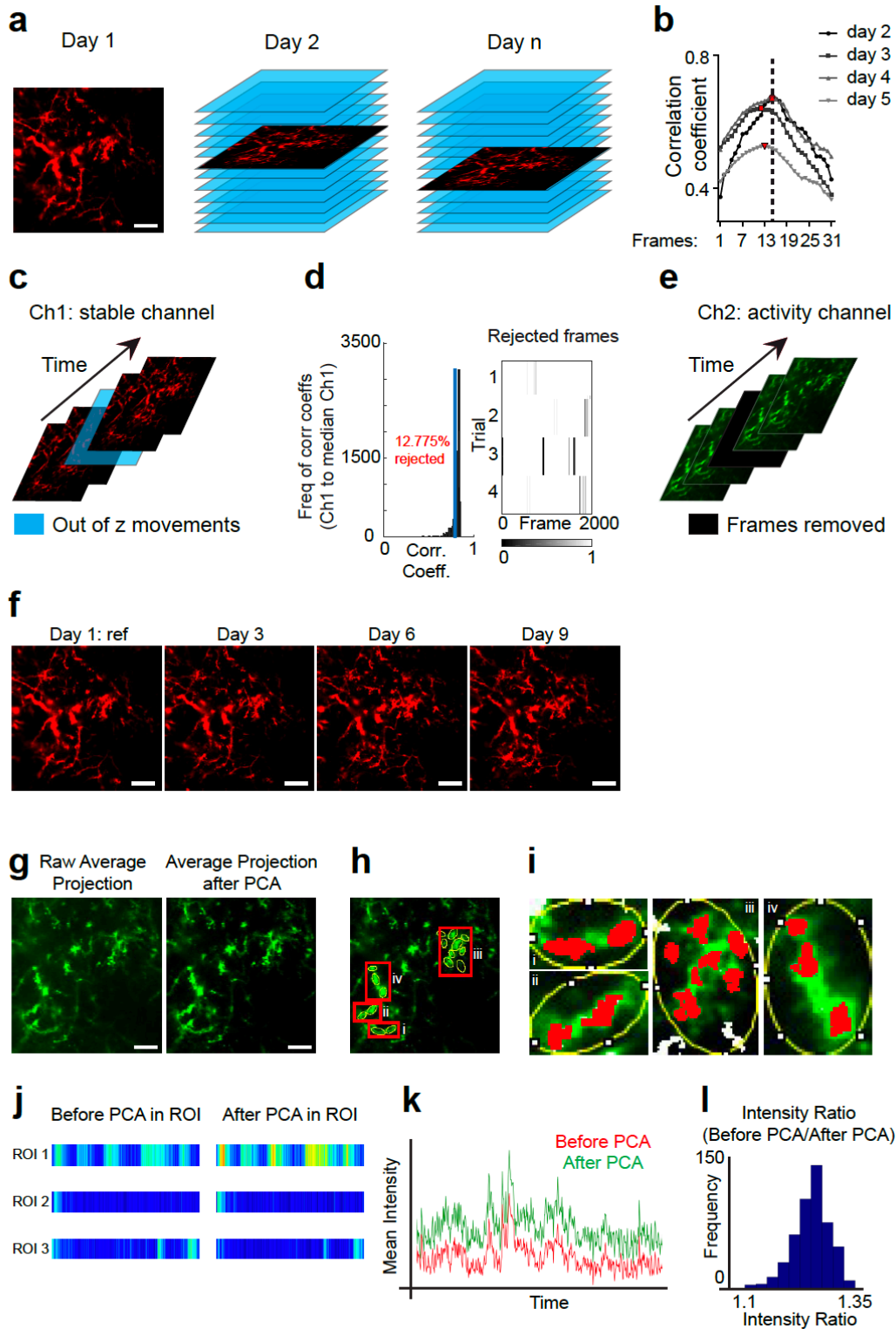


### Extended Data Figure 1: Protocol for structural *in vivo* 2-photon imaging in awake mice

- a. Schematic representation of *in vivo* imaging of 3-D structural stacks in awake mice, highlighting the principle types of movements encountered during imaging. The magnification in red represents a representative z-stack where two types of movements

- are highlighted: x-y lateral frame movements (light red color) and out-of-plane z-movements (in dark red).
- b. Representative example of 2-D cross correlation technique to eliminate the out-of-plane z-movements from a neuronal structural image.  $T_1 \dots T_n$  indicate trial numbers of fast-imaging on the same field of view using the resonant galvanometer scanner. Red horizontal bars indicate ‘actual’ frames where movement has taken place during that trial while green represents a ‘reference’ frame against which a 2-D cross correlation is performed across all the frames in that trial. The correlation plot on the left demonstrates the correlation plot of the frames, and ‘breaks’ seen in the distribution which determines the actual frame of movement. Once determined, these frames are replaced with ‘NaN’ values and averaged across all the trials using *nanmean* function in MATLAB.
  - c. Example from an imaging experiment in the z-plane which shows the loss of information due to movements. The closed arrows indicate the points of movement in the raw image during one of the trials. Scale bar = 15 $\mu$ m. Asterisks (\*) indicates the structures in the image used for later comparison.
  - d. Correlation coefficient plot showing the values of Pearson’s  $r$  with respect to the reference frames 15, 30, 45, 60 and 75 (15 frame interval) selected from the z-stacks and the whole z-stack across the multiple trials of fast imaging. The correlation plots are fitted with an ideal distribution with maximum correlation at the reference frames, and points where they diverge from the ideal plot are noted. These points correspond to out-of-z frame movements. Those points are indexed and replaced by ‘NaN’ values. The second panel demonstrates the percentage of frames dropped across all the trials. The third panel shows the mean correlation coefficient plot across the trials. The error bars indicate standard deviation.
  - e. Example of reconstruction of the same z-stack as in C, with the dropped frames replaced by ‘NaN’ and averaged across the trials for the particular region of imaging. Note that the structure reconstructed have no loss of structural information owing to elimination of some z-frames in some trials. Asterisks (\*) demonstrate portions that are able to recount for lost structures shown in C.
  - f. Correlation coefficient plot of the reconstructed image with respect to reference frames at an interval of 15 frames. Note that the movement artefacts are removed compared to the correlation coefficient plot as in D, first panel.
  - g. Quantification of the percentage of frames dropped across 7 animals across 10 trials of the awake structural imaging reconstructions.
  - h. Example 2-photon projected image of a dendritic segment tracked across 4 days (50dpi – 53dpi) of awake structural imaging. The new, stable and lost spines along the dendrites are indicated according to the convention as shown (closed arrow: stable spine, open arrow: dynamic spines and star: lost spines).



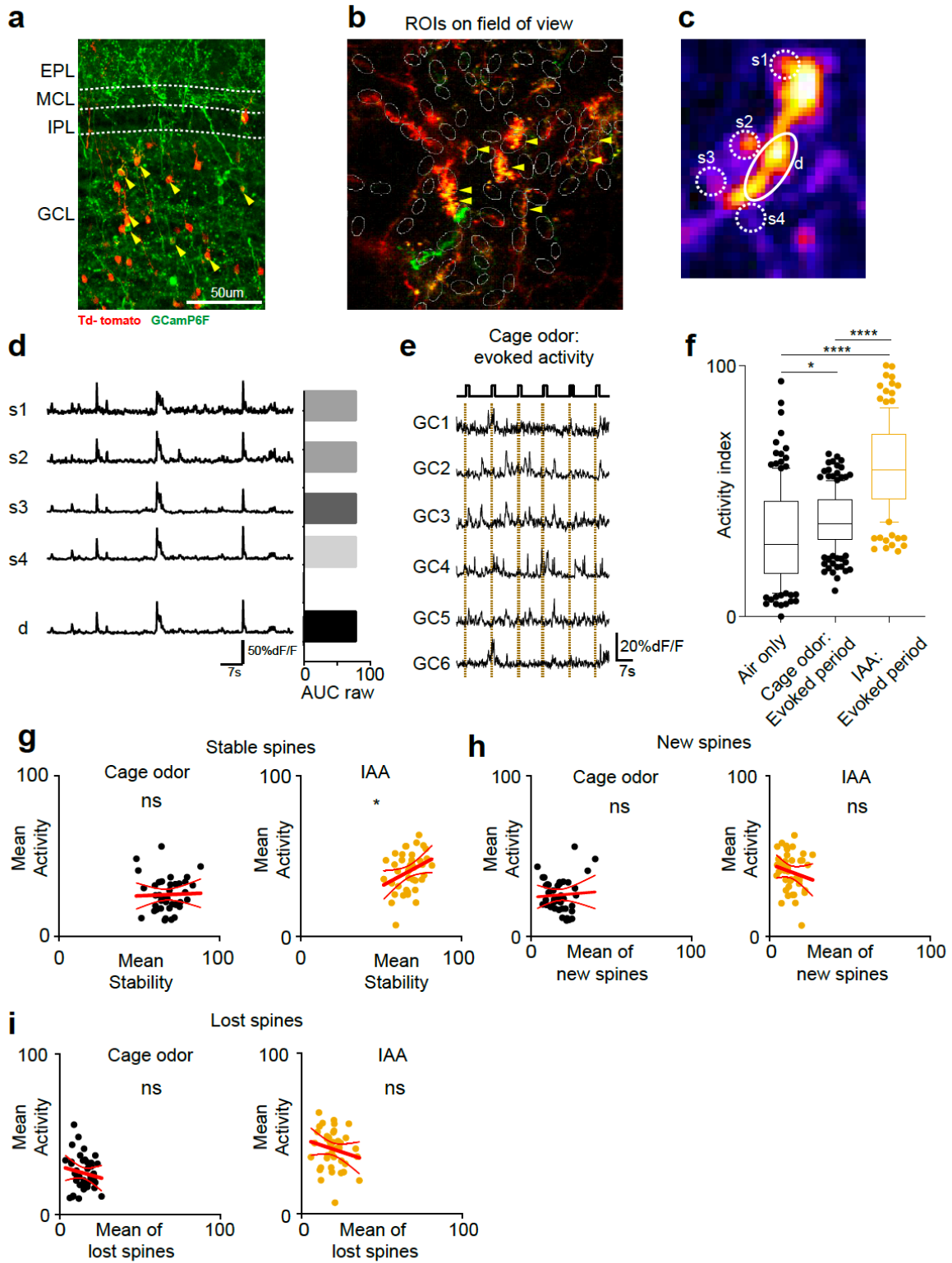


## Extended Data Figure 2: Protocol for neuronal activity using *in vivo* 2-photon imaging in awake mice

- Schematic representation demonstrating the identification of the same plane of imaging across multiple days to record neuronal activity from the same region of imaging. The average projection of the stable channel (Ch1, Td tomato) was used in a time series recording from a plane of imaging selected on day 1 and use as the reference for subsequent days of imaging. On the following days, the estimated z-plane of imaging

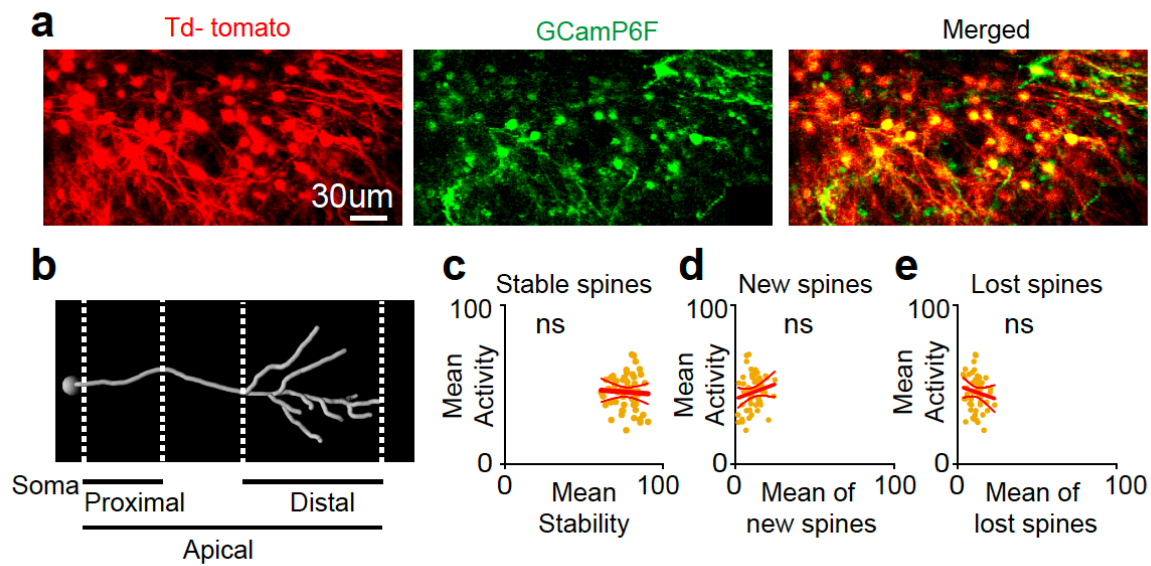
- was manually found and the day 1 z-plane reference was used to match the correct z-plane frame using a 2-D cross correlation of the reference frame to the z-stack taken on subsequent days.
- b. Values of cross-correlation of the reference frame to the example z-stack taken on subsequent days. The dotted vertical line indicates the human estimation of the day 1 reference frame while red spots indicate the frames with the highest 2-D correlation coefficient in the corresponding days of imaging. These indices are used to select the imaging plane for recording activity across multiple days.
  - c. Schematic example of out-of-z-frame movement artefact during imaging of neuronal activity. Using the tdTomato signal (in red, Ch1: stable channel), the out of frame movement was detected in time, as indicated by the blue frame.
  - d. Histogram plot of the 2-D correlation coefficients between the average projection of Ch1 across the entire time series with each Ch1 frame in the trial. The blue vertical line indicates the threshold of selection for rejected frames. The rejected frame plot indicates the frames in the trial which are below the selected threshold and rejected (black vertical lines). These frames of the trial are indexed and excluded from analysis.
  - e. Schematic example showing the removal of corresponding frames on GCaMP6f recording (in green, Ch2: activity channel) based on the indexed frames from stable channel Td tomato (in d). The removed frames are replaced with 'NaN' values to preserve the indices of the removed frames and these frames are excluded from analysis.
  - f. Day to day registration protocol: The average projection of the stable channel (Ch1, Td tomato) across each day was taken and used for registration to correct for x-y lateral movements for each dat. The Day 1 average projection was taken as the reference. The registration values were calculated in ImageJ (*Multistackreg*), and then propagated to all frames in the activity channel (Ch 2, GCaMP6f).
  - g. Post processing of motion corrected activity time series: Removal of noise by using principal component analysis (PCA)-assisted reconstruction of the raw image pixels. Raw image pixels were vectorized and transposed into eigen vectors to isolate orthogonal vectors adding to maximum variance of signals across the dataset, and reconstructed using the first 25 principal components (PCs). Average projection after PCA indicates significant reduction of noise from the data as compared to the raw average projection.
  - h. Selection of regions of interest (ROIs) after the PCA-assisted reconstruction.
  - i. Example ROIs (expanded from I) show the redefined boundary of the ROIs after reconstructing each ROIs using the 1<sup>st</sup> PC. Note that the new boundary only encompasses pixels smaller than the original elliptical ROIs.
  - j. Example of noise reduction and signal-to-noise enhancement before and after PCA in three example ROIs.
  - k. Plot showing the improvement of signal-to-noise in pixel values obtained from a ROI across time after PCA reconstruction (green) compared to before PCA reconstruction (red).

1. Frequency distribution of signal enhancement after PCA reconstruction. The median value is 1.25 indicating a 25% improvement in the signal to noise ratio.



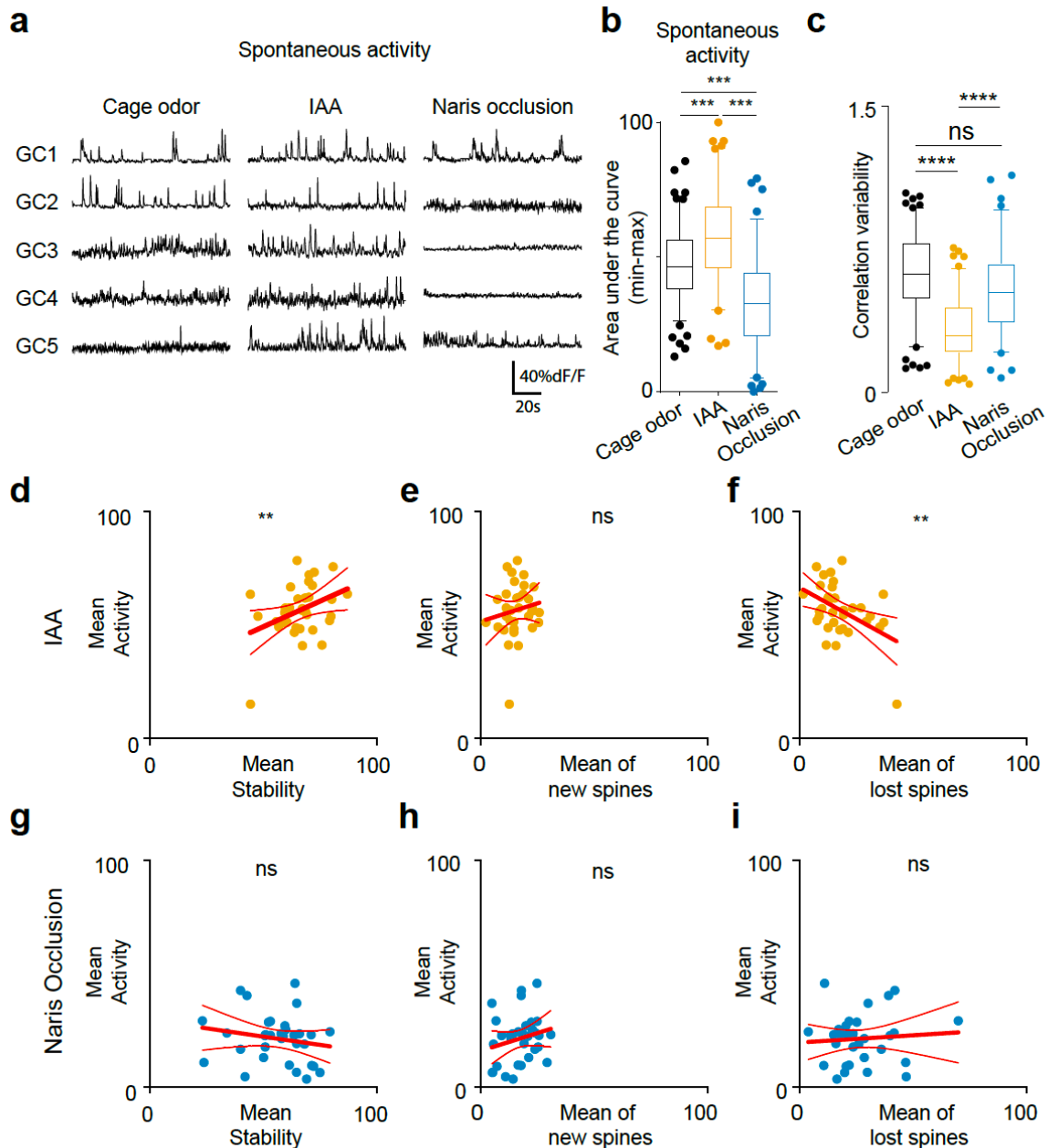
### **Extended Data Figure 3: GC labelling techniques, ROI selection, day-to-day spine dynamics and neuronal activity.**

- a. Confocal image of different layers of the olfactory bulb (OB) showing cre-recombinase virus expressing tdTomato (red) and their co-localization with floxed GCaMP6f (green) in GC within the GCL (arrows). Scale bar = 50um.
- b. Merged average projection of a field of view under 2-photon microscope showing GC dendrites co-expressing tdTomato and GCaMP6f. The ROIs are selected on the dendrites expressing both the markers.
- c. Merged average projection of a GCaMP6f-expressing GC dendrite and spines under 2-photon microscope. s1-4 are the ROIs on the spines and 'd' is an ROI on the dendritic segment.
- d. Example  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  traces from the ROIs selected in c, along with the raw magnitude of their activity in terms of AUC. Scale: 50% $\Delta\text{F}/\text{F}$ , 7s. (Right) Raw activity (Area under the curve) quantification in example ROIs as indicated.
- e. Example traces of GCs in response to evoked exposure to cage odor (2s). The rectangle at the top indicates the odor delivery times during the activity recording.
- f. Boxplots showing the min-max normalized neuronal activity in air only and odor evoked condition of cage odor and IAA in ROI-dendrite pairs (black: air only and cage odor background, gold: IAA exposure).
- g. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in cage odor background and continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- h. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in cage odor background and continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- i. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in cage odor background and continuous IAA with linear regression fit.



**Extended Data Figure 4: Proximal GC dendrite recordings, day-to-day spine dynamics and neuronal activity.**

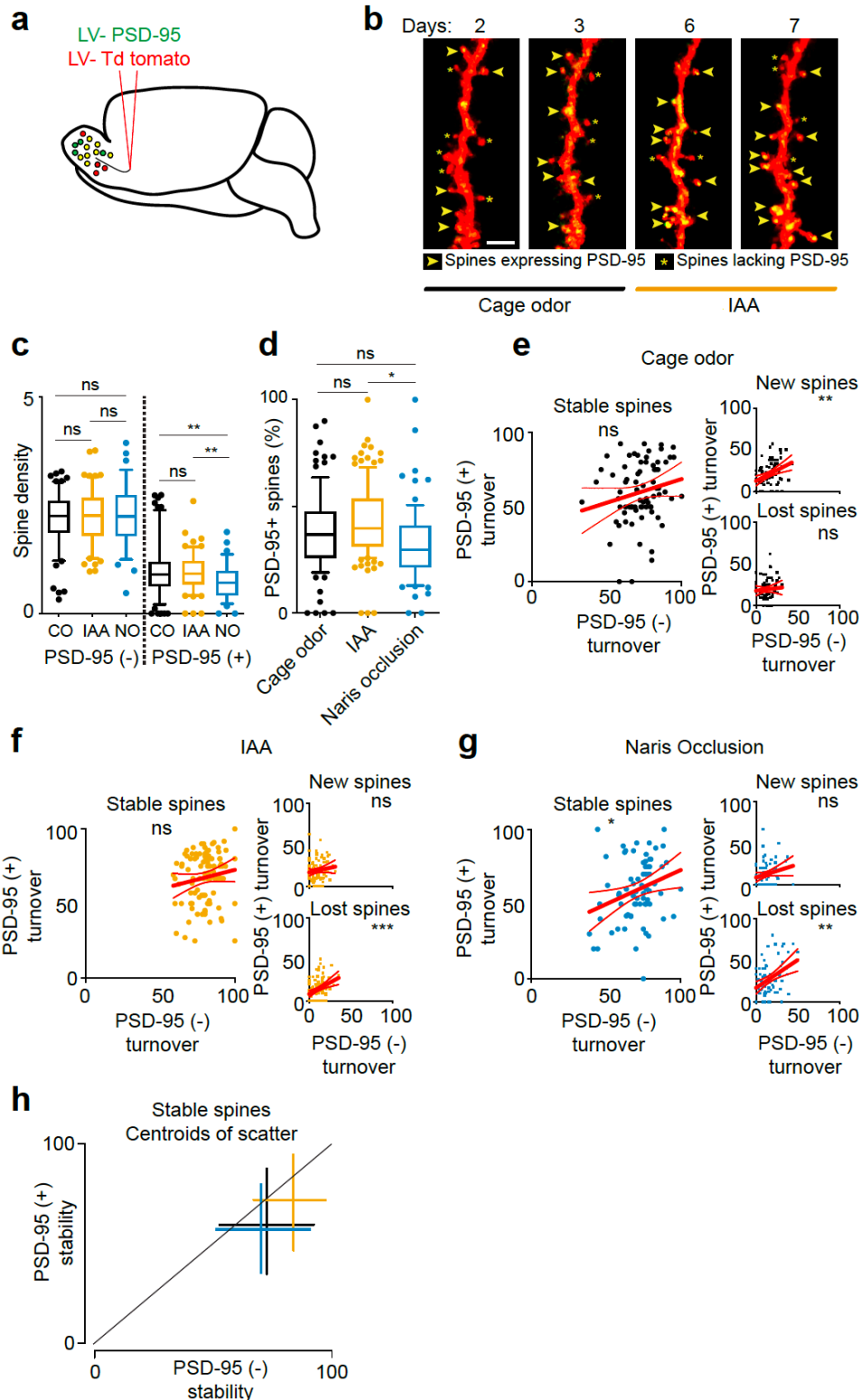
- Average projection of a field of view for imaging the proximal dendritic regions of GCs.
- A tracing reconstruction of a GC demonstrating the different dendritic segments. The proximal region of the dendrite used in this experiment, is indicated.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.



**Extended Data Figure 5: Apical GC dendrite recordings in naris occlusion, day-to-day spine dynamics and neuronal activity.**

- Example  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  traces of GC spontaneous activity in cage odor, continuous IAA and IAA with naris occlusion.
- Boxplots showing the distribution of the min-max normalized spontaneous activity of the ROI-dendrite pairs for three experimental conditions: cage odor, continuous IAA and IAA with naris occlusion.
- Boxplot of the correlation variability of the individual dendrite-ROIs from their mean for cage odor background (black), continuous IAA (gold) and naris occlusion (blue) shows a significant decrease for IAA condition while significant increase for naris occlusion compared to IAA.

- d. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- e. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- f. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- g. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in naris occlusion with linear regression fit.
- h. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in naris occlusion with linear regression fit.
- i. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in naris occlusion with linear regression fit.

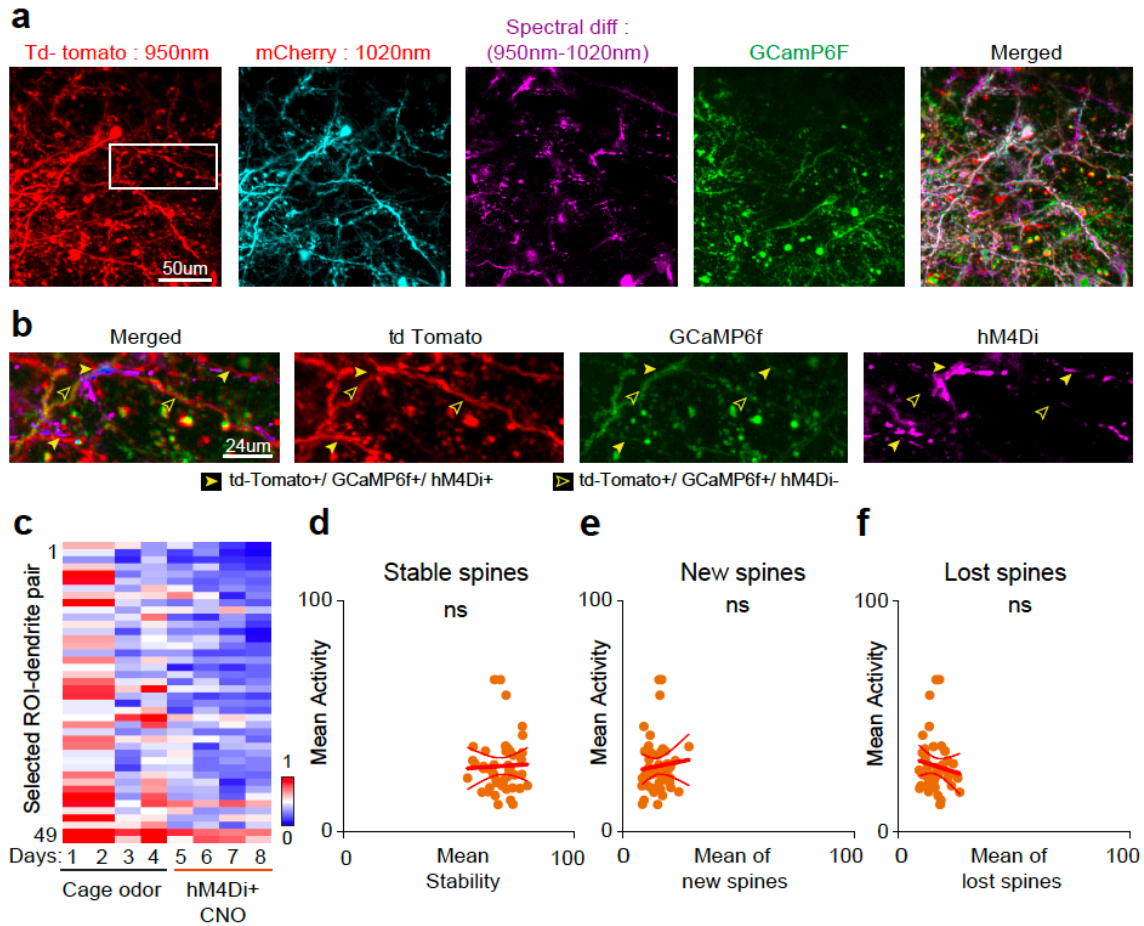


### Extended Data Figure 6: Naris occlusion; PSD-95 turnover

- a. Viral labelling strategy to co-label adult born GCs with lentiviral capsids containing PSD95-GFP and tdTomato reporters.

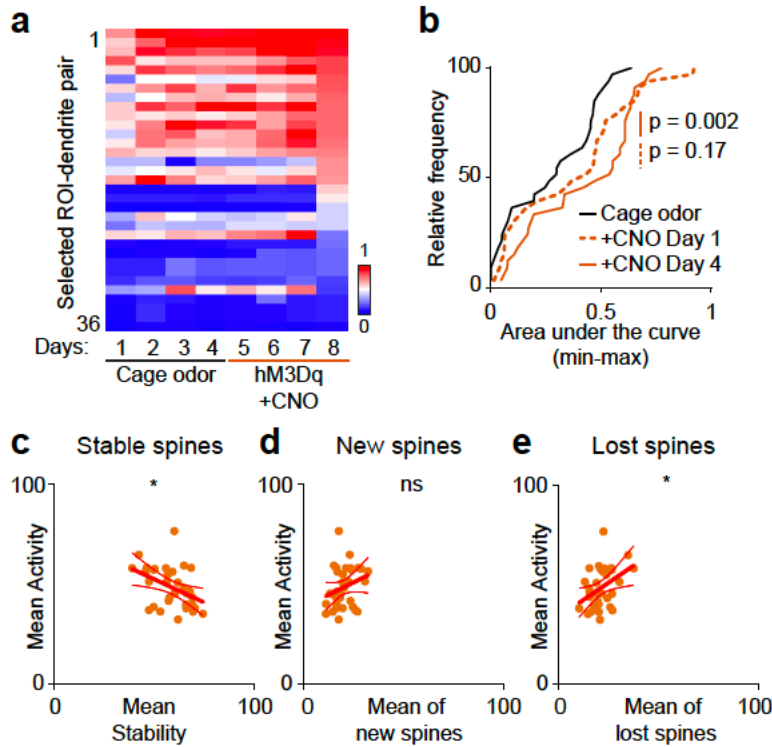


- b. 2-photon projected images from day 2 to 3 and 6 to 7, corresponding to cage odor and IAA exposure, respectively. Spines expressing or lacking PSD-95 are indicated in the figure. Scale: 5 $\mu$ m.
- c. Boxplot showing the spine density across the dendrites for all spines (expressing PSD 95 and tdTomato, left) and spines expressing PSD-95 exclusively (right).
- d. Box plot showing the percentage of spines expressing PSD-95 in GCs. With continuous IAA, the percentage of PSD-95<sup>+</sup> spines increase (not significant to cage odor), and in naris occlusion, there is a significant decrease of PSD-95<sup>+</sup> spines. It is to be noted that not all spines express PSD-95.
- e. Scatter plot of stable, new and lost spine turnover for PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spines in cage odor condition with linear regression fit.
- f. Scatter plot of stable, new and lost spine turnover for PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spines in continuous IAA with linear regression fit.
- g. Scatter plot of stable, new and lost spine turnover for PSD-95<sup>+</sup> and PSD-95<sup>-</sup> spines in naris occlusion with linear regression fit.
- h. Centroids of the scatter plots of the stable spines (f-h) with the standard deviation.



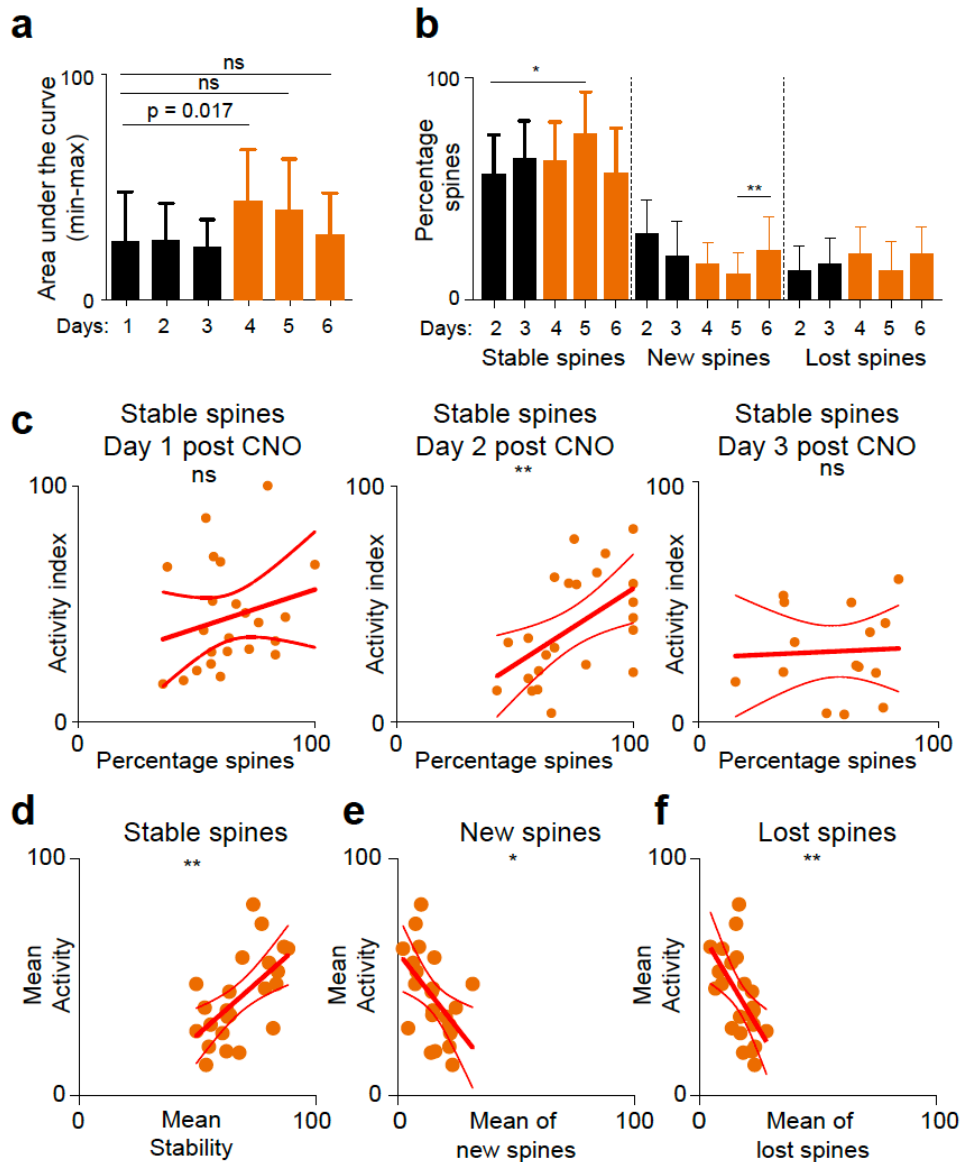
**Extended Data Figure 7: Apical GC dendrite recordings in chemo-genetic inhibition, day to day spine dynamics and neuronal activity.**

- Average intensity projection of a field of view at wavelength 950nm (for tdTomato expression), 1020nm (for mCherry expression), spectral difference to isolate mCherry expression (hM4Di; difference of 950nm and 1020nm) and GCaMP6f. The merged photomicrograph represents the expression of tdTomato, GCaMP6f and the spectral difference (hM4Di).
- Representative image demonstrating selection of ROIs based on the criteria of tdTomato<sup>+</sup>, GCaMP6f<sup>+</sup> and hM4Di<sup>+</sup> expressions.
- Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (49 dendrite-ROI pairs, 5 animals).
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in CNO-mediated inhibition with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in CNO-mediated inhibition with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in CNO-mediated inhibition with linear regression fit.



### Extended Data Figure 8: Chemo-genetic excitation, day to day spine dynamics and neuronal activity.

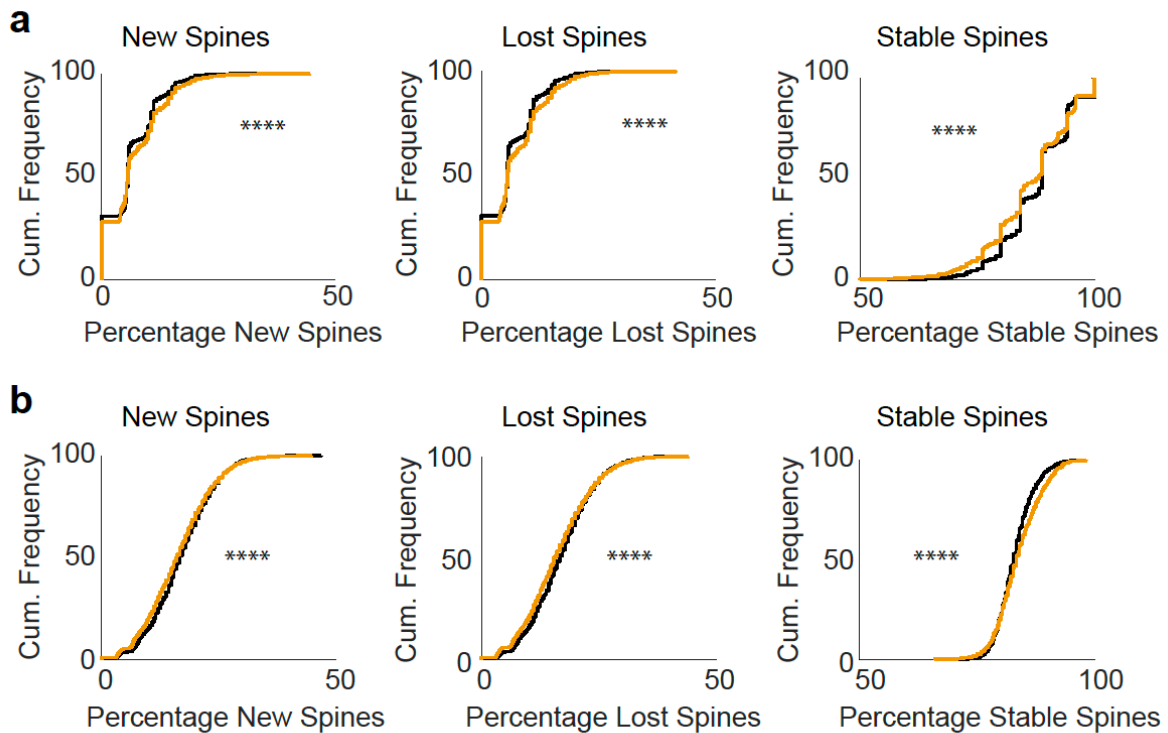
- Heat map showing the neuronal activity (AUC, min-max normalized across the dataset) averaged per day across different experiments (36 dendrite-ROI pairs, 4 animals).
- Relative frequency plot of neuronal activity showing the effect of chronic CNO-mediated GC excitation between cage odor on day 1 of CNO application ( $p = 0.17$ ) and on day 4 of CNO application.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in CNO-mediated excitation with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in CNO-mediated excitation with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in CNO-mediated excitation with linear regression fit.



**Extended Data Figure 9: Additional data on MC DREADD activation.**

- Bar-plots showing mean neuronal activity of GCs across days in selected ROI-dendrite pairs across different experiments (black: cage odor background, red: CNO-mediated MC activation).
- Percentage turnover of stable, new and lost spines in the selected ROI-dendrite pairs (black: cage odor background; red: CNO-mediated MC activation) at one day interval.
- Scatter plot of neuronal activity (activity index) versus percentage of stable spines in chronic CNO-mediated MC excitation with a linear regression fit across days 1-3 after CNO application.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of stable spines in CNO-mediated MC excitation with linear regression fit.
- Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of new spines in CNO-mediated MC excitation with linear regression fit.

- f. Scatter plot of mean neuronal activity (activity index) versus mean percentage of lost spines in CNO-mediated MC excitation with linear regression fit.

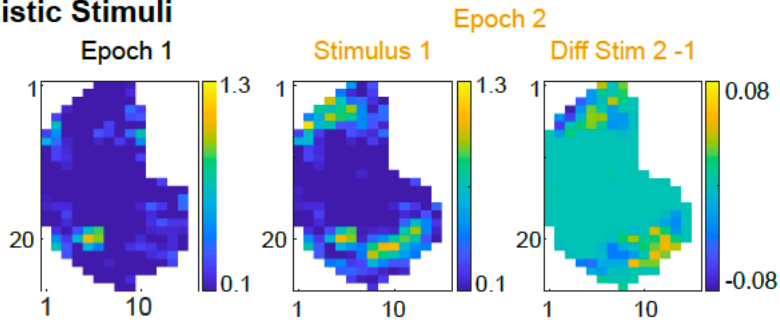


### Extended Data Figure 10: Dependence of spine formation on MC activity in computational model

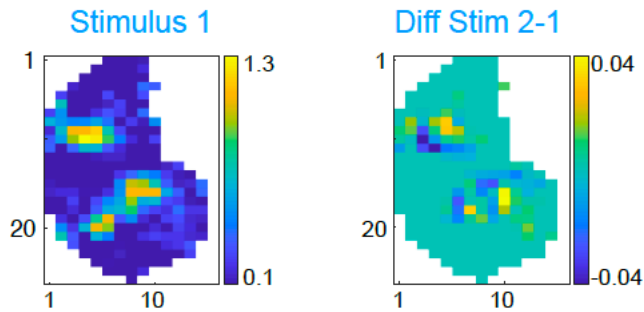
Cumulative distributions for the number of GCs with the indicated percentage of new, lost, or stable spines, respectively

- For strong dependence of the spine formation on MC activity ( $\alpha_0 = 0.1$ ,  $\alpha_1 = 1.8$ ) the fraction of stable spines decreased with odor exposure (right panel), whereas the fraction of new and lost spines increased (left and middle panels), contrary to the experimental findings (cf. Fig. 1i).
- Without dependence of the formation rate on MC activity ( $\alpha_0 = 1.0$ ,  $\alpha_1 = 0$ ) the shifts in the distribution functions are still consistent with the experiments. Despite the small shifts, they are highly significant due to the large number of spines available in the simulations.

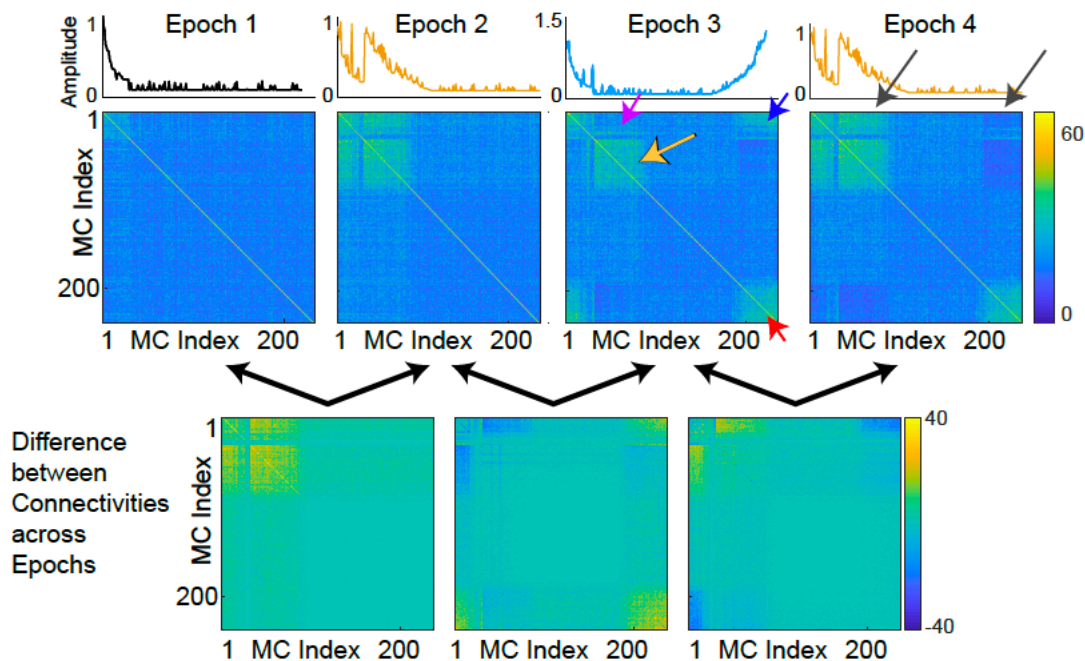
### a Naturalistic Stimuli



### b Very Similar Odors for Epoch 3



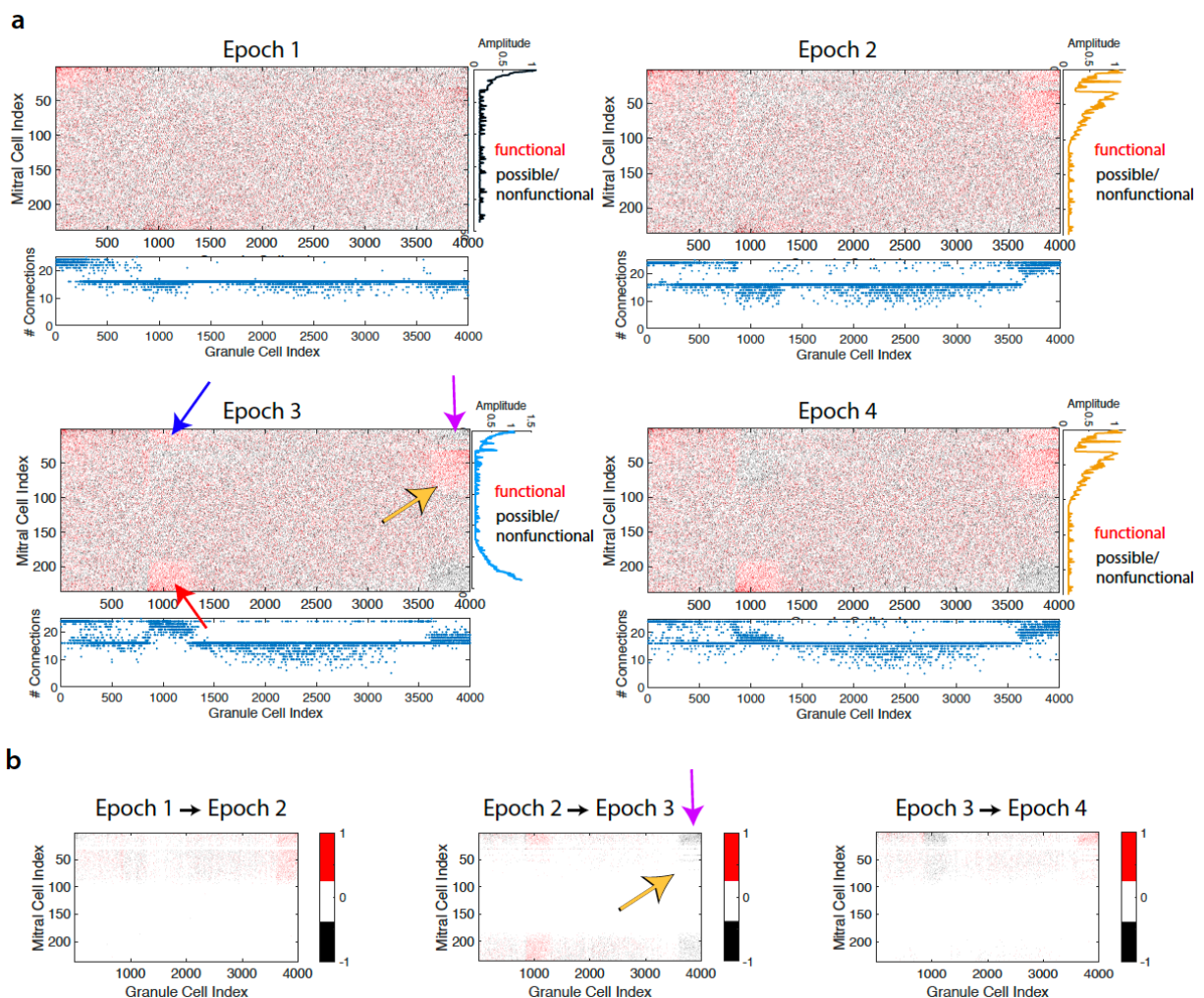
### c Memory of Mutual Inhibition



### Extended Data Figure 11: Memory persists in computational model through the presentation of novel odors.

- Naturalistic stimuli for cage odor (butyric acid) and odor mixtures in epoch 2 (isopropylbenzene and cyclo-hexanone). The right panel shows the small difference between the activation patterns of the two mixtures.
- Glomerular activation patterns for 2 novel odors comprised of very similar mixtures of octanal and nonanal. Stimulus 1 is shown in the left panel. The small difference between the two stimuli is shown in the right panel.

- c. Strength of the disynaptic mutual inhibitory connections between MCs at the end of the four epochs. The MCs are ordered such that the cage odor activated predominantly MCs 1 to 30, the stimuli of epoch 2 drove mostly MCs 30 to 100 and those of epoch 3 MCs 180 to 236, as indicated above the connectivity matrices. The differences in the connectivities are shown in the bottom panels. In epoch 3 new connections reflecting the novel stimuli are added (red arrow) without a substantial reduction in the connections among the MCs activated by the stimuli of epoch 2 (yellow arrow). Connections between MCs activated by the cage odor and the stimuli of epoch 2 were removed (purple arrow), since the associated GCs were activated in the intermediate range in which spines are deconsolidated (yellow arrow in Fig.7b bottom right panel). Re-exposing the network to the stimuli of epoch 2 affected mostly the MCs that were activated by those stimuli as well as the cage odor (gray arrows).

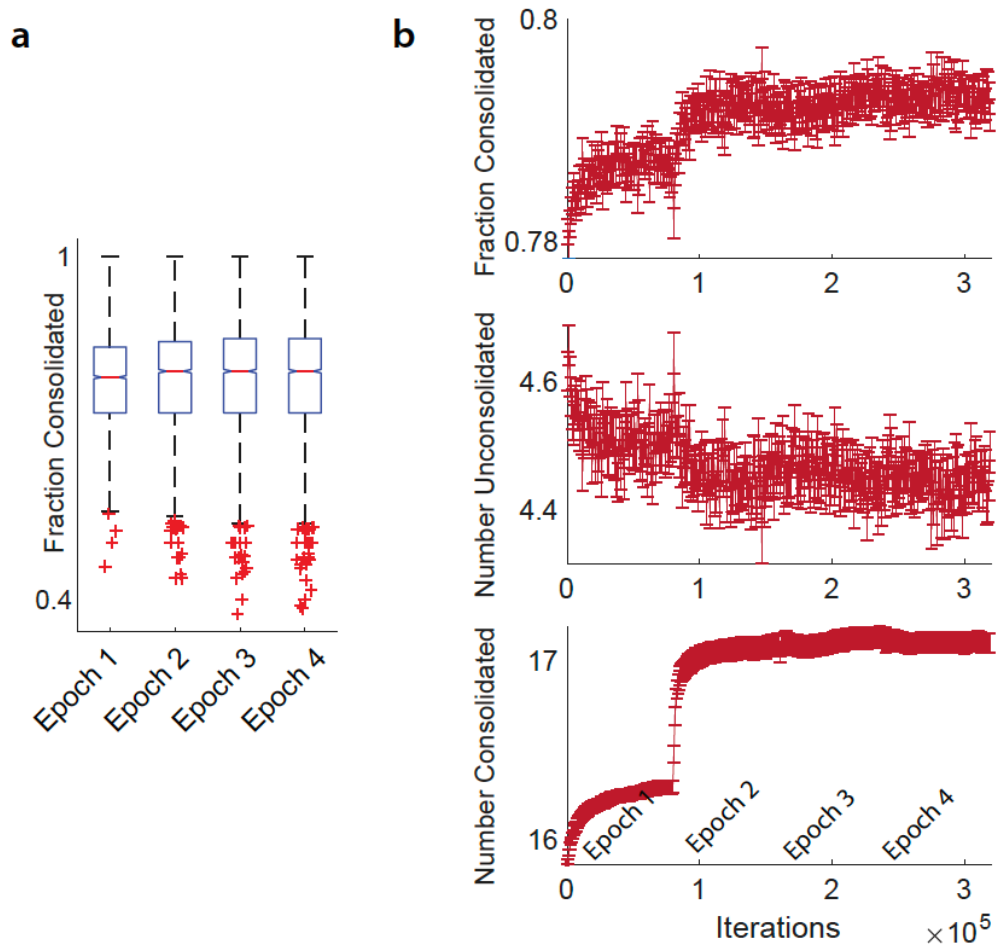


### Extended Data Figure 12: Memory in the MC-GC Connectivity.

- a. MC-GC connectivities (red dots: functional connections, black dots: nonfunctional spines or possible spine locations) at the end of the four epochs (cf. Extended Data Figure 11). The GC are ordered such that the cage odor activates predominantly GCs 1 to 400, the odors of epoch 2 drives GCs 3500 to 4000, and the odors of epoch 4 activates GCs 800 to 1300. The corresponding MC activity patterns are indicated along the vertical axes. The bottom panels indicate the total number of connections of each GC. Odor stimulation

established connections to the activated MCs and increased the total number of connections of the GCs involved. During epoch 3 the GCs that were predominantly activated by the stimuli of epoch 2 preserved the connections to the MCs activated by those stimuli (yellow arrow), but lost connections to MCs predominantly activated by the cage odor (purple arrow).

- b. Changes in the connectivities between epochs. Red dots indicate new connections, black dots mark lost connections.

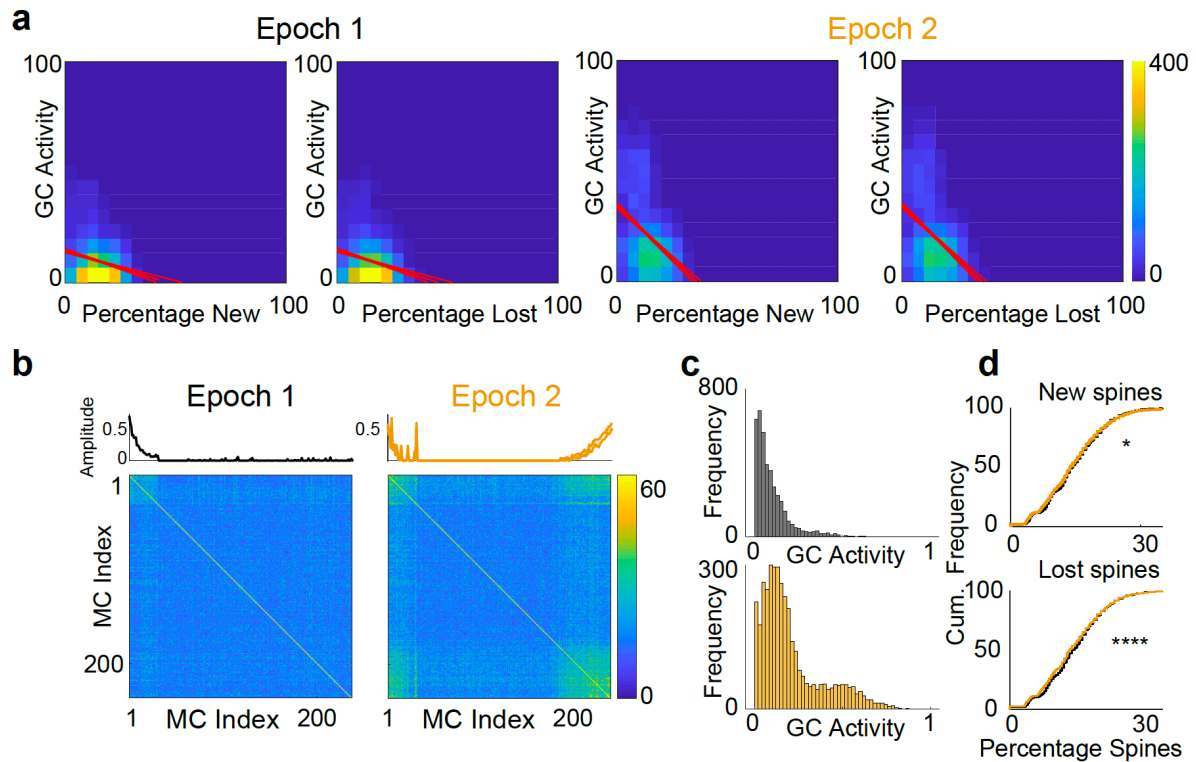


### Extended Data Figure 13: Spine Consolidation during Training

The changes in the number of consolidated spines and in the fraction of consolidated spines during learning protocol of Fig.7h are small on average (cf. Extended Data Figure 11).

- a. Statistics of the fraction of consolidated spines among all spines. The change in the mean from epoch 1 to epoch 2 was significant ( $p < 0.05$ , the notches do not overlap). Across the subsequent epochs the change in the mean was not significant, even though the connectivities changed significantly (cf. Extended Data Figures 11,12).
- b. The evolution of the fraction of consolidated spines (top panel) as well as the total number of consolidated and unconsolidated spines (lower 2 panels). The change in the number of consolidated spines is small, but highly significant.





#### Extended Data Figure 14: Computational model of spine dynamics, additional data

- New and lost spine correlation with GC activity, substantially stronger correlation after odor exposure in epoch 2 (cf. Fig. 1i).
- Disynaptic MC-MC inhibition. MCs are ordered according to their activation by the stimuli as indicated by the panels above the connectivity matrices.
- GC activity distributions after epoch 1 and 2.
- Stimulus exposure increased the fraction of stable spines and reduced that of new and lost spines. The shifts in the cumulative distributions were small, but highly significant.

**Table 1: List of viruses used for labeling neurons**

<b>Viral construct</b>	<b>Purpose</b>	<b>Viral titre</b>	<b>Region</b>	<b>Cat. #</b>	<b>Vol. (nl)</b>	<b>Supplier</b>
LV-CMV-tdTomato-Cre	Labeling adult born GCs at a particular age, structural marker	$6 \times 10^8$ VP/ul	RMS		200	ICM Vector Platform, Paris France
LV-CMV-GCamp6f	Co-injected with LV-tdTomato-cre to label adult born GCs, $Ca^{2+}$ sensor as a neuronal activity marker	$1.26 \times 10^9$ VP/ul	RMS	SL100322	250	SignaGen
LV-EF1a-PSD95-GFP	Label adult born GC glutamatergic synapses as a proxy of functional spine turnover	$1.38 \times 10^8$ VP/ul	RMS		200	ICM Vector Platform, Paris France
AAV9 Syn-FLEX-GCamp6F.WPRE.SV40	Synapsin-driven, Cre-dependent $Ca^{2+}$ sensor; activity marker for cre-labelled adult born GCs	$7 \times 10^{13}$ VP/ul	OB	100833	500	Addgene
AAV5-hSyn-DIO-hM3D(Gq)-mCherry	DREADD receptor with mCherry reporter for CNO-induced cre-labelled adult-born GC activation	$7 \times 10^{12}$ VP/ul	OB	44361	300	Addgene
AAV5-hSyn-DIO-hM4D(Gi)-mCherry	DREADD receptor with mCherry reporter for CNO-induced cre-labelled adult-born GC suppression	$4.5 \times 10^{12}$ VP/ul	OB	44362	300	Addgene
AAV8-CaMKIIa-hM4D-mCherry	DREADD receptor with mCherry reporter for CNO-induced GC suppression	$4.41 \times 10^{12}$ VP/ul	Olfactory cortex		300	Univ North Carolina, USA

**Table 2: Statistical power estimation for different experiments**

Experiment	Statistical test performed	Number of animals used	Dendrite-ROI pairs tracked	Confidence Interval	Effect size (d)	Standard deviation	Difference in mean	Slope of curve	Attrition rate	Achieved Power
Neuronal activity in odor exposure	K-S test	8	51	0.05	0.72	0.19	0.135	-	0	<b>0.95</b>
Spine stability in odor exposure	K-S test	8	51	0.05	0.38	0.165	0.06	-	0	0.76
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: distal dendrites	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	8	51	0.05	0.13	0.20	0.015	0.22	0	<b>0.93</b>
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: proximal dendrites	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	4	55	0.05	0.06	0.17	0.24	-0.03	0	<b>0.81</b>
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: passive odor exposure	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	5	42	0.05	0.15	0.16	0.23	0.012	0	0.74
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: Inhibitory DREADD	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	5	49	0.05	0.24	0.173	0.032	0.03	12%	<b>0.83</b>
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: Excitatory DREADD	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	4	36	0.05	0.01	0.153	0.004	-0.23	16%	0.75
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: Naris occlusion	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	7	53	0.05	0.05	0.22	0.13	-0.14	36%	0.68
PSD-95 turnover	K-S test	5	33	0.05	1.25	0.22	0.13	-	24%	<b>0.82</b>
Neuronal activity-spine stability correlation: MC excitation	Linear regression; variation of slope of linear fit	4	23	0.05	0.294	0.18	0.18	-	0	<b>0.95</b>

**Table 3: Statistical table for correlations**

<b>Experiments</b>	<b>Spine status</b>	<b>Activity (y) vs stability (x)- m</b>	<b>Spearman Correlation (r)</b>	<b>p-value of Spearman correlation</b>
Apical dendrites- cage odor	Stable	-0.121	-0.102	0.266
	New	0.212	0.149	0.102
	Lost	-0.054	-0.019	0.836
Apical dendrites- continuous odor exposure	<b>Stable</b>	<b>0.389</b>	<b>0.270</b>	<b>0.0005</b>
	<b>New</b>	<b>-0.709</b>	<b>-0.353</b>	<b>&lt; 0.0001</b>
	Lost	-0.089	-0.056	0.480
Proximal dendrites- cage odor	Stable	0.073	0.073	0.352
	New	-0.173	-0.131	0.096
	Lost	0.101	0.059	0.451
Proximal dendrites- continuous odor exposure	Stable	0.049	0.036	0.644
	New	0.009	0.035	0.645
	Lost	-0.124	-0.071	0.366
Apical dendrites- short term odor exposure	Stable	-0.137	-0.113	0.137
	New	0.208	0.117	0.123
	Lost	0.074	0.050	0.508
Apical dendrites- odor exposure before naris	<b>Stable</b>	<b>0.351</b>	<b>0.194</b>	<b>0.050</b>
	New	-0.134	-0.042	0.678
	Lost	-0.361	-0.208	0.036
Apical dendrites- odor exposure after naris	Stable	-0.205	-0.186	0.087
	New	0.141	0.070	0.522
	Lost	0.129	0.112	0.306
Apical dendrites- concurrent inhibition	Stable	0.027	-0.025	0.730
	New	-0.028	0.002	0.974
	Lost	-0.010	0.002	0.982
	<b>Stable</b>	<b>-0.220</b>	<b>-0.180</b>	<b>0.039</b>

Apical dendrites- concurrent excitation	New	0.147	0.057	0.515
	Lost	0.272	0.162	0.065
Apical dendrites- MC concurrent excitation	<b>Stable</b>	<b>0.378</b>	<b>0.363</b>	<b>0.004</b>
	<b>New</b>	<b>-0.438</b>	<b>-0.301</b>	<b>0.018</b>
	<b>Lost</b>	<b>-0.573</b>	<b>-0.348</b>	<b>0.006</b>
Apical dendrites- MC concurrent excitation	Day 1	0.327	0.289	0.181
	Day 2	<b>0.642</b>	<b>0.566</b>	<b>0.005</b>
	Day 3	0.046	0.129	0.645

**Table 4: Trends in data with different experiments**

<b>Experiments</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Stability</b>	<b>New spines</b>	<b>Lost spines</b>
<b>Continuous odor exposure: apical spines</b>	+++	+	-	+
<b>Continuous odor exposure: proximal spines</b>	+++	+++	---	- (ns)
<b>Short term passive odor exposure: apical spines</b>	+++	+	--	- (ns)
<b>Naris occlusion</b>	---	- (ns)	--	++
<b>PSD-95: continuous odor exposure</b>	N/A	+	- (ns)	- (ns)
<b>PSD-95: naris occlusion</b>	N/A	--	--	+
<b>Inhibitory DREADD in GC</b>	---	+	---	+ (ns)
<b>Excitatory DREADD in GC</b>	+++	+ (ns)	-	+ (ns)
<b>Excitatory DREADD in MC</b>	++	+ (ns)	+	- (ns)

Increase: +++, p< 0.0001; ++, p< 0.01, +, p< 0.05

Decrease: ---, p< 0.0001; --, p< 0.01, -, p< 0.05

**Table 5: Values of observations (Mean  $\pm$  SD)**

Experiments		Activity (AUC)	Ampli.	Stable spines	New spines	Lost spines
Continuous odor exposure: apical spines	Cage odor	0.256 $\pm$ 0.180	2.586 $\pm$ 1.449	0.632 $\pm$ 0.164	0.176 $\pm$ 0.131	0.166 $\pm$ 0.124
	Odor exposure	0.390 $\pm$ 0.234	2.981 $\pm$ 1.669	0.692 $\pm$ 0.157	0.148 $\pm$ 0.121	0.181 $\pm$ 0.152
Continuous odor exposure: proximal spines	Cage odor	0.265 $\pm$ 0.116	1.841 $\pm$ 0.8787	0.662 $\pm$ 0.135	0.191 $\pm$ 0.116	0.144 $\pm$ 0.087
	Odor exposure	0.431 $\pm$ 0.165	1.703 $\pm$ 0.6416	0.767 $\pm$ 0.118	0.107 $\pm$ 0.083	0.125 $\pm$ 0.081
Short term passive odor exposure: apical spines	Cage odor	0.323 $\pm$ 0.192	1.479 $\pm$ 1.106	0.714 $\pm$ 0.153	0.155 $\pm$ 0.108	0.130 $\pm$ 0.097
	Passive Odor exposure	0.599 $\pm$ 0.179	1.326 $\pm$ 0.6534	0.763 $\pm$ 0.134	0.110 $\pm$ 0.087	0.126 $\pm$ 0.109
Naris occlusion	Cage odor	0.298 $\pm$ 0.108	1.332 $\pm$ 0.5635	0.594 $\pm$ 0.157	0.238 $\pm$ 0.132	0.167 $\pm$ 0.105
	Odor exposure	0.332 $\pm$ 0.147	1.53 $\pm$ 0.613	0.663 $\pm$ 0.140	0.155 $\pm$ 0.093	0.181 $\pm$ 0.128
	Naris occlusion	0.126 $\pm$ 0.108	1.121 $\pm$ 0.4172	0.558 $\pm$ 0.167	0.177 $\pm$ 0.109	0.264 $\pm$ 0.176
All spines Td-tomato + PSD-95:	Cage odor	N/A	N/A	0.722 $\pm$ 0.127	0.144 $\pm$ 0.093	0.117 $\pm$ 0.073
	Odor exposure	N/A	N/A	0.796 $\pm$ 0.094	0.092 $\pm$ 0.074	0.122 $\pm$ 0.084

	Naris occlusion	N/A	N/A	0.716 ± 0.125	0.122 ± 0.087	0.161 ± 0.112
PSD-95+ spines only	Cage odor	N/A	N/A	0.588 ± 0.229	0.238 ± 0.169	0.213 ± 0.160
	Odor exposure	N/A	N/A	0.635 ± 0.229	0.221 ± 0.162	0.192 ± 0.175
	Naris occlusion	N/A	N/A	0.574 ± 0.234	0.141 ± 0.151	0.284 ± 0.202
Inhibitory DREADD in GC	Cage odor	0.298 ± 0.135	1.715 ± 0.680	0.656 ± 0.128	0.201 ± 0.114	0.142 ± 0.081
	After CNO	0.191 ± 0.096	1.376 ± 0.645	0.688 ± 0.113	0.150 ± 0.094	0.162 ± 0.091
Excitatory DREADD in GC	Cage odor	0.352 ± 0.162	1.254 ± 0.527	0.588 ± 0.181	0.247 ± 0.137	0.201 ± 0.121
	After CNO	0.492 ± 0.164	1.434 ± 0.607	0.584 ± 0.149	0.206 ± 0.109	0.212 ± 0.117
Excitatory DREADD in MC	Cage odor	0.254 ± 0.143	1.325 ± 0.653	0.592 ± 0.176	0.249 ± 0.157	0.147 ± 0.112
	After CNO	0.391 ± 0.222	1.214 ± 0.546	0.653 ± 0.206	0.160 ± 0.115	0.177 ± 0.119