Homeostatic control of deep sleep in *Drosophila*: Implications for Discovering

Correlates of Sleep Pressure

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Abstract

A defining feature of sleep is its homeostatic control, which is most clearly expressed as increased sleep after forced wakefulness. *Drosophila* has served as a powerful model system for understanding the homeostatic control of sleep and ongoing work continues to be an important complement to studies in mammals and other vertebrate models. Nevertheless, there are significant challenges confronting investigators of sleep regulation in *Drosophila.* For example, the magnitude of sleep rebound in flies is relatively modest, providing a small dynamic range over which to detect changes in homeostatic responses in experimental subjects. In addition, the perturbation necessary to keep flies awake is associated with physiological and behavioral responses that may obscure homeostatic sleep responses. Furthermore, the analysis of fly sleep as a unitary state, without differentiation between shallow and deep sleep states, clouds our ability to fully characterize homeostatic sleep responses. To address these challenges, we describe the development of a yoked-controlled paradigm for flies that allows us to produce two sets of flies that have experienced identical levels of mechanical perturbation while suffering significantly different amounts of sleep deprivation. Moreover, by differentiating long bouts of sleep from all sleep, we show that flies display significant and lasting homeostatic increases in such long bouts following sleep deprivation, that are only detectable when controlling for the sleep-independent effects of mechanical deprivation. Finally, we illustrate the importance of yoked controls for examining the molecular correlates of sleep pressure. Our work introduces methodological approaches that are likely to support the discovery of new mechanisms of sleep regulation in the fly and calls for the reevaluation of previous work identifying the molecular, physiological, and cellular correlates of sleep pressure.

Keywords: Drosophila, sleep, Ethoscope, yoked controls, mechanical deprivation, sleep rebound, homeostasis, MALDI-TOF

Introduction

Sleep is a fundamental biological need and is homeostatically controlled: when sleep is disrupted an elevated drive to sleep (i.e., sleepiness) is produced that is associated with decreased performance, well-being, and safety (*1–5*). Sleep disruption is ubiquitous in the modern age and contributes significantly to a wide array of negative health consequences in humans (*6, 7*). It is therefore critical to understand the homeostatic regulatory mechanisms of sleep. Sleep is ubiquitous in the animal kingdom and sleep-like states likely evolved at least 740 million years ago (*8–13*). Being so deeply conserved, mechanisms of sleep regulation uncovered in animals with relatively simple nervous systems can be highly relevant to sleep in mammalian species, including humans. The relative simplicity of invertebrate nervous systems and the existence of invertebrate models for which there are well-established methods of genetic and neuronal manipulations, make them amenable to experimental approaches that would be technically and logistically difficult or prohibitively expensive in mammalian model systems. Work in such model systems is therefore an important complement to studies in mammals and other vertebrate models (*14*).

The vinegar fly *Drosophila* has proved to be a useful model organism for understanding the molecular and cellular mechanisms regulating sleep (*15, 16*). The powerful genetic tools available in the fly, along with the ability to manipulate and measure neural signaling within small groups of defined cell types, have revealed genes and brain networks that mediate the homeostatic regulation of sleep (*17–20*). Furthermore, such work in the fly has revealed mechanisms that also mediate sleep regulation in mammals (*21, 22*). Just as in humans and other mammalian species, fly sleep is controlled by both a sleep homeostat and a circadian clock, which, during normal sleep

cycles, largely account for the timing and amount of daily sleep (*23–26*). Future work in the fly

will undoubtedly continue to enrich our understanding of sleep regulation in all animals.

However, there are significant challenges to the investigation of sleep regulation in *Drosophila.*

For example, the magnitude of sleep rebound in flies is quite modest (*27–30*). Indeed, some forms

of optogenetic or thermogenetic sleep deprivation produce no apparent homeostatic sleep rebound

at all(*18*, *29*). As for other animal models of sleep, the action of the fly's sleep homeostat is assayed

by depriving flies of sleep and measuring subsequent increases of sleep (compared to baseline),

which reflect a homeostatic discharge of the sleep debt accrued during deprivation (*15*, *16*, *27*, *31*).

In contrast to mammalian species, however, sleep rebound following deprivation is often quite

modest and brief. For example, male flies display variable levels of increased sleep following

nighttime sleep deprivation of around 0 - 25 minutes, compared to 200-500 minutes of sleep lost

(in 6- and 12-hour deprivation windows) and this is usually detectable only during the first few

hours of the day after deprivation has ended (*16*, *27*, *28*, *32*, *33*). Furthermore, homeostatic sleep

rebound in *Drosophila* appears to repay a relatively small proportion of the sleep lost during

deprivation; 800 minutes of sleep loss in a full diurnal cycle saw only 100 minutes of recovery

(~12.5%)(*27*). In contrast, mammalian species tend to display higher amounts of increased sleep

following deprivation that is observable over more than one circadian cycle (*34–38*), and such

rebound usually accounts for a much larger proportion of lost sleep than the rebound detectable in

flies. For example, humans can reclaim around 40% of the sleep lost to deprivation (*39*). The

relatively small rebound measured in the fly is a major challenge to the study of sleep regulation

in this species, as it provides a small dynamic range over which to detect changes in homeostatic

responses in experimental subjects. These features of fly sleep are somewhat surprising, given the

highly conserved nature of sleep in the animal kingdom.

One possible cause of the relatively small homeostatic responses to sleep deprivation in flies is the

sleep-independent effects of the deprivation techniques used by the field. The most commonly

used method of fly sleep deprivation is frequent mechanical perturbation, typically shaking or

slamming (*15*, *16*, *31*), to force movement and prevent the attainment of sleep, which in

Drosophila is defined as any bout of inactivity that is five minutes or longer (*15*, *16*). Though

effective for the prevention of sleep, these methods are likely to produce many physiological and

behavioral effects that are independent of sleep loss. Indeed, mechanical shaking is known to

produce the biochemical hallmarks of stress, even when delivered during times of wakefulness

(*40*).

Recently, neurogenetic methods have been employed to deprive flies of sleep (*29*, *41*). This

method involves the strong and chronic excitation of wake-promoting neurons in the brain. Though

this method avoids the sleep-independent effects of physical perturbation, the strong non-

physiological excitation of central brain neurons is likely to be attended by its own sleep-

independent effects (reviewed in(*22*)). A fundamental challenge, therefore, is to differentiate

sleep-pressure-driven changes in behavior and physiology from sleep-independent changes driven

by the experimental intervention used to prevent sleep. We predict that accounting for such sleep-

independent effects would improve the sensitivity with which homeostatic sleep responses can be

detected in the fly.

In mammals, sleep consists of multiple, physiologically discrete stages, which differentially

respond to sleep deprivation (*35*, *42–47*). Following long bouts of wakefulness during normal sleep

cycles, slow-wave Non-Rapid-Eye-Movement (NREM) sleep stages dominate the initial bouts of

sleep, suggesting that the daily rise of sleep pressure is discharged first by slow-wave (i.e., deep)

sleep. Slow-wave sleep is also preferentially increased following sleep deprivation when compared

to Rapid-Eye-Movement (REM) sleep (*35*, *38*, *48*, *49*). Thus, differentiating between distinct sleep

stages is likely important for assessing the homeostatic responses to sleep deprivation. A growing

body of evidence indicates the existence of a deep sleep state in flies, which is characterized by

slow-wave like neural signaling (*50*, *51*), reduced metabolic rate (*52*), and waste clearance from

the brain (*53*). The physiological and metabolic correlates of this deep sleep state are associated

with bouts of inactivity that are significantly longer than the five-minute inactivity criterion used

to define fly sleep (46, 47, 48). The existence of a distinct deep sleep state in flies suggests that

treating sleep as a unitary state might obscure homeostatic sleep responses, particularly if, as in

mammals, deep sleep is more strongly linked to homeostatic sleep pressure than shallower stages

of sleep. Furthermore, our recent analyses suggest that longer bouts of sleep are a better reflection

of sleep homeostasis than short bouts of sleep in the fly (*26*).

In this study we sought to address the sleep-independent behavioral effects of the most commonly

used form of sleep deprivation in the fly and to develop a method of accounting for them. We also

attempt to address the extent to which the treatment of sleep as a single unitary state in the fly

might explain the apparently modest and brief nature of sleep rebound in the fly compared to such

rebound in mammalian species. We present evidence that the extent of mechanical perturbation

employed during sleep deprivation has significant effects on the amount of subsequent sleep

displayed by deprived flies. We describe the development of a yoked-control paradigm for flies,

based on previous work in rats, that allows us to produce two sets of flies that have experienced

identical levels of mechanical perturbation while suffering significantly different amounts of sleep

restriction. Furthermore, by differentiating between long-bouts of sleep from the traditional unitary

definition of sleep, we show that flies display significant and lasting homeostatic sleep increases

following sleep deprivation that are only detectable when controlling for the sleep-independent

effects of mechanical deprivation. Finally, we illustrate the importance of yoked controls for

examining the molecular correlates of sleep pressure. Our work introduces methodological

approaches that are likely to support the discovery of new mechanisms of sleep regulation in the

fly and calls for the reevaluation of previous work identifying the molecular, physiological, and

cellular correlates of sleep pressure.

Results

Sleep rebound is shaped significantly by the intensity of the mechanical stimulus used to

prevent sleep.

The drive to sleep in the face of prolonged sleep deprivation is so strong that significant

experimental intervention is necessary to keep animals awake. Such intervention is known to

produce sleep-independent changes in behavior and physiology in addition to changes caused by

increased sleep pressure (*54*). Traditionally, sleep-deprived flies, which have undergone forced

wakefulness by means of mechanical or neurogenetic perturbation, are compared to unperturbed

flies (*16*). Thus, it is not possible to differentiate between sleep-dependent and sleep-independent

effects of deprivation, as the experimental flies have experienced both sleep deprivation and

experimental insults (typically physical agitation), whereas control flies have experienced neither.

Though the criterion for a sleep-like state in *Drosophila* is five minutes of inactivity, the most common means of mechanical sleep deprivation in the field consists of the delivery of mechanical stimulation (shaking or slamming) for two seconds randomly within every 20 second interval (*15*, *16*, *33*). Once the permissive window of sleep opportunity is open after the period of sleep deprivation, rebound sleep is measured immediately during the next few hours by comparing the amount of sleep displayed by sleep-deprived flies compared to unperturbed controls (*32*, *33*, *55*). The amount of baseline sleep displayed by sleep-deprived and control flies before deprivation is also often accounted for in the assessment of rebound to control for small but significant differences in baseline sleep that are often observed between experimental and control flies, despite the two groups being genetically identical (*33*) (Figure 1A). Given the discrepancy between the criterion for sleep (five minutes or more of inactivity) and the frequency of mechanical stimulation used to deprive flies of sleep (multiple times per minute) we first asked how rebound sleep might differ between flies that were sleep deprived with different frequencies of mechanical stimulation.

As previously described many times by others using the *Drosophila* Activity Monitor (DAM) system, flies deprived of sleep for 24-h using two seconds of mechanical stimulation delivered at random times within each 20 second interval displayed immediate increases in total sleep compared to undisturbed flies(*16*, *27*, *56*). Furthermore, rebound sleep was most apparent during the first three hours following the end of the deprivation period (Figure1 A, B, and C top panels). To ask how the extent of mechanical stimulation shapes homeostatic sleep rebound, we decreased the frequency of such stimulation while maintaining 24-h of sleep deprivation. To this end we used

two additional stimulation frequencies – two seconds of mechanical shaking delivered randomly

within every 120 second interval, and two seconds of random mechanical delivered within every

220 second interval. Both these frequencies produced significant sleep deprivation when five

minutes of inactivity (300 seconds) of continuous inactivity was used as the definition of sleep

(Figure 1A, middle, and bottom panels). Thus, all three stimulation frequencies (the standard 20s

frequency and the 120s and 220s frequencies) were successful in producing significant sleep

deprivation in experimental flies of sleep across the 24-hour deprivation window. Although there

were small differences in total sleep during the deprivation window across all three conditions, it

is important to note that this difference did not systematically change with the frequency of

mechanical triggers (Figure 1A). The expected elevated sleep during the first six hours post

deprivation was apparent for flies deprived with 20 and 120-sec triggers when compared to

undisturbed controls (Figures 1B and C). Remarkably, such rebound was not clear for the 220

second triggers, despite a loss of sleep that was greater than that observed for the 120 second

trigger. However, when post-deprivation sleep was normalized to baseline sleep, significant

rebound was only detected for the flies deprived using 20 second triggers, with and no such

rebound apparent for flies deprived with 120 second or 220 second triggers (Figure 1D).

To assess the effects of trigger frequency on sleep rebound, we performed a two-way ANOVA

and found that there was a significant effect of treatment × trigger interaction on the amount of

sleep rebound (total sleep pre-deprivation subtracted from total sleep post-deprivation). We found

significant rebound only for the flies deprived with 20 second trigger frequencies (Figure 1D).

Thus, lower frequencies of mechanical stimulation failed to produce significant sleep rebound,

despite having produced similar extents of sleep deprivation as the commonly used 20 second

frequency of perturbation (Fig. 1D). To address the extent to which these flies recovered lost sleep,

we estimated how much lost sleep was recovered over the 24-hour post-deprivation window (*19,*

57). We found that, as expected from previous work in many labs, the flies deprived of sleep using

the most frequent mechanical stimulation (every 20s) displayed apparent homeostatic sleep

increases in the hours immediately following deprivation. In contrast, flies that experienced less

frequent stimulation displayed no such apparent rebound (Figure 1E). The fact that lower levels of

mechanical stimulation failed to produce rebound, despite having resulted in similar levels of sleep

deprivation, suggests that high frequency physical perturbation produces sleep-independent

behavioral effects that mask *bona-fide* homeostatic sleep increases. Accounting for such effects

might therefore reveal previously hidden characteristics of sleep homeostasis.

Accounting for mechanical stimulus using a yoked-controlled design uncovers significant

sleep rebound in sleep-deprived flies when low-frequency triggers are used.

The mechanical shaking employed to sleep deprive flies loaded into the DAM system use near

constant agitation without regard to the flies' sleep state, delivering mechanical perturbations to

both waking and sleeping flies. To further examine the potential sleep-independent effects of

mechanical perturbation during sleep deprivation experiments, we adopted the Ethoscopes, a

video-based system for recording fly behavior (*32*). In contrast to the DAM system, which requires

the simultaneous mechanical perturbation of all flies within the same DAM monitor, the Ethoscope

allows the user to deliver mechanical stimuli to individual flies only when a fly is inactive for a

specified amount of time (*32*). The ability to track single flies and selectively stimulate individual

flies to prevent sleep means that flies can be sleep deprived with significantly fewer mechanical

perturbations.

We programmed Ethoscopes to track single flies and rotate their tubes at ~420 rpm for one second

each time a fly had been inactive for 220 seconds, which resulted in 24-h of sleep deprivation

(Figure 2A). When compared to undisturbed flies, these deprived flies failed to display significant

increases in sleep during the immediate aftermath of deprivation, revealing an apparent absence of

a rebound in sleep (Supplementary Figure 1A, 1B). Expanding our analysis to the full day

following deprivation likewise revealed no apparent homeostatic sleep rebound (Figure 2B); a

surprising result given the clear effectiveness of sleep deprivation (Figure 2A). The failure to

produce clear homeostatic sleep increases following deprivation could be the product of two

causes. As suggested by our observations above, the mechanical insult experienced by flies during

sleep deprivation are likely to exert sleep-independent effects on the behavior observed after

deprivation. That is, the mechanical disturbance experienced by the sleep-deprived flies likely

produces effects on the fly that could obscure sleep-pressure-driven behavioral changes. Second,

the 220s inactivity triggers used to deprive flies of sleep may have allowed brief sleep bouts that

precluded the build-up of sufficient sleep pressure to engage a homeostatic response. This would

suggest that the five-minute inactivity criterion for sleep may be too long. To begin to address

these two possibilities, we first sought to produce flies that differed in the extent of sleep

deprivation, despite experiencing identical mechanical perturbation, which would allow us to

examine the specific contributions of sleep pressure to sleep behavior following deprivation.

To accomplish this, we adopted a paradigm of chronic sleep deprivation that was first introduced

in the rat model. Employing what is referred to as yoked-controls for sleep deprivation, this

approach produces pairs of rats that have experienced perfectly matched mechanical perturbation,

in the form of a rotating platform over water, that nevertheless differed significantly in the amount

of sleep deprivation experienced (*58*). This approach involved a "focal" animal which was placed

on one side of the platform and monitored via electroencephalogram recording. Whenever the

focal animal displayed the physiological hallmarks of sleep, the platform would begin to rotate,

thereby keeping the focal animal awake. A paired rat, the "yoked" control, was placed on the

opposite side of the platform and could sleep when the focal rat was awake. This arrangement

produced a pair of rats that experienced identical, time-matched mechanical stimulation while

experiencing significantly different amounts of sleep loss (*58*).

We programmed the Ethoscope platform to produce a paired yoked-control fly for every sleep-

deprived focal fly. That is, for each fly that was tracked and stimulated upon being inactive for

220s, a second fly received matched, time-locked tube rotations, which were independent of its

sleep or wake state. This ensured that each focal and yoked pair received identical mechanical

stimuli (Figure 2C). However, the yoked fly was able to attain sleep while the focal fly was active

(Figure 2D-E), and suffered only partial sleep loss compared to focal flies (Figure 2F). This

approach, therefore, succeeded in producing two sets of flies that had experienced the same level

of physical perturbation while suffering significantly different levels of sleep loss. However, even

when compared to these controls the focal sleep-deprived flies did not show a significant in sleep

during the first six hours following 24 hours of total sleep deprivation (Figure 2F; Supplementary

Figure 1C, 1D).

However, a comparison of total sleep across the entire 24 hours of the post-deprivation day

revealed significantly higher levels of sleep in the focal flies compared to yoked controls (Figure

2G). Thus, the introduction of yoked controls revealed a homeostatic sleep response that was not

apparent when comparing sleep-deprived flies to unperturbed controls, supporting the notion that

sleep-independent effects of mechanical perturbation can mask homeostatic sleep responses. Thus,

comparing two sets of flies that have suffered matched mechanical insult but with different levels

of sleep pressure reveals homeostatic rebound that would be obscured if deprived flies were

compared only to unperturbed controls. For instance, mechanical stimulation during deprivation

significantly increased the activity levels of sleep-deprived flies a day after mechanical

perturbation, when compared to undisturbed controls. This increase was seen immediately after

the light-to-dark transition, i.e., at the time associated with the transition to night-time sleep

(Supplementary Figure 2A and B). This difference was not observed when comparing focal flies

with yoked controls, with identical mechanical experience (Supplementary Figure 2C and D).

Though yoked controls revealed significant sleep-pressure specific sleep increases, this

homeostatic increase was quite modest, resulting in very little discharge of the sleep pressure built

during the 24-h of sleep deprivation (Figure 2G). Given that most animals display homeostatic

sleep increases over multiple sleep/wake cycles (*34*, *37*, *46*), we wondered if the rebound we

detected using yoked controls might persist over multiple diurnal cycles.

Sleep rebound accumulates over multiple cycles in response to infrequent mechanical

deprivation, but little sleep debt is paid off.

The circadian control of sleep thresholds ensures that sleep is gated to occur at the

appropriate/adaptive time of day. The action of the circadian system therefore prevents sleep debt

from being discharged completely upon the first opportunity to sleep, ensuring that wakefulness

will occur during the next diurnal cycle despite the presence of homeostatic sleep pressure. For

this reason, sleep debt is typically discharged over several sleep/wake cycles (*34*, *37*, *46*). Current

methods in the *Drosophila* sleep field do not typically produce multi-cycle rebound, but instead,

reveal fairly modest sleep rebound during the first hours of the day-time following deprivation (*32*,

33, *55*). Similarly, in our yoked-controlled experiment, we observed only modest sleep rebound

that discharged very little of the sleep lost during the previous day's deprivation, which may have

been a product of the smaller but significant deprivation experienced by yoked controls. We

wondered if the comparison of deprived flies with yoked controls might reveal additional increases

of sleep in deprived flies across subsequent sleep/wake cycles. We therefore assessed the behavior

of flies deprived of sleep using the Ethoscope for three full diurnal cycles following 24 hours of

sleep deprivation (Figure 3A, 3B) and compared the sleep of deprived flies with sleep observed in

both undisturbed and paired yoked controls.

When compared to yoked controls, focal sleep-deprived flies displayed modest but significant

increases in total sleep for two successive cycles (Figure 3D). Once again, these increases were

not detectable when deprived flies were compared to undisturbed controls (Figure 3C). In this case,

total sleep displayed on baseline days before deprivation was not different between the three

groups of flies (Figure 2B, 2G). We examined how much lost sleep was recovered across the three

post-deprivation cycles by quantifying sleep gain in focal flies, which was calculated as the

increases in total post-deprivation sleep compared to baseline sleep normalized to sleep in

undisturbed controls to account for normal changes in sleep during the duration of the experiment

(see methods). Despite this apparent two-cycle rebound, focal flies failed to discharge the

substantial sleep debt accrued during deprivation (Figure 3E).

We wondered if the apparent absence of substantial homeostatic payback of sleep lost by focal

flies during deprivation might be explained by treating fly sleep as a unitary state, in which all

bouts of inactivity of five minutes or more are considered to be the same sleep state. Given the

growing evidence of physiologically and metabolically distinct sleep states in the fly (46, 47, 48)

and the fact that deep sleep stages are most immediately affected by sleep deprivation in mammals,

we turned our attention to how the architecture of sleep might differ between focally deprived flies

and their yoked controls across the three days following deprivation. Though the number of sleep

bouts was not significantly different between focal and yoked flies across any of the three post-

deprivation cycles (Supplementary Figure 3A), there was a significant increase in bout duration in

the focal flies compared to yoked controls across the first two days following deprivation

(Supplementary Figure 3B). These two groups of flies displayed no differences in these metrics

during baseline sleep before deprivation (Supplementary Figure 3C). This result suggested that

focal flies, which had higher sleep pressures than yoked controls, were characterized by increased

sleep bout durations.

The magnitude of homeostatic sleep rebound in the fly is masked by short-bout sleep.

Recent work in our lab revealed that long-bout sleep (~30 minutes or more of inactivity) is a better

reflection of sleep homeostat action than shorter bouts of inactivity (*26*) and such long-bout sleep

appears to represent a deep sleep stage that is physiologically and metabolically distinct from

shorter bouts of sleep (*51–53*). We therefore hypothesized that the extent of sleep rebound and

payback of lost sleep might be more readily apparent if we focused our analysis on long-bout sleep,

eliminating the contribution of shorter, presumably shallower, bouts of sleep.

We reanalyzed the 24-hour sleep deprivation experiment reported in Figure 3, iteratively varying

the inactivity duration criterion for sleep from one to 30 minutes, to ask how varying the sleep

definition might shape the apparent homeostatic recovery of lost sleep. We found that inactivity

criteria of 25-min or more resulted in the largest payback of lost sleep when examined on the third

day of recovery from deprivation (Figure 4B). This suggested that longer bouts of sleep might be

most strongly influenced by homeostatic sleep regulation. With this inactivity criterion, sleep

recovery approached ~50% of lost sleep, a much higher proportion than was apparent using

currently employed unitary definition of sleep.

Based on this result, we, re-examined our 24-h sleep deprivation data using 25 minutes of inactivity

as our criterion for sleep, thereby focusing on longer bouts of sleep that likely correspond to the

deep sleep state identified by others and omitting shorter, presumably shallower, bouts of activity

from our analysis. Five-day sleep time-series for focal, yoked, and undisturbed flies are shown in

Figure 4A using the 25-min inactivity criterion to focus on long-bout sleep. These plots reveal that

focal flies were, as expected from 220s inactivity triggers, completely deprived of such sleep.

Yoked flies also, as expected, displayed significantly reduced levels of long bout sleep compared

to unperturbed controls, but such sleep was in fact attained by yoked controls, though at a level

significantly reduced from that displayed by unperturbed controls (Figure 4A).

When total long bout sleep across three successive cycles was quantified, focal flies displayed

significant increases in such sleep when compared to yoked controls on days two and three of

recovery (Figure 4D). The absence of a difference on day one is likely a product of the reduction

in long-bout sleep that yoked flies accrued during the deprivation period. Thus, the comparison of

long bout sleep between focal and yoked flies revealed a differential sleep rebound across three

days of recovery. Remarkably, this rebound was not seen when focal flies were compared to

unperturbed controls (Figure 4C). Once again, this was likely due to the sleep-pressure-

independent effects of mechanical disturbance. To confirm that 25-minute bouts of inactivity were

not an experimentally induced occurrence (i.e., that this state was not caused by the mechanical

stimulation delivered by the Ethoscopes), we confirmed that such long bouts of sleep are present

in unperturbed control flies. Indeed, all unperturbed control flies routinely displayed 25-minute or

longer bouts of inactivity (Supplementary Figure 4A). The sleep architecture of focal flies after

sleep deprivation also changed significantly with controls where episodes of longer and

consolidated sleep bouts were significantly increased in the focal flies (Supplementary Figure 4B).

These results suggested that longer bouts of sleep are a more sensitive reflection of

homeostatically-controlled sleep in flies. This conclusion is supported by the significant recovery

of lost long bout sleep that continues across all three days of the observed recovery period. Thus,

when the analysis focused on long, and presumably deep sleep states, a much larger percentage

such sleep is recovered compared to a consideration of all epochs of inactivity lasting longer than

five minutes. At least half of all sleep-deprived flies paid back more than 50% of the sleep they

lost during the 24-h of deprivation, and over 25 percent of flies overshot their sleep-debt, thereby

displaying a defining hallmark of homeostatic control (Figure 4E). These results lend further

support for the idea that long bouts of inactivity represent a sleep state that is distinct from shorter

bout sleep (*51*, *52*, *59*). Furthermore, the absence of robust homeostatic recovery of sleep using

inactivity criteria of less than five minutes (Figure 4B) suggests that our initial failure to detect

rebound when such mechanical triggers were used for deprivation (Figure 1), was not likely due

to rebound enriched for brief sleep bouts with durations of fewer than five minutes.

Long Bout Sleep is Under Specific and Potent Homeostatic Control.

In mammals, both REM and NREM stages of sleep are controlled homeostatically, with stage-

specific deprivation leading to stage-specific rebound (*23*, *44*, *49*, *60*). If long-bout sleep indeed

reflects a discrete sleep stage in *Drosophila*, selectively depriving flies of it should produce a

homeostatic rebound in long-bout sleep, despite the presence of abundant short-bout sleep. To test

this prediction, we set the Ethoscope's inactivity-dependent trigger to rotate tubes only when focal

flies had been immobile for 22 minutes. When using the standard inactivity duration criterion for

sleep, this long trigger latency appeared to support largely normal sleep rhythms in both focal and

yoked flies (Figure 5A).

Employing a 25-minute inactivity duration criterion to remove short bout sleep from our analysis

revealed that 22-minute triggers effectively deprived flies of long-duration sleep while permitting

yoked flies to achieve appreciable amounts of such sleep during focal deprivation (Figure 5B).

When behavior was analyzed using the standard five-minute inactivity criterion, which would

include short-bout sleep, focal flies displayed no significant increases in total sleep when compared

to yoked controls (Figure 5C). In contrast, when short-bout sleep was eliminated from the analysis

through the use of a 25-minute inactivity criterion, focal flies displayed significantly higher levels

of long-bout sleep across all three days following deprivation (Figure 5D). Remarkably, the

relative levels of post-deprivation sleep displayed by the focal flies appeared to increase over the

course of the three days of observation, suggesting that homeostatic responses to long-bout sleep

deprivation may persist for an extended period of time (Figure 5D). This rebound produced a

significant recovery of lost sleep (Figure 5E), one that likely would have continued to build over

additional sleep/wake cycles.

Long-bout-specific deprivation also produced significant effects on sleep architecture. Focal flies

were characterized by an increased number of bouts that were longer than 25-minutes compared

to yoked controls (Supplementary Figure 5B), although the duration of these longer sleep bouts

did not increase (Supplementary Figure 5D). No differences in the number of long-bout sleep

between focal and yoked flies were observed prior to the deprivation cycle (Supplementary Figure

5A). Our results suggest that long-bout sleep, previously shown by others to represent a relatively

deep sleep state (*51*, *52*, *59*)), is under strong homeostatic control and highlights the importance

of controlling for the sleep-independent effects of mechanical sleep deprivation on behavior.

Yoked controls are necessary to differentiate effects of sleep deprivation from effects driven

by mechanical perturbation.

A major goal of sleep science is to identify the molecular, cellular, and physiological processes

mediating the rise and fall of sleep pressure and how these changes operate in the brain to promote

sleep or wakefulness. In the fly, previous work by others has described cellular (*19*, *21*, *61*) and

physiological (*53*) correlates of sleep pressure, based on the effects of mechanical sleep

deprivation. Given our behavioral results indicating significant sleep-independent effects of

mechanical deprivation that appear to mask homeostatic sleep responses, we sought to examine

the potential utility of yoking for differentiating sleep-pressure driven change from the sleep-

specific effects of mechanical perturbation. Toward this end we conducted a simple molecular

screen in the fly brain using matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization – time-of-flight (MALDI-

TOF) mass spectrometry. This method supports the mass spectrometric analysis of fly head

sections (*62*) and consists of three major steps: the crystallization of a matrix and analytes within

the tissue section, the laser ionization of analytes within this matrix, and time-of-flight mass

spectrometry (MS) to analyze the molecules present (*63*). This method provides sufficient spatial

resolution to detect the presence of molecules defined by their weight over charge ratios (m/z),

specifically within the central brain (Figure 6B). As a test case for how the inclusion of yoked

controls might aid in differentiating true molecular correlates of sleep pressure from direct

responses to the insult incurred by mechanical deprivation, we examined general molecular

responses within the brains of focally deprived flies, paired yoked controls, and unperturbed flies.

Using 2,5-dihydrobenzoic acid (DHB) as a matrix, which is considered useful for "universal

analysis" and the detection of diverse molecular types (*64*), we sampled m/z value peaks between

zero and 1,300, and detected 187 distinct peaks in the central brain regions of our head sections.

Each m/z ratio peak measurement was made specifically for the central brain by registering the

MALDI-TOF signal directly over the histological image of our tissue sections (dashed square,

Figure 6B). When we compared the heights of these 187 m/z peaks between focal flies and

unperturbed controls, we found that 129 displayed significantly higher amplitudes in sections from

focal flies compared to those of unperturbed flies (Figure 6C). Thus, when compared to

unperturbed flies, sleep deprivation in focal flies was accompanied by a large proportion of the

molecule examined. However, it is highly likely that the mechanical perturbation associated with

sleep deprivation causes many molecular changes within the brain that that may not be directly

related to sleep loss or sleep pressure. We therefore asked the extent to which controlling for

mechanical insult through yoked controls might allow us to differentiate increases explained by

sleep pressure from those that were sleep-independent reflections.

If a molecule's abundance is increased simply as consequence of mechanical insult during sleep

deprivation, we would expect head sections from both focal and yoked flies to display significantly

higher concentrations of that molecule compared to unperturbed controls. Furthermore, in this

case, the focal and yoked sections would be expected to have statistically indistinguishable levels

of the molecule in question, since they experience identical levels of mechanical insult (Figure 6D,

top panel). In contrast, if a molecule's abundance is increased specifically as consequence of sleep

debt, we predict that it will be present at relatively low levels in sections from unperturbed controls,

significantly higher levels in sections from focal flies, and with intermediate levels in yoked

controls that are statistically distinguishable from the other two conditions (Figure 6D, bottom

panel). With the yoked design in place, just under half of the 187 discernable m/z value peaks (85)

displayed statistically indistinguishable levels in the central brain across the undisturbed, yoked,

and focal samples. 40 m/z value peaks displayed the pattern expected for changes driven by

mechanical insult: high and indistinguishable levels in focal and yoked that are significantly higher

than those detected in sections from unperturbed controls (for example amplitudes for the 104.1

m/z peak, shown in Figure 6D). Remarkably, only five m/z value peaks displayed the pattern

expected of molecules driven by sleep pressure (Figure 6E) with focal samples displaying the

highest levels, yoked sections at intermediate levels, and unperturbed at the lowest levels, with

statistically significant differences across the three conditions (for example, the 175.1 m/z peak

amplitudes shown in Figure 6D).

Thus, the standard method of comparing deprived flies to unperturbed controls produced 129

candidate molecules while the inclusion of yoked controls produced five such candidates,

differentiating these from 40 other candidates that were more closely correlated with mechanical

insult. Interestingly, 16 other m/z value peaks displayed a pattern, which we refer to as "Sleep

Absence" in which the amplitude of m/z value peaks from focal flies were significantly higher

than both the unperturbed and yoked controls, with the two controls being statistically

indistinguishable. The remaining m/z value peaks (41) displayed differences between treatments

that did not fit either "sleep pressure", "mechanical deprivation," or "sleep absence" patterns.

These results suggest that yoking provides a powerful means of identifying molecular, cellular,

and physiological correlates of sleep pressure in *Drosophila*.

Discussion

The impact of the sleep-independent effects of mechanical sleep deprivation on the

measurement of homeostatic sleep rebound.

In order to study the sleep homeostat, one must prevent sleep through the imposition of prolonged

wakefulness (*58, 65–67*). However, the very act of sleep disruption is expected to cause not just

the buildup of sleep pressure, but also other potentially confounding responses to the stimulus used

to prevent sleep. The specific confounds attending sleep deprivation will depend on the method

and duration of the sleep-depriving stimulus employed, but all forms of experimental sleep

deprivation are expected to produce such confounds. For example, sleep deprivation methods

employing forced locomotion result in increased muscular activity, which will be attended by

sleep-independent effects. Chronic mechanical agitation produces stress (*68–70*), and even gentle

handling of rodent subjects, a means of deprivation thought to cause little stress, has significant

effects on feeding behavior following deprivation (*71*). Such confounding, sleep-independent

effects can mask homeostatic sleep responses and therefore must be accounted for whenever

possible. Here we have attempted to account for the sleep-independent effects of mechanical sleep

deprivation in *Drosophila,* the most commonly used method in the field of sleep research.

To assess the degree to which the frequency of mechanical agitation affects subsequent sleep

rebound in *Drosophila*, we examined flies that were sleep deprived for 24 hours with three

different frequencies of mechanical perturbation. The less frequent agitation produced

significantly less sleep rebound, despite having produced similar amounts of sleep loss. Thus, a

sleep-pressure independent effect of mechanical perturbation appeared to be the primary

determinant of post-deprivation sleep. An alternative explanation for this result was that short

bouts of inactivity may represent a brief but restorative sleep stage that the 120 and 220-second

perturbation frequencies were not effective at depriving flies of this state. However, we found no

evidence of homeostatic rebound in the sub-220 second range (Figure 4B).

A previous attempt to control for the sleep-independent effects of mechanical perturbation

delivered mechanical stimuli matched to sleep deprived flies, but delivered during periods of high

activity (i.e., wakefulness), thereby exposing the control flies to mechanical shaking while

resulting in negligible amounts of sleep loss (*40*). However, mechanical shaking only during times

of wakefulness increased molecular signatures of stress, even when given for relatively short

periods(*40*). To minimize the extent of mechanical perturbation necessary to prevent sleep and to

control for the sleep-independent effects of such perturbation, we adopted the Ethoscope, a video

based system that tracks single flies and delivers a mechanical stimulus, the rapid rotation of the

glass tube containing the fly, only when a fly meets a user-defined inactivity duration criterion

(*32*). Thus, rather than agitating all the flies of the sleep-deprived condition at a given frequency

throughout the entire deprivation period, the Ethoscope prevents single flies from attaining specific

durations of inactivity, just before meeting a user defined duration. Previous work using this

system has revealed remarkably low levels of homeostatic rebound and sleep deprivation-

associated death (*33*).

Though the Ethoscope produces sleep deprivation using fewer mechanical perturbations, it

nevertheless delivers significant mechanical perturbation whose sleep-independent effects might

mask homeostatic sleep responses. For this reason, we introduced yoked controls to the Ethoscope

platform, allowing us for the first time to disentangle effects associated with sleep pressure from

those best explained by the mechanical insult delivered during sleep deprivation (Figure 2). When

flies were prevented from attaining five-minute bouts of inactivity - the standard criteria for a

sleeplike state in the fly - using 220s inactivity triggers in Ethoscopes, they failed to show

significant homeostatic rebound when their sleep was compared to unperturbed controls.

Comparison of these deprived flies to their yoked controls, in contrast, produced a significant,

albeit small, increase in sleep following deprivation (Figures 2F, G). Thus, yoking revealed

homeostatic rebound that was not apparent when deprived flies were compared to controls that

had not experienced mechanical perturbation. However, when compared to yoked controls, the

homeostatic response of sleep deprived flies was quite small, amounting to very little recovery of

lost sleep (Figure 3E).

547 **Sleep as a non-unitary state in *Drosophila*: Long-bout sleep is a distinctly regulated sleep**

548 **stage.**

549 In mammals, sleep is not a unitary state but rather consists of distinguishable sleep stages (*42*, *72*).

550 For example, REM and NREM sleep represent distinct physiological states that differ in their

551 relationship to sleep pressure and the circadian system (*23*, *44*, *49*). Slow-wave NREM sleep

552 appears to be the mammalian sleep state most strongly controlled by the daily homeostatic control

553 of sleep: initial sleep cycles following prolonged wakefulness are rich in slow wave sleep, and this

554 form of sleep is also prevalent following sleep deprivation (*35*, *73*). For the majority of studies

555 using *Drosophila*, sleep has been treated as unitary state, with all inactivity bouts of five minutes

556 or more being treated as sleep. However, a growing body of works suggests the existence of

557 distinct sleep stages in the fly. For example, in one of the very first papers describing sleep-like

558 states in *Drosophila*, Hendricks et al., reported differences in durations of sleep bouts consisting

559 of epochs of inactivity lasting 5 min or more (*16*). The longest bout lengths occurred at the

560 beginning of the subjective night under constant conditions between circadian time 13.5 and 16.

561 More recently, quantitative approaches using hidden Markov modeling have provided evidence

562 for the existence of light and deep sleep states in the fly (*74*, *75*).

563

564 Flies display both longer and deeper bouts of sleep at night (*16*, *51*) and deeper sleep is associated

565 with distinct patterns of global brain activity when compared to brain activity during wakefulness

566 or during more brief and shallow bouts sleep (*50*, *59*). Longer sleep bouts are also attended by

567 lower metabolic rates, where bout lengths of 60 min were shown to be associated with the lowest

568 rates (*52*), a phenomenon similar to that observed for deeper NREM sleep stages in humans (*76*).

569 Finally, flies display a stereotyped pattern of proboscis movements that appear to drive waste

clearance (*53*), reminiscent of the changes in fluid dynamics observed in the cerebral spinal fluid

of sleeping mammals, that occur at times corresponding to deep sleep stages (*77*). The time of

peak occurrence of these proboscis movements were characterized by a significant reduction of

brain wave activity compared to sleep at other times (*53*).

Physiological and metabolic signatures of deep sleep in the fly both suggest that they correspond

to sleep bouts that are significantly longer than the standard sleep definition of five minutes of

inactivity and multiple lines of evidence suggest that deeper sleep states are likely reached upon

attaining 15-30 minutes of inactivity (*51*, *59*). Finally, recent work from our lab has suggested that

bouts of inactivity of between 30 and 60 minute are stronger reflections of the daily homeostatic

control sleep than shorter bouts of sleep (*26*). How might such long bouts of inactivity relate to

homoeostatic sleep rebound?

Homeostatic sleep rebound, as traditionally measured in flies, appears to differ from mammalian

sleep rebound, in that it is relatively modest in magnitude and appears to largely run to completion

during the first few hours following the offset of deprivation. In contrast, mammalian rebound

appears to play-out over several sleep-wake cycles (*34*, *37*, *46*, *78*). Remarkably, when we biased

our analysis to bouts of inactivity lasting 25-min or more, clear and prolonged homeostatic rebound

of sleep was observed following deprivation. This rebound lasted several days (Fig. 5D) and

discharged a large proportion (>50%) of the long-bout sleep debt suffered during deprivation

(compare Fig. 3E to 4E). This result further supports the notion that long durations of inactivity

more sensitively reflect the action of the sleep homeostat.

When we deprived flies only of inactivity bouts that were longer than 22 minutes, we observed a

homeostatic increase in long-bout sleep, while seeing no such homeostatic response in short-bout

sleep (Figure 5). Moreover, the homeostatic rebound of long bout-sleep was apparent on the very

first day of recovery (Figures 5B, D) as opposed to the rebound seen following deprivation using

shorter inactivity triggers (Figures 4A, D). This is probably due to the fact that long bout sleep

deprivation engaged mechanical triggers only 12-14 times on average over the 24 hours of

deprivation, and thereby likely eliminated most nonspecific effects of mechanical perturbation.

Yoked controls are critical for the examination of molecular and physiological correlates of

sleep pressure.

A major goal of sleep science is to identify the molecular, cellular, and physiological mechanisms

underlying the build-up of sleep pressure and how such pressure promotes sleep. As has been

recognized since the founding of sleep science (*79*), inescapable confounds attend sleep

deprivation experiments. The increased activity caused by most forms of experimental sleep

deprivation is likely to have myriad behavioral and physiological effects. Mechanical sleep

deprivation through agitation, the most commonly used method of sleep deprivation in *Drosophila*

research, is particularly problematic in this regard, as it appears to cause significant physical stress

(*40*). Neurogenetic methods of sleep deprivation, wherein wake-promoting/sleep-preventing

neurons are constitutively driven at high rates of firing, are also likely to produce both sleep-

dependent and sleep-independent changes in flies (reviewed in (*22*)). A fundamental challenge for

the sleep scientist working in the fly system therefore is to differentiate between the effects of

increased sleep pressure from the sleep-independent effects of the stimuli used to prevent sleep.

The use of yoked controls and longer duration inactivity triggers in our study appears to be a useful

means of accounting for the sleep-independent effects of mechanical sleep disruption on behavior

(Figures 3-5). We therefore wondered if this approach would allow us to differentiate molecular

changes that were specific to sleep pressure from changes produced directly by the effects of

mechanical perturbation.

Given the extent of disturbance necessary to keep flies awake during prolonged sleep deprivation,

we predicted that a large number of molecules whose abundance increases in response to sleep

deprivation would reflect responses to mechanical perturbation rather than sleep pressure driven

increases. Indeed, when we compared the brains of sleep-deprived files to unperturbed controls,

129 molecules of distinct molecular weights were detected that showed a significant increase in

abundance. However, when we employed yoked controls as an additional control to identify which

molecular weights were higher in deprived flies compared to controls that had experienced

identical mechanical perturbation but significantly less sleep deprivation, we found only five

distinct molecular weights whose abundance reflected sleep pressure (Figure 6). Thus, the majority

of molecular changes in response to sleep deprivation were explained by the effects of mechanical

disturbance and not by sleep pressure.

This result supports the general utility of yoked controls for confirming that identified molecules,

genes, and cells mediate sleep homeostasis rather than the behavioral or physiological responses

to mechanical perturbation. Such controls will be critical, in particular, for the vetting of

physiological or cellular correlates of sleep pressure. More specifically, the small molecular screen

we describe here supports the feasibility of using yoked controls to discover sleep substances

within the fly brain, molecules whose abundance rises and falls with sleep pressure that are used

by sleep control centers to exert homeostatic control of sleep.

The work described here provides both new insights into sleep homeostasis in flies and new

methodologies that are likely to promote the ability to detect homeostatic sleep responses. Our

work indicates that the mechanical perturbation most commonly used to deprive flies of sleep

produces both behavioral and molecular changes that potentially mask the sleep-pressure-specific

changes that underly homeostatic sleep control. The results of our work also reveal that long-bouts

of sleep, which have been shown by several investigators to represent a deep sleep state (*51*, *59*),

are a more sensitive indicator of sleep pressure and rebound than the previously used unitary

definition of sleep as five minutes or more of inactivity. Remarkably, when analysis is focused on

longer (~30-min) bouts of inactivity, homeostatic control of sleep in the fly appears much more

similar to that seen in mammals, in that a larger proportion sleep debt is repaid and is discharged

over multiple sleep wake cycles. We predict that this larger magnitude of sleep rebound will be of

great utility to the field, increasing the dynamic range over which the effects of molecular and

physiological alterations can be examined and thereby increasing the likelihood of discovering

new molecular and cellular components of sleep homeostasis.

Methods

Fly stocks and Husbandry

Flies were reared on Corn Syrup/Soy media made by Archon Scientific (Durham, North Carolina)

under a 12h:12h light:dark (LD) cycle at 25 °C and 60-70% humidity. Male wild-type *Canton-S*

(*CS*; BDSC stock number: 64349) flies were used for all experiments.

Sleep assay and analysis

One- to three-day old male flies were collected in groups of 30 into Corn Syrup/Soy containing vials and were subsequently isolated under CO_2 anesthesia and loaded into glass tubes [70 mm × 5mm × 3 mm (length × external diameter × internal diameter)] containing 5% sucrose and 2% agar when they were five to seven days old. The loading was done at least 24-hour prior to the beginning of behavioral experiments. Flies were allowed to adjust to the tubes for the remainder of the loading day and no data from this day was subject to analysis, which began using data from the next LD cycle. Locomotor activity was measured using two independent methodologies: *Drosophila* Activity Monitors (DAM, TriKinetics, Waltham, MA), and Ethoscopes built in our lab based on resources provided by the Gilestro Lab (Imperial College London) (*32*).

The DAM system employs an infrared beam and a sensor for each tube and records beam crossing at the tube's mid-point as a measure of locomotor activity. Beam crossings were recorded every minute and from these data, inactivity bouts of five minutes or more were used as the standard definition of sleep (*15*, *16*). For Ethoscope experiments, continuous video tracking via infrared cameras were done for individual flies using Raspberry Pi (https://github.com/raspberrypi/documentation/). Ethoscopes quantified maximal velocity in mm/s in 10s epochs. The maximal velocity data was analyzed using a custom R package (available on request) to quantify sleep. Maximal velocities of <1 mm/s for any epoch were considered an instance of immobility (*32*), and sleep was then computed using the standard five-minute inactivity criterion, with immobility lasting 300 seconds (30 epochs) or more considered a bout of sleep. This criterion was subsequently adjusted to bias our analysis toward longer bouts of sleep.

Homeostatic sleep rebound analysis: Total sleep displayed by sleep-deprived flies on days one, two, and three following sleep deprivation (see below) were calculated across each 24-hour day, subtracted from the baseline sleep displayed on the day before deprivation. Normalization was carried out using the following formula [(Focal$_{PostDeprivationSleep}$ − Focal$_{PreDeprivationSleep}$) − (Unperturbed$_{PostDeprivationSleep}$ − Unperturbed$_{PreDeprivationSleep}$)]. Sleep debt accrued in sleep deprived flies was quantified by subtracting baseline 24-hour sleep on the day before deprivation from total sleep measured during the 24-hour deprivation window.

Mechanical Sleep deprivation

Mechanical deprivation was always carried out for 24 hours under 12/12 L:D cycles starting at ZT00 (lights-on) following one day of baseline sleep measurement. The temperature was kept constant at 25 °C with 60-70% humidity.

Mechanical sleep deprivation using DAM and mechanical shakers:

Shakers (Fisherbrand™ Analog MultiTube Vortexer, Catalog # 02-215-450) were used as previously described to sleep deprive animals in DAM monitors(*80*). DAM monitors housing 32 flies within glass tubes were shaken randomly for 2s every 20-seconds, 120-seconds, or 220-seconds across the entire day of deprivation. The Multitube Vortexer was set at a shaking intensity of four.

Inactivity dependent sleep deprivation using Ethoscopes:

Using the rotational module, we sleep deprived flies with a 220 second inactivity threshold. DAM

tubes were rotated at ~420 rpm for one second every time an individual fly was inactive for 220

seconds.

Yoked-controlled mechanical deprivation in the Ethoscope:

The Ethoscope rotational module (*32*) was used to develop a yoked-controlled mechanical

deprivation platform. Traditionally, the Ethoscope has been used to rotate single tubes only when

the animal has been inactive for specific durations of time (as opposed to shaking randomly and

without regard to behavioral state as is the case of vortexing DAMs). We altered the closed loop

feedback control (see below) in the Ethoscope to rotate two tubes at the same time based on the

inactivity state of only one of the two flies. The fly whose behavior determined the rotation of the

tubes is referred to here as the focal fly, whereas the paired fly that received identical time-matched

rotations without regard to its behavioral state is called the yoked fly. This approach was adapted

from one used for the sleep deprivation of rats (*58*). Two inactivity dependent rotational triggers

were used in this study: 220 seconds, which prevented the focal fly from attaining the standard

definition of sleep (five minutes of inactivity or more) and 1320 seconds, which deprived focal

flies of inactivity durations of 22 minutes or more.

Development of Ethoscope code to Support Yoked-Controls:

Yoking was implemented at the level of the Ethoscope's "TrackingUnit," which is where the

connection between the video-based motion tracker and the stimulator (i.e., tube rotator) is

located [self._stimulator.bind_tracker(self._tracker)]. The Ethoscope's program was modified so

that the stimulator controlling the tubes containing yoked controls was bound to the tracker of

their paired focal flies. This results in the stimulator of the yoked animals responding to the

behavior of the focal animals at the same time as the stimulators of the focal flies. The code

supporting yoked controls is available at https://github.com/shaliulab/shaferlab-ethoscope (a fork

of https://github.com/gilestrolab/ethoscope) with tag v1.0.999, which can be acquired via pip

with the command pip install shaferlab-ethoscope.

MALDI-TOF analysis

After 24-h of sleep deprivation using 220s immobility triggers for focal flies with their yoked and

unperturbed controls, heads from all three conditions were embedded in Optimal Cutting

Temperature (Tissue-Tek, Product code: 4583, Sakura Finetek USA Inc.) compound, frozen with

liquid nitrogen, cryo-sectioned, and prepared and assayed by MALDI-TOF as previously described

(*63*). 2,5-Dihydrobenzoc acid (Sigma-Aldrich, Cat #149357) was used as our matrix, which

supports the ionization of metabolites and peptides, and is considered a useful matrix for "universal

analysis" of a diverse variety of molecular types (*64*) MALDI mass spectra were acquired in a

Bruker Autoflex Speed TOF Machine (Bruker, Germany) and peaks were identified in SCiLS

MALDI Imaging software (Bruker Daltonics, Germany) by a manual peak walk across the

spectrum of m/z values between 0 and 1300 for each discernible m/z ratio for unperturbed, focal,

and yoked flies.

Statistical analysis

In order to test the effect of trigger frequency and mechanical disturbance on the amount of

rebound sleep, we used a two-way fixed factor ANOVA. We used trigger frequency as one fixed

factor with three levels, i.e., 20s, 120s and 220s. The second fixed factor was treatment with two

levels, i.e., mechanically disturbed fly and unperturbed controls. Whether the difference in total

sleep post-deprivation between unperturbed controls and sleep deprived flies was dependent on

trigger frequency was inferred based on the interaction effect between the two factors described

above. In all other analyses reported throughout the manuscript, we either used the Mann-Whitney-

U or the Kruskal-Wallis test, depending on the number of groups being compared. In all cases of

more than two groups, multiple comparisons were done using a Bonferroni correction. In case of

the MALDI-TOF experiment, owing to the large number of peaks detected, all the p-values from

individual tests were treated to a Benjamini-Hochberg correction to adjust for inflated False

Discovery Rates. All statistical analyses were done and figures made using custom R scripts.

Specific tests, sample sizes and p-values are reported in the figure legends.

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     Figure legends

     Figure 1. Homeostatic sleep rebound is driven by the frequency of mechanical agitation when

     the amount of sleep deprivation is held constant. A. 24 hours of sleep deprivation was induced

     with three different mechanical trigger frequencies using vortexers: 2s randomized shaking every

     20s, 120s, or 220s (each producing similar levels of sleep deprivation). **B.** The largest increases of

     normalized rebound sleep were observed in ZT0-3 when compared to undisturbed controls and

     were much lower for 220s frequencies compared to 120s and 20s triggers. **C.** Sleep rebound for

     long trigger (220s) disappears after normalization, which accounts for differences between

     controls and deprived flies in baseline sleep. Rebound is clear for the two shorter triggers, but is

     greatest for the 20s trigger condition. **D.** Short (20s) triggers produce immediate, persistent and

     statistically significant increases in sleep for both 6 hours post-deprivation as well as 24 hours

     post-deprivation analysis, but 120 second, and 220 second intervals do not. (6-hour ANOVA $F_{2,250}$

     $= 3.56$, $p = 0.03$; 24-hour ANOVA $F_{2,250} = 3.93$, $p = 0.02$). **E.** The amounts of sleep during the 24-

     h following deprivation result in very low levels of recovery relative to total sleep lost. Previously

     identified *Drosophila* (*27*) and Human sleep (*39*) recovery amounts have been marked with dashed

     lines. (Control$_{20\ sec}$ n $= 32$, Sleep-Deprived$_{20\ sec}$ n $= 32$; Control$_{120\ sec}$ n $= 64$, Sleep-Deprived$_{120\ sec}$

     n $= 64$; Control$_{220\ sec}$ n $= 64$, Sleep-Deprived$_{220\ sec}$ n $= 64$). * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant).

     Figure 2. Accounting for sleep-depriving mechanical stimulation with Yoked-controls are

     necessary to observe 24-hour sleep rebound in low frequency mechanical trigger. A.

     Inactivity dependent sleep deprivation in Ethoscopes with 220s trigger fails to generate post

     deprivation sleep rebound when compared with undisturbed controls. **B.** Focal flies do not show

increases in total sleep compared to undisturbed flies on baseline day (Wilcoxon's $W = 2523$, $p = $

0.54) and on post deprivation day (Wilcoxon's $W = 2340$, $p = 0.87$). **C.** The Ethoscope platform

was modified to include "yoked-controls" where inactivity dependent sleep depriving triggers for

experimental (focal) flies are matched to their yoked control (as opposed to undisturbed controls,

thereby generating paired flies with identical mechanical experience but significantly different

amounts of sleep loss. **D.** Sleep and mechanical perturbation in an example of focal/yoked pair of

flies: Sleep episodes for one baseline day and the day of deprivation are shown. Sleep episodes are

indicated by red (focal) and blue (yoked) hash marks. Black hashmarks represent tube rotations

triggered by the focal fly (Left panel). **E.**10 focal-yoked paired flies on baseline, deprivation, and

post-deprivation days shows how yoked flies (blue) were able to sleep during the deprivation cycle,

whereas focal (red) flies lost all sleep (right panel). **F.** Average traces of focal and yoked flies 24-

h before, during and after sleep deprivation. **G**. When compared to yoked flies that have undergone

same levels of mechanical perturbation, focal flies show significant rebound post 24-h (Wilcoxon's

$W = 4074.5$, $p = 0.01$) while not showing any baseline differences (Wilcoxon's $W = 3829$, $p = $

0.12). $n = 82$ each for focal and yoked categories, and n = 58 for unperturbed controls * < 0.05,

and N.S. (Not Significant).

Figure 3. Sleep pressure is discharged as cumulative sleep recovery across multiple cycles.

A. Average sleep time-courses of baseline, deprivation (220 s inactivity dependent trigger), and 3

post deprivation days in focal and undisturbed flies, and **B.** focal-yoked pairs. **C.** Focal flies do not

show significant differences in cumulative sleep gain across 3 post-deprivation days when

compared to undisturbed controls (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 2323.5$, $p = 0.81$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's

$W = 2351$, $p = 0.91$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 2460.5$, $p = 0.72$). **D**. When compared to paired yoked

controls, focal animals showed significant increases in cumulative sleep across two cycles (Post1:

Wilcoxon's W = 4088, p = 0.01; Post 2: Wilcoxon's W = 4009, p = 0.03). In the third post-

deprivation day, even though the focal flies showed a tendency to have higher cumulative sleep

gain, it was not statistically significant (Wilcoxon's W = 3932, p = 0.06). All comparisons are

made using the Wilcoxon rank sum test, and n = 82 each for focal and yoked categories. * < 0.05,

and N.S. (Not Significant). **E.** Compared to total sleep loss, focal flies do not pay back lost sleep.

All focal data points are normalized to undisturbed controls (see methods). n = 82 each for focal

and yoked categories, and n = 58 for unperturbed controls * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant).

Figure 4. Elimination of short bout sleep reveals a multi-cycle sleep rebound that discharges

a significant proportion of lost sleep. A. Averaged sleep time-series of long-bout sleep (25 min)

in baseline, deprivation (220s inactivity dependent trigger), and 3 post-deprivation windows in

focal, yoked, and undisturbed flies. **B.** Sleep recovery as a function of sleep definition (minutes of

inactivity) is visualized as a heatmap. When sleep is defined as progressively longer bouts of

inactivity, deprived flies paid back a majority of their sleep debt cumulatively over three days.

When the standard sleep definition is used, little to no sleep debt is repaid. **C.** In three post-

deprivation days, focal flies showed trends of increased cumulative sleep recovery in 25-min sleep

but were not significantly different from undisturbed controls (Post1: Wilcoxon's W = 2458, p =

0.73; Post 2: Wilcoxon's W = 2689, p = 0.18; Post 3: Wilcoxon's W = 2766, p = 0.10). **D.**

Accounting for mechanical perturbations resulted in significantly high multi-cycle total sleep in

focal flies. Interestingly, the first cycle after deprivation did not show significant increases in 24-

h, long bout sleep in focal flies (Post1: Wilcoxon's W = 3847, p = 0.11; Post 2: Wilcoxon's W =

3987, p = 0.03; Post 3: Wilcoxon's W = 4001, p = 0.03). **E.** Normalized sleep rebound for sleep

bouts of 25-min or longer across three days shows the discharge of sleep debt accrued during the

24 hours of deprivation. Median recovery was more than 50 percent, while 25 percent of flies

overshoot total sleep loss, thereby showing hallmarks of homeostatic recovery. $n = 82$ each for

focal and yoked categories, and n = 58 for unperturbed controls * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not

Significant).

Figure 5. Deprivation of only long bout sleep is sufficient to produce homeostatic responses

and elicit multiday sleep rebound. A. 5-day somnogram of standard sleep in focal-yoked flies

during baseline, long-bout sleep deprivation, and three days of recovery. Notice no discernable

changes in the average sleep between experimental and control flies. **B**. 5-day somnogram of long-

bout sleep during baseline, deprivation, and three post deprivation days in focal and yoked flies.

C. In the three post-deprivation days there were no significant differences in standard sleep in focal

and yoked flies (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 269$, $p = 0.06$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's $W = 258$, $p = 0.12$; Post

3: Wilcoxon's $W = 263$, $p = 0.09$). **D.** Long bout sleep showed significant increases in the total

amount over three post-deprivation cycles, compared to yoked controls (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W =$

288, $p = 0.01$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's $W = 284$, $p = 0.02$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 290$, $p = 0.01$). **E.**

Long bout sleep rebound showed over 25 percent of flies paying back total sleep debt and

overshooting in three post SD cycles. Focal sleep debt designates total sleep debt, and the focal

flies are normalized to undisturbed controls. $n = 20$ each for focal and yoked categories * < 0.05,

and N.S. (Not Significant).

Figure 6. Identifying sleep substances using MALDI-TOF. A. Representative hematoxylin-

eosin stained cryosection of a fly head. **B**. Distribution of 104.1 m/z and 175.1 m/z molecules in a

head section (left). Note the near zero relative intensity outside the brain region. Overlay of the

high intensity signals on the actual cryosection used to derive the signal (right) highlights brain

specific distribution. The 104.1 *m/z* molecule displays broader distribution across the brain

whereas the 175.1 *m/z* appears to be concentrated in the central brain. The white dotted box

represents the area of the central brain from which signal intensity has been quantified. **C.** Post

deprivation increases in the relative abundance of molecules in focal flies when mechanical

perturbations are not accounted for finds 129 positive hits (out of 187 molecules- 68.9%). **D**.

Search patterns of molecules tracking mechanical perturbation and of molecules tracking sleep

pressure (left). Two representative molecules that track mechanical perturbation (*m/z* 104.1;

Kruskal-Wallis $\chi^2 = 7.71$, $p = 0.02$; Focal = Yoked > Unperturbed) and sleep pressure (*m/z* 175.1;

Kruskal-Wallis $\chi^2 = 10.38$, $p = 0.005$; Focal > Yoked > Unperturbed), respectively. Bars with the

same letter are not statistically different from each other. **E.** Identified 187 *m/z* peaks summarized

in a pie chart representing the number molecules in various categories when yoking is employed.

The number of positive hits is five (2.6%). Focal brain sections n = 6; Yoked brain sections n = 3;

Unperturbed brain sections n = 4. Bars with the same letters are not significantly different from

each other.

Supplementary Figure 1: A. Both total sleep and normalized rebound **B.** in 6-h post-release

windows don't show significant differences compared to undisturbed controls. **C.** 6-hour post

deprivation windows for total sleep, as well as normalized sleep **D.** don't show rebound signatures.

Supplementary Figure 2. A. Activity time course of undisturbed and sleep-deprived flies in 24

hours after mechanical stimuli were applied. During ZT12-24 on post SD day 1, focal flies show

high activity at night-time, during reported periods of consolidated sleep. **B**. The activity of focal

flies during ZT12-24 was significantly higher than that of undisturbed controls (the significance

reported in the figure). **C.** Activity time course of focal and yoked flies during the same Post

deprivation window (24-H). **D.** Activity of focal and yoked flies during ZT12-24 were not

significantly different from each other (significance reported in the figure). $n = 82$ each for focal

and yoked categories, and n = 58 for unperturbed controls.

Supplementary Figure 3. A. Bout numbers of standard sleep between focal and yoked flies in

three post-deprivation cycle did not show significant differences (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 3385$, p

$= 0.94$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's $W = 2962.5$, $p = 0.18$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 3273$, $p = 0.77$). **B.** Bout

duration of standard sleep across three post deprivation cycles show focal flies to be significantly

higher for the first two recovery cycles (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 4077$, $p = 0.01$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's

$W = 4269$, $p = 0.002$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 3624$, $p = 0.38$). $n = 82$ each for focal and yoked

categories. Undisturbed control n = 58 * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant). **C.** Pre-deprivation

bout numbers (Wilcoxon's $W = 3358$, $p = 0.99$) and bout durations (Wilcoxon's $W = 3705$, $p =$

0.25) were not significantly different between focal and yoked pairs). $n = 82$ each for focal and

yoked categories, and n = 58 for unperturbed controls * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant).

Supplementary Figure 4. A. frequency distribution of 25-min sleep bouts in undisturbed flies

collected from 5 cycles. Every fly shows at least one bout of sleep that is at least 25-min long. **B.**

Total bout numbers in 25-min, long bout sleep across two post-deprivation cycles showed

significant increases in focal flies compared to yoked flies (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 4029$, $p = 0.02$;

Post 2: Wilcoxon's $W = 4186.5$, $p = 0.006$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 3779.5$, $p = 0.16$). **C.** Duration

of long bouts are not significantly different between focal and yoked flies in three post-deprivation

days (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 3422$, $p = 0.53$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's $W = 3229.5$, $p = 0.66$; Post 3:

Wilcoxon's $W = 3888$, $p = 0.08$). $n = 82$ each for focal and yoked categories, and n = 58 for

unperturbed controls * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant).

Supplementary Figure 5. A. Long-sleep bouts prior to deprivation were not different between

focal and yoked flies (Wilcoxon's $W = 263$, $p = 0.09$). **B.** On post-deprivation day 1 focal flies

showed significantly increased long bout numbers (Wilcoxon's $W = 304$, $p = 0.004$). On second

day even though a trend was seen, it was not significant (Wilcoxon's $W = 244.5$, $p = 0.23$), before

returning to significant levels on post-deprivation day 3 (Wilcoxon's $W = 295$, $p = 0.009$). **C.** Long

bout duration on baseline days was not different between focal and yoked flies (Wilcoxon's $W =$

225.5, $p = 0.32$). **D.** On three post derivation days, focal and yoked pairs did not show significant

differences in long bout durations (Post1: Wilcoxon's $W = 210.5$, $p = 0.57$; Post 2: Wilcoxon's W

$= 231.5$, $p = 0.24$; Post 3: Wilcoxon's $W = 242.5$, $p = 0.14$). $n = 20$ each for focal and yoked

categories. * < 0.05, and N.S. (Not Significant).

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Figure 1.

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