Input-specific bi-directional regulation of CA3 pyramidal cell excitability: implication in sequential memory formation

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Summary

Neuronal excitability is a key determinant for recruitment of a neuron to an ensemble. High-frequency mossy fiber (MF) inputs induce prolonged increases in the excitability of a CA3 pyramidal cell (long-term potentiation of intrinsic excitability, LTP-IE), which primes the cell such that weak perforant pathway (PP) inputs can induce long-term potentiation at PP synapses (PP-LTP). However, sustained hyperexcitability can be detrimental, and a mechanism to reverse this state is necessary. Here, we show that burst firings of CA3 pyramidal cells elicited by PP or recurrent inputs reverse the MF-induced LTP-IE. Moreover, the high-frequency PP inputs to CA3-PCs already primed by MF inputs induced not only PP-LTP but also restored the high excitability state. Labeling neuronal ensemble using c-fos promoter in animals exposed to a novel context, we found most CA3 ensemble cells exhibited increased excitability, indicative of LTP-IE. Moreover, when the animals experienced novel contexts twice with a 30 min interval, a substantial subset of putative twice-activated CA3 ensemble cells exhibited reduced excitability, implying depotentiation of LTP-IE. We developed an in silico model based on the experimental results and found that MF-induced LTP-IE and its depotentiation are critical for the association of neuronal ensembles representing temporally spaced events.

Introduction

Hippocampal CA3 pyramidal cells receive two kinds of extrinsic synaptic inputs from dentate gyrus (DG)

and entorhinal cortex (EC) via mossy fibers (MFs) and perforant pathway (PP), respectively. MF, an axon

of granule cell in DG, makes sparse, strong and non-Hebbian synaptic connections to proximal dendrites

of hippocampal CA3-PCs (Henze et al., 2002), whereas PP makes a much larger number of weak Hebbian

synapses on distal dendrites of CA3-PCs. Computational models based on these features predicted that

MF inputs contribute to orthogonal encoding, while PP inputs are required for cued memory retrieval of

a pattern stored in the CA3 recurrent network (Treves and Rolls 1992; O'Reilly and McClelland, 1994). This

prediction was supported by behavioral studies (Hunsaker & Kesner, 2013; Lee & Kesner, 2004).

Involvement of PP synapses in retrieval of episodic memory implies that long-term plasticity (LTP) at PP

synapses would play a key role in triggering reactivation of CA3 ensembles from auto-associative CA3

network during retrieval. Because PP synaptic inputs are not strong enough to drive firing of CA3-PCs, MF-

driven firing would be required for induction of Hebbian LTP at PP synapses (McNaughton and Morris,

1987). Previously, however, we found that high frequency MF inputs not only provide such immediate

depolarization but also induce sustained enhancement of dendritic voltage responses to PP synaptic

inputs, called long-term potentiation of intrinsic excitability (LTP-IE) (Eom et al., 2019; Hyun et al., 2015;

Hyun et al., 2013). The MF-induced LTP-IE is mediated by an increase in the distal apical dendritic

excitability (Hyun et al., 2013), and enhances the EPSP-to-spike (E-S) coupling of PP inputs (Hyun et al.,

2015). The potentiation of E-S coupling (E-S potentiation) facilitates homosynaptic LTP at PP synapses

(Eom et al. 2022). Because LTP-IE is not a synapse-specific process but occurs over a whole distal dendritic

arbor, LTP-IE without depotentiation would lead to rapid saturation of PP-CA3 synaptic weights, which

will causes impairment of further learning (Moser et al., 1998), and excitation/inhibition imbalance of

recurrent network activity. It remains unexplored, however, how MF-induced high excitability state of

CA3-PC is restored to the baseline.

The other question to be addressed is whether LTP-IE indeed occur CA3-PCs that participate in neuronal

ensembles (called CA3 ensemble cells) *in vivo*. This question is crucial to understand CA3 ensemble

dynamics because neuronal excitability is a key factor that determines whether a given neuron is recruited

to an ensemble carrying information. Once a CA3-PC receives high-frequency MF inputs and undergoes

LTP-IE (referred to as MF-induced priming) in a previous episode, the probability for the primed cell to be

recruited to an ensemble in the next episode would be enhanced because PP input alone can drive firing

in the primed CA3-PC. Whereas dynamic changes of intrinsic excitability accompanied with behavioral

learning have been explored in hippocampal DG and CA1 area (Oh & Disterhoft, 2015; Pignatelli et al.,

2019),the same issue in the CA3 region remains unexplored.

The present study was set out to address these two questions. Here, we show that MF input-induced

primed state of a CA3-PC is terminated by high-frequency PP or associational/commissural (A/C) inputs.

Moreover, CA3 ensemble cells exhibited indeed high excitability features similar to CA3-PCs that

underwent LTP-IE, and LTP-IE was reversed in a subset of putative twice-activated CA3 ensemble cells

when an animal experienced two temporally separated events.

Hippocampal CA3 has been implicated not only in non-overlapping representation of episodic memories

but also in the memory of sequence of temporally discontiguous events (Farovik et al., 2010). Recently,

the synaptic tagging and capture hypothesis and/or post-learning cAMP response element binding protein

(CREB)-dependent modification of intrinsic excitability have been proposed as network mechanisms that

permit the overlap of ensembles representing temporally separate episodes in hippocampal CA1 and

amygdala (Lisman et al., 2018). This overlap may be mediated by increased sharing of feedforward inputs

between the ensembles because recurrent connections between principal cells lack in these areas. The

same regulation of ensemble overlap in a recurrent network would have a detrimental effect on the

orthogonality of ensembles because co-active neurons tend to be strongly connected via recurrent

synapses (called auto-association), which may eventually lead to a merge of ensembles. Therefore,

different mechanisms may be necessary in order for two orthogonal ensembles to be associated (called

hetero-association) in a recurrent network, but it is little understood. Incorporating in vitro findings to the

Hebb-Marr CA3 network model (McNaughton & Morris, 1987), we propose that the MF- and PP-induced

bi-directional regulation of CA3-PC excitability may link two orthogonal ensembles representing two

events adjacent in a sequence even if they are temporally separated, while it does not allow further

hetero-association between ensembles carrying information non-adjacent events in a sequence.

Therefore, the learning rule proposed in the present study may subserve formation of sequential memory

in the CA3 network.

Materials and Methods

Animals and ethical approval. All studies, experimental protocols, and animal manipulation protocol described in this article were conducted with the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC). The animals were maintained in standard environmental conditions (Temperature: 25 ± 2 ºC, Humidity: 60 ± 5 %, Dark/Light cycle: 12/12h) and monitored under veterinary supervision by Institute for Experimental Animals, Seoul National University College of Medicine.

Stereotaxic surgery and intrahippocampal injection of adeno-associated virus (AAV) for ex vivo study. An adeno-associated virus (AAV-RAM-d2TTATRE-EGFP-WPRE-pA, titer: 4.8×10^{12} GC/ml) was manufactured by KIST virus facility (Seoul, Republic of Korea). Surgery was performed on young-adult SD rats (6 weeks). Before stereotaxic injection of the AAV into hippocampus, animals were singly housed to new homecage for 1 week to acclimation with doxycycline diet (40 mg/kg). Animals were kept on the doxycycline diet and allowed to recover for at least 7 days following surgery. After anesthesia with isoflurane, rats were secured in a stereotaxic frame (Neurostar, Tubingen, Germany). Holes were drilled bilaterally in the skull at the injection sites (2 sites). Stereotaxic coordinates used for intrahippocampal injections were as follows (from bregma); for a ventral hippocampus, anterior–posterior -2.85 mm, mediolateral ±2.8 mm, dorsoventral 3.3 mm. A 33-gauge needle attached to a 50 µl Hamilton syringe (#80908), mounted to the stereotaxic frame, and under control of a microinjection syringe pump UMP3T-1 controller (WPI, Sarasota, FL, USA) was used to inject 0.8 µl of AAV at each site. Injections occurred at a rate of 0.08 µl/min, after which the needle was left in place for an additional 2 min. After injections were completed, the skin was sutured and the animals were allowed to recover for 1 h on a heating pad before returning to the home cage. Mice remained in the homecage for an additional 2 weeks to recover before the start of behavioral testing and post-hoc *ex vivo* experiments. The diet was switched to doxycycline-free diet 2 days before contextual fear conditioning (CFC) to allow tetracycline transcriptional activator (tTA) to activate the tTA-responsive element (TRE) promoter driving expression of EGFP.

B6.Cg-Tg(Fos-tTA,Fos-EGFP*)1Mmay/J mice. cfos-tTA/cfos-shEGFP mice were purchased from Jackson laboratory (stock No: 018306; Donating investigator: Mark Mayford, The Scripps Research Institute, La Jolla, CA), and crossed to the C57BL/6J background to maintain lineage. The cfos-shEGFP transgenes allows us to quantify c-fos expression correlated with neuronal activation by measuring fluorescence of short half-life green fluorescent protein (shEGFP, $t_{1/2}$ = 2 hours). For genotyping, DNA was isolated from the tail of each mouse in the litter aged 6 ~ 8 days as the method provided by the Jackson Laboratory

122 (https://www.jax.org/strain/018306). All animals were maintained in the standard environmental
123 conditions described above.

Exposure of animals to a novel context. The cfos-tTA/cfos-shEGFP mice (hereafter cfos-EGFP mice) of
either sex (6-8 weeks old) were singly housed for 1 weeks before the experiments. On the experimental
day, the mice were placed in novel contexts; context A or A and B. Context A is a chamber (18 cm wide ×
18 cm long × 30 cm high; H10-11M-TC; Coulbourn Instruments 5583, PA 18052, USA) consisting of a metal
grid floor, aluminum side walls, and a clear Plexiglass front door and back wall. The context A chamber
was lit indirectly with a 12 W light bulb. The features of context B were the same as context A, except for
a unique odor (1% acetic acid), dimmer light (50% of A), and a slanted floor by 15° angle. The chamber
and cage were cleaned using 70% ethanol before placing an animal and between each runs. In context A,
but not in context B, animals were allowed a 3-min exploration, received a single foot shock (0.7 mA, for
2 s) and were returned to their home cage 60 s after the shock. In the context B, animals were allowed a
5-min exploration and returned to their homecage.

Preparation of hippocampal slices. Acute transverse hippocampal slices were obtained from Sprague-
Dawley rats (PW2-3 for Figures 1-4 and Figures S2-S3; PW6 for Figure 5; PW, postnatal weeks) or cfos-
shEGFP mice (PW6-8 for Figures 6-7) or ZnT-heteroKO and ZnT-heteroKO/cfos-shEGFP mice (PW6, Figure
8) of either sex. Animals were anesthetized by inhalation of isoflurane. After decapitation, brain was
quickly removed and chilled in ice-cold preparation solution containing 75 sucrose, 87 NaCl, 25 $NaHCO_3$,
2.5 KCl, 1.25 NaH_2PO_4, 25 D-glucose, 7 $MgCl_2$, and 0.5 $CaCl_2$ (in mM; equilibrated with carbogen mixture
of 95% O_2 and 5% CO_2). After mounting on a slicer (Leica VT1200, Nussloch, Germany), 300 μm (whole-
cell recording)-thick transverse slices (whole-cell recording) were prepared and incubated at 34 ºC for 30
min in the preparation solution, and thereafter stored at room temperature (22 ºC). For experiments,
slices were transferred to a submersion recording chamber superfused with standard aCSF containing 124
NaCl, 26 $NaHCO_3$, 3.2 KCl, 1.25 NaH_2PO_4, 10 D-glucose, 2.5 $CaCl_2$, and 1.3 $MgCl_2$ (in mM).

Confocal microscopy and image quantification. We tested 4 cfos-shEGFP mice (PW6-8) between 8 and
14 weeks of age for contextual exposure. Before the experiments, mice were a singly housed to new
homecage for 1 week for acclimation. For experiments depicted in Fig. S4, mice were divided into two
groups: exposure of context A only and waiting in homecage for 90 min (ctxA), exposure of context A and
B with 25-min interval and waiting in homecage for 60 min (ctxAB). Two groups were sacrificed to prepare
hippocampal slices after 90 min from the exposure of ctxA, as aforementioned. Confocal images from the

hippocampal slices in Fig. S4 were obtained in the submerged recording chamber that was continuously

perfused with the recording solution at 1.5 ml/min. To suppress unnecessary neural activity, picrotoxin

(10 μM) and CNQX (10 μM) were added to the solution. For analysis of fluorescence intensity of shEGFP(+)

CA3-PCs, Z-series (60-90 frames, 0.71 μm /frame) image were acquired from the live slices using a 40x

lens using FV 1200 confocal laser scanning microscope (Olympus, Tokyo, Japan). LD473 (15mW) laser

system controlled by combiner (FV10-MCPSU) was used to excite shEGFP in CA3-PCs. Typically, four

images were analyzed for each animal in the CA3 region. Fluorescence intensity profile for each shEGFP(+)

CA3-PCs based on depth from surface of slices were obtained from Z-stack image of CA3 region. The

surface of hippocampal slices was defined as 0 μm of depth in hippocampal slices. We regarded

fluorescence signals that is above a threshold of 5× the SD of baseline fluctuation of signal intensity profile

as the signal of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs. The depth for the maximal fluorescence intensity was defined as the

depth of CA3-PCs.

Epifluorescence imaging for AAV-injected rats or cfos-shEGFP mice. Fig. 5 and 6 ~ 8 depict ex vivo

electrophysiological studies of CA3-PCs obtained from AAV-injected rats and cfos-shEGFP mice,

respectively. After acclimation of 1 weeks, AAV-injected rats were exposed to context A once for 5 min

and returned to homecage for 1, 1.5, and 3 hours (Fig. 5) and sacrificed to obtain brain slices. cfos-shEGFP

mice were divided into several groups: exposure of context A only and waiting in homecage for 60 min

(ctxA60), exposure of context A only and waiting in homecage for 90 min (ctxA90), and exposure of

context A and B with 25-min interval and waiting in homecage for 60 min (ctxAB). ctxA60 and ctxA90

groups were sacrificed to prepare brain slices after 60 min and 90 min from the exposure of context A.

For ctxAB group, animals were sacrificed to obtain brain slices after 60 min from the exploration of last

context, context B. EGFP or shEGFP was excited at 488 nm light with a monochromator (Polychrome IV,

xenon-lamp based, Polychrome-V, TILL-Photonics, Martinsried, Germany) and visualized using a 520/535-

nm band-pass emission filter (Fig. 5 and 6). In experiments for Fig. 6 - 8, to adjust deviation of fluorescence

intensity of shEGFP caused by the optical path length, 50 μM Alexa flour 594 (AF594) was added to

intracellular solution and loaded to CA3-PCs during whole-cell configuration. AF594 was excited at 594

nm light with the monochromator and visualized using a 660 nm long-pass emission filter. Acquired

images were analyzed with HC-Image Live 4.0 (Hamamatsu Photonics, Shizuoka, Japan). Whole-cell

recordings (WCR) were performed under the IR-DIC (Fig. 5Ab). WCR of EGFP(-) cells were used as control

and compared to recording of EGFP(+) or shEGFP(+) cells. The fluorescence intensity in the wide-field

epifluorescence image was set with manually-adjusted ROI based on the contour of cells.

Electrophysiological study. Whole-cell voltage- or current-clamp recordings from CA3-PCs were performed at near-physiological temperature (34 ± 1 ºC), while the recording chamber was perfused with the standard aCSF at 1 ~ 1.5 ml/min. Patch pipettes were pulled from borosilicate glass tubing (outer diameter: 1.5 mm, wall thickness: 0.225 mm) with a horizontal pipette puller (P-97, Sutter Instruments, Novato, CA, USA) and filled with the intracellular solution containing 130 K-gluconate, 7 KCl, 1 $MgCl_2$, 2 Mg-ATP, 0.3 Na-GTP, 10 HEPES, 0.1 EGTA (in mM; pH adjusted to 7.20 with KOH, 295 mOsm) with the pipette resistance was 3 ~ 4 MΩ. After formation of whole-cell configuration on the somata of CA3-PCs, recordings were performed from only those cells that had stable resting membrane potential within -76 and -58 mV (cells that had more positive resting membrane potential or unstable resting membrane potential were discarded). Under this condition, input conductance (G_{in}) was measured from subthreshold voltage responses to -30 pA and +10 pA current steps of 0.5 s (Hyun et al., 2015). G_{in} was monitored every 10 s before and after delivery of a conditioning protocol. Recordings were obtained in the presence of a $GABA_A$ receptor antagonist, picrotoxin (PTX, 100 µM) unless specified. All recordings were made using a MultiClamp 700B amplifier controlled by Clampex 10.2 through Digidata 1440A data acquisition system (Molecular Devices, Sunnydale, CA, USA). Also, we stimulated different types of synapses on CA3-PCs to evaluate the influence of each synaptic input on the intrinsic excitability of CA3-PCs. Afferent PP fibers were stimulated with a concentric bipolar electrode (CBAPB125; FHC Inc., Bowdoin, ME, USA) positioned at SLM on the border of the subiculum and CA1 (for PP stimulation)(Perez-Rosello et al., 2011). Associational/commissural (A/C) fibers were stimulated with a glass micro-pipette placed on alveus. Brief stimulation pulses (0.1 ms) were generated by a computer-controlled digital stimulator (DS8000, WPI; Sarasota, FL, USA) and delivered to a stimulation electrode through an isolation unit (DLS100 stimulus isolator, WPI). For extracellular recording, field excitatory postsynaptic potentials (fEPSPs) were recorded from striatum lacunosum-moleculare (SLM) of CA3 by a glass electrode filled with 150 mM NaCl (resistance, c.a. 1 MΩ).

Simulation methods

Simulation methods. We considered a recurrent network comprised of 1000 PCs and 200 INs, in which PCs and INs are numbered with indices from 1 to 1000, and those from 1001 to 1200, respectively. Initial connectivity matrix (*W*) are shown in Fig. S5A. The connectivity, defined as the probability that an element of *W* has nonzero value, was set to 10% for synaptic connections between PCs, while the connectivity between CA3 PCs is less than 2% *in vivo* (Guzman et al., 2016). This high connectivity partially compensates lower recurrent synaptic inputs from a given ensemble compared to the real rat CA3 network. The firing

property of neurons was simulated by the leaky integrate and fire model as described in detail elsewhere

(Yoon et al., 2020). The resting membrane potential (V_L) and the firing threshold (V_θ) were set to -65 and

−55 mV, respectively, for both CA3-PCs and GABAergic interneurons (INs). To model recurrent and

inhibitory synaptic inputs, we assumed that firing of a presynaptic CA3 PC or IN (denoted by subscripts 'e'

and 'i', respectively) induces an instantaneous increase in the postsynaptic conductance by G_s after a

synaptic delay, D_s, where $s \in \{e, i\}$ (D_e = 2 ms; D_i = 1 ms), and that the decay of the conductance change

follows a mono-exponential function with a time constant τ_s ($\tau_e = \tau_i$ = 10 ms) (Guzman et al., 2016; Kohus

et al., 2016). Multiple synaptic inputs to a neuron, j, were linearly summated. When the number of s type

presynaptic neurons innervating postsynaptic neuron, j, is K_s, the dynamics of subthreshold membrane

potential of the neuron, j, is assumed to follow the equations:

$$\tau_m \, dv_j(t)/dt = -(v_j - v_L) - (1/G_m) \, \Sigma_{s=\{e,i\}} \Sigma_{k=(1..Ks)} \, [G_{s,jk} (v_j - E_s) \, S_{s,jk}]$$

$$\tau_s \, dS_{s,jk}/dt = - S_{s,jk} + \Sigma_{t_{AP}} \delta(t - t_{AP} - D_s)$$

, where τ_m = cell membrane time constant; G_m = passive membrane conductance (5 nS for PCs and INs);

$G_{s, jk}$ = synaptic conductance of synaptic type, s, from a neuron k to j; E_s = reversal potential of synapse

type (E_e = 0 mV, E_i = -68 mV). The $S_{s,jk}$ is an activation parameter for synaptic type s from a neuron k to j.

It is activated by presynaptic firing at t_{AP}, and undergoes mono-exponential decays with a time constant,

τ_s. When membrane potential (v) surpasses the threshold potential (V_θ), the v was reset to -55 mV. To

simulate a post-spike refractory period, the V_θ was increased to -15 mV just after firing, which undergoes

mono-exponential decay with time constants of 50 and 15 ms for PC and INs, respectively. The summation

of external excitatory synaptic inputs via MF and PP were calculated in the same manner as recurrent

excitatory inputs, but the arrival of external synaptic inputs was pre-determined as a patterned input as

shown in Fig. 9Ba. We assumed that four input patterns arrive at t = 0, 0.8 s, 1.8 s and 3 s in a series. The

synaptic conductance values for MF and PP inputs to PCs were set to 20 and 0.3 nS, and those to INs were

4 and 0.15 nS, respectively. The decay time constants of MF and PP inputs were set to 4 and 17 ms (Hyun

et al., 2015; Jonas et al., 1993). At the start of simulation, membrane potential of all neurons was

initialized to -65 mV. The voltage derivative (dv/dt) of each neuron was calculated with a time step of 0.4

ms, and was numerically integrated by Euler methods using Matlab software (R2021a, Mathworks, USA).

During encoding phase, the recurrent and PP synaptic weights were modified under the STDP rules. The

dependence of LTP level on the spike timing difference between pre and post-synaptic cells ($\Delta t = t_{post} -$

t_{pre}) is shown in Fig. S5Ba-Bb.

  Assumptions for the CA3 network model

Assumptions for the CA3 network model. We consider an animal, which experience a series of episodes.

We call MF and PP afferent inputs to CA3-PCs carrying the information of *i*-th episode as *i*-th pattern (P_i).

1. *MF inputs are strong and sparse, while PP inputs are weak and diffuse*: Only a small and non-

overlapping subset of CA3-PCs receive MF input during encoding (or learning) phase, while almost all

CA3-PCs receive PP inputs with different strength. Henceforth, a group of CA3-PCs that receive MF

inputs carrying information of the *i*-th pattern (P_i) will be denoted as M_i subset.

2. *Distributions of MF and PP input strength are skewed*: During encoding phase, the MF input strength

to CA3-PCs of a given **M** subset follows a log-normal distribution (Buzsaki & Mizuseki, 2014). We

assumed that a small fraction of CA3-PCs in a given **M** subset receive strong MF inputs, in which LTP-

IE is induced by concerted actions of intracellular Ca^{2+} and Zn^{2+} signaling (Eom et al., 2019). A subset of

CA3-PCs that underwent LTP-IE during encoding of P_i will be denoted as M_i^*.

3. *LTP at A/C and PP synapses requires converging MF inputs*: Because A/C and PP synapses display

Hebbian plasticity (McMahon & Barrionuevo, 2002; Mishra et al., 2016; Tsukamoto et al., 2003)), LTP

at A/C and PP synapses is critically dependent on the postsynaptic firing. Sparse and strong MF input

provides an additional variance in the excitatory input distribution over the CA3-PC population and

thus governs the firing pattern of CA3-PCs during a learning phase under competitive *k*-Winners-Take-

All regime (O'Reilly & McClelland, 1994; Treves & Rolls, 1992). Moreover, acetylcholine (Ach) level is

high during encoding phase, and the high Ach reduces the A/C synaptic strength by 50% (Hasselmo,

2006; Vogt & Regehr, 2001). As a result, LTP at A/C and PP synapses is supervised by MF inputs that

carry information of an episode. The memory for *i*-th episode (E_i) is stored at PP and A/C synapses of

CA3-PCs comprising M_i subset (referred to as M_i PCs).

Data Analysis

Data analysis. Electrophysiological data were acquired and digitized using an analogue-to-digital

converter (Digidata 1440A, Molecular Devices) and stored in a computer hard disk. Analyses of data were

performed with Igor Pro (version 6.10A; WaveMetrics, Lake Oswego, OR, USA) and Clampfit 10.2

(Molecular Devices, Sunnyvale, CA, USA). We used the bias-corrected version of Akaike information

criterion (AIC) to select a better distribution model for the histogram data of fluorescence intensities in

Fig. S4D (Hurvich & Tsai, 1989). Statistical data are expressed as mean ± standard error of the mean (SEM),

and the number of cells measured (denoted as *n*). Statistical data were evaluated for normality and

variance equality with Kolmogorov-Smirnov test and Levene's test, respectively. For data that satisfy

normality and equality of variances, statistical evaluations were performed with Student's t-test or

general linear model (GLM). For data that did not satisfied above properties, nonparametric tests, such as

Mann-Whitney U test or Wilcoxon signed rank test, were performed to evaluation. For simplicity of

description, significance level (P) was marked as $P < 0.05$. n.s., no statistical significance; *$P < 0.05$; **$P <$

0.01; ***$P < 0.005$ in figures. Statistics processing was performed with PASW Statistics 18 (SPSS Inc, 2009,

Chicago, IL, USA).

Results

Differential effects of intracellular glutathione (GSH) on somatic and MF-induced LTP-IE

The LTP-IE is mediated by Ca^{2+} and protein tyrosine kinase (PTK)-dependent downregulation of Kv1.2, which is antagonized by receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase alpha (RPTPα). RPTPα is activated by PKC, and inactivated by oxidative stress and Zn^{2+} (Fig. S1) (Eom et al., 2019) (Blanchetot et al., 2002; Meng et al., 2002). Reducing molecules such as NADH and reduced form of glutathione (GSH) are normally present in cytosol in millimolar range (Forman et al., 2009). Intracellular perfusion with the conventional whole-cell patch pipette solution lacking reducing molecules may bias the cellular redox state to oxidized state. To prevent inactivation of protein tyrosine phosphatase (PTP) during whole-cell recording (WCR), we added 5 mM GSH to the pipette solution. We confirmed that input conductance (G_{in}) and PP-evoked EPSPs (PP-EPSPs) were stable up to 45 min of WCR in the presence of 5 mM GSH (Fig. S2). The latency of the first action potential (1st AP latency, Fig. S2Ca-Cb) and AP threshold (Fig. S2Cc) measured by a ramp current injection (250 pA/s) were not different between at 5 min and at 45 min of WCR. Henceforth, all the whole-cell patch experiments shown in Fig. 1-4 were done using pipette solution containing GSH, unless stated otherwise.

The long lasting increases in input resistance (inverse of G_{in}) and PP-EPSPs are the hallmarks of LTP-IE in CA3-PCs, which can be induced by 10 Hz somatic AP firing (somatic conditioning) or 20 Hz MF stimulation (MF conditioning)(Eom et al., 2019; Hyun et al., 2015; Hyun et al., 2013). After measuring the baseline G_{in} for 5 min, the somatic or MF conditioning was delivered (black or red arrowhead, respectively). The G_{in} of CA3-PCs decreased until 10 min after either of somatic and MF conditioning (Fig. 1Aa-Ac). Without GSH, G_{in} was kept reduced longer than 30 min after somatic conditioning (Hyun et al., 2013). In the presence of intracellular GSH, however, G_{in} returned to the baseline in 30 min after somatic conditioning. In contrast, the G_{in} after MF conditioning stayed low throughout 30 min recordings (Fig. 1Aa-Ac). The 1st AP latency measured from ramp current responses was accelerated in parallel with the change of G_{in} (Fig. 1Ad-Ag). The G_{in} reduction was always accompanied by an increase in PP-EPSPs. PP-EPSPs rapidly increased in 3 min after the conditioning as previously observed (Hyun et al., 2015) (Fig. 1Ba-Bc). However, the PP-EPSP amplitudes after somatic conditioning rapidly returned to the baseline over 5-10 min, but those after the MF conditioning stayed enhanced during the 30 min recording (Fig. 1Ba-Bc). Neither somatic nor MF conditioning altered the amplitude of PP-EPSCs (Fig. 1Bd-Be). EPSC amplitude depends on neurotransmitter release and AMPA receptor expression but not on intrinsic excitability. Thus, these

results suggest that MF inputs augment CA3 dendritic excitability thereby increasing PP-EPSPs. Given that

PTP activity is preserved by GSH in the pipette solution, our results suggest that PTP may rapidly reverse

the LTP-IE induced by somatic conditioning but not that by MF conditioning.

Why MF-induced LTP-IE is not spontaneously reversed unlike LTP-IE induced by somatic conditioning? This

question can be addressed in light of our previous findings that MF conditioning induces not only Ca^{2+} but

also Zn^{2+} signaling, and the latter facilitates LTP-IE by reversible inhibition of PTP (Eom et al., 2019).

Somatic conditioning which induces Ca^{2+} transients (CaTs) without Zn^{2+} signaling, however, may activate

both PTKs and PTPs (Brandt et al., 2003; Eom et al., 2019; Lev et al., 1995; Tsai et al., 1998), and lead to

the short-lasting potentiation of intrinsic excitability (PIE). This result is in stark contrast to our previous

observation that somatic conditioning readily induced long-lasting PIE in the absence of GSH (Hyun et al.,

2013), and suggests a possibility that MF-induced LTP-IE may be reversed by activation of PTP by a Ca^{2+}

transient without Zn^{2+} signaling.

Depotentiation of MF-induced potentiation of PP-fEPSPs by A/C synaptic stimulation

We hypothesized that CaTs without Zn^{2+} signaling may reverse MF-induced LTP-IE when the activity of

PTP is preserved. CaTs without Zn^{2+} signalling can be evoked by stimulation of soma or afferent fibers

other than MFs (non-MF) such as PP or associational/commissural (A/C) fibers (Eom et al., 2019). To

prevent perturbation of the intracellular milieu of CA3-PCs, we monitored PP-evoked field EPSPs (PP-

fEPSPs) before and after MF conditioning and subsequent A/C fiber stimulations. The recording and

stimulating electrodes were placed as shown in Fig. 2Aa (see Materials and Methods). Stimulation of PP

evoked a negatively deflecting fEPSP at the recording electrode placed in stratum lacunosum-moleculare

(SLM) (gray-black, Fig. 2Ab), while stimulation of MFs (cyan) and A/C fibers (red) evoked positive fEPSP at

SLM. Fig. 2Ac and Ad shows the input-output relationship for the peak amplitude and initial slope of PP-

fEPSP, respectively. The amplitude of PP-fEPSPs was attenuated by bath application of DCG-IV, an agonist

of group II metabotropic glutamate receptor, which is highly expressed in PP (Shigemoto et al., 1997)(Fig.

2Ba). The latency of PP-fEPSPs (time from PP stimulation to the peak of PP-fEPSP) was not altered by the

increase in stimulation intensity (Fig. 2Bb). To evoke antidromic firing of CA3-PCs and activate A/C

synapses, we placed a glass stimulation electrode on the alveus of CA3 (Fig. 2Bc). Stimulation of alveus

with 40 pulses for 2 s induced AP bursts following EPSP summation in the CA3-PC under WCR (Fig. 2Bd).

Both EPSPs and AP bursts were abolished by bath application of CNQX, suggesting that antidromic firings

of CA3-PCs activated A/C inputs to the CA3-PC under WCR, resulting in AP bursts.

We measured the baseline amplitude and initial slope of PP-fEPSPs evoked by paired pulses with a 100

ms interval before and after MF conditioning. We regarded the maximal slope over an initial half of rising

phase of fEPSP as initial slope of PP-fEPSP. The initial slope of fEPSP represents fast EPSC, while its peak

amplitudes reflects delayed activation of synaptic and somatodendritic currents (Garcia et al., 2010). MF

conditioning enhanced the peak amplitude of PP-fEPSP, but not the initial slope of PP-fEPSPs (Fig. 2Ca and

2Cb), consistent with our patch clamp results that MF conditioning enhances PP-EPSPs, but not PP-EPSCs

(Fig. 1). At 20 min after MF conditioning, we stimulated A/C fibers (10 pulses at 50 Hz) through the

electrode placed in the alveus of CA3. The peak amplitude of PP-fEPSPs gradually decreased after the A/C

stimulation, finally reached to the baseline (Fig. 2C). The initial slope of PP-fEPSPs and paired pulse ratio

(PPR) of slopes were not affected by MF and A/C conditioning (Fig. 2D), suggesting that changes in the

dendritic excitability of postsynaptic neurons underlie the MF-induced potentiation and nonMF-induced

depotentiation of PP-fEPSPs.

MF-induced LTP-IE is de-potentiated by somatic or A/C synaptic stimulation, and is hindered by

Zn^{2+}

To test whether the results of field recordings can be replicated in whole-cell recordings, we examined

the effects of alveus stimulation on MF-induced LTP-IE. The MF conditioning decreased the G_{in} of CA3-PCs

(73.5 ± 1.8%, Fig. 3Aa-Ad). The G_{in} of CA3-PCs was restored to the baseline by a train of stimuli (10 pulses

at 20 Hz) delivered to the alveus at 15 min after MF conditioning (Fig. 3Aa), consistent with the results of

field recordings (Fig. 2). Stimulation of alveus may inadvertently recruit various neuromodulator pathways

projecting to the CA3. We examined whether somatic AP bursts evoked by direct current injection can

depotentiate MF-induced LTP-IE. To this end, we adopted somatic AP bursts comprised of 10 spikes at

100 Hz, a typical burst firings of CA3-PCs in vivo (Kowalski et al., 2016). Somatic AP bursts at 15 min after

MF conditioning also restored the G_{in} to the baseline (Fig. 3Ab). To assess the minimal somatic stimulation

required for depotentiation of LTP-IE, we examined the effects of somatic stimulation with fewer number

of spikes. Surprisingly, the bursts of 2 APs at 100 Hz restored G_{in} to the baseline level (Fig. 3Ac). The

changes of G_{in} induced by MF conditioning and depotentiation stimulation are summarized in Fig. 3Ad.

Because PP-EPSP changed in parallel with G_{in} after LTP-IE induction, we evaluated whether depotentiation

of PP-EPSPs can be induced by somatic AP bursts. Similar to the G_{in} changes, MF-induced potentiation of

PP-EPSPs (197.5 ± 19.9%, Fig. 3Ba-Bd) was reversed by AP bursts elicited by alveus stimulation (Fig. 3Ba)

or by direct injection of ten (Fig. 3Bb) or two (Fig. 3Bc) supra-threshold current pulses at 100 Hz. The

amplitudes of PP-EPSCs were not altered after MF conditioning or depotentiation stimulation (time, $F_{(2,18)}$

= 0.017, p = 0.897; stimuli, $F_{(2,18)}$ = 0.718, p = 0.501; stimuli × time, $F_{(2,18)}$ = 0.299, p = 0.745; GLM and

simple effect analysis). The changes of PP-EPSPs before and after MF conditioning and depotentiation

stimulation are summarized in Fig. 3Bd. The lack of Zn^{2+} signaling was essential for depotentiation,

because somatic AP bursts did not induce depotentiation of MF-induced LTP-IE in the presence of 100 nM

$ZnCl_2$, which was added to aCSF 10 min after MF conditioning (Fig. 3C), supporting the notion that CaTs

without Zn^{2+} signaling activates PTPs and triggers depotentiation of LTP-IE.

MF-induced LTP-IE is reversed by homosynaptic induction of LTP at PP-CA3 synapses

LTP-IE potentiates PP-EPSPs, but not PP-EPSCs, because LTP-IE enhances dendritic excitability with little

effect on synaptic transmission *per se*. We will refer to homosynaptic LTP of PP-EPSCs as PP-LTP, distinct

from hetero-synaptic LTP of PP-EPSPs that occurs in parallel with MF-induced LTP-IE. The PP-CA3 synapses

display Hebbian plasticity (McMahon & Barrionuevo, 2002). MF-induced LTP-IE enhances E-S coupling at

PP synapses. Previously we showed that LTP-IE lowers the threshold of PP input strength required for

induction of PP-LTP (referred to as LTP threshold) in mice hippocampal CA3 (Eom et al., 2022). We

confirmed this notion in the rat CA3 too, with GSH-free patch pipette solution (Fig. S3 and Supplementary

Results).

Above results suggest that MF-induced LTP-IE can be reversed by somatic burst firings elicited by direct

somatic stimulation or A/C synaptic inputs (Fig. 2-3), and that MF-induced LTP-IE enables weak PP inputs

to elicit APs and induce Hebbian PP-LTP (Fig. S3). We posed a question whether AP firing elicited by weak

PP inputs in a MF-conditioned CA3-PC can reverse LTP-IE in the presence of GSH. We simultaneously

monitored PP-EPSPs (Fig. 4Aa) and G_{in} (Fig. 4Ba), while MF conditioning and subsequently weak PP-HFS

were delivered to induce LTP-IE and PP-LTP, respectively. MF conditioning (Fig. 4Ab) enhanced PP-EPSPs

but not PP-EPSCs (Fig. 4Aa), and decreased G_{in} (Fig. 4Ba). At 5 min after MF conditioning, we delivered PP-

HFS, which readily evoked AP firings (Fig. 4Ac) unlike naïve CA3-PCs (Fig. S3Aa). After PP-HFS, both the PP-

EPSPs (*left*) and PP-EPSCs (*right*) were increased (Fig. 4Ca). However, the G_{in} that had been reduced by MF

conditioning was restored to the baseline level (Fig. 4B). The EPSP/EPSC ratio that had been increased by

MF conditioning returned to the baseline after PP-HFS as shown in Fig. 4Cb. These results suggest that

high-frequency MF inputs prime CA3-PCs for PP-LTP expression by lowering the LTP threshold so that

subsequently incoming high-frequency PP inputs readily elicit AP bursts in the primed PCs. The PP-induced

AP bursts may lead to both PP-LTP induction and termination of MF-induced LTP-IE.

LTP-IE occurs in hippocampal CA3 region, and lasts less than 3 hours in vivo

Is the intrinsic excitability of CA3-PCs regulated in activity-dependent manner *in vivo*? We examined

whether LTP-IE occurs in CA3 ensemble cells activated when rats are exposed to a novel context, and if so

how long the enhanced excitability state is maintained. Immediate early genes (IEG) have been widely

used as a tool for labelling recently activated neurons. We labeled an ensemble of CA3-PCs activated by

contextual fear conditioning (CFC) using AAV-RAM-d2tTA-TRE-EGFP (Sorensen et al., 2016). Rats were

kept on doxycycline-free diet for 2 days before being subject to CFC (see Materials and Methods). Just

after CFC, further GFP expression was prevented by intraperitoneal injection of doxycycline (10mg/kg of

body weight), Then the animals were kept in their home-cage for 1, 1.5 or 3 hours before *ex vivo*

experiments for measuring the baseline input conductance (G_{in}) and inducibility of LTP-IE in GFP(-) and

GFP(+) CA3-PCs of these animals (Fig. 5Aa). About 30 min after whole-cell recordings of GFP(+) CA3-PCs,

we observed the diffusion of EGFP into the patch pipette (Fig. 5Ab-d). Fig. 5B shows the baseline G_{in} as a

function of EGFP fluorescence intensity (F_{GFP}). Most GFP(-) cells (40 out of 45 cells) showed high baseline

G_{in} [denoted as GFP(-/high), black symbols], but a few of them (5 cells) showed low baseline G_{in} [GFP(-

/low), yellow symbols]. The average baseline G_{in} values measured in GFP(+) CA3-PCs at 1 hour (red

symbols) and at 1.5 hours (blue symbols) after CFC were significantly lower than those of GFP(-/high) cells.

However, G_{in} of GFP(+) cells measured at 3 hours after CFC (green symbols) was not different from those

of GFP(-/high) cells. The baseline G_{in} values of GFP(-/low) cells were not different from those of GFP(+)

cells measured at 1 or 1.5 hours [$F_{(4,,72)}$ = 38.667, $p < 0.001$; subgroups of G_{in} for the significance level of

0.05 are divided into two groups, GFP(-/high) and GFP(+) at 3 hours vs. GFP(+) at 1 hour, GFP(+) at 1.5

hours and GFP(-/low); Tukey HSD]. Assuming that ensemble cells display lower G_{in}, the GFP(-/low) cells

may represents non-infected ensemble cells.

The baseline G_{in} values for GFP(+) cells at 1 [red; GFP(+/1hr)] or 1.5 hours [blue; GFP(+/1.5hr)] after CFC

and those of GFP(-/low) cells were significantly lower than those of GFP(-/high) cells. Inducibility of LTP-

IE was evaluated by comparing baseline Gin with Gin measured at 30 min after somatic conditioning (post-

SC G_{in}). Somatic conditioning by 10 Hz stimulation did not induce additional decrease in G_{in} of GFP(+) and

GFP(-/low) cells (Fig. 5C). In contrast, LTP-IE was readily induced in GFP(+) cells at 3 hours [GFP(+/3hr)] as

well as GFP(-/high) cells [For GFP(-), baseline vs. post-SC, $p < 0.001$; For 3 hr, baseline vs. post-SC, $p < 0.554$;

GLM and simple effect analysis]. Moreover, the post-SC G_{in} values were not different between all groups,

suggesting that GFP(+/1hr) or GFP(+/1.5hr) after CFC and GFP(-/low) cells may have already undergone

LTP-IE (baseline, $F_{(3,24)} = 14.616$, $p < 0.001$; post-SC, $F_{(3,24)} = 0.706$, $p = 0.558$, GLM and univariate analysis).

The similarity of GFP(+/3hr) to the GFP(-/high) cells indicates that LTP-IE of CA3-PCs does not last longer

than 3 hours *in vivo*, and implies that there may be a mechanism that reverses the increased intrinsic

excitability while the animal is kept in their homecage.

Higher GFP expression in twice-activated ensemble CA3-PCs of cfos-shEGFP mice

Given that the LTP-IE of CA3-PCs is maintained at least for 90 min after CFC, we wondered whether the

LTP-IE can be reversed earlier by formation of a new ensemble in the CA3 area. To ensure labeling of all

ensemble cells, we further studied the excitability of ensemble cells using B6.Cg-Tg(Fos-tTA,Fos-

EGFP*)1Mmay/J mice (Jackson Stock No, 018306; referred to as cfos-shEGFP mice), which express short

half-life green fluorescent protein (shEGFP, $t_{1/2}$ = 2 hours) and tTA under the control of c-*fos* promoter. In

addition, we hypothesized that, when a neuron activated by two sequential events with a given time

interval, the neuron would have higher fluorescence intensity than other neurons activated by a single

event. To test this hypothesis, we examined distribution of fluorescence intensities of CA3-PCs from cfos-

shEGFP mice which visited only context A and from those which visited two contexts A and B sequentially

in a 30 min interval (referred to as ctxA and ctxAB mice, respectively; Fig. S4). Mice visited each context

for 5 min, and otherwise were kept in homecage. At 90 min after first visit, they were sacrificed for

preparation of brain slices. We examined fluorescence intensity of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs located at a depth

less than 60 μm from the surface of hippocampal slices. Fig. S4B shows representative fluorescence

intensity profiles of z-stack confocal images of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs from mice which experienced only

context A (72 cells, Fig. S4Ba-b) or from ctxAB (77 cells, Fig. S4Bc-Bd) mice. The scatter plot of peak

fluorescence intensity of each shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs as a function of its depth in the slice revealed that the

CA3 area of ctxAB mice harbours CA3-PCs displaying distinctly higher fluorescence intensity compared to

that of ctxA mice (Fig. S4C). The distribution of fluorescence intensity of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs in either group

of mice showed negative skewness (Fig. S4D), indicative of log-normal (LN) distribution. The distribution

of CA3-PCs of ctxAB mice, but not that of ctxA mice, was better fitted by bimodal lognormal distribution

(Fig. S4D; AIC for mono- vs. bi-LN fits = 24.8 vs 26.6 in ctxA; 2.24 vs -9.12 in ctxAB; Note that a model with

lower AIC is preferred). Whereas fluorescence intensity of ctxAB cells was significantly higher than ctxA

cells, the distribution of low intensity groups of ctxAB largely overlapped with that of ctxA cells (Fig. S4C-

D), suggesting that cells of high intensity group are unique to the CA3 ensemble cells of ctxAB mice.

LTP-IE occurs in CA3 ensemble cells and is reversed in a subset of putative twice-activated ense
mble cells

Next, we examined whether the input resistance of CA3-PCs has any correlation with their epi-

fluorescence intensity *ex vivo* from ctxA and ctxAB mice. For ctxA mice, excitability was examined at two

time points: at 60 and 90 min after being kept in their home cage (Fig. 6Aa; ctxA60 and ctx90 mice,

respectively). The mice which experienced two contexts were kept in their homecage for 60 min, and then

hippocampal slices were prepared (Fig. 6Aa; called ctxAB mice). Confocal imaging of ctxA90 and ctxAB

slices revealed that a subset of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs in ctxAB mice displayed distinctly higher fluorescence

compared to ctxA90 mice (Fig. S4), implying that such neurons may be activated twice in ctxAB mice. To

correct depth-dependent fluorescence attenuation in epifluorescence microscopy, we added 50 µM Alexa

Flour 594 (AF594; Invitrogen) to a patch pipette solution for ratiometric measurement of shEGFP and

AF594 fluorescence intensities. The shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs in ctxA60 and ctx90 mice were not different in

green-to-red fluorescence (G/R) ratios, and will be referred to as ctxA60(+) and ctxA90(+) cells,

respectively. Consistent with the confocal imaging results (Fig. S4), a subset of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs from

the ctxAB mice displayed higher G/R ratio than the maximal G/R ratio of ctxA60(+) or ctxA90(+) cells, and

will be referred to as ctxAB(++) cell (Fig. 6Bc-d). The other subset which had G/R ratio similar to ctxA60(+)

and ctx90(+) cells, and will be referred to as ctxAB(+) cell (Fig. 6Ba-b). The G/R ratios of all shEGFP(+) cells

could be categorized into two groups: a group comprised of ctxA60(+), ctxA90(+) and ctxAB(+) cells and

the other group of ctxAB(++) cells [$F_{(3,43)}$ = 39.741, p < 0.001, ANOVA and Tukey HSD, Fig. 6Be]. Because

ctxAB(++) cells were observed only in the mice which visited context A and B, the high G/R ratio of

ctxAB(++) cells may be caused by double activation of c-*fos* promoter in the contexts A and B.

We measured G_{in} of CA3-PCs before and after somatic conditioning (2 s AP train at 10 Hz). The G_{in} for

GFP(-) CA3-PCs (gray) decreased after somatic conditioning (10 Hz AP train) [n = 6, GFP(-), p < 0.001; Fig.

6Ca-b]. In contrast, the baseline G_{in} values for ctxA60(+) and ctxA90(+) cells were significantly lower than

those of GFP(-) cells (for both cell types, p < 0.001), and were not further decreased by somatic

conditioning [ctxA60(+), p = 0.814; ctxA90, p = 0.126, Fig. 6Ca-Cb], suggesting that ctxA60(+) and ctxA90(+)

cells have already undergone LTP-IE while the animal visited context A. The baseline G_{in} and LTP-IE

inducibility of CtxAB(+) CA3-PCs were similar to those of ctxA60(+) or ctxA90(+) cells [For baseline G_{in}, p =

0.819; For pre- vs post-SC G_{in} of ctxAB(+) cells, p = 0.873; Fig. 6Cd-Cf]. In contrast, the excitability of

ctxAB(++) CA3-PCs was heterogenous. To test the inducibility of LTP-IE for ctxAB(++) cells, the ratio of

post-SC G_{in} over baseline G_{in} was measured. The ctxAB(++) cells were plotted on the plane of the G_{in} ratio

vs. baseline G_{in}, and clustered these data using *k*-means algorithm, yielding two clusters shown in Fig. 6Cc.

The low and high baseline G_{in} groups are referred to as ctxAB(++/1) cells (n = 11) and ctxAB(++/2) cells (n

= 9), respectively (Baseline G_{in}, t = 4.775, p < 0.001; G_{in} ratio, t = -8.115, p < 0.001). The baseline G_{in} and

the G_{in} ratio caused by somatic conditioning are shown as a function of G/R ratio in Fig. 6Cd and in Fig.

6Ce, respectively. Both baseline G_{in} –and G_{in} ratio of shEGFP(+) cells were categorized into two groups:

GFP(-) and ctxAB(++/2) *vs*. ctxA60(+), ctxA90(+), ctxAB(+) and ctxAB(++/1), which will be referred to as low

and high excitability groups, respectively [For baseline G_{in}, $F_{(5,32)}$ = 12.883, p < 0.001; For G_{in} ratio, $F_{(5,32)}$ =

19.565, p < 0.001; ANOVA and Tukey HSD]. The mean G_{in} values before and after somatic conditioning

are summarized in Fig. 6Cf. The baseline G_{in} values within high excitability groups were not different one

another, but significantly lower than the baseline G_{in} of GFP(-) cells [baseline G_{in} (gray bars), $F_{(5,31)}$ = 13.053,

p < 0.001; post-SC G_{in} (red bars), $F_{(5,31)}$ = 1.213, p = 0.364, Univariate analysis], and rather similar to the G_{in}

of GFP(-) cells that underwent LTP-IE (χ^2 = 7.279, df = 3, p = 0.064, Kruskal-Wallis test).

The AP onset time upon injection of a short current pulse (400 - 600 pA, 8 - 12 ms; Fig. 6Da and 6Db) and

the latency of first AP evoked by triangular ramp current (250pA/s for 1 s; Fig. 6Dc and 6Dd) were

measured before and after somatic conditioning. Compared to GFP(-) cells, cells of high excitability group

exhibited not only lower G_{in} but also faster baseline AP onset time and the first AP latency (Fig. 6D),

consistent with downregulation of D-type K current (Hyun et al, 2013). The baseline AP onset time and 1st

AP latency of these cells were not different from those in GFP(-) cells that underwent LTP-IE (AP onset,

(χ^2 = 1.195, df = 3, p = 0.754; 1st AP latency, χ^2 = 3.149, df = 3, p = 0.369, Kruskal-Wallis test), suggesting

that the CA3 ensemble cells had already underwent LTP-IE *in vivo*. In contrast, ctxAB(++/2) cells were not

different from GFP(-) cells with regard to all aspects: G_{in}, AP onset time and AP latency before and after

somatic conditioning [baseline AP onset time, p =0.419; AP latency, p = 1.00].

PP-EPSP/PP-EPSC ratio is highly correlated with input conductance

Next, we examined PP-EPSPs in CA3-PCs *ex vivo* from cfos-shEGFP mice that have experienced context A or A/B as shown in Fig. 6A. Because LTP-IE enhances the excitability of distal apical dendrite rather than PP-EPSC (Hyun et al., 2015), we measured the PP-EPSP and PP-EPSC in the same cells, and compared the EPSP/EPSC ratio between different cell groups. The stimulation intensity was adjusted such that PP-EPSC amplitudes are largely in the range of 10 to 20 pA and corresponding PP-EPSPs were measured in the same cell. Similar to the distribution of G_{in} as a function of G/R ratio (Fig. 6Cd), the EPSP/EPSC ratio was higher in ctxA60(+), ctx90(+), and ctxAB(+) cells than GFP(-) cells, and those of ctxAB(++) cells were heterogenous (Fig. 7Aa). The plot of the baseline EPSP/EPSC ratio as a function of baseline G_{in} revealed highly negative correlation of the baseline EPSP/EPSC ratio to the baseline G_{in} (Pearson's r = 0.795, p < 0.001, Pearson correlation test; Fig. 7Ab). Similar to the G_{in} ratio of ctxAB(++) cells (Fig. 6Cc), the EPSP/EPSC ratios of those cells were split into two clusters. Because ctxAB(++) cells with low G_{in} exhibited high EPSP/EPSC ratio and vice versa (Fig. 7Ab), ctxAB(++) cells exhibiting high EPSP/EPSC ratio were regarded as ctxAB(++/1) cell, and the other subgroup as ctxAB(++/2) cell. Similar to G_{in}, EPSP/EPSC ratio of shEGFP(+) cells were categorized two groups: low and high excitability groups, which are comprised of GFP(-) and ctxAB(++/2) cells *vs*. ctxA60(+), ctxA90(+), ctxAB(+) and ctxAB(++/1) cells, repspectively ($F_{(5,33)}$ = 24.864, p < 0.001; one-way ANOVA and Tukey HSD). Fig. 7B shows representative traces for PP-EPSC and PP-EPSP, and the time course for the EPSP/EPSC ratio changes before and after somatic conditioning in five cell groups (the same colour codes as in *A*). Not only the baseline PP-EPSC amplitudes but also those after somatic conditioning were not different between cell groups (Fig. 7Ba and Ca). However, the baseline PP-EPSP amplitudes were significantly higher in the high excitability group than the low excitability group [low vs. high excitability group, $F_{(5,33)}$ = 24.864, p < 0.001; 1-way ANOVA and Tukey HSD; Fig. 7Bb and 7Cb]. For the cells of high excitability group, somatic conditioning did not further enhance the PP-EPSP while it did in the cells of low excitability group (Fig. 7Bc and 7Cb). The baseline EPSP/EPSC ratios of cells in the high excitability group were not different from post-SC EPSP/EPSC ratio measured in GFP(-) and ctxAB(++/2) cells (χ^2 = 1.365, df = 3, p = 0.714, Kruskal-Wallis test; Fig. 7Bc]. These notions are also evident from the plot of individual cells on the plane of PP-EPSP vs. PP-EPSC amplitude in Fig. 7D. Finally, similar to G_{in}, the baseline EPSP/EPSC ratio was closely correlated with inducibility of LTP-IE probed by potentiation of EPSP/EPSC ratio (Fig. 7E). In this plot, cells were also classified into two groups by *k*-means clustering. The shEGFP(+) cells except ctxAB(++/2) cells comprised a cluster distinct from GFP(-) cells, supporting the notion that these cells have already undergone LTP-IE probably while the animal visited

context A or B (potentiation of ratio, t = -5.985, p < 0.001; Baseline ratio, t = 7.899, p < 0.001, *k*-means

clustering and independent t-test; Fig. 7E). The ctxAB(++/2) cells (n = 7) well overlapped with GFP(-) cells

(potentiation of EPSP/EPSC ratio, t = -0.171, p = 0.868; baseline ratio, t = 0.154, p = 0.881, independent t-

test; Fig. 7E). These results suggest that ctxAB(++/2) cells are not different from GFP(-) cells in distal

dendritic excitability, even though they are supposed to be recruited to ensembles A and B twice.

Lack of LTP-IE in the ensemble CA3-PCs of ZnT3 hetero-knockout mice

The results of the present study together with Eom et al. (2019) indicate that MF-induced Zn^{2+} signalling

inhibits protein tyrosine phosphatase, and thus widens the cytosolic $[Ca^{2+}]$ window for LTP-IE induction of

and maintains LTP-IE in the normal redox state. We tested whether LTP-IE occurs *in vivo* when MF-induced

Zn^{2+} signalling is disrupted by hetero-insufficiency of ZnT3, a vesicular Zn^{2+} transporter. To this end, ZnT3

hetero-knockout(HT) x cfos-shEGFP hybrid mice (ZnT3HT/cfos-EGFP) were made by crossing ZnT3-

knockout (KO) mice with cfos-shEGFP mice. We confirmed that LTP-IE was induced by 20 Hz MF

stimulation but not by 50 Hz stimulation in CA3-PCs of ZnT3HT mice (n =5, t = -1.141, p = 0.318, paired t-

test; Fig. 8A), similar to those of ZnT3-KO mice (Eom et al, 2019). Next, we examined correlation of G_{in}

with G/R ratio in ZnT3HT/cfos-shEGFP mice which experienced context A and B as shown in Fig. 8B. Unlike

wildtype CA3-PCs, CA3-PCs of ZnT3HT/cfos-shEGFP mice exhibited high G_{in} regardless G/R ratio (Fig 8C

and Da). Moreover, 10 Hz somatic conditioning induced LTP-IE in high G/R ratio cells as well as GFP(-) cells

(Fig 8C and Db), indicating that induction and/or maintenance of LTP-IE is impaired in vivo in ZnT3-HT mice.

Given that dendritic Zn^{2+} transients in CA3-PCs were induced by MF inputs but not by PP or A/C inputs,

these results suggest that CA3-PCs that received high-frequency MF inputs undergo LTP-IE in vivo.

Computational modelling of the association of two temporally separated events in the CA3 network

To conceive possible roles of MF-induced LTP-IE and non-MF input-induced depotentiation in the CA3

network dynamics, we incorporated our findings into a CA3 recurrent network model. The assumptions

adopted for the model is based on the Hebb-Marr network (McNaughton & Morris, 1987) and the

computational theory of CA3 function (Lee & Kesner, 2004; Treves & Rolls, 1992), and are described in

detail in *Materials and Methods*.

To implement these LTP-IE-based learning rules, we constructed a computational model of recurrent

network comprised of 1000 PCs and 200 interneurons (INs) *in silico*, which are numbered with indices

from 1 to 1000 and 1001 and 1200, respectively. Fig. 9A and Fig. S5A show the schematic synaptic

connections between PCs and INs, and the initial connectivity map of the model network, respectively.

We assumed that PCs make excitatory synapses with each other with the probability of 10%. The synaptic

weights between PCs were randomly set to a value between 0 and 0.35 nS. The spike properties of PCs

and INs were assumed to follow a leaky integrate and fire model using parameter sets as described in

Methods and Fig. S5.

We considered an animal which experiences a series of episodes, which present MF and PP afferent

inputs to CA3-PCs carrying the information of *i*-th episode as *i*-th pattern (denoted as P_i). The model

network was trained by four patterns that arrive at the network in a sequence with different time intervals

(0.8-1.2 s) as shown in Fig. 9Ba (We adopted here short time intervals to lessen computational time, but

longer time intervals do not alter the main conclusion). Each input pattern is comprised of sparse non-

overlapping MF and diffuse PP inputs (red and blue dots in Fig. 9Ba, respectively). The arrival of MF inputs

in each pattern is confined in a subset of 200 PCs, which constitute an **M** subset, while PP inputs arrive

over all the PCs in the network. We assumed that each PC receives different numbers of MF or PP inputs

per a pattern, which are randomly given under a log-normal distribution (Ikegaya et al., 2013) (Fig. 9Ba

and Fig. S5D). During the encoding phase, PP and A/C synapses of PCs undergo plastic changes under the

spike timing dependent plasticity (STDP) rules. We assumed symmetric and asymmetric STDP curves for

A/C and PP synapses, respectively (Mishra et al., 2016) (Fig. S5B).

Our results suggest that coincident increases in cytosolic $[Ca^{2+}]$ and $[Zn^{2+}]$ induce LTP-IE, while $[Ca^{2+}]$

increase alone reverses LTP-IE. In our simulation, the $[Ca^{2+}]$ and $[Zn^{2+}]$ thresholds required for triggering

LTP-IE were set such that MF input-induced Ca^{2+} and Zn^{2+} transients cross the threshold in about 25% of

PCs of an **M** subset during encoding phase. A subset of CA3-PCs that undergo LTP-IE during encoding of P_i

will be denoted as **M_i***. Exemplar traces for $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ and $[Zn^{2+}]_i$ simulated in an **M_1*** PC are shown in Fig. 9C.

To simulate the time course of excitability change we defined an intrinsic excitability parameter, *IE*, which

varies from 0 to 1. *IE* is equal to 0 when a cell is in a resting state, and it starts to increase toward one

when both $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ and $[Zn^{2+}]_i$ co-incidentally surpass Ca^{2+} and Zn^{2+} thresholds (Caθ1 and Znθ, respectively).

Once *IE* is increased by MF inputs, it stays high until a CaT occurs devoid of ZnT. Subsequently incoming

PP inputs can induce APs independent of MF inputs in such primed PC. To simulate this, a transient current

was injected upon arrival of PP inputs to a primed PC that has *IE* > 0.7 (Fig. S5)(Jahnke et al., 2015). The

PP input to a primed cell readily elicits APs in a postsynaptic PC resulting in a CaT devoid of Zn^{2+} signaling.

When the peak of a PP-induced CaT is higher than a given Ca^{2+} threshold (Caθ2), the *IE* returns to zero

(de-potentiation; Fig. 9C). Fig. 9Bb shows the simulation results for the firing of PCs in response to the

four sequentially incoming input patterns shown in Fig. 9Ba. The PP inputs of P_2 readily elicit firings of the

M_1^* PCs (subset of primed PCs in M_1), and thus fire together with PCs of the M_2 subset. These concomitant

firing of PCs in M_1^* and M_2 subsets allows recurrent synapses to be strengthened between the two

orthogonal ensembles. Fig. 9D shows a matrix of recurrent synaptic weights consequent to these auto-

and hetero-associative learning rules.

Next, we tested whether the recurrent network trained under these learning rules recalls the whole

sequence of memories from a partial cue of P_1. We assumed no reduction in A/C synaptic weight during

recall, because recall occurs under the low cholinergic state such as quiet awake state or slow wave sleep.

To trigger pattern completion-based recall of the memory of P_1, which is represented by M_1, a burst of PP

inputs carrying a part of P_1 (denoted as p_1) was applied to the network (Fig. S5D). The synaptic weights of

the PP inputs of p_1 have been already strengthened during encoding phase only in M_1 PCs. The PP inputs

of p_1 drive firing in a few M_1 PCs (14 PCs in the example shown in Fig. 9E), which propagated through

already strengthened recurrent connections, resulting in pattern completion-based recall of M_1 (Fig. 9E).

Meanwhile, the activation of PCs in M_1^* plays a role of partial cue to M_2, and triggers the second pattern

completion-based recall of M_2. In this way, the PP inputs carrying a partial cue of P_1 trigger the recall of

whole sequence of memories that were hetero-associated during encoding phase (from M_1 to M_4). This

simulation implies that LTP-IE may allow the CA3 network to recall of memories of sequential events, even

if they are temporally separate.

Summary for the ensemble dynamics in the CA3 network

Based on our CA3 network model (see *Materials and Methods*), memories for two temporally separate

events can be associated in the CA3 model network via the following mechanism:

1. *CA3-PCs primed by P_1 are readily fired by PP input alone during the encoding phase of P_2*: We assumed

that a fraction of M_1 PCs receives strong MF inputs during encoding phase of P_1, and undergo LTP-IE,

resulting in enhanced E-S coupling of subsequently incoming PP inputs. These primed PCs of M_1 subset

(denoted as M_1^* PCs) are readily fired by PP inputs alone of the next pattern P_2.

641 2. *Upon the arrival of P_2 PP-LTP is induced not only in M_2 PCs but also in M_1* PCs*: Sparse and decorrelated

642 MF inputs of P_2 create an **M_2** subset orthogonal to the **M_1** subset. The orthogonality of **M_1** and **M_2** subsets

643 makes hetero-association of the two subsets unlikely when the two episodes occur in a temporally

644 discontiguous sequence. However, PP inputs of **P_2** to the **M_1*** PCs readily elicit postsynaptic APs, which

645 facilitate LTP induction at PP synapses carrying P_2. Therefore, the PP inputs of **P_2** induce LTP not only in

646 **M_2** but also in **M_1*** PCs. Furthermore, the primed state is reversed (depotentiation) by burst firing

647 elicited by PP inputs as shown in Fig. 4. Thus, the **M_1*** PCs do not fire any longer in response to PP inputs

648 in response to subsequent patterns.

649 3. *Recurrent connections are strengthened between PCs in M_2 and M_1**: P_2 elicits firing both of **M_2** PCs and

650 **M_1*** PCs, and thus recurrent connections are strengthened not only between **M_2** PCs but also between

651 **M_2** and **M_1*** PCs. Therefore, the **M_1*** PCs play a key role in association between **M_1** and **M_2**, the two

652 ensembles which encode P_1 and P_2, respectively.

Discussion

Cellular signalling that de-potentiates LTP-IE

We showed that non-MF inputs which evoke CaTs without Zn^{2+} signaling reverse the MF-induced LTP-IE

in CA3-PCs. Although both somatic- and MF-induced LTP-IE was long lasting under the conventional patch

clamp conditions (Hyun et al., 2015; Hyun et al., 2013), in the presence of GSH, LTP-IE was sustained only

upon MF conditioning but not upon somatic conditioning. Moreover, the MF-induced LTP-IE was

effectively terminated by non-MF inputs. How can the intrinsic excitability of CA3-PCs be reversibly

regulated in input-specific manners? Previous studies have showed that PTK downregulates Kv1.2-

mediated current (Hyun et al., 2013; Lev et al., 1995), whereas RPTPα upregulates it (Tsai et al., 1998).

Subsequent studies revealed that the activity of PTPs is reversibly suppressed by reactive oxygen species

(ROS) (Meng et al., 2002), suggesting that redox homeostasis is important for the balance between PTKs

and PTPs. We previously showed that CaTs in CA3-PCs activate not only PTK but also RPTPα (Eom et al.,

2019), supporting the previous findings that the CaTs activates PTPs and PTKs (Grishin et al., 2005; Hyun

et al., 2013). The loss of cytosolic GSH caused by whole-cell recording would bias the enzymes involved in

tyrosine phosphorylation toward PTK through oxidative inactivation of PTPs, resulting in prolonged

downregulation of Kv1.2 mediated by PTK. This idea explains the reason why the supplement of GSH

renders the somatic conditioning-induced potentiation of intrinsic excitability (PIE) short-lasting. In

contrast, MF-induced PIE was not affected by intracellular GSH probably because MF-induced ZnTs

prevented the Ca^{2+}-mediated activation of PTPs, resulting in prolonged PIE even without oxidative

inactivation of PTPs. Given that MF-induced Zn^{2+} signaling may be temporary, the MF-induced PIE can be

reversed by Ca^{2+}-induced activation of PTPs, which may be triggered later by non-MF synaptic inputs that

induce CaT without Zn^{2+} signaling.

LTP-IE occurs in the CA3 ensemble cells

The present study suggests that LTP-IE is de-potentiated not only by PP inputs probably during the

encoding phase (Fig. 4) but also without any episodic events within 3 hours (Fig. 5). A/C input strength is

critically modulated by acetylcholine (Ach) level. High Ach level in the hippocampus during awake and

active learning state enhances MF synapses and suppresses A/C synapses (Vogt & Regehr, 2001). When

Ach level is low during a retrieval or consummatory phase, the suppression of A/C synapses is relieved

resulting in spontaneous offline reactivation of neuronal ensembles, manifested as sharp wave ripples

(SWRs). Unlike PP-EPSPs, A/C-EPSPs are not enhanced by LTP-IE (Hyun et al., 2015). In the low cholinergic

state, however, A/C input-driven firings of CA3-PCs would be facilitated (Kowalski et al., 2016; Malezieux

et al., 2020), and may contribute to depotentiation of LTP-IE even if A/C inputs do not induce IEG

activation. This possibility may be responsible for depotentiation of LTP-IE while animals were kept in the

homecage. It remains to be tested whether the activation of non-MF synapses to CA3-PCs during low

cholinergic state de-potentiates LTP-IE.

Immediate early gene (IEG)-induced expression of fluorescence protein has been widely used for labeling

ensemble cells to investigate the recall of memory represented by them. To investigate whether LTP-IE is

reversed by the second activation of ensemble cells, it is essential to distinguish once- vs. twice-activated

ensemble cells in an animal that experienced two contexts within 2 hours because LTP-IE is spontaneously

reversed less than 3 hours (Fig. 5). No currently available labeling technique meets these requirements,

although techniques for labeling active population of neurons with high temporal precision has been

recently developed (Lee et al., 2017; Moeyaert et al., 2018). Thus, we compared the expression of c-fos

promoter-induced shEGFP expression level between cfos-shEGFP transgenic mice which were exposed a

novel context once and twice (denoted as ctxA and ctxAB mice). Because a subset of ensemble CA3-PCs

from the ctxAB mice expressed distinctly high level of shEGFP compared to those from the ctxA mice

observed by both confocal and epifluorescence microscopy (Fig. S4 and Fig. 6-7), we regarded such GFP(++)

subset as twice-activated ensemble cells. Nevertheless, it cannot be ruled out that it contains once-

activated ensemble cells.

Why a subset of ctxAB(++) cells exhibit G_{in} similar to that of non-ensemble cells?

CA3-PCs with distinctly high EGFP expression from ctxAB mice were comprised of mixed population in the

excitability (Fig. 6). Why ctxAB(++/2) cells exhibit the normal excitability despite that these cells may

participate in both ensembles encoding contexts A and B? There are two possibilities for the normal

excitability of ctxAB(++/2) cells. First, these cells may have never experienced LTP-IE. Alternatively, they

underwent LTP-IE in context A, and the LTP-IE is de-potentiated in context B. The first possibility is unlikely

because most CA3 ensemble cells of the animal that visited only context A exhibited high excitability

(ctxA60(+) and ctx90(+) cells). Previously we showed that MF inputs are privileged for the induction of

LTP-IE (Eom et al, 2019). Moreover, Figure 1 suggests that, even if the excitability would be enhanced by

non-MF inputs, the high excitability state cannot be sustained longer than 30 min under the physiological

redox conditions. Since we examined G_{in} at 60 min after the last visit, ctxAB(++) cells as well as ctxA60(+)

and ctxA90(+) cells may have received high frequency MF inputs while the animal visited context A,

assuming that ctxAB(++) are twice-activated ensemble cells. If the latter possibility is correct, the

mechanism underlying de-potentiation of LTP-IE can be explained by our findings that non-MF inputs

reversed the high excitability state of CA3-PCs induced by MF inputs that non-MF inputs reversed the high

excitability state of a CA3-PC induced by MF inputs (Fig. 2, 3 and 4). Moreover, CA3-PCs in the primed

state readily fire in response to subsequently arriving high frequency PP inputs, which also reverse the

high excitability state (Fig. 4). Given that ctxAB(++) cells are activated both in context A and B, their firing

in context B can be elicited not only by MF inputs but also by PP inputs alone as long as the LTP-IE is

maintained while the animal visited context B. Therefore, ctxAB(++) cells may be comprised of two groups:

CA3-PCs that received high frequency MF inputs in both contexts, and those received MF inputs in context

A and subsequently only PP inputs in context B. The latter group may undergo MF-induced LTP-IE in

context A and PP-induced depotentiation in context B, and thus eventually exhibit normal baseline G_{in},

because PP inputs can reverse the prior MF input-induced LTP-IE (Fig. 4).

Implications of synaptic input-specific bidirectional regulation of intrinsic excitability

The regulation of intrinsic excitability of CA3-PCs through a balance between PTKs and PTPs has important

implications in understanding the mechanisms by which information incoming through MFs and PP is

encoded in a subset of CA3-PCs during memory formation of sequential events. Our simulation results

imply that CA3-PCs primed by LTP-IE (**M*** subset) can play a key role in linking memories of temporally

spacced events under the framework of the Hebb-Marr network model. Hippocampal CA3 has been

implicated in memory of temporally discontiguous sequential events (Farovik et al., 2010). Previously, two

models proposed a possible mechanism for the association of memories of discontiguous events in a

recurrent network (Levy et al., 2005; Wallenstein et al., 1998). Both models assumed CA3-PCs which fire

in background (background cells) in addition to those encoding items or events presented in a sequence

(item cells). They proposed that repeated training may re-organize recurrent connections among

background cells and/or between background and item cells, and eventually bridge ensembles

representing two temporally discontiguous events. These models are critically different from the present

study in that 1) they are not constrained to the framework of Hebb-Marr model, and thus assumed that

CA3-PCs are readily fired by PP or A/C inputs alone during the learning phase; 2) the dependence of

synaptic potentiation on the time gap between pre- and postsynaptic firings is asymmetric, which is not

supported by the recent finding (Mishra et al., 2016).

Recently, it has been demonstrated that two CA1 neuronal ensembles overlap even if each represents

distinct contexts that an animal visited with a time gap up to 5 hours (Cai et al., 2016). The overlap of

ensembles was proposed as a mechanism underlying memory link. Synaptic tagging and capture

hypothesis and/or post-learning CREB-dependent modification of intrinsic excitability have been

postulated as cellular mechanisms for the CA1 ensemble overlap (allocate-to-link hypothesis; (Kastellakis

et al., 2016; Lisman et al., 2018; Silva et al., 2009). Similar to CA1, the post-learning CREB-expression may

enhance intrinsic excitability of a CA3-PC subset after learning. Previous studies on the excitability of

CREB-overexpressing cells indicate that CREB induces global excitability changes such as AP threshold,

post-burst after-hyperpolarization and the spike numbers in response to a given current injection (Dong

et al., 2006; Lopez de Armentia et al., 2007), implying that CREB-dependent metaplasticity is not input-

specific, whereas MF-induced LTP-IE primes specifically PP synapses (Hyun et al., 2015).

Unlike CA1 network, CA3-PCs are extensively interconnected through recurrent synapses. The recurrent

network subserves auto-associative learning through Hebbian plasticity between PCs within an ensemble.

The number of PCs recruited to an ensemble is relevant to the stability of later memory retrieval and the

capacity of memory storage in a recurrent network (Bennett et al., 1994). A large number of PCs in an

ensemble would facilitate reliable retrieval of memory, but would lead to rapid depletion of memory

storage capacity for future learning. Given that recurrent synapses are strengthened between cells within

an ensemble, larger overlap between two ensembles would facilitate co-firing of the two neuronal subsets

and disruption of pattern separation. Therefore, it is necessary to tightly regulate the overlapping fraction

between two distinct ensembles particularly in order to maintain orthogonality between the ensembles

in a recurrent network. We speculate that LTP-IE-based regulation of intrinsic plasticity of CA3-PCs may

be appropriate for this purpose compared to the CREB-dependent excitability regulation, in that MF-

induced LTP-IE specifically enhances feed-forward synaptic connections (via PP) without affecting

feedback or recurrent synapses (Hyun et al., 2015). Moreover, the LTP-IE-based hetero-association of

ensembles can prevent uncontrolled overlap between non-adjacent ensembles in a sequence (for

example, link of M_1 and M_3), whereas CREB-dependent memory link is expected to facilitate overlap of

ensembles encoding events regardless of their position in a sequence as long as sequential events occur

in 6 hours, during which phosphorylated CREB level is kept high (Rashid et al., 2016). It remains to be

elucidated how LTP-IE and CREB-dependent regulations of intrinsic excitability contribute in concert to

memory allocation and link in the CA3 network.

Conclusions

778   MF- and PP-induced bi-directional regulation of CA3-PC excitability occurs in vivo, and may play a key role

779   in linking two orthogonal ensembles that encode two events adjacent in a sequence even if they are

780   temporally separated with the overlap between the two ensembles tightly regulated.

Supplemental Results

Determination of PP-LTP threshold before and after somatic or MF conditioning

We examined the role of LTP-IE in metaplastic regulation of PP inputs using GSH-free pipette solution (Fig. S3). To this end, we first determined the threshold of stimulation strength for PP-LTP induction adopting the same HFS protocol as (McMahon & Barrionuevo, 2002), which consists of 10 bursts repeated every 10 s with each burst being composed of 20 pulses at 100 Hz (PP-HFS, Fig. S3Aa and S4Ba). Testing PP stimulation of different intensities, we found that PP-LTP requires strong PP inputs sufficient to elicit somatic APs during the LTP induction (Fig. S3A and S4B). Because PP-EPSPs are affected by dendritic excitability, PP stimulation intensity was quantified as the baseline PP-EPSC amplitude. The potentiation ratio was measured as the baseline-normalized PP-EPSC amplitudes 30 min after PP-HFS, and plotted as a function of corresponding PP stimulation intensity (quantified as baseline EPSC amplitudes) in Fig. S3C. We fitted a logistic function to this relationship. We regarded more than 50% increase of PP-EPSC amplitude at 30 min of PP-HFS compared to the baseline value as successful PP-LTP induction (Chen et al., 2006). The x-value of the fitted function at 150 was read as 12.55 pA. The PP-HFS with baseline EPSC < 12.55 pA did not induce PP-LTP (Fig. S3Ab), whereas PP-HFS with EPSC > 12.55 pA did (Fig. S3Bb). Next, we tested whether weak PP-HFS (baseline PP-EPSC < 12.55 pA) which does not induce PP-LTP in a naïve PC, can trigger PP-LTP in the CA3-PCs that have undergone MF or somatic conditioning. Despite of the weak stimulation intensity, PP-HFS readily elicited APs in the CA3-PCs, which underwent MF or somatic conditioning, indicative of E-S potentiation (Fig. S3Da, *upper* and *lower*, respectively). Consistent with (Hyun et al., 2015), neither MF conditioning nor somatic conditioning (arrowhead, Fig. S3Db) altered PP-EPSCs (Fig. S3Dc, Ea, Eb), but both of them enhanced PP-EPSPs that were measured 6 min after the conditioning (Fig. S3Dc, Ec, Ed). Distinct from the naïve CA3-PCs (Fig. S3Aa), weak PP-HFS readily induced PP-LTP in conditioned CA3-PCs (Fig. S3Db, Ea, Eb). The PP-EPSPs in the conditioned CA3-PCs were also enhanced after the weak PP-HFS (Fig. S3Ec, Ed). For the conditioned CA3-PCs, the potentiation ratios are plotted as a function of baseline EPSC amplitudes in Fig. S3C, showing that the threshold for PP-LTP induction is lowered in the CA3-PCs compared to naïve CA3-PCs.

   Figure Legends

Fig. 1

Fig. 1 Differential effects of intracellular GSH on somatic and MF conditioning-induced LTP-IE. Aa and

Ba. Mean baseline-normalized input conductance (G_{in}) and PP-EPSP amplitude of CA3-PCs before and

after MF (red) or somatic (black) conditioning (arrowheads). Right two insets of Aa, Voltage responses to

subthreshold current injection for measuring G_{in} before and after MF (middle) and somatic (right)

conditioning. Insets of Ba, PP-EPSCs (upper) and PP-EPSPs (lower) before and after MF (left) or somatic

(right) conditioning. The time points of recording are indicated by asterisks (same color codes). **Ab-Ac.**

Summary for G_{in} at baseline, 10 min and 30 min after the MF (*Ab*) or somatic (*Ac*) stimulation. For MF

conditioning, 0 vs. 10 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001; 10 vs. 30 min, p = 0.190 (GLM and simple

effect analysis). For somatic conditioning, 0 vs. 10 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs 30 min, p = 0.533; 10 vs. 30 min: p

< 0.001 (GLM and simple effect analysis). Here, the baseline values are denoted as 0. **Ad-Ae.** Voltage

responses to ramp current injection measured before (black), 10 min (blue) and 30 min (red) after MF (*Ad*)

and somatic (*Ae*) conditioning. **Af-Ag.** Mean latency of first AP before, and 10 min and 30 min after the

MF (*Af*) or somatic (*Ag*) conditioning (For MF, 0 vs. 10 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001; 10 vs. 30

min, p = 0.964; For somatic, 0 vs. 10 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.054; 10 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001; GLM

and simple effect analysis). **Bb-Be.** Mean PP-EPSP (Bb-Bc) and PP-EPSC (Bd-Be) amplitudes at baseline, 3

min and 30 min after MF (Bb, Bd) or somatic (Bc, Be) conditioning. For EPSP/MF conditioning, 0 vs. 10 min,

p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001; 10 vs. 30 min: p = 0.779. For EPSP/somatic conditioning, 0 vs. 10 min, p

< 0.001, 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.481; 10 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001 (GLM and simple effect analysis).

Fig. 2

Fig. 2, Restoration of MF-induced potentiation of PP-fEPSPs by A/C stimulation. Aa. IR-DIC images for

extracellular recording setup. The recording electrode was placed on the CA3 SLM. Three stimulating

electrodes were placed on the SLM of CA1 and subiculum border, granule cell layer of DG, and alveus of

CA3 to stimulated PP, MF, and A/C fibers, respectively. The silhouette of the each glass electrode is

indicated by a black solid line. **Ab.** Upper, Representative traces of fEPSPs evoked by paired pulse

stimulation of PP (PP-fEPSPs, 100 ms interval) with gradually increasing intensity ranging 10 to 70 V.

Middle, MF-evoked fEPSP. Lower, A/C-evoked fEPSP trace. The same color codes were used as in Aa. **Ac-**

Ad. Mean peak amplitude (Ac) and initial slope of PP-fEPSP (Ad) as a function of stimulation intensity. **Ba.**

Bath application of DCG-IV attenuated the PP-fEPSP amplitudes (n = 5, t = 5.075, p = 0.007; paired t-test).

Bb. PP-fEPSP latency was not affected by stimulus intensity (linear regression slope, t = -0.02, p = 0.98, n = 5). **Bc.** IR-DIC images for whole-cell patch pipette on the CA3-PC and the glass electrode on the alveus of CA3 for stimulation of A/C synapses. Yellow bars in *Aa* and *Bc*, 500 μm. **Bd.** Voltage response of the CA3-PC to A/C stimulation recorded using whole-cell patch techniques before (red) and after (black) bath application of CNQX. Inset, the same EPSPs evoked by first a few stimuli in an expanded scale. Scale bars, 100 ms and 10 mV. **Ca.** Peak amplitudes of 1st PP-fEPSP before and after MF conditioning (blue arrowhead) and A/C conditioning (red arrowhead at 40 min). The PP-fEPSPs increased and reached a plateau 5 min after MF conditioning. The PP-fEPSP stayed increased up to 40 min, and was restored to the baseline by A/C conditioning. **Cb.** PP-fEPSP traces before (black; -15 min), and after MF conditioning (blue, +40 min) and after A/C conditioning (red, +80 min). Lower, the first fEPSPs in expanded time scale (gray box). The same color codes as the dots in Ca. **Cc.** Summary for the peak amplitudes of PP-fEPSPs before and after MF (40 min) and A/C conditioning (80 min) ($F_{(2,10)}$ = 17.66, p = 0.005; baseline vs. 40 min, p = 0.002; baseline vs. 80 min, p = 0.672; 40 vs. 80 min, p = 0.007; n = 6, RM-ANOVA and simple effect analysis). **Da.** Neither the initial slope of first PP-fEPSP (black; $F_{(2,10)}$ = 0.174, p = 0.842) nor paired pulse ratio (PPR, light red; $F_{(2,10)}$ = 0.057, p = 0.944, RM-ANOVA and simple effect analysis) measured from the peak amplitudes of 1st and 2nd PP-fEPSPs were affected by the MF and A/C conditioning. **Db.** Summary for the initial slope of PP-fEPSPs at the baseline, after MF conditioning and after A/C conditioning.

Fig. 3

Fig. 3 Depotentiation of MF-induced LTP-IE can be induced by somatic or A/C synaptic stimulation, and is hindered by Zn^{2+}. Aa-Ac. Baseline- normalized G_{in} (filled circles) changes caused by MF conditioning at 0 min (blue arrowhead) and by somatic AP bursts at 15 min (red arrowhead) evoked by A/C stimulation (*Aa*) or direct somatic current injection of ten (*Ab*) or two (*Ac*) pulses at 100 Hz. For A/C stimulation (*Aa*), 0 vs. 15 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.945; 15 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). For somatic AP bursts (*Ab*), 0 vs. 15 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.936; 15 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). For two AP simulation (*Ac*), 0 vs. 15 min, p < 0.001; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.439; 15 vs. 30 min, p < 0.001 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). The MF-induced decrease of G_{in} in the absence of intracellular GSH is reproduced from (Eom et al., 2019) for comparison (*gray symbols*). For A/C synaptic activation, CA3 alveus was stimulated at 20 Hz for 0.5 s (A/C conditioning, Aa). *Left inset*, Voltage response to MF conditioning. Middle inset, AP bursts induced by A/C conditioning (Aa) or somatic current injection (Ab and Ac). *Right inset*, Representative voltage responses to somatic subthreshold current injection (+10 and -30 pA) for measuring G_{in} at the time indicated by black (baseline),

blue (at 14 min), and red (at 29 min) asterisks. The same color codes were used for the asterisks and traces.

Ad. Summary for normalized G_{in} at the baseline, 15 min after MF conditioning, 15 min after the

depotentiation (time: $F_{(2,18)}$ = 162.345, p < 0.001, stimuli: $F_{(2,18)}$ = 1.392, p = 0.274, stimuli × time: $F_{(2,18)}$ =

1.66, p = 0.218; GLM and simple effect analysis). **Ba-c.** Same as Aa-Ac but peak amplitudes of PP-EPSP

were monitored instead of G_{in}. For alveus stimulation (*Ba*), 0 vs. 15 min: p = 0.012; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.818,

15 vs. 30 min, p = 0.011 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). For 10 somatic APs (*Bb*), 0 vs. 15 min, p =

0.012; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.848; 15 vs. 30 min, p = 0.011 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). For 2 APs

(*Bc*), 0 vs. 15 min, p = 0.006; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.801; 15 vs. 30 min, p = 0.004 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect

analysis). *Gray symbols*, PP-EPSP amplitudes measured without intracellular GSH, which is reproduced

from (Eom et al., 2019) for comparison. *Blue arrowheads*, MF conditioning at 0 min. *Read arrowheads*,

second conditioning by CA3 alveus stimulation (*Ba*) or somatic injection of current pulses (*Bb* and *Bc*) at

15 min. *Insets*, Representative traces for PP-EPSPs recorded at time points indicated by asterisks with the

same color codes. **Bd**. Summary for the PP-EPSP amplitudes at baseline, 15 min after MF conditioning, 15

min after the second conditioning (time: $F_{(2,18)}$ = 71.199, p < 0.001, stimuli: $F_{(2,18)}$ = 1.392, p = 0.274, stimuli

× time: $F_{(2,18)}$ = 0.822, p = 0.520; GLM and simple effect analysis). **Ca.** Time course of normalized G_{in} changes

(filled circles) caused by MF conditioning (20 Hz for 2 s) at 0 min (blue arrowhead) and subsequent somatic

100 Hz AP bursts for 0.1 s at 15 min (red arrowhead). For comparison, MF-induced decrease of G_{in}

measured in the absence of intracellular GSH is reproduced from previous study (Eom et al., 2019) (gray

symbols). $ZnCl_2$ was bath-applied 10 min after MF conditioning. Note that somatic AP bursts did not trigger

depotentiation of MF-induced LTP-IE in the presence of 100 nM $ZnCl_2$. (15 min vs. 30 min, p = 1.00; simple

effect analysis). **Cb.** Representative voltage traces in response to subthreshold current (+10 and -30 pA)

for measuring G_{in}. Voltage responses were measured before and c.a. 15 min after MF conditioning, and

c.a. 15 min after somatic AP bursts (indicated by black, blue and red asterisks in Aa, respectively). **Cc.**

Summary for the mean G_{in} at baseline, 15 min after MF conditioning, and 15 min after 100 Hz AP bursts

($F_{(1,4)}$ = 16.109, p = 0.016, RM-ANOVA; 0 vs. 15 min, p = 0.007; 0 vs. 30 min, p = 0.002; 15 vs. 30 min, p =

1.00; n = 5, GLM and simple effect analysis).

Fig. 4

Fig. 4, MF-induced LTP-IE is terminated after homosynaptic PP-LTP. WCRs of CA3-PCs was done using

GSH-containing pipette solution. **Aa.** Baseline-normalized amplitudes of PP-EPSPs were increased by MF

conditioning (20 Hz MF stimulation for 2 s, blue arrow) and further by PP-HFS with weak stimulation

intensity (red arrow). Insets, Representative traces of PP-EPSPs (upper) and PP-EPSCs (lower) and before

(black), after MF conditioning (blue), and after PP-HFS (red). The recording time points are indicated by

numbers in the main graph. **Ab.** Representative traces for voltage response to MF conditioning. **Ac.**

Voltage response to weak PP-HFS (10 bursts every 10 s, 20 pulses at 100 Hz per a burst; baseline EPSC <

12.55 pA). Inset, gray boxed region in an expanded time scale. **Ba.** Baseline-normalized G_{in} was decreased

by MF conditioning (blue arrow) and restored by PP-HFS (red arrow). G_{in} was monitored in the same cells

as in Aa ($F_{(1,4)}$ = 24.064, p < 0.001; RM-ANOVA). **Bb**. *Upper*, Representative voltage responses to somatic

current injection of +10 and -30 pA at baseline (black), after MF conditioning (blue), and after PP-HFS (red).

Lower, Mean G_{in} at baseline, 6 min after MF conditioning, and 25 min after PP-HFS. Baseline vs. post-MF

conditioning, p < 0.001; baseline vs post-PPHFS, p = 1.00; post-cond. vs post-PPHFS, p < 0.001 (n = 7, GLM

and simple effect analysis). **Ca.** Summary for the mean amplitudes of PP-EPSPs (left, $F_{(1,4)}$ = 138.09, p <

0.001; RM-ANOVA) and PP-EPSCs (right, $F_{(1,4)}$ = 35.751, p < 0.001; RM-ANOVA) at baseline, after MF

conditioning, and after PP-HFS. For EPSP, baseline vs. post-MF cond., p < 0.001; baseline vs. post-PPHFS,

p < 0.001; post-MF cond. vs. post-PPHFS, p < 0.001; (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis). For EPSCs,

baseline vs. post-MF cond., p = 0.647; baseline vs. post-PPHFS, p < 0.001; post-MF cond. vs post-PPHFS, p

< 0.001 (n = 7, GLM and simple effect analysis); **Cb.** Scatterplot for PP-EPSP vs. PP-EPSC measured in the

same CA3-PCs at baseline (black), after MF conditioning (blue), and after PP-HFS (red). Baseline vs. post-

cond., p < 0.001; baseline vs post-HFS, p = 1.00; post-cond. vs post-HFS, p < 0.001; (n = 7, GLM and simple

effect analysis).

Fig. 5

Fig. 5, **The LTP-IE of CA3-PC did not last longer than 3 hours in vivo. Aa.** Schematic timeline of the

experimental procedure. Doxycycline was administrated via intraperitoneal route to prevent further

expression of GFP after visiting context A. Animals were sacrificed to prepare hippocampal slices after 1

hr, 1.5 hrs, and 3 hrs. **Ac-Ad.** IR-DIC image (*Ab*) and fluorescence image excited at 488 nm for GFP(+) CA3-

PCs (*Ac*: immediately after making whole-cell configuration; *Ad*: 30 min after whole-cell configuration.

Note that diffusion of GFP to the whole cell pipette in *Ad*). Scalebar, 30 μm. **B.** Baseline G_{in} as a function

of GFP fluorescence intensity (F_{GFP}). Most GFP(-) cells (F_{GFP} = 3.38 ± 0.30 a.u.) showed high baseline G_{in}

[denoted as GFP(-/high) cells]. Some of GFP(-) cells (3.97 ± 0.47 a.u.), however, showed lower baseline G_{in}

[denoted as GFP(-/low) cells]. GFP(+) cells after 1 hr (27.68 ± 1.11 a.u.) and 1.5 hr (28.92 ± 4.16 a.u) showed

lower G_{in}. In contrast, GFP(+) cells after 3 hr (25.72 ± 3.63 a.u.) showed high G_{in} similar to GFP(-/high) cells.

Ca. Time course of G_{in} before and after somatic conditioning (indicated as blue arrowhead). Time points

at which G_{in} was measured for comparison between cell groups and the representative traces are shown

in *Cb* are indicated as black and red arrowheads (before and 30 min after somatic conditioning,

respectively). **Cb-Cc.** Representative voltage traces for different cell groups (same color code as *B* and *Ca*).

Traces for baseline G_{in} [GFP(-/high), 6.25 ± 0.26 nS (n = 8); GFP(+) at 1 hr, 4.68 ± 0.33 nS (n = 8); GFP(+) at

1.5 hr, 4.48 ± 0.33 nS (n = 5); GFP(+) at 3 hr, 6.59 ± 0.28 nS, p < 0.001 (n = 7)] were indicated as gray color.

Cc, Summary of G_{in} before (gray) and after (red) somatic conditioning (time, $F_{(1,24)}$ = 66.042; fluorescence,

$F_{(3,24)}$ = 3.705, p = 0.025; time x fluorescence, $F_{(3,24)}$ = 25.712, p < 0.001, RM-ANOVA; For 1 hr, baseline vs.

post-SC, p = 0.837; For 1.5 hr, baseline vs. post-SC, p =0.554; GLM and simple effect analysis).

Fig. 6

Fig. 6, **LTP-IE occurs in CA3 ensemble cells and may be reversed in part of twice-activated ensemble cells**.

Aa. Timeline of experimental procedures. *Upper*: Mice were subject to CFC in context A for 5 min, and

kept in homecage for 1 hr or 1.5 hr before ex vivo study (ctxA60 and ctxA90 mice). **Ab**. Mice additionally

visited context B 25 min after CFC, and then were kept in homecage (ctxAB mice). **Ba-d.** Fluorescence

images of two AF594-loaded CA3-PCs with low (Ba-b) and high (Bc-d) G/R ratios. **Be.** Summary for G/R

ratios. **Ca.** Time course of G_{in} changes in response to somatic conditioning. *Inset*, voltage response to 10

Hz somatic conditioning for 2 s (blue arrowhead). Small arrowheads indicate the time at which

representative traces shown in *Cb* and *Cc* were recorded. **Cb.** Representative traces for voltage responses

to -30 pA and +10 pA current steps in GFP(-), ctxA60(+), ctxA90(+), and ctxAB(+) cells. Traces before

conditioning are depicted in gray color, and those after somatic conditioning are in the same color codes

as in *Ca*. **Cc.** *Upper*, Representative voltage traces for G_{in} in ctxAB(++/1) and ctxAB(++/2) cells. *Lower*:

ctxAB(++) cells were clustered into two groups based on baseline G_{in} and G_{in} ratios before and after

somatic conditioning using k-means analysis. There was a significant difference between CtxAB(++/1) and

CtxAB(++/2) groups, and the centroids of two cell groups were depicted as cross symbols. **Cd-Ce.** Baseline

G_{in} (*Cd*) and G_{in} ratio (*Ce*) as a function of green-to-red fluorescence ratio (G/R ratio). The same color codes

used in *Ca-Ce*. **Da-b.** Representative traces for single AP evoked by short current injection and mean AP

onset time before and after somatic conditioning (condition, $F_{(5,27)}$ = 2.465, p = 0.058; time, $F_{(1,27)}$ = 8.011,

p = 0.009; condition x time: $F_{(5,27)}$ = 7.633, p < 0.001; GLM and simple effect analysis). **Dc-d.** Representative

traces for first AP latency by ramp current injection and summary for change of first AP latency (condition,

$F_{(5,27)}$ = 3.044, p = 0.026; time, $F_{(1,27)}$ = 11.951, p = 0.002; condition x time, $F_{(5,27)}$ = 4.570, p = 0.004). AP

onset time compared to GFP(-) cells, ctxA60(+), p < 0.001; ctxA90(+), p < 0.001; ctxAB(+), p < 0.001. For

first AP latency, ctxA60(+), p < 0.001; ctxA90(+), p < 0.001; ctxAB(+), p < 0.001.

Fig. 7

Fig. 7, Depotentiation of PP-EPSPs in twice-activated ensemble cells. **Aa.** Baseline EPSP/EPSC ratio as a

function of G/R fluorescence ratio. **Ab.** Potentiation of EPSP/EPSC ratio (ordinate) is closely correlated

with baseline G_{in} (abscissa). Color codes for GFP(-), gray; ctxA60(+), blue; ctxA90(+), green; ctxAB(+),

orange; ctxAB(++/1), violet; ctxAB(++/2), red. **Ba-b.** Representative traces for PP-EPSCs (*a*) and EPSPs (b)

before (gray) and after (colored) somatic conditioning. The same color codes as in *A*. **Bc.** Time courses of

PP-EPSP/EPSC ratio changes caused by somatic conditioning (large blue arrowhead at 0 min). *Inset*, AP

train induced by the somatic conditioning. Representative traces shown in a-b were recorded at time

points indicated by small arrowheads (black, baseline; red, 25 min). The same color codes as in *A*

(condition: $F_{(5,33)}$ = 6.657, p < 0.001; time: $F_{(1,33)}$ = 20.375, p < 0.001; condition x time: $F_{(5,33)}$ = 8.813, p <

0.001; GLM and simple effect analysis). **C.** Summary for PP-EPSC (*a*) and EPSP (*b*) amplitudes before (gray)

and after (red) somatic conditioning. For EPSC, conditioning, $F_{(5,33)}$ = 0.406, p = 0.841; time, $F_{(1,33)}$ = 0.130,

p = 0.720; condition × time, $F_{(5,33)}$ = 0.891, p = 0.498. For EPSP, conditioning, $F_{(5,33)}$ = 2.385, p = 0.059; time,

$F_{(1,33)}$ = 21.676, p < 0.001; condition × time, $F_{(5,33)}$ = 13.016, p < 0.001; RM-ANOVA. For pre- vs post-SC

EPSPs (*Cb*), ctxA60(+), p = 0.33; ctxA90(+), p = 0.160; ctxAB(+), p = 0.811; ctxAB(++/1), p = 0.368;

ctxAB(++/2), p < 0.001; GFP(-), p < 0.001. **D.** PP-EPSP amplitude as a function of PP-EPSC of each CA3-PC.

The EPSP/EPSC ratio of CA3-PCs were categorized into two groups: high and low slope groups ($F_{(6,39)}$ =

17.181, p < 0.001, 1-way ANOVA and Tukey HSD). Note that the post-SC EPSC/EPSC ratio of GFP(-) cells

belonged to the high slope group. **E**. Somatic conditioning-induced potentiation of EPSP/EPSC ratio as a

function of its baseline value. CA3-PCs were classified using k-mean analysis. There was a significant

difference between ctxAB(GFP++/1) and ctxAB(GFP++/2) groups. The same color codes as in *A*.

Fig. 8.

Fig. 8, LTP-IE does not occur in CA3 ensemble cells of ZnT3 hetero-knockout mice. **Aa.** G_{in} changes before

and after 50 Hz MF stimulation for 1 s in CA3-PCs of ZnT3HT mice (open symbols). The G_{in} changes induced

by 20 Hz 2 s MF (pink) and 50 Hz 1s MF stimulation (light blue) were reproduced from our previous study

(Eom et al. 2019). **Ab.** *Upper*: Representative traces for G_{in} before (black) and 25 min after MF conditioning

(upper) in CA3-PCs of ZnT3HT mice. *Lower*: Summary for G_{in} before and after 50 Hz MF conditioning in

CA3-PCs from ZnT3HT mice (n = 5, t = -1.141, p = 0.318, paired t-test). **B.** Timeline of experimental

procedure. **Ca.** G_{in} before and after 10 Hz 2 s somatic conditioning in CA3-PCs of ZnT3-HT/cfos-shEGFP

mice (black),. G_{in} before and after somatic conditioning in other groups of CA3-PCs were reproduced from

previous figure (Fig. 6, the same but pale colour codes). **Cb.** Representative traces for G_{in} before (black)

and 25 min after conditioning (*upper*) and summary of G_{in} before and after somatic conditioning in CA3-

PCs from ZnT3HT/cfos-shEGFP mice (n = 6, t = 7.675, p = 0.001, paired t-test). **Da-b.** Baseline G_{in} (*Ca*) and

post/pre-conditioning G_{in} ratio (*Cb*) as a function of G/R ratio in CA3-PCs of ZnT3-HT/cfos-shEGFP mice

(black). Colored symbols are reproduced from Fig. 6 with pale color.

Fig. 9

Fig. 9 Input-specific bi-directional regulation of intrinsic excitability may contribute to sequential

memories. A. Schematic illustration of CA3 network model comprised of pyramidal cells (PCs, black

triangles) and an inhibitory interneuron (IN, green circle). **Ba.** Input patterns via MF (red dots) and PP (blue

dots) during encoding phase. Inset, broken boxed region in an expanded scale. **Bb**. Raster plot of network

responses to the input patterns shown in Ba. The distributions for the number of MF and PP inputs per a

pattern are shown in Fig. S5D. The cell indices of 1 to 1000 are PCs, and the rest cell indices (1001 ~ 1200)

are INs. **C,** Ca^{2+} (blue) and Zn^{2+} (red) transients in a PC in the **M_1** subset (cell id = 96) during the encoding

phase. The timings of input pattern arrival are indicated by arrows below the abscissa. The intrinsic

excitability index (IE, green broken line) starts to increase when both $[Ca^{2+}]$ and $[Zn^{2+}]$ are higher than their

thresholds (Caθ1 = 1.5 a.u.; Znθ = 3 a.u.). When IE > 0.7, the arrival of subsequent PP inputs elicits a CaT

devoid of Zn^{2+} signaling. When CaTs is higher than Caθ2 (= 0.9 a.u.) without Zn^{2+} signal, the IE returns to

the baseline. Afterwards, this PC does not fire any longer in response to PP inputs alone. Note that the

kinetics of Ca^{2+}, Zn^{2+} and IE were assumed faster than real values for the sake of reducing computing time

(decay τ for CaT and ZnT = 150 and 300 ms, respectively; rise and decay τ for IE = 150 and 50 ms,

respectively). **D.** Part of matrix of A/C synaptic weights (boxed in the Inset) resulting from training the

recurrent network using a series of 4 patterns shown in Ba. Rows and columns represent indices of post-

and pre-synaptic CA3-PCs, respectively. Synaptic weights are color-coded as shown on the right bar. Note

that sparse potentiation of synaptic weights between **M_1** (cell index, 1-200) and **M_2** (cell index, 201-400)

but not between **M_1** and **M_3** (cell index, 401-600). **E**, *Left*, Raster plot of network responses to the PP inputs

shown in Fig. S5E. Note that most PP inputs are terminated in 30 ms (Fig. S5E), but the complete recall of

M_1 is accomplished by recurrent connections that have been strengthened during encoding phase. In turn,

hetero-association between **M_1** and **M_2** that occurred during encoding phase allows subsequent activation

of **M_2**, and so on. Right, cumulative fraction of activated PCs in each ensemble.

 Supplementary Figure Legends

 Fig. S1

Fig. S1 Intracellular signaling cascade that mediates MF conditioning-induced downregulation of Kv1.2

in CA3-PCs based on our previous studies (Hyun et al., 2013, 2015; Eom et al. 2019). (1) High frequency

MF input elicits back-propagating APs (bAPs), which induce dendritic Ca^{2+} signaling through L-type voltage-

dependent Ca^{2+} channels (VDCC). (2) The dendritic Ca^{2+} signaling activates protein tyrosine kinase (PTK),

which induces endocytosis of Kv1.2 at distal apical dendrites. This downregulation of Kv1.2 underlies LTP-

IE. (3) The dendritic Ca2+ signaling activates not only PTK but also receptor protein tyrosine phosphatase

alpha (RPTPα), which antagonizes the PTK-dependent downregulation of Kv1.2. Thus, dendritic Ca^{2+}

signaling alone caused by bAPs upon somatic current injection induces LTP-IE only in a narrow range of

$[Ca^{2+}]i$ (c.a. 340-380 nM, Eom et al., 2019). (4) High frequency MF input, however, induces intracellular

Zn^{2+} signaling together with bAP-mediated Ca^{2+}-signaling in postsynaptic CA3-PCs. The Zn2+ signaling

inhibits RPTPα, and thus disinhibits the action of PTK leading to facilitation of LTP-IE.

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 Fig. S2

Fig. S2. **Test for stability of whole-cell patch recordings in the presence of 5 mM GSH in the pipette**

solution. Aa. Time course for baseline-normalized input conductance (G_{in}) of CA3-PCs. Inset,

Representative traces for measuring G_{in} at the time indicated by arrowheads (black, 5 min; red, 45 min).

Ab. Summary for G_{in} of CA3-PCs. Reduced glutathione (GSH) in the patch pipette solution did not change

G_{in} of CA3-PCs over time (3.72 ± 0.42 nS to 3.87 ± 0.35 nS, n = 5, t = 0.223 p = 0.834, paired t-test). **Ba.**

Baseline-normalized PP-EPSP amplitude. *Inset*, Representative traces for PP-EPSPs at the time indicated

by arrowhead (black, 5 min; red, 45 min). **Bb**. Mean values for PP-EPSP amplitude. GSH in patch pipette

solution did not change the PP-EPSP amplitude over time (0.66 ± 0.06 mV to 0.57 ± 0.11 mV, n = 5, t =

0.040, p = 0.970, paired t-test). Comparison of these G_{in} and PP-EPSP amplitudes with those measured

without GSH (reproduced from ref. 3) revealed that neither the baseline G_{in} nor PP-EPSPs was altered by

intracellular GSH (G_{in} with GSH, 4.63 ± 1.47 nS, n = 14; G_{in} without GSH, 3.75 ± 0.51 nS, n = 9; t = -1.722, p

= 0.100, independent t-test; PP-EPSP with GSH, 0.56 ± 0.04 mV, n = 7; PP-EPSP without GSH, 0.66 ± 0.05

nS, n = 9; t = 1.512, p = 0.162 independent t-test). **Ca.** Representative membrane voltage responses to

somatic ramp current injection (250 pA/s, black, at 5 min; red, at 45 min). **Cb.** The 1st AP latency remained

stable (687.4 ± 78.73 ms to 662.4 ± 99.6 nS, n = 5, t = 0.362, p = 0.736, paired t-test). **Cc.** The AP threshold

of CA3-PCs did not change throughout the recording in the presence of GSH. (-43.67 mV to -42.28 mV, n

= 5, t = -1.16, p = 0.311, paired t-test).

1053

Fig. S3

Fig. S3, **The somatic or MF conditioning lowers the threshold for homosynaptic induction of LTP of PP-**

EPSCs (PP-LTP) in CA3-PCs. WCRs of CA3-PCs were done using GSH-free patch pipette solution. **Aa** and **Ba**.

Baseline-normalized amplitudes of PP-EPSPs (evoked every 10 s) were monitored before and after high-

frequency stimulation of PP-CA3 synapses (PP-HFS, red arrow) with weak (*Aa*) or strong (*Ba*) stimulation

intensity. PP-HFS is comprised of 10 bursts every 10 s, and each burst of 20 stimuli at 100 Hz. The

stimulation intensity was quantified by the baseline PP-EPSC amplitude (weak, < 12.55 pA; strong, > 12.55

pA). Upper red traces show voltage responses to PP-HFS. A single burst response was annotated as a gray

box, and shown in the expanded time scale on the right. Note that weak PP-HFS induced neither APs (*Aa*)

nor PP-LTP, whereas somatic APs were evoked during strong PP-HFS (*Ba*). EPSP amplitudes of non-failure

events were normalized to the baseline value in the same cell. Recording times for the representative

EPSC and EPSP traces (insets) are denoted in the main graph by the numbers (black, control; red, 30 min

after PP-HFS). **Ab** and **Bb**. Mean amplitudes of PP-EPSC and PP-EPSP before and 30 min after PP-HFS in

cases of PP-LTP induction failure (*Ab*), and in cases when LTP was induced (*Bb*). **C**. Plot of potentiation

ratio of PP-EPSCs induced by PP-HFS as a function of the baseline EPSC amplitude, which is a metric of PP

stimulation intensity. PP-LTP was induced in naïve CA3-PCs (gray symbols), and in CA3PCs that underwent

MF (red) or somatic (blue) conditioning delivered before PP-HFS. A logistic function (baseline: 108.14 ±

16.8%, max: 201.75 ± 29.6%, slope: 0.35578 ± 0.734, $EPSC_{50}$ = 13.077 ± 0.635 pA) was fitted to the LTP

level of naïve CA3-PCs. **Da**. Voltage responses to weak PP-HFS in the CA3-PCs which underwent MF (upper,

red) or somatic conditioning (lower, blue). The response to a single burst stimulation annotated as gray

box is shown in the expanded time, in the right of each voltage responses. **Db**. PP-EPSC amplitude changes

caused by MF or somatic conditioning (blue arrowhead) and subsequent PP-HFS (indicated by gray arrow

at 0 min). Note that PP-LTP is readily induced by weak PP-HFS once the CA3-PC underwent MF (red

symbols) or somatic (blue symbols) conditioning. **Dc**. Representative traces of PP-EPSCs (left) and PP-

EPSPs (right) recorded at the times as indicated by the numbers in *Db* (black, baseline; blue, after MF

(upper) or somatic (lower) conditioning; red, after PP-HFS). Note that MF or somatic conditioning

enhanced PP-EPSPs but not PP-EPSCs, while both were enhanced by PP-HFS. **Ea-Eb**. Mean amplitudes of

PP-EPSCs measured at the baseline, after MF (*Ea*) or somatic (*Eb*) conditioning, and after PP-HFS

(conditioning: $F_{(1,19)}$ = 0.065, p = 0.802, time: $F_{(1,19)}$ = 74.965, p < 0.001, time × conditioning: $F_{(1,19)}$ = 0.012,

p = 0.915; GLM and simple effect analysis). **Ec-d**. Mean amplitudes of PP-EPSPs measured at the baseline,

after MF (*Ec*) or somatic conditioning (*Ed*), and after PP-HFS (conditioning: $F_{(1,19)}$ = 3.856, p = 0.064, time:

$F_{(1,19)}$ = 11.858, p < 0.001, time × conditioning: $F_{(1,19)}$ = 0.886, p = 0.358; GLM and simple effect analysis).

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Fig. S4

Fig. S4 Analysis of Fluorescence intensity of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs. A. Schematic timeline of the

experimental procedure. *Upper*: Mice visited context A for 5 min and then returned to homecage for 85

min, and sacrificed for *ex vivo* study (denoted as ctxA). *Lower*: After visiting context A for 5 min and being

kept in homecage for 25 min, mice visited context B or C for 5 min, and then were kept in homecage for

55 min before ex vivo study (denoted as ctxAB). **B**. Maximum intensity projection of Z-stack confocal

images (Z_{max} image) of hippocampal CA3 region obtained from ctxA mice (Ba) and ctxAB mice (Bc). The

right graph of each image shows the fluorescence intensity profiles of boxed GFP(+) CA3-PCs as a function

of depth from a surface the slices. The same color codes are used for each box and corresponding profile.

Fluorescence signals above a threshold of 5× the SD of baseline fluctuation were regarded as a

fluorescence signal of GFP(+) CA3-PCs. **C**. Plot of maximum fluorescence intensity (F_{max}) of individual

GFP(+) CA3-PCs as a function of the depth at which F_{max} of each cell was measured. Distribution of GFP

fluorescence measured in GFP(+) CA3-PCs from ctxAB or ctxAC mice was bimodal, in contrast to those of

ctxA mice, and thus CA3-PCs from ctxAB or ctxAC mice were clustered into two groups: cells displaying

low or high GFP fluorescence. **Cb**. Mean fluorescence of GFP(+) CA3-PCs measured in different cell groups.

There was no significant difference in the fluorescence intensity between high fluorescence ctx AB and

ctx AC cells. **D.** Histogram of fluorescence intensity of shEGFP(+) CA3-PCs from either ctxA (*Da*) or ctxAB

(*Db*) mice. In each plot, mono- and bi-lognormal fits are shown. Mono- and bi-lognormal fits were better

for ctxA and ctxAB, respectively. The best fit parameters of log-normal function [$y = A*exp[-(ln(x/m)/s)^2]$]

for ctxA: A = 11.6, m = 37.6, s = 1.24. Those for ctxAB, A_1 = 7.41, m_1 = 55.87, s_1 = 1.106, A_2 = 1.497, m_2 =

521.6, s2 = 0.29.

Fig. S5.

Fig. S5, A. Connectivity map between PCs and INs (blue, not connected; light blue, connected). PCs are

indexed from 1 to 1000, and INs are from 1001 to 1200. The baseline synaptic conductance between PCs

(J_{ee}) was set to a random value between 0 and 0.35 nS. The synaptic conductance values for PCs-to-INs

(J_{ie}), INs-to-PCs (J_{ei}), INs-to-INs (J_{ii}) were set to 0.4 nS. c, connection probability; J, baseline synaptic weight;

e, excitatory; i, inhibitory; J_{YX}, synaptic conductance from X to Y. **Ba-Bb**, STDP rule at A/C and PP synapses.

The LTP ratio (L), was modelled as, $L(\Delta t) = 2 \exp(-|\Delta t|/40)$ for A/C synapses. For PP synapses, $L(\Delta t) = 2$

$\exp(-\Delta t/30)$ if $\Delta t \geq 0$, and $-0.5 \exp(\Delta t/15)$ if $\Delta t < 0$. **C**, To emulate a distal dendritic spike elicited by PP

inputs to a primed PC (Hyun et al., 2015), the inward current pulse was injected upon arrival of PP inputs

in a primed PC (Jahnke et al., 2015). **D**, Distributions of the number of MF and PP inputs to each CA3-PC

per a pattern. Left, the number of MF inputs to a CA3-PC in an active **M** subset was set to a random

number which follows log-normal distribution with $\mu = 1$ and $\sigma = 0.6$. The MF input numbers were bounded

by [3, 15]. Right, Distributions for the number of PP inputs during recall and encoding phases are

compared (red and blue bars, respectively). The PP input numbers were also set by random values of

lognormal distribution with $\mu = 1.8$ and $\sigma = 0.3$ for encoding phase [number of inputs, 6.33 ± 3.77 (mean

$\pm$ variance)], and by those with $\mu = 1.2$ and $\sigma = 0.3$ for recall phase [number of inputs, 3.47 ± 1.14]. The

number of PP inputs was bounded by [3, 20] for encoding, and by [0, 10] for recall. **E**, The cue input

incoming via PP that triggers retrieval of M_1. The PP inputs are light-blue colored if the synaptic weights

have been strengthened during the encoding phase, and magenta otherwise.

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Fig. 2

Fig. 6

Fig. 7

A

PCs
$c_{ee} = 0.1$
$J_{ee} = [0, 0.35]$

$c_{ei} = 0.2$
$J_{ei} = 0.4$

$c_{ii} = 0.6$
$J_{ii} = 0.4$

INs
$c_{ie} = 0.2$
$J_{ie} = 0.4$

Postsyn. cell index

Presyn. cell index

Ba

A/C-LTP

Bb

PP-LTP

Δt (ms)

C

1 nA

2 ms

D

No. of PC units

No. of MF inputs
per a pattern

No. of PC units

encoding

recall

No. of PP inputs
per a pattern

E

Partial cue incoming via PP

Postsyn. cell index

ms