Ternary representation of contextual information along the CA1 transverse axis

Ya-Li Duan[1,3,4], Shu-Yi Hu[1,3,4], Xiao-Fan Ge[1,2], Jia-Li Long[1,3], Chu Deng[1,3], Yu-Ming Sun[1,3], Cheng-Ji Li[1,2], Rong Zhang[1,2], Xing Cai[1,2], Li Lu[1,2,5]

1. Key Laboratory of Genetic Evolution & Animal Models, and Key Laboratory of Animal Models & Human Disease Mechanisms of Yunnan Province, Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming, Yunnan 650201, China

2. National Research Facility for Phenotypic & Genetic Analysis of Model Animals (Primate Facility), Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming, Yunnan 650107, China

3. Kunming College of Life Science, University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Kunming, Yunnan 650204, China

4. Equal contribution

5. Corresponding author

Abstract

The function of CA1 region in the rat hippocampus is transversely organized, aligning with input profiles from the entorhinal cortex and the CA3-CA2 region. We asked how CA1 neurons respond diversely to various contextual changes along the transverse axis, and how it may be influenced by selective inputs from upstream brain regions. Neuronal activity across the entire proximo-distal extent of CA1 in Long-Evans rats was monitored under manipulations of spatial or non-spatial environmental cues. Our results identified three distinct patterns of cue representation that varied from the proximal to the distal end of CA1: a descending gradient in spatial information processing, an ascending gradient in representation of local object features, and a reverse J-shaped pattern in response to non-spatial cue manipulation. This heterogeneity is closely linked to the nature of information altered in the environment, suggesting an involvement of upstream cue-selective neurons in shaping CA1 function.

30   **Key words:**

31   CA1, transverse axis, remapping, spatial context, non-spatial cues, object

Introduction

The hippocampus plays a pivotal role in spatial navigation and episodic memory. In rodents,

the collective localized firing of hippocampal neurons, known as place cells, generates a

cognitive map of the spatial environment and provides a framework for associating episodic

memories (Sugar et al. 2019). The hippocampus in rodents creates distinct representations

within populations of place cells to reflect changes in the animal's internal state or the external

environment (Colgin et al. 2008). The place cell system employs discrete population codes to

orthogonalize the pattern of activity in response to significant alterations in spatial context,

known as global remapping. Conversely, it maintains the same population code for a given

space but redistributes firing rates to distinguish non-spatial differences such as color, odor, and

motivation, a process termed rate remapping (Latuske et al. 2017). The activity of place cells

is modulated by inputs from surrounding brain regions (the para-hippocampal region),

particularly the entorhinal cortex (EC), which interconnects with various cortical and

subcortical regions, integrates incoming multimodal sensory information, and conveys highly

processed signals to the hippocampus (Canto et al. 2008). The medial division of the entorhinal

cortex (MEC) contains several specialized cell types, including grid cells (Hafting et al. 2005),

aperiodic spatial cells (Fyhn et al. 2004), head direction cells (Sargolini et al. 2006), border

cells (Solstad et al. 2008), and speed cells (Kropff et al. 2015), which together form a dynamic

representation of the animal's location in space (Long et al. 2022, Tukker et al. 2022). In contrast,

the lateral division of the entorhinal cortex (LEC) exhibits minimal spatial selectivity in open

fields (Hargreaves et al. 2005, Huang et al. 2023). Most neurons in LEC represent non-spatial

features of the animal's ongoing experience, such as object (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Tsao et al.

2013), odor (Igarashi et al. 2014, Leitner et al. 2016), time (Tsao et al. 2018), and animal's

egocentric position relative to landmarks (Wang et al. 2018), supplying the hippocampus with

a temporal progression of events (Sugar et al. 2019). Spatial and non-spatial information is

processed separately within the medial and lateral divisions of EC (Knierim et al. 2014), thus

potentially influencing the activity of hippocampal neurons in distinct pathways through MEC

and LEC inputs.

The divergent information from EC converges at both early and later stages of the hippocampal

circuit through different pathways. In dentate gyrus (DG), the distal portion of CA3 (dCA3,

near CA2), and CA2, projections from layer II of MEC and LEC terminate on distinct dendritic

segments of the same neuron. In CA1 and subiculum, medial and lateral fibers from layer III

of EC predominantly terminate on separate cell populations at different positions along the

transverse axis. MEC neurons preferentially project to the proximal portion of CA1 (pCA1),

near CA2, and the distal part of subiculum, away from CA1, whereas LEC neurons primarily

terminate their axons in the distal portion of CA1 (dCA1) and the adjacent proximal part of

subiculum (Cappaert et al. 2015, Nilssen et al. 2019). Additionally, MEC axons innervate a

greater number of neurons in the deep CA1 pyramidal cell layer, while LEC fibers

predominantly excite superficial pyramidal neurons in CA1 (Masurkar et al. 2017). Within the

hippocampus, mossy fiber inputs from DG decrease, and recurrent excitatory connections

increase in parallel along the CA3-to-CA2 axis. The proximal portion of CA3 (pCA3, engulfed

by DG) preferentially projects to dCA1, while dCA3/CA2 fibers primarily terminate at

neighboring pCA1. Pyramidal neurons in pCA1 and dCA1, in turn, send their axons to the distal

and proximal subiculum, respectively. Ultimately, CA1 and subiculum, as the major output

regions of the hippocampus, send reciprocal projections to the deep layers of EC (Cappaert et

al. 2015).

The distinct signals from medial and lateral divisions of EC (Knierim et al. 2014), in

conjunction with the topographically organized intrinsic and extrinsic hippocampal connections

(Cappaert et al. 2015), result in functional segregation along the proximo-distal axis within the

hippocampus. Examinations of the expression pattern of immediate-early genes have identified

sub-networks with distinct mnemonic functions along the transverse axis. The pCA3-dCA1

network preferentially processes non-spatial information, such as time, odor, and object, across

a variety of behavioral tasks, while the dCA3-pCA1 network is more engaged in tasks requiring

spatial memory (Ito et al. 2012, Hartzell et al. 2013, Nakamura et al. 2013, Nakazawa et al.

2016, Beer et al. 2018, Flasbeck et al. 2018). Electrophysiological recordings reveal a graded spatial representation along the transverse axis of the hippocampus proper, with stronger spatial tuning observed in pCA3 and pCA1 compared with dCA3/CA2 and dCA1 (Henriksen et al. 2010, Lee et al. 2015, Lu et al. 2015, Oliva et al. 2016), a more coherent spatial representation to conflicting local and global cues in dCA1 than in pCA1 (Deshmukh 2021), as well as a decreased sensitivity to contextual changes or conflicting cues along the CA3-to-CA2 axis (Lee et al. 2015, Lu et al. 2015). Furthermore, recordings from multiple brain regions also highlight the importance of coordinated ensemble activity between LEC and dCA1 in odor-associated memory (Igarashi et al. 2014, Li et al. 2017). However, the specific manner in which CA1 neurons respond to contextual changes along the transverse axis and the degree to which selective inputs from upstream brain regions determine their activity remain unclear. To investigate this, we manipulated spatial, color, and object cues in the recording environment and compared changes in place cell ensemble activity across the entire proximo-distal extent of CA1.

Methods

Subjects

The experiments were conducted at the Kunming Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences (Kunming, China) in compliance with the guidelines for the care and use of laboratory animals. The study received approval from the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee of the Kunming Institute of Zoology (KIZ-IACUC-RE-2021-06-019). Data were collected from twenty male Long-Evans rats (3–4 months old, 500–600 g at the time of implantation). Five rats (IDs: 17899, 18547, 18548, 18549, 19326) from a previous study (Lu et al. 2015) contributed data from proximal half of CA1. The remaining fifteen rats (IDs: R0087, R0088, R0089, R0092, R0172, R0175, R0388, R0389, R0390, R0391, R0621, R0769, R0836, R1026, R1028) were implanted with a multi-tetrode "hyperdrive" targeting the right hippocampus. The animals were maintained on a reversed 12-hour light/dark cycle (lights off from 9 am to 9 pm) under standard laboratory conditions (temperature: 20–23°C, relative humidity: 40–60%). Following surgery, the rats were housed individually, and experimental procedures were

conducted during the dark phase. During the experimental period, the animals were mildly food

restricted to maintain their weight at 85%–90% of free-feeding body weight.

Electrode preparation

The multi-tetrode "hyperdrive" which consisted of 18 independently movable tetrodes made

of 17-μm polyimide-coated platinum-iridium (90–10%) wire (California Fine Wires, USA) was

prepared as previously described (Lu et al. 2018). The electrode tips were plated to reduce

impedance to 150–250 kΩ at 1 kHz (Biomega, Bio-Signal Technologies, China) and sterilized

with ethylene oxide (Sanqiang Medical, China) within 48 hours before implantation.

Surgery

Rats were anesthetized with isoflurane (air flow: 0.8–1.0 L/min, 0.5–3% isoflurane vol/vol

mixed with oxygen), with the concentration adjusted based on physiological monitoring (RWD

Life Science, China). Upon induction of anesthesia, Metacam (2 mg/mL, 1 mg/kg body weight),

Baytril (50 mg/mL, 5 mg/kg) and atropine (0.5 mg/mL, 0.1 mg/kg) were administered

subcutaneously. The animal's head was then fixed in a stereotaxic frame (RWD Life Science,

China). Local anesthetic (2% Lidocaine, 200 μL) was applied under the skin before making the

incision. After removing the skull and dura, the rats were immediately implanted with the

hyperdrive. Tetrodes were inserted into the cortical surface above the right hippocampus

(antero-posterior (AP) from 3.2 to 5.6 mm, medio-lateral (ML) from 1.0 to 4.5 mm relative to

bregma). The hyperdrive was secured to the skull with jewelers' screws and dental cement. Two

screws above the cerebellum were connected to the hyperdrive ground, and two reference

tetrodes were left in a quiet area of the cortex for differential recording.

Electrophysiological recordings

For the initial 3–4 weeks post-surgery, the tetrodes were advanced daily until the dorsal CA1

pyramidal cell layer was reached, where large-amplitude theta-modulated complex-spike

activity was observed. The electrodes remained stationary on the recording day to ensure stable

recordings. Broadband neural signals were recorded from hyperdrive using a multichannel data

acquisition system (Zeus, Bio-Signal Technologies, China). Unit activity was amplified (× 192)

and band-pass filtered (300 to 7,500 Hz). Spike waveforms exceeding the −50 μV threshold

were time-stamped and digitized at 30 kHz for 1 ms. Local field potential (LFP) signals, one

per tetrode, were recorded in the 0.3–300 Hz frequency band at a sampling rate of 1,000 Hz.

Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) on the headstage were tracked simultaneously at a 50 Hz to

monitor the animal's position, using a real-time video tracking system (Cyclops, Bio-Signal

Technologies, China).

Behavioral paradigms

Each task comprised four 10-minute exploration trials within the recording box, and five 5-

minute rest periods in a flower pot placed on a pedestal outside the box (Figure S1A).

Exploration trials were designed in an A-B-B-A configuration, with A and B representing

distinct test conditions. Animals were motivated to explore the recording box by randomly

scattered cookie crumbs. One week after surgery, mildly food-restricted rats were trained daily

in the color-reversal task in two separate rooms until they could cover the entire arena within

10 minutes across all trials. Once the tetrodes reached the CA1 cell layer, the animal underwent

sequential testing and recording in the color-reversal task, the two-room task and three object-

related tasks.

Test environments

Recording boxes measured 100 cm × 100 cm, featuring a metal frame and four individually

exchangeable plastic walls (black on one side, white on the other; 100 cm × 50 cm). Cue cards

(white cue card for black walls and vice versa; 50 cm high and 30 cm wide) were placed at the

center of one wall. Distal background cues were obscured by curtains encircling the recording

box (120 cm × 120 cm in size) for the color-reversal task and object-related tasks but not for

the two-room task. The pedestal with a flower pot was positioned between the test box and the

experimenter, outside the curtains. The recording rooms for the two-room task were similar in

size but featured different spatial arrangements.

The color-reversal task

As detailed previously, this task was designed to elicit rate remapping in the hippocampus

(Leutgeb et al. 2005, Lu et al. 2013, Lu et al. 2015). Fifteen rats were trained/tested in the

recording box at a fixed location for four trials daily, with trials 1 and 4 conducted with black

walls and trials 2 and 3 with white walls (Figures S1B–C). The floor of the recording box was

cleaned and wiped with 75% ethanol after each trial.

The two-room task

This task was designed to evoke global remapping in the hippocampus (Leutgeb et al. 2005, Lu

et al. 2015). Fifteen rats were tested in similar recording boxes with black walls located at fixed

locations in two separate recording rooms, with trials 1 and 4 in room A and trials 2 and 3 in

room B (Figure S1D). The floor of the recording box was cleaned and wiped with 75% ethanol

after each trial.

Tasks with objects

The object-related tasks were designed to induce local firing changes in the hippocampus

(Vandrey et al. 2021, Nagelhus et al. 2023). Fourteen rats (excluding R0087) were sequentially

tested in the object-placement task, the object-relocation task, and the novel-object task

following the two-room task.

The object-placement task: Animals were tested in the black recording box at a constant

location for four trials, with two identical familiar objects (glass bottles filled with white stones)

placed in quadrants 3 and 4 of the box for trials 2 and 3 (Figures S1E–F). The floor of the

recording box was cleaned, and the objects were thoroughly wiped with 75% ethanol before

each trial.

The object-relocation task: Animals were tested in the black box containing two familiar objects

for four trials, with the object in quadrant 4 relocated to quadrant 1 for trials 2 and 3 (Figures

S1G–H). The floor of the recording box was cleaned, and the objects were thoroughly wiped

with 75% ethanol before each trial.

The novel-object task: Animals were tested in the black box containing two objects for four

trials, with the familiar object in quadrant 4 replaced by a novel object in trials 2 and 3 (Figures

S1I–J). The floor of the recording box was cleaned, and the objects were thoroughly wiped with

75% ethanol before each trial.

Occupation time and discrimination index

Occupation time (OT) and discrimination index (DI) were employed to quantify the rat's

preference for objects in the object-placement task and for the relocated/novel object in the

object-relocation and novel-object tasks. OT was defined as the proportion of time spent around

the objects relative to the total time in the recording box, and DI was calculated as:

$$DI = \frac{T_r - T_u}{T_r + T_u};$$

where T_r is the time rat spent around the relocated/replaced object, and T_u is the time rat spent

around the unchanged object. A higher DI value indicates a greater preference for the

relocated/novel object.

Histology and recording sites

Following the completion of electrophysiological recordings, the electrodes were maintained

in their positions. The rats were subsequently euthanized, perfused with formalin, and their

brains were extracted. Frozen sections, 40 μm in thickness, were prepared and stained using

cresyl-violet. The location of each tetrode tip was then identified and recorded. The subregions

of the hippocampal proper were delineated based on established criteria (Henriksen et al. 2010,

Cappaert et al. 2015). The software ImageJ was utilized to estimate the normalized position

along the proximo-distal axis of the CA1 region for each recording site. Hand-drawn lines

tracing the CA1 pyramidal cell layer were extended from the CA2/CA1 border to the

CA1/subiculum border, passing through the recording site on each section. The distance from

the CA2/CA1 border to the recording site was measured and normalized by the total length of

the CA1 region on the same section. Based on these normalized positions, recording sites were

categorized into proximal (pCA1, 0–0.33), middle (mCA1, 0.33–0.67), and distal (dCA1, 0.67–

1) subregions.

LFP power

Local field potential (LFP) signals, collected within a 15 cm radius around each object during trials 1 and 2, were extracted and concatenated for analysis. The Chronux Toolbox in Matlab (version 2.12, http://chronux.org/) was employed to estimate the absolute power spectra for consecutive 5-second time windows of the LFP, spanning frequencies from 0 to 100 Hz (Bokil et al. 2010). The time-bandwidth product (TW) was set to 3, and the number of tapers (K) was 5. The normalized change in LFP power at each frequency (1 Hz bins) surrounding each object was calculated using the following formula:

$$LFP\ power\ change = \frac{P_2 - P_1}{P_2 + P_1};$$

Where P_2 and P_1 represent the absolute LFP power at a specific frequency near the object in trials 2 and 1, respectively. Experiments with subpar recording quality were excluded from further analysis.

Spike sorting and cell classification

Spike sorting was conducted manually using the MClust graphical cluster-cutting tool in Matlab (version 4.4, A.D. Redish) in two-dimensional projections of the multidimensional parameter space (consisting of waveform amplitudes, waveform energies, and waveform peak-valley differences). Waveform and autocorrelation functions were also utilized as tools for separation and classification. Clustering was performed on the entire data set of each experiment, and then the spikes were subsequently divided into four exploration trials.

Putative excitatory cells were distinguished from putative interneurons and bypassing axons based on spike width (peak-to-trough waveform durations greater than 250 μs), average rate (less than 5 Hz), and the occasional presence of bursts. Only cells classified as putative excitatory neurons were included in the subsequent analyses. Cells that were recorded repeatedly in the same task were excluded from analyses.

Rate maps and place fields

Position estimates were based on tracking of the LEDs on the headstage connected to the

hyperdrive. Data were filtered for speed, including only epochs with instantaneous running speeds between 2.5 and 100 cm/s. The mean firing rate for each cell was calculated by summing the total number of spikes and dividing by the time the animal spent in that trial. Place field analyses were conducted exclusively for cells with a mean firing rate of 0.10 Hz or higher (defined as active cells). Spatial firing rate distributions (place fields) for each well-isolated neuron were generated by summing the spikes within a specific location bin (5 cm × 5 cm), dividing by the duration of time the rat occupied that location, and applying Gaussian smoothing centered on each bin, as previously described (Lu et al. 2015). A place field was defined as a contiguous region of at least 225 cm^2 (nine or more 5 × 5 cm bins) where the firing rate exceeded 20% of the peak rate and the peak firing rate of the area was 1 Hz or greater. The number of non-overlapping place fields was estimated for each cell.

Theta modulation and phase locking

The theta modulation index (TMI) was computed as described (Cacucci et al. 2004) to assess the temporal modulation of firing within the theta frequency range (7–10 Hz) of each cell. A temporal autocorrelogram was constructed by tallying the occurrences of a spike within each 5-ms bin, ranging from 0 to 500 ms, given a spike of the cell at time 0, and then dividing by the total trial length to determine the rate of occurrence for each bin. TMI was calculated as:

$$TMI = \frac{P-T}{P+T};$$

where P and T represent the theta modulation peak (mean of bins 100–140 ms) and trough (mean of time bins 50–70 ms), respectively.

Theta phase locking was quantified to measure the coupling of CA1 cells to hippocampal theta oscillations. LFP recordings were bandpass-filtered within the theta range (7–10 Hz), and theta phases for each time point were estimated using the Hilbert transform function from the Signal Processing Toolbox in Matlab. Theta phases for CA1 place cell spikes were collected and sorted into 10° bins. The mean vector length (MVL) was calculated using the Circular Statistics Toolbox in Matlab (version 1.21, P. Berens):

$$MVL = \left| \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (a_i \cos(\theta_i) + j a_i \sin(\theta_i)) \right|;$$

295   where j is the imaginary number, n is the number of circular bins ($n = 36$), θ_i and a_i are the theta

296   phase and the response for the i-th bin, respectively.

Spatial information, coherence and stability

299   The spatial information rate in bit per second (SI_r) and the spatial information content in bit per

300   spike (SI_c) were calculated as described (Skaggs et al. 1996):

301
$$SI_r = \sum_i p_i \lambda_i \log_2 \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda}; \ SI_c = \sum_i p_i \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda} \log_2 \frac{\lambda_i}{\lambda};$$

where λ_i is the mean firing rate of a unit in the i-th bin, λ is the overall mean firing rate and p_i is

the probability of the animal being in the i-th bin (occupancy in the i-th bin / total recording

time).

Spatial coherence was estimated as the first-order spatial autocorrelation of the unsmoothed

place field map, that is, the mean correlation between the firing rate of each bin and the averaged

firing rate in the eight adjacent bins.

Spatial stability was determined by comparing the firing pattern in the first half of each trial to

the second half. The rate map for each half was smoothed and binned into 5 cm × 5 cm matrices,

and the firing rates in the bins of the two half-trial maps were then correlated for each trial.

Spatial correlation

Firing patterns were compared across trials using a spatial correlation procedure. Each map was

smoothed and binned into 5 × 5 cm matrices, and the firing rates in the pixels of the two maps

were correlated for each cell. Spatial correlation between two inactive trials (firing rates both

below 0.1 Hz) was excluded to avoid artifacts. For the two-room task, rate maps were rotated

in 90° steps to identify the maximum spatial correlation score when compared across rooms.

For the color-reversal task and the two-room task, firing patterns were compared between trials

1 and 3, and trials 2 and 4 for different conditions to minimize the effect of elapsed time, while

trials 1 and 4, and trials 2 and 3 were compared for matching conditions. For object-related

tasks, firing patterns were compared between trials 1 and 2 for different conditions, and between

trials 2 and 3 for matching conditions to avoid the effect of hysteresis in trial 4.

Rate difference and rate difference by field

The change in overall firing rate across trials was calculated as rate difference (RD):

$$RD = \left| \frac{FR_1 - FR_2}{FR_1 + FR_2} \right| ;$$

where FR_1 is the mean firing rate of a cell in one trial; FR_2 is the mean firing rate of the same

cell in a second trial. RD = 1 means that the cell was active in one trial only; RD = 0 means that

the firing rates in the two trials were the same.

Rate difference by field (RD$_f$) was computed to mitigate the neutralization effect across

individual place fields from the same cell:

$$RD_f = \sum_i w_i RD_i ;$$

where RD_i is the rate difference of the i-th place field, and w_i is the weight of the i-th place field

estimated from its firing rate. RD$_f$ was not computed when changes in firing location occurred.

Population vector correlation

For the entire population of cells recorded under each condition, including those with firing

rates below 0.1 Hz and spatial information content below 0.9586 bit/spike, rate vectors were

constructed. This process involved arranging all rate maps for all cells in an x-y-z stack, where

x and y denoted the two spatial dimensions (20 × 20 bins), and z represented the cell-identity

index (Leutgeb et al. 2005). For the two-room task, rate maps were rotated analogously to the

spatial correlation analyses performed for each cell. The distribution of bin rates along the z

axis for a specific x-y location represented the composite population vector for that location.

Population vectors from corresponding positions were then correlated across pairs of trials.

Shuffling

Shuffling of spatial information content was conducted on a cell-by-cell basis as previously

described (Henriksen et al. 2010). Each CA1 cell recorded from the color-reversal task

underwent 100 permutations. In each permutation, the complete sequence of spikes fired by the

cell was time-shifted along the animal's path by a random interval ranging from 20 seconds to

the total trial length minus 20 seconds. The trial's end was wrapped back to the beginning to

allow for circular displacements. A rate map was generated for each permutation, and the

distribution of spatial information content values across all permutations for all CA1 cells was

determined. A putative excitatory neuron was considered a place cell if its spatial information

content exceeded the 95th percentile of the shuffled distribution (0.9586 bit/spike).

For each CA1 band, a control distribution for spatial correlation analyses was established

through a random permutation procedure. This procedure utilized all active maps (with mean

firing rates higher than 0.10 Hz) from all cells recorded within that band (Lu et al. 2015). For

each permutation, two distinct active maps from different cells were randomly selected and

correlated in 90° rotation steps to achieve the highest correlation score. Ten thousand

permutations were executed for each CA1 band. This method preserves the rate maps from each

band within the shuffled data while eliminating the connections between maps. The distribution

of random correlations from all 10,000 permutations was calculated, and the 95th percentile was

determined.

Bayesian decoding

A Bayesian decoding algorithm was employed to convert ensemble spiking activity into

positional information for each experiment. Decoding utilized a 2000 ms sliding time window

that advanced by 200 ms with each step. The probability of a rat being at position x, given the

number of spikes n from each unit recorded within a given time window, was estimated using

Bayes' rule (Glaser et al. 2020):

$$P(x \mid n) = \frac{P(n|x)P(x)}{P(n)};$$

Here, the probabilistic likelihood $P(n|x)$ used the probability mass function of the Poisson

distribution to calculate the likelihood of the observed number of spikes for a given neuron's

activity pattern:

$$P(n \mid x) = \frac{e^{-\lambda}\lambda^n}{n!};$$

where λ is the expected number of spikes based on the tuning curve, and n is the actual observed

number of spikes within the given time window. The prior knowledge probability of position

$P(x)$ was set to the frequency of the animal's presence in each state within the training data. The

normalizing constant $P(n)$ ensured that the posterior probability $P(x|n)$, was summed to 1. For

the visualization of decoding and the estimation of maximum decoding performance, only

experiments with over 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both CA1 bands were

considered. Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers, and this process was repeated

three times to determine the mean decoding accuracy value. For position decoding, 90% of the

4-trial data served as the training set, and the remaining 10% as the test set. This cross-validation

procedure was repeated ten times (10-fold validation). For context decoding, data from trials 2

and 3 formed the training set, and 90% of trial 1 data served as the test set. This procedure was

also repeated ten times. Decoding accuracy was expressed as:

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{\Sigma_i(\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2}{\Sigma_i(y_i - \bar{y})^2};$$

Where $\hat{y}_i$ and y_i are the predicted and true position of the i-th time bin, respectively, and $\bar{y}$ is the

mean position value.

Fitting

The EzyFit Toolbox in Matlab (version 2.44) was used to compute curve fitting for the average

data from tetrodes. The explained variance was calculated as:

$$R^2 = \frac{\Sigma_i(\hat{y}_i - \bar{y})^2}{\Sigma_i(y_i - \bar{y})^2};$$

where $\hat{y}_i$ is the predicted value based on the curve fitting and normalized position of each tetrode;

y_i is the averaged tetrode data; and $\bar{y}$ is the mean value across all tetrodes.

Statistical Procedures

Results are presented as median and interquartile range (IQR) due to the non-normal

distribution of most data. The Kruskal-Wallis test was utilized to compare the firing properties

of cells across CA1 bands. The Mann-Whitney U test and paired t-test were employed to

compare two groups of unrelated and related measures, respectively. One-way repeated-

measures ANOVA was applied to analyze running speed across trials. Regional differences in

remapping between two conditions were assessed using two-way repeated-measures ANOVA

with a 3 × 2 factor design, considering condition pairs (matching or different) as a within-subject factor and CA1 bands as a between-subjects factor. Pearson's chi-square test was used to compare frequency distribution across groups, and Pearson correlation was calculated to measure the linear correlation between two variables. Holm-Bonferroni post-hoc tests identified significant differences between pairs, and the Benjamini and Hochberg method corrected for false discovery rate (FDR) in multiple hypothesis testing. The significance level was set at $P < 0.05$ for two-tailed tests. All statistical analyses were conducted using SPSS statistics software version 25 (IBM).

Results

Recording Positions

A total of fifteen rats were implanted with tetrodes targeting the right hippocampus. An additional five rats from a prior study (Lu et al. 2015) contributed data from the proximal half of CA1 for both the color-reversal task and the two-room task. The majority of recording sites were concentrated in the dorsal one-third of the hippocampus, with the collective dataset covering the entire proximo-distal extent of the CA1 region (Figure 1A). To facilitate cross-animal comparisons, recording positions were normalized for each tetrode, and the CA1 region was divided into three equal sized bands, with the distribution as follows: 39 tetrodes in the proximal band (pCA1), 43 in the middle band (mCA1), and 31 in the distal band (dCA1) (Figure S2).

Decreased spatial tuning from pCA1 to dCA1

The animals were initially trained and tested in the color-reversal task, which involved navigating a square box with alternating black or white walls to chase scattered cookie crumbles (Figures S1A–C). A total of 178 experiments were recorded from twenty animals, with mean running speed decreased gradually across four trials (Figure S3A), in line with previous observations (Leutgeb et al. 2004, Tsao et al. 2013). Analysis of the data yielded 4,218 well-isolated, putative CA1 pyramidal neurons across 113 tetrodes, with 3,034 neurons demonstrating activity within the recording box (mean firing rate exceeding 0.1 Hz). The

proportion of active cells diminished along the transverse axis of the CA1 region (Figure S3B).

A total of 2,622 neurons with spatial information content scores above the 95th percentile of

shuffled distribution were classified as place cells (Figure S3C–D) and were selected for further

analysis. While the majority of active cells in CA1 displayed localized firing, a significantly

higher proportion of place cells was observed in the proximal two-thirds of CA1 relative to

dCA1 (Figure S3B).

We initiated our analyses by confirming the variance in place coding among CA1 subregions.

Examination of place cell activity maps revealed that pCA1 contained cells with sharper and

fewer place fields (Figure 1B). A significant divergence in peak firing rates was noted across

subcompartments (median (25%–75% percentile), pCA1, 5.327 (3.103–8.262) Hz, mCA1,

4.948 (3.065–7.411) Hz, dCA1, 4.660 (2.854–7.407) Hz; Kruskal-Wallis test, 2,622 cells, H =

11.566, P = 0.003, Figure 1C), although mean firing rates remained consistent (Figure S3E).

Place cells in dCA1 contained significantly more place fields compared to cells in the proximal

two-thirds of CA1 (pCA1, 1.00 (1.00–1.50), mCA1, 1.00 (1.00–1.50), dCA1, 1.25 (1.00–1.75);

H = 28.040, P < 0.001, Figure 1D), yet the overall size of firing fields was unchanged across

subregions (Figure S3F). Place cells in pCA1 showed enhanced theta modulation (pCA1: 0.434

(0.333–0.540); mCA1: 0.410 (0.318–0.516); dCA1: 0.390 (0.290–0.494); H = 28.301, P <

0.001, Figure 1E) and a greater degree of phase locking to theta oscillations (Figure S3G) than

cells located more distally. Furthermore, pCA1 cells exhibited a higher spatial information

content (pCA1: 2.037 (1.565–2.560) bit/spike; mCA1: 1.995 (1.508–2.540) bit/spike; dCA1:

1.877 (1.454–2.429) bit/spike; H = 13.350, P = 0.001, Figure 1F), spatial information rate

(Figure S3H), coherence (pCA1: 0.656 (0.546–0.757); mCA1: 0.664 (0.553–0.758); dCA1:

0.630 (0.507–0.715); H = 34.163, P < 0.001, Figure 1G), and stability (pCA1: 0.741 (0.590–

0.836); mCA1: 0.711 (0.583–0.814); dCA1: 0.659 (0.521–0.769); H = 69.309, P < 0.001,

Figure 1H) than dCA1 cells. The observed variations in spatial tuning were not attributed to the

dorso-ventral distribution of recording sites, as cells recorded from the same transverse block

of CA1 displayed a similar trend along the proximo-distal axis (Figure S3I). To confirm the

proximo-distal gradient in spatial tuning, we trained a naive Bayes decoder to predict the rat's

location based on population activity of place cells (Figure S3J). Decoding accuracy was

ensured by analyzing only experiments with over 30 place cells in each subregion. Proximally

located cells demonstrated superior prediction accuracy compared to simultaneously recorded

distal cells (Figure S3K), indicating stronger position coding at the proximal end of CA1.

To chart the decline in spatial tuning across the CA1 transverse axis, we plotted mean values

for each measure against tetrode location. For all activity measures that varied across CA1

subregions, except the number of place fields, a significant monotonic decline was observed

from the proximal to the distal end of CA1. This was substantiated by strong Pearson

correlations between parameters and normalized recording position (all $P \leq 0.002$, 113 tetrodes).

This decrease was primarily linear, with minimal improvement in explained variance from

quadratic polynomial curve fitting (Figures 1I–N, and S3L–M). These results collectively

demonstrate a gradual decline in spatial tuning from pCA1 to dCA1, consistent with previous

reports (Henriksen et al. 2010, Oliva et al. 2016), and aligned with the selective spatial and non-

spatial inputs from MEC and LEC (Nilssen et al. 2019).

Reverse J-shaped rate remapping along the transverse axis

Utilizing the same dataset, we next investigated whether CA1 place cells displayed similar

heterogeneity in response to non-spatial changes along the transverse axis. Rate remapping,

characterized by the alteration of firing rates within place fields while maintaining consistent

firing locations (Latuske et al. 2017), is indicative of sensitivity to contextual changes. As

anticipated from prior work (Leutgeb et al. 2005, Lu et al. 2013, Lu et al. 2015), rate remapping

was induced in all twenty rats subjected to the color-reversal task (Figure S3N).

To assess the consistency of place field location across trials, we calculated the spatial

correlation (SC) of rate maps, which quantifies the similarity in activity patterns from the same

cell. SC scores were high for matching conditions but varied significantly across CA1

subregions (Figure 2A left panel, two-way repeated measures ANOVA, band: F (2, 2619) =

26.679, $P < 0.001$). SC moderately decreased between color-reversed conditions compared to

matching conditions (color: F (1, 2619) = 262.113, $P < 0.001$), indicating adjustments in firing

patterns in response to different colors. A significant band × color interaction was observed in

SC (F (2, 2619) = 28.724, $P < 0.001$). The reduction in SC due to color change differed significantly across subregions (pCA1: 0.032 (−0.003–0.106), mCA1: 0.010 (−0.020–0.049), dCA1: 0.025 (−0.011–0.091); Kruskal-Wallis test, 2,622 cells, H = 68.492, $P < 0.001$), with post hoc analysis revealing a nonlinear change in firing patterns along the proximo-distal axis, with larger differences in both pCA1 and dCA1 compared to mCA1 (Figure 2A right panel, Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, both $P < 0.001$). Separate analyses for tetrodes located in the proximal or distal half of the axis showed significant correlations in both halves for SC (proximal: r = −0.375, P = 0.002, Pearson correlation, 63 tetrodes; distal: r = 0.374, P = 0.007, 50 tetrodes). The changes in activity measures along the entire CA1 transverse extent were better explained by quadratic polynomial curve fitting (Figure 2B).

To quantify the extent of rate remapping, we computed the rate difference (RD), representing the normalized overall change in firing rate for each cell. Consistent with the pattern observed in SC, mCA1 contained the smallest proportion of strongly rate remapped place cells between different colors (Figure S3O). RD significantly differed between condition pairs and across CA1 subregions (Figure 2C left panel, color: F (1, 2619) = 288.514, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 2619) = 20.373, $P < 0.001$). A significant interaction between CA1 band and color in RD was observed (F (2, 2619) = 41.298, $P < 0.001$), along with regional variations in elevated RD between condition pairs (Figure 2C right panel, pCA1: 0.012 (−0.005–0.140), mCA1: 0.001 (−0.006–0.047), dCA1: 0.001 (−0.010–0.048); H = 38.540, $P < 0.001$). Cells in both pCA1 and dCA1 exhibited more pronounced rate redistribution than those in mCA1 when the wall color was reversed, with pCA1 showed a significant greater increase in RD between condition pairs (post hoc tests, both $P < 0.001$). Mean changes in RD for individual tetrodes were significantly correlated with recording position in both proximal and distal halves of the CA1 transverse axis (proximal: r = −0.452, $P < 0.001$; distal: r = 0.314, $P = 0.029$, Figure 2D). A similar result was obtained when rate difference for individual place fields were computed and summed according to their weight (Figures S3P–S), indicating that the lower rate changes in middle-to-distal CA1 were not due to neutralization of individually remapped place fields.

To compare activity changes for cell assemblies across CA1 subregions, we computed the

population vector correlation (PVC), which is sensitive to the composite distribution of firing location and rate, for all recorded pyramidal neurons, including non-place cells and inactive cells (Leutgeb et al. 2005). Population vectors from corresponding locations in the box were strongly correlated between matching conditions in all CA1 subregions. The correlations were weaker between black and white configurations (Figures 2E–F). The difference in PVC between conditions with reversed wall colors and conditions with matching wall colors was significant across subregions (color: $F_{(1, 1197)} = 3336.027$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 1197)} = 396.174$, $P < 0.001$; color × band: $F_{(2, 1197)} = 448.356$, $P < 0.001$, Figure 2E left panel). mCA1 exhibited the smallest change in PVC between condition pairs (pCA1: 0.108 (0.085–0.147), mCA1: 0.031 (0.005–0.054), dCA1: 0.052 (0.022–0.094); $H = 541.211$, $P < 0.001$, 1,200 bins, post hoc tests, all $P < 0.001$, Figure 2E right panel).

A pronounced effect of hysteresis was observed in all subregions of CA1 in the color-reversal task. Activity patterns were more similar between trials 3 and 4, compared to trials 1 and 2, despite both involving black and white configurations (Figure S3T). To avoid the carryover effect in the analyses, data from the 1-2 trial pair (different color) and the 2-3 trial pair (same color) were compared, yielding similar results (data not shown). To verify the reverse J-shaped pattern of rate remapping along the CA1 transverse axis, a Bayesian decoder was trained with collective activities of place cells in trials 2 and 3 (white walls), predicting the rat's location in trial 1 (black walls). For the three experiments with over 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both subregions, decoding accuracy was higher in mCA1 than in the other two CA1 subregions (Figure S3U), indicating a minimal activity change in mCA1 between black and white configurations. In summary, in the color-reversal task, which evoked rate remapping in the rat hippocampus, the shift in rate distribution varied significantly along the transverse axis of CA1, with robust redistribution of firing rates in pCA1, moderate redistribution in dCA1, and minimal redistribution in mCA1.

Graded global remapping along the proximo-distal axis

We further investigated whether the gradient in spatial tuning along the CA1 proximo-distal axis would exhibit a similarly monotonic decrease in global remapping. In a second set of

experiments, pyramidal neurons were recorded from the same twenty rats as they were tested

in similar square boxes situated in two distinct rooms (Figures S1B&D), a paradigm known to

trigger global remapping in hippocampal neurons (Leutgeb et al. 2005, Lu et al. 2015). Out of

the nineteen rats from which valid place cell data were obtained, thirteen displayed clear global

remapping, characterized by minimal correlation in firing fields between rooms, while the

remaining six exhibited extensive rate remapping (Figure S4A). Similar individual differences

have been observed in previous studies (Lu et al. 2013, Lu et al. 2015). The results from the six

rate remapped animals were consistent with findings in the color-reversal task (Figures S4B–

G). Further analysis was concentrated on the thirteen globally remapped rats, which displayed

comparable behavior in the two-room task to that in the color-reversal task (Figure S4H). A

total of 1,145 pyramidal neurons were recorded from 54 tetrodes, with 761 identified as place

cells. As anticipated, a similar decrease in activity measures along the CA1 transverse axis was

observed in these animals (Figures S4I–R).

Global remapping, characterized by the engagement of a second population of place cells to

represent an distinct spatial map in the hippocampus (Latuske et al. 2017), is evident at the

individual cell level by significant changes in firing location and rate within the recording box

(Figure 3A). The degree of population overlap was consistent across CA1 subregions (Figure

S4S). SC of individual place cells between repeated trials in the same room remained high for

all CA1 subregions and decreased markedly between rooms (two-way repeated measures

ANOVA, room: F (1, 758) = 1175.415, $P < 0.001$, Figure 3B, left panel), indicating substantial

shifts in firing location across different rooms. Between-room SC showed a tendency to be

higher in both middle and distal CA1 (band: F (2, 758) = 13.538, $P < 0.001$, Figure S4T). A

pronounced room × band interaction in SC was observed (F (2, 758) = 27.266, $P < 0.001$). The

reduction in SC in response to room change decreased progressively along the proximo-distal

axis of CA1 (pCA1, 0.455 (0.256–0.747), mCA1, 0.354 (0.151–0.527), dCA1, 0.287 (0.095–

0.504); Kruskal-Wallis test, 761 cells, H = 41.735, $P < 0.001$), with the most significant changes

in pCA1 (Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, pCA1 vs dCA1, both $P < 0.001$),

suggesting the largest shift in place field location in this subregion. The difference in SC

decrease was not attributed to variations in sample size (Figure S4U). The decline in SC for

each tetrode was strongly correlated with its position along the CA1 transverse axis (Figure

3C).

The overall firing rate within the room is indicative of the activity level of individual neurons.

A similar monotonic decrease in firing rate change was observed along the proximo-distal axis.

RD was low for repeated trials in the same room for all subregions and increased markedly

between trials across rooms (room: $F_{(1, 758)} = 410.559$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 758)} = 0.380$,

$P = 0.684$). The enhancement in RD between condition pairs was strongly dependent on the

subregion (room × band: $F_{(2, 758)} = 23.136$, $P < 0.001$), with the greatest increase in pCA1

(pCA1, 0.261 (0.034–0.484), mCA1, 0.082 (0–0.352), dCA1, 0.073 (−0.003–0.274); H =

39.143, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, pCA1 vs dCA1, both $P < 0.001$, Figure 3D),

suggesting a more interdependent activity in the distal two-thirds of CA1 across different rooms.

The varied increase in RD was not attributed to variations in sample size (Figure S4V). A

significant correlation was also observed between the change in RD and recording position

(Figure 4E).

Lastly, ensemble coding across CA1 subregions was compared. Unlike the color-reversal task,

the effect of hysteresis was minimal in the two-room task (Figure S4W). Correlations between

corresponding population vectors were high between trials in the same room for all subregions

and decreased substantially between trials in different rooms (room: $F_{(1, 1197)} = 28489.675$,

$P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 1197)} = 83.437$, $P < 0.001$). The reduction in PVC was region-dependent

(room × band: $F_{(2, 1197)} = 800.992$, $P < 0.001$): pCA1 showed the greatest decrease (0.678

(0.609–0.731)), mCA1 showed a moderate decrease (0.452 (0.367–0.535)), and dCA1 showed

the smallest amount of decrease (0.388 (0.334–0.441); H = 679.871, $P < 0.001$, 1200 bins; post

hoc tests, all $P < 0.001$, Figures 3F–G). In summary, when global remapping was induced in

the hippocampus by distinct spatial environments, the representations of place cells were most

orthogonal in proximal CA1, with the degree of orthogonalization decreasing monotonically

along the transverse axis.

Reorganized CA1 population activity in the object-placement task

Hippocampal place cell activity is influenced by discrete objects within an open arena, as previously reported (Burke et al. 2011, Deshmukh et al. 2013, Vandrey et al. 2021, Nagelhus et al. 2023). In a third series of experiments, we examined if the response to familiar objects in CA1 varied by region. Place cell activity was recorded from fourteen rats as they were tested in the object-placement task, where two identical familiar objects were introduced into the recording box during trials 2 and 3 of the 4-trial experiment (Figures S1E–F and S5A). Despite no significant change in the rats' overall behavior due to the objects, alterations in theta and low-beta power were noted, potentially linked to exploratory behavior (Figures S5B–D). A total of 1,759 active place cells were identified from 2,711 putative pyramidal neurons recorded across 72 tetrodes in 65 experiments (Figure S5E). A substantial subset of place cells responded to the object placement, primarily by redistributing firing rates around the objects (Figure 4A). dCA1 had the highest proportion of cells that increased or decreased their number of receptive fields (pCA1, 40.88%, mCA1, 41.42%, dCA1, 49.93%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 12.777$, $P = 0.002$; post hoc tests, mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.004$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.019$), while mCA1 had the highest proportion of stable cells (Figures 4B and S5G). A pronounced hysteresis effect was observed in trial 4 of the object-placement task (Figure S5F), prompting the exclusion of trial 4 data from analyses to prevent carryover effects. The focus of analyses was on activity changes between trials 1 and 2 (before and after object placement) and between trials 2 and 3 (both with objects).

Since hippocampal place cells express the presence of objects on a population level (Nagelhus et al. 2023), all active place cells were included in the analyses. SC of these cells decreased uniformly across subregions with the introduction of familiar objects (Figure S5H, left panel). RD analyses indicated a slight overall increase in rate redistribution after object placement, with region-dependent changes and the most significant increase in pCA1 (Figure S5H, right panel). Unlike in previous experiments, no correlation was found between changes in SC or RD and recording position (SC, $r = 0.213$, $P = 0.072$, RD, $r = 0.049$, $P = 0.681$, Pearson correlations, 72 tetrodes). The overall PVCs were high for trials in matching conditions and decreased significantly with object introduction (two-way repeated measures ANOVA, object: $F_{(1, 1197)} = 2475.217$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 1197)} = 182.697$, $P < 0.001$), with the drop in PVC being

strongly dependent on the CA1 subregion (object × band: F (2, 1197) = 11.762, $P < 0.001$), and

the most pronounced decrease observed in pCA1 (pCA1, 0.121 (0.070–0.183), mCA1, 0.084

(0.037–0.157), dCA1, 0.095 (0.050–0.158), Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,200 bins, H = 38.042, $P <$

0.001; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, pCA1 vs dCA1, both $P < 0.001$,

Figures 4C–D). Bayesian decoding showed significantly better prediction in mCA1 than in

dCA1 (Figure S5I). Correlation of population vectors in each spatial bin revealed that most

PVC decreases were localized around the objects, diminishing with distance, consistent with a

previous report (Nagelhus et al. 2023). Dispersed activity changes away from the objects were

also noted in pCA1 and dCA1, likely not a direct response to the objects.

To further characterize the activity changes due to object placement, we defined an object

region, which contained the area within 20 cm around the center of each object. This allowed

for the comparison of direct and indirect object responses by quantifying spatial bins inside and

outside the target region. Although dCA1 place cells showed lowest SC and highest RD scores

within the object region after object placement, changes in SC and RD between trial pairs were

not significantly different across CA1 subregions (SC: object, F (1, 1196) = 271.560, $P < 0.001$;

band, F (2, 1196) = 12.690, $P < 0.001$; object × band, F (2, 1196) = 1.599, $P = 0.203$. RD: object,

F (1, 1756) = 198.557, $P < 0.001$; band, F (2, 1756) = 17.791, $P < 0.001$; object × band, F (2,

1756) = 0.210, $P = 0.811$). Population analysis for bins within in the object regions showed a

significant regional difference across CA1 subregions (object: F (1, 237) = 2262.040, $P < 0.001$;

band: F (2, 237) = 96.016, $P < 0.001$; object × band: F (2, 237) = 4.720, $P = 0.010$), with a

slightly higher PVC decrease in mCA1 than in dCA1 (pCA1, 0.199 (0.171–0.228), mCA1,

0.215 (0.174–0.285), dCA1, 0.185 (0.154–0.239); H = 7.232, $P = 0.027$, 240 bins, post hoc

tests, mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.034$; Figure 4E).

Outside the object region, CA1 place cells exhibited a constant decrease in SC across

subregions between trial pairs (object, F (1, 1439) = 216.332, $P < 0.001$; band, F (2, 1439) =

31.664, $P < 0.001$; object × band, F (2, 1439) = 2.032, $P = 0.131$; Figure 4F top). mCA1 cells

displayed minimal firing rate change after object placement, akin to rate remapping (RD: object,

F (1, 1756) = 168.577, $P < 0.001$; band, F (2, 1756) = 12.823, $P < 0.001$; object × band, F (2,

1756) = 4.189, P = 0.015). The increase in RD between conditions varied significantly across

CA1 subregions (pCA1, 0.080 (−0.037–0.275), mCA1, 0.033 (−0.059–0.192), dCA1, 0.062

(−0.087–0.244); H = 9.868, P = 0.007, 1759 cells, post hoc tests, pCA1 vs dCA1, P = 0.064,

pCA1 vs mCA1, P = 0.005; Figure 4F middle). The change in RD was not related to sample

size or exploratory behavior around objects (Figures S5J–K). Population analysis revealed a

PVC distribution pattern resembling rate remapping after object placement along the CA1

transverse axis (object: F (1, 957) = 2043.235, P < 0.001; band: F (2, 957) = 221.229, P < 0.001;

object × band: F (2, 957) = 32.592, P < 0.001), and a reverse J-shaped change in PVC between

trial pairs (pCA1, 0.096 (0.065–0.150), mCA1, 0.063 (0.026–0.107), dCA1, 0.075 (0.042–

0.130), H = 66.740, P < 0.001, 960 bins; post hoc tests, all P ≤ 0.004; Figure 4F bottom).

In summary, the introduction of familiar objects into the open box elicited both direct and

indirect responses in CA1. The direct response led to changes in population activity mainly

around the objects, while the indirect response was more evident away from the objects.

Neurons in mCA1 showed the strongest local response to the objects but the weakest overall

reorganization of population activity, possibly due to greater out-region rate redistributions in

pCA1 and dCA1.

Ascendant response to the translocated object from pCA1 to dCA1

Given the critical role of the hippocampus and MEC in object-location memory, evidenced by

deficits following damage to these areas (Aggleton et al. 2020), we investigated whether the

presentation of object location in CA1 exhibited a gradient along the proximo-distal axis,

similar to spatial tuning. In a fourth set of experiments, the same fourteen rats participated in

the object-relocation task, where a familiar object was moved from its original location in

quadrant 4 to quadrant 1 of the recording box (Figures S1G–H and S6A–B). Despite variations

in individual responses to object translocation, the overall discrimination index remained

unchanged (Figure S6C). Exploration around the displaced object was accompanied by minor

fluctuations in theta and low-beta power, with regional differences observed at 8–9 and 14–15

Hz (Figure S6D). A total of 2,367 putative pyramidal neurons were recorded across 69 tetrodes

in 59 experiments, of which 1,486 were identified as active place cells (Figure S6E). A

substantial subset of CA1 place cells altered their firing patterns, primarily through changes in

firing rate around the displaced object (Figure 5A). Contrary to expectations, dCA1, not pCA1,

had the highest proportion of cells responsive to the translocation (pCA1, 63.88%, mCA1,

71.81%, dCA1, 78.66%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 20.691$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1,

$P = 0.081$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.015$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P < 0.001$; Figure 5B). Due to hysteresis

(Figure S6F), the analyses focused on activity changes between trials 1 and 2 (before and after

relocation) and between trials 2 and 3 (under matching condition).

SC for individual place cells was high in matching trials and slightly reduced after object

relocation across all CA1 subregions (two-way repeated measures ANOVA, relocation: F (1,

1483) = 153.986, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1483) = 21.400, $P < 0.001$). The extent of SC reduction

varied significantly by subregions (relocation × band: F (2, 1483) = 4.917, $P = 0.007$), with the

least decrease in pCA1 (0.024 (−0.026–0.121)), a moderate reduction in mCA1 (0.049 (−0.021–

0.175)), and the most in dCA1 (0.069 (−0.027–0.233), Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,486 cells, H =

10.123, $P = 0.006$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.005$, Figure 5C). A

significant correlation was observed between change in SC and tetrode location (r = 0.347, $P =$

0.004, Pearson correlation, 69 tetrodes, Figure 5D). The increase in RD between trial pairs

across CA1 subregions mirrored the SC decrease (relocation: F (1, 1483) = 147.858, $P < 0.001$;

band: F (2, 1483) = 20.702, $P < 0.001$), with a near-significant interaction between relocation

and band (F (2, 1483) = 2.609, $P = 0.074$). The elevation in RD between trial pairs increased

progressively from pCA1 to dCA1 (pCA1, 0.044 (−0.073–0.205), mCA1, 0.057 (−0.057–

0.221), dCA1, 0.112 (−0.056–0.308), H = 9.346, $P = 0.009$, 1,486 cells; post hoc tests, pCA1

vs dCA1, mCA1 vs dCA1, both $P < 0.05$, Figure 5E). The shift in RD for individual tetrodes

correlated significantly with recording position (r = 0.243, $P = 0.044$, Pearson correlation, 69

tetrodes, Figure 5F). The graded changes in SC and RD were unrelated to exploratory behavior

around objects or sample size (Figures S6G–I), and similar results were obtained when rate

changes were computed for individual place fields (Figures S6J–K).

Correlations between corresponding population vectors in each spatial bin altered similarly to

SC (relocation: F (1, 1197) = 1097.785, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1197) = 20.565, $P < 0.001$;

relocation × band: F (2, 1197) = 26.839, $P < 0.001$). The decline in PVC between trial pairs expanded from pCA1 to dCA1 (pCA1, 0.055 (0.014–0.111), mCA1, 0.068 (0.030–0.127), dCA1, 0.077 (0.043–0.138), H = 44.493, P < 0.001, 1,200 bins; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs dCA1, pCA1 vs mCA1, both $P < 0.001$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.063$, Figure 5G). Bayesian decoding of context showed significantly improved predictions in more proximally located regions along the CA1 transverse axis (Figure S6L). Similar to the object-placement task, a substantial decrease in PVC was observed for bins around the right object before and after object displacement (Figure 5H left). However, pCA1 exhibited the least degree of reorganization in activity pattern within the target region (pCA1, 0.081 (0.054–0.114), mCA1, 0.212 (0.147–0.269), dCA1, 0.225 (0.155–0.303), H = 125.736, $P < 0.001$, 240 bins; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs dCA1, pCA1 vs mCA1, both $P < 0.001$; Figures 5H and S6M left). For spatial bins outside the target region, the change in PVC was minimal, and its linear proximo-distal distribution differed from the reverse J-shaped distribution observed in the object-placement task (pCA1, 0.043 (0.009–0.106), mCA1, 0.049 (0.026–0.091), dCA1, 0.063 (0.038–0.101), H = 17.077, $P < 0.001$, 960 bins; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs dCA1, mCA1 vs dCA1, both $P < 0.05$, Figures 5H, S5L and S6M right), suggesting that translocation of a pre-existing object did not trigger rate remapping in CA1. In summary, translocation of a single familiar object within the open arena induced more pronounced ensemble activity changes around the object in distal two-thirds of CA1, with minimal change outside the target region.

Enhanced rate redistribution to the novel object from pCA1 to dCA1

Unlike object-location memory, object-recognition memory is significantly dependent on the perirhinal cortex (PER), which projects to LEC and dCA1 (Cappaert et al. 2015, Aggleton et al. 2020), highlighting the importance of the PER/LEC-dCA1 network in discriminating object identity. We investigated whether this selective PER/LEC input to dCA1 leads to a proximo-distal gradient in place cell activity in response to the novel object. The same fourteen rats were tested in the novel-object task, where the familiar object on the right was replaced by a novel object during trials 2 and 3 (Figures S1I–J and S7A–B). Across all rats, the total exploration time around the novel object was comparable to that of the familiar object, and theta and low-beta power remained largely unchanged (Figures S7C–D). A total of 1,451 active place cells

were identified from 2,207 putative pyramidal neurons recorded across 67 tetrodes in 54 experiments. Unlike previous tasks, which showed lower recruitment of place cells in dCA1 compared to pCA1, the novel-object task exhibited a similar activation of place cells across subcompartments of CA1 (Figure S7E), consistent with findings that more dCA1 neurons are engaged upon exposure to a novel object (Ito et al. 2012). A considerable subset of place cells adjusted their firing rates in response to the novel object (Figure 6A). As expected, dCA1 had the highest proportion of novelty-response cells (pCA1, 53.38%, mCA1, 63.02%, dCA1, 73.58%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 37.366$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, all $P \leq 0.021$; Figure 6B). Given the minimal changes in ensemble activity between trials 3 and 4 for all subregions (Figure S7F), the analyses focused on shifts in firing rate between trials 1 and 2 (object identity switched) and between trials 2 and 3 (unchanged).

SC scores of individual place cells were high for all subregions under matching conditions and only slightly decreased after object replacement (two-way repeated measures ANOVA, novelty F (1, 1448) = 69.447, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1448) = 21.964, $P < 0.001$). There was no interaction between CA1 band and novelty (F (2, 1448) = 0.528, $P = 0.590$), indicating no regional difference in SC change between trial pairs (Figure 6C). The overall changes in firing rate for individual place cells were marginally but significantly enhanced in trials pairs before and after object replacement (novelty F (1, 1448) = 58.170, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1448) = 10.527, $P < 0.001$), with the degree of enhancement strongly dependent on place cell location (novelty × band: F (2, 1448) = 6.169, $P = 0.002$). Neurons in pCA1 displayed the least increase in RD (0.008 (−0.101–0.120)), compared with cells in mCA1 (0.036 (−0.064–0.162)) and dCA1 (0.054 (−0.085–0.225), Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,451 cells, H = 13.604, $P = 0.001$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, both $P < 0.05$, Figure 6D). The enhancement in RD correlated significantly with recording positions (r = 0.356, $P = 0.003$, Pearson correlation, 67 tetrodes, Figure 6E). The graded changes in RD were not related to exploratory behavior around objects or sample size (Figures S7G–I). Similar results were obtained for rate difference scores calculated from individual place fields (Figures S7J–K).

Ensemble activity of all pyramidal neurons, as measured by PVC, showed a marginal decrease

after object replacement (novelty: F (1, 1197) = 1388.100, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1197) = 261.805, $P < 0.001$), with a significant interaction between novelty and CA1 band (F (2, 1197) = 12.330, $P < 0.001$). Cell assemblies in pCA1 exhibited the smallest change in activity pattern to the novel object (pCA1, 0.031 (0.006–0.065), mCA1, 0.040 (0.023–0.061), dCA1, 0.047 (0.014–0.079), H = 19.995, $P < 0.001$, 1,200 bins; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs. dCA1, pCA1 vs. mCA1, both $P \leq 0.007$, Figure 6F). Bayesian decoding of context showed a better prediction for cells located in mCA1 than in dCA1 (Figure S7L). Compared to the other two object-related tasks, reorganization of population activity to the novel object was less pronounced and less focused for all CA1 subdivisions (Figure 6G left panel). However, the regional variance in response to the novel object was primarily attributed to the subtle difference in activity change around the object (bins around the novel object: pCA1, 0.005 (−0.014–0.028), mCA1, 0.034 (0.021–0.046), dCA1, 0.070 (0.053–0.082), H = 61.612, $P < 0.001$, 120 bins; post hoc tests, all $P \leq 0.001$), as ensemble activity changes outside the object region remained largely constant across CA1 subregions (bins outside the object region: pCA1, 0.035 (0.009–0.069), mCA1, 0.041 (0.023–0.064), dCA1, 0.044 (0.012–0.078), H = 5.689, $P = 0.058$, 1,080 bins; Figures 6G and S7M). To conclude, place cells located more distally along the CA1 transverse axis displayed greater firing rate redistribution around the novel object, likely due to preferential inputs from object-identity cells from LEC and PER (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Burke et al. 2012, Deshmukh et al. 2012, Huang et al. 2023).

Discussion

Our study provides a detailed characterization of how CA1 subcompartments respond to various spatial and non-spatial modifications in the rat hippocampus. We uncovered three distinct patterns of cue representation along the proximo-distal axis in CA1 that may affect the overall output of hippocampal function: a gradient of decreasing spatial information processing, an increase in the representation of local object features, and most intriguingly, a reverse J-shaped response to non-spatial environmental changes (Figure S8). These patterns in population response are largely attributed to the distinct nature of contextual cues, and their association with selective inputs from particular neuron populations, predominately locating in the

entorhinal cortex (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Tsao et al. 2013, Wang et al. 2018, Tukker et al. 2022,
Huang et al. 2023).

Direct entorhinal inputs shape rate and global remapping patterns in CA1

The entorhinal and CA3-CA2 projections are the primary afferent pathways to the CA1 region

in rats. Our findings corroborate the established view that the spatial tuning and global

remapping in the CA1 region of rats exhibit a gradient that decreases from the proximal to the

distal end (Figures 1&3), aligning with previous findings (Henriksen et al. 2010, Oliva et al.

2016, Deshmukh 2021). Global remapping in the rat hippocampus is accompanied by a

realignment of activity patterns in grid cells, head direction cells, and border cells within the

MEC (Fyhn et al. 2007, Solstad et al. 2008). This reorganization of activity appears to reduce

the spatial information overlap, potentially enhancing distinct spatial representations in pCA1.

In contrast, LEC neurons, which encode shared non-spatial features, may sustain their activity

levels, contributing to a more generalized ensemble activity in dCA1 (Leutgeb et al. 2004,

Hartzell et al. 2013). The observed gradients in spatial selectivity and global remapping can

thus be attributed to differential inputs from MEC and LEC, with pCA1 predominantly

receiving spatial signals from MEC, and dCA1 receiving more non-spatial signals from LEC

(Knierim et al. 2014).

A notable discovery in our research is the identification of a reverse J-shaped rate remapping

pattern within CA1 (Figures 2&4). The elevated rate redistribution in both pCA1 and dCA1

may suggest contributions from both MEC and LEC to hippocampal rate coding. Certain LEC

neurons are known to remap in response to contextual changes in the environment, and

disrupting LEC function through lesions has been shown to partially impair rate coding in CA3

(Lu et al. 2013, Huang et al. 2023). This supports the hypothesis that LEC provides modulated

non-spatial inputs critical for hippocampal rate remapping (Renno-Costa et al. 2010).

Conversely, MEC grid cells maintain consistent firing locations in the same spatial context but

exhibit reliable rate redistribution in response to color manipulations (Marozzi et al. 2015, Diehl

et al. 2017, Ismakov et al. 2017). Precise modulation of MEC activity has been linked to

hippocampal remapping (Miao et al. 2015, Rueckemann et al. 2016, Kanter et al. 2017),

implying that rate redistribution in MEC cells could influence the firing rates of place cells. The
weak rate remapping observed in mCA1 may have two sets of causes: first, the signal
integration process in mCA1 differs from that in neighboring pCA1 and dCA1 (Masurkar et al.
2020), yet the linear gradients observed in other tasks seem to speak against this possibility;
second, rate redistribution signals from MEC and LEC are mutually exclusive, suggesting a
dynamic interplay between these inputs could influence neuronal outputs in CA1. We thus
propose that the degree of rate remapping in CA1 is determined by the relative dominance of
MEC and LEC inputs in a winner-take-all manner along the transverse axis. Neurons in pCA1
or dCA1, which predominantly receive input from either MEC or LEC, follow the strong input
and exhibit pronounced rate remapping. In contrast, mCA1 neurons, which receive balanced
MEC and LEC inputs, follow either input and thus display weak rate remapping.

LEC and PER inputs enhance representation of object location and identity in dCA1
The introduction of familiar objects in our experiments triggered a robust direct response in all
CA1 subcompartments (Figure 4). Notably, the observed local changes in firing rate were not
linked to exploratory behaviors around the objects (Figure S5K), suggesting a limited
involvement of investigatory intention-modulated hippocampal neurons (Zeng et al. 2024).
Both MEC and LEC include neurons that respond to the presence of discrete objects in the
environment, albeit in different reference frames (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Wang et al. 2018,
Hoydal et al. 2019). Additionally, PER, which projects to LEC and dCA1, contains object-
responsive cells that are similar to those found in LEC (Burke et al. 2012, Deshmukh et al. 2012,
Cappaert et al. 2015). Collectively, these observations suggest that CA1 neurons may integrate
signals from MEC object-vector cells and LEC/PER object cells in their response to objects.
For the novel-object task, while the role of PER in object-recognition memory is well-
established, the contribution of the hippocampus and LEC to this process has been debated
(Aggleton et al. 2020). Our results suggest that the enhanced local response to the novel object
in dCA1 (Figure 6) could be attributed to modified inputs from neurons in LEC and PER that
are specific to object identity (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Burke et al. 2012, Deshmukh et al. 2012,
Huang et al. 2023). Although further research is needed to determine whether PER input alone
is sufficient for novel object representation in CA1, our findings underscore a potential role for

dCA1 in object identity discrimination.

The object-relocation task, integral to spatial memory in rodents, prompted our hypothesis of

enhanced neural activity in pCA1. Contrary to our expectations, the ensemble activity in

response to object displacement was notably more pronounced in dCA1 (Figure 5). Moreover,

neurons in mCA1 and dCA1 displayed a much stronger local response to the moved object than

those in pCA1, echoing a prior finding (Vandrey et al. 2021). This robust local response in

middle-to-distal CA1 suggests the influence of additional signals beyond those from MEC

object-vector cells and LEC/PER object cells, which are known to respond to objects

irrespective of their locations (Deshmukh et al. 2011, Burke et al. 2012, Deshmukh et al. 2012,

Wang et al. 2018, Hoydal et al. 2019). Two potential sources of these signals include the object-

trace cells within LEC, theorized to provide dCA1 with additional object-place information

(Tsao et al. 2013), and the dCA1-projecting neurons in the subiculum, postulated to modulate

place cell activity in response to object displacement (Sun et al. 2019). The recently identified

subicular corner cells, which can generalize their firing to small objects placed in the arena

regardless of location (Sun et al. 2024), may also play a role. Whether corner cells are the

dCA1-projecting neurons in the subiculum remains to be determined, however.

Minimal contribution of CA3-CA2 inputs to transverse heterogeneity in CA1 function

While the entorhinal cortex significantly influences the transverse organization of CA1 function,

the CA3 and CA2 regions also project substantially to hippocampal CA1. However, unlike the

entorhinal inputs, the functional gradients within CA1 do not mirror the patterns observed along

the CA3-CA2 axis. Neurons in pCA3 are characterized by sharp and confined place fields,

strong rate remapping, and orthogonalized global remapping, in contrast to neurons in dCA3

and CA2, which exhibit reduced spatial modulation and lower sensitivity to environmental

changes (Lee et al. 2015, Lu et al. 2015, Oliva et al. 2016, Deshmukh 2021). Interestingly,

axons from dCA3 and CA2 preferentially innervate pCA1 neurons with enhanced spatial

content and pronounced contextual responsiveness, while pCA3 heavily projects to dCA1,

which is less spatially selective and less cue-sensitive (Cappaert et al. 2015). The discrepancy

between the functional segregation and projection patterns of CA3-CA2 and CA1 calls for

further exploration. It is conceivable that the less differentiated signals from CA3 and CA2 may

be overshadowed by the markedly distinct spatial and non-spatial inputs originating from the

entorhinal cortex (Masurkar et al. 2017).

Limitations of the study

This study encountered two significant potential limitations. First, we recorded the neural

activity of CA1 neurons using a hyperdrive with movable tetrodes, which limited our ability to

monitor a substantial number of active neurons from various CA1 subregions simultaneously

within individual rats. This constraint may have led to inter-animal variability, potentially

confounding the interpretation of our results. Second, the complexity in CA1 extends to its

radial organization into superficial and deep sublayers, each with distinct characteristics and

functions (Soltesz et al. 2018). Our methodology, relying on tetrode recordings, did not allow

us to differentiate between these sublayers. Future studies might take the advantage of two-

photon calcium imaging and multi-shank probe recording to more extensively monitor neural

activity within specific sublayers. Employing these advanced techniques could provide further

insights into how laminar differences contribute to the heterogeneous functions observed along

the CA1 proximo-distal axis.

Conclusion

The present study has delineated three distinct patterns of cue representation that are variably

expressed from the proximal to the distal end of CA1. These findings prompt further inquiry

into the causal dynamics linking selective inputs from specific upstream neuron populations

and downstream representation of various information. Future theoretical and experimental

endeavors should be directed towards understanding the precise mechanisms that govern these

interactions, which are crucial for elucidating the neural basis of spatial navigation, episodic

memory, and broader cognitive functions of the hippocampus.

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Author Contributions

LL designed the experiments and analyses; YLD, SYH, XFG, JLL, CD, CJL, RZ, and XC performed the experiments; YLD, SYH, and LL conducted the analyses; YMS carried out the Bayesian decoding. YLD, LL, XC and BLS wrote the manuscript. All authors contributed to discussion and interpretation of the results.

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Conflict of interest statement

The authors declare no competing financial interests.

Code accessibility

All custom-written codes used in the analyses are available upon request.

Data availability

The data supporting the findings of this study are available from the corresponding author upon reasonable request.

Supplementary material

Supplementary material is accessible in the online version of this paper.

Figure legends

Figure 1. Recording sites and graded spatial modulation along the CA1 transverse axis

A. Left: schematic region of major recording sites, shown in red. Right: distribution of

recording sites in CA1 along the proximo-distal axis. Red dots represent location of tetrode

tips. Solid lines indicate borders between hippocampal regions; dashed lines separate proximal,

middle, and distal bands of CA1. Numbers indicate normalized positions in CA1 along the

transverse axis. FC: fasciola cinereum; SUB: subiculum. For a detailed view of recording

sites per animal, refer to Figure S2.

B. Representative firing rate distribution maps (rate maps) from simultaneously recorded CA1

neurons in two separate experiments. Top: rate maps of pCA1 and mCA1 place cells from rat

R0388. Gray lines indicate trajectories of the animal in each trial. Each cell's rate maps are

arranged in rows, with the cell ID and peak firing rate for each trial indicated. Color is

scaled to the maximum peak rate of four trials. B, black; W, white version of the same box.

Bottom: rate maps of mCA1 and dCA1 place cells recorded from rat R0175. Note the confined

firing fields in more proximally located place cells and the profound rate remapping in pCA1.

C–H. Violin plots displaying distributions of peak rate (**C**), number of place fields (**D**), theta

modulation index (**E**), spatial information content (**F**), spatial coherence (**G**), and spatial

stability (**H**) of place cells recorded in each CA1 band. Horizontal line indicates median, and

thick vertical bar indicates interquartile range (IQR, 25%–75% percentile) of each subregion.

*: $P < 0.05$; **: $P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

I–N. Scatter plots showing correlations between normalized recording position and peak rate

(**I**), place field number (**J**), theta modulation (**K**), spatial information (**L**), coherence (**M**), and

stability (**N**). Each cross represents averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear

regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variances (R^2) are indicated

with the same color code, with Pearson correlation coefficients and P values provided.

pro., proximal end; dis., distal end.

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Figure 2. Reverse J-shaped rate remapping to reversed wall color across CA1 subdivisions

A. Left: distributions of spatial correlation in CA1 subregions between matching (Same, mean of 2-3 trial pair and 1-4 trial pair) and color reversed (B vs W, mean of 1-3 trial pair and 2-4 trial pair) conditions in the color-reversal task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Right: box plots representing changes in SC between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. Place cells in mCA1 exhibited the least activity change. *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

B. Changes in spatial correlation between condition pairs as a function of tetrode position. Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variances (R^2) are indicated with the same color code. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end. p, proximal half; d, distal half.

C. Similar to **A**, but shows change in rate difference across CA1 subdivisions. ***: $P < 0.001$.

D. Similar to **B**, but illustrates the correlation between tetrode position and change in rate difference between condition pairs.

E. Similar to **A**, but represents change in population vector correlation across CA1 bands. ***: $P < 0.001$.

F. Heat maps showing population vector correlations (PVC) of all place cells recorded from each CA1 subregion between color conditions (top two rows), and changes of PVC between condition pairs (bottom row) in the color-reversal task. Bins in the heat map correspond to spatial bins in the rate maps. Color scales are indicated on the right of each row. Note that mCA1 exhibited the least activity changes. The reduction in PVC is stronger for spatial bins away from arena walls, where the color was manipulated.

Figure 3. Graded global remapping along the proximo-distal axis in CA1

A. Simultaneously recorded CA1 neurons in two rats that exhibited global remapping in the two-room task. Left: rate maps of pCA1 and mCA1 place cells from rat R0172. Gray lines indicate trajectories of the animal in each trial. Each cell's rate maps are arranged in rows, with the cell ID and peak firing rate for each trial indicated. Color is scaled to the maximum peak rate of four trials. A, room A; B, room B. Right: rate maps of mCA1 and dCA1 place cells recorded from rat R0175. Note the redistribution of firing locations between

different rooms.

B. Left: distribution of spatial correlation in CA1 subdivisions in the same room (Same, mean

of 2-3 trial pair and 1-4 trial pair) and in different rooms (Rm A vs B, mean of 1-3 trial pair and

2-4 trial pair) in the two-room task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar

indicates IQR of each subregion. Right: change in SC between condition pairs, with outliers

omitted. Place cells in pCA1 exhibited the strongest activity change. ***: $P < 0.001$.

C. Correlation between tetrode position and change in SC between condition pairs. Each cross

corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red curve,

quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variance (R^2) is indicated with the same color code,

with Pearson correlation coefficient and P value provided (54 tetrodes). pro., proximal

end; dis., distal end.

D. Similar to **B**, but shows change in rate difference across CA1 subdivisions. ***: $P < 0.001$.

E. Similar to **C**, but illustrates the correlation between tetrode position and change in rate

difference between condition pairs.

F. Population vector correlations of all place cells recorded from each subregion in the same

room (top row), between rooms (middle row), and changes in PVC between room pairs (bottom

row) in the two-room task. Bins in the heat map correspond to spatial bins in the rate maps.

Color scale is indicated at bottom right. Changes in PVC declined gradually from pCA1 to

dCA1.

G. Similar to **B**, but represents change in population vector correlation across CA1 bands. ***:

$P < 0.001$.

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Figure 4. Reorganized CA1 population activity to familiar objects

A. Representative neurons from proximal, middle and distal bands of CA1, showing

responses to familiar objects placed in the recording box. Maps for the same cell across

four trials are arranged in rows, with animal and cell IDs indicated on the left. Color is

scaled to the maximum peak rate of four trials. Text above each map indicates peak rate of that

trial. Circles represent objects. Obj−, trial without objects; Obj+, trial with two familiar objects.

Many neurons reorganized their firing activity in response to familiar objects. Note that

in pCA1, neuron R0388-T09C1 showed rate redistribution in receptive field away from

the familiar objects.

B. Distribution of cells in response to object placement across three CA1 bands. Place cells with receptive fields relocated or appeared/disappeared were first identified, and then the remaining cells were grouped according to their rate difference scores: stable, RD ≤ 0.2, rate remapped, RD > 0.2. Numbers indicate active place cells in each category. Proportion of rate remapped cells: chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 1.512$, $P = 0.474$. Proportion of cells with receptive field appeared/disappeared: *: $P < 0.05$; **: $P < 0.01$.

C. Distribution of population vector correlation in CA1 bands between trials with familiar objects (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3) and trials before and after object placement (+/− obj, trial 1 vs trial 2) for all spatial bins. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Boxplots on the right show changes in PVC between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. ***: $P < 0.001$.

D. Population vector correlations of all place cells recorded from each subregion between trials with or without objects (top two rows), as well as changes in PVC between condition pairs (bottom row). Bins in the heat map correspond to spatial bins in the rate maps. Color scales are indicated on the right of each row. Small circles represent objects, large circles indicate the object region. Population activity reorganized most robustly in response to the object on the right (bins around left vs right object, Mann-Whitney U tests, all $P < 0.001$), likely due to frequent alterations to this object in the other two object-related tasks.

E–F. Distributions of spatial correlation (top), rate difference (middle), and population vector correlation (bottom) within (**E**), and outside (**F**) the object region in CA1 bands between trials with familiar objects (Same) and trials before and after object placement (+/− obj). Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Box plots show changes in activity measures between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. *: $P < 0.05$; **: $P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

Figure 5. Minimum activity change to object relocation in pCA1

A. Representative neurons in the proximal, middle and distal bands of CA1 that responded to object displacement. Maps for the same cell across four trials are arranged in rows, with animal and cell IDs indicated on the left. Color is scaled to the maximum peak rate of four

trials. Text above each map indicates peak rate of that trial. Circles represent objects. Fam, objects in familiar locations; Reloc, right object relocated. New receptive fields emerged around the translocated object in many place cells.

B. Distribution of neurons in response to object translocation across three CA1 bands. Place cells with receptive fields relocated or appeared/disappeared were first identified, and then the remaining cells were grouped according to their rate difference scores: stable, RD ≤ 0.2, rate remapped, RD > 0.2. Numbers indicate active place cells in each category. Proportion of rate remapped cells: chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 3.624$, $P = 0.162$. Proportion of cells with receptive field appeared/disappeared: $\chi^2 = 14.257$, $P = 0.001$; post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

C. Left: distribution of spatial correlation in CA1 subregions between trials with relocated objects (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3) and trials before and after object relocation (Moved, trial 1 vs trial 2). Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Right: change in SC between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. **: $P < 0.01$.

D. Correlation between recording position and changes in SC between condition pairs. Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variance (R^2) is indicated with the same color code, with Pearson correlation coefficient and P value provided. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end.

E. Similar to **C**, but shows changes in rate difference across CA1 subdivisions. *: $P < 0.05$.

F. Similar to **D**, but illustrates correlation between tetrode position and change in rate difference between condition pairs.

G. Similar to **C**, but represents change in population vector correlation across CA1 bands. ***: $P < 0.001$.

H. Left panel: population vector correlations of all place cells recorded from each subregion between trials (top two rows), as well as changes in PVC between trial pairs (bottom row) in the object-relocation task. Bins in the heat map correspond to spatial bins in the rate maps. Color scales are indicated on the right of each row. Small circles represent objects, large circles indicate the target region. Right panel: changes in PVC inside and outside the target region between trial pairs across CA1 bands, with outliers omitted. *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

Figure 6. Elevated sensitivity to the novel object in dCA1

A. Representative neurons in the proximal, middle and distal bands of CA1 that remapped to

the novel object. Maps of the same cell across four trials are arranged in rows, with animal and

cell IDs indicated on the left. Color is scaled to the maximum peak rate of four trials. Text above

each map indicates peak rate of that trial. Circle and star represent the familiar and novel object,

respectively. Fam, trial with two familiar objects; Nov, trial with the right object replaced with

a novel object. Some neurons exhibited local changes in firing rate around the novel object.

B. Distribution of neurons in response to the novel object across three CA1 bands. Place cells

with receptive fields relocated or appeared/disappeared were first identified, and then the

remaining cells were grouped according to their rate difference scores: stable, RD ≤ 0.2, rate

remapped, RD > 0.2. Numbers indicate active place cells in each category. Proportion of rate

remapped cells: chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 0.752$, $P = 0.685$. Proportion of cells with receptive field

appeared/disappeared: $\chi^2 = 24.973$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

C–D. Left: distributions of spatial correlation (**C**) and rate difference (**D**) in CA1 subregions

between trials with a novel object (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3) and trials before and after object

replacement (F/N obj, trial 1 vs trial 2) in the task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick

vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Right: changes in activity measures between

condition pairs, with outliers omitted. *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

E. Correlation between tetrode position and change in rate difference between condition pairs.

Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression;

red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variance (R^2) is indicated with the same

color code, with Pearson correlation coefficient and P value provided. pro., proximal end;

dis., distal end.

F. Similar to **C**, but represents changes in population vector correlation across CA1 bands. **:

$P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

G. Left panel: population vector correlations of all place cells recorded from each subregion

between trials (top two rows), as well as changes in PVC between trial pairs (bottom row) in

the novel-object task. Bins in the heat map correspond to spatial bins in the rate maps. Color

scales are indicated on the right of each row. Small circle and star represent the familiar and

novel object, respectively; large circle indicates region of the novel object. Right panel: changes

in PVC inside and outside region of interest between trial pairs across CA1 bands, with outliers

omitted. n.s. not significant; ***: $P \le 0.001$.

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Figure S1, related to Methods. Design of behavioral paradigms and test environment.

A. Timeline of behavioral experiments.

B. Standard test environment in room A, with a black recording box and a white cue card.

Decorations on the wall provide distal visual cues.

C. Test environment in room A, with the white recording box and a black cue card.

D. Standard test environment in room B, with a black recording box and a white cue card. The

cue card in room B is positioned 90 degrees counterclockwise relative to room A, and

the wall decorations exhibit a distinct pattern from those in room A.

E. Locations of the two familiar objects (black circles) in the object-placement task.

F. Objects (transparent glass bottles filled with white stones) in trials 2 and 3 of the object-

placement task.

G. Design of the object-relocation task. Object on the right (dashed circle) was moved from

quadrant 4 to quadrant 1 in trials 2 and 3.

H. Location of objects in trials 2 and 3 of the object-relocation task.

I. Design of the novel-object task. Object on the right (dashed circle) was replaced by a novel

object (star) in trials 2 and 3.

J. Objects in trials 2 and 3 of the novel-object task. Note that in each experiment the object on

the right was replaced by an object novel to the animal.

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Figure S2, related to Figure 1. Recording sites in hippocampal CA1.

A. Schematic distribution of estimated recording region in each rat, with color code shown on

the right. A, anterior; P, posterior; M: medial; L: lateral.

B–P. Nissl-stained coronal sections show recording sites from the fifteen animals recorded in

this study. Red dots indicate recording sites. Numbers indicate normalized recording positions.

Black and green arrowheads indicate CA1/subiculum and CA2/CA1 borders, respectively.

Some tetrodes in R0089 and R0391 were lifted after recording thus recording sites were

estimated by the extension of tetrode track. Scale bar: 1 mm.

Q–U. Nissl-stained sagittal sections represent CA1 recording sites from the five animals reported previously (Lu et al. 2015).

Figure S3, related to Figure 2 and 3. Extended analyses for the color-reversal task.

A. Rats' running speed in the color-reversal task. Trial 1: 14.86 (12.62–16.57) cm/s, trial 2: 13.86 (11.12–15.35) cm/s, trial 3: 13.37 (10.78–14.90) cm/s, trial 4: 12.69 (10.58–14.44) cm/s. One-way repeated measures ANOVA, 178 experiments, trial: F (3) = 126.677, $P < 0.001$. **: $P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

B. Distribution of pyramidal neurons across three CA1 bands. Inactive cells had firing rates lower than 0.1 Hz. Non-place cells refer to active cells with spatial information scores below the threshold of 0.9586 bit/spike. Numbers indicate cells in each category. Proportions of active cells: pCA1, 75.40%, mCA1, 72.12%, dCA1: 68.12%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 17.744$, $P < 0.001$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, $P = 0.141$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.064$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P < 0.001$. Proportion of place cells: pCA1, 65.72%, mCA1, 63.94%, dCA1, 56.44%, $\chi^2 = 27.893$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, ***: $P < 0.001$.

C. i. Distribution of shuffled spatial information content based on 100 permutations per cell for all CA1 pyramidal neurons. ii – iv. Distribution of spatial information content in pCA1 (ii), mCA1 (iii) and dCA1 (iv). Red line indicates the 95th percentile value (0.9586 bit/spike) for the distribution based on all permutations.

D. Example of active cells, aligned according to their spatial information scores. Gray lines indicate trajectories of the animal. Red dots represent individual spikes of each example cell. Color of the rate map is scaled to the peak rate. Spatial information scores are indicated on the top. Red line indicates the threshold for place cells.

E–H. Distributions of mean firing rate (**E**), size of place field (**F**), Phase locking to theta (**G**), and spatial information rate (**H**) of place cells recorded in each CA1 band. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Mean firing rate: pCA1: 0.360 (0.175–0.706) Hz, mCA1: 0.360 (0.183–0.671) Hz, dCA1: 0.328 (0.155–0.634) Hz; Kruskal-Wallis test, 2,622 cells, H = 3.695, $P = 0.158$. Place field size: pCA1: 0.126 (0.083–0.189) m^2, mCA1: 0.128 (0.084–0.191) m^2, dCA1: 0.131 (0.085–0.199) m^2; H = 0.476, $P = 0.788$, 2,622 cells. Theta phase locking: pCA1: 0.170 (0.122–0.232), mCA1: 0.148 (0.105–

0.205), dCA1: 0.154 (0.113–0.203); H = 25.867, $P < 0.001$, 2,254 cells. Spatial information

rate: pCA1: 0.798 (0.476–1.393) bit/second, mCA1: 0.770 (0.453–1.265) bit/second, dCA1:

0.706 (0.406–1.190) bit/second; H = 14.646, $P = 0.001$, 2,622 cells. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc

tests, n.s.: not significant; **: $P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

I. Spatial tuning of place cells recorded from distant proximo-distal locations (normalized

distance > 0.1) on the same coronal section. This subset of data compares place cells from disto-

anterior (daCA1), central (cCA1), and proximo-posterior portions (ppCA1) of a CA1 transverse

block, and exhibits the same trend as the pooled data. Top row: comparison of place cells from

ppCA1 and cCA1. Peak firing rate: ppCA1, 4.137 (2.504–6.338) Hz, cCA1, 2.887 (1.839–5.289)

Hz; Mann-Whitney U test, 77 cells, z = 918, $P = 0.066$. Place field number: ppCA1, 1.00 (1.00–

1.33), cCA1, 1.00 (1.00–1.50); z = 764, $P = 0.774$. Spatial information rate: ppCA1, 0.608

(0.441–1.142) bit/second, cCA1, 0.399 (0.253–0.713) bit/second; z = 972, $P = 0.017$.

Coherence: ppCA1, 0.584 (0.476–0.683), cCA1, 0.555 (0.397–0.624); z = 876, $P = 0.159$.

Stability: ppCA1, 0.668 (0.589–0.761), cCA1, 0.623 (0.401–0.710); z = 957, $P = 0.025$. Bottom

row: comparison of cCA1 and daCA1 place cells. Peak firing rate: cCA1, 3.825 (3.009–5.443)

Hz, daCA1, 3.465 (2.101–6.585) Hz; Mann-Whitney U test, 113 cells, z = 1730, $P = 0.421$.

Place field number: cCA1, 1.00 (1.00–1.25), daCA1, 1.25 (1.00–1.50); z = 1178, $P = 0.010$.

Spatial information rate: cCA1, 0.652 (0.469–0.978) bit/second, daCA1, 0.470 (0.291–1.069)

bit/second; z = 1885, $P = 0.090$. Coherence: cCA1, 0.650 (0.562–0.725), daCA1, 0.593 (0.428–

0.682); z = 1989, $P = 0.022$. Stability: cCA1, 0.711 (0.618–0.798), daCA1, 0.582 (0.394–0.739);

z = 2137, $P = 0.001$.

J. Decoding accuracy of animal's position as a function of number of cells (N) included in

calculation. Data were generated by taking a random subset of N cells from a total population

of over 60 simultaneously recorded place cells (rat R0391). The mean accuracy values averaged

from 10-fold cross-validations for the 60 loops are represented. The decoding accuracy reached

0.8 when 30 cells were included.

K. Position decoding accuracy (mean ± SEM) for simultaneously recorded pCA1/mCA1 and

mCA1/dCA1 data sets. Black dots represent data from individual predictions. The three

experiments with more than 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both bands are shown.

Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers. R0388: pCA1: 0.880 ± 0.026; mCA1:

0.821 ± 0.035; paired t-test, t = 3.131, $P = 0.012$, 10 calculations. R0391-1: mCA1: $0.828 \pm$

0.031; dCA1: 0.617 ± 0.069; t = 4.587, $P = 0.001$. R0391-2: mCA1: 0.841 ± 0.026; dCA1:

0.782 ± 0.030; t = 2.149, $P = 0.060$. *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P \leq 0.001$.

L–M. Correlations between normalized recording position and mean vector length of theta

phase locking (**L**), and spatial information rate (**M**). Data from 110 and 113 tetrodes were

included for analysis of theta phase locking and spatial information rate, respectively. Each

cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red

curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variances (R^2) are indicated with the same

color code, with Pearson correlation coefficients and P values provided. pro., proximal

end; dis., distal end.

N. Spatial correlations of CA1 place maps between test conditions recorded from each rat in

the color-reversal task. Black box, correlation between matching conditions (Same, mean of 2-

3 trial pair and 1-4 trial pair); green box, correlation between black and white colors (B vs W,

mean of 1-3 trial pair and 2-4 trial pair). Numbers on the top indicate place cells recorded from

each animal. All the animals exhibited rate remapping as the medians of their correlation scores

were above 0.5, indicated by the horizontal dashed line.

O. Distribution of rate remapped cells between black and white color conditions across three

CA1 bands. Stable cells had rate difference scores no higher than 0.2. Moderately remapped

cells had rate difference scores between 0.2 and 0.5. Strongly remapped cells had rate difference

scores higher than 0.5. Numbers indicate active place cells in each category. Proportions of

stable cells: pCA1, 32.89%, mCA1, 43.71%, dCA1: 37.52%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 23.409$, $P <$

0.001; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, $P < 0.001$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.030$;

pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.166$. Proportion of moderately remapped cells: pCA1, 43.08%, mCA1,

43.71%, dCA1, 43.79%, $\chi^2 = 0.109$, $P = 0.951$. Proportion of strongly remapped cells: pCA1,

24.03%, mCA1, 12.58%, dCA1, 18.69%, $\chi^2 = 41.214$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$,

**: $P < 0.01$, ***: $P < 0.001$.

P. Representative rate maps from a place cell (T08C1 of R0175 in Figure 1B) with two

individually remapped firing fields in black (top) and white (bottom) conditions. Numbers on

top indicate overall firing rate in the trial. The two fields remapped independently in reverse

directions so that the changes in firing rate were neutralized with the measure of rate difference

(RD) but not with rate difference by field (RD$_f$).

Q. Comparison of RD and RD$_f$ across CA1 subregions. Although RD$_f$ were significantly higher

than RD between conditions (Same: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, measure: F $(1, 2619)$

$= 388.282$, $P < 0.001$; band: F $(2, 2619) = 14.263$, $P < 0.001$; measure $\times$ band: F $(2, 2619) =$

6.952, $P = 0.001$; B vs W: measure: F $(1, 2619) = 533.091$, $P < 0.001$; band: F $(2, 2619) =$

37.929, $P < 0.001$; measure $\times$ band: F $(2, 2619) = 5.481$, $P = 0.004$), elevations in RD$_f$ between

black and white conditions were marginal (measure: F $(1, 2619) = 36.765$, $P < 0.001$; band: F

$(2, 2619) = 63.833$, $P < 0.001$; measure $\times$ band: F $(2, 2619) = 11.101$, $P < 0.001$).

R. Left: distributions of rate difference by field in CA1 subregions between matching (Same)

and color reversed (B vs W) conditions in the color-reversal task. Horizontal line indicates

median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. A pattern similar to change in

overall rate difference was observed with the measure of RD$_f$ (two-way repeated measures

ANOVA, color: F $(1, 2619) = 397.067$, P < 0.001; band: F $(2, 2619) = 23.230$, P < 0.001; color

$\times$ band: F $(2, 2619) = 67.922$, P < 0.001). Right: changes in RD$_f$ between condition pairs, with

outliers omitted. pCA1: 0.028 $(-0.003–0.166)$, mCA1: 0.003 $(-0.008–0.056)$, dCA1: 0.006

$(-0.006–0.067)$; Kruskal-Wallis test, 2,622 cells, H $= 65.433$, $P < 0.001$, Holm-Bonferroni post

hoc tests, ***: $P < 0.001$.

S. Changes in rate difference by field between condition pairs as a function of tetrode position.

Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression;

red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variances (R^2) are indicated with the

same color code. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end. p, proximal half; d, distal half. Change

in RD$_f$ was significantly correlated with tetrode location in the proximal half of CA1, but not

in the distal half (proximal: r $= -0.435$, $P < 0.001$; distal: r $= 0.106$, $P = 0.462$).

T. Left panel: PVCs of CA1 subregions between neighboring trials in the color-reversal task. A

notable effect of hysteresis was observed between trials 3 and 4. Right panel: degrees of

hysteresis reflected by changes in PVC between trial pairs with reversed colors, with outliers

omitted. pCA1, 0.096 $(0.069–0.121)$, mCA1, 0.058 $(0.043–0.075)$, dCA1, 0.082 $(0.063–0.107)$;

Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,200 bins, H $= 221.582$, $P < 0.001$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, ***:

$P < 0.001$.

U. Context decoding accuracy (mean $\pm$ SEM) for simultaneously recorded pCA1/mCA1 and

mCA1/dCA1 data sets. Black dots represent data from individual predictions. The three

experiments with more than 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both bands are shown.

Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers. R0388: pCA1, 0.744 ± 0.007, mCA1,

0.797 ± 0.006; paired t-test, t = 6.714, $P < 0.001$, 10 calculations. R0391-1: mCA1, $0.699 \pm$

0.006, dCA1, 0.508 ± 0.014; t = 14.98, $P < 0.001$. R0391-2: mCA1, 0.834 ± 0.003, dCA1, 0.678

± 0.008); t = 27.95, $P < 0.001$. ***: $P < 0.001$.

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Figure S4, related to Figure 4. Extended analyses for the two-room task.

A. Spatial correlations of CA1 place maps between test conditions recorded from each rat in

the two-room task. Black box, correlation in the same room (Same, mean of 2-3 trial pair and

1-4 trial pair); cyan and rose box, correlation in different rooms (Rm A vs B, mean of 1-3 trial

pair and 2-4 trial pair). Numbers on the top indicate place cells recorded from each animal.

Thirteen (cyan) and six (rose) animals exhibited global and rate remapping, as the medians of

their spatial correlation scores were below and above the threshold of 0.5, respectively.

B–C. Representative rate maps of simultaneously recorded CA1 neurons in two rats that

exhibited rate remapping in the two-room task. **B**: rate maps of pCA1 and mCA1 place cells

from rat R0388. Gray lines indicate trajectories of the animal in each trial. Each cell's rate

maps are arranged in rows, with the cell ID and peak firing rate for each trial indicated.

Color is scaled to the maximum peak rate of four trials. A, room A; B, room B. **C**: rate maps of

mCA1 and dCA1 place cells from rat R0391.

D–G. Left: distributions of spatial correlation (**D**), rate difference (**E**), rate difference by field

(**F**), and population vector correlation (**G**) in CA1 subregions in the same room (Same) and

different rooms (Rm A vs B) in the two-room task. A total of 158, 248 and 67 place cells were

recorded from proximal, middle and distal CA1, respectively. Horizontal line indicates median,

and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Right: changes in activity measures

between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. These results aligned with findings in the

color-reversal task. SC: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, room, $F_{(1, 470)} = 107.984$, $P <$

0.001; band, $F_{(2, 470)} = 14.731$, $P < 0.001$; room × band, $F_{(2, 470)} = 6.736$, $P = 0.001$;

decrease in SC: Kruskal-Wallis test, 463 cells, H = 9.459, $P = 0.009$. RD: room, $F_{(1, 470)} =$

94.727, $P < 0.001$; band, $F_{(2, 470)} = 17.948$, $P < 0.001$; room × band, $F_{(2, 470)} = 13.614$, P

< 0.001; increase in RD: H = 26.795, $P < 0.001$. RD_f: room, F (1, 470) = 105.158, $P < 0.001$; band, F (2, 470) = 25.979, $P < 0.001$; room × band, F (2, 470) = 7.123, $P = 0.001$; increase in RD_f: H = 8.305, $P = 0.016$. PVC: room, F (1, 1197) = 3370.376, $P < 0.001$; band, F (2, 1197) = 140.276, $P < 0.001$; room × band, F (2, 1197) = 373.718, $P < 0.001$; decrease in PVC: H = 430.146, $P < 0.001$, 1,200 bins. Place cells in proximal CA1 exhibited the strongest activity change (Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests). *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

H. Running speed for the thirteen rats exhibiting global remapping in the two-room task. Trial 1: 15.14 (11.46–17.85) cm/s, trial 2: 13.17 (11.12–16.38) cm/s, trial 3: 13.64 (11.61–16.17) cm/s, trial 4: 13.67 (11.35–15.91) cm/s. One-way repeated measures ANOVA, 28 experiments, F (3) = 8.540, $P < 0.001$. *: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

I. Distribution of pyramidal neurons across three CA1 bands, from the thirteen rats exhibiting global remapping in the two-room task. Inactive cells had firing rates lower than 0.1 Hz. Non-place cells refer to active cells with spatial information scores below the threshold of 0.9586 bit/spike. Numbers indicate cells in each category. Proportions of active cells: pCA1, 80.00%, mCA1, 80.00%, dCA1: 77.54%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 1.033$, $P = 0.598$. Proportion of place cells: pCA1, 73.53%, mCA1, 67.66%, dCA1, 61.75%, $\chi^2 = 13.437$, $P = 0.001$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, ***, $P < 0.001$.

J–O. Distributions of mean firing rate (**J**), peak firing rate (**K**), theta modulation (**L**), spatial information rate (**M**), coherence (**N**), and stability (**O**) of place cells recorded in each CA1 subregion. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Mean rate: pCA1, 0.365 (0.190–0.688) Hz, mCA1, 0.276 (0.138–0.577) Hz, dCA1, 0.241 (0.122–0.464) Hz; Kruskal-Wallis test, H = 19.564, $P < 0.001$, 761 cells. Peak rate: pCA1, 6.409 (3.641–9.652) Hz, mCA1, 4.885 (3.226–7.503) Hz, dCA1, 4.173 (2.667–6.725) Hz; H = 36.510, $P < 0.001$. Theta modulation: pCA1, 0.497 (0.419–0.601), mCA1, 0.436 (0.315–0.567), dCA1, 0.433 (0.312–0.547); H = 28.744, $P < 0.001$. Spatial information rate: pCA1, 1.005 (0.586–1.567) bit/second, mCA1, 0.709 (0.449–1.231) bit/second, dCA1, 0.632 (0.390–1.022) bit/second; H = 43.428, $P < 0.001$. Coherence: pCA1, 0.682 (0.583–0.764), mCA1, 0.634 (0.528–0.731), dCA1, 0.602 (0.487–0.700); H = 43.056, $P < 0.001$. Stability: pCA1, 0.771 (0.640–0.860), mCA1, 0.652 (0.520–0.788), dCA1, 0.616 (0.485–0.765); H = 71.884, $P < 0.001$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$; **: $P < 0.01$; ***: $P < 0.001$.

P–R. Correlations between normalized recording position and spatial information rate (**P**), coherence (**Q**), and stability (**R**). Data from 54 tetrodes. Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variances (R^2) are indicated with the same color code, with Pearson correlation coefficients and P values provided. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end.

S. Distribution of active place cells in the two-room task, with cell numbers indicated. Proportions of cells that were active in both rooms: pCA1, 62.80%; mCA1, 66.04%; dCA1, 63.64%, chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 0.456$, $P = 0.796$.

T. i. Distributions of spatial correlation between rate maps for the same cell in different rooms (solid curve) and randomly selected rate maps from different cells (10,000 permutations, dashed curve). ii – iv. Same distributions as in (i), but for individual CA1 subregions. Colored bars show the distribution of spatial correlation between rooms; black trace represents the distribution of permutations. Dashed vertical line indicates the 95th percentile value of the latter distribution (chance level). Inter-room correlations tended to skew toward higher values than expected from the chance distribution from pCA1 to dCA1. The proportion of observations above the chance level is indicated on the right. pCA1, 10.21%, mCA1, 12.74%, dCA1, 17.01%, all significantly higher than chance (5%, all $P \leq 0.001$, binomial tests). There is a considerable trend toward significance from pCA1 to dCA1, chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 5.595$, $P = 0.063$.

U–V. Left: distributions of spatial correlation (**U**) and rate difference (**V**) in CA1 subregions in the same room (Same) and different rooms (Rm A vs B) in the two-room task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Numbers on top indicate cell number after downsampling. Similar results were obtained with downsampled data. SC: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, room: F (1, 457) = 770.784, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 457) = 5.549, $P = 0.005$; room × band: F (2, 457) = 13.179, $P < 0.001$. RD: room: F (1, 457) = 288.640, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 457) = 0.785, $P = 0.457$; room × band: F (2, 457) = 15.156, $P < 0.001$. Right: changes in activity measures between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. SC: pCA1, 0.473 (0.260–0.724), mCA1, 0.354 (0.153–0.526), dCA1, 0.283 (0.078–0.552); Kruskal-Wallis test, 460 cells, H = 22.741, $P < 0.001$. RD: pCA1, 0.273 (0.062–0.519), mCA1, 0.082 (0–0.351), dCA1, 0.092 (0–0.274); H = 25.854, $P < 0.001$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, ***: $P \leq 0.001$.

W. Left panel: population vector correlations of CA1 subregions between neighboring trials in the two-room task. Right panel: hysteresis between trial pairs in different rooms, with outliers omitted. Carry over effect was minimum across rooms: pCA1, 0.020 (−0.018–0.056), mCA1, 0.030 (−0.039–0.076), dCA1, −0.012 (−0.046–0.042). H = 35.139, $P < 0.001$, Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,200 bins. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, ***: $P < 0.001$.

Figure S5, related to Figure 5. Extended analyses for the object-placement task.

A. Spatial correlations of CA1 place maps between different trial pairs recorded from each rat in the object-placement task. Black box, correlation between trials with familiar objects (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3); dark green box, correlation between trials before and after object placement (+/− obj, trial 1 vs trial 2). Numbers on the top indicate place cells recorded from each animal. Most of the animals showed changes in spatial correlation between trial pairs.

B. Rats' running speed in the object-placement task. Trial 1: 14.24 (11.63–16.10) cm/s, trial 2: 13.21 (11.20–15.03) cm/s, trial 3: 12.46 (10.73–14.26) cm/s, trial 4: 12.79 (10.78–14.61) cm/s. One-way repeated measures ANOVA, 65 experiments, F (3) = 30.283, $P < 0.001$. ***: $P < 0.001$.

C. Occupation time (OT) in the object region before and after object placement for each rat. The mean OT was close to an unbiased distribution of 0.2 (proportional to region size) and remained unchanged (before: 0.205 ± 0.003; after: 0.204 ± 0.007), paired t-test, 14 rats, t = 0.222, $P = 0.828$). n.s., not significant.

D. Normalized changes in LFP power in object region after object placement. LFP power fluctuated in theta (7–10 Hz) and low-beta (12–20 Hz) range, which might reflect animals' exploratory behavior. Vertical dashed line indicates 8.5 Hz. No difference is observed across CA1 subregions (Kruskal-Wallis tests with multi-comparison corrected, all $Q > 0.05$). n.s., not significant.

E. Distribution of pyramidal neurons across three CA1 bands, based on data from fourteen rats tested in the task. Inactive cells had firing rates lower than 0.1 Hz. Non-place cells refer to active cells with spatial information scores below the threshold of 0.9586 bit/spike. Numbers indicate cells in each category. Proportions of active cells: pCA1, 76.83%, mCA1, 71.61%, dCA1: 70.74%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 6.449$, $P = 0.040$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1

vs mCA1, $P = 0.096$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 1.000$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.041$. Proportion of

place cells: pCA1, 70.98%, mCA1, 63.72%, dCA1, 63.43%, $\chi^2 = 9.514$, $P = 0.009$; post hoc

tests, *, $P < 0.05$.

F. Population vector correlations of CA1 subregions between neighboring trials in the object-

placement task. A notable effect of hysteresis was observed between trials 3 and 4.

G. Distribution of cells in response to object placement across three CA1 bands, using a similar

criterion to the color-reversal task. Stable cells had rate difference scores no higher than 0.2.

Moderately remapped cells had rate difference scores between 0.2 and 0.5. Strongly remapped

cells had rate difference scores higher than 0.5. Numbers indicate active place cells in each

category. Proportions of stable cells: pCA1, 41.47%, mCA1, 49.46%, dCA1: 38.98%; chi-

square test, $\chi^2 = 16.752$, $P < 0.001$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, $P = 0.045$;

mCA1 vs dCA1, $P < 0.001$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 1.000$ (*: $P < 0.05$; ***: $P < 0.001$). Proportion

of moderately remapped cells: pCA1, 36.47%, mCA1, 32.56%, dCA1, 34.74%, $\chi^2 = 1.745$, P

$= 0.417$. Proportion of strongly remapped cells: pCA1, 20.00%, mCA1, 17.17%, dCA1, 24.67%,

$\chi^2 = 12.291$, $P = 0.002$; post hoc tests, pCA1 vs mCA1, $P = 0.805$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.002$;

pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.297$. Proportion of cells with relocated field(s): pCA1, 2.06%, mCA1,

0.82%, dCA1, 1.61%, Fisher's exact test, FI $= 3.357$, $P = 0.186$.

H. Distribution of spatial correlation (left panel), and rate difference (right panel) in CA1 bands

between trials with familiar objects (Same) and trials before and after object placement ($+/-$

obj) for all spatial bins. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR

of each subregion. Box plots on the right show changes in SC and RD between condition pairs,

with outliers omitted. SC: left: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, object: F $(1, 1756) =$

301.628, $P < 0.001$; band: F $(2, 1756) = 47.330$, $P < 0.001$; object $\times$ band: F $(2, 1756) = 0.513$,

$P = 0.599$. RD: left: object: F $(1, 1756) = 211.814$, $P < 0.001$; band: F $(2, 1756) = 16.119$, $P <$

0.001; object $\times$ band: F $(2, 1756) = 3.875$, $P = 0.021$; right: pCA1, 0.081 (-0.019–0.259), mCA1,

0.054 (-0.065–0.227), dCA1, 0.053 (-0.084–0.267), Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,759 cells, H $= 7.088$,

$P = 0.029$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$.

I. Context decoding accuracy (mean $\pm$ SEM) for simultaneously recorded pCA1/mCA1 and

mCA1/dCA1 data sets. Black dots represent data from individual predictions. The three

experiments with more than 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both bands are shown.

Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers. R0388: pCA1, 0.905 ± 0.004, mCA1, 0.910 ± 0.004; paired t-test, $t = 1.043$, $P = 0.324$, 10 calculations. R0175: mCA1, 0.850 ± 0.002, dCA1, 0.597 ± 0.010; $t = 23.75$, $P < 0.001$. R0391: mCA1, 0.487 ± 0.014, dCA1, 0.258 ± 0.011; $t = 14.29$, $P < 0.001$. n.s., not significant; ***: $P < 0.001$.

J. Similar to **H**, but show changes outside the object region for rate difference across CA1 subdivisions. Numbers on top indicate cell number after downsampling. Similar results were obtained with downsampled data. Two-way repeated measures ANOVA, object: $F (1, 1047) = 97.502$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F (2, 1047) = 9.498$, $P < 0.001$; object × band: $F (2, 1047) = 5.863$, $P = 0.003$; changes in RD: pCA1, 0.080 (−0.037–0.275), mCA1, 0.033 (−0.056–0.171), dCA1, 0.063 (−0.110–0. 226); Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,050 cells, $H = 10.359$, $P = 0.006$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$.

K. Out-region changes in rate difference between trial pairs, analyzed separately according to OT change in the object region, with outliers omitted. Low Δ OT: below median of OT change (OT_{trial2} - OT_{trial1}); High Δ OT: above median of OT change. No difference was observed in each CA1 subregion. Mann-Whitney U tests, all $P > 0.05$.

L. Changes in population vector correlation for bins outside the target region in the three object related tasks, with outliers omitted. Patterns of PVC change along the proximo-distal axis were different across tasks. The novel-object task displayed the minimum activity change. The object-placement task showed a reverse J-shaped activity change whereas the object-relocation task exhibited a gradual increase in activity change along the transverse axis. Two-way ANOVA, task: $F (2, 2991) = 173.446$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F (2, 2991) = 10.196$, $P < 0.001$; task × band: $F (4, 2991) = 21.331$, $P < 0.001$.

Figure S6, related to Figure 6. Extended analyses for the object-relocation task.

A. Spatial correlations of CA1 place maps between different trial pairs recorded from each rat in the object-relocation task. Black box, correlation between trials with objects in familiar locations (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3); dark blue box, correlation between trials before and after object relocation (Moved, trial 1 vs trial 2). Numbers on the top indicate place cells recorded from each animal. Most of the animals showed changes in spatial correlation between trial pairs.

B. Rats' running speed in the object-relocation task. Trial 1: 12.72 (11.57–15.60) cm/s, trial 2:

12.86 (10.43–14.84) cm/s, trial 3: 11.85 (10.22–14.36) cm/s, trial 4: 11.23 (10.42–13.61) cm/s.

One-way repeated measures ANOVA, 59 experiments, $F(3) = 29.795$, $P < 0.001$. **: $P < 0.01$;

***: $P < 0.001$.

C. Discrimination index (DI) between the two objects before and after object relocation for

each rat. The mean DI was close to unbiased exploration and remained largely unchanged

(before: -0.007 ± 0.015; after: 0.014 ± 0.027, paired t-test, 14 rats, $t = -0.716$, $P = 0.487$). n.s.,

not significant.

D. Normalized changes in LFP power around the target object after object relocation. LFP

power fluctuated slightly in theta (7–10 Hz) and low-beta (12–20 Hz) range, which might align

with animals' exploratory behavior. Vertical dashed line indicates 8.5 Hz. Short horizontal bars

indicate significant regional differences (Kruskal-Wallis tests with multi-comparison corrected,

8–9 Hz, 14–15 Hz, both $Q < 0.001$).

E. Distribution of pyramidal neurons across three CA1 bands, based on data from fourteen rats

tested in the task. Inactive cells had firing rates lower than 0.1 Hz. Non-place cells refer to

active cells with spatial information scores below the threshold of 0.9586 bit/spike. Numbers

indicate cells in each category. Proportions of active cells: pCA1, 75.61%, mCA1, 71.02%,

dCA1: 65.16%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 16.157$, $P < 0.001$; Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, pCA1

vs mCA1, $P = 0.343$; mCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.015$; pCA1 vs dCA1, $P = 0.001$. Proportion of

place cells: pCA1, 69.21%, mCA1, 66.19%, dCA1, 58.16%, $\chi^2 = 20.656$, $P < 0.001$; post hoc

tests, ***, $P < 0.001$.

F. Population vector correlations of CA1 subregions between neighboring trials in the object-

relocation task. A notable effect of hysteresis was observed between trials 3 and 4.

G. Changes in spatial correlation (left panel) and rate difference (right panel) between trial pairs,

analyzed separately according to DI change in the object region, with outliers omitted. Low

Δ DI: below median of DI change (DI_{trial2} - DI_{trial1}); High Δ DI: above median of DI change. No

difference was observed in each CA1 subregion. Mann-Whitney U tests, all $P > 0.05$.

H–I. Left: distributions of spatial correlation (**H**) and rate difference (**I**) in CA1 subregions

between trials with translocated objects (Same) and trials before and after object translocation

(Moved) in the task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of

each subregion. Numbers on top indicate cell number after downsampling. Similar results were

obtained with downsampled data. SC: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, relocation: $F_{(1,}$

$_{644)}$ = 98.022, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 644)}$ = 17.428, $P < 0.001$; relocation × band: $F_{(2, 644)}$

= 6.236, $P = 0.002$. RD: relocation: $F_{(1, 644)}$ = 108.721, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 644)}$ = 14.763,

$P < 0.001$; relocation × band: $F_{(2, 644)}$ = 3.018, $P = 0.050$. Right: changes in activity measures

between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. SC: pCA1, 0.024 (−0.0260.121), mCA1,

0.033 (−0.030–0.144), dCA1, 0.085 (−0.021–0.232); Kruskal-Wallis test, 647 cells, H = 15.013,

$P = 0.001$. RD: pCA1, 0.044 (−0.072–0.204), mCA1, 0.055 (−0.042–0.215), dCA1, 0.116

(−0.050–0. 317); H = 7.038, $P = 0.030$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: $P < 0.05$; ***, $P <$

0.001.

J. Similar to **H**, but shows changes in rate difference by field across CA1 subregions. Left: two-

way repeated measures ANOVA, relocation: $F_{(1, 1483)}$ = 183.183, $P < 0.001$; band: $F_{(2, 1483)}$

= 26.108, $P < 0.001$; relocation × band: $F_{(2, 1483)}$ = 1.724, $P = 0.179$. Right: pCA1, 0.043

(−0.040–0.246), mCA1, 0.070 (−0.041–0.231), dCA1, 0.111 (−0.072–0.344); Kruskal-Wallis

test, 1,486 cells, H = 4.467, $P = 0.107$.

K. Correlation between normalized recording position and changes in rate difference by field

between condition pairs. Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue

curve, linear regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variance (R^2) is

indicated with the same color code, with Pearson correlation coefficient and P value

provided. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end.

L. Context decoding accuracy (mean ± SEM) for simultaneously recorded pCA1/mCA1 and

mCA1/dCA1 data sets. Black dots represent data from individual predictions. The three

experiments with more than 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both bands are shown.

Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers. R0388: pCA1, 0.682 ± 0.013, mCA1,

0.623 ± 0.011; paired t-test, t = 4.731, $P = 0.001$, 10 calculations. R0391-1: mCA1, 0.631 ±

0.007, dCA1, 0.443 ± 0.006; t = 27.39, $P < 0.001$. R0391-2: mCA1, 0.439 ± 0.012, dCA1, 0.186

± 0.022; t = 10.44, $P < 0.001$. ***: $P \leq 0.001$.

M. Correlations of population vectors within (left panel) and outside (right panel) the target

region, between trials with objects in familiar locations (Same) and trials before and after object

translocation (Moved). Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR

of each subregion. PVC within object region: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, relocation:

1545 F (1, 237) = 1556.030, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 237) = 13.251, $P < 0.001$; relocation × band: F

1546 (2, 237) = 108.992, $P < 0.001$. PVC outside object region: relocation: F (1, 957) = 1085.693, P

1547 < 0.001; band: F (2, 957) = 37.345, $P < 0.001$; relocation × band: F (2, 957) = 7.099, $P = 0.001$.

1548

1549 **Figure S7, related to Figure 7. Extended analyses for the novel-object task.**

1550 **A.** Spatial correlations of CA1 place maps between different trial pairs recorded from each rat

1551 in the novel-object task. Black box, correlation between trials with familiar objects (Same, trial

1552 2 vs trial 3); dark red box, correlation between trials before and after object replacement (F/N

1553 obj, trial 1 vs trial 2). Numbers on the top indicate place cells recorded from each animal.

1554 Changes in spatial correlation were marginal in all rats.

1555 **B.** Rats' running speed in the novel-object task. Trial 1: 13.422 (11.34–15.20) cm/s, trial 2:

1556 12.84 (10.42–14.74) cm/s, trial 3: 12.72 (10.54–14.16) cm/s, trial 4: 12.40 (10.30–13.60) cm/s.

1557 One-way repeated measures ANOVA, 54 experiments, F (3) = 28.126, $P < 0.001$. **: $P < 0.01$;

1558 ***: $P < 0.001$.

1559 **C.** Discrimination index (DI) between the two objects before and after object replacement for

1560 each rat. The mean DI was close to unbiased exploration and remained unchanged (before:

1561 -0.011 ± 0.016; after: 0.004 ± 0.014, paired t-test, 14 rats, t = -1.203, $P = 0.250$). n.s., not

1562 significant.

1563 **D.** Normalized changes in LFP power around the target object after object relocation. Vertical

1564 dashed line indicates 8.5 Hz. Short horizontal bars indicate significant regional differences

1565 (Kruskal-Wallis tests with multi-comparison corrected, 5-6 Hz, $Q = 0.015$; 12–13 Hz, $Q = 0.030$;

1566 14–15 Hz, $Q = 0.040$).

1567 **E.** Distribution of pyramidal neurons across three CA1 bands, based on data from fourteen rats

1568 tested in the task. Inactive cells had firing rates lower than 0.1 Hz. Non-place cells refer to

1569 active cells with spatial information scores below the threshold of 0.9586 bit/spike. Numbers

1570 indicate cells in each category. Proportions of active cells: pCA1, 76.08%, mCA1, 71.92%,

1571 dCA1: 70.75%; chi-square test, $\chi^2 = 4.279$, $P = 0.117$. Proportion of place cells: pCA1, 67.43%,

1572 mCA1, 66.28%, dCA1, 64.40%, $\chi^2 = 1.379$, $P = 0.505$. n.s., not significant.

1573 **F.** Population vector correlations of CA1 subregions between neighboring trials in the novel-

1574 object task. A notable effect of hysteresis was observed between trials 3 and 4.

G. Changes in spatial correlation (left panel) and rate difference (right panel) between trial pairs, analyzed separately according to DI change in the object region, with outliers omitted. Low Δ DI: below median of DI change; High Δ DI: above median of DI change. No difference was observed in each CA1 subregion. Mann-Whitney U tests, all $P > 0.05$.

H–I. Left: distributions of spatial correlation (**H**) and rate difference (**I**) in CA1 subregions between trials with a novel object (Same) and trials before and after object replacement (F/N obj) in the task. Horizontal line indicates median, and thick vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. Numbers on top indicate cell number after downsampling. Similar results were obtained with downsampled data. SC: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, novelty: F (1, 871) = 62.904, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 871) = 7.921, $P < 0.001$; novelty × band: F (2, 871) = 2.329, $P = 0.098$. RD: novelty: F (1, 871) = 42.556, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 871) = 4.742, $P = 0.009$; novelty × band: F (2, 871) = 4.637, $P = 0.010$. Right: changes in activity measures between condition pairs, with outliers omitted. SC: pCA1, 0.016 (−0.034–0.076), mCA1, 0.018 (−0.041–0.102), dCA1, 0.040 (−0.018–0.178); Kruskal-Wallis test, 874 cells, H = 9.841, $P = 0.007$. RD: pCA1, 0.008 (−0.101–0.120), mCA1, 0.056 (−0.058–0.166), dCA1, 0.050 (−0.0890.212); H = 10.954, $P = 0.004$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: P < 0.05.

J. Similar to **H**, but shows changes in rate difference by field across CA1 subregions. Left: two-way repeated measures ANOVA, novelty: F (1, 1448) = 63.640, $P < 0.001$; band: F (2, 1448) = 28.451, $P < 0.001$; novelty × band: F (2, 1448) = 6.456, $P = 0.002$. Right: pCA1, 0.002 (−0.095–0.115), mCA1, 0.029 (−0.080–0.175), dCA1, 0.072 (−0.068–0.260); Kruskal-Wallis test, 1,451 cells, H = 18.747, $P < 0.001$. Holm-Bonferroni post hoc tests, *: P < 0.05; ***: P < 0.001.

K. Correlation between normalized recording position and changes in rate difference by field between condition pairs. Each cross corresponds to averaged data of one single tetrode. Blue curve, linear regression; red curve, quadratic polynomial regression. Explained variance (R^2) is indicated with the same color code, with Pearson correlation coefficient and P value provided. pro., proximal end; dis., distal end.

L. Context decoding accuracy (mean ± SEM) for the data set with simultaneously recorded mCA1/dCA1 neurons. Black dots represent data from individual predictions. Only one experiment had more than 30 simultaneously recorded place cells in both CA1 subregions. Downsampling was applied to equalize cell numbers. R0391: mCA1, 0.816 ± 0.003, dCA1,

0.321 ± 0.014; paired t-test, $t = 38.89$, $P < 0.001$, 10 calculations. ***: $P < 0.001$.

M. Correlations of population vectors within (left panel) and outside (right panel) the target

region, between trials with familiar objects (Same, trial 2 vs trial 3) and trials before and after

object replacement (F/N obj, trial 1 vs trial 2). Horizontal line indicates median, and thick

vertical bar indicates IQR of each subregion. PVC within object region: two-way repeated

measures ANOVA, novelty: $F\ (1, 117) = 236.315$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F\ (2, 117) = 39.954$, $P <$

0.001; novelty × band: $F\ (2, 117) = 58.668$, $P < 0.001$. PVC outside object region: novelty: F

$(1, 1077) = 1253.175$, $P < 0.001$; band: $F\ (2, 1077) = 231.473$, $P < 0.001$; novelty × band: F (2,

$1077) = 4.168$, $P = 0.016$.

1614

Figure S8. Summary of the findings and afferent connections that varied along the CA1

transverse axis.

Top: the three distinct patterns of cue representation that varied along the CA1 proximo-distal

axis. Left, the descending gradient in spatial information processing, evidenced by a linear

decrease in the sharpness and confinement of place fields in open space, and a progressive

decline in the orthogonalization of place maps between distinct spatial environments, from the

proximal to the distal end of CA1. Middle, the reverse J-shaped pattern in response to non-

spatial context changes, such as color-reversed arena walls and the introduction of familiar

objects into the recording box, expressed by a minimum change in firing rate near the midpoint

of the transverse axis, with progressively enhanced overall rate redistribution towards both ends

of the same axis. Right, the ascending gradient in representation of local object features,

characterized by an increase in local reorganization of neuronal activity to changes in the

position or identity of an object placed in the arena, from the proximal to the distal end of CA1.

Bottom: projection profiles to CA1 within the hippocampal region. Neurons in layer III of

medial and lateral divisions of the entorhinal cortex (MEC and LEC) selectively terminate their

axons onto cells in proximal and distal portions of CA1, respectively. These two parts of CA1

also receive preferential inputs from distal and proximal CA3. Moreover, CA2 fibers innervate

more neurons in proximal CA1, and the subiculum (SUB) contains neurons that back-project

to distal CA1. The perirhinal cortex (PER) receives inputs from SUB and projects to LEC and

distal CA1.

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Figure 1

Figure 2

Figure 3

Figure 4

Figure 5

A

Trial 1 Trial 2 Trial 3 Trial 4
Fam Reloc Reloc Fam

B Proportion of cells

C Spatial correlation

D Spatial correlation
r = 0.347, P = 0.004
R² = 0.120
R² = 0.134

E Rate difference

F Rate difference
r = 0.243, P = 0.044
R² = 0.059
R² = 0.079

G Population vector correlation

H

Figure 6

Supplementary Figure 1

A

Trial 1 | Trial 2 | Trial 3 | Trial 4
10 min | 10 min | 10 min | 10 min

5 min | 5 min | 5 min | 5 min | 5 min

B **C** **D**

E **G** **I**

40 cm | 40 cm | 40 cm
20 cm | 20 cm | 20 cm
Φ:10 cm | Φ:10 cm | Φ:10 cm
100 cm | 100 cm | 100 cm

F **H** **J**

Supplementary Figure 2-1

Supplementary Figure 2-2

H R0388

mCA1 — 0.602 — Tetrode 1

mCA1 & mCA1 — 0.448 TT2 — 0.343 TT14 — Tetrode 2 & 14

mCA1 — 0.370 — Tetrode 4

pCA1 — 0.167 — Tetrode 5

mCA1 — 0.335 — Tetrode 6

pCA1 & pCA1 — 0.227 TT11 — 0.168 TT9 — Tetrode 9 & 11

pCA1 — 0.178 — Tetrode 10

mCA1 — 0.370 — Tetrode 12

mCA1 — 0.460 — Tetrode 13

I R0389

pCA1 — 0.107 — Tetrode 4

pCA1 — 0.322 — Tetrode 7

mCA1 — 0.584 — Tetrode 9

pCA1 & pCA1 & mCA1 — 0.483 TT11 — 0.307 TT14 — 0.231 TT15 — Tetrode 11 & 14 & 15

mCA1 — 0.449 — Tetrode 12

J R0390

mCA1 — 0.390 — Tetrode 3

mCA1 — 0.554 — Tetrode 4

mCA1 — 0.375 — Tetrode 10

mCA1 — 0.479 — Tetrode 11

K R0391

dCA1 — 0.840 — Tetrode 1

mCA1 & dCA1 — 0.908 TT2 — 0.589 TT14 — Tetrode 2 & 14

dCA1 — 0.708 — Tetrode 3

mCA1 & dCA1 — 0.756 TT4 — 0.446 TT12 — Tetrode 4 & 12

mCA1 — 0.592 — Tetrode 5

mCA1 — 0.535 — Tetrode 6

mCA1 — 0.530 — Tetrode 7

mCA1 — 0.449 — Tetrode 8

mCA1 — 0.381 — Tetrode 9

mCA1 — 0.380 — Tetrode 10

mCA1 — 0.493 — Tetrode 11

mCA1 — 0.616 — Tetrode 13

dCA1 — 0.767 — Tetrode 16

L R0621

mCA1 — 0.620 — Tetrode 3

mCA1 — 0.570 — Tetrode 5

pCA1 — 0.140 — Tetrode 11

Supplementary Figure 2-3

Supplementary Figure 2-4

T 18549

U 19326

Supplementary Figure 3-1

Supplementary Figure 3-2

L Theta phase locking

R² = 0.099
R² = 0.089
r = −0.298
P = 0.002

M Spatial information

R² = 0.116
R² = 0.115
r = −0.338
P < 0.001

N

| 99 | 101 | 158 | 118 | 59 | 446 | 391 | 141 | 65 | 291 | 29 | 7 | 6 | 125 | 319 | 67 | 7 | 32 | 67 | 94 |

R0087 R0088 R0089 R0092 R0172 R0175 R0388 R0389 R0390 R0391 R0621 R0769 R0836 R1026 R1028 17899 18547 18548 18549 19326

☐ Same
☐ B vs W

O Proportion of rate remapped cells

*
*** **

217	122	140
389	424	328
297	424	281

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

■ RD > 0.5
▨ 0.2 < RD ≤ 0.5
☐ RD ≤ 0.2

P R0175 T08C1

0.417 Hz
0.533 Hz

Field 1: trial B: 0.383 Hz, trial W: 0.190 Hz;
Field 2: trial B: 0 Hz, trial W: 0.263 Hz;
Weight f1 = 0.383 / (0.383 + 0.263) = 0.593;
Weight f2 = 0.263 / (0.383 + 0.263) = 0.407;
Rate difference =
    (0.533 − 0.417) / (0.533 + 0.417) = **0.122**;
Rate difference by field =
((0.383 − 0.190) / (0.383 + 0.190)) × 0.593
+ ((0.263 − 0) / (0.263 + 0)) × 0.407 = **0.607**.

Q Same color | Black vs white | Δ rate difference

☐ Rate difference
☐ Rate diff by field

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

R Rate difference by field

☐ Same
☐ B vs W
***

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

Δ rate difference

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

S Rate difference by field

R² = 0.287
R² = 0.190 (p)
R² = 0.011 (d)

T

☐ Trial 1 vs 2, matching conditions
☐ Trial 2 vs 3, different conditions
☐ Trial 3 vs 4, matching conditions

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

Hysteresis
***
***
***

pCA1 mCA1 dCA1

U Context decoding - color

☐ pCA1 ☐ mCA1 ☐ dCA1

*** *** ***

R0388 R0391-1 R0391-2

Supplementary Figure 4-1

Supplementary Figure 4-2

L Theta modulation

Modulation index — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1 — ***

M Spatial information

Information (bit/sec) — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1 — **, ***

N Coherence

Correlation — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1 — *, ***, *

O Stability

Correlation — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1 — ***

P Spatial information

$R^2 = 0.326$ $R^2 = 0.331$
r = −0.571, $P < 0.001$
Information (bit/sec) vs Normalized recording position
pro. / dis.

Q Coherence

$R^2 = 0.289$ $R^2 = 0.290$
r = −0.538, $P < 0.001$
Correlation vs Normalized recording position
pro. / dis.

R Stability

r = −0.649, $P < 0.001$
$R^2 = 0.421$ $R^2 = 0.438$
Correlation vs Normalized recording position
pro. / dis.

S Proportion of cells

n.s.
Frequency — pCA1 (93, 157), mCA1 (54, 105), dCA1 (128, 224)
Active in: 1 room, 2 rooms

W PV correlation — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1
Trial 1 vs 2, Trial 2 vs 3, Trial 3 vs 4
Δ PV correlation — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1 — ***

T
i — Frequency vs Spatial correlation — pCA1, mCA1, dCA1
ii — pCA1 — % of events vs Spatial correlation — 10.21%
iii — mCA1 — % of events vs Spatial correlation — 12.74%
iv — dCA1 — % of events vs Spatial correlation — 17.01%

U Spatial correlation — pCA1-ds (125), mCA1 (159), dCA1-ds (176)
Same, Rm A vs B
Δ spatial correlation — pCA1 ds, mCA1, dCA1 ds — ***

V Rate difference — pCA1-ds (125), mCA1 (159), dCA1-ds (176)
Same, Rm A vs B
Δ rate difference — pCA1 ds, mCA1, dCA1 ds — ***

Supplementary Figure 5

Supplementary Figure 6

Supplementary Figure 8

Spatial modulation
Global remapping

A   B

Representation — Spatial cues
pro.   dis.

Rate remapping

B   W
Obj−   Obj+

Representation — Non-spatial cues
pro.   dis.

Object location
Object identity

Fam   Reloc
Fam   Nov

Representation — Local cues
pro.   dis.

proximal   middle   distal
CA1
CA2
distal
CA3   proximal   DG
SUB
LEC Layer III
MEC Layer III
PER

LEC:
Egocentric object vector
Object identity & trace
Odor, time, et al.

distal CA3 and CA2:
Low in spatial modulation
Marginal rate remapping
Overlapping global remapping

proximal CA3:
High in spatial modulation
Strong rate remapping
Orthogonalized global remapping

MEC:
Position & direction
Allocentric object vector
Border, speed, et al.