Distinct Regulaton of Bioenergetics and Translation by Gp I mGluRs and NMDARs

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Abstract

Neuronal actvity is majorly responsible for dispropotionally large consumption of energy by the brain. However little is known about the nature of the processes responsible for abundant ATP outlay within neurons. Here we provide evidence that major fraction of ATP consumed on glutamate stimulation in cultured cortical neurons is due to activation of global *de-novo* protein synthesis mediated by group I mGluRs. On the contrary NMDAR stimulation leads to a much slower yet protein synthesis dependant ATP expenditure. We found mGluR and NMDAR stimulation impacting the kinetics of translation with distinct kinetics; while mGluR lead to rapid and sustained translation activation as measured by eEF2 phophorylation and matabolic labeling, NMDAR stimulation induced an intial translation inhibition followed by a delayed activation. Translation kinetics for these receptors were always found to have an inverse correlation with Neuronal ATP consumtption. Interestingly, we identified that AMP activated protein kinase (AMPK) has a central role in regulating downstream effects of both mGluR and NMDAR. AMPK activity was reduced on mGluR stimulation even under low ATP levels while there was a rapid increase in AMPK actvity on NMDAR stimulation. Perturbing AMPK function prior to either stimulation led to a complete loss of stimulation specific effects on eEF2 phosphorylation and global translation. Our observation therefore established a pivotal role for AMPK-eEF2 signaling axis on receptor specific regulation of global translation.

Introduction

Brain is known to consume a significant fraction of the body's metabolic energy even at the 'resting' state [1] which increases further on actvity. Evidences from FMRI based studies and PET studies with various tracer molecules have established direct correlations between brain activity and enhanced resource consumption. Conditions such as hypoglycemia and cerebral ischemia leads to severe consequences largely due to perturbations in energy supply [2,3]. Dysregulated energy metabolism is at the heart of conditions such as epilepsy and various neuro-degenerative diseases [4,5]. Therefore, highly regulated energy management is a key requirement for proper cognitive functions of the brain.

Synapses are thought to be the sites of major ATP consumption [6,7] due to large number of cellular processes being activated on arrival of a stimulus. While high rate of endocytosis is reported to consume maximum energy at the pre-synaptic boutons on electrical stimulation [8,9], our understanding is quite limited as to what extent various processes consume ATP at the post-synaptic compartments and at the pan-neuronal level. Neuronal activity has also been known to induce abundant protein synthesis [10], a determining resource for long term synaptic plasticity and memory formation. Since each round of amino acid incorporation requires 4 ATP molecules along with additional ATP required for amino acid charging and initiation [11,10], any change therefore in the rate of global protein synthesis is expected to have a reflection on the steady state ATP level. Group I metabotropic glutamate receptors (mGluRs referred hereafter) and NMDARs are widely implicated to facilitate or induce various forms of syanptic plasticity across different brain regions [12,13]. While mGluRs are known to activate translation

rapidly [1415], NMDAR stimulation causes translation inhibition at an immediate time scale

[16]. Considering the distinct nature of their downstrem regualtion, it would therefore be

interesting to understand the impact of mGluR and NMDAR activation on cellular

energetics.

Neuronal activity is also known to trigger ATP production through activation of

glycolysis and oxidative phosphorylation [8171819] to support the enhanced consumption.

One key molecular player in such a scenario would be AMP activated protein kinase

(AMPK). AMPK is a known sensor for cellular ATP/AMP ratio and acts to balance various

catabolic and anabolic processes including global translation [20]. AMPK activation has

been shown to be critical to support synaptic ATP level on neuronal activity [17] and

influence various forms synaptic plasticity [2122]. Thus, understanding how AMPK

coordinates activity dependent changes on energetics and translation is of paramount

importance. To gain deeper insight at the molecular level of regulation of energy

metabolism and translation on neuronal activity, we addressed the following questions:

1) How is the energy level altered over time on synaptic activity 2) What are the

machanisms that play a key role to dynamically regulate translation on various different

stimulations and 3) How AMPK activity is altered to strike a balance between energy

and translation regulation.

Here we report that stimulation with glutamate, the major neurotransmitter in

vertebrate CNS, causes large amount of energy consumption primarily due to the

activation of global translation by mGluRs at post synapse and globally throughout the

neuron. We also report a distinct difference in the kinetics of translation regulation

induced by mGluRs and NMDARs. These distinct responses in turn depend on the

differential activation of AMPK downstream of mGluRs and NMDARs involving

mechanisms mutually exclusive. Finally, we show that acute prior perturbations of

AMPK function lead to complete loss of translation regulation on both stimulations

thereby establishing AMPK as biochemical coupling mechanism between energetics and

translation on neuronal activity.

Results:

mGluR dependent protein synthesis consumes significant amount of neuronal ATP

following glutamate stimulation:

To assess the impact of translation on global ATP levels, we used cultured cortical

neurons from Sprague Dawley (SD) rats and stimulated with glutamate (25µM) for 5

minutes at day *in vitro* 15 (DIV 15) in presence or absence of protein synthesis inhibitors

anisomycin or cycloheximide. We then quantified the ATP/(ATP+ADP) ratio from cell

lysates using bioluminescence-based methods (**Figure 1A**). Glutamate Stimulation alone

led to significant reduction in the neuronal ATP/(ATP+ADP) ratio. This reduction in the

ratio was found to be absent on stimulation in presence of protein synthesis inhibitors

anisomycin (25µM) or cycloheximide (100µg/ml) (**Figure 1B**) while drugs alone had no

significnat impact. The identical effects of both anisomycin and cycloheximide negates

the possibility of off-target effects of these drugs. Thus our observations suggest a large

increase in protein synthesis on stimulation, responsible for consuming signifcant

fraction of neuronal ATP.

Further, to understand the contributions from individual glutamate receptors, we

repeated glutamate stimulation inhibiting either ionotropic NMDA and AMPA receptors

with a cocktail of D-AP5 (25µM) + CNQX (40µM) (refered to as inotropic glutamate

receptor (iGluR) blocker cocktail hereafter) or inhibiting mGluRs with MPEP (10µM). Co-

stimulation with iGluR blocker cocktail led to significant reduction in ATP/(ATP+ADP)

ratio similar to glutamate alone while stimulation along with MPEP abolished the

glutamate mediated reduction significantly (**Figure 1C**). Therefore, these results

suggest that the observed reduction in ATP on glutamate stimulation is majorly due to

mGluR activity with minimal contributions from the iGluRs. Furthermore, Stimulation

in presence iGluR blocker cocktail along with protein synthesis inhibitor anisomycin

removed the energy burden significantly (**Figure 1B**) corroborating a robust increase in

protein synthesis in absence of iGluR activity consumes significant fraction of neuronal

ATP. To further investigate on this idea, we stimulated cortical neurons with mGluR

and NMDAR specific agonists s-3,5 DHPG and NMDA (agonists of mGluR and NMDAR

respectively). While DHPG treatment led to a significant reduction in ATP/ATP+ADP

($79.5\pm3.8\%$), NMDA had no significant impact **(Supplementary figure 1A)** ascertaining

the importance of mGluR activity on energy consumption. To account for the

contribution from endocytosis on glutamate mediated ATP consumption, we blocked

GTP dependent enzyme dynamin with small molecule inhibitor dynasore (100µM).

Stimulation in presence dynasore had similar effects as that of glutamate alone

(**Supplementary figure 1B)** suggesting activity induced vesicle endocytosis has

negligible effect on pan-neuronal ATP level.

To understand the impact of mGluR and NMDAR stimulation on synaptic energy level,

we prepared synaptoneurosomes from whole rat cortices at post-natal day 30 (P30) and

stimulated with DHPG (100µM) and NMDA (50µM) respectively (**Figure 1D**).

Synaptoneurosome preparation was validated with enrichment of synaptic marker PSD

95 without any significant enrichment of glial marker GFAP (**Figure 1E**). Synaptic ATP

levels showed significant reduction on mGluR stimulation (**Figure 1F**). The reduction in

synaptic ATP levels on stimulation was abolished in presence of mGluR inhibitor MPEP,

protein synthesis inhibitor anisomycin and cycloheximide (**Figure 1F**) indicating

changes in synaptic ATP level on mGluR stimulation is majorly due to protein synthesis.

NMDAR stimulation on the contrary had no significant effect on synaptic ATP level and

was unaltered in presence of NMDAR inhibitor D-AP5 (**Figure 1F, supplementary figure**

1C). Therefore, our observations suggest mGluR dependent protein synthesis creates

significant energy demand both at the synaptic and pan-neuronal level.

Legend for Figure 1

Glutamate dependent changes in neuronal ATP/ADP Ratio is primarily due to Group I mGluR dependent protein synthesis.

(A) Schematic depicting experimental work flow for measurement of ATP/ATP+ADP ratio from cultured cortical neurons at 15 day *in-vitro* (DIV 15) using luciferase-based methods.

(B) Bar graph representing normalized average value of neuronal ATP/ATP+ADP ratio in unstimulated condition, in presence of Anisomycin (25µM), cycloheximide (350µM), on glutamate (25µM) stimulation alone for 5 minutes, on glutamate stimulation along with anisomycin, on glutamate stimulation along with cycloheximide and on glutamate stimulation in combination with D-AP5, CNQX and anisomycin. Data represented as: mean ± SEM with scattered data points. *p<0.05, n=3-6 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(C) Bar graph representing normalized average value of neuronal ATP/ATP+ADP ratio in unstimulated condition, in presence of MPEP (10µM), in presence of the cocktail of CNQX (40µM) + D-AP5 (25µM), on glutamate (25µM) stimulation alone for 5 minutes, on glutamate stimulation along with the cocktail of CNQX + D-AP5 and on glutamate stimulation along with MPEP. Data represented as: mean ± SEM with scattered data points. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001, n=3-5 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(D) Schematic depicting experimental work flow for measurement of synaptic ATP level from cortical synaptoneurosomes obtained from Sprague dawley rats at post-natal day 30 (P30) using luciferase-based methods.

(E) Immunoblots showing PSD 95 and GFAP levels on whole cortical lysate and
synaptoneurosome preparation. Quantification representing average fold enrichment of PSD 95
and GFAP on synaptoneurosome preparations compared to whole cortex lysate.

(F) Bar graph representing normalized average value of synaptic ATP level in unstimulated
condition, on DHPG (100µM) treatment for 5 minutes, on DHPG treatment along with MPEP
(10µM), on DHPG treatment along with anisomycin (50µM), on DHPG treatment along with
cycloheximide (350µM), on NMDA (40µM) treatment for 5 minutes and on NMDA treatment along
with D-AP5 (25µM). Data: mean +/- SEM with scattered data points. *$p<0.05$, n=5-10
independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

mGluRs and NMDARs impact synapto-dendritic ATP levels with distinct kinetics

To understand the kinetics of activity induced changes in energy level at a more
compartment specific manner, we measured ATP/ADP ratio following mGluR and
NMDAR stimulation at the distal dendrites of cortical neurons (~50µm away from cell
body) using ratio sensor PercevalHR as reported previously [23] (**Figure 2A**). Perceval pH
bias was approximately corrected by simultaneous measurement of intracellular pH
with the ratio sensor pH-Red using the linear relation between Perceval and pH-Red
fluorescence as described previously [24][23] **(supplementary figure 2A)**. On bath
application of 50µM DHPG (mGluR agonist) we observed a rapid and significant
reduction (~ by 2 mins) in the dendritic ATP/ADP ratio. The ratio continued to stay low
long as DHPG was present in the media (**Figure 2B-2E**). Application of NMDA (20µM) on
bath conversely showed much delayed (~10 minutes post-stimualtion) reduction in the
ratio indicating a slow kinetics of NMDAR effect on dendritic ATP:ADP ratio distinctly
different to that of mGluRs (**Figure 2B-2E**). Stimulation in presence of protein synthesis

inhibitor anisomycin inhibited the activity dependent reduction in the dendritic

ATP/ADP ratio for both DHPG and NMDA treatment (**Figure 2C-2F**). While the dendritic

ATP/ADP ratio was unaltered under basal condition, application of anisomycin led to a

sharp rise in ATP/ADP ratio reflecting the energy consumption due to basal protein

synthesis (**supplementary figure 2B and 2C**). Our observations therefore clearly

indicate that stimulation dependent protein synthesis is a major energy burden even at

the local dendritic compartments.

To investigate the kinetics of ATP regulation at the synapse we used cortical

synaptoneurosome preperation. We stimulated synaptoneurosomes for 1, 2 and, 5

minutes and allowed recovery for 5 minutes after stimulation (hence reffered to as 5

min recovery hereafter). ATP levels were quantified from the specified time points

using luminescence-based methods from synaptoneurosomal lysates (**Figure 2F**). DHPG

(100μM) addition alone led to a rapid and significant reduction of the synaptic ATP level

at 2 minutes and 5 minutes after stimulation and reached baseline at 5 min recovery

time point. The DHPG induced changes in synaptic ATP levels was lost in presence of

anisomycin highlighting most of the change in the ATP level was contributed by protein

synthesis (**Figure 2G**). NMDA stimulation in the same system had no significant impact

on the ATP levels till 5 minutes of stimulation but exhibited a significant reduction at

5 min recovery time point. Stimulation in presence of anisomycin had no additional

effect as that of NMDAR alone (**Figure 2H**) suggesting no detectable amount of protein

synthesis happened till 5 minutes of NMDAR stimulation [16]. Synaptic ATP level was

unaltered in absence of any stimulation for a period similar as stimulations

(**supplementary figure 2D**). Together our results indicate mGluR stimulation leads to a

rapid and persistent reduction in ATP level in a protein synthesis dependent manner

while NMDAR stimulation impacts ATP level with a late onset of protein synthesis.

Legend for Figure 2

mGluR and NMDAR impacts dendritic ATP/ADP ratio with distinct Kinetics.

(A) Representative dendrite showing changes on PercevalHR fluorescence ratio (~ATP/ADP

ratio) on bath application of DHPG (50μM) and NMDA (20μM). Scale=10μM.

(B) Average time traces showing the changes in the dendritic ATP/ADP ratio on DHPG and NMDA

treatment in presence or absence of anisomycin (25μM). The curved arrow on top indicates the

time when stimulants were added and kept in the imaging media. Data: mean +/- SEM, n= 6-8

cells from independent plating.

(C) Bar graph representing average change in PercevalHR fluorescence (ΔF/F) on DHPG

treatment, NMDA treatment, DHPG treatment along with anisomycin and NMDA treatment along

with anisomycin 2 minutes after stimulant was added on bath. Data: mean +/- SEM. *p<0.05,

n= 6-8 cells from independent plating. One Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple

comparison test.

(D) Bar graph representing average change in PercevalHR fluorescence (ΔF/F) on DHPG

treatment, NMDA treatment, DHPG treatment along with anisomycin and NMDA treatment along

with anisomycin 5 minutes after stimulant was added on bath. Data: mean +/- SEM. *p<0.05,

n= 6-8 cells from independent plating. One Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple

comparison test.

(E) Bar graph representing average change in PercevalHR fluorescence (ΔF/F) on DHPG

treatment, NMDA treatment, DHPG treatment along with anisomycin and NMDA treatment along

with anisomycin 2 minutes after stimulant was added on bath. Data: mean +/- SEM. **p<0.01,

n= 6-8 cells from independent plating. One Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple

comparison test.

(F) Schematic depicting stimulation protocol in cortical synaptoneurosomes for quantification
synaptic ATP levels.

(G) Line graph showing average synaptic ATP levels at various time points after DHPG (100μM)
treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of anisomycin (50μM). Data:
mean +/- SEM, *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ****p<0.0001 for comparison with 0 minute. ##p<0.01 and
####p<0.0001 for comparison between DHPG+aniso. n≥ 5 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA
followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(H) Line graph showing average synaptic ATP levels at various time points after NMDA (40μM)
treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of anisomycin (50μM). Data:
mean +/- SEM, **p<0.01 for comparison with 0 minute. n≥ 4 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA
followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test

mGluRs and NMDARs regulate eEF2 phosphorylation to create distinct kinetics of
translation

To understand the stimulation dependent changes on global translation with a direct
correlate, we quantified de-novo protein synthesis at various time points after
stimulation using FUNCAT metabolic labeling technique as described previously [25].
Cultured cortical neurons (DIV 15) were methionine starved for 1 hour followed by
application of methionine analogue AHA and incubation for 1 hour for abundant labeling
of proteins. This was followed by stimulation as described in figure 2F and fixation
(**Figure 3A**).   Newly synthesized proteins were visualized by tagging the AHA containing
proteins with Alexa 555 alkyn. Mean FUNCAT intensity was then quantified from somata
and dendrites representing quantity of proteins synthesized cumulatively over the

period of stimulation (**Figure 3B, 3C, 3D and supplemenatry figure 3B**). On bath

application of DHPG, we did not observed any discernable change in the FUNCAT signal

by 2 minutes. The signal increased significantly though by 5 minutes and by 5 min

recovery as compared to unstimulated cells. This demonstrates a robust and persistent

increase in de-novo protein synthesis on mGluR stimulation in cultured cortical neurons

(**Figure 3C and 3D**). On the contrary NMDA stimulation led to a significant reduction in

FUNCAT signal compared to unstimulated cells by 2 minutes while the signal intensity

returned to baseline by 5 minutes of stimulation and continued to stay unchanged till

5 min recovery (**Figure 3C and 3D**) indicating a a rapid inhibition of translation on

NMDAR stimulation following. No significant change in FUNCAT signal was observed in

absence of any stimulation (**supplementary figure 3A**). No detectable signal was

observed in absence of any AHA incubation which acted as a negative control for our

experiment (**supplementary figure 3A**). Therefore, our observations reveal a robust

and persistent activation of translation mediated by mGluRs while NMDAR stimulation

led to a rapid inhibition of translation.

Eukaryotic elongation factor 2 (eEF2) has been proposed to be a signal integrator [26] and

its phosphorylation is known to respond to various synaptic stimuli [16,27] thereby

regulating translation elongation [28]. Phosphorylation of Thr 56 residue of eEF2 is known

to pause translation elongation thereby causing global translation inhibition [29]. To gain

insight on the modes of translation regulation downstream of both receptors, we

decided to investigate on the role of elongation factor 2 (eEF2) phosphorylation in

cultured cortical neurons. We quantified eEF2 phosphorylation 5 minutes after

stimulation, a time point corresponding to maximum difference observed in FUNCAT

signal (**Figure 3E and Supplementary figure 3C**). We observed a significant reduction

in p-eEF2 levels 5 minutes after DHPG treatment as compared to unstimulated cells.

NMDA treatment on the contrary robustly increased the p-eEF2 levels in the cell somata

and dendrites (**Figure 3F**). Further we used phospho/ total ratio of eEF2 as a readout

to gain a snapshot view of global translation in cortical synaptoneurosomes (**Figure 3G**)

and in cortical neurons (**supplementary figure 3D**). Synaptoneurosomes were

stimulated for different time period as mentioned before (**Figure 2F**). We observed a

significant difference in the kinetics of eEF2 phosphorylation regulated by mGluR and

NMDAR stimulation (**Figure 3H and supplementary figure 3E**). mGluR stimulation led

to an immediate reduction in phospho/total eEF2 ratio by 1 minute. The decrease in

the ratio persisted till 5 minutes of stimulation and returned to baseline by 5 mins of

recovery. NMDAR stimulation, on the contrary lead to an immediate increase in the

phospho/Total eEF2 ratio by 1 minute correlated well with the decrease in FUNCAT

signal observed 2 minutes after stimulation in cortical neurons. The increase in the ratio

persisted till 5 minutes of NMDAR stimulation and returned to baseline by 5 min recovery

time point (**Figure 3H**). The ratio stayed unaltered in absence of any stimulation

(**supplementary figure 4B**). Therefore, we found a strong correlation between the

global translation and eEF2 phosphorylation downstream of both the glutamate

receptor stimulation.

A

1 Hr in Met free DMEM | 1 Hr DMEM + AHA Incubation

Stimulation | Recovery
1 Min
2 Min
5 Min
5 Min | 5 Min

B

Stimulation

2 Min | 5 Min | 5 Min Recovery

Basal

DHPG

NMDA

C

Stimulation | Recovery

Mean FUNCAT Intensity (normalized)

Time(Mins)

■ Basal
▲ DHPG
▼ NMDA

D

Mean FUNCAT Intensity (normalized)

B0 B2 D2 N2 B5 D5 N5 B5R D5R N5R

E

Basal | DHPG 5 Min | NMDA 5 Min
p-eEF2 | p-eEF2 | p-eEF2

F

Mean Phospho eEF2 Intensity (normalized)

Basal DHPG NMDA

G

DHPG

0 1 2 5 10 | kDa
p-eEF2 | -100
Tubulin | -50
T-eEF2 | -100
Tubulin | -50

NMDA

0 1 2 5 10 | KDa
p-eEF2 | -100
Tubulin | -50
T-eEF2 | 100
Tubulin | -50

H

Stimulation | Recovery

Relative Phospho/total eEF2 in SNS (Fraction of initial)

Time (Mins)

● DHPG
■ NMDA

Legend for Figure 3:

mGluR and NMDAR alter global translation by regulating eEF2 phosphorylation with distinct kinetics.

(A) Schematic depicting the experimental workflow and stimulation protocol to visualize and quantify newly synthesized protein on stimulation through metabolic labeling technique in cortical neurons DIV 15.

(B) Representative images showing newly synthesized proteins visualized through FUNCAT metabolic labeling (pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons at various time points following DHPG (50μM) and NMDA (20μM) treatment. MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 3B) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10μM.

(C) Line graph showing average newly synthesized protein intensity before stimulation (basal) and at various time points following DHPG and NMDA treatments. Data: mean +/- SEM, ***$p<0.001$ n= 21-54 neurons per group from 3 independent plating. Two Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(D) Box plot showing distribution of data points for the newly synthesized protein obtained from various neurons for each group. *$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$, ***$p<0.001$, ****$p<0.0001$, n= 21-54 neurons per group from 3 independent plating. One Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(E) Representative images showing phospho-eEF2 immunolabeling (Pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons on basal, DHPG and NMDA treatments for 5 minutes. MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 3C) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10μM.

(F) Box plot showing phospho-eEF2 intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal condition and on DHPG and NMDA treatment for 5 minutes. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, n=31-49 cells per group from 3 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(G) Representative immunoblots describing changes in phospho-eEF2 and total-eEF2 levels at various time points after DHPG (100μM) and NMDA (40μM) treatment to cortical synaptoneurosomes. Note in each case phospho and total eEF2 levels were normalized individually to tubulin before calculating the ratio.

(H) Line graph showing average value for synaptic phospho/total ratio of eEF2 at various time points after DHPG and NMDA treatment and 5 minutes after recovery. Data: mean +/- SEM, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001, ****p<0.0001, n≥ 5 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

mGluRs and NMDARs regulate AMPK activity in contrasting manner

AMP activated protein kinase (AMPK) is a widely studied global sensor for ATP/AMP or ADP ratio and is known to regulate various catabolic and anabolic processes during energy stress [20]. Since mGluRs and NMDARs had contrasting effect on both ATP/ADP ratio and global translation, we sought to understand if AMPK activity was altered to achieve stimulation specific effects. To examine the global status of AMPK activity we quantitated T172 phosphorylation on AMPK α subunit 5 minutes after stimulation in cortical neurons through immunolabeling (DIV 15) (**Figure 4A and supplementary figure 4A**). T172 is present in the activation loop of AMPK and its phosphorylation is positively correlated with heightened AMPK activation [30] (Hawley et al., 1996,). We observed a significant decrease in p-AMPK immunolabeling on mGluR stimulation

compared unstimulated condition. NMDAR stimulation on the contrary led to a

significant rise in the immunolabel indicating an increase in AMPK activity (**Figure 4B**).

To understand the temporal changes in AMPK activity, we stimulated cortical

synaptoneurosomes with DHPG followed by measurement of phospho/total AMPK ratio

(**Figure 4C**). We found a significant decrease in the ratio by about 2 minutes after DHPG

treatment persisting till 5 minutes of recovery (**Figure 4D**) while the ratio stayed

unaltered in absence of any stimulation (**supplementary figure 4B**). These results

indicate that AMPK activity underwent reduction on mGluR stimulation despite an

observed decline in the ATP level. Surprisingly, the mGluR mediated reduction in AMPK

activity was found to be abolished in presence of anisomycin underscoring the

importance of de-novo protein synthesis in regulation of AMPK activity (**Figure 4C and**

4D). One pressing idea was therefore to test whether mGluR stimulation leads to

synthesis of any protein that would inhibit AMPK phosphorylation. We chose α-SNAP as

a potential candidate to investigate, a *cis*-SNARE disassembly factor, reported to act as

a phosphatase of AMPK [31]. We investigated the α-SNAP protein level on DHPG treatment

in cortical synaptoneurosomes (**Figure 4E**). A significant increase in α-SNAP level was

observed on 1 min of DHPG addition and was persistent till 5 min recovery (**Figure 4F**),

a temporal feature well correlated with AMPK inactivation kinetics (**Figure 4D**). The

DHPG induced increase in α-SNAP level was found to be abolished in presence of protein

synthesis inhibitor anisomycin indicating mGluR dependent de-novo synthesis of α-SNAP

plays critical role in AMPK dephosphorylation (**Figure 4F**). Further We quantified the

association between α-SNAP and AMPK on mGluR stimulation in cortical cultured

neurons (**Figure 4G**) as α-SNAP is known to stabilize the de-phosphorylated version of

AMPK. We observed a significant increase in colocalization between α-SNAP and AMPK

in cortical neurons after DHPG treatment (5 minutes) compared to unstimulated

condition (**Figure 4H**).   These results therefore suggest a crucial role for protein α-

SNAP in mediating mGluR mediated dephosphorylation of AMPK.

 Legend for Figure 4:

 mGluR inhibit while NMDAR activate AMPK to regulate translation.

 (A) Representative images showing phospho-AMPK immunolabeling (Pseudo-colored) in cortical
 neurons on basal, DHPG and NMDA treatments for 5 minutes. MAP2B immunolabeling
 (supplementary figure 4A) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for
 normalization. Scale=10μM.

 (B) Box plot showing phospho-AMPK intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal
 condition and on DHPG and NMDA treatment for 5 minutes. *$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$, n=30-46 cells per
 group from 3 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple
 comparison test.

 (C) Representative immunoblots describing changes in phospho-AMPK and total-AMPK levels at
 various time points after DHPG (100μM) treatment to cortical synaptoneurosomes in presence
 or absence of anisomycin (50μM). Note in each case phospho and total AMPK levels were
 normalized individually to tubulin before calculating the ratio.

 (D) Line graph showing average value for synaptic phospho/total ratio of AMPK at various time
 points after DHPG treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of
 anisomycin. Data: mean +/- SEM, *$p<0.05$, **$p<0.01$, ****$p<0.0001$, n= 5 animals per group. Two
 Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

 (E) Representative immunoblots depicting changes in α-SNAP levels at various time points after
 DHPG treatment to cortical synaptoneurosomes in presence or absence of anisomycin.

 (F) Line graph showing average value for synaptic α-SNAP levels at various time points after
 DHPG treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of anisomycin. Data:

mean +/- SEM. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, n≥ 4 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed by

Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(G) Representative images showing α-SNAP (green) and AMPK (red) immunolabeling in cortical

neurons. Merge shows the colocalization of two channels. Scale=10µM.

(H) Box plot depicting quantification of co-localization between -SNAP and AMPK in cortical

neurons under basal and DHPG treated conditions. **p<0.01, n≥24 cells per group from 3

independent plating. Unpaired-sample t test.

NMDAR Regulate AMPK Activity in Ca2+ dependent Manner

We further investigated the kinetics and mechanism of NMDAR mediated AMPK

regulation in cortical synaptoneurosomes (**Figure 5A**). We observed a rapid increase in

phospho/total AMPK ratio by 1 minute of stimulation and persisting till 5 mins recovery

(**Figure 5B**). This observation is in parallel to our previous observation in neurons where

NMDA stimulation lead to enhanced phosphorylation of AMPK (**Figure 4B**). Interestingly

we did not observe any detectable change in ATP level (**Figure 2I**) at a similar time

scale hinting towards an ATP independent regulation of AMPK. CamKIIß, one of the

upstream kinases of AMPK [20](Burkewitz et al. 2014), is known to phosphorylate it in a

Ca^{2+} dependent and ATP independent manner. Therefore, we hypothesized that NMDAR

dependent increase in AMPK function is mediated by increased cytosolic Ca^{2+} levels

entered through open NMDARs. To test the hypothesis, we repeated NMDAR stimulation

in absence of extracellular Ca^{2+} (**Figure 5A**). We observed a significantly different AMPK

response on NMDA treatment in absence of extracellular Ca^{2+} (**Figure 5B**). The

stimulation dependent increase in phospho/total AMPK ratio was absent in Ca^{2+} free

buffer underscoring the importance of Ca^{2+} signaling in this context. Interestingly we

observed the NMDA dependent increase in phspho/total eEF2 level was also abolished

in absence of extracellular Ca^{2+} (**supplemenatary figure 4D**) clearly demonstrating the

importance of Ca^{2+} dependent signaling mechanism in NMDAR dependent translation

regulation.

We further followed the kinetics of NMDAR mediated Ca^{2+} entry in cortical neurons.

Cytosolic free Ca^{2+} level was quantified on NMDAR stimulation using fluorescent based

Ca^{2+} probe Fluo-8AM. We observed a rapid increase in Fluo8 fluorescence on NMDA

addition and persisted till the presence of stimulant in the media (**Figure 5C, 5F and**

5G) indicating an increase in intracellular Ca^{2+} on NMDA treatment. The amount of Ca2+

entered was non-saturating as could be inferred from further increase in fluorescence

on addition of ionomycin in presence of 10mM Ca^{2+} (**Figure 5F**). The observed increase

in Ca^{2+} is NMDA specific as pre-treatment with D-AP5 abolished the rise in Ca^{2+} (**Figure**

5D, 5F and 5G). The Ca^{2+} surge is contributed primarily by synaptic NMDARs as the

response was observed to be absent in presence of MK801 (10μM), a compound known

to block the open NMDAR channel pores (**supplementary figure 4C; Figure 5G**). The

rise in fluorescence on stimulation was abolished in the absence of extracellular Ca^{2+}

indicating the source of the ions are majorly extracellular in nature (**Figure 5E, 5F and**

5G). Therefore, our results indicate NMDAR mediated rapid entry of external Ca^{2+} is

responsible for rapid AMPK activation.

Legend for Figure 5:

NMDAR mediated AMPK activation is extracellular calcium dependent.

(A) Representative immunoblots describing changes in phospho-AMPK and total-AMPK levels at various time points after NMDA (40μM) treatment to cortical synaptoneurosomes in presence or absence of extracellular Ca^{2+}. Note in each case phospho and total AMPK levels were normalized individually to tubulin before calculating the ratio.

(B) Line graph showing average value for synaptic phospho/total ratio of AMPK at various time points after NMDA treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of extracellular Ca^{2+}. Data: mean +/- SEM, **p<0.01, ****p<0.0001, n= 6 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(C,D,E) Representative images depicting intracellular Ca^{2+} levels (Pseudo-colored) of a cortical neuron before stimulation, immediately (15s) after NMDA (20μM) treatment, at a later time point (300sec) after NMDA treatment and after ionomycin treatment along with 10mM Ca^{2+} in presence or absence of extracellular Ca^{2+} and D-AP5. Scale=20μM.

(F) Representative time trace showing the change in Fluo8 fluorescence on NMDA treatment in presence or absence of extracellular Ca^{2+} and D-AP5. Ionomycin treatment in presence of 10mM Ca^{2+} was used to calculate fluorescence maximum for a particular cell.

(F) Box plot showing the distribution of $\Delta F/F_0$ across multiple neurons under spontaneously firing condition, on NMDA treatment in presence or absence of Ca^{2+}, on NMDA treatment along with D-AP5 (25μM) and on NMDA treatment along with MK-801. ****p<0.0001, n≥30 neurons per group from 3 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

Perturbation of AMPK function disrupts mGluR and NMDAR specific translation response

We present two key pieces of experimental evidence to verify the idea that tight regulation of AMPK function is necessary to generate receptor specific translation response. Since mGluR activation lead to inhibition of AMPK function, first we hypothesized that acute activation of AMPK with 5-aminoimidazole-4-carboxamide ribonucleotide (AICAR; 1mM) should preclude the mGluR specific effect on translation. AICAR treatment alone led to significant increase in p-eEF2 levels (**Figure 6B, supplementary 5A)** without any significant alteration in FUNCAT signal (**Figure 6D, supplementary 5A**) in cortical neurons. These observations establish a direct influence imparted by AMPK on eEF2 phosphorylation and on global translation. Supporting this hypothesis, DHPG mediated reduction in p-eEF2 level was abolished in presence of AICAR (**Figure 6A,B, supplementary figure 5B**) and DHPG induced increase in global translation was absent in presence of AICAR (**Figure 6C,D, supplementary figure 5B**). Next, we examined the impact of AMPK inhition on NMDAR stimulation using AMPK inhibitor Compund C (Dorsomorphin). Blocking AMPK function with Compound C (Dorsomorphin) had no significant impact on basal p-eEF2 level (**6F, supplementary 5A**) and but led to a significant increase FUNCAT signal (**6H, supplementary 5A**). Interestingly, NMDA application in presence of Compound C completely abolished the NMDA mediated increase in p-eEF2 level (**Figure 6E,F, supplementary figure 5C**) and also diminished the NMDA mediated inhibition of global translation (**Figure 6G,H, supplementary figure 5C**). These observations therefore, establish the strong influence

486   of AMPK over receptor mediated translation regulation and highlights the importance

487   of AMPK-eEF2 signaling axis in the same context.

Figure 6:

Perturbation of AMPK function disrupts receptor specific translation response:

(A) Representative images showing phospho-eEF2 immunolabeling (Pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons on basal condition, on DHPG (50µM) treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of AICAR (1mM). MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 5B) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10µM.

(B) Box plot showing phospho-eEF2 intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal condition, on DHPG treatment for 5 minutes, on AICAR treatment for 1 hour and on DHPG treatment along with AICAR pre-treatment. *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ****p<0.0001, n=17-46 cells per group from 3 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(C) Representative images showing newly synthesized proteins visualized through FUNCAT metabolic labeling (pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons under basal condition, on DHPG treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of AICAR. MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 5B) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10µM.

(D) Box plot showing FUNCAT intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal condition, on DHPG treatment for 5 minutes, on AICAR treatment for 1 hour and on DHPG treatment along with AICAR pre-treatment. ****p<0.0001, n=18-57 cells per group from 3 independent plating. Kruskal-Wallis test followed by Dunn's multiple comparison test.

(E) Representative images showing phospho-eEF2 immunolabeling (Pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons on basal condition, on NMDA (20µM) treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of

Compound C (10μM). MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 5B) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10μM.

(F) Box plot showing phospho-eEF2 intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal condition (Vehicle control), on NMDA treatment for 5 minutes, on Compound C pre-treatment for 1 hour and on NMDA treatment along with Compound C pre-treatment. $*p<0.05$, $**p<0.01$, n=21-36 cells per group from 3 independent plating. Kruskal-Wallis test followed by Dunn's multiple comparison test.

(G) Representative images showing newly synthesized proteins visualized through FUNCAT metabolic labeling (pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons under basal condition, on NMDA (20μM) treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of Compound C (1mM). MAP2B immunolabeling (supplementary figure 5C) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization. Scale=10μM.

(H) Box plot showing FUNCAT intensity distribution across multiple neurons on basal condition, on NMDA treatment for 5 minutes, on Compound C treatment for 1 hour and on NMDA treatment along with Compound C pre-treatment. $*p<0.05$, $**p<0.01$, $****p<0.0001$, n=24-52 cells per group from 3 independent plating. Kruskal-Wallis test followed by Dunn's multiple comparison test.

(G) Schematic showing receptor specific regulation of AMPK-eEF2 signaling and their subsequent impact on global translation. mGluR stimulation (Left) have been found to inactivate AMPK necessary for subsequent downregulation of eEF2 phosphorylation. This led to enhanced global *de-novo* translation and consumption of ATP, hence reducing neuronal ATP/ADP ratio. NMDAR stimulation (Right) caused activation of AMPK in extracellular Ca^{2+} dependent manner causing an increase in eEF2 phosphorylation in turn. This leads to inhibition of global translation therefore having no significant alterations in cellular ATP/ADP ratio.

Discussion:

In this work we present multiple lines of evidences showing that activity induced protein

synthesis contributes significantly to the energy expenditure in neurons on glutamate

stimulation. Our work demostrate that the global de-novo protein synthesis is

dynamically regulated by mGluRs and NMDARs with distinct kinetics. As a consequence,

we also observed dynamic alterations in energy level with charecteristic temporal

features specific to each type of stiumulus. An AMPK-eEF2 signaling nexus combines

uniquely to bring about the charecteristic changes in translation with distinct

mechanisms for each stimulus.

Protein Synthesis is the major energy consumer on glutamate stimualtion

It was predicted that activity dependent ATP consumption in neurons is largely due to

the reversal of ionic fluxes [7]. Our study for the first time establishes the significant

effect of activity induced protein synthesis on neuronal energy expenditure.

Interestingly we failed to observe any noteworthy contribution from vesicle endocytosis

at the pan-neuronal ATP level, unlike what has been observed previously in the axon

terminals [8]. This demonstrates the distinct nature of energy regulations in various

compartments as compared to that of the whole neurons.

mGluRs and NMDARs affect rate of global translation differently

We identified distinct roles for mGluRs and NMDARs in glutamate driven energy usage.

Our results demonstrates mGluR dependent translation activation consumes significant

amount of ATP and shares distinct kinetic features to that of NMDAR. Gp I mGluRs have

been widely reported to activate protein synthesis [32,15] and induce or facilitate long-

term depression in excitatory synapses [14] across various brain regions [reviewed in

333435]. Our results indicate that, mGluR mediated translation activation impact global,

dendritic and synaptic energy level immediately. Contrarily, NMDAR stimulation

accompanies a delayed impact on global, dendritic or synaptic ATP levels through a

delayed translation activation as observed previously [16].

The AMPK-eEF2 Signaling to create differential respnse

Our results describe a key role for AMP activated protein Kinase in both mGluR and

NMDAR mediated translation regulation. While AMPK is demonstrated to regulate

activity induced energy metabolism [17], sustained activity induced GLUT4 membrane

expression in nerve terminals [36] and various forms of synaptic plasticity [2122], our study

provide mechanistic basis coupling its role on regulation of energy metabolism and

translation. AMPK is known to influence eEF2 Kinase function either directly [37] or

through indirect mechanisms involving inhibition of mTOR-S6K pathway [38], thereby

regulating global translation. mGluR mediated inactivation of AMPK can thus also create

opportunity for increased mTOR-S6K activity as observed previously [39]. These results

therefore could explain the dephosphorylation of eEF2 downstream of mGluR

stimulation, an effect unexplored previously. The fact that mGluR mediated AMPK

activation is protein synthesis depndent led to us investigate the role of AMPK specific

phosphatase α-SNAP [31] in this scenario. Increased α-SNAP level and its association with

AMPK on mGluR stimulation suggestive of a feedback regulation of AMPK function.

NMDAR stimulation on the contrary involved Ca^{2+} dependent activation of AMPK

probably involving one of its upstream kinase CamKIIß. This coalates well with the

enhanced phosphorylation of eEF2 on NMDA treatment (**supplementary figue 4D**) as

observed previously [40].

The study also clearly demostrates the importance of protein synthesis in neuronal

energy budget particularly during neuronal activity. AMPK plays a pivotal role in

dictating this corelation. A deeper elucidation of this corelation would be of greater

significance in many patho-physiological conditions such as stroke, epilepsy and

neurodegenrerative diseases. Unraveling other signaling mechanisms underlying the

connection between protein sysnthesis and energy dynamics and their long term effect

on synaptic plasticity may also provide potential theraputic targets for diseases

involving impairment in energy metabolism and dysregulated protein synthesis.

Materials and Methods

Ethics Statement: All animal work was done in compliance with the procedures

approved by the Institutional Animal Ethics committee (IAEC) and the Institutional

Biosafety Committee (IBSC), InStem, Bangalore, India. All Work was done with Sprague

dawley (SD)rats. Rats were kept in 20-22'c temperature, 50-60 relative humidity, 0.3μm

HEPA filtered air supply at 15-20 ACPH and 14/10 light/dark cycle maintained. Food

and water were provided *ad libitum*.

Antibodies and Drugs: Anti-phospho eEF2 antibody (Thr 56; cat no: 2331; Used at

1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis and 1:250 for immunocytochemistry), anti-

eEF2 antibody (cat. no 2332; Used at 1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis),

Anti-phospho AMPKα antibody (Thr 172; cat. no: 2535; used at 1:500 dilution for western

blotting analysis and 1:100 for immunocytochemistry analysis), anti-AMPK antibody (cat

no: 2532; used at 1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis), Anti-phospho ACC

antibody (cat no: 3661; used at 1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis) were

obtained from Cell Signalling Technologies (MA, US). Anti- tubulin antibody (cat no:

T9026; used at 1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis), anti-MAP2B antibody (cat

no: M9942; used at 1:500 dilution for immunocytochemistry), anti-rabbit HRP labelled

secondary antibody (cat no: A0545 ; used at 1:5000 dilution for western blotting

analysis), anti-mouse HRP labelled secondary antibody (cat no: A9044 ; used at 1:5000

dilution for western blotting analysis) were obtained from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO).

Anti-rabbit secondary antibody alexa 555 labelled (cat no: A11032; used at 1:500

dilution for immunocytochemistry) and anti-mouse secondary antibody alexa 488

labeled (cat no: A11008; used at 1:500 dilution for immunocytochemistry) were

obtained from Thermo fisher Scientific (Waltham, MA). Anti-α-SNAP antibody (cat no:

X1026; used at 1:1000 dilution for western blotting analysis). Glutamate (25µM), NMDA

(20µM for neurons and 40µM for SNS), CNQX (40µM), Anisomycin (25µM for neurons and

50µM for synaptoneurosomes), Cycloheximide (100µg/ml), Ouabain octahydrate (1mM),

Dynasore hydrate (100µM), Poly-L-Lysine (0.2mg/ml), Pluronic-F-127(0.002%), BAPTA

(10mM) and Ionomycin (10µM) were obtained from Sigma-aldrich (St. Louis, MO). S-3,5

DHPG (20µM for neurons and 100µM for SNS), 5-aminoimidazole-4-carboxamide

ribonucleotide (AICAR, 1mM), D-AP5 (25µM), MK-801 (10µM) and mPEP (10µM) were

obtained from Tocris Biosciences. Compound C (dorsomorphin; 40µM in

synaptoneurosomes and 20µM in cultured neurons) were obtained from Santa Cruz

Biotechnology (Santa Cruz, CA). Fuo-8 AM (2µM) was obtained from AAT Bioquest

(Sunnyvale, CA).

Synaptoneurosome preparation Synaptoneurosomes were prepared from SD WT rat cortices at the age between post-natal day 28-33 (P28-33) following differential centrifugation method as described previously (Hollingsworth et al., 1985 Scheetz, Nairn, & Constantine-paton, 2000 R. S. Muddashetty, Kelic, Gross, Xu, & Bassell, 2007). Briefly, rat cortices were dissected and homogenized at 4°C in 8 volumes of synaptoneurosome (SNS) homogenization buffer [containing (in mM) 25 Tris-HCl pH 7.4, 118 NaCl, 4.7 KCl, 1.2 MgSO4, 2.5 CaCl2, 1.53 KH2PO4 and 212.7 glucose, , supplemented with Complete protease inhibitors (Roche)]. Homogenates were then passed through three 100μm nylon mesh filters followed by one 11μm filter MLCWP 047 Millipore (Bedford, MA) and centrifuged at 1000g for 20 minutes at 4°C. The pellet was resuspended into 2ml of the same buffer. In experiments with no Ca^{2+}, $CaCal_2$ was not added in the resuspension buffer. The resuspended SNS particles were then incubated at 37°C to make them metabolically active.

Synaptoneurosome Stimulation: For Stimulation, synaptoneurosomes were pre-warmed at 37°C for minimum of 5 minutes. A sample fraction aliquoted at this point was considered unstimulated condition or 0 min of stimulation for further analysis. This was followed by Gp I mGluR and NMDAR stimulation with specific agonists (s)3,5-dihydroxyphenylglycine (DHPG; 100μM) and N-methyl D-aspartate (NMDA; 40μM) respectively. Further fractions were collected after 2 minutes and 5 minutes of stimulation. A fraction was collected 5 minutes post-stimulation (5 min stimulation + 5 min recovery). For this, the synaptoneurosomes were first stimulated for 5 minutes with agonists. This is followed by removal of the stimulus through centrifugation at 13,000g for 20 seconds and resuspension with 37°C pre-warmed synaptoneurosome

homogenization buffer. These synaptoneurosomes were further incubated for 5 minutes

and processed for ATP measurement, protein estimation and western blot analysis. For

ATP measurements, stimulation was terminated by direct lysis of synaptoneurosomes

with equal volume of boiling water [43]. This was followed by centrifugation at 20,000g

for 2.5 minutes for the measurement of soluble ATP content from the supernatant. For

protein estimation and western blot analysis, synaptoneurosomes fractions were

centrifuged at 13,000g for 20 seconds followed by lysing with lysis buffer [containing:]

(**Stimulation protocol figure 2F**). In experiments involving pre-treatment of drugs, pre-

warming period varied depending on the incubation period of various drugs which were

directly added after the resuspension step. Untreated control synaptoneurosomes were

pre-incubated for same period as drug pre-treatment time for comparisons.

Cell line and primary neuronal culture Primary neurons were cultured from cerebral

cortices as described by Banker & Goslin, 1998. Embryos were obtained from females

at the 18th day of gestation period (E18) and cerebral cortices were dissected out in ice

cold Hank's balanced salt solution under a dissection microscope. Cells were dissociated

with 0.25% trypsin solution at 37°C for 10 minutes followed by mechanical trituration

in minimal essential medium (MEM, Thermo fisher) with 10% foetal bovine serum

(sigma). Dissociated cells were plated on tissue culture dishes or coverslips coated with

poly-L-lysine (0.2 mg/ml in borate buffer, pH 8.5). Neurons were attached to the

substrate in MEM with 10% FBS for 3h, followed by defined Neurobasal Medium

(Invitrogen) with GlutaMAX™ supplement (Gibco™) and B-27 supplements (Invitrogen)

for 14 days at 37°C in a 5% CO_2 environment. For immunocytochemistry, cells plated on

coverslips kept in a 10cm diameter tissue culture dish with a plating density of 10^5

cells/dish. The coverslips are then inverted onto astroglial bed in neurobasal media

after substrate attachment in MEM. For biochemical and immunoblotting experiments,

cells were grown on 6 well dishes or 35mm diameter dishes with seeding density

$4X10^5$/well. For live imaging experiments, cells were seeded with $2X10^5$/35mm

diameter glass bottom dishes.

Metabolic Labelling: For metabolic labelling of proteins, neurons were incubated for 1

hour in methionine-free Dulbecco's Modified Essential Medium (DMEM, Thermo Fisher).

This was followed by addition of L-azidohomoalanine (AHA; 1µM) for next 55 minutes in

the same medium. At this point a group of cells were fixed with 4% Paraformaldehyde

(PFA) for 20 minutes and would be considered as unstimulated basal for further analysis.

This was followed by either fixing the cells with 4% PFA or the cells were stimulated

with mGluR and NMDAR specific agonists DHPG (50uM) and NMDA (20 uM) respectively

for 2 minutes, 5 minutes or post stimulation 5 minutes recovery (5 min stim + 5 min

recovery) and subsequently fixed with 4% PFA. Cells were then permeabilized in TBS_{50}

[containing (in mM):50 Tris-Base, 150 NaCl] + 0.3% Triton X 100 solution and blocked

using TBS_{50} + 0.1% Triton X 100 + 2% BSA + 4% FBS containing blocking solution. Newly

synthesized proteins were then labeled with Alexa-Fluor-555–alkyne [Alexa Fluor 488 5-

carboxamido-(propargyl), bis (triethylammonium salt)], by allowing the fluorophore

alkyne to react with AHA azide group through click chemistry. All reagents were from

Thermo Fisher and stoichiometry of reagents were calculated according to the

suggested manual by the manufacturer (CLICK-iT cell reaction buffer kit, cat.no.

C10269). Signal intensity was then measured using confocal microscopy to calculate the

amount of newly synthesized proteins. For specific detection of neuronal cells, MAP2B

positive cells were used for analysis.

Immunocytochemistry: Rat primary cortical neurons were stimulated with either 50μM

DHPG or 20μM NMDA for 5mins. Cells were fixed with 4% PFA and processed for imaging

as described before. In brief, cells were permeabilized using $TBS_{50} + 0.3\%$ T solution and

were treated with Tris-Glycine solution (containing in Moles: 0.5 Tris-base and 0.2

Glycine) before blocking with blocking buffer [TBS_{50} + 0.1% T) + 2% BSA + 4% FBS].

Primary antibodies were incubated in blocking buffer overnight at 4°C under gentle

shaking condition followed by washes. Alexa Fluor 488 coupled anti-mouse and Alexa

Fluor 555 coupled anti-rabbit secondary antibodies were incubated for 2h at room

temperature.   Finally, coverslips were mounted for imaging using Mowiol® 4-88

mounting media. Images were acquired on a Leica TCS SP5 confocal microscope (Leica

Biosystems) with HCX PL APO 63X, NA 1.4, oil immersion objective. Imaging conditions

were kept constant across groups. Images were acquired on Olympus FLUOVIEW 3000

confocal laser scanning microscope (Olympus Corporation) with HCX PL APO 60x, NA

1.4, oil immersion objective. For quantification of fluorescence intensities, images

were acquired while keeping the open pinhole configuration to collect lights from

planes below and above the focal plane as well. Objective was moved in the Z direction

with a step size of 0.5μm for 12 such steps to ensure the light was collected from the

entire cell across its thickness. For quantification of colocalization, images were

acquired using 2.5x optical zooming of to satisfy Nyquist's sampling theorem of

information theory for maximum resolution in the XY direction. Pinhole was kept at 1

Airy unit to ensure optimum resolution and confocal stacks were acquired with a step

size of 0.3μm calculated based on the fluorophore wavelength. Imaging conditions were

kept constant across different data sets, across experiments.

Live Cell fluorescence Microscopy:

Imaging Dendritic ATP/ADP Ratio: Cells were imaged on Zeiss LSM 780 confocal laser

scanning microscope (Car Zeiss, Oberkochen, Germany) with 63X Zeiss plan-apochromat

oil immersion objective, NA 1.4 with argon lasers of specified wavelength. Cells were

grown in Neurobasal media containing B27 supplements and Glutamax and were

transfected with PercevalHR and pH-Red construct for simultaneous monitoring of

intracellular ATP/ADP ratio and pH. pH monitoring was done as suggested in previous

studies [45] to correct for the bias created in Perceval HR fluorescence solely due to the

change in intracellular pH.   Perceval HR was excited with 488/20 nm and 405/20 nm

band-pass filters and emission was collected through a 520/15nm band-pass filter.

Excitation and emission beams were separated through 490 nm short pass dichroic

mirror. pH-Red was excited using 561/20nm and 455/10 nm band-pass filters and

emission was collected through 630/50 nm band pass filter. A 560 nm short-pass dichroic

was used to separate excitation and emission beams.

Neurons were imaged at room temperature in 37°C pre-warmed Neurobasal media

without phenol red (Thermo Fisher, Waltham, MA, USA) containing 15mM HEPES. For,

approximate pH bias removal, the linear relationship established between Perceval HR

and pH-Red fluorescence for the high glucose 'ATP Loaded' state by Tantama et. Al.,

2014 was used. The relationship was used to predict the pH bias of Perceval HR signal

from the continuously monitored pH-Red signal and was normalized to the observed

Perceval HR fluorescence for the entire period of experiment. Images were captured at

16-bit image format with 512X512 pixel distribution with frame rate of 1 per 15 seconds.

Ca^{2+} Imaging: Growth media from cells grown on glass bottom petri dishes were first

removed and were washed with imaging media [containing in mM: 120 NaCl, 3 KCl, 2

CaCl2, 1MgCl2, 3 NaHCO3, 1.25 NaH2PO4, 15 HEPES, 30 glucose (pH 7.4). They were

then incubated with 2 ml freshly prepared dye solution (2 μM Fluo-8 AM and 0.002%

Pluronic F-127 in imaging media) at 37°C for 10 mins followed by a 5 minutes incubation

procedure at the same temperature with the imaging media. They were then imaged

on Olympus FV3000 confocal laser scanning inverted microscope with 20X air objective

lens NA 0.75, illuminated with 488nm solid state lasers. Images were acquired at a rate

of single frame per 3.22 sec intervals at room temperature. Cells were imaged for 322

sec (100 frames) for recording spontaneous activity, followed by 644 sec (200 frames)

with stimulant and 161 sec (50 frames) with KCl (to check neuronal activity) or

ionomycin (F_{max}). After background, fluorescence were calibrated to $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ as $[Ca^{2+}]_i =$

389 $(F-F_{min})/(F_{max}-F)$nM. F_{min} was recorded by chelating Ca^{2+} with 10μM ionomycin

(Calbiochem) and 10mM BAPTA (Sigma) in independent experiments and F_{max} was

recorded by 10μM ionomycin in presence of 2.5mM CaCl2 in each experiment.

Luciferase Assay: To measure synaptic ATP levels, Cortical synaptoneurosomes were

first pre-warmed and then stimulated with Gp I mGluR and NMDAR specific agonists at

37°C under constant shaking. Fractions of the stimulated solutions were collected at

time points specified before. For treatment with various drugs, the pre-warming period

varied depending on the pre-incubation time of the drug before the stimulants were

added. Collected fractions were added to equal volume of boiling water to extract the

ATP as described previously (Yang et al., 2002). The lysates were then used for

quantification of soluble ATP molecules using luciferase based commercial ATP

quantification kit (ATP Determination kit, Thermo fisher, Cat.no. A22066) with the help

of a standard curve. For measuring ATP/ADP ratio from cortical neurons, cells were

stimulated for specified time points and lysed with lysis buffer [containing in mM: 50

Tris-Cl (pH-7.4), 150 NaCl, 5 $MgCl_2$, 1% Triton-X-100, supplemented with EDTA free

protease inhibitor complex (Sigma, cat. no. S8830) and phosphatase inhibitor cocktail

(Roche, ref.no. 04906837001)]. Lysates were then centrifuged at 20,000g for 20 minutes

and supernatants were used for measuring ATP using luciferase-based protocol. This

was followed by a step converting ADP to ATP which was then used to measure the ATP

and ADP level together constituting majority of the adenine nucleotides. This was done

using a commercially available luminescence-based kit (ADP/ATP ratio kit, Abcam,

cat.no. ab65313) following the user manual suggested by the manufacturer.

Image Analysis: Image analysis was done using Fiji (ImageJ based image processing

package) and IMARIS 9.0 (Bitplane, Oxford instrument company, Belfast, UK) software.

For fluorescence intensity quantification, confocal stacks were collapsed using sum

slice projection method and mean intensity was quantified from the cells. MAP2B

positive cells were used for identification of neurons and quantified mean intensity

values were used for normalization. For quantifying co-localization, Pearson's

correlation coefficient (PCC) was measured for the cell body and proximal dendrite

region (<50μm). For the coefficient analysis, measurement was done after manual

thresholding with threshold value of 155 for a 12bit image format. For time frame

analysis, mean fluorescence intensity was quantified for the imaged dendritic region from each time frame. Time frame analysis was done using the time series analyser V3 plug in from Fiji. Representative images for ratiometric quantifications were generated using the Ratio Plus plug from Fiji where the image was generated by calculating pixel by pixel intensity ratio between two channels.

Statistical Analysis: Statistical comparisons were done using GraphPad Prism (Prism 7.01, Graphpad Software Inc, La Jolla, CA, USA). For group comparisons, the data distributions were first tested for normality using Kolmogorov-Smirnov Goodness-of-Fit Test or Shapiro-Wilk normality test. Depending on the distribution, either parametric or non-parametric tests were used to quantify statistical significance. For groups with <4 data points, the inherent distribution was considered to follow Gaussian distribution unless mentioned. For comparing two groups, Student's t test (two tailed, paired/unpaired) was done to calculate statistical significance. Multiple group comparisons were made using one-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test for parametric distribution and Kruskal-Wallis's Test followed by Dunn's Multiple comparison test. Two-way ANOVA followed by Holm Sidak's multiple comparison test was performed for comapring multiple groups at various time points. Data are presented as mean ± SEM. p values < 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

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Author contribution

S.G.D designed and performed the experiments, analyzed data and co-wrote the

manuscript. Sumita.C performed Calcium imaging experiments and analyzed data,

Sumantra C. provided resources, A.B provided resources and analyzed data, R.M

designed experiments and co-wrote manuscripts.

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Supplementary Information

Supplementary Figure 1:

Quantifying Activity dependent changes in energy level. (Related to Figure 1)

(A) Bar graph representing normalized average value of neuronal ATP/ATP+ADP ratio in basal condition and on DHPG (50μM) and NMDA (20μM) treatment for 5 minutes. *$p<0.05$, n=3 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(B) Bar graph representing normalized average value of neuronal ATP/ATP+ADP ratio in basal condition, on dynasore (100μM) treatment for 30 minutes, on Glutamate (25μM) treatment for 5 minutes and on glutamate treatment along with dynaosre pre-treatment. *$p<0.05$, n=3-6 independent plating. One-way ANOVA followed by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(C) Quantification showing the effect of treatment of anisomycin, cycloheximide and MPEP on

synaptic ATP level measured from cortical synaptoneurosomes. Data = mean ± SEM with

scattered data points.

Supplementary Figure 2:

Sensor Calibration and Basal ATP measurement. (Related to Figure 2)

(A) Graph depicting a linear relationship was established between the percevalHR fluorescence

ratio and the pH-Red fluorescence ratio using NH_4Cl pre-pulse method following method

established previously (Pederson et. al, 1998, Tantama et. al, 2013). Briefly a gradient of 5-

15mM NH_4Cl solution was applied to allow the changes in intracellular pH in a short period of

time to avoid any metabolic stress. Changes in PercevalHR fluorescence was measured along

with pH-Red fluorescence and the linear relation was used to remove pH bias approximately.

(B) Representative dendrite showing the temporal profile of PercevalHR fluorescence

(ATP/ADP) in unstimulated condition. Scale=10μM.

(C) Average time traces showing the change in the dendritic ATP/ADP ratio on unstimulated

condition in presence or absence of anisomycin. Data= mean ± SEM. n≥3 cells from independent

platings per group.

(D) Quantification showing the changes in synaptic ATP level on unstimulated conditions. Data=

mean ± SEM. n= 4 animals.

Supplementary Figure 3:

Translation Kinetics. (Related to Figure 3)

(A) Representative images showing newly synthesized proteins visualized through FUNCAT

metabolic labeling (pseudo-colored) in cortical neurons at various time points in unstimulated

condition. Absence of AHA while metabolic labeling was used as a negative control. MAP2B

immunolabeling (green, inset) was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for

normalization. The average trace quantification and data point distribution for unstimulated

cells have been presented in Figure 3C and 3D. Scale=10µM.

(B) Representative images showing immunolabeling of MAP2B (green) in cortical neurons at

various time points following DHPG and NMDA treatment for the cells used for FUNCAT intensity

quantification. Scale=10µM.

(C) Representative images showing immunolabeling of MAP2B (green) in cortical neurons in

basal condition and DHPG and NMDA treatment for 5 minutes for the cells used for p-eEF2

quantification. Scale=10µM.

(D) Representative immunoblots describing changes in phospho-eEF2 and total-eEF2 levels at

various time points after DHPG (50µM) and NMDA (20µM) treatment to cultured cortical neurons.

Note in each case phospho and total eEF2 levels were normalized individually to tubulin before

calculating the ratio.

(E) Line graph showing average value for neuronal phospho/total ratio of eEF2 at various time

points after DHPG and NMDA treatment and 5 minutes and 10 minutes after recovery. Data:

mean +/- SEM, $*p<0.05$, $**p<0.01$, $***p<0.001$, n= 3 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed

by Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

Supplementary Figure 4:

Baseline eEF2 phosphorylation and Characterization of NMDAR dependent Ca^{2+} entry.

(Related to Figure 4 and Figure 5)

(A) Representative images showing immunolabeling of MAP2B (green) in cortical neurons in

basal condition and DHPG and NMDA treatment for 5 minutes for the cells used for p-AMPK

quantification. Scale=10µM.

(B) Line graph showing average value for synaptic phospho/total ratio of eEF2 and AMPK at

various time points after DHPG and NMDA treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in cortical

synaptoneurosomes. Data: mean +/- SEM, n≥ 2 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed by

Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

(C) Representative images depicting intracellular Ca^{2+} levels (Pseudo-colored) of a cortical

neuron before stimulation, immediately (15s) after NMDA (20µM) treatment, at a later time

point (300sec) after NMDA treatment and after ionomycin treatment along with 10mM Ca^{2+} in

presence MK-801. Scale=20µM.

(D) Representative immunoblots describing changes in phospho-eEF2 and total-eEF2 levels at

various time points after NMDA (40µM) treatment to cortical synaptoneurosomes in presence or

absence of extracellular Ca^{2+}. Note in each case phospho and total AMPK levels were normalized

individually to tubulin before calculating the ratio.

(E) Line graph showing average value for synaptic phospho/total ratio of eEF2 at various time

points after NMDA treatment and 5 minutes after recovery in presence or absence of Ca^{2+}. Data:

mean +/- SEM, *$p < 0.05$, **$p < 0.01$, n≥ 4 animals per group. Two Way ANOVA followed by

Bonferroni's multiple comparison test.

Supplementary Figure 5:

AMPK perturbations: (related to figure 6)

(A) Representative images showing phospho-eEF2 immunolabeling (Pseudo-colored), newly

synthesized protein through FUNCAT metabolic labeling and MAP2B immunolabeling in cortical

neurons on AICAR (1mM) treatment and Compound C (10µM) treatment for 1 hour. MAP2B

immunolabeling was used for identifying neurons and intensity was used for normalization.

Scale=10µM.

(B) Representative images showing immunolabeling of MAP2B (green) in cortical neurons in

basal condition and on DHPG treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of AICAR for the

cells used for p-eEF2 and FUNCAT quantification. Scale=10μM.

(C) Representative images showing immunolabeling of MAP2B (green) in cortical neurons in

basal condition and on NMDA treatment for 5 minutes in presence or absence of Compound C

for the cells used for p-eEF2 and FUNCAT quantification. Scale=10μM.

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