

# 1 **Anesthetics fragment hippocampal network activity, alter spine** 2 **dynamics and affect memory consolidation**

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## 21 **ABSTRACT**

22 General anesthesia is characterized by reversible loss of consciousness accompanied by  
23 transient amnesia. Yet, long-term memory impairment is an undesirable side-effect. How  
24 different types of general anesthetics (GAs) affect the hippocampus, a brain region central to  
25 memory formation and consolidation, is poorly understood. Using extracellular recordings,  
26 chronic 2-photon imaging and behavioral analysis, we monitor the effects of isoflurane (Iso),  
27 medetomidine/midazolam/fentanyl (MMF), and ketamine/xylazine (Keta/Xyl) on network  
28 activity and structural spine dynamics in the hippocampal CA1 area of adult mice. GAs robustly  
29 reduced spiking activity, decorrelated cellular ensembles, albeit with distinct activity signatures,  
30 and altered spine dynamics. CA1 network activity under all three anesthetics was different to  
31 natural sleep. Iso anesthesia most closely resembled unperturbed activity during wakefulness  
32 and sleep, and network alterations recovered more readily than with Keta/Xyl and MMF.  
33 Correspondingly, memory consolidation was impaired after exposure to Keta/Xyl and MMF,  
34 but not Iso. Thus, different anesthetics distinctly alter hippocampal network dynamics, synaptic  
35 connectivity, and memory consolidation, with implications for GA strategy appraisal in animal  
36 research and clinical settings.

37

## 38 **KEYWORDS**

39 General anesthesia, isoflurane, ketamine, fentanyl, sleep, hippocampus, population  
40 dynamics, network activity, spine turnover, episodic memory

## 41 INTRODUCTION

42 General anesthesia is a drug-induced, reversible behavioral condition encompassing  
43 unconsciousness, amnesia, sedation, immobility, and analgesia [1, 2]. Together, these aspects  
44 represent a state where surgery can be tolerated without the requirement for further drugs [2].  
45 The behavioral effects of GAs are dose-dependent. At clinical (i.e. highest) dosage, they  
46 should induce unconsciousness, even though experimental evidence of this phenomenon is  
47 challenging to collect (in the absence of a verifiable consciousness theory). At lower doses,  
48 some GAs cause unresponsiveness and loss of working memory, phenomena that have both  
49 been hypothesized to potentially confound the apparent loss of consciousness [3, 4]. At much  
50 lower doses still, GAs cause profound retrograde amnesia. When general anesthesia fails to  
51 induce such behavioral effects, intraoperative awareness ensues, a condition that is  
52 associated with long-term adverse health consequences [5]. While loss of memory is required  
53 during anesthesia administration, so that no memories of the surgical procedure are formed  
54 [1, 6], long-term impairment of retrograde or anterograde memories is not desired. Although  
55 general anesthesia is generally considered a safe procedure, growing literature points to the  
56 possibility of long-term negative effects on the central nervous system [7]. This is particularly  
57 true for specific categories of patients, such as the elderly, infants and children [7]. Among the  
58 observed side effects, the most common are post-operative cognitive dysfunction syndromes,  
59 including post-operative delirium and post-operative cognitive decline. Post-operative  
60 cognitive disturbances are positively correlated with the duration of anesthesia and a single  
61 exposure to GAs can cause retrograde and anterograde memory deficits that persist for days  
62 to weeks in rodent models [8]. These aspects point to a generalized action of GAs on the  
63 memory system.

64 Given that amnesia is a fundamental part of general anesthesia and that the hippocampus  
65 controls memory formation and consolidation, it is important to understand how anesthetics  
66 affect hippocampal function and how this compares to sleep – a naturally occurring state of  
67 unconsciousness. Together with the subiculum, the CA1 area constitutes the main  
68 hippocampal output region. CA1 pyramidal cells receive excitatory synaptic input mainly from  
69 CA3 (in strata oriens & radiatum) and layer 3 of entorhinal cortex (in stratum lacunosum  
70 moleculare), relaying information about the internal state of the animal and sensory inputs from  
71 the external environment, respectively [9]. Inputs along these pathways are processed in an  
72 integrative manner in CA1 [10]. Thus, CA1 pyramidal cells have been suggested to be a site  
73 of sensory integration, with synaptic spines as a possible location of memory storage [11-14].  
74 Moreover, dynamic modulation of spine stability has been linked to synaptic plasticity [15-18].  
75 Synaptic plasticity, in turn, underlies learning and memory formation [19], suggesting that spine  
76 turnover in the hippocampus directly reflects these processes [20, 21]. Considering the low  
77 concentrations of anesthetics required to induce amnesia, these compounds are thought of  
78 being particularly effective on the hippocampus. One possible explanation of this sensitivity is  
79 the fact that a class of  $\gamma$ -aminobutyric acid receptors (GABARs), which is strongly modulated  
80 by some anesthetics, is predominantly expressed in the hippocampus [22, 23]. Other  
81 anesthetics, such as ketamine, inhibit N-methyl-D-aspartate receptors (NMDARs) in a use-  
82 dependent manner and therefore may be particularly effective in inhibiting synaptic plasticity,  
83 required for the formation of episodic-like memories [24]. However, a systematic investigation  
84 of the effects of anesthetics on the hippocampus, bridging synaptic, network and behavioral  
85 levels, is still lacking.

86 Here, using extracellular LFP and spiking recordings and chronic 2-photon calcium and spine  
87 imaging in vivo in combination with behavioral analysis, we systematically assessed how CA1

88 network dynamics, synaptic structure and memory performance are affected by three  
89 commonly used combinations of GAs: isoflurane (Iso), midazolam/medetomidine/fentanyl  
90 (MMF), and ketamine in combination with xylazine (Keta/Xyl). We further measured CA1  
91 network dynamics during wakefulness and natural sleep. Unlike sleep, all three GAs strongly  
92 reduced overall neuronal spiking compared to wakefulness. Moreover, opposite to what has  
93 been found in the neocortex [25-27], they decorrelated network activity, leading to a  
94 fragmented network state. However, the induced patterns of activity were highly distinct  
95 between the three different anesthetic conditions and recovered to the pre-anesthetic status  
96 with disparate rates. Testing the effect of repeated anesthesia on spine dynamics revealed  
97 that Keta/Xyl, the condition which most strongly affected calcium activity, significantly reduced  
98 spine turnover, leading to an overall (over)stabilization of hippocampal synapses. In contrast,  
99 Iso and MMF mildly increased spine turnover. Finally, we show that the two anesthetic  
100 conditions which induce the strongest reduction and fragmentation of CA1 network activity,  
101 Keta/Xyl and MMF, negatively influenced hippocampus-dependent memory consolidation. On  
102 the other hand, Iso, which most closely resembled unperturbed sleep and wakefulness, did not  
103 impair memory consolidation, even when maintained over time periods matching the longer  
104 recovery phase of Keta/Xyl or MMF. Thus, different anesthetics, despite inducing a similar  
105 physiological state, strongly differ in their effects on synaptic stability, hippocampal network  
106 activity, and memory consolidation.

107

## 108 **RESULTS**

### 109 **Iso, Keta/Xyl and MMF induce distinct patterns of network activity**

110 Iso, Keta/Xyl and MMF have distinct molecular targets and modes of action in the brain. We  
111 therefore hypothesized that electrical activity in the hippocampus might be uniquely altered by  
112 the three anesthesia strategies. To test this hypothesis, we investigated local field potentials  
113 (LFPs) and firing of individual neurons (single-unit activity, SUA) extracellularly recorded in the  
114 CA1 area of the dorsal hippocampus (dCA1) during wakefulness, followed by 45 min of  
115 anesthesia and 45 min of recovery (Fig. 1A, S1A). We found that the anesthetics differently  
116 affected population activity, inducing characteristic modulation of various frequency bands  
117 (Fig. 1B). During wakefulness, LFP power in CA1 was highest in the theta (4-12 Hz) and low-  
118 gamma (40-60 Hz) frequency bands (Fig. S1B). Exposure to 2-2.5% Iso led to a strong  
119 reduction of LFP power > 4 Hz within the first 2 minutes, which was accompanied by complete  
120 loss of mobility of the animal (Fig. 1C, S1B,C). Similarly, MMF injection promptly decreased  
121 LFP power in the same frequency bands. In contrast, Keta/Xyl increased power across all  
122 frequencies during the first 10 min after injection, the most prominent effect being observed for  
123 activity at 5-30 Hz. This is consistent with previous reports, finding enhanced theta and low-  
124 gamma power in CA1 of rats under ketamine anesthesia [28]. The initial LFP power increase  
125 was followed by a gradual, significant decrease of 30-100 Hz activity (Fig. 1C, S1B,C).

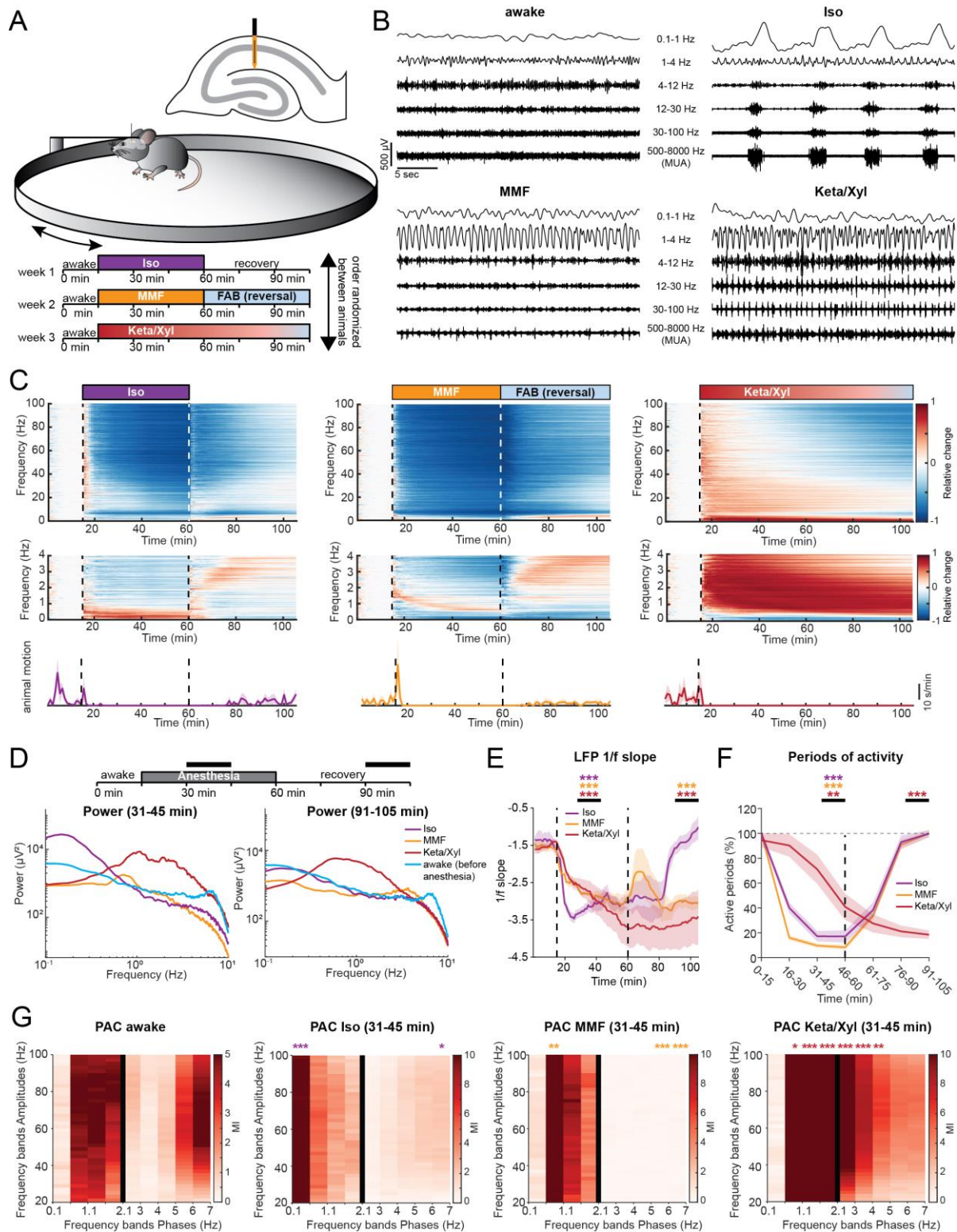
126 It is widely accepted that, in the neocortex, GAs favor slow oscillations at the expense of faster  
127 ones [29]. To determine whether this is also the case in the hippocampus, we next asked how  
128 the investigated anesthetics affect slow network oscillations. Consistent with previous reports  
129 [30-32], Keta/Xyl strongly enhanced LFP power at 0.5-4 Hz throughout the entire recording  
130 period (Fig. 1C,D, S1C), but suppressed frequencies lower than 0.5 Hz. In contrast, Iso  
131 strongly augmented LFP power below 0.5 Hz, peaking at 0.1-0.2 Hz (Fig. 1C,D, S1C), whereas  
132 MMF induced no significant increase in the low-frequency regime. However, similar to  
133 Keta/Xyl, a significant reduction was present below 0.5 Hz, which persisted throughout the

134 entire recording period (Fig. 1C,D). Analysis of the power-law decay exponent ( $1/f$  slope) of  
135 the LFP power spectrum facilitates detection of non-canonical changes in LFP power, including  
136 aperiodic (non-oscillatory) components [33]. The  $1/f$  slope has been hypothesized to track  
137 excitation/inhibition (E/I) balance [34, 35], and is reduced in the cortex under anesthesia [36,  
138 37], indicating a shift towards inhibition. Considering the robust effects on LFP power that we  
139 reported, we reasoned that the  $1/f$  slope might also be altered. Indeed, all anesthetics  
140 significantly decreased the  $1/f$  slope, albeit with a different temporal profile. While the effect of  
141 Iso occurred within a few minutes, MMF and Keta/Xyl operated on a longer timescale (Fig. 1E).  
142 Moreover, periods of activity were consistently and strongly reduced immediately under Iso  
143 and MMF, but delayed by 30 min under Keta/Xyl (Fig. 1F). These results indicate that all  
144 anesthetics shift the LFP to lower frequencies and tilt the E/I balance towards inhibition, albeit  
145 with different temporal profiles.

146 In contrast to Keta/Xyl-anesthesia, Iso- and MMF-anesthesia can be efficiently antagonized.  
147 Removing the face mask is sufficient to antagonize Iso-anesthesia, while antagonization of  
148 MMF-anesthesia requires injection of a wake-up cocktail (Flumazenil, Atipamezole and  
149 Buprenorphine, FAB) [38, 39]. 20-30 min after Iso withdrawal, animals regained motility and  
150 periods of silence in the LFP receded (Fig. 1C,F). However, in contrast to post-Iso, LFP power  
151 did not fully recover after FAB, remaining significantly reduced at frequencies below 0.5 and  
152 above 30 Hz for the entire 45 min-post anesthesia recording period (Fig. 1C,D). In contrast,  
153 elevated LFP power in the 0.5-4 Hz band and reduction in active periods remained significant  
154 throughout the entire recording in the presence of Keta/Xyl. In line with these results, the  $1/f$   
155 slope promptly reverted to values similar to baseline after Iso discontinuation. In contrast, the  
156 recovery was only transitory and partial after MMF antagonization, and virtually absent for  
157 Keta/Xyl (Fig. 1E), indicating that the E/I balance recovered only after Iso within 45 min.

158 Cross-frequency coupling between theta and gamma oscillations has been suggested to  
159 underlie information transfer in the hippocampus [40]. Given the strong decrease of theta  
160 power in the presence of Iso and MMF, we reasoned the phase modulation of the gamma  
161 rhythm could also be altered. To test this, we used phase-amplitude coupling (PAC) to  
162 measure whether the phase of slow LFP oscillations modulates the amplitude of the signal at  
163 a higher frequency. In line with previous results [41, 42] a significant coupling between theta  
164 and gamma frequency bands, as well as between frequencies in the 1-2 Hz range and gamma  
165 was present in the awake state (Fig. 1G). Moreover, anesthesia strongly altered PAC. In  
166 accordance with the LFP power analysis, the coupling reached a maximum strength between  
167 the dominant slow-frequency oscillations induced by the various anesthetics ( $<0.5$  Hz for Iso,  
168  $\sim 1$  Hz for MMF and 0.5-4 Hz for Keta/Xyl) and gamma (Fig. 1G). For all anesthetics, the range  
169 of phase-modulated amplitudes was wide, suggesting that the modulating phase corresponds  
170 to the identified slow-wave activity.

171 Taken together, these data show that all three GAs differently and persistently modulated the  
172 network oscillations in dCA1, a full recovery of activity being detected within 45 min only for  
173 Iso.



174

175 **Figure 1: LFP recordings in dorsal CA1 during wakefulness and anesthesia reveal distinct and**  
 176 **complex alterations by Iso, Keta/Xyl and MMF. (A)** Experimental setup. Extracellular electrical  
 177 recordings in dorsal CA1 were performed in four head-fixed mice for 105 min, continuously. Each animal  
 178 was recorded under all anesthesia as indicated in the scheme. Order of anesthetics was pseud-  
 179 randomized. **(B)** Characteristic local field potential (LFP) recordings during wakefulness and under three  
 180 different anesthetics. **(C)** Color-coded modulation index (MI) plots (upper and middle panels) for LFP  
 181 power and motion profiles (lower panels) for the three different anesthetic conditions. Upper panels  
 182 display LFP power for 0-100 Hz frequency range, lower panels for 0-4 Hz. **(D)** Line plot displaying LFP  
 183 power spectra for the two time periods indicated by horizontal black bars. For comparison, the 15-min

184 spectrum of the awake period before anesthesia induction is plotted in both graphs. Statistical  
185 differences are indicated in Fig. S1C (E) Line plot displaying the power-law decay exponent ( $1/f$ ) of the  
186 LFP power spectrum for the 30-50 Hz range. Lines display mean  $\pm$  SEM. (F) Line plot displaying the  
187 fraction of active periods compared to the pre-anesthetic wakeful state, in 15 min bins throughout the  
188 entire recording duration. Lines display mean  $\pm$  SEM. (G) Heat map displaying Phase-amplitude-  
189 coupling (PAC) for pre-anesthetic wakeful state (left) and for the indicated time periods during  
190 anesthesia. Different bin sizes (0.5 Hz and 1 Hz, separated by vertical black line) are used to resolve  
191 low- and high-frequency PAC. Vertical dashed lines in (C) and (E) indicate time points of anesthesia  
192 induction (Iso, MMF, Keta/Xyl) and reversal (Iso & MMF only). Vertical dashed line in (F) indicates time  
193 point of anesthesia reversal (Iso & MMF only). Asterisks in (E) and (F) indicate significance of time  
194 periods indicated by black horizontal line compared to 15-min period before anesthesia. Anesthetic  
195 conditions are color-coded. Asterisks in (G) indicate significant differences compared to the  
196 corresponding frequency band during wakefulness. \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ,  $n = 4$  mice. For  
197 full report of statistics, see statistics table.

198

### 199 **Delayed recovery of neuronal spiking patterns after anesthesia**

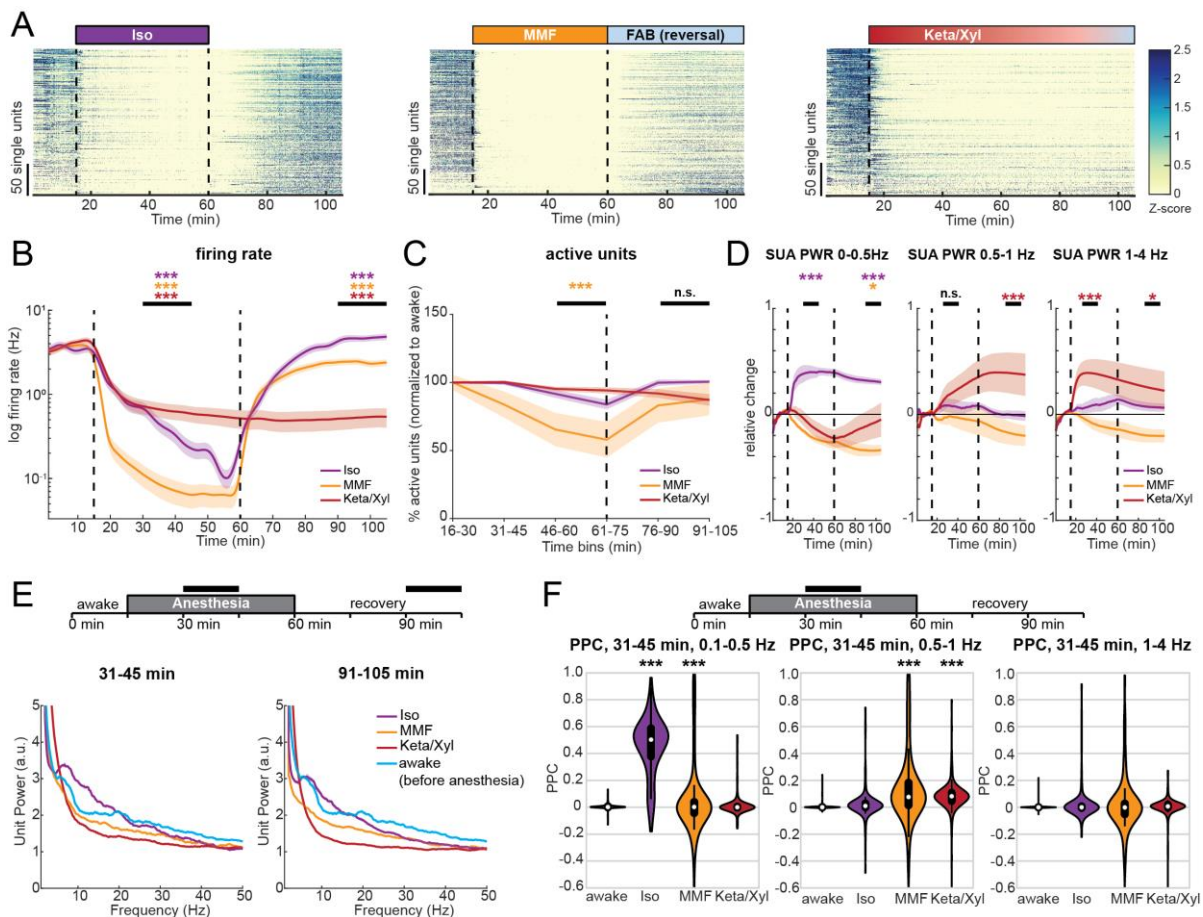
200 While the LFP provides information about general network states in the hippocampus, it is  
201 influenced by long-range activity and highly active regions in the vicinity of CA1 [43]. To assess  
202 the effects of GAs on CA1 neurons, we analyzed the spiking of individual units (56-72 units  
203 per animal,  $n=4$  mice) before, during and after each of the anesthetic conditions. All anesthetics  
204 significantly and rapidly ( $<1$  min) decreased spiking activity in CA1 neurons (Fig. 2A,B, S2),  
205 with MMF leading to the most potent suppression, followed by Iso and Keta/Xyl. These  
206 alterations were generally present in all layers of CA1 (Fig. S2C). Although the bulk spike rate  
207 was strongly reduced, the number of active neurons (see Methods) was only mildly affected  
208 (Fig. 2C), reaching a significant reduction only with MMF. This observation suggests that  
209 anesthesia broadly reduces neuronal activity, and does not modulate only a discrete  
210 subpopulation of neurons. Both firing rate and the number of active neurons recovered within  
211 45 min after reversal for MMF and Iso (Fig. 2A-C, S2). As previously reported for NREM sleep  
212 [44], we found a negative correlation between the anesthesia-induced reduction of firing rate  
213 and the firing rate in wakefulness (Fig S2B).

214 To investigate whether the rhythmicity of single neuron firing was affected similarly to the LFP,  
215 we analyzed the spectral properties of 1 ms-binned SUA firing (i.e., power of SUA spike trains,  
216 for details, see Methods). In the presence of Iso, SUA power was consistently increased in the  
217 range between 0 and 0.5 Hz (Fig. 2A,D, S2), in line with the strong modulation of LFP at 0.1-  
218 0.2 Hz. Of note, this effect did not vanish after Iso removal, suggesting that Iso has a long-  
219 lasting impact on firing rhythmicity. In contrast, and in line with its effects on the LFP, MMF  
220 generally reduced, albeit less strongly, SUA power, including the low frequencies. A significant  
221 reduction of SUA power was still present 45 min after antagonization in the 0-0.5 Hz band.  
222 Keta/Xyl, on the other hand, only showed a tendency towards reduced SUA power in the  
223 frequency band below 0.5 Hz, but increased SUA power significantly in the range between 0.5  
224 and 4 Hz, consistent with its effect on the LFP (Fig. 2D). This modulation was present  
225 throughout the entire recording. At higher frequencies, Iso led to a peak in the theta frequency  
226 range, similar to wakefulness (Fig. 2E), yet it reduced the SUA power in the beta/gamma range.  
227 Keta/Xyl and MMF caused an overall reduction in SUA power at frequencies  $>5$  Hz (Fig. 2E).  
228 Thus, GAs differentially impair spiking rhythmicity. These changes appeared to follow similar  
229 dynamics than those in the LFP.

230 To confirm the synchrony between spikes and low-frequency oscillations, we calculated their  
 231 pairwise phase consistency (PPC) [45]. When compared to pre-anesthesia, PPC values for  
 232 the 0.1-0.5 Hz frequency band were augmented by Iso. Keta/Xyl increased coupling of spikes  
 233 to the LFP between 0.5 and 1 Hz, whereas MMF showed a weak, but significant increase of  
 234 coupling at frequencies below 1 Hz (Fig. 2F).

235 Similar to the LFP, the SUA firing rate nearly fully recovered during the 45 min post-Iso (Fig.  
 236 2A,B, S2), with even a slight, but significant increase at the end of the recording period. In  
 237 contrast, after FAB-induced MMF reversal, CA1 spiking activity remained slightly reduced,  
 238 reflecting the lack of LFP recovery. For Keta/Xyl, SUA remained suppressed during the entire  
 239 recording period (Fig. 2B). Strikingly, SUA power did not fully recover for any of the tested  
 240 anesthetics (Fig. 2E).

241 Taken together, we show that all investigated GAs caused a persistent and robust reduction  
 242 of CA1 firing. Moreover, spiking during anesthesia was phase-locked to the GA-induced slow  
 243 network oscillations.



244

245 **Figure 2: Single unit activity in dorsal CA1 is strongly reduced during anesthesia, and remains**  
 246 **significantly altered long after its termination. (A)** Raster plots of z-scored single-unit activity (SUA)  
 247 for the three different anesthetic strategies in four mice. Units are sorted according to initial activity  
 248 during wakefulness. **(B)** Line plot of SUA firing rate before, during and after anesthesia induction. **(C)**  
 249 Line plot displaying the fraction of active units compared to the pre-anesthetic wakeful state, for all three  
 250 anesthetics in 15 min bins throughout the entire recording duration. **(D)** Relative change of population  
 251 firing rate power in the 0-0.5, 0.5-1 and 1-4 Hz frequency band. SUA PWR = power of SUA spike trains.  
 252 **(E)** Line plot displaying the normalized power spectra of population firing rate for the two time periods  
 253 indicated by horizontal black bars. For comparison, the 15-min spectrum for pre-anesthetic wakeful state

254 is plotted in both graphs. **(F)** Pairwise phase consistency (PPC) at low frequencies in the same frequency  
255 bands as (D), for the indicated time points during anesthesia. White dots indicate median, vertical thick  
256 and thin lines indicate 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quartile and interquartile range, respectively. Colored lines in (B) - (D)  
257 display mean  $\pm$  SEM. Vertical dashed lines in panels (A), (B) and (D) indicate time points of anesthesia  
258 induction (Iso, MMF, Keta/Xyl) and reversal (Iso & MMF only). The vertical dashed line in (C) indicates  
259 the time point of anesthesia reversal (Iso & MMF only). Asterisks in (B) - (D) indicate significance of  
260 periods indicated by black horizontal line compared to period before anesthesia. Anesthetic conditions  
261 are color-coded. Asterisks in (F) indicate significant differences to wakefulness. \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ,  
262 \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ ,  $n = 4$  mice. For full report of statistics, see statistics table.

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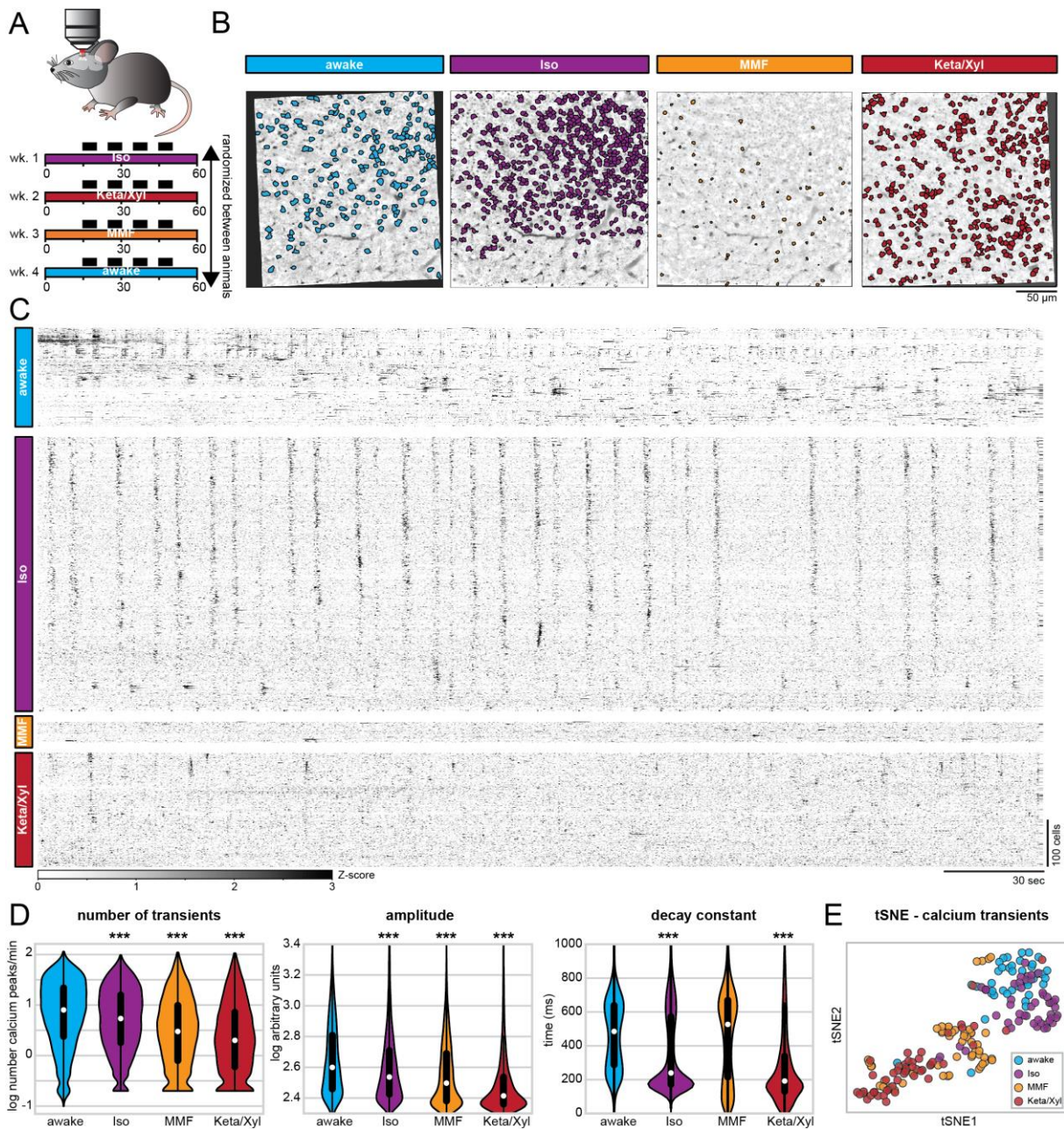
## 264 **Iso, Keta/Xyl and MMF reduce number, amplitude, and duration of calcium transients**

265 To monitor the population dynamics of CA1 neurons in the presence of different anesthetics,  
266 we imaged the same field of view (FOV) using the genetically encoded indicator GCaMP6f [46]  
267 and systematically compared the activity of identified neurons during quiet wakefulness and in  
268 the presence of different anesthetics (Fig. 3A).

269 First, we considered all active neurons in each condition and analyzed the average rate (i.e.,  
270 the number of transients), amplitude, and duration (i.e., the decay constant) of calcium  
271 transients across all imaging sessions in 7 mice. In line with the results of SUA analysis (see  
272 Fig. 2C), a large number of CA1 pyramidal neurons were active in the presence of all three  
273 GAs. Using extraction parameters that restricted the number of ROIs but maximized signal  
274 quality (see Methods), we obtained a median of 311 (min-max of 16-817) active neurons per  
275 FOV, for a total of 189 five-minute recordings. All GAs significantly altered calcium dynamics  
276 in CA1 neurons, reducing the activity (Fig. 3C,D), as previously shown for neuronal spiking  
277 (Fig. 2B). Also, in line with the effect on SUA (Fig. S2B), the magnitude of the anesthesia-  
278 induced reduction of calcium transients was negatively correlated with the wakefulness  
279 calcium transients rate (Fig. S6D). However, each condition could be characterized by a  
280 specific signature in their calcium dynamics. Iso yielded only a mild decrease of rate and  
281 amplitude, but a strong reduction of duration of calcium transients (Fig. 3D). Consistent with  
282 effects on LFP and SUA, calcium transients showed a spectral peak between 0.1 and 0.2 Hz  
283 (Fig. S4). In contrast to Iso, MMF did not significantly affect the duration of transients but  
284 reduced their rate and amplitude when compared to wakefulness. Keta/Xyl-anesthesia had the  
285 strongest effect on calcium transients, leading to a reduction of all three parameters compared  
286 to wakefulness (Fig. 3D). Unlike for electrophysiological recordings, no spectral peak was  
287 present in calcium transients, most likely due to the strong suppression of calcium activity by  
288 Keta/Xyl. Considering all parameters, the four groups tended to segregate into clusters, one  
289 consisting mostly of recordings under Keta/Xyl, and another one consisting of awake and Iso  
290 recordings. Most recordings under MMF clustered between these two groups (Fig. 3E).  
291 Importantly, these findings were robust to changes in the signal extraction pipeline. Varying  
292 the threshold for calcium transient detection across a wide range of values did not affect the  
293 reported effects on rate and height of transients (Fig. S3B). Further, conducting the same  
294 analysis on neuronal activity metrics that are independent of calcium transients detection  
295 (integral and standard deviation) or on dF/F calcium signals also yielded analogous results  
296 (Fig. S3C-E).

297





298

299 **Figure 3: Repeated calcium imaging in dorsal CA1 reveals distinct activity profiles for Iso, MMF**  
 300 **and Keta/Xyl. (A)** Experimental strategy for chronic calcium imaging of cellular activity in dorsal CA1.  
 301 For each condition, seven mice were imaged four times for five minutes, as indicated by black fields in  
 302 the scheme. The order of imaging conditions was pseudo-randomized. **(B)** Time-averaged, two-photon  
 303 images of the same FOV in CA1 aligned to the Iso condition. ROIs of automatically extracted, active  
 304 neurons are overlaid for each condition. **(C)** Raster plots of z-scored calcium transients in the same  
 305 animal under different conditions. Traces are sorted by similarity. **(D)** Violin plots quantifying the number  
 306 (left), amplitude (middle), and decay (right) of detected calcium transients. White dots indicate median,  
 307 vertical thick and thin lines indicate 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quartile and interquartile range, respectively. **(E)** tSNE plot  
 308 summarizing the average calcium transients properties. Each data point represents one recording  
 309 session. Asterisks in (D) indicate significant differences to wakefulness. \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . Note, to facilitate  
 310 readability, only differences to wakefulness are indicated. For full report of statistics, see statistics table.

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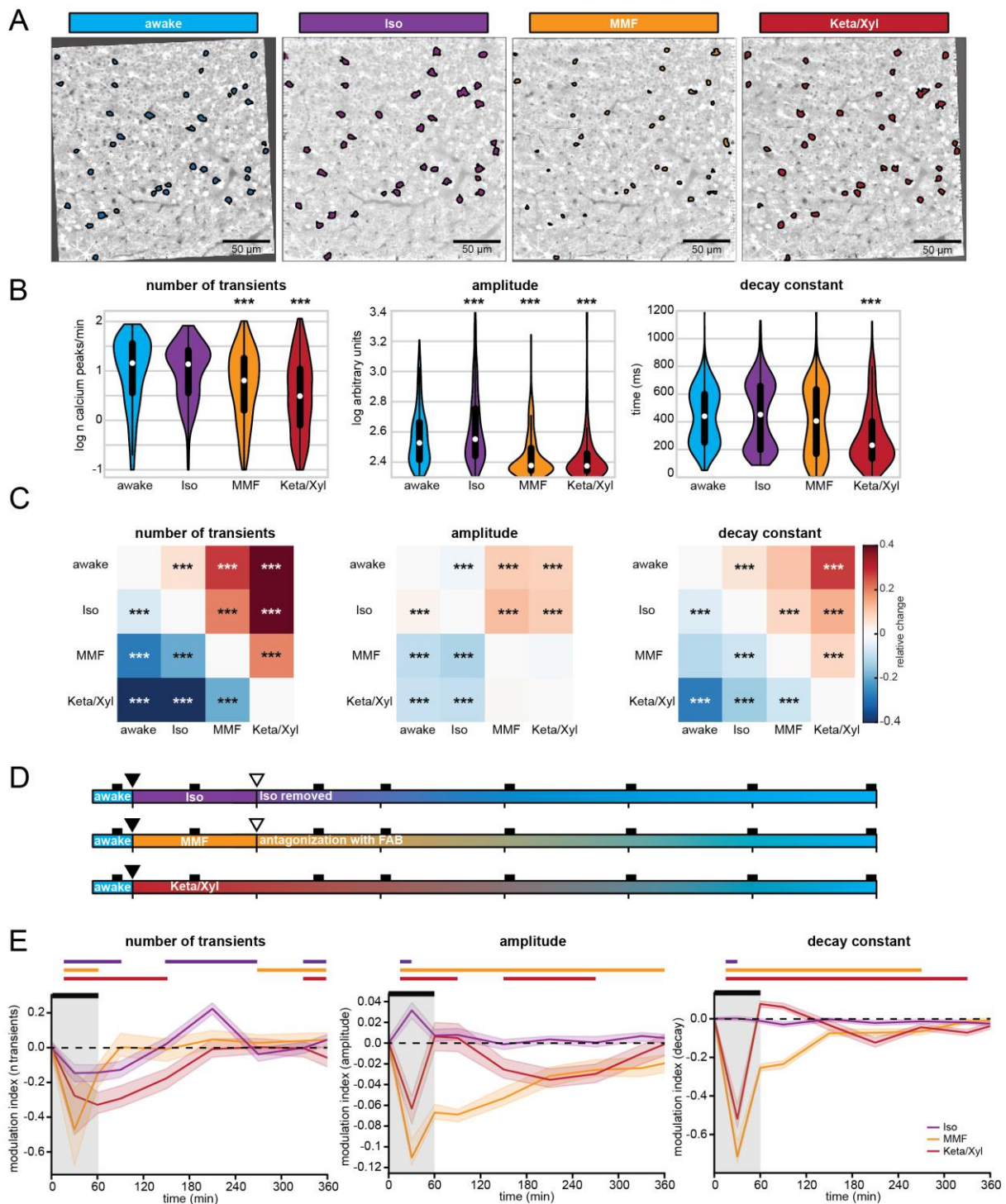
313 **Iso, Keta/Xyl and MMF distinctly modulate cellular calcium dynamics in individual**  
314 **neurons**

315 One possible explanation for these distinct modes of calcium activity could be that each  
316 anesthetic condition recruits a unique set of neurons characterized by particular spiking  
317 properties. We tested this possibility by analyzing calcium transients in neurons that were  
318 active during all conditions (Fig. 4A, S5, S6). To obtain a sufficient number of active neurons,  
319 we extracted calcium transients using a lower quality threshold, accepting more neurons per  
320 recording (see Methods). In this manner, we obtained a median of 783 neurons per recording  
321 (min-max of 156-1641). While this shifted the overall distribution of calcium parameters to lower  
322 values, the relative ratios between the four conditions remained the same and the differences  
323 between anesthesia groups were preserved (Fig. S3F-G). Also, when considering only  
324 neurons that were active in all four conditions, rate as well as amplitude of calcium peaks were  
325 generally reduced under anesthesia, being lowest in the Keta/Xyl condition (Fig. 4B,C).  
326 Compared to the whole dataset, differences in decay constant were less pronounced. The  
327 median decay constant strongly decreased for awake and MMF conditions, while it increased  
328 for Iso and Keta/Xyl. These results indicate that both the between- as well as the within-  
329 condition variance strongly decreased when considering only neurons active under all  
330 conditions.

331 The relatively low number of neurons active in all four conditions (335 neurons) limited the  
332 statistical analysis. Therefore, we compared neurons that were active in any two combinations  
333 of conditions (Fig. S6C). This analysis further corroborated the similarity of neurons active  
334 during wakefulness and Iso anesthesia (Fig. 4C, S6C). Rate, amplitude, and duration of  
335 calcium transients were most similar between wakefulness and Iso compared to the other GAs.  
336 In contrast, neurons active during wakefulness and either Keta/Xyl or MMF showed decreased  
337 rate, amplitude and duration under anesthesia, with Keta/Xyl causing the strongest phenotype  
338 (Fig S6C). Overall, this indicates that anesthetics influence the firing properties of hippocampal  
339 neurons. However, the magnitude and direction of these effects vary considerably. Iso  
340 anesthesia has the mildest effect, and it most likely arises from distinct neuronal populations  
341 being active in the two conditions (wakefulness vs. Iso anesthesia), as the firing properties of  
342 cells that are active in both are barely affected (Fig. 4B,C). On the other hand, the strong  
343 effects of MMF and Keta/Xyl on all calcium parameters in the same cells indicate that different  
344 anesthetics directly alter the firing properties of individual neurons. Thus, alterations in firing  
345 properties of neuronal populations (e.g., SUA, Fig. 2B-D) are not solely explainable by different  
346 subpopulations of neurons being active between awake and anesthesia.

347

348



349

350 **Figure 4: Calcium activity profiles in neurons active during all conditions are similar between**  
 351 **wakefulness and Iso. (A)** Two-photon time-averaged images of the same FOV in CA1, aligned to the  
 352 Iso condition (same images as in figs. 3). ROIs show neurons active in each condition, allowing direct  
 353 comparison of calcium transients in the same cells under different conditions. **(B)** Violin plots quantifying  
 354 the number (left), amplitude (middle), and decay (right) of detected calcium transients. White dots  
 355 indicate median, vertical thick and thin lines indicate 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quartile and interquartile range, respectively.  
 356 **(C)** Heat maps displaying the relative change in the number (left), amplitude (middle), and decay (right)  
 357 of calcium transients between neurons active in pairs of conditions (see also Fig. S6C). **(D)** Schematic  
 358 representation of long-term calcium imaging experiments to assess recovery from anesthesia. Black  
 359 rectangles indicate imaging time points (up to 10 min duration each). Filled and open triangles indicate  
 360 the start and end of the anesthesia period. **(E)** Line diagrams showing the relative change (modulation

361 *index) of the median number of calcium transients (left), their amplitude (middle), and decay constant*  
362 *(right) during anesthesia and recovery relative to the awake state before anesthesia induction. The black*  
363 *bar indicates the anesthesia period. Shaded, colored lines indicate 95% confidence interval. Note,*  
364 *Keta/Xyl anesthesia could not be terminated. The horizontal, colored lines indicate significant difference*  
365 *( $p < 0.05$ ) to awake time point ( $t = 0$ ) for the respective condition. Asterisks in (B) and (C) indicate*  
366 *significant differences to wakefulness. \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . Note, to facilitate readability, only differences to*  
367 *wakefulness are indicated. For full report of statistics, see statistics table.*

368

## 369 **Population activity recovers with different temporal dynamics after Iso, Keta/Xyl and** 370 **MMF**

371 The LFP recordings showed that network activity remained altered for 1.5 h after Keta/Xyl  
372 injection, but also after antagonization of MMF, while most aspects returned to pre-anesthetic  
373 conditions during 45 min after Iso removal. To assess network effects of the different  
374 anesthetics on a longer time scale, we used repeated calcium imaging during 6 hours after  
375 anesthesia onset and 5 hours after Iso termination and MMF antagonization (Fig. 4D). In line  
376 with our previous results, the number of calcium transients was strongly reduced 30 min after  
377 MMF or Keta/Xyl injection, while the reduction had a lower magnitude for Iso. Similarly, MMF  
378 and Keta/Xyl most strongly reduced the amplitude and duration of calcium transients, while Iso  
379 mildly increased amplitude without affecting the decay constant (Fig. 4E).

380 Confirming the action dynamics monitored by LFP recordings in vivo, recovery from Iso  
381 anesthesia was fast and only the rate of transients mildly changed during the hours after  
382 removing the mask. In contrast, after Keta/Xyl injection, amplitude and duration of transients  
383 were altered throughout the following 6 hours, while the reduction of the calcium transients  
384 rate was not reverted until up to 4 hours later. Recovery to the pre-anesthetic state was even  
385 slower after MMF/FAB. Despite antagonization of MMF anesthesia with FAB, calcium  
386 transients remained disturbed for up to 6 hours. Thus, the different anesthetics not only induce  
387 unique alterations of CA1 network dynamics, but also show different recovery profiles (Fig.  
388 S6E).

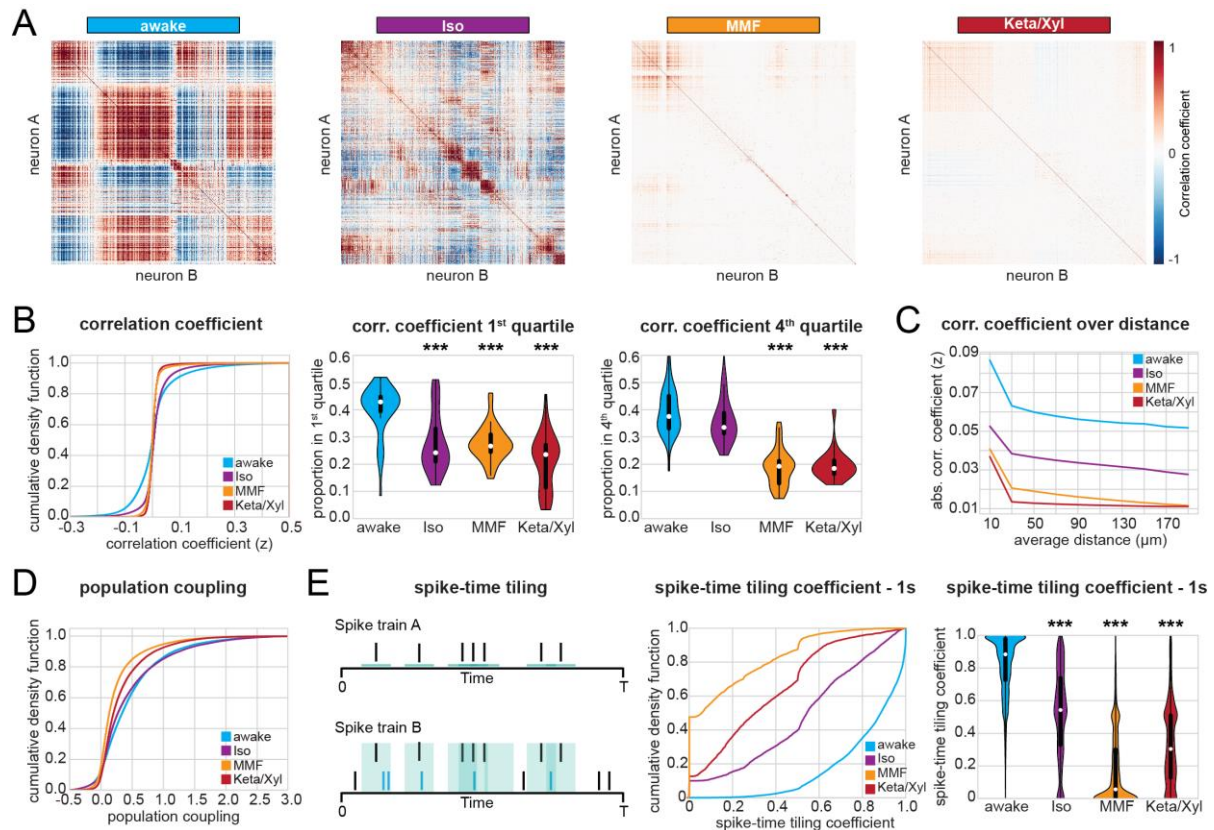
## 389 **Anesthesia decorrelates hippocampal activity**

390 Calcium imaging studies in the visual cortex of ketamine anesthetized rats [27] and Iso  
391 anesthetized mice [25] showed that anesthesia increases the overall pairwise correlations  
392 between firing neurons and, consequently, induces more structured patterns of activity. While  
393 neocortical L2/3 cells typically show a high degree of local interconnectivity [47], this is not the  
394 case for CA1, where pyramidal cells receive their main excitatory input from CA3 and  
395 entorhinal cortex and send their efferents to subiculum and extrahippocampal areas [9].  
396 Another difference between neocortex and hippocampal CA1 area is that the neocortex  
397 receives strong direct input from primary thalamus, which is a major source for slow oscillations  
398 during anesthesia-induced unconsciousness and sleep [1, 48, 49]. In comparison to neocortex,  
399 hippocampus shows different patterns of activity, including sharp waves, which are generated  
400 intrinsically in the hippocampus, likely originating in CA3 [50]. To investigate whether these  
401 differences cause a different impact of anesthesia on the population activity in CA1 when  
402 compared to the neocortex, we analyzed the dynamical structure of population activity using  
403 both calcium imaging and SUA of extracellular recordings in vivo. First, we analyzed Fisher-  
404 corrected Pearson pairwise correlation between neuropil-corrected raw fluorescence traces.  
405 We found that both correlation and anticorrelation were highest in animals during quiet  
406 wakefulness (Fig 5A-B). In particular, the awake condition had a higher proportion of

407 correlation coefficients both in the 1<sup>st</sup> as well as in the 4<sup>th</sup> quartile of the entire distribution and,  
408 accordingly, higher absolute correlation values (Fig. 5B, S7A). Similar to the firing properties  
409 (SUA, fig. 2), Iso induced the milder changes, whereas Keta/Xyl caused the strongest  
410 phenotype. This relationship was preserved in neurons active during all conditions (Fig. S7B),  
411 indicating that anesthesia generally reduces correlated activity between neurons and that this  
412 effect is not attributable to the activity of particular neuronal subpopulations. Moreover, these  
413 effects were not influenced by the distance between the pair of neurons whose correlation was  
414 quantified (Fig. 5C). These findings highlight the major differences between the anesthesia-  
415 induced effects on neuronal coupling in hippocampal CA1 and neocortex. In accordance with  
416 the anatomy of CA1, the correlation between pairs of neurons was only mildly affected by the  
417 distance between them, with or without anesthesia. Not only were neurons less highly  
418 correlated to each other under anesthesia, but their coupling to the whole population activity  
419 [51] was reduced as well. The proportion of neurons with population coupling in the 4<sup>th</sup> quartile  
420 of the entire distribution was highest for awake, and most strongly reduced under Keta/Xyl and  
421 MMF, while Iso showed only mild effects (Fig. 5D).

422 To further relate the calcium imaging data to extracellular recordings of neuronal firing, we  
423 carried out an analogous analysis on SUA. To avoid the confounding effect of firing rate, we  
424 quantified the correlation between pairs of neurons using the spike-time tiling coefficient [52],  
425 a measure that is largely insensitive to variations of the firing rate (see Methods). To be  
426 consistent with the calcium data, we quantified correlations within 1 second, a timescale of the  
427 same magnitude as the decay constant used to extract calcium signals (700 ms). This analysis  
428 confirmed that all anesthetics decorrelated neuronal activity (Fig. 5E). This effect was still  
429 present, albeit less pronounced, using an integration window of 10 ms, which is closer to the  
430 duration of action potentials (Fig. S7C). Overall, the decorrelation was milder under Iso  
431 anesthesia and stronger under Keta/Xyl and MMF. Thus, all three GAs decorrelated calcium  
432 transients and spiking activity in the CA1 area, with MMF and Keta/Xyl inducing the most  
433 prominent effects.

434



435

436 **Fig. 5. Correlation analysis of CA1 calcium activity and SUA shows decorrelation under**  
 437 **anesthesia. (A)** Heat maps displaying representative correlation matrices of calcium activity between  
 438 pairs of neurons during wakefulness and the three different anesthetic conditions in the same animal.  
 439 Matrices are sorted by similarity. **(B)** Left: Line plot displaying cumulative distribution of Fisher-corrected  
 440 Pearson correlation coefficients between pairs of neurons (calcium imaging). Center: violin plot  
 441 displaying the proportion of pairs found in the 1<sup>st</sup> (most negative) and 4<sup>th</sup> (most positive) quartile of the  
 442 distribution. **(C)** Line plot displaying the absolute pairwise correlation coefficients over distance (calcium  
 443 imaging, 25 micrometer bins). **(D)** Line plot displaying the cumulative distribution of population coupling  
 444 (calcium imaging). **(E)** Quantification of correlation between pairs of extracellularly recorded single units  
 445 using the spike-time tiling coefficient (STTC). Left: Schematic illustration of the STTC quantification.  
 446 Center: cumulative distribution of the STTC with a 1000 ms integration window. Right: violin plot  
 447 quantifying the STTC. In violin plots, white dots indicate median, vertical thick and thin lines indicate 1<sup>st</sup>-  
 448 3<sup>rd</sup> quartile and interquartile range, respectively. Asterisks in (B) and (E) indicate significant differences  
 449 to wakefulness. \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . Note, only differences to wakefulness are indicated. For comparison  
 450 between conditions, see statistics table.

451

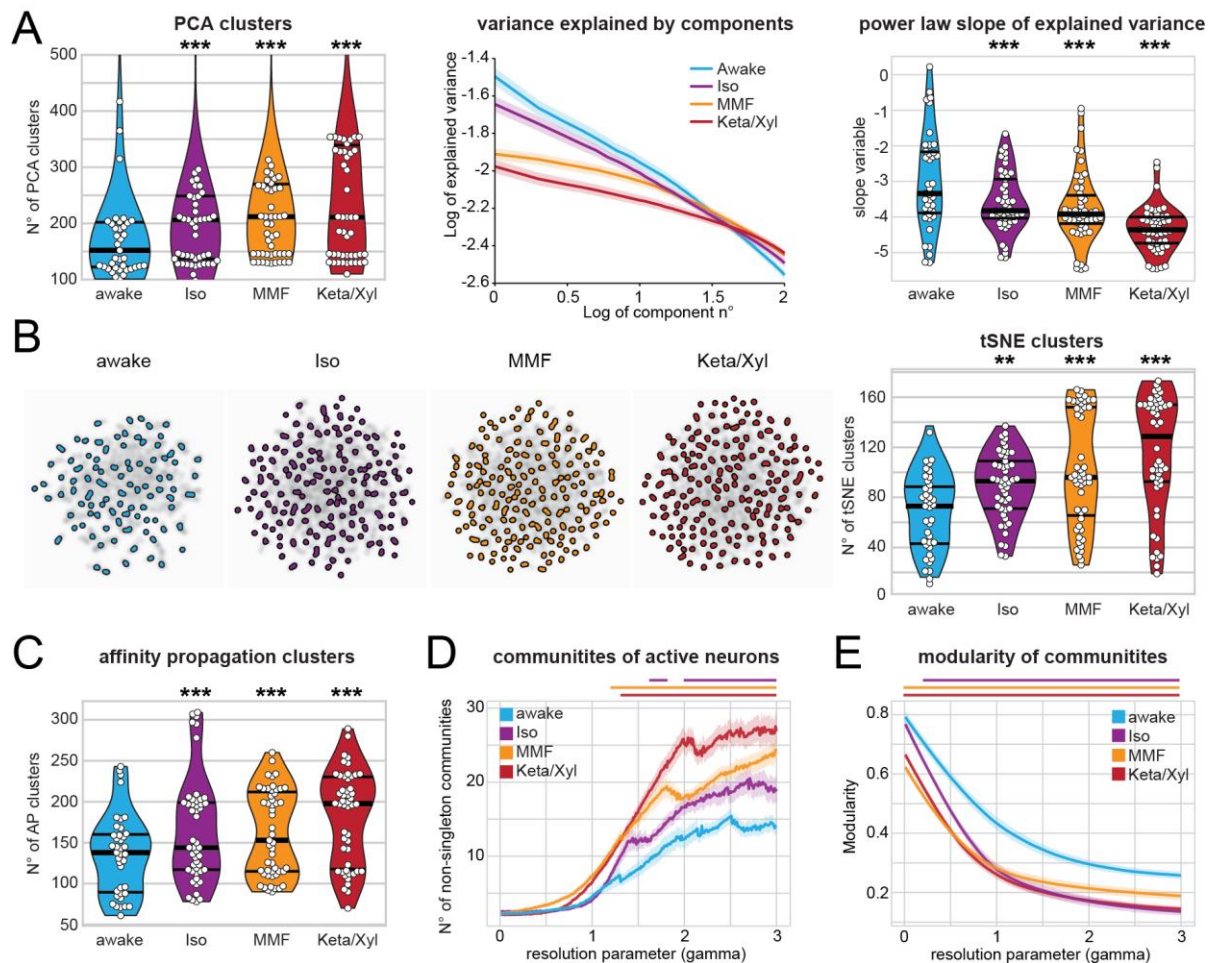
## 452 Anesthesia fragments temporal and spatial structure of hippocampal activity

453 The decorrelation of neuronal activity during anesthesia suggests that GAs might impact the  
 454 spatial and temporal organization of CA1 neuronal ensembles (see Fig. 5A). To test this  
 455 hypothesis, we analyzed the same number of active neurons for each condition, since a  
 456 different number of neurons in each condition potentially influences the number and size of  
 457 detected clusters [26]. First, we monitored the impact of GAs on the temporal structure of CA1  
 458 activity. We defined the number of clusters identified by principal component analysis (PCA)  
 459 as the number of components that were needed to explain 90% of the variance. Moreover, we  
 460 assessed the power-law slope of variance explained over the first 150 components (Fig. 6A).  
 461 Both methods led to a larger number of clusters and a flatter power-law slope for anesthesia

462 when compared to wakefulness (Fig. 6A). Further corroborating these findings, both tSNE  
463 dimensionality reduction and affinity propagation (AP) clustering (see Methods) also revealed  
464 a larger number of clusters for anesthesia compared to wakefulness (Fig. 6B,C). These  
465 observations indicate that activity is less structured under anesthesia. In line with previous  
466 results, Iso had the weakest effect, whereas Keta/Xyl consistently induced the most  
467 pronounced phenotype. Analysis of the deconvolved calcium traces led to comparable results  
468 (Fig S8A,B). These findings support the idea that GAs fragment the hippocampal network into  
469 a more diverse repertoire of microstates.

470 Second, we tested whether anesthesia disrupted the spatial structure of hippocampal activity,  
471 employing a modularity maximization approach [53, 54] designed to detect internally densely  
472 connected communities (modules). To allow detection of modules at varying sizes, we carried  
473 out our analysis while varying a resolution parameter ( $\gamma$ ) and thus focusing on different  
474 spatial scales. Using this approach, we showed that GAs increase the number of detected  
475 communities over a wide range of resolution parameter values (Fig 6D). Moreover, the  
476 modularity of these communities was lower than in wakefulness (Fig 6E). These results  
477 indicate that anesthesia results in a more fractured network with, on average, smaller and less  
478 coherent communities. A multi-resolution approach [55] followed by the selection of partitions  
479 based on hierarchical consensus clustering yielded similar results (Fig. S8C). Among GAs, Iso  
480 induced the mildest phenotype, whereas Keta/Xyl had the most prominent effects. Thus, GAs  
481 not only decorrelate hippocampal activity, but also consistently fragment both its temporal and  
482 spatial structure.

483



484

485 **Fig. 6. Calcium activity in CA1 is temporally and spatially fragmented during anesthesia.** (A) Left:  
 486 violin plot quantifying the number of principal component analysis (PCA) clusters during wakefulness or  
 487 anesthesia, as indicated. Middle: log-log line plot displaying the variance explained by the first 100  
 488 components for each condition. Right: violin plot quantifying the power-law slope of the variance  
 489 explained by the first 100 components for each condition. (B) Left: tSNE plots of network events  
 490 recorded in the same animal under the four indicated conditions. Right: Violin plot quantifying the  
 491 number of tSNE clusters obtained from calcium recordings during the four different treatments. (C)  
 492 Violin plot quantifying the number of clusters obtained by affinity propagation from calcium recordings during  
 493 the four different treatments. (D) and (E) Line plots quantifying the number of detected communities and  
 494 the modularity of the detected communities with the resolution parameter  $\gamma$  ranging from 0 to 3.  
 495 Horizontal lines in violin plots indicate median and 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quartile. Asterisks in (A) - (C) indicate significant  
 496 differences to wakefulness. \*\*  $p < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . Horizontal lines above plots in (D) - (E) indicate  
 497 significant difference to wakefulness. Anesthetic conditions are color-coded. Note, only differences to  
 498 wakefulness are indicated. For comparison between conditions, see statistics table.

499

## 500 Network alterations during sleep are less pronounced compared to anesthesia

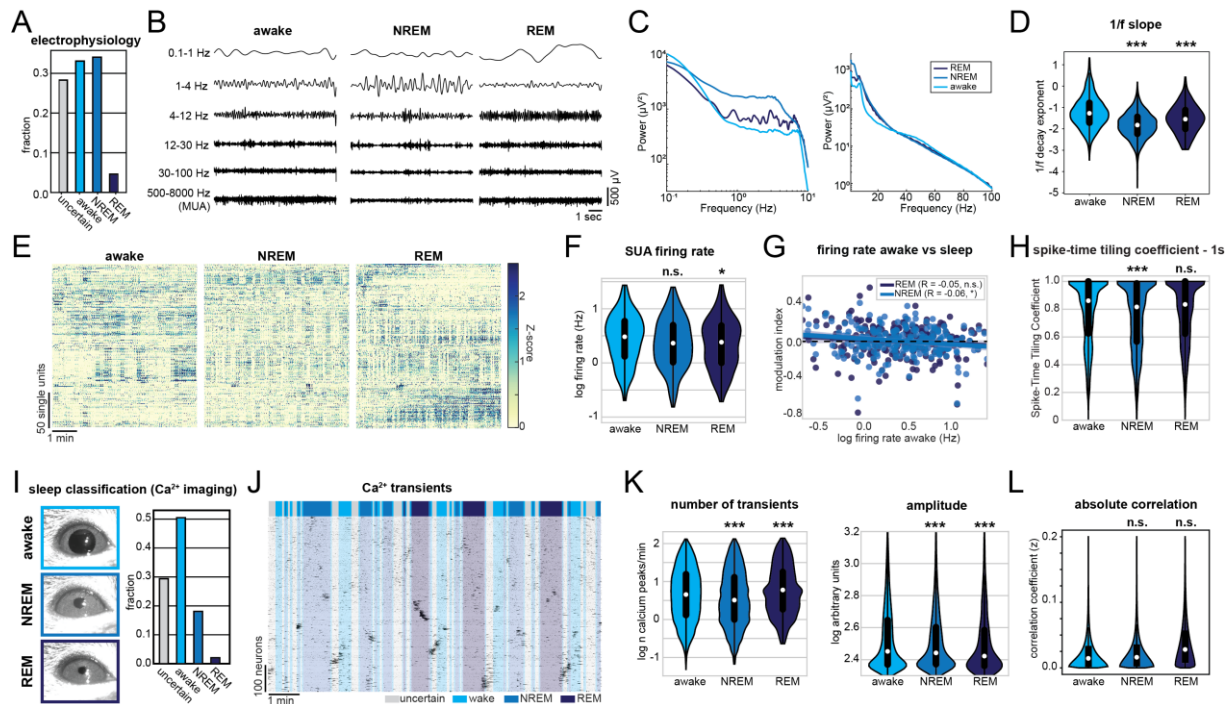
501 Altered CA1 activity under anesthesia may affect synaptic function and memory processing. A  
 502 naturally-occurring form of unconsciousness is sleep, which is required for network processes  
 503 involved in memory consolidation [49, 56]. To decide whether the network perturbations  
 504 described above resemble those naturally occurring during sleep, we first monitored CA1  
 505 activity by recording the LFP and spiking together with animal motion and the neck-muscle  
 506 electro-myogram (EMG) in head fixed mice (Fig. S9A). We classified the signal into 30 s-long  
 507 epochs of wake, rapid-eye-movement (REM) and non-REM (NREM) sleep. Further, a certain



508 fraction of epochs, which we labelled as “uncertain”, could not be reliably classified into any of  
509 the previous three categories, (see Methods for details). Given that the behavioral attribution  
510 of these epochs is uncertain and difficult to interpret, we excluded them from further analysis.  
511 The animals spent most of their sleeping time in the NREM phase, with only short periods of  
512 intermittent REM sleep (Fig. 7A,I). The LFP showed enhanced theta power during REM  
513 phases, while the power at low frequencies was broadly increased during NREM sleep (Fig.  
514 7B,C). Compared to anesthesia (Fig. 1), these changes in the LFP both during REM and  
515 NREM phases were modest. Along the same line,  $1/f$  slope during NREM and REM sleep  
516 slightly decreased, indicating a small reduction of the E/I balance that had a significantly lower  
517 magnitude than the perturbation induced by GAs (Fig. 1D). Furthermore, the SUA rate was  
518 slightly reduced (Fig. 7E-F), in contrast to all anesthetics, that strongly suppressed firing (Fig.  
519 2). As previously reported [44], and similarly to the effect of GAs, we detected a small but  
520 significant negative correlation between the NREM-induced reduction of firing rate and the  
521 wakefulness firing rate, whereas the effect failed to reach statistical significance for REM sleep  
522 alone (Fig. 7G). Moreover, NREM sleep induced a small reduction of pairwise correlation  
523 between pairs of neurons, as measured by the spike-time tiling coefficient with an integration  
524 window of one second.

525 To additionally investigate the effect of sleep on hippocampal activity, we used the above-  
526 mentioned recordings to train a machine-learning algorithm to classify wakefulness, NREM  
527 and REM sleep from eye videography images alone (Fig. S9) [57] (see Methods for details).  
528 In line with previous results, we were able to reliably distinguish wakefulness and NREM sleep  
529 (4-fold cross-validation accuracy >85%), whereas REM classification was less precise (4-fold  
530 cross-validation accuracy ~30%). This classifier was then used to predict the physiological  
531 state of mice from which we recorded calcium transients in CA1 neurons. In the calcium  
532 imaging dataset, sleep was dominated by the NREM phase and only 17 min of REM sleep  
533 could be detected in a total of 864 min (Fig. 7I). Given the limited amount of detected REM  
534 sleep, its effects on hippocampal calcium activity should be interpreted with caution. As  
535 reported for LFP data, NREM only mildly reduced the rate of calcium transients, whereas REM  
536 sleep induced a small increase. In contrast, both NREM and REM sleep caused a small  
537 reduction in transient amplitude (Fig. 7K). Further, we did not detect an effect of the sleep  
538 state on absolute pairwise correlations (Fig. 7L).

539 In conclusion, sleep and GAs similarly affect the CA1 activity. However, the magnitude of  
540 effects was much smaller for sleep than for GAs. Both NREM and REM states were more  
541 similar to wakefulness than to the anesthetic state. Compared to the three different anesthetics,  
542 sleep had the closest resemblance to Iso. Thus, among the three different anesthetics, network  
543 alterations under Iso deviate the least from natural states such as wakefulness and sleep.



544

545 **Fig. 7. Sleep alters CA1 activity in a similar way to anesthesia but with a lower magnitude. (A)**  
 546 **Classification of activity states during electrical recordings. (B) Characteristic LFP recordings during**  
 547 **wakefulness, NREM and REM sleep. (C) Line plot displaying LFP power spectra for the indicated activity**  
 548 **states. (D) Violin plot displaying the power-law decay exponent (1/f) of the LFP power spectrum. (E)**  
 549 **Raster plots of z-scored single-unit activity (SUA) for the three different activity states in four mice. Units**  
 550 **are sorted according to initial activity during wakefulness. (F) Violin plot showing SUA firing rate. (G)**  
 551 **Scatter plot showing modulation of SUA firing rate during NREM (light blue) and REM sleep (dark blue)**  
 552 **with respect to activity during wakefulness. (H) Violin plot quantifying the STTC. (I) Classification of**  
 553 **activity states during CA1 calcium imaging based on eye videography. (J) Raster plots of z-scored**  
 554 **calcium transients in an example recording of one animal transiting between wakefulness and sleep.**  
 555 **Traces are sorted by similarity. (K) Violin plots quantifying the number (left), and amplitude (right) of**  
 556 **detected calcium transients. (L) Violin plots quantifying absolute pairwise correlation of all recorded**  
 557 **neurons. White dots indicate median, vertical thick and thin lines indicate 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> quartile and interquartile**  
 558 **range, respectively. \* p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\* p < 0.001 w.r.t. to wake state, n = 3-7 mice.**

559

## 560 Repeated anesthesia alters spine dynamics in CA1

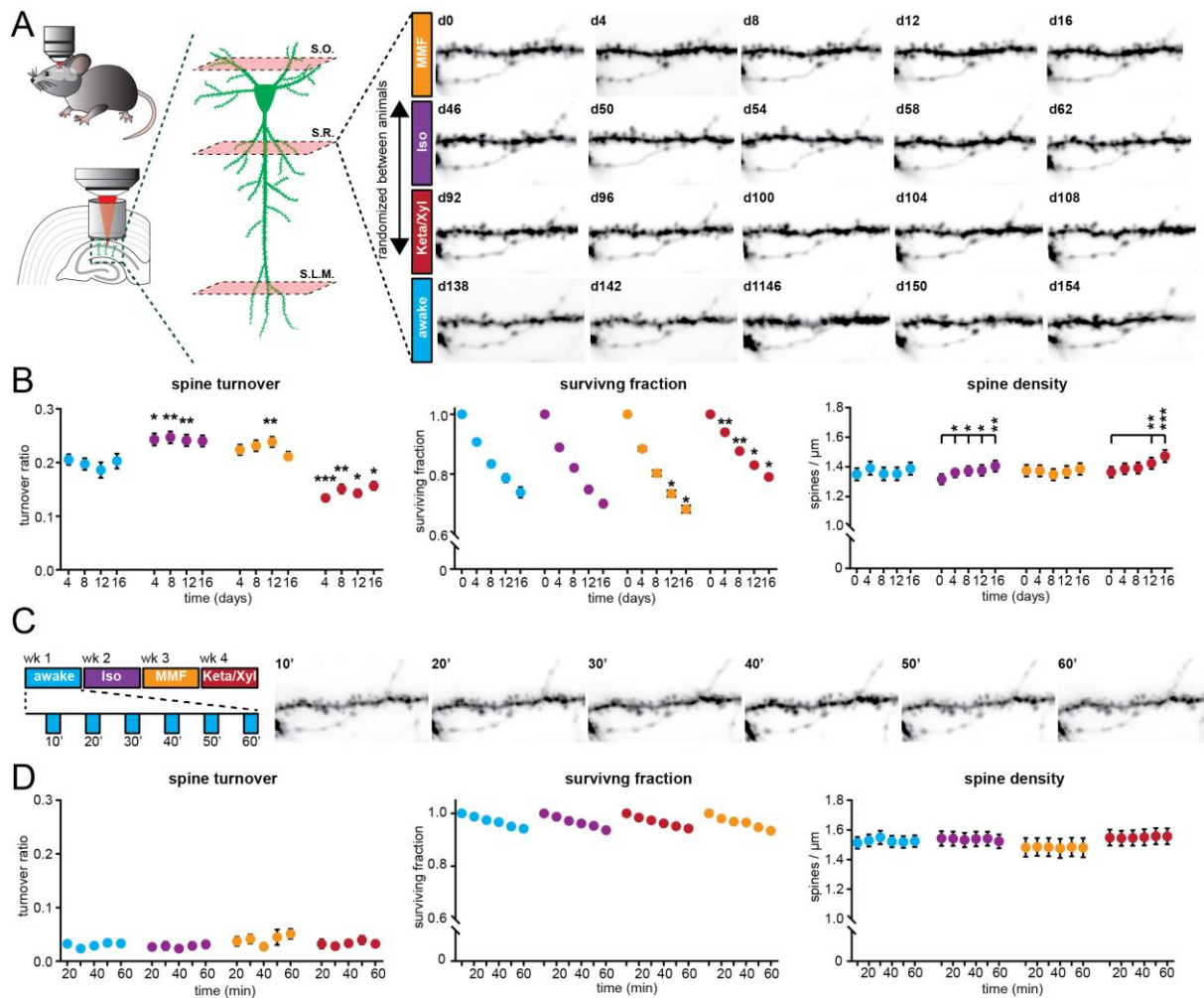
561 The impact of Iso, MMF, and Keta/Xyl on CA1 activity might alter spine dynamics at CA1  
 562 pyramidal neurons. This issue is of critical relevance, since GAs disrupt activity patterns during  
 563 development [58] also involving alteration of synaptic connectivity [59-61], but less is known  
 564 about the impact of GAs on hippocampal synaptic structure during adulthood. So far, spine  
 565 dynamics in hippocampus were only investigated under anesthesia, lacking comparison to the  
 566 wake state. Moreover, the reported turnover rates varied strongly between studies [21, 62, 63].  
 567 Thus, it is unknown how repeated anesthesia in itself affects spine stability.

568 We repeatedly imaged the same basal, oblique, and tuft dendritic segments of CA1 pyramidal  
 569 neurons under all four conditions (five times per condition, every four days), interrupted by a  
 570 30-day recovery period between conditions (Fig. 8A, S10A). To rule out time-effects, we  
 571 pseudo-randomized the order of anesthetics (Fig. S10A). During wakefulness, without any  
 572 anesthesia in between, the turnover ratio of spines on all dendrites was on average 18.6 - 20.5  
 573 % per four days. This turnover ratio was stable and did not change systematically over

574 successive imaging sessions (Fig. 8B). Notably, all anesthetics affected spine turnover. Both  
575 MMF and Iso anesthesia mildly increased the turnover ratio compared to wakefulness (21.1 –  
576 23.8 % for MMF, 24.0 – 24.7 % for Iso). Iso did not alter the surviving fraction of spines.  
577 Together with the significant increase in spine density over time (Fig. 8B) these results indicate  
578 that the elevated turnover ratio was due to a rise in the gained fraction of spines (Fig. S10B).  
579 In contrast, MMF led to a slight increase in the fraction of lost spines (Fig. S10B) and  
580 correspondingly, slightly decreased the surviving fraction compared to wakefulness. Spine  
581 density did not change over time. Keta/Xyl anesthesia showed the strongest effect on spine  
582 turnover (13.4 - 15.7 %), which was opposite to MMF and Iso, and therefore significantly lower  
583 rather than higher compared to the awake condition (Fig. 8B). This lower turnover ratio was  
584 accompanied by a higher surviving fraction and an increase in density with time (Fig. 8B).  
585 Consistently, the fraction of lost spines was most strongly reduced (Fig. S10B). Thus, Keta/Xyl  
586 anesthesia resulted in marked stabilization of existing spines and a reduction in the formation  
587 of new spines, indicative of a significant effect on structural plasticity. These effects were  
588 present on basal dendrites of stratum oriens (S.O.), oblique dendrites in stratum radiatum  
589 (S.R.) and tuft dendrites in stratum lacunosum moleculare (S.L.M.), albeit with different  
590 magnitude. Under Keta/Xyl the strongest impact on spine density was present in S.L.M., while  
591 turnover was most strongly reduced in S.O. Also, the increased spine turnover seen under Iso  
592 and MMF was most pronounced in S.O. (Fig. S10D).

593 To rule out that the age of the animal influenced spine dynamics in the awake condition, we  
594 measured spine turnover in a group of age-matched animals to the first anesthesia group (Fig.  
595 S10A,C). Moreover, to rule out that the chronic imaging procedure per se and anesthesia in  
596 general had a long-lasting effect on the awake imaging condition, we added another awake-  
597 imaging control group with naïve, age-matched animals to the awake imaging time point in the  
598 experimental group (Fig. S10A,C). In all three groups, spine turnover was indistinguishable,  
599 indicating that neither age nor previous imaging under anesthesia impacted spine dynamics in  
600 the awake-imaging group (Fig. S10C).

601 Next, we asked whether the modulation of spine turnover by GAs was due to acute remodeling  
602 of spines during the time of anesthesia. Alternatively, spine turnover might be driven by long-  
603 lasting changes in network activity imposed by the slow reversal of all GAs. To capture fast  
604 events such as filopodia formation, we acquired image stacks every 10 min (Fig. 8C). Spine  
605 turnover, survival, or density were not significantly altered during the one hour of imaging (Fig.  
606 8D). Thus, spines were stable during the one hour irrespective of the treatment. While mature  
607 spines typically show low elimination/formation rates over one hour, filopodia are more  
608 dynamic [64-66]. Unlike other reports, that observed an acute selective formation of filopodia  
609 under Keta/Xyl, but not Iso [67], we did not detect any acute effects of GAs on filopodia turnover  
610 of CA1 pyramidal cell dendrites. Thus, chronic exposure to all GAs consistently impacted spine  
611 dynamics, whereas acute effects were lacking. Keta/Xyl caused a strong decrease in spine  
612 turnover, accompanied by a higher surviving fraction and an increased density over time.



613

614 **Fig. 8. Spine turnover at CA1 pyramidal neurons is distinctly altered by repeated application of**  
 615 **Iso, MMF and Keta/Xyl.** (A) Left: Schematic illustration of in vivo spine imaging strategy. In each animal,  
 616 spines were imaged on basal dendrites located in stratum oriens (S.O.), oblique dendrites in stratum  
 617 radiatum (S.R.) and tuft dendrites in stratum lacunosum moleculare (S.L.M.). Right: Example showing  
 618 an oblique dendrite in S.R. imaged chronically during all conditions. The order of anesthetic treatments  
 619 was pseudo-randomized between mice (see Fig. S10A). (B) Dot plots showing quantification of spine  
 620 turnover (left), spine survival (middle) and spine density (right) under the four indicated treatments. Note  
 621 that spines were imaged on the same dendrites across all conditions. Dots indicate mean  $\pm$  SEM.  
 622 Asterisks indicate significant differences to wakefulness in the left and middle panel. In the right panel,  
 623 asterisks denote significant changes within each treatment compared to day 0. \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ ,  
 624 \*\*\*  $p < 0.001$ . (C) Imaging of acute spine dynamics during four different conditions. Left: schematic of  
 625 the experimental timeline. Right: example of dendrite imaged during wakefulness in 10 min intervals  
 626 (same dendrite as in A). (D) Dot plots showing quantification of acute spine turnover (left), spine survival  
 627 (center) and spine density (right) under the four indicated treatments. Dots indicate mean  $\pm$  SEM.

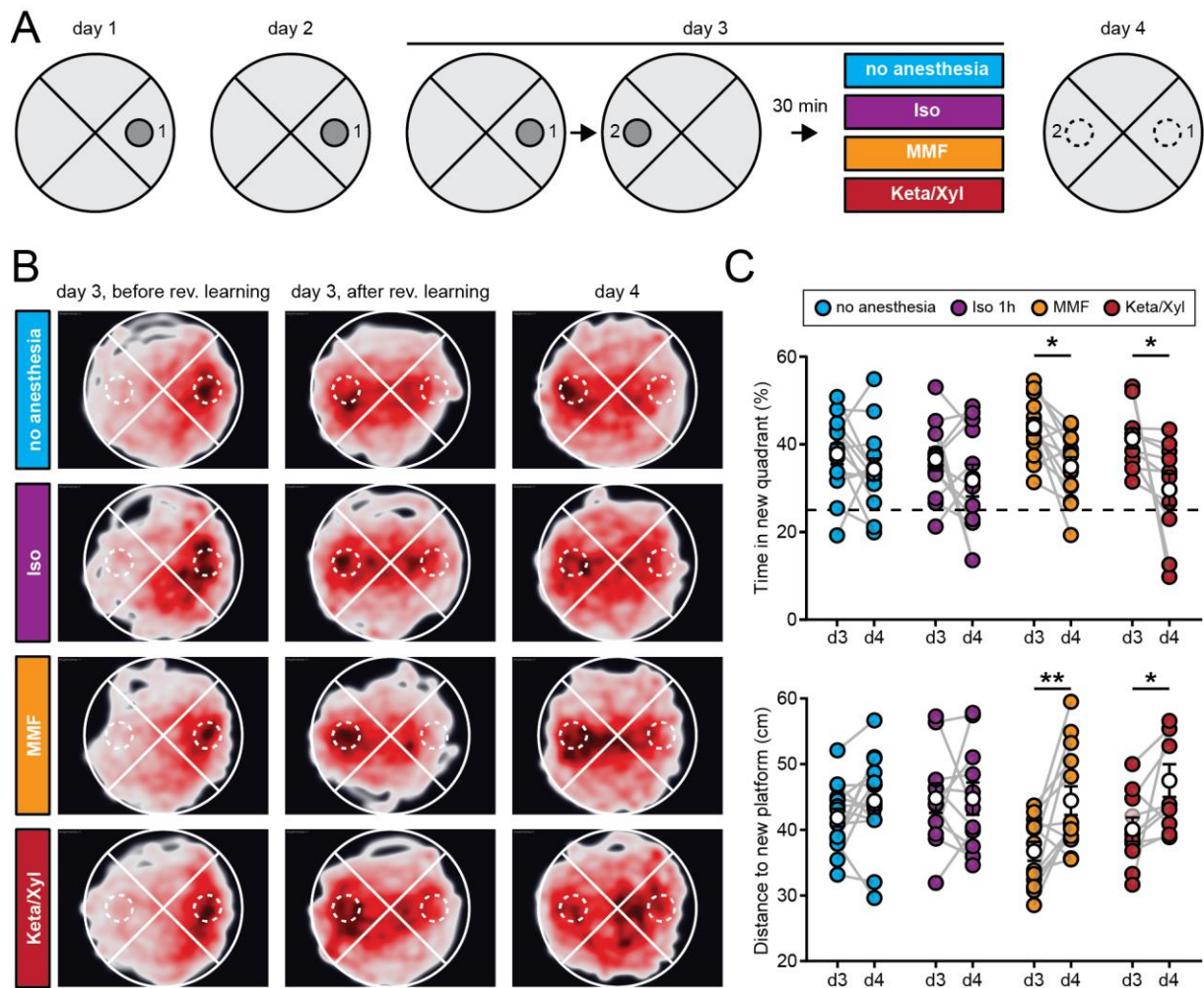
628

## 629 Episodic memory consolidation is impaired by MMF and Keta/Xyl, but not by Iso

630 Episodic memory formation and consolidation require hippocampal activity. Newly learned  
 631 experiences are thought of being consolidated via replay events that co-occur with low-  
 632 frequency oscillations [49, 68-70]. In the hippocampus, these low-frequency events typically  
 633 occur as sharp waves [50] during sleep, but also during awake resting behavior [70]. The above  
 634 results from electrophysiological recordings and imaging showed that GAs strongly altered  
 635 network oscillations in the CA1 area, in the case of MMF and Keta/Xyl, also long after

636 anesthesia discontinuation. Spine turnover of CA1 pyramidal neurons was also affected,  
637 especially after Keta/Xyl administration. Therefore, we tested whether inducing anesthesia  
638 shortly after the acquisition of a new episodic memory affected its consolidation (Fig. 9A). In  
639 line with previous experiments, we restricted Iso and MMF anesthesia to one hour, while  
640 Keta/Xyl anesthesia was left to recede spontaneously. We assessed episodic-like memory with  
641 a water maze protocol for reversal learning, when the hidden platform was moved to the  
642 quadrant opposite the initial target location (Fig. 9A). Specifically, we tested the effects of the  
643 different anesthetics on the consolidation of the memory of the new platform location. We  
644 compared the performance of the mice during the probe trial done on day 3 immediately after  
645 the reversal learning protocol (and 30 min before anesthesia), with the performance during the  
646 probe trial on day 4, twenty-four-hours after anesthesia. During the probe trial on day 3,  
647 animals of all four groups spent significantly more time in the new target quadrant compared  
648 to chance (25 %), indicating that they learned the new platform position successfully (Fig.  
649 9B,C).

650 On day 4, control animals that did not undergo anesthesia showed the same performance as  
651 on day 3, suggesting that they had retained the memory of the new platform location (Fig.  
652 9B,C). However, animals that were anesthetized with Keta/Xyl or MMF spent significantly less  
653 time in the new target quadrant and showed a significantly larger mean distance to the target  
654 platform position compared to the probe trial on day 3. In the Iso group, no significant difference  
655 compared to day 3 was detectable (Fig. 9B,C, S11A). The impairment of memory consolidation  
656 was not explained by the longer duration of recovery after Keta/Xyl or MMF compared to Iso,  
657 because anesthesia for up to 4 h with Iso had no disruptive effect (Fig. S11B,C). Thus, it is not  
658 the duration of the induced unconsciousness but rather the type of anesthetic that likely  
659 explains the impaired memory consolidation. Notably, the effects were relatively mild, and the  
660 decrease in performance on day 4 was not significantly different between treatment groups. In  
661 summary, consistent with long-lasting effects on CA1 network activity, Keta/Xyl, and MMF  
662 impaired episodic-like memory consolidation. In contrast, Iso, which overall caused a weaker  
663 disturbance of neuronal population activity and a faster recovery profile, did not significantly  
664 affect memory consolidation.



665

666 **Fig. 9. Episodic memory consolidation is impaired by MMF and Keta/Xyl, but not by Iso.** (A)  
 667 Experimental design to test episodic-like memory in a Morris water maze. On days 1 and 2, animals  
 668 were trained to find the platform in position 1. Reversal learning was performed on day 3 where animals  
 669 had to learn that the platform was moved to position 2. The training was followed 30 min later by a 1-h  
 670 period of one of the four indicated treatments per group. On day 4, consolidation of the memory for the  
 671 platform in position 2 was tested. (B) Heat maps showing trajectories of all mice during the first probe  
 672 trial before reversal learning on day 3 (left column), after reversal learning on day 3 (middle column) and  
 673 after treatment on day 4 (right column). The position of the target zone is indicated by dashed circles.  
 674 (C) Scatter plots showing quantification of time spent in the new target quadrant (top) and distance to  
 675 the new platform (bottom) after reversal learning on day 3 and on day 4. Filled, colored circles indicate  
 676 individual animals, white circles indicate mean  $\pm$  SEM. Asterisks in (C) indicate significant differences  
 677 between days. \*  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*  $p < 0.01$ .

678

## 679 DISCUSSION

680 We investigated and systematically compared the intra- and post-anesthetic effects of different  
 681 commonly used anesthetic strategies on the mouse hippocampus across multiple levels of  
 682 analysis. Despite sharing some common traits, brain and cellular network states differ  
 683 substantially under the influence of various types of anesthetics [30, 71, 72]. Indeed, at the  
 684 neuronal level, compared with awake state and natural sleep, all three anesthetics showed  
 685 robustly reduced spiking activity in single neurons, reduced power in the high oscillation  
 686 frequency band, and decorrelated cellular population activity. However, the induced network

687 states in CA1 were highly distinct between the three different conditions, with Iso leading to  
688 prominent network oscillations at around 0.1 Hz, which timed the spiking activity of single units  
689 and neuronal calcium transients. Keta/Xyl caused pronounced oscillations between 0.5 and 4  
690 Hz and the strongest reduction in calcium dynamics. MMF, in contrast, most strongly reduced  
691 LFP and SUA and impaired population dynamics for many hours as assessed with calcium  
692 imaging. Differences were also present in the long-term effects on spine dynamics, with  
693 Keta/Xyl stabilizing spines, leading to reduced turnover and increased density. MMF, on the  
694 other hand, mildly increased spine dynamics. Keta/Xyl cannot be antagonized and therefore  
695 changes of the CA1 network mediated by this anesthetic were present hours after the injection,  
696 in agreement with long-lasting overall changes of global animal physiology [38]. More  
697 unexpectedly, and in contrast to overall effects on physiology [38], CA1 network dynamics  
698 were still disturbed for at least 6 hours after antagonization of MMF anesthesia. These long-  
699 lasting alterations were associated with impairment of episodic memory consolidation after  
700 exposure to Keta/Xyl- or MMF, but not Iso. Thus, despite all fulfilling the same hallmarks of  
701 general anesthesia, different GAs distinctly alter hippocampal network dynamics, synaptic  
702 connectivity, and memory consolidation.

### 703 **Iso, MMF and Keta/Xyl have different molecular targets and distinctly modulate** 704 **functional and structural features of CA1**

705 The GAs used here represent three different strategies based on the large repertoire of  
706 currently available anesthetics. Isoflurane represents the class of halogenated diethyl ether  
707 analogues, which are volatile and therefore administered via inhalation. Fentanyl, in  
708 combination with the analgesic medetomidine and the sedative midazolam (MMF), represents  
709 an anesthetic approach based on the injection of a combination of drugs with sedative,  
710 analgesic and anxiolytic properties. In the clinic, propofol can be used instead of midazolam.  
711 Finally, ketamine is used both as an anesthetic and, at a lower dosage, as a treatment against  
712 depression. For anesthesia, it is generally combined with xylazine, which acts as a sedative,  
713 analgesic and muscle relaxant. All three strategies differ markedly in their molecular targets.  
714 Consequently, they uniquely modulate general animal physiology [38] and brain activity [72].  
715 Isoflurane is a potent GABA- and glycine receptor agonist. Moreover, it activates two-pore  
716 potassium channels and acts as  $\alpha$ -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazolepropionic acid  
717 receptor (AMPA) inhibitor [4]. Similar to Iso, midazolam, the hypnotic component of the MMF  
718 mix, mainly acts as a GABAR agonist with little effect on NMDARs. In contrast, ketamine is a  
719 potent, use-dependent NMDAR blocker with less pronounced effects on potassium channels,  
720 GABA, glycine and other glutamate receptors such as AMPA or kainite receptors [4]. Moreover,  
721 while most anesthetics reduce the activity of thalamic nuclei, ketamine increases thalamic drive  
722 [73], leading to enhanced rather than reduced oscillations in mid-to-high frequency bands such  
723 as theta and gamma [28, 74]. In accordance with this, our study reveals major differences in  
724 the action of the different anesthetics on functional and structural features of CA1. With both  
725 electrical recordings and calcium imaging we report a robust reduction of neuronal spiking and  
726 pairwise neuronal correlation. Notably, effects on electrical activity and calcium activity were  
727 well in line for both Iso and MMF, despite the different recording methods. However, we  
728 observed some divergence for Keta/Xyl.

### 729 **Comparison of electrophysiological recordings and calcium imaging**

730 Generally, differences in electrophysiological recordings and calcium imaging data may stem  
731 from the location where the signal is detected. In the calcium imaging experiments, the signal  
732 was sampled in a horizontal plane located inside and parallel to stratum pyramidale of CA1. In

733 this configuration, somatic, action-potential driven calcium transients mainly from pyramidal  
734 neurons dominate the signal. Due to the kinetics and calcium-binding properties of GCaMP6f,  
735 action potentials can only be resolved below approx. 5 Hz and are reported non-linearly [46,  
736 75]. In contrast, the electrodes on linear probes are arranged orthogonally to the strata of CA1  
737 and parallel to the dendrites of CA1 cells. Thus, synaptic potentials mainly constitute the LFP  
738 across all layers and spikes are picked up from both pyramidal cells (in stratum pyramidale)  
739 and GABAergic neurons in all layers. Moreover, the first method samples neurons that spatially  
740 distribute over a large area. In contrast, the second one is biased towards large, active neurons  
741 that are in close proximity of the electrode.

742 More specifically, under Keta/Xyl, the overall firing rate of single units showed the smallest  
743 reduction of all three anesthetics. At the same time, imaging revealed the most substantial  
744 reduction in rate, amplitude and duration of calcium transients (compare Fig. 2B and 3D). One  
745 reason for this discrepancy may be the inhibitory action of ketamine on NMDARs. CA1  
746 pyramidal cells display large, NMDAR-driven dendritic plateau potentials and calcium spikes  
747 [76]. Moreover, ketamine likely inhibits L-type voltage-gated calcium channels [77] and  
748 reduces burst firing [78], leading to calcium transients with reduced amplitude and a faster  
749 decay constant. In contrast, ketamine has little influence on sodium spikes and AMPAR-  
750 mediated synaptic potentials, which are detected in electrical recordings as SUA and LFP,  
751 respectively. In accordance with electrical recordings, calcium transients showed increased  
752 power at 0.1-0.2 Hz under Iso. However, we did not detect a clear peak at 1-4 Hz in the  
753 presence of Keta/Xyl, as seen in LFP and SUA, probably due to its strongly dampening effect  
754 on calcium transients. The (low-pass) filtering of neuronal activity imposed by calcium  
755 indicators might also play a role [75].

756 Notably, the differences between electrical recordings and calcium imaging under Keta/Xyl are  
757 relevant. Calcium is a second messenger central to neuronal plasticity and metabolism [79,  
758 80]. NMDARs are a major source for activity-dependent calcium entry into the cell, involved in  
759 regulating synaptic plasticity, metabolism, and pathology [81]. The present findings suggest  
760 that Keta/Xyl has a particularly strong effect on neuronal calcium activity, uncoupling action  
761 potential firing from associated cytosolic calcium transients, leading to reduced intracellular  
762 calcium signaling. In contrast, calcium transients under MMF and Iso anesthesia closely  
763 matched the electrical activity profile of neurons. Therefore, aside from overall effects on  
764 network activity, Keta/Xyl may selectively alter neuronal plasticity by suppressing NMDAR-  
765 dependent postsynaptic calcium signals.

## 766 **In contrast to neocortex, GAs decorrelate neuronal activity in CA1**

767 All anesthetics decorrelated neuronal activity in CA1, leading to an overall fragmented network  
768 state with an increased number of temporal and spatial clusters. This is in stark contrast with  
769 what has been reported from studies on GAs and cortical activity both at adulthood [25-27] and  
770 during development [58]. This discrepancy may arise from the distinct architecture of CA1  
771 compared to L2/3 of the neocortex, the latter showing a high degree of local interconnectivity  
772 [47]. In CA1 this is not the case. Pyramidal cells receive their main excitatory input from CA3  
773 and entorhinal cortex and send their efferents to subiculum and extrahippocampal areas  
774 without making local connections among each other [9]. Afferent activity originating in various  
775 sources and converging in CA1, may arrive out-of-phase under anesthesia, leading to  
776 desynchronized firing of CA1 pyramidal cells. Such a phenomenon has been proposed as a  
777 candidate mechanism underlying desynchronization of neuronal firing in basal ganglia under  
778 conditions of slow oscillations (slow-wave sleep) and high synchrony in the neocortex [82].



779 Notably, the pairwise correlation was not entirely independent of the distance between  
780 neurons. Synchronization of pyramidal neurons via local, GABAergic interneurons may be  
781 another factor that increases spatial correlations. Both in the neocortex and hippocampus,  
782 various types of GABAergic interneurons locally connect to and synchronize pyramidal  
783 neurons such as basket or bistratified cells [83].

784 Coordinated neuronal network dynamics, including pairwise correlation of calcium transients  
785 and single units, population coupling, clustering in the temporal and spatial domain were  
786 consistently impaired most strongly with Keta/Xyl and MMF. Iso, both in electrophysiological  
787 as well as calcium recordings, showed the mildest effects and permitted hippocampal activity  
788 patterns that most closely resembled wakefulness and NREM/REM sleep. Iso and MMF, in  
789 contrast to Keta/Xyl, are thought to be immediately reversible [38]. However, especially MMF  
790 showed significant disruption of network dynamics long after reversal both in electrical  
791 recordings and with calcium imaging. Antagonization of MMF failed to fully recover calcium  
792 dynamics within the following 5 hours. Such long-lasting alterations might interfere with the  
793 hippocampal function shortly after antagonization of MMF and must be considered when  
794 performing whole-cell recordings in freely moving animals [84-86].

795 Since all anesthetics had a much longer effect on network activity than we expected, we asked  
796 whether this is reflected in long-term effects of these different types of anesthetics on spine  
797 dynamics of CA1 pyramidal neurons. Recent studies investigating spine dynamics at CA1  
798 pyramidal neurons came to incongruent conclusions reporting spine turnover ranging from 3%  
799 [63] over 12% [21] to approx. 80% [62] over 4 days. However, all studies used either isoflurane  
800 [21] or ketamine/xylazine-based [62, 63] anesthesia during the repeated imaging sessions.  
801 Thus, to what extent anesthesia itself influences spine dynamics is not clear.

## 802 **Iso, MMF and Keta/Xyl distinctly alter spine dynamics in CA1**

803 More generally, various effects of general anesthesia on spine dynamics were reported,  
804 depending on the brain region, preparation, age of the animal and anesthetic strategy. For  
805 example, enhanced synaptogenesis has been reported with different types of anesthetics on  
806 cortical and hippocampal neurons during development [59, 60]. In contrast, one study indicated  
807 that spine dynamics were not altered on cortical neurons of adult mice with Keta/Xyl or Iso  
808 [67], while another study demonstrated an increase in spine density in somatosensory cortex  
809 with ketamine [87]. Also, fentanyl-mediated, concentration-dependent bidirectional  
810 modulations of spine dynamics were reported in hippocampal cultures [88].

811 To systematically compare spine dynamics in CA1 in vivo under different anesthetic  
812 treatments, we imaged spines at basal, oblique and tuft dendrites in a large set of dendrites.  
813 We found small, but robust chronic effects of repeated anesthesia. These alterations were  
814 present in all strata of CA1, consistent with a layer-independent reduction of SUA during  
815 anesthesia. Keta/Xyl decreased spine turnover leading to a mild increase in spine density over  
816 time by stabilizing existing spines. This observation agrees with recent studies that showed a  
817 stabilizing effect of ketamine in the somatosensory cortex, resulting in increased spine density  
818 [87]. Thus, repeated anesthetic doses of Keta/Xyl may limit overall synaptic plasticity and thus  
819 spine turnover. It was further shown that sub-anesthetic, antidepressant doses of ketamine  
820 enhance spine density in the prefrontal cortex [89, 90], similar to our study of CA1 neurons.  
821 Iso and MMF had contrasting effects on spine dynamics compared to Keta/Xyl, mildly  
822 enhancing spine turnover, which might be explained by their different pharmacology compared  
823 to ketamine, as pointed out above. A second aspect that distinguishes Keta/Xyl from Iso and  
824 MMF is its irreversibility, which might lead to longer-lasting alterations of synaptic transmission

825 and E/I ratios leading to differential spine dynamics. This idea is supported by the observation  
826 that during the anesthesia period itself, spine turnover was not altered, suggesting that long-  
827 lasting and repeated disturbances are required to leave a mark in synaptic connectivity.

### 828 **MMF and Keta/Xyl, but not Iso, retrogradely affect episodic-like memory formation**

829 Sleep is a natural form of unconsciousness and is required for memory consolidation, including  
830 hippocampus-dependent memories [49, 56]. Recent work suggested that sleep- and  
831 anesthesia-promoting circuits differ [91, 92] while others identified circuit elements shared  
832 between sleep and general anesthesia [93], especially during development [58]. Therefore, we  
833 asked how the diverse alterations of CA1 network dynamics imposed by the different  
834 anesthetics impact memory consolidation. In our study Iso resembled most closely network  
835 states during wakefulness and natural sleep, while Keta/Xyl and MMF caused strong, lasting  
836 alterations of LFP, SUA and calcium dynamics.

837 Notably, a single dose of anesthesia with Keta/Xyl and MMF, but not Iso disrupted memory  
838 consolidation using a water maze assay in adult mice. Retrograde amnesia appeared to be  
839 more sensitive to the magnitude than the duration of CA1 network disturbance imposed by the  
840 various anesthetics. Keta/Xyl and MMF most strongly decorrelated CA1 network activity and  
841 reverted only slowly. Extending the duration of Iso anesthesia up to 4 h, to match the slow  
842 recovery after MMF and Keta/Xyl, did not affect memory consolidation. This observation  
843 indicates that the slow recovery of network activity after Keta/Xyl and MMF alone cannot  
844 explain anesthesia-mediated disruptions of memory consolidation. Instead, specific aspects of  
845 the different anesthetics may selectively impact hippocampus-dependent memory formation.  
846 For example, ketamine is an NMDAR blocker that has been shown to be necessary for the  
847 long-term stabilization of place fields in CA1 [94], encoding of temporal information of episodes  
848 [95], and formation of episodic-like memory [96].

849 Our results appear at odds with a report [97], where a single, 1-h treatment with Iso caused  
850 deficits in the formation of contextual fear memory, object recognition memory and  
851 performance in the Morris water maze in the following 48 h. However, this study investigated  
852 memory acquisition after anesthesia (i.e., anterograde amnesia), while our study asked  
853 whether anesthesia affects the consolidation of a memory formed shortly before the treatment  
854 (i.e., retrograde amnesia).

855 Changes in synaptic connections are considered essential for memory formation and storage  
856 [11-14]. Despite a small effect on spine dynamics, the strong and lasting disturbance of  
857 hippocampal network activity in CA1 (and most likely other brain areas) by Keta/Xyl and MMF  
858 was sufficient to interfere with memory consolidation. The chronic alterations of spine turnover,  
859 especially by Keta/Xyl, may therefore indicate that repeated anesthesia can impact long-lasting  
860 hippocampus-dependent memories.

861 To establish a direct link between spine dynamics, network disruptions and memory, future  
862 studies are required that investigate both spine turnover and changes in population coupling  
863 at hippocampal neurons causally involved in memory formation and maintenance.

864 Taken together, we report a novel effect of anesthesia on brain dynamics, namely  
865 fragmentation of network activity in hippocampus. We consistently observe this phenomenon  
866 across multiple levels of analysis. This unique response compared to the cortex may underlie  
867 its high sensitivity to anesthesia, including its central role in amnesia. The extent, duration, and  
868 reversibility of network fragmentation depend on the GA used. Therefore, this study may help  
869 guide the choice of an appropriate anesthetic strategy, dependent on experimental

870 requirements and constraints, especially in the neurosciences. More generally, our findings  
871 might also have relevance for the clinic. Postoperative delirium, a condition that involves  
872 memory loss, is still an unresolved mystery. Minimizing the disturbance of hippocampal  
873 function may be one building block to overcome this undesired condition.

874

875 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

	WY	MC	JAP	AF	AD	PP	CR	FM	OS	ILHO	JSW
Conceptualization											
Investigation											
Data Curation											
Analysis											
Software											
Supervision											
Funding acquisition											
Project Administration											
Writing – original draft											
Writing – revisions											

876 LEVELS OF CONTRIBUTION: **MAJOR**, **SUPPORT**

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885 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

886 The authors declare no competing interests.

887 **METHODS**

888 **Experimental Models and Methods**

889 Mice

890 Adult C57BL/6J mice and transgenic Thy1-GFP-M mice of both sexes were housed and bred  
 891 in pathogen-free conditions at the University Medical Center Hamburg-Eppendorf. The  
 892 light/dark cycle was 12/12 h and the humidity and temperature were kept constant (40%  
 893 relative humidity; 22°C). Food and water were available ad libitum. All procedures were  
 894 performed in compliance with German law according and the guidelines of Directive  
 895 2010/63/EU. Protocols were approved by the Behörde für Gesundheit und Verbraucherschutz  
 896 of the City of Hamburg.

897 Hippocampal recording-window surgery and in-vivo electrophysiology

898 Chronic multisite extracellular recordings were performed in dorsal CA1 during the dark phase  
 899 of the dark/light cycle, except for sleep recordings, which were done during the light period.  
 900 The adapter for head fixation was implanted at least 4 days before recordings. Mice were  
 901 anesthetized via intraperitoneal injection of midazolam/medetomidine/fentanyl (MMF) and  
 902 placed on a heating blanket to maintain the body temperature. Eyes were covered with eye  
 903 ointment (Vidisic, Bausch + Lomb) to prevent drying. Prior to surgery, the depth of anesthesia  
 904 and analgesia was evaluated with a toe-pinch to test the paw-withdrawal reflex. Subsequently,  
 905 mice were fixed in a stereotactic frame, the fur was removed with a fine trimmer and the skin  
 906 of the head was disinfected with Betaisodona. After removing the skin, 0.5% bupivacaine / 1%

907 lidocaine was locally applied to cutting edges. A metal head-post (Neurotar) was attached to  
908 the skull with dental cement (Super Bond C&B, Sun Medical) and a craniotomy was performed  
909 above the to the dorsal CA1 area (-2.0 mm AP,  $\pm$  1.3 mm ML relative to Bregma) which was  
910 subsequently protected by a customized synthetic window filled with Kwik-Cast sealant (World  
911 Precision Instruments). After recovery from anesthesia, mice were returned to their home cage  
912 and were provided with Meloxicam mixed into soft food for 3 days. After recovery from the  
913 surgery, mice were accustomed to head-fixation and trained to move in the Mobile HomeCage  
914 system (Neurotar). For recordings, craniotomies were reopened by removal of the Kwik-Cast  
915 sealant and multi-site electrodes (NeuroNexus, MI, USA) were inserted into the dorsal CA1  
916 (one-shank, A1x16 recording sites, 50  $\mu$ m spacing, 1.6 mm deep). A silver wire served as  
917 ground and reference in the craniotomy between skull and brain tissue. Extracellular signals  
918 were band-pass filtered (0.1-8000 Hz) and digitized (32 kHz) with a multichannel extracellular  
919 amplifier (Digital Lynx SX; Neuralynx). The same animals were recorded weekly under different  
920 anesthesia. After 15 min of non-anesthetized recording, mice received a subcutaneous  
921 injection of Keta/Xyl, MMF or inhalation of Iso in a pseudo-randomized order. The following  
922 drug combinations were administered: 2.0 % isoflurane in 100% O<sub>2</sub>; 130 mg/kg ketamine, 10  
923 mg/kg xylazine s.c.; 5.0 mg/kg midazolam, 0.2 mg/kg medetomidine and 0.05 mg/kg fentanyl  
924 s.c.; and for complete reversal of anesthesia, 0.5 mg/kg flumazenil, 2.5 mg/kg atipamezole and  
925 0.1 mg/kg buprenorphine s.c. Recordings were conducted for 1.5 h. After recordings, the  
926 craniotomy was closed and mice were returned to their home cage. Electrode position was  
927 confirmed in brain slices postmortem.

#### 928 EMG recordings

929 Electromyography (EMG) electrodes for sleep state classification were implanted during  
930 hippocampal recording-window surgery. Two gold plates (~3 mm diameter) soldered to epoxy  
931 lacquered wires and attached to a connector were inserted into the right and left nuchal  
932 muscles and fixed with dental cement (Super Bond C&B, Sun Medical). For EMG recordings,  
933 a cable was attached to the implanted connector and directly digitized (32 kHz) and band-pass  
934 filtered (8-8000 Hz) through a customized break-out channel board with a multichannel  
935 amplifier (Digital Lynx SX; Neuralynx). EMG recordings were done at least for 1 h 45 min in  
936 non-anesthetized mice without disturbances. Mice were recorded 1-2 times.

#### 937 Virus injection and hippocampal window surgery for in vivo calcium imaging

938 C57BL/6J wild-type mice were anesthetized via intraperitoneal injection of  
939 midazolam/medetomidine/fentanyl (MMF) and placed on a heating blanket to maintain the  
940 body temperature. Eyes were covered with eye ointment (Vidisic, Bausch + Lomb) to prevent  
941 drying. Prior to surgery, the depth of anesthesia and analgesia was evaluated with a toe-pinch  
942 to test the paw-withdrawal reflex. Subsequently, mice were fixed in a stereotactic frame, the  
943 fur was removed with a fine trimmer and the skin of the head was disinfected with Betaisodona.  
944 The skin was removed by a midline scalp incision (1-3 cm), the skull was cleaned using a bone  
945 scraper (Fine Science Tools) and a small hole was drilled with a dental drill (Foredom) above  
946 the injection site. AAV2/7-syn-GCaMP6f was targeted unilaterally to the dorsal CA1 area (-  
947 2.0 mm AP,  $\pm$  1.3 mm ML, - 1.5 mm DV relative to Bregma). 0.6  $\mu$ l of virus suspension was  
948 injected. All injections were done at 100 nl\*min<sup>-1</sup> using a glass micropipette. After the injection,  
949 the pipette stayed in place for at least 5 min before it was withdrawn and the scalp was closed  
950 with sutures. For complete reversal of anesthesia, mice received a subcutaneous dose of  
951 Flumazenil, Atipamezole and Buprenorphine (FAB). During the two days following surgery  
952 animals were provided with Meloxicam mixed into soft food. Two weeks after virus injection,  
953 mice were anesthetized as described above to implant the hippocampal window. After fur

954 removal, skin above the frontal and parietal bones of the skull was removed by one horizontal  
955 cut along basis of skull and two rostral cuts. The skull was cleaned after removal of the  
956 periosteum, roughened with a bone scraper and covered with a thin layer of cyanoacrylate  
957 glue (Pattex). After polymerization a 3-mm circle was marked on the right parietal bone  
958 (anteroposterior, -2.2 mm; mediolateral, +1.8 mm relative to bregma) with a biopsy punch and  
959 the bone was removed with a dental drill (Freedom). The dura and somatosensory cortex  
960 above the hippocampus were carefully aspirated until the white matter tracts of the corpus  
961 callosum became visible. The craniotomy was washed with sterile PBS and a custom-built  
962 imaging window was inserted over the dorsal hippocampus. The window consisted of a hollow  
963 glass cylinder (diameter: 3 mm, wall thickness: 0.1 mm, height: 1.8 mm) glued to a No. 1  
964 coverslip (diameter: 3mm, thickness: 0.17 mm) on the bottom and to a stainless-steel rim on  
965 the top with UV-curable glass glue (Norland NOA61). The steel rim and a head holder plate  
966 (Luigs & Neumann) were fixed to the skull with cyanoacrylate gel (Pattex). After polymerization,  
967 cranial window and head holder plate were covered with dental cement (Super Bond C&B,  
968 Sun Medical) to provide strong bonding to the skull bone. Following the surgery, animals were  
969 provided with Meloxicam mixed into soft food for 3 days. The position of the hippocampal  
970 window was confirmed in brain slices postmortem.

#### 971 Two-photon calcium imaging in anesthetized and awake mice

972 The same animals were sequentially imaged under Keta/Xyl, MMF or Iso in a pseudo-  
973 randomized order during the dark phase of the dark/light cycle (for details, see above). After  
974 losing the righting reflex, generally 5–10 min after application of the anesthetics, the animals  
975 were positioned on a heating-pad to maintain body temperature at approximately 37°C during  
976 anesthesia. The intensity of anesthesia and evaluation of the different stages of anesthesia  
977 were assessed by recording the presence or absence of distinct reflex responses: righting  
978 reflex, palpebral reflex, toe-pinch reflex. Between each imaging session, mice were allowed to  
979 recover for one week.

980 Anesthetized mice were head-fixed under the microscope on a heated blanket to maintain  
981 body temperature. Eyes were covered with eye ointment (Vidisic, Bausch + Lomb) to prevent  
982 drying. The window was centered under the two-photon microscope (MOM-scope, Sutter  
983 Instruments, modified by Rapp Optoelectronics) and GCaMP6f expression was verified in the  
984 hippocampus using epi fluorescence. Images were acquired with a 16x water immersion  
985 objective (Nikon CFI75 LWD 16X W, 0.80 NA, 3.0 mm WD). For awake imaging we used a  
986 linear treadmill, which allowed imaging during quiet and running states. 5-min-timelapse  
987 images were acquired every 10 minutes for a period of 50 minutes. Only quiet periods were  
988 considered for analysis in this study. Image acquisition was carried out with a Ti:Sa laser  
989 (Chameleon Vision-S, Coherent) tuned to 980 nm to excite GCaMP6f. Single planes (512x512  
990 pixels) were acquired at 30 Hz with a resonant-galvanometric scanner at 29-60 mW (980 nm)  
991 using ScanImage 2017b (Vidrio). Emitted photons were detected by a pair of photomultiplier  
992 tubes (H7422P-40, Hamamatsu). A 560 DXCR dichroic mirror and a 525/50 emission filter  
993 (Chroma Technology) was used to detect green fluorescence. Excitation light was blocked by  
994 short-pass filters (ET700SP-2P, Chroma). For the repetitive imaging, the position of the field  
995 of view (FOV) was registered in the first imaging session with the help of vascular landmarks  
996 and cell bodies of CA1 pyramidal neurons. This allowed for subsequent retrieval of the FOV  
997 for each mouse.

998 Calcium imaging experiments to measure recovery from anesthesia were done in five  
999 additional animals. They were trained to maintain immobile on the treadmill for extended  
1000 periods. We ensured to measure the same FOV and to maintain overall stability of

1001 fluorescence intensity for every recording in each imaging session for a given animal. The  
1002 time-lapse recordings were extended to up to a maximum of 10 min per time point to have a  
1003 higher probability of capturing motionless periods continuously, in awake and recovery states.  
1004 Iso was applied for 60 min. FAB was injected 60 min after the application of MMF. Keta/Xyl  
1005 was not antagonized. Imaging of calcium activity was performed before, 0.5, 1.5, 2, 3, 4, 5,  
1006 and 6 hours after induction of anesthesia. For Iso and MMF, the 1.5 h time point represented  
1007 the first imaging session after reversal. Untreated control animals were imaged every hour for  
1008 the same amount of time.

1009 To habituate mice to sleep under head-fixation, we used a linear treadmill, which allowed the  
1010 mice to move at will. Through the first 4 sessions mice were kept head-fixed for 15 to 30 min.  
1011 In ten following sessions the fixation period was extended up to 4h with increasing intervals of  
1012 30 min. The state of the mouse was continuously monitored with a USB camera and the  
1013 running speed was recorded with custom-written scripts in the Matlab. After habituation to 4h  
1014 head-fixation, sleep imaging sessions were recorded, which were synchronized with  
1015 recordings of the pupil and running speed. Sleep imaging was performed during the light phase  
1016 of the dark/light cycle.

### 1017 Two-photon spine imaging in anesthetized and awake mice

1018 3 - 4 weeks after window implantation, chronic spine imaging started in Tg(Thy1-EGFP)MJrs/J  
1019 mice with the first of a total of four imaging series (see Fig. S10A). Each imaging series was  
1020 done under one of the three anesthetic conditions (Iso, Keta/Xyl, MMF, see above for details)  
1021 or during wakefulness. Within one series, mice were imaged 5 times every 4 days. Afterwards,  
1022 mice were allowed to recover for three to four weeks until the next imaging series under a  
1023 different anesthetic condition was started. Thus, each experiment lasted approx. 5 months. To  
1024 avoid time-dependent effects, anesthetic conditions were pseudo-randomized (see Fig. S10A).  
1025 For imaging sessions under anesthesia mice were head fixed under the microscope on a  
1026 heated blanket to maintain body temperature. Eyes were covered with eye ointment (Vidisc,  
1027 Bausch + Lomb) to prevent drying. The window was centered under the two-photon  
1028 microscope (MOM-scope, Sutter Instruments, modified by Rapp Optoelectronics) and GFP  
1029 expression was verified in the hippocampus using epi-fluorescence. Image acquisition was  
1030 carried out with a Ti:Sa laser (Chameleon Vision-S, Coherent) tuned to 980 nm to excite GFP.  
1031 Images were acquired with a 40x water immersion objective (Nikon CFI APO NIR 40X W, 0.80  
1032 NA, 3.5 mm WD). Single planes (512x512 pixels) were acquired at 30 Hz with a resonant  
1033 scanner at 10-60 mW (980 nm) using ScanImage 2017b. Before the first imaging session, we  
1034 registered the field of views with the help of vascular landmarks and cell bodies of CA1  
1035 pyramidal neurons and selected several regions for longitudinal monitoring across the duration  
1036 of the time-lapse experiment. Each of these regions contained between 1 and 2 dendritic  
1037 segments visibly expressing GFP. The imaging sessions lasted for max 60 min and mice were  
1038 placed back to their home cages where they woke up.

### 1039 Morris Water Maze

1040 We designed a protocol for reversal learning in the spatial version of the water maze to assess  
1041 the possible effects of the different anesthetics on episodic-like memory in mice [98, 99]. The  
1042 water maze consisted of a circular tank (145 cm in diameter) circled by dark curtains and walls.  
1043 The water was made opaque by the addition of non-toxic white paint such that the white  
1044 platform (14 cm diameter, 9 cm high, 1 cm below the water surface) was not visible. Four  
1045 landmarks (35 X 35 cm) differing in shape and grey gradient were positioned on the wall of the  
1046 maze. Four white spotlights on the floor around the swimming pool provided homogeneous

1047 indirect illumination of 60 lux on the water surface. Mice were first familiarized for one day to  
1048 swim and climb onto a platform (diameter of 10 cm) placed in a small rectangular maze (42.5  
1049 x 26.5 cm and 15.5 cm high). During familiarization, the position of the platform was  
1050 unpredictable since its location was randomized, and training was performed in darkness. After  
1051 familiarization, mice underwent three learning days, during which they had to learn the location  
1052 of a hidden platform. The starting position and the side of the maze from which mice were  
1053 taken out of the maze were randomized. On day 1, mice underwent four learning trials  
1054 (maximum duration of 90 seconds, inter-trial interval of 10 minutes). After staying on the  
1055 platform for 15 s, mice were returned to their home cage and warmed up under red light. On  
1056 day 2, mice underwent two training trials before they performed a 60 seconds-long probe trial  
1057 to assess their searching strategy. Afterwards, one additional training trial was used to re-  
1058 consolidate the memory of the platform position, and mice were distributed into four groups  
1059 with a similar distribution of performance. On day 3, the long-term memory of the platform  
1060 position was tested with a 45-seconds long probe trial, followed by another training trial with  
1061 the platform in place to avoid extinction. Then mice underwent four reversal learning trials with  
1062 the platform located in the quadrant opposite the one in which the platform was during the  
1063 previous training trials. To assess whether the mice learned the new platform position, mice  
1064 underwent a 60-seconds long probe trial followed by one more training trial to consolidate the  
1065 memory of the new location. One hour after the last reversal learning trial, mice were  
1066 anesthetized to analyze the effects of the anesthesia on the consolidation of the memory of  
1067 the new platform position. Mice were assigned to four groups with an equal average  
1068 performance during the probe trial on day 2. Each group was subjected to different conditions:  
1069 one-hour Iso anesthesia, one-hour MMF anesthesia, Keta/Xyl anesthesia (which was not  
1070 antagonized), and one group was left untreated. On day 4, mice underwent a 60-seconds long  
1071 probe trial to evaluate their searching strategies; namely, the “episodic-like memory” of the  
1072 reversal learning trials performed one hour before having been anesthetized on day 3 (see Fig.  
1073 9A).

## 1074 **Quantification and Statistical Analysis**

### 1075 Electrophysiology

1076 In vivo electrophysiology data were analyzed with custom-written scripts in the Matlab  
1077 environment available at <https://github.com/mchini/HanganuOpatzToolbox>. We selected the  
1078 recording site in the pyramidal layer of CA1. Data were band-pass filtered (1-100 Hz or 0-  
1079 100 Hz for low frequency LFP analysis) using a third-order Butterworth forward and backward  
1080 filter to preserve phase information before down-sampling to analyze LFP.

1081 *Detection of active periods.* Active periods were detected with an adapted version of an  
1082 algorithm for ripple detection  
1083 ([https://github.com/buzsakilab/buzcode/blob/master/detectors/detectEvents/bz\\_FindRipples.](https://github.com/buzsakilab/buzcode/blob/master/detectors/detectEvents/bz_FindRipples.m)  
1084 [m](#)). Briefly, active periods were detected on the band-pass filtered (4-20 Hz) normalized  
1085 squared signal using both absolute and relative thresholds. We first passed the signal through  
1086 a boxcar filter and then performed hysteresis thresholding: we first detected events whose  
1087 absolute or relative power exceeded the higher threshold, and considered as belonging to the  
1088 same event all data points that were below the lower (absolute or relative) threshold. Absolute  
1089 thresholds were set to 7 and 15  $\mu\text{V}$ , relative thresholds to 1 and 2. Periods were merged if  
1090 having an inter-period interval shorter than 900 ms, and discarded if lasted less than 500 ms.  
1091 Percentage of active periods was calculated for 15 min bins. Timestamps were preserved for  
1092 further analysis.



1093 *Power spectral density.* Power spectral density was calculated on 30 s-long windows of 0-100  
1094 Hz filtered signal using Welch's method with a signal overlap of 15 s.

1095 *Modulation index (MI).* Modulation index was calculated as (value anesthesia - value pre-  
1096 anesthetized) / (value anesthesia + value pre-anesthetized).

1097 *Power law decay exponent of the LFP power spectrum.* The 1/f slope was computed as in [36].  
1098 We used robust linear regression (Matlab function *robustfit.m*) on the log10 of the LFP power  
1099 spectrum in the 30-50 Hz frequency range.

1100 *Phase-amplitude coupling (PAC).* PAC was calculated on 0-100 Hz filtered full signal using the  
1101 PAC toolbox based on modulation index measure [100]. Range of phase vector was set to 0-  
1102 8 Hz and range of amplitude vector was set to 20-100 Hz. Significant coupling was calculated  
1103 in comparison to a shuffled dataset. Non-significant values were rejected.

1104 *Single unit analysis.* Single unit activity (SUA) was detected and clustered using klusta [101]  
1105 and manually curated using phy (<https://github.com/cortex-lab>).

1106 *Active units:* the recording was divided into 15-minute bins. Single units were considered to be  
1107 active in the time interval if they fired at least five times.

1108 *Pairwise phase consistency.* Pairwise phase consistency (PPC) was computed as previously  
1109 described [102]. Briefly, the phase in the band of interest was extracted as mentioned above,  
1110 and the mean of the cosine of the absolute angular distance (dot product) among all single unit  
1111 pairs of phases was calculated.

1112 *Unit Power.* SUA spike trains of each recording were summed in a population vector, and  
1113 power spectral density was calculated on 30 s-long windows using Welch's method with a  
1114 signal overlap of 15 s. The resulting power spectra were normalized by the firing rate in that  
1115 window.

1116 *Spike-Time tiling coefficient (STTC)* was computed as previously described [52]. Briefly, we  
1117 quantified the proportion ( $P_A$ ) of spikes of spike train A that fall within  $\pm\Delta t$  of a spike from spike  
1118 train B. To this value we subtract the proportion of time that occurs within  $\pm\Delta t$  of spikes from  
1119 spike train B ( $T_B$ ). This is then divided by 1 minus the product of these two values. The same  
1120 is then applied after inverting spike train A and B, and the mean between the two values is  
1121 kept.

1122 
$$STTC = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{P_A - T_B}{1 - P_A T_B} + \frac{P_B - T_A}{1 - P_B T_A} \right)$$

1123 Importantly, this coefficient has several desirable properties. It is bounded between -1 and 1.  
1124 It is symmetric with respect to the two spike trains. Computing it over different timescales is  
1125 readily done by controlling the value of the parameter " $\Delta t$ ". Lastly, and most importantly,  
1126 traditionally used methods of assessing correlations between pairs of spike trains show an  
1127 inverse correlation between their value and firing rate, due to the fact that spiking is sparse  
1128 with respect to the sampling frequency, and therefore quiescent period in both spike trains  
1129 artificially increase the correlation. This is not the case for the spike-time tiling coefficient [52].  
1130 Given that there are large differences in the average firing rate of our conditions, we chose  
1131 STTC analysis over pure correlation analysis to circumvent this major bias. On the flipside,  
1132 STTC cannot be straightforwardly applied to negative correlations, that were therefore not  
1133 investigated in SUA data.

1134 *Calcium imaging data*

1135 In vivo calcium imaging data were analyzed with custom-written scripts in the Python and  
1136 Matlab environment available at [https://github.com/mchini/Yang\\_Chini\\_et\\_al](https://github.com/mchini/Yang_Chini_et_al).

1137 *Alignment of multiple recordings.* To track the activity of the same set of neurons in different  
1138 anesthetic conditions and during wakefulness, we acquired two-photon time series of a defined  
1139 field of view for each animal and each condition across multiple weeks. Over such long time  
1140 periods, the field of view was susceptible to geometrical transformations from one recording to  
1141 another and thus, any two time series were never perfectly aligned. This problem scaled with  
1142 time that passed between recordings. However, optimal image alignment is critical for the  
1143 successful identification and calcium analysis of the same neurons across time [103, 104].

1144 To address this problem, we developed an approach based on the `pystackreg` package, a  
1145 Python implementation of the ImageJ extension TurboReg/StackReg [105]. The source code  
1146 that reproduces the procedure described in this section is available on github  
1147 (<https://pypi.org/project/pystackreg/>). The `pystackreg` package is capable of using different  
1148 combinations of geometrical transformations for the alignment. We considered rigid body  
1149 (translation + rotation + scaling) and affine (translation + rotation + scaling + shearing)  
1150 transformation methods, which we applied to mean and enhanced-mean intensity images  
1151 generated by Suite2p during the registration of each single recording. We performed the  
1152 alignment using all four combinations (2 transformations x 2 types of images) choosing the one  
1153 with the best performance according to the following procedure. Squared difference between  
1154 the central part of a reference and aligned image served as a distance function  $d$  to quantify  
1155 the alignment (since the signal is not always present on the borders of the image they were  
1156 truncated):

1157 
$$d = \sum_{i,j}^{Tranc. images} (x_{i,j}^{ref} - x_{i,j}^{aligned})^2,$$

1158 where  $x_{i,j}^{ref}$  and  $x_{i,j}^{aligned}$  are intensities of the pixel with coordinates  $i, j$  of the reference and  
1159 aligned images. The combination with the smallest score was chosen for the final  
1160 transformation. In some rare cases, the algorithm of the alignment did not converge for a given  
1161 transformation method and image type (mean or enhanced-mean), crumbling the aligned  
1162 image in a way that most of the field of view remained empty. This combination may have the  
1163 smallest distance function  $d$  and may be falsely identified as the best one. To overcome this  
1164 issue, an additional criterion was applied, which requires the central part of the aligned picture  
1165 to contain more than 90 % of the non-empty pixels. The overall performance of the algorithm  
1166 was verified by visual inspection. An example of the alignment of two recordings is shown in  
1167 Fig. S5. The alignment for all recordings of an example mouse is demonstrated in a  
1168 supplementary video (Supplementary\_video\_37529\_aligned\_recordings.avi).

1169 In case of relatively small distortions across recordings, for example, when consecutive  
1170 acquisitions were done within one imaging session, registration can alternatively be performed  
1171 simultaneously with ROI detection in Suite2p by concatenating those TIFF-stacks. In this  
1172 approach, every ROI is automatically labeled with the same identification number across all  
1173 recordings.

1174 *Identification of the same neurons across different recordings & unique neuron ID assignment.*  
1175 After the alignment procedure, we set out to identify neurons which were active across multiple  
1176 recordings (and thus, multiple conditions). To achieve this, we developed an algorithm similar  
1177 to the one described in Sheintuch. et al. 2017 [104]

1178 The algorithm processes in series all recordings for a given animal and assigns unique  
 1179 identification (ID) numbers to each ROIs of every recording. Since the recordings under Iso-  
 1180 anesthesia had the largest number of active neurons, we chose the first recording of this  
 1181 condition as reference. We assigned IDs that ranged from 1 to the total amount of neurons to  
 1182 all the ROIs of this recording. For every other recording of each mouse, Neuron ID assignment  
 1183 consisted of: 1. comparison of the properties (details below) of each ROI with each ROI that  
 1184 had already been processed. 2a. If the properties of the ROI matched the properties of an ROI  
 1185 from a previously analyzed recording, the ROI received the same Neuron ID. 2b. If no match  
 1186 was found, a new (in sequential order) Neuron ID was assigned to the ROI. In order to be  
 1187 identified as representing the same neuron in two different recordings, two ROIs had to respect  
 1188 the following criteria: the distance between their centroids had to be below 3  $\mu\text{m}$ , and the  
 1189 overlap between their pixels had to be above 70%. An example of the identification of unique  
 1190 neuron pairs in two recordings is presented in Fig. S6A. The thresholds were chosen based  
 1191 on the distribution of the distances between centroids and percentage of the overlaps. An  
 1192 example for a single mouse is graphically illustrated in Fig. S6B. Both properties have a clearly  
 1193 bimodal distribution (similar to [104]) with cutoffs close to the chosen thresholds.

1194 *Signal extraction and analysis.* Signal extraction, correlation and spectral analysis for calcium  
 1195 signal was performed using Python (Python Software Foundation, NH, USA) in the Spyder  
 1196 (Pierre Raybaut, The Spyder Development Team) development environment. Calcium imaging  
 1197 data were analyzed with the Suite2p toolbox [106] using the parameters given in table 1.

1198

Parameter	Variable	Value
Sampling rate, frames per second	fs	30
<u>Registration</u>		
Subsampled frames for finding reference image	nimg_init	2000
Number of frames per batch	batch_size	200
Maximum allowed registration shift, as a fraction of frame max(width and height)	maxregshift	0.1
Precision of subpixel registration (1/subpixel steps)	subpixel	10
Smoothing	smooth_sigma	1.15
Bad frames to be excluded	th_badframes	100.0
<u>Non-rigid registration</u>		
Use nonrigid registration	nonrigid	True
Block size to register (** keep this a multiple of 2 **)	block_size	[128,128]
if any nonrigid block is below this threshold, it gets smoothed until above this threshold. 1.0 results in no smoothing	snr_thresh	2.0
maximum pixel shift allowed for nonrigid, relative to rigid	maxregshiftNR	10

<u>Cell detection</u>		
Run ROI extraction	roidetect	True
Run sparse_mode	sparse_mode	False
Diameter for filtering and extracting	diameter	12.0
Keep ROIs fully connected (set to 0 for dendrites)	connected	True
Maximum number of binned frames for cell detection	nbinned	5000
Maximum number of iterations to do cell detection	max_iterations	20
Adjust the automatically determined threshold by this scalar multiplier	threshold_scaling	1.0 or 0.1
Cells with more overlap than this get removed during triage, before refinement	max_overlap	0.75
Running mean subtraction with window of size 'high_pass'	high_pass	100
<u>ROI extraction</u>		
Number of pixels to keep between ROI and neuropil donut	inner_neuropil_radius	2
Minimum number of pixels in the neuropil	min_neuropil_pixels	100
Pixels that are overlapping are thrown out (False) or added to both ROIs (True)	allow_overlap	True
<u>Deconvolution</u>		
Deconvolution time constant, seconds	tau	0.7

1199

1200 The same analytical pipeline was applied to both the raw fluorescence traces as well as the  
1201 deconvolved (“spikes”) signal, as extracted by the Suite2p toolbox. Generally, the raw  
1202 fluorescence signal was preferred over the deconvolved one given that its extraction is more  
1203 straightforward and relies on less assumptions. However, while the reported effects varied in  
1204 magnitude depending on which of the two signals was considered, the same results were  
1205 obtained on both datasets. The effects were entirely consistent. For raw signal analysis of each  
1206 neuron, previous to any further step, we subtracted 0.7 of the corresponding neuropil  
1207 fluorescence trace.

1208 The number and height of calcium transients properties were calculated with the scipy function  
1209 *find\_peaks* on the raw calcium traces with the following parameters: height = 200, distance =  
1210 10 and prominence = 200. The decay was computed on the 10 best-isolated transients of each  
1211 neuron, using the OASIS toolbox (<https://github.com/j-friedrich/OASIS>). We used the  
1212 *deconvolve* function with the following parameters: penalty = 0, optimize\_g = 10. Traces with  
1213 an estimated decay over 2 seconds were considered cases of failed extraction and removed  
1214 from further analysis.

1215 The choice of the parameter values for transient detection is somewhat arbitrary. Similarly, it  
1216 is debatable whether and how the calcium traces should best be normalized. Therefore, we  
1217 tested the robustness of our findings by systematically varying signal extraction choices. We  
1218 first varied the height and prominence threshold across a wide range of values (50 to 700  
1219 arbitrary units). We further computed transients features on normalized  $\Delta F/F$  calcium traces.  
1220 To normalize calcium signals, we used the baseline value as extracted by the *deconvolve*  
1221 function. Also, in this case, we varied the height and prominence threshold across a wide range  
1222 of values (0.5 to 3 arbitrary units). Finally, we computed two measures of neuronal activity that  
1223 are independent of calcium transients detection: the average of the trace integral and its  
1224 standard deviation, with and without normalization. Across all of these scenarios, the reported  
1225 effects were robustly consistent.

1226 Correlations were computed both as Pearson (numpy function *corrcoeff*) and Spearman  
1227 (custom written function) coefficient on the z-scored signal. To both sets of coefficients, the  
1228 Fisher correction (the inverse of the hyperbolic tangent function, numpy function *arctanh*) was  
1229 applied. For power analysis, we first created a population activity vector by summing all the  
1230 single neuron z-scored signals, and then estimated the power spectral density by applying the  
1231 Welch method (sampling frequency = 30 Hz, number of points for fast Fourier transformation  
1232 = 1024, no overlap, window length = 1 s).

1233 For analysis of recovery from anesthesia, all recordings of the imaging session for a given  
1234 animal were concatenated in Suite2p. As a consequence, each recording in the imaging  
1235 session has the same set of reconstructed neurons. A time window of 5000 frames was used  
1236 for the analysis to ensure continuous motionless periods. To track the neuronal activity  
1237 changes, the number of fluorescence peaks, their amplitude, and the characteristic decay  
1238 constant of the transients were considered. Each imaging session's threshold was chosen to  
1239 match the median activity in the pre-anesthesia (awake) state across all animals. To assess  
1240 the relative changes of these parameters induced by anesthesia and their subsequent  
1241 recovery over time, the parameters were normalized to their median value at the pre-  
1242 anesthesia (awake) state. Notably, we focused our analysis on neurons that maintained some  
1243 detectable activity during anesthesia, and neurons with no detected peaks were excluded from  
1244 the distributions. Additionally, we applied the cut *decay constant* > 1/30 [s] (where 30 frames  
1245 per second is an acquisition rate) to remove the traces where the OASIS algorithm considered  
1246 a single noise peak to be a calcium transient.

1247 Complexity analysis was performed in the Matlab (MathWorks) environment. For complexity  
1248 analysis, we limited the number of neurons to the minimum ( $N_{\min}$ ) present in any recording of  
1249 any condition for each single mouse (median = 265, min = 156, max = 1068). The resulting  
1250 matrix therefore had the  $T_{\text{rec}} \times N_{\min}$  dimensions, where  $T_{\text{rec}}$  represents the time vector for the  
1251 recording, with a length of 5 min and a sampling rate of 30 Hz. For recordings that had a  
1252 number of neurons larger than  $N_{\min}$  for that mouse, we randomly sampled  $n = N_{\min}$  neurons  
1253 and repeated the analysis 5 times. For every extracted parameter, we then considered the  
1254 median value over the 5 repetitions. For further analysis, the signal was down sampled from  
1255 the original sampling frequency of 30 Hz to 10 Hz (100 ms bins). The same analytical pipeline  
1256 was then applied to both the raw fluorescence traces, as well as the deconvolved signal.

1257 *tSNE clustering.* tSNE clustering was performed similar to [26]. Briefly, in a range between 5  
1258 and 45, the perplexity value that minimized the reconstruction error was selected. The number  
1259 of PCA components used for this step was limited to 30. For the raw fluorescence signal,  
1260 Euclidian distance was used, whereas for the deconvolved signal we opted for cosine distance,  
1261 as it is better suited to a sparse signal. We computed the probability distribution of the resulting

1262 embedded matrix ( $2 \times T_{\text{rec}}$ ), that was then convolved with a 2D Gaussian window (standard  
1263 deviation was set to be equal to 1/40 of the total maximum value). To evaluate the number of  
1264 clusters in the distribution, we then applied a series of standard steps in image analysis:  
1265 background subtraction with the rolling ball method, smoothing with a median filter,  
1266 thresholding, watershedding to avoid undersegmentation, and extended minima  
1267 transformation. Finally, the exterior boundaries of the objects were traced and counted. This  
1268 gave the number of clusters.

1269 *Affinity Propagation Clustering (APC)*. Affinity Propagation clustering was performed using a  
1270 Matlab toolbox [<https://www.psi.toronto.edu/index.php?q=affinity%20propagation>] and  
1271 similarly to [26]. We first obtained a distance map, which was computed as 1 minus the  
1272 pairwise cosine distance between observations of the  $T_{\text{rec}} \times N_{\text{min}}$  matrix. This distance matrix  
1273 was then fed to the affinity propagation algorithm with the input preference set equal to the  
1274 median of the distance matrix.

1275 *Principal Component Analysis (PCA) clustering and variance explained*. Standard PCA was  
1276 applied to the  $T_{\text{rec}} \times N_{\text{min}}$  matrix. The number of clusters was computed as the number of  
1277 components that was needed to cumulatively explain 90% of the variance of the input matrix.  
1278 Further, we computed the loglog decay coefficient of number of components versus variance  
1279 explained.

1280 *Community detection*. To detect communities, we used the Louvain algorithm from the Brain  
1281 Connectivity Toolbox (<https://sites.google.com/site/bctnet/>), a modularity maximization  
1282 procedure widely used in studies examining brain networks [107]. This approach aims at  
1283 subdividing the network into partitions that are more internally dense than would be expected  
1284 by chance [53]. As input to the algorithm, we used Fisher-transformed correlation matrices  
1285 obtained from calcium imaging time-series. Matrices were not thresholded, and both positive  
1286 and negative correlations were taken into account to determine optimal modular partitions. The  
1287 algorithm was evaluated while varying the resolution parameter gamma between 0 and 3, in  
1288 steps of 0.1. For the multiresolution approach and hierarchical consensus clustering, data was  
1289 analyzed using code available at <https://github.com/LJeub/HierarchicalConsensus> and  
1290 according to the procedure described in [55]. The number of communities detected by the  
1291 finest level partition of the consensus hierarchy was used for further analysis. While neurons  
1292 in the awake condition tended to be spatially closer to each other than for the other conditions  
1293 (Fig. S8E), this is unlikely to have influenced the results of the analysis, as the difference was  
1294 minimal and there was no correlation between median distance in a recording and the number  
1295 of detected communities (Fig. S8F).

### 1296 Sleep scoring

1297 Sleep scoring was carried out in two steps. We first used electrophysiological features (see  
1298 below) to classify the behavioral state of the electrophysiological recordings. Then, using this  
1299 dataset as ground truth, we extracted pupil/eyelid features that we used to extend our  
1300 classification to the calcium imaging recordings.

1301 *Electrophysiological recordings*. We divided the signal in 30s epochs with a 50% overlap, and  
1302 used a rule-based approach similar to that applied in [57, 108]. NREM sleep epochs were  
1303 defined as epochs having LFP power in the delta band (1-4 Hz) higher than the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile,  
1304 EMG broadband (30-300 Hz) power lower than the median, and no movement. REM sleep  
1305 epochs were defined as epochs having a ratio between theta (6-12 Hz) and delta LFP power  
1306 higher than the 70<sup>th</sup> percentile, EMG broadband power lower than the 25<sup>th</sup> percentile, and no  
1307 movement. Finally, wakefulness epochs were defined as epochs having EMG broadband

1308 power that exceeded the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile or with mouse movement. Given that this rule-based  
1309 approach left ~49% of the epochs as unclassified, we extended this classification with a  
1310 machine-learning approach using the scikit-learn toolbox [109]. Using the classified epochs as  
1311 the labelled dataset, we trained a K-nearest neighbors classifier (*number of neighbors=20*,  
1312 *weights=distance*, *algorithm=auto*, *leaf size=5*, *p=2*, *scoring=f1 macro*) to which we fed the  
1313 following quantile-transformed (*quantiles=20*) features: LFP power in the delta and theta band,  
1314 ratio between LFP delta and theta power, EMG broadband power and average movement.  
1315 After training, the algorithm was asked to predict the unclassified epochs. Predictions that were  
1316 done with a probability estimate above 99% were kept, the others were left as unclassified.  
1317 This adjunction to the rule-based approach allowed us to lower the percentage of unclassified  
1318 (uncertain) epochs to ~28%.

1319 *Pupil and eyelid analysis.* During electrophysiological recordings, the eye of the mouse was  
1320 recorded with a monochrome, infrared sensitive camera (UI-3360CP-NIR-GL Rev. 2, iDS  
1321 imaging, Germany, objective: LMZ45T3 2/3" 18-108mm/F2.5 manual macro zoom lens, Kowa,  
1322 Germany) under red light. Videos were captured with the uEye Cockpit software (iDS imaging,  
1323 Germany) with a framerate of 30 Hz. Pupil, EMG and electrophysiological recordings were  
1324 synchronized with a customized light/digital pulse shutter. During calcium imaging recordings  
1325 were done with a , infrared sensitive camera (DMK 33UX249; The Imaging Source, Germany)  
1326 equipped with a macro objective (TMN 1.0/50; The Imaging Source, Germany) at a frame rate  
1327 of 10 Hz. Contours of the mouse eye were tracked using the deep neural network-based  
1328 software module DeepLabCut [110] and subsequently processed in MATLAB. We trained a  
1329 neural network (residual neural network, 152 layers, 200,000 iterations) to detect the upper,  
1330 lower, left, and right edges of the pupil and eyelid, respectively, in images down-sampled to  
1331 256 pixels on the shorter edge ( $n = 1038$  frames for videos from electrophysiology,  $n = 2255$   
1332 frames for videos from calcium imaging). Besides the position of each tracked point,  
1333 DeepLabCut provides a value quantifying the certainty about the determined position (which  
1334 is low in the case of occluded objects, e.g. the pupil during an eyeblink). Samples with a  
1335 certainty  $< 0.5$  were linearly interpolated from the last point before to the first point after the  
1336 respective samples which had a certainty of  $> 0.5$  (0.24/0.56 % of total pupil samples and  
1337 0.11/0.12 % of total eyelid samples acquired during electrophysiology and calcium imaging  
1338 experiments, respectively). We then calculated the pupil diameter (as the maximum distance  
1339 between two opposing points of the pupil) as well as its center of mass, and the opening of the  
1340 eye (as the distance between the top and the bottom eyelid). Finally, blinks were removed from  
1341 the eye-opening data by linearly interpolating regions which exceed the moving median minus  
1342 three times moving median absolute deviation (sliding window = 30 s).

1343 *Calcium imaging recordings.* Using the expanded classification of the electrophysiology  
1344 dataset, we extracted the following pupil/eyelid features: maximum and minimum pupil  
1345 diameter, standard deviation of the pupil diameter, pupil area, pupil motion and eyelid distance.  
1346 We then tested the extent to which it was possible to correctly predict the behavioral state on  
1347 these features alone, similarly to Yüzgec et al., 2018. To this aim, we quantile transformed  
1348 these features (*quantiles=[50, 100, 500]*), and passed them to a K-nearest neighbors classifier  
1349 with similar hyper-parameters as the previous one (*number of neighbors=[5, 10]*,  
1350 *weights=uniform*, *algorithm=auto*, *leaf size=1*, *p=2*, *scoring=f1 macro*). Hyper-parameter  
1351 tuning was done using GridSearchCV. We then iteratively ( $n=100$ ) tested the prediction  
1352 accuracy on 25% of the dataset, yielding good average accuracy for wakefulness (~86%) and  
1353 NREM sleep (~90%). On the contrary, most REM sleep was classified as NREM (~62%) and  
1354 the accuracy for this category was significantly lower (~27%). Finally, we retrained the classifier

1355 on the entire dataset of pupil/eyelid electrophysiological features, and used it to predict the  
1356 behavioral state of the calcium imaging dataset.

1357

### 1358 Two-Photon Spine Image Processing

1359 In each animal, at least one GFP-expressing CA1 pyramidal neuron was selected and 1-3  
1360 dendrites of 20–50  $\mu\text{m}$  length of each of the following types were analyzed: basal dendrites,  
1361 oblique dendrites emerging from the apical trunk and tuft dendrites. Motion artefacts were  
1362 corrected with a custom-modified Lucas-Kanade-based alignment algorithm written in Matlab.  
1363 Spines that laterally emanated from the dendrite were counted by manually scrolling through  
1364 the z-stacks of subsequent imaging time points of the same dendritic element, by an expert  
1365 examiner blinded to the experimental condition. Protrusions from the dendrite that reached a  
1366 threshold of 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$  were scored as dendritic spines regardless of shape. If spine neck  
1367 positions differed 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$  on the subsequent images, the spine was scored as a new spine.  
1368 Spines were scored as lost if they fell below the threshold of 0.2  $\mu\text{m}$ . Spine density was  
1369 calculated as the number of spines per  $\mu\text{m}$ . The turnover ratio was calculated for every time  
1370 point by dividing the sum of gained and lost spines by the number of present spines. The  
1371 survival fraction of spines was calculated as the percentage of remaining spines compared  
1372 with the first imaging time point.

### 1373 Statistical analysis

1374 Statistical analyses were performed using R Statistical Software (Foundation for Statistical  
1375 Computing, Vienna, Austria) or GraphPad Prism. All R scripts and datasets are available on  
1376 GitHub <https://github.com/mchini/Calcium-Imaging---Anesthesia>. Nested data were analyzed  
1377 with linear mixed-effect models to account for the commonly ignored increased false positive  
1378 rate inherent in nested design [111]. We used “mouse”, “recording”, “neuron” (calcium  
1379 imaging), and “single unit” (electrophysiology) as random effects, according to the specific  
1380 experimental design. Parameter estimation was done using the lmer function implemented in  
1381 the *lme4* R package [112]. Model selection was performed according to experimental design.  
1382 Significance and summary tables for lmer model fits were evaluated with the *lmerTest* R  
1383 package [113], using the Satterthwaite's degrees of freedom method. Post hoc analysis with  
1384 Tukey multiple comparison correction was carried out using the *emmeans* R package.

1385

### 1386 **Data Availability**

1387 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will  
1388 be fulfilled by the corresponding author, J. Simon Wiegert ([simon.wiegert@zmnh.uni-](mailto:simon.wiegert@zmnh.uni-hamburg.de)  
1389 [hamburg.de](mailto:simon.wiegert@zmnh.uni-hamburg.de)).

### 1390 Data and Code Availability

1391 The code generated during this study is available at  
1392 <https://github.com/OpatzLab/HanganuOpatzToolbox> and [https://github.com/mchini/Calcium-](https://github.com/mchini/Calcium-Imaging---Anesthesia)  
1393 [Imaging---Anesthesia](https://github.com/mchini/Calcium-Imaging---Anesthesia)

1394 The calcium imaging and electrophysiology data sets generated during this study are  
1395 available at [https://gin.g-node.org/SW\\_lab/Anesthesia\\_CA1](https://gin.g-node.org/SW_lab/Anesthesia_CA1)

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