

Cellular mechanisms underlying memory

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- Ph.D. in Neuroscience, Rosalind Franklin University of Health and Sciences/The Chicago Medical School
- Post-doc in 'Computational Neuroscience' IMBB-FORTH
- Marie Curie fellow Dr. Alcino Silva, UCLA and IMBB-FORTH
- Lecturer and Assistant Prof. of Neurophysiology, Dept of Biology, University of Crete

Neurons, neuronal networks and brain



Neurons are the building blocks of the brain

 The human brain consists of 100 billion neurons



Memory

- Working memory
- Short-term and long-term memory
 - Explicit memory
 - Implicit memory
 - Conditional
 - Non-conditional
 - Procedural

Memory

- Memory acquisition
- Memory consolidation
- Memory storage
- Memory recall
- Re-consolidation

Neurobiological substrate of long-term memory



Neuronal theories for memory storage and recall

- Synaptic theory
 - ★ Memory is stored in synapses
- Neuronal theory
 - ★ Memory is stored in neurons
- Possible compromise
 - * Memory is stored in synapses within a specific network of neurons

How do we study memory in rodents?

Mice

Rats



Example: Conditional memory Auditory fear conditioning



http://www.cns.nyu.edu/labs/ledouxlab/research.htm

Example: Conditional memory Contextual fear conditioning



Example: Spatial memory Morris water maze



University of Edinburgh



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LrCzSIbvSN4

Example: explicit memory: T-maze



Neurobiological substrate of memory

- Does one brain area store memories?
- Is each memory stored in the brain area that encode the initial stimulus?



Henry Molaison (1926-2008)

- Head injury (age 7)
- Epileptic seizures (age 16)
- Anti-epileptic medications did not work
- Decided to have surgery in 1953 by surgeon Scoville
 - bilateral medial temporal lobe excision

Brenda Milner (1918-)



- doctoral thesis with Donald Hebb
- noticed memory impairments in patients that had undergone surgery for epilepsy
- Had only affected episodic memory
- Did not affect implicit or procedural memory
- Each day is a new day!
- Amnesia was anterograde, not retrograde

H.M. could perform skilled movements

H.M. could perform well in fill-in the blanks, but not in free recall





ABSENT	ABS
INCOME	INC
FILLY	FIL
DISCUSS	DIS
CHEESE	CHE
ELEMENT	ELE



Hippocampus was removed in H.M. patient



Hippocampus





Brain slice

Cortex, Hippocampus, thalamus, hypothalamus



Ιππόκαμπος - Τομή





Hippocampus



Glutamatergic synapse



insertion of AMPARs

Kauer and Malenka, 2007

How do we study synaptic function?

Acute brain slice









Extracellular Recordings - Local Field Potentials



fiber volley

Whole-cell configuration Current-clamp

Διαλύματα που χρησιμοποιούνται

Εξωκυττάρια: τεχνητό εγκεφαλονωτιαίο υγρό (artificial cerebrospinal fluid, aCSF), pH, Ενδοκυττάρια (στο ηλεκτρόδιο): παρόμοια με το ενδοκυττάριο περιβάλλον



- I-V curve
- Membrane properties

Current-clamp

• Action potential properties







Patch clamp technique Configurations

- Current-clamp
 - Give current inputs and record voltage changes
 - Monitor Vm, record Action
 Potentials
- Voltage-clamp mode
 - "Clamp" voltage and record currents
 - Study different ion channels



Long-term potentiation







Mechanisms of LTP

- NMDA υποδοχέας
- Κινάση της
 καλμοδουλίνης ΙΙ
- Ασβέστιο
- CREB
- πρωτεϊνοσύνθεση







Characteristics of long-term potentiation







Correlation between LTP and memory











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Neuronal excitability following training to memory task



CREB increases excitability



Increased neuronal excitability is due to reduced slow afterhyperpolarization



Oh et al., 2010

Pathways underlying conditioned learned fear memory



Neural pathways of learned fear



Amygdala



Hippocampal network and interaction with other brain regions







Neuronal Competition and Selection During Memory Formation Jin-Hee Han, *et al. Science* **316**, 457 (2007); DOI: 10.1126/science.1139438

CREB over expression



В



Arc activation following fear memory recall





Model of memory allocation



Synaptic plasticity and memory engram



Figure 2. Synaptic Plasticity and Network Oscillation Gate Memory Engram Formation in the BLA

Before learning, some BLA neurons (gray balls) display low excitability and others (brown balls) higher excitability (by intrinsic factors and/or synaptic inputs). At the population level, poorly synchronized rhythms can be detected among BLA and connected brain areas. Learning promotes Hebbian synaptic plasticity of the CS pathway on neurons that were more active during conditioning. This plastic process results in CSpotentiated neurons that form an engram (blue balls). Memory retrieval triggers synchronization of rhythmic activity between the BLA and some interconnected structures, as well as reactivation of engram cells.

Long-term vs remote memory



Frankland et al., 2004

Systems consolidation process



Time

Frankland and Bontempi, 2005

c-fos activation following memory recall (Paul Frankland)

Identification of a Functional Connectome for Long-Term Fear Memory in Mice

Anne L. Wheeler^{1,2}, Cátia M. Teixeira¹, Afra H. Wang^{1,2}, Xuejian Xiong³, Natasa Kovacevic⁴, Jason P. Lerch^{1,5}, Anthony R. McIntosh^{4,6}, John Parkinson^{3,7}, Paul W. Frankland^{1,2,8}*

Program in Neurosciences and Mental Health, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada, 2 Institute of Medical Science, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 3 Program in Molecular Structure and Function, The Hospital for Sick Children, Toronto, Canada, 4 Rotman Research Institute, Baycrest Centre, Toronto, Canada, 5 Department of Medical Biophysics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 6 Department of Psychology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 7 Departments of Biochemistry and Molecular Genetics, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada, 8 Department of Physiology, University of Toronto, Toronto, Canada

Experimental design



Differential change of c-fos expression between control and trained mice



Wheeler et al., 2013

Correlation networks that underlie memory recall









Wheeler et al., 2013

Effect of removing specific brain regions in silico





Chemogenetic inactivation of specific brain regions-hubs

express the following protein: hM4Di use clozapine-N-oxide to activate the receptor

Anterior Cingulate



Chemogenetic inactivation of specific brain regions-hubs

LSI: lateral septal nucleus Re: Nucleus reunions LD:laterodorsal thalamic nucleus CA1

Memory

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Electrophysiology and behavior

- Working memory
- Persistent activity

Goldman-Rakic, 1995, Neuron

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Occulomotor delayed response task

Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

Hypothetical model of underlying circuit in the PFC

TRENDS in Cognitive Sciences

Mechanisms of persistent activity

- Recurrent networks
 - PFC has about 50% of neurons that are reciprocally connected (Wang et al, 2003, Nat Neuro)
- NMDA receptors
 - No decrease in NR2B subunits with age in PFC
- GABA receptors
- Ionic currents

Neuron models used to study persistent activity

• Integrate and fire neurons

Attractor networks to model working memory

Attractors

Networks of compartmental models

NMDA receptors in recurrent networks

Effects of NMDA currents on persistent activity

Computational modeling

In vivo during ODR

Wang et al, 2013, Neuron

NMDA receptor subtypes

NR2A NR2B

increased conductancedecreased conductancefaster kineticsslower kinetics

NR2B localization in the synapses

Wang et al, 2013, Neuron

Effect of NR2B specific blockers on delayperiod activity

Wang et al, 2013, Neuron

Effect of AMPA blockers on delay-period activity

Wang et al, 2013, Neuron
Βασικές αρχές λειτουργίας του νευρικού συστήματος, Κυριακή Σιδηροπούλου <u>http://repository.kallipos.gr/handle/11419/4828</u>



Bibliography

- Study cellular correlates of behavior
 - Persistent activity for working memory
 - Long-term potentiation for long-term memory
- Study neurons that are activated during a specific behavior
 - Action potentials electrophysiological/ imaging
 - Synaptic activity electrophysiological
 - markers of activity
- Correlate their activity with specific aspects of behavior
- Manipulate their activity and study the effect on behavior
 - optogenetics

Neurons communicate with each other to form networks through synapses





Neurons communicate with electrical signals





Neuronal networks in the brain



Recurrent excitation and inhibition



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Cellular and molecular techniques

- Immediate early genes Activity markers
 - Arc
 - c-fos
 - c-jun
- Genes that are transcribed and translated in response to neuronal activity

c-fos activation following epileptic seizures

WT mouse, 300mg/kg pilocarpine



Rac1 conditional KO mouse 100mg/kg pilocarpine



Chalkiadaki, Sidiropoulou, unpublished data

PREFRONTAL CORTEX

Delayed alternation Left-Right discrimination Open-Field



Electrophysiological recordings





- Anaesthetized
- Head-fixed
- Freely-moving

In vivo recordings





Voltage-clamp

- Διαλύματα (ανάλογα με το ρεύμα που είναι να καταγραφεί)
- Τα περιεχόμενα των διαλυμάτων μπορούν να επηρεάσουν κατά πολύ τα αποτελέσματα των καταγραφών.

Current recordings

- Ρεύμα νατρίου (μπλοκάρουμε τα ρεύματα καλίου και ασβεστίου)
- Ρεύμα καλίου (μπλοκάρουμε τα ρεύματα νατρίου και ασβεστίου)
- Ρεύμα ασβεστίου (μπλοκάρουμε τα ρεύματα νατρίου και καλίου)

Tetradotoxin, tetra-ethyl-ammonium (TEA), cadmium

Potassium currents voltage-dependent (whole-cell configuration)



Whole-cell vs single-channel currents



Single DR-type K⁺ channel

What is the connection to networks and behavior?

Extracellular recordings



(FIELD POTENTIALS DOMINATED BY PSPs)

ELD POTEN-SP THALS DETECTED)

3.0 HY

Mountcastle, 1957

Brain slice - LFPs

- Record brain areas that are stratified
 - hippocampus
 - Cortex
- Spontaneous/Epileptiform activity
- Evoked field excitatory postsynaptic potentials (fEPSP)
- Long-term potentiation

Basal spontaneous activity



Evoked LFPs - Long-term potentiation



Extracellular Recordings - Single unit recordings Dopamine neurons

Ventral Tegmental Area Substantia Nigra A8, A9, A10

- Διαλύματα
 - Ελεκτρόδιο
 - NaCl
 - Fast green





Interaural 3.40 mm*

Bregma -5.60 mm

Extracellular Recordings







Extracellular Recordings Dopamine neurons



Relative voltage

Dopamine neuron waveforms





- Spontaneously active, and fire at low irregular frequencies (1-10Hz)
- Triphasic waveform of long duration
 - Tonic or burst-firing

Avαφορά: Marinelli and White, 2000, J. Neuroscience

Correlation between dopamine neuron firing rate and exploratory activity in a novel environment (Marinelli and White, 2000)

Differentiating the neuronal type based on the waveform properties



1 Σύνθετο κύτταρο



Μήκος γραμμής (βαθμοί)

Receptive fields in the visual cortex



Εικόνα 23-12 Τα ακρο-

μηκών μιας κατακόρυφης φωτεινής γραμμής. 1. Η απόκριση αυτού του σύνθετου κυττάρου αυξάνεται καθώς το μήκος της γραμμής αυξάνεται μέχρι 2° περίπου, ενώ έπειτα δεν υπάρχει μεταβολή. 2. Η απόκριση αυτού του ακρο-αναστελλόμενου κυττάρου βελτιώνεται, καθώς η γραμμή αυξάνεται μέχρι 2°, αλλά κατόπιν μειώνεται, έτσι ώστε μια γραμμή 6° ή μεγαλύτερη δεν προκαλεί απόκριση.



(συνεχίζεται)

In vivo intracellular recordings



Tetrode-array technology

- Bruce McNaughton (Arizona)
- Matt Wilson, MIT (open course)



http://ocw.mit.edu/OcwWeb/Brain-and-Cognitive-Sciences/9-96Experimental-Methods-of-Adjustable-Tetrode-Array-NeurophysiologyJanuary--IAP-2001/ CourseHome/index.htm

Place cells (Hippocampus)



Matt Wilson, MIT
Place cells movie

cell activity

behavior



overall





Grid cells in enthorhinal cortex





Moser group

2014 Nobel prize in Medicine



Photo: David Bishop, UCL John O'Keefe Prize share: 1/2



May-Britt Moser Photo: G. Mogen/NTNU May-Britt Moser Prize share: 1/4



Edvard I. Moser Photo: G. Mogen/NTNU Edvard I. Moser Prize share: 1/4

Functional imaging techniques

• Calcium imaging

- Voltage imaging
- PET
- MRI, fMRI
- Real-time imaging

Calcium imaging

- Calcium cannot be measured directly
- Calcium indicators used
 - Calcium-binding molecules are used that change their fluorescence properties
 - calcium changes can be measures in multiple milliseconds (compared to microseconds in electrophysiology)
- Requirements for successful calcium imaging
 - fast calcium indicator
 - high signal-to-noise ratio
 - proper instrumentation (images without photobleaching, fast scanning)

Advantages compared to recording techniques

- Multiple cells
- Cell-type identification



Calcium -imaging video of spontaneous neuronal activity, Golshani Lab, UCLA, <u>http://golshanilab.neurology.ucla.edu/</u> <u>techniques</u>

Molecules used for calcium imaging

 Natural calcium-binding proteins with fluorescent properties, aequorin



- Synthetic chemicals
- Genetically modified calcium indicators

Synthetic chemical compounds

- Fura-2/Fura-2AM (membrane permeable)
- BAPTA-AM
- Orange green





Roger Tsien Nobel prize in chemistry 2008 Green Fluorescent Protein

Genetic calcium indicators

• Forster resonance energy transfer (FRET)



Yellow cameleon

Roger Tsien Nobel prize in chemistry 2008 Green Fluorescent Protein recipient)

Two fluorescent substances (donor and recipient)



Genetically-encoded calcium indicators (2012)

Camgaroo 1

Camgaroo 2

Inverse pericam

GCaMP 2

GCaMP 3

Yellow Cameleon 3.6

Yellow Cameleon Nano

D3cpV

TN-XL

TN-L15

TN-XXL

Genetically encoded calcium indicators

GECI expression



Viral transduction



In utero electroporation



Transgenic mice

Microscopy to study calcium imaging

- Fluorescence microscopy
- confocal laser microscopy
- portable microscopy devices



Study activation of neural networks



In vivo activation of neural networks





A a

b

Odor A Odor B





Neuronal activity during working memory tasks

© 2001 Singuer Associates Inc.



(C) Stimulus presented



(D) No stimulus presented



0 2001 Singuer Associates, Inc.

Working memory task in head-fixed animals



To image task-related neuronal activity....

- head-fixed mice
- CaMKIIa-Cre mice
- Cre-inducible adeno-associated virus (AAV) expressing the calcium indicator GCaMP6f30 into the dorsomedial PFC (dmPFC)





-

modified from O'Connor DH et al 2009

Pyramidal neuron activity during the delayed Go vs. No-Go task.

Gray shading: delay period Blue stripes: sample periods with target tone

Orange stripes: sample periods with nontarget tones,

Dashed line: end of response window in CR trials.

Black tick on top: lick

response.

Blue arrowheads: delivery of reward

Orange arrowheads:

punishment



Optogenetics





Ed Boyden, MIT

Karl Deisseroth, Stanford

Optogenetics

"The major challenge facing neuroscience was the need to control one type of cell in the brain while leaving others unaltered. Electrical stimuli cannot meet this challenge."

- Francis Crick



Optogenetics

- Combination of optical and genetic techniques for specifically controlling neuronal subtypes
- Use of ion channels that are activated by light, are expressed in archeobacteria and not expressed in animals

Channels used to control excitability **Opsins**



Natronomonas pharaonis

Nature Reviews | Neuroscience

Step 1: Expression of opsin in the desired neuronal population



- Viral transfection
- Use of Cre-loxP system in mice
- PV-cre mice
- Som-cre mice
- CamKII-cre mice

Step 2: Activate opsin with light



1: Controlling the Brain with Light by Karl Deisseroth, Scientific American, November, 2010, pages 49-55

How to direct light into the brain: Optical fibres

(a) (i)







Verifying the effect of opsin expression in



TRENDS in Cognitive Sciences

Using optogenetics to study behaviour



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Aplysia californica



http://brembs.net/learning/aplysia/aplysia.html

Αντανακλαστικό απόσυρσης βραγχίου



Sensitization of the gill-withdrawal reflex



http://www.hhmi.org/biointeractive/aplysias-gill-withdrawal-reflex-and-sensitization#video-7b9676a4-5f24-4837-9aaf-9352eed43c1e

Habituation



Εθισμός



Η επανάληψη ενός ερεθίσματος προκαλεί μείωση στην απόκριση που προκαλεί

<u>Μηχανισμός</u> Μείωση της έκλυσης γλουταμινικού οξέως

Ευαισθητοποίηση







Μηχανισμός της βραχύχρονης ευαισθητοποίησης

Ετεροσυναπτική διευκόλυνση

Αύξηση του cAMP

- μείωση ρευμάτων καλίου
- αύξηση ρευμάτων
 ασβεστίου

Connectome

