Learning/Memory CHAPTER 13 Animal Studies

Study Questions

1. What is LTP and what role does it play in learning and memory?

2. From this and the prior lecture, discuss the idea that different brain structures underlie different kinds of memory.

Extra Office Hours: Thursday 10:30 - noon

- Many types of memory
- Human memory deficits

• Where/how are memories

Encoded Stored Retrieved?

Eye-blink conditioning



Where is this learning occurring?

• Value of simple animal models

Eyeblink Conditioning



Pavlovian fear conditioning



Training context Grid floors Ethanol odor Bright white light

Freezing and activity are measured at 30 Hz







Dorsal Hippocampus Lesion



Train Lesion Context Test Tone Test

Day I

Day 2 or day 60

Day 70

Day 71



High levels of freezing indicate that the animal is fearful – i.e., has a memory of the association with shock

Other controls not shown

Remember for 71 days!

Amygdala lesions reduce learning

Very similar experiment with DH

 electrolytic lesions of the dorsal hippocampus (DH) produce a severe deficit in contextual fear if made 1 d, but not 28 d, after fear conditioning.

OLDER MEMORIES SPARED – Like HM???

 As such, the hippocampus seems to play a timelimited role in the consolidation of contextual fear conditioning.

But 2 separate groups of animals

- retrograde amnesia of rat contextual fear produced by DH lesions in a *within-subjects* design.
- (*remote* memory)10 tone-shock pairings in one context
- (recent memory 50 d later) 10 tone-shock pairings in a distinct context (with a different tone),
- DH or sham lesions 1 d after recent. Relative to controls, DH-lesioned rats exhibited no deficit in remote contextual fear, but recent contextual fear memory was severely impaired. They also did not exhibit deficits in tone freezing. This highly specific deficit in recent contextual memory demonstrated in a within-subjects design favors mnemonic over performance accounts of hippocampal involvement in fear.



Exp Brain Res (1993) 93:462-470



Memory for spatial locations, motor responses, and objects: triple dissociation among the hippocampus, caudate nucleus, and extrastriate visual cortex

Raymond P. Kesner, Bridget L. Bolland, Manoli Dakis

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Bregma - 4.80 mm

Fig. 2. A The smallest (*black*) and largest (*stippled*) dorsal and ventral hippocampal lesion (two sections) **B** A representative cortical control lesion; and **C** the smallest (*black*) and largest (*stippled*) caudate lesion

Bregma -0.26 mm

Interaural 8.74 mm

Interneral 4.20 mm

Bait arm; return to center; win-stay task; repeat over and over





SPATIAL LOCATION RECOGNITION MEMORY



Fig. 4. Mean percentage correct performance for hippocampus, caudate, and extrastriate visual cortex-lesioned as well as control rats as a function of delay for spatial location recognition memory

Rat turns left or right on one side; then must do the same thing on the other side

В

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Fig. 5. Mean percentage correct performance for hippocampus, caudate, and extrastriate visual cortex-lesioned as well as control rats as a function of delay for response recognition memory

On left rat gets food under object; then on right must go to the novel object to get food





Fig. 6. Mean percentage correct performance for hippocampus, caudate, and extrastriate visual cortex-lesioned as well as control rats as a function of delay for object recognition memory

Cellular mechanisms

- Donald Hebb
- HEBBIAN SYNAPSE is one that increases effectiveness because of simultaneous activity in presynaptic and postsynaptic neurons
- FIRE TOGETHER, WIRE TOGETHER



(LTP)

Hippocampus Slices (in vitro)

1) Measure "baseline" postsynaptic response to single "pulse" onto afferent (i.e., presynaptic) fibers

2) Tetanus: Administer 10 seconds of intense, high frequency stimulation of presynaptic fibers

3) The response to a single pulse is now much larger than before.

Lasts for 1 hour -> 4 days



LTP in Hippocampal CA1 Region



Here the synaptic response is measured differently 100 = 100%; measuring EPSP size





Synapse that will potentiate





LTP

- NMDA ligand and voltage gated
- Ca++ enters

• CaMKII

Changes in AMPA receptors More NMDA More dendrite branching Change in AMPA sensitivity

Predictions of LTP and hippocampal learning

Does LTP underlying learning? Known: NMDA receptors are required for the induction of LTP in vitro Prediction: Drugs that block NMDA receptors should block learning

Exp: Rats in the "shock" chamber ->

NMDA-blockers OR saline given during "training"

Result: NMDA-blocked rats show STM but not LTM

**Drugs that block NMDA receptors block some, but not all, types of learning.

Predictions of LTP and hippocampal learning

Learning → LTP at hippocampal synapses, Whitlock study (presented here)

Abolish LTP after learning → poor performance Pastalkova et al. in next slide (not covered)

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This Week in Science

Linking LTP with Learning and Memory

The phenomenon of synaptic long-term potentiation (LTP) was discovered more than 30 years ago in the hippocampus. Although it is commonly thought that hippocampal LTP is induced by learning, there has not been a direct demonstration (see the Perspective by **Bliss** *et al.*). Whitlock *et al.* (p. 1093) recorded field potentials from multiple sites in hippocampal area CA1 before and after single-trial inhibitory avoidance learning. Field potentials increased on a subset of the electrodes, and these could be specifically related to the learning event. **Pastalkova** *et al.* (p. 1141) reversed hippocampal LTP in freely moving animals using a cell-permeable inhibitor of a protein kinase. Reversal was accompanied by a complete disruption of previously acquired long-term memory in a place avoidance task, even when the kinase inhibitor was infused only during the consolidation interval. This result suggests that LTP was necessary for storing spatial information.

Does learning lead to measureable LTP? Whitlock et al.

Test rats before and after learning something simple

Avoid half of a cage where you got shocked once

Controls

No exposure at all Walk around the cage Shocked once somewhere else

Electrodes to measure activity in hippocampus



Single animal

Size of EPSP

Before learning, 8 electrodes at 100%; few go up after training



6 trained animals; ~8 electrodes each


6 trained animals; ~8 electrodes each



No changes in controls





Only animals to show LTP had the learning experience

Most neurons do not change

One trial learning/association of two stimuli causes a number of synapses to be potentiated for a long time

Suggests parallels/homologies/continuities with synaptic learning seen in very simple invertebrate organisms

Does LTP suggest category of memory drugs???

- Not globally
- Memantine (NMDA-R) is drug for severe Alzheimer's Disease
 - NMDA R antagonist
 - May prevent excitotoxicity
 - Does retard eye-blink conditioning in humans
- Other drugs target memory related processes like arousal, sleep etc

Final exam Friday 3 – 4:30

Material since last midterm Martinez article Today's highlights Same format as midterms

- Learning by doing
- Scientific literacy
- Understanding basis for conclusions
- Understanding what ongoing work looks like

Reading scientific research articles

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- References

Abstract

- Dense outline of entire paper
- Read it first AND read it last!

Final exam paper

OPEN OACCESS Freely available online



Sensorimotor Experience Influences Recovery of Forelimb Abilities but Not Tissue Loss after Focal Cortical Compression in Adult Rats

Marina Martinez, Jean-Michel Brezun, Christian Xerri*

CNRS UMR 6149, Integrative and Adaptive Neurosciences, Pôle 3 C, IFR 131, University of Provence, Marseilles, France

ABSTRACT: Sensorimotor activity has been shown to play a key role in functional outcome after extensive brain damage. This study was aimed at assessing the influence of sensorimotor experience through subject-environment interactions on the time course of both lesion and gliosis volumes as well as on the recovery of forelimb sensorimotor abilities following focal cortical injury. The lesion consisted of a cortical compression targeting the forepaw representational area within the primary somatosensory cortex of adult rats. After the cortical lesion, rats were randomly subjected to various postlesion conditions: unilateral C5–C6 dorsal root transection depriving the contralateral cortex from forepaw somatosensory inputs, standard housing or an enriched environment promoting sensorimotor experience and social interactions. Behavioral tests were used to assess forelimb placement during locomotion, forelimb-use asymmetry, and forepaw tactile sensitivity. For each group, the time course of tissue loss was described and the gliosis volume over the first postoperative month was evaluated using an unbiased stereological method. Consistent with previous studies, recovery of behavioral abilities was found to depend on post-injury experience. Indeed, increased sensorimotor activity initiated early in an enriched environment induced a rapid and more complete behavioral recovery compared with standard housing. In contrast, severe deprivation of peripheral sensory inputs led to a delayed and only partial sensorimotor recovery. The dorsal rhizotomy was found to increase the perilesional gliosis in comparison to standard or enriched environments. These findings provide further evidence that early sensory experience has a beneficial influence on the onset and time course of functional recovery after focal brain injury.

Introduction

- Background
- What is already known? What is the new question to be addressed?

Methods

- How was the NEW experiment conducted? Subjects? Measures? How analyzed?
- Enough detail for someone else to repeat

Results

• What was found in this new experiment?

Averages values Statistical differences

Discussion

• What do the results mean?

Do they refute/support a hypothesis Do they fit with previous research? Do they raise new questions? Were there problems with the experiment? A REPORTER AT LARGE

THE POVERTY CLINIC

Can a stressful childhood make you a sick adult?

BY PAUL TOUGH



Nadine Burke at her San Francisco clinic. Photograph by Alessandra Sanguinetti.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People, Saving Money

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UVWXYZ# A-Z Index A B C D E

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE) Study



Control and Prevention and Kaiser Permanente's Health Appraisal Clinic in San Diego.

More than 17,000 Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) members undergoing a comprehensive physical examination chose to provide detailed information about their childhood experience of abuse, neglect, and family dysfunction. To date, more than 50 scientific articles have been published and more than100 conference and workshop presentations have been made.

The ACE Study findings suggest that certain experiences are major risk factors for the leading causes of illness and death as well as poor quality of life in the United States. Progress in preventing and recovering from the nation's worst health and social problems is likely to benefit from understanding that many of these problems arise as a consequence of adverse childhood experiences.



Figure 6. Detailed tractography of left cingulum bundle fibers in a representative subject color coded by fiber direction. Yellow region marks segment of the pathway delineated by TBSS as having significantly lower FA in subjects with PVA versus control subjects. FA, fractional anisotropy; PVA, parental verbal abuse; TBSS, tract-based spatial statistics. Choi, BIOL PSYCHIATRY 2009;65:227–234





Multipolar Neuron





Figure 5. Methylene blue stained pyramidal cortical cells [16]. Cajal's demonstration of the presence of spines on cortical cells stained with an entirely different technique from Golgi's method.

Santiago Ramon y Cajal – neurons are individual units, not fused together

Glickstein; Current Biology Vol 16 No

Animal Brains





initially get graded potential

then get action potential

Action Potential not proportional always the same size/shape will run down axon

When do you get it: if voltage gets to "threshold"





Possible Combinations of Spatial Summation





- 3. Next cell receives NT (POST-SYNAPTIC CELL)
- 4. NT causes electrical change in post-synaptic cell

Each stage of neurotranmission is potentially a site of drug action

Mechanisms of Drug Effects



Dose-Response Curves for the Analgesic and Depressant Effects of Morphine







Incentive-sensitization model of addiction. Schematic model of how 'wanting' to take drugs may grow over time independently of 'liking' for drug pleasure as an individual becomes an addict. The transition from casual drug use to compulsive addiction is posited to be owing to druginduced sensitization of mesocorticolimbic mechanisms of incentive salience. Modified from [42].





Jared Compiano, a normal healthy boy with PKU, poses with his siblings Hannah and Nathan.

Enz deficiency + phenylalanine \rightarrow retardation Enz deficiency – phenylalanine \rightarrow normal Enz sufficiency ± phenylalanine \rightarrow normal



Compare high vs low-licked rats in adulthood Microarray of gene expression in hippocampus (tests 30,000)

900 genes differed between groups! Treated adults with drugs that alter epigenetic mechanisms Reversed some behavior effects and some gene expression **Cameron Mott video**

Rasmussen' s Syndrome







Mechanisms of recovery

Treatments

tPA – tissue plasminogen activator dissolves clots (3 h window only) hypothermia – prevents cell death in animals? antagonize glutamate – careful!!!! occupational therapy

Brain cooling after cardiac arrest
w cooling 35% minimal disability 50
without cooling 21% 67

50% mortality 67%

Doesn't work in conscious patients

Glutamate antagonist after induced stroke in animal model










Primary Somatosensory Cortex = S1 Brodmann Areas 3b, 1,2, 3a







Wave travels through fluid of the scala vestibula, scala media

Ascending auditory pathway



Shift of Auditory Tuning After 8 Weeks of Experience



В

Tuning curves Receptive fields What does cell respond best to?





 Lateral view of brain showing location of primary motor cortex



(b) Representation of the body in primary motor cortex







Obesity Trends* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1990, 1999, 2009

(*BMI ≥30, or about 30 lbs. overweight for 5' 4" person)









Hatred and love from Darwin's book The Expression of the Emotions in Man and Animals. The images form part of Mark Haddon's piece 24 Emotions. Photograph: Natural History Museum



Rivière. "Dog approaching another dog with hostile intentions" In: *The expression of the emotions in man and animals London: John Murray, 1872*

mygdala and fear







Figure 3 Instructed viewing of the eyes improves impaired fear recognition in SM. a, When instructed to fixate on the eyes in facial expressions of fear, SM is able to do so. b, Accuracy of emotion recognition (± s.e.m.) for ten control subjects (white) and SM.

Whereas SM's recognition of fear is impaired when allowed to look at the stimuli freely (SM free, black bars), her performance becomes normal relative to control subjects when instructed to fixate on the eyes (SM eyes, grey bar, red arrow). The impairment is specific to fear recognition (left panel shows mean recognition accuracy for all emotions other than fear).

Stress



Reprinted with permission from Caspi A, Sugden K, Moffitt TE, et al. Influence of life stress on depression: moderation by a polymorphism in the 5-HTT gene. Science. 2003;301:386-389. © 2003 AAAS.

the daily performance rhythm (small squares).

Phase-shifting is slow business

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Syrian hamster with 4 h delay

Effects of sleep deprivation

Losing sleep, even for one night, can trigger a flood of changes throughout the body. Scientists don't fully understand how the sleep-starved body goes awry, but many studies find clear relationships between sleep and the health and function of body systems.

- Brain

Cognitive impairment, declines in memory and judgment, and brain chemical changes that can lead to depression

Attention and sleep

People's performance on an attention test declines with sleep loss (left), even though they don't feel much sleepier (right). source: VAN DONGEN ET AL_/SLEEP 2003

- Heart

Higher disease risk, irregular heart beat

Blood pressure and sleep

Average hours of sleep per night source: KNUTSON ET AL./ARCHIVES

OF INTERNAL MEDICINE 2009

- Joints Increased inflammation, which can lead to atherosclerosis (artery hardening) and rheumatoid arthritis

CPAP continuous positive airway pressure

Henry Molaison (H.M.)

Most studied case of human amnesia Severe seizures at age 16; surgery to remove epileptic focus at age 27 (1953)

Severe memory loss - amnesia

Sleep and Memory Consolidation

Wake first or sleep first

Reading scientific research articles

- Abstract
- Introduction
- Methods
- Results
- Discussion
- References

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New and Noteworthy	Topic-Specific Queries	LinkOut

SUMMARY

- Brief tour ~15 countries in 9 days
- Continuity of behavior across animals
- Incredible array of techniques for studying brain and behavior

Behavioral observation **Environmental manipulations** Electrophysiology Drug exposure Transplants **Brain** lesions Neurological patients Cell activity Gene expression fMRI Neuroanatomy Genetic manipulation Comparisons across species In vivo and in vitro Electrical stimulation

SUMMARY

- Brief tour ~15 countries in 9 days
- Continuity of behavior across animals
- Incredible array of techniques for studying brain and behavior
- Understanding is cumulative and based on multiple sources of information
- New techniques are not magic bullets
- Incredible amount known!
- Very little known!
- We are incredibly complex creatures
- But we are made of physical parts
- We all have a relevant development past
- We also have an evolutionary past that shapes us

MANTRAS

• Biology is NOT determinism

- Brains produce behavior AND behavior changes brains
- Multiple approaches COMPLETE, don't COMPETE