Physiological properties of mature adult-born neurons in the olfactory bulb of awake mice

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Abstract

The adult brain undergoes various forms of plasticity. Besides synaptic plasticity where connections between neurons are strengthened or weakened, another form of plasticity is the addition of new neurons into the pre-existing neuronal network throughout life. It is believed that this form of neuronal plasticity adjusts the behavior to the ever-changing environment. In the mammalian brain, continuous addition of 'adult-born cells' (ABCs) has been observed in the olfactory bulb (OB) and the hippocampus. ABCs migrate into the OB, mature to GABAergic cells – juxtaglomerular cells and granule cells - and integrate into the existent neuronal network. These ABCs are believed to be involved in many olfactory functions, as for instance odor detection, odor discrimination, and olfactory learning. In vivo measurements in anesthetized mice suggest that adult-born juxtaglomerular cells mature at 8-9 weeks of age and acquire physiological properties that are similar to that of pre-existing, resident cells. Yet, a few studies reported that even after maturation, some physiological properties remain different. However, all these comparisons have been performed in anesthetized animals and since several years it is clear that brain activity changes under anesthesia. Therefore, the major goal of this work was to test whether mature ABCs (mABCs) in awake animals retain unique features that distinguish them from resident GABAergic (Res_{GABA}) cells.

For this, we labeled mABCs and Resgaba cells via viral transduction with the genetically encoded calcium (Ca²⁺) indicator Twitch-2B and performed two-photon-based Ca²⁺ measurements in awake head-restrained mice. We measured basal Ca²⁺ levels (i.e., Ca²⁺ levels recorded in the absence of any experimental manipulation) and found that they are similar between mABCs and Resgaba cells. In order to measure odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals, we applied the odorant ethyl tiglate in front of the mouse snout and observed that, compared to Resgaba cells, fewer mABCs responded to odor application. Furthermore, the odor-evoked responses showed lower reliability upon repeated odor application, but reached higher levels than in Resgaba cells. In addition, we tested if anesthesia-induced alterations in brain state modulate mABCs differently than Resgaba cells. Under anesthesia, basal Ca²⁺ levels of both, mABCs and Resgaba cells, were reduced. One specific anesthetic mixture, ketamine/xylazine anesthesia, reduced basal Ca²⁺ levels significantly stronger in mABCs than in Resgaba

BA cells, indicating that mABCs might have a higher sensitivity to NMDA receptor blockers compared to Resgaba cells. Furthermore, under anesthesia, mABCs responded to odorant application more reliably but still less often compared to Resgaba cells. The odor-evoked responses reached again higher levels. Anesthetic agents are known to modulate the brain state by affecting the ascending reticular activating system (ARAS). ARAS centers give rise to various centrifugal fibers that project to the OB and target GABAergic cells. These centrifugal fibers arising from the locus coeruleus, dorsal raphe nucleus, and basal forebrain, release noradrenaline, serotonin, and acetylcholine, respectively. In addition, these projections were reported to target ABCs and to promote their survival. We tested if the centrifugal projections target mABCs differently compared to Resgaba cells. In response to application of choliner-gic receptor blockers, both mABCs and Resgaba cells showed a drop in basal Ca²⁺ levels. Surprisingly, however, only mABCs showed a drop in basal Ca²⁺ levels in the presence of the serotonergic receptor blocker methysergide.

Thus, our results demonstrate that mABCs differ from Res_{GABA} cells in (1) odor-response properties, (2) modulation by K/X anesthesia, and (3) innervation by sero-tonergic fibers or responsiveness to activation of serotonin receptors. Larger Ca²⁺ signals in mABCs in response to odor application might be relevant in the context of activity-dependent plasticity as a basis of olfactory learning, the function suggested for mABCs. The observation that serotonergic inputs might innervate specifically mABCs indicates that mABCs could exert a specific function via serotonin, such as sensory gain control in dependence of the brain state of the animal.

Zusammenfassung

Im adulten Gehirn existieren verschiedene Formen neuronaler Plastizität. Neben der Plastizität synaptischer Verbindungen werden während des gesamten Lebens neugeborene Nervenzellen in bestehende neuronale Netzwerke hinzugefügt (adulte Neurogenese). Es wird angenommen, dass adulte Neurogenese die Anpassung des Verhaltens an eine sich ständig verändernde Umwelt erlaubt. In Säugetieren wurde die kontinuierliche Einwanderung von adult-geborenen Nervenzellen in Riechkolben und Hippocampus nachgewiesen. Adult-geborene Zellen wandern in den Riechkolben ein, reifen zu GABAergen Nervenzellen (juxtaglomeruläre Zellen und Körnerzellen) heran und integrieren sich in das bestehende neuronale Netzwerk. Von diesen adultgeborenen Zellen wird angenommen, dass sie an vielen Funktionen des Riechsystems beteiligt sind, unter anderem Geruchsdetektion, Geruchs-diskriminierung und olfaktorisches Lernen. In-vivo-Untersuchungen in anästhesierten Mäusen legen nahe, dass juxtaglomeruläre Zellen im Alter von 8-9 Wochen ausreifen und physiologische Eigenschaften bekommen, die denen bereits existierender (residenter) Zellen ähnlich sind. Einige Studien berichten jedoch, dass auch nach der Reifung einige physiologische Eigenschaften unterschiedlich bleiben. All diese Vergleiche wurden jedoch in anästhesierten Tieren durchgeführt, was neuronale Aktivitätsmuster im Vergleich zum Wachzustand stark verändern kann. Daher war das Hauptziel dieser Arbeit in wachen Tieren zu testen, ob reife adult-geborene Zellen im Riechkolben physiologische Merkmale behalten, die sie von residenten GABAergen Zellen unterscheiden.

Dazu wurden adult-geborene und residente GABAerge Zellen über eine virale Transduktion mit dem Calcium-Sensorprotein Twitch-2B genetisch markiert und in wachen, fixierten Mäusen Zweiphotonen-Messungen durchgeführt. Basale Ca²+-Spiegel (in Abwesenheit jeglicher experimenteller Manipulation aufgezeichnet) sind zwischen adult-geborenen und residenten GABAergen Zellen ähnlich. Um Ca²+-Signale in Antwort auf Duftstoffstimulation zu messen, applizierten wir Ethyltiglat und beobachteten, dass weniger adult-geborene Zellen auf Duftstoffapplikation reagieren. Darüber hinaus zeigten die Duftstoff-evozierten Ca²+-Signale eine geringere Zuverlässigkeit bei wiederholter Duftstoffapplikation, erreichten jedoch höhere Ca²+-Spiegel als residente GABAerge Zellen. Zusätzlich wurde getestet, ob durch Anästhesie hervorgeru-

fene Veränderungen des Hirnzustands adult-geborene Zellen anders modulieren als residente GABAerge Zellen. Anästhesie reduzierte die basalen Ca2+-Spiegel von adult-geborenen und residenten GABAergen Zellen. Hier reduzierten Ketamin/Xylazin basale Ca²⁺-Spiegel signifikant stärker in adult-geborenen als in residenten GABAergen Zellen, was darauf hindeuten könnte, dass adult-geborene Zellen eine höhere Empfindlichkeit gegenüber NMDA-Rezeptorblockern aufweisen. Unter Anästhesie reagierten adult-geborene Zellen zuverlässiger, aber immer noch seltener als residente GABAerge Zellen. Die Duftstoff-evozierten Ca²⁺-Signale erreichten auch hier höhere Werte. Anästhetika modulieren den Gehirnzustand durch Beeinflussung des aufsteigenden retikulären Aktivierungssystems (ARAS). ARAS-Zentren senden verschiedene Nervenfasern aus, von denen einige den Riechkolben erreichen und dort GABAerge Zellen innervieren. Diese Nervenfasern kommen aus Locus Coeruleus, dorsalem Raphe-Kern und basalem Vorderhirn und setzen Noradrenalin, Serotonin, bzw. Acetylcholin frei. Es wurde berichtet, dass diese Nervenfasern auch adult-geborene Zellen innervieren und deren Überleben fördern. Hier haben wir getestet, ob die Modulation dieser Nervenfasern sich unterscheidlich auf adult-geborene und residente GABAerge Zellen auswirkt. Cholinerge Rezeptorblocker führten bei adult-geborenen und residenten GABAergen Zellen zu einer Reduktion des basalen Ca²⁺-Spiegels. Überraschenderweise führte der serotonerge Rezeptorblocker Methysergide nur bei adult-geborenen Zellen zu einer Reduktion des basalen Ca2+-Spiegels.

Diese Ergebnisse zeigen, dass sich reife adult-geborene Zellen von residenten GA-BAergen Zellen in (1) Duftstoff-evozierter Aktivität, (2) Modulation durch Ketamin/Xylazin-Anästhesie und in (3) serotonerger Innervierung oder ihrer Empfindlichkeit auf die Aktivierung von Serotoninrezeptoren unterscheiden. Größere Ca²+Signale bei Duftstoffapplikation in adult-geborenen Zellen könnten mit aktivitätsabhängiger Plastizität als Grundlage für olfaktorisches Lernen im Zusammenhang stehen. Die Beobachtung, dass serotonerge Nervenfasern eventuell ausschliesslich reife adult-geborene Zellen innervieren, zeigt, dass diese eine über Serotonin vermittelte Funktion ausüben könnten, wie z. B. die Filterung von sensorischen Reizen in Abhängigkeit vom Gehirnzustand.

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Abbreviations

2CN	2 Component paragon
	3-Component narcosis
5-HT	
	Adeno-associated virus
ABC	
ACh	
AMPAR	α-Amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole-propionic acid receptor
	Analysis of variance
AP	Action potential
ARAS	Ascending reticular activating system
BW	Body weight
DCX	
DPI	Days post injection
	Deep short axon cell
EEG	Electroencephalography
ETC	External tufted cell
ETI	Ethyl tiglate
FRET	Förster resonance energy transfer
GABA	Gamma-aminobutyric acid
GC	
	Horizontal limb of the diagonal band
i.p	
	Ketamine/medetomidine
K/X	Ketamine/xylazine
Kwik-Cast/Sil	Kwik-Cast and Kwik-Sil
	Lateral hypothalamic
M/T	Mitral/tufted cell
	Mature adult-born cell
	Muscarinic acetylcholine receptor
MC	
NA	
	Nicotinergic acetylcholine receptor
NIVIDARS	N-methyl-D-aspartate receptors
	Non-rapid eye movement
OB	•
	Olfactory sensory neuron
P	
	Phosphate-buffered saline
	Periglomerular cell
PSD95	Postsynaptic density 95
Res _{GABA}	Resident GABAergic
REM	Rapid eye movement
RMS	Rostral migratory stream
ROI	Region of interest
S.C	Subcutaneous
SAC	
SVZ	Subventricular zone
TC	
	Tuberomammillary

TMN	.Tuberomammillary nucleus
UV	.Ultraviolet
Viaat	.Vesicular inhibitory amino acid transporter

1 Introduction

1.1 The olfactory sensory system

The olfactory sensory system is an evolutionarily old sensory system conserved throughout species (Ache and Young 2005). It mediates a vast variety of odor-guided behaviors important for survival in mammals (Ache and Young 2005; Pinto 2011), like searching for food, finding a sexual partner, mother-child interactions, predator avoidance, and avoidance of dangerous odorants arising from spoiled food or fire. In addition, olfactory stimuli have an influence on emotions and moods in humans (Kadohisa 2013). Loss of smell (anosmia) in humans increases health risks arising from spoiled food and dangerous vapors such as gas and fire (Doty 2005). The ability to smell declines naturally with age (Doty and Kamath 2014), but can as well be diminished through mechanical or chemical damage to the nose epithelium (Doty 2005; Doty 2017). A mild-to-severe loss of smell has been considered as an early marker of neurodegenerative diseases such as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's disease (Godoy *et al.* 2015), which is detectable decades before other disease-related symptoms like memory or motor impairments become apparent (Ross *et al.* 2008; Devanand *et al.* 2015).

In the environment, various odorants from different sources are intermixed. The olfactory system is able (1) to detect the odor signal of interest within this noisy environment, (2) to extract the signal from a changing and complex odor background, and (3) to associate it with previously experienced odors. Unlike other sensory systems, the olfactory system does not relay sensory information via the thalamus to the olfactory cortex but sends signals from the sensory neurons via the olfactory bulb (OB), which is the first processing stage of olfactory signals, to the olfactory cortex. Odorants activate olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs), which reside in the olfactory epithelium of the nasal cavity. OSNs transmit the signal to the OB where their axons congregate into spherical structures called glomeruli (Mombaerts *et al.* 1996)(Figure 1). In rodents, each OSN expresses only one out of ~1000 odorant receptors, but these receptors can bind a variety of related odorants. OSNs expressing the same odorant receptor converge onto one or two glomeruli per hemibulb (Vassar *et al.* 1994). Within glomeruli, OSN inputs can either activate the principal neurons directly, which are called mitral cells (MCs) and tufted cells (TCs), summarized as 'M/Ts', or OSN inputs are

first processed by a group of interneurons, collectively referred to as 'juxtaglomerular cells' (Nagayama *et al.* 2014).

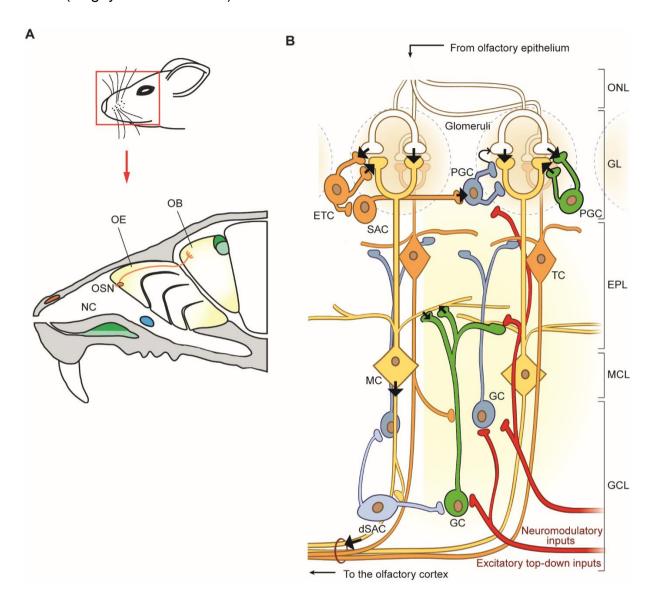


Figure 1. Schematic representation of the mouse olfactory bulb.

(A) In the nose, odorants can enter through the nasal cavity (NC) and access the olfactory epithelium (OE), where they bind to the receptors of olfactory sensory neurons (OSNs). Upon activation, OSNs send the signal via their axons to the olfactory bulb (OB). Figure modified from Ferrero and Liberles (2010). (B) In the OB, axons from OSNs terminate in spherical structures called glomeruli. In glomeruli, the signal can be processed by excitatory external tufted cells (ETCs) and inhibitory short axon cells (SACs) and periglomerular cells (PGCs), before it is forwarded to the output neurons, mitral cells (MCs) and tufted cells (TCs), summarized as 'M/Ts'. M/Ts form synapses with inhibitory granule cells (GCs) in deeper layers. Another type of inhibitory cell, the deep SAC (dSAC), inhibits GCs. In the end, the computed signal leaves the OB via axons of MCs and TCs to the olfactory cortex. Inhibitory cells receive neuromodulatory inputs (as described in section 1.4.1). Illustration modified from Lepousez *et al.* (2013). ONL, olfactory nerve layer; GL, glomerular layer; EPL, external plexiform layer; MCL, mitral cell layer; GCL, granule cell layer.

Compared to most other central nervous system regions, an unique feature of the olfactory system is the relation of inhibitory cells (which release the neurotransmitter gamma-aminobutyric acid, GABA) to excitatory cells (which release the neurotransmitter glutamate): inhibitory interneurons outnumber excitatory principal cells by approximately 100:1 (Imai 2014). The juxtaglomerular cells are composed of inhibitory periglomerular cells (PGCs) and short-axon cells (SACs), as well as excitatory external tufted cells (ETCs). In deeper layers of the OB, M/Ts can be inhibited by granule cells (GCs) before they transfer the output signal to the olfactory cortex (anterior olfactory nucleus, olfactory tubercle, and piriform cortex), the cortical nucleus of the amygdala and the entorhinal area (Kevetter and Winans 1981; Shepherd 2004; Wilson and Mainen 2006). GCs in the deeper layer account for about 90% of all bulbar interneurons (Shepherd et al. 2007), and PGCs together with SACs make up the remaining 10% in the superficial glomerular layer. In the glomerular layer, half of the juxtaglomerular cells are GABAergic PGCs and SACs, and half are glutamatergic ETCs (Parrish-Aungst et al. 2007). The initial information about odorant identity and intensity is thought to be extracted by bulbar interneurons in the glomerular layer as well as in the deeper external plexiform and granule cell layer. One conceivable way to achieve this extraction might be via decorrelation of signals arriving from OSNs. There are several hypotheses how OSN signals could be decorrelated (Cleland and Linster 2005) by each cell in different OB layers, which is discussed in the following section.

1.1.1 Sensory processing in the olfactory bulb

Each cell in different OB layers is assumed to play a different role in the processing of olfactory signals arriving from OSNs. The inhibitory PGC is the most abundant GABAergic cell type in the glomerular layer (Parrish-Aungst et~al.~2007). It has the smallest cell body among all juxtaglomerular cell types and thus a very high input resistance (~1 G Ω). Typically, it extends its dendrites to a single glomerulus, only occasionally to multiple glomeruli. In this one particular glomerulus, the PGC is thought to mediate 'intra-glomerular' inhibition of M/Ts and juxtaglomerular cells in addition to presynaptic feedback-inhibition of OSNs (McGann et~al.~2005; Murphy et~al.~2005; Gire and Schoppa 2009). Intra-glomerular inhibition within one glomerulus is a potential mechanism to decorrelate OSN signals and to enhance contrast between similar odorants. 'Contrast enhancement is a common property of sensory systems

that serves to narrow, or sharpen, sensory representations by specifically inhibiting neurons on the periphery of the representation' (Cleland and Sethupathy 2006). However, in the OB, an approximately 1000-dimensional sensory space, provided by the around 1000 odorant receptors expressed by OSNs, is projected onto a twodimensional glomerular layer. Therefore, center and periphery of a receptive field are not necessarily located in spatially close glomeruli. Thus, a contrast enhancement independent of the topography of glomeruli is a more likely property of this sensory system. This 'nontopographical contrast enhancement hypothesis' proposes that an inhibitory PGC within a glomerulus, which receives a weak input, will be excited before excitatory cells (ETCs or M/Ts) because the PGC has a higher input resistance (Cleland and Sethupathy 2006; Gire and Schoppa 2009). Then, the PGC would inhibit excitatory cells in this glomerulus. In comparison, a strong input in another glomerulus could excite excitatory cells directly, and M/Ts could forward the signal to the olfactory cortex. Thus, only the strong and not the weak input would be transmitted. resulting in less noisy signals arriving in the olfactory cortex. Furthermore, PGCs are thought to inhibit OSNs via GABAB receptors. Several studies investigated the underlying mechanism of this feedback inhibition (Aroniadou-Anderjaska et al. 2000; McGann et al. 2005; Murphy et al. 2005; Wachowiak et al. 2005; Vucinic et al. 2006). Research suggests that feedback inhibition on OSNs is dependent on sensory activity (strength of odorant stimulus, sampling frequency of the nose) or spatial distribution of glomeruli. Pirez and Wachowiak challenged this idea in 2008 by in vivo experiments demonstrating that inhibition is not necessarily dependent on sensory activity, but rather tonically present even before an odorant is presented (Pirez and Wachowiak 2008). Presynaptic inhibition is thought to be necessary for several reasons (reviewed in McGann (2013)): first, the OSN synapse has an unusually high release probability, and without controlled inhibition, the vesicle pool would be rapidly depleted at high firing rates. Second, the dynamic range of response amplitudes to various odorant concentrations can be extended by shifting the level at which OSNs would saturate to a higher value. Third, tonic inhibition could serve as a gain control limiting sensory input as a function of the animal's brain state and behavior. Indeed, Petzold and colleagues showed that the presynaptic inhibition of OSNs is regulated by serotonergic inputs from the dorsal raphe nucleus in the brain stem (Petzold et al. 2009) and serotonergic neurons are known to change their activity depending on brain state (Jacobs and Azmitia 1992; Jones 2005). In conclusion, the suggested function of PGCs is to decorrelate signals via intra-glomerular inhibition and to control the release of glutamate from OSNs via presynaptic inhibition.

Inter-glomerular inhibition, i.e., inhibition between glomeruli, is thought to be mediated by the inhibitory SACs and might serve lateral contrast enhancement (Cleland and Linster 2005). The cell bodies of SACs are slightly larger than the cell bodies of PGCs, and their dendrites course in the inter-glomerular space. SACs can extent their dendrites and contact 5-12 glomeruli (oligo-glomerular) or more than 30 glomeruli (poly-glomerular) (Kiyokage *et al.* 2010). As a result, SACs, in contrast to PGCs, can inhibit glomerular cells in far-distanced locations within the OB and not only in the glomerulus where they received synaptic input. The current model is that those SACs that receive a strong excitatory input from OSNs would inhibit weakly activated M/Ts in neighboring or distant glomeruli.

Lateral contrast enhancement was also suggested for GCs in the external plexiform layer. Here, a GC activated by a strongly activated M/T cell can inhibit weakly activated neighboring M/T cells via reciprocal dendro-dendritic synapses laying in the external plexiform layer. Besides contrast enhancement, another suggested function of GCs in the OB is facilitation of MC synchronizations and network oscillations (Bathellier *et al.* 2006; Lagier *et al.* 2007).

In summary, bulbar interneurons seem to be essential for the extraction of odorant identity and intensity from OSN inputs via intra- and inter-glomerular inhibition before the signal is forwarded by M/Ts to higher cortical areas. Another suggested function of PGCs is to adjust the sensory inputs of OSNs; while an additional suggested function of GCs is to facilitate MC synchronization.

1.2 Adult neurogenesis in the olfactory bulb

Contrary to the previous acknowledged dogma that the adult brain loses its potential to regenerate and refine synaptic connections after development, it has been shown that an established mature neuronal network can undergo various forms of plasticity (Holtmaat and Svoboda 2009; Yang and Zhou 2009; Piochon *et al.* 2016). One form is structural plasticity, where new synaptic connections are formed or existing connections are eliminated; another form is molecular plasticity, where synaptic connections are strengthened or weakened (Holtmaat and Svoboda 2009; Yang and Zhou

2009; Piochon *et al.* 2016). These refinements are thought to enable some flexibility in the response to new signals arising from complex and ever-changing environments. In addition to these refinements, a new form of neuronal plasticity was discovered in the last few decades: the addition of entirely new neurons into a pre-existing functional network, called 'neurogenesis' (Gage 2004). Here, new connections can be formed with neurons that have not been present before. Neither is it understood why entirely new neurons need to arise and structural/molecular plasticity is not sufficient, nor how connectivity and function of the network are preserved when new neurons integrate. Interestingly, in more complex nervous systems, neurogenesis seems to be less prominent (Kaslin *et al.* 2008), which could imply that integrity of complex neuronal circuits is incompatible with neurogenesis. In contrast to other vertebrates like birds and fishes, which show widespread neurogenesis in many brain regions (Kaslin *et al.* 2008), in mammalians, neurogenesis has only been observed in two brain regions: hippocampus and OB (Ming and Song 2011).

Thousands of these new 'adult-born cells' (ABCs) arrive every day in the OB after migrating from the subventricular zone (SVZ), which is a layer of tissue covering the walls of the lateral ventricles. In turn, elimination of neurons in the OB was also shown to take place (Sawada *et al.* 2011). In the rodent SVZ, neural stem cells give rise to neuroblasts (Doetsch *et al.* 1999), which migrate several days via the rostral migratory stream (RMS) into the OB (Lois and Alvarez-Buylla 1994)(Figure 2). More than 95% of these cells terminate their migration in deeper layers of the OB and become inhibitory GCs, while the remaining 5% migrate further radially to the glomerular layer and become mainly PGCs and, to a lesser extent, SACs (Alvarez-Buylla and Garcia-Verdugo 2002; Lledo and Saghatelyan 2005).

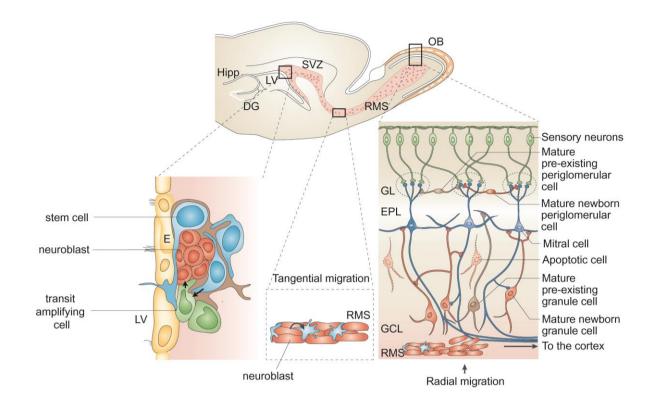


Figure 2. Production, migration, and integration of adult-born cells (ABCs). ABCs arise from stem cells in the subventricular zone (SVZ) and migrate along the rostral migratory stream (RMS) to the olfactory bulb (OB). There, they migrate radially into the granule cell layer to become GCs and into the glomerular layer to become PGCs and SACs. One part of the ABCs dies, and the other part differentiates into mature cells and integrates into the pre-existing circuitry (modified after Lledo *et al.* (2006)). LV, lateral ventricle; E, epithelial cell; DG, dentate gyrus; Hipp, hippocampus.

It has been postulated that these ABCs enable a new form of plasticity for the neuronal system to adapt to the ever-changing environment. Thus, ABCs are suggested to detect new signals compared to pre-existing, resident cells. This hypothesis was tested by presentation of novel signals and subsequent measurement of ABCs' activity. In the OB, Magavi and colleagues showed that presentation of novel odorants increased the expression of the immediate-early gene Arc, a marker for neuronal activity, in adult-born but not resident olfactory GCs (Magavi et al. 2005). In the hippocampus, a different study by Danielson et al. showed in awake mice that adult-born GCs are crucial for the discrimination between novel and familiar contexts: by optogenetic silencing of adult-born GCs in the hippocampus, contextual discrimination was impaired (Danielson et al. 2016). Since ABCs were shown to detect new signals, it raised the question what would happen if signals from the environment are blocked. When sensory signals to the OB were blocked by closure of one nostril (naris occlusion), survival of ABCs was reduced in the respective hemibulb (Mandairon et al. 2006). On the other hand, an increase in sensory inputs via enrichment with odorants

has been shown to increase survival of ABCs in the OB (Rochefort et al. 2002; Bovetti et al. 2009; Bonzano et al. 2014). Thus, ABCs seem to be important for detection of new signals, and their survival depends on olfactory signals from the environment. Furthermore, it was observed that their survival is potentiated in animals undergoing specific behavioral tasks, like the odor discrimination task (Alonso et al. 2006), and that successful discrimination of odorants in this task depends on the activation of these neurons (Alonso et al. 2012). Reduction of adult neurogenesis impaired the animal's performance in odor discrimination tasks (Gheusi et al. 2000; Enwere et al. 2004). Besides detection and discrimination of odorants, it is believed that ABCs contribute to plasticity within the system, which is potentially required to learn new odordriven behaviors, e.g. remembering to act in response to one specific odorant but not to another. Several studies confirmed their contribution to learning processes: ABCs have been shown to influence short-term olfactory memory (Rochefort et al. 2002; Breton-Provencher et al. 2009; Pan et al. 2012; Wang et al. 2015), long-term olfactory memory (Lazarini et al. 2009; Sultan et al. 2010), perceptual learning (Moreno et al. 2009), associative olfactory learning (Pan et al. 2012; Sakamoto et al. 2014; Wang et al. 2015), and fear learning (Valley et al. 2009; Pan et al. 2012). Furthermore, it has been described that ABCs may play a role in innate olfactory responses like pregnancy, mating behavior, male offspring recognition and male-male aggressive behavior (Shingo et al. 2003; Mak et al. 2007; Larsen et al. 2008; Feierstein et al. 2010; Mak and Weiss 2010; Sakamoto et al. 2011).

In several of these studies, adult neurogenesis was inhibited, and learning performance was measured. For example, after cytosine arabinoside infusion into the lateral ventricles (where the SVZ is located) or after irradiation of the SVZ with ultraviolet (UV) light, changes in short-term but not long-term memory were observed, while other authors described effects on long-term, but not short-term memory. These contradictory findings are a matter of discussion (Lledo *et al.* 2006; Lazarini and Lledo 2011; Breton-Provencher and Saghatelyan 2012; Gheusi and Lledo 2014) and might be probably due to the different ways how adult neurogenesis was inhibited. As it was the case for sensory inputs and odor discrimination tasks, also olfactory learning increases ABC survival (Moreno *et al.* 2009; Kermen *et al.* 2010; Sultan *et al.* 2010). The effect on odor discrimination and olfactory learning depends on the task and on the age of the ABCs (Mandairon *et al.* 2011; Alonso *et al.* 2012). Alonso *et al.*

showed that a direct activation of ABCs in vivo facilitated the discrimination between two odorants, but only when the task was difficult and involved perceptually similar odorants (Alonso et al. 2012). The observed effects on learning and memory were dependent on neuronal age (Mouret et al. 2008; Belnoue et al. 2011). Belnoue and colleagues showed that odorant stimulation preferentially activated immature neurons (around 2 weeks old) whereas associative learning based on odor discrimination activated mature neurons (5-9 weeks old) (Belnoue et al. 2011). Another function of ABCs has been proposed to be circuit maintenance (Cummings et al. 2014): maintenance of neuronal connections is of particular interest since it is in contrast to the idea that newly arriving cells might distort already present connections in the neuronal circuit as they form new connections. Cummings et al. described that the principal neurons of the OB, TCs, usually send their axons to the 'partner' glomerulus of the contralateral OB. There, the axons ramify in a specific constellation between the MC and GC layer. After blocking sensory input by naris occlusion, these ramifications broadened, but became refined again when the nostril was reopened. In a transgenic mouse where neurogenesis in the SVZ was inhibited, this refinement after nostril reopening was not possible anymore.

In summary, olfactory ABCs are believed to play a role in odor detection, odor discrimination, olfactory learning, innate olfactory behavior, and circuit maintenance.

1.2.1 Comparison of adult-born and resident cells in the olfactory bulb

As it is believed that ABCs are important for specific olfactory functions, it raised the question if they possess specific morphological and physiological properties. Indeed, it was shown that ABCs express more N-methyl-D-aspartate receptors (NMDARs) compared to α-amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole-propionic acid receptors (AMPARs) in their plasma membrane (Grubb *et al.* 2008). ABCs also show different spontaneous activities (Belluzzi *et al.* 2003; Grubb *et al.* 2008; Livneh *et al.* 2014; Kovalchuk *et al.* 2015). For instance, Livneh *et al.* demonstrated in ketamine/medetomidine (K/M) anesthetized mice *in vivo* that 2-week-old adult-born PGCs had a lower spontaneous action potential (AP) firing rate than resident cells (Livneh *et al.* 2014), while Kovalchuk *et al.* showed in ketamine/xylazine (K/X) anesthetized mice, that 9-day-old adult-born PGCs had a lower spontaneous AP firing rate (Kovalchuk *et al.* 2015). Furthermore, Kovalchuk *et al.* described that ABCs show

different odor-evoked responses: odorant stimulation induced lower AP firing rates in 9-day-old PGCs at a specific stimulus concentration (9% saturated vapor) compared to resident cells, while Livneh et al. showed that adult-born PGCs at 4 weeks of age show higher odor-evoked AP firing rates (Livneh et al. 2014). Besides spontaneous and odor-evoked activity, response selectivity was also reported to be different (Livneh et al. 2014). Livneh et al. demonstrated that 2- and 4-week-old PGCs are less selective, i.e. they respond to more odorants than resident cells in K/M anesthetized mice. ABCs also show different morphological properties when they are young compared to when they mature (Mizrahi 2007; Livneh et al. 2009; Livneh and Mizrahi 2011). It was observed that the dendritic trees of immature adult-born PGCs were less densely branched with a lower total dendritic branch length, lower number of branching points and fewer intersections compared to mature adult-born PGCs (Mizrahi 2007; Livneh et al. 2009; Livneh and Mizrahi 2011). In addition, Livneh et al. described a lower number of postsynaptic density 95 (PSD95) puncta in immature adult-born PGCs (Livneh et al. 2009), an indication for fewer synaptic contacts. These puncta were more dynamic in immature adult-born PGCs, with a higher percentage of newly created PSD95 puncta and a lower percentage of stable PSD95 puncta described. Furthermore, the connectivity between adult-born GCs and MCs has been described to be more dynamic than the connectivity between resident GCs and MCs (Huang et al. 2016; Quast et al. 2017). For instance, Quast et al. analyzed connectivity in the context of receptive fields: when a GC has more connections with MCs, its receptive field is larger. The authors observed that receptive fields broadened during maturation, implying that GCs receive more inputs from MCs when they mature. This phenomenon was shown to be activity-dependent: upon sensory deprivation, the connections of MCs onto adult-born GCs reduced leading to shrinkage of their receptive fields. The authors suggested that these plastic receptive fields could act as a substrate for olfactory learning.

When ABCs mature, the ratio of AMPARs/NMDARs increases: these 'typical mature' glutamatergic synapses were observed in adult-born PGCs/SACs at 45 days of age (Grubb *et al.* 2008). Also spontaneous activity of ABCs becomes similar to resident cells as they mature: Livneh *et al.* showed for 8-to-9-week-old and Kovalchuk *et al.* for 7-to-13-week-old adult-born PGCs that their AP firing rates matched the firing rates of resident cells (Livneh *et al.* 2014; Kovalchuk *et al.* 2015). In both studies,

odor-evoked AP firing rates of mature adult-born PGCs and resident cells were similar (Livneh *et al.* 2014; Kovalchuk *et al.* 2015). Apart from that, odor-evoked activity was demonstrated to become more selective during maturation and thus similar to that of resident cells (Livneh *et al.* 2014; Wallace *et al.* 2017). Furthermore, the dynamics of dendrites and spines were shown to become more stable and thus similar to the dynamics found in resident cells (Mizrahi 2007; Livneh *et al.* 2009; Livneh and Mizrahi 2011). According to these findings, ABCs from an age of ~7/8 weeks on are assumed to be 'mature'.

On the other hand, mature ABCs (mABCs) still showed some properties that differed from those of resident cells. For instance, Livneh et al. showed that mature PGCs become more selective to odorants than resident cells if the environment was enriched with odorants when PGCs were 2-5 weeks old (Livneh et al. 2014). Wallace et al. showed in awake mice that adult-born GC dendrites become less selective after odorant enrichment (Wallace et al. 2017), in contrast to Livneh's finding for PGCs. However, in both cases, their selectivity was variable and dependent on sensory inputs from the environment. Interestingly, Wallace et al. showed that adult-born GCs consist of two subpopulations, one becoming more selective with maturation, and the other becoming less selective and instead broadening their responsiveness with maturation. Thus, even when the sensory inputs from the environment were not changed, one subpopulation of adult-born GCs will develop differently and become distinct to resident cells. In the hippocampus, the second region where significant adult neurogenesis has been observed in mammals, Ramirez-Amaya and colleagues showed that adult-born GCs stay more responsive towards new environmental contexts even when they mature, as indicated by an increased expression of the immediate-early gene Arc (Ramirez-Amaya et al. 2006).

Moreover, the dendritic morphology of mABCs remains plastic for a long time. *In vivo* time-lapse imaging studies in the OB have shown that new dendrites and spines were constantly formed or retracted on mature adult-born PGCs (Mizrahi 2007; Livneh *et al.* 2009; Livneh and Mizrahi 2011). Also in adult-born GCs, spines remained plastic after they matured (Sailor *et al.* 2016). Using a linear rate model let Sailor *et al.* to suggest that this spine plasticity might serve odor discrimination during learning processes (Sailor *et al.* 2016). Besides the so far described spine remodeling (addition and deletion of spines), which takes hours to days, also spine relocation

(extension of spine filopodia towards active dendrites) has been reported. Spine relocation has been observed on adult-born GCs in the OB and was described to take only minutes (Breton-Provencher *et al.* 2016). Since this relocation happens within minutes and not hours, it might serve other learning processes on a faster timescale. This behavior was found only in adult-born GCs, but not resident GCs. Breton-Provencher *et al.* performed sensory deprivation experiments and observed that filopodia-harboring spines were preserved after the deprivation while other spines were deleted. The authors speculated that this selection might help spines on GC dendrites to find and connect to an active MC dendrite faster. A modeling approach in the same study suggested that filopodia extension might provide a rapid way to change the set of synchronized MCs and as such, odorant information processing (Breton-Provencher *et al.* 2016).

In summary, the adult brain is capable of plasticity by adding ABCs into pre-existing neuronal networks. In the OB, ABCs are believed to detect new signals, discriminate between odorants, facilitate olfactory learning, contribute to innate olfactory responses, and maintain circuit specificity. Although the properties of ABCs became more similar to those of the pre-existing resident cells upon maturation, it has been observed that they retain some morphological and physiological differences. Studies about the physiological properties of ABCs and resident cells have been conducted so far predominantly in anesthetized mice. However, it is well known that anesthesia has a profound effect on brain activity (see next section) and might therefore affect the investigation and comparison of ABCs and resident cells in the OB.

1.3 Modulation of brain states by anesthesia

1.3.1 Effect of anesthesia on bulbar interneurons

Spontaneous and odor-evoked activity of olfactory GCs was shown to decrease under K/X anesthesia, as well as under urethane anesthesia (Kato *et al.* 2012). Moreover, GCs responded less selective to odorants in the awake state but became more selective under anesthesia (Kato *et al.* 2012; Cazakoff *et al.* 2014). Furthermore, it was reported that immature adult-born GCs respond less selective to odorants compared to mature adult-born GCs, and that this difference was stronger in awake state than under anesthesia (Wallace *et al.* 2017). Spontaneous and odor-evoked activities

of PGCs and SACs in the glomerular layer were shown to be lower under isoflurane anesthesia compared to the awake state (Wachowiak et al. 2013). However, in the study by Wachowiak et al., measurements of PGCs and SACs were performed immediately after removal of isoflurane, so that the mouse has perhaps not completely recovered from anesthesia (see, e.g. Eger (1981)) Hence, it might be difficult to draw a clear conclusion from this data on how activities of PGCs and SACs change between awake and anesthetized state. As activity of OB interneurons was indicated to decline under anesthesia, it implies that some excitatory inputs to interneurons are active in the awake state, but not under anesthesia. Indeed, the OB receives centrifugal projections from various brain areas that modulate the activity of interneurons (see section 1.4.1 and Figure 4). Boyd and coworkers observed that optogenetic activation of pyramidal neurons in the olfactory cortex increases activity in inhibitory neurons in the OB (PGCs, SACs, and GCs) (Boyd et al. 2012), indicating a direct excitatory drive onto these interneurons. In a study by Boyd et al., the activity of centrifugal projections from the olfactory cortex was compared between anesthesia and awake state. Since the OB forwards signals to the olfactory cortex, projections from the olfactory cortex back to the OB are also called 'feedback projections'. Boyd et al. labeled these feedback projections with a calcium (Ca2+) indicator and measured activity of their terminals in the OB; they observed that spontaneous and odor-evoked activity in those terminals decreased when K/X or urethane anesthesia was induced (Boyd et al. 2015). The decrease in spontaneous activity of feedback projections under anesthesia was also observed in another study (Otazu et al. 2015).

1.3.2 The ascending reticular activating system (ARAS)

Anesthesia is known to suppress parts of the ascending reticular activating system (ARAS) leading to a state comparable to non-rapid eye movement (NREM) sleep (see 1.3.3). The ARAS consists of the ventral and the dorsal pathway and activates the cortex (including the OB) in the awake state (Dringenberg and Vanderwolf 1998; Detari *et al.* 1999; Semba 2000; Jones 2003). In the following, I will focus on the ventral pathway (Figure 3) which also targets the OB (see 1.4; Figure 4).

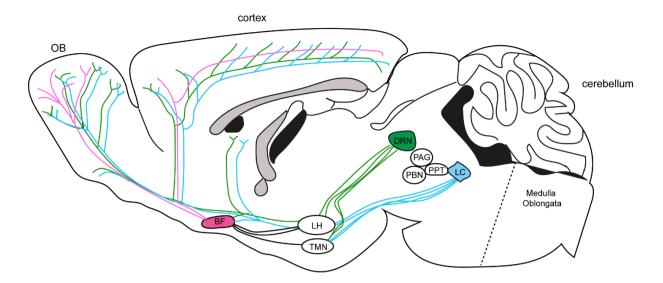


Figure 3. Ventral ARAS pathway excites cortex in the transition from sleep to arousal. The dorsal raphe nucleus (DRN), the locus coeruleus (LC), the periaqueductal gray (PAG) and the parabrachial nucleus (PBN) send their axons to the lateral hypothalamic (LH) and tuberomammillary (TM) nuclei of the hypothalamus, as well as the basal forebrain. The LH and TM nuclei also ascend to the basal forebrain. The basal forebrain projects to the cortex and increases cortical activity. PPT, pedunculopontine tegmental nuclei. Illustration modified from Lorincz and Adamantidis (2017).

The ventral pathway of the ARAS consists of noradrenergic projections from the locus coeruleus, serotonergic projections from the dorsal raphe nucleus, dopaminergic projections from the periaqueductal gray and glutamatergic projections from the parabrachial nucleus. These projections target the lateral hypothalamic (LH) and tuberomammillary (TM) nuclei of the hypothalamus, as well as the basal forebrain. Projections from the LH and TM nuclei also ascend to the basal forebrain (Jones and Yang 1985). The basal forebrain projects to the cortex (Brown *et al.* 2010), leading to a higher state of cortical excitability. As reviewed in Brown *et al.*, firing rates of cholinergic neurons from the basal forebrain correlate with cortical activation, which is highest during wakefulness. Like acetylcholine, noradrenaline and serotonin promote wakefulness in the cortex. The average firing rates of cholinergic, noradrenergic, and serotonergic neurons decline during NREM sleep (Brown *et al.* 2012). In rapid eye movement (REM) sleep, noradrenergic and serotonergic neurons remain silent, while cholinergic neurons fire at higher rates (Lee *et al.* 2005; Brown *et al.* 2012; Lee and Dan 2012).

1.3.3 Action of anesthetic agents

'General anesthesia is a drug-induced, reversible condition that includes specific behavioral and physiological traits - unconsciousness, amnesia, analgesia, and akinesia - with concomitant stability of the autonomic, cardiovascular, respiratory, and ther-

moregulatory systems' (Brown et al. 2010). A critical issue in medicine and neuroscience is to understand how anesthetic agents mediate the suppression of arousal and cause other effects seen under anesthesia, of which many can be related to modulation of ARAS nuclei. Anesthetic drugs that are commonly used in mice, and which were used in this study are: (1) K/X, (2) 3-component narcosis (3CN), which is a combination of midazolam, medetomidine, and fentanyl, and (3) the volatile anesthetic isoflurane. Studies tested, for instance, the effect of GABAA potentiators (such as midazolam), α2 adrenergic receptor agonists (such as xylazine and medetomidine) and opioids (such as fentanyl) onto the brain nuclei that are part of the ARAS (reviewed in Brown et al. (2010)). These studies reported that GABAA potentiators increase the inhibition of the TMN, and thereby stop promotion of wakefulness (Nelson et al. 2002). The α2 adrenergic receptor agonists have been shown to inhibit release of noradrenaline from neurons in the locus coeruleus (Correa-Sales et al. 1992; Nelson et al. 2003). The electroencephalographic (EEG) patterns under α2 adrenergic receptor agonists closely resembled those of NREM sleep (Huupponen et al. 2008). Furthermore, it was described that opioids hyperpolarize cells in the periaqueductal gray via binding to μ, δ and κ opioid receptors. In addition, presynaptically activated opioid receptors can inhibit the release of acetylcholine, noradrenaline, serotonin, glutamate, and the neuropeptide substance P (Brown et al. 2010). Different anesthetic agents act on preferred target receptors, but the number of target receptors can change dependent on anesthesia depth (see Table 1). Xylazine and medetomidine are α2 adrenergic receptor agonists and lead to a block of noradrenaline release via activation of a2 receptors on presynapses of noradrenergic fibers whereby medetomidine is ten times more specific to a receptors than xylazine. Isoflurane potentiates GABAA receptors but was also shown to inhibit glutamatergic NMDARs, block AMPARs, and stimulate Kainate receptors. Furthermore, it can inhibit nicotinergic acetylcholine receptors (nAChRs), stimulate serotonin receptors, and interact with Na⁺ channels, L-type Ca²⁺ channels, and K⁺ channels. Moreover, midazolam and isoflurane potentiate the effect of the main inhibitory neurotransmitter in the spinal cord, glycine, inducing immobility during anesthesia. Ketamine is known to be a NMDAR antagonist, but it was also shown to inhibit nAChRs, to bind μ, δ and κ receptors of the opioid system and to interact with Na⁺ channels, L-type Ca²⁺ channels and K⁺ channels (Mion and Villevieille 2013). Furthermore, ketamine affects the serotonergic system, stimulates the release of noradrenaline, and inhibits the reuptake of catecholamines (noradrenaline, adrenaline, dopamine), provoking a hyperadrenergic state. This hyperadrenergic state can be decreased when ketamine is applied together with xylazine or medetomidine.

Table 1. Actions of different anesthetic agents used in this study on neurotransmitter receptors (Rec.). + denotes agonism, - denotes antagonism of the receptor, *dep.* means depolarization and *hyp.* means hyperpolarization of the cell after binding of the agent to the receptor. 5-HT, serotonin; NA, noradrenaline.

	GABA _A Rec	nACh Rec	5-HT system	NA system	AMPA Rec	Kainate Rec	NMDA Rec	opioid Rec	Na ⁺ -, Ca ²⁺ -, K ⁺ - channels
Ketamine		- → hyp	+/- → hyp/dep	+ → dep			- → hyp	+ → hyp	+/- → hyp/dep
Xylazine				+ (α2) → hyp					
Medetomidine				+ (α2) → hyp					
Midazolam	+ → hyp								
Isoflurane	+ → hyp	- → hyp	+ → dep		- → hyp	+ → dep	- → hyp		+/- → hyp/dep
Fentanyl								+ → hyp	

Anesthesia-induced reduction of interneuron activity in the OB, which was described in section 1.3.1, can have several common reasons, including potentiation of GABAA receptors on interneurons leading to increased inhibition, or blockade of glutamatergic receptors (AMPARs, NMDARs) and nAChRs on interneurons leading to decreased excitation. Finally, yet importantly, it was observed that centrifugal projections from the olfactory cortex (see section 1.3.1) decrease their activity under anesthesia and thus the excitatory drive onto interneurons could be missing. Further centrifugal inputs targeting the OB are described in the following section and arise from the ARAS nuclei, which are suppressed by anesthesia (see section 1.3.3).

1.4 Centrifugal inputs to the olfactory bulb

1.4.1 Neuromodulation of the olfactory bulb neurons

The OB receives a variety of neuromodulatory centrifugal projections from the olfactory cortex, and some ARAS nuclei, namely locus coeruleus, dorsal raphe nucleus and basal forebrain (Shepherd 2004; Willhite *et al.* 2006; Mouret *et al.* 2009).

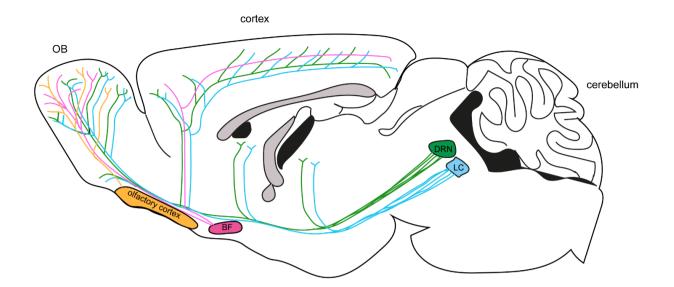


Figure 4. Centrifugal projections to the olfactory bulb. The OB receives glutamatergic projections from the olfactory cortex (orange), noradrenergic projections from the locus coeruleus (LC, blue), serotonergic projections from the dorsal raphe nucleus (green) and cholinergic projections from the basal forebrain (BF, pink). Illustration modified from Lorincz and Adamantidis (2017).

The olfactory cortex provides glutamatergic inputs to the OB. These feedback projections target predominantly the GC and external plexiform layer and excite inhibitory neurons: PGCs, SACs, GCs and dSACs (Boyd *et al.* 2012; Otazu *et al.* 2015).

The locus coeruleus provides noradrenergic inputs to the external plexiform-, GC-and MC-layer (McLean *et al.* 1989; McLean and Shipley 1991). Noradrenaline binds to α1 adrenergic receptors on MCs resulting in depolarization (Hayar *et al.* 2001). Furthermore, noradrenaline was shown to excite or inhibit GCs via α1 or α2 adrenergic receptors, respectively (Nai *et al.* 2010). The strength of adrenergic innervation was reported to be sensory activity-dependent: naris occlusion increased fiber density in the external plexiform layer (Brinon *et al.* 2001). The noradrenergic transmission in the OB was suggested to be important for odor discrimination (Doucette *et al.* 2007; Mandairon *et al.* 2008) and olfactory learning processes (Rosser and Keverne 1985; Brennan *et al.* 1990; Sara *et al.* 1994; Shea *et al.* 2008; Shakhawat *et al.* 2012). Pandipati and colleagues suggested that noradrenaline might exert its effect on learning processes via inhibiting GCs, which would lead to MC disinhibition, so that MCs can fire synchronously to enable learning (Pandipati *et al.* 2010).

The dorsal raphe nucleus provides serotonergic inputs predominantly to the glomerular layer in the OB; and this in a heterogeneous fashion (McLean and Shipley 1987; Gomez *et al.* 2005). Larger glomeruli receive few serotonergic fibers, in con-

trast to relatively smaller glomeruli, which are highly innervated by serotonergic fibers. The serotonergic innervation is as well sensory activity-dependent, showing increased serotonergic fiber innervation after unilateral naris occlusion (Gomez et al. 2007). Application of serotonin has been shown to depolarize tonically active juxtaglomerular cells (Hardy et al. 2005) and stimulation of the dorsal raphe nucleus increased activity of PGCs and SACs (Brunert et al. 2016). PGCs express metabotropic 5-HT_{2C} receptors. Upon activation by serotonin, PGCs release GABA and inhibit OSNs presynaptically (Petzold et al. 2009), enabling brain state-dependent control of odor sensitivity. On a faster timescale, serotonergic activation was also shown to modulate activity of the output neurons in the OB, TCs and MCs (Kapoor et al. 2016). McLean et al. found an impairment in olfactory learning after depleting serotonergic fibers in neonatal rat pups (McLean et al. 1993). Moriizumi et al. reported that olfactory learned avoidance of a repellent failed after serotonergic fiber depletion in rats. Furthermore, Moriizumi observed glomerular dystrophy, implying that serotonin is involved in cell survival and circuit maintenance (Moriizumi et al. 1994). Overall, the suggested function of serotonin in the OB is sensory gain control and facilitation of learning and memory.

The basal forebrain provides cholinergic inputs from a nucleus called 'horizontal limb of the diagonal band' (HDB). In contrast to the other centers, cholinergic projections target all bulbar layers (Macrides et al. 1981; Shipley and Adamek 1984; Zaborszky et al. 1986; Durand et al. 1998), although there are also studies indicating a preference for the glomerular layer (Kasa 1986; Porteros et al. 2007). The cholinergic innervation in the glomerular layer is also heterogeneous (Gomez et al. 2005; Salcedo et al. 2011). In addition, the extent of innervation is age-dependent: cholinergic innervation is sparse 2 days after birth (postnatal day 2, 'P2'), becomes greatest at P12 and then declines in the adulthood (Le Jeune et al. 1996; Durand et al. 1998; Salcedo et al. 2011), which implies a role of cholinergic projections in postnatal development. In the adult mouse, innervation has been shown to be sensory activitydependent, showing diminished cholinergic innervation after naris occlusion (Salcedo et al. 2011). The action of acetylcholine in the OB is controversially discussed. It has various effects, depending on cell type and receptor type targeted in experiments. An application of cholinergic receptor agonists in situ in tissue slices (Castillo et al. 1999; D'Souza and Vijayaraghavan 2012; D'Souza et al. 2013) or in vivo in anesthetized

mice (Ravel et al. 1990) induced an increase in excitability of ETCs, MCS, and PGCs. whereby the bipolar PGCs described in Castillo's study rather resemble the nowadays classified SACs. The increase was mediated by nAChRs. Furthermore, Rothermel et al. showed that M/T cell firing is enhanced after optogenetic activation of cholinergic terminals in the OB of anesthetized mice (Rothermel et al. 2014). However, activation of cholinergic cells in the HDB itself led to reduced spontaneous activity of PGCs and M/Ts (Ma and Luo 2012). This discrepancy could arise from the different areas used to stimulate cholinergic transmission: stimulating the HDB may lead to indirect inhibition of M/Ts and other bulbar neurons through different pathways than direct activation of cholinergic terminals in the bulb as a more immediate method to alter cholinergic tone in the OB. The action of acetylcholine on GCs has been reported to be mediated via muscarinic acetylcholine receptors (mAChRs); GCs express various mAChR subtypes, which can result in either excitation via the M1 receptor (Castillo et al. 1999; Pressler et al. 2007), or inhibition via the M2 receptor (Kunze et al. 1992; Ma and Luo 2012). Activation of OB neurons by acetylcholine is believed to serve mainly three OB computations as reviewed in Devore and Linster (2012) and Li and Cleland (2013): (1) filtering of strong versus weak OSN inputs; (2) decorrelation of similar odorants to enhance contrast and (3) generation of gamma oscillations to facilitate learning and memory. These computations might underlie the so far described function of acetylcholine, which is the improvement of performance in learning and memory. Acetylcholine release from HDB fibers was shown to be involved in the enhancement of sensory perception during wakefulness, particularly during periods of sustained attention (Sarter and Bruno 1997; Himmelheber et al. 2000; Jones 2005; Hasselmo and Giocomo 2006), opposite to serotonergic action, which is highest during non-attentive states (Jacobs and Azmitia 1992; Jones 2005). Enhanced attention to sensory stimuli might be needed to facilitate sensory processing and improve memory encoding. Indeed, blockade of cholinergic transmission in the OB resulted in deficits in odor discrimination (Linster et al. 2001; Fletcher and Wilson 2002; Mandairon et al. 2006) as well as various forms of learning and memory such as habituation (Hunter and Murray 1989), odor-reward association (Roman et al. 1993) and short-term olfactory memory (Ravel et al. 1994). Furthermore, acetylcholine was reported to switch the dynamics of the piriform cortex network between the modes of olfactory learning (acetylcholine 'on') and memory recall (acetylcholine 'off') (de Almeida et al. 2013). From a clinical perspective, it is noteworthy that cholinergic neurons degenerate early during neurodegenerative diseases (Coyle *et al.* 1983; Pepeu and Grazia Giovannini 2017) at the same time as olfaction declines (Coyle *et al.* 1983; Christen-Zaech *et al.* 2003).

In summary, centrifugal projections innervate different layers of the OB, whereby serotonergic and cholinergic projections predominantly target the glomerular layer and the noradrenergic projections target the external plexiform-, GC- and MC-layer. The innervation of those centrifugal projections is dependent on sensory inputs, and their activity is dependent on brain state (awake versus sleep; low versus high attention). Centrifugal projections to the OB mainly excite inhibitory neurons and mediate odor discrimination, learning and memory, and sensory gain control.

1.4.2 Neuromodulation of adult-born cells

Centrifugal inputs have been shown to target ABCs (Mouret et al. 2009; Lazarini and Lledo 2011). For example, projections from the olfactory cortex target immature (18day-old) adult-born GCs (Deshpande et al. 2013). The strength of this innervation was increased after learning as shown in 32-day-old GCs (Lepousez et al. 2014). Noradrenergic projections were described to target immature adult-born GCs and control their survival (Bauer et al. 2003; Moreno et al. 2012). Moreover, serotonin was reported to influence ABCs by regulating neurogenesis: depletion of serotonin decreased neurogenesis in the SVZ (Brezun and Daszuta 1999) whereas injection of serotonin receptor antagonists increased neurogenesis (Soumier et al. 2010). In addition, in a mouse model of anxiety and depression, application of a selective serotonin reuptake inhibitor restored survival of ABCs and attenuated olfactory deficits (Siopi et al. 2016). Also cholinergic projections target immature ABCs. It was described that 14-day-old GCs receive cholinergic projections as their first neuromodulatory input during development and maturation (Whitman and Greer 2007). Furthermore, cholinergic projections have been shown to modulate survival of ABCs (Cooper-Kuhn et al. 2004; Kaneko et al. 2006). Mechawar et al. found that this modulation is dependent on the cholinergic receptor and cell type activated (Mechawar et al. 2004): activation of β2-nAChRs decreased the survival of adult-born GCs but not PGCs. In summary, so far, it has been reported that centrifugal projections promote the survival of adultborn immature GCs and PGCs. Anatomical projections have been investigated, to the best of my knowledge, only onto immature GCs, but not onto adult-born PGCs. Furthermore, no studies comparing centrifugal projections between ABCs and resident cells have been published.

1.5 Aim of this project

The precise function of ABCs in the OB is not fully understood. Specifically, whether they become and remain a discrete cell population, or if they 'simply' replace pre-existing resident cells. Studies suggest that ABCs become like resident cells when they mature, but may retain some unique properties. The aim of this work was to understand if ABCs (specifically adult-born juxtaglomerular cells) retain unique features after their maturation regarding (1) spontaneous activity, (2) odor-evoked activity, (3) modulation by brain state via anesthesia, and (4) innervation by centrifugal projections.

Previously, the physiology of ABCs was measured predominantly in anesthetized animals. However, for several years it is well known that the activity of bulbar interneurons differs between awake and anesthetized state (see 1.3.1). Thus, to understand the genuine physiological properties of mABCs, we measured their spontaneous and odor-evoked activity in awake mice via measuring basal Ca²⁺ levels and odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals, respectively, and compared these properties to those of resident cells.

Furthermore, it was tested if the brain state modulates mABCs differently than resident cells. As brain state is changed under anesthesia (see 1.3.3), anesthetic agents were used to modulate the brain state, and basal and odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals of mABCs and resident cells were measured. Various anesthetic agents share some target receptors but also act specifically on other receptors. To avoid modulation of only specific receptors by one anesthetic agent, basal Ca²⁺ levels in mABCs and resident cells were compared under three commonly used anesthetic mixtures (K/X, 3CN, and isoflurane) that target a wide range of receptors (see Table 1).

Finally, brain state is regulated by the ARAS. OB neurons are known to receive centrifugal projections from ARAS nuclei (1.4) and these projections target ABCs and promote their survival. However, if these centrifugal projections target mABCs differently compared to resident cells is unknown. Therefore, we measured basal Ca²⁺ levels of both cell types in awake mice before and after topical application of pharmacological agents that block centrifugal target receptors in the OB.

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Animals and viral vectors

To label ABCs, we used predominantly lentiviral vectors as they label more cells and result in higher transgene expression. The HIV-based lentiviral vector (FUGW as the backbone, Addgene 14883) was produced by Dr. Yajie Liang and Kaizhen Li in the Institute for Physiology II through transfection of HEK293T cells (Thermo-Fisher Scientific Inc.). To a lesser extent we used retroviruses, which were transfected in GPG-1F8 cells. Both vectors deliver a transgene to the cells for expression of the fluorescent Ca²⁺ indicator protein Twitch-2B. Expression was under control of ubiquitin or cytomegalovirus immediate early enhancer/chicken β -actin/ β -globin (CAG) promotor in lentiviruses or retroviruses, respectively. Lentiviral or retroviral vectors were injected into the RMS of 2-to-6-month-old C57BL/6 wildtype mice (Charles River).

Previous studies compared ABCs to neighboring resident cells, whose transmitter type (GABAergic/glutamatergic) or age was unknown. However, the ABCs in the OB mature into GABAergic interneurons and 3% new neurons arrive every month in the OB and integrate into the network (Mizrahi et al. 2006; Ninkovic et al. 2007; Brill et al. 2009). Thus, approximately 50% of neighboring cells is glutamatergic and one part is newborn. Therefore, in our study, we planned to compare mABCs to mature resident GABAergic cells (Resgaba cells). To label GABAergic cells in the OB, we used the transgenic mouse strain Viaat-Cre (B6.FVB-Tg(Slc32a1-cre)2.1Hzo/FrkJ; The Jackson Laboratories). 'Viaat' is the abbreviation for 'vesicular inhibitory amino acid transporter' and so expression is directed to inhibitory cells. Chao and colleagues reported specific Cre expression in GABAergic neurons in this mouse strain (Chao et al. 2010). The Viaat-Cre transgenic mice were injected at young age (3-to-4-week-old) with an adeno-associated virus (AAV) carrying a Cre-inducible transgene for Twitchof 2B expression under control the synapsin promotor (AAV1.CAG.Flex.Twitch2B.WPRE.SV40, Addgene 49531M; Penn Vector Core, University of Pennsylvania). Around 6 months after AAV injection, two-photon imaging was started, so that labeled GABAergic cells had time to mature.

C57BL/6 wildtype mice and Viaat-Cre transgenic mice of both sexes were kept under a 12-hour-light-12-hour-dark cycle with free access to food and water in the facilities of the Pharmacology and Toxicology Institute, University of Tübingen. All experimental procedures were performed in accordance with institutional animal welfare guidelines and were approved by the government of Baden-Württemberg, Germany.

2.2 Viral transfection to express a Ca²⁺ indicator in target cells

2.2.1 The genetically encoded Ca²⁺ indicator Twitch-2B

The Ca²⁺ indicator used in this project was the genetically encoded ratiometric Ca²⁺ indicator Twitch-2B (Thestrup et al. 2014), which consists of two fluorescent proteins, or 'fluorophores', (mCerulean3 and cpVenus^{CD}) and a troponin C-derived Ca²⁺ binding linker. Each of the fluorophores can be excited with a specific wavelength and emit at longer wavelengths. Upon binding of Ca2+ ions, the indicator changes its conformation, and the fluorophores move closer and change their orientation to each other (Figure 5A). In a distance (and orientation)-dependent manner, Förster resonance energy transfer (FRET) (Förster 1948) occurs from the donor fluorophore mCerulean3 to the acceptor fluorophore cpVenus^{CD}. With an increase in FRET efficiency, mCerulean3 fluorescence decreases while cpVenus^{CD} fluorescence increases. Thus, an increase of the cpVenus^{CD}/mCerulean3 ratio indicates an increased level of Ca²⁺ ions. When expressed in a cell, the rise in cpVenus^{CD}/mCerulean3 ratio indicates an increased level of Ca2+ ions in the cell's cytosol. Since the indicator is a ratiometric Ca²⁺ indicator based on FRET between the two fluorophores, it can detect basal Ca²⁺ levels, recorded in the absence of any experimental manipulation, as well as sensory-evoked Ca2+ signals. Upon rise in Ca2+ concentration after sensory stimuincrease in the cpVenus^{CD}/mCerulean3 lation, ratio (from now 'cpVenus/mCerulean ratio' or simply 'ratio') can be displayed as $\Delta R/R$; whereby ΔR is the difference between the ratio during stimulation minus the baseline ratio before stimulation. This difference is divided by the baseline ratio, R. When multiplied by 100, it results in ΔR/R in percent, which can range from ~26 % in hippocampal slices up to ~800% in the cuvette (Thestrup et al. 2014). Furthermore, Thestrup and colleagues showed that Twitch-2B binds Ca2+ with a sensitivity of ~200 nM (Kd) and that ΔR/R of Twitch-2B correlates linearly with the increase in the intracellular Ca²⁺ concentration at low (log Ca²⁺ [M] of -7.25 to -6.5) Ca²⁺ concentrations (Figure 5B). Note that this correlation becomes logarithmic at higher Ca^{2+} concentrations. Besides indicating intracellular Ca^{2+} levels, when Twitch-2B is expressed in neurons, it can also indicate spiking activity (AP firing). In the same study by Thestrup *et al.*, it was shown that $\Delta R/R$ is correlated linearly with the number of APs that the cell fired (Figure 5C).

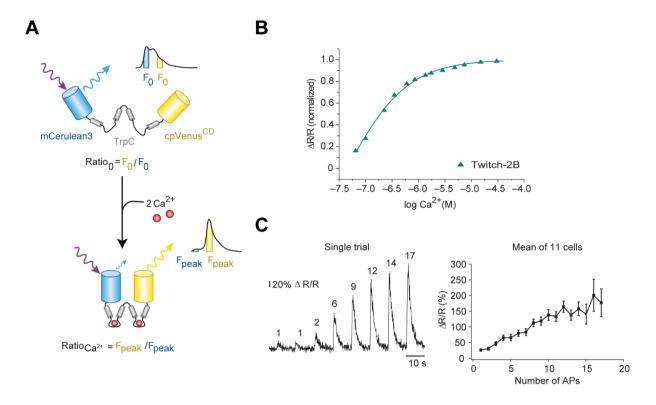


Figure 5. Working principle of the Ca^{2+} indicator Twitch-2B. **(A)** Schematic drawing illustrating the conformational change of Twitch-2B upon binding of Ca^{2+} ions. The donor fluorophore mCerulean3 (blue) and the acceptor fluorophore cpVenus^{CD} (yellow) are connected with a troponin C-derived Ca^{2+} binding linker (TrpC). Modified after (Wilms and Hausser 2014). **(B)** Relationship between $\Delta R/R$ and the Ca^{2+} concentration in a cuvette. **(C)** Left panel: cortical pyramidal neuron in a brain slice was patched and Ca^{2+} transients were measured concomitantly with the number of underlying APs fired (number of APs is indicated above each Ca^{2+} transient). Right panel: relationship between $\Delta R/R$ and APs of cells. Displayed is the mean ± s.e.m. for 11 cells from 4 ani-

2.2.2 Preparation of mice for surgery

mals. Panels B and C are from Thestrup et al. 2014.

First, mice were anesthetized by intraperitoneal (i.p.) injection of either K/X (Sigma-Aldrich, 80/4 mg/kg of body weight (BW)), or 3CN (0.5 mg/kg BW medetomidine, Alfavet Tierarzneimittel GmbH; 5 mg/kg BW midazolam, Hameln Pharma plus GmbH; 0.05 mg/kg BW fentanyl, Albrecht GmbH). After 5-10 minutes, the animal's head was shaved using a veterinarian trim and povidone-iodine solution (B. Braun) was used to sterilize the shaved skin. Before an incision with a razor blade was made, local anes-

thesia was induced by subcutaneous (s.c.) injection of 0.2 ml xylocaine (2% w/v). An eye ointment (Bepanthen, Bayer) was used to prevent corneal drying during surgery. Next, the animal was positioned on a custom-made heating pad and its body temperature was monitored continuously using a rectal temperature probe. The body temperature was maintained between 35-37°C. Ear bars were used to fix the mouse head in a stereotactic device. Subsequent anesthesia maintenance was accomplished by injecting either half of the initial dose of K/X or one third of the initial dose of 3CN. Deep anesthesia was confirmed by the absence of a toe pinch reflex throughout surgery.

2.2.3 Stereotactic viral injection

After the mouse was prepared for surgery as described above (2.2.2), an incision into the skin was made with a razor blade, and the skin was pulled back to each side of the ear to reveal periosteum and bone. The periosteum was scraped off and the bone was cleaned with sterile ringer solution (in mM: 147 Na⁺, 4 K⁺, 2.2 Ca²⁺, 156 Cl⁻; B. Braun). The bone was dried using absorbent swabs (Kettenbach GmbH). To label ABCs, the coordinates for RMS injection were 3.0 mm anterior and 0.84 mm lateral to bregma. A high-speed dental drill (ultimate 500, NSK) was used to make a 0.5x0.5 mm hole in the skull above the injection site. A glass pipette (~10-40 μm internal diameter) was navigated to the coordinates.

For labeling of ABCs in the RMS, the lentivirus was sonicated in an ultrasonic bath and around 1.5-2.0 μ l of pure virus was applied onto parafilm and drawn into the pipette. Then, the pipette was lowered into the brain to a depth of 3.0 mm, and 0.5 μ l of the virus suspension were injected at three different depths (3.0, 2.9, 2.8 mm) over 3 minutes per depth.

For labeling of resident cells in the OB, virus suspension was not sonicated. The rostral rhinal vein between the prefrontal cortex and the OB was used as landmark. From there, the coordinates were 0.84 mm anterior and 0.93 mm lateral from the midline between the two hemispheres. The penetration angle for OB injections was set $45\text{-}50^\circ$ from the horizontal plane to minimize tissue damage overlying the imaging field. Around 1.0-1.5 μ l of virus suspension (1:7 diluted in ringer solution) was injected at three different depths: 0.35, 0.25, 0.15 mm with 0.33-0.50 μ l over 3 minutes per depth.

At the end of the injection procedure, the skin incision was closed with sutures and droplets of xylocaine were administered on the wound. The non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug carprofen (5 mg/kg BW, Pfizer GmbH) was injected s.c. to suppress inflammation and pain. When 3CN was used, the effect of its components (medetomidine, midazolam and fentanyl) was antagonized with a mixture of atipamezole (2.5 mg/kg BW, Alfavet Tier-arzneimittel GmbH), flumazenil (0.5 mg/kg BW, Fresenius Kabi Deutschland GmbH), and naloxone (1.2 mg/kg BW, Hameln Pharma plus GmbH) at the end of the surgery.

The mouse was brought back to its home cage for either one month (when ABC imaging was planned) or five months (when Res_{GABA} cell imaging was planned), before a cranial window was implanted (see below). Mice were housed individually for several days after surgery.

2.3 Chronic cranial window implantation

2.3.1 Window implantation to measure basal and odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals

After the preparation of the animal for surgery (as described in 2.2.2), dexamethasone (0.2 mg/kg BW, Sigma-Aldrich) was injected s.c. before the start of the surgery (to prevent swelling of the brain upon removal of the bone above the OB). A flap of skin above the OB was removed using razor blade and scissors. The periosteum was scraped off; the bone was cleaned with sterile ringer solution, and afterwards dried using absorbent swabs. Two craniotomies were made for each olfactory hemibulb: the region around both OB hemispheres and the midline bone covering the olfactory sinus between both hemispheres was thinned until two loosely attached islands formed. During drilling, sterile ringer solution was applied to prevent excessive heating that could damage the underlying tissue. When two loosely attached islands formed, first ringer solution was applied to prevent drying of the brain surface and then islands were gently removed with forceps while the midline bone was kept intact above the olfactory sinus.

As soon as bleeding occurred, ringer solution was applied again and subsequently removed with absorbent swabs. This procedure was repeated until bleeding stopped. After removal of the bone islands, a glass coverslip with 3 mm diameter (Warner Instruments) was positioned over both OB hemispheres. The coverslip was held with

forceps in place to allow application of cyanoacrylate glue around the border. After the glue dried, the rest of the skull surface was thoroughly dried with absorbent swabs and gentle airflow. In addition, the bone at the posterior part between the ears, near lambda, was scratched with a razor blade to facilitate adherence of the cement applied in further steps to the bone surface. This procedure was necessary to enable stable head fixation of awake mice during subsequent imaging experiments. After scratching the bone, a holder (see Figure 7, butterfly-shaped holder in right panel) was attached with dental cement (Tetric EvoFlow, Ivoclar Vivadent AG), which was solidified with UV light. Areas of the skull that remained exposed, as well as the border around the coverslip were covered with dental cement and solidified. The mouse was allowed to recover on the heating pad before it was returned to its home cage. To improve recovery, wet food was supplied in a petri dish for several days. To prevent bacterial infection, 0.2% (w/v) of the antibiotic enrofloxacin (Baytril, Bayer) was administered for 10 days with the drinking water. Furthermore, at the end of the surgery and for three days after surgery once a day, pain was prevented by s.c. carprofen injections. Mice were housed individually for several days after surgery. Typically, mice were imaged 21-28 days after surgery.

2.3.2 Implantation of window with slit for local application of antagonists

The coverslip used here (produced by Karlsruhe Nano Micro Facility, Wilhelm Pfleging) contained a slit with a size of 1.0x0.1 mm (Figure 6). Surgery and implantation of the coverslip were performed as described in 2.3.1. The OB is convex having its highest point in the center of the hemispheres, so that the slit was positioned rostral above the cavity between the OB hemispheres (see Figure 6). This ensured that no pressure was applied by the edges of the slit onto the brain surface, preventing swelling of the brain, as it would be the case by positioning the slit above the center of one hemisphere. In addition, a larger part in the center of the OB hemisphere would stay free for imaging. The slit was covered with Kwik-Cast and sealed on top with Kwik-Sil (both are silicon elastomers from World Precision Instruments). After surgery, mice were injected with carprofen and received wet food in the cage. Around 1 day later, animals underwent imaging experiments where the silicon elastomers Kwik-Cast and Kwik-Sil (Kwik-Cast/Sil) were removed before application of receptor antagonists (see 2.5.5).

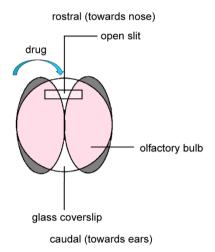


Figure 6. Glass coverslip implanted on the olfactory bulbs for chronic imaging. The indicated open slit, positioned rostral, was only present in those mice that received antagonists to block neurotransmitter receptors (see 2.5.5).

2.4 Establishment of awake imaging

2.4.1 Fixation system

In order to perform two-photon imaging in awake mice, the holder and fixation system in the imaging setup had to be changed. A measurement of mice with the previous available holder and aluminum ring (see Figure 7, left panel) in the awake state was not possible as the mouse applied enough force while fixed in the system so that the holder broke off. To guarantee stable fixation, a different holder in the form of a butterfly (see Figure 7), made of stainless steel or titanium, was created. The holder was modified according to a previous published version in Wienisch *et al.* (2012). The concave opening is pointing towards the OB. This holder had holes in the middle that could be filled with cement to allow attachment to the bone. Furthermore, the holder was fixed with screws on two sides into an aluminum ring to enable more stable fixation by two spots instead of one spot, limiting the shaking of the imaging field.



Figure 7. Holder and aluminum ring for mouse fixation in the imaging setup. Left panel displays the old version available in the lab. Right panel displays the new butterfly holder and the modified ring. Scale shows centimeters.

Additionally, the dental cement that we used was harder than the previous bone cement from Palacos R (Heraeus Medical). Furthermore, we scraped the bone with a razorblade to achieve a larger surface area for attachment of the cement. UV light, used to solidify the cement, was applied four times, from the rostral, the caudal, and from lateral sides. When the mouse was fixed for awake imaging, the respiration rate was monitored using a thermistor positioned in front of one nostril since the pressure sensor, which was usually attached to the back of anesthetized mice, was shaking on the awake moving mouse.

2.4.2 Training for awake imaging

Around two weeks before imaging, mice with implanted window and holder were habituated to the imaging setup. First, the mouse was lifted from the cage and brought back so it could adapt to sit on the hand. Afterwards, the mouse was placed on a table below the objective in the imaging setup to explore the unfamiliar environment. It was left there for around 10 minutes for 2-3 times a day. On the next day, the head of the mouse was secured with the butterfly holder in the aluminum ring, which was itself embedded in an x-y stage, thus enabling adjustments of the imaging field during imaging. The first fixation was ~2-5 minutes and was repeated ~2-3 times a day. After fixation, mice received sugar pellets as reward. The following day, fixation time was increased to Ten minutes. On every subsequent day, the duration was increased until the fixation time reached around one hour (in approx. 12 days). After this, two-photon imaging experiments were started. If mice were used in experiments where pharmacological agents were applied, they were trained before implantation of the cranial

window. In this case only, the head holder was fixed to the skull with dental cement, leaving the skin above the OB intact.

2.5 In vivo two-photon calcium imaging

2.5.1 Imaging setup

An Olympus Fluoview 1000 laser scanning microscope (BX61WI, Olympus Europa GmbH) was used, coupled to a mode-locked Ti:Sapphire laser (Mai Tai Deep See, Spectra Physics GmbH) which operates at 690-1040 nm with a pulse width of <100 fs and a repetition rate of 80 MHz. Images were acquired using a 20x UMPlan FI 1.0 NA water-immersion objective (Olympus Europa GmbH).

2.5.2 Monitoring of mouse physiological parameters and anesthesia induction

In awake mice, the respiration rate was monitored using a custom-built thermistor positioned in front of one nostril. When shifting from awake to anesthesia measurements, the mouse was kept fixed in the setup and injected i.p. with K/X or 3CN. To reduce movement, the mouse was briefly (for 1-2 minutes) sedated with isoflurane (2.5% in O₂) to prevent potential damage to the internal organs by the injection needle. When isoflurane was chosen as anesthetic, the isoflurane concentration was reduced to 0.9-1.5% in O₂ and kept constant after induction. Deep anesthesia was determined by loss of the toe pinch reflex and breathing rates were kept between 110 and 160 beats per minute. Ten minutes after anesthesia induction, two-photon imaging experiments were continued. In anesthetized mice, the respiration rate was monitored with a pressure sensor attached to the back. The respiration signals were sent to the computer and displayed with AD-Instruments software (AD Instruments GmbH).

2.5.3 Measurement of basal Ca²⁺ levels

Twitch-2B-expressing cells were imaged with a 20x objective and a zoom factor of 2 using an excitation wavelength of 890 nm. Fluorescence from mCerulean and cpVenus was separated using a 515 nm dichroic mirror; a 475/64 nm band pass filter was used to detect mCerulean fluorescence, while a 500 nm long pass filter was used to detect cpVenus fluorescence. Signals were collected by photomultiplier tube photodetectors. Time-series were recorded with an image size of 512x256 pixels, 100-250

frames at a rate of 4-7 Hz. The cells were measured 3-5 times to make an average of trials afterwards. In some experiments, mCerulean and cpVenus signals were derived from single frames of a 3-dimensional (3D) Z-series through the glomerular layer of the olfactory bulb. These 3D Z-series were acquired from the dura mater to a depth of around 120 μ m with an image size of 640x640 pixels, using a Kalman-filter of 2 and a step size of 2 μ m.

2.5.4 Measurement of odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals

Ethyl tiglate (ETI, Sigma-Aldrich), an odorant known to activate the dorsal OB (Soucy et al. 2009) was filled into a tube, and a custom-built flow-dilution olfactometer (similar design as in Vucinic et al. (2006)) was used to mix saturated odorant vapor with clean air for a final concentration of 1.7% saturated vapor. The olfactometer tube was positioned approximately one centimeter in front of the mouse's snout. Six seconds were measured as a baseline before the odorant was applied. The odorant was delivered at a flow rate of 300 ml/min for four seconds per trial with an inter-trial interval of 1-2 minutes. Up to 8 trials were recorded.

2.5.5 Local application of antagonists in awake mice

Four weeks after surgery, we aimed to apply blocker solutions. However, this was not successful, as the dura mater in the slit became impermeable. This required us to perform functional imaging experiments as soon as possible after window implantation. Experiments immediately after or 1-2 days after surgery have been described before (Komiyama et al. 2010; Wachowiak et al. 2013; Roome and Kuhn 2014). In our study, we performed experiments around 1 day after cranial window implantation. This allowed the animal to recover from surgery before imaging, and anesthetics as well as the anti-inflammatory drug carprofen should have largely been removed from the body. Previous studies showed that 2 days after window implantation, astrocytes and microglia are in an activated state (Xu et al. 2007; Holtmaat et al. 2009), indicative of inflammatory processes. Furthermore, Park et al. described that the microvasculature changed, it showed stronger bleeding, vasodilation, and impaired blood flow 3 days after surgery compared to the day of surgery (Park et al. 2015). Therefore, experiments were performed around 12-24 hours after surgery, essentially to avoid states of strong inflammation occurring between 2 and ca. 30 days after window implantation (Xu et al. 2007; Holtmaat et al. 2009).

As no perfusion was performed, drugs were diluted in HEPES-buffered ringer solution (in mM: 150 NaCl, 4.5 KCl, 10 HEPES, 1 MgCl₂, 1.6 CaCl₂) to keep the pH constant.

To block noradrenergic receptors, the nonselective $\alpha 1$ - and $\alpha 2$ - adrenergic receptor antagonist prazosin (Sigma-Aldrich, used in Pan *et al.* (2004)) was used. First, prazosin was dissolved in dimethyl sulfoxide to a concentration of 25 mM before the solution was diluted to a final concentration of 100 μ M in HEPES-buffered ringer solution. To block serotonergic receptors, the nonselective 5-HT₁-, 5-HT₂-, 5-HT₇- serotonin receptor antagonist methysergide (Sigma-Aldrich, used in Petzold *et al.* (2009)) was dissolved to a final concentration of 4 mM in HEPES-buffered ringer solution. To block cholinergic receptors, the mAChR-antagonist scopolamine and the nAChR-antagonist mecamylamine (both purchased from Sigma-Aldrich, used in Rothermel *et al.* (2014)) were prepared in HEPES-buffered ringer solution and mixed together to a final concentration of 50 mM and 115 mM, respectively.

To block AP firing (see 3.1.1, Figure 9), the voltage-gated sodium channel blocker tetrodotoxin (TTX) was dissolved to a concentration of 5 μ M in HEPES-buffered ringer solution.

The coverslip had only a small (0.1x1.0 mm) opening, and this opening was located rostral above the cavity between the OB hemispheres (see Figure 6). To ensure that sufficient drug concentrations reached the target cells via diffusion, we used higher concentrations than the ones described previously in anesthetized mice where a wide area of the OB surface was perfused (Petzold *et al.* 2009; Rothermel *et al.* 2014).

On the imaging day, the mouse was head-fixed and control imaging sessions were performed with the Kwik-Cast/Sil still covering the slit. Then, Kwik-Cast/Sil was removed and the vehicle (HEPES-buffered ringer solution) was placed as a drop of around 40 µl on top of the coverslip with slit. Afterwards, antagonists were applied. Measurements of cpVenus and mCerulean fluorescence intensities were performed as time-series or 3D Z-series in the glomerular layer. Every cell was measured 3-5 times. To observe the effect of each antagonist on the same cell and to reduce the number of experimental animals, all blockers were applied sequentially on the same day. Two imaging series were performed with a gap of around 5 hours in-between sessions.

2.6 Data analysis

2.6.1 Time-series of basal and odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals

The regions of interest (ROIs) were drawn manually in ImageJ (https://imagej.nih.gov/ij) and Fiji (http://imagej.net/Fiji) from an average image of all frames in a trial. Within the selected ROI, the intensity was averaged for the mCerulean and the cpVenus channel. The background ROI (comparable size as cell soma) was drawn in the darkest spot of the image. Further analyses were performed using custom-written scripts in MATLAB (The MathWorks, Inc.). In MATLAB, background intensity was subtracted from mCerulean and cpVenus signals. Then, the cpVenus signal was divided by the mCerulean signal to calculate the ratio trace. When no odorants were applied, these ratio values were averaged over all time points to receive a readout of the basal ratio. When odorants were applied, 1-5 seconds of the baseline period (before odorant application) were averaged to obtain the basal ratio. Since measurements were repeated 3-5 or 8 times in case of odorant application, respective individual ratio values were averaged to receive the mean basal ratio.

Odor-evoked Ca^{2+} transients were automatically detected when their $\Delta R/R$ signal was six times larger than the standard deviation of noise, and when a minimum as well as mean of 15% was reached. Those transients were defined as 'clear' responses. To acquire maximal ratios (R_{max}) of the Ca^{2+} transients, the ratio trace was smoothed two times with a binomial filter (time window: 0.3 seconds) and the maximum was determined between the 6^{th} and 12^{th} second after beginning of the recording.

Cells were considered as 'responding' when producing at least one Ca²⁺ transient in 8 trials, and as 'reliably responding' when producing a minimum of 5 Ca²⁺ transients in 8 trials. To investigate the variability between responses of 8 trials, the coefficient of variation (CV) was determined with the following formula:

$$cv = \frac{SD}{\bar{x}} * \left(1 + \frac{1}{4 * n}\right)$$

Where SD is the standard deviation, \bar{x} is the average maximal ratio of the 8 Ca²⁺ transients, and n is the number of trials. The part in brackets is the correction for small sample sizes.

2.6.2 Three-dimensional Z series of basal Ca²⁺ signals

A MATLAB script, written by a student (Marie Schmidt) in the lab during her internship, was used to load 3D-stacks, draw ROIs, and extract fluorescence intensity values of mCerulean and cpVenus out of one frame for each cell. Fluorescence intensity values were processed further as described for time-series: the background fluorescence was subtracted and a ratio of cpVenus/mCerulean was calculated. This ratio value was averaged over several trials (3-5) to receive the mean basal ratio.

2.6.3 Calculation of the effect size

In experiments where anesthesia or neurotransmitter receptor antagonists were applied, a reduction of basal ratios, indicative of basal Ca2+ levels, was calculated as percentage of block that was reached, termed 'effect size'. This allowed a comparison of the effects of different anesthetic agents or receptor antagonists, and a quantification of the reduction for each cell independently of its starting ratio (in control condition). For instance, cells with low basal ratios or high basal ratios (see Figure 9B for distribution of ratio levels) may all be reduced to a lower ratio, but the absolute reduction for each cell is different; cells at lower ratios will show a smaller reduction than cells with higher ratios. Thus, we calculated an effect size. First, the minimum ratio level that was ever measured throughout all conditions in both the mABC and Res_{GABA} cell population was determined: 1.25. Next, the maximum theoretically possible block was defined as the reduction towards this lowest ratio level. Thus, the difference between the basal ratio measured in the control condition and 1.25 was calculated, (Rctr - 1.25). On the other hand, the observed difference in ratio between control and test condition was calculated, (Rctr - Rtest). Effect size was calculated by dividing the actual difference by the maximal theoretically possible difference.

effect size (%) =
$$\frac{Rctr - Rtest}{Rctr - 1.25} \times 100$$

2.7 Immunohistochemistry

To test how many immature cells we have in our mABC population, we stained OB slices from C57BL/6 mice injected with lentiviruses encoding Twitch-2B. We used the immature cell marker doublecortin (DCX). After perfusion with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS, Sigma-Aldrich) followed by 4% formaldehyde (in PBS), both OBs were removed and post-fixed with 4% formaldehyde overnight at 4°C. Next, the OBs were cryoprotected overnight at 4°C in PBS containing 25% sucrose, followed by embedding in TissueTek (Sakura, Inc.) and freezing at -80°C. Antibody staining was performed with free-floating sagittal cryoslices (50 µm thick) at room temperature. To prevent nonspecific binding, sections were treated with a blocking solution (5% normal donkey serum and 1% Triton X-100 in PBS) for one hour. After blockage, slices were exposed to primary antibodies diluted in blocking solution at room temperature overnight. On the next day, the sections were washed in PBS three times for 10 minutes and incubated with secondary antibodies diluted 1:1000 in PBS containing 2% bovine serum albumin for two hours in the dark at room temperature. Finally, the sections were washed three times in PBS, transferred to Superfrost Plus charged glass slides (R. Langenbrink GmbH) and mounted with Vectashield Mounting Medium (Vector Laboratories) or ProLong Gold Mounting Medium (Thermo-Fisher Scientific Inc). Stained slices were imaged with a 40x water-immersion objective (Nikon 40x, 0.8 NA) using the Olympus Fluoview 300 laser scanning microscope system coupled to a Mai Tai mode-locked Ti:Sapphire laser operating at 690-1040 nm wavelength (Spectra Physics GmbH). Alexa Fluor 488 and 594 were excited simultaneously at 800 nm and their fluorescence emission was split with a 570 nm dichroic mirror.

Table 2. Antibodies used to label Twitch-2B-expressing immature cells in the ABC population.

Species	Antibody	Company	Dilution
goat	primary polyclonal antibody against GFP	Rockland 600-101-215	1:2500
rabbit	primary polyclonal antibody against DCX	Abcam ab18723	1:2000
donkey	secondary anti-goat IgG-conjugated Alexa Fluor 488	Thermo-Fisher Scientific Inc. A11055	1:1000
donkey	secondary anti-rabbit IgG-conjugated Alexa Fluor 594	Thermo-Fisher Scientific Inc. A21207	1:1000

2.8 Statistical analysis

Statistical tests were performed with MATLAB, GraphPad Prism (GraphPad Software, www.graphpad.com), or Vassar Stats (website for statistical computation, http://vassarstats.net/, Richard Lowry 1998-2017). The one-sample Kolmogorov-Smirnov test was used to check for normality of the data. All statistical tests were two-sided, unless otherwise noted. The p values smaller than 0.05 were considered significant.

3 Results

3.1 Ca²⁺ signaling in mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells of awake mice

ABCs in the OB are thought to serve specific functions in the processing of olfactory information and so the question arose if they also possess specific physiological properties to enable these functions. Previous studies suggested that ABCs become similar to resident cells when they mature, but might retain some unique physiological properties. Here, it was investigated if the basal and odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals of mABCs are different to those of Res_{GABA} cells. For this, cells were first labeled with the Ca²⁺ indicator Twitch-2B. After labeling ABCs by viral transfection into the RMS, we waited for at least 8 weeks (56 days/DPI, 'days post injection') to ensure maturity of cells. However, because lentiviruses, commonly used in this kind of experiments (see Grubb et al. 2008; Livneh et al. 2014; Kovalchuk et al. 2015; Wallace et al. 2017), infect not only dividing cells, it is possible that a fraction of the labeled population might be generated during later divisions of the labeled precursor cells and thus be younger than DPI 56. To estimate the fraction of young cells in the mABC population, we labeled mABCs with DCX, known to be expressed in ABCs up to an age of 21 days (Brown et al. 2003; Grubb et al. 2008). Figure 8A shows an example field-ofview that contains 14 Twitch-2B-expressing cells (green), of which one is DCXpositive (red). On average, the proportion of cells expressing both DCX and Twitch-2B was 18% (Figure 8B); estimated from 511 cells in 5 mice. This indicates that 18% in the mABC population were younger than 21 days.

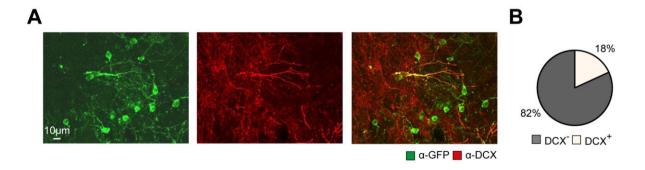
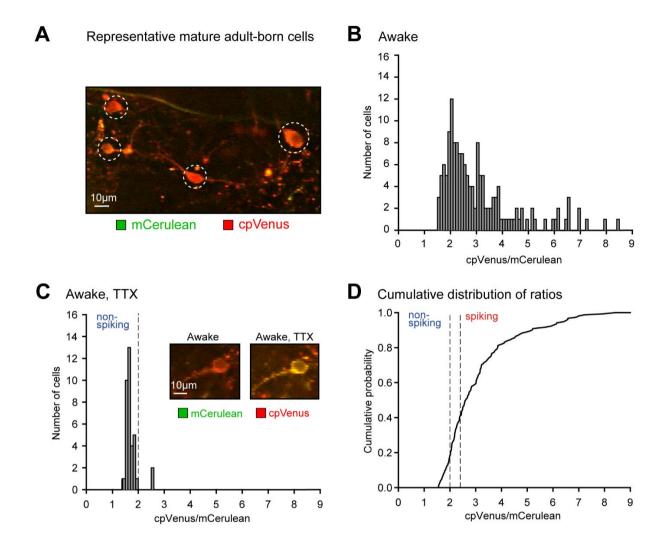


Figure 8. Percentage of immature cells in the mABC population. **(A)** Maximal intensity projections of a Z series (40 frames at 1-μm step size) show mABCs expressing Twitch-2B (green, identified with anti-GFP antibody) and DCX (red); merged channel on the right shows co-labeling (yellow). **(B)** Percentage of DCX⁺ and DCX⁻ cells (511 cells from 5 mice).

3.1.1 Mature ABCs have high basal Ca²⁺ levels in awake state

Figure 9A shows a representative in vivo image of mABCs expressing Twitch-2B. As explained in the methods chapter 2.2.1, when Ca2+ binds to Twitch-2B, the cpVenus/mCerulean ratio increases. Thus, a higher ratio indicates a higher level of Ca2+ in the cell. In awake mice, the basal ratios (without external stimulation) for mABCs ranged from 1.55 to 8.41 (Figure 9B; 154 cells, 13 mice). While higher ratios correspond to higher intracellular Ca²⁺ levels and ΔR/R was shown to correlate linearly with AP firing of a cell, we wanted to know which basal ratio levels correspond to which activity states (in terms of AP firing). To identify ratios corresponding to spiking and non-spiking states respectively, we blocked AP firing via a topical application of the voltage-gated sodium channel blocker TTX (see 2.3.2 and 2.5.5 methods section). Upon application of TTX, ratios of mABCs shifted below 2 (Figure 9C; 35 cells, 2 mice). The inset in Figure 9C shows a representative cell where the mCerulean (green) and the cpVenus (red) channel were merged. This predominantly resulted in red color in the control condition, indicating a higher ratio and thus a higher Ca²⁺ level. The cell changed its color from red in the control condition to yellow (low Ca²⁺ level) under TTX. Since TTX reduced ratio levels below 2, in further analyses cells with ratio levels <2 were classified as 'non-spiking'. Figure 9D displays a cumulative probability histogram of the data shown in Figure 9B, indicating that only around 18% of mABCs were non-spiking (ratio <2) in the awake state. To account for cells that change from spiking to non-spiking states and vice versa (observed over prolonged imaging repetitions, data not shown), or for a possible variability in estimating the exact ratio due to background subtraction, we introduced a safety margin between ratios of 2 and 2.4. Only cells with high average basal ratios >2.4 were considered 'spiking', while cells with ratios between 2 and 2.4 were considered 'uncertain'. Using this categorization, 59% of mABCs were classified as spiking in the awake state, while 23% had ratios above 2 but below 2.4 and thus were classified as uncertain. The remaining 18% were non-spiking (Figure 9D).



(A) Average intensity projection of a time-series (100 frames, ~4 frames/second) showing mABCs at 56 DPI. The cells express the FRET-based Ca²⁺ indicator Twitch-2B, which increases its cpVenus/mCerulean ratio upon Ca²⁺ binding. Merging mCerulean (green) and cpVenus (red) channel results in predominantly red color of cells, indicating a higher intracellular Ca²⁺ level. (B) A histogram illustrating the ratio distribution in 154 mABCs from 13 mice. (C) A histogram illustrating the ratio distribution of mABCs in the presence of TTX (35 cells from 2 mice). Inset displays a cell before (left, ratio 4.0) and during (right, ratio 1.6) TTX application. Vertical broken line indicates the border below which cells were non-spiking. (D) Cumulative probability histogram of the data shown in B with broken lines

indicating borders between non-spiking and spiking populations. Cells with ratios between 2.0 and 2.4

Figure 9. Basal ratios of mABCs in the awake state.

were considered uncertain.

Next, we tested whether basal ratios of individual cells were stable over time. Ratios of the same cells were measured on one day and re-examined 3 and 6 days later. The scatter plot in Figure 10A shows basal ratios measured on day 0 plotted against basal ratios of the same cells on day 3 or 6 (35 cells, 5 mice). Some cells showed higher or lower ratios at later time points indicating that their basal Ca²⁺ levels were increased or decreased, respectively. Nevertheless, on a population level, the ratios at later time points were similar to the ratios measured on day 0, as shown by a box

plot displaying the medians of normalized ratios per mouse (Figure 10B; p=0.312 day3/day0 and p=0.187 day6/day0; 5 mice; Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test).

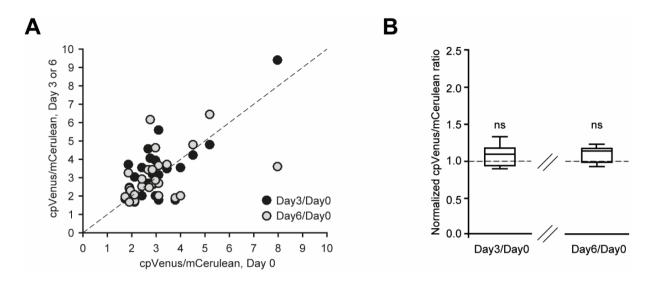


Figure 10. Stability of basal ratios in mABCs. **(A)** Scatter plot showing the ratios of a cell on one day plotted against the ratio 3 or 6 days later (35 cells from 5 mice). Diagonal broken line indicates the unity line. **(B)** Box plots represent the medians of normalized ratios per mouse for ratios measured on day 0 and 3 or 6 days later. There was no significant change in ratios on day 3 or on day 6 (p=0.313 and p=0.187 respectively; n=5 mice; Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test).

3.1.2 Basal Ca²⁺ levels are similar between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells

As ABCs mature to become GABAergic interneurons, we compared mABCs to mature Resgaba cells. An example field-of-view in Figure 11A shows Twitch-2B-expressing Resgaba cells. In the Resgaba cell population, the distribution of basal ratios ranged from 1.27 to 6.05 in awake mice (Figure 11B; 382 cells, 5 mice). The cumulative probability histogram of basal ratios was not significantly different between mABCs and Resgaba cells (Figure 11C; p=0.215; 154 mABCs from 13 mice, 382 Resgaba cells from 5 mice; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). As indicated by the broken line at a ratio of 2.0 in Figure 11C, most cells in both groups showed ratios higher than 2.0. The fraction of non-spiking cells as well as the fraction of spiking and uncertain cells was not significantly different between the mABCs and Resgaba cells (Figure 11D; p=0.074; Chi-Square Test). Median ratios per mouse were also not significantly different between the mABCs and Resgaba cells (Figure 11E; p=0.503; 5 mice versus 13 mice; Mann-Whitney test).

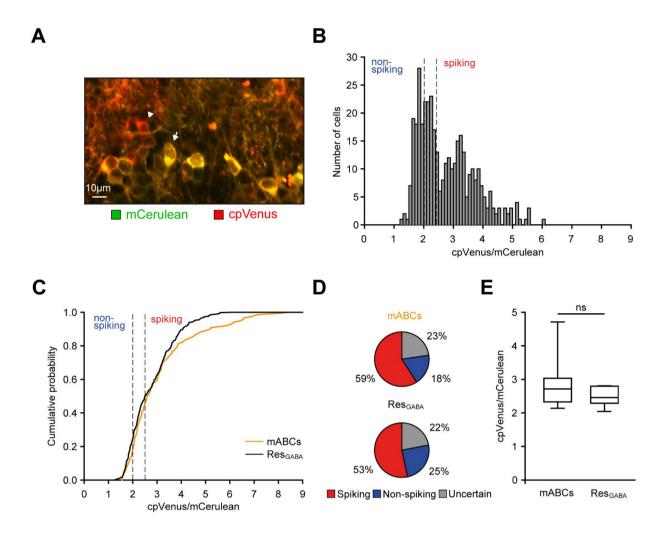


Figure 11. Basal ratios of Res_{GABA} cells and comparison to mABCs in awake mice. **(A)** Average intensity projection of a time-series (250 frames, ~7.7 frames/second) showing Twitch-2B-expressing Res_{GABA} cells around 6 months post injection. The arrowhead points to a cell with a high basal ratio (>2.4), whereas the arrow points to a cell with a low basal ratio (<2). **(B)** A histogram illustrating the ratio distribution in 382 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice. Broken vertical lines mark the borders for spiking and non-spiking cells. **(C)** Cumulative probability histograms illustrating the distribution of ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells, which were not significantly different from each other (p=0.215; 154 versus 382 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Broken vertical lines mark the borders for spiking and non-spiking cells. **(D)** Pie charts showing the fractions of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.074; Chi-Square Test). **(E)** Box plots showing the medians of ratios per mouse, which did not differ significantly between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.503; 13 mice versus 5 mice; Mann-Whitney test).

In summary, the basal ratios, indicative of basal Ca²⁺ levels, were similar between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells. Furthermore, the basal ratios of cells were stable over days. In the awake state, around 60% of mABCs and 50% of Res_{GABA} cells had high basal ratio levels above 2.4 and were therefore considered 'active', or spiking.

3.1.3 Odor-response properties are different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells in the awake state

Next, we analyzed odor-evoked Ca²⁺ signals induced by application of the odorant ETI at a concentration of 1.7% saturated vapor in front of the mouse's snout. The odorant was applied 8 times with an interval of 1-2 minutes between the trials and induced clear Ca²⁺ transients in mABCs (Figure 12A) and Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 12B). Cells that responded at least once in 8 trials were classified as 'responding'. From these responding cells, those that responded to minimum 5 out of 8 trials were termed 'reliably responding'. Compared to Res_{GABA} cells, mABCs had a significantly lower percentage of responding cells (Figure 12C; p<0.0001; 83 mABCs from 7 mice, 222 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice; Chi-Square test). Furthermore, mABCs responded less reliably (Figure 12D; p<0.001; 57 mABCs from 7 mice, 203 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice; Chi-Square test). At the same time, reliably responding mABCs responded with a higher maximal ratio during the odorant application phase (Figure 12E; p=0.038; 36 mABCs from 7 mice, 174 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). The variability between maximal ratios of 8 trials was estimated using the coefficient of variation (CV, see methods chapter 2.6.1). The distribution of CVs was not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 12F; p=0.930; n=36 mABCs from 7 mice, 174 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). As shown in Figure 11, basal ratios of mABCs did not differ from those of Res_{GABA} cells, but the maximal ratios in response to odorant application were higher in mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 12E). Thus, we tested if there is any correlation between basal and odor-evoked maximal ratios. Figure 12G shows that the basal ratios significantly correlated with the odor-evoked maximal ratios in both cell groups (mABCs: r=0.54, p<0.0001; Res_{GABA} cells: r=0.58, p<0.0001; Spearman's rank correlation).

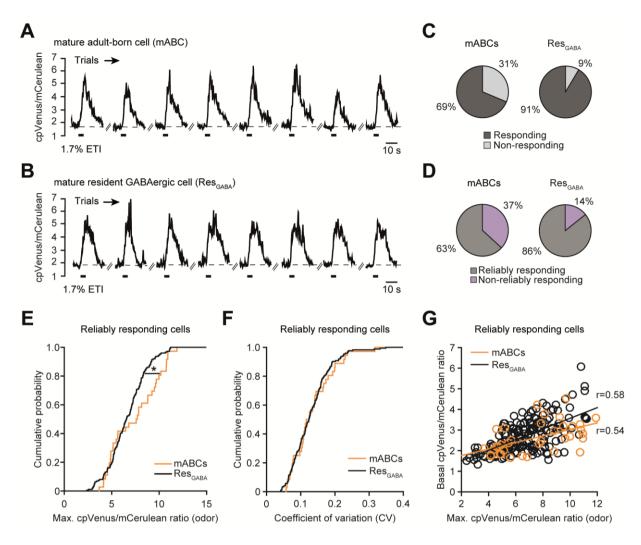


Figure 12. Odor-evoked responses of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells in awake mice. Representative Ca²⁺ transients evoked by 8 repeated applications of the odorant ETI (1.7% saturated vapor) in a mABC (**A**) and a Res_{GABA} cell (**B**). (**C**) Pie charts displaying the fractions of responding and non-responding cells, which were significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p<0.0001; 83 mABCs versus 222 Res_{GABA} cells; Chi-Square test). (**D**) Pie charts displaying the fractions of reliably and non-reliably responding cells, which were significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p<0.0003; 57 versus 203 cells; Chi-Square test). (**E**) Cumulative probability histograms display maximal ratios reached during odorant application for mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.038; 36 versus 174 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). (**F**) Cumulative probability histograms display the coefficient of variation (CV), measured between 8 trials in reliably responding cells (p=0.930; 36 versus 174 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). (**G**) Scatter plots show the basal ratios before odorant application plotted against the maximal ratios during odorant application (mABCs: r=0.54, p<0.0001; Res_{GABA} cells: r=0.58, p<0.0001; Spearman's rank correlation).

In summary, in the awake state, odor-evoked responses of mABCs were sparser and less reliable compared to those of Res_{GABA} cells. The maximal ratios during odorant application were higher in mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells.

3.2 Ca2+ signaling of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells of anesthetized mice

Next, it was analyzed if mABCs are differently modulated by brain state compared to Res_{GABA} cells. We used either 3CN, K/X or isoflurane anesthesia, to mimic changes in the brain state, and measured basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells.

3.2.1 Anesthesia reduces basal Ca²⁺ levels of mABCs

The 3CN anesthesia strongly reduced basal ratios in mABCs as indicated by a leftshift in the cumulative probability histogram (Figure 13A). In addition, the fraction of spiking cells was significantly reduced, and the fraction of non-spiking cells increased accordingly (inset in Figure 13A; p<0.001, 90 cells from 8 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). Also K/X (Figure 13B) and isoflurane (Figure 13C) reduced the basal ratios significantly, leading to a higher fraction of non-spiking cells and a lower fraction of spiking cells (K/X: p<0.001, 79 cells from 8 mice; isoflurane: p<0.001, 106 cells from 8 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). To compare the effect of the 3 anesthetics, and to quantify the degree of reduction for each cell independently of its basal ratio in the awake state, we calculated the effect size (see 2.6.3). Cells with a ratio level of 2.5 or cells with a higher ratio level of 5.5 may all reach a ratio of, for example, 1.25 under anesthesia, but the absolute reduction for each cell is different; cells at lower ratios will show a smaller reduction than cells with higher ratios. Thus, the change of the ratio (from awake to anesthesia) was related to the maximal possible change. Because the ratio can only be reduced in a spiking cell, the effect size was calculated only for spiking cells. No significant difference was observed between the effects of the 3 anesthetics, when the median effect size per mouse was compared (Figure 13D; p>0.05; Kruskal-Wallis test). Although all 3 anesthetics reduced the ratios on a population level, single cells could be affected differently by different anesthetic drugs: the heatmap in Figure 13E displays the normalized ratio of the same cells under 3 different anesthetics. The ratio measured under the anesthetic was normalized to the respective control ratio in the awake state. For example, cell 16 decreased its ratio moderately under 3CN but stronger under K/X and isoflurane. Additionally, some cells (around 3.5%) increased their ratio under anesthesia (Figure 13E).

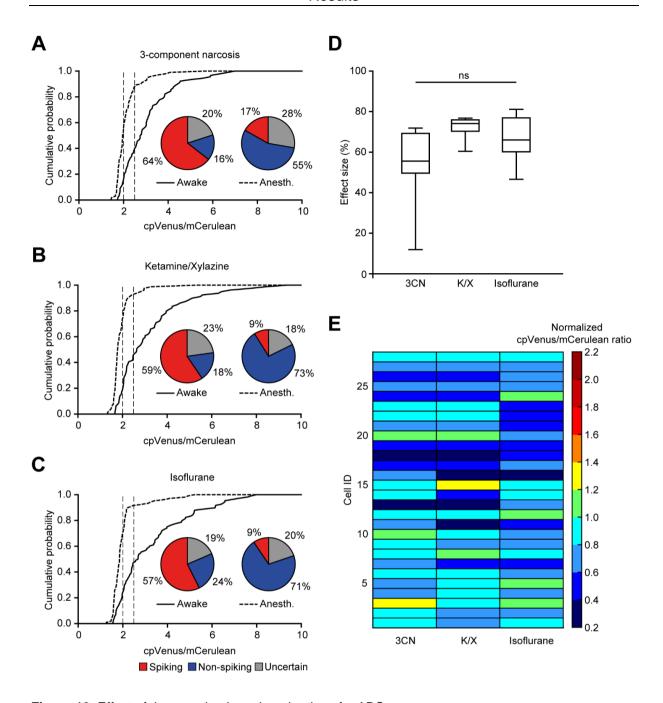


Figure 13. Effect of the anesthesia on basal ratios of mABCs. Cumulative probability histograms showing basal ratios that shift towards lower levels under 3-component narcosis (3CN) **(A)**, ketamine/xylazine (K/X) **(B)** and isoflurane **(C)**. The vertical broken lines in all 3 panels indicate borders between spiking and non-spiking populations. Insets in all 3 panels display pie charts, showing a significant increase in the fraction of non-spiking cells and a significant decrease in the fraction of spiking cells (3CN: p<0.001, 90 cells from 8 mice; K/X: p<0.001, 79 cells from 8 mice; isoflurane: p<0.001, 106 cells from 8 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). **(D)** Box plots showing the median effect size per mouse under 3 different anesthetics. The median effect size was not significantly different between the 3 anesthetics (p>0.05; Kruskal-Wallis test). **(E)** Heatmap displays basal ratios of the same cells under 3 different anesthetics. The basal ratio

3.2.2 Anesthesia reduces basal Ca²⁺ levels of Res_{GABA} cells

Next, we examined the effect of anesthetics on Res_{GABA} cells. Also here, 3CN (Figure 14A), K/X (Figure 14B) and isoflurane (Figure 14C) reduced basal ratios. The population shifted significantly from spiking to non-spiking state (3CN: p<0.001, 215 cells from 8 mice; K/X: p<0.001, 221 cells from 8 mice; isoflurane: p<0.001, 231 cells from 8 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). The median effect size per mouse was significantly different between the three anesthetics (Figure 14D; p<0.05; Krus-kal-Wallis test) and a Mann-Whitney post-hoc test revealed that isoflurane and K/X differed significantly in their effect size (p=0.015), but this was not the case for K/X and 3CN (p=1.158) or 3CN and isoflurane (p=0.095). Like mABCs, individual cells were differently affected dependent on the anesthetic drug used and some Res_{GABA} cells (7%) showed ratio increases under anesthesia (Figure 14E).

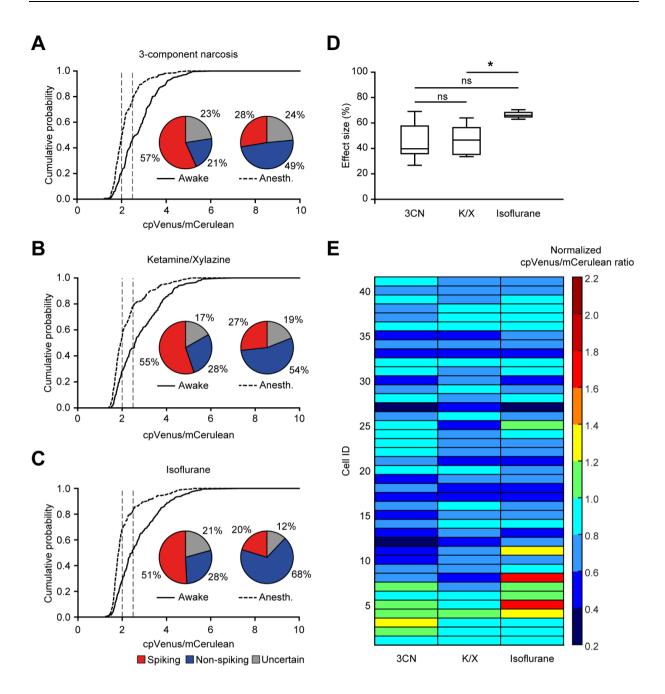


Figure 14. Effect of the anesthesia on basal ratios of Res_{GABA} cells. Cumulative probability histograms showing basal ratios that shift towards lower levels under 3-component narcosis (3CN) **(A)**, ketamine/xylazine (K/X) **(B)** and isoflurane **(C)**. The vertical broken lines in all 3 panels indicate borders between spiking and non-spiking populations. Insets in all 3 panels display pie charts, showing a significant increase in the fraction of non-spiking cells and a significant decrease in the fraction of spiking cells (3CN: p<0.001, 215 cells from 8 mice; K/X: p<0.001, 221 cells from 8 mice; isoflurane: p<0.001, 231 cells from 8 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). **(D)** Box plots showing the median effect size per mouse under 3 different anesthetic conditions. The median effect size was significantly different between the 3 anesthetics (p<0.05; Kruskal-Wallis test). A Mann-Whitney post-hoc test revealed that basal ratios under K/X and isoflurane differed significantly from each other (p=0.015). **(E)** Heatmap displays basal ratios under the respective anesthetic condition normalized to the control basal ratios measured in the awake state (41 cells from one example mouse).

3.2.3 K/X has a stronger effect on mABCs than on Res_{GABA} cells

Under 3CN anesthesia, the distribution of basal ratios was similar between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 15A; p=0.240; 101 mABCs, 217 Res_{GABA} cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Additionally, the fractions of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells between the two populations were similar under 3CN anesthesia (inset in Figure 15A; p=0.117; Chi-Square test). In contrast, K/X reduced basal ratios of mABCs stronger than those of Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 15B; p=0.001; 79 mABCs, 220 Res_{GABA} cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). The fraction of spiking cells was lower, whereas the fraction of non-spiking cells was higher in mABCs compared to Resgaba cells under K/X (inset in Figure 15B; p=0.003; Chi-Square test). Isoflurane reduced the basal ratios in both cell groups to a similar extent as shown by the ratio distributions in Figure 15C (p=0.999; 106 mABCs, 232 Res_{GABA} cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). However, under isoflurane, the fractions of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells were significantly different between the two groups (inset in Figure 15C; p=0.016; Chi-Square test). Comparing the median effect size per mouse of each anesthetic revealed that all anesthetics reduced the basal ratios stronger in mABCs than in resident cells, but the level of significance was only reached for the effect of K/X anesthesia (Figure 15D; p<0.01; 2-way-ANOVA with a Bonferroni post-hoc test for multiple comparisons).

In summary, anesthesia reduced basal ratios in mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells to levels below 2, thus reducing spiking activity. While there was no difference between the tested anesthetic drugs in the mABC population, in the Res_{GABA} cell population isoflurane reduced basal ratios stronger compared to K/X anesthesia. From the three anesthetics used, K/X had a significantly stronger effect on mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells.

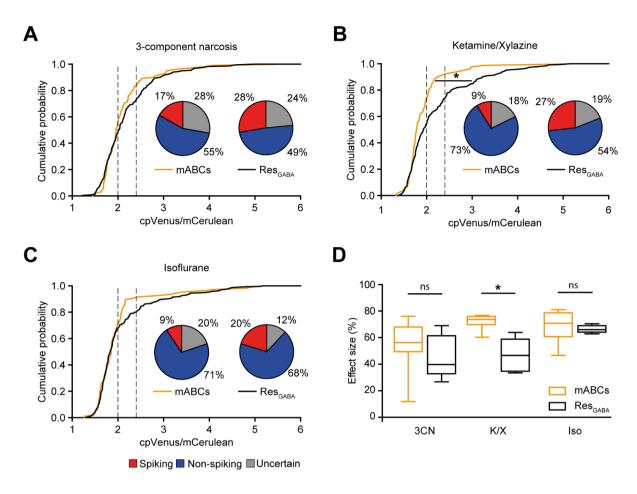


Figure 15. Basal ratios of mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells in anesthetized mice. Cumulative probability histograms and pie charts taking from Figure 13 and Figure 14. (A) Cumulative probability histograms displaying basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells under 3CN, which were not significantly different between both cell types (p=0.240; 101 versus 217 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Here and in the other panels, vertical broken lines indicate borders between non-spiking and spiking cells. Pie charts (inset) show the fraction of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.117; Chi-Square test). (B) Cumulative probability histograms displaying basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells under K/X anesthesia, which were significantly different between both cell types (p=0.001; 79 versus 220 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Pie charts (inset) show the fraction of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.003; Chi-Square test). (C) Cumulative probability histograms displaying basal ratios of mABCs and Resgaba cells under isoflurane anesthesia, which were not significantly different between both cell types (p=0.999; 106 versus 232 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Pie charts (inset) show the fraction of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were significantly different between mABCs and Resgable cells (p=0.016; 106 versus 232 cells; Chi-Square test). (D) Box plots displaying the median effect size per mouse for mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells under 3 anesthetic conditions. All anesthetics had a stronger effect onto mABCs but only the effect of K/X reached the level of significance (p<0.01; 2-way-ANOVA with a Bonferroni post-hoc test for multiple comparisons).

3.2.4 Odor-response properties are different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells under anesthesia

After measuring odor-evoked responses in awake state, mice were anesthetized with 3CN and the odor-evoked responses of the same cells were re-analyzed. As shown in Figure 16A and Figure 16B, under anesthesia, both mABCs and Resgaba cells

showed clear and reliable Ca²⁺ transients. The fraction of responding cells was again significantly lower for mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 16C; p<0.0001; 83 mABCs from 7 mice, 222 Res_{GABA} cells from 5 mice; Chi-Square test), similar to what was seen in awake state. Yet, the fraction of reliably responding mABCs increased under anesthesia and became comparable to the fraction of reliably responding Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 16D; p=0.088; 54 mABCs, 200 Res_{GABA} cells; Chi-Square test). The maximal odor-evoked ratios were higher in mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 16E; p<0.0001; 44 mABCs, 159 Res_{GABA} cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). The distribution of CVs was not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 16F; p=0.308; 44 mABCs, 159 Res_{GABA} cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). Further, we analyzed the correlation between the basal ratios and corresponding maximal odor-evoked ratios in individual cells. Interestingly, while Res_{GABA} cells maintained a linear relationship between basal and corresponding maximal ratios (Figure 16G; r=0.41, p<0.0001; Spearman's rank correlation), mABCs lost this relationship under anesthesia (Figure 16G; r=0.29, p=0.519; Spearman's rank correlation).

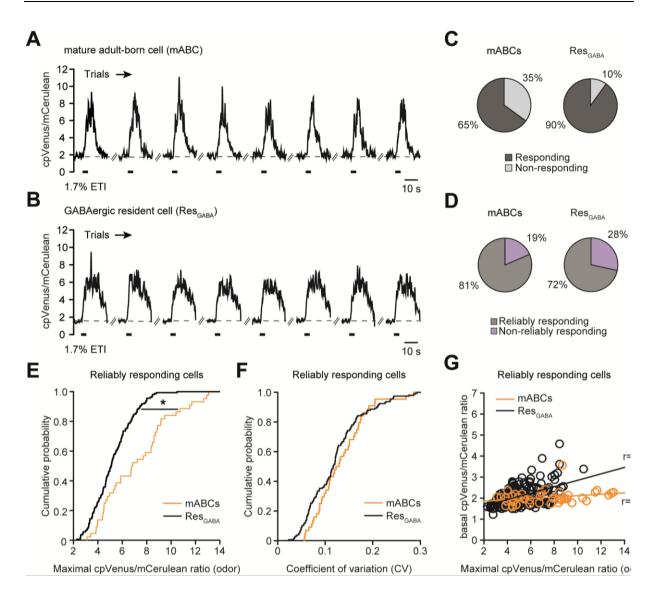


Figure 16. Odor-evoked responses of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells under anesthesia. Representative Ca²⁺ transients evoked by 8 repeated applications of the odorant ETI (1.7% saturated vapor) in a mABC (**A**) and a Res_{GABA} cell (**B**). (**C**) Pie charts displaying the fractions of responding and non-responding cells, which were significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p<0.0001; 83 versus 222 cells; Chi-Square test). (**D**) Pie charts displaying the fractions of reliably and non-reliably responding cells, which were not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p=0.088; 54 versus 200 cells; Chi-Square test). (**E**) Cumulative probability histograms display maximal ratios reached during odorant application for mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (p<0.0001; 44 versus 159 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). (**F**) Cumulative probability histograms display the CV, measured between 8 trials in reliably responding cells (p=0.308; 44 versus 159 cells; Kolmogorov-Smirnov test). (**G**) Scatter plot shows the basal ratios before odorant application plotted against the maximal ratios during odorant application (mABCs: r=0.29, p=0.519; Res_{GABA} cells: r=0.41, p<0.0001; Spearman's rank correlation).

In summary, mABCs responded still less often to odorant application under anesthesia, but became as reliable as Res_{GABA} cells. In addition, odor-evoked maximal ratios were still higher in mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells.

3.3 Differential role of the neuromodulators of the ARAS system

Because high basal ratios, and thus spiking, of both mABCs and Resgaba cells were reduced under anesthesia, we tested whether centrifugal inputs arising from ARAS centers contribute to the high basal ratios (spiking activity) observed in the awake state. In addition, we tested if these centrifugal projections target mABCs differently compared to Resgaba cells. Hence, basal ratios of mABCs and Resgaba cells were measured before and after application of antagonists of noradrenergic, serotonergic, or cholinergic receptors to the OB of awake mice.

To do so we first implanted a slit-containing chronic cranial window (see chapter 2.3.2) and intended to apply blocker solutions four weeks after surgery, which is the usual recovery time before imaging. However, it turned out that during this time the dura mater in the slit became impermeable, so drugs did not diffuse into the OB. Blocker injection with glass pipettes was also not successful, as the dura mater was not penetrated but bending thus damaging the underlying brain tissue (data not shown). Therefore, experiments involving application of blocker solutions were performed 12-24 hours after cranial window implantation, with each imaging session ending at least 24 hours after surgery (see 2.5.5 for more details). All antagonists were diluted in the vehicle HEPES-buffered ringer solution and so the effect of HEPES-buffered ringer solution on basal ratios was tested first. For this, the basal ratios were measured in presence of the silicon elastomers Kwik-Cast/Sil (control) and again after removal of the plug and application of the HEPES-buffered ringer solution. Basal ratios after application were normalized to the respective control basal ratios measured beforehand. The box plot in Figure 17 displays the median normalized basal ratios per mouse, indicating that the ratios did not change significantly under HEPES-buffered ringer solution (p=0.437; 5 mice; Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test). Yet, for further analysis, we included only those cells that had a normalized basal ratio between 0.7 and 1.3 and classified them as 'stable' (81.2% of all cells).

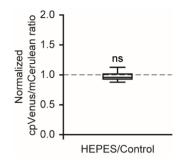


Figure 17. Effect of HEPES-buffered ringer solution on basal ratios. Box plot displaying medians of normalized ratios per mouse (p=0.437; 5 mice; Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test).

3.3.1 Cholinergic and serotonergic receptor blocker reduce basal Ca²⁺ levels of mABCs

In the mABC population, application of the noradrenergic receptor blocker prazosin did not change basal ratios (Figure 18A, pie charts in inset: p=1.090, 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions), whereas the serotonergic receptor blocker methysergide significantly reduced the basal ratios, resulting in a lower fraction of spiking and accordingly a higher fraction of non-spiking cells (Figure 18B, pie charts in inset: p=0.007, 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). Furthermore, the application of two cholinergic receptor blockers, mecamylamine and scopolamine, significantly reduced the basal ratios, and thus the fraction of spiking cells (Figure 18C, pie charts in inset: p=0.005, 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). The effect sizes of methysergide and mecamylamine/scopolamine were not significantly different from each other (Figure 18D; 5 mice: p=0.812, Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test), indicating a similar degree of inhibition. As it was the case under anesthesia, the overall ratio was reduced on a population level, but some individual cells showed an increase in ratio. In addition, individual cells responded differently to either methysergide or mecamylamine/scopolamine (Figure 18E).

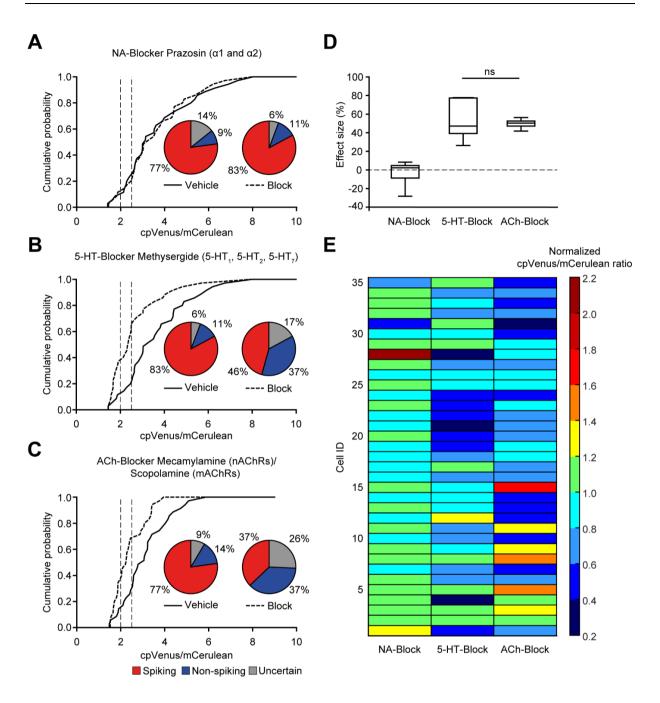


Figure 18. Effect of receptor blockers on basal ratios of mABCs in awake mice. Cumulative probability histograms showing basal ratios in the vehicle condition and during topical application of prazosin **(A)**, methysergide **(B)**, and mecamylamine/scopolamine **(C)**. Vertical broken lines indicate borders between spiking and non-spiking populations. Pie charts in inset showing the fractions of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were not significantly different between vehicle and prazosin (p=1.090; 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions), but between vehicle and methysergide (p=0.007; 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions) and between vehicle and mecamylamine/scopolamine (p=0.005; 35 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). **(D)** Box plots showing the median effect size per mouse under 3 different receptor blockers. The median effect size was not significantly different between the serotonergic and the cholinergic receptor blocker (p=0.812, Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test). **(E)** Heatmap displaying basal ratios measured during blocker application normalized to the basal ratios measured in the vehicle condition (35 cells from 5 mice).

3.3.2 Cholinergic receptor blocker reduce basal Ca²⁺ levels of Res_{GABA} cells

In Res_{GABA} cells, prazosin and methysergide did not reduce basal ratios, as shown by similar cumulative probability histograms before and during the application of blockers (Figure 19A for prazosin and Figure 19B for methysergide). Likewise, the fractions of spiking and non-spiking cells did not change (prazosin: p=0.863; methysergide: p=0.353; the same 176 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). However, blockade of cholinergic receptors did reduce the basal ratios significantly (Figure 19C); the distribution of basal ratios shifted to the left and the fraction of spiking cells was reduced while the fraction of non-spiking cells was increased accordingly (inset; p<0.0001; McNemar test for dependent proportions). Again, despite the reduction of ratios at the population level, some individual cells increased their ratio in the presence of cholinergic receptor blockers. In addition, individual cells responded to prazosin and methysergide with either ratio decrease or increase (Figure 19D).

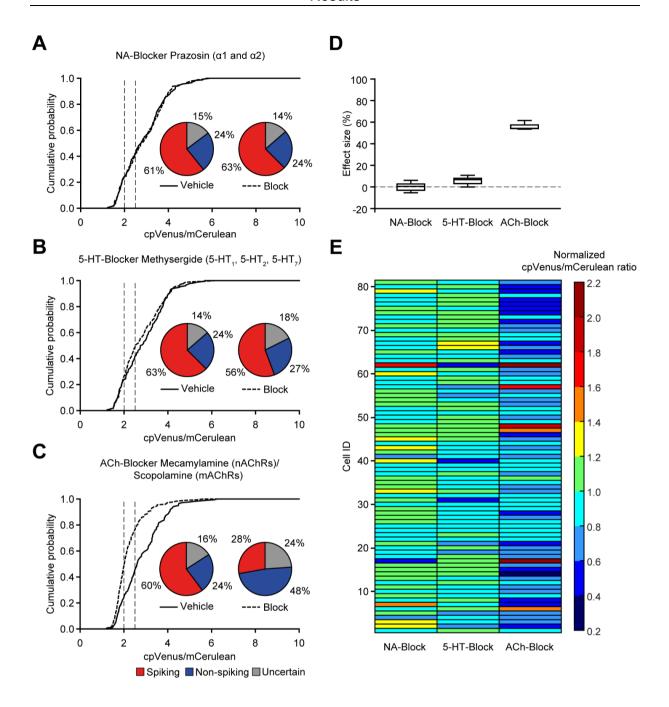


Figure 19. Effect of receptor blockers on basal ratios of Res_{GABA} cells in awake mice. Cumulative probability histograms showing basal ratios in the vehicle condition and during topical application of prazosin **(A)**, methysergide **(B)**, and mecamylamine/scopolamine **(C)**. Vertical broken lines indicate borders between spiking and non-spiking populations. Pie charts in inset showing the fractions of spiking, non-spiking and uncertain cells, which were not significantly different between vehicle and prazosin (p=0.863; 176 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions), or between vehicle and methysergide (p=0.353; 176 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions), but between vehicle and mecamylamine/scopolamine (p<0.0001; 176 cells from 5 mice; McNemar test for dependent proportions). **(D)** Box plots showing the median effect size per mouse under 3 different receptor blockers. **(E)** Heatmap displaying basal ratios measured during blocker application normalized to the basal ratios measured in the vehicle condition (35 cells from 5 mice).

Comparing the effect sizes of receptor blockers between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells revealed that the serotonergic receptor blocker methysergide affected mABCs cells

significantly stronger than Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 20; p<0.05; 2-way-ANOVA with a Bonferroni post-hoc test for multiple comparisons), whereas the effect size of cholinergic receptor blockers on the two cell populations was similar.

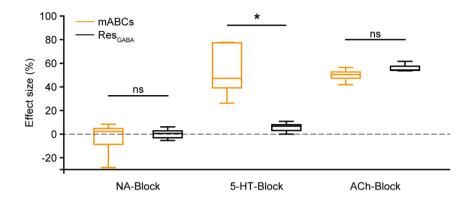


Figure 20. Effect of receptor blockers compared between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells. Box plots show the median effect sizes per mouse for all 3 receptor blockers. The serotonergic receptor blocker methysergide reduced ratios of mABCs but not Res_{GABA} cells, as seen by the significantly higher effect size (p<0.05; 2-way-ANOVA with a Bonferroni post-hoc test for multiple comparisons).

In summary, the high basal ratios (spiking activity) of mABCs observed in the awake state might be caused by active serotonergic and cholinergic inputs, whereas the high basal ratios of Res_{GABA} cells are likely to be caused by cholinergic inputs only. This indicates a distinct serotonergic innervation of mABCs or a responsiveness to activation of serotonin receptors, distinguishing them from Res_{GABA} cells.

4 Discussion

Using two-photon Ca²⁺ imaging with the genetically encoded Ca²⁺ indicator Twitch-2B in awake head-restrained mice, we found that mature adult-born juxtaglomerular cells in the OB retain unique features compared to resident juxtaglomerular cells. For the first time, mature adult-born juxtaglomerular cells were analyzed in awake mice and were compared to resident GABAergic cells. This comparison revealed that in the awake state, basal ratios, indicative of intracellular basal Ca2+ levels, did not differ between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells. However, odor-response properties differed. The responses of mABCs were sparser, less reliable, but larger compared to those of Resgaba cells. Under anesthesia, mABCs responded to odorant application more reliably than in awake state, but still less often and with larger responses. From three anesthetics used, K/X anesthesia reduced high basal ratios of mABCs stronger than those of Resgaba cells. To decipher what role the centrifugal inputs of the ARAS system play for the high basal ratios of mABCs and Resgaba cells, we applied antagonists of noradrenergic, cholinergic, and serotonergic receptors. Application of the cholinergic receptor antagonists resulted in reduced basal ratios of both, mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells, while application of the serotonergic receptor antagonist reduced basal ratios only in mABCs, but not Resgaba cells.

In summary, our data reveal that upon maturation, adult-born juxtaglomerular cells do not become identical to resident GABAergic cells, but retain distinct odor-response properties as well as a possible different receptor composition and innervation pattern (discussed below), likely endowing them with unique physiological functions.

4.1 Basal and odor-evoked Ca2+ signals

In the awake state, more than 50% of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells had high basal ratios above 2.4, indicating spiking activity, as TTX led to a reduction of basal ratios below 2.0 (Figure 9C). Although the spiking activity was not significantly different between mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells (Figure 11D), odor-response properties were different (Figure 12E). First of all, a lower fraction of mABCs responded to odorant application. A possible explanation for this observation could be that mABCs receive more specific synaptic inputs so that responses are more selective (i.e. cells respond to a few out of many odorants). Previous studies described that ABCs become more se-

lective and respond to fewer odorants after maturation (Livneh *et al.* 2014; Wallace *et al.* 2017). Livneh *et al.* applied 7 different odorants and observed that around 50% of young ABCs respond to 3 odorants while 50% of mature ABCs and resident cells respond to only one odorant. Wallace *et al.* applied 8 different odorants and observed that around 50% of young adult-born GC dendrites respond to 3 odorants while 50% of mature GC dendrites did not respond to any odorant. However, in both studies mABCs' responses to multiple odorants were tested, while we tested responses to one particular odorant (ETI). Therefore, we cannot certainly say if the lower responsiveness observed here indicates that mABCs are more selective in the same sense. It might have also other reasons, as for instance, mABCs may also receive a stronger inhibition from neighboring cells in the network, and so respond less often than Res_{GABA} cells.

Furthermore, mABCs showed higher maximal ratios during odorant application compared to Res_{GABA} cells. As the higher ratio is indicative of higher spiking activity, this implies that more GABA is released from mABCs, leading to stronger hyperpolarization of postsynaptic cells (M/Ts and juxtaglomerular cells), or of OSN terminals. This overall inhibition could lead to sparser, more selective olfactory inputs which are forwarded by M/Ts to the olfactory cortex. On the other hand, higher ratios reflect higher intracellular Ca²⁺ levels, and these might induce more intracellular signaling cascades in mABCs that favor the suggested function of mABCs in learning and memory (1.2), such as Ca²⁺-dependent short-term and long-term plasticity (Eccles 1983; Zucker and Regehr 2002; Cavazzini et al. 2005). For instance, during early long-term potentiation, Ca²⁺ activates kinases that phosphorylate AMPA receptor channels, which then are incorporated into the cell membrane and lead to strengthening of synaptic transmission. Also, Ca²⁺-activated kinases phosphorylate transcription factors such as cAMP-response element-binding protein, leading to the synthesis of new proteins of which some are ion channels or receptors. Structural plasticity (dendrite and spine dynamics) was described for PGCs as well as GCs (1.2), while functional plasticity, such as short-term depression or long-term potentiation was so far predominantly described in GCs (Dietz and Murthy 2005; Nissant et al. 2009).

The underlying mechanism of higher maximal ratios during odorant application in mABCs might be due to a different composition of receptors or ion channels permeable for Ca²⁺ in the postsynaptic membrane. For instance, more NMDA receptors or

voltage-gated Ca²⁺ channels could be present, or they may exist in different isoforms or subunit compositions (Simms and Zamponi 2014; Hansen et al. 2017). Interestingly, we found that K/X anesthesia reduced basal ratios stronger in mABCs than Res_{GABA} cells. As ketamine is known to antagonize NMDA receptors, this could indicate that mABCs possess a different absolute number of NMDA receptors or subunit composition. Furthermore, as NMDA channels are also known to play a key role in long-term potentiation (Bliss and Lomo 1973), these differences in number or subunit composition might favor activity-dependent plasticity in mABCs. The anesthetic agent xylazine, which was applied together with ketamine, is unlikely to be responsible for the reduction of basal ratio levels, as xylazine targets α2 adrenergic receptors similar to medetomidine in the 3CN anesthesia, and 3CN did not reduce basal ratios as strong as K/X. Furthermore, it has been described that ABCs express more NMDA receptors when they are immature compared to when they are mature (Grubb et al. 2008). In addition, NMDA receptors in immature ABCs contain more NR2B subunits than NMDA receptors in mature ABCs (Grubb et al. 2008). However, this would contradict the assumption that mature ABCs in our study might have different NMDA receptors than Resgaba cells. Further experiments would be required to test whether the number or subunit composition of functional NMDA receptors differs between mABCs and Resgaba cells. For this purpose, one could topically apply NMDA receptor blockers (such as (2R)-amino-5-phosphonovaleric acid) and measure basal and odor-evoked ratios in mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells. Furthermore, electrophysiological recordings performed in vivo or in OB slices could be used to determine the electrical properties of NMDA receptors. In addition, expression level or subunit composition of NMDA receptors could be analyzed using immunohistochemical labeling (Telezhkin et al. 2016) or more quantitative protein-based techniques (Antonelli et al. 2016).

A previous study found differences between the spontaneous activities of immature (2-week-old) ABCs and resident cells under ketamine anesthesia (in combination with medetomidine) (Livneh *et al.* 2014). However, the spontaneous activity of mABCs was similar to that of resident cells. This is in contrast with our finding that also mABCs can have lower spontaneous activity (i.e. basal ratios) under K/X anesthesia. However, the difference in recording technique (electrophysiological recordings of single APs in Livneh's study versus Ca²⁺ imaging in our study) could be the reason for this discrepancy. Furthermore, in our study, differences in basal ratios between

mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells were observed neither under the 3CN anesthesia nor under the isoflurane anesthesia or in the awake state. This indicates that effects observed by us under K/X anesthesia and by Livneh *et al.* under K/M anesthesia could be due to the presence of ketamine.

Furthermore, Livneh *et al.* observed under K/M anesthesia higher odor-evoked AP firing rates in immature (4-week-old) ABCs compared to resident cells (Livneh *et al.* 2014). But this difference did not remain in mature ABCs. This contrasts with the current finding that mABCs can have higher odor-evoked maximal ratios compared to Res_{GABA} cells. However, the difference in recording techniques (see above) and in brain state (awake state versus K/M anesthesia) between our study and Livneh's study might explain this contradictory result.

As the immunostaining of DCX and Twitch-2B revealed that ca. 18% of Twitch-2Bexpressing mABCs are younger than 21 days, this subpopulation could show different properties than mABCs. However, the collected data did not indicate that the group of Twitch-2B-expressing mABCs consisted of two clearly distinguishable populations showing distinct basal or odor-evoked maximal ratios. In addition, although the immunostaining showed that 18% of cells are younger than 21 days, how many cells have an age between 21 and 56 DPI is unknown. Thus, mABCs have a continuum of individual ages, which is unavoidable when using lentiviruses to label ABCs; an established method used by many studies before. So far, no marker has been described that specifically labels mature adult-born PGCs/SACs for subsequent analyses of their physiological properties in vivo, as was recently described for mature adult-born GCs in the OB (Quast et al. 2017). Under the current experimental paradigm, the exact age of individual adult-born PGCs/SACs could be determined by observing Twitch-2B-expressing cells daily from their arrival in the OB until they mature, i.e. over about 7 weeks. However, daily measurements over this extended time span in awake mice would likely be stressful to the animals, which might in turn affect ABC maturation and integration. Measurements under anesthesia would also be possible, however, it has been described that anesthesia disturbs synaptogenesis of newborn cells during development and could under some circumstances even lead to their death (Jevtovic-Todorovic 2012; Reddy 2012). In addition, it has been shown that in adult mice anesthesia impairs maturation and integration of adult-born hippocampal neurons (Krzisch et al. 2013). Therefore, repeated measurements under anesthesia might as well affect ABCs' maturation and integration. Likewise, repeated imaging may induce cell damage due to excessive illumination.

4.2 Modulation by anesthesia and centrifugal inputs

Previous studies showed that anesthesia reduces spontaneous activity of GABAergic cells in the OB (Kato et al. 2012; Wachowiak et al. 2013; Cazakoff et al. 2014). We confirm and extend these findings for adult-born and resident GABAergic cells by showing that their basal ratios were reduced under anesthesia (Figure 13, Figure 14). In addition, here, three different anesthetics were used: K/X, isoflurane, and in this context previously not used mixture of medetomidine, midazolam and fentanyl, summarized as '3CN'. In Res_{GABA} cells, isoflurane reduced basal ratios significantly stronger than K/X did (see Figure 14D). In contrast, in mABCs, all three anesthetics reduced basal ratios similarly strong although a trend for a stronger reduction under K/X anesthesia was observed (see Figure 13D). We wanted to test if centrifugal projections from ARAS nuclei contribute to the high basal ratios in the awake state. Therefore, for the first time, receptor blockers for acetylcholine, serotonin, or noradrenaline were applied onto the OB of awake mice and basal ratios of mABCs and Resgaba cells were measured. A major advantage of this approach in the awake mouse is that it avoids potentially confounding interference with anesthetic agents. However, some technical limitations should be considered. The concentration of blockers in our study was high compared to previous in vivo experiments in the OB of anesthetized mice, where a large area of the OB surface was perfused (Petzold et al. 2009; Rothermel et al. 2014). Therefore, it is unknown if the highly concentrated drugs led to unspecific effects. For example, they could bind to other than the targeted receptors, reach other areas of the brain, or cross the blood brain barrier, thereby inducing systemic effects. However, the high concentrations were chosen to guarantee that blockers diffusing through the small slit would reach sufficient concentrations in the olfactory bulb. For improvement, dose-response-curves could be recorded in further studies in order to find the lowest concentration that is blocking the specified receptors and reduces the basal ratios. This would diminish the possibility that drugs reach concentrations that could lead to unspecific effects. Another option is the use of optogenetic or chemogenetic approaches, which allows more specific blocking and better temporal control of the blockade. The chemogenetic blockade could be achieved by expressing 'Designer Receptors Exclusively Activated by Designer Drugs' (DREAADs) (Urban and Roth 2015) in target cells (for instance, serotonergic cells), whereby the optogenetic blockade could be achieved by expressing light-sensitive ion channels or ion pumps leading to hyperpolarization in target cells (Zhang *et al.* 2010).

Upon blockade of noradrenergic receptors, changes in basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells were not observed. This implies that noradrenergic inputs do not contribute to the high basal ratios observed in the awake state. This is in line with the observation that adrenergic fibers primarily target the external plexiform-, GC- and MC- layer (McLean et al. 1989; McLean and Shipley 1991) and that adrenergic receptors are primarily expressed on GCs and MCs, but very low on juxtaglomerular cells (McCune et al. 1993; Day et al. 1997; Hayar et al. 2001; Nai et al. 2010; Luhrs et al. 2016). When we applied the cholinergic receptor blockers, basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells were reduced. These results imply that mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells are both innervated by cholinergic fibers. Acetylcholine has been shown to excite GABAergic juxtaglomerular cells via nicotinergic receptors (Ravel et al. 1990; Castillo et al. 1999). To test if the high basal ratios reflect an inflow of Ca²⁺ via nAChRs, only the nAChR-blocker mecamylamine could be applied. Application of the serotonergic receptor blocker led to a reduction of basal ratios in mABCs, but not in Resgaba cells. This implies that only mABCs, but not Resgaba cells are innervated by serotonergic fibers. To investigate this interesting observation, analysis of serotonin receptor expression, or of the extent of serotonergic fiber innervation would be necessary (see, e.g., Deshpande et al. (2013) for the investigation of fiber innervation). To test whether serotonin in the OB is released from serotonergic fibers arising from the dorsal raphe nucleus, activity of serotonergic neurons in the dorsal raphe nucleus or of their terminals in the OB could be blocked directly via chemogenetic or optogenetic methods.

Our finding that mABCs were selectively blocked by the serotonergic receptor blocker suggests a specific role for serotonin in mABCs. Previous studies have described that serotonin increases neurogenesis and improves ABC survival, but it was unknown if serotonergic innervation differs between ABCs and resident cells. Furthermore, so far, many studies focused on the role of noradrenaline and acetylcholine in olfactory learning and memory, but less is known about the function of serotonin for olfaction.

In the following, I will discuss one described function of serotonin in the context of brain-state-dependent sensory processing. Serotonin was suggested to mediate presynaptic feedback inhibition onto OSNs via activation of GABAergic juxtaglomerular cells (Hardy et al. 2005; Petzold et al. 2009) and this presynaptic feedback inhibition was suggested to control the sensory gain (McGann 2013). Activity of serotonergic neurons is known to be brain-state-dependent with high activity levels during awake. resting states, predominantly during grooming and rhythmic movements, but not during attentive states of sensory acquisition (Jacobs and Azmitia 1992; Jones 2005). Therefore, one function of serotonin was suggested to be suppression of sensory perception (Jacobs and Fornal 1993; Jacobs and Fornal 1999; Hurley et al. 2004). In resting states, e.g., during grooming or eating, acquisition of new odorants might be not vital, and so perception is dampened. However, when the animal is actively searching for food or mates, or when it pays attention to predators, the gain of olfactory inputs might be raised to ensure unambiguous and fast odor perception. Gain adjustment or 'gating' is an important mechanism to filter out irrelevant information, which prevents an overload of sensory information (Freedman et al. 1987; Freedman et al. 1996; Schwartz and Simoncelli 2001). Serotonin has been demonstrated to modulate the sensory gain in various other species and brain areas (Hurley et al. 2004). For instance, in the olfactory system (Dacks et al. 2009; Petzold et al. 2009), the visual system (Waterhouse et al. 1990; Seillier et al. 2017), the inferior colliculus (Hurley et al. 2002), and the somatosensory system (Dugue et al. 2014).

As described in the introduction (1.2), it was suggested that ABCs enable plasticity to adapt to environmental changes. Since ABCs receive centrifugal inputs, whose activity is brain-state-dependent, Lazarini and Lledo in 2011 hypothesized that ABCs are coincidence detectors between the behavioral state (arousal, attention, expectation) of the animal and sensory inputs arising from the environment (Lazarini and Lledo 2011). Because the activity of serotonergic neurons is brain-state-dependent, our finding that mABCs receive selective serotonergic inputs favors the hypothesis that ABCs are mediators of brain state-dependent changes in sensory processing. This adds another aspect to the understanding of ABC function, specifically the function of adult-born PGCs/SACs, as they, in contrast to adult-born GCs, reside in the glomerular layer, which displays an intersection point between sensory inputs arriving from the environment and centrifugal inputs arriving from the brain. Since it is known that

ABCs start migrating into the OB during embryogenesis (Wichterle *et al.* 2001) and continue postnatally in the young and adult animal (Luskin 1993; Lois and Alvarez-Buylla 1994; De Marchis *et al.* 2007), it is very likely that ABCs can shape sensory processing according to the state of the animal, starting with its birth.

Because ketamine and the serotonergic receptor antagonist methysergide reduced basal ratios stronger in mABCs compared to Res_{GABA} cells, it is tempting to speculate about a functional interaction between ketamine and serotonin. Ketamine is known to act on the serotonergic system (introduction chapter 1.3.3); specifically (1) by modulating the descending serotonergic pathways in the spinal cord (Larson 1984; Koizuka *et al.* 2005; Bee and Dickenson 2009), (2) by modulating serotonin synthesis and reuptake (Martin *et al.* 1982; Martin and Smith 1982; Yamamoto *et al.* 2013), and (3) by reducing firing of serotonergic neurons in the DRN (McCardle and Gartside 2012). In mouse hippocampus, it was described that ketamine increases 5-HT_{2C} cluster microRNA levels, which may inhibit translation of 5-HT_{2C} receptor mRNA (Grieco *et al.* 2017). Given that serotonin activates PGCs via 5-HT_{2C} receptors, this observation is interesting. In regard of all these effects, it can be speculated that ketamine may affect mABC basal ratios in part by modulating serotonergic pathways. However, to prove this, further investigations would be required.

Anesthesia modulates ARAS centers (introduction chapter 1.3.3) and induces an EEG pattern similar to that seen in NREM sleep. Besides this, anesthesia and sleep are believed to share many additional features (Vanini *et al.* 2011). It is widely accepted that sleep is needed for memory consolidation (Alger *et al.* 2015; Chen and Wilson 2017). Moreover, olfactory ABCs were described to play a role in the acquisition of memory as well as in their consolidation (Kermen *et al.* 2010; Yokoyama *et al.* 2011). Kermen *et al.* described that the efficiency of learning positively correlated with ABC survival and with the duration of resting phase after the learning task, indicating that a resting phase is needed to consolidate previously learned behaviors. Yokoyama *et al.* described that ABCs were eliminated in the resting phase, more specifically in the postprandial sleep following food intake (a typical behavior dependent on olfaction), and that this ABC elimination during sleep was needed for consolidation of previously learned odor-driven behaviors. According to a hypothesis of Yamaguchi (Yamaguchi *et al.* 2013; Yamaguchi 2017), those ABCs that were active during the memory acquisition will survive while those that were not active will die during sleep.

Yamaguchi suggests that centrifugal inputs during sleep target ABCs and play a role of detectors that can initiate apoptosis when ABCs have been inactive during the acquisition. In conclusion, ABCs were shown to be important for memory consolidation in sleep, and it is hypothesized that those ABCs that were inactive during the acquisition period will be eliminated. Since our study showed that basal activity levels (basal ratios) of mABCs are reduced under anesthesia and under receptor blockade for centrifugal inputs arising from ARAS centers, we hypothesize that activity levels are also reduced during natural sleep. Measuring basal ratios of ABCs and Res_{GABA} cells during sleep after the animal performed learning tasks might help us to understand which role ABCs play in memory consolidation. So far, the performance in learning tasks was correlated with the degree of neurogenesis or survival of ABCs. We suggest measuring activity of the same ABCs immediately during the memory acquisition period in the awake state and afterwards during consolidation in sleep states. Furthermore, comparing activity levels of mABCs and Resgaba cells during acquisition and consolidation could reveal the underlying physiology of mABCs important for their suggested function in learning. Successful two-photon imaging experiments in sleeping mice have been already performed (Maret et al. 2011; Cox et al. 2016; Niethard et al. 2016) and could act as guidelines for the planning of the above mentioned experiments.

In the awake state, mABCs responded less reliably to odorant application, but became as reliable as Res_{GABA} cells under anesthesia (Figure 12D, Figure 16D). As we saw that mABCs receive excitatory inputs in the awake state (cholinergic and sero-tonergic projections), the basal activity level might arise from these projections. This would lead to more noise in the cell and a smaller signal-to-noise ratio, where 'signal' represents the odor-evoked activity and 'noise' represents the basal activity. As excitatory inputs reduce their activity under anesthesia, the reduction of 'noise' would increase the signal-to-noise ratio and enable mABCs to respond more reliably to odorant stimulation. This theory can be supported by modeling studies reviewed in D'Souza and Vijayaraghavan (2014), which describe the modulation of odor-evoked responses as a function of the basal activity induced by cholinergic inputs.

4.1 Future directions

Previous studies investigated ABC function mainly via relating ABC generation or survival to function/behavior. For instance, blocking neurogenesis led to impairment of odor discrimination or learning (1.2). Therefore, it has been proposed that ABCs have specific physiological properties that govern these functions. Physiological properties, such as basal or odor-evoked activities, were investigated, however, predominantly in slices or in anesthetized mice (1.2.1). As we showed, basal activity (basal ratios) of mABCs are altered under anesthesia, and so measurements in awake mice are a better reflection of ABC physiology. Measuring physiological properties of ABCs in awake mice paves the way to combine those measurements with behavior of the animal. In one study, adult-born GCs were activated via an optogenetic approach in awake mice and the animal's performance in an odor discrimination task was shown to improve (Alonso et al. 2012). However, studies measuring the basal activity of ABCs during a behavioral task have not been reported yet. This would give a clearer picture of how their physiological properties correlate with the olfactory behavior/function.

In the present study, we saw a reduction of basal ratios by blocking cholinergic and serotonergic receptors, and so a question arose how this blockade and the reduction of basal ratios would affect olfactory function/behavior. Interestingly, we observed increased motion of nose and whiskers in the animal after application of cholinergic receptor blockers (data not shown), indicating that the animal's perception might have changed. As acetylcholine was suggested to improve sensory perception in the OB (Linster *et al.* 2001; Mandairon *et al.* 2006), we hypothesize that the performance in a task like odor discrimination would be impaired during cholinergic receptor blockade. Moreover, since cholinergic fibers increase the basal activity in cells, it could be that the reduction of basal activity during cholinergic receptor blockade might be one responsible factor for the inability to discriminate odorants.

As serotonin was suggested to influence sensory gain, we hypothesize that the performance in a task like odor detection would be impaired during serotonergic receptor blockade. The threshold to detect odorants is an indicator for the sensory gain, as the threshold should be low when the sensory gain is high (indicating a high sensitivity). When serotonergic receptors on PGCs are blocked, PGCs will be excited less and

therefore inhibit OSNs less, resulting in stronger incoming olfactory input (sensory gain is increased). To combine physiology and function, basal ratios of mABCs and Res_{GABA} cells could be measured during an odor detection task. Furthermore, the activity of OSN terminals in the OB could be analyzed in parallel. The activity of OSN terminals can be measured, e.g. using synaptopHluorin, which is a pH-sensitive fluorescent protein that was previously used to visualize presynaptic transmitter release from OSN terminals (Petzold *et al.* 2009). To determine if mABCs inhibit OSN presynapses differently than Res_{GABA} cells do, mABCs or Res_{GABA} cells could be optogenetically stimulated while transmitter release of OSNs is measured with synaptopHluorin.

In summary, combining physiological measurements with olfactory behavior provides a new way to study how ABCs process olfactory signals differently to resident cells and how this processing constitutes the suggested specific olfactory behavior.

4.2 Conclusion

In conclusion, we showed that mABCs become similar to Resgable cells, but retain some unique features. For instance, mABCs had similar basal ratios - indicative of intracellular Ca²⁺ levels and spiking activity - as Resgable cells in the awake state and under 3CN and isoflurane anesthesia. However, odor-evoked maximal ratios were found to be higher in mABCs compared to Resgable cells in the awake as well as the anesthetized state. Furthermore, mABCs had significantly lower basal ratios under K/X anesthesia. The higher maximal ratios during odorant application and the lower basal ratios under K/X anesthesia point towards a potential mechanism of altered Ca²⁺ signaling required for the suggested role of ABCs in learning and memory. It was also observed that mABCs, but not Resgable cells, reduce their basal ratios under serotonergic receptor blockade. This implies a specific role of serotonin for mABCs, as for example sensory gain control according to the animal's brain state.

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6 Statement of Contributions

According to § 9 (2):

For this dissertation, I designed the experiments together with Prof. Dr. O. Garaschuk, I performed the experiments, and I analyzed the data.

The master student A. Alsema has contributed to the analysis of the basal ratios of the resident GABAergic cell population during her laboratory rotation under my supervision. Her analysis is part of Figure 11 and Figure 14.

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PERSONAL INFORMATION

Day of birth: 01/12/1987
Birth place: Omsk, Russia
Nationality: German

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

since 2011	Ph.D. thesis in the Institute for Physiology, Department of Neurophysiology, University of Tuebingen, Tuebingen, about " <i>Physiological properties of mature adult-born neurons in the olfactory bulb of awake mice.</i> " Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Olga Garaschuk.	
2010-2011	Master thesis in the Laboratory for Signal Transduction and Transgenic Models, Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry, University of Tuebingen, Tuebingen, about "Characterization of the cGMP pathway in cells of the brain." Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Robert Feil.	
2009-2011	Master of Science in Cellular and Molecular Neuroscience, Graduate School of Neuroscience, Tuebingen.	
Jul-Aug 2009	Bachelor thesis in the Laboratory for Integrative Sensory Physiology, Institute for Animal Physiology, Justus Liebig University, Giessen, about "Plasticity of the T-neuron in Tettigonia viridissima." Supervisor: Prof. Dr. Lakes-Harlan.	
2006-2009	Bachelor of Science in Biology at the Justus Liebig University, Giessen.	

WORK EXPERIENCE

Aug-Nov 2010	Lab rotation with the project title: 'Looking at the propagation of slow waves in the rat cortex during sleep' in the Laboratory for Physiology of Cortico-Hippocampal Interaction, Werner Reichardt Center for Integrative Neuroscience, Tuebingen. Supervisor: Dr. Anton Sirota.		
Feb-Apr 2010	Lab rotation with the project title: <i>'Lingo-1 overexpression and its counteraction by Retinoic acid'</i> in the Laboratory for Neuroregeneration and Repair, Hertie-Institute for Clinical Brain Research, Tuebingen. Supervisor: Dr. Simone Di Giovanni.		
Sep 2008	Internship in the Laboratory of Neurophysiology (PI: Prof. Dr. Wolf Singer), Max-Planck-Institute for Brain Research, Frankfurt.		
Mar 2002	Internship in the Laboratory of Cellular Biophysics (PI: Dr. Thomas Gensch), Forschungszentrum Jülich.		

PUBLICATIONS

Articles

- (1) B. Brawek, Y. Liang, D. Savitska, K. Li, **N. Fomin-Thunemann**, Y. Kovalchuk, E. Zirdum, J. Jakobsson, O. Garaschuk. "A new approach for ratiometric in vivo calcium imaging of microglia". *Sci Rep.* 2017; Jul 20; 7(1):6030.
- (2) M. Thunemann, **N. Fomin**, C. Krawutschke, M. Russwurm, R. Feil. "Visualization of cGMP with cGi biosensors." *Methods Mol Biol.* 2013; 1020:89-120.
- (3) R. Puttagunta, A. Schmandke, E. Floriddia, P. Gaub, **N. Fomin**, NB Ghyselinck, S. Di Giovanni. "RA-RAR-β counteracts myelin-dependent inhibition of neurite outgrowth via Lingo-1 repression." *J Cell Biol.* 2011; 193(7):1147-1156.

Meeting Abstracts

- (1) S. Fink, **N. Fomin-Thunemann**, J. Sheppard, M. Schmidt, O. Garaschuk. "Default glomerular activity maps in the olfactory bulb of awake mice." 12th Göttingen Meeting of the German Neuroscience Society, Göttingen, Germany 2017.
- (2) **N. Fomin**, S. Fink, Y. Kovalchuk, Y. Liang, O. Garaschuk. "Distinct physiological properties of mature adult-born neurons in the olfactory bulb of awake mice." 45th Meeting of the Society for Neuroscience, Chicago, USA 2015.
- (3) S. Fink, Y. Kovalchuk, **N. Fomin**, M. Carr, M. Hermes, S. Dierenberger, O. Griesbeck, O. Garaschuk. "Odor-evoked activity patterns of mitral cells in the mouse olfactory bulb in vivo." 91st Meeting of the German Society for Physiology, Dresden, Germany 2012.
- (4) M. Thunemann, **N. Fomin**, M. Hillenbrand, T. Ott, M. Russwurm, R. Feil. "Visualization of cGMP in living cells and tissues of transgenic mice." 78th Meeting of the DGPT, Dresden, Germany 2012.
- (5) M. Thunemann, **N. Fomin**, M. Hillenbrand, S. Kroll, A. Wilhelm, P. Messer, T. Ott, M. Russwurm, R. Feil. "Generation and characterization of transgenic mice carrying cGMP FRET sensors (cGi's)." Poster session in the Interfaculty Institute of Biochemistry, Tuebingen, Germany 2011.

FURTHER TRAINING

Oct 2016 - Feb 2017	Course (15 x 2 hrs): "Physiological and Physical Basis of Functional Brain Imaging".			
Apr-Jul 2016	Course (14 x 2 hrs): "Embodiment, Emotion and Experience".			
Oct 2014 - Feb 2015	Course (15 x 2 hrs): "Methods in Neuropsychology".			
Jun 2013	Course (6 x 2 hrs): "Advanced Matlab".			
Apr 2013	Course (4 x 2 hrs): "Introduction to Matlab".			
Mar 2013	Course (2 x 8 hrs): "Introduction to Programming".			
Mai 2012	Course (2 x 5 hrs): "Statistics with SPSS".			

PERSONAL SKILLS AND COMPETENCES

Languages	Russian	■ Good	
	German	Reading/Writing/Speaking (excellent)	
	English	Reading/Writing/Speaking (excellent)	
Laboratory techniques	General	Molecular Biology	
		■ Cell Biology	
		Biochemistry	
	Cell culture	Primary culture of neurons/astrocytes from mice	
	Experimental animals	 Surgery on rodents (craniotomy for acute or chronic imaging, insertion of electrodes for intracranial recordings, stereotactic vi- rus injection into the mouse brain) 	
	Microscopy	Live cell/FRET imaging	
		■ Confocal Imaging/2-Photon Calcium imaging	
Computer skills	■ Image analysis (e.g. with ImageJ)		
	■ Graphical design (e.g. with Adobe Illustrator)		
	■ Data analysis with MATLAB, IGOR and SPSS		