

Inhibitory interneurons with differential plasticities at their connections tune excitatory—inhibitory balance in the spinal nociceptive system

Lou Cathenaut, Benjamin Leonardon, Robin Kuster, Perrine Inquimbert, Rémy Schlichter, Sylvain Hugel

▶ To cite this version:

Lou Cathenaut, Benjamin Leonardon, Robin Kuster, Perrine Inquimbert, Rémy Schlichter, et al.. Inhibitory interneurons with differential plasticities at their connections tune excitatory—inhibitory balance in the spinal nociceptive system. Pain, 2022, 163 (5), pp.e675-e688. 10.1097/j.pain.000000000000002460. hal-03842404

HAL Id: hal-03842404

https://hal.science/hal-03842404

Submitted on 7 Nov 2022

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L'archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire **HAL**, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d'enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.

1	TITIE:
2	Inhibitory interneurons with differential plasticities at their connections
3	tune excitatory/inhibitory balance in the spinal nociceptive system
4	
5	Authors
6	Lou Cathenaut ¹ , Benjamin Leonardon ¹ , Kuster Robin ¹ , Perrine Inquimbert ¹ , Rémy Schlichter ¹ ,
7	Sylvain Hugel ¹ *
8	¹ Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Université de Strasbourg, Institut des
9	Neurosciences Cellulaires et Intégratives, 67000 Strasbourg, France.
10	
11	Number of pages: 43
12	Number of figures: 7
13	Number of supplementary figures: 8
14	Number of supplementary tables: 7
15	
16	* Corresponding author
17	Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Université de Strasbourg, Institut des
18	Neurosciences Cellulaires et Intégratives, 8 allée du Général Rouvillois, F-67000 Strasbourg
19	hugels@inci-cnrs.unistra.fr
20	Phone: +33388456666
21	Conflict of interest statement. The authors declare no competing financial interests.

Abstract

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

Networks of the dorsal-horn of the spinal-cord process nociceptive information from the periphery. In these networks, the excitation/inhibition balance is critical to shape this nociceptive information and to gate it to the brain where it is interpreted as pain. Our aim was to define whether short-term plasticity of inhibitory connections could tune this inhibition/excitation balance by differentially controlling excitatory and inhibitory microcircuits. To this end, we used spinal-cord slices from adult mice expressing enhanced green fluorescent protein (eGFP) under the GAD65 promoter and recorded from both eGFP+ (putative inhibitory) and eGFP- (putative excitatory) neurons of lamina II while stimulating single presynaptic GABAergic interneurons at various frequencies. Our results indicate that GABAergic neurons of lamina II simultaneously contact eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons, but these connections display very different frequencydependent short-term plasticities. Connections onto eGFP- interneurons displayed limited frequency-dependent changes, and strong time-dependent summation of inhibitory synaptic currents that was however subjected to a tonic activity-dependent inhibition involving A1 adenosine receptors. In contrast, GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ interneurons expressed pronounced frequency-dependent depression, thus favoring disinhibition at these synapses by a mechanism involving the activation of GABA_B autoreceptors at low frequency. Interestingly, the balance favors inhibition at frequencies associated with intense pain whether it favors excitation at frequencies associated with low pain. Therefore, these target- and frequency-specific plasticities allow to tune the balance between inhibition and disinhibition while processing frequency-coded information from primary afferents. These short-term plasticities and their modulation by A1 and GABA_B receptors might represent an interesting target in pain-alleviating strategies.

Introduction

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

Nociceptive information conveyed from the periphery by primary afferents is integrated in the dorsal-horn of the spinal-cord before being forwarded to the brain where it can lead to pain perception. Among sensory neurons, C- and Aδ-primary afferents conveying nociceptive information mostly project to networks within dorsal-horn superficial layers (laminae I-III). In lamina II (LII), primary afferents synapse with local excitatory or inhibitory interneurons [24; 30; 33; 34]. In turn, LII inhibitory interneurons contact either excitatory or inhibitory interneurons [24; 33; 34; 44; 54]. Inhibitory interneurons in these networks play a critical role in the processing of nociceptive information, alteration of inhibition and is associated with physiological/pathological pain states [23; 39; 48; 50]. LII interneurons are inhibited by both GABAergic and glycinergic connections but local inhibitory connections between LII neurons are mostly GABAergic [27; 33]. Sensory neurons projecting to these networks encode the intensity of adequate stimuli using an action-potential frequency code [1; 2; 7; 51]. In other regions of the central nervous system, the processing of such frequency-coded information is known to involve frequency-selective synapses [13; 26; 29]. These synapses display short-term plasticity (STP) processes changing dynamically their efficacy over time as a function of the delay between presynaptic actionpotentials [6; 37]. Therefore, networks in the spinal nociceptive system are also expected to display short-term plasticity in order to process frequency-coded sensory information. Surprisingly, this question has been little addressed experimentally, and has mostly used simple paired-pulse stimulation protocols [8; 20; 24; 43; 53] and very rarely protocols using trains of stimulations [9; 20; 27; 53].

Data on the impacts of stimulation trains in information processing in the dorsal-horn are also pending to fully understand the mechanisms engaged by the rapidly-expanding stimulation approaches used in pain alleviation such as spinal-cord stimulation [17; 22]. Together with other targets, this approach has indeed been suggested to activate inhibitory LII interneurons [11]. The objective of the present study was to examine short-term plasticities of GABAergic connections onto LII neurons, and to determine whether such plasticities were different when the synapses involved an excitatory or an inhibitory postsynaptic (target) neuron. To this end, we prepared acute slices from mice expressing enhanced green fluorescent protein (eGFP) under the control of the GAD65 promoter [10]. We recorded from either eGFP-expressing (eGFP+) or eGFP negative (eGFP-) neurons, and also performed simultaneous recordings of eGFP+ and eGFPneurons while stimulating single presynaptic GABAergic neurons. Our results indicate that GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons of LII display different short-term plasticities than those onto eGFP- neurons, favoring inhibition at frequencies occurring during intense nociceptive stimulation and favoring excitation at frequencies occurring during nociceptive stimulation of low intensity.

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

81

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

Methods

Animals

For all experiments, we used male heterozygous C57BL/6 BAC transgenic mice eGFP under the control of the GAD65 promoter obtained from Ferenc Erdelyi and Gabor Szabo (Institute of Experimental Medicine, Budapest) [10]. In these mice, ~80% of LII eGFP+ neurons are GABA-immunopositive and ~60% of GABA-immunopositive neurons are eGFP+ [10]. These mice were interbred at the local animal facility, The Chronobiotron (agreement number: A67-2018-38). The

animals were housed at room temperature (22-25°C) with a 12hr light/dark cycle with free access to food and water. All procedures used were in accordance with laws for laboratory animal welfare and approved by the local ethical committee of the University of Strasbourg (CREMEAS; agreement number: APAFIS#8138-2016121008385362 v3).

Slicing procedure

Adult transgenic mice (5-9 weeks) were anaesthetized with urethane (1.9 g.kg⁻¹). Under deep anesthesia, intracardiac perfusion was performed with oxygenated ice-cold (~4°C) sucrose artificial cerebrospinal fluid (sACSF) bubbled with carbogen (95% O₂, 5% CO₂) containing (in mM): 248 sucrose, 26 NaHCO₃, 11 glucose, 2 KCl, 2 CaCl₂, 1.3 MgSO₄, 1.25 KH₂PO₄, 2.5 kynurenic acid. The lumbar part (L3-L5) of the spinal cord was removed by laminectomy and 400 μM thick transverse slices were cut with a vibrating microtome (Leica, VT1200S). Slices were kept until recording at room temperature (~25°C) in oxygenated ACSF containing in mM: 126 NaCl, 2.5 KCl, 2 CaCl₂, 2 MgCl₂, 26 NaHCO₃, 1.25 NaH₂PO₄, 10 glucose.

Patch-clamp recordings

After recovery (~1 h), slices were transferred to the recording chamber, maintained at 32 \pm 1°C and continuously perfused by oxygenated ACSF at 3-4 ml/min. In order to isolate GABAergics IPSCs, glycinergic and glutamatergic ionotropic transmissions were blocked by adding in ACSF 1 μ M strychnine and 10 μ M 6-cyano-7nitroquinoxaline-2,3-dione (CNQX) respectively. Whole-cell patch recordings were made from inhibitory (eGFP+) and putative excitatory (eGFP-) LII neurons. Recording and extracellular stimulation electrodes (4-7 M Ω) were pulled from borosilicate glass capillaries (1.2 mm inner diameter, 1.69 mm outer diameter, Warner Instruments, Harvard

Apparatus) using a P1000 electrode puller (Sutter Instruments). Recording electrodes were filled with, in mM: 140 KCl, 2 MgCl, 10 HEPES, 2 MgATP; pH 7.3. In experiments using increased stimulation amplitudes, 1 mM QX314 was added to this intrapipette solution to prevent spiking of the recorded neuron. Junction potentials were not corrected. Whole-cell patch clamp recordings (in current-clamp and voltage-clamp recording modes) were made using a Multiclamp 700A amplifier (Molecular Devices). Signals were low-pass filtered at 5 kHz, sampled at 20 kHz, digitized using a BNC-2110 data acquisition card (National Instruments) and acquired with the Strathclyde electrophysiology software (WinWCP, John Dempster, University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK).

Experimental design

Our recordings started in the current-clamp mode. Holding current was adjusted in order to keep the recorded neuron at a membrane potential of -60 mV. In this mode, firing patterns were determined in response to 1 s-long depolarizing current injections through the recording electrode (20-80 pA in 20 pA steps). For some experiments in the current-clamp mode, we simulated excitatory synaptic potentials (EPSPs) by injecting EPSCs current traces. These EPSCs current traces were constructed by averaging excitatory postsynaptic currents evoked by local electrical extracellular stimulation (EPSCs) recorded in LII neurons (same protocol as for eIPSCs described below) with 10 μ M bicuculline and 1 μ M strychnine. In these conditions, average eEPSCs was of 88.9 \pm 10.6 pA with a rise time of 2.1 \pm 0.3 ms and a decay time constant of 5.7 \pm 0.9 ms (n = 4 neurons). To simulate the convergence of excitatory inputs as suggested by Grudt & Perl (2002) who recorded C-fibrers mediated EPSCs in islet cells of above 400 pA, we injected the current corresponding to 4 times the average eEPSC we measured.

After this initial phase, neurons were recorded in the voltage-clamp mode at a holding potential of -60 mV. Monosynaptic IPSCs were evoked by local extracellular electrical stimulation. This stimulation was performed by applying current steps (0.25 ms; 0.10-0.40 mA; average 0.21 ± 0.01 mA) via a patch-pipette filled with ACSF. This stimulation electrode was placed at a distance of 20-150 µm from the cell body of the recorded neuron. For each recorded neuron, the lowest amplitude of stimulation evoking inhibitory postsynaptic currents was determined. This amplitude was increased by 0.05 mA to evoke inhibitory postsynaptic currents (eIPSCs) for each stimulation applied. Synaptic contacts were identified as monosynaptic unitary connections when the following criteria were satisfied: (1) all-or-none appearance of eIPSCs, (2) absence of increase in eIPSC amplitude when minimal stimulation amplitude was increased by 0.05 mA, (3) disappearance of eIPSCs when stimulation polarity was inverted, and (4) constant latency of the eIPSCs. The same criteria were applied for simultaneous recordings of pairs of eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons connected by the same presynaptic neuron. For all neurons, paired-pulse stimulations were applied with an inter-stimulation interval (ISI) of 200 ms repeated every 10 s. In a subset of neurons, paired-pulse stimulations with multiple ISIs

were applied (ISIs of 20, 50, 75, 100, 200, 300 ms) and pairs of stimulation were separated by 10 s. Trains of 11 stimulations repeated 10 times were used in most experiments. Unless otherwise stated, trains applied at 5 Hz were repeated every 20 s whereas trains applied at 50 Hz were applied every 60 s.

156

157

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

151

152

153

154

155

Data quantification and analysis

Action-potential firing patterns were analyzed offline using Clampfit 10 (Molecular Devices, USA). Neurons firing multiple spikes during the whole duration of the depolarizing current step and displaying a constant interval between each spike were classified as Tonic-firing type (tonic) (Fig. 1A); neurons with a burst of spikes at the beginning of depolarizing current step and showing a decrease in inter-spike interval duration during the step as well as a progressive reduction of spike amplitudes were classified as Initial bursting type (IB) (Fig. 1A); neurons fulfilling neither of these criteria were classified as "Other type" of firing pattern. eIPSCs were also analyzed offline using Clampfit 10. Synaptic inhibitory transmission was quantified by measuring the amplitude of individual eIPSCs. To take into account baseline changes due to eIPSCs summation, the amplitude immediately before stimulation was subtracted from the peak amplitude of each eIPSC. Unless otherwise stated, stimulation protocols were applied ten times in each neuron and the within-cell average across trials was calculated by averaging eIPSCs amplitudes from these ten repetitions. When protocols consisted of trains of stimulations, amplitudes of eIPSCs of the same rank in the train were averaged. These within-cell average across ten trials were used for statistical analysis (Fig. S1). Averaging amplitudes of raw eIPSCs gives greater weight to connections in which eIPSCs display larger amplitudes. Therefore, in addition to analyzing raw eIPSCs amplitudes, we calculated normalized eIPSCs amplitudes. These were calculated by normalizing for each neuron the averaged eIPSCs amplitudes to the averaged amplitude of the first eIPSCs in the train. This allowed to analyze relative changes in amplitude during trains regardless of the initial raw amplitude values of eIPSCs.

158

159

160

161

162

163

164

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

176

177

178

179

Both raw and normalized eIPSCs amplitudes were used for statistical analysis.

For paired-pulse stimulation experiments, the paired-pulse ratio (PPR) was calculated as the

amplitude of the second eIPSC divided by the amplitude of the first eIPSC.

182 The weighted decay time constant (τ_w) was calculated as described in Labrakakis et al. [28] from

biexponential fits using equation 1.

184 Equation 1. $\tau_w = (\tau_f \cdot A_f + \tau_s \cdot A_s)/(A_f + A_s)$

where τ_f and τ_s are the fast and slow decay time constants, respectively and A_f and A_s the

corresponding amplitudes used as weighting factors.

For experiments with GABA_B and A1 antagonists, trains of stimulations were repeated before,

the antagonist was subsequently applied for 10 minutes. The effect of antagonists was measured

during and after perfusion of the antagonists. Ten trains were applied in control conditions and

after at least 3 minutes of perfusion. For each neuron, amplitudes of eIPSCs of the same rank in

the two conditions (i.e. control vs. antagonist) were averaged. Results are expressed as mean ±

192 SEM.

180

183

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

For some experiments, we recorded miniature IPSCs. These synaptic events were detected using

WinEDR (V3.8.6, Strathclyde Electrophysiology Software, John Dempster, University of

Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK) with an amplitude threshold detection algorithm and were visually

inspected for validity. Peak amplitude of miniature IPSCs was determined using WinWCP (version

5.4.5). Events were detected during at least 200 s.

Statistics

Statistical analysis were performed using averaged eIPSCs amplitudes (i.e. within-cell average across trials) of each neurons (Fig. S1). These were calculated for each neuron by averaging

- amplitudes of eIPSCs of the same rank (2 ranks for paired-pulse experiments, 11 ranks for trains
- of stimulations). The number of neurons is given as the n-value in the result section.
- 204 Student's t-test was used to compare amplitudes of isolated eIPSCs, decay time constants and
- 205 mIPSCs after having tested for data normality (Kolmogorov-Smirnov test, p > 0.05).
- 206 For paired-pulse protocols, the proportions of neurons displaying a facilitation (PPR>1.1), a
- depression (PPR<0.9) or no change in PPR (0.9-1.1) were analyzed with a log-linear analysis
- 208 performed on the 3-way contingency table of the proportion of facilitation, ISI and eGFP+/eGFP-
- 209 condition using Statistica 13 (StatSoft, USA). The χ^2 values and p-values given in the text
- 210 correspond to those of marginal associations between the two parameters examined. To
- compare amplitudes of the two first eIPSCs during stimulation trains protocols, Wilcoxon Signed
- 212 Rank Test for Paired Data was used since data were not always normally distributed.
- 213 Non-linear regression analysis [38] was used to analyze PPR values as a function of ISIs and
- 214 changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during stimulation train protocols. Individual data of all neurons
- were always used for curve fitting and average values were used for illustration (Fig. S1).
- 216 PPR values as a function of ISIs for eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons were fitted with the equation 2.
- 217 Equation 2. Y=A1+((A1-A2)*EXP(-X/A3))
- where A1 corresponded to Y value for ISI=0; A2 corresponded to the asymptotic value of the fit;
- and A3 corresponded to the exponential decay constant of PPR value as a function of ISI.
- 220 Parameters A1, A2 and A3 were determined by nonlinear curve fitting using KyPlot 6.0 (KyensLab,
- Tokyo, Japan). A global fit on the same data was also performed using the same equation. This
- 222 global fit was compared to the sum of fits from separated data obtained from eGFP+ and from
- eGFP- neurons.

- Non-linear curve fitting was used to analyze and compare changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during
- 225 stimulation train protocols. This analysis was performed using averaged eIPSCs amplitudes of
- each neurons.
- 227 Amplitudes of eIPSCs as a function of their respective rank in the train were fitted using the
- equation 3.
- 229 Equation 3. Y=A1+A2*(1-EXP(-X/A3))
- where A1 corresponded to Y value of the 1st eIPSCs of the train, A2 corresponded to the change
- in amplitude for the curve asymptote, A3 corresponded to the constant of the exponential
- 232 function.
- 233 A1 and A2 are in pA for fits of raw eIPSCs amplitudes and are dimensionless for fits of normalized
- 234 eIPSCs amplitudes. A3 unit is the rank of stimulation in the train.
- 235 To define whether STP was expressed during trains of stimulations, i.e. whether significant
- changes in amplitude occurred during the train, fits with Equation 3 were compared with linear
- 237 fits with slope values forced to 0. When fits with Equation 3 provided statistically significant
- improvements with respect to the linear fit with slope value forced to 0, the connections were
- considered as displaying a significant STP during the corresponding protocol [38].
- To compare two different conditions (e.g. eGFP- vs. eGFP+ or presence/absence of antagonists)
- data from each conditions were fitted with Equation 3, either individually (sum of two functions)
- or pooled (one single function). When the sum of two individual fits provided statistically
- 243 significant improvements with respect to the fit of pooled data, the two conditions were
- considered as having distinct effects [38]. Fits of pooled data are illustrated (in black) when the
- 245 two conditions were not different whereas individual fits are illustrated (in color) when the two

conditions were significantly different. For illustration purpose, these fits are illustrated together with the averages of "cross-trial averages".

In the result section, p-value of model comparisons are given as well as the corresponding number of neurons (n). The significance level used for all analysis was set at 0.05. The goodness-of-fit was also compared by calculating for both conditions Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC), Akaike Information Criterion (AIC), and the corresponding sample-size bias-corrected values (AICc) [47]. A model was considered as better if model comparison p-value was < 0.05 and if the model provided a reduction in AICc. The only case where the p-value and AICc are in conflict (p < 0.05 and increase in AICc for the effect of DPCPX on eGFP+ neurons) is mentioned in the result section. Details of all models (A1, A2, A3, degree of freedom, Residual sum of squares, AIC, AICc, BIC) as well as details of model comparison (F, P, differences in AIC, AICc and BIC) are given in Supplementary tables 1-7.

Drug application / Pharmacology

All pharmacological agents were bath-applied. 1 μ M strychnine and 10 μ M CNQX were present in all our electrophysiologial experiments to isolate GABAergic elPSCs. CGP55845 ((2S)-3-[[(1S)-1-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)ethy]amino-2hydroxypropyl](phenylmethyl)phosphinic acid hydrochloride; 10 μ M, Tocris) and DPCPX (8-Cyclopentyl-1,3-dipropylxanthine solid; 10 μ M, Sigma) were used to block GABAB receptors and Adenosine A1 receptors, respectively. In a subset of experiments, eEPSCs were recorded in presence of strychnine (1 μ M) and bicuculline (10 μ M, sigma). Miniature IPSCs were recorded in the presence of tetrodotoxin (TTX) (0.5 μ M, Latoxan). CNQX and CGP55845 were dissolved in DMSO, DPCPX was dissolved in ethanol and strychnine in water; all were prepared as x10000 concentrated stock solutions. For experiments with these

antagonists, analysis of changes in normalized eIPSCs amplitudes allowed to detect modulations engaged during the train (phasic modulation). All substances were diluted to their final concentration in ACSF at the beginning of each experiment.

272

269

270

271

Results

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

273

Firing properties of eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons

LII neurons responded to sustained depolarizing current injections with various patterns of action-potential firing [19; 24; 34]. Two main firing patterns dominated (Fig. 1AB, S2): To type (40 %, 51/128) and IB type (34 %, 43/128). Other firing patterns were less frequently observed (altogether 27 %, 34/128). Most of eGFP- neurons displayed an IB firing pattern (46 %, 28/61), and a lower proportion of Tonic (36 %, 11/61) and other firing patterns (18 %, 22/61). Most of eGFP+ neurons displayed a Tonic firing pattern (60 %, 40/67), and a lower proportion of IB (22%, 15/67) and other firing patterns (18 %, 12/67). The proportions of IB, Tonic and other firing patterns in eFGP- and eGFP+ neurons were significantly different (Fisher's exact test, $P = 6.3 \cdot 10^{-1}$ ⁶, Fig. 1B). The average firing frequency of both eGFP- IB neurons and eGFP+ Tonic neurons was above 50 Hz during the first 200 ms of 80 pA current steps (95.1 \pm 11.9 Hz and 52.4 \pm 5.7 Hz, respectively, Fig. 1C). When EPSPs were simulated by injection of EPSCs at 50 Hz during 200 ms, the proportion of EPSPs triggering an action-potential was of 79.1 ± 13.0 % in eGFP- neurons (n = 7) and of 100.0 ± 13.0 % in eGFP+ neurons which occasionally discharge more than one action potential per simulated EPSP (n = 4; Fig. 1DE). These data indicate that neurons of LII are able to discharge action-potentials at several tens of hertz, at least during few hundreds of milliseconds.

GABAergic synaptic transmission in LII

Average amplitude of pharmacologically-isolated eIPSCs (Fig. 2A) was not significantly different when recorded in eGFP- neurons (-60.5 \pm 5.1 pA; n = 54) or in eGFP+ neurons (-55.6 \pm 4.4 pA; n = 49); unpaired Student's t-test, t = -0.709, df = 101, P = 0.48. eIPSCs were evoked at similar

stimulation amplitude intensity in eGFP- neurons (0.21 \pm 0.01 mA; n = 53) or in eGFP+

297 (0.21 \pm 0.01 mA; n = 45), unpaired Student's *t*-test, *t* = 0.176, df = 96, P = 0.86.

The weighted decay time constant (τ_w) measured for isolated eIPSCs (Fig. 2B) was not significantly different when recorded in eGFP- neurons (32.8 ± 2.8 ms; n = 29) or in eGFP+ neurons

300 (31.1 \pm 4.5 ms, n = 18); unpaired Student's *t*-test, *t* = -0.340, df = 45, P = 0.736.

In the same preparation, amplitude of miniature IPSCs (mIPSCs, Fig. 2C) was not significantly different when recorded in eGFP- neurons (-16.7 \pm 0.9 pA; n = 9) or in eGFP+ neurons (-17.8 \pm 1.2 pA; n = 22) unpaired Student's t-test, t = 0.526, df = 29, P = 0.603. Therefore, eIPSCs amplitude represented on average 3 times the amplitude of mIPSCs.

305

306

307

308

309

310

311

312

313

neurons.

304

301

302

303

292

296

Postsynaptic target-specific paired-pulse plasticity at GABAergic connections in LII

Short-term synaptic plasticity was first examined using paired-pulse stimulation protocols with various ISIs.

Inhibitory connections onto eGFP+ or eGFP- neurons can either display paired-pulse facilitation (PPR > 1.1), paired-pulse depression (PPR < 0.9) or no change in paired-pulse ratio (PPR: 0.9-1.1). Proportions of neurons in each category were significantly different in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (Fig. 2D; χ^2 = 11.97; P = 0.003), with a larger proportion of paired-pulse facilitation in eGFP-

Values of PPR at various ISIs were significantly different in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons (non-linear curve fitting, P = 7.2·10⁻³, Table S1, Fig. 2E). In eGFP+ neurons, average PPR values were close to 1 at all tested ISIs whereas in eGFP- neurons, average PPR values were above 1.1 for ISIs below 100 ms and progressively decreased at longer ISIs.

These data indicate that GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons preferentially displayed facilitation at short ISIs, and that GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons preferentially displayed depression at long ISIs. Although PPR revealed differences between connections onto eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons, incoming information from the periphery is usually under the form of trains of action-potentials rather than isolated pairs of impulses. In the following experiments we therefore examined the effect of trains of stimulations.

Short-term plasticity during 5 Hz activation of GABAergic connections in LII.

We examined the short-term synaptic plasticity expressed by GABAergic connections onto LII neurons during their repeated activation at low frequency. We applied trains of 11 stimulations at 5 Hz (Fig. 3A). These trains were repeated 10 times at an interval of 20 s. For these experiments, 54 eGFP- and 49 eGFP+ neurons were recorded (averages from individual neurons, Fig. S4A-D, Table S2).

Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons, indicating that no train-to-train plasticity was engaged under these experimental conditions (P = 0.889, eGFP-; P = 0.312, eGFP+, Table S2, Fig. 3). Moreover, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 remained unchanged in the first five and the last five trains for connections on both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (PeGFP- = 0.678, PeGFP+ = 0.223, Wilcoxon Signed

Rank Test for Paired Data, Fig. S6). Therefore, for each neuron, amplitudes of eIPSCs of the same rank in all 10 trains were averaged.

Average amplitude of the first eIPSCs of 5 Hz trains was not significantly different when recorded in eGFP- or eGFP+ neurons (P = 0.349). However, evolution of normalized eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains was significantly different in eGFP- or eGFP+ neurons ($P = 1.94 \cdot 10^{-14}$, Table S2, Fig. 3B). Such significant difference between eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons was also observed in experiments where stimulation amplitudes were increased from 0.20 mA to 0.45 mA (11 eGFP-neurons and 11 eGFP+ neurons, $P_{\text{normalized}} = 8.70 \cdot 10^{-15}$, Table S3, Fig. S5) indicating that changes in stimulation efficacy during trains of stimulations were unlikely to influence our results. In eGFP- neurons, amplitudes of normalized eIPSCs did not significantly change (Fig. 3B, S3A) indicating that no plasticity was expressed during the train ($P_{\text{normalized}} = 0.451$, Table S2). Contrasting with these data, the amplitude of normalized eIPSCs recorded from in eGFP+ neurons significantly decreased during the train ($P_{\text{normalized}} = 2.04 \cdot 10^{-6}$, Fig. 3B) decreasing by 20% at the asymptote (see parameters of the curve fitting Table S2). Similar data were obtained for raw eIPSCs amplitudes (Fig. S3A, Table S2).

These data indicated that on average, GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons displayed no plasticity during 5 Hz trains, whereas connections onto eGFP+ displayed strong depression.

Short-term plasticity during 50 Hz activation of GABAergic connections in LII.

We examined the short-term synaptic plasticity expressed by GABAergic connections onto LII neurons during their repetitive activation at high frequency (n = 27 eGFP- neurons and n = 19 eGFP+ neurons). We applied trains of 11 stimulations at 50 Hz (Fig. 4A). These trains were repeated 10 times (averages from individual neurons Fig. S1E-H). In a first set of experiments,

trains were repeated with long inter-train intervals of 60 s in order to limit the development of train-to-train plasticities. In these conditions, evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during 50 Hz trains remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (PegfP-= 0.278; P_{eGFP+} = 0.391, Fig. 4). This indicates, that no train-to-train plasticity was engaged under these experimental conditions allowing to average the traces of the 10 trains for each neurons. Nevertheless, whereas the plasticity remained similar in the first five and the last five trains, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 significantly decreased for connections onto eGFP- neurons but not onto eGFP+ neurons (Pegfp- = 0.048, Pegfp+ = 0.098, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data, Fig. S6) suggesting that the facilitation observed in eGFP- neurons during paired-pulse stimulation at short intervals (Fig. 2E) is replaced by other types of plasticities during repeated trains of stimulation at 50 Hz. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during 50 Hz trains was significantly different in eGFP- or eGFP+ neurons for both normalized amplitudes (P = 1.88·10⁻⁹, Table S4, Fig. 4B) and raw amplitudes (P = 3.73·10⁻⁸, Table S4, Fig. S3C). In eGFP- neurons, amplitudes of normalized eIPSCs did not significantly change indicating that no plasticity was expressed during the train (P_{normalized} = 0.647, Table S1.4). By contrast, the amplitude of normalized eIPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons significantly decreased during the train (P_{normalized}= 9.03·10⁻⁶, Table S4, Fig. 4B), decreasing by 28 % at the asymptote (see parameters of the curve fitting, Table S4). Similar data were obtained for raw eIPSCs amplitudes (Fig. S3C, Table S4). These data indicated that on average, GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons displayed no plasticity during 50 Hz trains whereas connections onto eGFP+ strongly depressed.

380

381

359

360

361

362

363

364

365

366

367

368

369

370

371

372

373

374

375

376

377

378

379

The evolution of normalized eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains was significantly different for both eGFP- neurons ($P = 5.23 \cdot 10^{-3}$, Table S5, Fig. 3B, 4B) and eGFP+ neurons ($P = 2.76 \cdot 10^{-10}$, Table S5, Fig. 3B, 4B) indicating that the characteristics of the effects depended on the frequency (see parameters of the curve fitting, Table S5). In eGFP+ neurons, the decrease of normalized eIPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz differed in both the magnitude and the kinetic of the depression. The decrease of normalized amplitudes at the asymptote was of 20 % with 5 Hz protocols whereas it was of 28 % with 50 Hz protocols. In these neurons, 90 % of asymptotic values were reached at the 11^{th} stimulation with 5 Hz protocols and before the 5^{th} stimulation with 50 Hz protocols.

These data indicate that plasticities expressed by GABAergic connections depended on both the neurochemical identity of the postsynaptic target neuron and the frequency of electrical activity of the presynaptic GABAergic neuron.

Summation of eIPSCs during trains at 50 Hz

During 50 Hz trains, the eIPSCs had not fully returned to baseline at the onset of the following stimulation, a situation that resulted in their summation. We therefore reanalyzed our data measuring summed eIPSCs amplitudes from the basal holding current of each train (Fig. 4C, S3E; statistics Table S4). Evolution of summed eIPSCs amplitudes during 50 Hz trains was significantly different in eGFP- or eGFP+ neurons for both normalized amplitudes ($P = 4.90 \cdot 10^{-7}$, Fig. 4C) and raw amplitudes ($P = 4.12 \cdot 10^{-8}$, Fig. S3E).

Amplitudes of summated eIPSCs significantly increased during 50 Hz trains in eGFP- neurons ($P_{normalized} = 1.15 \cdot 10^{-5}$, Fig. 3E; $P_{raw} = 3.98 \cdot 10^{-10}$, Fig. S3E). At the asymptote, the increase in raw amplitude was of 123.33 pA and represented an increase by 2.29 folds of the normalized

amplitudes. Importantly, only 86.5 % of the asymptotic value was reached at the end of the train (i.e. 11^{th} eIPSC) suggesting that further summation was still possible with longer lasting trains. In eGFP+ neurons, no significant increase was detected for normalized summed eIPSCs ($P_{normalized} = 0.076$, Fig. 4C) but raw summated eIPSCs significantly increased during 50 Hz trains ($P_{raw} = 0.67 \cdot 10^{-3}$, Fig. S3E). In these neurons, the increase in raw summed amplitude was of 44.47 pA and 95 % of the asymptotic value was reached before the 6th eIPSC indicating that maximal summation is reached with few eIPSCs.

This difference between eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons in eIPSCs-summation during 50 Hz trains was not caused by differences in deactivation kinetics of isolated eIPSCs since these were similar in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (see above).

These data indicated that GABAergic connections onto eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons displayed different characteristics of short-term plasticities under high frequency activity: connections onto eGFP+ neurons showed strong depression and limited summation whereas connections onto

Distinct short-term plasticity in simultaneously recorded eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons.

eGFP- neurons showed no depression and large summation.

We next defined whether connections from a given presynaptic neuron displayed distinct short-term plasticities when the postsynaptic neuron was eGFP- or eGFP+. To this end, we performed simultaneous recordings of eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons and searched for a presynaptic neuron connecting the recorded ones. For each pair of neuron, we substracted the normalized eIPSCs amplitudes recorded on eGFP+ neurons from those recorded on eGFP- neurons (Fig. 5).

For both 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains, the relative eIPSCs amplitude difference was significantly larger

eIPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons depressed relatively to eIPSCs simultaneously recorded in eGFP- neurons.

These data indicated that synapses involving the same presynaptic neuron expressed postsynaptic-target specific plasticities.

We next assessed whether the short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections onto LII neurons

432

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

440

441

442

443

444

445

446

447

448

449

450

431

430

Target-specific short-term plasticity involving GABA_B receptors

may involve GABA_B receptors activated by synaptically released GABA (Fig. 6, S7, statistics Table S8). The protocols of 10 trains of stimulations used in the previous experiments were applied twice, i.e. before and during bath application of 10 μM CGP55845, a GABA_B receptors antagonist. First, trains at 5 Hz were repeated every 20 s whereas trains at 50 Hz were repeated every 60 s. When evolution of raw eIPSCs amplitudes was considered, no significant effects of CGP55845 were detected during trains at 5 and 50 Hz in neither eGFP- nor eGFP+ neurons (PeGFP-, 5 Hz = 0.892, n = 6; $P_{eGFP-, 50 Hz} = 0.571$, n = 12; $P_{eGFP+, 5 Hz} = 0.881$, n = 8; $P_{eGFP+, 50 Hz} = 0.448$; Fig. S7B, E, H, K, N), indicating that GABA_B receptors were not tonically controlling these connections under these conditions. Since GABA_B receptors may be activated in a phasic manner by the GABA released during the train of activity, we also analyzed effects of CGP55845 on eIPSCs amplitudes normalized to the firsts eIPSCs of the control trains (Fig. 6, S7, Table S8). Normalized eIPSCs recorded in eGFPneurons were not modified in presence of CGP55845 during both trains at 5 Hz and at 50 Hz $(P_{eGFP-, 5 Hz} = 0.900, n = 6; P_{eGFP-, 50 Hz} = 0.232, n = 12, Fig. 6A, B)$. Interestingly, in presence of CGP55845, amplitudes of normalized eIPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons during trains at 5 Hz were significantly increased by 38 % with respect to control trains (P = $_{eGFP+.5 \text{ Hz}}$ = 1.11·10⁻¹⁰, n =

8, Fig. 6C). A weak effect of CGP55845 was observed during trains at 50 Hz ($P_{eGFP+, 50 \text{ Hz}} = 6.05 \cdot 10^{-1}$

 3 , n = 6, Fig. 6D).

Since trains at 5 Hz were repeated every 20 s and trains at 50 Hz every 60 s, the longer delay for

50 Hz trains may be involved in the lack of CGP55845 effect at this frequency.

Nevertheless, CGP55845 had no effect when trains at 50 Hz were repeated every 20 s (P = 0.330;

n = 7, Fig. 6E) indicating that the effect of CGP55845 was not depending on the delay between

457 trains.

Importantly, during trains at 50 Hz repeated every 20s, control eIPSCs amplitudes were larger that during protocols repeated every 60 s ($P = 2.75 \cdot 10^{-9}$), and similar to amplitudes recorded in presence of CGP55845 during trains at 5 Hz repeated every 20 s (P = 0.380). This suggested that

facilitating mechanisms engaged at 50 Hz might have overcome an inhibition by GABA_B receptors

(compare amplitudes Fig. 6D and 6E).

These results indicated that under our experimental conditions, GABA_B receptors are involved in a phasic modulation of GABAergic connections between LII neurons. This involvement of GABA_B receptors is target-specific, it only occurs at synapses between two GABAergic neurons and at low stimulation frequency (i.e. at 5 Hz).

Target-specific and frequency dependent tonic inhibition involving adenosine A1 receptors

Since synaptic vesicles contain ATP which can be rapidly hydrolyzed into adenosine by extracellular ectonucleotidases [12], we checked whether the short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections onto LII neurons might involve the activation of adenosine A1 receptors (Fig. 7, S8, statistics Table S8). Protocols of 10 trains of stimulations as described previously were applied twice: before and during bath application of $10 \mu M$ DPCPX, an antagonist of A1 receptors.

In eGFP- neurons (Fig. 7A-C), DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during trains at 5 Hz repeated every 20 s ($P_{eGFP-, 5 Hz} = 6.28 \cdot 10^{-16}$, n = 9, Fig. 7A) and trains at 50 Hz repeated every 20 s ($P_{eGFP-, 50 \text{ Hz}} = 2.40 \cdot 10^{-3}$, n = 9, Fig. 7C) but not during trains at 50 Hz repeated every 60 s (P $_{eGFP-, 50 \, Hz}$ = 0.119, n = 7, Fig, 7B). In these neurons, no effect of DPCPX was detected on eIPSCs amplitudes normalized to the firsts eIPSCs of the control trains (Fig. S8), neither at 5 Hz every 20 s ($P_{eGFP-, 5 Hz} = 0.777$, n = 9, Fig. S8C), nor at 50 Hz every 20 s ($P_{eGFP-, 50 Hz} = 0.050$, n = 9, Fig. S8I), nor at 50 Hz every 60 s (P $_{eGFP-, 50 \, Hz}$ = 0.600, n = 7, Fig. S8F). Effects on raw but not normalized amplitudes indicated that adenosine tonically controlled GABAergic connections onto eGFPneurons. This tonic control was only engaged when trains were repeated every 20 s and not every 60 s indicating that the tone of adenosine controlling GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons was linked to the activity of these synapses. In eGFP+ neurons (Fig. 7D-E), DPCPX increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during both trains at 5 Hz repeated every 20 s ($P_{eGFP+, 5 \text{ Hz}} = 1.56 \cdot 10^{-2}$, n = 9, Fig. 7D) and trains at 50 Hz repeated every 60 s $(P_{eGFP+.50 \text{ Hz}} = 3.70 \cdot 10^{-2}, \text{ n} = 7, \text{ Fig. 7E})$. At both frequencies, the effect of DPCPX on eGFP+ neurons was statistically significant (p-value < 0.05), but the hypothesis of a difference did not unambiguously correspond to the most parsimonious explanation of the data (only AIC but not AICc was lower, see Table S8). In these eGFP+ neurons, no effect of DPCPX was detected on eIPSCs amplitudes normalized to the firsts eIPSCs of the control trains (Fig. S8) at 5 Hz every 20 s (Pegfp+, 5 Hz = 0.191, n = 9, Fig. S8L), but a weak effect was detected at 50 Hz every 60 s (Pegfp+, 50 Hz = $3.70 \cdot 10^{-2}$, n = 7, Fig. S8O). Effects on raw but not normalized amplitudes indicated that adenosine tonically controlled GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons. On these neurons, effect of adenosine was kept when trains were repeated every 60 s.

474

475

476

477

478

479

480

481

482

483

484

485

486

487

488

489

490

491

492

493

494

495

Interestingly, the tonic control by adenosine was significantly larger on connections onto eGFP-neurons than on connections onto eGFP+ neurons ($P = 2.73 \cdot 10^{-8}$; Fig. 7F, Fig. 7F). The average increase in amplitude during 5 Hz trains was of 47.3 \pm 2.9 pA in eGFP- neurons whereas is was of 15.8 \pm 1.5 pA in eGFP+ neurons.

These data indicated that A1 receptors could tonically inhibit GABAergic connections in LII.

This tonic inhibition was stronger on connections onto eGFP- neurons. In these neurons, this tonic control was only engaged when trains were repeated at short intervals.

DISCUSSION

Short-term plasticity is of major importance in information processing in sensory systems where the average number of spikes per unit of time encodes the intensity of adequate stimuli [1; 2; 7; 51]. Using mice expressing eGFP under the control of the GAD65 promoter, we demonstrate that LII GABAergic connections onto putative inhibitory neurons (eGFP+) display different short-term plasticities than those onto putative excitatory neurons (eGFP-). Importantly, in the transgenic mice we used, ~80% of LII eGFP+ neurons were shown to be GABA-immunopositive and ~60% of GABA-immunopositive neurons express eGFP [10]. Therefore, eGFP+ neurons mainly represent GABAergic neurons, and eGFP- neurons excitatory neurons, although the matching is not perfect. This may however partly explain the larger data dispersion observed in eGFP- neurons (e.g. Fig. S4BD).

Nevertheless, the strong difference in short-term plasticity we observed when comparing eGFP-and eGFP+ neurons will probably have an impact on the excitation/inhibition balance within LII

networks, and affect the processing of nociceptive information within the dorsal horn.

Action-potential firing patterns

Most of eGFP+ neurons we recorded from displayed a tonic action-potential firing pattern.

Other groups have reported this firing type in a majority or in a large proportion of LII neurons identified as inhibitory by immunohistochemistry [52], expression of GAD67 [11], GAD65 [10; 24], other genetic markers [18] or assumed from their morphology [16]. A very low proportion of tonic-firing neurons has nevertheless been recorded in a single study in GAD67+ neurons [19]. We mostly recorded putative excitatory neurons displaying non-tonic firing, as did other groups [16; 52]. Nevertheless, in our experiments, eGFP- neurons were mostly IB, whereas in the same transgenic line these neurons mostly displayed a delayed firing [10]. Such difference may be linked to distinct intracellular composition as well as distinct initial holding potential as it has already been shown in lamina II [52]. Our data also indicate that both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons can fire at 50 Hz, and GABAergic neurons reliably trigger eIPSCs during stimulations at this frequency.

Inhibitory connections between LII interneurons

Local inhibitory connections between LII neurons are mostly GABAergic, glycinergic transmission occurring in only 1 / 15 inhibitory contacts recorded by Lu and Perl [33], and possibly in 1 / 3 inhibitory contacts recorded by Labrakakis et al. [27]. We therefore focused on GABAergic connections since we aimed at examining the short-term plasticity of inhibitory connections between LII neurons. Interestingly, spontaneously active inhibitory connections are dominated by GABAergic transmission in most LIIo neurons, whether these are dominated by glycinergic transmission in most neurons at laminae IIi/III border [48], glycinergic connections onto LII

neurons most likely originating from neurons the cell bodies of which are localized in other laminae.

Paired-pulse plasticity

During paired-pulse stimulation experiments at short ISIs, GABAergic connections onto eGFP-neurons preferentially facilitated whereas, at long ISIs, GABAergic connections onto eGFP+neurons preferentially depressed. In primary cultures of rat laminae I-III, paired-pulse inhibition of GABAergic eIPSCs was preferentially observed (84%), but facilitation occasionally occurred (16%) [20]. Inhibitory eIPSPs in laminae II-V of Syrian hamsters, with no distinction between GABAergic and glycinergic transmissions, preferentially displayed facilitation [53]. These facilitating connections may correspond to glycinergic eIPSPs since LII glycinergic synapses display strong paired-pulse facilitation for 50 ms ISIs [24]. Thus, in LII, inhibitory connections showing paired-pulse facilitation may preferentially involve GABAergic synapses onto excitatory neurons, or glycinergic connections onto inhibitory neurons. In the dorsal-horn, paired-pulse depression of glycinergic eIPSCs has previously been shown in rat lamina I, with a maximal depression at ISIs of 150-200 ms and involving GABAB autoreceptors [8].

Frequency-dependent STP

Our results indicate that GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons strongly depress during trains of activity at both low (5 Hz) and high (50 Hz) frequency. In these neurons, trains at high frequency induce a larger depression reaching its maximum faster than during trains at low frequency. By contrast, GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons do not depress, allowing summated eIPSCs to reach larger amplitudes at high frequency.

We have reported previously that trains at 2.5 Hz induced a depression of eIPSCs in primary cultures of superficial dorsal-horn neurons from rats [20]. During 10 Hz stimulations, either a depression or a facilitation of eIPSPs were recorded in laminae II-V of Syrian hamsters [53]. With 20 Hz stimulations, eIPSCs onto GABAergic interneurons in LII of adult mice showed a facilitation during the first train, and a depression during subsequent trains [27]. Although in eGFP+ neurons we observed a tendency of such a facilitation-depression switch it was not statistically significant (Fig. S6), suggesting that the facilitation described by other studies may have involved a glycinergic component which has been shown to display a potentiation in LII neurons in response to 2 Hz stimulations [24]. Interestingly, we observed a facilitationdepression switch for the second eIPSCs during repeated trains at 50 Hz in eGFP- neurons (Fig. S6) suggesting that the facilitation observed in eGFP- neurons during paired-pulse stimulation at short intervals is replaced by other types of plasticities during repeated trains of stimulation at 50 Hz. Such combination of short-term facilitation and depression at different repetitions, frequencies and time scales have been observed in other structures and may be relatively common [3]. Interestingly, in recordings performed at room temperature, GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons display slower decay kinetics than those recorded in eGFP- neurons [28]. Such slower kinetic would allow a better summation of overlapping eIPSCS. Nevertheless, in our conditions, eIPSCs kinetics were similar in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons. Moreover, at high frequency, summated eIPSCs in eGFP- neurons reached larger amplitudes than summated eIPSCs in eGFP+ neurons, ruling out an involvement of different decay kinetics to explain a higher degree

565

566

567

568

569

570

571

572

573

574

575

576

577

578

579

580

581

582

583

584

585

586

of summation of eIPSCs in eGFP- neurons.

Modulation by GABA_B and A1 receptors

588

589

590

591

592

593

594

595

596

597

598

599

600

601

602

603

604

605

606

607

608

609

610

Our results indicate that GABAergic connections onto LII neurons can be under a tonic inhibitory control by A1 adenosine receptors. This inhibition is much stronger on connections onto eGFPneurons than onto eGFP+ neurons. In eGFP- neurons, this inhibition only occurred when trains were delivered at short intervals. This suggests that the tone of adenosine inhibiting these connections is built-up by ongoing activity and decays when activity decreases. These data were consistent with our previous work showing that in cultured dorsal-horn neurons, presynaptic A1 autoreceptors control a subset of GABAergic synapses in an activity-dependent manner [20]. Tonic inhibition by adenosine receptors is not restricted to inhibitory transmission, glutamatergic synapses in LII are also under an inhibitory tone of adenosine, even under low electrical activity within the network [49]. Whereas inhibition of GABAergic connections by A1 receptors was tonic, we showed that GABAB receptors can be engaged in a phasic depression of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains of activity. This depression involving GABA_B receptors is target-specific: occurring only in connections onto eGFP+ neurons. Interestingly, although GABA_B receptors-mediated inhibition was phasic (it developed during trains), it was only seen when trains were applied at both low-frequency and short intervals (5 Hz, 20 s). This suggests that this inhibition is activity-dependent, but that underlying inhibitory mechanisms might have been surmounted by facilitation occurring during during trains at high-frequency (compare amplitudes Fig. 6D and 6E). These results were consistent with previous work showing that presynaptic GABA_B receptors decrease inhibitory synaptic transmission in the superficial dorsal-horn [8; 15; 20], and that a tone of GABA activating GABA_B receptors can occur in the dorsal-horn under various conditions [14; 31; 35; 42].

Interestingly, intrathecal administration of GABA_B and A1 agonists have antinociceptive effects [21; 45; 46] which may involve the types of modulation of short-term plasticity described in the present work.

614

615

616

617

618

619

620

621

622

623

624

625

626

627

628

629

630

631

632

611

612

613

Impact of frequency and target-specific STPs of GABAergic connections onto LII neurons.

GABAergic connections onto inhibitory or excitatory neurons display very distinct frequencydependent STPs which can engage target-specific G-protein coupled receptors when bursts of activity occur at short intervals. Similar differential STPs involving synapses contacting excitatory and inhibitory neurons have been described in other structures of the central nervous system and have been shown to directly impact the dynamic properties of networks and their excitation/inhibition balance [4; 5; 25; 32; 36; 40; 41]. Therefore, these synapse-specific shortterm plasticities and their modulation under various levels of activity are of crucial importance to understand information processing by a network receiving frequency-coded information from the periphery. At low frequency, corresponding to the activity at low intensity of sensory stimulation under basal physiological conditions, the inhibitory control onto putative excitatory neurons remains constant whereas it depresses onto putative inhibitory neurons. At high frequency, the inhibitory control is increased by summation onto excitatory neurons whereas it remains constant onto inhibitory neurons. Since the latter fire action-potentials in a tonic manner, they are expected to be able to follow higher frequency of excitatory inputs. Therefore, in basal physiological conditions, both STP and firing properties of inhibitory interneurons of LII might concur to favor inhibitory controls of nociceptive information, particularly at high intensity of sensory 633 stimulation. Hence, the short-term plasticities within this network as well as their modulation by 634 A1 and GABA_B receptors might represent interesting targets in pain-alleviating strategies. 635 636 **Conflict of interest statement** 637 The authors declare no competing financial interests. 638 **Acknowledgements** 639 640 We thank Catherine Moreau and Chantal Fitterer for excellent technical assistance and Jean-Luc 641 Rodeau for his help in statistical analysis. This work was supported by Centre National de la 642 Recherche Scientifique, Université de Strasbourg, and the French National Research agency 643 (ANR) contract ANR-17-EURE-0022. LC was supported by EURIDOL Graduate School of Pain, 644 Neuropole Strasbourg, and Société Française d'Etude et de Traitement de la Douleur (SFETD). 645 References 646 647 [1] Adrian ED. The recovery process of excitable tissues: Part I. J Physiol 1920;54(1-2):1-31. 648 [2] Adrian ED, Zotterman Y. The impulses produced by sensory nerve endings: Part 3. Impulses 649 set up by Touch and Pressure. J Physiol 1926;61(4):465-483. 650 [3] Anwar H, Li X, Bucher D, Nadim F. Functional roles of short-term synaptic plasticity with an 651 emphasis on inhibition. Curr Opin Neurobiol 2017;43:71-78. 652 [4] Bartley AF, Dobrunz LE. Short-term plasticity regulates the excitation/inhibition ratio and the 653 temporal window for spike integration in CA1 pyramidal cells. Eur J Neurosci 654 2015;41(11):1402-1415.

[5] Buonomano DV. Decoding temporal information: A model based on short-term synaptic

[6] Buonomano DV. The biology of time across different scales. Nat Chem Biol 2007;3(10):594-

plasticity. J Neurosci 2000;20(3):1129-1141.

655

656

657

658

597.

- 659 [7] Campero M, Serra J, Ochoa JL. C-polymodal nociceptors activated by noxious low 660 temperature in human skin. J Physiol 1996;497 (Pt 2):565-572.
- [8] Chery N, De Koninck Y. GABA(B) receptors are the first target of released GABA at lamina I inhibitory synapses in the adult rat spinal cord. J Neurophysiol 2000;84(2):1006-1011.
- [9] Cordero-Erausquin M, Coull JA, Boudreau D, Rolland M, De Koninck Y. Differential maturation
 of GABA action and anion reversal potential in spinal lamina I neurons: impact of chloride
 extrusion capacity. J Neurosci 2005;25(42):9613-9623.
- [10] Cui L, Kim YR, Kim HY, Lee SC, Shin HS, Szabo G, Erdelyi F, Kim J, Kim SJ. Modulation of
 synaptic transmission from primary afferents to spinal substantia gelatinosa neurons by
 group III mGluRs in GAD65-EGFP transgenic mice. J Neurophysiol 2011;105(3):1102 1111.
- [11] Daniele CA, MacDermott AB. Low-threshold primary afferent drive onto GABAergic interneurons in the superficial dorsal horn of the mouse. J Neurosci 2009;29(3):686-695.
- 672 [12] Dunwiddie TV, Diao L, Proctor WR. Adenine nucleotides undergo rapid, quantitative 673 conversion to adenosine in the extracellular space in rat hippocampus. J Neurosci 674 1997;17(20):7673-7682.
- [13] Froemke RC, Merzenich MM, Schreiner CE. A synaptic memory trace for cortical receptive field plasticity. Nature 2007;450(7168):425-429.
- [14] Fukuhara K, Katafuchi T, Yoshimura M. Effects of baclofen on mechanical noxious and innocuous transmission in the spinal dorsal horn of the adult rat: in vivo patch-clamp analysis. Eur J Neurosci 2013;38(10):3398-3407.
- [15] Grudt TJ, Henderson G. Glycine and GABAA receptor-mediated synaptic transmission in rat
 substantia gelatinosa: inhibition by mu-opioid and GABAB agonists. J Physiol 1998;507 (
 Pt 2):473-483.
- [16] Grudt TJ, Perl ER. Correlations between neuronal morphology and electrophysiological features in the rodent superficial dorsal horn. J Physiol 2002;540(Pt 1):189-207.
- 685 [17] Guan Y. Spinal cord stimulation: neurophysiological and neurochemical mechanisms of action. Curr Pain Headache Rep 2012;16(3):217-225.
- [18] Hantman AW, van den Pol AN, Perl ER. Morphological and physiological features of a set of spinal substantia gelatinosa neurons defined by green fluorescent protein expression. J Neurosci 2004;24(4):836-842.
- [19] Heinke B, Ruscheweyh R, Forsthuber L, Wunderbaldinger G, Sandkuhler J. Physiological, neurochemical and morphological properties of a subgroup of GABAergic spinal lamina II neurones identified by expression of green fluorescent protein in mice. J Physiol 2004;560(Pt 1):249-266.

- [20] Hugel S, Schlichter R. Convergent control of synaptic GABA release from rat dorsal horn neurones by adenosine and GABA autoreceptors. J Physiol 2003;551(Pt 2):479-489.
- [21] Jacobson KA, Gao ZG. Adenosine receptors as therapeutic targets. Nat Rev Drug Discov
 2006;5(3):247-264.
- [22] Jensen MP, Brownstone RM. Mechanisms of spinal cord stimulation for the treatment of pain:
 Still in the dark after 50 years. Eur J Pain 2019;23(4):652-659.
- [23] Kato G, Kawasaki Y, Ji RR, Strassman AM. Differential wiring of local excitatory and inhibitory
 synaptic inputs to islet cells in rat spinal lamina II demonstrated by laser scanning
 photostimulation. J Physiol 2007;580(Pt.3):815-833.
- 703 [24] Kloc ML, Pradier B, Chirila AM, Kauer JA. NMDA receptor activation induces long-term 704 potentiation of glycine synapses. PLoS One 2019;14(9):e0222066.
- [25] Klyachko VA, Stevens CF. Excitatory and feed-forward inhibitory hippocampal synapses work synergistically as an adaptive filter of natural spike trains. PLoS Biol 2006;4(7):e207.
- [26] Kuhlman SJ, Olivas ND, Tring E, Ikrar T, Xu X, Trachtenberg JT. A disinhibitory microcircuit initiates critical-period plasticity in the visual cortex. Nature 2013;501(7468):543-546.
- [27] Labrakakis C, Lorenzo LE, Bories C, Ribeiro-da-Silva A, De Koninck Y. Inhibitory coupling between inhibitory interneurons in the spinal cord dorsal horn. Mol Pain 2009;5:24.
- 711 [28] Labrakakis C, Rudolph U, De Koninck Y. The heterogeneity in GABAA receptor-mediated 712 IPSC kinetics reflects heterogeneity of subunit composition among inhibitory and 713 excitatory interneurons in spinal lamina II. Front Cell Neurosci 2014;8:424.
- 714 [29] Letzkus JJ, Wolff SB, Meyer EM, Tovote P, Courtin J, Herry C, Luthi A. A disinhibitory 715 microcircuit for associative fear learning in the auditory cortex. Nature 716 2011;480(7377):331-335.
- 717 [30] Light AR, Perl ER. Reexamination of the dorsal root projection to the spinal dorsal horn 718 including observations on the differential termination of coarse and fine fibers. J Comp 719 Neurol 1979;186(2):117-131.
- [31] Lin Q, Peng YB, Willis WD. Role of GABA receptor subtypes in inhibition of primate
 spinothalamic tract neurons: difference between spinal and periaqueductal gray inhibition.
 J Neurophysiol 1996;75(1):109-123.
- [32] Lovett-Barron M, Turi GF, Kaifosh P, Lee PH, Bolze F, Sun XH, Nicoud JF, Zemelman BV,
 Sternson SM, Losonczy A. Regulation of neuronal input transformations by tunable
 dendritic inhibition. Nat Neurosci 2012;15(3):423-430, S421-423.
- [33] Lu Y, Perl ER. A specific inhibitory pathway between substantia gelatinosa neurons receiving
 direct C-fiber input. J Neurosci 2003;23(25):8752-8758.

- [34] Lu Y, Perl ER. Modular organization of excitatory circuits between neurons of the spinal superficial dorsal horn (laminae I and II). J Neurosci 2005;25(15):3900-3907.
- 730 [35] Malan TP, Mata HP, Porreca F. Spinal GABA(A) and GABA(B) receptor pharmacology in a 731 rat model of neuropathic pain. Anesthesiology 2002;96(5):1161-1167.
- [36] Moreno A, Morris RGM, Canals S. Frequency-Dependent Gating of Hippocampal-Neocortical
 Interactions. Cereb Cortex 2016;26(5):2105-2114.
- 734 [37] Motanis H, Seay MJ, Buonomano DV. Short-Term Synaptic Plasticity as a Mechanism for Sensory Timing. Trends Neurosci 2018;41(10):701-711.
- 736 [38] Motulsky HJ, Christopoulos A. Fitting Models to Biological Data Using Linear and Nonlinear 737 Regression. San Diego: GraphPad Software Inc., 2003.
- 738 [39] Polgar E, Durrieux C, Hughes DI, Todd AJ. A quantitative study of inhibitory interneurons in laminae I-III of the mouse spinal dorsal horn. PLoS One 2013;8(10):e78309.
- 740 [40] Pouille F, Scanziani M. Routing of spike series by dynamic circuits in the hippocampus. 741 Nature 2004;429(6993):717-723.
- [41] Royer S, Zemelman BV, Losonczy A, Kim J, Chance F, Magee JC, Buzsaki G. Control of timing, rate and bursts of hippocampal place cells by dendritic and somatic inhibition. Nat Neurosci 2012;15(5):769-775.
- 745 [42] Salio C, Merighi A, Bardoni R. GABAB receptors-mediated tonic inhibition of glutamate 746 release from Abeta fibers in rat laminae III/IV of the spinal cord dorsal horn. Mol Pain 747 2017;13:1744806917710041.
- [43] Santos SF, Luz LL, Szucs P, Lima D, Derkach VA, Safronov BV. Transmission efficacy and plasticity in glutamatergic synapses formed by excitatory interneurons of the substantia gelatinosa in the rat spinal cord. PLoS One 2009;4(11):e8047.
- 751 [44] Santos SF, Rebelo S, Derkach VA, Safronov BV. Excitatory interneurons dominate sensory 752 processing in the spinal substantia gelatinosa of rat. J Physiol 2007;581(Pt 1):241-254.
- [45] Sawynok J, LaBella FS. On the involvement of GABA in the analgesia produced by baclofen, muscimol and morphine. Neuropharmacology 1982;21(5):397-403.
- 755 [46] Schenone S, Brullo C, Musumeci F, Bruno O, Botta M. A1 receptors ligands: past, present 756 and future trends. Curr Top Med Chem 2010;10(9):878-901.
- [47] Spiess AN, Neumeyer N. An evaluation of R2 as an inadequate measure for nonlinear models
 in pharmacological and biochemical research: a Monte Carlo approach. BMC Pharmacol
 2010;10:6.
- [48] Takazawa T, MacDermott AB. Synaptic pathways and inhibitory gates in the spinal cord
 dorsal horn. Ann N Y Acad Sci 2010;1198:153-158.

- [49] Tian L, Ji G, Wang C, Bai X, Lu Y, Xiong L. Excitatory synaptic transmission in the spinal
 substantia gelatinosa is under an inhibitory tone of endogenous adenosine. Neurosci Lett
 2010;477(1):28-32.
- 765 [50] Todd AJ. Plasticity of inhibition in the spinal cord. Handb Exp Pharmacol 2015;227:171-190.
- 766 [51] Torebjork HE, Hallin RG. Responses in human A and C fibres to repeated electrical intradermal stimulation. J Neurol Neurosurg Psychiatry 1974;37(6):653-664.
 - [52] Yasaka T, Tiong SY, Hughes DI, Riddell JS, Todd AJ. Populations of inhibitory and excitatory interneurons in lamina II of the adult rat spinal dorsal horn revealed by a combined electrophysiological and anatomical approach. Pain 2010;151(2):475-488.
- [53] Zhang W, Schneider SP. Short-term modulation at synapses between neurons in laminae II V of the rodent spinal dorsal horn. J Neurophysiol 2011;105(6):2920-2930.
- 773 [54] Zheng J, Lu Y, Perl ER. Inhibitory neurones of the spinal substantia gelatinosa mediate 774 interaction of signals from primary afferents. J Physiol 2010;588(Pt 12):2065-2075.

Figure 1. Action-potential firing patterns in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons.

A. example of a tonic-firing eGFP+ neuron (left) and of an initial bursting eGFP- neuron (right). **B.** A majority of eGFP+ neurons were of tonic-firing type (Tonic) whereas a majority of eGFP-neurons were of initial bursting type (IB). Proportions of firing patterns were significantly different in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons (Fisher's exact test, $P = 6.3 \cdot 10^{-6}$; n = 67 eGFP+ neurons and 61 eGFP- neurons). **C.** Instantaneous firing frequency in 100 ms bins in response to 1 s-long 80 pA current injections in eGFP- IB neurons (left) and eGFP+ Tonic neurons (right). **D.** Spiking in an eGFP- (left) and an eGFP+ (right) neuron during a 50 Hz train of simulated EPSCs. **E.** Probability of action-potential spiking per simulated EPSCs in eGFP- neurons (n = 7) and eGFP+ neurons (n = 4).

Figure 2. GABAergic IPSCs recorded in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons.

A. Amplitude of eIPSCs is similar in eGFP+ (green) and eGFP- neurons (blue). **B.** Left: example of eIPSCs recorded in an eGFP+ and an eGFP- neuron (average of 10 eIPSCs; eIPSCs are scaled). Right: Weighted decay time-constant of GABAergic eIPSCs is similar in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons. **C.** Amplitudes of mIPSCs are similar in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons. **D.** Proportions of neurons displaying a paired-pulse facilitation (PPR > 1.1), a paired-pulse depression (PPR < 0.9), or no change in PPR (0.9-1.1) at various inter-stimulation intervals (ISIs) in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons. These proportions are significantly different in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons (Log-linear analysis; P=0.003). **E.** PPRs as a function of ISIs were significantly different in eGFP+ and eGFP- neurons (Non-linear curve fitting, $P = 7.20 \cdot 10^{-3}$). Curves correspond to fits with monoexponential functions. Numbers beside the points correspond to the number of neurons recorded.

Figure 3. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 5 Hz.

A. Representative average current trace recorded in an eGFP- neuron (top) and eGFP+ neuron (bottom). **B.** Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1). **C. D.** Changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during the trains remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on both eGFP- (C) and eGFP+ (D) neurons. Results of non-linear regressions used to compare conditions are given as P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ***. n = 54 eGFP- and n = 49 eGFP+ neurons. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1.

Figure 4. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 50 Hz.

A. Representative average current trace recorded in an eGFP- neuron (left) and eGFP+ neuron (right). **B.** Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons

(amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1). **C.** Same data as in B, but with eIPSCs measured from the basal current level before the first eIPSC (summated eIPSCs amplitudes). **D. E.** Changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during the trains remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on both eGFP- (D) and eGFP+ (E) neurons. Results of non-linear regressions used to compare conditions are given as P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ***. n = 27 eGFP- and n = 19 eGFP+ neurons. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1.

Figure 5. Distinct short-term plasticities in simultaneously recorded eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons.

A. Short-term plasticity during stimulation trains at 5 Hz. Left: representative average current trace simultaneously recorded in an eGFP- neuron (blue) and eGFP+ neuron (green). Right: for each pair of eGFP- and eGFP+ neuron and for all ranks during the train, the difference in relative eIPSCs amplitude is calculated. This difference is significantly larger than zero indicating that the relative increase in amplitude during the train at 5 Hz is larger in eGFP- than in eGFP+ neurons (P < 0.001: ***; n = 6 pairs).

B. Short-term plasticity during stimulation trains at 50 Hz. Left: representative average current trace simultaneously recorded in an eGFP- neuron (blue) and eGFP+ neuron (green). Right: for each pair of eGFP- and eGFP+ neuron and for all ranks during the train, the difference in relative eIPSCs amplitude is calculated. This difference is significantly larger than zero indicating that the relative increase in amplitude during the train at 50 Hz is larger in eGFP- than in eGFP+ neurons (P < 0.001: ***; n = 4 pairs). Linear regressions of the data were compared with a linear regression with a slope set at 0 which would correspond to no differences in eIPSCs amplitudes in eGFP- and

eGFP+ neurons. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1.

Figure 6. Effect of a GABA_B receptor antagonist on GABAergic eIPSCs during trains of stimulations.

A-E. Average normalized amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains of stimulations at 5 Hz and 50 Hz, before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 μ M CGP55845 (red), a GABA_B receptors antagonist. For each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times during bath application of 10 μ M CGP55845. The type of neuron recorded (eGFP- or eGFP+), the frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and the interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) are given on the top of each panel. **A-B.** CGP55845 had no effect on GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons, neither during trains at 5 Hz (A, n = 6 neurons) nor during trains at 50 Hz (B, n = 12 neurons). **C-E.** In eGFP+ neurons CGP55845 significantly increased normalized eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (C, n = 8 neurons) but neither during 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s (D, n = 6 neurons) nor 50 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (E, n = 7 neurons). Results of non-linear regressions used to compare conditions are given as P > 0.5: n.s., 0.05 < P < 0.01: *, and P < 0.001: ***. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1.

Figure 7. Effect of an A1 adenosine receptor antagonist on GABAergic eIPSCs during trains of stimulations

A-E. Average raw amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 μM DPCPX (pink), an A1 receptor antagonist. For

each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times during bath application of DPCPX. The type of neuron recorded (eGFP- or eGFP+), the frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and the interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) are given on the top of each panel. A-C. In eGFP- neurons, DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (A, n = 9 neurons) and 50 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (C, n = 9 neurons) but not during 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s (B, n = 7 neurons). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons by adenosine depending on the delay between trains of stimulation. D-E. In eGFP+ neurons, DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (D, n = 9 neurons) and 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s (E, n = 7 neurons). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons. F. Average increase in raw eIPSCs amplitudes in presence of DPCPX with respect to control conditions. For trains at 5 Hz, the increase in amplitude is larger in eGFP- neurons than in eGFP+ neurons. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during trains were compared with non-linear regression. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1.

872

873

874

875

876

877

878

879

857

858

859

860

861

862

863

864

865

866

867

868

869

870

871

Supplementary Figures and table legends

Supplementary figure S1. Data quantification, analysis and statistics.

Stimulation protocols were applied ten times in each neuron and the within-cell average across trials was calculated by averaging eIPSCs amplitudes from these ten repetitions. These within-cell average across ten trials were used for statistical analysis. Non-linear regression analysis was used to analyze changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during stimulation train protocols. To compare two different conditions (e.g. eGFP- vs. eGFP+ or presence/absence of antagonists) data from each

conditions were fitted with Equation 3, either individually (sum of two functions) or pooled (one single function). When the sum of two individual fits provided statistically significant improvements with respect to the fit of pooled data, the two conditions were considered as having distinct effects. To define whether STP was expressed during trains of stimulations, i.e. whether significant changes in amplitude occurred during the train, fits with Equation 3 were compared with linear fits with slope values forced to 0. When fits with Equation 3 provided statistically significant improvements with respect to the linear fit with slope value forced to 0, the connections were considered as displaying a significant STP during the corresponding protocol. Details of all models (number of neurons, degree of freedom, Residual sum of squares, AIC, AICc, BIC) as well as details of model comparison (F, P, differences in AIC, AICc and BIC) are given in Supplementary table 1. Individual data of all neurons were always used for curve fitting and average values were used for illustration.

- Supplementary figure S2.
- Action-potential firing patterns in eGFP+ (left) and eGFP- (right) neurons.
- 895 A majority of eGFP+ neurons were of tonic-firing type (Tonic) whereas a majority of eGFP-
- neurons were of initial bursting type (n = 67 eGFP+ neurons and 61 eGFP- neurons).

- Supplementary figure S3.
- 899 Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz.
 - **A.** Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green) during 5 Hz protocols. **B.** Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same

neurons as in A). **C.** Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP-neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green) during 50 Hz protocols. **D.** Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as in C). **E. F.** Same data as in C-D, but with eIPSCs measured from the basal current level before the first eIPSC (summated eIPSCs amplitudes). Results of non-linear regressions used to compare conditions are given as P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ***. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1. For 5 Hz protocols: P = 54 eGFP- and P = 49 eGFP+ neurons. For 50 Hz protocols: P = 27 eGFP- and P = 49 eGFP+ neurons.

912

913

903

904

905

906

907

908

909

910

911

- Supplementary figure S4. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 5 Hz
- 914 and 50 Hz: individual neurons.
- 915 Left: Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs. Right: Relative amplitudes of
- 916 GABAergic eIPSCs (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as left).
- 917 **A-D:** train of stimulations at 5 Hz. Same data as in Fig. 3. n = 54 eGFP- and n = 49 eGFP+ neurons.
- 918 **E-H:** trains of stimulations at 50 Hz. Same data as in Fig. 4. n = 27 eGFP- and n = 19 eGFP+ neurons.
- A, B, E, F: eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons. C, D, G, H: eIPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons.
- 920 Average amplitudes from individual neurons are in grey.

921

922

- Supplementary figure S5. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains of
- 923 stimulations at 5 Hz with increased amplitudes of stimulation.
- 924 For this experiment, stimulation amplitudes were set at 0.45 mA (versus 0.21 mA on average for
- all other experiments). A. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP-

neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green). **B.** Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as in A). n = 11 eGFP- and n = 11 eGFP+ neurons.

Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during the trains were significantly different in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons as it was observed with lower amplitudes of stimulation (Fig. 3). This indicated that changes in stimulation efficacy during trains of stimulations were unlikely to influence our results.

Supplementary figure S6. Relative amplitude of rank 2 eIPSCs in the first five and the last five trains.

A. During 5 Hz trains, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons ($P_{eGFP-} = 0.678$, $P_{eGFP+} = 0.223$, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data). **B.** During 50 Hz trains, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on eGFP+ neurons ($P_{eGFP+} = 0.098$, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data), but significantly decreased by 18% for eGFP- neurons ($P_{eGFP-} = 0.048$, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data). This suggests that the facilitation observed in eGFP-neurons during paired-pulse stimulation at short intervals (Fig. 2E) is replaced by other types of plasticities during repeated trains of stimulation at 50 Hz.

Supplementary figure S7. Effect of a GABA $_{\rm B}$ receptor antagonist on GABAergic eIPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains.

Average amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 μ M CGP55845 (orange), a GABA_B receptors antagonist. For each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times

during bath application of CGP55845. **A, D, G, J, M.** Type of neuron (eGFP- or eGFP+), frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) applied in B-C, E-F, H-I, K-L, N-O, respectively. **B, E, H, K, N.** Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes. **C, F, I, L, O.** Average relative eIPSCs amplitudes. **A-F**: CGP55845 had no effect on GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons, neither during trains at 5 Hz (A-C, n = 6 neurons) nor during trains at 50 Hz (D-F n = 12 neurons). **G-O**: in eGFP+ neurons CGP55845 did not changed raw eIPSCs amplitudes (H, K, N), but it significantly increased relative eIPSCs amplitude during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (I, n = 8 neurons), indicating a phasic inhibition involving GABA_B receptors during these trains. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during trains were compared with non-linear regression. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1. P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ***.

Supplementary figure S8. Effect of an A1 adenosine receptor antagonist on GABAergic eIPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains.

Average amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 μ M DPCPX (pink), an A1 receptor antagonist. For each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times during bath application of DPCPX. **A, D, G, J, M.** Type of neuron (eGFP- or eGFP+), frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) applied in B-C, E-F, H-I, K-L, N-O, respectively. **B, E, H, K, N.** Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes. **C, F, I, L, O.** Average relative eIPSCs amplitudes. **B, H.** DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes recorded in eGFP- neurons during trains at 5 Hz repeated every 20 s (B, n = 9 neurons) and 50 Hz repeated every 20 s (H, n = 9 neurons) but had no effect on raw eIPSCs amplitudes recorded during trains at 50 Hz repeated

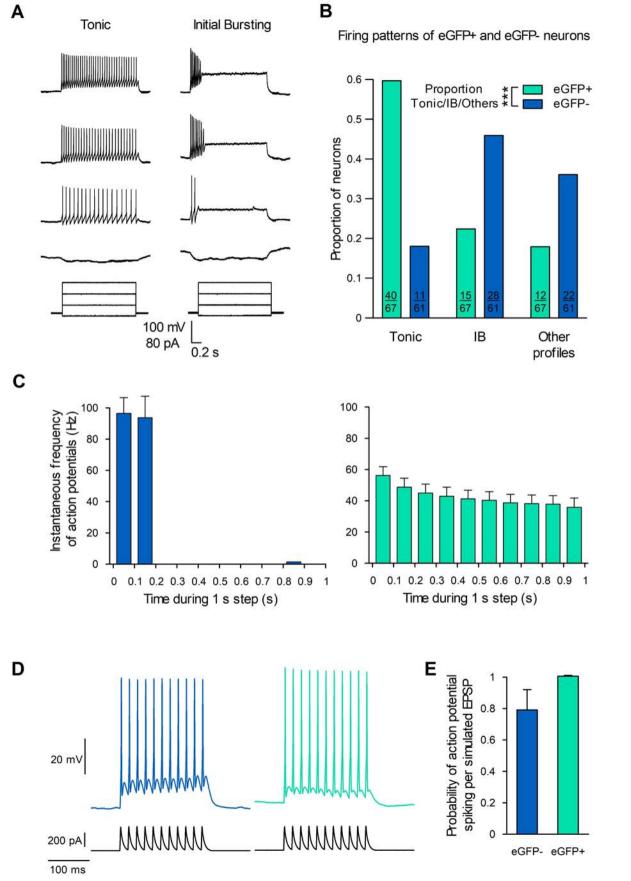
every 60 s (E, n = 7 neurons). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons by adenosine depending on the delay between trains of stimulation. **K**, **N**, in eGFP+ neurons, DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (K) and 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s (N). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons. **C**, **F**, **I**, **L**, **O** Except during 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s where a weak significant effect was recorded (O), no effect of DPCPX was detected in relative eIPSCs amplitudes, neither in eGFP- nor in eGFP+ neurons indicating that inhibition involving A1 receptors did not changed during the train. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during trains were compared with non-linear regression. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1. P > 0.5: n.s., 0.05 > P > 0.01: *, P < 0.001: ***.

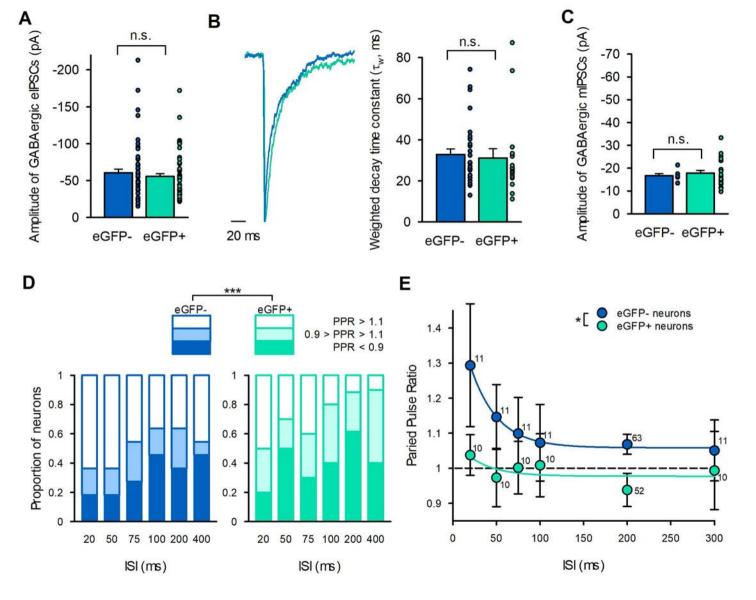
Supplementary tables 1-7. Data analysis, model comparison and statistics.

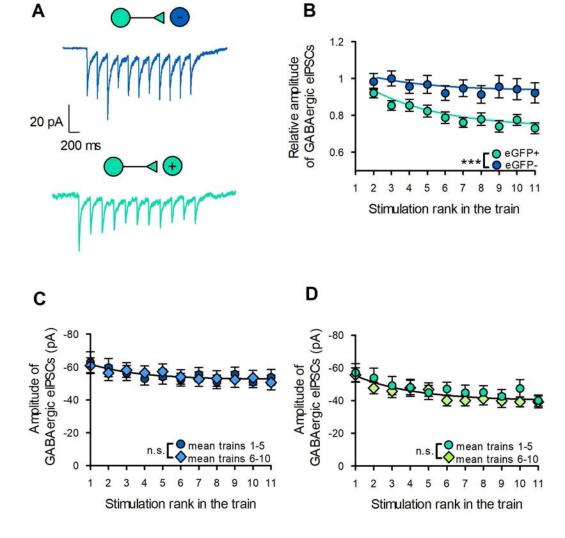
- The tables correspond to the different figures illustrating the comparisons.
- The column **Figure** indicates the panel of the figure illustrating the conditions compared.

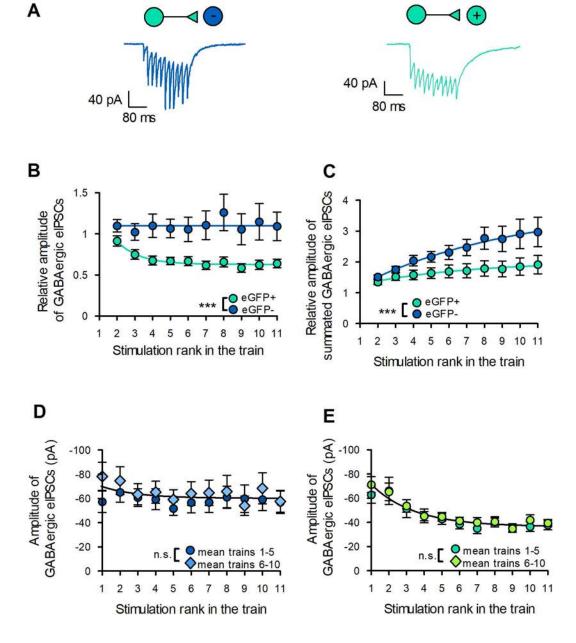
In these figures, the averaged eIPSCs amplitudes in the two conditions are illustrated, but statistical analysis were performed using averaged eIPSCs amplitudes of each neurons. These values were calculated by averaging eIPSCs amplitudes of the same rank obtained from reiterations of the protocols. The reiterations used for the average are indicated in the column **Protocol repetition** (usually iterations 1-10). For protocols using trains of stimulations, the **frequency** of stimulations is given (5 Hz or 50 Hz) as well as the time between protocols (20 s or 60 s) in the column **Protocol interval**. The **Type of data** column indicates whether data were averaged raw eIPSCs amplitudes (Raw) or averaged normalized amplitudes (Norm). The **eGFP condition** column indicates whether the data compared were from eGFP- (-) or eGFP+ (+)

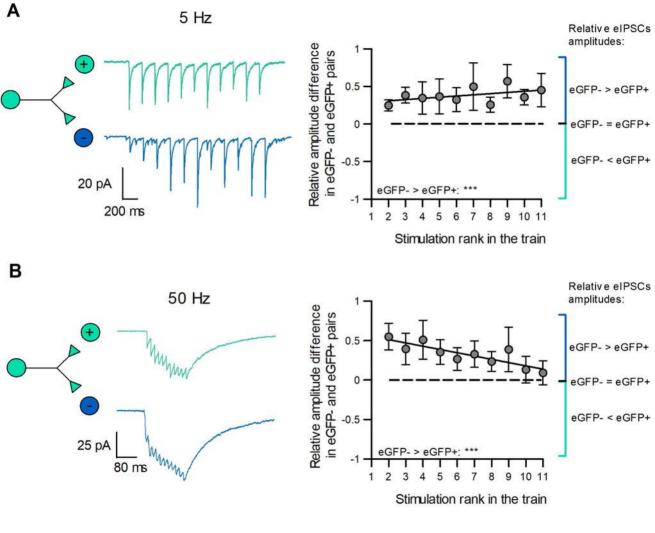
neurons or both (+ and -). The **Drug condition** column indicates whether the data compared were recorded without (**Control**) or with CGP55845 or DPCPX, or both. The **Model** column indicates the two models compared. **N neurons** corresponds to the number of neurons (eGFP- (-) or eGFP+ (+)). **N obs** corresponds to the number of observations. In experiments with trains of stimulations, the number of observations per neuron and per condition was of 11 for raw data and 10 for normalized data. **k** corresponds to the number of parameters in the model. A1, A2 and A3 are the parameters calculated by non-linear regression (two A1, A2 and A3 are given when a sum of two regressions are used). **SS** is the residual sum of squares calculated with the model. **df** is the degree of freedom of the model. **AIC** is Akaike information criterion; **AICc** is the AIC corrected for small samples; **BIC** is the bayesian information criterion. **F** is the value of the F-distribution of the comparison between the two models. **p** is the corresponding p-value. dAICc is the decrease in AICc provided by the model indicated in that line with respect to the model in the line above. A positive value indicate that the model correspond to the most parsimonious explanation with respect to the model in the line above.

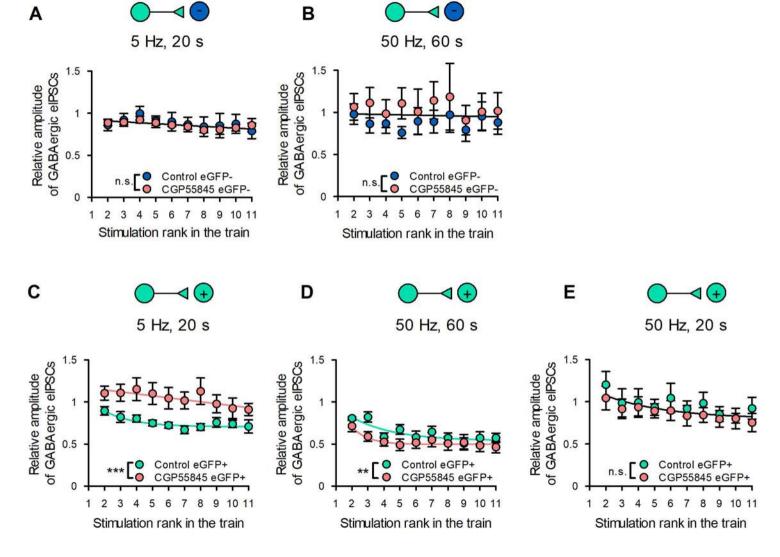


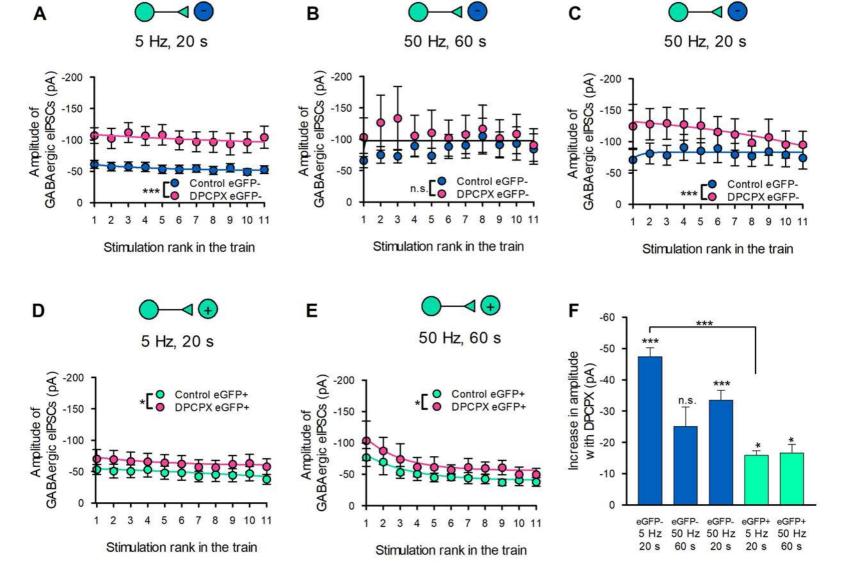












Neuron eGFP-1

Neuron eGFP-2

neuron 2 W

Data quantification and analysis

Neuron eGFP+ 1 Neuron eGFP+ 2 Neuron eGFP+ n All eGFP+ neurons

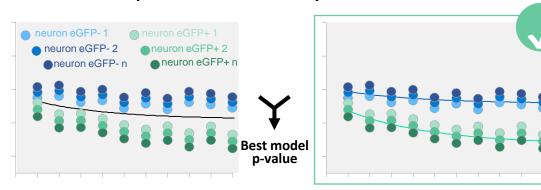






Curve fitting and model comparison

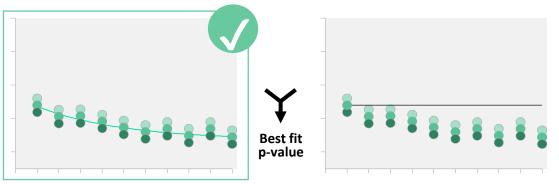
Groups similar or statistically different?



Fit of pooled data with « Equation 3 »

Fit of each group with « Equation 3 »

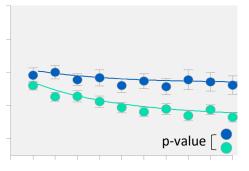
Plasticity or no plasticity during the train?



Fit of group data with « Equation 3 »

Linear fit of group data with slope = 0

Illustrations: Curve fits superimposed with average amplitudes



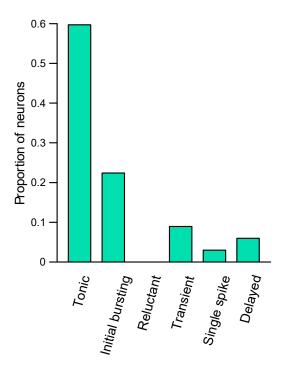
neuron n mean

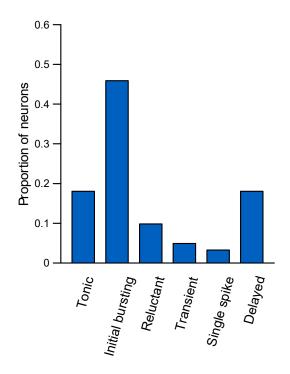
p-value of model comparisons are symbolized in the figures and given in the text. Other criteria of model/fit goodness (BIC, AIC, AICc) are given in the supplementary tables.

Supplementary figure S1. Data quantification, analysis and statistics.

Neuron eGFP- n

Stimulation protocols were applied ten times in each neuron and the within-cell average across trials was calculated by averaging eIPSCs amplitudes from these ten repetitions. These withincell average across ten trials were used for statistical analysis. Non-linear regression analysis was used to analyze changes in eIPSCs amplitudes during stimulation train protocols. To compare two different conditions (e.g. eGFP- vs. eGFP+ or presence/absence of antagonists) data from each conditions were fitted with Equation 3, either individually (sum of two functions) or pooled (one single function). When the sum of two individual fits provided statistically significant improvements with respect to the fit of pooled data, the two conditions were considered as having distinct effects. To define whether STP was expressed during trains of stimulations, i.e. whether significant changes in amplitude occurred during the train, fits with Equation 3 were compared with linear fits with slope values forced to 0. When fits with Equation 3 provided statistically significant improvements with respect to the linear fit with slope value forced to 0, the connections were considered as displaying a significant STP during the corresponding protocol. Details of all models (number of neurons, degree of freedom, Residual sum of squares, AIC, AICc, BIC) as well as details of model comparison (F, P, differences in AIC, AICc and BIC) are given in Supplementary table 1. Individual data of all neurons were always used for curve fitting and average values were used for illustration.

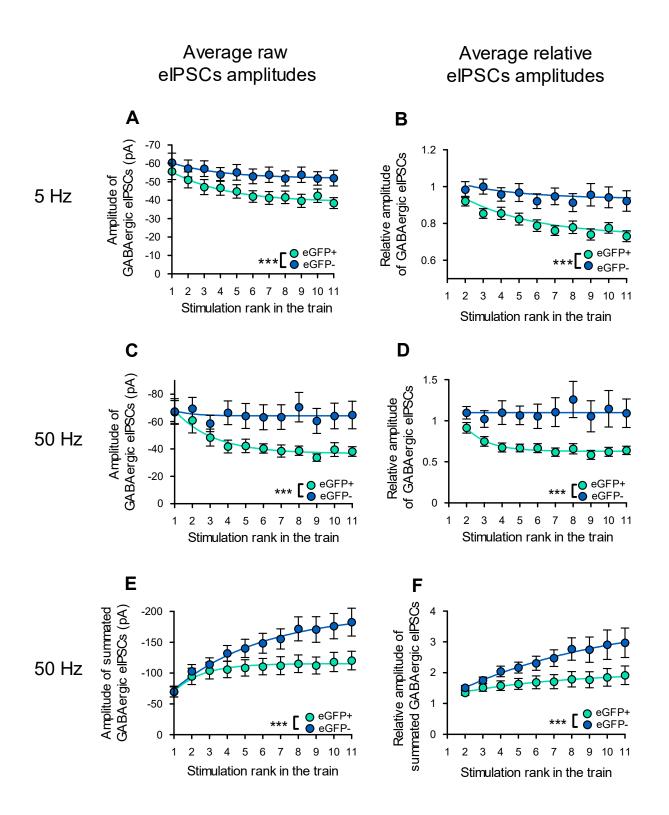




Supplementary figure S2.

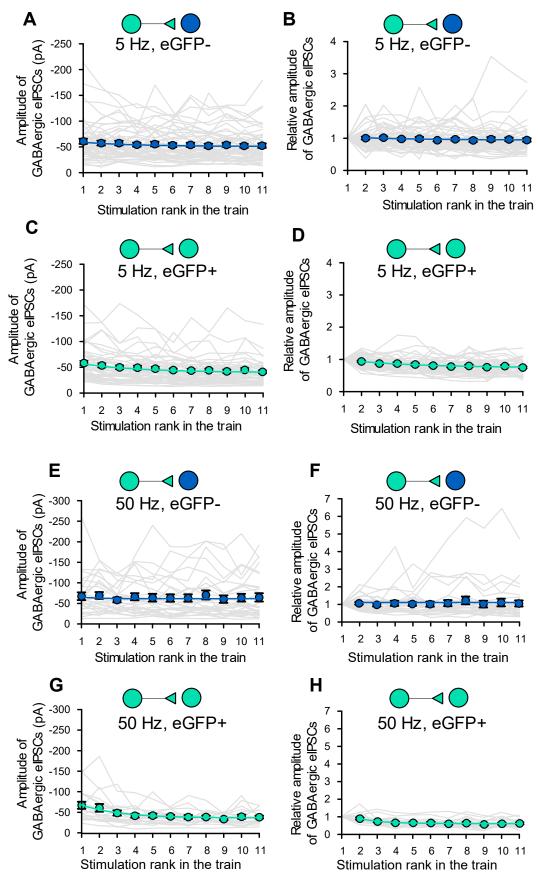
Action-potential firing patterns in eGFP+ (left) and eGFP- (right) neurons.

A majority of eGFP+ neurons were of tonic-firing type (Tonic) whereas a majority of eGFP- neurons were of initial bursting type (n = 67 eGFP+ neurons and 61 eGFP- neurons).



Supplementary figure S3. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz.

A. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green) during 5 Hz protocols. B. Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as in A). C. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green) during 50 Hz protocols. D. Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as in C). E. F. Same data as in C-D, but with eIPSCs measured from the basal current level before the first eIPSC (summated eIPSCs amplitudes). Results of non-linear regressions used to compare conditions are given as P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ***. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 1. For 5 Hz protocols: P = 54 eGFP- and P = 49 eGFP+ neurons. For 50 Hz protocols: P = 27 eGFP- and P = 49 eGFP+ neurons.



Supplementary figure S4. Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz: individual neurons.

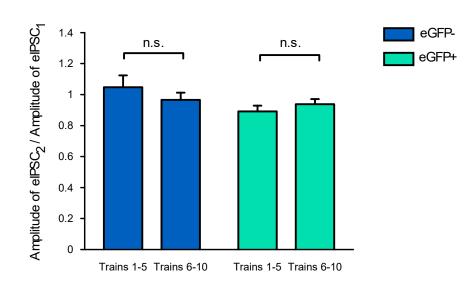
Left: Average raw elPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic elPSCs. Right: Relative amplitudes of GABAergic elPSCs (amplitudes normalized after elPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as left).

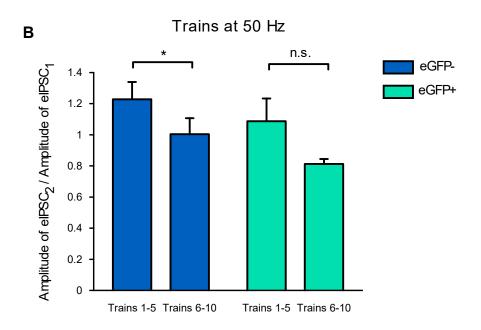
A-D: train of stimulations at 5 Hz. Same data as in Fig. 3. n = 54 eGFP- and n = 49 eGFP+ neurons. E-H: trains of stimulations at 50 Hz. Same data as in Fig. 4. n = 27 eGFP- and n = 19 eGFP+ neurons.

A, B, E, F: elPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons. C, D, G, H: elPSCs recorded in eGFP+ neurons. Average amplitudes from individual neurons are in grey.



Trains at 5 Hz

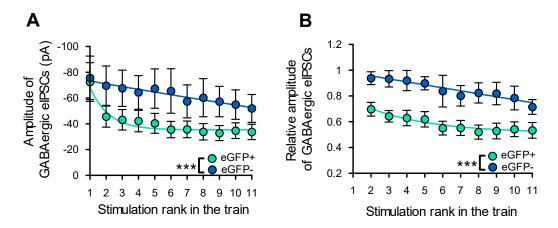




Supplementary figure S5.

Relative amplitude of rank 2 eIPSCs in the first five and the last five trains.

A. During 5 Hz trains, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on both eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (PeGFP- = 0.678, PeGFP+ = 0.223, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data). B. During 50 Hz trains, eIPSC2/eIPSC1 remained similar in the first five and the last five trains for connections on eGFP+ neurons (PeGFP+ = 0.098, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data), but significantly decreased by 18% for eGFP-neurons (PeGFP- = 0.048, Wilcoxon Signed Rank Test for Paired Data). This suggests that the facilitation observed in eGFP- neurons during paired-pulse stimulation at short intervals (Fig. 2E) is replaced by other types of plasticities during repeated trains of stimulation at 50 Hz.

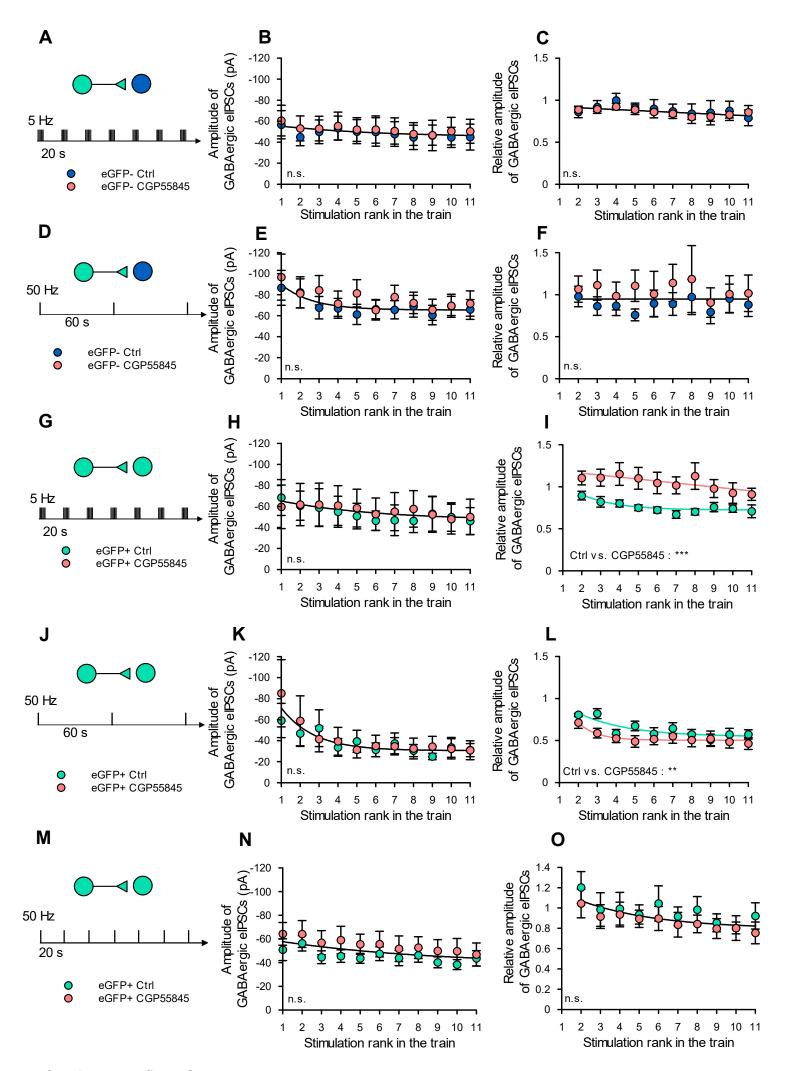


Supplementary figure S6.

Short-term plasticity of GABAergic connections during trains of stimulations at 5 Hz with increased amplitudes of stimulation.

For this experiment, stimulation amplitudes were set at 0.45 mA (versus 0.21 mA on average for all other experiments). A. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- neurons (blue) and eGFP+ neurons (green). B. Relative amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs recorded in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons (amplitudes normalized after eIPSCs of rank 1, same neurons as in A). n = 11 eGFP- and n = 11 eGFP+ neurons.

Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during the trains were significantly different in eGFP- and eGFP+ neurons as it was observed with lower amplitudes of stimulation (Fig. 3). This indicated that changes in stimulation efficacy during trains of stimulations were unlikely to influence our results.

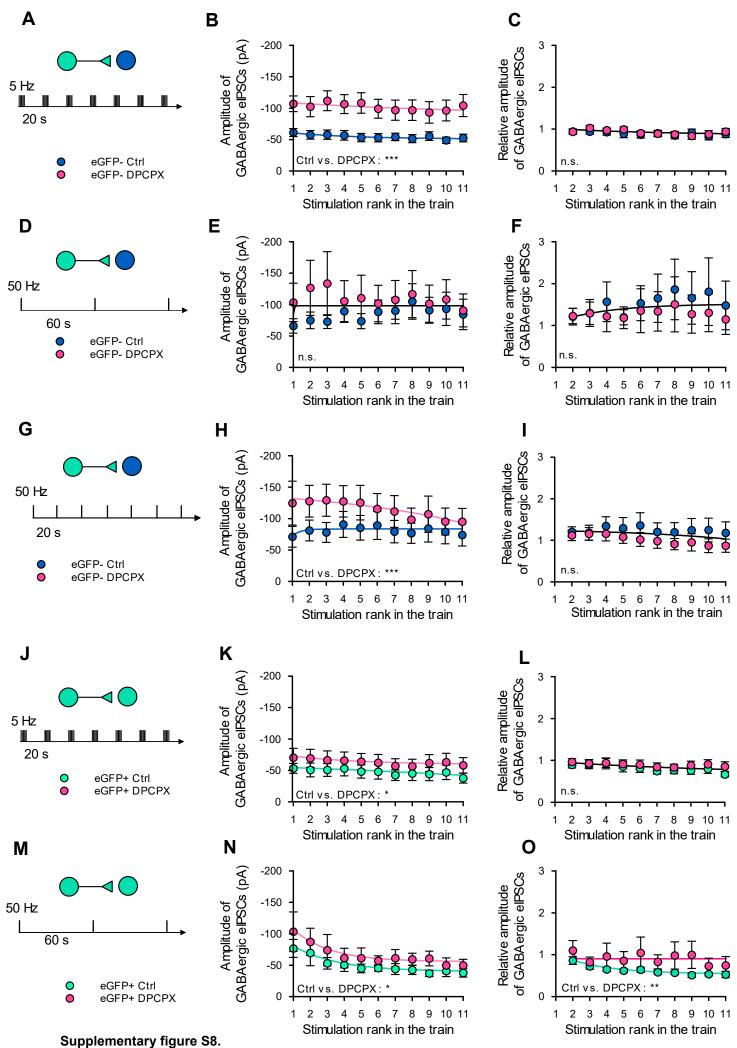


Supplementary figure S7.

Effect of a GABAB receptor antagonist on GABAergic elPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains. legend next page

Supplementary figure S7. Effect of a GABAB receptor antagonist on GABAergic elPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains.

Average amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 μ M CGP55845 (orange), a GABA_B receptors antagonist. For each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times during bath application of CGP55845. A, D, G, J, M. Type of neuron (eGFP- or eGFP+), frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) applied in B-C, E-F, H-I, K-L, N-O, respectively. B, E, H, K, N. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes. C, F, I, L, O. Average relative eIPSCs amplitudes. A-F: CGP55845 had no effect on GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons, neither during trains at 5 Hz (A-C, n = 6 neurons) nor during trains at 50 Hz (D-F n = 12 neurons). G-O: in eGFP+ neurons CGP55845 did not changed raw eIPSCs amplitudes (H, K, N), but it significantly increased relative eIPSCs amplitude during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (I, n = 8 neurons), indicating a phasic inhibition involving GABAB receptors during these trains. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during trains were compared with non-linear regression. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 7. P > 0.5: n.s. and P < 0.001: ****



Effect of an A1 adenosine receptor antagonist on GABAergic elPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains. legend next page

Supplementary figure S8.

Effect of an A1 adenosine receptor antagonist on GABAergic elPSCs during 5 Hz and 50 Hz trains. legend next page

Average amplitudes of GABAergic eIPSCs during trains at 5 Hz and 50 Hz before (blue and green) and during bath application of 10 µM DPCPX (pink), an A1 receptor antagonist. For each neuron, trains of 11 stimulations were repeated 10 times in control condition and 10 times during bath application of DPCPX. A, D, G, J, M. Type of neuron (eGFP- or eGFP+), frequency of stimulation (5 Hz or 50 Hz) and interval between trains (20 s or 60 s) applied in B-C, E-F, H-I, K-L, N-O, respectively. B, E, H, K, N. Average raw eIPSCs amplitudes. C, F, I, L, O. Average relative eIPSCs amplitudes. B, H. DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes recorded in eGFP- neurons during trains at 5 Hz repeated every 20 s (B, n = 9 neurons) and 50 Hz repeated every 20 s (H, n = 9 neurons) but had no effect on raw elPSCs amplitudes recorded during trains at 50 Hz repeated every 60 s (E, n = 7 neurons). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP- neurons by adenosine depending on the delay between trains of stimulation. K, N, in eGFP+ neurons, DPCPX significantly increased raw eIPSCs amplitudes during 5 Hz trains repeated every 20 s (K) and 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s (N). This indicated a tonic inhibition of GABAergic connections onto eGFP+ neurons. C, F, I, L, O Except during 50 Hz trains repeated every 60 s where a weak significant effect was recorded (O), no effect of DPCPX was detected in relative eIPSCs amplitudes, neither in eGFP- nor in eGFP+ neurons indicating that inhibition involving A1 receptors did not changed during the train. Evolution of eIPSCs amplitudes during trains were compared with non-linear regression. Details of regressions and the corresponding analysis are given in Supplementary Table 8. P > 0.5: n.s., 0.05 > P > 0.01: *, P < 0.001: ***.

Supplementary Table 1. Non linear regressions FIGURE 2

	Stimulation protoco	ı						Ν	1odel par	ameters	determin	ed by non	linear cur	e fitting					Model com	parison stats	
Figure	Paired-Pulse ISI: 20, 50, 75, 100, 200, 300 ms	Type of data	eGFP condition	Drug condition	Model	N neurons	N obs	k	A1 eGFP-	A2 eGFP-	A3 eGFP-	A1 eGFP+	A2 eGFP+	A3 eGFP+	6 df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
2E		PPR	- and +	Control	"equation 2" pooled data sum of two "equation 2"	63- 52+	223 223	3 6	1.29 1.53	1.01 1.07	34.04 28.46	1.29 1.06	1.01 0.95	34.04 25.41 68.52 24.04	220 217	156.48 150.12	164.67 164.65	170.11 173.97	4.1222	7.20E-03	0.02

Supplementary Table 2. Non linear regressions FIGURE 3

	lation p				icui icg	1 03310113	FIGURE 3				Model n	ramatar	dotormi	ned by non	linear cu	nuo fittin	~					Model co	mparison stats	
Stilliu	iation p	TOLOCOI	_		_	_					viouei p	arameter	ueteriiii	ieu by iioi	i iiiieai cu		Б					wiouei co	iliparison stats	
Figure	Freqency	protocol interval	Protocol repetitior	Type of data	eGFP condition	Drug condition		N neurons	N obs	k	A1 eGFP-	A2 eGFP-	A3 eGFP-	A1 eGFP+	A2 eGFP+	A3 eGFP+	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
							sum of two exponential																	
S3A	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	- and +	Control	fits, same intercept A1	54-	1133	5	-58.06	7.80	6.46	-58.06	18.23	2.56	928309.68	1128	10828.04	10840.12	10858.24	1		
							sum of two "Equation3"	49+	1133	6	-60.20	8.32	3.12	-55.42	16.42	3.38	927586.17	1127	10829.16	10843.26	10864.39	0.8791	3.49E-01	-3.14
S3A	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data	54-	1133	3	-57.93	12.17	3.29	-57.93	12.17	3.29	957197.83	1130	10858.76	10866.80	10878.89)		
334	3112	203	1 10	Navv	ana i	Control	sum of two "Equation3"	49+	1133	6	-60.20	8.32	3.12	-55.42	16.42	3.38	927586.17	1127	10829.16	10843.26	10864.39	11.9925	9.88E-08	23.54
S3A	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Paw		Control	Linear fit slope=0	54-	594	1	-54.56	0.00					573961.45	593	5772.52	5776.54	5781.30			
33A	3112	20 3	1-10	Navv		Control	Exponential (Equation3)		594	3	-60.20	8.32	3.12				570329.12	591	5772.75	5780.82	5790.30	1.8820	1.53E-01	-4.28
S3A	5 Hz	20 s	1 10	Daw	+	Control	Linear fit slope=0	49+	539	1				-44.60	0.00		369871.83	538	5053.93	5057.95	5062.51			
33A	3112	20 3	1-10	Navv	т.	Control	Exponential (Equation3)		539	3				-55.42	16.42	3.38	357257.05	536	5039.23	5047.30	5056.39	9.4631	9.14E-05	10.65
2D C21) [U ₇	20 c	1 10	Norm	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data	54-	1030	3	0.96	-0.13	3.79	0.96	-0.13	3.79	93.83	1027	463.28	471.32	483.03			
36, 331	3 3 FIZ	20 3	1-10	NOTTH	- allu +	Control	sum of two "Equation3"	49+	1030	6	0.99	-0.07	3.48	0.92	-0.19	3.99	87.89	1024	401.99	416.10	436.56	23.0422	1.94E-14	55.21
2D C21	3 5 Hz	20 c	1 10	Norm		Control	Linear fit slope=0	54-	540	1	0.95	0.00					66.92	539	408.87	412.89	417.45			
36, 331	3 3 HZ	203	1-10	NOTH	-	Control	Exponential (Equation3)		540	3	0.99	-0.07	3.48				66.72	537	411.27	419.34	428.44	0.7974	4.51E-01	-6.451
							Linear fit slope=0	49+	490	1				0.80	0.00		22.66	489	-111.61	-107.59	-103.22			
38, 531	3 5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	+	Control	Exponential (Equation3)		490	3				0.92	-0.19	3.99	21.33	487	-137.19	-129.11	-120.42	15.1532	4.13E-07	21.52
3C	5 Hz	20 s	1-10 1-5	Raw		Control	"Equation3" pooled data	50-	1100	3	-61.52	9.25	2.74	-61.52	9.25	2.74	1141933.80				10789.36			
"	3112	203	1-5 6-10	710 **		20111101	sum of two "Equation3"		1100	6	-63.28	10.39	1.65	-59.81	12.94	9.61	1141274.39	1094	10774.71	10788.82	10809.74	0.2107	8.89E-01	-11.43
3D	5 Hz	20 s	1-10 1-5	Raw	+	Control	"Equation3" pooled data	43+	946	3	-55.61	15.11	3.31	-55.61	15.11	3.31	748490.65	943	9005.83	9013.87	9025.24			
			6-10				sum of two "Equation3"		946	6	-54.05	16.14	3.78	-57.19	14.23	2.89	745656.50	940	9008.24	9022.36	9042.21	1.1909	3.12E-01	-8.49

Supplementary Table 3. Supplementary Figure 6 Non linear regressions stimulation at 5Hz at increased stimulation amplitude

	Stimulation protocol						N	1odel p	paramete	rs determi	ined by no	on linear c	urve fittin	g					Model com	nparison stats	
Figure	eqency otocol terval otocol petition	T E	3FP indition	ug indition	N	N -b-		l eGFP.	2 eGFP-	3 eGFP-	l eGFP+	2 eGFP+	3 eGFP+						_		
	<u> </u>	, <u>6</u>	9 8	<u> 5</u> 8	Model neurons	N obs	k	Æ	¥	¥	Α	8	ξ	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
	5 U 20 4 40 B		1	6	"Equation3" pooled data 11-	242	3 -7	71.30	26.74	2.53	-71.30	26.74	2.53	351728.28	239	2456.93	2465.10	2470.89			
S6A	5 Hz 20 s 1-10 R	aw -	and +	Control	sum of two "Equation3" 11+	242	6 -7	71.22	35.90	1.14	-73.38	160.72	73.12	319721.69	236	2439.84	2454.32	2464.27	7.8751	4.98E-05	10.78
			1	6	"Equation3" pooled data 11-	220	3 0.	.82	-0.29	8.59	0.82	-0.29	8.59	14.31	217	31.21	39.40	44.78			
S6B	5 Hz 20 s 1-10 No	orm -	and +	Control	sum of two "Equation3" 11+	220	6 0.	.95	-114.51	4954.04	0.70	-0.19	3.58	10.40	214	-33.11	-18.58	-9.35	26.8655	8.70E-15	57.98

Supplementary Table 4. Non linear regressions FIGURE 4

	Stim	ulation p	rotocol				FIGURE 4				Model	paramete	ers detern	nined by n	on linear	curve fittir	ng					Model con	parison stats	
Figure	Fregency	protocol interval	Protocol repetitio	Type of data	eGFP condition	Drug condition	Model	N neurons	N obs		A1 eGFP-	A2 eGFP-	A3 eGFP-	A1 eGFP+	A2 eGFP+	A3 eGFP+	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
S3C	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	27- 19+	517 517	6 -	-68.28 -68.03	14.98 3.88	1.82 1.01	-68.28 -68.49	14.98 31.86	1.82 2.18		514 511	5307.11 5275.28	5315.19 5289.50	5324.10 5305.02	12.9313	3.73E-08	25.69
S3C	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw	-	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	27-	308 308		-64.71 -68.03		1.01					307 305	3250.86 3254.69	3254.90 3262.82	3258.32 3269.61	0.0877	9.16E-01	-7.92
S3C	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw	+	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	19+	209 209	1 3				-44.45 -68.49	0.00 31.86	2.18	113069.01	208 206	1945.43 1916.44	1949.49 1924.64	1952.12 1929.81	17.6121	8.69E-08	24.85
4B, S3	5 0 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Norm	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	27- 19+	470 470		1.02 1.10	-0.10 0.10	0.07 8.17	1.02 0.91	-0.10 -0.28	0.07 1.26	233.23 212.36	467 464	1012.46 974.40	1020.55 988.64	1029.08 1003.47	15.2018	1.88E-09	31.91
4B, S3	5 0 Hz	2 60 s	1-10	Norm	-	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	27-	280 280		1.10 1.10	0.00 0.10	8.17				201.79 201.65	279 277	706.89 710.69	710.93 718.84	714.16 725.23	0.0956	9.09E-01	-7.909
4B, S3	5 0 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Norm	+	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	19+	190 190	1 3				0.68 0.91	-0.28	1.26	11.96 10.57	189 187	17.83 -1.77	21.89 6.45	24.32 11.22	12.3666	9.03E-06	15.45
S3E	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw Summ.	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	27- 19+	506 506	-	-74.18 -74.27	-86.24 -123.33	3.95 5.07	-74.18 -71.05	-86.24 -44.47	3.95 1.60	2907009.78 2698637.74		5823.95 5792.32	5832.03 5806.54	5840.86 5821.90	12.8690	4.12E-08	25.49
S3E	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw Summ.	-	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	27-	297 297		-142.14 -74.27	0.00 -123.33	5.07				2405477.14 2076127.99		3519.71 3479.98	3523.75 3488.11	3527.10 3494.75	23.3195	3.98E-10	35.64
S3E	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	Raw Summ.	+	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	19+	209 209	1 3				-106.84 -71.05	0.00 -44.47	1.60	659375.99 622509.74	208 206	2280.97 2272.94	2285.03 2281.14	2287.65 2286.31	6.0999	2.67E-03	3.89
4C, S3	F 50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	rm Sum	- and +	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	27- 19+	450 450	3 : 6 :	1.46 1.51	1.62 2.29	8.17 8.70	1.46 1.38	1.62 0.64	8.17 6.06	876.68 815.54	457 454	1585.15 1558.62	1593.24 1572.87	1601.59 1587.38	11.0962	4.90E-07	20.37
4C, S3	F 50 Hz	2 60 s	1-10	rm Sum	-	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	27-	270 270	1 2	2.36 1.51	0.00 2.29	8.70				731.22 671.52	269 267	1039.23 1020.23	1043.27 1028.38	1046.42 1034.62	11.8691	1.15E-05	14.89
4C, S3	F 50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10	rm Sum	+	Control	Linear fit slope=0 Exponential (Equation3)	19+	180 180	1				1.68 1.38	0.00 0.64	6.06	148.47 144.02	189 187	480.16 478.68	484.23 486.91	486.54 491.45	2.7350	6.76E-02	-2.682
4D	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10 1-5 6-10	Raw	-	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	22-	484	3 -	-69.41 -60.37		2.04	-69.41 -79.15	9.97	2.04	943143.46 935579.40	481	5047.78	5055.86	5064.51 5079.16		2.78E-01	-8.25
4E	50 Hz	z 60 s	1-10 1-5 6-10	Raw	+	Control	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	17+	374 374	3 -	-71.91	34.62 33.18	2.42	-71.91 -77.60	34.62 37.33	2.42	237187.61 235260.35	371	3482.55	3490.65 3499.80	3498.24		3.91E-01	-9.15

Supplementary Table 5. Non linear regression comparion 5 Hz with 50 Hz FIGURE 3 and 4

	Stimulation p	rotocol							Model p	parametei	s determi	ned by no	n linear cu	rve fitting						Model comp	parison stats	
	Freq	num	Data		Drug	N																
Figure	ency interval	ber	type	eGFP	condition	Model neurons	N ob	os k	A1 5Hz	A2 5Hz	A3 5Hz	A1 50Hz	A2 50Hz	A3 50Hz	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
3B, 4B	5Hz 20s 60s	1-10	Norm	-	Control	"Equation3" pooled data 54@5Hz sum of two "Equation3" 27@50H			1.02 0.99	-0.02 -0.07	0.98 3.48	1.02 1.10	-0.02 0.00	0.98 0.06	272.71 268.48	817 814	1432.32		1451.16 1458.46	4 2777	5.23E-03	0.738
	50Hz 5Hz					"Equation3" pooled data 49@5Hz	0_0		0.99	-0.07	2.52	0.91	-0.20		34.09	877	-97.54	-89.48	-79.45	4.2///	3.23E-U3	0.738
3B, 4B	50Hz 20s 60s	1-10	Norm	+	Control	sum of two "Equation3" 19@50H	680	6 (0.92	-0.19	3.99	0.91	-0.28	1.26	31.77	874	-139.40	-125.23	-107.75	16.3811	2.76E-10	35.75

Sup	plem	nenta	ry Ta	ble 6. Linear	regressions FIGURE 5											
	S	Stimul	ation p	rotocol		N								Model com	parison stats	
gi Si	, , ,	Freqency	protocol interval	Protocol repetition Type of data	condition	Model	N obs	i k	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
5.	A 5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10 Relativ	y=0x+0	6pairs	10	0	1.99	10	14.25	16.75	14.56			
					y=A1+A2	*x	10	2	0.07	8	-15.02	-5.02	-14.11	107.4780	1.66E-06	21.78
5	3 5	0 Hz	60 s	1-10 Relativ	y=0x+0	4pairs	10	0	1.25	10	9.59	12.09	9.89			
					y=A1+A2	*x	10	2	0.05	8	-17.74	-7.74	-16.83	87.7696	3.61E-06	19.83

Supplementary Table 7. Non linear regressions FIGURE 6 and supplementary figure S7

	Stimul	lation p	rotocol		_	_				Model	paramete	rs	2	2	2						Model cor	nparison stats	
Figure	Freq.	protocol interval	Protocol repetitio	Type of data	eGFP conditior	Drug conditior	Model	N neurons	N obs	я А1 control	A2 control	A3 control	A1 CGP5584	A2 CGP5584	A3 CGP5584	SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
S7B	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	6	132 132	3 -55.81 6 -52.61	10.62 3459.37	5.56 4153.92	-55.81 -59.07	10.62 10.23	5.56 2.98	96495.70 96024.87	129 126	1253.07 1258.42	1261.38 1273.32	1264.60 1278.60	0.2059	8.92E-01	-11.94
6A, S7C	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	6	120 120	3 0.92 6 0.93	-1.32 -1.75	120.00 145.23	0.92 0.91	-1.32 -0.13	120.00 8.31	3.63 3.61	117 114	-71.40 -66.02	-63.05 -51.02	-60.25 -46.50	0.1962	8.99E-01	-12.03
S7E	50 Hz	60 s	1-10	Raw	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	12	264 264	3 -91.97 6 -88.18	24.14 23.18	1.64 1.42	-91.97 -95.27	24.14 25.24	1.64 2.12	427700.08 424394.75	261 258	2708.22 2712.17	2716.37 2726.61	2722.52 2737.20	0.6698	5.71E-01	-10.23
6B, S7F	50 Hz	60 s	1-10	Norm	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	12	240 240	3 1.02 6 0.97	-0.06 -0.10	0.04 0.06	1.09	-0.12	12.47	98.52 96.74	237 234	475.41 477.02	483.58 491.51	489.33 501.39	1.4381	2.32E-01	-7.928
S7H	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	+	CGP55845	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"		176 176	3 -64.68 6 -68.78	18.77 21.47	5.30 2.39	-64.68 -61.77	18.77 -7.10	5.30 -9.55	326569.82 325296.18	173 170	1832.03 1837.34	1840.26 1852.01	1844.71 1859.53	0.2219	8.81E-01	-11.74
6C, S7I	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	+	trol & CGP5!	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	8	160 160	3 1.00 6 0.90	-0.37 -0.19	13.53 1.83	1.15	-85.77	3662.80	12.67 9.20	157 154	56.28 11.19	64.54 25.92	68.58 32.71	19.3142	1.11E-10	38.62
S7K	50 Hz	60 s	1-10	Raw	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	6	132 132	3 -71.90 6 -58.81	40.46 30.01	1.73 3.00	-71.90 -85.57	40.46 53.08	1.73 1.30	115572.90 113173.57	129 126	1276.88 1280.11	1285.20 1295.01	1288.41 1300.29	0.8904	4.48E-01	-9.82
6D, S7L	50 Hz	60 s	1-10	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	6	120 120	3 0.77 6 0.83	-0.24 -0.28	1.86 2.67	0.72	-0.21	1.00	3.12 2.80	117 114	-89.37 -96.39	-81.02 -81.39	-78.22 -76.88	4.3568	6.05E-03	0.373
S7N	50 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	154 154	3 -58.68 6 -52.86	19.42 13.12	7.85 5.00	-58.68 -64.52	19.42 30.88	7.85 12.81	69256.72 65781.93	151 148	1385.76 1383.83	1394.03 1398.60	1397.91 1405.09	2.6059	5.40E-02	-4.57
6E, \$70	50 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	140 140	3 1.08 6 1.17	-0.28 -0.27	3.90 1.91	1.08 1.01	-0.28 -0.34	3.90 7.46	13.10 12.77	137 134	73.64 76.07	81.93 90.92	85.41 96.66	1.1538	3.30E-01	-8.982
6CE, S7IO		20s Ctrl 20s CGP	1_1()	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7 8	150 150	3 1.12 6 1.17	-2.12 -0.27	80.00 1.91	1.15	-4.78	200.25	15.44 15.12	147 144	92.67 95.48	100.95 110.27	104.72 116.55	1.0335	3.80E-01	-9.32
6DE, S7LO	50Hz : 50Hz	20s Ctrl 60s Ctrl	1-1()	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7 6	130 130	3 1.01 6 1.17	-0.28 -0.27	2.45 1.91	0.83	-0.28	2.67	12.12 8.60	127 124	68.48 29.81	76.80 44.73	79.95 49.88	16.9489	2.75E-09	32.07

Supplementary Table 8. Non linear regressions FIGURE 7 and supplementary figure S8

			ation pr				,	ridoke 7 and supplem	,			paramete	ers									Model con	parison stats	
Figure		Freqency	protocol interval	Protocol repetition	Type of data	eGFP condition	Drug condition	Model	N neurons	N obs	۲ A1 control	A2 control	A3 control	A1 DPCPX	Xa Dad cv		SS	df	AIC	AICc	BIC	F	р	dAICc
7A, S	8B 5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	198 198	3 -84.54 6 -60.78		7.73 4.15	-84.54 -108.73	14.12 19.22	7.73 10.73	347778.43 236918.36	195 192	2049.17 1979.17	2057.38 1993.76	2062.32 2002.18	29.9472	6.28E-16	63.62
\$80	5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	180 180	3 0.97 6 0.95	-0.13 -0.09	6.15 3.82	0.97 0.99	-0.13 -0.17	6.15 7.79	7.90 7.85	177 174	-43.96 -39.10	-35.73 -24.45	-31.19 -16.75	0.3670	7.77E-01	-11.29
7B, S	8E 5	0 Hz	60 s	1-10	Raw	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	154 154	3 -84.67 6 -65.61	-13.61 -28.94	0.04 3.47	-84.67 -119.29	-13.61 7673.78	0.04 3955.37		151 148	1759.92 1759.85	1768.18 1774.62	1772.06 1781.11	1.9826	1.19E-01	-6.43
\$81	: 5	0 Hz	60 s	1-10	Norm	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	140 140	3 1.20 6 1.19	0.31 0.56	3.11 3.90	1.20 1.23	0.31 0.06	3.11 0.06	197.12 194.39	137 134	453.20 457.26	461.50 472.10	464.97 477.85	0.6257	6.00E-01	-10.6
7C, S	BH 5	0 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	198 198	3 -104.53 6 -71.04	-1.83 -10.90	-3.93 0.48	-104.53 -130.34		-3.93 -8.89	860620.94 798562.47	195 192	2228.57 2219.76	2236.78 2234.34	2241.73 2242.77	4.9736	2.40E-03	2.44
S8	5	0 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	-		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	180 180	3 1.22 6 1.19	-4.07 0.06	199.98 0.69	1.17	-3.72	100.57	64.41 61.59	177 174	333.82 331.77	342.05 346.42	346.60 354.12	2.6551	5.01E-02	-4.366
7D, S	8K 5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	198 198	3 -62.16 6 -52.92		8.91 -18.80	-62.16 -71.29	17.69 13.45	8.91 4.14	238830.83 226298.52	195 192	1974.76 1970.09	1982.97 1984.68	1987.91 1993.10	3.5443	1.56E-02	-1.71
\$81	. 5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9	180 180	3 0.94 6 0.9199	-0.27 -2.6885	10.26 108.479	0.96761	-0.1152	3.43286	14.42 14.03	177 174	64.45 65.55	72.68 80.20	77.22 87.90	1.60	1.91E-01	-7.52
7E, S	BN 5	0 Hz	60 s	1-10	Raw	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	154 154	3 -90.97 6 -77.94	45.05 39.98	2.33 2.62	-90.97 -104.10	45.05 50.32	2.33 2.12	199289.92 188222.67	151 148	1548.53 1545.73	1556.80 1560.50	1560.68 1566.99	2.9007	3.70E-02	-3.70
S80) 5	0 Hz	60 s	1-10	Norm	+		"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	7	140 140	3 0.91 6 0.84	-0.30 -0.32	5.65 2.63	0.91 1.10	-0.30 -0.21	5.65 0.06	33.82 30.85	137 134	206.44 199.55	214.73 214.40	218.20 220.14	4.3077	6.18E-03	0.338
7F	5	5 Hz	20 s	1-10	Raw	- and +	DPCPX	"Equation3" pooled data sum of two "Equation3"	9- 9+	198 198	3 -89.81 6 -108.73	15.26 19.22	6.69 10.73	-89.81 -71.29	15.26 13.45	6.69 4.14	419133.26 343921.71		2086.12 2052.96	2094.33 2067.55	2099.27 2075.98	13.9960	2.73E-08	26.78

Supplementary tables 1-8. Data analysis, model comparison and statistics.

The tables correspond to the different figures illustrating the comparisons. The column **Figure** indicates the panel of the figure illustrating the conditions compared. In these figures, the averaged eIPSCs amplitudes in the two conditions are illustrated, but statistical analysis were performed using averaged eIPSCs amplitudes of each neurons. These values were calculated by averaging eIPSCs amplitudes of the same rank obtained from reiterations of the protocols. The reiterations used for the average are indicated in the column **Protocol repetition** (usually iterations 1-10). For protocols using trains of stimulations, the **frequency** of stimulations is given (5 Hz or 50 Hz) as well as the time between protocols (20 s or 60 s) in the column Protocol interval. The Type of data column indicates whether data were averaged raw elPSCs amplitudes (Raw) or averaged normalized amplitudes (Norm). The eGFP condition column indicates whether the data compared were from eGFP- (-) or eGFP+ (+) neurons or both (+ and -). The **Drug condition** column indicates whether the data compared were recorded without (Control) or with CGP55845 or DPCPX, or both. The Model column indicates the two models compared. N neurons corresponds to the number of neurons (eGFP- (-) or eGFP+ (+)). N obs corresponds to the number of observations. In experiments with trains of stimulations, the number of observations per neuron and per condition was of 11 for raw data and 10 for normalized data. k corresponds to the number of parameters in the model. A1, A2 and A3 are the parameters calculated by non-linear regression (two A1, A2 and A3 are given when a sum of two regressions are used). **SS** is the residual sum of squares calculated with the model. **df** is the degree of freedom of the model. AIC is Akaike information criterion; AICc is the AIC corrected for small samples; BIC is the bayesian information criterion. **F** is the value of the F-distribution of the comparison between the two models. **p** is the corresponding p-value. **dAICc** is the decrease in AICc provided by the model indicated in that line with respect to the model in the line above. A positive value indicate that the model correspond to the most parsimonious explanation with respect to the model in the line above.