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1 **Striatum expresses region-specific plasticity consistent with distinct memory**
2 **abilities**

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15 **SUMMARY**

16 The striatum mediates two learning modalities: goal-directed behavior in dorsomedial (DMS) and
17 habits in dorsolateral (DLS) striatum. The synaptic bases of these learnings are still elusive. Indeed,
18 while ample research has described DLS plasticity, little remains known about DMS plasticity and its
19 involvement in procedural learning. Here, we find symmetric and asymmetric anti-Hebbian spike-
20 timing-dependent plasticity (STDP) in DMS and DLS, respectively, with opposite plasticity
21 dominance upon increasing corticostriatal activity. During motor skill learning, plasticity is engaged
22 in DMS and striatonigral DLS neurons only during early learning stages, whereas striatopallidal DLS
23 neurons are mobilized only during late phases. With a mathematical modelling approach, we find that
24 symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP favored memory flexibility, while asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP
25 favored memory maintenance, consistent with memory processes at play in procedural learning.

26 **INTRODUCTION**

27 The dorsal striatum is critical for action selection and initiation (Yin and Knowlton, 2006; Graybiel
28 and Grafton, 2015; Jin and Costa, 2015) and represents a major site for memory formation encoding
29 for procedural learning (Perrin and Venance, 2019). The dorsal striatum is composed of two main
30 anatomico-functional regions, the dorsolateral striatum (DLS) and dorsomedial striatum (DMS)
31 based on topographic cortical glutamatergic afferents. Cortical inputs from the sensorimotor and
32 premotor cortices project somatotopically to DLS, whereas associative and prefrontal cortices
33 project, with a decreasing topography, to DMS (Hunnicuttt et al., 2016; Hintiryan et al., 2016; Hooks
34 et al., 2018) with fewer inputs from somatosensory cortical areas (Reig and Silberberg, 2014).
35 Moreover, DLS and DMS appear to engage at different learning phases: the classical view posits that
36 during reward-guided instrumental learning DMS supports goal-directed behavior, while DLS is
37 gradually involved in later learning phases associated with habit formation and performance (Costa et
38 al., 2004; Yin and Knowlton, 2006; Balleine and O’Doherty, 2010; Corbit and Janak, 2010; Thorn et
39 al., 2010; Gremel and Costa, 2013; Burton et al., 2015; Vandaele et al., 2019). Similarly, during
40 motor skill learning DMS appears to play a crucial role during initial phases of fast improvements,
41 while DLS is determinant for slower learning phases as experience accumulates (Graybiel and
42 Grafton, 2015; Jin and Costa, 2015; Costa et al., 2004; Yin et al., 2009; Xiong et al., 2015).
43 Nevertheless, there is evidence that DLS does not only activate at late learning phases, but is
44 engaged, together with DMS, from early training phases (Thorn et al., 2010; Gremel and Costa,
45 2013; Kimchi et al., 2009; Stalnaker et al., 2010; Kupferschmidt et al., 2017; Bergstrom et al., 2018).
46 Acquisition and maintenance of motor skills and habits involve corticostriatal long-term synaptic
47 efficacy changes (Perrin and Venance, 2019). Indeed, *in vivo* proxies for plasticity, such as changes
48 in firing activity (Costa et al., 2004; Yin et al., 2009; Thorn and Graybiel, 2014; Barnes et al., 2011;
49 Koralek et al., 2012; O’Hare et al., 2016; Athalye et al., 2018; Peters et al., 2021) or in evoked-LFP

50 (Xiong et al., 2015), were detected in the corticostriatal pathway throughout procedural learning.
51 Conversely, triggering corticostriatal synaptic plasticity was shown to modify habitual behavior
52 (Xiong et al., 2015; Ma et al., 2018). Although these findings clearly highlight a correlative and/or
53 causal link between corticostriatal plasticity and procedural learning, the nature and contribution of
54 DLS and DMS long-term plasticity remain to be fully determined.

55 To investigate plasticity implication in memory storage and retrieval in DMS and DLS, we
56 characterized the spike-timing-dependent plasticity (STDP) and observed anti-Hebbian STDP in both
57 DMS and DLS, with specific profiles: a symmetric long-term depression (LTD) arises in DMS,
58 contrasting with an asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP in DLS. When corticostriatal activity scaled up,
59 we found opposite polarity plasticity in DMS and DLS, since LTD prevailed in DMS, while long-
60 term potentiation (LTP) prevailed in DLS. Furthermore, striatal medium-sized spiny neurons (MSNs)
61 from the DMS exhibited opposite plasticity, in a specific activity regime, depending on whether they
62 belonged to the striatonigral (direct) or striatopallidal (indirect) pathway. During motor skill learning,
63 we found that during early learning phases, plasticity was engaged for all DMS-MSNs, and
64 striatonigral MSNs in DLS. In contrast, during late learning phases, we found that only striatopallidal
65 MSNs in DLS were mobilized. We developed a mathematical model to quantify the capacity of these
66 plasticity rules for memory formation and storage, and relearning, a capacity distinct from recall in
67 that it is driven by rewards. Our model predicted that asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP facilitated the
68 maintenance of memory, whereas symmetric LTD allowed a swift turnover of memories, potentially
69 enhancing memory flexibility. These findings reveal how distinct plasticity maps in DLS and DMS
70 could endow striatum with complementary capacities for procedural learning allowing flexibility in
71 memory acquisition and stabilization of memories potentially for habit formation.

72 RESULTS

73 Distinct anti-Hebbian STDP profiles in sensorimotor and associative striatum

74 We used two brain slice preparations that preserved connections between the sensorimotor cortex
75 (S2) and DLS, or associative cortex (CG2) and DMS, and allowed to stimulate within cortical layer 5
76 while recording MSNs (Fig. 1) (Fino et al., 2018). At both synapses, we first applied the same STDP
77 protocol consisting of 100 pairings at 1Hz with prescribed timing $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} \sim -15$ or $+15$ ms (Fig. 1a).

78 We investigated DLS-STDP (Fig. 1b and Table S1) and observed asymmetric (*i.e.* distinct plasticity
79 polarity on both sides of $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}}=0$) anti-Hebbian STDP: LTP for post-pre pairings (Fig. 1b2) and
80 LTD for pre-post pairings (Fig. 1b3). Anti-Hebbian qualifies STDP with pre-post LTD. Post-pre
81 pairings induced LTP ($p < 0.0001$, $n=16$; Fig. 1b2 and Fig. S1a), whereas pre-post pairings induced
82 LTD ($p < 0.0001$, $n=14$; Fig. 1b3 and Fig. S1b). This is in line with DLS-STDP displaying anti-
83 Hebbian polarity in native conditions (Fino et al., 2005; Fino et al., 2010; Mendes et al., 2020). DLS-
84 STDP with a Hebbian polarity has also been reported (Pawlak and Kerr, 2008; Shen et al., 2008), but
85 caused by the use of GABA_A receptor antagonists. Indeed, we previously showed that GABA acts as
86 an Hebbian/anti-Hebbian switch (Paillé et al., 2013; Valtcheva et al., 2017), so polarity of the
87 corticostriatal STDP depends on whether GABA_A receptor antagonists are used (*in vitro* Hebbian
88 STDP (Pawlak and Kerr, 2008; Shen et al., 2008)) or not (*in vitro* anti-Hebbian STDP (Fino et al.,
89 2005; Fino et al., 2010; Mendes et al., 2020)). We thus recorded STDP in the absence of GABA_AR
90 antagonist to preserve the local striatal microcircuits and the anti-Hebbian polarity also observed *in*
91 *vivo* (Schulz et al., 2010; Morera-Herreras et al., 2019).

92 In DMS (Fig. 1c and Table S1), post-pre and pre-post pairings induced a symmetric (*i.e.* similar
93 plasticity polarity, here LTD, on both sides of $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}}=0$) anti-Hebbian STDP (Fig. 1c2 and 1c3).

94 Indeed, LTD was observed following post-pre pairings ($p < 0.0001$, $n=11$; Fig. 1c2 and Fig. S1c) as
95 well as following pre-post pairings ($p < 0.0001$, $n=16$; Fig. 1c3 and Fig. S1d).

96 Corticostriatal STDP in DMS and DLS displayed both anti-Hebbian plasticity, with symmetric and
97 asymmetric profiles, respectively.

98

99 **Post-pre DLS-LTP and DMS-LTD are NMDAR-mediated, whereas pre-post DLS- and DMS-**
100 **LTD are CB₁R-mediated.**

101 Regarding DLS-STDP, LTP induced by post-pre pairings was NMDAR-mediated since prevented by
102 D-AP5 (50 μ M) ($p=0.3775$, $n=9$), whereas LTD induced by pre-post pairings was CB₁R-mediated
103 since precluded by AM251 (3 μ M) ($p=0.5688$, $n=5$) (Fig. 2a-b and Table S1), as previously reported
104 (Shen et al., 2008; Fino et al., 2010).

105 We next investigated the signaling pathways associated with DMS-STDP (Fig. 2c-d and Table S1).

106 We first tested whether post-pre and pre-post LTD were CB₁R-mediated, since CB₁R-mediated LTD
107 is a dominant LTD form (Shen et al., 2008; Fino et al., 2010; Cui et al., 2016; Mathur et al., 2012) in
108 DLS. We found that AM251 left unaffected LTD induced by post-pre pairings ($p < 0.0001$, $n=8$) (Fig.
109 2c), while prevented LTD with pre-post pairings ($p=0.4614$, $n=5$) (Fig. 2d). We next investigated the
110 involvement of NMDARs, and observed that D-AP5 prevented post-pre DMS-LTD from arising
111 ($p=0.1059$, $n=7$) (Fig. 2c). We examined the involvement of L- and T-type voltage-sensitive calcium
112 channels (VSCCs), which are activated by the back-propagating action potential (Feldman, 2012).
113 Mibefradil (20 μ M), an antagonist of T-type VSCCs, prevented post-pre LTD ($p=0.0751$, $n=8$) (Fig.
114 2c). Therefore, DMS-LTD is NMDAR- and T-type VSCCs-mediated for post-pre pairings, and
115 endocannabinoid-mediated for pre-post pairings.

116 Post-pre DLS-LTP and DMS-LTD are NMDAR-mediated, and pre-post DLS- and DMS-LTD are
117 both CB₁R-mediated.

118

119 **Dominance of opposite polarity of plasticity in DMS and DLS with increasing corticostriatal**
120 **activity.**

121 Expression map of STDP is not only shaped by spike timing (Δt_{STDP}) but also by the frequency at
122 which pairings are presented (F_{pairings}) (Feldman, 2012). We further characterized the induction rules
123 of corticostriatal STDP in DLS ($n_{\text{total}}=130$ DLS-MSNs) and DMS ($n_{\text{total}}=125$ DMS-MSNs) by
124 varying together Δt_{STDP} ($-100 \leq \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} \leq +100\text{ms}$) and F_{pairings} ($1 \leq F_{\text{pairings}} \leq 5\text{Hz}$). We varied F_{pairings} up to
125 5Hz, (i) to stay in the STDP (and not rate-coding plasticity) domain since for $F_{\text{pairings}} > 5\text{Hz}$ Δt_{STDP}
126 becomes shorter (*i.e.* 50ms) than the domain of STDP expression, and (ii) this frequency range is in
127 line with *in vivo* corticostriatal cell assembly activities (Oberto et al., 2022).

128 We explored the domain in which STDP has been widely reported, *i.e.* $-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +30\text{ms}$ (Feldman,
129 2012), and then expanded investigation up to $\pm 100\text{ms}$. We observed two main facts: (i) the STDP
130 expression domain (Δt_{STDP}) is narrower in DLS than in DMS for low F_{pairings} and is widening with
131 increasing firing activity, and (ii) the existence of an opposite dominance of LTP and LTD in DLS
132 and DMS, respectively (Fig. 3 and Table S2).

133 ***LTP dominates in DLS when pairing frequency scales up.*** In DLS, we observed a dominance of
134 LTP together with an enlargement of STDP expression domain with increasing F_{pairings} (Fig. 3a-d).
135 For $F_{\text{pairings}}=1\text{Hz}$ ($n=42$ MSNs), plasticity was induced within a narrow Δt_{STDP} with LTP ($p < 0.0001$,
136 $n=21$) and LTD ($p=0.0004$, $n=13$) restricted to $-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0\text{ms}$ and $0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 30\text{ms}$, respectively
137 (Fig. 3a). Pairings for $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} \approx -35$ or $+35\text{ms}$ did not induce plasticity ($p=0.6205$, $n=4$ and $p=0.4670$,
138 $n=4$). We have previously shown that no plasticity was induced for Δt_{STDP} beyond $\pm 30\text{ms}$ even for
139 wide Δt_{STDP} , *i.e.* ± 250 and $\pm 500\text{ms}$ (Valtcheva and Venance, 2016). For $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ ($n=36$),
140 plasticity domain broadened considerably up to $-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100\text{ms}$, with LTP being induced for-

141 $100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +30\text{ms}$ and LTD for $+20 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100\text{ms}$ (Fig. 3b). Indeed, most MSNs subjected to
142 post-pre pairings ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0\text{ms}$) displayed LTP ($p=0.0003$, $n=22$). LTP domain was extended
143 also on the pre-post side ($0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +30\text{ms}$: $p=0.0082$, $n=6$) with 67% of LTP for only 33% of LTD
144 (Fig. 3b); this should be compared to the 8% of LTP and 85% of LTD expressed for $F_{\text{pairings}}=1$ Hz
145 and $0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +30\text{ms}$. Interestingly, the expression domain of LTD was also enlarged and shifted to
146 $+30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100\text{ms}$ where LTD was the exclusive form of plasticity ($p=0.0006$, $n=8$) (Fig. 3b). For
147 $F_{\text{pairings}}=5\text{Hz}$ ($n=52$), both post-pre and pre-post pairings spanning from -100 to +100ms induced LTP
148 ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0\text{ms}$: $p < 0.0001$, $n=33$; $0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100\text{ms}$: $p=0.0002$, $n=19$) (Fig. 3c). Therefore, in
149 DLS, increasing frequency in a time-coding paradigm, such as STDP, shapes plasticity map by
150 favoring LTP (Fig. 3d). This feature was robust and conserved with a rate-coding paradigm at a high
151 frequency. Indeed, a single round of high-frequency stimulation (HFS) induced LTP exclusively
152 ($p < 0.0001$, $n=6$) (Fig. 3e).

153 In DLS, the asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP at 1Hz turned into a symmetric Hebbian STDP at 5Hz.
154 Furthermore, the temporal window of STDP induction was enlarged with increasing frequency (from
155 60ms at 1Hz to 200ms at 5Hz) and LTP became the prominent form of plasticity (Fig. 3d and 3i).

156 ***LTD dominance in DMS when pairing frequency scales up.*** In DMS, for F_{pairings} from 1 to 5 Hz, we
157 observed a dominance of LTD, *i.e* a symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, except at 2.5Hz for which
158 asymmetric STDP appeared (Fig. 3f-i). For $F_{\text{pairings}}=1\text{Hz}$ ($n=39$ MSNs), plasticity domain in DMS
159 was wider than in DLS since comprised between -100 and +100ms (Fig. 3f). Indeed, LTD was
160 induced for post-pre pairings with $-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0\text{ms}$ ($p=0.0033$, $n=15$) as well as for pre-post
161 pairings with $0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100\text{ms}$ ($p < 0.0001$, $n=24$). For $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ ($n=59$), a complex plasticity
162 map was obtained since post-pre pairings with $-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0\text{ms}$ induced not only LTD (52% of the
163 MSNs) but also LTP (41% of the MSNs) (Fig. 3g). Indeed, among 27 neurons subjected to post-pre

164 pairings ($-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms), 14 and 11 cells displayed LTD ($72 \pm 3\%$, $p < 0.0001$) and LTP ($134 \pm 6\%$,
165 $p = 0.0002$), respectively; the 2 remaining ones did not show plasticity. There was no correlation
166 (Pearson's correlation) between the Δt_{STDP} ($p = 0.7888$), input resistance (R_i , $p = 0.5135$), resting
167 membrane potential (RMP, $p = 0.9740$) or excitatory post-synaptic potential (PSP) amplitude
168 ($p = 0.4476$) of the recorded MSNs and STDP polarity for $-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms (Fig. S2). For pairings
169 beyond -30 ms ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < -30$ ms), LTD was observed ($p = 0.0085$, $n = 10$). For pre-post pairings
170 ($0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 100$ ms), LTD was the main form of plasticity to be induced ($p < 0.0001$, $n = 22$), *i.e.* a
171 similar picture than those obtained for pre-post pairings at 1Hz. For $F_{\text{pairings}} = 5$ Hz ($n = 27$), both post-
172 pre and pre-post pairings induced LTD ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms: $p < 0.0001$, $n = 16$; $0 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100$ ms:
173 $p = 0.0200$, $n = 11$) (Fig. 3h). Notably, at $F_{\text{pairings}} = 5$ Hz, none of the recorded MSNs ($n = 11$) at -
174 $30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms exhibited anymore LTP, as it was the case for almost half of the MSNs for
175 $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5$ Hz.

176 In DMS, LTD dominates regardless Δt_{STDP} and F_{pairings} (Fig. 3i), with the noticeable exception of
177 paired activity at $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5$ Hz with $-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms for which LTD as well as LTP were observed.
178 Thus, in DMS with increasing F_{pairings} , the symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP observed at 1Hz was
179 transitorily flipped at 2.5Hz to a mixture of symmetric and asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, and then
180 at 5Hz only symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP was observed. We then tested the effect of HFS and only
181 LTD was induced ($p < 0.0001$, $n = 7$) (Fig. 3j).

182 In conclusion, LTP dominates in DLS with increasing F_{pairings} (and HFS) making the plasticity map
183 evolving from asymmetric anti-Hebbian to symmetric Hebbian STDP, whereas in DMS LTD is the
184 prominent form of plasticity showing mainly symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP (at the exception of
185 $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5$ Hz).

186

187 **Striatonigral and striatopallidal DMS-MSNs exhibit frequency-specific plasticity**

188 We investigated whether the observed dichotomy regarding LTP/LTD expression in DMS-MSNs for
189 $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ overlapped that of striatonigral and striatopallidal MSNs. The two MSN subtypes
190 express different dopaminergic receptors, D_1R - and D_2R -like for the striatonigral and striatopallidal
191 pathways, respectively (Calabresi et al., 2014; Bonnavion et al., 2019). At this stage we used *Drd1a*-
192 eGFP mice to investigate STDP in D_1^+ and D_1^- DMS-MSNs (Fig. 4 and Table S3). We performed
193 double patch-clamp recordings of neighboring MSNs pairs ($<50\mu\text{m}$ away, $n=8$ pairs) composed of
194 one D_1^+ and one D_1^- MSNs. Both DMS-MSNs were subjected to the same STDP protocol: 100 post-
195 pre pairings at $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ and $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}}=-15\text{ms}$ (Fig. 4a). Figure 4b shows an example of a D_1^+/D_1^-
196 DMS-MSN pair which exhibits opposite plasticity, LTD ($p<0.0001$) and LTP ($p<0.0001$),
197 respectively. In all 8 D_1^+/D_1^- MSN pairs, we found that D_1^+ MSNs displayed LTD ($p<0.0001$),
198 whereas D_1^- MSNs displayed exclusively LTP ($p<0.0001$, $n=8$) (Fig. 4c).

199 We next investigated the signaling pathways associated with LTD and LTP expressed in D_1^+ and D_1^-
200 MSNs. Both LTD in D_1^+ MSNs and LTP in D_1^- MSNs, induced by post-pre pairings at 2.5Hz, were
201 NMDAR-mediated. Indeed, D-AP5 prevented plasticity in D_1^+ ($p=0.1255$, $n=7$) and D_1^- MSNs
202 ($p=0.5884$, $n=6$) (Fig. 4d).

203 We observed in rats that at $F_{\text{pairings}}=1\text{Hz}$ the majority (73%) of the DMS-MSNs randomly chosen
204 exhibited LTD (Fig. 3f), suggesting that this LTD could be induced indistinguishably in D_1^+ and D_1^-
205 DMS-MSNs. Using *Drd1a*-eGFP mice, we confirmed this observation made in rats, since LTD was
206 induced in both D_1^+ and D_1^- DMS-MSNs when subjected to post-pre pairings at 1Hz with $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}}=-$
207 15ms (D_1^+ MSNs: $p=0.0005$, $n=5$; D_1^- MSNs: $p<0.0001$, $n=6$) (Fig. 4e).

208 In DMS the LTP/LTD dichotomy observed for $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ relies on the belonging of MSNs to the
209 striatonigral or striatopallidal pathway, whereas for other F_{pairings} (or HFS), similar plasticity (LTD) is
210 induced in most of DMS-MSNs.

211
212 **Region-specific involvement of STDP during procedural learning.**

213 We next investigated the engagement of evoked-LTP and -LTD in DLS and DMS during a motor
214 skill learning (Fig. 5 and Table S4). For this purpose, we performed *ex vivo* occlusion experiments
215 and tested STDP expression (post-pre pairings for $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$) 24 hours after habituation (control
216 group, $n=9$ mice), the first day (early-trained group, $n=8$) or the seventh day (late-trained group,
217 $n=10$) of Rotarod training (Fig. 5a and Methods). We chose $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ since it allows to capture
218 most of the DMS- and DLS-STDP features, and more particularly the DMS-plasticity dichotomy
219 between striatonigral and striatopallidal DMS-MSNs. Here, we used *Drd2*-EGFP mice to investigate
220 STDP in D_2^+ (striatopallidal) and D_2^- (striatonigral) DMS- and DLS-MSNs; it allows also to ensure
221 that the observation with *Drd1a*-eGFP mice (Fig. 4) still stand in another mouse line. Most of mice
222 reached a plateau in term of motor learning performance by the second or third day of training (Fig.
223 5a). We exploited the fact that the Rotarod is a non-lateralized motor task to test DLS- and DMS-
224 STDP induction in the same animals: for each mouse, one brain hemisphere was used to assess DLS-
225 STDP and the other for DMS-STDP.

226 In DMS, habituated mice displayed LTD in D_2^- MSNs ($p=0.0002$, $n=7$) (Fig. 5b1) and LTP in D_2^+
227 MSNs ($p<0.0001$, $n=6$) (Fig. 5b2), in line with results obtained using *Drd1a*-eGFP mice (Fig. 4a-c).
228 Plasticity magnitudes observed in habituated (Fig. 5b1 and 5b2) and in naïve mice (Fig. 4c) were not
229 significantly different (LTD: $p=0.9174$; LTP: $p=0.4770$). After one day of training on the
230 accelerating Rotarod, the early-trained group showed an occlusion of plasticity in both D_2^-

231 ($p=0.1566$, $n=6$) and D_2^+ ($p=0.5850$, $n=7$) DMS-MSNs (Fig. 5c1 and c2). After seven days of
232 training, the late-trained group showed again expression of LTD in D_2^- DMS-MSNs ($p<0.0001$,
233 $n=10$) (Fig. 5d1) as well as LTP in D_2^+ DMS-MSNs ($p<0.0001$, $n=8$) (Fig. 5d2). These later
234 plasticity magnitudes were similar to those in habituated mice (LTD: $p=0.9365$; LTP: $p=0.9523$).
235 There was a significant interaction between synaptic plasticity and stages of motor skill learning
236 (habituated, early- and late-stages) as well as the belonging of DMS-MSNs to the striatonigral or
237 striatopallidal pathways (two-way ANOVA, $F_{(2,38)}=5.721$, $p=0.007$). These results indicate that
238 DMS-STDP (LTP and LTD) are engaged during early phases of training and disengaged at later
239 stages of motor skill learning.

240 In DLS, habituated mice displayed LTP in both D_2^- ($p<0.0001$, $n=7$) and D_2^+ ($p<0.0001$, $n=7$) MSNs
241 (Fig. 5e1 and e2), in line with evoked-STDP in *Drd1a-eGFP* mice (Fig. 4a-c). The early-trained
242 group exhibited distinct synaptic efficacy changes depending on D_2^- and D_2^+ DLS-MSNs. Indeed, D_2^-
243 MSNs showed an occlusion of plasticity ($p=0.2795$, $n=9$) (Fig. 5f1), while LTP was induced in D_2^+
244 MSNs ($p<0.0001$, $n=7$) (Fig. 5f2). This later LTP was of similar magnitude to the evoked-LTP in
245 habituated mice ($p=0.4933$). Conversely, the late-trained group showed a reverse plasticity picture to
246 the one observed for the early-trained group: LTP was successfully evoked in D_2^- DLS-MSNs
247 ($p<0.0001$, $n=10$) (Fig. 5g1), whereas plasticity was occluded this time in D_2^+ DLS-MSNs
248 ($p=0.4223$, $n=7$) (Fig. 5g2). Evoked-LTP in D_2^- DLS-MSNs displayed similar amplitude in late-
249 trained and habituated groups ($p=0.4923$). There was an interaction between synaptic plasticity and
250 habituated/early-/late-stages as well as striatonigral and striatopallidal DLS-MSNs phenotype (two-
251 way ANOVA, $F_{(2,41)}=9.531$, $p<0.001$).

252 Striatonigral and striatopallidal DLS-MSNs are selectively engaged, in terms of STDP, depending on
253 the stages of motor skill learning: only striatonigral DLS-MSNs are involved at early stages, and

254 during the late stages only striatopallidal DLS-MSNs are engaged. DMS-MSN plasticity is mobilized
 255 in both MSN populations during early stages and then showed a disengagement during late stages.
 256 Interestingly, striatonigral DLS-MSNs show the same plasticity profiles, and occlusion, as
 257 striatopallidal DMS-MSNs.

258

259 **Reduced mathematical model of the striatal network**

260 To investigate whether the distinct forms of STDP in DMS and DLS (Fig. 1) subtend different
 261 learning properties, we considered a simplified model of the corticostriatal system, composed of a
 262 fixed number P of cortical neurons projecting to one MSN. We quantified the capacity of this system
 263 to retain memory as a function of the form of corticostriatal STDP, all parameters equal otherwise.
 264 The MSN, modeled as an integrate-and-fire neuron, received inputs from P cortical neurons, as well
 265 as activity from other cells represented by a Poisson process (Fig. 6). The synaptic weight W_i
 266 between cortical neuron $i \in \{1, \dots, P\}$ and MSN is subject to plasticity, through an all-to-all pair-
 267 based learning rule with instantaneous updates given by

$$268 \quad \Delta W_i = \begin{cases} A_{pre-post} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{T_{STDP}}\right) & \text{if the MSN spikes at time } t_{post}, \\ A_{post-pre} \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{T_{STDP}}\right) & \text{if cortical neuron } i \text{ spikes at time } t_{pre,i}, \end{cases}$$

269 with $\Delta t = t_{post} - t_{pre,i}$.

270 By convention, we fixed $A_{pre-post} = -1$, and varied the parameter $A_{post-pre}$; $A_{post-pre} < 0$
 271 corresponds to symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, while $A_{post-pre} > 0$ corresponds to asymmetric anti-
 272 Hebbian learning rules (Fig. 6).

273 The MSN was presented with various patterns of cortical activity, that included two types of input: (i)

274 *Cortical patterns:* coincident spikes from a prescribed sub-group of N_{stim} cortical input neurons,

275 with a Gaussian jitter of standard deviation τ_p and (ii) *Random cortical firing*: Poisson spikes from
276 all cortical neurons with rate λ_r/P . Examples of such patterns are presented in Figure 6: pattern *A*,
277 with cortical neurons 1, 3 and 4 fired and pattern *B* cortical neurons 2, 3 and 4 (spikes in green), with
278 superimposed random spikes (grey). N_p patterns were built according to these principles and split
279 randomly with 50% chance into *rewarded* and *non-rewarded* patterns (*A* is a non-rewarded pattern
280 (−) and *B* is a rewarded pattern (+)).

281 Rewarded patterns are associated to abstract *reward signals* representing neuromodulation (*e.g.*
282 dopaminergic signaling) (Foncelle et al., 2018; Gerstner et al., 2018; Brzosko et al., 2019), and
283 resulting in a potentiation of the synapses associated with cortical neurons that fired in a window
284 around the presentation of rewarded patterns (including both the neurons that were associated with
285 the pattern and those associated with noise; red bands in Figure 6). Because of the prominent role of
286 depression in anti-Hebbian learning, particularly in the symmetric case, this potentiation mechanism
287 (referred to as reward-LTP) is essential to maintain some spiking activity (Thorn and Graybiel,
288 2014).

289 To quantify the occurrence of the presentation of patterns, we opted for simplicity to split time into
290 windows of 100 ms, and, in each of this time bins, to present a randomly chosen pattern with a
291 probability η (and no pattern presented, with probability $1 - \eta$, bins labeled \emptyset in Figure 6). A
292 rewarded cortical pattern is learnt when the MSN spiked in response to the synchronous cortical
293 activity. Conversely, a non-rewarded pattern is learnt if the MSN did not fire during pattern
294 presentation. The accuracy of striatal learning was estimated during test protocols conducted
295 throughout the task on a network devoid of any plasticity and noise, with a metric combining the
296 fraction of rewarded patterns correctly eliciting spikes from the MSN and of non-rewarded ones that
297 did not trigger any spike.

298 To avoid transient effects associated with the initialization of synaptic variables, we simulated an
299 initial phase of *spontaneous activity* of the cortical network, defined by the presentation of patterns
300 with probability $\eta = \eta_m$ in the absence of reward-LTP. During the *learning* phase, patterns are
301 presented at each iteration and rewards were provided for rewarded patterns. This phase emulates a
302 learning stage, with the MSN eventually gaining an ability to discriminate patterns by spiking in
303 response to rewarded patterns and not spiking in response to non-rewarded patterns. The capacity of
304 the network to keep patterns in memory was then estimated during a *maintenance* phase, with
305 stimulus presented with probability $\eta = \eta_m$ in the absence of reward-LTP. Finally, the capacity to
306 relearn previously learned patterns was tested in a protocol identical to the learning phase (Table S5
307 and S6).

308 Random input activity was fixed at $\lambda_r = \lambda_{MSN} = 5Hz$ during (re-)learning phases to mimic *in vivo*
309 MSN firing rate (Mahon et al., 2006). It was set to $\lambda_r = 4\lambda_{MSN} = 20Hz$ in the initial and
310 maintenance phases to amplify forgetting within comparable timescales as learning (Methods;
311 choosing $\lambda_r = 5Hz$ in these phases yields similar relative results, with higher final accuracies for
312 similar maintenance phase durations).

313

314 **Asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP favors memory maintenance, whereas symmetric LTD allows** 315 **accrued flexibility**

316 Numerical experiments showed significant differences between the learning capability with
317 symmetric or asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, particularly during the maintenance and relearning
318 phases. Figure 7a reports changes in learning accuracy as a function of time throughout the four
319 different phases and for various non-zero values of $A_{post-pre}$ (solid lines) or controls with
320 $A_{pre-post} = 0$ (dotted lines). The final accuracies at the end of each phase were reported in Figure 7b

321 as a function of $A_{post-pre}$. Accuracy essentially remains at chance levels during the initial phase, as
322 expected in the absence of reward. In the learning phase, rewards drove a rapid increase and
323 stabilization of accuracy in all conditions. When rewards were no more provided in the maintenance
324 phase, the accuracy gradually plummeted, with different dynamics that depended on $A_{post-pre}$.
325 Finally, during the relearning phase, the system learns again previously memorized patterns when
326 reward-LTP is applied anew, with again distinct kinetics depending on $A_{post-pre}$.

327 *Learning phase.* The rapid rise of accuracy in the learning phase highlights the ability of all tested
328 networks to store patterns in the presence of pattern-specific reward-LTP (Fig. 7a). Heuristically, the
329 cumulated increase in the synaptic weights induces on neurons associated with rewarded patterns
330 increases the probability of the MSN to spike in response to the rewarded patterns compared to non-
331 rewarded signals. This effect is counterbalanced by the presence of pre-post LTD, which leads to
332 depression of the synaptic weights, and therefore favors an equilibrium where the synaptic weights
333 are high enough to trigger the spike, but still remain bounded, and prevents firing after non-rewarded
334 patterns. Indeed, if the MSN happened to spike after presentation of a non-rewarded pattern, the pre-
335 post LTD induced a decrease in synaptic weights for neurons associated with the pattern, that will
336 contribute to a decay of MSN firing probability. To highlight the crucial importance of the anti-
337 Hebbian pre-post LTD in learning of patterns, we computed learning accuracies in the absence
338 thereof ($A_{pre-post} = 0$; Fig. 7a). In this case, the absence of the pre-post LTD counterbalancing
339 reward-LTP led to a continual growth of the synaptic weights, which resulted in the MSN spiking for
340 non-rewarded patterns and therefore reducing learning accuracy.

341 Final accuracy at the end of the learning phase depended on $A_{post-pre}$ (Fig. 7b). Indeed, the system
342 did not reach a fixed equilibrium during the learning phase, but stabilized at a stationary regime
343 alternating multiple correct spiking responses interspersed by erroneous silences. This phenomenon

344 is due to the fact that the synaptic weights W associated with the pattern decreased progressively for
345 each accurate answer according to the superposition of reward-LTP and pre-post LTD. This decrease
346 persisted until the MSN stops firing, leading to a jump in W (since in the absence of a spike, only
347 reward-LTP is applied), after what the process starts afresh. As a consequence of this mechanism, we
348 expect that larger reward-LTP will allow for a larger fraction of experiments with spiking in response
349 to a rewarded signal, in turn increasing accuracy. However, when reward-LTP exceeds pre-post LTD,
350 an instability arises with a divergence of synaptic weights that would reduce accuracy, since it will
351 lead to non-specific spiking in response to non-reward signals. Accordingly, there exists a value of
352 $A_{post-pre}$ where the accuracy is maximal ($A_{post-pre} \approx 0.5$; Fig. 7b).

353 A combination of pre-post LTD and reward-LTP enabled discrimination of rewarded and non-
354 rewarded patterns, for all values of $A_{post-pre}$, with significant differences compared to the initial
355 phase.

356 *Maintenance phase.* The drop in accuracy during the maintenance phase was found to be faster for
357 symmetric anti-Hebbian learning than for asymmetric anti-Hebbian learning, with a significant
358 impact of the value of $A_{post-pre}$ on the accuracy at the end of the maintenance (Fig. 7b), as visible in
359 the distinct characteristic decay time $T_{maintenance}$ of accuracy (Fig. 7c1). Asymmetric STDP
360 allowed maintenance of higher accuracies for longer durations in the absence of rewards (Fig. 7c2).
361 Phenomenologically, symmetric LTD tends to induce a global depression in response to random
362 stimuli, which therefore can lead the MSN to stop firing to any patterns. The presence of LTP in
363 asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP limits this phenomenon, since only pre-post pairings will lead to
364 LTD, which can be compensated by post-pre pairings. This more balanced response allows for a
365 more durable conservation of the relative W magnitudes in the absence of rewards. To show the
366 correlations with W dynamics, we computed the deviation from W values at the end of the learning
367 phase in terms of amplitude and change in orientation (Fig. 7c3). We observed that asymmetric

368 STDP ($A_{post-pre} > 0$) led to a smaller deviation of the synaptic weights than for what was observed
369 for symmetric STDP.

370 *Relearning phase.* After the maintenance phase, relearning started with resuming the delivery of a
371 reward-LTP during presentation of rewarded patterns. While the system reaches similar accuracies as
372 those obtained at the end of the learning phase, the kinetics of relearning appeared distinct for the
373 different types of plasticity studied. Compared to symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, relearning is faster
374 for asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, as long as $A_{post-pre}$ is small enough to avoid runaway
375 potentiation and instability (Fig. 7c4: quantification for the characteristic time of relearning
376 $T_{relearning}$).

377 *Influence of the pattern presentation rate.* The maintenance phase can be seen as an unlearning of
378 rewarded patterns: an MSN that will have maintained memory will fire in response to a rewarded
379 pattern, and associated weights will decrease, leading the MSN to stop firing after enough
380 presentations. This will lead to a drop in accuracy (Fig. 7d1), faster when patterns are presented more
381 frequently (*i.e.* larger η_m), and found to be more rapid for symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP (Fig. 7d2).

382 The pattern presentation rate η_m chosen in the maintenance phase also played a significant role in the
383 relearning phase, with higher rates of presentations leading to a slower relearning, potentially
384 indicating a more dramatic deviation of W from their after-learning values (Fig. 7d3). However, the
385 difference between symmetric and asymmetric STDP persisted for varying presentation rates η_m :
386 even if the network loses its capacity to recall correctly the patterns, W may have conserved a
387 signature of learnt patterns.

388 *Influence of noise.* While the network is able to learn in the presence of noise (Fig. S3), we expect the
389 uncertainty and variability it creates on patterns to impact final accuracies and learning efficiency. In
390 absence of noise ($\lambda_{MSN} = 0$), the system reached high accuracies in the learning phase, and the
391 maximal value reached was identical for both symmetric and asymmetric STDP, that were conserved

392 throughout the maintenance phase in the absence of noise (Fig. S3). While the network was still
393 learning in the presence of noise, increasing noise levels progressively impaired learning ability, and
394 for Poisson noise with frequency $\lambda_{MSN} > 10\text{Hz}$, the network showed poor learning and maintenance
395 abilities. Realistic noise levels on the same order as typical MSN firing rate is between these two
396 regimes and allow both learning and maintenance, with different capacities for symmetric and
397 asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP as discussed above.

398 *Robustness to (P, N_p, N_{stim}) parameters of the model.* Beyond noise levels, all observations reported
399 were robust to variations in the number of cortical neurons, patterns presented and number of
400 stimulations with (P, N_p, N_{stim}) equals to (10, 10, 3), (10, 15, 5) and (20, 30, 3) (Fig. S4).

401 *Interpretation of the model on the impact of different STDP in DMS and DLS.* For low stimulus
402 frequency, the asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP observed in DLS at 1Hz could support maintenance
403 of stimulus associations for longer durations and relearning almost immediately previously learned
404 associations. In contrast, the symmetric DMS-LTD leads to a faster erasure of associations, making
405 the system available to learn new patterns. STDP elicited at striatopallidal DMS-MSN at 2.5Hz
406 switched from symmetric LTD to asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP. We postulate that with more
407 frequent stimulations, striatopallidal MSNs adapt their behavior so as to store patterns for longer
408 times than striatonigral MSNs.

409 Overall, when presenting patterns at a slow rate, DMS with symmetric LTD, is able to forget quickly,
410 whereas asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP maintains memory in DLS. This observation on a simplified
411 model suggests a possible cellular basis for the various observations on the differential involvement
412 of DMS and DLS in motor skill learning (Yin and Knowlton, 2006; Jin and Costa, 2015): both learn
413 the task during the first trials, and then DMS disengages when habit learning mediated by the DLS
414 takes over initial phases of motor training or goal-directed learning.

415 DISCUSSION

416 To explore how the striatum is able to achieve distinct learning modalities, from goal-directed
417 behavior to maintaining habits, we explored long-term plasticity in DMS and DLS. We found distinct
418 anti-Hebbian STDP: symmetric in DMS and asymmetric in DLS. Hebbian and anti-Hebbian STDP
419 have been reported in the dorsal striatum depending whether GABAergic transmission inhibitors
420 (Paillé et al., 2013; Valtcheva et al., 2017) were applied (Hebbian STDP (Pawlak and Kerr, 2008;
421 Shen et al., 2008)) or not (anti-Hebbian STDP (Fino et al., 2005; Fino et al., 2010; Mendes et al.,
422 2020)). These studies targeted DLS-MSNs, except Shen et al. (2008) where MSNs were recorded
423 indifferently in DLS and DMS. *In vivo* recordings confirmed the anti-Hebbian polarity of striatal
424 STDP (Schulz et al., 2010; Moera-Herreras et al., 2019; but see Fisher et al., 2017). With increasing
425 cortical activity, plasticity followed opposite polarity in DMS and DLS, with LTD and LTP
426 dominance, respectively. Another difference between DMS- and DLS-STDP upon increasing F_{pairings} ,
427 is that plasticity expression domain remained wide in DMS, whereas it was broadened in DLS. Thus,
428 DLS appears highly sensitive to increasing F_{pairings} with a profound remodeling, namely a double
429 invasion of the plasticity domain by LTP: (i) LTP which was restricted to narrow Δt_{STDP} ($-$
430 $30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms) progressively invades the pre-post side, but also (ii) gains ground for larger Δt_{STDP}
431 values ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < +100$ ms). Regarding DMS, a similar plasticity map is observed for F_{pairings} of 1-
432 5Hz, with LTD expressed in the whole Δt_{STDP} range ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 100$ ms), with the notable
433 exception of striatopallidal MSNs exhibiting an opposite transient polarity, LTP, for a specific F_{pairings}
434 (2.5Hz). Although there is less overall sensitivity to F_{pairings} in DMS than in DLS, there is a specific
435 activity regime that allows for LTP expression in striatopallidal DMS-MSNs. The dominance of LTD
436 vs LTP in DMS and DLS, respectively, is not restricted to time-coding paradigm but is also observed
437 under rate coding activity (HFS), and therefore characterize each striatal sub-compartment. This is in
438 line with studies, using other cell conditioning paradigms, reported distinct plasticity in DMS and

439 DLS (Partridge et al., 2000; Shan et al., 2014; Hawes et al., 2015; Munoz et al., 2020). In DMS, anti-
440 Hebbian LTD occurred in a larger temporal window than in DLS, suggesting that noisy signals in
441 terms of jitter and correlation can induce LTD in DMS, while no plasticity would be triggered in
442 DLS. This feature could participate to behavioral flexibility of DMS (Ragozzino et al., 2002a;
443 Ragozzino et al., 2007) and its involvement at early stages of learning where correlated inputs can be
444 more jittered than subsequently upon repetitions.

445 Various experimental conditions including the angle of brain slicing, location of the stimulation
446 electrode (cortex, corpus callosum or striatum), pharmacological agents, and/or protocols (HFS, LFS,
447 theta-burst, STDP) can account for the great variety of observed plasticity (Lovinger, 2010; Cerovic
448 et al., 2013) and subsequent controversies. A key element governing the polarity of STDP can also be
449 the recruited neuromodulator(s) (Foncelle et al., 2018; Brzosko et al., 2019). Indeed, stimulation
450 within the cortex, corpus callosum or striatum is not recruiting similarly neuromodulators. Specific
451 recruitment at $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ of dopaminergic fibers or cholinergic neurons could account for distinct
452 plasticity at striatonigral and striatopallidal DMS-MSNs. Supporting this hypothesis, it was shown
453 that dopamine and adenosine orientate *in vivo* STDP polarity in the DLS (Fisher et al., 2017), and
454 that pharmacological inhibition of muscarinic receptors or opto-activation of adenosine A_2A
455 receptors in DMS suppresses behavioral flexibility (Ragozzino et al., 2002b; Li et al., 2016). A
456 F_{pairings} of 2.5Hz could be reminiscent of the upper range of thalamocortical delta waves occurring
457 during sleep (Steriade et al., 1993) and associated with weakening or forgetting of memories (Kim et
458 al., 2019).

459 Anti-Hebbian STDP, mainly reported in Purkinje-like cells, has been proposed to promote storage
460 and retrieval of a temporally structured negative image of prior sensory stimuli (Roberts and Bell,
461 2000; Roberts and Leen, 2010; Requarth and Sawtell, 2011). Our model shows that asymmetric anti-
462 Hebbian STDP leads to the maintenance of learned patterns, whereas symmetric LTD causes a rapid

463 decrease in memory performance in the absence of reward. Similar to Roberts and Bell (2000), the
464 LTP/LTD alternation in asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, if correctly tuned, forces the synaptic
465 weights to retain some information on previously learned patterns. On the contrary, with symmetric
466 LTD, the synaptic weights converge to zero because they are only subject to depression, leaving the
467 system fresh to construct new associations and identify novel stimuli. Our study shows that DLS-
468 MSNs exhibit asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, consistent with DLS role in habit behavior, where
469 rewards are no longer presented. Conversely, we hypothesize that thanks to symmetric anti-Hebbian
470 STDP in DMS-MSNs, DMS should be able to adapt quickly between different action-outcome
471 associations and therefore forget rapidly previous information. Our model shows that this role is
472 consistent with anti-Hebbian symmetric STDP. This is in line with the role of DMS which is essential
473 for behavioral flexibility such as strategy-shifting or reversal learning (Bonnavion et al., 2019;
474 Ragozzino et al., 2002a; Ragozzino, 2007).

475 It is assumed that DMS is involved in early phases of learning and goal-directed behavior, whereas
476 DLS is involved in late phases of learning and habit acquisition (Graybiel and Grafton, 2015; Jin and
477 Costa, 2015). In a motor skill learning, we found that DMS (striatonigral and striatopallidal MSNs),
478 via DMS plasticity, is involved in early phases of learning and is disengaging upon reiteration and
479 acquisition of the motor skill. In line with previous studies (Balleine and O'Doherty, 2010; Thorn et
480 al., 2010; Kimchi et al., 2009; Stalnaker et al., 2010; Kupferschmidt et al., 2017; Bergstrom et al.,
481 2018), DLS plasticity can also be engaged from the early phases of motor skill training. However, we
482 found that this concerns the striatonigral DLS-MSNs and not striatopallidal DLS-MSNs, these later
483 being mobilized only during the late stages of learning. Moreover, striatonigral DLS-MSN plasticity
484 follows DMS-MSNs engagement since LTP can be induced again during the late stages of learning.
485 The fact that part of the DLS-MSNs (striatonigral DLS-MSNs) are mobilized during early training
486 while striatopallidal DLS-MSNs take over at later stages agrees with the notion of sequential learning

487 implying part of the DLS at early learning stages (Bergstrom et al., 2018) and with the antagonistic
488 control operated by striatonigral and striatopallidal DLS-MSNs during consolidation phase (Smith et
489 al., 2021). Interestingly, when striatopallidal DMS-MSNs express asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP,
490 similar to DLS-STDP, this plasticity exhibits the same sequence of engagement/disengagement than
491 in DLS. On the contrary, when symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP is expressed in DMS, this later
492 evolves oppositely to that of the DLS. In DMS, we observed different plasticity depending on
493 striatonigral and striatopallidal MSNs but with similar timing of engagement, whereas the reverse
494 situation was observed in DLS with similar plasticity in MSNs but different timing of engagement of
495 striatonigral and striatopallidal MSNs. The engagement of striatopallidal DLS-MSN, but not direct
496 DLS-MSNs, in term of plasticity during extensive training agrees with Yin et al. (2009) showing an
497 increased *ex vivo* corticostriatal transmission specifically in the striatopallidal MSNs and not in
498 striatonigral MSNs after Rotarod extensive training. For 2.5Hz STDP, striatopallidal DMS-MSNs
499 display asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP, *i.e.* similar STDP than in DLS-MSNs, and exhibit similar
500 engagement/disengagement than striatonigral DLS-MSNs. It indicates, according to model
501 predictions, that striatonigral and striatopallidal DLS-MSNs favor the maintenance of learned
502 patterns during early and late stages of learning, respectively. It also suggests that in DMS half of the
503 MSNs, *i.e.* striatonigral DMS-MSNs showing a symmetric LTD, are more flexible than the other
504 half, *i.e.* striatopallidal DMS-MSNs exhibiting asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP. Our findings support
505 the ideas that DMS and DLS display distinct plasticities, are both engaged from the early training
506 phases, with a progressive disengagement of DMS, theoretically consistent with the plasticity they
507 express.

508

509 **Limitations of the study**

510 The observations, about the LTD *vs* LTP dominance in DMS *vs* DLS or the specific activity regime
511 for opposite plasticity in striatopallidal DMS-MSNs, remain to be examined in other corticostriatal
512 domains and also *in vivo* with the tracking of plasticity across days in behaving animals (Xiong et al.,
513 2015). Because *ex vivo* (post-Rotarod) results and conclusions are limited to the form of STDP tested
514 here, post-pre pairings at 2.5Hz, they need to be extended to other frequencies and pre-post pairings.
515 The specific properties of striatonigral and striatopallidal MSNs in DMS and DLS (Alegre-Cortés
516 et al., 2021) may also contribute to the variety of learning abilities. Therefore, future work will be
517 needed to characterize and integrate such differences in models and study how the network combines
518 striatonigral and striatopallidal pathways endowed with distinct plasticity rules for procedural
519 learning.

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527

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529 Conceptualization: LV, JT, GV

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531 Supervision: LV, JT

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534

535 **Declaration of interests**

536 The authors declare no competing interests.

537 **Figures**

538 **Figure 1: Distinct anti-Hebbian STDP profiles in DLS and DMS.**

539 (a) STDP pairings at 1 Hz with $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ and $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} > 0$ referring to post-pre (a1) and pre-post (a2)
540 pairings. Pre- and postsynaptic stimulations were applied either in the sensorimotor (b) or the
541 associative (c) cortical and striatal areas. (b) DLS-STDP displays an asymmetric anti-Hebbian
542 polarity in rats. (b1) Experimental setup. (b2 and b3) Averaged time-courses of (b2) LTP induced by
543 100 post-pre pairings ($n=16$) and (b3) LTD induced by 100 pre-post pairings ($n=14$). (c) DMS-STDP
544 displays symmetric anti-Hebbian polarity. (c1) Experimental setup. (c2 and c3) Averaged time-
545 courses of LTD induced by (c2) 100 post-pre pairings ($n=11$) and (c3) 100 pre-post pairings ($n=16$).
546 Plasticity values and statistics: **Table S1**.

547 Bar graphs represent the average of all STDP experiments and each point represents the percentage
548 of change in EPSC amplitude at 50-60 min after STDP pairings in a single STDP experiment. Insets
549 correspond to the average EPSC amplitude at baseline (black) and at 50-60 min after STDP pairings
550 (grey). Error bars represent the SEM. ****: $p < 0.0001$ by one sample t test.

551
552 **Figure 2: Signaling pathways involved in DMS- and DLS-STDP.**

553 (a) Post-pre DLS-LTP was NMDAR-mediated since prevented by D-AP5 (50 μ M) ($n=9$) and (b) pre-
554 post LTD was CB₁R-mediated since prevented by AM251 (3 μ M) ($n=5$). (c) Post-pre DMS-LTD was
555 not CB₁R-mediated, because left unaffected by AM251 ($n=8$), but was NMDAR- and T-type VSCC-
556 mediated because prevented by D-AP5 ($n=7$) or mibefradil (20 μ M) ($n=8$). (d) Pre-post DMS-LTD
557 was CB₁R-mediated since prevented with AM251 ($n=5$).

558 Plasticity values and statistics: **Table S1**.

559 Error bars represent the SEM. ****: $p < 0.0001$; ns: not significant by one sample t test.

560
561 **Figure 3: LTD and LTP dominates in DMS and DLS, respectively, when pairing frequency**
562 **scales up.**

563 (a-d) DLS-STDP by varying Δt_{STDP} ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 100$ ms) and F_{pairings} (1, 2.5 and 5Hz) ($n=130$ DLS-
564 MSNs). Summary graphs of STDP in relation with Δt_{STDP} showed at 1Hz (a) an asymmetric anti-
565 Hebbian STDP in a restricted time window ($-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 30$ ms) ($n=42$), at 2.5Hz (b) a widening of
566 the temporal window of STDP expression and LTP being also induced for short pre-post pairings
567 ($n=36$), and at 5Hz (c) dominance of LTP ($n=52$). (d) STDP profiles illustrates the progressive

568 dominance of LTP and the evolution of the asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP into symmetric Hebbian
569 STDP with increasing F_{pairings} . (e) Averaged time-courses of HFS-LTP ($p < 0.0001$, $n = 6$). (f-i) DMS-
570 STDP by varying Δt_{STDP} and F_{pairings} ($n = 125$ DMS-MSNs). Summary graphs of STDP showed at 1Hz
571 (f) symmetric anti-Hebbian STDP in a broad time window ($-100 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 100$ ms) ($n = 39$), at 2.5Hz
572 (g) mainly LTD except for narrow ($-30 < \Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ ms) post-pre pairings for which half of the MSNs
573 exhibited LTD while the other half displayed LTP ($n = 59$), and at 5Hz (h) dominance of LTD ($n = 27$).
574 (i) STDP profiles show the dominance of LTD and the unique plasticity map at 2.5Hz for which LTP
575 emerged for post-pre pairings. (j) Averaged time-courses of HFS-LTD ($p < 0.0001$, $n = 7$).
576 STDP values and statistics: **Table S2**.

577 Panels **d** and **i**, linear interpolation with a Savitzky-Golay filter. Each point: % of change in EPSC
578 amplitude 50-60 min after STDP pairings. Error bars represent the SEM. *: $p < 0.05$, **: $p < 0.01$, ***:
579 $p < 0.001$, ****: $p < 0.0001$ by one sample t test, Mann-Whitney test or Kolmogorov-Smirnov test.

580

581 **Figure 4: D_1^+ and D_1^- DMS-MSNs express opposite plasticity at $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5$ Hz.**

582 (a-d) DMS-STDP for post-pre pairings at $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5$ Hz. (a-c) Whole-cell recordings in D_1^+ and D_1^-
583 MSN pairs ($n = 8$ cell pairs) in *Drd1a-eGFP* mice. (a) Experimental set-up (b) Example of a D_1^+ and
584 D_1^- MSN pair recording: LTD ($\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} = -19$ ms) in a D_1^+ and LTP ($\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} = 16$ ms) in a D_1^- DMS-MSN.
585 (c) Averaged time-courses of MSN pair recordings showing LTD in D_1^+ MSNs (7/8 LTD), and LTP
586 in D_1^- MSNs (8/8 LTP); Right: summary graph with synaptic weights determined 40-50 minutes after
587 pairings. (d) LTD and LTP in, respectively, D_1^+ ($n = 7$, $p = 0.1255$) and D_1^- ($n = 6$, $p = 0.5884$) MSN are
588 NMDAR-mediated since prevented by D-AP5. (e) At $F_{\text{pairings}} = 1$ Hz, LTD was the unique form of
589 plasticity at in D_1^+ and D_1^- DMS-MSNs ($p = 0.0005$, $n = 5$, and $p < 0.0001$, $n = 6$).

590 Plasticity values and statistics: **Table S3**.

591 Error bars represent the SEM. ***: $p < 0.001$; ****: $p < 0.0001$; ns: not significant by one sample t test.

592

593 **Figure 5: Region-specific involvement of STDP during motor skill learning**

594 (a) Experimental set-up: Rotarod and *ex vivo* STDP. *Drd2-EGFP* mice were divided in habituated
595 ($n = 9$ mice), early-trained ($n = 8$) and late-trained ($n = 10$) groups. Motor skill learning of mice were
596 evaluated with the latency to fall from the Rotarod. (b-d) Occlusion experiments in DMS and
597 averaged time-courses of DMS-MSNs recorded in habituated (b), early-trained (c) and late-trained
598 (d) mice after post-pre pairings at 2.5Hz ($\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} \sim 15$ ms). (b) Habituated mice: LTD ($p = 0.0002$, $n = 7$)

599 and LTP ($p < 0.0001$, $n=6$) in D_2^- (**b1**) and D_2^+ (**b2**) DMS-MSNs, respectively. (c) Early-trained mice:
600 no synaptic plasticity detected in D_2^- ($p=0.1566$, $n=6$) (**c1**) and D_2^+ ($p=0.5850$, $n=7$) (**c2**) MSNs. (d)
601 Late-trained mice: LTD ($p < 0.0001$, $n=10$) and LTP ($p < 0.0001$, $n=8$) in D_2^- (**d1**) and D_2^+ (**d2**) DMS-
602 MSNs, respectively, similarly to the habituated group. (e-g) Occlusion experiments in DLS-MSNs.
603 (e) Habituated mice: LTP in D_2^- ($p < 0.0001$, $n=7$) (**e1**) and D_2^+ ($p < 0.0001$, $n=7$) (**e2**) DLS-MSNs. (f)
604 Early-trained mice: no synaptic plasticity detected in D_2^- ($p=0.2795$, $n=9$) (**f1**) while LTP was
605 induced in D_2^+ ($p < 0.0001$, $n=7$) (**f2**) DLS-MSNs. (g) Late-trained mice: a reverse plasticity map was
606 observed when compared to (f): LTP ($p < 0.0001$, $n=10$) in D_2^- (**g1**) and no plasticity ($p=0.4223$, $n=7$)
607 in D_2^+ (**f2**) DLS-MSNs. D_2^- DLS-MSNs are engaged at early stages, while D_2^+ DLS-MSNs remain
608 available for plasticity, and conversely at late stages. D_2^- and D_2^+ DMS-MSNs show the same
609 behavior: they are engaged in the early-trained stages and show a disengagement at late-trained
610 stages.

611 Plasticity values and statistics: **Table S4**.

612 Error bars represent the SEM. ***: $p < 0.001$; ****: $p < 0.0001$; ns: not significant by one sample t test.

613

614 **Figure 6: A pattern recognition task to test the learning, maintenance and relearning in**
615 **a computational model of the striatal network.**

616 Striatal network with $P = 4$ cortical neurons (green), a random input neuron with rate λ_r (yellow)
617 and one MSN, represented by its membrane potential V (brown). Two mechanisms of synaptic
618 plasticity are considered in the dynamics of the synaptic weight W : anti-Hebbian STDP and LTP
619 related to the reward signal (reward-LTP). Anti-Hebbian STDP is modeled using exponential kernels,
620 with different values for $A_{post-pre}$ and $A_{pre-post} = -1$. Example of the learning task (left),
621 separated in four phases (**Table S5**) with four iterations in each phase. $Np = 2$ patterns A and B are
622 presented to the network, with A being non-rewarded ($-$) and B rewarded ($+$). \emptyset : iteration with no
623 pattern presentation. Spiking activity of the cortical neurons (green: pattern spikes; grey: random
624 spikes) and the random input neuron are represented along with the MSN membrane potential V .

625 **Figure 7: Influence of symmetric and asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP on**
626 **learning, maintenance and relearning of patterns in a striatal network.**

627 (a) Learning dynamics for $P = 10$ input neurons, $N_{stim} = 3$ stimulations by pattern, $N_p = 15$
628 patterns and the proportion of pattern presentation in the initial/maintenance phases $\eta_m = 0$. Time-
629 evolution of the learning accuracy through an initialization, learning, maintenance and relearning
630 phases, for distinct anti-Hebbian plasticities (blue: symmetric, brown: no post-pre learning, orange:
631 asymmetric). Averaged simulations (plain lines) and controls with $A_{pre-post} = 0$ (dotted lines). (b)
632 Accuracy at the end of each phase as a function of the type of plasticity (where $A_{post-pre}$
633 parametrizes the plasticity). (c1) Examples of fits obtained from a set of 20 simulations for the
634 accuracy during the maintenance phase. Averaged simulations (for 20 simulations, open circles),
635 associated fit (plain lines), tangent at origin (dashed) and fitted final accuracy (dotted). Below: sets of
636 values for $T_{maintenance}$ obtained with this method for $A_{post-pre} = 0$. (c2) $T_{maintenance}$ as a function
637 of $A_{post-pre}$. (c3) Weight similarity measures $d_2(W)$ and $sp(W)$ as a function of $A_{post-pre}$. (c4)
638 $T_{relearning}$ as a function of $A_{post-pre}$. (d) Dependency of $T_{maintenance}$ (d1), accuracy at the end of
639 the maintenance phase (d2) and $T_{relearning}$ (d3) on the type of plasticity $A_{post-pre}$ and stimulus
640 presentation frequency η_m .

641 Mean results computed over 200 simulations (a). Mean of results over 10 sets of 20 simulations with
642 errors bars $\pm SD/2$ (b-d). t-test *: $p < 0.05$, **: $p < 0.005$, ***: $p < 0.0005$.

643

644 **STAR METHODS TEXT**

645

646 **RESSOURCE AVAILABILITY**

647 **Lead contact**

648 Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled
649 by the Lead Contact, Laurent Venance (laurent.venance@college-de-france.fr)

650 **Material availability**

651 This study did not generate new unique reagents.

652 **Data and code availability**

653 - All data reported in this paper will be shared by the Lead Contact upon request.

654 All original code has been deposited at <https://github.com/gvignoud/striatalLearning> and is publicly
655 available as the date of publication. DOIs are listed in the key resources table.

656 - Any additional information required to reanalyze the data reported in this work paper is available
657 from the Lead Contact upon request.

658

659 **EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS**

660 **Animals**

661 All experiments were performed in accordance with the guidelines of the local animal welfare
662 committee and the EU (directive 2010/63/EU). Every precaution was taken to minimize stress and
663 the number of animals used in each series of experiments. Sprague Dawley rats P₂₅₋₃₅ (Charles River,
664 L'Arbresle, France) and C57BL/6 Drd1a-GFP and Drd2-EGFP (heterozygous) mice P₂₅₋₅₀ were used
665 for brain slice electrophysiology, and behavior and *ex vivo* electrophysiology, respectively. Animals
666 of both sexes were used. Animals were housed in standard 12-hour light/dark cycles and food and
667 water were available *ad libitum*.

668 **METHOD DETAILS**

669 **Cortico-DLS and -DMS brain slices**

670 We used horizontal and para-sagittal (33° angle) brain slice preparations to stimulate specifically
671 cortical inputs (layer 5) originating from the sensorimotor S2 or associative cortices CG2, and
672 projecting to the DLS or DMS, respectively (Fino et al., 2018). Brain slices (300 and 270 μm-thick
673 for rats and mice, respectively) were prepared with vibrating blade microtome (VT1200S, Leica
674 Microsystems, Nussloch, Germany). The brains were sliced in an ice-cold cutting solution (in mM:
675 125 NaCl, 2.5 KCl, 25 glucose 25 NaHCO₃, 1.25 NaH₂PO₄, 2 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 1 pyruvic acid)
676 through which 95% O₂/5% CO₂ was bubbled. The slices were transferred to the same solution at
677 34°C for 45-60 minutes and then to room temperature, before electrophysiology.

678

679 **Single and dual patch-clamp recordings**

680 For whole-cell recordings, borosilicate glass pipettes of 6-8MΩ resistance were filled with (in mM):
681 122 K-gluconate, 13 KCl, 10 HEPES, 10 phosphocreatine, 4 Mg-ATP, 0.3 Na-GTP, 0.3 EGTA
682 (adjusted to pH 7.35 with KOH). The composition of the extracellular solution was (mM): 125 NaCl,
683 2.5 KCl, 25 glucose, 25 NaHCO₃, 1.25 NaH₂PO₄, 2 CaCl₂, 1 MgCl₂, 10 μM pyruvic acid through
684 which 95% O₂ and 5% CO₂ was bubbled. Signals were amplified using EPC10-2 amplifiers (HEKA
685 Elektronik, Lambrecht, Germany). All recordings were performed at 34°C, using a temperature
686 control system (Bath-controller V, Luigs&Neumann, Ratingen, Germany). Recordings were sampled
687 at 10kHz, using the Patchmaster v2x32 program (HEKA Elektronik).

688

689 **Spike-timing-dependent plasticity protocols**

690 Electrical stimulations were performed with concentric bipolar electrodes (Phymep, Paris, France)
691 placed in layer 5 of S2 or CG2 cortex. Electrical stimulations were monophasic, at constant current
692 (ISO-Flex stimulator and Master 9, A.M.P.I., Jerusalem, Israel) and adjusted to evoke 100-300pA
693 EPSCs. Repetitive control stimuli were applied at 0.1Hz. STDP protocols consisted of 100 pairings
694 of pre- and postsynaptic stimulations (at 1, 2.5 or 5 Hz) separated by a specific Δt_{STDP} kept constant
695 during a given STDP pairing; $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} < 0$ indicating that postsynaptic stimulation preceded presynaptic
696 stimulation, post-pre pairings, and $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} > 0$ indicating that presynaptic stimulation preceded
697 postsynaptic activation, pre-post pairings. Presynaptic stimulations corresponded to cortical
698 stimulations and the postsynaptic stimulation of an action potential evoked by a depolarizing current
699 step (30ms duration) in the recorded MSN. Recordings were made over a period of 10 minutes at
700 baseline, and for at least 50 minutes after the STDP protocols; long-term changes in synaptic weight
701 were measured in the last 10 minutes. Experiments were excluded if the mean input resistance (R_i)
702 varied by more than 20% through the experiment.

703

704 **High frequency stimulation protocols**

705 High-frequency stimulation (HFS) consisted in a single train of cortical stimuli at 100 Hz for 1
706 second and the depolarization of the postsynaptic element from its holding membrane potential (-
707 75mV) to 0 mV was coincident with the presynaptic stimulation.

708

709 **Chemicals**

710 DL-2-amino-5-phosphono-pentanoic acid (D-AP5, 50 μ M) (Tocris, Ellisville, MO, USA) and
711 (1S,2S)-2-[2-[[3-(1H-benzimidazol-2yl)propyl]methylamino]ethyl]-6-fluoro-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-1-(1-

712 methylethyl)-2-naphthalenyl methoxyacetate dihydrochloride (Mibefradil; 20 μ M) were
713 dissolved directly in the extracellular solution. N-(piperidin-1-yl)-5-(4-iodophenyl)-1-(2,4-
714 dichlorophenyl)-4-methyl-1H-pyrazole-3-carboxamide (AM251; 3 μ M) was dissolved in ethanol and
715 added to the external solution, such that the final concentration of ethanol was 0.01-0.1%.

716

717 **Behavioral task: accelerating Rotarod**

718 Mice (P58-62) were trained on the accelerating Rotarod (Ugo Basile, Gemonio, Italy) in a single
719 session of 10 trials per day for 1 (early-trained group) or 7 consecutive (late-trained group) days.
720 Each trial consisted of a continuous acceleration from 4 to 40 rpm over 300 seconds. Before the first
721 trial of the first day, mice were placed on the rod for 30 seconds without acceleration (4 rpm). The
722 control animal group consisted in mice subjected to the habituation phase, consisting of a single
723 session with non-accelerating Rotarod (4 rpm) for 300 seconds. The latency to fall off the rod was
724 measured. Between each trial, mice were placed in their homecage to rest for 15 minutes.

725

726 ***Ex vivo* occlusion experiments**

727 Mice subjected to Rotarod were divided into three groups for occlusion experiments: (1) the
728 habituated mice, subjected to non-accelerating (4 rpm) Rotarod for 300 seconds, (2) the early-trained
729 mice, subjected to accelerating Rotarod for one day (the first one) with 10 trials, and (3) the late-
730 trained mice, subjected to accelerating Rotarod for seven days (10 trials/day). After Rotarod task
731 completion, mice were left in their homecages for 24 hours and then sacrificed for *ex vivo* patch-
732 clamp recordings. Plasticity occlusion was tested in the following STDP paradigm: 100 pairings at
733 2.5Hz with $\Delta t_{\text{STDP}} = -15\text{ms}$. For each mouse, one brain hemisphere was sliced to obtain cortico-DLS
734 slices and the other hemisphere was used for cortico-DMS slices. Then, cortico-DLS and -DMS
735 STDP were assessed in the same mice in most of the cases.

736

737 **Mathematical models**

738 **Neuronal network model.** To simulate the impact of plasticity on learning, we built a simple
739 neuronal network model that includes P cortical neurons serving as input neurons to one MSN. The
740 MSN integrated cortical and external input (section below) and fired when hitting a threshold,
741 according to the classical leaky integrate-and-fire model (Burkitt, 2006; Gerstner et al., 2014).
742 Between two spikes, the membrane potential V of the neuron satisfies a linear differential equation:

743
$$\tau \frac{dV}{dt} = -(V(t) - V_{eq}) + R I(t) \quad (1)$$

744 Spikes were emitted when the voltage exceeded a threshold V_{th} , at which time the voltage of the
745 neuron was instantaneously reset to V_{eq} and resumed input integration. We set $\tau = 16ms$, $V_{eq} =$
746 $-80mV$ and $R = 80M\Omega$, $V_{th} = -45mV$, and the reset potential was the resting potential V_{eq} (Yim et
747 al., 2011).

748 **Connectivity and input to the MSN.** The input $I(t)$ received by the MSN is the superposition of the
749 input received from P cortical neurons, noted $I_{stim}(t)$, and an external (to the network) input $I_{ext}(t)$
750 modeled as a Poisson process with rate λ_r :

751
$$I(t) = I_{stim}(t) + I_{ext}(t). \quad (2)$$

752 Spikes from cortical neurons and the external source induce instantaneous jumps in the MSN
753 membrane potential. Jumps associated with cortical sources have amplitudes that vary through
754 plasticity mechanisms (next section). These amplitudes are modeled through the collection of
755 synaptic weights $W(t) = (W_i(t))_{1 \leq i \leq P}$. Denoting t_i^k the k -th spike time of input neuron i and δ the
756 Dirac mass, we have

757
$$I_{stim}(t) = \tau \sum_{1 \leq i \leq P} \sum_{t_i^k \leq t} W_i(t_i^k -) \delta(t - t_i^k) \quad (3)$$

758 where we noted, for a function f being potentially discontinuous at time t , $f(t-)$ the value reached
 759 immediately before the jump.

760 Contrasting with the network input described above whose synaptic weights are allowed to vary in
 761 time according to plasticity rules (next section), the external input is assumed to induce jumps of
 762 fixed amplitude $W_{ext} = 1nA$ (high enough to evoke spiking activity in MSN):

$$763 \quad I_{ext}(t) = \tau W_{ext} \sum_{t_{ext}^k \leq t} \delta(t - t_{ext}^k) \quad (4)$$

764 where $(t_{ext}^k)_{k \geq 0}$ denotes the sequence of external spike times, which have exponentially distributed
 765 inter-spike intervals.

766 The factor τ needs to be added in both currents expressions because we chose to use a simple model
 767 of synaptic inputs, where spikes induce a dirac of activity. This scaling was needed to relate synaptic
 768 weight W to EPSC amplitudes measured in experiments. The membrane potential has the following
 769 expression, between spikes of the postsynaptic neuron,

$$770 \quad V(t) = V_{eq} + R \sum_{1 \leq i \leq P} \sum_{t_i^k \leq t} W_i(t_i^k -) e^{-(t-t_i^k)/\tau} + RW_{ext} \sum_{t_{ext}^k \leq t} e^{-(t-t_{ext}^k)/\tau} \quad (5)$$

771 **Cortico-striatal plasticity.** We implemented a pair-based model of STDP, where synaptic weights
 772 W were updated after each spike (all-to-all implementation (Morrison et al., 2008)), according to the
 773 spike timing relative to all previous spikes of the other neuron. In detail:

774 — if the MSN spikes at time t_{post} (postsynaptic spike), then all weights are updated. Noting $t_{pre,i}$ the
 775 previous spikes of cortical neuron i , W_i is updated according to:

$$776 \quad W_i(t_{post}) = W_i(t_{post} -) + \varepsilon \sum_{t_{pre,i} \leq t_{post}} \Phi(t_{post} - t_{pre,i}) \quad (6)$$

777 where ε denotes the plasticity rate, chosen in our simulations as $\varepsilon = 0.02$.

778 — if presynaptic cortical neuron $i \in \{1, \dots, P\}$ spikes at time $t_{pre,i}$, noting t_{post} the times of the MSN
 779 spikes, then W_i is updated as:

$$780 \quad W_i(t_{pre,i}) = W_i(t_{pre,i}^-) + \varepsilon \sum_{t_{post} \leq t_{pre,i}} \Phi(t_{post} - t_{pre,i}) \quad (7)$$

781 Denoting $\Delta t = t_{post} - t_{pre}$ the timing between the presynaptic (cortical) spike and the postsynaptic
 782 (MSN) spike, we use an exponential STDP kernel (Kusmierz et al., 2017):

$$783 \quad \Phi(\Delta t) = \begin{cases} A_{post-pre} \exp\left(\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_s}\right) & \text{if } \Delta t < 0, \\ A_{pre-post} \exp\left(-\frac{\Delta t}{\tau_s}\right) & \text{if } \Delta t > 0, \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

784 with $\tau_s = 20 \text{ ms}$.

785 Consistent with the anti-Hebbian form of the corticostriatal STDP (Paillé et al., 2013; Valtcheva et
 786 al., 2017), we consider $A_{pre-post} = -1$, corresponding to synaptic depression subsequent to a pre-
 787 post paired stimulation. The sign of $A_{post-pre}$ allows distinguishing between symmetric anti-Hebbian
 788 STDP ($A_{post-pre} \leq 0$) reported at DMS corticostriatal synapses from asymmetric anti-Hebbian
 789 STDP ($A_{post-pre} \geq 0$) reported at DLS corticostriatal synapses. Here, we focused on the influence of
 790 $A_{post-pre}$ on learning and relearning.

791 During a learning task (next section), the system is presented with a succession of cortical patterns.
 792 Each pattern corresponds to a temporal window of a fixed duration (100ms), where a subset of
 793 N_{stim} cortical neurons spike at time $t_{offset} = 50\text{ms}$. Two types of noise are modeled at the level of a
 794 single cortical neuron. First, each neuron involved in the pattern spikes at a time normally distributed
 795 with mean t_{offset} and standard deviation $\tau_p = 0.2\text{ms}$, modeling variability of the spike times.
 796 Second, cortical spikes unrelated to the pattern are added through Poisson spikes with rate λ_r/P ,
 797 representing the random firing of the cortical neuron. Moreover, the influence of external inputs is

798 modeled at the level of the postsynaptic neuron, directly with the spikes of the random input
799 presented above.

800 A pattern can either be rewarded or not through a simple additive mechanism. If a pattern is
801 rewarded, then each time a presynaptic neuron i fires during the pattern (even if it is noise), its
802 associated synaptic weight gets potentiated, following,

$$803 \quad \Delta W_i = dt \varepsilon A_{reward} > 0. \quad (9)$$

804 If the pattern is not rewarded, the synaptic weight is not modified.

805 Detailed models, in particular three-factor learning rules (Foncelle et al., 2018; Gerstner et al., 2018;
806 Kusmierz et al., 2017), are thus approximated here by the presence of a simple reward signal
807 consisting in the potentiation of the synaptic weight of all presynaptic neurons that spiked during the
808 pattern (both those involved in the pattern and those associated with noisy inputs).

809 A framework for corticostriatal plasticity was developed along with the use of dopamine-dependent
810 STDP curves (Gurney et al., 2015), but only focused on Hebbian STDP. Following the same
811 principles about the role of dopamine in the reward system, we chose to fix the STDP curves and
812 modeled the reward influence through an additive potentiation as used in most existing models of
813 anti-Hebbian STDP (Roberts and Bell, 2000; Williams et al., 2003; Rumsey and Abbott, 2004).

814 Eventually, synaptic weights are clipped within a realist range $[w_{min}, w_{max}] = [0., 2.]nA$. The
815 initial synaptic weights are drawn from a uniform distribution on $[0., 0.05]nA$.

816 **Learning with anti-Hebbian STDP rules.** To characterize the capacity of learning associated with
817 each STDP forms, we defined a fixed set of N_p cortical patterns. The system was presented either
818 with a randomly chosen pattern of correlated cortical activity (from the set N_p patterns) with
819 probability η , or with probability $1 - \eta$ only with noise. Among the set of N_p patterns, a fixed subset
820 was chosen to be rewarded (rewarded patterns were randomly chosen among all patterns, each

821 pattern having a probability 1/2 to be rewarded). A rewarded pattern was deemed learnt if the MSN
822 fired in response to the presentation of the pattern. Moreover, non-rewarded patterns should not elicit
823 any spike.

824 The accuracy of the learning process was estimated through the averaged numbers of correct
825 responses:

$$826 \text{ Accuracy} = \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{1 \leq k \leq N_p} [r_k \sigma_k + (1 - r_k)(1 - \sigma_k)] \quad (10)$$

827 where $r_k = 1$ if k is a rewarded pattern and 0 otherwise, $\sigma_k = 1$ if the MSN spiked and 0 otherwise.

828 Each simulation emulated learning throughout four phases (Table S5), all of which including STDP
829 and differing in the frequency of pattern presentation and presence of rewards:

- 830 (a) The initial phase of spontaneous activity, where patterns are presented randomly ($\eta = \eta_m$) and with
831 noise. This phase is useful to avoid transient effects due to the initialization by reaching a realistic
832 synaptic weight regime based on the plasticity rule. Noise was set to $\lambda_r = 4\lambda_{MSN} = 20Hz$.
- 833 (b) The learning phase during which neurons display spontaneous random activity with pattern presented
834 at each iteration ($\eta = 1$), and Poisson noise with intensity $\lambda_r = \lambda_{MSN} = 5Hz$ consistent with *in vivo*
835 MSN firing (Mahon et al., 2006). The reward signal was present and potentiated all synapses of
836 presynaptic neurons active during a rewarded pattern. This phase emulates learning, as MSN learns
837 to discriminate patterns by spiking in response to rewarded patterns and not spiking in response to
838 non-rewarded patterns.
- 839 (c) The maintenance phase models spontaneous activity with $\lambda_r = 4\lambda_{MSN} = 20Hz$ and random
840 presentations of patterns ($\eta = \eta_m$) in the absence of rewards, allowing to evaluate the system's
841 ability to sustain a discrimination between learnt patterns. We chose to take $\lambda_r = 4\lambda_{MSN}$ to shorten
842 our simulations and speed up the decrease of memory. All results are still true for $\lambda_r = \lambda_{MSN}$, except
843 that memory is maintained for longer times than our simulations permitted.

844 (d) The relearning phase, with the same parameters as the learning phase (a), is used to measure the
845 system ability to learn again patterns, after a period of spontaneous activity.

846

847 **QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS**

848 **Data analysis for patch-clamp recordings**

849 Off-line analysis was performed with Fitmaster (Heka Elektronik), Igor-Pro 6.0.3 (Wavemetrics,
850 Lake Oswego, OR, USA) and Matlab R2012b (Mathworks). Statistical analyses were performed with
851 Prism 5.02 software (San Diego, CA, USA). “n” refers to the number of experiments (performed on a
852 single neuron from a single slice). All results are expressed as mean±SEM. Statistical significance
853 was assessed in one-sample *t* tests, unpaired *t* tests, paired *t* tests or ANOVA as appropriate, using the
854 indicated significance threshold (*p*). For the fits in Figures 4d and 4i, we interpolated 100 points
855 linearly using `scipy.interpolate.interp1d` for each STDP curve and then applied a Savitzky-Golay
856 filter (from `scipy.signal.savgol_filter`) with parameters `window_length=25` and `polyorder=2`. We also
857 added the same interpolated data for significant LTP and LTD, in the range [-30, 0ms] at
858 $F_{\text{pairings}}=2.5\text{Hz}$ for DMS-MSNs (Fig. 3g and 3i).

859

860 **Mathematical model simulations and statistical analysis.**

861 Simulations were performed on Python 3.X, using the Anaconda suite (Anaconda Software
862 Distribution, Computer software Version 2-2.4.0. Anaconda, Nov. 2016. Web. <https://anaconda.com>). The Python libraries of numeric calculus *numpy* and plotting *matplotlib* were
863 used. Custom code is freely accessible on https://github.com/gvignoud/dms_dls. Simulations were
864 run on the INRIA CLEPS cluster and HPC resources from GENCI-IDRIS, using GNU parallel
865 (Tange, O. (2020, May 22). GNU Parallel 20200522 (‘Kraftwerk’). Zenodo. <https://zenodo.org/record/4314121>)

867 [://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3841377](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.3841377)). We used a Euler scheme to simulate our network and Poisson
868 processes, with $dt = 0.2ms$.

869 To study the network evolution during the different phases and compute learning accuracy, we
870 evaluated some properties of the network every 50 pattern iterations (except at the beginning of each
871 phase, where we recorded every 5 pattern iterations). During these test sessions, we froze the network
872 structure by considering that

873 — Both types of plasticity are turned off;

874 — The three noise components described above were suppressed ($\lambda_r = 0, \tau_p = 0$);

875 — All patterns were successively presented to the network, and the accuracy was computed using the
876 MSN responses, as described in Equation (1);

877 — Between each pattern, the MSN potential was reset to its equilibrium value, in order to avoid
878 influence of one pattern to another.

879 For each set of parameters, we ran 200 different simulations. Statistics were computed on a random
880 split of the simulations into 10 sets of 20 simulations, to compare statistics of performance of the
881 network across multiple conditions. We use statistical t-test from scipy.stats Python library (* $p <$
882 0.05 , ** $p < 0.005$, *** $p < 0.0005$).

883 We started by collecting the mean accuracy at the end of each phase A_j for $j = 1,2,3,4$.

884 To characterize the kinetics of learning in the maintenance phase, we fitted a sigmoidal function to
885 the curve of accuracy as a function of time. This generic sigmoid with 5 parameters, was given by:

886
$$S[A_{init}, t_{init}, A_{end}, d, g](t) = A_{end} + (A_{init} - A_{end}) \times \left(1 + \left(\frac{t - t_{init}}{g} \right) \right)^{-d} \quad (11)$$

887 where A_{init} is the initial value of the sigmoid, t_{init} the starting time of the second phase (in terms of
888 pattern iterations), A_{end} is the final value, g is a timescale parameter, while d is a shape parameter of
889 the sigmoid. Fitting the sigmoid allows comparing the dynamics in the maintenance phase for various

890 conditions, and in particular the performance of symmetric and asymmetric anti-Hebbian STDP. The
 891 initial value was set at $A_{init} = A_2$ and the ending value at $A_{end} = A_1$. The fits were realized by
 892 estimating the best values of d and g to reproduce the accuracy dynamics and were performed using
 893 the `scipy.optimize.curvefit` function of the `scipy` Python library.

894 We compared maintenance of the learning task through the characteristic time of decay to represent
 895 the speed of decrease,

$$896 \quad T_{maintenance} = \min\left(\max\left(0, \frac{g}{d}\right), 1000\right). \quad (12)$$

897 Finally, to measure the relearning characteristic time, i.e. the time necessary for the system to relearn
 898 patterns after the maintenance phase, we define $T_{relearning}$ as follows. Remembering that A_1
 899 (respectively, A_2) is the accuracy after the initial phase (respectively, learning phase), we define
 900 $T_{relearning}$ as the time needed in the relearning phase to learn again at least 60% of the previously
 901 learned accuracy,

$$902 \quad T_{relearning} = \inf\{t > 0 \mid Accuracy(t) - A_1 > 0.6 \times (A_2 - A_1)\}. \quad (13)$$

903 We investigated how synaptic weight during the maintenance phase deviate from those at the end of
 904 the learning phase. To this end, we defined W_{ref} the synaptic weights at the end of the learning
 905 phase, and used various metrics to analyze the divergence of the weights from this value during
 906 maintenance:

907 - The divergence of the L^2 norm,

$$908 \quad d_2(W) = \frac{1}{1 + \frac{\sqrt{\sum_i (W_i - W_{ref,i})^2}}{\sqrt{\sum_i W_{ref,i}^2}}} \quad (14)$$

909 which is equal to 1 when $W = W_{ref}$ and decays to 0 as the Euclidean distance between the two
 910 weight vectors increases. A large $d_2(W)$ (i.e. close to 1) means that weights remained similar to the

911 reference, and a decay of that quantity estimates how quickly the weight vector deviates from
912 reference.

913 - One may consider that relative values of weights, rather than their absolute amplitude, contain a
914 particularly important information in learning. W_{ref} provides a direction in the space of weights, and
915 we estimated the alignment of the weight vector at a given time with W_{ref} through the *cosine*
916 *similarity* of the centered synaptic weight:

$$917 \quad sp(W) = \frac{\sum_i (w_i - \bar{w}_i) \times (w_{ref,i} - \bar{w}_{ref,i})}{\sqrt{\sum_i (w_i - \bar{w}_i)^2} \times \sqrt{\sum_i (w_{ref,i} - \bar{w}_{ref,i})^2}} \quad (15)$$

918 where \bar{x} for $x \in \mathbb{R}^P$ denotes the average of the vector component.

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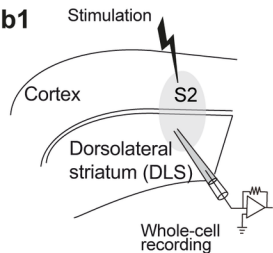
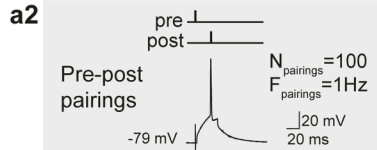
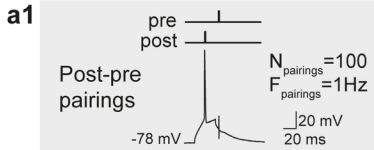
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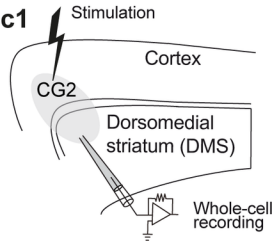
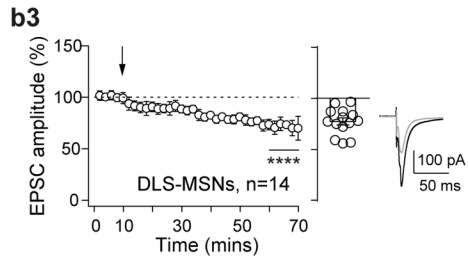
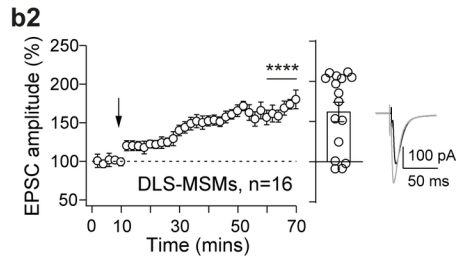
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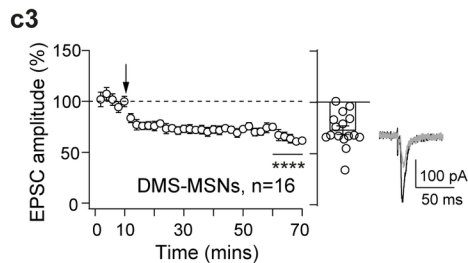
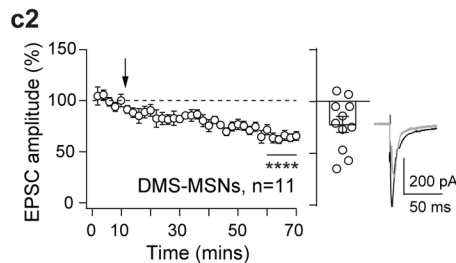
STDP paradigms:



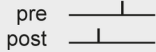
DLS



DMS

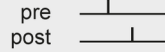


Post-pre pairings



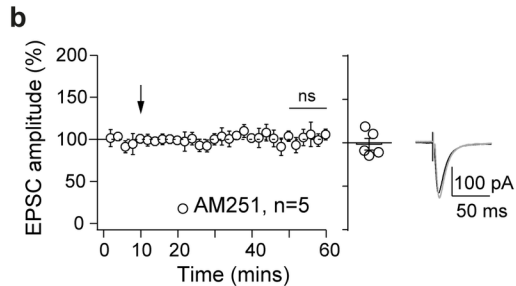
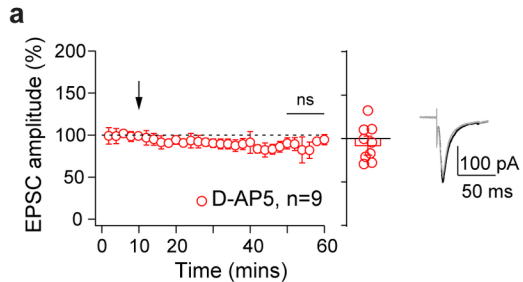
$N_{\text{pairings}} = 100$
 $F_{\text{pairings}} = 1\text{Hz}$

Pre-post pairings

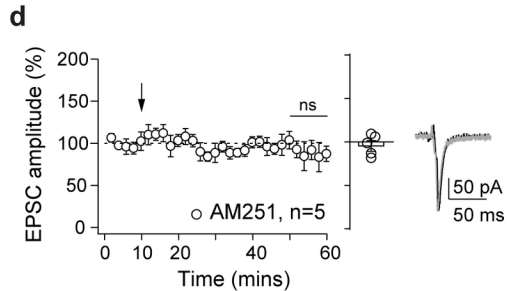
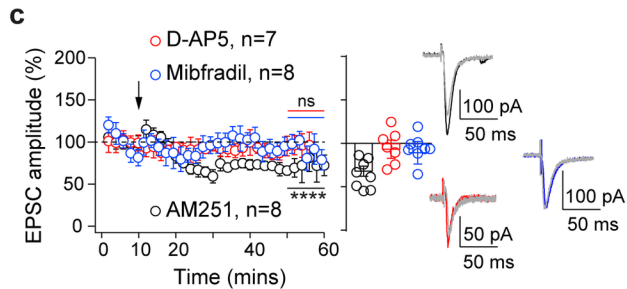


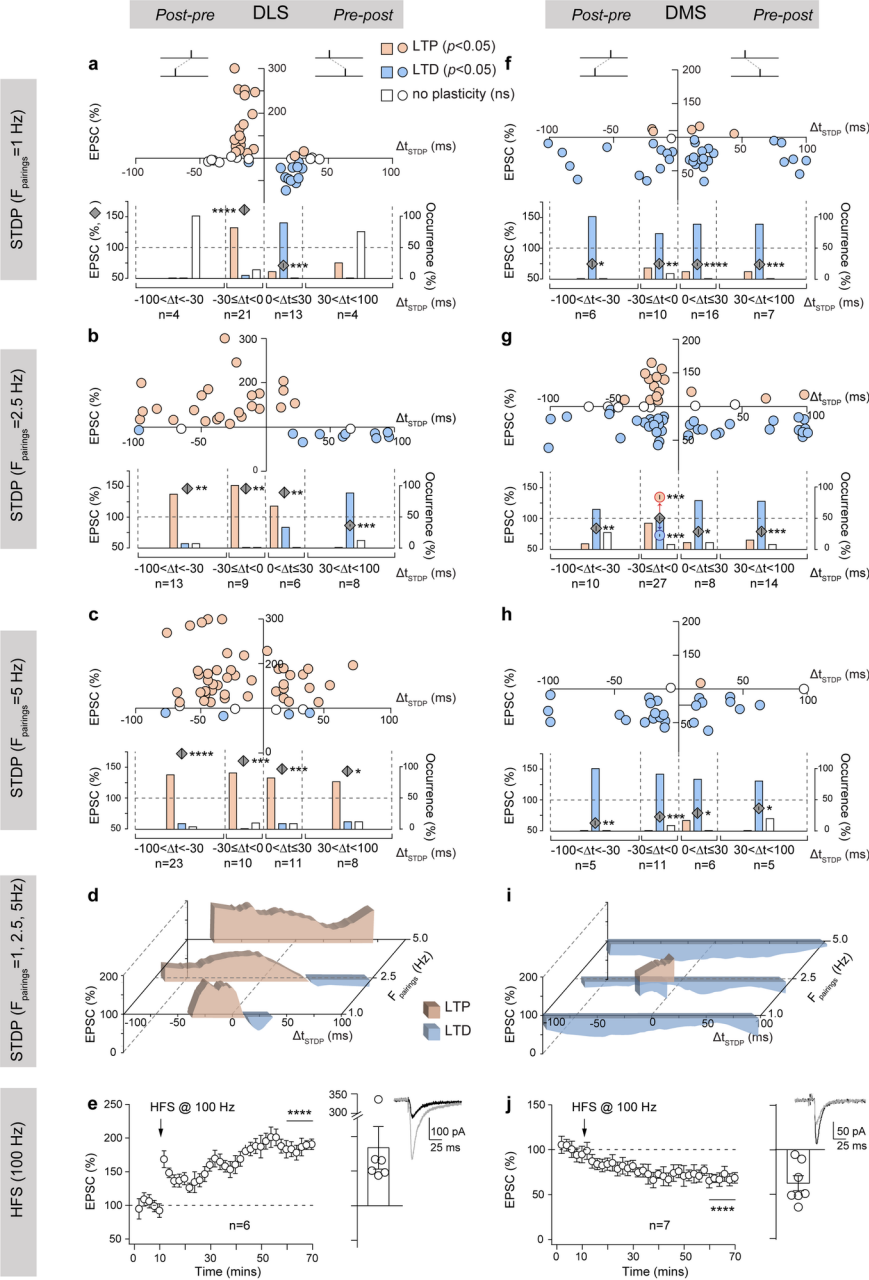
$N_{\text{pairings}} = 100$
 $F_{\text{pairings}} = 1\text{Hz}$

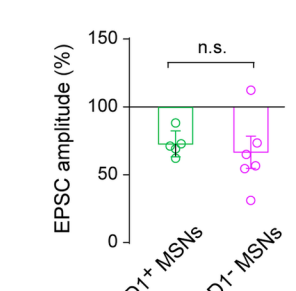
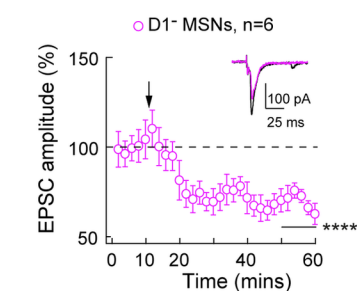
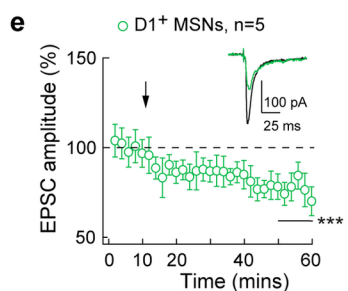
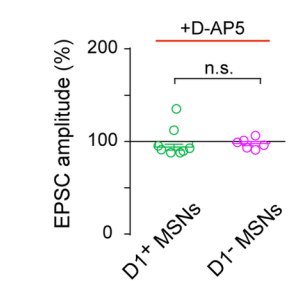
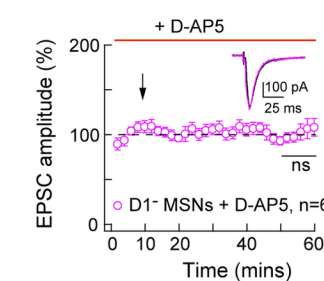
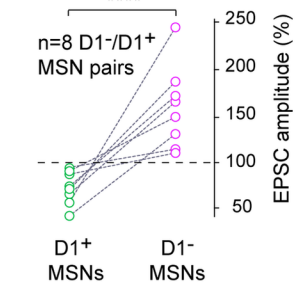
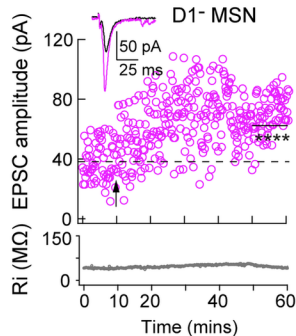
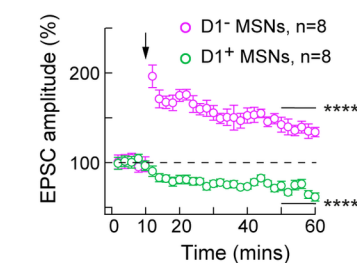
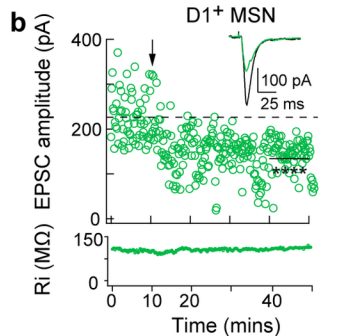
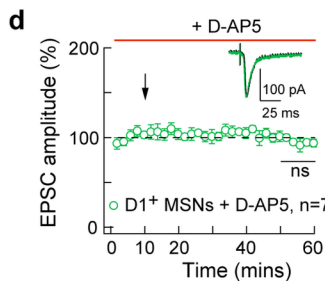
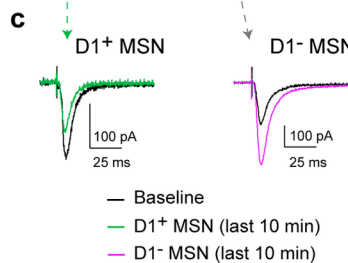
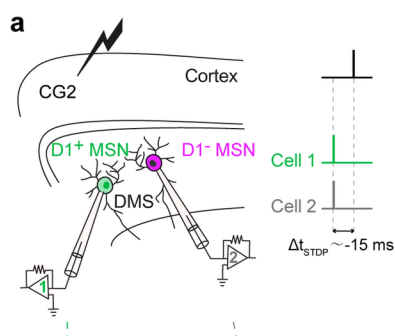
DLS

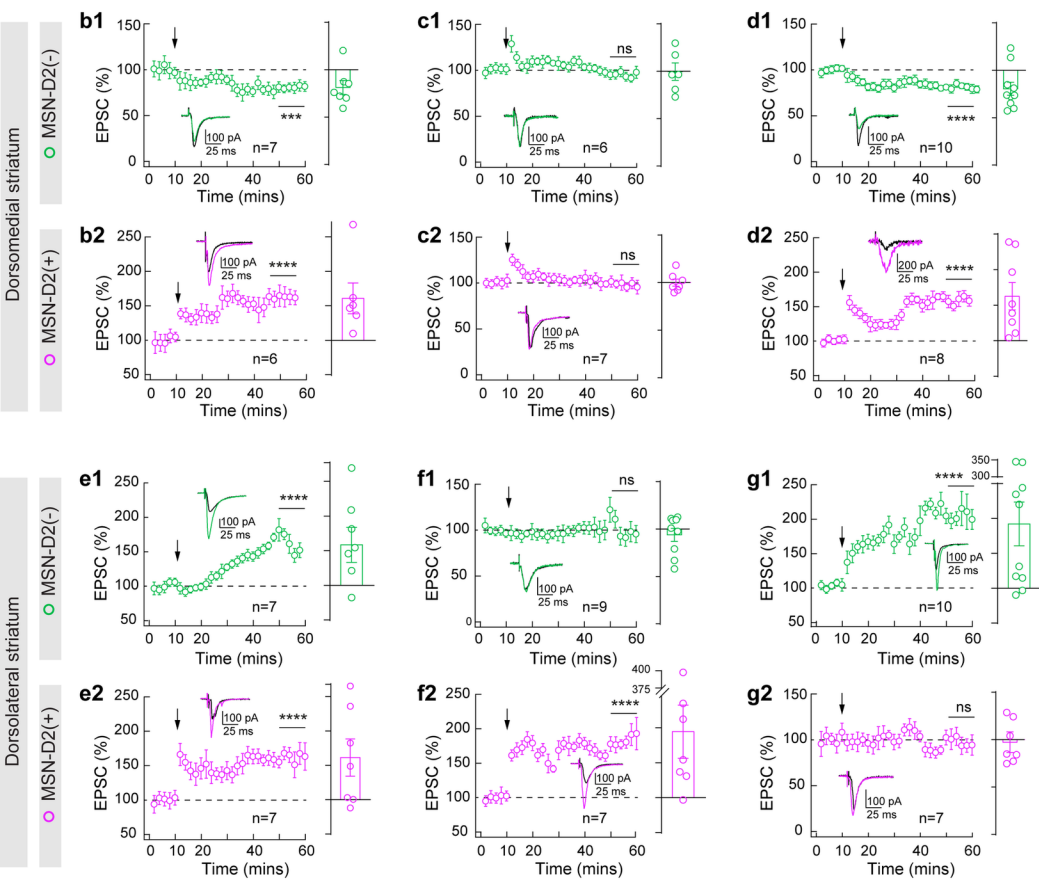
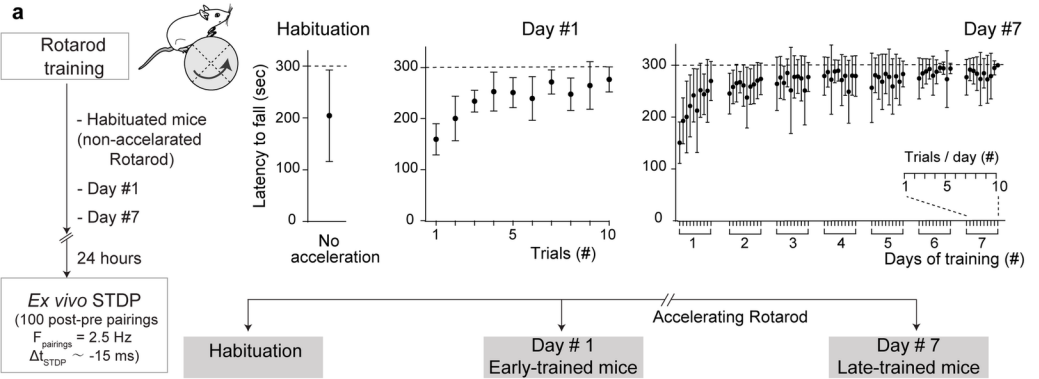


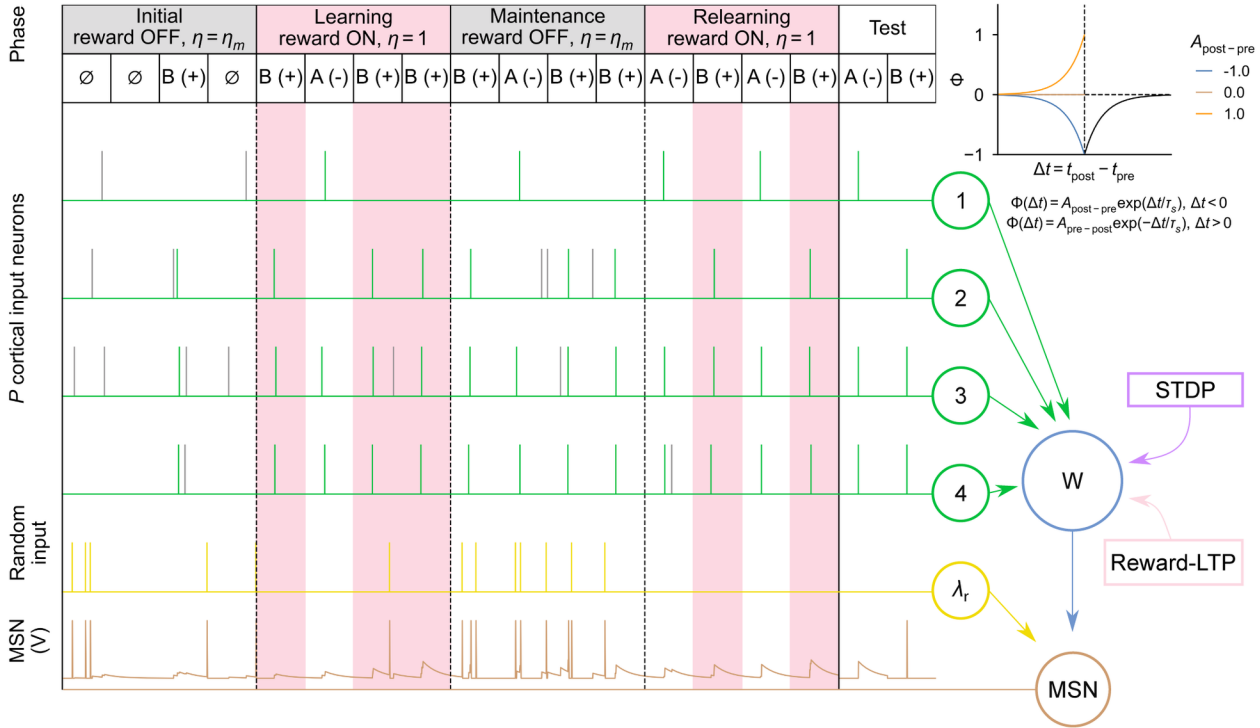
DMS





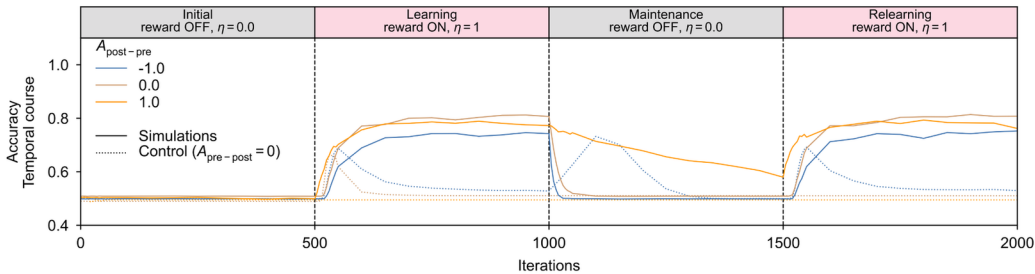
STDP 100 post-pre pairings at $F_{\text{pairings}} = 2.5 \text{ Hz}$ (DMS)STDP 100 post-pre pairings ($F_{\text{pairings}} = 1 \text{ Hz}$) (DMS)



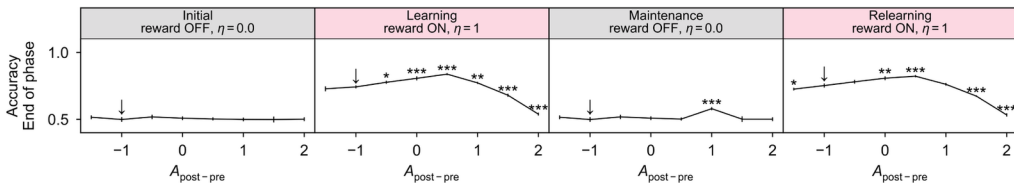


a-c) Set-up: $P = 10$ input neurons, $N_{\text{stim}} = 3$ stimulations by pattern, $N_p = 15$ number of patterns and proportion of pattern presentation $\eta_m = 0.0$, $\lambda_{\text{MSN}} = 5.0 \text{ Hz}$

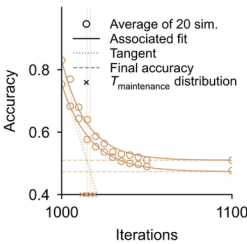
a



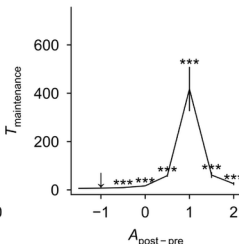
b



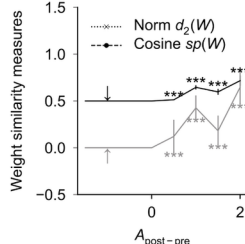
c1



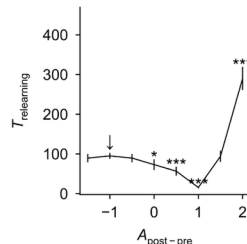
c2



c3

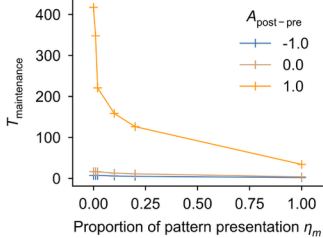


c4

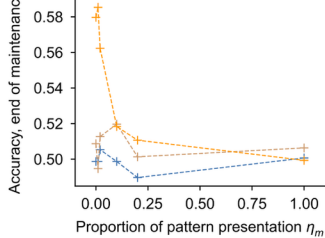


Set-up: $P = 10$ input neurons, $N_{\text{stim}} = 3$ stimulations by pattern and $N_p = 15$ number of patterns, $\lambda_{\text{MSN}} = 5.0 \text{ Hz}$

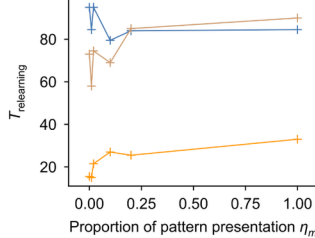
d1



d2



d3



Corticostriatal plasticity

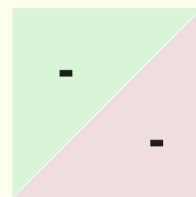
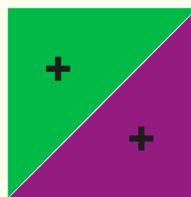
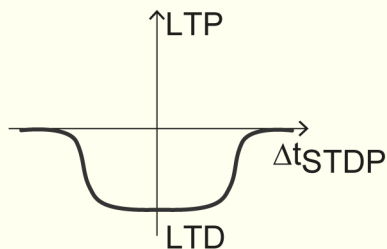
Anti-Hebbian STDP

Motor skill learning



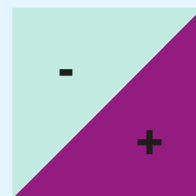
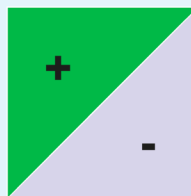
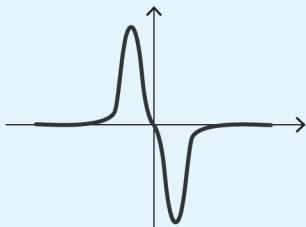
Early- vs late-trained mice

Dorsomedial striatum



Symmetric → Memory flexibility

Dorsolateral striatum



+/- STDP occlusion

Green Striatonigral MSNs

Purple Striatopallidal MSNs

Asymmetric → Memory maintenance