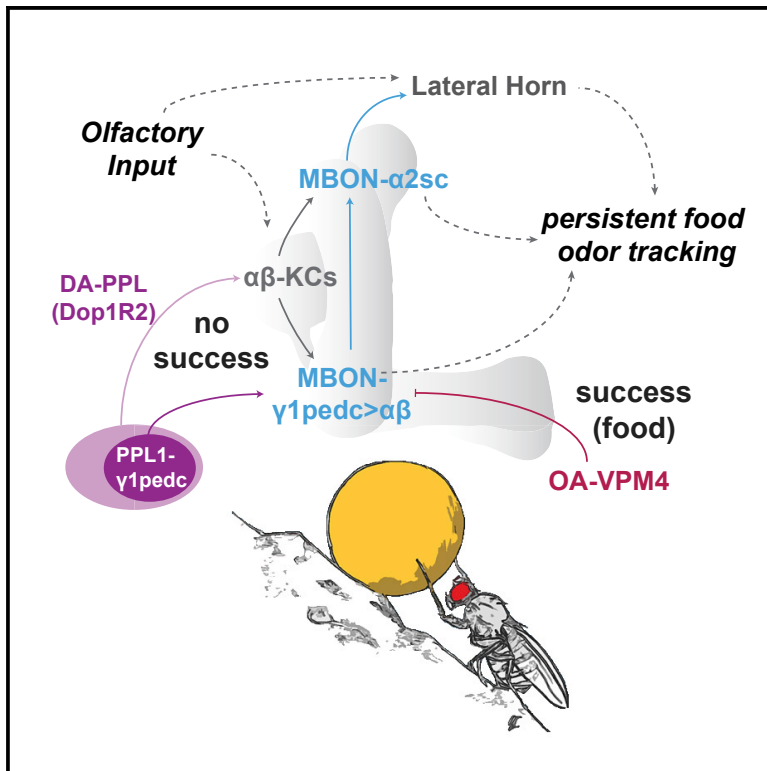


Neuron

A Neural Circuit Arbitrates between Persistence and Withdrawal in Hungry *Drosophila*

Graphical Abstract



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In Brief

What drives behavioral persistence versus quitting? Sayin et al. propose that circuit modules in the fly's learning center and dopamine drive gradually increasing food odor tracking, which can be efficiently suppressed by extrinsic, but directly innervating, feeding-related neuromodulatory neurons.

Highlights

- Hunger motivates persistent food odor tracking even without reward
- Two synaptically connected MBONs, $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha \beta$ and $-\alpha 2sc$, regulate odor tracking
- Octopamine neurons connect feeding and counteract MBON and odor tracking
- Dopaminergic neurons and Dop1R2 signaling promote persistent tracking



A Neural Circuit Arbitrates between Persistence and Withdrawal in Hungry *Drosophila*

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SUMMARY

In pursuit of food, hungry animals mobilize significant energy resources and overcome exhaustion and fear. How need and motivation control the decision to continue or change behavior is not understood. Using a single fly treadmill, we show that hungry flies persistently track a food odor and increase their effort over repeated trials in the absence of reward suggesting that need dominates negative experience. We further show that odor tracking is regulated by two mushroom body output neurons (MBONs) connecting the MB to the lateral horn. These MBONs, together with dopaminergic neurons and Dop1R2 signaling, control behavioral persistence. Conversely, an octopaminergic neuron, VPM4, which directly innervates one of the MBONs, acts as a brake on odor tracking by connecting feeding and olfaction. Together, our data suggest a function for the MB in internal state-dependent expression of behavior that can be suppressed by external inputs conveying a competing behavioral drive.

INTRODUCTION

Flexibility is an important factor in an ever in-flux environment, where scarcity and competition are the norm. Without persistence to achieve its goals, however, an animal's strive to secure food, protect its offspring, or maintain its social status is in jeopardy. Therefore, sensory cues related to food or danger often elicit strong impulses. However, these impulses must be strictly controlled to allow for coherent goal-directed behavior and to permit behavioral transitions when sensible. Inhibition of antagonistic behavioral drives at the cognitive and physiological level

has been proposed as a major task of a nervous system (Bari and Robbins, 2013). Which sensory cues and ultimately which behaviors are prioritized and win depends on the animal's metabolic state, internal motivation, and current behavioral context. How this is implemented at the level of individual neurons, circuit motifs, and mechanisms remains an important open question.

Like most animals, energy-deprived flies prioritize food seeking and feeding behavior. To find food, flies can follow olfactory or visual cues over long distances (see for instance Álvarez-Salvado et al., 2018; Root et al., 2011). External gustatory cues provide information about the type and quality of the eventually encountered food. However, only internal nutrient levels will provide reliable feedback about the quality and quantity of a food source and ultimately suppress food-seeking behaviors (Corrales-Carvajal et al., 2016; Dethier and Goldrich-Rachman, 1976; Mann et al., 2013; Thoma et al., 2016). Therefore, food odor, the taste of food, and post-ingestive internal feedback signals induce sequential and partly antagonistic behaviors (Mann et al., 2013; Thoma et al., 2016). Interestingly, chemosensory and internal feedback systems typically mediated by distinct neuromodulators appear to converge in the mushroom body (MB) (Cohn et al., 2015; Kim et al., 2017; Krashes et al., 2009; Lewis et al., 2015; Tsao et al., 2018). How neurons and neural circuits signal and combine external and internal cues to maintain or suppress competing behavioral drives is not well understood.

In mammals, norepinephrine (NE) released by a brain stem nucleus, the *locus coeruleus*, has been implicated in controlling the balance between persistence and action selection (Berridge and Waterhouse, 2003; Schwarz and Luo, 2015). The potential functional counterpart of NE in insects could be octopamine (OA). Flies lacking OA indeed show reduced arousal, for instance upon starvation (LeDue et al., 2016; Li et al., 2016; Zhang et al., 2013). Additionally, OA neurons (OANs) gate appetitive memory formation of odors (Burke et al., 2012; Perry and Barron, 2013) and also modulate taste neurons and feeding behavior (LeDue et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2016; Youn et al., 2018). OANs are



organized in distinct clusters and project axons to diverse higher brain regions in a cell type-specific manner (Busch et al., 2009; Busch and Tanimoto, 2010). The precise roles and important types of OA and NE neurons in state-dependent action selection remain to be elucidated.

Similar to NE and OA, dopamine (DA) is being studied in many aspects of behavioral adaptation and flexibility. Different classes of DA neurons (DANs) innervating primarily the MB signal negative or positive context (Aso and Rubin, 2016; Burke et al., 2012; Cohn et al., 2015; Lewis et al., 2015; Liu et al., 2012; Plaças et al., 2012; Riemensperger et al., 2005), novelty (Hattori et al., 2017), forgetting (Berry et al., 2012, 2015), or even wrong predictions (Felsenberg et al., 2017, 2018).

Here, we took advantage of the small number and discrete organization of neuromodulatory neurons in the fly brain to analyze the mechanistic relationship between motivation-dependent persistence in one behavior and the decision to disengage and change to another behavior. Using a single fly spherical treadmill assay, we find that hungry flies increase their effort to track a food odor with every unrewarded trial. We show that MB output through two identified MBONs (MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β and MBON- α 2sc) is required for persistent odor tracking. MBON- α 2sc provides a MB connection to the lateral horn (LH), where it can modify innate food odor attraction as recently shown (Dolan et al., 2018). Furthermore, we pinpoint a specific type of OAN, VPM4 (ventral paired medial), which connects feeding centers directly to MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β and disrupts food odor tracking. Finally, our experimental data suggest that persistent tracking depends on DANs, including PPL1- γ 1pedc, and signaling through dopamine receptor Dop1R2 in $\alpha\beta$ -type KCs. Based on our results, we propose that MB output and a direct external input, depending on internal state and motivation, gradually promote or interrupt ongoing behavior.

RESULTS

Flies Persistently Track Attractive Food Odors in the Absence of Reward

To study the mechanisms underpinning continuing versus stopping of a behavior, we devised a spherical treadmill assay with a tethered fly exposed to a low-speed frontal air stream or odor stimulus allowing us to repeatedly stimulate the animal with odorant at a precise concentration and duration (Figure 1A). Upon an initial period of 3 min of habituation, we recorded running speed, turns, and stops during a 20 s pre-stimulus, a 12 s stimulus, and a 20 s post-stimulus period (Figure 1A). To test persistence in odor tracking, the protocol was repeated 10 times with variable inter-stimulus intervals. We used 3 ppm of vinegar odor as a highly attractive cue to analyze the odor tracking behavior of a hungry fly (24 h starvation). Flies ran on average at a speed of 7.3 mm/s during the pre-stimulus periods (Figure 1B). During odor stimulation, flies sped up significantly and reached speeds of 12.4 mm/s on average (Figure 1B). Upon cessation of the odor stimulus, flies showed a strong offset behavior with stopping before regaining an average speed of 6.8 mm/s (Figure 1B). In addition to changing speed, the flies suppressed turning and were headed straighter suggesting that they were indeed tracking the odorant (Figure 1C). The loss of the ol-

factory cue at the end of the stimulation period led to a significant increase in turning behavior (Figures 1C and S1A), suggesting that the flies were searching for the stimulus as previously observed for fly larvae, adult flies (Álvarez-Salvado et al., 2018; Gomez-Marin et al., 2011), and other animals including humans (Porter et al., 2007). Interestingly, this behavior evolved over 10 trials (Figures 1D and 1E). Although flies showed an initial acceleration at stimulus onset already during the first 3 trials, they did not persistently track the odors at high speed for more than a fraction of the stimulus time (Figure 1D). With increasing number of trials, however, the flies ran over longer distances and more frequently for the entire stimulus time of 12 s (Figure S1B). In addition, they ran faster with each trial and suppressed turning more efficiently (Figures 1D and S1C). Some of the increase in speed continued also between odor stimulations from trial 1 to 10 (Figures 1D and S1C). These data show that flies reliably track food odors by suppressing turning behavior and increasing speed, and that these behaviors intensify over trial number.

Any change in the fly's environment, including a change in airflow or wind, could induce forward running. To test this, we analyzed the behavior of mutants of the essential olfactory co-receptor *Orco*, which is required to detect vinegar (Semmelhack and Wang, 2009). *Orco* mutant flies showed a significantly reduced reaction to vinegar stimulation as compared to heterozygous controls upon stimulus onset (Figure S1D). These results show that the animal's reaction depends on the detection of a sensory stimulus such as an appetitive odor.

We next asked whether the valence of the stimulus influenced odor tracking behavior in our assay. Frontal stimulation with CO₂, which elicits aversion in laboratory assays with walking flies (Bräcker et al., 2013; Suh et al., 2004), led to the opposite behavior compared to the behavior elicited by vinegar in hungry animals (Figure S1E). Flies slowed down and significantly increased their turning to left and right consistent with odor aversion (Figure S1E). A similar avoidance behavior was observed in a tethered flying fly assay with frontal odor stimulation (Badel et al., 2016). Of note, however, CO₂ is not always aversive; freely flying flies are attracted to this gas in a state-dependent manner (van Breugel et al., 2018).

Taken together, these data show that targeted food odor tracking behavior increases over time even in the absence of a food reward. Loss of the odor stimulus increases turning, indicating search behavior.

Tracking Intensity Depends on Hunger State

Numerous studies have addressed how reward increases an animal's attraction to a sensory cue. Less is known that explains why an animal maintains and even improves a not yet successful behavior. In healthy animals, the interest in food is regulated by their need to acquire calories and nutrients. This was also evident in our assay: fed flies did not show any persistence in food odor tracking (Figures 1F–1J). By contrast, 24 and 48 h starved flies showed persistent tracking behavior (Figures 1F–1J). To better investigate the influence of hunger on the fly's persistence, we changed the assay from an open to a closed loop configuration, and allowed the fly to control the offset of the odorant by stopping to run (Figures 1K–1M). Fed flies tracked the odor for 13.3 s, while 24 h starved flies followed the odor for

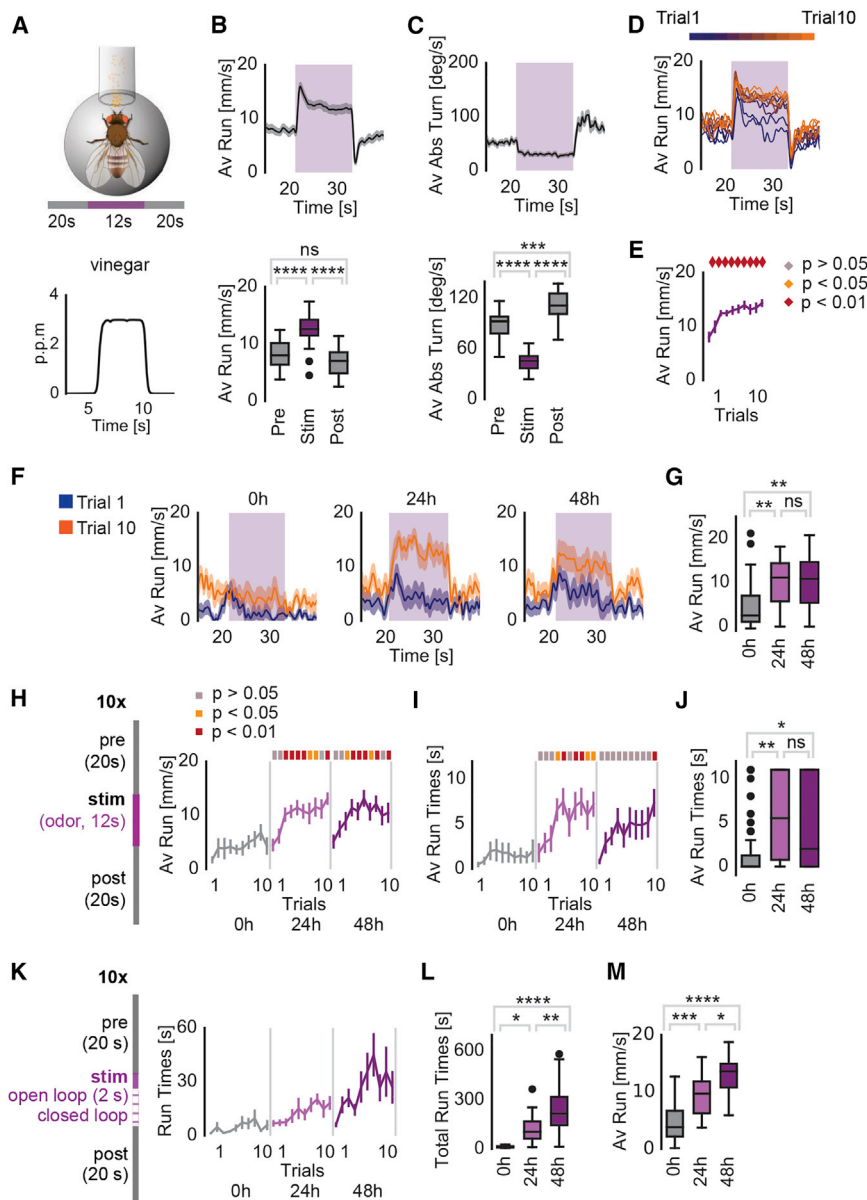


Figure 1. Persistent Odor Tracking Is Motivated by Hunger

(A) Top: Spherical-treadmill assay for olfactory stimuli.

(B) Top: Average running speed with SEM (mm/s) of 18 wild-type Canton S flies under repeated vinegar exposure for 10 trials. Shaded areas represent the odor exposure duration. Bottom: Average running speeds of flies during vinegar exposure were significantly higher compared to the speeds observed during pre- and post-stimulation periods.

(C) Top: Average absolute turning speed with SEM (deg/s) of 18 flies under repeated vinegar exposure for 10 trials. Bottom: The absolute turning speed under vinegar was significantly lower than the turning speed recorded in pre- and post-stimulation periods.

(D) Average running speed with SEM of 18 wild-type flies over time for each of the individual 10 trials.

(E) Comparison of average running over trials.

(F) Average running speed with SEM of fed (0 h) and hungry (24 and 48 h) flies during trial 1 and trial 10 of repeated vinegar exposure.

(G and H) Average running speed with SEM during odor stimulation during trial 1 to 10 for fed, 24 h and 48 h starved flies. The boxplot (G) displays the Tukey's post hoc analysis for the main group effect.

(I and J) Average running bout times with SEM during open-loop odor exposure for fed and food-deprived flies over 10 trials. The boxplot (J) displays the Tukey's post hoc analysis for the main group effect.

(K) Left: Schematics for the closed-loop assay. Right: Average running bout times with SEM during closed-loop odor exposure for differentially food-deprived flies over 10 trials.

(L) Total running times of fed and starved flies during odor stimulation.

(M) Average summed running bout times during 10 trials for all groups in closed-loop experiments under vinegar exposure.

For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

122.4 s, on average (Figure 1L). Interestingly, 48 h starved flies showed a higher persistence than 24 h starved animals and tracked the odor for up to 248.2 s over ten trials, on average (Figure 1L). It is unlikely that the increase in running times is due simply to improved motor skills over trials, where the best skills, and hence fastest running would be expected to always occur at the last trials; however, among all recorded trials the longest trials of each fly were distributed across all trial numbers (1–10) including trials as early as number 2 (Figure S1F). Moreover, the same experiment with only air during stimulus phase did not induce long and fast tracking (Figure S1G–S1J). Finally, not only tracking time but also tracking speed depended on starvation time, with 48 h starved animals running on average faster than 24 h starved flies during odor stimulation (Figure 1M). These results demon-

strate that starvation specifically and gradually changes the animal's behavioral expression and persistence in tracking a food odor.

Specific MB Output Neurons Control Food Odor Tracking

Recent work implicated the MB in metabolic state-dependent modulation of innate olfactory behaviors (Bräcker et al., 2013; Grunwald Kadow, 2019; Lewis et al., 2015; Tsao et al., 2018).

We, therefore, next addressed whether the MB network contributes to hunger-induced persistent food odor tracking. In a screen of Split-Gal4 lines that target MBONs for a reduction in attraction to vinegar with the T-maze assay, we identified MBON line MB112C, which expresses in MVP2/MBON- γ 1pedc> α / β neurons

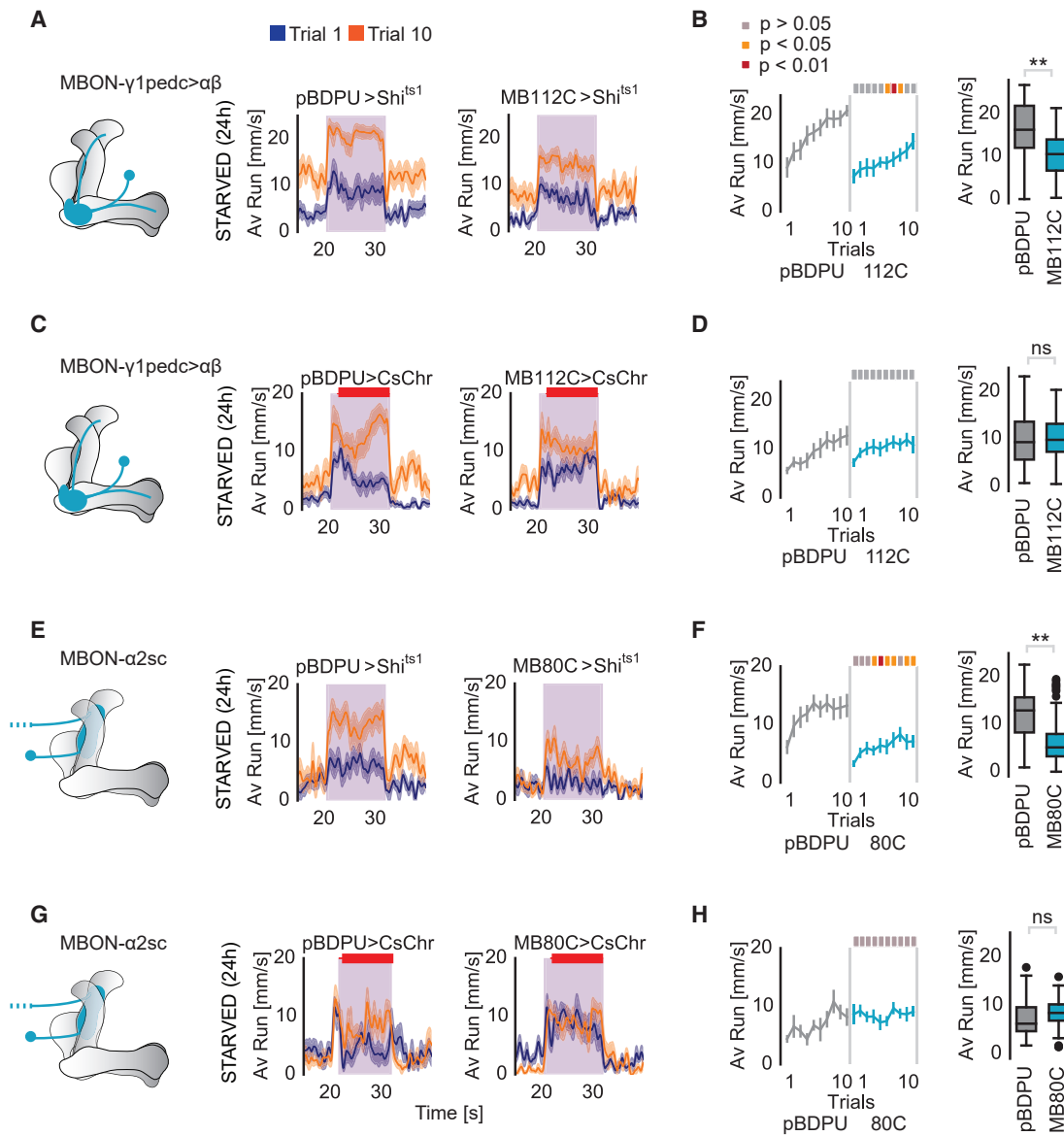


Figure 2. Two Synaptically Connected MBONs Are Required for Odor Tracking

(A) Running speeds during stimulus phase in trial 1 and trial 10 upon blocking synaptic output of MVP2/MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> $\alpha\beta$ (MB112C>UAS-Shibire^{ts1}) at non-permissive temperature compared to control with empty-Gal4 (pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-Shibire^{ts1}).
 (B) Average running speeds during stimulus phase over trials.
 (C) Running speeds during acute MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> $\alpha\beta$ activation with CsChrimson (MB112-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson) in starved flies compared to controls (pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson).
 (D) Running speeds during stimulus phase over trials. (E) Running speeds during stimulus phase in trial 1 and trial 10 upon blocking synaptic output of MBON- $\alpha 2$ sc (MB80C) compared to controls (pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-Shibire^{ts1}).
 (F) Running speeds during stimulus phase over trials.
 (G) Running speeds in starved flies when the MB80C neuron was activated via optogenetics (MB80C>UAS-CsChrimson) (controls: pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson).
 (H) Running speeds during stimulus phase over trials.
 For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

(Aso et al., 2014b) (Figure S2A). This result was in line with recent work using a different food finding assay (Perisse et al., 2016; Tsao et al., 2018). On the ball, inactivation of MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> α/β 's syn-

aptic output using overexpression of the effector Shibire^{ts1} (*shi*^{ts1}) significantly reduced olfactory tracking speed in the starved animal (Figures 2A and 2B). In order to test whether activation of

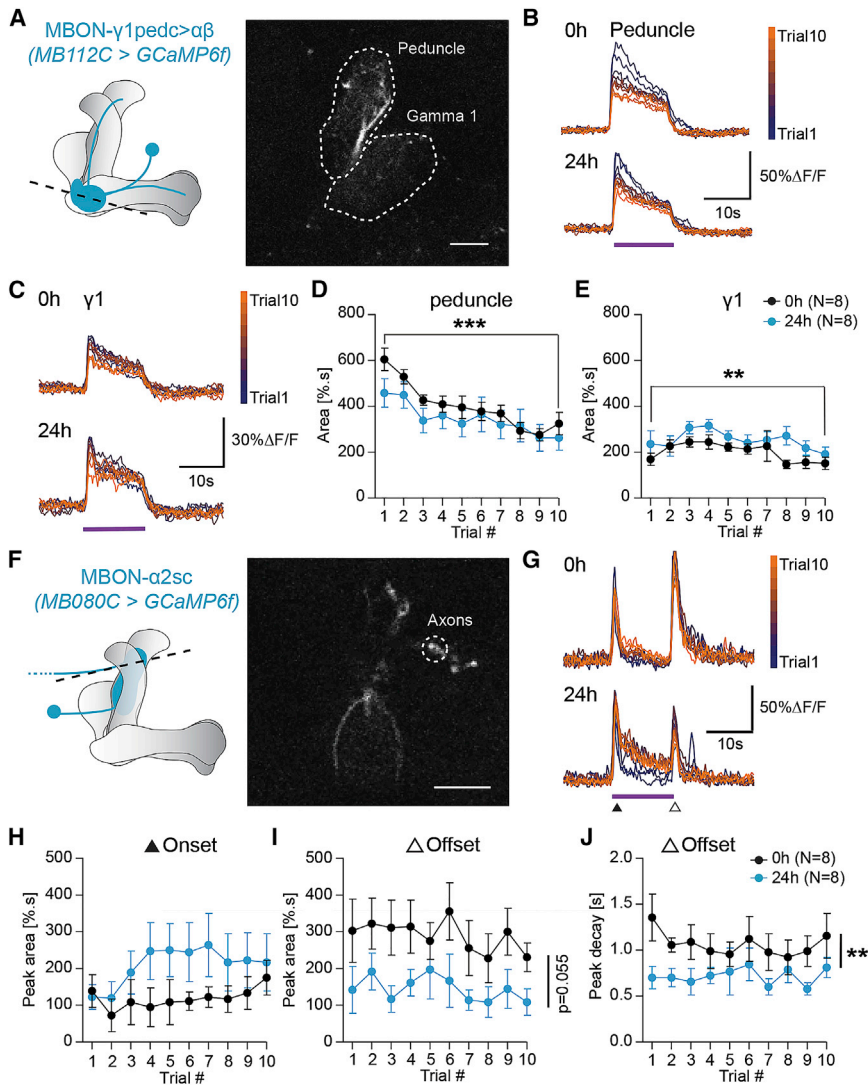


Figure 3. MBONs Show Trial- and Feeding State-Dependent Odor Responses

(A) Left: Scheme of MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ (MB112C) innervating the MB lobes. Right: MB112C γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ expression in an *in vivo* two-photon preparation. ROIs are marked by dashed lines (scale bar 10 μ m).

(B) Average traces of odor responses (purple line) of MB112C peduncle dendrites from trial 1 to 10.

(C) Average traces of odor responses of MB112C γ 1 dendrites from trial 1 to 10.

(D) Quantification of the area under the fluorescence response during the stimulus period in the peduncle region from trial 1 to 10.

(E) Quantification of the area under the fluorescence response during the stimulus period in the γ 1 region from trial 1 to 10.

(F) Left: Scheme of MBON- α 2sc (MB80C) innervating the MB lobes. Right: MB80C α 2sc expression in an *in vivo* two-photon preparation. The ROI is marked by dashed lines (scale bar 10 μ m).

(G) Average traces of odor responses of MB80C axons from trial 1 to 10.

(H, I) Quantification of the area under the fluorescence responses during the stimulus period and after the stimulus period.

(J) Quantification of the offset peak decay time constant over trials.

For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ was sufficient to induce odor tracking, we expressed the red-shifted channel rhodopsin CsChrimson under the control of MB112C (MB112C γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ >CsChrimson), and stimulated the flies with 12 s odor stimulus, but overlapped it, 2 s after odor onset, with a 10 s red-light stimulus (Figures 2C and 2D). Activation of MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ induced tracking in the presence of an odor stimulus in fed animals, but did not further increase tracking in the starved fly, indicating that this neuron is already active in the hungry animal (Figures 2C, 2D, and S2B–S2D). Light alone also induced some forward running, albeit to a lesser extent than odor alone (Figures S2E–S2G).

MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ projects from the MB γ 1/peduncular region again to KCs and other MBONs providing output from α and β lobes (Takemura et al., 2017). Among the primary neurons innervated by MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ is MBON- α 2sc (labeled by line MB080C) (Takemura et al., 2017), which is also required for food odor attraction (Figure S2A). Indeed, inactivation of MBON- α 2sc output (MB080C α 2sc γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ >sh¹) resulted

in a strong reduction in average food odor tracking in the ball assay (Figures 2E and 2F). Moreover, the trial-by-trial increase was reduced (Figures 2EF). While the phenotype is stronger for MBON- α 2sc inactivation than for MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$, these data are consistent with the hypothesis that

MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ is among the neurons providing input to MBON- α 2sc during odor tracking. Furthermore, optogenetic activation of MBON- α 2sc induced faster and more persistent tracking at odor trial 1, but not at trial 10, compared to controls (Figures 2G and 2H; 2-way RM ANOVA $p_{\text{trial} \times \text{group}} = 0.0390$), supporting a role for MBON- α 2sc in regulating tracking intensity.

Together, the data implicate two MBONs in odor tracking over multiple trials.

MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ Shows Trial-Dependent Odor Responses

Given the requirement of MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ and - α 2sc, we predicted that their response to repeated odor experience should gradually change over trials. Thus, we imaged odor responses using GCaMP6f calcium imaging *in vivo* and stimulated the fly as done during the behavioral experiment (Figures 3A and 3E). We quantified two regions of interest for

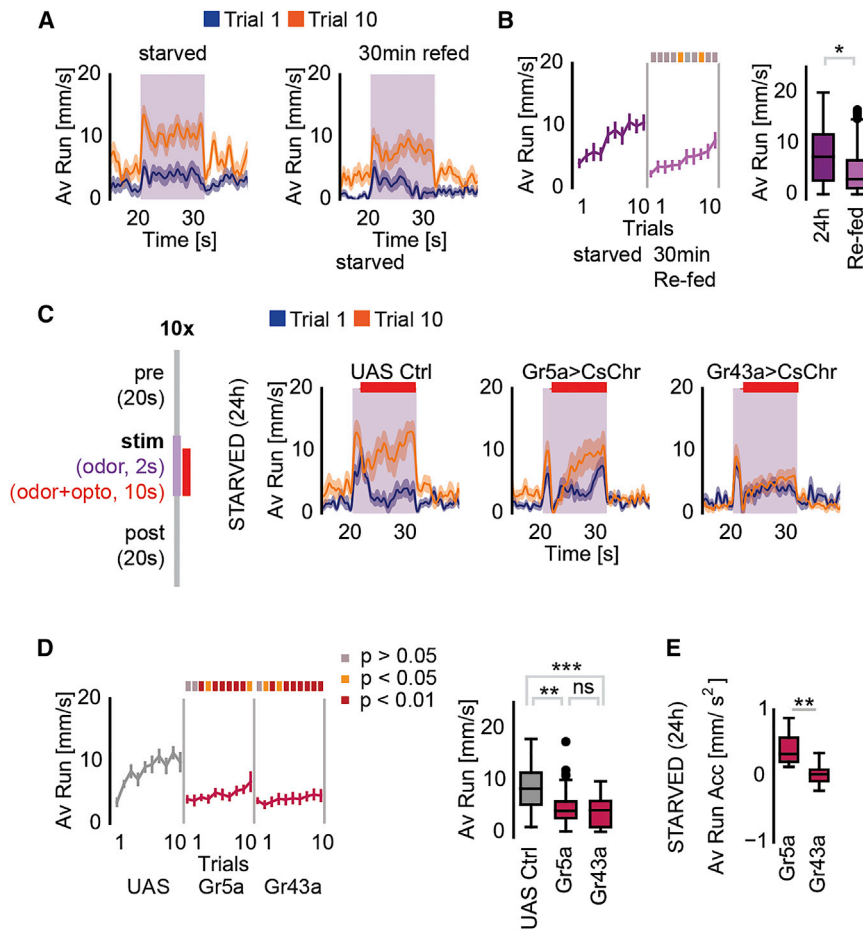


Figure 4. Taste and Food Suppress Odor Tracking

(A) Average running speeds of 24 h and 24 h, 30 min re-fed animals at trial 1 and trial 10. (B) Running speeds over trials in 24 h starved and 30 min re-fed flies compared to 24 h starved animals. The boxplot displays the main group effect. (C) Left: Schematics of the concurrent odor and optogenetic-activation protocol. Right: *Gr5a>UAS-CsChrimson* and *Gr43a>UAS-CsChrimson* flies compared to control (*pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson*). (D) Running speed over trials during simultaneous odor and light activation. The boxplot displays the main group effect. (E) Average running activity displayed as boxplots for flies expressing *CsChrimson* in *Gr5a* or *Gr43a* neurons (*Gr5a-Gal4;UAS-CsChrimson* and *Gr43a-Gal4;UAS-CsChrimson*). For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> α/β , the peduncle—the region immediately downstream of the odor input site (calyx)—and the $\gamma 1$ lobe (Figures 3A–3E). Odor responses in the peduncle region gradually decreased from trial 1 to 10 (Figures 3B and 3D). Responses in the $\gamma 1$ dendrites also showed some significant changes over trials, which followed a different pattern. The calcium signal first increased until trial 3 or 4 before going back to or below its baseline level (Figures 3C and 3E). Interestingly, MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> α/β receives differential KC input in the peduncle versus $\gamma 1$ -lobe region. While γ -KCs provide $\gamma 1$ -input, the peduncle region receives input exclusively from α/β -KCs (Takemura et al., 2017). These data indicate that MBON- $\gamma 1$ pedc> α/β either is intrinsically sensitive to the number of prior odor experiences or receives trial-dependent olfactory input, for instance by α/β -KCs and/or through dopaminergic modulation.

Next, we recorded odor responses of MBON- $\alpha 2$ sc using the same imaging setup and observed an interesting response to the 12 s odor stimulus in each trial; an initial transient calcium peak (i.e., on-response) was followed by a strong decrease and, upon odor stimulus end, a strong re-bounce response (i.e., off-response; Figure 3G). This type of response is consistent with a relief of inhibitory input at the end of the stimulus. However, we did not observe a significant effect

provide evidence that these MBONs are indeed modulated by the number of odor experiences and also by the animal's metabolic state.

Sugar Neuron Activation Suppresses Odor Tracking

Our behavioral data implicated hunger or feeding state as a main motivator for persistent odor tracking. To test this assumption more directly, we re-fed 24 h-starved flies for only 30 min with standard fly food just prior to the assay. This re-feeding significantly suppressed food odor tracking, in particular during the first few trials of the assay (Figures 4A and 4B). Therefore, feeding-induced cues such as post-ingestion signals appear to suppress food odor tracking in our assay as also shown for other paradigms (Corrales-Carvajal et al., 2016; Mann et al., 2013; Thoma et al., 2016). To test the ability of the taste of food or internal sugar to suppress food odor tracking with high temporal precision and during the continued presence of odor, we expressed *CsChrimson* and optogenetically activated two sets of sugar taste neurons (Figures 4C and 4D). First, activation of exclusively peripheral (labellar and tarsal) gustatory receptor (Gr) 5a-expressing sweet taste neurons was employed to mimic the taste of a potential calorie source (Thoma et al., 2016). Next, *Gr43a* neurons were activated to mimic ingested sugar, because *Gr43a* is not only expressed in peripheral taste neurons but has

of trial number on MBON- $\alpha 2$ sc. Still, while the responses remained relatively stable over trials (Figures 3H–3J), we observed a significantly longer off-response decay time between fed and hungry animals (Figure 3J).

Taken together, while these data point to a complex relationship between neuronal activity and behavior, possibly due to the inability of the fly to express behavior during imaging, they also provide

also been shown to function as internal sugar sensor in the brain (Miyamoto et al., 2012) and potentially in the gut (Park and Kwon, 2011). Gr5a or Gr43a neuron activation led to an immediate stop of odor tracking in spite of continued odor stimulation, suggesting that animals that reach a food source prioritize short-range or internal feeding-related over long-range signals (Figures 4C and 4D). However, although light-stimulation of Gr5a neurons continued, flies reverted their behavior and quickly resumed odor tracking and reached high speed again at the end of each of the trials (Figures 4C–4E). Similarly, Inagaki et al. have previously reported that prolonged optogenetic activation of sugar taste neurons (i.e., Gr5a) only transiently induces proboscis extension, which ceases much before the end of the light stimulation (Inagaki et al., 2014). By contrast, Gr43a neuron activation lastingly reduced the fly's tracking behavior consistent with mimicking of high internal sugar (Figures 4C–4E). From these results, we conclude that a meal, presumably through post-ingestive signals, but not just the taste of food, lastingly suppresses food odor tracking.

Octopamine Inhibits Tracking in Hungry Flies

Based on our results, we sought to identify the neural circuits that coordinate and prioritize sensory information to enable feeding stimuli to override odor-stimulated behavior.

OANs were previously implicated in appetitive olfactory learning (Burke et al., 2012; Schröter et al., 2007; Schwaerzel et al., 2003) and modulation of feeding-related behaviors (LeDue et al., 2016; Youn et al., 2018; Zhang et al., 2013). Therefore, we tested whether acute activation of all OANs resulted in tracking suppression by using optogenetic activation via the *Tdc2-Gal4* driver paired with the odor stimulus (Figures 5A and 5B). Activation (*Tdc2>CsChrimson*) fully suppressed odor tracking and led to immediate and persistent slowing down or stopping (Figures 5A and 5B). To gain more evidence that *Tdc2+* neuron activation suppressed food finding behavior and represented something attractive to the animal, we used a custom-built 4-arm olfactory choice assay (Figure S3A). Optogenetic activation of *Tdc2+* neurons alone or in the presence of vinegar odor in the same quadrant resulted in a significantly higher dwell time of the flies in the illuminated quadrants (Figures S3A–S3D). Based on these data, OANs appear to be good candidates for enabling the animal to prioritize the short-range exploration and exploitation of a food source over odor-induced long-range food search.

A Specific Subtype of OA Neurons Antagonizes Food Odor Tracking

The ventral cluster of *Tdc2+* neurons represents one of the largest and contains several types of OANs such as the VUM (ventral unpaired medial) and VPM (ventral paired medial) type neurons, which again contain different anatomically distinct types of neurons (Busch and Tanimoto, 2010).

To pinpoint the exact neuron(s) capable of suppressing odor tracking, we screened several candidate OAN lines by optogenetic activation. Activation of OANs labeled by two Split-Gal4 lines, MB113C and MB22B, labeling two neuron types of the VPM cluster, VPM3 and VPM4 (Figures 5G–5J), strongly suppressed food odor tracking (Figures 5C and 5D) and led to a

sustained decrease in speed during light plus odor stimulation (Figure 5D). Genetic controls and flies carrying the same transgenes, but which were stimulated only with odor and not light, behaved like control flies (Figures S3E and S3F). Inhibition of the synaptic output of these VPM neurons in fed or starved flies did not result in a change in food odor tracking (Figures S3G–S3J), showing that these neurons are not directly involved in the execution of tracking behavior or olfactory processing. In addition, activation of VPM3/VPM4 in the 4-arm olfactory choice assay significantly increased the time flies spent on the light and odor quadrant (Figures 5E and 5F). This result supports our interpretation that OA-VPM3/VPM4 neurons suppress long-distance food search behavior.

Line MB113C and MB22B overlap only in one neuron type, VPM4, (Aso et al., 2014a), indicating that this neuron was central to the observed behavior. Antibody staining against octopamine confirmed the categorization as OAN (Figures 5K and 5L). Interestingly, in line with our findings, a recent study showed that VPM4 neurons promote feeding and modulate peripheral sugar taste neurons in hungry flies (Youn et al., 2018). Based on this previous work and our results, it appears that OA-VPM4 neurons suppress odor tracking behavior and promote feeding related behaviors.

VPM4 Directly Inhibits MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β

VPM3/VPM4 neurons extend dendrites within the sub- and periesophageal zones and send projections to the MB and other higher brain regions (Figures 5I and 5J). Interestingly, at the level of the MB lobes, the innervation pattern of MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β overlaps partially with VPM4 in the γ 1 MB lobe, indicating that VPM4 and MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β might be directly connected (Figure S4A). Moreover, recent analysis of the MB connectome in the *Drosophila* larva revealed an octopaminergic neuron, named OAN- γ 1, forming direct synapses onto MBON- γ 1/ γ 2 neurons, which are proposed to mediate feed-forward inhibition similar to MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β (Eichler et al., 2017).

We investigated the possibility of similar connectivity using a recently published EM volume of an entire female adult *Drosophila* brain (Zheng et al., 2018). Reconstruction of MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β and subsequent sampling of its synaptic inputs to the γ 1 compartment quickly led to the identification of two putatively aminergic neurons (based on the presence of dense core vesicles). Further reconstructions identified these neurons morphologically to be VPM3 and VPM4 (Figure 6A). Both neurons form numerous synaptic contacts onto MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β dendrites exclusively in the γ 1 compartment with VPM4 making about 50% more synapses than VPM3 (Figures 6B, 6C, and S4B–S4D). In addition, MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β also made a smaller number of reciprocal synaptic contacts back to VPM3 but not to VPM4 (Figure S4B). We found no evidence that VPMs contact MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β in other regions of the MB lobes, although we cannot completely rule this out.

Next, we expressed the ATP-sensitive mammalian channel P2X2 (Yao et al., 2012) in VPM4 to test the effect of activating this OAN on MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β (Figure 6D). We monitored GCaMP6f fluorescence in MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β upon adding ATP to an *in vivo* brain preparation (Figures 6D and 6E). Addition of ATP led to a significant decrease in baseline GCaMP

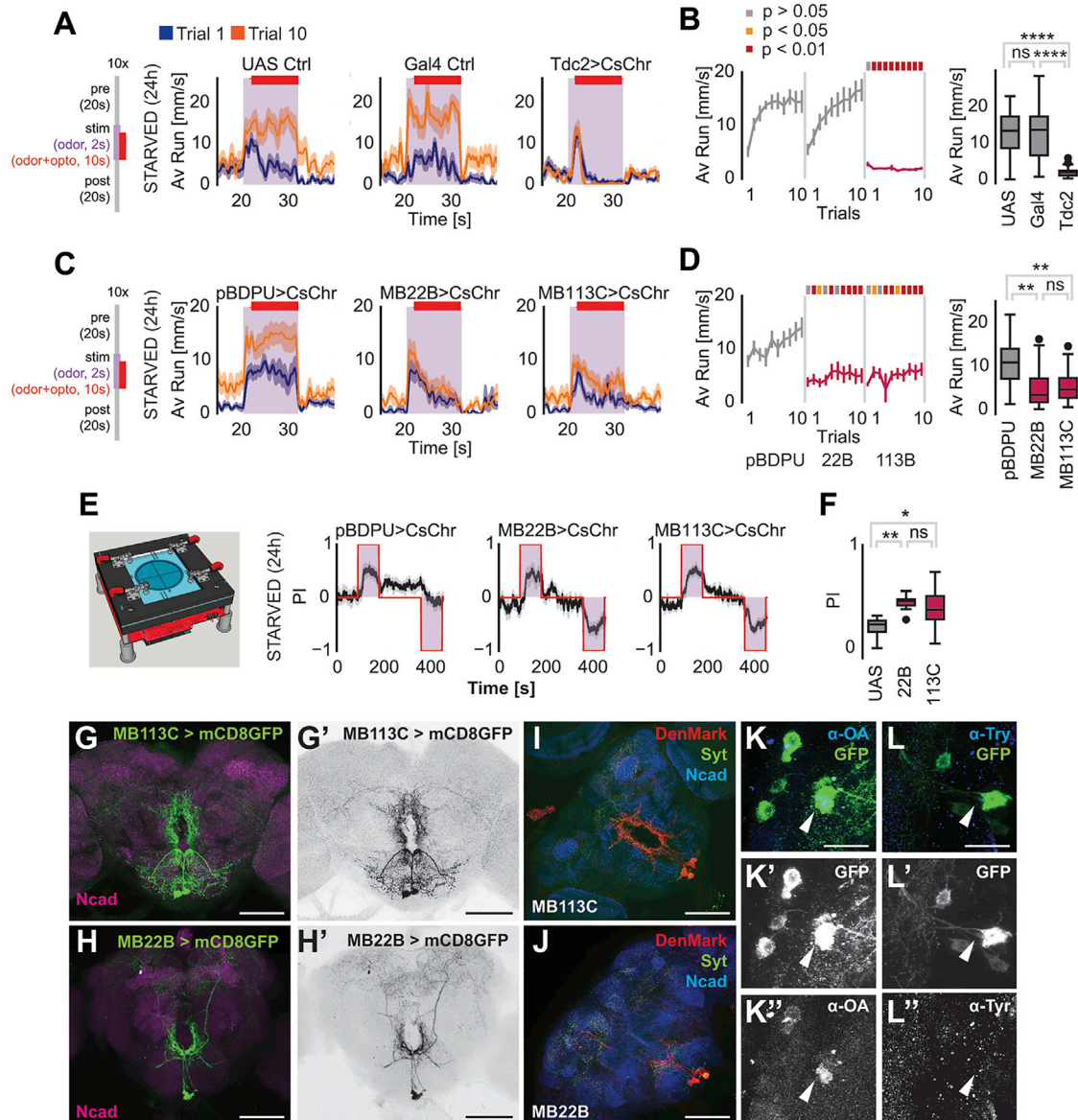


Figure 5. A Subset of Octopaminergic Neurons Inhibit Odor Tracking

(A) Acute optogenetic activation of octopaminergic neurons. CsChrimson was expressed in octopaminergic neurons by *Tdc2>UAS-CsChrimson* (Controls: UAS Ctrl: +>*UAS-CsChrimson*, Gal4 Ctrl: *Tdc2-Gal4>+*). Running speeds during trial 1 and trial 10.

(B) Evolution of average running speeds for *Tdc2>UAS-CsChrimson* flies during odor exposure over trials. The boxplot displays the main group effect.

(C) Acute optogenetic activation of VPM neurons. MB22B harbors VPM3 and VPM4 neurons, whereas MB113C labels only VPM4 (Control: *pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson*). Running speeds during trial 1 and trial 10.

(D) Average running speeds for *MB22B>UAS-CsChrimson* and *MB113C>UAS-CsChrimson* flies during odor exposure. The boxplot displays the main group effect.

(E) Left: Scheme of optogenetic and olfactory behavioral test arena. Right: Average preference index during optogenetic activation of octopaminergic neurons under vinegar exposure.

(F) Activation of VPMs compared to genetic controls.

(G–J) Expression patterns and polarity of MB22B (H, H', and J) and MB113C (G, G', and J) split-Gal4 lines. SEZ (subesophageal zone); PEZ (periesophageal zone) (K–L'') VPM4 neurons (*MB113C>mCD8GFP*) express octopamine.

For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

fluorescence in MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β neurons in the presence of P2X2 in VPM4 but not in controls (Figure 6E). Similarly, activation of VPM4 through ATP also reduced the odor-evoked GCaMP6f

signal in MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β neurons (Figure 6F). These results provide strong evidence for an inhibitory synaptic connection between VPM4 and MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β .

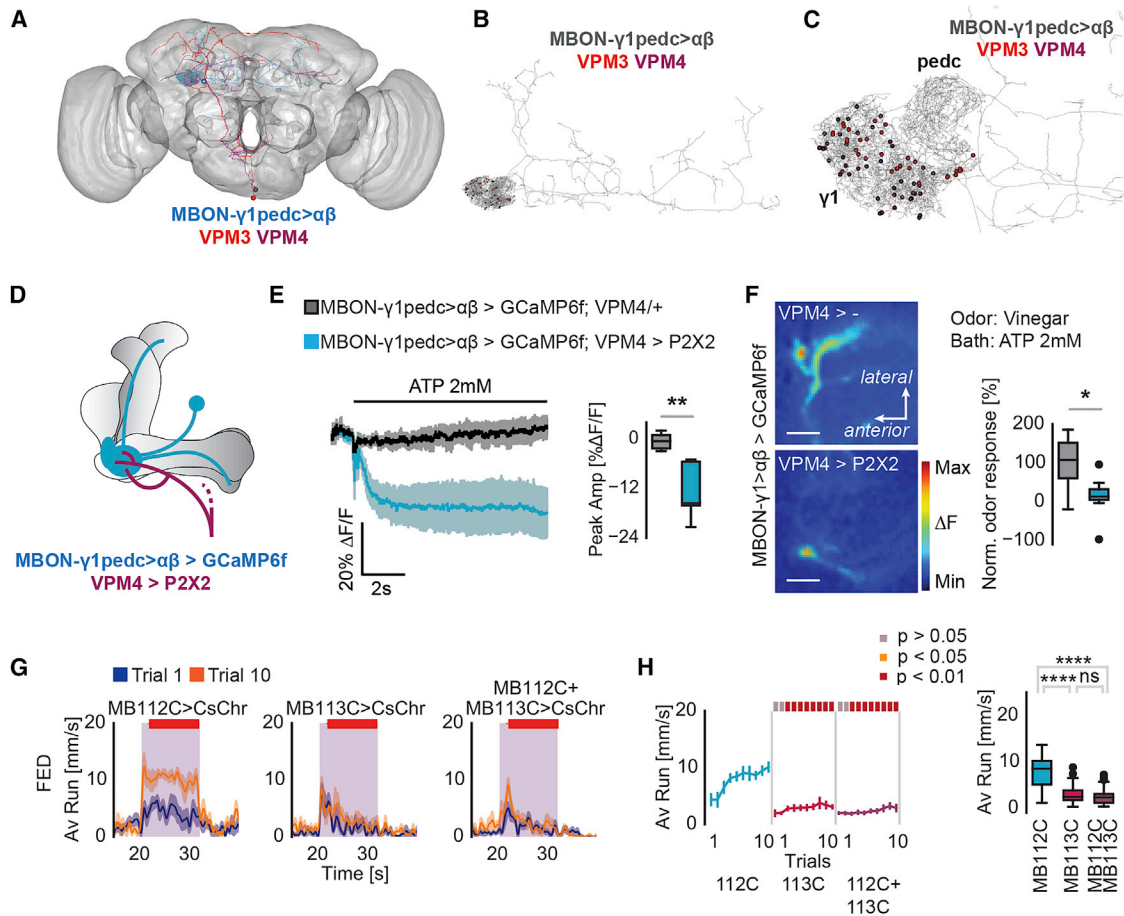


Figure 6. VPM4 Modulates MVP2-Dependent Tracking

(A–C) EM reconstruction reveals synaptic connections between MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ and VPM3 and VPM4.

(A) Skeletons of EM reconstruction of MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ (blue), VPM3 (red), and VPM4 (purple) on the neuropil of a whole fly brain.

(B) Red (VPM3) and purple (VPM4) indicate the synapses between VPMs and MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$, respectively.

(C) Higher magnification of B.

(D) Scheme showing VPM4 and MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ neurons at the level of the mushroom body and the genetic combination of transgenes expressed in the fly used for the experiment.

(E) Left: Average traces of GCaMP fluorescence in MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ dendrites upon ATP application on brain in an *in vivo* preparation. Right: Boxplots displaying peak amplitude of % $\rho F/F$ GCaMP fluorescence in MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ /MVP2 upon ATP application.

(F) Left: Representative pseudocolored images displaying GCaMP fluorescence in MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ during odor stimulation (12 s vinegar) upon ATP application in an *in vivo* preparation. Right: Boxplots displaying normalized (to genetic control) responses (area under the curve) to 12 s vinegar and ATP stimulation in MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ /MVP2.

(G) Epistasis experiment for VPM4 and MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ suggesting that VPM4 suppresses MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ induced odor tracking. Running speed at trial 1 and 10.

(H) Running speeds over trials during odor stimulation period.

For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

Consistent with a direct synaptic connection, we found that activation of VPM4 and inactivation of MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ showed similar phenotypes (i.e., reduction of odor tracking). Therefore, we argued that activation of VPM4 could potentially override the activation of MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ and inhibit odor tracking. To test this, we combined MB112C- and MB113C-Gal4 with UAS-CsChrimson and applied the same protocol as above. Activation of only MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ led to significant odor tracking in response to vinegar in the fed fly as expected (Figures 6G, 6H, S4E, and S4F). Concurrent activation of both

neurons (VPM4 and MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$) showed that VPM4 activation with the Split-Gal4 line MB113C was sufficient to suppress the effect of activation of MBON- $\gamma 1pedc > \alpha\beta$ (Figures 6G, 6H, S4E, and S4F). This could occur through the direct synaptic interaction of these two neurons, although other mechanisms cannot be excluded.

We conclude that OA-VPM4 arbitrates between odor-mediated food search and the rewarding experience of feeding by promoting taste-induced consumption behavior (Youn et al., 2018) and simultaneously suppressing food odor tracking.

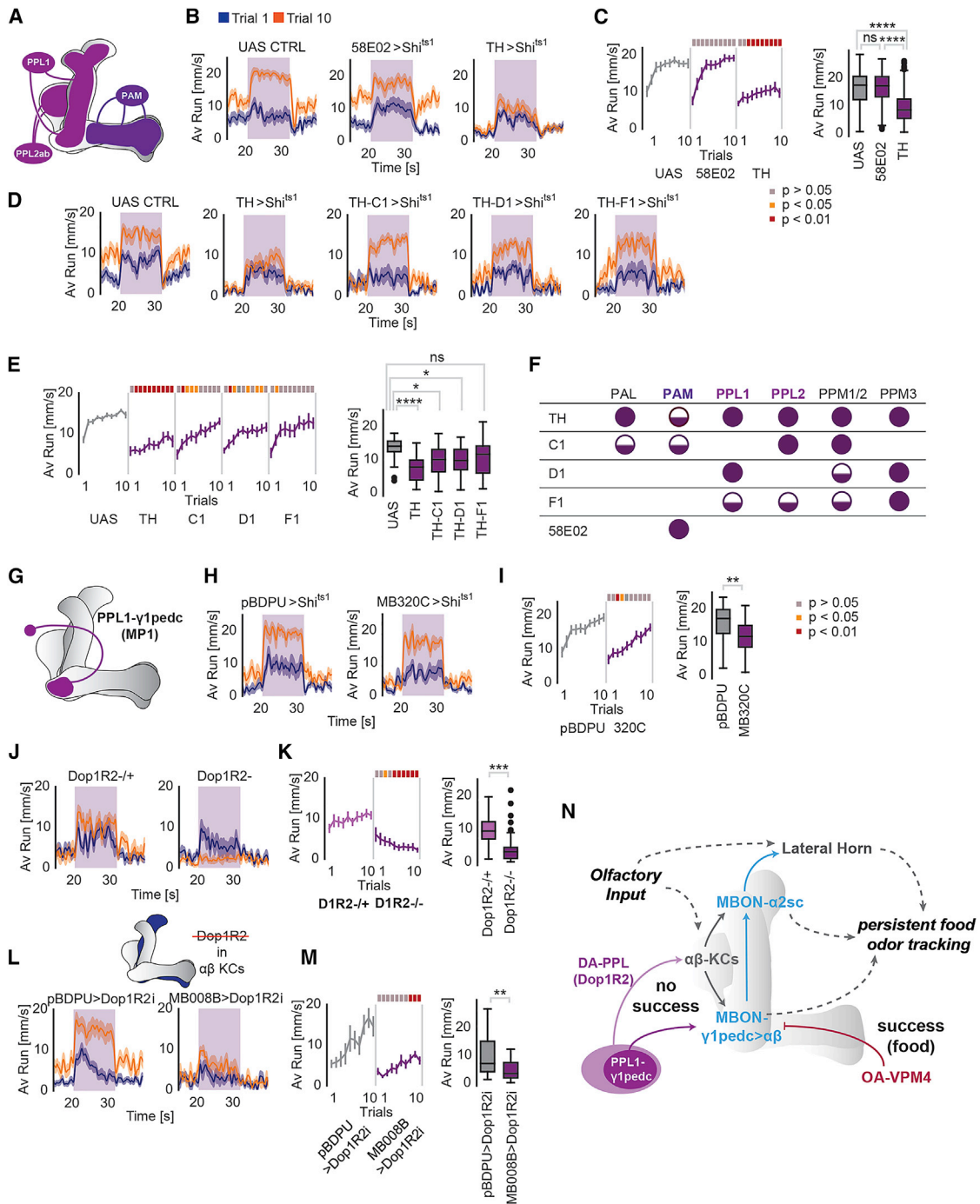


Figure 7. Persistence in Odor Tracking Depends on Dopamine Signaling

(A) Scheme of dopaminergic neurons innervating MB lobes.
 (B) Running speed of hungry flies at trial 1 and 10 (24 h starved) with inactivated output of either PAM DANs (*58E02-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}*) or TH+/PPL DANs (*TH-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}*).
 (C) Average running speed over 10 trials for hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of PAM DANs (*58E02-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}*) or TH+ DANs (*TH-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}*) compared to control. The boxplot displays the main group effect.
 (D) Running speed during trial 1 and 10 of hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of different subsets of DANs within the TH-Gal4 positive DAN cluster.
 (E) Average running speed during odor stimulation over 10 trials of hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of different DAN/TH+ subsets. The boxplot displays the main group effect.
 (F) Table of TH-Gal4 transgenes in different clusters of DANs.

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Dopaminergic Neurons Are Necessary for Persistent Odor Tracking

In lieu of a reward or activation of sugar or VPM neurons, flies continue to track food odor. Given the important role of specific MBONs in this behavior, we tested whether dopamine could be involved. Two major subsets of DANs previously implicated in odor-guided behavior exist in the fly brain: the protocerebral anterior medial (PAM) and the protocerebral posterior lateral (PPL1) cluster (Aso et al., 2014a). In addition, a number of smaller DAN subsets exist in the fly (Mao and Davis, 2009) (Figure 7A). While the PAM cluster mediates positive experiences during classical conditioning, PPL1 neurons transmit painful stimuli such as electric shock or heat to the MB (Burke et al., 2012; Galili et al., 2011; Liu et al., 2012). The transgenic line TH-Gal4 labels all cells in the PPL1 and PPL2ab clusters, as well as only one DAN from the PAM group. Thermogenetic activation of these 'TH+' neurons can substitute an aversive stimulus and induce negative memories (Aso et al., 2012).

Inactivation of TH+ neuron output by overexpression of *shibire* under the control of TH-Gal4 (*TH>sh^{ts1}*) changed the fly's behavior significantly (Figure 7B). While *TH-sh^{ts1}* flies accelerated at the beginning of each trial in response to odorant, their behavior did not evolve from trial 1 to trial 10 (Figures 7B and 7C). As a permanent lack of dopamine affects motor activity and startle behavior (Riemensperger et al., 2011), we tested whether *TH-sh^{ts1}* flies were simply not able to run as fast as controls. To this end, we measured the flies' spontaneous running speed in the absence of odor at the elevated temperature of 35°C, as this stimulates fast running in control flies (Figures S5A and S5B). Here, *TH-sh^{ts1}* flies behaved indistinguishably from control flies and ran at speeds of 20 and even 30 mm/s (Figure S5B). These data suggest that motor deficits are not responsible for the reduction in odor tracking persistence upon inactivation of TH+ DANs.

In contrast to TH+ neuron inactivation, inactivation of all PAM neurons with the line 58E02-Gal4 driving *UAS-sh^{ts1}* had no effect on the fly's tracking behavior and persistence as compared to control flies (Figures 7B and 7C). These data posit that a subset of DANs, in particular those involved in aversive memory formation, are required to drive increased odor tracking with every non-rewarded trial.

TH-Gal4 labels a number of DANs in the fly brain, including some outside the MB (Mao and Davis, 2009). We sought to further narrow down the type of DAN that mediates persistence in odor tracking. We screened a number of transgenic lines ex-

pressing either in single types or smaller subsets of DANs (Aso and Rubin, 2016; Liu et al., 2012) (Figures 7E–7H and S7C–S7E). Inhibition of most single PPL1 DANs did not result in a significant difference in tracking behavior compared to controls (Figures S5D and S5E). However, inhibition of some TH+ neuron subsets using Gal4-transgenic lines generated by enhancer-bashing of the original TH-Gal4 enhancer significantly decreased persistent odor tracking (Figures 7D–7F). Furthermore, driving *sh^{ts1}* expression in PPL1- γ 1pedc (or MP1, MB320C-Gal4), previously shown to modulate MBON- γ 1pedc> α/β in a hunger state-dependent manner (Figures 7G–7I) (Pavlovsky et al., 2018; Perisse et al., 2016; Tsao et al., 2018), also significantly dampened the flies' average tracking behavior compared to control (Figures 7H and 7I). Altogether, although we cannot exclude a contribution of DANs outside of the MB network, these results suggest that subsets of PPL1 and PPL2 neurons are involved in maintaining and increasing olfactory tracking but also that no single subset alone mediates the full effect.

Dop1R2 in Kenyon Cells Regulates Persistent Tracking

Having implicated dopamine in persistent odor tracking, we next sought to identify the mechanism. The best studied dopamine receptors in the fly are D1-like receptors Dop1R1 (or Dumb, dDA1, DopR1) and Dop1R2 (or Damb, DopR2). Prior work suggested that Dop1R1 mediates memory acquisition, and Dop1R2 facilitates forgetting; while Dop1R1 induces stronger cAMP-dependent signaling, Dop1R2 signaling initiates higher calcium levels in the post-synaptic neuron through a different G-protein than induced by Dop1R1 (Berry et al., 2012; Himmelreich et al., 2017). Interestingly, Dop1R2 has also been implicated in the formation of long-lasting aversive memory induced through a protocol of repeated pairings of odor with electric shocks (Plaçais et al., 2012, 2017). We analyzed mutant flies of both receptors on the fly ball to test their persistence in odor tracking. Dop1R1 mutants performed non-significantly differently from heterozygous controls and reached the same average speed during stimulus periods (Figures S5F and S5G). By contrast, Dop1R2 mutant animals displayed a strongly reduced speed and tracked the odorant less persistently (Figures 7J and 7K). Their average speed during stimulus periods was significantly reduced, although their speed during the first stimulus period (dark blue curve, Figure 7J) was not different from heterozygous controls (Figures 7J and 7K). Instead, the significant reduction in stimulus speed resulted from a gradual decrease of running speed and length in

(G) Scheme displaying PPL1- γ 1pedc (MP1) DAN innervating the MB.

(H) Running speed during trial 1 and 10 of hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of PPL1- γ 1pedc (MP1) compared to controls.

(I) Average running speed during odor stimulation over 10 trials of hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of PPL1- γ 1pedc (MP1) compared to controls. The boxplot displays the main group effect.

(J) Running speed during trial 1 and 10 of hungry flies (24 h starved) lacking the Dop1R2 receptor gene and heterozygous controls.

(K) Average running speed during odor stimulation over 10 trials of hungry flies (24 h starved) without Dop1R2 compared to heterozygous controls. The boxplot displays the main group effect.

(L) Running speed during trials 1 and 10 for hungry flies (24 h starved) with Dop1R2 receptor knockdown in $\alpha\beta$ Kenyon cells (*MB008B>Dop1R2i*) compared to controls (*pBDPU>Dop1R2i*).

(M) Average running speeds over 10 trials for hungry flies (24 h starved) with Dop1R2 receptor knockdown in $\alpha\beta$ Kenyon cells (*MB008B>Dop1R2i*) compared to controls (*pBDPU>Dop1R2i*). The boxplot displays the main group effect.

(N) Model of neurons implicated in persistent odor tracking (see main text for details).

For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: ns, $p > 0.05$; *, $p < 0.05$; **, $p < 0.01$; ***, $p < 0.001$; ****, $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

response to the stimulus (Figure 7K). As both types of MBONs involved in persistent odor tracking receive input by $\alpha\beta$ -type KCs, we next asked whether Dop1R2 signaling was required in these neurons by knocking down Dop1R2 expression by RNAi specifically in these neurons (*MB008B>Dop1R2i*). This was indeed the case. Flies without Dop1R2 in $\alpha\beta$ -type KCs showed a strong decrease in persistent odor tracking over trials compared to controls (Figures 7L and 7M). These data implicate Dop1R2 as an important mediator of tracking persistence in the absence of reward, a function perhaps in line with a role of this receptor in maintaining memory of past, possibly negative, experience (see for instance [Dolan et al., 2018; Plaçais et al., 2013; Séjourné et al., 2011]).

DISCUSSION

What drives gradually increasing persistence in behavior? For the fly, we propose a model by which a circuit module of KCs, MBONs, and DANs drive gradually increasing odor tracking, which can be efficiently suppressed by extrinsic MBON-innervating feeding-related OANs (Figure 7N). Behavioral persistence has been previously analyzed in flies in a different context. For instance, courtship of fly males and copulation with a female are maintained by dopaminergic neurons in the ventral nerve cord, where they counteract GABAergic neurons (Crickmore and Vosshall, 2013). In that scenario, DANs in the ventral nerve cord maintain an ongoing behavior and prevent that the male disengages prematurely before successful insemination.

Our experimental data also implicate DANs, primarily from within the PPL1 (e.g., PPL1- γ 1pedc) and PPL2ab clusters, and Dop1R2 signaling. In particular, inactivation of synaptic output of DANs positive for TH-Gal4 as well as loss of Dop1R2 in $\alpha\beta$ -type KCs reduced the increase in odor tracking from trial to trial, while not affecting the speed at first odor stimulation. These data suggest that TH+ DANs promote goal-directed movement, i.e., odor tracking, through a Dop1R2-dependent mechanism in KCs.

We find that MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$, which receives dopaminergic input by PPL1- γ 1pedc (Aso et al., 2014a, 2014b; Yamagata et al., 2015), is required for odor tracking (see also Tsao et al., 2018). Moreover, we also observed a trial-to-trial decrease in odor response of this MBON, matching the dopamine-induced synaptic depression previously observed in MBONs upon learning (Cohn et al., 2015; Hige et al., 2015; Oswald et al., 2015). Notably, PPL1- γ 1pedc activates Dop1R2 in MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$, a signal recently found to be critical for appetitive long-term memory (Pavlovsky et al., 2018). Nevertheless, it appears that, in addition to PPL1- γ 1pedc, other DANs regulate behavioral persistence by modulating in particular $\alpha\beta$ -KCs. It is intriguing to speculate about a common function of Dop1R2 in the formation of long-lasting aversive memory induced by repeatedly pairing odor with an aversive experience (Plaçais et al., 2012, 2017) and the behavior studied here—increased and persistent expression of a behavior induced by the experience of repeated failure to reach a goal.

Our experimental data further implicated MBON- α 2sc, which is connected to MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$ (Takemura et al., 2017). Our calcium imaging data are consistent with an inhibitory interaction between the two MBONs. However, some of our

behavioral data and prior imaging data (Perisse et al., 2016) do not support an inhibitory connection. Furthermore, MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$ projects to other brain regions and downstream targets, and similarly MBON- α 2sc receives additional inputs—all of which could be equally or more important for persistent behavior than a direct connection between these two MBONs. Finally, some DANs respond to movement (Aimon et al., 2019), including PPL1- γ 2 α :1/MV1 (Berry et al., 2015). Although we did not find an essential role of this particular neuron in odor tracking persistence, movement might contribute to the activity of MBONs responding the odorant.

Remarkably, MBON- α 2sc connects the MB to neurons within the LH (Dolan et al., 2018). Thus, we speculate that the LH might assign an odor to its corresponding behavioral category, such as “food-related” for vinegar (Dolan et al., 2018), while the MB acts as a top-down control to gauge the expression of an innate behavior (i.e., tracking an appetitive odor) according to state and experience.

Our behavioral data led us to propose a circuit model (Figure 7N). Using computational modeling, we have tested whether the MB network including DANs and MBONs could, in theory, produce the observed behavior (Figures S5H–S5O; STAR Methods). Indeed, we find that a simplified recurrent circuit of KCs, DANs, and MBONs (Eichler et al., 2017; Takemura et al., 2017) can account for the observed behavioral persistence and also the measured MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$ odor responses. While this model cannot replace experimental evidence, it forms a useful theoretical framework for future studies on the role of the MB in behavioral persistence.

Based on our present data and computational predictions, we propose a model by which the recurrent circuit architecture of the MB, in addition to storing information for future behavior, is ideally suited to maintain and gradually change ongoing behavior, for instance by modulating output of the LH, according to the animal’s internal state and needs.

The use of an olfactory treadmill has allowed us to dissect the different aspects of a food search. In particular, how does food and feeding suppress food search if the sensory cue, the odor, is still present? OA-VPM4 connects feeding centers (i.e., SEZ) directly with odor tracking-promoting MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$ and inhibits its activity suggesting an inhibitory connection between VPM4 and the MBON. Nevertheless, we cannot exclude that OA-VPM4 signals through multiple mechanisms including OA and possibly other neurotransmitters. In addition, a recent study showed that activation of VPM4 promotes proboscis extension to sugar (Youn et al., 2018). Although a direct role in taste detection through pharynx or labellum appears unlikely (data not shown and Youn et al., 2018), it is possible that feeding behavior itself (e.g., lymphatic sugar, food texture, activity of feeding muscles) are detected and/or promoted by these neurons and then brought to the MB. We propose that VPM4 is a direct mediator between olfactory-guided food search and the rewarding experience of feeding and related behavior.

Conclusions

Our data provide a neural circuit mechanism empowering flies to express and prioritize behavior in a need- and state-dependent manner.

It is exciting to speculate that fundamentally similar circuit motifs might exist in NE and DA neuron-containing circuits in the mammalian brain, governing the organization of behavior in a flexible and context-dependent manner by integrating internal and external context. For instance, noradrenergic neurons of the brainstem nucleus of the solitary tract (NST) receive taste information, and input from the gastrointestinal tracts, lungs, and heart (Carleton et al., 2010). Neurons in the NST project to multiple brain regions including the amygdala, hypothalamus, and insular cortex (Carleton et al., 2010), all of which receive internal state as well as other sensory information.

Our data in the fly provide an experimental and theoretical framework for a better understanding of the fundamental circuit mechanisms underpinning neuromodulation of context-dependent behavioral persistence and withdrawal.

STAR-METHODS

Detailed methods are provided in the online version of this paper and include the following:

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SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Supplemental Information can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.neuron.2019.07.028>.

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AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

S.S. designed and built the spherical treadmill assay with help and input by I.C.G.K. S.S. carried out all behavioral analysis on the treadmill assay with the exception of Figures 7L, 7M, 4A, and 4B, which were done by J.-F.D.B. J.-F.D.B. and K.P.S. designed and carried out all imaging experiments. M.E.W. and J.G. developed theoretical models which were critical to develop the experimental logic of this project. L.P.L. designed and built the 4-arm maze and carried out the T-maze screen for MBON lines involved in vinegar attraction. L.-M.F. and B.G. carried out and analyzed the 4-arm maze experiments. P.S., A.E.-S., C.B.F., N.S., S.A.C.-S., J.S.L., D.D.B., M.C., and G.S.X.E.J. carried out and analyzed all experiments relating to the EM reconstruction. S.S. and I.C.G.K. conceptualized the study with input by J.-F.D.B. I.C.G.K. oversaw and directed the study and wrote the manuscript with contributions of all authors.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The authors declare no competing interests.

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STAR-METHODS

KEY RESOURCES TABLE

REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Antibodies		
Anti-Mouse Alexa488	Molecular Probes	AB_221544
Anti-Mouse Alexa633	Molecular Probes	AB_141431
Anti-Rabbit Alexa568	Molecular Probes	AB_141416
Anti-Rabbit Alexa633	Molecular Probes	AB_2535731
Anti-Rat Alexa568	Molecular Probes	AB_141874
Mouse monoclonal anti-ChAT	Yasuyama et al., 1995	N/A
Mouse monoclonal anti-OA	Jena Bioscience	AB_2315000
Rabbit polyclonal anti-dsRed	Clontech	AB_10013483
Rabbit polyclonal anti-Tyr	Millipore	AB_11215460
Rat monoclonal anti-GFP [3H9]	Chromotek	AB_10773374
Rat monoclonal anti-Ncadherin	DSHB	AB_528121
Experimental Models: Organisms/Strains		
D.mel/Canton-S	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0064349
D.mel/Dop1R1 ^{attP}	Gift from Vanessa Ruta	N/A
D.mel/Dop1R2 ^{attP}	Keleman et al., 2012	FlyBase: FBal0283280
D.mel/GMR58E02-Gal4	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0041347
D.mel/GMR64C08-Gal4	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0039299
D.mel/GMR95A10-LexA	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0061633
D.mel/Gr43a-Gal4	Miyamoto et al., 2012	FlyBase: FBti0168340
D.mel/Gr5a-Gal4	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0057592
D.mel/LexAop2-mCD8-GFP	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0056182
D.mel/LexAop-P2X2	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0076030
D.mel/MB10B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068293
D.mel/MB112C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068263
D.mel/MB113C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068264
D.mel/MB11B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068294
D.mel/MB131B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068265
D.mel/MB152B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068266
D.mel/MB185B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068267
D.mel/MB18B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068296
D.mel/MB210B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068272
D.mel/MB22B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068298
D.mel/MB242A	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068307
D.mel/MB27B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068301
D.mel/MB28B	Janelia RC	N/A
D.mel/MB298B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068309
D.mel/MB2B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068305
D.mel/MB310C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068313
D.mel/MB320C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068253
D.mel/MB355B	Janelia RC	N/A
D.mel/MB364B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068318
D.mel/MB370B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068319
D.mel/MB371B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068383

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
D.mel/MB399B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068369
D.mel/MB417B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068321
D.mel/MB418B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068322
D.mel/MB419B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068323
D.mel/MB433B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068324
D.mel/MB434B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068325
D.mel/MB438B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068326
D.mel/MB461B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068327
D.mel/MB463B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068370
D.mel/MB477B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068328
D.mel/MB504B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068329
D.mel/MB50B	Janelia RC	Flybase: FBst0068365
D.mel/MB51B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068275
D.mel/MB52B	Janelia RC	N/A
D.mel/MB542B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068372
D.mel/MB543B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068335
D.mel/MB549C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068373
D.mel/MB552B	Janelia RC	N/A
D.mel/MB57B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068277
D.mel/MB58B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068278
D.mel/MB5B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068306
D.mel/MB60B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068279
D.mel/MB74C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068282
D.mel/MB80C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068285
D.mel/MB82C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068286
D.mel/MB83C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068287
D.mel/MB8B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068291
D.mel/MB93C	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068289
D.mel/MB9B	Janelia RC	FlyBase: FBst0068292
D.mel/pBDP-Gal4U	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0068384
D.mel/Tdc2-Gal4	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0009313
D.mel/TH-C1-Gal4	Liu et al., 2012	FlyBase: FBtp0083567
D.mel/TH-D1-Gal4	Liu et al., 2012	FlyBase: FBtp0083568
D.mel/TH-F1-Gal4	Liu et al., 2012	FlyBase: FBtp0083570
D.mel/TH-Gal4	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0008848
D.mel/UAS-CsChrimson	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0055134
D.mel/UAS-DenMark	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0033062
D.mel/UAS-GCaMP6f	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0042747
D.mel/UAS-mCD8-GFP	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0030001
D.mel/UAS-Shibire ^{ts1}	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0044222
D.mel/UAS-syt-GFP	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0006926
D.mel/w1118	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBst0003605
D.mel/UAS-Dop1R2i	Bloomington DSC	FlyBase: FBti0157409
Software and Algorithms		
Matplotlib 1.4.2	Matplotlib	https://matplotlib.org
Numpy 1.8	Numpy	https://numpy.org
Prism 6 and 7	GraphPad	https://www.graphpad.com/scientific-software/prism

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REAGENT or RESOURCE	SOURCE	IDENTIFIER
Python 2.7	Python	https://www.python.org
Pyvttbl 0.5.2.2	Github	https://github.com/rogerlew/pyvttbl
Scipy.stats 0.14	Scipy	https://scipy.org
pCLAMP 10.3	Molecular Devices	https://www.moleculardevices.com/
Igor Pro 6.37	Wave Metrics	https://www.wavemetrics.com/
NeuroMatic 3.0	Rothman and Silver, 2018	http://neuromatic.thinkrandom.com/index.html
LAS AF E6000 and LAS X	Leica Microsystems	https://www.leica-microsystems.com/
FV10-ASW	Olympus	https://www.olympus-lifescience.com/en/

LEAD CONTACT AND MATERIALS AVAILABILITY

Further information and requests for resources and reagents should be directed to and will be fulfilled by the Lead Contact, Ilona C. Grunwald Kadow (ilona.grunwald@tum.de).

EXPERIMENTAL MODEL AND SUBJECT DETAILS

Flies were raised at 25°C, 60% humidity, with a 12/12 hours light/dark cycle on a standard cornmeal media. For optogenetic experiments, adult flies were collected at eclosion, kept under blue light only conditions (470nm, 0,05 μ W/mm²) on an all-trans-retinal supplemented food (1:250). Fly lines were obtained from the Bloomington stock centers or directly from Janelia Research Campus.

METHOD DETAILS**Spherical Treadmill behavioral assay**

The spherical treadmill was built according to ([Seelig et al., 2010](#)) with several modifications to accommodate olfactory instead of visual stimulation protocols. Fly tethering was performed under cold anesthesia and flies were immediately transferred onto the treadmill. After 3 min of acclimatization, experiments were initialized and controlled via a custom-written Python program. Flies that failed to acclimatize and reach a minimum speed of 1.5 mm/s before the first stimulus were discarded. An experiment consisted of 10 consecutive trials (with the exception of 6 trials for CO₂ experiments to prevent anesthesia), which were separated by semi-randomized intervals of 60 \pm 2-20 s. Each trial was recorded for a minimum of 52 s. The recording was divided into pre-stimulation (20 s), stimulation (dependent on experimental procedure) and post-stimulation (30 s) periods. For open-loop experiments, the stimulation period was 12 s. The closed-loop experiments utilized a short open-loop phase (2 s), followed by a closed-loop phase. In the closed-loop phase, the fly controlled the odor stimulation length, i.e., the odor channel was kept open as long as the online speed criteria were met (> 0 mm/s for 100 ms). The online speed data acquisition rate in the cardinal directions was \sim 4kHz for all experiments. The recorded speed data were down-sampled to 10 Hz by summation. Butterworth filtering was employed in all open-loop data after down-sampling. All data analyses were performed with Python 2.7, numpy 1.8, scipy.stats (0.14), pyvttbl (0.5.2.2) and GraphPad Prism 7. Running and absolute turning average speeds were calculated as averages of 100 ms data points collected at cardinal directions in the respective phases of a trial. To minimize the impact of tethering artifacts, 100 ms data points for absolute turning speeds of each single trial were filtered with average absolute turning values, which were computed from the whole length of a respective trial. Average run time was defined as the initial uninterrupted running (speed > 0 mm/s) bout time length upon odor contact. Average run activity was measured as the fraction of odor stimulation time, where flies showed running speed higher than 0 mm/s. A stop was defined as not moving (0 mm/s) for at least 100 ms. Average run plots display millimeters run per second averaged across the entire stimulus period, and therefore also reflect early stopping (before the end of stimulus speed) and slower speeds. This form of display was most frequently used in figure panels to illustrate the change in speed and track length over trials in a combined manner. Data visualization was done with matplotlib (1.4.2). Optogenetic activation on the ball was achieved by using a single high-power mounted LED at 617 nm, calibrated at 30 W/mm² (M617, Thorlabs). Light stimulation in the absence of frontal air or odor stimulation induced some attraction and forward running toward the light source. This attraction was independent of the genotype of the animal and was seen also in wild-type Canton S flies. Similarly, simultaneous odor and light stimulation had no effect on Gal4 control flies. For appetitive olfactory stimulus delivery on the treadmill, a custom-made PTFE (Teflon) 4 mm tube was used and stationed at 3 mm distance from the tethered fly. The air speed was set to 100 mL/min via a Natec Sensors mass-flow controller. A balsamic vinegar solution (Alnatura Aceto Balsamico, Germany) was prepared daily at 20% v/v dilution in 100 mL Schott bottles. The vinegar concentration was measured with a miniPID (Aurora Scientific, miniPID 200B) and Arduino Uno at 100 Hz. PID recordings were filtered with Butterworth. The miniPID was calibrated with ethyl-butylate according

to (Semmelhack and Wang, 2009). For CO₂ delivery, a CO₂ stream was injected via a PTFE syringe inserted into the 100 mL/min pressurized air main stream. The auxiliary line carried pure CO₂ at 50 mL/min.

Optogenetic and olfactory 4-arm maze

The 4-arm arena is based on the optogenetics-only arena described in (Aso et al., 2014b). The air/odor delivery was achieved via 4 passive solvent channels (Schott bottles containing Millipore water or vinegar solution 20% v/v) and a rotary pump (Thomas G12/01-4 EB). The rotary pump (~200 mL/min) was connected to an outlet at the arena center. The negative pressure generated by the pump facilitates drawing headspace in the passive solvent channels. For rapid switching between odor channels and target quadrants, a set of solenoid valves (Festo MFH-3-MF) were used. For optogenetics, a custom assembled LED array (Amber SMD PLCC2) was utilized to stimulate each quadrant of the arena at 617nm. The arena was illuminated via IR-LEDs and experiments were recorded with a CMOS camera (FLIR Flea3 MP Mono). The behavioral analysis expressed as preference index ((number of flies in stimulus quadrants - number of flies in non-stimulus quadrants) / total number of flies). Hardware control and data acquisition was achieved via Arduino Mega and in-house MATLAB scripts. Examples of tracking data can be seen in Videos S1 and S2.

T-maze

The two-choice population assay or T-maze was performed as previously described in (Lewis et al., 2015). Briefly, flies were tested in groups of ~60 in a non-aspirated T-maze and were allowed 1 min to respond to stimuli. Experimentation was carried out in climate-controlled boxes at 32°C and 60% RH. A preference index (PI) was calculated by subtracting the number of flies on the air side by the number of flies on the stimulus side and normalizing by the total number of flies. Statistical analysis was performed using the Kruskal-Wallis' test and the Dunn's multiple comparisons post hoc test using GraphPad Prism 6.

Immunohistochemistry

Adult (4-7 days old) fly brains were dissected, fixed and stained as described previously (Lewis et al., 2015). All microscopy was performed at a Leica SP8 confocal microscope. Images were processed using ImageJ and Adobe Photoshop.

Electron microscopy and connectomics analysis

Reconstructions are based on an ssTEM (serial section transmission electron microscope) dataset comprising an entire adult fly brain (Zheng et al., 2018). Neuron skeletons were manually reconstructed using CATMAID (<https://catmaid.readthedocs.org>) (Saalfeld et al., 2009; Schneider-Mizell et al., 2016). MBON- γ 1pedc> $\alpha\beta$ was initially identified by sampling downstream of KCs in the γ 1/peduncle compartment. VPM3 and VPM4 were found by semi-random sampling of synaptic inputs of MBON- γ 1pedc> $\alpha\beta$ in the γ 1 compartment. For identification, their microtubule-containing backbones were reconstructed and compared with published light-level data (Aso et al., 2014a; Busch et al., 2009). Subsequently, their axonal branches in the γ 1 compartment were reconstructed to completion and synaptic sites were annotated. Synaptic connections described here represent fast, chemical synapses matching previously described typical criteria: thick black active zones, pre- (e.g., T-bar, vesicles) and postsynaptic membrane specializations (Prokop and Meinertzhagen, 2006). Visualization and analysis were performed using open-source R (<https://github.com/jefferis/nat> and <https://github.com/jefferis/elmr>; ((Manton et al., 2014)) and Python (<https://github.com/schlegelp/pymaid>) libraries. Please see also Videos S3 and S4 for details on imaged synapses.

Ex vivo and in vivo Calcium Imaging

Calcium imaging experiments were performed on 4-8 days old MB112C-Gal4;UAS-GCaMP6f flies, and MB80C-Gal4;UAS-GCaMP6f (for *in vivo*, odor stimulation), and on 4-7 days old R95A10-lexA,lexAop-P2X2;MB112C-Gal4;UAS-GCaMP6f flies and their controls +,lexAop-P2X2;MB112C-Gal4;UAS-GCaMP6f (for *in vivo*, ATP and/or odor stimulation).

Preparations of flies for *in vivo* experiments were prepared as previously described (Bräcker et al., 2013). Preparations were imaged using a Leica DM6000FS fluorescent microscope equipped with a 40x water immersion objective and a Leica DFC 9000 GT fluorescent camera or a Olympus FV1000 two-photon system with BX61WI microscope and a 40x objective and a mode-locked T:Sapphire Mai Tai DeepSee laser at 910 nm to excite the GCaMP6 fluorescence. All images were acquired with either the Leica LAS X or the Olympus FV10-ASW image acquisition software. In order to minimize the brain movement of *in vivo* preparations under the two-photon microscope, a drop of 1% low melting temperature agarose (NuSieveGTG, Lonza) in imaging buffer maintained at 37°C was added to the exposed brain. A custom-made odor delivery system with mass flow controllers was used for vinegar stimulation. The odor was delivered in a continuous airstream (1000 mL/min) through a 8-mm Teflon tube placed ~1 cm away from the fly. *In vivo* two-photon time series data were acquired at a rate of ~4 frames/s with 175 × 175 pixel resolution.

For experiments including stimulation of P2X2 with ATP, ATP was either added to the buffer on top of the brain of a living fly to a final concentration of 2 mM or, when paired with odor stimulations, using a custom-built perfusion system (~2 mL/min, 2mM). Images were acquired at a rate of 20 frames/s (static conditions) or 16 frames/s, with 8x8 binning.

Changes in fluorescence intensity were measured in manually drawn regions of interest (ROI) using the LAS AF E6000 Lite, LAS X or the Olympus FV10-ASW software. Relative changes in fluorescence intensity were defined as $\Delta F/F = 100 * (F_i - F_0)/F_0$ for the *i* frames after stimulation. Fluorescence background, F_0 , is the average fluorescence of 5 frames (~1 s; *in vivo*, two-photon), 20 frames (~1 s; *in vivo*, ATP static) or 17 frames (~1 s; *in vivo*, ATP perfused).

Computational model

We assumed that the KC and DAN populations have neuronal activity governed by the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\tau_m \frac{dx(t)}{dt} &= -x(t) + \alpha x(t) + \beta y(t) + I(t) \\ \tau_m \frac{dy(t)}{dt} &= -y(t) + \alpha x(t) + \beta y(t) + I(t)\end{aligned}$$

where $x(t)$ denotes KC activity and $y(t)$ denotes DAN activity. During odor presentation, the input $I(t)$ is set to one, otherwise it is zero. α is the connectivity strength of KC-KC and KC-DAN synapses (Figure S5J, gray), and β corresponds to DAN-DAN and DAN-KC (Figure S5J, black). The time constant of integration for each population, τ_m , was fixed according KC responses observed in response to prolonged stimulus presentation (Galili et al., 2014). It is important to mention that this system can be analytically solved in the case of constant input. In matrix form with $\vec{r}(t) = [x(t), y(t)]^T$, we can rewrite the equation as:

$$\tau_m \frac{d\vec{r}(t)}{dt} = (W - \mathbb{I})\vec{r} + \vec{I}(t)$$

where \mathbb{I} is the identity matrix. This linear equation can be solved in terms of the eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = \alpha + \beta$, $\lambda_2 = 0$ and corresponding eigenvectors $\vec{v}_1 = [1, 1]^T$, $\vec{v}_2 = [1, -1]^T$ of W , and the main property of this system is the re-scaling of the effective time constant of neuronal activity projected onto the eigenmodes, $\tau'_{1,2} = \tau_m / (1 - \lambda_{1,2})$. Notice that for $\lambda \rightarrow 1$ the effective time constant goes to infinity, resulting in a perfect integration of the input without decay. Therefore, for values of connectivity with $\alpha + \beta \rightarrow 1$, KCs and DANs will maintain persistent activity even after stimulus offset. We explored this property of the recurrent network to generate the persistent activity consistent with behavioral observations (see Figure 1).

To directly compare model output of persistent neural activity to experimental observations of persistent running, we first applied a transfer function to convert the normalized sum of KC and DAN activity to MBON activity in the same range as the data (Figure 3D). Specifically, we considered an exponential transfer function:

$$v(z) = ae^{-bz},$$

where a is a multiplicative constant and b the exponent. Then, to obtain running speeds, we applied another exponential transfer function to the MBON activity.

Model fitting and parameters

We used the data from Figures 1E and 3D to fit our model's parameters by minimizing the mean squared error between the model output (predicted MBON activity and running speed) and the data (average fluorescence change of the peduncle region and measured average running speed, respectively). We fitted the two parameters of both exponential transfer functions. For perturbations up to 20% to the sum $\alpha + \beta \sim 1$ we still observed consistent persistent activity in the network (data not shown). For the results reported in Figure S5 we fixed the perturbation to 10%. The fitted parameters of the exponential transfer function in Figure S5O are $a = 540.5$, $b = 0.7$ and of Figure S5M are $a = 65.3$, $b = 2.6$. The remaining parameters were fixed: $\tau_m = 12$ s, $\alpha = 0.5$, and $\beta = 0.4$.

QUANTIFICATION AND STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Behavioral analysis

Statistical analyses were performed in Graphpad 7, and Python 2.7 with Pyvttbl (0.5.2.2) and Scipy.stats (0.14) packages. All results of the statistical analysis can be found in Table S1. Outliers were removed from all calculations with ROUT (Graphpad, $Q = 5\%$) analysis. Average speeds and run times, as described in the 'Spherical Treadmill behavioral assay' section above, were calculated for the indicated time windows (pre, stim, post). Baseline running speeds were analyzed before initial odor stimulation (see Table S1). Average run speeds show fly performance from odor onset until odor termination per trial or over all trials as indicated.

In Figures 1B and 1C, wild-type CS data were analyzed under different time windows (before, during and after odor exposure) for run and turn speeds with one-way ANOVA and Tukey's multiple comparisons as a post hoc test. To further inspect how run speeds over ten trials changed for the same dataset, the run speeds during the odor stimulation phase in the later trials were compared to the first trial in Dunnett's multiple comparisons test, after one-way ANOVA test (Figure 1E). During the closed-loop analyses, average run times did not conform normality. Therefore, total run times were calculated for individual flies and used in subsequent statistical analysis. Total run times, and run speeds were compared with one-way ANOVA and Tukey's multiple post hoc comparisons (Figures 1M and 1N).

In all subsequent spherical treadmill experiments (except S2G), two-way repeated-measures ANOVA was used. The genotypes were considered independent factors. Only when the same set of flies were analyzed under different conditions (Figure S1E: Air versus CO_2), both two factors (trials and conditions) were considered as the repeating factors in two-way repeated-measures ANOVA.

Main genotype or condition effects, independent of trial-to-trial differences, were depicted in boxplots. *p* values in the boxplots were inferred directly from two-way repeated-measures ANOVA for two groups (Figures 2B, 2D, 2F, 2H, 4E, 7I, 7K, 7M, S1D, S1E, S2D, and S2F) and from Tukey's multiple comparisons for more than two groups (Figures 1F, 1J, 4B, 5B, 5D, 6H, 7C, S5D, S5F, S5H, and S6E; for Figures 7E, S7C, and S7E only, Dunnett's test). Trial-to-trial post hoc comparisons were shown in line graphs, where each genotype was contrasted to relevant control group for each ten trials individually (i.e., trial 1 test group versus trial 1 control group etc.). When a single experimental group was present, Sidak's multiple comparisons were utilized (Figures 2B, 2D, 2F, 2H, 4E, 7I, 7K, 7M, S1D, S1E, S2D, and S2F). In other conditions where more than one experimental group was measured against a control group, Dunnett's multiple comparisons test were used (Figures 1G, 1H, 4B, 5B, 5D, 6H, 7C, 7E, S5D, S5F, S5H, S6E, S7C, and S7E).

Exceptions to the two-way analyses were as follows (Figures 1M, 1N, and S2G). During the closed-loop analyses (Figures 1M and 1N), average run times did not conform normality. Therefore, total run times were calculated for individual flies and used in subsequent statistical analysis. Total run times, and run speeds were compared with one-way ANOVA and Tukey's multiple post hoc comparisons (Figures 1M and 1N). In Figure S2G, only one repeating factor was tested. Consequently, one-way repeated-measures ANOVA was employed and succeeded by a Dunnett's multiple comparisons post hoc test for all trials.

Baseline speed comparisons were handled via Welch's *t* test for two groups and one-way ANOVA and Tukey's multiple post hoc comparisons for three groups (Table S1). All post hoc tests were chosen according to Graphpad's recommendations. For all analyses, statistical notations are as follows: 'ns' $p > 0.05$, '*' $p < 0.05$, '**' $p < 0.01$, '***' $p < 0.001$, '****' $p < 0.0001$. In all panels, error bars denote SEM.

Ex vivo and in vivo Calcium Imaging

$\Delta F/F$ traces were analyzed using the NeuroMatic 3.0 package for IgorPro 6.37 (WaveMetrics). Figure 3: The area under the curve (AUC) was computed for the entire stimulus period (MBON- γ 1pedc $>\alpha\beta$; Figures 3A–3D), for the onset peak odor response (between 0 and 5 s after stimulus onset; MBON- α 2sc; Figures 3F–3H) and for the offset peak odor response (between 0 and 20 s after stimulus offset, the longest peak duration observed in the dataset; MBON- α 2sc; Figure 3I). The offset peak decay was defined as the time constant of a single exponential fit of the peak decay (Figure 3J). AUCs and decay values were plotted over trials and compared using two-way repeated-measure ANOVA (Prism 7, GraphPad). For Figure 6D: The negative peak amplitude was computed as the average fluorescence for 5 s, 20 s after ATP application. Data were compared using an unpaired *t* test with Welch's correction for unequal variances (Prism 7, GraphPad). For Figure 6F: Data are expressed as the difference of AUC before and after ATP bath application, normalized by the average difference. Data were compared using an unpaired *t* test (Prism 7, GraphPad). Pseudo-colored images were generated using a custom-written MATLAB program and ImageJ.

DATA AND CODE AVAILABILITY

Source data and analysis code supporting the current study have not been deposited in a public repository, but are available from the corresponding author on request.

Supplemental Information

**A Neural Circuit Arbitrates between Persistence
and Withdrawal in Hungry *Drosophila***

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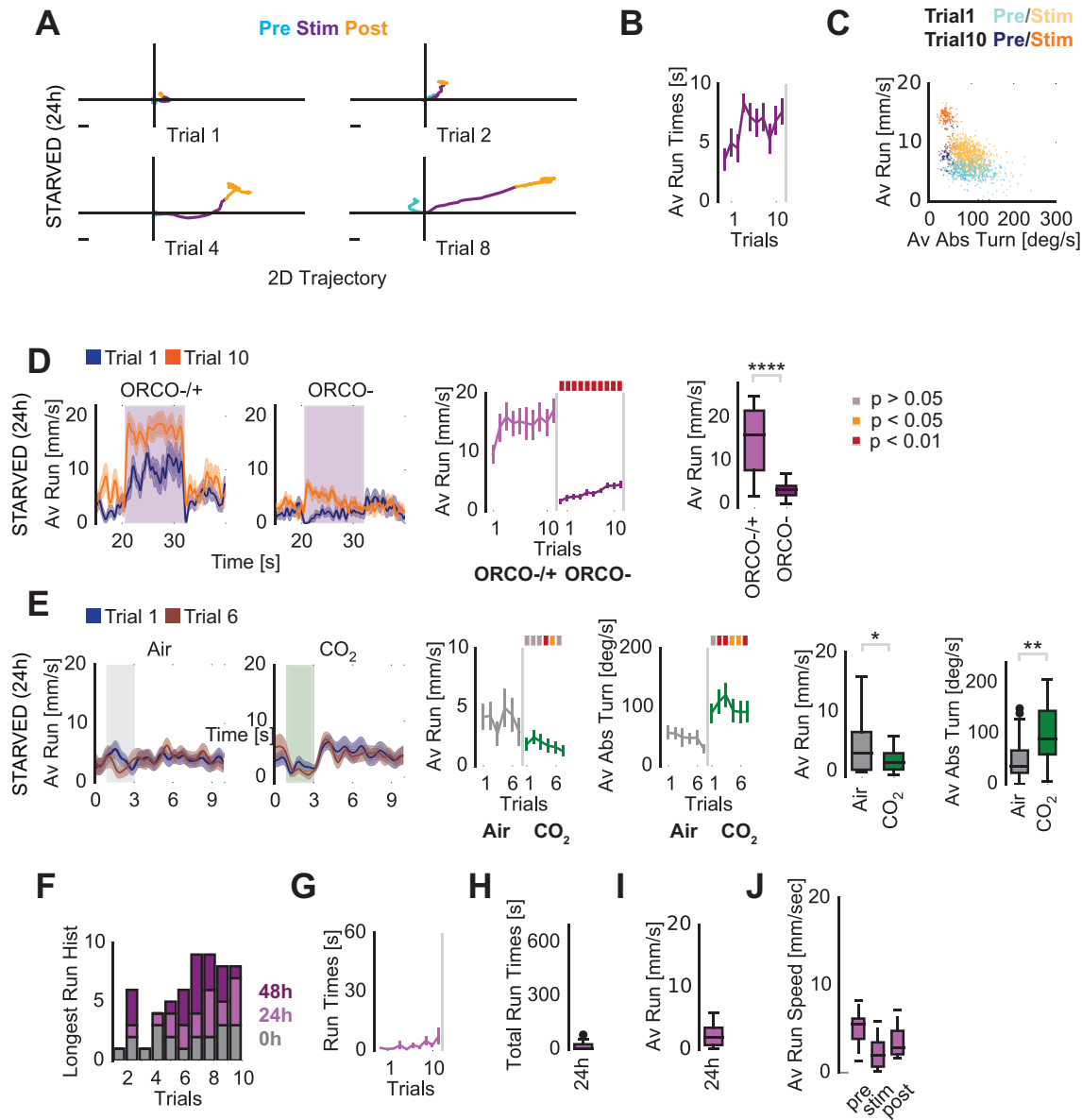


Fig. S1. Related to Fig. 1

(A) Reconstructed 2D trajectory of a representative fly during single trials. The pre- and post-stimulation behavior for 12 s were depicted in cyan and yellow, respectively, and odor-tracking behavior for 12 s in purple. All trials aligned at the origin for the odor onset. Over trials, the fly showed an increased persistence in running. The locomotion trajectory data were plotted against pseudo-cardinal coordinates and smoothed with Butterworth filter for visualization. (B) Average running time lengths during the first bout of running upon start of vinegar exposure. Longer running bouts were observed over trials. (C) Evolution of the two-dimensional behavioral space on the spherical treadmill, constructed from 100 ms chunks of average running and absolute turning of 18 flies. Given the choice of run or turn, in average, flies executed turns in higher probability during in pre-stimulation period in the first trial (dark and light blue) than in the last trial (dark and light orange). The

odor exposure shifted behavioral to longer runs at later trials from more turns at earlier trials. (D) left: Running behavior of food-deprived Orco null (Orco -) and heterozygous (Orco +/-) mutants. Right: Average running speed of Orco null and heterozygous mutants for vinegar over ten trials (N=10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{groups}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.0562$). The boxplot displays the main group effect of the ANOVA. (E) Behavior during aversive odor presentation. Panel 1 and 2 from left: Flies were exposed to alternating CO₂ and air plumes to prevent an anesthetizing effect of CO₂ over six trials. Panel 3: Repeated stimulation with CO₂ gradually decreased average running speed over trials. Panel 4: Flies slowed down at contact with aversive CO₂. Average running speed under CO₂ exposure was significantly lower than the speed observed during air exposure. Panel 5: Flies executed escape turns under CO₂ as they turned significantly more (N=10/10, *Running speed*: 2-way RM ANOVA, matching for both factors, $p(\text{trials}) = 0.4046$; $p(\text{groups}) = 0.0262$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.45$; *Turn*: 2-way RM ANOVA, matching for both factors, $p(\text{trials}) = 0.38$; $p(\text{groups}) = 0.0045$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.51$). Boxplots represent the main group effects of the respective ANOVAs. (F) Histogram for trials in which flies performed respective longest running bouts throughout 10 trials. The longest run bouts were distributed over trials. For 24 hours starvation, the most frequent peak was observed in the 8th and 10th trials, whereas 48h starvation experimental group reached its peak at the 7th trial. Satiated flies exhibited a random distribution (N=20/18/19). (G) Closed loop experiment with 24 h starved flies stimulated with air instead of vinegar odor during stimulus phase. Flies run only short times at every trial with very little change over trials. (H) Box plot showing the total average run time over 10 trials. (I) Box plot showing average speed over all trials during stimulus phase. (J) Box plots comparing average speed over all trials during pre, post and stimulus phase. Note that there is no significant difference in speed between the different phases. N=9 flies, 24h starved.

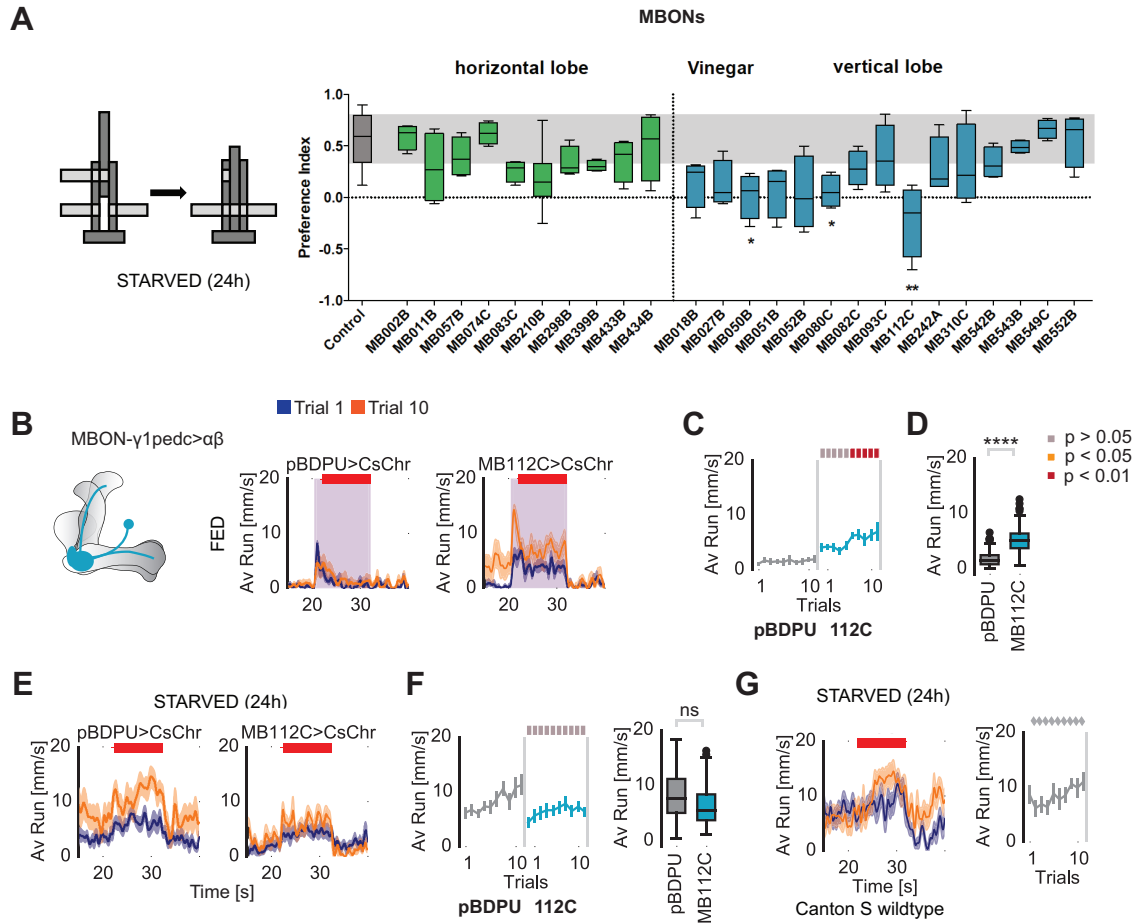


Fig. S2. Related to Fig. 2

(A) T-maze neuronal silencing screen for mushroom body output neurons (MBONs) and Kenyon cells subtypes required for innate vinegar attraction. MB Split-Gal4 lines were screened with the UAS-Shibire^{ts1} effector at the non-permissive temperature of 30°C (N=4-12 for experimental groups, controls were pooled to an N of 48, Kruskal-Wallis test and Dunn's post-hoc test). (B) Running speeds in fed flies when MB112C was activated via optogenetics (*MB112C>UAS-CsChrimson*). Activation of MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ increased odor tracking behavior significantly (Control: *pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson*). (C) Running speeds during stimulus phase over trials (N=10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA, p(trials)=0.0335, p(groups)<0.0001, p(interaction)=0.21). (D) Average running speed over all trials during the stimulus phase. (E) Running speed averages for the light only condition of *MB112C>UAS-CsChrimson* and empty-Gal4 control (*pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson*) animals. (F) MBON- γ 1pedc $\alpha\beta$ activation in starved flies did not induce locomotion or tracking compared to the control flies in the absence of odor stimulation (N=10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA p(trials)<0.0001, p(groups)=0.20, p(interaction)=0.10). (G) Wild-type control flies show a mild, but not significant, increase in motility and locomotion under 617nm, 30 μ W/mm² light delivery (N=10, one-way RM ANOVA p=0.10). The flies are presumably attracted to the light in the absence of CsChrimson expression. For all analyses, running speeds over trials are represented as mean \pm SEM with Sidak's trial-to-trial comparisons

displayed as color-coded p-values. Boxplots represent the main group effect of the 2-way ANOVA. Statistical notations are as follows: 'ns' $p > 0.05$, '***' $p < 0.001$, '****' $p < 0.0001$.

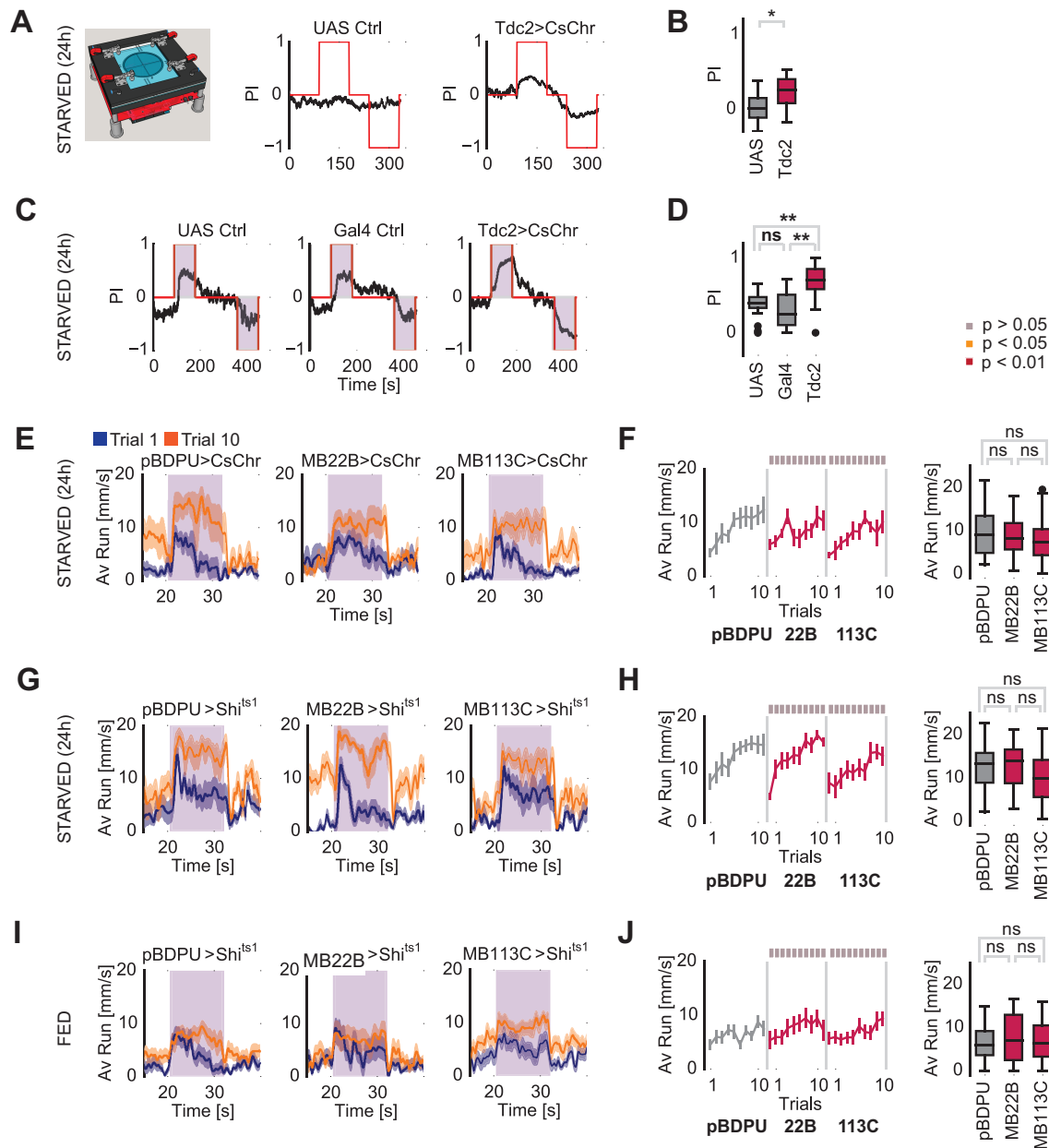


Fig. S3. Related to Fig. 5

(A) left: Scheme of optogenetic and olfactory behavioral test arena. Right: Average preference index during optogenetic activation of octopaminergic neurons. (B) Activation of all OANs (*Tdc2>UAS-CsChrimson*) led to a significantly higher accumulation of flies in the illuminated quadrants when compared to genetic controls (N=16/16, one-way ANOVA, $p < 0.05$, with Tukey's HSD post hoc analysis). (C) Average preference index during optogenetic activation of octopaminergic neurons under vinegar exposure. (D) Activation of all OANs (*Tdc2>UAS-CsChrimson*) led to a significantly higher accumulation of flies in the odor+light quadrants when compared to genetic controls (N=16/16/16, one-way ANOVA, $p = 0.0001$, with Tukey's HSD post hoc analysis). (E) Running speeds for VPM

lines (*MB22B>UAS-CsChrimson* and *MB113C>UAS-CsChrimson*) and the control (*pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-CsChrimson*) with odor only exposure during trial 1 and 10. (D) Average running speeds over trials of *MB22B>UAS-CsChrimson* and *MB113C>UAS-CsChrimson* flies under vinegar in the absence of optogenetic stimulation compared to control (N=10/10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{groups}) = 0.65$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.20$). (E) Running speeds for starved VPM lines (*MB22B>UAS-shi^{ts1}* and *MB113C>UAS-shi^{ts1}*) and the control (*pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-shi^{ts1}*) during trial 1 and 10. (F) Average running speeds over trials of starved *MB22B>UAS-shi^{ts1}* and *MB113C>UAS-shi^{ts1}* flies under vinegar compared to control (N=10/10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{groups}) = 0.33$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.14$). (G) Running speeds for fed VPM lines (*MB22B>UAS-shi^{ts1}* and *MB113C>UAS-shi^{ts1}*) and the control (*pBDPU-Gal4>UAS-shi^{ts1}*) during trial 1 and 10. (H) Average running speeds over trials of fed *MB22B>UAS-shi^{ts1}* and *MB113C>UAS-shi^{ts1}* flies under vinegar compared to control (N=10/10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{groups}) = 0.73$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.40$). For all analyses, running speeds over trials are represented as mean \pm SEM with Tukey's trial-to-trial comparisons displayed as color-coded p-values. Boxplots represent the main group effect of the 2-way ANOVA. Statistical notations are as follows: 'ns' $p > 0.05$, '**' $p < 0.01$, '***' $p < 0.001$.

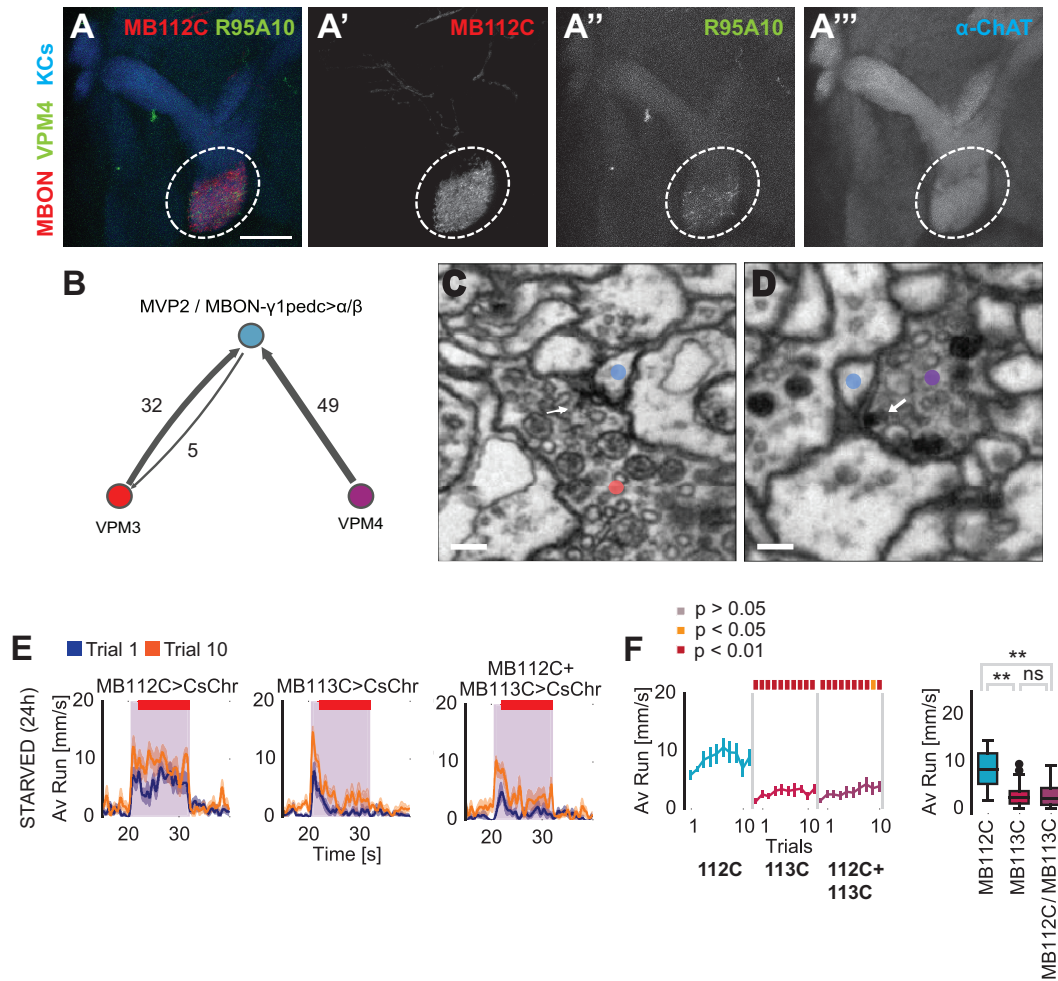


Fig. S4. Related to Fig. 6

(A-A''') Double stainings suggest that MBON-γ1pdec>αβ and VPM4 neurons could be synaptically connected. In the double labeling experiment, MBON-γ1pdec>αβ was visualized by *MB112C-Gal4>UAS-mCD8-RFP* (red) and VPM4 neurons were labeled by *GMR95A10-LexA>LexAop2-mCD8-GFP* (green). (A) Merged image displaying MBON-γ1pdec>αβ and VPM4 neurons. MB lobes are stained with anti-Chat (blue) (A'-''', single channels; 10μm scale bar. Note that VPM4 neurons innervate the dendritic region of MBON-γ1pdec>αβ at the level of the MB γ1 lobe region. (B) Wiring diagram of VPM3, VPM4 and MVP2 connectivity. Both VPM3 and VPM4 target MBON-γ1pdec>αβ dendrites in the γ1 compartment. Only VPM3 is reciprocally connected with MVP2. Numbers represent synapse counts. (C,D) Representative synapses (arrow) between VPM3 (red), VPM4 (purple) and MBON-γ1pdec>αβ (blue) show both clear core vesicles around the active zone as well as large dense core vesicles in close vicinity. 100 nm scale bar. (E) Running speeds for trial 1 and trial 10 of starved flies when MB112C and VPM4 neurons were activated via optogenetics simultaneously (*MB112C-Gal4; MB113C-Gal4 >UAS-CsChrimson*). (F) Activation of MBON-γ1pdec>αβ did not further increase appetitive odor response and tracking in starved animals. VPM4 and MBON-γ1pdec>αβ co-activation in

starved flies. Note that VPM4 activation completely suppresses odor tracking in the starved animal as seen also in the fed animal suggesting that VPM4 inhibits odor tracking regardless of starvation state (N=6/7/8; 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials}) < 0.0001$, $p(\text{groups}) = 0.0004$, $p(\text{interaction}) = 0.067$). The boxplot displays the Tukey's post hoc analysis on the main group effect. Running speeds over trials are represented as mean \pm SEM with Tukey's trial-to-trial comparisons displayed as color-coded p-values. Statistical notations are as follows: 'ns' $p > 0.05$, '**' $p < 0.01$.

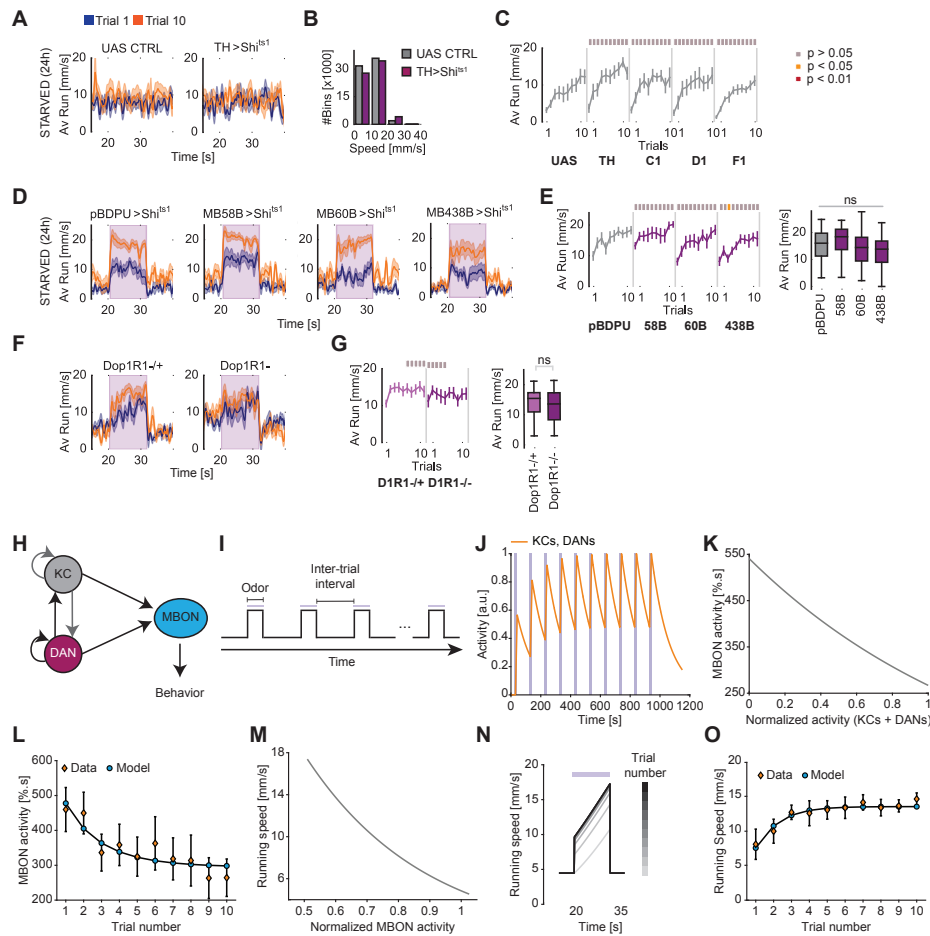


Fig. S5. Related to Fig. 7

(A) Flies carrying TH>shi^{ts1} can move as fast as control flies over 10 trials at 35°C and no odor stimulation. (B) Fly speeds were categorized into bins of different speeds. No difference was found between TH>shi^{ts1} flies and controls (N=10/10; 2-way RM ANOVA p(trials)=0.0006, p(groups)=0.77, p(interaction)>0.99). (C) Running speed of hungry Gal4-control flies at trial 1 and 10 (24 h starved) of different TH-DAN subsets (TH, C1, D1 and F1-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}) compared to control (N=7/7/6/6/6; 2-way RM ANOVA p(trials)<0.0001, p(groups)=0.36, p(interaction)=0.43). See materials and methods for details on the lines. (D) Average running speed over 10 trials for hungry flies (24 h starved) with inactivated output of DANs (MB-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}) compared to control. (E) Running speed of hungry flies at trial 1 and 10 (24 h starved) with inactivated output of different DAN subsets (MB-Gal4>UAS-Shi^{ts1}) compared to control (N=8/8/9/8; 2-way RM ANOVA p(trials)<0.0001, p(groups)=0.32, p(interaction)=0.28). The boxplot display the Dunnett's post hoc analysis on the main group effect (comparisons to control) See materials and methods for details on the lines. Running speeds over trials are represented as mean ± SEM with Tukey's trial-to-trial comparisons displayed as color-coded p-values. Statistical notations are as follows: 'ns' p > 0.05. (F) Running speed during trial 1 and 10 of hungry flies (24 h starved) lacking the Dop1R1 receptor gene and heterozygous controls. (G)

Average running speed during odor stimulation over 10 trials of hungry flies (24 h starved) without Dop1R1 compared to heterozygous controls (N=10/10, 2-way RM ANOVA $p(\text{trials})=0.0103$; $p(\text{groups})=0.49$, $p(\text{interaction})=0.59$). The boxplot displays the main group effect of the ANOVA. (H) Circuit diagram. We modeled a population of KCs recurrently connected with DANs. Each population also receives self-feedback which indicates recurrent connections within the population. The odor input is delivered to both populations. An MBON integrates KCs and DAN activity and transforms it into running behavior. (I) Repeated odor presentation separated by odor-free intervals in the model. During each trial, odor presentation is represented as a step increase in the stimulus for 12 s. (J) Simulated KC/DAN activity for 10 consecutive trials separated by inter-stimulus intervals. During odor presentation (purple bar), DANs and KCs integrate the stimulus. Between stimuli, DAN and KC activity decreases due to the absence of input. The prolonged time constant that emerges in the recurrent circuit prevents neural activity from recovering to baseline during the inter-trial periods, resulting in its accumulation during subsequent stimulus presentation. (K) Optimized exponential transfer function transforms the neuronal activity of KCs and DANs in H into MBON activity. (L) Comparison between the MBON activity per trial obtained by the fitted model and the data (mean \pm SEM of starved flies in Fig. 3D). (M) Optimized exponential transfer function transforms the normalized MBON activity (relative to the data) into running speeds. (N) Running speeds as a function of trial number generated by the model. (O) Comparison between the average speed per trial obtained by the fitted model and the data (mean \pm standard error of the mean of Fig. 1E).