

692 **Conditional, astrocyte-specific GABA_B receptor knockout mice (GB1-cKO mice).**

693 Functional GABA_B receptor ablation was investigated in conditional, astrocyte-specific
694 GABA_B receptor knockout mice (GB1-cKO), generated by crossbreeding *Gabbr1*^{fl/fl}
695 (RRID:MGI:3512742) (Haller et al., 2004) with GLAST-CreERT2 knockin mice
696 (RRID:MGI:3830051) (Mori et al., 2006). In some of the experiments, mice with
697 astrocytes-specific expression of the genetically encoded Ca²⁺ indicator GCaMP3 were
698 used. For that purpose R26-lsl-GCaMP3 mice (RRID:IMSR_JAX:014538) (Paukert et
699 al., 2014) were crossbred to GB1-cKO and control mice. The selective deletion of the
700 receptor subunit GABBR1 is sufficient to completely block functional GABA_B receptor
701 activity (Bettler et al., 2004). To induce DNA recombination in GLAST-
702 CreERT2xGABA_B^{fl/fl} or GLAST-CreERT2xR26-lsl-GCaMP3 mice (Paukert et al.,
703 2014), tamoxifen (10 mg/ml corn oil, Sigma, St. Louis, USA) was intraperitoneally
704 injected into 3-week-old mice on three consecutive days (100 mg/kg per body weight).
705 21 days after the first injection, mice were started to be analyzed. All mouse lines were
706 maintained in the C57BL/6N background.

707 **Immunohistochemistry.** The animals were anesthetized with Ketamine/Rompun (1.4
708 % ketamine, 0.2 xylazin, 0.9 % NaCl; 5 ml/kg per body weight) and intracardially
709 perfused with ice cold ACFS and subsequently with 4% paraformaldehyde (PFA) in 0.1
710 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.4). The brain was removed, dissected into the two
711 hemispheres, and post fixed for 4-6 hours in 4% PFA in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH
712 7.4) at 4 °C. The fixed brain tissue was cut in phosphate buffered saline (PBS) into
713 sagittal sections (50 -70 μm thickness) at a Leica VT1000S vibrato (Leica, Nussloch,
714 Germany). These sections were collected in 24-well tissue culture plates containing
715 PBS. Vibratome sections were incubated for one hour in blocking buffer (0.3% Triton

716 X-100, 5% horse serum in PBS) at RT (room temperature). The primary antibodies
717 were diluted in the blocking solution and the sections were incubated overnight at 4°C.
718 As marker for GABAergic interneurons mouse anti-GAD67 (RRID: AB_2278725;
719 1:500) was used. For astrocyte labeling the following antibodies were used: chicken
720 anti-GFAP (RRID:AB_921444; 1:1000), and rabbit anti-GLAST (RRID:AB_304334;
721 1:250). GABA_B receptors were stained with a guinea pig anti-GABABr1
722 (RRID:AB_1587048; 1:500). The slices were washed three times for ten min each in
723 1xPBS. The secondary antibody was diluted in the secondary antibody buffer (2% horse
724 serum in PBS) and incubated for 2 h at room temperature. Secondary antibodies were
725 donkey anti-mouse, anti-goat, and anti-rabbit (1:2000) conjugated with Alexa488,
726 Alexa546, Alexa555, Alexa633, and purchased from Invitrogen (Thermo Fisher
727 Scientific Inc). The sections were finally washed for 3 times with 1xPBS (10 min) and
728 mounted in Aqua polymount (Polysciences). For astrocytic network labeling, after
729 biocytin filling slices were fixed in 4% PFA in 0.1 PBS (pH 7.4) at 4°C. Biocytin was
730 visualized with Alexa488-Streptavidin (RRID: AB_2315383; 1:500) applied in the
731 staining protocol described above for 48 h.

732 **Microscopic analysis and quantification.** Confocal images were recorded by laser
733 scanning microscopy (LSM 710, Zeiss, Carl Zeiss AG, Jena) using a 40x objective
734 (Plan-Aprochomat 40x/1, 4 Oil DIC (UV) VIS-IR M 27). For excitation of fluorescent
735 dyes, a Lasos Argon laser (454 nm to 514 nm) and a Helium-Neon laser (543 nm,
736 633 nm) were used. Z-stacks of images were taken at 0.5 μm intervals and processed
737 with ImageJ using the JACoP v2.0 colocalization plugin(Cordelieres and Bolte, 2014).
738 In brief, the deletion of *Gabbr1* was determined as a reduction of its immunolabel
739 within the respective channel of the astroglial glutamate transporter GLAST. The

740 overlap coefficient and Mander's coefficient M2 were determined. Although both
741 coefficients have their unique limitations, both indicated a significant and astrocyte-
742 specific reduction of *Gabbr1* and were plotted in **Figure 6B** (9 sections from 2 GB1-
743 cKO and 11 sections from 2 control mice; 2-sided; unpaired *t* test). The analysis of co-
744 localization probably underestimates the *Gabbr1* removal, since the spatial resolution in
745 single optical sections is less than the size of the fine astrocyte processes contacting
746 presynaptic terminals that are *Gabbr1*-positive as well.

747 **Quantitative real-time PCR (qRT-PCR).** Levels of messenger RNA (mRNA) and
748 genomic DNA were detected by reverse transcriptase PCR. Hippocampi of 7 GB1-cKO
749 and 7 control mice (7 weeks old) were removed from the skull, homogenized (Precellys
750 homogenizer, peqlab, Erlangen, Germany) and divided for RNA extraction with
751 RNeasy mini kit (QIAGEN, Hilden, The Netherlands) as well as for DNA analysis
752 RNA/DNA ALL Prep-Kit (QIAGEN, Hilden, The Netherlands). Successful gene
753 recombination was determined by quantifying the loss of the loxP flanked gene region.
754 Primers were located closely upstream and downstream of the 5' loxP site. Control and
755 cKO were homozygously floxed for the *Gabbr1* locus (*Gabbr1*^{fl/fl}); controls were wild
756 type for the GLAST locus (GLAST^{+/+}) and GB1-cKOs were heterozygous for the
757 CreERT2 transgene in the GLAST locus (GLAST^{CreERT2/+}). Since only non-recombined
758 alleles were amplified, reduction of the respective PCR signal indicated successful
759 recombination. Values (Δ CT) of GB1-cKO animals were normalized to the mean Δ CT
760 values of control animals.

761 For quantification of the PCR products, the fluorescent dye EvaGreen (Axon) was used.
762 PCR runs were performed using the CFX96 Real-Time PCR Detection System
763 (BioRad). All reactions were carried out in triplicates. Neuregulin 1 type III (NrgIII)

764 and β -actin were used as endogenous gene controls. Data normalization and analysis
765 were performed with the qbase+ real time PCR data analysis software (Biogazelle)
766 based on the $\Delta\Delta$ CT-method.

767 Primer sequences for CDNA analysis by qRT-PCR were as follows (in 5' to 3'
768 direction): ATPase forward GGA TCT GCT GGC CCC ATA C; ATPase reversed CTT
769 TCC AAC GCC AGC ACC T, b-Actin forward CTT CCT CCC TGG AGA AGA GC;
770 b-Actin reversed ATG CCA CAG GAT TCC ATA CC; *Gabbr1* forward CGA AGC
771 ATT TCC AAC ATG AC; *Gabbr1* reversed CAA GGC CCA GAT AGC ATC ATA.
772 Primer sequences for genomic DNA were as follows: NRGIII forward GTG TGC GGA
773 GAA GGA GAA AAC T; NRGIII reversed AGG CAC AGA GAG GAA TTC ATT
774 TCT TA; b-Actin forward CTG CTC TTT CCC AGA CGA GG; b-Actin reversed AAG
775 GCC ACT TAT CAC CAG CC; *Gabbr1* forward CAG TCG ACA AGC TTA GTG
776 GAT CC, *Gabbr1* reversed TCC TCG ACT GCA GAA TTC CTG.

777 ***In vivo* recordings.** GB1-cKO mice and wild-type littermates (12-16 weeks) were
778 placed in a stereotaxic frame under urethane anaesthesia (1.8 g/kg, intraperitoneal
779 injection), constantly monitored for body temperature and breathing rate, and kept warm
780 with a heating pad. Electrodes were placed stereotaxically according to the
781 atlas(Paxinos, 2012). Local field potentials (LFP) were recorded through stainless steel
782 macroelectrodes (1 M Ω) placed in the CA1 layer (AP, -2; L, 1.4; V, 1.1 mm from
783 Bregma) and amplified (Differential AC Amplifier Model 1700, A-M System),
784 bandpass filtered between 0.1 Hz and 500 kHz, and digitized at 100 kHz (PowerLab
785 4/25T and LabChart, ADInstruments) running in a PC for direct visualization and
786 storage. Then, two nichrome stimulating electrodes (Isolated Pulse Stimulator Model
787 2100, A-M Systems) were placed in the vibrissae. After stabilization and basal activity

788 recordings, an electrical stimulus (10 Hz, 10 s duration at 10 V) was applied to
789 vibrissae. Three stimuli were applied with an interstimulus period of ≥ 5 minutes.
790 Six epochs (five second bins) during one minute in basal conditions were analysed.
791 Also, the first 10 seconds, divided in 5 sec-bins, starting at the end of each stimulus
792 were selected. Epoch was stored in a new file and converted to an adequate format to
793 perform the spectral analyses (Clampfit 10.2, MDS Analytical Technologies). Spectral
794 analyses for each bin were assessed by fast Fourier transformation through Hamming
795 window with 50% overlap, obtaining the power density ($V^2 \cdot Hz^{-1}$) with a spectral
796 resolution of 0.38 Hz, from 0.38 to 100.3 Hz. Since animals had different levels of
797 baseline power density, the power values for each frequency were normalized as a
798 percentage of the total power density recorded before computing group results. After
799 normalization six epochs were averaged for basal and post-stimuli condition and
800 compared between control littermate and GB1-cKO mice. We selected the following
801 frequency bands: theta, 4–8 Hz; low gamma, 30–50 Hz and high gamma, 70-90 Hz.
802 For *phase-amplitude* coupling (PAC) analysis each 5-sec bin was converted to text
803 format to perform the computation trough MATLAB (The MathWorks, Inc.). The
804 process was performed by a custom-made script on MATLAB
805 (<https://github.com/abdel84/>). Raw signal was decimated to a sample rate of 1 kHz, then
806 an elliptical filter was applied to remove frequencies below 3Hz and two additional
807 bandpass filters for both Theta (4-8 Hz) and Gamma (30-80 Hz) bands. The Theta phase
808 and the Gamma amplitude, respectively, were extracted and computed to obtain their
809 time series using the standard Hilbert transform as describer previously (Tort et al.,
810 2010) and to obtain the Phase-Locking Value (PLV). This index represents the degree
811 to which the Gamma amplitude is comodulated with the Theta phase and ranges

812 between 0 and 1, with higher values indicating stronger PAC interactions (Tort et al.,
813 2010). To calculate the mean vector of PLV, circular statistics analysis was performed
814 by using CircStat toolbox¹⁹ and then normalized by Fisher's Z Transformation, to apply
815 regular statistical analysis: $z' = 0.5 [\ln(1+r) - \ln(1-r)]$.

816 **Drugs and chemicals.** *N*-(Piperidin-1-yl)-5-(4-iodophenyl)-1-(2,4-dichlorophenyl)-4-
817 methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-3-carboxamide (AM251), (*S*)-(+)- α -Amino-4-carboxy-2-methylbe-
818 nzeneacetic acid (LY-367385), 2-Methyl-6-(phenylethynyl)pyridine hydrochloride
819 (MPEP), (2*S*)-3-[[*(1S)*-1-(3,4-Dichlorophenyl)ethyl]amino-2-
820 hydroxypropyl](phenylmethyl)phosphinic acid hydrochloride (CGP55845), and (*R*)-
821 Baclofen were purchased from Tocris (Bristol, UK). The Ca²⁺ indicator Fluo-4-AM was
822 purchased from Life Technologies Ltd (Paisley, UK). Picrotoxin, atropine, thapsigargin,
823 and 1,2-bis(2-aminophenoxy)ethane-*N,N,N',N'*-tetraacetate (BAPTA) were purchased
824 from Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, MO, USA).

825 **Statistical analysis.** The normality test was performed before applying statistical
826 comparisons, which were made using non parametric Wilcoxon Rank-sum Test and
827 parametric Student's *t* tests as deemed appropriate. Two-tailed, unpaired or paired *t* test
828 was used for comparisons unless indicated. Data are expressed as mean \pm standard error
829 of the mean (SEM). When a statistical test was used, the precise two-sided *P* value and
830 the test employed are reported in the text and/or figures legends. Statistical differences
831 were established with $P < 0.05$ (*), $P < 0.01$ (**), and $P < 0.001$ (***, #). Blind
832 experiments were not performed in the study but the same criteria were applied to all
833 allocated groups for comparisons. Randomization was not employed. Sample size in
834 whole-cell recording experiments was based on values previously found sufficient to
835 detect significant changes in hippocampal synaptic strength in past studies from the lab.

836 For in vivo recordings an N of 3 repetitions of stimuli were applied, and independent
837 recordings were summarized from 6 animals per condition, which provided sufficient
838 statistical power while trying to minimize the number of animals sacrificed.

839

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855

856 **AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS**

857 G.P. and R.G. designed the study, performed experiments, and analyzed data. S.M.,
858 A.C., A.H-V., M.M-F., A.D. and M.F. performed slice experiments. J.B. and E.D.M.
859 performed *in vivo* experiments and analyzed data. A.R. and D.M-V performed theta-
860 gamma coupling index analysis. A.Agarwal and D.B. provided the astrocyte-GCaMP3
861 mouse line, and B.B. provided floxed GABBR1 mouse line. F.K. supervised the
862 generation of astrocyte-specific GABBR1 knockout (and GCaMP3-expressing) mice
863 and directed the molecular biological, immunohistochemical and confocal laser-

864 scanning microscopy analysis. L.S. crossbred the GABBR1 knockout (and GCaMP3-
865 expressing) mice and performed the knockout analysis by molecular biology. L.S. and
866 R.Q. performed immunohistochemistry and confocal laser-scanning microscopy.
867 A.Araque designed the study and contributed to interpretation of the data. G.P. and
868 A.Araque wrote the paper. All authors discussed the results and commented on the
869 manuscript.

870 The authors declare no competing financial interests.

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1073 **FIGURE LEGENDS**

1074 **Figure 1. Changes on interneuron firing activity inhibit or potentiate transmitter**
1075 **release at single CA3-CA1 synapses. (A)** *Left*, image of paired recorded GABAergic
1076 interneuron (IN; red) and CA1 pyramidal neuron (green). *Right*, scheme depicting
1077 paired recordings from interneuron and pyramidal neurons, and Schaffer collateral (SC)
1078 stimulating electrode. Scale bar, 25 μ m. **(B)** Responses evoked by minimal stimulation
1079 showing regular EPSC amplitudes and transmission failures (15 consecutive stimuli;
1080 top), and averaged EPSCs (50 consecutive stimuli; bottom) before and after pairing SC
1081 stimuli with single (red) or bursts (blue) of interneuron APs. **(C-D)** Synaptic efficacy
1082 (i.e., mean amplitude of responses including successes and failures); success rate
1083 (percentage of effective EPSCs from the total number of stimuli); and synaptic potency
1084 (i.e., mean EPSC amplitude excluding failures) (bin width, 33 s) before and after pairing
1085 SC stimuli with single **(C, red; $n = 10$)** or bursts **(D, blue; $n = 33$)** of interneuron APs.
1086 Horizontal bars indicate the time of pairing. **(E)** Relative changes of synaptic
1087 parameters from basal (black) elicited by pairing SC stimuli with single (red) or bursts
1088 of interneuron APs (blue), in control ($n = 10$ and 33 , for red and blue, respectively),
1089 picrotoxin (PTX; $n = 6$ and 7 , for red and blue, respectively), and CGP55845 ($n = 5$ and
1090 9 , for red and blue, respectively). **(F)** Paired pulse ratio (PPR). **(G)** Success rate from
1091 synapses shown in **D**, and averaged values (black) in control and after IN burst
1092 stimulation ($n = 33$). The IN-mediated effects were independent on their initial values.
1093 **(H)** Relative potentiation of synaptic efficacy vs. interneuron firing activity ($n \geq 4$ for
1094 each data point; Hill equation fitting, $R^2 = 0.9955$). $*P < 0.05$, $**P < 0.01$, $\#P < 0.001$;
1095 paired t test. See also Figure 1-figure supplement 1,2. Error bars indicate SEM, as in all
1096 other figures.

1097 **Figure 2. Interneuron activity regulates transmitter release at the same synapses**
1098 **depending on the firing rate. (A)** Synaptic efficacy, success rate and synaptic potency
1099 before and after pairing SC stimuli with single (red) or bursts (blue) of interneuron APs
1100 ($n = 6$). Horizontal bars indicate the time of pairing. **(B)** Raw values of synaptic
1101 parameters plotted for both IN-stimulation conditions: control (black), IN single AP
1102 (red), and IN burst (blue) stimulation ($n = 6$). Note that the IN-mediated effects were
1103 independent on the initial values of synaptic parameters. **(C)** Relative changes of
1104 synaptic parameters from basal (black) elicited by pairing SC stimuli with single (red)
1105 or bursts of interneuron APs (blue) ($n = 6$). Synaptic efficacy: $P = 0.008$ (red), $P <$
1106 0.001 (blue). Synaptic potency: $P = 0.355$ (red), $P = 0.407$ (blue). Success rate: $P <$
1107 0.001 (red), $P < 0.001$ (blue); paired t test. $**P < 0.01$, $\#P < 0.001$; paired t test.

1108 **Figure 3. Interneuron-induced synaptic potentiation requires astrocyte Ca^{2+}**
1109 **elevations. (A)** Image of recorded interneuron (yellow) and SR101-labelled astrocytes
1110 (red) in CA1 region. Scale bar, 40 μm . **(B) Left**, astrocyte Ca^{2+} transient probability over
1111 time (zero time corresponds to interneuron depolarization) in resting conditions (white),
1112 and after evoking single (red) or bursts (blue) of interneuron APs, and somatic Ca^{2+}
1113 signals from four representative astrocytes in the field of view to single APs (red) and
1114 burst of interneuron APs (blue). Red and blue bars denote interneuron stimulation.
1115 *Right*, average values for those conditions. Single APs (red; $P = 0.92$; paired t test),
1116 burst of interneuron APs (blue; $P = 0.007$; 58 astrocytes, 9 slices). **(C)** Ca^{2+} transient
1117 probability index after bursts of interneuron APs in control (58 astrocytes, 9 slices; P
1118 < 0.001 ; Wilcoxon rank-sum test), CGP55845 (91 astrocytes, 10 slices; $P = 0.824$;
1119 Wilcoxon rank-sum test), thapsigargin (41 astrocytes, 5 slices; $P = 0.37$; Wilcoxon
1120 rank-sum test), BAPTA-loaded astrocytes (41 astrocytes, 9 slices; $P = 0.2622$;

1121 Wilcoxon rank-sum test), and $Ip3r2^{-/-}$ mice (112 astrocytes, 14 slices; $P = 0.4319$;
1122 Wilcoxon rank-sum test). **(D)** *Left*, merge DIC and fluorescence image of CA1
1123 pyramidal layer and stratum radiatum (s.r.) showing the location of the biocytin-filled
1124 astrocyte network (green). *Right*, maximal projection confocal image of the astrocytic
1125 syncytium revealed by biocytin-loading via whole-cell astrocyte recording, showing the
1126 distribution of biocytin-coupled astrocytes. Scale bars, 50 μm . *Bottom*, synaptic
1127 responses evoked by minimal stimulation (15 consecutive stimuli; light traces), and
1128 averaged EPSCs (50 consecutive stimuli; dark traces) before and after interneuron AP
1129 bursts in BAPTA-loaded astrocytes (blue). **(E)** Synaptic responses evoked by minimal
1130 stimulation (15 consecutive stimuli; light traces), and averaged EPSCs (50 consecutive
1131 stimuli; dark traces) before and after interneuron AP bursts in control (black) and $Ip3r2^{-/-}$
1132 $^{-/-}$ mice (red). **(F)** Relative changes of synaptic parameters induced by bursts of
1133 interneuron APs (filled bars), in control ($n = 6$; $P < 0.001$; paired t test), thapsigargin (n
1134 $= 9$), BAPTA-loaded astrocytes ($n = 11$), and $Ip3r2^{-/-}$ mice ($n = 8$). See also Figure 3-
1135 figure supplement 1. $**P < 0.01$, $***P < 0.001$; paired t test.

1136 **Figure 4. Interneuron-induced synaptic potentiation requires astrocytic GABA_B**
1137 **receptor and presynaptic mGluR activation.** **(A)** Synaptic responses evoked by
1138 minimal stimulation (15 consecutive stimuli; top) and averaged EPSCs (bottom) before
1139 and after evoking bursts of interneuron APs in presence of AM251 (orange),
1140 MPEP+LY367385 (magenta), and AP5 (Blue). **(B)** Relative changes of synaptic
1141 parameters induced by bursts of interneuron APs before (open bars) and after (filled
1142 bars) receptor antagonist application ($n \geq 5$ neurons for each bar). $*P < 0.05$; paired t
1143 test. **(C)** Astrocyte Ca^{2+} transient probability index after evoking bursts of interneuron
1144 APs, before (open bars) and after (filled bars) receptor antagonist application ($n \geq 5$

1145 slices for each bar). **(D)** Scheme of the proposed mechanisms for GABA_A mediated
1146 synaptic inhibition and GABA_B-mGluR group I induced synaptic potentiation,
1147 respectively.

1148 **Figure 5. Effects of dynamic interplay between interneuron and astrocyte activity**

1149 **on excitatory synaptic transmission. (A)** *Left*, averaged relative success rate of up-

1150 EPSCs and down-EPSCs over time evoked by an stimulation paradigm (*inset*)

1151 consisting of SC stimuli at 6 Hz and bursts of interneuron APs elicited by 90

1152 depolarizing pulses (166 ms delivered at 3 Hz for 30 s), in control (black; n = 13),

1153 picrotoxin (PTX, red; n = 11), CGP55845 (blue; n = 11), and MPEP+LY (magenta; n=

1154 8). Note that SC stimuli were phase-locked at the interneuron depolarization (up-EPSC)

1155 or resting level (down-EPSC). Each point represents the simple moving average of 15

1156 consecutive EPSCs (note the corresponding initial gap at interneuron stimulation).

1157 Horizontal bars indicate the time of pairing. *Right*, expanded view of gray-shaded areas.

1158 **(B)** Relative changes of synaptic parameters relative to basal of up-EPSCs (closed bars)

1159 and down-EPSCs (open bars) in control and after receptor antagonist application (PTX

1160 + CGP55845; n = 9). See also Figure 5-figure supplement 1,2. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$,

1161 # $P < 0.001$; paired t test.

1162 **Figure 6. GABA_B receptor knockout in astroglial cells (GB1-cKO mice) impairs**

1163 **interneuron-mediated synaptic potentiation. (A)** Confocal laser-scanning

1164 micrographs of hippocampal sections from wild-type (top row) and GB1-cKO

1165 (GLAST-CreERT2xGABBR1^{fl/fl}; bottom row) wildtype mice immunostained for the

1166 glial fibrillary acidic protein GFAP, astroglial glutamate transporter GLAST, and the

1167 GABA_B receptor GABBR1. Please note the white arrow heads in wild-type that point

1168 towards co-localization of the GABA_B receptor on astroglial GFAP-positive structures.

1169 In contrast, such locations of co-localization are largely missing in the GB1-cKO mice.
1170 Scale bars, 30 μm ; inset, 15 μm . **(B)** *Top left*, qRT-PCR of hippocampal genomic DNA
1171 reveals a reduction of the *Gabbr1*^{fl/fl} alleles by 28.5% ($P = 0.003$; unpaired t test),
1172 representing the percentage of astrocytes in the hippocampus. *Top right*, quantification
1173 of *Gabbr1* mRNA levels by qRT-PCR does not show a reduction of the *Gabbr1*
1174 message ($P = 0.25$; unpaired t test), as expected by the high levels of neuronal versus
1175 glial expression. Quantification of the immunolabels for *Glast* and *Gabbr1* were
1176 determined by the ImageJ plugin JACoP v.2 by calculating the overlap ($P < 0.001$;
1177 unpaired t test; *bottom left*) and Mander's M2 coefficients ($P < 0.001$; unpaired t test;
1178 *bottom right*), both indicate a significant reduction of astroglial *Gabbr1* expression (9
1179 sections from 2 GB1-cKO and 11 sections from 2 control mice). **(C)** Confocal image
1180 from CA1 region of GB1-cKO mice showing the endogenous expression of GCaMP3 in
1181 astrocytes lacking *Gabbr1* (in green). Scale bar, 60 μm . **(D)** Intracellular Ca^{2+} signals
1182 induced by local agonist application of ATP (blue) and baclofen (green) from four
1183 representative astrocytes in wild-type and GB1-cKO mice, and astrocyte Ca^{2+} transient
1184 probability over time induced by agonist stimulation or after evoking bursts of
1185 interneuron APs (white). Arrow, green and blue squares denote ATP, baclofen, or
1186 interneuron stimulation. Scale bar, 100%, 15 s. **(E)** Ca^{2+} transient probability index after
1187 astrocyte stimulation in wild-type ($n = 35$ astrocytes from 7 slices; $P < 0.001$;
1188 Wilcoxon rank-sum test) and GB1-cKO mice. GB1-cKO astrocytes failed to increase
1189 intracellular Ca^{2+} in response to baclofen ($n = 88$ astrocytes from 8 slices; $P = 0.12$;
1190 Wilcoxon rank-sum test), and IN stimulation ($n = 71$ astrocytes from 8 slices; $P = 0.14$;
1191 Wilcoxon rank-sum test), but were activated by ATP ($n = 82$ astrocytes from 8 slices; P
1192 < 0.001 ; Wilcoxon rank-sum test). **(F)** Baclofen-evoked currents in CA1 pyramidal

1193 neurons from wild-type and GB1-cKO mice before and after CGP55845 application
1194 (Wild-type: from 13.73 ± 2.12 to 2.09 ± 1.22 pA, before and after CGP55845; $n = 7$;
1195 paired t test; $P < 0.001$; GB1-cKO: 10.76 ± 1.0 to 2.85 ± 0.89 pA; before and after
1196 CGP55845; $n = 8$; $P < 0.001$). (G) Synaptic responses evoked by minimal stimulation
1197 (15 consecutive stimuli; gray traces), and averaged EPSCs (50 consecutive stimuli;
1198 black traces) before and after evoking bursts of interneuron APs in wild-type and GB1-
1199 cKO mice. (H) Relative changes of synaptic parameters from basal (black bars) induced
1200 by bursts of interneuron APs (white bars; $n = 5$; $P < 0.001$; paired t test), and after
1201 CGP55845 application ($n = 3$; $P = 0.38$; paired t test) in wild-type and GB1-cKO mice
1202 ($n = 4$; $P = 0.38$; paired t test). ** $P < 0.01$; # $P < 0.001$.

1203 **Figure 7. Astrocyte GABA_B receptors participate in hippocampal theta and**
1204 **gamma oscillations *in vivo*.** (A) Schematic illustration of the hippocampal recording
1205 configuration and whisker stimulation in anesthetized mice. (B) Representative LFP
1206 recordings and corresponding analysis of theta-phase and gamma-amplitude relation for
1207 control littermate (left) and GB1-cKO (right) mice. The raw signals (black) were high-
1208 pass filtered (1st row; grey and red, respectively) and then computed to extract the theta
1209 phase (2nd row) and gamma envelope (3rd row; grey and red, respectively) for control
1210 and GB1-cKO mice. (C) Normalized LFP power spectrum analysis for theta (4-8 Hz)
1211 and gamma frequencies (30-50 Hz, low gamma; 70-90 Hz, high gamma) in control
1212 littermate ($n = 6$) and GB1-cKO mice ($n = 6$) after whisker stimulation. *Inset*, Relative
1213 power changes for GB1-cKO and control littermate mice (theta band, $P = 0.007$;
1214 unpaired t test; low gamma, $P = 0.042$; Wilcoxon rank-sum test; and high gamma
1215 oscillations, $P = 0.738$; Wilcoxon rank-sum test). (D) Gamma-amplitude modulation by
1216 theta-phase for wild-type (left) and GB1-cKO mice (right), before (control) and after