

692 **Conditional, astrocyte-specific GABA<sub>B</sub> receptor knockout mice (GB1-cKO mice).**  
693 Functional GABA<sub>B</sub> receptor ablation was investigated in conditional, astrocyte-specific  
694 GABA<sub>B</sub> receptor knockout mice (GB1-cKO), generated by crossbreeding *Gabbr1*<sup>fl/fl</sup>  
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 Ca<sup>2+</sup> 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<sub>B</sub> receptor  
701 activity (Bettler et al., 2004). To induce DNA recombination in GLAST-  
702 CreERT2xGABA<sub>B</sub><sup>fl/fl</sup> 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<sub>B</sub> receptors were stained with a guinea pig anti-GABA<sub>B</sub>1  
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 mm 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*<sup>fl/fl</sup>); controls were wild  
756 type for the GLAST locus (GLAST<sup>+/+</sup>) and GB1-cKOs were heterozygous for the  
757 CreERT2 transgene in the GLAST locus (GLAST<sup>CreERT2/+</sup>). Since only non-recombined  
758 alleles were amplified, reduction of the respective PCR signal indicated successful  
759 recombination. Values ( $\Delta$ CT) of GB1-cKO animals were normalized to the mean  $\Delta$ 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  $\beta$ -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 $\Omega$ ) 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  $\geq 5$  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 through 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 described 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 toolbox<sup>19</sup> 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*)-(+)- $\alpha$ -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  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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  $\mu$ 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.

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

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



1121 Wilcoxon rank-sum test), and  $\text{Ip3r2}^{-/-}$  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  $\mu\text{m}$ . *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  $\text{Ip3r2}^{-/-}$   
 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  $\text{Ip3r2}^{-/-}$  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  $\text{GABA}_\text{B}$**   
 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  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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<sub>A</sub> mediated  
1146 synaptic inhibition and GABA<sub>B</sub>-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<sub>B</sub> 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<sup>fl/fl</sup>; bottom row) wildtype mice immunostained for the  
1166 glial fibrillary acidic protein GFAP, astroglial glutamate transporter GLAST, and the  
1167 GABA<sub>B</sub> receptor GABBR1. Please note the white arrow heads in wild-type that point  
1168 towards co-localization of the GABA<sub>B</sub> 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  $\mu\text{m}$ ; inset, 15  $\mu\text{m}$ . **(B)** *Top left*, qRT-PCR of hippocampal genomic DNA  
 1171 reveals a reduction of the *Gabbr1*<sup>fl/fl</sup> 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  $\mu\text{m}$ . **(D)** Intracellular  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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)**  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  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

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

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