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Research

Visual pattern memory requires *foraging* function in the central complex of *Drosophila*

Zhipeng Wang,^{1,2,3} Yufeng Pan,^{1,2,3} Weizhe Li,^{1,2,3} Huoqing Jiang,^{1,2}
Lazaros Chatzimanolis,^{1,2} Jianhong Chang,¹ Zhefeng Gong,^{1,4} and Li Liu^{1,4}

¹State Key Laboratory of Brain and Cognitive Science, Institute of Biophysics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100101, China; ²Graduate University of Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing 100039, China

The role of the *foraging* (*for*) gene, which encodes a cyclic guanosine-3',5'-monophosphate (cGMP)-dependent protein kinase (PKG), in food-search behavior in *Drosophila* has been intensively studied. However, its functions in other complex behaviors have not been well-characterized. Here, we show experimentally in *Drosophila* that the *for* gene is required in the operant visual learning paradigm. Visual pattern memory was normal in a natural variant rover (*for^R*) but was impaired in another natural variant sitter (*for^S*), which has a lower PKG level. Memory defects in *for^S* flies could be rescued by either constitutive or adult-limited expression of *for* in the fan-shaped body. Interestingly, we showed that such rescue also occurred when *for* was expressed in the ellipsoid body. Additionally, expression of *for* in the fifth layer of the fan-shaped body restored sufficient memory for the pattern parameter "elevation" but not for "contour orientation," whereas expression of *for* in the ellipsoid body restored sufficient memory for both parameters. Our study defines a *Drosophila* model for further understanding the role of cGMP-PKG signaling in associative learning/memory and the neural circuit underlying this *for*-dependent visual pattern memory.

Cyclic guanosine-3',5'-monophosphate (cGMP)-dependent protein kinase (PKG or cGK) is a key responder that mediates signaling downstream of nitric oxide (NO) and cGMP, which are involved in many important functions—like smooth muscle relaxation, neurotransmitter release and uptake, axon guidance, and circadian rhythms—in a number of different species (Wang and Robinson 1997; Schafer 2002; Hofmann et al. 2006). It may exert its function by phosphorylating a series of substrates, including ion channels, cytoskeletal proteins, GTP binding proteins, phosphodiesterase (PDE), and nitric oxide synthase (NOS), with the latter two having significant effects on the intracellular levels of the cyclic nucleotides cAMP and cGMP (Wang and Robinson 1997).

In vertebrate brains, two forms of PKG, cGKI and cGKII, are complementarily distributed. cGKI is abundant in the hippocampus, whereas cGKII is present in regions with low cGKI levels, implying different roles of the two cGKs in regulating cGMP signaling pathways, at least in neurons. Indeed, a mixed pattern of results has implicated cGKI in hippocampal long-term potentiation (LTP) and cerebellar long-term depression (LTD) (Zhuo et al. 1994; Feil et al. 2003). Coincidentally, hippocampal cGKI activity in rats was reported to be required for the early stages of memory formation in an inhibitory avoidance task (Bernabeu et al. 1997), and cGKI inactivation in mouse Purkinje cells caused deficits in motor learning (Feil et al. 2003), suggesting that cGKI might be integral to learning and memory in vertebrates. On the other hand, cGKII serves as a key component in a signal transduction pathway that is responsible for phase shifts of the circadian clock in the mammalian suprachiasmatic nucleus (Oster et al. 2003; Tischkau et al. 2003, 2004) and for anxiety-like behavior (Werner et al. 2004).

PKG is also involved in some behaviors in invertebrates. Studies in the honeybee suggested that PKG was required for

phototaxis and division of labor (Ben-Shahar et al. 2002; Ben-Shahar 2005). In *Caenorhabditis elegans*, the cGKI homolog of *egl-4* was reported to be required for olfactory adaptation and locomotor behavior (Fujiwara et al. 2002; L'Etoile et al. 2002; Schafer 2002). In *Drosophila*, there are two PKG-encoding genes, *dg1* and *dg2* (*dg2* is also named *foraging*, or *for*) (Kalderon and Rubin 1989). DG1 has high homology with vertebrate cGKII and DG2 is similar to cGKI, based on primary sequence. *dg1* expression has only been detected in the lamina of the optic lobes, and its neural function has not been well-characterized (Foster et al. 1996), while the prominent function of *for* appears to be related to larval foraging behavior (de Belle et al. 1989; Osborne et al. 1997). Biochemical analysis of *for* allelic variants suggested slight reductions in the amounts of *for* mRNA and protein, together with a ~10% reduction in PKG activity, in the natural variant sitter (*for^S*), which travels a shorter distance for food compared with another variant rover (*for^R*). PKG has been shown to affect some forms of nonassociative learning in *Drosophila* (Scheiner et al. 2004). Recently, two papers reported that *for* was also involved in olfactory associative learning in larval and adult flies (Kaun et al. 2007; Mery et al. 2007). However, its effect on visual associative learning remains largely unknown.

In *Drosophila*, genetic and behavioral approaches have been applied to screen mutants with a dramatically reduced ability for learning and memory (Dubnau and Tully 1998; Waddell and Quinn 2001; McGuire et al. 2005). Analyses of these mutants have implicated the cAMP pathway, a second messenger system, in diverse learning paradigms. Type I adenylyl cyclase (*rutabaga*, *rut*), which catalyzes the conversion of ATP into cAMP, is thought to be a putative convergence site of unconditioned and conditioned stimuli in associative learning. Using the binary GAL4/UAS expression system, *rut*-dependent olfactory memory has been assigned to the mushroom bodies (MBs), and space memory to the neurons of the median bundle and the ventral ganglion (Zars et al. 2000a,b; McGuire et al. 2003; Mao et al. 2004). Recently, two distinct *rut*-dependent visual pattern memory traces were localized to small groups of neurons innervating two horizontal layers of the fan-shaped body, the largest part of the cen-

³These authors contributed equally to this work.

⁴Corresponding authors.

E-mail liuli@sun5.ibp.ac.cn; fax 86-10-64853625.

E-mail zfgong@moon.ibp.ac.cn; fax 86-10-64853625.

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tral complex (CX) (Liu et al. 2006). The CX is located centrally in the brain and consists of four characteristic substructures: the protocerebral bridge, the fan-shaped body (FB), the ellipsoid body (EB), and the noduli (Hanesch et al. 1989). The large-field neurons of the FB form six horizontal strata, among which the first layer (F1) and the fifth layer (F5) of stratified neurons correspondingly accommodate visual pattern memory for “contour orientation” and “elevation” (Liu et al. 2006). Likewise, the EB is composed of arborizations provided by four types of large-field ringlike neurons (R1–4) (Hanesch et al. 1989). Based on the radii of their concentric arborizations, R4-type neurons were further subdivided into distal (R4d) and medial (R4m) types (Renn et al. 1999). The roles of these distinguishable R-type neurons are not well understood.

In the current study, to find new genes that function in visual learning and memory, we screened P element insertion lines and obtained the PKG-encoding gene *for* as a candidate. We then tested a series of *for* allelic variants and transgenic flies in an operant conditioning paradigm to uncover the roles of PKG in visual associative learning and its functional localization. Our results indicated that short-term visual pattern memory is undermined in *for^S* flies and that this defect can be rescued by either constitutive or temporary expression of *for* in the brain structures of the FB and, unexpectedly, the EB. These data suggested the involvement of *Drosophila* PKG in complex learning behavior and the implication of a new brain region involved in visual pattern memory.

Results

for allelic variants display distinct visual pattern memory

To identify new genes involved in visual pattern memory, we screened a collection of P[GawB] insertion lines in the flight simulator (Fig. 1A). In this behavioral test, individual flies were trained to avoid patterns associated with heat punishment and to fly toward those paired with the absence of heat punishment. This was followed by a 2-min test period without any heat punishment to check whether they remembered what they had learned during training (Fig. 1B).

Using this experimental apparatus and procedure to screen the Gal4 library, we found that a Gal4 line, called 189y, showed defective performance in memory test. In homozygous 189y flies, the memory index PI_8 (the eighth performance index; for details, see Materials and Methods) was not significantly different from zero ($PI_8 = 0.03 \pm 0.07$, one-sample *t*-test, two-sided *P*-value, $t = 0.37$, $P = NS$; Fig. 2A). This line was reported to carry a P element insertion in *for*, a *Drosophila* PKG-encoding gene, and to have a significantly reduced PKG level (Osborne et al. 1997). Inverse PCR and subsequent sequencing of the P element-flanking genomic DNA in our laboratory revealed that a single P element existed in the genome of 189y flies and that it was inserted not in the *for* coding region, but in the *lilliputian* (*lilli*) locus, which is 675 kb downstream of the *for* gene (Figs. 3A, 4A). This new locus was validated by PCR using primers specific for the P element-flanking DNA sequence and the P[GawB] sequence (Fig. 3A). Further quantitative PCR analysis indicated that both *lilli* and *for* mRNA expression were seriously disrupted by the P element in 189y flies (Fig. 3C,D). After precise excision of the P element, larval foraging behavior reverted from a sitter to a rover phenotype (Fig. 3B), and the mRNA levels of *lilli* and *for* also recovered (Fig. 3C,D). We did not observe any *for* mutations at the genomic level in the 189y flies used in this study, after careful examination (Z. Wang, L. Liu, and Z. Gong, unpubl.).

As the *for* gene might play a role in visual pattern memory in flies, we next focused on the role of *for* in this type of memory. Two *for* allelic variants, *for^R* and *for^S*, with the former having a

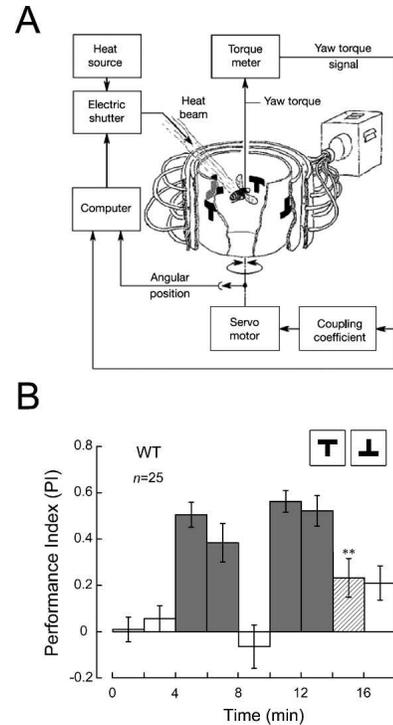


Figure 1. Experimental apparatus and procedure for testing visual pattern memory in *Drosophila*. (A) Flight simulator. The fly is fixed to a torque meter, and its yaw torque determines the angular velocity of the arena, in which there are two groups of patterns. With a beam of infrared light as punishment, the fly can be conditioned to avoid a “hot” pattern and pursue a “cold” one (for more details, see Materials and Methods). (B) Time course of experiment. Bars show performance indices (PIs; for more details, see Materials and Methods) of nine consecutive 2-min periods including pretest (open bars, PI_1 and PI_2), training (dark gray bars, PI_3 , PI_4 , PI_6 and PI_7), and memory test (open bars, PI_5 and PI_8 ; hatched bars, PI_9). Only the value of PI_8 is shown in the following figures. If not specially mentioned, T-shaped patterns were used as visual stimuli. Error bars are SEMs throughout. ** $P < 0.01$ (one-sample *t*-test; two-sided *P*-value against zero); (*n*) numbers of flies tested; (WT) wild-type *Canton-S* strain.

higher PKG level than the latter (Osborne et al. 1997), were used to test this hypothesis. Intriguingly, as shown in Figure 2A, the visual pattern memory of *for^R* flies appeared to be significantly higher than zero ($PI_8 = 0.27 \pm 0.08$, *t*-test, $t = 3.40$, $P < 0.01$) and similar to the memory level shown by wild-type flies, whereas the memory level of *for^S* flies was not different from zero ($PI_8 = 0.02 \pm 0.09$, *t*-test, $t = 0.27$, $P = NS$ [not significant]). Unlike larval foraging behavior, *for^S* seemed not to be genetically recessive to *for^R* in terms of visual pattern memory (*for^R/for^S*: $PI_8 = 0.01 \pm 0.05$, *t*-test, $t = 0.27$, $P = NS$). This was confirmed by the detection of memory loss in flies of two other genotypes: *for^R/189y* ($PI_8 = -0.02 \pm 0.03$, *t*-test, $t = 0.71$, $P = NS$) and *for^R/Df(2L)ed1* ($PI_8 = 0.06 \pm 0.05$, *t*-test, $t = 1.34$, $P = NS$; *Df(2L)ed1* is a deletion at *for* locus). *for^S* flies did not exhibit normal visual pattern memory performance. This could be due to defects in pattern discrimination or in thermotolerance. To test the first possibility, we used Fourier analysis to evaluate flies’ abilities to discriminate between patterns (for details, see Materials and Methods). In principle, the discrimination value (*D*) with identical patterns is the chance value ($D = 1$). As expected, in experiments with four identical patterns, the discrimination of wild-type flies was not significantly different from the chance value ($D = 1.28 \pm 0.15$, *t*-test, $t = 1.82$, $P = NS$). In experiments with different patterns, wild-type flies, as well as *for^R* and *for^S* flies retained their ability to recognize different patterns (WT:

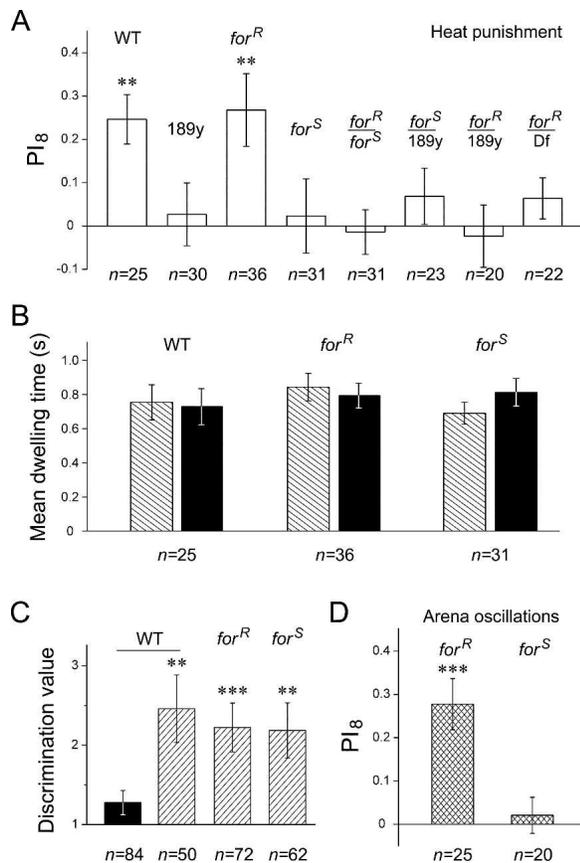


Figure 2. Role of *for* in visual pattern memory. (A) *for* allelic variants showed different visual pattern memory. In the *for* allelic variant *for^R*, the memory score is significantly higher than zero. In contrast, memory scores in the homozygous *for^S* and 189y and the heterozygous *for^R/for^S*, *for^S/189y*, *for^R/189y*, and *for^R/Df* flies are not significantly different from zero. Df is Df(2L)ed1 which is a deletion at *for* locus. (B) Dwelling time analysis of wild-type and *for* allelic variant flies. The mean dwelling time in “hot” quadrants during the first (hatched bars) and last (solid bars) training periods was calculated according to the original data used in A. No significant difference of the mean dwelling time can be observed between wild-type and *for* allelic variant flies. (C) Pattern discrimination of wild-type and *for* allelic variant flies. Fly’s pattern discrimination ability was evaluated by the discrimination value (D) during the two successive 2-min intervals of the pretest (PI₁ and PI₂). The discrimination values of wild-type and *for* allelic variant flies (hatched bars) are significantly different from the chance value ($D = 1$). As a control, in the experiment of wild-type flies with four identical patterns (solid bar) the discrimination value is not significantly different from the chance value. (n) Numbers of 2-min intervals in the pretest. (D) *for* allelic variants’ memory performances with arena oscillations as reinforcer instead of heat. The visual pattern memory score is significantly higher than zero in *for^R* flies, whereas it is not in *for^S* flies. The genotypes of tested flies are indicated. Error bars are SEMs. ** $P < 0.01$; *** $P < 0.001$; (n) numbers of flies tested; (WT) wild-type Canton-S strain.

$D = 2.46 \pm 0.43$, t -test, $t = 3.43$, $P < 0.01$; *for^R*: $D = 2.22 \pm 0.31$, t -test, $t = 3.96$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S*: $D = 2.19 \pm 0.35$, t -test, $t = 3.42$, $P < 0.01$, and their visual discrimination abilities appeared to be indistinguishable from each other (Fig. 2C). To exclude the latter possibility, we calculated the mean dwelling time in “hot” quadrants during training to analyze flies’ thermal-avoidance behavior (Dill et al. 1995). *for^R* and *for^S* flies spent similar amounts of time in the “hot” area to wild-type flies and did not show thermotolerance between two training periods (Fig. 2B). In addition, distinct memory performance was still observed in *for^R* and *for^S* flies when the reinforcement was substituted by arena oscillations

(*for^R*: $PI_8 = 0.28 \pm 0.05$, t -test, $t = 4.70$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S*: $PI_8 = 0.02 \pm 0.04$, t -test, $t = 0.50$, $P = NS$; Fig. 2D). Finally, the memory defects in *for^S* flies was neither complemented by 189y (*for^S/189y*: $PI_8 = 0.07 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 1.05$, $P = NS$; Fig. 2A) nor rescued by pan-neuronal expression of wild-type *lilli* cDNA (*elav-Gal4;for^S;UAS-lilli⁺*: $PI_8 = 0.02 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 0.27$, $P = NS$).

Taken together, these results indicated that short-term visual pattern memory in *Drosophila* requires *for* function and is impaired by reductions in the *for*-encoded PKG level.

Specific expression of *for* in the FB and the EB is sufficient to rescue visual pattern memory in *for^S* flies

To further explore the spatiotemporal properties of *for* functions in visual pattern memory, three types of UAS-*for^R* transgenic flies were generated according to the coding sequences of three major *for* transcripts, to increase the PKG level in *for^S* flies (Fig. 4A). These UAS lines were then crossed with the Gal4 lines used in the rescue experiments after breeding to a homozygous *for^S* genetic background. As shown in Figure 4B, pan-neuronal expression of the three *for* transcripts driven by *elav-Gal4* was able to effectively rescue the memory defect in *for^S* flies (*elav-Gal4/UAS-forP1;for^S*: $PI_8 = 0.22 \pm 0.06$, t -test, $t = 3.35$, $P < 0.01$; *elav-Gal4;for^S;UAS-forP2/+*: $PI_8 = 0.15 \pm 0.03$, t -test, $t = 4.40$, $P < 0.001$; *elav-Gal4;for^S;UAS-forP3/+*: $PI_8 = 0.26 \pm 0.09$, t -test, $t = 3.05$, $P < 0.01$), whereas neither *elav-Gal4* nor UAS-*for^R* alone, on a homozygous *for^S* background, was capable of this rescue (*elav-Gal4;for^S*: $PI_8 = 0.02 \pm 0.05$, t -test, $t = 0.35$, $P = NS$; UAS-*forP1;for^S*: $PI_8 = 0.03 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 0.38$, $P = NS$; *for^S;UAS-forP2/+*: $PI_8 = -0.04 \pm 0.09$, t -test, $t = 0.50$, $P = NS$; *for^S;UAS-forP3/+*: $PI_8 = 0.11 \pm 0.08$, t -test, $t = 0.13$, $P = NS$). Previous results have suggested that the FB is necessary for visual pattern memory in *Drosophila* (Liu et al. 2006). Thus, we hypothesized that this region might also be the location of *for* function in visual pattern memory. To prove this hypothesis, the Gal4 line c205, in which F5 neurons are labeled, was assigned to drive the local expression of *for*. Indeed, effectors of the three *for* isoforms were sufficient to restore visual pattern memory in *for^S* flies (*for^S;c205/+*: $PI_8 = 0.10 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 1.43$, $P = NS$; UAS-*forP1;for^S;c205/+*: $PI_8 = 0.40 \pm 0.08$, t -test, $t = 4.99$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S;c205/UAS-forP2*: $PI_8 = 0.53 \pm 0.09$, t -test, $t = 5.60$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S;c205/UAS-forP3*: $PI_8 = 0.42 \pm 0.09$, t -test, $t = 4.55$, $P < 0.001$; Fig. 4C). These results are consistent with the observation that the visual pattern memory defect in the *rut* mutant is restored by expression of the wild-type *rut* cDNA in F5 neurons. Interestingly, a similar memory rescue was obtained in *for^S* flies when *for* expression was enhanced in the EB, another component of the CX, using the Gal4 line c819, in which R2 and R4m ringlike layers in the EB are specifically marked (*for^S;c819/+*: $PI_8 = 0.06 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 0.96$, $P = NS$; UAS-*forP1;for^S;c819/+*: $PI_8 = 0.62 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 8.74$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S;c819/UAS-forP2*: $PI_8 = 0.45 \pm 0.08$, t -test, $t = 5.68$, $P < 0.001$; *for^S;c819/UAS-forP3*: $PI_8 = 0.22 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 3.17$, $P < 0.01$; Fig. 4D). In both cases, rescued flies with each of the three *for* isoforms showed memory restoration, indicating that the FB and the EB, represented by the expression patterns in the c205 and c819 lines, are two important regions in which *for*-encoded PKG is involved in visual pattern memory. Overexpression of *forP1* or *DCO⁺* did not boost memory (UAS-*forP1;c819*: $PI_8 = 0.31 \pm 0.08$, t -test, $t = 3.75$, $P < 0.01$; *c819/UAS-DCO⁺*: $PI_8 = 0.06 \pm 0.07$, t -test, $t = 0.85$, $P = NS$). It is worth noting that the ectopic expression of any of these isoforms led to memory recovery, probably because all three *for*-encoded PKG isoforms share a common catalytic domain, which is responsible for their kinase activity. Therefore, these results suggest that expression of *for* in certain neurons of the FB and the EB is sufficient for visual pattern memory.

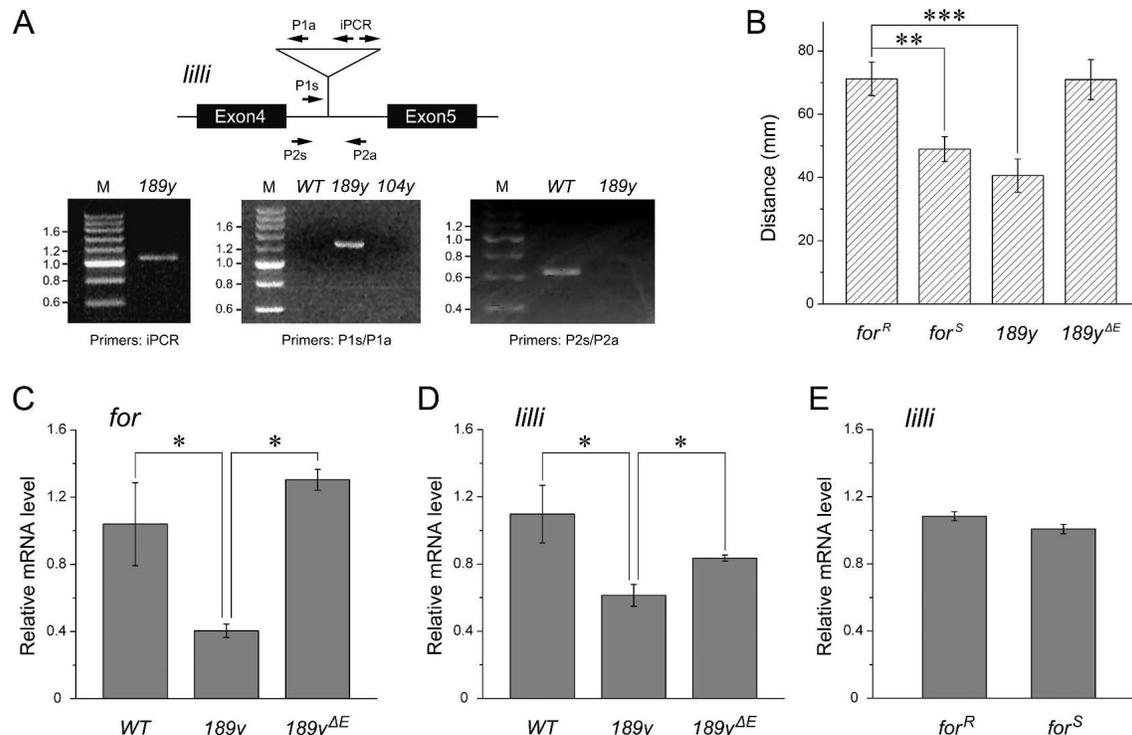


Figure 3. Characterization of the P element in 189y flies. (A) The P element in 189y flies is inserted in *lilli* gene. In the schematic representation of part of *lilli* locus, exons are indicated as black boxes and P element insertion of 189y is indicated as triangle. Primers for PCR reactions are shown as arrows. The iPCR primers are used for inverse PCR. The primers P1s/P1a and the primers P2s/P2a are used for regular PCR. Inverse PCR of the self-ligated fragments from the 5' end of P[GawB] in 189y showed a product of about 1.1 kb. This DNA fragment contains part of P[GawB] and flanking genomic DNA. After DNA sequencing and BLAST, the P element in 189y was localized to a site different from the previously described *for* locus (shown in Fig. 4A). PCR using primer P1s specific for genomic DNA upstream of the insertion site and primer P1a from the 3' end of P[GawB] showed a 1.3-kb PCR product only in the 189y flies, as expected, but not in wild-type or 104y flies, an otherwise irrelevant Gal4 line. PCR with primers P2s/P2a specific for the genomic DNA flanking the 189y insertion site showed a 0.6-kb band in wild-type flies, as expected, but no detectable band in 189y flies. M, molecular weight markers measured in kb. (B) P element precise excision revert 189y larvae from sitter to rover. Larval foraging distance of *for*^R, *for*^S, 189y, and the precise excision strain 189y^{ΔE} on yeast were measured in millimeters (the same behavior paradigm described as in Osborne et al. 1997). There is no significant difference among their general locomotor ability (data not shown). Error bars are SEM. ***P* < 0.01; ****P* < 0.001. *n* = 30 for all strains. (C–E) *for* and *lilli* mRNA expression levels in fly heads. *for* and *lilli* mRNA levels in 189y are significantly lower than in the precise excision strain 189y^{ΔE} and the wild-type control, while *for* and *lilli* mRNA levels in the excision strain are not significantly different from those in the wild-type control (C and D). *lilli* mRNA levels in *for*^R and *for*^S flies were not distinguishable (E). Error bars are SEMs. **P* < 0.05; *n* = 6 for all; (WT) wild-type *Canton-S*.

Temporary expression of *for* in adulthood is sufficient to rescue visual pattern memory in *for*^S flies

To exclude possible developmental effects in rescue experiments caused by constitutive Gal4 activity, we tried to use a temporal and regional gene expression targeting system (TARGET), in which Gal4 activity is suppressed by a temperature-sensitive Gal80^{ts} at the permissive temperature (19°C) and temporarily induced by shifting to the restrictive temperature (30°C), to temporarily express a target gene (McGuire et al. 2003). The temperature change from 19°C to 30°C did not alter flies' visual pattern memory (Fig. 5A; WT: $PI_8 = 0.29 \pm 0.07$, *t*-test, *t* = 4.37, *P* < 0.001).

As the three major PKG isoforms encoded by *for* were functionally consistent in the rescue assay, one line carrying UAS-*forP1* on the X chromosome was chosen as representative, to express *for* in adults. Therefore, we raised flies (UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; c205 or c819/*tub-Gal80*^{ts}) at 19°C and then, in adulthood, transferred them to 30°C for 36 h prior to a memory test in the flight simulator. As a control group, flies of the same genotype were kept at 19°C until they were tested for visual pattern memory. As shown in Figure 5, B and C, the flies that had been kept at 30°C in adulthood showed almost complete rescue of the memory defect seen in *for*^S flies (UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; c205/*tub-Gal80*^{ts}: $PI_8 = 0.22 \pm 0.05$, *t*-test, *t* = 4.63, *P* < 0.001; UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; c819/

tub-Gal80^{ts}: $PI_8 = 0.21 \pm 0.05$, *t*-test, *t* = 4.16, *P* < 0.001), whereas the control groups for both Gal4 driver lines displayed significantly reduced memory performance indistinguishable from that of *for*^S flies (UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; c205/*tub-Gal80*^{ts}: $PI_8 = 0.04 \pm 0.06$, *t*-test, *t* = 0.75, *P* = NS; UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; c819/*tub-Gal80*^{ts}: $PI_8 = 0.04 \pm 0.06$, *t*-test, *t* = 0.66, *P* = NS). To exclude the possibility that leaky expression of the UAS transgene was responsible for this rescue, we also raised flies (UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; *tub-Gal80*^{ts}/+) at 19°C before transferring them to 30°C in adulthood. As shown in Figure 5A, no visual pattern memory was observed after inactivation of Gal80^{ts}. These results indicated that temporary expression of *for* in either FB neurons (as in the c205 line) or EB neurons (as in the c819 line) was sufficient to rescue the memory defect seen in *for*^S flies. Meanwhile, as a parallel control, an MB-specific Gal4 driver line mb247 was also used. Flies reared at 30°C in adulthood showed the same memory defect as controls lacking ectopic *for* gene expression at 19°C (UAS-*forP1*; *for*^S; mb247/*tub-Gal80*^{ts} 30°C: $PI_8 = 0.01 \pm 0.04$, *t*-test, *t* = 0.32, *P* = NS; 19°C: $PI_8 = -0.02 \pm 0.05$, *t*-test, *t* = 0.46, *P* = NS; Fig. 5D). This is consistent with a report that MBs are dispensable for visual pattern memory (Wolf et al. 1998). Collectively, these data support our previous results showing that *for*-dependent visual pattern memory is localized to the FB and the EB. Furthermore, temporally restricted expression of *for* in these regions is sufficient for memory rescue.

FB and EB show different pattern specificities in visual memory

The FB is a structure of functional differentiation with a matrix of layers. Among these layers, *rut*-dependent short-term memory for the pattern parameters “elevation” and “contour orientation” is divergently localized (Liu et al. 2006). The patterns used in our experiments described so far exclusively addressed the parameter “elevation,” represented by upright and inverted T-shaped patterns. Thus, we wondered whether the same situation existed in *for*-dependent visual pattern memory. To address this question, wild-type *for* was again locally expressed to rescue the memory defect in *for^S* flies. In rescue experiments with the c205 line (UAS-

forP1; *for^S*; c205/+), only memory for “elevation” was restored (Fig. 4C) but not that for “contour orientation” ($PI_8 = 0.01 \pm 0.06$, *t*-test, $t = 0.13$, $P = NS$). Similarly, another driver line, c5, in which F5 neurons in the FB are also marked, but probably with minor pattern differences from c205, rescued only the defect in memory for “elevation” ($PI_8 = 0.21 \pm 0.07$, *t*-test, $t = 2.84$, $P < 0.01$) but not the defect in memory for “contour orientation” ($PI_8 = 0.04 \pm 0.07$, *t*-test, $t = 0.58$, $P = NS$) (Fig. 6A,B). Next, we extended our study of this pattern-specific effect to the EB. Surprisingly, expression of *for* by the Gal4 line c819 sufficiently restored visual pattern memory for “contour orientation” ($PI_8 = 0.24 \pm 0.06$, *t*-test, $t = 4.35$, $P < 0.001$) in addition to that for “elevation” (Fig. 4D). However, another driver line, c232, in which R3 and R4d ringlike layers in the EB are labeled, failed to rescue the memory defect for either pattern parameter (elevation, $PI_8 = 0.05 \pm 0.09$, *t*-test, $t = 0.60$, $P = NS$; contour orientation, $PI_8 = 0.01 \pm 0.11$, *t*-test, $t = 0.06$, $P = NS$) (Fig. 6C,D). These results suggest that, in terms of *for*-dependent visual pattern memory, the F5 neurons in the FB underlie memory for “elevation” but not memory for “contour orientation,” whereas the EB neurons labeled in c819 flies are sufficient for both parameters.

Discussion

The PKG-encoding *Drosophila* gene *foraging*, which was named after its initially discovered function in food-search behavior, has been reported to be required for nonassociative learning and olfactory associative learning in flies (Engel et al. 2000; Scheiner et al. 2004; Kaun et al. 2007; Mery et al. 2007). In this paper, we presented evidence to show that *for* plays an important role in a complex form of behavior, visual operant conditioning. Reduced *for*-encoded PKG levels led to defects in visual pattern memory. Specifically, up-regulation of spatiotemporally restricted *for* expression could facilitate memory, indicating that the effect of *for* takes place during adulthood in both the FB and the EB. Moreover, just like the *rutabaga* adenylyl cyclase (Liu et al. 2006), *for* also affects visual memory in a pattern-specific manner.

The relationship between *for* and visual pattern memory was established through functional studies. First from an analysis of different *for* allelic variants and then from targeted up-regulation of *for*, visual memory was positively correlated with the *for* expression level. It is worth noting that all three major isoforms of *for*-encoded PKG were able to successfully rescue visual pattern

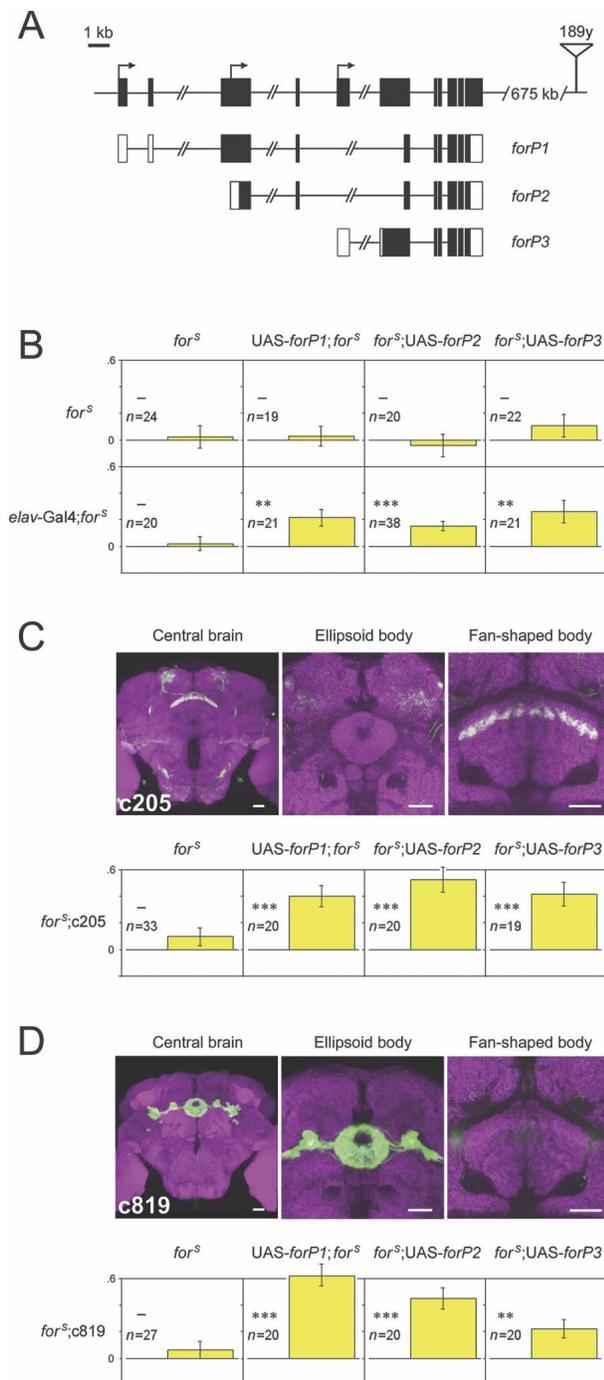


Figure 4. Visual pattern memory rescue in *for^S* flies expressing any of the three transcripts in the fan-shaped body or the ellipsoid body. (A) Schematic representation of *for* locus and transcripts. In the genome map at the top, exons and transcription start sites are shown as black boxes and arrows, respectively. The insertion site of 189y is represented by the triangle. Below, in the transcription map of the three major transcripts (*forP1*, *forP2*, and *forP3*), coding sequences are highlighted in black; 5'- and 3'-UTR are in white. Scale bar, 1 kb. (B–D) Flies with UAS-*forP1*, UAS-*forP2*, and UAS-*forP3* inserted in the first, third, and third chromosomes, respectively, were genetically substituted into a *for^S* background. The memory of *for^S* flies was restored by the expression of each of the three wild-type for transcripts driven by *elav-Gal4*, whereas *for^S* containing only *elav-Gal4* or the UAS responders (*elav-Gal4*; *for^S*; UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; *for^S*; UAS-*forP2*+/+, and *for^S*; UAS-*forP3*+/+) showed no visual pattern memory (B). When driven by c205 (C) or c819 (D), expression of *for* was able to rescue the memory defect in *for^S* flies. The *for^S* flies bearing only the Gal4 drivers (*for^S*; c205/+ and *for^S*; c819/+) used as a control, showed no memory (leftmost panels in C and D). The expression pattern of transgenes under the control of the drivers c205 (C) and c819 (D) in central brain are shown by GFP (green; overlay white). The synaptic neuropil is stained by anti-nc82 antibody (magenta). Scale bars are 20 μ m for all. Y-axes represent PI_8 of the memory test. In each panel of behavioral results, the maternal genotypes are shown at the top and the paternal genotypes are at the left. Error bars are SEM. $-P \geq 0.05$; $**P < 0.01$; $***P < 0.001$; (n) numbers of flies tested.

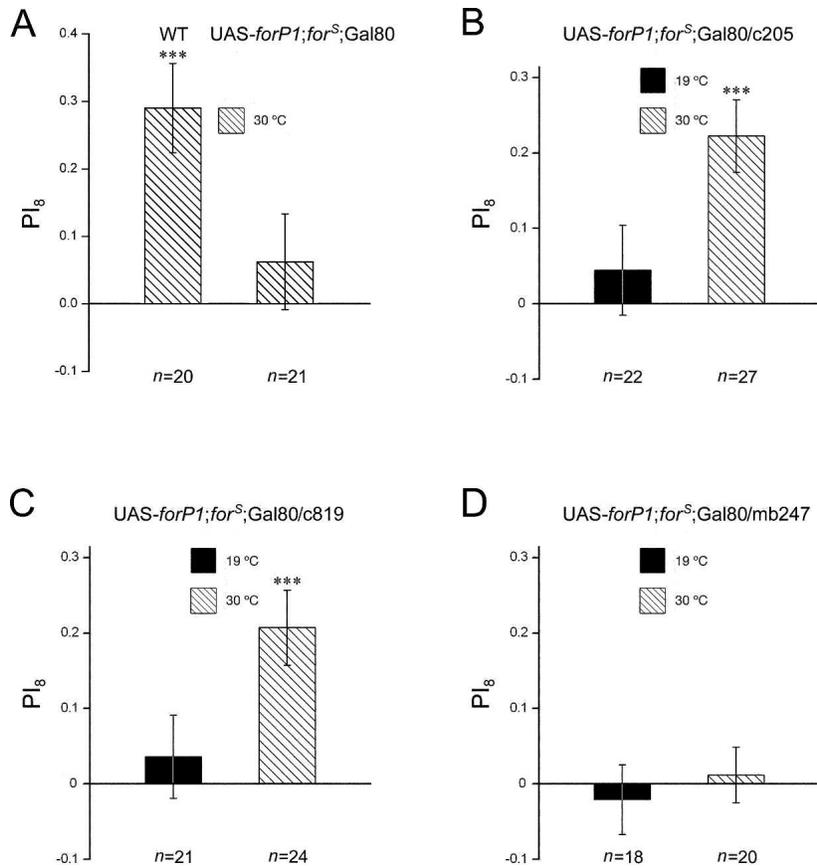


Figure 5. Adult rescue of *for*^S memory in the central complex. (A) Wild-type flies showed normal visual pattern memory and flies with genotype of *UAS-forP1;for*^S; *tub-Gal80*^{ts} showed no visual pattern memory, when raised at 19°C until adulthood and then shifted to 30°C for 36 h prior to memory test. (B–D) Three groups of flies (*UAS-forP1;for*^S; *c205* or *c819* or *mb247/tub-Gal80*^{ts}) were kept at 19°C and then transferred to 30°C before memory test. Flies in which *for* is temporarily expressed in the FB (*c205*) and the EB (*c819*) after heat-shock treatment show memory levels significantly higher than zero (B,C), but adult-limited expression of *for* in the mushroom bodies (MBs) (*mb247*) did not restore the memory defect in *for*^S flies (D). The visual pattern memory of the corresponding control groups kept at 19°C before the memory test was not different from zero. The genotypes of flies are shown above the bars. Hatched bars indicate the memory levels of the flies kept at 19°C before shifting to 30°C for 36 h in adulthood, and solid bars indicate the memory levels of the flies kept at 19°C throughout. Error bars are SEMs. ****P* < 0.001; (*n*) numbers of flies tested.

memory defects, implying that they are functionally interchangeable. Nevertheless, it is possible that only one or a few forms of PKG are endogenously responsible for visual pattern memory because of the likely limited regional localization of each isoform.

In addition to the functional localization of *for*, the study of timing showed that *for* is temporarily sufficient for visual pattern memory. Using temperature-sensitive *Gal80*^{ts} to regulate *Gal4* activity, we were able to induce *for* expression during adulthood by raising the temperature, thereby rescuing the defective memory in *for*^S flies. This acute effect means that *for*-encoded PKG and the corresponding biochemical pathways play fundamental roles in visual pattern memory and may even represent the underlying molecular mechanism. On the other hand, *for* may also affect developmental processes that facilitate visual pattern memory to a certain extent. This is not surprising, though, as PKG has been shown to be involved in the development of the nervous system in *Drosophila* and other species (Renger et al. 1999; Yamamoto and Suzuki 2005; Zhang et al. 2005).

One important but unanswered question in our work is how *for*-encoded PKG affects visual pattern memory. As a key factor in

the NO and cGMP signaling pathways, PKG has plenty of potential substrates (Wang and Robinson 1997). It may phosphorylate protein substrates that modulate neurotransmission, neuronal excitability, and even gene expression (Wang and Robinson 1997). In our study, we focused only on short-term memory, which most likely involves PKG substrates like ion channels, cytoskeleton proteins, or calcium signaling-regulated proteins that subsequently lead to instant electrophysiological modifications in neurons. Nevertheless, it is reasonable to postulate that long-term memory also involves PKG, as many studies have established a role for PKG in LTP and LTD, which are generally thought to underlie long-term memory in mammals (Zhuo et al. 1994; Feil et al. 2003).

There are a number of possible explanations for the finding that the *c819*-driven expression of *for* in EB neurons successfully restored defects in the memory for the visual pattern parameters “elevation” and “contour orientation,” which have previously been shown to be mediated by FB neurons. First, it is possible that *c819* is also expressed in FB neurons. This possibility can be largely excluded as we were unable to detect any signal in the FB when membrane-tethered GFP was expressed under the control of *c819*. Furthermore, if there is minimal *c819* expression in the FB that was not detected, such a low level of expression might not be enough to restore *for* expression and subsequently rescue the memory defect. The second possible explanation for our finding is that the FB and the EB may work together to facilitate visual memory formation. If we take into account the possibility that flies may have

different levels of memory (in our scoring system, only those flies with memory above a certain threshold were scored as having “normal memory,” and those under this threshold were scored as having “no memory”), the memory of flies may rely on the overall activity of FB and EB neurons. Indeed, it is possible that *for*^S flies with residual PKG activity possess memory ability just slightly below the threshold level, so that elevation of PKG activity in the EB could restore EB neuron activity and subsequently enhance FB neuron activity followed by restoration of visual pattern memory. With regard to our previous finding that tetanus toxin and $G\alpha_s^*$ block memory formation in the FB (Liu et al. 2006), both tetanus toxin and $G\alpha_s^*$ might induce a significantly severe neuronal malfunction in FB neurons; because the overall function of FB and EB neurons would then be abnormal, memory would also be deficient. Further evidence at the circuit level and functional level is required to elucidate the details of this mechanism before reaching a final conclusion. The application of more *Gal4* lines may help to dissect these neural circuits and behaviors in more detail.

Recently, Kaun et al. (2007) published an article on the effects of *for* on larval memory. Their report is consistent with our

conclusion that *for* is involved in *Drosophila* memory, although their results suggested that *for* affected larval olfactory conditioning but not visual conditioning. The ostensible discrepancy between the function of *for* in larval visual memory that they reported, and its role in adult visual memory that we described here, can be explained by the huge difference between larval and adult fly visual information processing systems and behavioral paradigms. For example, the EB and the FB, which are important for adult fly visual memory, have not been reported to form in larval fly. Rather, the consistency between the two reports confirmed a common function of *for* in *Drosophila* memory.

While this paper was in preparation, another report was published suggesting that *for^R* and *for^S* larvae have different ther-

motolerances, as measured by mouth-hook movement and evoked excitatory junction potentials in neuromuscular junctions (Dawson-Scully et al. 2007); this report overtly confounds our conclusion, since heat was used in our behavioral paradigm as reinforcement. However, if analyzed carefully, the effect of thermotolerance does not reduce the relevance of our behavioral test. Even if *for^R* and *for^S* adult flies have different thermotolerance ability, this difference in thermotolerance does not affect visual learning in our paradigm, since *for^R* and *for^S* flies have similar thermosensation and thermal-avoidance abilities (Fig. 2B), and these are the real heat-related factors that could affect the learning behavior. Moreover, the possible nonspecific thermal effect of heating on visual learning and memory ability is negligible, since the effects of laser-induced heat are limited to the body surface and, in our experiment, to the abdomen; thus, the brain is almost certainly not affected. Furthermore, according to the report by Dawson-Scully et al. (2007), *for^S* flies should be more resistant to the negative effect of heat, and thus perform better, than *for^R* flies; however, our study clearly showed that *for^R* flies had better memory than *for^S* flies. Thus, the difference in performance between *for^R* and *for^S* flies resulted from different learning/memory abilities but not from a hypothetical difference in thermotolerance.

An interesting phenomenon is that the difference in behavioral performance between *for^R* and *for^S* flies was drastic, while the corresponding difference in PKG activity between them was previously reported to be only 10% (Osborne et al. 1997), which is generally considered to be tiny. We suggest that a 10% difference in overall PKG activity does not necessarily mean that the same 10% difference applies evenly to all PKG isoforms and all PKG-expressing brain regions. It is possible that the activity of certain PKG isoforms, or the PKG level in certain local brain regions, is reduced by more than 10% in *for^S* flies compared with *for^R* flies, and that such a difference leads to distinct behavioral performances in visual learning and memory. Additionally, it is also possible that some behavior, such as visual learning and memory, may be sensitive to PKG activity at a certain limited activity range, for example, the range between *for^R* and *for^S* flies, but not outside of this range. Further fine experimental investigation is needed to elaborate the details.

In our experiments, as 189y, which turned out a *lilli* allele, was used as a clue to derive the *for* story, it could be asked whether the *for^S* allelic phenotypes in this study actually resulted from the contamination of *lilli* mutations, or from 189y with the contamination of *for^S* allele. From our observations, overexpression of *lilli* was unable to restore the memory defects in *for^S* flies in our visual learning paradigm. This result, together with the result that overexpression of *for* could restore the memory defect, indicated that the memory defect in *for^S* flies is not caused by *lilli* abnormality, but by a variation in the *for* gene itself. In addition, *for^S*-like larval foraging phenotype in 189y flies, as well as the expression of *lilli* and *for*, was completely reversed after precise P element excision, suggesting that 189y itself is a *lilli* allele, but not on a *for^S* genetic background, and that *for* is somehow subsequently affected. We postulated that there could be some interaction between *lilli* and *for*, but the details of such an interaction are not yet clear.

Future studies on *for* function should identify the PKG substrates and putative crosstalk between *for* and *lilli* that contribute to learning and memory; it will be particularly interesting to clarify the relationship between the FB and the EB in terms of visual pattern memory. Unraveling this circuitry will be a big step toward a full understanding of the relationship between brain structures and complex behaviors in fruit flies.

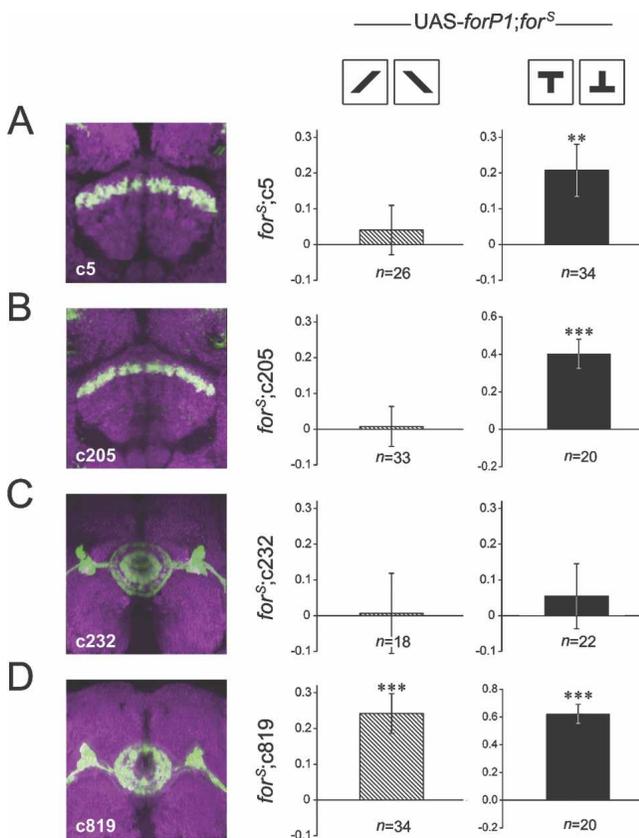


Figure 6. Memory rescue of two pattern parameters in a spatially specific manner. The Gal4 lines c5 (A), c205 (B), c232 (C), and c819 (D), driving *forP1* transcript in a *for^S* background, were tested for memory rescue using the single pattern parameters "contour orientation" or "elevation." In the presence of the pattern parameter "contour orientation" (differently orientated bars), the visual pattern memory scores of three groups of flies (UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c5 or c205 or c232/+) are not significantly higher than zero (A–C), whereas that of flies of the genotype UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c819/+ is (D). In the presence of the pattern parameter "elevation" (the upright T and inverted T), flies of the genotype UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c5/+, as well as UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c205/+ and UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c819/+ (duplicated from Fig. 4 for clearer comparison) show memory scores significantly higher than zero (A, B, D) whereas flies of the genotype UAS-*forP1*; *for^S*; c232/+ do not (C). Hatched bars indicate the memory levels for the parameter "contour orientation," and solid bars indicate the memory levels for the parameter "elevation." The expression pattern of each Gal4 driver line in the central complex is shown by GFP (green; overlay white). The synaptic neuropil is stained by anti-nc82 antibody (magenta). Y-axes represent P₈ of the memory test. The maternal genotypes are shown at the top, and the paternal genotypes are at the left of the panel of behavioral results. Error bars are SEMs. ***P* < 0.01; ****P* < 0.001; (n) numbers of flies tested.

Materials and Methods

Fly stocks

All flies were maintained at 25°C on standard corn meal/molasses medium (Guo et al. 1996) in a 12-h light/12-h dark cycle at 60% humidity. Two- to 6-day-old flies were used in the experiments. Two *for* allelic variant lines, *for^R* and *for^S* (kindly provided by M.B. Sokolowski, University of Toronto, Canada), were outcrossed for eight generations to get a wild-type *CS* genetic background and bred to homozygosity before use. The following fly strains were also used: wild-type *Canton-S* (*CS*); *Df(2L)ed1*; *UAS-lilli^{*}* (kindly provided by A. Muller, University of Dundee, Scotland); *tub-Gal80^{ts}*; the *Gal4* lines 189y, *elav-Gal4*, *c205*, *c5*, *c819*, *c232*, and *mb247*. 189y^{ΔE} is a P element precise excision line generated in our laboratory from 189y flies according to standard procedures.

Inverse PCR

Standard methods for inverse PCR were used to identify the P element insertion site of the *Gal4* line 189y. Genomic DNA was prepared from ~50 adult flies using a QIAamp DNA Mini Kit (QIAGEN) and digested with *Hpa*I. DNA fragments were then self-ligated overnight at 16°C using T4 DNA ligase (Invitrogen). Ligated fragments containing the 5' end of P[GawB] and flanking genomic DNA were amplified by PCR with the primer pair iPCR (5'-CTCCACAATTCCGTTGGATT-3' and 5'-CTATCGACGGGAC CACCTTA-3') and sequenced. The P[GawB] elements were superimposed on the genomic map of known or predicted genes by a BLAST search of the flanking DNA sequence against the *Drosophila* genome sequence, available from the Berkeley *Drosophila* Genome Project (BDGP).

To confirm the newly localized P element insertion sites in 189y flies, the following pairs of primers were used for regular PCR: P1s: 5'-CTAACGCCCCCGCTGACC-3'; P1a: 5'-GCACCG CCTACATACCTCGC-3'; P2s: 5'-CTGTGTTGTCTCCGTCT-3'; P2a: 5'-TGCTCACTTATGGTTGTC-3'.

Generation of transgenic flies

Approximately 100 wild-type *CS* flies were homogenized in TRIzol reagent (Invitrogen) to isolate total RNA, from which mRNA was extracted using an Oligotex mRNA Mini Kit (QIAGEN). First-strand cDNA was synthesized from mRNA using a SuperScript II first-strand synthesis system (Invitrogen). It was then amplified by PCR reactions using *pfu* polymerase (Promega) and primers designed based on sequences from the FlyBase Consortium (<http://www.flybase.org>). After the relevant restriction digestion, DNA fragments spanning the transcripts of *forP1* (with the help of the inner *Xho*I cut site) and *forP3* coding regions were directly cloned into pUAST vectors (Brand and Perrimon 1993). A DNA fragment corresponding to the transcript of the *forP2* coding sequence was first cloned into the pGEM-T vector (Promega) and then subcloned into the pUAST vector. All cloning steps were confirmed by restriction digestion and DNA sequencing. The primers used in PCR reactions were as follows (lower-case letters represent restriction sites): *forP1* part 1 upper: 5'-CGGgaattcATG CGTTTCTGCTTTGAT-3'; *forP1* part 1 lower: 5'-AATATGGC AGCCTTGATAAGTTCAC-3'; *forP1* part 2 upper: 5'-CCACA CGCAAGTCGGGTCAG-3'; *forP1* part 2 lower: 5'-AATAA TcgccgTCAGAAAGTCTTGTGTC-3'; *forP2* upper: 5'-AAAGc ggcgcATGCAGAGTCTGCGGATCTCG-3'; *forP2* lower: 5'-CGCCGgctagcTCAGAAAGTCTTGTGCCATCC-3'; *forP3* upper: 5'-AATATAcggcgcATGAAAATCAAACATTATCCGGGC-3'; *forP3* lower: 5'-GGTGGTctcgagTCAGAAAGTCTTGTGCCATC-3'.

UAS-forP1, *UAS-forP2*, and *UAS-forP3* plasmids were then purified and subjected to germline transformation into *w¹¹¹⁸* embryos according to standard protocols, as previously described (Rubin and Spradling 1982). *UAS-for^{*}* transgenic lines with P elements on the first and third chromosomes were established and changed into a homozygous *for^S* genetic background.

Quantitative PCR

Quantitative PCR (qPCR) was used in a standard way. In brief, 0.5 μL of cDNA mixtures prepared from the heads of 3- to 5-d-old

flies, as described above, were used as templates and tested on a Chromo 4 system (MJ Research/Bio-Rad). For each fly strain, cDNA was obtained from six independent RNA preparations for repeating and averaging. The relative differences in *for* or *lilli* mRNA expression levels were quantified by comparing their levels with standard curves, which were constructed using the corresponding recombinant plasmids, and normalized to the level of *actin*. One-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) was used for the statistical analysis of relative mRNA levels. The primers used for qPCR were as follows: qPCR-*actin* upper, 5'-CAGGCGGT GCTTCTCTCTA-3'; qPCR-*actin* lower, 5'-AGCTGTAACCGC GCTCAGTA-3'; qPCR-*for* upper, 5'-AGGCGGAGTACAGC GATTTC-3'; qPCR-*for* lower, 5'-CGCACTTTCCCTTGGATATG 3'; qPCR-*lilli* upper, 5'-ACACCAACTGCCGGATAGTC-3'; qPCR-*lilli* lower, 5'-CCACTTCCAACCTGTGACCT-3'.

Immunohistochemistry

Dissection of adult brains was performed in cold PBS (phosphate buffer saline) to remove the cuticle and connective tissues. After a brief wash in PBS, samples were fixed in freshly prepared 4% paraformaldehyde in PBS for 2 h at room temperature, rinsed for 3 × 15 min in 0.5% PBT (PBS with 0.5% Triton X-100) followed by blocking with 10% PNT (10% normal goat serum in PBT) for 2 h at room temperature. Subsequently, samples were incubated with primary antibodies overnight at 4°C, washed 3 × 15 min with PBT, and then incubated in PNT containing secondary antibody. After 3 × 15 min washes in PBT, brains were mounted in Vectashield (Vector Laboratories) and viewed with an Olympus FV500 confocal microscope. Raw confocal images were imported into Leica Deblur software (AutoQuant Imaging, Inc.) to reconstruct 3D images. Modifications were made using Adobe Photoshop (Adobe Systems) to obtain optimal visual effects. Care was taken to ensure that brightness and contrast alterations were performed on the entire panel without losing any detail. Monoclonal mouse anti-nc82 (kindly provided by E. Buchner, University of Wuerzburg, Germany) primary antibody was used at a dilution of 1:10. TRITC-conjugated anti-mouse secondary antibody (Jackson ImmunoResearch) was used at a 1:100 dilution.

Visual pattern memory assay

In the flight simulator, a single tethered fly was suspended at a torque meter to measure its yaw torque in the center of an arena. The arena is rotated by an electric motor such that its angular velocity is proportional to, but directed against, the fly's yaw torque. The fly's yaw torque determines the angular velocity of the arena instead of rotating the fly's own body. This arrangement allows the tethered fly to stabilize and choose its flight orientation with respect to the arena by adjusting its yaw torque. A computer continuously registers yaw torque and the angular position of the arena. To test visual learning, a beam of infrared light was directed at the fly as an instantaneous source of heat. The beam can be intercepted by a computer-driven electric shutter. The arena was virtually divided into four quadrants with patterns at their respective centers. During training, the computer opened the shutter whenever the fly was heading into a quadrant with, for example, pattern A, and closed it when the fly was oriented toward one of the two adjacent quadrants with pattern B. Hence, half of all possible orientations in the arena were paired with heat, and the others were paired with ambient temperature. During tests, heat was permanently switched off. Angular position was recorded every 50 msec, and orientation preferences were calculated in nine consecutive 2-min periods (performance index, PI_{1-9}). Pattern A was paired with ambient temperature during training, and pattern B with heat. Each of the two patterns was pattern A in half of the experiments. This procedure eliminates any effects of spontaneous or nonassociatively induced pattern preferences. If t_A is the time the fly spends heading toward the quadrants with pattern A, and t_B is the time heading toward pattern B-containing quadrants, then the performance index (PI) is calculated as

$$PI = (t_A - t_B)/(t_A + t_B).$$

Mean PIs were obtained for nine consecutive 2-min periods (PI_{1-9}), and PI_8 was used as an index of short-term memory. Before each 2-min period, the arena was rotated to an arbitrary position. Upright and inverted T-shaped patterns were used in the test of pattern parameter “elevation,” while bars of two different orientations were used in the test of pattern parameter “contour orientation.” Unless specifically mentioned, only the T-shaped patterns were applied. For the experiments in which heat was not used as punishment, the arena was oscillated (peak-to-peak amplitude, $A_{pp} = \pm 7.5^\circ$; frequency, $f = 5$ Hz) as a negative reinforcement. All behavioral experiments were performed at 25°C. A one-sample *t*-test (two-sided *P*-value) was used for the statistical analysis of memory scores (PI_8). NS: $P \geq 0.05$.

Flies carrying *tub-Gal80^{ts}* were cultured at 19°C. The experimental groups were shifted to 30°C for 36 h prior to behavioral tests, while the control groups without heat shock treatment were raised at 19°C throughout development and then left at 25°C for adaptation just before behavioral tests.

Flies' pattern discrimination abilities were measured as previously described (Liu et al. 2006). In brief, the orientation distribution of an individual fly during the two successive 2-min intervals of the pretest (PI_1 and PI_2) was analyzed by Fourier transformation. The discrimination value (*D*), which was used to evaluate a fly's pattern discrimination ability, is calculated as the rate of the amplitude of the 180° component to the mean amplitude of the (near-by) 120° and 72° components ($D = 2A_{180}/(A_{120} + A_{72})$); subscripts refer to Fourier components; *A* = amplitude). The evaluation of a 4-min pretest with four identical patterns (bars) in wild-type flies was also obtained in the same way. A one-sample *t*-test (two-sided *P*-value) was used for the statistical analysis of discrimination values against the chance value ($D = 1$).

Larval foraging assay

Third-instar larval foraging was assessed and quantified as described in Osborne et al. (1997). Strain differences in behavior on yeast were statistically analyzed using ANOVA.

Acknowledgments

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