

# **SIRT1 ACTIVITY IN THE DENTATE GYRUS MEDIATES STRESS-INDUCED BEHAVIORAL AND MOLECULAR CHANGES**

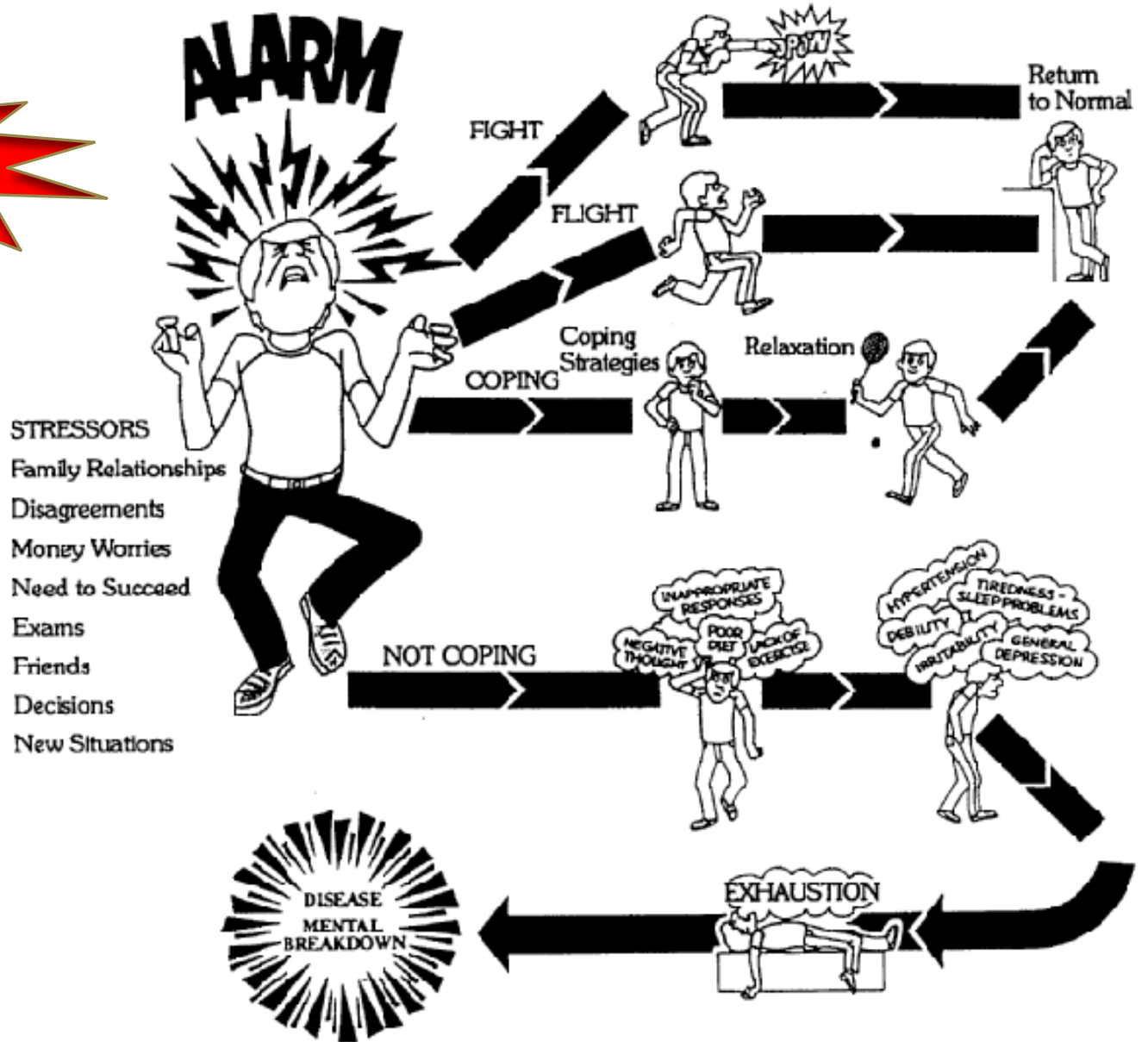
NSF EPSCoR 2012 Symposium

Laura Schrader

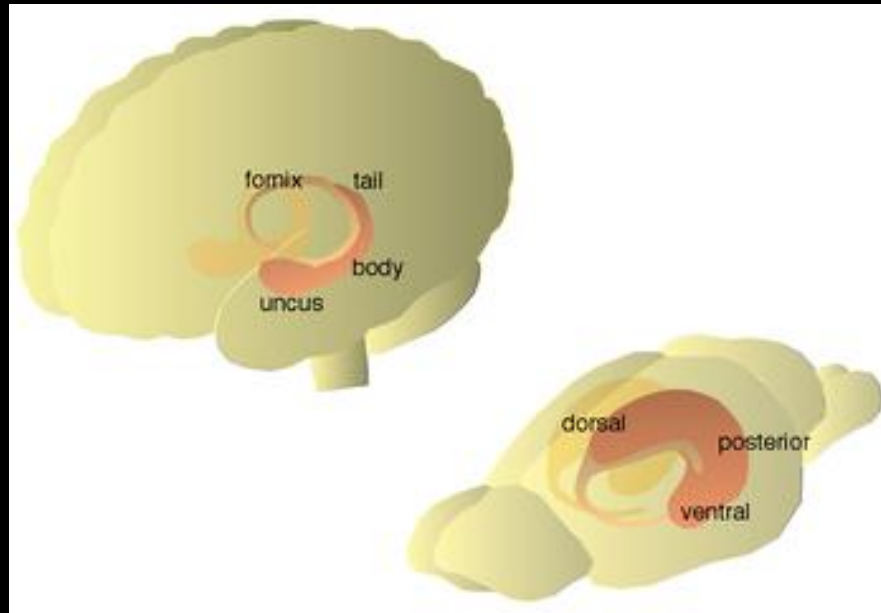
Tulane University

July 23, 2012

# STRESS

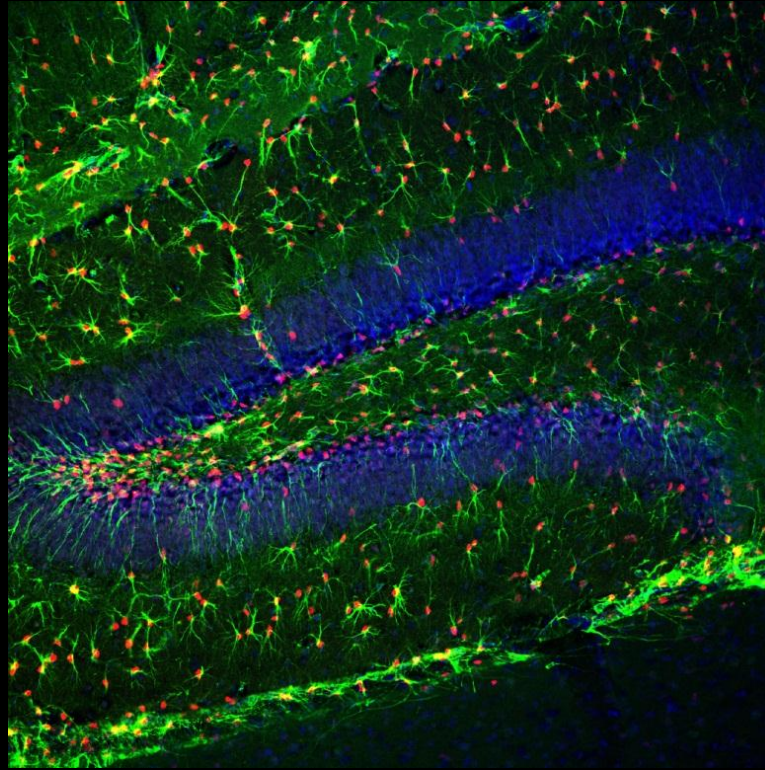


# Function of the hippocampus



- ▣ Hippocampus-dependent Memory
- ▣ Inhibition of HPA axis
  - Circadian control of corticosterone
  - Stress-inhibitory control of HPA axis
- ▣ Mood Regulation

# Effects of stress on the hippocampus



## ▣ Structural Abnormalities

- Dendritic Retraction
- Decreased Neurogenesis
- Hippocampal Volume Loss

## ▣ Functional Deficits

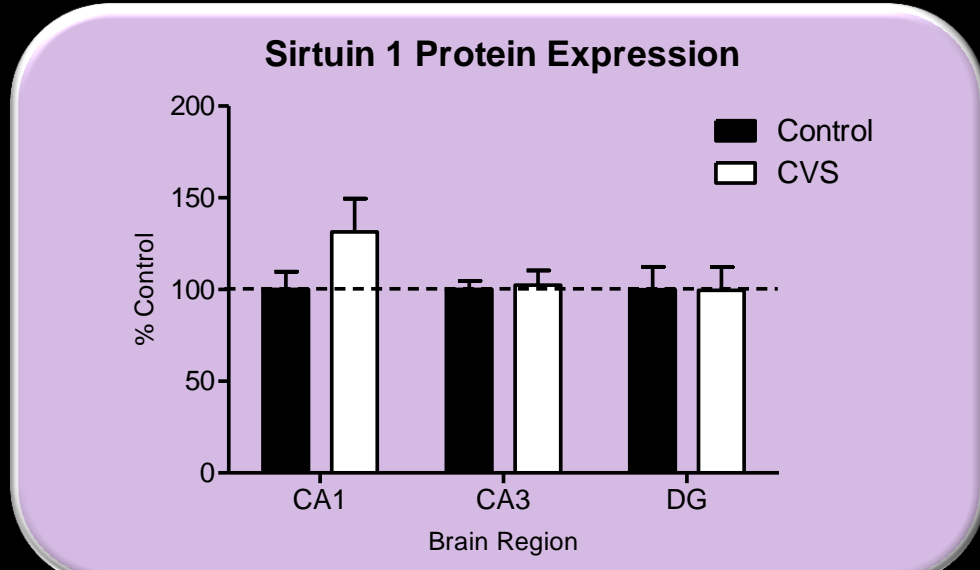
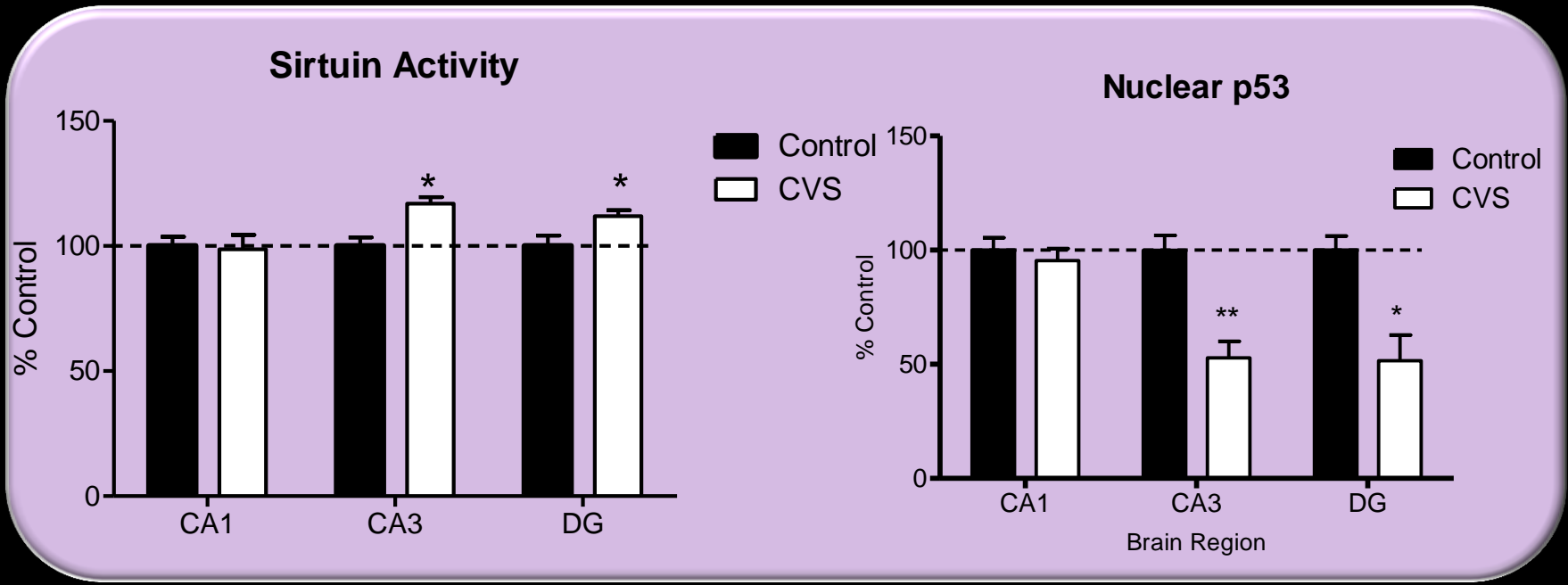
- Memory Impairment
- Inhibition LTP Induction
- Facilitation LTD Induction

# Epigenetic Mechanisms

## HATs and HDACs

- ▣ Histone acetyltransferases (HATs) and Histone deacetylases (HDACs)
- ▣ Classical HDAC's
  - Class I: HDAC 1-3, 8
  - Class II: HDAC 4-10
  - Class IV: HDAC 11
- ▣ **Sirtuins (or Class III HDACs)**
  - **Function via a NAD<sup>+</sup> (nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide) dependent mechanism**
  - **Deacetylates histones and transcription factors, including p53**
  - **Distributed in hippocampus**
  - **Role in aging and metabolic functions**
  - **Role in cognition and anxiety disorders**

# Sirt1 activity is increased in the DG and CA3 of CVS animals



**What are the Molecular and Behavioral Effects  
of Sirt1 Activation during Chronic Variable  
Stress in the Hippocampus?**

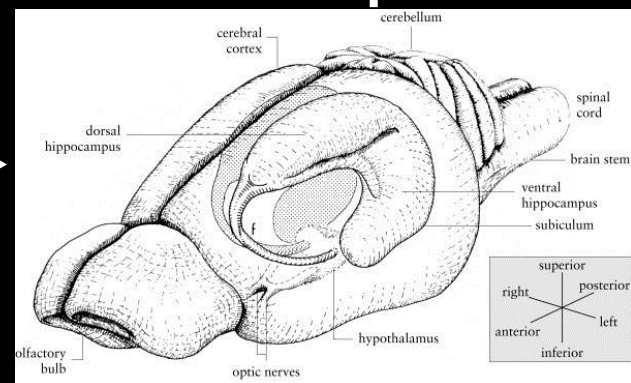
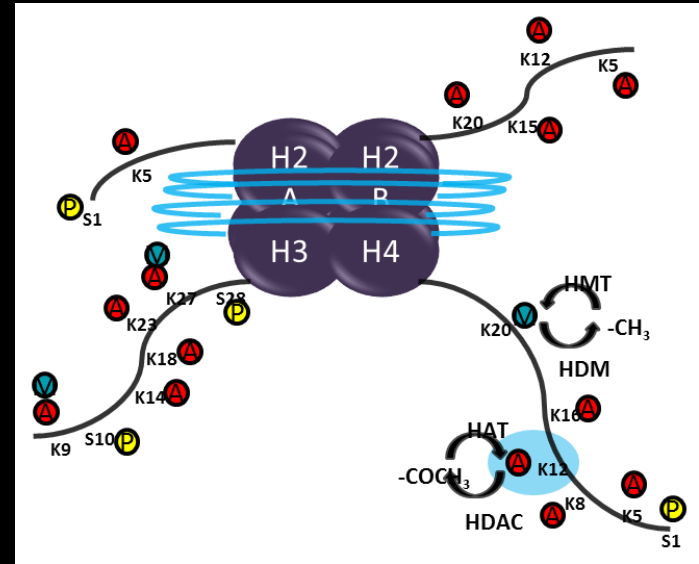
# STUDY DESIGN



Sucrose preference  
Object location  
anxiety

## CVS Paradigm:

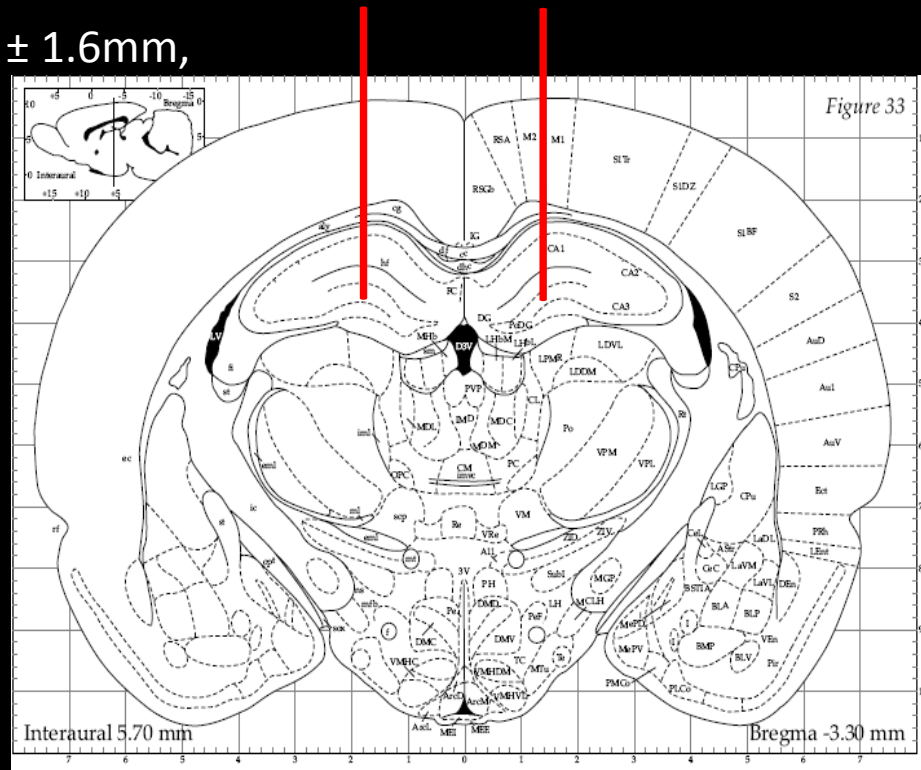
- Cold Swim (10min at 16-18°C)
- Warm Swim (20min at 31-33°C)
- Cold Room (1hr at 4°C)
- Rotation (1hr at 100 rpm)
- Social Isolation (overnight, one rat per cage)
- Crowding (overnight, 6 rats per cage)



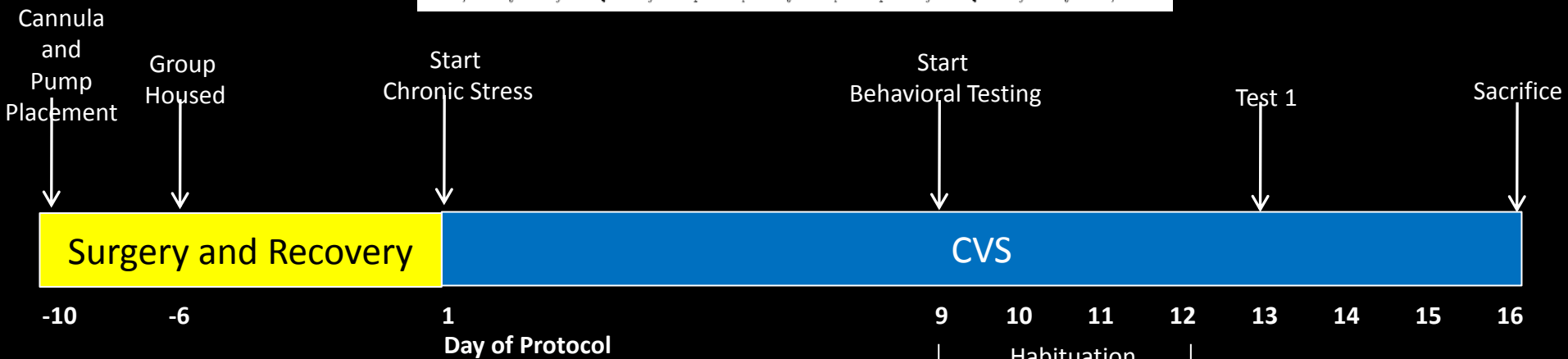


50  $\mu$ M sirtinol into DG at 0.25 $\mu$ l/ hour or vehicle (5% hydroxylpropyl  $\beta$ cyclodextrin)

bregma AP -3.2mm; ML  $\pm$  1.6mm,  
DV -5.0mm

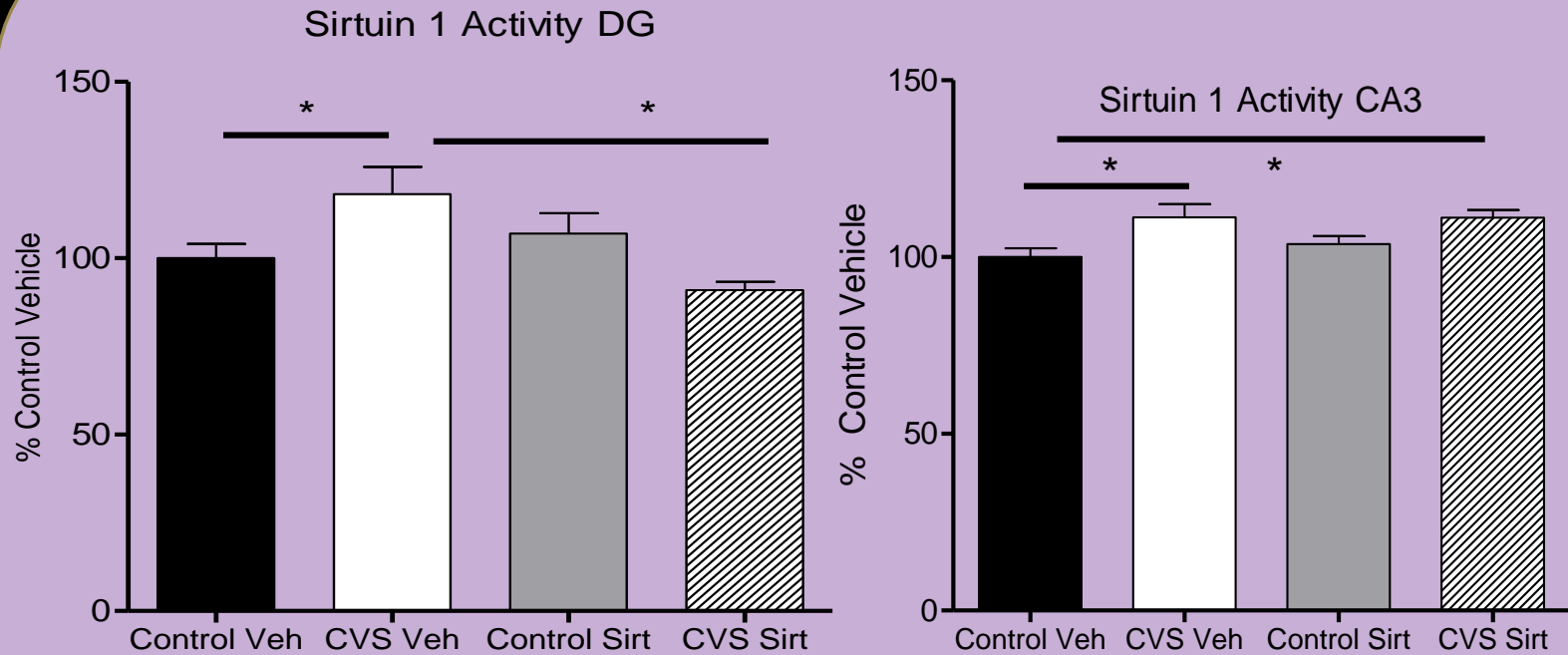


AP -3.2, ML +1.6

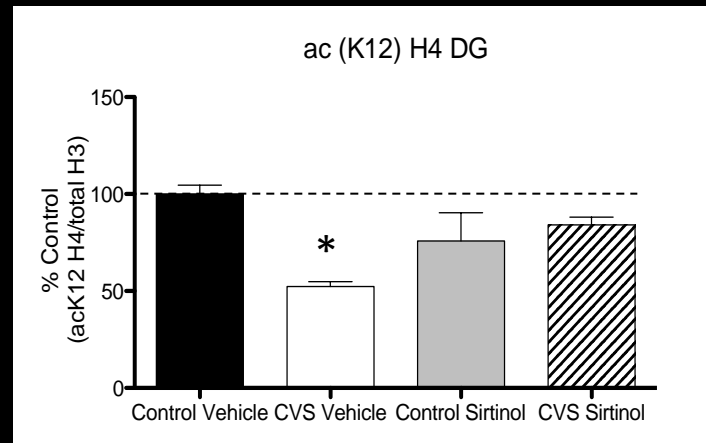
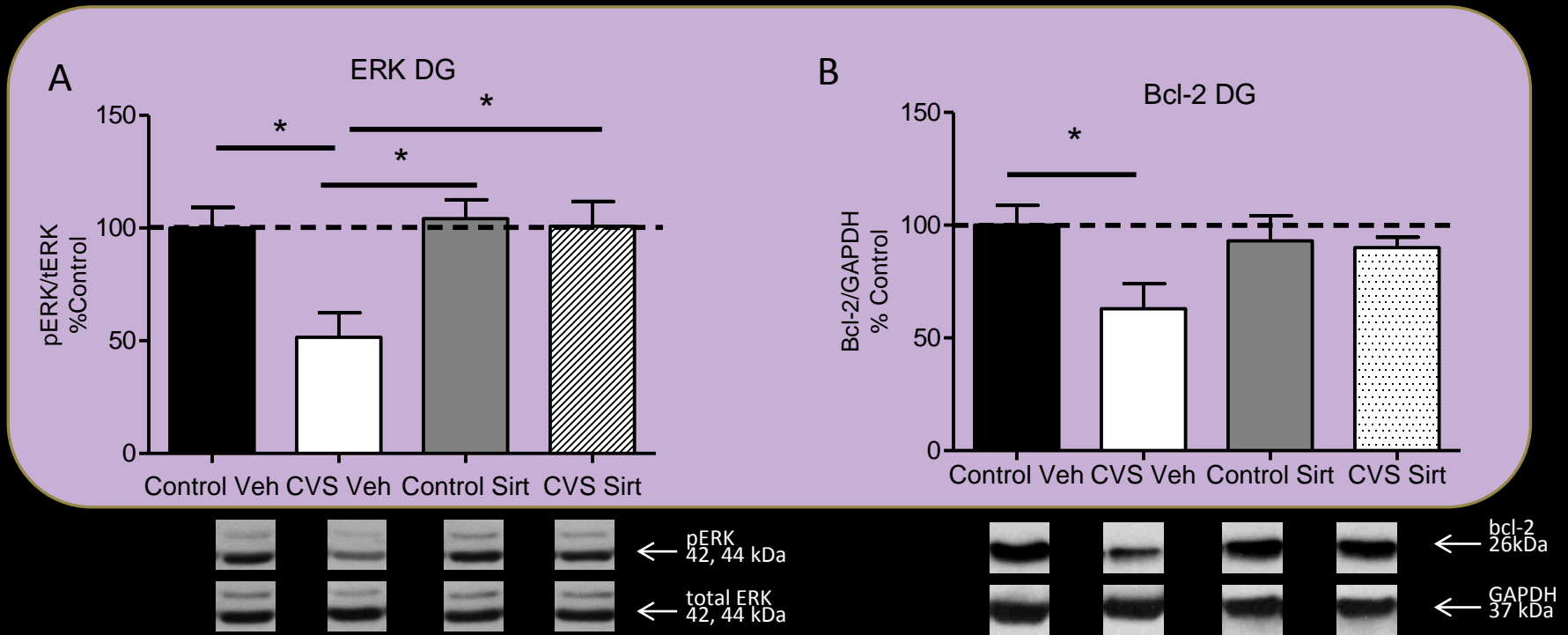


Done in Collaboration with Paul Colombo

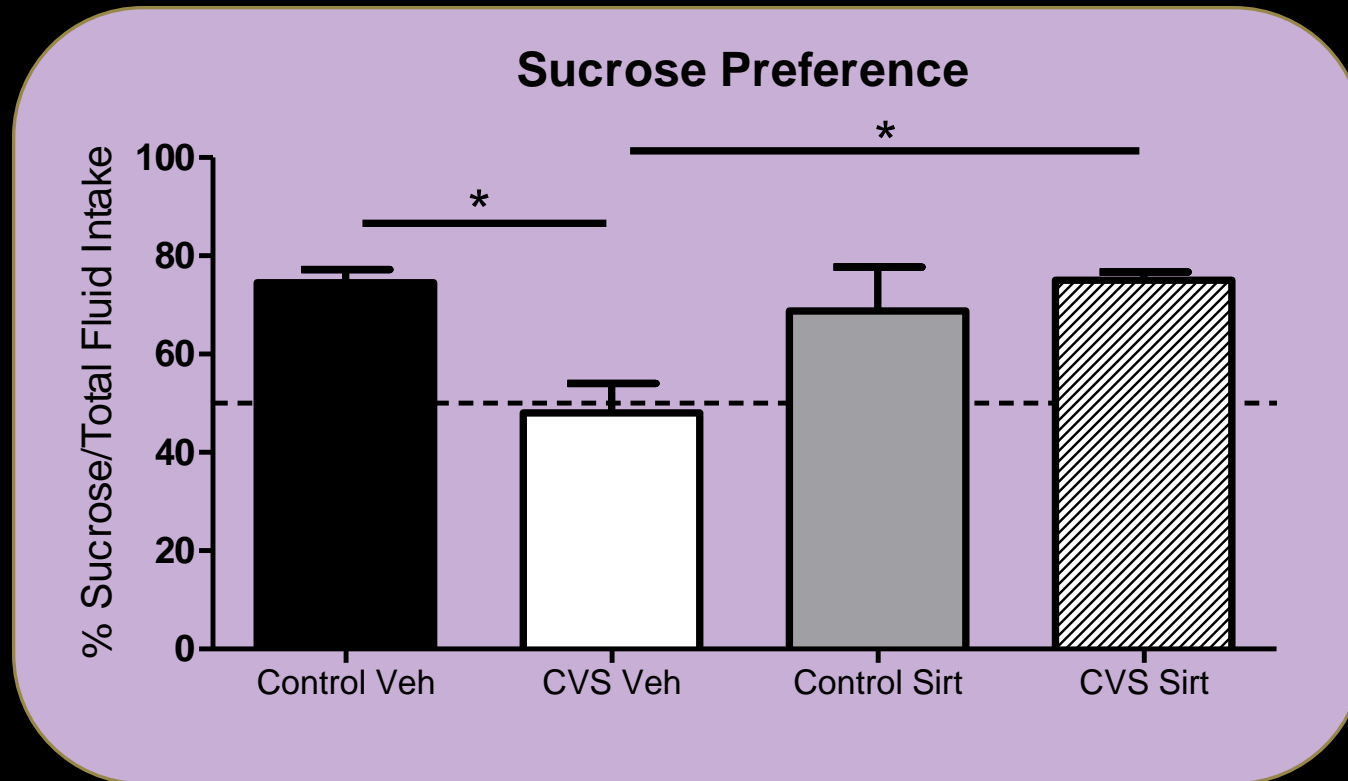
# Infusion of sirtinol, a sirt1 inhibitor, decreased sirt1 activity in the DG



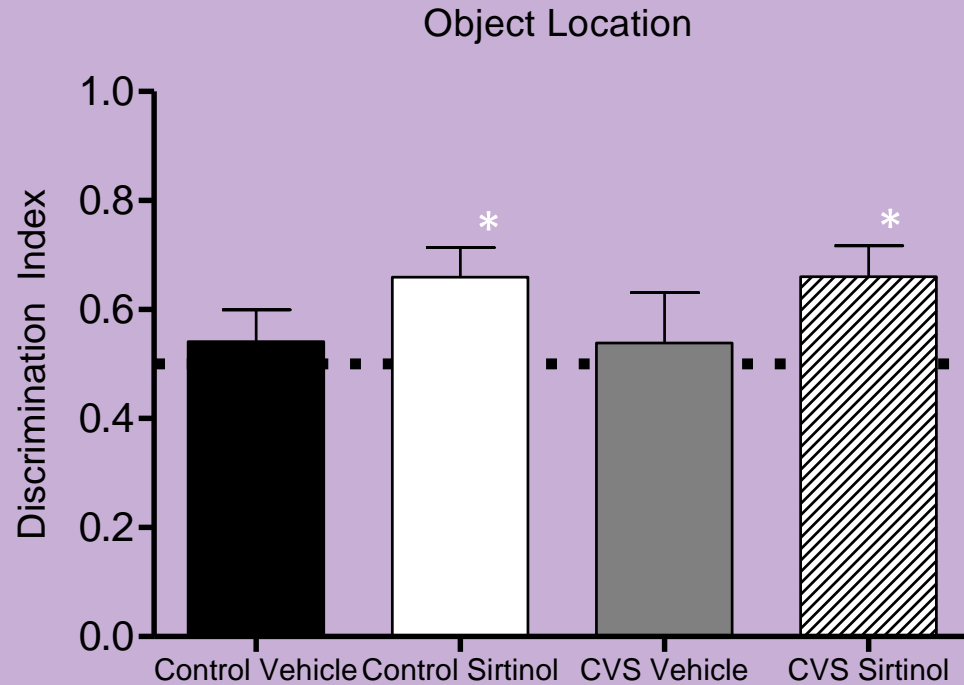
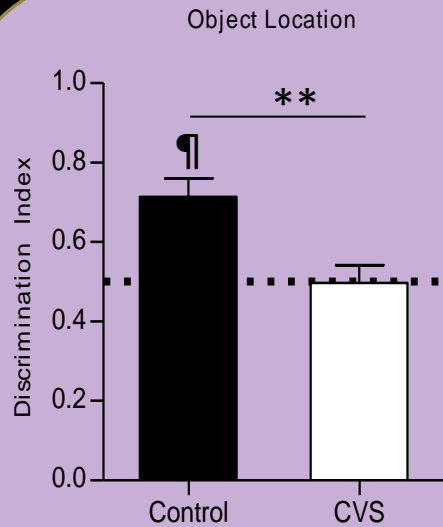
# Sirt1 inhibition reversed the molecular effects of CVS in the DG



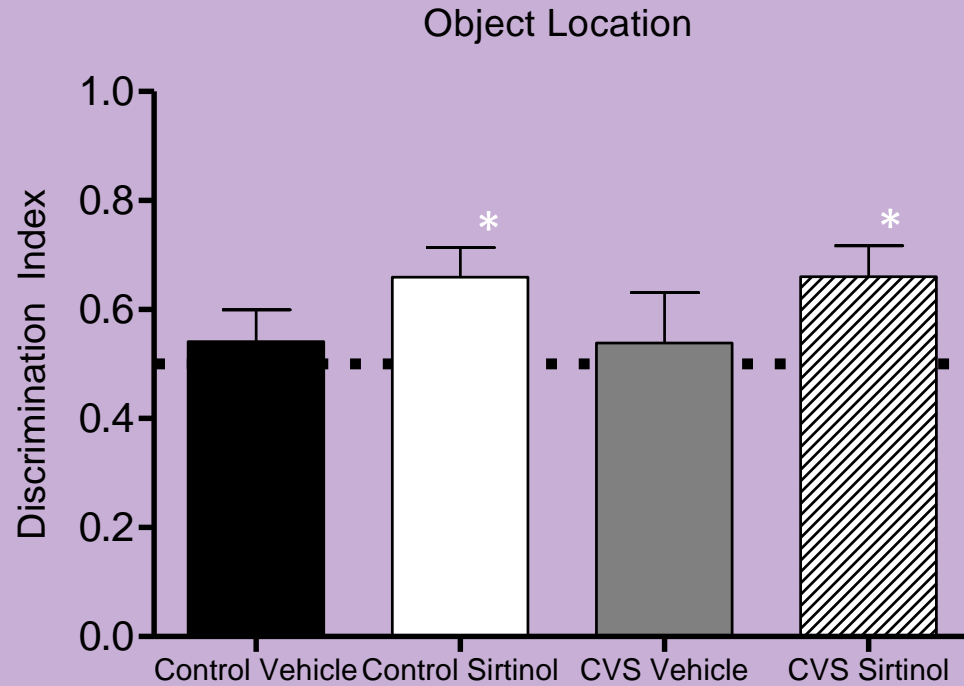
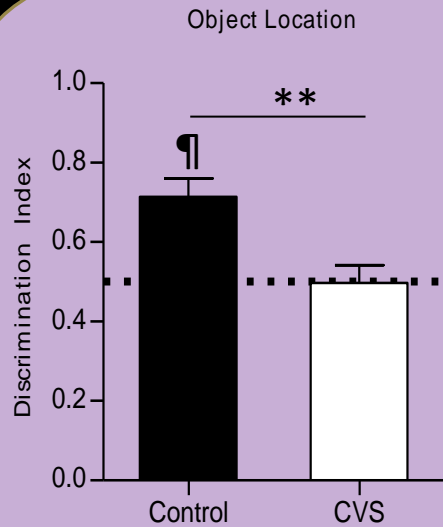
# Sirt1 inhibition reversed the anhedonic behavior caused by CVS



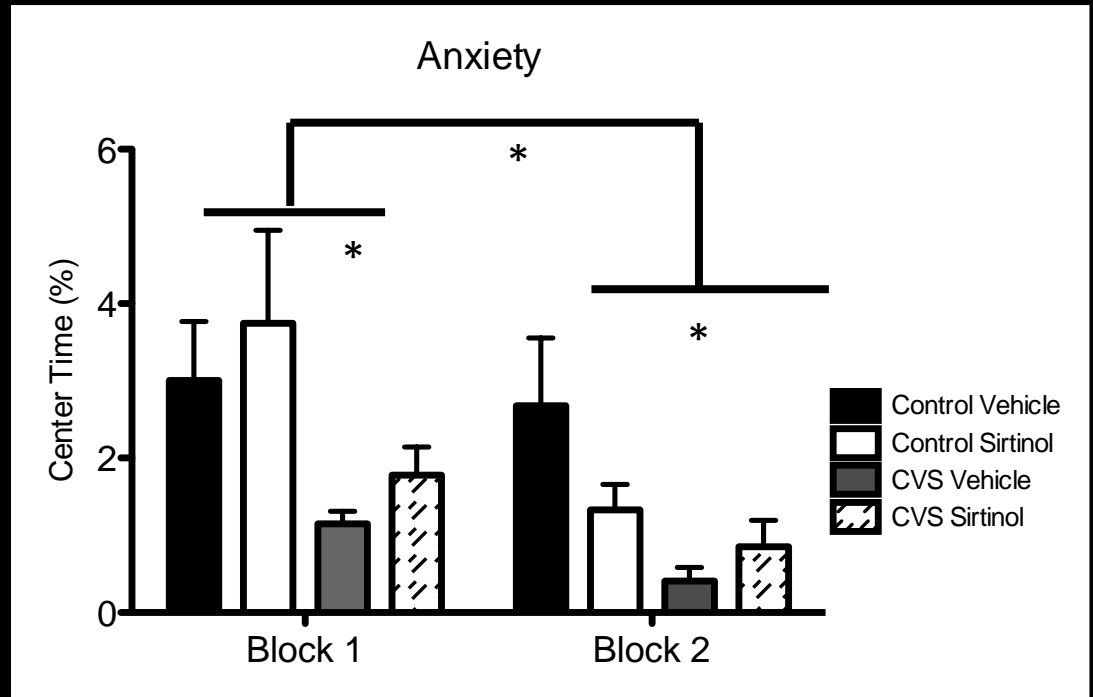
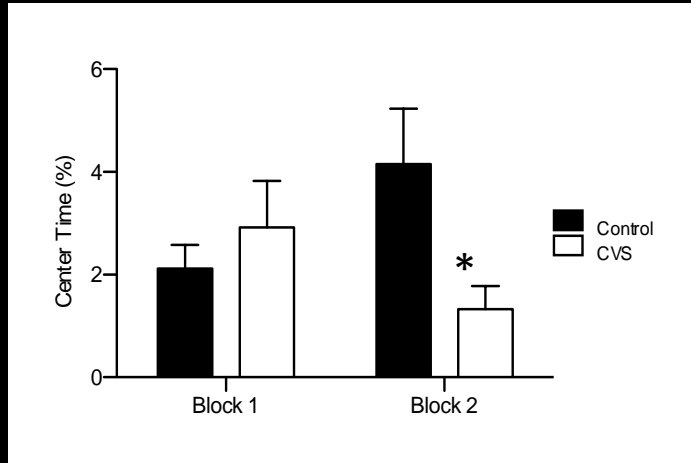
# Sirt1 inhibition reversed the memory deficit caused by CVS

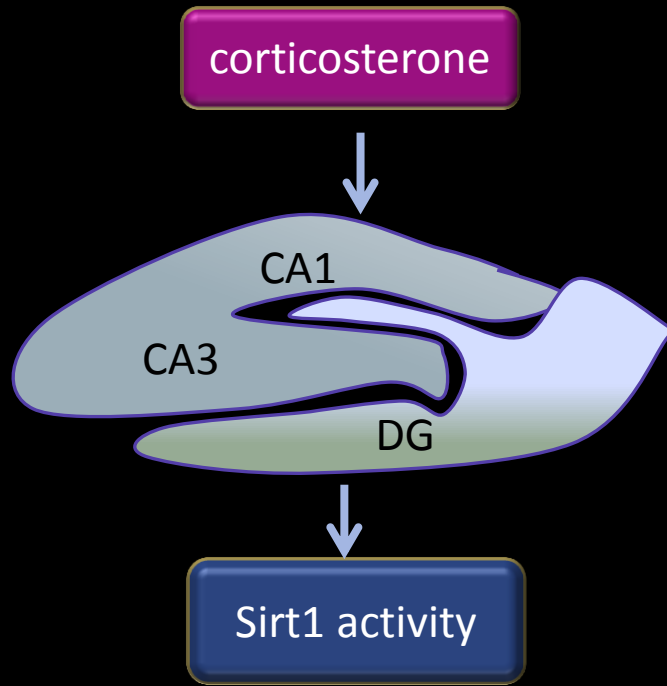


# Sirt1 inhibition reversed the memory deficit caused by CVS



# Sirt1 inhibition did not reverse the increased anxiety caused by CVS





Decreased hippocampus-dependent memory  
Anhedonia



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