

**Extended Data Fig. 1 | Characterization of the membrane trafficking for 5-HT receptor-based chimeras. a**, Representative fluorescence images of HEK293T cells co-expressing the indicated 5-HT receptors fused with cpGFP (green) and RFP-CAAX (red); EGFP-CAAX was used as a positive control. Similar results were observed for more than 100 cells. Scale bar, 10 µm. **b**, Normalized fluorescence intensity measured at the white dashed lines shown in (**a**) for each candidate sensor.

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**Extended Data Fig. 2 | Sequence alignment of cpGFP from 5-HT1.0 sensor, sfGFP, and mClover3. a**, The sequence of cpGFP from the 5-HT1.0 sensor, sfGFP, and mClover3 are aligned. Amino acids in the cpGFP chose for optimization are labeled with light green color, and the mutations adopted by the 5-HT1.0 sensor are indicated with red stars.

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**Extended Data Fig. 3 | The amino acid sequence of 5-HT1.0. a**, Schematic representation of the 5-HT1.0 structure. For simplicity, TM1-4, TM7, and H8 are not shown. **b**, The amino acid sequence of the 5-HT1.0 sensor after three steps of evolution. The mutated amino acids in cpGFP (cpGFP from GCaMP6s, see Chen, T.W., *et al.* 2013.) are indicated with red stars.



Extended Data Fig. 4 | See next page for caption.

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Extended Data Fig. 4 | Further characterization of GRAB<sub>5-HT</sub> in cultured HEK293T cells and rat cortical neurons. a, Representative fluorescence and pseudocolor images of HEK293T cells expressing 5-HT1.0 or 5-HTmut before (left) and after (right) application of 10 µM 5-HT. Similar results were observed for more than 10 cells. Scale bar, 20 µm. b,c, Representative fluorescence traces and group summary of the peak response in HEK293T cells expressing 5-HT1.0 or 5-HTmut; n = 14 and 15 cells from 3 cultures for 5-HT1.0 and 5-HTmut group. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed.  $P = 8.18 \times 10^{-12}$  between 5-HT1.0 and 5-HTmut group. d, 5-HT dose-response curves measured in cells expressing 5-HT1.0 or 5-HTmut, the EC<sub>s0</sub> for 5-HT1.0 is shown. n = 3 wells per group with 300-500 cells per well. e, Representative normalized fluorescence measured in HEK293T cells expressing 5-HT1.0, EGFP-CAAX, or iGluSnFR during continuous exposure to 488-nm laser (power: 350 µW). f, Summary of the decay time constant calculated from the photobleaching curves shown in (e). n=10/3, 14/3, and 12/3 for 5-HT1.0, EGFP-CAAX, and iGluSnFR, respectively. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P=2.45×10<sup>-9</sup>, 1.90×10<sup>-9</sup>, 3.05×10<sup>-8</sup>, and 7.22×10<sup>-7</sup> between EGFP-CAAX and iGluSnFR without or with Glu, and 5-HT1.0 without or with 5-HT. P = 4.43 × 10<sup>-8</sup> and 7.78 × 10<sup>-6</sup> between iGluSnFR without or with Glu and 5-HT1.0 without 5-HT. P = 4.62 × 10<sup>-8</sup> and 7.05 × 10<sup>-6</sup> between iGluSnFR without or with Glu and 5-HT1.0 with 5-HT. g, Summary of the brightness measured in HEK293T cells expressing 5-HT1.0 or 5-HT2C-EGFP in the absence or presence of 10  $\mu$ M 5-HT, normalized to the 5-HT2C-EGFP + 5-HT group; n = 3 wells per group with 300-500 cells per well. **h**,**i**, Intracellular calcium was measured in cells expressing 5-HT1.0 or the 5-HT2C receptor and loaded with the red fluorescent calcium dye Cal590. Representative traces are shown in (h), and the peak responses are plotted against 5-HT concentration in (i); n = 15/3 for each group. j,k, Fluorescence response of 5-HT1.0 expressing cells to 5-HT perfusion for two hours. Representative fluorescence images (j) and the summary data (k) showing the response to 10 µM 5-HT applied at 30 min intervals to cells expressing 5-HT1.0; n = 3 wells per group with 100-300 cells per well. Scale bar, 20 µm. F<sub>410</sub>=0.888, P=0.505 for 0 min, 30 min, 60 min, 90 min and 120 min by one-way ANOVA. I, Left, the Gs-coupled cAMP level was detected by pink-Flamindo with or without 5-HT1.0 sensor expression. The exemplar fluorescence response traces of pink-Flamindo without (top) or with 5-HT1.0 sensor (bottom) expression, when treated with 50 µM 5-HT or 50  $\mu$ M 5-HT + 10  $\mu$ M Forskolin. Right, quantification data for left. n = 23/3, 23 cells from 3 cultures for each group. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P=0.084 and P=0.488 for 5-HT and 5-HT + FSK group. **m**, Buffering effects of the 5-HT1.0 sensor by luciferase complementation assay. Luminescence signals were measured when treated with different concentrations of 5-HT (left) or 5-HT2C receptor specific agonist CP809101 (right) with or without co-expression of 5-HT1.0 sensor with 5-HT2C receptor. The luminescence signal of cells treated with the control buffer is normalized to 1. Data of 5-HT induced G-protein signaling in 5-HT2C receptor expression group were re-plotted from Fig. 1f. n = 3 wells per group with 100-300 cells per well. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P = 0.693, 0.0402, 0.993, 0.340, 0.0618, 0.0691 and 0.127 between 5-HT1.0 and 5-HT1.0 + 5-HT2C with 10<sup>-4</sup>, 10<sup>-5</sup>, 10<sup>-6</sup>, 10<sup>-7</sup>, 10<sup>-8</sup>, 10<sup>-9</sup>, and 10<sup>-10</sup> M 5-HT. P = 0.733, 0.801, 0.346, 0.998, 0.304 and 0.380 between 5-HT1.0 and 5-HT1.0 + 5-HT2C with 10<sup>-4</sup>, 10<sup>-5</sup>, 10<sup>-6</sup>, 10<sup>-7</sup>, 10<sup>-8</sup> and 10<sup>-9</sup> M CP809101. **n**, Cultured rat cortical neurons expressing the 5-HTmut sensor were imaged before (left) and after (middle) 5-HT application. These insets in the left and middle fluorescence images show the region with increased contrast. The pseudocolor image on the right shows the change in fluorescence of 5-HTmut in response to 10 µM 5-HT. Similar results were observed for more than 10 neurons. Scale bar, 20 µm. o, p, Representative trace (o) and group summary (p) of cultured neurons expressing 5-HT1.0 in response to indicated compounds at 10 µM each; in (p), Met was applied where indicated; n = 9/3. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P =  $6.74 \times 10^{-22}$ ,  $1.09 \times 10^{-22}$ ,  $1.27 \times 10^{-21}$ ,  $3.33 \times 10^{-22}$ , and 0.0939between 5-HT<sup>1st</sup> and DA, NE, His, ACh and 5-HT<sup>2nd</sup>. P=1.97×10<sup>-11</sup> between 5-HT<sup>2nd</sup> and Met. Data are shown as the mean±s.e.m. in **b-d**, **f**, **g**, **i**, **k-m**, **p**, with the error bars or shaded regions indicating s.e.m., \*p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\*p < 0.001, and n.s., not significant.

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Extended Data Fig. 5 | Probing endogenous 5-HT release in mouse brain slices. a, Schematic diagram depicting the acute mouse brain slice preparation, with AAV-mediated expression of 5-HT1.0 in the hippocampus. b, Representative fluorescence images of the 5-HT1.0 sensor expressed in the mouse hippocampal neurons of brain slices in ACSF (left) and 50  $\mu$ M 5-HT (right). Similar results were observed from 4 slices. Scale bar, 50  $\mu$ m. c, A magnified view of the rectangular region in (b) showing the 5-HT1.0 sensor response to exogenously applied 50  $\mu$ M 5-HT; left, fluorescence image; right, corresponding pseudocolor image indicating ΔF/F<sub>0</sub>. The arrowheads indicate somata. Scale bar, 15 μm. d, Representative traces (left) and quantification (right) of peak  $\Delta F/F_0$  of the 5-HT1.0 sensor in response to 50  $\mu$ M 5-HT from a single soma or neurite (n = 4 slices from 1 mouse). Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P = 0.0226 between soma and neurite. e, Left, schematic diagram depicting the acute mouse brain slice preparation, with AAV-mediated expression of 5-HT1.0 in the DRN. Middle and right, fluorescence traces (middle) and group data (right) of the change in 5-HT1.0 fluorescence in response to 10 electrical stimuli applied at the indicated frequencies; n = 7 slices from 5 mice. f, Summary of the change in 5-HT1.0 fluorescence in response to 6 trains of electrical stimuli (20 pulses at 20 Hz) delivered at 5-min intervals. The responses are normalized to the first train; n = 8 slices from 5 mice.  $F_{5,42}$  = 1.18, P = 0.335 for 0 min, 5 min, 10 min, 15 min, 20 min, and 25 min by one-way ANOVA. **g,h**, Representative fluorescence image, pseudocolor images (g), fluorescence traces (h, left), and group data (h, right) of 5-HT1.0 fluorescence in response to perfusion of 5-HT, 5-HT + Halo, and 5-HT + Met; n = 4 slices from 3 mice for each group. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P=0.0816 between 5-HT and Halo. P = 0.00297 between 5-HT and Met. i, Left, representative FSCV data of 5-HT release in DRN. A specific 5-HT waveform (0.2 V to 1.0 V and ramped down to -0.1V, and back to 0.2 V at a scan rate of 1000 V/s) was applied to the CFME at a frequency of 10 Hz. Right, current vs time traces are extracted at a horizontal white dashed line shows an immediate increase in 5-HT response after electrical stimulation (20 pulses, 2 ms pulse width, 64 Hz). A cyclic voltammogram (inset) is extracted at the vertical black dashed line shows oxidation and reduction peaks at 0.8 V and 0 V, respectively. j, Left, group data of fluorescence response in 5-HT1.0-expressing DRN neurons to electrical stimuli with varied frequencies delivered at 20 pulses. Right, average data of peak 5-HT concentration measured by FSCV at varied stimulating frequencies delivered at 20 pulses; n = 11 neurons from 9 mice. Data are shown as the mean±s.e.m. in **d-f**, **h**, **j**, with the error bars or shaded regions indicating s.e.m., \*p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\*p < 0.001, and n.s., not significant.

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**Extended Data Fig. 6 | Probing endogenous 5-HT release in Drosophila in vivo. a**, Schematic drawing showing *in vivo* two-photon imaging of a Drosophila, with the stimulating electrode positioned near the mushroom body (MB). **b**, **c**, Representative pseudocolor images (**b**), fluorescence traces, and group summary (**c**) of the change in 5-HT1.0 fluorescence in the MB horizontal lobe in response to 40 electrical stimuli at 15 Hz in control (saline) or 10  $\mu$ M Met; n = 9 flies for each group. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P = 2.36 × 10<sup>-5</sup> between saline and Met. Scale bar, 10  $\mu$ m. **d**, Fluorescence images measured in the MB of flies expressing 5-HT1.0 or 5-HTmut; the  $\beta'$  lobe is indicated. Scale bar, 10  $\mu$ m. **e-i**, Representative pseudocolor images (**e**), fluorescence traces (**f-h**), and group summary (**i**) of 5-HT1.0 and 5-HTmut in the MB  $\beta'$  lobe measured in response to a 1-s odor application, a 0.5-s body shock, and application of 100  $\mu$ M 5-HT; n = 14, 12 and 10 flies for 5-HT1.0 group under odor, body shock and perfusion conditions; n = 9, 5 and 9 flies for 5-HTmut group under odor, body shock and perfusion conditions. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P = 1.14 × 10<sup>-5</sup>, P = 0.00273, P = 8.93 × 10<sup>-5</sup> between 5-HT1.0 and 5-HTmut under odor, body shock and perfusion conditions. **j,k**, Quantification data of area under the calcium transient curves (**k**) and the  $\tau$ on,  $\tau$  off (**j**) in the main Fig. 2r,s; n = 11 and 10 flies for 5-HT1.0<sup>+</sup> and 5-HT1.0<sup>+</sup> group. Two-tailed Student's t-test was performed. P = 0.497 for calcium signal between two groups. P = 0.710 for  $\tau$ on and P = 0.307 for  $\tau$ off. Data are shown as the mean  $\pm$  s.e.m. in **c**, **i-k**, with the error bars or shaded regions indicating s.e.m., \*p < 0.05, \*\* p < 0.01, \*\*\* p < 0.001, and n.s., not significant.