

Supporting Information for The Origin of Behavioral Bursts in Decision-Making Circuitry

Supporting Material and Methods

(a) The mean IAI is directly proportional to the scale parameter λ

The n -th moment of the Weibull distribution is of the form [1]

$$\lambda^n \Gamma(1 + n/k). \quad (\text{S1})$$

Thus the mean is given by

$$m = \lambda \Gamma(1 + 1/k), \quad (\text{S2})$$

that is linearly proportional to the parameter λ , as we wanted to show.

The dependence with the shape parameter k is through the gamma function. To get insight on this dependence consider the following approximation in the interval $0.2 < k < 1$, $\Gamma(1 + 1/k) \approx 0.25 \text{Exp}[1.0757/k]$, that is, the mean increases exponentially with the inverse of the shape parameter k in the region of k of experimental interest to us, $0.2 < k < 1$.

(b) The burstiness parameter B , when applied to the Weibull distribution, is independent of the scale parameter

Substituting Eq. (S1) for $n=1,2$ into Eq. (2), we obtain,

$$B = \frac{(\Gamma(1 + 2/k) - \Gamma^2(1 + 1/k))^{1/2} - \Gamma(1 + 1/k)}{(\Gamma(1 + 2/k) - \Gamma^2(1 + 1/k))^{1/2} + \Gamma(1 + 1/k)}, \quad (\text{S3})$$

that only depends on the shape parameter k . To get some intuition, we note that for the interval of k of interest in this paper, $0.2 < k < 1$, burstiness can be roughly approximated by $B \approx 1.27 - 2.26k + 1.02k^2$, that is a function that decreases monotonically with k .

Supporting References

1. Johnson NL, Kotz S, Balakrishnan N (1994) Continuous Univariate Distributions, Vol.1. Wiley Series in Probability and Statistics.