

## S2 Appendix. Theoretical EEG power spectrum.

Under the assumption of the spatial homogeneity, the mean excitatory and inhibitory postsynaptic potentials  $V_a^{e,i}$  for neural populations  $a \in \{E, I, R, S\}$  shown in Fig 1 obey the following set of coupled SDDEs

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{L}_e V_E^e(t) &= K_{EE} S_C [V_E^e(t) - V_E^i(t)] + \\
&\quad K_{ES} S_T [V_S^e(t - \tau_{CT}) - V_S^i(t - \tau_{CT})], \\
\hat{L}_i V_E^i(t) &= f_C(p) K_{EI} S_C [V_I^e(t) - V_I^i(t)], \\
\hat{L}_e V_I^e(t) &= K_{IE} S_C [V_E^e(t) - V_E^i(t)], \\
\hat{L}_i V_I^i(t) &= K_{II} S_C [V_I^e(t) - V_I^i(t)], \\
\hat{L}_i V_S^e(t) &= K_{SE} S_C [V_E^e(t - \tau_{TC}) - V_E^i(t - \tau_{TC})] + I(t), \\
\hat{L}_i V_S^i(t) &= f_T(p) K_{SR} S_T [V_R^e(t)], \\
\hat{L}_e V_R^e(t) &= K_{RE} S_C [V_E^e(t - \tau_T) - V_E^i(t - \tau_{TC})] + \\
&\quad K_{RS} S_T [V_S^e(t) - V_S^i(t)].
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

When the system is driven by a constant, uniform mean stimulus level  $I(t) = I_0$ , the spatially-homogeneous resting state of Eqs (1) can be obtained by setting all of the derivatives to zero, i.e.,  $dV_a^{e,i}/dt = 0$ , for  $a \in \{E, I, S, R\}$  leading to

$$\begin{aligned}
V_E^{*e} &= K_{EE} S_C [V_E^{*e} - V_E^{*i}] + K_{ES} S_T [V_S^{*e} - V_S^{*i}], \\
V_E^{*i} &= f_C(p) K_{EI} S_C [V_I^{*e} - V_I^{*i}], \\
V_I^{*e} &= K_{IE} S_C [V_E^{*e} - V_E^{*i}], \\
V_I^{*i} &= K_{II} S_C [V_I^{*e} - V_I^{*i}], \\
V_S^{*e} &= K_{SE} S_C [V_E^{*e} - V_E^{*i}] + I_0, \\
V_S^{*i} &= f_T(p) K_{SR} S_T [V_R^{*e}], \\
V_R^{*e} &= K_{RE} S_C [V_E^{*e} - V_E^{*i}] + K_{RS} S_T [V_S^{*e} - V_S^{*i}].
\end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Linearizing Eqs (1) at the resting state  $\mathbf{X}_0 = (V_E^{*e}, V_E^{*i}, V_I^{*e}, V_I^{*i}, V_S^{*e}, V_S^{*i}, V_R^{*e})^\top$  yields

$$\hat{L}(\partial/\partial t) \mathbf{Y}(t) = \mathbf{A} \mathbf{Y}(t) + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{Y}(t - \tau_{TC}) + \mathbf{C} \mathbf{Y}(t - \tau_{CT}) + \boldsymbol{\xi}(t). \tag{3}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{Y}(t) &= (V_E^e(t) - V_E^{*e}, V_E^i(t) - V_E^{*i}, V_I^e(t) - V_I^{*e}, V_I^i(t) - V_I^{*i}, \\
&\quad V_S^e(t) - V_S^{*e}, V_S^i(t) - V_S^{*i}, V_R^e(t) - V_R^{*e})^\top,
\end{aligned}$$

$\boldsymbol{\xi}(t) = (0, 0, 0, 0, \sqrt{2\kappa}\xi(t), 0, 0)^\top$ , and the diagonal matrix  $\hat{\mathbf{L}}(\partial/\partial t)$  with the entries  $\hat{L}_{1,1} = \hat{L}_{3,3} = \hat{L}_{5,5} = \hat{L}_{7,7} = \hat{L}_e(\omega)$ , and  $\hat{L}_{2,2} = \hat{L}_{4,4} = \hat{L}_{6,6} = \hat{L}_i(\omega)$ , and

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} K_1 & -K_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & f_C(p)K_3 & -f_C(p)K_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ K_4 & -K_4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_5 & -K_5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & K_5 & -K_5 & 0 & 0 & f_T(p)K_7 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & K_9 & -K_9 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

$$\mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ K_6 & -K_6 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ K_8 & -K_8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & K_2 & -K_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{L}_e(\omega) &= \left(1 + \frac{i\omega}{\alpha_e}\right) \left(1 + \frac{i\omega}{\beta_e}\right), & \hat{L}_i(\omega) &= \left(1 + \frac{i\omega}{\alpha_i}\right) \left(1 + \frac{i\omega}{\beta_i}\right), \\ K_1 &= K_{EE} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_E^{*e}-V_E^{*i})}, & K_2 &= K_{ES} \frac{dS_T[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_S^{*e}-V_S^{*i})}, \\ K_3 &= K_{EI} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_I^{*e}-V_I^{*i})}, & K_4 &= K_{IE} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_E^{*e}-V_E^{*i})}, \\ K_5 &= K_{II} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_I^{*e}-V_I^{*i})}, & K_6 &= K_{SE} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_E^{*e}-V_E^{*i})}, \\ K_7 &= K_{SR} \frac{dS_T[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=V_R^{*e}}, & K_8 &= K_{RE} \frac{dS_C[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_E^{*e}-V_E^{*i})}, \\ K_9 &= K_{RS} \frac{dS_T[V]}{dV} \Big|_{V=(V_S^{*e}-V_S^{*i})}. \end{aligned}$$

Note that the constants  $K_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 9$  are proportional to the nonlinear gain  $dS(V)/dV$  computed at the resting state of the system.

If we assume that the EEG is generated by activity of cortical pyramidal cells  $V_E^e$ , and the external input is projected to the excitatory postsynaptic

potential  $V_S^e$  in relay neurons, applying the Wiener-Khinchine theorem yields the following EEG power spectrum

$$P_E(\omega) = 2\kappa\sqrt{2\pi} \left| \tilde{G}_{1,5}(\omega) \right|^2, \quad (4)$$

where

$$\tilde{G}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{L}_e(\omega) - K_1 & K_1 & 0 & 0 & -K_2 e^{-i\omega\tau_{CT}} & K_2 e^{-i\omega\tau_{CT}} & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{L}_i(\omega) & -f_C(p)K_3 & f_C(p)K_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -K_4 & K_4 & \hat{L}_e(\omega) & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -K_5 & \hat{L}_i(\omega) + K_5 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -K_6 e^{-i\omega\tau_{TC}} & K_6 e^{-i\omega\tau_{TC}} & 0 & 0 & \hat{L}_e(\omega) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \hat{L}_i(\omega) & -f_T(p)K_7 \\ -K_8 e^{-i\omega\tau_{TC}} & K_8 e^{-i\omega\tau_{TC}} & 0 & 0 & -K_9 & K_9 & \hat{L}_e(\omega) \end{bmatrix}^{-1}. \quad (5)$$