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**Title**

Frequency and Function in the Basal Ganglia: The Origins of Beta and Gamma Band Activity

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## 2 Key Points Summary

- 3 • Neuronal oscillations in the basal ganglia have been observed to correlate with  
4 behaviours, though the causal mechanisms and functional significance of these  
5 oscillations remains unknown.
- 6 • We present a novel computational model of the healthy basal ganglia, constrained by  
7 single unit recordings from nonhuman primates.
- 8 • When the model is run using inputs that might be expected during performance of a motor  
9 task, the network shows emergent phenomena: it functions as a selection mechanism and  
10 shows spectral properties that match those seen in vivo.
- 11 • Beta frequency oscillations are shown to require pallido-striatal feedback, and occur with  
12 behaviourally relevant cortical input. Gamma oscillations arise in the subthalamic- globus  
13 pallidus feedback loop, and occur during movement.
- 14 • The model provides a coherent framework for the study of spectral, temporal and  
15 functional analyses of the basal ganglia and, lays the foundation for an integrated  
16 approach to study BG pathologies such as Parkinson's disease *in silico*.

## 17 Abstract

18 Neural oscillations in the basal ganglia are well studied yet remain poorly understood.  
19 Behavioural correlates of spectral activity are well described, yet a quantitative hypothesis linking  
20 time domain dynamics and spectral properties to basal ganglia function has been lacking. We  
21 show, for the first time, that a unified description is possible by interpreting previously ignored  
22 structure in data describing GPi responses to cortical stimulation. These data were used to expose  
23 a pair of distinctive neuronal responses to the stimulation. This observation formed the basis for a  
24 new mathematical model of the BG, quantitatively fitted to the data, which describes the dynamics  
25 in the data, and is validated against other stimulus protocol experiments. A key new result is that  
26 when the model is run using inputs hypothesised to occur during the performance of a motor task,  
27 beta and gamma frequency oscillations emerge naturally during static-force and movement  
28 respectively, consistent with experimental local field potentials. This new model predicts that the  
29 pallido-striatum connection has a key role in the generation of beta band activity, and that the  
30 gamma band activity associated with motor task performance has its origins in the pallido-  
31 subthalamic feedback loop. The network's functionality as a selection-mechanism also occurs as  
32 an emergent property, and closer fits to the data gave better selection properties. The model  
33 provides a coherent framework for the study of spectral, temporal and functional analyses of the

34 BG and therefore lays the foundation for an integrated approach to study BG pathologies such as  
35 Parkinson's disease *in silico*.

## 36 **Abbreviations**

37 BG, basal ganglia; LFP, local field potential; STN, subthalamic nucleus; GPe, globus pallidus  
38 external; GPi, globus pallidus internal; PSTH, peristimulus time histogram; LDLE, long duration  
39 late excitation; VAF, variance accounted for; DDE, delay differential equation; MSN, medium  
40 spiny neuron; RMS, root mean square; MAP, maximum a posteriori.

## 41 **Introduction**

42 While much has been learned about the BG over recent years (Graybiel, 2005; Redgrave &  
43 Gurney, 2006; Nelson & Kreitzer, 2014; Brittain & Brown, 2014), there are still many gaps in our  
44 understanding. LFPs have been measured from the subthalamic nucleus (STN) of human  
45 Parkinson's patients undergoing neurosurgery to implant deep brain stimulation electrodes. These  
46 data have shown that synchronous neural activity in the beta frequency range is increased in  
47 Parkinson's disease and correlates well with rigidity, one of the cardinal motor symptoms of the  
48 disease (Chen *et al.*, 2010; Little *et al.*, 2012). In healthy subjects synchronised neural oscillations  
49 of different frequency ranges correlate well with various aspects of behaviour (Engel & Fries,  
50 2010; Jenkinson *et al.*, 2013; Brittain & Brown, 2014). While there are models that attempt to  
51 explain pathological activity (Gillies *et al.*, 2002; Terman *et al.*, 2002; Leblois *et al.*, 2006;  
52 Nevado Holgado *et al.*, 2010; Moran *et al.*, 2011; Marreiros *et al.*, 2013; Corbit *et al.*, 2016), the  
53 reliability of these results is questionable given the lack of understanding of how similar  
54 oscillations arise in the healthy basal ganglia. Furthermore, they are divorced from any hypothesis  
55 of BG function. Thus, they cannot be used to examine the purpose of the network or the purpose  
56 of the oscillations that they describe.

57 Numerous studies have recorded the phasic responses of various BG nuclei following  
58 stimulation of an afferent population (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a; Kita *et al.*, 2004, 2006; Tachibana *et*  
59 *al.*, 2008a). Though a qualitative explanation for the generation of these phasic responses has

60 been published (Jaeger & Kita, 2011), there is currently no quantitative model that can fully  
61 capture these phenomena. Thus, we currently have little insight into how these phasic responses  
62 relate to the different frequencies at which the BG is observed to oscillate.

63 Functional descriptions of the BG have successfully demonstrated that the network can, in  
64 principle, act as a selection mechanism, inhibiting or disinhibiting access to downstream neural  
65 processing (Frank *et al.*, 2001; Gurney *et al.*, 2001a; Leblois *et al.*, 2006; Humphries *et al.*, 2006;  
66 Liénard & Girard, 2013). However, these models fail to capture much of the diversity of  
67 experimental data concerning phasic responses and oscillatory properties of healthy BG. As such,  
68 their usefulness in terms of explaining experimental observations or making quantitative  
69 predictions is somewhat limited.

70 What emerges from existing work is a heterogeneous set of explanations for different features  
71 of the same network. There is no account of the BG that can simultaneously explain time domain  
72 dynamics, BG functionality, and spectral properties. To progress understanding of the BG and its  
73 related pathologies we require a framework within which temporal, spectral and functional  
74 descriptions are unified.

75 We address this issue here by creating a novel firing rate model of the BG, constrained by  
76 existing single unit recordings in monkey internal globus pallidus (GPi) (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a),  
77 STN and external globus pallidus (GPe) (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a). The average GPi neuronal  
78 response to cortical stimulation has been repeatedly observed to be triphasic, (Tachibana *et al.*,  
79 2008a; Hiroki Nishibayashi *et al.*, 2011). However, authors of these studies also note the  
80 occurrence of neurons that have qualitatively different responses. Most modelling studies make  
81 the strong but often unstated assumption that these different responses originate through noise and  
82 therefore play no part in the generation of the system's mean field behaviour. Here, we take a  
83 novel approach by examining the possibility that these different responses could arise as a  
84 consequence of the structured interaction between neurons encoding competing inputs with  
85 different magnitudes. In this case the response-types would be mutually dependent, and rely on  
86 each other for the generation of their characteristic profiles.

87 We show that a rate-coded model, constrained by these time-domain impulse responses and  
88 driven by inputs that might be expected during the performance of a motor task, naturally gives  
89 rise to behaviourally relevant beta and gamma frequency oscillatory activity. Further, specific  
90 mechanisms are identified which can explain the origin of these oscillations. In addition, we show  
91 that action selection functionality is also an emergent property of the network and that the  
92 selection ability improves with model fit to the time-domain data. Thus, for the first time, we  
93 present a quantitative hypothesis of the healthy BG that links its frequency characteristics to its  
94 impulse response and its function as a selection mechanism.

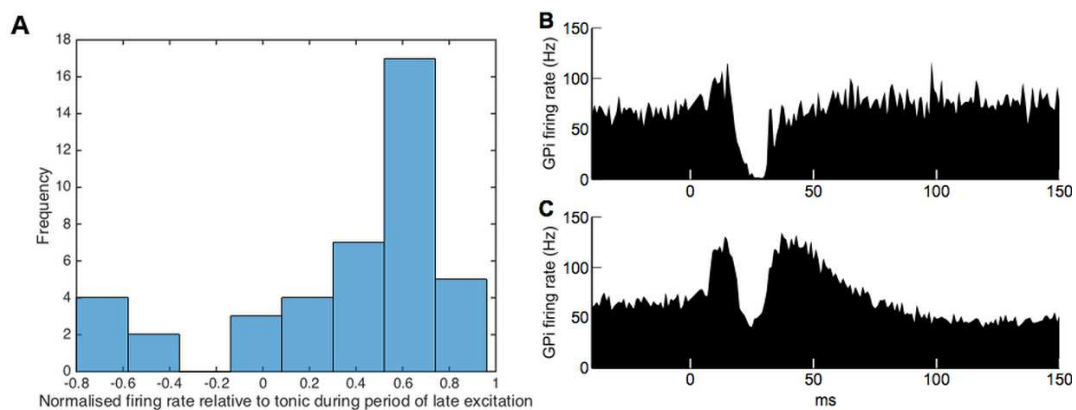
## 95 **Results**

### 96 **Clustering of GPi responses reveals two response-types**

97 Part of the data used in this modelling study is drawn from a data set previously published in a  
98 different form in (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a), in which stimulation was applied to M1 cortex and  
99 unit activity in the GPi was recorded, with responses of GPe and STN to cortical impulse  
100 stimulation taken from (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a). In those studies, recordings from many different  
101 neurons were averaged. Here we use these data in a novel way, before any averaging has taken  
102 place, and use the resulting analysis to constrain the mathematical model. Four Japanese monkeys  
103 and one rhesus monkey were surgically implanted with bipolar stimulating electrodes in the fore  
104 limb region of M1 cortex. The unit responses of 42 GPi neurons were recorded following a 0.3ms  
105 stimulation of M1. Each GPi neuron was recorded 100 times. One peristimulus time histogram  
106 (PSTH) (bin-width 1ms) was created for each neuron. The reader is referred to the original paper  
107 for a full description (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a).

108 (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a) reported the mean response of 42 GPi neurons (average PSTH)  
109 consisting of an early excitation, then an early inhibition, followed by a long duration late  
110 excitation (LDLE), known as a *triphasic* response. However, our visual inspection of the original  
111 single unit data showed a subset of the neurons lacking a late excitation; instead they had a  
112 biphasic response consisting of an early excitation followed by a long duration inhibition, a  
113 *biphasic* response. To separate these biphasic and triphasic responses quantitatively, each time

114 series was normalised relative to its tonic firing rate by first subtracting the mean of the pre-  
 115 stimulation firing rate. Each response was then divided by the maximum of the modulus of the  
 116 response. This yields a set of 42 time series with amplitude in the range  $[-1, 1]$ , where zero  
 117 corresponds to the tonic firing rate of each neuron. The mean firing rate over the time period  
 118 during which the late excitation would ordinarily occur (10-20ms after the first inhibition) was  
 119 calculated. Confirming the visual inspection, a histogram of these values shows the separation of  
 120 the time series into two clusters (Fig 1 A). The time series averages of these two clusters (Fig 1 B  
 121 & C) confirms that the data can effectively be divided into triphasic and biphasic populations.



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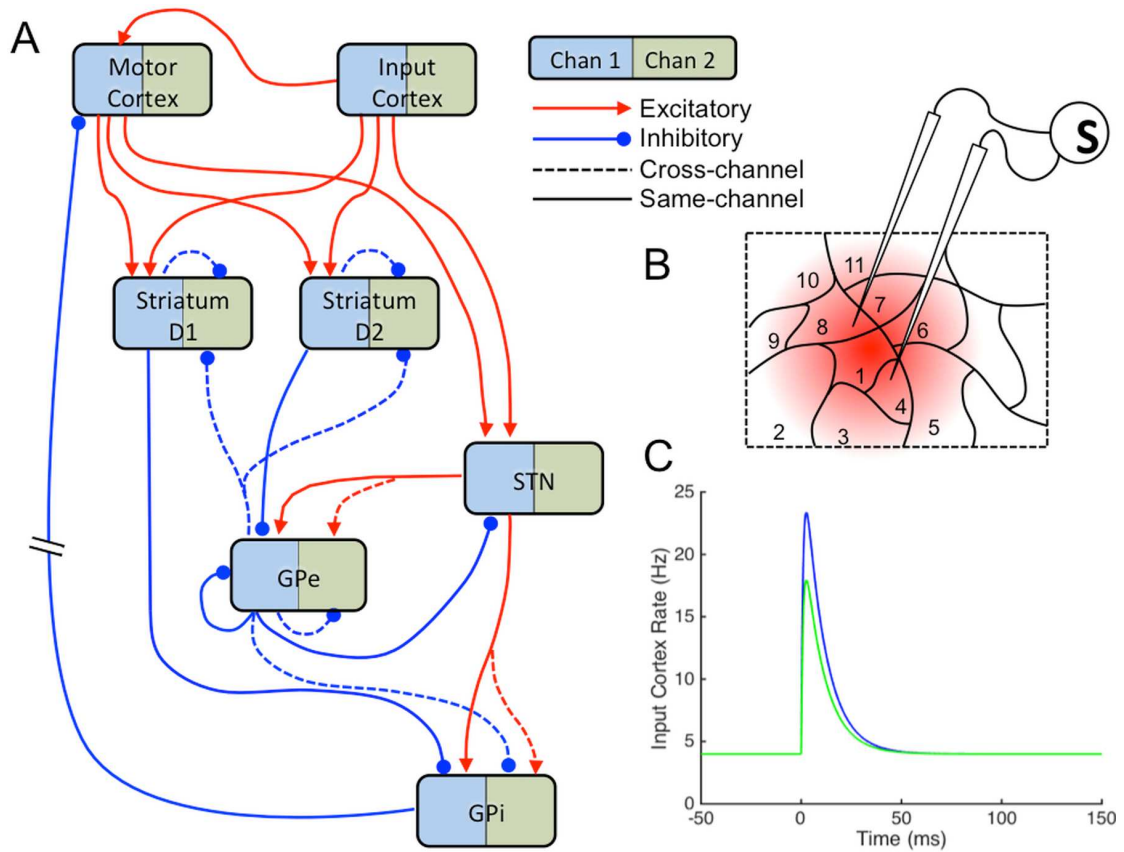
123 Fig 1. Clustering of experimentally recorded GPi single unit activity. (A) Histogram of mean normalised firing  
 124 rate of each neuron over the time period 10-20ms after the first inhibition (n=42; zero corresponds here to tonic  
 125 firing rate). (B & C) Means of PSTH data across the two identified clusters. (B): Mean of GPi neurons whose  
 126 response to cortical impulse stimulation is biphasic (n=6). (C): Mean of GPi neurons whose response to the same  
 127 stimulus is triphasic (n=36). Data from (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a).

128 We propose a circuit-based explanation of BG dynamics and the bimodality of GPi responses  
 129 based on the idea that the BG is arranged in functionally segregated *channels* (Alexander &  
 130 Crutcher, 1990; Hoover & Strick, 1993; Romanelli *et al.*, 2005). The action selection hypothesis  
 131 posits that each channel encodes a particular action, and the interaction between these channels  
 132 allows the BG to disinhibit one action and completely inhibit competing actions (Redgrave *et al.*,  
 133 1999). A channel is conceived as a flow of neural signals from cortical activity encoding the  
 134 salience of an action request, through the nuclei of the BG, ultimately disinhibiting the precise  
 135 cortical neurons that encode the action to be performed (Gurney *et al.*, 2001a, 2001b). We create a  
 136 model whose parameters are constrained by the BG's impulse response, then investigate the  
 137 emergent spectral properties of the network under various cortical inputs.

**138 Spatial variation in cortical stimulus input modelled as two channels**

139 In the stimulation studies whose data are used to constrain the model, a bipolar stimulating  
140 electrode is placed in the forelimb region of motor cortex (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a; Tachibana *et al.*,  
141 2008a). This cortical region has been observed to encode stereotyped movements of the limb to  
142 various locations. The size of a motor territory in M1 that mediates movements of a limb has been  
143 observed to be approximately 0.5mm (Donoghue *et al.*, 1992). Given that cortical stimulation in  
144 (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a) and (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a) is performed using a bipolar stimulating  
145 electrode with an inter-tip distance of 2mm, it is likely that stimulation excites multiple cortical  
146 regions that encode different movement commands. Furthermore, it has been observed that the  
147 BG is arranged into segregated *channels* (Alexander & Crutcher, 1990; Hoover & Strick, 1993;  
148 Romanelli *et al.*, 2005). It is assumed that each of the ~0.5mm cortical regions provide inputs to  
149 one of these BG channels. It is assumed that many channels are stimulated. We make the  
150 assumption that one channel is more greatly stimulated than the others. This is shown in Fig 2 B.  
151 Cortical regions are shown as contiguous areas for clarity but our analysis is not dependent on  
152 this.





153

154 Fig 2. Model inputs and model schematic. **A)** Schematic diagram of model BG connectivity. The model has  
 155 two-channels: *Channel-1* (blue), and *Channel-2* (green). For clarity only *Channel-1*'s connections are shown.  
 156 Thus the model has 16 populations, 2 of each of the nuclei shown. The two input cortical populations are  
 157 modelled as hard coded time series of firing rates (see C). **B)** Computational modeling proceeds under the  
 158 assumption that a small number of cortical cells receive a higher stimulation (region 1) than the majority of cells  
 159 that are activated by the bipolar stimulating electrode (other regions). **C)** Bi-exponential cortical input to model,  
 160 representing the response of pramidal cells to a 0.3ms stimulation.

161 In the interests of creating the simplest possible model that can capture the emergent  
 162 dynamics, we model only two of the many BG channels: one representing the channel whose  
 163 cortical stimulation is the highest, and another representing the activity of the other neighbouring  
 164 channels which are activated to a lesser extent. The inputs to each of the two channels of the  
 165 model are shown in Fig 2 C, and represent the average dynamics of the firing rates of pyramidal  
 166 neurons in either region 1 (*the primary-channel* input,  $IN_p$ ) or the mean activity of regions 2-11  
 167 (*the secondary-channel* input,  $IN_s$ ), in response to the 0.3ms stimulation current injection. Form  
 168 and duration is estimated from (Plenz & Aertsen, 1996). The inputs are defined as

169

$$IN = B_{ctx} + g \left( \frac{ab}{a-b} \right) (e^{-bt} - e^{-at})$$

170

(1)

171 where  $B_{ctx}$  is the average background firing rate of the cortical neurons,  $g$  is the gain of the  
172 signal. The parameters  $a$  and  $b$  are chosen such that the maximum cortical firing rate is  $\sim 20\text{Hz}$   
173 (Riehle *et al.*, 1997; Maynard *et al.*, 1999) and the duration of the cortical response to the stimulus  
174 is physiologically realistic (Plenz & Aertsen, 1996) (see Table 1 for values).

175 Experimental observations have shown qualitatively different pallidal responses depending on  
176 the location of the recorded neuron in the pallidal zone of influence of the stimulation site:  
177 neurons close to the centre of the zone of influence show markedly different responses to those at  
178 the periphery (Tremblay *et al.*, 1989). Thus a spatially inhomogeneous stimulation may act on  
179 *action channels* within the BG to create the pair of pallidal responses described above. We now  
180 explore the plausibility of this hypothesis using a computational model. A schematic diagram of  
181 the model's connectivity is shown in Fig 2 A.

## 182 **Model architecture**

183 One channel (hereafter *primary-channel*, shown in blue in all figures) of the model GPi was  
184 fitted to the biphasic response, and the other channel, (hereafter *secondary-channel*, shown in  
185 green in all figures) to the triphasic response. In clustering the data, we found many more  
186 triphasic neurons (the secondary-channel) than biphasic neurons (the primary-channel). The  
187 population average activity recorded experimentally from the GPe and STN was therefore  
188 assumed to be represented by the secondary-channel of the model ( Fig 3 B & C).

189 We initially attempted to fit the BG's impulse response using a firing rate model in which the  
190 dynamics of each population's average firing rate is given by a first order delay differential  
191 equation (DDE). However, this first order model yielded results that differ significantly from the  
192 data. While it was able to capture the main features of the impulse response, the model reacts too  
193 quickly to the impulse. The variance accounted for (VAF) between the first order model and the  
194 PSTH data is 0.188. The fit to data can be much improved (VAF=0.584) by modelling each  
195 population using second order, rather than first order DDEs. The average firing rate dynamics of  
196 each neural population is defined as

$$\ddot{y}_n \tau_n^2 + 2\dot{y}_n \tau_n + y_n = \sum_m W_{mn} f(y_m^{(t-T_{mn})})$$

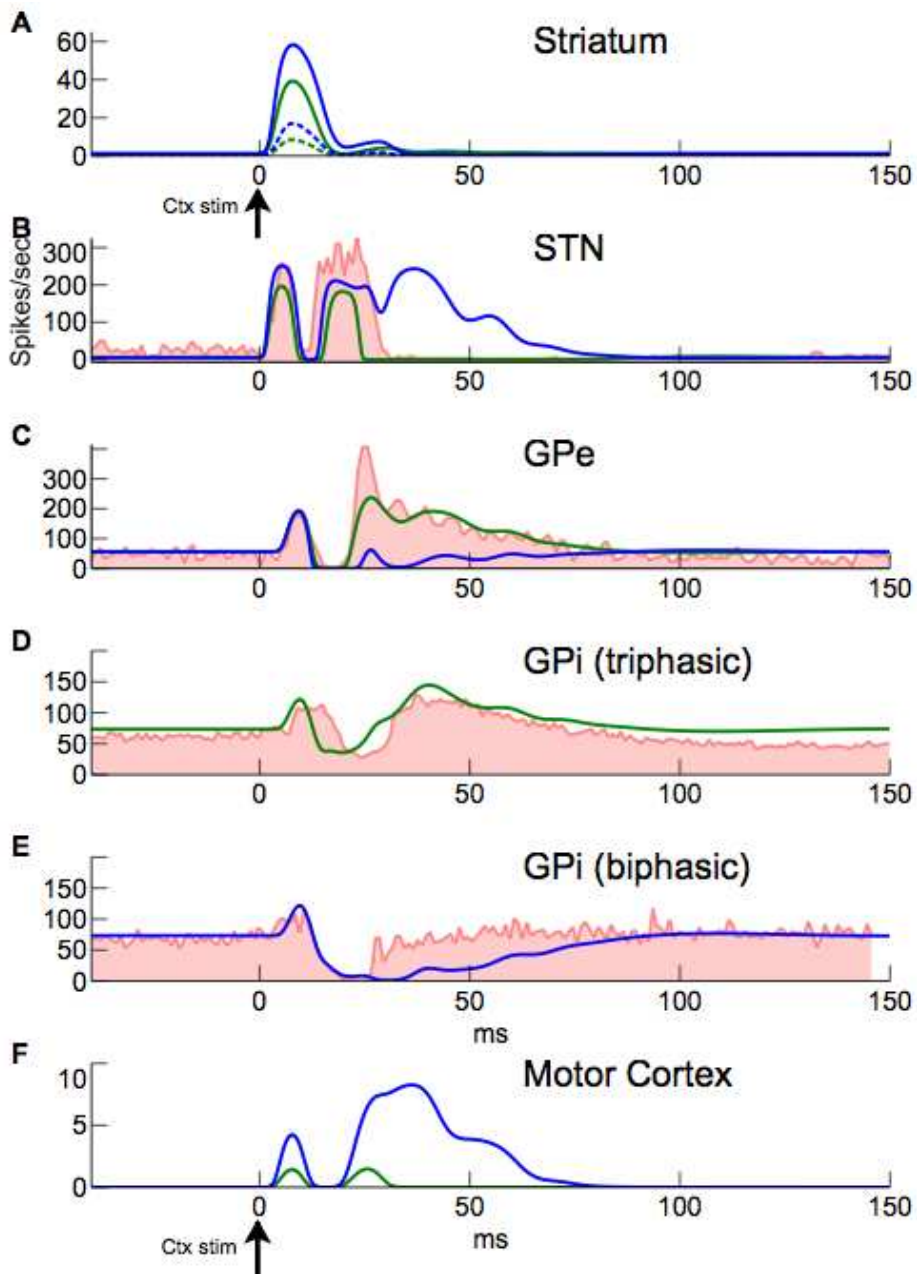
(2)

in which  $y_n$  is the activation of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  nucleus, and the dot and double dot accents represent the first and second time derivatives respectively.  $\tau_n$  is the time constant of the  $n^{\text{th}}$  nucleus.  $W_{mn}$  is the connection strength between the  $m^{\text{th}}$  afferent nucleus and the current nucleus,  $n$ .  $f$  is a sigmoidal transfer function that converts the activation  $y$  into the firing rate of the nucleus (see Equation 3 in Methods). Thus,  $f(y_m^{(t-T_{mn})})$  is the firing rate of the  $m^{\text{th}}$  afferent nucleus at  $T_{mn}$  seconds in the past, where  $T_{mn}$  is the axonal transmission delay between nuclei  $m$  and  $n$ . Delay is shown in superscript for clarity. This second order formulation has the advantage of being physiologically more realistic without increasing the dimensionality of the parameter space of the model. The model is therefore composed of a set of DDEs, with each equation describing the firing rate dynamics of each of the nuclei of the BG; D1 and D2 striatum; STN; GPe; GPi and motor cortex. Since the model has two channels, there are 12 DDEs in total. The action of dopamine in the model is captured by including a multiplicative factor on the cortico-striatal connection strength parameters. Medium spiny neurons (MSNs) of the striatum have been shown to express either D1 receptors, which increase the propensity of the neuron to fire when dopamine is present, or D2 receptors, which decrease firing rates in the presence of dopamine (Surmeier *et al.*, 2007). The action of dopamine is defined by multiplying the cortex-D1striatum connection strength by  $1+da$ , and the cortex-D2striatum connection strength by  $1-da$ , where  $da$  is a parameter in the range  $[0,1]$  describing the proportion of dopamine receptors that are currently occupied (Gurney *et al.*, 2001b). Thus, the parameter  $da$  is a normalised measure of the quantity of extracellular dopamine in the striatum. The cortico-striatal connection strengths are the same for both D1 and D2 MSNs, so the differences in their firing rates are due to the way they are respectively modulated by dopamine. See Materials and Methods for a full description of the model.

### Model explains time domain features of basal ganglia dynamics.

The model is able to fit the data well (See Fig 3). The model quantifies the origins of the time domain features that are present in a range of experimental BG stimulation studies and provides a

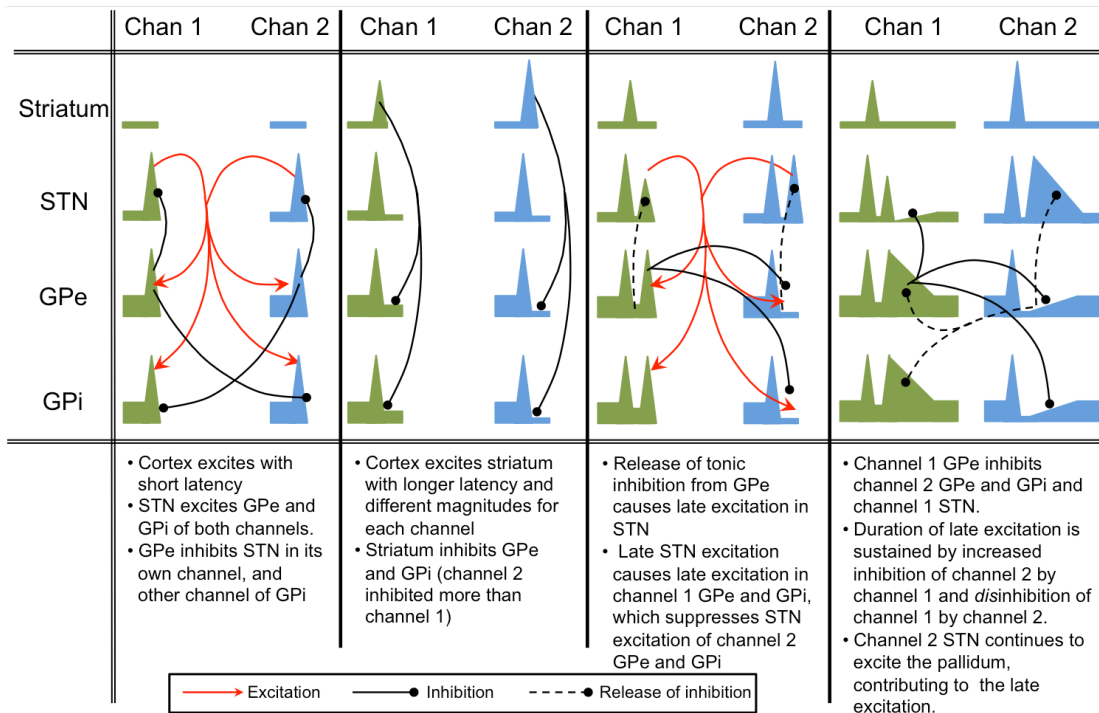
224 quantitative explanation for the generation of the BG's impulse response. The generation of the  
225 impulse response is described qualitatively in Fig 4).



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Fig 3. Constraint of model connection-strength parameters using time series data. Experimental data shown in red (STN and GPe (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a), GPI (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a)). The two channel responses obtained from our cluster analysis in GPI are show in separate panels (*GPI triphasic* and *GPI biphasic*). Primary channel model output shown in blue, and secondary channel model outputs shown in green. Secondary channel fitted to STN, GPe and GPI-triphasic populations. Primary channel fitted to GPI-biphasic population. In striatum, D1 MSNs shown in solid lines, D2 MSNs shown in dotted lines.



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Fig 4. Graphical description of the causative mechanisms of the main features of the response of basal ganglia nuclei to a cortical impulse stimulation.

236

We go on to validate the model by a replication of the results of stimulation experiments in which the free parameters of the model were not fitted. In a study conducted by Kita *et al.* (2006) (Kita *et al.*, 2006) the striatum of Japanese macaque monkeys was stimulated and single unit recordings were taken from multiple GPe and GPi neurons. Stimulations were either a single current pulse (lasting 0.3ms) or a 200ms burst of pulses at varying frequencies. The stimulation protocols were simulated by adding an additional excitatory input to the striatal populations. This was in addition to the cortical background input of 4Hz (see Table 1 A-H). Stimuli were modelled as square pulses of input to the stimulated nucleus, with magnitudes that were sufficient to bring the firing rate of the maximally stimulated nucleus to close to its maximum firing rate. The direct input to the STN was the cortical background firing rate only. Burst stimulations were a train of the above single stimulations delivered at 50Hz for 200ms.

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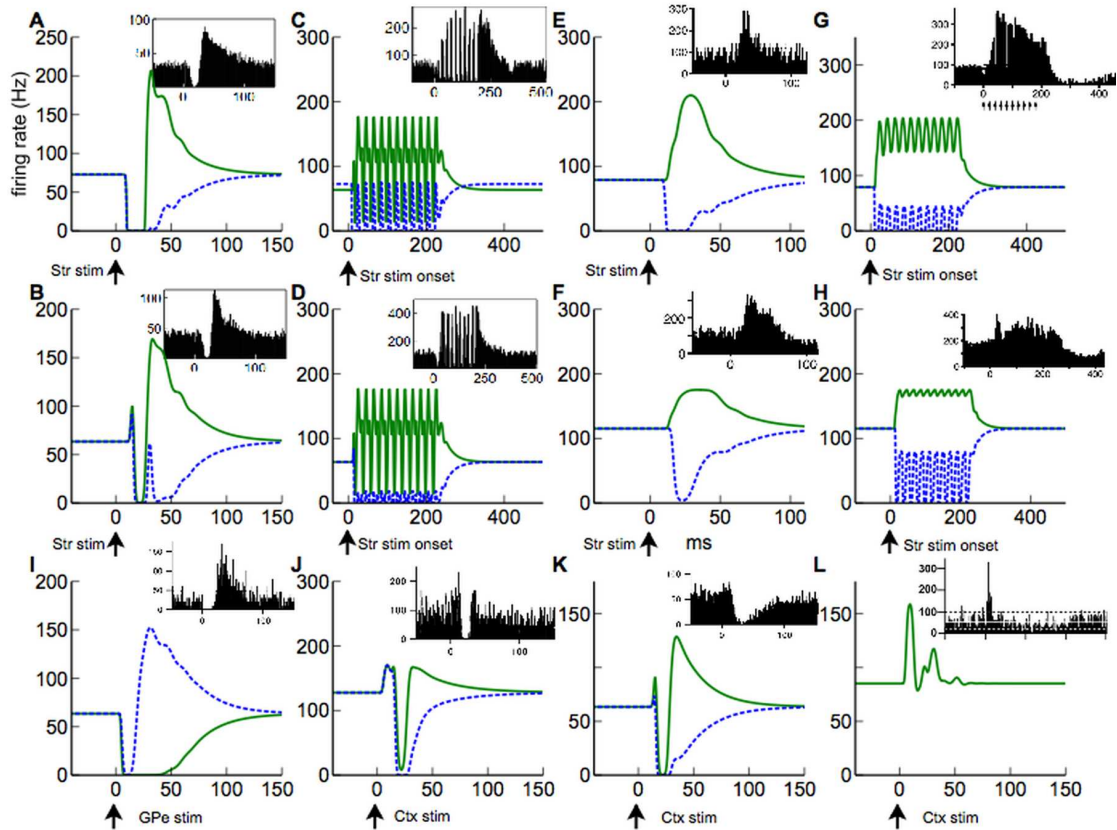
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Results of the validation experiments are shown in Fig 5. The model outputs closely resemble the experimental PSTHs. Either a single (Fig 5 A & B) stimulation or multiple stimulations (Fig 5 C & D) of the striatum evoke an inhibition followed by long duration late excitation in the secondary channel of both GPe (A & C) and GPi (B & D). Experimental results have shown an excitation of the pallidum in response to striatal stimulation, after local administration of GABA

252 antagonists. This counterintuitive result has been observed, but not directly investigated  
253 experimentally. It has been assumed that the excitation is due to the unintended stimulation of  
254 thalamic-STN fibres of passage. However, the current model suggests a possible alternative or  
255 coexistent mechanism. If it is assumed that the GABA antagonists do not block inhibitory  
256 afferents completely, then a small number of GPe neurons see their activity reduced. This reduces  
257 the level of tonic inhibition seen by the GPe to which they are connected, thus causing an apparent  
258 excitation in both GPe and GPi (see Fig 5 E-H). Experimental data shown in Fig 5, I-K insets  
259 (from (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a)), may best be compared to the primary-channel model results  
260 (blue dotted), since the authors state that they selected cortical stimulation sites that gave rise to  
261 the largest response for each GPi neuron. This would mean that the stimulation site and recorded  
262 neuron belong to the same channel.

263 Fig 5 L differs from the other validation data in that it was recorded from behaving mice  
264 rather than non-human primates. The similarity between the model and the data in this case  
265 demonstrates that the inhibition of the GPe is essential for the generation of the long duration late  
266 excitation in the GPe. Since excitation from the STN is still present in this manipulation, it cannot  
267 be solely responsible for the LDLE. Only one channel is visible because lesioning the D2 striatum  
268 to GPe pathway causes both channels to behave identically.

269 The fact that the model solutions are similar to observed firing rate dynamics in a diverse  
270 range of experimental manipulations is taken as good evidence that the model accurately reflects  
271 the average network activity of the basal ganglia in vivo.



272

273 Fig 5. Model validation. Performance of the model in 12 experimental manipulations on which the free  
 274 parameters of the model were not fitted. Model primary-channel/secondary-channel responses are shown as blue  
 275 dotted/green solid lines respectively. Experimental data (A-H: (Kita *et al.*, 2006), I-K: (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a),  
 276 L: (Sano *et al.*, 2013)) are shown in inset Figs. A (B): GPe (GPI) response to striatal impulse stimulation. C  
 277 (D): GPe (GPI) response to striatal 50Hz stimulation. E (F): GPe (GPI) response to striatal impulse stimulation  
 278 following local application of muscimol. G (H): GPe (GPI) response to striatal 50Hz stimulation following local  
 279 application of muscimol. I) GPI response to impulse stimulation of GPe. J) GPI response to cortical M1 impulse  
 280 stimulation following administration of muscimol into the STN. K) GPI response to M1 cortical impulse  
 281 stimulation following administration of muscimol into the STN. A-H insets are PSTHs averaged across all  
 282 recorded neurons, and should thus be compared to the secondary channel model (green solid lines) since we  
 283 assume that the majority of neurons are in this channel. I-K insets are averages of GPI neurons whose cortical  
 284 stimulation sites were chosen to yield largest responses. Thus these figures should be compared to the model's  
 285 primary-channel output (blue dotted lines). L: D2 striatum to GPe connections lesioned. See Table 1 for model  
 286 manipulations used to represent these experimental conditions.

## 287 Model has spectral properties that match experimental observations

288 Spectral properties of the basal ganglia and related networks are an extremely well studied  
 289 area, and include LFP recordings from human BG nuclei taken during procedures to implant deep  
 290 brain stimulation electrodes for the treatment of various neurological disorders. Coherent beta  
 291 (13-30Hz) and gamma (30-90Hz) oscillations are present throughout cortical-thalamic-BG  
 292 networks in healthy animals: beta oscillations have been observed in spontaneous LFPs recorded  
 293 from motor regions of the GPs of healthy non-human primates (Connolly *et al.*, 2015) and rats  
 294 (Tort *et al.*, 2008; Leventhal *et al.*, 2012). Many studies have found that beta activity is relatively



295 high during static force maintenance (Sanes & Donoghue, 1993; Klostermann *et al.*, 2007) or  
296 following a cue that is later used to initiate movement (Leventhal *et al.*, 2012; Oswal *et al.*, 2012;  
297 Tan *et al.*, 2015). Beta power has thus been conceptualised as encoding *anti*-movement, or  
298 ‘maintenance of the status quo’ (Cassidy, 2002; Kühn *et al.*, 2004; Gilbertson *et al.*, 2005; Engel  
299 & Fries, 2010). Beta power as observed in the LFP of the STN is often observed to decrease  
300 shortly before movement onset, replaced by higher activity in the gamma frequency range (Alegre  
301 *et al.*, 2005; Jenkinson *et al.*, 2013). Spectral power in the LFP of the STN is largely confined to  
302 below ~35Hz or from 50-90Hz (Boraud *et al.*, 2005). We now examine each of these phenomena  
303 in turn.

#### 304 **Model supports beta frequencies when cortical inputs are similar in magnitude**

305 We examined the emergent oscillatory properties of the model over a wide range of input  
306 cortex firing rates (Fig 6). The model was simulated using every combination of input-cortical  
307 firing rates between 4 and 22 spikes/sec in steps of 0.2 spikes/sec. Initial firing rates and  
308 activations were set to zero. Input firing rates were constant over the duration of each simulation  
309 (0.3 seconds). Input firing rates are now supposed to represent some measure of *salience* or  
310 urgency of performing a particular action (Gurney *et al.*, 2001a). Thus the cortical inputs are  
311 conceived as originating from relevant activity across possibly spatially separated regions of  
312 cortex. We calculate the spectral properties of the model by simulating for 0.3 seconds and  
313 calculating the frequency at which the spectral power is maximal over the last 0.2 seconds.

314 While the relationship between cellular processes and the LFP is not fully understood, an  
315 often used approximation is that it best corresponds to synchronous post-synaptic potentials  
316 (Eccles, 1951; Kühn *et al.*, 2005). The firing rate model by definition represents synchronised  
317 neural activity since it has been constrained by average population activity. The LFP was  
318 therefore modelled as the weighted sum of inputs to the STN. Peak frequencies below 3Hz or  
319 with an amplitude less than 2 spikes/sec are set to zero. This was done in order that the power of  
320 low frequency (highly damped) transients did not obscure the oscillatory data. Fig 6 is therefore a  
321 conservative approximation of the presence of oscillatory activity, since any transients that have

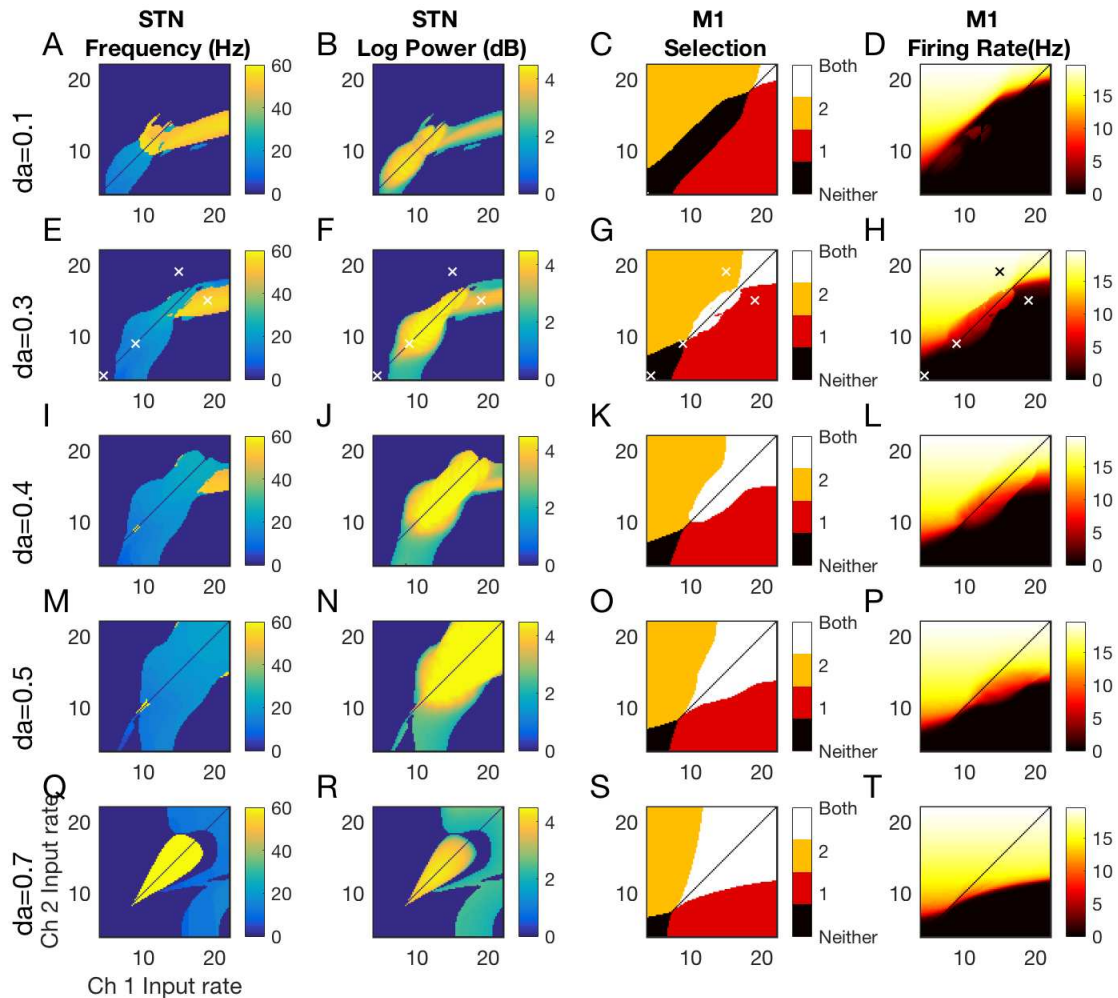
322 reduced to negligible power within 100ms are not detected by this analysis. In a noisy neural  
323 system however, transients may be a significant driver of spectral power (Blenkinsop *et al.*, 2012).

324 The first column of Fig 6 shows the frequency for which spectral power is maximum in the  
325 weighted sum of all inputs to channel 2 STN (A similar plot for channel 1 would be identical, but  
326 reflected in the line  $y=x$ ). The second column displays the log of the power of that frequency.  
327 Oscillatory activity in the model is confined to two frequency bands; beta and gamma. The model  
328 does not exhibit stable oscillations outside of these ranges. Beta frequency oscillations arise  
329 naturally in the model when the inputs to both channels are roughly equal. This beta frequency  
330 oscillation causes above-threshold mean activity in both action-channels in motor cortex (Fig 6  
331 column 3). The corresponding firing rates of Channel 2's motor cortex are shown in column 4.  
332 Similarly to other plots, channel 1's motor cortical firing rate plots would be identical but for a  
333 reflection in the line  $y=x$ .

334 The behavioural interpretation of the model requires us to define what is represented by each  
335 channel of the mathematical model. Observations of the areas of motor cortex that project to the  
336 BG show that cortical territories are divided into regions that give rise to stereotyped movements  
337 when stimulated (Georgopoulos *et al.*, 1986). It is therefore assumed that a BG channel encodes  
338 one of these movement commands. Following the hypothesis that the BG selects between  
339 competing inputs (Redgrave *et al.*, 1999) we make the assumption that cross channel projections  
340 in the BG will be present between channels encoding actions that are by definition incompatible,  
341 for example *move arm left* and *move arm right*. That such a relationship may exist is indicated by  
342 the results of (Georgopoulos *et al.*, 1986) in which elevated motor cortical activity in cells  
343 encoding a movement in one direction is accompanied by a decrease in activity in cells encoding  
344 the opposite direction. Co-activation of a pair of such channels may therefore be the mechanism  
345 responsible for the generation of muscle tone.

346 Given the interpretation that the pair of action-channels encode a pair of antagonistic  
347 movement commands, this could offer an explanation as to why beta frequencies are raised  
348 between a warning cue and movement itself. Thus, dual activation of antagonistic movement  
349 commands could increase muscle tone in readiness for the movement to come. Decreasing the

350 dopamine level causes the level of activation required to produce high power beta frequency  
 351 oscillations to decrease. This is in agreement with spectral STN LFP data recorded from MPTP  
 352 treated primates, which show an increase in beta power at rest in the pathological condition  
 353 (Bergman *et al.*, 1994). Furthermore, if the Levodopa dose is sufficiently high, gamma  
 354 oscillations power replaces beta frequencies when inputs are equal and above baseline (Brown *et*  
 355 *al.*, 2001) (Fig 6 Q & R).



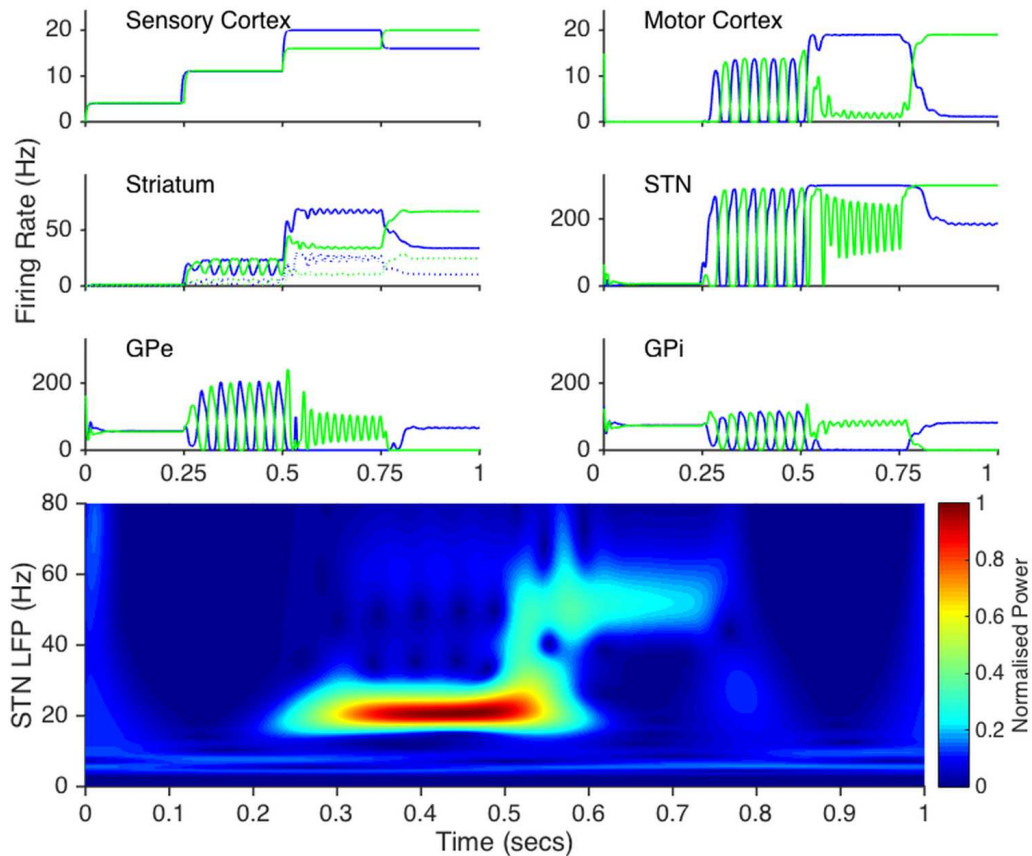
356

357 Fig 6. Oscillatory and selection properties of the model depend on cortical inputs and dopamine level. Each  
 358 panel shows a feature of the channel-2's activity over the last 0.2 seconds of the 0.3 second simulation, and for a  
 359 range of cortical input pairs with different firing rates. **Column 1:** Frequency of maximum power of channel-2  
 360 STN's weighted sum of inputs (simulated LFP). **Column 2:** The corresponding maximum log power of the  
 361 frequency shown in column 1. **Column 3:** Displays which of the action-channels has a motor cortical firing rate  
 362 above the 4Hz cortical background level. **Column 4:** The firing rate of channel-2 motor cortex. Channel-1  
 363 results for columns 1,2 and 4 (not shown) are identical plots reflected in the line  $ch1=ch2$ . A-D:  $da=0.1$ . E-H:  
 364  $da=0.3$ . I-L:  $da=0.4$ . M-P:  $da=0.5$ . Q-T:  $da=0.7$ . Identical inputs (diagonals) not calculated to avoid  
 365 unphysiological symmetries. White crosses in row  $da=0.3$  indicate parameter values used in Fig 7 and selection  
 366 analysis.

367 To observe, in the time domain, how the BG-cortical-loop model behaves in response to  
 368 changing inputs, the model was simulated using the input cortex input shown in the top left panel

369 of Fig 7. The model was run for 1 simulated second. Every 0.25 seconds the input-cortical firing  
370 rates of each action-channel were changed. This divides the 1 second simulation into four epochs.  
371 The location in parameter space of the inputs in each epoch are shown as white crosses in Fig 6.  
372 To avoid physiologically implausible numerical artefacts caused by symmetries in the inputs,  
373 similar inputs are never set to exactly equal values (they differ by 0.1Hz). Inputs were chosen to  
374 reflect a range of conditions; **Rest**: 4 Hz background (during  $0 < t < 0.25$ ); **Preparedness**: a  
375 higher but still undifferentiated pair of inputs for the initiation of increased muscle tone ( $0.25 < t <$   
376  $0.5$ ); **Movement**: channel-1 activity greater than channel-2 by an amount sufficient for the BG  
377 model to cleanly select channel-1 over channel-2 ( $0.5 < t < 0.75$ ); and action-channel-2 activity  
378 greater than channel-1 by an amount sufficient for the BG model to cleanly select channel-2 over  
379 channel-1 ( $0.75 < t < 1$ ).

380 With 4Hz cortical background input, the BG fully inhibits activity in motor cortex (Fig 7 top  
381 right). Increasing the overall magnitude of BG inputs, but keeping the two inputs roughly equal,  
382 gives rise to ~20Hz oscillations in all nuclei of both channels. These oscillations are in anti-phase  
383 and arise chiefly as a consequence of the interaction between the competitive cross-inhibition  
384 within the GPe and the loop through cortex. They propagate throughout all nuclei in the BG and  
385 motor cortex. An analysis of the relative phase relationship between the beta oscillations in motor  
386 cortex and STN shows that the cortex leads the STN by  $130^\circ$  or ~30ms. This is consistent with  
387 experimental observations of beta frequencies that show that the cortex leads the STN in healthy  
388 rats (Sharott *et al.*, 2005), in levodopa treated Parkinson's patients (Williams, 2002; Litvak *et al.*,  
389 2011), and the 6-OHDA rat model of Parkinson's disease (Mallet *et al.*, 2008). Our analysis  
390 suggests that, though the cortex leads the BG at beta frequencies, the oscillations may arise as a  
391 consequence of network interactions within the BG-cortical circuit as a whole. Once the inputs  
392 have a sufficiently large difference between them ( $t > 0.5$ ), the symmetry between the two channels  
393 of the model is broken, causing one action-channel to be disinhibited and the other more greatly  
394 inhibited. The gamma frequency (~50-60Hz) oscillations between the STN and GPe of each  
395 channel occur following the change in inputs. These results are consistent with experimental  
396 results (Tort *et al.*, 2008; Tan *et al.*, 2015).



397

398 Fig 7. Spectral and selection properties of the cortico-BG model as a function of time. **Cortical input:** Firing  
 399 rate of input cortex for channel 1 (blue) and channel 2 (green). **Striatum:** Firing rate of D1 striatum (solid lines)  
 400 and D2 striatum (dotted lines). **Motor Cortex, STN, GPe & GPi:** Firing rates of respective nuclei. **Bottom:**  
 401 Pseudo-frequency of weighted sum of inputs to both STN channels calculated using a Morlet wavelet.

#### 402 **Gamma power is associated with channel selection and is generated in the GPe-STN loop**

403 Gamma band (30-90 Hz) oscillations occur in the model in two regimes. At low dopamine  
 404 levels they occur when both channel's inputs are relatively high, but are sufficiently different for  
 405 one to be selected over the other (Fig 6  $da \leq 0.4$ ). If the inputs are too similar then beta  
 406 oscillations in both channels dominate. Gamma oscillations in the regime where dopamine is less  
 407 than 0.4 occurs when a decision has been resolved. Importantly, gamma oscillations occur most  
 408 readily in the channel that is *not* selected. That is to say that the neurons encoding the action that  
 409 is expressed in behaviour are not the neurons that are generating the gamma power. This is a  
 410 result that requires further experimental work to investigate.

411 Increasing the level of striatal dopamine increases the propensity of the model to oscillate at  
 412 gamma frequencies. At high dopamine, dual channel selection is common and is accompanied by  
 413 gamma in the STN (Fig 6  $da=0.7$ ). However, the reduced D2 MSN firing rate leads to an elevated

414 average GPe activity. This causes the firing of the GPi to be completely silenced. As such,  
415 gamma oscillatory activity is not passed forward to the motor cortex. Activity in the motor cortex  
416 of both channels is cleanly disinhibited. However, at moderate dopamine levels ( $\sim 0.3$ ) cortical  
417 input combinations exist whereby both channels pass gamma frequencies to motor cortex (for  
418 example,  $ch1=12\text{Hz}$ ,  $ch2=17\text{Hz}$ ).

419 A lesion study of the model shows the effect of lesioning the GPe to STN pathway (Fig 8 H –  
420 K). The absence of gamma band activity in this condition indicates that the gamma frequency  
421 activity seen in the STN LFP of the model arises in the STN–GPe feedback loop. The only  
422 requirement for the transmission of gamma oscillations to motor cortex, given the presence of  
423 gamma oscillations in the STN–GPe loop, is that the GPi’s and motor cortex’s firing rates remain  
424 in their dynamic range. For this condition to be met, the weighted sum of inputs to the GPi must  
425 neither be so high that the GPi saturates at its maximum rate, nor so low its rate is pushed to zero.  
426 The transfer of gamma power to cortical targets has been observed (Williams, 2002), however it  
427 should be noted that this study used LFP from the STN and electroencephalogram from cortex in  
428 patients with advanced Parkinson’s disease. It remains as future work to study the changes  
429 observed in the Parkinsonian brain using this model.

### 430 **GPe-striatum pathway critical for beta generation and simultaneous selection of motor** 431 **commands**

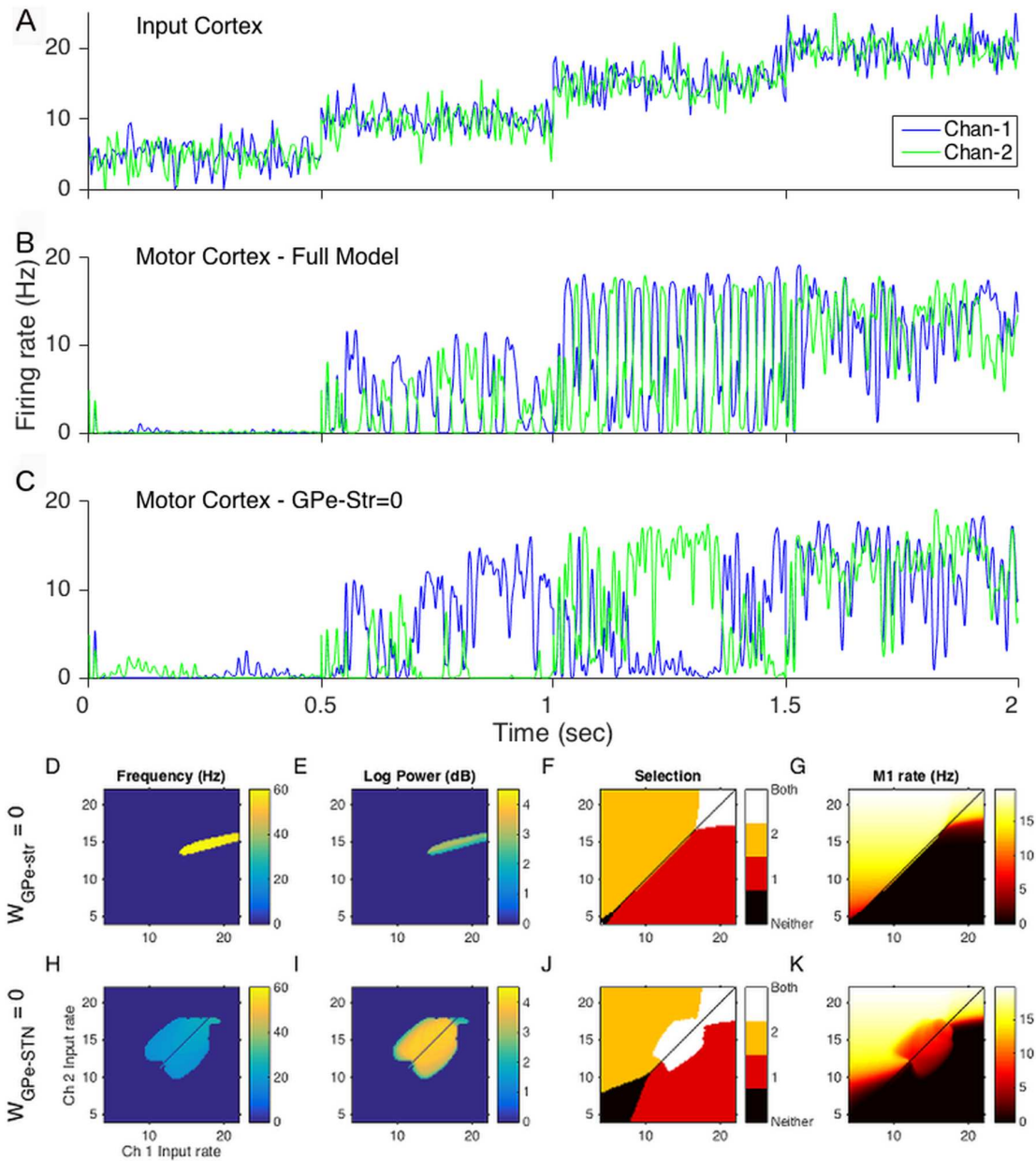
432 The GPe-striatum pathway is often omitted from models of the BG. We explored the network  
433 effects of lesioning this connection and compared the results with the unlesioned model. The  
434 model was run for 2 simulated seconds. Every 0.5 seconds the mean firing rate was increased (5,  
435 10, 15, 20 spike/sec). Mean firing rates on both channels were equal within each 0.5 second  
436 interval, but each channel had a 100Hz (2 spikes/sec amplitude) Gaussian noise applied  
437 independently. The criteria (also used above) to define whether or not a channel is selected was  
438 that the average firing rate of a channel was above the cortical baseline rate of 4Hz.

439 In the intact model equal inputs give rise to antiphase beta oscillations in BG output. Since the  
440 average firing rate of both channels during the anti-phase beta oscillations are above this

441 threshold, both channels are selected. The average firing rate of both channels' outputs are  
442 approximately equal (Fig 8 B).

443 Motor cortical output is significantly altered when the GPe-striatum connection is lesioned  
444 (Fig 8 C). Despite the mean input firing rate of both channels being identical, the model with the  
445 GPe-striatum connection lesion often selects one channel over the other in response to the noise,  
446 and persists with that selection long after the event that caused the selection has ceased.

447 In the model with connections intact, the GPe-striatum connection is essential in the  
448 generation of the beta frequency anti-phase oscillations discussed above. Cross-channel inhibition  
449 in the GPe causes one channel to be active and the other to be silenced. The silent channel ceases  
450 to inhibit the striatum of the other channel, allowing it to become active. In this way oscillations  
451 are maintained so long as the inputs to both channels are similar in magnitude. The strength of the  
452 GPe to striatum connection defines how dissimilar the inputs need to be to permit one channel to  
453 be selected over the other (Fig 8 D - G).



454

455 Fig 8. Effect of lesioning GPe-striatum and GPe-STN pathways. **A:** Action-channel-1 (blue), and action-  
 456 channel-2 (green) have identical mean firing rates within each 0.5 sec interval. Each channel has 100Hz,  
 457 2spikes/sec amplitude Gaussian noise added. **B:** Motor cortex output with connections intact. **C:** Motor cortex  
 458 output with GPe-striatum connection set to zero. **D – G:** Similar plots to Fig 6 with GPe-striatum connection  
 459 strength set to zero (no noise applied to inputs). **H – K:** Similar plots to Fig 6 with GPe-STN connection  
 460 strength set to zero (no noise applied to inputs). GPe-striatum connection strength is set to its healthy value.

#### 461 **Models with a close fit to data function as selection mechanisms**

462 The hypothesis that the basal ganglia acts as a selection mechanism, mediating competition  
 463 between action representations vying for control of motor resources has gathered much support  
 464 (Chevalier & Deniau, 1990; Mink & Thach, 1993; Redgrave *et al.*, 1999; Prescott *et al.*, 1999;  
 465 Hikosaka *et al.*, 2000). That the BG can, in principle, act as a selector has been demonstrated in



466 numerous computational models (Beiser & Houk, 1998; Gurney *et al.*, 2001b; Frank, 2005;  
467 Humphries *et al.*, 2006). In this view, the akinesia, and bradykinesia associated with Parkinson's  
468 disease are viewed as malfunctions of selection. In this paper we seek independent theoretical  
469 corroboration that the healthy BG network is tuned to perform action selection. To test the ability  
470 of the model to select between competing inputs, each of the two channels (channel-1 and  
471 channel-2) was driven by time varying cortical inputs (see Fig 7, top left) to simulate a time  
472 varying pattern of competing actions. A channel was classed as selected if the motor cortex firing  
473 rate in the relevant epoch is above the 4Hz cortical background firing rate.

474 The model selects between the test inputs and responds in a physiologically plausible way to  
475 dopaminergic modulation (see Fig 6, 3<sup>rd</sup> column). Increasing the simulated dopamine level  
476 increases the range of input cortex firing rates that give rise to both channels being selected,  
477 indicating that selection becomes more promiscuous (Swanson *et al.*, 1998; Humphries & Gurney,  
478 2002). Decreasing the dopamine level decreases the range of inputs that yield dual channel  
479 selection and increases the range of inputs that fail to disinhibit any action. This effect can be  
480 seen at its most extreme in the top row of Fig 6 in which dopamine is 0.1. In this case dual  
481 activation of antagonistic actions is not possible no matter how high the inputs from input cortex  
482 are. It seems likely that this regime is physiologically undesirable. It remains as future work to  
483 test the hypothesis that the network changes that are observed in Parkinson's disease serve to  
484 mitigate the effects of this transition.

485 If the BG is a selection mechanism, there should be an anticorrelation between the model's  
486 deviation from the data of (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a; Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a) and the model's ability  
487 to select between inputs. The relationship between deviation-from-data and selection was done by  
488 perturbing the connection strength parameters from those found to allow a good model fit to the  
489 data, as described above. Each perturbed parameter set (of which there were 750) was constructed  
490 by applying Gaussian noise to the MAP estimates of the values. The motor cortical firing rate of  
491 each model was tested for selection (increasing above the 4Hz background rate) in each of the four  
492 epochs in both a high and low dopamine condition. Selection properties were adapted from  
493 (Gurney *et al.*, 2004). An additional test ensures that the tonic firing rate of the GPi is within a

494 biologically plausible range. This yields a suite of nine selection tests. The degree of selection  
495 ability was determined by the number of these tests a model passed,  $N$ , and the deviation from  
496 data expressed as RMS-error.

#### 497 **Selection tests**

498 1. Tonic firing rate of GPi should be between 20 and 150Hz.

#### 499 **Low dopamine (DA = 0.3)**

500 2. In epoch 1 channel 1 and channel 2 should not be selected.

501 3. In epoch 2 channel 1 and channel 2 should be selected.

502 4. In epoch 3 channel 2 should be selected and channel 1 should not be selected.

503 5. In epoch 4 channel 1 should be selected and channel 2 should not be selected.

#### 504 **High dopamine (DA = 0.6)**

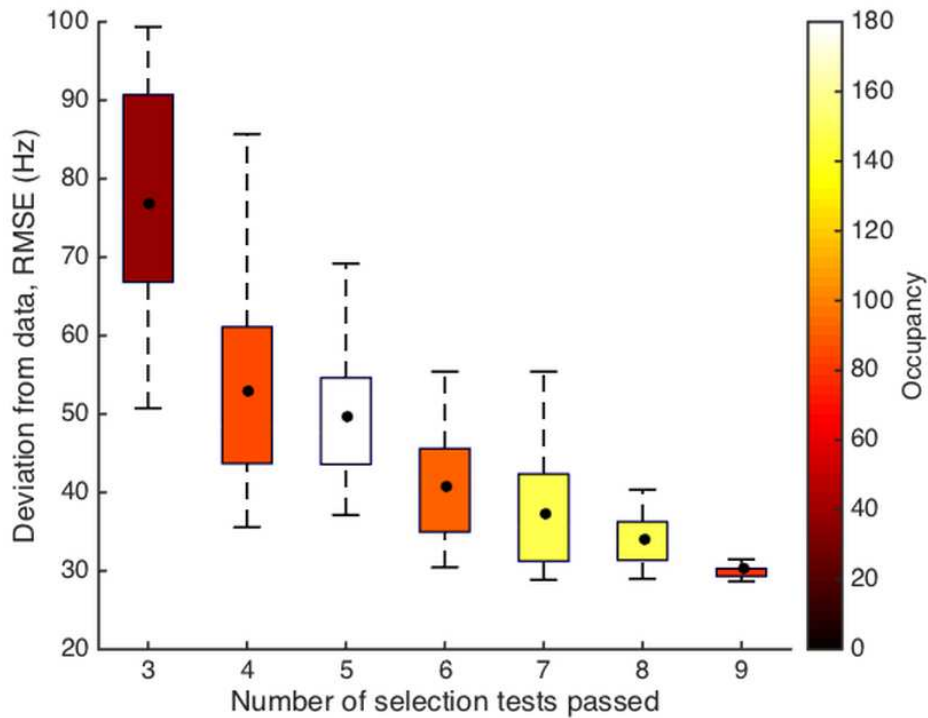
505 6. In epoch 1 channel 1 and channel 2 should not be selected.

506 7. In epoch 2 channel 1 and channel 2 should be selected.

507 8. In epoch 3 channel 1 and channel 2 should be selected.

508 9. In epoch 4 channel 1 and channel 2 should be selected.

509 Fig 9 shows  $N$  plotted against RMS-error. The significant anti-correlation between the two  
510 variables (correlation of means:  $R=-0.93$ ,  $p=0.003$ ) indicates that the closer the model network  
511 gets to the experimental data, the better the network functions as a selection mechanism. We take  
512 this as evidence that the BG network is tuned to perform as a selection mechanism.



513

514 Fig 9. Correlation between selection ability (number of selection test passed) and deviation from experimental  
 515 data (root mean squared error). The model was simulated using 750 randomly generated parameter sets derived  
 516 from gaussian kernels whose means are the MAP parameter values. Number of parameter sets within each box  
 517 and whisker is shown on the colourbar. Black dots show the locations of means. Boxes show interquartile  
 518 ranges, and whiskers show data outside 1.5 times the interquartile range. Correlation of means:  $R=-0.93$ ,  
 519  $p=0.003$ . There were no parameter sets that passed less than 3 tests. See text for a list of the 9 selection tests.

## 520 Discussion

521 We have created a model of the BG, that includes separate channels and their interaction. The  
 522 model was constrained and validated using a variety of experimental data, some of which was  
 523 subject to a novel re-analysis. The overarching conclusion of this work is that, while multiple  
 524 interacting channels are necessary to allow selection, they could also be the key factor that  
 525 generates the often observed oscillatory activity and the temporal dynamics of basal ganglia. By  
 526 invoking the heterogeneity of pallidal responses to cortical stimulation (rather than averaging  
 527 across all neurons), we have shown that the commonly observed beta and gamma band activity  
 528 emerge naturally, and in a behaviourally relevant context.

### 529 A novel explanation for time domain phenomena

530 In general, a system's time domain properties (impulse response) are intimately linked to  
 531 those in the spectral (frequency) domain (Billings, 2013). As such, uncovering the mechanisms

532 that give rise to the BG's impulse response, as observed in stimulation experiments, is of vital  
533 importance since only then can we fully understand the origins of the commonly observed neural  
534 oscillations.

535       The long duration late excitation seen in the mean pallidal response to phasic stimulation is an  
536 obvious feature of the BG impulse response. An obvious candidate for the generation of this  
537 phenomenon is the activation of NMDA receptors. However, the LDLE is attenuated only slightly  
538 by administration of the NMDA receptor antagonist CPP (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a). Alternatively  
539 one might suggest that rebound excitation of GPe neurons following a phasic inhibition could  
540 generate the LDLE (Nambu & Llinas, 1994). However, impulse stimulation of the STN yields a  
541 long duration excitation in the GPe, with no prior inhibition (Kita *et al.*, 2005). A network-level  
542 explanation is suggested by data showing that the LDLE is present only if STN-GPe connections  
543 are intact (Ammari *et al.*, 2010). Furthermore, EPSPs are present in GPe cells during the LDLE  
544 (Ammari *et al.*, 2010). However, single unit recordings, taken from non-human primates  
545 following a cortical impulse stimulation, show that the mean STN activity during a pallidal LDLE  
546 is virtually zero (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a). Thus we have an excitation apparently being elicited by a  
547 nucleus that is almost completely quiescent.

548       Our model suggests a resolution to this apparent contradiction. In our model the LDLE is  
549 caused by a combination of asymmetric cross-channel inhibition and excitation of GPe neurons by  
550 the small number of highly active STN neurons that encode the channel with the highest cortical  
551 input (*the primary-channel* in this model). Since the majority of neurons belong to other channels,  
552 the mean field activity of the STN during the pallidal LDLE looks extremely low. However, the  
553 small number of *primary-channel* STN cells project diffusely to all pallidal channels, and  
554 therefore contribute to generating the excitation. The model therefore suggests that the LDLE  
555 requires both cross-channel inhibition within the GPe as well as the diffuse excitatory feedback  
556 from the STN. This mechanism may also be the explanation for the observation that STN  
557 stimulation induces both excitation and inhibition in pallidal neurons (Kita *et al.*, 2005). Our work  
558 suggests that the pallidal impulse response profile, and therefore the BG's spectral properties,  
559 arise as a consequence of structured channel-wise interactions. Our model predicts that there

560 should be differing responses to impulse stimulation depending on the location of the recorded  
561 neuron in the projective field of the stimulated neuron. This has been observed experimentally  
562 (Tremblay *et al.*, 1989), though it is not a subject that has received much subsequent attention.  
563 Our work suggests that experimental analysis of the relationship between different responses may  
564 yield important insights into how information is encoded in the BG.

### 565 **Spectral phenomena as an emergent property**

566 The main result of the current work is an identification of possible mechanisms that are  
567 responsible for generating beta and gamma band activity. Some of the cardinal motor symptoms  
568 of Parkinson's disease are correlated with the pathological increase in beta power within the BG.  
569 As a consequence there has been much theoretical work attempting to identify possible  
570 mechanisms for the generation of beta activity in the BG. Studies have shown how beta activity  
571 can emerge from networks of interconnected neurons (Terman *et al.*, 2002; McCarthy *et al.*, 2011;  
572 Corbit *et al.*, 2016). McCarthy *et al.* (2011) propose a striatal origin involving M-current  
573 activation (McCarthy *et al.*, 2011), while Terman *et al.* (2002) investigate how frequency of  
574 oscillations changes with pallidal and subthalamic coupling strengths (Terman *et al.*, 2002).  
575 Holgado *et al.* (2010) examine the conditions whereby the STN-GPe loop alone could support beta  
576 frequency activity (Nevado Holgado *et al.*, 2010). Similar to our work, Corbit *et al.* (2016)  
577 identify the pallido-striatal pathway as being important in the generation of beta rhythmic activity  
578 in the BG (Corbit *et al.*, 2016). Their work focuses on the role of the GPe's projection to striatal  
579 interneurons rather than MSNs. That our current work yields similar results using channel-  
580 specific GPe-MSN connections indicates that the pallido-striatal pathway could be important in  
581 beta generation by multiple mechanisms, and highlights that the nature and purpose of the  
582 pathway requires further research.

583 Many analyses explore the generation of beta power only in a "parkinsonian" condition of  
584 reduced dopaminergic input (Leblois *et al.*, 2006; Nevado Holgado *et al.*, 2010). Using these  
585 studies to make inferences about beta generation in the healthy condition may be unsafe, since  
586 experimental work has identified two distinct GPe neuronal populations that oscillate at beta  
587 frequencies in a parkinsonian condition but whose activity remains uncorrelated in the control

588 group (Mallet *et al.*, 2008). They also do not address the purpose that these oscillations may  
589 serve.

590 Repeated observations have shown that beta spectral power in motor cortex is correlated with  
591 maintenance of posture or application of isometric force (Baker *et al.*, 2001; Gilbertson *et al.*,  
592 2005; Chakarov *et al.*, 2009). Furthermore, strong coherence in the beta range has been observed  
593 between motor cortical LFPs and EMGs recorded from muscles controlling the effector limb  
594 (Baker *et al.*, 1997; Kilner *et al.*, 1999; Chakarov *et al.*, 2009). If the two channels are  
595 conceptualised as representing an antagonistic pair of movement commands, the beta oscillations  
596 represent the activation of one movement command quickly followed by its opposite. If this  
597 putative oscillatory force is low-pass filtered at the level of biomechanics (or in downstream  
598 neural processing), our model predicts an increase in muscle tone due to the beta oscillation. This  
599 is testable by examining the relative LFP and EMG activity of pairs of antagonistic muscles under  
600 a cued movement paradigm. Our hypothesis gives a possible explanation as to why the  
601 overexpression of beta in Parkinson's disease is correlated with rigidity (Narabayashi & Oshima,  
602 2014).

603 Power in the gamma frequency range has been observed in recordings from the GPi and the  
604 STN of healthy rats (Brown *et al.*, 2002; Leventhal *et al.*, 2012) and has been observed in multiple  
605 nuclei in humans undergoing neurosurgery (Cassidy, 2002; Alegre *et al.*, 2005; Androulidakis *et al.*  
606 *et al.*, 2007). Our model shows increased gamma with increased cortical input, which is consistent  
607 with observations that gamma oscillation's power increases during voluntary movement, and is  
608 decreased during periods of low cortical activation (Brown *et al.*, 2001; Androulidakis *et al.*,  
609 2007; Kempf *et al.*, 2009). Gamma frequencies in the model most often arise in channels that  
610 encode the channel/s that are *not* selected. This is an important issue since correlations are often  
611 sought between spectral features of experimental data and behaviour (Brücke *et al.*, 2012;  
612 Jenkinson *et al.*, 2013). These relationships may be spurious if the oscillations are related to  
613 action representations that are not expressed in behaviour.

614 A complete understanding of how beta and gamma band activity arise in healthy basal ganglia  
615 is necessary if we are to fully understand how pathological oscillatory activity in Parkinson's

616 gives rise to the motor symptoms of the disease. The current model can therefore serve as a  
617 foundation from which to study the development of Parkinsonian motor symptoms, modelling the  
618 gradual development of the condition.

### 619 **Action selection as an emergent phenomena**

620 That action selection emerges naturally from the model is taken as further indication that this  
621 is likely to be a primary function of the basal ganglia. The current model is able to link the  
622 spectral properties of the network to its function as a selection mechanism.

623 Our methodology to test the validity of the action selection hypothesis was to tune the network  
624 to minimize deviation from experimental data and then, post hoc, test the model for its ability to  
625 select between inputs. This methodology allows more confidence in the conclusion: rather than  
626 demonstrating that a network *can* perform selection given the right choice of parameters, the  
627 network has parameter values that predispose it to be an effective selection mechanism.

628 Our model also suggests a functional purpose for the significant GPe-striatum pathway. The  
629 strength of the GPe-striatum connection mediates the decisiveness of the BG model's selection  
630 mechanism. GPe neurons express D2 receptors (Hoover & Marshall, 2004; Kita, 2007) (not  
631 included in this model), and as such their firing rates are reduced in the presence of dopamine.  
632 Dopaminergic modulation of the GPe neurons that project to the striatum may therefore be an  
633 additional mechanism that mediates the trade-off between exploitation and exploration.

634 In 6-OHDA rat models of Parkinsons disease, two distinct populations of GPe neurons have  
635 been identified: the *arkypallidal* and *prototypical* populations oscillate in anti-phase with each  
636 other (Mallet *et al.*, 2008, 2012). However, this distinction is not apparent in healthy rats so has  
637 not been included in this model. This suggests that acute dopamine denervation of the BG may  
638 cause a breakdown or unlearning of functional cross-channel inhibition in the GPe, leading to the  
639 inhibition between the arkypallidal and the prototypical populations to dominate. This issue will  
640 be explored in models of the Parkinsonian BG.

## 641 **Relationship to other models**

642 Other models of BG have enjoyed success in using functional (Frank *et al.*, 2001; Gurney *et*  
643 *al.*, 2001b; Humphries *et al.*, 2006), equilibrium (Gillies *et al.*, 2002; van Albada & Robinson,  
644 2009; Nevado Holgado *et al.*, 2010) or spectral (Moran *et al.*, 2011; Marreiros *et al.*, 2013)  
645 information to constrain their unknown parameters. However, none have been able to unify such a  
646 wide raft of experimental data with a functional description using an anatomically constrained  
647 model of BG such as that presented here. The current work could be extended by creating a  
648 neural mass model of the system in which the synaptic dynamics of each receptor-type are  
649 modelled individually (as is the case in Moran *et al.*, 2011 and Marreiros *et al.*, 2013). This would  
650 allow analysis of the relative contributions of AMPA, NMDA, GABA<sub>A</sub> and GABA<sub>B</sub> receptors.

651 Other models have focused solely on the STN-GPe feedback loop (Gillies *et al.*, 2002;  
652 Terman *et al.*, 2002; Nevado Holgado *et al.*, 2010). Our model additionally includes the striatal  
653 populations and the GPi in order to test the hypothesis that the BG performs action selection.  
654 Importantly, adequate data has been obtained to constrain the connection strengths between the  
655 GPi and its afferents, guarding against the risk of over-fitting. A conductance-based spiking  
656 neuron version of the current model (similar to Terman *et al.*, 2002) would be of great benefit to  
657 investigate the relative contributions of other possible mechanisms for BG dynamics, such as  
658 rebound excitation in the GPe. However, finding sufficient data with which to accurately  
659 parameterise such a model may be problematic.

660 Perhaps the model most similar to our own is that of (Leblois *et al.*, 2006). This study  
661 generates the triphasic pallidal response, some limited spectral features, and basic selection  
662 functionality using the network level interaction between the hyper-direct and direct pathways in  
663 BG-thalamo-cortical loops. It differs from our work in that their model does not contain a GPe.  
664 In our model, the inclusion of the GPe and its associated pathways were essential to capture the  
665 temporal and spectral features that are observed in healthy BG which were not accounted for in  
666 the study of Leblois.



## 667 **Predictions**

668       In the model, we showed gamma power in the STN LFP is at its highest when a selection has  
669 been made between two opposing channels with relatively high inputs. Thus the model predicts  
670 that gamma power will be relatively low when uncued movements are made to a well defined  
671 target, and higher when movements are preceded by a cue and the required movement direction is  
672 unknown until the target is presented.

673       While data is only currently available for GPI, the model predicts a stimulus driven LDLE in a  
674 small minority of STN responses (in model the primary-channel) and a biphasic (excitation - long  
675 duration inhibition) in GPe.

676       The model shows beta power in the STN LFP when opposing channels are activated by  
677 similar amounts, peaking when both cortical inputs are close to the middle of their dynamic range.  
678 It is therefore a prediction of the model that the generation of a *moderate* amount of muscle tone,  
679 by co-activation of two opposing motor commands, yields high beta power in the STN LFP.  
680 Increasing the level of static force close to the subject's maximum effort is predicted to show a  
681 reduction in beta power.

682       Based on the considerations above, our model appears to provide a plausible framework for  
683 the study of spectral, temporal and functional analyses of the basal ganglia. As such, it lays the  
684 foundation for investigation of BG function, both in healthy and pathological states and, as well as  
685 supplying plausible explanations for existing experimental data, also makes several testable  
686 predictions.

## 687 **Materials and Methods**

### 688 **Model Architecture**

689       The model architecture is similar to our previous work (Gurney *et al.*, 2001a, 2001b) but  
690 includes several additional features (see Fig 2 A). Firstly, both main populations of striatal  
691 projection neurons – defined by preferentially expressing D1 or D2 dopamine receptors - have  
692 cross-channel inhibitory connections (Grillner & Graybiel, 2006). Lateral connections may exist

693 between D1 and D2 MSNs of the *same* channel. However, these connections would have a  
694 similar effect to the action of dopamine in the model. To avoid causing degenerate solutions  
695 during parameter optimisation, these have been omitted. Recent observations have shown that the  
696 GPe consists of two separate populations: those which have mainly striatal efferents (*arkypallidal*  
697 cells), and those that project chiefly to the GPi and STN (*prototypical* cells) (Mallet *et al.*, 2008,  
698 2012). However, there is currently an absence of any data regarding differences between their  
699 respective afferents. Furthermore their activity is uncorrelated in the healthy BG. They are  
700 therefore modelled as a single population. Since the axons of the pallido-striatal neurons have  
701 been observed to arborize across large regions of the striatum we assume that the GPe to striatum  
702 connection is cross-channel. It should be noted that this connection is GPe to MSN rather than the  
703 GPe to striatal interneuron connection (Mallet *et al.*, 2012; Corbit *et al.*, 2016). The GPe contains  
704 cross-channel inhibitory connections (Kita & Kita, 1994). While it would be possible to include  
705 *within-channel* GPe-GPi and GPe-striatum connections, these additional connections would not  
706 yield additional information about how channel-wise structure in the BG contributes to the  
707 observed dynamics. They would also greatly increase the dimensionality of the parameter space,  
708 leading to over-fitting. They have therefore been omitted.

709 There is much precedence for the modelling of the BG in cortical loops (Humphries &  
710 Gurney, 2002; Leblois *et al.*, 2006; van Albada & Robinson, 2009; Moran *et al.*, 2011; Marreiros  
711 *et al.*, 2013). As well as afferents from motor areas, BG inputs include those from a broadly  
712 sensory origin, which project excitation to a cortical motor area to initiate an action, as well as to  
713 the striatum and STN. The cortical motor area also projects to the BG and receives tonic  
714 inhibition from the BG output nuclei via the ventrolateral thalamus. Many experimental studies  
715 have examined cortical motor control in the context of reach movements. In this context a  
716 candidate for the input cortical region could be the ventral premotor cortex, in which potential  
717 reach targets are known to be encoded, possibly in an effector (i.e. hand) centred coordinate  
718 system (Graziano & Gross, 1998). A candidate for the motor region could be primary motor  
719 cortex. The PMV makes glutamatergic connections with primary motor cortex (M1) in order to  
720 effect a movement to the target location (Davare *et al.*, 2009). Both PMV and M1 make

721 reciprocal connections with the BG (Alexander *et al.*, 1986; Hoover & Strick, 1993). However,  
722 our analysis is not reliant on any precise anatomical interpretation.

723 With the aim of making the simplest possible model, the above connectivity is modelled with  
724 the following approximations. Firstly, that both input cortical area and motor area provide input  
725 to the BG, but only the motor area receives tonic inhibition from the BG. This is similar to other  
726 modelling studies which focus on a single BG-cortex loop (Humphries & Gurney, 2002).  
727 Secondly, it is assumed that the thalamus acts only as a relay between the BG and cortex. The  
728 ventrolateral thalamus is therefore not modelled explicitly and its effect is approximated by an  
729 additional delay. The input cortex to motor cortex connection strength was set to one. Each  
730 population reacts to its inputs with the time constant of ionotropic post-synaptic potentials (~2ms)  
731 (Nambu & Llinas, 1994).

732 The connection strength parameters in the model govern the magnitude of the input that a  
733 nucleus receives from its afferent. In the brain, this may be mediated by a large variety of factors,  
734 such as number of synapses between the two nuclei, location of the synapses relative to the soma,  
735 number of receptors within each synapse, number of neurons in the two populations and many  
736 other factors. These variables are often difficult to quantify with any accuracy. A strength of  
737 firing rate models in general is that all the uncertainty associated with the precise nature of the  
738 connections can be encapsulated by a single parameter that simply multiplies the output of the  
739 upstream nucleus. The value of this parameter can then be inferred from the mean firing rates of  
740 both nuclei.

#### 741 **Model formalism**

742 The model BG has two channels. Each channel is composed of a STN, a D1 striatum, a D2  
743 striatum, a GPe population, a GPi and a motor cortex. The dynamics of each of these nuclei is  
744 governed by Equation 2. Second order dynamics are a common choice in neural mass models,  
745 which have explicit expressions governing the membrane potential of each post-synaptic receptor-  
746 type (see (Moran *et al.*, 2011; Marreiros *et al.*, 2013) for BG examples). We here use second  
747 order dynamics to capture firing rates in a phenomenological way.

748 The dynamic variable,  $y$ , is named the *activation* of the nucleus, and is analogous to an  
 749 average membrane potential. This activation is converted to the firing rate of the nucleus by a  
 750 non-linear transfer function,  $f$ . A usual choice for this function is a sigmoid, since its output  
 751 approaches constant values at the extremes of high and low input magnitudes. However, the  
 752 shape of a standard sigmoid means that it is impossible to set a sub-1Hz baseline firing rate  
 753 without steepening the gradient of the function, thus sacrificing the dynamic input range of the  
 754 nucleus. This is a particular problem when modelling MSNs, since they are generally virtually  
 755 silent until activated. To remedy this issue we use a Gompertz function, which shares the  
 756 desirable saturation properties of the standard sigmoid, but falls far more rapidly to its lower  
 757 asymptote, meaning that a modest amount of self-inhibition can reduce the nucleus' firing rate to  
 758 effectively zero, as required by the physiology. The proportion of the curve that is approximately  
 759 linear is also larger than for the standard sigmoid, again giving a better representation of the  
 760 physiology of neurons, MSNs in particular (Humphries *et al.*, 2009). The firing rate,  $f$ , is related  
 761 to the activation,  $y$ , by

$$f(y) = M \left( \frac{B}{M} \right)^{\exp(-ey/M)} \quad (3)$$

764 in which  $M$  is the upper asymptote of the function and represents the maximum firing rate of  
 765 the nucleus.  $B$  is the intercept with the  $f$ -axis, and represents the firing rate of the nucleus in the  
 766 absence of all inputs (*baseline* firing rate).  $e$  is the base of the natural logarithm. This function is  
 767 constructed such that it is parameterized by values that can be found from experimental literature  
 768 and that the maximum gradient is set to one. There are 6 DDEs per channel, and therefore 12  
 769 DDEs in the complete model. The complete model is given by set of equations 4.

770 **Channel-1:**

$$771 \quad \ddot{y}_{Ps1} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s-s}f(y_{Ss1}) + W_{sc-s}(1+da)IN_P + W_{mc-s}(1+da)f(y_{Pmc}) - W_{ge-s}f(y_{Sge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Ps1} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Ps1}$$

$$772 \quad \ddot{y}_{Ps2} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s-s}f(y_{Ss2}) + W_{sc-s}(1-da)IN_P + W_{mc-s}(1-da)f(y_{Pmc}) - W_{ge-s}f(y_{Sge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Ps2} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Ps2}$$

$$773 \quad \ddot{y}_{Pstn} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{ge-stn}f(y_{Pge}) + W_{mc-stn}f(y_{Pmc}) + W_{sc-stn}IN_P\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Pstn} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Pstn}$$

$$774 \quad \ddot{y}_{Pge} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s2-gef}(y_{Ps2}) + W_{stn-gef}(y_{Pstn}) + W_{stn-gef}(y_{Sstn}) - W_{ge-gef}(y_{Sge}) - W_{geRf}(y_{Pge})\}$$

$$775 \quad -\frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Pge} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Pge}$$

$$776 \quad \ddot{y}_{Pgi} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s1-gif}(y_{Ps1}) + W_{stn-gif}(y_{Pstn}) + W_{stn-gif}(y_{Sstn}) - W_{ge-gif}(y_{Sge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Pgi} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Pgi}$$

$$777 \quad \ddot{y}_{Pmc} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{gi-mcf}(y_{Pgi}) + W_{sc-mc}IN_P\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Pmc} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Pmc}$$

778 **Channel-2:**

(4)

$$779 \quad \ddot{y}_{Ss1} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s-s}f(y_{Ps1}) + W_{sc-s}(1+da)IN_S + W_{mc-s}(1+da)f(y_{Smc}) - W_{ge-s}f(y_{Pge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Ss1} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Ss1}$$

$$780 \quad \ddot{y}_{Ss2} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s-s}f(y_{Ps2}) + W_{sc-s}(1-da)IN_S + W_{mc-s}(1-da)f(y_{Smc}) - W_{ge-s}f(y_{Pge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Ss2} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Ss2}$$

$$781 \quad \ddot{y}_{Sstn} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{ge-stn}f(y_{Sge}) + W_{mc-stn}f(y_{Smc}) + W_{sc-stn}IN_S\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Sstn} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Sstn}$$

$$782 \quad \ddot{y}_{Sge} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s2-gef}(y_{Ss2}) + W_{stn-gef}(y_{Pstn}) + W_{stn-gef}(y_{Sstn}) - W_{ge-gef}(y_{Pge}) - W_{geRf}(y_{Sge})\}$$

$$783 \quad -\frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Sge} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Sge}$$

$$784 \quad \ddot{y}_{Sgi} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{s1-gif}(y_{Ss1}) + W_{stn-gif}(y_{Pstn}) + W_{stn-gif}(y_{Sstn}) - W_{ge-gif}(y_{Pge})\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Sgi} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Sgi}$$

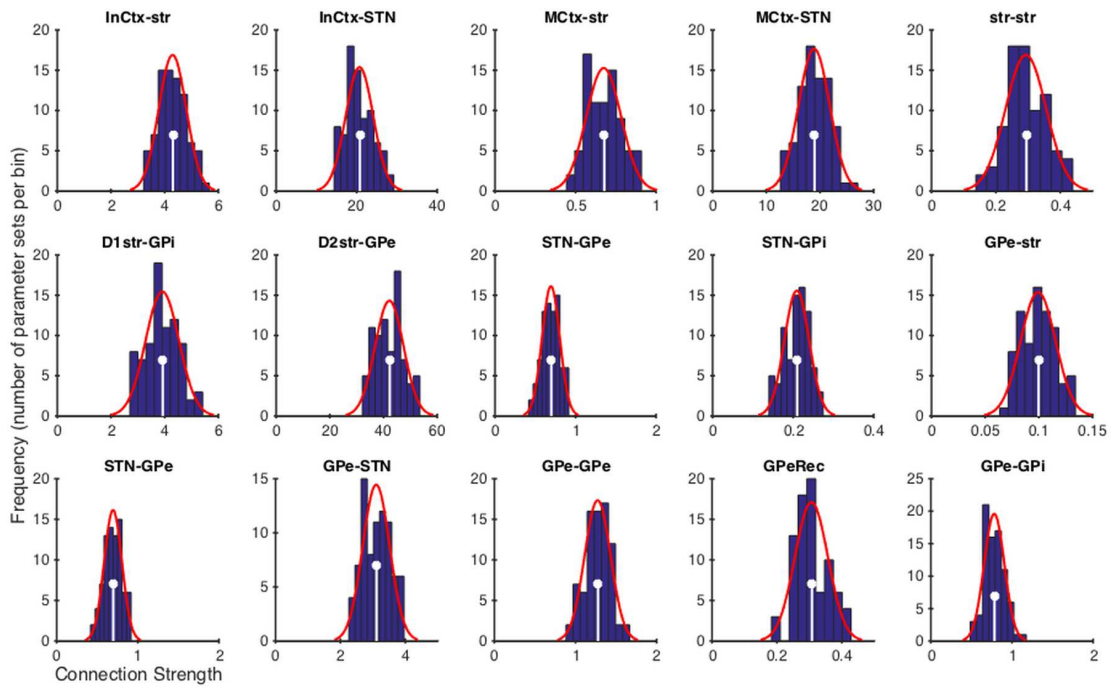
$$785 \quad \ddot{y}_{Smc} = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \{-W_{gi-mcf}(y_{Sgi}) + W_{sc-mc}IN_S\} - \frac{2}{\tau}\dot{y}_{Smc} - \frac{1}{\tau^2}y_{Smc}$$

786 in which  $y_n$  is the activation of the  $n^{th}$  nucleus. Subscripts denoting *Primary-Channel* and  
 787 *Secondary-Channel* nuclei begin with *P* and *S* respectively. Axonal transmission delays are  
 788 modelled as the delays in the DDEs. For ease of readability the suffix terms denoting the delays  
 789 have been omitted. Thus, expressions like  $W_{mj}f(y_m(t-T_{mn}))$  have been shortened to  $w_{mj}f(y_m)$ , where  
 790  $T_{m-n}$  is the delay between nuclei  $m$  and  $n$ .  $f$  is the transfer function that converts an activation into  
 791 a firing rate, and is given by Equation 3. Cortical inputs to *primary* and *secondary channels* are

792  $IN_P$  and  $IN_S$  respectively. The level of dopaminergic innervation of the striatum is governed by the  
793 normalized parameter,  $da$ . The above system of equations was solved using Matlab's (Mathworks)  
794 DDE solver, *DDE23*.

## 795 **Model Parameters**

796 Model parameters were obtained from experimental studies (Table 1) with the exception of  
797 inter-nuclei-connection-strength parameters, which are inferred by fitting the model to data  
798 obtained from stimulation studies using sequential Monte-Carlo approximate Bayesian  
799 computation (SMC-ABC) (Toni *et al.*, 2009; Beaumont, 2010), with hand-tuned prior  
800 distributions. Specifically, we used the two GPi time series clusters, identified in this paper see  
801 Results) from data published in (Tachibana *et al.*, 2008a), and PSTHs of STN and GPe responses  
802 from (Nambu *et al.*, 2000a). The error function used in the SMC-ABC algorithm is created by  
803 comparing data from these studies with model output. The parameter fitting was done using data  
804 in the temporal range beginning 40ms before the cortical stimulation and ending 150ms after the  
805 stimulation. Thus the SMC-ABC algorithm is compelled to fit the equilibrium firing rates  
806 observed before the stimulus as well as the dynamical behaviour post-stimulus. Each time series  
807 was interpolated to create a vector of firing rates at 600 evenly spaced sampling times. The  
808 simulation was run using the parameter values generated by SMC-ABC. The resulting vector of  
809 firing rates was truncated to the temporal range of the experimental data and then interpolated to  
810 the same 600 sampling times. To generate the value of the error statistic from this vector we  
811 apply a simple root-mean-squared function. The value of this error statistic for the MAP estimate  
812 of the parameter values is 28.9. Priors of connection weight parameters were Gaussian  
813 distributions. Initial approximations of the means were defined as the ratio between the maximum  
814 firing rates of the sending and receiving populations. The means of the priors were further refined  
815 to improve the fit to the data. Standard deviations of the priors were set equal to the mean.  
816 Posterior distributions of the free connection strength parameter values are shown in Fig 10.



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Fig 10. Inter-nucleus connection strength parameter value posterior distributions. Histograms shown in dark blue. Gaussian fit to histograms shown in red. Maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate of each parameter value marked with white stems.

821

Table 1. Table of model parameters.

Parameter	Meaning & reference	Value
$T_{\text{ctx-str}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	2.5 ms
$T_{\text{ctx-STN}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	2.5 ms
$T_{\text{STN-GPe}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	2.5 ms
$T_{\text{STN-GPi}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	2.5 ms
$T_{\text{GPe-STN}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	1 ms
$T_{\text{str-GPe}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	7 ms
$T_{\text{str-GPi}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	12 ms
$T_{\text{GPe-GPe}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	1 ms
$T_{\text{GPe-GPi}}$	Axonal transmission delay (Jaeger & Kita, 2011)	1 ms
$T_{\text{GPI-mctx}}$	$T_{\text{GPI-Thal}}$ (=1.8ms (Uno <i>et al.</i> , 1978)) + $T_{\text{Thal-ctx}}$ (=1.2ms (Gil & Amitai, 1996)).	3 ms
$\tau$	Time constant (all nuclei). Ionotropic synaptic time constant (Nambu & Llinas, 1994)	2 ms
$M_{\text{str}}$	Max firing rate of striatum (Gittis <i>et al.</i> , 2010)	90 Hz
$B_{\text{str}}$	Baseline firing rate of striatum (Adler <i>et al.</i> , 2013)	0.1 Hz
$M_{\text{STN}}$	Max firing rate of STN (Nambu <i>et al.</i> , 2000a)	250 Hz
$B_{\text{STN}}$	Baseline firing rate of STN	50 Hz
$M_{\text{GP}}$	Max firing rate of GPe (Kita <i>et al.</i> , 2006) and GPi (Tachibana <i>et al.</i> , 2008a)	300 Hz
$B_{\text{GP}}$	Baseline firing rate of GPe (Kita <i>et al.</i> , 2006) and GPi (Tachibana <i>et al.</i> , 2008a)	150 Hz
$M_{\text{ctx}}$	Max firing rate of cortex (Maynard <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	22 Hz
$B_{\text{ctx}}$	Baseline firing rate of cortex (Maynard <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	4 Hz
$da$	Dopaminergic input (normalised)	0.3
[a,b]	Biexponential parameters - Input stimulation	[100,1000]
$\xi_p$	The primary-channel input gain. Tuned to give max of ~22Hz (Maynard <i>et al.</i> , 1999)	0.25
$g_s$	The secondary-channel input gain.	0.17
$W_{\text{mc-stn}}$	Motor Cortex-STN connection strength*	20
$W_{\text{ge-stn}}$	GPe-STN connection strength *	3
$W_{\text{s2-ge}}$	D2 striatum-GPe connection strength *	40
$W_{\text{stn-ge}}$	STN-GPe connection strength *	0.72
$W_{\text{ge-ge}}$	Strength of GPe cross-channel connections *	1.37
$W_{\text{ge-gi}}$	GPe-GPi connection strength *	0.8
$W_{\text{s1-gi}}$	D1 striatum-GPi connection strength *	4
$W_{\text{stn-gi}}$	STN-GPi connection strength *	0.2
$W_{\text{s-s}}$	Strength of striatal MSN cross-channel connections *	0.3
$W_{\text{gi-mc}}$	GPi to motor cortex connection strength *	0.25
$W_{\text{sc-s}}$	Input cortex to striatum connection strength *	4
$W_{\text{sc-stn}}$	Input cortex to STN connection strength *	20
$W_{\text{mc-s}}$	Motor cortex to striatum connection strength*	0.65
$W_{\text{sc-mc}}$	Input cortex to motor cortex connection strength	1
$W_{\text{ge-s}}$	GPe to striatum connection strength *	0.1
$W_{\text{geR}}$	Strength of recurrent inhibition in GPe*	0.3



- \* MAP values from SMC-ABC to minimise deviation from experimental data.

Table 2. Parameters used to generate validation plots in Fig 5. The experiments modelled are either in Kita et al., (2006) or Tachibana et al. (2008) or Sano et al., (2013), designated [1], [2] and [3] respectively in column two, which describes the original experimental protocol. In the case of cortical inputs, the input parameters  $g_p$  ( $g_s$ ) are the gains of the biexponential input function on the primary-channel (secondary-channel) channels. In the case of striatal or GPe inputs, they are the maximum values of the square wave current input. The pairs  $[IN_p, IN_s]$  are the corresponding peak firing rates in the stimulated nucleus on the primary-channel (secondary-channel) channel. The model manipulation comprises a weight change expressed in the form  $W_{mn} = xW$ , where  $W$  is the original value of  $W_{mn}$  and  $x$  is a multiplying factor.

Sub-Fig	Original experimental protocol	Recorded nucleus	Model manipulation	Input magnitude [ $g_p, g_s$ ] [ $IN_p, IN_s$ ] Hz
A	Impulse striatum [1]	GPe	-	[1000, 400]
B		GPi	-	[87, 54] Hz
C	50Hz stimulation striatum [1]	GPe	-	[1000, 400]
D		GPi	-	[87, 54] Hz
E	Impulse striatum – Local gabazine [1]	GPe	$W_{str2-GPe} = 0.1W$	[1000, 400]
F		GPi	$W_{str1-GPi} = 0.1W$	[87, 54] Hz
G	50Hz stimulation striatum – Local gabazine [1]	GPe	$W_{str2-GPe} = 0.1W$	[1000, 400]
H		GPi	$W_{str1-GPi} = 0.1W$ $W_{GPe-GPi} = 0.1W$	[87, 54] Hz
I	GPe impulse [2]	GPi	-	[5000, 2000] [300, 278] Hz
J	Cortex impulse – muscimol in GPe [2]	GPi	$W_{GPe-GPi} = 0W$ $W_{GPe-STN} = 0W$ $W_{GPe-GPe} = 0W$ $W_{GPeRec} = 0W$ $W_{GPe-str} = 0W$	[0.25, 0.17] [22, 17] Hz
K	Cortex Impulse – muscimol in STN [2]	GPi	$W_{STN-GPe} = 0W$ $W_{STN-GPi} = 0W$	[0.25, 0.17] [22, 17] Hz
L	Cortex Impulse – D2 – GPe pathway lesioned [3]	GPe	$W_{str2-GPe} = 0W$	[0.25, 0.17] [22, 17] Hz

## Competing Interests

We have no competing interests

## Authors' Contributions

AB carried out the modelling and parameter estimation, drafted the manuscript and participated in the design of the study; SA participated in parameter estimation, participated in the design of the study, and participated in coordination of the study; KG conceived and coordinated the study and participated in drafting the manuscript. All authors gave final approval for publication.

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