NOTEWORTHY, SOFTWARE

ARE WE REALLY THINKING AT 10 BITS/S?

16.06.2025

There is a funny paper at arXiv, that is now published in Neurology. It claims to have found a

> neural conundrum behind the slowness of human behavior. The information throughput of a human being is about 10 bits/s. In comparison, our sensory systems gather data at ~10^9 bits/s. The stark contrast between these numbers remains unexplained and touches on fundamental aspects of brain function: What neural substrate sets this speed limit on the pace of our existence? Why does the brain need billions of neurons to process 10 bits/s? Why can we only think about one thing at a time?

If there are really two brains, an “outer” brain with fast high-dimensional sensory and motor signals and an “inner” brain that does are the processing? My inner brain says this is a huge speculation.