***eLife’s* transparent reporting form**

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**Sample-size estimation**

* You should state whether an appropriate sample size was computed when the study was being designed
* You should state the statistical method of sample size computation and any required assumptions
* If no explicit power analysis was used, you should describe how you decided what sample (replicate) size (number) to use

Please outline where this information can be found within the submission (e.g., sections or figure legends), or explain why this information doesn’t apply to your submission:

No a priori sample size estimation from a power calculation was done for this study. One reason for this is because it was not clear what would be an appropriate minimum effect size to expect for these types sex-differential comparisons. As a result, we collected as much data as was possible given limitations on funding for data collection.

**Replicates**

* You should report how often each experiment was performed
* You should include a definition of biological versus technical replication
* The data obtained should be provided and sufficient information should be provided to indicate the number of independent biological and/or technical replicates
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* Statistical analysis methods should be described and justified
* Raw data should be presented in figures whenever informative to do so (typically when N per group is less than 10)
* For each experiment, you should identify the statistical tests used, exact values of N, definitions of center, methods of multiple test correction, and dispersion and precision measures (e.g., mean, median, SD, SEM, confidence intervals; and, for the major substantive results, a measure of effect size (e.g., Pearson's r, Cohen's d)
* Report exact p-values wherever possible alongside the summary statistics and 95% confidence intervals. These should be reported for all key questions and not only when the p-value is less than 0.05.

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Most of the information regarding statistical analyses and results are found in the Methods section, the Results section, and the Figures.

(For large datasets, or papers with a very large number of statistical tests, you may upload a single table file with tests, Ns, etc., with reference to sections in the manuscript.)

**Group allocation**

* Indicate how samples were allocated into experimental groups (in the case of clinical studies, please specify allocation to treatment method); if randomization was used, please also state if restricted randomization was applied
* Indicate if masking was used during group allocation, data collection and/or data analysis

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Patients were allocated to ASD or other groups based on clinical diagnoses (or lack thereof). No masking or randomization was done.

**Additional data files (“source data”)**

* We encourage you to upload relevant additional data files, such as numerical data that are represented as a graph in a figure, or as a summary table
* Where provided, these should be in the most useful format, and they can be uploaded as “Source data” files linked to a main figure or table
* Include model definition files including the full list of parameters used
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Please indicate the figures or tables for which source data files have been provided:

Tidy data and analysis code are available at <https://github.com/IIT-LAND/ei_hurst>. Source code of the recurrent network model is available at <https://github.com/pablomc88/EEG_proxy_from_network_point_neurons>. Raw RNA-seq data used to identify genes differentially expressed by DHT can be found in Gene Expression Omnibus (GSE86457). Data for the Allen Institute Human Brain Atlas can be found here: <https://human.brain-map.org>. Mapping of this data to MNI space can be found at the Neurosynth website (<https://neurosynth.org/genes/>).