Reply to Reviewer 1

We would like to express gratitude to the Reviewer for their positive evaluation of the manuscript and useful suggestions for its improvement.

Question 1: Page 11: In the left of Eq.(15), would it be better if $x_M(t)$ is changed to $T_m(t)$?

Answer: Done as suggested.

Question 2: The first paragraph of Page 12, the expression of set alpha better be $\alpha = \{0.5, 1, 1.5, 2\}$, not open set ( )?

Answer: Done as suggested.

We remark that in this version of the paper we have extended the discussion relative to the properties of noise-induced transitions driven by Lévy noise by discussing the possible origin of the power law behaviour for the expectation value of the escape times (see page 10 of the revised text) and proposing an interpretation for the geometrical properties of the escape paths based on the consideration of singular perturbations (see Section 4, pages 18-20 of the revised text). We have also extended substantially our description of the main properties of Lévy processes (see much enlarged Appendix A, pages 22-23).