

a) $P_F = v \Delta t$ is the probability of firing

We want to know the prob. of 0 firing in Δt .
So,

$$P(0 \text{ spiking during } \Delta t) = 1 - v \Delta t$$

b) Probability neuron goes $N \Delta t$ without firing?
we know,

$$P(0 \text{ spiking during } \Delta t) = 1 - v \Delta t$$

Lets say we have 3 time steps where we don't fire
So,

$$(1 - v \Delta t) (1 - v \Delta t) (1 - v \Delta t)$$

therefore

$$(1 - v \Delta t)^3$$

So if we don't fire for $N \Delta t$:

$$P(0 \text{ spiking in } N \Delta t) = (1 - v \Delta t)^N$$

c) Probability it fires next exactly at $N \Delta t$, when it fired at $t=0$?

$$P(\text{first } N \Delta t / \hat{t}) = v \Delta t [1 - v \Delta t]^{N-1}$$

d) $\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (1 - v\Delta t)^N$, we know $t = N\Delta t$

Notice by taking the inner limit $(1 - v\Delta t)$ this get close to 1, (0.999) but as $N \rightarrow \infty$,

the $\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (1 - v\Delta t)^{\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} N} = 0$

Also note that,

$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (1 - v\Delta t)^N$ so $N = \frac{t}{\Delta t}$

$\Rightarrow \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (1 - v\Delta t)^{\frac{t}{\Delta t}} \quad \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} (1 - v\Delta t)^{N \rightarrow \infty}$

Using Taylor series,

$e^{-tv} - \frac{1}{2} \Delta t (tv^2 - e^{-tv}) + \frac{1}{24} tv^3 \Delta t^2 e^{-tv} (3tv - 8) - \dots$

Gives us,

$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} (1 - v\Delta t)^{\frac{t}{\Delta t}} = e^{-vt}$

and as $t \rightarrow \infty$, $e^{-vt} = 0$

$$e^{-v(0)} = 1 = S_0(t;v)$$

$$e) \text{ PDF} = P_0(t;v) = -\frac{dS_0}{dt}$$

$$\text{We know } S_0(t;v) = e^{-vt} \text{ so,}$$

$$-\frac{dS}{dt} = e^{-vt} \Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} S = -e^{-vt}$$

$$\Rightarrow -e^{-vt} \frac{d}{dt} = ve^{-vt}$$

We can also show by taking the limit,
and $t = N\Delta t$.

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \frac{P(N, \Delta t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{v\Delta t(1-v\Delta t)^{\frac{t}{\Delta t}}}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} v(1-v\Delta t)^{\frac{t}{\Delta t}} = ve^{-vt}$$

Hence,

$$P_0(t;v) = ve^{-vt}$$

$$f) P_F^1 = 4 \text{ Hz} \quad P_F^2 = 2 \text{ Hz}$$

$$P(n \text{ spikes during } \Delta t) = \frac{(v\Delta t)^n e^{-v\Delta t}}{n!}$$

So the prob. of no spikes would occur in neuron 1, $t = 2s$

$$P(0 \text{ spikes during } 2(s)) = \frac{(4 \cdot 2)^0}{0!} e^{-4(2)}$$

$$= e^{-8} = .0003$$

The prob. of no spikes would occur in neuron 2, $t = 2s$

$$P(0 \text{ spikes in } 2(s)) = \frac{(2 \cdot 2)^0}{0!} e^{-2(2)}$$

$$= e^{-4} = 0.018$$

It is more likely to be neuron 2.