

Conditional Log Likelihood Example

Suppose that $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is ARCH(1)

$$\text{That is } X_t = \sigma_t Z_t$$

$$\sigma_t^2 = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2$$

$$\Rightarrow X_t = \sqrt{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2}$$

Consider the special case where $Z_t \sim N(0, 1)$, i.i.d.

$$\text{Then } X_t | X_{t-1} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sqrt{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2})$$

$$\text{Thus } \log \left[\prod_{t=1}^n f_{X_t | X_{t-1}}(X_t | X_{t-1}) \right] =$$

$$\sum_{t=1}^n \log \left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sqrt{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{X_t^2}{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2}} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^n \log(\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=1}^n \frac{X_t^2}{\alpha_0 + \alpha_1 X_{t-1}^2}$$