

# Maximum Likelihood Estimation

Far better an approximate answer to the *right* question, which is often vague, than an *exact* answer to the wrong question, which can always be made precise. (Tukey 1962)<sup>1</sup>

Tukey, John W. 1962. “The Future of Data Analysis.” *The Annals of Mathematical Statistics* 33 (1): 1–67.

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<sup>1</sup>John Tukey (1915-2000) was an American mathematician and statistician who worked at Bell Labs and Princeton University. He developed the box plot, Tukey’s range test for multiple comparisons, and the fast Fourier transform. In 1947, he coined the term “bit” as shorthand for “binary digit”. See [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John\\_Tukey](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_Tukey).