

# More Maximum Likelihood Estimation!

Special Cases in this video:

- Multiple parameters!
- Parameters in Indicators!!

## Example 1:

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

The pdf for one of them is

$$f(x; \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2}$$

The joint pdf for all of them is

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{x}; \mu, \sigma^2) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \mu, \sigma^2) \\ &= (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-n/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(\vec{x}; \mu, \sigma^2) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-n/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}$$

The parameter space:

$$-\infty < \mu < \infty, \quad \sigma^2 > 0$$

$$L(\mu, \sigma^2) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-n/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}$$

$$\ell(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \ln(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$$

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$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ell(\mu, \sigma^2) \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \ell(\mu, \sigma^2) \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

Solve for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  simultaneously.

$$\ell(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \ln(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \ell(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n 2(x_i - \mu)(-1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu) \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu) = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n\mu = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i / n = \bar{x} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \hat{\mu} = \bar{X}$$

**Uppercase!**

$$\ell(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \ln(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \ell(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2} \frac{2\pi}{2\pi\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$$

$$= -\frac{n}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

Multiply both sides by  $2(\sigma^2)^2$  and solve for  $\sigma^2$  to get:

$$\Rightarrow \sigma^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}$$

The maximum likelihood estimators for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mu} &= \bar{X} \\ \hat{\sigma}^2 &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n}\end{aligned}$$

Uppercase!

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Note:  $\text{Var}[X] = E[(X - \mu)^2]$

A “natural” estimator is the **sample variance**.

$$S_1^2 := \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n}$$

However,

$$E[S_1^2] = E \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n} \right] = \dots = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2$$

So an unbiased version of the **sample variance** is

$$S^2 := \frac{n}{n-1} S_1^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n-1}$$

Unless otherwise specified, we will be using  $S^2$ .



## Back to the Normal Example:

$$\hat{\mu} = \bar{X}$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{n}$$

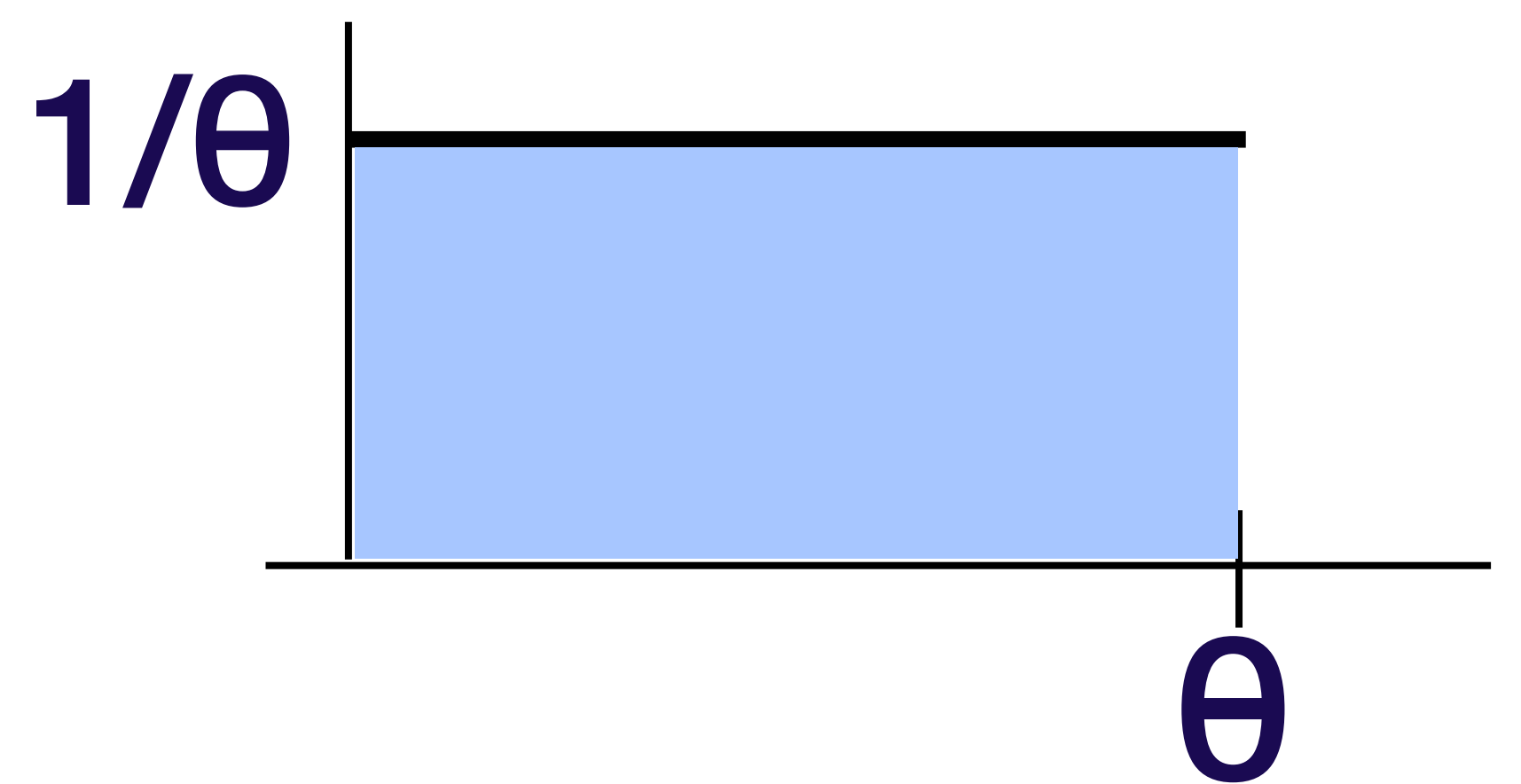
Another  
biased  
MLE! 🤔

## Example 2:

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{unif}(0, \theta)$$

The pdf for one of them is

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} I_{(0, \theta)}(x)$$



The joint pdf for all of them is

$$\begin{aligned} f(\vec{x}; \theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0, \theta)}(x_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$f(\vec{x}; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0, \theta)}(x_i)$$

- Can't delete. It is part of the likelihood.
- However...

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & , \quad 0 < x \leq 1 \\ x + 1 & , \quad x > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$f'(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & , \quad 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 1 & , \quad x > 1 \end{cases}$$

You don't take the derivative of this part!!!

$$f(\vec{x}; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0, \theta)}(x_i)$$

- Can't delete. It is part of the likelihood.
- However...

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 & , 0 < x \leq 1 \\ x + 1 & , x > 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\ln f(x) = \begin{cases} \ln x^2 & , 0 < x \leq 1 \\ \ln(x + 1) & , x > 1 \end{cases}$$

You don't take the log of this part!!!

$$f(\vec{x}; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0, \theta)}(x_i)$$

Can't delete but won't be taking derivatives and logs . Let's just put it aside but remember that it's there!

maximize!

$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0, \theta)}(x_i)$$

$$\ell(\theta) = -n \ln \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ell(\theta) = -\frac{n}{\theta} \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0 \quad ??$$



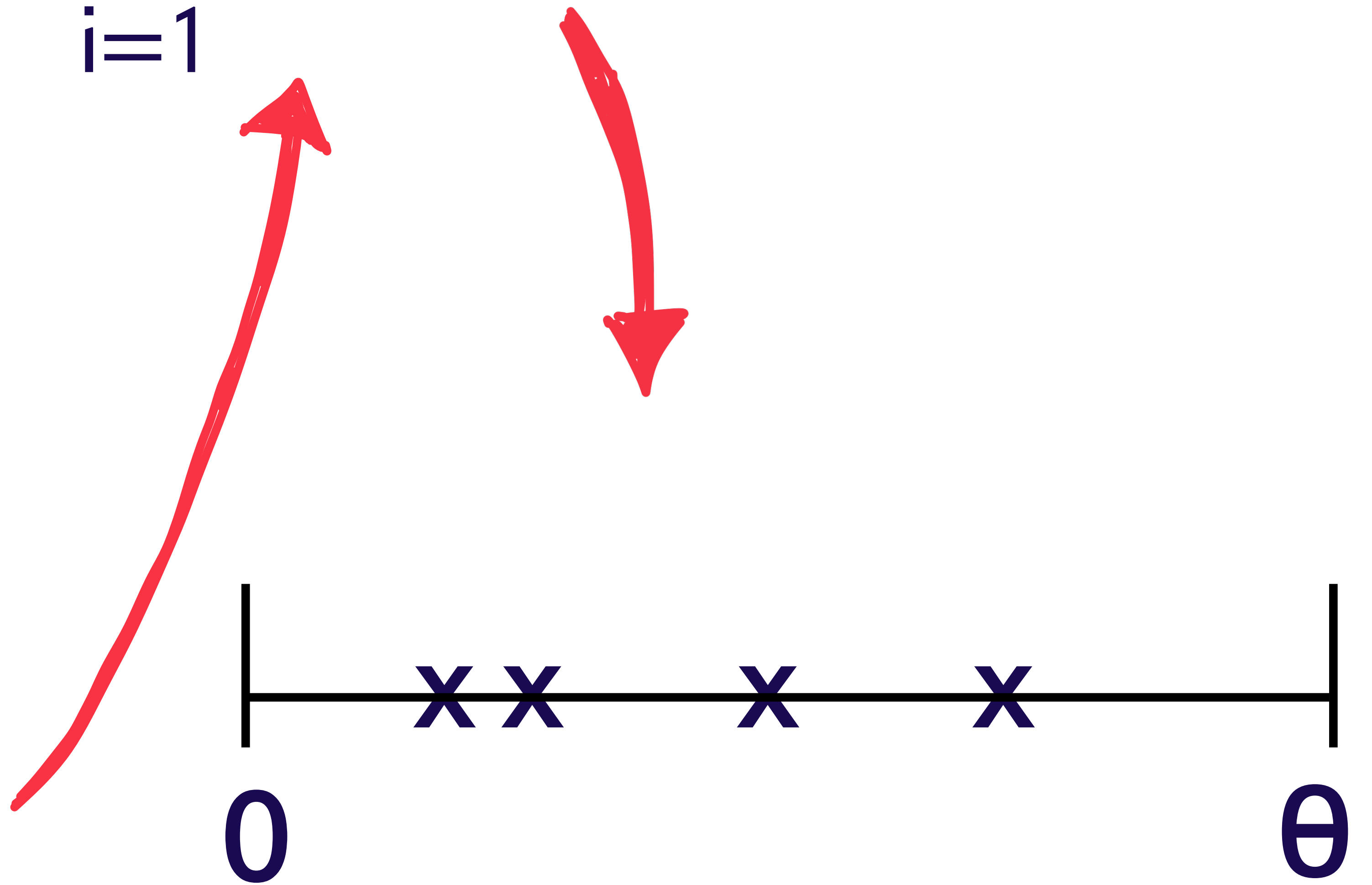
$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n}$$

Decreasing  
function of  $\theta$ .

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To maximize  
 $L(\theta)$ , take  $\theta$   
as small as  
possible.

$$\prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0,\theta)}(x_i)$$

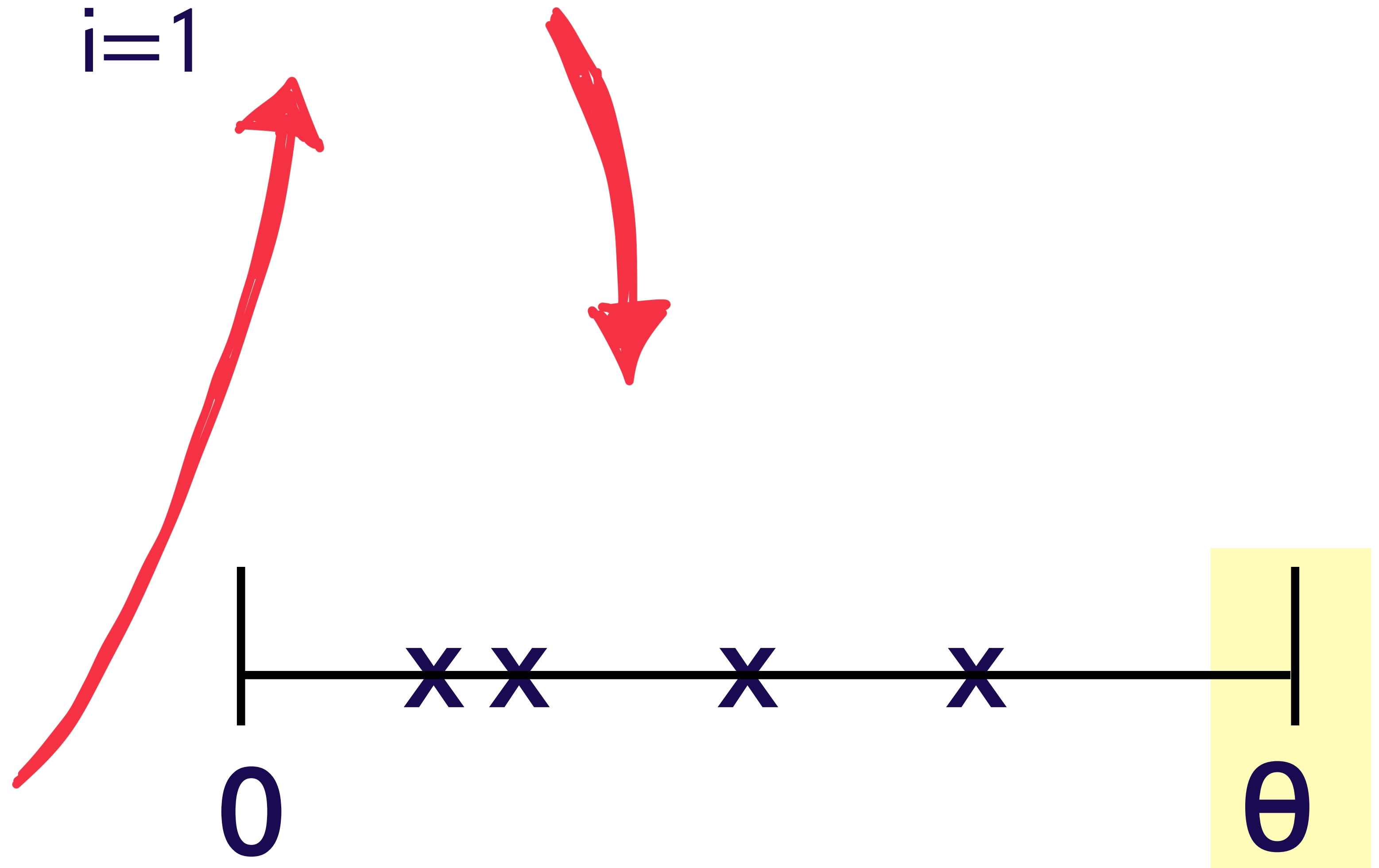


$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n}$$

Decreasing  
function of  $\theta$ .

To maximize  
 $L(\theta)$ , take  $\theta$   
as small as  
possible.

$$\prod_{i=1}^n I_{(0,\theta)}(x_i)$$



The smallest possible  $\theta$   
is the largest possible  $X$ !

The maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$  is

$$\hat{\theta} = \max(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$$