

# Lesson4

Federico Reali

# Introduction

This section demonstrates how to construct a likelihood function and compute its Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE).

# Exercise 1

- A therapy was tested on **30 patients**.
- **10 patients** experienced success (according to a specific definition of success).
- We assume the success probability (  $p$  ) is **unknown**.
- Each patient's outcome is **independent**.

Goal:

- Derive and maximize the **log-likelihood function** for (  $p$  ).
- Find the **Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE)** for (  $p$  ).

# Log-Likelihood Function

The log-likelihood function is given by:

$$[ \ell(p) = k \cdot \log(p) + (n - k) \cdot \log(1 - p) ]$$

Where:

- (  $k = 10$  ) (number of successes)
- (  $n = 30$  ) (total patients)

# Implementation in R

```
1 logLik <- function(p) {  
2   k <- 10 # Number of successes  
3   n <- 30 # Total number of patients  
4   return(k * log(p) + (n - k) * log(1 - p))  
5 }  
6  
7 # Test the function  
8 logLik(0.2) # Example for p = 0.2
```

```
[1] -20.55725
```

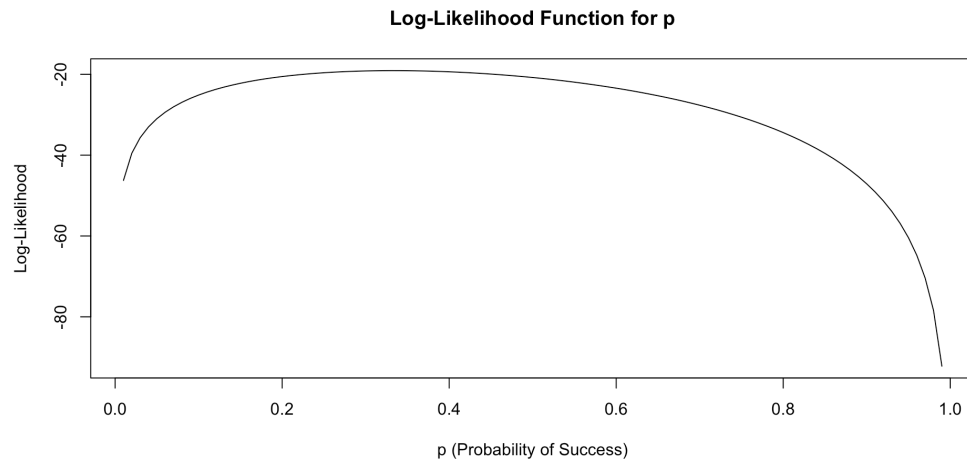
```
1 logLik(0.5) # Example for p = 0.5
```

```
[1] -20.79442
```

# Finding the MLE

## 1. Visualize the Log-Likelihood Function

```
1 xx <- seq(0.01, 0.99, 0.01) # Range of p values
2 yy <- logLik(xx)             # Compute log-likelihood
3
4 # Plot the log-likelihood function
5 plot(xx, yy, type = "l",
6       main = "Log-Likelihood Function for p",
7       xlab = "p (Probability of Success)",
8       ylab = "Log-Likelihood")
```



## 2. MLE from the Plot

The MLE corresponds to the value of (  $p$  ) that maximizes the log-likelihood.

```
1 # Find the value of p that maximizes log-likelihood
2 xx[which.max(yy)]
```

```
[1] 0.33
```

### 3. Optimize Using R

We can also use R's optimization functions to find the MLE programmatically.

```
1 # Define the negative log-likelihood for minimization
2 mlogLik <- function(p) {
3   -logLik(p) # Negative for minimization
4 }
5
6 # Use optim to find the value of p that minimizes -log-likelihood
7 optim(0.3, mlogLik) # Starting value for p
```

\$par

[1] 0.3332812

\$value

[1] 19.09543

\$counts

function	gradient
18	NA

\$convergence

[1] 0



\$message

NULL

```
1 # optim(0.3, mlogLik, method = "Brent", lower = 0, upper = 1) # Following
```

# Using **bbmle** for MLE

The **bbmle** package provides convenient tools for performing MLE.

```
1 library(bbmle)
2 # Fit the model using mle2
3 mle_fit <- mle2(mlogLik, start = list(p = 0.33))
4 # Summary of the MLE fit
5 summary(mle_fit)
```

Maximum likelihood estimation

Call:

```
mle2(minuslogl = mlogLik, start = list(p = 0.33))
```

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(z)
p	0.333334	0.086066	3.873	0.0001075 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

-2 log L: 38.19085

# Conclusion

- The **log-likelihood function** describes the likelihood of observing the data for a given (  $p$  ).
- The **MLE** maximizes this log-likelihood function.
- Based on the methods:
  - **Graphical MLE**: value at the peak of the curve.
  - **Optimization MLE**: Found using numerical methods like `optim` or `mle2`.

# Exercise 2

# Dataset and Setup

The Geissler dataset refers to a historical dataset that originates from studies conducted by Wilhelm Geissler in the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

The Geissler dataset typically contains the distribution of family sizes and the number of boys in families of a specific size. For example:

Columns in the dataset:

- V1: Number of boys in a family.
- V2: Frequency or count of families with that number of boys.

# Importing the Dataset

```
1 # Read the Geissler dataset
2 df_geis <- read.table('./Datasets/geissler.txt', sep = '\\t', header = FALSE
3 head(df_geis, 15) # See the content
```

	V1	V2
1	0	7
2	1	45
3	2	181
4	3	478
5	4	829
6	5	1112
7	6	1343
8	7	1033
9	8	670
10	9	286
11	10	104
12	11	24
13	12	3

# Likelihood Function

## Step 1: Define Parameters

```
1 # Parameters
2 p <- 0.52          # Initial probability
3 n_event <- 12      # Total number of events
4
5 # Probability computations
6 dbinom(6, n_event, p)
```

```
[1] 0.223429
```

```
1 dbinom(0:12, n_event, p)
```

```
[1] 0.0001495873 0.0019446355 0.0115867863 0.0418411727 0.1019878584
[6] 0.1767789546 0.2234289565 0.2074697454 0.1404743068 0.0676357773
[11] 0.0219816276 0.0043297145 0.0003908770
```

```
1 dbinom(1, n_event, p)^45
```

```
[1] 9.947617e-123
```

# Step 2: Define Likelihood and Log-Likelihood Functions

## Likelihood Function

```
1  geisL <- function(p) {  
2    n_event <- 12  
3    val <- 1  
4    for (i in 1:13) {  
5      val <- val * dbinom(df_geis$V1[i], n_event, p)^df_geis$V2[i]  
6    }  
7    return(val)  
8  }  
9  geisL(0.3)
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
1  geisL(0.44)
```

```
[1] 0
```

```
1  geisL(0.6533)
```

```
[1] 0
```

The values are too small!



# Log-Likelihood Function

```
1  geisLL <- function(p) {  
2    n_event <- 12  
3    val <- 0  
4    for (i in 1:13) {  
5      val <- val + df_geis$V2[i] * dbinom(df_geis$V1[i], n_event, p, log = TRUE)  
6    }  
7    return(val)  
8  }  
9  
10 # Compute log-likelihood for specific probabilities  
11 geisLL(0.418)
```

```
[1] -13122.01
```

```
1  geisLL(0.45)
```

```
[1] -12674.17
```

```
1  geisLL(0.52)
```

```
[1] -12759.98
```

# Step 3: Plot Log-Likelihood

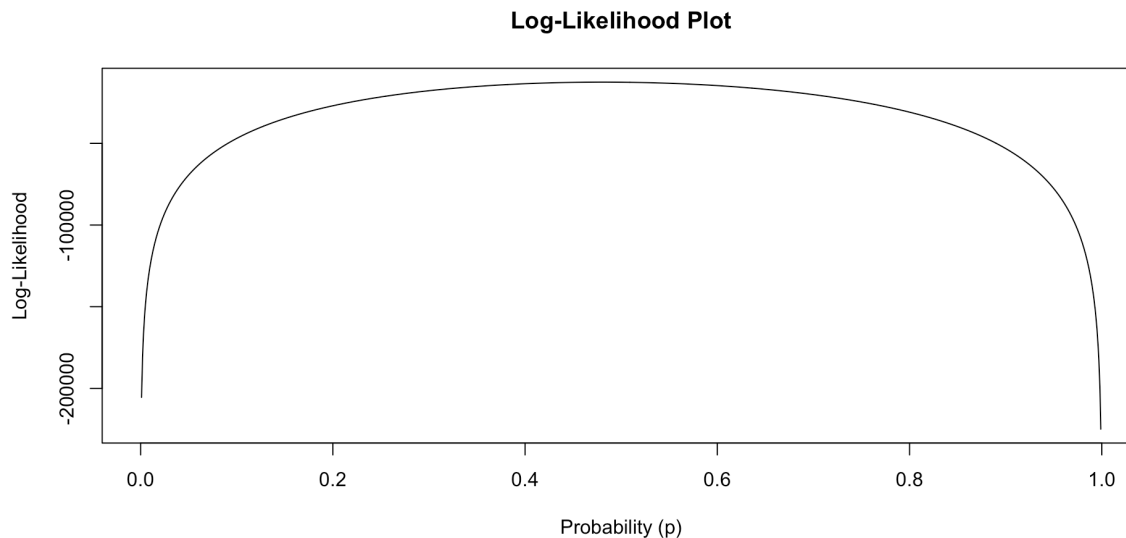
```
1 xx <- seq(0, 1, 0.001)
2 yy <- geisLL(xx)
3
4 plot(xx, yy, type = "l", main = "Log-Likelihood Plot", xlab = "Probability
```

```
1 which.max(yy) # Find the index of maximum likelihood
```

```
[1] 482
```

```
1 xx[which.max(yy)] # Corresponding probability
```

```
[1] 0.481
```



# Optimization

## Finding the MLE

```
1 # Optimize the log-likelihood
2 p_optimized <- optimize(geisLL, c(0.35, 0.50), maximum = TRUE)
3 p_optimized
```

```
$maximum
[1] 0.480784
```

```
$objective
[1] -12534.17
```

```
1 # Verify the optimized value
2 geisLL(p_optimized$maximum)
```

```
[1] -12534.17
```

# BBMLE

```
1 library(bbmle)
2 # Requires the minus log-likelihood
3
4 mingeissLL <- function(p){
5   return(-1*geisLL(p))
6 }
7
8 p_mle2 <- mle2(mingeissLL, start=list(p=0.4))
9 p_mle2
```

Call:

```
mle2(minuslogl = mingeissLL, start = list(p = 0.4))
```

Coefficients:

```
      p
0.4807842
```

Log-likelihood: -12534.17

```
1 summary(p_mle2)
```

Maximum likelihood estimation

Call:

```
mle2(minuslogl = mingeissLL, start = list(p = 0.4))
```

Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(z)
p	0.4807842	0.0018444	260.67	< 2.2e-16 ***

---

Signif. codes: 0 '\*\*\*' 0.001 '\*\*' 0.01 '\*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1

-2 log L: 25068.34

```
1 # Verify the optimized value
2 geisLL(coef(p_mle2))
```

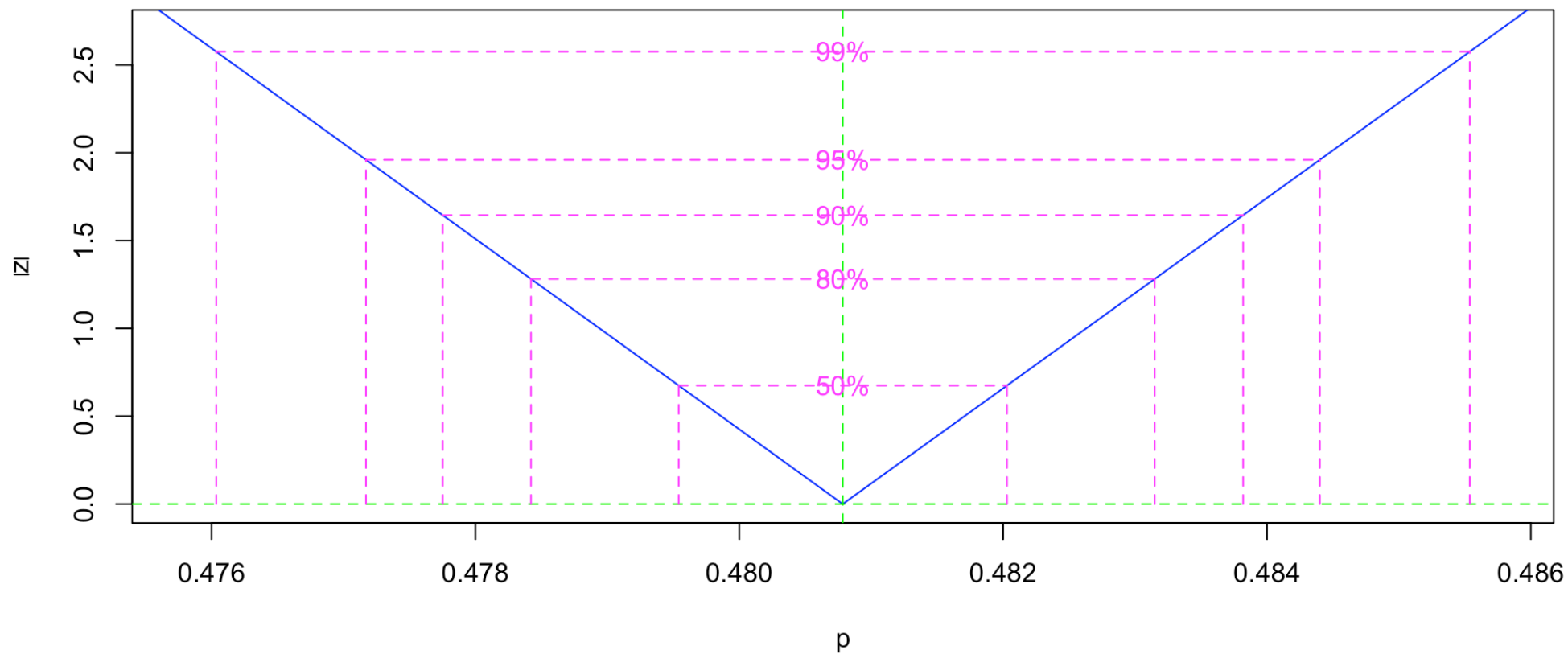
```
[1] -12534.17
```

```
1 confint(p_mle2)
```

```
      2.5 %      97.5 %  
0.4771707 0.4844006
```

```
1 plot(profile(p_mle2))
```

Likelihood profile: p



# Exercise 3

We analyze the survival of **100 fruit flies** observed daily, with the following data:

Day	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Alive	91	79	65	58	50	29	16	10	7	4	1	0

# Assumptions

1. Survival times follow an **Exponential Distribution** with parameter  $(\lambda)$ .
2. Each fly is observed daily until death.

## Goal

- Derive the **likelihood function** for  $(\lambda)$ .
- Compute the Maximum Likelihood Estimate (MLE) for  $(\lambda)$ .



# Likelihood Function

## Exponential Model

For the exponential distribution:  $[ f(t; \lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} ]$

where  $( \lambda > 0 )$  is the rate parameter.

# Likelihood Function

Let:

- $(x_d)$ : Days (1 to 12).
- $(z_d)$ : Number of deaths on day  $(d)$ .

The likelihood function is:  $[ L(\lambda) = \prod_{d=1}^{12} [\lambda e^{-\lambda x_d}]^{z_d} ]$

## Log-Likelihood Function

Taking the log:

$$[ \ell(\lambda) = \sum_{d=1}^{12} z_d \cdot [\log(\lambda) - \lambda x_d] ]$$

# Data Preparation

```
1 # Days and alive counts
2 xd <- 1:12
3 yd <- c(91, 79, 65, 58, 50, 29, 16, 10, 7, 4, 1, 0)
4
5 # Compute deaths (difference in alive counts)
6 zd <- -diff(c(100, yd)) # Number of deaths per day
7
8 zd
```

```
[1] 9 12 14 7 8 21 13 6 3 3 3 1
```

# Likelihood and Log-Likelihood Functions

```
1 # Likelihood function
2 DeathLike <- function(lambda) {
3   val <- 1
4   for (i in xd) {
5     val <- val * (lambda * exp(-lambda * xd[i]))^zd[i]
6   }
7   return(val)
8 }
9
10 # Log-likelihood function
11 LDeathLike <- function(lambda) {
12   sum(zd) * log(lambda) - lambda * sum(xd * zd)
13 }
14
15 LDeathLike(1)
```

```
[1] -510
```

```
1 LDeathLike(0.6)
```

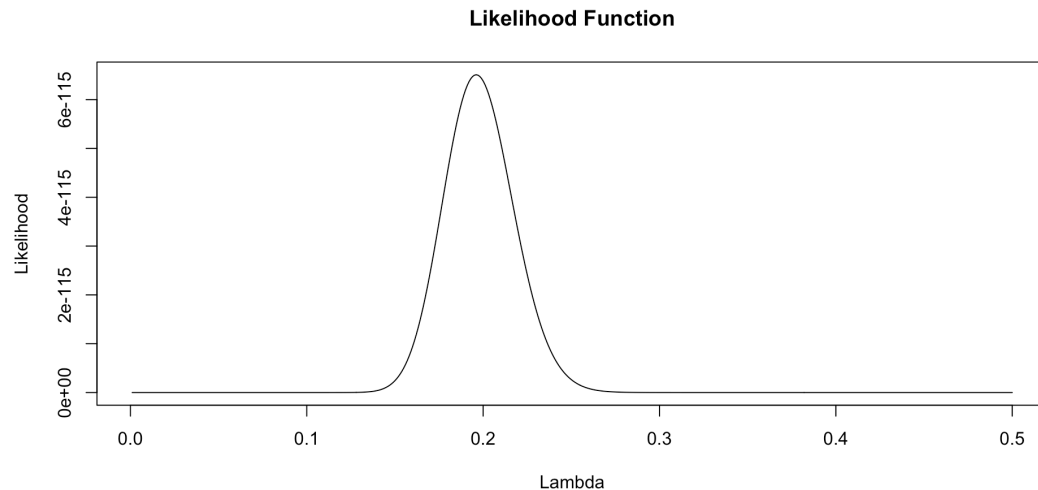
```
[1] -357.0826
```

```
1 LDeathLike(0.3)
```

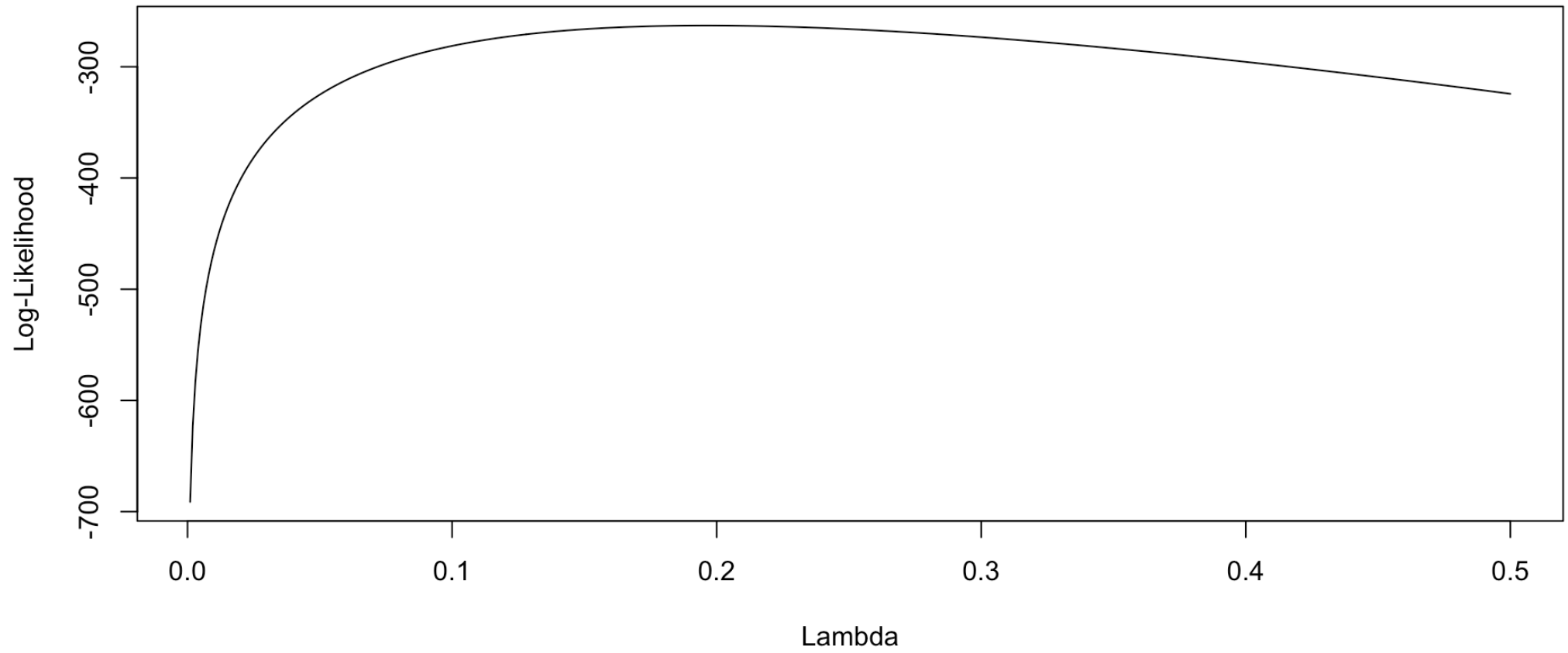
```
[1] -273.3973
```

# Visualizing the Likelihood

```
1 # Evaluate the likelihood and log-likelihood
2 xx <- seq(0.001, 0.5, 0.001)
3 likelihood <- sapply(xx, DeathLike)
4 log_likelihood <- sapply(xx, LDeathLike)
5
6 # Plot likelihood
7 plot(xx, likelihood, type = "l",
8       main = "Likelihood Function",
9       xlab = "Lambda",
10      ylab = "Likelihood")
```



## Log-Likelihood Function



# Finding the MLE

## Using Visual Inspection

```
1 # Maximum from the log-likelihood plot  
2 xx[which.max(log_likelihood)]
```

```
[1] 0.196
```

# Using Optimization

```
1 # Minimizing the negative log-likelihood
2 minusL <- function(lambda) -LDeathLike(lambda)
3
4 # Optimize
5 opt_result <- optimize(LDeathLike, c(0, 1), maximum = TRUE)
6 opt_result
```

\$maximum

[1] 0.1960841

\$objective

[1] -262.9241



# Conclusion

- The MLE for  $(\hat{\lambda})$  is approximately  $(\hat{\lambda} = 0.1960841)$ .
- Using the exponential survival model,  $(\hat{\lambda})$  quantifies the daily survival rate.

Here's the updated QUARTO presentation with `echo=T` added to all code chunks:

# Exercise 4: Likelihood ratio

- Suppose we flip a coin 10 times, and observe 7 heads.
- We want to test:
  - $H_0$ : The coin is fair  $p = 0.5$ .
  - $H_1$ : The coin is biased  $p \neq 0.5$ .

# Likelihoods Under $H_0$ and $H_1$

- Likelihood under  $H_0$ : *[Math Processing Error]*
- Likelihood under  $H_1$ :
  - Maximum likelihood estimate (MLE):  $\hat{p} = \frac{7}{10}$

*[Math Processing Error]*

# Likelihood Ratio Test

## Purpose of the Likelihood Ratio Test

- The likelihood ratio test is a statistical method used to compare two competing models:
  - **Null hypothesis ( $H_0$ ):** Simpler model, e.g., equal means for two groups.
  - **Alternative hypothesis ( $H_1$ ):** More complex model, e.g., different means for two groups.
- The LRT evaluates whether the data provide enough evidence to prefer the more complex model ( $H_1$ ) over the simpler model ( $H_0$ ).

# How the Likelihood Ratio Test Works

## 1. Compute the Likelihood Under Each Model:

- $L_0$ : Likelihood of the data assuming the null hypothesis  $H_0$ .
- $L_1$ : Likelihood of the data assuming the alternative hypothesis  $H_1$ .

## 2. Calculate the Test Statistic:

- $[ \Lambda = -2 \cdot (\log L_0 - \log L_1) ]$
- $\Lambda$  compares the “accuracy” of the two models.

### 3. Determine Statistical Significance:

- Under the null hypothesis,  $\Lambda$  approximately follows a  $\chi^2$  - distribution with degrees of freedom equal to the difference in the number of parameters between  $H_0$  and  $H_1$ .

### 4. Interpret the Results:

- Small p-value (  $p < \alpha$  )  $\rightarrow$  Reject  $H_0$ : Evidence supports the alternative hypothesis.
- Large p-value (  $p \geq \alpha$  )  $\rightarrow$  Fail to reject  $H_0$ : Insufficient evidence to prefer the alternative hypothesis.

# Computing the Log-Likelihoods

```
1 # Observed data
2 n <- 10
3 k <- 7
4
5 # Likelihood under H0
6 L_H0 <- dbinom(k, n, 0.5)
7
8 # Likelihood under H1 (with MLE for p)
9 p_hat <- k / n
10 L_H1 <- dbinom(k, n, p_hat)
11
12 # Log-likelihood ratio
13 log_likelihood_ratio <- -2 * (log(L_H0) - log(L_H1))
14 log_likelihood_ratio
```

```
[1] 1.645658
```

# Compare with $\chi^2$

```
1 # p-value for the test
2 pval <- pchisq(log_likelihood_ratio, df=1, lower.tail=FALSE)
3 pval
```

```
[1] 0.199551
```

So we cannot reject the null hypothesis, we cannot say that the coin is unfair.



# **Exercise 5: Bike Sharing Data Analysis**

# Dataset Overview

We analyze a dataset about bike sharing services in Washington to address the following:

1. Checking variable types and data integrity.
2. Visualizing bike counts over time.
3. Investigating whether the mean number of bikes rented in May 2011 and May 2012 are statistically different using:
  - Likelihood ratio test.
  - Comparison with t-test results.

# Load and Inspect the Dataset

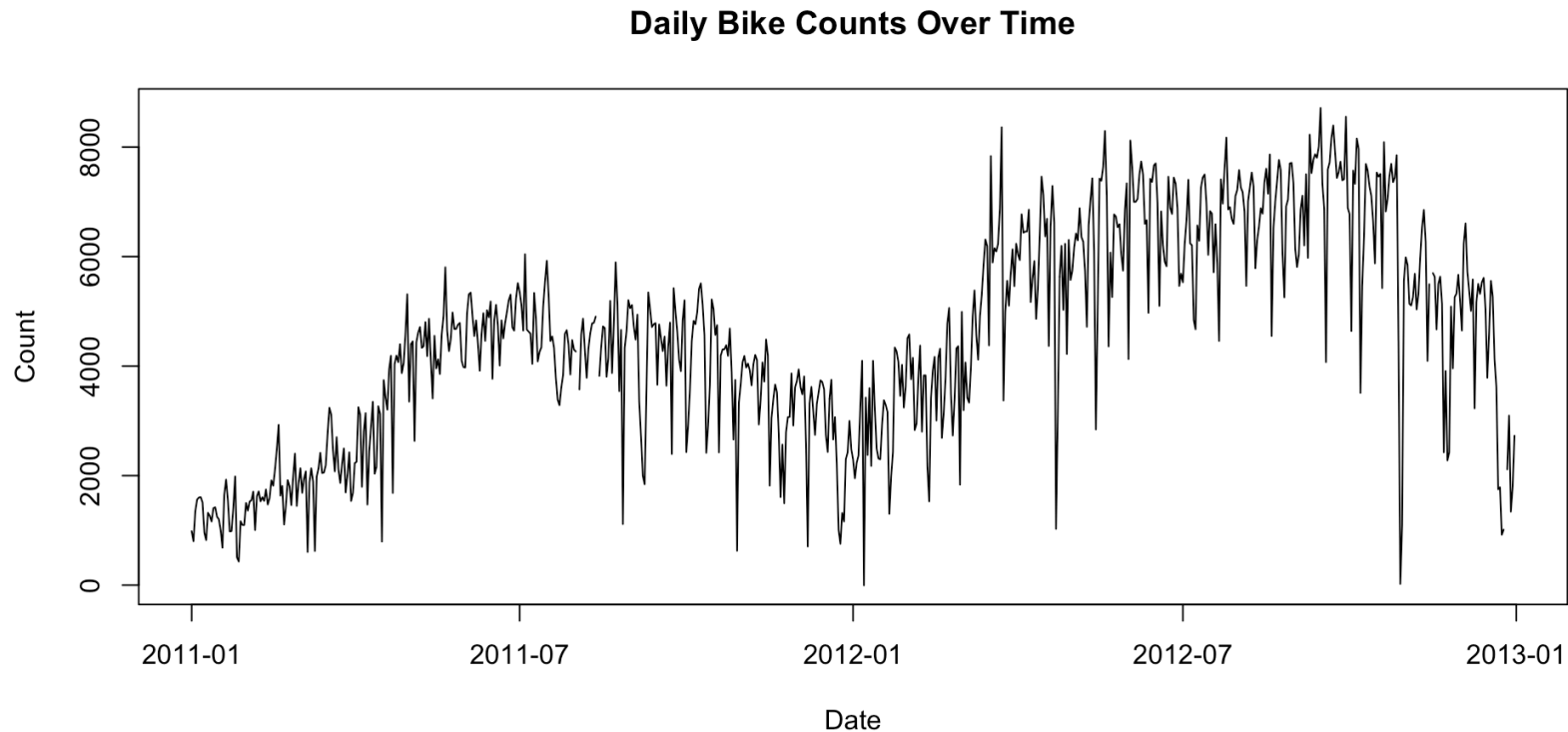
```
1 # Load the dataset
2 df_b <- read.csv("./Datasets/Count0.csv")
3
4 # Convert date column to Date format
5 df_b$dteday <- as.Date(df_b$dteday)
6
7 # View summary of the dataset
8 summary(df_b)
```

X	dteday	season	yr
Min. : 1.0	Min. :2011-01-01	Min. :1.000	Min. :0.0000
1st Qu.:183.5	1st Qu.:2011-07-02	1st Qu.:2.000	1st Qu.:0.0000
Median :366.0	Median :2012-01-01	Median :3.000	Median :1.0000
Mean :366.0	Mean :2012-01-01	Mean :2.497	Mean :0.5007
3rd Qu.:548.5	3rd Qu.:2012-07-01	3rd Qu.:3.000	3rd Qu.:1.0000
Max. :731.0	Max. :2012-12-31	Max. :4.000	Max. :1.0000

mnth	holiday	weekday	workingday
Min. : 1.00	Min. :0.00000	Min. :0.000	Min. :0.000
1st Qu.: 4.00	1st Qu.:0.00000	1st Qu.:1.000	1st Qu.:0.000
Median : 7.00	Median :0.00000	Median :3.000	Median :1.000
Mean : 6.52	Mean :0.02873	Mean :2.997	Mean :0.684
3rd Qu.:10.00	3rd Qu.:0.00000	3rd Qu.:5.000	3rd Qu.:1.000
Max. :12.00	Max. :1.00000	Max. :6.000	Max. :1.000

# Visualize Bike Counts Over Time

```
1 # Visualize the daily bike counts
2 plot(df_b$dteday, df_b$cnt, type = "l",
3       main = "Daily Bike Counts Over Time",
4       xlab = "Date",
5       ylab = "Count")
```



# Compare May 2011 and May 2012

## Extract Data for May 2011 and May 2012

```
1 # Filter data for May 2011 and May 2012
2 df_may11 <- df_b$cnt[(df_b$dteday >= '2011-05-01') & (df_b$dteday <= '2011-
3 df_may12 <- df_b$cnt[(df_b$dteday >= '2012-05-01') & (df_b$dteday <= '2012-
```

# Calculate Sample Statistics

```
1 # Means and variances for May 2011 and May 2012
2 mu1 <- mean(df_may11)
3 mu2 <- mean(df_may12)
4 n1 <- length(df_may11)
5 n2 <- length(df_may12)
6 var1 <- var(df_may11)
7 var2 <- var(df_may12)
8
9 # Combined statistics
10 n <- n1 + n2
```

# Comparing Pooled and Separate Variances

- Pooled Variance  $H_0$ :
  - Assumes both groups have the **same variance**  $\sigma^2$ .
  - Log-likelihood involves a **single variance estimate** shared by both groups.
  - Variance estimate:  $\sigma_0^2 = \frac{\text{pooled variance estimate} \cdot (n-1)}{n}$

- **Separate Variances  $H_1$ :**

- Assumes groups have **different variances**  $\sigma_1^2, \sigma_2^2$ .
- Log-likelihood incorporates **individual variance estimates** for each group.
- Variance estimate:  $\sigma^2 = \frac{(n_1-1)s_1^2 + (n_2-1)s_2^2}{n_1 + n_2}$



# Likelihood Functions

Under  $H_0$ :

- *[Math Processing Error]*
- Single variance  $\sigma^2$  applied to all observations.

Under  $H_1$ :

- $L(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2) \propto$

*[Math Processing Error]*

# Calculate Pooled and Separate Variances

```
1 # Pooled variance (under H0)
2 xy <- c(df_may11, df_may12)
3 ssigma0 <- var(xy) * (n - 1) / n
4
5 # Separate variances (under H1)
6 ssigma1 <- ((n1 - 1) * var1 + (n2 - 1) * var2) / (n1 + n2)
```

# Calculate Log-Likelihoods

```
1 # Log-likelihoods under H0 and H1
2 l0 <- -0.5 * n * log(ssigma0)
3 l1 <- -0.5 * n * log(ssigma1)
4
5 # Likelihood ratio statistic
6 LRT_stat <- -2 * (l0 - l1)
7
8 # p-value
9 pval <- pchisq(LRT_stat, df = 1, lower.tail = FALSE)
10 pval
```

```
[1] 6.68034e-13
```

# t-test for Comparison

```
1 # Two-sample t-test with equal variances
2 t.test(df_may11, df_may12, var.equal = TRUE)
```

Two Sample t-test

data: df\_may11 and df\_may12

t = -8.8312, df = 60, p-value = 1.9e-12

alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:

-2375.618 -1498.189

sample estimates:

mean of x mean of y

4381.323 6318.226

## Welch Two Sample t-test

data: df\_may11 and df\_may12

t = -8.8312, df = 45.686, p-value = 1.927e-11

alternative hypothesis: true difference in means is not equal to 0

95 percent confidence interval:

-2378.463 -1495.344

sample estimates:

mean of x mean of y

4381.323 6318.226

# Results and Conclusions

## Likelihood Ratio Test

- p-value=  $6.6803404 \times 10^{-13}$
- We reject the null hypothesis  $H_0 : \mu_1 = \mu_2$ , indicating a significant difference between the mean counts in May 2011 and May 2012.

## t-test

- Both equal and unequal variance t-tests yield consistent results with the likelihood ratio test.

