

sir_llm_hackathon_final

March 3, 2026

1 AI-Guided SIR Modeling Hackathon (2 Hours)

This notebook is the **workshop skeleton** for the **AI-Guided SIR Modeling Hackathon**.

- Dataset: **Niamey, Niger measles outbreaks** (biweekly case counts; communities A/B/C)
 - Tooling: **Google Colab + Python + ChatGPT**
 - Time unit: **biweeks**
 - Key modeling shortcut: infectious period **2 weeks** **1 per biweek**
-

1.1 How to use this notebook

Each section contains: 1) A **ChatGPT prompt** (Markdown) you can copy into ChatGPT
2) A **starter code cell** (often with TODOs) to run in Colab

Rule of thumb: Always request **plots + sanity checks** when you ask ChatGPT for help.

1.2 0. Setup

1.2.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

Persona:

You are an expert epidemiological modeler and Python educator.

Task:

- Write a Colab-ready setup cell: imports, basic plotting config, and a helper for reproducibility
- If any package is missing show me how to run pip install

Constraints:

- Use numpy, scipy, pandas, matplotlib only

Verification:

- Print library versions and a simple "ready" message.

```
[1]: # =====  
# Colab Setup Cell  
# =====  
  
# --- If running in Colab and any package is missing, uncomment and run ---  
# !pip install numpy scipy pandas matplotlib
```

```

# Core scientific stack
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import scipy
from scipy import integrate, optimize
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# -----
# Reproducibility helper
# -----
def set_seed(seed: int = 42):
    """
    Set random seed for reproducibility.
    Works for numpy-based simulations and optimization.
    """
    np.random.seed(seed)

set_seed(42)

# -----
# Basic plotting config
# -----
plt.rcParams.update({
    "figure.figsize": (8, 5),
    "figure.dpi": 120,
    "axes.grid": True,
    "axes.spines.top": False,
    "axes.spines.right": False,
    "axes.labelsize": 11,
    "axes.titlesize": 12,
    "legend.frameon": False,
    "font.size": 11,
})

# -----
# Version check
# -----
print("Library versions:")
print(f"  numpy      : {np.__version__}")
print(f"  pandas     : {pd.__version__}")
print(f"  scipy      : {scipy.__version__}")
print(f"  matplotlib : {plt.matplotlib.__version__}")

print("\nSetup complete - ready ")

```

```

Library versions:
  numpy      : 2.0.2

```

```
pandas      : 2.2.2
scipy       : 1.16.3
matplotlib  : 3.10.0
```

Setup complete - ready

Chat GPT Prompt to generate code to load data

Persona:

You are an expert epidemiological modeler and Python educator.

Task:

- Write a Colab-ready python code to:
 - Create `data` folder if it is not exists
 - Download the csv file `https://github.com/merlinvn/ai-guided-modeling-hackathon/raw/refs/heads/main/data/niamey.csv`

```
[2]: import os
import requests

# Define the folder and file details
data_folder = 'data'
file_url = 'https://github.com/merlinvn/ai-guided-modeling-hackathon/raw/refs/heads/main/data/niamey.csv'
file_name = os.path.join(data_folder, 'niamey.csv')

# Create the data folder if it doesn't exist
if not os.path.exists(data_folder):
    os.makedirs(data_folder)
    print(f"Folder '{data_folder}' created.")
else:
    print(f"Folder '{data_folder}' already exists.")

# Download the CSV file
response = requests.get(file_url)
response.raise_for_status() # Raise an exception for HTTP errors

with open(file_name, 'wb') as f:
    f.write(response.content)

print(f"'{file_name}' downloaded successfully.")
```

Folder 'data' created.

'data/niamey.csv' downloaded successfully.

1.3 1. Explore the Niamey Measles Data:

1.3.1 Load the dataset and compute basic statistics

ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

Persona:

You are an expert epidemiological modeler and Python educator.

Context:

- Dataset contains biweekly measles case counts from Niamey, Niger
- File path: data/niamey.csv

Task:

Write Python code to:

1. Load data/niamey.csv store it to `measles_df`
2. Display the first few rows
3. Print column names and basic information about the dataset
4. Show basic statistics about dataset

Constraints

- Use pandas only
- Keep code simple and readable

```
[3]: import pandas as pd

# 1. Load the dataset
measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")

# 2. Display the first few rows
print("First 5 rows of the dataset:")
print(measles_df.head())

# 3. Print column names and basic information
print("\nColumn names:")
print(measles_df.columns.tolist())

print("\nDataset information:")
print(measles_df.info())

# 4. Show basic statistics (numeric columns)
print("\nBasic statistics:")
print(measles_df.describe())

# 5. Show unique values for categorical columns
categorical_columns = measles_df.select_dtypes(include=["object", "category"]).
↳ columns

if len(categorical_columns) > 0:
    print("\nCategorical columns and their unique values:")
    for col in categorical_columns:
        print(f"\n{col}:")
        print(measles_df[col].unique())
```

```
else:
    print("\nNo categorical columns found.")
```

First 5 rows of the dataset:

```
   biweek community  measles
0        1         A    22.0
1        2         A    27.0
2        3         A    64.0
3        4         A    84.0
4        5         A   116.0
```

Column names:

```
['biweek', 'community', 'measles']
```

Dataset information:

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 48 entries, 0 to 47
Data columns (total 3 columns):
#   Column      Non-Null Count  Dtype
---  ---
0   biweek      48 non-null    int64
1   community   48 non-null    object
2   measles     47 non-null    float64
dtypes: float64(1), int64(1), object(1)
memory usage: 1.3+ KB
None
```

Basic statistics:

```
      biweek      measles
count  48.000000  47.000000
mean    8.500000  232.531915
std     4.658554  316.792200
min     1.000000   0.000000
25%     4.750000  13.500000
50%     8.500000  81.000000
75%    12.250000 251.500000
max    16.000000 1041.000000
```

Categorical columns and their unique values:

```
community:
['A' 'B' 'C']
```

1.3.2 Exercise

// TODO: Participants write a prompt to explain the results in plain language

1.3.3 Basic Plot

ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

Persona:

You are an expert epidemiological modeler and Python educator.

Context:

- Dataset is already loaded into a DataFrame called `measles_df`
- Columns: biweek, community, measles

Task:

- Plot measles cases over time for each community
- Use one time-series plot
- Label axes and include a legend
- Briefly explain what biweekly case counts mean for epidemic modeling

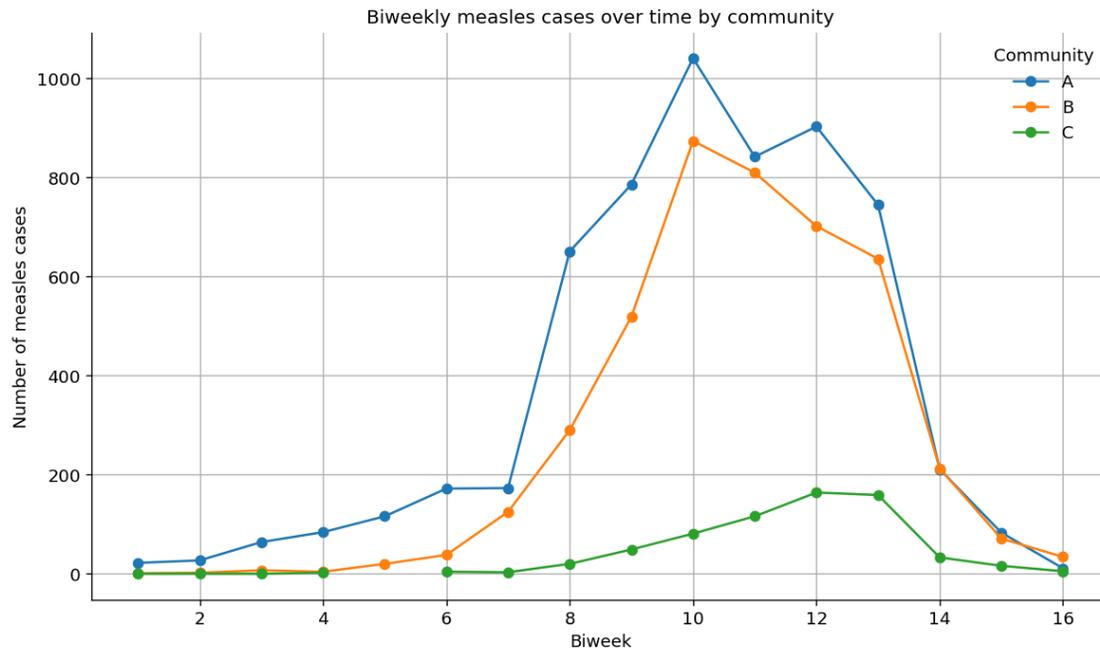
```
[4]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Plot measles cases over time for each community
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))

for community, df_group in measles_df.groupby("community"):
    plt.plot(
        df_group["biweek"],
        df_group["measles"],
        marker="o",
        label=community
    )

# Labels and legend
plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Number of measles cases")
plt.title("Biweekly measles cases over time by community")
plt.legend(title="Community")

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

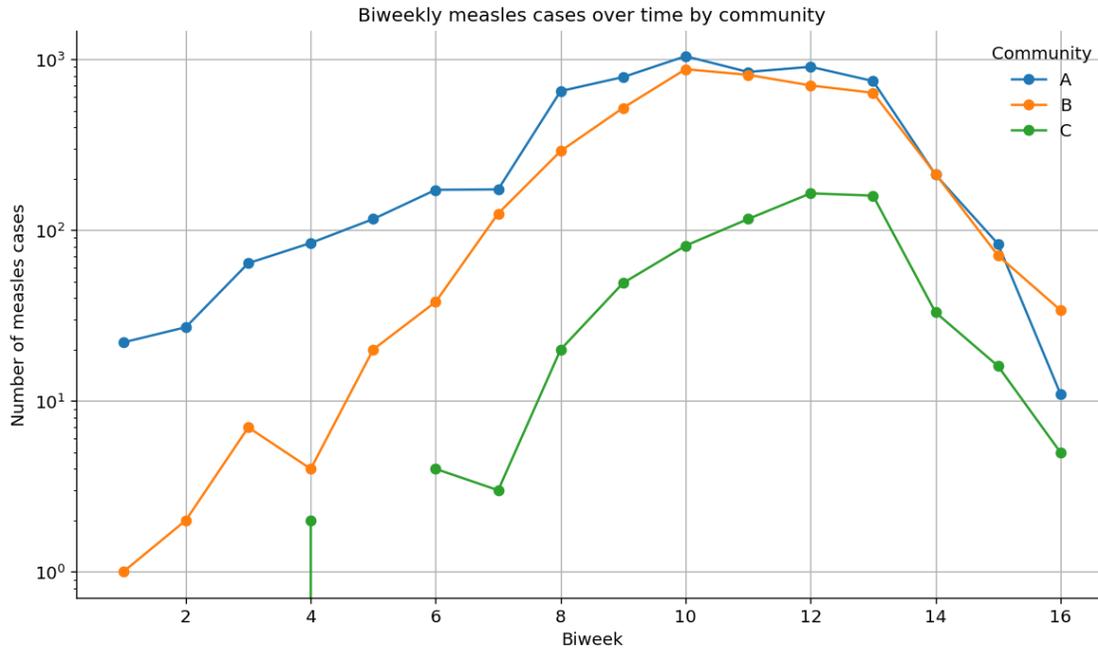


```
[5]: import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Plot measles cases over time for each community
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))

for community, df_group in measles_df.groupby("community"):
    plt.plot(
        df_group["biweek"],
        df_group["measles"],
        marker="o",
        label=community
    )
plt.yscale("log")
# Labels and legend
plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Number of measles cases")
plt.title("Biweekly measles cases over time by community")
plt.legend(title="Community")

plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```



1.4 2. Feature-Based Estimation: Early Growth (Quick R)

We estimate early exponential growth using a semi-log regression: - Choose an early window where cases grow roughly exponentially. - Fit $\log(\text{cases})$ vs time.

1.4.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

Persona

You are an **expert in infectious disease modeling**, with experience in early-outbreak analysis

Context

* **Disease:** Measles
 * **Community:** A
 * **Data:** Biweekly reported case counts
 * **Epidemic phase:** Early outbreak (first ~8-10 biweeks), where case counts exhibit **exponential** growth
 * **Dataset:** Already loaded as `measles_df`

Dataset structure

-

```
<class 'pandas.core.frame.DataFrame'>
RangeIndex: 48 entries, 0 to 47
Columns:
- biweek      (int64)
```

```
- community (object)
- measles (float64, 47 non-null)
-
```

Task

Estimate the **early exponential growth rate** of the outbreak by:

1. Selecting an appropriate **early biweek window** (8-10 biweeks)
2. Fitting a **log-linear model**: $\log(\text{measles cases})$ vs. time
3. Producing a **semi-log plot** showing observed data and fitted exponential growth
4. Converting the estimated growth rate to an **approximate basic reproduction number (R)**, a

* Infectious removal rate: **$\gamma = 1$ per biweek**

Constraints

- * Use **NumPy** and **SciPy** only (Matplotlib for plotting is acceptable)
- * Clearly **state and explain modeling assumptions**
- * Print key **statistical results** (e.g., slope, confidence intervals if available, R)
- * **Output code only** (do not execute)

Verification / Expected Output

- * A **semi-log plot** of measles cases with the fitted exponential curve
- * Printed values for:

- * Estimated **growth rate (slope)**
- * Corresponding **R estimate**

```
[6]: # Early exponential growth estimation for measles (Community A)
# Constraints: NumPy + SciPy only (Matplotlib OK). Code-only, no execution.

import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy import stats

# -----
# User-adjustable settings
# -----
COMMUNITY = "A"

# Choose the early window length (in biweeks) OR explicit biweek range.
# Option 1 (recommended): first N biweeks from the first nonzero case
EARLY_N_BIWEKS = 10          # try 8-10
START_AT_FIRST_POSITIVE = True
```

```

# Option 2: explicit inclusive biweek indices (overrides Option 1 if not None)
EARLY_BIWEEK_MIN = None      # e.g., 0
EARLY_BIWEEK_MAX = None      # e.g., 9

# Handling zeros / missing
MIN_CASES = 1.0              # exclude cases < MIN_CASES (avoids log(0))
ALPHA = 0.05                  # 95% CI

# RO conversion assumption
GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK = 1.0       # infectious removal rate (per biweek)

# -----
# 1) Subset early window data
# -----
dfA = measles_df.loc[measles_df["community"] == COMMUNITY, ["biweek",
↳"measles"]].copy()
dfA = dfA.dropna(subset=["measles"])

# Keep only positive (or >= MIN_CASES) counts for log fit
dfA = dfA.loc[dfA["measles"] >= MIN_CASES].copy()
dfA = dfA.sort_values("biweek")

if dfA.empty:
    raise ValueError("No data points with measles >= MIN_CASES in the selected_
↳community/window.")

# Determine early-window biweek bounds
if (EARLY_BIWEEK_MIN is not None) and (EARLY_BIWEEK_MAX is not None):
    bw_min, bw_max = int(EARLY_BIWEEK_MIN), int(EARLY_BIWEEK_MAX)
else:
    if START_AT_FIRST_POSITIVE:
        bw_min = int(dfA["biweek"].iloc[0])
    else:
        bw_min = int(dfA["biweek"].min())
    bw_max = bw_min + int(EARLY_N_BIWEEKS) - 1

early = dfA.loc[(dfA["biweek"] >= bw_min) & (dfA["biweek"] <= bw_max)].copy()
early = early.sort_values("biweek")

if early.shape[0] < 3:
    raise ValueError(
        f"Need at least 3 points to fit a log-linear model; got {early.
↳shape[0]} "
        f"in window biweek [{bw_min}, {bw_max}].")
)

# Use time in "biweeks since window start" for interpretability

```

```

t = (early["biweek"].to_numpy(dtype=float) - float(bw_min))
y = early["measles"].to_numpy(dtype=float)
logy = np.log(y)

# -----
# 2) Fit log-linear model:  $\log(y) = a + r * t + \text{error}$ 
#  $r$  is the exponential growth rate per biweek
# -----
# stats.linregress uses ordinary least squares and returns slope, intercept,
# ↪ etc.
fit = stats.linregress(t, logy)
r_hat = float(fit.slope)           # growth rate per biweek
a_hat = float(fit.intercept)      # log-scale intercept
r_se = float(fit.stderr)         # standard error of slope (if available)
n = t.size
df = n - 2

# 95% CI for slope using Student-t
tcrit = stats.t.ppf(1 - ALPHA / 2, df)
r_ci = (r_hat - tcrit * r_se, r_hat + tcrit * r_se)

# -----
# 3) Convert growth rate to approximate  $R_0$ 
# Assumption: SIR-like early phase with  $S \sim 1$ , growth rate  $r$  - ,
# so  $R_0 = \frac{\gamma}{(\gamma + r)} = 1 + r/\gamma$ 
# -----
gamma = float(GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK)
RO_hat = 1.0 + (r_hat / gamma)
RO_ci = (1.0 + (r_ci[0] / gamma), 1.0 + (r_ci[1] / gamma))

# -----
# 4) Plot: semi-log (y on log-scale) with fitted exponential curve
# -----
# Smooth curve over the early window
t_grid = np.linspace(t.min(), t.max(), 200)
y_fit = np.exp(a_hat + r_hat * t_grid)

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))
plt.semilogy(early["biweek"], y, "o", label="Observed (early window)")
plt.semilogy(bw_min + t_grid, y_fit, "--", label="Fitted exponential")

plt.title(f"Early exponential growth fit (Community {COMMUNITY}), biweek
↪ {bw_min}-{bw_max}")
plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Reported measles cases (log scale)")
plt.grid(True, which="both", linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
plt.legend()

```

```

# -----
# Print key results + assumptions
# -----
print("=== Early Exponential Growth (log-linear) ===")
print(f"Community: {COMMUNITY}")
print(f"Early window biweeks: [{bw_min}, {bw_max}]")
print(f"Points used (after dropping NA and < {MIN_CASES}): n = {n}")
print("")
print("Model: log(cases_t) = a + r * t + error, where t is biweeks since window_
↳start")
print(f"Estimated growth rate r (per biweek): {r_hat:.6f}")
print(f"95% CI for r: [{r_ci[0]:.6f}, {r_ci[1]:.6f}]")
print(f"R-squared: {fit.rvalue**2:.4f}")
print(f"p-value (slope): {fit.pvalue:.3e}")
print("")
print("R0 approximation:")
print("Assumption: early phase S1 and SIR-like growth r - , so R0 = / 1_
↳+ r/ ")
print(f"Using = {gamma:.3f} per biweek")
print(f"Estimated R0: {R0_hat:.4f}")
print(f"95% CI for R0 (from slope CI): [{R0_ci[0]:.4f}, {R0_ci[1]:.4f}]")

# If running in a notebook, show the plot:
# plt.show()

```

```

=== Early Exponential Growth (log-linear) ===
Community: A
Early window biweeks: [1, 10]
Points used (after dropping NA and < 1.0): n = 10

```

```

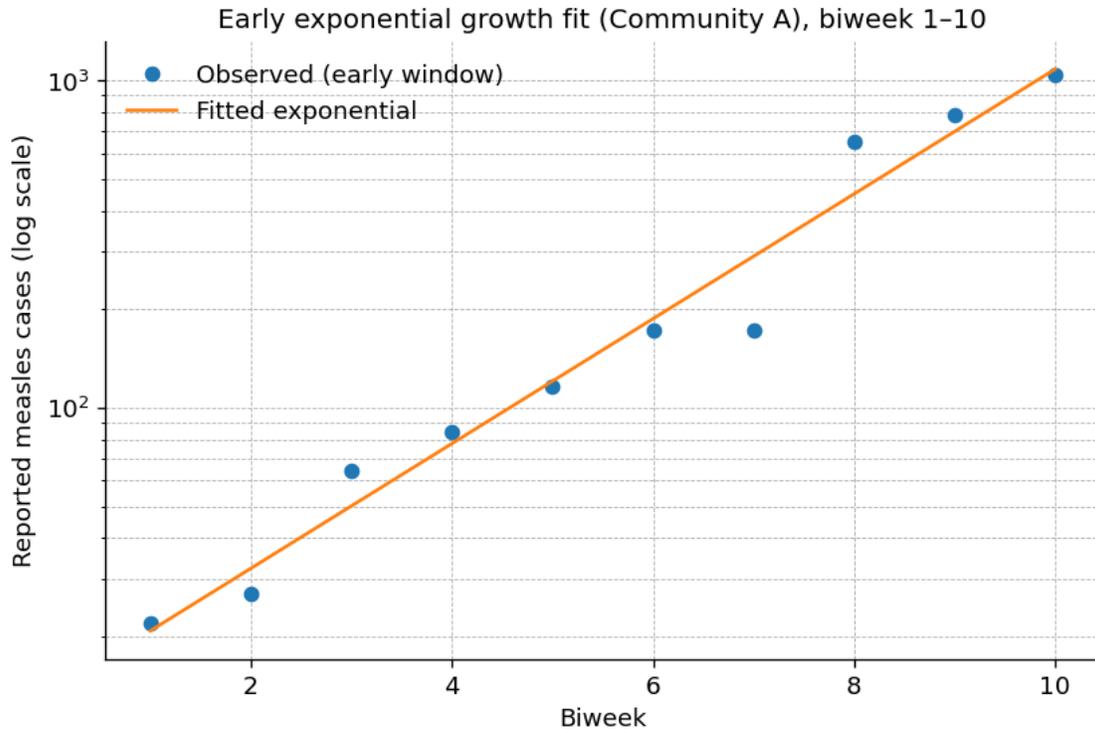
Model: log(cases_t) = a + r * t + error, where t is biweeks since window start
Estimated growth rate r (per biweek): 0.439208
95% CI for r: [0.373936, 0.504481]
R-squared: 0.9678
p-value (slope): 2.963e-07

```

```

R0 approximation:
Assumption: early phase S1 and SIR-like growth r - , so R0 = / 1 + r/
Using = 1.000 per biweek
Estimated R0: 1.4392
95% CI for R0 (from slope CI): [1.3739, 1.5045]

```



Goal Assess how sensitive the estimated basic reproduction number (\mathbf{R}) is to the choice of early-outbreak window length.

Method (brief) For a sequence of increasing early-outbreak windows (measured in biweeks):

- Fit a log-linear model to early reported measles cases to estimate the exponential growth rate.
- Convert the growth rate to \mathbf{R} assuming a fixed infectious removal rate ($\gamma = 1$ per biweek).
- Compute a 95% confidence interval for \mathbf{R} from the regression uncertainty.
- Visualize \mathbf{R} and its uncertainty as a function of the window length.

Interpretation Stable \mathbf{R} estimates across window lengths suggest a robust early-growth signal, while strong variation indicates sensitivity to window choice or departures from exponential growth.

1.4.2 Continue with the this prompt

For a range of early-outbreak window lengths, plot the estimated \mathbf{R} (derived from exponential growth)

```
[7]: # Plot estimated  $R_0$  (with CI) versus initial-period length (number of biweeks)
# Constraints respected: NumPy, SciPy, Matplotlib only. Code-only.

import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy import stats
```

```

# -----
# User-adjustable settings
# -----
COMMUNITY = "A"
MIN_CASES = 1.0
GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK = 1.0 #
ALPHA = 0.05           # 95% CI

# Range of early-window lengths to evaluate (in biweeks)
WINDOW_LENGTHS = np.arange(5, 13) # e.g., 5-12 biweeks

# -----
# Prepare data
# -----
dfA = measles_df.loc[measles_df["community"] == COMMUNITY, ["biweek",
↳"measles"]].copy()
dfA = dfA.dropna(subset=["measles"])
dfA = dfA.loc[dfA["measles"] >= MIN_CASES].copy()
dfA = dfA.sort_values("biweek")

if dfA.shape[0] < WINDOW_LENGTHS.max():
    raise ValueError("Not enough positive observations to cover the largest_
↳window length.")

# Start window at first positive case
bw_start = int(dfA["biweek"].iloc[0])

# Storage
RO_hat_list = []
RO_lo_list = []
RO_hi_list = []

# -----
# Loop over window lengths
# -----
for L in WINDOW_LENGTHS:
    bw_end = bw_start + int(L) - 1
    early = dfA.loc[(dfA["biweek"] >= bw_start) & (dfA["biweek"] <= bw_end)].
↳copy()
    early = early.sort_values("biweek")

    if early.shape[0] < 3:
        RO_hat_list.append(np.nan)
        RO_lo_list.append(np.nan)
        RO_hi_list.append(np.nan)
        continue

```

```

t = (early["biweek"].to_numpy(dtype=float) - float(bw_start))
y = early["measles"].to_numpy(dtype=float)
logy = np.log(y)

fit = stats.linregress(t, logy)
r_hat = float(fit.slope)
r_se = float(fit.stderr)
df = t.size - 2
tcrit = stats.t.ppf(1 - ALPHA / 2, df)

r_ci = (r_hat - tcrit * r_se, r_hat + tcrit * r_se)

# RO 1 + r /
RO_hat = 1.0 + r_hat / GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK
RO_ci = (1.0 + r_ci[0] / GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK,
         1.0 + r_ci[1] / GAMMA_PER_BIWEEK)

RO_hat_list.append(RO_hat)
RO_lo_list.append(RO_ci[0])
RO_hi_list.append(RO_ci[1])

RO_hat_arr = np.array(RO_hat_list)
RO_lo_arr = np.array(RO_lo_list)
RO_hi_arr = np.array(RO_hi_list)

# -----
# Plot RO vs initial-period length
# -----
plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))

plt.plot(WINDOW_LENGTHS, RO_hat_arr, marker="o", label="Estimated R ")
plt.fill_between(
    WINDOW_LENGTHS,
    RO_lo_arr,
    RO_hi_arr,
    alpha=0.25,
    label="95% CI"
)

plt.axhline(1.0, linestyle="--", linewidth=1, label="R = 1")

plt.xlabel("Initial period length (biweeks)")
plt.ylabel("Estimated R ")
plt.title(f"Stability of early R estimates vs initial window (Community_
↪{COMMUNITY})")
plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
plt.legend()

```

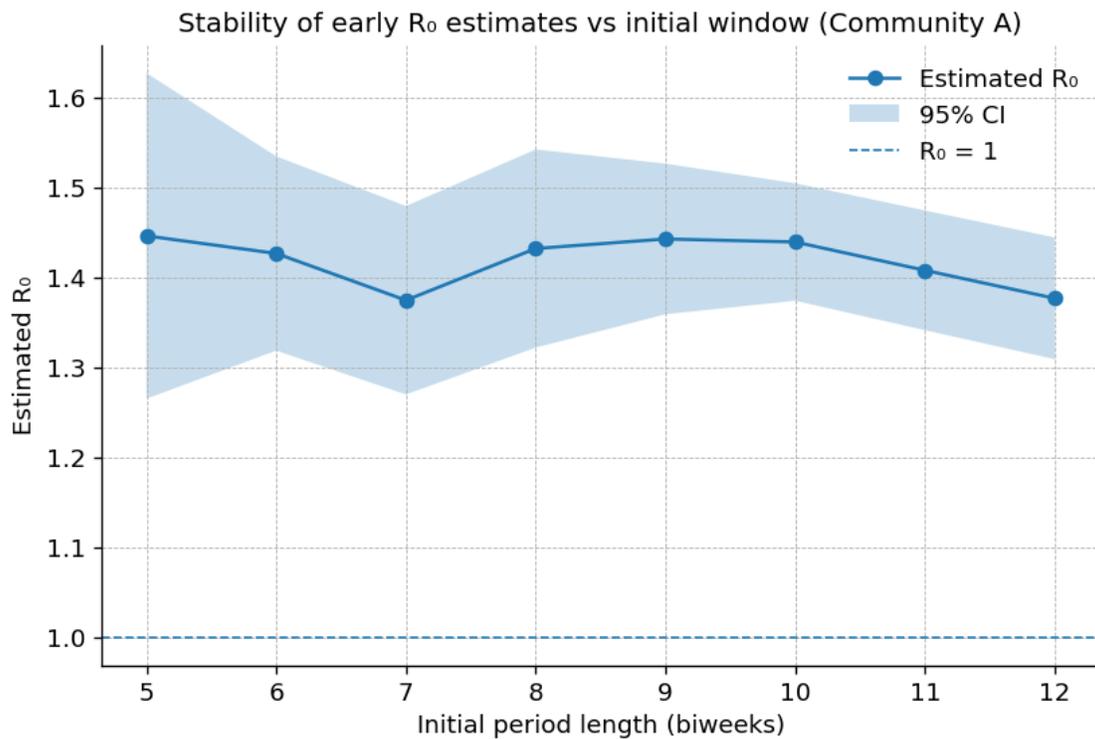
```

# If running interactively:
# plt.show()

# -----
# Print table of results
# -----
print("Initial window (biweeks) | R0_hat | R0_CI_low | R0_CI_high")
for L, r0, lo, hi in zip(WINDOW_LENGTHS, R0_hat_arr, R0_lo_arr, R0_hi_arr):
    print(f"{L:>23d} | {r0:6.3f} | {lo:10.3f} | {hi:11.3f}")

```

Initial window (biweeks)	R0_hat	R0_CI_low	R0_CI_high
5	1.446	1.265	1.627
6	1.426	1.319	1.534
7	1.374	1.270	1.479
8	1.432	1.322	1.542
9	1.443	1.359	1.526
10	1.439	1.374	1.504
11	1.408	1.341	1.474
12	1.377	1.309	1.444



1.5 3. Implement the SIR Model (Biweekly Units)

We use a **closed SIR** model for a single outbreak wave: - S(t): susceptible - I(t): infectious - R(t): recovered

Time unit = **biweeks**.

1.5.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

Persona:

You are an expert epidemiological modeler and Python educator.

Context:

- Closed SIR model (no birth or death)
- Time unit: biweeks
- Infectious period 2 weeks (gamma 1 per biweek)

Task:

Implement an SIR model using SciPy ODE solving:

- Define the SIR equations, the function name should be ``sir_rhs``
- Solve over a biweekly time grid, put it in the function ``simulate_sir``
- Plot S, I, R over time

Constraints:

- Use `scipy.integrate.solve_ivp`
- Keep code readable and commented

Verification:

- Plot S, I, R
- Verify $S + I + R = N$

```
[8]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp

def sir_rhs(t, y, beta, gamma, N):
    """
    Right-hand side of the closed SIR model.

    Parameters
    -----
    t : float
        Time (in biweeks)
    y : array-like
        Current state vector [S, I, R]
    beta : float
        Transmission rate (per biweek)
    gamma : float
```

```

    Recovery rate (per biweek)
    N : float
        Total population size (constant)

    Returns
    -----
    dydt : list
        Time derivatives [dS/dt, dI/dt, dR/dt]
    """
    S, I, R = y

    dSdt = -beta * S * I / N
    dIdt = beta * S * I / N - gamma * I
    dRdt = gamma * I

    return [dSdt, dIdt, dRdt]

def simulate_sir(
    N=1000,
    IO=1,
    RO=0,
    beta=2.5, # example: RO_basic = beta / gamma = 2.5
    gamma=1.0, # infectious period 1 biweek
    t_max=20
):
    """
    Simulate the SIR model over a biweekly time grid.

    Returns
    -----
    t : array
        Time grid (biweeks)
    S, I, R : arrays
        Time series of compartments
    """
    # Initial susceptible population
    SO = N - IO - RO

    # Initial condition vector
    y0 = [SO, IO, RO]

    # Time grid (biweekly resolution)
    t_eval = np.linspace(0, t_max, 200)

    # Solve ODE system
    sol = solve_ivp(

```

```

    fun=lambda t, y: sir_rhs(t, y, beta, gamma, N),
    t_span=(0, t_max),
    y0=y0,
    t_eval=t_eval,
    vectorized=False
)

S, I, R = sol.y
t = sol.t

return t, S, I, R

# =====
# Run simulation
# =====

t, S, I, R = simulate_sir()

# =====
# Verification: Mass balance
# =====

N_total = S + I + R
print("Maximum deviation from N:",
      np.max(np.abs(N_total - N_total[0])))

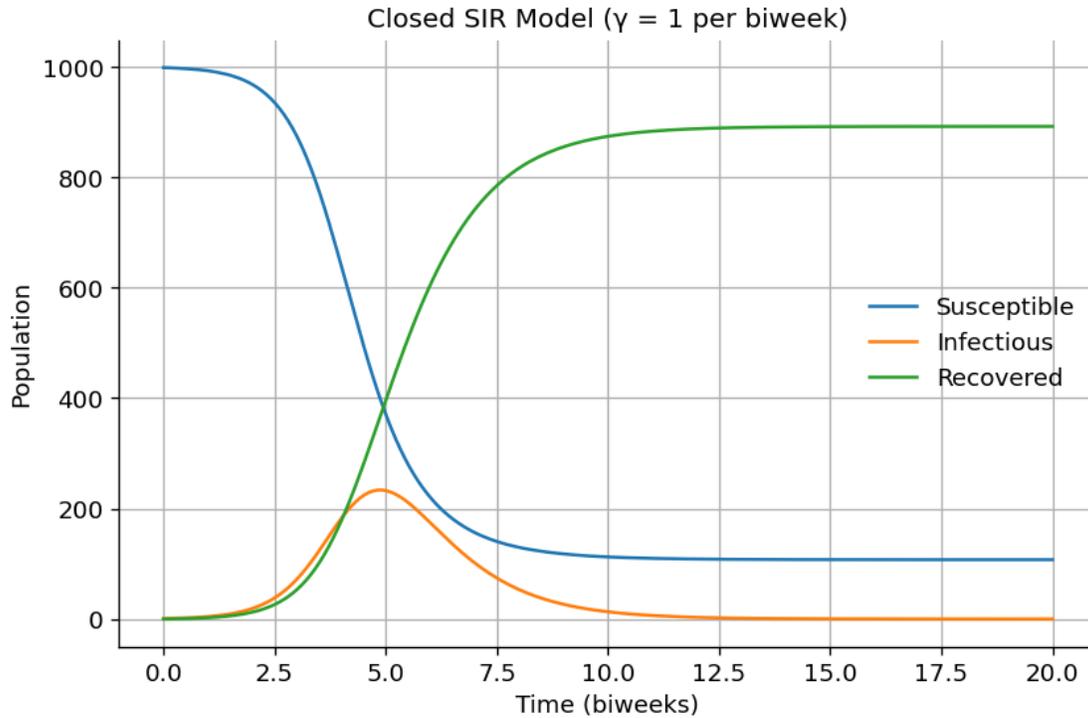
# =====
# Plot results
# =====

plt.figure()
plt.plot(t, S, label="Susceptible")
plt.plot(t, I, label="Infectious")
plt.plot(t, R, label="Recovered")

plt.xlabel("Time (biweeks)")
plt.ylabel("Population")
plt.title("Closed SIR Model (  $\beta = 1$  per biweek)")
plt.legend()
plt.show()

```

Maximum deviation from N: 2.2737367544323206e-13



1.6 4. Map Model Output to Observations (Incidence via ΔH)

Observed data are **biweekly case counts**, not the state $I(t)$.

We model **incidence** using an accumulator:

- Add $H(t)$ with $dH/dt = S I / N$
- Predicted biweekly counts ΔH over each biweek interval

1.6.1 ChatGPT Prompt

Persona:

You are an expert epidemic modeler.

Context:

- Observed data are biweekly case counts (incidence)
- SIR model outputs states

Task:

Extend the SIR model by:

- Adding $H(t)$ with $dH/dt = \beta S I / N$
- Computing predicted biweekly cases as ΔH aligned to biweeks

Constraints:

- Keep code minimal and readable

Verification:

- Plot predicted ΔH

```
[9]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy.integrate import solve_ivp

def sir_with_incidence_rhs(t, y, beta, gamma, N):
    """
    SIR model with cumulative incidence H.

    y = [S, I, R, H]
    """
    S, I, R, H = y

    infection_rate = beta * S * I / N

    dSdt = -infection_rate
    dIdt = infection_rate - gamma * I
    dRdt = gamma * I
    dHdt = infection_rate # cumulative infections

    return [dSdt, dIdt, dRdt, dHdt]

def simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=1000,
    IO=1,
    RO=0,
    beta=2.5,
    gamma=1.0,
    t_max=20
):
    """
    Simulate SIR model and compute biweekly predicted cases.
    """

    SO = N - IO - RO
    HO = 0

    y0 = [SO, IO, RO, HO]

    # Biweekly grid (matches reporting interval)
    t_eval = np.arange(0, t_max + 1)
```

```

sol = solve_ivp(
    fun=lambda t, y: sir_with_incidence_rhs(t, y, beta, gamma, N),
    t_span=(0, t_max),
    y0=y0,
    t_eval=t_eval
)

S, I, R, H = sol.y
t = sol.t

# Predicted biweekly cases = change in cumulative infections
delta_H = np.diff(H)

return t, S, I, R, H, delta_H

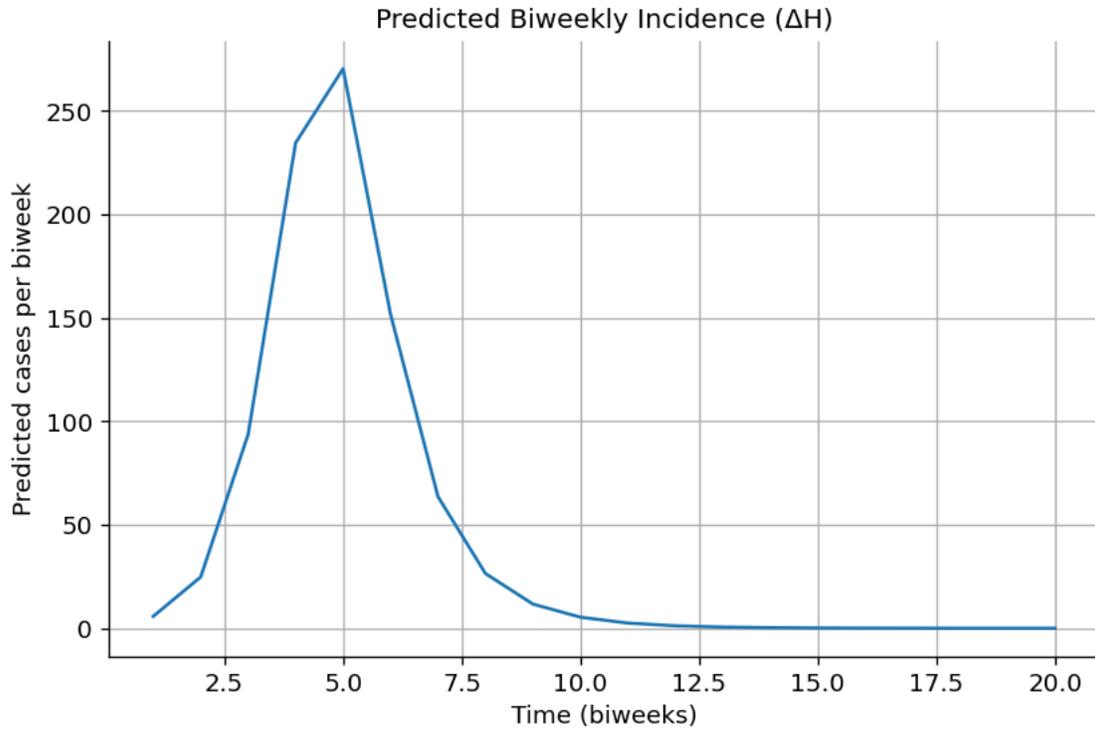
# =====
# Run simulation
# =====

t, S, I, R, H, delta_H = simulate_sir_with_incidence()

# =====
# Plot predicted biweekly incidence
# =====

plt.figure()
plt.plot(t[1:], delta_H)
plt.xlabel("Time (biweeks)")
plt.ylabel("Predicted cases per biweek")
plt.title("Predicted Biweekly Incidence ( $\Delta H$ )")
plt.show()

```



Continue with this prompt to plot the data

I have biweekly measles incidence data for Community A:

```
measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")
```

```
dfA = (
    measles_df
    .loc[measles_df["community"] == "A", ["biweek", "measles"]]
    .dropna(subset=["measles"])
    .copy()
)
```

- dfA["biweek"] contains the biweekly time index

- dfA["measles"] contains observed biweekly incidence (number of cases)

I also have an SIR model that returns simulated incidence:

```
def simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=1000,
    IO=1,
    RO=0,
```

```

    beta=2.5,
    gamma=1.0,
    t_max=20
):
    ...
    return t, S, I, R, H, delta_H

```

Where:

t → model time points (in biweeks)

delta_H → simulated biweekly incidence (new infections per biweek)

H → cumulative infections

What I want to do

- Plot observed measles incidence (dfA["measles"])
- Overlay simulated biweekly incidence (delta_H) on the same figure
- Use t[1:] when plotting delta_H as len(t) is different from len(delta_h) by 1 unit

```

[10]: # -----
# Get observed data for community A
# -----

measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")
dfA = measles_df.loc[
    measles_df["community"] == "A",
    ["biweek", "measles"]
].copy()

dfA = dfA.dropna(subset=["measles"])
# Run simulation
t, S, I, R, H, delta_H = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=7000,
    IO=1,
    RO=0,
    beta=1.8,
    gamma=1.0,
    t_max=dfA["biweek"].max()
)
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))

```

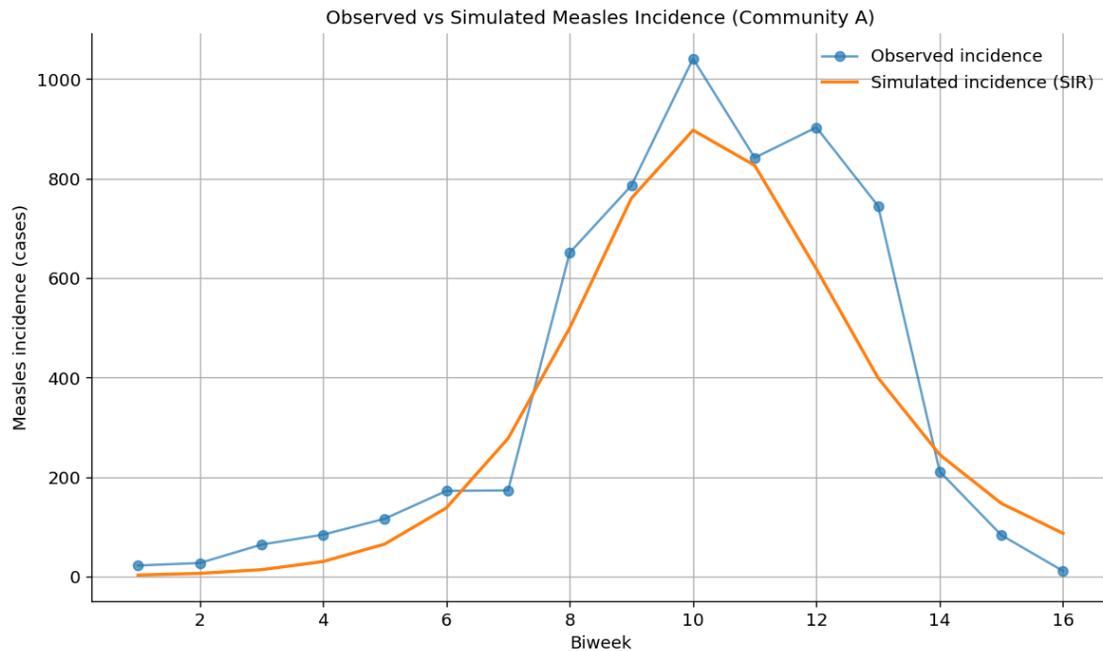
```

# Observed measles incidence
plt.plot(
    dfA["biweek"],
    dfA["measles"],
    'o-',
    label="Observed incidence",
    alpha=0.7
)

# Simulated incidence
plt.plot(
    t[1:],          # shift because delta_H is one shorter
    delta_H,
    '-',
    label="Simulated incidence (SIR)",
    linewidth=2
)

plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Measles incidence (cases)")
plt.title("Observed vs Simulated Measles Incidence (Community A)")
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```



1.7 5. Fit Parameters by Least Squares

We fit parameters by minimizing squared error between observed counts and predicted ΔH .

1.7.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

```
## Persona
```

```
You are an expert in numerical optimization for epidemic models, with experience fitting c
```

```
---
```

```
## Data
```

```
We have biweekly measles incidence data for Community A:
```

```
measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")
```

```
dfA = (  
    measles_df  
    .loc[measles_df["community"] == "A", ["biweek", "measles"]]  
    .dropna(subset=["measles"])  
    .copy()  
)
```

```
* `dfA["biweek"]` → biweekly time index  
* `dfA["measles"]` → observed biweekly incidence (case counts)
```

```
---
```

```
## Model
```

```
We use an SIR model that returns simulated incidence:
```

```
def simulate_sir_with_incidence(  
    N=1000,  
    IO=1,  
    RO=0,  
    beta=2.5,  
    gamma=1.0,  
    t_max=20  
):  
    ...  
    return t, S, I, R, H, delta_H
```

Where:

- * `t` → model time points (in biweeks)
- * `delta_H` → simulated **biweekly incidence** (new infections per biweek)
- * Use `t[1:]` to align with `delta_H` (since incidence is computed between time steps)

Objective

Fit model parameters to the observed incidence data using **nonlinear least squares**.

Parameters to estimate:

- * `N` (population size)
- * `beta` (transmission rate)
- * Optional: `IO` (initial infected)

Fixed parameter:

- * `gamma = 1.0`

Initialization Strategy

Use an early-growth estimate:

- * Estimated basic reproduction number:

```
[
R_0 = 1.443
]
```

- * Since ($R_0 = \beta / \gamma$), initialize:

```
[
\beta_0 = 1.443
]
```

Choose reasonable initial guesses and bounds:

- * `N` within plausible community size range
- * `beta > 0`
- * `IO` 1`

```

## Optimization Requirements

* Use `scipy.optimize.least_squares`
* Fit by minimizing:

[
\text{SSE} = \sum ( \text{Observed} - \text{Predicted} )^2
]

* Ensure runtime is suitable for a workshop (avoid heavy MCMC or expensive methods)

---

## Verification & Output

After fitting:

1. Overlay observed and fitted incidence curves
2. Print:

    * Best-fit parameter values
    * Sum of squared errors (SSE)

---

## Expected Deliverables

* Residual function definition
* Call to `least_squares`
* Overlay plot (observed vs fitted)
* Printed parameter estimates and SSE
* Clean, reproducible workshop-ready code

```

```

[11]: import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from scipy.optimize import least_squares

# Load data
measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")

dfA = (
    measles_df
    .loc[measles_df["community"] == "A", ["biweek", "measles"]]
    .dropna(subset=["measles"])
    .copy()
)

```

```

# Observed time & incidence
t_obs = dfA["biweek"].values
y_obs = dfA["measles"].values

def residuals(params, t_obs, y_obs):
    """
    params = [N, beta, IO]
    """
    N, beta, IO = params
    gamma = 1.0

    # Simulate model
    t_model, S, I, R, H, delta_H = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
        N=N,
        IO=IO,
        R0=0,
        beta=beta,
        gamma=gamma,
        t_max=max(t_obs)
    )

    # Model incidence aligned to t[1:]
    t_inc = t_model[1:]

    # Interpolate to observed biweeks
    y_model = np.interp(t_obs, t_inc, delta_H)

    return y_obs - y_model

# Initial guesses
NO = 7000
beta0 = 1.433
IO0 = 5

x0 = [NO, beta0, IO0]

# Bounds
lower_bounds = [1000, 0.1, 1]
upper_bounds = [10000, 5.0, 200]

bounds = (lower_bounds, upper_bounds)

result = least_squares(

```

```

    residuals,
    x0,
    args=(t_obs, y_obs),
    bounds=bounds,
    method="trf"    # stable for bounded problems
)

N_hat, beta_hat, IO_hat = result.x

print(result.x)

# Compute SSE
SSE = np.sum(result.fun**2)
print(f"SSE = {SSE}")

gamma = 1.0

t_fit, S_fit, I_fit, R_fit, H_fit, delta_H_fit = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=N_hat,
    IO=IO_hat,
    R0=0,
    beta=beta_hat,
    gamma=gamma,
    t_max=max(t_obs)
)

t_inc_fit = t_fit[1:]

plt.figure(figsize=(8,5))

plt.scatter(t_obs, y_obs, label="Observed incidence", color="black")
plt.plot(t_inc_fit, delta_H_fit, label="Fitted SIR incidence", linewidth=2)

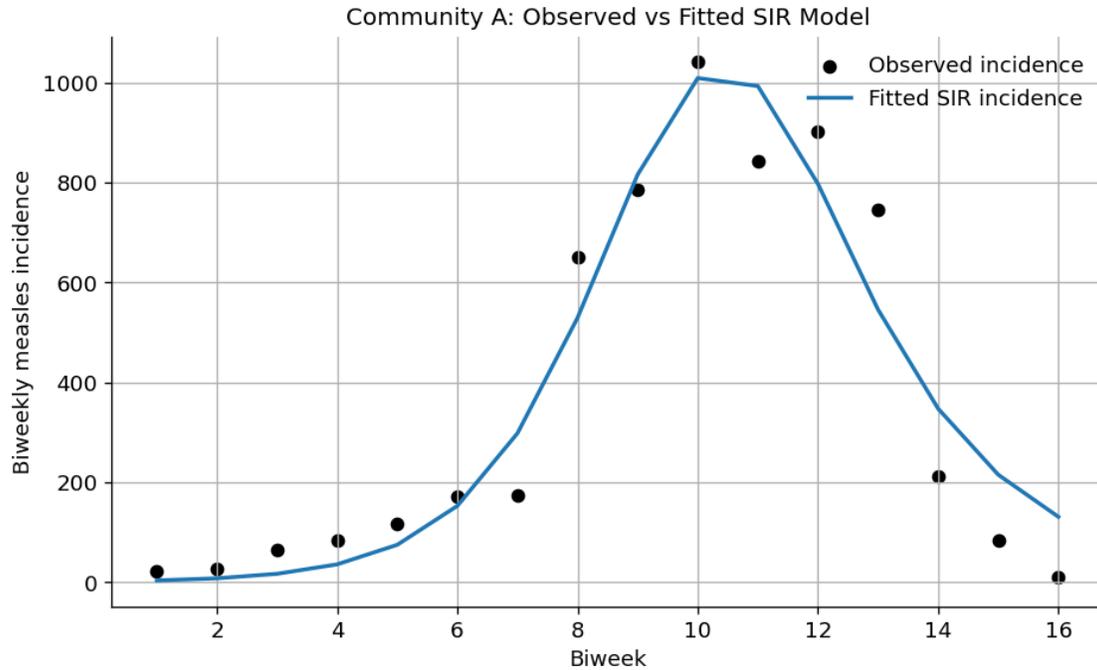
plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Biweekly measles incidence")
plt.legend()
plt.title("Community A: Observed vs Fitted SIR Model")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

```

[8.60920993e+03 1.75821976e+00 1.42764944e+00]
SSE = 163890.02506195556

```



1.8 6. Poisson Likelihood Inference (Counts)

For count data: $- \log \text{Poisson}(y_t) - (y_t - H_t)$

where α is a reporting/ascertainment fraction.

1.8.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

```
# Persona
```

```
You are an expert in numerical optimization for epidemic models, with experience fitting c
```

```
---
```

```
# Data
```

```
We have biweekly measles incidence data for Community A:
```

```
measles_df = pd.read_csv("data/niamey.csv")
```

```
dfA = (
    measles_df
    .loc[measles_df["community"] == "A", ["biweek", "measles"]]
    .dropna(subset=["measles"])
    .copy()
)
```

```
t_obs = dfA["biweek"].values
y_obs = dfA["measles"].values
```

```
* `t_obs` → biweekly time index
* `y_obs` → observed biweekly incidence (case counts)
```

```
---
```

```
# Model
```

We use an SIR model that returns simulated incidence:

```
def simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=1000,
    IO=1,
    RO=0,
    beta=2.5,
    gamma=1.0,
    t_max=20
):
    ...
    return t, S, I, R, H, delta_H
```

Where:

```
* `t` → model time points (in biweeks)
* `delta_H` → simulated biweekly incidence
* Use `t[1:]` to align with `delta_H`
```

```
---
```

```
# Objective
```

Fit model parameters to the observed incidence data using **maximum likelihood** under a Poisson

Assume:

```
[
Y_t \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_t)
]
```

where:

```
* ( Y_t ) = observed incidence
* ( \lambda_t ) = model-predicted incidence (`delta_H`)
```

```

---

# Parameters to Estimate

* `N` (population size)
* `beta` (transmission rate)
* Optional: `I0` (initial infected)

### Fixed parameter:

* `gamma = 1.0`

---

# Initialization Strategy

Use early-growth estimate:

[
R_0 = 1.443
]

Since:

[
R_0 = \beta / \gamma
]

Initialize:

[
\beta_0 = 1.443
]

Use reasonable bounds:

* `N` within plausible community size range
* `beta > 0`
* `I0 1`

---

# Optimization Requirements

Use `scipy.optimize.minimize` (or `least_squares` minimizing -log-likelihood).

Minimize the negative Poisson log-likelihood:

```

```
[  
\mathcal{L}(\theta)  
=====
```

```
\sum_t \left(  
\lambda_t - y_t \log(\lambda_t)  
\right)  
]
```

(omit constant ($\log(y_t!)$) term)

Add small epsilon to avoid $\log(0)$.

Ensure runtime is suitable for a workshop (no MCMC).

Verification & Output

After fitting:

1. Overlay observed and fitted incidence curves
2. Print:
 - * Best-fit parameter values
 - * Final negative log-likelihood
3. (Optional) Compare visually against least-squares fit

Expected Deliverables

- * Negative log-likelihood function definition
- * Call to optimizer
- * Overlay plot (observed vs fitted incidence)
- * Printed parameter estimates
- * Clean, reproducible workshop-ready code
- * Proper numerical safeguards (ϵ for stability)

```
[12]: import numpy as np  
from scipy.optimize import minimize  
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt  
  
epsilon = 1e-8  
  
def neg_poisson_loglik(theta, t_obs, y_obs, gamma=1.0):  
    """
```

Negative Poisson log-likelihood for SIR incidence fit.

```
theta = [N, beta, IO]
"""
N, beta, IO = theta

# Enforce positivity (soft safeguard)
if N <= 0 or beta <= 0 or IO < 1:
    return np.inf

# Simulate model
t, S, I, R, H, delta_H = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=N,
    IO=IO,
    R0=0,
    beta=beta,
    gamma=gamma,
    t_max=int(max(t_obs))
)

# Align times
t_model = t[1:]

# Interpolate model incidence at observed times
lambda_t = np.interp(t_obs, t_model, delta_H)

# Numerical safeguard
lambda_t = np.maximum(lambda_t, epsilon)

# Negative Poisson log-likelihood
nll = np.sum(lambda_t - y_obs * np.log(lambda_t))

return nll

# Initial guesses
NO = 1000
beta0 = 1.443
IO0 = 5

theta0 = [NO, beta0, IO0]

# Bounds
bounds = [
    (200, 20000), # N
    (1e-3, 10.0), # beta
    (1, 50) # IO
```

```

]

result = minimize(
    neg_poisson_loglik,
    theta0,
    args=(t_obs, y_obs),
    method="L-BFGS-B",
    bounds=bounds
)

N_hat, beta_hat, IO_hat = result.x
final_nll = result.fun

print("==== MLE RESULTS ====")
print(f"N      = {N_hat:.2f}")
print(f"beta    = {beta_hat:.4f}")
print(f"IO      = {IO_hat:.2f}")
print(f"Final NLL = {final_nll:.2f}")
print(f"Converged: {result.success}")

# Simulate using fitted parameters
t_fit, S_fit, I_fit, R_fit, H_fit, delta_H_fit = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
    N=N_hat,
    IO=IO_hat,
    R0=0,
    beta=beta_hat,
    gamma=1.0,
    t_max=int(max(t_obs))
)

t_model = t_fit[1:]
lambda_fit = np.interp(t_obs, t_model, delta_H_fit)

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 5))

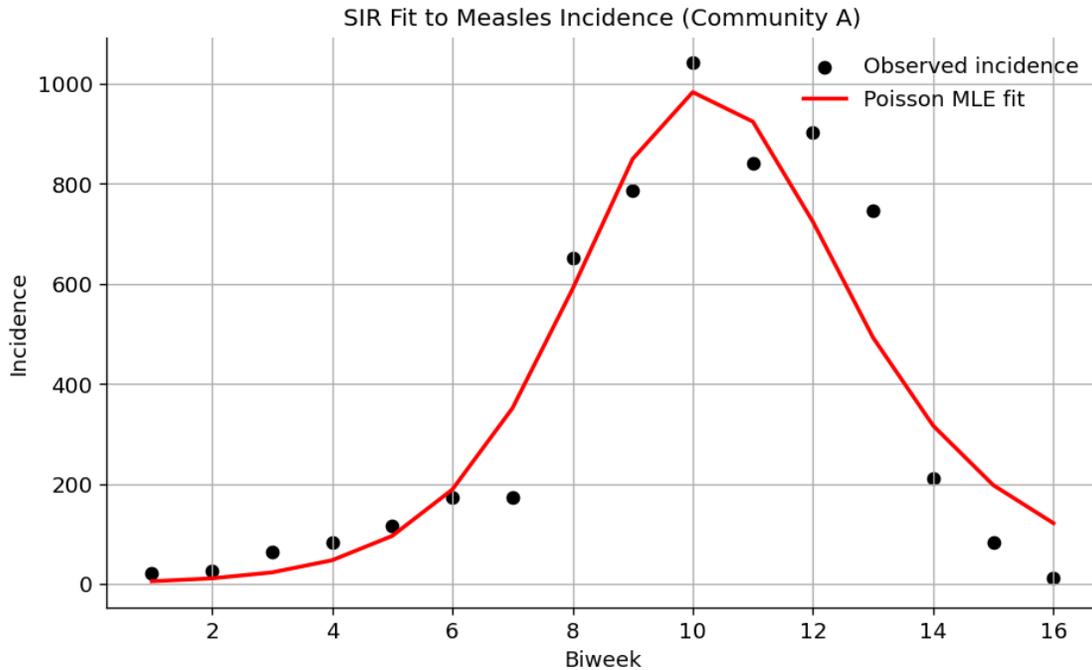
plt.scatter(t_obs, y_obs, color="black", label="Observed incidence")
plt.plot(t_obs, lambda_fit, color="red", linewidth=2, label="Poisson MLE fit")

plt.xlabel("Biweek")
plt.ylabel("Incidence")
plt.title("SIR Fit to Measles Incidence (Community A)")
plt.legend()
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

```
==== MLE RESULTS ====
```

N = 8635.31
 $\hat{\rho}$ = 1.7336
 I_0 = 2.10
 Final NLL = -31799.00
 Converged: True



1.9 7. Quick Uncertainty: Profile Likelihood for β (Optional)

1.9.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste, continue with the likelihood chat)

Persona:

You are an expert in likelihood-based inference.

Context:

- We already have a Poisson likelihood fit
- We want uncertainty for β

Task:

Create a profile likelihood for β :

- 1) Fix β over a grid
- 2) Optimize I_0 and ρ for each β
- 3) Plot profile $NLL(\beta)$

Constraints:

- Keep runtime reasonable for a workshop

Verification:

- Profile plot
- Explain how to interpret the uncertainty

```
[13]: import numpy as np
from scipy.optimize import minimize
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

epsilon = 1e-8

def neg_poisson_loglik(theta, beta_fixed, t_obs, y_obs, gamma=1.0):
    """
    NLL with beta fixed.
    theta = [N, IO]
    """
    N, IO = theta

    # Hard constraints
    if N <= 0 or IO < 1:
        return np.inf

    # Simulate
    t, S, I, R, H, delta_H = simulate_sir_with_incidence(
        N=N,
        IO=IO,
        R0=0,
        beta=beta_fixed,
        gamma=gamma,
        t_max=int(max(t_obs))
    )

    lambda_t = np.interp(t_obs, t[1:], delta_H)
    lambda_t = np.maximum(lambda_t, epsilon)

    nll = np.sum(lambda_t - y_obs * np.log(lambda_t))
    return nll
# Around previously estimated beta_hat
beta_hat = result.x[1]
print(beta_hat)

beta_grid = np.linspace(
    0.5 * beta_hat,
    1.8 * beta_hat,
    40 # workshop-friendly
)

profile_nll = []
```

```

# Initial guesses
N_init = result.x[0]
IO_init = result.x[2]

for beta_val in beta_grid:

    res = minimize(
        neg_poisson_loglik,
        x0=[N_init, IO_init],
        args=(beta_val, t_obs, y_obs),
        method="L-BFGS-B",
        bounds=[(200, 5000), (1, 50)]
    )

    profile_nll.append(res.fun)

    # Warm start next iteration
    N_init, IO_init = res.x

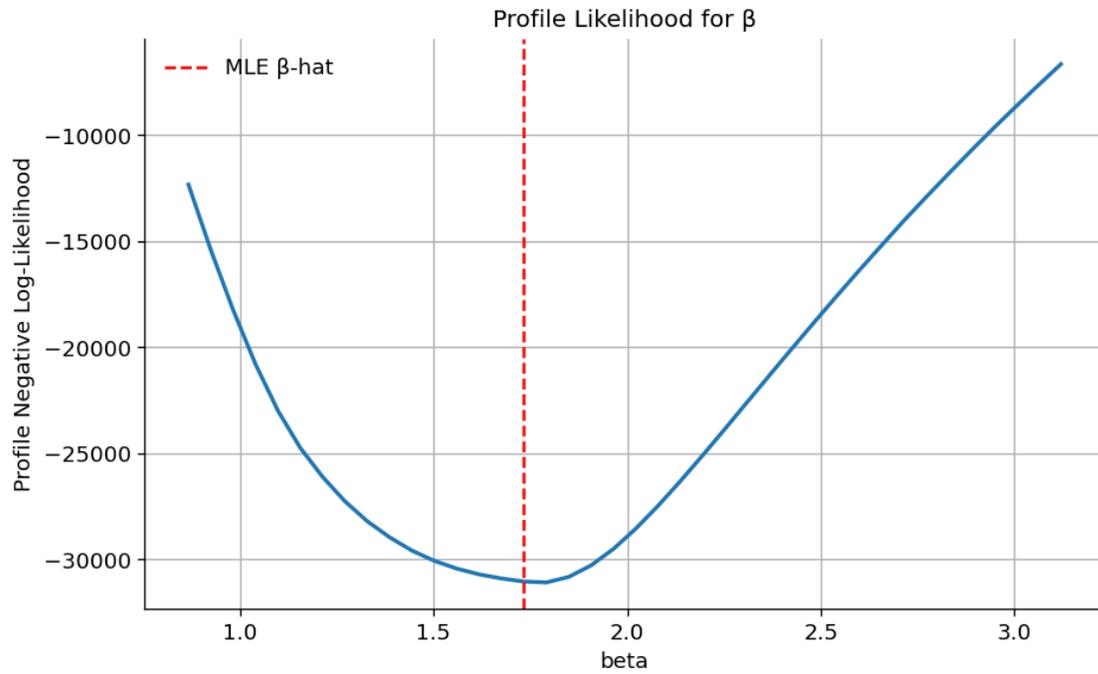
profile_nll = np.array(profile_nll)

plt.figure(figsize=(8,5))
plt.plot(beta_grid, profile_nll, linewidth=2)
plt.axvline(beta_hat, color='red', linestyle='--', label='MLE -hat')

plt.xlabel("beta")
plt.ylabel("Profile Negative Log-Likelihood")
plt.title("Profile Likelihood for ")
plt.legend()
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()

```

1.7335681871869875



1.10 8. Generate a Markdown Summary (Hackathon Report Cell)

1.10.1 ChatGPT Prompt (copy/paste)

[13] :