

# What is the Expectation Maximization (EM) Algorithm?

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# Personal Background

- ▶ 2005 *Igakushi* degree ( $\approx$  MD) in Japan.
- ▶ -2012 Trained clinically as a rheumatologist/internist.
- ▶ 2014 Master of Public Health (MPH) at Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and research fellowship at Brigham and Women's Hospital.
- ▶ 9/2018 Doctor of Science (ScD) in Epidemiology and Biostatistics (Committee: Drs. Sonia Hernandez-Diaz, Robert J Glynn, Daniel H Solomon, Sébastien Haneuse) at  **HARVARD T.H. CHAN**  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

- ▶ 11/2018- Associate Epidemiologist/Instructor in Medicine at



# Article Covered

- ▶ Do and Batzoglou. "What is the expectation maximization algorithm?" Nat. Biotechnol. 2008;26:897. [[Do and Batzoglou, 2008](#)]

## What is the expectation maximization algorithm?

Chuong B Do & Serafim Batzoglou

The expectation maximization algorithm arises in many computational biology applications that involve probabilistic models. What is it good for, and how does it work?

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC2472540/>

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# Introduction

- ▶ Probabilistic models, such as hidden Markov models and Bayesian networks, are commonly used to model biological data.
- ▶ Often, the only data available for training probabilistic models are incomplete, requiring special handling.
- ▶ The Expectation-Maximization (EM) algorithm enables parameter estimation in probabilistic models with incomplete data.

# Incomplete data

- ▶ Incomplete data encompass:
  - ▶ Typical missing data
  - ▶ Latent class (entirely unobserved class assignment)

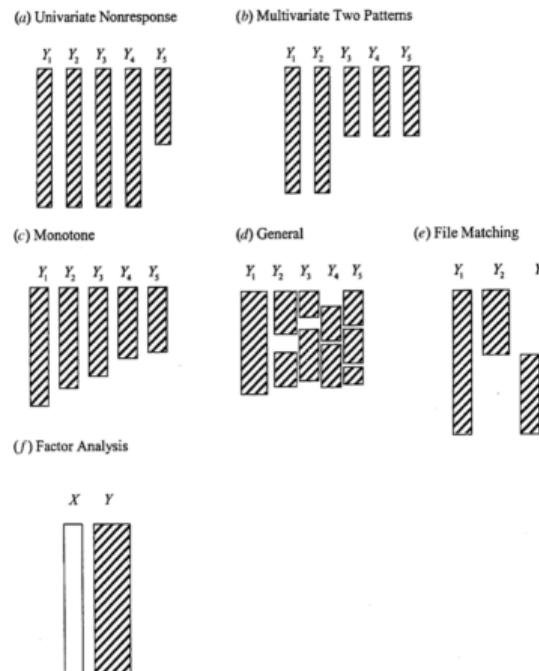


Figure 1.1. Examples of missing-data patterns. Rows correspond to observations, columns to variables.

[Little and Rubin, 2002]

# A Coin-Flipping Experiment

- ▶ Two coins  $A$  (0) and  $B$  (1) with unknown head probabilities  $(\theta_0, \theta_1)$
- ▶ Repeat 5 times
  1. Randomly pick either coin with equal probability and record
  2. Toss 10 times and record the number of heads

	H T T T H H T H T H
	H H H H T H H H H H
	H T H H H H H T H H
	H T H T T T H H T T
	T H H H T H H H T H

## A Coin-Flipping Experiment (More Formal)

- ▶ Two coins  $A$  (0) and  $B$  (1) with unknown head probabilities  $(\theta_0, \theta_1)$
- ▶ For  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ 
  1. Draw  $Z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p = 0.5), Z_i \in \{0, 1\}$
  2. Draw  $X_i|Z_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 10, p = \theta_{Z_i}), X_i \in \{0, \dots, 10\}$

Index $i$	Coin $Z_i$	Heads $X_i$
1	1	5
2	0	9
3	0	8
4	1	4
5	0	7

- ▶ Note that you only need the number of heads (**sufficient statistic**), not the entire sequence.

## Complete-Data Maximum Likelihood

- ▶ If we observe both the coin identity  $Z_i$  and heads  $X_i$ , the MLE is the total heads / total tosses for each coin.
- ▶ Here we introduce a very redundant expanded table for later reuse.

Index $i$	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) Z_i, X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i Z_i, X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i Z_i, X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i Z_i, X_i]$
1	1 (B)		0	1	5	$0 \times 5$
2	0 (A)		1	0	9	$1 \times 9$
3	0 (A)		1	0	8	$1 \times 8$
4	1 (B)		0	1	4	$0 \times 4$
5	0 (A)		1	0	7	$1 \times 7$
Sum			3	2	33	9

- ▶ MLE:  $\hat{\theta}_0 = 24/(3 \times 10) = 0.80$ ;  $\hat{\theta}_1 = 9/(2 \times 10) = 0.45$

# Complete-Data Likelihood and Log Likelihood I

$$\begin{aligned}L(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^5 p(z_i, x_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\&= \prod_{i=1}^5 p(x_i | z_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(z_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\&= \prod_{i=1}^5 p(x_i | z_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}) p(z_i) \\&= \prod_{i=1}^5 p(x_i | z_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})(0.5)\end{aligned}$$

## Complete-Data Likelihood and Log Likelihood II

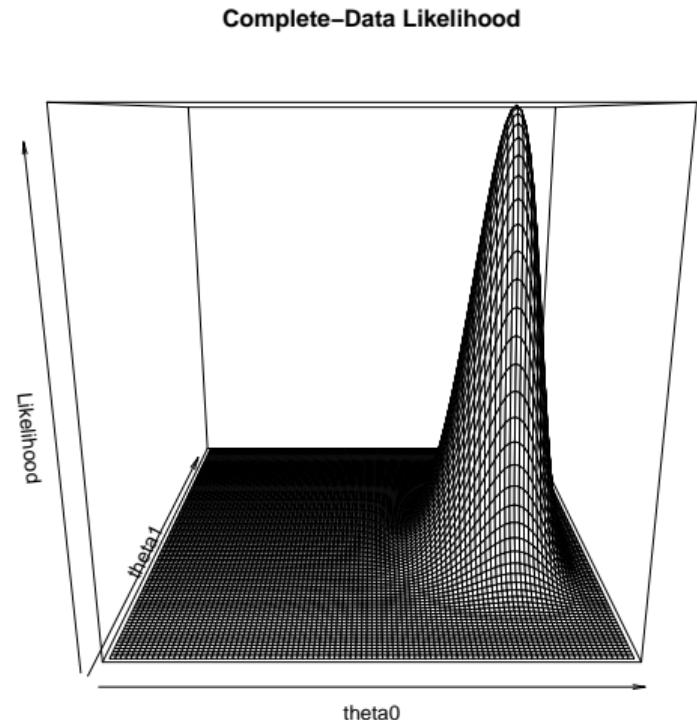
$$\propto \prod_{i=1}^5 [\theta_0^{x_i} (1 - \theta_0)^{10-x_i}]^{1-z_i} [\theta_1^{x_i} (1 - \theta_1)^{10-x_i}]^{z_i}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\log L(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) &\propto \sum_{i=1}^5 \{(1 - z_i) \log [\theta_0^{x_i} (1 - \theta_0)^{10-x_i}] + z_i \log [\theta_1^{x_i} (1 - \theta_1)^{10-x_i}]\} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^5 \{(1 - z_i) [x_i \log \theta_0 + (10 - x_i) \log(1 - \theta_0)] \\ &\quad + z_i [x_i \log \theta_1 + (10 - x_i) \log(1 - \theta_1)]\}\end{aligned}$$

- We can take partial derivatives with respect to  $\theta_0$  and  $\theta_1$  and set them to zero to solve for MLE, which gives us heads/tosses for each coin.

# Complete-Data Likelihood Visualization

- ▶ Here the complete-data likelihood function is convex.
- ▶ There is a unique maximum with an analytical solution (coin-specific heads/tosses).



## A Contrived Coin-Flipping Experiment

- ▶ Two identical-looking coins with unknown head probabilities
- ▶ Repeat 5 times
  1. You are randomly given either coin, but you do not know which.
  2. You toss 10 times, record the number of heads, and return the coin.

Index $i$	Coin	Heads
	$Z_i$	$X_i$
1	?	5
2	?	9
3	?	8
4	?	4
5	?	7

- ▶ Can we still estimate the two unknown head probabilities given this incomplete data?

## A Contrived Coin-Flipping Experiment (More Formal)

- ▶ Two identical-looking coins with unknown head probabilities  $(\theta_0, \theta_1)$  (index arbitrary)
- ▶ For  $i = 1, \dots, 5$ 
  1. Draw *latent*  $Z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p = 0.5)$ ,  $Z_i \in \{0, 1\}$
  2. Draw  $X_i | Z_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 10, p = \theta_{Z_i})$ ,  $X_i \in \{0, \dots, 10\}$

Index $i$	Coin	Heads
	$Z_i$	$X_i$
1	?	5
2	?	9
3	?	8
4	?	4
5	?	7

## How Do We Approach Incomplete Data

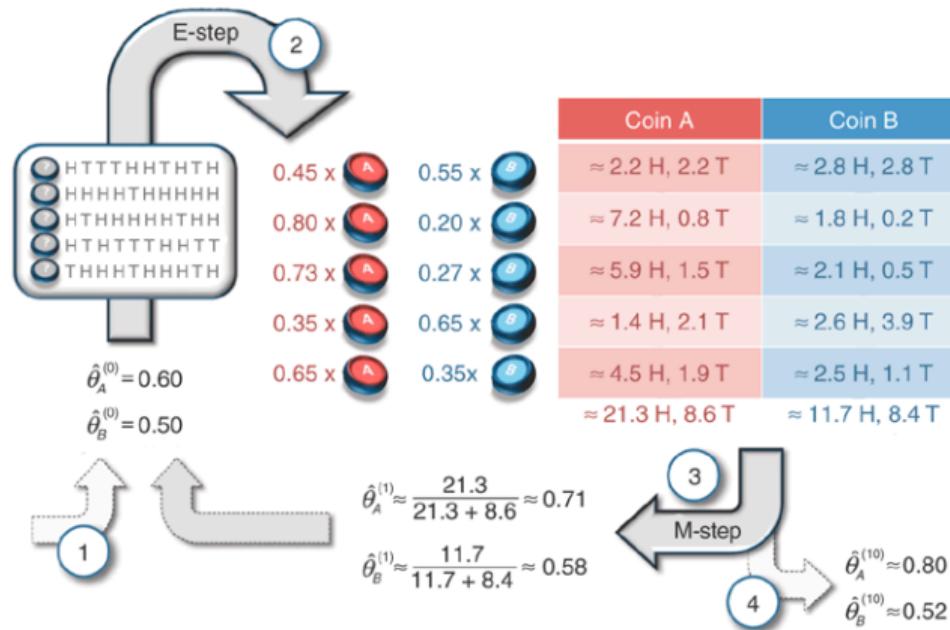
- ▶ Now we cannot compute the proportion of heads among tosses for each coin.
- ▶ However, one possible iterative scheme is:
  - ▶ Assign some initial guess for parameters
  - ▶ Guess coin identities given data and assuming these parameter values
  - ▶ Perform MLE given data and assuming coin identities
- ▶ The Expectation-Maximization (EM) Algorithm [[Dempster et al., 1977](#)] is a refinement of this idea for MLE.
- ▶ The Data Augmentation Method [[Tanner and Wong, 1987](#)] is another type of refinement for Bayesian estimation.

# Expectation-Maximization Algorithm

# EM Algorithm to the Rescue

- ▶ The Expectation-Maximization (EM) Algorithm [Dempster et al., 1977]
- ▶ After random initialization of parameters, two steps alternates until convergence to an MLE.
- ▶ Steps repeated
  1. E-Step (compute Expected sufficient statistics):
    - ▶ Estimate probabilities of latent states given current parameters (coin identity probabilities)
    - ▶ Obtain expected sufficient statistics (weighted head counts distributed across coins)
  2. M-Step (Maximize expected log-likelihood):
    - ▶ Obtain MLE of parameters given expected sufficient statistics and update parameters
- ▶ By using weighted training data, the EM algorithm accounts for the confidence in the guessed latent state.

**b** Expectation maximization



(a) Maximum likelihood estimation. For each set of ten tosses, the maximum likelihood procedure accumulates the counts of heads and tails for coins A and B separately. These counts are then used to estimate the coin biases. (b) Expectation maximization. 1. EM starts with an initial guess of the parameters. 2. In the E-step, a probability distribution over possible completions is computed using the current parameters. The counts shown in the table are the expected numbers of heads and tails according to this distribution. 3. In the M-step, new parameters are determined using the current completions. 4. After several repetitions of the E-step and M-step, the algorithm converges.

# Parameter Initialization

- ▶ Randomly initialize the parameters

- ▶  $\hat{\theta}_0^{(0)} := 0.6$
- ▶  $\hat{\theta}_1^{(0)} := 0.5$

## E-Step (0) |

- ▶ Current parameters:  $\hat{\theta}_0^{(0)} = 0.6, \hat{\theta}_1^{(0)} = 0.5$

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	?	?	5	? $\times$ 5	? $\times$ 5
2	?	?	?	9	? $\times$ 9	? $\times$ 9
3	?	?	?	8	? $\times$ 8	? $\times$ 8
4	?	?	?	4	? $\times$ 4	? $\times$ 4
5	?	?	?	7	? $\times$ 7	? $\times$ 7
Sum		?	?	33	?	?

- ▶ First, we need coin probabilities for each  $i$  given the current parameter values  $\hat{\theta}^{(0)}$ .
- ▶ We will focus on  $E_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i|X_i = x_i]$ , the probability of Coin B given the number of heads observed and current parameters.

## E-Step (0) ||

- ▶ Probability of Coin B given the number of heads observed and current parameters:

$$E_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i | X_i = x_i] = P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i = 1 | X_i = x_i]$$

Bayes rule

$$= \frac{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = 1] P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i = 1]}{\sum_{z=0}^1 P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = z] P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i = z]}$$

Coin choice probability = 0.5

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = 1](0.5)}{\sum_{z=0}^1 P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = z](0.5)} \\ &= \frac{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = 1]}{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = 0] + P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i | Z_i = 1]} \end{aligned}$$

## E-Step (0) III

$$E_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[Z_i|X_i = x_i] = \frac{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i|Z_i = 1]}{P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i|Z_i = 0] + P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i|Z_i = 1]}$$

- ▶  $P_{\hat{\theta}^{(0)}}[X_i = x_i|Z_i = z]$  is the probability mass (dbinom) of the observed  $X_i$  assuming coin identity  $z$  and current parameters.
- ▶ Thus, this quantity, the probability of Coin B given the the observed  $X_i$  and the current parameters, can be calculated as follows for the first row (5 heads).

---

```
A <- dbinom(x = 5, size = 10, prob = 0.60) # Prob. of 5 heads given Coin A
B <- dbinom(x = 5, size = 10, prob = 0.50) # Prob. of 5 heads given Coin B
B / (A + B)                                # Prob. of Coin B given 5 heads
```

---

[1] 0.5508511

## E-Step (0) IV

- Now we have the probabilities of coin identities.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.45	0.55	5	? × 5	? × 5
2	?	0.80	0.20	9	? × 9	? × 9
3	?	0.73	0.27	8	? × 8	? × 8
4	?	0.35	0.65	4	? × 4	? × 4
5	?	0.65	0.35	7	? × 7	? × 7
Sum		2.99	2.01		?	?

## E-Step (0) $\vee$

- Now we weight the contribution of sufficient statistics accordingly.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.45	0.55	5	$0.45 \times 5$	$0.55 \times 5$
2	?	0.80	0.20	9	$0.80 \times 9$	$0.20 \times 9$
3	?	0.73	0.27	8	$0.73 \times 8$	$0.27 \times 8$
4	?	0.35	0.65	4	$0.35 \times 4$	$0.65 \times 4$
5	?	0.65	0.35	7	$0.65 \times 7$	$0.35 \times 7$
Sum		2.99	2.01		?	?

## E-Step (0) VI

- ▶ Calculate the expected heads and consider expected tosses.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.45	0.55	5	$0.45 \times 5$	$0.55 \times 5$
2	?	0.80	0.20	9	$0.80 \times 9$	$0.20 \times 9$
3	?	0.73	0.27	8	$0.73 \times 8$	$0.27 \times 8$
4	?	0.35	0.65	4	$0.35 \times 4$	$0.65 \times 4$
5	?	0.65	0.35	7	$0.65 \times 7$	$0.35 \times 7$
Sum		2.99	2.01		21.3	11.7

- ▶ In expectation, Coin A was chosen 2.99 times, resulting in 29.9 expected tosses, whereas Coin B was chosen 2.01 times, resulting in 20.1 expected tosses.
- ▶ The observed heads are distributed across coins. The sums indicate 21.3 expected heads for Coin A and 11.7 expected heads for Coin B.

## M-Step (0) |

- Now using the current expected heads and tosses for each coin, recalculate the MLE.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.45	0.55	5	$0.45 \times 5$	$0.55 \times 5$
2	?	0.80	0.20	9	$0.80 \times 9$	$0.20 \times 9$
3	?	0.73	0.27	8	$0.73 \times 8$	$0.27 \times 8$
4	?	0.35	0.65	4	$0.35 \times 4$	$0.65 \times 4$
5	?	0.65	0.35	7	$0.65 \times 7$	$0.35 \times 7$
Sum		2.99	2.01		21.3	11.7

- MLE:  $\hat{\theta}_0^{(1)} = 21.3 / (2.99 \times 10) = 0.71$ ;  $\hat{\theta}_1^{(1)} = 11.7 / (2.01 \times 10) = 0.58$

## E-Step (1) |

- ▶ Current parameters:  $\hat{\theta}_0^{(1)} = 0.71$ ,  $\hat{\theta}_1^{(1)} = 0.58$
- ▶ Calculate the probabilities again and update the expected tosses and heads.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.30	0.70	5	$0.30 \times 5$	$0.70 \times 5$
2	?	0.81	0.19	9	$0.81 \times 9$	$0.19 \times 9$
3	?	0.71	0.29	8	$0.71 \times 8$	$0.29 \times 8$
4	?	0.19	0.81	4	$0.19 \times 4$	$0.81 \times 4$
5	?	0.57	0.43	7	$0.57 \times 7$	$0.43 \times 7$
Sum		2.58	2.42	33	19.21	13.79

- ▶ In expectation, Coin A was chosen 2.58 times, resulting in 25.8 expected tosses, whereas Coin B was chosen 2.42 times, resulting in 24.2 expected tosses.
- ▶ The sums indicate 19.21 expected heads for Coin A and 13.79 expected heads for Coin B.

## M-Step (1) |

- Now using the current expected heads and tosses for each coin, recalculate the MLE.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.30	0.70	5	$0.30 \times 5$	$0.70 \times 5$
2	?	0.81	0.19	9	$0.81 \times 9$	$0.19 \times 9$
3	?	0.71	0.29	8	$0.71 \times 8$	$0.29 \times 8$
4	?	0.19	0.81	4	$0.19 \times 4$	$0.81 \times 4$
5	?	0.57	0.43	7	$0.57 \times 7$	$0.43 \times 7$
Sum		2.58	2.42	33	19.21	13.79

- MLE:  $\hat{\theta}_0^{(2)} = 19.21 / (2.58 \times 10) = 0.75$ ;  $\hat{\theta}_1^{(2)} = 13.79 / (2.42 \times 10) = 0.57$

# Automated Version I

- The em\_step function perform one cycle of the E-step and M-step.

```
suppressMessages(library(tidyverse)); options(crayon.enabled = FALSE)
rel_dbinom <- function(X, theta) {
  p_X_Z0 <- dbinom(x = X, size = 10, prob = theta[1])
  p_X_Z1 <- dbinom(x = X, size = 10, prob = theta[2])
  tibble("Prob. Coin A" = p_X_Z0 / (p_X_Z0 + p_X_Z1),
         "Prob. Coin B" = p_X_Z1 / (p_X_Z0 + p_X_Z1))
}
em_step <- function(theta) {
  X <- c(5,9,8,4,7)
  exp_choice <- bind_rows(rel_dbinom(X[1], theta),
                           rel_dbinom(X[2], theta),
                           rel_dbinom(X[3], theta),
                           rel_dbinom(X[4], theta),
                           rel_dbinom(X[5], theta))
  exp_head <- sweep(exp_choice, MARGIN = 1, STATS = X, FUN = "*")
  colnames(exp_head) <- c("Heads Coin A", "Heads Coin B")
  E <- bind_cols(tibble(Index = c(as.character(1:5), "Sum")),
                 bind_rows(exp_choice, colSums(exp_choice)),
                 tibble(X = c(X, sum(X))),
                 bind_rows(exp_head, colSums(exp_head)))
  M <- as.numeric(colSums(exp_head) / (colSums(exp_choice) * 10))
  list(E = E, M = M)
}
```

## EM Step (2)

```
em_step(theta = c(0.6, 0.5)) %>% magrittr::extract2("M") %>%
  em_step() %>% magrittr::extract2("M") %>%
  em_step()
```

\$E

```
# A tibble: 6 x 6
```

	Index	Prob. Coin A	Prob. Coin B	X	Heads	Coin A	Heads	Coin B
<chr>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>	<dbl>
1	1	0.218	0.782	5	1.09	3.91		
2	2	0.870	0.130	9	7.83	1.17		
3	3	0.751	0.249	8	6.01	1.99		
4	4	0.112	0.888	4	0.446	3.55		
5	5	0.577	0.423	7	4.04	2.96		
6	Sum	2.53	2.47	33	19.4	13.6		

\$M

```
[1] 0.7680988 0.5495359
```

## Iterative Version |

- ▶ The `em_iter` function fully automate the iterations until convergence at the specified tolerance.

---

```
em_iter <- function(theta, tolerance = 10^(-3)) {  
  thetas <- tibble(theta0 = theta[1], thetal = theta[2])  
  theta_prev <- theta  
  theta_curr <- em_step(theta)$M  
  while (sqrt(sum((theta_curr - theta_prev)^2)) > tolerance) {  
    theta_prev <- theta_curr  
    thetas <- bind_rows(thetas, tibble(theta0 = theta_prev[1], thetal = theta_prev[2]))  
    theta_curr <- em_step(theta_prev)$M  
  }  
  thetas <- bind_rows(thetas, tibble(theta0 = theta_curr[1], thetal = theta_curr[2]))  
  return(thetas)  
}
```

---

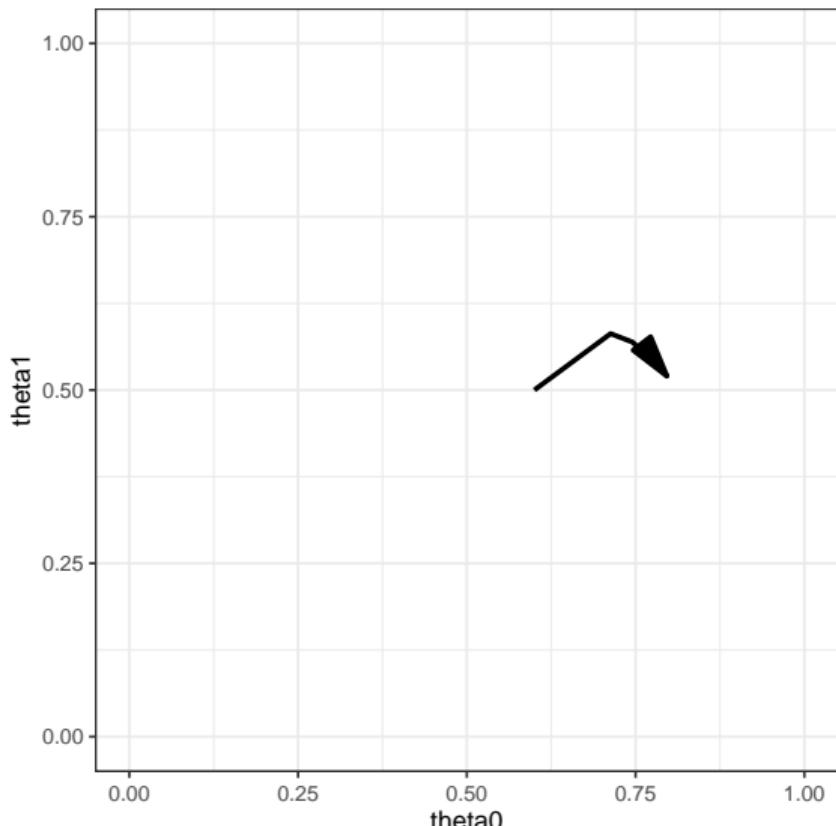
## Iterative Version II

```
(em_iter_out <- em_iter(theta = c(0.6, 0.5), tolerance = 10^(-3)))
```

```
# A tibble: 9 x 2
  theta0 theta1
  <dbl>   <dbl>
1 0.6     0.5
2 0.713   0.581
3 0.745   0.569
4 0.768   0.550
5 0.783   0.535
6 0.791   0.526
7 0.795   0.522
8 0.796   0.521
9 0.796   0.520
```

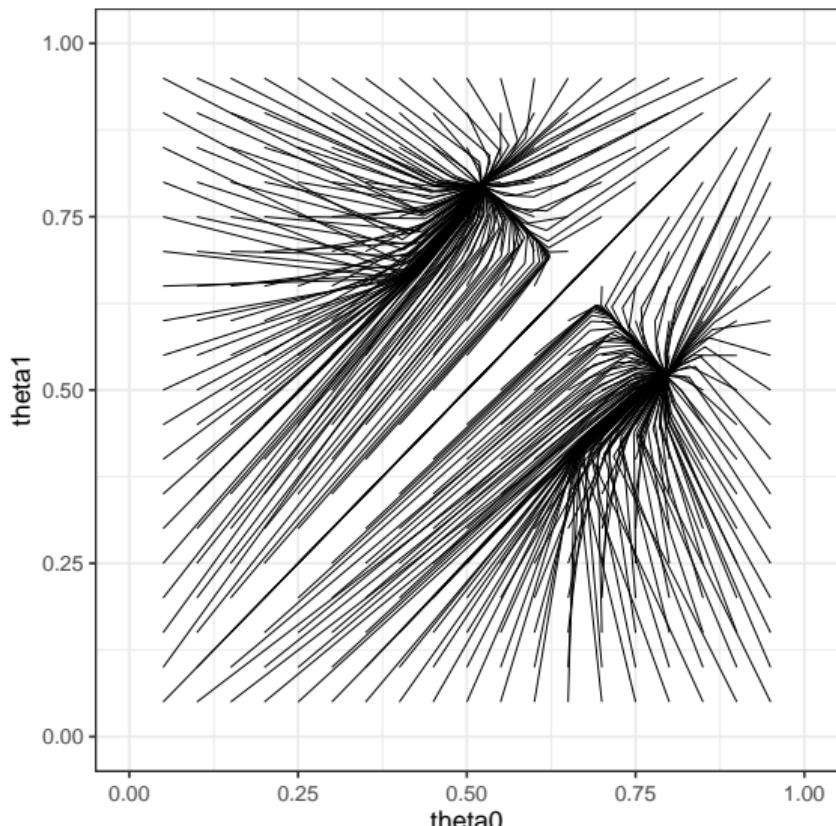
# Visual Representation of Iteration

- ▶ The algorithm deterministically converge to the local maximum by monotonically improving the parameter estimate.
- ▶ As with most optimization methods for non-concave function (i.e., multiple local maxima), the EM algorithm comes with guarantees only of convergence to a local maximum.



# Multiple Initialization and Label Indeterminacy

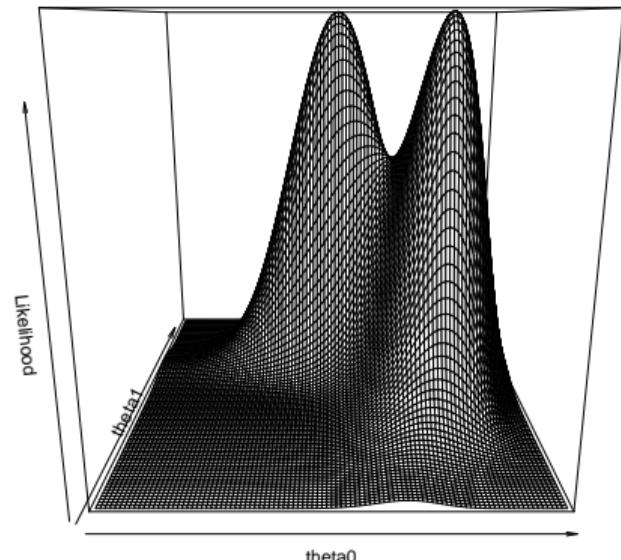
- ▶ Multiple initial starting parameters are often helpful.
- ▶ In this instance, at least three  $\hat{\theta}$  seem to exist:  $(0.80, 0.52)$ ,  $(0.52, 0.80)$ ,  $(0.66, 0.66)$ .
- ▶ Note  $\theta = (0.80, 0.52)$  and  $\theta = (0.52, 0.80)$  give the same models because the labeling  $\theta_0$  and  $\theta_1$  (which coin we call 0 or 1) is arbitrary.
- ▶  $\theta = (0.66, 0.66)$  corresponds to a model where we really only have one type of coins.



# Incomplete-Data Likelihood

- ▶ In this specific instance, the incomplete-data likelihood can be graphed with grid search as the parameter space is small and low dimensional ( $[0,1]^2$ ).
- ▶ The incomplete-data likelihood is bimodal and has a saddle point between the modes.
- ▶ This shape explains the three solutions.

Incomplete-Data Likelihood



# EM Algorithm Applications

- ▶ Many probabilistic models in computational biology include latent variables.  
[Do and Batzoglou, 2008]
  - ▶ Gene expression clustering
  - ▶ Motif finding
  - ▶ Haplotype inference

# Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm I

- ▶ This part proves that the EM Algorithm is guaranteed to improve the parameter estimate toward the local optimum every step.  
[Do and Batzoglou, 2008, Murphy, 2012]

$$\log(p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) = \log \left( \sum_{\mathbf{z}} p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)$$

Introduce arbitrary distribution  $Q$

$$= \log \left( \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right)$$

Rewrite as expectation

$$= \log \left( E_Q \left[ \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right] \right)$$

# Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm II

Jensen's inequality on concave log

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq E_Q \left[ \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \right] \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) + \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log (p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) \\ &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) + \log (p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \\ &= \log (p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) + \sum_{\mathbf{z}} Q(\mathbf{z}) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})}{Q(\mathbf{z})} \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm III

$$= \log(p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) - \mathbb{KL}(Q(\mathbf{z})||p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

- ▶ This inequality gives the lower bound for  $\log(p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}))$  for all  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ .
- ▶ This lower bound is improved (maximized) by reducing the KL divergence [Murphy, 2012] by setting  $Q(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$ , which also gives equality.
- ▶ As  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is the unknown quantity that we want to estimate, we can use  $Q(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$  as our best available option. In this case, equality holds at  $\log(p(\mathbf{x}|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)}))$ .
- ▶ Consider the following function  $g_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ , which uses  $Q(\mathbf{z}) = p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$ . Note that only the numerator term within the log has a free parameter  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ .  
[Do and Batzoglou, 2008]

## Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm IV

$$g_t(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z}} p\left(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)}\right) \log \left( \frac{p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p\left(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}, \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)}\right)} \right)$$

- ▶ Note that  $\log(p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})) \geq g_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$  for all  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  by the inequality.
- ▶ At  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)}$ ,  $g_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$  meets the equality condition, thus,  $g_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)}) = \log p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$ . That is,  $g_t$  "touches" the incomplete-data likelihood function at the current parameter estimates. [Murphy, 2012]
- ▶ Consider an update rule to find  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)}$  that maximizes this  $g_t$  function:  
 $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t+1)} = \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} g_t(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ . Then the following inequality holds.

## Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm V

By above inequality

$$\log p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t+1)}) \geq g_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t+1)})$$

As  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t+1)}$  maximizes  $g_t$

$$\geq g_t(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$$

Equality holds at current value

$$= \log p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$$

- ▶ Therefore,  $\log p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t+1)}) \geq \log p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{(t)})$ . That is, this update rule is guaranteed to improve the parameter estimate for the incomplete-data likelihood at each step.

## Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm VI

- ▶ Now compare this update rule to the EM algorithm.

$$\hat{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \arg \max_{\theta} g_t(\theta)$$

$$= \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_z p(z|x, \hat{\theta}^{(t)}) \log \left( \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p(z|x, \hat{\theta}^{(t)})} \right)$$

$$= \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_z p(z|x, \hat{\theta}^{(t)}) \left[ \log p(x, z|\theta) - \log p(z|x, \hat{\theta}^{(t)}) \right]$$

Drop constant second term free of  $\theta$

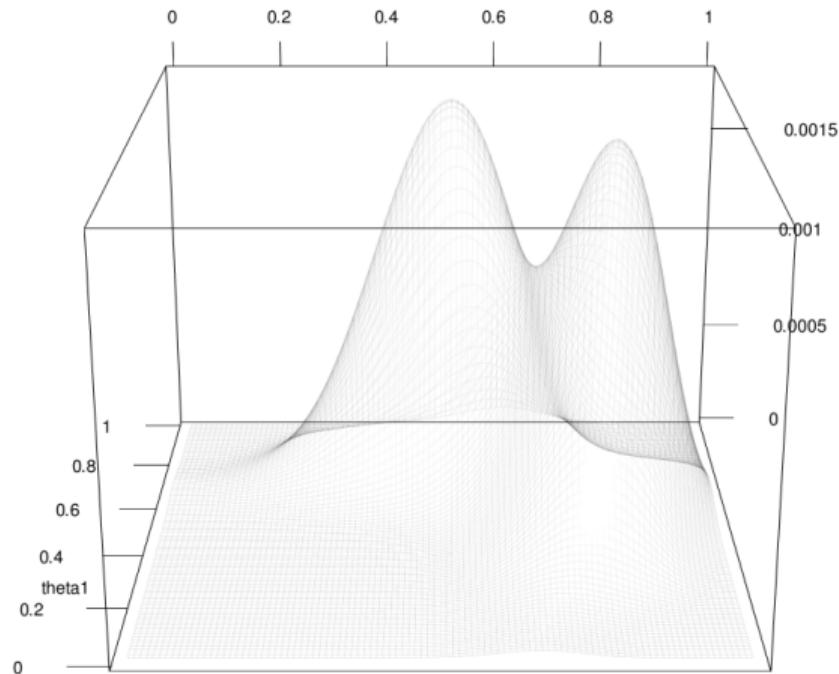
$$= \arg \max_{\theta} \sum_z p(z|x, \hat{\theta}^{(t)}) \log p(x, z|\theta)$$

## Monotone Improvement in EM Algorithm VII

- ▶ This is maximization of the expected complete-data log likelihood. The expectation is over the distribution  $z$  given the observed data  $x$  and assuming the current parameter value  $\hat{\theta}^{(t)}$ .
- ▶ Therefore, the EM algorithm is equivalent to the update rule with the guaranteed improvement at each step.

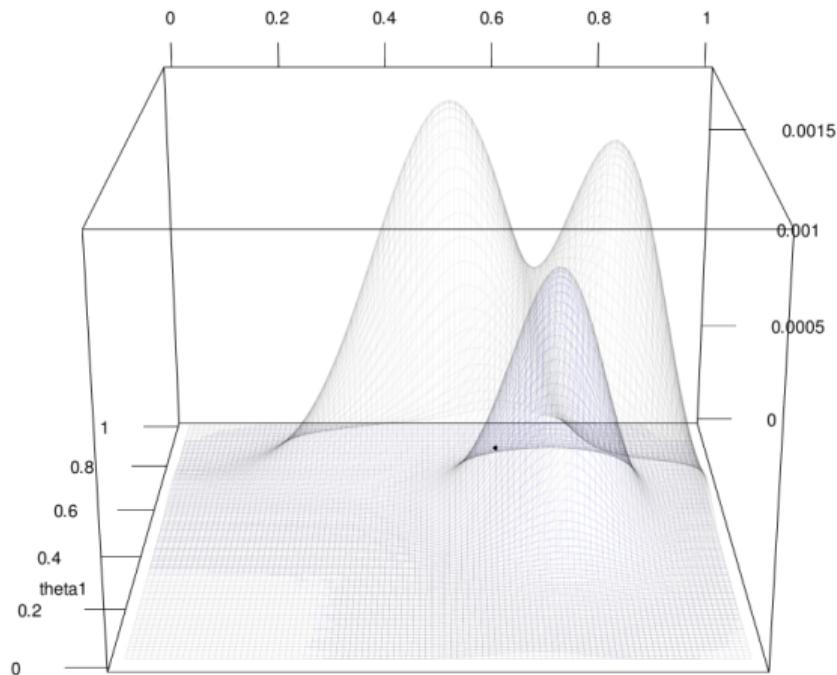
# EM: Incomplete-Data Likelihood

- ▶ Incomplete-data likelihood function.



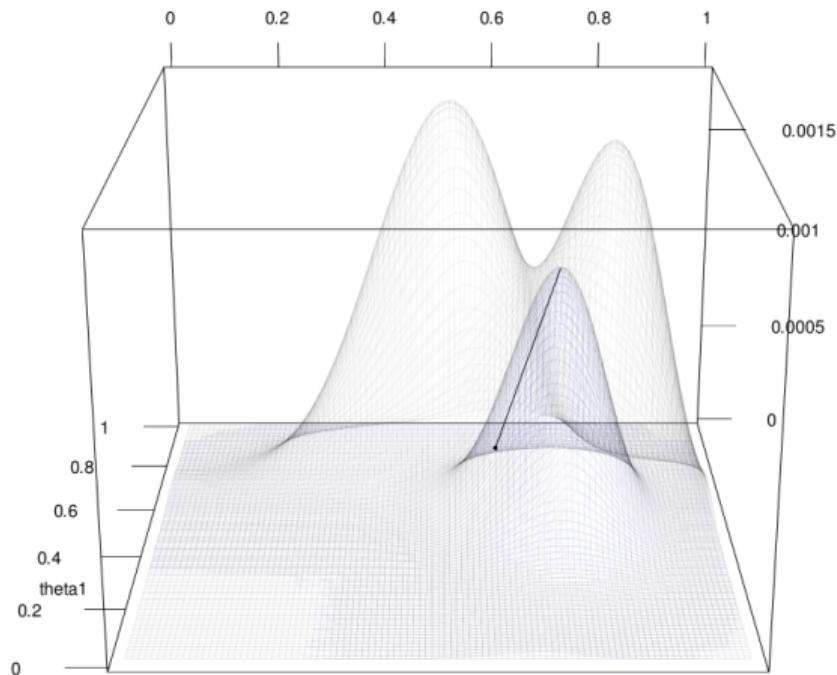
## EM: E Step (0)

- ▶  $g_0(\theta)$  added



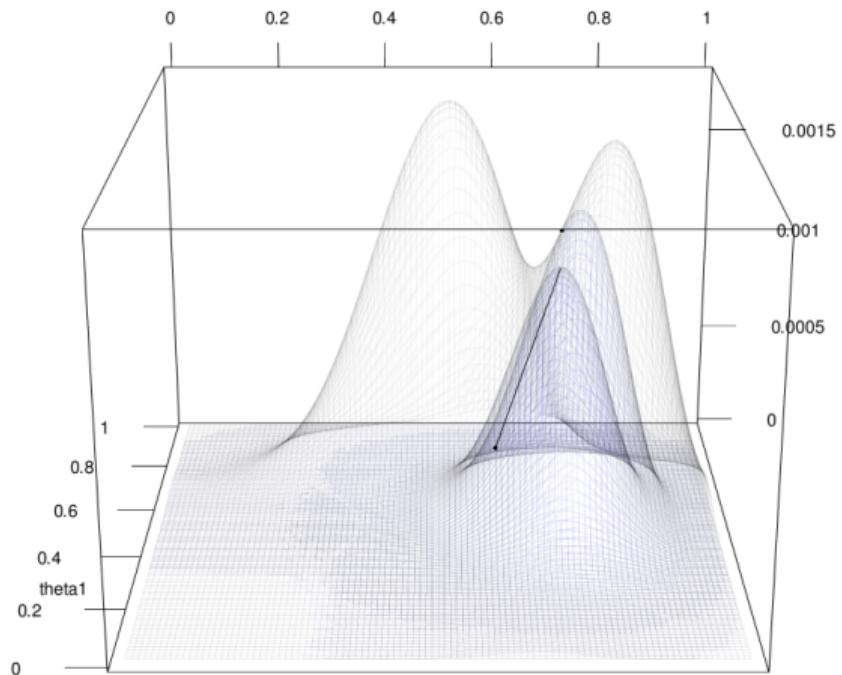
## EM: M Step (0)

- ▶  $g_0(\theta)$  maximized



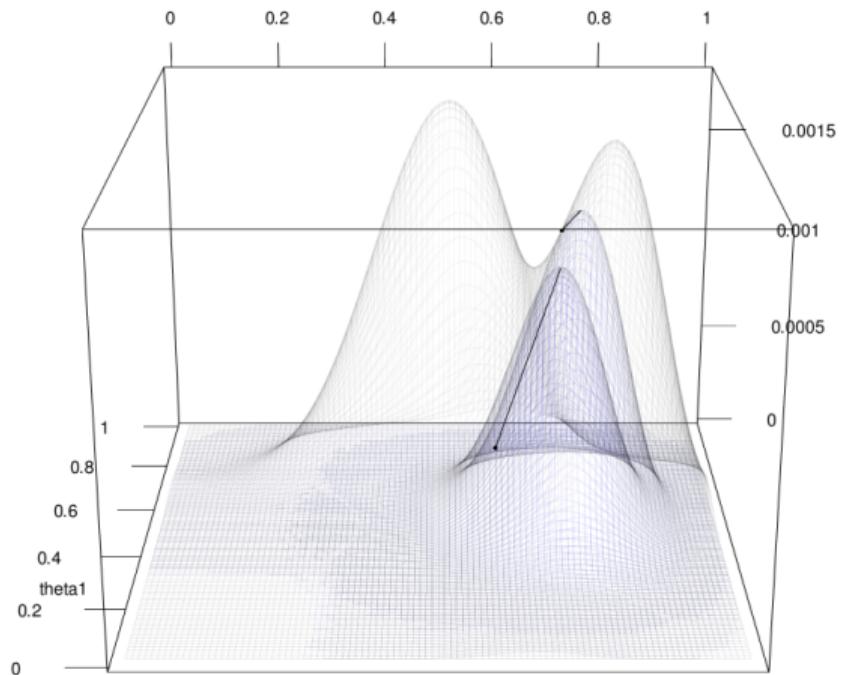
## EM: E Step (1)

- ▶  $g_1(\theta)$  added



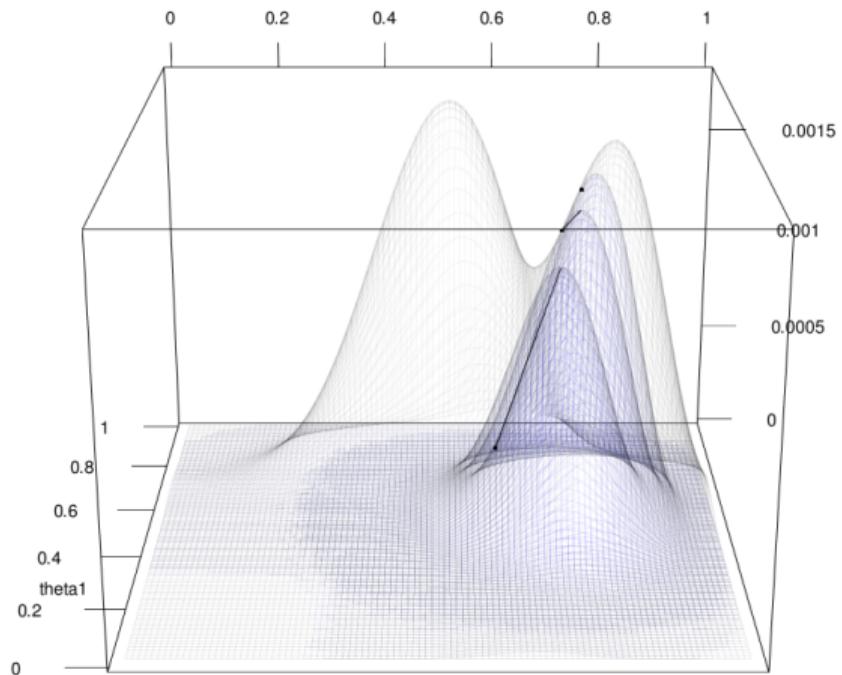
## EM: M Step (1)

- ▶  $g_1(\theta)$  maximized



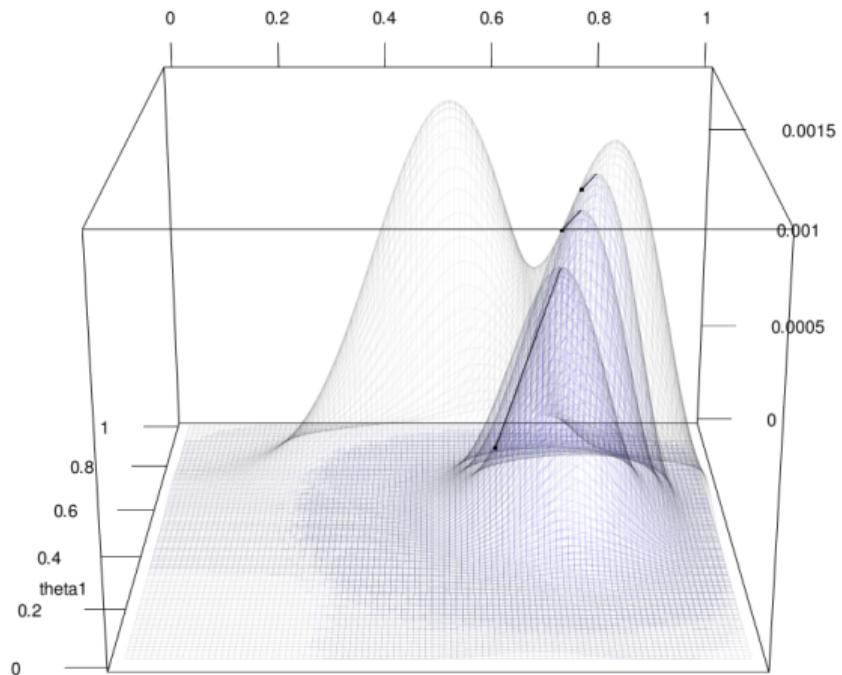
## EM: E Step (2)

- ▶  $g_2(\theta)$  added



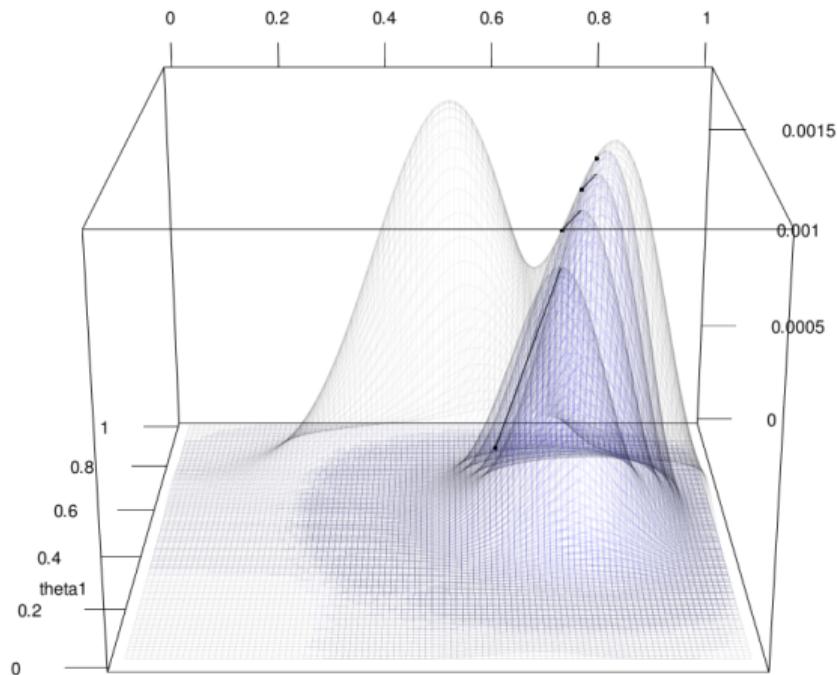
## EM: M Step (2)

- ▶  $g_2(\theta)$  maximized



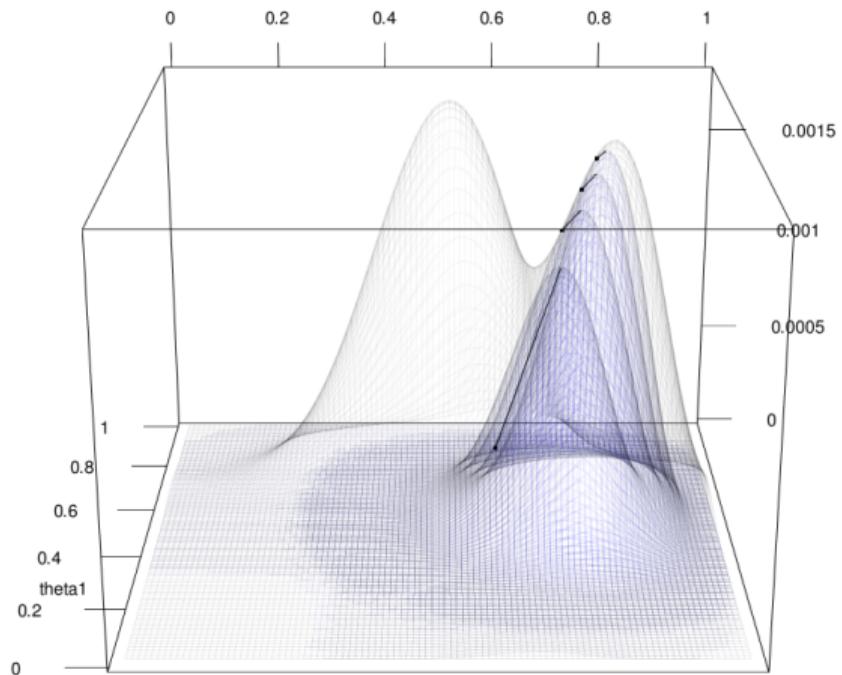
## EM: E Step (3)

- ▶  $g_3(\theta)$  added



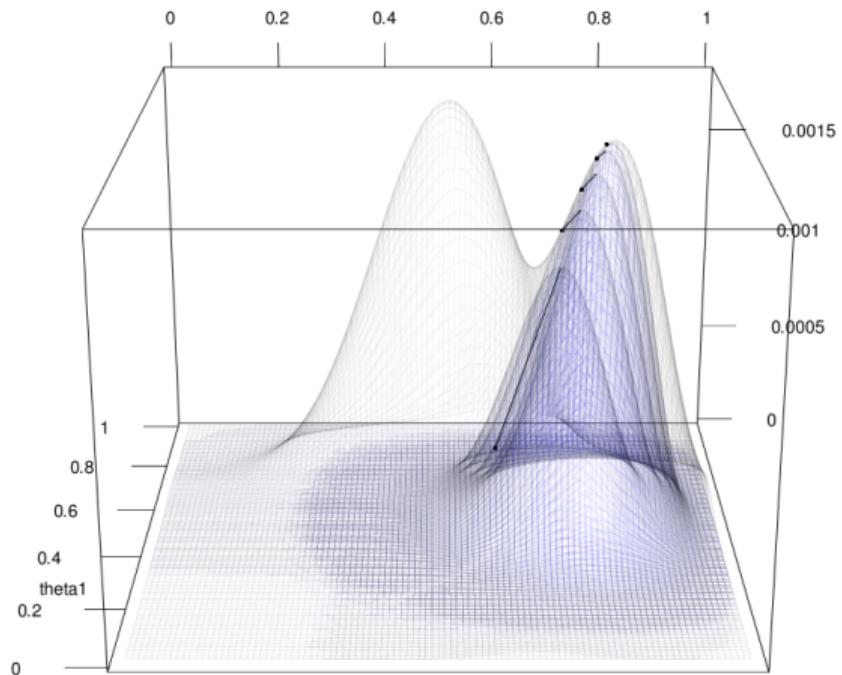
## EM: M Step (3)

- ▶  $g_3(\theta)$  maximized



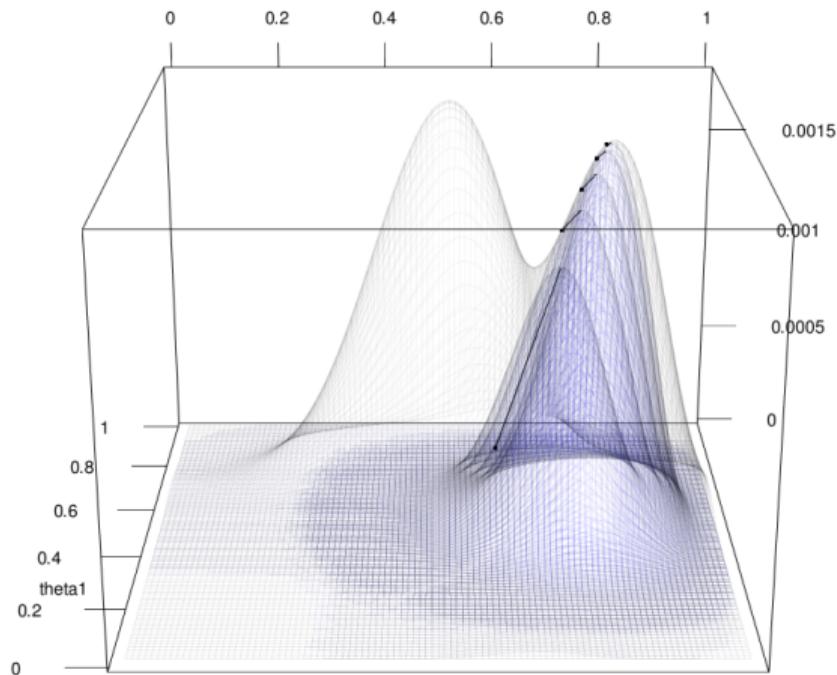
## EM: E Step (4)

- ▶  $g_4(\theta)$  added



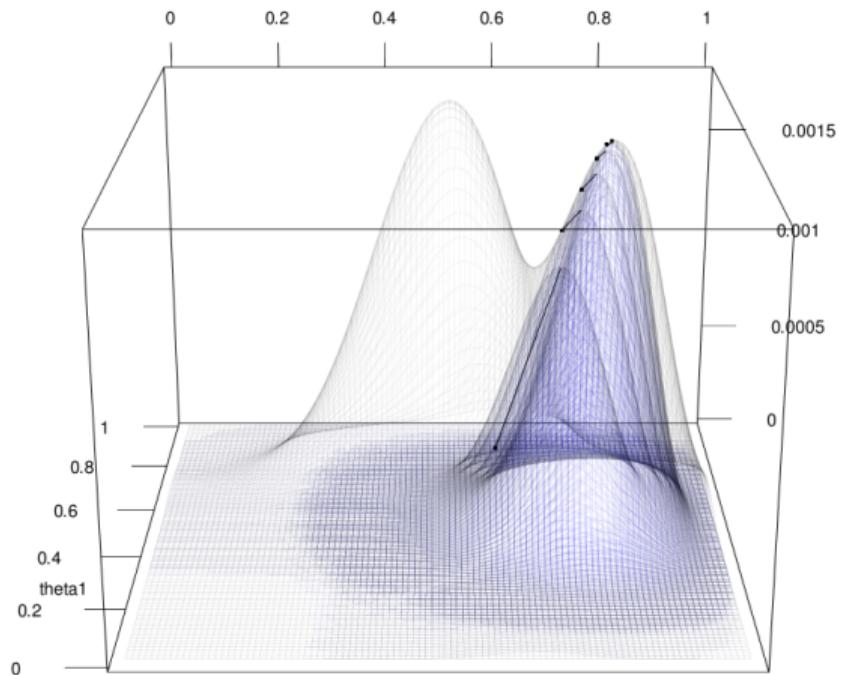
## EM: M Step (4)

- ▶  $g_4(\theta)$  maximized



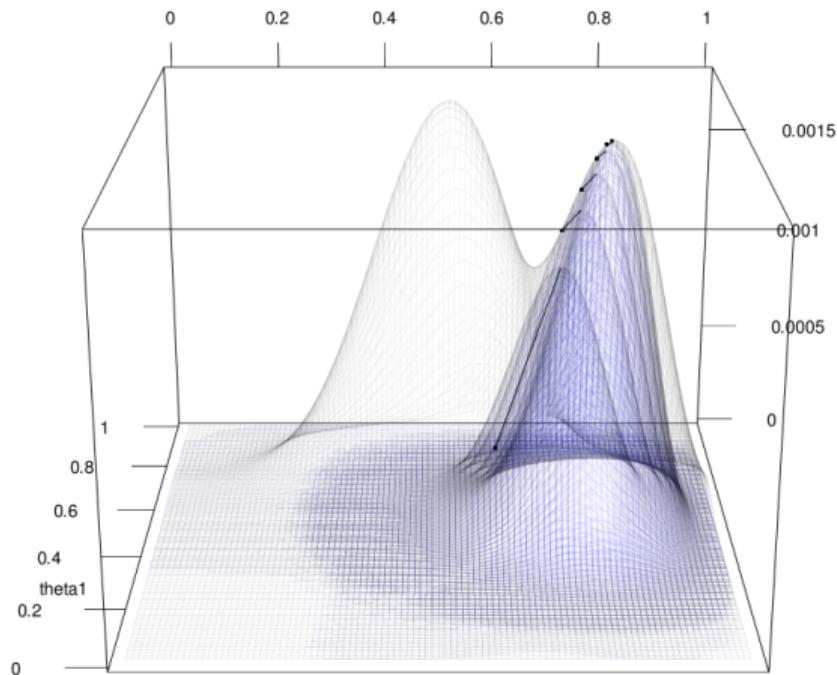
## EM: E Step (5)

- ▶  $g_5(\theta)$  added



## EM: M Step (5)

- ▶  $g_5(\theta)$  maximized



# Data Augmentation Method

# From EM to DA

- ▶ A related Bayesian computation method is the *Data Augmentation* method.  
[[Tanner and Wong, 1987](#), [Tanner and Wong, 2010](#)]
- ▶ After random initialization of parameters, two steps alternates until convergence to a posterior distribution.
- ▶ Steps repeated
  1. Imputation (I) Step:
    - ▶ Estimate probabilities of latent states given current parameters
    - ▶ Draw a latent state
  2. Posterior (P) Step:
    - ▶ Draw new parameters given data and latent state

## Model Configuration

- ▶ To set up a Bayesian computation, we need probability models for the data (likelihood) as well as the parameters (prior).
- ▶ Likelihood

$$Z_i \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p = 0.5), Z_i \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$X_i | Z_i, \boldsymbol{\theta} \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 10, p = \theta_{Z_i}), X_i \in \{0, \dots, 10\}$$

- ▶ Prior

$$\theta_0 \sim \text{Beta}(a_0, b_0)$$

$$\theta_1 \sim \text{Beta}(a_1, b_1)$$

- ▶ Here we will consider independent uniform priors ( $a_j = b_j = 1, j = 0, 1$ ).

# Parameter Initialization

- ▶ Randomly initialize the parameters

- ▶  $\theta_0^{(0)} := 0.6$
- ▶  $\theta_1^{(0)} := 0.5$

# I-Step (1) |

- ▶ Current parameters:  $\theta_0^{(0)} = 0.6, \theta_1^{(0)} = 0.5$

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	?	?	5	? $\times$ 5	? $\times$ 5
2	?	?	?	9	? $\times$ 9	? $\times$ 9
3	?	?	?	8	? $\times$ 8	? $\times$ 8
4	?	?	?	4	? $\times$ 4	? $\times$ 4
5	?	?	?	7	? $\times$ 7	? $\times$ 7
Sum				33	?	?

- ▶ First, we need coin probabilities for each  $i$  given the current parameter values  $\theta^{(0)}$ .
- ▶ This calculation is the same as the EM algorithm.

# I-Step (1) ||

- ▶ Now we have the probabilities of coin identities.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	?	0.45	0.55	5	? × 5	? × 5
2	?	0.80	0.20	9	? × 9	? × 9
3	?	0.73	0.27	8	? × 8	? × 8
4	?	0.35	0.65	4	? × 4	? × 4
5	?	0.65	0.35	7	? × 7	? × 7
Sum				33	?	?

- ▶ We will now draw  $Z_i^{(1)}$ .

---

```
set.seed(737265171)
rbinom(n = 5, size = 1, prob = c(0.55, 0.20, 0.27, 0.65, 0.35))
```

---

[1] 0 0 0 1 0

# I-Step (1) III

- We have imputed the latent coin identities.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	0	0.45	0.55	5	? × 5	? × 5
2	0	0.80	0.20	9	? × 9	? × 9
3	0	0.73	0.27	8	? × 8	? × 8
4	1	0.35	0.65	4	? × 4	? × 4
5	0	0.65	0.35	7	? × 7	? × 7
Sum				33	?	?

- We will proceed assuming these imputed latent coin identities.

## I-Step (1) IV

- We have imputed the latent coin identities.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	0	0.45	0.55	5	1 × 5	0 × 5
2	0	0.80	0.20	9	1 × 9	0 × 9
3	0	0.73	0.27	8	1 × 8	0 × 8
4	1	0.35	0.65	4	0 × 4	1 × 4
5	0	0.65	0.35	7	1 × 7	0 × 7
Sum				33	29	4

- We will proceed assuming these imputed latent coin identities.

## P-Step (1) |

- Now using the complete data on  $(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X})$ , construct a posterior  $p(\theta|\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{X})$ .

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	0	0.45	0.55	5	1 × 5	0 × 5
2	0	0.80	0.20	9	1 × 9	0 × 9
3	0	0.73	0.27	8	1 × 8	0 × 8
4	1	0.35	0.65	4	0 × 4	1 × 4
5	0	0.65	0.35	7	1 × 7	0 × 7
Sum					29	4

- Using imputed coin identities, we have 29 head and 11 tails (40 tosses) for Coin A and 4 heads and 6 tails (10 tosses) for Coin B.

## P-Step (1) II

- ▶ By conjugacy, we can updated the beta distributions as follows.

$$\theta_0^{(1)} \sim \text{Beta}(1 + 29, 1 + 11)$$
$$\theta_1^{(1)} \sim \text{Beta}(1 + 4, 1 + 6)$$

- ▶ Draw updated values.

```
c(rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = 1 + 29, shape2 = 1 + 11),  
  rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = 1 + 4, shape2 = 1 + 6)) %>% round(3)
```

```
[1] 0.760 0.471
```

- ▶ We now have updated parameter draws:  $\widehat{\theta}_0^{(1)} := 0.760$ ;  $\widehat{\theta}_1^{(1)} := 0.471$

## I-Step (2) |

- ▶ Current parameters:  $\theta_0^{(1)} = 0.760, \theta_1^{(1)} = 0.471$
- ▶ Calculate the probabilities again and impute the latent states.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_i X_i X_i]$
1	1	0.17	0.83	5	0 × 5	1 × 5
2	0	0.97	0.03	9	1 × 9	0 × 9
3	0	0.90	0.10	8	1 × 8	0 × 8
4	1	0.06	0.94	4	0 × 4	1 × 4
5	0	0.73	0.27	7	1 × 7	0 × 7
Sum				33	24	9

---

```
rbinom(n = 5, size = 1, prob = c(0.83, 0.03, 0.10, 0.94, 0.27))
```

---

```
[1] 1 0 0 1 0
```

## I-Step (2) II

- ▶ Using imputed coin identities, we have 24 head and 6 tails (30 tosses) for Coin A and 9 heads and 11 tail (20 tosses) for Coin B.

Index <i>i</i>	Coin $Z_i$	Prob. Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i) X_i]$	Prob. Coin B $E[Z_i X_i]$	Heads $X_i$	Heads Coin A $E[(1 - Z_i)X_i X_i]$	Heads Coin B $E[Z_iX_i X_i]$
1	1	0.17	0.83	5	$0 \times 5$	$1 \times 5$
2	0	0.97	0.03	9	$1 \times 9$	$0 \times 9$
3	0	0.90	0.10	8	$1 \times 8$	$0 \times 8$
4	1	0.06	0.94	4	$0 \times 4$	$1 \times 4$
5	0	0.73	0.27	7	$1 \times 7$	$0 \times 7$
Sum				33	24	9

## P-Step (2) |

- ▶ We have 24 head and 6 tails (30 tosses) for Coin A and 9 heads and 11 tail (20 tosses) for Coin B.
- ▶ The posterior distributions are:

$$\theta_0^{(2)} \sim \text{Beta}(1 + 24, 1 + 6)$$

$$\theta_1^{(2)} \sim \text{Beta}(1 + 9, 1 + 11)$$

- ▶ Draw updated values.

---

```
c(rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = 1 + 24, shape2 = 1 + 6),
  rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = 1 + 9, shape2 = 1 + 11)) %>% round(3)
```

---

## P-Step (2) II

```
[1] 0.677 0.483
```

- ▶ We now have updated parameter draws.
  - ▶  $\theta_0^{(2)} := 0.677$
  - ▶  $\theta_1^{(2)} := 0.483$
- ▶ In the limit, the draws for the missing data (I-Step) and the parameters (P-Step) are from the joint posterior *distribution* of the missing data and the parameters.  
[Little and Rubin, 2002]
- ▶ Note that this algorithm does not converge to a point unlike the EM algorithm.

# Automated Version I

---

```
ip_step <- function(theta, a, b) {
  X <- c(5, 9, 8, 4, 7)
  imp_coin <- bind_rows(rel_dbinom(X[1], theta),
                        rel_dbinom(X[2], theta),
                        rel_dbinom(X[3], theta),
                        rel_dbinom(X[4], theta),
                        rel_dbinom(X[5], theta)) %>%
    mutate(Coin = rbinom(n = 5, size = 1,
                         prob = `Prob. Coin B`),
           X = X,
           `Heads Coin A` = X * (1 - Coin),
           `Heads Coin B` = X * Coin) %>%
    select(Coin, `Prob. Coin A`, `Prob. Coin B`,
           X, `Heads Coin A`, `Heads Coin B`)
  imp_coin <- bind_cols(tibble(Index = c(as.character(1:5), "Sum")),
                        bind_rows(imp_coin, colSums(imp_coin)))
  Heads_A <- imp_coin$`Heads Coin A`[6]
  Tails_A <- (5 - imp_coin$Coin[6]) * 10 - Heads_A
```

# Automated Version II

```
Heads_B <- imp_coin$`Heads Coin B`[6]
Tails_B <- imp_coin$Coin[6] * 10 - Heads_B
theta_post_draws <- c(rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = a[1] + Heads_A, shape2 = b[1] + Tails_A),
                      rbeta(n = 1, shape1 = a[1] + Heads_B, shape2 = b[2] + Tails_B))

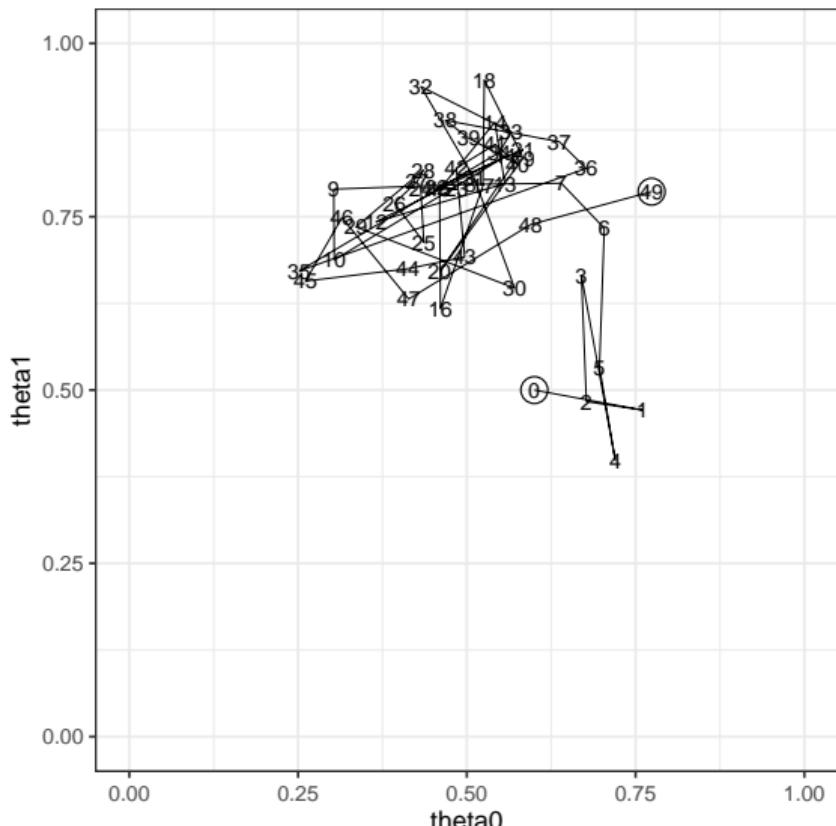
list(I = imp_coin, P = theta_post_draws)
}

ip_iter <- function(theta, a = c(1,1), b = c(1,1), iter = 10) {
  thetas <- data.frame(theta0 = c(theta[1], rep(as.numeric(NA), iter)),
                        theta1 = c(theta[2], rep(as.numeric(NA), iter)))
  for (i in seq_len(iter)) {
    thetas[i+1,] <- ip_step(as.numeric(thetas[i,]), a, b)$P
  }
  return(as.tibble(thetas))
}
```

---

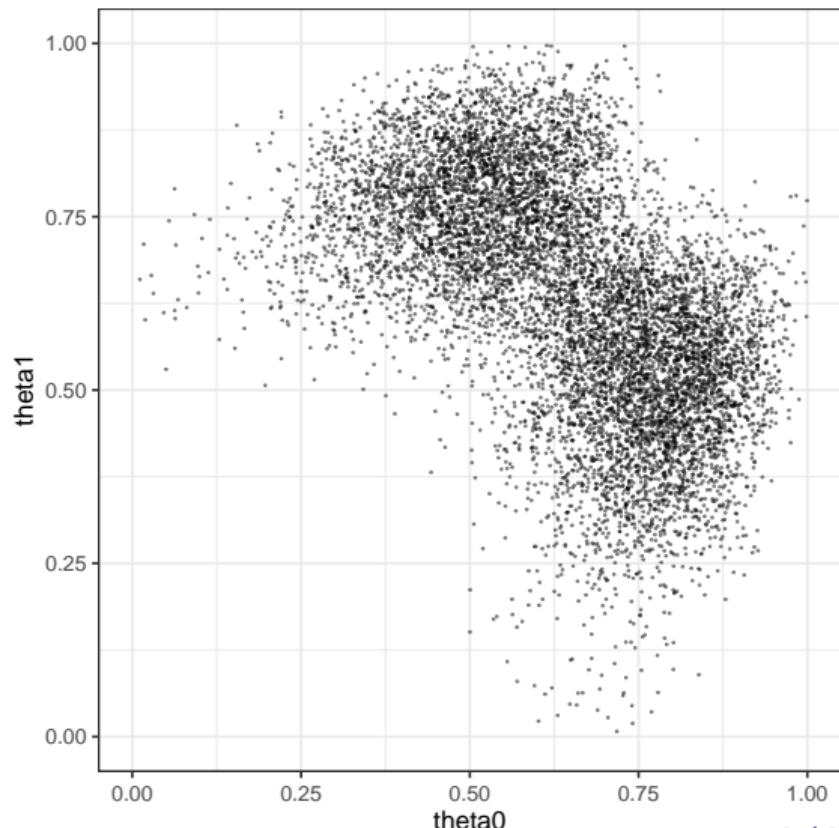
# Visual Representation of Initial Iterations

- ▶ The algorithm does not converge to a point.
- ▶ Sampling is performed proportional to the posterior density.
- ▶ More samples are obtained from parameter values that are more likely.



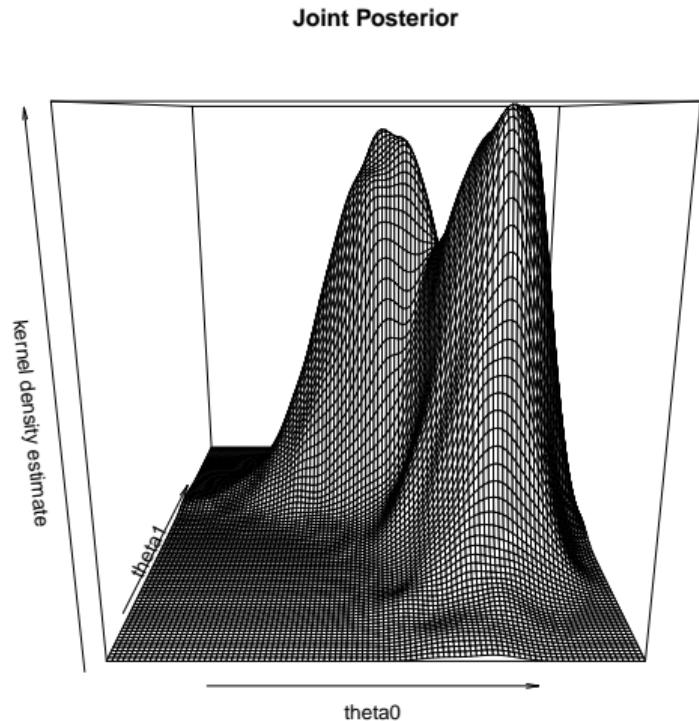
# Visual Representation of Posterior Samples

- ▶  $10^4$  posterior samples were obtained.
- ▶ The first 10% of posterior samples were discarded to reduce the influence of the initialization values.



# Visual Representation of Posterior Density

- ▶ The first 10% of posterior samples were discarded to reduce the influence of the initialization values.
- ▶ Similarly to the EM results with multiple initialization values, the posterior exhibits bimodality.



# Sampling Using Stan

## Stan: Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

- ▶ Traditional Bayesian posterior sampling software, such as WinBUGS [[Lunn et al., 2000](#)] and JAGS [[Plummer, 2003](#)], are Gibbs samplers.
- ▶ Gibbs sampling in this incomplete-data setting implements the data augmentation method.
- ▶ Stan [[Carpenter et al., 2017](#)] is a modern Bayesian posterior sampler, which uses more efficient Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC) [[Betancourt, 2017](#)].
- ▶ However, HMC cannot handle discrete parameters, so the latent state have to be integrated (summed) out of the posterior (marginalized posterior).

# Marginalized Posterior Derivation I

- We are interested in the posterior distribution of the parameters given the observed data only.

Introduce latent state

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta|\mathbf{X}) &= \sum_{\mathbf{z}} p(\theta, \mathbf{z}|\mathbf{X}) \\ &= \sum_{z_1=0}^1 \cdots \sum_{z_5=0}^1 p(\theta, z_1, \dots, z_5 | \mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_5) \end{aligned}$$

Bayes rule

$$\propto \sum_{z_1=0}^1 \cdots \sum_{z_5=0}^1 p(\theta, z_1, \dots, z_5, \mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_5)$$

## Marginalized Posterior Derivation II

iid given parameter

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_{z_1=0}^1 \cdots \sum_{z_5=0}^1 \prod_{i=1}^5 p(X_i|z_i, \theta) p(z_i) p(\theta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^5 \sum_{z_i=0}^1 p(X_i|z_i, \theta) p(z_i) p(\theta) \\ &= p(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^5 \sum_{z_i=0}^1 p(X_i|z_i, \theta) p(z_i) \\ &= p(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^5 \sum_{z_i=0}^1 p(X_i|z_i, \theta)(0.5) \end{aligned}$$

## Marginalized Posterior Derivation III

$$\propto p(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^5 \sum_{z_i=0}^1 p(X_i|z_i, \theta)$$

# Stan Implementation I

- ▶ The marginalized posterior expression can be implemented as follows in the Stan language.

---

```
stan_code <- readr::read_file("./coin.stan")
cat(stan_code)
```

---

```
/* Stan Code */
data {
    real<lower=0> a[2];
    real<lower=0> b[2];
    int<lower=0> N;
    int<lower=0> X[N];
}

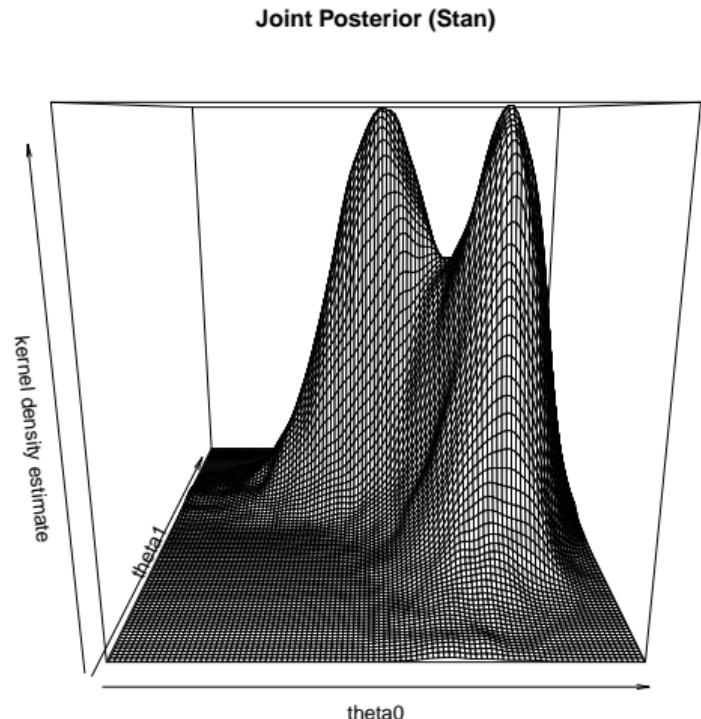
parameters {
    real<lower=0,upper=1> theta[2];
}
```

# Stan Implementation II

```
model {  
    /* Prior's contribution to posterior log probability. */  
    for (i in 1:2) {  
        target += beta_lpdf(theta[i] | a[i], b[i]);  
    }  
    /* Data (likelihood)'s contribution to posterior log probability. */  
    for (i in 1:N) {  
        /* This part sums out the latent coin identity. */  
        target += log_sum_exp(binomial_lpmf(X[i] | 10, theta[1]),  
                            binomial_lpmf(X[i] | 10, theta[2]));  
    }  
}
```

# Stan Posterior Samples

- ▶ The posterior distribution is essentially the same as the data augmentation version.
- ▶ The same bimodality issue persists.



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