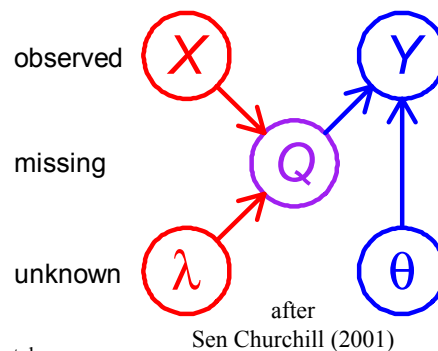


2 Key Statistical Issues for QTL

- general notation and data structure
- recombination model
 - two linked markers
 - flanking markers to a QTL
 - map distance and map functions
- modelling the phenotype
 - phenotype model
 - model likelihood
 - Bayesian posterior
- missing data concepts and algorithms
- model selection

interval mapping basics

- observed measurements
 - Y = phenotypic trait
 - X = markers & linkage map
 - i = individual index $1, \dots, n$
- missing data
 - missing marker data
 - Q = QT genotypes
 - alleles $QQ, Qq,$ or qq at locus
- unknown genetic architecture
 - λ = QT locus (or loci)
 - θ = genetic action
 - m = number of QTL
- $\text{pr}(Q|X, \lambda, m)$ recombination model
 - grounded by linkage map, experimental cross
 - recombination yields multinomial for Q given X
- $\text{pr}(Y|Q, \theta, m)$ phenotype model
 - distribution shape (assumed normal here)
 - unknown parameters θ (could be non-parametric)



2.1 general notation and data structure

- Y = phenotype values
 - as concept and realized (observed) values
- X = marker genotypes
 - type of experimental cross
 - linkage map construction
 - marker orders, positions, linkage phases
 - observed marker genotypes (possibly with error)
- $\text{pr}(Y, X)$ = joint probability
 - what we “know” about Y and X for this experiment
 - usually assume linkage map is “known”

conditional data likelihood

- condition on markers and linkage map

$$\text{pr}(Y | X) = \frac{\text{pr}(Y, X)}{\text{pr}(X)}$$

- $\text{pr}(X)$ comprises information on linkage map
 - not influenced by phenotype
 - thus can “ignore” for QTL purposes

unknown QTL genotypes

- usually have sparse linkage map of markers
 - want to condition on actual QTL genotype Q
 $\text{pr}(Y|Q)$
 - but actual QTL affecting phenotype not known
- need to consider all possibilities
 - average $\text{pr}(Y|Q)$ over all possible genotypes Q
 - weight by recombination $\text{pr}(Q|X)$

$$\text{pr}(Y | X) = \sum_Q \text{pr}(Y | Q) \text{pr}(Q | X)$$

enter the (Greek) parameters

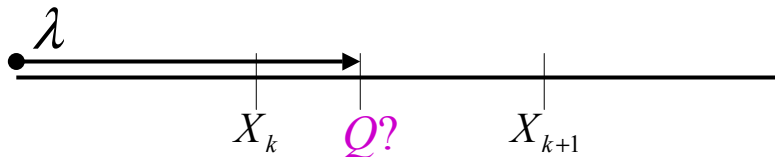
- θ = genetic effects, or gene action
 - additive, dominance, epistasis
 - may include reference values
 - grand mean (μ), environmental variance (σ^2)
- λ = location(s) of QTL
 - measured along “linear” genome
 - related to recombination and map distance

$$L(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \text{pr}(Y | X, \theta, \lambda) = \sum_Q \text{pr}(Y | Q, \theta) \text{pr}(Q | X, \lambda)$$

2.2 recombination model

- locus λ is distance along linkage map
 - identifies flanking marker region
- flanking markers provide good approximation
 - map assumed known from earlier study
 - inaccuracy slight using only flanking markers
 - extend to next flanking markers if missing data
 - could consider more complicated relationship
 - but little change in results

$$\text{pr}(Q|X, \lambda) = \text{pr}(\text{geno} | \text{map}, \text{locus}) \approx \text{pr}(\text{geno} | \text{flanking markers}, \text{locus})$$



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7

2.2.1 two linked markers

- backcross design
 - n individuals, 2 markers
 - follow one gamete
- recombinants
 - Ab, aB
 - $n_R = n_{12} + n_{21}$
- non-recombinants
 - ab, AB
 - $n_{NR} = n_{11} + n_{22}$
- recombination rate

$$\hat{r} = \frac{n_R}{n} = \frac{n_{12} + n_{21}}{n_{11} + n_{12} + n_{21} + n_{22}}$$

	A	r	B
		b	B
	a	(1-r)/2	r/2
		n_{11}	n_{12}
	A	r/2	(1-r)/2
		n_{21}	n_{22}
		NR	R
		ab, AB	Ab, aB
		$n_{NR} = n_{11} + n_{22}$	$n_R = n_{12} + n_{21}$

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8

no linkage?

- test for no linkage: $r = 1/2$
- assumption: all individuals have same rate
 - implies binomial variation

$$\hat{r} = \frac{n_R}{n} = \frac{n_{12} + n_{21}}{n_{11} + n_{12} + n_{21} + n_{22}}, \text{var}(\hat{r}) \approx \frac{\hat{r}(1-\hat{r})}{n}$$

- normal or chi-square test statistic

$$Z = \frac{\hat{r} - 1/2}{\sqrt{\text{var}(\hat{r})}} \sim N(0,1) \text{ or } Z^2 = \frac{(n_R - n/2)^2}{(n_R n_{NR} / n)} \sim \chi_1^2$$

binomial probabilities

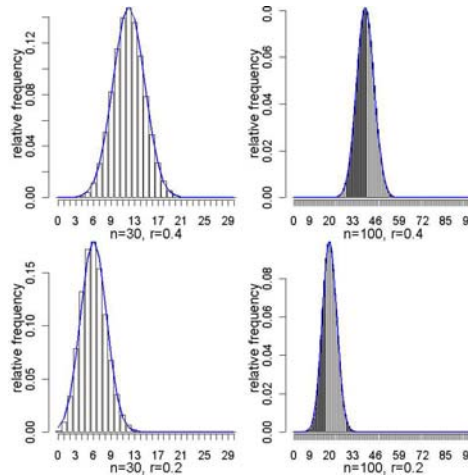
binomial prob

$$n = 30, 100$$

$$r = 0.4, 0.2$$

$$\text{pr}(n_R = k) = \binom{n}{k} r^k (1-r)^{n-k}$$

normal approx



likelihood ratio and LOD test

- likelihood for linked markers

$$L(r) = \text{pr}(n_R | n, r) = C r^{n_R} (1 - r)^{n_{NR}}$$

- likelihood for unlinked markers

$$L\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = C \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^n$$

- likelihood ratio and LOD

$$LR = 2^n (\hat{r})^{n_R} (1 - \hat{r})^{n_{NR}}, G^2 = 2 \log(LR) \sim \chi_1^2$$

$$LOD = \log_{10}(LR) = \frac{G^2}{2 \log(10)} = .217 G^2$$

test statistic: distribution

- Z^2 and G^2 are generally close to each other
 - Z^2 based on properties of counts
 - G^2 and LOD based on likelihood principle
 - both have approximate chi-square distribution
- (non)central chi-square distribution

$$r = 0.5: Z^2, G^2 \sim \chi_1^2$$

$$r < 0.5: Z^2, G^2 \sim \chi_{1;ncp}^2, ncp = 4n(0.5 - r)^2$$

backcross examples

- $n=100$ individuals, $n_R=40$ recombinants
 - $r = 0.4$, $se(r) = 0.049$
 - $Z = -2.04$, $Z^2 = 4.17$, $p\text{-value} = 0.041$
 - $G^2 = 4.03$, $LOD = 0.874$, $p\text{-value} = 0.045$
- $n=100$ individuals, $n_R=20$ recombinants
 - $r = 0.2$, $se(r) = 0.04$
 - $Z = -7.5$, $Z^2 = 56.25$, $p\text{-value} < 0.0001$
 - $G^2 = 38.55$, $LOD = 8.37$, $p\text{-value} < 0.0001$

backcross examples

- $n=30$ individuals, $n_R=12$ recombinants
 - $r = 0.4$, $se(r) = 0.089$
 - $Z = -1.12$, $Z^2 = 1.25$, $p\text{-value} = 0.26$
 - $G^2 = 1.21$, $LOD = 0.262$, $p\text{-value} = 0.27$
- $n=30$ individuals, $n_R=6$ recombinants
 - $r = 0.2$, $se(r) = 0.073$
 - $Z = -4.11$, $Z^2 = 16.87$, $p\text{-value} < 0.0001$
 - $G^2 = 11.56$, $LOD = 2.51$, $p\text{-value} < 0.0001$

simulations of LOD distribution

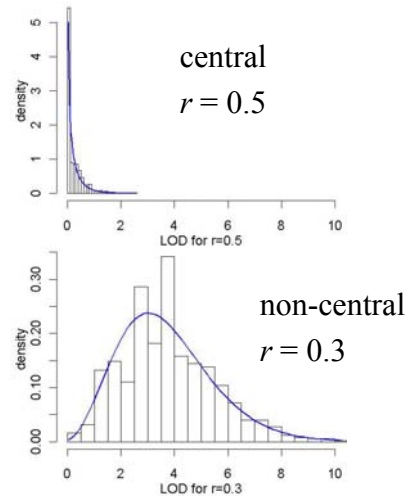
$n=100, r=0.3, 0.5$

1000 samples

histogram

chi-square curve

rescaled by $2\log(10)$



LOD and LR over possible r

$n = 30$

$n_R=12$ or 6

evaluate at

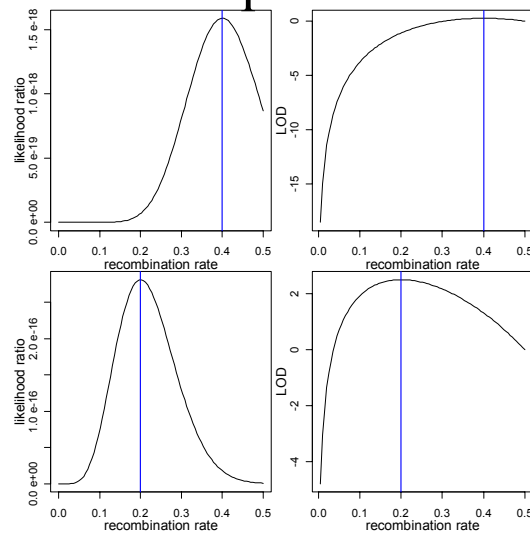
all possible r

not just “best”

LR like a density

LOD is basis for hypothesis test

estimate interval



LR, LOD and p -values

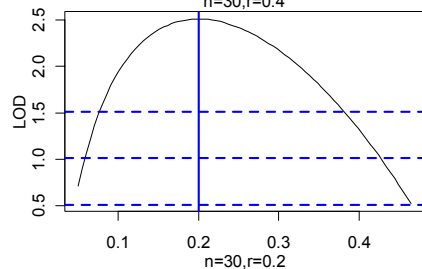
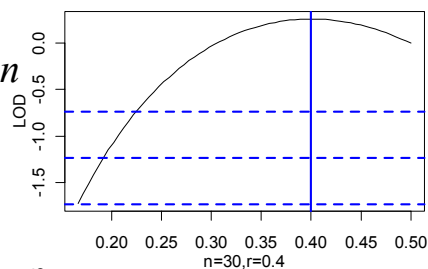
LR	LOD	p -value 1 d.f.	p -value 2 d.f.
10	1	0.0319	0.1
31.6	1.5	0.0086	0.0316
100	2	0.0024	0.01
1000	3	0.0002	0.001
10000	4	<0.0001	0.0001

LOD-based interval estimate for r

point estimate $\hat{r} = n_R / n$

interval estimate
from LOD peak
down 1.5 LOD
(or 1 or 2 or ...)

$n = 30, n_R = 12, 6$



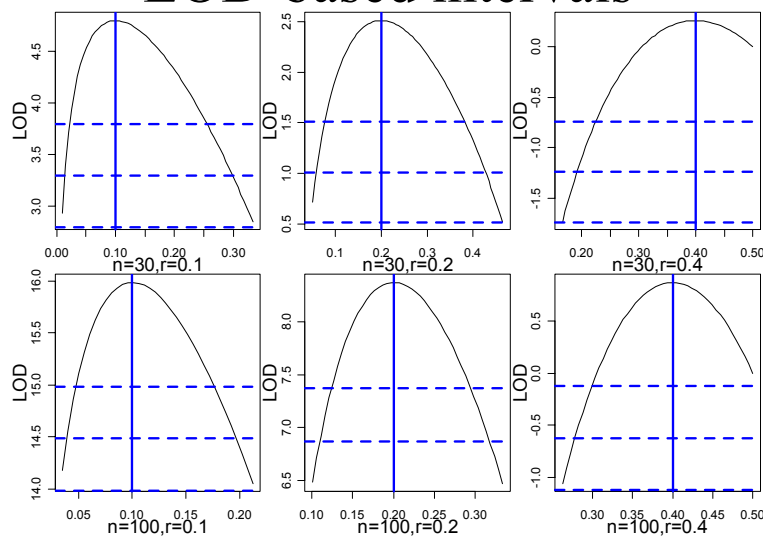
LOD-based interval calculations

confidence			96.8%	99.1%	99.76%
n	n_R	r	1 LOD	1.5 LOD	2 LOD
30	3	0.1	0.03-0.25	0.02-0.29	0.01-0.33
100	10	0.1	0.05-0.17	0.04-0.19	0.04-0.21
30	6	0.2	0.08-0.37	0.06-0.42	0.05-0.46
100	20	0.2	0.13-0.29	0.11-0.31	0.10-0.33
30	12	0.4	0.23-0.50	0.19-0.50	0.17-0.50
100	40	0.4	0.30-0.50	0.28-0.50	0.26-0.50

Note skew in intervals for small recombination rates.

Note upper boundary of 0.5.

LOD-based intervals



likelihood & Bayesian posterior

- recall the likelihood and likelihood ratio:

$$L(r) = \text{pr}(n_R | n, r) = Cr^{n_R} (1-r)^{n-NR}$$

$$LR(r) = 2^n r^{n_R} (1-r)^{n-NR}$$
- posterior turns likelihood into a density
 - assume r may be any value prior to seeing data
 - posterior = likelihood x prior / constant

$$\text{pr}(r | n, n_R) = L(r) / A \text{ or } = LR(r) / A$$

A = area under likelihood or LR curve

$$\sum_r \text{pr}(r | n, n_R) = 1$$

LR and Bayes posterior

imagine LR as density

area under curve = 1

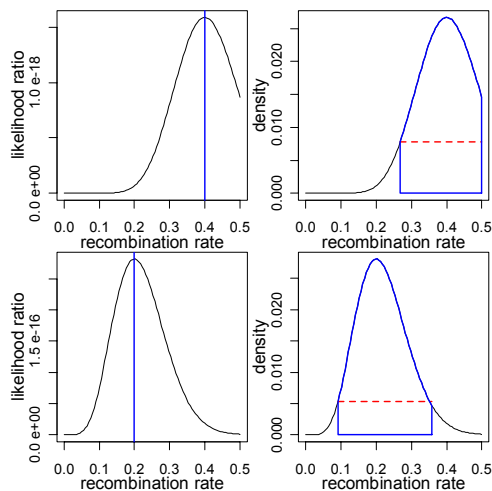
$$\text{pr}(r | n_R) = LR(r) / A$$

what is probability that r is between 0.25 and 0.5?

where is interval with highest posterior mass? (HPD region)

example: $n=30, n_R=12,6$

95% HPD regions

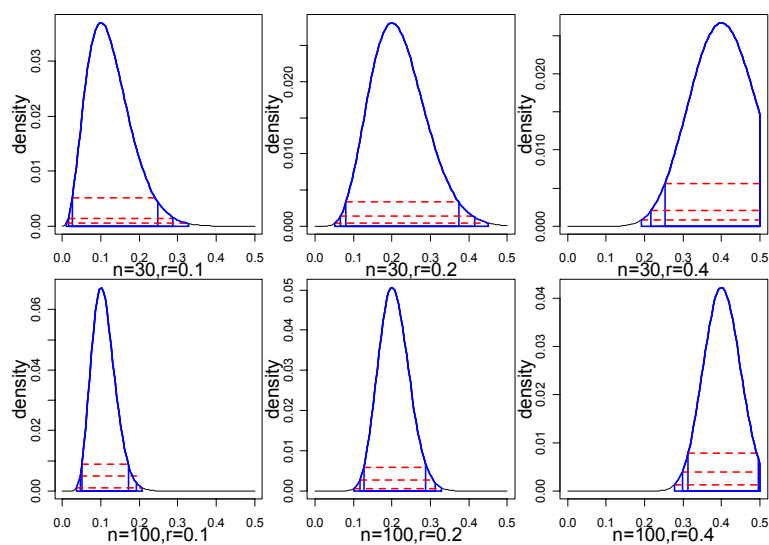


HPD-based interval calculations

HPD level			96.8%	99.1%	99.76%
n	n_R	r			
30	3	0.1	0.03-0.25	0.02-0.29	0.01-0.33
100	10	0.1	0.05-0.17	0.05-0.19	0.04-0.21
30	6	0.2	0.08-0.37	0.07-0.41	0.05-0.45
100	20	0.2	0.13-0.29	0.12-0.31	0.10-0.33
30	12	0.4	0.25-0.50	0.22-0.50	0.19-0.50
100	40	0.4	0.31-0.50	0.30-0.50	0.28-0.50

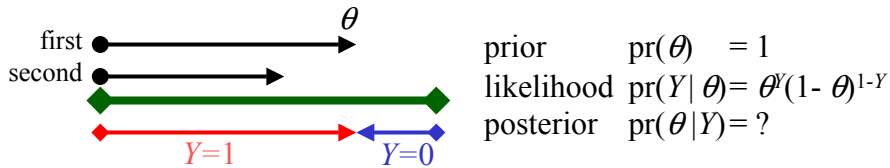
Note how these almost agree with LOD-based intervals.
Density height for HPD varies by n and r .

Bayesian posteriors for r



who was Bayes?

- Reverend Thomas Bayes (1702-1761)
 - part-time mathematician
 - buried in Bunhill Cemetary, Moongate, London
 - famous paper in 1763 *Phil Trans Roy Soc London*
 - was Bayes the first with this idea? (Laplace)
- billiard balls on rectangular table
 - two balls tossed at random (uniform) on table
 - where is first ball if the second is to its **left** (**right**)?

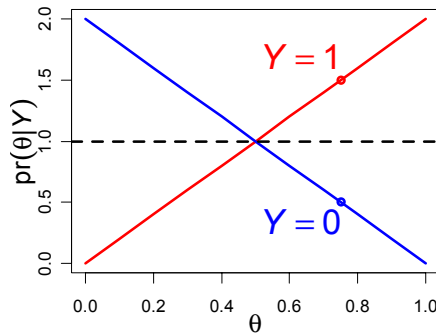
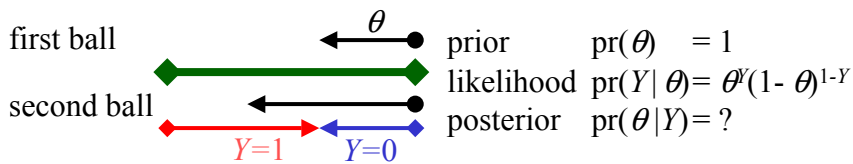


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25

where is the first ball?



$$\text{pr}(\theta | Y) = \frac{\text{pr}(Y | \theta) \text{pr}(\theta)}{\text{pr}(Y)}$$

$$\text{pr}(Y) = \int_0^1 \theta^Y (1 - \theta)^{1-Y} d\theta = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\text{pr}(\theta | Y) = \begin{cases} 2\theta & Y = 1 \\ 2(1 - \theta) & Y = 0 \end{cases}$$

(now throw second ball n times)

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26

what is Bayes theorem?

- before and after observing data
 - prior: $\text{pr}(\theta) = \text{pr}(\text{parameters})$
 - posterior: $\text{pr}(\theta|Y) = \text{pr}(\text{parameters}|\text{data})$
- posterior = likelihood * prior / constant
 - usual likelihood of parameters given data
 - normalizing constant $\text{pr}(Y)$ depends only on data
 - constant often drops out of calculation

$$\text{pr}(\theta | Y) = \frac{\text{pr}(\theta, Y)}{\text{pr}(Y)} = \frac{\text{pr}(Y | \theta) \times \text{pr}(\theta)}{\text{pr}(Y)}$$

Bayes rule for recombination r

likelihood

$$\text{pr}(n_R | n, r) = L(r | n, n_R) = C r^{n_R} (1-r)^{n-NR}$$

prior on recombination r :

$$\text{pr}(a \leq r \leq b) = 2(b-a)$$

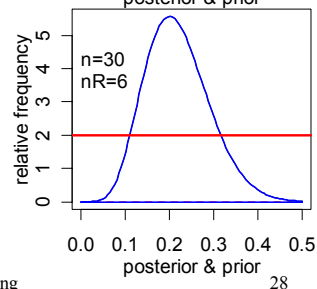
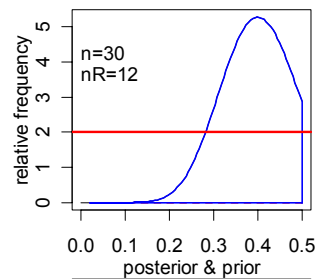
$$0 \leq a \leq b \leq 1/2$$

Bayes rule:

$$\text{pr}(r | n, n_R) = \frac{\text{pr}(n_R | n, r) \times \text{pr}(r)}{\text{pr}(n_R | n)}$$

normalizing constant

$$\text{pr}(n_R | n) = \int_0^{1/2} \text{pr}(n_R | n, r) 2dr$$



two markers in F2 intercross

- two meioses
 - follow both gametes
 - 16 possibilities
- ambiguity with AaBb
 - 0 or 2 recombinations
- log likelihood ratio:

	ab	Ab	aB	AB
ab	ab/ab 00	ab/Ab 10	ab/aB 01	ab/AB 11
Ab	Ab/ab 10	Ab/Ab 20	Ab/aB 11	Ab/AB 21
aB	aB/ab 01	aB/Ab 11	aB/aB 02	aB/AB 12
AB	AB/ab 11	AB/Ab 21	AB/aB 12	AB/AB 22

$$\log LR = \sum_x n_x \log(f_x(r) / f_x(0.5))$$

genotype	$\frac{AB}{AB}$	$\frac{Ab}{Ab}$	$\frac{aB}{aB}$	$\frac{ab}{ab}$	$\frac{AB}{ab}$ or $\frac{Ab}{aB}$	$\frac{Ab}{ab}$	$\frac{aB}{aB}$	$\frac{aB}{ab}$	$\frac{ab}{ab}$
code	22	21	20	12	11	10	02	01	00
frequency $f(r)$	$\frac{(1-r)^2}{4}$	$\frac{r(1-r)}{2}$	$\frac{r^2}{4}$	$\frac{r(1-r)}{2}$	$\frac{(1-r)^2}{2} + \frac{r^2}{2}$	$\frac{r(1-r)}{2}$	$\frac{r^2}{4}$	$\frac{r(1-r)}{2}$	$\frac{(1-r)^2}{4}$
$f(r = 1/2)$	1/16	2/16	1/16	2/16	4/16	2/16	1/16	2/16	1/16
recombinations	0	1	2	1	0 or 2	1	2	1	0

two markers in F2 intercross

- γ = probability of double recombinant
 - for AaBb genotype, haplotype not known
 - need to “guess” the recombinant fraction of n_{11} offspring
- γ and r are inter-related
 - no “closed” solution, need to iterate
 - guess γ , use to estimate r , improve γ , etc.

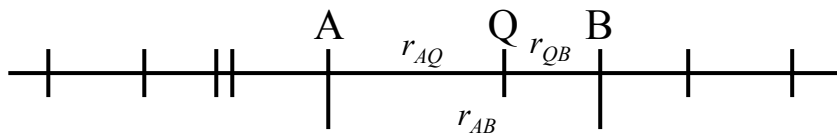
$$\gamma = \Pr\left(\frac{Ab}{aB} \mid AaBb\right) = \frac{r^2}{(1-r)^2 + r^2}$$

$$\hat{r} = \frac{1}{2n} [(n_{01} + n_{10} + n_{12} + n_{21}) + 2(n_{02} + n_{20} + \hat{\gamma} n_{11})]$$

EM algorithm for F2 recombination

- initial guess: $r = 0.5$, $\gamma = 0.5$
- Expectation (E) step
 - substitute expected values for nuisance γ
 - update γ given current value of r
- Maximization (M) step
 - maximize likelihood for parameter r
 - update r given current value of γ
- iterate E-step and M-step until “convergence”
 - stop when change in log-likelihood is small
 - $\log LR = \sum_x n_x \log(f_x(r) / f_x(0.5))$
 - usually change in r is small at this point

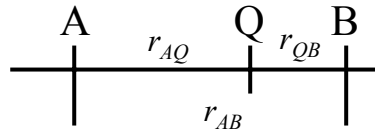
2.2.2 flanking markers to QTL



- most genotype information is local
 - linkage drops off with distance
 - approximate by using only flanking markers
 - exception: linkage disequilibrium
 - different chromosome regions could be correlated
 - due to selection, etc.
 - not a problem for backcross or F2 intercross
- missing marker data: use next flanking marker

backcross QTL & flanking markers

- 1 meiosis
- 8 possible genotypes
- 3 recombination rates
- small distances & rates?
- no double crossovers

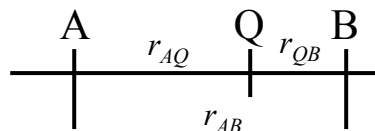


QTL genotype

$\rho = r_{AQ}/r_{AB}$	Marker genotype	QQ	Qq
	AB/AB	$\frac{(1-r_{AQ})(1-r_{QB})}{1-r_{AB}} \approx 1$	$\frac{r_{AQ}r_{QB}}{1-r_{AB}} \approx 0$
	Ab/AB	$\frac{(1-r_{AQ})r_{QB}}{r_{AB}} \approx 1 - \rho$	$\frac{r_{AQ}(1-r_{QB})}{r_{AB}} \approx \rho$
	aB/AB	$\frac{r_{AQ}(1-r_{QB})}{r_{AB}} \approx \rho$	$\frac{(1-r_{AQ})r_{QB}}{r_{AB}} \approx 1 - \rho$
	ab/AB	$\frac{r_{AQ}r_{QB}}{1-r_{AB}} \approx 0$	$\frac{(1-r_{AQ})(1-r_{QB})}{1-r_{AB}} \approx 1$

F2 QTL & flanking markers

- 2 meioses
- 27 possible genotypes
- 3 recombination rates
- EM steps on γ and r_{AB}
- small distances & rates?
- no double crossovers



$$\rho = r_{AQ}/r_{AB}, \gamma = \frac{r_{AB}^2}{(1-r_{AB}^2) + r_{AB}^2}$$

QTL	flanking marker genotypes								
	$\frac{AB}{AB}$	$\frac{AB}{Ab}$	$\frac{Ab}{Ab}$	$\frac{AB}{aB}$	$\frac{AB}{ab}$ or $\frac{Ab}{aB}$	$\frac{Ab}{ab}$	$\frac{aB}{aB}$	$\frac{aB}{ab}$	$\frac{ab}{ab}$
Q/Q	1	$1 - \rho$	$(1 - \rho)^2$	ρ	$\gamma\rho(1 - \rho)$	0	ρ^2	0	0
Q/q	0	ρ	$2\rho(1 - \rho)$	$1 - \rho$	$(1 - \gamma) + \gamma[\rho^2 + (1 - \rho)^2]$	$1 - \rho$	$2\rho(1 - \rho)$	ρ	0
q/q	0	0	ρ^2	0	$\gamma\rho(1 - \rho)$	ρ	$(1 - \rho)^2$	$1 - \rho$	1

2.2.3 map distance & map functions

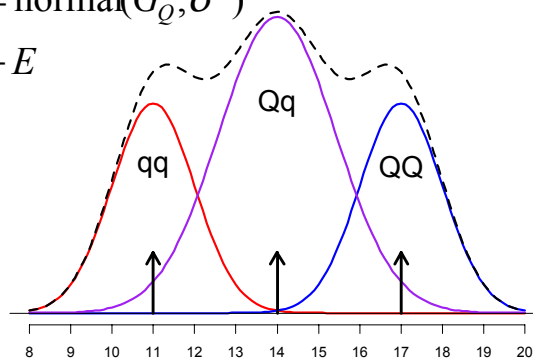
- How to relate genetic linkage to physical distance?
 - math assumptions = crude approximations
 - critical for map building, minor effect on QTL
- x = genetic map distance (1Morgan = 100cM)
 - expected number of crossovers per meiosis between two loci on a single chromatid strand (Sturtevant 1913)
- typical map functions
 - Morgan: interference $r_{AB} = r_{AQ} + r_{QB}$
 - Kosambi: intermediate $r_{AB} = (r_{AQ} + r_{QB}) / (1 + 4r_{AQ}r_{QB})$
 - Haldane: no interference $r_{AB} = r_{AQ} + r_{QB} - 2r_{AQ}r_{QB}$

2.3 modelling the phenotype

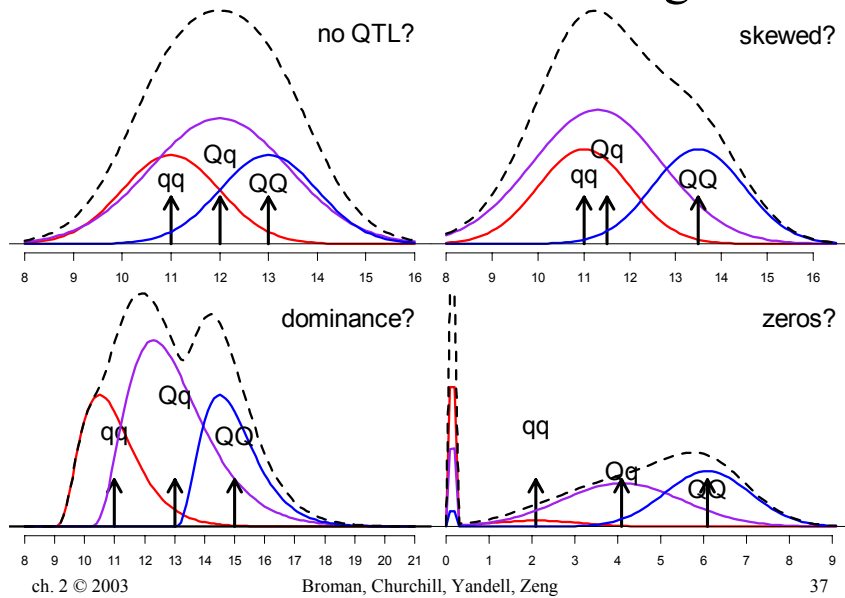
- trait = mean + genetic + environment
- $\text{pr}(\text{trait } Y \mid \text{genotype } Q, \text{effects } \theta)$

$$\text{pr}(Y \mid Q, \theta) = \text{normal}(G_Q, \sigma^2)$$

$$Y = \mu + G_Q + E$$



caution: don't trust raw histograms!



2.3.1 phenotype model

- how is phenotype related to genotype?
- typical assumptions
 - normal environmental variation
 - residuals e (not Y !) have bell-shaped histogram
 - genetic value G_Q is composite of a few QTL
 - other polygenic effects same across all individuals
 - genetic effect uncorrelated with environment

$$Y = \mu + G_Q + e, e \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$E(Y | Q, \theta) = \mu + G_Q, \text{var}(Y | Q, \theta) = \sigma^2$$

$$\theta = (\mu, G_Q, \sigma^2) \text{ effects}$$

F2 intercross phenotype model

- here assume only one QTL
- genotypes QQ, Qq, qq
- genotypic values G_{QQ} , G_{Qq} , G_{qq}
- decompose as additive, dominance effects

genotype: $Q =$	QQ	Qq	qq
Mather-Jinx: $G_Q =$	$\mu + \alpha$	$\mu + \delta$	$\mu - \alpha$
Fisher-Cockerham: $G_Q =$	$\mu + \alpha - \frac{\delta}{2}$	$\mu + \frac{\delta}{2}$	$\mu - \alpha - \frac{\delta}{2}$

2.3.2 model likelihood

- why study the likelihood?
 - uncover hidden aspects of QTL
 - loci λ , effects θ , given data (Y, X)
- what is evidence to support a QTL?
- where are the QTL?
- how precise can estimate the loci & effects?
- what genetic architecture is supported?

building the model likelihood

- likelihood links phenotype & recombination
 - through unknown QTL genotypes Q
 - mixture over all possible genotypes

- contribution from individual i

$$\text{pr}(Y_i | X_i, \theta, \lambda) = \text{sum}_Q \text{pr}(Y_i | Q, \theta) \text{pr}(Q | X_i, \lambda)$$

- product over all individuals

$$L(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \text{prod}_i \text{sum}_Q \text{pr}(Y_i | Q, \theta) \text{pr}(Q | X_i, \lambda)$$

$$L(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \text{prod}_i \text{pr}(Y_i | X_i, \theta, \lambda)$$

and if there are no QTL?

- $Y = \mu + e$, or $L(\mu | Y)$
- no relationship with markers & map X
- for normal data, maximum likelihood yields

$$L(\mu | Y) = N(Y | \mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\hat{\mu} = \bar{Y} = \text{sum}_i Y_i / n$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = s^2 = \text{sum}_i (Y_i - \bar{Y})^2 / n$$

maximum likelihood & LOD

- likelihood peaks at some (θ, λ)
 - use “hat” (^) to signify value at maximum
- LOD profiles likelihood peak
 - find θ to maximize likelihood for each λ
 - profile (scan) loci λ over entire genome

$$L(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \text{pr}(Y | X, \theta, \lambda) = \text{prod}_i \text{pr}(Y_i | X_i, \theta, \lambda)$$

$$\text{LOD}(\lambda | Y, X) = \log_{10} \left(\frac{\max_{\theta} L(\theta, \lambda | Y, X)}{\max_{\mu} L(\mu | Y)} \right)$$

2.3.3 Bayesian posterior

- treat unknowns as random
 - build “uncertainty” into model framework
 - genetic architecture: gene action θ , QTL locus λ
- interpret weighted likelihood as a density
 - weights based on prior “beliefs”

$$\text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \frac{\text{pr}(Y | X, \theta, \lambda) \text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | X)}{\text{pr}(Y | X)}$$

$$\text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | X) = \text{pr}(\theta) \text{pr}(\lambda | X)$$

choice of Bayesian priors

- elicited priors
 - higher weight for more probable parameter values
 - based on prior empirical knowledge
 - use previous study to inform current study
 - weather prediction, previous QTL studies on related organisms
- conjugate priors
 - convenient mathematical form
 - essential before computers, helpful now to simplify computation
 - large variances on priors reduces their influence on posterior
- non-informative priors
 - may have “no” information on unknown parameters
 - prior with all parameter values equally likely
 - may not sum to 1 (improper), which can complicate use
- **always** check sensitivity of posterior to choice of prior

incorporate missing genotypes Q

- augment data with missing genotypes Q
 - use recombination model to state uncertainty
 - avoid likelihood mixture by augmentation
- marginal posterior on unknowns of interest
 - average over fully augmented posterior

$$\text{pr}(\theta, \lambda, Q | Y, X) = \frac{\text{pr}(Y | Q, \theta) \text{pr}(Q | X, \lambda) \text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | X)}{\text{pr}(Y | X)}$$

$$\text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | Y, X) = \text{sum}_Q \text{pr}(\theta, \lambda, Q | Y, X)$$

Bayesian parameter estimates

- estimates are posterior means or modes
 - mean = weighted average of all possible values
 - mode = maximum
- can get joint or marginal estimates

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{mean}} = \text{sum}_{\theta, \lambda} \theta \text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | Y, X)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{mode}} = \text{argmax}_{\theta} (\text{sum}_{\lambda} \text{pr}(\theta, \lambda | Y, X))$$

2.4 missing data concepts

- missing QTL genotype Q --see section 2.3
- missing marker data X
 - errors in genotyping
 - difficulty reading signal (on gel)
 - marker not fully informative
- distinguish full data X from observed X_{obs}
 - weighted average over all possible marker values

$$\text{pr}(Q | X_{\text{obs}}, \lambda) = \text{sum}_X \text{pr}(Q | X, \lambda) \text{pr}(X | X_{\text{obs}})$$