

# Package ‘label.switching’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Relabelling MCMC Outputs of Mixture Models

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## Description

The Bayesian estimation of mixture models (and more general hidden Markov models) suffers from the label switching phenomenon, making the MCMC output non-identifiable. This package can be used in order to deal with this problem using various relabelling algorithms.

**Imports** combinat, lpSolve

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 label.switching-package

*Algorithms for solving the label switching problem*


---

## Description

This package can be used to reorder MCMC outputs of parameters of mixture models (or more general ones, like hidden Markov). The label switching phenomenon is a fundamental problem to MCMC estimation of the parameters of such models. This package contains eight label switching solving algorithms: the default and iterative versions of ECR algorithm (Papastamoulis and Iliopoulos, 2010, 2013, Rodriguez and Walker, 2014, Papastamoulis, 2014), the data-based algorithm (Rodriguez and Walker, 2014), the Kullback-Leibler based algorithm of Stephens (2000), the probabilistic relabelling algorithm of Sperrin et al (2010), the artificial identifiability constraints method and the PRA algorithm (Marin et al, 2005, Marin and Robert, 2007). The user input depends on each method. Each algorithm returns a list of permutations. For comparison purposes, the user can also provide his/hers own set of permutations.

## Details

Package: label.switching  
 Type: Package  
 Version: 1.7  
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This is NOT a package to simulate MCMC samples from the posterior distribution of mixture models. MCMC output and related information serves as input to the available methods. There are eight functions that can be used to post-process the MCMC output:

Function	Method	Input
aic	ordering constraints	mcmc, constraint
dataBased	data based	x, K, z
ecr	ECR (default)	zpivot, z, K
ecr.iterative.1	ECR (iterative vs. 1)	z, K
ecr.iterative.2	ECR (iterative vs. 2)	z, K, p
pra	PRA	mcmc, pivot
stephens	Stephens	p
sjw	Probabilistic	mcmc, z, complete, x

Each function returns an  $m \times K$  array of permutations, where  $m$  and  $K$  denote the MCMC sample size and number of mixture components, respectively. Next, these permutations can be applied to reorder the MCMC sample by applying the function `permute.mcmc`. The user can call any of the

above functions simultaneously using the main function of the package: [label.switching](#).

### Note

The most common method is to impose an identifiability constraint `aic`, however this approach has been widely criticized in the literature. The methods `ecr`, `ecr.iterative.1`, `ecr.iterative.2`, `stephens`, `dataBased` are solving the label switching problem using the function `lpAssign` of the package `lpSolve`. This is an integer programming algorithm for the solution of the assignment problem. Hence, these functions are computationally efficient even in cases where the number of components is quite large. On the other hand, methods `pra` and `sjw` are not designed in this way, so they are not suggested for large  $K$ .

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

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### References

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- Sperrin M, Jaki T and Wit E (2010). Probabilistic relabelling strategies for the label switching problem in Bayesian mixture models. *Statistics and Computing*, 20(3), 357-366.
- Stephens, M. (2000). Dealing with label Switching in mixture models. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B*, 62, 795-809.

### See Also

[label.switching](#)

---

aic *Artificial Identifiability Constraints*

---

**Description**

This function relabels the MCMC output by simply ordering a specific parameter. Let  $m$ ,  $K$  and  $J$  denote the number of simulated MCMC samples, number of mixture components and different parameter types, respectively.

**Usage**

```
aic(mcmc.pars, constraint)
```

**Arguments**

`mcmc.pars`  $m \times K \times J$  array of simulated MCMC parameters.  
`constraint` An integer between 1 and  $J$  corresponding to the parameter that will be used to apply the Identifiability Constraint. In this case, the MCMC output is reordered according to the constraint

$$mcmc.pars[i, 1, constraint] < \dots < mcmc.pars[i, K, constraint],$$

for all  $i = 1, \dots, m$ . If `constraint = "ALL"`, all  $J$  Identifiability Constraints are applied.

**Value**

`permutations` an  $m \times K$  array of permutations.

**Author(s)**

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

**See Also**

[permute.mcmc, label.switching](#)

**Examples**

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=300}. The 1000 generated MCMC samples are stored
#to array mcmc.pars.
data("mcmc_output")
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"

# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
# mcmc.pars[, ,1]: simulated means of the two components
```

```

# mcmc.pars[, ,2]: simulated variances of the two components
# mcmc.pars[, ,3]: simulated weights of the two components
# We will apply AIC by ordering the means
# which corresponds to value \code{constraint=1}
run<-aic(mcmc = mcmc.pars,constraint=1)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[, ,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,2]: reordered variances of the components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,3]: reordered weights

```

---

compare.clust

*Make all estimated clusters agree with a pivot allocation*


---

### Description

Given a pivot allocation vector, a set of simulated allocations and a set of permutations from different relabelling algorithms, this function relabels the permutations so that all methods maximize their similarity with the pivot. This is helpful when comparing different different label switching algorithms.

### Usage

```
compare.clust(pivot.clust,perms,z,K)
```

### Arguments

pivot.clust	a pivot allocation vector of the $n$ observations among the $K$ clusters.
perms	a list containing $f$ permutation arrays, as returned by <a href="#">label.switching</a> function.
z	a set of simulated allocation arrays.
K	number of mixture components

### Value

similarity	$(f + 1)K \times (f + 1)$ matrix containing the similarity coefficient of the resulting clusters.
clusters	$f \times n$ array of single best clusterings, relabelled in order to maximize their similarity with <code>pivot.clust</code> .
permutations	relabelled permutations.

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

### See Also

[label.switching](#)

---

dataBased

*Data-based labelling*

---

### Description

This function reorders the MCMC output according the data-based relabelling algorithm of Rodriguez and Walker (2014). The idea is to define a loss function which resembles a k-means type diving measure of cluster centers. After the cluster centers have been estimated, the algorithm finds the optimal permutations that switch every simulated MCMC sample to them.

### Usage

```
dataBased(x, K, z)
```

### Arguments

x	<i>n</i> -dimensional data vector/array.
K	the number of mixture components.
z	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.

### Value

permutations  $m \times K$  dimensional array of permutations

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

### References

Rodriguez C.E. and Walker S. (2014). Label Switching in Bayesian Mixture Models: Deterministic relabeling strategies. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*. 23:1, 25-45

### See Also

[permute.mcmc, label.switching](#)

### Examples

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of {K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to {n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to {m=300}. The 1000 generated MCMC samples are stored
#to array mcmc.pars.
data("mcmc_output")
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
```

```

x<-data_list$"x"
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
# mcmc.pars[,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,2]: simulated variances of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,3]: simulated weights of the two components
# Apply dataBased relabelling
run<-dataBased(x = x, K = K, z = z)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[,2]: reordered variances of the components
# reordered.mcmc[,3]: reordered weights

```

---

data\_list

*Simulated MCMC sample and related information*


---

### Description

This is a (very) small MCMC sample corresponding to data of 5 observations from a mixture 2 normal distributions. The MCMC sample consists of 300 iterations. It is stored to `data_list$mcmc.pars`. `data_list$mcmc.pars[,1]` corresponds to means, `data_list$mcmc.pars[,2]` corresponds to variances and `data_list$mcmc.pars[,3]` corresponds to weights.

### Usage

```
data_list
```

### Format

A list containing simulated MCMC sample and all information required for the relabelling algorithms.

---

ecr

*ECR algorithm (default version)*


---

### Description

This function applies the standard version of Equivalence Classes Representatives (ECR) algorithm (Papastamoulis and Iliopoulos, 2010). The set of all allocation variables is partitioned into equivalence classes and exactly one representative is chosen from each class. The practical implementation of this idea is to reorder the output so that all simulated allocation vectors ( $z$ ) are as similar as possible with a pivot allocation vector ( $z_{pivot}$ ).

### Usage

```
ecr(zpivot, z, K)
```

**Arguments**

zpivot	$n$ -dimensional integer vector $(z_1, \dots, z_n)$ with $z_i \in \{1, \dots, K\}$ , $i = 1, \dots, n$ .
z	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.
K	the number of mixture components (at least equal to 2).

**Details**

zpivot should be chosen as an allocation vector that corresponds to a high-posterior density area, or in general as an allocation that is considered as a good allocation of the observations among the  $K$  components. The user has to specify this pivot allocation vector as a good allocation of the observations among the mixture components. Some typical choices are the allocations that correspond to the complete or non-complete MAP/ML estimates.

**Value**

permutations  $m \times K$  dimensional array of permutations

**Author(s)**

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

**References**

Papastamoulis P. and Iliopoulos G. (2010). An artificial allocations based solution to the label switching problem in Bayesian analysis of mixtures of distributions. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 19: 313-331.

**See Also**

[permute.mcmc](#), [label.switching](#), [ecr.iterative.1](#), [ecr.iterative.2](#)

**Examples**

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The
# number of observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number
# of MCMC samples is equal to \code{m=300}. The 300
# simulated allocations are stored to array \code{z}. The
# complete MAP estimate corresponds to iteration \code{mapindex}.
data("mcmc_output")
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
mapindex<-data_list$"mapindex"

# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
# mcmc.pars[,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[,3]: simulated weights
```



```

run<-ecr(zpivot = z[mapindex,],z = z, K = K)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[,2]: reordered variances
# reordered.mcmc[,3]: reordered weights

```

---

ecr.iterative.1      *ECR algorithm (iterative version 1)*

---

### Description

This function applies the first iterative version of Equivalence Classes Representatives (ECR) algorithm (Papastamoulis and Iliopoulos, 2010, Rodriguez and Walker, 2012). The set of all allocation variables is partitioned into equivalence classes and exactly one representative is chosen from each class. The difference with the default version of ECR algorithm is that no pivot is required and the method is iterative, until a fixed pivot has been found.

### Usage

```
ecr.iterative.1(z, K, opt_init, threshold, maxiter)
```

### Arguments

z	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.
K	the number of mixture components (at least equal to 2).
opt_init	An (optional) $m \times K$ array of permutations to initialize the algorithm. The identity permutation is used if it is not specified.
threshold	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion. Default value: 1e-6.
maxiter	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations. Default value: 100.

### Value

permutations	$m \times K$ dimensional array of permutations
iterations	integer denoting the number of iterations until convergence
status	returns the exit status

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

## References

Papastamoulis P. and Iliopoulos G. (2010). An artificial allocations based solution to the label switching problem in Bayesian analysis of mixtures of distributions. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 19: 313-331.

Rodriguez C.E. and Walker S. (2014). Label Switching in Bayesian Mixture Models: Deterministic relabeling strategies. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*. 23:1, 25-45

## See Also

[permute.mcmc](#), [label.switching](#), [ecr](#), [ecr.iterative.2](#)

## Examples

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=1000}. The 300 simulated allocations are stored to
# array \code{z}.
data("mcmc_output")
# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
# mcmc.pars[,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[,3]: simulated weights
# the relabelling algorithm will run with the default initialization
# (no opt_init is specified)
run<-ecr.iterative.1(z = z, K = K)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[,2]: reordered variances
# reordered.mcmc[,3]: reordered weights
```

---

ecr.iterative.2

*ECR algorithm (iterative version 2)*

---

## Description

This function applies the second iterative version of Equivalence Classes Representatives (ECR) algorithm (Papastamoulis and Iliopoulos, 2010, Rodriguez and Walker, 2012). The set of all allocation variables is partitioned into equivalence classes and exactly one representative is chosen from each class. In this version the  $m \times n \times K$  of allocation probabilities should be given as input as well.

## Usage

```
ecr.iterative.2(z, K, p, threshold, maxiter)
```

**Arguments**

<code>z</code>	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.
<code>K</code>	the number of mixture components (at least equal to 2).
<code>p</code>	$m \times n \times K$ dimensional array of allocation probabilities of the $n$ observations among the $K$ mixture components, for each iteration $t = 1, \dots, m$ of the MCMC algorithm.
<code>threshold</code>	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion. Default value: 1e-6.
<code>maxiter</code>	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations. Default value: 100.

**Details**

For a given MCMC iteration  $t = 1, \dots, m$ , let  $w_k^{(t)}$  and  $\theta_k^{(t)}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$  denote the simulated mixture weights and component specific parameters respectively. Then, the  $(t, i, k)$  element of `p` corresponds to the conditional probability that observation  $i = 1, \dots, n$  belongs to component  $k$  and is proportional to  $p_{tik} \propto w_k^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_k^{(t)})$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$ , where  $f(x_i | \theta_k)$  denotes the density of component  $k$ . This means that:

$$p_{tik} = \frac{w_k^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_k^{(t)})}{w_1^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_1^{(t)}) + \dots + w_K^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_K^{(t)})}.$$

In case of hidden Markov models, the probabilities  $w_k$  should be replaced with the proper left (normalized) eigenvector of the state-transition matrix.

**Value**

<code>permutations</code>	$m \times K$ dimensional array of permutations
<code>iterations</code>	integer denoting the number of iterations until convergence
<code>status</code>	returns the exit status

**Author(s)**

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

**References**

Papastamoulis P. and Iliopoulos G. (2010). An artificial allocations based solution to the label switching problem in Bayesian analysis of mixtures of distributions. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 19: 313-331.

Rodriguez C.E. and Walker S. (2014). Label Switching in Bayesian Mixture Models: Deterministic relabeling strategies. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*. 23:1, 25-45

**See Also**

[permute.mcmc](#), [label.switching](#), [ecr](#), [ecr.iterative.1](#), [stephens](#)

## Examples

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=1000}. The 300 simulated allocations are stored to
# array \code{z}. The matrix of allocation probabilities is stored to
# array \code{p}.
data("mcmc_output")
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
p<-data_list$"p"
# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
# mcmc.pars[,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[,3]: simulated weights
# the relabelling algorithm will run with the default initialization
# (no opt_init is specified)
run<-ecr.iterative.2(z = z, K = 2, p = p)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[,1]: reordered means of the two mixture components
# reordered.mcmc[,2]: reordered variances of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[,3]: reordered weights of the two components
```

---

label.switching

*Main calling function*

---

## Description

This is the main function of the package. It is used to reorder a simulated MCMC sample of the parameters of a mixture (or more general a hidden Markov model) according to eight label switching solving methods: ECR algorithm (default version), ECR algorithm (two iterative versions), PRA algorithm, Stephens' algorithm, Artificial Identifiability Constraint (AIC), Data-Based relabelling and a probabilistic relabelling algorithm (SJW). The input depends on the type of the label switching method. The output contains a list with the permutation returned by each method, the corresponding single best clusterings and the CPU time demanded for each method. In what follows:  $m$  denotes the number of MCMC iterations,  $n$  denotes the sample size of the observed data,  $K$  denotes the number of mixture components and  $J$  the number of different types of parameters of the model.

## Usage

```
label.switching(method, zpivot, z, K, prapivot, p, complete,
mcmc, sjwinit, data, constraint,
groundTruth, thrECR, thrSTE, thrSJW,
maxECR, maxSTE, maxSJW, userPerm)
```

**Arguments**

method	any non-empty subset of c("ECR", "ECR-ITERATIVE-1", "PRA", "ECR-ITERATIVE-2", "STEPHENS", "SJW", "AIC", "DATA-BASED") indicating the desired label-switching solving method. Also available is the option "USER-PERM" which corresponds to a user-defined set of permutations userPerm.
zpivot	$d \times n$ -dimensional array of pivot allocation vectors, where $d$ denotes the number of pivots. This is demanded by the <code>ecr</code> method. The method will be applied $d$ times.
z	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.
K	the number of mixture components. This is demanded by the <code>ecr</code> , <code>ecr.iterative.1</code> and <code>ecr.iterative.2</code> methods.
prapivot	$K \times J$ array containing the parameter that will be used as a pivot by the <code>pra</code> method.
p	$m \times n \times K$ dimensional array of allocation probabilities of the $n$ observations among the $K$ mixture components, for each iteration $t = 1, \dots, m$ of the MCMC algorithm. This is demanded by the <code>ecr.iterative.2</code> and <code>stephens</code> methods.
complete	function that returns the complete log-likelihood of the mixture model. Demanded by <code>sjw</code> method.
mcmc	$m \times K \times J$ array of simulated MCMC parameters. Needed by <code>sjw</code> and <code>pra</code> methods.
sjwinit	An index pointing at the MCMC iteration whose parameters will initialize the <code>sjw</code> algorithm (optional).
data	$n$ -dimensional data vector/array. Needed by the <code>sjw</code> and <code>dataBased</code> algorithms.
constraint	An (optional) integer between 1 and J corresponding to the parameter that will be used to apply the Identifiability Constraint. In this casethe mcmc output is reordered according to the constraint $mcmc[i, 1, constraint] < \dots < mcmc[i, K, constraint]$ . If <code>constraint = "ALL"</code> , all $J$ Identifiability Constraints are applied. Default value: 1.
groundTruth	Optional integer vector of $n$ allocations, which are considered as the 'ground truth' allocations of the $n$ observations among the $K$ mixture components. The output of all methods will be relabelled in a way that the resulting single best clusterings maximize their similarity with the ground truth. This option is very useful in simulation studies or in any other case that the cluster labels are known in order to perform comparisons between methods.
thrECR	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion for <code>ecr.iterative.1</code> and <code>ecr.iterative.2</code> . Default value: 1e-6.
thrSTE	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion for <code>stephens</code> . Default value: 1e-6.
thrSJW	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion for <code>sjw</code> . Default value: 1e-6.
maxECR	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations for <code>ecr.iterative.1</code> and <code>ecr.iterative.2</code> . Default value: 100.

maxSTE	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations for stephens. Default value: 100.
maxSJW	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations for sjw. Default value: 100.
userPerm	An (optional) list with user-defined permutations. It is required only if "USER-PERM" has been chosen in method. In this case, userPerm[[i]] is an $m \times K$ array of permutations for all $i = 1, \dots, S$ , where $S$ denotes the number of permutation arrays. This is useful in case that the user wants to compare his/hers own relabelling method with the available ones.

**Value**

permutations	an $m \times K$ array of permutations per method.
clusters	an $n$ dimensional vector of best clustering of the the observations for each method.
timings	CPU time needed for each relabelling method.
similarity	correlation matrix between the label switching solving methods in terms of their matching best-clustering allocations.

**Note**

If the ground truth is not given, all methods are reordered using the estimated single best clustering of the first provided method. The methods `sjw` and `pra` are not suggested for large number of components. Also note that `sjw` might be quite slow even for small number of components. In this case try adjusting `thrSJW` or `maxSJW` to smaller values the default ones.

**Author(s)**

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

**References**

Papastamoulis P. (2016). label.switching: An R Package for Dealing with the Label Switching Problem in MCMC Outputs. Journal of Statistical Software, Code Snippets, 69(1): 1-24.

**See Also**

[ecr](#), [ecr.iterative.1](#), [ecr.iterative.2](#), [stephens](#), [pra](#), [sjw](#), [dataBased](#), [aic](#)

**Examples**

```
# We will apply four methods:
# ECR, ECR-ITERATIVE-1, PRA, AIC, STEPHENS and DATA-BASED.
# default ECR will use two different pivots.

#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=300}. simulated allocations are stored to array \code{z}.
```

```

data("mcmc_output")
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
# mcmc.pars[,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[,3]: simulated weights
# We will use two pivots for default ECR algorithm:
# the first one corresponds to iteration \code{mapindex} (complete MAP)
# the second one corresponds to iteration \code{mapindex.non} (observed MAP)
# The array \code{p} corresponds to the the allocation probabilities
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
p<-data_list$"p"
x<-data_list$"x"
mapindex<-data_list$"mapindex"
mapindex.non<-data_list$"mapindex.non"
# The PRA method will use as pivot the iteration that corresponds to
# the non-complete MAP estimate (mapindex).

#Apply the six methods by typing:

ls<-label.switching(method=c("ECR","ECR-ITERATIVE-1","PRA","STEPHENS","AIC","DATA-BASED"),
zpivot=z[c(mapindex,mapindex.non)],z = z,K = K, data = x,
prapivot = mcmc.pars[mapindex,,],p=p,mcmc = mcmc.pars)

#plot the raw and reordered means of the K=2 normal mixture components for each method
par(mfrow = c(2,4))
#raw MCMC output for the means (with label switching)
matplot(mcmc.pars[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="Raw MCMC output",ylab = "means")
# Reordered outputs
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"ECR-1")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="ECR (1st pivot)",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"ECR-2")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="ECR (2nd pivot)",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"ECR-ITERATIVE-1")$output[,1],
type="l",xlab="iteration",main="ECR-iterative-1",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"PRA")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="PRA",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"STEPHENS")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="STEPHENS",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"AIC")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="AIC",ylab = "means")
matplot(permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,ls$permutations$"DATA-BASED")$output[,1],type="l",
xlab="iteration",main="DATA-BASED",ylab = "means")

#####
# if the user wants to apply the SJW algorithm as well:
# The SJW method needs to define the complete log-likelihood of the
# model. For the univariate normal mixture, this is done as follows:

complete.normal.loglikelihood<-function(x,z,pars){
#x: denotes the n data points

```

```

#z: denotes an allocation vector (size=n)
#pars: K\times 3 vector of means, variance, weights
# pars[k,1]: corresponds to the mean of component k
# pars[k,2]: corresponds to the variance of component k
# pars[k,3]: corresponds to the weight of component k
g <- dim(pars)[1]
n <- length(x)
logl<- rep(0, n)
  logpi <- log(pars[,3])
mean <- pars[,1]
sigma <- sqrt(pars[,2])
logl<-logpi[z] + dnorm(x,mean = mean[z],sd = sigma[z],log = T)
return(sum(logl))
}

# and then run (after removing all #):
#ls<-label.switching(method=c("ECR","ECR-ITERATIVE-1","ECR-ITERATIVE-2",
#"PRA","STEPHENS","SJW","AIC","DATA-BASED"),
#zpivot=z[c(mapindex,mapindex.non),],z = z,
#K = K,prapivot = mcmc.pars[mapindex,,],p=p,
#complete = complete.normal.loglikelihood,mcmc.pars,
#data = x)

```

---

lamb

*Fetal lamb dataset*


---

### Description

240 body movement measurements of a fetal lamb at consecutive 5 second intervals.

### Usage

lamb

### Format

Count data.

### References

Leroux B, Putterman M (1992). Maximum Penalized Likelihood estimation for independent and Markov-dependent Mixture models. *Biometrics*, 48, 545–558.



---

permute.mcmc	<i>Reorder MCMC samples</i>
--------------	-----------------------------

---

### Description

This function applies the permutation returned by any relabelling algorithm to a simulated MCMC output.

### Usage

```
permute.mcmc(mcmc, permutations)
```

### Arguments

`mcmc`  $m \times K \times J$  array of simulated MCMC parameters.  
`permutations`  $m \times K$  dimensional array of permutations.

### Value

`output`  $m \times K \times J$  array of reordered MCMC parameters.

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

### See Also

[label.switching](#), [ecr](#), [ecr.iterative.1](#), [ecr.iterative.2](#), [stephens.pra](#), [sjw](#), [aic](#), [dataBased](#)

### Examples

```
#load MCMC simulated data
data("mcmc_output")
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"

#apply \code{ecr.iterative.1} algorithm
run<-ecr.iterative.1(z = z, K = 2)
#reorder the MCMC output according to this method:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[,2]: reordered variances of the components
# reordered.mcmc[,3]: reordered weights of the two components
```

---

pra

*PRA algorithm*

---

### Description

This function reorders the MCMC output using the geometrically-based Pivotal Reordering Algorithm (PRA) (Marin et al, 2005, Marin and Robert, 2007). The method requires as input the generated MCMC sample and a pivot parameter vector. The user should be careful in order the pivot elements have the same parameters with the generated MCMC output. The simulated MCMC sample should be provided by the user as a  $m \times K \times J$  dimensional array, where  $m$  denotes the number of MCMC samples,  $K$  denotes the number of mixture components and  $J$  corresponds to the number of different parameter types of the model. The pivot should correspond to a high-posterior density point.

### Usage

```
pra(mcmc.pars, pivot)
```

### Arguments

mcmc.pars	$m \times K \times J$ array of simulated MCMC parameters.
pivot	$K \times J$ array containing the parameter that will be used as a pivot.

### Details

The positive integer  $J$  denotes the number of different parameter types of the model. For example, in a univariate normal mixture model there are  $J = 3$  different types: means, variances and weights. In a Poisson mixture there are  $J = 2$  types: means and weights.

### Value

permutations  $m \times K$  dimensional array of permutations

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

### References

Marin, J.M., Mengersen, K. and Robert, C.P. (2005). Bayesian modelling and inference on mixtures of distributions. Handbook of Statistics (25), D. Dey and C.R. Rao (eds). Elsevier-Sciences.

Marin, J.M. and Robert, C.P. (2007). Bayesian Core: A Practical Approach to Computational Bayesian Statistics, Springer-Verlag, New York.

### See Also

[permute.mcmc](#), [label.switching](#)

## Examples

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=300}. The 1000 generated MCMC samples are stored
#to array mcmc.pars.
data("mcmc_output")
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
mapindex<-data_list$"mapindex"

# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
# mcmc.pars[, ,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[, ,2]: simulated variances of the two components
# mcmc.pars[, ,3]: simulated weights of the two components
# We will apply PRA using as pivot the complete MAP estimate
# which corresponds to \code{mcmc.pars[mapindex, ,]}
run<-pra(mcmc = mcmc.pars, pivot = mcmc.pars[mapindex, ,])
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[, ,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,2]: reordered variances of the components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,3]: reordered weights
```

---

 sjw

*Probabilistic relabelling algorithm*


---

## Description

Function to apply the probabilistic relabelling strategy of Sperrin et al (2010). The concept here is to treat the MCMC output as observed data, while the unknown permutations need to be applied to each mcmc data point is treated as unobserved data with associated uncertainty. Then, an EM-type algorithm estimates the weights for each permutation per MCMC data point.

## Usage

```
sjw(mcmc.pars, z, complete, x, init, threshold, maxiter)
```

## Arguments

mcmc.pars	$m \times K \times J$ array of simulated MCMC parameters.
z	$m \times n$ integer array of the latent allocation vectors generated from an MCMC algorithm.
complete	function that returns the complete log-likelihood of the mixture model.
x	$n$ -dimensional data vector/array
init	An (optional) index pointing at the MCMC iteration whose parameters will initialize the algorithm. If it is less or equal to zero, the overall MCMC mean will be used for initialization.

threshold	An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion. Default value: 1e-6.
maxiter	An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations. Default value: 100.

### Details

Let  $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  denote the observed data and  $\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\theta}$  denote the mixture weights and component specific parameters, respectively. Assume that  $K$  is the the number of components. Then,

$$L(\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K w_k f_k(x_i | \theta_k),$$

$i = 1, \dots, n$  is the observed likelihood of the mixture model. Given the latent allocation variables  $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ , the complete likelihood of the model is defined as:

$$L_c(\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}) = \prod_{i=1}^n w_{z_i} f_{z_i}(x_i | \theta_{z_i}).$$

Then, complete corresponds to the log of  $L_c$  and should take as input the following: a vector of  $n$  allocations, the observed data and the parameters of the model as a  $K \times J$  array where  $J$  corresponds to the different parameter types of the model. See the example for an implementation at a univariate normal mixture.

### Value

permutations	$m \times K$ dimensional array of permutations
iterations	integer denoting the number of iterations until convergence
status	returns the exit status

### Note

This algorithm is not suggested for large number of components due to the computational overload:  $K!$  permutation probabilities are computed at each MCMC iteration. Moreover, the useR should carefully provide the complete log-likelihood function of the model as input to the algorithm and this makes its use quite complicated.

### Author(s)

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

### References

Sperrin M, Jaki T and Wit E (2010). Probabilistic relabelling strategies for the label switching problem in Bayesian mixture models. *Statistics and Computing*, 20(3), 357-366.

### See Also

[permute.mcmc](#), [label.switching](#)

**Examples**

```

#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of \code{K=2} components. The number of
# observations is equal to \code{n=5}. The number of MCMC samples is
# equal to \code{m=300}.
data("mcmc_output")
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
z<-data_list$"z"
K<-data_list$"K"
x<-data_list$"x"

# mcmc parameters are stored to array \code{mcmc.pars}
# mcmc.pars[, ,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[, ,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[, ,3]: simulated weights
# The number of different parameters for the univariate
# normal mixture is equal to  $J = 3$ : means, variances
# and weights. The generated allocations variables are
# stored to \code{z}. The observed data is stored to \code{x}.
# The complete data log-likelihood is defined as follows:
complete.normal.loglikelihood<-function(x,z,pars){
# x: data (size = n)
# z: allocation vector (size = n)
# pars:  $K \times J$  vector of normal mixture parameters:
# pars[k,1] = mean of the k-normal component
# pars[k,2] = variance of the k-normal component
# pars[k,3] = weight of the k-normal component
# k = 1, ..., K
g <- dim(pars)[1] #K (number of mixture components)
n <- length(x) #this denotes the sample size
logl<- rep(0, n)
  logpi <- log(pars[,3])
mean <- pars[,1]
sigma <- sqrt(pars[,2])
logl<-logpi[z] + dnorm(x,mean = mean[z],sd = sigma[z],log = TRUE)
return(sum(logl))
}

#run the algorithm:
run<-sjw(mcmc = mcmc.pars,z = z,
complete = complete.normal.loglikelihood,x = x, init=0,threshold = 1e-4)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[, ,1]: reordered means of the two components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,2]: reordered variances
# reordered.mcmc[, ,3]: reordered weights

```

**Description**

Stephens (2000) developed a relabelling algorithm that makes the permuted sample points to agree as much as possible on the  $n \times K$  matrix of classification probabilities, using the Kullback-Leibler divergence. The algorithm's input is the matrix of allocation probabilities for each MCMC iteration.

**Usage**

```
stephens(p, threshold, maxiter)
```

**Arguments**

**p**  $m \times n \times K$  dimensional array of allocation probabilities of the  $n$  observations among the  $K$  mixture components, for each iteration  $t = 1, \dots, m$  of the MCMC algorithm.

**threshold** An (optional) positive number controlling the convergence criterion. Default value: 1e-6.

**maxiter** An (optional) integer controlling the max number of iterations. Default value: 100.

**Details**

For a given MCMC iteration  $t = 1, \dots, m$ , let  $w_k^{(t)}$  and  $\theta_k^{(t)}$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$  denote the simulated mixture weights and component specific parameters respectively. Then, the  $(t, i, k)$  element of  $p$  corresponds to the conditional probability that observation  $i = 1, \dots, n$  belongs to component  $k$  and is proportional to  $p_{tik} \propto w_k^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_k^{(t)})$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, K$ , where  $f(x_i | \theta_k)$  denotes the density of component  $k$ . This means that:

$$p_{tik} = \frac{w_k^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_k^{(t)})}{w_1^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_1^{(t)}) + \dots + w_K^{(t)} f(x_i | \theta_K^{(t)})}.$$

In case of hidden Markov models, the probabilities  $w_k$  should be replaced with the proper left (normalized) eigenvector of the state-transition matrix.

**Value**

**permutations**  $m \times K$  dimensional array of permutations

**iterations** integer denoting the number of iterations until convergence

**status** returns the exit status

**Author(s)**

Panagiotis Papastamoulis

**References**

Stephens, M. (2000). Dealing with label Switching in mixture models. Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B, 62, 795-809.

**See Also**

[permute.mcmc, label.switching](#)

**Examples**

```
#load a toy example: MCMC output consists of the random beta model
# applied to a normal mixture of {K=2} components. The number
# of observations is equal to {n=5}. The number of MCMC samples
# is equal to {m=300}. The matrix of allocation probabilities
# is stored to matrix {p}.
data("mcmc_output")
# mcmc parameters are stored to array {mcmc.pars}
mcmc.pars<-data_list$"mcmc.pars"
# mcmc.pars[, ,1]: simulated means of the two components
# mcmc.pars[, ,2]: simulated variances
# mcmc.pars[, ,3]: simulated weights
# the computed allocation matrix is p
p<-data_list$"p"
run<-stephens(p)
# apply the permutations returned by typing:
reordered.mcmc<-permute.mcmc(mcmc.pars,run$permutations)
# reordered.mcmc[, ,1]: reordered means of the components
# reordered.mcmc[, ,2]: reordered variances
# reordered.mcmc[, ,3]: reordered weights
```

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