Using Probabilities in Reverse Makes No Sense

In many problems, however, we must estimate values based on observations.

Probabilities are not invertable:

- o if I tell you that I flipped a coin,
- ° and the result was "tails,"*
- ° what can you say about my coin?

Only that one side is marked as "tails"—not two "heads".



*For those who grew up without coins: "heads" means the side with a person's head, and "tails" means the other side.

Most coins in most countries allow this distinction.