

**bayes: meintreg** — Bayesian multilevel interval regression
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## Description

`bayes: meintreg` fits a Bayesian multilevel interval regression to a continuous, interval-measured outcome; see [\[BAYES\] bayes](#) and [\[ME\] meintreg](#) for details.

## Quick start

Bayesian two-level interval regression of `y_lower` and `y_upper` on `x1` and `x2` with random intercepts by `id`, using default normal priors for regression coefficients and default inverse-gamma priors for the error variance and for the variance of random intercepts

```
bayes: meintreg y_lower y_upper x1 x2 || id:
```

Use a standard deviation of 10 instead of 100 for the default normal priors

```
bayes, normalprior(10): meintreg y_lower y_upper x1 x2 || id:
```

Use uniform priors for the slopes and a normal prior for the intercept

```
bayes, prior({y_lower: x1 x2}, uniform(-10,10)) ///
prior({y_lower:_cons}, normal(0,10)): ///
meintreg y_lower y_upper x1 x2 || id:
```

Save simulation results to `simdata.dta`, and use a random-number seed for reproducibility

```
bayes, saving(simdata) rseed(123): ///
meintreg y_lower y_upper x1 x2 || id:
```

Specify 20,000 Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) samples, set length of the burn-in period to 5,000, and request that a dot be displayed every 500 simulations

```
bayes, mcmcsample(20000) burnin(5000) dots(500): ///
meintreg y_lower y_upper x1 x2 || id:
```

In the above, request that the 90% highest posterior density (HPD) credible interval be displayed instead of the default 95% equal-tailed credible interval

```
bayes, clevel(90) hpd
```

Also see [Quick start](#) in [\[BAYES\] bayes](#) and [Quick start](#) in [\[ME\] meintreg](#).

## Menu

Statistics > Multilevel mixed-effects models > Bayesian regression > Interval regression

## Syntax

```
bayes [ , bayesopts ] : meintreg depvarlower depvarupper fe_equation
[ || re_equation ] [ || re_equation ... ] [ , options ]
```

where the syntax of *fe\_equation* is

```
[ indepvars ] [ if ] [ in ] [ weight ] [ , fe_options ]
```

and the syntax of *re\_equation* is one of the following:

for random coefficients and intercepts

```
levelvar: [ varlist ] [ , re_options ]
```

for random effects among the values of a factor variable

```
levelvar: R.varname
```

*levelvar* either is a variable identifying the group structure for the random effects at that level or is `_all`, representing one group comprising all observations.

<i>fe_options</i>	Description
Model	
<code>noconstant</code>	suppress constant term from the <a href="#">fixed-effects</a> equation
<code>offset(<i>varname</i>)</code>	include <i>varname</i> in model with coefficient constrained to 1

<i>re_options</i>	Description
Model	
<code>covariance(<i>vartype</i>)</code>	variance–covariance structure of the <a href="#">random effects</a> ; only structures <a href="#">independent</a> , <a href="#">exchangeable</a> , <a href="#">identity</a> , and <a href="#">unstructured</a> are supported
<code>noconstant</code>	suppress constant term from the random-effects equation

<i>options</i>	Description
Reporting	
<code>notable</code>	suppress coefficient table
<code>noheader</code>	suppress output header
<code>nogroup</code>	suppress table summarizing groups
<code>display_options</code>	control spacing, line width, and base and empty cells
<code>level(#)</code>	set credible level; default is <code>level(95)</code>

*indepvars* may contain factor variables; see [\[U\] 11.4.3 Factor variables](#).

*depvar*<sub>lower</sub>, *depvar*<sub>upper</sub>, *indepvars*, and *varlist* may contain time-series operators; see [\[U\] 11.4.4 Time-series varlists](#). *fweights* are allowed; see [\[U\] 11.1.6 weight](#).

`bayes: meintreg, level()` is equivalent to `bayes, clevel(): meintreg`.

For a detailed description of *options*, see [Options](#) in [\[ME\] meintreg](#).

<i>bayesopts</i>	Description
<b>Priors</b>	
* <u>normalprior</u> (#)	specify standard deviation of default normal priors for regression coefficients; default is <code>normalprior(100)</code>
* <u>igammaprior</u> (# #)	specify shape and scale of default inverse-gamma prior for variance components; default is <code>igammaprior(0.01 0.01)</code>
* <u>wishartprior</u> (# [...])	specify degrees of freedom and, optionally, scale matrix of default inverse-Wishart prior for unstructured random-effects covariance
<u>prior</u> ( <i>priorspec</i> )	prior for model parameters; this option may be repeated
<u>dryrun</u>	show model summary without estimation
<b>Simulation</b>	
<u>nchains</u> (#)	number of chains; default is to simulate one chain
<u>mcmcsize</u> (#)	MCMC sample size; default is <code>mcmcsize(10000)</code>
<u>burnin</u> (#)	burn-in period; default is <code>burnin(2500)</code>
<u>thinning</u> (#)	thinning interval; default is <code>thinning(1)</code>
<u>rseed</u> (#)	random-number seed
<u>exclude</u> ( <i>paramref</i> )	specify model parameters to be excluded from the simulation results
<u>restubs</u> ( <i>restub1 restub2 ...</i> )	specify stubs for random-effects parameters for all levels
<b>Blocking</b>	
* <u>blocksize</u> (#)	maximum block size; default is <code>blocksize(50)</code>
<u>block</u> ( <i>paramref</i> [, <i>blockopts</i> ])	specify a block of model parameters; this option may be repeated
<u>blocksummary</u>	display block summary
* <u>noblocking</u>	do not block parameters by default
<b>Initialization</b>	
<u>initial</u> ( <i>initspec</i> )	specify initial values for model parameters with a single chain
<u>init#</u> ( <i>initspec</i> )	specify initial values for #th chain; requires <code>nchains()</code>
<u>initall</u> ( <i>initspec</i> )	specify initial values for all chains; requires <code>nchains()</code>
<u>nomleinitial</u>	suppress the use of maximum likelihood estimates as starting values
<u>initrandom</u>	specify random initial values
<u>initsummary</u>	display initial values used for simulation
* <u>noisily</u>	display output from the estimation command during initialization
<b>Adaptation</b>	
<u>adaptation</u> ( <i>adaptopts</i> )	control the adaptive MCMC procedure
<u>scale</u> (#)	initial multiplier for scale factor; default is <code>scale(2.38)</code>
<u>covariance</u> ( <i>cov</i> )	initial proposal covariance; default is the identity matrix

## Reporting

<code>clevel(#)</code>	set credible interval level; default is <code>clevel(95)</code>
<code>hpd</code>	display HPD credible intervals instead of the default equal-tailed credible intervals
<code>eform[<i>(string)</i>]</code>	report exponentiated coefficients and, optionally, label as <i>string</i>
<code>remargl</code>	compute log marginal-likelihood
<code>batch(#)</code>	specify length of block for batch-means calculations; default is <code>batch(0)</code>
<code>saving(filename[, replace])</code>	save simulation results to <i>filename.dta</i>
<code>nomodelsummary</code>	suppress model summary
<code>nomesummary</code>	suppress multilevel-structure summary
<code>chainsdetail</code>	display detailed simulation summary for each chain
<code>[no]dots</code>	suppress dots or display dots every 100 iterations and iteration numbers every 1,000 iterations; default is <code>dots</code>
<code>dots(#[, every(#)])</code>	display dots as simulation is performed
<code>[no]show(paramref)</code>	specify model parameters to be excluded from or included in the output
<code>showeffects[<i>(ref)</i>]</code>	specify that all or a subset of random-effects parameters be included in the output
<code>melabel</code>	display estimation table using the same row labels as <code>meintreg</code>
<code>nogroup</code>	suppress table summarizing groups
<code>notable</code>	suppress estimation table
<code>noheader</code>	suppress output header
<code>title(string)</code>	display <i>string</i> as title above the table of parameter estimates
<code>display_options</code>	control spacing, line width, and base and empty cells

## Advanced

<code>search(search_options)</code>	control the search for feasible initial values
<code>corrlag(#)</code>	specify maximum autocorrelation lag; default varies
<code>corrtol(#)</code>	specify autocorrelation tolerance; default is <code>corrtol(0.01)</code>

\*Starred options are specific to the `bayes` prefix; other options are common between `bayes` and `bayesmh`.

Options `prior()` and `block()` may be repeated.

`priorspec` and `paramref` are defined in [BAYES] `bayesmh`.

`paramref` may contain factor variables; see [U] 11.4.3 Factor variables.

`collect` is allowed; see [U] 11.1.10 Prefix commands.

See [U] 20 Estimation and postestimation commands for more capabilities of estimation commands.

Model parameters are regression coefficients `{depvarlower:indepvars}`, error variance `{e.depvarlower:sigma2}`, random effects `{rename}`, and either variance components `{rename:sigma2}` or, if option `covariance(unstructured)` is specified, matrix parameter `{restub:Sigma,matrix}`; see *Likelihood model* in [BAYES] `bayes` for how `renames` and `restub` are defined. Use the `dryrun` option to see the definitions of model parameters prior to estimation.

For a detailed description of `bayesopts`, see *Options* in [BAYES] `bayes`.

## Remarks and examples

[stata.com](http://www.stata.com)

For a general introduction to Bayesian analysis, see [BAYES] **Intro**. For a general introduction to Bayesian estimation using an adaptive Metropolis–Hastings algorithm, see [BAYES] `bayesmh`. For remarks and examples specific to the `bayes` prefix, see [BAYES] **bayes**. For details about the estimation command, see [ME] **meintreg**.

For a simple example of the `bayer` prefix, see *Introductory example* in [BAYES] `bayer`. For multilevel examples, see *Multilevel models* in [BAYES] `bayer`.

## Stored results

See *Stored results* in [BAYES] `bayer`.

## Methods and formulas

See *Methods and formulas* in [BAYES] `bayermh`.

## Also see

[BAYES] `bayer` — Bayesian regression models using the `bayer` prefix

[ME] `meintreg` — Multilevel mixed-effects interval regression

[BAYES] `Bayesian postestimation` — Postestimation tools for `bayermh` and the `bayer` prefix

[BAYES] `Bayesian estimation` — Bayesian estimation commands

[BAYES] `Bayesian commands` — Introduction to commands for Bayesian analysis

[BAYES] `Intro` — Introduction to Bayesian analysis

[BAYES] `Glossary`

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