

bayes: poisson — Bayesian Poisson regression
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Description

`bayes: poisson` fits a Bayesian Poisson regression to a nonnegative count outcome; see [\[BAYES\] bayes](#) and [\[R\] poisson](#) for details.

Quick start

Bayesian Poisson regression of `y` on `x1` and `x2`, using default normal priors for regression coefficients

```
bayes: poisson y x1 x2
```

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

```
bayes, normalprior(10): poisson y x1 x2
```

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

```
bayes, prior({y: x1 x2}, uniform(-10,10)) ///
prior({y:_cons}, normal(0,10)): poisson y x1 x2
```

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

```
bayes, saving(simdata) rseed(123): poisson y x1 x2
```

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, mcmcsize(20000) burnin(5000) dots(500): poisson y x1 x2
```

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
```

Display incidence-rate ratios instead of coefficients

```
bayes: poisson y x1 x2, irr
```

Display incidence-rate ratios on replay

```
bayes, irr
```

Also see [Quick start](#) in [\[BAYES\] bayes](#) and [Quick start](#) in [\[R\] poisson](#).

Menu

Statistics > Count outcomes > Bayesian regression > Poisson regression

Syntax

```
bayes [ , bayesopts ] : poisson depvar [indepvars] [if] [in] [weight] [ , options ]
```

<i>options</i>	Description
Model	
<code>noconstant</code>	suppress constant term
<code>exposure(<i>varname_e</i>)</code>	include $\ln(\text{varname}_e)$ in model with coefficient constrained to 1
<code>offset(<i>varname_o</i>)</code>	include varname_o in model with coefficient constrained to 1
Reporting	
<code>irr</code>	report incidence-rate ratios
<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, *indepvars*, *varname_e*, and *varname_o* may contain time-series operators; see [U] 11.4.4 **Time-series varlists**.

fweights are allowed; see [U] 11.1.6 **weight**.

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

For a detailed description of *options*, see *Options* in [R] **poisson**.

<i>bayesopts</i>	Description
Priors	
<code>*normalprior(#)</code>	specify standard deviation of default normal priors for regression coefficients; default is <code>normalprior(100)</code>
<code>prior(<i>priorspec</i>)</code>	prior for model parameters; this option may be repeated
<code>dryrun</code>	show model summary without estimation
Simulation	
<code>nchains(#)</code>	number of chains; default is to simulate one chain
<code>mcmcsize(#)</code>	MCMC sample size; default is <code>mcmcsize(10000)</code>
<code>burnin(#)</code>	burn-in period; default is <code>burnin(2500)</code>
<code>thinning(#)</code>	thinning interval; default is <code>thinning(1)</code>
<code>rseed(#)</code>	random-number seed
<code>exclude(<i>paramref</i>)</code>	specify model parameters to be excluded from the simulation results
Blocking	
<code>*blocksize(#)</code>	maximum block size; default is <code>blocksize(50)</code>
<code>block(<i>paramref</i> [, <i>blockopts</i>])</code>	specify a block of model parameters; this option may be repeated
<code>blocksummary</code>	display block summary
<code>*noblocking</code>	do not block parameters by default

Initialization

<code><u>initial</u>(<i>initspec</i>)</code>	specify initial values for model parameters with a single chain
<code>init#(<i>initspec</i>)</code>	specify initial values for #th chain; requires <code>nchains()</code>
<code>initall(<i>initspec</i>)</code>	specify initial values for all chains; requires <code>nchains()</code>
<code>nomleinitial</code>	suppress the use of maximum likelihood estimates as starting values
<code>initrandom</code>	specify random initial values
<code>initsummary</code>	display initial values used for simulation
* <code>noisily</code>	display output from the estimation command during initialization

Adaptation

<code>adaptation(<i>adaptopts</i>)</code>	control the adaptive MCMC procedure
<code>scale(#)</code>	initial multiplier for scale factor; default is <code>scale(2.38)</code>
<code>covariance(<i>cov</i>)</code>	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>irr</code>	report incidence-rate ratios
<code>eform[(<i>string</i>)]</code>	report exponentiated coefficients and, optionally, label as <i>string</i>
<code>batch(#)</code>	specify length of block for batch-means calculations; default is <code>batch(0)</code>
<code>saving(<i>filename</i>[, <i>replace</i>])</code>	save simulation results to <i>filename.dta</i>
<code>nomodelsummary</code>	suppress model 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>nodots</code>
<code>dots(#[, <i>every</i>(#)])</code>	display dots as simulation is performed
<code>[no]show(<i>paramref</i>)</code>	specify model parameters to be excluded from or included in the output
<code>notable</code>	suppress estimation table
<code>noheader</code>	suppress output header
<code>title(<i>string</i>)</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(<i>search_options</i>)</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 `{devar:indepvars}`. 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

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 [\[R\] poisson](#).

For a simple example of the `bayes` prefix, see *Introductory example* in [\[BAYES\] bayes](#).

Stored results

See *Stored results* in [\[BAYES\] bayes](#).

Methods and formulas

See *Methods and formulas* in [\[BAYES\] bayesmh](#).

Also see

[\[BAYES\] bayes](#) — Bayesian regression models using the `bayes` prefix

[\[R\] poisson](#) — Poisson regression

[\[BAYES\] Bayesian postestimation](#) — Postestimation tools for `bayesmh` and the `bayes` prefix

[\[BAYES\] Bayesian estimation](#) — Bayesian estimation commands

[\[BAYES\] Bayesian commands](#) — Introduction to commands for Bayesian analysis

[\[BAYES\] Intro](#) — Introduction to Bayesian analysis

[\[BAYES\] Glossary](#)