

# A Short Introduction to Bayesian Modelling Using WinBUGS



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*ISA SHORT COURSES*

*“MCMC, WinBUGS and Bayesian Model Selection”*

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# A Short Introduction to Bayesian Modelling Using WinBUGS



*These slides are available at*

*[http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/courses/2011\\_dublin\\_winbugs/](http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/courses/2011_dublin_winbugs/)*

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## 0... Bibliography WinBUGS and Related Software

- 1. WINBUGS 1.4.3**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/WinBUGS14.exe>
  - ✓ Registration page <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/register.shtml> [FREE]
- 2. WinBUGS Development Site**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.winbugs-development.org.uk/>
- 3. WinBUGS Online resources (incl. Addins)**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/weblinks/webresource.shtml>
- 4. OpenBUGS** available at <http://www.openbugs.info/w/>
- 5. Classic BUGS 0.6,**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/classic/bugs06/prog06.exe>
- 6. CODA and R-CODA (software for convergence diagnostics)**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/classic/coda04/cdaprg04.exe>
  - ✓ R-coda available at <http://www-fis.iarc.fr/coda/>
- 7. BOA (Excellent CODA clone for R – software for convergence diagnostics)**
  - ✓ available at <http://www.public-health.uiowa.edu/boa/>

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## 0... Bibliography

### WinBUGS Manuals and Online Resources

- Spiegelhalter, D., Thomas, A., Best, N. and Lunn, D. (2003). *WinBUGS User Manual, Version 1.4*,
  - ❑ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/manual14.pdf>
- WinBUGS Examples
  - ❑ Vol 1, <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/Vol1.pdf>
  - ❑ Vol 2, <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/Vol2.pdf>
  - ❑ Vol 3, <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/Vol3.pdf>
  - ❑ Additional New Examples <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/examples.shtml>
  - ❑ David Scollnik's "Actuarial Modeling with MCMC and BUGS" <http://math.ucalgary.ca/~scollnik/abcd/>
- GEOBUGS Manual <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/geobugs12manual.pdf>
- Additional electronic material (tutorial, courses papers) for WINBUGS
  - ❑ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/weblinks/webresource.shtml> .
- WinBUGS THE MOVIE – Online tutorial
  - ❑ available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/winbugsthemovie.html>
- Additional documentation and manuals for BUGS/CODA available at <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/documentation/contents.shtml> .

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### WinBUGS Books (1)

Ntzoufras, I. (2009). *Bayesian Modelling Using WinBUGS*.  
Wiley.

Book's web-site

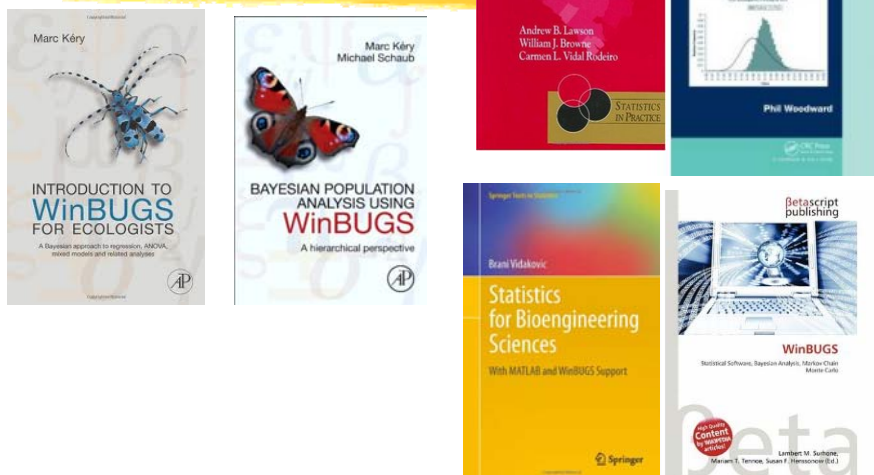
[http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/winbugs\\_book](http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/winbugs_book)



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## 0... Bibliography WinBUGS Books (2)



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### Bayesian Data Analysis Books

- Carlin B. and Louis T. (2008). *Bayes and Empirical Bayes Methods for Data Analysis*. 3<sup>rd</sup> edition, London: Chapman and Hall.
- Gelman A., Carlin J.B., Sten H.S. and Rubin D.B. (2003). *Bayesian Data Analysis*. 2<sup>nd</sup> edition. London: Chapman and Hall.
- Bolstad W.M. (2007). *Introduction to Bayesian Statistics*, 2nd Edition, Wiley-Blackwell.
- Jackman, S. (2009). *Bayesian Analysis for the Social Sciences*, Wiley Series in Probability and Statistics, Wiley-Blackwell.
- Marin J.M. and Robert C. (2007). *Bayesian Core: A Practical Approach to Computational Bayesian Statistics*, Springer Texts in Statistics.

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### Bayesian Modelling Books

- Books of P.D. Congdon:
  1. (2010). *Applied Bayesian Hierarchical Methods*. Chapman and Hall/CRC.
  2. (2007). *Bayesian Statistical Modelling*, 2nd Edition. Willey and Sons.
  3. (2003). *Applied Bayesian Modelling*. Wiley-Blackwell
  4. (2005). *Bayesian Models for Categorical Data*. Wiley-Blackwell.
- Gelman A. and Hill J. (2006). *Data Analysis Using Regression and Multilevel/Hierarchical Models*, Analytical Methods for Social Research, Cambridge University Press.
- Dey D., Ghosh S.K. and Mallick B.K. (2000). *Generalized Linear Models: A Bayesian Perspective*, Chapman & Hall/CRC Biostatistics Series, CRC Press.

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## 1... GENERALISED LINEAR MODELS

- **1.1. Data**
- **1.2. Three Main Components**
- **1.3. General Principles of Statistical Modelling**

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## 1... Generalised Linear Models

### 1.1. Data

#### 1) RESPONSE VARIABLE (Y)

- ❑ also called dependent or endogenous variable
- ❑  $Y$  is a random variable

#### 2) EXPLANATORY VARIABLES ( $X_j$ ):

- ❑ Independent or Exogenous variables
- ❑  $X_j$  are usually assumed fixed by the experiment

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## 1... Generalised Linear Models

### 1.2. Three main components

#### (1) RANDOM COMPONENT

- ❑  $Y_i \sim \text{DISTRIBUTION } f(\theta_i)$
- ❑  $\theta_i$  : VECTOR OF PARAMETERS FOR SUBJECT  $i$

#### (2) SYSTEMATIC COMPONENT

- ❑  $\eta_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_p X_{pi}$
- ❑  $\eta_i$  : Linear Predictor of the model

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## 1... Generalised Linear Models

### 1.2. *Three main components*

#### (3) LINK FUNCTION

- Connects the random component & the linear predictor
- $g(\theta_i) = \eta_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_{1i} + \dots + \beta_p X_{pi}$
- Usually  $\theta$  is the mean of  $Y$

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## 1... Generalised Linear Models

### 1.3. *General Principles of Modelling*

- It is art
- All models are wrong
  - ✓ Some of them are more useful than others
  - ✓ We seek for models which describe reality
  - ✓ We fit and check many different models
- Always use some diagnostics for checking the goodness of fit

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## 2...Introduction to Bayesian Inference

**Ladies and Gentlemen I present you**

**THE POSTERIOR DISTRIBUTION**

$$f(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y})$$

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## The Bayesian approach

Posterior distribution is calculated using  
BAYES THEOREM

$$f(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}) = \frac{f(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y})}{f(\mathbf{y})} = \frac{f(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta})f(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{f(\mathbf{y})}$$

$$\propto f(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta})f(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

Posterior  $\propto$  Likelihood x Prior

*[proportional]*

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### **A simple example:** Posterior distribution of the mean of the normal distribution

1. **Data/Likelihood:**  $Y_i \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$   
 $\sigma^2$  here is assumed to be known and constant
2. **Prior:**  $\mu \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$
3. **Posterior:**  $f(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{y}) = N\left(w\bar{y} + (1-w)\mu_0, w\frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$   

$$w = \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2/n}$$

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## 2.2. Posterior distribution

Analytical Calculation of the posterior distribution is sometimes difficult

- **1970s:** Conjugate priors resulting in posteriors of the same type (and known form)
- **1980s:** Asymptotic approximations of the posterior
- **1990s:** Obtaining random samples from the posterior using Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods.

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## 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

### Introduction

#### 3.1. Metropolis-Hastings Algorithm

#### 3.2. Gibbs Sampling

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## 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

Existed in the past in physics

- **1954** Metropolis *et al.* (Metropolis Algorithm)
- **1970** Hastings (Metropolis-Hastings Algorithm)
- **1984** Geman and Geman (Gibbs Sampling)
- **1990** Smith *et al.* (Implementation of MCMC methods in Bayesian problems)
- **1995** Green (Reversible Jump MCMC)

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### What is the idea:

Since we cannot analytically calculate the posterior distribution then we generate a random sample from this distribution and estimate the posterior

- Describe the posterior using posterior summaries estimated by the generated sample (e.g. posterior mean or variance)
- Plot marginal posteriors
- Estimate posterior dependencies using sample correlations etc.

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### The logic:

We construct a Markov chain which has a stationary distribution the posterior distribution of interest

Every iteration (step) of the algorithm depends only on the previous one.

We use this chain to “generate” a sample from the stationary (target) distribution

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

The procedure

- We specify some arbitrary initial values  $\theta^{(0)}$  for the parameters  $\theta$
- For  $t=1,2, \dots, T$  we generate random values  $\theta^{(t)}$  according to our algorithm
- When the chain has *converged* then we have values from the stationary distribution
- We eliminate the initial  $K$  values to avoid any possible effect due to the arbitrary selection of initial values. (*Burn-in period*)

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### Terminology

- **Initial values:** Starting values  $\theta^{(0)}$  of the parameter vector  $\theta$ . They are used to initialize the algorithm.
- **Iteration:** Refers to one iteration of the algorithm  
=> to one observation of the generated sample
- **Burn-in Period:** The period (and the number of iterations) until the algorithm stabilizes and starts to give random values from the posterior distribution

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### Terminology (2)

- **Convergence**: When the chain is giving values from the stationary (target) distribution
- **Convergence diagnostics**: Tests to assure convergence
- **MCMC output**: The simulated sample

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### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### Terminology (3)

- MCMC algorithms are based on Markov chains
  - => the generated sample is not IID
  - => i.e. there is *autocorrelation* between the subsequently generated values (as in time series data)
- We are interested to eliminate this autocorrelation
  1. We monitor autocorrelations using ACF plots
  2. If there are significant ACs of order L
    - => we keep 1 iteration every L
- **Thin**: is the number of iterations we eliminate in order to keep one iteration.  
Thinning can be also used to save storing space.

### 3. Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Methods

#### ALGORITHMS

- METROPOLIS-HASTINGS ALGORITHM
- GIBBS SAMPLING
- MANY OTHERS MORE ADVANCED (too much for this sort course)

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### 4... WinBUGS Language

#### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBugs?

#### 4.2. A Simple Example

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

- **BUGS: Bayesian inference Using Gibbs Sampling**
- Computing Language for definition of the Model (likelihood, prior)
- Computes the full Conditional Distributions and generates samples from the posterior distribution of interest

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

#### Why it is so popular?

1. We need to define only the Bayesian model (i.e. prior and likelihood)
2. Can estimate posterior distributions for models where the MLE's cannot be obtained easily (or they are not available in standard packages)

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

- **1989**: The BUGS project was initiated by the **MRC Biostatistics Unit** (Spiegelhalter, Gilks, Best, Thomas).
- **1996**: BUGS version 0.5 for DOS and Unix
- **1997**: BUGS version 0.6 for DOS and Unix
- **1997**: First experimental version of **WinBUGS**
- **6th August 2007**: Current (and final) version 1.4.3 of WinBUGS, developed jointly with the Imperial College School of Medicine at St. Mary's, London.

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

- **Now & Future**: Development of **OpenBUGS** at the *University of Helsinki* in Finland  
*[open source experimental version of WinBUGS but unstable in comparison to WinBUGS]*  
<http://www.openbugs.info/w/>
- **WinBUGS web-site**:  
<http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs>  
(includes a wide variety of add-in software, utilities, related papers, and course material)

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

#### Main Characteristics of WinBUGS

- Continuation of Classic BUGS: Similar + new methodological developments
- Development page <http://www.winbugs-development.org.uk/>
- Graphical representation of model using **DoodleBUGS**
- Menu Driven control of each model session
- Can be called via other packages such as R, Matlab, Excel
- Can be used to estimate parameters of complicated models

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

#### Installation of WinBUGS

1. Download WinBUGS14.exe to your computer from <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/WinBUGS14.exe>
2. Double click on WinBUGS14.exe and follow the instructions
3. Go to c:\Program Files\WinBUGS14 directory and create a shortcut of file the file WinBUGS14.exe
4. Double click on WinBUGS14.exe to run WinBUGS.
5. Download the free key from [http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/WinBUGS14\\_immortality\\_key.txt](http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/WinBUGS14_immortality_key.txt)
6. Open the key from WinBUGS and follow the instructions
7. *After following the instructions given in the key, check that the **Keys.ocf** file in ..\WinBUGS14\Bugs\Code\ has been updated. (Some people have found they need to re-boot the machine to complete installation of the key.)*
8. Download the 1.4.3 upgrade patch <http://www.mrc-bsu.cam.ac.uk/bugs/winbugs/patches.shtml>
9. Open the patch from WinBUGS and follow the instructions

## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

**BEWARE:**

**GIBBS SAMPLING CAN BE  
DANGEROUS**

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS

**Why it is dangerous for our health (and our  
academic status)?**

- Wrong Results due to lack of convergence
- Slow convergence
- Bad Starting Values
- Bad Construction of Model
- Over-parameterised Model
- Overflow or Underflow problems (resulting in trap messages in WinBUGS).
- The program may be very slow or stack and never finishes.

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## 4... **WinBUGS Language**

### 4.1. *Introduction: What is WinBUGS*

#### **Structure of WinBUGS Model code**

- **Model code**
  - ✓ likelihood specification,
  - ✓ prior,
  - ✓ other parameters of interest
- **Data**
  - Simple rectangular form and/or
  - List form
- **Initial Values**
- **Script file** (optional, needed for background running of the model)

## 4... **WinBUGS Language**

### 4.1. *Introduction: What is WinBUGS*

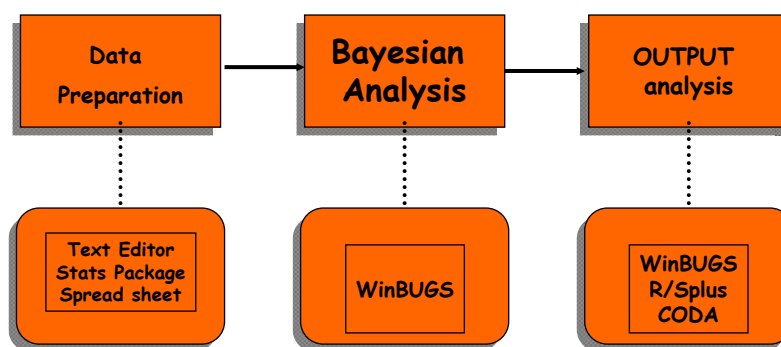
#### **Types of files**

- **ODC files**

WinBUGS files where we can write the code and save results (incl. graphs)
- **Simple text files**

## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.1. Introduction: What is WinBUGS



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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2. A simple example

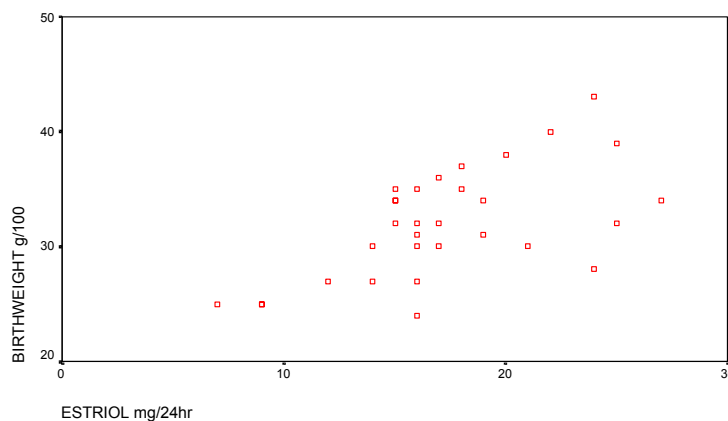
- Green & Touchston (1963, *Am.Jour. Of Obstetrics & Gynecology*)
- STUDY OF THE RELATIONSHIP
  - ✓ Y : Birthweight
  - ✓ X : Estriol level of women
  - ✓ Sample Size n=31
- The relationship can be examined in the following graph

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2. A simple example



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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.1 Building the Model

- RANDOM COMPONENT:  $\text{Birth}_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$
- SYSTEMATIC COMPONENT:  $\eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$
- LINK FUNCTION:  $\mu_i = \eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$
- for  $i=1, \dots, 31$
- PRIORS (Non-informative)
  - $f(\alpha) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$
  - $f(\beta) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$
  - $f(\sigma^2) = \text{Inverse Gamma}(10^{-4}, 10^{-4})$  or
  - $f(\tau = \sigma^{-2}) = \text{Gamma}(10^{-4}, 10^{-4})$

## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

In a file \*.ODC we define our model

#### Distribution commands

- ✓ WinBUGS MANUAL p. 56 – 59
- ✓ Ntzoufras (2009) p. 90 – 91

#### Commands for arithmetic functions

- ✓ WinBUGS MANUAL p. 13–14
- ✓ Ntzoufras (2009) p. 94

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

Structure:

#### *Shell*

```
model {
  ... [model commands] ...
}
```

#### *Main Model*

- ✓ Likelihood
- ✓ Prior distributions
- ✓ Additional parameters of interest

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

#### Model Code

- Starts with the command `model`
- Model code is included in curly brackets `{ }`
- `~` : Defines a random variable (*stochastic relationship*)  
i.e. that a variable "follows" a distribution  
(see manual p. 56-59 and Ntzoufras, 2009, p. 90-91 for commands)
- `<-` : Defines an equality (*deterministic relationship*)  
(see manual p. 13-14 and Ntzoufras, 2009, p. 94 for commands)

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## Distributions in WinBUGS (I)

### Discrete Univariate

[\[ top | home \]](#)

#### Bernoulli

$$r \sim \text{dbern}(p) \quad p^r(1-p)^{1-r}; \quad r = 0, 1$$

#### Binomial

$$r \sim \text{dbin}(p, n) \quad \frac{n!}{r!(n-r)!} p^r(1-p)^{n-r}; \quad r = 0, \dots, n$$

#### Categorical

$$r \sim \text{dcat}(p[]) \quad p[r]; \quad r = 1, 2, \dots, \dim(p); \quad \sum_i p[i] = 1$$

#### Negative Binomial

$$x \sim \text{dnegbin}(p, r) \quad \frac{(x+r-1)!}{x!(r-1)!} p^r(1-p)^x; \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

#### Poisson

$$r \sim \text{dpois}(\lambda) \quad e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^r}{r!}; \quad r = 0, 1, \dots$$

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## Distributions in WinBUGS (II)

### Continuous Univariate [ top | home ]

#### Beta

$$p \sim \text{dbeta}(a, b) \quad p^{a-1}(1-p)^{b-1} \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}; \quad 0 < p < 1$$

#### Chi-squared

$$x \sim \text{dchisqr}(k) \quad \frac{2^{-k/2} x^{k/2-1} e^{-x/2}}{\Gamma(k/2)}; \quad x > 0$$

#### Double Exponential

$$x \sim \text{ddexp}(\mu, \tau) \quad \frac{\tau}{2} \exp(-\tau|x-\mu|); \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

#### Exponential

$$x \sim \text{dexp}(\lambda) \quad \lambda e^{-\lambda x}; \quad x > 0$$

#### Gamma

$$x \sim \text{dgamma}(r, \mu) \quad \frac{\mu^r x^{r-1} e^{-\mu x}}{\Gamma(r)}; \quad x > 0$$

#### Generalized Gamma

$$x \sim \text{gen.gamma}(r, \mu, \beta) \quad \frac{\beta}{\Gamma(r)} \mu^{\beta r} x^{\beta r-1} \exp[-(\mu x)^\beta]; \quad x > 0$$

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## Distributions in WinBUGS (III)

#### Log-normal

$$x \sim \text{dlnorm}(\mu, \tau) \quad \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{2\pi}} \frac{1}{x} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{2}(\log x - \mu)^2\right); \quad x > 0$$

#### Logistic

$$x \sim \text{dlogis}(\mu, \tau) \quad \frac{\tau \exp(\tau(x-\mu))}{(1 + \exp(\tau(x-\mu)))^2}; \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

#### Normal

$$x \sim \text{dnorm}(\mu, \tau) \quad \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{2}(x-\mu)^2\right); \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

#### Pareto

$$x \sim \text{dpar}(\alpha, c) \quad \alpha c^\alpha x^{-(\alpha+1)}; \quad x > c$$

#### Student-t

$$x \sim \text{dt}(\mu, \tau, k) \quad \frac{\Gamma(k/2)}{\Gamma(k/2)} \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{k\pi}} \left[1 + \frac{\tau}{k}(x-\mu)^2\right]^{-(k+1)/2};$$

$$-\infty < x < \infty; \quad k \geq 2$$

#### Uniform

$$x \sim \text{dunif}(a, b) \quad \frac{1}{b-a}; \quad a < x < b$$

#### Weibull

$$x \sim \text{dweib}(v, \lambda) \quad v \lambda x^{v-1} \exp(-\lambda x^v); \quad x > 0$$



## Distributions in WinBUGS (IV)

<b>Discrete Multivariate</b> <small>[top   home]</small>	
<b>Multinomial</b>	
$x[] \sim \text{dmulti}(p[], N)$	$\frac{(\sum_i x_i)!}{\prod_i x_i!} \prod_i p_i^{x_i};$
	$\sum_i x_i = N; \quad 0 < p_i < 1; \quad \sum_i p_i = 1$
<b>Continuous Multivariate</b> <small>[top   home]</small>	
<b>Dirichlet</b>	
$p[] \sim \text{ddirch}(\text{alpha}[])$	$\frac{\Gamma(\sum_i \alpha_i)}{\prod_i \Gamma(\alpha_i)} \prod_i p_i^{\alpha_i - 1};$
	$0 < p_i < 1; \quad \sum_i p_i = 1$
<b>Multivariate Normal</b>	
$x[] \sim \text{dmnorm}(\text{mu}[], T[.])$	$(2\pi)^{-d/2}  T ^{1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)'T(x - \mu)\right);$
	$-\infty < x < \infty$
<b>Multivariate Student-t</b>	
$x[] \sim \text{dmt}(\text{mu}[], T[.], k)$	$\frac{\Gamma((k+d)/2)}{\Gamma(k/2) k^{d/2} \pi^{d/2}}  T ^{1/2}$
	$\times \left[1 + \frac{1}{k}(x - \mu)'T(x - \mu)\right]^{-(k+d)/2};$
	$-\infty < x < \infty; \quad k \geq 2$
<b>Wishart</b>	
$x[,] \sim \text{dwish}(R[.], k)$	$ R ^{k/2}  x ^{(k-p-1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}(Rx)\right);$
	$x \text{ symmetric \& positive definite}$

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

#### IN OUR EXAMPLE

##### MAIN MODEL

**Normal Distribution:**  $y \sim \text{dnorm}(\text{mu}, \text{tau})$

**mu** = mean

**tau** = precision =  $1/\sigma^2$

**Gamma Distribution :**  $y \sim \text{dgamma}(a, b)$

**mean** =  $a/b$

**x[i]** : i element of vector x

**d[i,j]** : element of i row and j column of table d

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

(1)  $\text{Birth}_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$   
 (2)  $\eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 (3)  $\mu_i = \eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 for  $i=1, \dots, 31$

```

for (i in 1:n) {
  Birth[i] ~ dnorm(mu[i], tau)
  mu[i] <- a + b * estriol[i]
}

```

PRIORS

$f(\alpha) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $a \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$

$f(\beta) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $b \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$

$f(\tau) = \text{Gamma}(10^{-4}, 10^{-4})$   $\text{tau} \sim \text{dgamma}(1.0E-04, 1.0E-04)$

$\sigma^2 = 1/\tau$   $s2 <- 1/\text{tau}$

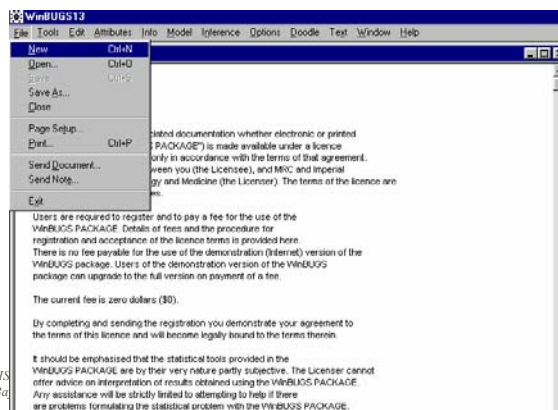
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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

- Start WinBUGS
- Select "New" from file bar



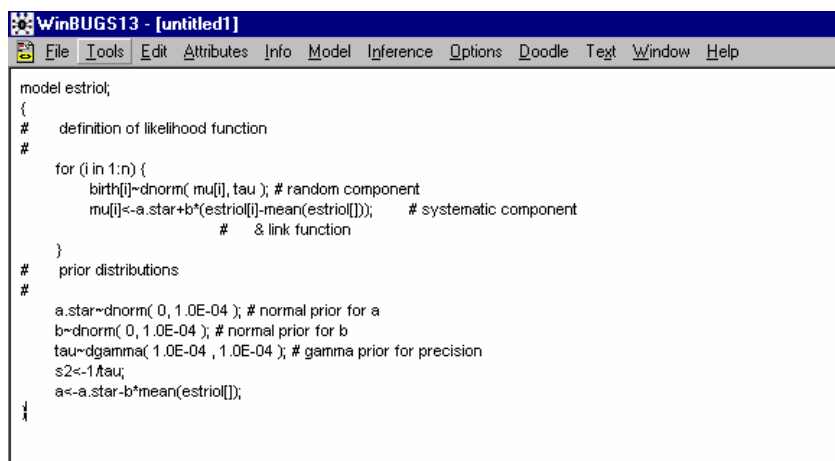
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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

#### Write the Model Commands



```

WinBUGS13 - [untitled1]
File Tools Edit Attributes Info Model Inference Options Doodle Text Window Help

model estriol;
{
#   definition of likelihood function
#
  for (i in 1:n) {
    birth[i]~dnorm( mu[i], tau ); # random component
    mu[i]<-a.star+b*(estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])); # systematic component
                                     # & link function
  }
#   prior distributions
#
  a.star~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for a
  b~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for b
  tau~dgamma( 1.0E-04 , 1.0E-04 ); # gamma prior for precision
  s2<-1/tau;
  a<-a.star-b*mean(estriol[]);
}
  
```

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

➤ Write the **Model Commands**

➤ Followed by the **initial values**

```
list(a.star=0.0, b=0.0, tau=1.0)
```

➤ and the **data**

```
list(n=31)
estriol[] birth[]
7 25
9 25
... ..
25 39
24 43
END
```

← **Empty line**

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## 4... WinBUGS Language

### 4.2.2 Writing the WinBUGS Model Code

Alternative way of defining data (using list format)

```
list(n=31,  
     estriol=c(7, 9, 9, 12, 14, 16, 16,  
              14, 16, 16, 17, 19, 21, 24, 15, 16,  
              17, 25, 27, 15, 15, 15, 16, 19, 18,  
              17, 18, 20, 22, 25, 24),  
     birth = c(25, 25, 25, 27, 27, 27, 24,  
              30, 30, 31, 30, 31, 30, 28, 32, 32,  
              32, 32, 34, 34, 34, 35, 35, 34, 35,  
              36, 37, 38, 40, 39, 43)  
)
```

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

### 5.4. Deviance Information Criterion (DIC) in WinBUGS

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

model estriol;  
{  
#  
# definition of likelihood function  
#  
for (i in 1:n) {  
birth[i]~dnorm( mu[i], tau ); # random component  
mu[i]~dlnorm( a.star+b\*(estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])), # systematic component  
# & link function  
}  
# prior distributions  
#  
a.star~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for a  
b~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for b

list(n=31)  
estriol[] birth[]  
7 25

list(a.star=0.0, b=0.0, tau=1.0)

Model Inference Do  
Specification...  
Update...  
Monitor Met  
Save State  
Seed...

Specification Tool  
check model load data  
compile num of chains 1  
for chain 1  
Specification Tool  
check model load data  
compile num of chains 1  
for chain 1  
Specification Tool  
check model load data  
compile num of chains 1  
for chain 1  
Specification Tool  
check model load data  
compile num of chains 1  
for chain 1  
load data for chain 1  
gen init

Update Tool  
updates 1000 refresh 100  
update then 1 iteration 0  
over relax adapting

Checks Syntax

Start Sampler

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 1... Check Model

```

WinBUGS13
File Tools Edit Attributes Info Model Inference Options Doodle Text Window Help

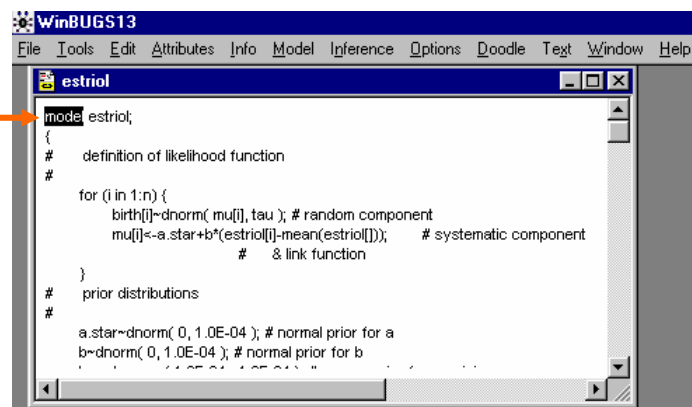
estriol
model estriol;
{
#
# definition of likelihood function
#
for (i in 1:n) {
birth[i]~dnorm( mu[i], tau ); # random component
mu[i]~dlnorm( a.star+b*(estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])), # systematic component
# & link function
}
# prior distributions
#
a.star~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for a
b~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for b
    
```

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 1... Check Model

HIGHLIGHT THE MODEL COMMAND



```

WinBUGS13
File Tools Edit Attributes Info Model Inference Options Doodle Text Window Help
estriol
model estriol;
{
# definition of likelihood function
#
for (i in 1:n) {
  birth[i]~dnorm( mu[i], tau ); # random component
  mu[i]<-a.star+b*(estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])); # systematic component
  # & link function
}
# prior distributions
#
a.star~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for a
b~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for b

```

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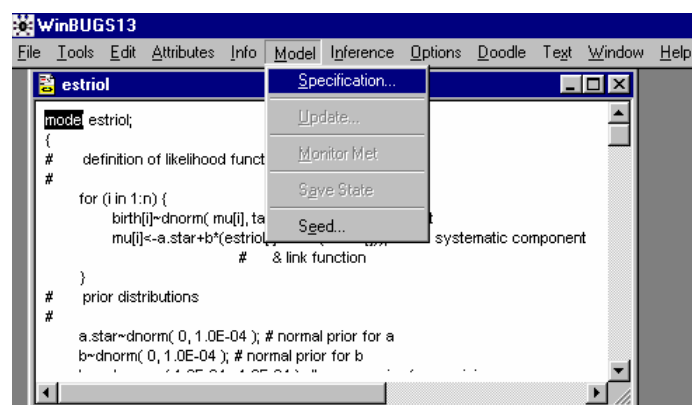
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 1... Check Model

SELECT "SPECIFICATION" FROM "MODEL" MENU



```

WinBUGS13
File Tools Edit Attributes Info Model Inference Options Doodle Text Window Help
estriol
model estriol;
{
# definition of likelihood funct
#
for (i in 1:n) {
  birth[i]~dnorm( mu[i], ta
  mu[i]<-a.star+b*(estriol
  # & link function
}
# prior distributions
#
a.star~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for a
b~dnorm( 0, 1.0E-04 ); # normal prior for b

```

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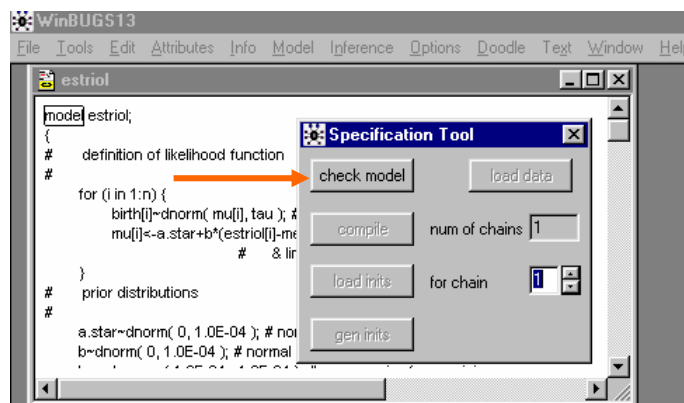
60

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 1... Check Model

SELECT "CHECK MODEL"



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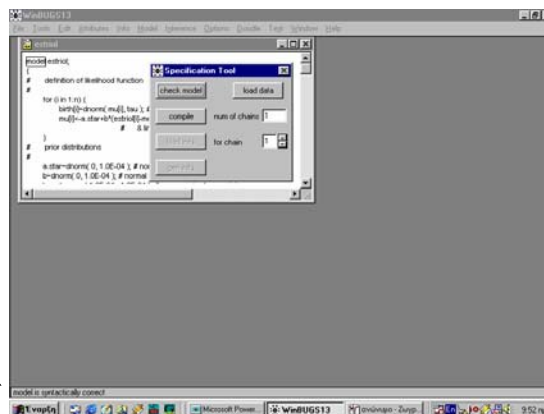
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 1... Check Model

IF SYNTAX IS CORRECT THEN

model is syntactically correct



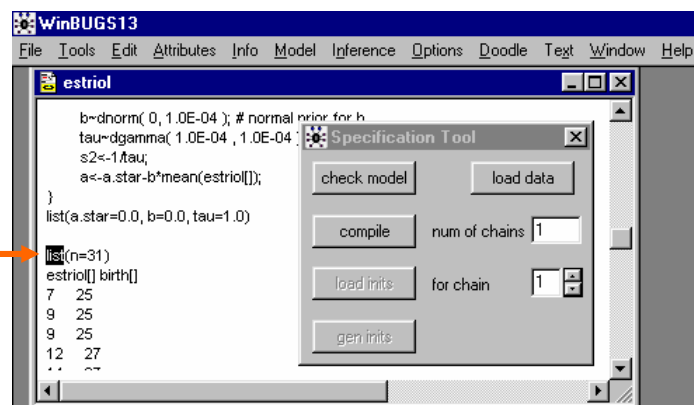
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 2... Load Data

HIGHLIGHT "LIST" OR THE 1ST LINE OF THE DATA



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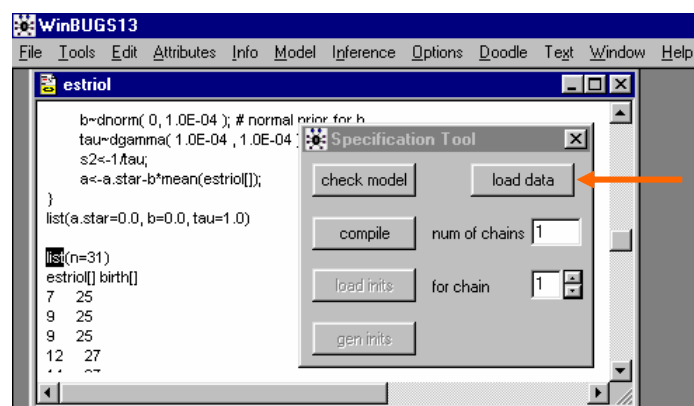
63

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 2... Load Data

CLICK THE BOX "LOAD DATA"



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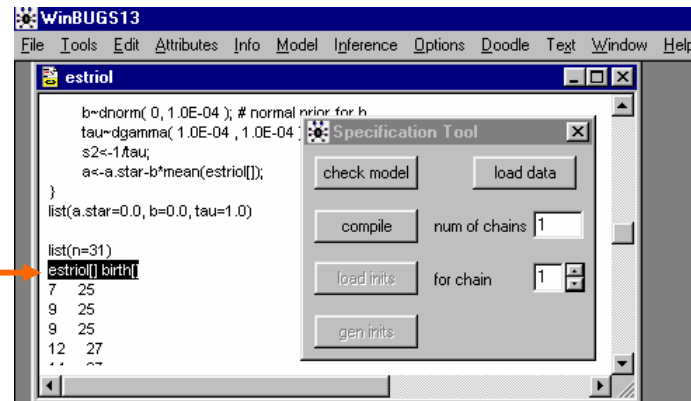


## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 2... Load Data

HIGHLIGHT ADDITIONAL DATA



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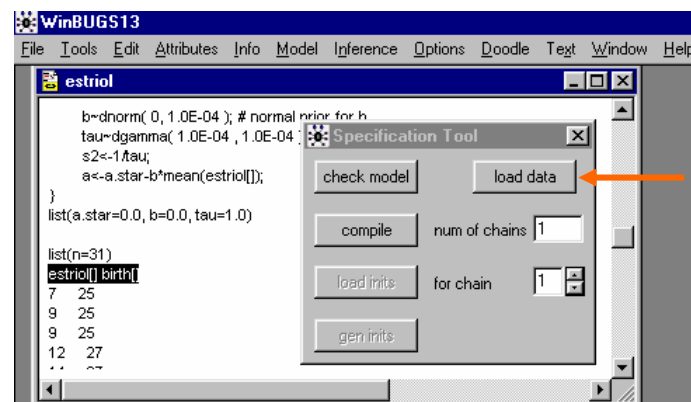
65

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 2... Load Data

CLICK (AGAIN) THE BOX "LOAD DATA"



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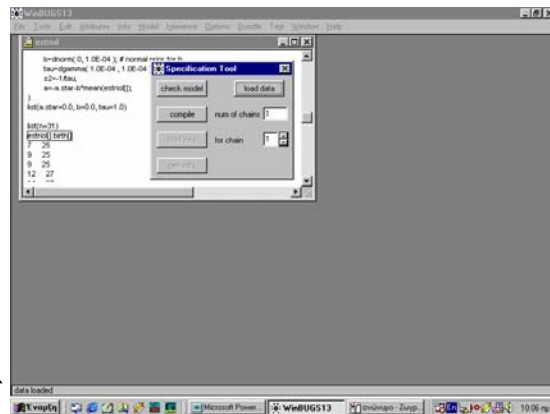
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 2... Load Data

IF DATA ARE LOADED THEN

data loaded



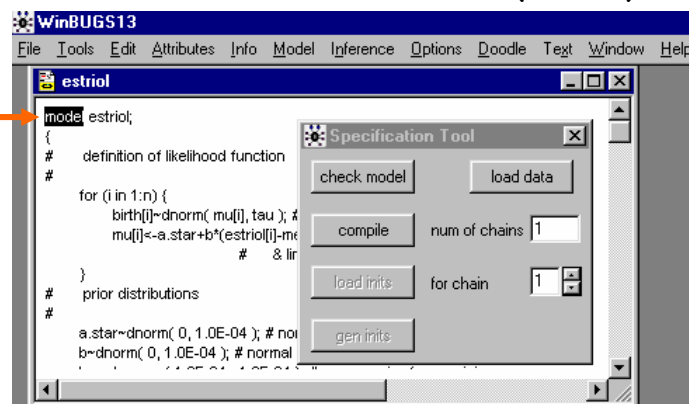
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 3... Compile Model

HIGHLIGHT "MODEL" COMMAND (AGAIN)



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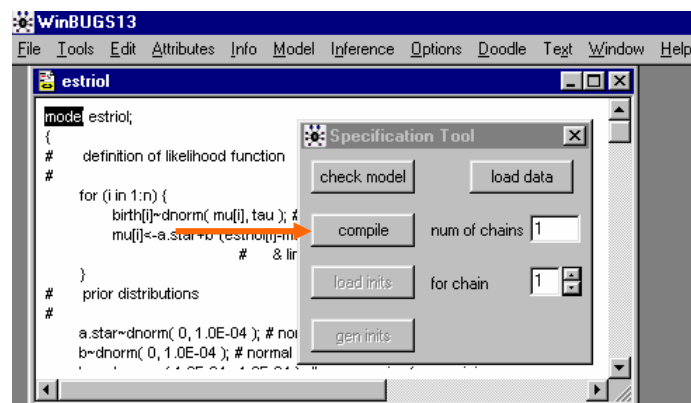
68

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 3... Compile Model

CLICK ON BOX "COMPILE"



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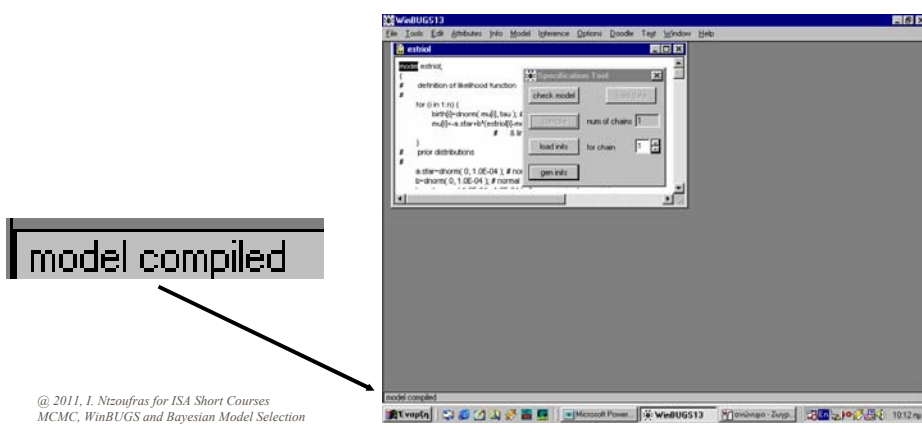
69

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 3... Compile Model

IF MODEL COMPILED THEN



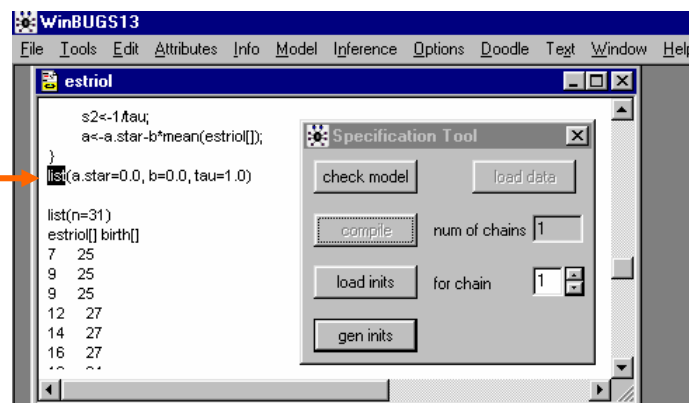
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 4... Load or Generate Initial Values

HIGHLIGHT "LIST" OF INITIAL VALUES



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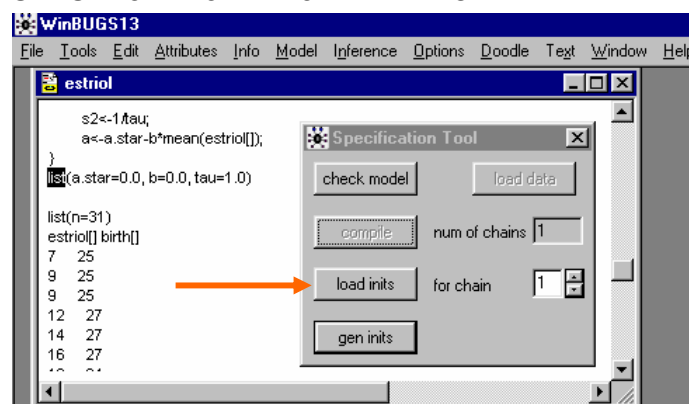
71

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 4... Load or Generate Initial Values

CLICK ON BOX "LOAD INITS"



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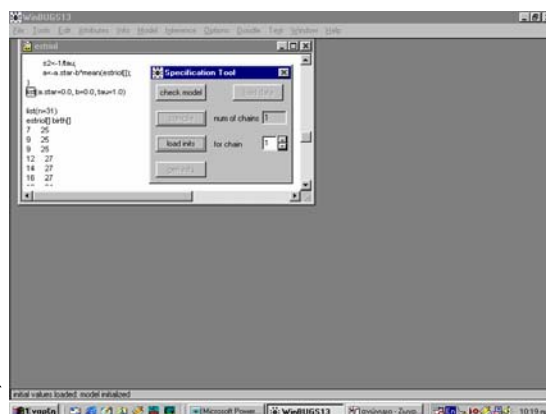
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 4... Load or Generate Initial Values

IF INITIAL VALUES ARE LOADED THEN

initial values loaded: model initialized



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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 4... Load or Generate Initial Values

NOW WINBUGS IS READY TO GENERATE  
SAMPLES USING GIBBS SAMPLING

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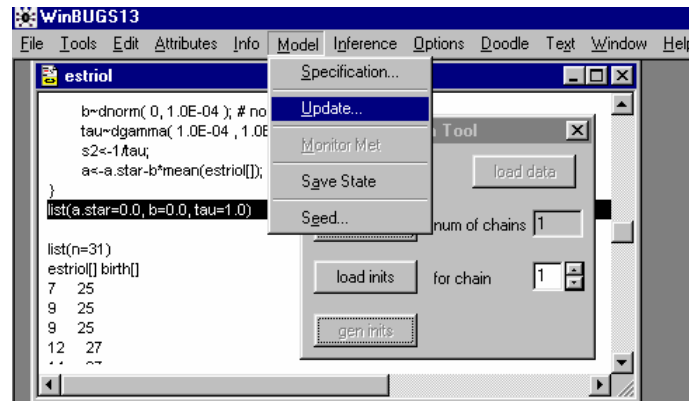
74

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 5... GENERATING BURN-IN VALUES

SELECT "UPDATE" IN "MODEL" MENU



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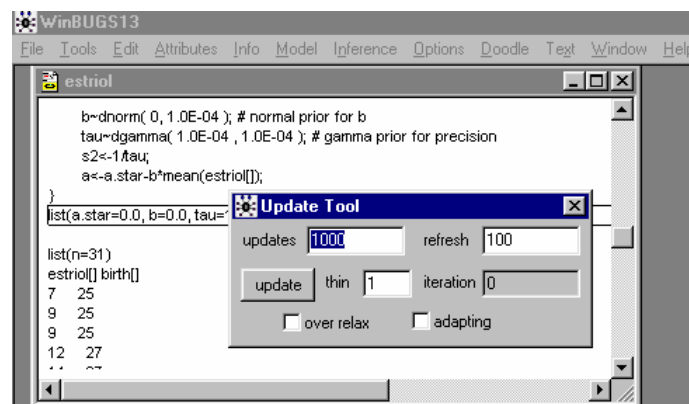
75

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 5... GENERATING BURN-IN VALUES

GIVE THE NUMBER OF BURN-IN ITERARATIONS



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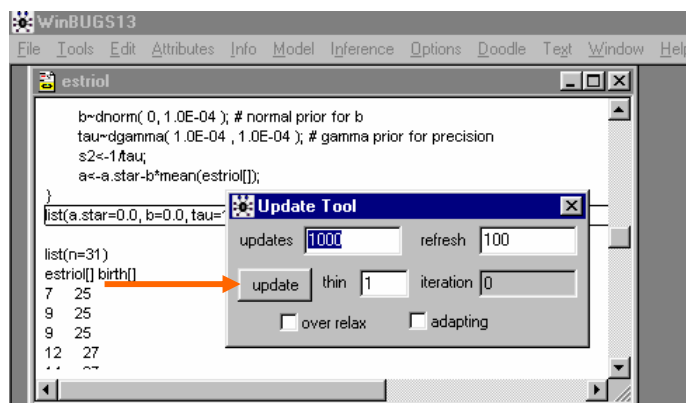
76

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 5... GENERATING BURN-IN VALUES

CLICK ON UPDATE TO GENERATE VALUES



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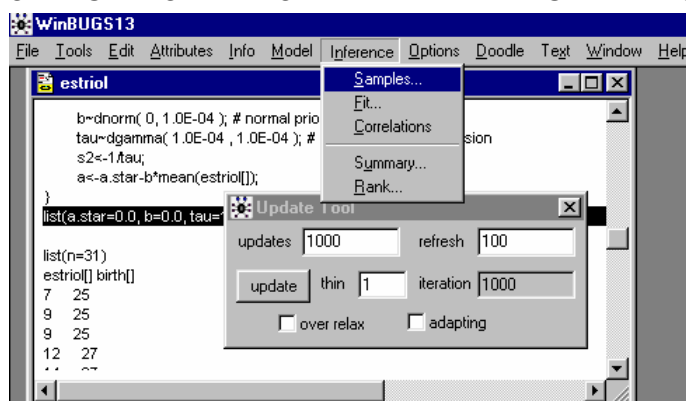
77

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 6... MONITORING PARAMETERS

SELECT "SAMPLES" IN "INFERENCE" MENU



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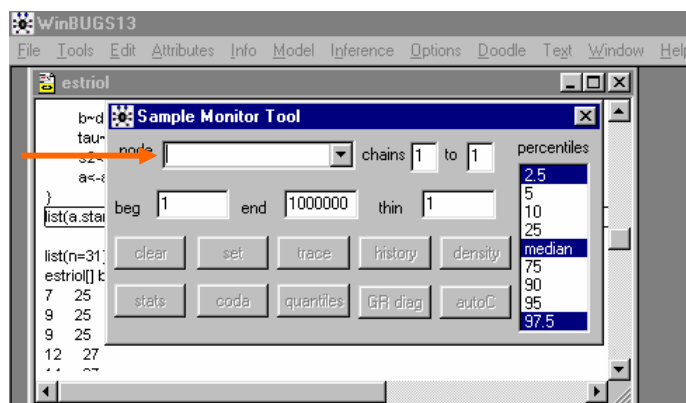
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

## 6... MONITORING PARAMETERS

WRITE NAME OF MONITORED PARAMETER



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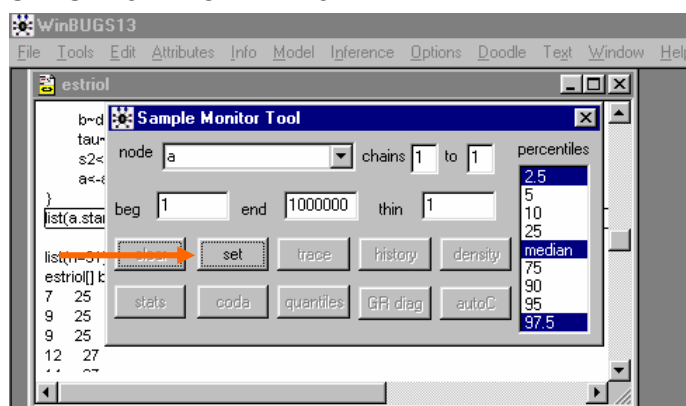
79

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

## 6... MONITORING PARAMETERS

CLICK ON "SET" BOX



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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 6... MONITORING PARAMETERS

- WRITE "a" AND CLICK "SET" BOX
- WRITE "b" AND CLICK "SET" BOX
- WRITE "s2" AND CLICK "SET" BOX

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.1. Generating values from the posterior

#### 7... GENERATING POSTERIOR VALUES

SELECT "UPDATE TOOL" UPDATE 1000  
ITERATIONS



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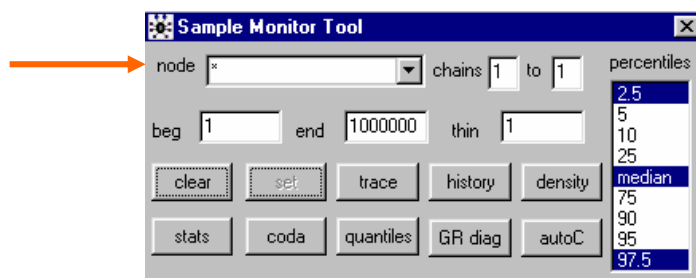
82

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

#### 8a... Obtaining posterior summaries

- SELECT "SAMPLE MONITOR TOOL" AND WRITE NAME OF DESIRED PARAMETER [\*=ALL MONITORED PARAMETERS]



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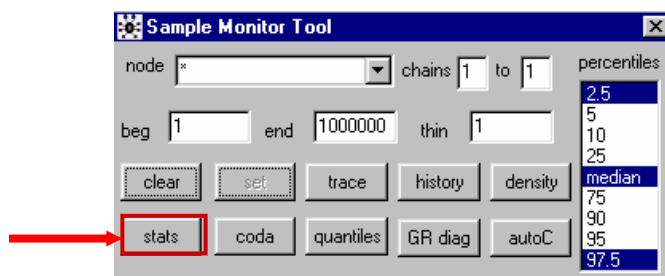
83

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

#### 8a... Obtaining posterior summaries

- CLICK ON "STATS" BOX



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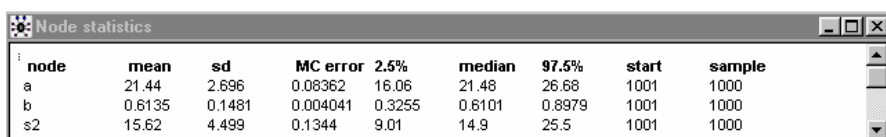
84

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

#### 8a... Obtaining posterior summaries

- A Table with the posterior summaries will appear



node	mean	sd	MC error	2.5%	median	97.5%	start	sample
a	21.44	2.696	0.08362	16.06	21.48	26.68	1001	1000
b	0.6135	0.1481	0.004041	0.3255	0.6101	0.8979	1001	1000
s2	15.62	4.499	0.1344	9.01	14.9	25.5	1001	1000

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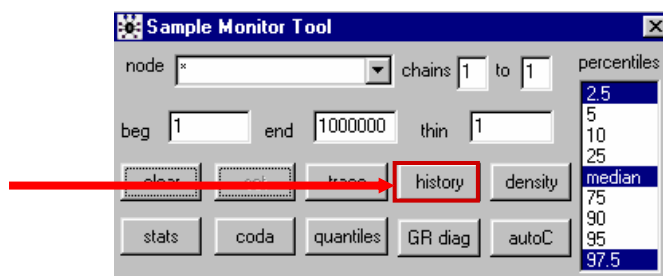
85

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

#### 8b... Obtaining trace plots for all generated values

- CLICK ON "HISTORY" BOX PRODUCES TRACE PLOTS

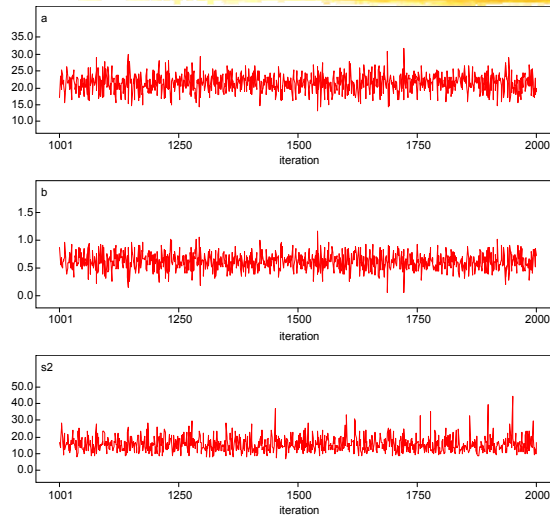


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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output



- Trace plots will appear
- All values must be stabilised within a zone of values.
- Ups and downs indicate autocorrelation or non-convergence

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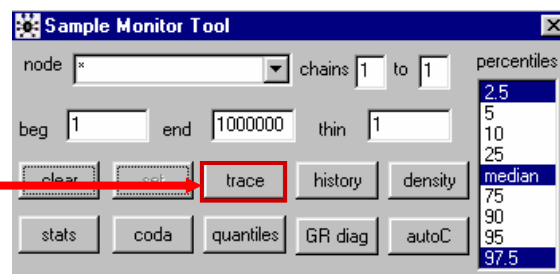
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

#### 8b... Obtaining online trace plots

CLICK ON "TRACE" BOX PRODUCES TRACE PLOTS

This will produce animated trace plots updated online

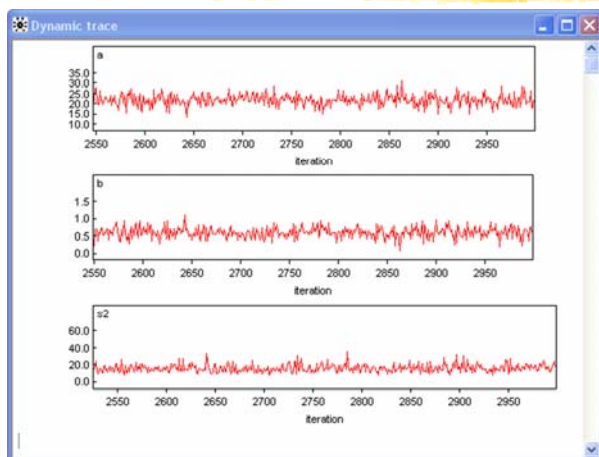


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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output



- Online updated trace plots will appear
- This is for 1000 iterations updated every 100

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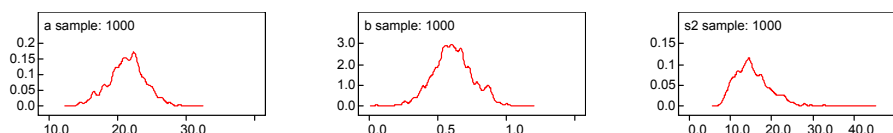
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

## 8... SUMMARIZING THE POSTERIOR

CLICK ON "DENSITY" BOX PRODUCES PLOTS  
OF THE ESTIMATED DENSITY FOR THE  
POSTERIOR DISTRIBUTION



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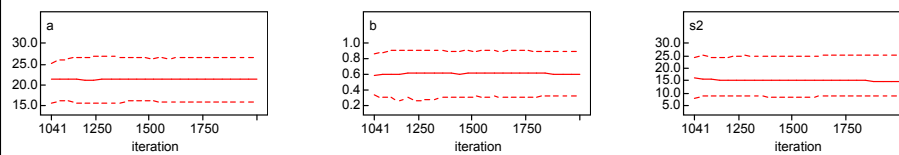
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

## 8... SUMMARIZING THE POSTERIOR

CLICK ON "QUANTILES" BOX PRODUCES THE FOLLOWING GRAPHS



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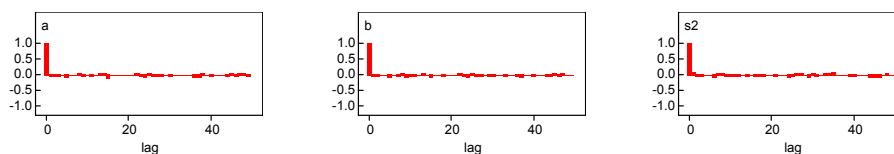
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.2. Analysis of the MCMC output

## 8... SUMMARIZING THE POSTERIOR

CLICK ON "AUTOC" BOX PRODUCES AUTO-CORRELATIONS PLOTS



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## 5... **Running a model in WinBUGS**

### 5.2. *Analysis of the MCMC output*

#### 8... SUMMARIZING THE POSTERIOR

- "CODA" BOX PRODUCES LIST OF DATA IN FORM THAT CAN BE LOADED BY CODA SOFTWARE
- "GR DIAG" BOX PRODUCES CONVERGENCE DIAGNOSTIC (DEMANDS MULTIPLE CHAINS)

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## 5... **Running a model in WinBUGS**

### 5.3. *Running the model in the Background Using Scripts*

#### 5.3.1. **Introduction**

##### BATCH MODE METHOD: SCRIPTING

only available in WINBUGS 1.4 and later versions

- Alternative way to generate random variables without "clicking" around and having to wait for the results to ask for specific output analysis
- We need at least 4 files in WinBUGS (odc or txt format)
  1. Script code (with commands for generation and output analysis)
  2. Model code
  3. Data files (it can be more than one)
  4. Initial values files (1 for each chain)

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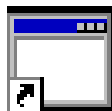
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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

**Example** script.odc

Click on



BackBugs14.Ink

Within the WINBUGS14 directory

Usually in **c:\Program Files\Winbugs14\**

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

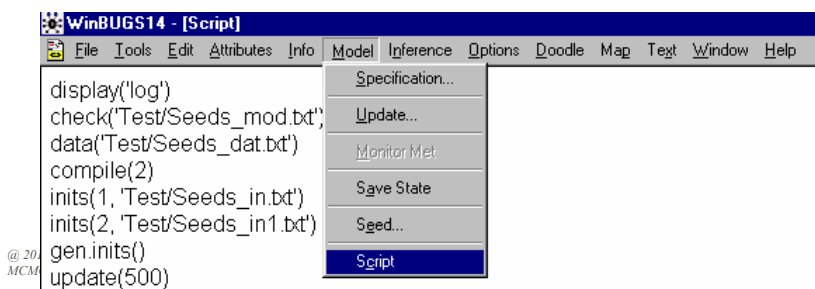
### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

Open the script file

**c:\Program Files\Winbugs14\script.odc**

We can run this script (and the corresponding model) in the background by selecting

**MODEL>SCRIPT**



@ 20  
MCM

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

#### 5.3.2. Some script commands

- `display('log')` : Opens a log file where it stores all results
- `check('Test/Seeds_mod.txt')` : Check the syntax of the model code in file `Seeds_mod.txt` placed in the sub-directory `Test`.
- `data('Test/Seeds_dat.txt')` : Loads the data from file `Seeds_dat.txt` placed in the sub-directory `Test`.
- `compile(2)` : Compilation and initialization of 2 chains.
- `inits(1, 'Test/Seeds_in.txt')` : Loading the initial values of the first chain from file `Seeds_in.txt` placed in the sub-directory `Test`.

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

#### 5.3.2. Some script commands (2)

- `gen.inits()` : Generation of initial values
- `update(500)` : Generation of 500 values (iterations) (Burn-in period).
- `set(alpha0)` : We start monitoring (i.e. saving) the generated values for parameter/node `alpha0`.
- `update(1000)` : Generation of additional 1000 values/iterations.
- `stats(*)` : Descriptive statistics from the simulated sample of all monitored parameters
- `history(*)` : Trace plots for all monitored values
- `trace(*)` : Dynamic (on-line) Trace plot for all monitored values

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## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

#### 5.3.2. Some script commands (3)

- **density(\*)** : Kernel density plot of the posterior distribution of all monitored parameters
- **autoC(\*)** : Autocorrelation plots of all monitored parameters
- **quantiles(\*)** : Quantiles plots of all monitored parameters
- **coda(\*,output)** : Saving all values of the monitored parameters in the file **output** in a CODA format. If the namefile is empty then two WinBUGS windows are opened with the corresponding files.
- **save('seedsLog')** : Saves all results of the log window in file **seedLog.odc** (WinBUGS format including diagrams). If the file has **txt** suffix then all results are saved in text format file without any figures and graphs.
- **quit()** : Exits WinBUGS

## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.3. Running the model in the Background Using Scripts

#### 5.3.2. Background running of Estriol example

Step 1: Create 5 files

1. **script.odc**
2. **model.odc**
3. **data.odc**
4. **data2.odc**
5. **inits.odc**

Step 2: Open **SCRIPT.ODC** and run it from  
**MODEL>SCRIPT.**

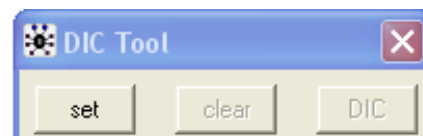
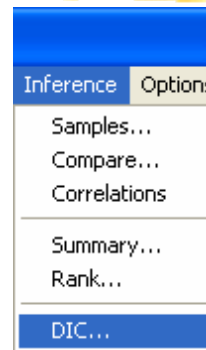
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.4. Deviance Information Criterion (DIC) in WinBUGS

#### DIC

- was introduced by Spiegelhalter et al. (2002)
- measure of model comparison and adequacy.
- Equivalent to AIC for simple models
- Smaller DIC values indicate better-fitting models.
- must be used with caution. It assumes that the posterior mean can be used as a "good" summary of central location for description of the posterior distribution.
- Problems when posterior distributions are not symmetric or unimodal.

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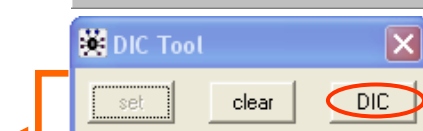
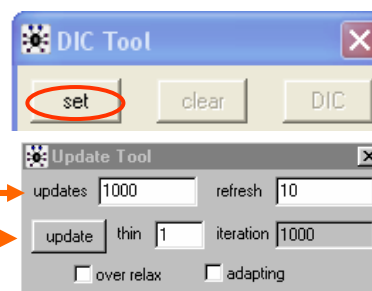
## 5... Running a model in WinBUGS

### 5.4. Deviance Information Criterion (DIC) in WinBUGS

The procedure for calculating DIC is the following:

1. Press the **set** button to start storing DIC values.
2. Return to the Update Tool and generate additional values (e.g. 1000).
3. Press the **DIC** button to obtain the results.

	Dbar	Dhat	pD	DIC
birth	172.134	169.074	3.059	175.193
total	172.134	169.074	3.059	175.193



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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General Details (types of nodes, dimensions)

### 6.2. Functions

### 6.3. Loops

### 6.4. Brackets

### 6.5. Model specification (likelihood, prior, data transformations, data, initial values)

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Types of nodes (parameters) in WinBUGS

1. **Constants**: Fixed values or data (usually specified in the data section)
2. **Random**: Random variables of the model that are characterized by a distribution.
3. **Deterministic**: simple functions or transformations of other model parameters. Can be either random or constants.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Node Specification

**Random nodes** are specified using the syntax

`Variable ~ Distribution(parameter1, parameter2,...)`

e.g. `X~dnorm( mu, tau )` for  $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, 1/\tau)$

**Deterministic nodes** are defined using the assignment

sign `<-`

e.g. `s2 <- 1/tau` for setting  $\sigma^2=1/\tau$

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Node names, dimensions and elements:

**1. Unidimensional:** just write a name e.g. `x`

**2. Vector:** name followed by brackets e.g. `v[]`

- `v[]`: all elements of vector `v`
- `v[i]`: the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element of `v`
- `v[n:m]`: elements  $n, \dots, m$  of vector `v`.

**3. Matrix:** name followed by `[,]` (the comma denotes the 2 dimensions – rows and columns of the matrix) e.g. `m[,]`

**4. Array:** name followed by `"[,,"` (to denote the number of dimensions – 2 commas denote a 3 dimensional array) e.g. `a[,,"`

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Node names, dimensions and elements (2)

##### Matrix:

- $M[,]$ : all elements of matrix  $M$
- $M[i,j]$ : element of  $i^{\text{th}}$  row and  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of matrix  $M$
- $M[i,]$ : elements of  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of matrix  $M$
- $M[,j]$ : elements of  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of matrix  $M$
- $M[n:m,j]$ : elements of  $n^{\text{th}}, \dots, m^{\text{th}}$  rows of  $j^{\text{th}}$  column of matrix  $M$
- $M[i, n:m]$ : elements of  $n^{\text{th}}, \dots, m^{\text{th}}$  columns of  $i^{\text{th}}$  row of matrix  $M$
- $M[n:m,]$ : elements of  $n^{\text{th}}, \dots, m^{\text{th}}$  rows of matrix  $M$
- $M[,n:m]$ : elements of  $n^{\text{th}}, \dots, m^{\text{th}}$  columns of matrix  $M$
- $M[n:m,k:l]$ : elements of  $n^{\text{th}}, \dots, m^{\text{th}}$  rows of  $k^{\text{th}}, \dots, l^{\text{th}}$  column of matrix

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Node names, dimensions and elements (3)

##### Array

- $A[, , ]$ : all elements of array  $\mathbf{A}$
- $A[i, j, k]$ : the  $A_{ijk}$  element of the array  $\mathbf{A}$
- $A[i, , ]$ : elements with first dimension equal to  $i$  of the array  $\mathbf{A}$
- $A[, j, ]$ : elements with second dimension equal to  $j$  of the array  $\mathbf{A}$
- $A[, , k]$ : elements with third dimension equal to  $k$  of the array  $\mathbf{A}$
- $A[i, j, ]$ : elements with first dimension equal to  $i$  and the second equal to  $j$  of the array  $\mathbf{A}$ . Similarly we define  $A[i, , k]$  and  $A[, j, k]$ .
- $A[n:m, , ]$ : elements with first dimension equal to  $n, \dots, m$  of the array  $\mathbf{A}$ .
- Similarly we define  $A[, n:m, ]$  and  $A[, n:m, ]$ .
- $A[n_1:m_1, n_2:m_2, n_3:m_3]$ : elements  $A_{ijk}$  with  $i=n_1, \dots, m_1, j=n_2, \dots, m_2$  and  $k=n_3, \dots, m_3$ .

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.1. General details

#### Node names, dimensions and elements (4)

- Within brackets, calculations using basic operations (+, -, \* and /) are allowed.
- Nested indexing of the type  $x[y[i]]$  can be used.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Simple arithmetic functions

Various simple arithmetic functions are available in WinBUGS, including

- The absolute value (*abs*)
- The sine and cosine functions (*sin*, *cos*)
- The exponent and the natural logarithm (*exp*, *log*)
- The logarithm of the factorial of an integer number (*logfact*)
- The logarithm of the gamma function (*loggam*)
- The square root value (*sqrt*)
- *round* and *trunc* => obtain the closest and the lower closest integer values, respectively.

All these functions require as an argument a single scalar node.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Simple arithmetic functions (2)

All these functions require as an argument a single scalar node.

In order to set  $y$  equal to a function of  $x$ , we write

```
y <- one.parameter.function(x)
```

e.g., if  $y=|x|$ , then in WinBUGS we write

```
y <- abs(x)
```

- $y <- \max(x_1, x_2)$ : compare two values  $x_1, x_2$  and keep (in  $y$ ) the maximum one.
- Similar also for  $y <- \min(x_1, x_2)$
- For  $y=x^z$  we write  $y <- \text{pow}(x, z)$

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Statistical functions

Within \winbugs, simple statistical functions can be calculated.

- $\text{mean}(v[])$  : Sample mean of vector  $v$
- $\text{sd}(v[])$  : Sample standard deviation of  $v$
- $\text{sum}(v[])$  : Sum of all values of  $v$
- $y <- \text{rank}(v[], k)$  : rank of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  element of vector  $v$
- $y <- \text{ranked}(v[], k)$  : we obtain the element of  $v$  with rank equal to  $k$ .
  - ✓ Minimum =>  $\text{miny} <- \text{ranked}(v[], 1)$
  - ✓ Maximum =>  $\text{maxy} <- \text{ranked}(v[], n)$
  - ✓ Median
    - ✓ =>  $\text{mediany} <- \text{ranked}(v[], (n+1)/2)$  if  $n$  is odd
    - ✓ =>  $\text{mediany} <- 0.5*(\text{ranked}(v[], n/2)+\text{ranked}(v[], n/2+1))$  if  $n$  is even.
- $y <- \text{phi}(x)$ : CDF for  $x$  coming from a  $N(0,1)$

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Link functions

- `cloglog(p)` :  $\log(-\log(1-p))$
- `logit(p)` :  $\log\{p/(1-p)\}$
- `probit(p)` :  $\Phi^{-1}(p)$ ; inverse function of the CDF of  $N(0,1)$ .  
i.e. `probit(y) <- x` is equivalent to `y <- phi(x)`
- `log(x)` : logarithm of  $x$ .
- Link functions can be used on the left side of assignment.  
e.g. `logit(p) <- a + b*x`
- Specify link functions in generalized linear models

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Matrix functions

- `M2[1:K,1:K] <- inverse(M1[,])`:  $M2 = \text{Inverse of matrix } M1 \text{ of dimension } K \times K$   
 *$M2$  must be written including its dimension indices i.e., the matrix name must be followed by `[1:K,1:K]`*
- `y <- logdet(M1[,])`:  $y$  is the log of the determinant of matrix  $M1$

#### Vector functions

- `sum(v[,])`: sum of the elements of vector  $\mathbf{v}$ .
- `inprod(v1[,], v2[,])`: inner product of the elements of vectors  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.2. Functions Description

#### Binary indicator Functions

- `y<-equals( x, z )` : compares x and z.  $y=1$  if  $x=z$  and  $y=0$  if  $x \neq z$
- `y<-step( x )` :  $y=0$  if  $x < 0$  or  $y=1$  if  $x \geq 0$

These are used as if statements.

#### The cut function

This command is used when we do not wish the posterior of each parameter to be updated from the likelihood.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.3. Using for loops

- Functions for multidimensional nodes are limited
- Most of their calculations are completed separately for each element using the *for loop*.
- For example to calculate the sum of two vectors of length n we write:

```
for ( i in 1:n){
  y[i] <- x[i] + z[i]
}
```

*It means: calculate  $z_i = x_i + z_i$  for all  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$*

- Similarly to add two (n x p) matrices we write:

```
for ( i in 1:n){
  for (j in 1:p) {
    A[i,j] <- X[i,j] + Z[i,j]
  }
}
```

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.3. Using for loops (2)

To multiply two matrices of dimensions  $(n \times p)$  and  $(p \times k)$  we use the *inprod* function (inner product):

```
for ( i in 1:n){
  for (j in 1:k) {
    A[i,j] <- inprod(X[i,], Z[,j])
  }
}
```

To define that all the elements of a random vector  $\mathbf{x}$ , with dimension  $n$ , follow independent normal distributions with mean  $\mu_i$  and common precision  $\tau$  we write

```
for ( i in 1:n){
  x[i] ~ dnorm(mu[i], tau)
}
```

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.4. Brackets in WinBUGS

#### 1. Parentheses ( ) are used

- in mathematical expressions and computations.
- in functions surrounding their arguments.
- in *for* loops to declare the values of the index.

#### 2. Square brackets [ ] are used to specify the elements of a vector or array.

#### 3. Curly brackets { } are used to declare the beginning and the end of the model and the *for* loop.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### Likelihood specification *(using for syntax)*

Example 1: Simple normal model

$$X_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2 = 1/\tau)$$

```

for ( i in 1:n){
  x[i] ~ dnorm(mu, tau)
}

```

Example 2: Simple Linear Regression Model

$$Y_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2 = 1/\tau) \text{ with } \mu_i = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

```

for ( i in 1:n){
  y[i] ~ dnorm(mu[i], tau)
  mu[i] <- alpha+beta*x[i]
}
tau<-1/sigma2

```

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### Prior specification

Example 1: Simple normal model

$$X_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2 = 1/\tau) \Rightarrow \text{parameters } \theta = (\mu, \tau)$$

Priors:  $\mu \sim \text{Normal}(0, 100)$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{mu} \sim \text{dnorm}(0, 0.01)$   
 $\tau \sim \text{Gamma}(0.01, 0.01)$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{tau} \sim \text{dgamma}(0.01, 0.01)$

Example 2: Simple Linear Regression Model

$$Y_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2 = 1/\tau) \text{ with } \mu_i = \alpha + \beta x_i \Rightarrow \text{parameters } \theta = (\alpha, \beta, \tau)$$

Priors:  $\alpha \sim \text{Normal}(0, 100)$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{alpha} \sim \text{dnorm}(0, 0.01)$   
 $\beta \sim \text{Normal}(0, 100)$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{beta} \sim \text{dnorm}(0, 0.01)$   
 $\tau \sim \text{Gamma}(0.01, 0.01)$   $\longrightarrow$   $\text{tau} \sim \text{dgamma}(0.01, 0.01)$

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### Data transformations

For transformations of the response data (which are *random nodes*) you can

- insert directly transformed data (simplest way).
- specify transformation with WinBUGS code using its commands

**This is the only case** that a node can be specified **twice**:

- 1) to define the transformation of the original data and
- 2) then to assign the random distribution.

Example

```
for ( i in 1:n){
  z[i] <-log(abs(y[i]))
  z[i] ~dnorm(mu, tau)
}
```

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### Data Specification

##### 1. Rectangular data format.

- Simple and similar to the text files used by most statistical packages.
- It can be used to specify a series of variables-vectors of the same length or a matrix (or array).
- Simple vectors (e.g. vectors  $y$ ,  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$ ,  $x_3$ ),
  - ✓ we specify the names followed by square brackets in the first line
  - ✓ the values of each observation in each line, separated by empty spaces.
  - ✓ **Be careful: The data must conclude with the command END followed by at least one blank line.**

```
y[] x1[] x2[] x3[]
10 20 23 12
11 23 11 97
.....
44 25 33 12
END
```

<- BLANK LINE

## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### Data Specification

#### 2. List data format.

- Similar to R/Splus list objects.
- This format can be used to specify all type of data (single constant numbers, i.e. scalar nodes, vectors, matrices, and arrays).
- Syntax: *list(...)*
- Within the parentheses we specify each variable/node separated by commas.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### List data format (cont.)

We can define

1. **Scalars** => `scalar.name = scalar.value`
2. **Vectors** => `vector.name = c(value1,..., valuen)`
3. **Matrices** => `matrix.name = structure(  
    .Data = c(value1,...,valuen )  
    .Dim = c(row.number, column.number) )`
4. **Arrays** => same syntax as matrices but *.Dim* argument will have at least three values specifying the length of each corresponding dimension.

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### List data format (cont.)

Example:

```
A = structure(
  .Data = c(1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12)
  .Dim = c(3, 4) )
```

Reading elements  
by rows  $\longrightarrow$   $A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 \\ 5 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 9 & 10 & 11 & 12 \end{pmatrix}$

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## 6... Model Code Details

### 6.5. Model Specification

#### List data format (cont.)

A simple example of data specification.

Assume we have the following dataset with  $n=4$  observations and  $p=5$  variables.

y	x1	x2	gender	age
12	2	0.3	1	20
23	5	0.2	2	21
54	9	0.9	1	23
32	11	2.1	2	20

#### WinBUGS Syntax

```
list(n=4, p=5, y=c(12, 23, 54, 32), x1=c(2, 5, 9, 11), x2=c(0.3, 0.2,
0.9, 2.1), gender=c(1,2,1,2), age=c(20,21,23,20) )
```

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## 6... **Model Code Details**

### 6.5. **Model Specification**

#### **Initial Values**

- They are used to initiate the MCMC sampler.
- Their format is the same as the list data format.
- Initial values must be provided for all **random nodes** except for the response data/variables.
- The user does not need to specify all initial values but can generate all or portion of them (using **gen inits option**).
- Users must be careful when using randomly generated initial values
  - => problems when certain parameters are initialized using inappropriate values
  - => numerical problems (trap messages in WinBUGS) or slow convergence of the algorithm.

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## 7... **Additional examples**

### **7.1. Example 2: Binomial Data**

### **7.2. Example 3: Bernoulli Data**

### **7.3. Example 4: Models For 2x2 Contingency Tables**

### **7.4. Example 5: Model For 3-way Tables**

### **7.5. Zero-ones trick**

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.1. Example 2: Models for Binomial Data

#### The beetles dataset

- WinBUGS examples vol 2, page 32 – 34  
(or classic BUGS examples, vol 2. p. 43)
- Bliss (1935)
- 8 groups of insects were exposed on different levels of Carbon disulphide
- We record
  - ✓ Concentration ( $X_i$ )
  - ✓ Total number of insects in group ( $n_i$ )
  - ✓ Total number of insects died ( $r_i$ )

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.1. Example 2: Models for Binomial Data

(1)  $r_i \sim \text{Binomial}(p_i, n_i)$   
 (2)  $\eta_i = \alpha^* + \beta(x_i - \bar{x})$   
 (3)  $\text{logit}(p_i) = \eta_i$   
 for  $i=1, \dots, 8$

```

for (i in 1:n) {
  r[i] ~ dbin(p[i], n[i])
  z[i] <- x[i] - mean(x[])
  logit(p[i]) <- a.star + b*z[i]
}
  
```

#### Prior distributions

$f(\alpha^*) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$     `a.star ~ dnorm(0.0, 1.0E-04)`

$f(\beta) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$     `b ~ dnorm(0.0, 1.0E-04)`

$\alpha = \alpha^* - \beta \bar{x}$

`a <- a.star - b*mean(x[])`

#### Link functions

➤  $\text{logit}(p) = \log\{p/(1-p)\}$

➤ `logit(p[i]) <- a.star + b*z[i]`

➤  $\text{probit}(p) = \Phi^{-1}(p)$

➤ `probit(p[i]) <- a.star + b*z[i]`

➤  $\text{cloglog}(p) = \log(-\log(1-p))$

➤ `cloglog(p[i]) <- a.star + b*z[i]`

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.1. Example 2: Models for Binomial Data

FITTED VALUES CAN BE COMPUTED BY

```
r.hat[i]<-n[i]*p[i]
```

ODDS RATIO FOR LOGIT MODELS

```
odds.ratio<-exp(b)
```

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.2. Example 3: Models for Bernoulli Data

#### WAIS Dataset

From Agresti (1990) p. 122–123,

A sample of elderly people were examined for the existence of senility symptoms (1=yes, 0=no).

Explanatory variable: WAIS = score in a sub-scale of Wechsler Adult Intelligence Scale

#### AIM

- Estimate which WAIS score corresponds to 50% probability of having senility symptoms
- What is the probability of senility symptoms for a typical subject (i.e. with WAIS equal to the sample mean of WAIS)

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.2. Example 3: Models for Bernoulli Data

#### THE MODEL

```
for (i in 1:n) {
  symptom[i]~dbern( p[i] )
  logit( p[i] ) <- a+b*wais[i]
}
```

The WAIS score for  $p=1/2$  is given by

```
x.half<- -a/b;
```

The probability of the person with WAIS equal to the sample mean is given by

```
p.mean<-
  exp(a+b*mean(x[])) / (1+exp(a+b*mean(x[])))
```

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.3. Example 4: Poisson models for 2x2 Contingency Tables

#### Breast cancer & age at first birth

Mahon *et.al.* (1970). *Bulletin of the world health organisation*

Study of the possible relationship between age at 1st birth and breast cancer

Cases: Selected hospitals in USA, Greece, Yugoslavia, Brazil, Taiwan and Japan.

Controls: women with comparable age from the same hospitals

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.3. Example 4: Poisson models for 2x2 Contingency Tables

	<b>AGE AT FIRST BIRTH</b>	
<b>STATUS</b>	Age>29 (1)	Age<30 (0)
Case (1)	683	2537
Control (0)	1498	8747

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.3. Example 4: Poisson models for 2x2 Contingency Tables

<b>Status</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Counts</b>
1	1	683
1	0	2537
0	1	1498
0	0	8747

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.3. Example 4: Poisson models for 2x2 Contingency Tables

#### THE MODEL

Counts<sub>i</sub> ~ Poisson( λ<sub>i</sub> )

Log(λ<sub>i</sub>) = μ + a × status<sub>i</sub> + b × age<sub>i</sub> + ab × status<sub>i</sub> × age<sub>i</sub>

for i=1,2,3,4

```
for (i in 1:4) {
  counts[i]~dpois(lambda[i])
  log(lambda[i])<-mu+
    a*status[i]+b*age[i]+ab*status[i]*age[i]
}
```

**ODDS RATIO:** odds.ratio<-exp(ab)

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### Lung cancer, smoking and passive smoking

- Sandler, Everson & Wilcox (1985) *Amer. Journal of Epidemiology*
- Study of 518 patients with lung cancer aged 15-59 and 518 controls matched for age and gender.
- AIM: Estimate the effect of passive smoking on the risk of cancer. Passive cancer was defined positively when the spouse was smoking at least one cigarette for the last 6 months
- Confounder: the smoking status of the subject
- For 2x2xJ contingency tables => common odds ratios are estimated using the Maentel-Haenzel  $OR_{MH} = (\sum a_i d_i / n_i) / (\sum b_i c_i / n_i)$

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

	Non Smokers (0)		Smokers (1)	
	Passive Smoker (1)	Non Passive Smoker(0)	Passive Smoker (1)	Non Passive Smoker (0)
Case(1)	120	111	161	117
Control (0)	80	155	130	124

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### Two Analyses/Models

##### 1<sup>st</sup> analysis/model

- We fit a model in each 2x2 table and estimate the odds ratios as in example 4
- Compare the posterior distributions of two odds ratios

##### 2<sup>nd</sup> analysis/model

- We fit a model in each 2x2 table
- Estimate a common odds ratio for each table

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### 1<sup>st</sup> analysis/model

```

model{
  #model for 1st table (nonsmokers)
  for (i in 1:4) {
    counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
    log(lambda[i])<-b[1,1]+b[1,2]*status[i]
      +b[1,3]*passive[i]
      +b[1,4]*status[i]*passive[i];
  }
}

```

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

```

#model for 2nd table (smokers)
for (i in 5:8) {
  counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
  log(lambda[i])<-b[2,1]+b[2,2]*status[i]
    +b[2,3]*passive[i]
    +b[2,4]*status[i]*passive[i];
}

#priors
for (i in 1:2){
  for (j in 1:p){
    b[i,j]~dnorm(0.0, 1.0E-04)
  }
}

```

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### 1<sup>st</sup> analysis/model

#### MODEL

```
#model for 1st table (nonsmokers)
for (i in 1:4) {
  counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
  log(lambda[i])<-b[1,1]+b[1,2]*status[i]
                    +b[1,3]*passive[i]
                    +b[1,4]*status[i]*passive[i];}
#model for 2nd table (smokers)
for (i in 5:8) {
  counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
  log(lambda[i])<-b[2,1]+b[2,2]*status[i]
                    +b[2,3]*passive[i]
                    +b[2,4]*status[i]*passive[i]; }
```

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### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> analysis/model

#### MODEL

```
#model for 1st table (nonsmokers)
for (i in 1:4) {
  counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
  log(lambda[i])<-b[1,1]+b[1,2]*status[i]
                    +b[1,3]*passive[i]
                    + ab *status[i]*passive[i];}
#model for 2nd table (smokers)
for (i in 5:8) {
  counts[i]~dpois( lambda[i] );
  log(lambda[i])<-b[2,1]+b[2,2]*status[i]
                    +b[2,3]*passive[i]
                    + ab *status[i]*passive[i]; }
```

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

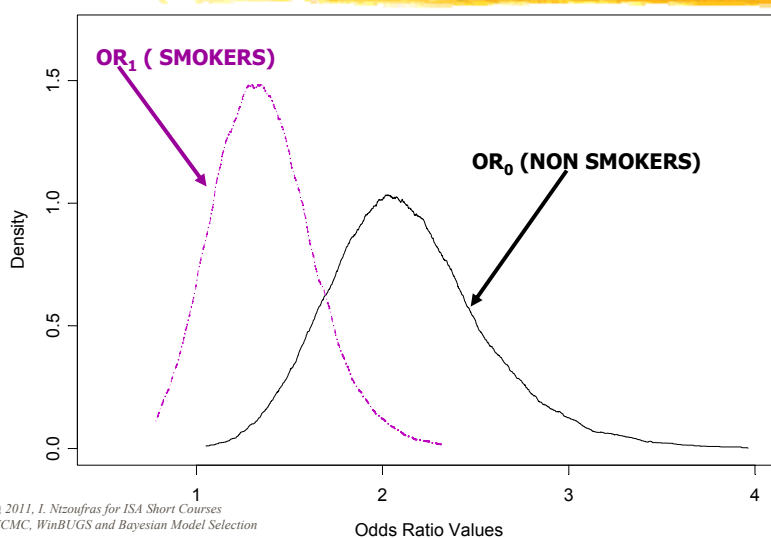
#### RESULTS

	<u>MLE</u>	<u>Posterior Mean</u>	<u>95% posterior credible interval</u>
<b>ANALYSIS 1</b>			
<b>OR<sub>0</sub></b>	2.09	2.07±0.036	1.47 - 3.09
<b>OR<sub>1</sub></b>	1.31	1.33±0.022	0.97 - 1.88
<b>ANALYSIS 2</b>			
<b>Common</b>			
<b>OR<sub>MH</sub></b>	1.63	1.61 ± 0.0087	1.27 - 2.06

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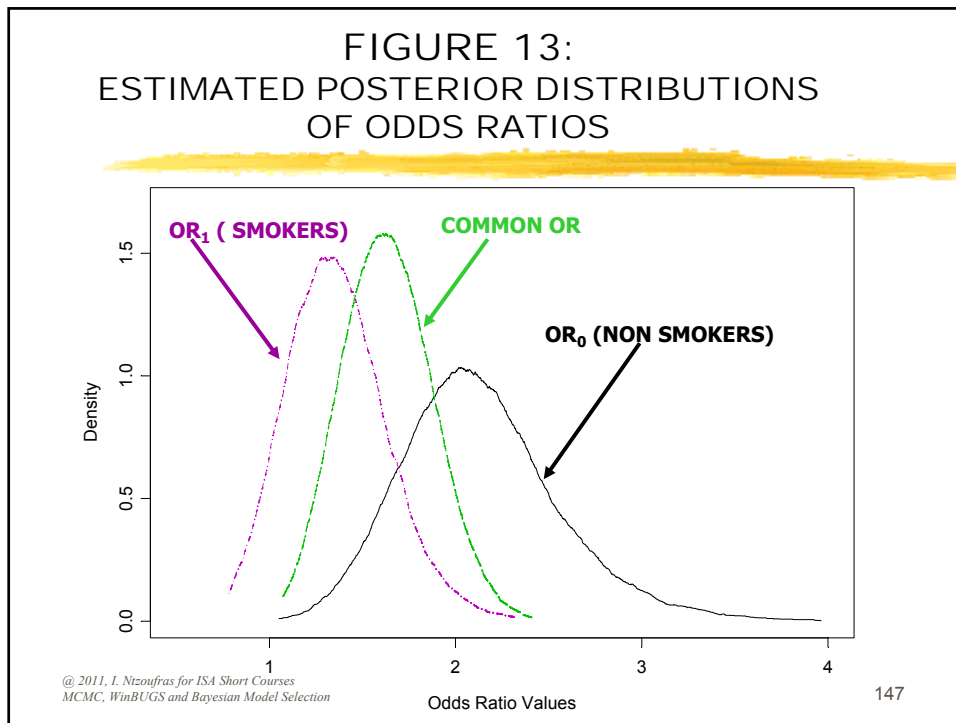
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FIGURE 12:  
ESTIMATED POSTERIOR DISTRIBUTIONS  
OF ODDS RATIOS



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7... Additional examples

7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

**Comparison of the posterior boxplots for Ors in model 1**

Inference Options

- Samples...
- Compare...
- Correlations
- Summary...
- Rank...
- DIC...

Comparison Tool

node  beg  end

other

axis

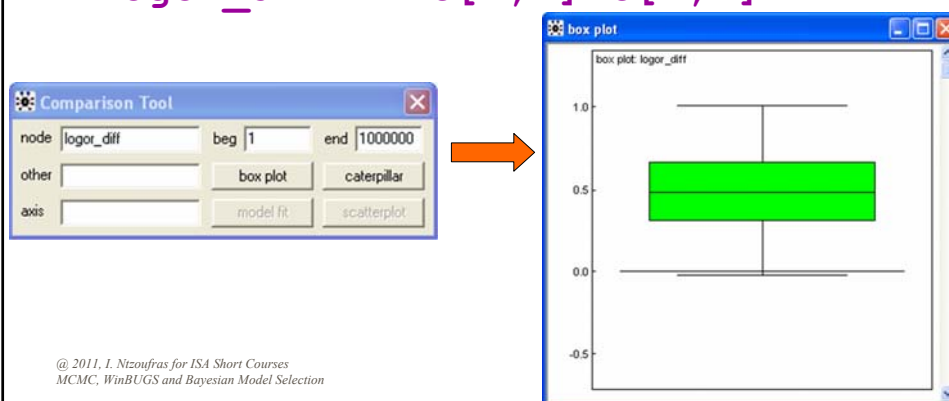
box plot

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

Due to autocorrelations and crosscorrelations, it is better to consider the difference of the log ORs

$$\text{logor\_diff} \leftarrow -b[1,4] - b[2,4]$$


## 7... Additional examples

### 7.4. Example 5: Estimation of common OR in 2x2x2 Contingency Tables

#### DIC

$\bar{D}$  = post.mean of  $-2\log L$ ;

$\hat{D}$  =  $-2\log L$  at post.mean of stochastic nodes

	$\bar{D}$	$\hat{D}$	pD	DIC
Model 1	61.309	53.197	8.112	69.420
Model 2	63.416	56.462	6.954	70.371

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5. Specification of a non-standard distribution

**What happens if we wish to use a distribution which is not included in the list of distributions included in WinBUGS?**

We use the zeros-ones trick

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.1 Prior Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### The zeros trick!

Let us assume that we wish to use a prior  $f(\theta)$  for parameter  $\theta$  which is not included in the list of WinBUGS distributions.

Then in WinBUGS we apply the following steps:

- 1... We set a flat prior in WinBUGS (using commands `dflat()` or `dunif()`)
- 2... We set a new (pseudo) variable (e.g. `zero`) equal to zero (i.e. `zero <- 0`)
- 3... We define that this variable follows the **Poisson** distribution with mean  $\lambda$
- 4... We set  $\lambda = -\log f(\theta)$

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.1 Prior Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### The zeros trick!

For example,

Let us consider the Generalized/Lagrangian Poisson distribution with

- Mean:  $E(Y) = \frac{z}{1-w}$
- Variance:  $V(Y) = \frac{z}{(1-w)^3}$
- Dispersion Index:  $DI = \frac{E(Y)}{V(Y)} = \frac{1}{(1-w)^2}$

Probability function:

$$f(\theta) = \frac{z(z + w\theta)^{\theta-1} e^{-(z+w\theta)}}{\theta!}$$

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.1 Prior Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### The zeros trick!

Generalized/Lagrangian Poisson distribution with Probability distribution

$$f(\theta) = \frac{z(z + w\theta)^{\theta-1} e^{-(z+w\theta)}}{\theta!}$$

WinBUGS code:

```
theta ~ dflat()
zero <- 0
zero ~ dpois(lambda)
lambda <- -( log(zeta)+(theta-1) * log(zeta+omega*theta)
            - (zeta+omega*theta) - logfact(theta) )
```

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.1 Prior Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### Why the zeros trick works?

$f(\text{zero}|\theta)$  is Poisson with mean equal to the log-likelihood

$\phi(\theta)$  is the flat pseudo-prior used to define the actual prior.

$f(\theta|\text{zero})$  is the final prior we use

$$\begin{aligned} f(\theta|\text{zero}) &\propto f(\text{zero}=0|\theta) \times \phi(\theta) = e^{-\lambda} \times 1 \\ &= e^{-(-\log f(\theta))} = f(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.1 Prior Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### The zeros trick!

For more details and an example using the normal distribution see the WinBUGS manual in the "[new-prior](#)" section

**BE CAREFUL:** This method usually generates samples with

- High auto-correlation
- Slow convergence
- High Monte Carlo errors

Therefore it is computationally slow and inefficient and we need to leave WINBUGS run for a large number of iterations.

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

Let us consider the case where we wish to define that  $y_i \sim f(y_i | \theta)$  with parameter  $\theta$ . Then

- 1... We set a constant C equal to a large number to ensure that the mean of the Poisson will be positive
- 2... We define a vector of pseudo-data **zero** (with length equal to the actual data size n) with each element set equal to zero.
- 3... We specify that each element of zero follows the **Poisson** with mean  $\lambda_i$
- 4... We set  $\lambda_i = -\log f(y_i | \theta) + C$

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

Let us go back to the Generalized/Lagrangian Poisson with parameters

$$\theta = (z, \omega)$$

$$f(y_i) = \frac{z(z + \omega y_i)^{y_i - 1} e^{-(z + \omega y_i)}}{y_i!}$$

$$[\text{mean} = z/(1-\omega), \text{variance} = z/(1-\omega)^3]$$

#### WinBUGS Code

```

C <- 10000
for (i in 1:N) {
  zeros[i] <- 0
  zeros[i] ~ dpois(lambda[i])
  lambda[i] <- -L[i] + C
  L[i] <- ( log(zeta) + (y[i]-1) * log(zeta+omega*y[i])
          - (zeta+omega*y[i]) - logfact(y[i]) )
}

```

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

Why the zeros trick works for the likelihood?

$$\begin{aligned} \prod_{i=1}^n f(\text{zero}_i = 1 | y_i, \theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\lambda_i} \times 1 = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-(-L_i + C)} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\log f(y_i | \theta) + C} \propto \prod_{i=1}^n f(y_i | \theta) \end{aligned}$$

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### A Generalized Poisson Example

(Rosner 1994, page 94)

Number of people died from poliomyelitis during 1968-76

<u>1968</u>	<u>1969</u>	<u>1970</u>	<u>1971</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1973</u>	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>	<u>1976</u>
24	13	7	18	2	10	3	9	16

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## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

#### A Generalized Poisson Example

```

model {
  C<-10000
  for (i in 1:9) {
    zeros[i]<-0
    zeros[i]~dpois( lambda[i] )
    lambda[i]<- C - loglike[i]
    loglike[i] <- log(zeta)+(y[i]-1)* log(zeta+omega*y[i]) -
      (zeta+omega*y[i])-logfact(y[i])
  }
  zeta~dgamma(0.001, 0.001)
  omega~dbeta(1,1)
  mean<-zeta/(1-omega)
  var<-zeta/pow(1-omega,3)
  DI<-1/((1-omega)*(1-omega))
}
DATA : list( y=c(24, 13, 7, 18, 2, 10, 3, 9, 16) )
INITS: list( zeta=1, omega=0.5 )

```

## 7... Additional examples

### 7.5.2 Likelihood Specification using a non-standard distribution

More examples can be found in

- ❑ WinBUGS manual; see Section “*Tricks: Advanced Use of the BUGS Language*” (p. 36–37 in the pdf file)
- ❑ Bayesian modeling Using WinBUGS
  - ❑ Section 8.1.1 for a general description
  - ❑ Section 8.1.2 for inverse Gaussian distribution
  - ❑ Section 8.3 for the generalized Poisson, zero inflated models, the Bivariate Poisson distribution and the Skellam (or Poisson Difference) distribution

Similar is the ones trick using a vector of ones following the Bernoulli/Binomial distribution

- ❑ Scollnik, D.P.M. (2000). Actuarial Modeling with MCMC and BUGS: Additional Worked Examples. *Actuarial Research Clearing House*, **2000.2**, p. 433-585
  - ❑ The Pareto and Inverse Pareto Models (p.11-13, 29-31, 51-52 in the pdf available at <http://math.ualgary.ca/~scollnik/abcd/aerfawe.pdf>)

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

*8.1. Introduction: Posterior Odds*

Let us consider the ESTRIOOL example

Then the hypothesis testing:

$$H_0: \beta=0 \text{ vs. } H_1 \beta \neq 0$$

is equivalent to the comparison models

$$m_0: Y \sim N(\alpha, \sigma^2) \text{ and}$$

$$m_1: Y \sim N(\alpha + \beta X, \sigma^2)$$

## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

*8.1. Introduction: Posterior Odds*

Posterior Model Odds of model  $m_0$  vs. model  $m_1$ :

$$PO_{01} = \frac{f(m_0 | \mathbf{y})}{f(m_1 | \mathbf{y})} = \frac{f(\mathbf{y} | m_0)}{f(\mathbf{y} | m_1)} \times \frac{f(m_0)}{f(m_1)}$$

**Bayes Factor**      **Prior Model Odds**

## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### 8.1. Introduction: Posterior Odds

$f(m)$ : Prior model probability

$f(m|y)$ : Posterior model probability

## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

In BUGS we can estimate the  $f(m|y)$  by inserting a latent binary indicator  $\gamma$ :

$$Y \sim \text{Normal}(\alpha + \gamma \times \beta X, \sigma^2).$$

For details see

- Dellaportas, Forster and Ntzoufras (2002). *Statistics and Computing*, **12**, 27–36.
- Dellaportas, Forster and Ntzoufras (2000). In *Generalized Linear Models: A Bayesian Perspective*, 271–286.
- Ntzoufras (2002). Gibbs Variable Selection Using BUGS. *Journal of Statistical Software*. Volume **7**, Issue 7

## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

Also see in

- Ntzoufras (2009). *Bayesian Modeling Using WinBUGS*. Wiley (chapter 11).

[http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/winbugs\\_book](http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/winbugs_book)

- Lykou, A. and Ntzoufras, I (2011). WinBUGS: A Tutorial , *WIREs Computational Statistics*, 3, 385–396.

[A Bayesian lasso WinBUGS example is described in detail]

- My seminars page

[http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/courses/all\\_courses.html#seminars](http://stat-athens.aueb.gr/~jbn/courses/all_courses.html#seminars)

- Erasmus course on WinBUGS given in Pavia, Italy, November 2010
- *Workshop On Bayesian Modeling Using WinBUGS*, Athens, Greece, Aug. 2010
- Tutorial on variable selection given in Heriot-Watt University, UK, Sep. 2009
- Tutorial: Introduction to MCMC @ the 17th International Workshop on Statistical Modelling, Chania, Crete, Greece, July 2002.

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

The distribution  $f(\beta | \gamma=0)$  is also called *pseudo-prior* or *proposal* distribution

- Does not Influence the Posterior
- Does Influence the convergence of the MCMC.  
*The pseudo-prior should be close to the posterior  $f(\beta | \mathbf{y}, \gamma=1)$  in order to propose “good” values.*

For simplicity we will assume

$$f(\beta | \gamma=0) = f(\beta | \gamma=1)$$

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

## 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

(1)  $\text{Birth}_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$   
 (2)  $\eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 (3)  $\mu_i = \eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 for  $i=1, \dots, 31$

```

for (i in 1:n) {
  Birth[i]~dnorm(mu[i], tau)
  x[i]<-estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])
  mu[i] <-a+      b*x[i]
}

```

## Prior distributions

$f(\alpha) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $a \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$   
 $f(\beta) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $b \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$   
 $f(\tau^2) = \text{Gamma}(10^{-4}, 10^{-4})$   $\tau \sim \text{dgamma}(1.0E-04, 1.0E-04)$   
 $\sigma^2 = 1/\tau$   $s2 <- 1/\tau$

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

## 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

(1)  $\text{Birth}_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, \sigma^2)$   
 (2)  $\eta_i = \alpha + \gamma \times \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 (3)  $\mu_i = \eta_i = \alpha + \beta \times \text{Estriol}_i$   
 for  $i=1, \dots, 31$

```

for (i in 1:n) {
  Birth[i]~dnorm(mu[i], tau)
  x[i]<-estriol[i]-mean(estriol[])
  mu[i] <-a+ gamma*b*x[i]
}

```

## Prior distributions

$f(\alpha) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $a \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$   
 $f(\beta) = \text{Normal}(0, 10^4)$   $b \sim \text{dnorm}(0.0, 1.0E-04)$   
 $f(\tau^2) = \text{Gamma}(10^{-4}, 10^{-4})$   $\tau \sim \text{dgamma}(1.0E-04, 1.0E-04)$   
 $\sigma^2 = 1/\tau$   $s2 <- 1/\tau$   
 $\gamma \sim \text{Bernoulli}(0.5)$   $\text{gamma} \sim \text{dbern}(0.5)$

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

After Burn-in of 1000 iterations and 20,000 iterations

$$f(\gamma=1|\mathbf{y}) = 0.6268$$

$$PO_{10} = BF_{10} = 1.68$$

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### 8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS

#### Be careful:

We have not discussed about priors for model selection

*[Very important but too large for this tutorial].*

Sensitivity of Bayes factors/PO on prior variance of  $\beta$ :

- Large Values of the prior variance of  $\beta$  will activate Bartlett - Lindley's Paradox

$$\Rightarrow f(\gamma=1|\mathbf{y}) \rightarrow 0.0$$

- A simple choice: Unit information prior ( $\sim$ BIC):

Prior Variance of  $\beta =$

$$(\text{sample size}) \times (\text{posterior variance with flat prior})$$

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### *8.2. Posterior Model Probabilities in BUGS*

#### **For the estriol example:**

Prior Variance of  $\beta = 31 \times (0.1431)^2 = 0.6348$

Prior Precision of  $\beta = 1/0.6348 = 1.575$

After Burn-in of 1000 iterations and 20,000 iterations of generated values

$$f(\gamma=1|\mathbf{y}) = 0.9922$$

$$PO_{10} = BF_{10} = 127.20$$

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## 8... A SIMPLE HYPOTHESIS TEST

### *8.3. Summary of Hypothesis Test Example*

This example was only for illustration

Don't try directly Bayesian model/variable selection at home by yourselves:

**It can seriously damage your health**

(not physically but psychologically)

Be very careful in the construction of priors and pseudo-priors

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## A Short Introduction to Bayesian Modeling Using WinBUGS

END OF THE TUTORIAL

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